

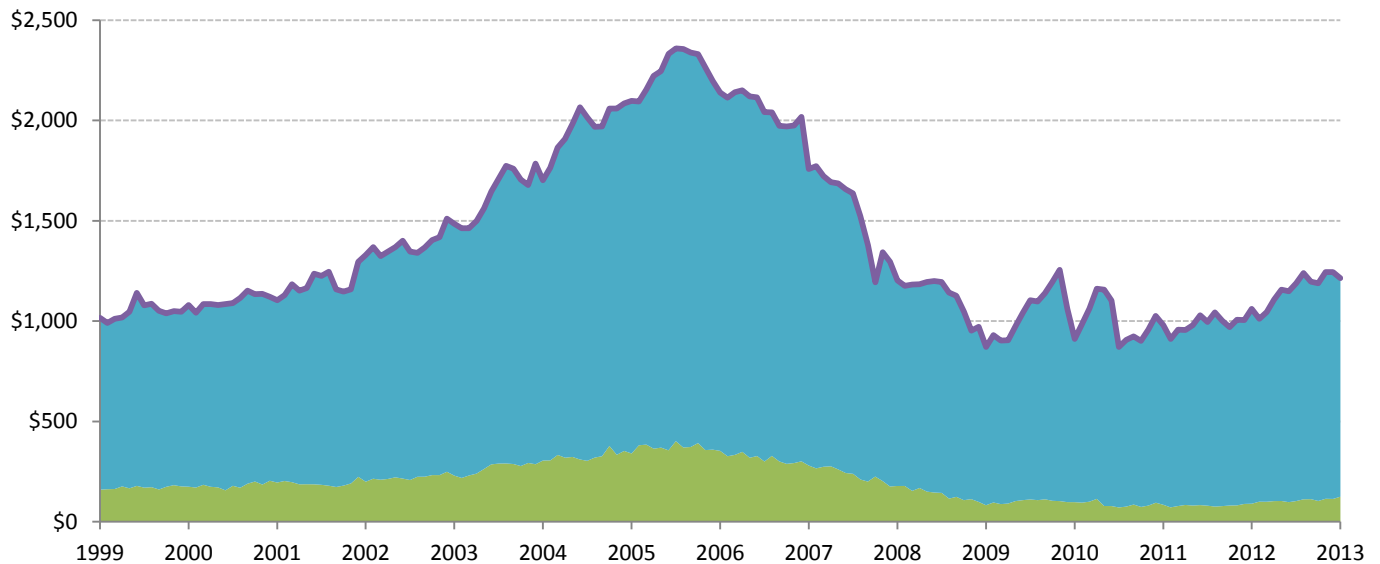
Data Insights: A Few of Our Favorite Things

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

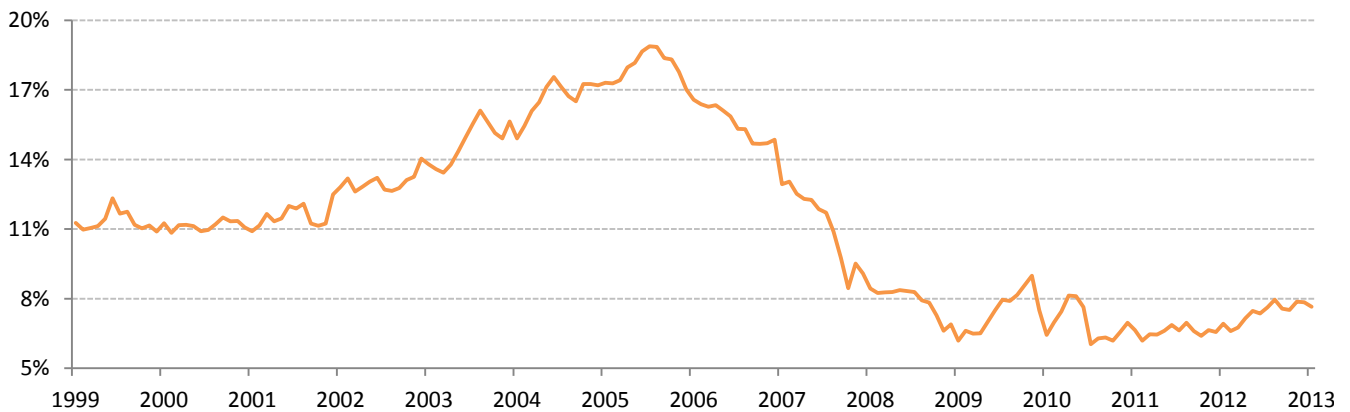
Mid-frequency growth indicators not already covered in other regular reports.

