## Wells Capital Management





# THE U.S. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MARKET OUTLOOK INTO 2016:

Challenges And Opportunities In The Post-"Meltdown" Economy

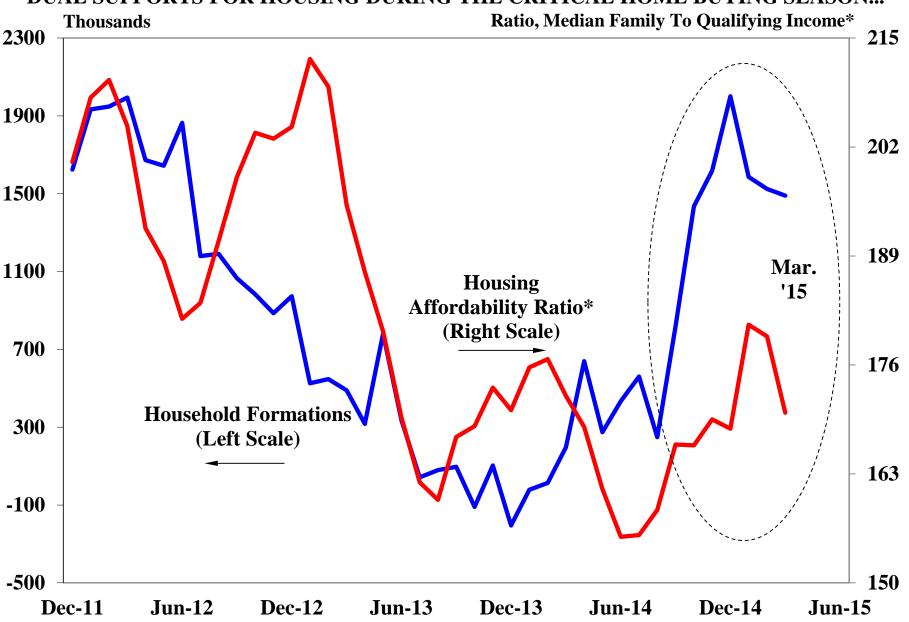
A Presentation To CACTTC June Conference

Napa, California
June 10, 2015

### **FORECAST HIGHLIGHTS**

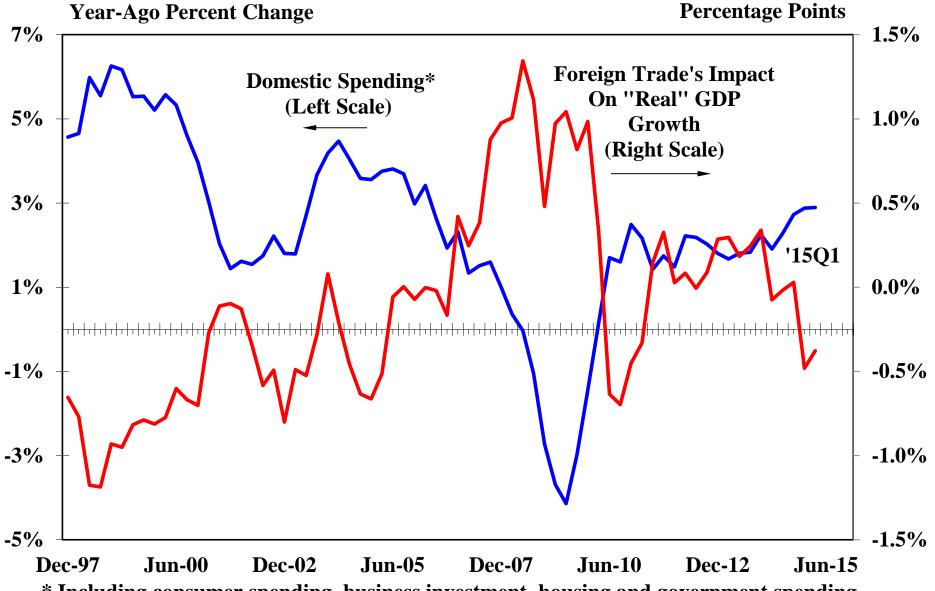
- A Muted Growth Recovery
  - --All Eyes On The Consumer
- California's Tech-Led Recovery Out-Paces The U.S. Average
- Inflation's Slow Turn Higher
  - --What Next For Fuel Prices?
- A Gradual—But "Bumpy"—Rise In U.S. Interest Rates
- "New" Vs. "Old Normal" In the Longer-Term Outlook

