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WASHINGTON WATCH



March 2019

Economy Grew 2.6 Percent in Fourth Quarter and 2.9 Percent in 2018

The U.S. economy last year matched its best performance since the Great Recession of 2007-09. But analysts have been speculating if that's as good as it's going to get.

Read more [here](#).



House Approves Major Public Lands Bill; Sends to Trump for Signature

The House approved a bipartisan public lands bill, earlier passed by the Senate, that permanently reauthorizes the popular Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Read more [here](#).



Deal with China Must Not Just Include Purchases, But Also Enforcement

China needs to do more than just buy more U.S. goods before the two countries strike a permanent trade deal, according to U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer.

Read more [here](#).



NAM: U.S. Must Protect Manufacturers' Intellectual Property

The National Association of Manufacturers recently provided testimony in Washington on the



need to protect manufacturers' innovation and intellectual property rights.

Read more [here](#).

AT&T Prevails in Court with Time Warner Acquisition

AT&T has prevailed in its battle with the U.S. government over its acquisition of Time Warner and the Department of Justice has indicated it does not plan to seek a review.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Opens Anti-Dumping Probe into Steel Imports from China, Canada & Mexico

The U.S. Commerce Department recently announced it will open a new anti-dumping probe to determine if fabricated structural steel from China, Canada and Mexico is being sold at below fair value.

Read more [here](#).



House Passes Bill Blocking Trump's Border Wall Emergency Declaration

Democrats ignored a veto threat and rammed legislation through the House that would stymie President Trump's bid for billions of extra dollars for his border wall.

Read more [here](#).



Business Groups Launch Coalition Pushing Passage of New NAFTA

A new coalition including the U.S. Chamber, American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Association of Manufacturers has launched to help secure passage of the new NAFTA.

Read more [here](#).



Fed Chief Jerome Powell Says U.S. Economy to Expand but at Slower Pace

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said in a report to Congress that the U.S. economy

should keep expanding at a solid, though somewhat slower pace this year.

Read more [here](#).



Survey: Half of Business Economists See Recession by 2020

Roughly half the nation's business economists say they think the U.S. economy will slip into recession by the end of next year, and three-fourths envision such a downturn by the end of 2021.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Lawmakers, Industry Fret Over Trump's China Trade Deal Eagerness

President Trump's decision to delay a steep tariff hike on Chinese goods was greeted with a mixture of relief and dread among U.S. industry groups and lawmakers.

Read more [here](#).



Pharmaceutical Executives Won't Guarantee Lower Prices for Prescription Drugs

Top executives from seven major pharmaceutical companies told a Senate committee that they could not commit to lower the price of commonly used prescription drugs.

Read more [here](#).



Millennials Are Facing \$1 Trillion in Debt

Debt among 19 to 29-year-old Americans exceeded \$1 trillion at the end of 2018, the highest debt exposure for the youngest adult group since late 2007.

Read more [here](#).

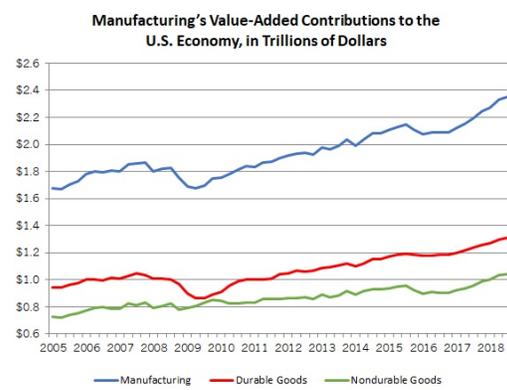


Manufacturing Output Rose to an

All-Time High in Third Quarter 2018

The National Association of Manufacturers reported that manufacturers produced \$2.35 trillion in value-added output in the third quarter of 2018, an all-time high.

Read more [here](#).



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