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THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

January 28, 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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FOR CALENDER YEAR 1976

January 26, 1976

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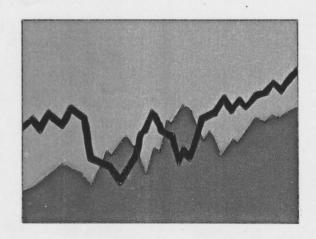
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WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES ON U.S. DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

Prepared for the President and the Vice President

JANUARY 26, 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

Gross National Product

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

Personal Income

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

Plant and Equipment Expenditures

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

Real Earnings

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

Manufacturers' Shipments and Orders - Advance Report on Durable Goods

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

Capacity Utilization

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, "Capacity Utilization in Manufacturing" E.5, "Industrial Production and Related Data" G. 12.3

Consumer Price Index

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

Housing Construction

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Construction Reports," Series C

Women-Owned Businesses

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Office of Minority Business Enterprise, "Women-Owned Businesses 1972"

Federal Employment

U.S. Civil Service Commission, Manpower Statistics Division, "Federal Civilian Manpower Statistics"



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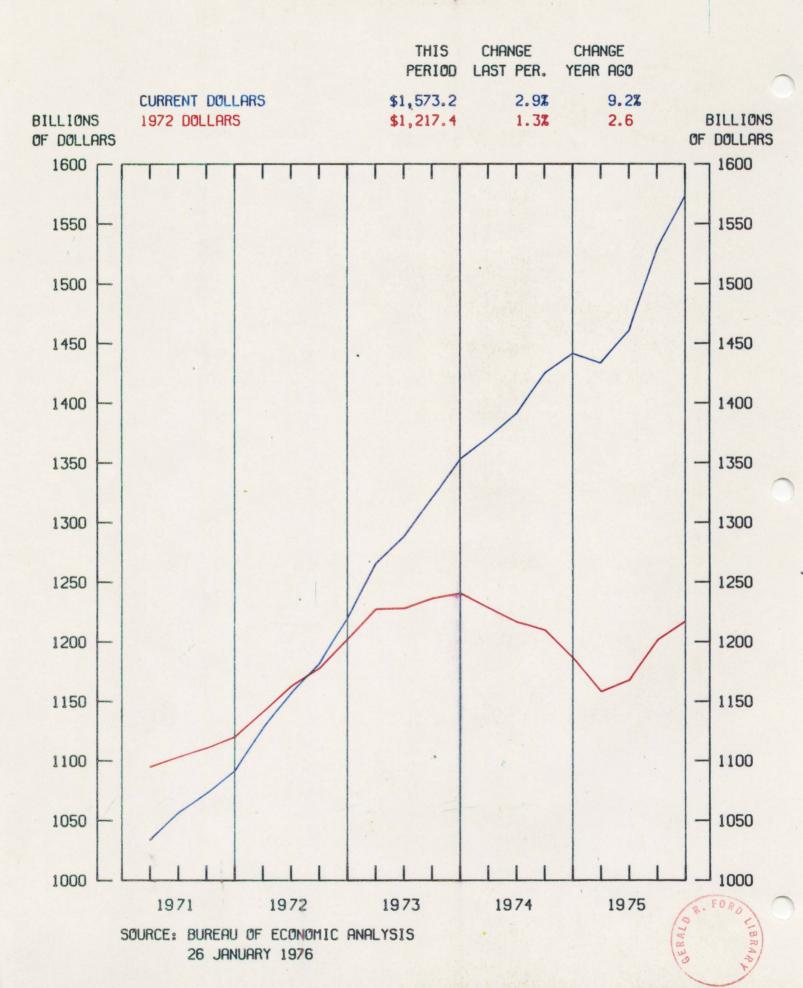
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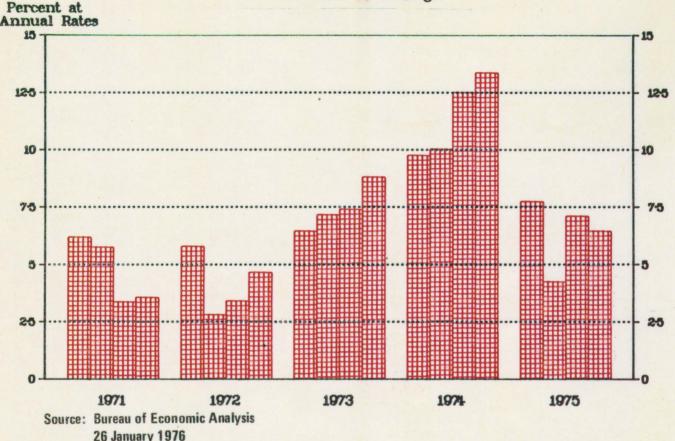
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D.3.2 Children's Skill and Appreciation of Literature Arts, Music					x
D.3.3 Participation in Cultural Activities - Voluntary Organizations				X	x
D.3.4 Attendance at Cultural Events - Plays, Galleries, Motion Pictures				X	
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A.1.1 - Gross National Product



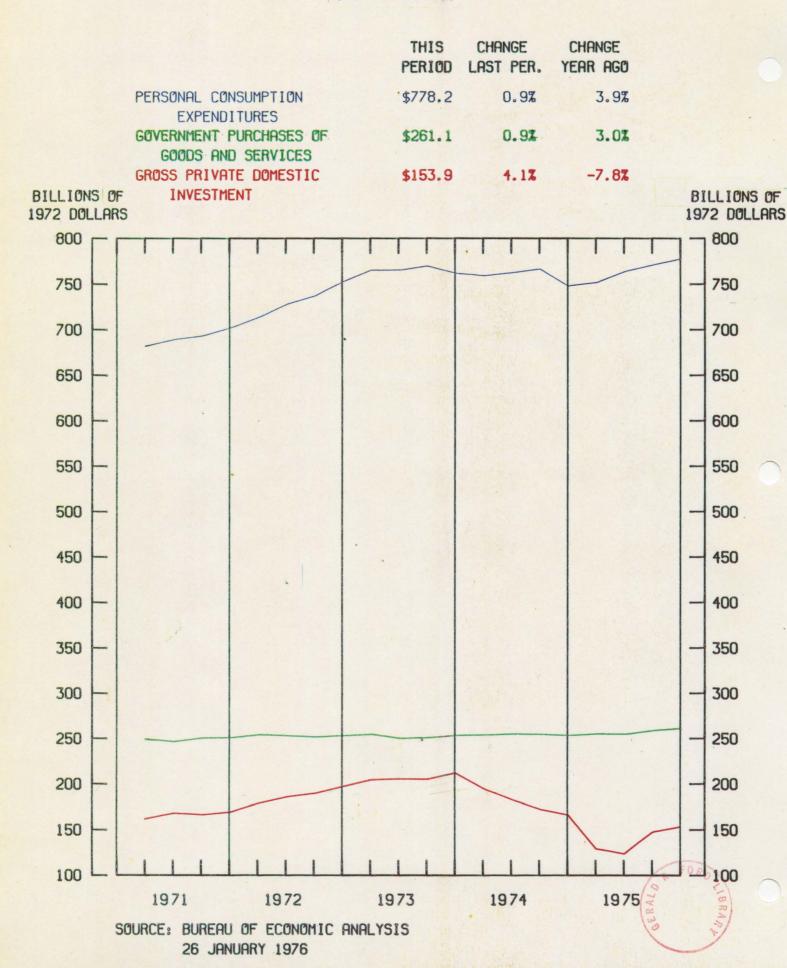
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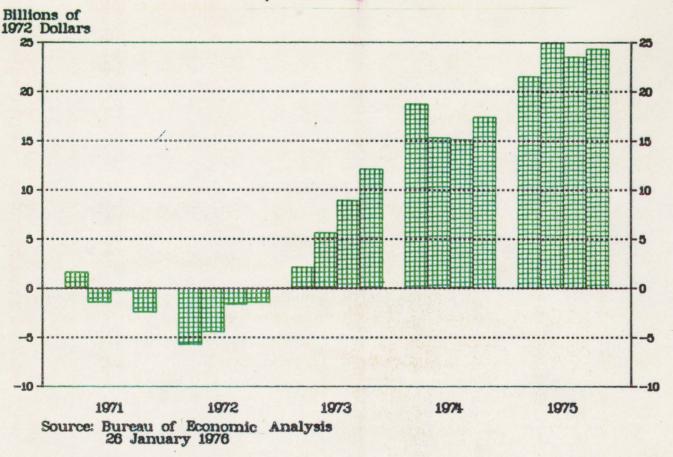
- Real Gross National Product (1972 dollars) rose \$15.9 million, or 5.4 percent at annual rates in the fourth quarter, compared to 12.0 percent at annual rates in the third quarter.
 - The slowdown in the rate of growth resulted from inventories stabilizing in the fourth quarter.
 - For 1975 as a whole, Real GNP was reported as \$1,186.4 billion, 2.0 percent less than 1974.
- Gross National Product in current dollars increased \$44.7 billion to a seasonally adjusted \$1,573.2 billion.
- Price increases, as measured by the GNP implicit price deflator, moderated in the fourth quarter, increasing at an annual rate of 6.5 percent compared to a third quarter's 7.1 percent increase.

NOTE: Fourth quarter figures are based on preliminary and incomplete source data.

A.1.1 - Selected Components of Gross National Product
(1972 Dollars)



A.1.1 - Net Expures of Goods and Services



- All major components of Real GNP (in constant 1972 dollars) contributed to the increase:
 - Personal Consumption Expenditures rose \$6.6 billion to a record high of \$778.2 billion.
 - Government Purchases of Goods and Services (1972 dollars) climbed to \$261.1 billion, surpassing the old record high of \$260.9 billion in the third quarter of 1968.
 - However, since 1968, Federal, State, and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services have remained virtually unchanged.
 - Gross Private Domestic Investment increased for the second consecutive quarter, up \$6.1 billion.
 - Fixed Investment accounted for 82 percent of the increase.
 - At \$24.3 billion, Net Exports of Goods and Services remained at near-record levels.
 - For all of 1975, Net Exports increased 41.6 percent over the 1974 total.

