National Economic Conditions

Robert K. Triest
Vice President and Director,
New England Public Policy Center
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
robert.triest@bos.frb.org

Joint Economic and Fiscal Orientation
Jan 9, 2016

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston or the Federal Reserve System.

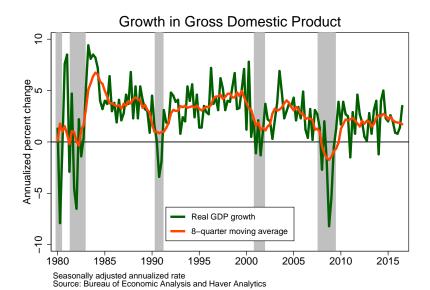




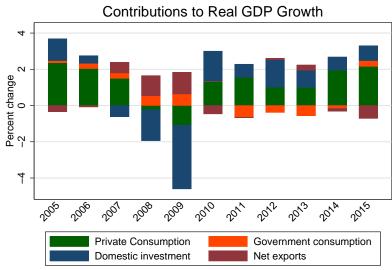
Outline of presentation

- GDP Growth
- 2 The Labor Market
- Inflation
- 4 Economic Projections

GDP has been growing at a moderate pace.

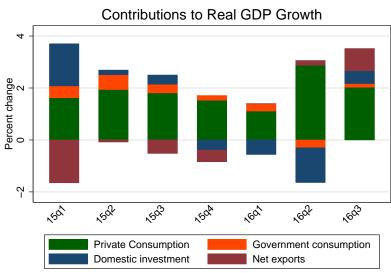


Components of GDP growth, 2005-2015.

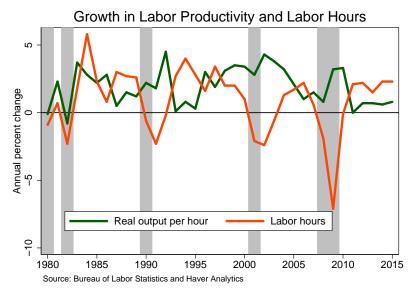


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis and Haver Analytics

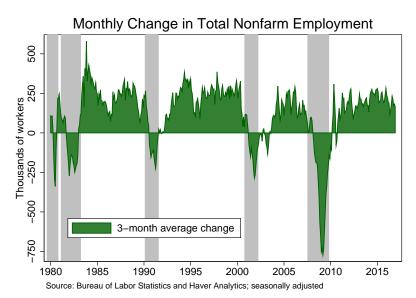
Components of GDP growth, 2015-2016.



Growth in labor productivity has been unusally low.

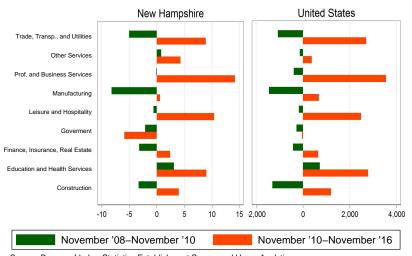


Employment has been growing steadily.



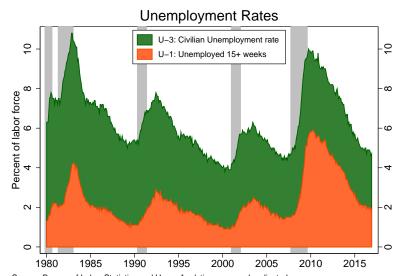
NH and U.S. employment growth by supersector.

Industry employment growth, thousands of jobs



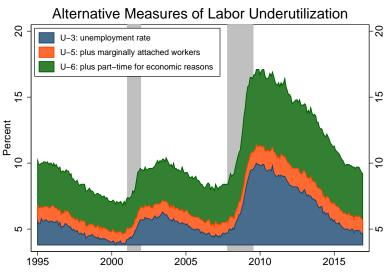
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Establishment Survey and Haver Analytics

The unemployment rate has fallen significantly.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Haver Analytics; seasonaly adjusted

The gap between U-3 and U-6 remains somewhat elevated.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Haver Analytics; seasonally adjusted

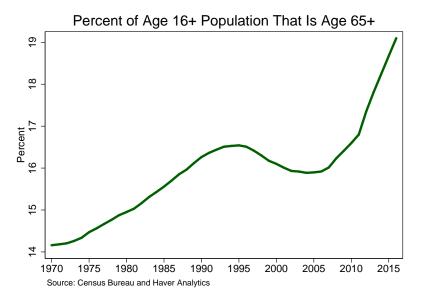
Job openings have rebounded since the recession.



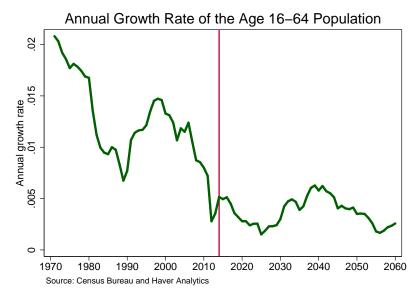
Labor force participation is trending down ...



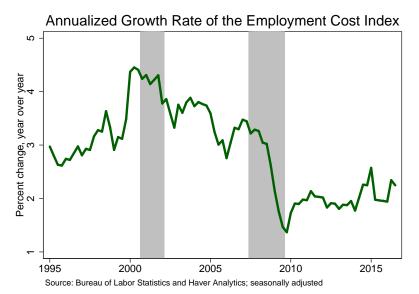
...driven partly by population aging.



