



The U.S. Economy

Gary J. Santoni

Ball State University





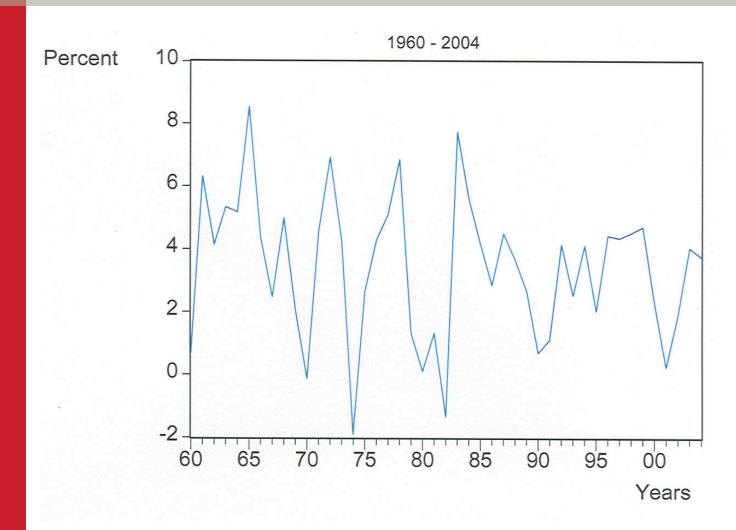
U.S. Economy in 2005

	Average	TIMES SERIES FORECAST			Consensus			
Variable	2004	2005.1	2005.2	2005.3	2005.4	Avg. 2005	ROUND TABLE	BLUE CHIP
REAL GDP GROWTH	3.8 4.2	2.3 3.8	3.7 3.4	3.1 3.8	3.5 (4.3)	3.2 (3.7)	3.5	3.5
INFLATION (GDP DEFLATOR)	2.3 2.6	2.5 3.1	2.6 2.6	2.2 3.1	2.4 (3.3)	2.5 (2.8)	2.5	1.9
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.5	5.4 5 .3	5.3 5 .1	5.3 5 .0	5.3 (5.0)	5.3 (5.1)	5.3	5.3
I O YEAR T-BND	4.3	4.1 4.3	4.1 4.2	4.0 4.2	4.1	4.1	4.7	4.8





Growth in Real GDP







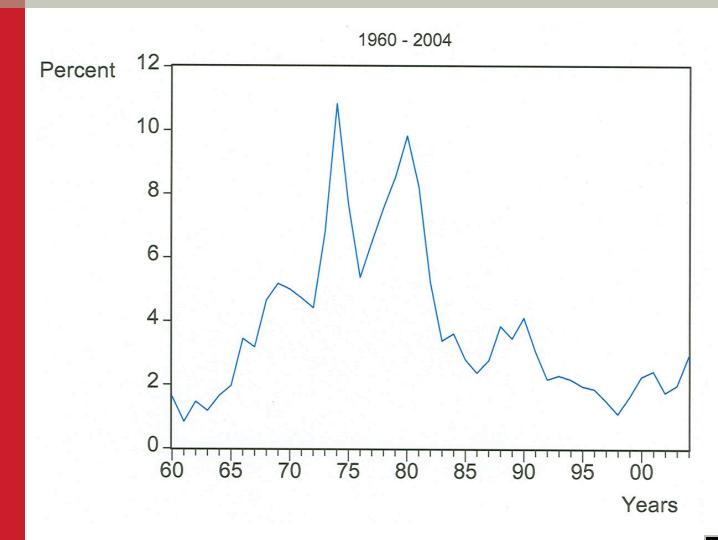
Growth in Real GDP

Year	Growth Rate
1994	4.1%
1995	2.0
1996	4.4
1997	4.4
1998	4.5
1999	4.7
2000	2.3
2001	0.2
2002	1.9
2003	4.1
2004	3.8
Summary Statistics Range Average Standard Deviation	1960 - 2004 -1.9 - 8.5 3.4 2.3





Inflation in the GDP Deflator







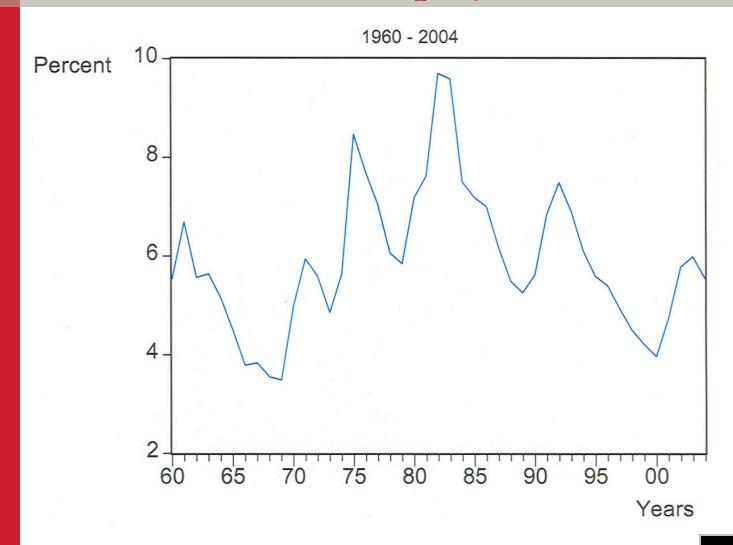
Inflation in the GDP Deflator

Year	Rate		
1994	2.2%		
1995	2.0		
1996	1.9		
1997	1.5		
1998	1.1		
1999	1.6		
2000	2.3		
2001	2.4		
2002	1.8		
2003	2.0		
2004	2.9		
Summary Statistics Range Average Standard Deviation	1960 - 2004 0.8 - 10.8 3.8 2.5		





