

Data Insights: Federal Reserve

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

[Today's FOMC statement](#): how the language changed from [prior meeting](#)

~~December 19, 2018~~ [January 30, 2019](#)

Federal Reserve issues FOMC statement

Information received since the Federal Open Market Committee met in ~~November~~[December](#) indicates that the labor market has continued to strengthen and that economic activity has been rising at a ~~strong~~[solid](#) rate. Job gains have been strong, on average, in recent months, and the unemployment rate has remained low. Household spending has continued to grow strongly, while growth of business fixed investment has moderated from its rapid pace earlier ~~in the last~~ year. On a 12-month basis, both overall inflation and inflation for items other than food and energy remain near 2 percent. ~~Indicators~~[Although market-based measures of inflation compensation have moved lower in recent months, survey-based measures](#) of longer-term inflation expectations are little changed, ~~on balance~~.

Consistent with its statutory mandate, the Committee seeks to foster maximum employment and price stability. ~~The~~[In support of these goals, the](#) Committee ~~judges that some further gradual increases~~ ~~indecided to maintain~~ the target range for the federal funds rate ~~will be consistent with a~~ ~~2-1/4 to 2-1/2 percent~~. ~~The Committee continues to view~~ sustained expansion of economic activity, strong labor market conditions, and inflation near the Committee's symmetric 2 percent objective ~~over a~~ ~~medium term~~. ~~The Committee judges that risks to the economic outlook are roughly balanced, but will continue to monitor most likely outcomes. In light of~~ global economic and financial developments and ~~assess their implications~~ muted inflation pressures, the Committee will be patient as it determines what future ~~adjustments to the target range~~ for the ~~economic outlook~~ ~~federal funds rate may be appropriate to support these outcomes~~.

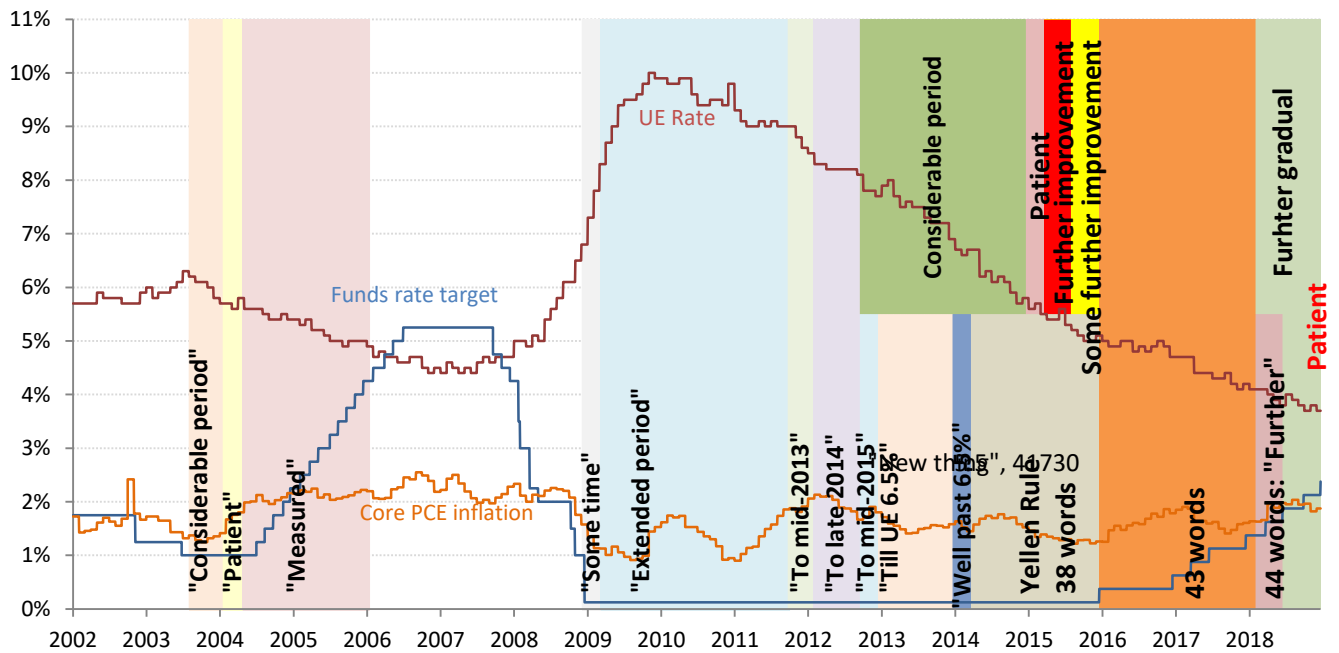
~~In view of realized and expected labor market conditions and inflation, the Committee decided to raise the target range for the federal funds rate to 2-1/4 to 2-1/2 percent.~~

In determining the timing and size of future adjustments to the target range for the federal funds rate, the Committee will assess realized and expected economic conditions relative to its maximum employment objective and its symmetric 2 percent inflation objective. This assessment will take into account a wide range of information, including measures of labor market conditions, indicators of inflation pressures and inflation expectations, and readings on financial and international developments.

Voting for the FOMC monetary policy action were: Jerome H. Powell, Chairman; John C. Williams, Vice Chairman; ~~Thomas I. Barkin; Raphael W. Bostic;~~ Michelle W. Bowman; Lael Brainard; [James Bullard](#); Richard H. Clarida; ~~Mary C. Daly; Loretta J. Mester; and Charles L. Evans;~~ [Esther L. George](#); Randal K. Quarles; ~~and Eric S. Rosengren~~.