A.1.1 - rmal Sales (1972 Dollars)

THIS CHANGE CHANGE
PERIOD LAST PER. YEAR AGO

1,217.2 1.2% 3.2% BILLIONS OF 1972 DOLLARS

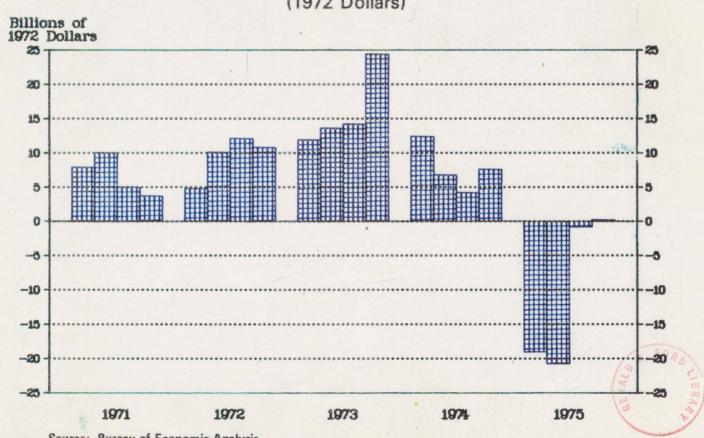
1250

1200

1150

A.1.1 - Change in Business Inventories

(1972 Dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis 26 January 1976

BILLIONS OF FINAL SALES

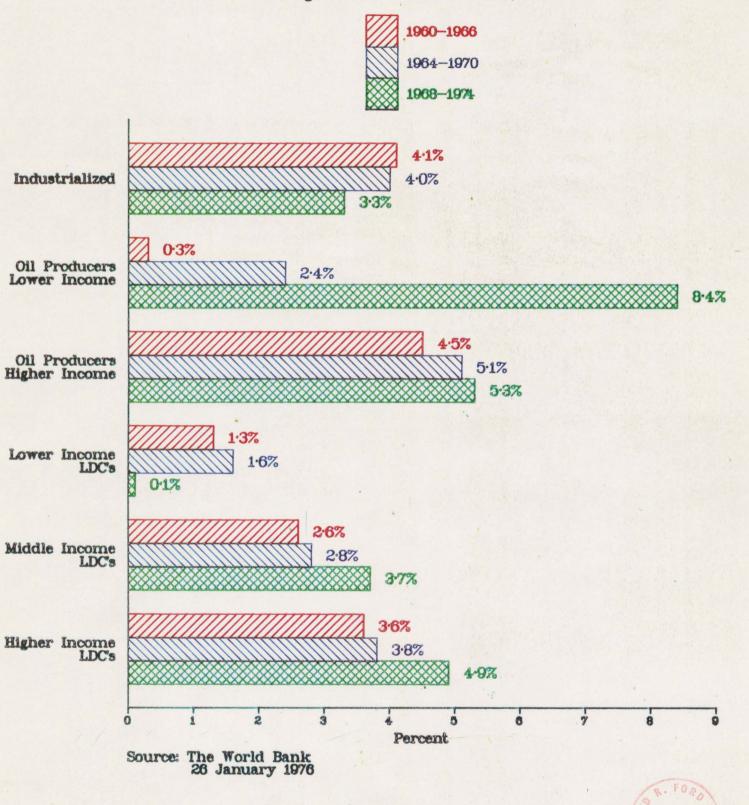
1972 DOLLARS

- Final Sales continued the moderate, steadily increasing pattern of growth which began in the second quarter, expanding at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.0 percent in the fourth quarter.
 - The fourth quarter level of \$1,217.2 billion is surpassed only by the mark of \$1,222.3 billion registered in 1973's third quarter.
- The recent large swings in Inventory Investment, which accounted for most of the third quarter's 12.0 percent overall rise in GNP, stabilized during the fourth quarter.
 - Up only \$1.0 billion (1972 dollars) compared to a \$19.9 billion increase in the third quarter.



A.1.1 - Per Capita Gross National Product by Country Group

Average Annual Growth Rate, Percent

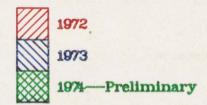


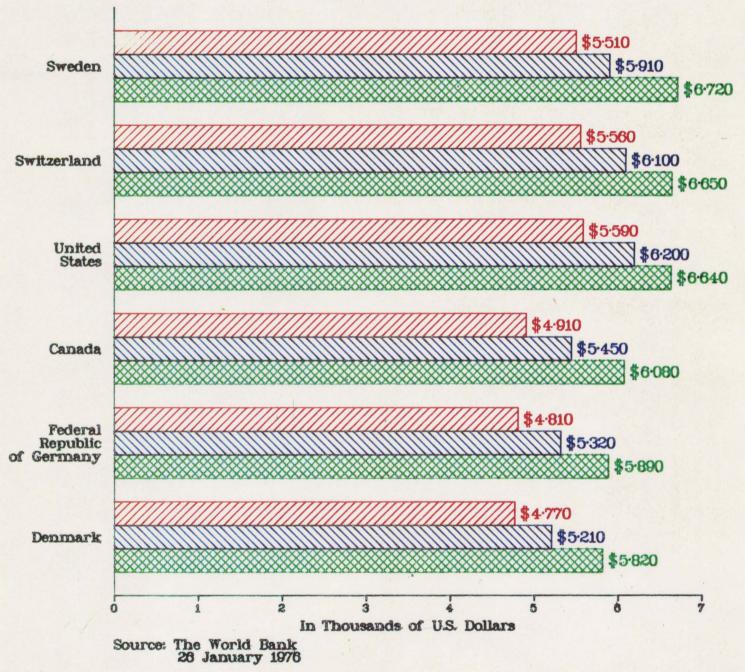
- The basic per capita Gross National Product picture depicted by the Atlas compilations is that the gaps in income and living standards between various regions of the world, and among the rich and the poor nations have continued to widen.
- •Annual per capita Gross National Product in the Industrialized Nations now averages about \$4,550, a steady gain of 3.3 percent over the 1968-1974 period, as against an actual decline for the poorest countries (mostly in Africa and Asia) where more than 1 billion persons live with an average per capita income of \$116.
- Per Capita Gross National Product (for much smaller dollar volumes) has been growing at a faster rate in the OPEC countries (8.4 percent in lower income countries and 5.3 percent in the higher income countries); in the middle income Less Developed Countries (LDC's) (3.7 percent); and in the higher income LDC's (4.9 percent) during the 1968-1974 period.



A.1.1 - Per Capita Gross National Product

Selected Industrial Nations

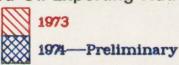


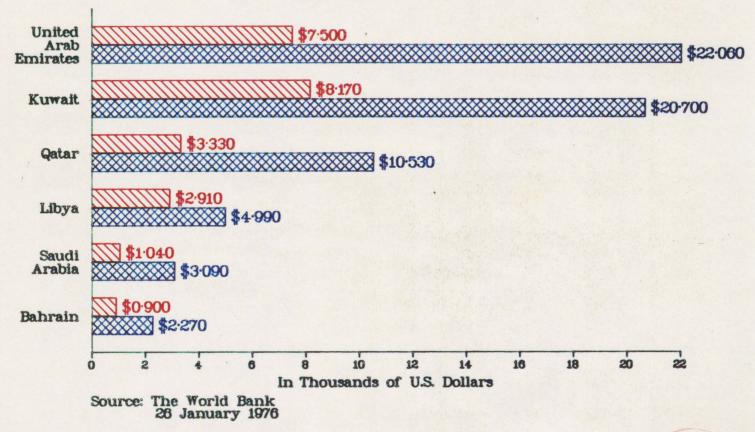




A.1.1 - Per Capita Gross National Product

Selected Oil-Exporting Nations

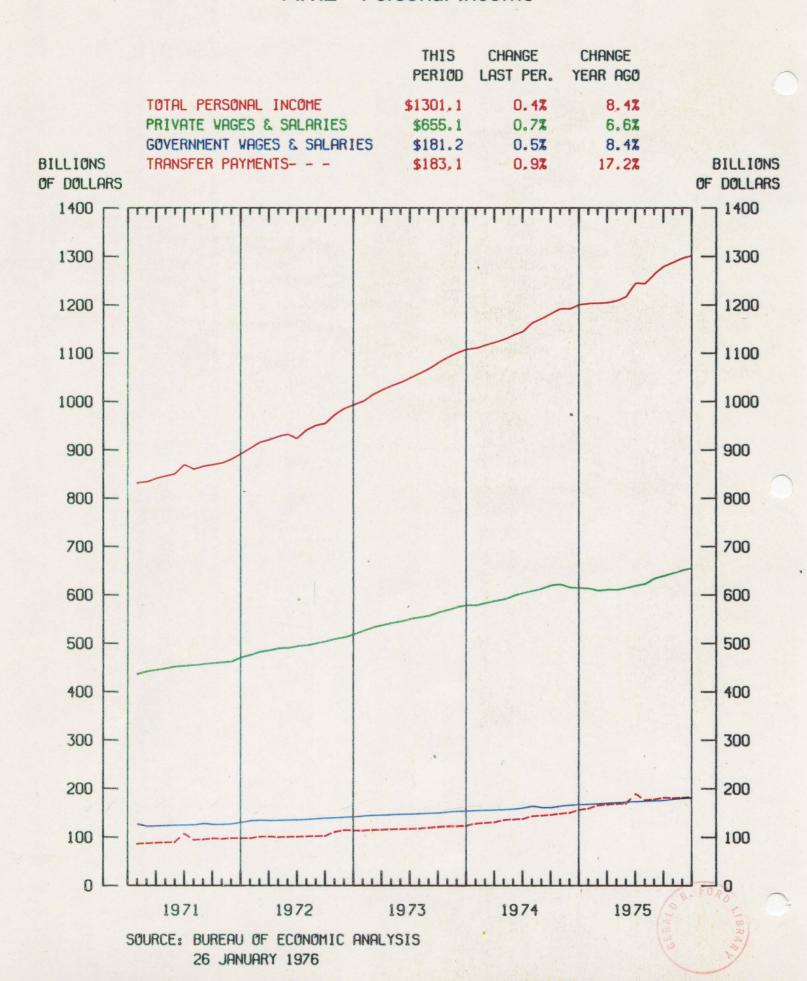




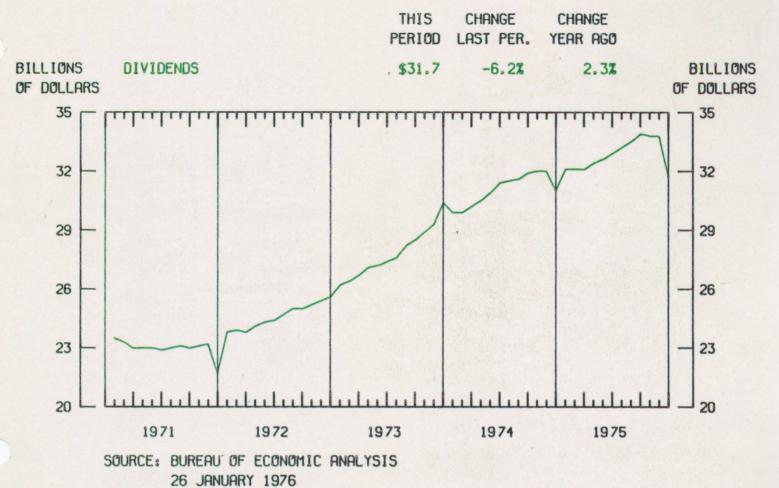
According to preliminary figures reported in the World Bank Atlas:

- The United States lost its leading rank among the world's industrial nations in per capita Gross National Product in 1974, falling behind Sweden and Switzerland.
 - Sweden rose 14 percent from 1973 to become the leader in per capita GNP in 1974.
 - Switzerland and the United States recorded gains of 9.0 percent and 7.1 percent, respectively.
 - Per capita Gross National Product in the selected Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) grew tremendously in 1974.
 - Using 1974 exchange rate conversions and 1974 prices for oil exports, the United Emirates' per capita Gross National Product came to \$22,060 and the Kuwait figure to \$20,700.

