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March 21 1997

SUPPLEMENT

CURRENT ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

Prepared for the Federal Open Market Committee

By the Staff Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

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Selected Financial Market Quotations¹

(Percent except as noted)

	T	(1.02)	1996		1997	Change to Mar. 20, from:				
Instrument		Feb.	July	FOMC,*		Feb.	July	FOMC,*		
		low	high	Feb. 5	Mar. 20	low	high	Feb. 5		
Short-term rates								· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Federal funds ²		5.15	5.39	5.33	5.27	0.12	-0.12	-0.06		
Treasury bills ³	ļ									
3-month		4.76	5.21	4.97	5.20	0.44	-0.01	0.23		
6-month		4.67	5.40	5.08	5.32	0.65	-0.08	0.24		
l-year		4.55	5.64	5.25	5.50	0.95	-0.14	0.25		
Commercial paper										
1-month	Į.	5.27	5.50	5.43	5.51	0.24	0.01	0.08		
3-month		5.12	5.59	5.44	5.57	0.45	-0.02	0.13		
Large negotiable CDs ³										
1-month)	5.21	5.44	5.32	5.43	0.22	-0.01	0.11		
3-month		5.12	5.59	5.40	5.55	0.43	-0.04	0.15		
6-month		4.99	5.83	5.50	5.71	0.72	-0.12	0.21		
Eurodollar deposits ⁴										
1-month		5.13	5.38	5.31	5.38	0.25	0.00	0.07		
3-month		5.13	5.56	5.41	5.50	0.37	-0.06	0.09		
Bank prime rate		8.25	8.25	8.25	8.25	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Intermediate- and Long-term Rates	1									
U.S. Treasury (constant maturity)										
3-year	ì	4.98	6.62	6.02	6.45	1.47	-0.17	0.43		
10-year		5.58	7.06	6.45	6.75	1.17	-0.31	0.30		
30-year		6.02	7.19	6.72	6.97	0.95	-0.22	0.25		
U.S. Treasury indexed bond		n.a.	n.a.	3.33	3.49	n.a.	n.a.	0.16		
Municipal revenue (Bond Buyer) ⁵		5.67	6.24	6.02	6.06	0.39	-0.18	0.04		
Corporate-A utility, recently offered		7.18	8.23	7.92	8.11	0.93	-0.12	0.19		
High-yield corporate ⁶		9.57	10.36	9.71	9.64	0.07	-0.72	-0.07		
Home mortgages ⁷										
FHLMC 30-yr fixed rate		6.94	8.42	7.88	7.94	1.00	-0.48	0.06		
FHLMC 1-yr adjustable rate		5.19	6.01	5.55	5.61	0.42	-0.40	0.06		
	Recor	d high	1996		1997	Percentag	Percentage change to Mar. 20, from:			
			July	FOMC,*		Record	July	FOMC,*		
Stock exchange index	Level	Date	low	Feb. 5	Mar. 20	high	low	Feb. 5		

	Record	Record high			1997	Percentage change to Mar. 20, from:			
			July	FOMC,*		Record	July	FOMC,*	
Stock exchange index	Level	Date	low	Feb. 5	Mar. 20	high	low	Feb. 5	
Dow-Jones Industrial	7085.16	3/11/97	5346.55	6833.48	6820.28	-3.74	27.56	-0.19	
S&P 500 Composite	816.29	2/18/97	626.65	789.26	782.65	-4.12	24.89	-0.84	
NASDAQ (OTC)	1388.06	1/22/97	1042.37	1373.75	1259.26	-9.28	20.81	-8.33	
Russell 2000	370.65	1/22/97	307.78	368.32	352.31	-0.68	19.61	-4.35	
Wilshire	7792.57	2/18/97	6099.34	7592,64	7453.85_	<u>-4.35</u>	22.21	-1.83	

^{1.} One-day quotes except as noted.

Average for two-week reserve maintenance period closest to date shown. Last observation is the average to date for maintenance period ending March 26, 1997.

^{3.} Secondary market.

^{4.} Bid rates for Eurodollar deposits at 11 a.m. London time.

^{5.} Most recent observation based on one-day Thursday quote and futures market index changes.

^{6.} Merrill Lynch Master II high-yield bond index composite.

^{7.} Quotes for week ending Friday previous to date shown.

