# Auto incentives and consumer spending on vehicles

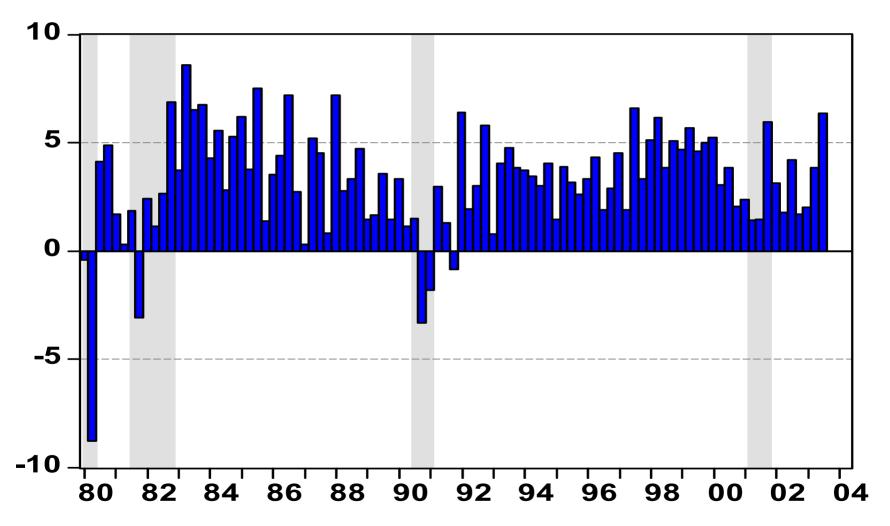
Ted Chu, Senior Economist General Motors Corporation June 3, 2004

### **Agenda**

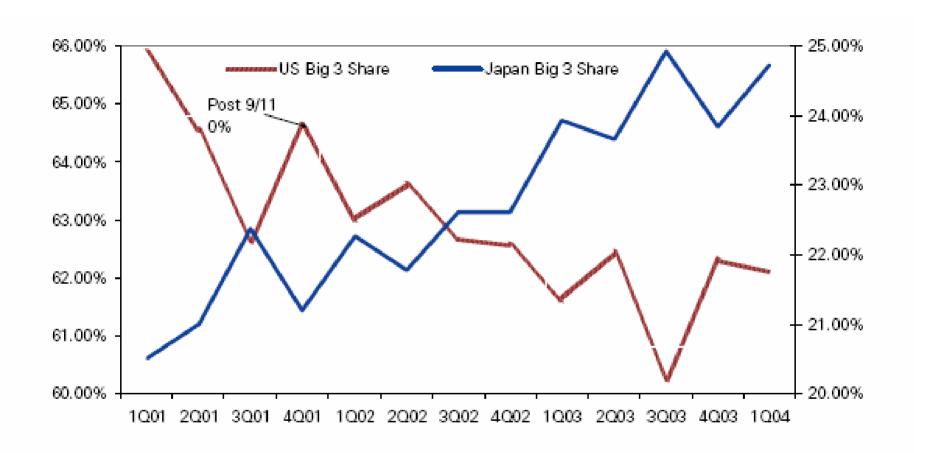
- Incentive pressures and consumer affordability
- Dept of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) vehicle revenue revisions
- US auto industry revenue projections