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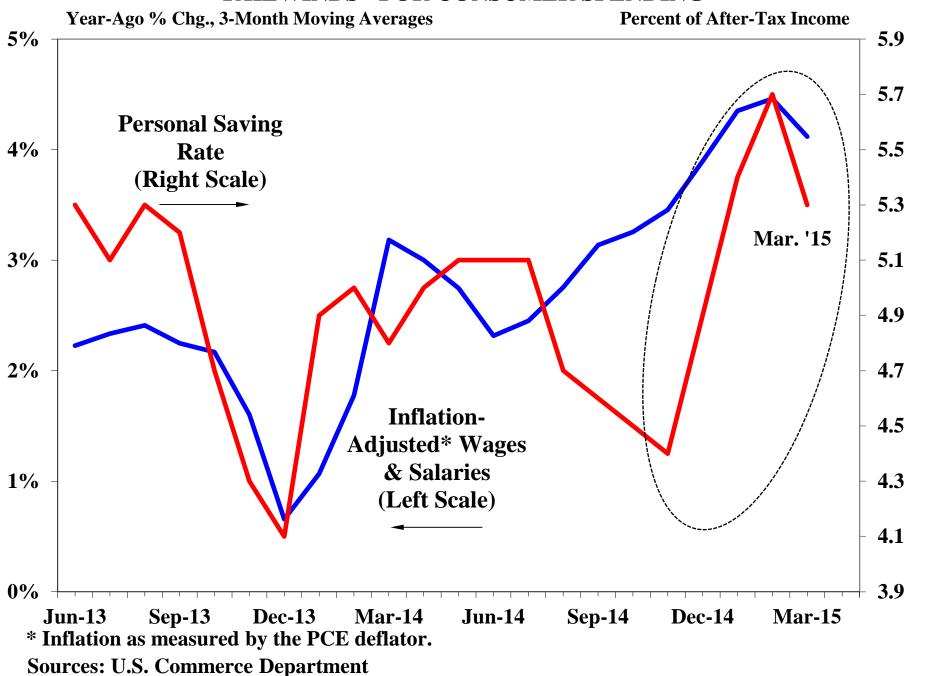
<sup>\*</sup> Ratio, median family income to the income needed to qualify for the median-priced home. Sources: The Mortgage Bankers Association; U.S. Census Bureau

#### WORSENING FOREIGN TRADE AGRAVATED BY STRONG DOMESTIC SPENDING



\* Including consumer spending, business investment, housing and government spending. Source: U.S. Commerce Department

