

Data Insights: Federal Reserve

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Today's FOMC statement: how the language changed from prior meeting

~~March 19~~ May 07, 2025

Although swings in net exports have affected the data, recent indicators suggest that economic activity has continued to expand at a solid pace. The unemployment rate has stabilized at a low level in recent months, and labor market conditions remain solid. Inflation remains somewhat elevated.

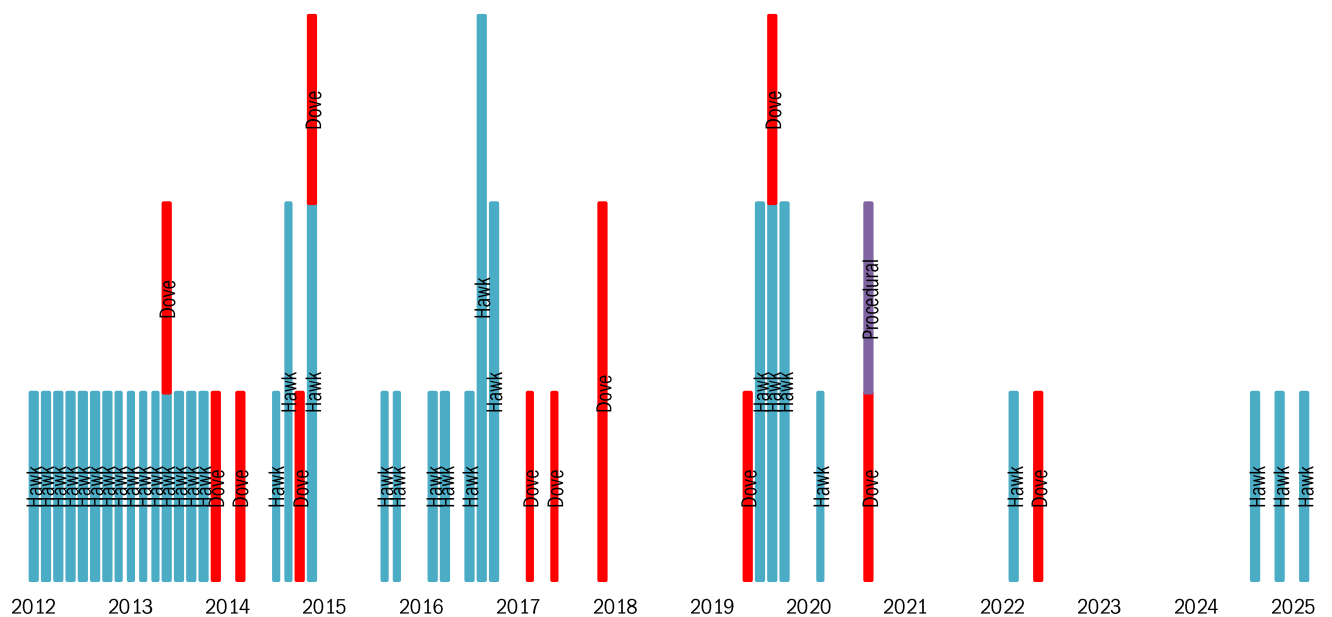
The Committee seeks to achieve maximum employment and inflation at the rate of 2 percent over the longer run. Uncertainty aroundabout the economic outlook has increased further. The Committee is attentive to the risks to both sides of its dual mandate and judges that the risks of higher unemployment and higher inflation have risen.

In support of its goals, the Committee decided to maintain the target range for the federal funds rate at 4-1/4 to 4-1/2 percent. In considering the extent and timing of additional adjustments to the target range for the federal funds rate, the Committee will carefully assess incoming data, the evolving outlook, and the balance of risks. The Committee will continue reducing its holdings of Treasury securities and agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities. ~~Beginning in April, the Committee will slow the pace of decline of its securities holdings by reducing the monthly redemption cap on Treasury securities from \$25 billion to \$5 billion. The Committee will maintain the monthly redemption cap on agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities at \$35 billion.~~ The Committee is strongly committed to supporting maximum employment and returning inflation to its 2 percent objective.

In assessing the appropriate stance of monetary policy, the Committee will continue to monitor the implications of incoming information for the economic outlook. The Committee would be prepared to adjust the stance of monetary policy as appropriate if risks emerge that could impede the attainment of the Committee's goals. The Committee's assessments will take into account a wide range of information, including readings on labor market conditions, inflation pressures and inflation expectations, and financial and international developments.

Voting for the monetary policy action were Jerome H. Powell, Chair; John C. Williams, Vice Chair; Michael S. Barr; Michelle W. Bowman; Susan M. Collins; Lisa D. Cook; Austan D. Goolsbee; Philip N. Jefferson; Neel Kashkari; Adriana D. Kugler; Alberto G. Musalem; and ~~Jeffrey R. Schmid. Voting against this action was~~ Christopher J. Waller, ~~who supported no change for the federal funds target range but preferred to continue the current pace of decline in securities holdings.~~ Neel Kashkari voted as an alternate member at this meeting.