# Incentives were not a reaction to changes in total private consumption expenditures

Quarterly Percentage Change at Annual Rate, Chained 1996\$

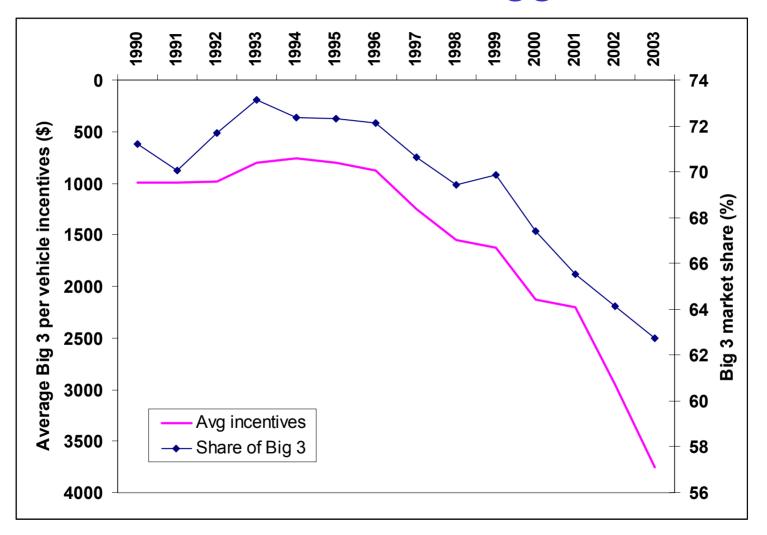


### Main driver of incentives: Intensified competition

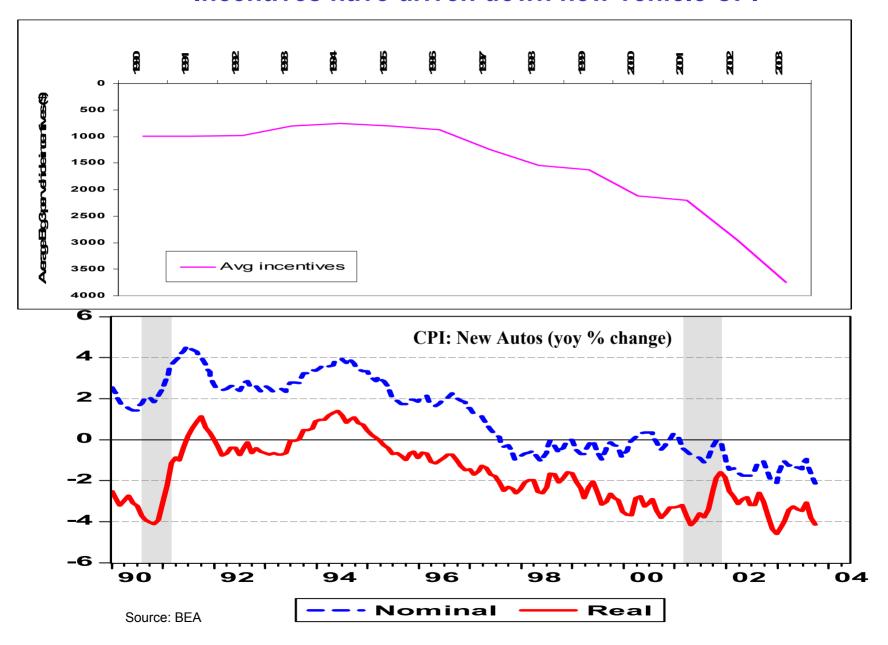


Source: Ward's , Deutsche Bank estimates

# Incentives and market share: chicken and egg?



#### Incentives have driven down new vehicle CPI



# Consumer's perception may be different from CPI One reason KAR was so effective: cars were believed to be overpriced

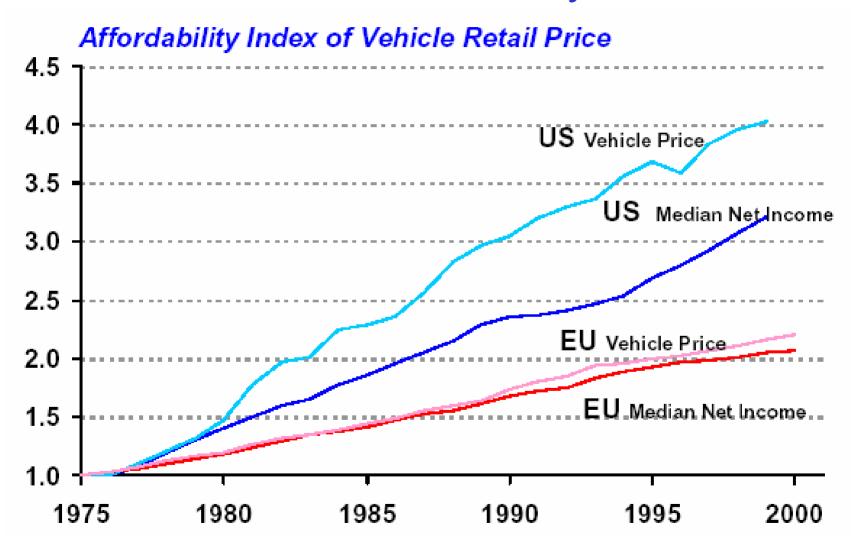
Question: Which do you feel are fairly priced, and which are overpriced in the US today (Feb 2001)?

% saying "overpriced"

New car prices	80
Credit card interest charges	76
Doctor fees	71
Brokerage commissions	47
Mutual fund fees	33
Mortgage rates	33

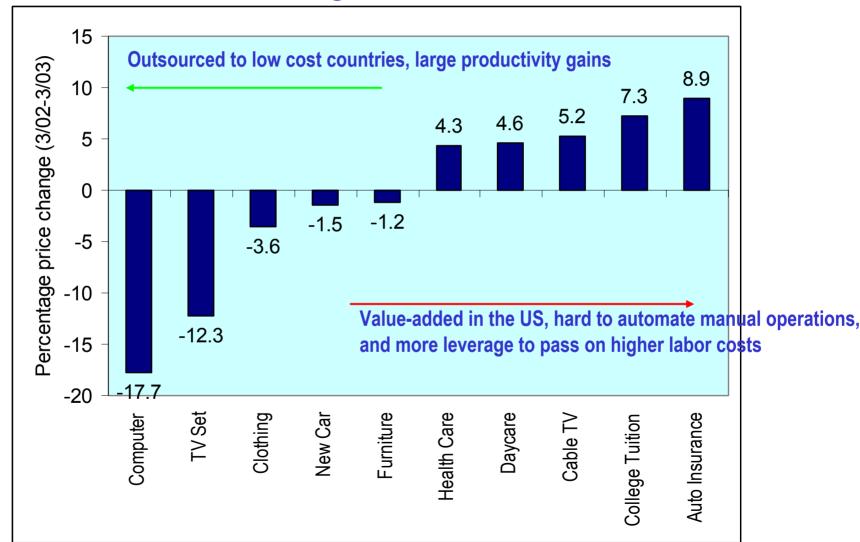
Source: DYG SCAN, Money Magazine national survey

# EU vehicle prices had been more in line with income over last 25 years



Source: MartecGroup.com, 4/2002 fuel econ

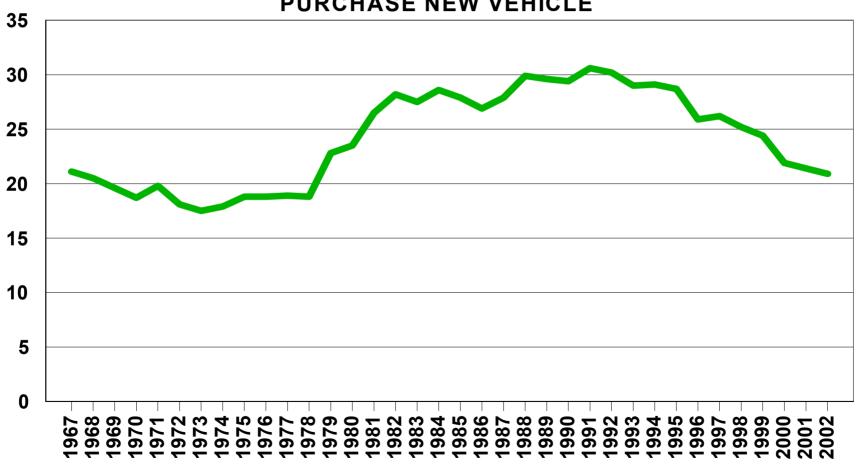
# US auto deflation is very mild compared with other manufacturing sectors even after KAR