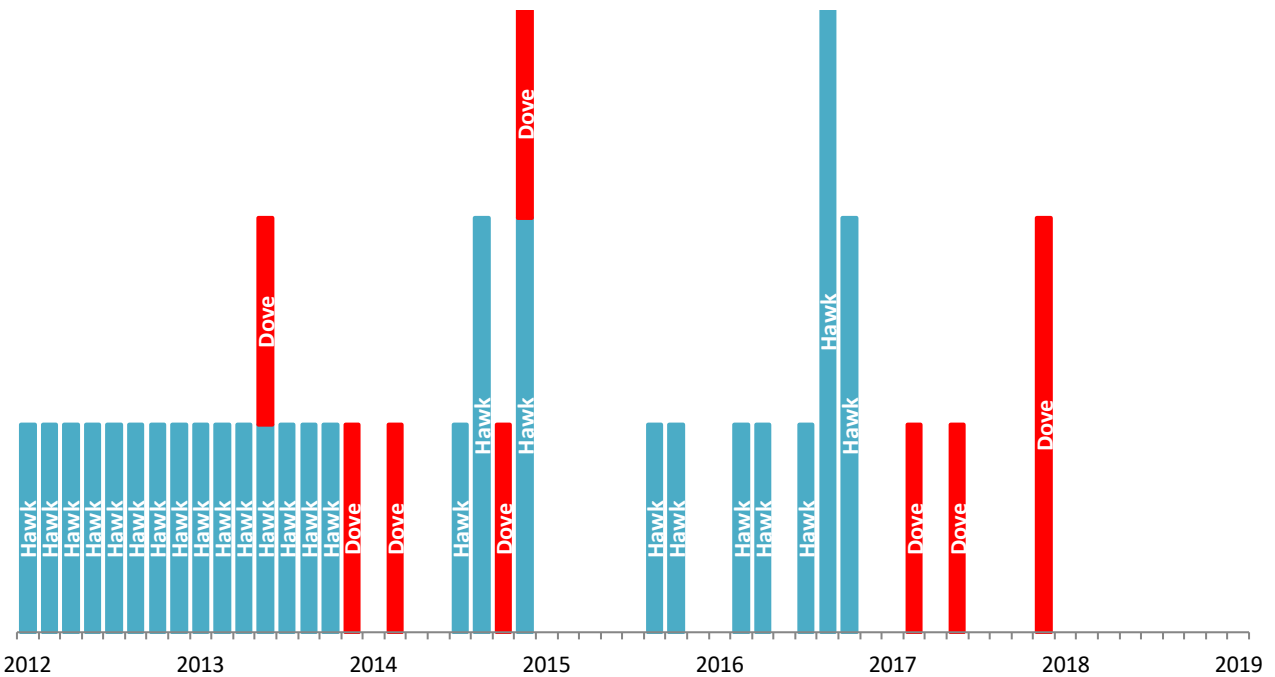
Source: FOMC, TrendMacro analysis

Fedspeak regime change: the evolution of forward guidance



Source: FOMC, Federal Reserve, BLS, BEA, TrendMacro calculations

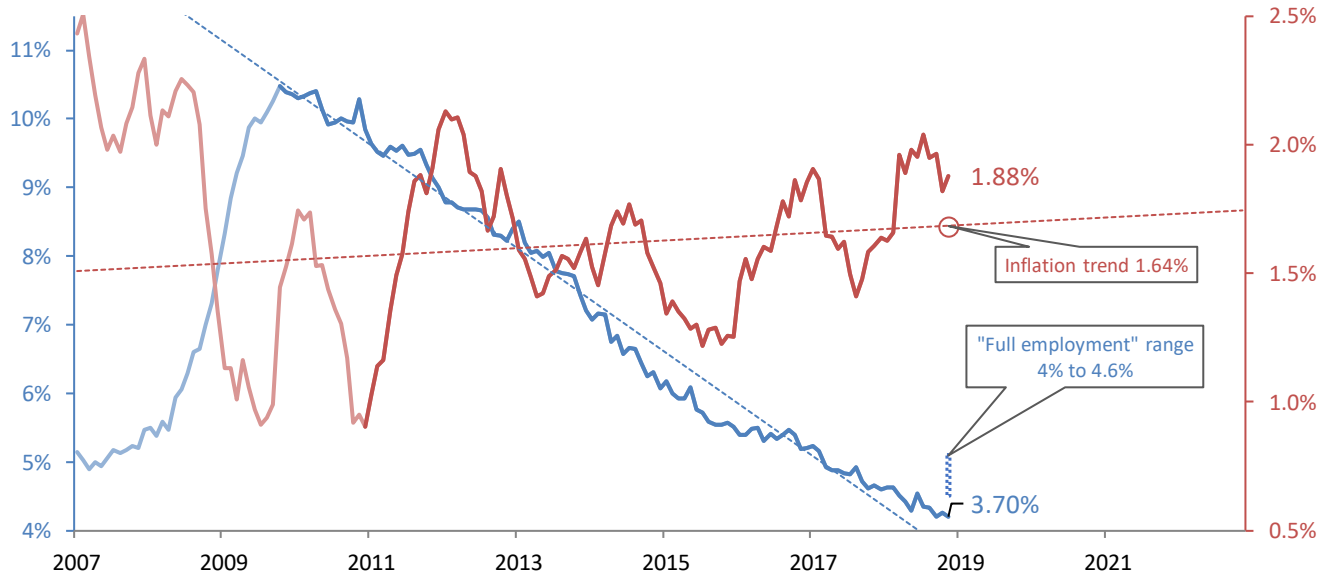
Other voices: number and direction of FOMC decision dissents



Source: FOMC, TrendMacro calculations

The dual mandate: garbage in, garbage out

— Unemployment rate - - - Trend from peak — Core PCE inflation YOY - - - Trend from trough