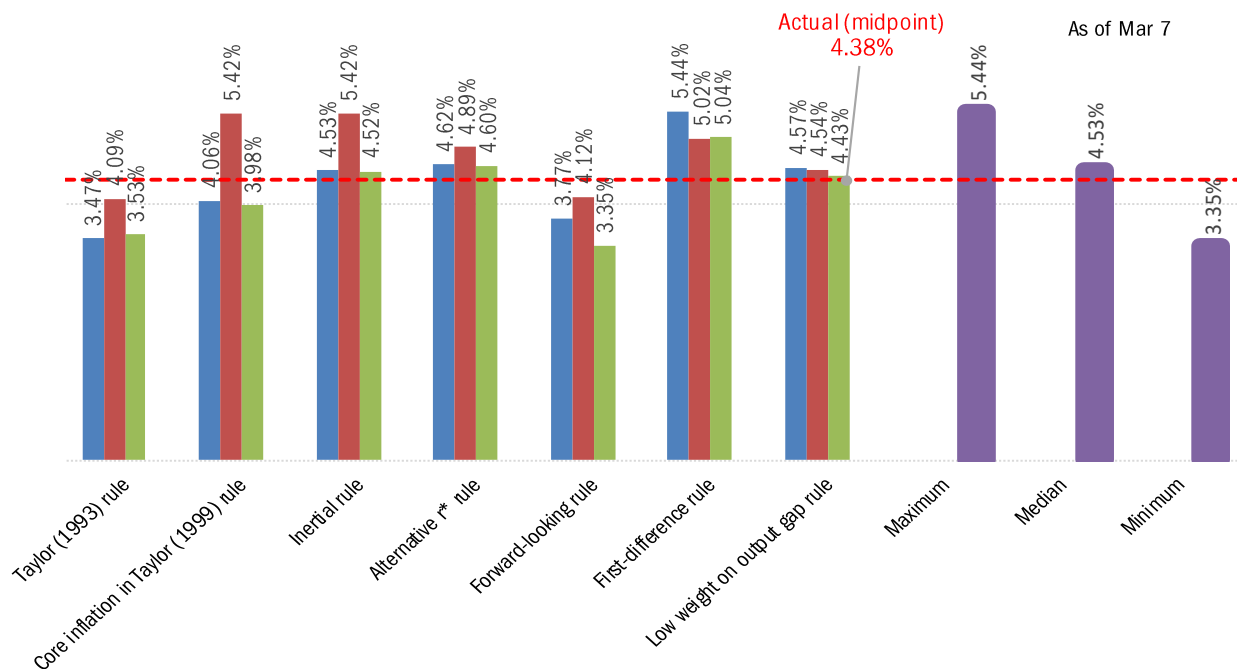
Other voices: number and direction of FOMC decision dissents



Source: FOMC, TrendMacro calculations

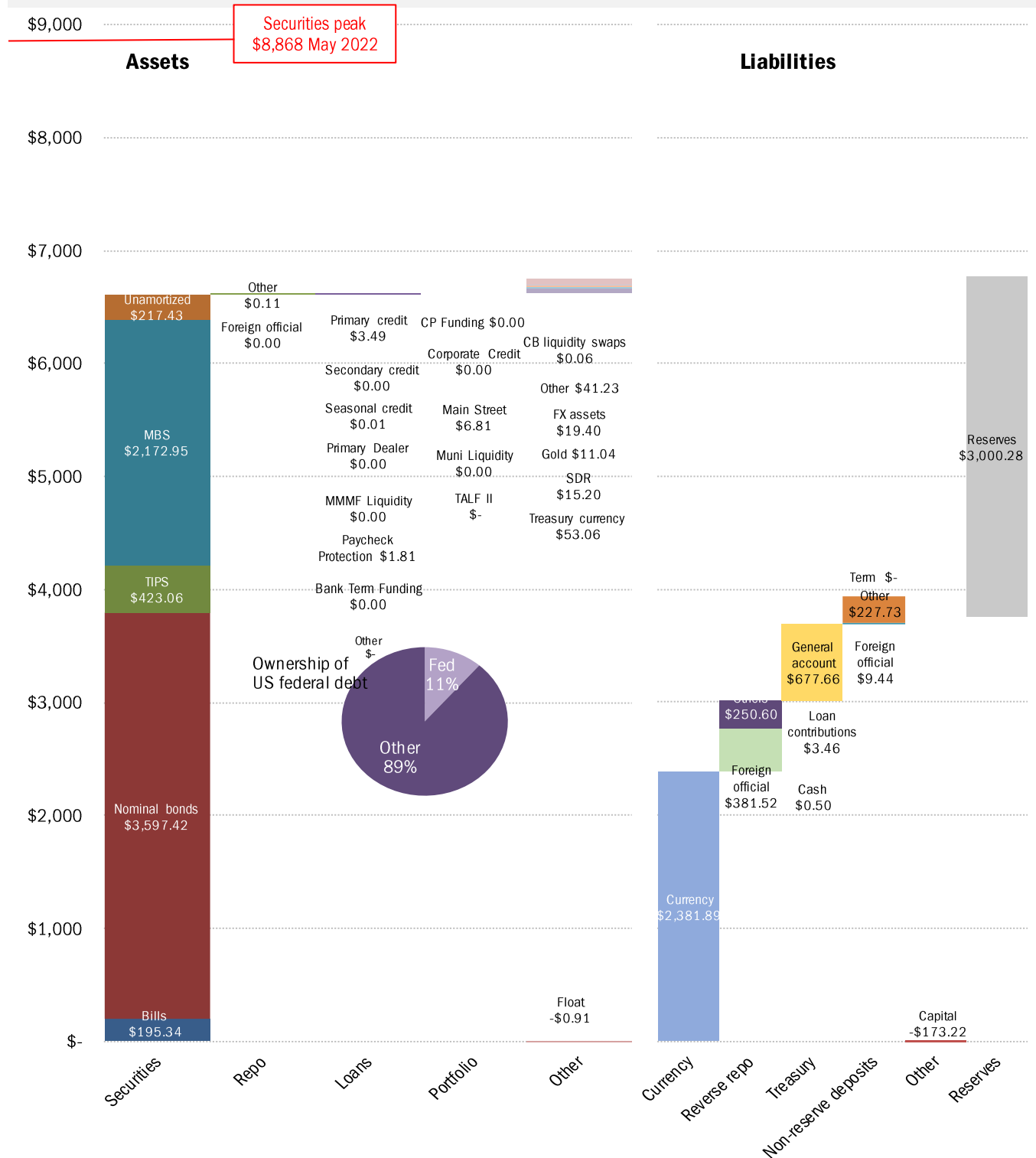
So many policy rules, so little inclination to follow any of them...

