



St Louis Chapter



**institute for
supply management**

ISM—St. Louis, Inc.

Professional Development Series

March 22, 2016



AVONDALE PARTNERS

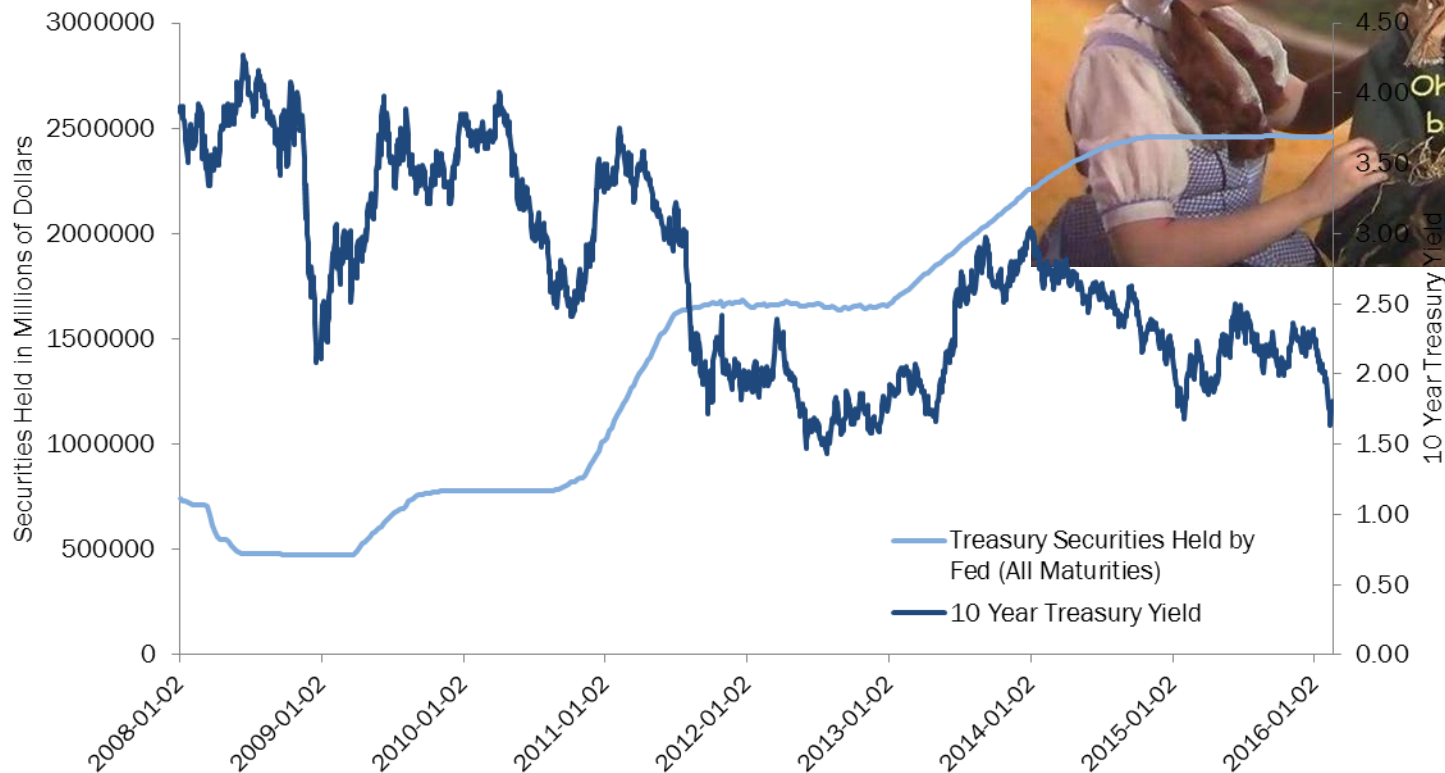
A View From Wall Street

Donald Broughton

Chief Market Strategist, Managing Director

QE Lowers Interest Rates, Right?

10 Year Treasury Yield VS. Treasury Securities Held by the Fed (All Maturities)

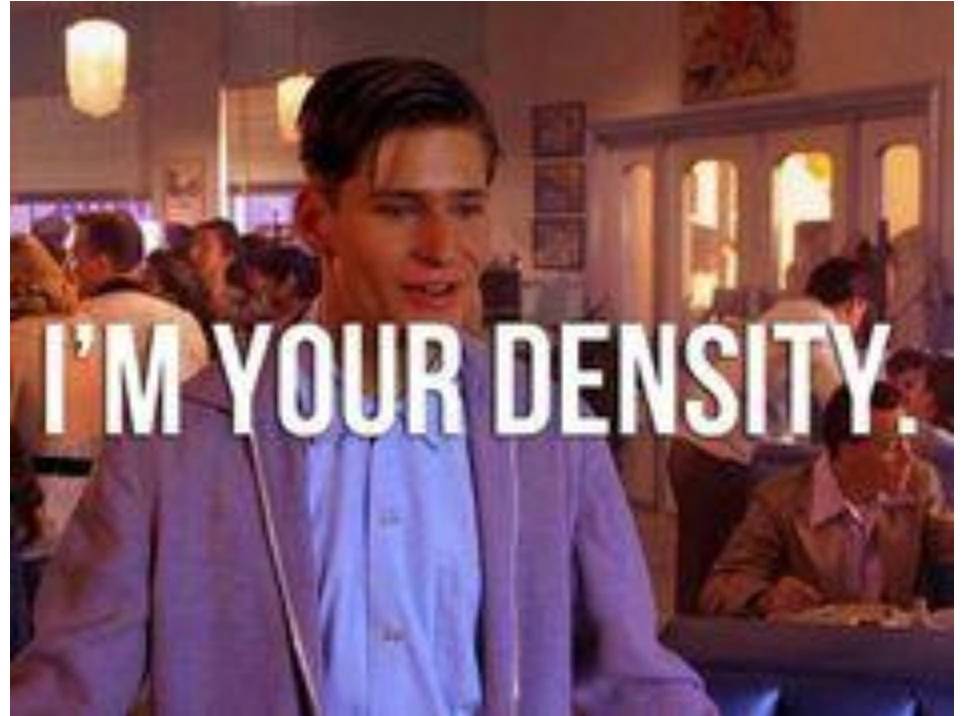


How can you talk if you haven't a brain?

Oh some people without brains do an awful lot of talking.

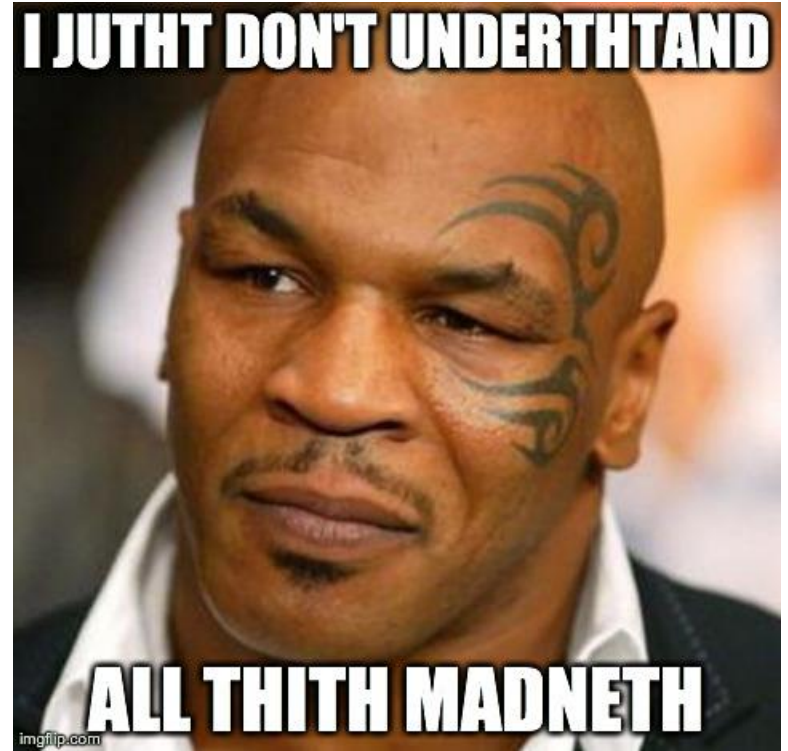
Density is Your Destiny!

- Goods are becoming higher in value, lower in density
- New goods created are high value / low density
- Durability / Disposability



It was “Slow Growth, No Growth?”

- Constant Message of “Be Afraid”
- Culture of Constant Distraction
- Increased Regulation
- Increased Cost of “Green” Infrastructure
- Demographics
- Unless you are in:
 - Fracking (was)
 - Intermodal (was)
 - E-Commerce



Media's Message is "Be Afraid!"

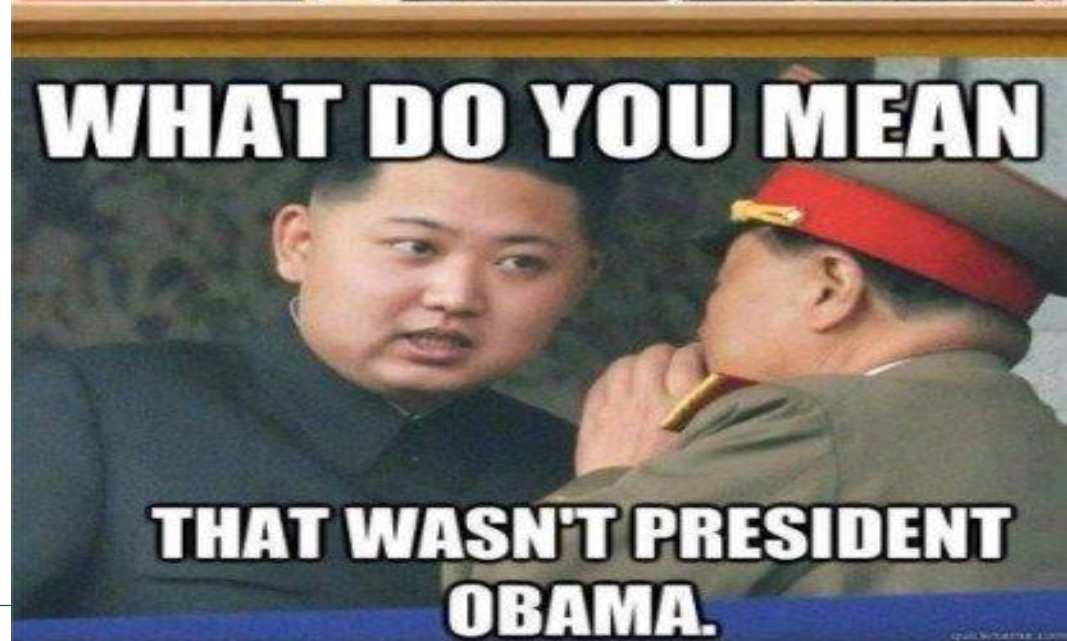


Wealth of all kinds – emotional,
spiritual, intellectual, financial
**All wealth is created by taking
risk!**

