

Multinationals Make the Most of IT

The U.S. dollar has depreciated by more than 26 percent in trade-weighted terms since its peak in 2002. The lower relative prices paid by foreigners for U.S. goods and services are expanding exports and helping reduce the current account deficit. At the same time, however, there is concern over a potential “firesale” of U.S. firms—i.e., a case in which U.S. firms become so cheap that foreign investors trigger a new wave of international takeovers.

Although economic theory has no clear-cut way to forecast the welfare effects of international changes of ownership or entry of new foreign firms, empirical research can shed light on how multinational corporations have contributed to aggregate productivity. And wages—as discussed previously in this publication¹—tend to track productivity. Thus, understanding how multinationals affect productivity growth can help to evaluate the impact of foreign acquisitions on the U.S. economy.

U.S. labor productivity (output per hour) has increased at an average annual rate of 1.84 percent between 1977 and 2006—faster than most countries, at least since 1995. To help find the source of this impressive productivity, we can separate U.S. gross domestic product and productivity growth into that produced by exclusively domestic firms and that produced by multinational firms (i.e., foreign firms with U.S. production units and U.S. firms with foreign production units). The results of a recent study² show that private multinational nonfarm, nonfinancial firms contribute only 40 percent of the output of nonfinancial corporations but more than 75 percent of the increase in labor productivity between 1977 and 2000. Moreover, *all* of this new productivity in nonfinancial corporate sectors in the late 1990s can be traced back to multinationals.

How have such large productivity gains been possible? Various studies suggest that the productivity advantage of multinationals is caused by technological and organizational advantages that are specific to these firms, rather than to the country in which they operate. Although similar technologies are available at approximately the same prices to both multinational and non-multinational firms, the management structure of multinationals allows them

to use new technologies more efficiently, particularly information technologies (IT). The largest productivity advantages are recorded in sectors that make substantial use of IT, such as retail and wholesale, and sectors with superior people management. As the authors of one of these studies put it: “It ain’t what you do...but the way you do IT.”³

Hence, even though the ownership of some companies may be transferred abroad because of a “firesale” effect, these firms, along with U.S. multinationals, provide an important contribution to U.S. productivity growth and ultimately to the growth of wages, particularly in IT-intensive sectors.

—Silvio Contessi

¹ See <http://research.stlouisfed.org/publications/net/20070301/cover.pdf>.

² Corrado, C.; Lengeremann, P. and Slifman, L. “The Contribution of MNC’s to U.S. Productivity Growth, 1977-2000,” in M. Reinsdorf and M. Slaughter, eds., *International Flows and Invisibles: Trade in Services and Intangibles in the Era of Globalization*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008 (forthcoming).

³ Bloom, Nicholas; Sadun, Raffaella and Van Reenen, John. “Americans Do I.T. Better: US Multinationals and the Productivity Miracle.” NBER Working Paper No. 13085, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2007.

	Share of GDP	
	1977	2002
Multinational firms	25.5	26.2
Domestic firms	45	39.3
Financial firms	4.6	9.2
Nonfinancial firms	25.0	25.3



Views expressed do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Federal Reserve System.

Page	
3	Economy at a Glance
4	Output and Growth
7	Interest Rates
8	Inflation and Prices
10	Labor Markets
12	Consumer Spending
14	Investment Spending
16	Government Revenues, Spending, and Debt
18	International Trade
20	Productivity and Profits
22	Quick Reference Tables
27	Notes and Sources

Conventions used in this publication:

1. Shaded areas indicate recessions, as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
2. *Percent change* refers to simple percent changes. *Percent change from year ago* refers to the percent change from the same month or quarter during the previous year. *Compounded annual rate of change* shows what the growth rate would be over an entire year if the same simple percent change continued for four quarters or twelve months. The compounded annual rate of change of x between the previous quarter $t-1$ and the current quarter t is: $[(x_t/x_{t-1})^4 - 1] \times 100$. For monthly data replace 4 with 12.
3. All data with significant seasonal patterns are adjusted accordingly, unless labeled NSA.

We welcome your comments addressed to:

Editor, *National Economic Trends*
 Research Division
 Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
 P.O. Box 442
 St. Louis, MO 63166-0442

or to:

stlsFRED@stls.frb.org

Notes

Pages 4, 5: Final Sales is gross domestic product (GDP) minus change in private inventories. **Advance, Preliminary, and Final GDP Growth Rates** are released during the first, second, and third months of the following quarter. Changes result from incorporation of more complete information. Real GDP is measured in 2000 dollars. The **ISM** (formerly Purchasing Managers') **Index** is a weighted average of diffusion indexes for new orders, production, supplier deliveries, inventories, and employment. **Aggregate and Average Weekly Hours** are paid hours of production and nonsupervisory employees. The **Inventory-Sales Ratio** uses nominal (current-dollar) inventory and sales data.

Page 6: For information on how to calculate the **Contribution** of a component to the overall GDP growth rate, see the October 1999 issue of the Survey of Current Business, p. 16. The sign is changed for **Imports**.

Page 7: Ten-year **Treasury Yields** are adjusted to constant maturity; three-month yields are secondary market averages. All rates used in the yield curves are adjusted to constant maturity. The 30-year constant maturity series was discontinued by the Treasury Department as of Feb. 18, 2002. **Standard and Poor's 500 Index with Reinvested Dividends** shows the total return: capital gains plus dividends.

Pages 8, 9: Oil (West Texas intermediate) and **Natural Gas** (Henry Hub) spot and futures **prices** are listed in the *Wall Street Journal*. Spot prices are monthly averages of daily prices; futures prices are usually taken from the last trading day of the month. **Consumer Price Index** is for all urban consumers. The **Consumption Chain Price Index** is the index associated with the personal consumption expenditures component of GDP. The **Employment Cost Index (ECI)** covers private nonfarm employers. **ECI Compensation** refers to a fixed sample of jobs, while **Compensation per Hour** covers all workers in the nonfarm business sector in a given quarter. In both cases, compensation is wages and salaries plus benefits.

Pages 10, 11: Effective with the January 2008 **Employment Situation**, the establishment survey data for employment, hours, and earnings have been converted from the 2002 NAICS system to the 2007 NAICS system. For more information see <http://www.bls.gov/ces/>. **Nonfarm Payroll Employment** is counted in a survey of about 400,000 establishments (Current Employment Statistics). It excludes self-employed individuals and workers in private households, but double-counts individuals with more than one job. The **Household Survey** (Current Population Survey) of about 60,000 households provides estimates of civilian employment, unemployment rate, labor force participation rate, and employment-population ratio. **Population** is civilian, noninstitutional, 16 years and over. The 90 percent confidence intervals for the unemployment rate (± 0.2 percentage points) and change in household survey employment ($\pm 430,000$) measure uncertainty due to sample size. Because the household survey was changed in January 1994, data prior to this date are not strictly comparable. The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced several revisions to the Household Survey on Feb. 7, 2003, with the release of the January 2003 data. For more information, see www.bls.gov/cps/. The **Job Openings rate** is the number of job openings on the last business day of the month as a percent of total employment plus job openings.

Page 13: The **Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index** shows changes in a summary measure of consumers' answers to five questions about their current and expected financial situation, expectations about future economic conditions, and attitudes about making large purchases. The survey is based on a representative sample of U.S. households.

Page 15: **Gross Private Saving** is the sum of personal saving, undistributed corporate profits with IVA and CCAAdj (see notes for pp. 18-19), and private wage accruals less disbursements. **Gross Government Saving** is net government saving (surplus/deficit) plus consumption of fixed capital. **Balance on Current Account (NIPA)** is net capital transfer payments to the rest of the world plus net lending or net borrowing (international trade and income flows).

Pages 16, 17: Government Consumption and Investment is current expenditures on goods and services, including capital consumption (depreciation) and gross investment, as reported in the NIPAs. The **Unified Federal Budget Surplus/Deficit** differs from **NIPA Basis** in four main ways: (1) NIPA excludes transactions involving existing assets; (2) NIPA outlays exclude government investment and include consumption of government capital, while unified budget outlays do the reverse; (3) NIPA accounts exclude Puerto Rico and U.S. territories; and (4) various timing issues are handled differently. **Outlays and Receipts** are from the NIPAs, except as noted. Since 1977, the federal **Fiscal Year** starts on October 1. Excluded agency debt was 0.6 percent of federal debt at the end of fiscal 1997. **Federal Debt Held by the Public** includes holdings of the Federal Reserve System and excludes holdings of the social security and other federal trust funds. Federal grants in aid to state and local governments appear in both state and local receipts and federal outlays.

Pages 18, 19: The **Trade Balance** (shown on a balance of payments basis) is the difference between exports and imports of goods (merchandise) and services. It is nearly identical in concept to the **Net Exports** component of GDP, but differs slightly in accounting details. The **Investment Income Balance** equals income received from U.S.-owned assets in other countries minus income paid on foreign-owned assets in the U.S. The investment income balance is nearly identical in concept to the difference between gross national product and gross domestic product, but differs in accounting details. The **Current Account Balance** is the trade balance plus the balance on investment income plus net unilateral transfers to the U.S. from other countries.

Pages 20, 21: Output per Hour (Y/H), Unit Labor Cost (C/Y), and Compensation per Hour (C/H) are indexes which approximately obey the following relationship: $\%(Y/H) + \%(C/Y) = \%(C/H)$ with $\%(C)$ meaning percent changes. Unit labor cost is shown on page 9. **Real Compensation per Hour** uses the CPI to adjust for the effects of inflation. Nonfarm business accounted for about 77 percent of the value of GDP in 2000, while nonfinancial corporations accounted for about 54 percent. **Inventory Valuation Adjustments (IVA)** remove the effect of changes in the value of existing inventories from corporate profits and proprietors' income. (This change in value does not correspond to current production and therefore is not part of GDP). **Capital Consumption Adjustments (CCAAdj)** increase profits and proprietors' income by the difference between estimates of economic depreciation and depreciation allowed by the tax code. Components of national income not shown are rental income of persons and net interest.

Sources

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), U.S. Dept. of Commerce
 National income and product accounts, international trade and investment data (except by country), auto and light truck sales.

Census Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Commerce
 Inventory-sales ratios, retail sales, capital goods orders, housing starts, exports and imports by country.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), U.S. Dept. of Labor
 All employment-related data, employment cost index, consumer and producer price indexes, unit labor cost, output per hour, compensation per hour, multifactor productivity.

United States Department of Treasury
 Unified budget receipts, outlays, deficit, debt.

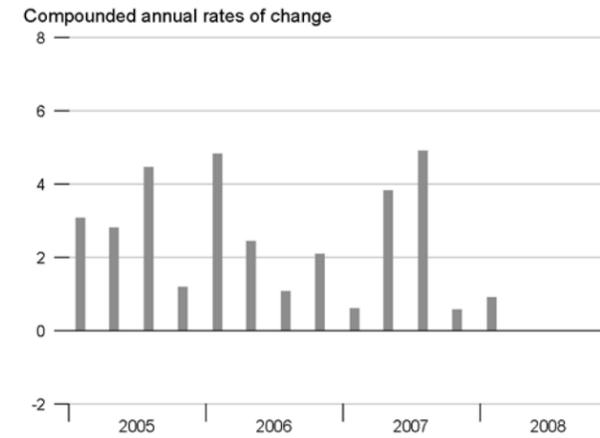
Federal Reserve Board
 Index of industrial production, treasury yields, exchange rates, capacity utilization, household debt.

The Survey Research Center, The University of Michigan
 Consumer sentiment index.

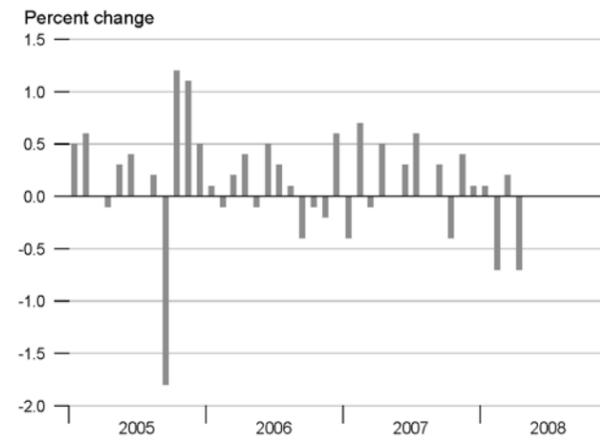
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
 GDP for major trading partners (not available on FRED).

	Consumer Price Index					Consumer Price Index less Food and Energy					Producer Price Index Finished Goods				
	Index	Percent change				Index	Percent change				Index	Percent change			
		Monthly/quarterly	Annual rate	Year ago	Year to date		Monthly/quarterly	Annual rate	Year ago	Year to date		Monthly/quarterly	Annual rate	Year ago	Year to date
2003	184.0			2.3		193.2			1.5		143.3			3.2	
2004	188.9			2.7		196.6			1.8		148.5			3.6	
2005	195.3			3.4		200.9			2.2		155.7			4.9	
2006	201.6			3.2		205.9			2.5		160.3			3.0	
2007	207.3			2.9		210.7			2.3		166.6			3.9	
2006	1	199.4	0.4	1.8	3.7	1.8	203.7	0.6	2.5	2.1	2.5	159.6	0.1	0.6	4.5
	2	201.3	0.9	3.7	3.9	2.7	205.4	0.9	3.4	2.5	3.0	160.8	0.8	3.0	4.3
	3	203.2	1.0	3.9	3.3	3.1	206.9	0.7	2.9	2.8	2.9	161.1	0.2	0.8	2.8
	4	202.4	-0.4	-1.5	1.9	1.9	207.8	0.5	1.8	2.7	2.7	159.8	-0.8	-3.3	0.3
2007	1	204.3	0.9	3.7	2.4	3.7	209.0	0.6	2.3	2.6	2.3	162.7	1.9	7.6	2.0
	2	206.6	1.1	4.6	2.6	4.1	210.0	0.5	2.0	2.3	2.2	166.2	2.1	8.8	3.4
	3	208.0	0.7	2.8	2.4	3.7	211.3	0.6	2.5	2.1	2.3	166.9	0.4	1.6	3.6
	4	210.6	1.2	5.0	4.0	4.0	212.6	0.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	170.5	2.2	9.1	6.7
2008	1	212.8	1.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	213.9	0.6	2.5	2.4	2.5	174.3	2.2	9.2	7.1
2006	Apr	200.6	0.5	6.2	3.5	3.7	204.8	0.3	3.6	2.3	3.0	160.4	0.7	8.6	4.0
	May	201.3	0.3	4.3	4.0	3.8	205.4	0.3	3.6	2.4	3.1	160.5	0.1	0.8	4.3
	Jun	201.9	0.3	3.6	4.3	3.8	206.0	0.3	3.6	2.7	3.2	161.4	0.6	6.9	4.8
	Jul	202.9	0.5	6.1	4.1	4.1	206.4	0.2	2.4	2.7	3.1	161.0	-0.2	-2.9	3.8
	Aug	203.8	0.4	5.5	3.9	4.3	206.9	0.2	2.9	2.8	3.0	162.3	0.8	10.1	3.8
	Sep	202.9	-0.4	-5.2	2.1	3.2	207.3	0.2	2.3	2.9	3.0	160.0	-1.4	-15.7	0.9
	Oct	201.9	-0.5	-5.8	1.4	2.2	207.6	0.1	1.8	2.8	2.8	158.1	-1.2	-13.4	-1.2
	Nov	202.1	0.1	1.2	1.9	2.1	207.7	0.0	0.6	2.6	2.6	160.1	1.3	16.3	0.9
	Dec	203.3	0.6	7.4	2.6	2.6	208.1	0.2	2.3	2.6	2.6	161.1	0.6	7.8	1.1
2007	Jan	203.6	0.1	1.5	2.1	1.5	208.6	0.2	3.0	2.7	3.0	160.9	-0.1	-1.5	0.2
	Feb	204.2	0.3	3.6	2.4	2.6	209.1	0.2	2.8	2.7	2.9	162.9	1.2	16.0	2.6
	Mar	205.1	0.5	5.7	2.8	3.6	209.2	0.1	0.9	2.5	2.2	164.4	0.9	11.6	3.2
	Apr	205.8	0.3	3.9	2.6	3.7	209.7	0.2	2.4	2.4	2.3	165.5	0.7	8.3	3.2
	May	206.7	0.5	5.7	2.7	4.1	210.0	0.2	1.9	2.2	2.2	166.5	0.6	7.5	3.7
	Jun	207.2	0.3	3.2	2.6	3.9	210.4	0.2	2.7	2.2	2.3	166.6	0.1	0.7	3.2
	Jul	207.7	0.2	2.7	2.4	3.7	210.9	0.2	2.8	2.2	2.3	167.5	0.5	6.7	4.0
	Aug	207.7	0.0	0.2	1.9	3.3	211.3	0.2	1.9	2.1	2.3	166.1	-0.8	-9.6	2.3
	Sep	208.5	0.4	4.5	2.8	3.4	211.7	0.2	2.7	2.1	2.3	167.0	0.5	6.7	4.4
	Oct	209.1	0.3	3.2	3.5	3.4	212.1	0.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	167.9	0.5	6.7	6.2
	Nov	210.9	0.9	11.3	4.4	4.1	212.6	0.2	2.9	2.4	2.4	172.3	2.6	36.4	7.6
	Dec	211.7	0.4	4.4	4.1	4.1	213.1	0.2	2.7	2.4	2.4	171.4	-0.5	-6.1	6.4
2008	Jan	212.5	0.4	4.8	4.4	4.8	213.8	0.3	3.8	2.5	3.8	173.3	1.1	14.1	7.7
	Feb	212.6	0.0	0.3	4.1	2.6	213.9	0.0	0.5	2.3	2.1	173.9	0.3	4.2	6.8
	Mar	213.3	0.3	4.2	4.0	3.1	214.2	0.2	1.8	2.4	2.0	175.8	1.1	13.9	6.9
	Apr	213.7	0.2	2.5	3.9	3.0	214.4	0.1	1.3	2.3	1.8	176.1	0.2	2.1	6.4