^{*} Figures cited are as of the close on February 4.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services

In January, the U.S. deficit in trade in goods and services widened from the levels recorded in December and in the fourth quarter as a whole; exports declined slightly and imports rose sharply.

The decrease in exports in January was led by a drop in aircraft deliveries that is expected to be temporary and some small declines in exports of both agricultural products and machinery (other than computers and semiconductors). Exports of computers moved up after a dip in December, and exports of semiconductors turned up after showing little change in the previous two months. Automotive exports to Canada picked up strongly, reflecting in part a make-up of shipments delayed during the CAW and UAW strikes against GM last fall. Despite the decline in total exports of goods and services in January, the level was only 1-1/2 percent less than the very strong fourth-quarter average, with goods 2 percent lower and services 1 percent higher.

The sharp rise in imports in January was largely a rebound from strike-reduced levels in automotive shipments from Canada. The strikes against GM had a greater effect on automotive imports than automotive exports. Increases in imports were also recorded in January for oil (primarily an increase in quantity) and computers. The value of imported computers (including accessories and parts) soared to a level in January that was 8 percent above its fourth-quarter average. However, imports of consumer goods and foods posted small declines. Total imports of goods and services in January were 3-1/2 percent above the fourth-quarter average, with goods 4 percent higher and services 1 percent higher.

The January trade deficit was slightly larger than we expected, with almost all of the surprise (compared with the estimate implicit in the March Greenbook) in machinery especially computers. The increase in computer imports in January (including accessories and parts) was much stronger than anticipated; computer exports were only slightly higher than anticipated in the Greenbook. Exports of other machinery in January were somewhat lower than anticipated. After incorporating the data for January and updating our estimates for trade in February and March, we now believe that the contribution of net exports to GDP growth in the current quarter

could be somewhat more negative than in the Greenbook, perhaps \$3 to 4 billion (annual rate) in real terms. However, more than half of the negative adjustment to net exports would be offset by higher domestic purchases of capital goods, leaving a negative adjustment to the rate of real GDP growth presented in the Greenbook for the current quarter of one-tenth of a percentage point at most.

Prices of Exports and Imports

In February, prices of U.S. non-oil imports increased slightly after posting a moderate decrease in January. Most of the increase was attributable to higher prices for foods (especially coffee). Smaller rises were recorded for imported industrial supplies (the fourth consecutive month of increase) and consumer goods. For January-February combined, prices of non-oil imports declined 1-1/4 percent at an annual rate.

The price of imported oil dropped significantly in February as deliveries of oil from Iraq and mild weather put downward pressure on prices. For January-February combined, the price of imported oil dropped 5 percent at an annual rate.

Prices of exports rose slightly in February, primarily because of a jump in prices of agricultural products (primarily corn and soybeans). The increase in prices of agricultural exports was the largest since last May and followed a half-year of generally falling prices. Despite the increase in January, for January-February combined, agricultural export prices declined 1 percent at an annual rate. Prices of nonagricultural exports decreased marginally in February following two months of small increases. For January-February combined, prices of nonagricultural exports rose 1/2 percent at an annual rate, the same rate of increase recorded in the fourth quarter.

B.1.a. TABLE 1 March 20, 1997

Trade in Goods and Services: Summary (in billions of dollars, seasonally adjusted)

