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THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

April 15, 1976

#### MEMORANDUM FOR BILL BAROODY

Attached is this week's copy

of the Weekly Briefing Notes.

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#### April 12,1976

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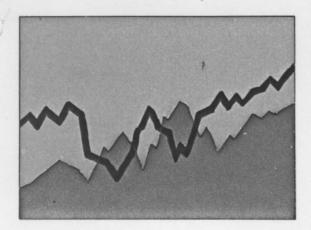
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# WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES ON U.S. DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

Prepared for the President and the Vice President



**APRIL 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

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#### **Hourly Earnings of Production Workers**

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#### **Crime Reports**

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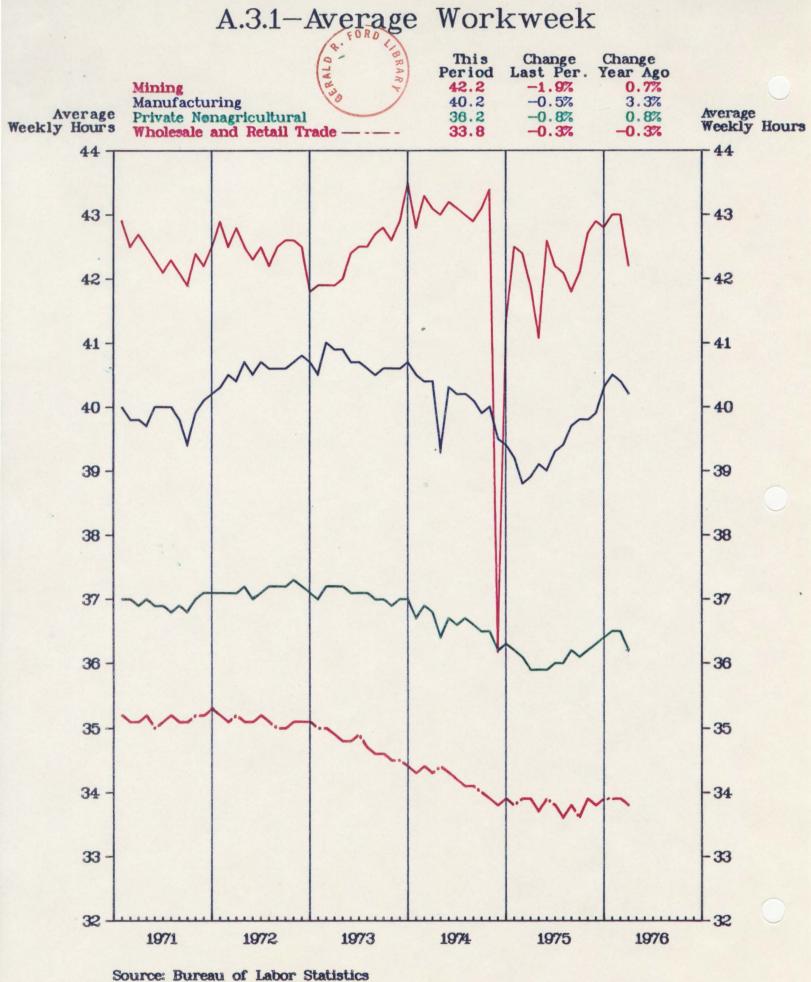
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SERI	ES	WÉEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECT	ION C-Government Activity (Continued)	-	-	0	1	
Part 3	-Government Operation					
C.3.1	Federal Employment — Employees — Payroll		X X			
C.3.2	State and Local Employment and Finances — Employees		X X			
SECT	ION D-Environment, Science, Culture					
Part 1-	-Environment					
D.1.1	Air Quality — Amount of Pollutants Released Into the Atmosphere				x x	x
D.1.2	Water Quality – Miles of Streams Meeting EPA Standards – Oil Spills, Fish Kills				x x	
D.1.3	Hazardous Substances – Estimated Amounts Produced – Concentration in Biosphere				x x	
D.1.4	Ecological Balances – Endangered Species (Plant and Animal) – Critical Areas (Coastal Zones) – Land/People Density			•	x x	x
Part 2-	-Science					
D.2.1	Professionals in Scientific Fields — By Specialty — Person Years of Scientists, Engineers Engaged in R&D				x x	
D.2.2	Expenditures for Research and Development Private Industry				x x	
D.2.3	Science Achievement in Schools — Secondary Schools — Higher Education					x x

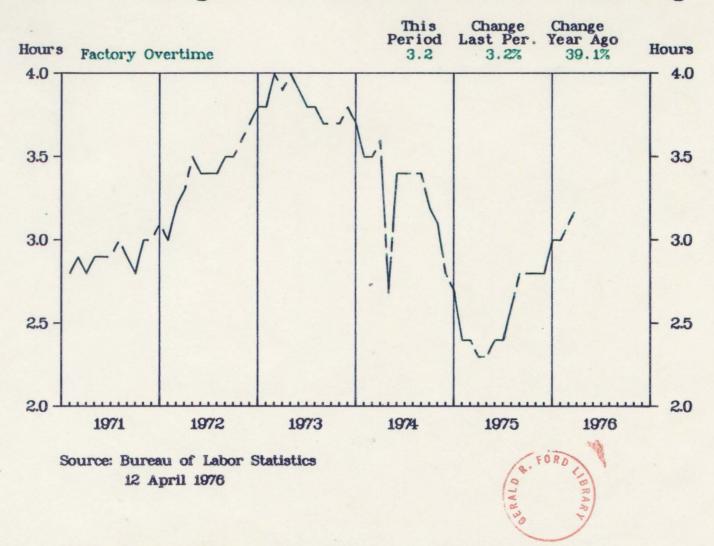
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	4. FORD LIA					
SERII	ES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECT	ION D—Environment, Science, Culture	N	2	ð	A	0
D.2.4	Public Attitudes Towards Science and Technology				x	
Part 3-	-Culture					
D.3.1	Persons Employed in Artistic Professions - By Type					x
D.3.2	*					X
D.3.3			5			
	— Voluntary Organizations				X X	×
D.3.4	Attendance at Cultural Events — Plays, Galleries, Motion Pictures — Concerts, Museums, etc.				X	
SECT	ION E—Selected Subjects					
				·		



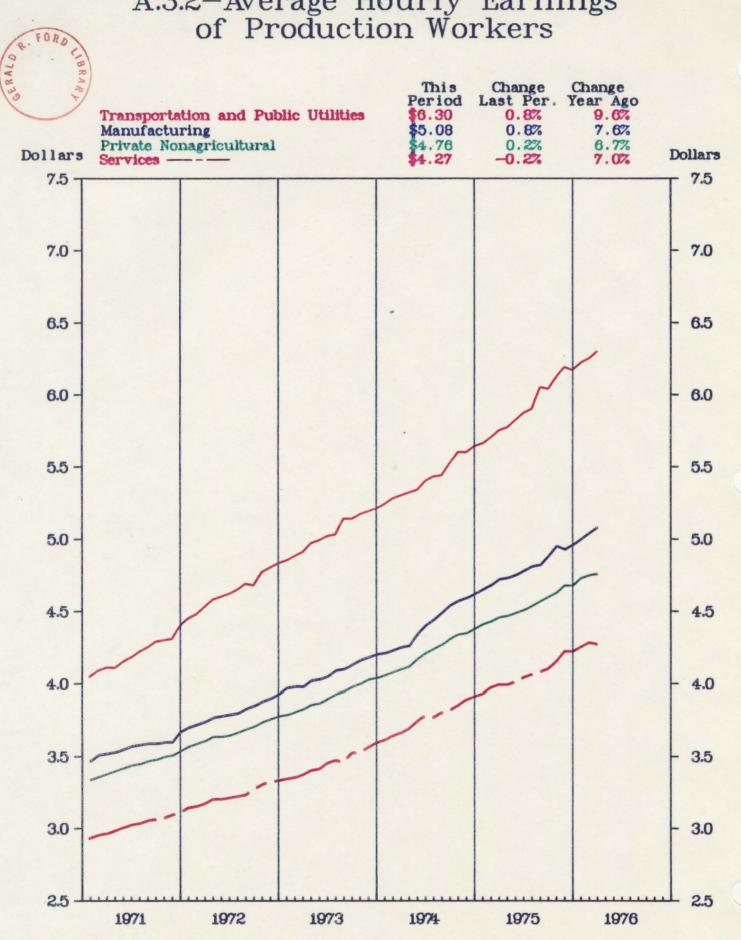
12 April 1976

# A.3.1-Average Overtime in Manufacturing



- The Average Workweek for all Production and Nonsupervisory Workers on Private Nonfarm Payrolls declined 0.3 hour in March to 36.2 hours.
- All component industries decreased\* with Mining showing the largest drop--down 0.8 hour to 42.2 hours.
  - After 2 months of no change, Wholesale and Retail Trade resumed a pattern of mild fluctuation, dipping back 0.1 hour to the level of November 1975.
  - Manufacturing dropped 0.2 hour, the second straight decline.
  - Factory overtime edged up to 3.2 hours a week from 3.1 hours in February.

\*March data were not available for Contract Construction.



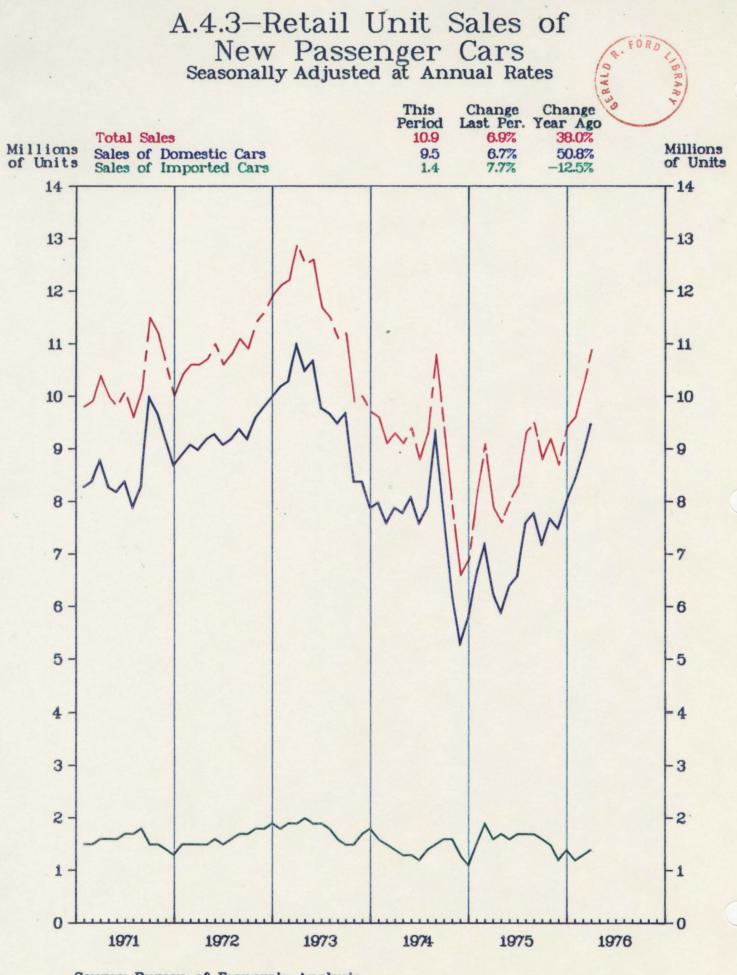
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics 12 April 1976

