

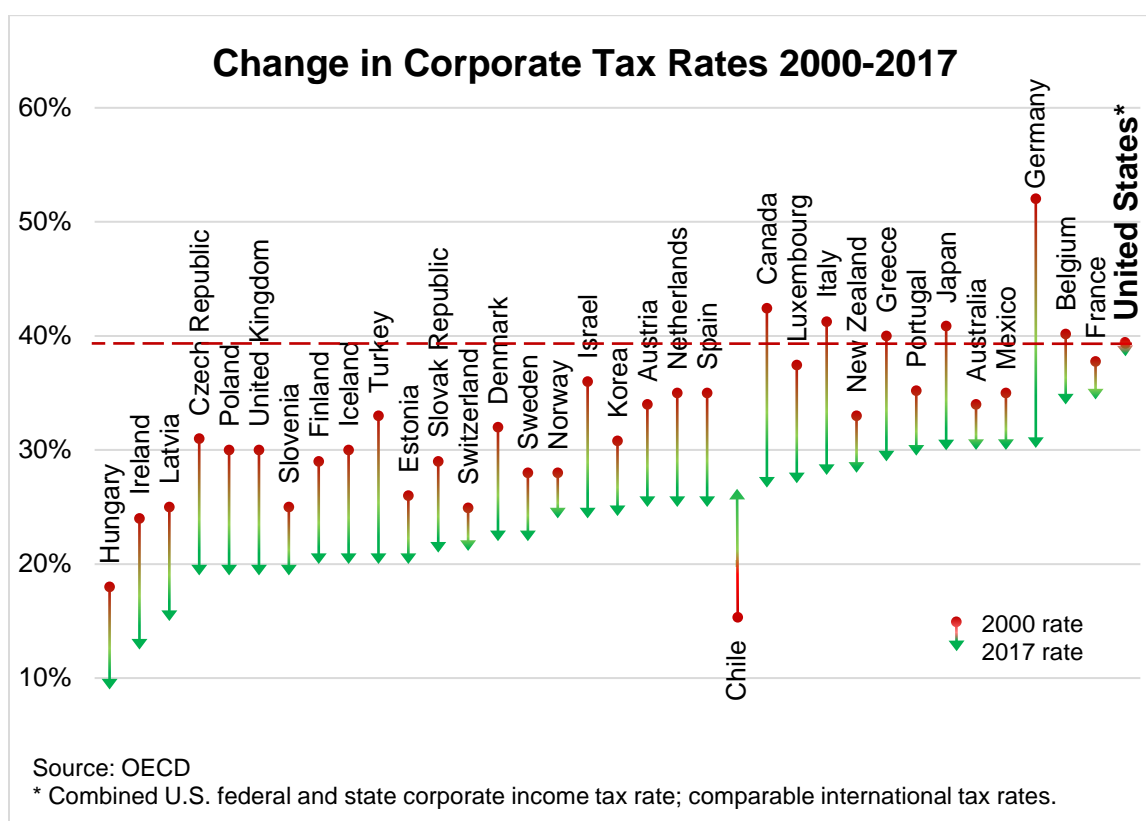


Weekly Economic Update

August 14 – August 18, 2017

CHART OF THE WEEK

Other Countries Undercut U.S. Corporate Tax Rate



The chart shows the combined corporate income tax rates in 2000 and 2017 of countries in the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). All OECD member countries except Chile lowered their corporate tax rate, even if it was already lower than the U.S. rate, to attract more business and investment. The U.S. rate remained virtually unchanged and is now the highest in the developed world.

LAST WEEK

News & Commentary Weekly Highlights

Economics21: [The Missing Millions](#)

Wall Street Journal: [U.S. Productivity Rose at 0.9% Rate in Second Quarter](#)

Wall Street Journal: [What Econ 101 Can Teach Us About Artificial Intelligence](#)

Top Economic Indicator Highlights

Job Openings and Labor Turnover Summary (JOLTS) (June 2017; seasonally adjusted levels)

Category (in millions)	June	May	April
Job Openings	6.163	5.702	5.967
Hires	5.356	5.459	5.043
Separations	5.224	5.245	5.008

Noteworthy: The total number of job vacancies recorded a new high in the series history at 6.163 million job vacancies. Historically, the number of hires has always exceeded the number of openings. However, since late 2014 this has changed. A [JEC hearing](#) explored reasons and remedies for this situation last month.

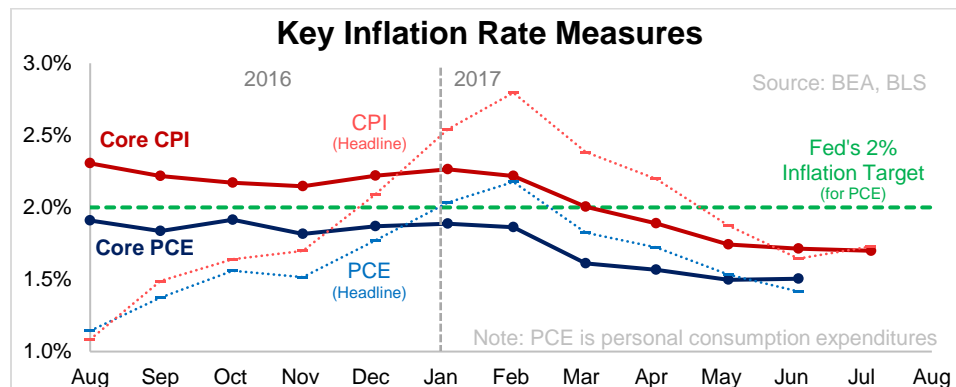
Productivity and Costs (Second Quarter 2017; quarterly change at annualized rates)

Category	2017Q2	2017Q1	2016Q4	2016Q3	2016Q2
Nonfarm Labor Productivity	0.9%	0.1%	1.3%	2.5%	0.8%

Noteworthy: Labor productivity, an essential ingredient to a rising standard of living, increased at a 0.9% annual rate for the second quarter of 2017.

Consumer Price Index (July 2017; percentage changes are from same month last year)

Category	July	June	May
Core CPI (excludes food and energy)	1.70%	1.71%	1.74%
Headline CPI	1.73%	1.65%	1.87%



Noteworthy: The core CPI inflation rate slowed slightly this month to 1.70% from 1.71% in June. Since peaking in January 2017 at 2.26%, it has declined six consecutive months. The headline CPI inflation rate accelerated somewhat after declining four consecutive months.

THIS WEEK

Upcoming Economic Data and Events

Monday

[Survey of Consumer Expectations](#) (11:00am)

Tuesday

[Advance Retail Sales](#) (8:30am)

[Empire State Manufacturing Survey](#) (8:30am)

[Exports/Imports](#) (8:30am)

[Business Inventories](#) (10:00am)

Consumer Credit Panel (11:00am)

Wednesday

Business Leaders Survey (8:30am)

New Residential Construction (8:30am)

Atlanta Fed Business Inflation Expectations Survey (10:00am)

FOMC Minutes Released (2:00pm)

Thursday

Philly Fed Manufacturing Survey (8:30am)

Industrial Production and Capacity Utilization (9:15am)

Composite Indexes (10:00am)

Friday

Michigan's Surveys of Consumer Sentiment (10:00am)