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THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

July 8, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR BILL BAROODY

Attached is this week's copy of the Weekly Briefing Notes.

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#### WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES

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July 05, 1976

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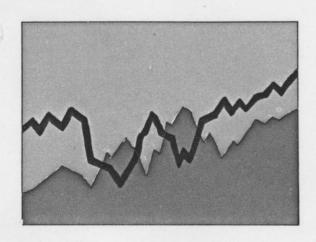
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# WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES ON U.S. DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

Prepared for the President and the Vice President

July 5, 1976

COMPILED BY THE FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM



# Coordinated by the Bureau of the Census at the request of the Statistical Policy Division, Office of Management and Budget

Vincent P. Barabba, Director Bureau of the Census Joseph W. Duncan,
Deputy Associate Director
for Statistical Policy
Office of Management and Budget

# SOURCES OF DATA



The Employment Situation

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment and Earnings Statistics for the United States"

Labor Turnover in Manufacturing
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment and Earnings Statistics for the United States"

Index of Help Wanted Advertising
The Conference Board

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders," Series M3-1

Exports and Imports
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Highlights of Exports and Imports"

Value of New Construction Work Done
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Value of New Construction Put in Place"

Agricultural Prices
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Crop Reporting Board

Composite Index of Leading Indicators
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Business Conditions Digest"



The data on which this Chartbook is based come from a variety of survey and other sources. Data from sample surveys are subject to sampling error, and the data from all sources are subject to possible nonsampling error due to nonresponse, reporting, and analysis error. The tables and charts are believed to be useful within the limits of such errors.

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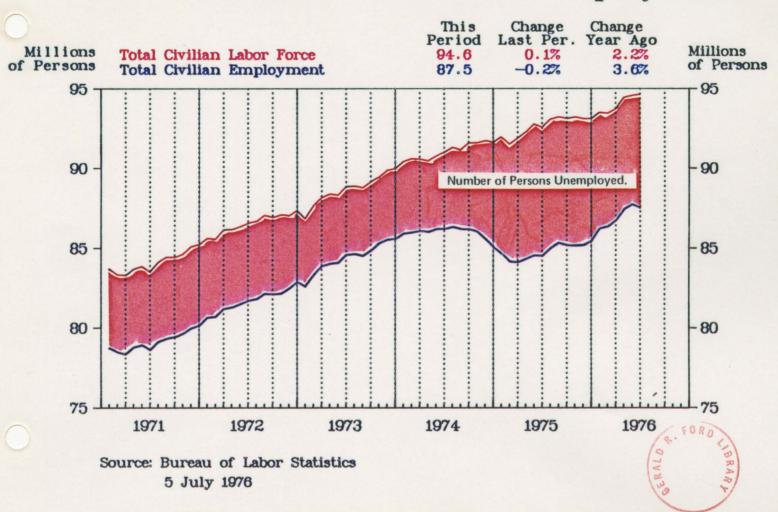
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# A.2.1-Unemployment Rate

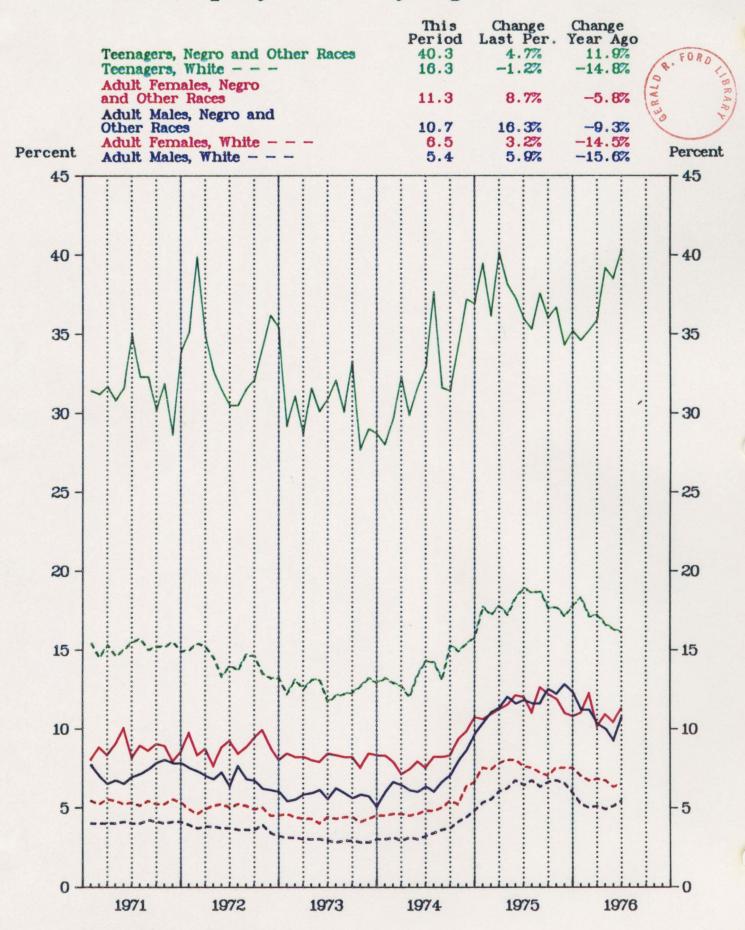


## A.2.1-Civilian Labor Force and Employment



- The Unemployment Rate rose from 7.3 percent in May, to 7.5 percent in June, the first increase in 9 months.
  - The number of job-seeking workers increased by 283,000 to 7,143,000.
- Total Civilian Employment fell 197,000 below the May level to 87.5 million, with the Total Civilian Labor Force remaining essentially unchanged at 94.6 million.
  - Adult men accounted for the largest share of the decrease in civilian employment.
  - Adult female employment, rising 180,000 in June, was partially offsetting.
- The jobless rate for Household Heads rose from 4.8 percent in May to 5.1 percent in June.
- A rise from 4.0 percent to 4.4 percent occurred in the unemployment rate for Married Men.

