

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

UNITED STATES

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Real gross domestic product (GDP) rose at an annual rate of 6.4% for the first quarter of 2021 according to the third estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). This follows an increase of 4.3% in the fourth quarter. The first quarter GDP increase reflected continued economic recovery, reopening of establishments, and continued government response related to the COVID-19 pandemic. BLS noted, "In the first quarter, government assistance payments, such as direct economic impact payments, expanded unemployment benefits, and Paycheck Protection Program loans, were distributed to households and businesses through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and the American Rescue Plan Act."

The upward movement in real GDP for the first quarter was mainly attributed to increases in personal consumption expenditures (PCE), non-residential fixed investment, federal government spending, residential fixed investment, and state and local government spending but was partly offset by declines in private inventory investment and exports. Moreover, imports increased.

Notably, the increase in PCE was due to increases in durable goods led by motor vehicles and parts, nondurable goods which was led by food and beverages and services which was led by food services and accommodations. There was also an increase in non-residential fixed investment which revealed increases in equipment led by information processing equipment and intellectual property products led by software. BEA noted that, "the increase in federal government spending primarily reflected an increase in payments made to banks for processing and administering the Paycheck Protection Program loan applications as well as purchases of COVID-19 vaccines for distribution to the public." Moreover, the decrease in private inventory investment primarily reflected a decrease in retail trade inventories mainly by motor vehicles and parts dealers .

Current dollar GDP rose 11.0% at an annual rate, or \$566.8 billion, in the first quarter to a level of \$22.06 trillion.

In the first quarter of 2021, the price index for gross domestic purchases went up 4.0% when compared to an increase by 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2021. In addition, the PCE price index rose 3.7% relative to a rise of 1.5% the previous quarter. With the exception of the food and energy prices, the PCE price index climbed 2.5% versus a rise of 1.3%.

UNEMPLOYMENT

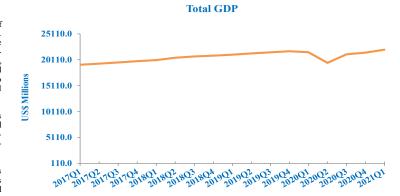
Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 850,000 in June, as the unemployment rate changed slightly to 5.9%, according to a report by the U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS). BLS mentioned that in June, "Notable job gains occurred in leisure and hospitality, public and private education, professional and business services, retail trade, and other services."

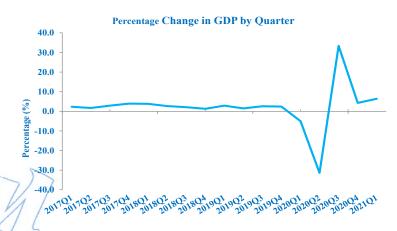
Leisure and hospitality employment rose by 343,000 in June 2021. According to BLS, "employment rose by 155,000 in local government education, by 75,000 in state government education, and by 39,000 in private education." While professional and business services added 72,000 jobs in June. Employment in retail trade increased by 67,000 over the month. Other services added 56,000, social assistance (+32,000) and wholesale trade (+21,000). Additionally, employment in mining increased by 10,000 jobs, and employment in manufacturing changed little in June (+15,000). Construction employment changed little in June (-7,000). Employment in transportation and warehousing increased slightly by 11,000. Meanwhile, employment in other major industries, including information, financial activities, and health care were little changed in June.

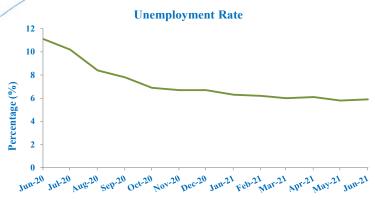
Notably, the number of persons on temporary layoff was unchanged at 1.8 million in June. The number of permanent job losers stood at 3.2 million. While the number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) stood at 4.0 million. Moreover, the number of unemployed persons who were jobless less than 5 weeks in June stood at 2.0 million.

