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# THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

January 15, 1976

#### MEMORANDUM FOR BILL BAROODY

Attached is this week's copy of the Weekly Briefing Notes. Also included is a cumulative table of contents for 1975.

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#### WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES

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#### FOR CALENDER YEAR 1976

January 12, 1976

FREQUENCY LEGEND: W=Weekly; M=Monthly; Q=Quarterly; A=Annual; O=Other

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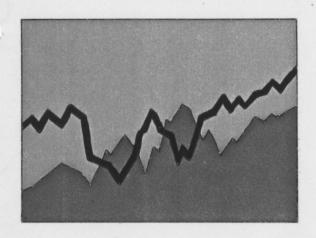
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Prepared for the President and the Vice President



January 12, 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**

**Unemployment Rates** 

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**Duration of Unemployment** 

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

Sales of Motor Vehicles

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Survey of Current Business"

**Retail Sales** 

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Monthly Retail Trade Report"

Wholesale Trade

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Monthly Wholesale Trade Report"

Manufacturers' Export Sales and Orders of Durable Goods

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Wholesale Price Index

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Wholesale Price Index"

Farm Population

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U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Current Population Reports, Series Census - ERS, P-27, Nos. 31-46, "Farm Population of the United States: 1974"

**Health Expenditures** 

U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Social Security Administration, Office of Research and Statistics

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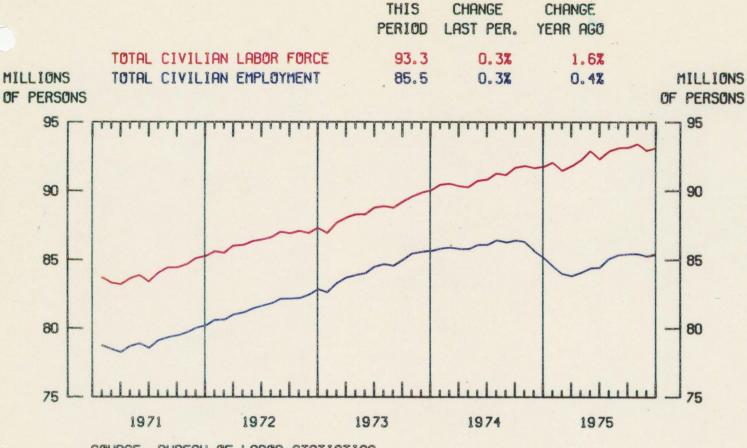
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## A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate



## A.2.1 - Civilian Labor Force and Employment

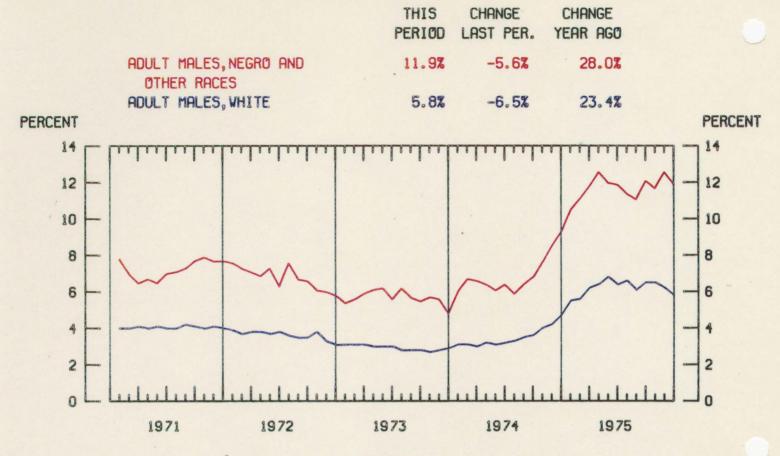


SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
12 JANUARY 1975

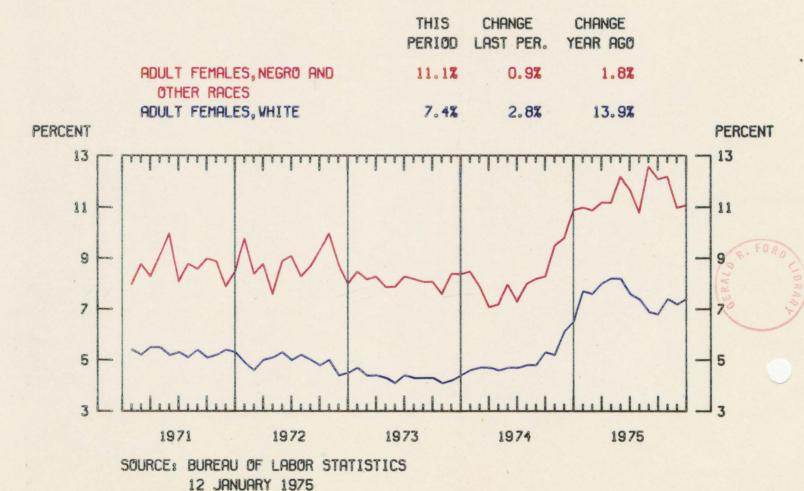
- The Unemployment Rate was unchanged in December at 8.3 percent of the Total Civilian Labor Force.
  - Over the past six months the overall jobless rate has exhibited little movement.
  - For all of 1975, the Nation's jobless rate averaged 8.5 percent, up sharply from the 5.6 percent average of 1974 and the highest since 1941.
- Joblessness among Married Men declined for the third straight month, dropping below 5 percent for the first time since the turnaround began.
  - The rate for Household Heads was little changed.
- The Civilian Labor Force resumed its relatively strong growth pattern of recent months, rising by 300,000 persons in December after posting a 464,000 decline in November.
  - Total Employment rose by 230,000 to 85.5 billion after little change since August.

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

Males, 20 Years and Over



Females, 20 Years and Over



## A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate by Age, Sex, and Race Both Sexes, 16 to 19 Years

		THIS PERIOD	CHANGE LAST PER.	CHANGE YEAR AGO		
	TEENAGERS, NEGRO AND OTHER RACES	35.9%	6.2%	-4.8%		
	TEENAGERS, WHITE	18.1%	7.7%	13.8%		
PERC	ENT				PERCENT	
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	10		- Lilule	· lesles	ш <sub>10</sub>	
	1971 1972	1973	1974	1975		
	SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATIS	TICS				

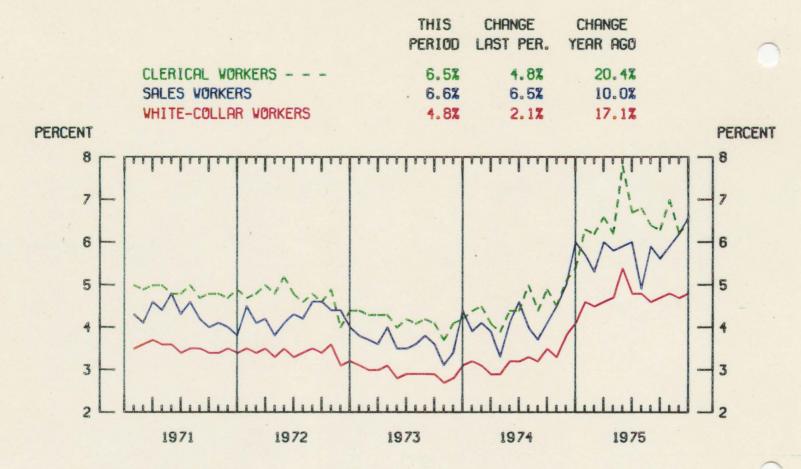
• A decrease in the jobless rate for Adult Men offset increased joblessness in all other Age and Sex groups.

12 JANUARY 1976

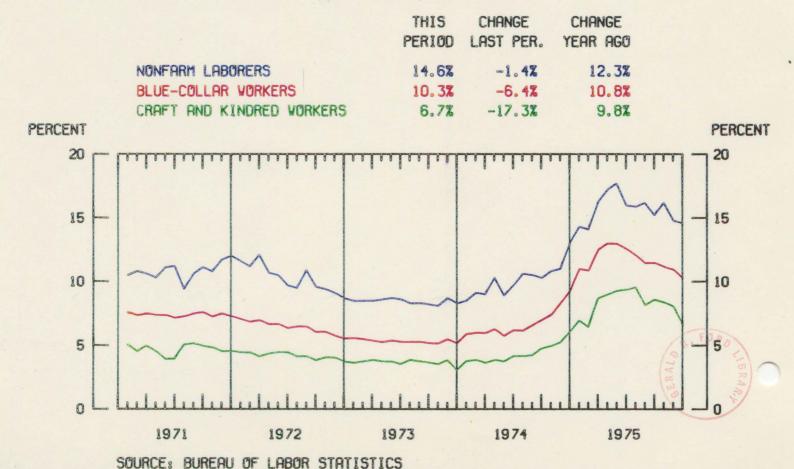
- Adult Males of Negro and Other Races and White Adult Males shared in the unemployment rate improvement.
- Unemployment among Adult White Females was up for the second time in the past three months.
  - Joblessness among Adult Black | Females increased 0.1 percentage point to 11.1 after a 10.0 percent decline in November.
- The overall jobless rate for Teenagers returned to October's level of 19.9.
  - Teenagers of Negro and Other Races was the only category to show over-the-year improvement -- down 4.8 percent from December 1974.
  - White Teenagers maintained the yearly average of 18.1 percent.