Valuing the housing recovery: TrendMacro Housing Transaction Value Aggregate

— Total Existing homes component New homes component USD billions, nominal, SAAR



Total as percentage of GDP



Source: Census Bureau, National Assoc. of Realtors, Bureau of Economic Analysis, TrendMacro calculations

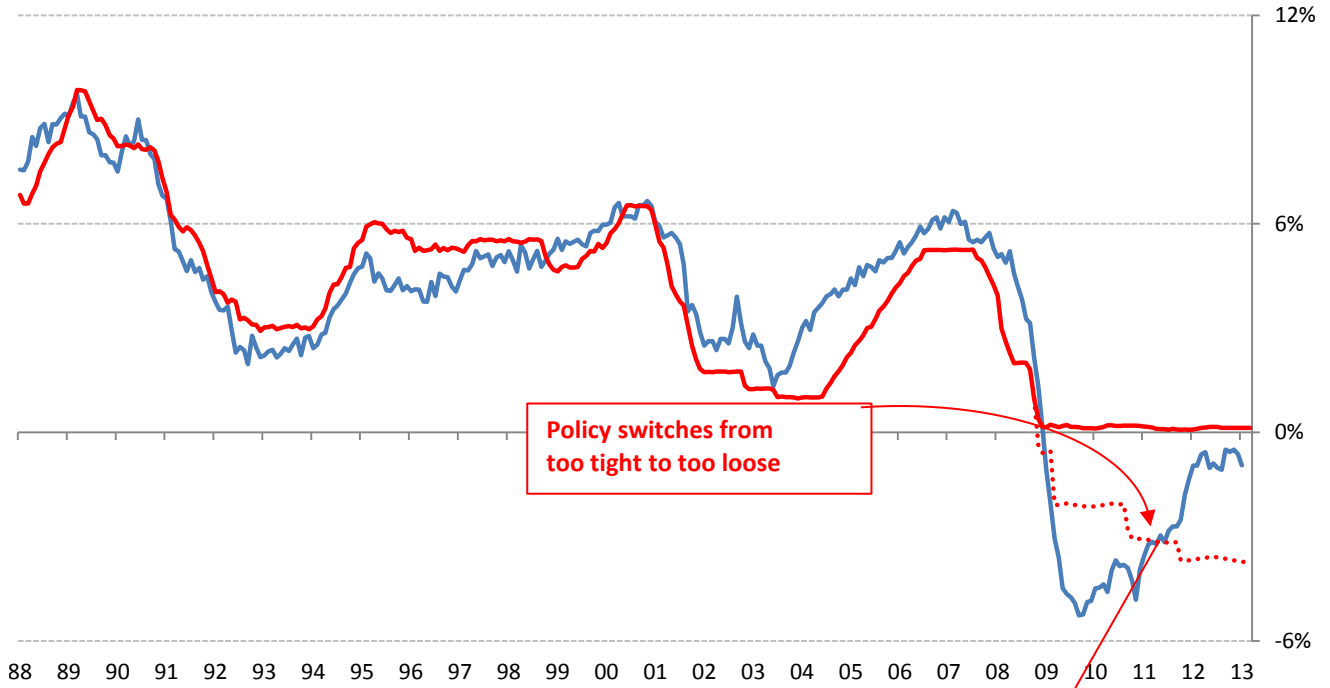
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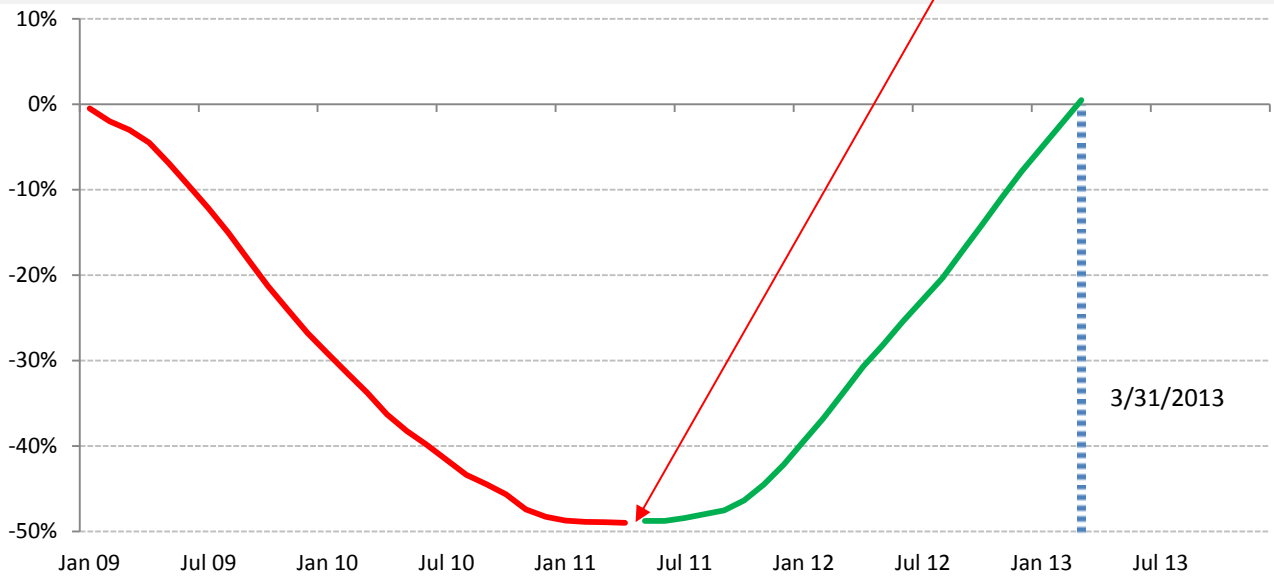
Is the Fed tight or loose?

