

May 2003

# World Trade: Past, Present, and Future

s the figure shows, the world's volume of merchandise exports (agricultural, mining, and manufactured products) increased at an average annual rate of 6.3 percent from 1950 through 2001; world output increased at a rate of 3.8 percent. During this period, there were only four noteworthy declines in merchandise exports—in 1958, 1975, 1982, and 2001, years when world output showed little or no growth. As world growth accelerated in 2002 to 3.0 percent, world trade increased by roughly 2.5 percent, a much slower rate than the average for 1950-2001. So what does the future hold for world trade growth?

World trade prospects depend on three key factors—income growth, reductions in trade barriers, and declines in transportation costs. Scott Baier and Jeffrey Bergstrand estimated that, between the late 1950s and the late 1980s, income growth explained about 67 percent of the average trade growth of several developed countries, tariff-rate reductions about 25 percent, and declines in transportation costs about 8 percent.<sup>1</sup>

In the April 2003 *World Economic Outlook*, the International Monetary Fund projected that world output would grow 3.2 percent in 2003. If accurate, such a small increase in world output over 2002 suggests only a small increase in world trade.

Turning to multilateral trade negotiations, the prospects are poor for any substantial near-term reductions in trade barriers. It seems unlikely that the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations will be completed by 2005, as a deadline for setting ground rules for agricultural talks has come and gone with no agreement.

Neither does it seem likely that regional or bilateral agreements involving the United States will provide the impetus for trade barrier reductions. Negotiations involving the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas appear to be progressing, at best, very slowly. Similarly, bilateral agreements involving the United States are clouded by delays. For example, a December 2001 agreement with Chile has not yet even been debated in Congress. Potential

agreements with Morocco, Australia, and the countries of Central America are moving even more slowly.

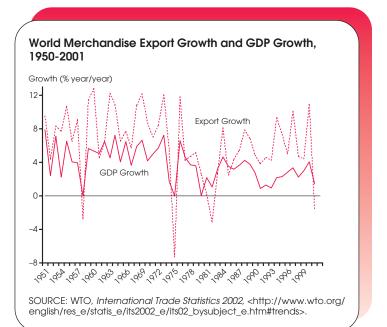
Finally, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, have boosted transport costs. Insurance rates, especially for shipping in the Middle East, have increased sharply. Increased scrutiny of shipping containers has also increased costs. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the costs of additional security measures could run from 1 to 3 percent of the value of trade.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, additional security measures cause delays for importers and exporters that further increase transport costs.

Overall, some acceleration in trade growth can be expected in the near future. However, the small projected increase in world output suggests that the acceleration is likely to be small. Taking a longer perspective, trade growth will continue to be closely related to world output growth. It is unclear, however, whether changes in governmental barriers to trade as well as transportation costs will stimulate or retard long-term trade growth.

—Cletus C. Coughlin

<sup>1</sup>"The Growth of World Trade: Tariffs, Transport Costs, and Income Similarity." *Journal of International Economics*, February 2001, *53*, pp. 1-27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>OECD Economic Outlook, June 2002, No. 71, Chap. 4.



Views expressed do not necessarily reflect official positions of the Federal Reserve System.

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# Conventions used in this publication:

- 1. Charts and tables contain data that were current through April 2003. Unless otherwise indicated, data are quarterly.
- 2. The *percent change* refers to the percent change from the same period in the previous year. For example, the percent change in x between quarter t-4 and the current quarter t is:  $[(x_t/x_{t-4})-1] \times 100$ .
- 3. All data with significant seasonal patterns are adjusted accordingly.

We welcome your comments addressed to:

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Beginning this issue, the over-10-year government bond for Canada is replaced with the 10-year government bond, as reported on pages 4, 6, and 10.

Percent change from year	-											
	00.1	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4
Canada	5.20	4.81	4.62	3.53	2.64	1.97	0.59	0.83	2.16	3.19	4.24	3.89
Euro Area	3.88	4.16	3.23	2.76	2.37	1.54	1.30	0.50	0.37	0.75	0.93	1.26
France	4.58	4.46	3.88	3.75	2.97	2.05	1.86	0.41	0.66	1.15	1.16	1.65
Germany	2.93	4.50	3.03	1.92	1.78	0.69	0.45	0.08	-0.22	-0.05	0.45	0.72
Italy	3.28	3.27	2.83	2.80	2.78	2.37	1.97	0.39	-0.39	0.00	0.39	1.16
Japan	1.35	1.90	2.72	5.12	3.48	1.11	-0.64	-2.37	-2.81	-0.18	1.65	2.60
United Kingdom	3.43	3.62	3.05	2.25	2.47	2.02	1.77	1.56	1.03	1.35	1.95	2.08
United States	4.17	4.90	3.73	2.25	1.46	-0.14	-0.35	0.05	1.44	2.17	3.26	2.91
Nominal Gross Percent change from yea		ic Prod	duct									
	00.1	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4
Canada	9.25	9.18	8.63	7.46	6.15	4.00	0.69	-0.42	0.69	3.28	6.12	8.26
Euro Area	5.00	5.29	4.69	4.46	4.47	4.09	3.61	3.39	3.03	3.07	3.53	3.38
France	5.11	4.80	4.40	4.55	3.88	3.58	3.65	2.10	2.57	2.94	2.69	3.37
Germany	2.76	3.90	2.85	1.85	2.76	2.16	1.48	2.43	1.73	1.49	2.47	1.64
Italy	4.76	5.45	5.38	5.32	5.24	4.83	4.08	4.04	2.99	2.96	3.27	3.24
Japan	-0.55	-0.00	0.86	2.99	1.45	-0.73	-2.04	-3.43	-3.64	-1.78	-0.34	0.25
United Kingdom	5.66	6.03	5.28	4.33	5.16	4.42	3.28	4.20	4.25	4.05	5.35	5.08
United States	6.12	7.08	5.99	4.59	3.92	2.33	2.26	2.00	2.84	3.25	4.05	4.29
Consumer Pric												
Percent change from yea	ar ago 00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
												03.1
Canada	2.42	2.70	3.08	2.81	3.58	2.68	1.09	1.55	1.33	2.32	3.80	
Euro Area	1.81	2.22	2.49	2.08	2.92	2.37	2.06	2.59	2.11	2.12	2.28	2.26
France	1.56	2.03	2.08	1.43	2.30	2.00	1.55	2.26	1.70	1.68	2.07	2.32
Germany	1.07	1.28	1.69	1.57	2.51	2.13	1.56	1.94	1.14	1.05	1.14	1.09
Italy	2.54	2.65	2.78	2.10	2.84	2.22	2.25	2.50	2.33	2.62	2.84	2.78
Japan	-0.66	-0.65	-0.76	-0.45	-0.72	-0.79	-0.98	-1.41	-0.89	-0.82	-0.53	
United Kingdom	3.14	3.20	3.06	2.55	1.92	1.81	1.03	1.21	1.23	1.54	2.56	
United States	3.31	3.47	3.44	3.41	3.38	2.72	1.84	1.19	1.24	1.58	2.25	2.87
Employment Percent change from yea	ar ago 00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
0	2.69	2.37	2.33	1.61	1.39	1.03	0.42	1.04		2.69	3.37	3.14
Canada								1.04	1.79	۷.05	0.01	3.14
Euro Area	2.06	2.09	2.13	1.90	1.39	1.12	0.88					
France	3.88	3.96	3.92	3.49	2.77	2.00	1.53	0.88	0.69	0.51	0.39	
Germany	2.25	1.68	1.51	0.99	0.61	0.24	-0.11	-0.21	-0.50	-0.70	-0.94	
Italy	1.44	2.09	2.38	2.21	1.60	1.50	1.39	1.38	1.49	0.79	0.63	
Japan	-0.38	-0.37	0.22	0.43	-0.42	-0.82	-1.30	-1.46	-1.56	-1.00	-1.06	
United Kingdom	2.04	1.56	1.60	1.40	1.04	0.69	0.55	0.48	-0.14	-0.23	-0.32	
United States	2.80	2.34	2.29	0.81	0.10	0.02	-0.81	-1.18	-0.53	0.07	0.32	0.96
<b>Unemployment</b> Percent	t Rate											
	00.1	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4
Canada	6.78	6.71	6.92	6.86	6.94	7.07	7.20	7.65	7.80	7.63	7.60	7.55
Euro Area	8.80	8.50	8.40	8.10	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.50
France	9.77	9.39	9.09	8.78	8.57	8.50	8.47	8.55	8.61	8.69	8.78	8.88
Germany	7.95	7.79	7.68	7.58	7.63	7.70	7.77	7.90	7.98	8.15	8.26	8.44
Italy	10.89	10.54	10.27	9.92	9.68	9.48	9.42	9.21	9.03	9.03	9.00	8.94
Japan	4.80	4.70	4.67	4.74	4.76	4.91	5.11	5.36	5.29	5.36	5.43	5.37
•												
United Kingdom	5.68	5.43	5.29	5.16	5.02	4.94	5.05	5.08	5.07	5.12	5.19	5.04

#### **Reserve Money**

Percent change from year ago

	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
Canada	4.91	1.73	-7.94	3.11	6.92	7.31	4.23	7.18	5.31	8.02	5.60	
Japan	6.39	4.34	-0.44	0.66	7.50	14.50	17.60	31.83	27.42	21.73	20.05	10.46
United Kingdom	8.06	7.70	6.44	6.70	6.90	7.03	7.89	7.41	8.86	8.38		
United States	7.35	5.57	0.65	1.98	4.25	7.59	8.49	9.67	10.34	8.05	7.38	6.94

#### **Narrow Money**

Percent change from year ago

	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
Canada	15.30	17.68	17.47	13.18	11.48	8.17	13.65	14.37	13.87	16.11	9.21	
Euro Area	7.52	6.54	4.92	1.87	4.36	4.83	5.83	6.02	6.46	7.90	9.89	
Japan	8.19	5.10	4.22	5.02	7.56	10.99	14.41	23.59	31.13	30.40	25.18	
United Kingdom	6.91	6.93	7.24	8.55	9.66	10.10	9.97	9.27	8.37	8.34	8.35	
United States	7.86	8.00	8.04	10.80	14.57	17.00	20.40	17.89	13.86	11.85	8.90	7.95

#### **Broad Money**

Percent change from year ago

	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
Canada	7.40	7.76	7.24	5.78	5.18	4.33	5.70	5.94	6.05	7.24	5.97	
Euro Area	5.62	5.26	4.23	4.00	5.81	6.76	8.21	7.21	6.64	6.90	6.57	
Japan	1.86	1.97	1.98	2.49	2.92	3.16	3.39	3.68	3.27	3.21	2.25	
United Kingdom	6.91	8.91	8.40	8.36	7.65	7.76	6.40	5.54	5.79	5.38	6.94	
United States	6.21	6.03	6.03	7.11	8.15	9.40	10.22	9.17	7.56	7.28	6.93	6.92

#### **Short-Term Interest Rates**

Percent

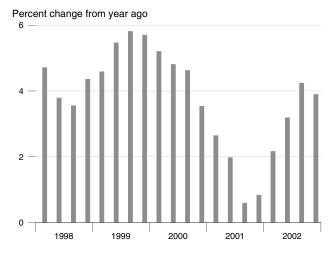
	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
Canada	6.12	5.90	5.81	5.10	4.48	3.95	2.39	2.11	2.58	2.89	2.84	2.99
Euro Area	4.26	4.74	5.02	4.75	4.59	4.27	3.44	3.36	3.44	3.36	3.11	
Japan	0.08	0.27	0.54	0.36	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
United Kingdom	6.19	6.12	5.99	5.64	5.23	4.92	4.09	4.01	4.10	3.95	3.92	
United States	6.57	6.63	6.59	5.26	4.10	3.34	2.06	1.82	1.83	1.76	1.49	1.26