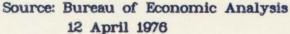
# A.3.2-Average Hourly Earnings of Production Workers

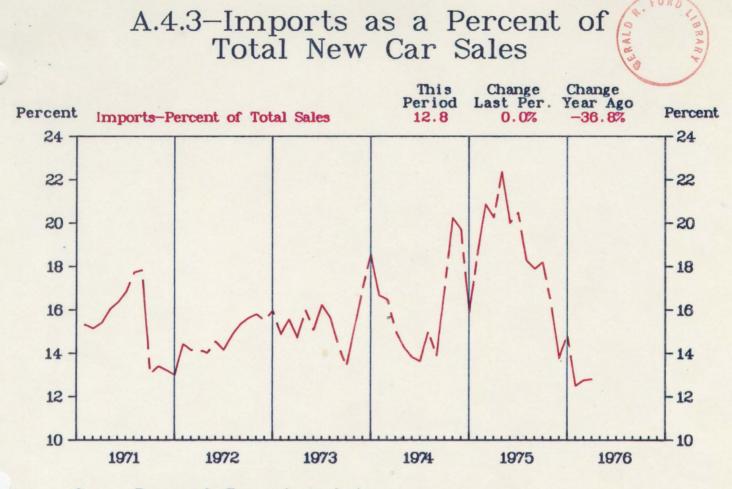


- Average Hourly Earnings of Production and Nonsupervisory Workers increased 1 cent in March, boosting first quarter gains to 8 cents.
  - All component industries posted increases except Services, which lost 1 cent to \$4.27.
    - The strongest gain--5 cents--was reported for Transportation.

• Manufacturing also gained substantially, up 4 cents to \$5.08.

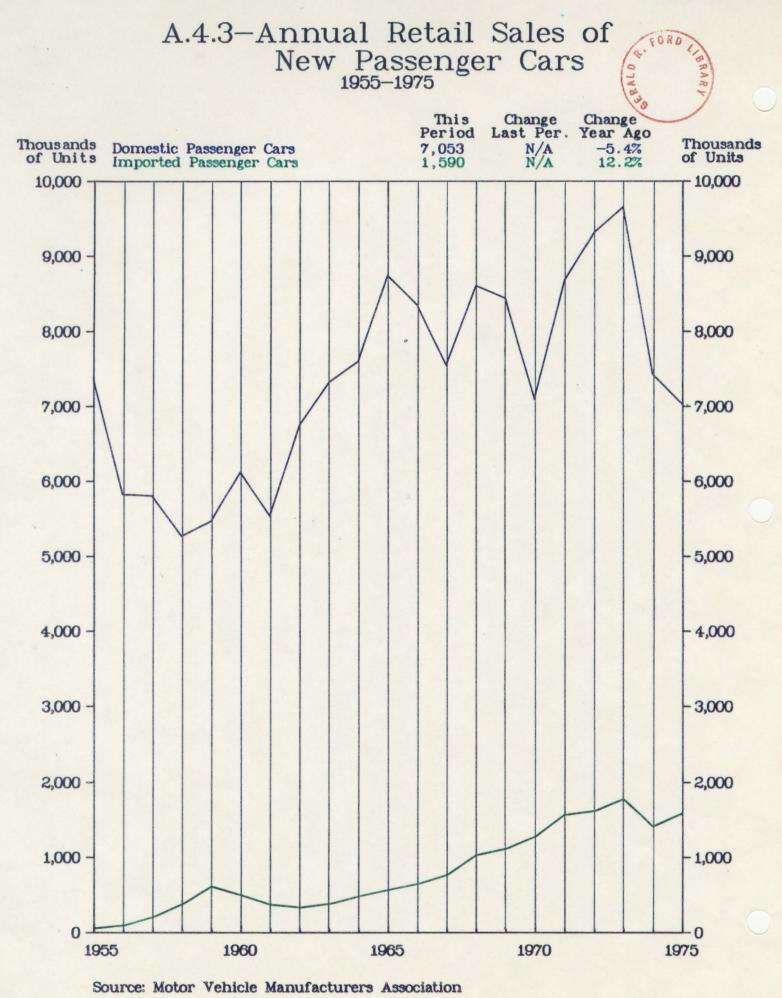






Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis 12 April 1976

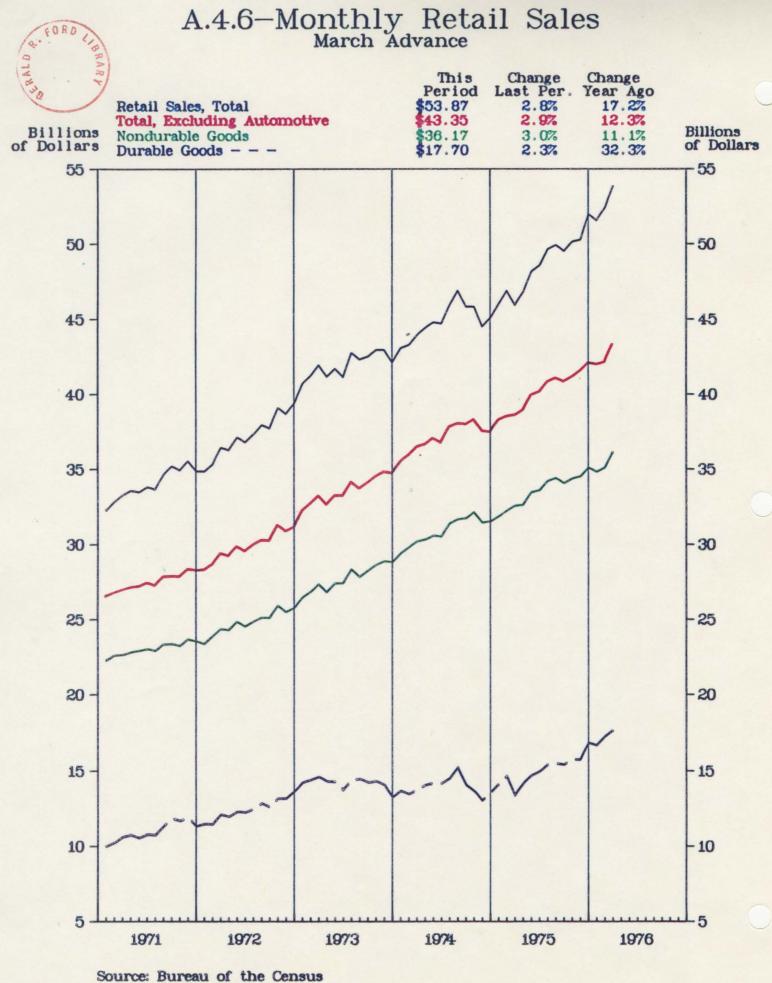
- Total Retail Sales of New Passenger Cars rose for the fourth consecutive month in March, up 6.9 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 10.9 million units.
  - Highest sales rate since September 1973.
- Domestic Sales continued to surge, up 26.7 percent since November, almost equaling the September 1973 peak of 9.7 million units.
  - Domestic Sales for the first quarter of 1976 averaged a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.9 million units, the best first quarter sales record since 1973.
- Recovering from January's decline, Import Sales rose a further 7.7 percent.
  - However, the Imports' share of the market was unchanged in March, accounting for 12.8 percent of Total Sales.



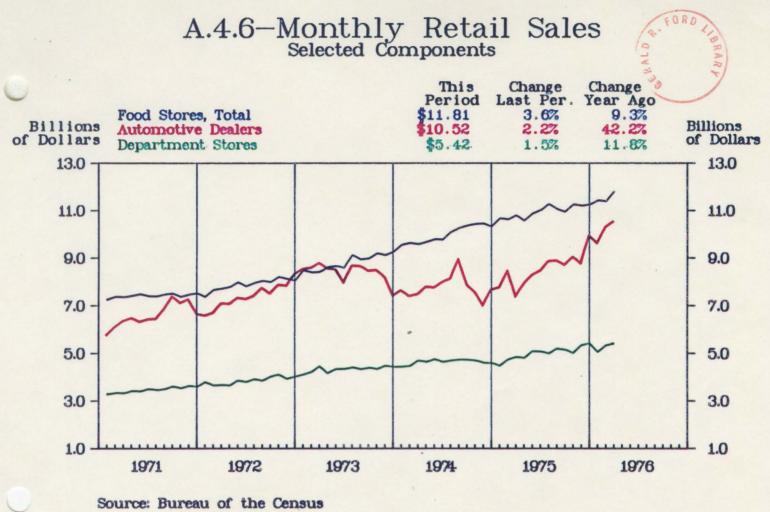
12 April 1976



- The 1974-1975 drop in Domestic Retail Sales of New Passenger Cars was the steepest in 20 years.
  - After reaching a record 9,676,000 units in 1973, Domestic Sales fell 23 percent in 1974 and continued to slide in 1975 to 7,053,000 units, the lowest level since 1962.
  - However, the first quarter of 1976 indicated a strong recovery. Domestic Sales have increased steadily since November and reached a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.5 million units in March.
- Import Sales fell 20.4 percent in 1974, the first decline since 1962.
  - However, in 1975, Import Sales improved and were only 10.7 percent below the record 1,781,000 units sold in 1973.

