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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- A GUIDE TO THE ECONOMICS AND FISCAL PERFORMANCE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (1976-2007) -- CONTENTS -- INTRODUCTION -- GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT -- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REVENUES -- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING -- FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICITS AND SURPLUSES -- U.S. NATIONAL DEBT -- U.S. NATIONAL DEBT HELD BY FOREIGNERS -- U.S. CURRENT ACCOUNT -- U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE -- U.S. INFLATION RATE -- U.S. MISERY INDEX -- STRENGTH OF THE U.S. DOLLAR -- SOCIAL SECURITY -- DISCUSSION: WHERE THE U.S. IS NOW AND PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE -- CONCLUDING THOUGHTS -- INDEX.
Sommario/riassunto	Whether the U.S. economy is slowing or humming, government officials, public policy analysts, and average Americans should know exactly how our government functions from an economic perspective. How does the government raise revenues, spend taxpayer money, and cover deficits? Unfortunately, many Americans do not fully understand key economic terms and basic facts about the fiscal performance of the federal government. This book provides readers with a straightforward discussion of key economic terms and details the fiscal performance of the federal government under the last five presidents. Readers will have a better understanding of gross domestic product (GDP). The national debt, foreign-held debt, the federal budget (including deficits and surpluses), trade deficits, inflation, and unemployment. Government

statistics will be cited and illustrated in easy to understand graphs and charts so that readers can track the changes over time, as well as compare and contrast economic performance during the presidential administrations from President Jimmy Carter to President George W. Bush.

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