Automotive Outlook

Georgia State University
Economic Forecasting Center
Atlanta, GA
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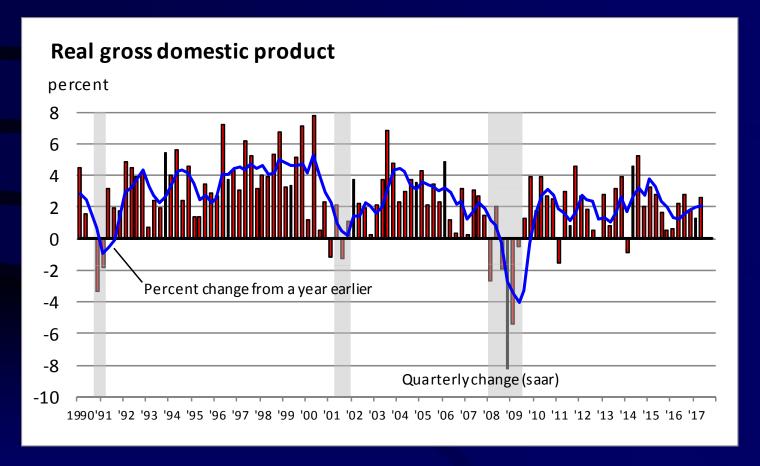
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Senior Economist
and Economic Advisor
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago



Brief Macro Assessment

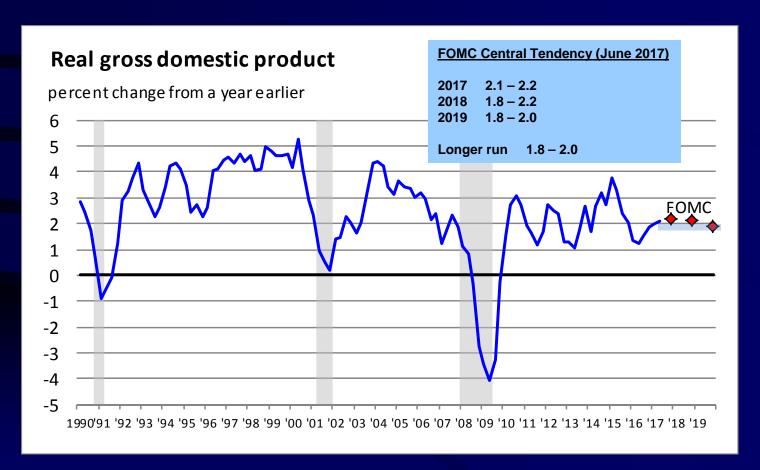


GDP expanded by 2.1% over the past year



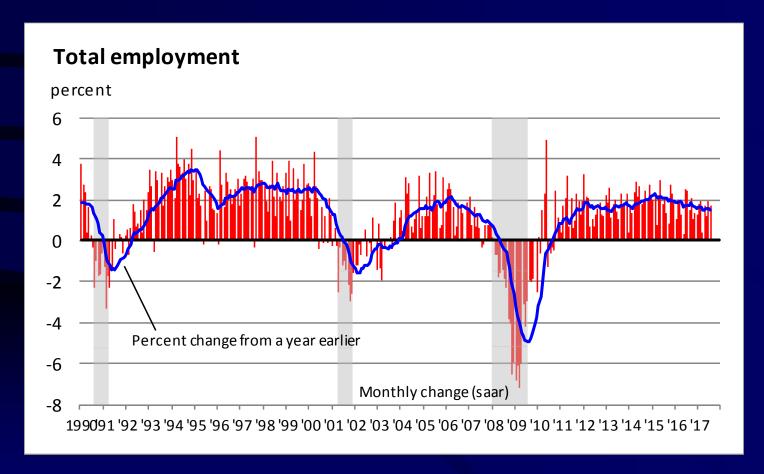


The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) expects GDP to grow around trend over the next three years