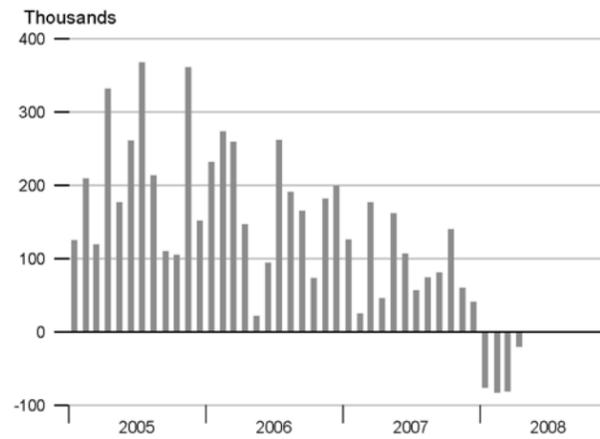
Real GDP Growth



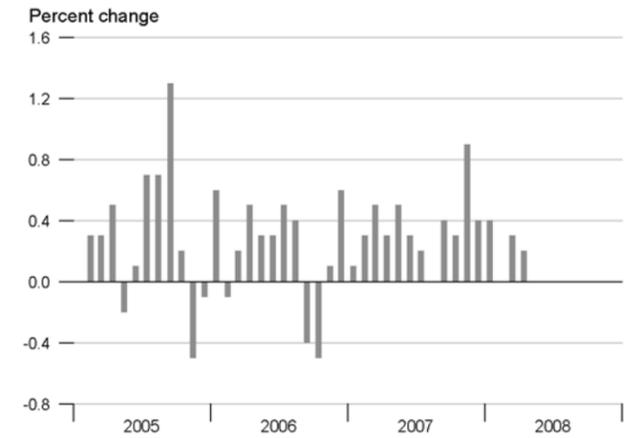
Industrial Production



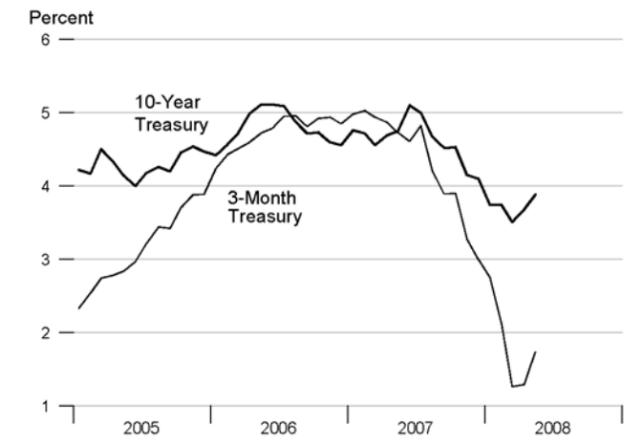
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls



Consumer Price Index



Interest Rates

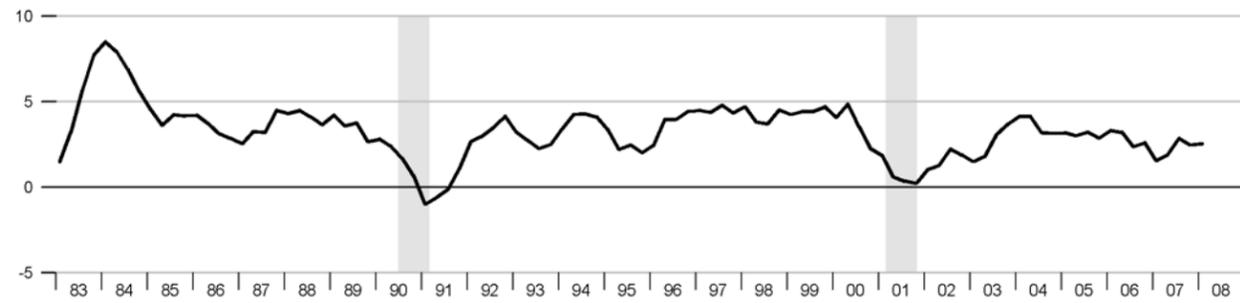


Unemployment Rate



Real Gross Domestic Product

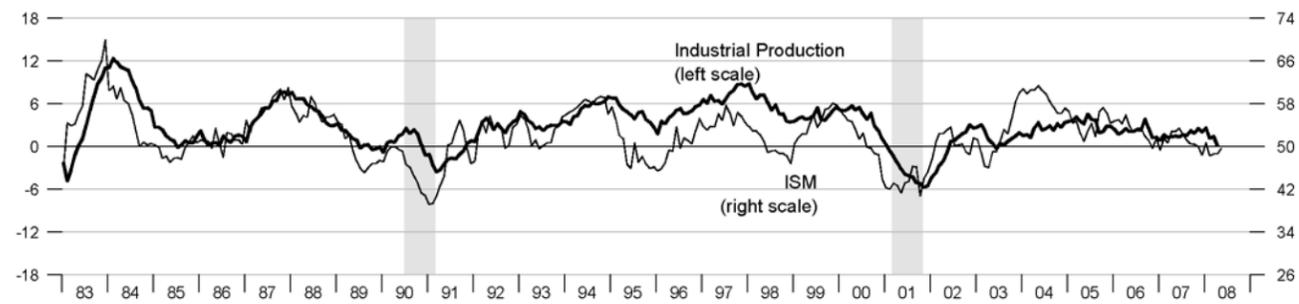
Percent change from year ago



Industrial Production and Institute for Supply Management (ISM) Indexes

Percent change from year ago

Index



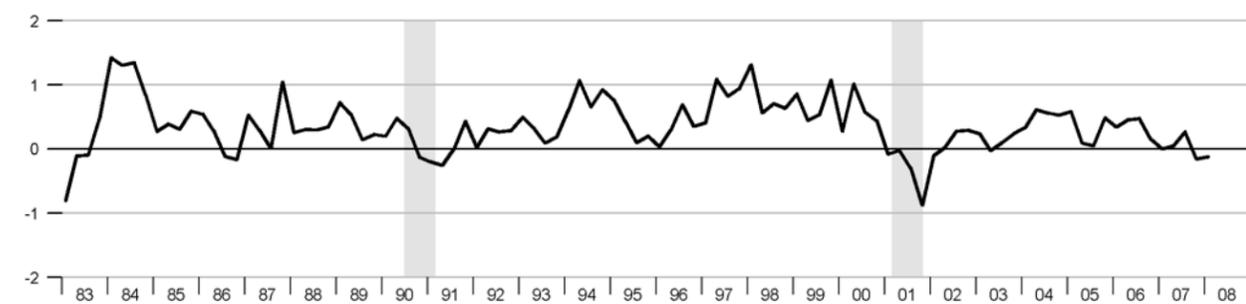
Aggregate Private Nonfarm Hours

Percent change from year ago



Real Change in Private Inventories

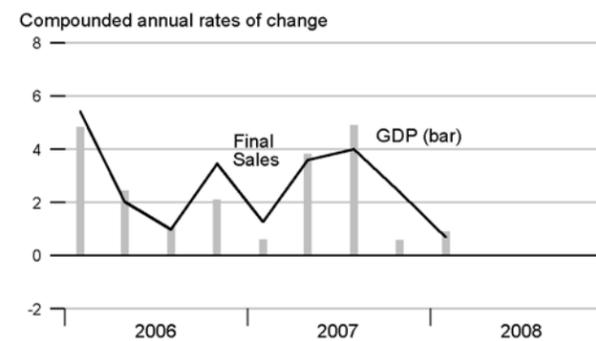
Percent of GDP



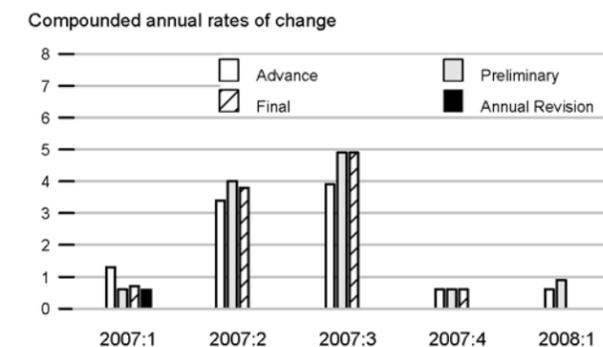
	Unempl. Rate	Retail and Food Services Sales			Industrial Production			Treasury Yields					
		Billions of dollars	Percent change		Index	Percent change		(Percent)					
			Monthly/quarterly	Annual rate	Year ago		Monthly/quarterly	Annual rate	Year ago	3-mo	10-yr		
2003	6.0	3614.120			4.2	101.2448			1.2	1.01	4.02		
2004	5.5	3832.862			6.1	103.7644			2.5	1.37	4.27		
2005	5.1	4078.592			6.4	107.2099			3.3	3.15	4.29		
2006	4.6	4313.695			5.8	109.5711			2.2	4.73	4.79		
2007	4.6	4485.303			4.0	111.3980			1.7	4.35	4.63		
2006	1	1070.109	3.1	13.0	7.6	108.8526	0.8	3.2	2.1	4.39	4.57		
	2	1075.965	0.5	2.2	6.0	109.5473	0.6	2.6	2.2	4.70	5.07		
	3	1082.149	0.6	2.3	5.0	110.0689	0.5	1.9	2.8	4.91	4.90		
	4	1085.472	0.3	1.2	4.6	109.8155	-0.2	-0.9	1.7	4.90	4.63		
2007	1	1105.203	1.8	7.5	3.3	110.2336	0.4	1.5	1.3	4.98	4.68		
	2	1119.338	1.3	5.2	4.0	111.0922	0.8	3.2	1.4	4.74	4.85		
	3	1124.771	0.5	2.0	3.9	112.0778	0.9	3.6	1.8	4.30	4.73		
	4	1135.991	1.0	4.1	4.7	112.1883	0.1	0.4	2.2	3.39	4.26		
2008	1	1136.977	0.1	0.3	2.9	112.1217	-0.1	-0.2	1.7	2.04	3.66		
2006	May	4.7	358.461	-0.3	-3.1	7.0	109.3408	-0.1	-1.0	2.1	4.72	5.11	
	Jun	4.6	358.115	-0.1	-1.2	4.6	109.8664	0.5	5.9	2.1	4.79	5.11	
	Jul	4.7	361.048	0.8	10.3	4.1	110.1428	0.3	3.1	2.4	4.95	5.09	
	Aug	4.7	361.877	0.2	2.8	5.8	110.2365	0.1	1.0	2.3	4.96	4.88	
	Sep	4.5	359.224	-0.7	-8.5	5.0	109.8273	-0.4	-4.4	3.8	4.81	4.72	
	Oct	4.4	359.706	0.1	1.6	4.5	109.7437	-0.1	-0.9	2.5	4.92	4.73	
	Nov	4.5	360.428	0.2	2.4	4.0	109.5274	-0.2	-2.3	1.2	4.94	4.60	
	Dec	4.4	365.338	1.4	17.6	5.3	110.1754	0.6	7.3	1.3	4.85	4.56	
	2007	Jan	4.6	365.610	0.1	0.9	2.1	109.7791	-0.4	-4.2	0.9	4.98	4.76
		Feb	4.5	368.271	0.7	9.1	3.6	110.5181	0.7	8.4	1.6	5.03	4.72
		Mar	4.4	371.322	0.8	10.4	4.1	110.4036	-0.1	-1.2	1.3	4.94	4.56
		Apr	4.5	370.636	-0.2	-2.2	3.1	110.9530	0.5	6.1	1.4	4.87	4.69
May		4.5	376.430	1.6	20.5	5.0	110.9686	0.0	0.2	1.5	4.73	4.75	
Jun		4.6	372.272	-1.1	-12.5	4.0	111.3551	0.3	4.3	1.4	4.61	5.10	
Jul		4.7	373.615	0.4	4.4	3.5	112.0024	0.6	7.2	1.7	4.82	5.00	
Aug		4.7	374.336	0.2	2.3	3.4	111.9712	-0.0	-0.3	1.6	4.20	4.67	
Sep		4.7	376.820	0.7	8.3	4.9	112.2598	0.3	3.1	2.2	3.89	4.52	
Oct		4.8	376.802	-0.0	-0.1	4.8	111.8262	-0.4	-4.5	1.9	3.90	4.53	
Nov		4.7	381.280	1.2	15.2	5.8	112.2962	0.4	5.2	2.5	3.27	4.15	
Dec		5.0	377.909	-0.9	-10.1	3.4	112.4424	0.1	1.6	2.1	3.00	4.10	
2008	Jan	4.9	380.019	0.6	6.9	3.9	112.5972	0.1	1.7	2.6	2.75	3.74	
	Feb	4.8	378.106	-0.5	-5.9	2.7	111.7849	-0.7	-8.3	1.1	2.12	3.74	
	Mar	5.1	378.852	0.2	2.4	2.0	111.9829	0.2	2.1	1.4	1.26	3.51	
	Apr	5.0	378.148	-0.2	-2.2	2.0	111.1807	-0.7	-8.3	0.2	1.29	3.68	
	May										1.73	3.88	