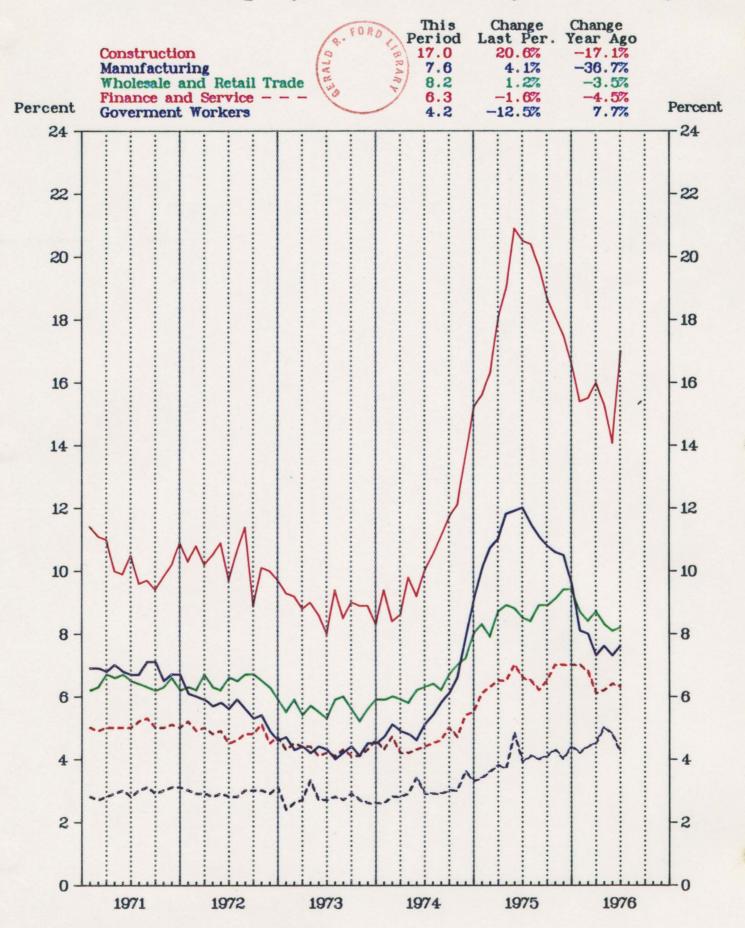
# A.2.1-Unemployment by Age, Sex, and Race





- The largest increases in unemployment were registered among Black workers.
  - The rate among Black Adult Males rose from 9.2 percent in May to 10.7 percent in June; while the rate for Black Adult Females increased from 10.4 percent to 11.3 percent.
  - Unemployment among Black Teenagers increased to a rate of 40.3 percent, a five-year high.
- The overall jobless rate among White Adult Workers recorded a comparatively small increase from 6.6 to 6.8 percent.
  - The rate for men climbed to 5.4 percent, while the rate for women rose to 6.5 percent.
  - Unemployment among White Teenagers declined from 16.3 percent to 16.1 percent.

# A.2.1-Unemployment Rate by Industry



A.2.1-Unemployment Rate by Industry

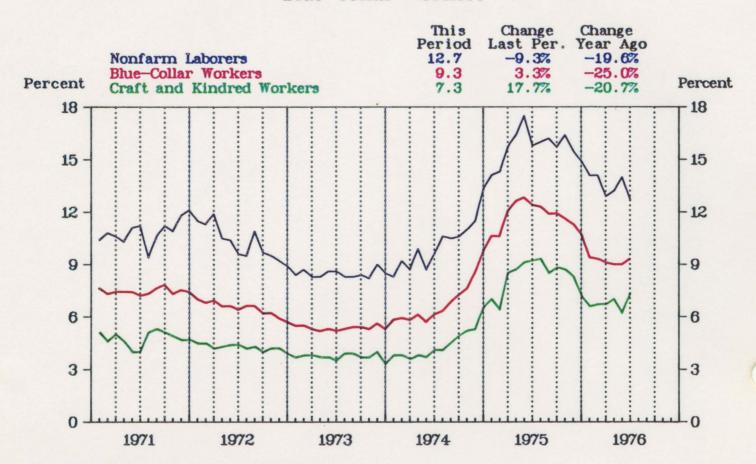


- The unemployment rate in Construction, rising from 14.1 percent in May to 17.0 percent in June, recorded the largest rate increase among major industry groups.
- Despite an increase to 7.6 percent, the unemployment rate in Manufacturing remained well below the 12.0 percent rate recorded a year ago.
  - Most of the increase in unemployment recorded in Nondurable Manufacturing, which exceeded the jobless rate in Durable Manufacturing for the second time this year.
- \* Unemployment among Government Workers dropped to 4.2 percent, the lowest level since January.
- \*Finance and Service Industries and Wholesale and Retail Trade were two major industry groups recording small fluctuations in unemployment rates.

# A.2.1-Unemployment Rate by Occupation White-Collar Workers



Blue-Collar Workers



A.2.1-Unemployment Rate by Occupation



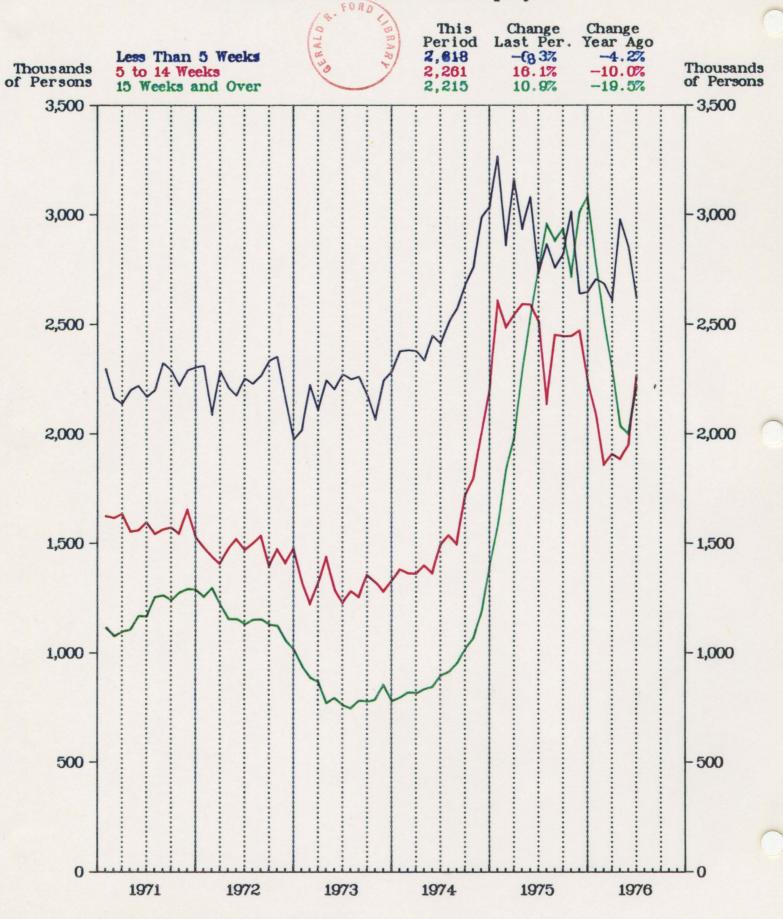
In June, the overall White-Collar unemployment rate declined to 4.4 percent, the lowest level since February 1975.

