

NEW ENGLAND ECONOMIC UPDATE

Presented to the New England Advisory Council
September 6, 2017

Bo Zhao
Senior Economist
New England Public Policy Center
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston



Disclaimer: The views expressed here are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston or the Federal Reserve System.

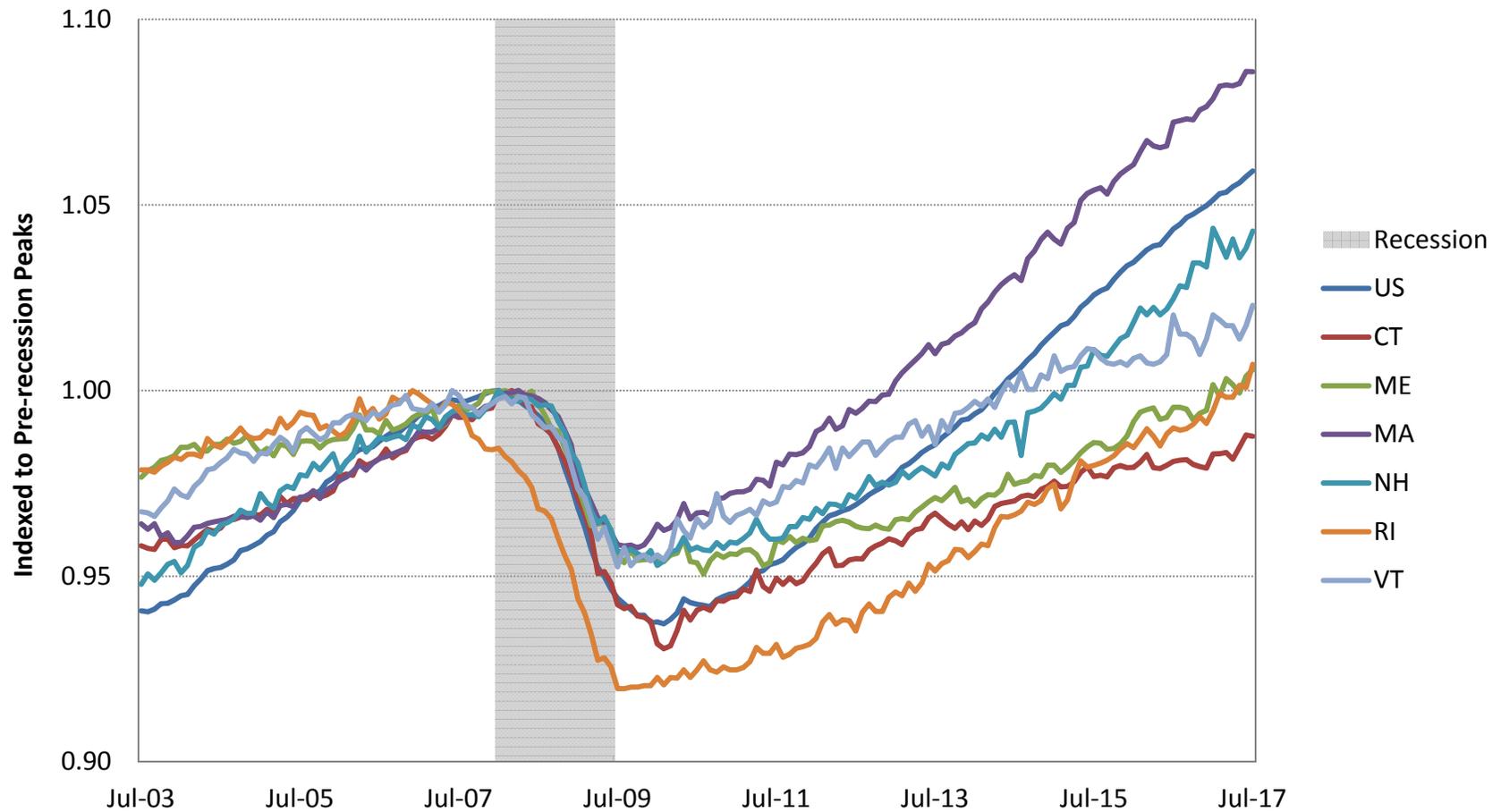


Overview



- New England sees continued job growth
- Home price appreciation is robust
- Inflation is low
- Consumer confidence is up