# **Long-Term Interest Rates**

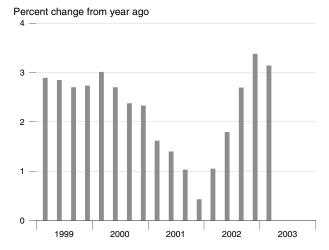
Percent

	00.2	00.3	00.4	01.1	01.2	01.3	01.4	02.1	02.2	02.3	02.4	03.1
Canada	6.01	5.79	5.54	5.39	5.78	5.48	5.22	5.51	5.50	5.10	5.07	5.03
Euro Area	5.43	5.44	5.28	4.99	5.19	5.12	4.82	5.14	5.25	4.76	4.54	
France	5.90	5.99	5.75	5.48	5.55	5.34	5.15	5.46	5.53	5.12	4.91	
Germany	5.27	5.27	5.10	4.77	4.97	4.87	4.60	5.00	5.13	4.63	4.43	4.04
Italy	5.55	5.59	5.48	5.16	5.37	5.27	4.94	5.25	5.36	4.85	4.68	4.24
Japan	1.71	1.79	1.74	1.39	1.28	1.36	1.35	1.41	1.28	1.11	0.89	0.70
United Kingdom	5.30	5.28	5.05	4.81	5.10	5.05	4.79	5.05	5.22	4.74	4.61	
United States	6.29	6.06	5.85	5.56	5.81	5.59	5.44	5.70	5.72	5.09	4.92	4.77

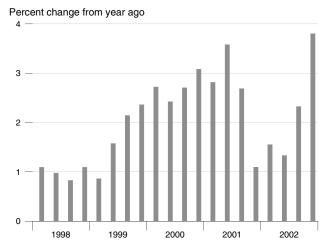
#### **Real GDP**



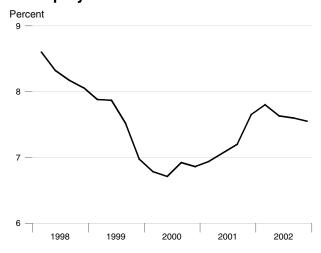
# **Employment**



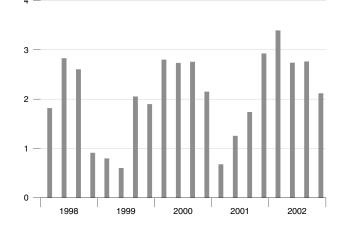
# **Consumer Price Index**



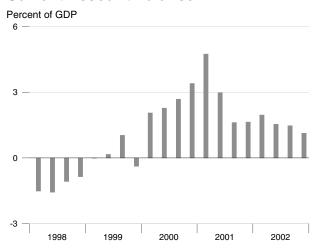
# **Unemployment Rate**



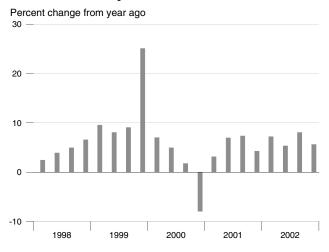
# **Hourly Earnings**Percent change from year ago



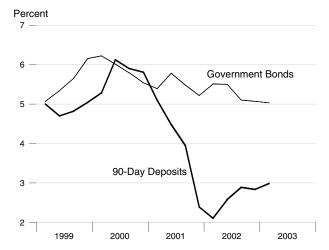
#### **Current Account Balance**



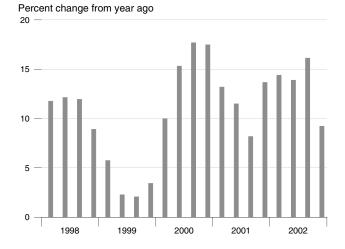
# **Reserve Money**



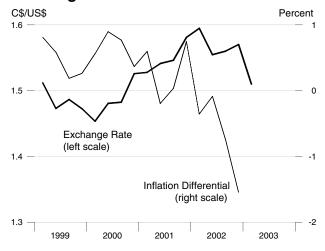
#### **Interest Rates**



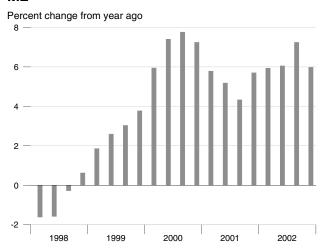
#### **M1**



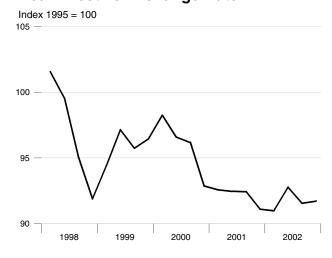
# **Exchange Rate and Inflation Differential**



#### **M2**

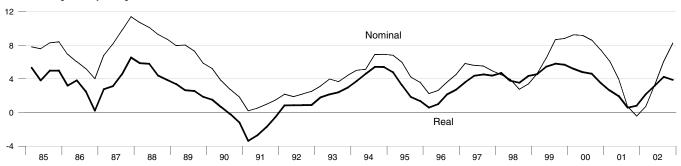


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



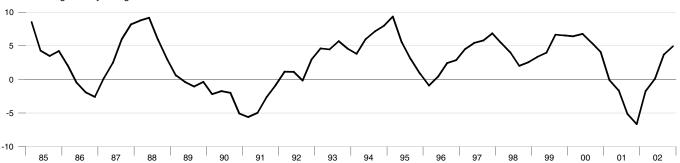
#### **GDP**





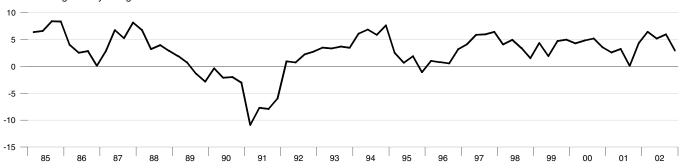
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



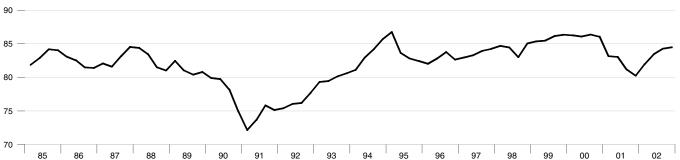
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago



# **Capacity Utilization**

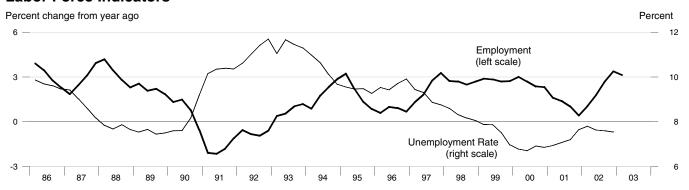




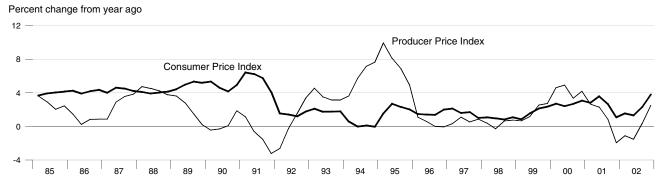
# **Hourly Earnings and Output per Worker**



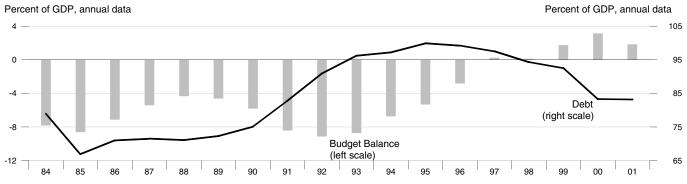
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



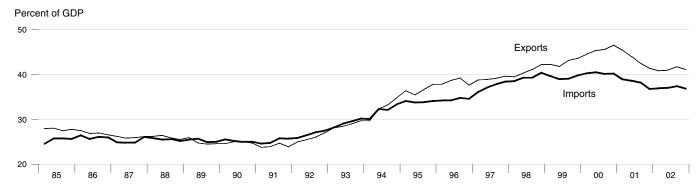
#### Inflation



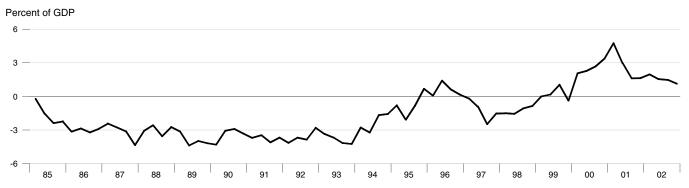
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



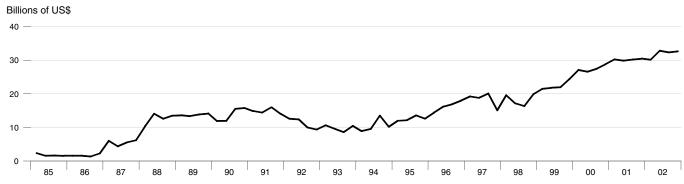
#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**



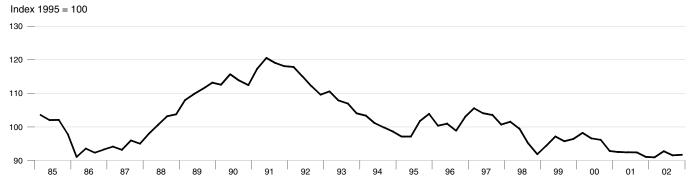
#### **Current Account Balance**



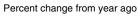
# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**

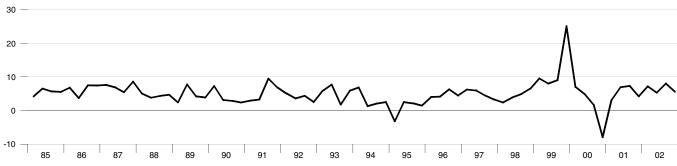


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



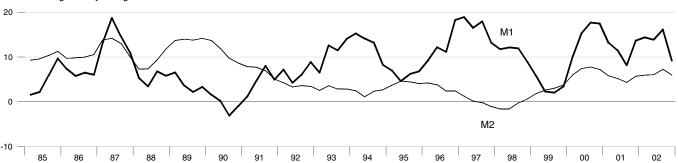
#### **Reserve Money**





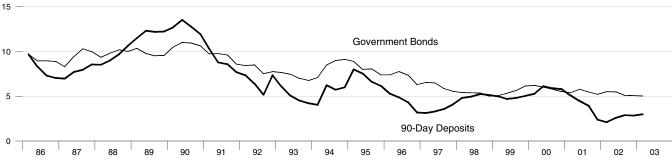
# **Monetary Aggregates**

Percent change from year ago

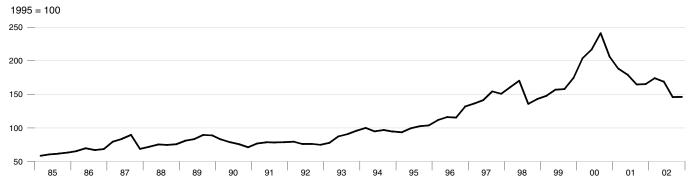


#### **Interest Rates**





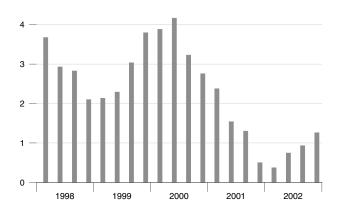
# Stock Exchange Index - Toronto Stock Exchange