The labour force participation rate for June stood at 61.6%, while the employment population ratio stood at 58%. Nonetheless, persons employed part-time for economic reasons fell by 644,000 to 4.6 million in June. Based on BLS assessment, "these individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part-time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs."

In June, a total of 1.8 million individuals were slightly attached to the labour force. These persons were not in the labour force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job in the last year. Of the marginally attached, 6177,000 persons were classified as discouraged workers in June, relatively unchanged over the month. These persons are not currently seeking work as they believe no jobs are available for them.







Labour Force in Thousands	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct - Dec
Year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016	430,276	431,893	434,138	435,687
2017	437,341	438,955	440,624	442,216
2018	443,964	445,945	447,653	449,152
2019	450,503	451,747	453,350	455,201
2020	455,597	400,995	422,580	427,857
2021	430,065	434,994		

111

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.9% for June 2021, on a seasonally adjusted basis, according to U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS). The all-items index rose 5.4% before seasonal adjustment over the last year.

The all-items less food and energy index climbed 0.9% in June. The index for used cars and trucks increased of 10.5%. The indexes for shelter, new vehicles, motor vehicle insurance, airline fares, apparel and recreation rose 0.5%, 2.0%, 1.2%, 2.7%, 0.7% and 0.2%, respectively in June. The indexes for household furnishing and operations and medical care fell 0.1% and 0.1%, respectively in June. The index for communication was unchanged for the month.

The index for food rose 0.8% in June, while the index for food at home increased 0.8%. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs rose 2.5% in June. The index for fruits and vegetables increased 0.7% in June. The non-alcoholic beverages index increased 0.9% in June. The food away from home index rose 0.7% while the index for other food at home increased by 0.2% over the month. The index for dairy and related products climbed 0.2%. In contrast, the index for cereals and bakery products declined 0.3%.

The index for energy rose 1.5% in June. A 2.5% increase was recorded in the gasoline index. Meanwhile, the index for natural gas increased 1.7% but the electricity index decreased 0.3% in June.

Payroll Data 5000 4000 2000 1000



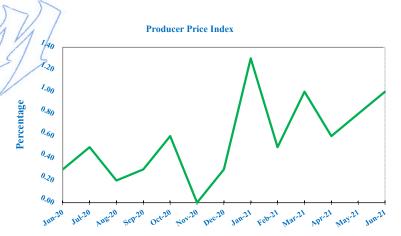
PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

The final demand for the Producer Price Index rose 1.0% in June 2021, seasonally adjusted according to the U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics. Final demand prices increased 0.8% in May 2021 and increased 0.6% in April 2021. On an unadjusted basis, "the final demand index moved up 7.3 percent for the 12 months ended in June, the largest advance since 12-month data were first calculated in November 2010," BLS indicated.

Prices for final demand less foods, energy, and trade services climbed 0.5% in the month of June.

Prices for final demand services increased 0.8% in June. This was mainly attributable to the index for final demand trade services which rose 2.1%. There was an increase of 0.3% in prices for final demand services less trade, transportation, and warehousing. The prices for final demand transportation and warehousing services climbed 0.9% in June.

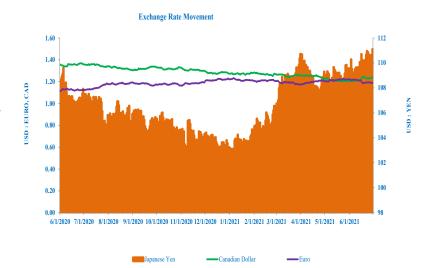
An increase of 1.2% was observed in prices for final demand goods in June. This performance stemmed from an increase of 1.0% in the index for final demand goods less foods and energy. The prices for final demand foods rose 0.8%, while prices for final demand energy increased 2.1%.



