

HELP!

I'm an Accidental Government Information Librarian

Economic Indicators

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WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

Brought to you by NCLA Government Resources Section

For each indicator:

- Definition
 - Users & Uses
 - Sources
-

National Economy

Financial Environment

Commercial Environment

Consumer or Household Environment

National Economy

Financial Environment

Commercial Environment

Consumer or Household Environment

Gross Domestic Product

Inflation

Employment & Unemployment

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

The value of all finished goods and services produced within a geographic area for a specified period of time.

The % change over the prior period and trend are perhaps more important than the absolute number.

Data is reported at multiple levels:

- **National**
- **State**
- **MSA**

For various intervals:

- **Annual**
 - **Quarterly**
 - **Monthly**
-

Domestic Sources:

- **Bureau of Economic Analysis**
- **FRED: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis**

International Source:

- **World Bank**
-



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, National, International, Regional, Industry, and Interactive Data. Below the navigation bar is a row of five images: a factory, a stock market board, a woman and child, a large cargo ship, and a person working at a computer. The main content area is titled "U.S. Economic Accounts" and lists four categories: National, International, Regional, and Industry. A green arrow points to the "National" category. On the left side, there is a sidebar with sections for News, Information For..., and Publications.

U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of Economic Analysis

Home National International Regional Industry Interactive Data

News

- U.S. Economy at a Glance
- Current Releases
- News Release Archive

Information For...

- Media
- Congressional Users
- eFile Users
- Job Seekers

Publications

- Survey of Current Business
- Papers by Topic
- BEA Customer Guide

U.S. Economic Accounts

National

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Personal Income and Outlays
- Consumer Spending
- Corporate Profits
- Fixed Assets
- Research and Development Satellite Account

International

- Balance of Payments
- Trade in Goods and Services
- International Services
- International Investment Position
- Direct Investment and Multinational Companies
- Survey Forms and Related Materials

Regional

- GDP by State and Metropolitan Area
- State and Local Area Personal Income
- RIMS II Regional Input-Output Multipliers
- Economic Information for Coastal Areas

Industry

- Annual Industry Accounts (GDP by Industry & Input-Output Accounts)
- Benchmark Input-Output Accounts
- Research and Development Satellite Accounts
- Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts
- Supplemental Statistics

Table 1.1.5. Gross Domestic Product

[Billions of dollars] Seasonally adjusted at annual rates

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Last Revised on: February 28, 2013 - Next Release Date March 28, 2013

Line		2011				2012			
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
		1	Gross domestic product	14,814.9	15,003.6	15,163.2	15,321.0	15,478.3	15,585.6
2	Personal consumption exp.	10,566.3	10,684.9	10,791.2	10,873.8	11,007.2	11,067.2	11,154.4	11,254.6
3	Goods	3,561.4	3,604.3	3,643.6	3,690.0	3,755.9	3,741.5	3,792.5	3,843.0
4	Durable goods	1,133.9	1,131.8	1,144.8	1,175.1	1,204.6	1,200.3	1,218.9	1,252.5
5	Nondurable goods	2,427.5	2,472.4	2,498.7	2,515.0	2,551.3	2,541.2	2,573.6	2,590.5
6	Services	7,004.9	7,080.6	7,147.6	7,183.8	7,251.3	7,325.7	7,361.9	7,411.6

The Federal Reserve Bank: our nation's Central Bank

Has 12 district banks

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

- FRED, ALFRED, CASSIDI, other databases
 - Data, working papers, failed banks since 2007, TARP funds, and much more
 - Free
 - Interactive charts
 - Download data into Excel
-