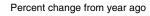
# **Euro Area**

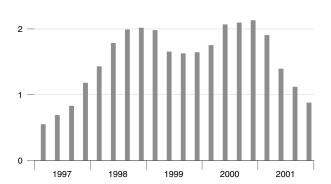
#### **Real GDP**



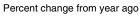


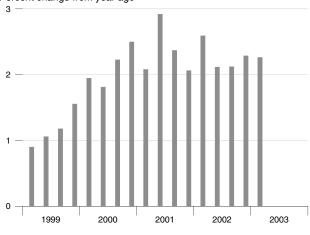
# **Employment**





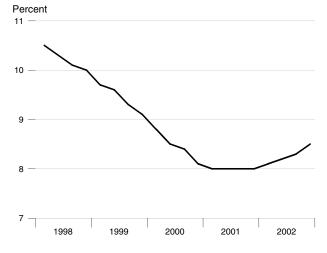
#### **Consumer Price Index**





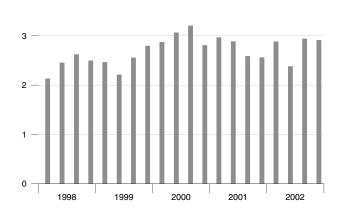
# **Unemployment Rate**

-

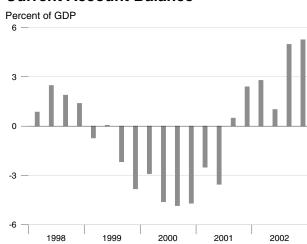


# **Hourly Earnings**

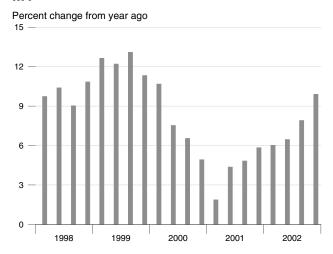
Percent change from year ago



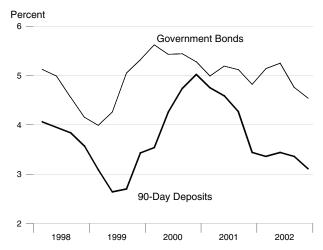
#### **Current Account Balance**



#### **M1**

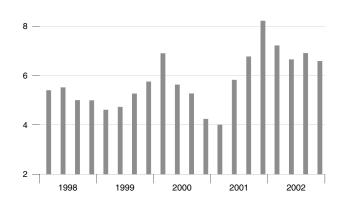


#### **Interest Rates**

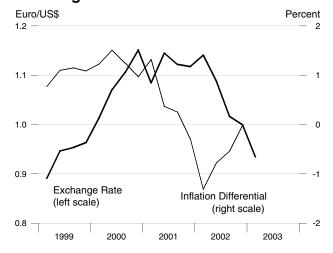


#### **M3**

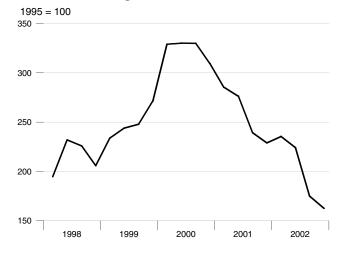




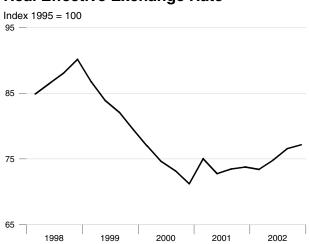
# **Exchange Rate and Inflation Differential**



# Stock Exchange Index - Dow Jones EURO STOXX<sup>SM</sup>

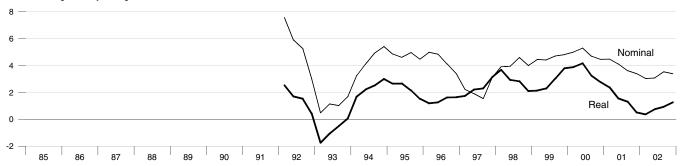


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



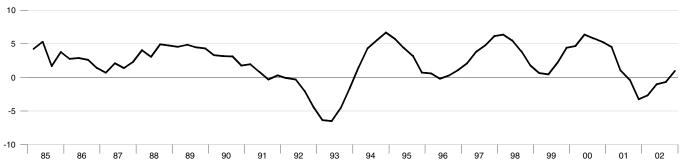
#### **GDP**





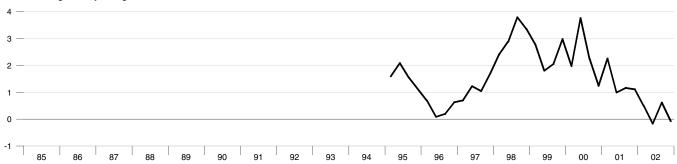
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



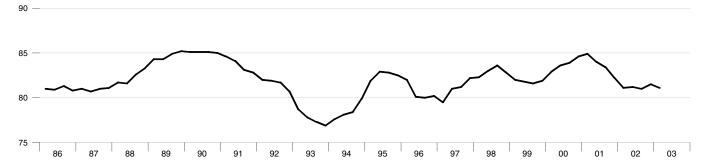
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago

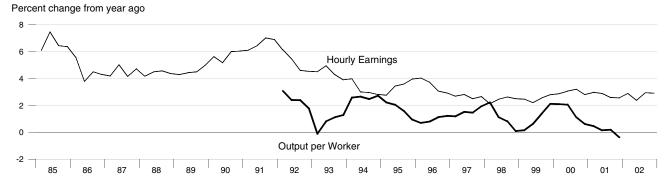


# **Capacity Utilization**

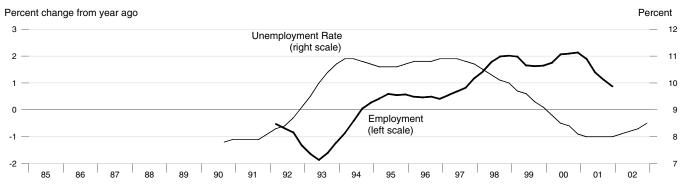
Percent



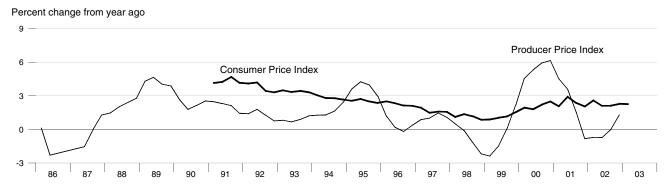
# **Hourly Earnings and Output per Worker**



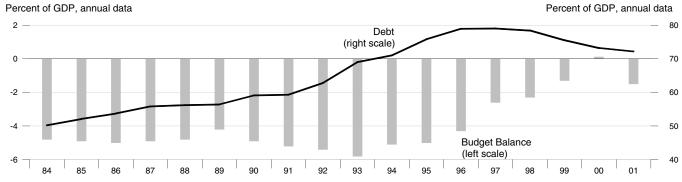
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



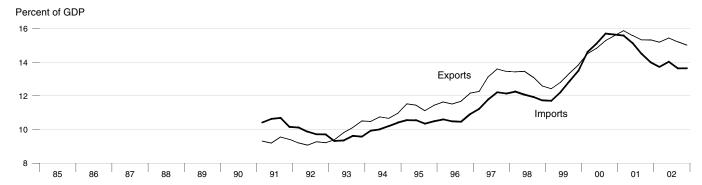
#### Inflation



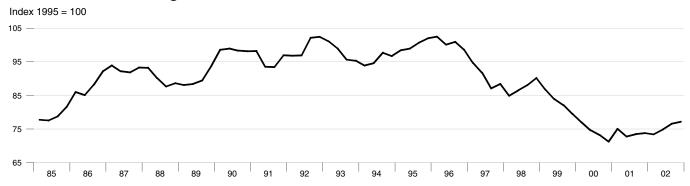
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



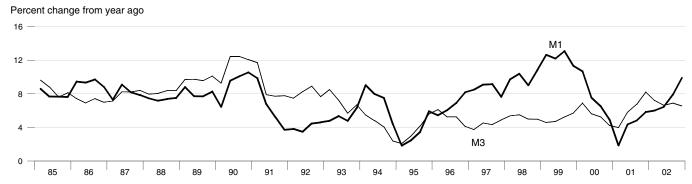
#### **International Trade - Goods**



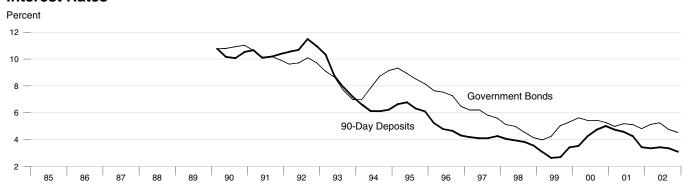
# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



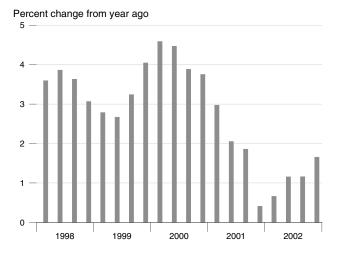
# **Monetary Aggregates**



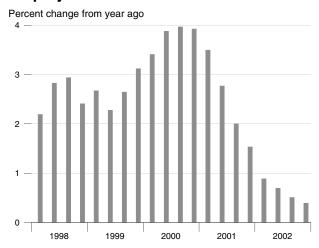
#### **Interest Rates**



#### **Real GDP**

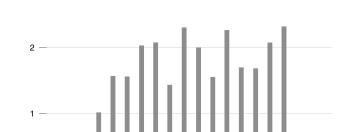


# **Employment**



# **Consumer Price Index**

Percent change from year ago

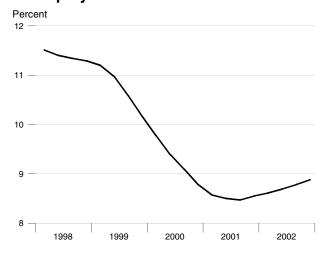


2001

2002

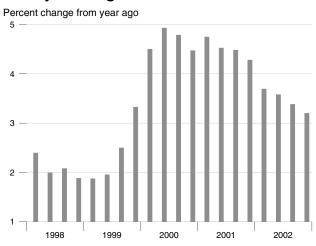
2003

# **Unemployment Rate**

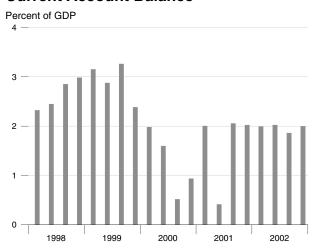


# **Hourly Earnings**

2000

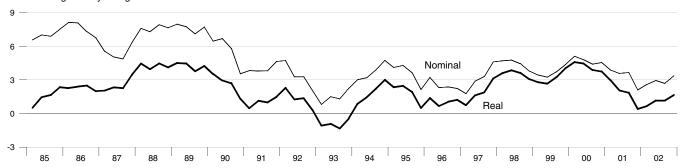


#### **Current Account Balance**



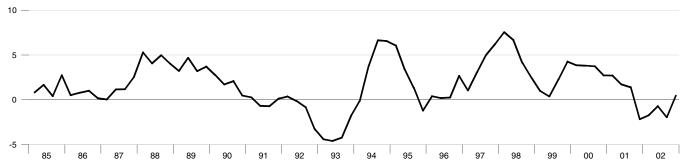
#### **GDP**

Percent change from year ago



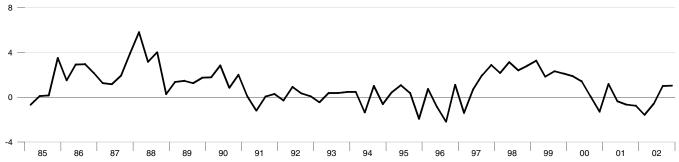
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



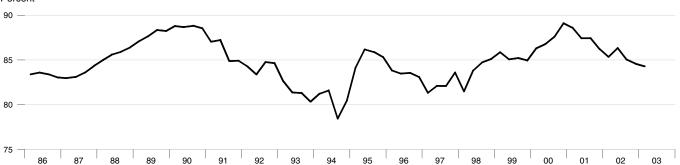
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago



# **Capacity Utilization**

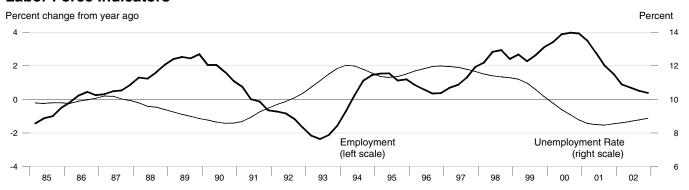




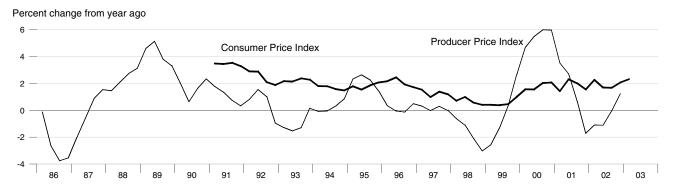
# **Hourly Earnings and Output per Worker**



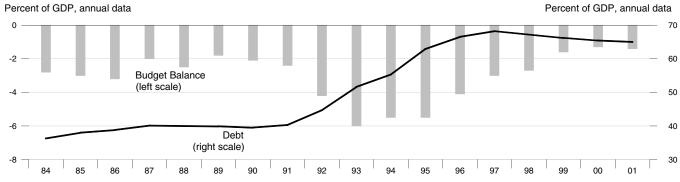
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



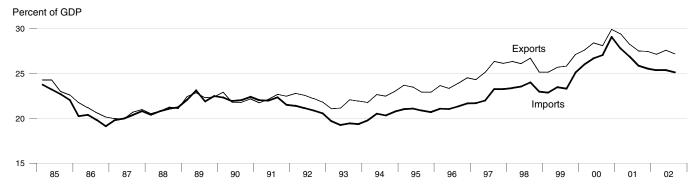
#### Inflation



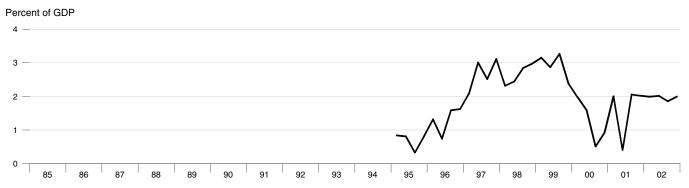
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



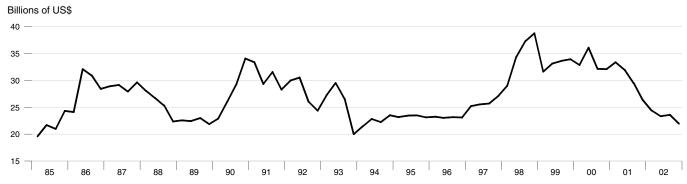
#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**



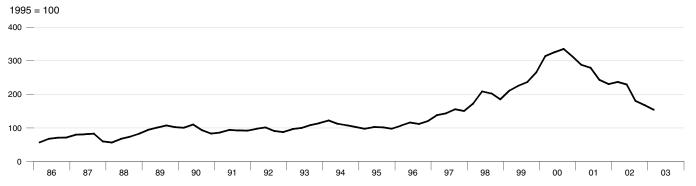
#### **Current Account Balance**



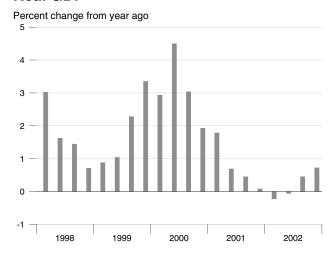
# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**



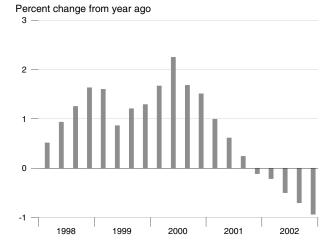
# Stock Exchange Index - SBF 250



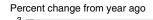
#### **Real GDP**

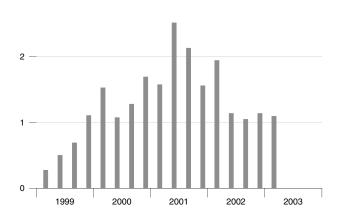


# **Employment**

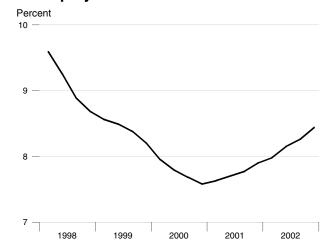


#### **Consumer Price Index**

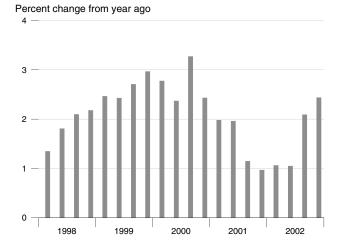




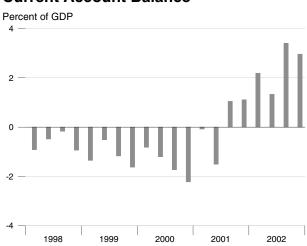
# **Unemployment Rate**



# **Hourly Earnings**

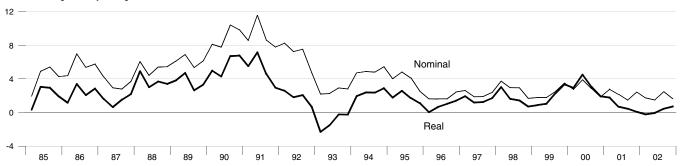


#### **Current Account Balance**



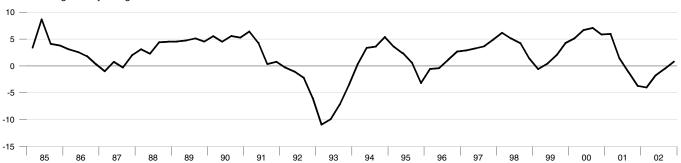
#### **GDP**





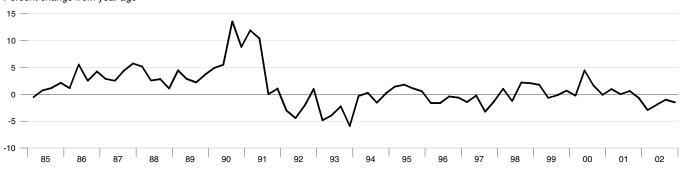
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



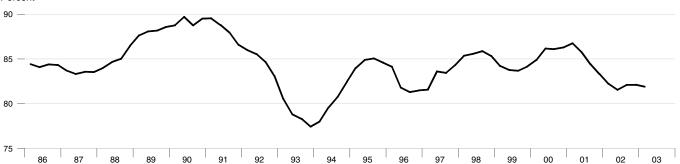
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago

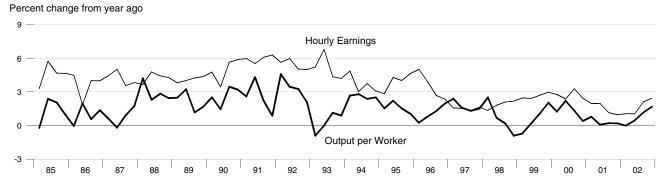


# **Capacity Utilization**

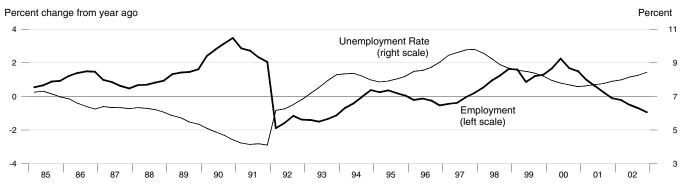




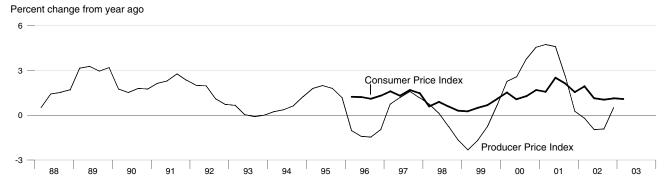
# **Hourly Earnings and Output per Worker**



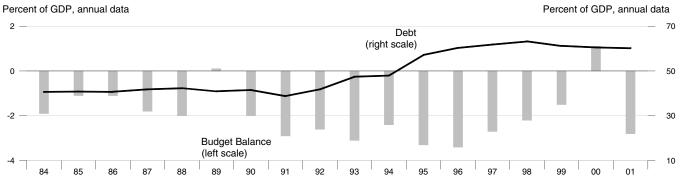
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



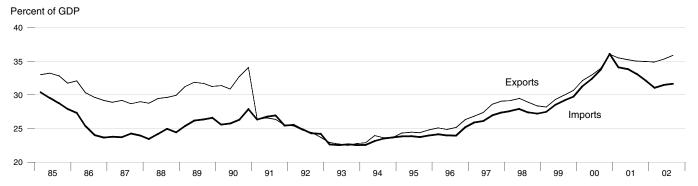
#### Inflation



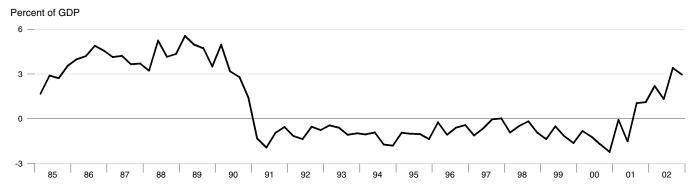
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



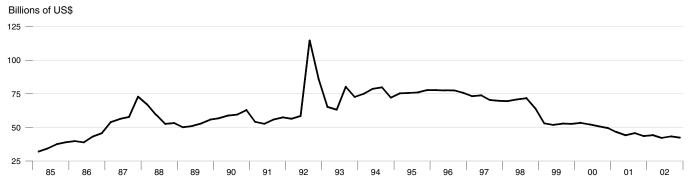
#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**



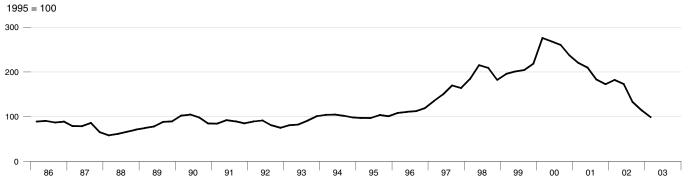
# **Current Account Balance**



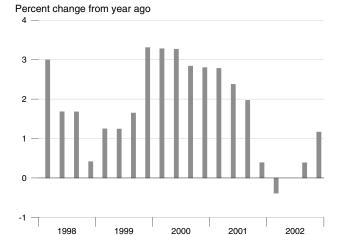
# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**



# Stock Exchange Index - CDAX

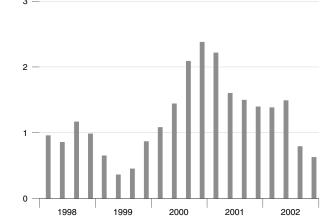


#### **Real GDP**

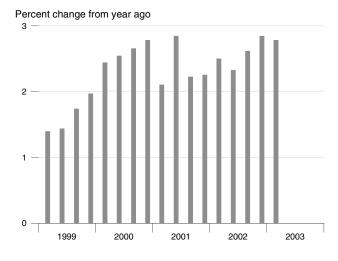


# **Employment**

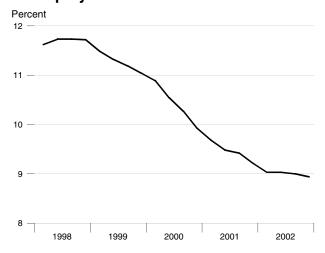
Percent change from year ago



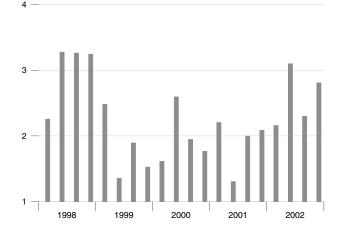
#### **Consumer Price Index**



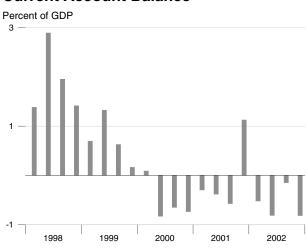
# **Unemployment Rate**



# **Hourly Earnings**Percent change from year ago

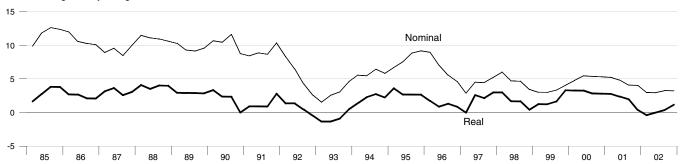


#### **Current Account Balance**



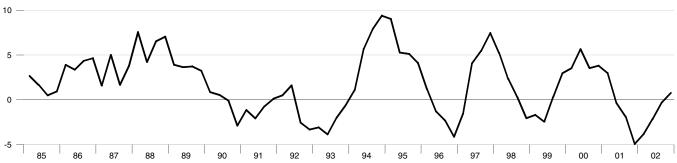
#### **GDP**





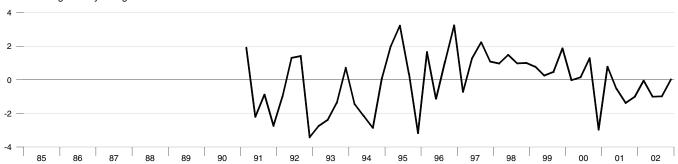
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



