## Prosperous oasis in a two-speed world

Economic outlook/update

CFA Society Spokane

August 29, 2013

Michael J. Parks

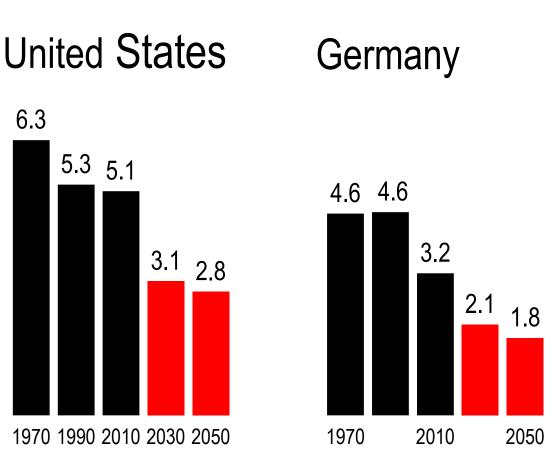
www.michaeljparks.com

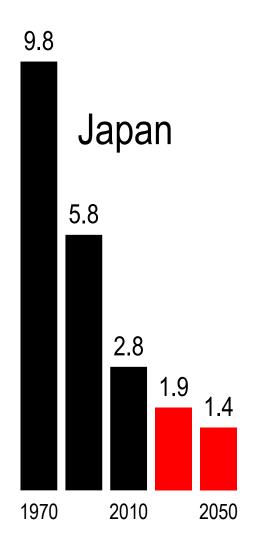
## Not to be used externally. Harmful if swallowed.

Forecast disclaimer, Fed "Green Book", December 1996

Richard Fisher, Dallas Fed president, CNBC, 2/23/2012

### Workers per retiree





Data: United Nations Population Division 2010 Revision

### Not your grandfather's global economy

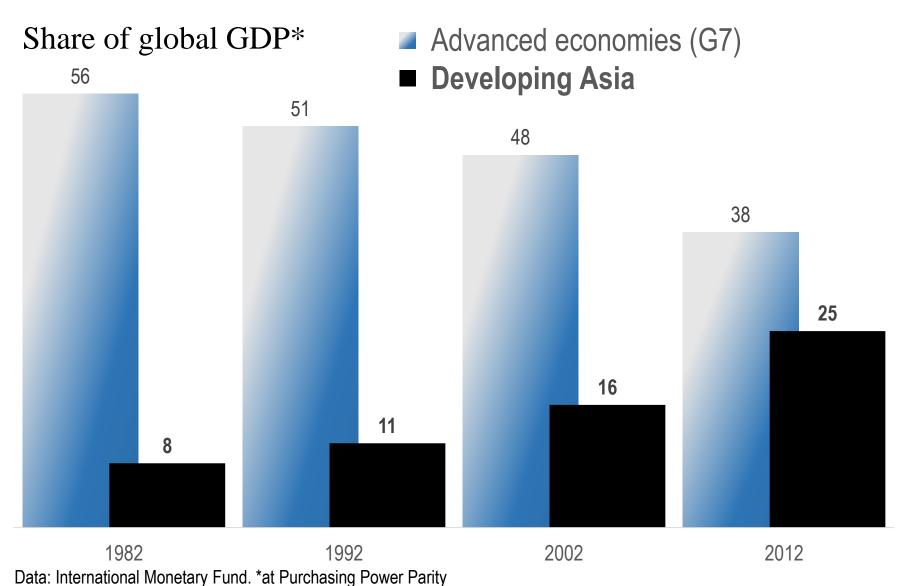
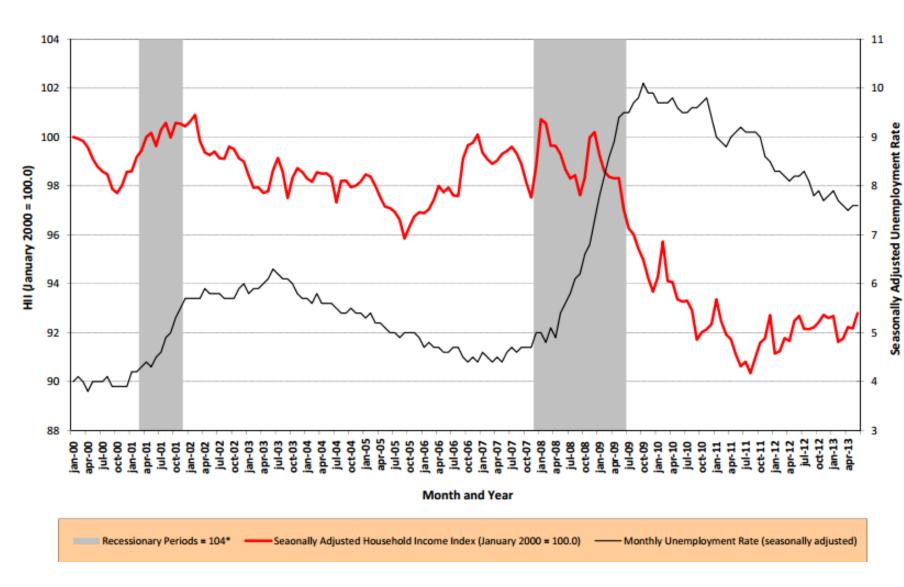


Figure 1.

Median Household Income Index (HII) and Unemployment Rate by Month: January 2000 to June 2013



## Key takeaways

Seattle area an oasis of relative prosperity thanks largely to hiring by Amazon.com and Boeing (now fading).

U.S. economy: Best house in a dodgy neighborhood. Most other rich economies are barely growing or are still in recession.

## Key takeaways

We live in a 'two-speed' world. Rates of growth are much higher in emerging and developing economies than in advanced economies.

Uncharted territory for interest rates: Fifth year of rate repression ('N-ZIRP') by the Fed and its counterparts.

## Key takeaways

The Euro experiment remains fragile.

Banks and governments – both weak – prop one another up.

Long-term issue everywhere: Deficits/debt unsustainable as populations age. Haircuts for all?

Beware the 'Black Swan' – a disruption that by definition can't be forecast.

### Oh, Great!

### **Great Recession**

Jan 2008-June 2009

### Great Disappointment

July 2009-present

### Great Repression

Late 2008-present

## Great Deceleration 2013-

## What could go right

Housing

Energy

Banking

Re-shoring

Fiscal fix

Inspiration: Roger Altman, Evercore Partners

## Outlook specifics

Seattle metro area: **above-average growth** (Amazon.com, software/-technology, global trade). Big worry: Where's Boeing going?