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



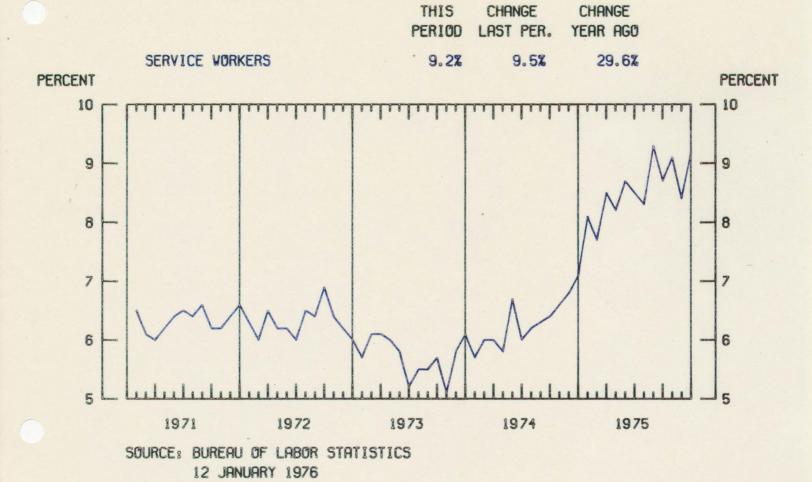
#### Blue-Collar Workers



12 JANUARY 1976

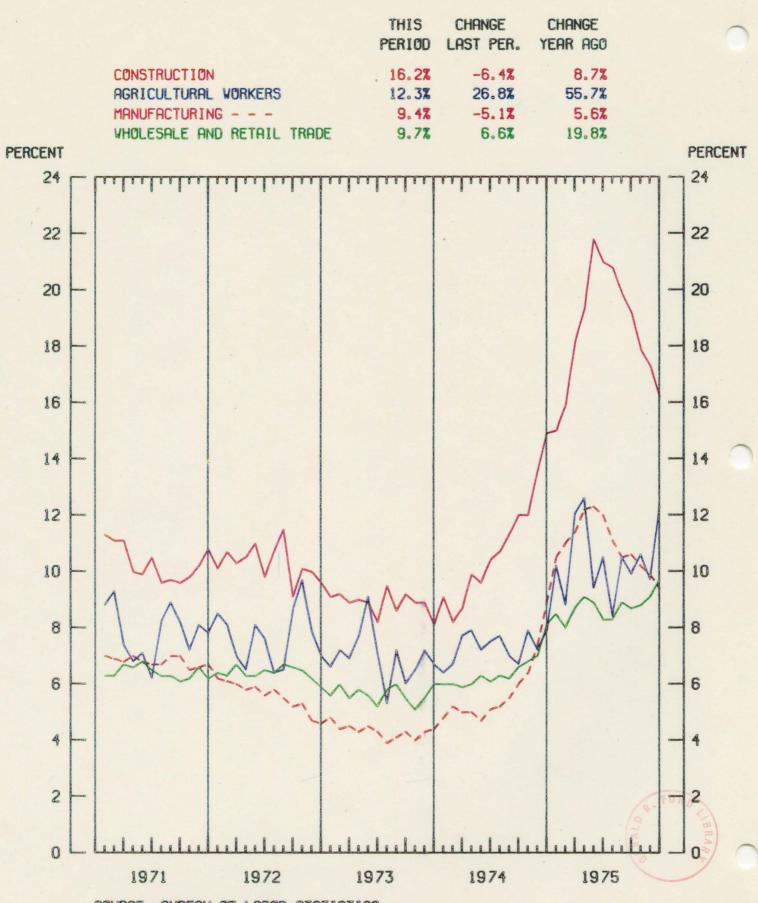
## A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate By Occupation

Service Workers



- The White-Collar Rate increased marginally as unemployment went up among Sales and Clerical Workers.
  - These sectors traditionally provide a large proportion of jobs held by women.
- The Blue-Collar rate dropped 6.4 percent to 10.3 percent, the only occupational group to show any improvement.
  - The major factor was a 17.3 percent decline in the rate for Craft and Kindred Workers to 6.7 percent, the lowest since February.
- Service Workers had the largest increase among the Occupational Groups, up 0.8 percentage points to 9.2.
  - · Nearly equalling the August record high of 9.3 percent.

# A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate By Industry



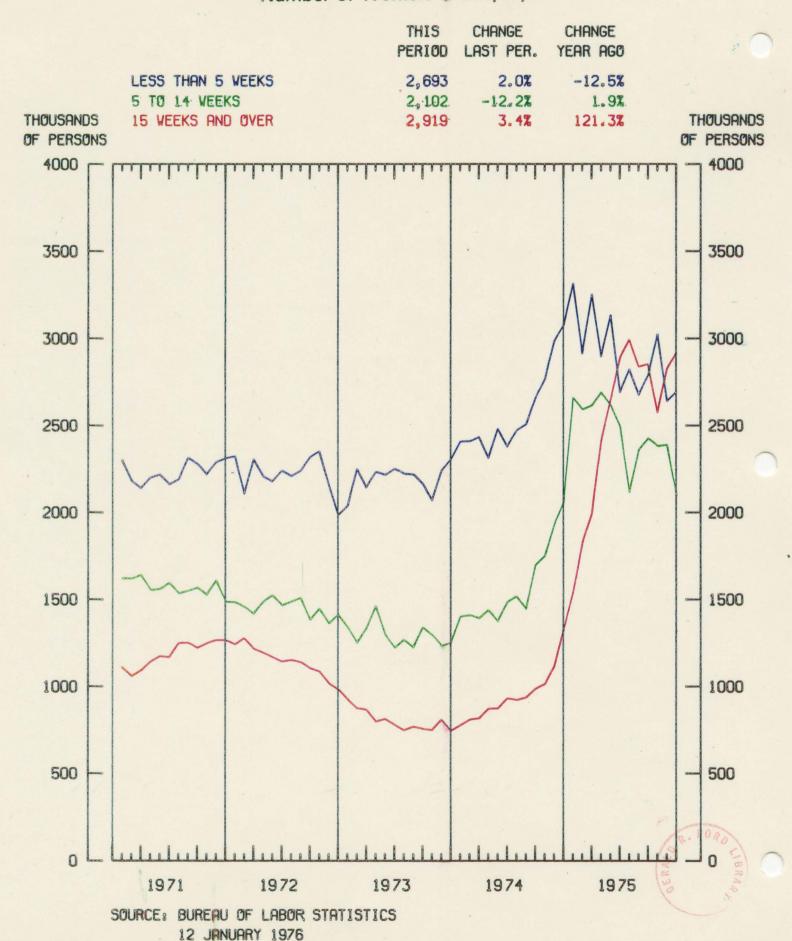
SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
12 JANUARY 1976

The jobless rate reflected counter-balancing movements among Industry groups.

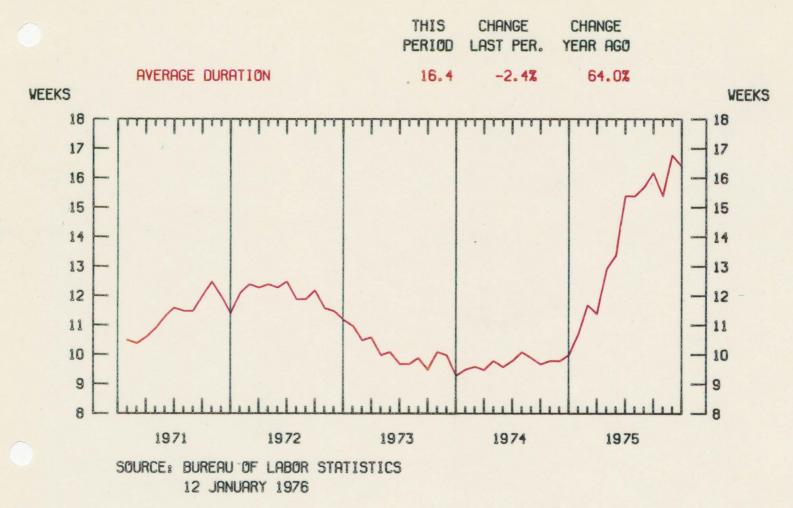
- Improvements were noted in Construction and Manufacturing.
  - At 16.2 percent the jobless rate in the Construction Industry is the lowest since February 1975, a result of seven consecutive monthly declines.
  - Manufacturing dropped to 9.4 percent, closing the year at the lowest level in 1975.
- Increased unemployment occurred among Agricultural Workers and Whole-sale and Retail Trade.
  - Agricultural Workers increased 26.8 percent to 12.3 in December, approaching the record high of 12.6 established in April.
  - As a result of three consecutive increases, the jobless rate in Wholesale and Retail Trade was at a record high of 9.7 percent.



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



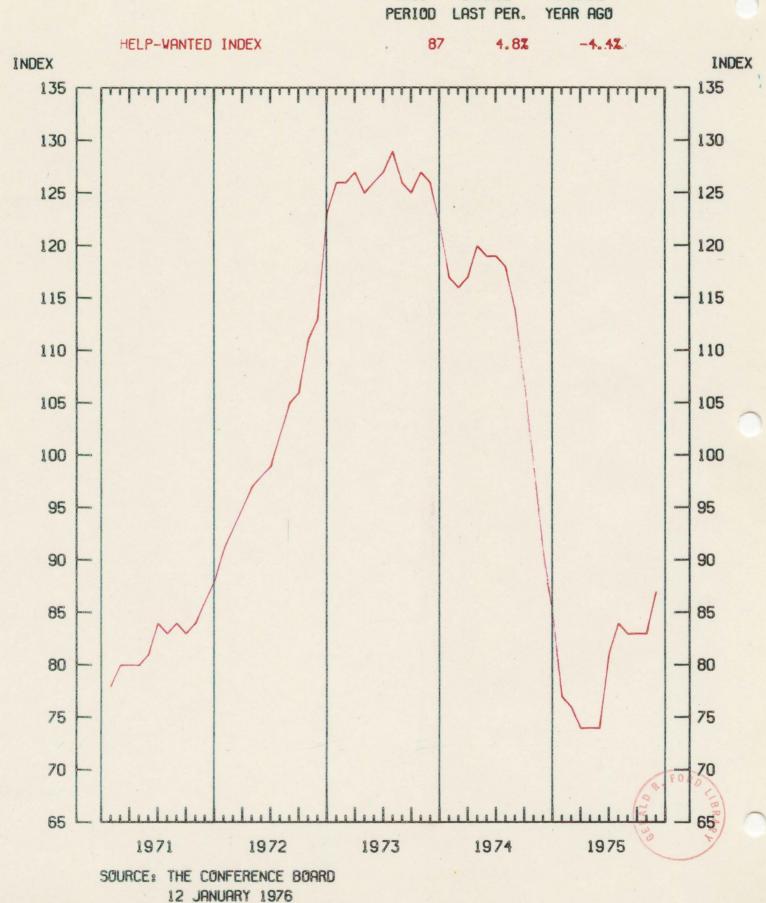
## A.2.2 - Average Duration of Unemployment



- Long-term joblessness increased 3.4 percent in December -- a continuation of steady increases which have spanned a full two years.
- Short-term joblessness increased 50,000 to 2,693 million people.
- Countering the increases in long- and short-term unemployed workers was a 291,000 decline in workers unemployed 5 to 14 weeks.
- The Average (Mean) Duration of Unemployment edged down to 16.4 weeks after a large increase in November.