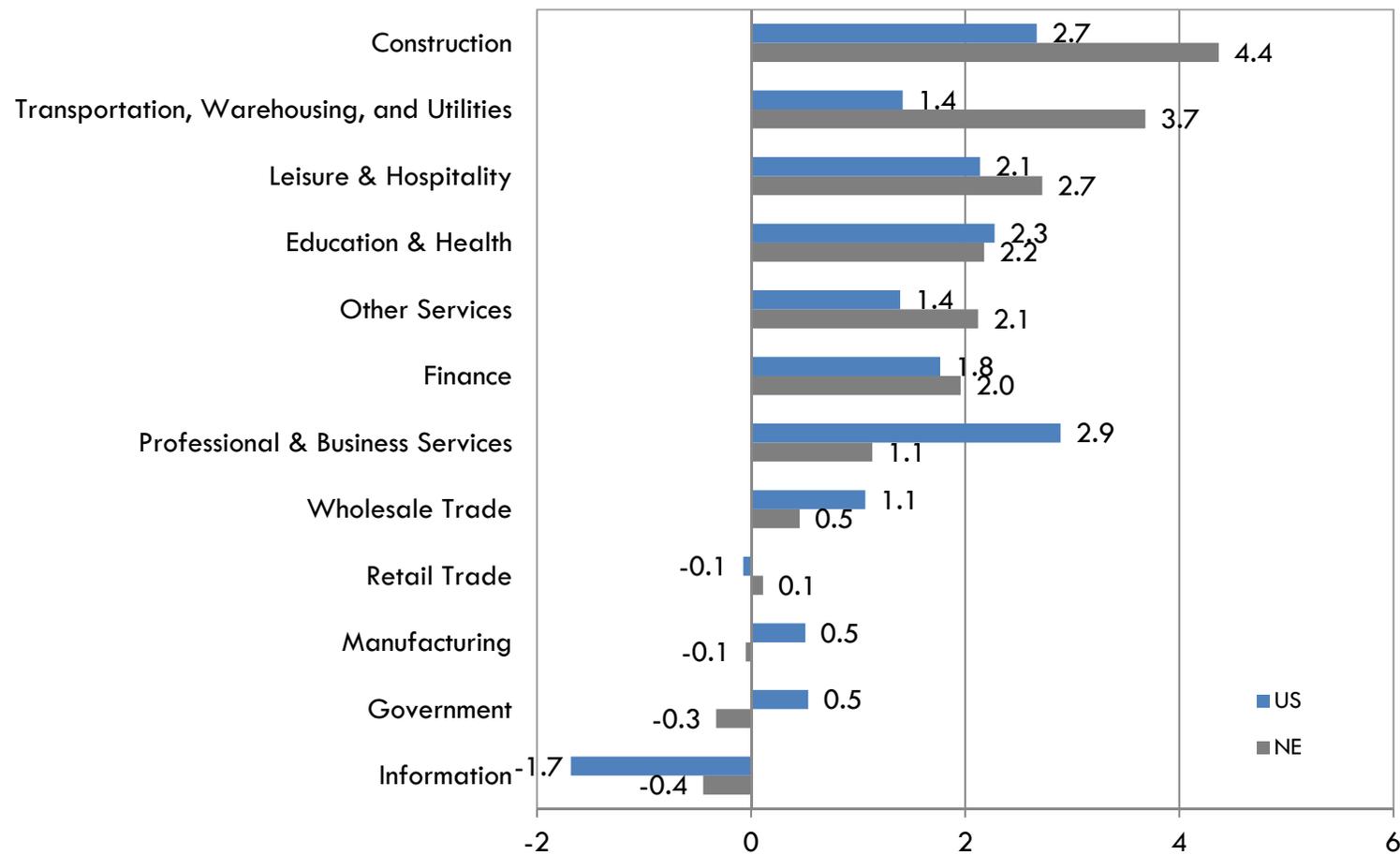
Non-agricultural Employment



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, NBER, Haver Analytics

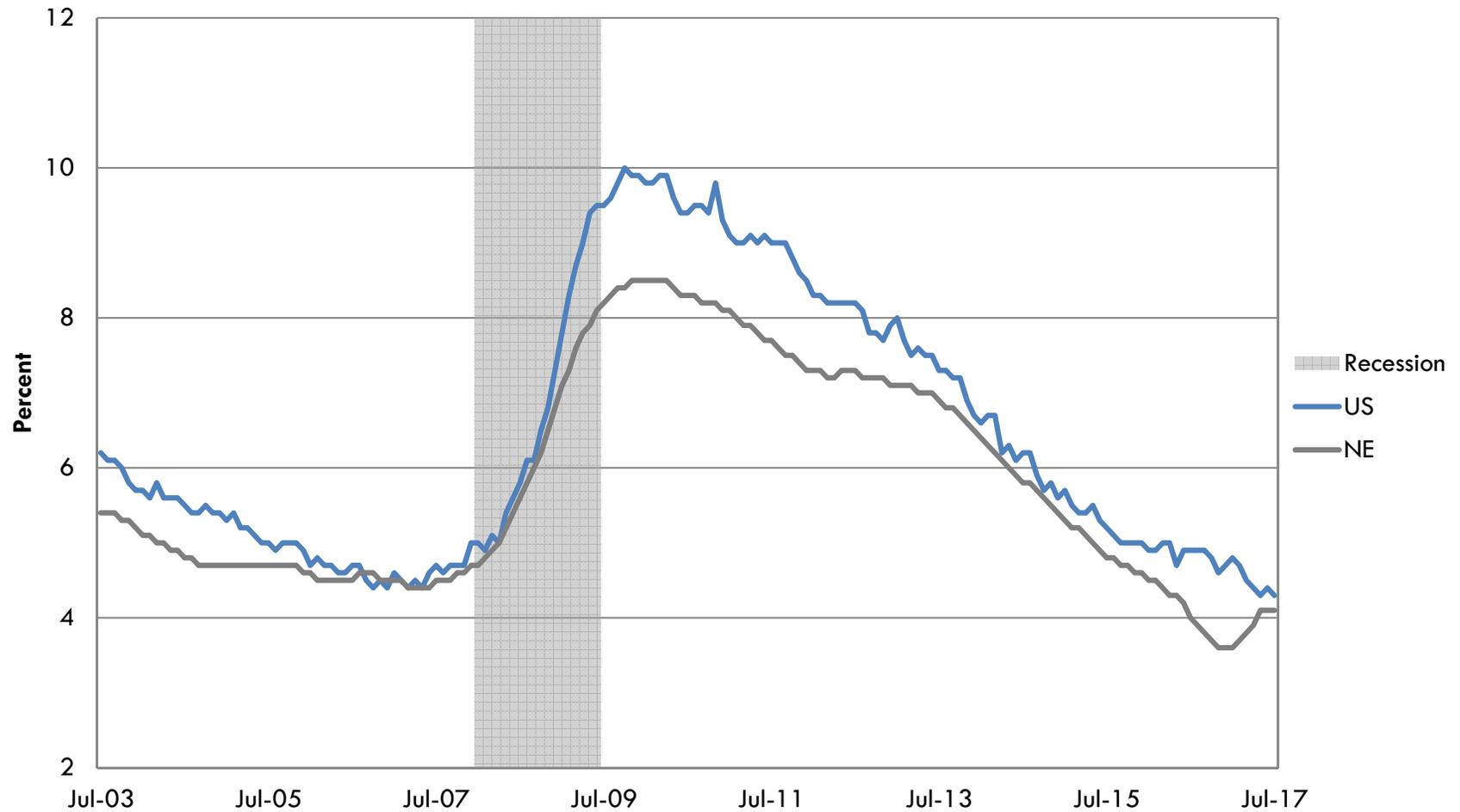
