

TABLE 1
Electoral Cycle Version

	Then	Now
Unemployment rate	4.0%	6.1%
<i>Period</i>	2000 (average)	2008 (Aug)
Inflation rate	3.3%	5.4%
<i>Period</i>	Aug 1999-Aug 2000	Aug 2007-Aug 2008
Job growth		
Total nonfarm employment	21.4%	4.3%
Private sector employment	23.6%	3.6%
Manufacturing employment	2.9%	-22.2%
<i>Period</i>	1992-2000 (Aug)	2000-2008 (Aug)
Employment rate (in population)		
All, age 16 and older	64.4%	62.6%
Men, age 16 and older	71.9%	69.1%
Women, age 16 and older	57.5%	56.5%
<i>Period</i>	2000 (average)	2008 (Jan-Aug)
Real wage growth	8.2%	1.8%
<i>Period</i>	1992-2000 (Aug)	2000-2008 (Aug)
Minimum wage (July 2008\$)	\$6.58	\$6.55
<i>Period</i>	2000	2008 (Jul 24)
Family income		
Level (median, 2007\$)	\$61,083	\$61,355
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Growth	14.7%	0.4%
<i>Period</i>	1992-99	2000-07
Poverty		
Rate (% of population)	11.3%	12.5%
People in poverty (millions)	31.6	37.3
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007

(Continued)

TABLE 1, CONTINUED
Electoral Cycle Version

	Then	Now
Uninsured (health insurance)		
Rate (% of population)	14.0%	15.3%
People without insurance (millions)	38.7	45.7
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Personal savings (as % of disposable personal income)	2.3%	0.6%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
College tuition (average per year, 2007\$)		
Private four-year college	\$19,337	\$23,712
Public four-year college	\$4,221	\$6,185
<i>Period</i>	2000-01	2007-08
Gasoline (gallon; July 2008\$)	\$2.03	\$4.09
<i>Period</i>	2000 (Jul)	2008 (Jul)
GDP growth	34.2%	19.6%
<i>Period</i>	1992-00 (2nd quarter)	2000-08 (2nd quarter)
Productivity growth	15.9%	21.9%
<i>Period</i>	1992-00 (2nd quarter)	2000-08 (2nd quarter)
Trade balance (% of GDP)	-3.9%	-5.1%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Federal debt (% of GDP)	57.3%	65.5%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Net foreign debt (% of GDP)	13.6%	17.9%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007

Notes: CEPR analysis of government and other data; see text and Data Appendix for details.

TABLE 2
Business Cycle Version

	Then	Now
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.6%
<i>Period</i>	2000 (average)	2007
Inflation rate	3.3%	4.0%
<i>Period</i>	Dec 1999-Dec 2000	Dec 2006-Dec 2007
Job growth (annualized)		
Total nonfarm employment	1.8%	0.6%
Private sector employment	1.9%	0.6%
Manufacturing employment	-0.4%	-3.1%
<i>Period</i>	1989-00	2000-07
Employment rate (in population)		
All, age 16 and older	64.4%	63.0%
Men, age 16 and older	71.9%	69.8%
Women, age 16 and older	57.5%	56.6%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Real wage growth (annualized growth rate)	0.6%	0.5%
<i>Period</i>	1989-2000	2000-2007
Minimum wage (2007\$)	\$6.23	\$5.85
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007 (Jul)
Family income		
Level (median, 2007\$)	\$61,083	\$61,355
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Annualized Growth	0.9%	0.1%
<i>Period</i>	1989-00	2000-07
Poverty		
Rate (% of population)	11.3%	12.5%
People in poverty (millions)	31.6	37.3
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007

(Continued)

TABLE 2, CONTINUED
Business Cycle Version

	Then	Now
Uninsured (health insurance)		
Rate (% of population)	14.0%	15.3%
People without insurance (millions)	38.7	45.7
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Personal savings (as % of disposable personal income, avg.)	5.6%	1.8%
<i>Period</i>	1989-00	2000-07
College tuition (average per year, 2007\$)		
Private four-year college	\$19,337	\$23,712
Public four-year college	\$4,221	\$6,185
<i>Period</i>	2000-01	2007-08
Gasoline (gallon, July 2007\$)	\$1.92	\$2.96
<i>Period</i>	2000 (Jul)	2007 (Jul)
GDP growth (annualized)	3.1%	2.3%
<i>Period</i>	1989-00	2000-07
Productivity growth (annualized)	2.0%	2.5%
<i>Period</i>	1989-00	2000-07
Trade balance (% of GDP)	-3.9%	-5.1%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Federal debt (% of GDP)	57.3%	65.5%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007
Net foreign debt (% of GDP)	13.6%	17.9%
<i>Period</i>	2000	2007

Notes: CEPR analysis of government and other data; see text and Data Appendix for details.