



Fifteen Uncommonly Clever Economic Indicators

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Electronic Waste Recycling

It's hard to think green when you're just getting by, notes John Shegerian, chief executive of Electronic Recyclers International, which recycles electronic waste like old cellphones, computers and printers. "As a matter of survival people retrenched or did not expand their recycling programs," during 2008 and 2009, says Shegerian. Now business is picking up, especially at big customers like Best Buy--and the more new phones people buy (a positive economic indicator), the more old ones they bring in for recycling. Shegerian says he landed more business in the last four months than in the previous two-year period.

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