Fed funds rate — Taylor Rule — Actual — Virtual with QE



Predicting the end of the "optimal control" path

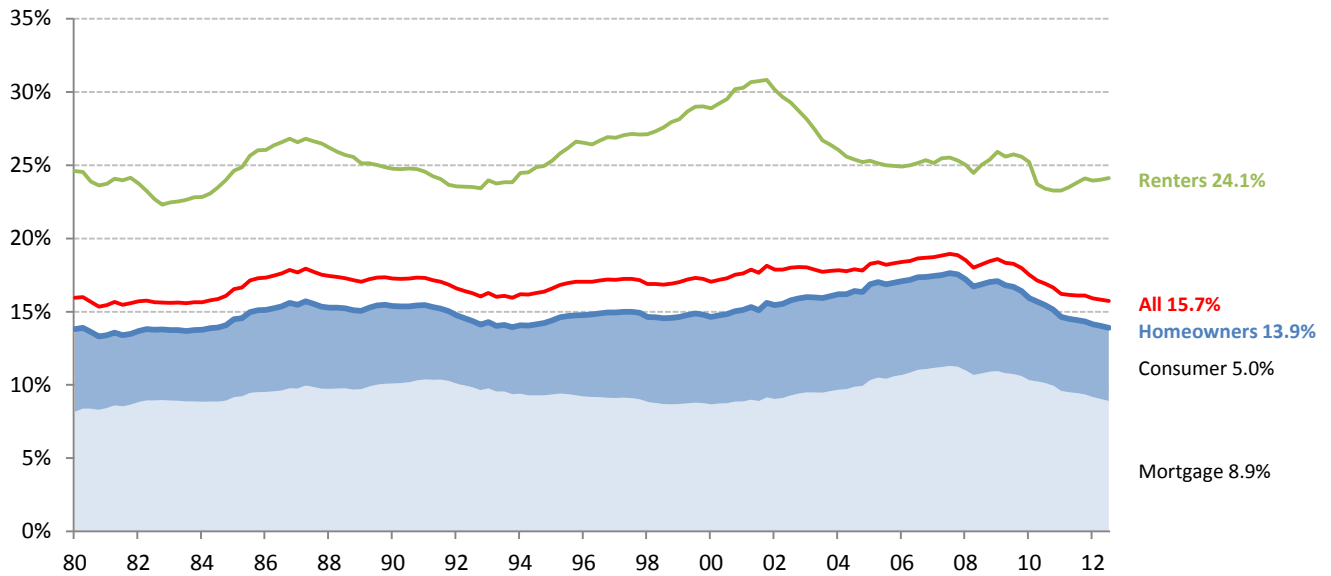
Cumulative value of gap between policy and rule ■ Too tight ■ Too easy



Source: Federal Reserve, TrendMacro calculations per [Rudebusch 2009](#)

The deleveraging consumer: Financial obligation ratios

Payments of mortgage and consumer debt, automobile leases, home rental and insurance, and property taxes as percentage of after-tax income.



