Policy Analysis in the Post Great Recession Era

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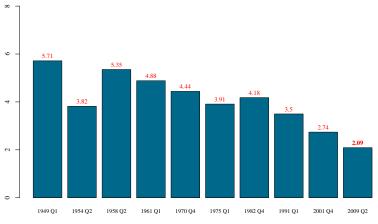
> > Istanbul October 17, 2014

## **Issues Facing Various Policy Makers**

- US economy and the Fed
  - slow growth
  - labor market weak
  - inflation low
  - households deleveraging
  - cash holdings are high
- Europe economies also very weak

### **GDP** Growth During an Expansion

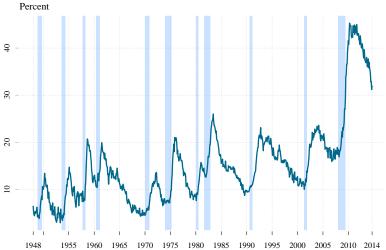
Average, annualized rate of change



Trough Date

Economic Forecast Project

Source: BEA



### Of Unemployed, Percent 27 Weeks and Over

Economic Forecast Project

Source: FRB St. Louis

#### **Employed Part-time for Economic Reasons**

Thousands of persons, Seasonally Adjusted

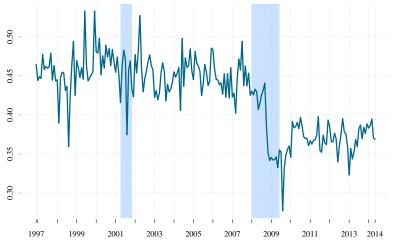


Econsnapshot.com

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

#### Transition Rate from Part-time for Economic Reasons to Full-time

Probability of getting a full time job during the year, Seasonally Adjusted



Econsnapshot.com

Source: U.S. Department of Labor



Personal Consumption Expenditures, Chain-type Price Index

Economic Forecast Project

Source: BEA

#### Average Hourly Earnings, Production and Salary Workers, Total Private Percent change from a year ago

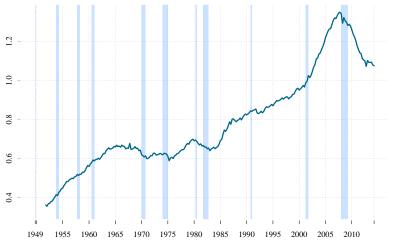


Economic Forecast Project

Source: BLS

### **Household Leverage**

Liabilities to Income



Economic Forecast Project

Source: Flow of Funds, Federal Reserve

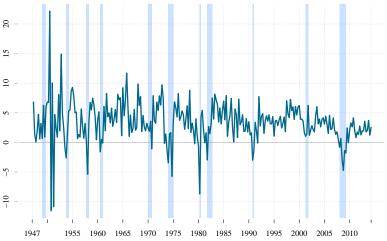
# Household Net Worth (Assets-Liabilities) Ratio to GDP 4.5 4.0 3.5

Economic Forecast Project

 Source: Flow of Funds, Federal Reserve

#### **Real Personal Consumption Expenditures**

Annualized percent change from last quarter



Economic Forecast Project

Source: BEA

• what problems are we facing?

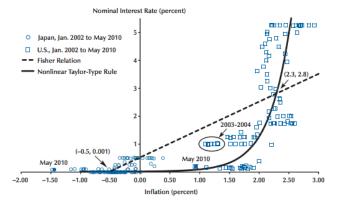
• are we stuck somehow?

• Benhabib, Schmitt-Grohe, Uribe (2001)

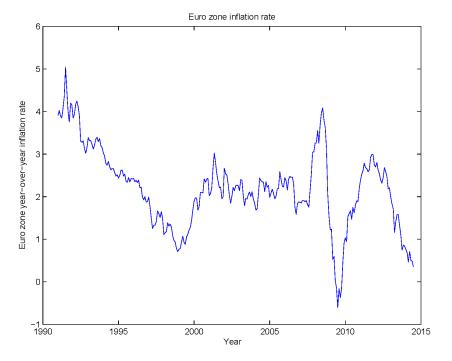
#### Bullard

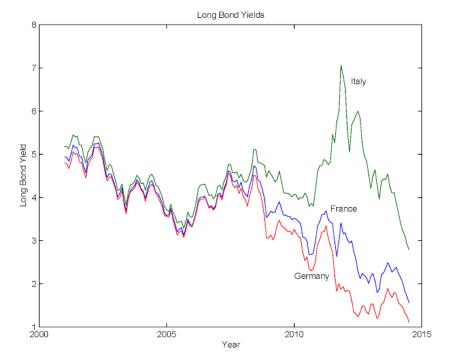
#### Figure 1

#### Interest Rates and Inflation in Japan and the U.S.



NOTE: Short-term nominal interest rates and core inflation rates in Japan and the United States, 2002-10. SOURCE: Data from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.









### Waiting for a Rate Change?

don't hold your breath

• given substantial weakness in the labor market

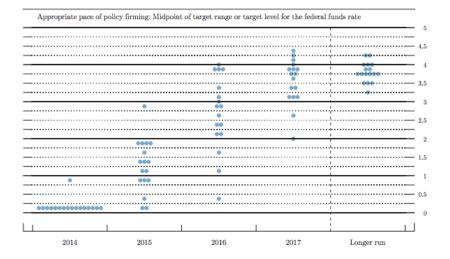
• and no evidence of inflation in sight

• increase nominal rates?

• ECB presumably wants to increase inflation..how?

- QE?
  - Draghi: "So QE is an outright purchase of assets. To give an example: rather than accepting these assets as collateral for lending, the ECB would outright purchase these assets. Thats QE. It would inject money into the system."
- why should that matter?
- TLTRO: subsidized lending...how does expansion of credit or reallocation lead to inflation?
- reducing refinancing rate (0.05%) and interest on reserves (-0.20%)...here think about the Bullard picture above
  - "policy" trap

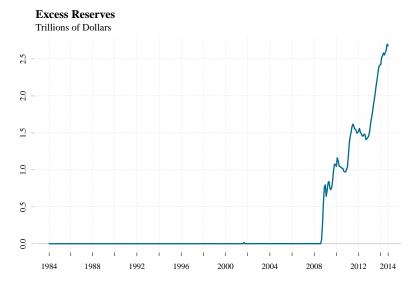
• forward guidance?



Percent

### • but lots of uncertainty remains in the US

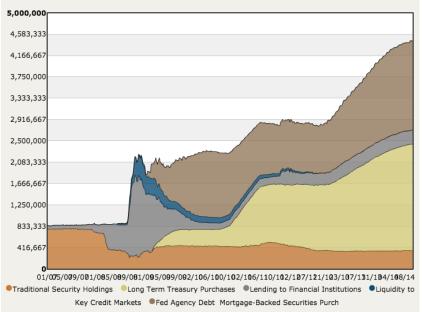
### • too-big-to-fail and bailouts



Economic Forecast Project

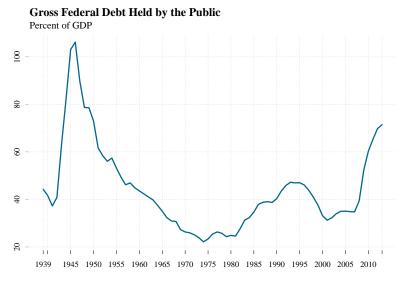
Source: FRB St. Louis

#### SUMMARY VIEW Millions of Dollars



- growth is the way out
  - not stimulus

- structural reform is key
  - labor markets, business climate, deficits, etc.



Economic Forecast Project

Source: FRB St. Louis

# Thank You