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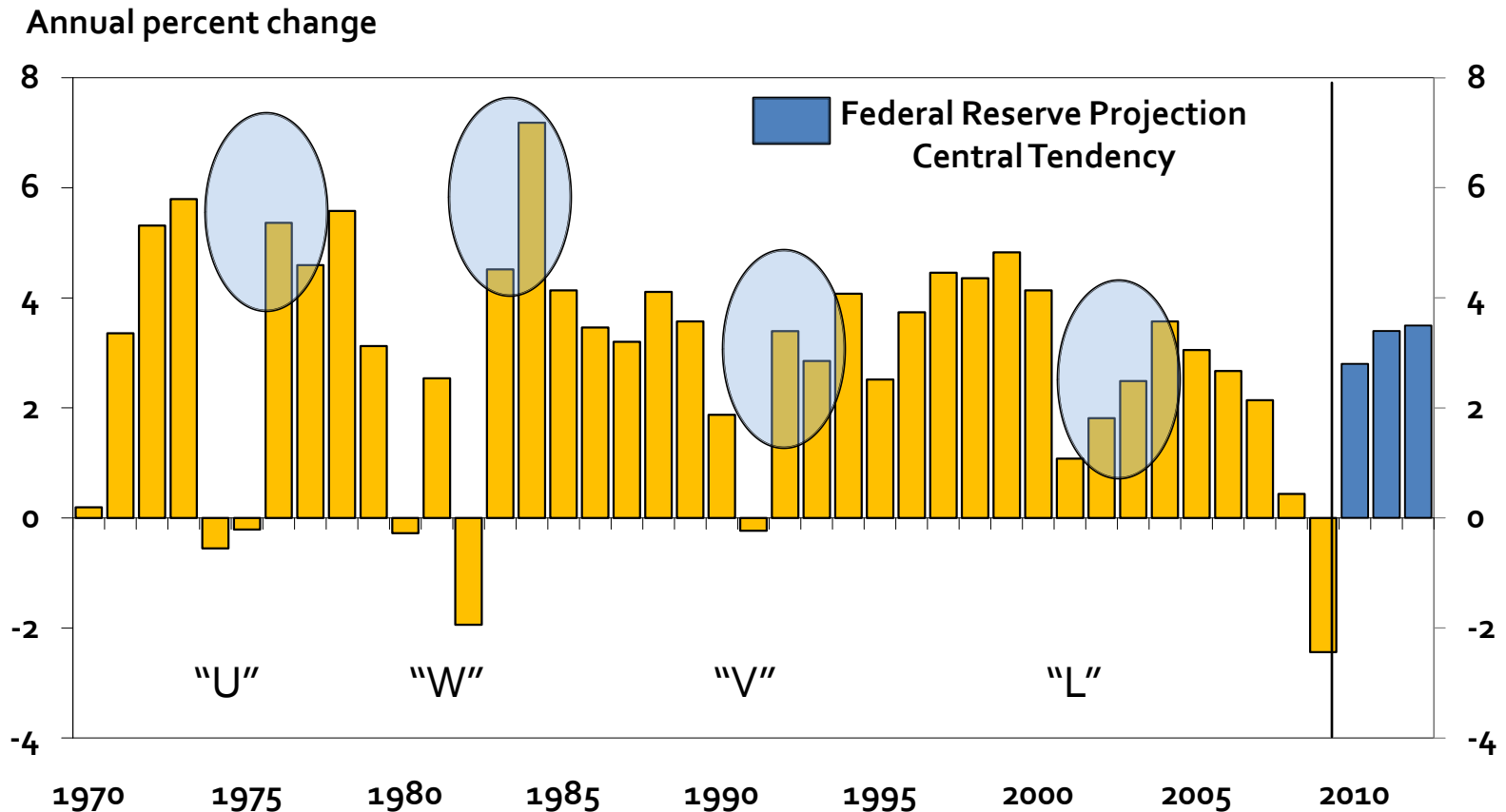
# Recovery, Revenues, and Reform



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.