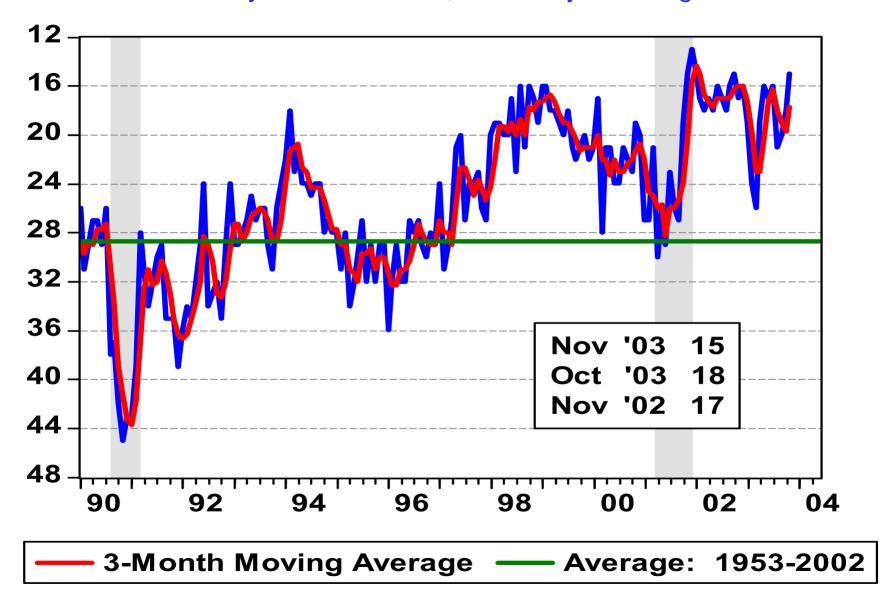
Source: US Labor Dept. Business Week, *Cheap to Buy, Pricey to Own*, 3/19/2003

### Incentives have improved affordability

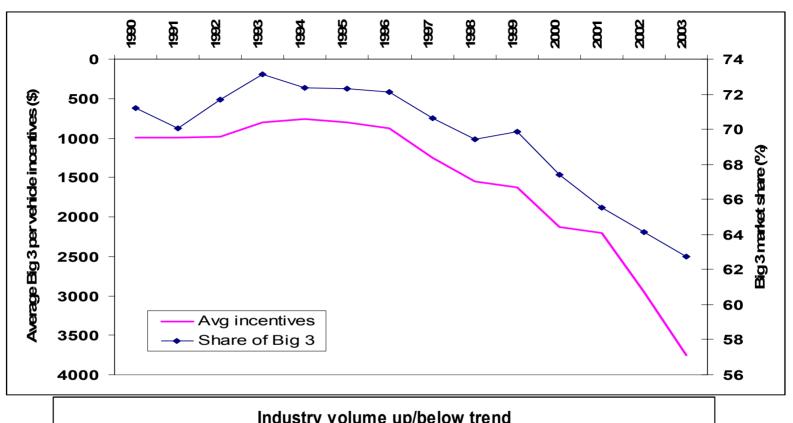
# AUTO AFFORDABILITY INDEX WEEKS OF MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME REQUIRED TO PURCHASE NEW VEHICLE

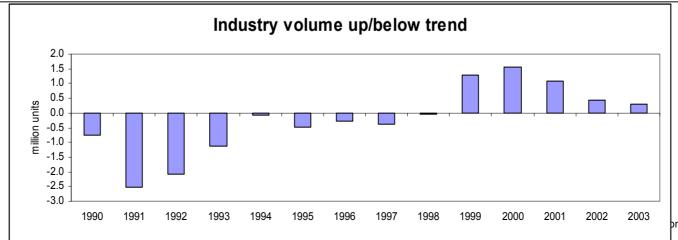


# Bad Time to Buy Car/Truck (inverted scale) Surveys of Consumers, University of Michigan



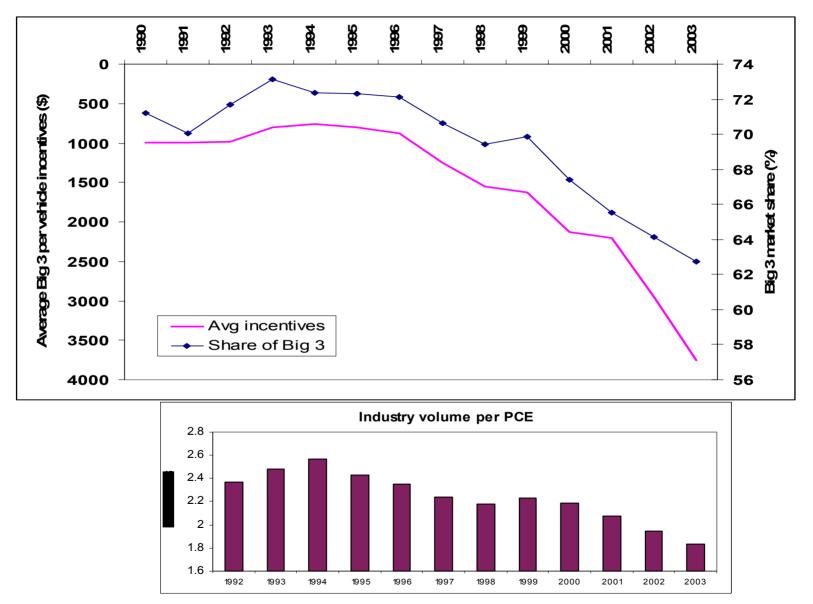
#### Incentives and total industry volume: hardly related





