

Economic Outlook

Eric S. Rosengren
President & CEO
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

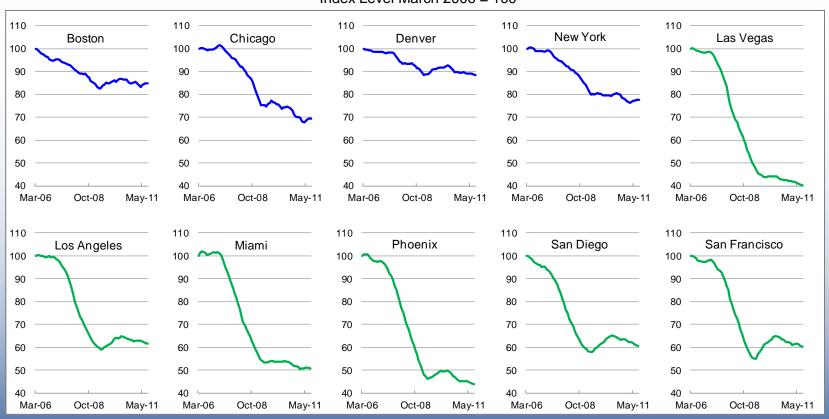
10th Annual Regional & Community Bankers' Conference

November 8, 2011

Figure 1 U.S. Regional Home Price Declines: S&P/Case-Shiller Metro Area Indexes

March 2006 - August 2011

Index Level March 2006 = 100



Source: S&P/Case-Shiller / Haver Analytics

Figure 2 30-Year Fixed-Rate Share of Mortgage Originations and Selected Interest Rates

January 1990 - September 2011

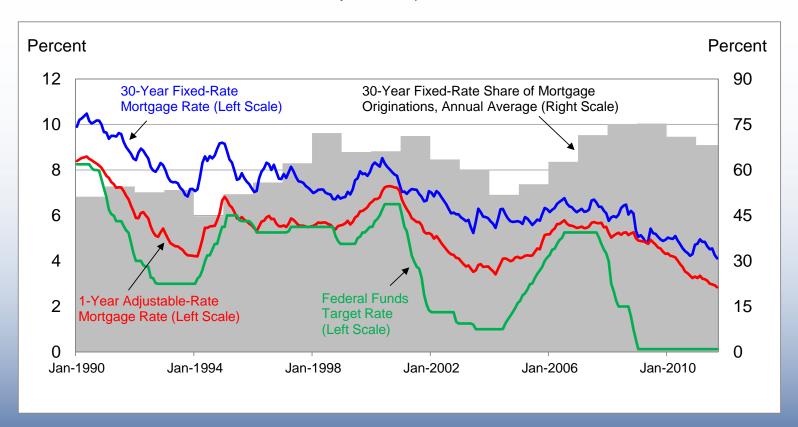


Figure 3 Growth in Real GDP Components: Current and Three Previous Recoveries

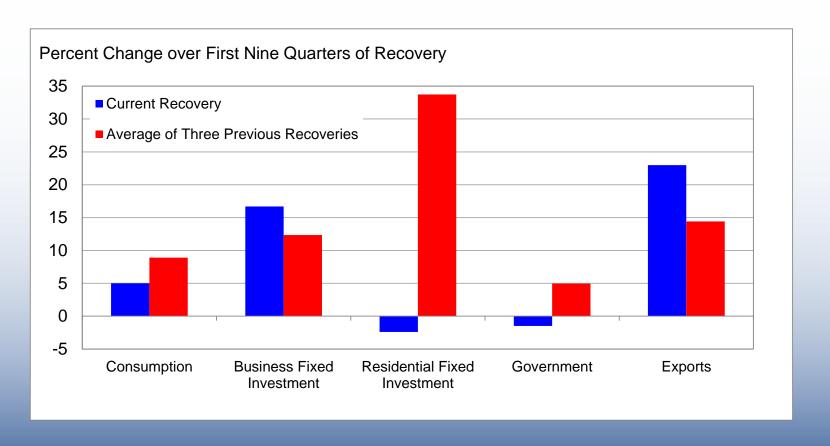


Figure 4 Residential Investment Share of GDP Growth: Current and Three Previous Recoveries