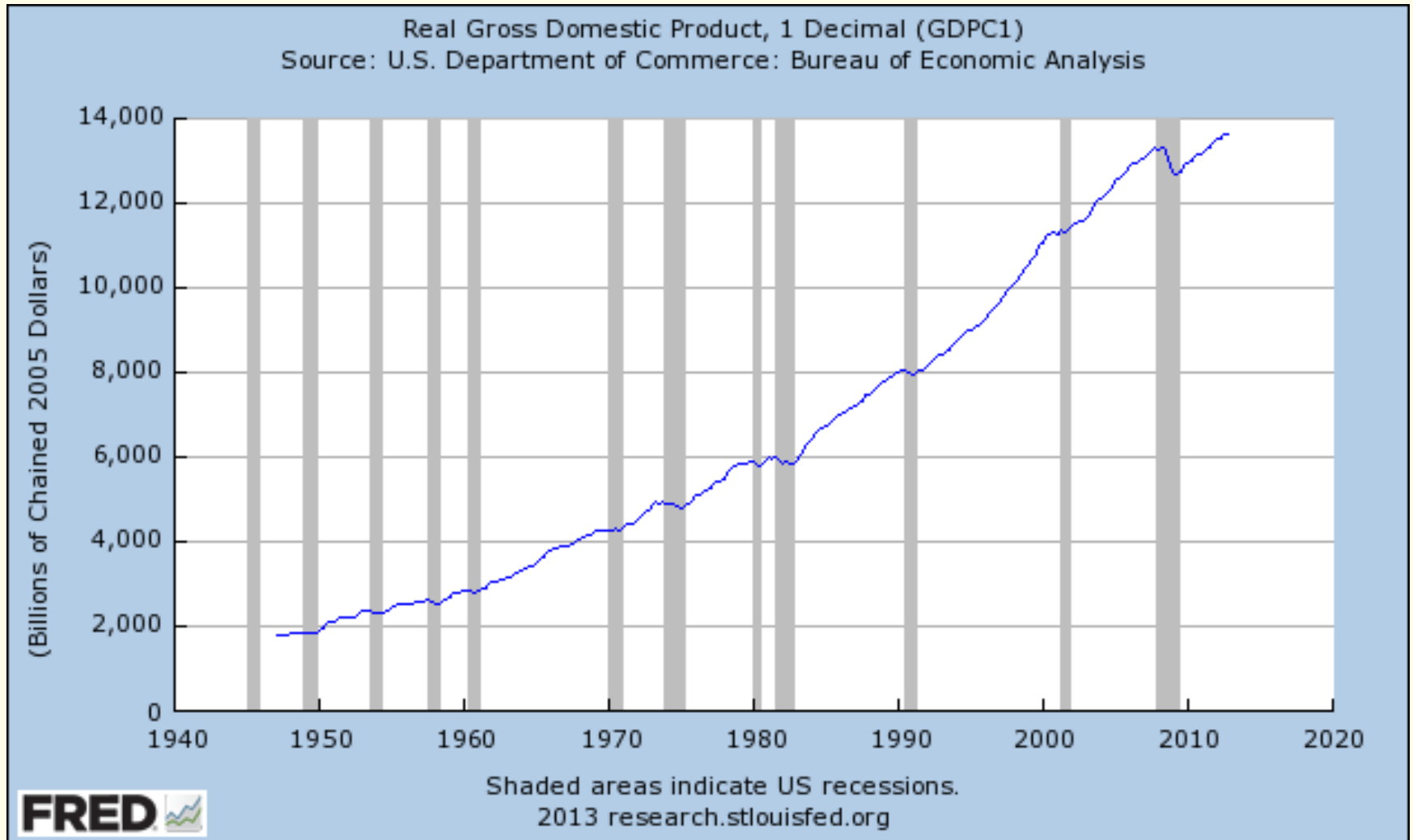
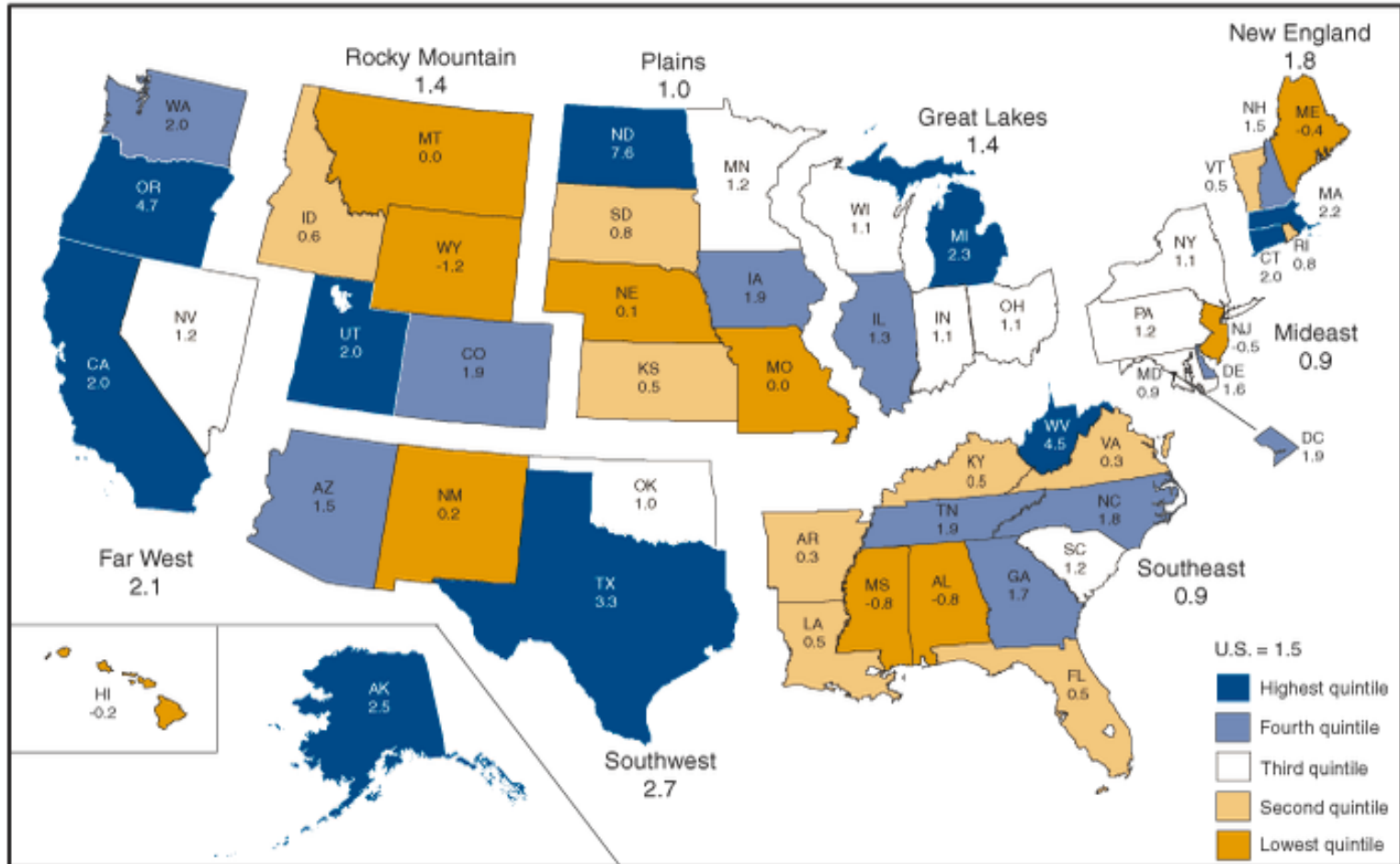


