

Technical Notes

Labor Input: The primary source of hours and employment data is the BLS Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, which provides monthly survey data on total employment and average weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers in nonagricultural establishments. Jobs rather than persons are counted. Weekly hours are adjusted to the hours at work definition using the BLS Hours at Work survey, conducted for this purpose.

Data from the BLS Current Population Survey (CPS) are used for farm labor; in the non-farm sector, the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) prepared by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce and the CPS are used to measure labor input for government enterprises, proprietors, unpaid family workers, and paid employees of private households.

Output: Business sector output is equal to gross national product (GNP) in constant 1982 dollars, less the rest-of-the-world sector, general government, output of nonprofit institutions, output of paid employees of private households, rental value of owner-occupied dwellings, and the statistical discrepancy in computing the NIPA. Corresponding exclusions are also made in labor inputs. Business output was about 80 percent of GNP in 1992. Nonfarm business, which also excludes farming, was about 79 percent of GNP in 1992.

Total manufacturing measures are computed by summing series prepared for the durable and nondurable goods sectors. Durables include the following 2-digit SIC industries: Primary metals; fabricated metal products; nonelectrical machinery; electrical machinery; transportation equipment; instruments; lumber and lumber products; furniture and fixtures; stone, clay, and glass

products; and miscellaneous manufactures. Nondurables include: Textile mill products, apparel products, leather and leather products, printing and publishing, chemicals and chemical products, petroleum products, rubber and plastic products, food, and tobacco products. Manufacturing accounted for about 23 percent of GNP in 1992.

Nonfinancial corporate output is equal to GNP in constant 1982 dollars, less the rest-of-the-world sector, general government, output of nonprofit institutions, output of paid employees of private households, rental value of owner-occupied dwellings, unincorporated business, the output of corporations engaged in banking, finance, stock and commodity trading, and credit and insurance agencies, and the statistical discrepancy in computing the NIPA. Nonfinancial corporations accounted for about 59 percent of GNP in 1992.

PRODUCTIVITY: These productivity measures describe the relationship between real output and the labor time involved in its production. They show the changes from period to period in the amount of goods and services produced per hour. Although these measures relate output to hours at work of all persons engaged in a sector, they do not measure the specific contribution of labor, capital, or any other factor of production. Rather, they reflect the joint effects of many influences, including changes in technology; capital investment; level of output; utilization of capacity, energy, and materials; the organization of production; managerial skill; and the characteristics and effort of the work force.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory-impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-523-1221; TDD phone: 202-523-3936; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-326-2577.