#### "TAILWINDS" FOR CONSUMER SPENDING



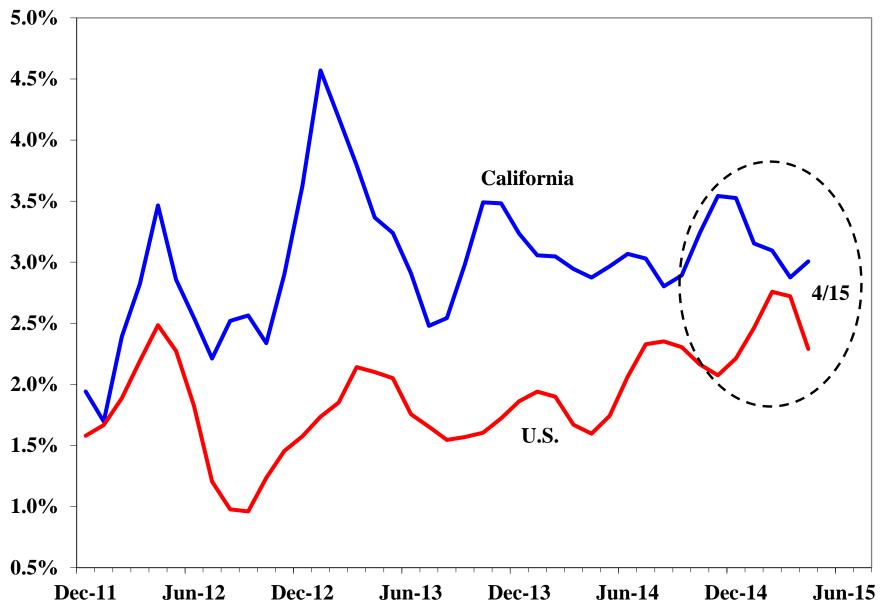
#### CLOSING THE BOOK ON THE "MELTDOWN'S" "HIT" TO HOUSEHOLD WEALTH

Average Inflation-Adjusted Wealth Per Household (Thousands Of 2005 Dollars) 690 660 630 Windfall **600** Windfall Gain Loss **570 Actual Inflation-Adjusted** Wealth Per Household **540 510** 480 450 **Expected Wealth Per HH, Based** 420 On Rolling 10-Yr. Avg. **Quarterly Growth 390 Dec-95 Dec-97 Dec-99** Dec-01 Dec-03 **Dec-05 Dec-07 Dec-09** Dec-11 **Dec-13** Dec-15

Sources: Federal Reserve Board; U.S. Commerce Department; WCM estimates

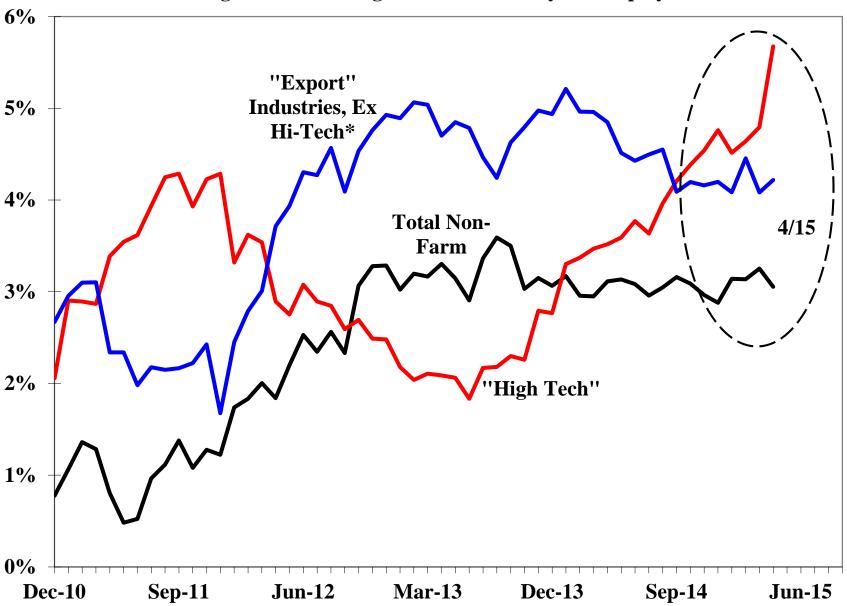
CALIFORNIA JOB GROWTH RUNNING AHEAD OF THE U.S. AVERAGE

Annualized % Chg. In Seasonally Adjusted Non-Farm Payrolls From 3 Months Ago; 3-Mo. Moving Avgs.