Employment Growth by Industry

Percent Change, July 2016 - July 2017



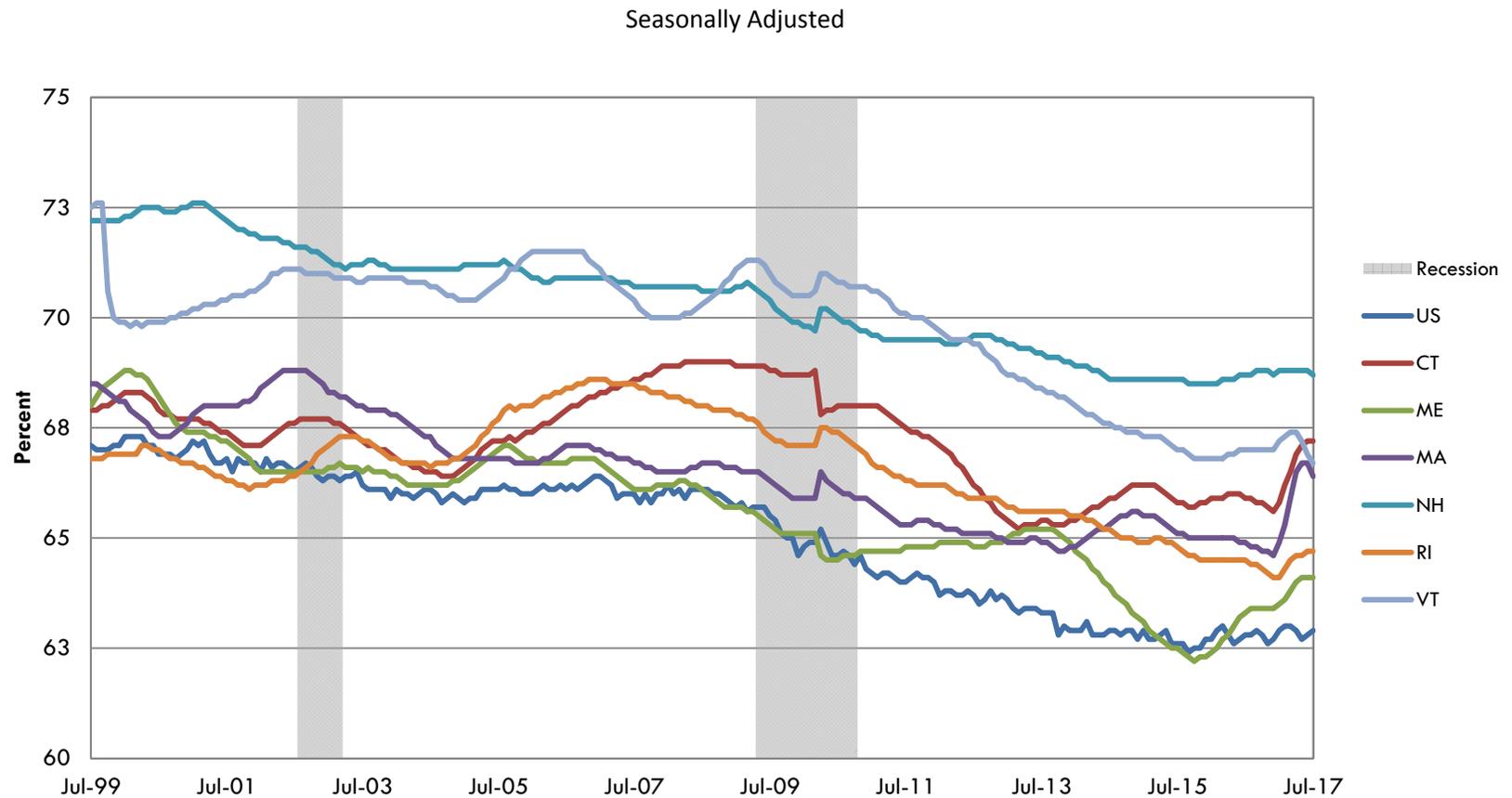
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Haver Analytics