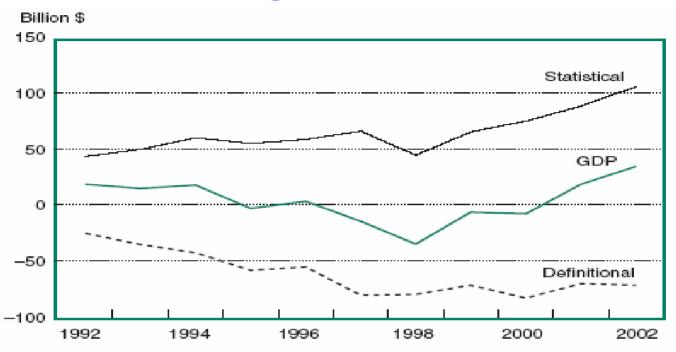
Page 12 pnference 2004 ted.ppt

#### Incentives have reduced volume/PCE\*



<sup>\*</sup> PCE: personal consumption expenditure.

## **Notable Changes in BEA GDP Data**



Direction of Revisions to Current-Dollar GDP					
<u>Downward</u>	<u>Upward</u>				
1959-1974	1975-1976				
1977-1982	1983-1986				
1987-1990	1991-1994				
1995	1996				
1997-2000	2001-2002				

### **Notable Changes in BEA Auto Data**

- The biggest change was in used truck spending (max 39% chg)
  - Method is now consistent with used car accounting
  - Still no direct measures
  - Estimates of dealer margins and net transaction prices (from corp, government, etc.) were refined
- New auto spending adjustment mostly after 1996 (max 14% chg)
  - New benchmark to 1997 input/output estimates
  - International trade and transportation costs were refined
- No changes to auto lease estimates
- No adjustments to subsidized loans
  - Only cash rebates have been incorporated with BLS data
  - May overestimate PCE since late 2001

### **Notable Changes in BEA Data**

(current – previous data)

	GDP		DPI	Tot	al PCE	Αι	uto PCE	Ne	w Auto	L	Jsed veh	
	(bn US\$)	% chgbr	n US\$)	% chg(b	n US\$)	% chg(k	on US\$)	% chgb	n US\$)	% chg(	bn US\$)	% chg
1990	0	0%	-8	-0.2%	8	0.2%	6	4%	0	0%	6	15%
1991	10	0.2%	-11	-0.2%	15	0.4%	11	6%	0	0%	11	24%
1992	19	0.3%	-3	-0.1%	26	0.6%	13	7%	0	0%	13	26%
1993	15	0.2%	-23	-0.5%	23	0.5%	11	6%	1.5	1.1%	10	18%
1994	18	0.3%	-14	-0.3%	27	0.6%	17	7%	1.6	1.1%	16	24%
1995	-3	0.0%	-14	-0.3%	7	0.1%	17	7%	8.0	0.5%	16	22%
1996	4	0.0%	11	0.2%	19	0.4%	27	10%	2.9	1.9%	25	30%
1997	-14	-0.2%	21	0.3%	18	0.3%	39	13%	6.6	4.1%	32	35%
1998	-35	-0.4%	40	0.6%	23	0.4%	45	14%	5.6	3.1%	39	39%
1999	-6	-0.1%	68	1.0%	36	0.6%	49	14%	6.0	3.0%	43	39%
2000	-8	-0.1%	74	1.0%	56	0.8%	47	13%	6.1	2.8%	41	37%
2001	19	0.2%	76	1.0%	58	0.8%	45	12%	7.0	3.0%	38	34%
2002	39	0.4%	27	0.3%	84	1.2%	41	10%	8.0	3.2%	34	31%

Note: There is no change in new auto leasing data except for 2002 (-0.6 bn\$, -1.7% change.)

Source: BEA

# Implications of BEA Data Change: Consumer spending on autos has been significantly above historical average since mid 90s

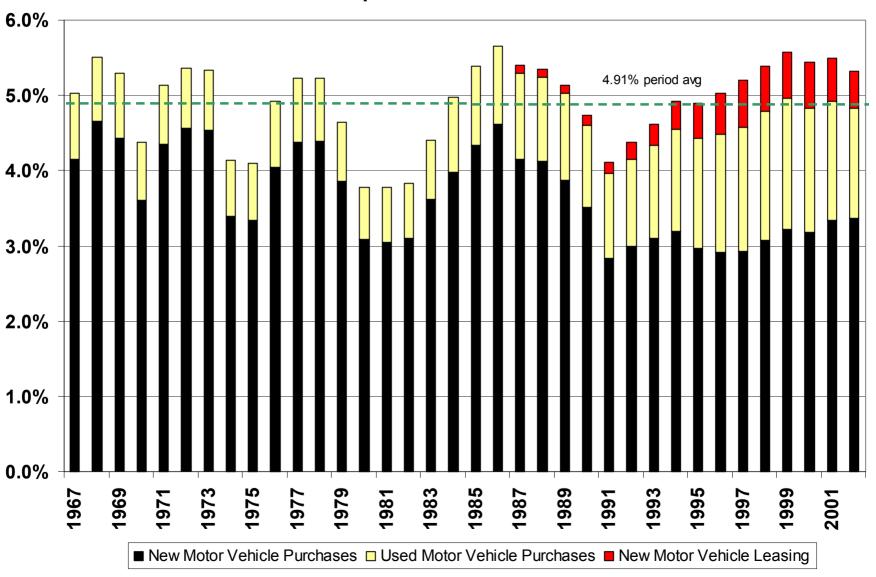
(but data may have overestimated spending over the last few years)

