

## Data Description for MBAD6112 Final Project

All data was taken from FRED, Federal Reserve Economic Data, from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. These data series should be freely accessible. A link to the general FRED website is here:

<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/>

You should be able to copy and paste the data from the text file into any number of statistical packages (including Excel) without any issues.

The data for the final project are as follows:

Month – the month of the data series: 1 for January, 4 for April, 7 for July, 10 for October; an alternative view is that these data represent quarterly values (1, 4, 7, and 10 representing the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters, respectively)

Year – the year of the data series

NewAutoExp – US Expenditures on new automobiles per quarter (Personal consumption expenditures: New autos; seasonally adjusted annual rate, in billions of US dollars)

Wages-Salaries – US Wages and salaries per quarter (Gross domestic income: Compensation of employees, paid: Wages and salaries; seasonally adjusted annual rate, in billions of US dollars)

GDP – US GDP per quarter (Seasonally adjusted annual rate, in billions of US dollars)

MthWestTexas – The West Texas spot oil prices were provided monthly rather than quarterly; these data represent the monthly value (in US dollars per barrel); note that this data series ends in 7/2013

QtrAvgWestTexas – The average of the prior 3 months of the West Texas spot oil prices; for instance, the 2.57 in April 1948 is the average of the West Texas spot oil prices from January 1948-March 1948 (in US dollars per barrel); note that this data series ends in 7/2013

MthNewCarRate – The new car interest rates (in percentages, so 12.06 is 12.06%) were provided monthly rather than quarterly; these data represent the monthly value (New car average finance rate at auto finance companies); note that this data series begins in June 1971 and ends in January 2011

QtrNewCarRate – The average of the prior 3 months of the new car interest rate (as a percentage); for instance, the 11.86 in July 1972 is the average of the new car interest rates from April 1972-June 1972; note that this data series begins in June 1971 and ends in January 2011