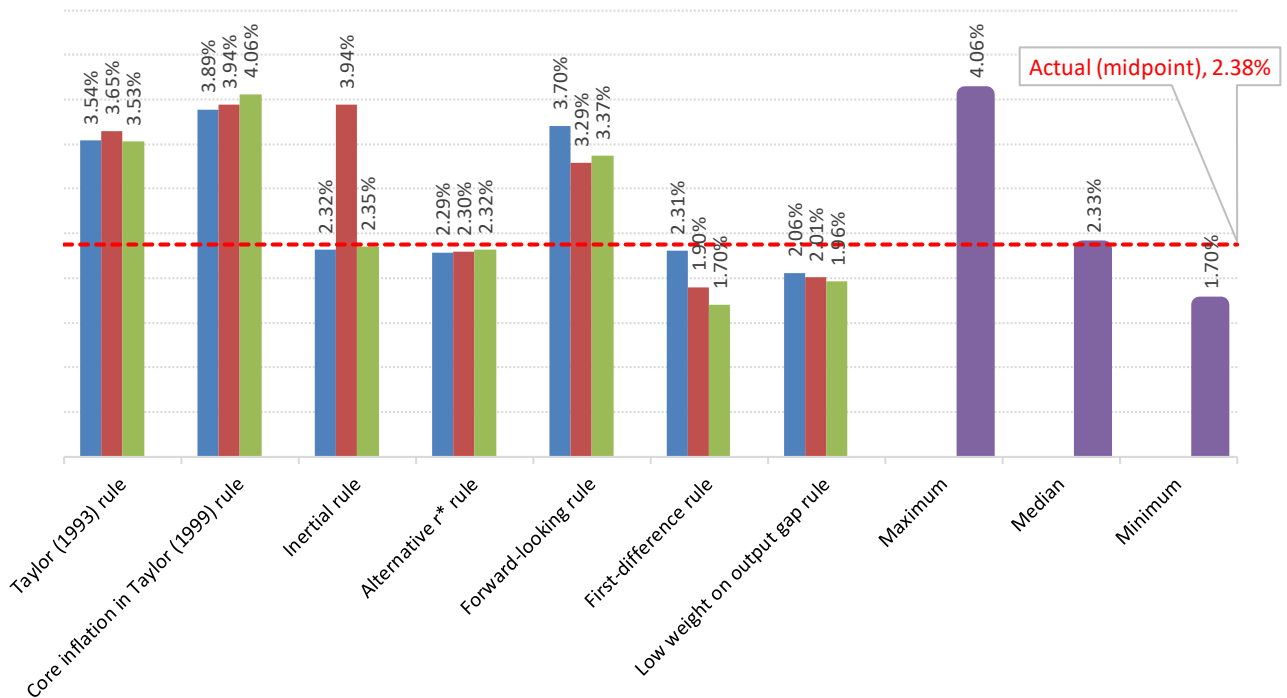


Source: BLS Current Population Survey, TrendMacro calculations

So many policy rules, so little time...

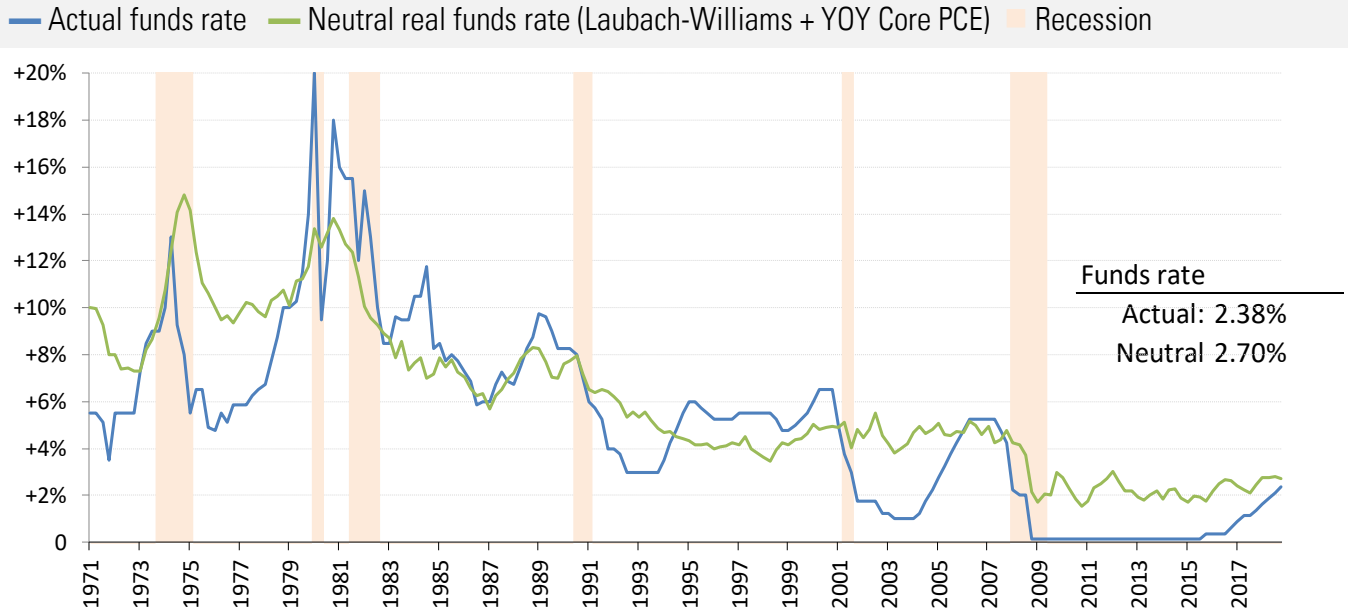
As of November 28, 2018 Based on inputs from:

■ FOMC Summary of Economic Projections ■ Congressional Budget Office ■ Cleveland Fed



Source: [Cleveland Fed](#), TrendMacro calculations

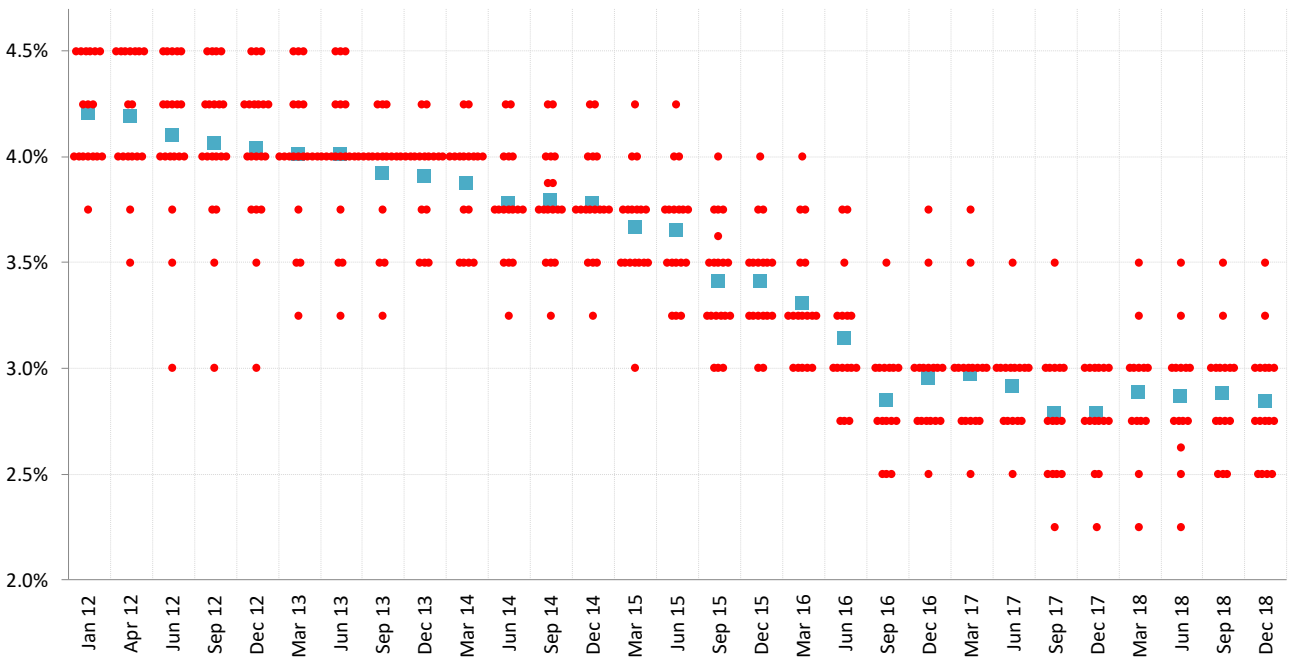
Estimating the "natural rate of interest"