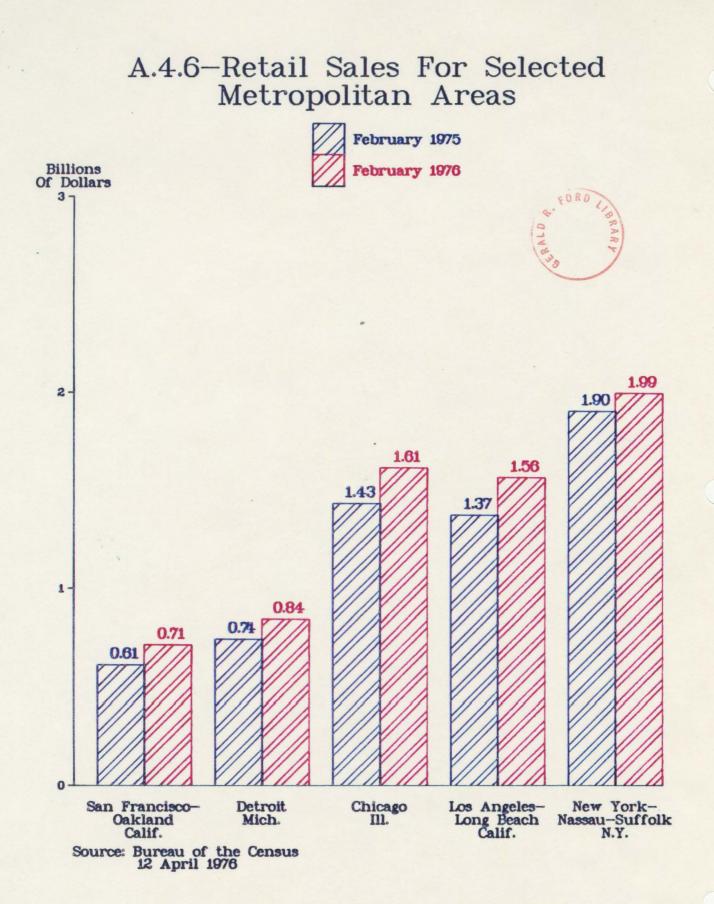


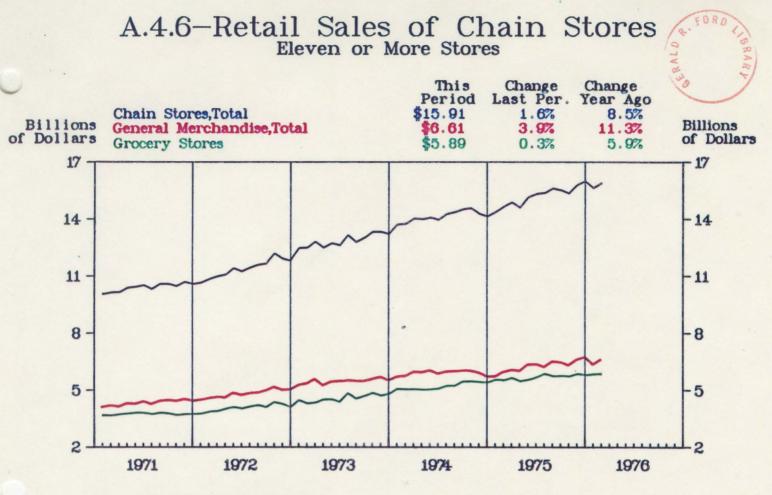
12 April 1976



12 April 1976

- Advance data for March show that Retail Sales registered a strong 2.8percent increase to \$53.87 billion, the second straight monthly increase and the strongest since a 3.4-percent rise in December 1975.
- Following a slight decline in January, Nondurable Goods Sales rose 3.0 percent, the second straight monthly increase.
  - A 3.6-percent increase in Food Store Sales was the largest advance among Retail Sales components during March.
  - Department Store Sales rallied for the second consecutive month following a decline of about 5.0 percent in January.
- Durable Goods Sales climbed an additional 2.3 percent on the heels of a strong 3.4-percent climb in February.
  - Sales of Automotive Dealers increased \$237 million to \$10.52 billion.

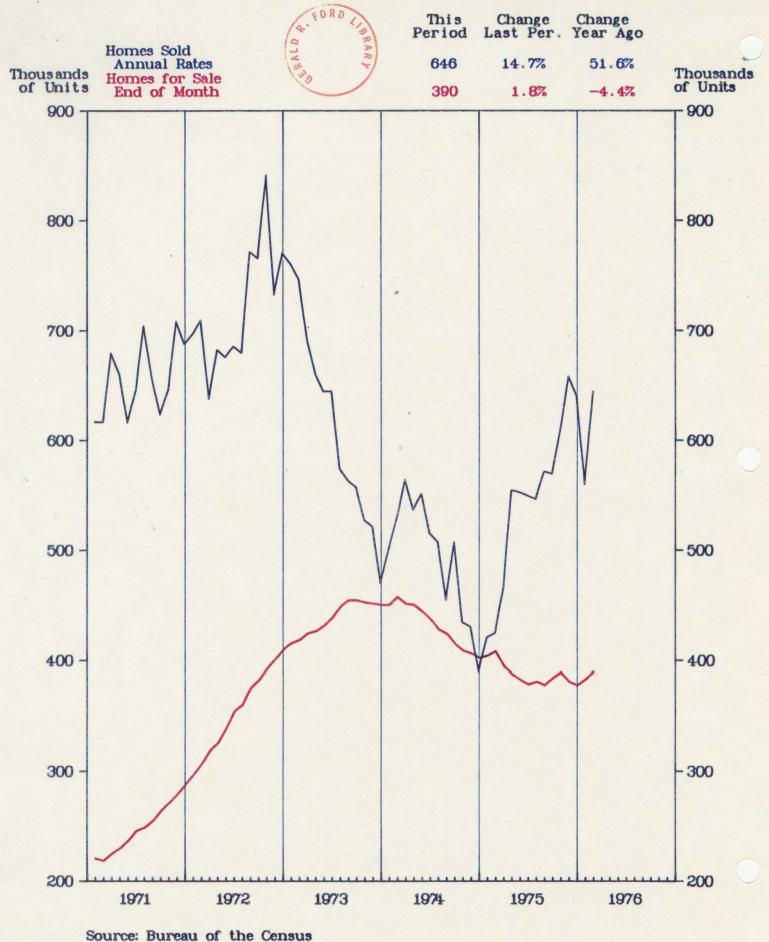




Source: Bureau of the Census 12 April 1976

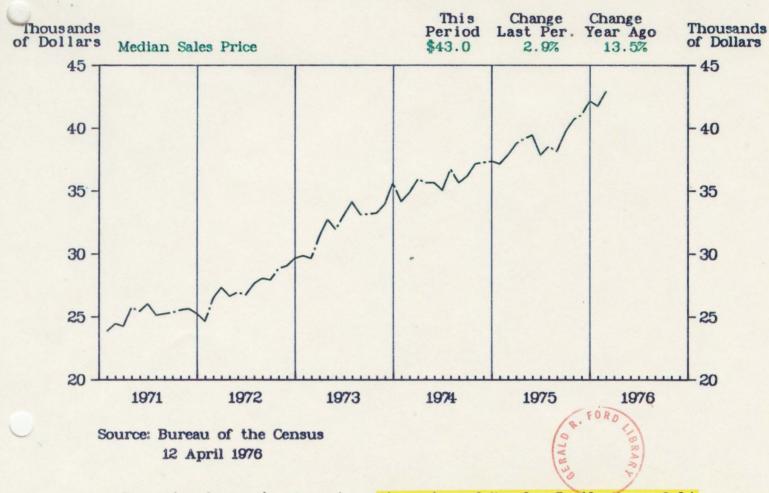
- Among selected metropolitan areas, the San Francisco-Oakland area rose 16.0 percent over February 1975.
  - Detroit, Chicago, and Los Angeles-Long Beach followed with 14.6 percent, 12.8 percent, and 12.2 percent increases, respectively.
  - The New York area registered a 4.6-percent increase over the year-ago level.
- Chain Store Sales rebounded from January's decline, recording an increase of 1.6 percent.
  - General Merchandise Stores rose a strong 3.9 percent.
  - Grocery Store Sales added a slight 0.3-percent increase.

### A.7.1-Sales of New One-Family Homes

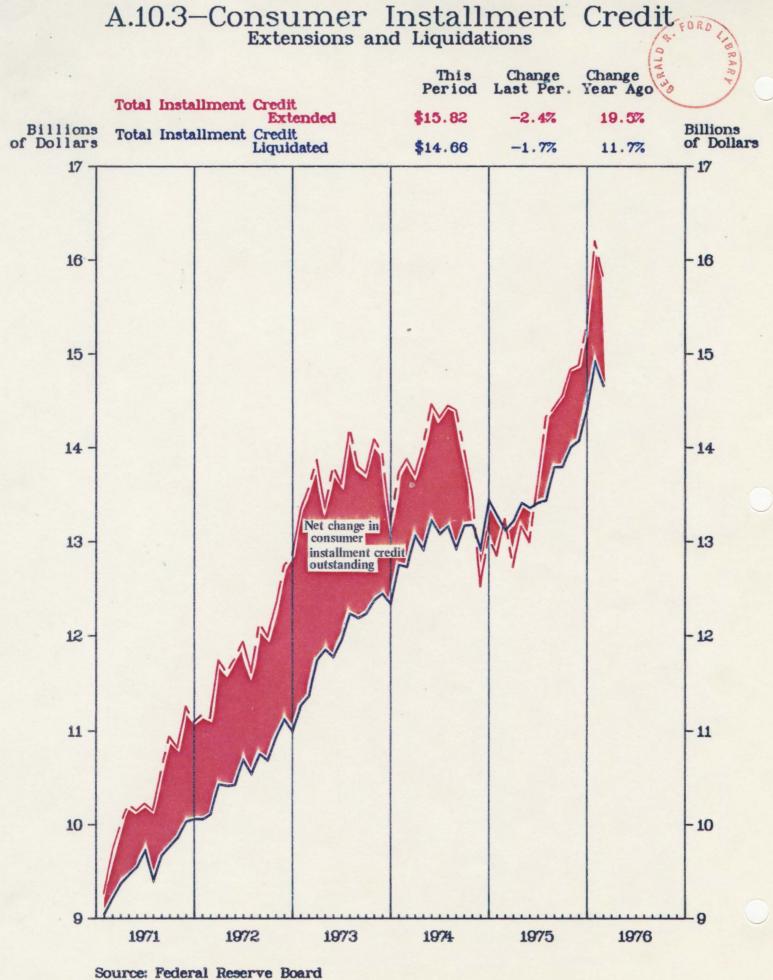


12 April 1976

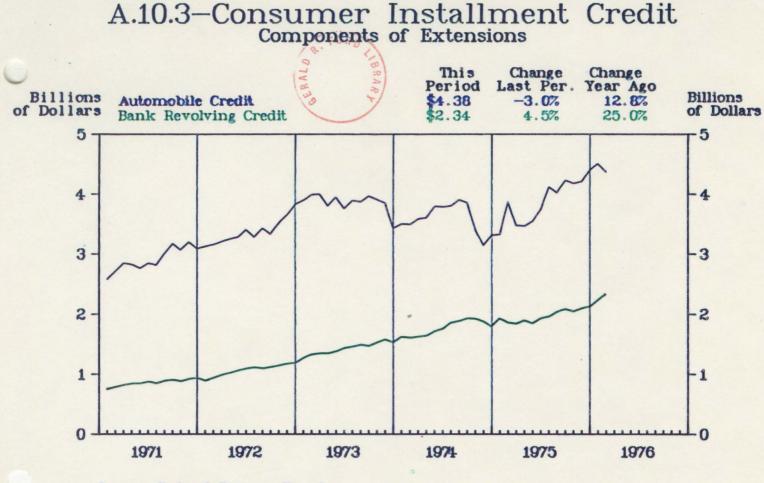
A.7.1-Prices of New One-Family Homes Not Seasonally Adjusted



- Reversing January's steep drop, the number of New One-Family Homes Sold increased 14.7 percent to an annual rate of 646,000, the largest 1-month increase since April 1975.
  - 51.6 percent above February 1975 when 426,000 units were sold.
- The Inventory of Homes for Sale increased 1.8 percent in February to 390,000 units, 18,000 units below the rate of a year ago.
  - Represents a 7.5 months' supply of houses at the current sales rate.
    - In February 1975, the supply was estimated to be 11.7 months.
- The Median Sales Price reached a new record high of \$43,000 in February.
  - The fifth time in the last 6 months that a new high has been recorded.