A.2.5 - Index of Help-Wanted Advertising (1967=100)

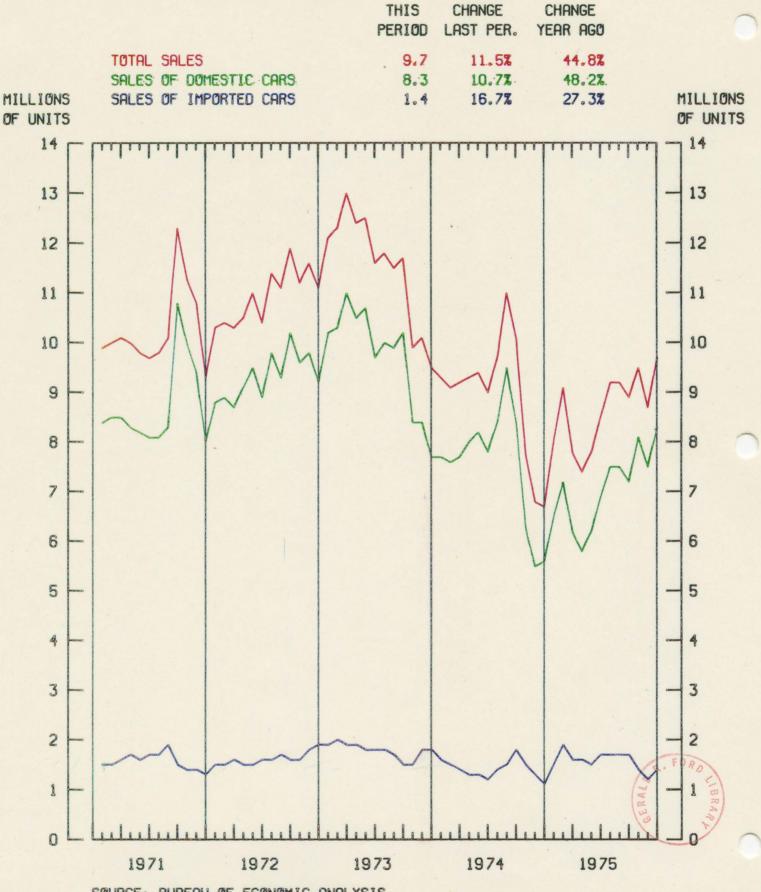
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- The Index of Help-Wanted Advertising rose for the first time in four months, up 4.8 percent in November.
  - Since July there had been virtually no change.
  - Highest level since November 1974.
  - \*After reaching the low in March 1975, Index has risen 24.3 percent.

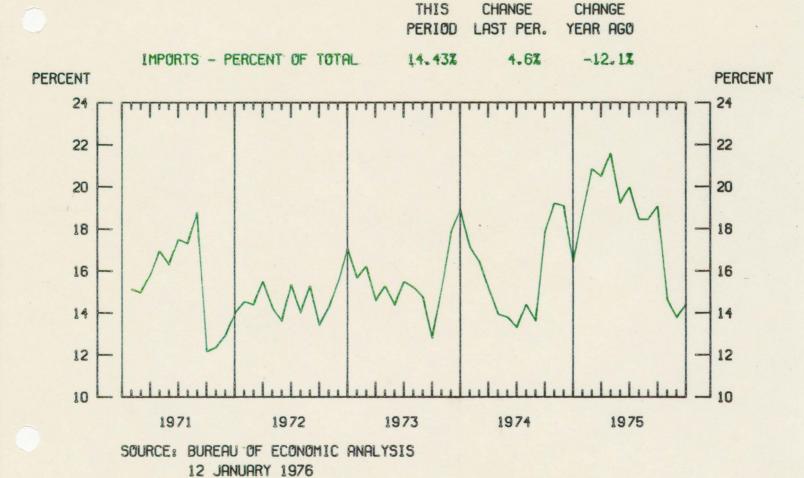


A.4.3 - Retail Unit Sales of New Passenger Cars
Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates



SOURCE: BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
12 JANUARY 1976

#### A.4.3 - Imports as a Percent of Total New Car Sales



- Total Retail Sales of Passenger Cars rose 11.5 percent in December to 9.7 million units, the highest level since September 1974.
  - Up 44.8 percent from last December's depressed sales of 6.7 million units.
- Domestic Sales were also the highest since September 1974 and are 48.2 percent above last December.
  - Still 24.5 percent below the March 1973 high of 11.0 million units.
- Import Sales improved in December after posting declines in October and November, but are 26.3 percent below the February high of 1.9 million.
  - Although the <a href="Imports" share of total sales increased" in December, it remains well below the levels recorded in the first nine months of 1975.</a>

# A.4.6 - Monthly Retail Sales

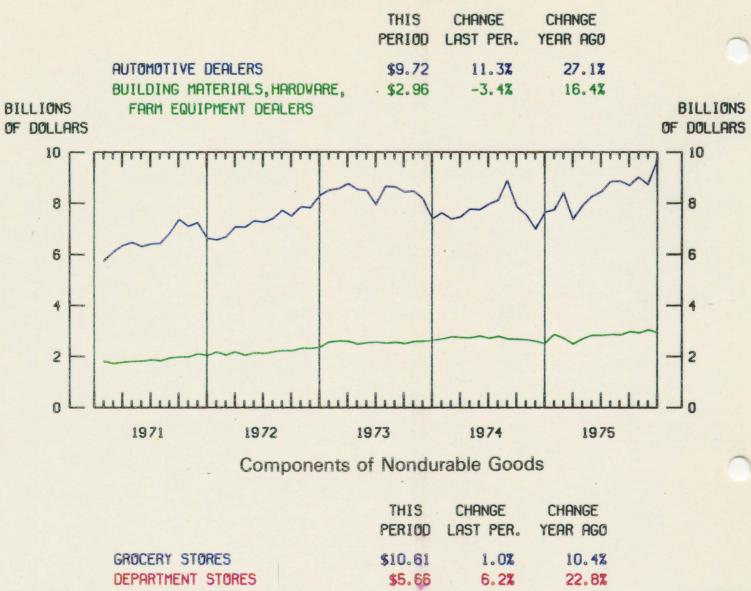
December Advance

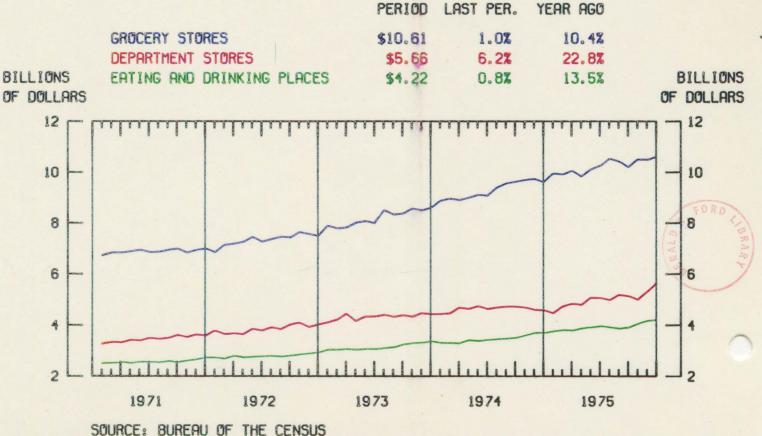


- Advance data for December indicate that Retail Sales jumped 3.5 percent from a downward revised \$50.35 billion in November.
  - It was the fourth consecutive monthly increase and the biggest since a 3.7 percent spurt in July 1973, pushing the level of sales 15.5 percent above December 1974.
- For 1975 as a whole, Retail Sales rose 8.7 percent, or \$47.0 billion, to \$584.8 billion.
  - The gain in sales exceeded the increase in consumer prices, representing an increase in the physical volume of sales.
- Sales of Durable Goods, spurred by a near-record increase in Automotive sales, climbed 5.9 percent to \$16.72 billion, up 23.4 percent from a year ago.
- Nondurable Goods rose a strong 2.4 percent, the third consecutive