NIPA Real		Balance			the Month			1/Imports		
	Net Exports G & S */	G&S	Merch.	Serv.		Merch.	Serv.	G&S	Merch.	Serv.
Years	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1994 1995 1996	-105.7 -107.5 -114.0	-105.1	-166.1 -173.4 -187.8		786.5	575.9	195.8 210.6 223.9	802.7 891.6 949.7	668.6 749.4 799.3	134.1 142.2 150.4
	s (AR);		. -			· -			· - -	
1995 Qt	2 -121.4 3 -101.6	-118.1 -127.3 -97.3 -77.6	-191.7 -170.2	61.6 64.4 72.8 74.5	778.9	554.2 571.9 579.9 597.7	201.7 206.9 216.9 216.8	874.0 906.2 894.2 892.0	733.9 763.6 750.1 749.8	140.1 142.5 144.1 142.2
1996 Qt	2 -114.7 3 -137.4	-98.4 -115.8 -136.8 -106.1	-189 5	70.4	820.5 835.9 823.1 862.1		220.3 223.4 222.3 229.7	918.9 951.7 960.0 968.2	772.6 802.0 808.1 814.4	146.3 149.8 151.9 153.8
Monthly	Rates:		. 			· • · ·			· - i - •	
1995 Ja Fe Ma Ap Ma Ju Ju Au Se Oc	eb or oy on ol op ov	-10.7 -9.5 -9.3 -10.7 -10.6 -10.1 -7.4 -6.9 -6.9 -6.1	-16.0 -14.4 -14.5 -16.0 -15.9 -13.4 -13.2 -13.1 -12.3	54.2352803222 55555566666	61.9 62.0 65.1 64.3 65.9 64.3 66.8 68.0 67.5 68.1	445.0 447.1 487.1 487.5 499.1 499.1	16.9 16.4 17.1 17.2 17.4 17.2 17.8 18.1 18.4 18.0 18.2 18.0	72.5 71.4 75.1 75.5 74.2 74.2 74.4 74.5	62.1 62.9 62.6	11.6 11.8 11.8 11.9 11.9 11.9 12.1 12.0 11.8
1996 Ja Fe Ma Ap Ma Ju Ju Au Se Oo	eb or or or on og ep et ov	-9.7 -6.9 -8.0 -9.7 -10.8 -8.5 -12.0 -10.6 -11.6 -8.1 -8.0 -10.5	-15.6 -12.9 -14.7 -15.9 -14.7 -17.6 -17.6 -17.6 -14.2 -14.9	5.9 6.6 6.1 6.2 7 5.0 6.1 6.4	66.6 69.3 69.1 70.1 69.7 67.3 69.7 68.8 71.8 72.6	48.7 50.5 50.7 51.4 51.0 48.8 51.1 50.3 52.9 53.9		76.3 76.1 77.3 78.8 80.9 78.2 79.2 80.3 80.4 79.8 80.5 81.7		12.0 12.3 12.3 12.6 12.5 12.7 12.5 12.7 12.5
1997 Ja	ın	-12.7	-19.0	6.3	70.8	51.5	19.3	83.5	70.5	13.0

^{1/} U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Economic Analysis,
 BOP valuation.
*/ In billions of chained (1992) dollars.
Note: Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

B.1.b. March 20, 1997

TABLE 2

DETAILS OF GOODS AND SERVICES: LEVELS
(Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted)

