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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

August 6, 1975

Mr. William Baroody:

The Vice President has asked that you receive the attached copy of the <u>Weekly</u> <u>Briefing Notes</u>, which are prepared each week for the President. Beginning today, you will receive a copy every week.

Dit Illui



WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES ON U.S. DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

Prepared for the President and the Vice - President

PR-FORD LIBRAR

AUGUST 4, 1975

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

Federal Fiscal Budget

U.S. Department of the Treasury, "Treasury Bulletin"

Unemployment Rates

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

Duration of Unemployment

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Labor Turnover in Manufacturing

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Index of Help Wanted Advertising

The Conference Board

Average Workweek

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Hourly Earnings of Production Workers

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

Productivity Indexes

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Work Stoppages

Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Monthly Labor Review"

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders

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

Exports and Imports

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Construction Expenditures

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

Agricultural Prices

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Crop Reporting Board

Composite Index of Leading Indicators

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Business Conditions Digest"

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SERIE	S ION A—General Economic Indicators	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER	
	National Income and Product						
	Gross National Product			X			
	Personal Income		X				
A.1.3	Corporate Profits			X			
A.1.4	Federal Receipts and Expenditures			X			
A.1.5	Business Investment			X			
Part 2-	-Employment and Unemployment						
A.2.1	Unemployment Rate		X				
A.2.2	Duration of Unemployment		X				
A.2.3	Unemployment Insurance	X					
A.2.4	Labor Turnover		X				
A.2.5	Help Wanted Index		X				
Part 3_	Hours, Earnings and Productivity						
	Average Workweek, Manufacturing		x				
	Compensation Per Man-hour		x				
A.3.3	Productivity Indexes			X			
A.3.4	Real Earnings		x				
A.3.5	Work Stoppages		x				
Part 4-	-Production and Trade		~				
A.4.1 A.4.2	Industrial Production Index	I	X				
A.4.2	Production of Primary Metals	X	V				
			X				
A.4.5	Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders		X	x			
	Capacity Utilization		x	~			
A.4.7	Wholesale Trade: Sales and Inventories		x				
A.4.8	Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales		x				
A.4.9	Manufacturers' Evaluation of Their Inventories		^	x			
				~			
	-Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments						
A.5.1	Exports and Imports	1.200	X				
A.5.2	Manufacturers' Export Sales and Orders of Durable Goods		X				
A.5.3	Balance of Payments			X			
A.5.4	Foreign Travel				X	-	
Part 6-	-Prices			1	8	RO	1
A.6.1	Consumer Price Index		X	RAL			10
A.6.2	Wholesale Price Index		X	12		1	
A.6.3	Tuesday Spot Market Price Index	X				2	

SERIES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECTION A—General Economic Indicators (Continued)	2	×	0	A	0
Part 7—Construction A.7.1 Housing Construction A.7.2 Value of New Construction Work Done		x x			
Part 8-Energy, Raw Materials, and Commodities					
A.8.1 Distribution of Electric Power A.8.2 Production and Consumption of Fossil Fuels		x			
Part 9—Agriculture A.9.1 Farm Income and Expenses		x			
Part 10-Money and Credit A.10.1 Money Stock Measures A.10.2 Bank Reserves A.10.3 Consumer Credit A.10.4 Common Stock Prices A.10.5 U.S. Government Securities	X X X	x			
A.10.6 Business Credit A.10.7 Interest Rates Part 11–Indicators of Business Activity		x			
A.11.1 Composite Index of Leading Indicators]	x			
A.11.2 Number of New Business Incorporations		XX			
A.11.3 Number of Business Failures		^			
Part 1–Population					
B.1.1 Population - Total Population	• • • •	x	x x x x x x		
B.1.2 Population Distribution – Population by Size of Place – Population in Rural and Urban Areas			x x		
B.1.3 Migration – Recent Movers – Migration by Region		ALIB	x		