# A.4.6 - Iviorany Retail Sales Components of Durable Goods





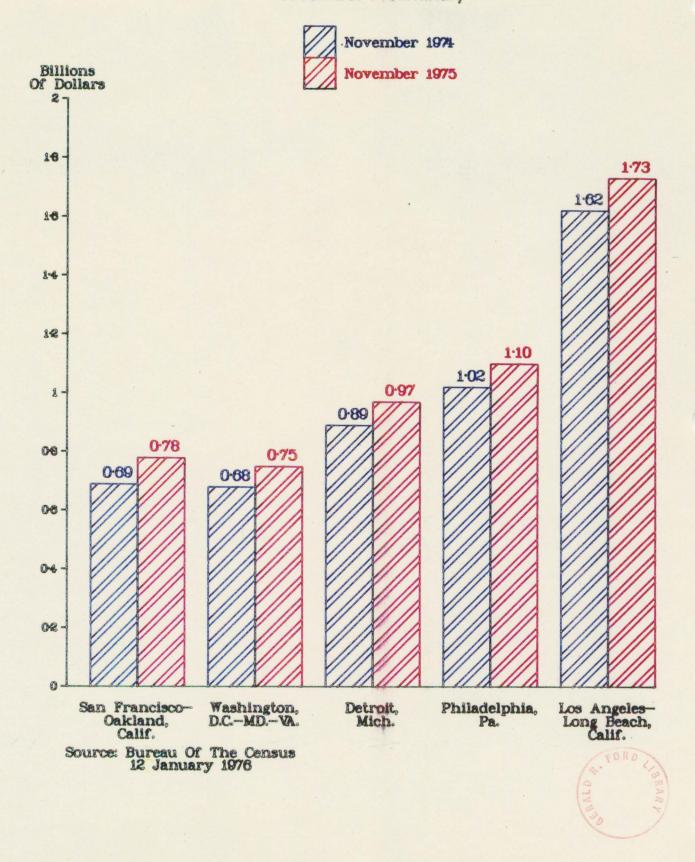
12 JANUARY 1976

- Sales of Automotive Dealers in December surged \$990 million to an adjusted \$9.72 billion, accounting for all of the increase in Durable Goods.
  - Partially offsetting was a 3.4 percent decline in sales of Building Material, Hardware, and Farm Equipment.
- Among the Nondurable Goods:
  - Department Store Sales were a major factor, rising 6.2 percent to an adjusted \$5.66 billion.
    - In November-December, sales were up a total of 12.5 percent, the strongest two-month advance ever recorded.
  - · Restaurant Receipts increased for the fourth consecutive month.
  - Grocery Stores were up 1 percent from last month and 10.4 percent from last year.



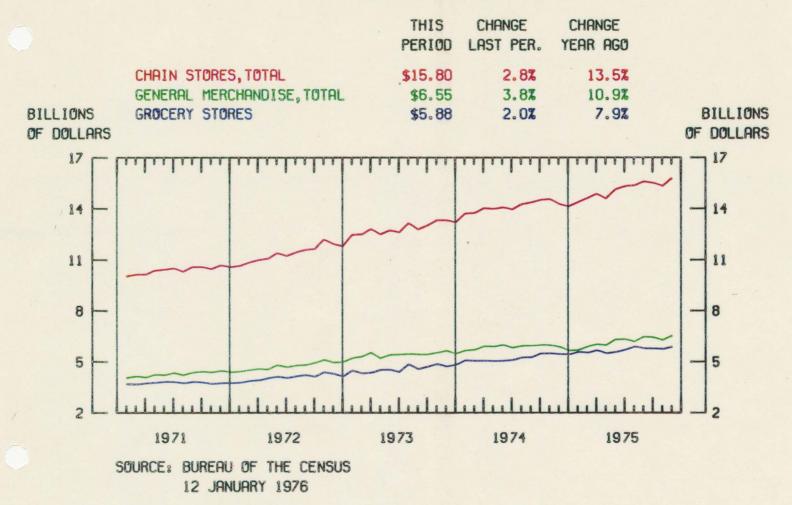
A.4.6 - Retail Sales for Selected Metropolitan Areas

November Preliminary



#### A.4.6 - Retail Sales of Chain Stores

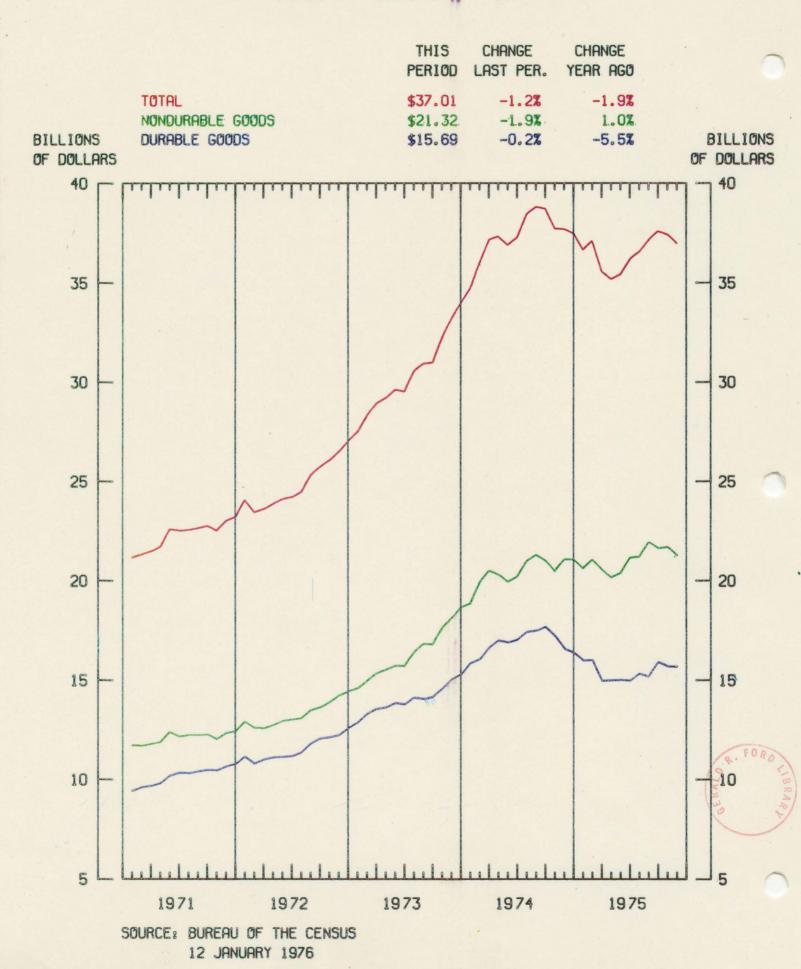
Eleven or More Stores



Preliminary data for November indicate that:

- Among the selected metropolitan areas, Retail Sales in the San Francisco, Oakland area rose 11.3 percent over November 1974.
  - The Washington, D.C. area followed with a 10.8 percent climb.
  - Detroit and Philadelphia increased 8.4 percent and 8.2 percent, respectively, while Los Angeles increased 6.7 percent.
- Chain Stores took an upward turn in November, up 2.8 percent to \$15.80 billion.
  - 13.5 percent above last November.
  - The increase reflects rises in General Merchandise Chains, which rose 3.8 percent, and Grocery Chains which gained 2 percent after falling for three straight months.

A.4.7 - Sales of Merchant Wholesalers



## A.4.7 - Sales of Merchant Wholesalers

Components of Nondurable Goods

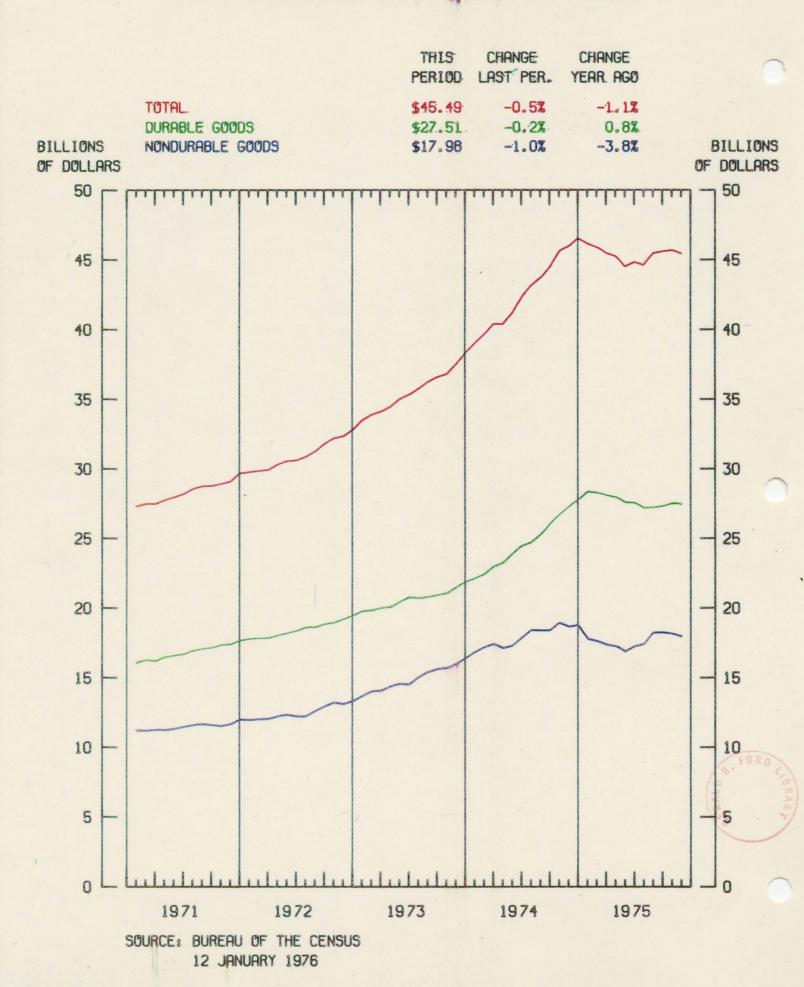
			THIS PERIOD	CHANGE LAST PER.	CHANGE YEAR AGO	
	GROCERIES & FARM-PRODUCT	RELATED PRODUC	\$7.51 \$3.55	-1.2% -8.8%	2.7% -3.8%	
LIONS DOLLARS	PAPER AND PR		\$1.04		-2.2%	BILLIONS OF DOLLARS
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6.0			~			- 6.0
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	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	
	SOURCE: BUREAU 12 JAN	OF THE CENSUS UARY 1976				

November Sales of Merchant Wholesalers were \$37.01 billion, down 1.2 percent.