# The U.S. economy is projected to rebound in 2010.

## Real GDP Growth

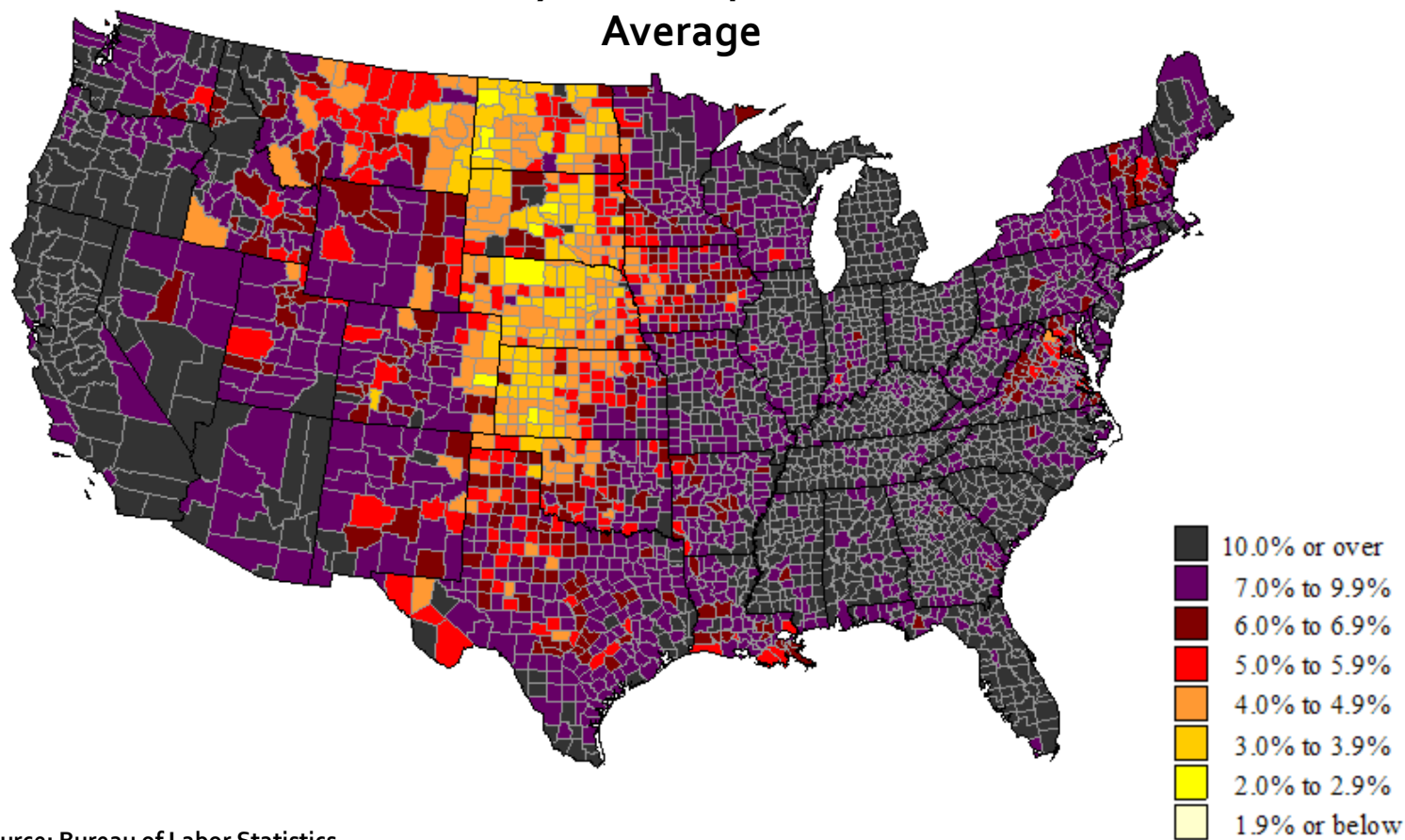


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Federal Reserve Board of Governors