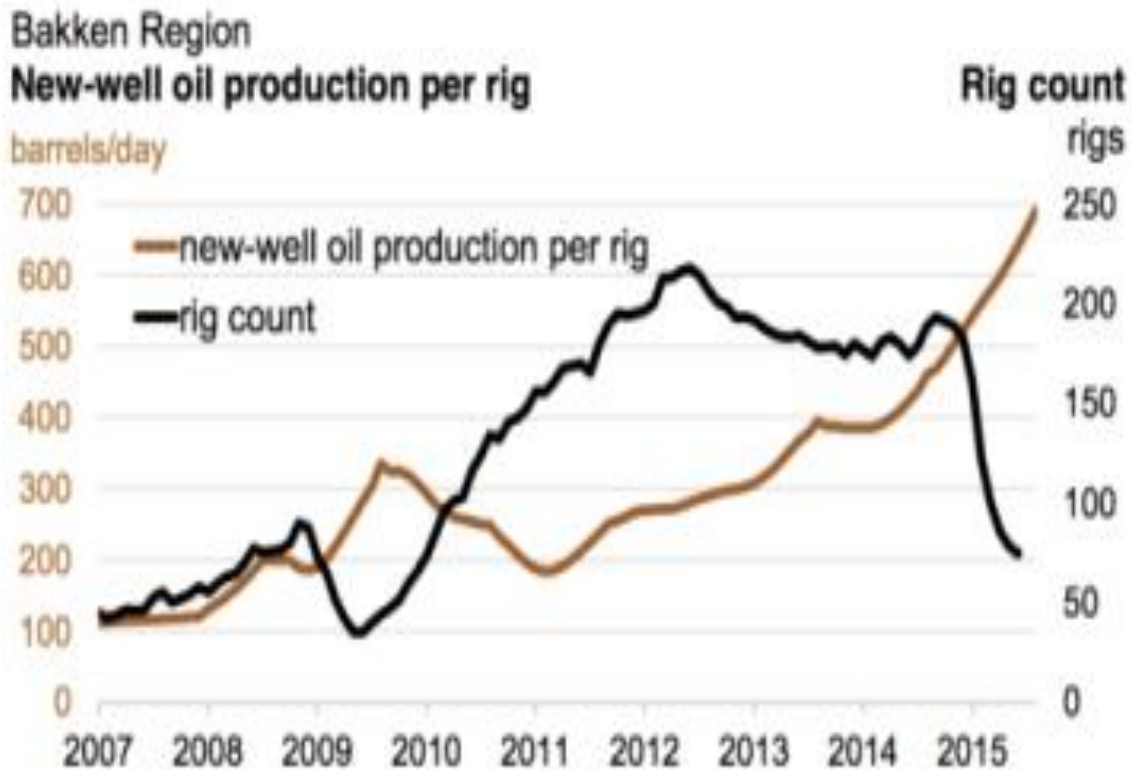
Prudent risk, but risk nevertheless.

Fracking! Oil & Natural Gas – I

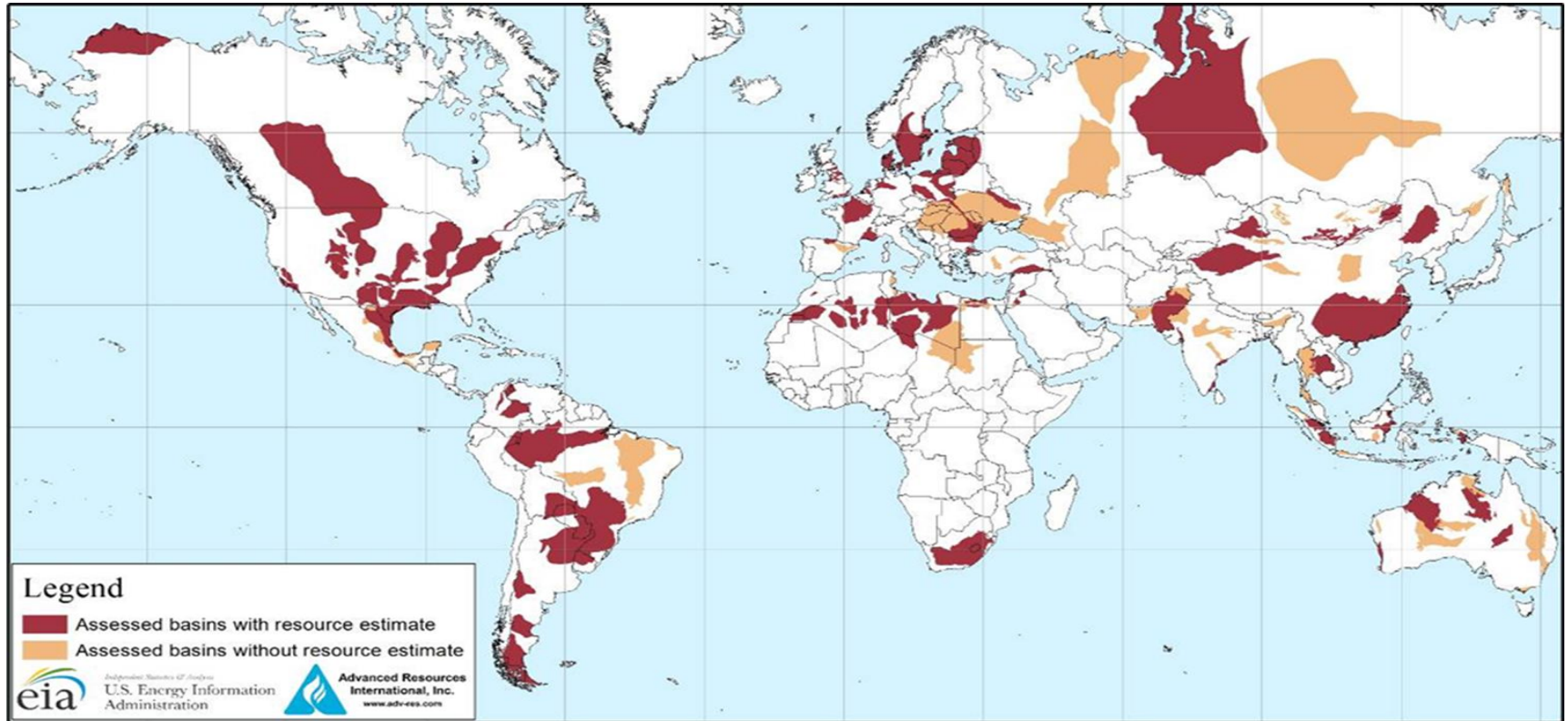
- How plentiful is the supply
- Why is the price so low?
- Can it stay low for a long time?