<sup>\*</sup>A decline of 4.7 percent in the rate for Clerical Workers, coupled with declines in other categories, more than offset an increase in the unemployment rate among Sales Workers.

Despite a drop to 12.7 percent in the jobless rate among Nonfarm Laborers, a 17.7 percent increase in the unemployment rate among Craft and Kindred Workers pushed the overall rate among Blue-Collar Workers up to 9.3 percent.

<sup>\*</sup>After remaining at 8.1 percent in April and May, the jobless rate among Service Workers rose to 8.6 percent in June.

### A.2.2-Duration of Unemployment Number of Workers Unemployed



## A.2.2-Average Duration of Unemployment



- The number of persons unemployed from 5 to 14 weeks rose 16.1 percent in June; and the number unemployed 15 weeks or more increased for the first time in 6 months.
  - As a result, the Average (Mean) Duration of Unemployment increased by nearly 2 weeks in June to 16.9 weeks, about equal to the high reached last December.
- The number of workers unemployed less than 5 weeks declined for the second consecutive month.

# A.2.4-Labor Turnover in Manufacturing



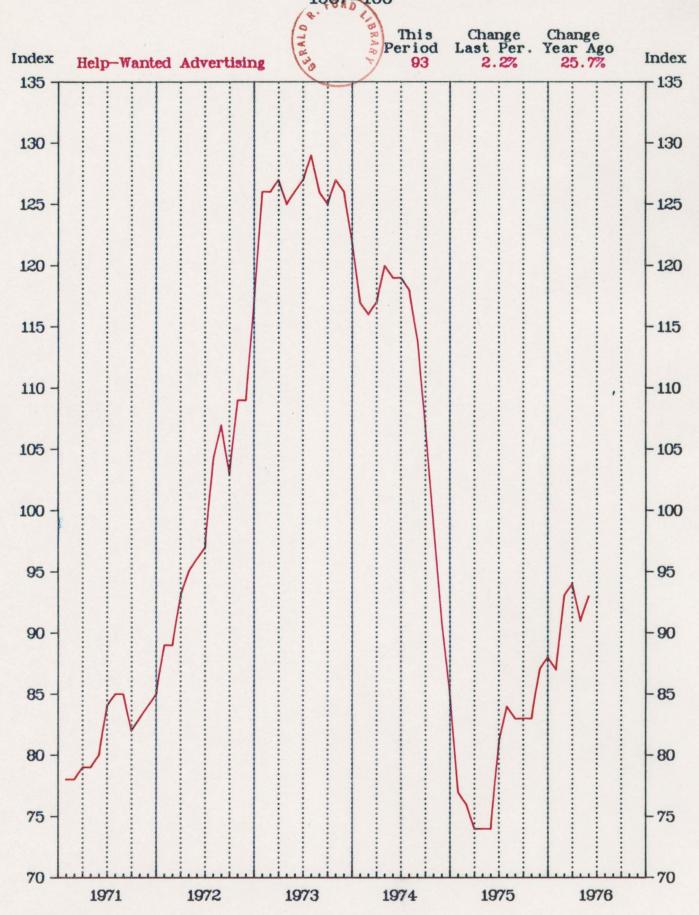
A.2.4-Components of Labor Turnover



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics 5 July 1976

- The Total Separation Rate rose for the second time in three months, up 2.7 percent in May.
  - Both Layoffs and the Quit Rate were unchanged in May, remaining at their respective rates of 1.3 and 1.7 per 100 employees.
- Total Accessions declined for the second consecutive month, totaling 11.4 percent.
  - New Hires remained at April's rate of 2.7 per 100 employees.

A.2.5-Index of Help-Wanted Advertising

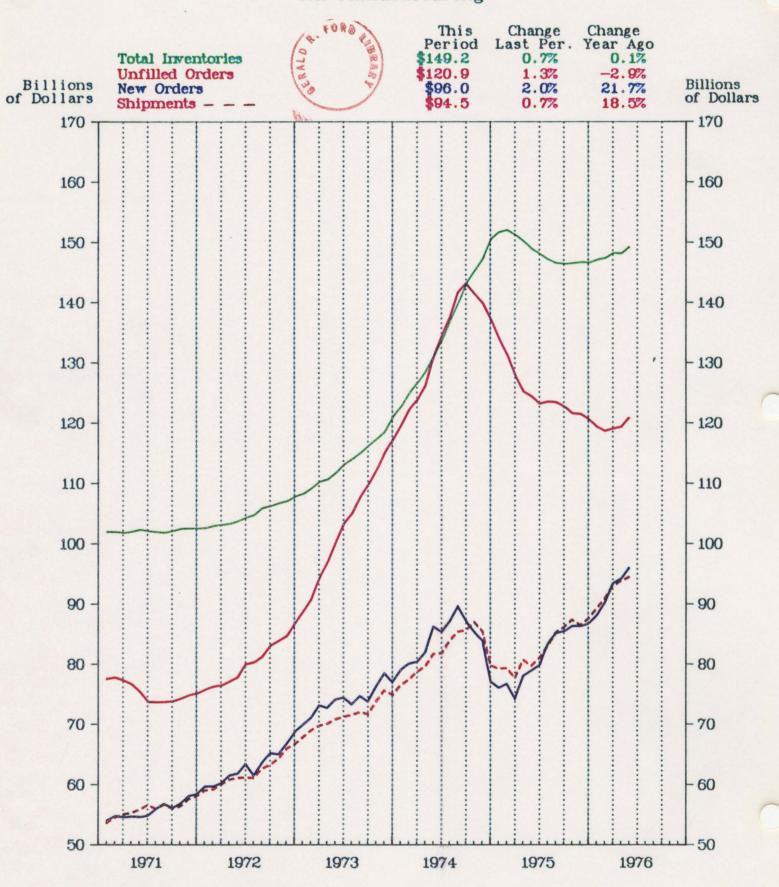


Source: The Conference Board 5 July 1976

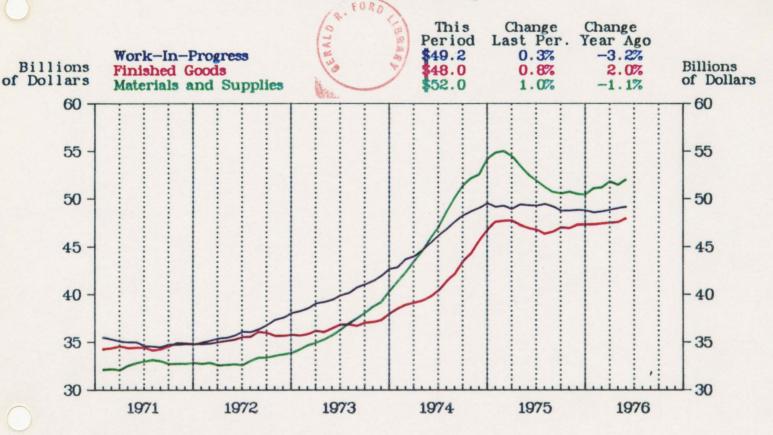


- The Index of Help Wanted Advertising rose to 93 in May, 2 points above the April level and 19 points above the level of a year ago.
  - The Index, which measures the volume of classified advertising in 51 major U.S. newspapers, has risen a total of 19 points from the recession low of 74, but remains 36 points below the July 1973 high.