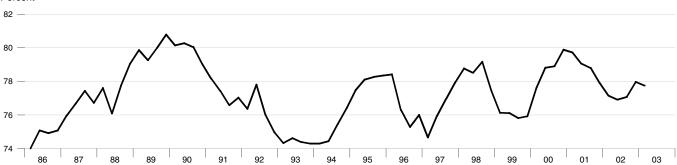
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago



# **Capacity Utilization**

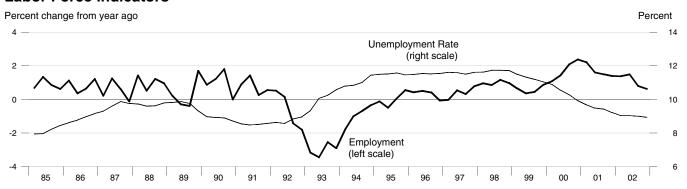




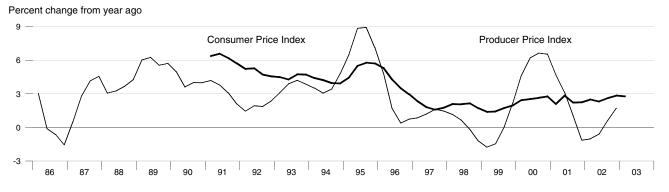
# **Hourly Earnings and Output per Worker**



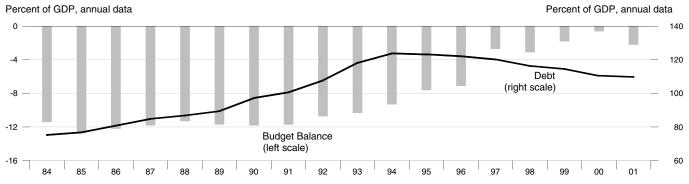
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



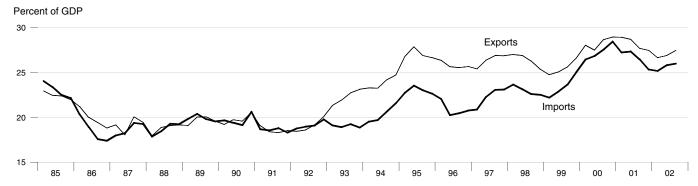
#### Inflation



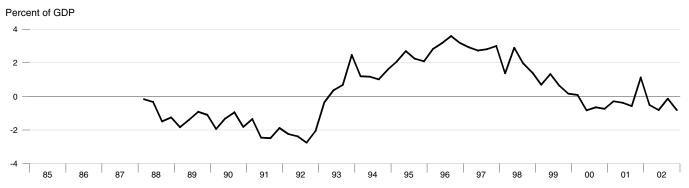
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



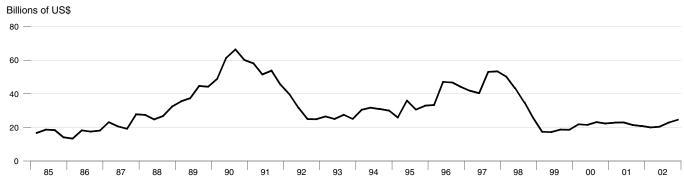
#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**



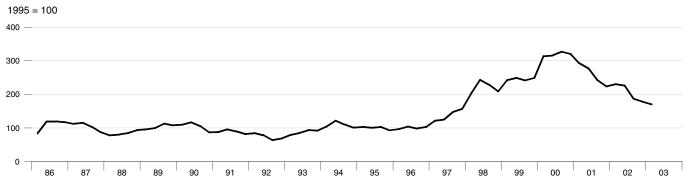
# **Current Account Balance**



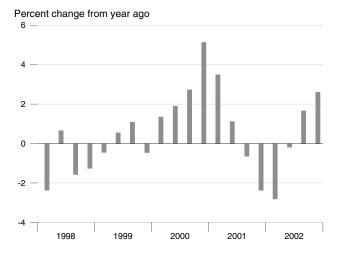
# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**



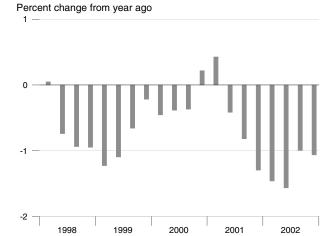
# Stock Exchange Index - Milan Stock Exchange



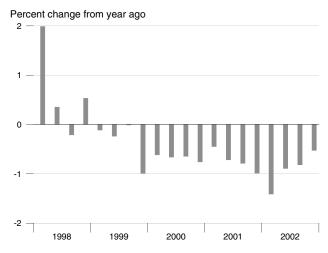
#### **Real GDP**



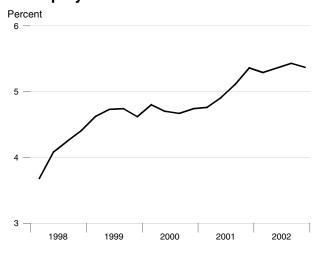
# **Employment**



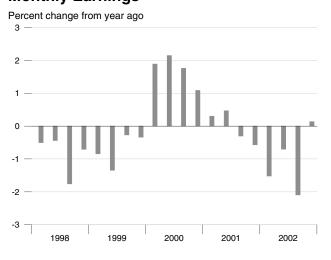
#### **Consumer Price Index**



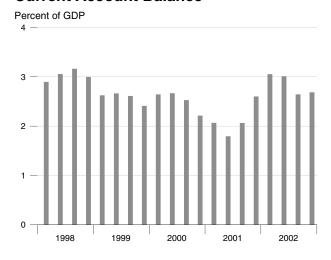
# **Unemployment Rate**



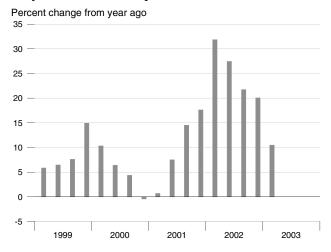
# **Monthly Earnings**



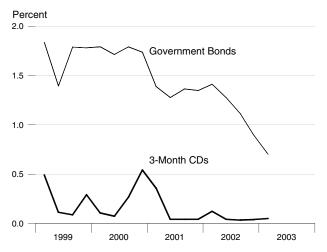
#### **Current Account Balance**



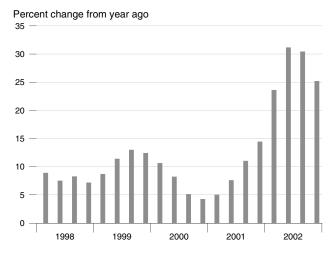
# **Adjusted Monetary Base**



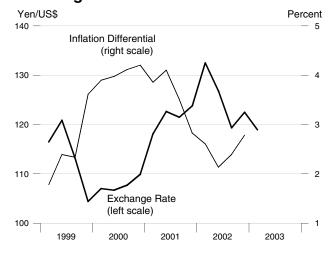
#### **Interest Rates**



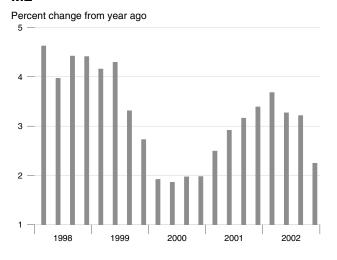
#### **M1**



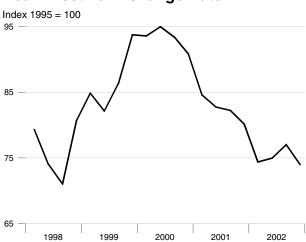
# **Exchange Rate and Inflation Differential**



#### **M2**

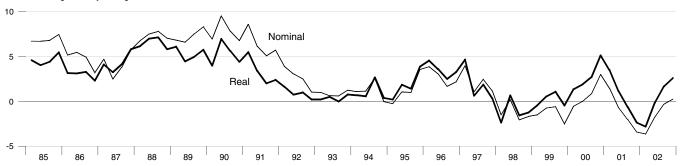


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



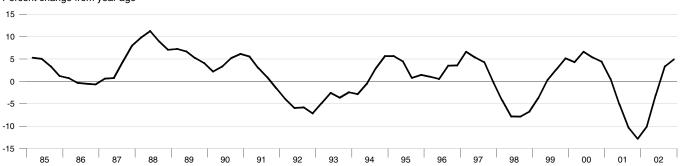
#### **GDP**





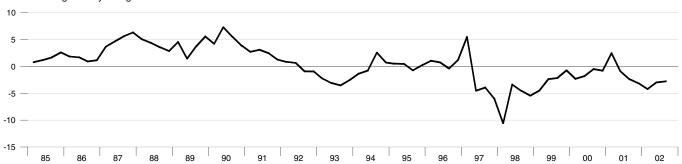
#### **Industrial Production**



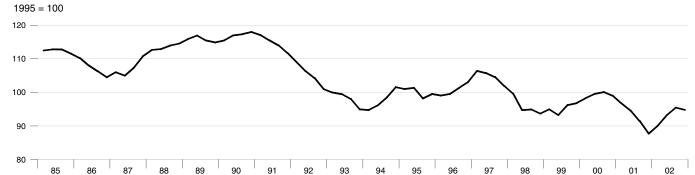


#### **Retail Sales**

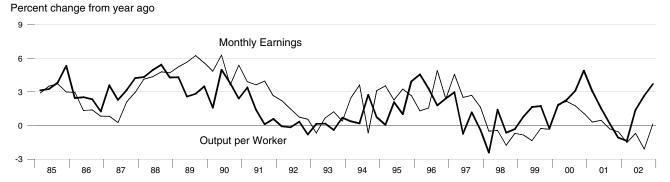
Percent change from year ago



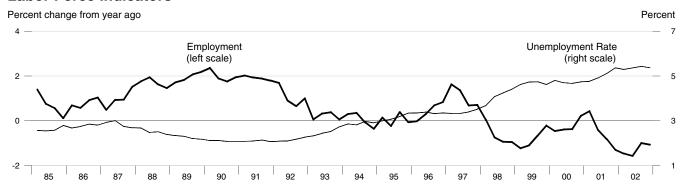
# **Capacity Utilization**



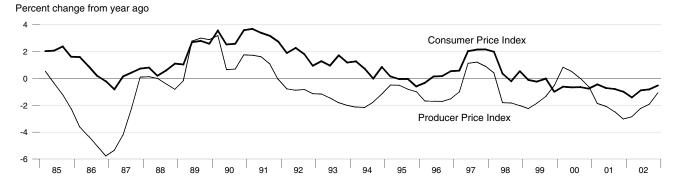
# **Monthly Earnings and Output per Worker**



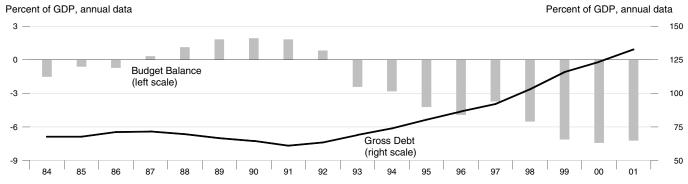
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