	Household Survey Employment				Nonfarm Payroll Employment				Nonfarm Aggregate Hours				
	Thousands	Change	Percent change		Thousands	Change	Percent change		Index	Monthly rate	Percent change		
			Annual rate	Year ago			Annual rate	Year ago			Annual rate	Year ago	
2003	137729	1248		0.9	129996	-344		-0.3	98.6			-1.4	
2004	139242	1512		1.1	131419	1423		1.1	100.2			1.6	
2005	141716	2474		1.8	133695	2276		1.7	102.8			2.6	
2006	144421	2706		1.9	136092	2397		1.8	105.7			2.9	
2007	146049	1628		1.1	137618	1527		1.1	107.2			1.4	
2006	1	143356	704	2.0	135383	722	2.2	2.1	104.9	0.9	3.8	3.2	
	2	144083	727	2.0	135840	457	1.4	1.9	105.6	0.7	2.7	3.1	
	3	144604	521	1.5	136354	514	1.5	1.7	106.0	0.4	1.7	2.8	
	4	145642	1038	2.9	136789	434	1.3	1.6	106.4	0.3	1.4	2.4	
2007	1	145983	340	0.9	137184	395	1.2	1.3	106.6	0.2	0.8	1.6	
	2	145904	-78	-0.2	137500	316	0.9	1.2	107.2	0.5	2.1	1.5	
	3	146019	115	0.3	137758	259	0.8	1.0	107.5	0.3	1.1	1.4	
	4	146291	272	0.7	138031	272	0.8	0.9	107.7	0.2	1.0	1.3	
2008	1	146070	-221	-0.6	137920	-111	-0.3	0.5	107.4	-0.3	-1.1	0.8	
2006	Apr	143791	172	1.4	135794	147	1.3	2.0	105.6	0.5	5.9	3.1	
	May	144088	297	2.5	135816	22	0.2	1.9	105.4	-0.2	-2.2	3.1	
	Jun	144369	281	2.4	135910	94	0.8	1.7	105.8	0.4	4.7	3.1	
	Jul	144295	-74	-0.6	136172	262	2.3	1.7	106.0	0.2	2.3	3.1	
	Aug	144671	376	3.2	136363	191	1.7	1.6	106.2	0.2	2.3	3.1	
	Sep	144846	175	1.5	136528	165	1.5	1.7	105.9	-0.3	-3.3	2.3	
	Oct	145395	549	4.6	136601	73	0.6	1.7	106.3	0.4	4.6	2.6	
	Nov	145583	188	1.6	136783	182	1.6	1.5	106.2	-0.1	-1.1	2.1	
	Dec	145949	366	3.1	136982	199	1.8	1.6	106.7	0.5	5.8	2.4	
	2007	Jan	145915	-34	-0.3	137108	126	1.1	1.5	106.5	-0.2	-2.2	1.6
		Feb	145888	-27	-0.2	137133	25	0.2	1.3	106.2	-0.3	-3.3	1.3
		Mar	146145	257	2.1	137310	177	1.6	1.2	107.1	0.8	10.7	1.9
Apr		145713	-432	-3.5	137356	46	0.4	1.2	106.8	-0.3	-3.3	1.1	
May		145913	200	1.7	137518	162	1.4	1.3	107.1	0.3	3.4	1.6	
Jun		146087	174	1.4	137625	107	0.9	1.3	107.6	0.5	5.7	1.7	
Jul		146045	-42	-0.3	137682	57	0.5	1.1	107.4	-0.2	-2.2	1.3	
Aug		145753	-292	-2.4	137756	74	0.6	1.0	107.4	0.0	0.0	1.1	
Sep		146260	507	4.3	137837	81	0.7	1.0	107.6	0.2	2.3	1.6	
Oct		146016	-244	-2.0	137977	140	1.2	1.0	107.7	0.1	1.1	1.3	
Nov		146647	631	5.3	138037	60	0.5	0.9	107.7	0.0	0.0	1.4	
Dec		146211	-436	-3.5	138078	41	0.4	0.8	107.8	0.1	1.1	1.0	
2008	Jan	146248	37	0.3	138002	-76	-0.7	0.7	107.4	-0.4	-4.4	0.8	
	Feb	145993	-255	-2.1	137919	-83	-0.7	0.6	107.3	-0.1	-1.1	1.0	
	Mar	145969	-24	-0.2	137838	-81	-0.7	0.4	107.6	0.3	3.4	0.5	
	Apr	146331	362	3.0	137818	-20	-0.2	0.3	107.2	-0.4	-4.4	0.4	

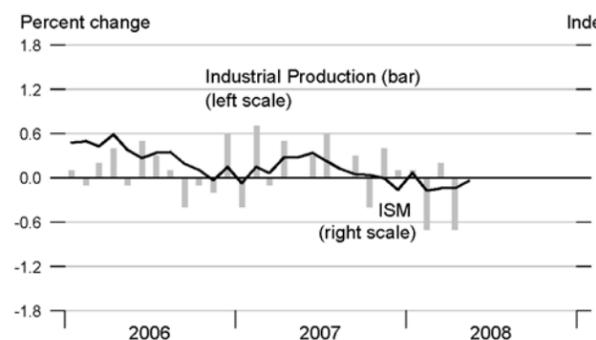
Real Final Sales and GDP



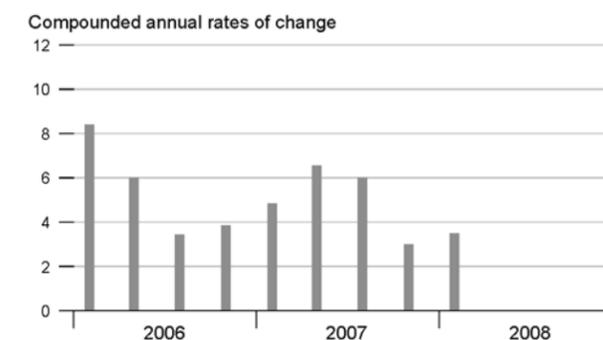
Real GDP Revisions



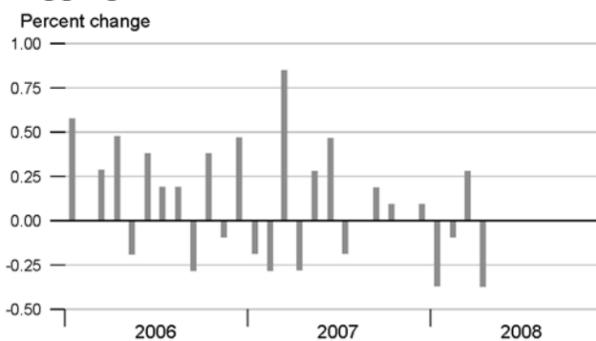
Industrial Production and ISM Index



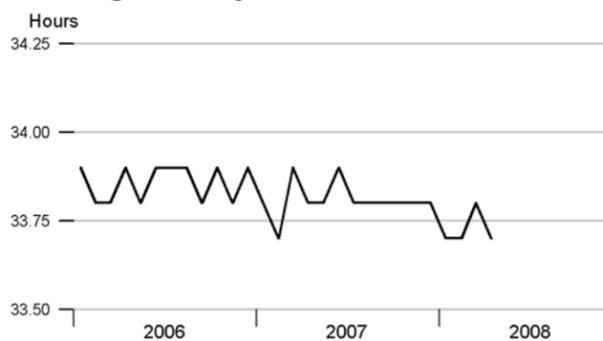
Nominal Gross Domestic Product



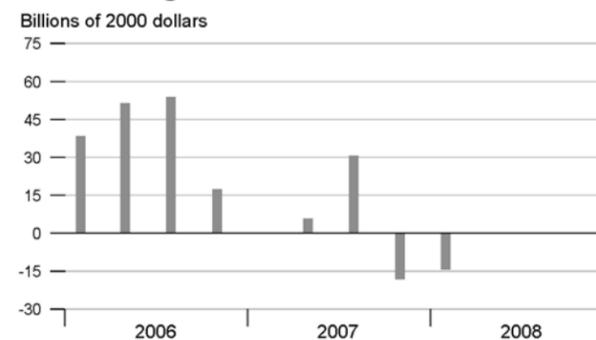
Aggregate Private Nonfarm Hours



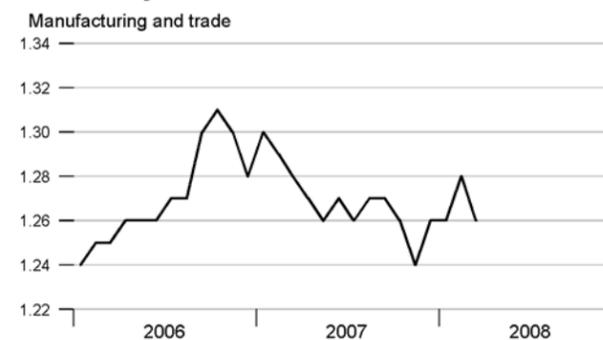
Average Weekly Private Nonfarm Hours



Real Change in Private Inventories

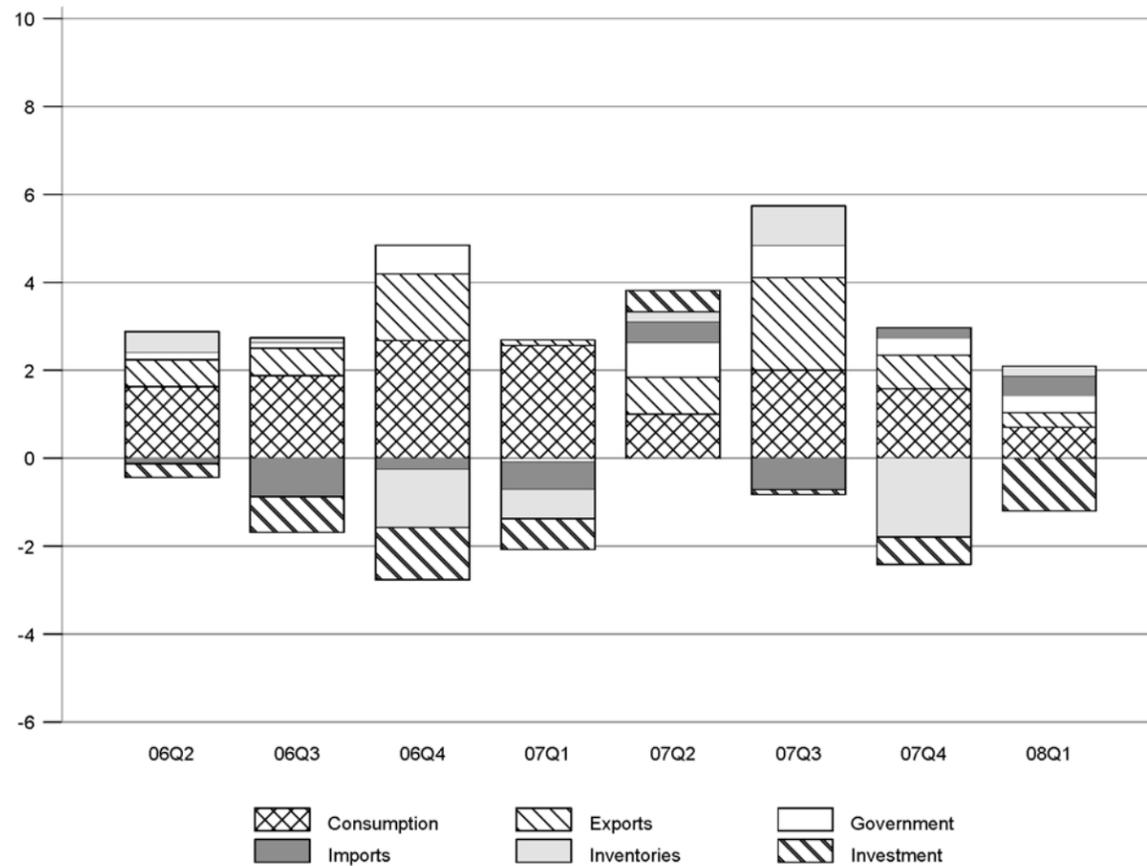


Inventory-Sales Ratio



Contribution of Components to Real GDP Growth

Percentage points at compounded annual rates



Contributions to Real GDP Growth Rate

	2006			2007				2008
	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st
Final Sales	1.98	0.97	3.40	1.25	3.60	4.02	2.37	0.69
Consumption	1.63	1.88	2.68	2.56	1.00	2.01	1.58	0.70
Fixed Investment	-0.32	-0.80	-1.19	-0.70	0.49	-0.11	-0.62	-1.20
Nonresidential	0.44	0.53	-0.15	0.22	1.12	0.96	0.63	-0.03
Residential	-0.76	-1.33	-1.04	-0.93	-0.62	-1.08	-1.25	-1.17
Government	0.18	0.14	0.66	-0.09	0.79	0.74	0.38	0.38
Federal	-0.11	0.06	0.50	-0.46	0.41	0.50	0.04	0.31
State and Local	0.29	0.08	0.16	0.36	0.37	0.24	0.34	0.08
Net Exports	0.49	-0.25	1.25	-0.51	1.32	1.38	1.02	0.80
Exports	0.61	0.62	1.51	0.13	0.85	2.10	0.77	0.34
Imports	-0.12	-0.88	-0.26	-0.63	0.47	-0.72	0.24	0.46
Change in Inventory	0.46	0.10	-1.31	-0.65	0.22	0.89	-1.79	0.21
Residual	-0.19	-0.26	-0.19	-0.22	-0.15	-0.25	-0.30	0.00
Real GDP Growth	2.44	1.07	2.09	0.60	3.82	4.91	0.58	0.90

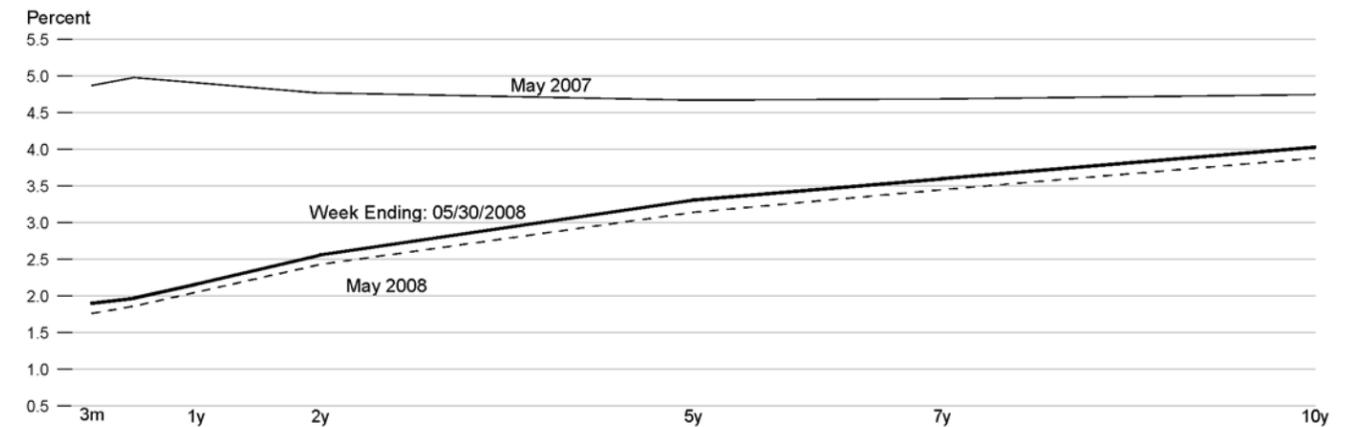
	GDP Chain Price Index			Employment Cost Index			ECI: Wages			ECI: Benefits		
	Index	Percent change		Index	Percent change		Index	Percent change		Index	Percent change	
		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago
2004	109.462		2.9	96.2		3.8	96.8		2.7	94.8		6.8
2005	113.005		3.2	99.2		3.1	99.2		2.5	99.2		4.6
2006	116.568		3.2	102.1		2.9	102.1		2.9	102.1		2.9
2007	119.668		2.7	105.2		3.1	105.5		3.4	104.5		2.4
2005 1	111.745	3.9	3.3	98.2	3.8	3.5	98.3	2.5	2.6	98.0	6.4	5.5
2005 2	112.455	2.6	3.0	98.8	2.5	3.1	98.8	2.1	2.5	98.8	3.3	4.7
2005 3	113.422	3.5	3.3	99.5	2.9	2.9	99.4	2.5	2.3	99.7	3.7	4.5
2005 4	114.398	3.5	3.4	100.2	2.8	3.0	100.1	2.8	2.5	100.3	2.4	3.9
2006 1	115.363	3.4	3.2	100.8	2.4	2.6	100.8	2.8	2.5	100.8	2.0	2.9
2006 2	116.350	3.5	3.5	101.6	3.2	2.8	101.6	3.2	2.8	101.6	3.2	2.8
2006 3	117.030	2.4	3.2	102.5	3.6	3.0	102.5	3.6	3.1	102.5	3.6	2.8
2006 4	117.527	1.7	2.7	103.3	3.2	3.1	103.3	3.2	3.2	103.4	3.6	3.1
2007 1	118.750	4.2	2.9	104.0	2.7	3.2	104.3	3.9	3.5	103.1	-1.2	2.3
2007 2	119.527	2.6	2.7	104.8	3.1	3.1	105.1	3.1	3.4	104.2	4.3	2.6
2007 3	119.837	1.0	2.4	105.6	3.1	3.0	105.9	3.1	3.3	105.0	3.1	2.4
2007 4	120.560	2.4	2.6	106.5	3.5	3.1	106.7	3.1	3.3	105.8	3.1	2.3
2008 1	121.334	2.6	2.2	107.3	3.0	3.2	107.6	3.4	3.2	106.4	2.3	3.2
	Exports			Imports			Nonfarm Output per Hour			Nonfarm Compensation per Hour		
	Percent change			Percent change			Percent change			Percent change		
	Billions of 2000 \$	Annual rate	Year ago	Billions of 2000 \$	Annual rate	Year ago	Index	Annual rate	Year ago	Index	Annual rate	Year ago
2004	1126.134		9.7	1719.939		11.3	131.571		2.8	155.899		3.6
2005	1203.444		6.9	1821.457		5.9	134.090		1.9	162.145		4.0
2006	1304.104		8.4	1928.567		5.9	135.414		1.0	168.544		3.9
2007	1409.857		8.1	1965.432		1.9	137.900		1.8	176.881		4.9
2005 1	1172.397	6.0	6.4	1796.826	2.1	8.8	133.356	3.4	2.4	160.266	3.4	4.8
2005 2	1199.343	9.5	7.1	1800.339	0.8	5.3	133.520	0.5	1.4	160.849	1.5	3.9
2005 3	1205.647	2.1	6.9	1809.724	2.1	4.6	135.000	4.5	2.2	163.158	5.9	4.0
2005 4	1236.387	10.6	7.0	1878.952	16.2	5.1	134.479	-1.5	1.7	164.263	2.7	3.4
2006 1	1270.569	11.5	8.4	1910.696	6.9	6.3	135.221	2.2	1.4	167.008	6.9	4.2
2006 2	1288.438	5.7	7.4	1915.005	0.9	6.4	135.671	1.3	1.6	166.998	-0.0	3.8
2006 3	1306.571	5.7	8.4	1940.374	5.4	7.2	135.141	-1.6	0.1	167.602	1.5	2.7
2006 4	1350.861	14.3	9.3	1948.210	1.6	3.7	135.620	1.4	0.8	172.534	12.3	5.0
2007 1	1354.654	1.1	6.6	1966.775	3.9	2.9	136.057	1.3	0.6	175.226	6.4	4.9
2007 2	1379.485	7.5	7.1	1953.360	-2.7	2.0	136.961	2.7	1.0	175.795	1.3	5.3
2007 3	1441.150	19.1	10.3	1974.272	4.4	1.7	138.986	6.0	2.8	177.248	3.3	5.8
2007 4	1464.139	6.5	8.4	1967.321	-1.4	1.0	139.601	1.8	2.9	179.248	4.6	3.9
2008 1	1474.127	2.8	8.8	1954.319	-2.6	-0.6	140.354	2.2	3.2	181.178	4.4	3.4

