

Livingston Survey

Data Sources and Descriptions

Last Updated: December 18, 2014

Below are listed the variables to be forecast in the *Livingston* Survey, along with a brief description of the type of adjustments to the data, the source of the data, and any additional notes.

In parentheses after each variable name are three or four terms describing the data. The first term tells something about the type of adjustments to the data: “saar” means that data are seasonally adjusted at annual rates, “sa” means seasonally adjusted, “ar” means at an annual rate. Some series are expressed at a monthly rate, which we denote “mr.” The second term tells the units of the data, for example, a “\$” indicates nominal data, and “\$ 09C” indicates real chain-weighted data with a base year of 2009. In addition, some of the requested variables are rates or index numbers, which is indicated in this second term as well. The third, and sometimes fourth, terms contain further information regarding the units, for example, the base year of the index.

Following the parentheses, the source of the data is given in as much detail as possible. This is followed by more detailed notes and reminders for some of the variables. For users of Haver Analytics, Inc. data bases, we also list the Haver mnemonic of each series.

Section 1 - Quarterly Indicators

1. ***Real Gross Domestic Product*** (saar, \$ 09C billions) – Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Survey of Current Business*, Table 1.1.6. [Haver series: GDPH@usecon]
2. ***Nominal Gross Domestic Product*** (saar, \$ billions) – Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Survey of Current Business*, Table 1.1.5. This is nominal, not real, output. [Haver series: GDP@usecon]

3. ***Real Non-Residential Fixed Investment*** (saar, \$ 09C billions) – Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Survey of Current Business*, Table 1.1.6. [Haver series: FNH@usecon]
4. ***Corporate Profit After Taxes*** (saar, \$ billions) – Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Survey of Current Business*, Table 1.12. From June 2006 forward, this is corporate profits after tax with IVA and CCA (prior to June 2006, it was corporate profits after tax without IVA and CCA). [Haver series: YCATJ@usecon]

Section 2 - Monthly Indicators

5. ***Industrial Production Index*** (sa, index level, 2007=100) – Source: Federal Reserve Board statistical release G.17 (www.federalreserve.gov/releases/G17) [Haver series: IP@usecon]
6. ***Total Private Housing Starts*** (saar, millions of units) – Source: U.S. Census Bureau report on New Residential Construction (www.census.gov/const/www/newresconstindex.html). See Table 3 of the press release. [Haver series: HST@usecon]
7. ***Producer Price Index for Finished Goods*** (sa, index level, 1982=100) – Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/ppi/home.htm). See Table 7 of the Economic New Release. [Haver series: PA49207@usecon]
8. ***Consumer Price Index, CPI-U, all-urban*** (saar, index level, 1982-84=100) – Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ppi.t07.htm>). See Table 7 of the Economic News Release. [Haver series: PCU@usecon]
9. ***Civilian Unemployment Rate*** (sa, percentage points) – Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/cps/home.htm#news). See Table A-1 of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' *Employment Situation Summary*. [Haver series: LR@usecon]
10. ***Average Weekly Earnings in Manufacturing*** (not sa, nominal \$ per week,) – Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (<http://www.bls.gov/ces/tables.htm>). See Table B-8b of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' *Monthly Establishment Data-National*. [Haver series: LKMANU@labor]
11. ***Retail Sales*** (samr, also adjusted for holiday and trading day diff, \$ billions) – Source: U.S. Census Bureau. See the Census Bureau's *Advance Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services*, Table 1 (www.census.gov/retail). Note: This is the series listed as “retail and food services, total.” [Haver series: NRST@usecon]

12. *Auto Sales, Domestic and Foreign* (saar, millions of units) – Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, unpublished. This series is “domestic plus imported retail auto sales.” [Haver series: ASTOT@usecon]

Section 3 – Interest Rates and Stock Prices

13. *Prime Interest Rate* (not sa, percentage points) – Source: Federal Reserve Board statistical release H.15 (www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/). Please forecast the rate on last day of the months and years shown on the questionnaire. [Haver series: FBPR@daily]

14. *10-year U.S. Treasury Bond* (not sa, percentage points, constant maturity, nominal) – Source: Federal Reserve Board statistical release H.15 (www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/). Please forecast the rate on last day of the months and years shown on the questionnaire. [Haver series: FCM10@daily]

15. *90-day U.S. Treasury Bill* (not sa, percentage points, secondary market) – Source: Federal Reserve Board statistical release H.15 (www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/). Please forecast the rate on last day of the months and years shown on the questionnaire. [Haver series: FTBS3@daily]

16. *Stock Prices, S&P 500* (not sa, index number, 1941-43=10) – Source: Wall Street Journal. Please forecast the rate on last day of the months and years shown on the questionnaire. [Haver series: SP500@daily]

Dr. Thomas Stark
Assistant Director and Manager
Real-Time Data Research Center
Economic Research Department
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
Ten Independence Mall
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1574
Tel: 215 – 574 – 6436
Fax: 215 – 574 – 2546

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