Source: [New York Fed](#), Federal Reserve, BEA, TrendMacro calculations

"R-star" – the ultimate "dotplot" As of December 18

FOMC participants' estimate of "longer run" target fed funds rate ● Vote by individual participant ■ Weighted average

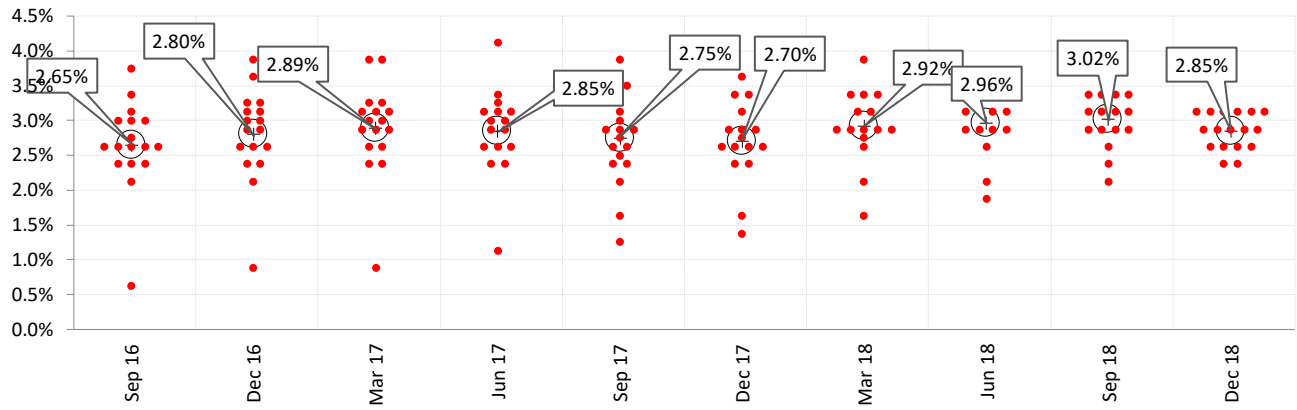


Source: Federal Reserve, TrendMacro calculations

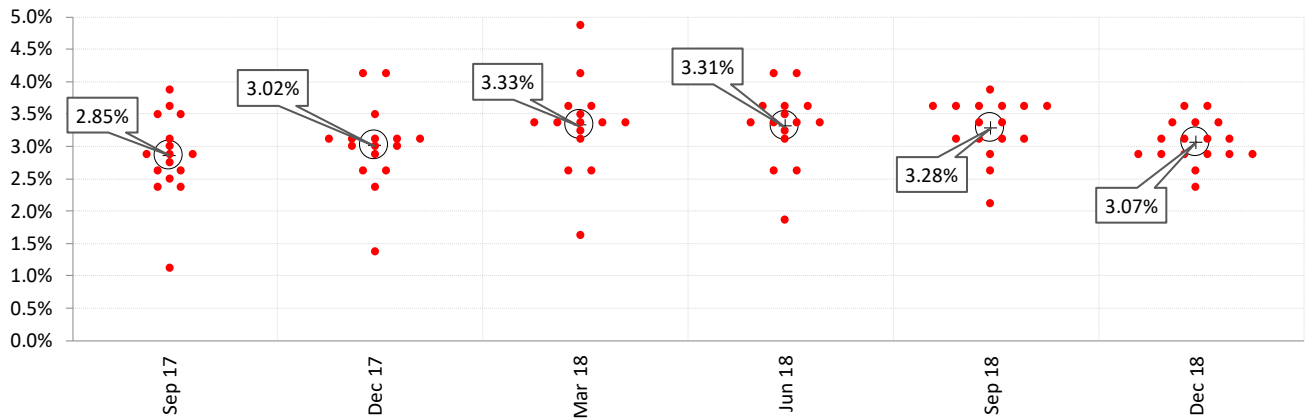
Tracking the "dotplots" year by year As of December 18

FOMC participants' estimate of "appropriate" target fed funds rate ● Vote by participant ○ Average