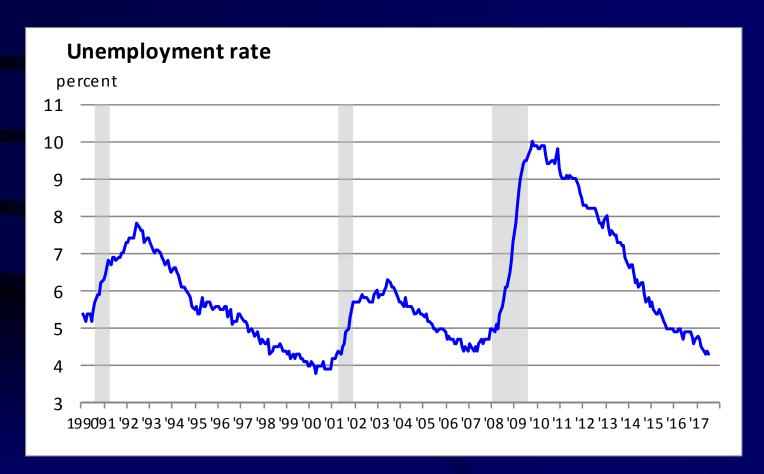


Employment increased by over 2.1 million jobs over the past 12 months



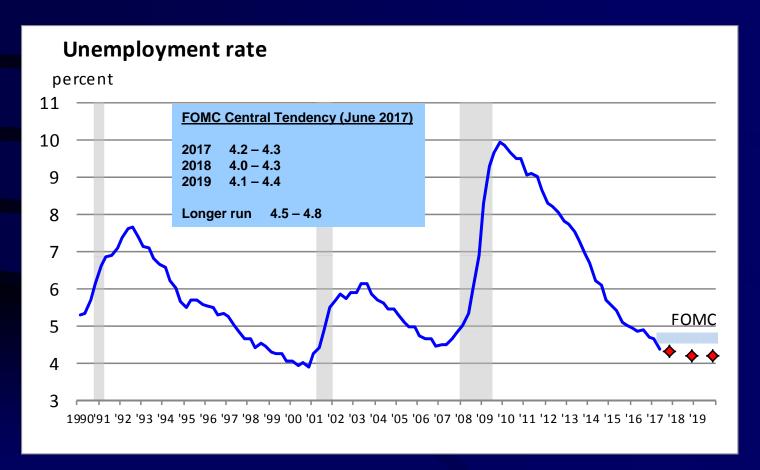


The unemployment rate has fallen to 4.3%



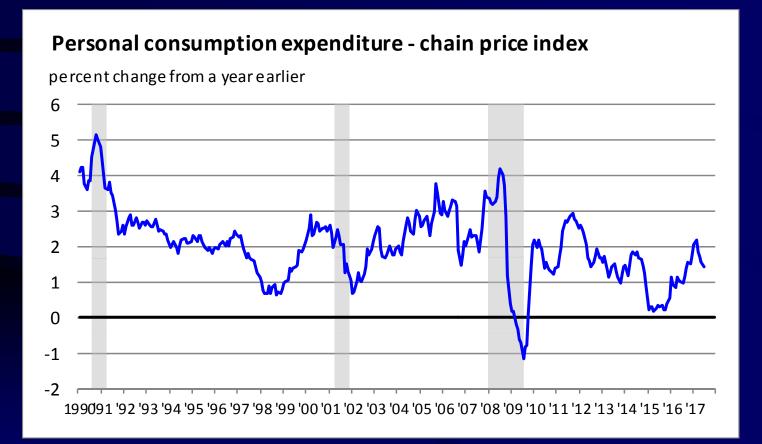


The FOMC forecasts that the unemployment rate will be just below the natural rate through 2019



