U.S. and Regional Economic Outlook



Chad Wilkerson

Vice President, Economist, and Oklahoma City Branch Executive
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
www.kansascityfed.org/oklahomacity



Overview of the Federal Reserve System

- The "Fed" consists of three main entities:
 - Board of Governors: 7 members appointed by U.S. President
 - Federal Reserve Banks: 12 total; semi-independent by design
 - <u>Federal Open Market Committee</u>: 19 members; 12 voting
- As with most central banks, the Fed's primary responsibilities fall within four general areas:
 - <u>Lender of last resort</u> provide liquidity in times of crisis
 - Monetary policy promote full employment and low inflation
 - Bank regulation ensure safety and soundness of banks
 - <u>Financial services</u> bank for banks, bank for federal govt.



Federal Reserve Districts and Office Locations



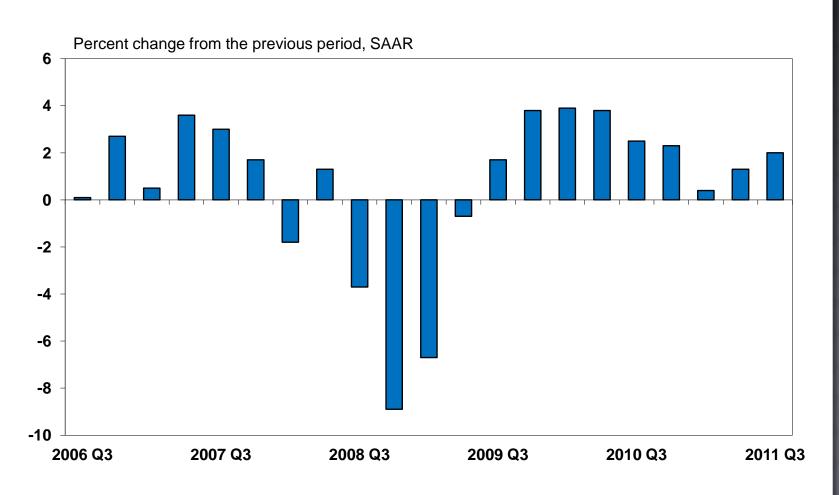


The U.S. Economy



Real GDP growth picked up somewhat in Q3, but still remains moderate

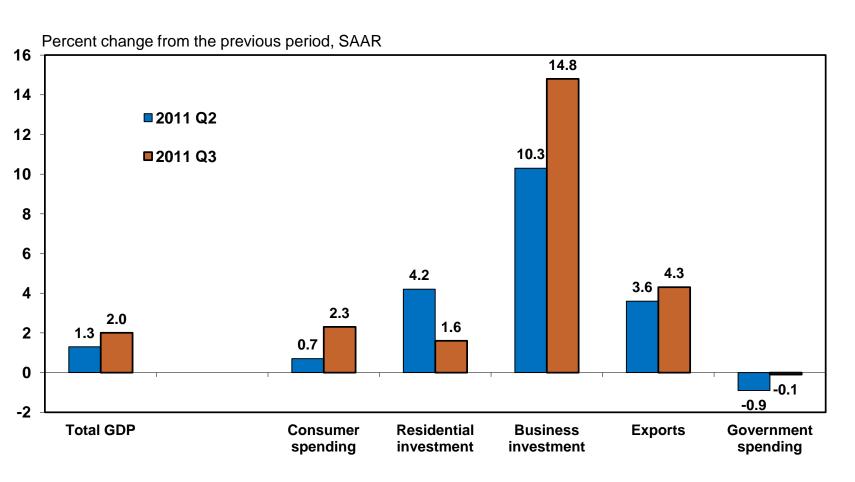
U.S. Real Gross Domestic Product





Business investment was strong, exports grew further, and consumers spent more

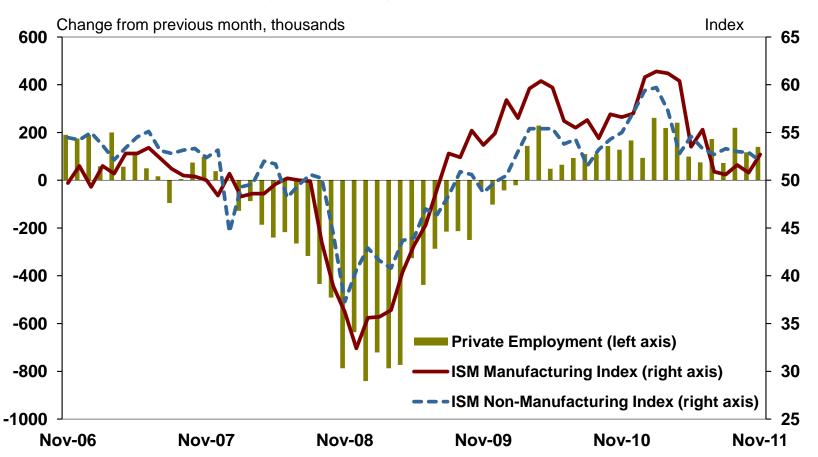
Growth in Components of Real GDP





Monthly indicators through November suggest continued moderate growth

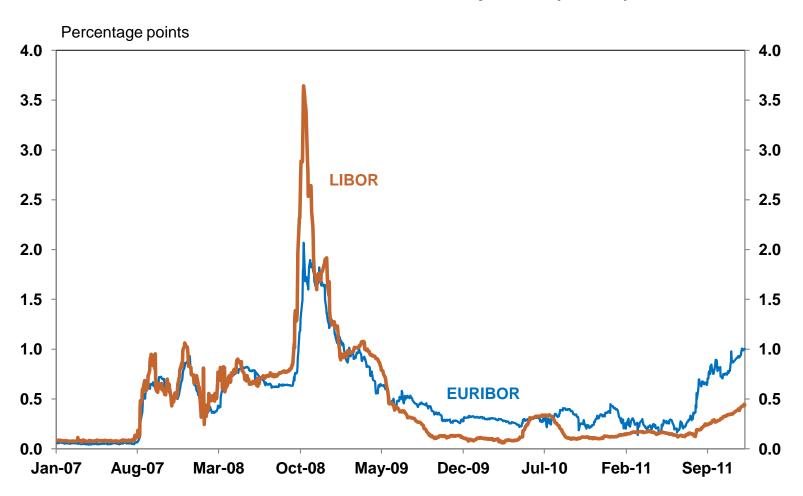
U.S. Private Payroll Employment and Business Indexes





Financial stress in Europe remains the biggest risk to U.S. and world growth

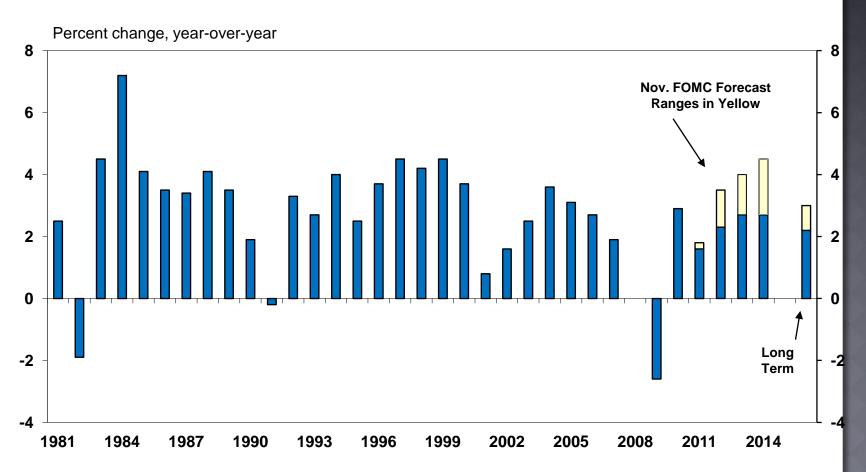
3-month EURIBOR & LIBOR Spreads (to OIS)