- \*Second consecutive monthly decrease totalling 1.6 percent.
- After reaching a high of \$21.98 billion in August, Sales of Nondurable Goods declined to a level of \$21.32 billion in November, down almost 2 percent from October.
  - Groceries and Related Products, representing about 48 percent of Nondurable Goods Sales, dropped 1.2 percent.
  - Farm-Product Raw Materials declined 8.8 percent following an increase of 3.8 percent in October.
  - Paper and Products edged down 0.8 percent.
- October.

  Durable Goods remained virtually unchanged after declining slightly in

A.4.7 - Inventories of Merchant Wholesalers



#### A.4.7 - Inventories of Merchant Wholesalers

Components of Nondurable Goods

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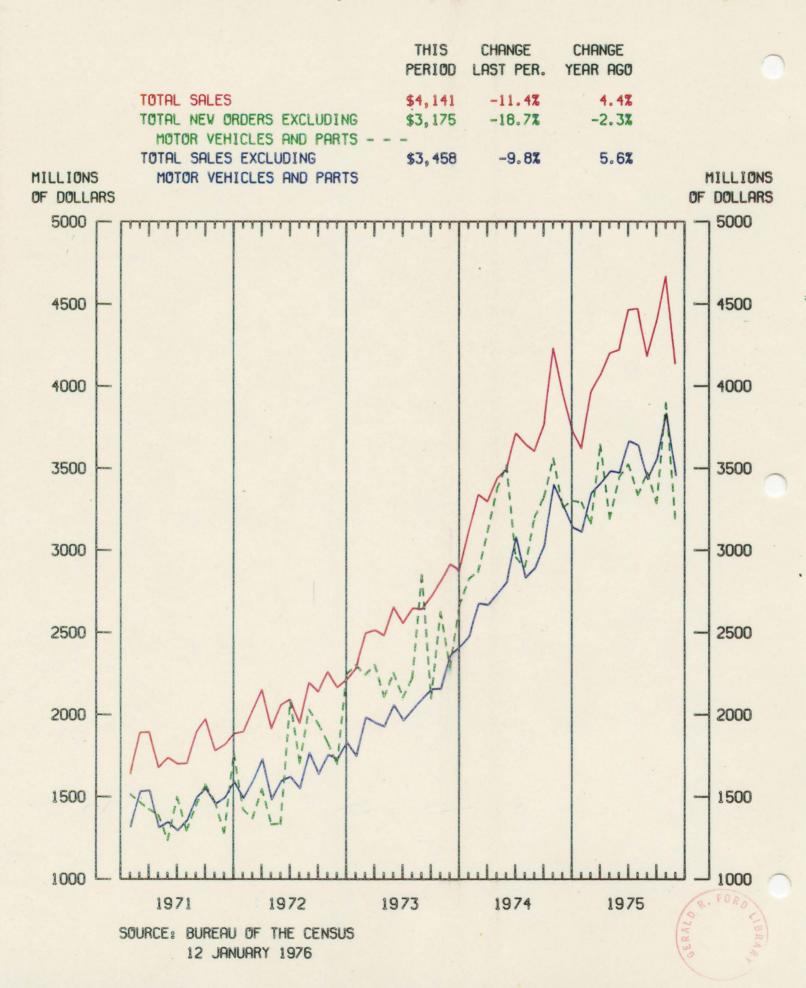
			PERIOD	LAST PER.	YEAR AGO	
BILLIONS			\$2.76 \$2.08 \$1.04	-12.0% 9.4% 2.3%	-16.9% 13.8% 0.7%	BILLIONS
OF DOLLARS				7		OF DOLLARS
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	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	× .
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SOURCE: BUREAU OF THE CENSUS 12 JANUARY 1976

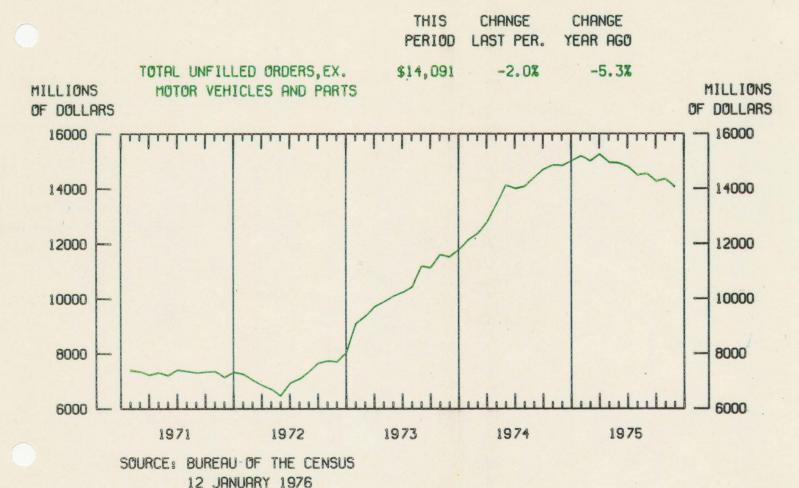
- Inventories of Merchant Wholesalers declined for the first time in four months, down 0.5 percent in November.
- Nondurable Goods decreased for the second month in a row, totalling 1.5 percent.
  - Beer, Wine and Distilled Alcoholic Beverages rose 9.4 percent following a 1.6 percent rise in October.
  - Paper and Products rose for the second straight month, totalling 7 percent.
  - Farm-Product Raw Materials declined 12 percent to a level of \$2.76 billion, the lowest level since June 1975.

<sup>\*</sup>Inventories of Durable Goods were basically unchanged, declining a slight 0.2 percent.

## A.5.2 - Manufacturers' Export Sales and Orders of Durable Goods

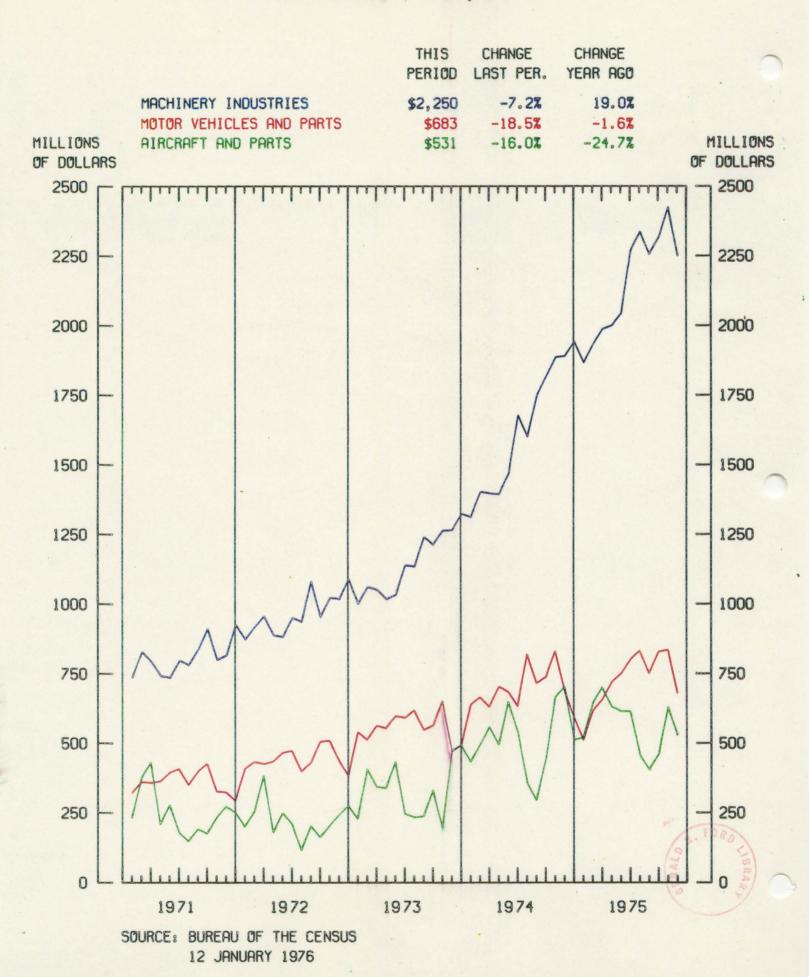


#### A.5.2 - Manufacturers' Export Unfilled Orders

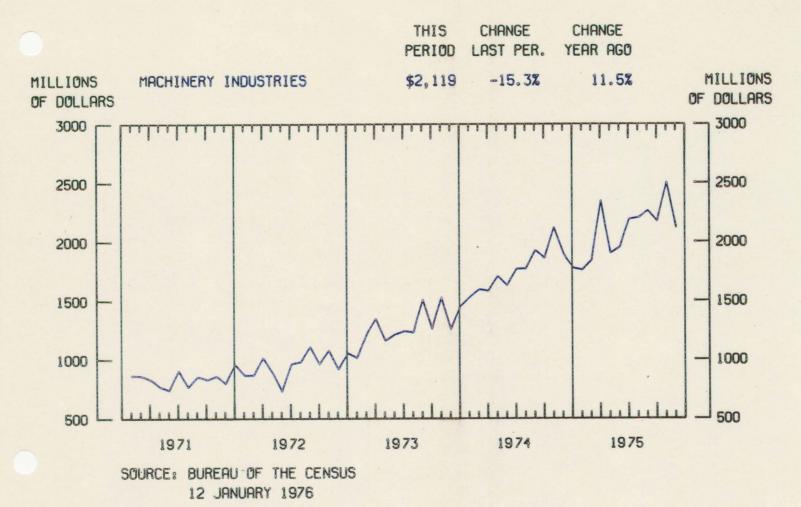


- Export New Orders for Durable Goods (excluding motor vehicles and parts) dropped sharply in November, following October's strong increase.
  - Down 18.7 percent or \$730 million.
- Total Export Sales dropped \$532 million in November eliminating the gains of the past two months and falling to the lowest level since March.
  - Still 14 percent above the January low of \$3,625 million.
  - Excluding Motor Vehicles and Parts, Export Sales were down 9.8 percent following a 7.8 percent rise in October.
- Total Unfilled Orders (excluding motor vehicles and parts) declined \$283 million to \$14,091 million, the lowest level since the \$14,036 million registered in June 1974.
  - The November level is 7.8 percent below the record high of \$15,278 million established in March.