# Nebraska is one of last bastion of low unemployment.

Unemployment Rate  
May 2009 – April 2010  
Average

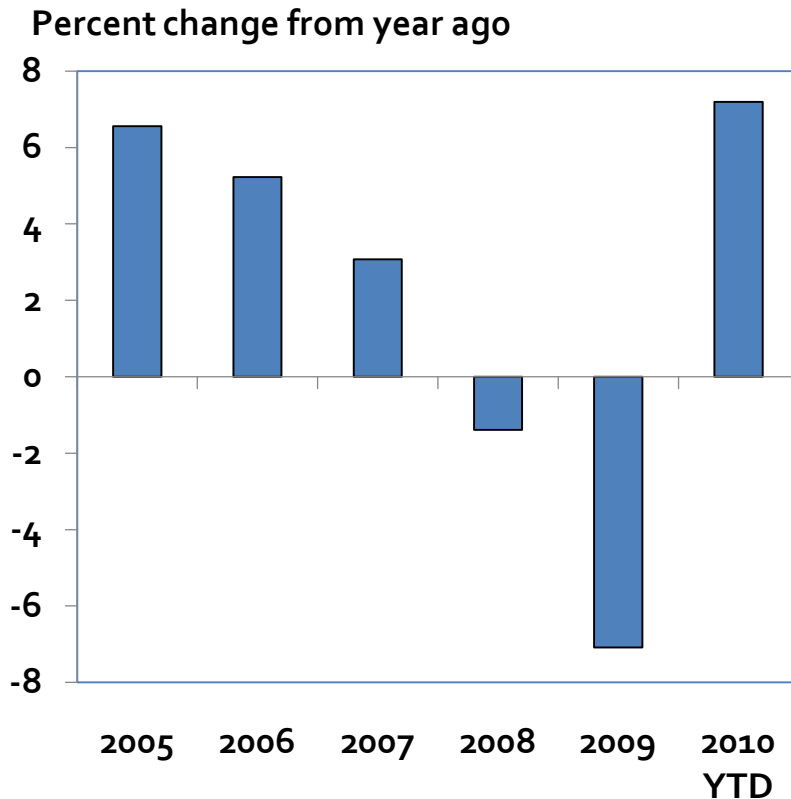


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



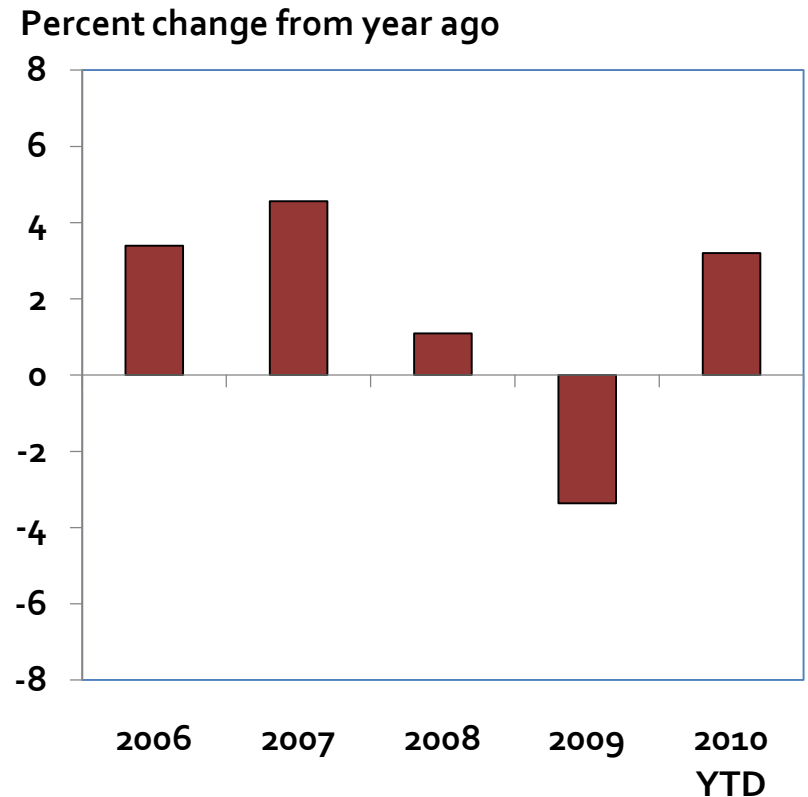
# Consumer spending is rebounding.