A.4.4-Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders
All Manufacturing

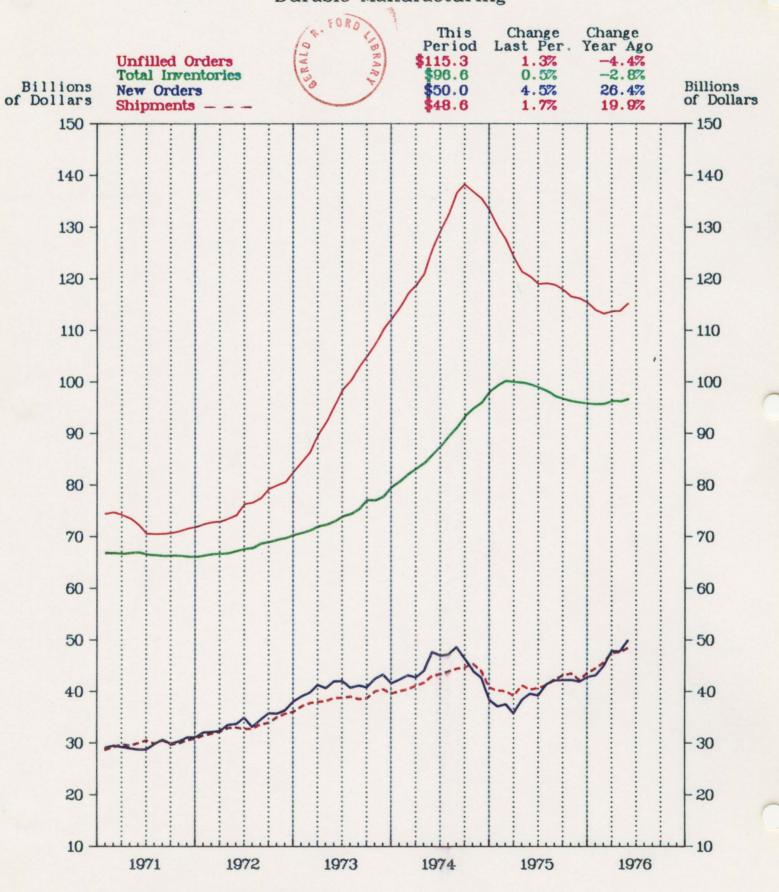


## A.4.4—Inventories by Stage of Fabrication



- In May, Total New Orders rose 2.0 percent to a record level of \$96.0 billion.
- Shipments advanced at a slower rate, up 0.7 percent or \$663 million to \$94.5 billion.
  - Primary Metals accounted for 80 percent of the increase.
- \* Unfilled Orders rose 1.3 percent to \$120.9 billion, the first major increase since September 1974.
- Manufacturers' Inventories recorded its first major increase since December 1974, up 0.7 percent or \$1.0 billion to \$149.2 billion.
  - Materials and Supplies registered a \$533 million gain which accounted for 51 percent of the total rise.

### A.4.4-Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders Durable Manufacturing

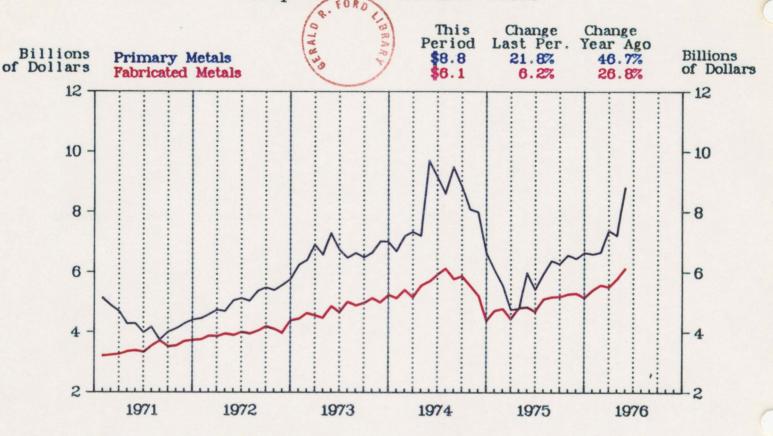


A.4.4-Manufacturers' Shipments and New Orders Capital Goods Nondefense Industries

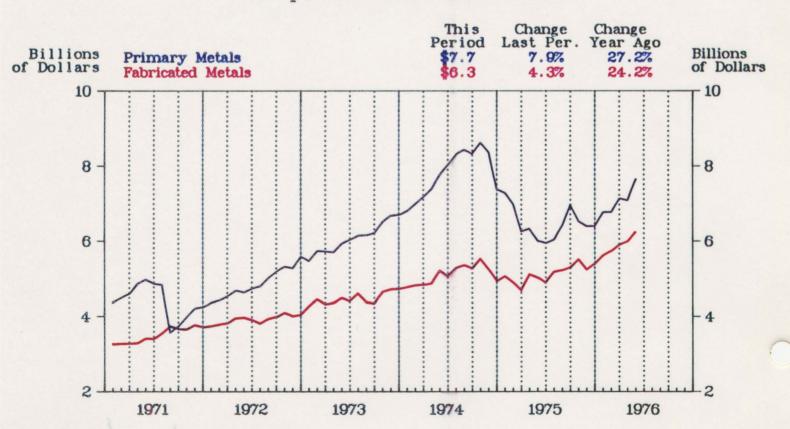


- Durable Goods New Orders accounted for the overall increase in Manufacturers' New Orders, increasing \$2.2 billion or 4.5 percent.
  - \$1.3 billion of this was recorded in Blast Furnaces and Steel Mills.
- Durable Goods Shipments were up 1.7 percent to \$48.6 billion the highest on record.
- Reversing a 17 month downward trend, Unfilled Orders has continued to rise for three consecutive months, up \$1.5 billion from May.
- Durable Inventories rose 0.5 percent to \$96.6 billion with Primary Metals and Transportation Equipment registering the largest increases.
- Nondefense Capital Goods New Orders increased 1.6 percent to \$11.7 billion.
  - For the first time in 21 months New Orders exceeded Shipments.