	Nominal GDP			Real GDP			Final Sales			Change in Private Inventories		
	Billions of \$	Percent change		Billions of 2000 \$	Percent change		Billions of 2000 \$	Percent change		Billions of 2000 \$		
		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago	Last qtr	Year/Year ago	
2004	11685.9	6.6		10675.757	3.6		10619.790	3.3		54.268		
2005	12433.9	6.4		11003.448	3.1		10966.873	3.3		33.237		
2006	13194.7	6.1		11319.358	2.9		11275.890	2.8		40.289		
2007	13841.3	4.9		11566.844	2.2		11561.481	2.5		4.538		
2005 1	12154.0	7.1	6.6	10878.380	3.1	3.2	10812.950	2.9	2.9	63.393	61.378	
2005 2	12317.4	5.5	6.1	10954.069	2.8	3.0	10940.422	4.8	3.5	10.070	47.675	
2005 3	12558.8	8.1	6.6	11074.326	4.5	3.2	11064.771	4.6	3.7	5.906	34.137	
2005 4	12705.5	4.8	6.3	11107.213	1.2	2.9	11049.544	-0.5	2.9	53.580	33.237	
2006 1	12964.6	8.4	6.7	11238.662	4.8	3.3	11196.147	5.4	3.5	38.422	26.995	
2006 2	13155.0	6.0	6.8	11306.694	2.4	3.2	11252.074	2.0	2.8	51.390	37.325	
2006 3	13266.9	3.4	5.6	11336.734	1.1	2.4	11279.696	1.0	1.9	53.944	49.334	
2006 4	13392.3	3.8	5.4	11395.538	2.1	2.6	11375.837	3.5	3.0	17.401	40.289	
2007 1	13551.9	4.9	4.5	11412.619	0.6	1.5	11411.560	1.3	1.9	0.097	30.708	
2007 2	13768.8	6.6	4.7	11520.115	3.8	1.9	11512.777	3.6	2.3	5.762	19.301	
2007 3	13970.5	6.0	5.3	11658.927	4.9	2.8	11626.389	4.0	3.1	30.638	13.475	
2007 4	14074.2	3.0	5.1	11675.714	0.6	2.5	11695.200	2.4	2.8	-18.344	4.538	
2008 1	14195.6	3.5	4.7	11701.925	0.9	2.5	11715.307	0.7	2.7	-14.370	0.921	
	Consumption			Durables Consumption			Private Fixed Investment			Nonresidential Fixed Investment		
	Billions of 2000 \$	Percent change		Billions of 2000 \$	Percent change		Billions of 2000 \$	Percent change		Billions of 2000 \$	Percent change	
		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago		Annual rate	Year ago
2004	7561.380	3.6		1084.786	6.3		1712.757	7.3		1144.264	5.8	
2005	7803.593	3.2		1137.415	4.9		1831.427	6.9		1225.790	7.1	
2006	8044.054	3.1		1180.469	3.8		1874.694	2.4		1306.762	6.6	
2007	8277.843	2.9		1235.391	4.7		1819.494	-2.9		1368.354	4.7	
2005 1	7709.377	2.4	3.1	1116.030	2.2	4.7	1785.306	4.0	8.3	1199.486	3.3	9.1
2005 2	7775.220	3.5	3.4	1146.298	11.3	7.0	1819.775	7.9	7.1	1214.147	5.0	7.7
2005 3	7852.791	4.1	3.5	1163.548	6.2	6.6	1854.949	8.0	6.8	1239.503	8.6	6.8
2005 4	7876.850	1.2	2.8	1123.791	-13.0	1.2	1865.645	2.3	5.5	1250.025	3.4	5.1
2006 1	7961.901	4.4	3.3	1167.761	16.6	4.6	1901.356	7.9	6.5	1289.723	13.3	7.5
2006 2	8009.279	2.4	3.0	1170.169	0.8	2.1	1892.290	-1.9	4.0	1303.165	4.2	7.3
2006 3	8063.801	2.8	2.7	1186.322	5.6	2.0	1869.607	-4.7	0.8	1319.428	5.1	6.4
2006 4	8141.236	3.9	3.4	1197.606	3.9	6.6	1835.541	-7.1	-1.6	1314.758	-1.4	5.2
2007 1	8215.706	3.7	3.2	1223.160	8.8	4.7	1815.191	-4.4	-4.5	1321.732	2.1	2.5
2007 2	8244.349	1.4	2.9	1228.366	1.7	5.0	1829.345	3.2	-3.3	1356.624	11.0	4.1
2007 3	8302.240	2.8	3.0	1241.912	4.5	4.7	1825.987	-0.7	-2.3	1387.278	9.3	5.1
2007 4	8349.078	2.3	2.6	1248.128	2.0	4.2	1807.451	-4.0	-1.5	1407.780	6.0	7.1
2008 1	8369.701	1.0	1.9	1228.193	-6.2	0.4	1771.219	-7.8	-2.4	1406.918	-0.2	6.4

Interest Rates



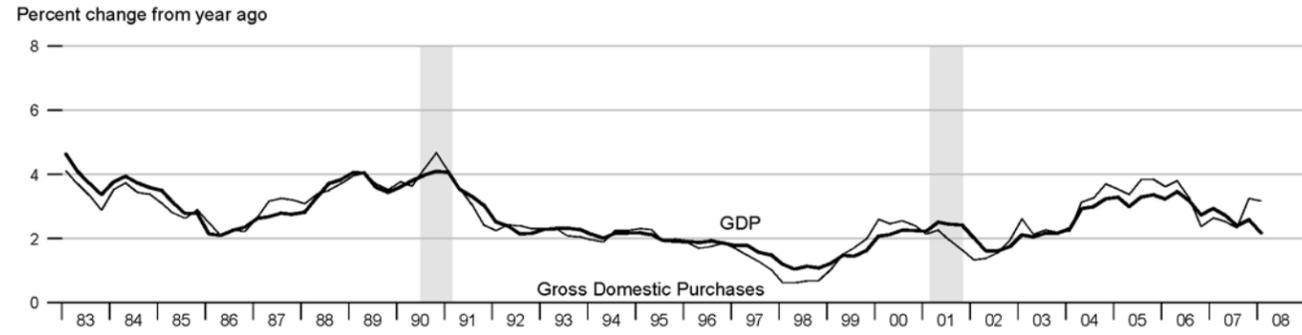
Treasury Yield Curve



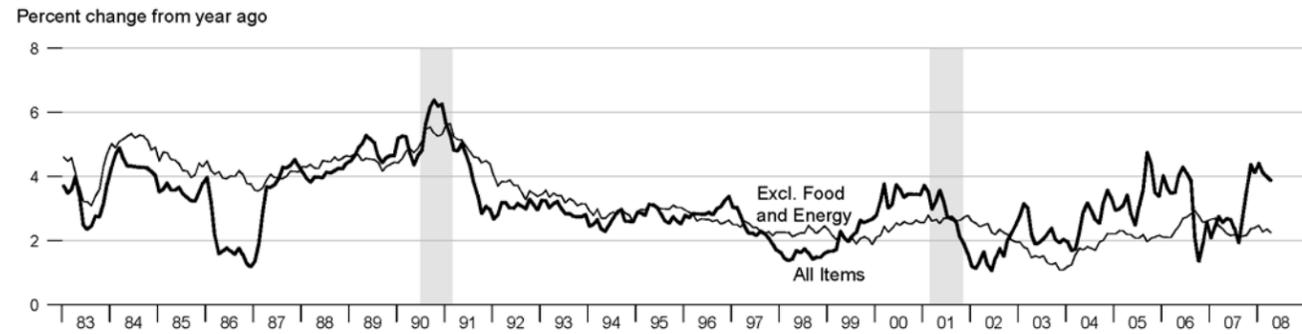
Standard and Poor's 500 Index with Reinvested Dividends



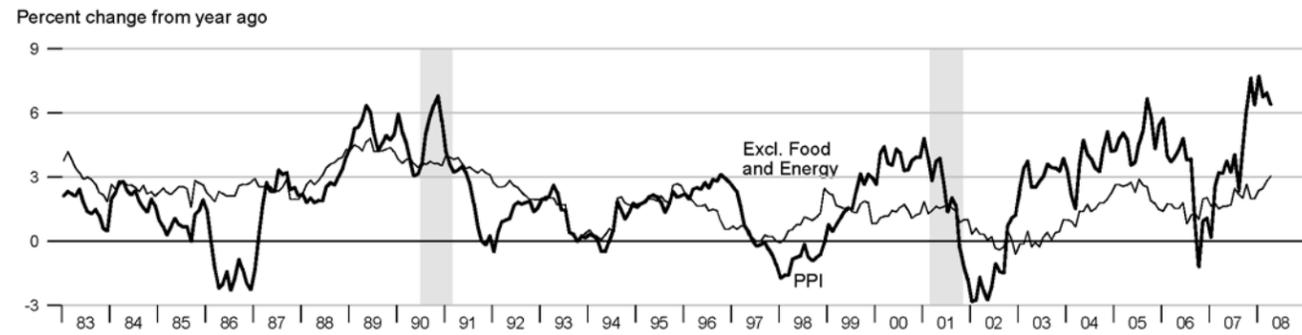
NIPA Chain Price Indexes



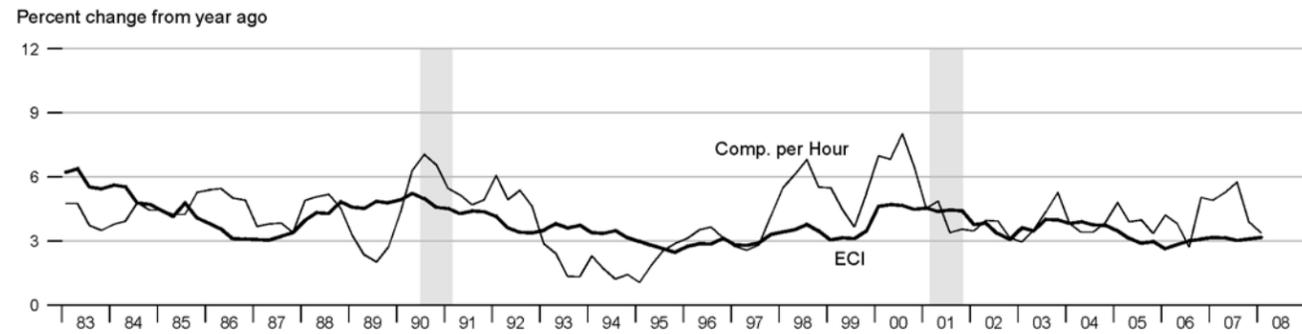
Consumer Price Index



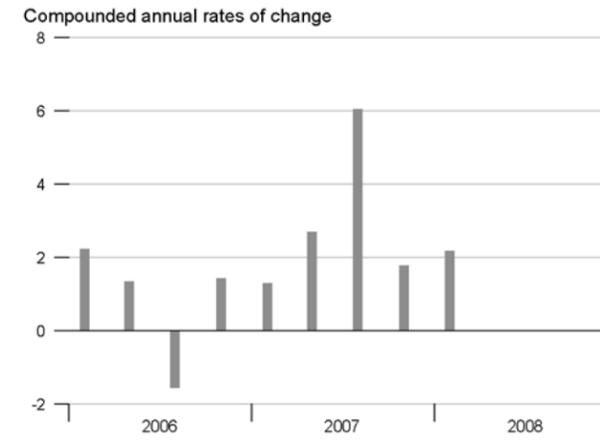
Producer Price Index, Finished Goods



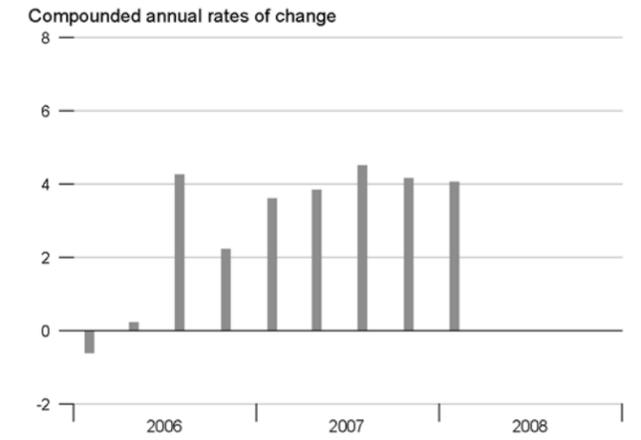
Employment Cost Index and Compensation per Hour



