

Accessible Version

Summary of Economic Projections Compilation and Summary of Individual Economic Projections

December 11-12, 2012 Tables and Charts

SEP: Compilation and Summary of Individual Economic Projections (PDF)

Authorized for Public Release

Table 1. Economic projections of Federal Reserve Board members and Federal Reserve Bank presidents, December 2012

Percent

Variable	Central tendency					Range				
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Longer run	2012	2013	2014	2015	Longer run
Change in real GDP	1.7 to 1.8	2.3 to 3.0	3.0 to 3.5	3.0 to 3.7	2.3 to 2.5	1.6 to 2.0	2.0 to 3.2	2.8 to 4.0	2.5 to 4.2	2.2 to 3.0
September projection	1.7 to 2.0	2.5 to 3.0	3.0 to 3.8	3.0 to 3.8	2.3 to 2.5	1.6 to 2.0	2.3 to 3.5	2.7 to 4.1	2.5 to 4.2	2.2 to 3.0
Unemployment rate	7.8 to 7.9	7.4 to 7.7	6.8 to 7.3	6.0 to 6.6	5.2 to 6.0	7.7 to 8.0	6.9 to 7.8	6.1 to 7.4	5.7 to 6.8	5.0 to 6.0
September projection	8.0 to 8.2	7.6 to 7.9	6.7 to 7.3	6.0 to 6.8	5.2 to 6.0	8.0 to 8.3	7.0 to 8.0	6.3 to 7.5	5.7 to 6.9	5.0 to 6.3
PCE inflation	1.6 to 1.7	1.3 to 2.0	1.5 to 2.0	1.7 to 2.0	2.0	1.6 to 1.8	1.3 to 2.0	1.4 to 2.2	1.5 to 2.2	2.0
September projection	1.7 to 1.8	1.6 to 2.0	1.6 to 2.0	1.8 to 2.0	2.0	1.5 to 1.9	1.5 to 2.1	1.6 to 2.2	1.8 to 2.3	2.0
Core PCE inflation ³	1.6 to 1.7	1.6 to 1.9	1.6 to 2.0	1.8 to 2.0		1.6 to 1.8	1.5 to 2.0	1.5 to 2.0	1.7 to 2.2	
September projection	1.7 to 1.9	1.7 to 2.0	1.8 to 2.0	1.9 to 2.0		1.6 to 2.0	1.6 to 2.0	1.6 to 2.2	1.8 to 2.3	

Note: Projections of change in real gross domestic product (GDP) and projections for both measures of inflation are from the fourth quarter of the previous year to the fourth quarter of the year indicated. PCE inflation and core PCE inflation are the percentage rates of change in, respectively, the price index for personal consumption expenditures (PCE) and the price index for PCE excluding food and energy. Projections for the unemployment rate are for the average civilian unemployment rate in the fourth quarter of the year indicated. Each participant's projections are based on his or her assessment of appropriate monetary policy. Longer-run projections represent each participant's assessment of the rate to which each variable would be expected to converge under appropriate monetary policy and in the absence of further shocks to the economy. The September projections were made in conjunction with the meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee on September 12-13, 2012.

1. The central tendency excludes the three highest and three lowest projections for each variable in each year. [Return to table](#)
2. The range for a variable in a given year consists of all participants' projections, from lowest to highest, for that variable in that year. [Return to table](#)
3. Longer-run projections for core PCE inflation are not collected. [Return to table](#)

**Table 1a
Economic Projections for the First Half of 2012**
(in percent)**

Central Tendencies and Ranges

	Central Tendency	Range
Change in Real GDP	1.6	1.6
PCE Inflation	1.6	1.6
Core PCE Inflation	2.0	2.0

Participants' Projections

Projection	Change in Real GDP	PCE Inflation	Core PCE Inflation
1	1.6	1.6	2
2	1.6	1.6	2
3	1.6	1.6	2
4	1.6	1.6	2
5	1.6	1.6	2
6	1.6	1.6	2
7	1.6	1.6	2
8	1.6	1.6	2
9	1.6	1.6	2
10	1.6	1.6	2
11	1.6	1.6	2
12	1.6	1.6	2
13	1.6	1.6	2
14	1.6	1.6	2
15	1.6	1.6	2
16	1.6	1.6	2