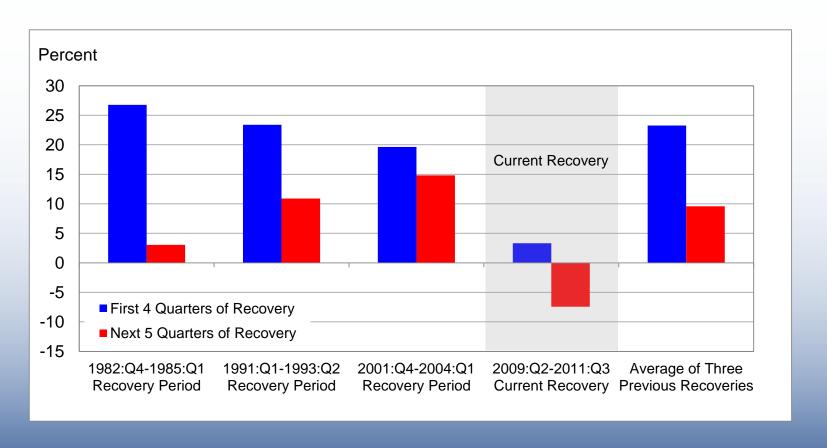


Figure 5 Median Net Worth of Households by Race and Ethnicity

2005 - 2009

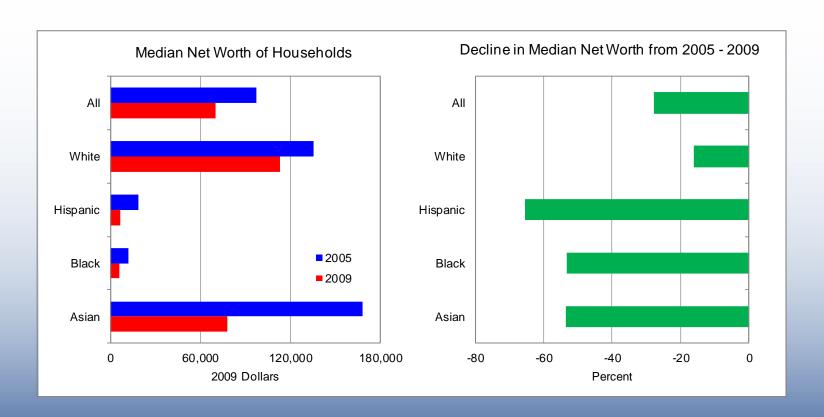


Figure 6 Composition of Household Net Worth: Selected Components

2009

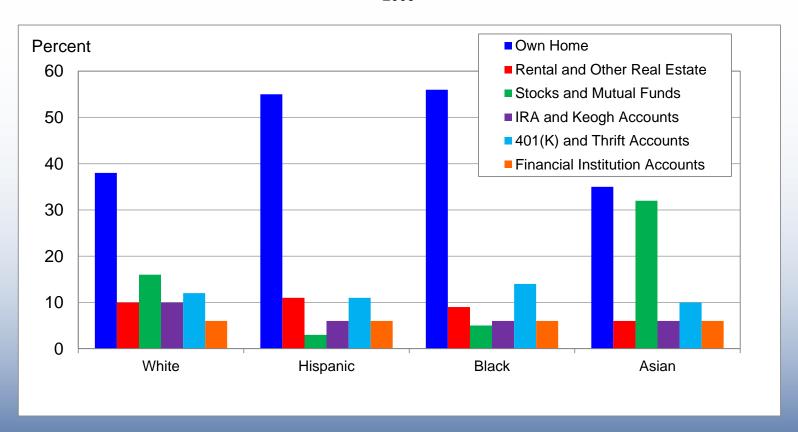


Figure 7 Erosion of Home Equity of Households by Race and Ethnicity

2005 - 2009

