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PRODUCTIVITY AND COSTS

Second Quarter 1991

Business, Nonfarm Business, Manufacturing, and
Nonfinancial Corporations

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor today reported revised productivity results--as measured by output per hour of all persons--for the second quarter of 1991. Based on revised information now available, the seasonally-adjusted annual rates of productivity change in the second quarter were:

0.3 percent in the business sector,
0.5 percent in the nonfarm business sector,
3.6 percent in manufacturing,
3.1 percent in durable goods manufacturing, and
4.3 percent in nondurable goods manufacturing.

For business and nonfarm business, the revised productivity and output measures show smaller increases than had been reported on August 6, based on preliminary information then available (table C). The revisions reflect the latest measures of output and hours for the second quarter of 1991. Manufacturing productivity growth remained the same as previously reported.

Second-quarter measures are summarized in table A and appear in detail in tables 1 through 6. In business and nonfarm business, productivity rose after having shown no gain in the first quarter. Productivity grew in manufacturing after posting declines during the two previous quarters; second quarter gains occurred in both the durable- and nondurable-goods sectors.

In nonfinancial corporations, productivity rose 1.0 percent in the second quarter, as output rose 0.3 percent and hours declined 0.7 percent (tables B and 6).

Business

Business productivity showed a small 0.3 percent annual rate of increase during the second quarter of 1991, as output inched up 0.2 percent and hours of all persons engaged in the sector were virtually unchanged, showing a decline of 0.1 percent (seasonally adjusted annual rates). Employment fell, but average weekly hours increased by a like amount. The second-quarter gain in business output followed two quarters in which output declined. During the first quarter of 1991, business productivity showed no increase, as hours and output each declined 4.7 percent (table 1).

Table A. Productivity and costs: Second-quarter 1991 measures
(Seasonally adjusted annual rates)

Sector	Productivity	Output	Hours	Hourly compensation	Real hourly compensation	Unit labor costs
Percent change from preceding quarter						
Business	0.3	0.2	-0.1	4.5	2.4	4.2
Nonfarm business	0.5	0.4	-0.1	4.6	2.4	4.0
Manufacturing	3.6	1.9	-1.7	5.9	3.7	2.2
Durable	3.1	1.9	-1.2	6.0	3.9	2.9
Nondurable	4.3	1.9	-2.3	5.5	3.3	1.1
Percent change from same quarter a year ago						
Business	0.0	-1.9	-1.8	4.2	-0.6	4.2
Nonfarm business	0.1	-1.9	-2.0	4.4	-0.4	4.3
Manufacturing	1.4	-3.6	-4.8	4.3	-0.6	2.9
Durable	1.3	-5.1	-6.4	4.5	-0.3	3.2
Nondurable	1.8	-0.9	-2.6	4.2	-0.6	2.3

Hourly compensation increased at a 4.5 percent annual rate during the second quarter of 1991, compared with a 4.0 percent increase during the first quarter. This measure includes wages and salaries, supplements, employer contributions to employee-benefit plans, and taxes. Unit labor costs, which reflect changes in hourly compensation and productivity, increased at a 4.2 percent annual rate during the second quarter, about the same as the 4.1 percent increase one quarter earlier.

Real hourly compensation, which takes into account changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 2.4 percent in the second quarter, compared with a 0.5 percent increase in the first quarter. This was the largest increase in this series since a 3.7 percent gain occurred during the fourth quarter of 1987.

The implicit price deflator for business output, which reflects changes in unit labor costs and unit nonlabor payments, increased 4.5 percent in the second quarter.

Nonfarm business

Productivity increased 0.5 percent in the nonfarm business sector during the second quarter of 1991, as output grew 0.4 percent and hours of all persons--employees, proprietors, and unpaid family workers--were off 0.1 percent. During the first quarter, nonfarm productivity showed no growth, as output and hours fell 4.8 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively (table 2).

Hourly compensation rose 4.6 percent in the second quarter, and real compensation per hour rose 2.4 percent when the increase in the CPI-U was taken into account. (During the first quarter, these measures increased 4.2 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively.) This was the largest increase in real hourly compensation since the fourth quarter of 1987, when a 3.5 percent increase occurred. Unit labor costs increased 4.0 percent, compared with a 4.2 percent rise during the first quarter.