U.S. economy: **Tepid growth** (fiscal tightening, tax uncertainty, health care, regulation), political dysfunction. But fastest growth among G7 economies.

## Outlook specifics

Europe/eurozone: Sluggish growth. Main risks: high debt, large public sectors, friction between the frugal north and spendthrift south.

Financial crisis not over. Keep **Italy**, the globe's third-largest borrower, on radar. Greece a sideshow. A Rubicon was crossed in Cyprus.

## Outlook specifics

China: Great uncertainty. Can leadership manage re-balancing? Can closed political system survive?

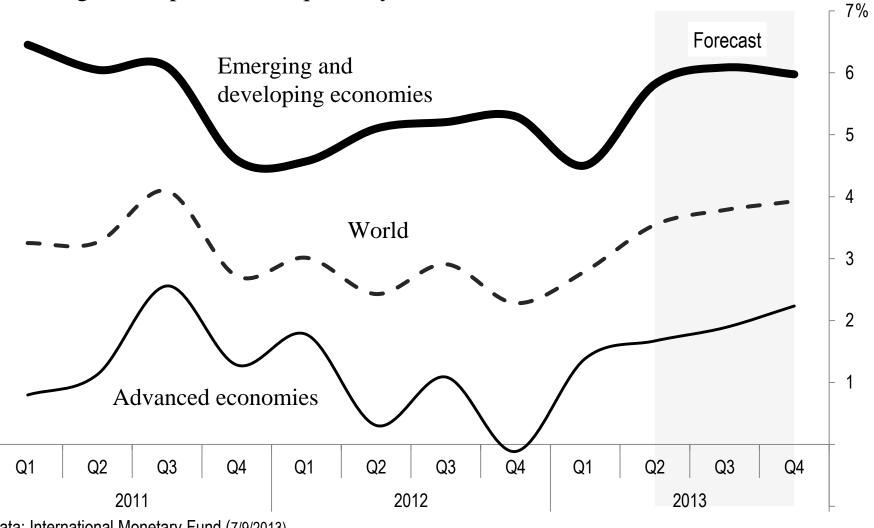
Demographic dividend over: Work force declined in 2012 for the first time.

Corruption endemic. Rich Chinese flee in droves in pursuit of clean air, clean water, safe food, the rule of law.

## Global perspective

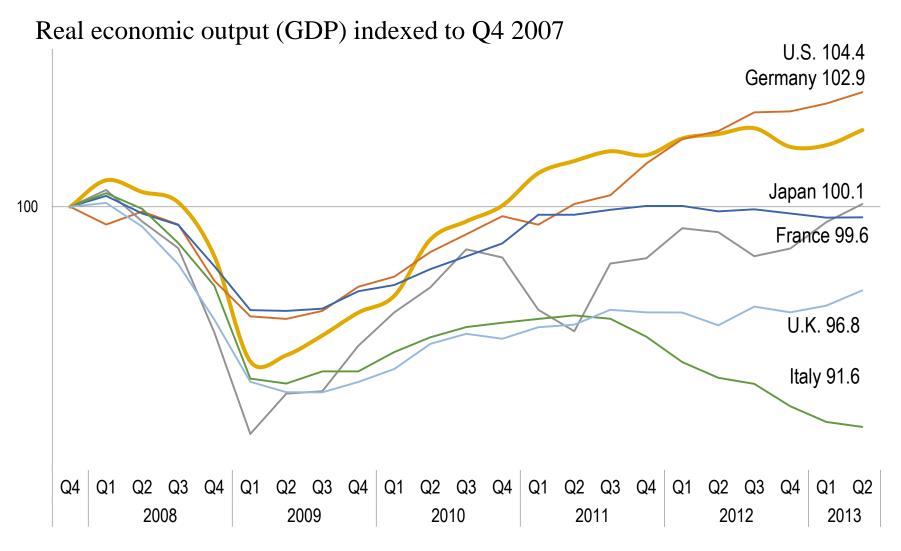
### Two-speed global recovery

change in output (GDP) (quarterly at annual rates)



Data: International Monetary Fund (7/9/2013)

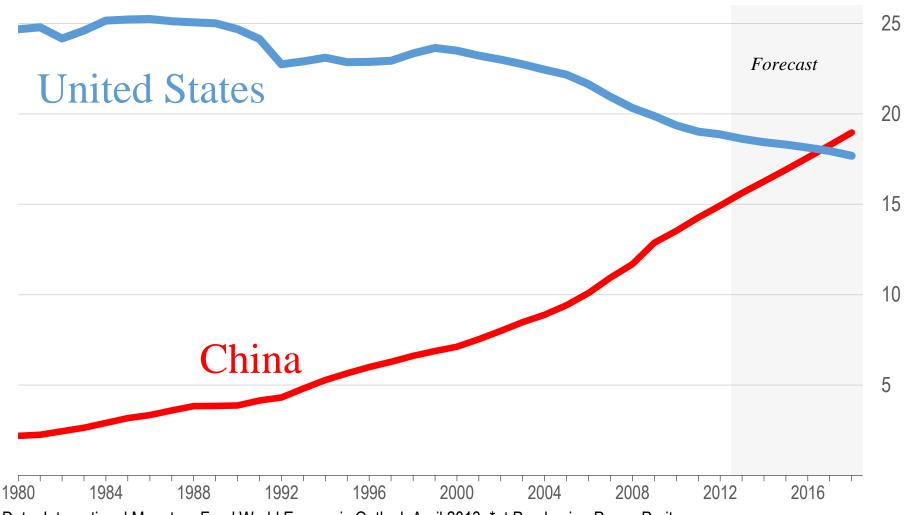
### Perspective on six advanced economies