	1996 Sep	1996 Oct	1996 Nov	1996 Dec	1997 Jan	1995 Qtr-4	1996 Qtr-1	1996 Qtr-2	1996 Qtr-3	1996 Qtr-4
TRADE BALANCE (G&S)	-11,616	-8,066	-7,968	-10,489	-12,707	-19,391	-24,607	-28,960	-34,208	-26,523
EXPORTS, Total (G&S) Services Agricultural Gold (BOP) Nonag Goods ex Gold	68,816 18,499 4,842 377 45,099	18,865 4,963 368	72,566 19,264 5,525 263 47,513	71,210 19,286 4,946 296 46,682	70,777 19,303 4,836 228 46,410	54,194 15,169 937	55,077 15,865 1,577	55,855 15,109 3,127	15,033	57,415 15,434 927
Ind Supplies (Ex Ag, Gold) Fuels (coal,petrol,etc) Chemicals Building Materials Other Ind Supplies	10,921 1,387 3,492 834 5,208	11,552 1,626 3,580 872 5,474	11,039 1,303 3,464 821 5,452	11,295 1,458 3,743 799 5,296	11,154 1,353 3,589 798 5,415	32,641 3,717 10,729 2,218 15,977	3,762 10,635	3,456 10,716 2,200	32,207 3,755 10,291 2,333 15,827	33,887 4,387 10,787 2,491 16,222
Capital Goods Aircraft & Parts Computers & Access Semiconductors Other Capital Goods	20,068 1,983 3,578 2,845 11,661	22,400 3,080 3,665 3,070 12,586	22,308 2,807 3,701 3,100 12,701	22,033 3,285 3,460 3,045 12,243	21,497 2,442 3,835 3,254 11,966	62,183 6,272 10,872 9,416 35,623	6,625 11,345 9,373	8,339 10,795 8,727	61,058 6,683 10,734 8,421 35,221	66,742 9,172 10,826 9,215 37,529
Automotive Products To Canada To Mexico (NSA) To Rest of World	6,089 3,301 791 1,997	5,232 2,508 877 1,847	5,779 3,088 793 1,898	5,289 2,748 981 1,560	5,735 3,217 781 1,736	15,496 8,553 1,760 5,184	8,288 1,898	8,651	9,073	16,301 8,344 2,652 5,305
Consumer Goods All Other Merchandise	5,880 2,141	6,217 2,160	6,095 2,291	6,014 2,051	6,021 2,003	16,448 6,549	16,959 5,972			18,326 6,502
IMPORTS, Total (G&S) Services Petroleum Gold (BOP) Nonpetroleum Goods ex Gold	80,432 12,476 6,325 289 61,342	6,371 325	12,828 5,788 293	6,527 242	83,484 12,991 7,096 225 63,172	35,559 13,383 858	36,577 14,030 1,692	37,442 17,564 3,653	239,991 37,977 17,958 1,545 182,511	38,452 18,686 859
Ind Supplies (Ex Oil, Gold) Chemicals Iron & Steel Mill Prod Building Materials Other Ind Supplies	10,904 2,164 1,238 1,341 6,162	10,941 2,182 1,245 1,364 6,151	10,826 2,230 1,290 1,334 5,972	10,873 2,345 1,162 1,319 6,047	11,049 2,362 1,275 1,255 6,157	6,267 2,829 3,243	3,001	6,755 3,245 3,569	6,611 3,712 4,097	32,640 6,757 3,697 4,017 18,169
Capital Goods Aircraft & Parts Computers & Access Semiconductors Other Capital Goods	1,104 5,108 2,835	18,731 1,066 5,040 2,652 9,974	1,123 5,102 2,710	19,649 1,293 5,246 2,797 10,313	19,715 1,230 5,531 2,873 10,082	2,649 15,472 11,158	2,749 15,577 10,938	3,181 15,157 9,256		8,158
Automotive Products From Canada From Mexico (NSA) From Rest of World	4,248	10,257 3,088 2,138 5,031	3,888 1,954	3,601	4,705 1,917	11,461 5,268	11,391 5,702	12,265 6,018	33,919 12,832 5,807 15,280	10,577
Consumer Goods Foods, Feeds, and Beverages All Other Merchandise			2,961	3,178	3,057	8,197	8,576	8,995	43,279 8,969 7,212	
Memo Items, NSA: Oil Imports: Value (SITC) Volume (mbd) Price (\$/bbl)		6,271 9.303 21.75	8.270	9.348		•	8.657	9.661	17,315 9.797 19.21	18,193 8.973 22.02

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, monthly press release (FT-900).

B.1.c. March 20, 1997

DETAILS OF GOODS AND SERVICES: DOLLAR CHANGES (Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted)

