

U.S. Economic Outlook

Monthly Update

December 18, 2014



Meeting Details

Topic: U.S. Monthly Economic Outlook

Date: Thursday, December 18, 2014

Time: 10:00 am, Central Standard Time (Chicago, GMT-06:00)

Meeting Number / Access Code: 715 572 237

Meeting Password: bbva1234

To join the online meeting:

https://bbvacompass.webex.com/bbvacompass/j.php?MTID=me51336d1 ba0e043a2b41f555c8f5b9ce

To join the audio conference only:

Call-in toll-free number (US/Canada): 1-877-768-4036

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Global call-in numbers:

https://bbvacompass.webex.com/bbvacompass/globalcallin.php?service Type=MC&ED=187370482&tollFree=1

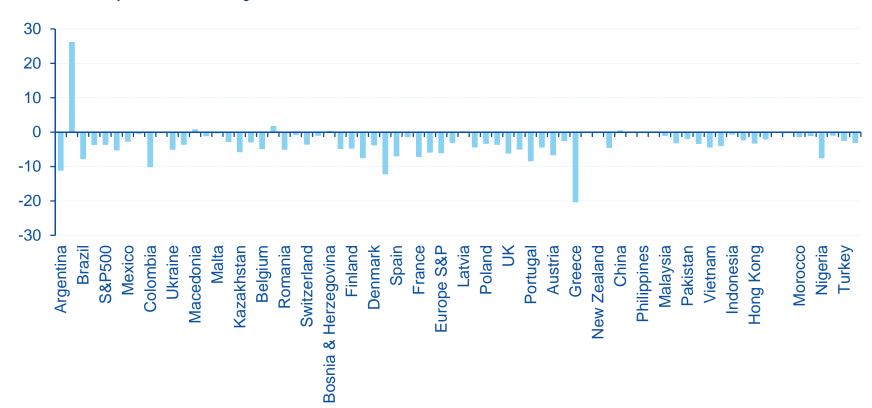


Financial Markets

Global concerns continue...

Stock Price Index

Local currency, one week % change

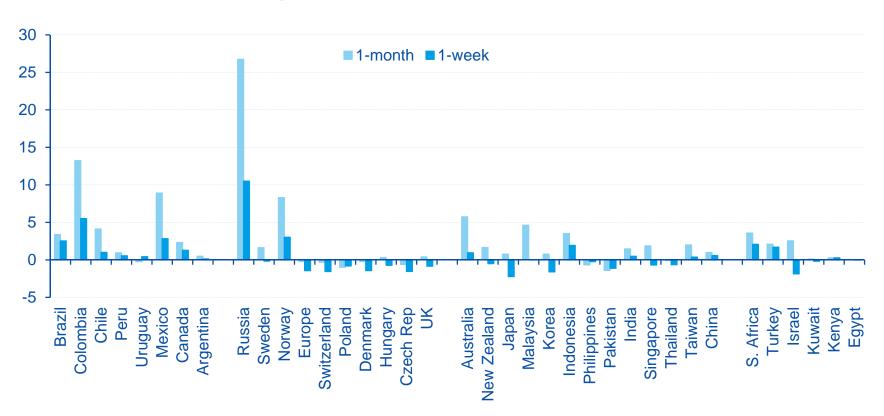




Financial Markets

Investors still seeking refuge in U.S. dollar-denominated assets

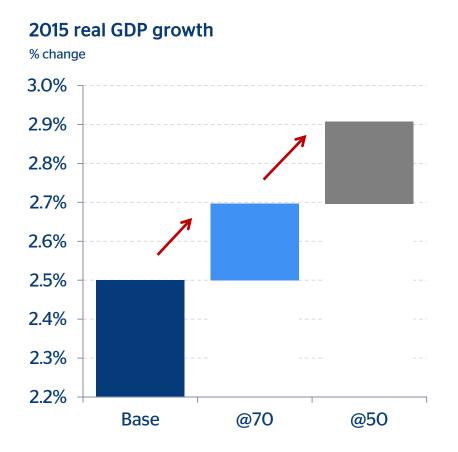
Local currency vs. USD, % change

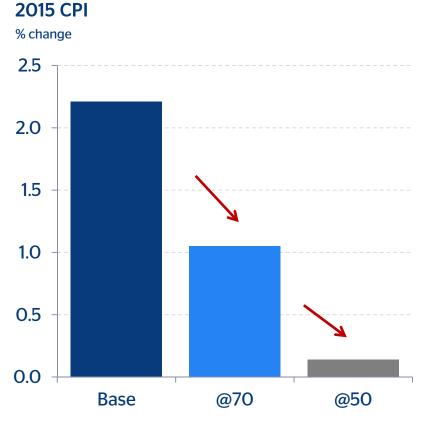




Economic Activity

All else equal -U.S. dollar, policy uncertainty, Europe, China, geopolitics-oil price simulations suggest higher growth and lower inflation in 2015