Source: BLS Current Population Survey, TrendMacro calculations

Claims in context:

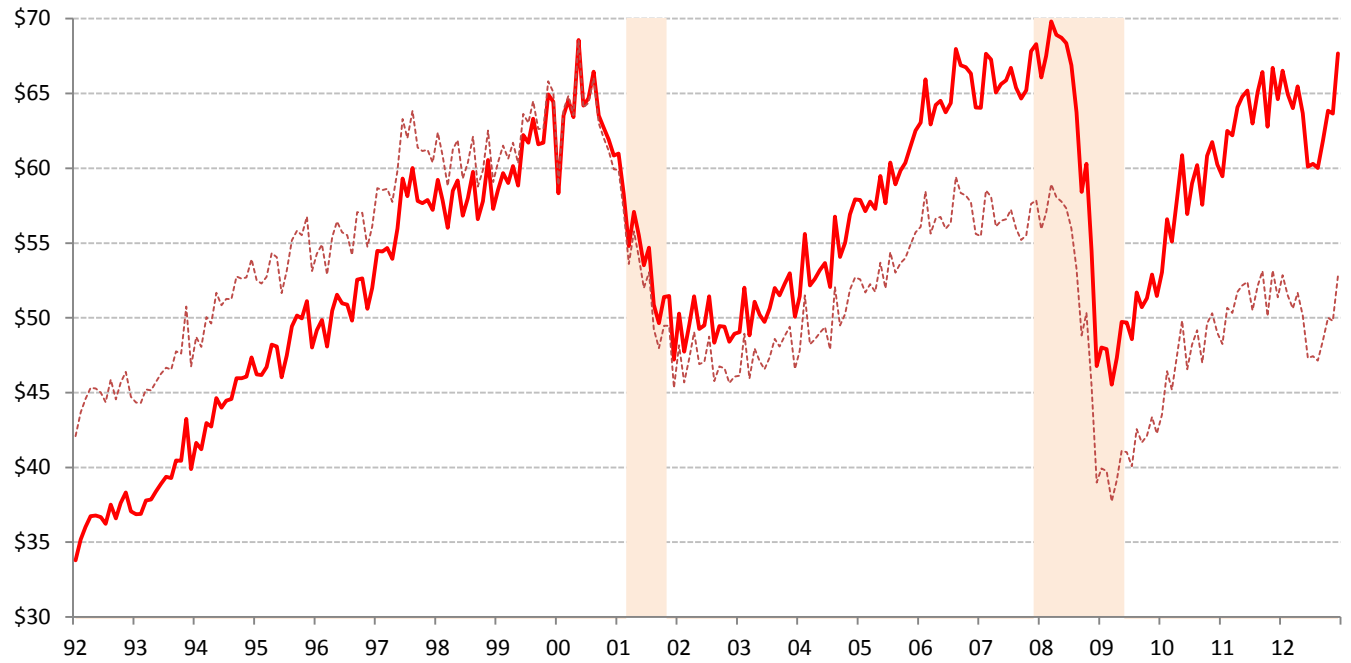
new claims for unemployment benefits as percentage of labor force ■ Recession



Source: BLS, BEA, TrendMacro calculations

Precursor of the precursor of growth: new orders for non-defense cap goods, ex-air