Week of August 4, 1975

SERII	ES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECT	ION B-General Social Indicators (Continued)	Ň	¥	Ъ О	AN	10
Part 2	The Family					
B.2.1	Living Arrangements, Selected Characteristics – Age, Sex, and Race				x	
B.2.2	Family Formation and Dissolution — Marital Status of the Population — Marriage and Divorce Rates — Marriages Ending in Divorce		x		x x	
B.2.3	Attitudes Towards Family Life					X
Part 3	Health					
B.3.1	Life Expectancy - At Birth - At Selected Ages - Death Rates by Cause - Leading Causes of Death - Infant Mortality		x		X X X X X	
B.3.2	Disability – Days of Disability by Type				x x	x x
B.3.3	Morbidity – Communicable Diseases – Acute Illness		x		x	
B3.4	Health Status - Nutrition • Dietary Intake • Clinical Measurements - Obesity - Drugs • Drug Deaths • Drug Abuse Episodes • Liquor Consumption - Smoking - Physical Fitness - Perceived Health Status	E.C.	××		××	x x x x x x

TABLE OF CONTENTS-Continued

SERIES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECTION B—General Social Indicators (Continued)					r
B.3.5 Health Care Delivery - Physician and Dental Visits - Costs and Expenditures - Facilities - Personnel - Attitudes Towards Health Care				X X X X	x
Part 4—Education					
B.4.1 Educational Achievement by Sex, Race, Socioeconomic Status, Region — Math, Science, Reading, Writing — — Music, Art, Literature, Citizenship —					X X
B.4.2 Attainment — High School Graduation Rate				X X X	
B.4.3 School Enrollment – Primary and Secondary School				x x x x	X X X
B.4.4 Educational Facilities and Personnel — Schools, Classrooms — — Teachers, Administrative, Others —				x x	
B.4.5 Costs and Expenditures — Expected Student Expenses, Higher Education				x	x
Part 5–Work					
 B.5.1 Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Labor Force Participation, Selected Characteristics Part-time, Part-year Workers, Selected Characteristics Employment by Occupation, Selected Characteristics Unemployment, Selected Characteristics Discouraged Workers 		x	x	X X X X	
B.5.2 Earnings — Median Earnings, Selected Characteristics				X	

TABL	E OF CONTENTS—Continued					
SERI	ES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECT	ION B-General Social Indicators (Continued)	-	_			
B.5.3	Working Conditions — Regular and Overtime Hours, Selected Characteristics — Work Injuries by Occupation — Time, Distance, and Mode Transportation to Work				X X	x
B.5.4	Benefits — Vacations, Holidays — Benefit Plans				x	x
B.5.5	Retirement - Persons Retiring From Work Work-Life Expectancy Retirement Benefits				x x	x
Part 6-	-Income, Consumption, and Wealth					
B.6.1	Income Levels Median Family Income				X X X	
B.6.2	Distribution of Income – Age, Race, and Sex – Regional Differences				X X	
B.6.3	Poverty				X	
B.6.4	Consumption Personal Consumption Expenditures Consumption of Durable Goods 			x	X	
B.6.5	Wealth Net Worth of Consumer Units Composition of Wealth 					x x
B.6.6	Consumer Borrowing and Debt — Amount of Debt Outstanding — Debt/Income Ratio				X X	
B.6.7	Consumer Attitudes			x		
Part 7-	-Housing					
B.7.1	Housing Conditions — Average Size of Households — Households Lacking Selected Facilities, by Size, Race, Tenure,				x	
	and Location		1 A 31		X X	

SERI	ES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECT	ION B—Socioeconomic Series (Continued)	-	_			
B.7.2	Home Tenure - Single Family Dwellings - Mobile Homes				X X X X	
B.7.3	Cost and Expenditures – Average Mortgage Payments				X X X	
B.7.4	Attitudes Towards Housing and the Community					x
Part 8-	-Leisure and Recreation					
B.8.1	Use of Leisure Time					x
B.8.2	Recreation Outdoor (Social, Active Sports, etc) Indoor (Television, Visiting, Other) 				x	x x
Part 9-	-Public Safety					
B.9.1	Crimes Known to Police – Violent – Property			x x	X X	-
B.9.2	Victims of Crime, Selected Characteristics – Violent – Property				x x	
B.9.3	Fear of Crime, Selected Characteristics		ľ			x
B.9.4	Police Activity Persons Arrested by Charge Offenses Cleared 				x x	
B.9.5	Judicial Activity — Persons Sentenced for Federal Crimes				x	
B.9.6	Prisoners, Adults and Juveniles – Prisoners by Sentence				X X X X	
B.9.7	Expenditures for Administration of Criminal Justice		R C R		x	

Week of August 4, 1975

TABLE OF CONTENTS—Continued

.

