
Continued trade imbalances with a number of countries, particularly Japan, have led to a rise in protectionist sentiment in Congress. Should these imbalances not be adjusted, significant impacts on employment patterns are expected to occur.

The federal debt means more local and private financing, often in partnership.

Local and regional financing for programs and projects has become the norm due to the large federal deficit and resulting fiscal conservatism. Private sector involvement and public/private "linkages" are becoming the norm and have even extended to the construction of infrastructure such as airports, highways and bridges. Even though the Democrats have a majority in the House of Representatives, there is not expected to be a significant increase in the outlay of federal funds until the deficit situation improves.

America has become a service economy.

A major (and continuing) shift is occurring in the American economy away from manufacturing towards the service sector. The services sector now accounts for more than two-thirds of the GNP and provides 75% of total employment in the U.S. Since 1978, it has created over 14 million jobs compared to a loss of 2 million employed in the manufacturing sector.

1.3 Urban Trends

Most of America's population lives in large urban agglomerations.

States with the largest urban populations are California, New York and Texas followed by the Great Lakes states and Florida (Fig. 4). Heavy urban concentrations exist along the megalopolis stretching from Washington to Boston, along the Great Lakes Megalopolis from Chicago to Detroit and Cleveland, and in a band stretching from San Diego to Los Angeles.

A shift is occurring from the suburbs to urban cores.

A significant trend affecting almost all American cities is the growing shift away from the suburbs back to the urban cores. Many suburbs are now discouraging continued growth to the point of enacting restrictive zoning legislation. Environmental concerns are gaining more weight in development decisions. Construction in central cores is also becoming more controlled. For example, San Francisco has enacted "Proposition M" which reduces by half the allowable volume of commercial office construction in that city. "NIMBY", not-in-

Development is becoming more regulated.