At its November meeting, the FOMC expected fairly solid U.S. GDP recovery

Real Gross Domestic Product

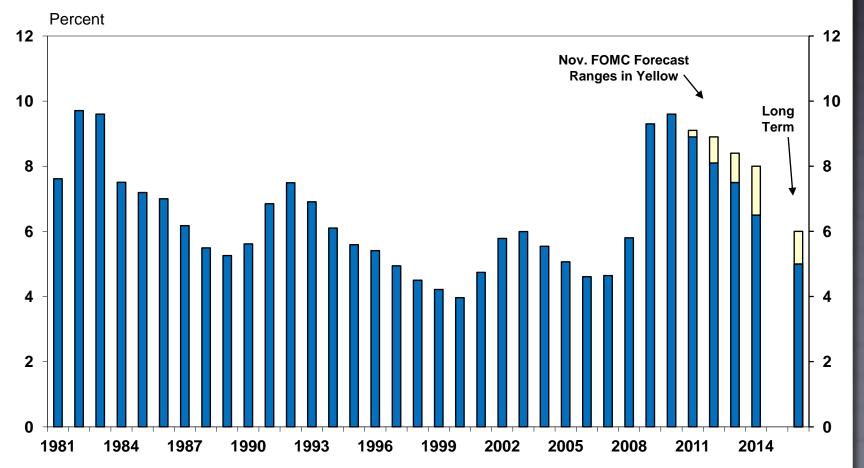




But for unemployment to only come down slowly the next few years

Unemployment Rate

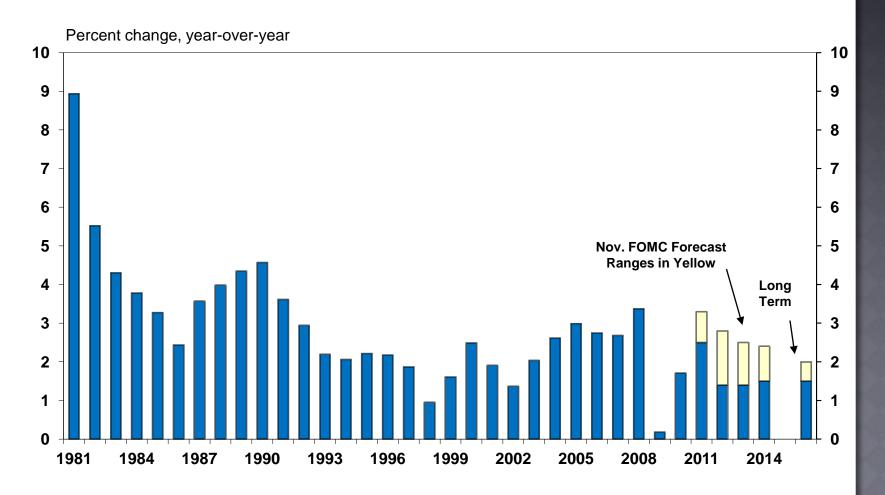
Seasonally Adjusted





And for inflation pressures to ease slightly after rising with oil and food prices in 2011

PCE Inflation Index



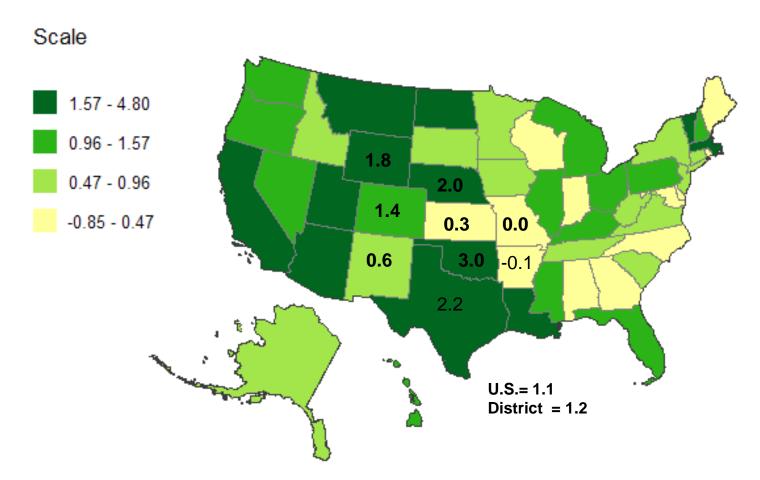


Regional and Industry Outlook



There is considerable variation in economic growth across the nation—and region

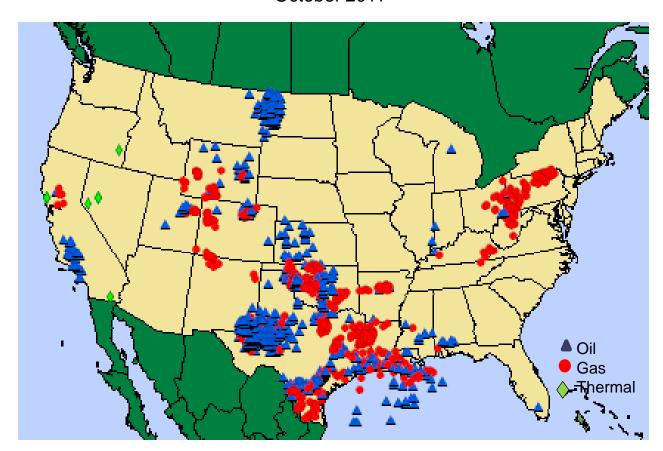
Employment Growth, Year-over-Year (percent) October 2011