Data: Economist Intelligence Unit

### The Eagle and the Dragon

Share of global GDP\*, %

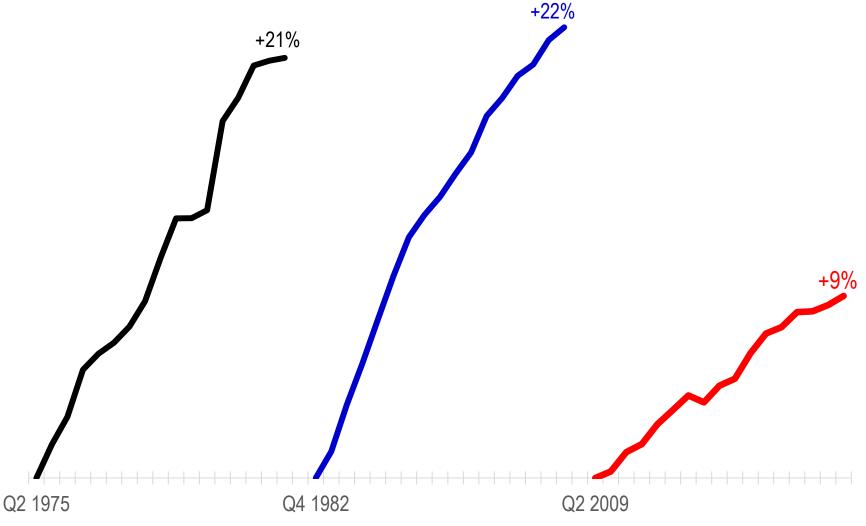


Data: International Monetary Fund World Economic Outlook April 2013. \*at Purchasing Power Parity

## U.S. perspective

### Great Disappointment

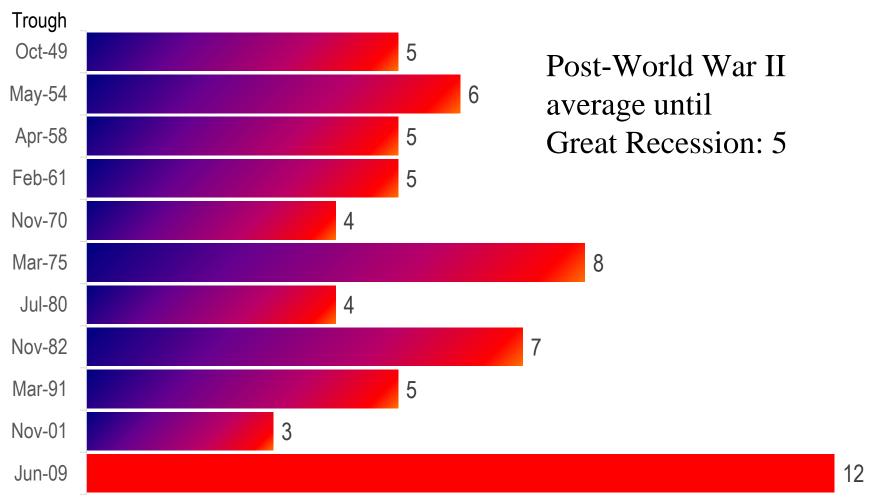
Cumulative change in real GDP 16 quarters from recession's end



Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis

### Long road to break-even

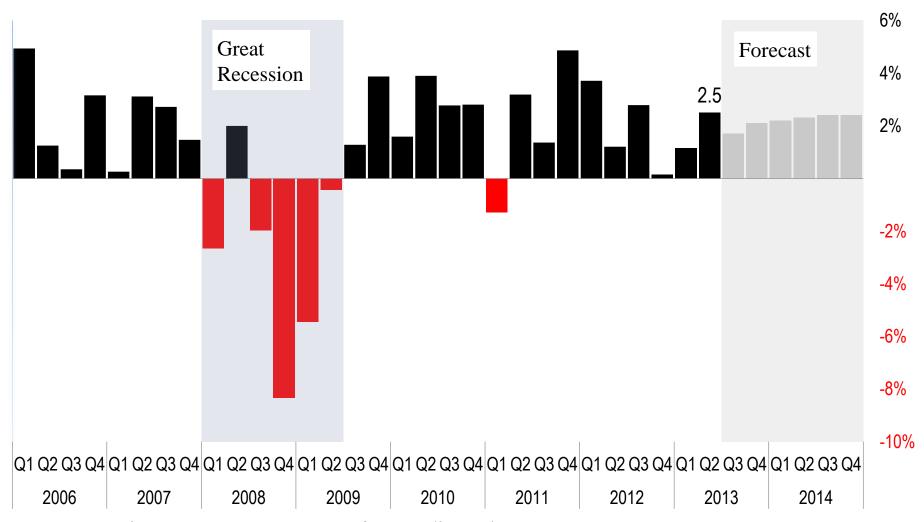
Quarters for U.S. real GDP to overtake pre-recession peak



Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis, National Bureau of Economic Research

### U.S. economic growth (real, adjusted for inflation)

Quarterly at annual rates



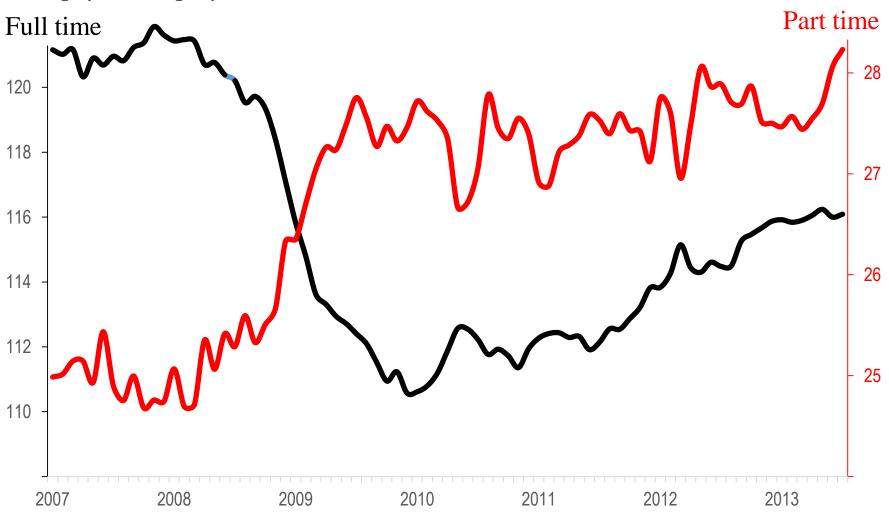
Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Wells Fargo Securities (forecast)