As of December 5, 2024 Based on inputs from: FOMC SEP CBO Cleveland Fed



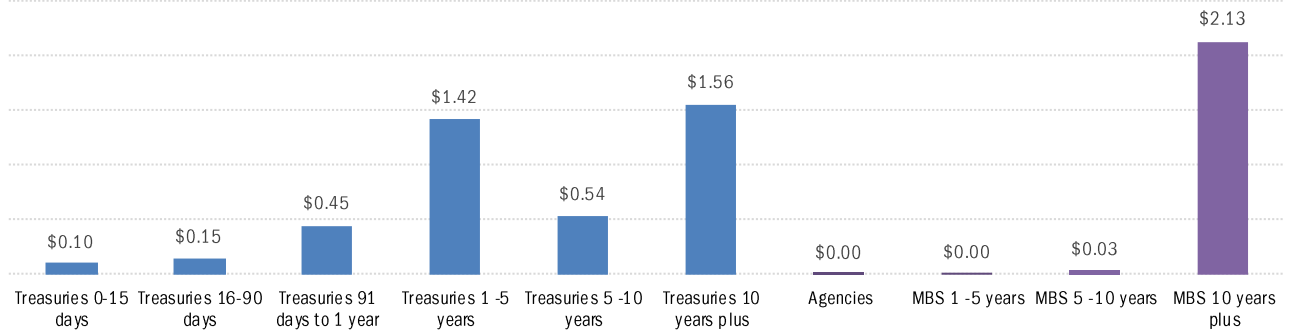
Source: [Cleveland Fed](#), TrendMacro calculations

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



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

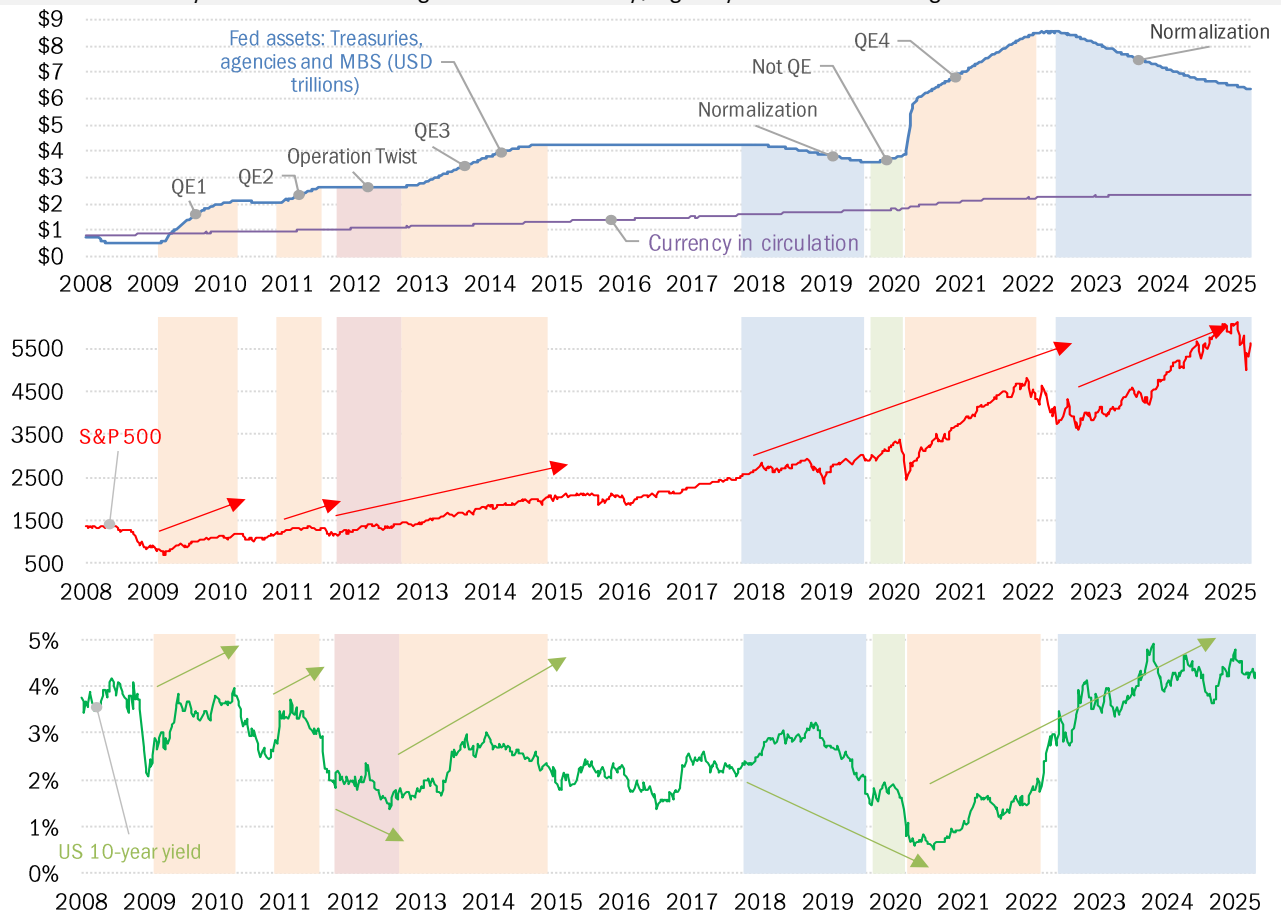
Sector and maturity breakdown of Fed government securities, USD trillions



Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, TrendMacro calculations

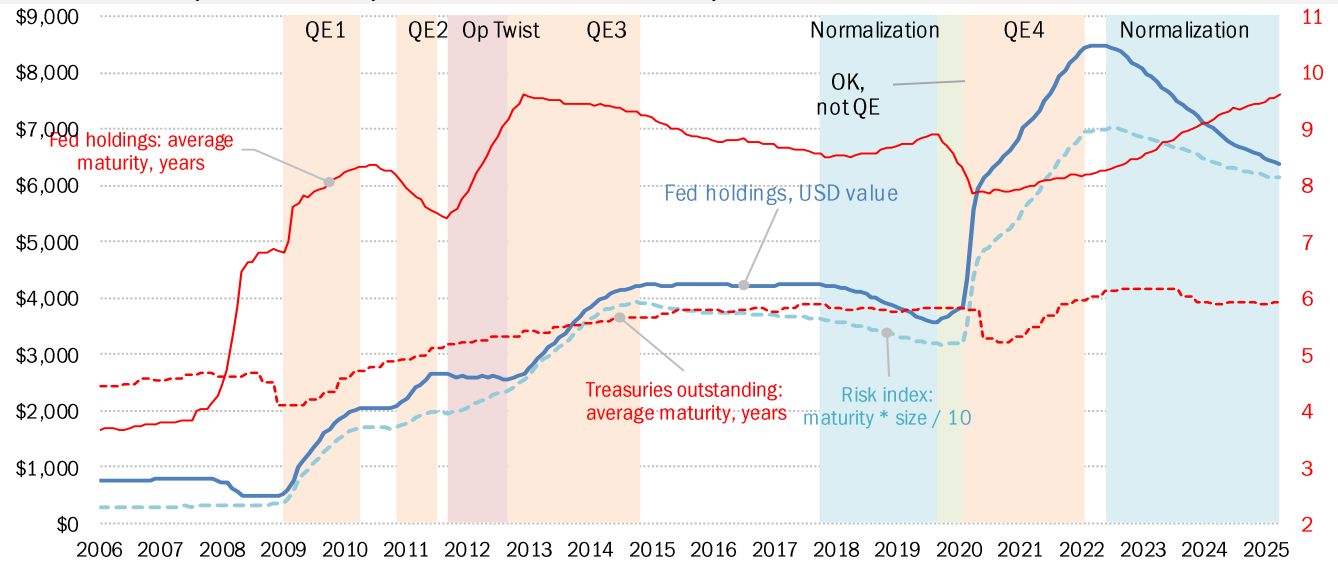
The Fed's asset purchases, and their effects on markets

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



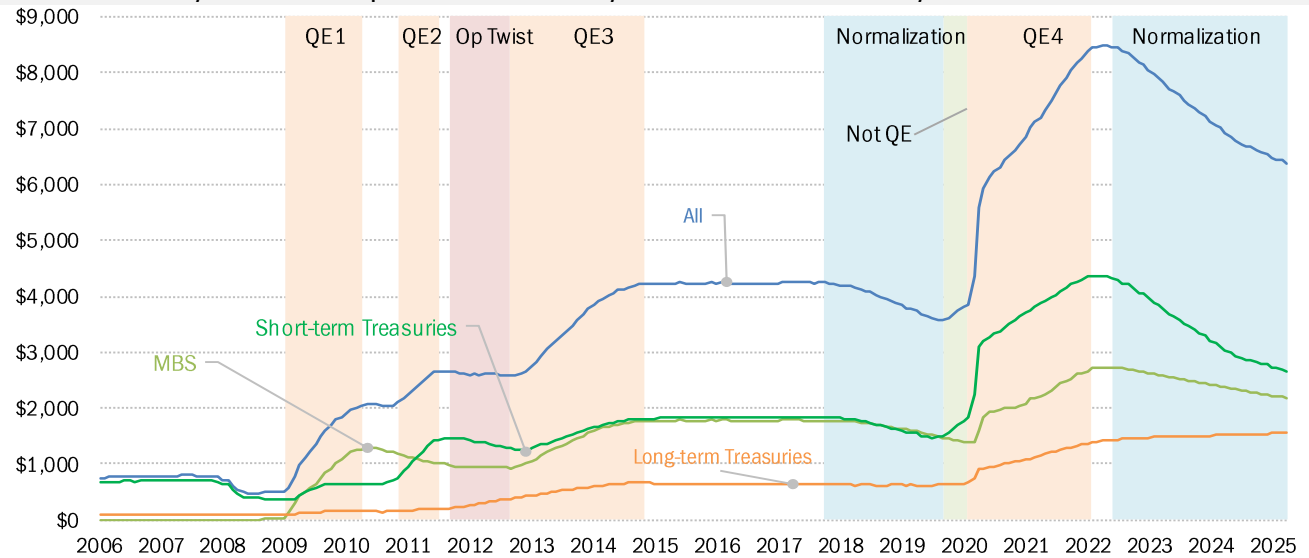
Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, TrendMacro calculations