The implicit price deflator for nonfarm business output rose 4.0 percent in the second quarter, compared with a 4.5 percent increase in the first quarter.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing productivity increased more rapidly than in the more comprehensive business sectors reported above, growing at a 3.6 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate in the second quarter of 1991. This reverses declines in manufacturing productivity of 2.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 1990 and of 1.8 percent in the first quarter of 1991. Output rose 1.9 percent (compared with a 10.8 percent decline in the first quarter), and hours declined 1.7 percent (compared with a 9.1 percent reduction one quarter earlier). Productivity advanced faster among nondurable goods producers, but the increase in output was the same in both subsectors (tables 4 and 5).

Hourly compensation of manufacturing workers increased 5.9 percent during the second quarter, and real hourly compensation rose 3.7 percent when the increase in consumer prices was taken into account. This increase in real hourly compensation was the largest since the second quarter of 1986, when a 4.8 percent increase occurred. Unit labor costs rose at a 2.2 percent annual rate in the second quarter of 1991, compared with a 4.5 percent increase during the first quarter.

Nonfinancial corporations

Preliminary second-quarter 1991 measures of productivity and costs also were announced today for nonfinancial corporations (tables B and 6). Output per all-employee hour increased 1.0 percent from the first quarter to the second quarter of 1991, as output increased 0.3 percent and hours declined 0.7 percent, at annual rates. Output had declined in the three prior quarters. The sector includes all corporations doing business in the United States, except banks, stock and commodity brokers, and finance and insurance agencies. During the first quarter, productivity had declined 1.1 percent in this sector.

Table B. Nonfinancial corporations: Preliminary second-quarter productivity and cost measures
(Seasonally adjusted annual rates)

Period	Productivity	Output	Hours	Hourly compensation	Real hourly compensation	Unit labor costs	Unit profits	Implicit deflator
Percent change from preceding quarter								
1991 II	1.0	0.3	-0.7	4.5	2.4	3.5	15.9	3.7
Percent change from preceding year								
1991 II	-0.2	-2.6	-2.7	4.2	-0.6	4.3	-12.8	3.8

Hourly compensation increased 4.5 percent, and real hourly compensation increased 2.4 percent when the rise in the CPI-U was taken into account (table 6). Unit labor costs rose 3.5 percent in the second quarter; unit nonlabor costs rose 1.2 percent, and unit profits rose 15.9 percent. Unit profits had declined in the three previous quarters. The implicit deflator for nonfinancial corporate output rose 3.7 percent in the second quarter.

Revised measures

Previous and current productivity and cost measures for the second quarter are compared in table C for business, nonfarm business, and manufacturing. Measures of both output and hours were revised, and productivity gains in business and nonfarm business are smaller than previously reported. Although the underlying data were revised, the advance in manufacturing productivity was the same as had been reported on August 6.

Table C. Previous and current productivity and related measures,
second-quarter 1991
(Quarterly percent change at seasonally adjusted annual rate)

Sector	Productivity	Output	Hours	Hourly compensation	Real hourly compensation	Unit labor costs
Business:						
Previous	1.6	1.2	-0.5	4.4	2.3	2.7
Current	0.3	0.2	-0.1	4.5	2.4	4.2
Nonfarm business:						
Previous	1.9	1.3	-0.5	4.5	2.3	2.6
Current	0.5	0.4	-0.1	4.6	2.4	4.0
Manufacturing:						
Previous	3.6	1.6	-2.0	6.4	4.2	2.6
Current	3.6	1.9	-1.7	5.9	3.7	2.2

Next release date

The next issue of Productivity and Costs is scheduled for release at 10:00 AM EST, Wednesday, November 6, 1991, and will contain preliminary third-quarter measures for business, nonfarm business, and manufacturing.

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 nonfarm sector, the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) prepared by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. 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 81 percent of GNP in 1990. Nonfarm business, which also excludes farming, was about 79 percent of GNP in 1990.

Total manufacturing output 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 1990.