U.S. payroll employment **Thousands** change from prior month 

Data: Bureau of Labor Statistics

### Will work (part time) for food

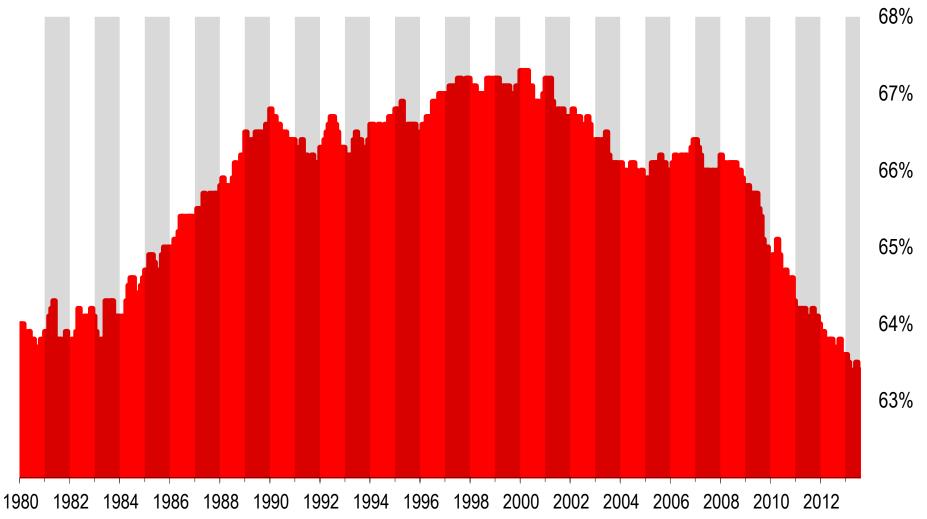
U.S. payroll employment (millions)



Data: Bureau of Labor Statistics

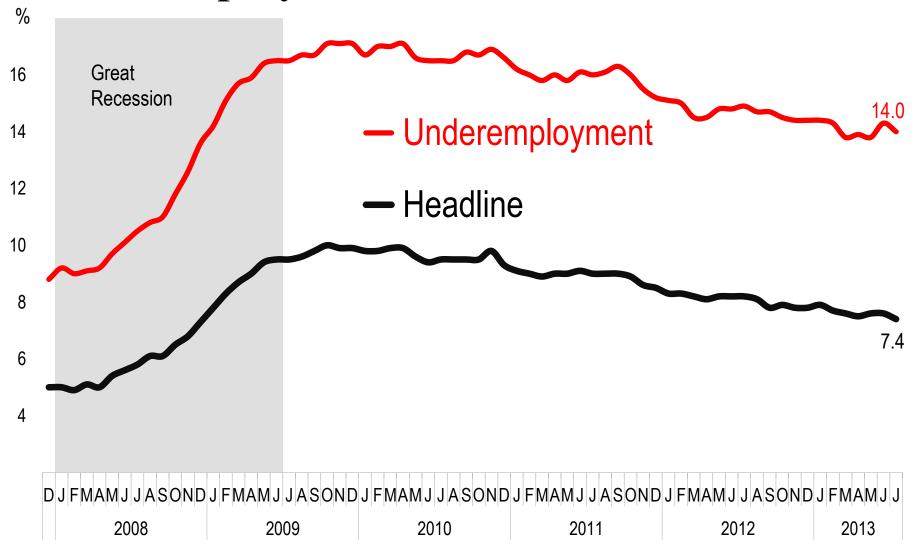
### U.S. labor-force participation

Working age (age 16+) in the labor force



Data: Bureau of Labor Statistics

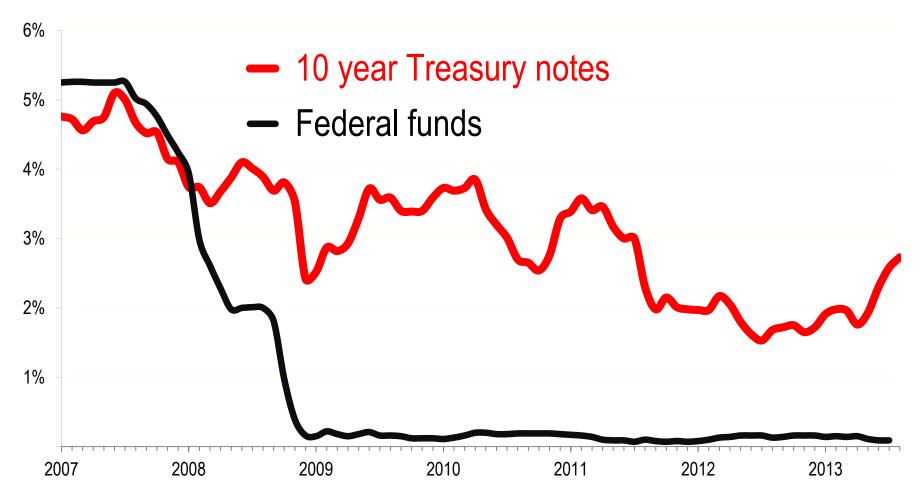
### U.S. unemployment rates



Data: Bureau of Labor Statistics

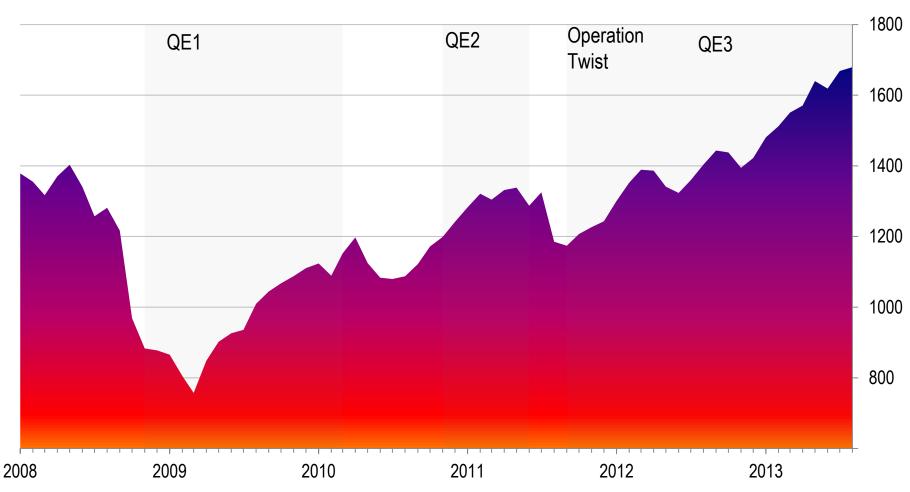
### After N-ZIRP, the 'taper caper'