Fed Treasury and MBS portfolio: size, maturity and risk index



Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, TrendMacro calculations

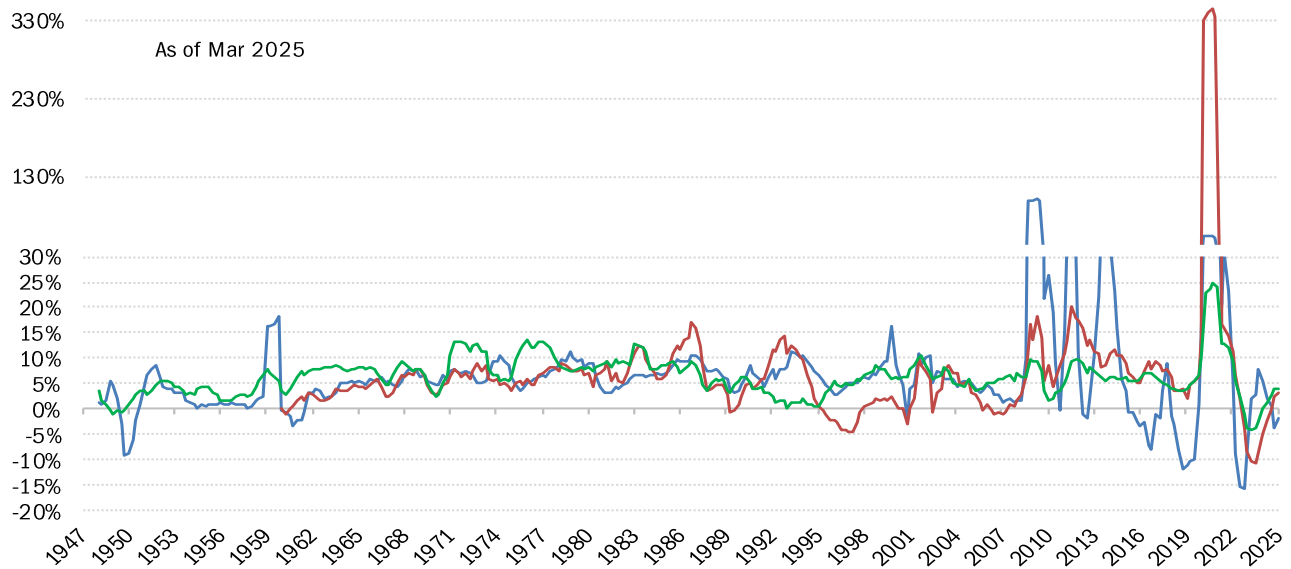
Fed Treasury and MBS portfolio: size by sector and maturity



Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, TrendMacro calculations

Money supply growth, YOY quarterly

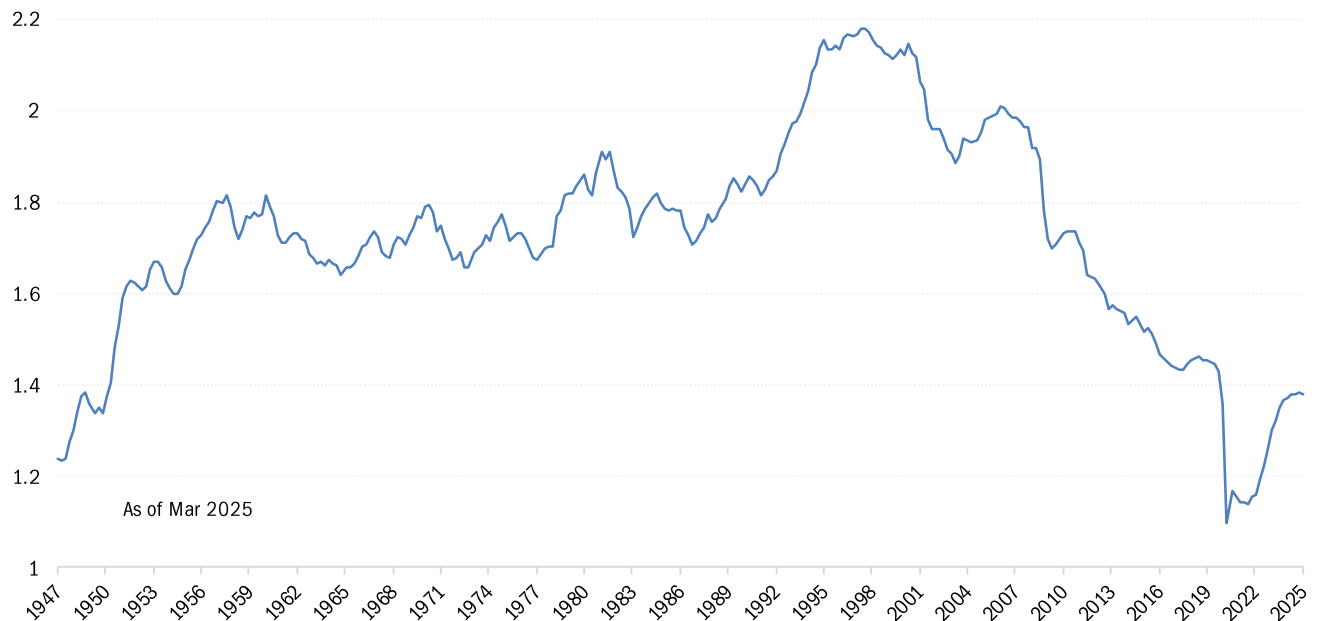
— M1 — M2 — Monetary base



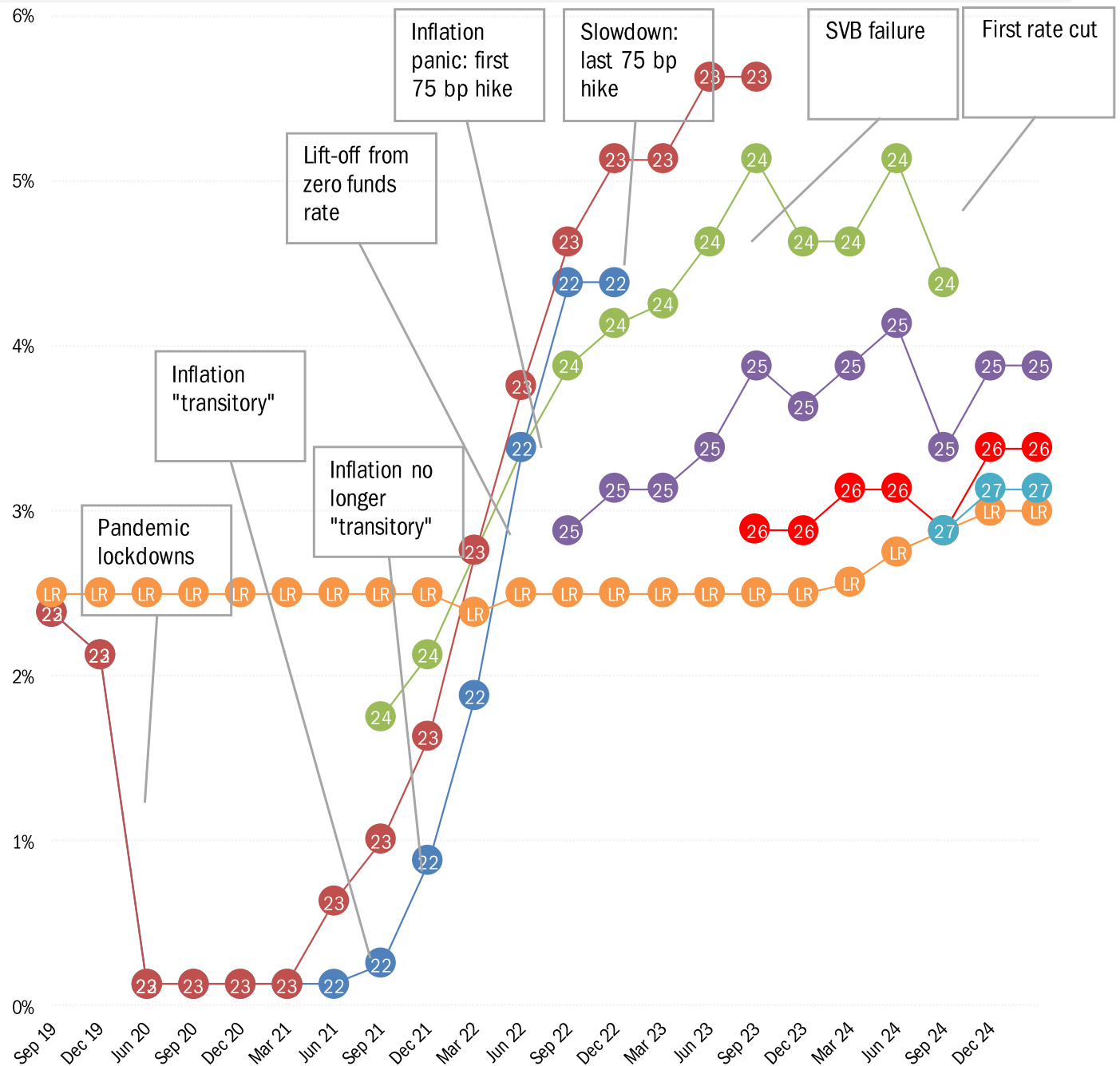
Source: Federal Reserve H.6, NBER, TrendMacro calculations

Monetary velocity, quarterly

Derived from the [Equation of Exchange](#): $M2 * V = P * NGDP$



"Dot plots" of "appropriate policy path" in the pandemic funds rate cycle As of September FOMC

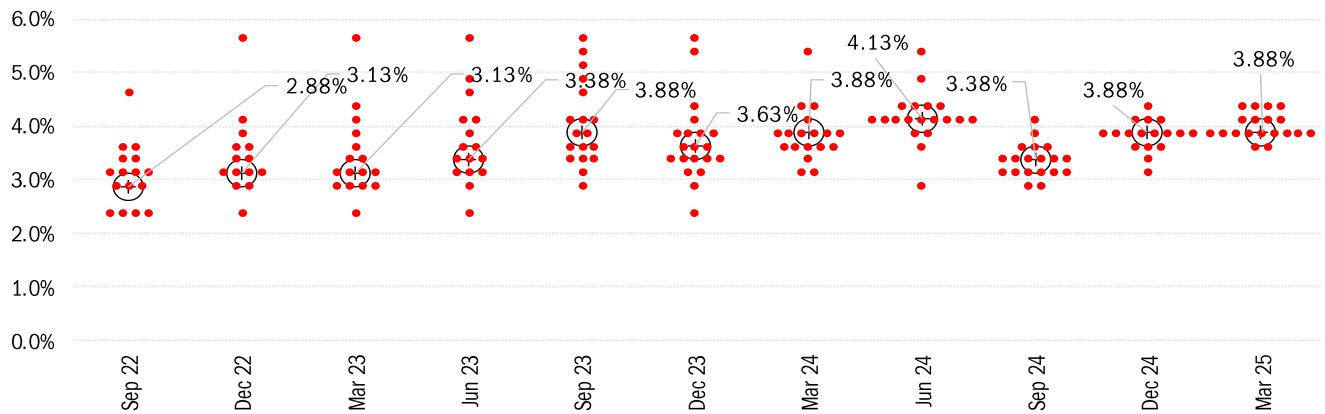


Source: Federal Reserve [SEP](#), TrendMacro calculations

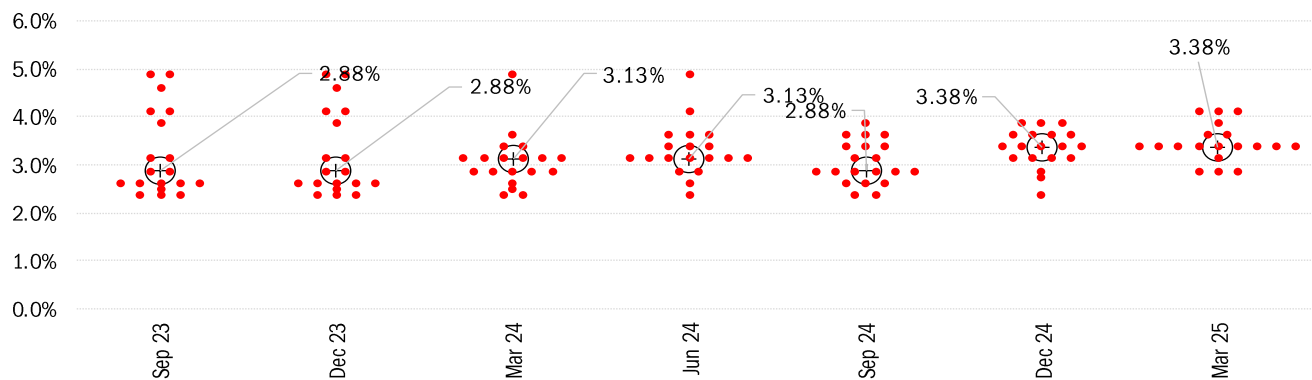
Tracking the "dotplots" in high-res As of September FOMC