Unemployment Rates



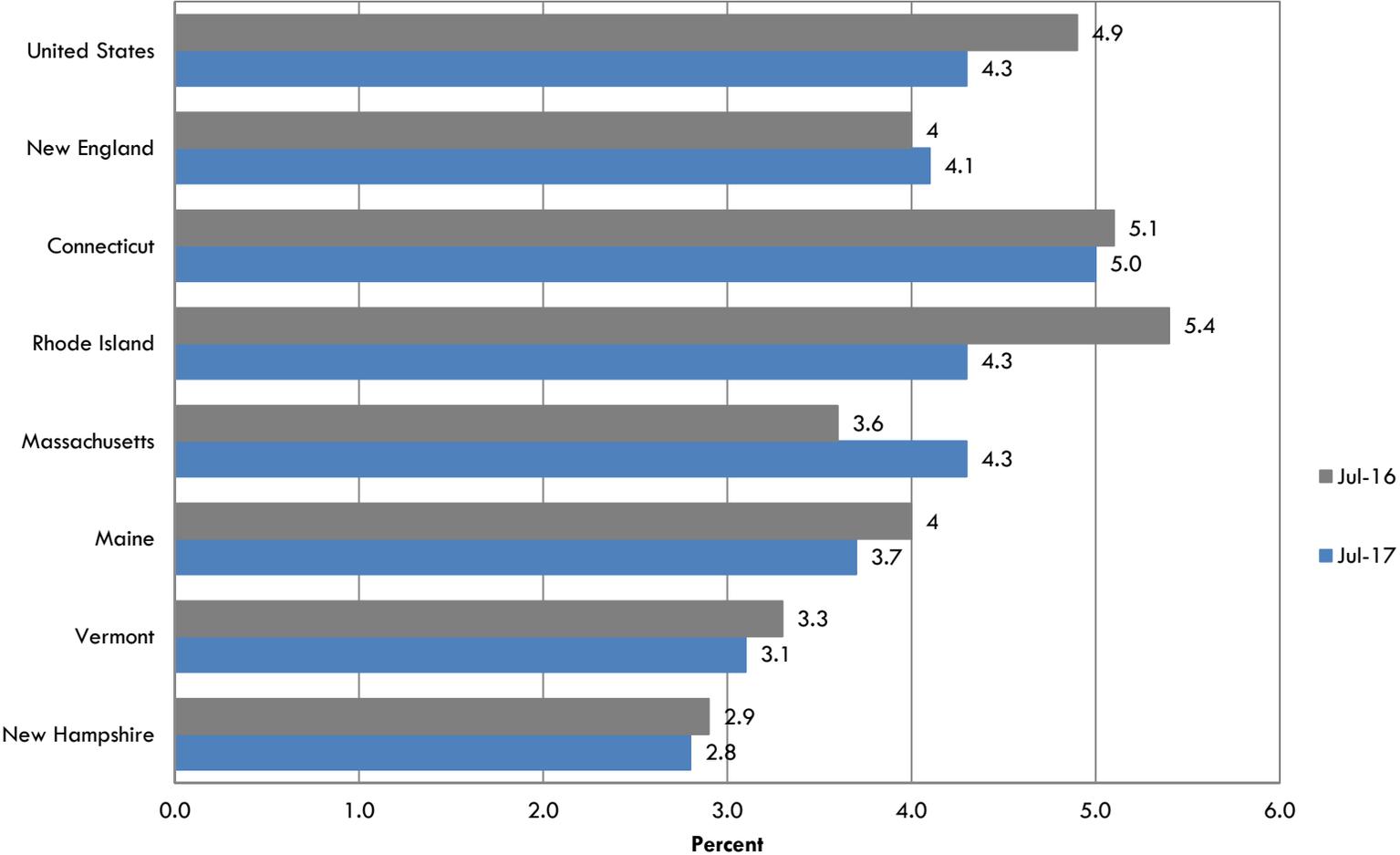
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, NBER, Haver Analytics