Sources: U.S. Labor Department; California Employment

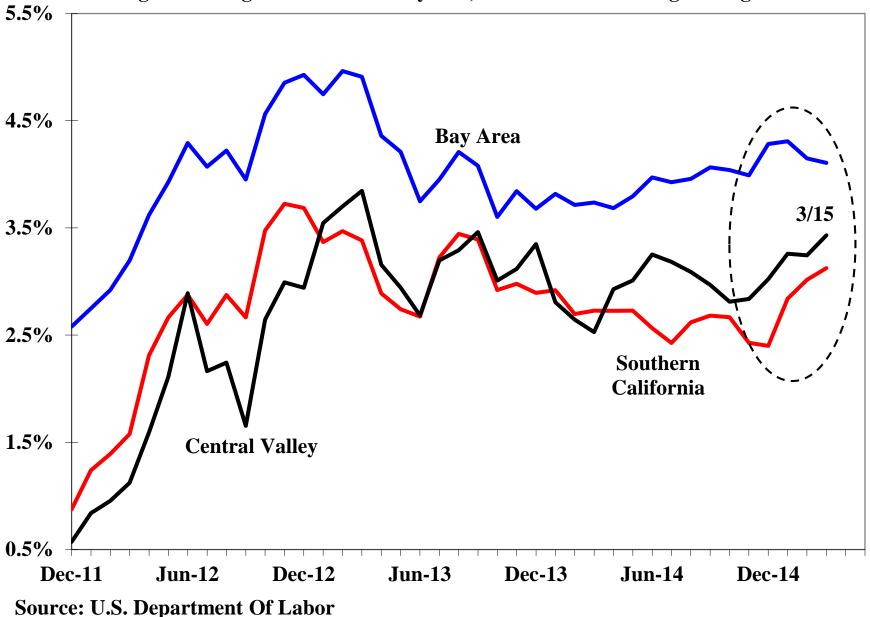
#### "EXPORT"-LED JOB GROWTH IN CALIFORNIA PACED BY HIGH-TECH INDUSTRIES Year-Ago Percent Change In Non-Farm Payroll Employment



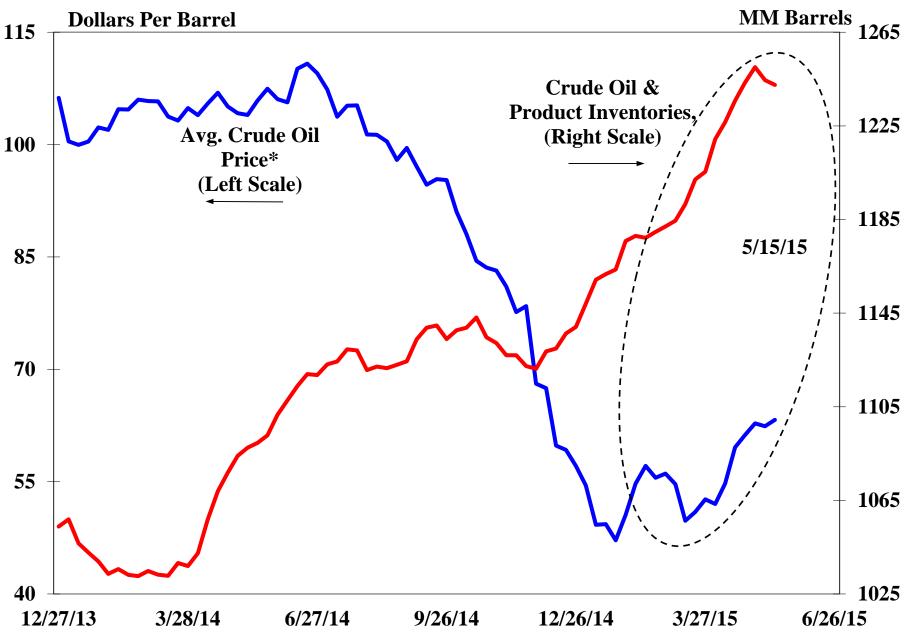
<sup>\*</sup> Aerospace, travel and tourism, motion pictures and sound recording. Source: California Employment Development Department