A.1.2 - Personal Income



A.1.2 - Personal Income



The rise in Personal Income slowed in December, up \$5.2 billion (0.4 percent) to an annual rate of \$1,301.1 billion.

Expanded 7.9 percent in all of 1975, compared to a 9.1 percent increase in consumer prices during 1975.

Private Industry Payrolls increased \$4.2 billion (0.7 percent), following November's \$5.8 billion (0.9 percent) increase.

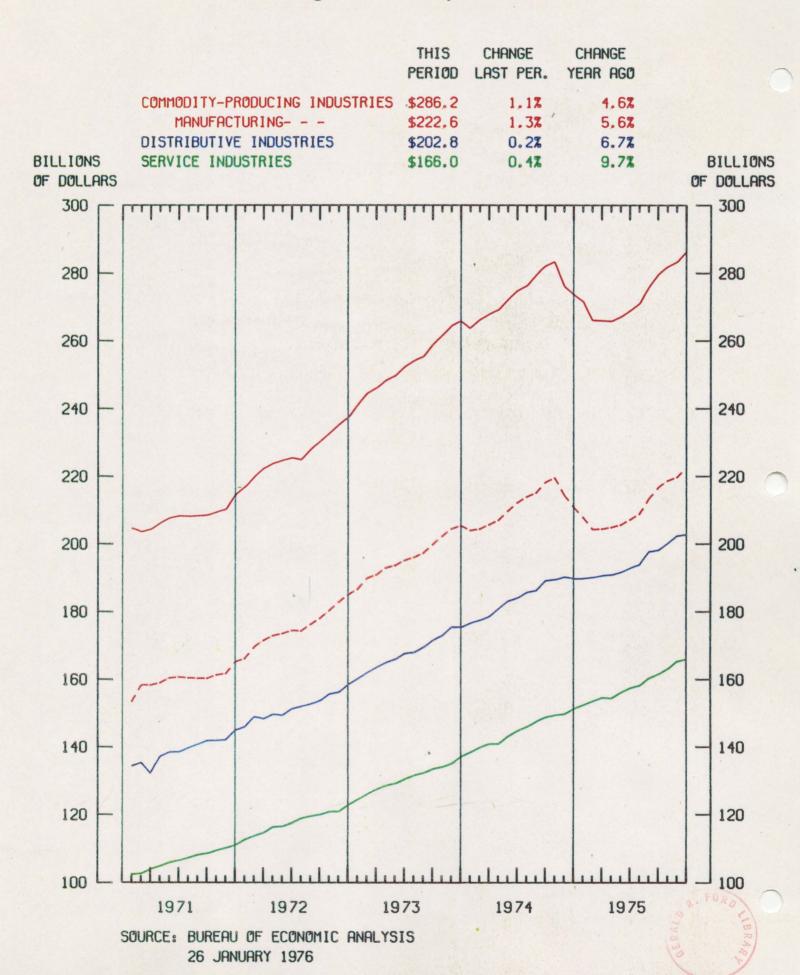
Since April, Private Wages and Salaries have increased at an average monthly rate of 0.9 percent.

Government Payrolls continued to rise, increasing \$0.9 billion (0.5 percent) in December.

Transfer Payments rose \$1.7 billion (0.9 percent) compared to November's \$800 million (0.4 percent) increase.

Dividend Income slumped \$2.1 billion (6.2 percent), with the drop reflecting a decline in regular December payments and a decrease in extra year-end payouts.

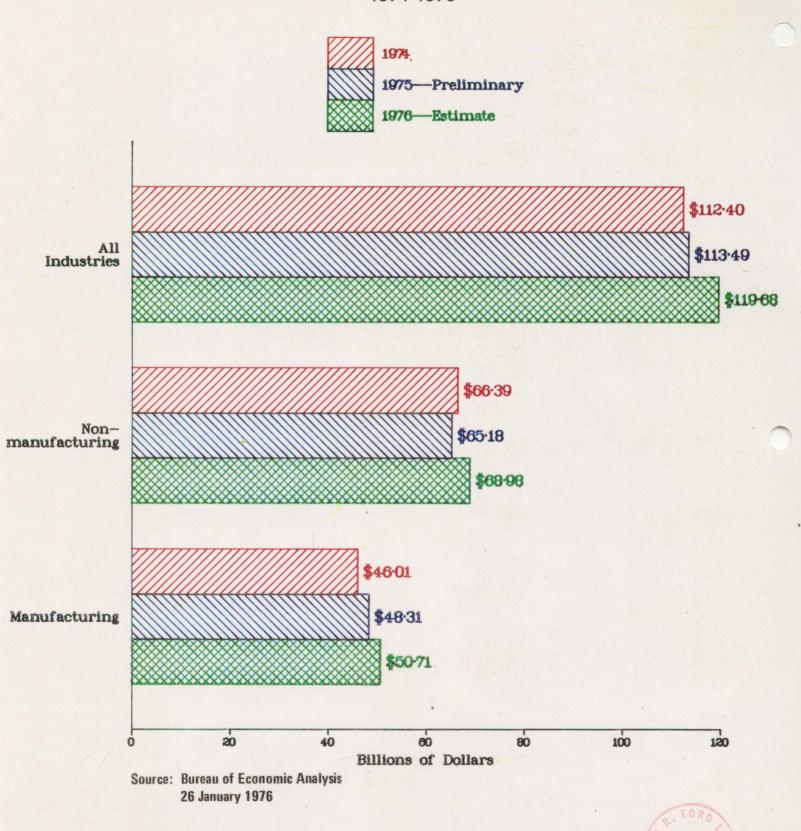
A.1.2 - Wage and Salary Disbursements



- Payrolls in Commodity-Producing Industries rose \$3.0 billion (1.1 percent), to a new record high of \$286.2 billion, surpassing the previous mark of \$283.3 billion recorded in October 1974.
- Payrolls in Manufacturing Industries rose at a faster pace in December, up \$2.9 billion (1.3 percent) compared to \$1.0 billion (0.5 percent) in November.
- Distributive Industry Payrolls slowed, rising \$0.4 billion (0.2 percent) in December following an increase of \$2.2 billion (1.1 percent) in November.
 - Recorded consecutive monthly increases throughout 1975.
- Payrolls of Service Industries also slowed, up \$0.7 billion (0.4 percent) in December.
 - Total increase of 9.4 percent for all of 1975.

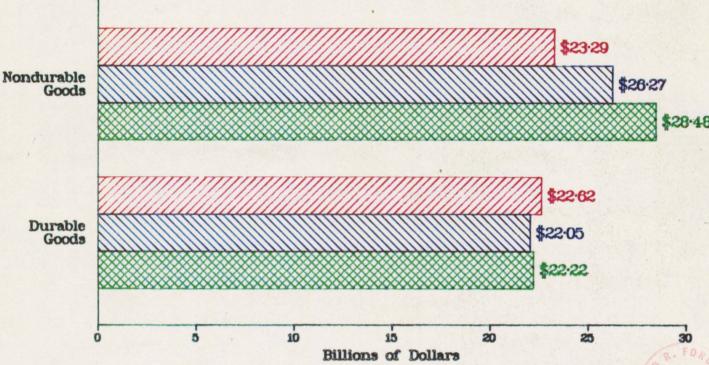


A.1.5 - New Plant and Equipment Expenditures By U.S. Business 1974-1976



Durable and Nondurable Goods 1974 1975—Preliminary

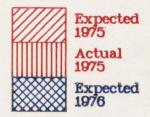
1976—Estimate

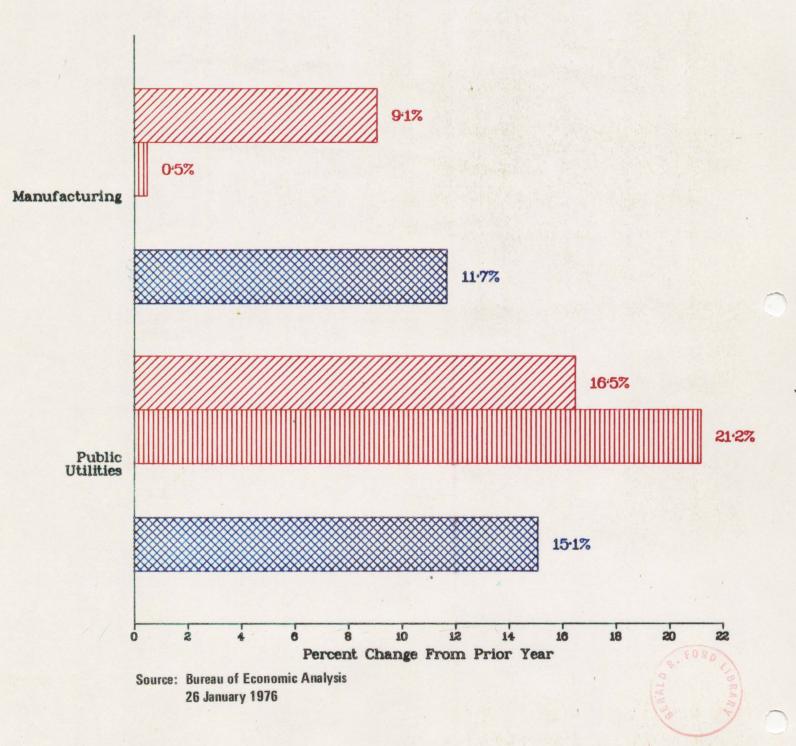


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis 26 January 1976

- U.S. businesses expect to spend \$119.68 billion for new Plant and Equipment in 1976, 5.5 percent above 1975, which suggests a decline in real investment of about 4 percent.
 - Spending in 1975 is estimated at \$113.49 billion, a 1 percent increase over 1974.
 - In real terms (adjusting for price changes), incomplete estimates indicate that investment declined at least 10 percent in 1975.
- Manufacturers project spending this year at \$50.71 billion, up 5 percent from the preliminary \$48.31 billion of 1975 when spending rose 5 percent.
 - The investment slump is accounted for by producers of Durable Goods where investment has stagnated at the 1974 level.
- Nonmanufacturers expect capital spending this year to total \$68.98 billion, up 5.8 percent from the \$65.18 billion estimated for 1975 when spending fell 1.8 percent.