Labor Force Participation Rate



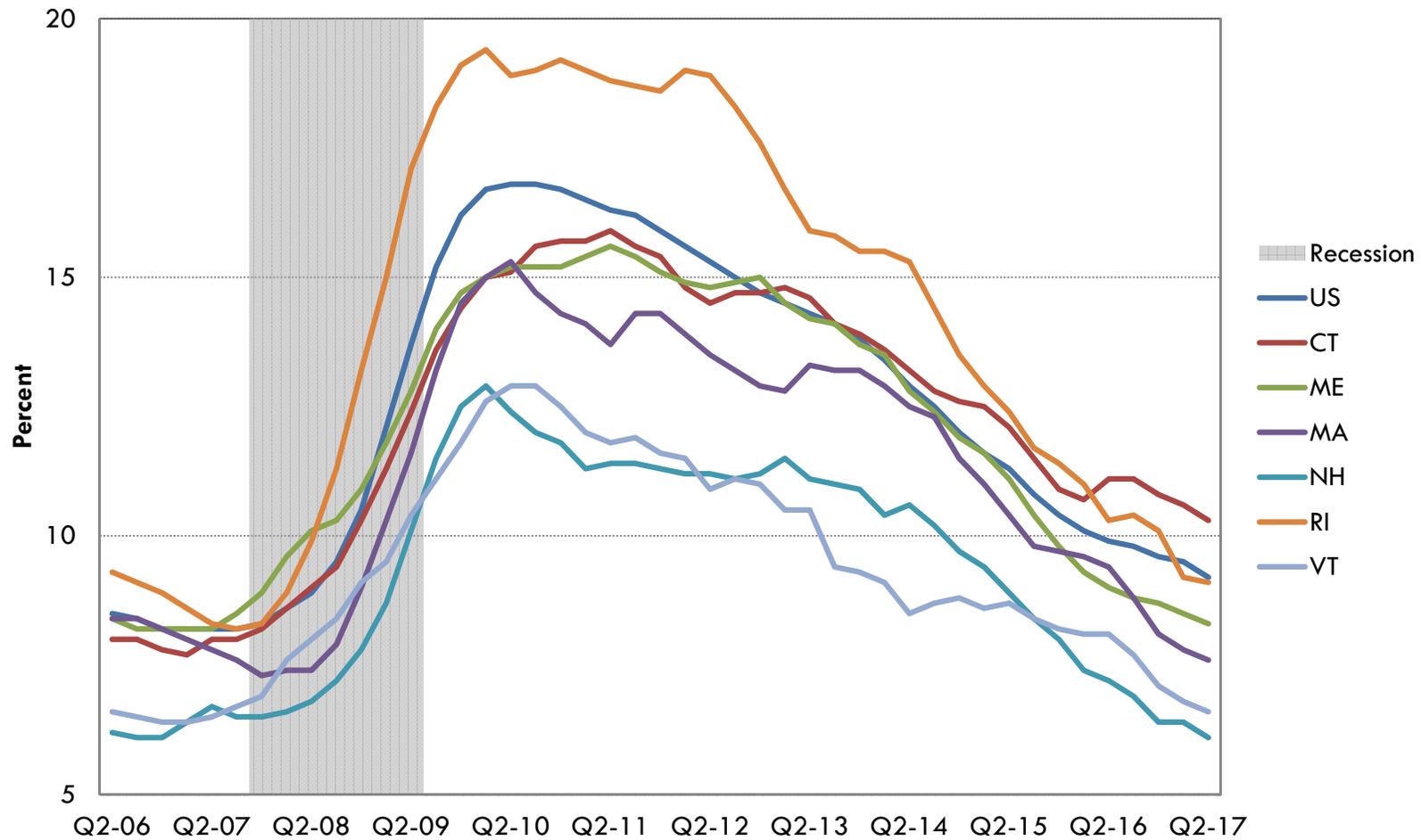
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, NBER, Haver Analytics

Unemployment Rates within New England



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Haver Analytics

U-6 Rates (4-Quarter Average)