17	1.6	1.6	2
18	1.6	1.6	2
19	1.6	1.6	2

* Growth and inflation are reported at annualized rates. [Return to text](#)

Table 1b
Economic Projections for the Second Half of 2012 *
(in percent)

Central Tendencies and Ranges

	Central Tendency	Range
Change in Real GDP	1.8 to 2.0	1.6 to 2.4
PCE Inflation	1.6 to 1.8	1.6 to 2.0
Core PCE Inflation	1.2 to 1.4	1.2 to 1.6

Participants' Projections

Projection	Change in Real GDP	PCE Inflation	Core PCE Inflation
1	1.6	1.6	1.2
2	2.0	1.8	1.2
3	1.8	1.6	1.6
4	1.8	1.6	1.2
5	1.8	1.8	1.2
6	2.0	1.8	1.4
7	1.8	1.6	1.2
8	2.0	1.8	1.4
9	2.0	1.8	1.4
10	1.8	1.6	1.2
11	1.8	1.6	1.2
12	1.8	1.6	1.2
13	1.8	1.6	1.2
14	1.8	1.6	1.2
15	1.8	1.6	1.2
16	1.8	1.6	1.2
17	1.6	1.8	1.2
18	2.4	2.0	1.6
19	2.0	1.6	1.2

* Projections for the second half of 2012 implied by participants' December projections for the first half of 2012 and for 2012 as a whole. Growth and inflation are reported at annualized rates. [Return to text](#)

Table 2
December economic projections, 2012-15 and over the longer run
(in percent)

Projection	Year	Change in Real GDP	Unemployment Rate	PCE Inflation	Core PCE Inflation	Federal Funds Rate
1	2012	1.6	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
2	2012	1.8	7.8	1.7	1.6	0.13
3	2012	1.7	7.9	1.6	1.8	0.13
4	2012	1.7	8.0	1.6	1.6	0.13
5	2012	1.7	7.8	1.7	1.6	0.13
6	2012	1.8	7.8	1.7	1.7	0.13
7	2012	1.7	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
8	2012	1.8	7.8	1.7	1.7	0.13
9	2012	1.8	7.9	1.7	1.7	0.13
10	2012	1.7	7.9	1.6	1.6	0.13
11	2012	1.7	7.7	1.6	1.6	0.13
12	2012	1.7	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
13	2012	1.7	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
14	2012	1.7	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
15	2012	1.7	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
16	2012	1.7	7.8	1.6	1.6	0.13
17	2012	1.6	7.8	1.7	1.6	0.13
18	2012	2.0	7.8	1.8	1.8	0.13
19	2012	1.8	7.9	1.6	1.6	0.13