## A.5.2 - Manufacturers' Export Sales



#### A.5.2 - Manufacturers' Export New Orders



- All major groups contributed to the overall decline of Durable Export Sales with Machinery Industries (\$174 million), Aircraft and Parts (\$101 million), and Automotive Industries (\$155 million) showing the most sizable declines.
- New Orders of Durable Exports registered decreases in all industries with a \$384 million drop in Machinery Industries accounting for more than half of the overall decline.
  - Machinery Industries dropped 15.3 percent to \$2,119 million in November after reaching a record high in October of \$2,503 million.

# A.6.2 - Wholesale Price Index (1967=100)

THIS CHANGE CHANGE PERIOD LAST PER. YEAR AGO FARM PRODUCTS 196.4 -0.8% 5.5% PROCESSED FOODS & FEEDS -3.8% 181.0 -2.9% ALL COMMODITIES 179.7 -0.4% 4.2% INDUSTRIAL COMMODITIES 177.3 0.6% 6.0% INDEX INDEX 220 220 210 210 200 200 190 190 180 180 170 170 160 160 150 150 140 140 130 130 120 120 110 110 100 1971 1975 1974 1972 1973 SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

12 JANUARY 1976

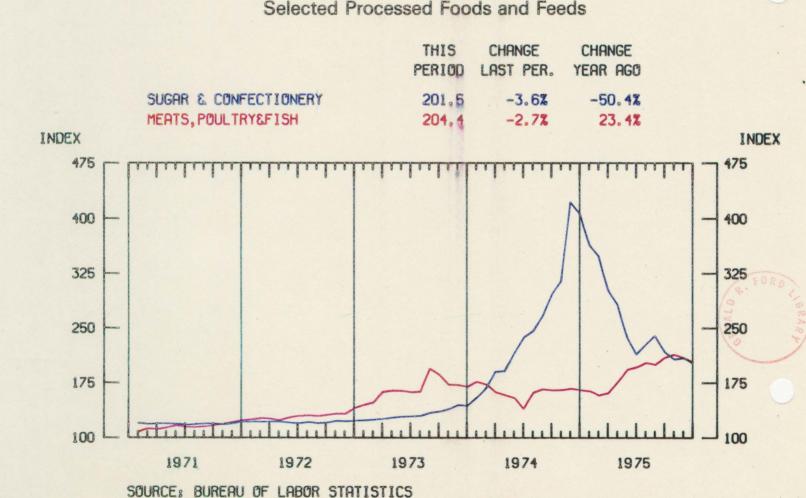
- The Wholesale Price Index for All Commodities declined 0.4 percent in December after showing no change in November.
  - It was the first decline in six months and the sixth decline of 1975 resulting in an overall gain for the year of 4.2 percent compared to 20.9 percent in 1974.
  - Lower prices for Processed Foods and Feeds and Farm Products more than offset the steady rise in Industrial Commodities.
- Processed Foods and Feeds dropped 2.9 percent after declining 0.6 percent in November, and Farm Products posted its second decline in a row -- down 0.8 percent compared to 2.6 percent in November.
- Industrial Commodities rose 0.6 percent, the same as recorded in November, and half of October's 1.2 percent gain.
  - Over the year Industrial Commodities have risen 6.0 percent, the smallest calendar year rise since 1972.



# A.6.2 - Wholesale Price Index

Selected Farm Products

			THIS PERIOD	CHANGE LAST PER.	CHANGE YEAR AGO	
	FRUITS AND GRAINS	VEGETABLES	. 200.3 198.4	12.2% -6.1%	16.3% -25.5%	
INDEX	LIVESTOCK		203.6	-1.2%	21.3%	INDEX
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	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	
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12 JANUARY 1976

- The decline in Farm Product prices was led by price drops in Livestock and Grains which more than offset a 12.2 percent increase in Fresh and Dried Fruits and Vegetables.
  - Grain prices fell for the fourth consecutive month, down 17.6 percent from August, and 25.5 percent below last year.
  - Livestock declined for the second month in a row -- down 1.2 percent.

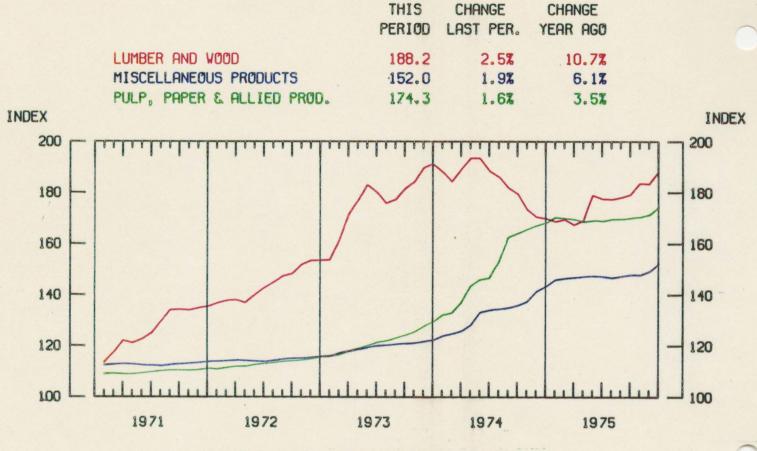
Among Processed Foods and Feeds:

- Sugar and Confectionery dropped 3.6 percent after posting a modest 0.6 percent increase in November and are 52.3 percent below November 1974's record high.
- Prices for Meats, Poultry and Fish fell for the second consecutive month, down 2.7 percent compared to 2.0 percent in November.

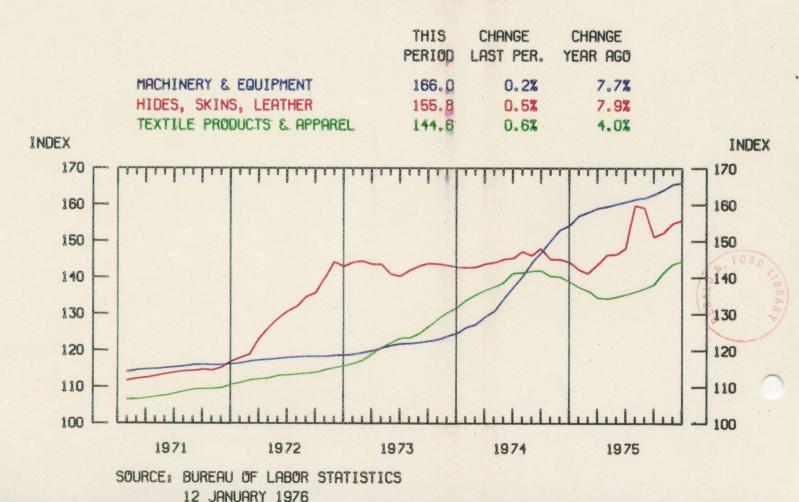


#### A.6.2 - Wholesale Price Index

#### Selected Industrial Commodities



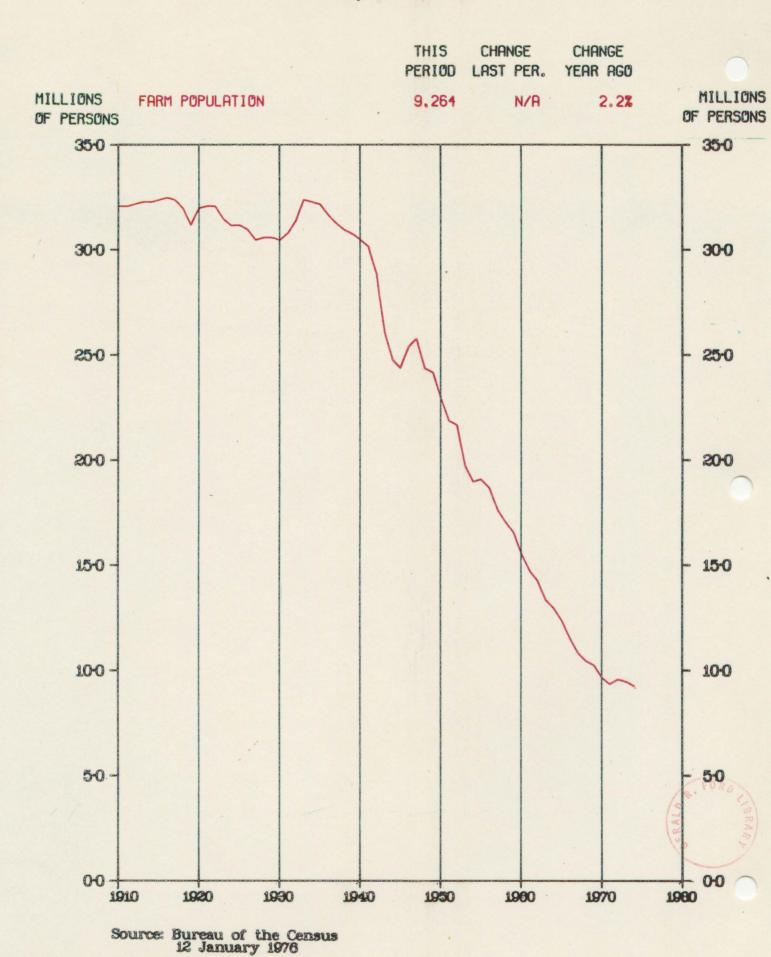
- Selected Industrial Commodities



- The largest increases among Industrial Commodities occurred in Lumber and Wood, Pulp, Paper and Allied Products, and Miscellaneous Products.
  - Lumber and Wood products increased 2.5 percent, the second largest gain this year and the second increase in three months exceeding 2.0 percent.
  - After remaining relatively stable for most of the year, Paper, and Allied Products rose 1.6 percent in December.
    - Largest monthly gain since August 1974.
  - Miscellaneous Products accelerated in December, rising 1.9 percent compared to 0.9 percent in November.
- Also rising in December, but at a slower pace than in November, were Machinery and Equipment, Hides, Skins, and Leather, and Textile Products and Apparel.