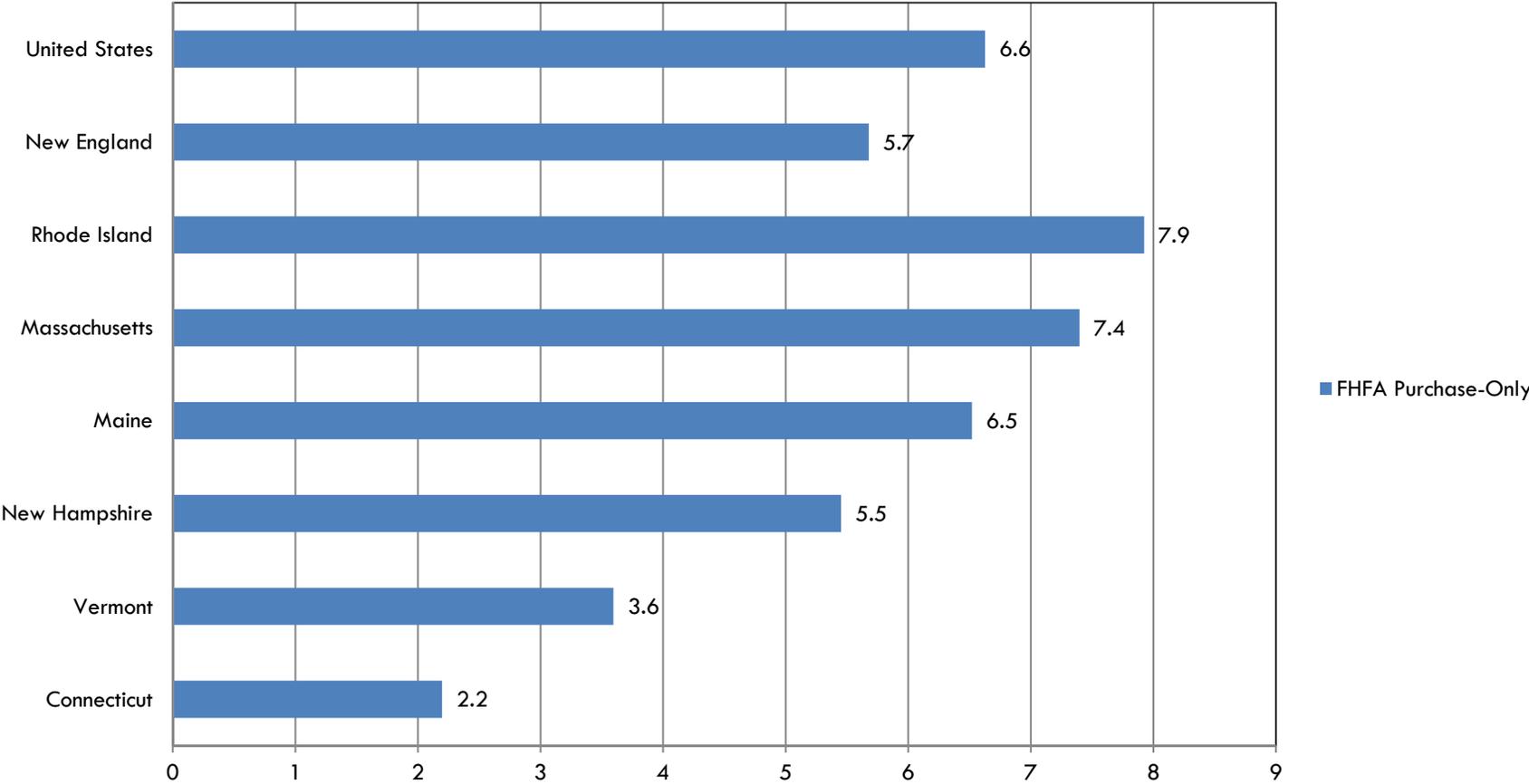


Note: U-6 includes total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, NBER, Haver Analytics

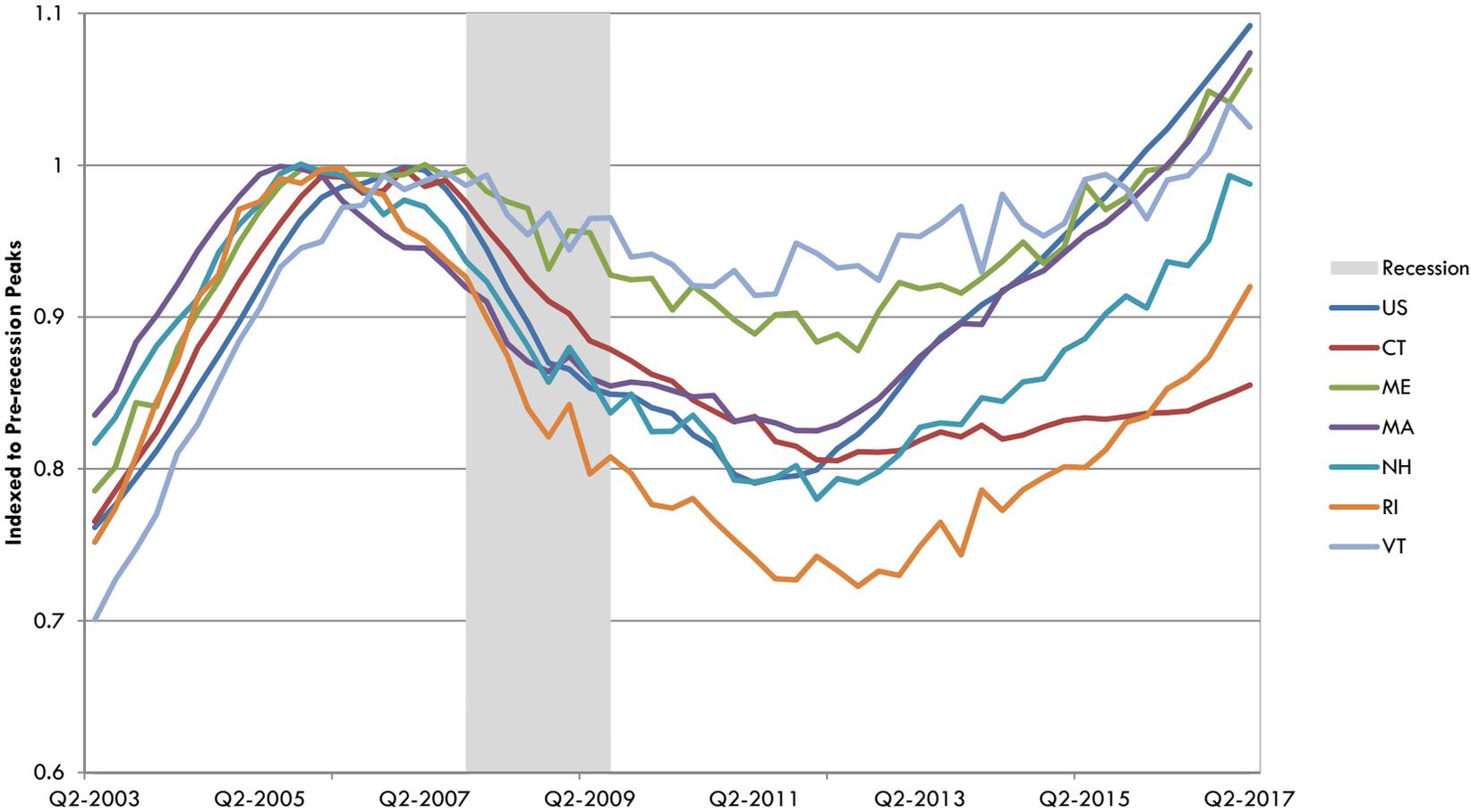
Housing Price Changes within New England