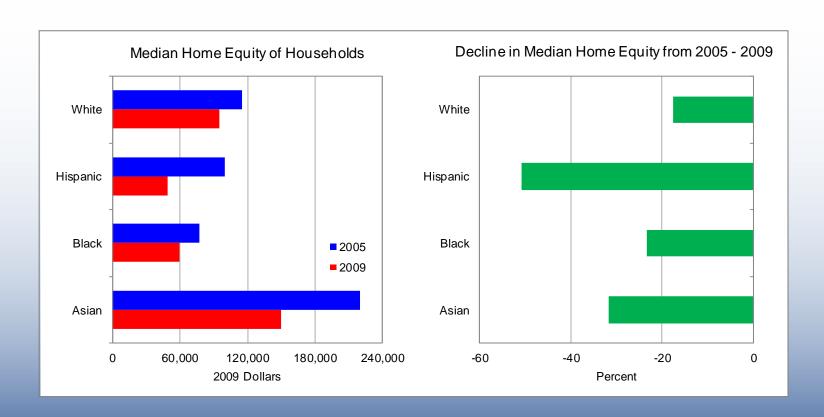


Figure 8 Job Growth: Current and Three Previous Recoveries

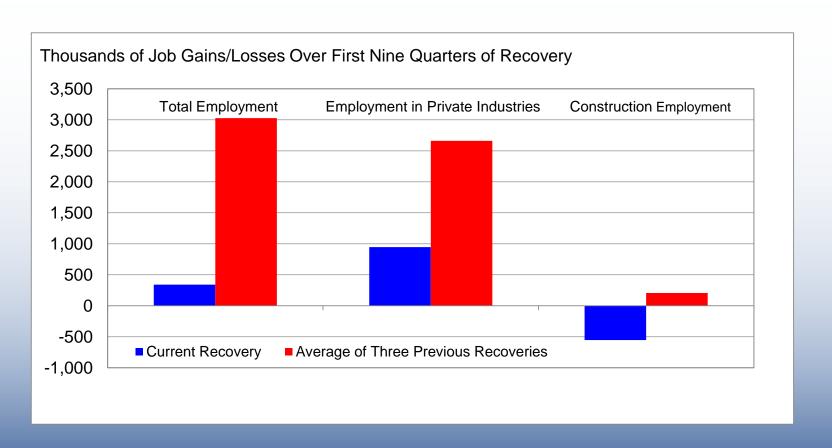


Figure 9 Employment Growth: Current and Three Previous Recoveries

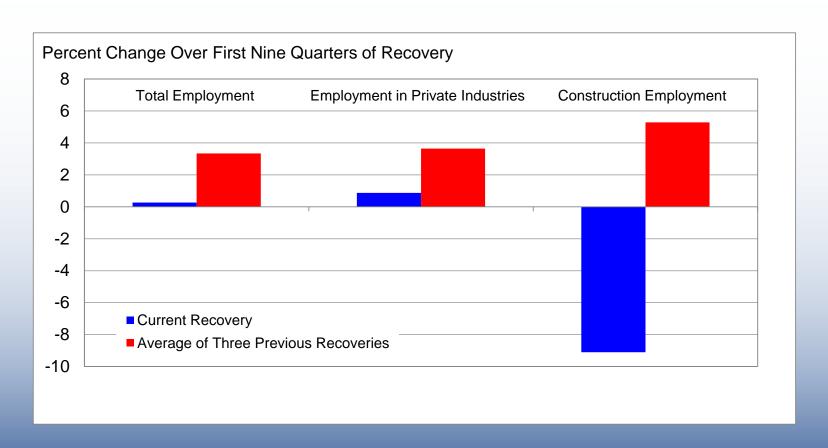


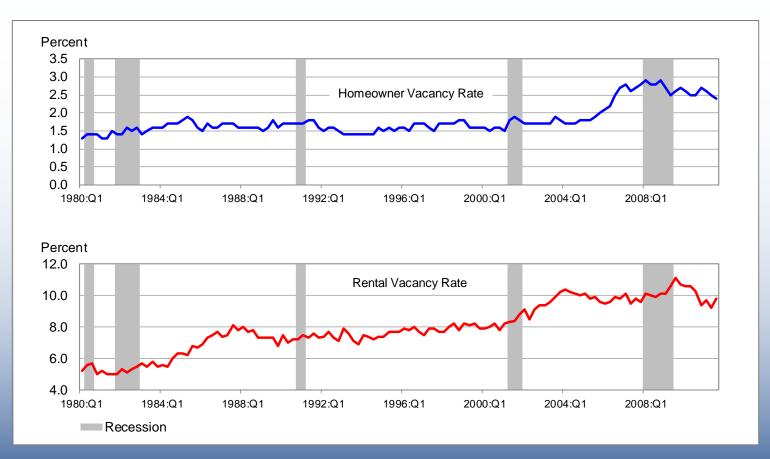
Figure 10 Delinquency Rate: 1-4 Family Mortgage Loans 30 or More Days Past Due