A.1.5 - Percent Change in Business Sales



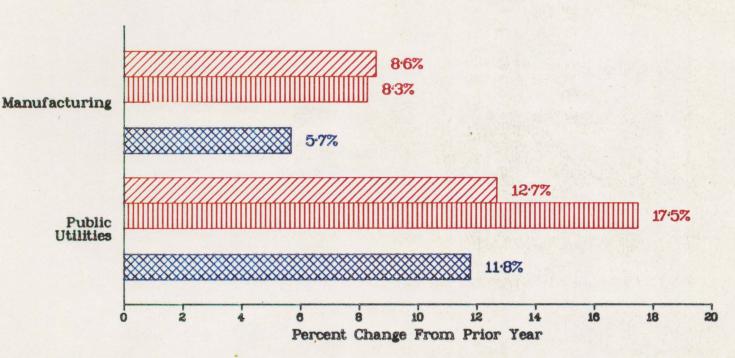


- Manufacturers expect their sales to increase 11.7 percent in 1976.
 - Strong increases are expected by producers of Primary Metals (19.6), Chemicals (15.9), and Paper Products (15.2), accounting for a large proportion of the overall increase.
 - Manufacturers overestimated 1975 sales, expecting a 9.1 percent increase while actually recording a 0.5 percent gain.
- Public Utilities look for a 15 percent rise in revenues in 1976.
 - Actual 1975 sales rose at a faster pace than anticipated in December 1974, 21.2 percent and 16.5 percent, respectively.



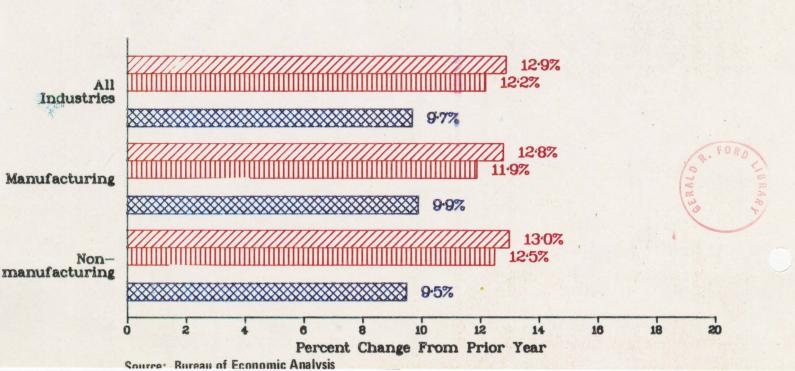
A.1.5 - Estimated Changes in Prices of Products and Services





A.1.5 - Estimated Changes in Prices of Capital Goods Purchased



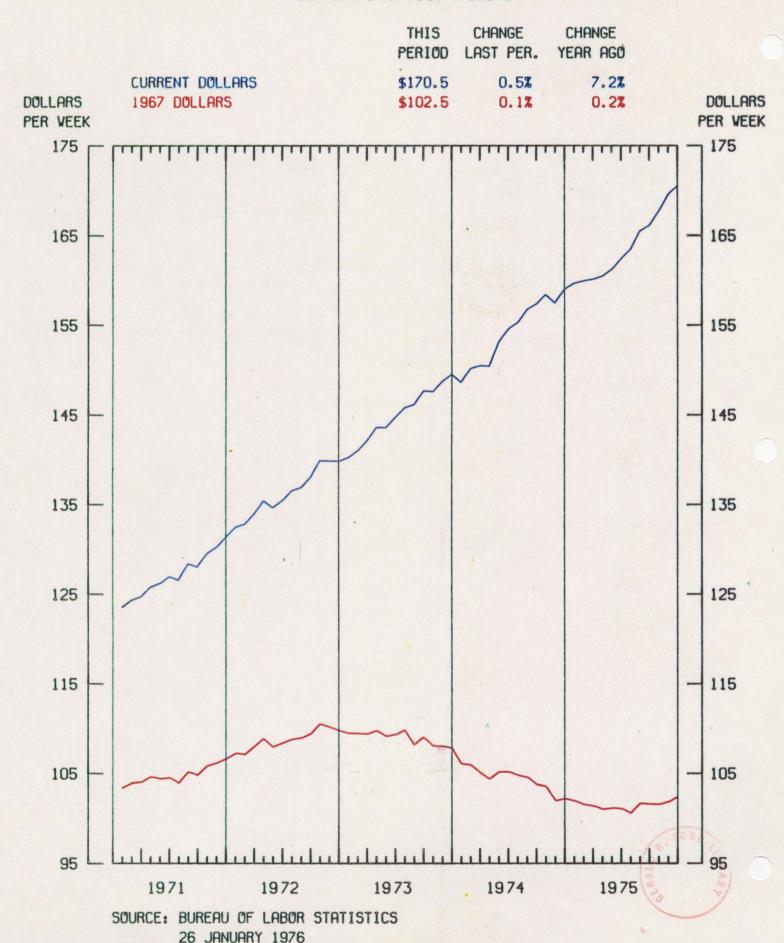


- Both Manufacturing and Public Utilities expect the prices of their products and services to rise at a slower rate in 1976 than last year.
 - Manufacturers expect their selling prices to rise 5.7 percent in 1976; they reported that prices rose about 8.3 percent in 1975 -about the same as they had anticipated a year ago.
 - Public Utilities expect rates to rise 11.8 percent in 1976, compared with a 17.5 percent rise reported for 1975.
- Business expects Capital Goods prices to increase 9.7 percent in 1976, a slower rate than in 1975.



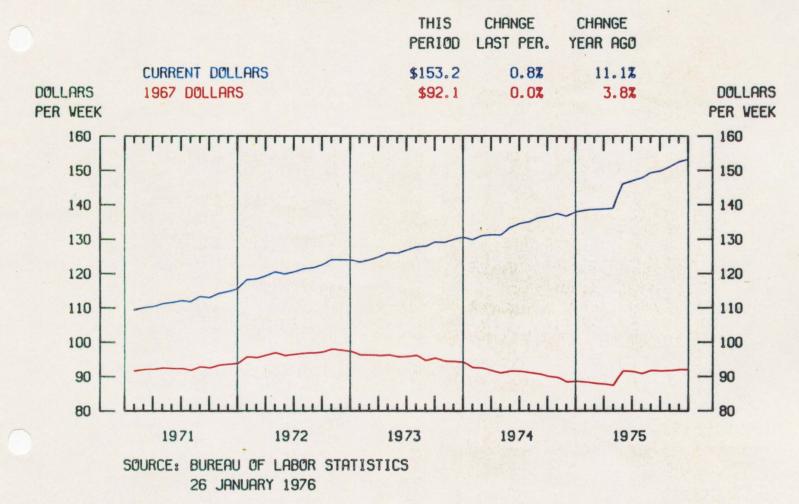
A.3.4 - Gross Average Weekly Earnings

In Current and 1967 Dollars



A.3.4 - Spendable Average Weekly Earnings

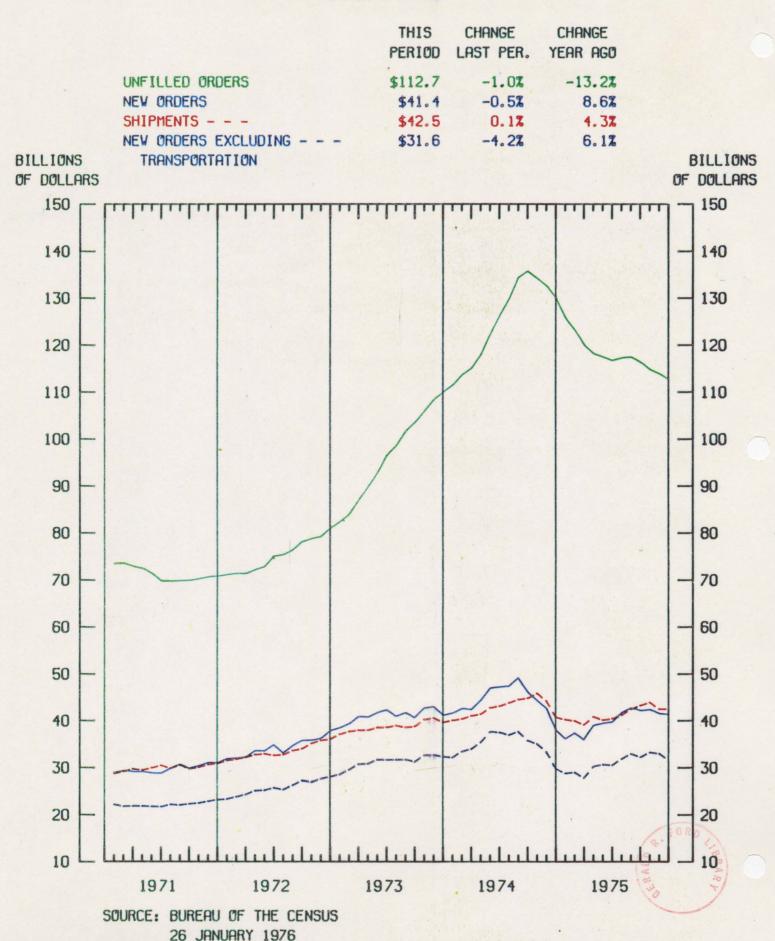
In Current and 1967 Dollars



- Real Gross Weekly Earnings (1967 dollars) edged up 0.1 percent to a 1975 high of \$102.45.
 - Highest level since October 1974.
 - Gross Weekly Earnings (current dollars) continued to rise, hitting a 1975 peak of \$170.46.
- Real Spendable Earnings (1967 dollars) were virtually unchanged from November, but stood 3.8 percent over last December.
 - Since May, when the provisions of the Income Tax Act went into effect, there has been little change in Real Spendable Earnings.