Percent Change, Q2 2016 - Q2 2017



Source: FHFA, Haver Analytics

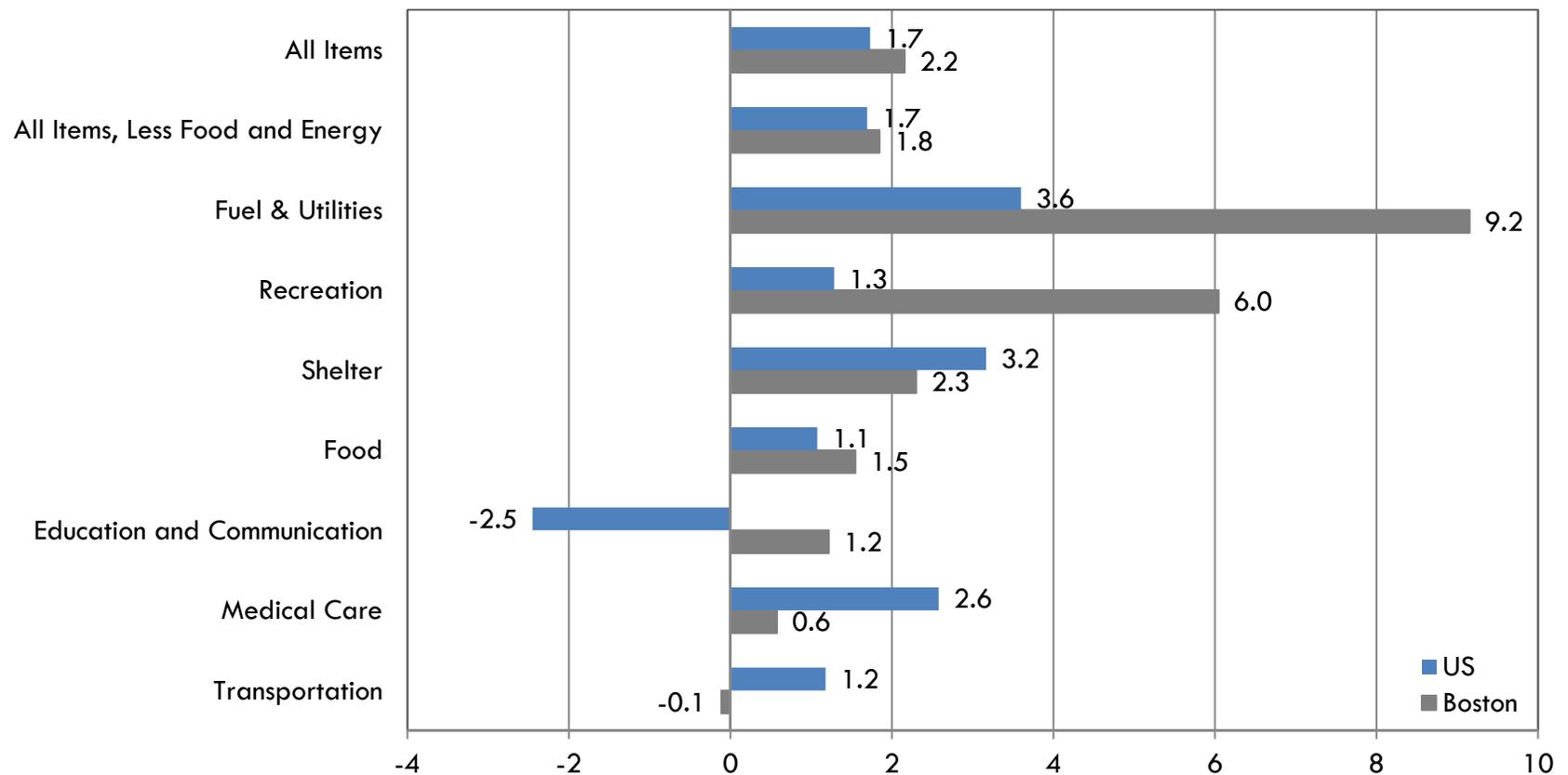
FHFA Purchase-Only Home Price



Source: FHFA, Haver Analytics

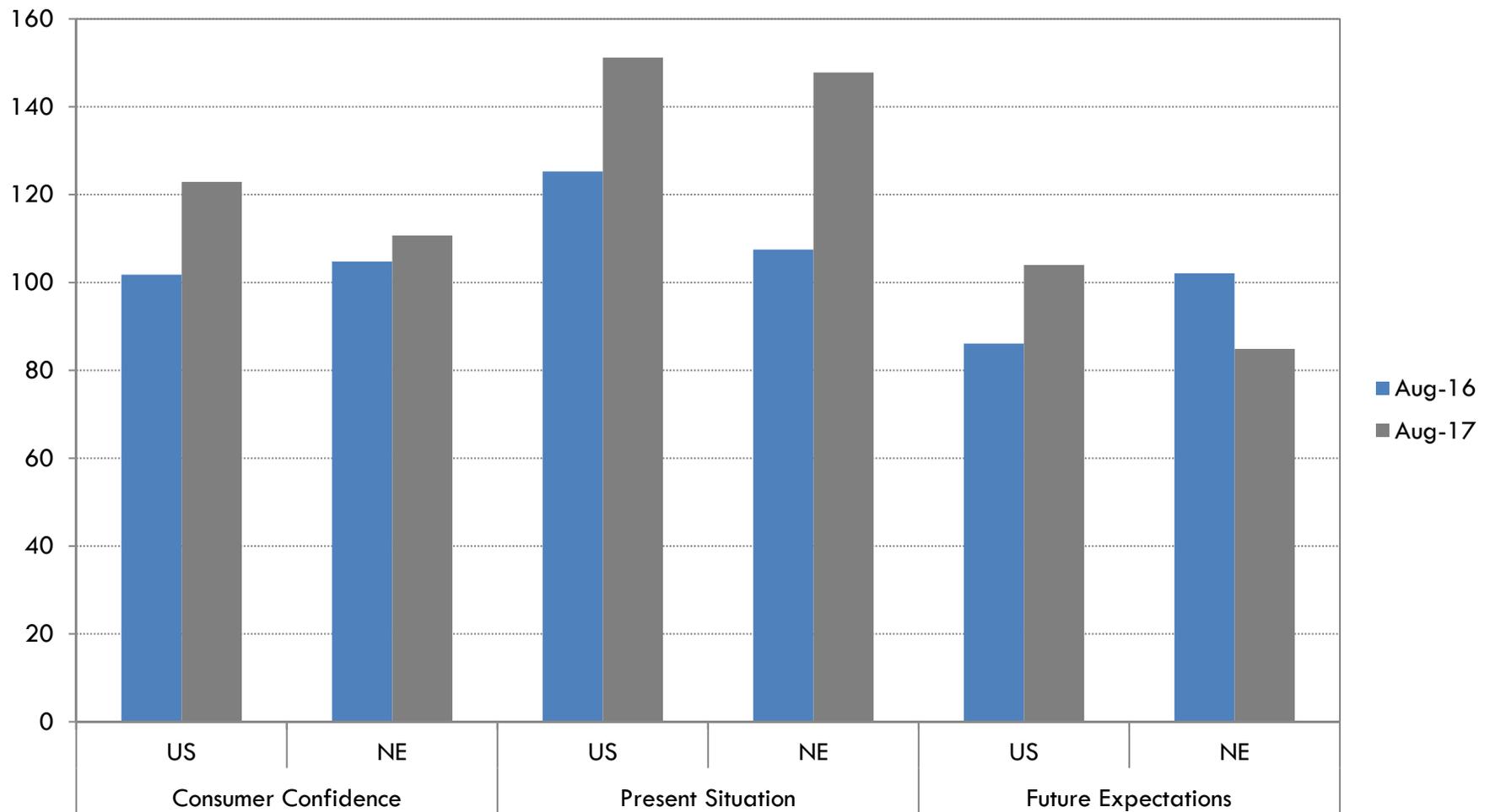
Consumer Price Index

Percent Change, July 2016 - July 2017



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Haver Analytics

Consumer Confidence



Source: The Conference Board, Haver Analytics

Concluding Observations



- Labor market is tight
- Housing prices continue to rise
- Overall inflation is low
- New England consumers show mixed feelings about the present and the short-term future