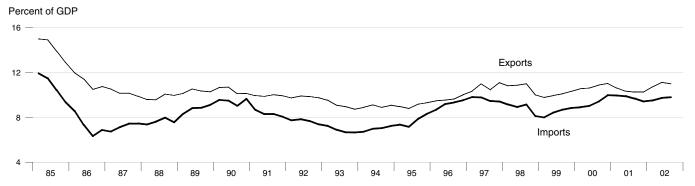
#### Inflation



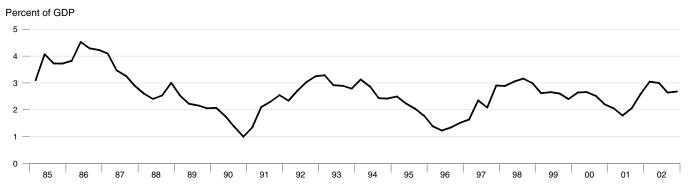
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



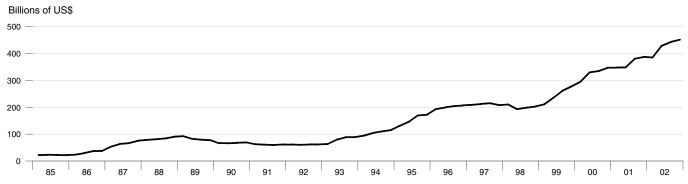
#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**



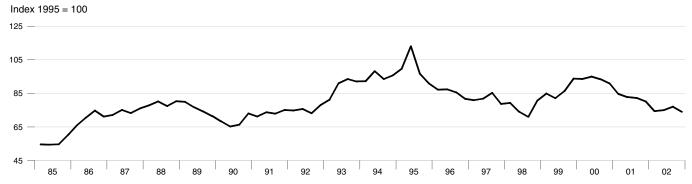
# **Current Account Balance**



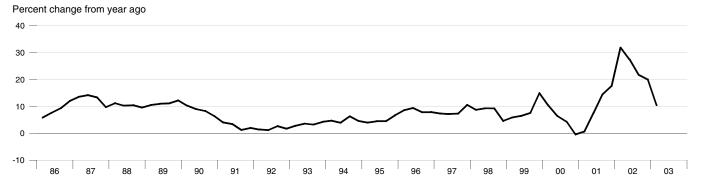
# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**



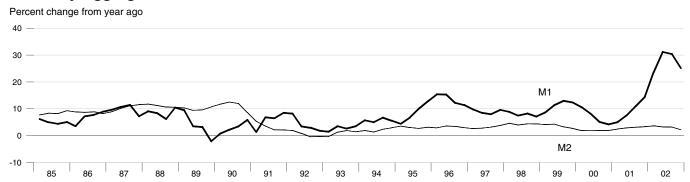
# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



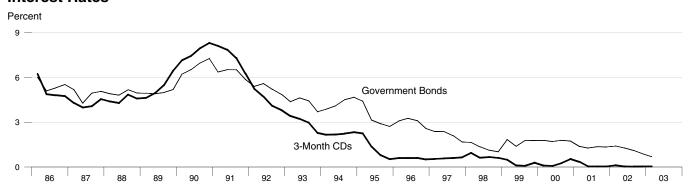
# **Adjusted Monetary Base**



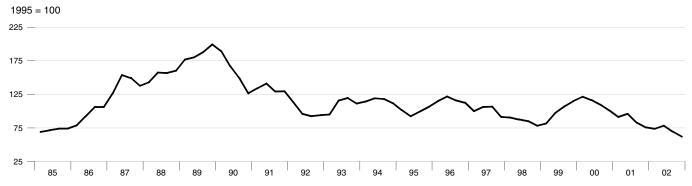
# **Monetary Aggregates**



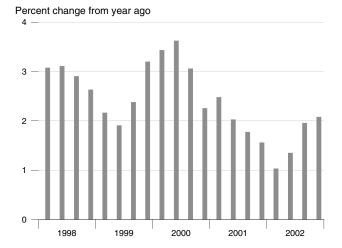
#### **Interest Rates**



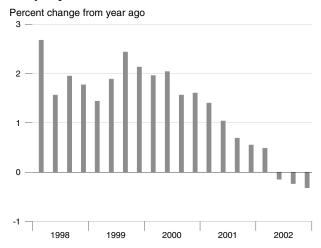
# Stock Exchange Index - Tokyo Stock Exchange



#### **Real GDP**



# **Employment**



# **Consumer Price Index**

Percent change from year ago



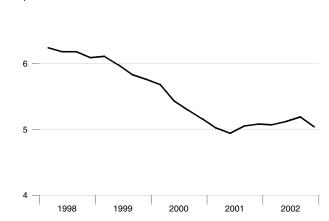
2000

2001

2002

# **Unemployment Rate**

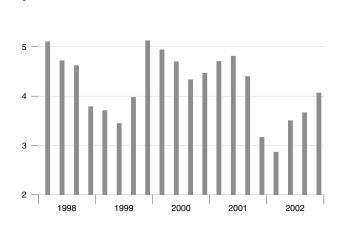
Percent



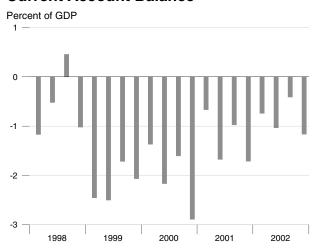
# Weekly Earnings Percent change from year ago

1998

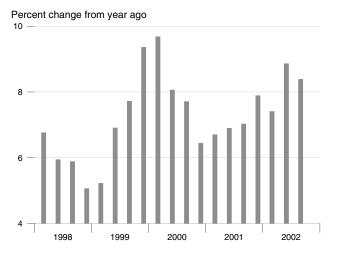
1999



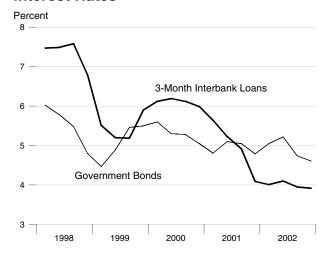
#### **Current Account Balance**



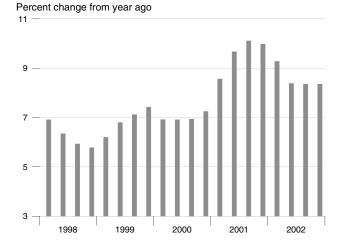
#### **M0**



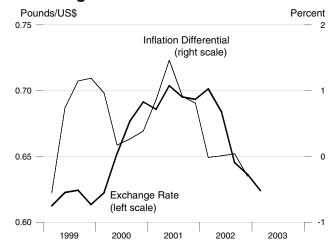
#### **Interest Rates**



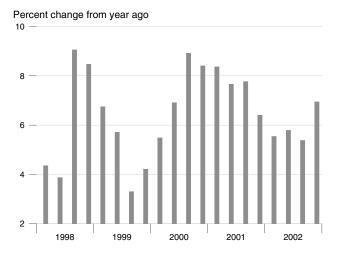
#### **M2**



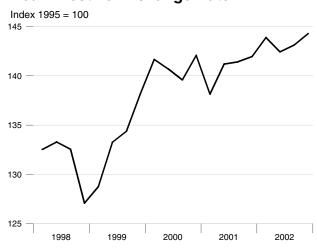
# **Exchange Rate and Inflation Differential**



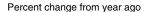
#### **M4**

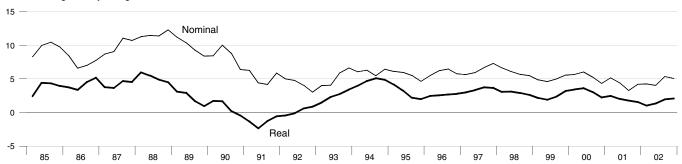


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



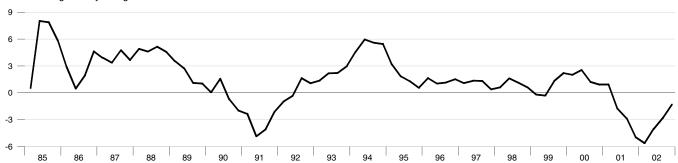
#### **GDP**





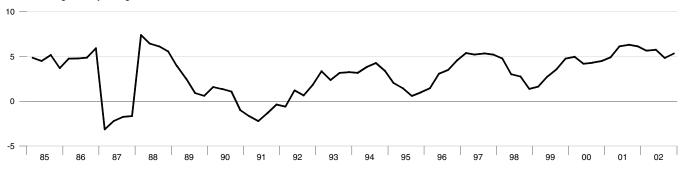
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



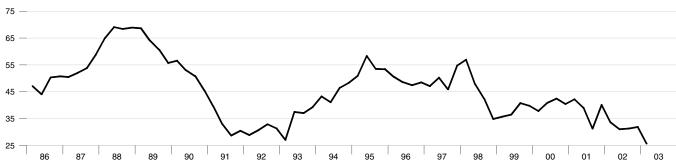
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago

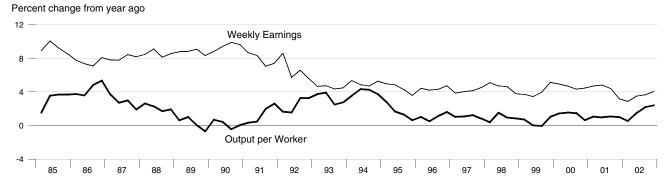


# **Firms Operating at Capacity**

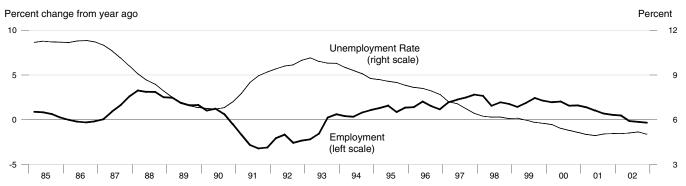




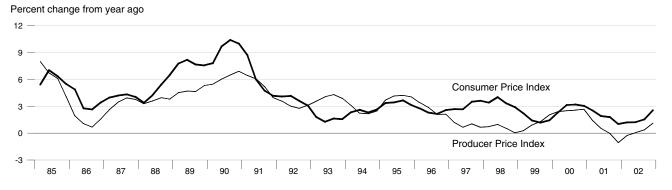
# Weekly Earnings and Output per Worker



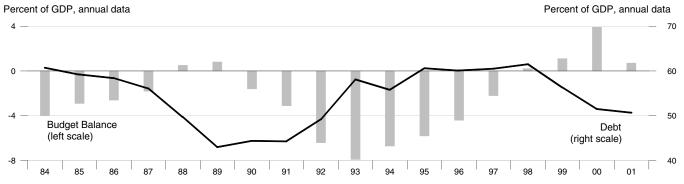
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