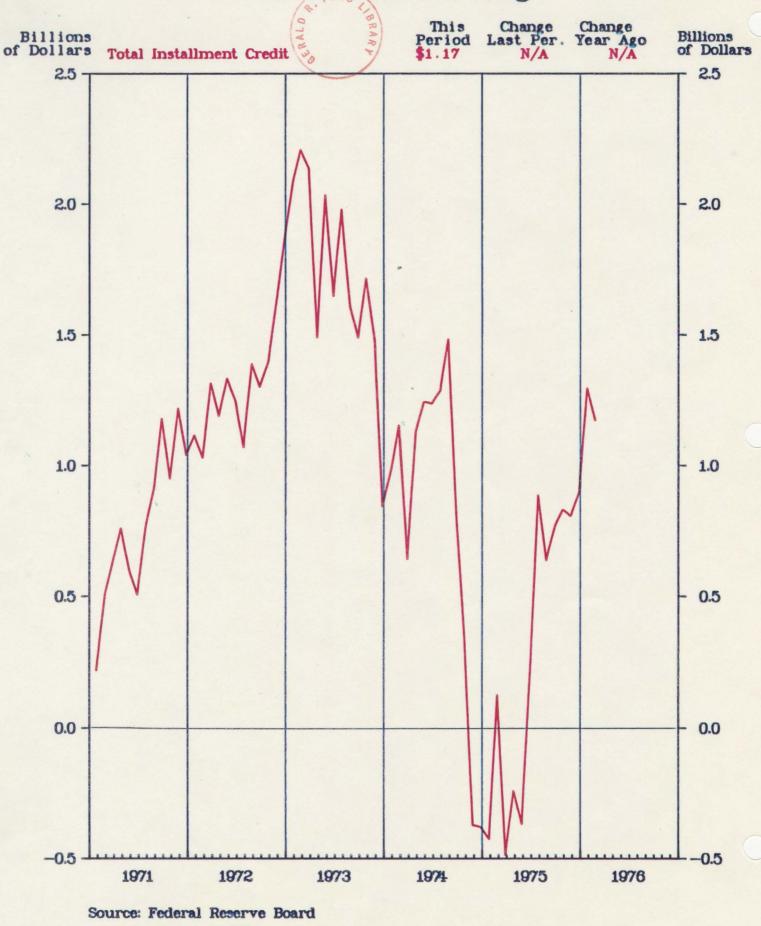


<sup>12</sup> April 1976



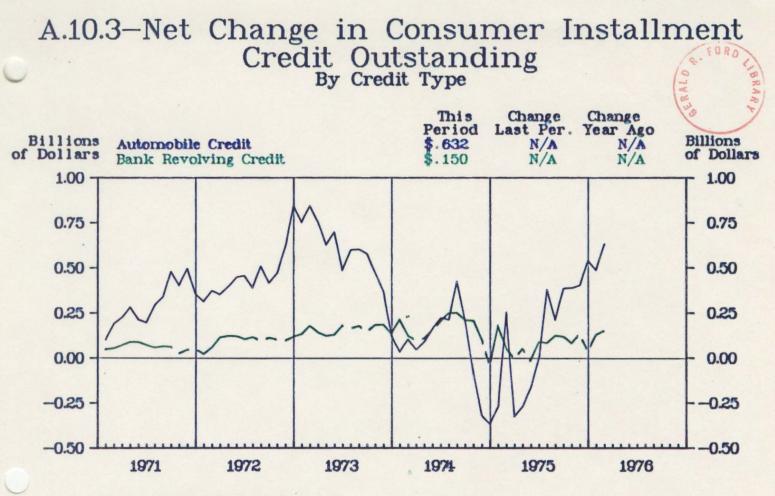
Source: Federal Reserve Board 12 April 1976

- Extensions decreased 2.4 percent to \$15.82 billion and Liquidations declined 1.7 percent to \$14.66 billion.
  - Both dropped below the January record highs.
  - First drop since May 1975.
  - Extensions of Automobile Credit decreased 3 percent following a 4-month advance of 4.5 percent.
  - Bank Revolving Credit Extensions, the only component to expand in February, was up 4.5 percent.



# A.10.3-Net Change in Consumer Installment Credit, Outstanding

12 April 1976



Source: Federal Reserve Board 12 April 1976

- The rise in Consumer Installment Credit Outstanding slowed slightly in February, but the \$1.17 billion increase was still the second largest in 18 months after January's gain of \$1.29 billion.
  - Ninth consecutive monthly gain, reflecting sharply increased credit purchases from the recession depths of 1974-1975.
  - Well above the \$843 million average monthly increase recorded in the fourth quarter of 1975.
- Among major credit types, the \$632 million rise in Automobile Credit was the largest net change since May 1973.
  - Consumers also increased Revolving Credit Accounts at the fastest rate in more than a year--\$150 million.



#### Marihuana Use

Present evidence indicates that marihuana use has significantly increased among Americans during the years 1971 to 1974, according to the findings of several new surveys released by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the Gallup Opinion Poll. These surveys attempt to describe the nature and extent of marihuana use in the United States and also give a more complete profile on the kinds of people who use marihuana.

Abelson, H. and Atkinson, R.B. <u>Public Experience with Psychoactive</u> <u>Substances</u>. Princeton, New Jersey: Response Analysis Corporation, August 1975.

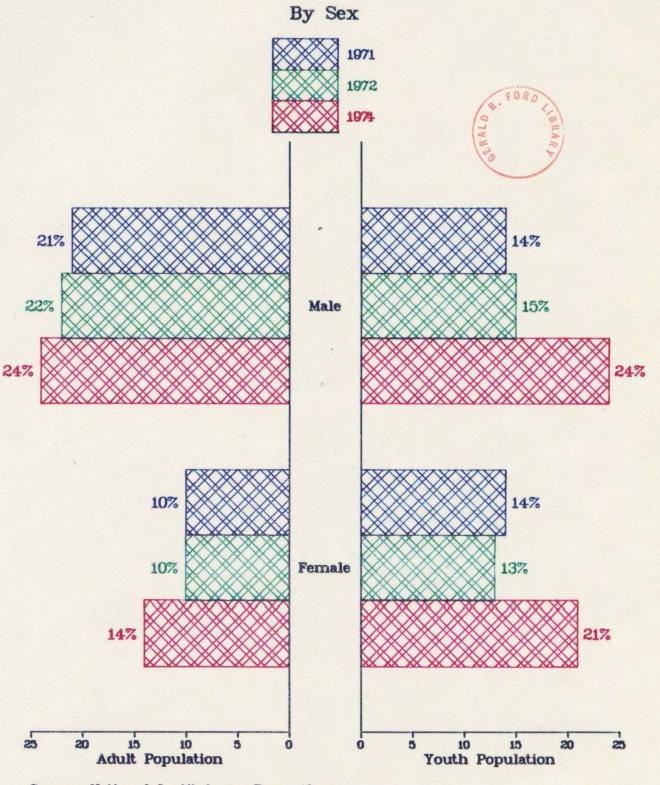
O'Donnell, J.A., Voss, H.L., Clayton, R.R., Slaten, G.T. and Room, R.G.W. Non-Medical Drug Use Among Young Men in the United States: A Nationwide Survey, 1975.

Johnston, L.D. <u>Monitoring the Future: Continuing Study of Life Styles</u> and Values of Youth. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, October 1975.

Youth in Transition. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1973.

<u>Gallup Opinion Index</u>. Volume 109 (Part 4). Princeton, New Jersey: American Institute on Public Opinion, 1974.

# B.3.4 – Lifetime Marihuana Use Among Youth and Adults



Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse 12 April 1976

#### B.3.4 – Marihuana Use Among Youth and Adults

By Sex and Frequency of Use: 1974 Past month Past year, not past month Not past year Percent 24% 24% 25 21% 20 14% 15 . 10 5 0 Male Male Female Female Adult Population Youth Population

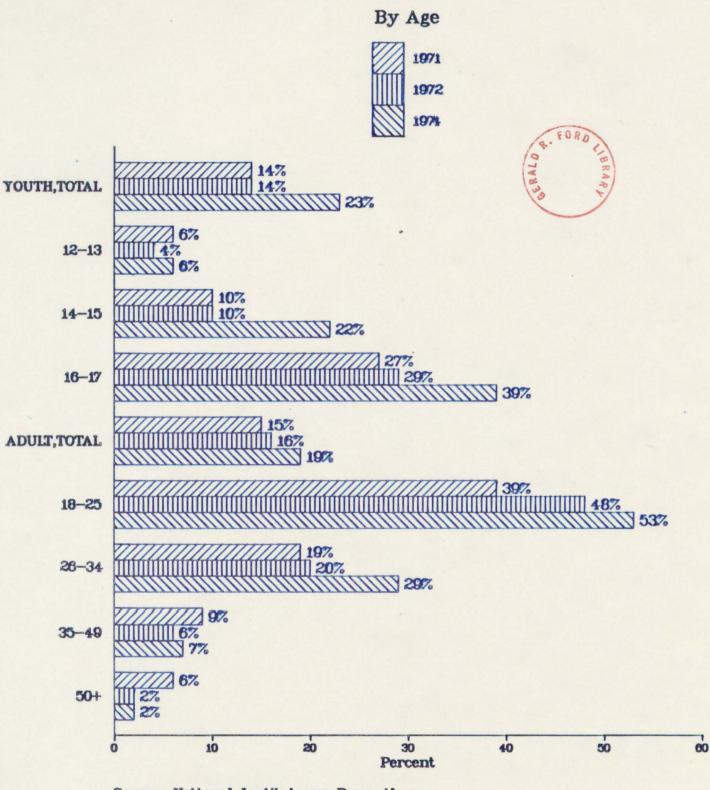
Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse 12 April 1976

Public Experience with Psychoactive Substances is based on a nationwide household probability sample of 3,071 adults (age 18 and older) and 952 young people (age 12 to 17). The survey, conducted by the Social Research Group at George Washington University and the Response Analysis Corporation is an update of the survey conducted for the National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse in 1971.

The report found that:

- Marihuana usage was nearly twice as frequent for Adult Males as for Adult Females.
  - However, in the youth population, the percentage of males and females having ever used marihuana was almost the same --24 percent of males and 21 percent of females.
  - From 1972 to 1974 there were significant increases, notably among the youth population, in the proportions of persons having ever used marihuana.
- In the adult population, there were more experimental or casual users of marihuana than current users (use in the past month).
  - Among youths the reverse was true: more than half of all who reported ever using the drug were current users.

