



**DULUTH BUSINESS INDICATORS — ORIGINAL DATA**

COMPONENT	ORIGINAL DATA		
	Feb. 1967	Jan. 1967	Feb. 1966
Freight Carloadings (Cars)*	9,883	11,914	9,015
Bank Debits (Dollars in '000's)	159,110	207,522	144,524
Building Permits (Actual \$ Value)	152,935	643,877	239,365
Postal Receipts (Dollars)*	226,137	201,649	205,524
Number of Telephones (Units)*	69,626	69,442	67,342
Electric Power (Com. and Ind. K.W.H. in '000's)	25,628	25,834	22,848
Electric Power (Res. K.W.H. in '000's)	16,940	16,947	16,278
Number of Electric Customers*	33,449	33,443	33,405
Grain Shipments (Bushels in '000's)	15,545	23,494	17,760
Coal Receipts (Short Tons in '000's)	0	0	0
Iron Ore Shipments (Gross Tons in '000's)	0	0	0
Other Lake Cargo (Short Tons)	0	0	0
Duluth Nonagricultural Empl. (Persons)	39,900	39,900	39,300
Duluth Retail Sales	.....	.....	.....
State Metal Mining Empl. (Persons)	12,300	12,200	12,400

\* Supplied by Duluth Industrial Bureau.

**DULUTH BUSINESS INDICATORS — INDEX NUMBERS**

COMPONENT	INDEX NUMBERS			CHANGE	
	(1957-1959=100)			Feb. '66	Jan. '67
	Feb. 1967	Jan. 1967	Feb. 1966	to Feb. '67	to Feb. '67
Freight Carloadings	87	105	79	+ 8	- 18
Bank Debits	99	129	90	+ 9	- 30
Building Permits*	66	86	71	- 5	- 20
Postal Receipts	142	127	129	+ 13	+ 15
Number of Telephones	126	125	121	+ 5	+ 1
Electric Power (Commercial & Industrial)	154	155	137	+ 17	- 1
Electric Power (Residential)	207	207	199	+ 8	0
Number of Electric Customers	100	100	100	0	0
Grain Shipments	63	95	72	- 9	- 32
Coal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Iron Ore Shipments	0	0	0	0	0
Other Lake Cargo	0	0	0	0	0
Duluth Nonagricultural Empl.	96	96	94	+ 2	0
Duluth Retail Sales Index	95	94	99(R)	- 4	+ 1
State Metal Mining Empl.	77	76	78	- 1	+ 1
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>- 9</b>

For Monthly Data Back to 1951 and for Sources of Data, see DULUTH BUSINESS INDICATORS 1964, A Publication of the Business and Economics Series of the Social Sciences Research Trust Fund, University of Minnesota, Duluth, 1964.

\* The Building Permits Index is adjusted to reflect the amount of construction occurring during the month.

R—Revised

economy of the city is about 7% ahead of last year for the same period.

February freight carloading bettered the year ago figures because of generally improved industrial business this year which offset the decrease that occurred this February in the movement of grain. Bank debits for February were up over the same month in 1966 correlating with the trend in the overall economy.

The dollar volume of building permits issued was below last year because of fewer housing starts and less alteration and repair work initiated in February this year. Both postal receipts and number of telephones were ahead of last year.

Greater industrial activity and the operation of the arena-auditorium this year (it opened in August 1966) boosted total consumption of electric power, commercial and industrial, over year ago levels. The increase in residential kilowatt hours used reflects greater home use of electrical equipment.

Duluth employment is higher this year as the result of added personnel in metalworking, food processing, retail trade and government. The number of job seekers in February was down 200 from the year ago total of 2,500. The February rate of unemployment of 5.0% is also less than the 5.4% rate of last year.

**RETAIL TRADE**

Despite the coldest February in 31 years, the overall unadjusted index of retail sales in Duluth managed to post a fractional gain over January's volume. While general merchandise stores were up by 10% over January, another component of the sales index — men's and women's apparel — dropped 5% in this month-to-month comparison.

February sales, however, did not match the 1966 figure for the same month as this segment of the economy dropped about 4% from last year's figures. The change from last year, however, was mixed as some stores posted gains while others recorded losses within the same classification.

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