A.4.4 - Manufacturers' Shipments and Orders

Durable Goods



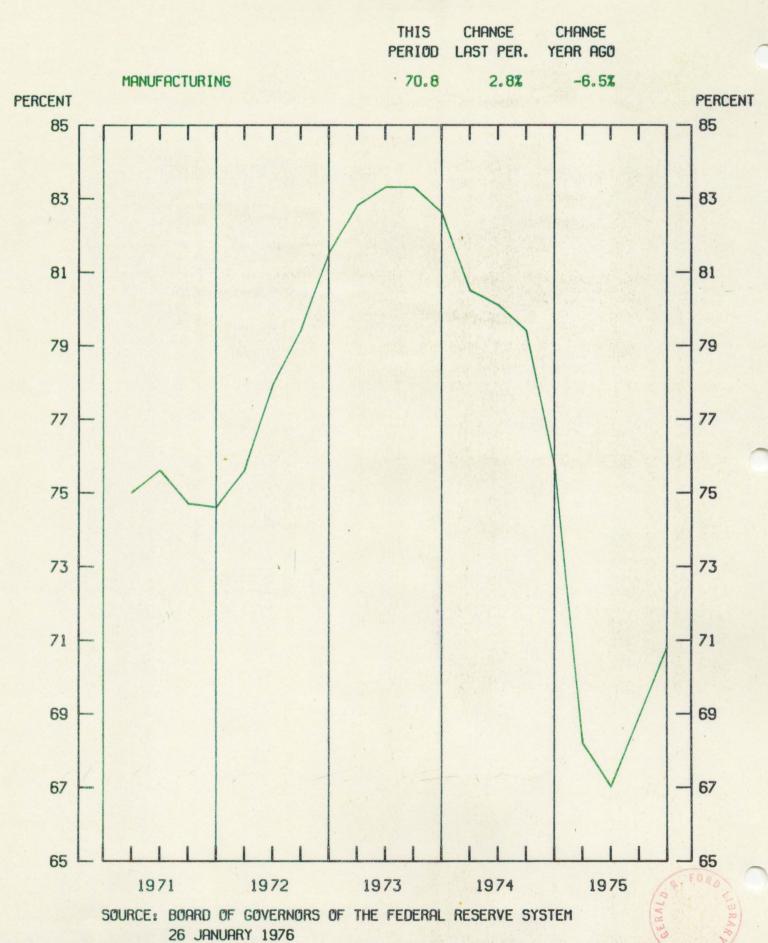
- New Orders for Durable Goods edged down in December, \$215 million, or 0.5 percent.
 - Exclusive of Transportation, New Orders for Durable Goods were down \$1.4 billion, or 4.2 percent.
- Durable Goods Shipments rose 0.1 percent in December after a 3.2 percent decline in November.
- Unfilled Orders declined \$1.2 billion as the level of Shipments continued to exceed New Orders for the fourth consecutive month.

NOTE: The December estimates are subject to greater error than normal due to a much lower response rate. Many companies have yearend closings of their records which caused delays in filing their reports to the Census Bureau.



A.4.5 - Percent of Capacity Utilization

Total Manufacturing



A.4.5 - Percent of Capacity Utilization

Selected Components

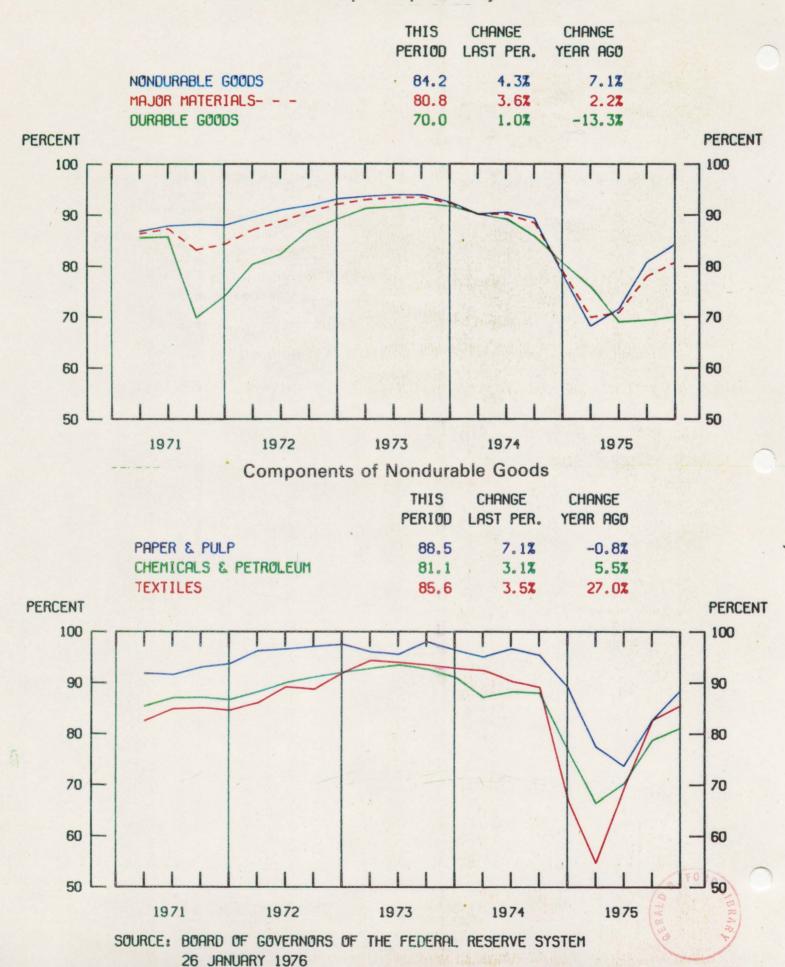
		THIS PERIOD	CHANGE LAST PER.	CHANGE YEAR AGO	
	PRIMARY PROCESSING INDUSTRIES ADVANCED PROCESSING INDUSTRIES	74.0 69.0	5.1%	-6.3% -6.6%	
PERCENT					PERCENT
95					7 7 95
90 -					90
85 —					- 85
80 -		1	24		- 80
75 —		100	September 1		75
70 -		and and			70
65		411			- 65
60 L L					J J 60
	1971 1972 19	73	1974	1975	

SOURCE: BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM 26 JANUARY 1976

- Capacity Utilization in Manufacturing rose 2.8 percent to a rate of 70.8 percent of capacity in 1975's final quarter, up from 68.9 percent in the third quarter.
 - · Highest operating rate in a year.
 - Second consecutive quarterly increase, totaling 5.7 percent.
- The overall increase was concentrated in Primary Processing Industries which rose 5.1 percent to a 1975 high of 74 percent.
 - Capacity Utilization of Advanced Processing Industries increased
 1.5 percent to a 1975 high of 69 percent.

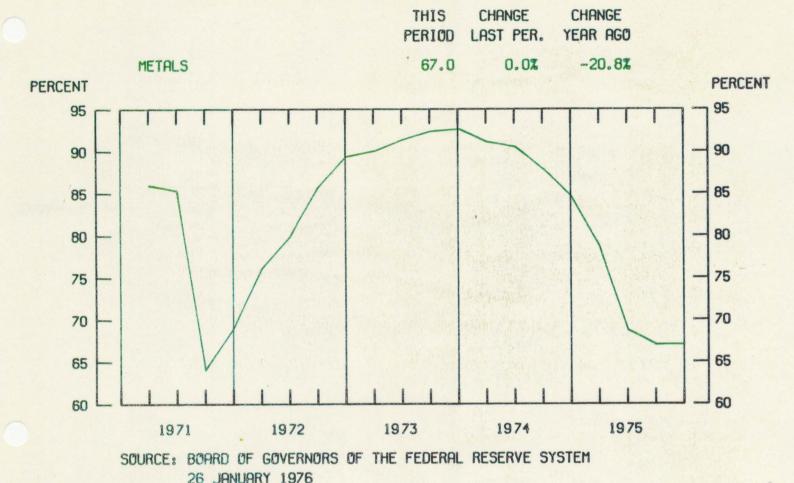
A.4.5 - Percent of Capacity Utilization

Selected Industry Groups of Major Materials



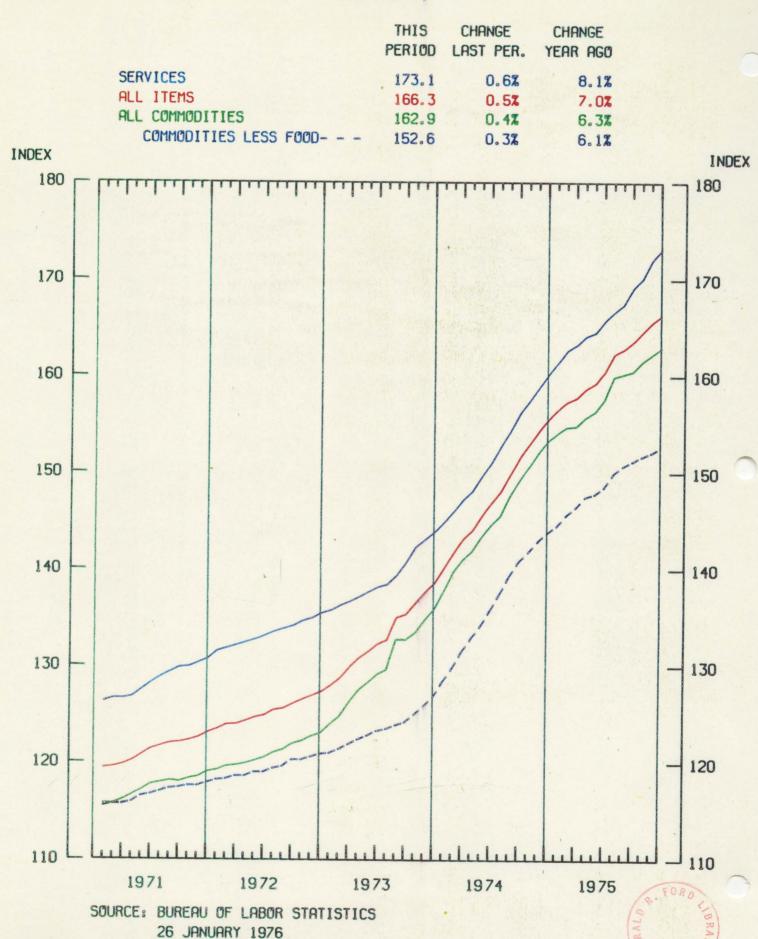
A.4.5 - Percent of Capacity Utilization

Components of Durable Goods



- The operating rate in 13 Major Materials Industries rose to a level of 80.8 percent, up 3.6 percent from the third quarter.
 - Pace slowed from third quarter when increase totaled 10 percent.
- Nondurable Goods Industries accounted for the majority of the overall increase, rising 4.3 percent.
 - A major factor in the Nondurable Goods increase was Paper and Pulp, which advanced 7.1 percent.
- Durable Goods recorded another gradual increase, up 1.0 percent in the fourth quarter compared with 0.4 percent in the previous quarter.
 - Metals remained unchanged; however, it was the first time since the fourth quarter of 1973 that Metals had not declined.