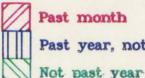
### B.3.4 – Lifetime Marihuana Use Among Youth and Adults



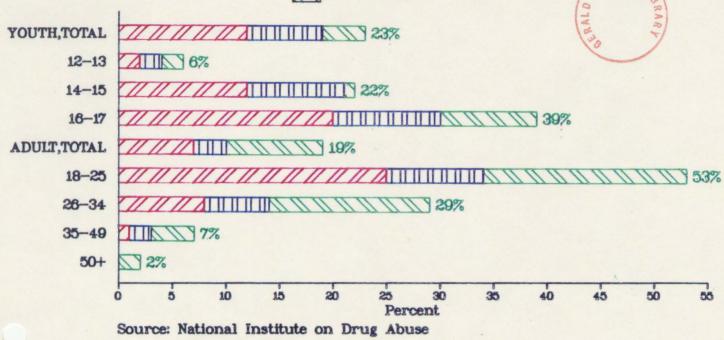


#### B.3.4 – Marihuana Use Among Youth and Adults

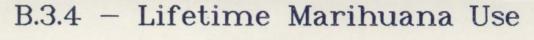
By Age and Frequency of Use: 1974

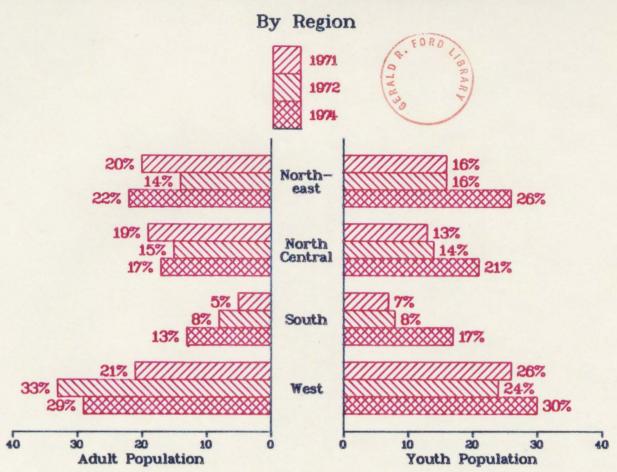


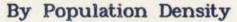
Past year, not past month

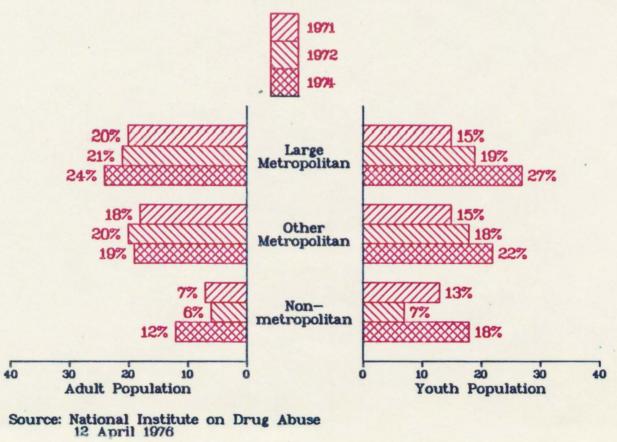


- 12 April 1976
- Since 1971, the percent of Adults using marihuana has steadily increased to 19 percent in 1974, while use in the youth population rose sharply to 23 percent.
- Among youths, the major change in marihuana use occurs during the transition from elementary school to high school (grades 9 and up).
  - Only 6 percent of youth aged 12-13 have tried marihuana; while there is a rise to 22 percent among 14-15 year olds, increasing to 39 percent at ages 16-17.
    - As age increases, so does the percent reporting use of the drug in the past month--more than half of those aged 16-17 who reported having ever used marihuana were current users.
- Through most of American history, marihuana use has consistently involved a minority of any national age group; however, in 1974, 53 percent of the 18-25 age group had tried marihuana, up from 48 percent in 1972.
  - One in four of those sampled said that they had used the drug within the last month.
- Although there is good evidence of a continuing increase in marihuana use among younger people, there is little indication that such use has come to involve a significant proportion of the older population.



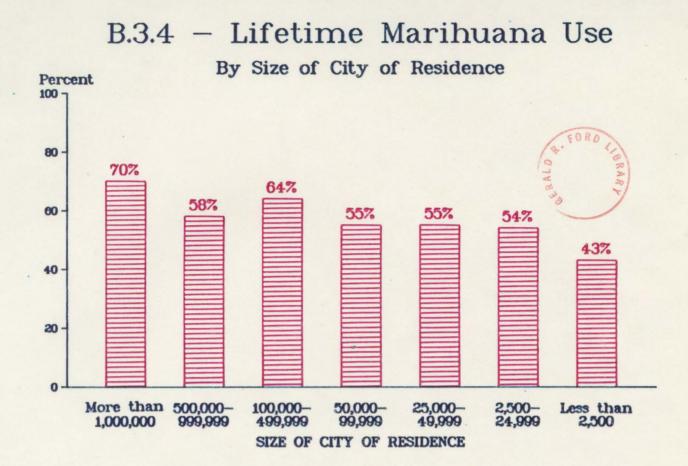


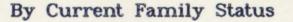


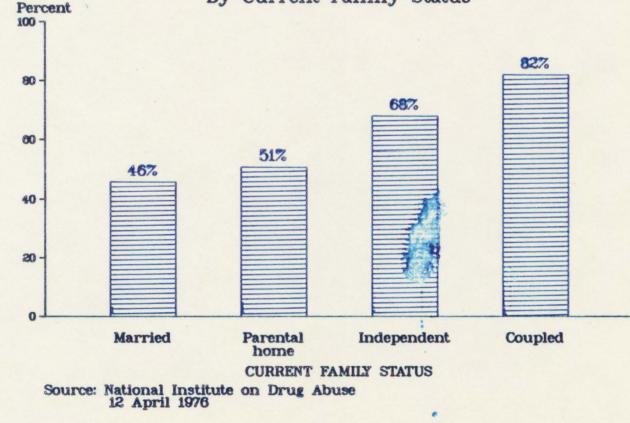


FORD RAL

- Marihuana usage continues to be highest in the West and lowest in the South; and higher in metropolitan areas than in nonmetropolitan areas.
  - However, all of these differences have become less pronounced.
    - For example, from 1972 to 1974, usage in nonmetropolitan areas made strong gains--doubling among adults and almost tripling among youth.

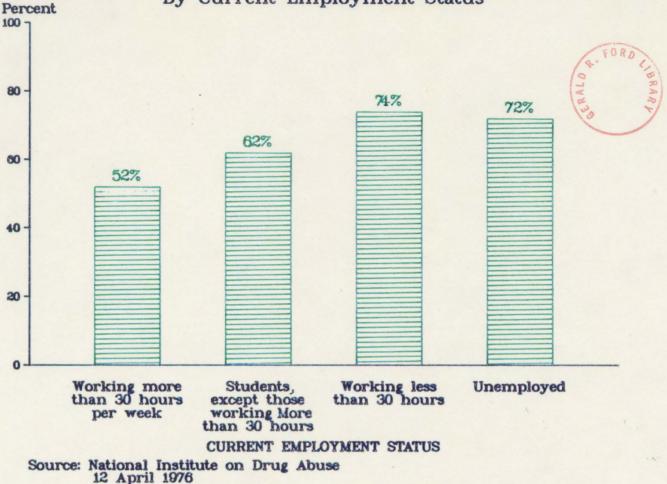






### B.3.4 – Lifetime Marihuana Use

#### By Current Employment Status

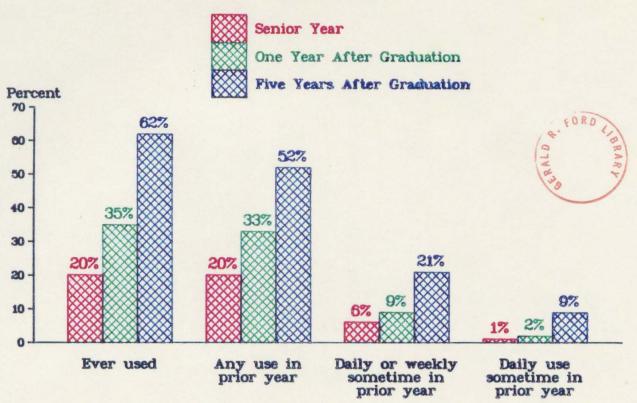


Drug Use Among Young Men in the United States is based on interviews conducted from October 1974 to May 1975 with a national sample of 2,510 Selective Service registrants ages 20 to 30 in 1974.

- Overall, 55 percent of those interviewed had at some time used marihuana.
- In the male 20-to-30 age group, 70 percent of those living in cities of over1million population had used marihuana in comparison to 43 percent of those in communities of less than 2,500.
- Men pursuing more conventional life styles, in that they were married and employed, were considerably less likely to have used marihuana than were either the unmarried or the unemployed.

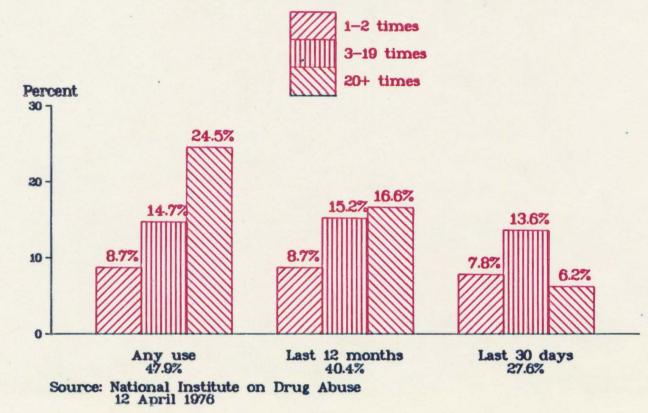
### B.3.4 – Marihuana Use in the 1969 High School Class

Male Seniors

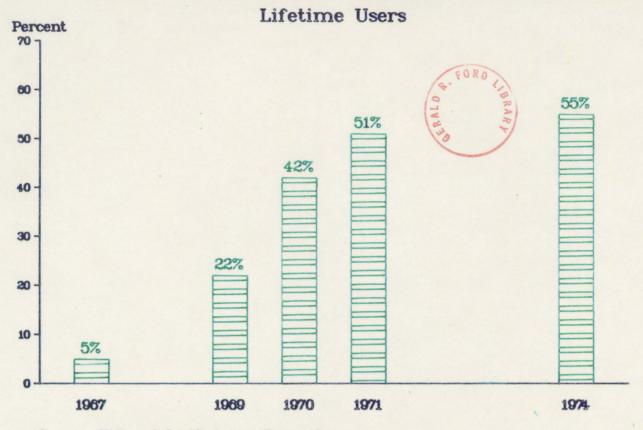


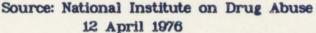
### Marihuana Use in the 1973 High School Class

#### Male and Female Seniors



#### B.3.4 – Marihuana Use Among College Students





Youth in Transition is based on a national study of 1,600 high school males followed from their senior year to 5 years after graduation.

- In the 5 years after graduation from high school, marihuana use more than tripled among males.
  - A large proportion of the increase in use was accounted for by those reporting daily or weekly use during the preceding year.