Fracking Produces More and More per Well

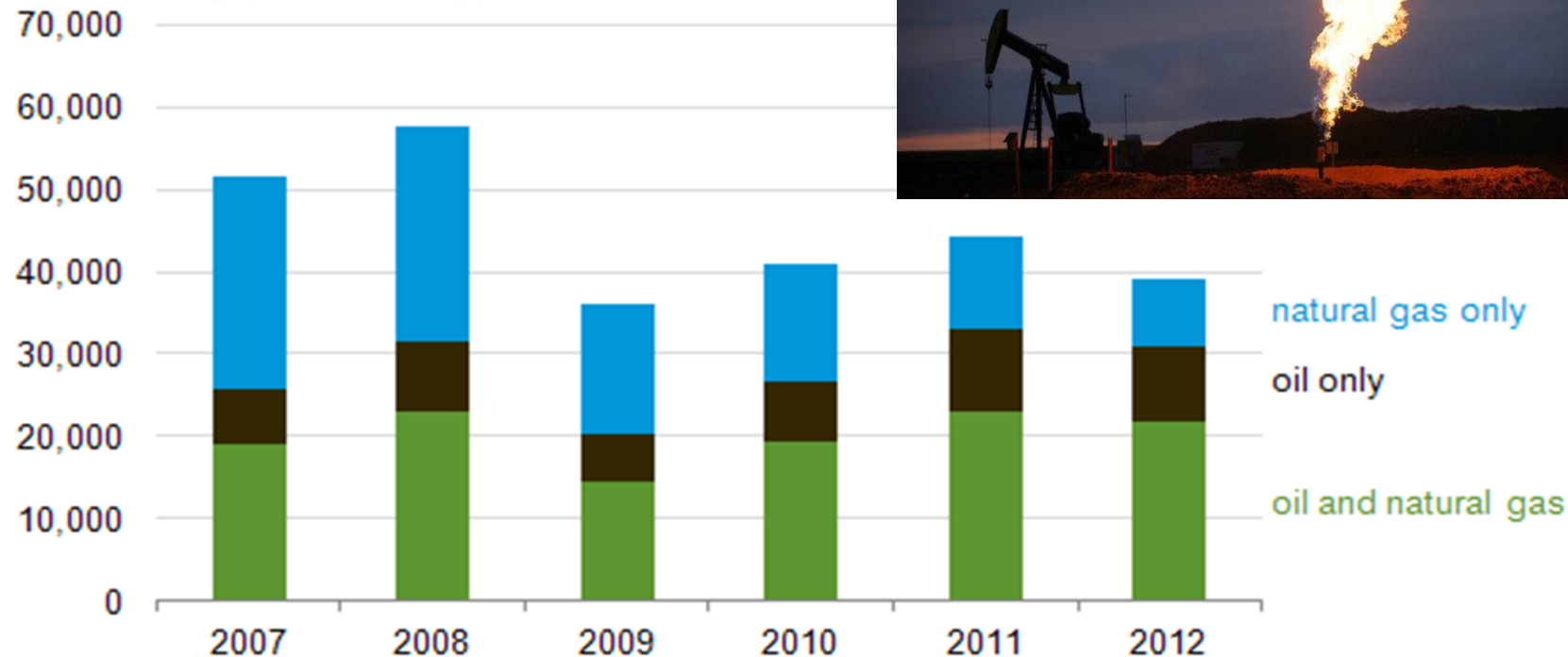


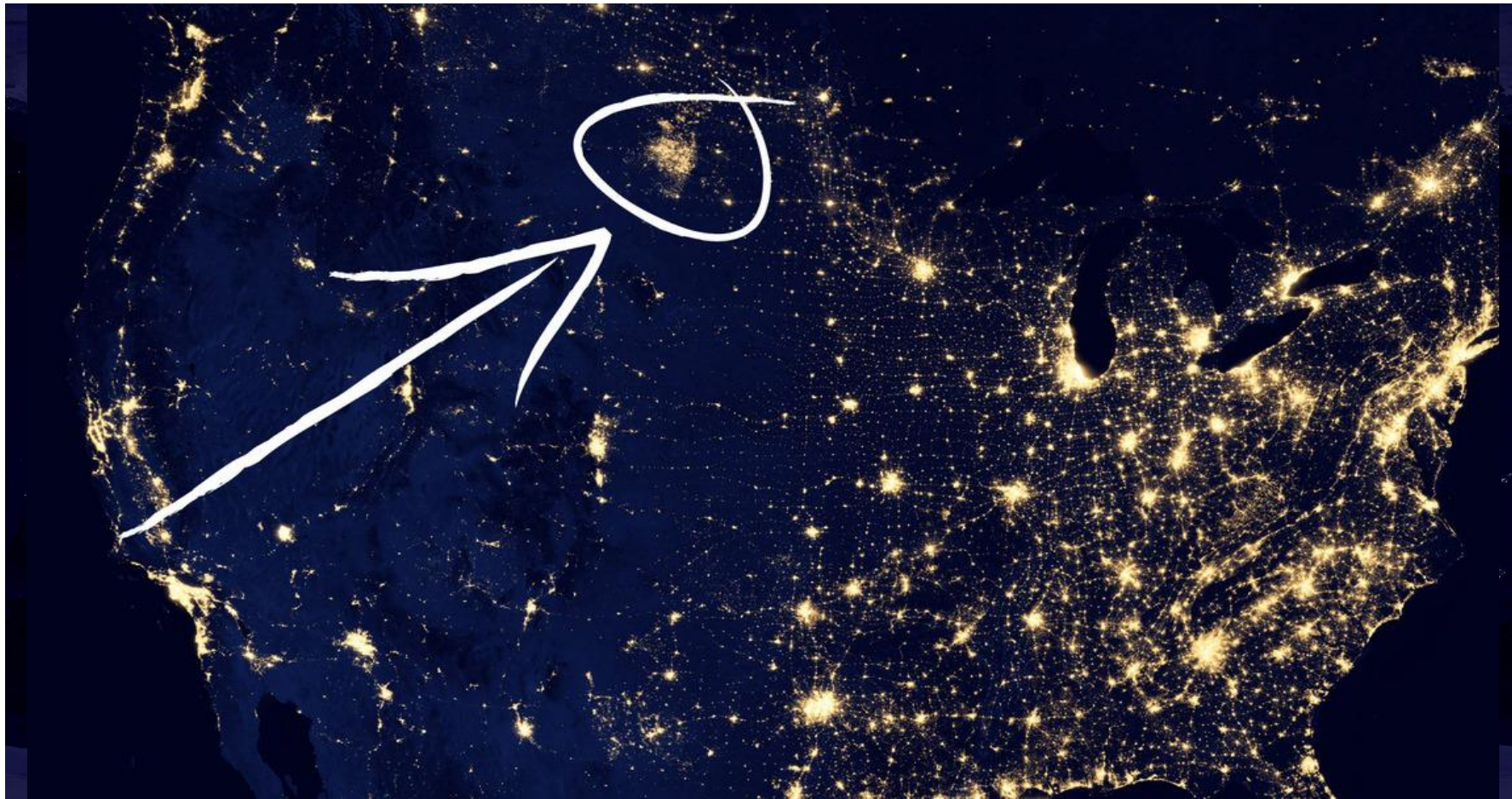
Shale Deposits are Global – Almost Everywhere



Fracking Produces both Oil & Gas

New wells by production type

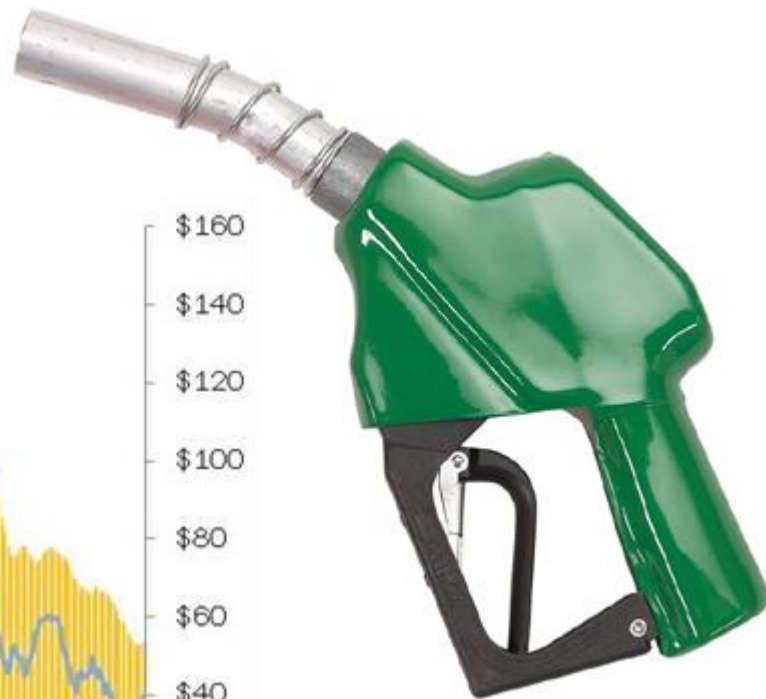
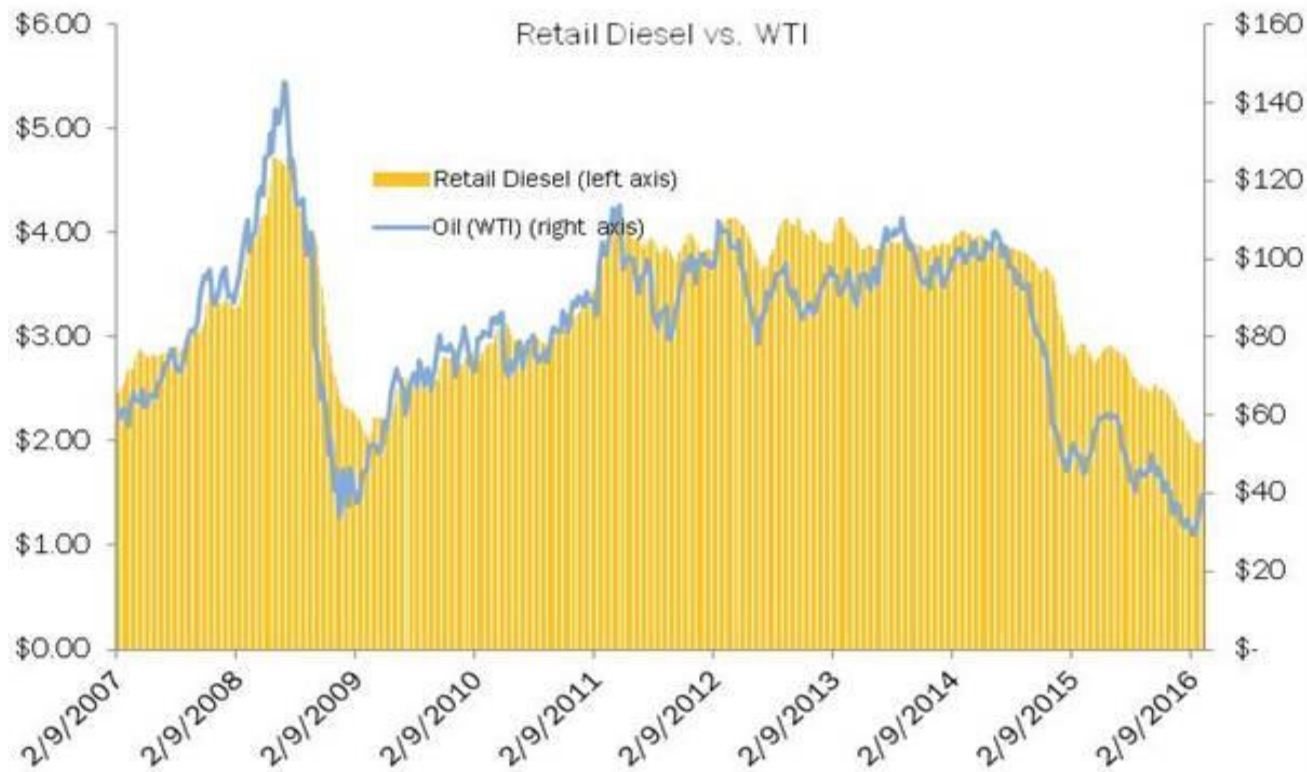




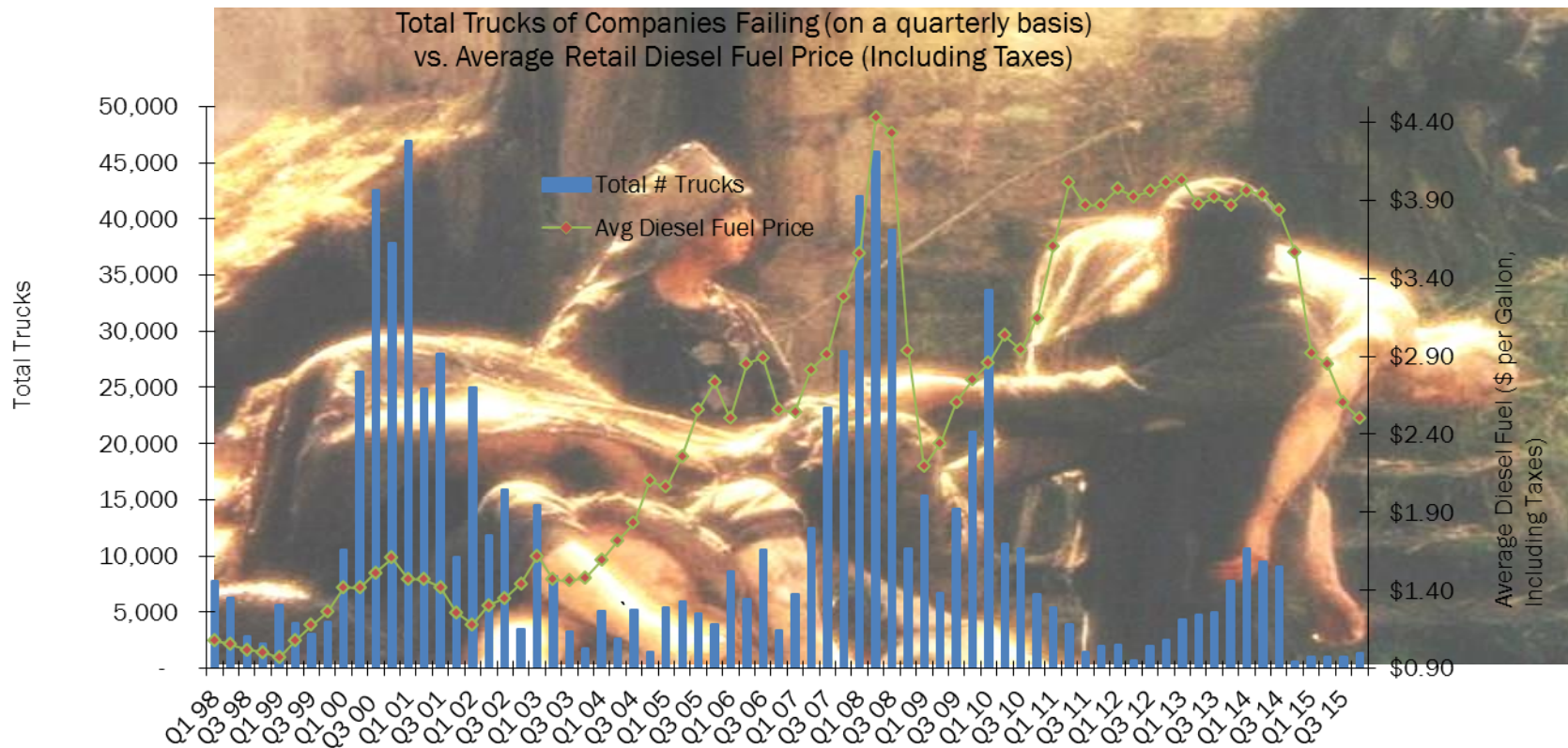
Rig Count is Dropping & Still Producing Too Much!