1980:Q1 - 2011:Q2



Figure 11 Homeowner and Rental Vacancy Rates

1980:Q1 - 2011:Q3



Housing has been a Major Impediment to Stronger Growth

- Problems in housing have greatly complicated the U.S. recovery
- Residential investment has been unusually weak relative to previous recoveries
- Consumption, business formation, and employment have also been affected by problems in the housing sector

Figure 12 30-Year Fixed-Rate Mortgage Rate and 10-Year Treasury Yield

January 1980 - October 2011



Figure 13

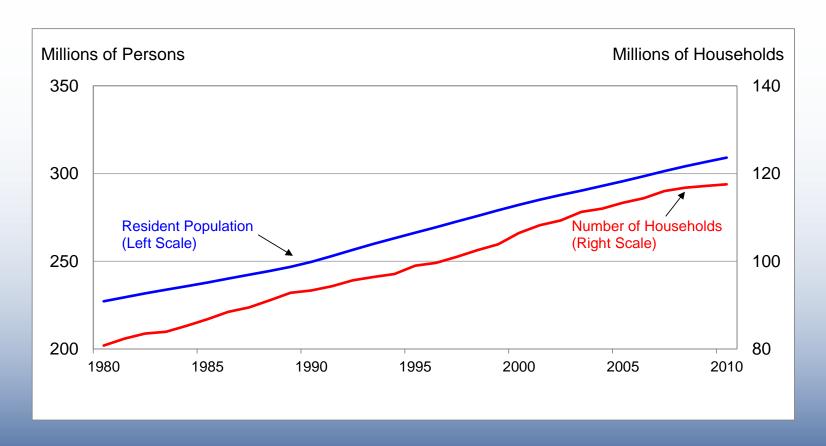
Housing Affordability: Median Income Relative to Income Needed to Purchase Median Priced Home

1980:Q1 - 2011:Q3



Figure 14 Population and Households

1980 - 2010



Housing Prices and Monetary Policy

- Falling prices discourage home purchases and many borrowers are unable to refinance
- This has impacted the ability of monetary policy to have its usual effect on an important interest-sensitive sector
- Monetary policy accommodation would have a greater impact if households were able to respond to the lower rates

Figure 15 U.S. Unemployment Rate for Population Age 25 and Older by Educational Attainment

January 1992 - October 2011

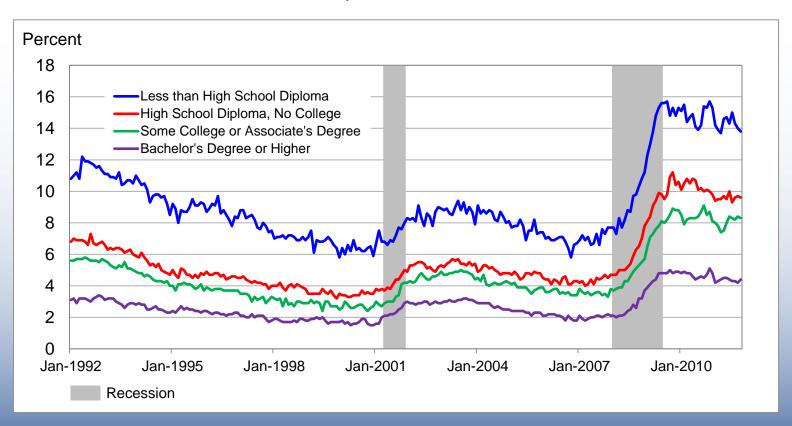


Figure 16 Changes in Unemployment Rate by Educational Attainment

	Unemployment Rate				
Educational Attainment	Business Cycle Peak December 2007	Current October 2011	Peak-to-Current Percent Change		
Less than High School Diploma	7.7%	13.8%	+ 79%		
High School Diploma, No College	4.7%	9.6%	+104%		
Some College or Associate's Degree	3.8%	8.3%	+118%		
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2.1%	4.4%	+110%		

Note: Figures are for population age 25 and older Source: Census Bureau, BLS / Haver Analytics