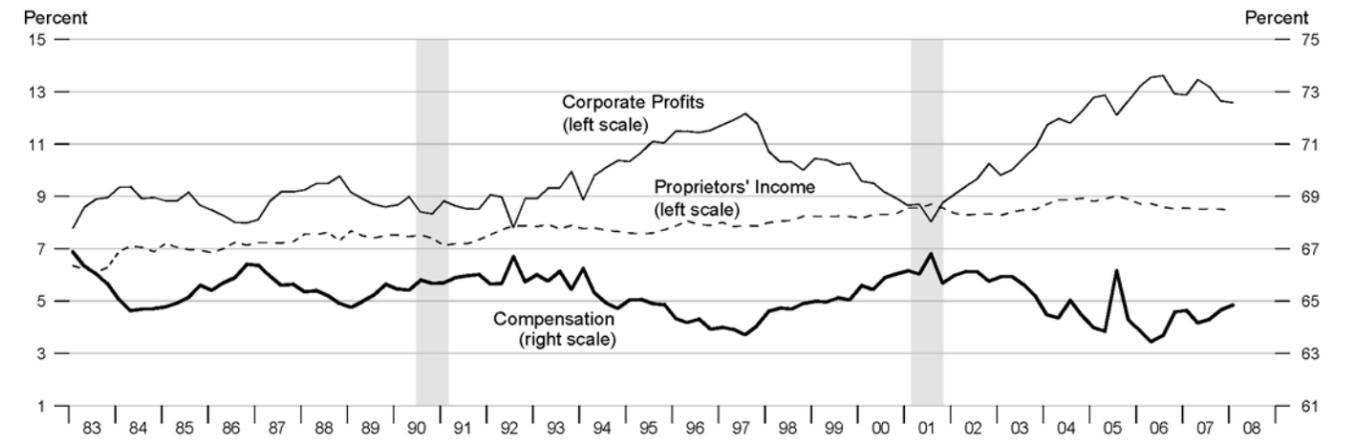
Nonfarm Output per Hour



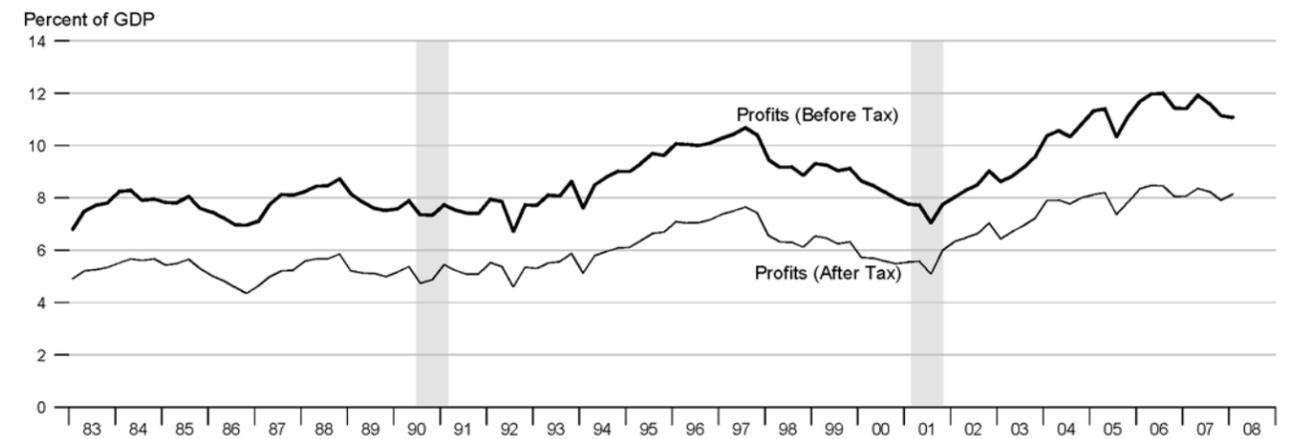
Manufacturing Output per Hour



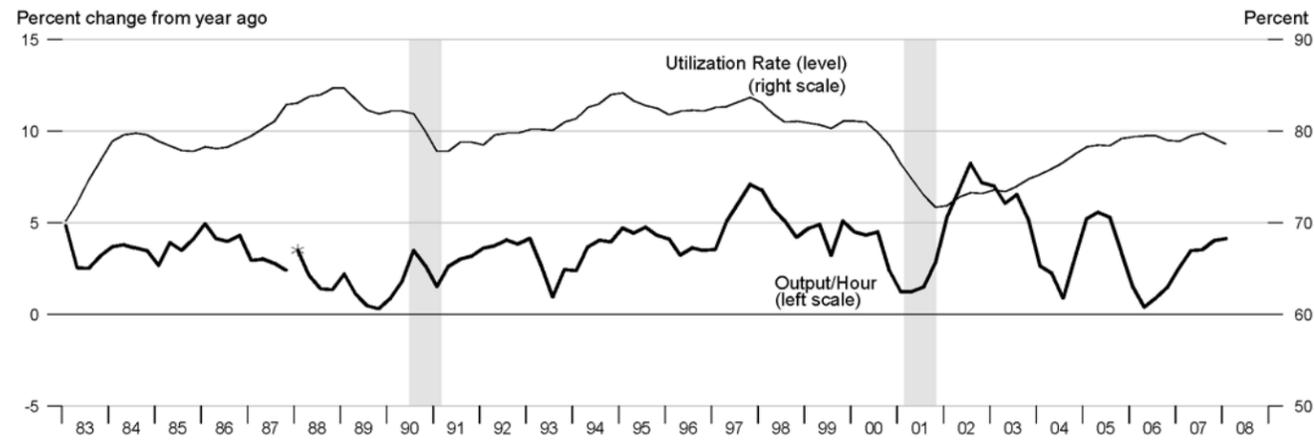
Selected Component Shares of National Income



Corporate Profits

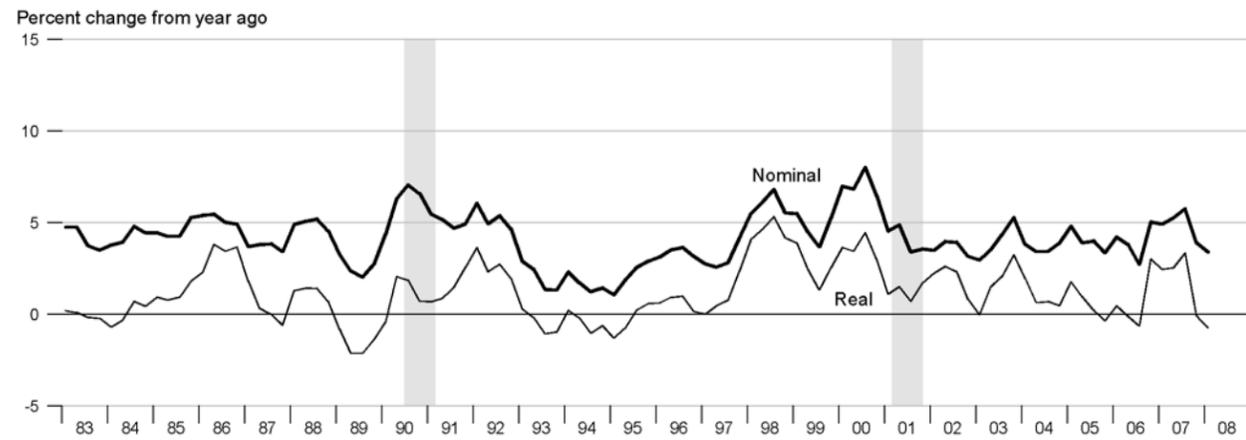


Output per Hour and Capacity Utilization, Manufacturing

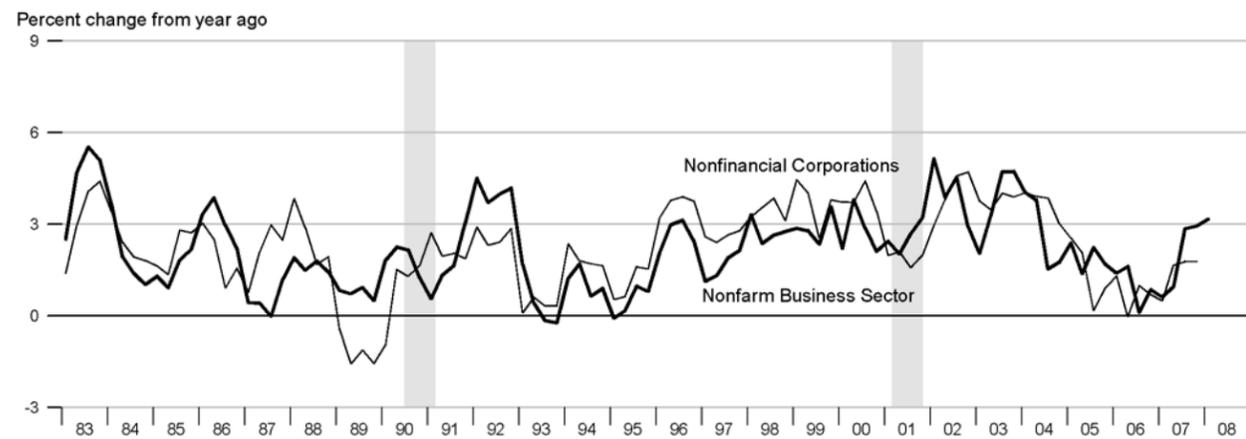


*Data from 1987 to the present are on a NAICS basis; data prior to 1987 are on an SIC basis and are not strictly comparable (see End Note).

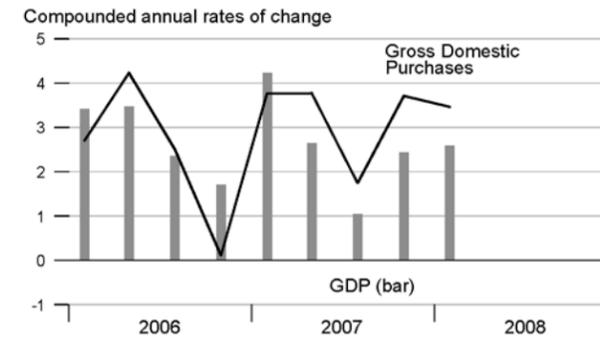
Nonfarm Compensation per Hour



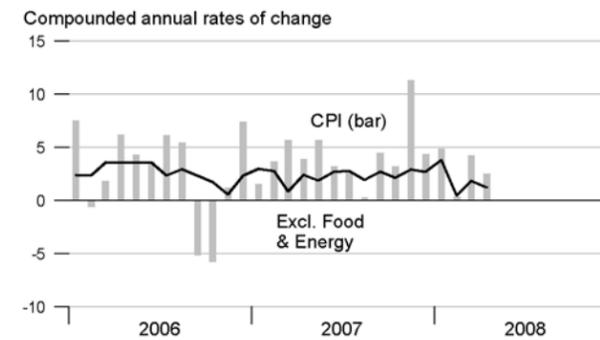
Output per Hour, Nonfarm Business and Nonfinancial Corporations



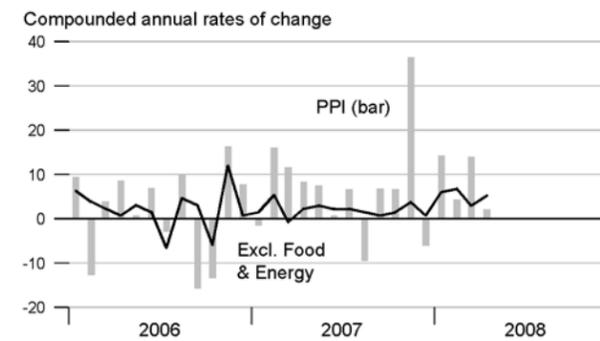
NIPA Chain Price Indexes



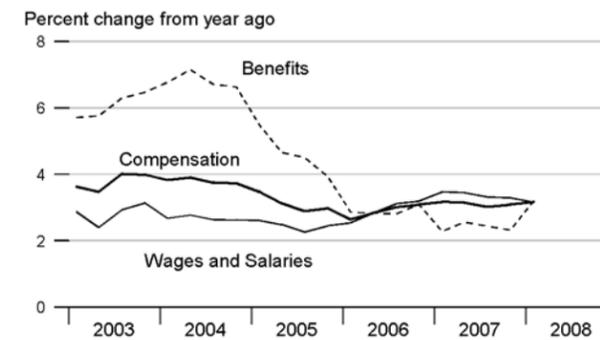
Consumer Price Index



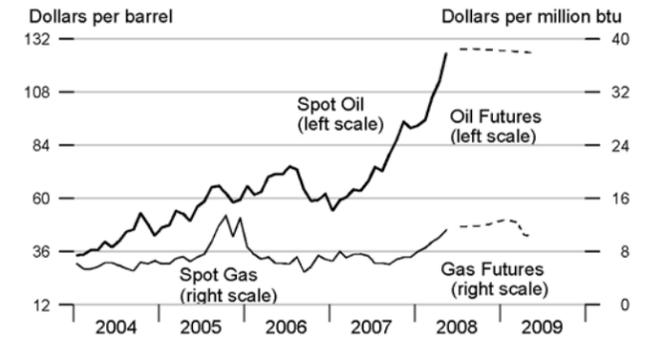
Producer Price Index, Finished Goods



Employment Cost Index

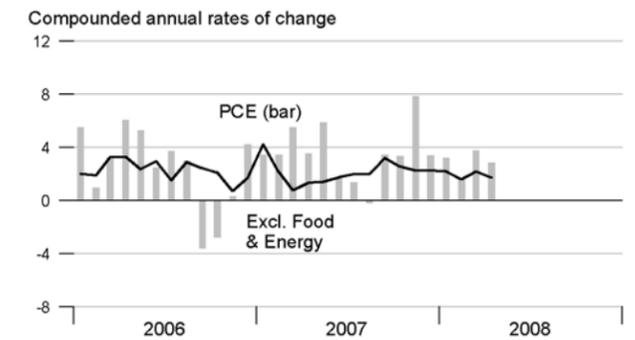


Oil & Natural Gas Prices: Spot & Futures

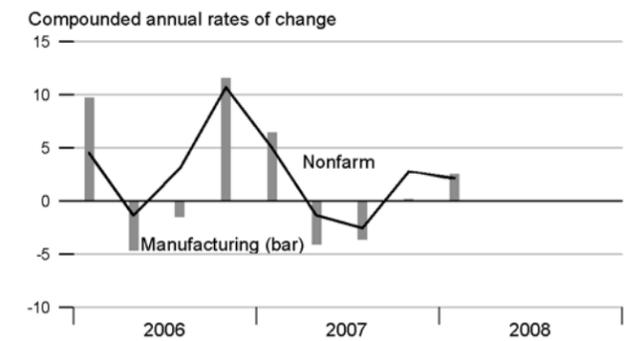


Note: Futures prices as of 05/30/2008.