States with high concentrations of energy activity tend to be doing the best right now

Location of U.S. Drilling Rigs
October 2011

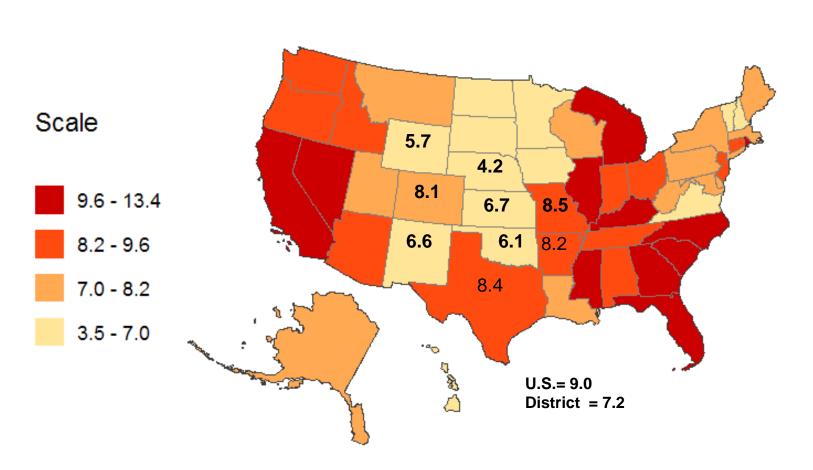




Unemployment rates throughout our region remain lower than in the nation

Unemployment Rate (percent)

October 2011

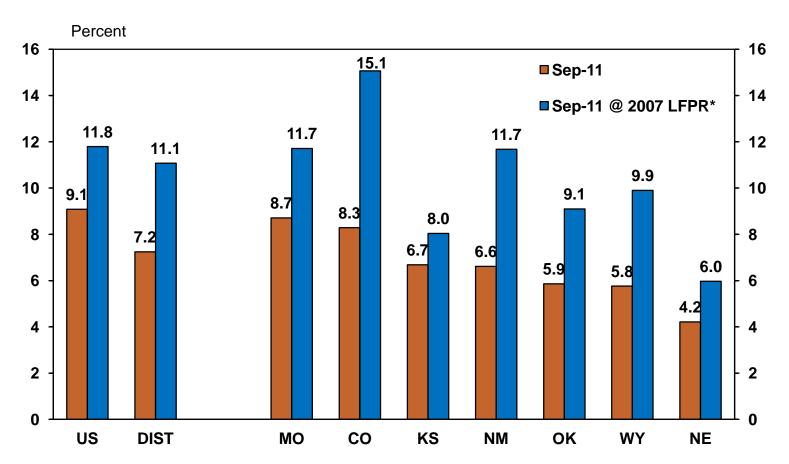


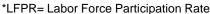


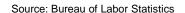
However, labor markets may not be overly tight due to labor force dropouts

Unemployment Rate by State

Seasonally Adjusted





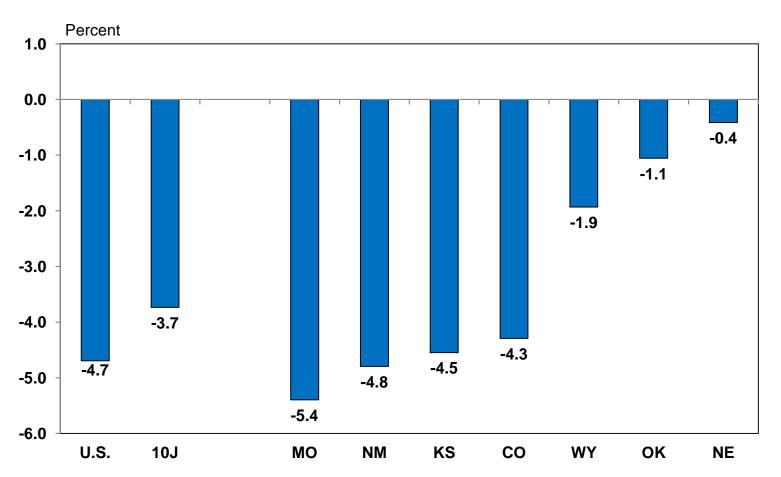




And while some District states are nearing pre-recession job levels, others are not