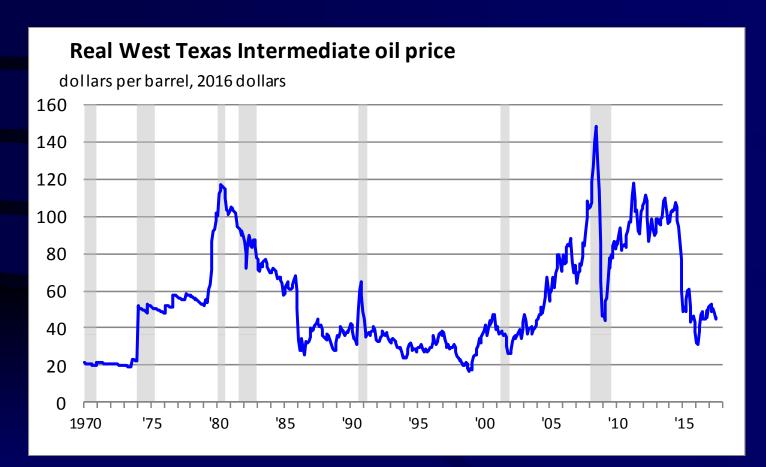


Inflation had been moving higher



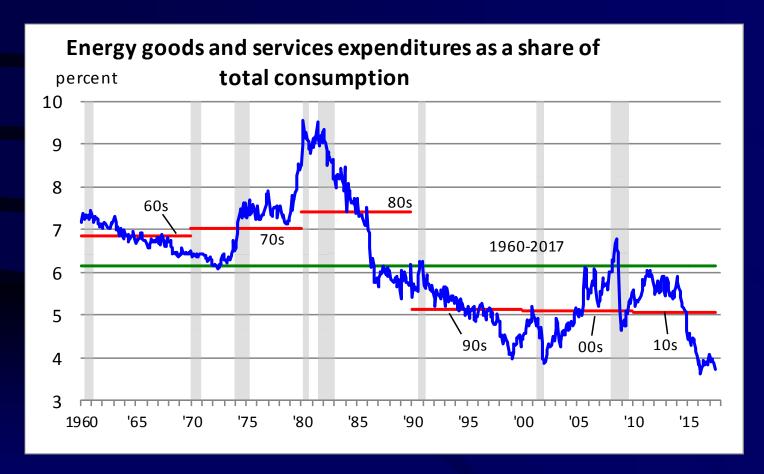


In large part inflation has been following the pattern of energy prices



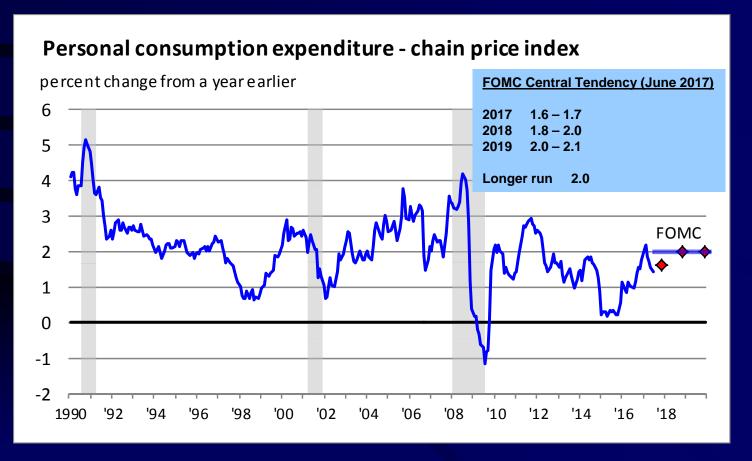


Consumer spending on energy are well below the historical average



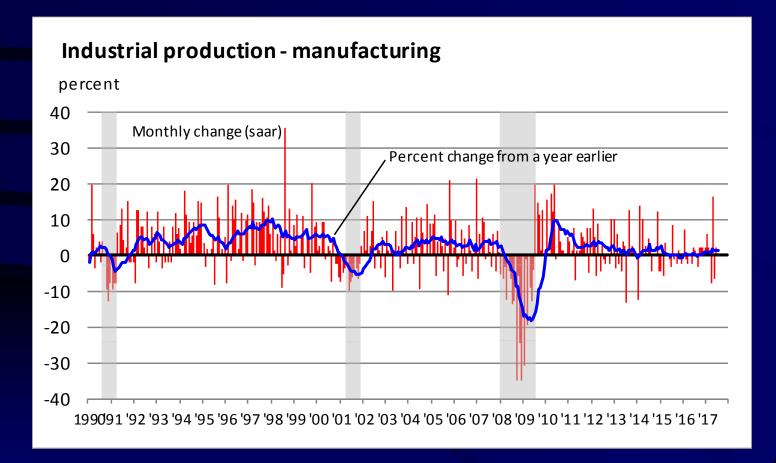


The FOMC anticipates that PCE inflation will be around their two percent target in 2018 and 2019



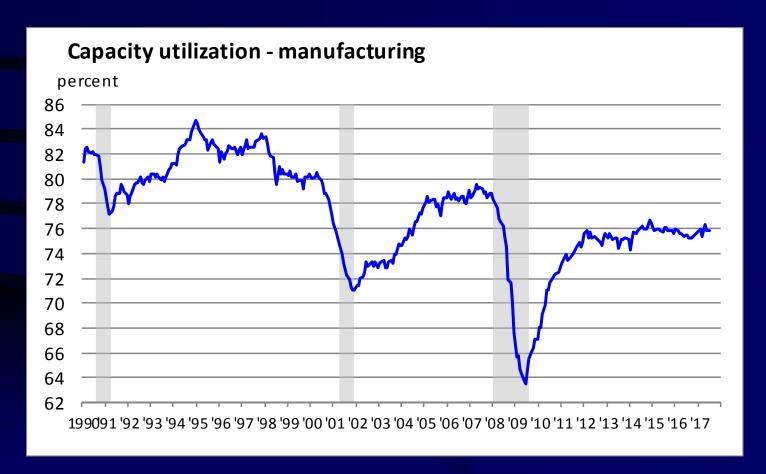


Manufacturing output is starting to increase after being unchanged for over a year



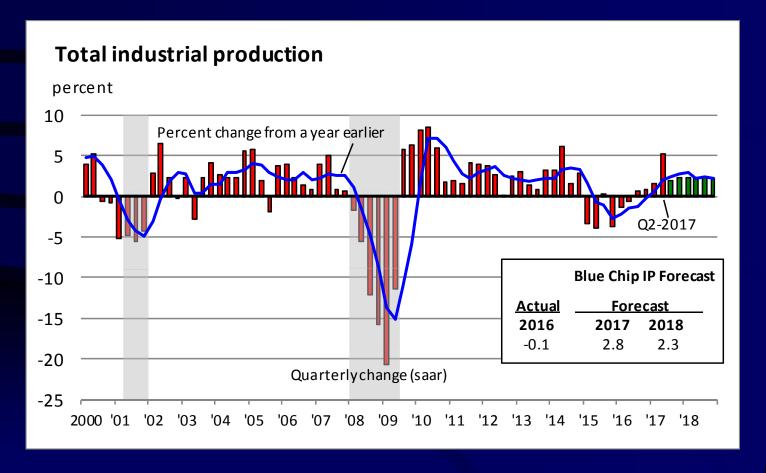


Capacity utilization has been improving





Industrial production is forecast to improve but expand at a pace below its historical rate

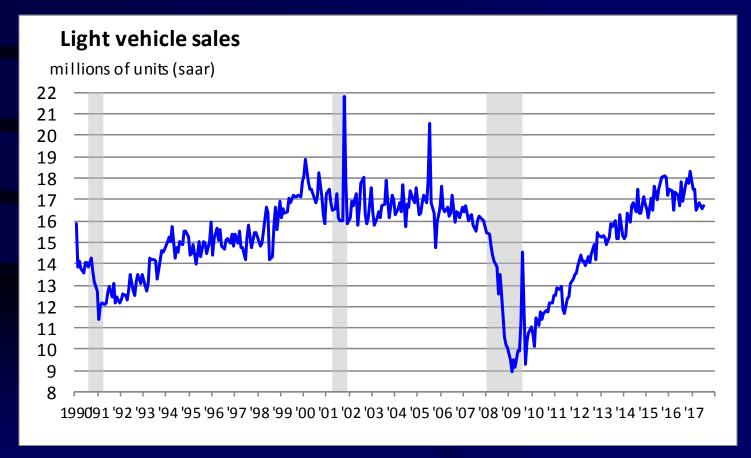




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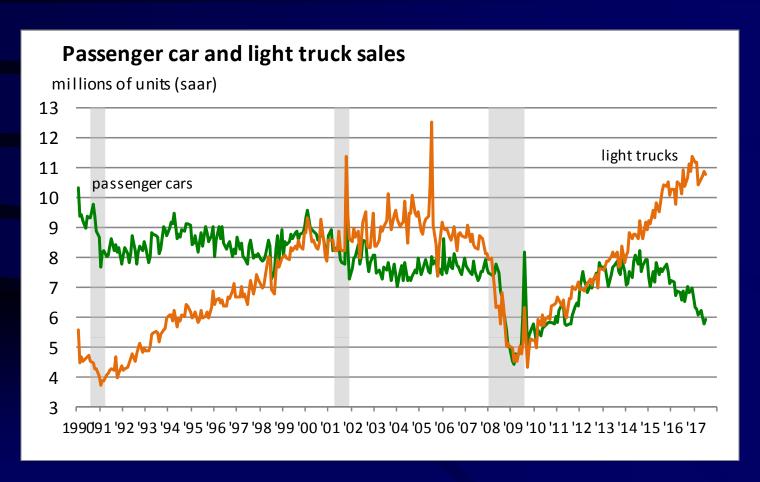