Nonfinancial corporate output is equal to GNP in constant 1982 dollars less: the rest-of-the-world sector; general government; the output of nonprofit institutions, paid employees of private households, unincorporated businesses, corporations engaged in banking, finance, stock and commodity trading, and credit and insurance agencies; the rental value of owner-occupied dwellings; and the statistical discrepancy in computing the NIPA. Non-financial corporations accounted for about 59 percent of GNP in 1990.

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.

Table 1. Business sector: Productivity, hourly compensation, unit labor cost, and prices, seasonally adjusted

Year and quarter		Output per hour of all persons	Output	Hours of all persons	Compensa- tion per hour (1)	Real compensa- tion per hour (2)	Unit labor cost	Unit non- labor pay- ments (3)	Implicit price deflator (4)
Indexes 1982=100									
1990	I	112.0	136.0	121.3	135.7	102.2	121.1	135.5	125.8
	II	112.4	136.4	121.3	137.7	102.7	122.5	137.0	127.2
	III	112.7	136.5	121.2	139.4	102.3	123.7	137.5	128.2
	IV	112.3	135.4	120.5	140.6	101.4	125.2	136.5	128.8
	ANNUAL	112.4	136.1	121.1	138.4	102.2	123.1	136.6	127.5
1991	I	112.3	133.7	119.1	142.0	101.5	126.4	138.4	130.3
	II	r112.4	r133.8	r119.1	143.5	102.1	r127.7	r140.1	131.7
Percent change from previous quarter at annual rate(5)									
1990	I	-0.7	1.4	2.1	4.6	-2.6	5.3	3.3	4.6
	II	1.4	1.2	-0.2	6.1	2.1	4.7	4.5	4.6
	III	0.9	0.5	-0.4	5.0	-1.7	4.1	1.7	3.2
	IV	-1.2	-3.4	-2.1	3.3	-3.4	4.6	-3.0	2.0
	ANNUAL	-0.4	0.2	0.6	4.0	-1.3	4.4	2.6	3.8
1991	I	0.0	-4.7	-4.7	4.0	0.5	4.1	5.7	4.6
	II	r0.3	r0.2	r-0.1	r4.5	r2.4	r4.2	r5.0	r4.5
Percent change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
1990	I	-0.9	0.3	1.1	3.0	-2.1	3.8	3.5	3.7
	II	-0.6	0.3	1.0	3.7	-0.8	4.4	2.7	3.8
	III	-0.1	0.3	0.4	4.5	-0.9	4.6	2.8	4.0
	IV	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	4.8	-1.4	4.7	1.6	3.6
	ANNUAL	-0.4	0.2	0.6	4.0	-1.3	4.4	2.6	3.8
1991	I	0.2	-1.6	-1.9	4.6	-0.7	4.4	2.2	3.6
	II	r0.0	r-1.9	r-1.8	4.2	-0.6	r4.2	r2.3	r3.6

See footnotes following table 6.

r=revised

Sept. 5, 1991

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 2. Nonfarm business sector: Productivity, hourly compensation, unit labor cost, and prices, seasonally adjusted