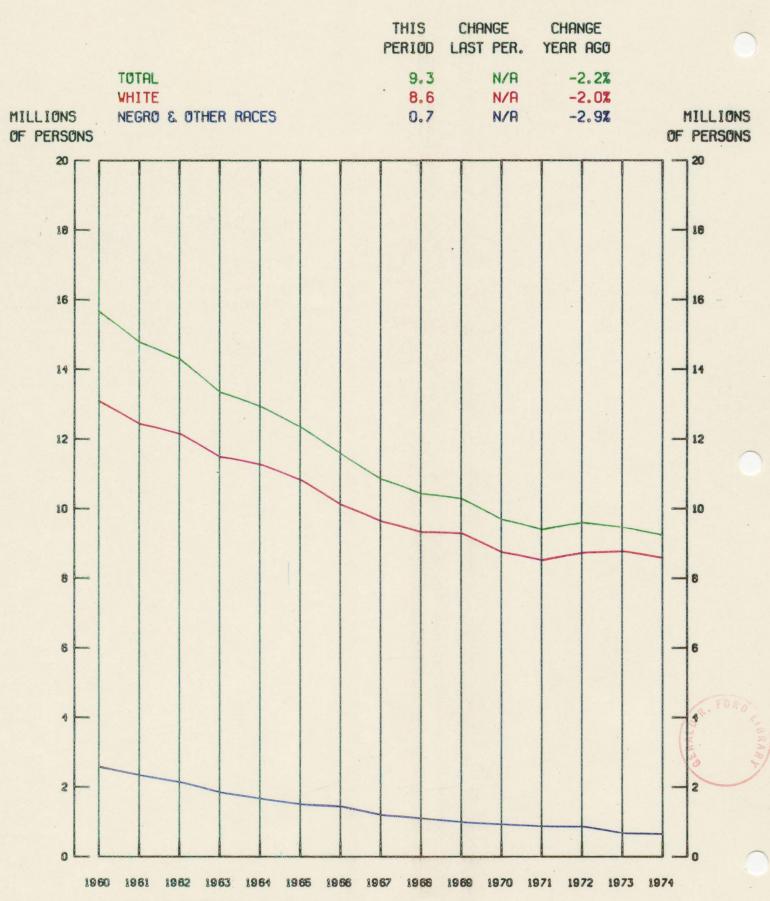
B.1.2 - Farm Population 1910-1974



- An average of 9,264,000 persons lived on farms in rural areas of the United States in the 12-month period centered on April 1974.
- The 1974 estimate indicates a continuation of the long-term downward trend in the farm population.
- However, the average annual rate of farm population loss for the 1970 to 1974 period was 1.2 percent, compared with an annual rate of 4.8 percent in the 1960 to 1970 period.
- The percent of the United States population residing on farms has declined from 35 percent in 1910 to 9 percent in 1960 to 4 percent in 1974.



B.1.2 - Farm Population by Race: 1960-1974

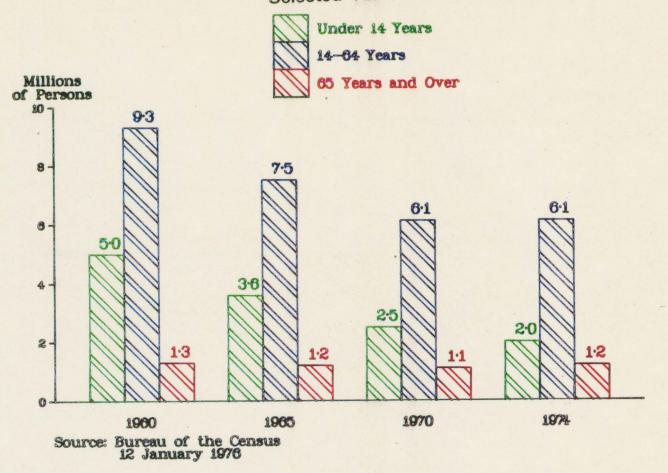


SOURCE: BUREAU OF THE CENSUS 12 JANUARY 1976

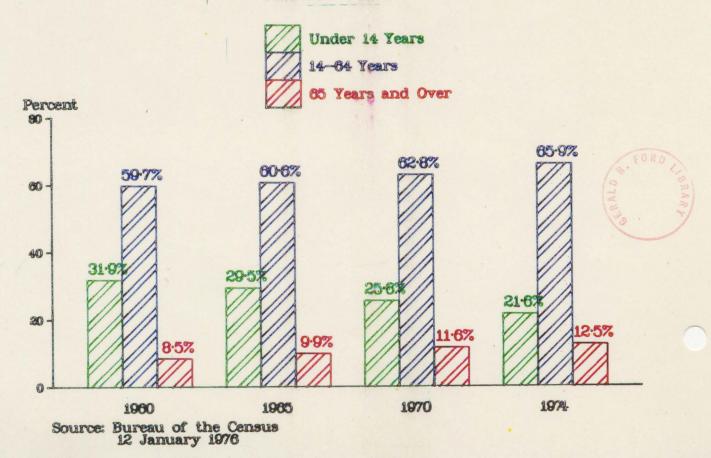
- Within the farm population, there has been a marked difference in population loss by race in recent years.
- While the white farm population showed no significant change between 1970 and 1974, the number of negroes and persons of races other than white declined by an average annual rate of 9 percent.



B.1.2 - Farm Population by Broad Age Groups
Selected Years



B.1.2 - Percent of the Farm Population by Broad Age Groups
Selected Years



- Between 1960 and 1974, the number of persons under 14 years of age living on farms has dropped 60 percent. In this same period, the number of persons 14 to 64 years old has declined 35 percent, and those 65 years old and over, 13 percent.
- As a result of the differential loss in the farm population by age, the percent of the farm population under 14 years has dropped from 32 in 1960 to 22 in 1964, while the percent 14 to 64 years has risen from 60 to 66 and the proportion 65 and over increased from 9 to 13 percent.
- To a considerable degree, this decline in the proportion of young children in the farm population is a reflection of past high net outmigration of young farm adults of childbearing age. However, much of the decline since 1970 in the population under 14 on farms can also be attributed to the recent sharp drop in the national birth rate, which has extended to both farm and nonfarm areas.



B.1.2 - Percent of the Employed Farm Population in Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Industries: 1960-1974

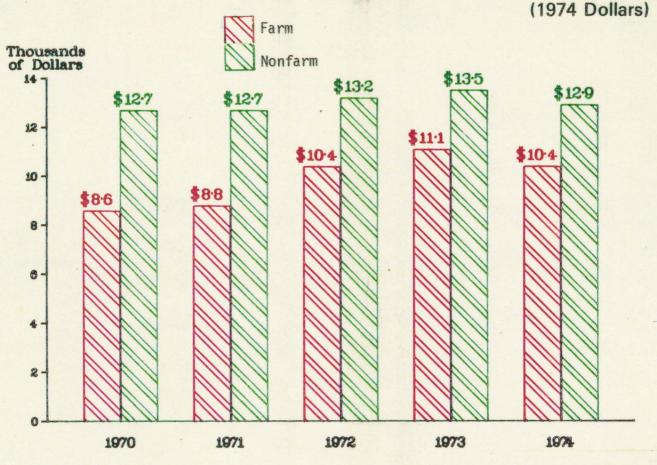


SOURCE: BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
12 JANUARY 1976

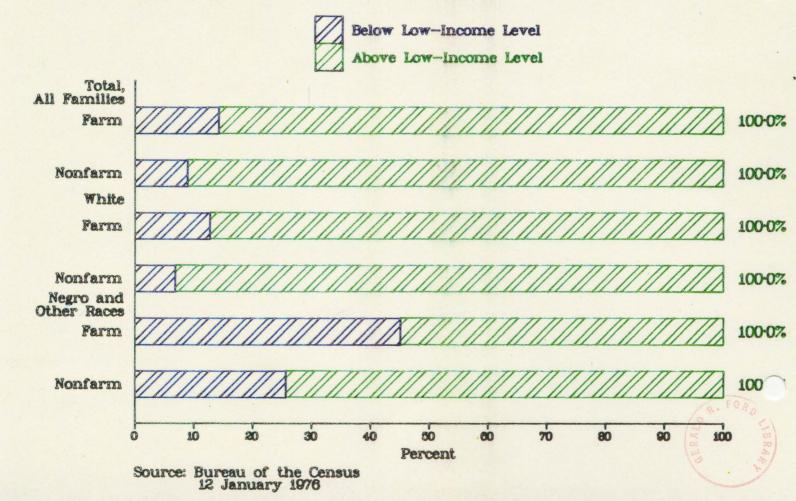
- employment of farm residents and an upward trend in agricultural employment. From 1960 to 1974, the percent of the farm-resident employed labor force working in agriculture declined from about two-thirds (66 percent) to about half (52 percent).
- From 1960 to 1974, the proportion of the total employed in agriculture and who were living on farms has dropped from 75 to 59 percent. Correspondingly, nonfarm residents employed in agriculture have increased from 25 to 41 percent of the total.
- Of the 3.8 million persons employed in agriculture in 1974, only three-fifths (59 percent) lived on farms, down from about three-quarters (75 percent) of the 5.4 million agriculturally employed in 1960.
- The remaining two-fifths in 1974 commuted from off-farm residences.