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

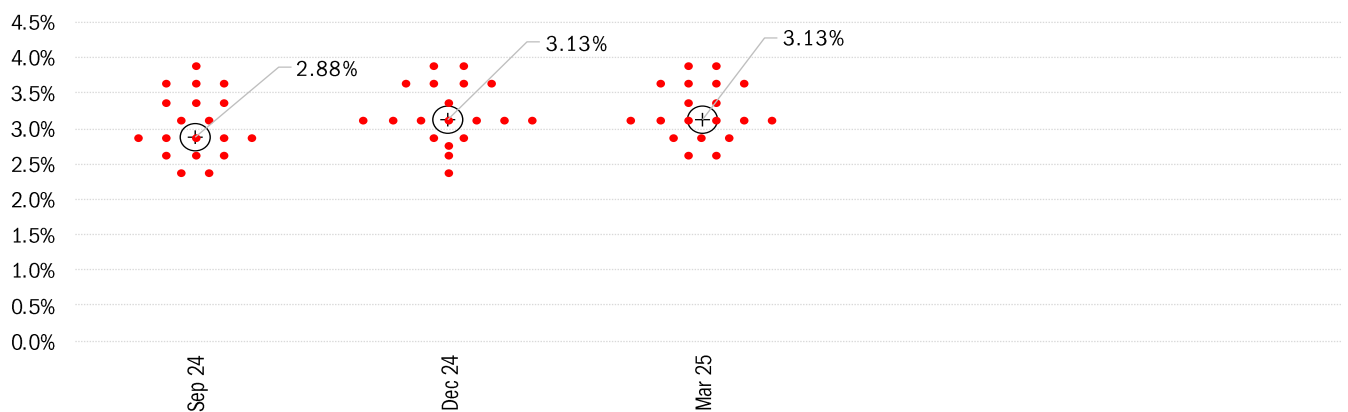
For year-end 2025



For year-end 2026



For year-end 2027



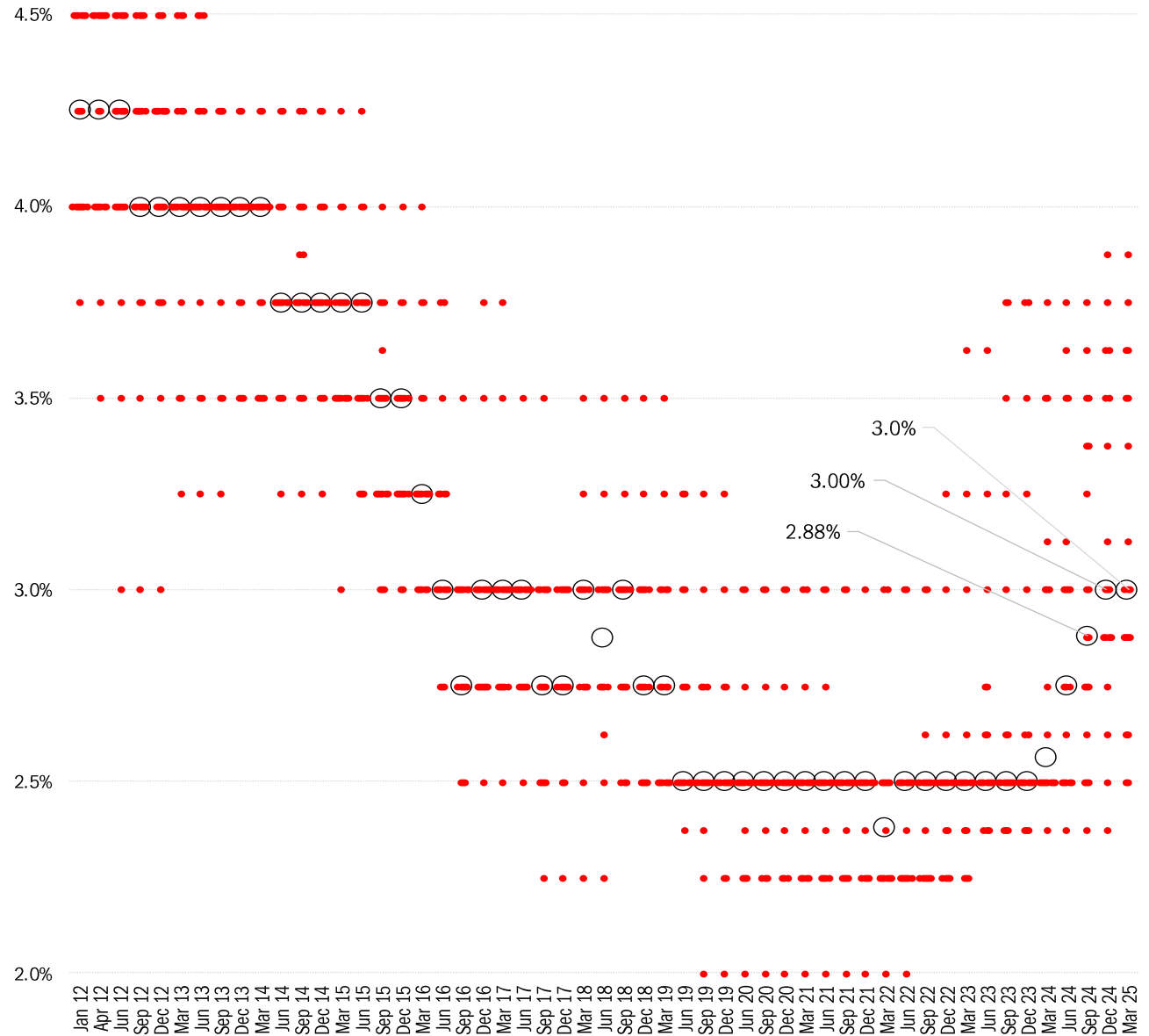
"R-star" – the ultimate dot-plot

As of September FOMC

FOMC participants' estimate of "longer run" target funds rate

● Individual participant

○ Median



Source: Federal Reserve, TrendMacro calculations

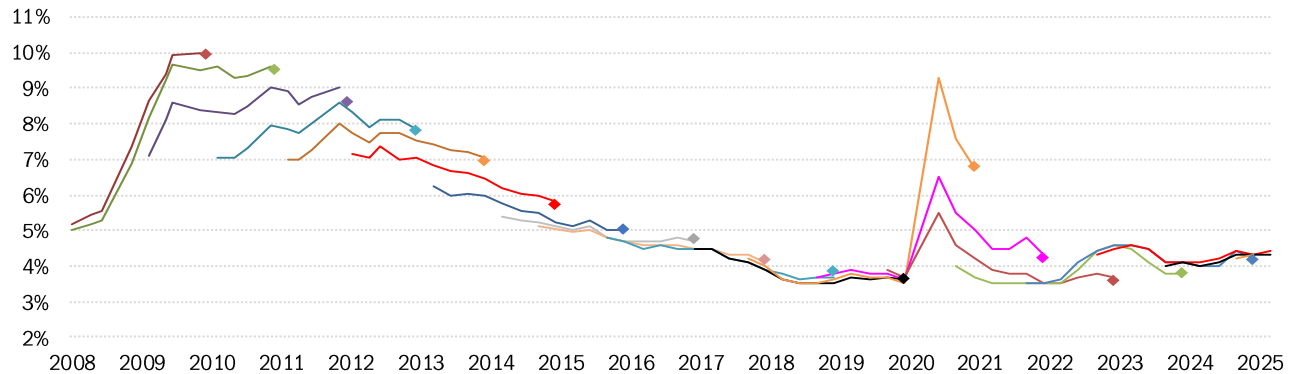