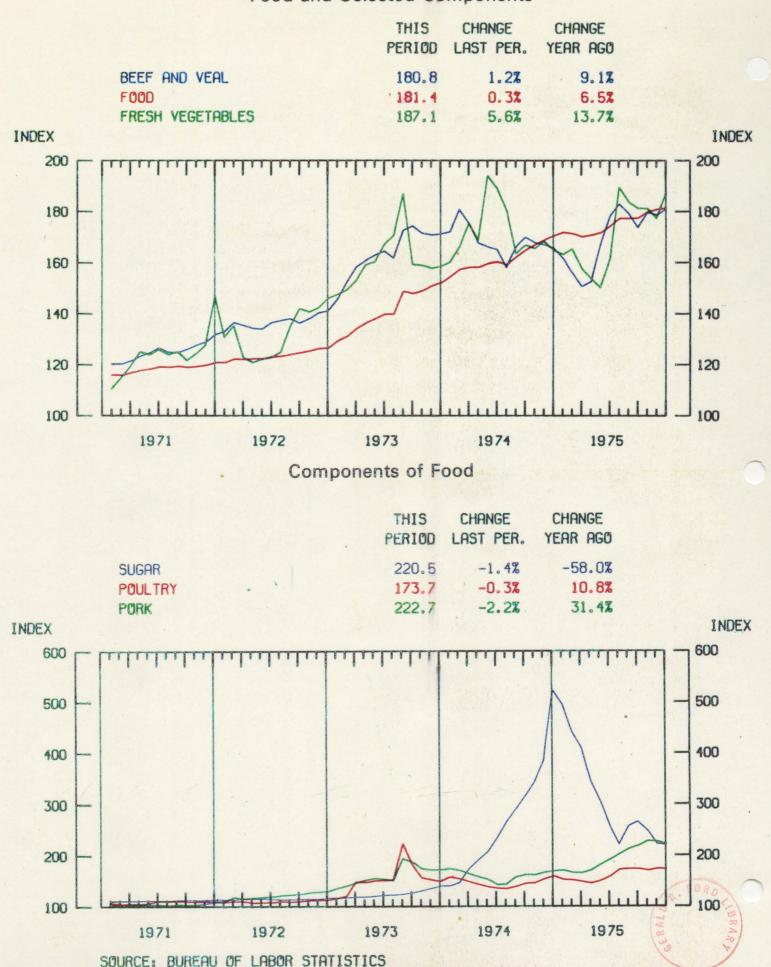
A.6.1 - Consumer Price Index (1967=100)



- The rise in the Consumer Price Index for All Items slowed in December, increasing 0.5 percent.
 - The smallest increase since September chiefly reflected a slowdown in the rise in Food prices, another moderate gain in Non-Food items, and a smaller rise in Services.
 - 7.0 percent above December 1974; however, the average for all of 1975 was 9.1 percent higher than the 1974 average.
- Services rose 0.6 percent after recording the largest increase of the year in November.
 - Up 8.1 percent since last December.
- Commodities Less Food continued the pace of the last 3 months, rising 0.3 percent.



A.6.1 - Consumer Price Index Food and Selected Components

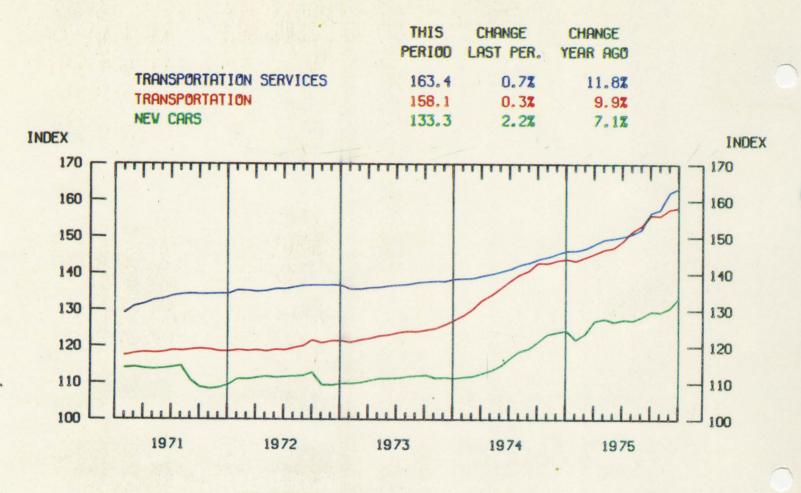


26 JANUARY 1976

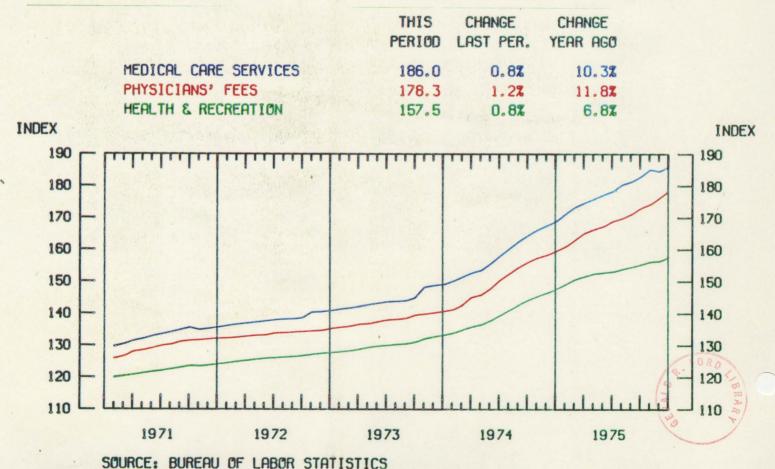
- The slower rise in the Food Index reflected a general moderation in price increases for most foods.
 - Pork, Poultry, and Sugar prices declined slightly from November.
 - During November-December, Pork prices have retreated somewhat from the record level of 228.4 established in October.
 - Fresh Vegetable prices were up 5.6 percent following 4 months of decline.



A.6.1 - Consumer Price Index Transportation



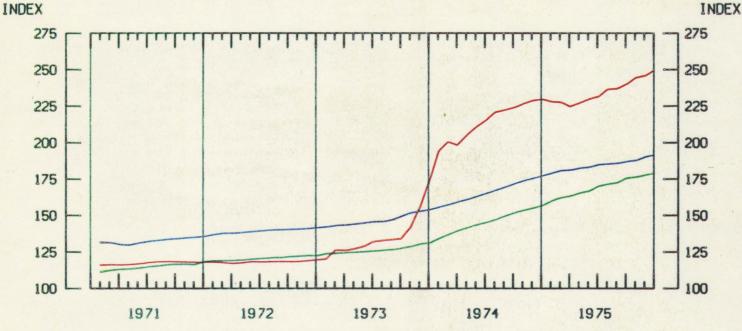
Health and Recreation (1967-100)



A.6.1 - Consumer Price Index

Housing Components

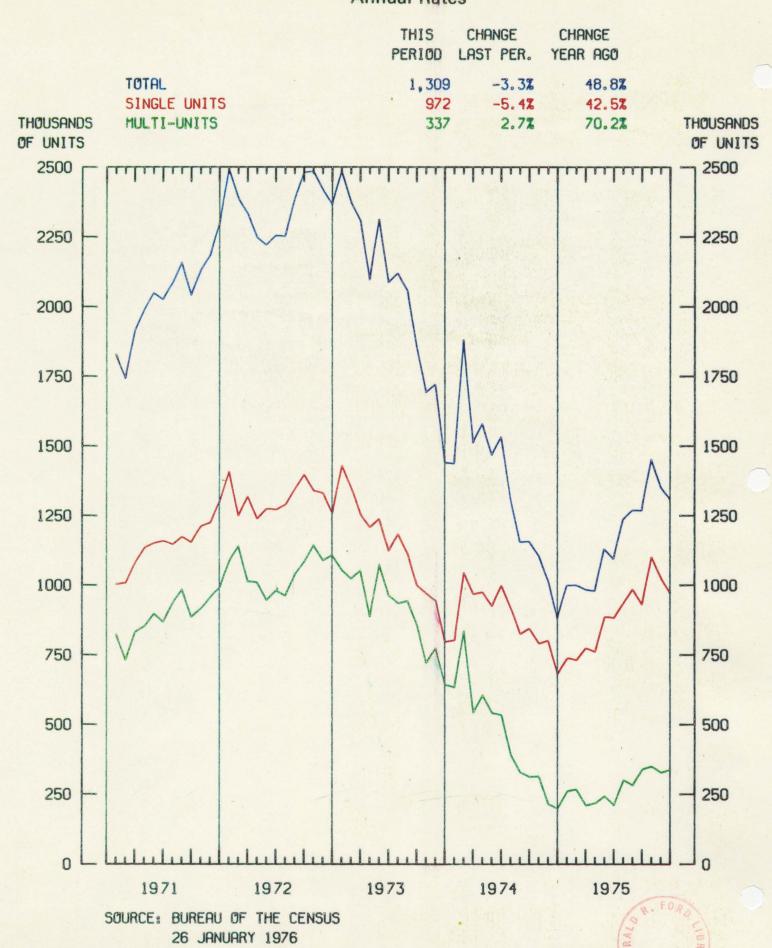
	THIS PERIOD	CHANGE LAST PER.	CHANGE YEAR AGO
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES LESS RENT	191.2	0.7%	8.1%
FUEL OIL & COAL	249.7	1.5%	8.7%
GAS & ELECTRICITY	178.6	0.6%	14.2%



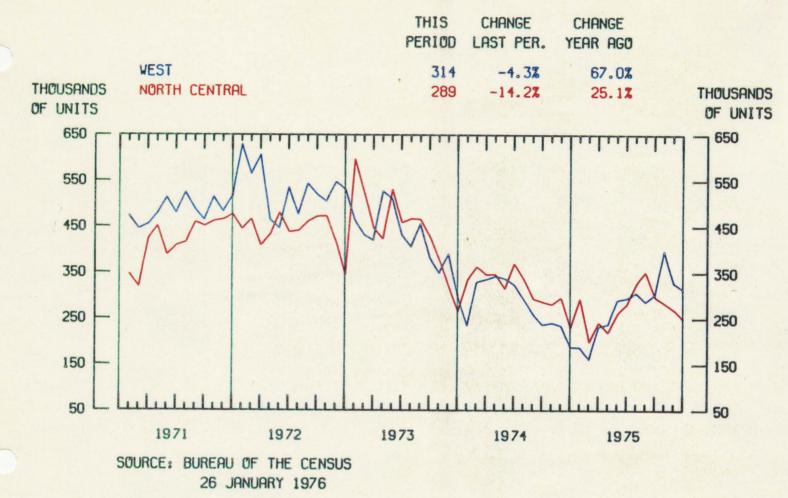
SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS 26 JANUARY 1976

- Transportation costs moved up 0.3 percent in December compared to 1.1 percent in November
 - The New Car index was 2.2 percent higher than last month, continuing to reflect the introduction of 1976 model cars.
- Health and Recreation cost 0.8 percent more in December after rising only 0.1 percent in November.
 - Medical Care Services and Physicians fees were the major contributors to the increase.
- Housing expenses increased, but more moderately than in November.
 - Fuel and Utility costs continued to increase faster than any other Housing components.