	Amount C	-				_	rom Prev		\$ Change from Year Earlier
	0ct	Nov	Dec	Jan 	Qtr-1	Qtr-2	Qtr-3	Qtr-4	Q4-Q4
EXPORTS, Total (G&S)	2,942	808	-1,356	-433	1,514	3,846	-3,193	9,751	11,918
Services	366 122	399 562	_ 22	17 -110	883	778	-287	1,847	3,221
Agricultural Gold (BOP)	-9	-104	-580 33	-68	696 640	-756 1,550	-77 -1,819	402 -381	266 -10
Nonag Goods ex Gold	2,463	-49	-831	-272	-706	2,274	-1,011	7,884	8,441
Ind Supplies (Ex Ag, Gold)	63 1 239	-513	256	-141 -106	-384	100	-149	1,680	1,246
Fuels (coal,petrol,etc) Chemicals	239 88	-323 -117	155 27 9	-154	46 -94	-306 81	299 -425	632 496	670 58
Building Materials	38	-51	-22	-1	1	-20	133	158	273
Other Ind Supplies	266	-22	-156	119	-337	345	-157	395	237
Capital Goods	2,333	-92	-275	-536	-237	949	-1,836	5,684	4,558
Aircraft & Parts	1,097	-273	479	-843	353	1,713	-1,656	2,489	2,899
Computers & Access	87	35	-241	375	473	-551	-60	92	-46
Semiconductors	225	31	-55	209	-42	-646	-3 07	79 4	-201
Other Capital Goods	924	115	-458	-277	-1,021	432	186	2,309	1,906
Automotive Products	-856	547	-490	446	-19	262	962	-400	805
To Canada	-793	580	-341	469	-265	363	422	-729	-208
To Mexico (NSA)	86	-84	188	-200	138	81	-6	679	892
To Rest of World	-150	51	-338	176	108	-182	545	-350	121
Consumer Goods	337	-122	-81	7	512		-354	1,068	1,878
All Other Merchandise	19	132	-241 	-48 	-577	312 	367	-149	-47
IMPORTS, Total (G&S) Services	-608 244	710 108	1,165 76	1,785 87	6,730 1,018	8,199 865	2,055 53 5	2,066 475	19,050 2,893
Petroleum	46	-583	738	569	647	3,534	394	728	5,303
Gold (BOP)	36	-32	-51	-17	834		-2,108	-686	2
Nonpetroleum Goods ex Gold	-934	1,216	402	1,146	4,231	1,839	3,234	1,548	10,853
Ind Supplies (Ex Oil, Gold)	37	-115	47	176	658		944	-81	2,208
Chemicals	18	48	115	17	485		-144	146	490
Iron & Steel Mill Prod	7	45	-128	112	172		466	-14	<u>868</u>
Building Materials	23	-29	-16	-64	-9		529	-81	774
Other Ind Supplies	-11	-179	75	110	10	104	94	- 132	76
Capital Goods	-201	398	520	67	537	-1,965	- 153	1,097	-484
Aircraft & Parts	-38	57	170	-64	100	432	95	206	834
Computers & Access	-69	63	143	285	105	-421	230	1	-84
Semiconductors	- 183	58	87	76	-220	-1,681	-897	-202	-2,999
Other Capital Goods	88	220	120	-231	552	-296	418	1,091	1,766
Automotive Products	-957	1,023	-678	1,415	1,417		1,155		2,318
From Canada	-1,160	800	-287	1,104	-71		567	-2,255	-885
From Mexico (NSA)	147	-184	-250	213	434		-210	-11	529
From Rest of World	56	407	-141	98	1,053	336	799	485	2,674
Consumer Goods	100	-139	483	-265	1,365		1,524	1,778	5,409
Foods, Feeds, and Beverages	37	-64	218	-121	379		-25	194	966
All Other Merchandise	50	113	-187	-1 26	-125	431	-210	340	435
Memo Items, NSA:									
Oil Imports: Value (SITC)	304	-841	1,062	339	448	3,488	473	879	5,288
Volume (mbd)	-0.505	-1.033	1.078	0.431	-0.303		0.136	-0.823	0.014
Price (\$/bbl)	1.47	0.14	0.51	0.13	1.47	2.02	0.06	2.81	6.36

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, monthly press release (FT-900).

B.1.d. March 20, 1997

TABLE 4

DETAILS OF GOODS AND SERVICES: PERCENT CHANGES (Percent change from previous period)