## U.S. Retail Sales



Source: U.S. Census Bureau  
\*Data through May

## NE Net Taxable Retail Sales



Source: NE Dept. of Revenue  
\*Data through March



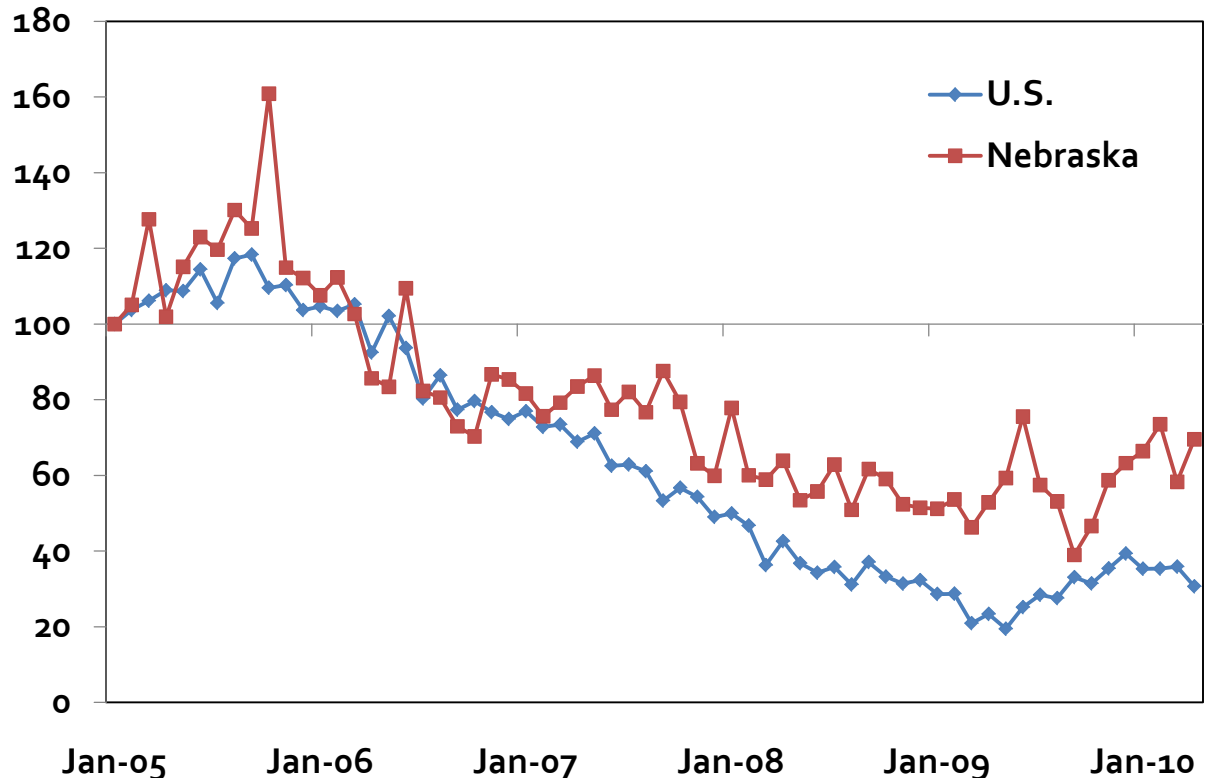
# Has the housing sector hit bottom?

First-time home buyer tax credits have ended.

- Will home sales persist without them?
- Will sales strengthen in higher-end homes?
- Will stronger sales lead to increased building activity?
- Will high foreclosure rates begin to decline?
- What are the implications of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac on the housing sector?

