



Current Economic Digest

Up-to-Date Releases of Macroeconomic Data

Gross Domestic Product:	Current GDP		Year Ago
	<u>Third Estimate, Third Quarter, 2018</u>		<u>Final Estimate</u>
Components of Nominal GDP	annualized & seasonally adjusted		
Consumption spending	\$14,051 billion	68% of GDP	\$13,359
Investment	3,711	18%	3,372
Government Spending	3,551	17%	3,414
Net Exports	-654	-3%	-557
Total Nominal GDP	<u>\$20,658</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$19,588</u>
Real GDP	\$18,665 billion	annualized: 2009 chained dollars	\$18,121
GDP Deflator	110.7	basis 2012 = 100	108.1
Real GDP Growth	3.4%	quarter-to-quarter annualized	2.8%
	<u>Current Year</u>		<u>Year Ago</u>
Consumer Confidence	<u>for January</u>	120.2 1985 = 100	125.4
Leading Economic Index	<u>for December</u>	111.7 2016 = 100	n/a *
Inflation	<u>for January</u>		
CPI - urban, all items, unadjusted		251.7 1984 = 100	247.9
Change from a year ago		1.6 %	
Change from last month		0.2 %	
Core change from a year ago (less food & energy)		2.2 %	
Employment - adjusted	<u>for January</u>		
Civilian Noninstitutional Population		258.2 million	256.8
Labor Force		163.2	161.1
Employed		156.7 2.2 million increase	154.5
Unemployed		6.5 4.0% of the labor force	6.6
Participation Rate		63.2%	62.7%
Average Weekly Private Earnings		\$951 preliminary 3.5% growth	\$919
Money Supply - unadjusted	<u>for December</u>	<u>Increase</u>	
Currency		6.5%	\$1,526
M1		5.0%	\$3,636
M2		4.4%	\$13,920
Interest Rates	<u>for February</u>		
Federal Funds		2.50 % daily effective rate	1.50 %
Prime Rate (WSJ)		5.50 %	4.50 %
Upcoming releases:	CPI: 12 March		GDP: 30 January (delayed)
	Leading Indicators: 21 February		Employment: 8 March
	Consumer Confidence: 26 February		

NOTES ON THE CURRENT ECONOMIC DIGEST

The Current Economic Digest is complimentary. Constantly updated, it brings together the numbers most often used to describe the state of the economy. Indeed the economy can be conceptualized as a composite of relationships among the numbers in the Digest. The relationship among GDP growth, inflation, and money supply is an identity in the Quantity Theory. Unemployment and GDP growth are correlated in Okun's Law. Real and nominal GDP are related through the GDP deflator, a broad measure of inflation. The federal funds rate can be prescribed by GDP in accordance with Taylor's Rule. The Phillips Curve ties unemployment to inflation.

The Current Digest shows the numbers behind these fundamental explanations of how the economy works. For understanding and explaining the economy, these are the numbers to know on a current basis. Data in the Current Economic Digest are drawn from these sources:

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Dept. of Labor
Census Bureau, Dept. of Commerce
The Conference Board
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
Federal Reserve Board
Bureau of Economic Analysis, Dept. of Commerce
Wall Street Journal

News media impulsively publish monthly macroeconomic numbers and emphasize month-to-month changes. News takes the view that trends are more accurately revealed in year-to-year comparisons. The Current Digest displays economic changes spanning one year. Periodically the Current Digest displays trends over an economically significant span, for example over the years since the beginning of the Great Recession.

However, you may prefer different comparisons. Other economic relationships may be more relevant to your embassy, business, or agency. Subscribe to a Custom Macroeconomic Digest tailored to your needs.

(*) Current LEI at 111.7 decreased from 111.8 in November.

In January the Conference Board changed the base year from 2010 to 2016. Thus the indices for 2017 and 2018 are not comparable.