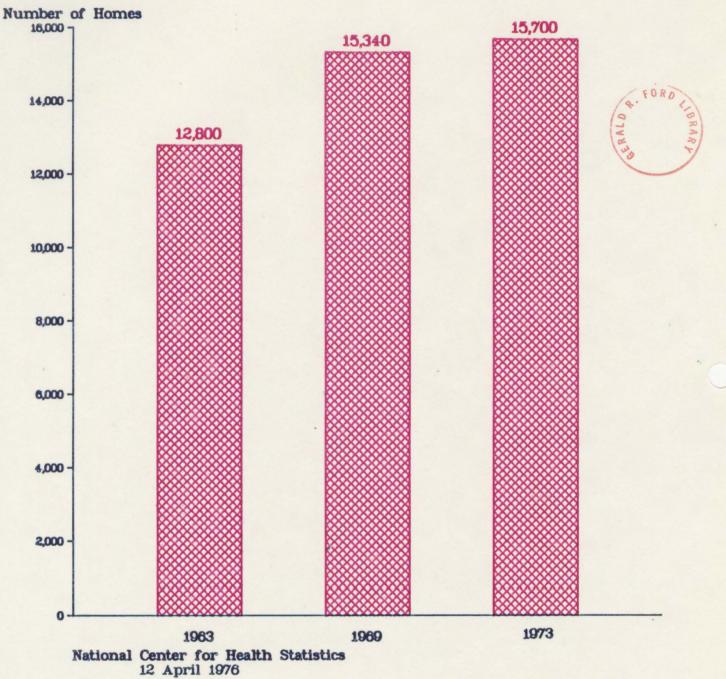
Monitoring the Future: Continuing Study of the Life Styles and Values of Youth is a national survey conducted in 1975 of 16,000 high school seniors in 130 schools.

- Approximately 48 percent of male and female seniors reported any use of marihuana in 1975.
  - The majority used the substance at least 20 times.
  - 40.4 percent used marihuana in the past year, while 27.6 percent used the substance in the last 30 days.

The only regularly conducted national survey among college students is that prepared by <u>Gallup</u>.

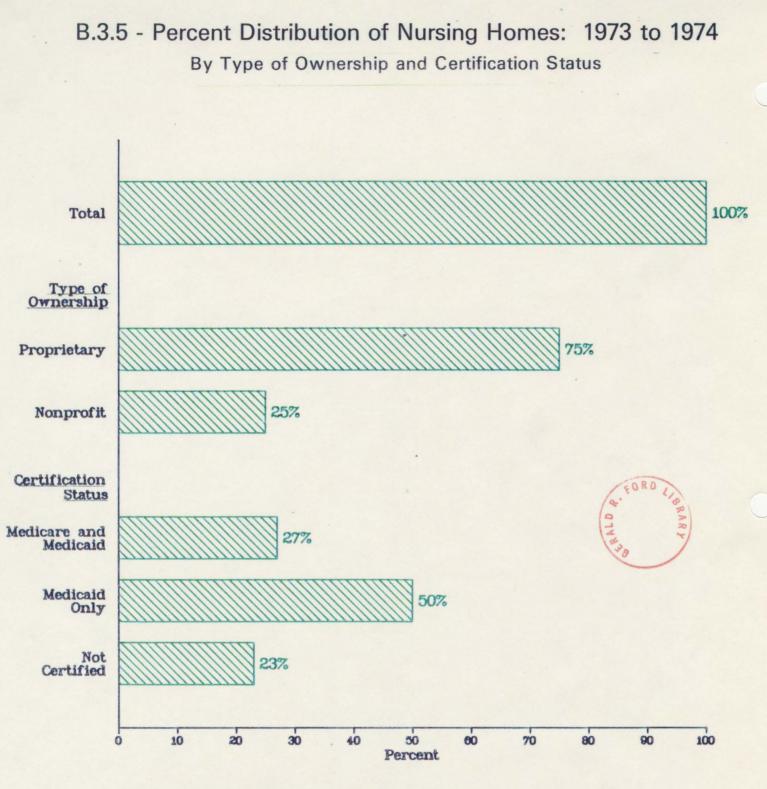
• A Gallup poll conducted in 1967 among college students indicated that only 1 in 20 had ever used the substance, but by 1974 over half (55 percent) reported use.

#### B.3.5 - Number of Nursing Homes By year



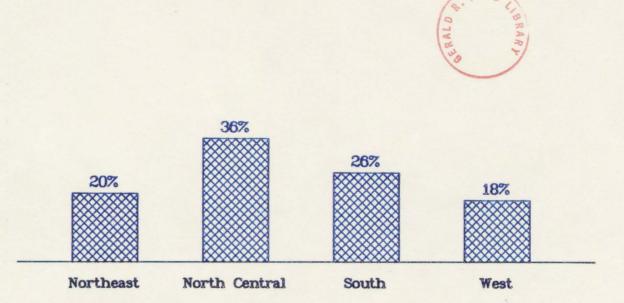


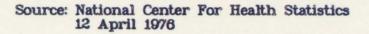
- The number of Nursing Homes in the United States rose to 15,700 in 1973, an increase of more than 22 percent since 1963.
  - The growing number of Nursing Homes is due in part to increased coverage of certain types of care under Medicare and Medicaid programs, as well as changes in family living arrangements and advances in medical technology.
  - Some of the growth in Nursing Homes use appears to be the result of placement in Nursing Homes of older patients who in earlier years would have been residents in State and county mental hospitals.



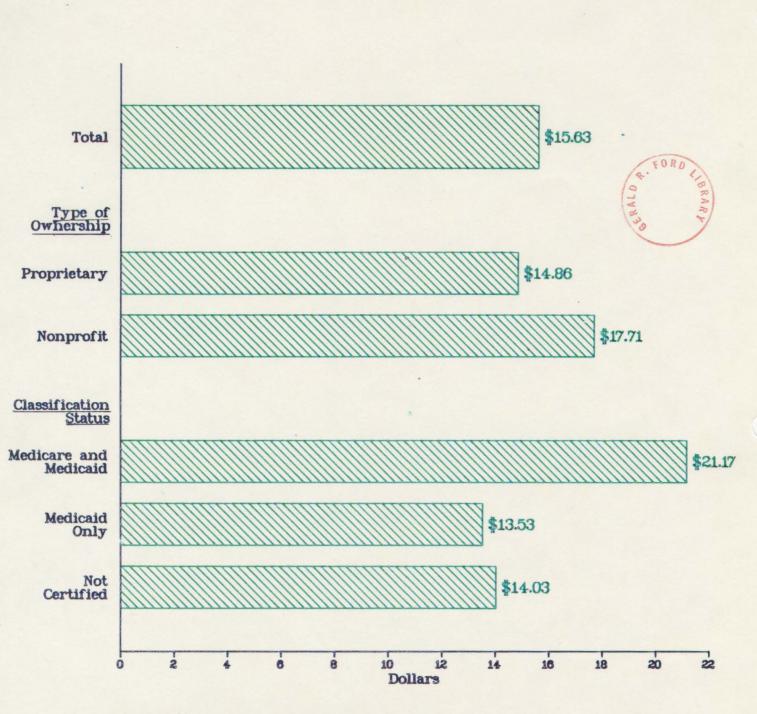
Source: National Center For Health Statistics 12 April 1976

# B.3.5 - Percent Distribution of Nursing Homes: 1973 to 1974 By Geographic Regions



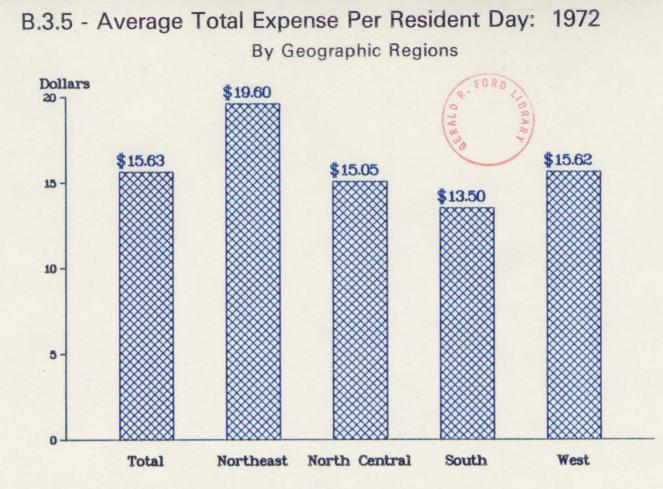


- Three-fourths of the total of 15,700 Nursing Homes in the United States were operated under private commercial (Proprietary) ownership during the period August 1973 to April 1974.
  - The remaining 25 percent were operated under voluntary or nonprofit auspices.
- About 77 percent of all U.S. Nursing Homes were certified for Medicare, Medicaid, or both (Social Security Act, Title XVIII and XIX).
  - Nearly 8,000 Homes, half of the total number, were certified for Medicaid only.
  - 3,600 Homes reported no certification.
- Twice as many Homes were located in the North Central region (36 percent of the total) as in the West.
  - The South had the second highest proportion of Total Homes--26 percent.



B.3.5 - Average Total Expense Per Resident Day: 1972 By Type of Ownership and Certification Status

Source: National Center For Health Statistics 12 April 1976

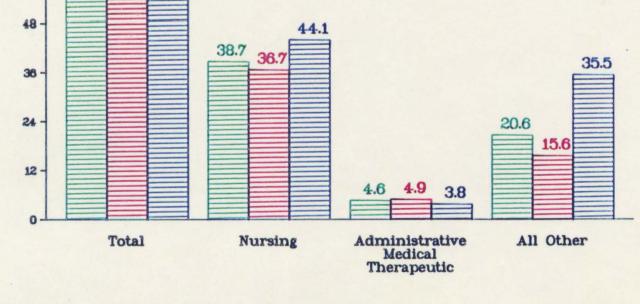


#### Source: National Center For Health Statistics 12 April 1976

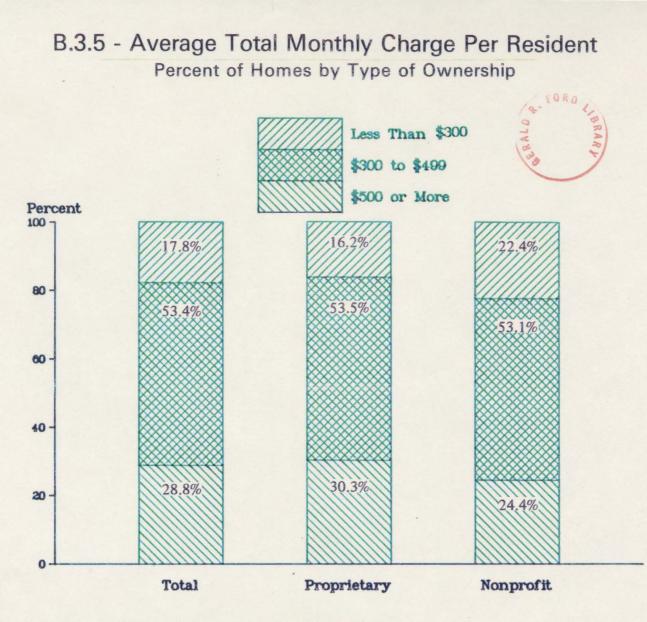
- Nursing Homes spent an average of \$15.63 a day per resident in 1972\*.
  - In a recent press release, National Center for Health Statistics officials stated: "If we assume that these expenses have increased at the same rate as the medical care component of the Consumer Price Index, the 1975 average would be \$20.60.
- Expenses were substantially higher for Nonprofit Homes (\$17.71) per resident day) than for Proprietary or profit-making Homes (\$14.86).
  - The Nonprofit Home's greater use of nursing and medical personnel apparently accounts for this substantial difference (see following charts).
- Homes certified for Medicare, or for both Medicare and Medicaid, averaged 56 percent higher costs than those certified for Medicaid only; and 48 percent greater costs than Noncertified Homes.
  - These higher costs were apparently due to greater expenditures that Medicare Homes must make to meet Federal standards for staffing, construction, equipment, and provision of service.
- Costs were highest in the Northeast and lowest in the South.
- \* 1973 to 1974 daily cost data not available.