## THE TECH-LED RECOVERY KEEPS THE BAY AREA ON THE LEADING EDGE OF STATEWIDE JOB GROWTH

Yr-Ago % Change In Non-Farm Payrolls; Three-Month Moving Average Data



#### WHO WINS THE STAND-OFF BETWEEN CRUDE-OIL PRICES AND INVENTORIES?



**Source: U.S. Energy Department** 

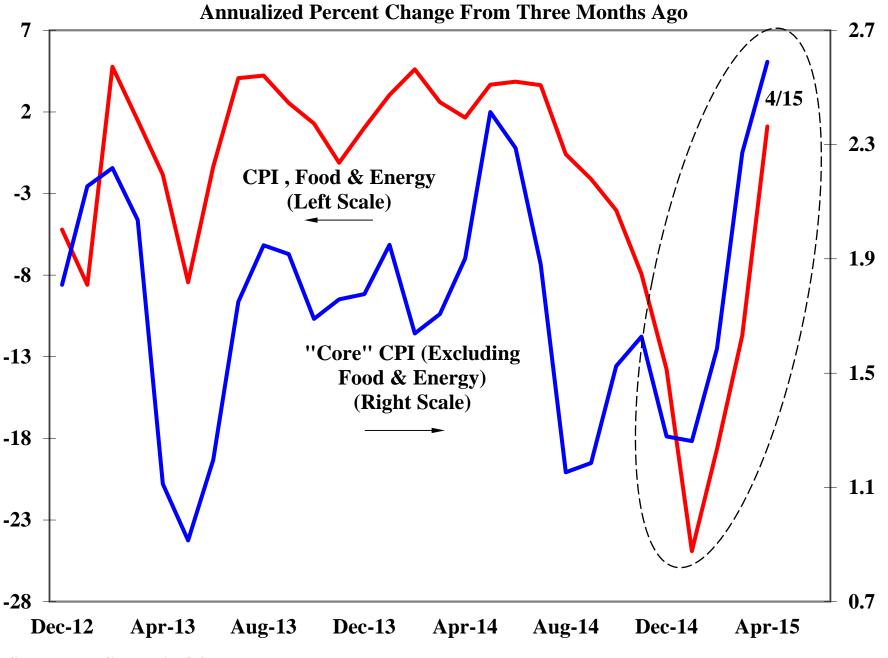
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# AN UNUSUAL INTEREST-RATE CYCLE IN 2015?

• A Cautious "Sea Change" In Monetary Policy

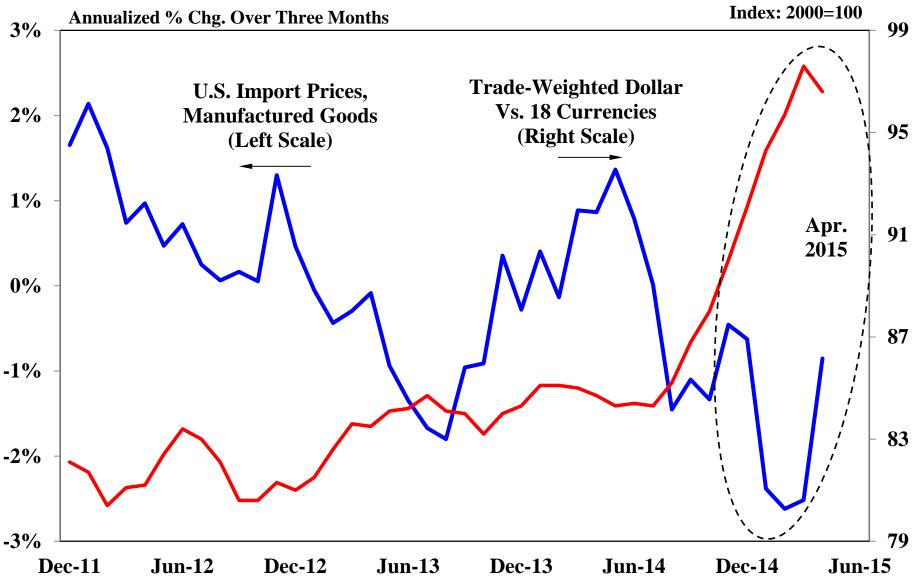
- •A Still-"Friendly" Backdrop For Long-Term Rates
  - -- Moderate Growth, A Slow Transition From "Disinflation"
  - -- Elevated, But Still-Subdued Inflation Expectations
  - --Foreign "Flight-" And Yield-Driven Demand For U.S. Debt
  - -- Yield Increases More Policy- Than Inflation-Driven
- A "Bumpy" Ride Higher?
- --Artificially Low Yield Premiums, Untested Policy Tools And An Unwinding Of Financial-Market Distortions