## U.S. and Nebraska Single-Family Housing Permits

Index: Jan. 2005 = 100

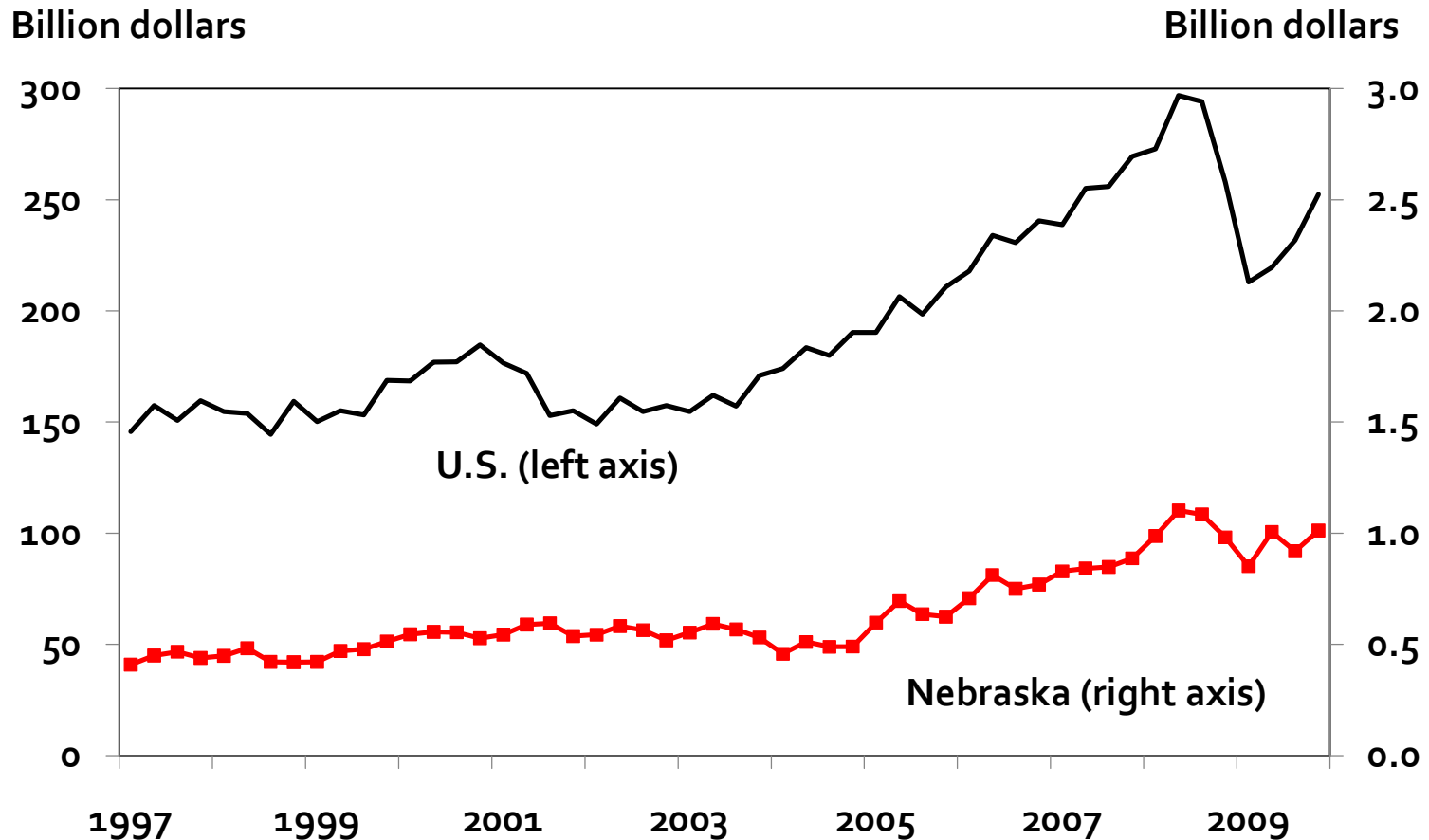


Source: U.S. Census Bureau



# Will stronger global economies and a lower dollar boost export activity?

## Manufactured Exports



Source: WISERTrade



# How sustainable is the manufacturing rebound?

Manufacturing activity is rebounding.

