A Global Economic and Market Outlook

Presented by Dr Chris Caton

December 2008

US Housing starts and Permits





Total US Non-farm Employment





2009 Growth Forecasts (%)

Month of Forecast

| | M-08 | J-08 | J-08 | A-08 | S-08 | O-08 | N-08 |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Australia | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 1.7 |
| New Zealand | 2.1 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 0.6 |
| US | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 0.0 | -0.6 |
| Japan | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 0.5 | -0.1 |
| China | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 9.1 | 8.8 | 8.1 |
| Germany | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.3 | -0.4 |
| UK | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.6 | -0.2 | -0.9 |
| "World" | 3.0 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 1.1 |

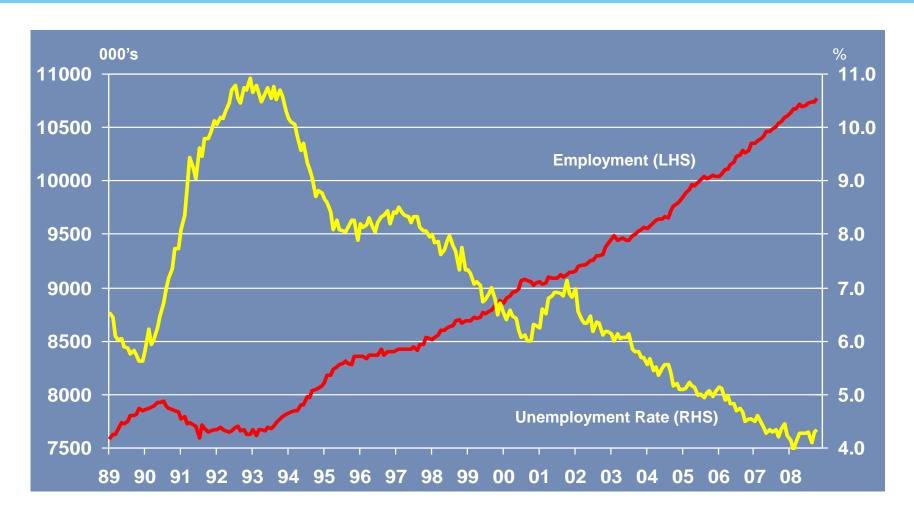
Source: Consensus Economics

Real GDP growth in Australia and the US





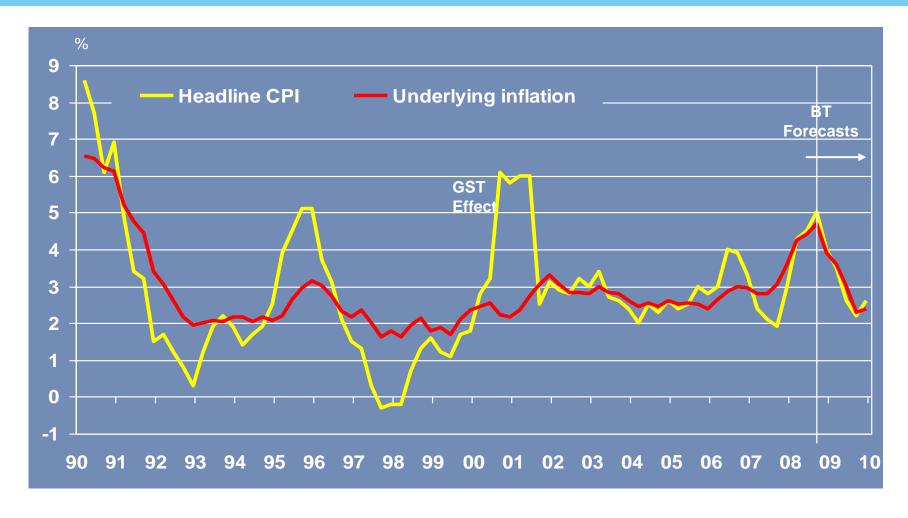
The Labour market



Source: ABS



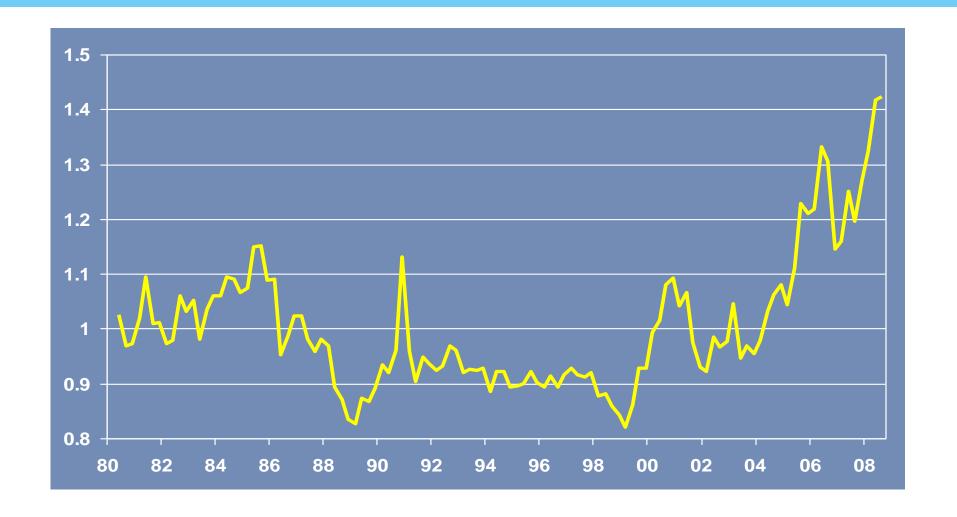
Australian Inflation



Source: ABS

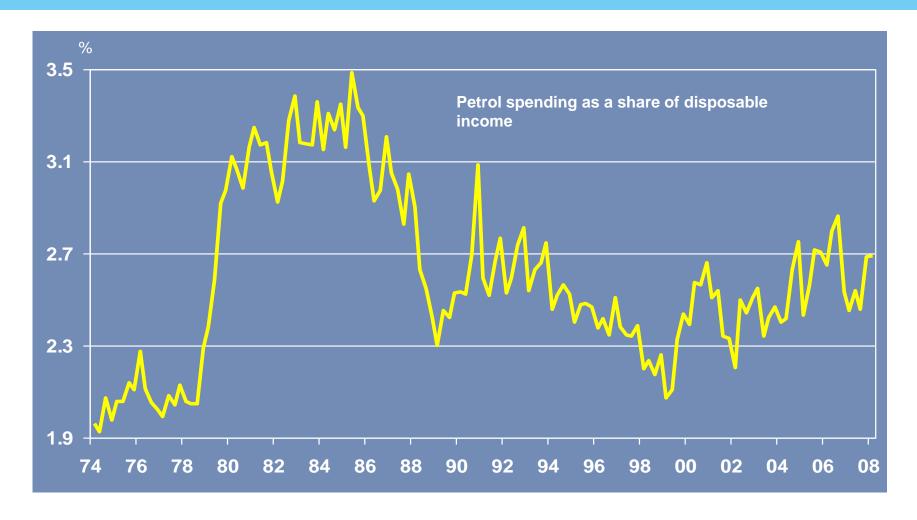


Petrol Prices relative to CPI