B.3.5 - Operating Characteristics of Nursing Homes: 1973 to 1974



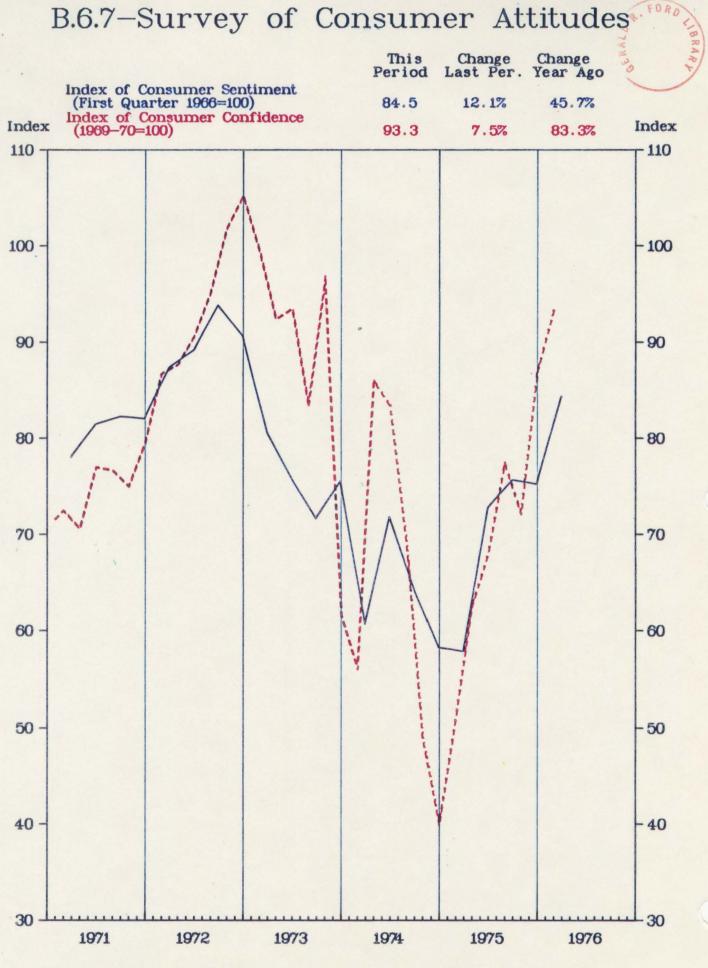


Source: National Center For Health Statistics



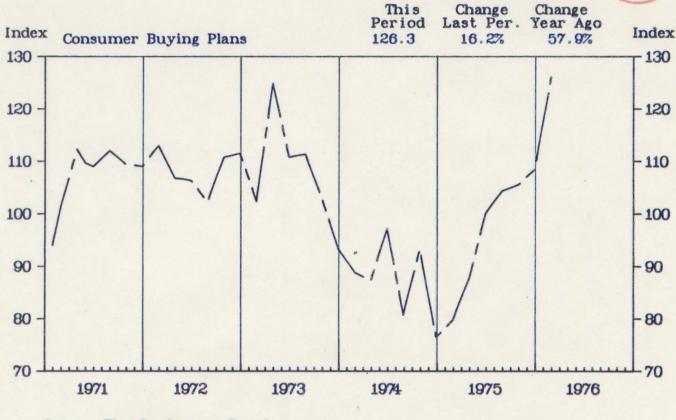
#### Source: National Center For Health Statistics 12 April 1976

- Although Proprietary Homes had the greatest number of beds, they tended to be typically smaller; the average bed size was 70 beds for Proprietary Homes as compared to 88 beds for Nonprofit Homes.
- The higher expenses of large Nursing Homes (200 beds or more) reflect the tendency of homes of this size to offer a greater number and variety of services than smaller homes, and thereby to increase their number of "All Other (clerical, food service, housekeeping, and maintenance) Employees."
- In addition to being larger, Nonprofit Homes had a substantially greater number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employees per 100 beds (83.5) than Proprietary Homes (57.4).
- More than 22 percent of the Nonprofit Homes kept their average monthly charge per resident under \$300, compared with 16.2 percent of Proprietary Homes.



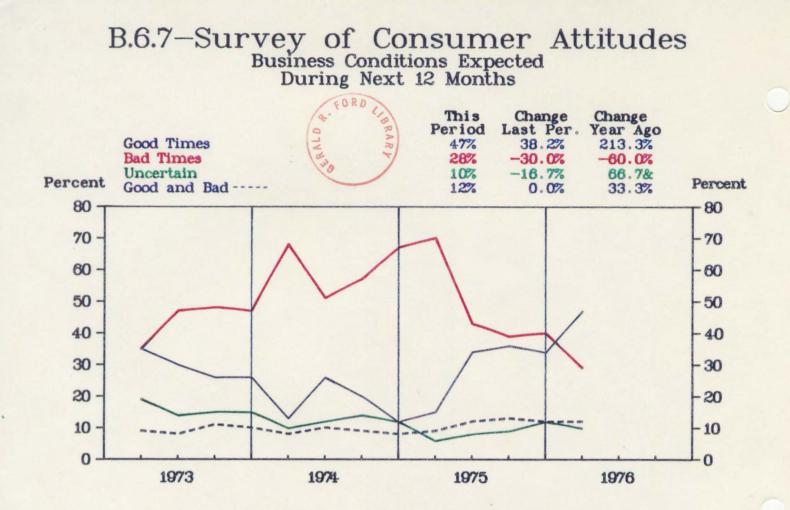
Source: Institute for Social Research and Conference Board 12 April 1976

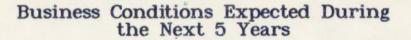
# B.6.7–Consumer Buying Plans

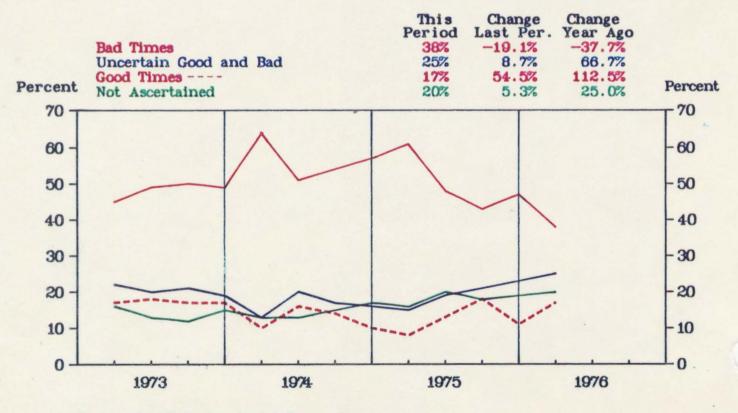


Source: The Conference Board 12 April 1976

- Confidence among consumers improved in February according to separate surveys conducted by the University of Michigan and the Conference Board.
  - The Index of Consumer Sentiment, based on a quarterly survey of a nationwide representative sample of 1,184 respondents conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, climbed 9.1 points between November 1975 and February 1976 to 84.5 and now stands 10.1 percent below the 1972 peak of 94.0.
    - According to the Institute: an increase in favorable opinions occurred among all income groups; and all attitudes and expectations showed improvement, without exception.
    - Among the factors cited as contributing to the rise were: continued improvements in the economy; recent gains in real personal income; lessening concern about higher prices; and consumers' belief that an election year brings good times.
  - The Index of Consumer Confidence, based on a bimonthly survey of 10,000 families across the country conducted for the Conference Board, rose a further 6 points to 93.3, the highest level since October 1973.
    - The Buying Plans Index rose sharply in the January-February period, up more than 17 points to 126.3, eclipsing the April 1973 high of 125.2.





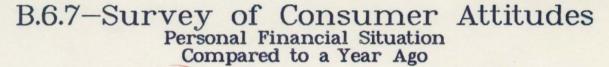


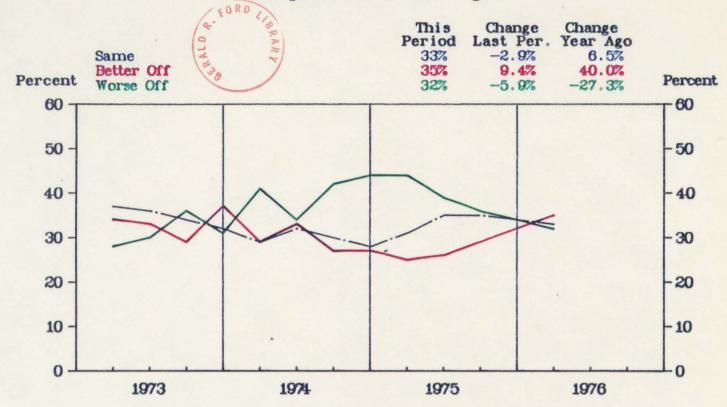
Source: Institute for Social Research 12 April 1976

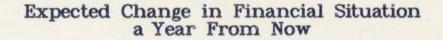


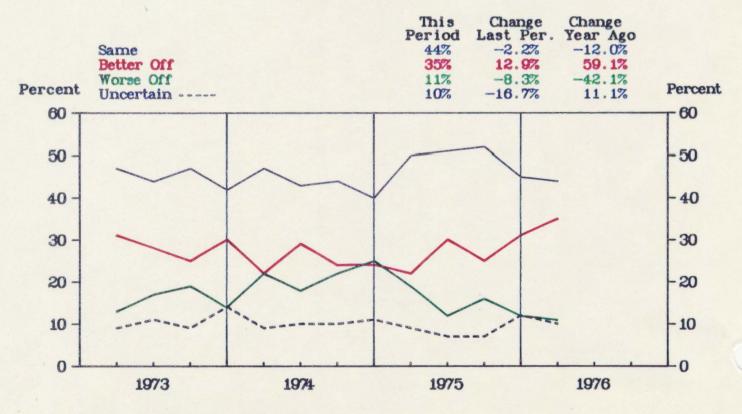
The Institute reported that:

- Nearly two-thirds of the February gain in the Consumer Sentiment Index was due to a marked improvement in the components which measure expectations about long-term and short-term business conditions.
  - Expectations about short-term Business Conditions were the most optimistic in 3 years.
    - For the first time since late 1972, more respondents were expecting Good Times in the next 12 months than Bad Times.
  - Expectations about long-term Business Conditions improved substantially with 17 percent saying they expected Good Times in the next 5 years, up from 11 percent in October-November 1975.
    - However, optimistic responses remain well below the 28 percent recorded in November-December 1972.
  - 38 percent expected Bad Times in the next 5 years, more than twice the number of persons expecting Good Times, but the lowest proportion since November-December 1972. Strongly related to this pessimism is consumers' continued lack of confidence in the Government's economic policy.