SERI	ES	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECT	ION C—Government Activity	3	Σ	ð	A	Ö
Part 1-	-Social Welfare and Security					
C.1.1	Social Security (OASDHI) Current Beneficiaries New Beneficiaries Average Payment		X X X			
C.1.2	 Benefits Paid Recipients 		x x			
C.1.3	Aid to the Disabled - Blind		X X X			
C.1.4	Aid to Families With Dependent Children – Recipients – Benefits		x x			
C.1.5	Unemployment Insurance Coverage - Benefits Paid		x x			
C.1.6	Housing Assistance Recipients		x x			
C.1.7	Food Stamps – Recipients		x x			
C.1.8	Aid to Disaster Victims Recipients				X X	
C.1.9	Veterans Benefits – Recipients		x x			
Part 2-	-Equal Opportunity					
C.2.1	Equal Employment Opportunity Minority Employment Earnings, Promotions, etc. 				X X	
C.2.2	School Desegregation — Students Attending Predominantly Minority Schools				x x	

TABLE OF CONTENTS—Continued

SERIES		WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
SECTION C-Gov	vernment Activity (Continued)					
Part 3–Government	Operation					
· ·	loyment s		X X			
	s		x x			
SECTION D-Env	vironment, Science, Culture					
Part 1—Environment	t					
– Ambient A	f Pollutants Released Into the Atmosphere Air Quality-National, Major Cities				x x	x
	y creams Meeting EPA Standards Fish Kills				x x	
	ubstances Amounts Produced tion in Biosphere				x x	
- Critical Are	d Species (Plant and Animal)eas (Coastal Zones)				x	×
- Land/Peop	le Density				×	
Part 2—Science						
- By Special	ars of Scientists, Engineers Engaged in R&D				x x	
- Private Ind	s for Research and Development dustrynt				X X	
 Secondary 	evement in Schools Schools ucation					X X

TABLE OF CONTENTS-Continued

...

TABLI	E OF CONTENTS-Continued					
SERIES SECTION D-Environment, Science, Culture		WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL	OTHER
D.2.4	Public Attitudes Towards Science and Technology				x	
	-Culture					
D.3.1	Persons Employed in Artistic Professions – By Type					x
	Children's Skill and Appreciation of Literature Arts, Music					x
D.3.3	Participation in Cultural Activities – Voluntary Organizations				X X	x
D.3.4					x x	
,						
		l				•



A.1.4 - Federal Budget Receipts and Outlays

(Fiscal Year)

A.1.4 - Budget Outlays By Selected Agency



 The Federal Government spent \$44.21 billion more than it collected in the year ended June 30, 1975.

Biggest budget deficit since \$47.47 billion in 1945.

- Fiscal 1975 Receipts tapered off from the 1974 pace, while Outlays increased at a faster rate.
 - Receipts, which rose 14.1 percent in 1974, increased only 6.0 percent in 1975.
 - Outlays, which were up 8.9 percent in 1974, rose 21.1 percent in 1975.
- The Department of Health, Education and Welfare accounted for more than one-third of Total Outlays in fiscal 1975.
- The Labor Department almost doubled its 1974 expenditures of \$9.0 billion.
- Outlays of the Department of Defense rose 10.3 percent over last year.

A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate





A.2.1 - Civilian Labor Force and Employment

 The Unemployment Rate declined for the second consecutive month after reaching a high of 9.2 percent in May.

• Nearly all worker groups shared in the decline.

- Employment rose markedly in July to 85.1 million, highest since December.
- The Civilian Labor Force also exhibited strong growth with a return to May's level of 92.9 million.