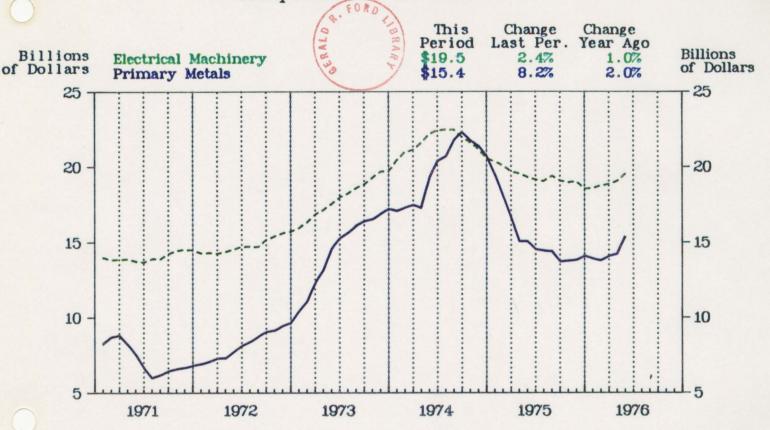
## A.4.4-Manufacturers' New Orders Components of Durable Goods



A.4.4-Manufacturers' Shipments Components of Durable Goods

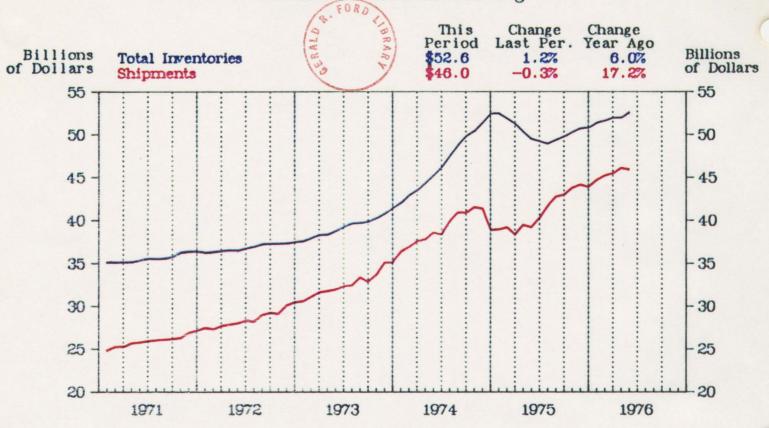


## A.4.4— Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Components of Durable Goods

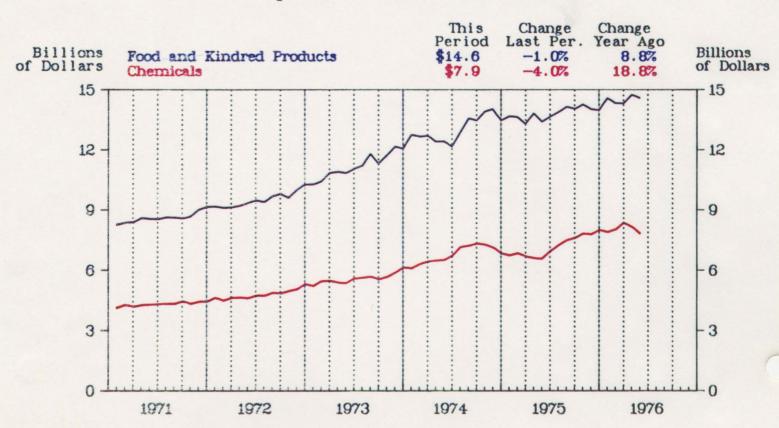


- An increase of \$1.6 billion in New Orders for Primary Metals coupled with a \$356 million increase in Fabricated Metals comprised 90 percent of the total increase of \$2.2 billion in Durable New Orders.
- Shipments of Primary Metals, increasing \$562 million, constituted 71 percent of the total gain in Durable Goods Shipments for May.
  - Fabricated Metals rose \$258 million to \$6.3 billion.
- The rise in Unfilled Orders, the largest since September 1974, was primarily due to a \$1.2 billion increase in Primary Metals.

A.4.4—Manufacturers' Shipments and Inventories Nondurable Manufacturing



A.4.4-Manufacturers' Shipments Components of Nondurable Goods





- Shipments for Nondurable Goods, declined for the first time since last December, down \$133 million.
  - The decline in Nondurable Shipments resulted from declines in Chemicals (\$327 million) and Food Industries (\$148 million).
- Nondurable Inventories accounted for \$600 million of the change with a 1.2 percent rise to \$52.6 billion.
  - Nearly every industry recorded increases with somewhat larger rises in chemicals and petroleum industries.

### A.5.1-Exports and Imports



## A.5.1—Merchandise Trade Balance Excluding Military Assistance

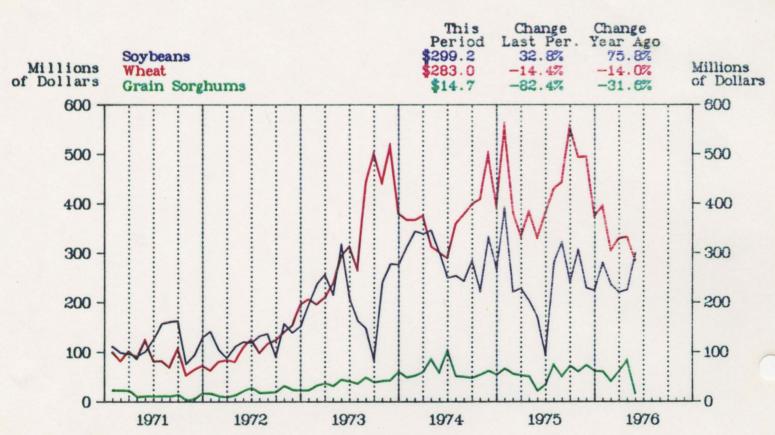


- The U.S. Trade Balance in May recorded a surplus for the first time in 5 months, with Exports exceeding Imports by \$396 million.
  - Total Exports rose in May for the third straight month, but the increase of \$184 million, or 2 percent, to a record \$9.58 billion was less than half of April's gain of 4.9 percent.
  - Total Imports declined \$413 million, or 4.3 percent, to \$9.18 billion, the sharpest drop in imports since an 8.7 percent decline in May 1975.
- Imports Excluding Petroleum climbed \$297 million, or 4.3 percent, completely offsetting a decline in Petroleum Imports.

