Consumer Price Inflation

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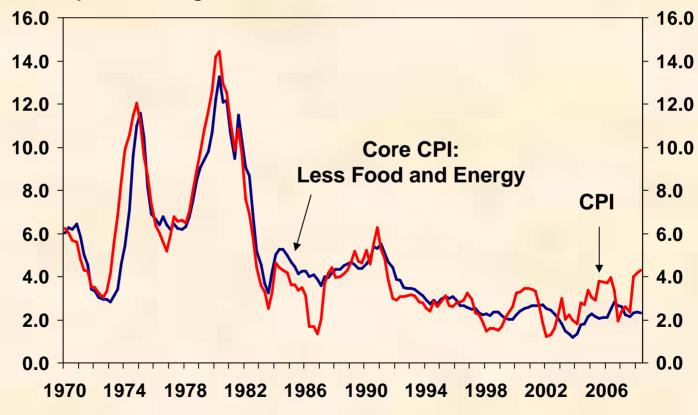
August 12, 2008

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City or the Federal Reserve System.

Inflation has Jumped to its Highest Levels Since the Early 1990s.

Consumer Price Inflation

Annual percent change

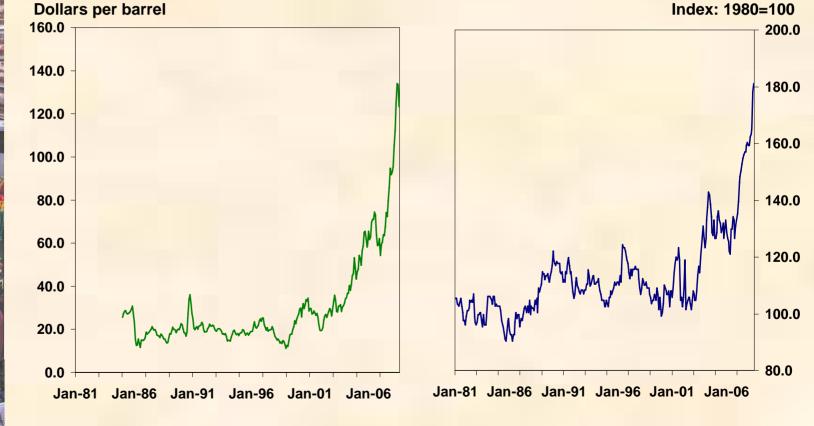


Source: Department of Commerce

Energy and Farm Commodity Price Spikes Have Fueled the Gains.

WTI Crude Oil Prices

Farm Commodity Prices



Source: Department of Energy and USDA



A Decade of High Energy Inflation.

Consumer Price Inflation – Food and Energy Components

50.0 50.0 40.0 40.0 **CPI - Energy** 30.0 30.0 **CPI - Food** 20.0 20.0 10.0 10.0 0.0 0.0 -10.0 -10.0 -20.0 -20.0 1970 1974 1978 1982 1986 1990 1994 1998 2002 2006

Annual percent change

Source: Department of Commerce

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Energy Costs are Driving Housing and Transportation Inflation.

Category	Relative Importanc eto CPI	Annual Percent Change June 2007	Annual Percent Change June 2008
Housing	42.7	3.4	<mark>3</mark> .5
Shelter	32.6	3.8	2.5
Furnishings	4.7	0.0	0.2
Household Fuel	5.1	4.4	12.2
Transportation	17.7	0.9	12.0
Motor Vehicles	7.2	-1.9	-0.3
Motor Fuel	5.5	4.9	33.3

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Photos courtesy of USDA

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Broad Increases in Food Price Inflation.

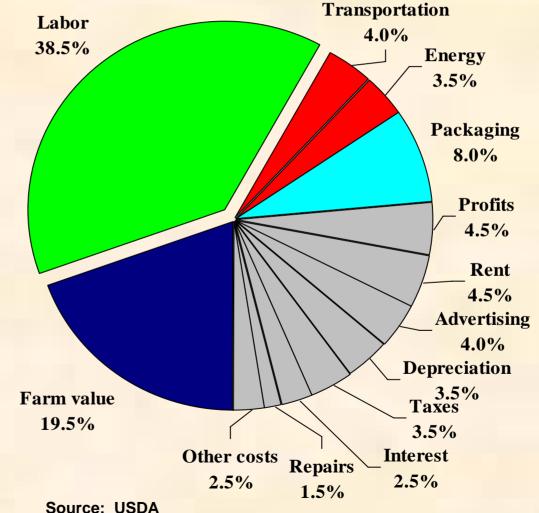
Category	Relative Importance to CPI	Annual Percent Change June 2007	Annual Percent Change June 2008
Food at Home	7.7	4.6	6.1
Fats and oils	0.2	2.6	14.3
Cereals	1.0	4.6	10.4
Dairy	0.9	6.6	9.2
Fruits and Vegetables	1.2	4.2	7.6
Meats	1.8	6.0	2.9

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Photos courtesy of USDA

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Cost Components of US Food Marketing Bill (2005)

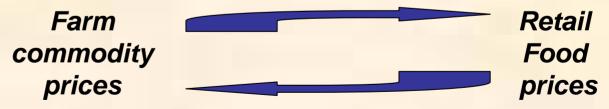




The Inflation Dilemma

Inflation: too much money chasing too few goods? What is driving inflation: supply or demand?

