The U.S. Economy: Current Events, Challenges, and Opportunities

White House Economic Development Forum
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Under Secretary for Economic Affairs
Private forecasters expect the economy to gain steam.

Real gross domestic product (Annual percent change)

Source: BEA, Blue Chip
Note: Values for 2014 and 2015 are Blue Chip forecasts.
Monthly private job gains have averaged 200,000 for the last three years.

9.9 million jobs created over the last 53 months.

Source: BLS
Note: Shading indicates recession.
Upbeat consumer attitudes have steadily risen.

Source: The Conference Board, University of Michigan
Note: Shading indicates recession.
Household balance sheets have been repaired.
Economic look ahead

Consumer spending should pick up.

Light motor vehicle unit sales ( Millions of units )

16.9  16.9  16.5  16.1  13.2  10.4  11.6  12.7  14.4  15.5  16.3  17.0  17.1

Source: BEA, Macroeconomic Advisers
Note: Values for 2014 - 2016 are Macroeconomic Advisers forecasts.
House prices are back up.

Source: Federal Housing Finance Agency, Standard & Poor's
Note: Shading indicates recession.
Growth in house prices remains asymmetric across the country.
Both manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors accelerated growth in recent months.

Source: Institute for Supply Management
Note: Shading indicates recession.
World exports are also expected to continue their growth.

- **Advanced Economies**
- **Emerging Market and Developing Economies**

**Exports volume, goods and services (Percentage changes)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Advanced Economies</th>
<th>Emerging Market and Developing Economies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014*</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015*</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IMF
Note: Values for 2014 and 2015 are forecasts.
Thank you.
Government has been a drag on the economy.

Real government spending (Percentage point contributions to GDP growth)

Source: BEA
Trading partners' economies are expected to continue growing.

Foreign GDP growth (Percentage changes, constant dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014*</th>
<th>2015*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IMF
Note: Values for 2014 and 2015 are forecasts.