Year and quarter	Output per hour of all persons	Output	Hours of all persons	Compensa- tion per hour (1)	Real compensa- tion per hour (2)	Unit labor cost	Unit non- labor pay- ments (3)	Implicit price deflator(4)
Indexes 1982=100								
1990	I 111.0	136.8	123.3	134.6	101.3	121.3	135.7	125.8
	II 111.3	137.2	123.3	136.6	101.8	122.7	137.4	127.3
	III 111.5	137.4	123.2	138.2	101.4	124.0	138.0	128.4
	IV 111.2	136.1	122.4	139.5	100.6	125.4	137.5	129.2
	ANNUAL 111.2	136.9	123.1	137.2	101.3	123.4	137.1	127.7
1991	I 111.2	134.5	120.9	140.9	100.8	126.7	139.3	130.7
	II r111.4	r134.6	r120.8	r142.5	101.4	r128.0	r140.6	r132.0
Percent change from previous quarter at annual rate(5)								
1990	I -1.1	1.4	2.6	4.0	-3.2	5.2	1.2	3.8
	II 1.2	1.2	0.0	5.9	2.0	4.7	5.1	4.8
	III 0.6	0.4	-0.1	5.0	-1.8	4.4	1.9	3.6
	IV -0.8	-3.6	-2.8	3.7	-3.0	4.6	-1.5	2.5
	ANNUAL -0.6	0.2	0.7	3.9	-1.5	4.4	2.5	3.8
1991	I 0.0	-4.8	-4.9	4.2	0.7	4.2	5.2	4.5
	II r0.5	r0.4	r-0.1	r4.6	r2.4	r4.0	r4.0	r4.0
Percent change from corresponding quarter of previous year								
1990	I -1.0	0.3	1.3	2.8	-2.3	3.8	3.5	3.7
	II -0.7	0.3	1.0	3.7	-0.9	4.4	2.5	3.8
	III -0.4	0.2	0.6	4.4	-1.1	4.8	2.5	4.0
	IV -0.1	-0.1	-0.1	4.6	-1.5	4.7	1.7	3.7
	ANNUAL -0.6	0.2	0.7	3.9	-1.5	4.4	2.5	3.8
1991	I 0.2	-1.7	-2.0	4.7	-0.6	4.5	2.6	3.8
	II r0.1	r-1.9	r-2.0	4.4	r-0.4	r4.3	r2.4	3.6

See footnotes following table 6.

r=revised

Sept. 5, 1991

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 3. Manufacturing sector: Productivity, hourly compensation, and unit labor cost, seasonally adjusted

Year and quarter		Output per hour of all persons	Output (6)	Hours of all persons	Compensa-tion per hour(1)	Real compensation per hour(2)	Unit labor cost
Indexes 1982=100							
1990	I	134.7	145.9	108.4	129.3	97.3	96.0
	II	136.0	147.5	108.5	131.0	97.7	96.3
	III	138.0	148.8	107.8	132.5	97.2	96.1
	IV	137.2	145.7	106.2	133.8	96.5	97.5
	ANNUAL	136.6	147.0	107.6	131.8	97.3	96.5
1991	I	136.6	141.6	103.6	134.6	96.3	98.6
	II	137.8	142.2	r103.2	r136.6	r97.1	r99.1
Percent change from previous quarter at annual rate(5)							
1990	I	3.9	1.8	-2.0	1.3	-5.7	-2.5
	II	3.8	4.3	0.5	5.3	1.4	1.5
	III	6.1	3.5	-2.4	4.8	-1.9	-1.1
	IV	-2.2	-8.1	-6.0	3.7	-3.0	6.0
	ANNUAL	2.5	0.4	-2.0	3.2	-2.0	0.7
1991	I	-1.8	-10.8	-9.1	2.6	-0.9	4.5
	II	3.6	r1.9	r-1.7	r5.9	r3.7	r2.2
Percent change from corresponding quarter of previous year							
1990	I	1.2	-0.8	-1.9	2.2	-2.9	1.0
	II	1.6	0.2	-1.4	3.1	-1.4	1.4
	III	3.7	1.9	-1.8	3.3	-2.2	-0.4
	IV	2.9	0.3	-2.5	3.8	-2.3	0.9
	ANNUAL	2.5	0.4	-2.0	3.2	-2.0	0.7
1991	I	1.4	-3.0	-4.3	4.1	-1.1	2.7
	II	1.4	-3.6	r-4.8	r4.3	r-0.6	r2.9

See footnotes following table 6.
r=revised

Sept. 5, 1991
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 4. Durable manufacturing sector: Productivity, hourly compensation, and unit labor cost, seasonally adjusted