1	2013	2.4	7.5	1.8	1.7	0.13	
2	2013	2.5	7.4	1.6	1.6	0.13	
3	2013	2.2	7.8	1.5	1.5	0.13	
4	2013	2.5	7.8	1.3	1.6	0.13	
5	2013	3.0	7.5	1.6	1.8	0.13	
6	2013	3.2	7.0	2.0	2.0	0.13	
7	2013	2.9	7.3	1.3	1.6	0.13	
8	2013	2.5	7.4	2.0	1.9	0.50	
9	2013	2.3	7.6	1.9	1.9	0.13	
10	2013	2.8	7.6	1.5	1.7	0.13	
11	2013	2.7	7.5	1.3	1.6	0.13	
12	2013	3.0	7.4	1.9	1.9	0.13	
13	2013	2.4	7.5	2.0	1.7	0.13	
14	2013	2.7	7.7	1.4	1.7	0.13	
15	2013	2.1	7.7	1.4	1.7	0.13	
16	2013	2.6	7.5	1.4	1.6	0.13	
17	2013	2.0	7.6	1.8	1.8	0.13	
18	2013	3.0	6.9	2.0	2.0	1.00	
19	2013	2.8	7.5	1.3	1.6	0.13	
1	2014	3.6	6.4	2.2	2.0	0.13	
2	2014	3.2	6.8	2.0	2.0	0.13	
3	2014	3.3	7.3	1.5	1.5	0.13	
4	2014	3.2	7.4	1.4	1.6	0.13	
5	2014	4.0	6.8	2.0	2.0	0.13	
6	2014	3.2	6.1	2.0	2.0	1.75	
7	2014	3.5	6.8	1.6	1.7	0.13	
8	2014	2.8	6.8	2.0	2.0	1.50	
9	2014	2.9	7.0	2.0	2.0	0.13	
10	2014	3.2	7.1	1.7	1.8	0.13	
11	2014	3.8	7.1	1.4	1.6	0.13	
12	2014	3.2	7.0	2.0	2.0	0.50	
13	2014	3.1	7.1	1.8	1.6	0.13	
14	2014	3.4	7.2	1.6	1.8	0.13	
15	2014	3.1	7.4	1.7	1.9	0.13	
16	2014	3.3	7.0	1.6	1.7	0.13	
17	2014	2.8	7.3	2.0	2.0	1.50	
18	2014	3.0	6.2	2.0	2.0	2.75	
19	2014	3.5	7.0	1.5	1.7	0.13	
1	2015	3.5	5.7	2.0	2.0	1.00	
2	2015	3.4	6.2	2.1	2.1	0.13	
3	2015	3.5	6.8	2.2	2.0	0.50	
4	2015	3.6	6.5	1.5	1.7	0.75	
5	2015	4.2	6.0	2.2	2.2	0.75	
6	2015	2.8	6.0	2.0	2.0	3.75	
7	2015	3.8	6.1	1.9	1.8	1.00	
8	2015	2.9	6.4	2.0	2.0	2.50	
9	2015	3.0	6.3	2.0	2.0	1.25	
10	2015	3.5	6.5	1.9	1.8	0.50	
11	2015	3.7	6.0	1.6	1.8	1.25	
12	2015	3.2	6.6	2.0	2.0	2.00	
13	2015	3.1	6.7	1.8	1.7	0.50	
14	2015	3.7	6.2	1.7	1.9	0.50	
15	2015	3.6	6.5	1.9	2.1	0.50	
16	2015	3.5	6.3	1.7	1.8	1.00	
17	2015	3.5	6.8	2.0	2.0	3.50	
18	2015	2.5	6.0	2.0	2.0	4.50	
19	2015	3.4	6.2	1.6	1.8	0.75	
1	LR	2.3	5.0	2.0		3.50	
2	LR	2.3	6.0	2.0		3.75	
3	LR	2.2	5.5	2.0		4.00	
4	LR	3.0	5.4	2.0		3.80	
5	LR	2.5	5.2	2.0		4.00	
6	LR	2.3	6.0	2.0		4.25	
7	LR	2.3	5.3	2.0		3.80	
8	LR	2.3	5.5	2.0		4.30	

9	LR	2.5	5.2	2.0	4.50
10	LR	2.3	5.5	2.0	4.30
11	LR	2.3	6.0	2.0	4.50
12	LR	2.5	5.5	2.0	4.00
13	LR	2.5	6.0	2.0	4.00
14	LR	2.5	5.3	2.0	3.00
15	LR	2.5	5.2	2.0	4.00
16	LR	2.2	5.4	2.0	4.20
17	LR	2.3	6.0	2.0	4.25
18	LR	2.5	6.0	2.0	4.50
19	LR	2.5	5.8	2.0	4.25

Table 2 Appendix:

Assessments of participants who, under appropriate monetary policy, judge that the federal funds rate will not be raised until after 2015

Projection	Year of first increase	Change in real GDP	Unemployment Rate	PCE Inflation	Core PCE Inflation	Federal Funds Rate
2	2016	3.4	5.5	2.2	2.2	0.5

Figure 1.A. Central tendencies and ranges of economic projections, 2012-15 and over the longer run

Real GDP Growth
Percent

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Longer Run
Actual	2.2	(3.3)	(0.1)	2.4	2.0	-	-	-	-	-
Upper End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	2.0	3.2	4.0	4.2	3.0
Upper End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	3.0	3.5	3.7	2.5
Lower End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	1.7	2.3	3.0	3.0	2.3
Lower End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	2.0	2.8	2.5	2.2