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- The Unemployment Rate for Negro and Other Races showed greater improvement than for Whites.
- Rates dropped most sharply among Teenagers and Adult Women.
 - The rate for Adult Men was close to the second quarter average.
- Notable decreases were registered in the rates for Adult Females and Adult Males of Negro and Other Races.

A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate by Industry



A.2.1 - Unemployment Rate by Occupation



- Unemployment in the Private Sector decreased.
 - Manufacturing Unemployment declined 7.5 percent, the first significant decline in over a year.
 - Agricultural Unemployment has dropped one-third since April.
 - Finance and Service Unemployment has decreased 12.5 percent since May.
- Government was the only category which increased.
- Among the Occupational Groups the rate for Blue-collar workers fell to 12.1 percent in July, after peaking at 13.0 percent in May.
 - Operatives was the major factor in the decrease.
- White-collar Unemployment remained unchanged.

A.2.2 - Duration of Unemployment Number of Workers Unemployed





A.2.2 - Average Duration of Unemployment

- Long-term unemployment continued to increase in July, now comprising 3.2 percent of the labor force, more than triple the rate of a year earlier.
 - The number of workers jobless 15 weeks or longer rose by 110,000 over the month to a level of 3.0 million.
- The average duration remained unchanged from the June level.
 - June level highest in 13 years.



A.2.4 - Labor Turnover Rates in Manufacturing



A.2.4 - Components of Labor Turnover

- Total Accessions declined for the second consecutive month to 3.6 percent.
 - New Hires rose for the third consecutive month to a rate of 2.0 percent.
 - The movement in Accessions and New Hires suggests a considerable decrease in recalls compared to previous months in 1975.
- Total Separations continued to decline down 36.1 percent from post-World War II high reached in December.
 - Quits rose for the second month in a row.
 - Layoffs contined to decline.
 - Down 42.9 percent from a high of 3.5 percent in January.
 - Lowest level since October 1974 when 1.9 percent were laid off.



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

- The Help-Wanted Advertising Index rose to 79 in June, a gain of 8 points (11.3 percent) over the May level.
 - Highest since December 1974.
 - Down almost 32 percent from last year.
- This marks the first significant increase since the Index began to decline sharply in July 1974.

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A.3.1 - Average Workweek



- Contract Construction had its largest increase in average workweek since the March increase of 5 percent.
- Private Nonagricultural Average Workweek edged up one-tenth of an hour over June.
- Average Workweek for Manufacturing continued to rise for the third consecutive month showing the largest percentage increase since October 1971.

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A.3.2 - Average Hourly Earnings of Production Workers



- Preliminary estimates indicate that Contract Construction, up 9 cents, made the largest gain in average hourly earnings in the private sector.
- Total Private Nonagricultural and Manufacturing both showed slight increases in July.
- Services dropped slightly in July 3 cents per hour.

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A.3.3 - Indexes of Output Per Hour

(1967=100)



- Productivity (output per hour) in the Private Economy in the second quarter of 1975 rose at a 2.0 percent annual rate.
 - First quarterly increase since the second quarter of 1974.
 - Largest increase since the first quarter of 1973.
- In the Private Nonfarm Sector, Productivity increased 3.3 percent.
 - First increase since the first quarter of 1973.
- In manufacturing, productivity declined 1.8 percent in the second quarter, compared with a 7.9 percent decline in the preceding quarter.

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• Fourth consecutive quarterly decline.



A.3.5 - Man-Days Idle As A Result of Work Stoppages

4 AUGUST 1975



A.3.5 - Number of Work Stoppages

- All measures of work stoppage activity in the first 6 months of 1975 were lower than the levels in 1974.
 - A total of 17.2 million days of idleness has been recorded in 1975, some 3.6 million fewer than in the first half of 1974.
 - Number of strikes dropped 15 percent.
 - Number of workers involved in stoppages in the first half of 1975 declined 40 percent compared to first half of 1974.
- The only measure of strike activity that increased from May to June was the number of stoppages.
 - Man days idle decreased 6 percent.
 - Workers involved in stoppages decreased 4 percent.
- Construction Industry accounted for all 10 of the large strikes.
 - Accounted for 28 percent of total days of idleness.
A.4.4 - Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders All Manufacturing