Year and quarter		Output per hour of all persons	Output (6)	Hours of all persons	Compensa-tion per hour(1)	Real compensation per hour(2)	Unit labor cost
Indexes 1982=100							
1990	I	147.3	159.7	108.5	128.1	96.5	87.0
	II	149.9	162.6	108.4	129.8	96.8	86.5
	III	153.0	164.3	107.4	131.5	96.5	86.0
	IV	151.4	159.1	105.1	132.8	95.7	87.7
	ANNUAL	150.6	161.4	107.2	130.7	96.5	86.8
1991	I	150.8	153.5	101.8	133.7	95.6	88.7
	II	r151.9	r154.2	r101.5	r135.7	r96.5	r89.3
Percent change from previous quarter at annual rate(5)							
1990	I	4.3	1.6	-2.6	0.9	-6.0	-3.3
	II	7.4	7.3	-0.1	5.3	1.3	-2.0
	III	8.4	4.3	-3.8	5.6	-1.2	-2.6
	IV	-4.1	-12.1	-8.3	3.8	-3.0	8.2
	ANNUAL	3.4	0.3	-3.0	3.3	-2.0	-0.1
1991	I	-1.6	-13.3	-11.9	2.8	-0.7	4.5
	II	r3.1	r1.9	r-1.2	r6.0	r3.9	r2.9
Percent change from corresponding quarter of previous year							
1990	I	2.1	-1.2	-3.2	2.3	-2.7	0.2
	II	2.5	0.3	-2.2	3.2	-1.4	0.7
	III	4.7	2.0	-2.5	3.2	-2.2	-1.4
	IV	3.9	0.0	-3.8	3.9	-2.3	0.0
	ANNUAL	3.4	0.3	-3.0	3.3	-2.0	-0.1
1991	I	2.4	-3.9	-6.1	4.4	-0.9	1.9
	II	r1.3	-5.1	r-6.4	r4.5	r-0.3	r3.2

See footnotes following table 6.
r=revisedSept. 5, 1991
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 5. Nondurable manufacturing sector: Productivity, hourly compensation, and unit labor cost, seasonally adjusted

Year and quarter		Output per hour of all persons	Output (6)	Hours of all persons	Compensation per hour(1)	Real compensation per hour(2)	Unit labor cost
Indexes 1982=100							
1990	I	117.9	127.6	108.2	131.3	98.8	111.3
	II	117.4	127.4	108.5	133.1	99.2	113.4
	III	118.1	128.0	108.4	134.4	98.6	113.8
	IV	118.7	127.8	107.7	135.8	97.9	114.4
	ANNUAL	118.1	127.7	108.1	133.8	98.8	113.2
1991	I	118.2	125.7	106.3	136.8	97.8	115.7
	II	r119.5	r126.3	r105.7	r138.6	r98.6	r116.0
Percent change from previous quarter at annual rate(5)							
1990	I	3.4	2.3	-1.1	2.1	-4.9	-1.2
	II	-1.8	-0.6	1.3	5.6	1.6	7.6
	III	2.6	2.1	-0.4	4.0	-2.7	1.4
	IV	1.9	-0.9	-2.7	4.2	-2.5	2.3
	ANNUAL	1.2	0.6	-0.6	3.4	-1.9	2.2
1991	I	-1.4	-6.4	-5.1	3.0	-0.5	4.4
	II	r4.3	r1.9	r-2.3	r5.5	r3.3	r1.1
Percent change from corresponding quarter of previous year							
1990	I	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	-2.8	2.2
	II	0.4	0.2	-0.2	3.1	-1.4	2.7
	III	2.3	1.6	-0.7	3.5	-1.9	1.2
	IV	1.5	0.7	-0.7	4.0	-2.2	2.5
	ANNUAL	1.2	0.6	-0.6	3.4	-1.9	2.2
1991	I	0.3	-1.5	-1.8	4.2	-1.0	3.9
	II	r1.8	r-0.9	r-2.6	r4.2	r-0.6	r2.3

See footnotes following table 6.
r=revised

Sept. 5, 1991
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 6. Nonfinancial corporations: Productivity, hourly compensation, unit labor cost, unit profits, and prices, seasonally adjusted