Light vehicles sales set a record in 2016 edging up 0.4% from 2015 – 2017 year-to-date sales were 1.8% lower than a comparable period of year earlier



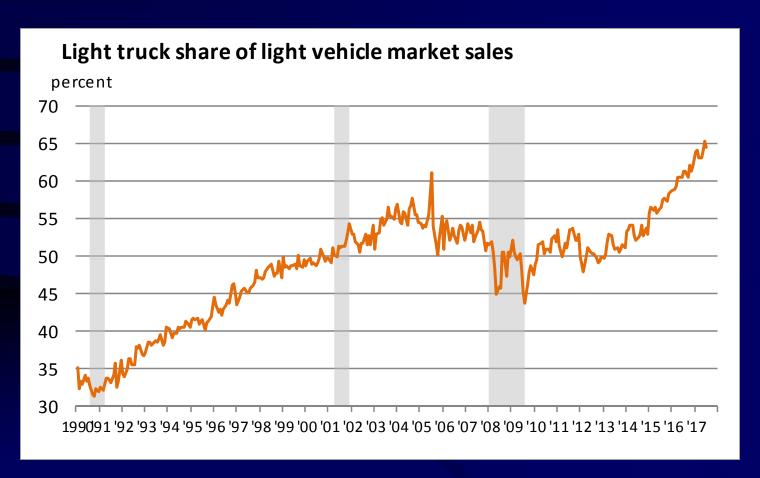


Year-to-date light truck sales are 4.8% higher than a year earlier, while passenger car sales are 11.7% lower



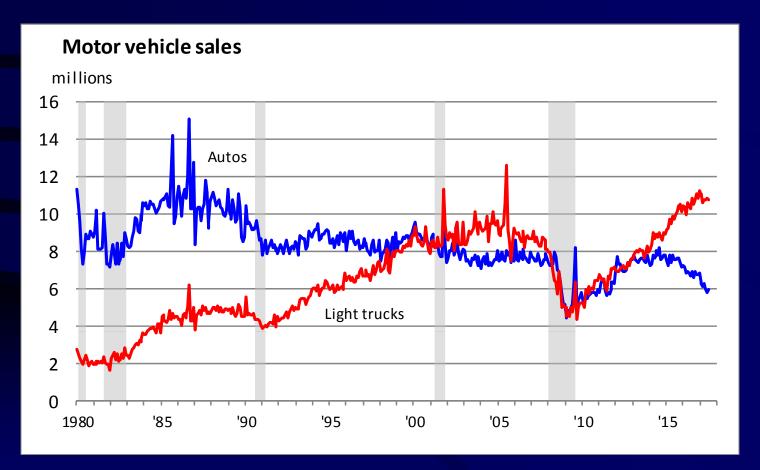


Light truck market share set a record high in June



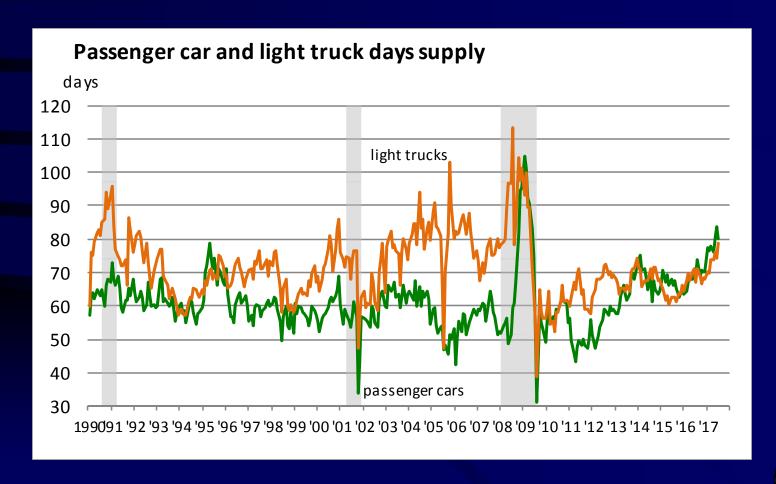


What had been an passenger car market has increasingly become a light truck market



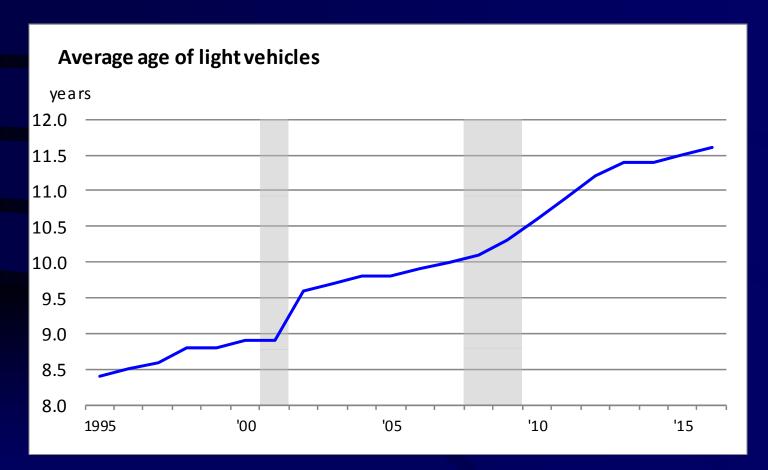


Days supply of vehicles are somewhat higher than desired, especially for passenger cars