Unemployment rate
Percent

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Longer Run
Actual	4.8	6.9	9.9	9.6	8.7	-	-	-	-	-
Upper End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	8.0	7.8	7.4	6.8	6.0
Upper End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	7.9	7.7	7.3	6.6	6.0
Lower End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	7.8	7.4	6.8	6.0	5.2
Lower End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	7.7	6.9	6.1	5.7	5.0

PCE inflation
Percent

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Longer Run
Actual	3.5	1.7	1.4	1.5	2.5	-	-	-	-	-
Upper End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.0
Upper End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Lower End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.0
Lower End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.5	2.0

Core PCE inflation
Percent

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Actual	2.4	2.0	1.6	1.2	1.7	-	-	-	-
Upper End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.2
Upper End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.0
Lower End of Central Tendency	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8
Lower End of Range	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7

Note: Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1. The data for the actual values of the variables are annual.

Figure 1.B. Central tendencies and ranges of economic projections, 2012-15 and over the longer run

[Three fan charts display a different visual presentation of the same data from the first three charts of Figure 1, **Change in real GDP, Unemployment rate, and PCE inflation.**]

Figure 2. Overview of FOMC participants' assessments of appropriate monetary policy, December 2012

Appropriate Timing of Policy Firming

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of participants	2	3	13	1

Note: In the upper panel, the height of each bar denotes the number of FOMC participants who judge that, under appropriate monetary policy, the first increase in the target federal funds rate from its current range of 0 to 1/4 percent will occur in the specified calendar year. In September 2012, the numbers of FOMC participants who judged that the first increase in the target federal funds rate would occur in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 were, respectively, 1, 3, 2, 12, and 1.

Appropriate Pace of Policy Firming

Number of Participants With Projected Targets

Target federal funds rate at year-end (Percent)	2012	2013	2014	2015	Longer Run
0 - 0.37	19	17	14	1	
0.38 - 0.62		1	1	5	
0.63 - 0.87				3	
0.88 - 1.12		1		3	
1.13 - 1.37				2	
1.38 - 1.62			2		
1.63 - 1.87			1		
1.88 - 2.12				1	
2.13 - 2.37					
2.38 - 2.62				1	
2.63 - 2.87			1		
2.88 - 3.12					1
3.13 - 3.37					
3.38 - 3.62				1	1
3.63 - 3.87				1	3
3.88 - 4.12					5
4.13 - 4.37					6
4.38 - 4.62				1	3

Note: In the lower panel, each shaded circle indicates the value (rounded to the nearest 1/4 percentage point) of an individual participant's judgment of the appropriate level of the target federal funds rate at the end of the specified calendar year or over the longer run.

Figure 4.A. Uncertainty and Risks - GDP Growth

2(a): Please indicate your judgment of the uncertainty attached to your projections relative to levels of uncertainty over the past 20 years.

	Lower (C)	Broadly similar (B)	Higher (A)
September projections	0	1	18
June projections	0	2	17

2(b): Please indicate your judgment of the risk weighting around your projections.

	Weighted to downside (C)	Broadly balanced (B)	Weighted to upside (A)
September projections	13	6	0
June projections	14	5	0

Individual Responses

Respondent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2(a)	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
2(b)	C	C	B	C	C	B	C	B	C	C	B	B	C	C	C

Figure 4.B. Uncertainty and Risks - Unemployment rate

2(a): Please indicate your judgment of the uncertainty attached to your projections relative to levels of uncertainty over the past 20 years.

	Lower (C)	Broadly similar (B)	Higher (A)
September projections	0	2	17
June projections	0	2	17

2(b): Please indicate your judgment of the risk weighting around your projections.

	Weighted to downside (C)	Broadly balanced (B)	Weighted to upside (A)
September projections	0	6	13
June projections	0	6	13

Individual Responses

Respondent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2(a)	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
2(b)	A	A	B	A	A	B	A	B	A	A	B	B	A	A	A

Figure 4.C. Uncertainty and Risks - PCE inflation

2(a): Please indicate your judgment of the uncertainty attached to your projections relative to levels of uncertainty over the past 20 years.