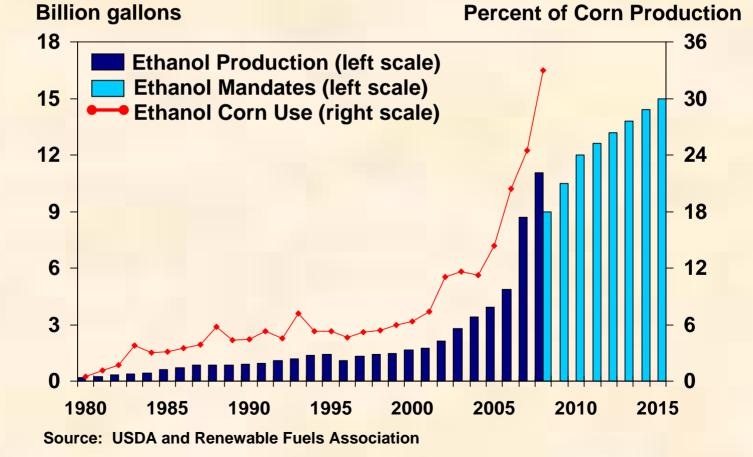
Do higher farm commodity prices cause higher retail food prices?



Do higher retail food prices cause higher farm commodity prices?

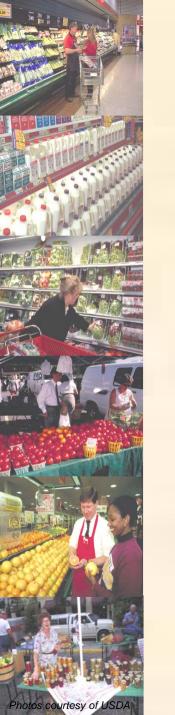
Ethanol Production Will Continue to Increase.

U.S. Ethanol Production, Mandates, and Corn Use



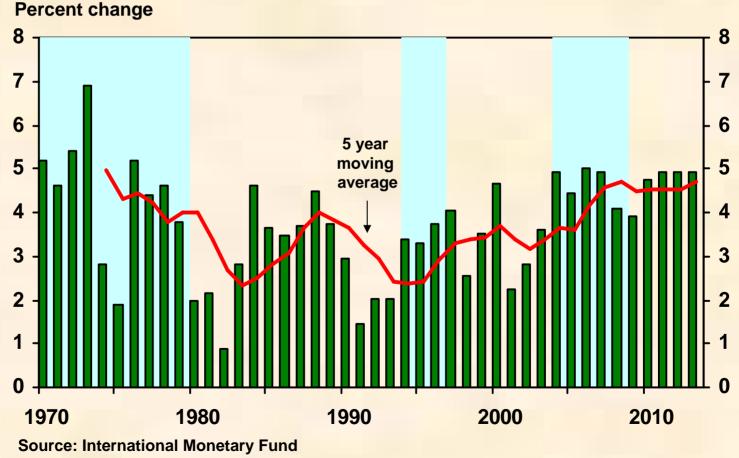
Photos courtesy of USDA

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Strong Global Economies are Driving Energy and Food Demand.

World GDP Growth

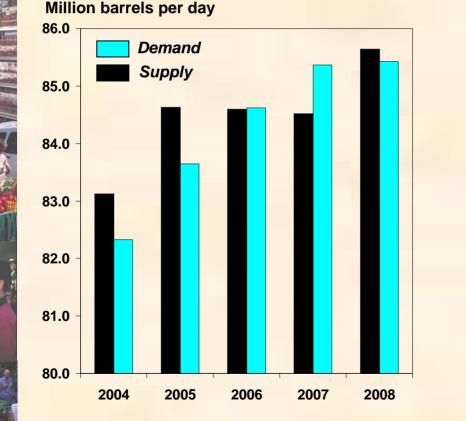


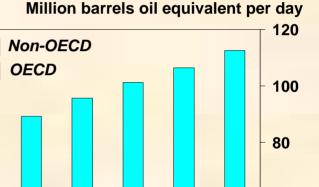
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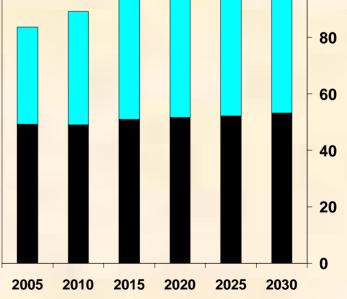
Will Energy Supplies Rise to Fulfill Increasing Energy Demand?

World Oil Balance 2004-2008

World Liquid Energy Consumption





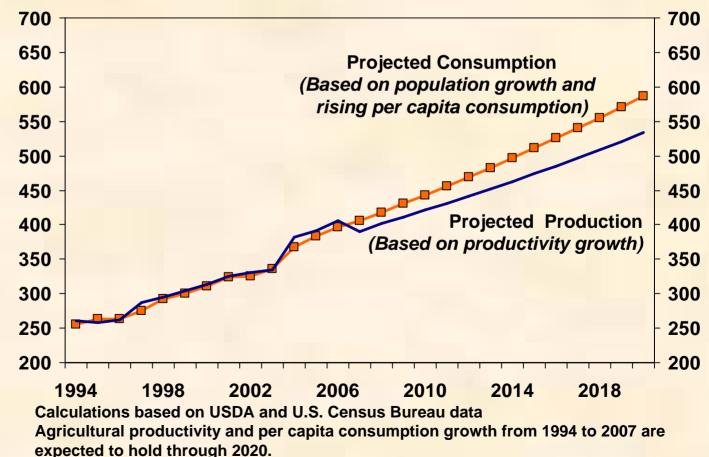


Source: Department of Energy and USDA

Will Agriculture Increase its Productivity to Feed a Larger, Wealthier Population?

World Oilseed Production and Consumption

Million metric tons



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Conclusion

- Is inflation supply or demand driven?
- Energy and food supply gains were limited in recent years.
- At the same time, robust economic growth boosted food and energy demand.
- Economic forces will shape the future.

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When will higher prices trim demand and unleash a surge in supply?