Economic Activity
Consumer Confidence and Sentiment

Confidence (Index = 100 in 1985)
- Date Last Modified: 3/26/19
- Last Data Point: March = 124.1

Sentiment (Index = 100 in 1964):
- Date Last Modified: 4/12/19
- Last Data Point: April = 96.9

NOTE: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.
SOURCES: The Conference Board; Survey of Consumers; Survey Research Center; U. of Michigan.
Initial Claims for Unemployment and Unemployment Rate

4 Week MA: Thousands

Percent Unemployment

NOTE: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.
SOURCES: Bureau of Labor Statistics; Department of Labor.
NOTE: Grey shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.

SOURCE: Census Bureau.
Change in Nonfarm Employment

SOURCES: Bureau of Labor Statistics; Author's calculations.
ISM Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing

NOTES: Grey shaded areas indicate NBER recessions. Measurements above 50 indicate expanding activity; measurements below 50 indicate falling activity. SOURCE: Institute for Supply Management.
NOTES: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.
*Euro Area, Canada, Japan, UK, Switzerland, Australia, and Sweden
SOURCE: Federal Reserve Board.
Retail Sales

SOURCES: Census Bureau; Author's calculations.

Date Last Modified: 4/1/19
Last Data Point: February = -0.2
3 Year Average
Real Personal Consumption Expenditures

1 month % change

SOURCES: Bureau of Economic Analysis; Author's calculations.
Housing Starts and Permits

NOTE: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.
SOURCE: Census Bureau.
Real GDP

1 quarter % change annualized

SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Last Data Point: 2018 Q4 = 2.2

Date Last Modified: 3/28/19

3 Year Average

Real GDP

Wages and Prices
Core Producer Price Index

Date Last Modified: 4/11/19
Last Data Point: March = .1
3 Year Average

Wages and Prices

Producer Price Index

1 month % change


Date Last Modified: 4/11/19
Last Data Point: March = 1.4
3 Year Average
Headline and Core Consumer Price Index

12-month % change

NOTE: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Wages and Prices

Commodity Prices

1967 = 100, End of Period

NOTE: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions.
SOURCE: Commodity Research Bureau.
NOTES: Gray shaded areas indicate NBER recessions. Dashed line indicates Fed target inflation rate of 2 percent. SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis.
Employment Cost Index

Date Last Modified: 1/31/19
Last Data Point: 2018 Q4 = .7

3 Year Average

The chart illustrates the Real Federal Funds Rate from 2007 to 2019. The Real Federal Funds Rate is depicted in the graph, showing fluctuations over the years. The sources for the data are Federal Reserve Board, FRB Philadelphia, Survey of Consumers, Survey Research Center, and U. of Michigan.
Short-Term Interest Rates

SOURCE: Federal Reserve Board.
Long-Term Interest Rates

SOURCE: Federal Reserve Board.