#### U.S. interest rates



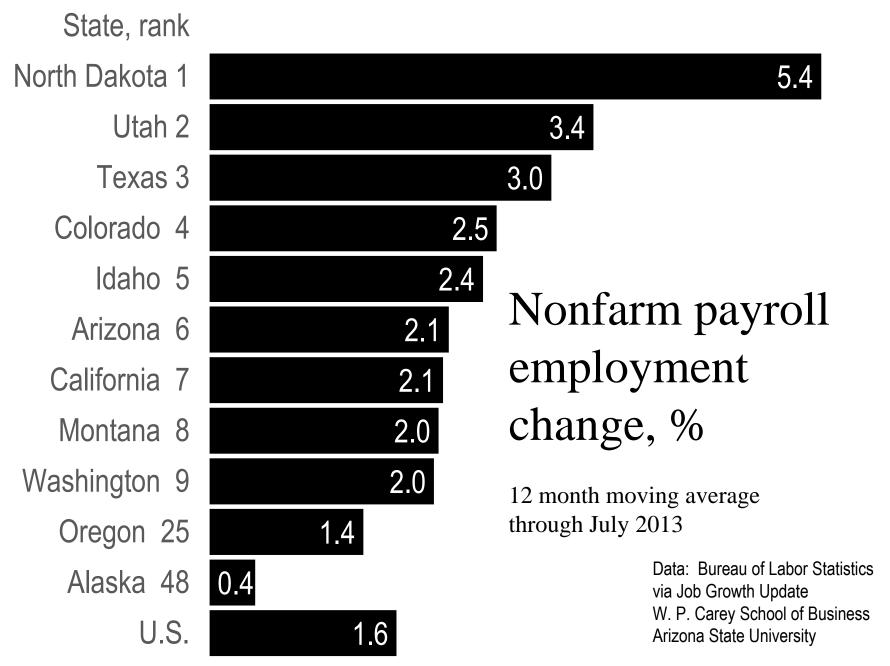
Data: Board of Governors Federal Reserve System

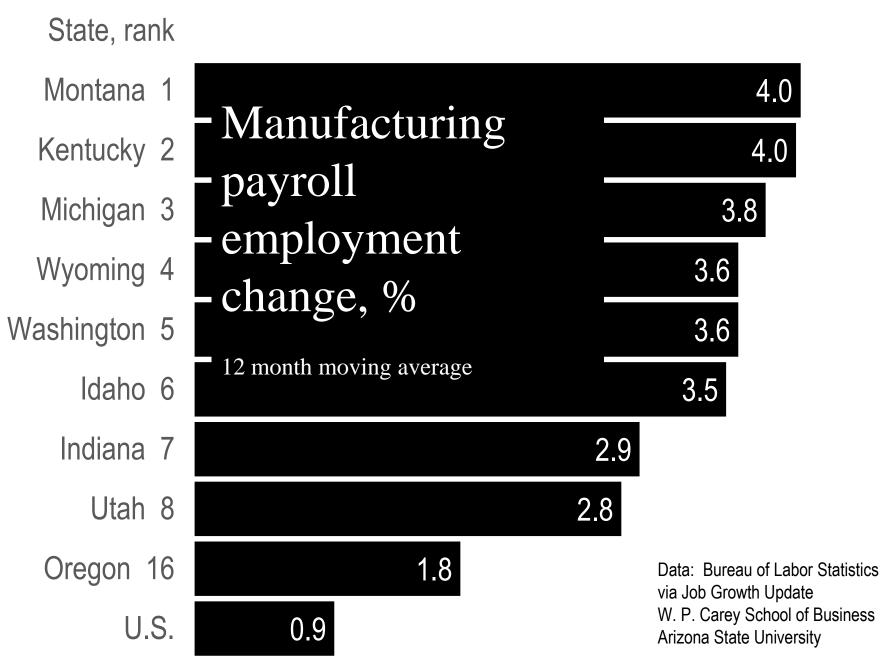
#### Mr. Market and Mr. Bernanke



Data: Standard and Poor's, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

# Washington perspective





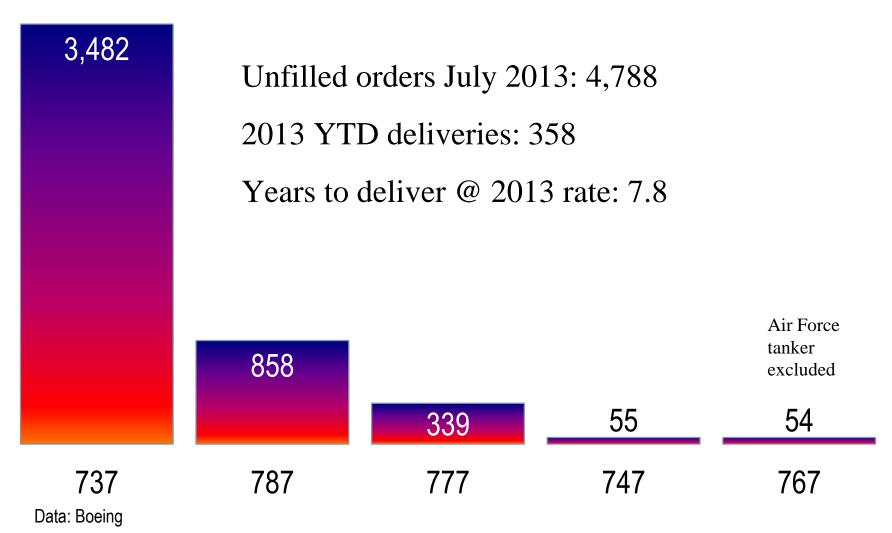
### Foundations for growth:

- Hiring and building sprees by the 'Great Disrupter' (Amazon.com)
- Aerospace: Boeing backlog at 7.5 years and growing.
- Diverse/growing high-tech sector
- From farm & factory, food and products for a growing **global** middle class

### Washington lowlights:

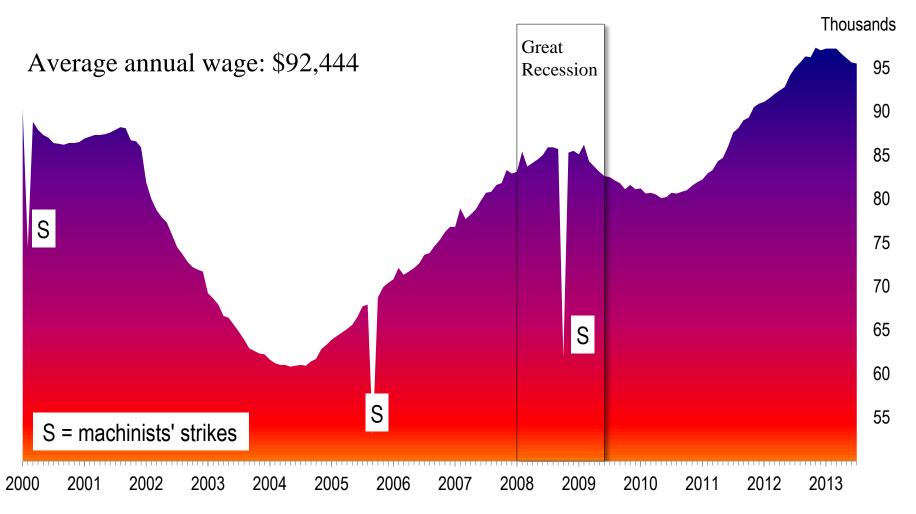
- Nonfarm payroll employment at level **first** reached nearly six years ago, 6.1% above trough, but 1.1% (34,000) below 2/08 peak
- Construction sector recovering but still 60,800 (29%) fewer jobs today than at June 2007 peak.
- Export intensity's flip side: Over-exposure to possible slower global (especially Asian) growth.