PC	CE auto s	hare	DPI auto sh	are
Ве	efore	After revision	Before	After revision
1990	4.6%	4.7%	4.1%	4.2%
1991	3.9%	4.1%	3.4%	3.7%
1992	4.1%	4.4%	3.6%	3.9%
1993	4.4%	4.6%	4.0%	4.2%
1994	4.6%	4.9%	4.2%	4.5%
1995	4.6%	4.9%	4.2%	4.5%
1996	4.5%	5.0%	4.2%	4.6%
1997	4.5%	5.2%	4.2%	4.8%
1998	4.6%	5.4%	4.3%	4.9%
1999	4.8%	5.6%	4.6%	5.2%
2000	4.8%	5.4%	4.5%	5.1%
2001	4.9%	5.5%	4.6%	5.2%
2002	4.8%	5.3%	4.5%	5.0%

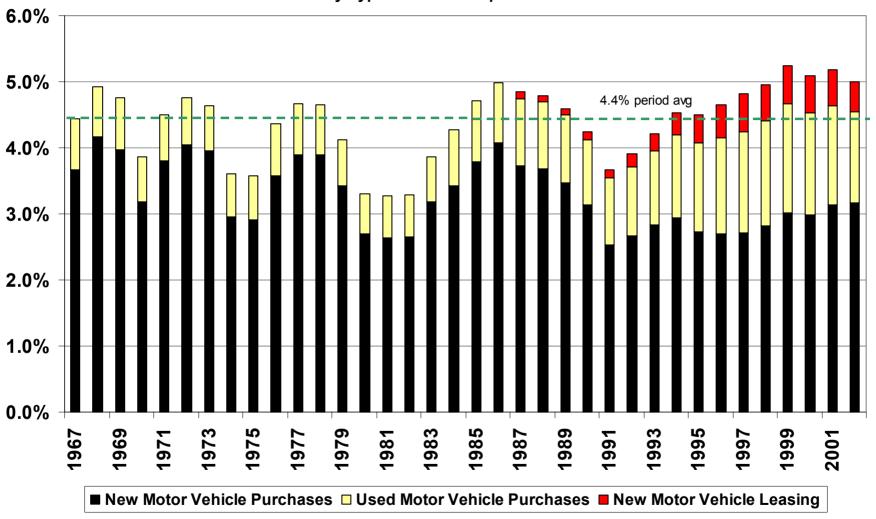
Changes bump up historical averages by about 0.2 percentage point. Source: BEA

Chicago Fed Conference 2004 ted.ppt

#### **US Vehicle Expenditures as a Share of PCE**



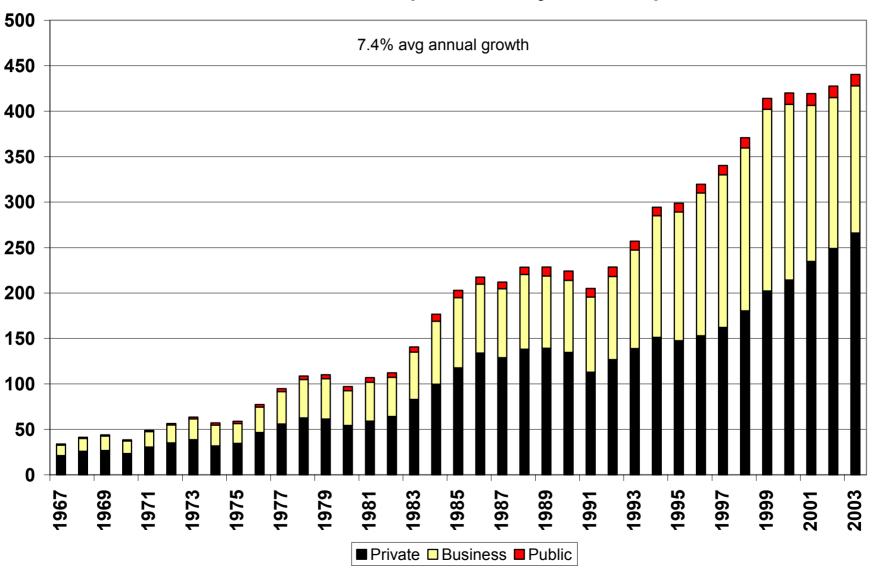
## Vehicle Expenditures as a Share of Disposable Personal Income By Type of Vehicle Expenditure