For year-end 2019



For year-end 2020



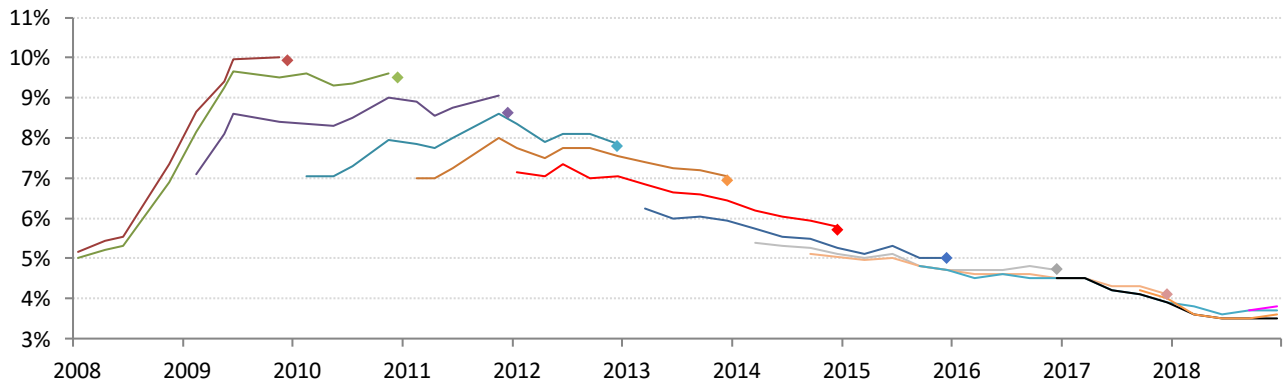
For year-end 2021



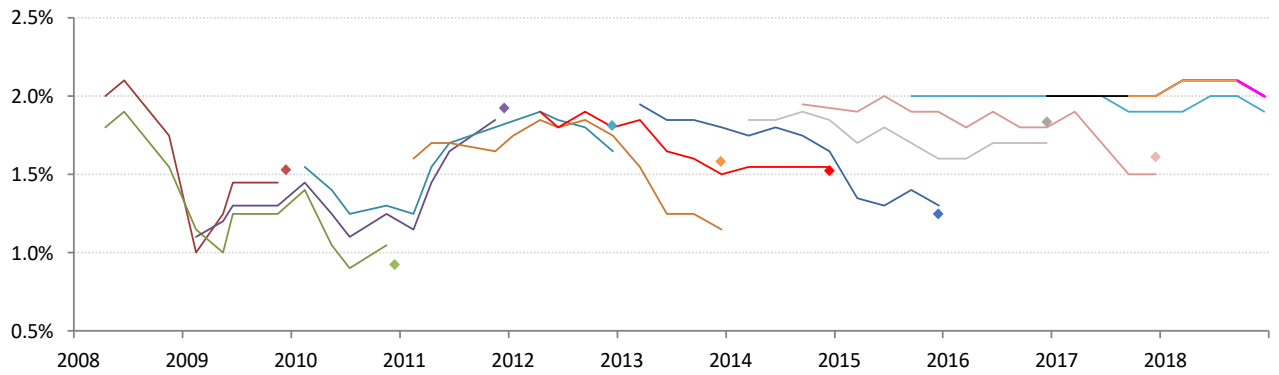
Forecast versus actual: [economic projections](#) of the FRB and presidents As of Dec 18

— Forecast ♦ Actual 2009 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 2021