U.S. Dollar

For June 2021, the EUR/USD pair closed at \$1.1858 versus \$1.2213 at the start of the month, a 2.91% decrease. According to FX empire this was due to "an impressive U.S private payrolls report and a hawkish shift by the U.S. Federal Reserve's rates outlook at a meeting held early in June."

Moreover, looking ahead, FX Empire notes, "the Euro is edging lower against the U.S. Dollar on Wednesday as worries about surging virus infections drove investors to seek protection in the greenback ahead of Thursday's European Central Bank (ECB) meeting."



11/

FEDERAL RESERVE MINUTES

On June 16, 2021, the Federal Reserve stated that it is committed to using its entire set of tools to assist the United States economy through this difficult period while supporting its maximum employment and price stability targets. Vaccination progress has slowed the spread of COVID-19 in the United States. Against the backdrop of this development and robust policy backing, measures of economic activity and employment have improved. The sectors most harmed by the virus are still weak, but they are improving. Inflation has risen, owing primarily to temporary factors. Furthermore, overall financial conditions remain accommodating, which is due in part to the support of policy measures to stimulate the economy and the supply of credit to US families and businesses.

The Federal Reserve cites, "the path of the economy will depend significantly on the course of the virus. Progress on vaccinations will likely continue to reduce the effects of the public health crisis on the economy, but risks to the economic outlook remain." The Committee's long-term aim is to maintain employment and inflation at 2%, and it aims to keep monetary policy accommodative until these goals are reached. According to the Federal Reserve, "The Committee decided to keep the target range for the federal funds rate at 0 to 1/4 percent and expects it will be appropriate to maintain this target range until labor market conditions have reached levels consistent with the Committee's assessments."

Furthermore, the Federal Reserve will continue to increase its holdings of Treasury securities by at least \$80 billion a month and agency mortgage-backed securities by at least \$40 billion per month unless significant additional progress is made toward the Committee's maximum employment and price stability goals. Furthermore, these asset purchases promote smooth market functioning and accommodative financial conditions, thus facilitating the flow of credit to households and businesses. The Committee will continue to monitor the implications of incoming information for the economic outlook and is prepared to adjust the stance of monetary policy if necessary.

U.S. TREASURY YIELD CURVE

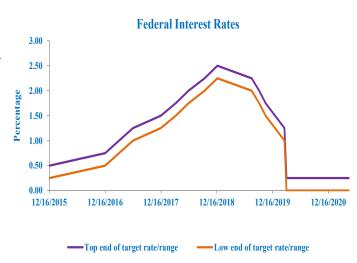
The 3-month Treasury bill rate increased to 0.05% from May's 0.01%. The 5-year rate rose to 0.87% in June 2021 relative to 0.79% a month earlier. The 10-year rate (also constant maturity) decreased to 1.45%, from May's 1.58% but increased from April's 1.65%.

GOVERNMENT DEBT/ DEFICIT

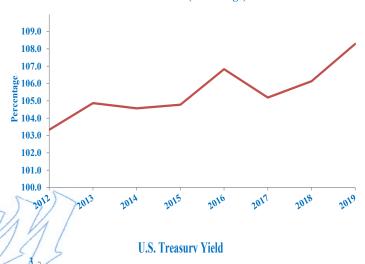
The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) indicated that the federal budget deficit amounted to \$2.2 trillion for the first nine months of the fiscal year 2021.

Furthermore, for the first nine months of fiscal year 2021, CBO estimates receipts to amount to \$3,057 billion, \$797 billion more than in the similar period in 2020.

However, based on CBO estimates for the first nine months of fiscal year 2021, outlays are estimated to total \$5,293 billion, a \$289 billion increase relative to the same period last year.



Debt to GDP (Percentage)





Budget Totals, October-June, Billions of Dollars					
	Actual, FY2020	Preliminary, FY 2021	Estimated Change		
Receipts	2,260	3,057	797		
Outlays	<u>5,004</u>	<u>5,293</u>	<u>289</u>		
Deficit (-)	-2,744	-2,237	508		