Businesses are investing in equipment and software.

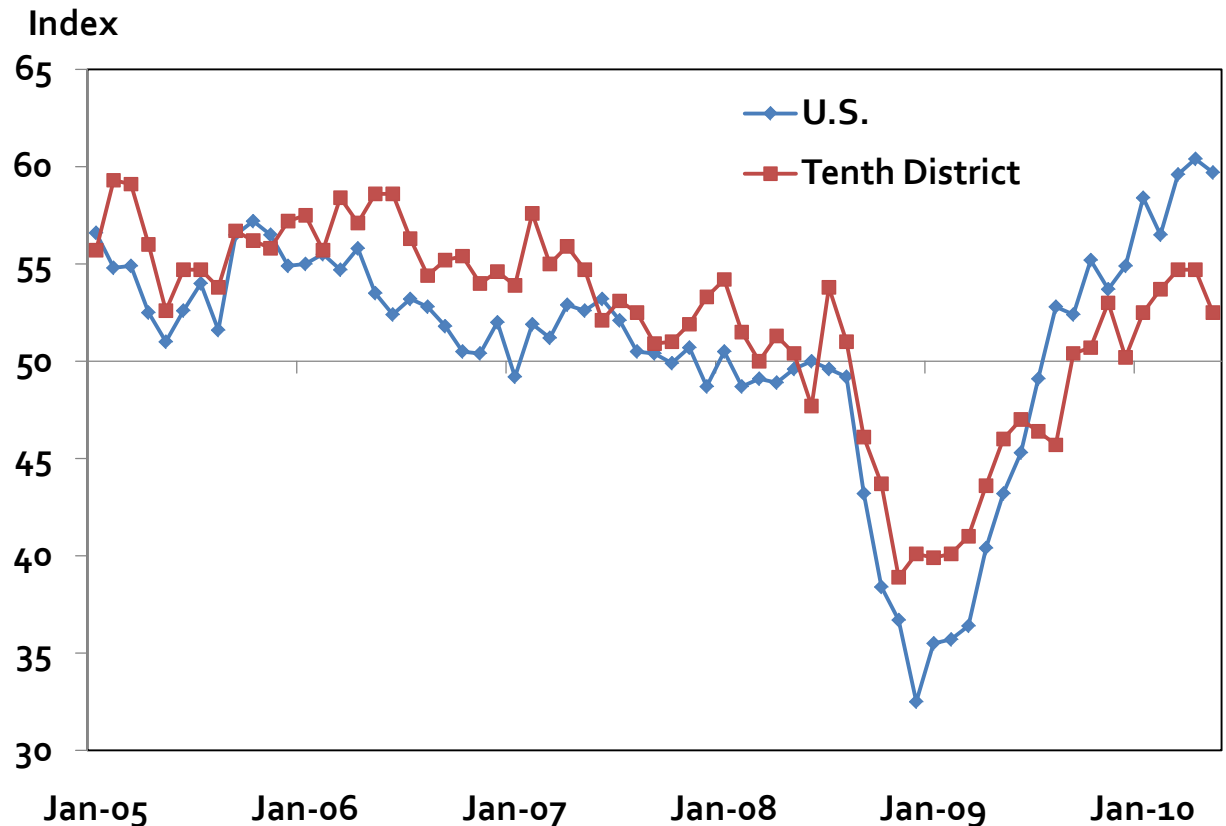
When will investments in structures rebound?

When will increased activity spur robust job gains?

How do changes in business policy affect business investment?

With loan defaults easing, will access to capital and credit standards improve?