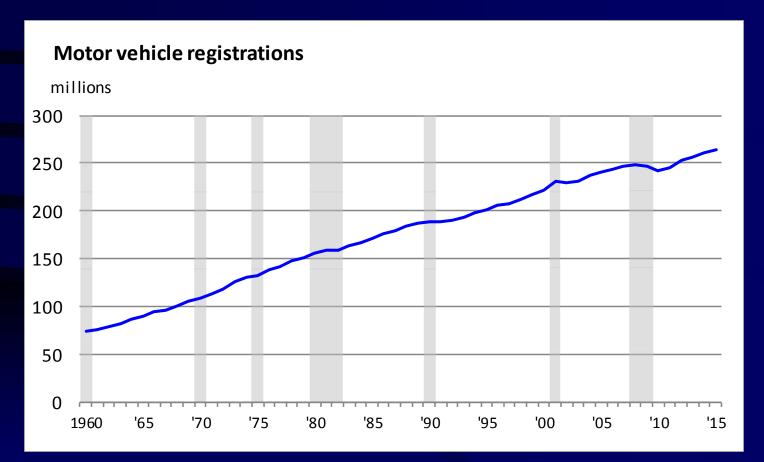


The average age of the fleet has risen substantially



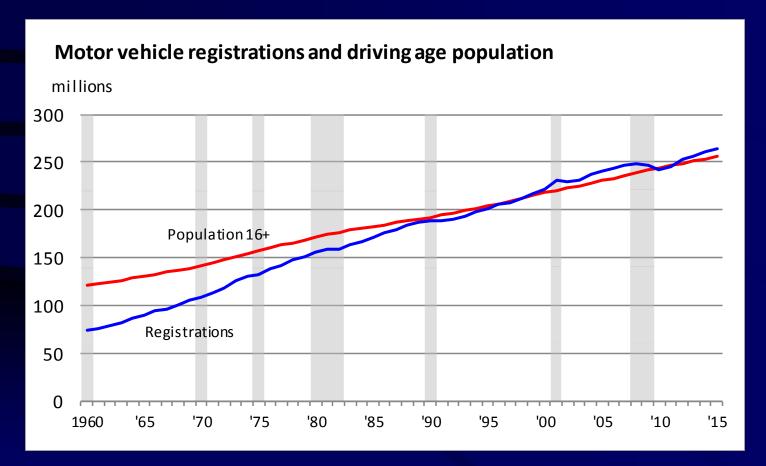


Motor vehicle registrations continue to rise



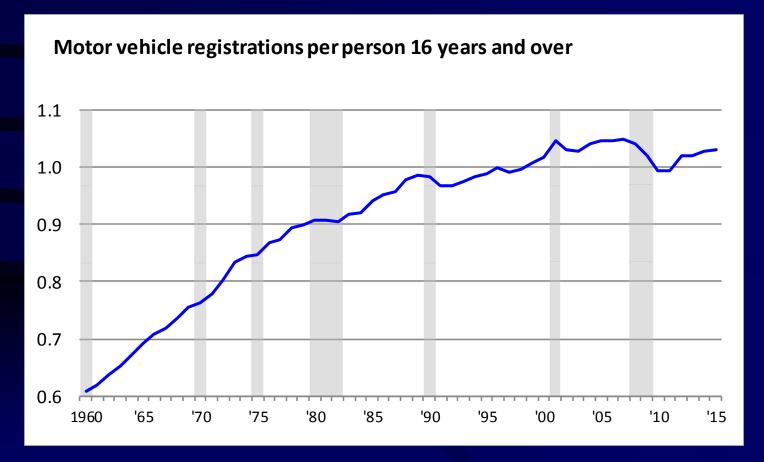


Registrations have been rising at a faster pace than the driving age population



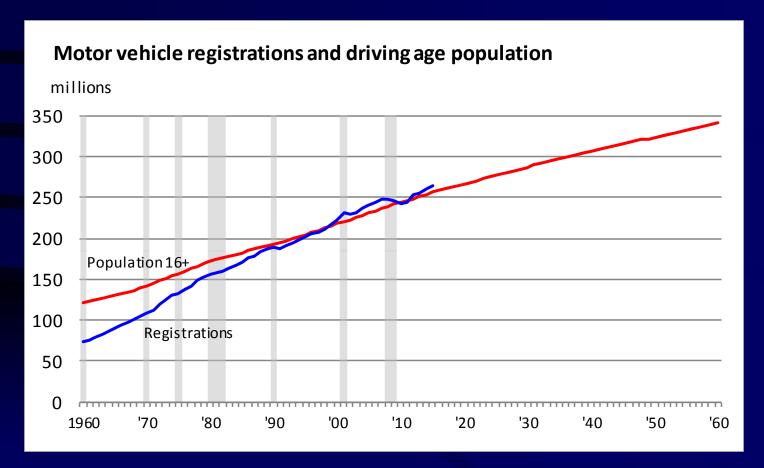


The number of vehicles per driving age adult has been relatively flat for the past 15 years





The driving age population is forecast to increase by over 80 million people over the next 45 years



