

ECONversations

An Economic Outlook

Paula Tkac, Senior Vice President and Associate Research Director

February 21, 2018

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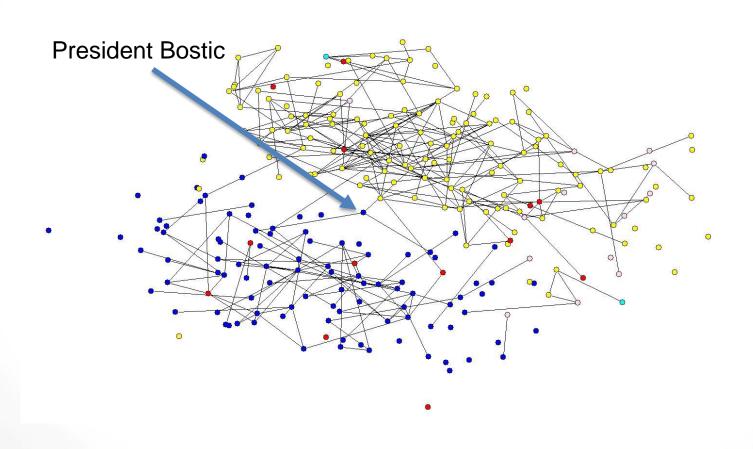




Bridging Networks for Better Policy

The Atlanta Fed Model

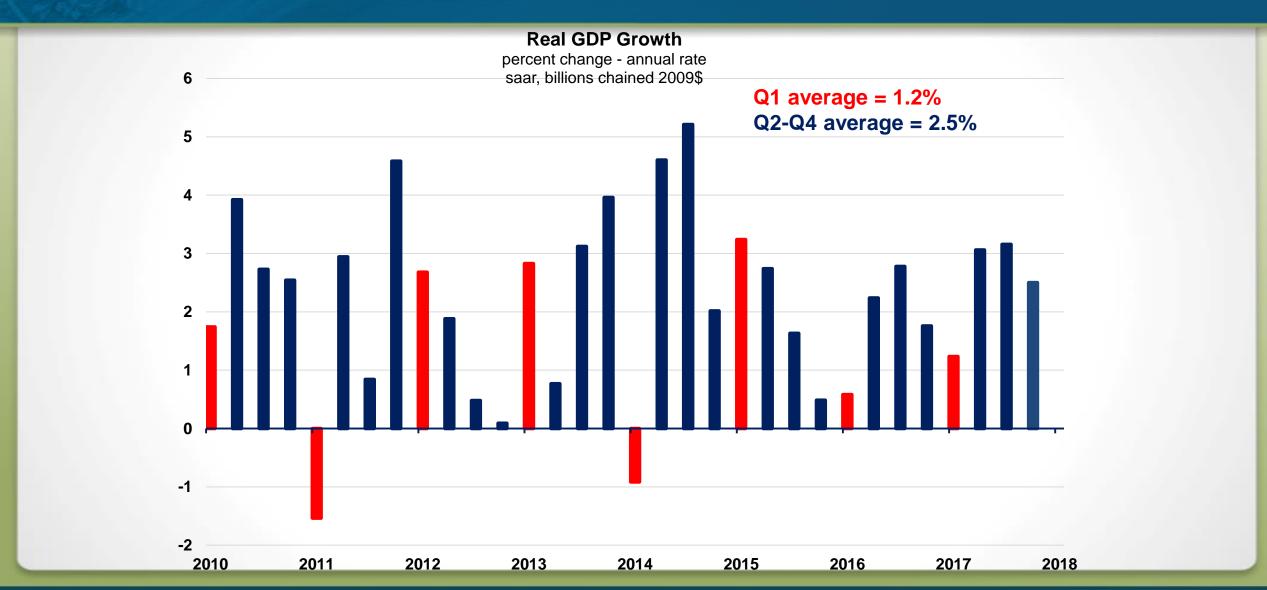




GDP

Current GDPNow for 2018Q1 = 3.2%





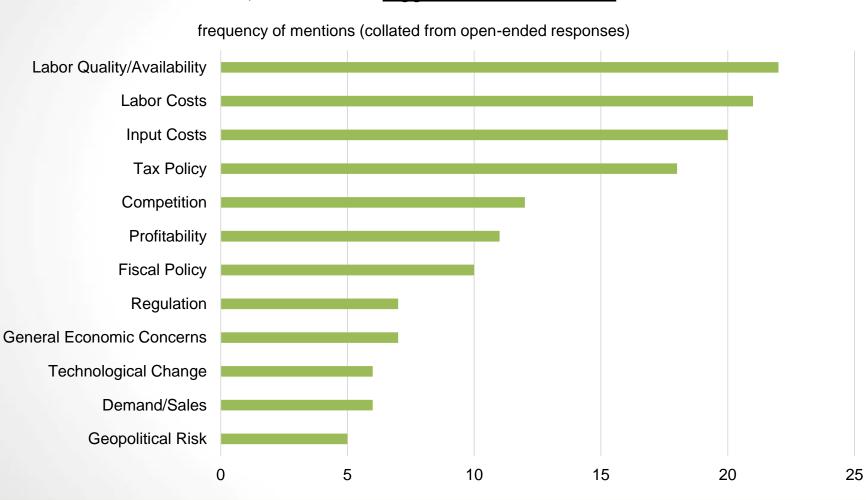
Source: BEA