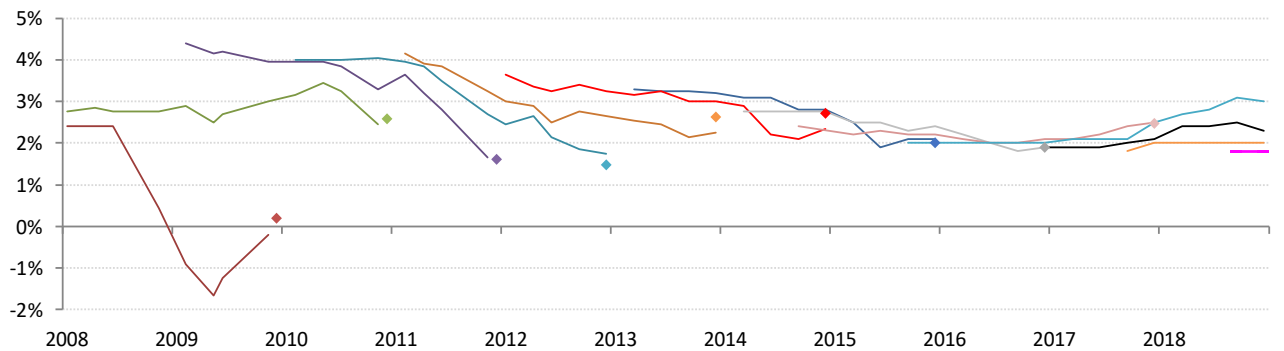
Unemployment



Core PCE inflation



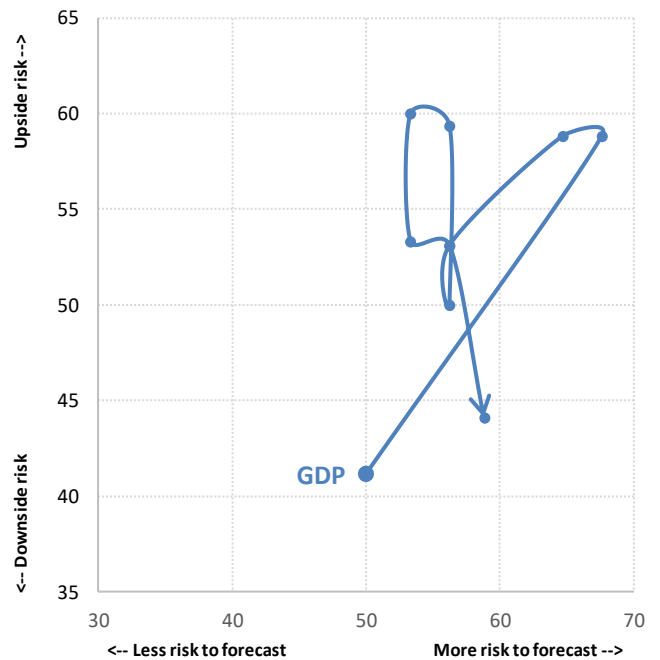
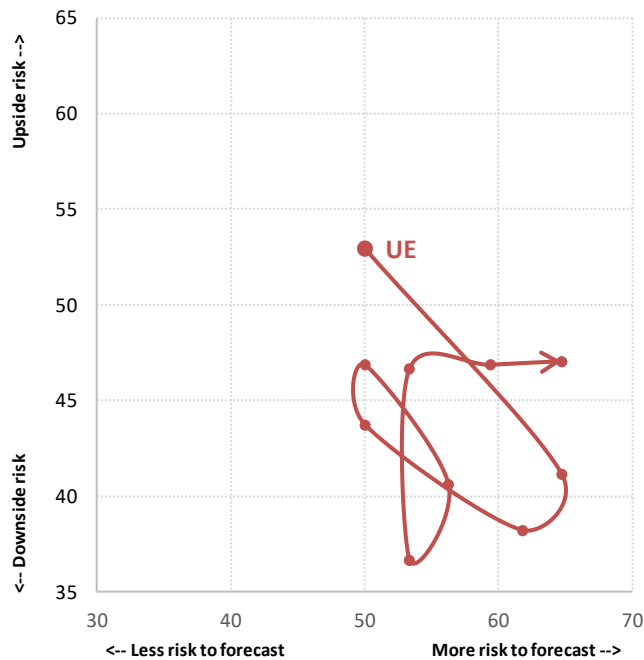
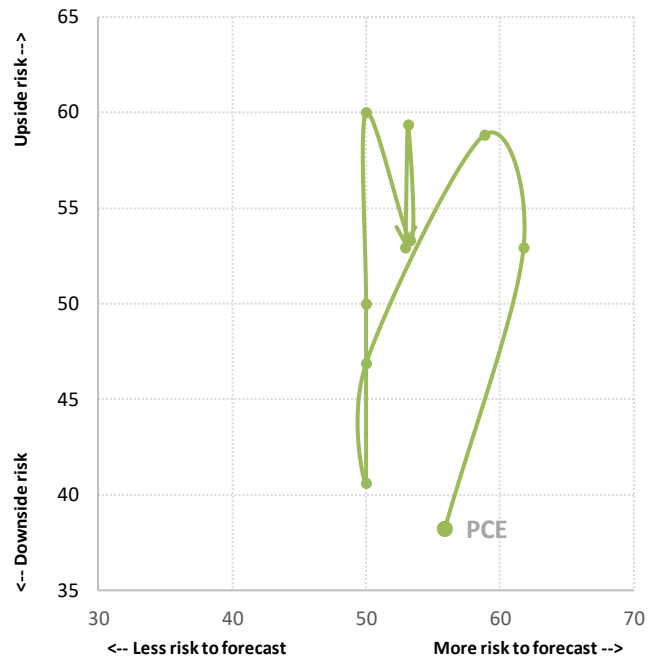
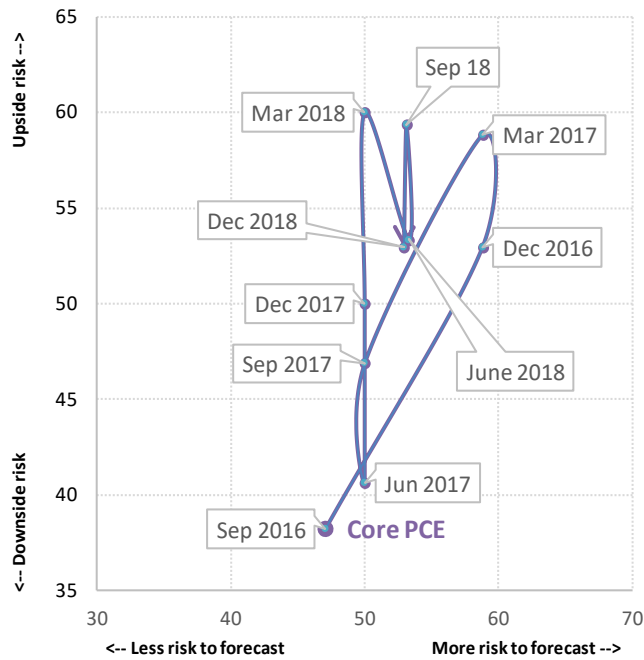
Real GDP



Source: Federal Reserve, BEA, BLS, TrendMacro calculations

The evolution of uncertainty

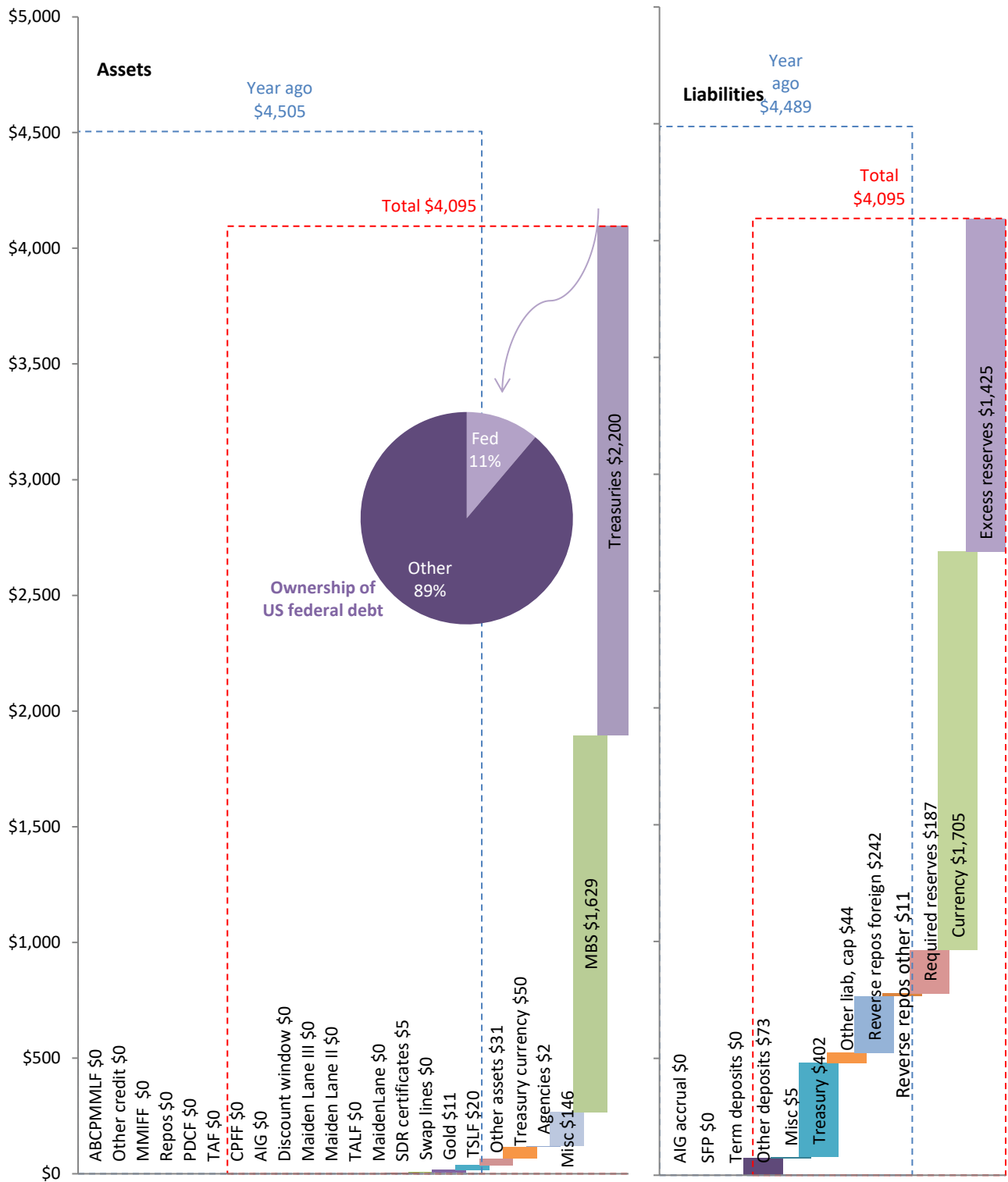
Diffusion indices from FOMC participants' risk self-assessments in [Summary of Economic Projections](#)
 As of December 2018. Updated three weeks after June FOMC in Data Insights: FOMC Minutes