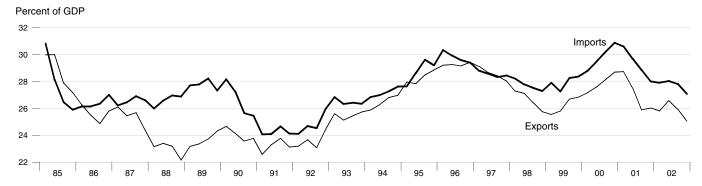
#### Inflation



# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**

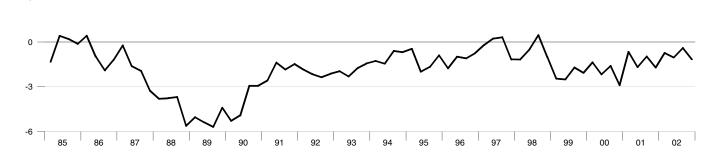


#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**

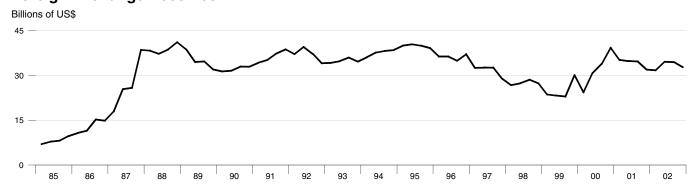


# **Current Account Balance**

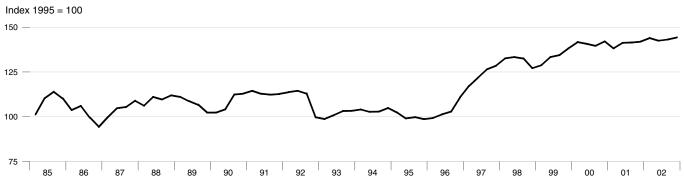




# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**

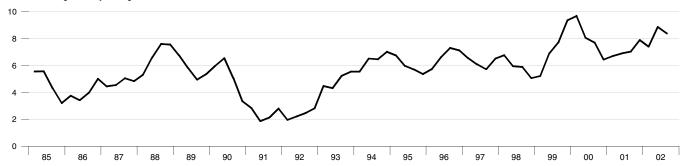


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



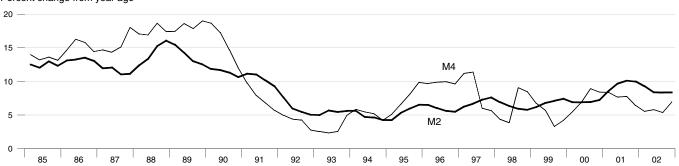
#### **M0**





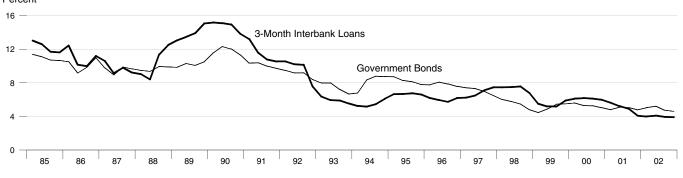
# **Monetary Aggregates**



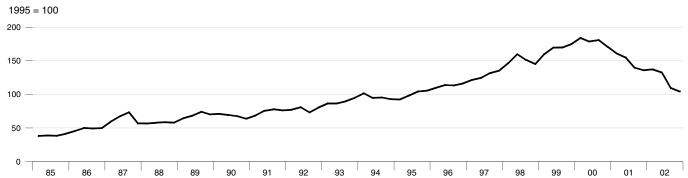


#### **Interest Rates**

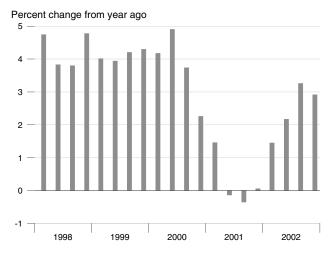
# Percent



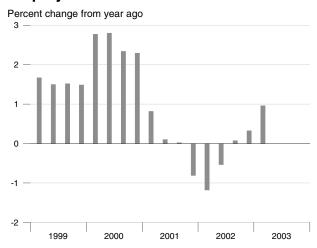
# Stock Exchange Index - Financial Times Stock Exchange



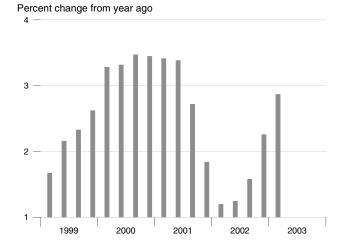
#### **Real GDP**



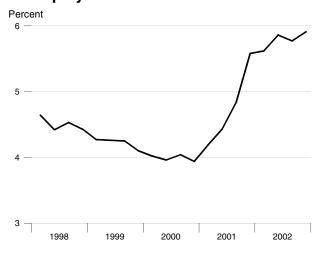
# **Employment**



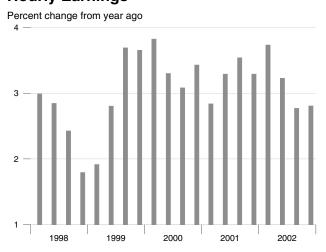
# **Consumer Price Index**



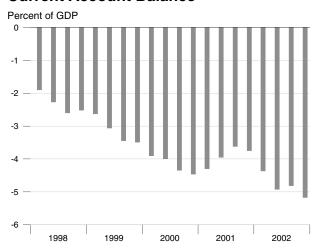
# **Unemployment Rate**



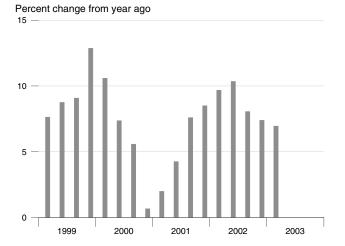
# **Hourly Earnings**



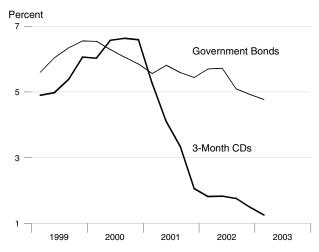
#### **Current Account Balance**



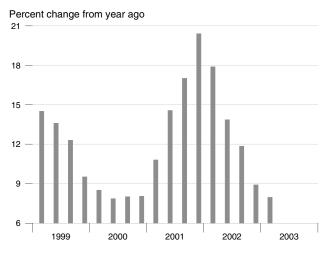
# **Adjusted Monetary Base**



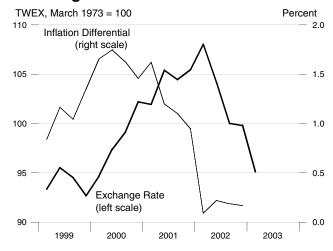
#### **Interest Rates**



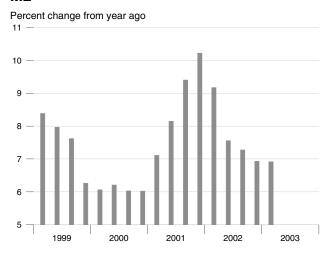
#### **MZM**



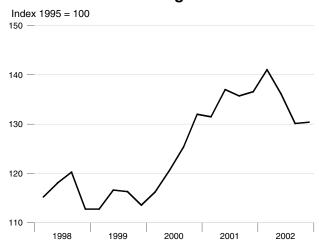
# **Exchange Rate and Inflation Differential**



#### **M2**

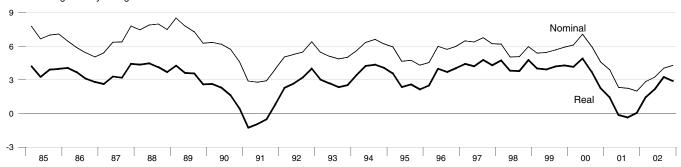


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



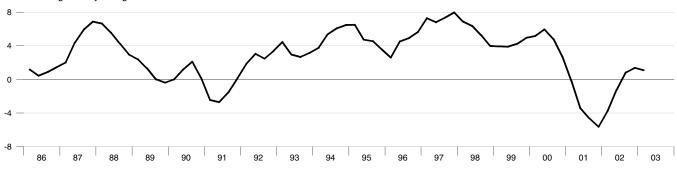
#### **GDP**

Percent change from year ago



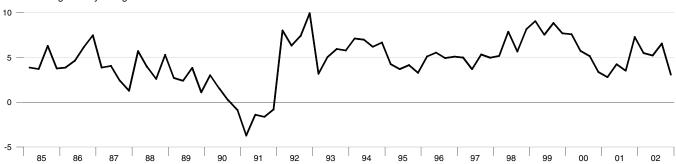
#### **Industrial Production**

Percent change from year ago



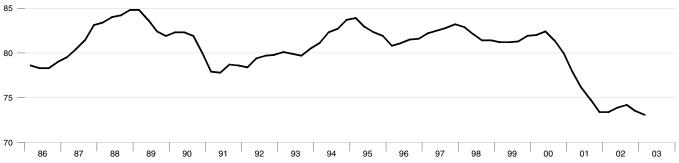
#### **Retail Sales**

Percent change from year ago

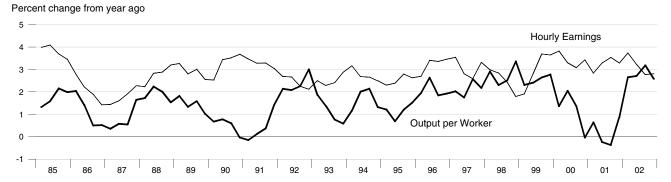


# **Capacity Utilization**

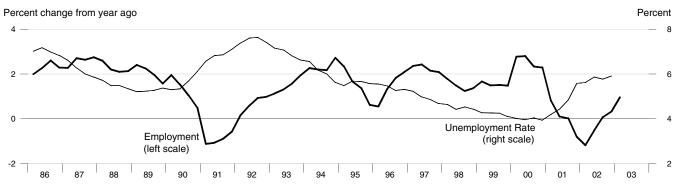




# **Hourly Earnings and Output per Worker**



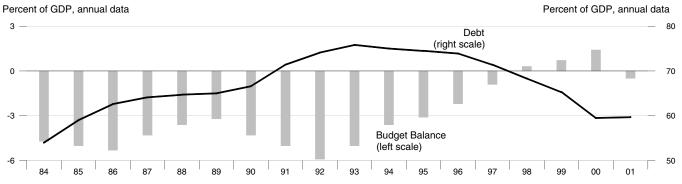
#### **Labor Force Indicators**



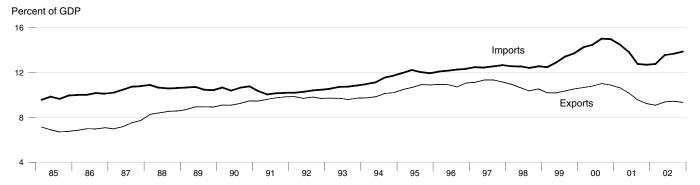
#### Inflation



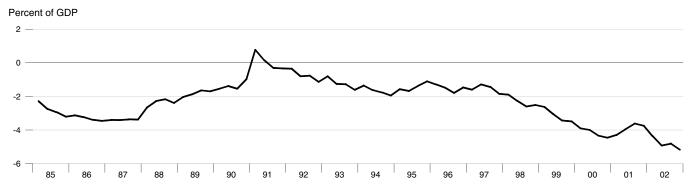
# **Government Debt and Budget Balance**



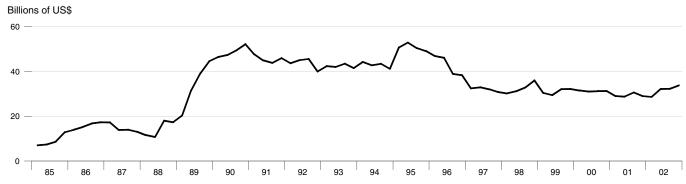
#### **International Trade - Goods and Services**



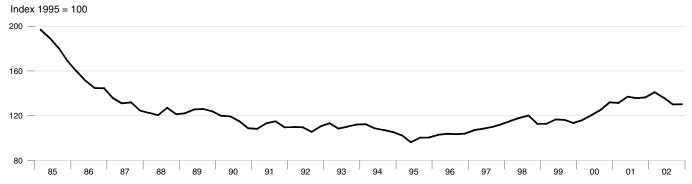
#### **Current Account Balance**



# **Foreign Exchange Reserves**

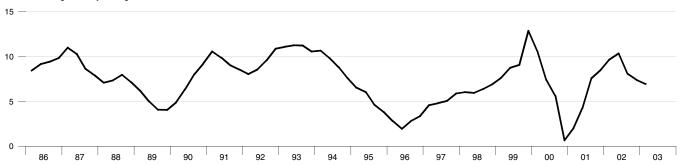


# **Real Effective Exchange Rate**



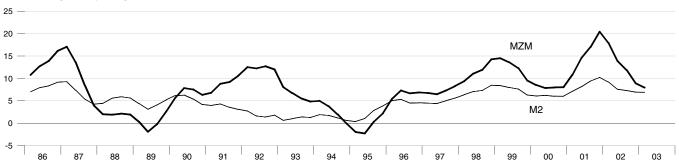
# **Adjusted Monetary Base**





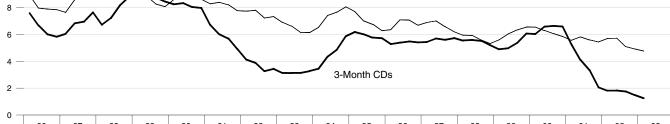
# **Monetary Aggregates**





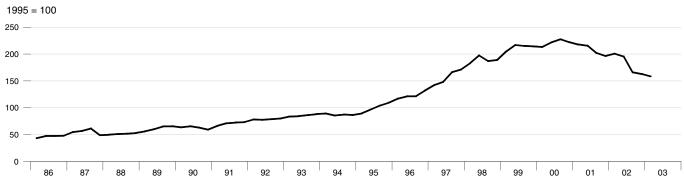
#### **Interest Rates**

# Percent 10 —



**Government Bonds** 

# Stock Exchange Index - New York Stock Exchange



# **Notes**

Euro-Area Data: On January 1, 2001, the euro area was enlarged to include Greece as its 12th member country. Historical euro area series for capacity utilization, the consumer price index, current account balance, earnings, employment, government debt and budget balance, gross domestic product (GDP), industrial production, merchandise trade, the producer price index, and unemployment include Greece. The series for interest rates, monetary aggregates, the real effective exchange rate, retail sales, and the stock exchange index incorporate Greece starting in January 2001.