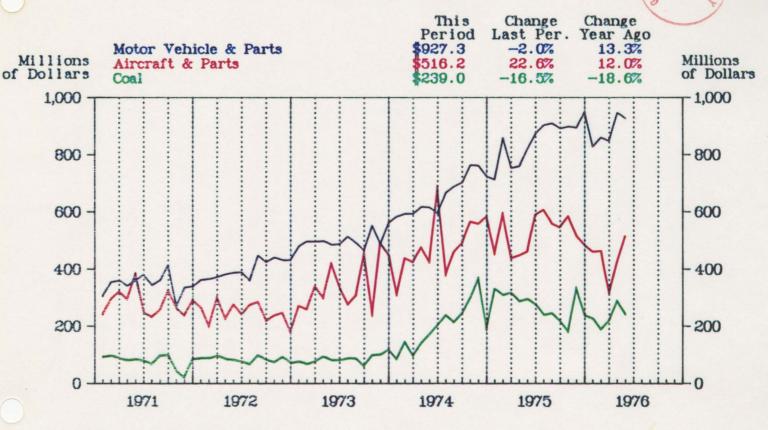
# A.5.1—Exports Domestic Nonagricultural and Agricultural Commodities



Components of Domestic Agricultural Commodities

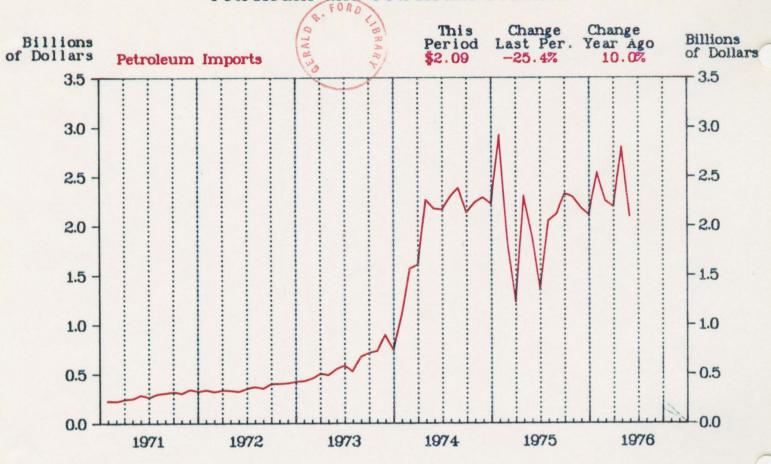


#### A.5.1-Exports Selected Components



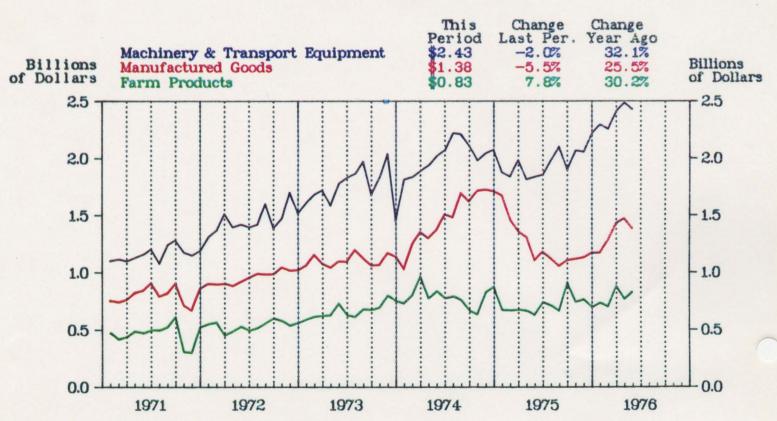
- Nonagricultural Exports rose 2.9 percent, or \$211.6 million to a record high of \$7,553.5 million.
  - Contributing to the May rise were exports of Aircraft and Parts, up \$95.1 million to \$516.2 million; the highest level since November 1975.
  - Motor Vehicles and Parts, declining \$18.7 million, and Coal exports, declining \$47.3 million, were partially offsetting.
- Agricultural Exports edged upward 2.2 percent, or \$41.8 million, to \$1,953.8 million.
  - Soybeans exports rose 32.8 percent, or \$73 million to \$299.2 million, the highest level recorded since October 1975.
  - Offsetting movements occurred in exports of Grain Sorghums, which plunged \$68.6 million; and in Wheat exports, which dropped \$47.7 million to the lowest level since July 1973.