A.4.4 - Inventories By Stage of Fabrication Manufacturing



- New Orders increased for the third consecutive month.
 - For the 3 months ending in June the average monthly increase in New Orders was 2.7 percent compared with a decrease of 1.1 percent in the first quarter and a 4.2 percent decrease in the fourth quarter.
- Shipments moved up 1.4 percent after declining in May.
- Unfilled Orders dropped for the ninth consecutive month.
 - The decline of 0.4 percent was the smallest since the decline began in October, 1974.
- The rate of Inventory Liquidation slowed somewhat in June.
 - Inventories down 0.6 percent, the smallest decline since March.
- 81.9 percent of the Total Inventory decline since February is accounted for by drops in Inventories of Materials and Supplies.



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

A.4.4 - Inventories Selected Durable Goods Industries

1



 Both Shipments and Net New Orders of Durable Goods increased slightly during June.

Most Industry Groups remained at or near May levels.

- Durable Goods Inventories decreased a further 0.6 percent in June.
 - The decline was led by Electrical Machinery and Fabricated Metal Products.
- In contrast, Primary Metals Inventories rose 1.4 percent and stand more than 40 percent above a year ago.



A.4.4 - Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders

4 AUGUST 1975





- Inventory Liquidation in Nondurable Goods Industries slowed considerably from the previous month.
 - With the exception of Food and Kindred Products, which decreased 3 percent, all Industry Groups remained at or near May levels.
- Shipments of Nondurable Goods moved up sharply, led by:
 - Chemicals
 - Petroleum and Coal Products
 - Food and Kindred Products

A.5.1 - Exports and Imports





- Total Exports increased in June by 6.7 percent, the first increase since January, 1975.
- Total Imports declined in June by 2.0 percent to a level of \$6.9 billion, the lowest since January, 1974.
 - Non oil imports increased \$330 million, the first increase since December 1974.
- Merchandise Trade Balance soared to a record \$1.7 billion surplus in June, the highest in history.
 - June is the fifth consecutive month for which a Merchandise Trade surplus has been recorded.



A.5.1 - Exports of Non-Agricultural Commodities and Components



A.5.1 - Imports of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

- Non-Agricultural Exports posted the largest increase since the December 1971 advance of 21 percent.
 - Nonelectrical Machinery and Transport Equipment accounted for approximately four-fifths of the June rise.
 - Nonelectrical Machinery 30 percent.
 - Transport Equipment 50 percent.
- Petroleum Imports declined \$478 million from May to June.
 - Administration officials attribute the sharp drop in imports of oil to the \$1-a-barrel tariff increase.



A.7.2 - Value of New Construction Work Done

4 AUGUST 1975



- Construction Spending in current dollars recorded an increase of 0.8 percent, after declining almost 8 percent since January.
- However, in constant dollar terms, there was no change from the May level.
 - Halted a 5 month decline.
- After remaining at the same level in May, Private Nonresidential Building Construction dropped 1.6 percent in June.
 - Lowest rate since December 1972.
 - Office Buildings dropped 7.7 percent and have declined in 5 of the past 7 months.
- Private Residential Structures rose 3.7 percent—second consecutive monthly increase.
 - One Unit Structures, which have been increasing steadily since March, climbed 7.3 percent:



A.9.1 - Index of Prices Received and Paid By Farmers



- The Index of Prices Received By Farmers increased 5 points up to a level of 187, 1 point above prices paid.
 - First time Prices Received was greater than prices paid since November 1974.
- The increase in the Index of Prices Received was broad-based. The largest contributors were:
 - Food Grains up 12.6 percent.
 - Potatoes, Sweetpotatoes and Dry Beans up 14.3 percent.



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



- The new Composite Index of Leading Indicators increased for the fourth consecutive month in June.
 - Highest level since October 1974 when it stood at 100.3.
 - Eight of the nine available indicators showed increases.
 - On the basis of more complete data, the May index has been revised upward to 96.5, 2.2 percent above the April figure.
- The component contributing the most to the increase was the Change in Total Liquid Assets (cash-term securities held by banks and thrift institutions).
 - Largest increase since June 1974 when a 0.93 percent increase was registered.