Chart 1. Percent Change in Real GDP by State, 2011







U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

- <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator>
 - Free
 - 331 economic and social indicators
 - 214 countries
 - Date range: from 1960 to 2011
 - Languages: Spanish, French, Arabic and Chinese
 - Data by topic by country
 - Download into Excel
-

TABLE

MAP

GRAPH

	1980-1982	1983-1987	1988-1992	1993-1997	1998-2002	2003-2007	2008-2012	
Country name			2008	2009	2010	2011		
Afghanistan			10,617,347,740	12,244,505,992	15,712,654,583	19,176,772,040		
Albania			12,968,653,525	12,118,583,126	11,858,216,877	12,959,563,902		
Algeria			170,989,269,622	138,119,949,895	161,979,441,019	188,681,099,191		
American Samoa								
Andorra			3,712,034,267					
Angola			79,620,700,694	65,161,070,140	80,856,694,812	104,331,613,337		
Antigua and Barbuda			1,354,616,665	1,214,286,802	1,153,788,954	1,118,317,379		
Argentina			326,582,808,527	307,155,148,184	368,736,062,144	446,044,143,596		
Armenia			11,662,017,845	8,648,015,305	9,371,175,470	10,247,788,877		
Aruba								
Australia			1,052,817,595,438	921,971,672,011	1,139,200,538,111	1,379,382,221,955		
Austria			414,171,069,689	383,626,706,101	376,837,981,579	417,656,162,500		

Questions?

Consumer Price Index (CPI)
Producer Price Index (PPI)

- **A measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. (BLS.gov)**
 - **It's an index:**
 - the years 1982 – 84 = 100
 - Price changes are indexed against those price levels.
-