The Civilian Unemployment Rate







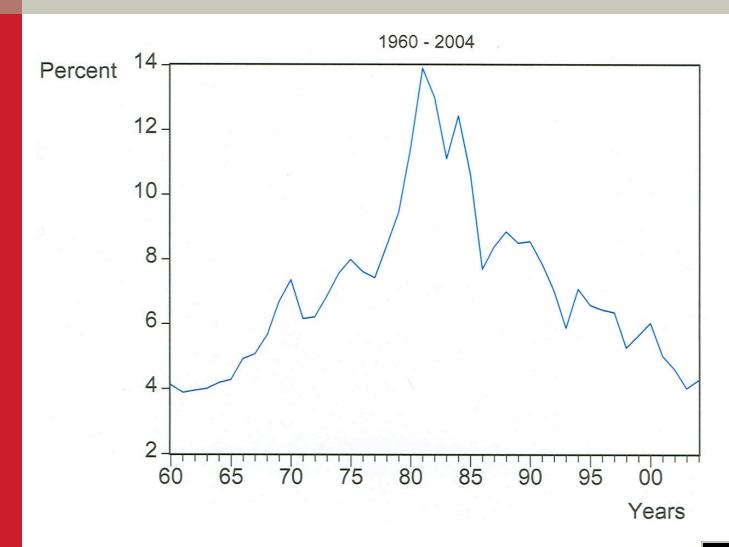
The Civilian Unemployment Rate

Year	Rate
1994	6.1%
1995	5.6
1996	5.4
1997	4.9
1998	4.5
1999	4.2
2000	4.0
2001	4.8
2002	5.8
2003	6.0
2004	5.5
Summary Statistics Range Average Standard Deviation	1960 - 2004 3.5 - 9.7 5.9
Standard Deviation	1.4





Yield on 10-Year T-Bond







Yield on 10-Year T-Bond

Year	Yield
1994	7.1%
1995	6.6
1996	6.4
1997	6.4
1998	5.3
1999	5.6
2000	6.0
2001	5.0
2002	4.6
2003	4.0
2004	4.3
Summary Statistics Range	1960 - 2004 3.9 - 13.9
Average Standard Deviation	7.1 2.5
Standard Deviation	2.5





U.S. Economy in 2006

	Average	TIMES SERIES FORECAST				Consensus		
Variable	2005	2006.1	2006.2	2006.3	2006.4	Avg. 2006	ROUND TABLE	BLUE
REAL GDP GROWTH	3.8	3.1	3.9	5.0	3.9	3.9		3.3
INFLATION (GDP DEFLATOR)	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.2		2.4
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1		5.0
I O YEAR T-BND	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3		4.8





The Score Card RMSE*

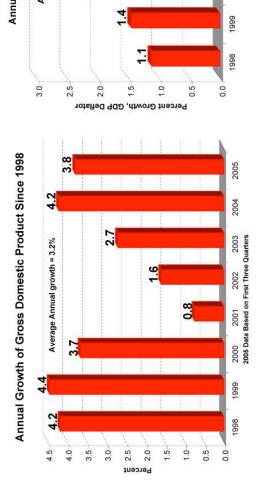
Year	Model	Round Table	Blue Chip
1998	1.11	-	1.33
1999	0.70		1.19
2000	0.50	0.30	0.62
2001	1.27	1.46	1.33
2002	0.77	0.67	0.34
2003	0.81	0.81	0.80
2004	0.45	0.35	0.52
Average	0.80	0.72	0.86

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\sum_{i} (F_{i} - A_{i})^{2}/N}$$

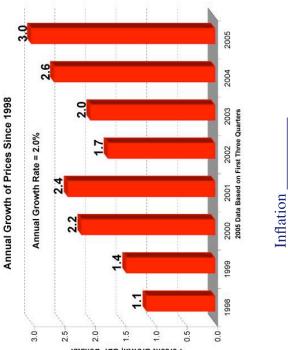


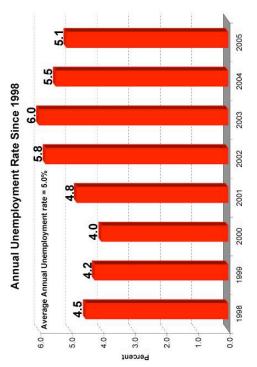
Forecast Entry Card – 2006

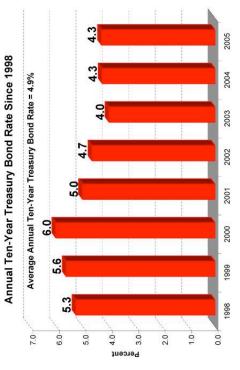
Name



Real GDP Growth







10-Year T-Bond

Unemployment Rate ____