### Boeing Commercial Airplanes backlog



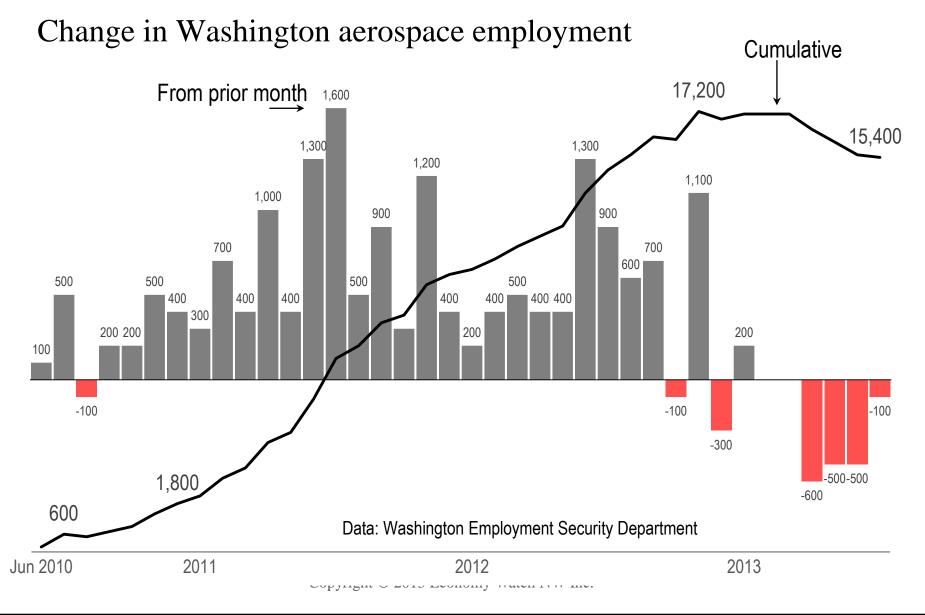
### Washington aerospace employment

Boeing & suppliers: -1,700 (1.7%) from peak



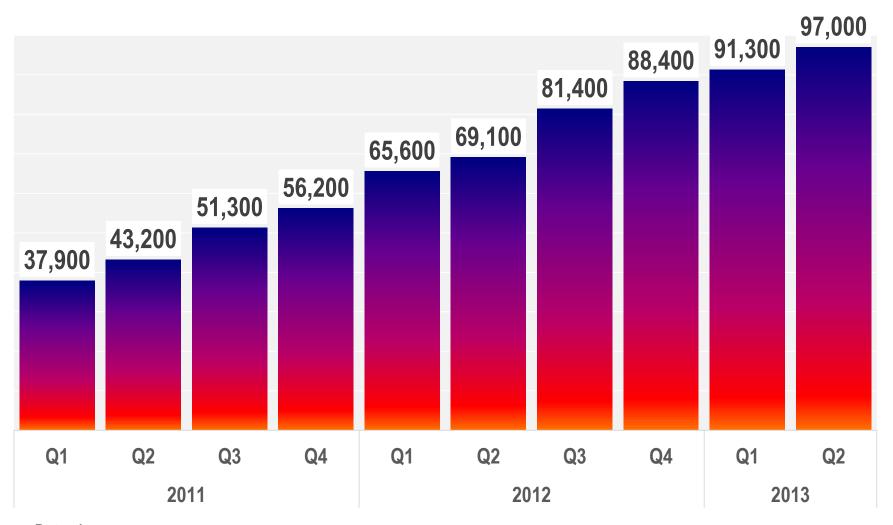
Data: Washington Employment Security Department.

### Great while it lasted



### Amazon.com head count

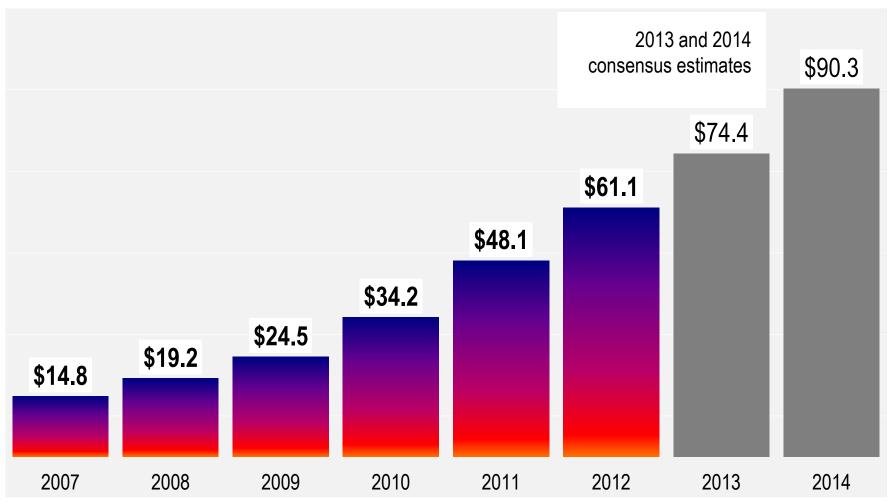
(Full-time and part-time; excludes contractors and temps)