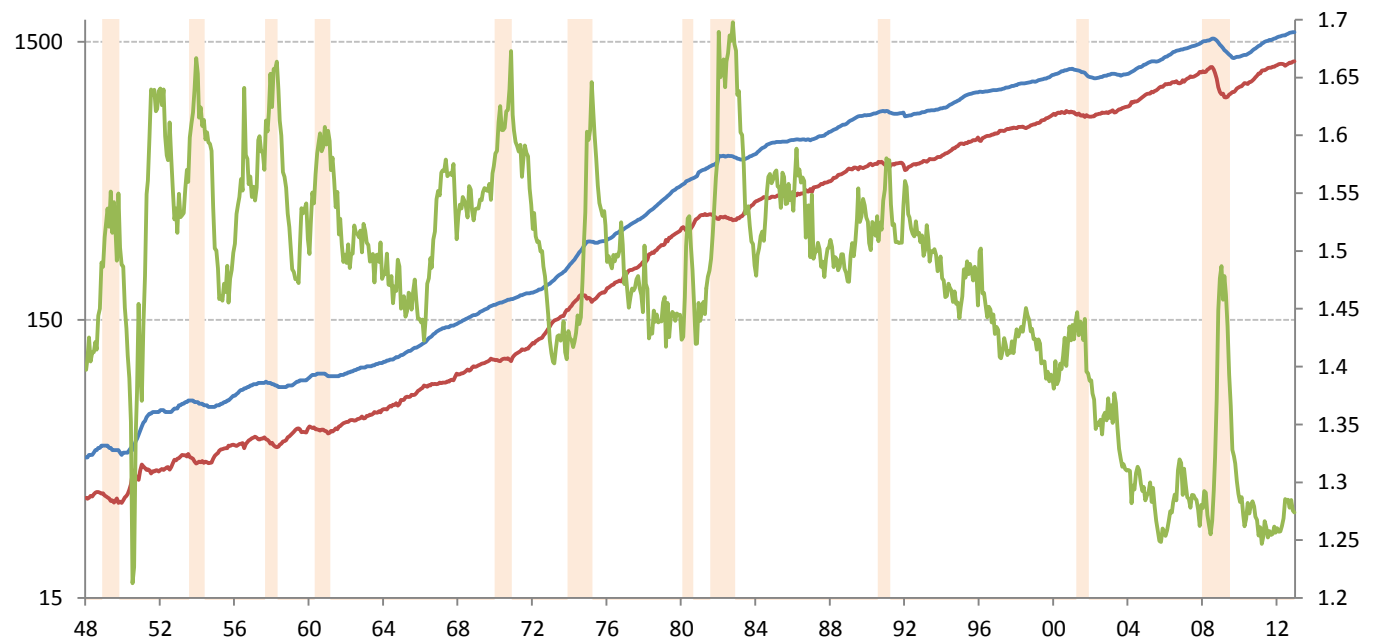
USD billions, SA — Nominal — Real — Recession



Source: Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, NBER, TrendMacro calculations

The Walmart effect: US business inventories

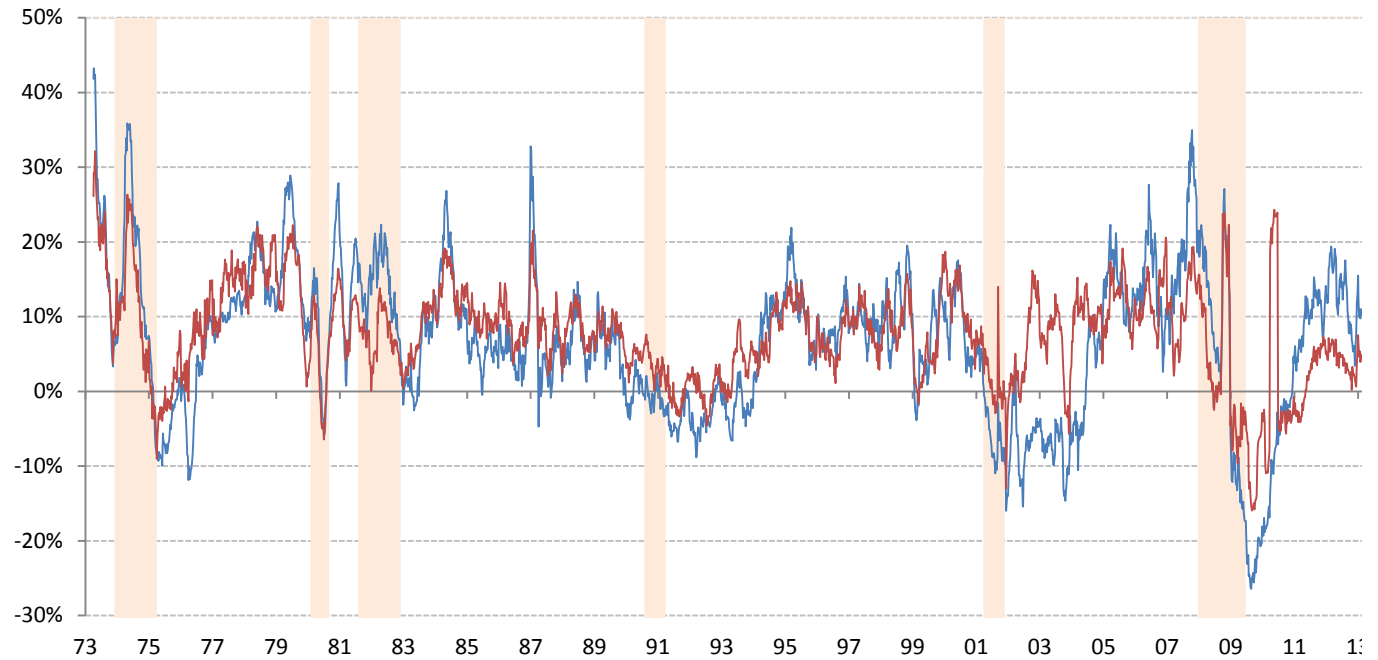
USD billions, log scale — Inventories — Sales — Ratio — Recession