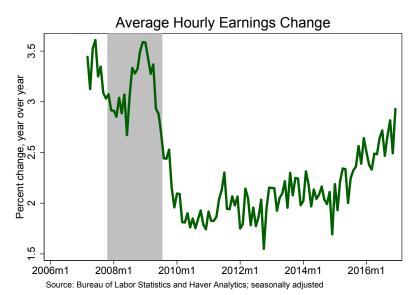
Slow labor force growth is the new normal.



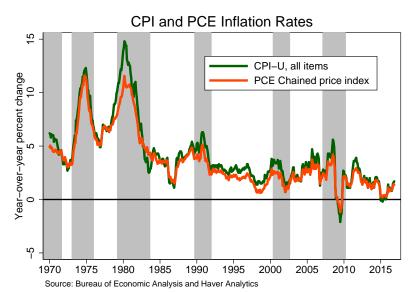
Wage pressure has been muted...



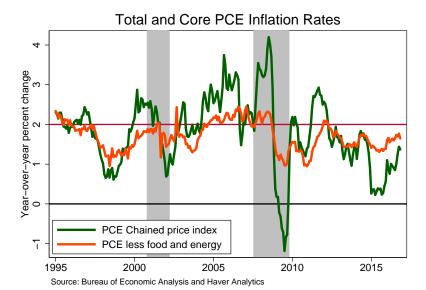
..but wage increases are accelerating.



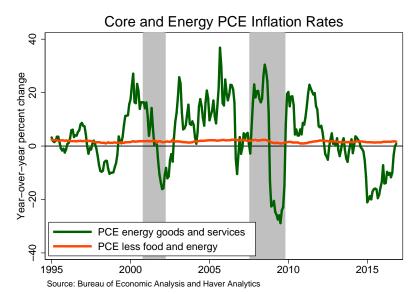
Inflation has recently been quite low.



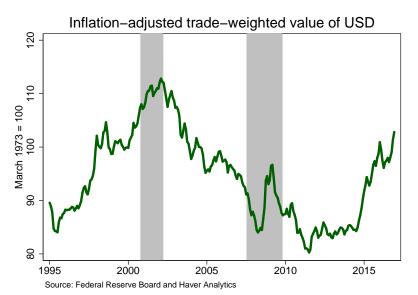
Core inflation is less volatile than headline inflation.



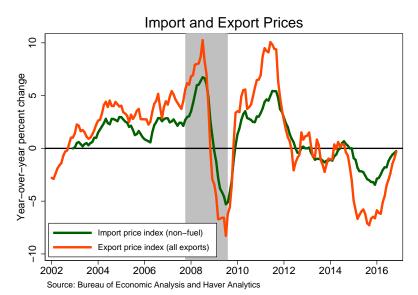
Energy prices have stabilized.



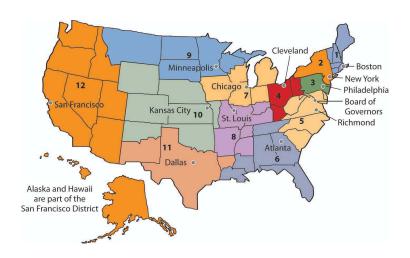
The U.S. dollar has appreciated.



Import and export prices decreased.



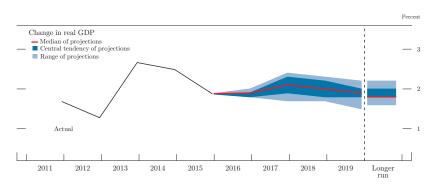
Federal Reserve Districts



The FOMC meets 8 times per year.

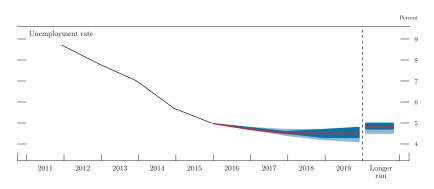
- The Summary of Economic Projections (SEP) is released 4 times per year.
- All members of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and the Presidents of the 12 Reserve Banks submit projections under the assumption of appropriate monetary policy for:
 - Real (inflation adjusted) GDP growth
 - Unemployment rate
 - PCE inflation rate
 - Federal Funds Rate target

SEP: (Dec 2016) Growth in Real GDP



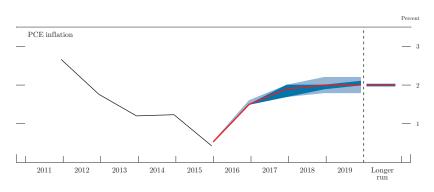
Source: http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/files/fomcprojtabl20161214.pdf

SEP: (Dec 2016) Unemployment Rate



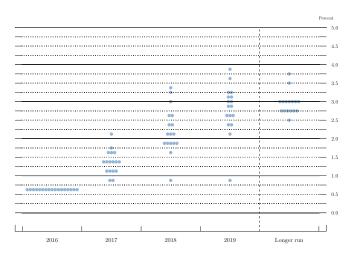
Source: http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/files/fomcprojtabl20161214.pdf

SEP: (Dec 2016) PCE Inflation Rate



Source: http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/files/fomcprojtabl20161214.pdf

SEP: (Dec 2016) Appropriate Timing of Policy Firming



Source: http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/files/fomcprojtabl20161214.pdf