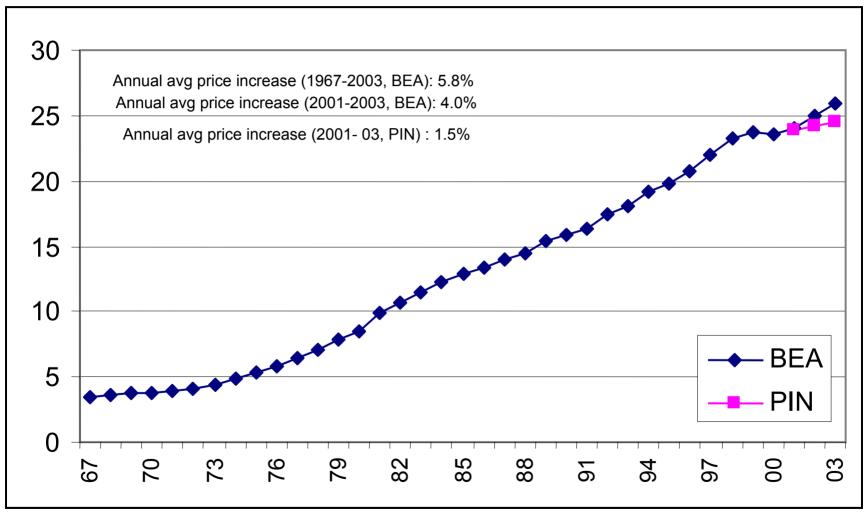
Source: BEA



#### **US New Vehicle Expenditures by Ownership**



# **Average Transaction Prices (000)**

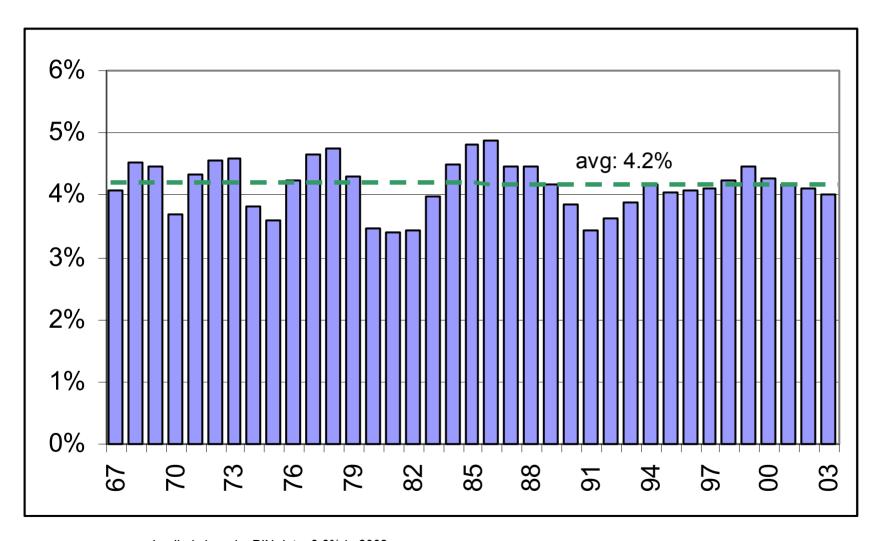


Implied spending diff by PIN data:

Source: BEA, J.D. Power PIN

2001 -2.5 2002 -13.6 2003 -23.6

#### **Total Vehicle Revenue as Share of GDP**



Implied share by PIN data: 3.8% in 2003

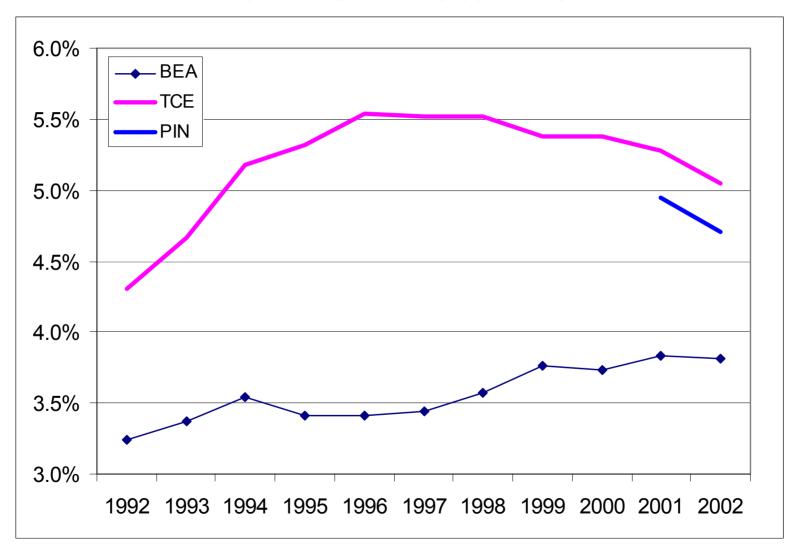
Source: BEA

# **Updated Historical Data**

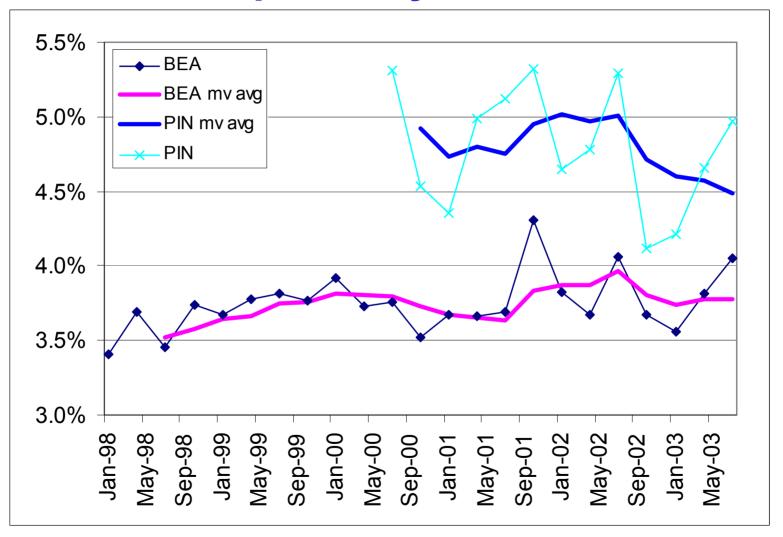
	GDP	PCE	DPI	Pri Auto	Total Auto	Ind Vol
	(\$bn)	(\$bn)	(\$bn)	(\$bn)	(\$bn)	(000)
1990	5803	3840	4286	135	224	14153
1991	5986	3986	4464	113	205	12544
1992	6319	4235	4751	127	229	13120
1993	6642	4478	4912	139	257	14201
1994	7054	4743	5152	151	294	15413
1995	7401	4976	5408	148	299	15119
1996	7813	5257	5688	153	320	15460
1997	8318	5547	5989	162	340	15501
1998	8782	5879	6396	180	371	15966
1999	9274	6282	6695	202	414	17418
2000	9825	6739	7194	214	420	17814
2001	10082	7045	7469	235	419	17475
2002	10446	7385	7857	249	428	17144
2003	10947	7752	8200	266	440	16966