Data: Amazon.com

#### Amazon.com revenue

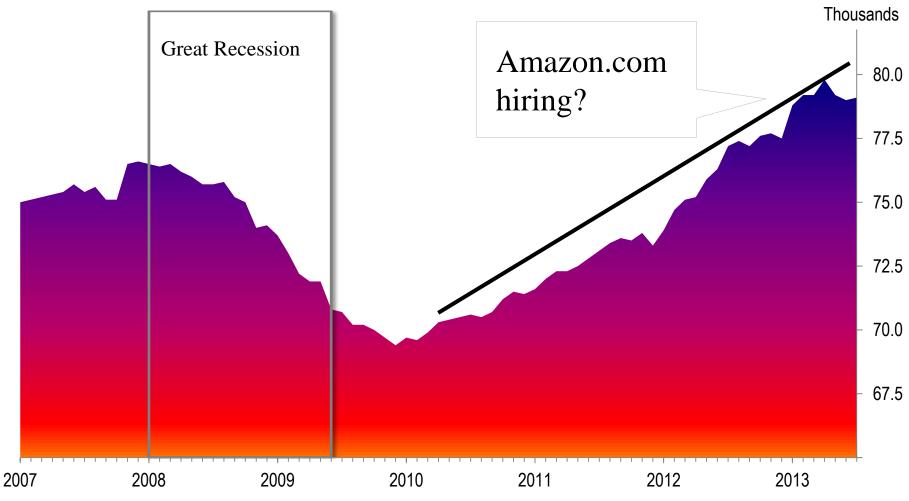
(billions)



Data: Amazon.com (actual), Reuters (consensus estimates)

#### Washington employment in 'other retail'

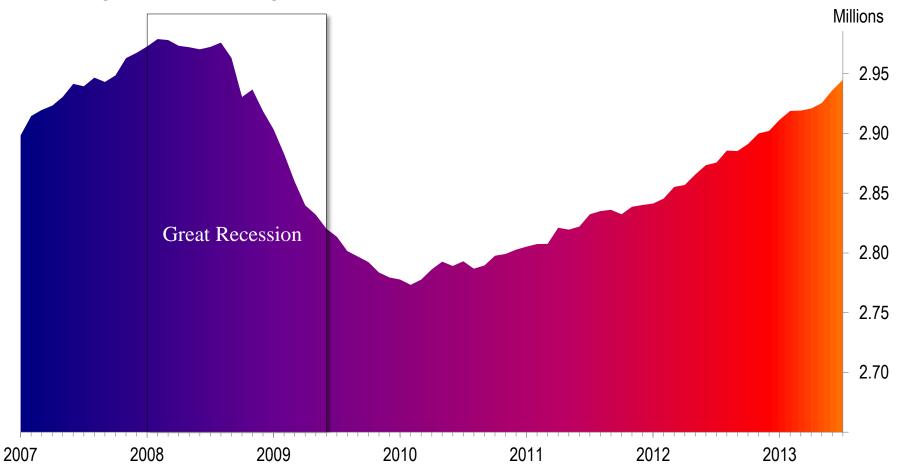
Average pay: Retail \$32k, non-store retail \$91k



Data: Washington Employment Security Department.

## Washington wage and salary employment

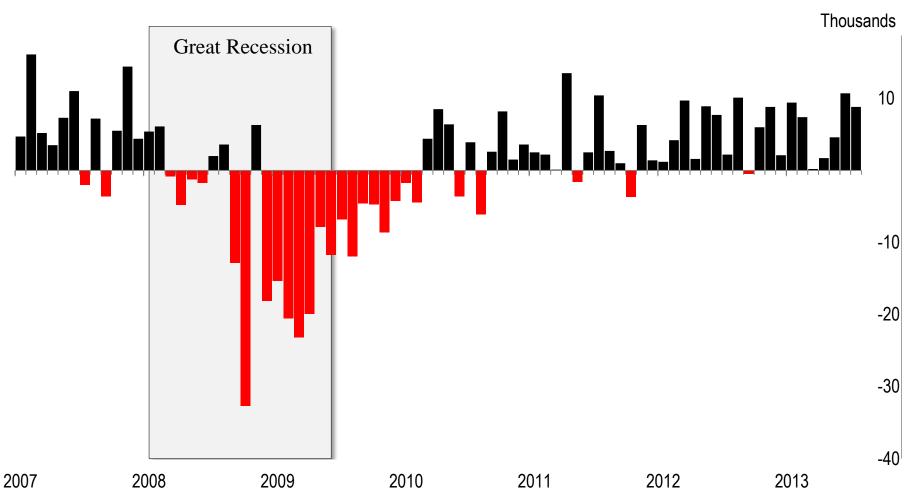
Average annual wage \$51,964



Data: Washington Employment Security Department

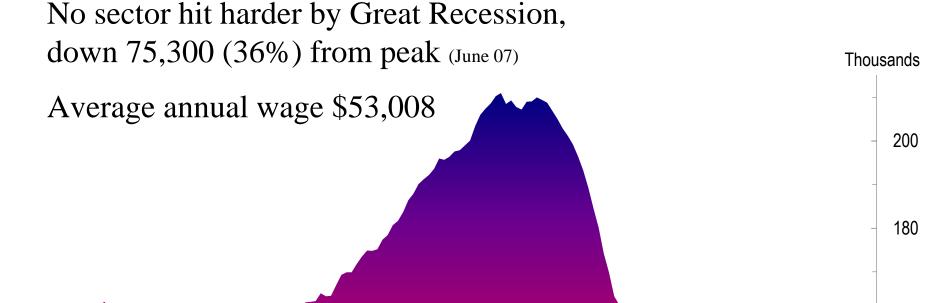
# Washington wage and salary employment

Change from prior month



Data: Washington Employment Security Department Copyright © 2013 Economy Watch NW Inc.

### Construction employment in Washington



160

140

+15,100 (11%)

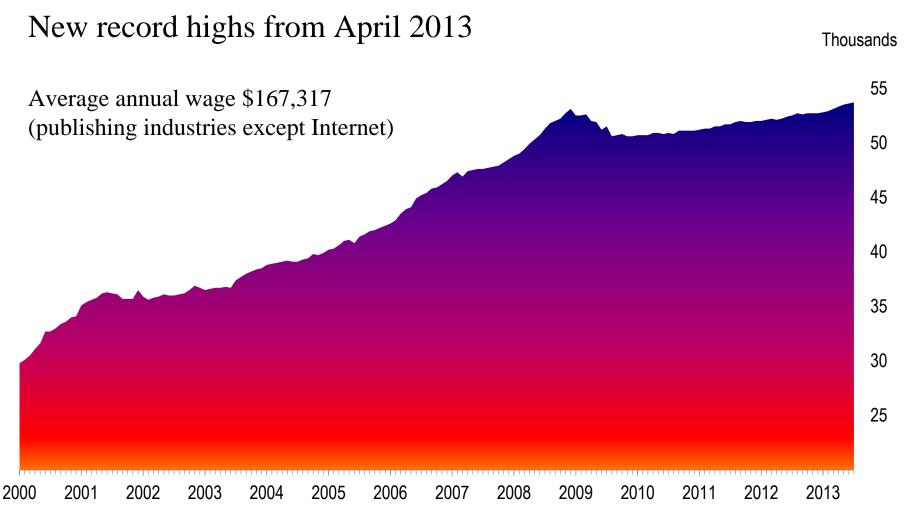
from trough

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

Data: Washington Employment Security Department.