Figure 17 Employment Cost Index for Civilian Workers

1983:Q1 - 2011:Q3



Figure 18 Employment Cost Index for Civilian Workers by Occupational Group

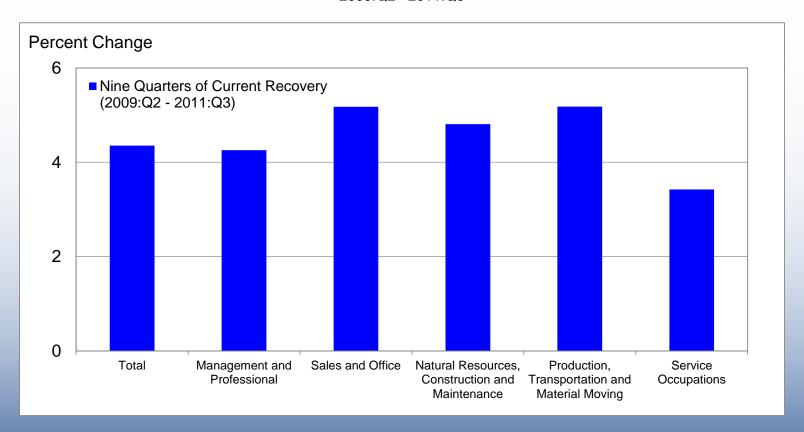
2007:Q1 - 2011:Q3



Source: BLS / Haver Analytics

Figure 19 Employment Cost Index for Civilian Workers by Occupational Group

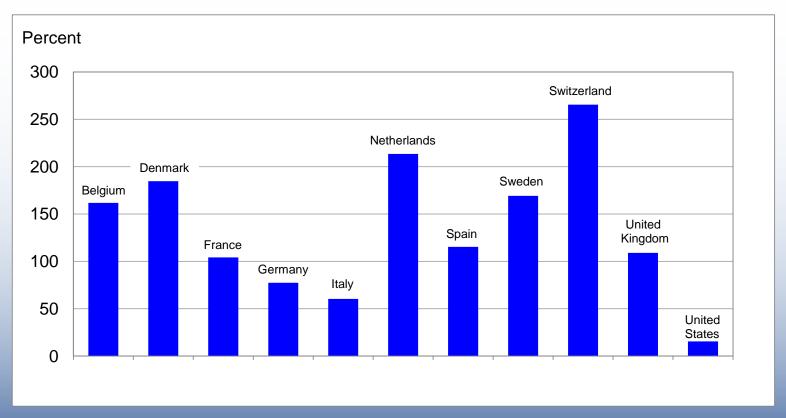
2009:Q2 - 2011:Q3



Source: BLS / Haver Analytics

Figure 20 Bank Size Relative to Country Size: Assets of Largest Bank as a Share of GDP

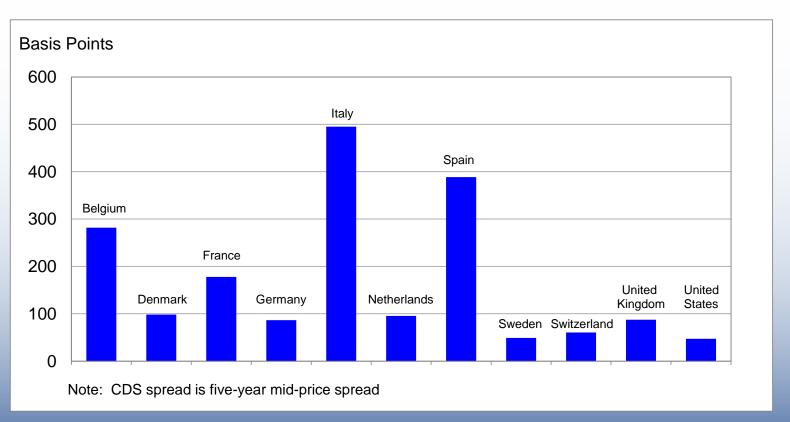
as of Year End 2010



Note: Includes the U.S. and all European countries with a bank ranked in the top 50 worldwide as of year end 2010 Source: Global Finance. IMF

Figure 21 Sovereign Credit Default Swap Spreads

as of November 4, 2011



Note: Includes the U.S. and all European countries with a bank ranked in the top 50 worldwide as of year end 2010