	0ct	Nov	from Prev. Dec	Month Jan	Qtr-1	Qtr-2	rom Prev Qtr-3	Qtr-4	% Change from Year Earlier Q4-Q4
EXPORTS, Total (G&S) Services Agricultural Gold (BOP) Nonag Goods ex Gold	4.3 2.0 2.5 -2.4 5.5	1.1 2.1 11.3 -28.3 -0.1	-1.9 0.1 -10.5 12.5 -1.7	-0.6 0.1 -2.2 -23.0 -0.6	0.7 1.6 4.6 68.4 -0.5	1.9 1.4 -4.8 98.3 1.7	-1.5 -0.5 -0.5 -58.2 -0.7	4.7 3.3 2.7 -29.1 5.9	5.9 5.9 1.8 -1.0 6.3
Ind Supplies (Ex Ag, Gold) Fuels (coal,petrol,etc) Chemicals Building Materials Other Ind Supplies	5.8 17.2 2.5 4.5 5.1	-4.4 -19.9 -3.3 -5.8 -0.4	2.3 11.9 8.0 -2.7 -2.9	-1.2 -7.2 -4.1 -0.1 2.3	-1.2 1.2 -0.9 0.1 -2.1	-8.1 0.8	-0.5 8.6 -4.0 6.1 -1.0	5.2 16.8 4.8 6.8 2.5	3.8 18.0 0.5 12.3 1.5
Capital Goods Aircraft & Parts Computers & Access Semiconductors Other Capital Goods	11.6 55.3 2.4 7.9 7.9	-0.4 -8.9 1.0 1.0 0.9	-1.2 17.1 -6.5 -1.8 -3.6	-2.4 -25.7 10.8 6.8 -2.3	-0.4 5.6 4.4 -0.4 -2.9	-4.9 -6.9	-2.9 -19.9 -0.6 -3.5 0.5	9.3 37.2 0.9 9.4 6.6	7.3 46.2 -0.4 -2.1 5.4
Automotive Products To Canada To Mexico (NSA) To Rest of World	-14.1 -24.0 10.9 -7.5	10.5 23.1 -9.5 2.7	-8.5 -11.0 23.7 -17.8	8.4 17.1 -20.4 11.3	-0.1 -3.1 7.9 2.1	4.4 4.2	6.1 4.9 -0.3 10.7	-2.4 -8.0 34.4 -6.2	5.2 -2.4 50.7 2.3
Consumer Goods All Other Merchandise	5.7 0.9	6.1	-1.3 -10.5	0.1 -2.3	3.1 -8.8	5.2	-2.0 5.8		11.4 -0.7
IMPORTS, Total (G&S) Services Petroleum Gold (BOP) Nonpetroleum Goods ex Gold	-0.8 2.0 0.7 12.4 -1.5	0.9 0.8 -9.1 -9.8 2.0	1.4 0.6 12.8 -17.5 0.7	2.2 0.7 8.7 -6.9 1.8	3.0 2.9 4.8 97.3 2.4	2.4	0.9 1.4 2.2 -57.7 1.8	0.9 1.3 4.1 -44.4 0.8	8.5 8.1 39.6 0.2 6.3
<pre>Ind Supplies (Ex Oil, Gold) Chemicals Iron & Steel Mill Prod Building Materials Other Ind Supplies</pre>	0.3 0.8 0.6 1.7 -0.2	-1.0 2.2 3.7 -2.1 -2.9		1.6 0.7 9.7 -4.8 1.8	2.2 7.7 6.1 -0.3 0.1	0.0 8.1 10.4	3.0 -2.1 14.4 14.8 0.5	-0.2 2.2 -0.4 -2.0 -0.7	7.3 7.8 30.7 23.9 0.4
Capital Goods Aircraft & Parts Computers & Access Semiconductors Other Capital Goods	-1.1 -3.4 -1.3 -6.5 0.9	2.1 5.4 1.2 2.2 2.2		0.3 ~4.9 5.4 2.7 -2.2	0.9 3.8 0.7 -2.0 1.9	15.7 -2.7 -15.4		1.9 6.3 0.0 -2.4 3.7	-0.8 31.5 -0.5 -26.9 6.2
Automotive Products From Canada From Mexico (NSA) From Rest of World	-8.5 -27.3 7.4 1.1	10.0 25.9 -8.6 8.1		13.3 30.7 12.5 1.9	4.8 -0.6 8.2 8.0	7.7 5.5		-5.2 -17.6 -0.2 3.2	7.8 -7.7 10.0 20.4
Consumer Goods Foods, Feeds, and Beverages All Other Merchandise	0.7 1.2 2.0	-2.1		-1.7 -3.8 -5.2	3.4 4.6 -1.8	4.9	3.6 -0.3 -2.8	4.1 2.2 4.7	13.6 11.8 6.1
Memo Items, NSA: Oil Imports: Value (SITC) Volume (mbd) Price (\$/bbl)	5.1 -5.1 7.2	-13.4 -11.1 0.6	13.0	5.2 4.6 0.6	3.5 -3.4 9.4	11.6		5.1 -8.4 14.6	41.0 0.2 40.6

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, monthly press release (FT-900).