B.1.2 - Median Family Income - Farm and Nonfarm: 1970-1974



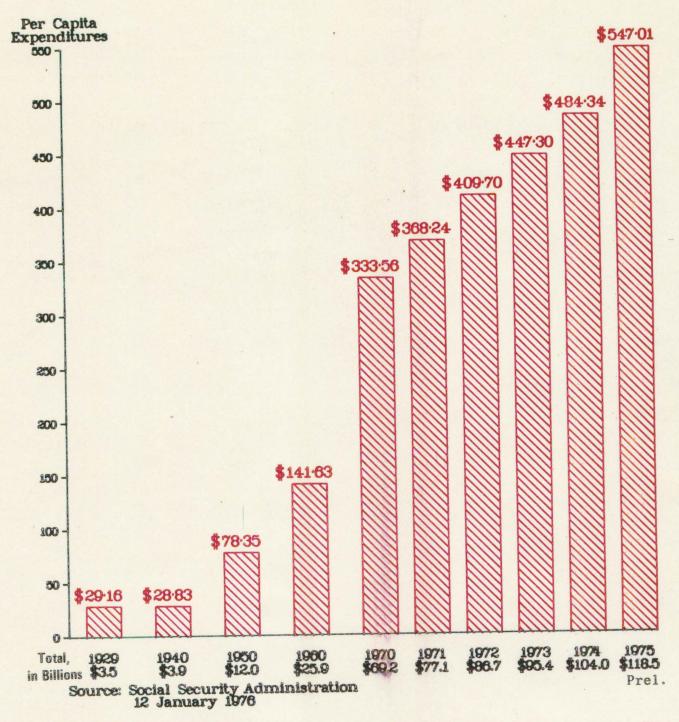
B.1.2 - Income Level of Farm and Nonfarm Families: 1974



- The contrast between farm residents and the nonfarm population is especially striking in regard to income.
  - The median income of farm families was \$10,430 in 1974, compared with \$12,930 for nonfarm families.
    - Although there is still a difference of about \$2,500 (24 percent of the farm median family income) this gap is only about 60 percent of that in 1970 as measured in constant (1974) dollars.
    - Farm median family income in 1970, in terms of 1974 dollars, was about \$4,100 less than that of nonfarm families.
  - Since 1970, the median income of farm families has increased by about 21 percent, while that of nonfarm families has increased about 2 percent in constant dollars.
- \*The proportion of farm families who are poor (below the low income level) is approximately 50 percent higher than for nonfarm families, even though the official criteria for "low income" are set somewhat lower for farm residents than for the nonfarm population.
- The proportion of Negro farm families below the low income level (45 percent) is about five times as high as the National average for all families and about four times as high as that of white farm families.

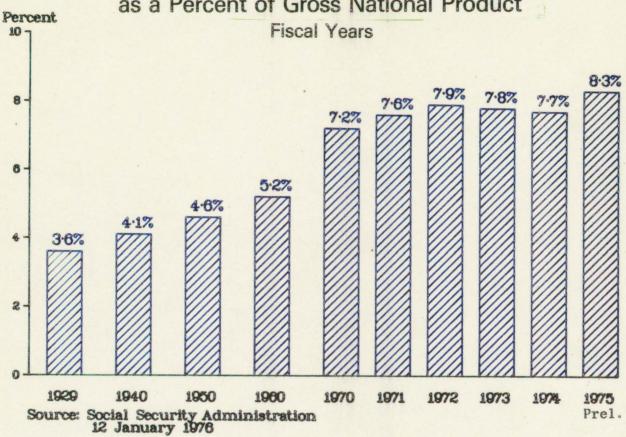


# B.3.5 - National Per Capita Health Expenditures Fiscal Years





# B.3.5 - National Health Expenditures as a Percent of Gross National Product

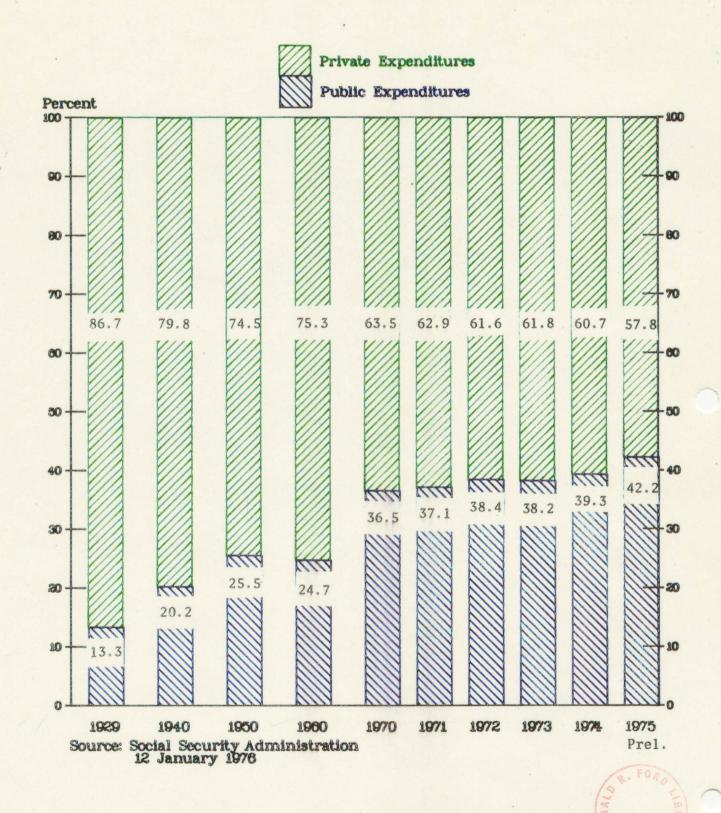


- In Fiscal Year 1975 United States National Health Spending reached \$118.5 billion, or \$547 per person.
  - The <u>increase</u> in total spending was <u>13.9</u> percent, a sharp rise from Fiscal 1974 when mandatory controls for the Health Industry were in effect for 10 months.
- The acceleration in health spending in Fiscal 1975 coupled with a slowed growth in the Gross National Product resulted in a significant increase in its share of the GNP -- up to 8.3 percent after a relatively stable three-year level around 7.8 percent.
- According to Social Security Administration analysts, had the GNP increased at the 1974 rate, the proportion of health expenditures would have been only about 8 percent in Fiscal 1975.

## **B.3.5 - National Health Expenditures**

Percent Distribution of Private and Public Expenditures

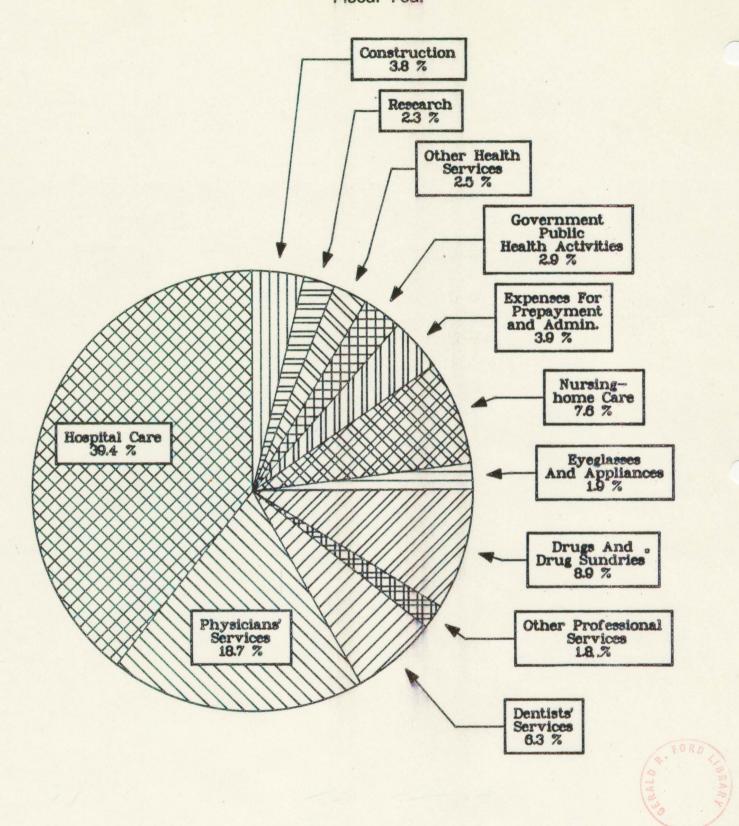
Fiscal Years



- Public Health Spending increased sharply -- up 22 percent to 42 percent of total health spending, compared with a 12 percent increase in 1974.
  - The rate was more than two and one-half times the rate of increase in private spending for health care.
- The big increases in public spending were for hospital services and nursing home care, reflecting substantially increased expenditures under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.



B.3.5 - Ivauonal Health Expenditures by Type of Expenditures: 1975 Preliminary
Fiscal Year



Research Expenditures of Drug Companies Included Here.

Source: Social Security Administration 12 January 1976

- Hospital care continued to be the largest expenditure category, accounting for \$46.6 billion, or 39 percent of total spending.
- Expenditures for Physicians' services, the second largest category representing nearly 19 percent of total spending, are estimated at \$22.1 billion for Fiscal 1975.