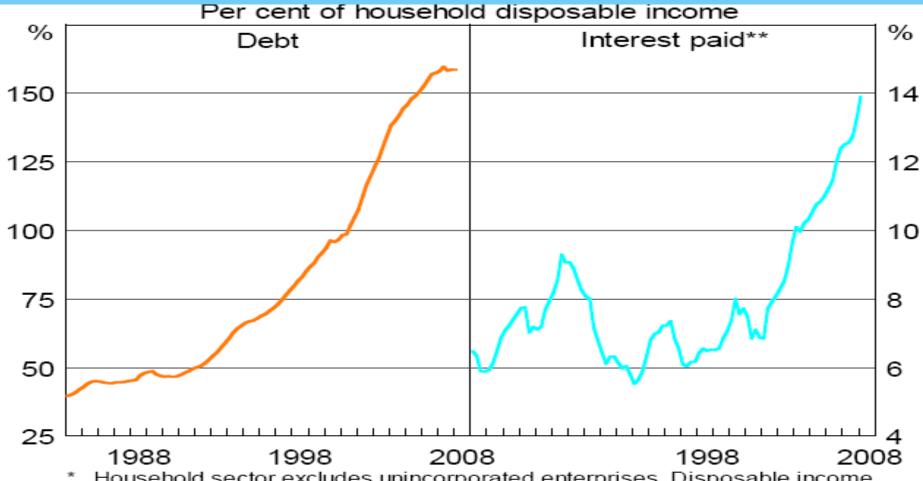
Petrol spending as a share of disposable income



Source: ABS



Household debt and interest



Household sector excludes unincorporated enterprises. Disposable income is after tax and before the deduction of interest payments.

^{**} Includes imputed financial intermediation service charge Sources: ABS; RBA

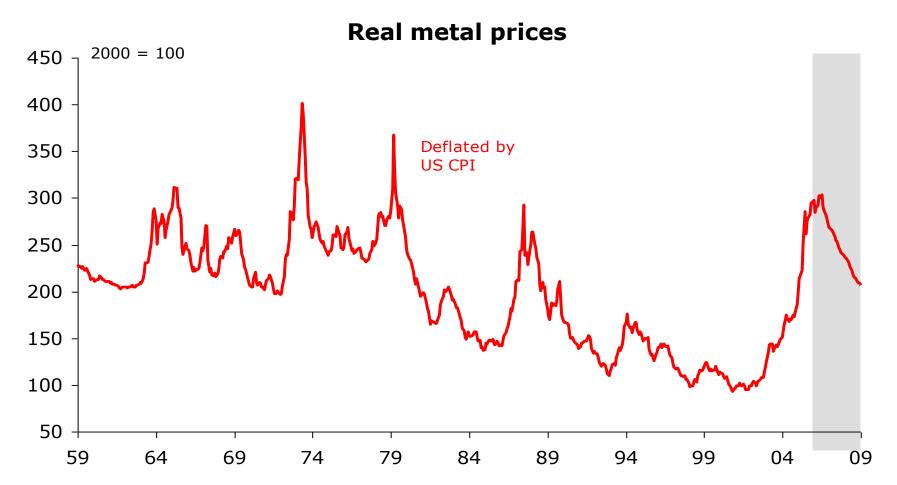


House Prices - Australia v Melbourne





Commodity prices are finally falling

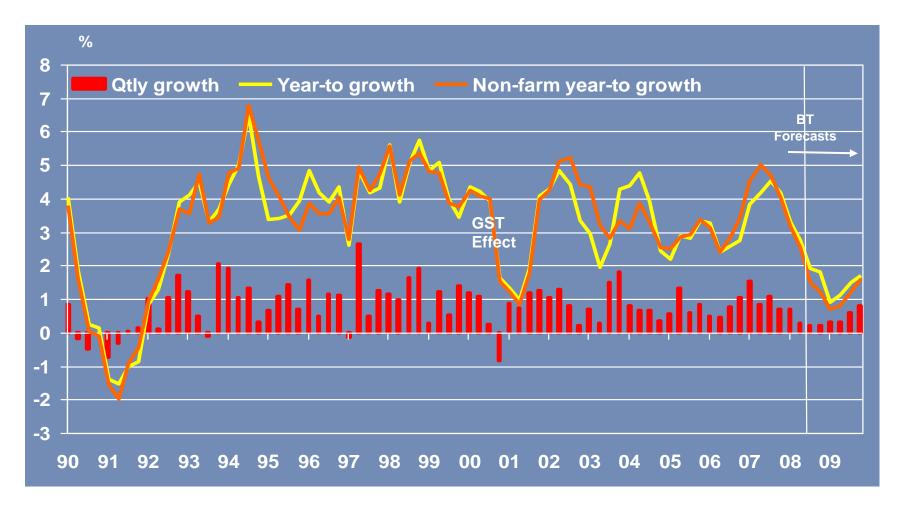


Sources: IMF International Financial Statistics; US Bureau of Labor

Statistics; Economics@ANZ.



