

U.S. Economic Outlook for Feb. 27, 2026

A Publication of BMO Capital Markets Economic Research • Douglas Porter, CFA, Chief Economist, BMO Financial Group

2024					2025				2026				2024	2025	2026	2027					
Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4					Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4				Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4												
Production					q/q % chng : a.r.																
Real GDP (chain-weighted)					0.8	3.6	3.3	1.9	-0.6	3.8	4.4	1.4	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.8	2.2	2.5	1.9	
Final Sales					1.7	2.4	3.5	2.8	-3.2	7.5	4.5	1.2	2.6	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.8	2.3	2.6	1.9	
Final Domestic Demand					2.0	3.4	3.8	2.8	1.4	2.4	2.8	1.1	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.1	2.4	2.2	1.9	
Consumer Spending					1.7	3.9	4.0	3.9	0.6	2.5	3.5	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.0	
Durables					-0.9	7.8	8.6	13.0	-3.4	2.3	1.6	-0.9	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	3.9	3.5	1.5	2.2	
Nondurables					-1.6	4.3	4.8	3.8	2.2	2.2	3.9	0.4	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.3	3.0	1.8	2.1	
Services					3.2	3.2	3.0	2.5	0.8	2.6	3.6	3.4	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.4	2.6	2.0	
Government Spending					2.3	3.3	5.4	3.3	-1.0	-0.1	2.2	-5.1	5.9	1.9	0.8	0.8	3.8	1.2	1.2	0.4	
Business Investment					1.5	2.5	3.5	-3.7	9.5	7.3	3.2	3.7	3.6	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	4.2	3.6	2.6	
Non-residential Construction					-5.0	-3.9	-2.2	-8.1	-3.1	-7.5	-5.0	-2.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.1	-5.0	-0.7	1.8	
Equipment					0.5	8.9	8.2	-4.3	21.4	8.5	5.3	3.2	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.5	8.2	3.9	3.0	
Intellectual Property					6.7	0.7	2.6	-0.6	6.5	15.0	5.6	7.4	5.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.5	5.8	5.3	2.6	
Residential Construction					8.2	-2.0	-4.8	4.3	-1.0	-5.1	-7.1	-1.5	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5	3.2	-2.2	-0.7	1.7	
Exports					4.6	0.7	8.9	-0.9	0.2	-1.8	9.6	-0.9	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	1.7	2.8	3.4	
Imports					6.9	8.4	10.1	-0.2	38.0	-29.3	-4.4	-1.3	5.3	5.0	3.4	3.3	5.8	2.7	-0.2	3.0	
Inventory Change					2017\$ blns : a.r.	12.4	75.1	69.4	17.1	172.0	-18.3	-23.9	-13.6	-10.0	2.0	8.0	10.0	43.6	23.6	2.5	20.0
Contrib. to GDP Growth					ppts : a.r.	-0.8	1.2	-0.1	-0.9	2.6	-3.4	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
Net Exports					2017\$ blns : a.r.	-964.1	-1,032.2	-1,064.9	-1,069.0	-1,380.7	-1,058.0	-955.5	-949.6	-980.0	-1,001.8	-1,009.5	-1,016.3	-1,032.6	-1,086.0	-1,001.9	-1,020.5
Contrib. to GDP Growth					ppts : a.r.	-0.4	-1.0	-0.4	-0.1	-4.7	4.8	1.6	0.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	-0.1
Nominal GDP					\$ blns : a.r.	28,708	29,147	29,512	29,825	30,042	30,486	31,098	31,490	31,932	32,264	32,603	32,942	29,298	30,779	32,435	33,746
Growth					q/q % chng : a.r.	4.0	6.3	5.1	4.3	2.9	6.0	8.3	5.1	5.7	4.2	4.3	4.2	5.3	5.1	5.4	4.0
Real GDP					y/y % chng	2.9	3.1	2.8	2.4	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.2	3.1	2.6	2.0	2.2				
Inflation					q/q % chng : a.r.																
GDP Price Index					3.1	2.6	1.8	2.4	3.6	2.1	3.8	3.6	3.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.1	
Core PCE Deflator					4.0	2.9	2.4	2.7	3.3	2.6	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.5	2.4	1.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.0	
CPI All Items					3.7	2.7	1.3	3.2	3.7	1.7	3.1	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.3	1.9	3.0	2.7	2.4	2.1	
Ex. Food and Energy					4.2	3.2	2.2	3.5	3.4	2.2	3.2	2.0	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.0	3.4	2.9	2.5	2.2	
Food Prices					2.1	1.7	2.4	3.1	3.4	2.6	3.1	2.3	3.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	2.3	2.9	2.2	1.7	