A.5.1-Imports
Petroleum and Petroleum Products



Source: Bureau of the Census

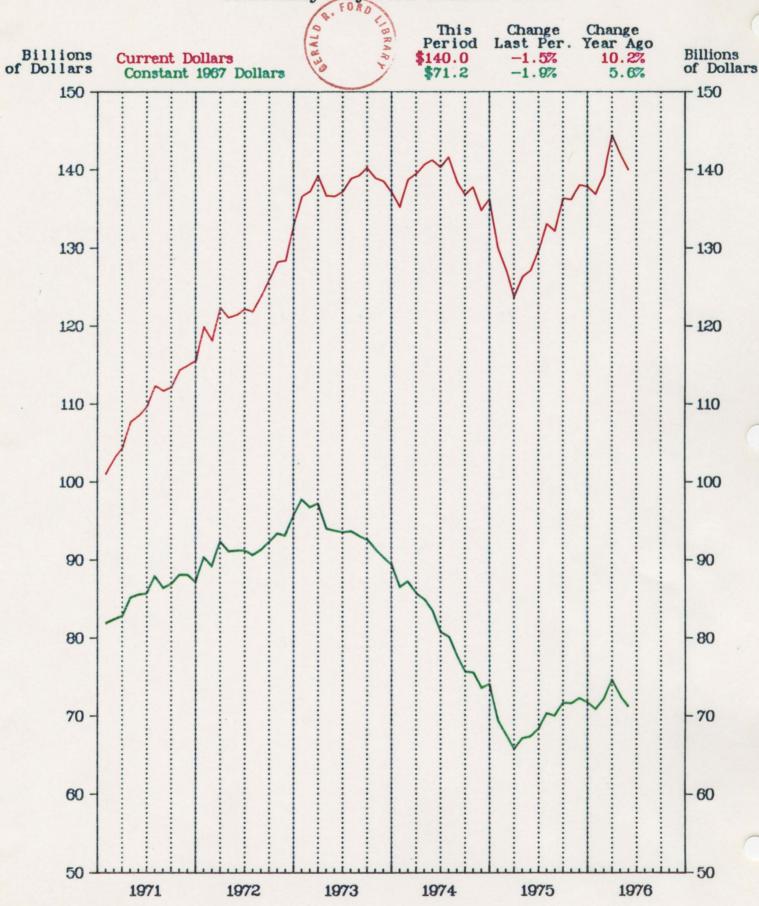
#### Selected Components



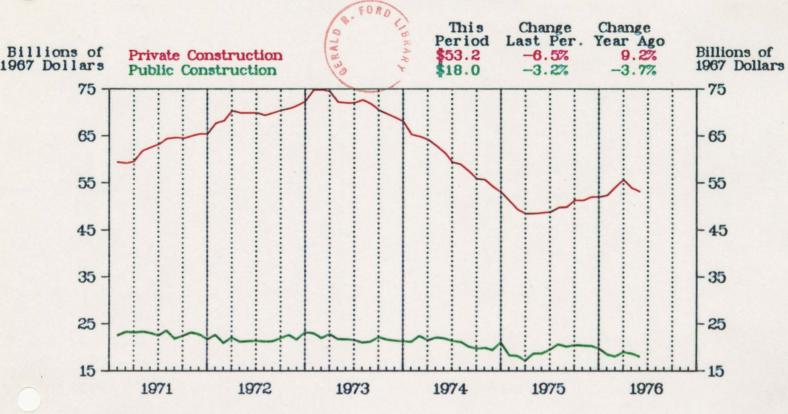


- Petroleum Imports declined over 25 percent, or about \$590 million, to \$2.09 billion in May, the largest one-month drop since the \$610 million decrease in March 1975.
- Contributing most to the overall rise in Imports Excluding Petroleum were Farm Products, which rose \$59.9 million to \$833.0 million.
  - Offsetting movements occurred in Machinery and Transport Equipment, down \$56.9 million, and Manufactured Goods, down \$87.2 million.

A.7.2-Value of New Construction Work Done Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rates



# A.7.2-Value of New Construction Work Done Private and Public Construction In Constant 1967 Dollars

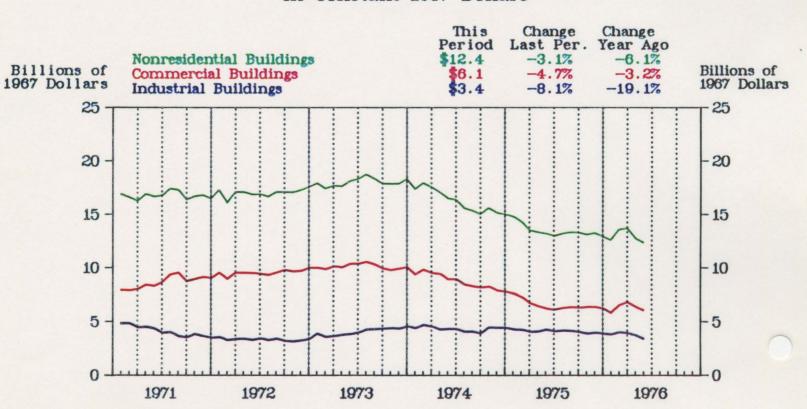


- Construction activity, measured in constant dollars, declined for the second straight month to an annual rate of \$71.2 billion, 1.9 percent below the April level of \$72.6 billion.
  - Construction expenditures, in current dollars, declined 1.5 percent to an annual rate of \$140.0 billion.
- Both Private and Public Construction reported decreases for the second consecutive month.
  - Private construction declined 6.5 percent, while public construction fell 3.2 percent in May.

#### A.7.2-Value of New Construction Work Done Private Residential Structures In Constant 1967 Dollars



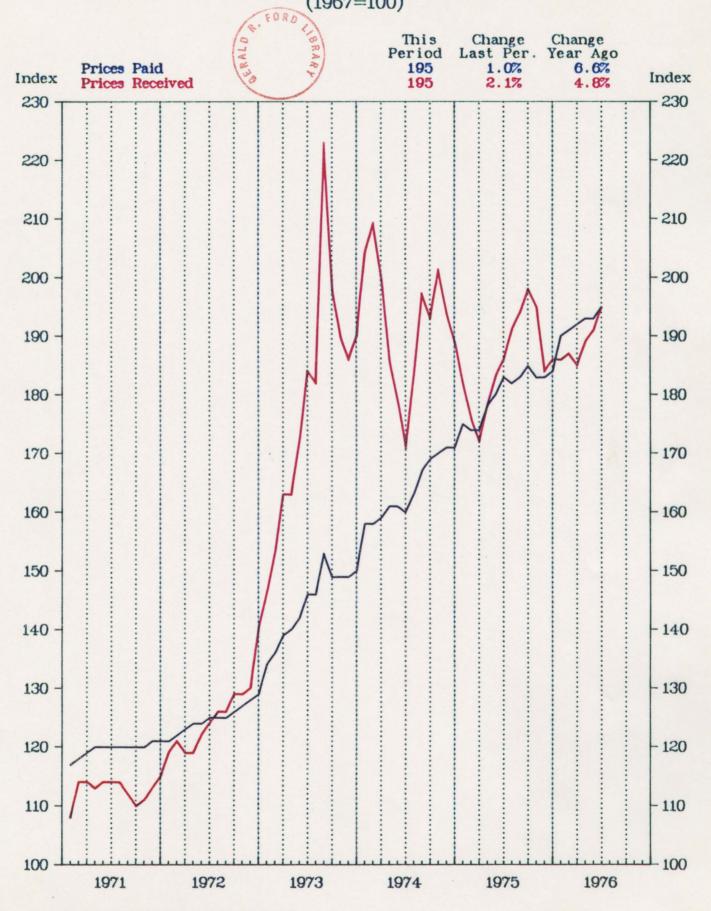
Private Nonresidential Structures In Constant 1967 Dollars





- New construction work on Residential Buildings decreased 2.7 percent to \$29.3 billion.
  - Single-unit Buildings, which comprise 70 percent of Residential Buildings, dropped 1 percent in May.
  - Multiunit construction declined 2.9 percent.
- Value of New Construction for Nonresidential Buildings declined for the second consecutive month, down 3.1 percent in May.
  - New construction of Industrial Buildings continued to decline, down a total of 15 percent since February.
  - Commercial Building construction decreased 4.7 percent to \$6.1 billion.