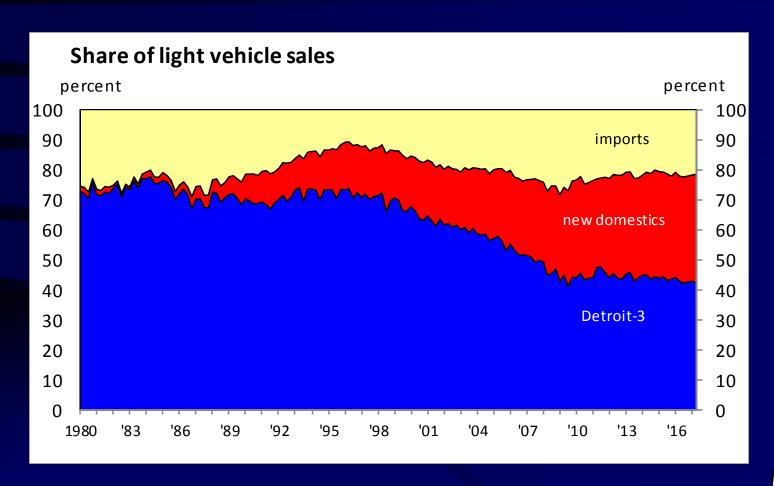


Since 1980 light vehicle sales has averaged growth of 0.4% per year



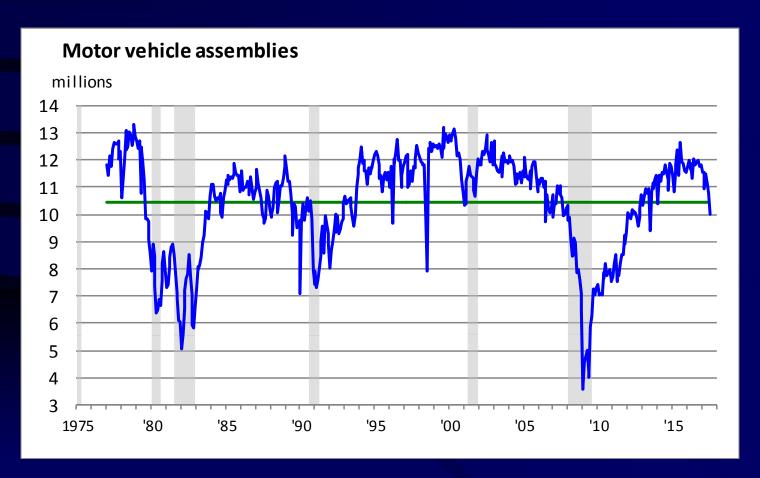


Domestic production has remained at a solid share



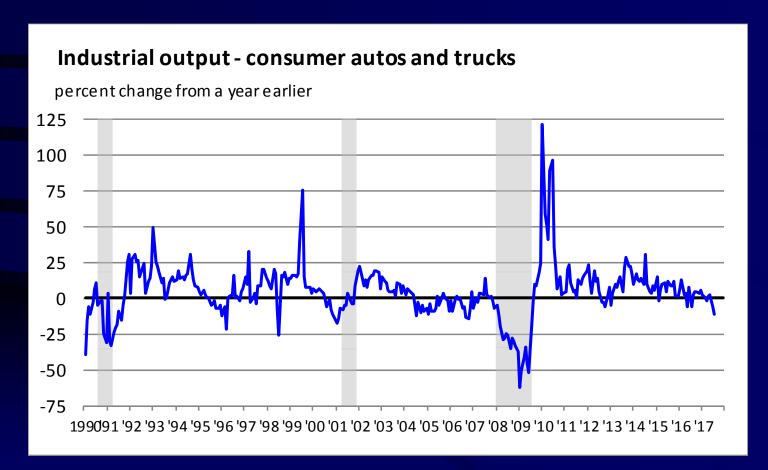


Motor vehicle assemblies has averaged 10.5 million



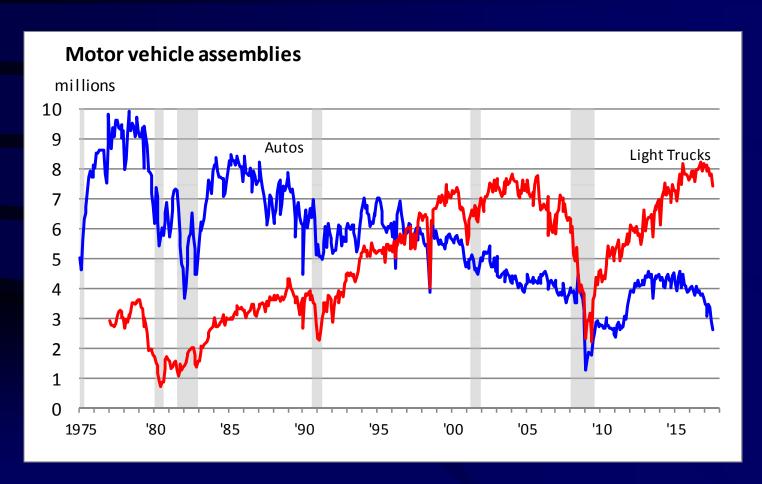


Automotive production is lower than a year earlier



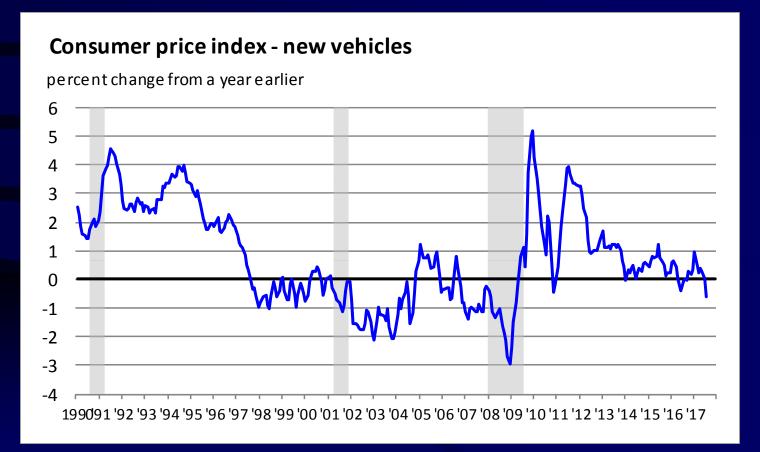


Since the mid-1980s the number of auto assemblies has been slipping, while light trucks has been rising