Source: BEA

# Spending on new vehicles as share of total PCE



# Spending on new vehicles as share of total PCE probably declined in '03



# Changes in private inventories of autos (bn \$)

	Total	New
1992	-0.3	0.1
1993	2.9	2.0
1994	2.2	1.6
1995	4.1	3.1
1996	-3.4	-5.5
1997	0.6	-0.6
1998	3.2	2.5
1999	1.4	1.2
2000	2.1	1.2
2001	-6.1	-6.7
2002	7.4	7.0

Source: BEA

## Annual change in spending

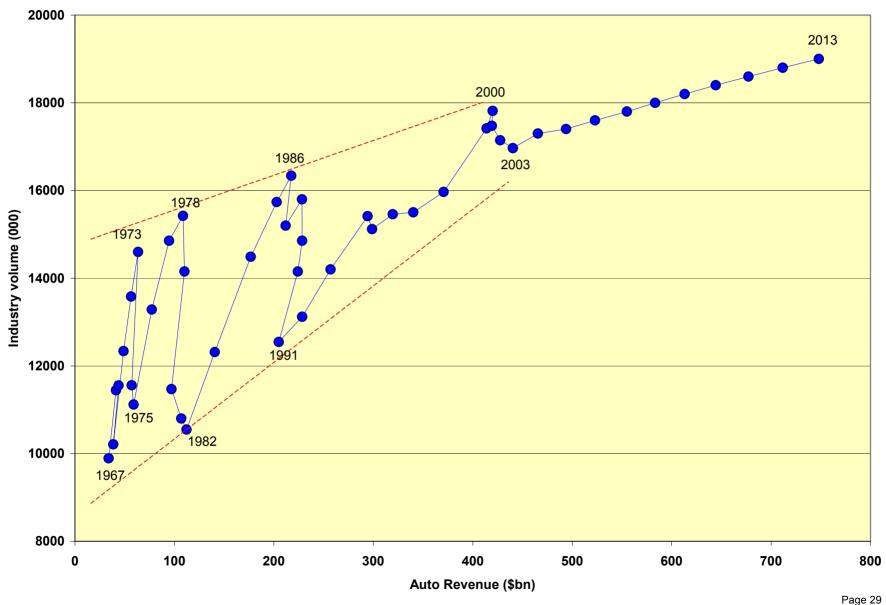
	Total	New		
	PCE	BEA	TCE	PIN
1993	5.8%	10.2%	14.6%	
1994	5.9%	11.1%	17.5%	
1995	5.4%	1.6%	8.2%	
1996	5.4%	5.2%	9.9%	
1997	5.6%	6.7%	5.1%	
1998	5.9%	9.9%	6.0%	
1999	6.7%	12.1%	3.9%	
2000	7.0%	6.2%	7.1%	
2001	4.5%	7.4%	2.4%	
2002	4.5%	3.8%	0.0%	-0.6%

# Spending on cars, motorcycles, and other vehicles as share of total consumer spending

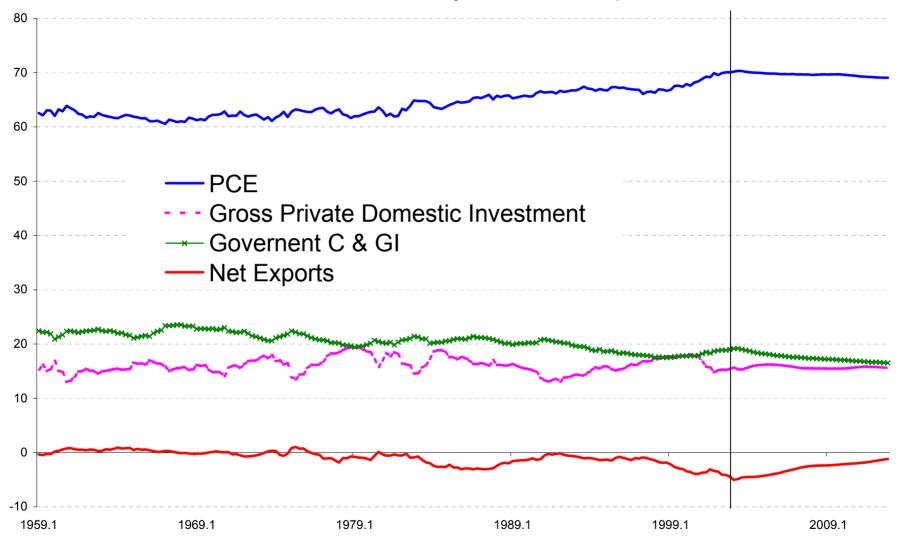
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
France	3.5%	3.8%	4.2%	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%
Germany	6.3%	6.7%	6.8%	6.8%	6.9%	6.7%
UK	5.6%	5.6%	5.1%	4.9%	4.8%	4.7%
Canada	7.1%	7.0%	6.6%	6.8%	6.8%	6.8%
Mexico	1.8%	2.2%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Japan	2.2%	2.5%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%