	Lower (C)	Broadly similar (B)	Higher (A)
September projections	2	10	7
June projections	1	10	8

2(b): Please indicate your judgment of the risk weighting around your projections.

	Weighted to downside (C)	Broadly balanced (B)	Weighted to upside (A)
September projections	3	14	2
June projections	4	12	3

Individual Responses

Respondent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2(a)	A	A	B	A	B	B	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	A	B
2(b)	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	C	C

Figure 4.D. Uncertainty and Risks - Core PCE inflation

2(a): Please indicate your judgment of the uncertainty attached to your projections relative to levels of uncertainty over the past 20 years.

	Lower (C)	Broadly similar (B)	Higher (A)
September projections	2	10	7
June projections	2	9	8

2(b): Please indicate your judgment of the risk weighting around your projections.

	Weighted to downside (C)	Broadly balanced (B)	Weighted to upside (A)
September projections	3	14	7
June projections	4	9	8

Individual Responses

Respondent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2(a)	A	A	B	A	B	B	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	A	B
2(b)	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	A	B	B	B	B	B	C	C

Figure 3.A. Distribution of participants' projections for the change in real GDP, 2012-15 and over the longer run

Number of Participants

Percent range	2012		2013		2014		2015		Longer Run	
	December projections	September projections								
1.6 - 1.7	13	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1.8 - 1.9	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.0 - 2.1	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.2 - 2.3	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	10	7
2.4 - 2.5	0	0	5	6	0	0	1	1	8	10
2.6 - 2.7	0	0	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
2.8 - 2.9	0	0	3	1	3	0	2	2	0	0
3.0 - 3.1	0	0	3	6	3	6	2	2	1	1
3.2 - 3.3	0	0	1	1	7	5	1	2	0	0
3.4 - 3.5	0	0	0	1	3	0	7	6	0	0
3.6 - 3.7	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	2	0	0
3.8 - 3.9	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	0
4.0 - 4.1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0
4.2 - 4.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

Note: Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1.

Figure 3.B. Distribution of participants' projections for the unemployment rate, 2012-15 and over the longer run

Number of Participants

Percent range	2012		2013		2014		2015		Longer Run	
	December projections	September projections								
5.0 - 5.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
5.2 - 5.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
5.4 - 5.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6
5.6 - 5.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
5.8 - 5.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
6.0 - 6.1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	5	6	5
6.2 - 6.3	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	3	0	1
6.4 - 6.5	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	0	0
6.6 - 6.7	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0
6.8 - 6.9	0	0	1	0	4	0	2	6	0	0
7.0 - 7.1	0	0	1	1	7	4	0	0	0	0
7.2 - 7.3	0	0	1	1	3	8	0	0	0	0
7.4 - 7.5	0	0	9	1	2	3	0	0	0	0
7.6 - 7.7	1	0	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.8 - 7.9	17	0	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.0 - 8.1	1	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.2 - 8.3	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1.

Figure 3.C. Distribution of participants' projections for PCE inflation, 2012-15 and over the longer run

Number of Participants

Percent range	2012		2013		2014		2015		Longer Run	
	December projections	September projections								
1.3 - 1.4	0	0	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
1.5 - 1.6	12	2	4	5	5	4	3	0	0	0
1.7 - 1.8	7	15	2	5	3	4	3	4	0	0
1.9 - 2.0	0	2	6	8	8	8	10	12	19	19
2.1 - 2.2	0	0	0	1	1	3	3	2	0	0
2.3 - 2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

Note: Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1.

Figure 3.D. Distribution of participants' projections for core PCE inflation, 2012-14

Number of Participants

Percent range	2012		2013		2014		2015	
	December projections	September projections						
1.5 - 1.6	14	2	7	2	4	1	0	0
1.7 - 1.8	5	12	7	8	5	5	7	2
1.9 - 2.0	0	5	5	9	10	11	9	14
2.1 - 2.2	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2

2.3 - 2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
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Note: Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1.

