

The Conference Board Policy Watch

The First 100 Days - Infrastructure Upgrade, America Can't Wait

February 18, 2021



Some of the critical questions and issues we will be answering today

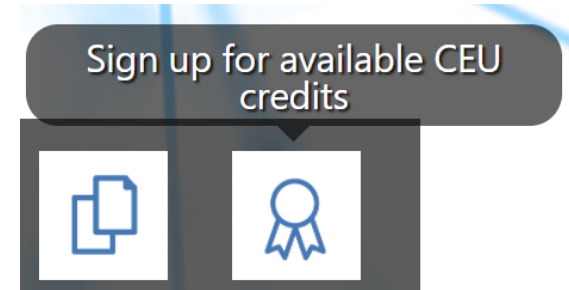
- Why has the United States fallen behind its infrastructure needs?
- Is the federal government solely responsible for the problem?
- Is fixing the infrastructure problem all-pain, no gain?
- Is infrastructure strictly old technology, or is innovation possible?



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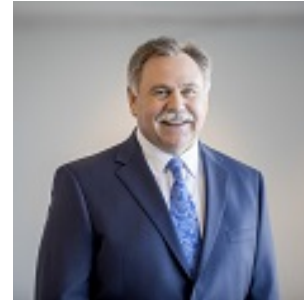
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Today's Presenters



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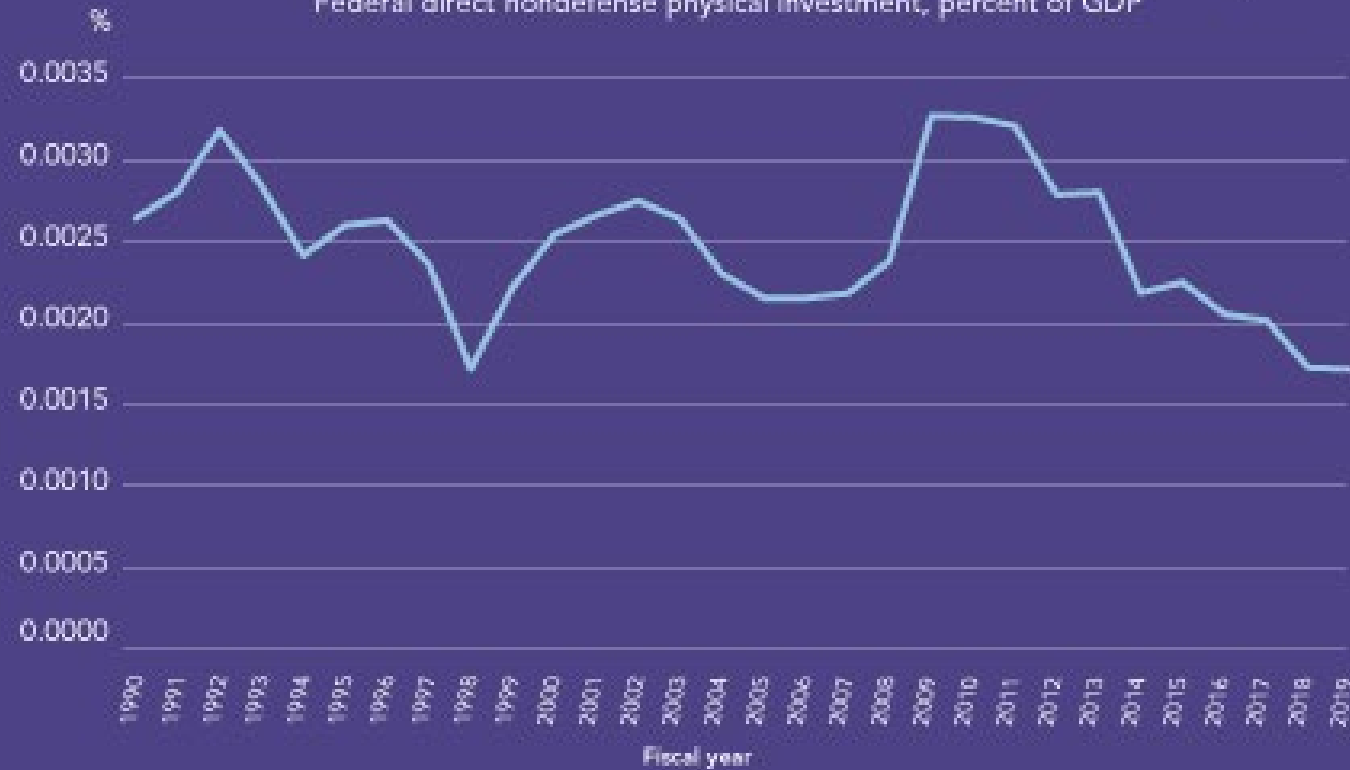
Chart 1
Federal nondefense physical investment has generally declined since the 1960s
 Direct investment plus, percent of GDP



Source: Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2021, Historical Tables, Table 9.3, BUDGET-2021-TAB.pdf (govinfo.gov)



Chart 4
Infrastructure increase in 2009 stimulus proved only temporary
Federal direct nondefense physical investment, percent of GDP



Source: Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2021, Historical Tables, Table 9.3, BUDGET-2021-TAB.pdf (govinfo.gov)



Audience Poll Questions



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SUSTAINING CAPITALISM

A series focused on nonpartisan reasoned solutions in the nation's interest to the central challenges we face in order to provide prosperity for all Americans.

FIRST 100 DAYS PLAN
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INSIGHTS FOR WHAT'S AHEAD

The Committee for Economic Development of The Conference Board prepared the following analysis and recommendations in the spirit of our founding members, America's foremost business leaders during World War II, who came together to solve our nation's crucial postwar economic and social challenges. Similarly, business leaders today, hand-in-hand with policymakers and the American public, must provide a thoughtful response to the COVID-19 crisis and restore confidence in capitalism and our democratic institutions.

CED respectfully offers its nonpartisan analysis and recommendations for the first 100 days of the new administration to build a stronger, more resilient, and more responsive economy that provides opportunity and prosperity for all Americans. The objective is to overcome the public health challenge, safely reopen the economy, and get our nation on a path to high levels of employment, production, and consumption—to put our country back to work safely, making capitalism benefit all Americans.

COVID-19's Economic Impact: Lessons Learned

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