#### IS INFLATION ON THE WAY BACK?



Source: U.S. Dep't Of Labor

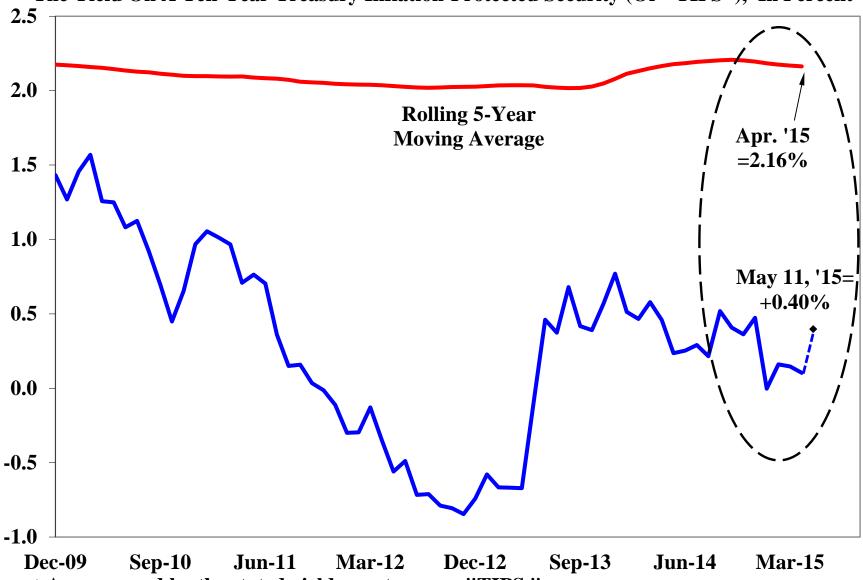
#### IMPORT-PRICE "DEFLATION," REINFORCED BY A STRENGTHENING DOLLAR



Sources: U.S. Labor Dep't; JP MorganChase, Inc.; WCM Estimates

#### "LEAN" INFLATION PREMIUMS: AN ANCHOR OR A COILED SPRING FOR FUTURE INTEREST RATE CHANGES?

The Yield On A Ten-Year Treasury Inflation-Protected Security (Or "TIPS"), In Percent



\* As measured by the stated yield on a ten-year "TIPS."

**Source: Bloomberg Financial News, Inc.** 

## A REPLAY OF LAST DECADE'S "BOOM-BUST" CYCLE?

- The Good News...
  - --No Housing "Bubble"
  - -- Less Leveraged, Better Capitalized Banks
  - --More Manageable Household Debt Burdens
- ...And The Bad
  - --"Shadow Banking" Fills The Traditional-Banking Vacuum
  - --"Illiquidity" Risk Amid Ample "Liquidity"
  - --Weakening Underwriting Standards
  - -- Increased Portfolio Leveraging
  - --Inflated Asset Values

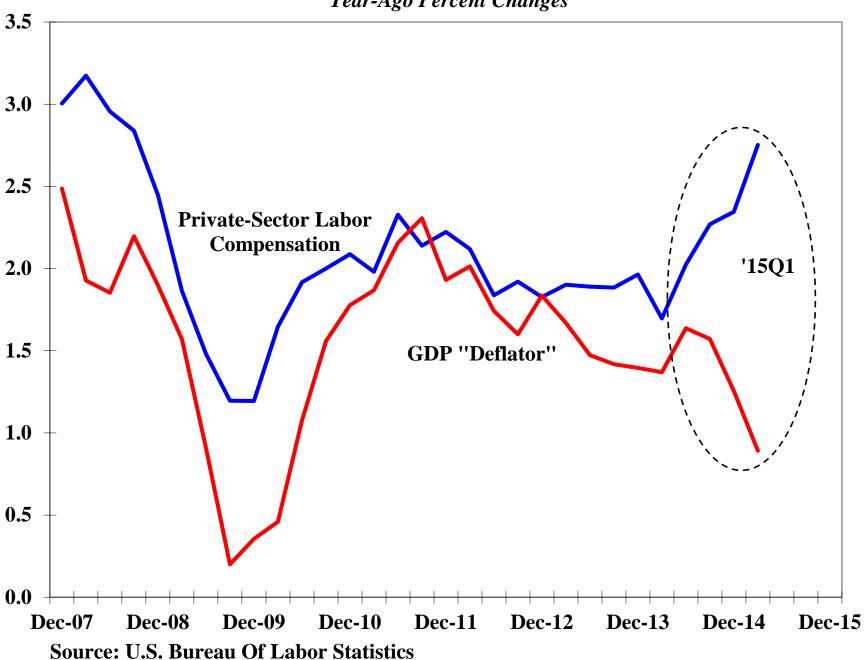
### A "NEW NORMAL" FOR THE U.S. ECONOMY?