A.7.1 - Privately-Owned Housing Units Started
Annual Rates

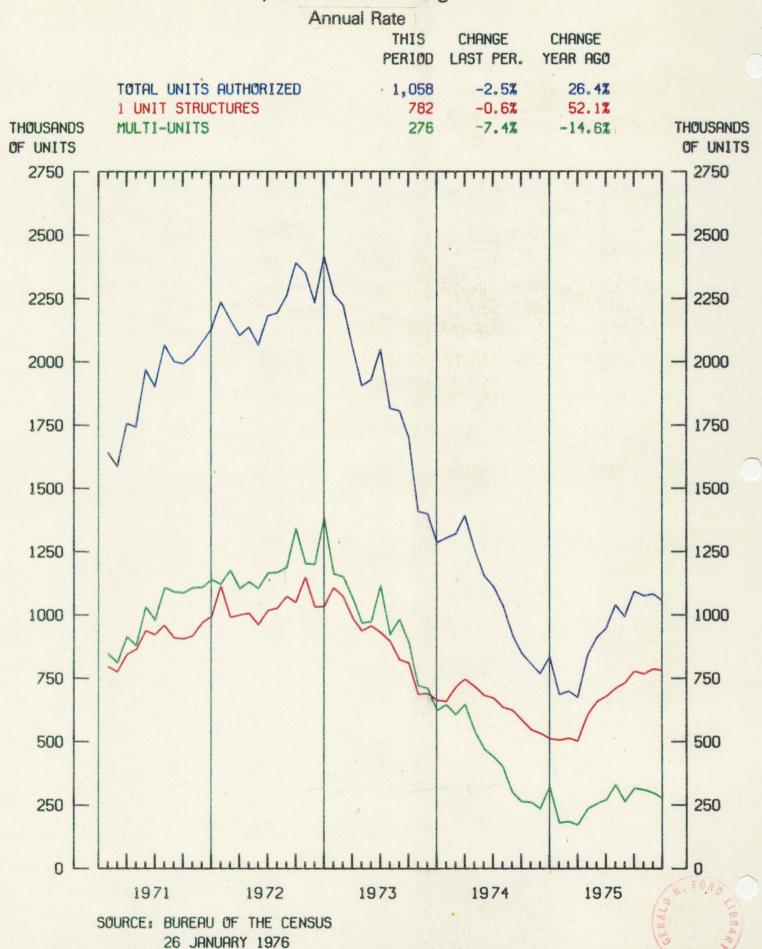


A.7.1 - Privately-Owned Housing Units Started By Region

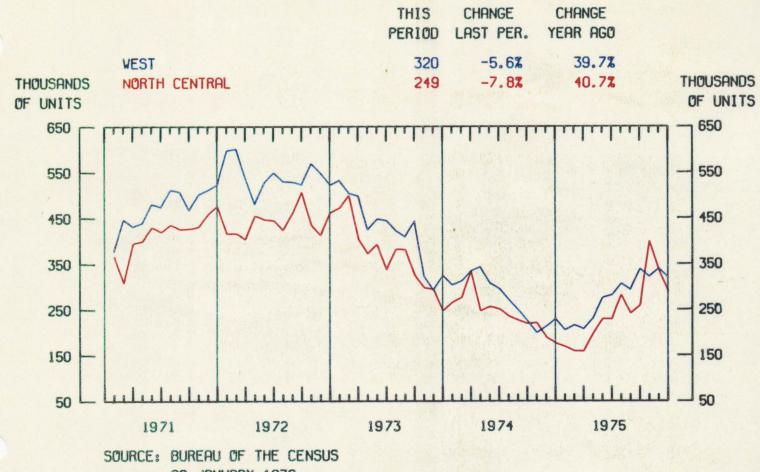


- Privately-Owned Housing Starts in December fell 3.3 percent to an annual rate of 1,309,000 units.
 - Lowest monthly pace since September, but 48.8 percent above the December 1974 rate of 880,000.
 - Housing Starts for all of 1975 totaled 1,161,500 units, 13 percent below the 1974 total of 1,337,700 units and the lowest calendar year total since 1946 when 1,015,000 units were started.
 - One-Unit Structures accounted for the decrease, dropping 5.4 percent in December following a similar decline in November.
 - Multi-Unit Starts rebounded somewhat, increasing 2.7 percent to an annual rate of 337,000 units.
- Regionally, the North Central was responsible for most of the decline in Housing Starts, dropping 14.2 percent to a level of 289,000 units.

A./.1 - Building Permits Issued for Privately-Owned Housing Units in 14,000 Permit-Issuing Places



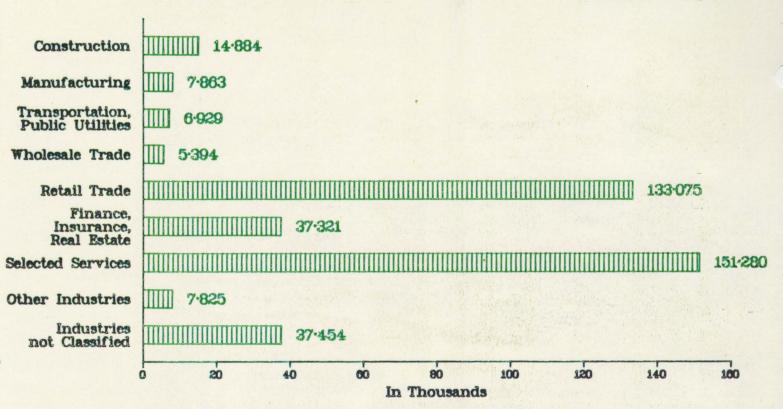
A.7.1 - Building Permits Issued By Region



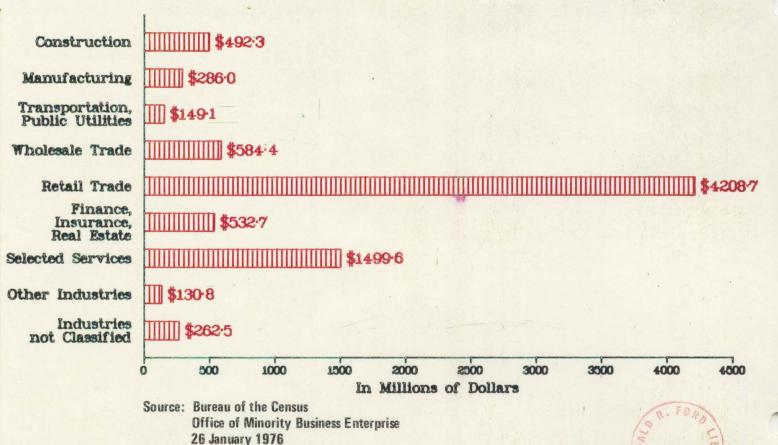
- 26 JANUARY 1976
- Total Authorizations fell for the second time in the past 3 months, down 2.5 percent to an annual rate of 1,058,000 units.
 - For 1975 as a whole, there were 916,800 new privately-owned housing units authorized, a 14 percent decline from 1974 and the lowest since 1957 when the current reporting system was initiated.
 - One-Unit Structures slid 0.6 percent to 782,000 units; however, they were up 52 percent from last December.
 - Multi-Units dropped 7.4 percent, down 14.6 percent from last year.

 The North Central and the West accounted for the decline, dropping 7.8 and 5.6 percent, respectively.

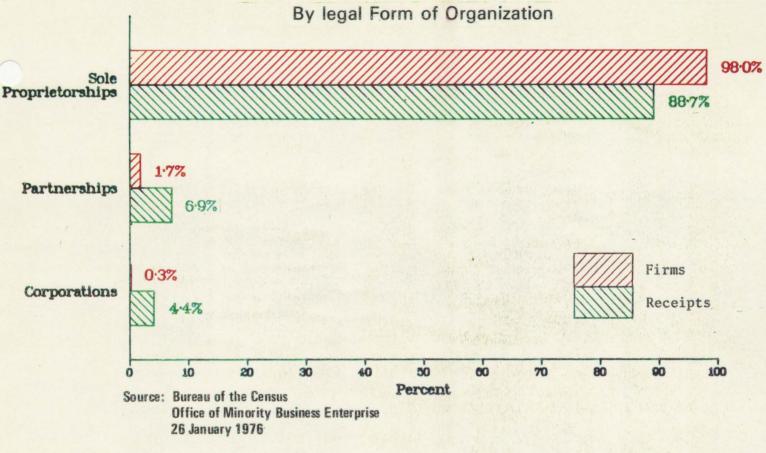
C.2.1 - Number of Women-Owned Firms by Industry: 1972



Receipts of Women-Owned Firms by Industry: 1972



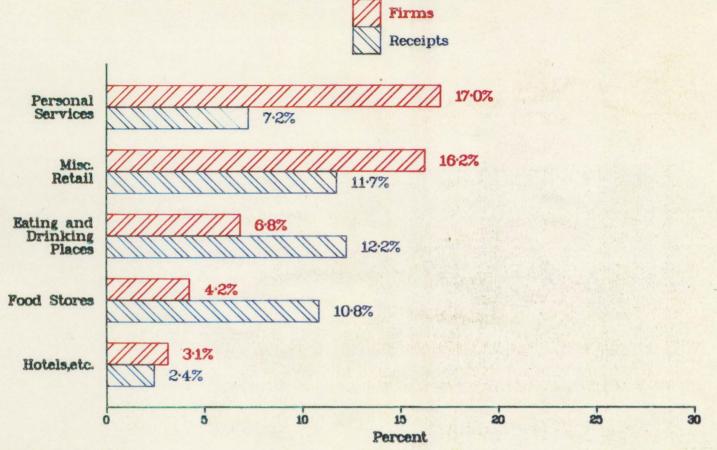
C.2.1 - Percent Distribution of Women-Owned Firms: 1972



- Survey results indicate that women-owned businesses are characteristically sole proprietorships and concentrated in industries which normally do not generate a large volume of receipts per firm.
 - The volume of business conducted by women-owned firms represented a small fraction of the total business activity. The 402,000 women-owned firms represented only 4.6 percent of all U.S. firms (8,730,000) while receipts of women-owned firms -- \$8.1 billion-represented but 0.3 percent of all receipts (\$2,381.2 billion).
 - Highly concentrated in selected services and retail trade, accounting for 71 percent of all firms and 70 percent of all receipts.
 - The majority (98 percent) of women-owned firms operated as sole proprietorships in 1972 and represented 88.7 percent of gross receipts.
- Only 13 percent of women-owned firms were employer firms (i.e., having one paid employee or more). These employer firms accounted for 57 percent of total receipts.