Source: Federal Reserve Board, TrendMacro calculations

The Fed's assets, and how they are funded (USD billions)

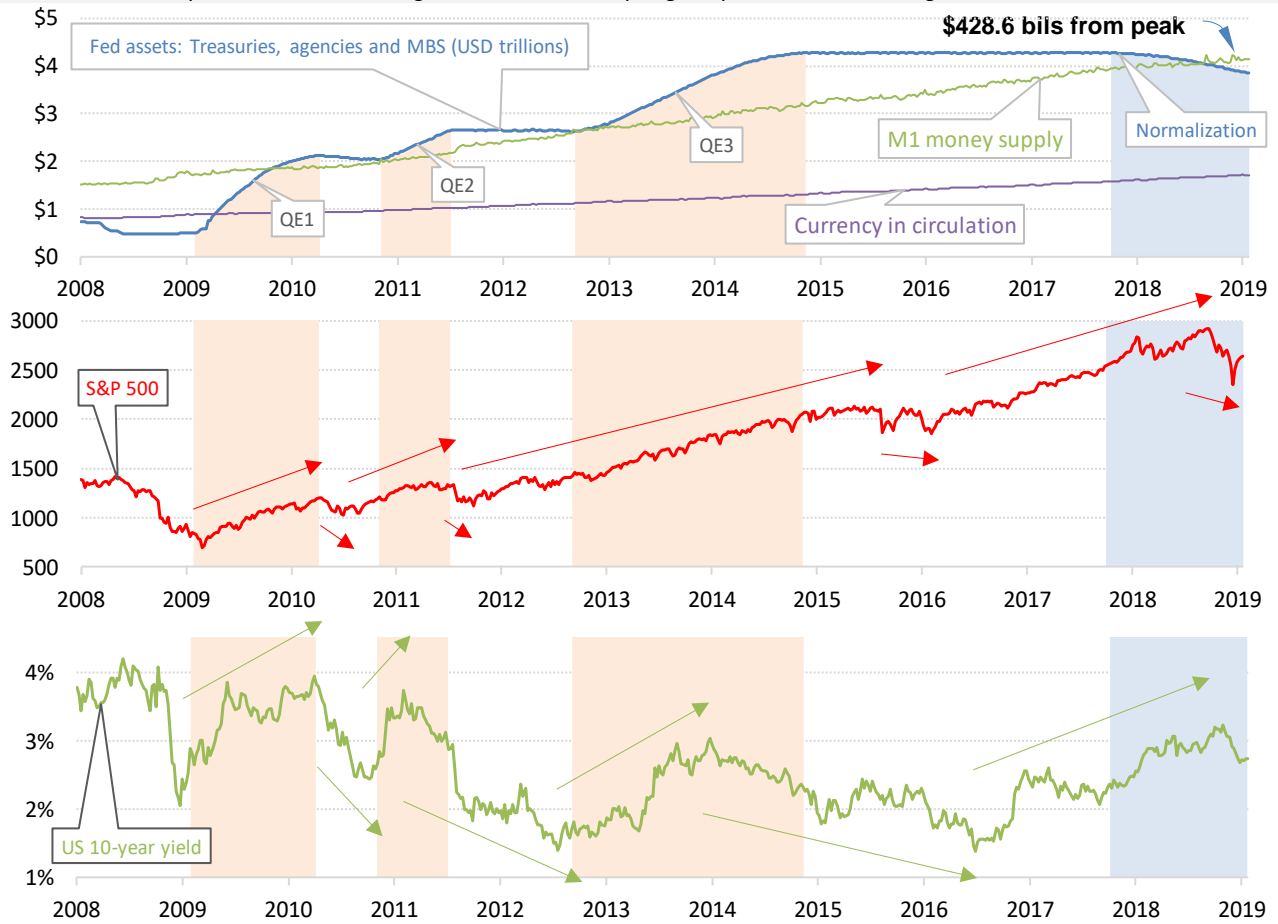
Assets do not perfectly match liabilities because we include unsettled MBS purchases and sales