Food & beverage

Housing

Apparel

Transportation

Medical Care

Recreation

Recreation

**Education &
communication**

**Other goods &
services**

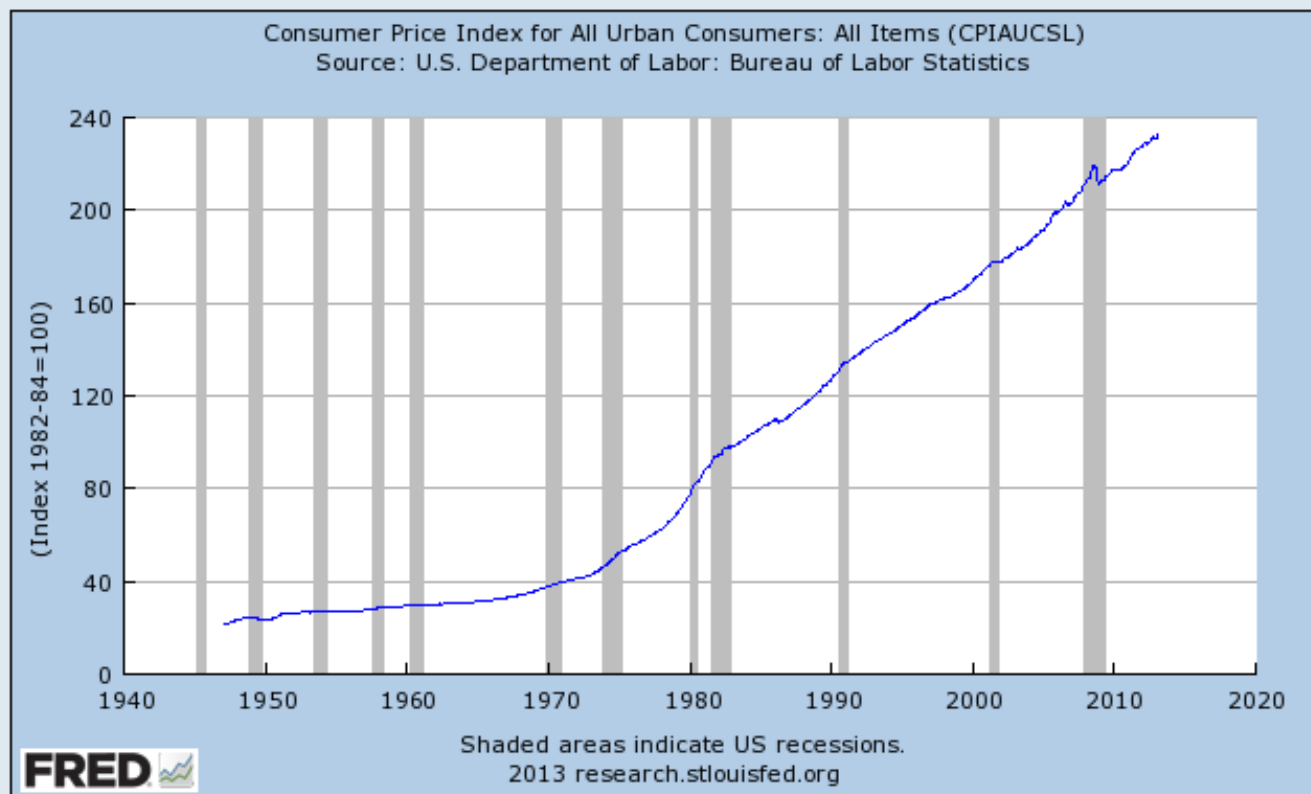
**Commodity & services
groups**

Special Indexes

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items (CPIAUCSL)

2013-02: **232.770** Index 1982-84=100 [Last 5 Observations](#)

Monthly, Seasonally Adjusted, Updated: 2013-03-15 8:50 AM CDT



- The Producer Price Index (PPI) program measures the average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers for their output (BLS.gov).
 - Reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics
 - Producer Price Indexes at the BLS: [bls.gov/ppi](https://www.bls.gov/ppi)
-

- **A leading indicator for consumer inflation**
 - **Reported for 18 categories, such as**
 - Finished goods
 - Intermediate materials
 - Industrial commodities
 - Crude energy materials
 - Fuels & related products
 - **Indexed, 1982 = 100**
-

Bureau of Labor Statistics

FRED

Employment
Unemployment

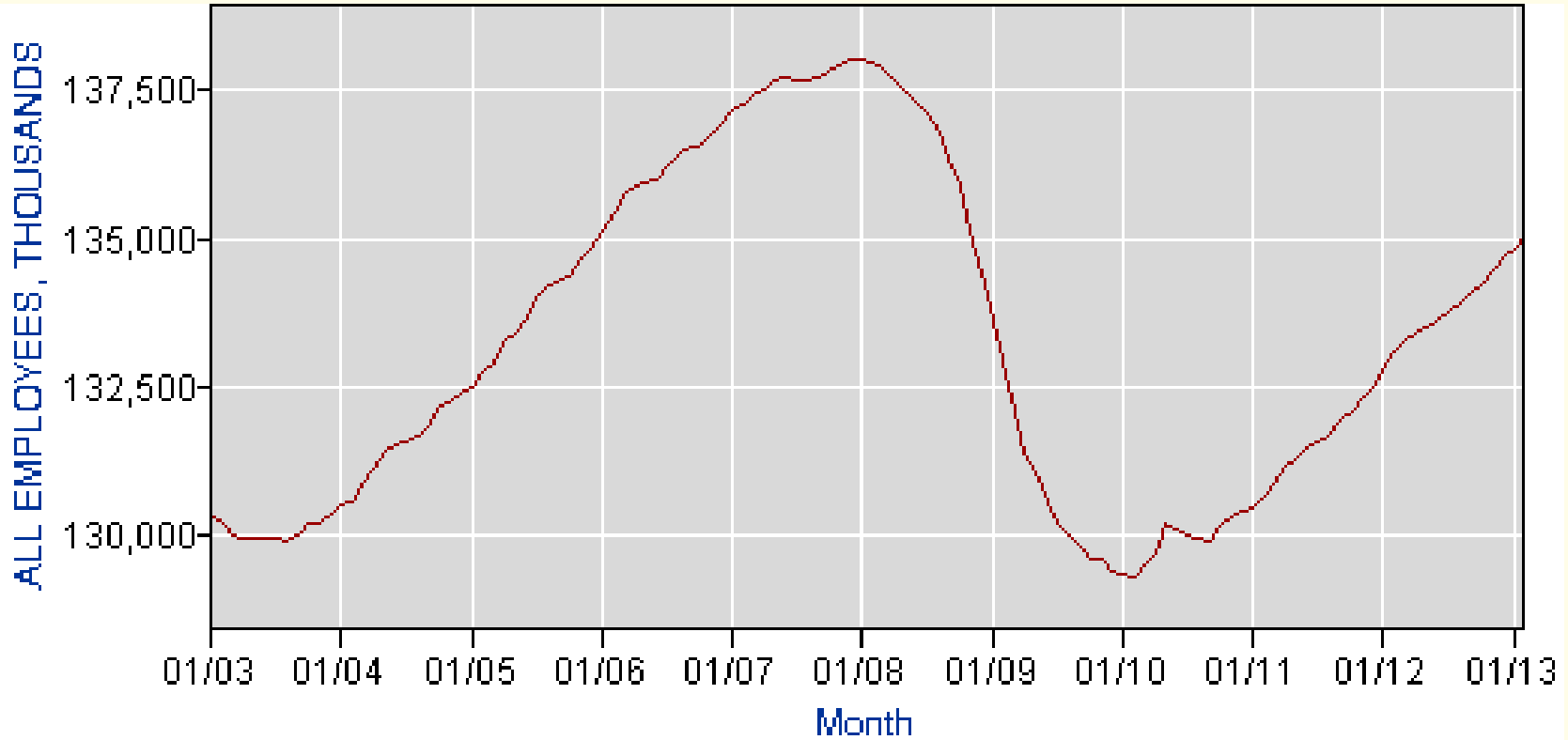
The BLS programs provide national totals of the number of employed people and also provide statistics on subjects such as:

- **Occupational employment and wages**
- **Labor demand and turnover**
- **The dynamic state of the labor market**

Source: BLS Current Employment Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/ces/>

Total Nonfarm Employment (thousands)



Persons are classified as unemployed if they do not have a job, have actively looked for work in the prior 4 weeks, and are currently available for work. Persons who were not working and were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been temporarily laid off are also included as unemployed. Receiving benefits from the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program has no bearing on whether a person is classified as unemployed. Source: BLS.gov/cps

The unemployment rate represents the number unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

Unemployment Rate in February 2013: 7.7%

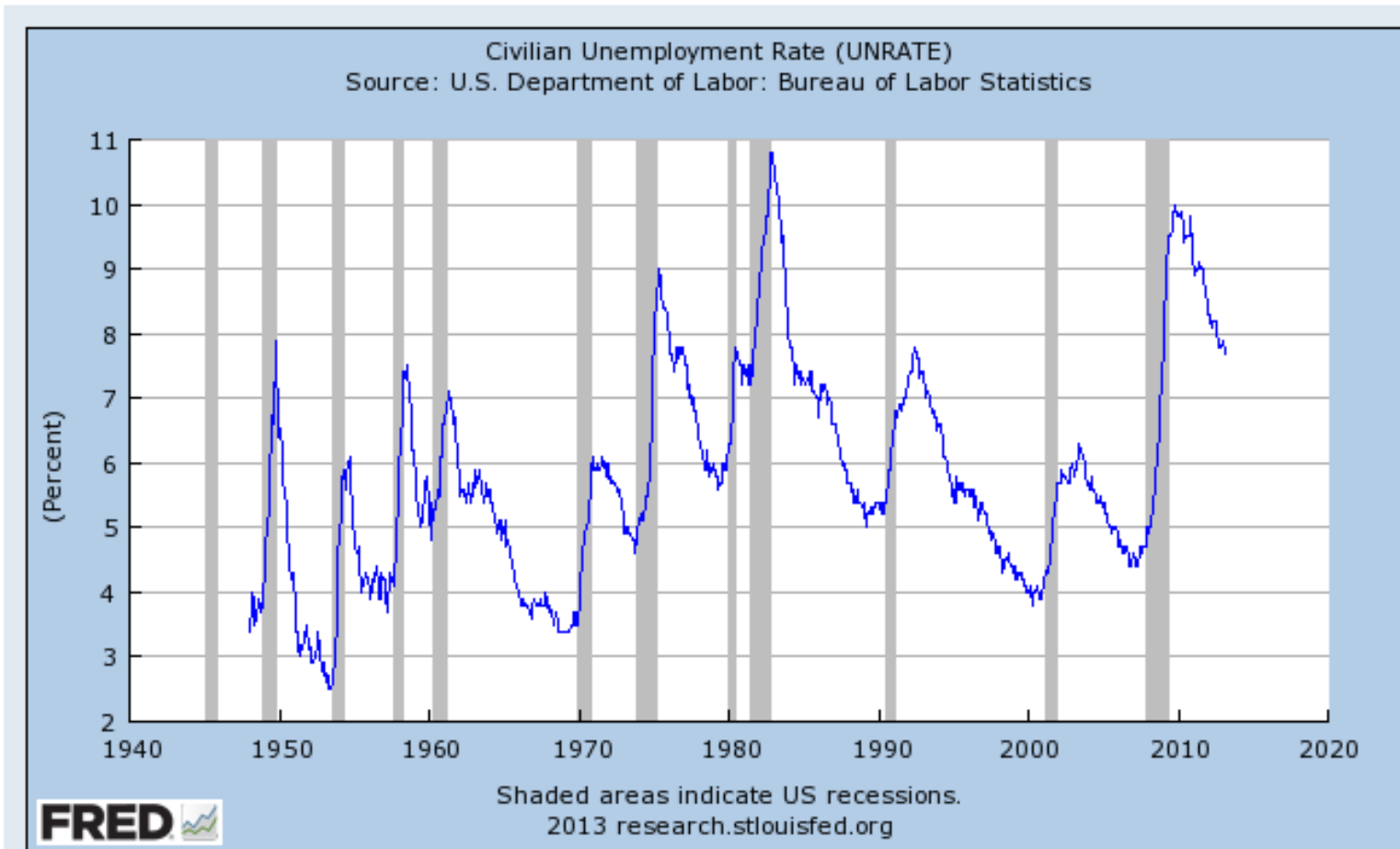
Sources:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics
 - FRED
-