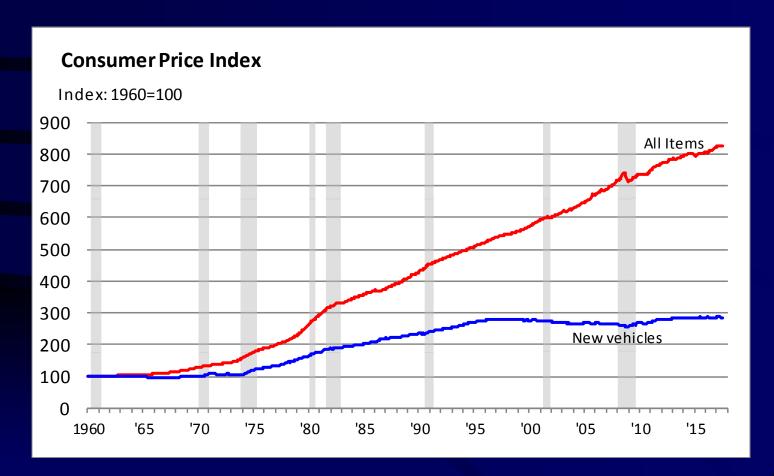


New vehicle prices are falling



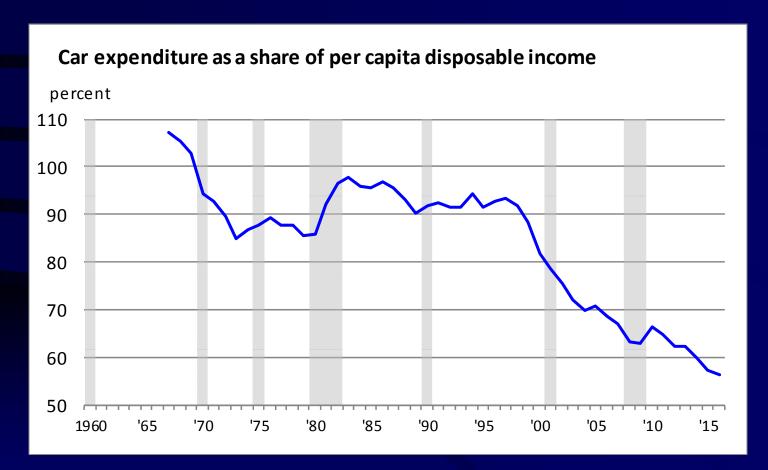


New vehicle prices have risen at a much smaller rate than overall prices in the economy



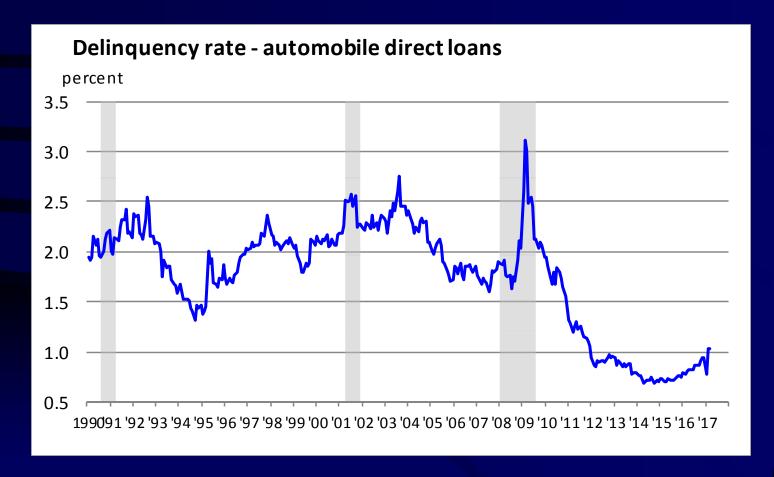


What had been more than a year's worth of income to purchase a vehicle has fallen to less than 8 months



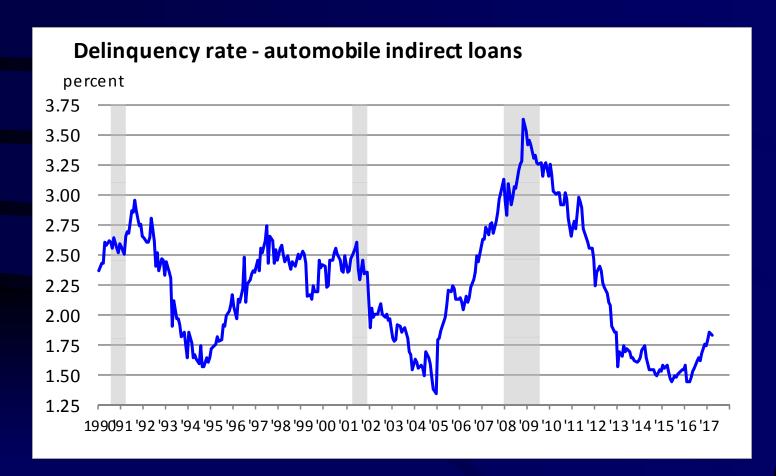


The automobile delinquency rate from direct loans are rising, but remain very low