What's on the Mind of Businesses?



Atlanta Fed's Business Inflation Expectations Survey

We would like you to think more generally about your firm. Looking ahead into 2018, what are the biggest areas of concern?



Employment: Labor Market appears 'tight'



Dec. 2007

Dec. 2009

Dec. 2017

Maximum

Minimum

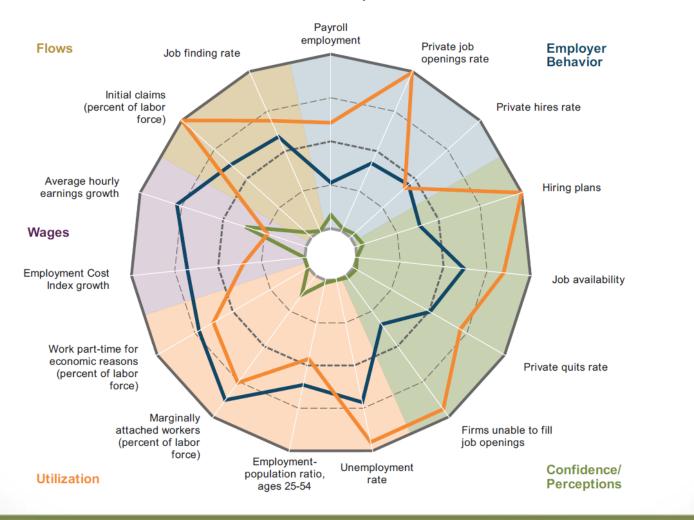
Median

(outer ring)

(inner ring)

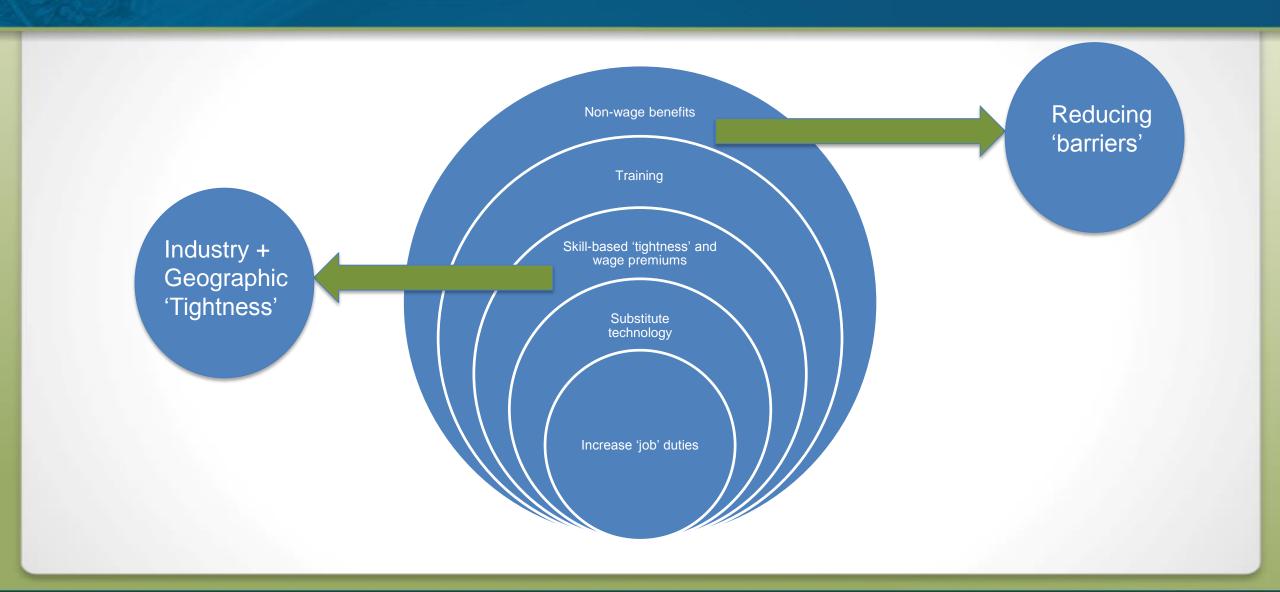
(middle ring)