Diesel Poised to Fall Even Further



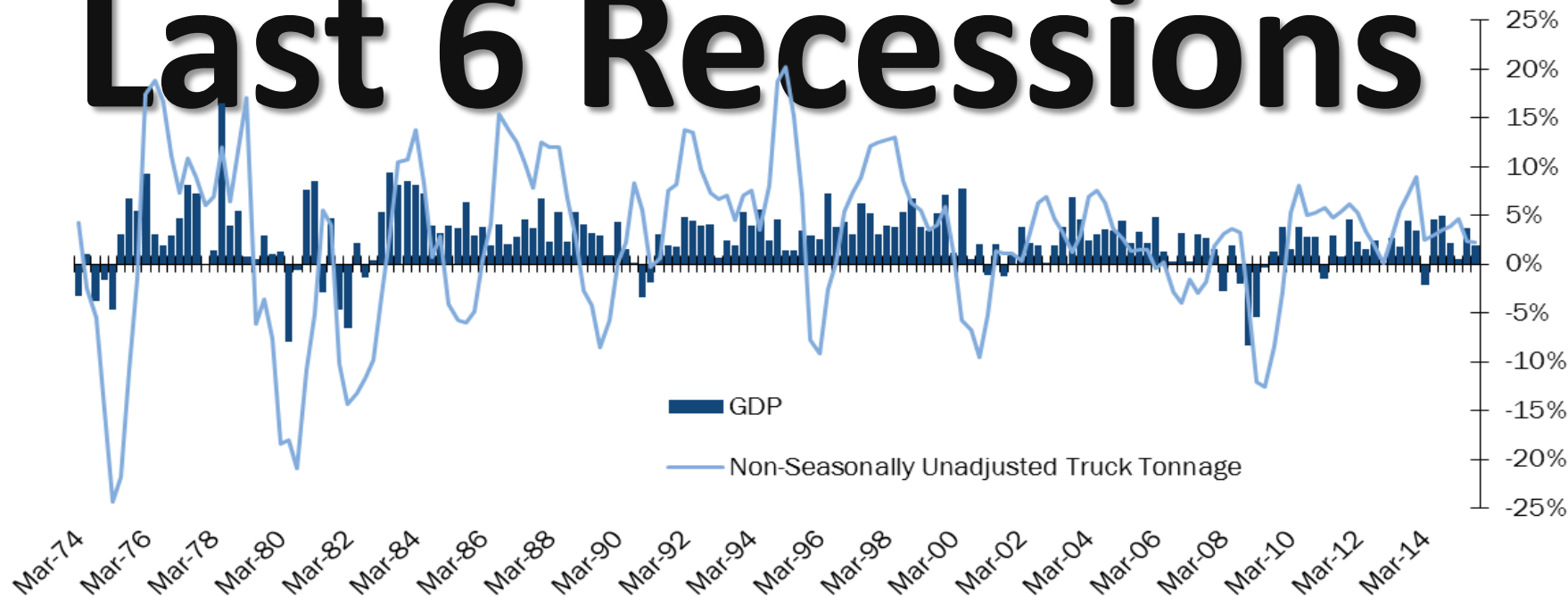
Not Dead Yet...



Predicted 8 of the

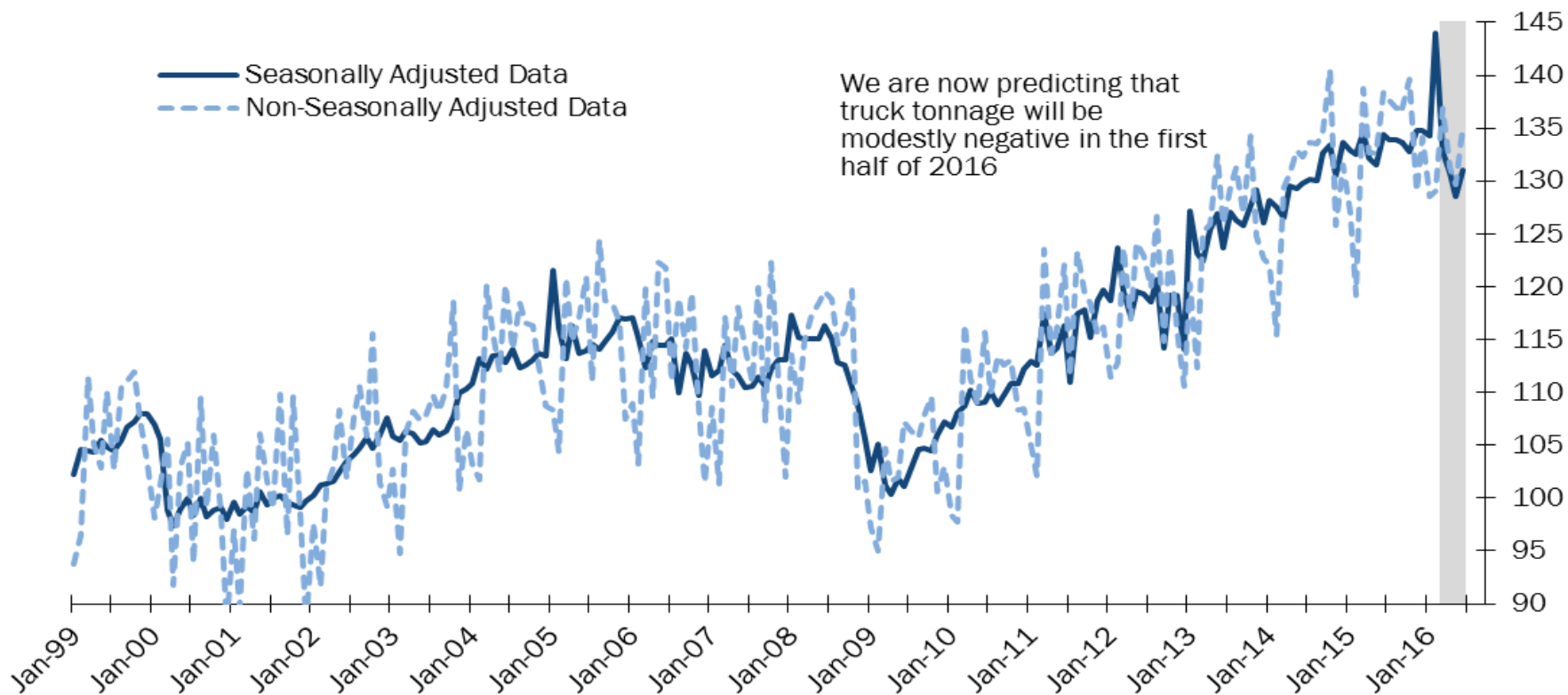
QUARTERLY YoY% CHANGE IN TRUCK TONNAGE VS. QUARTERLY GDP

Last 6 Recessions



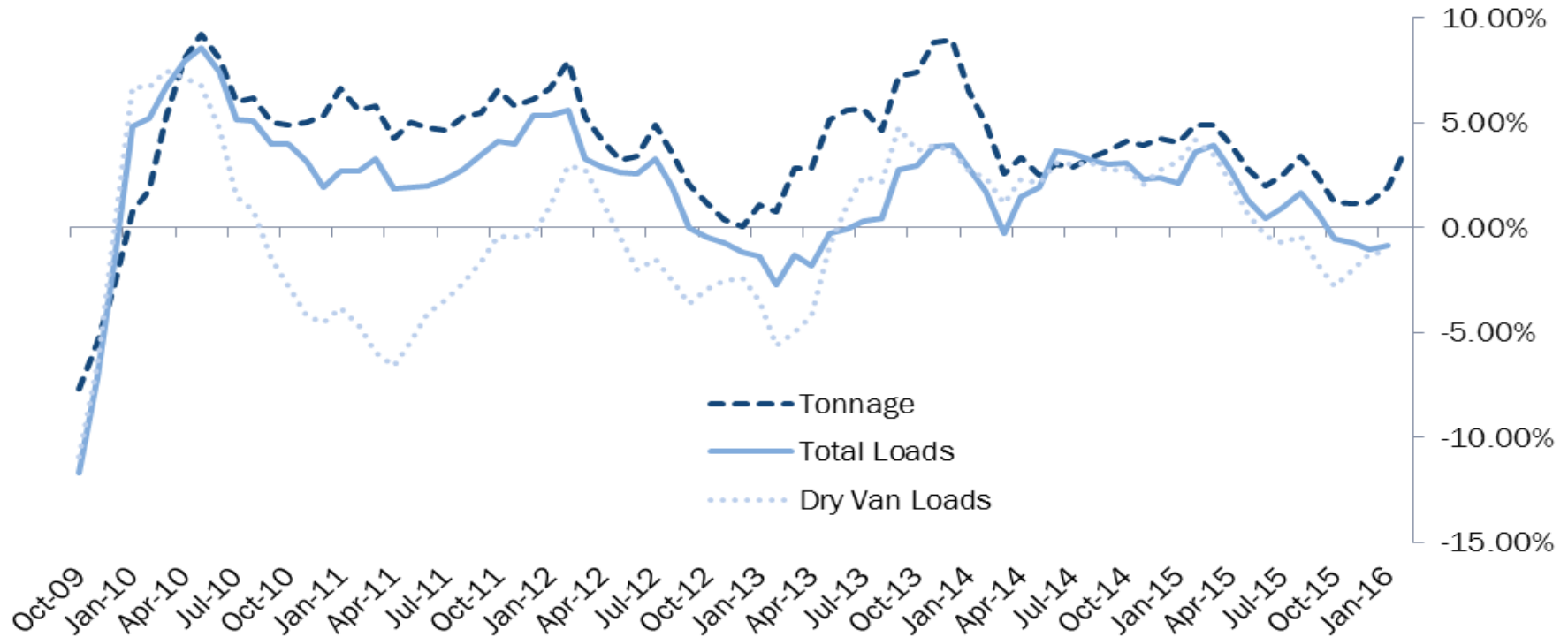
Tonnage Poised to Contract?