Forecast v actual: [economic projections](#) FRB and presidents

— Forecast ♦ Actual

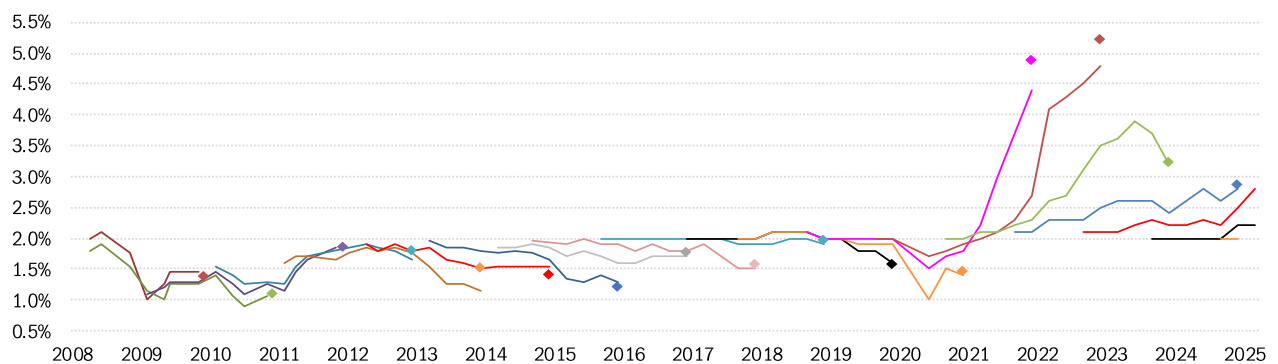
As of September FOMC

■ 2009 ■ 10 ■ 11 ■ 12 ■ 13 ■ 14 ■ 15 ■ 16 ■ 17 ■ 18 ■ 19 ■ 20 ■ 21 ■ 22 ■ 23 ■ 24 ■ 25 ■ 26 ■ 2027

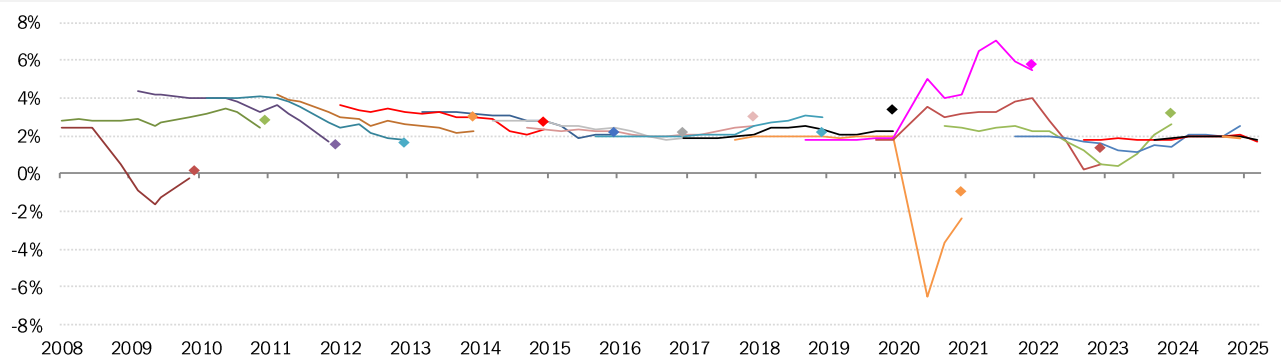
Unemployment



Core PCE inflation



Real GDP



Source: Federal Reserve, BEA, BLS, TrendMacro calculations

Diffusion indices from FOMC participants' risk self-assessments in [Summary of Economic Projections](#)