Change in Employment Since January 2008

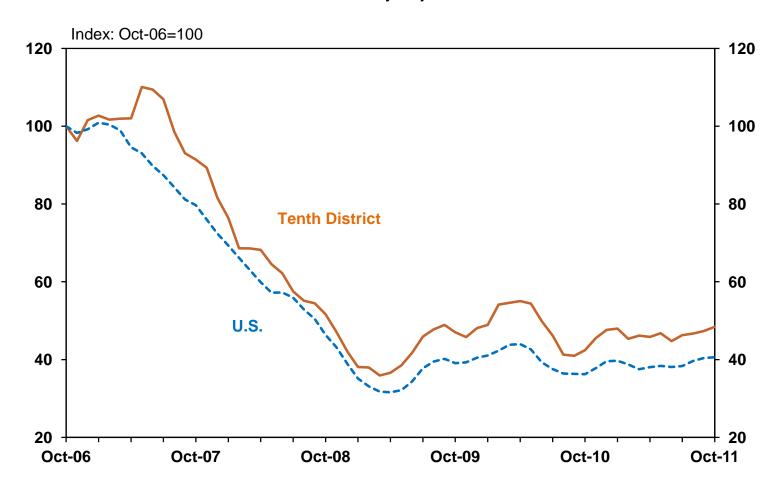
Seasonally Adjusted





Residential construction activity in both the nation and region remains sluggish

Value of Residential Construction Contracts Seasonally Adjusted

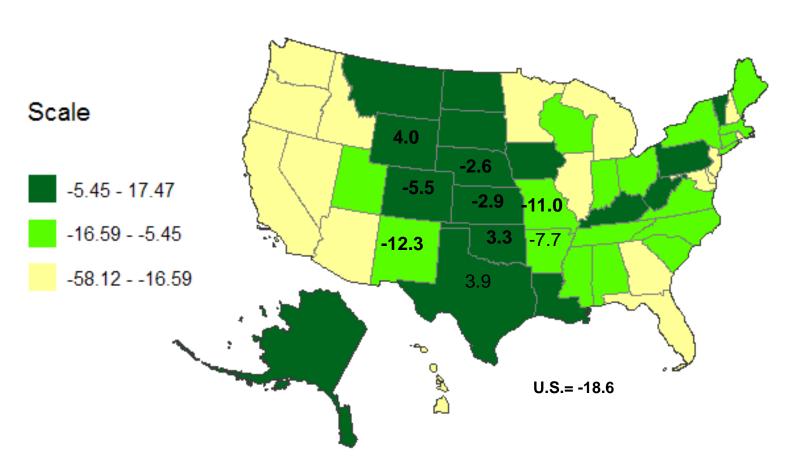




But home prices in most of our region, including Oklahoma, have held up much better



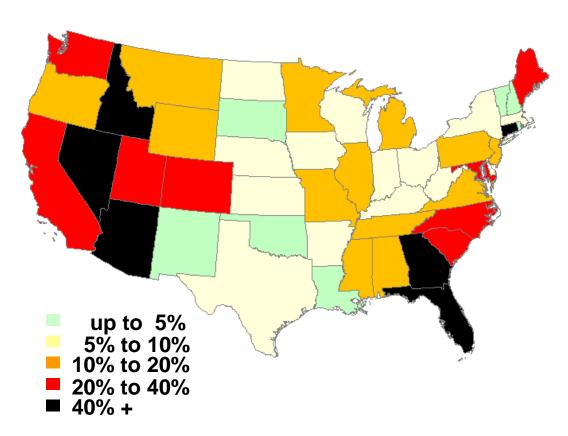
Purchase-Only, 2011 Q3 (percent)



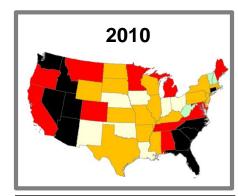


Fewer real estate problems also means banks in the region remain in better condition

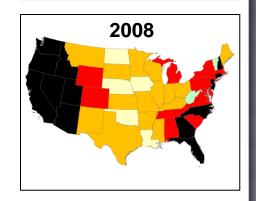
Percent of Banks Experiencing a Loss June 30, 2011



^{*} Percentage of banks with negative net income (YTD) Source: Reports of Condition and Income