Gross Domestic Product



Source: ABS



Financial Market Forecasts

| | Now (3 Dec) | End-Jun 2009 | End-Dec 2009 |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| AUD/USD | 0. 644 | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| Official cash rate (%) | 4.25 | 3.25 | 4.00 |
| 10 Year Bond yield (%) | 4.40 | 4.70 | 5.00 |
| ASX 200 | 3650 | 4500 | 5000 |



The Australian Dollar and US Trade Weighted Index





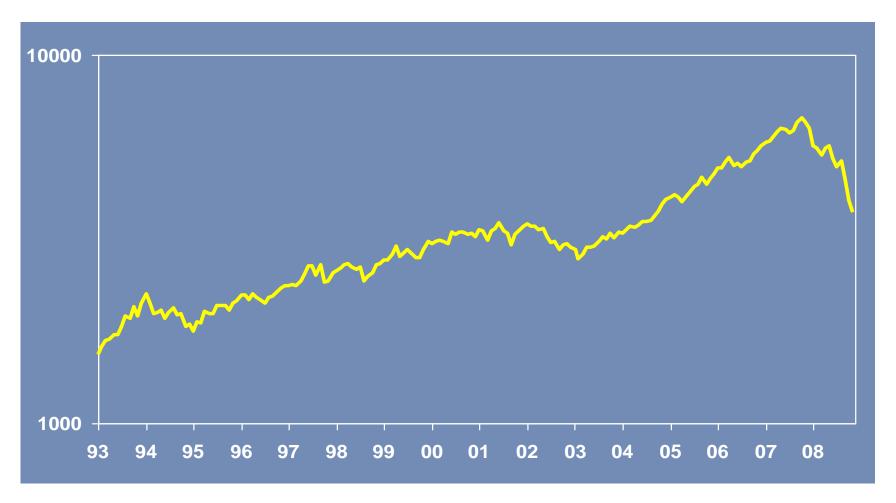
Australian Sharemarket Performance – ASX200



Source: Bloomberg



Australian Sharemarket Performance – ASX200 (log scale)



Source: Bloomberg

S&P 500 peaks and troughs - the market turns before the economy, and usually recovers strongly

| | Peaks | | | Troughs | | % cha | nge in S&l | P 500 |
|---------|---------|------------------|------------|---------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| S&P 500 | Economy | Lead (months) | S&P 500 | Economy | Lead (months) | Previous 12 months | Peak to trough | Following 12 months |
| Dec 59 | Apr 60 | 4 | Oct 60 | Feb 61 | 4 | 10.4 | -9.0 | 26.6 |
| May 69 | Dec 69 | 7 | Jun 70 | Nov 70 | 5 | 6.9 | -27.8 | 31.9 |
| Oct 73 | Nov 73 | 1 | Dec 74 | Mar 75 | 3 | 0.3 | -38.9 | 32.3 |
| Dec 79 | Jan 80 | 1 | Apr 80 | Jul 80 | 3 | 12.1 | -4.5 | 30.6 |
| Apr 81 | Jul 81 | 3 | Jul 82 | Nov 82 | 4 | 30.6 | -18.6 | 52.6 |
| Jun 90 | Jul 90 | 1 | Oct 90 | Mar 91 | 5 | 11.3 | -14.8 | 26.0 |
| Aug 00 | Mar 01 | 7 | Feb 03 | Nov 01 | -15 | 11.9 | -43.6 | 36.5 |
| Oct 07 | Dec 07 | 2 | Nov 08? | - | - | 12.9 | -42? | - |

