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[Logistics Market Snapshot - April 2018](#) [1]

On 02 May, 2018

APRIL 2018 LOGISTICS MARKET SNAPSHOT	
U.S. GROWTH	The U.S. GDP increased at an annual rate of 1.9% in the fourth quarter of 2017, according to the final estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis in late March. In the third quarter, real GDP increased 1.2%. The increase in real GDP in the fourth quarter reflected positive contributions from personal consumption expenditures (PCE), manufacturing fixed investment, exports, residential fixed investment, state and local government spending, and federal government spending that were partly offset by negative contributions from private inventory investment, which was a subtraction in the calculation of GDP. Increased. Source: BEA, in April 18, the latest GDP release model forecast for real GDP growth (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the first quarter of 2018 is 1.8%. Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors.
State Economic Outlook	The U.S. goods and services trade deficit increased 1.8% in February 2018 to \$17.8 billion. In February, the U.S. had a trade deficit with South and Central America, Hong Kong, Brazil, United Kingdom, and Singapore. The U.S. had a trade deficit with China, European Union, Germany, Japan, Mexico, India, South Korea, Italy, Canada, France, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Taiwan. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
U.S. Trade Deficit	In February 2018, the U.S. imported \$18.2 billion of goods, increasing 1.0% from January. The February export of automotive vehicles, parts, and engines (\$1.8 billion) were the highest in the month. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
Import Volume	U.S. import prices were unchanged in March 2018. Higher prices for capital goods offset declining prices for consumer goods. Higher prices for agricultural inputs drove the monthly advance, which then offsetting lower transportation input prices. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Export Volume	U.S. export prices increased 0.8% in March 2018, the sixth consecutive month for increases. In March, higher prices for agricultural inputs drove the monthly advance, which then offsetting lower transportation input prices. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Import & Export Price Index	The unemployment rate in America remained at 4.9% in March 2018, ending at the same rate it's been at since October 2017. It averaged 4.9% and was 0.1% lower in March 2018, and lower than most economies were reporting and down from 5.5% in February. March 2018 marked the 37th straight month of job creation. The biggest job gains in the month were in health care and manufacturing. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
Unemployment Rate	The labor force participation rate slightly increased to 62.9% in March 2018. The labor force participation rate for those aged 16 and over was 62.9% in March. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS, 1969.
Labor Force Participation Rate	The leading business index for the U.S. increased 0.3% in March 2018, ending at a reading of 105.0. According to The Conference Board, "while the monthly gain is slower than in previous months, its six-month growth rate increased further and stands at a record high for the U.S. economy for the rest of the year. The strength among the components of the leading index have been very unbalanced over the last six months. However, labor market components made negative contributions in March and have weakened in the last 'bubble'." Source: Conference Board, 18th. The U.S. economy recently reached the economic adjustment in 2017 - 2018. It is a period of adjustment between the transition from a state of economic expansion and growth to a state of economic contraction. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
Leading Economic Index	Household income rose 7.0% from the previous month and 10.6% from the previous year. The index of personal income (excluding government transfers) rose 7.0% from the previous month and 10.6% from the previous year. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
Household Income	New light vehicle sales were an annualized and seasonally adjusted 2.1 million in March 2018, up 0.8% from the previous month and 8.9% higher from March 2017. Monthly distributed light vehicle sales in March 2018 were 2.1 million, up 0.8% from the previous month and 8.9% from the previous year. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
Light Vehicle Sales	Personal income increased 0.8% to \$18.1 billion in February 2018. The increase in February primarily reflected increases in wages and salaries and transfer payments. Source: BEA, in March 2018.
Personal Income	Personal income in Georgia increased 0.8% from the previous month and 10.6% from the previous year. Source: BEA, in March 2018.

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