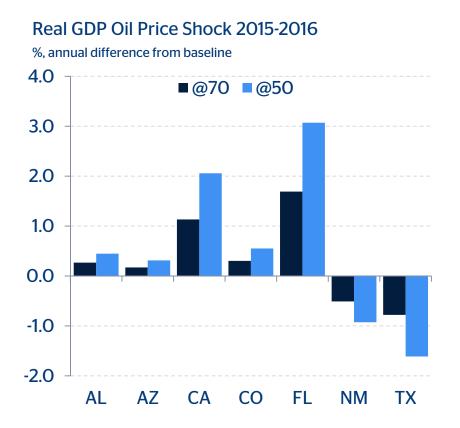


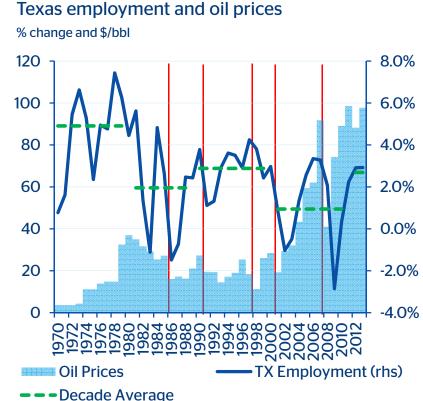


Economic Activity

Although most states in our footprint would benefit from lower oil prices,

Texas growth would slow

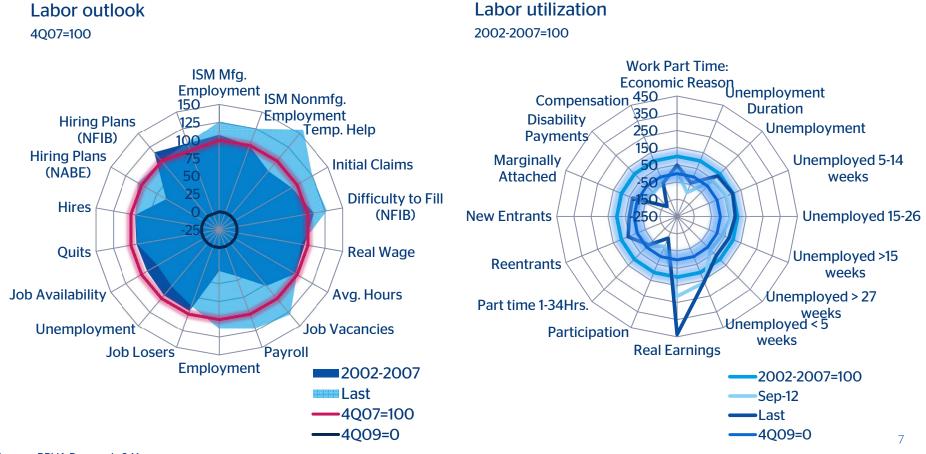






Labor Markets

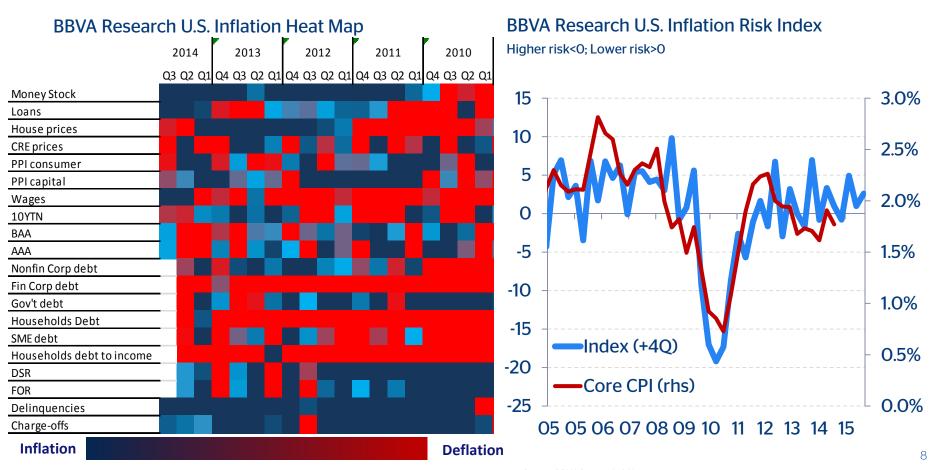
Headwinds to the labor market are steadily abating. However, long-term unemployment remains elevated.





Inflation

Risks to inflation remain balanced





Monetary Policy

FOMC Minutes: October 28 - 29, 2014

 Discussion over "considerable time" language and the concern over the decline in inflation expectation hint at caution toward potential changes in future meeting statements

What do we expect?

- Monetary policy actions remain data-dependent
- Reinvestments policy to end after the ZLB lift-off "looks sustainable"

Fedspeak: December 1 - 6, 2014

Fed

Fischer (Vice Chairman)

If unemployment continues to decline, if the labor market continues to strengthen and if we see some signs of inflation beginning to increase, then the natural thing is to get the interest rate up. We call it normalization.