Source: National Bureau of Economic research and the Wall Street Journal

Note: S&P 500 data reflect monthly averages. The peaks and troughs for the economy are designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research Business Cycle Dating Committee

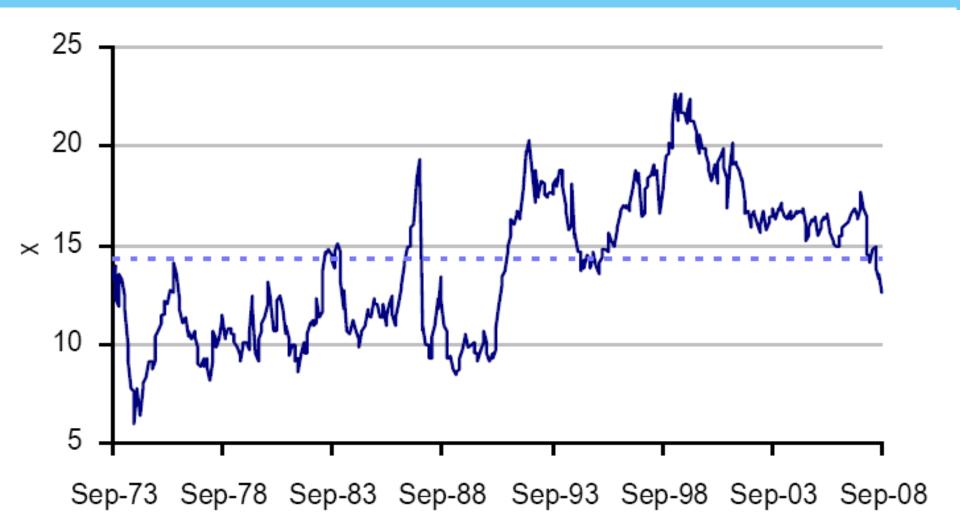


Global stocks are cheap right now



Source: Datastream and UBS

And the same is true in Australia (p/e ratio, trailing)



Global Medium-Term Economic Growth and Inflation Prospects (2008-2018)

| | GDP | Consumer Prices |
|----------------|-----|-----------------|
| Australia | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| New Zealand | 2.5 | 2.6 |
| United States | 2.5 | 2.3 |
| Norway | 2.4 | 2.6 |
| Sweden | 2.3 | 2.2 |
| Canada | 2.2 | 2.1 |
| Spain | 2.0 | 2.7 |
| Netherlands | 1.9 | 2.1 |
| United Kingdom | 1.8 | 2.5 |
| France | 1.8 | 2.0 |
| Switzerland | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| Euro zone | 1.7 | 2.1 |
| Germany | 1.4 | 1.9 |
| Japan | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Italy | 1.1 | 2.2 |

Source: Consensus Economics



Asia-Pacific Medium-Term Economic Growth and Inflation Prospects (2008-2018)

| | GDP | Consumer Prices |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|
| China | 8.5 | 3.7 |
| India | 7.5 | 5.2 |
| Indonesia | 5.8 | 6.0 |
| Malaysia | 5.3 | 3.0 |
| Thailand | 5.1 | 3.3 |
| Singapore | 4.8 | 2.5 |
| Taiwan | 4.4 | 2.1 |
| South Korea | 4.2 | 2.9 |
| Hong Kong | 4.1 | 3.2 |
| Australia | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| New Zealand | 2.5 | 2.6 |
| Japan | 1.3 | 1.1 |

Source: Consensus Economics



Morgan Stanley Capital Indexes





Summary

- A global recession began months ago. A deep recession in the US is (more than) fully priced in. The risk is that it drags on.
- Australian economy is slowing, although not drastically.
 The chance of recession has risen, however.
- Interest rates will continue to fall.
- → The exchange rate is below fair value and likely to rise.
- Stocks are cheap right now.



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