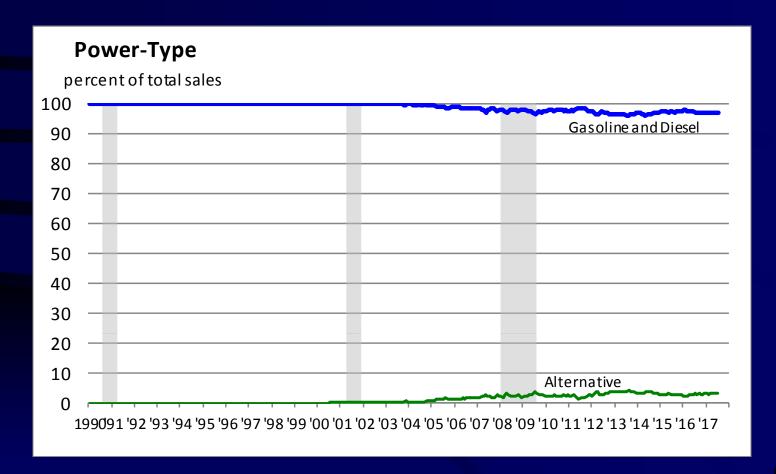


The automobile delinquency rate from indirect loans have also been rising, but also remain low



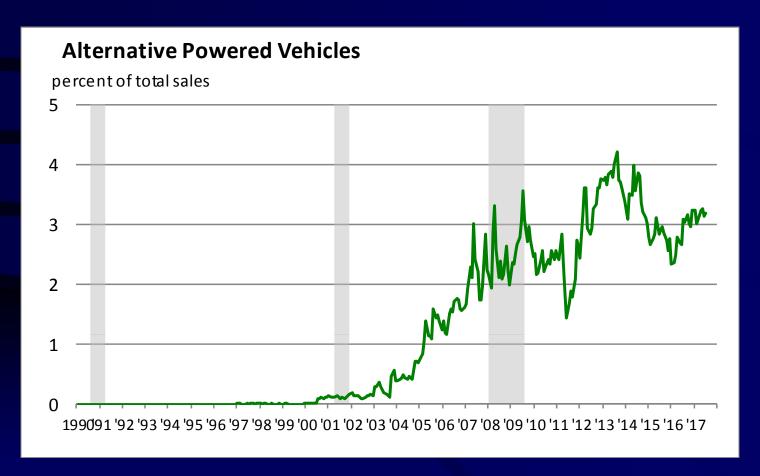


Alternative powered vehicles (including hybrids) are a very small fraction of total vehicle sales





Alternative powered vehicles (including hybrids) market share barely exceeded 4% and have been declining over the past two years





Economic indicators for the automotive industry are very positive

_	From 1990 through 2007:Q4	During the Great Recession 1	Since the end of the Great Recession ²	Latest Data ³
Real GDP Average Q/ Q% @ AR	3.0	-2.8	2.2	2.6
Real Consumption Average Q/ Q% @ AR	3.3	-1.8	2.4	2.8
Index of Consumer Sentiment Average Index	91.2 💆	63.6 ^F	81.0	93.4
Employment Growth Average change in jobs (thous.)	136.9	-410.7	160.8	209.0
Jnemployment rate Average %	5.4 💆	6.8 ^F	7.1	4.3
Corporate Profits Average Q/ Q% @ AR	10.7	-8.4	12.1	1.3
SM-Manufacturing Index Average Index	51.7 💆	43.3 •	54.0	56.3
ew and Existing Home Sales Average, Thousands	5,192	4,059	4,629	5,490
Real Oil Prices - West Texas Intermedi Average \$/ bbl (2016 prices)	iate 42.00	93.11	79.65	45.90
PCE Inflation Average Y/ Y% Change	2.3	2.0	1.4	1.4
Fed Funds Rate Average %	4.38 💆	1.35 -	0.21	1.16

Notes

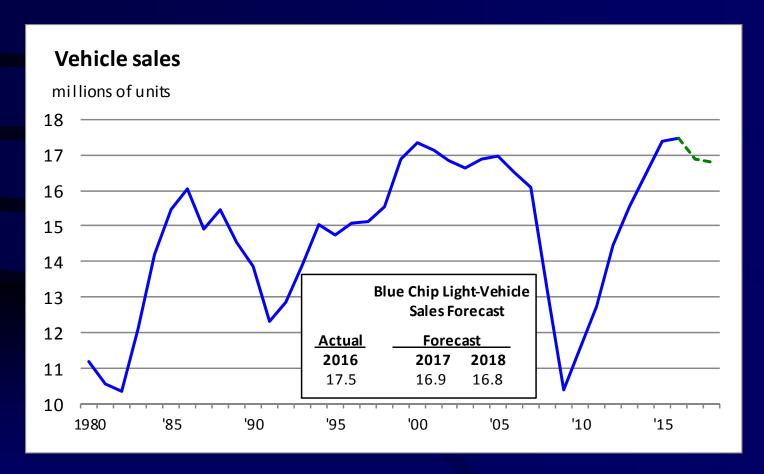


January 2008 through June 2009

² Beginning in July 2009 for monthly data or 2009:Q3 for quarterly data

Latest month or quarter

Vehicle sales are anticipated to edge lower over the next two years





Summary

- The outlook is for the U.S. economy to expand at a pace around trend through 2019
- Employment is expected to rise moderately with the unemployment rate remaining very low
- Inflation is forecast rise to the Fed's Inflation target next year
- Vehicle sales are anticipated to edge lower through 2018
- Long-term outlook for vehicle production remains very positive



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