

## VISUAL 18.1

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS: THE VITAL SIGNS OF THE U.S. ECONOMY

### **Economic Indicator:**

A statistic that describes the current performance of the U.S. economy.

### **Three Main Economic Indicators:**

#### **1. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**

This indicator measures the output of the final goods and services produced in the U.S. economy in a given time period (typically, one year).

#### **2. The Inflation Rate**

This indicator measures how rapidly the overall price level is changing in the U.S. economy.

#### **3. The Unemployment Rate**

This indicator measures the percentage of the U.S. labor force that wishes to work, but are currently without jobs.