Euro-area interest rates prior to December 1998 are calculated on the basis of national government yields weighted by GDP. Starting in 1999, short-term rates are euro interbank offered rates. Long-term rates are calculated on the basis of national government bond yields weighted by the nominal outstanding amounts of government bonds in each maturity band.

The euro/dollar exchange rate used in the chart on page 12 is a synthetic rate prior to January 1999. This is constructed by calculating a weighted average of the exchange rates of the euro-area countries, excluding Greece and Luxembourg, against the dollar. The weights are based on 1997 GDP shares.

**German Data**: As a result of reunification, data for all of Germany are now incorporated in the statistical series. The starting periods for unified German data are listed below. Care should be exercised when interpreting the data around these break periods.

Third quarter 1990: current account balance, international trade, and unemployment.

First quarter 1991: consumer price index, GDP, industrial production, output per worker.

Third quarter 1992: capacity utilization. First quarter 1993: stock exchange index. Third quarter 1993: employment.

First quarter 1995: hourly earnings.

Capacity Utilization covers the manufacturing sector for Canada, France, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the euro area; manufacturing excluding food, beverage, and tobacco for Germany; and mining and manufacturing for Italy.

Consumer Price Index is for all items. The current index is based on goods and services consumed by all individuals for Canada; all multi-person households excluding those mainly engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries for Japan; all households except pensioners dependent on state pension and high income households for the United Kingdom; and all urban households for the United States. Data for the euro area, France, Germany, and Italy are based on the harmonized index of consumer prices.

**Current Account Balance** is the sum of merchandise and service exports and income receipts on domestic assets abroad minus the sum of merchandise and service imports and income payments from foreign assets in the domestic economy plus net unilateral transfers.

Earnings are based on hourly earnings in manufacturing for Canada, Germany, the United States, and the euro area; hourly earnings in manufacturing excluding construction for France, hourly earnings in industry excluding construction for Italy; monthly earnings in manufacturing for Japan; and weekly earnings in manufacturing for the United Kingdom.

The **Exchange Rate** for all countries except the United States is expressed as units of local currency per U.S. dollar. For the United States the trade-weighted exchange rate, **TWEX**, is used. This is a weighted average of the exchange value of the U.S. dollar relative to the major international currencies—the euro, Canadian dollar, Japanese yen, British pound, Swiss franc, Australian dollar, and Swedish kronor. Prior to 1999, the currencies of the euro-area countries (with the exception of Greece) are used instead of the euro.

**Real Effective Exchange Rate** uses normalized unit labor costs in manufacturing. The weighting scheme used to construct the rates, for all except the euro area, is based on disaggregated data for trade among 21 industrial countries

in manufactured goods for 1995. For the euro area the weights relate to the trade of the euro area with the other countries. The weights reflect the relative importance of a country's trading partners in its direct bilateral trade relations and competition in third markets. Normalized unit labor costs in manufacturing are calculated by dividing an index of actual hourly compensation per worker by a five-year moving average index of output per man-hour.

**Employment** data refer to civilian employment for Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United States; industrial employment for France; and total employment for the euro area and the United Kingdom.

**Foreign Exchange Reserve** data are end of period. The dollar value of reserves may fluctuate as a result of changes in reserve holdings and/or changes in the value of the currencies held vis-à-vis the U.S. dollar.

Government Budget Balance is the difference between general government current receipts and total outlays. Total outlays consist of current expenditures and net capital expenditures. Government Debt incorporates all financial liabilities of the general government sector. The general government sector consolidates the accounts of the central, state, local, and social security sectors.

Inflation Differential is the U.S. inflation rate minus the foreign inflation rate, as measured by the consumer price index. For the U.S. chart on page 41, the inflation differential is the U.S. inflation rate minus a weighted average of the inflation rates in countries whose currencies are used in the major currency trade-weighted exchange rate index. Starting in 1999, the euro-area harmonized consumer price index is used for the euro area. Prior to 1999, the inflation rates for the individual euro area countries (excluding Greece and Luxembourg)

**Industrial Production** measures the change in the volume of output in the mining, manufacturing, oil, electricity, gas, and water industries.

The **Short-Term Interest Rate** table on page 4 uses the relevant 3-month interest rate shown in the country pages.

The **Long-Term Interest Rate** table on page 4 uses the government bond rate. The government bond rate is a composite of yields on federal government bonds with maturities of more than 10 years for the United States; long-term public and semi-public sector bonds for France; 7- to 15-year public sector bonds for Germany; 15- to 20-year government bonds through 1990 and 10-year government bonds starting in 1991 for Italy; and 10-year government bonds for Canada, the euro area, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

The **Reserve Money** table on page 4 refers to the adjusted monetary base for Japan and the United States; reserve money for Canada; and M0 for the United Kingdom. **Reserve Money** is currency in circulation, deposits of the deposit money banks, and demand deposits of other residents (with the exception of the central government) with the monetary authority.

#### **Adjusted Monetary Base**

Japan: currency in circulation and current deposits at the Bank of Japan. United States: the sum of currency in circulation outside Federal Reserve banks and the U.S. Treasury, deposits of depository financial institutions at Federal Reserve banks, and an adjustment for the effects of changes in statutory reserve requirements on the quantity of base money held by depositories.

#### M0

United Kingdom: notes and coins in circulation outside the Bank of England and bankers' operational deposits at the Bank of England.

#### M1

Canada: currency in circulation and chartered bank net demand deposits. Japan: cash, currency in circulation, and deposit money. Euro area: currency in circulation and overnight deposits.

#### **MZM**

United States: currency in circulation, travelers' checks, total publicly-held checkable deposits minus cash items in the process of collection and Federal Reserve float, savings deposits, shares in retail money market mutual funds (funds with initial investments of less than \$50,000), net of retirement accounts, and institutional money market mutual funds.

# International Economic Trends

#### M2

Canada: M1 plus all checkable notice deposits and personal term deposits. United Kingdom: currency in circulation and sterling retail deposits with the U.K. banks and building societies.

United States: MZM less institutional money market mutual funds plus small denomination (less than \$100,000) time deposits.

#### M2 + CDs

Japan: M1 plus private deposits, public deposits less demand deposits, and certificates of deposit.

#### **M3**

Euro area: M1 plus deposits with a maturity up to 2 years, deposits redeemable at notice up to 3 months, repurchase agreements, money market funds, and debt securities up to 2 years.

#### M4

United Kingdom: M2 plus wholesale deposits with the U.K. banks and building societies.

Output Per Worker is the ratio of real GDP to employment.

**Producer Price Index** covers manufacturing for Canada and the United Kingdom; and total industry for Japan and the United States. Data for the euro area, France, Germany, and Italy are based on the harmonized index of total industry excluding construction.

**Retail Sales** are based on a volume index. The percent change in retail sales for the United States is based on the Standard Industrial Classification system through 1992 and the North American Industrial Classification System from 1993 on.

**Stock Exchange Index** refers to all share prices except for the United Kingdom, which excludes financial firms.

**Unemployment Rate** is the standardized unemployment rate. It is the percentage of the civilian labor force that is unemployed. The unemployed are all persons of working age who are without work, readily available for work, and actively seeking work. The standardized rate may differ from the national unemployment rate calculations.

# **Sources**

#### Abbreviations

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (BOG)

Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce (BEA)

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (BLS)

International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics (IMF)

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development,

Economic Outlook (OECD1)

Main Economic Indicators (OECD2)

National Accounts Quarterly (OECD3)

#### Canada

Bank of Canada: M1 and M2.

BOG: exchange rate.

IMF: foreign exchange reserves, merchandise and service trade, real effective exchange rate, and reserve money.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: capacity utilization, consumer price index, current account balance, GDP, hourly earnings, industrial production, interest rates, producer price index, retail sales, stock exchange index, and unemployment rate.

Statistics Canada: employment.

#### Euro Area

Eurostat: capacity utilization, consumer price index, current account balance, employment, GDP, interest rates, merchandise trade, producer price index, and retail sales.

Haver Analytics: synthetic euro exchange rate.

IMF: real effective exchange rate.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: hourly earnings, industrial production, M1, M3, stock exchange index, and unemployment.

#### France

BOG: exchange rate.

Eurostat: capacity utilization, consumer price index, and producer price index.

IMF: foreign exchange reserves, merchandise and service trade, and real effective exchange rate.

Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques: employment.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: current account balance, GDP, hourly earnings, industrial production, retail sales, interest rates, stock exchange index, and unemployment.

#### Germany

BOG: exchange rate.

Bundesanstalt Fur Arbeit: employment.

Eurostat: capacity utilization, consumer price index, and producer price index.

IMF: foreign exchange reserves, merchandise and service trade, and real effective exchange rate.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: current account balance, GDP, hourly earnings, industrial production, M1, M3, retail sales, interest rates, stock exchange index, and unemployment.

#### Italy

BOG: exchange rate.

Eurostat: capacity utilization, consumer price index, and producer price index. IMF: foreign exchange reserves, merchandise and service trade, and real effective exchange rate.

Instituto Nazionale di Statistica: employment.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: current account balance, GDP, hourly earnings, industrial production, long-term interest rates, retail sales, stock exchange index, and unemployment.

#### Japan

Bank of Japan: adjusted monetary base and long-term interest rate.

BOG: exchange rate.

IMF: foreign exchange reserves, merchandise and service trade, and real effective exchange rate.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: capacity utilization, consumer price index, current account balance, employment, GDP, hourly earnings, industrial production, M1, M2, producer price index, retail sales, short-term interest rate, stock exchange index, and unemployment.

#### **United Kingdom**

Bank of England: M2.

BOG: exchange rate.

IMF: foreign exchange reserves, merchandise and service trade, and real effective exchange rate.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: capacity utilization, consumer price index, current account balance, GDP, industrial production, interest rates, M4, producer price index, retail sales, stock exchange index, unemployment, and weekly earnings.

U.K. Office for National Statistics: employment and M0.

#### **United States**

BOG: capacity utilization, exchange rate, industrial production index, M2, and interest rates.

BEA: GDP, current account balance, merchandise and service trade, and retail sales

BLS: employment, consumer price index, and producer price index.

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis: adjusted monetary base and MZM. IMF: foreign exchange reserves and real effective exchange rate.

OECD1: government debt and budget balance.

OECD2: hourly earnings, stock exchange index, and unemployment.