Quarters Year Months 1996-q4 1995 1996 1997 1995-04 Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec .lan Feb (Quarterly Average, Annual Rates) Imports, Total 1.7 -1.2 1.6 -2.4 5.3 -1.6 -0.1 0.1 1.2 0.3 2.4 0.5 -0.2 -0.2 -0.747.2 41.5 1.9 -0.8 Oil 36.7 0.4 64.3 -4.8 1.9 2.2 7.5 7.1 2.0 1.4 -7.2 -1.7 -1.1 -1.2 -2.4 -2.8 -0.4 -1.3 -0.4 -0.1 Non-oil -0.1 0.4 -0.30.1 -0.4 0.1 -3.2 -3.1 -5.1 -5.3 Ind Supp Ex Oil 0.3 0.8 8.2 -0.9 0.0 0.3 -0.5 0.4 0.7 1.0 0.7 Computers -11.1 -7.4 -7.9 -16.9-10.9 -8.5 -12.7-0.4 -0.8 -1.0-0.5-0.9 -0.7-2.0 -1.3 Semiconductors -14.7-7.3 -11.8 -16.7-15.4 -14.9 -26.8-1.6 -3.02.5 -2.2 -2.7-1.8 -5.3 -0.4 -0.4 -1-4 -2.7-0.1 -0.0 -4.5 0.0 0.2 Cap. Goods ex comp & semi 1.3 0.1 0.1 -0.1-0.1 -1.1 -0.3 Automotive Products -0.1 1.5 -0.7-0.5 0.7 0.1 0.0 O 1 0.1 0.3 -0.2 -0.1 0.2 -0.1 0.0 -0.1 8.0--0.8 -0.5 -0.1 -0.1 Consumer Goods -0.2 1.2 0.0 0.2 -0.2 -0.1 0.0 -0.1 0.2 -0.7 -7.2 11.4 -10.5-0.2 -1.2 -0.8 1.9 Foods, Feeds & Beverages -4.4 1.8 0.2 -0.5 -1.1 0.0 1.8 2.4 -3.5 -0.5-1.1 0.1 0.9 -4.2 0.5 -0.2 -0.8-0.2 -0.4 0.0 0.2 Exports, Total 0.1 -4.4 22.7 13.8 31.5 -18.0 -31.9 -0.8 -1.9 -0.2 -7.3-2.6 -2.3 -0.9 Agricultural 0.1 2.2 Nonagricultural 0.6 -2.9 0.7 -1.2 -0.9 0.4 0.5 -0.2 -0.2 0.2 0.0 0.0 0.1 -0.1 0.1 Ind Supp ex Ag -2.8 -10.8 -3.8 -4.9 -3.2 0.8 0.4 -0.4 -0.6 0.6 0.2 -0.4 0.2 0.0 0.2 -9.7 -7.3-9.2 -7.6 -11.9 -1.7Computers -10.2 -7.4 -0.9-1.4 -0.4 -0.9 -1.1 -0.3-1.0 -3.0Semiconductors -6.8 -1.8 -5.5-15.5-3.6 -3.6 -2.8 -0.3-0.1 -0.5-0.40.2 -0.5 -0.7 Cap. Goods ex. comp & semi 2.2 2.4 2.9 2.4 2,4 1.2 2.4 0.1 0.1 0.2 0.1 0.2 0.0 0.4 0.1 5.0 0.3 Automotive Products 0.4 -0.1 0.3 1.3 -0.1 0.2 -0.1 0.0 1.1 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.0 1.3 0.3 0.7 0.0 Consumer Goods 2.4 1.3 0.9 0.9 0.1 0.2 0.0 0.0 0.2 0.1 0.0 Foods, Feeds & Beverages -4.4 24.8 14.6 36.4 -17.7-35.0 -2.7-1.6 -8.4 -3.0-1.9 -1.2 -0.32.1 -----Prices in the NIPA Accounts (1992=100)------Chain-type index -2.3 0.3 -2.7 Imports, Total Merch. 0.4 0.1 3.8 41.7 54.0 1.3 68.7 Oil 1.1 53.2 ---2.8 ~2.4 -3.1 -3.8 -3.0 -1.4 Non-oil ---2.1 -1.8 -1.0 0.4 -3.6 Exports, Total Merch. -4.2 - -- -- ---- -20.4 -13.0-3.1 9.5 28,0 -27.8 - -- ---Ag -2.0-4.0 -2.2 -2.6 -2.3 -0.8Nonag Deflators -2.7 -0.4 0.0 -3.1 Imports, Total Merch. -0.6 1.2 - -53.2 54.6 1.1 Oil 41.8 0.6 68.8 ___ .. --Non-oil -3.5-3.0-3.7 -4.2 -3.5 ~2.5 . . _ --2.3-3.5 Exports, Total Merch. -3.0-1.9 -2.3 -4.3 -2.6 18.6 7.5 24.2 -9.8 Ag -25.2 - --4.4 -4.1 -2.8 -2.9 -3.1 -1.7 Nonag

e-- Average of first two months of quarter.