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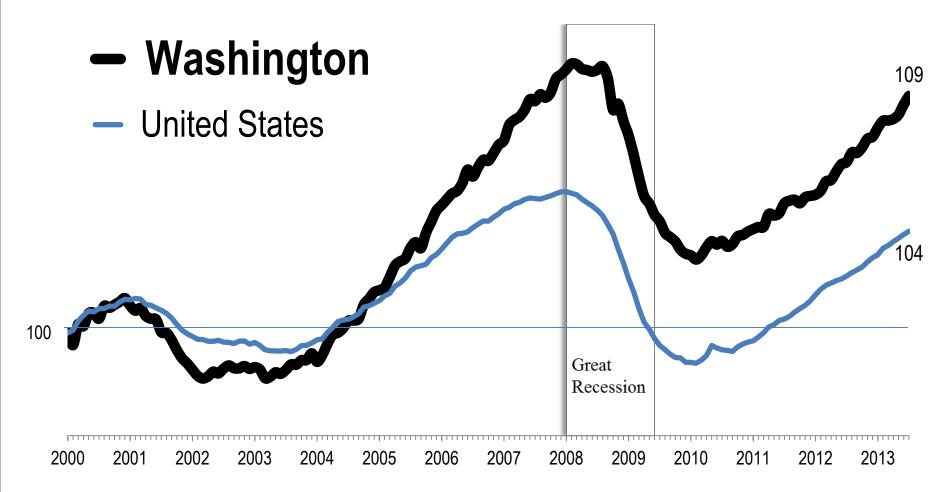
# Washington software employment



Data: Washington Employment Security Department.

### Since 2005, mostly above average

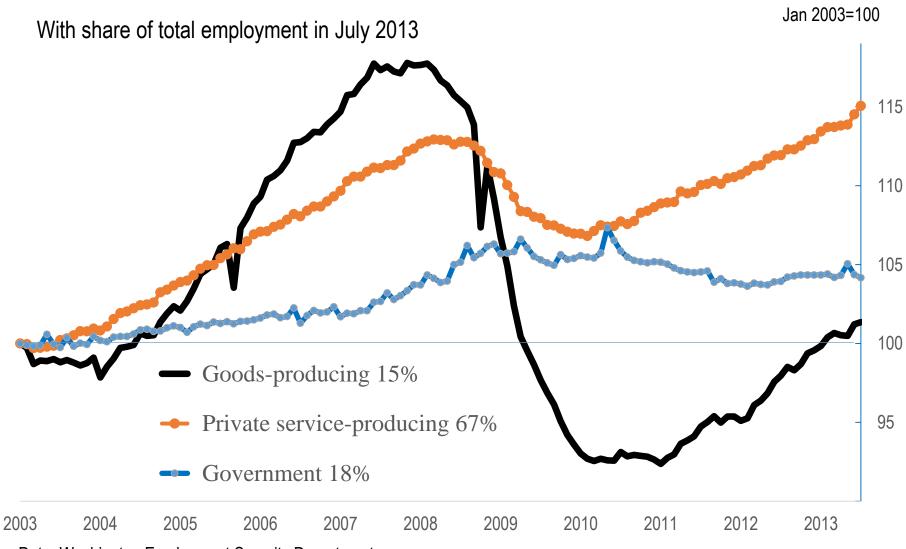
Nonfarm payroll employment



Data: Washington Employment Security Department, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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# Evergreen State employment trends



Data: Washington Employment Security Department

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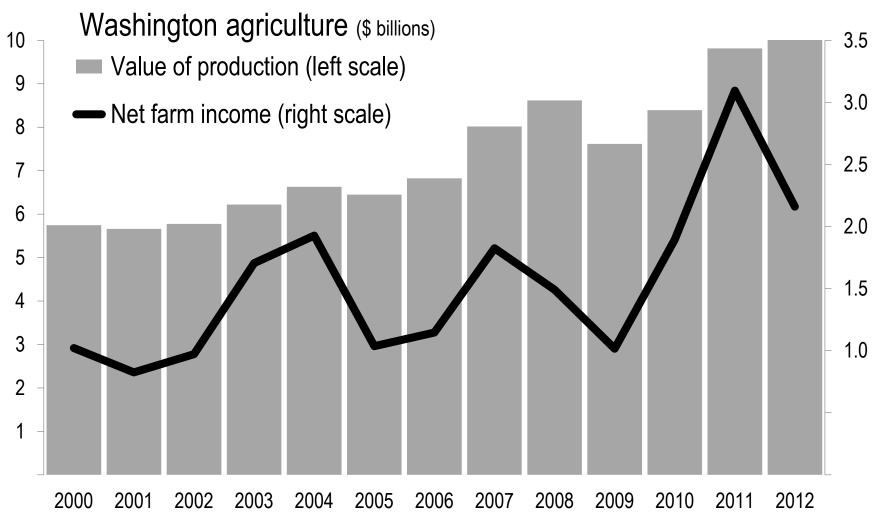
#### Leadership down on the farm

#### Washington value of production (millions) and rank

U.S. rank		2012 value	% state	% US
1	Apples	\$2,147	23%	71%
2	Wheat	1,060	11%	7%
3	Cattle/calves	745	8%	1%
4	Potatoes	695	7%	18%
5	Cherries	499	5%	56%
6	Hay	359	4%	5%
7	Greenhouse/nursery	347	4%	2%
8	Grapes	236	3%	5%
9	Pears	197	2%	49%
10	Onions	171	2%	18%

Data: USDA

## Helping to feed a hungry world



Data: USDA

I believe that economists put decimal points in their forecasts to show they have a sense of humor.

#### William Gilmore Simms

My favorite economic policy tool is prayer. It is not demonstrably less effective than the others, and it carries none of the bad side effects.

> Former IMF chief economist Michael Mussa, 1944-2012