Year and quarter	Output per all- employee hour	Output hour	Employee hours	Hourly compensa- tion	Real hourly compensa- tion(2)	Unit labor cost	Unit non- labor cost(7)	Total unit cost (8)	Unit pro- fits (9)	Implicit price deflator (4)	
Indexes 1982=100											
1990	I	114.0	140.5	123.2	131.2	98.8	115.1	112.4	114.3	142.9	116.1
	II	114.8	141.4	123.2	133.7	99.7	116.5	112.6	115.4	149.1	117.5
	III	114.6	141.1	123.1	135.2	99.2	118.0	114.8	117.1	138.6	118.5
	IV	114.6	139.6	121.8	136.4	98.4	119.0	117.3	118.6	127.5	119.1
	ANNUAL	114.6	140.6	122.8	134.2	99.1	117.1	114.3	116.3	139.5	117.8
1991	I	114.3	137.3	120.1	137.7	98.4	120.4	120.8	120.5	125.3	120.8
	II	114.6	137.4	119.9	139.2	99.0	121.5	121.1	121.4	130.0	121.9
Percent change from previous quarter at annual rate(5)											
1990	I	-1.5	0.3	1.8	2.8	-4.3	4.3	3.3	4.0	1.1	3.8
	II	2.6	2.5	0.0	7.6	3.6	4.9	0.5	3.7	18.6	4.8
	III	-0.7	-0.8	-0.1	4.8	-2.0	5.5	8.3	6.3	-25.3	3.4
	IV	0.2	-4.1	-4.3	3.6	-3.1	3.4	9.1	5.0	-28.4	2.2
	ANNUAL	-0.4	0.1	0.6	3.7	-1.6	4.1	5.3	4.4	-9.0	3.3
1991	I	-1.1	-6.5	-5.5	3.8	0.2	4.9	12.2	6.9	-6.8	5.9
	II	1.0	0.3	-0.7	4.5	2.4	3.5	1.2	2.8	15.9	3.7
Percent change from corresponding quarter of previous year											
1990	I	-0.5	0.7	1.2	2.3	-2.7	2.9	6.6	3.9	-9.8	2.7
	II	-0.1	0.8	0.9	3.7	-0.9	3.8	4.7	4.0	-5.9	3.2
	III	-0.9	-0.3	0.6	4.3	-1.2	5.3	4.6	5.1	-10.2	3.8
	IV	0.1	-0.6	-0.7	4.7	-1.5	4.5	5.2	4.7	-10.5	3.5
	ANNUAL	-0.4	0.1	0.6	3.7	-1.6	4.1	5.3	4.4	-9.0	3.3
1991	I	0.2	-2.3	-2.5	4.9	-0.4	4.7	7.4	5.4	-12.3	4.1
	II	-0.2	-2.8	-2.7	4.2	-0.6	4.3	7.6	5.2	-12.8	3.8

See footnotes following table 6.

r=revised

Sept. 5, 1991

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SOURCE: Output data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Federal Reserve Board. Compensation and hours data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

RELIABILITY: Productivity and cost measures are regularly revised as more complete information becomes available. The measures are first published 30 days after the close of the reference period; revisions appear 30 days later, and third revisions after an additional 60 days. In the business sector, the probability is 0.95 that the third publication (third revision) of a quarterly index of output per hour of all persons will differ from the initial value by between -1.8 and +2.1 index points. This interval is based on the performance of this measure between the second quarter of 1976 and the third quarter of 1989.

Footnotes, Tables 1-6

- (1) Wages and salaries of employees plus employers' contributions for social insurance and private benefit plans. Except for nonfinancial corporations, where there are no self-employed, data also include an estimate of wages, salaries, and supplemental payments for the self-employed.
- (2) Compensation per hour adjusted for changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.
- (3) Unit nonlabor payments include profits, capital consumption allowances, interest, rental income of persons, and indirect taxes.
- (4) Current dollar gross product divided by constant dollar gross product.
- (5) Quarterly changes: Percent change compounded at annual rate from the original data rather than index numbers. Annual changes: Percent change between annual average levels.
- (6) Quarterly manufacturing output measures are based on the index of industrial production prepared monthly by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve adjusted by BLS to annual manufacturing output levels (gross product originating) from the National Income and Product Accounts prepared by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce.
- (7) Unit nonlabor cost includes capital consumption allowances, interest, rental income of persons, and indirect taxes. For nonfinancial corporations, rental income of persons is zero by definition.
- (8) Total unit cost is the sum of labor and nonlabor costs.
- (9) Unit profits include corporate profits with inventory valuation and capital consumption adjustments.