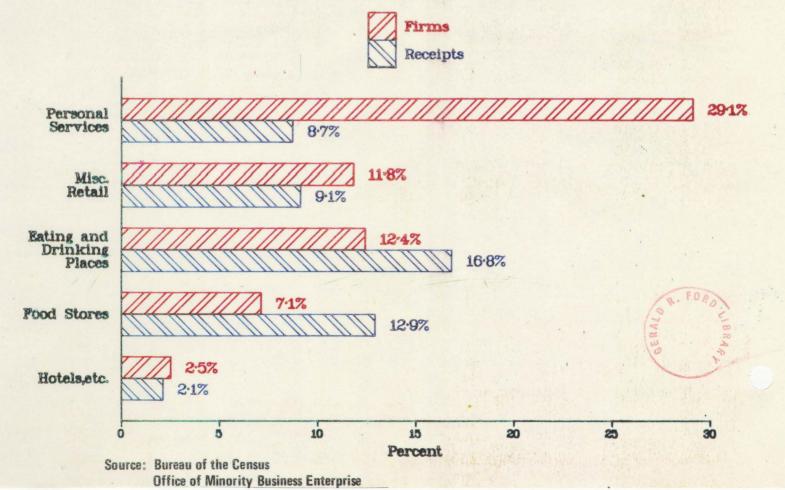
C.2.1 - Percent Distribution of Women-Owned Firms: 1972

By Selected Industry Groups



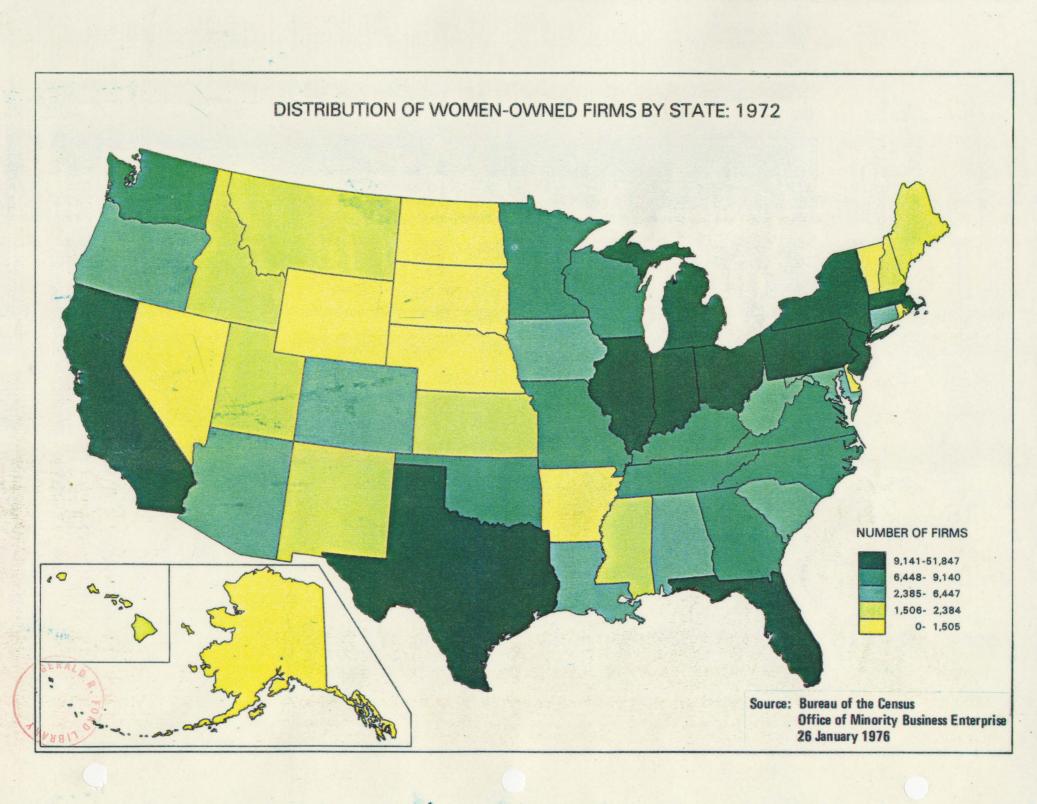
C.2.1 - Percent Distribution of Minority Women-Owned Firms: 19.2

By Selected Industry Groups



- Most of the women-owned businesses were engaged in various services or retailing.
 - Largest dollar volume among major industry groups was in Eating and Drinking Places, Miscellaneous Retail, and Food Stores, which accounted for a total of 34.7 percent of total receipts.
 - Personal Services and Miscellaneous Retail represented 33.2 percent of all firms.
- In 1972, 33,810 minority firms were owned by women with receipts of \$837 million.
 - Largest dollar volume recorded in Eating and Drinking Places and Food Stores, representing 29.7 percent.
 - · Personal Services alone accounted for 29.1 percent of all firms.

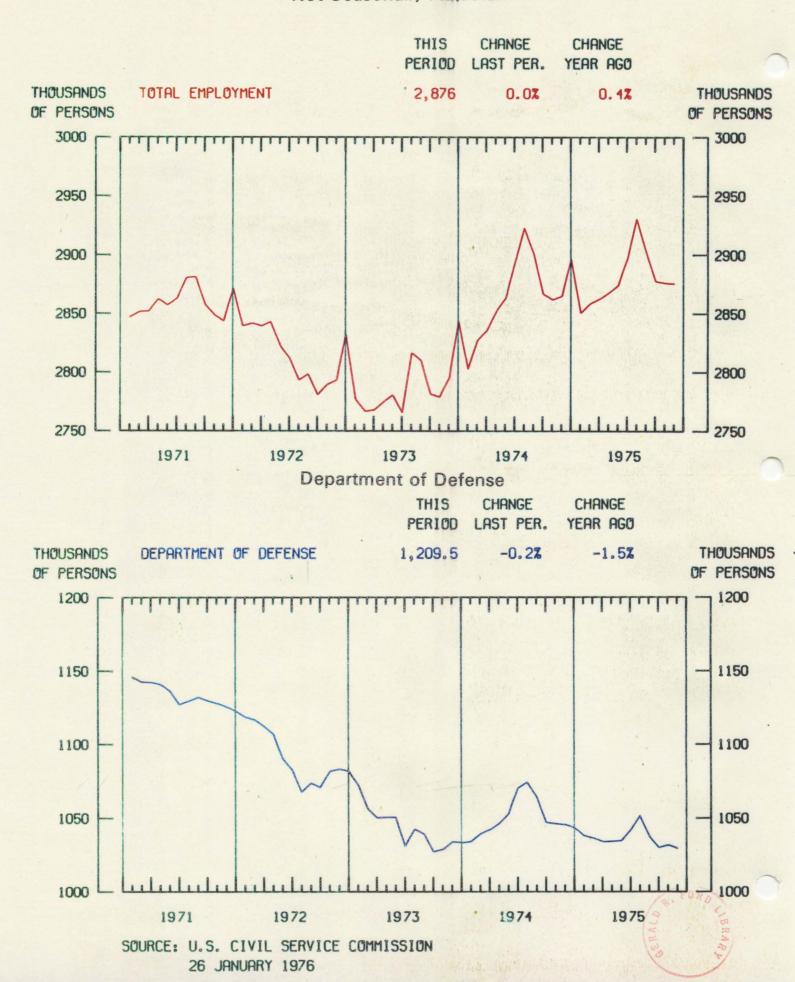




- In 1972, 39 percent of women-owned firms with 38 percent of the gross receipts was concentrated in California, New York, Texas, Illinois, and Ohio (those States with high population concentrations).
 - © California had 51,847 women-owned firms with gross receipts of \$983 million, the largest in number of firms and gross receipts in any State.
 - •Nebraska ranked last in the number of firms -- 560 -- and in gross receipts -- \$13 million.
- The largest number of women-owned firms was located in the East North Central division with 73,698 firms and \$1,542 million in gross receipts.
 - The lowest number of firms and receipts were concentrated in the Mountain division (20,336 firms and \$383 million in gross receipts).

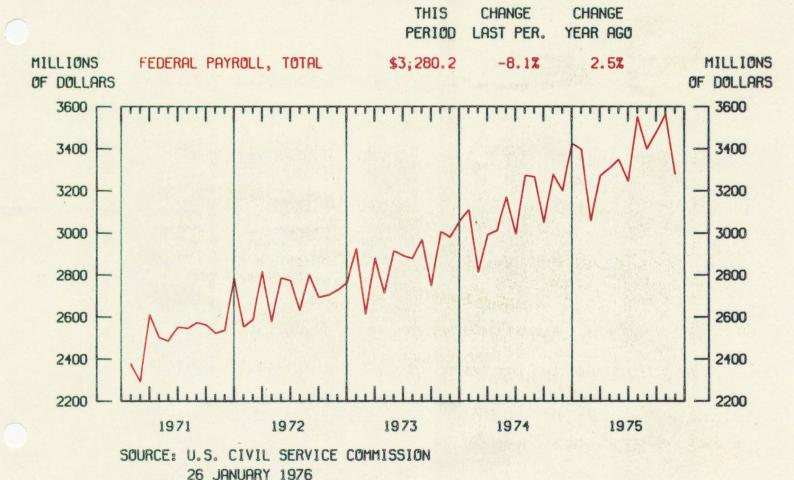


C.3.1 - Federal Civilian Employment Not Seasonally Adjusted



C.3.1 - Federal Civilian Payroll

Not Seasonally Adjusted



- Federal Civilian Employment remained virtually unchanged for the second month in a row in November after posting sharper than normal seasonal declines in August and September.
 - Down 1.9 percent from July's peak of 2,931,000.
 - Department of Defense employment, which accounted for 36.7 percent of total employment in November, declined for the third time in 4 months.
 - Down 6.4 percent since the July peak.
- Federal Civilian Payroll dropped 8.1 percent in November after posting a new high in October.