MONTHLY TRUCK TONNAGE INDEX (2000 BASIS 100)

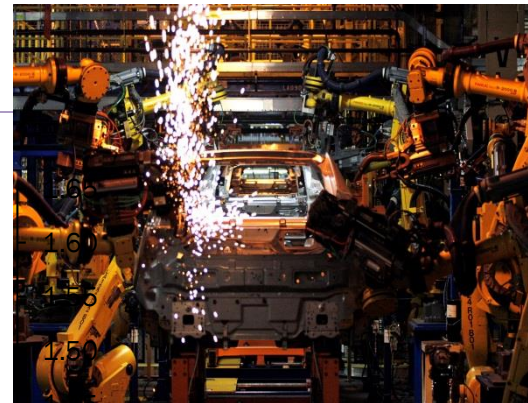
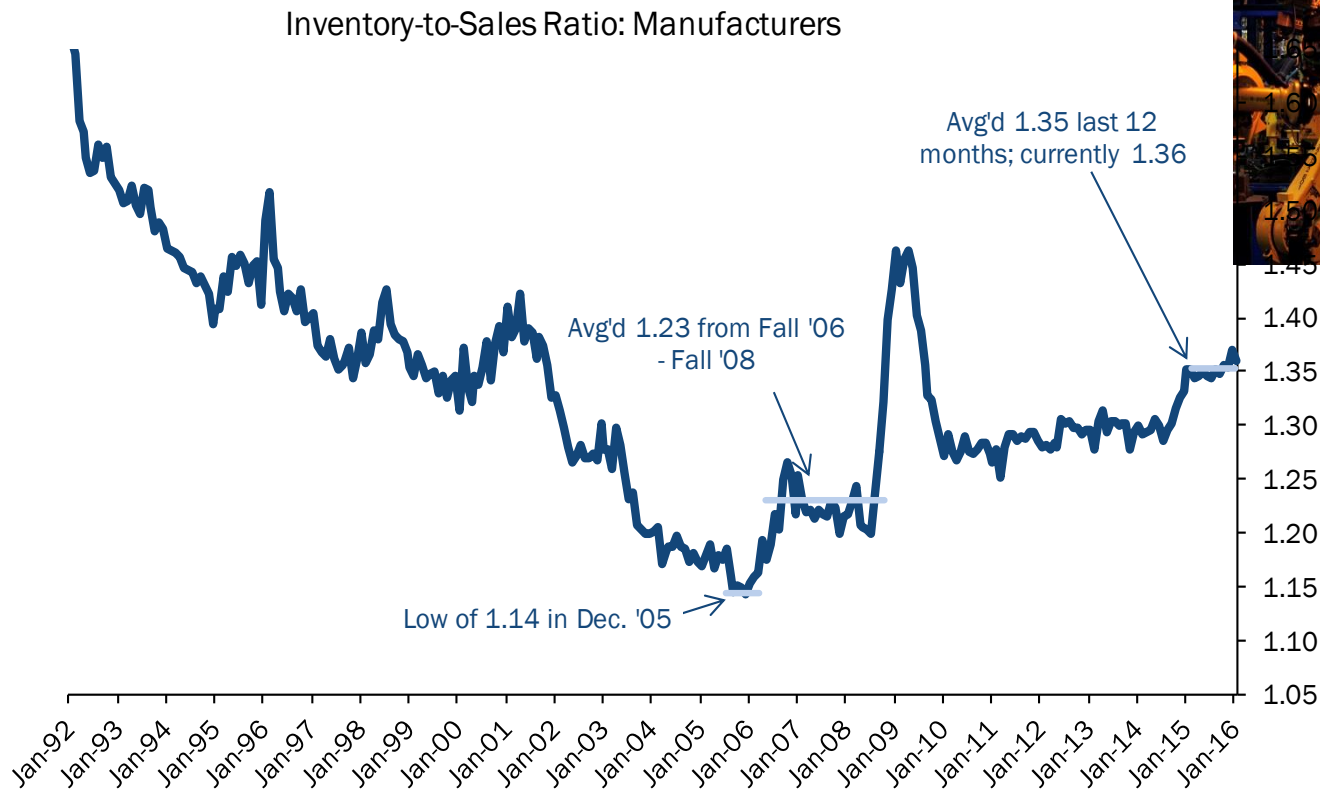


Load Growth Already Contracting?