Energy Prices					1.1	-0.9	-10.6	-0.3	8.6	-6.5	1.5	10.3	-1.4	-0.8	1.3	2.2	-1.3	0.1	1.4	2.0	
Services					6.3	4.3	3.3	4.2	4.1	3.3	3.4	2.3	3.5	2.6	2.5	2.0	4.9	3.7	2.8	2.2	
CPI All Items					y/y % chng	3.2	3.2	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.2				
Ex. Food and Energy					y/y % chng	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.1	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5				
Core PCE Deflator					y/y % chng	3.1	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.5				
Financial					% : quarterly avg.																
Fed Funds Rate					5.38	5.38	5.21	4.63	4.38	4.38	4.29	3.79	3.63	3.54	3.29	3.04	5.15	4.21	3.38	2.90	
90-Day T-Bill					5.45	5.47	5.22	4.58	4.34	4.37	4.26	3.86	3.70	3.65	3.35	3.05	5.18	4.21	3.45	2.85	
1-Year T-Bill					4.90	5.14	4.45	4.26	4.15	4.03	3.88	3.60	3.45	3.40	3.20	3.00	4.69	3.92	3.25	2.95	
10-Year Bond Yield					4.16	4.44	3.95	4.28	4.45	4.36	4.26	4.10	4.15	4.10	4.05	4.00	4.21	4.29	4.05	4.10	
10-Year BBB Corporate Spread					ppts	1.21	1.13	1.20	1.04	1.08	1.26	1.05	1.06	1.06	1.29	1.54	1.80	1.15	1.11	1.42	1.88
Foreign Trade					\$ blns : a.r.																
Current Account Balance					-1,043	-1,145	-1,305	-1,248	-1,759	-997	-906	-957	-999	-1,024	-1,034	-1,043	-1,185	-1,155	-1,025	-1,055	
Share of GDP					-3.6	-3.9	-4.4	-4.2	-5.9	-3.3	-2.9	-3.0	-3.1	-3.2	-3.2	-3.2	-4.0	-3.8	-3.2	-3.1	
Merchandise Balance					-1,113	-1,197	-1,237	-1,316	-1,863	-1,082	-1,069	-1,096	-1,130	-1,158	-1,172	-1,187	-1,215	-1,278	-1,162	-1,211	
Non-Merchandise Balance					69	51	-68	68	104	85	164	139	131	134	138	144	30	123	137	156	
Yen					¥/US\$: qtr. avg.	149	156	149	152	152	144	148	154	155	154	153	152	151	150	154	148
Euro					US\$/€ : qtr. avg.	1.09	1.08	1.10	1.07	1.05	1.13	1.17	1.16	1.18	1.19	1.19	1.20	1.08	1.13	1.19	1.21
Pound					US\$/£ : qtr. avg.	1.27	1.26	1.30	1.28	1.26	1.34	1.35	1.33	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.28	1.32	1.36	1.37
Trade-Wt. Dollar (broad)					Jan. '97 = 100	120.7	122.6	122.6	125.8	127.7	122.4	120.2	120.8	118.2	117.5	117.2	116.9	122.9	122.8	117.5	115.4
WTI Spot					US\$/bbl : qtr. avg.	77.3	81.1	75.9	70.3	71.4	63.9	65.0	59.1	60.5	58.5	60.0	61.0	76.1	64.8	60.0	65.0
Henry Hub Spot					US\$/mmbtu : qtr. avg.	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.5	4.2	3.2	3.0	3.8	4.8	3.5	3.5	4.0	2.2	3.5	3.9	3.5
Incomes					y/y % chng																
Pre-Tax Profits w/IVA,CCA					4.6	7.4	2.9	5.5	6.4	3.6	9.3	4.7	7.5	8.4	4.8	4.6	5.1	6.0	6.3	4.0	
Personal Income					5.9	5.7	5.4	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.3	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.9	5.6	4.7	3.8	4.1	
Real Disposable Income					3.5	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.7	2.2	2.9	1.6	1.5	2.2	
Savings Rate					% : quarterly avg.	6.2	5.8	5.1	4.7	5.2	5.0	4.2	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	5.4	4.5	3.8	3.9
Other Indicators					quarterly avg.																
Unemployment Rate					percent	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.3
Housing Starts					mlns : a.r.	1.42	1.34	1.34	1.39	1.40	1.35	1.35	1.33	1.39	1.40	1.40	1.41	1.37	1.36	1.40	1.42
Existing Home Sales					mlns : a.r.	4.14	4.02	3.94	4.16	4.09	4.01	4.05	4.16	4.05	4.19	4.22	4.24	4.07	4.08	4.18	4.33
Home Prices (Case-Shiller)					y/y % chng	7.3	6.8	5.2	4.4	4.5	2.8	1.6	1.4	1.2	2.2	3.0	2.5	5.9	2.5	2.2	2.4
Motor Vehicle Sales					mlns : a.r.	15.7	16.0	15.9	16.6	16.5	16.2	16.7	15.9	15.4	16.1	16.2	16.4	16.0	16.3	16.0	16.6
Payroll Employment Growth					q/q % chng : a.r.	1.4	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.1	-0.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.8
Industrial Production					q/q % chng : a.r.	-2.6	2.7	-2.3	-1.5	4.2	1.8	2.2	-1.3	4.2	2.1	1.8	1.8	-0.7	1.2	1.9	1.8
CBO Budget Deficit					% of GDP												-6.3	-5.8	-5.9	-5.7	

Bolded values represent forecasts

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