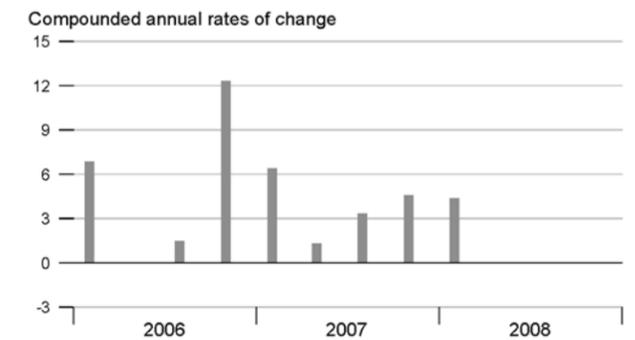
Consumption Chain Price Index



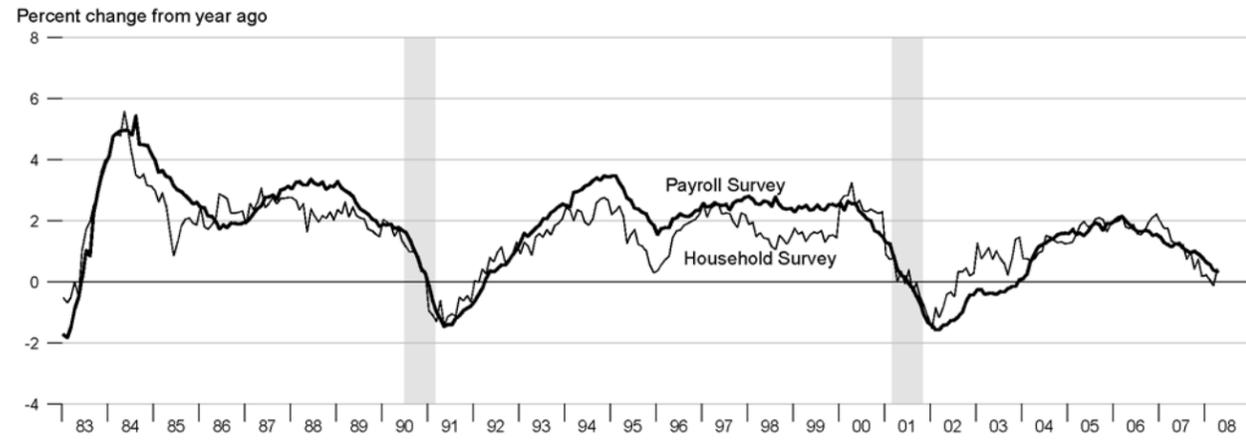
Unit Labor Cost



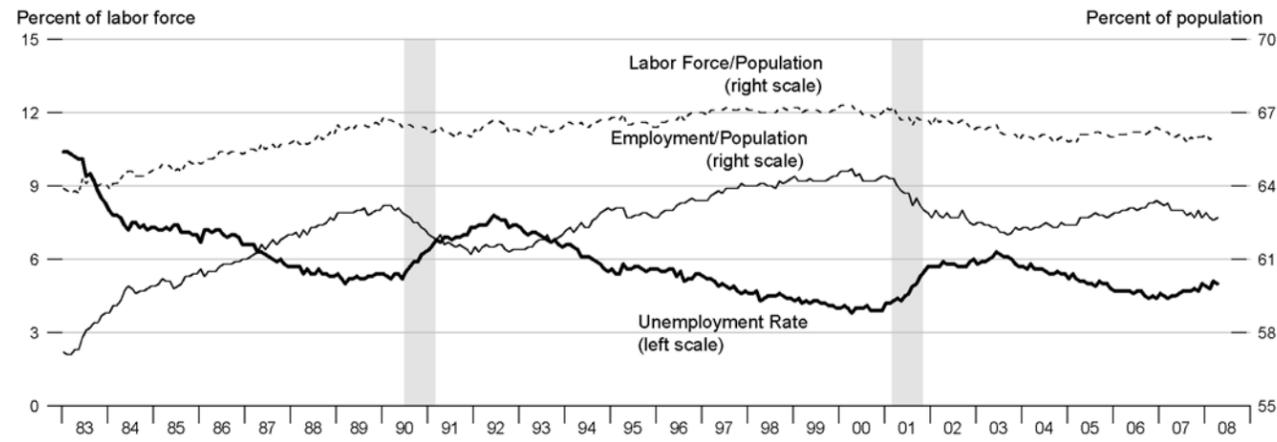
Compensation per Hour



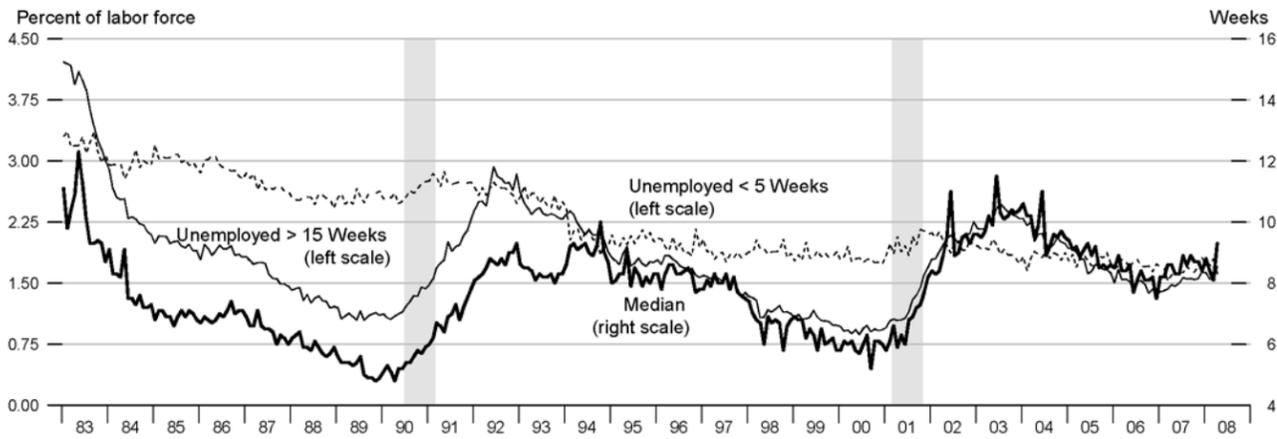
Employment



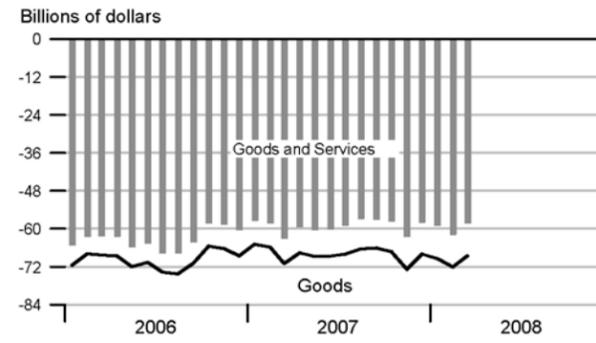
Unemployment, Labor Force Participation, and Employment Rates



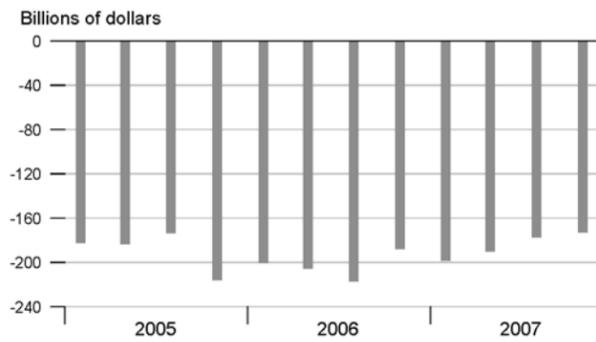
Duration of Unemployment



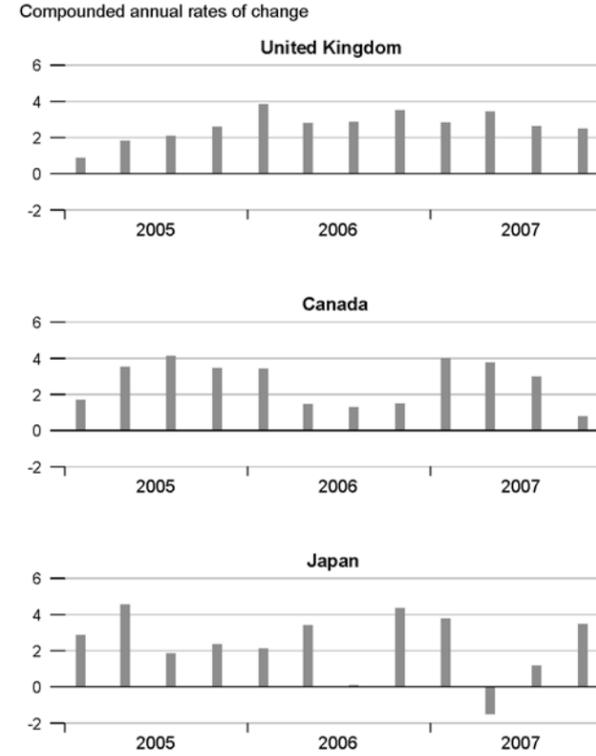
Trade Balance



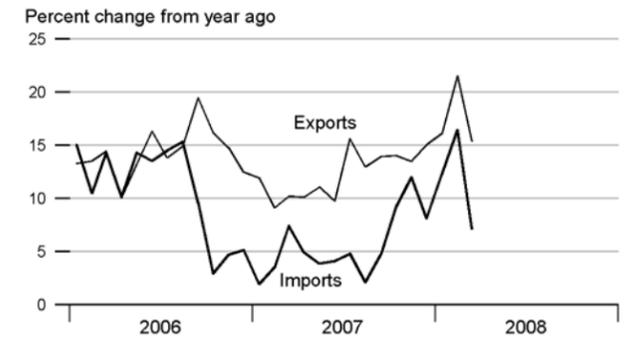
Current Account Balance



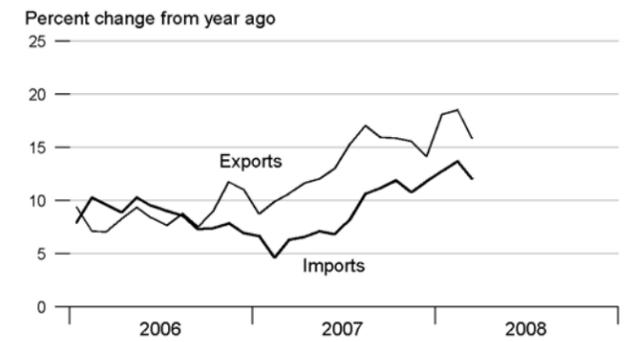
Real GDP Growth of Major Trading Partners



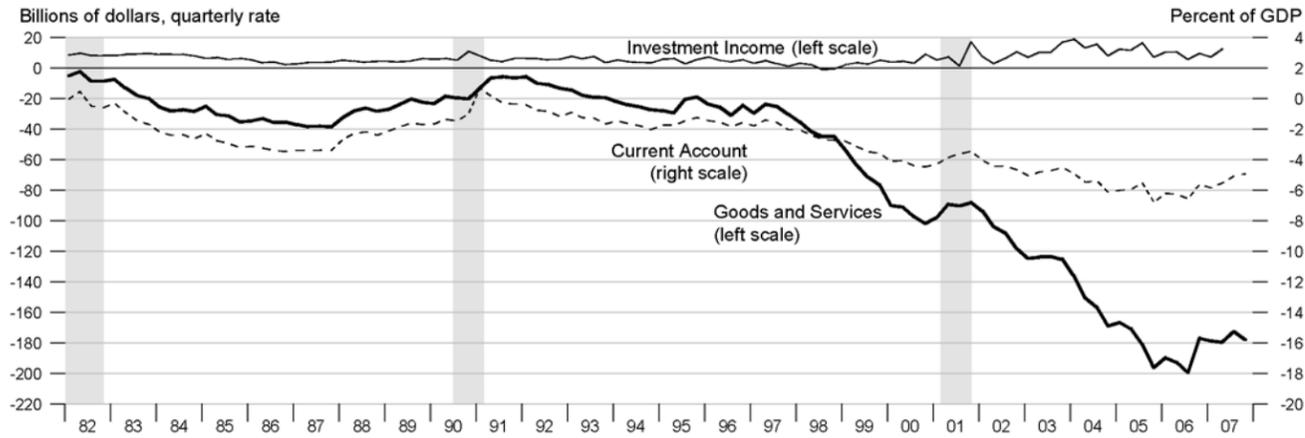
Goods Trade



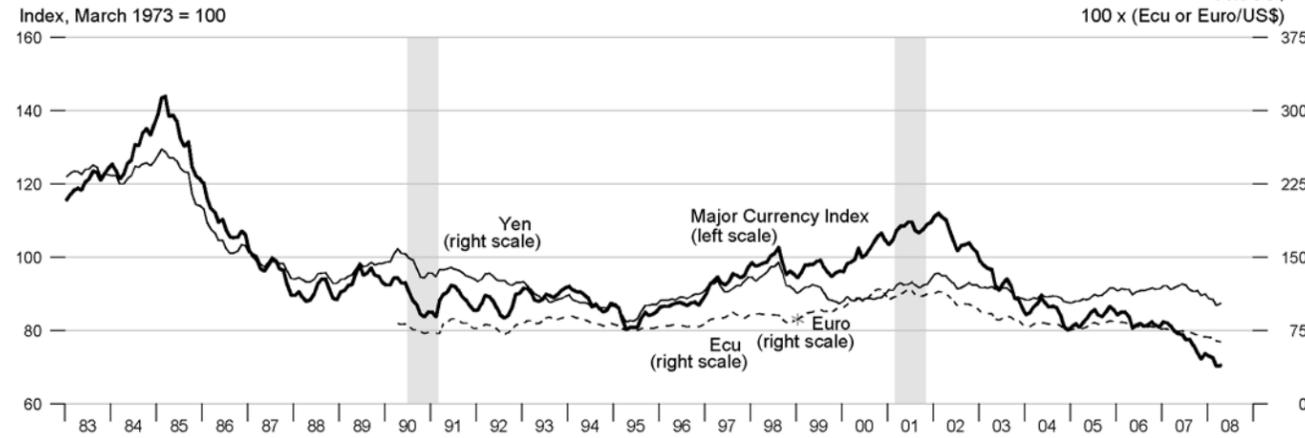
Services Trade



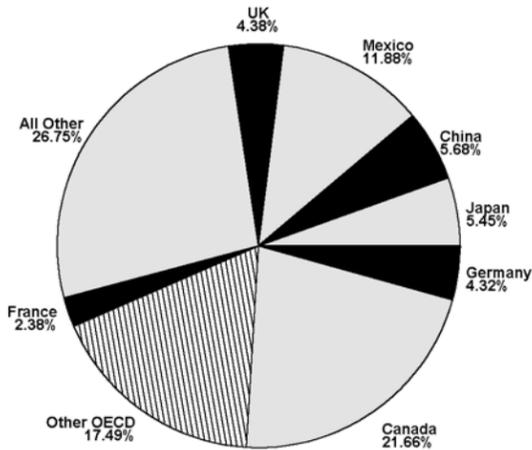
Current Account, Trade and Investment Income Balances



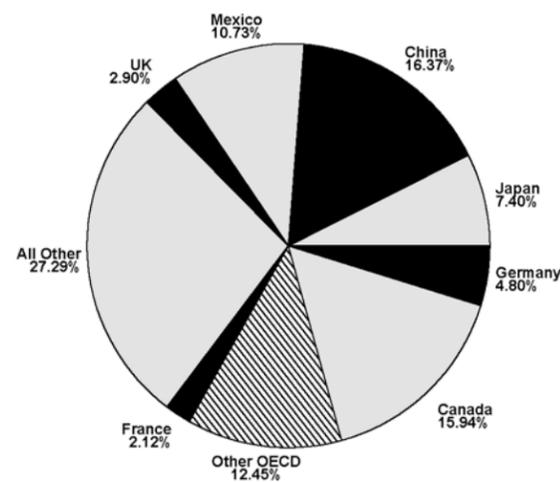
Exchange Rates



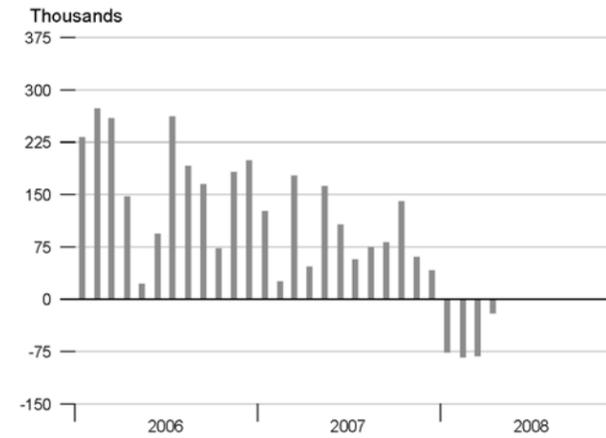
Goods Export Shares, 2007



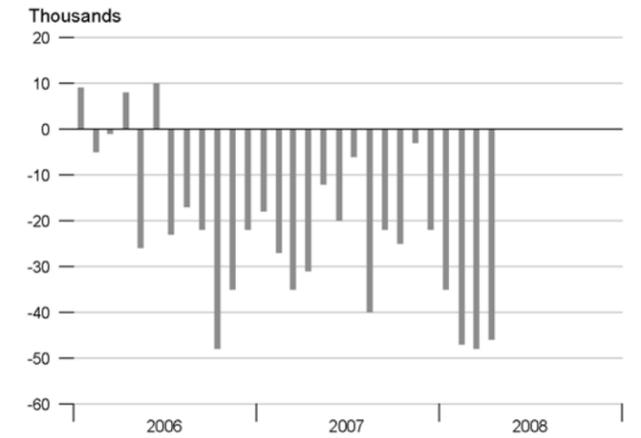
Goods Import Shares, 2007



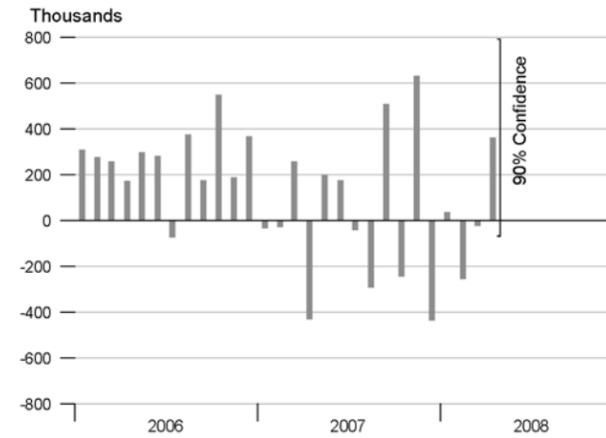
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls



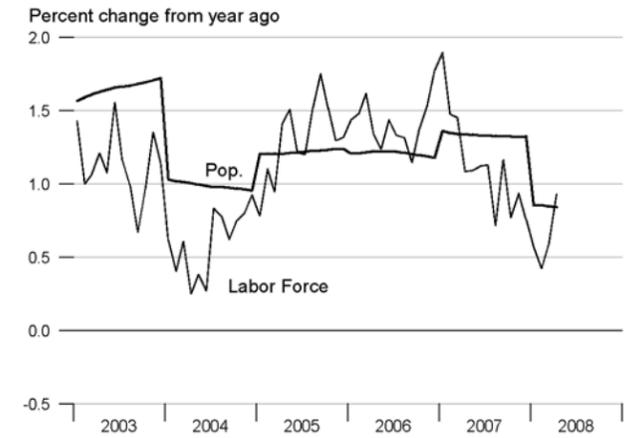
Change in Manufacturing Payrolls



Change in Household Employment



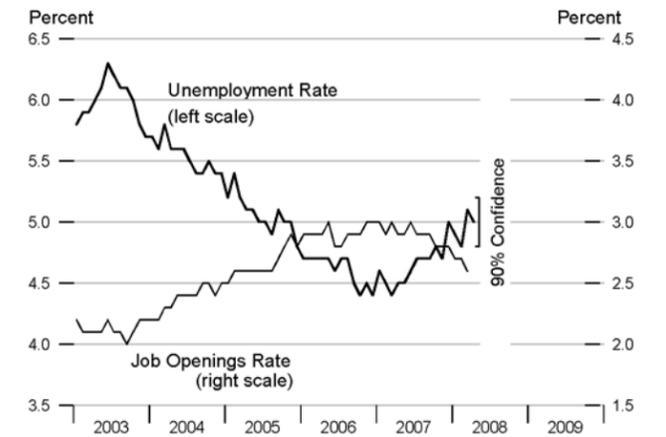
Labor Force and Population



Available Labor Supply and Components

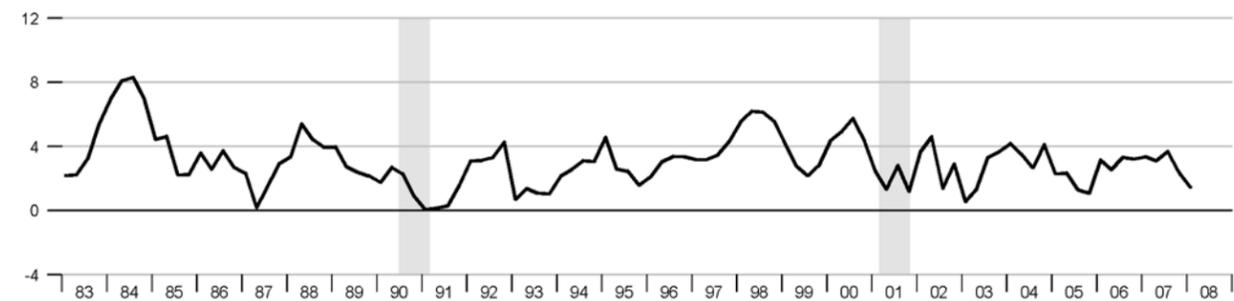


Unemployment Rate & Job Openings Rate



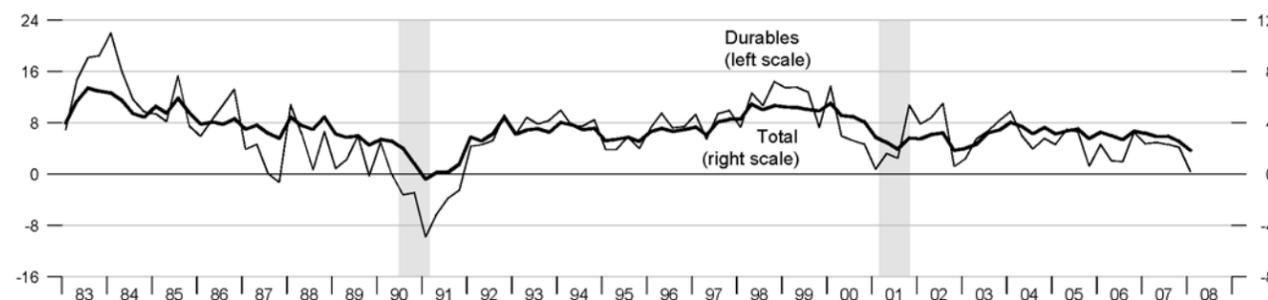
Real Disposable Personal Income

Percent change from year ago, quarterly data



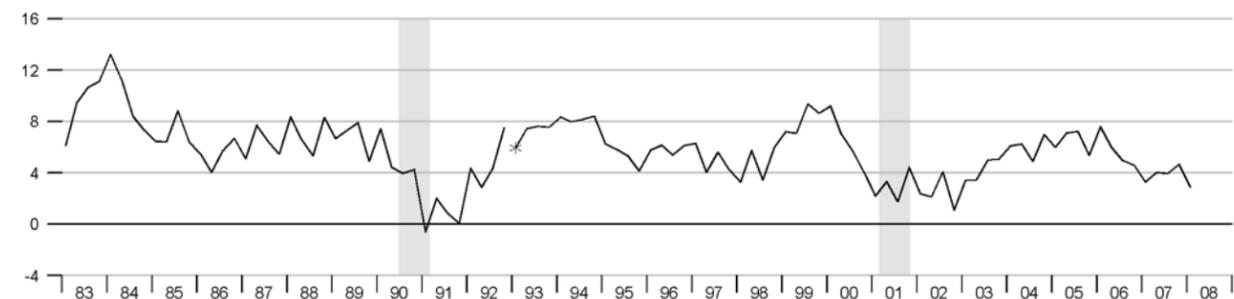
Real Consumption

Percent change from year ago, quarterly data



Retail and Food Services Sales

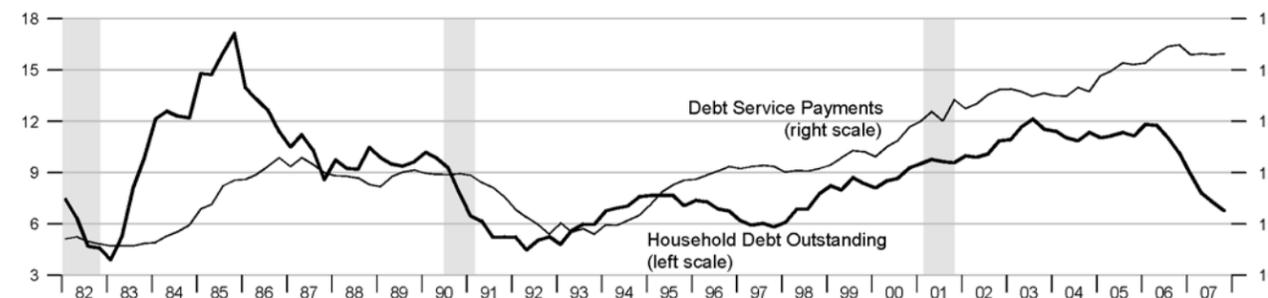
Percent change from year ago, quarterly average



*Data from Jan. 1992 to the present are on a NAICS basis; data prior to Jan. 1992 are on an SIC basis and are not strictly comparable (see End Note).

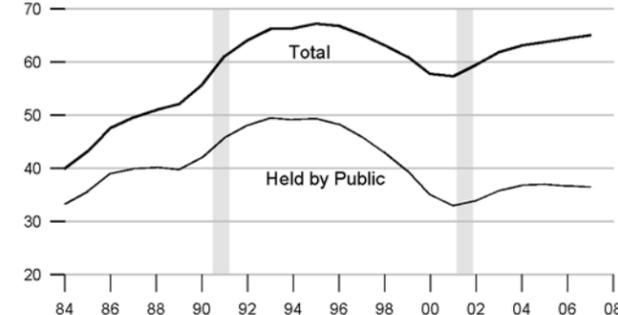
Debt Service Payments and Household Debt Outstanding

Percent change from year ago, quarterly data



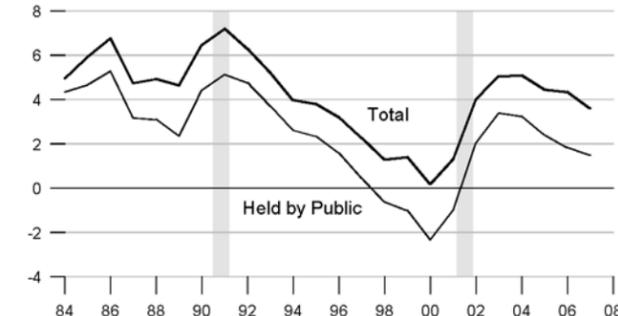
Federal Debt

Percent of GDP



Change in Federal Debt

Percent of GDP



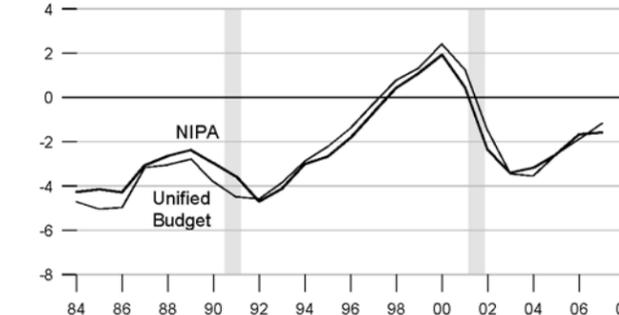
Federal Government Debt

Billions of dollars, end of month or fiscal year
Excludes Agency-issued debt

		Total Public Debt	Held by Agencies and Trusts	Held by Public		Held by Private Investors	
				Total	Federal Reserve Banks	Total	Foreign and International
2005		7932.7	3331.1	4601.6	736.4	3864.9	1930.6
2006		8507.0	3663.8	4843.2	768.9	4074.2	2027.3
2007		9007.7	3958.4	5049.2	779.6	4269.7	2240.3
2004	March	7131.1	2954.4	4176.7	674.1	3502.8	1677.1
	June	7274.3	3055.6	4218.7	687.4	3531.5	1739.6
	September	7379.1	3075.7	4303.4	700.3	3607.0	1798.7
	December	7596.1	3189.8	4406.4	717.8	3690.6	1853.4
2005	March	7776.9	3204.5	4572.4	717.3	3855.4	1956.3
	June	7836.5	3308.9	4527.6	724.7	3803.0	1879.6
	September	7932.7	3331.1	4601.6	736.4	3864.9	1930.6
	December	8170.4	3455.8	4714.6	744.2	3970.6	2036.0
2006	March	8371.2	3498.4	4872.8	758.5	4114.0	2084.5
	June	8420.0	3622.6	4797.5	766.4	4030.8	1979.8
	September	8507.0	3663.8	4843.2	768.9	4074.2	2027.3
	December	8680.2	3779.0	4901.2	778.9	4122.1	2105.0
2007	March	8849.7	3795.4	5054.3	780.9	4273.1	2196.7
	June	8867.7	3924.7	4943.0	790.5	4152.6	2193.4
	September	9007.7	3958.4	5049.2	779.6	4269.7	2240.3
	December	9229.2	4092.9	5136.3	740.6	4395.7	2335.3

Federal Surplus (+) / Deficit (-)

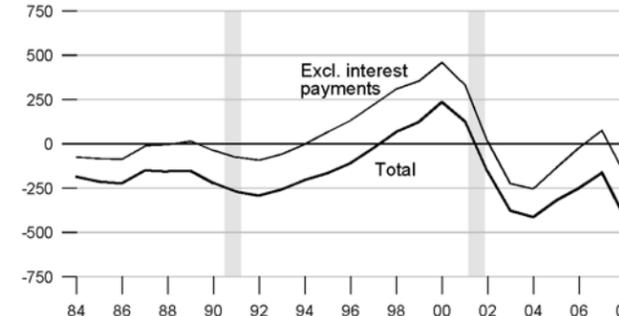
Percent of GDP



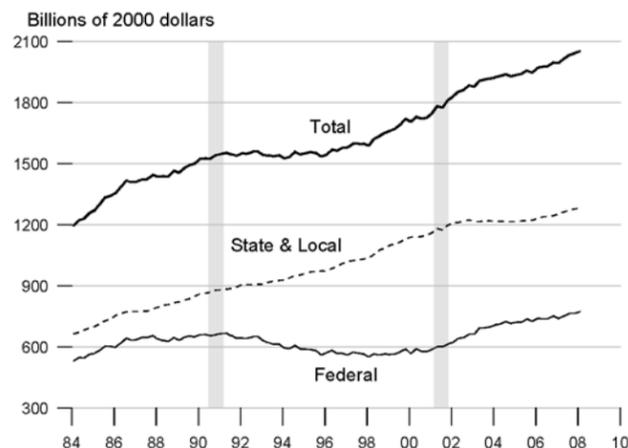
NIPA: Net government saving.

Federal Surplus (+) / Deficit (-), Unified Basis

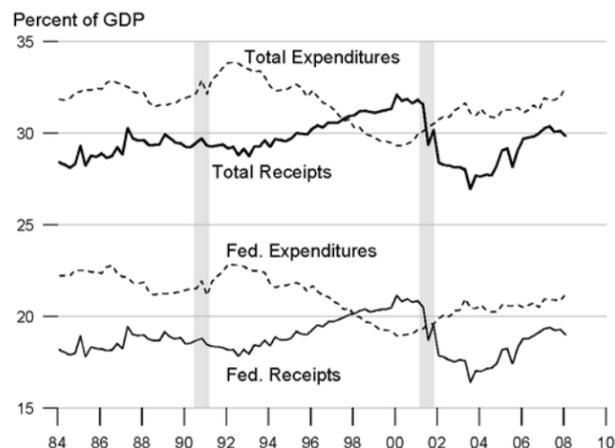
Billions of dollars, fiscal years



Govt. Consumption and Investment



Govt. Current Receipts and Expenditures

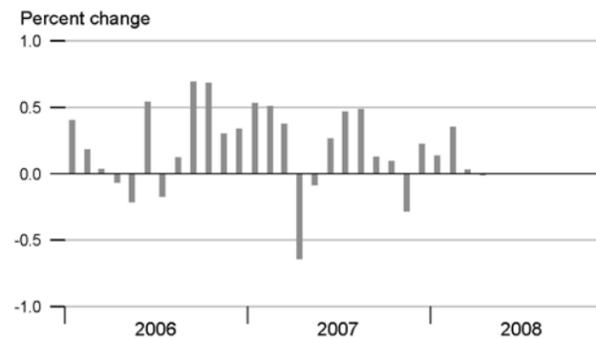


Government Budgets

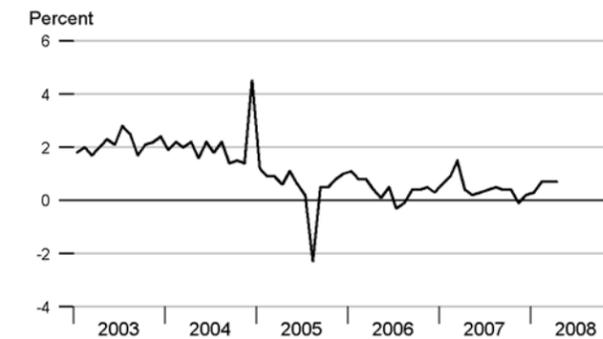
Billions of dollars

	National Income Accounts			Unified Budget			National Income Accounts			Unified Budget		
	Calendar Years			Fiscal Years			Calendar Years			Fiscal Years		
	State and Local		Federal	Federal		Federal	Federal		Federal		Federal	
	Receipts	Expenditures	Surplus or Deficit (-)	Receipts	Expenditures	Surplus or Deficit (-)	Receipts	Outlays	Surplus or Deficit (-)	Receipts	Outlays	Surplus or Deficit (-)
1991	789.2	793.3	-4.1	1101.3	1315.0	-213.7	1055.1	1324.3	-269.2	1055.1	1324.3	-269.2
1992	845.7	845.0	0.7	1147.2	1444.6	-297.4	1091.3	1381.6	-290.3	1091.3	1381.6	-290.3
1993	886.9	886.0	0.9	1222.5	1496.0	-273.5	1154.5	1409.5	-255.1	1154.5	1409.5	-255.1
1994	942.9	932.4	10.5	1320.8	1533.1	-212.3	1258.7	1461.9	-203.2	1258.7	1461.9	-203.2
1995	990.2	978.2	12.0	1406.5	1603.5	-197.0	1351.9	1515.9	-164.0	1351.9	1515.9	-164.0
1996	1043.3	1017.5	25.8	1524.0	1665.8	-141.8	1453.2	1560.6	-107.4	1453.2	1560.6	-107.4
1997	1097.4	1058.3	39.1	1653.1	1708.9	-55.8	1579.4	1601.3	-21.9	1579.4	1601.3	-21.9
1998	1163.2	1111.2	52.0	1773.8	1734.9	38.9	1722.0	1652.7	69.3	1722.0	1652.7	69.3
1999	1236.7	1186.3	50.4	1891.2	1787.6	103.6	1827.6	1702.0	125.6	1827.6	1702.0	125.6
2000	1319.5	1269.5	50.0	2053.8	1864.4	189.4	2025.5	1789.2	236.2	2025.5	1789.2	236.2
2001	1373.0	1368.2	4.8	2016.2	1969.5	46.7	1991.4	1863.2	128.2	1991.4	1863.2	128.2
2002	1410.1	1444.3	-34.2	1853.2	2101.1	-247.9	1853.4	2011.2	-157.8	1853.4	2011.2	-157.8
2003	1494.2	1514.5	-20.3	1879.9	2252.1	-372.2	1782.5	2160.1	-377.6	1782.5	2160.1	-377.6
2004	1594.3	1592.8	1.5	2008.9	2379.5	-370.6	1880.3	2293.0	-412.7	1880.3	2293.0	-412.7
2005	1706.9	1691.7	15.2	2243.4	2561.6	-318.2	2153.9	2472.2	-318.3	2153.9	2472.2	-318.3
2006	1797.7	1773.0	24.7	2495.8	2715.8	-220.0	2407.3	2655.4	-248.2	2407.3	2655.4	-248.2
2007	1886.4	1898.2	-11.8	2673.5	2892.0	-218.5	2568.2	2730.2	-162.0	2568.2	2730.2	-162.0
2006Q2	1803.7	1760.9	42.8	2471.5	2711.4	-239.9	772.1	675.7	96.5	772.1	675.7	96.5
2006Q3	1806.7	1794.4	12.3	2513.1	2752.3	-239.2	596.9	638.7	-41.7	596.9	638.7	-41.7
2006Q4	1812.4	1804.8	7.6	2561.9	2743.4	-181.5	573.5	653.9	-80.4	573.5	653.9	-80.4
2007Q1	1856.6	1862.4	-5.8	2619.7	2838.2	-218.5	547.4	725.4	-178.0	547.4	725.4	-178.0
2007Q2	1889.9	1876.5	13.4	2670.1	2876.9	-206.8	824.4	686.9	137.5	824.4	686.9	137.5
2007Q3	1892.8	1905.8	-13.0	2689.4	2919.7	-230.3	622.3	664.2	-41.8	622.3	664.2	-41.8
2007Q4	1906.2	1948.1	-41.9	2714.7	2933.2	-218.5	606.2	711.7	-105.5	606.2	711.7	-105.5
2008Q1	1921.0	1984.8	-63.8	2698.0	3009.9	-311.9	539.8	745.7	-205.9	539.8	745.7	-205.9