ATA NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TRUCK VOLUMES
3MMA YoY

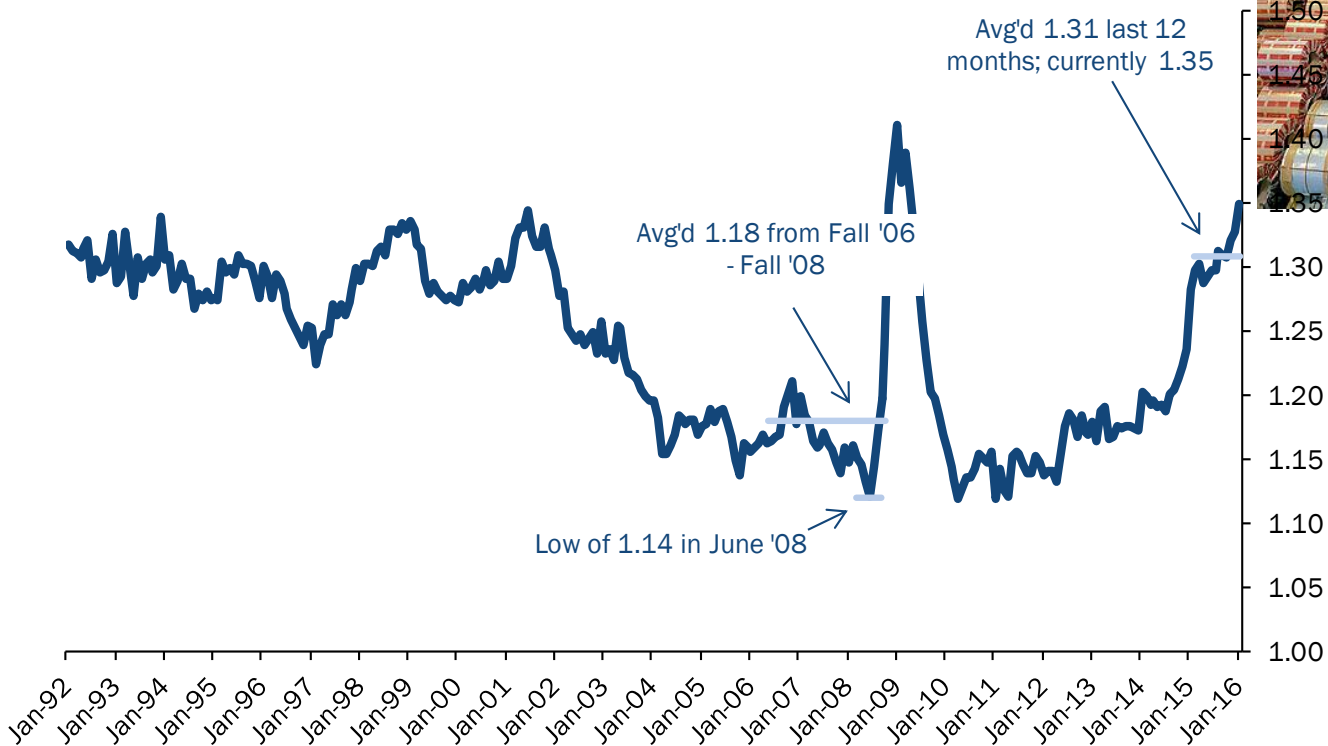


Inventory to Sales Ratio: Manufacturing



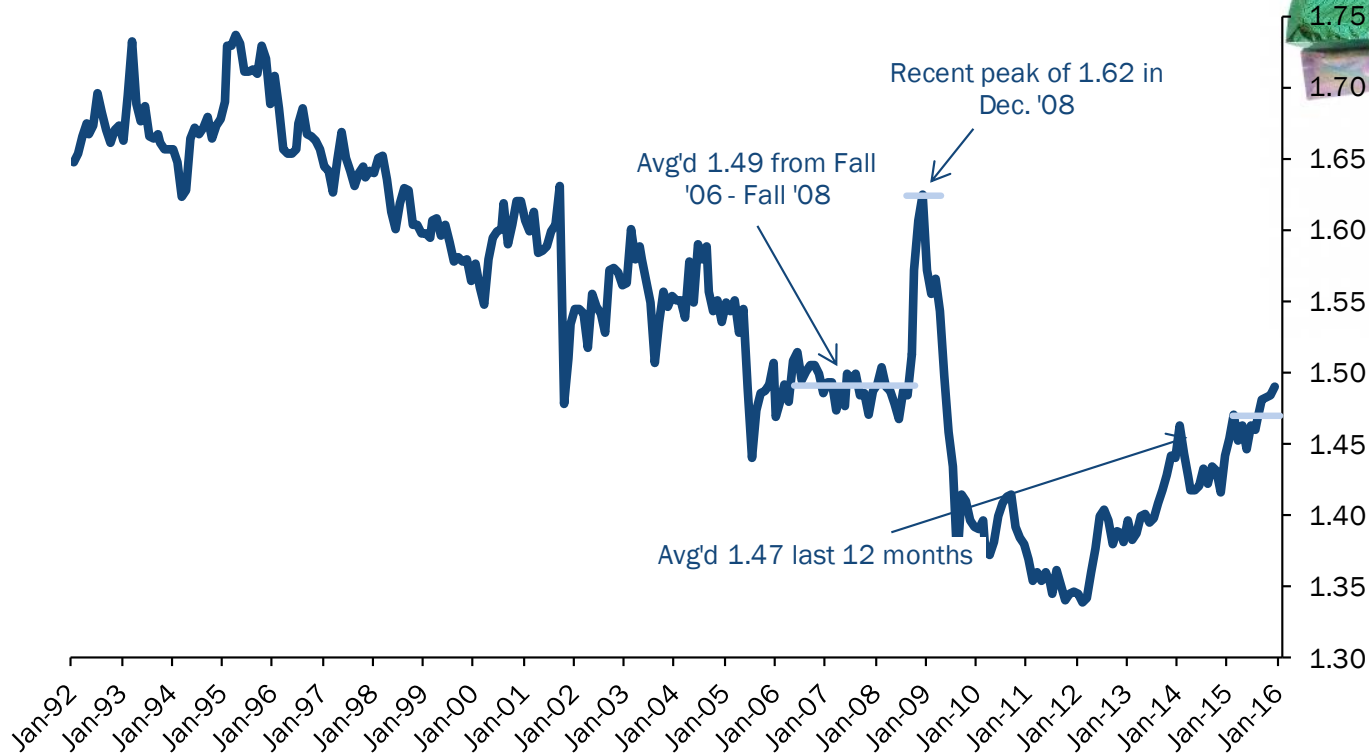
Inventory to Sales Ratio: Wholesalers

Inventory-to-Sales Ratio: Wholesalers

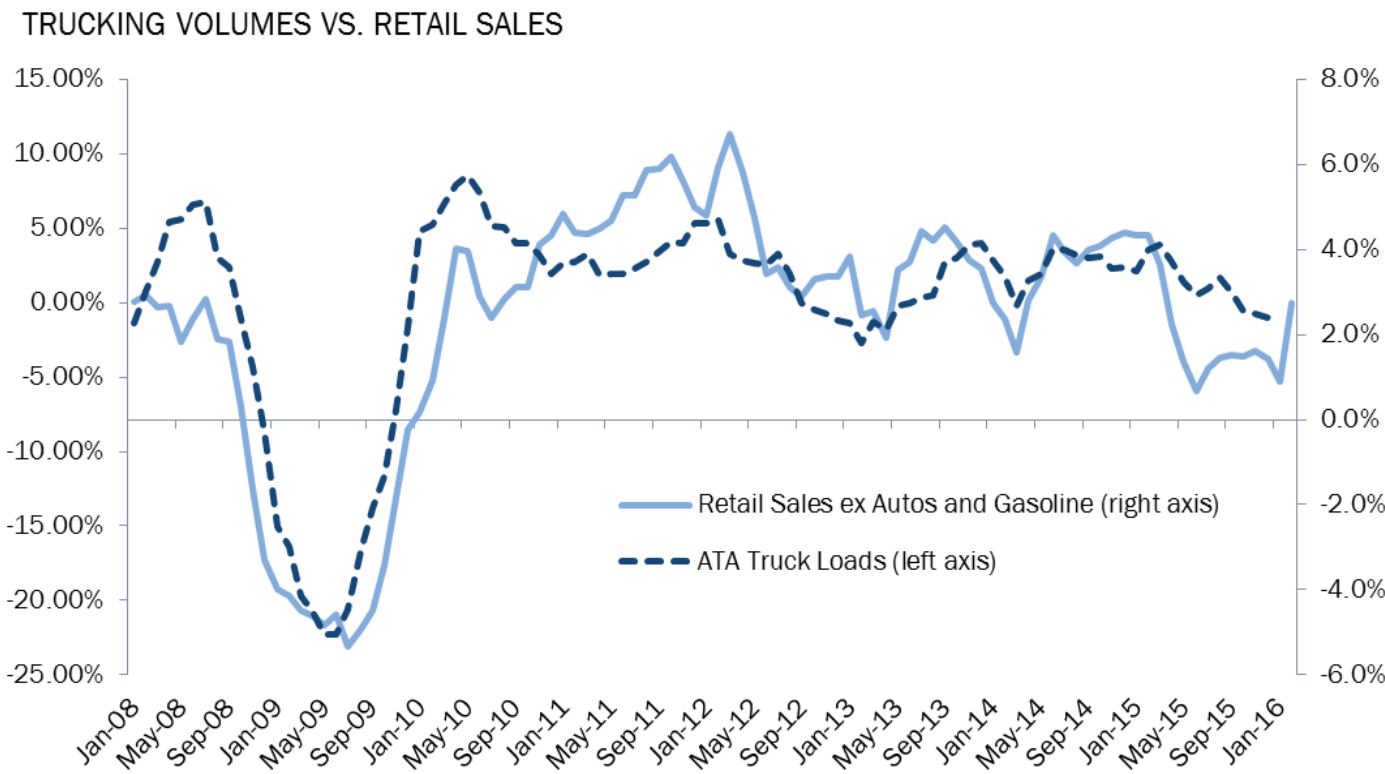


Inventory to Sales Ratio: Retailers

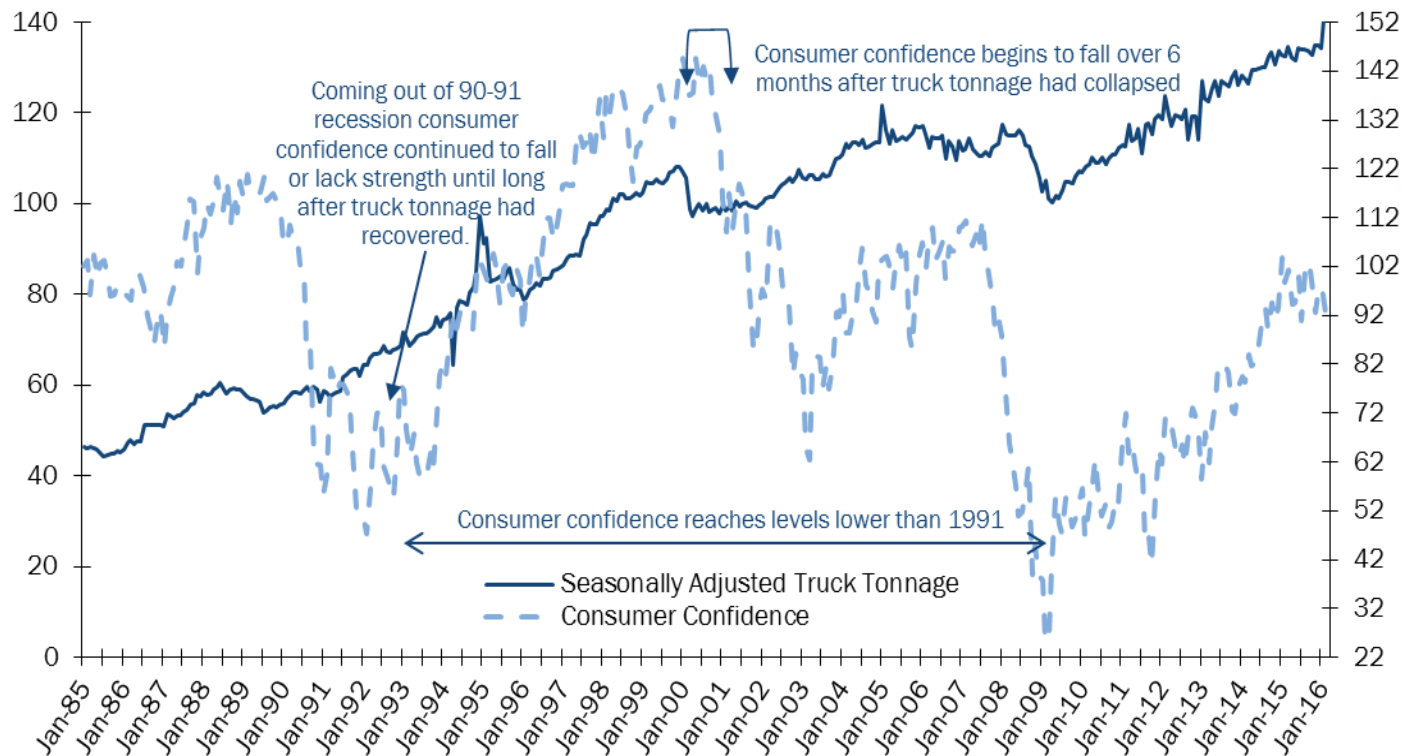
Inventory-to-Sales Ratio: Retailers



Truck Tonnage Poised to Continue Growth?

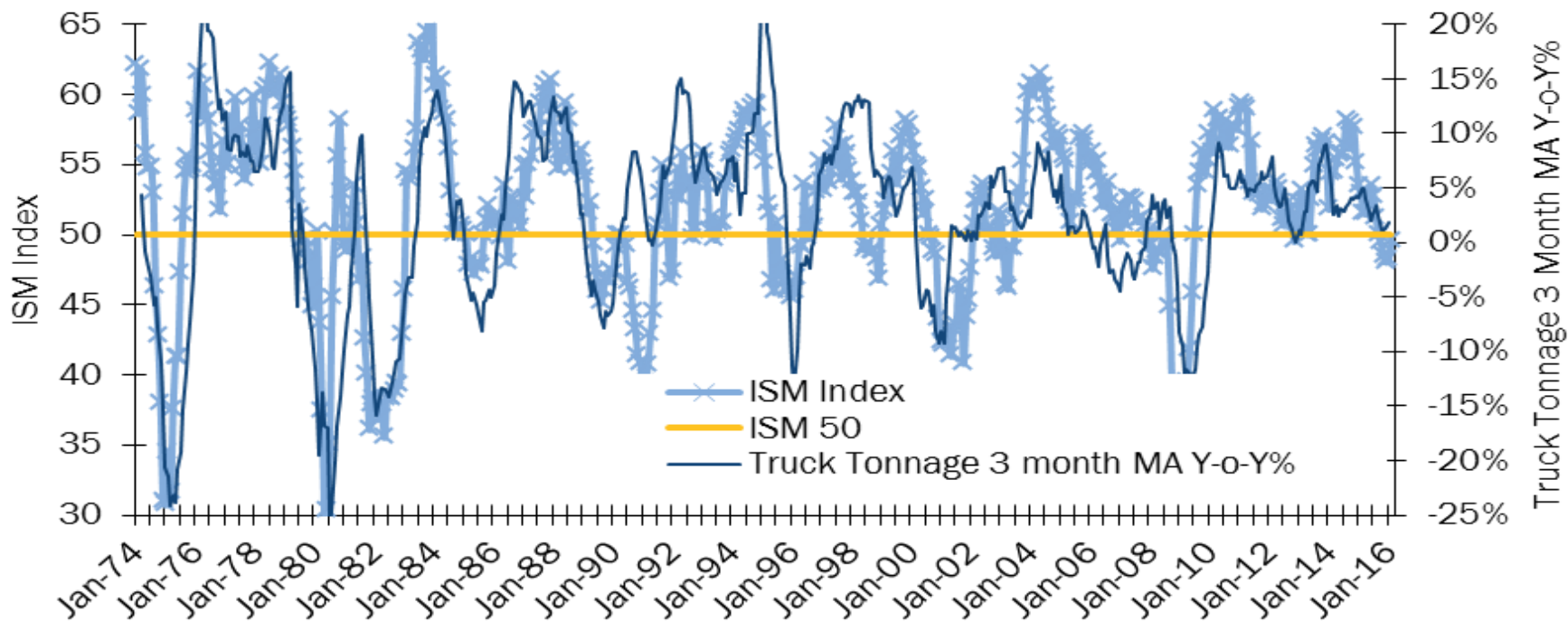


Truck Tonnage Poised to Continue Growth?