- · An Aging, Slower-Growing Workforce
- Lingering Fall-Out From The 2008-09 Financial "Meltdown"
- Policy Uncertainties In The U.S., Structural Adjustment Abroad
- Weak "Pricing Power" In A Highly Competitive Economy

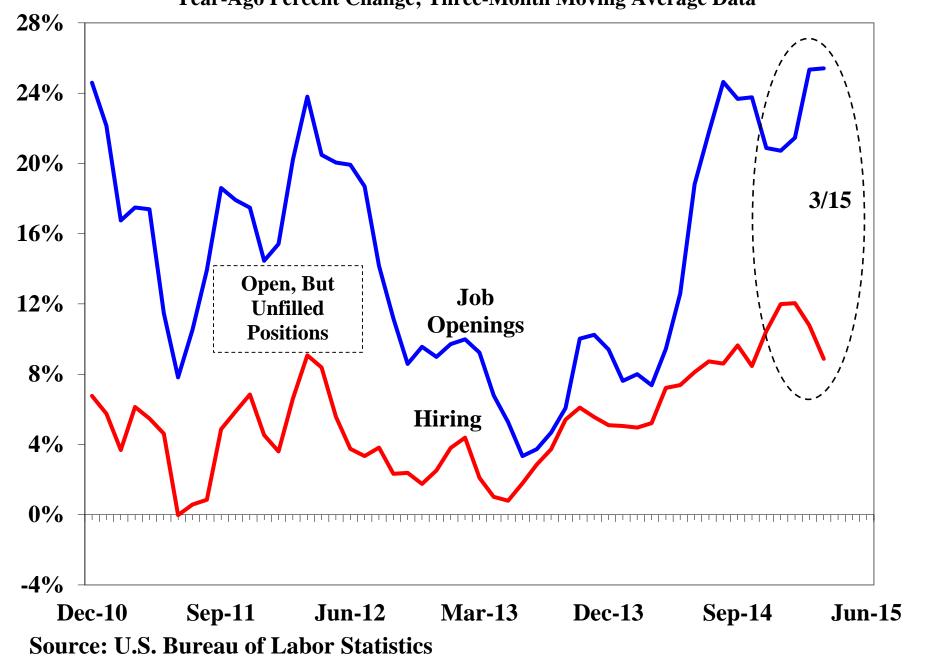
  --Bracing For Further Dollar Increases Pressuring U.S.

  Competitiveness
- A Jobs Mismatch Between Skilled And Less Skilled Workers
- Potentially Volatile, "Asset-Driven" Economic Cycles

## LABOR COMPENSATION AND BUSINESS "PRICING POWER" PART COMPANY Year-Ago Percent Changes



IS A LABOR MISMATCH LEAVING THE JOB MARKET "TIGHTER" THAN IT APPEARS? <sup>18</sup> Year-Ago Percent Change; Three-Month Moving Average Data



## A FEW SUPPORTS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR "OLD NORMALCY"

- Changing Consumption Patterns For An Aging Population
- Infrastructure Upgrades At Home, Expansion Abroad
- Commercializing, Integrating Technological Innovations
- The Energy Renaissance—Promise And Implications
- Well-Positioned In A Highly Competitive Global Economy
  - -- U.S. Entrepreneurial, Innovative Strengths
  - -- Demonstrated Cost-Cutting, Efficiency-Raising Ability
- Emerging-Market Opportunities
  - --Middle-Class Growth, Urbanization, Human Capital Development