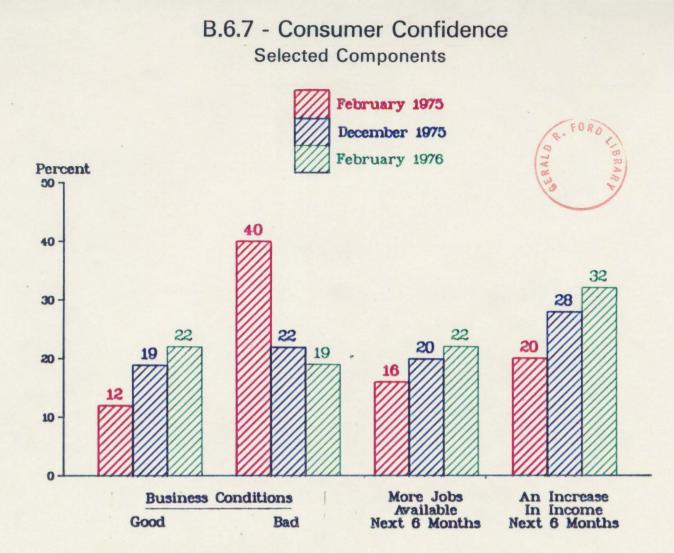








Source: Institute for Social Research 12 April 1976



#### Source: The Conference Board 12 April 1976

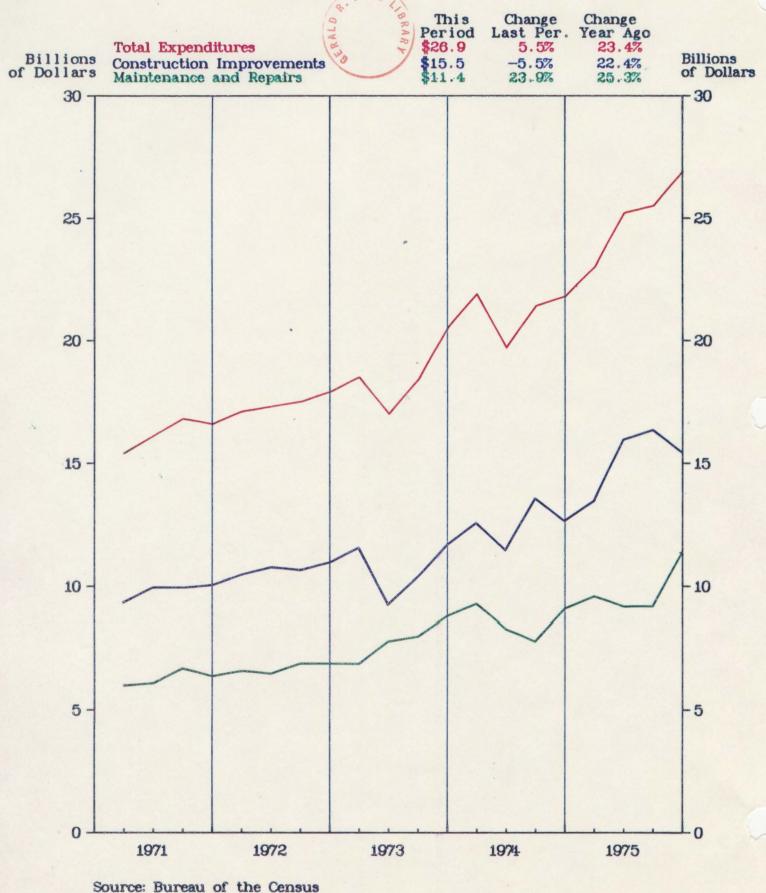
According to the Institute for Social Research:

- The number of respondents reporting an improvement in their personal financial situations over the past year continued to increase in February. For the first time since October-November 1973, more said they were better off (35 percent) than worse off (32 percent).
- 35 percent expected their financial situation to improve in the next year, while 11 percent expected to be worse off--the smallest proportion since late 1972.

Similar results were reported by the Conference Board:

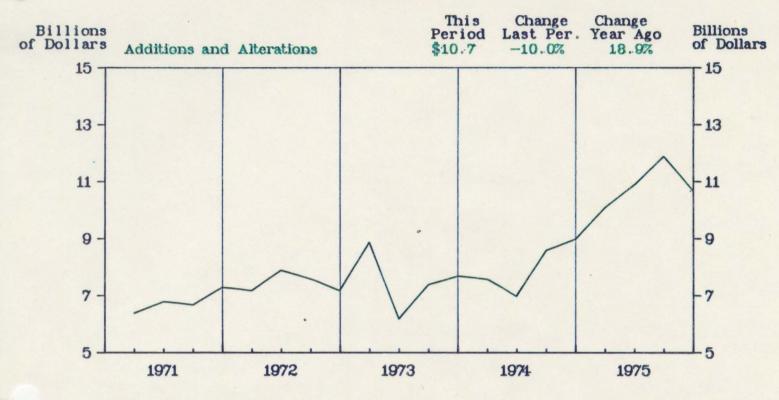
- About 32 percent of the families interviewed believed that their incomes would rise in the next 6 months, the largest proportion in 7 years.
- For the first time since mid-1974, more families expressed the opinion that current Business Conditions were "Good" rather than "Bad" (22 percent compared to 19 percent).
- More families felt that employment prospects would improve in the next 6 months, 22 percent in February, up from 20 percent in December.
  - About 12 percent expected fewer jobs to be available, with the remainder foreseeing little or no change.

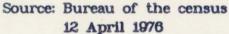
#### B.7.3-Expenditures for Maintenance and Improvement of Residential Properties (Annual Rates)



12 April 1976

#### B.7.3.-Expenditures for Construction Improvement Additions and Alterations





- Total Expenditures for Upkeep and Improvement of Residential Properties rose at an annual rate of \$1.4 billion, or 5.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 1975.
  - Sixth consecutive quarterly rise--a total of 36.6 percent.
  - For the year 1975, Expenditures were estimated at \$25.2 billion, 20 percent higher than the 1974 estimate of \$21.1 billion.
- Expenditures for Maintenance and Repairs were up 23.9 percent after remaining unchanged in the third quarter.
- Expenditures for Construction Improvements declined for the first time in four quarters, down 5.5 percent.
  - Additions and Alterations, which account for about two-thirds of Construction Improvements, declined 10 percent.

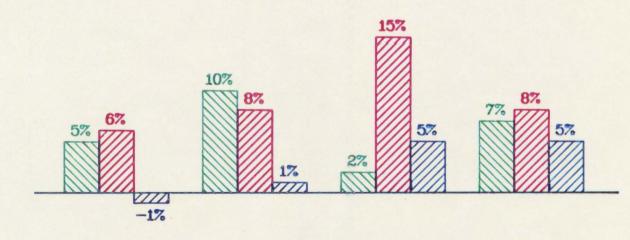
### B.9.1-Crime Index Trends Percent Change Each Year Over Previous Year



# Violent Crime

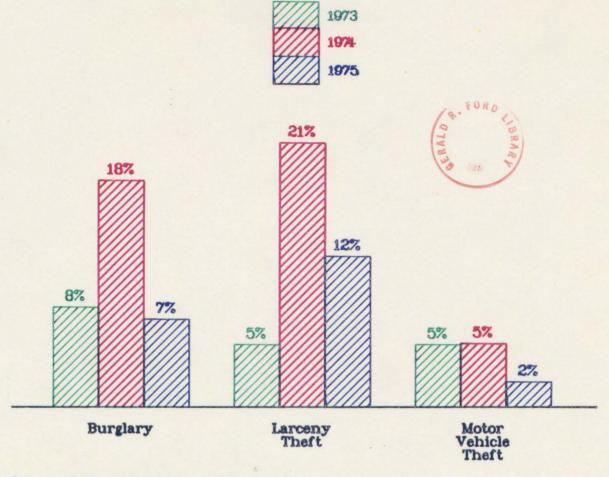
#### Percent Change Over Previous Year





MurderForcible<br/>RapeRobberyAggravated<br/>AssaultSource:Federal Bureau of Investigation<br/>12 April 197612

#### B.9.1-Property Crime Percent Change Each Year Over Previous Year



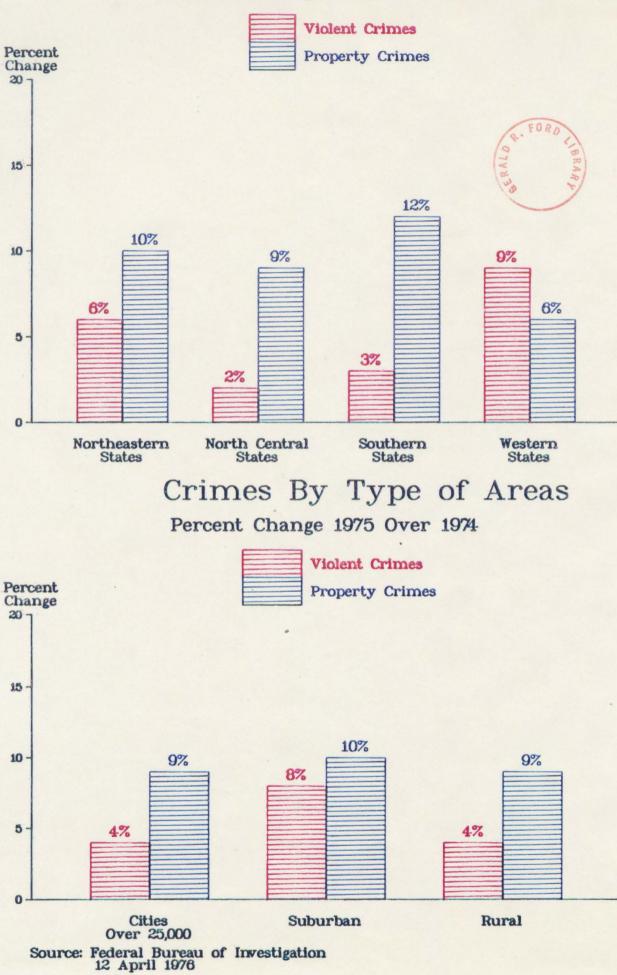
Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation 12 April 1976

Preliminary data indicate that:

- The rate of increase in serious crime slowed to 9 percent in 1975, following 1974's sharp 18-percent increase.
- As a group, Violent Crimes increased 5 percent while Property Crimes rose 9 percent.
  - There were 1 percent fewer murders reported, the only category to decline over the year.

# B.9.1-Crime By Geographic Region

Percent Change 1975 Over 1974





• Total crime rates increased in all four geographic regions with Property Crime rising more than Violent Crime in all but the Western States.

• Greatest overall increase was reported in the South.

- The Western States reported the sharpest percent increase in Violent Crimes, but the lowest percent increase in Property Crime.
- Both Violent and Property Crimes increased more rapidly in the suburbs than in large cities or rural areas.