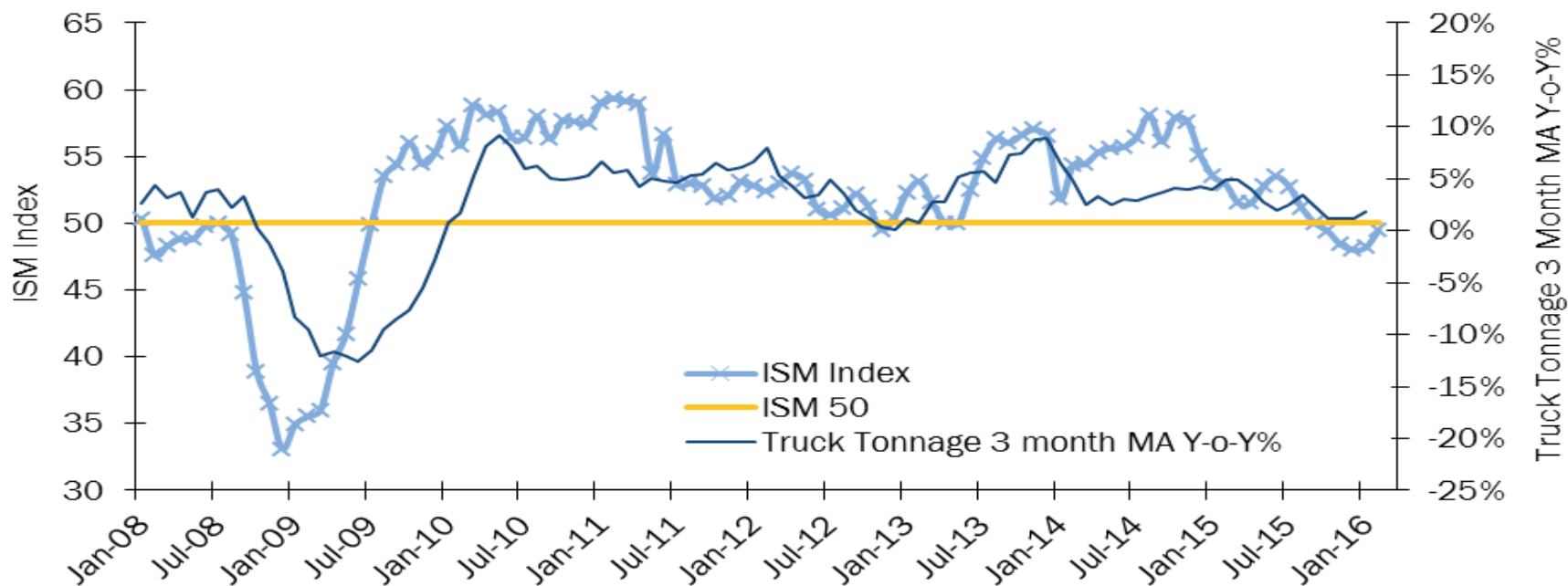
Confidence in Purchasing or Supply Chain Managers is a Reflection of Purchase Order Activity

ISM INDEX VS. TRUCK TONNAGE INDEX 3MMA YoY%



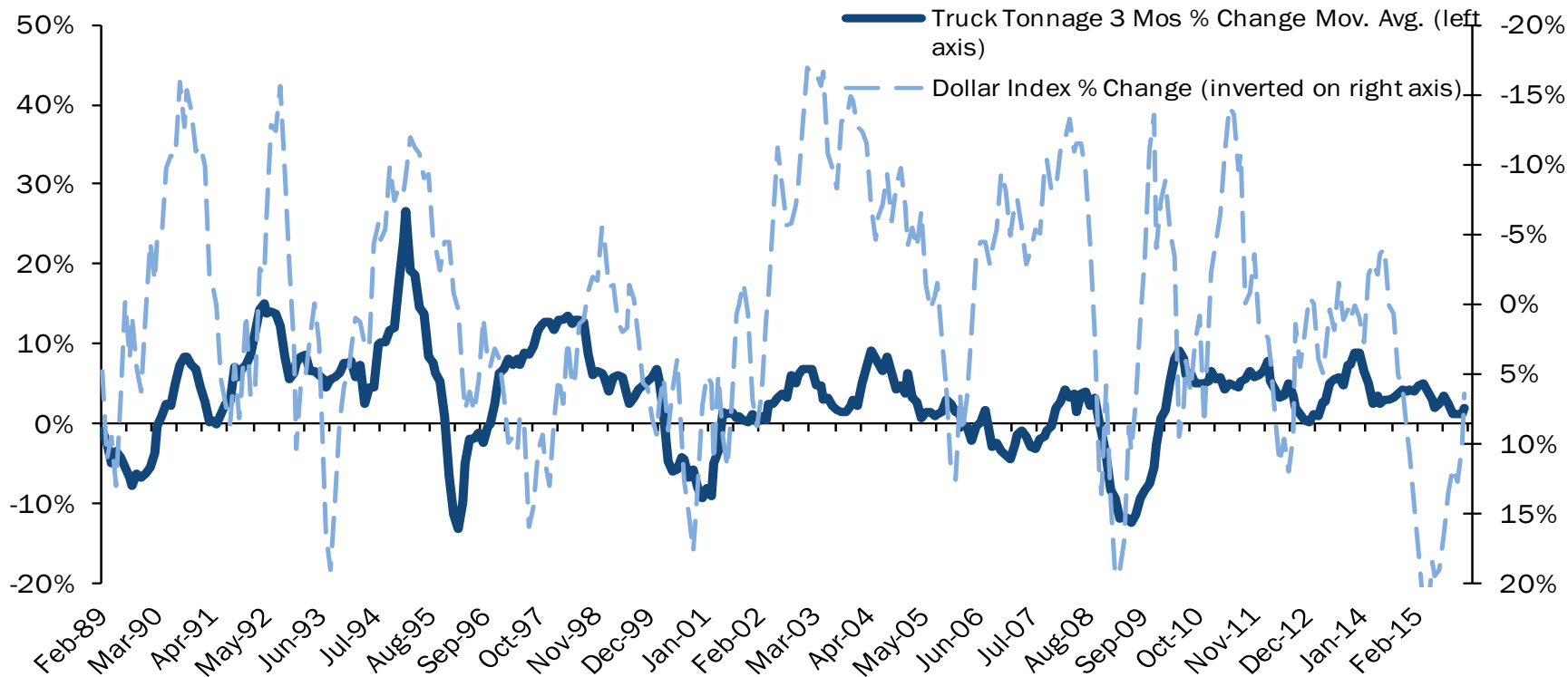
Greatest Degree of Predictive Value is Next 6 to 8 Weeks

ISM INDEX VS. TRUCK TONNAGE INDEX 3MMA YoY%



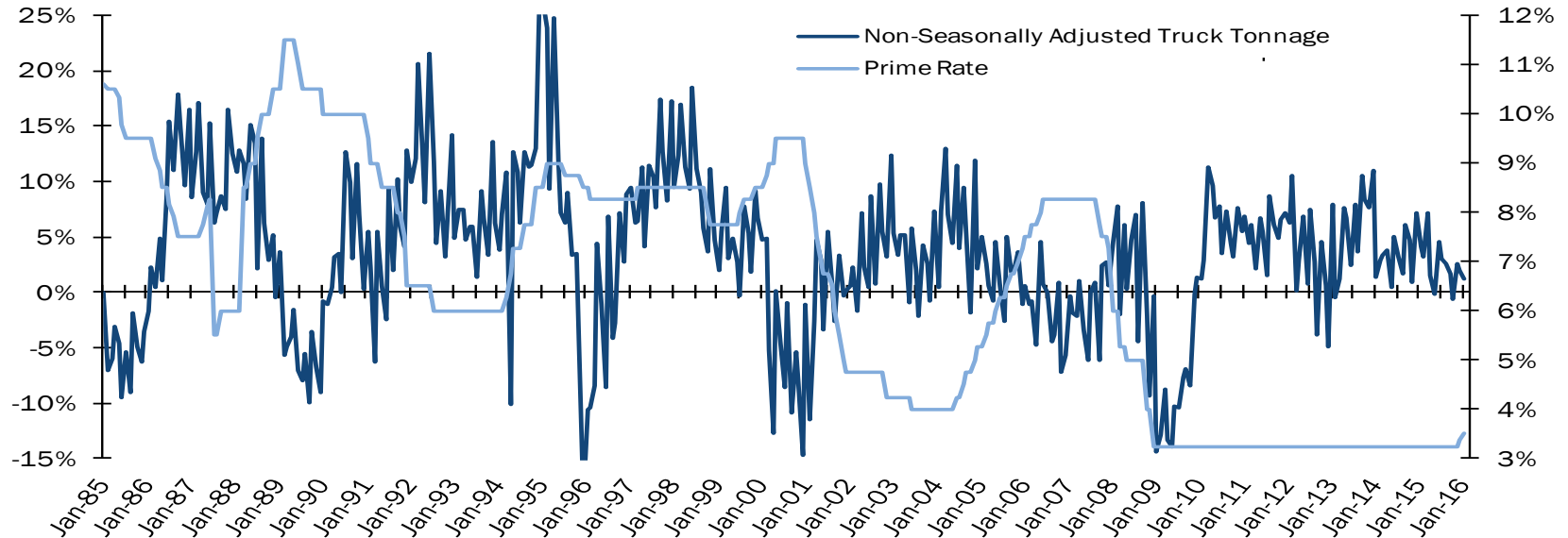
Inversely Correlated?

ARE CURRENCY VALUATION AND FREIGHT FLOWS RELATED?