Source: Census Bureau, NBER, TrendMacro calculations

Releveraging US business: lending by commercial banks

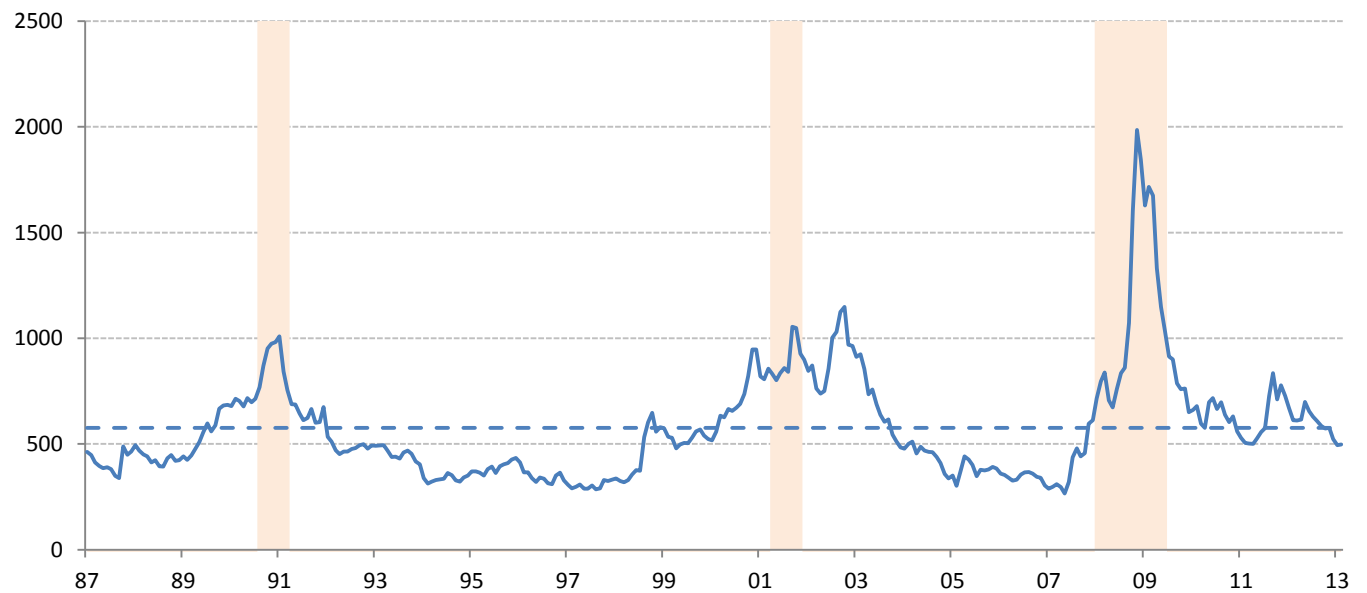
13-week annualized growth — Total credit in loans and leases — Commercial and industrial loans — Recession



Source: Federal Reserve, NBER, TrendMacro calculations

Risk-on for small growth companies: Merrill Lynch High-yield Master Index

— Spread to Treasuries, basis points — Average — Recession



Source: Merrill Lynch, NBER, TrendMacro calculations