Labor Market Spider Chart



REIN: The Evolution of Employer Behavior

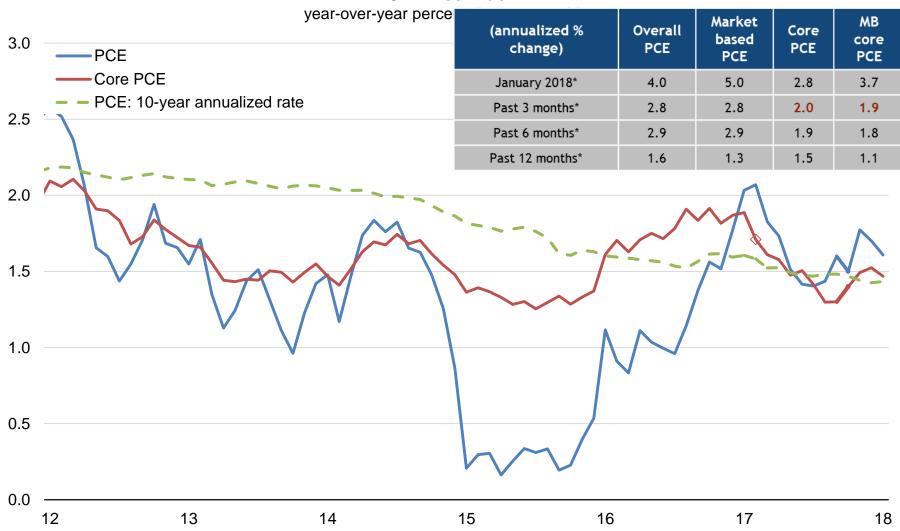




Data: The Low Inflation Puzzle



PCE Price Index



Sources: Bureau of Economic Analysis; FRB Dallas; Haver Analytics; staff calculations

REIN: Costs and Pricing Inside Firms

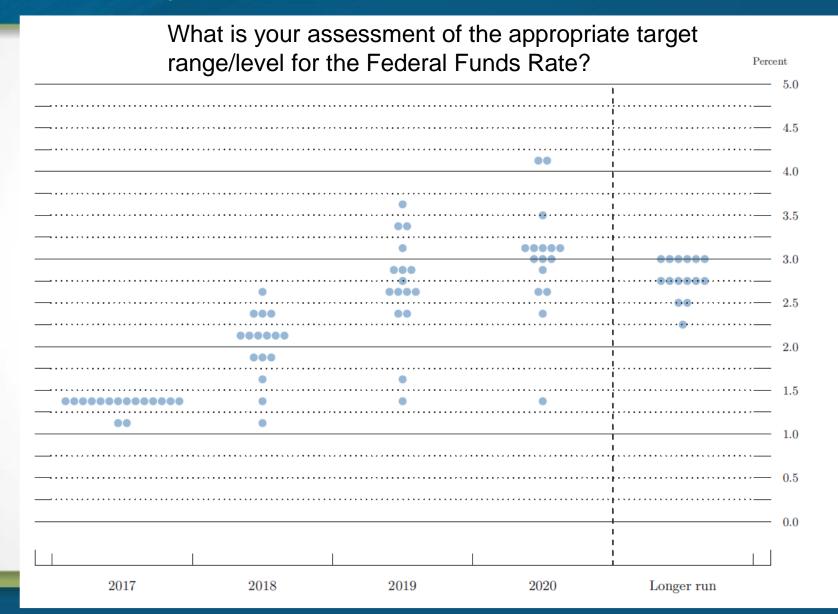


- Lowering costs thru increased vendor competition and adoption of technology
- Consolidation but little/no pricing power in the output market
- Increased differential and dynamic pricing strategies

The View from the FOMC

Statement of Economic Projections: December 2017







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