Source: Federal Reserve H.4, US Treasury, TrendMacro calculations

The Fed's asset purchases, and their effects on markets

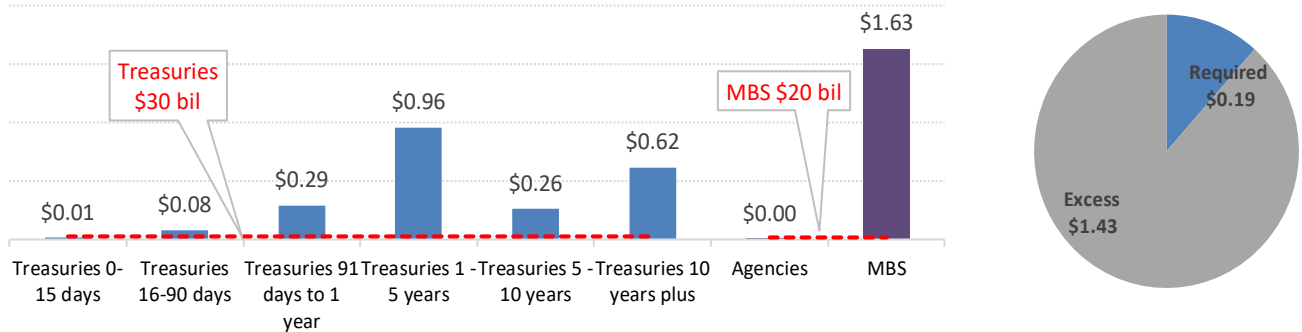
Stocks and bond yields react to changes in Fed Treasury, agency and MBS holdings



Sector and maturity breakdown of Fed assets, USD trillions

Banking reserves, USD trillions

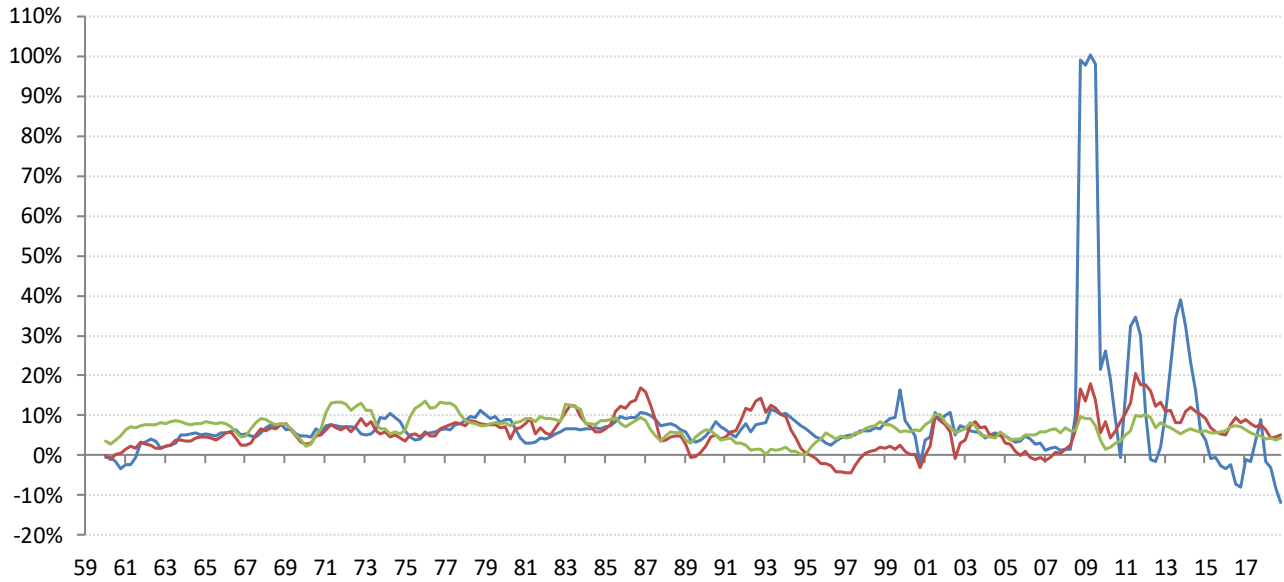
--- Monthly cap on un-reinvested maturities, max effective after 10/31/18



Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, TrendMacro calculations

Money supply growth, YOY quarterly

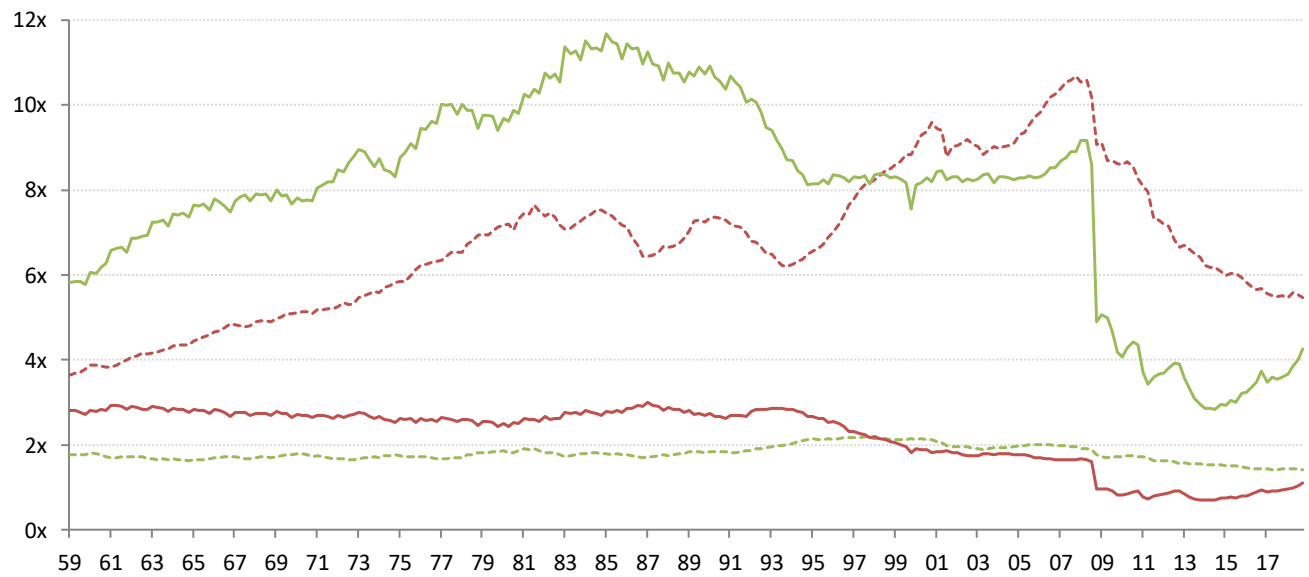
— M1 — M2 — Monetary base



Source: Federal Reserve H.6, TrendMacro calculations

Monetary velocity, quarterly

— M1 base multiplier - - - M1 output multiplier — M2 base multiplier - - - M2 output multiplier



Source: BEA, Federal Reserve H.6, TrendMacro calculations