## U.S. and Tenth District Manufacturing Production

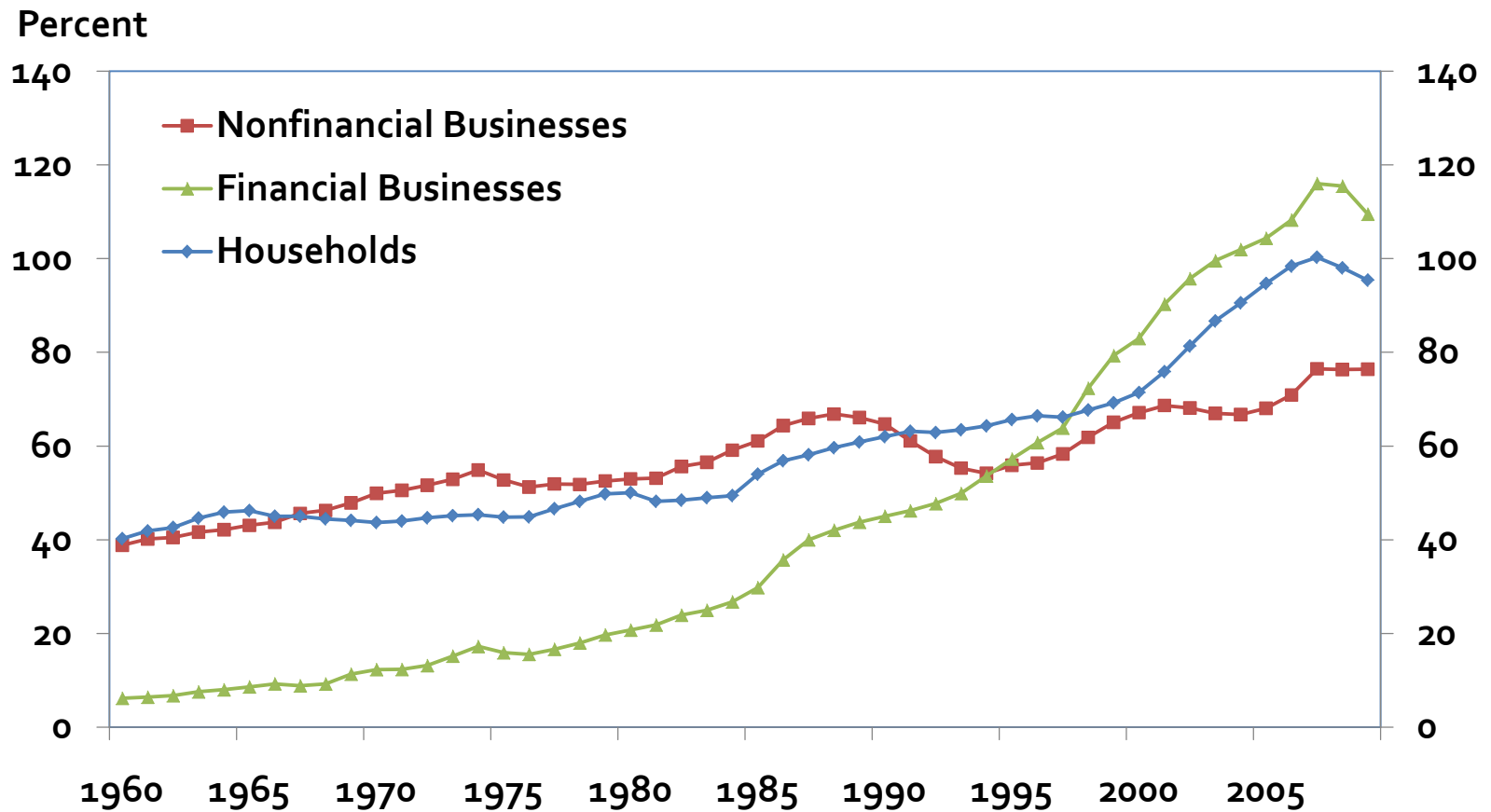


Source: U.S. Census Bureau



# De-leveraging will limit economic gains.

## U.S. Debt as a Percent of GDP



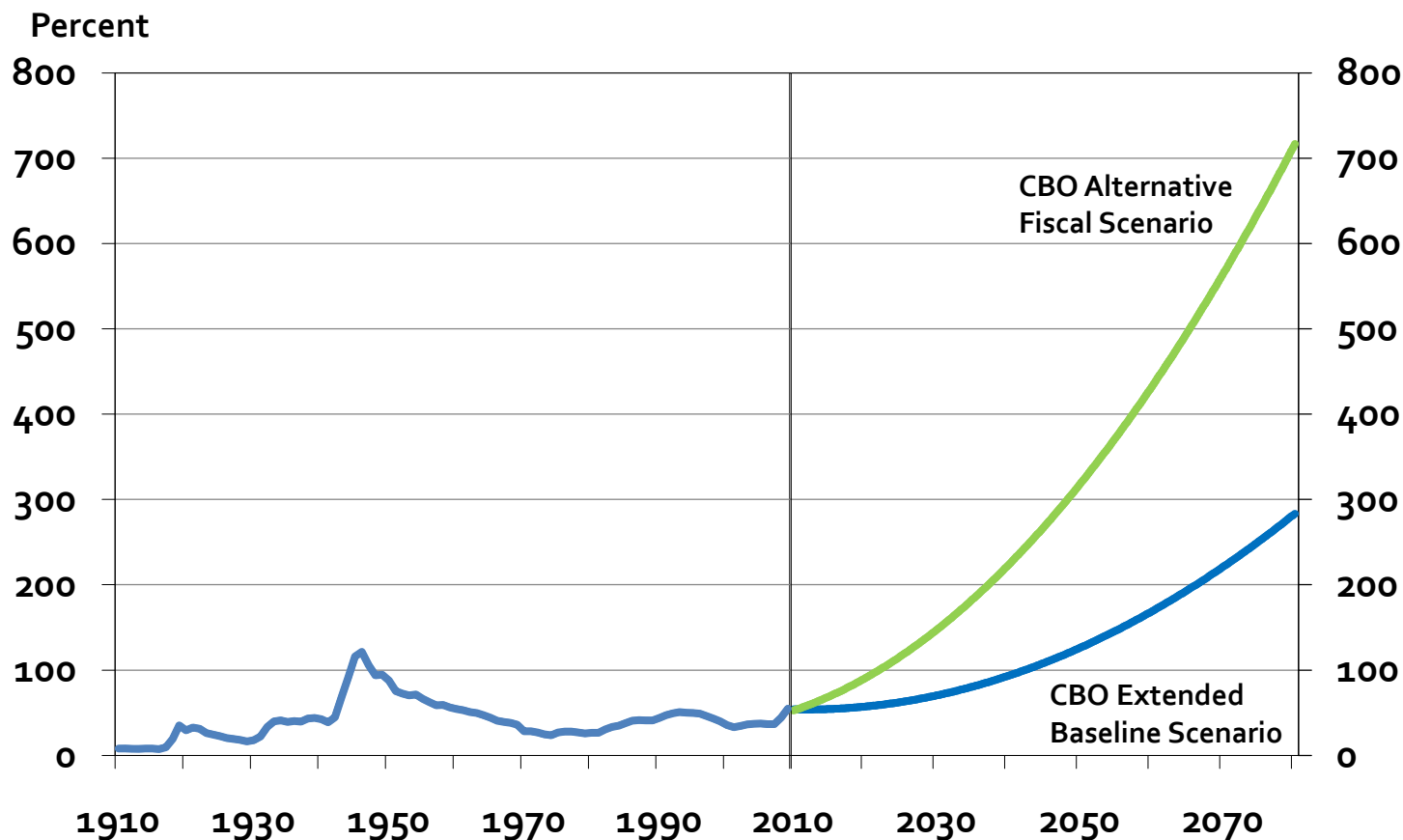
Source: Calculations based on Federal Reserve and BEA data





# How will surging federal debt levels affect economic conditions long-term?

## U.S. Debt as a Percent of GDP



Source: Congressional Budget Office, November 2009