A.9.1-Prices Received and Paid by Farmers Not Seasonally Adjusted (1967=100)

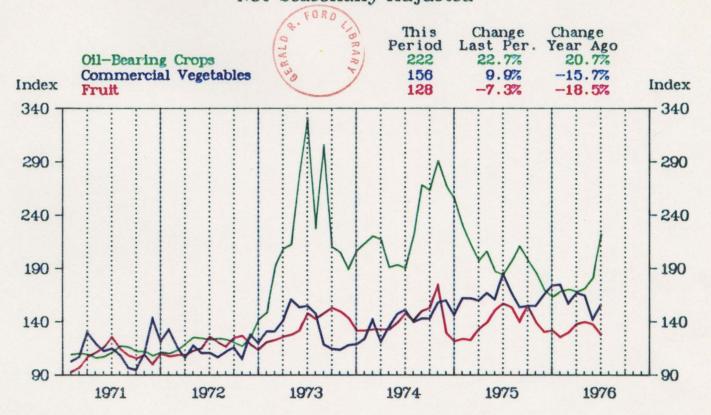


Source: Department of Agriculture 5 July 1976

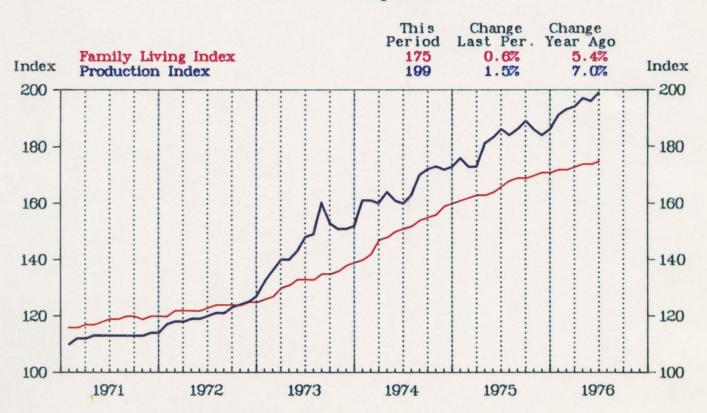


- The Index of Prices Received by Farmers equaled the Index of Prices Paid by Farmers for the first time since April 1975.
- The Index of Prices Received rose for the third consecutive month, up 4 points (2.1 percent) to 195 in June.
  - Highest level in 8 months.
  - Contributing most to the increase were higher prices for soybeans, corn, and hogs. Lower prices for cattle, apples, and hay were partially offsetting.
- The Index of Prices Paid edged up 2 points (1 percent) to a high of 195.
  - Higher prices for feed and farm machinery were the major contributors to the index increase.

# A.9.1-Prices Received by Farmers Selected Crops Not Seasonally Adjusted



Prices Paid By Farmers
Not Seasonally Adjusted
Selected Components



Source: Department of Agriculture 5 July 1976



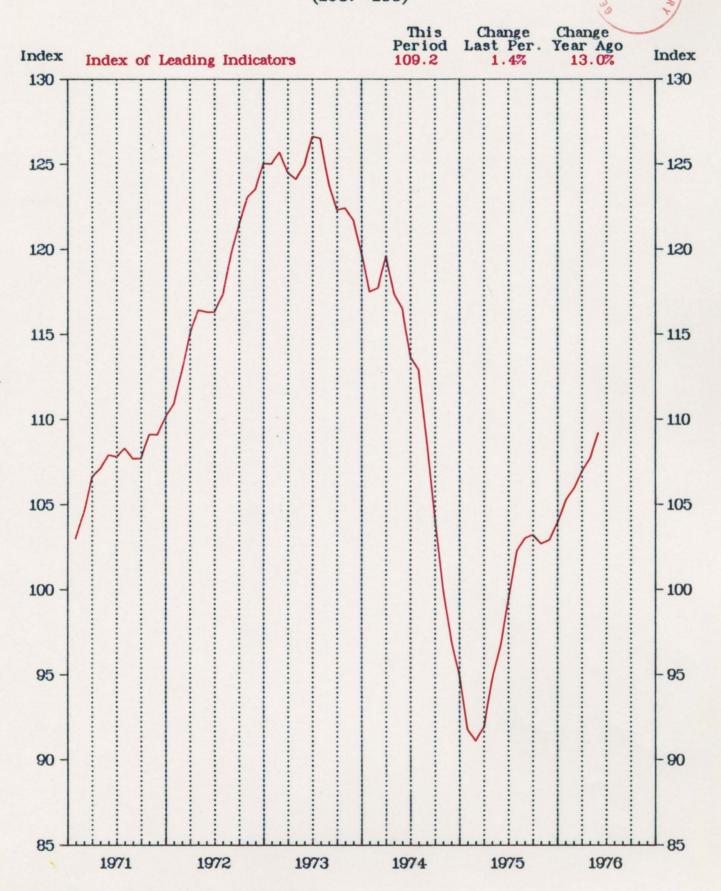
#### Prices Received

- The Oil-Bearing Crop Index increased sharply, up 41 points (23 percent) to a level of 222.
  - · Highest level since January 1975.
  - Soybeans were up at \$6.16 per bushel, \$1.29 above a month earlier; flaxseed was \$1.15 higher at \$6.69 per bushel.
- · Commercial Vegetable prices increased 14 points (10 percent) to 156.
  - Contributing most to the index increase were higher prices for tomatoes, lettuce, canteloupe, and watermelons.
- The Fruit Crop Index declined 10 points (7 percent) as a result of lower apple and citrus prices while strawberry prices were partially offsetting.

#### Prices Paid

- The Production Goods Index was up 3 points (1.5 percent) to a high of 199.
  - Increased in 6 of the past 7 months.
- The Family Living Index was 1 point (0.6 percent) above May's level of 174.

### A.11.1—Composite Index of Leading Indicators (1967=100)

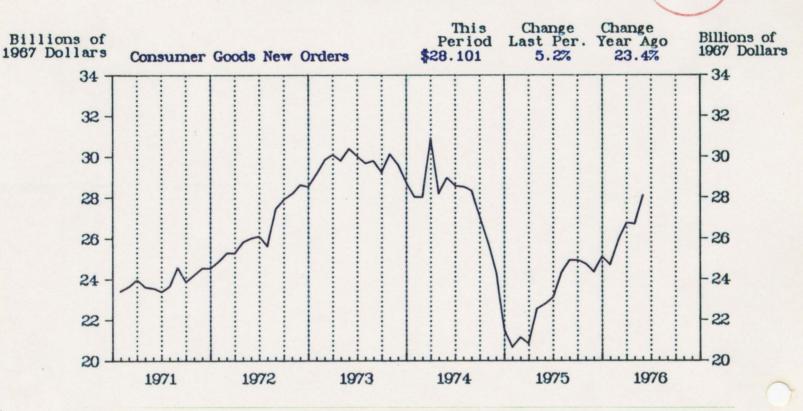


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis
5 July 1976



- The Composite Index of Leading Indicators rose 1.4 percent in May to 109.2.
  - May's increase was the largest since last July's 2.8 percent increase.
- Six of the eleven indicators available for May showed increases while three showed declines.

## A.11.1-Selected Components of Composite Index New Orders for Consumer Goods



Contracts and Orders Plant and Equipment



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis 5 July 1976



- Among the improving indicators Consumer Goods New Orders, rising percent in May, had the greatest impact on the Index.
- A 1.9 percent decline in New Orders for Plant and Equipment had the greatest downward impact on the Index.