Dudley (FRBNY)

Market expectations that lift-off will occur around mid-2015 seem reasonable to me. After lift-off looks sustainable and the federal funds rate is somewhat above the zero lower bound, the Committee will cease to reinvest those funds generated by maturing Treasury securities and prepayments of agency MBS securities.

Timeline Exit Strategy



1st Rate increase

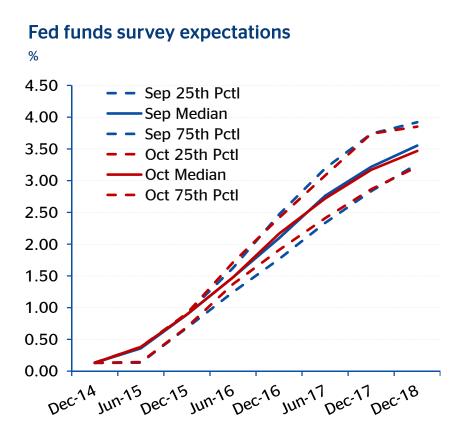
Mid - 2015

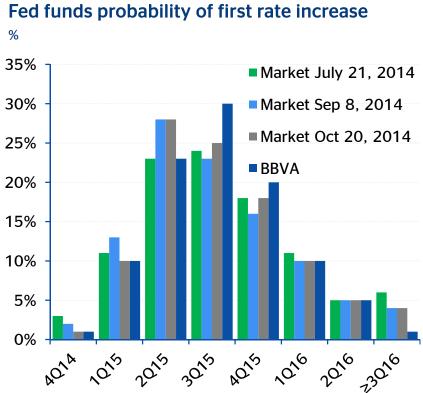
Maintaining the 3Q15 baseline with a slight bias towards an earlier rate hike



Fed expectations

Survey expectations still attach a higher probability that the Fed will start raising rates in 2Q15, at a pace of around 25bp per quarter







Baseline Forecasts

| | 1Q13 | 2Q13 | 3Q13 | 4Q13 | 1Q14 | 2Q14 | 3Q14 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|------|-------|
| Real GDP (% SAAR) | 2.7 | 1.8 | 4.5 | 3.5 | -2.1 | 4.6 | 3.9 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.8 |
| Real GDP (Contribution, pp) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PCE | 2.5 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 2.5 | 0.8 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Gross Investment | 1.1 | 1.0 | 2.5 | 0.6 | -1.1 | 2.9 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 0.6 | 8.0 | 0.9 |
| Non Residential | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 8.0 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Residential | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.3 | -0.3 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Exports | -0.1 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.3 | -1.3 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Imports | 0.0 | -1.4 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.4 | -1.8 | 0.1 | -0.9 | -0.4 | -0.2 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Government | -0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.7 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 0.8 | -0.7 | -0.3 | -0.4 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Unemployment Rate (%, average) | 7.7 | 7.5 | 7.2 | 7.0 | 6.7 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 8.9 | 8.1 | 7.4 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 5.0 |
| Average Monthly Nonfarm Payroll (K) | 206 | 201 | 172 | 198 | 190 | 267 | 239 | 174 | 186 | 194 | 234 | 222 | 232 | 251 |
| CPI (YoY %) | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 3.1 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 |
| Core CPI (YoY %) | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.4 |
| Fiscal Balance (% GDP) | - | - | - | | | - | - | -8.7 | -6.8 | -4.1 | -3.1 | -2.7 | -3.1 | -2.8 |
| Current Account (bop, % GDP) | -2.6 | -2.6 | -2.4 | -2.0 | -2.6 | - | - | -3.0 | -2.8 | -2.4 | -2.6 | -2.7 | -2.4 | -2.0 |
| Fed Target Rate (%, eop) | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.50 | 1.50 | 2.50 |
| Core Logic National HPI (YoY %) | 9.96 | 11.16 | 11.50 | 11.70 | 11.33 | 8.05 | 5.83 | -3.87 | 3.90 | 11.09 | 8.41 | 6.99 | 5.12 | 4.67 |
| 10-Yr Treasury (% Yield, eop) | 1.96 | 2.30 | 2.81 | 2.90 | 2.72 | 2.60 | 2.53 | 1.98 | 1.72 | 2.90 | 2.30 | 3.12 | 3.67 | 3.90 |
| U.S. Dollar / Euro (eop) | 1.30 | 1.32 | 1.34 | 1.37 | 1.38 | 1.36 | 1.29 | 1.32 | 1.31 | 1.37 | 1.23 | 1.20 | 1.24 | 1.28 |
| Brent Oil Prices (dpb, average) | 112.6 | 102.7 | 110.3 | 109.3 | 108.2 | 109.7 | 102.0 | 111.3 | 111.7 | 108.7 | 100.3 | 88.8 | 97.6 | 101.2 |



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