Civilian Unemployment Rate (UNRATE)

2013-02: **7.7** Percent Last 5 Observations

Monthly, Seasonally Adjusted, Updated: 2013-03-08 8:18 AM CST



We looked at indicators for:

- **GDP**
- **Inflation**
- **Employment and unemployment**

Best sources:

- **BEA: Bureau of Economic Analysis**
 - **BLS: Bureau of Labor Statistics**
 - **Fred: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis**
 - **World Bank**
-

Before we look at indicators of the financial environment are there any questions?

National Debt

- Balance
- Debt service

Stock market

- Closing prices and trends
-

“The term *national debt* refers to direct liabilities of the United States Government. There are several different concepts of debt that are at various times used to refer to the national debt”.

Public debt is the most significant form of debt. It exists as “U. S. Treasury securities [which] primarily consist of marketable Treasury securities (i.e., bills, notes and bonds), savings bonds and special securities issued to state and local governments.”

Source: U. S. Treasury

**On March 25, 2003, debt held by the public was
\$11,895,649,154,059.06**

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\$11,895,649,154,059.06

TreasuryDirect provides a tool that lets the user look up the amount of public debt on a particular date or date range.

Terminology

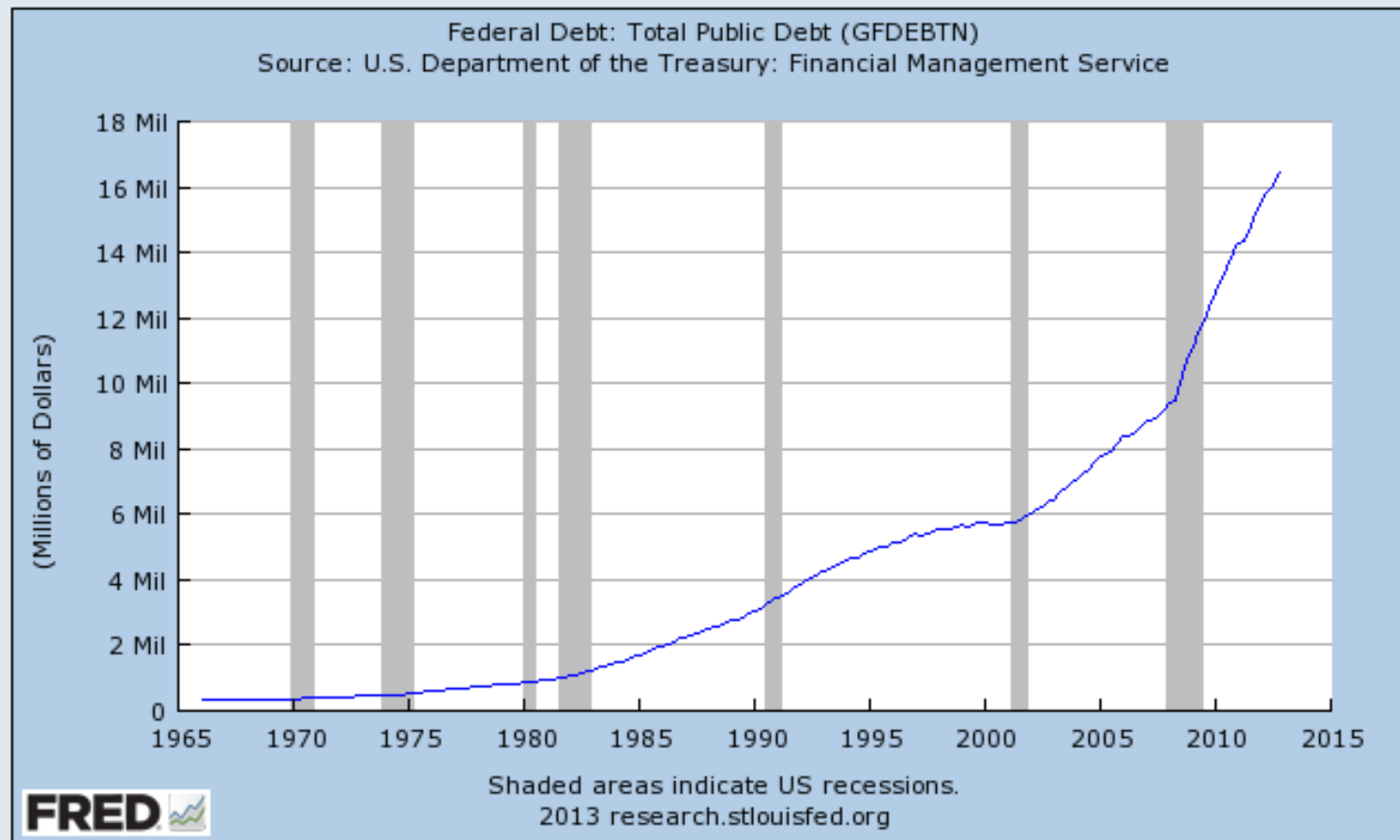
Components of debt:

- **Principal: national debt**
 - **Interest: debt service**
-

Federal Debt: Total Public Debt (GFDEBTN)

2012:Q4: **16,432,729** Millions of Dollars Last 5 Observations

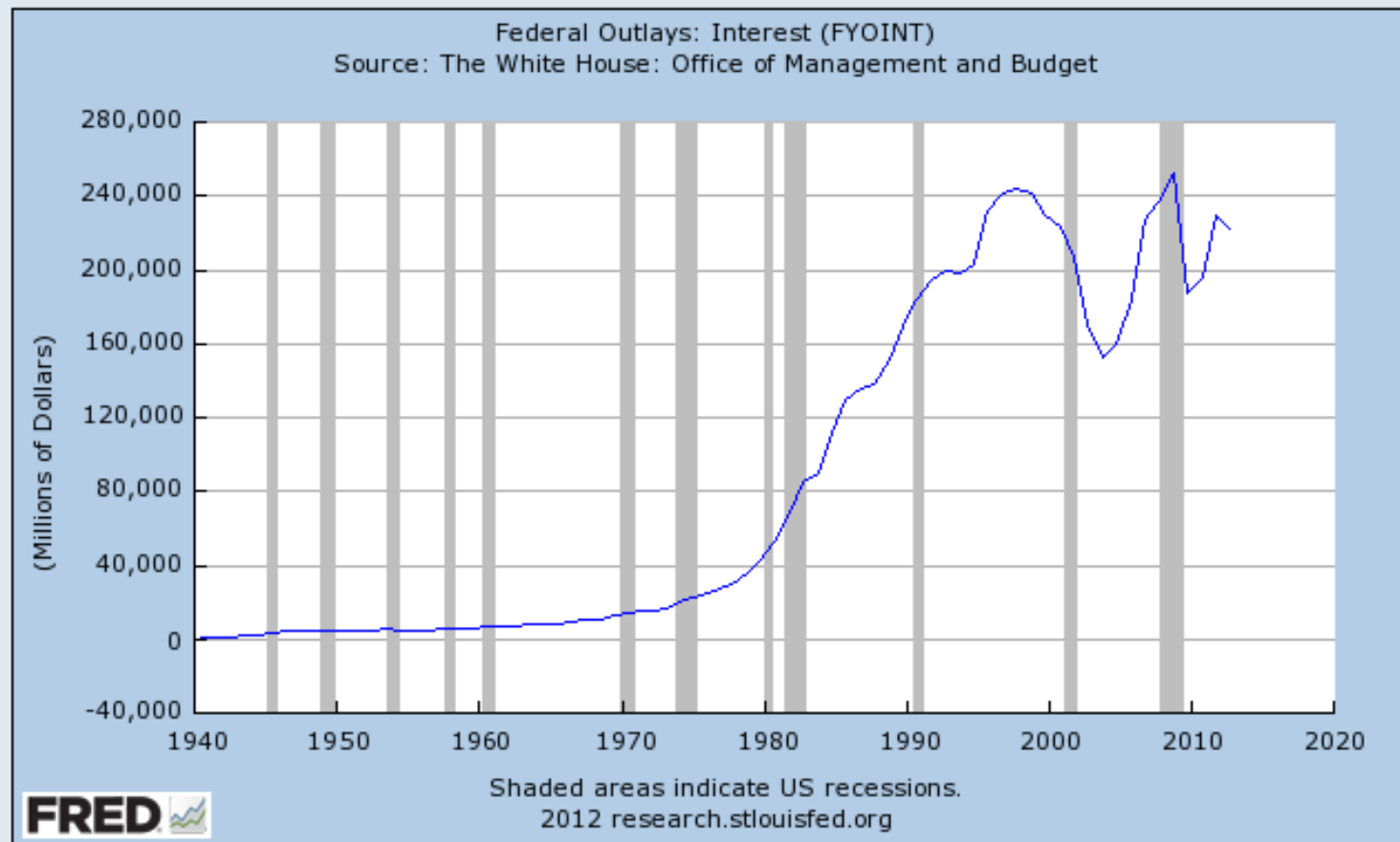
Quarterly, End of Period, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Updated: 2013-03-13 10:31 AM CDT



Federal Outlays: Interest (FYOINT)

2012: **222,470** Millions of Dollars [Last 5 Observations](#)