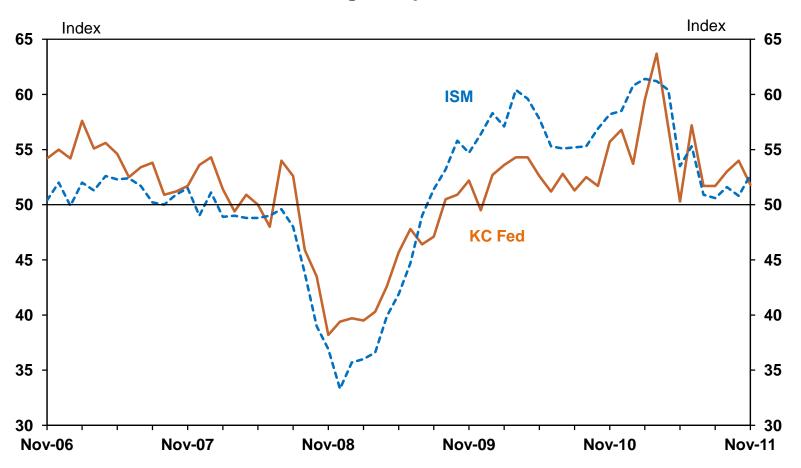






Manufacturing growth remains moderate in both the nation and our region

Manufacturing Composite Indexes

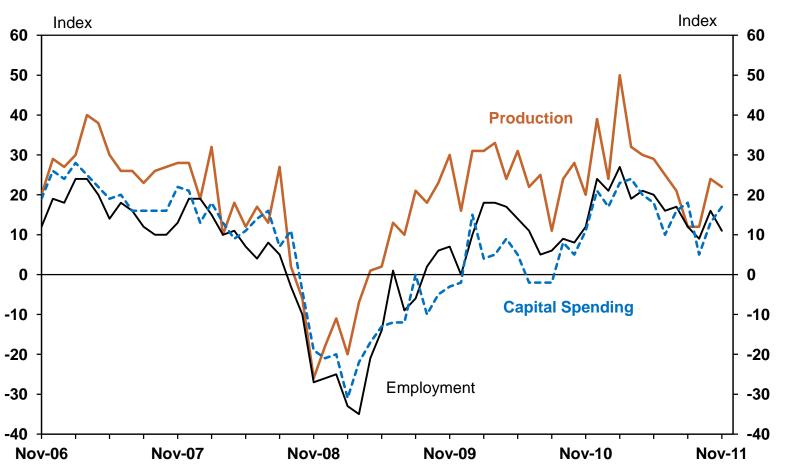




And factory expectations for this area are fairly positive heading forward

Tenth District Manufacturing Expectations

Six-Months Ahead

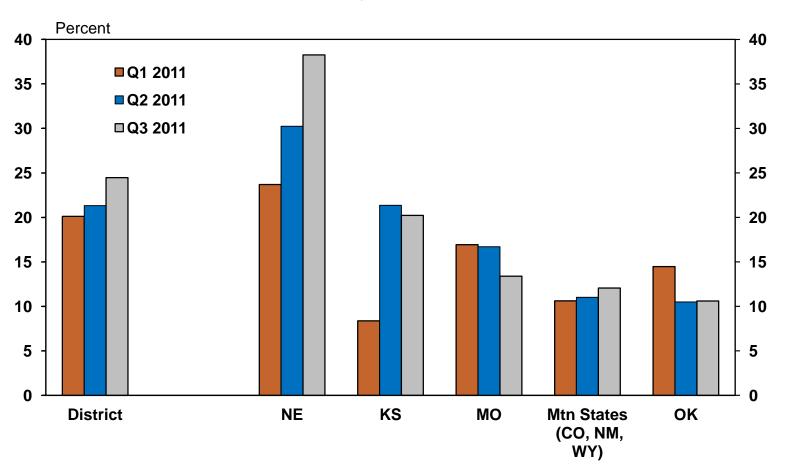




Surging farmland prices likely pose a risk in some parts of our region

Tenth District Non-Irrigated Cropland Values

Percent Change, Year-over-year





Summary

- □ The U.S. economy is growing moderately but is facing headwinds from Europe
- Fed forecasts call for modestly improving unemployment and falling inflation in 2012
- Economic activity in the Tenth Federal Reserve District is somewhat stronger
- ☐ The outlook for the region remains relatively good, though land prices appear to be a risk