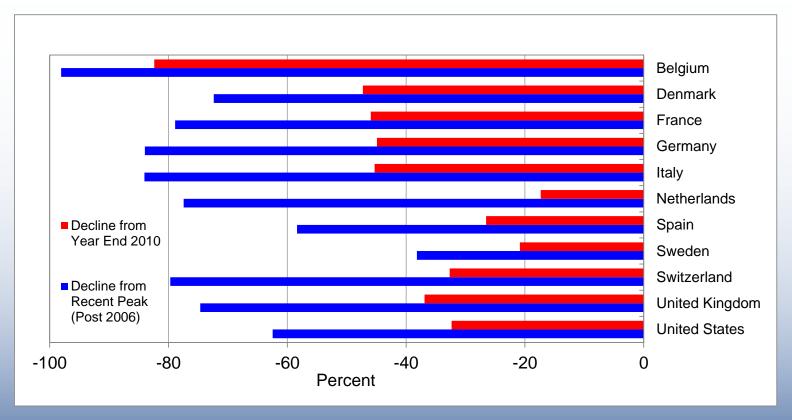
Source: Bloomberg

Figure 22 Credit Default Swap Spreads of Largest Banks in Europe and the United States

Largest Banks in Groups of Five	Average Bank Assets Billion Dollars	Average Five-Year Mid-Price CDS Spreads in Basis Points				
	Dec 31, 2010	Dec 29, 2006	Dec 31, 2008	Nov 4, 2011	Peak	
Five Largest Banks	2,456	6	121	219	276	
Next Five Largest Banks	2,019	9	128	233	381	
Next Five Largest Banks	1,470	6	129	249	366	
Next Five Largest Banks	1,028	12	158	291	420	

Figure 23 Stock Price Declines at Largest Banks by Country

as of November 4, 2011



Note: Includes the U.S. and all European countries with a bank ranked in the top 50 worldwide as of year end 2010 For countries with more than 1 bank in the top 20 in assets, declines are averaged

Source: Bloomberg



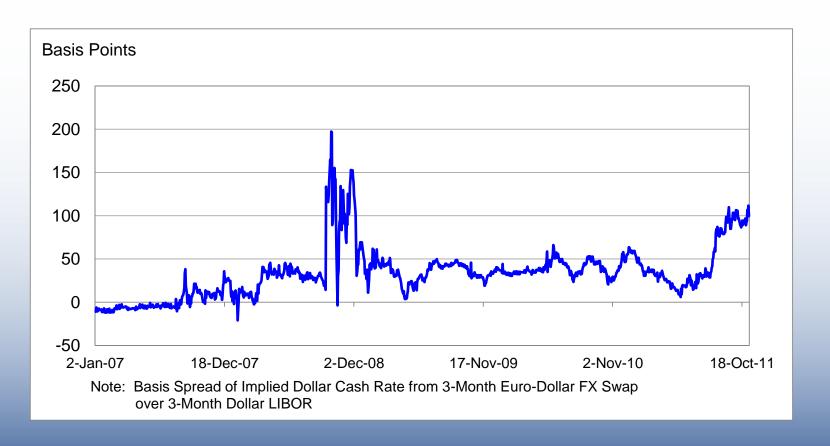
Figure 24 Stock Prices of Largest Banks in Europe and the United States

Largest Banks in Groups of Five	Average Bank Assets Billion Dollars Dec 31, 2010	Average Stock Prices: Index Level Dec 29, 2006 = 100			Average Percent Change	
		Dec 30, 2008	Nov 4, 2011	Peak (Post 2006)	Peak to Nov 4, 2011	Year End 2010 to Nov 4, 2011
Five Largest Banks	2,456	33	33	110	-70	-31
Next Five Largest Banks	2,019	30	26	104	-76	-34
Next Five Largest Banks	1,470	41	32	111	-71	-37
Next Five Largest Banks	1,028	34	25	118	-79	-45

Source: Global Finance, Bloomberg

Figure 25 Dollar Funding Pressures

January 2, 2007 - November 4, 2011



U.S. Monetary Policy Response to Weak Recovery

- Short-term interest rates at the zero bound
- Expanded Fed balance sheet, including mortgage securities
- Increased holdings of long-term securities
- Altered communications

Recent FOMC Actions

- Expect short-term rates low until mid-2013
- Downward pressure on longer-term interest rates
- Extending the average maturity of our holdings of securities
- To support conditions in mortgage markets, reinvest principal payments from holdings of agency debt and mortgage-backed securities in agency mortgage-backed securities

Monetary Policy Cannot Fully Offset Problems, but Can Mitigate Some Effects

- Reducing unemployment by half a percent means 750,000 jobs
- Unemployment at 9.0% and medium term inflation restrained
- Goal is to restore economy to full employment and 2% inflation
- The sooner the economy improves the more quickly we can normalize interest rates