Annual, Fiscal Year, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Updated: 2012-10-15 3:46 PM CDT



New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)

NASDAQ

Indices:

- **DJ Industrials**
 - **S&P 500**
-

NYSE.com

Finance.Yahoo.com

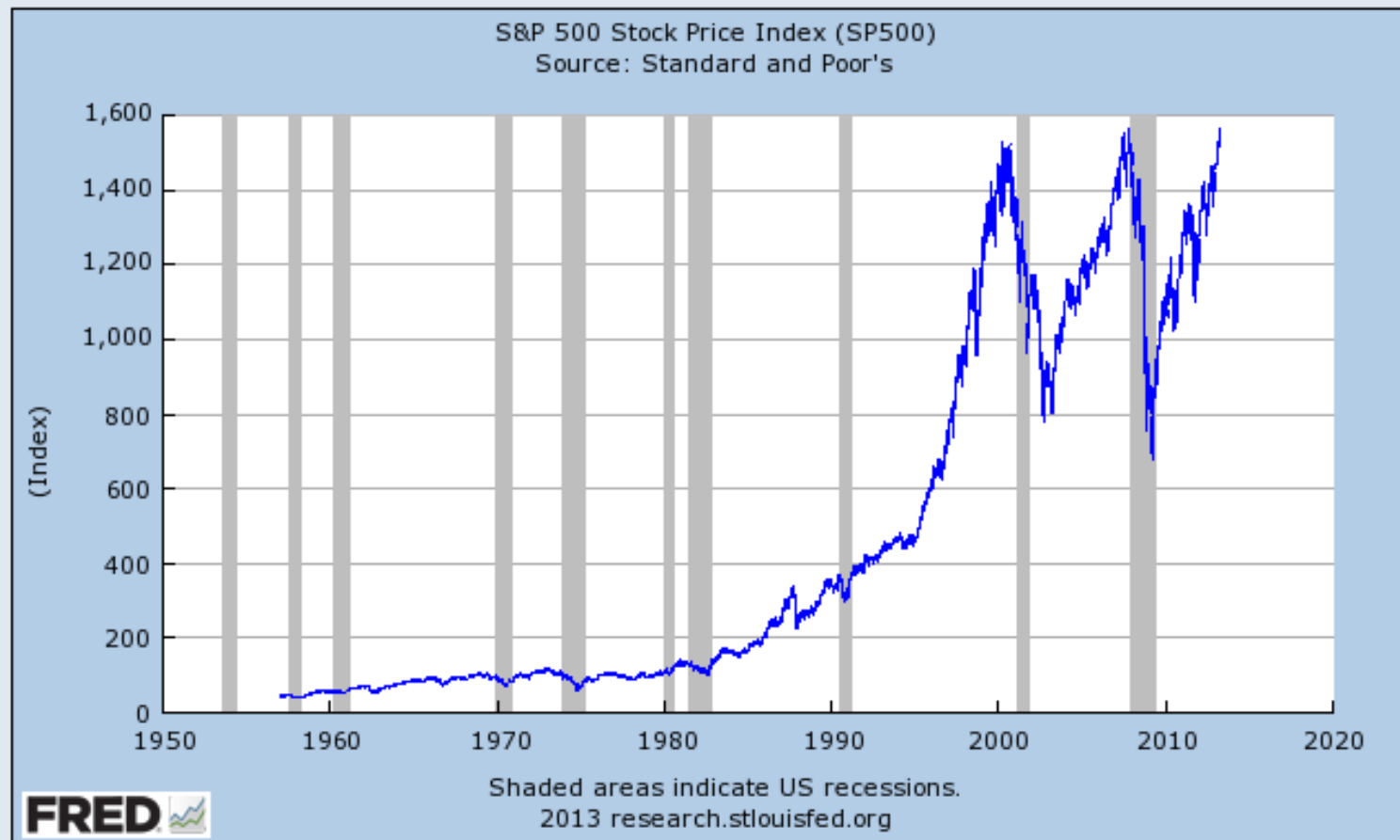
WSJ.com

NYTimes.com

S&P 500 Stock Price Index (SP500)

2013-03-25: **1,551.69** Index Last 5 Observations

Daily, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Updated: 2013-03-26 9:15 AM CDT





NASDAQComposite (^IXIC) - NASDAQ

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3,252.48 ↑ 17.18 (0.53%) Mar 26

Enter name(s) or symbol(s) [GET CHART](#) [COMPARE](#) [EVENTS](#) [TECHNICAL INDICATORS](#) [CHART SETTINGS](#) [RESET](#)

Week of Mar 24, 2008: ■ ^IXIC 2261.18



■ Volume: 2,030,281,984



1D 5D 1M YTD 3M 6M 1Y 2Y 5Y Max FROM: Mar 24 2008 TO: Mar 25 2013 +43.84%

Thank you for joining us

Questions?

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<http://tinyurl.com/grs-eval24>

**Please fill out our survey and let us know what
you think!**

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May: Basic Legal Resources

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