Figure 3.E. Distribution of participants' projections for the target federal funds rate, 2012-15 and over the longer run

Number of Participants

Percent range	2012		2013		2014		2015		Longer Run	
	December projections	September projections								
0 - 0.37	19	18	17	15	14	13	1	1	0	0
0.38 - 0.62	0	1	1	2	1	0	5	2	0	0
0.63 - 0.87	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	0	0
0.88 - 1.12	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	4	0	0
1.13 - 1.37	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
1.38 - 1.62	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	3	0	0
1.63 - 1.87	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
1.88 - 2.12	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2.13 - 2.37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.38 - 2.62	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
2.63 - 2.87	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
2.88 - 3.12	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
3.13 - 3.37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.38 - 3.62	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
3.63 - 3.87	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	2
3.88 - 4.12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	6
4.13 - 4.37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5
4.38 - 4.63	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	4

Note: Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1.

Figure 4. Uncertainty and risks in economic projections

Uncertainty about GDP growth

Number of participants

	Lower	Broadly similar	Higher
December projections	0	1	18
September projections	0	2	17

Risks to GDP growth

Number of participants

	Weighted to downside	Broadly balanced	Weighted to upside
December projections	13	6	0
September projections	14	5	0

Uncertainty about the unemployment rate

Number of participants

	Lower	Broadly similar	Higher
December projections	0	2	17
September projections	0	2	17

Risks to the unemployment rate

Number of participants

	Weighted to downside	Broadly balanced	Weighted to upside
December projections	0	6	13
September projections	0	6	13

Uncertainty about PCE inflation

Number of participants

	Lower	Broadly similar	Higher
December projections	2	10	7
September projections	1	10	8

Risks to PCE inflation
Number of participants

	Weighted to downside	Broadly balanced	Weighted to upside
December projections	3	14	2
September projections	4	12	3

Uncertainty about core PCE inflation
Number of participants

	Lower	Broadly similar	Higher
December projections	2	10	7
September projections	2	9	8

Risks to core PCE inflation
Number of participants

	Weighted to downside	Broadly balanced	Weighted to upside
December projections	3	14	2
September projections	4	12	3

Note: For definitions of uncertainty and risks in economic projections, see the box "Forecast Uncertainty." Definitions of variables are in the general note to table 1.

Figure 5. Scatterplots of projections in the initial year of policy firming (in percent)

Year of Firming	Change in Real GDP	Unemployment Rate
2013	2.5	7.4
2013	3.0	6.9
2014	2.8	7.3
2014	3.2	6.1
2014	3.2	7.0
2015	3.0	6.3
2015	3.1	6.7
2015	3.4	6.2
2015	3.5	5.7
2015	3.5	6.3
2015	3.5	6.5
2015	3.5	6.8
2015	3.6	6.5
2015	3.6	6.5
2015	3.7	6.0
2015	3.7	6.2
2015	3.8	6.1
2015	4.2	6.0
2016	3.4	5.5

Year of Firming	Change in Real GDP	PCE Inflation
2013	2.5	2.0
2013	3.0	2.0
2014	2.8	2.0
2014	3.2	2.0
2014	3.2	2.0
2015	3.0	2.0
2015	3.1	1.8
2015	3.4	1.6
2015	3.5	1.7
2015	3.5	1.9
2015	3.5	2.0
2015	3.5	2.2

2015	3.6	1.5
2015	3.6	1.9
2015	3.7	1.6
2015	3.7	1.7
2015	3.8	1.9
2015	4.2	2.2
2016	3.4	2.2

Year of Firming	Unemployment Rate	PCE Inflation
2013	6.9	2.0
2013	7.4	2.0
2014	6.1	2.0
2014	7.0	2.0
2014	7.3	2.0
2015	5.7	2.0
2015	6.0	1.6
2015	6.0	2.2
2015	6.1	1.9
2015	6.2	1.6
2015	6.2	1.7
2015	6.3	1.7
2015	6.3	2.0
2015	6.5	1.5
2015	6.5	1.9
2015	6.5	1.9
2015	6.5	1.9
2015	6.7	1.8
2015	6.8	2.2
2016	5.5	2.2

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