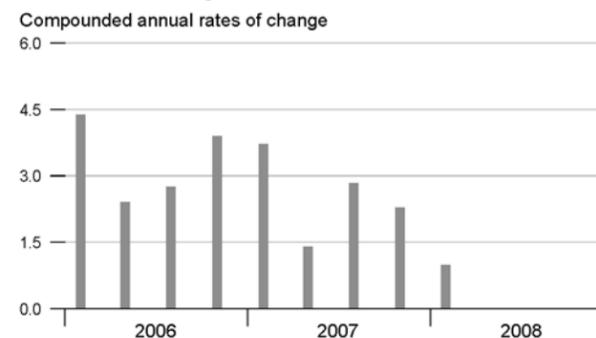
Real Disposable Personal Income



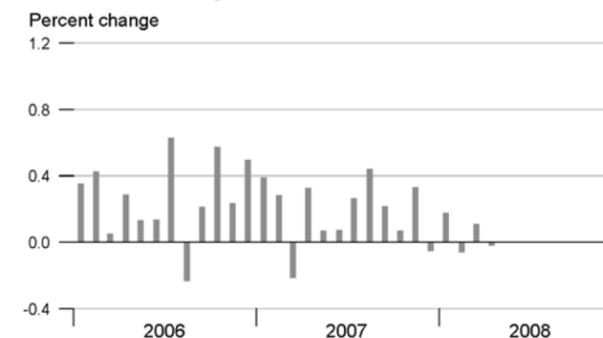
Personal Saving Rate



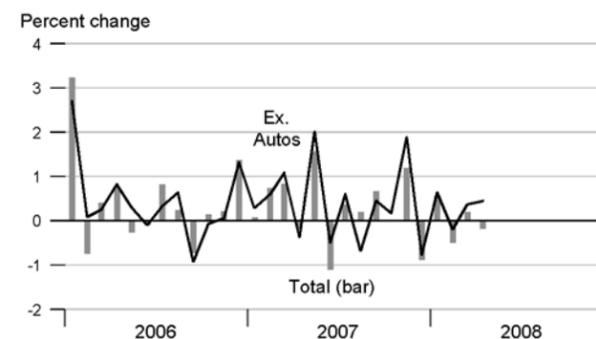
Real Consumption



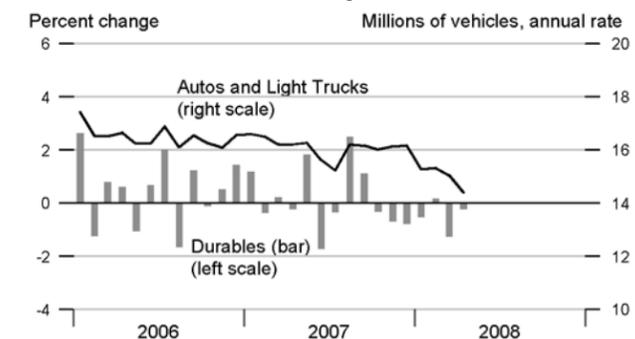
Real Consumption



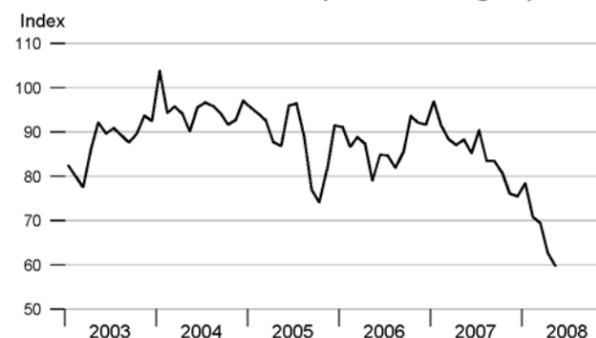
Retail & Food Services



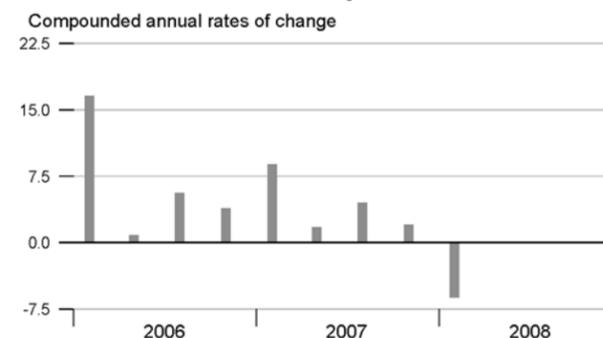
Real Durables Consumption & Vehicle Sales



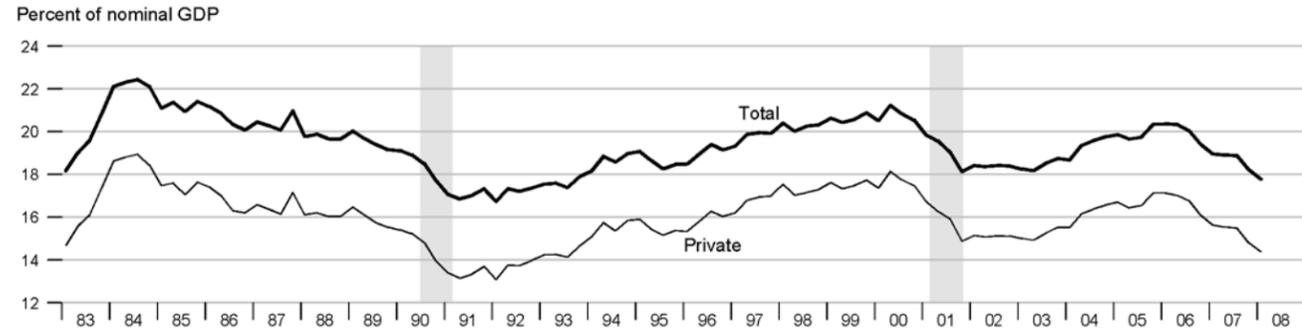
Consumer Sentiment (U. of Michigan)



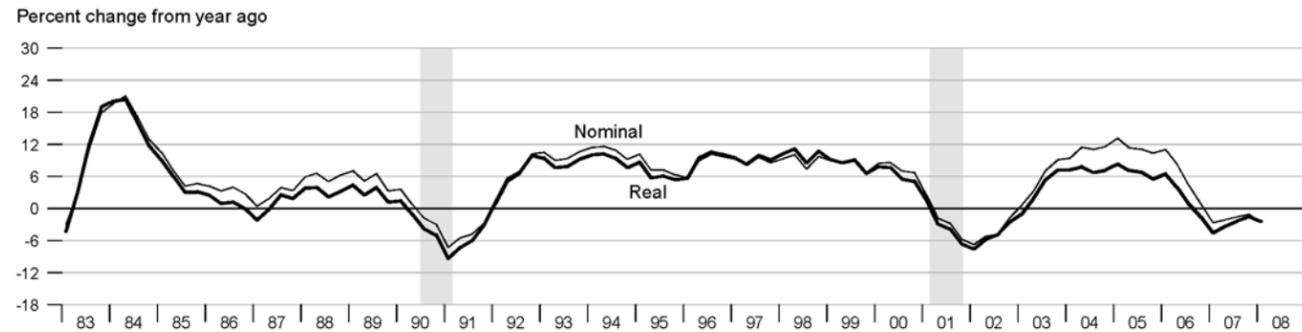
Real Durables Consumption



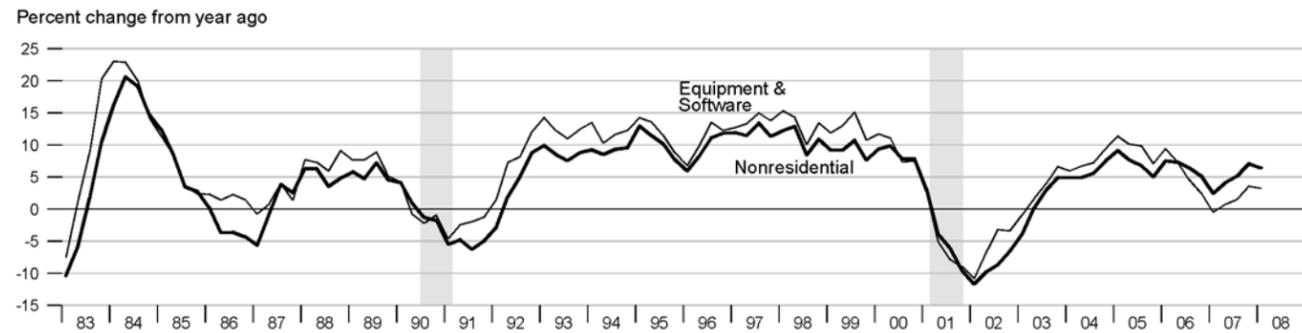
Investment



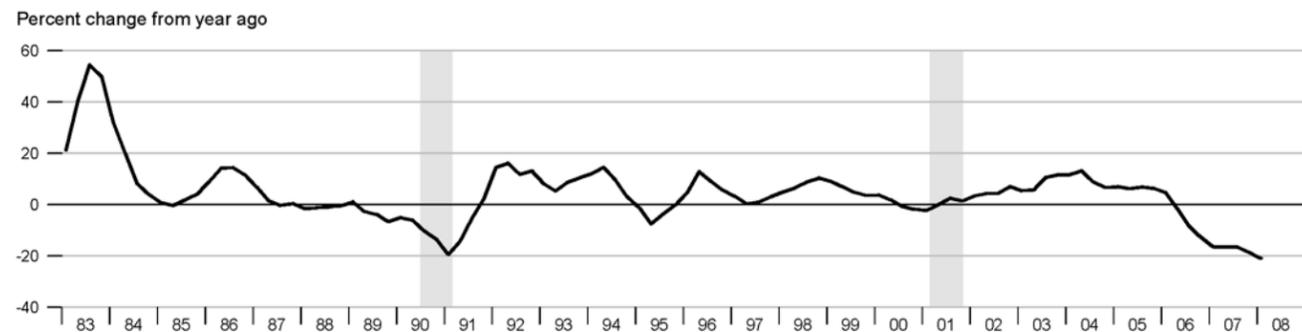
Private Fixed Investment



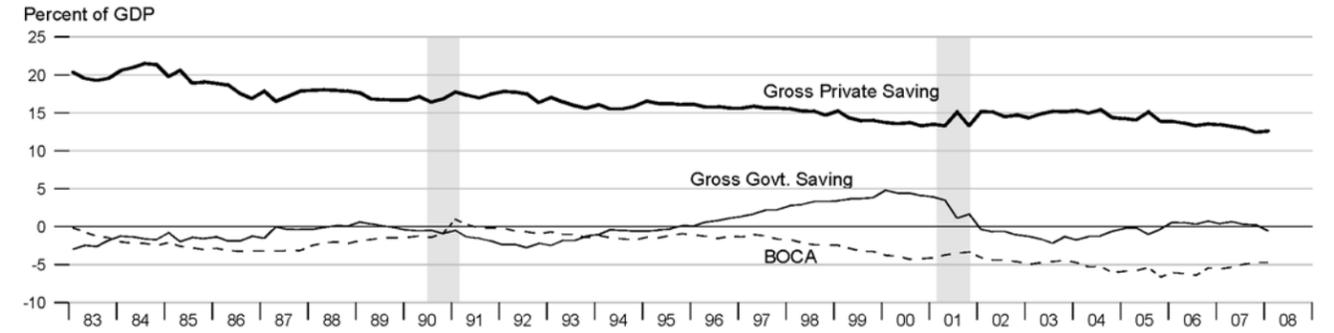
Real Nonresidential Fixed and Equipment & Software Investment



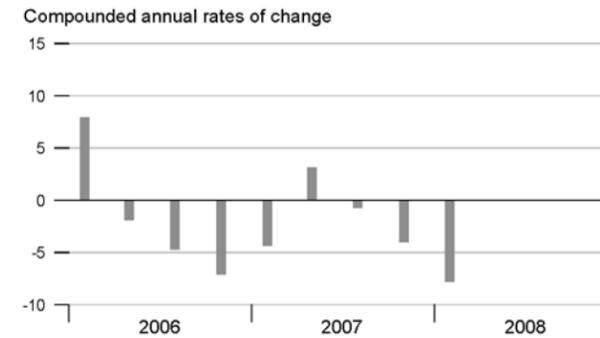
Real Residential Fixed Investment



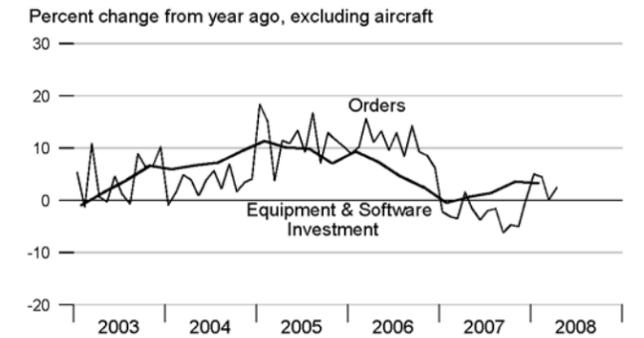
Gross Saving Rates and Balance on Current Account (NIPA)



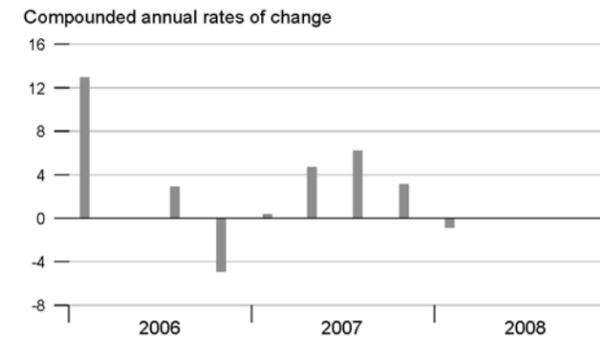
Real Private Fixed Investment



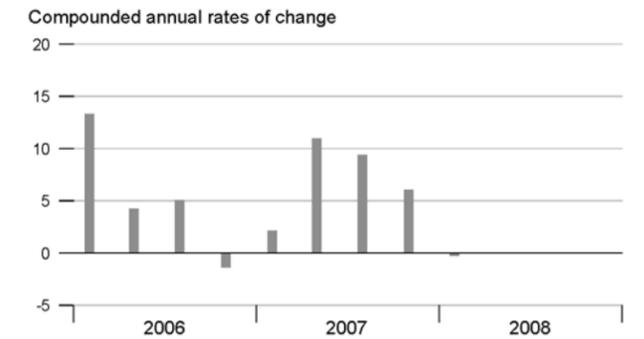
Nondefense Capital Goods Orders



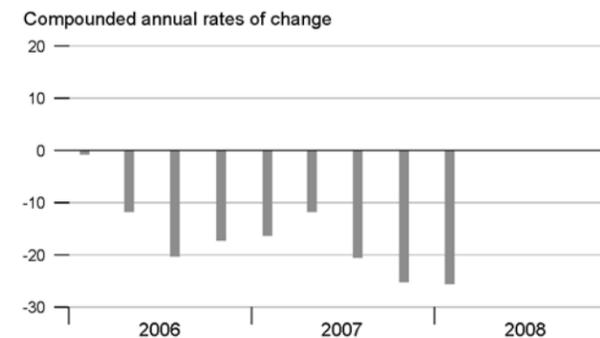
Real Equipment & Software Investment



Real Nonresidential Fixed Investment



Real Residential Fixed Investment



Housing Starts and New Home Sales

