Fourth quarter U.S. economic growth, which remained strong, was driven by increased consumption. The labor market is gradually nearing full employment and still adding jobs at a healthy pace. Inflation remains near the Fed's two percent target in both the core CPI and the full index, with little expected acceleration. Short- and medium-term borrowing costs have increased as Fed interest rate hikes are expected to continue or accelerate.

Economic Growth and Employment

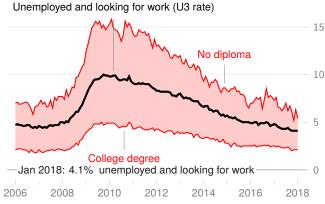
Real gross domestic product (GDP) (Quarterly percent change, seasonally-adjusted annual rate)

> Real GDP Growth Contributions to GDP growth Government Investment Net Exports Consumption

-102017 Q4: Real GDP: 17.3T: Growth: 2.5% 2006 2008 2010 2012 2014 2018 2016

FRED: GDPC1; GCEC1; GPDIC1; NETEXC; PCECC96

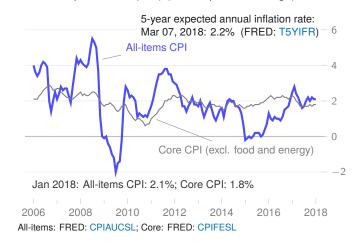
Civilian unemployment rate (percent)



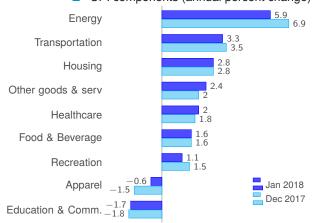
FRED: UNRATE; LNS14027659; LNS14027662

Inflation and Prices

Consumer price index (CPI) (annual percent change)



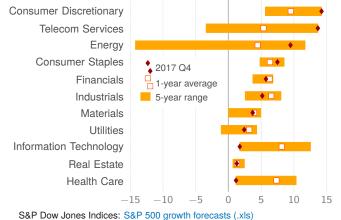
CPI components (annual percent change)



FRED: CPI Indexes

Markets, Interest Rates, and Other Indicators

S&P 500 reported earnings per share by industry



Recent market developments and other key indicators

		one month	one year	as or:
S&P 500 index	2738.97	▲ 2.1%	▲ 15.9%	2018-03-08
CBOE volatility index (VIX)	16.54	▼ -40.4%	▲ 39.5%	2018-03-08
Bank deposit interest rate	0.27%	▲ 0.01	▲ 0.12	Feb 2018
3-month treasury bill yield	1.67%	▲ 0.12	▲ 0.91	2018-03-08
2-year treasury bond yield	2.25%	▲ 0.10	▲ 0.93	2018-03-08
10-year treasury bond yield	2.86%	▲ 0.02	▲ 0.34	2018-03-08
30-year mortgage rate	4.46%	▲ 0.14	▲ 0.25	2018-03-08
US Dollar, broad index	118.57	▲ 0.8%	▼ -5.2%	Mar 2018
Crude oil, US\$/barrel	\$60.32	▼ -2.3%	▲ 20.2%	2018-03-08
Industrial production index	107.2	▼ -0.1%	▲ 3.7%	Jan 2018
Consumer confidence index	99.7	▲ 4.2%	▲ 3.5%	Feb 2018

Retrieved from FRED, CBOE, Quandl, and University of Michigan