Source: Euromonitor International

### **Auto Revenue and Industry Volume**

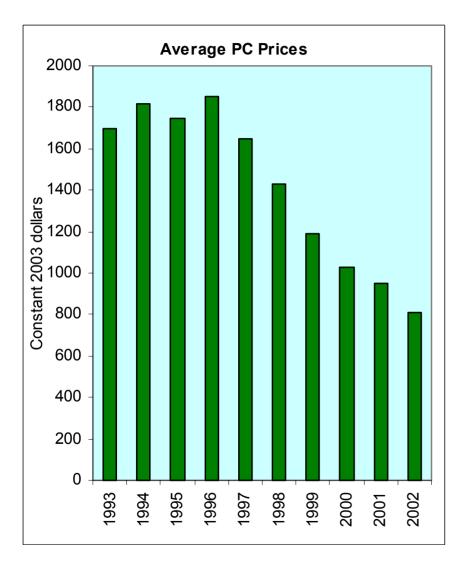


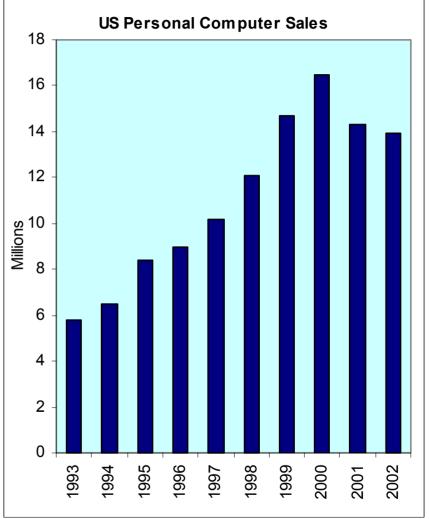
#### US: Nominal Shares of Major GDP Components



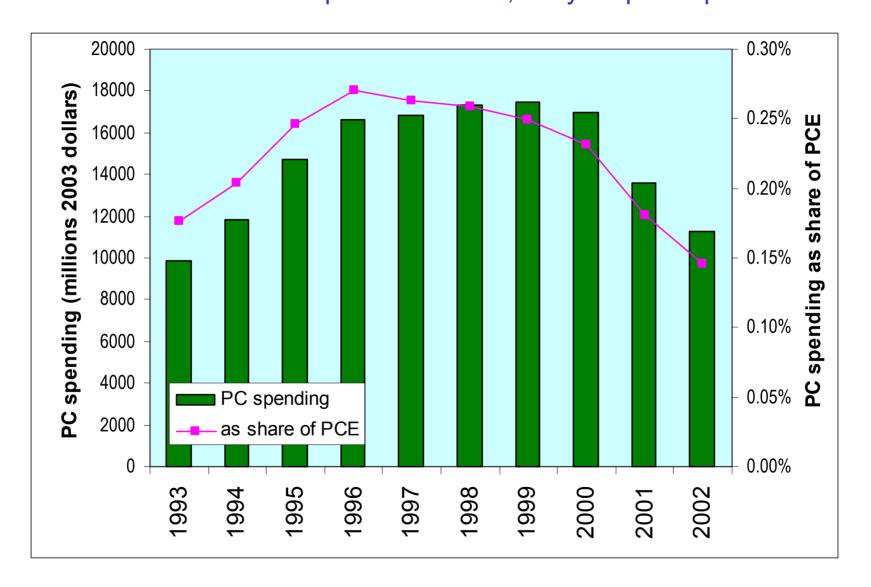
#### Improving affordability may not lead to higher sales

- Ownership saturation and lack of killer apps in PC market

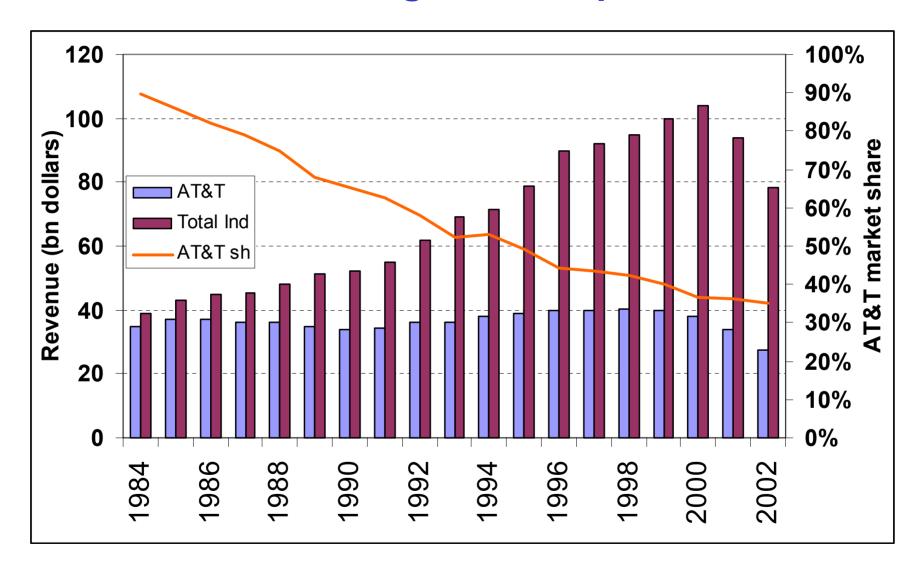




# It may even lead to decline in total spending – PC's share of PCE peaked in 1996, the year prices peaked



### Revenue of US long distance phone market



## **Concluding Remarks**

- Incentives were a response to competitive pressure
  - "Incentives" vs "Everyday low prices"
- Latest BEA data revision on consumer spending on vehicles was significant
  - New data show higher spending
- Evidence so far shows incentives having only a slight negative impact on revenue
  - Comparison with PIN data suggests that BEA data not fully reflective of incentive impacts
  - Incentives induce customers to move up market
  - In the context of manufacturing sector, incentives have only been a relatively mild deflationary shock to demand
  - The value of the dollar and other competitive pressure could be key drivers of incentive levels