Those Who Make Tangible Goods are Capital Intensive

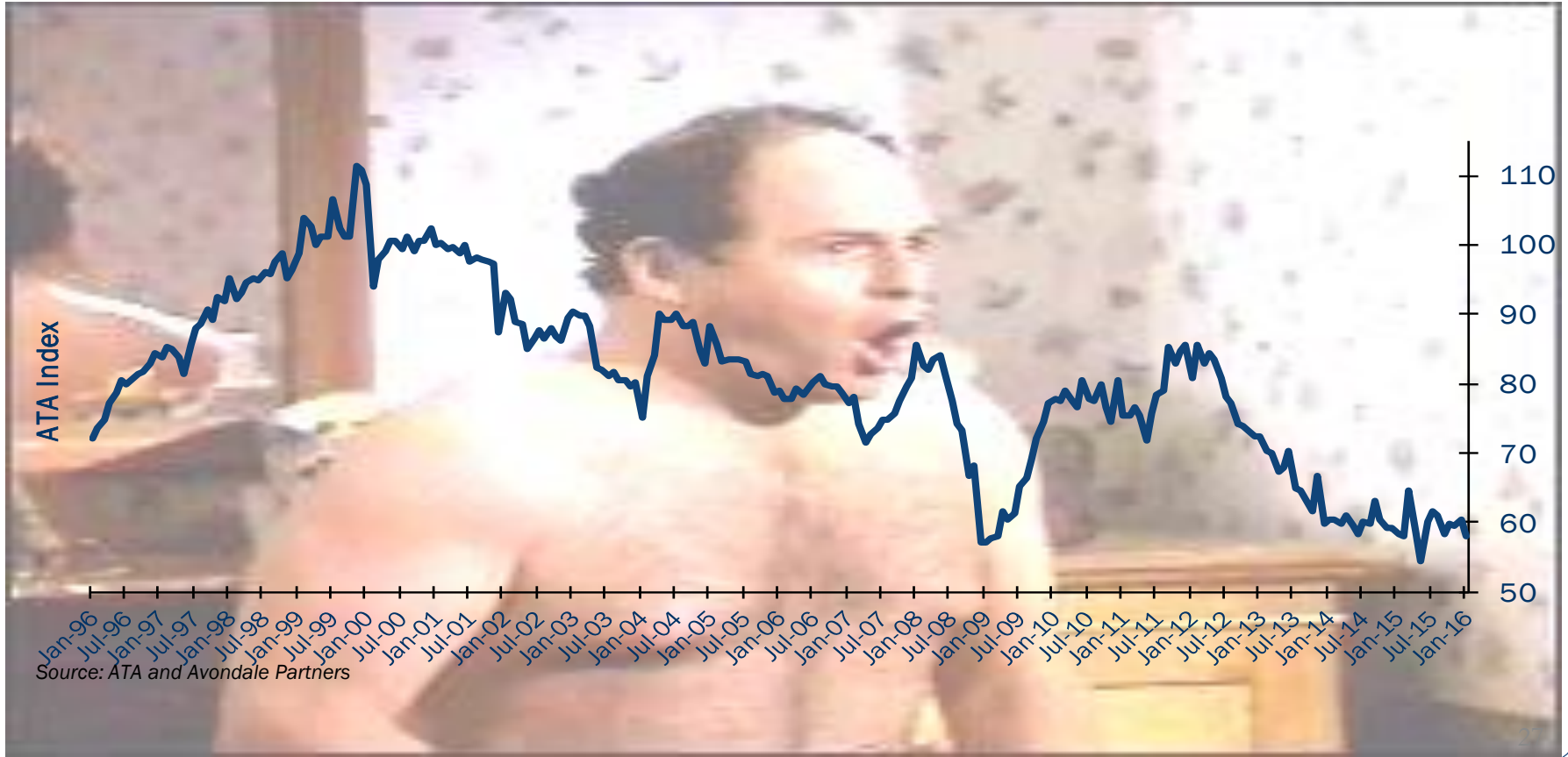
DO CHANGES IN INTEREST RATES CREATE CHANGES IN TRUCK TONNAGE?



Source:: ATA, FactSet and Avondale Partners

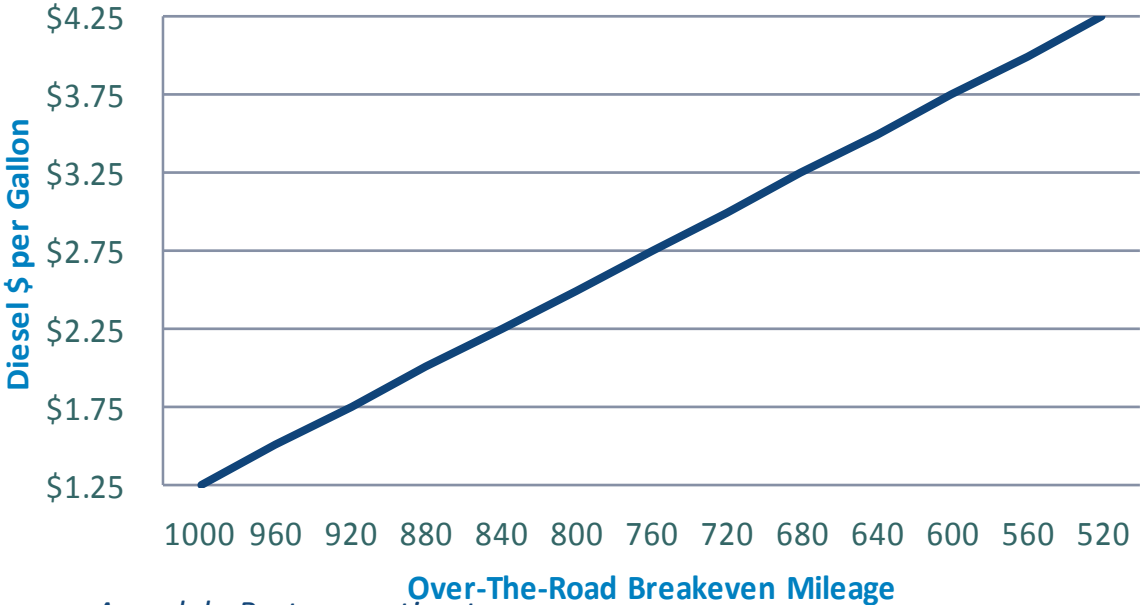
Number of Long-Haul Truckloads > 1,000 Miles

Since the peak of the cycle in 1999 long-haul has trended down



Trucks Looking Better than Intermodal

Domestic Intermodal vs. OTR Breakeven

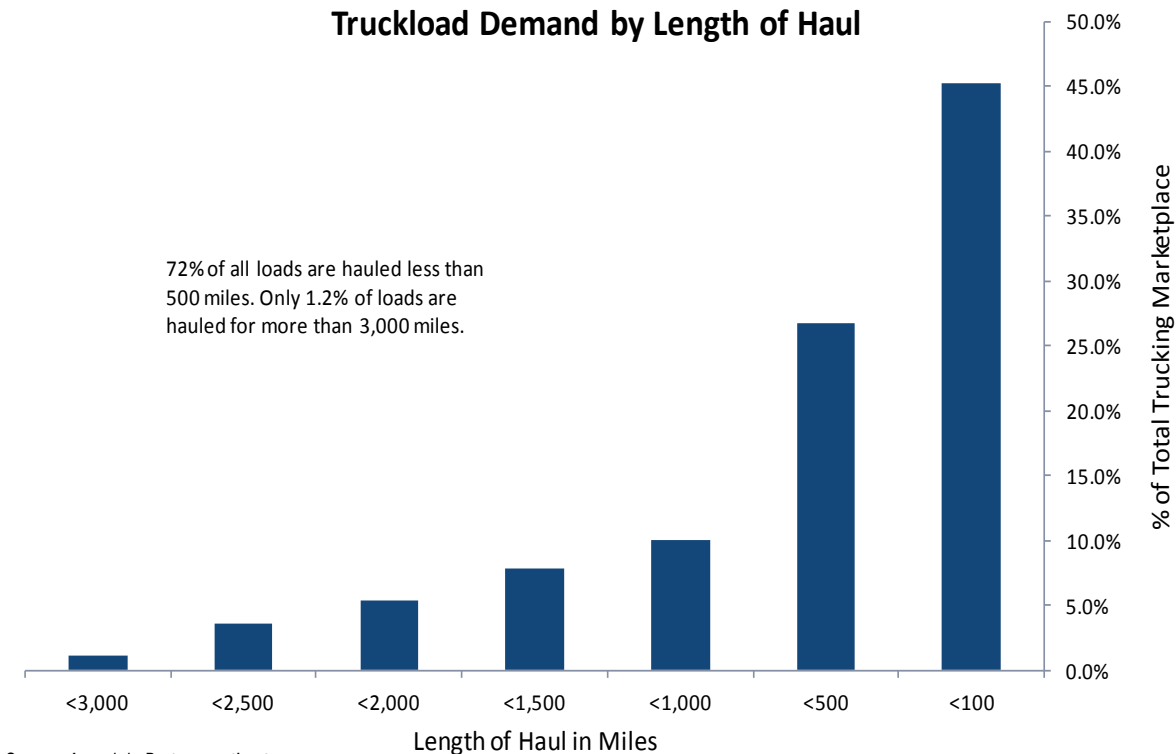


Source: Avondale Partners estimates



Trucks Looking Better than Intermodal

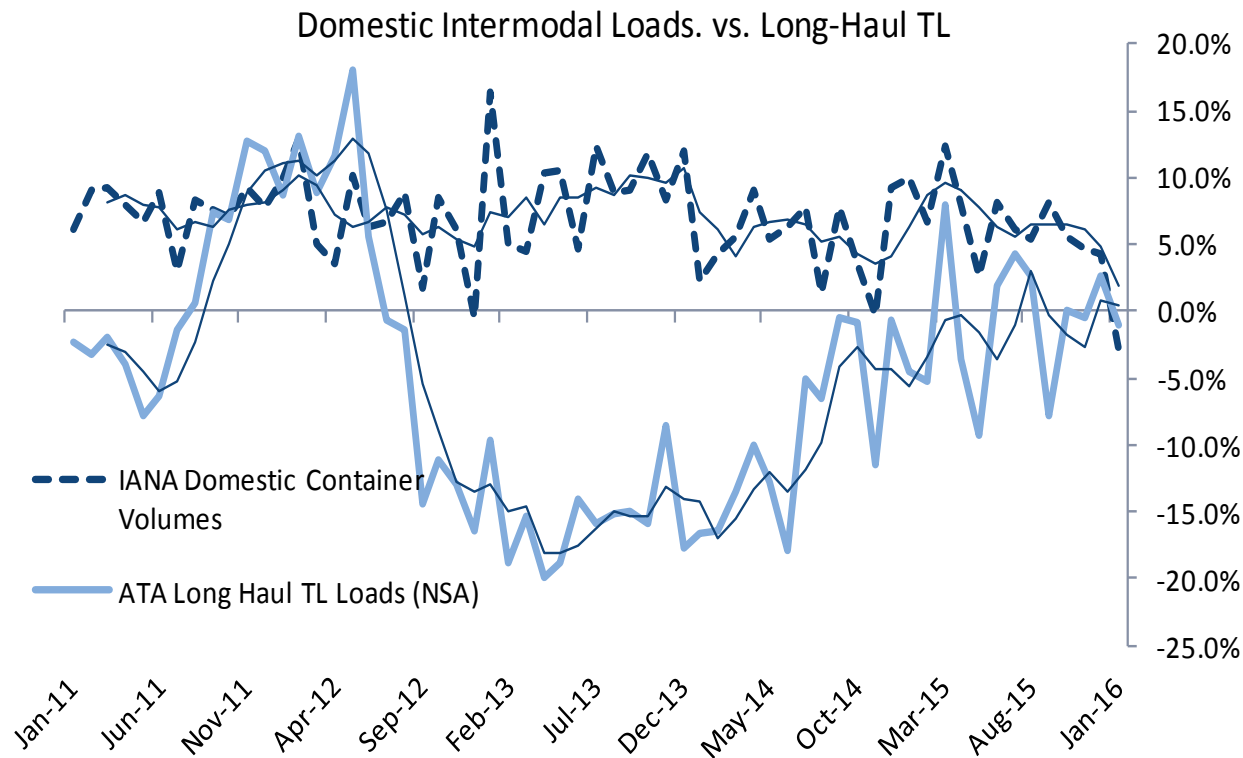
Truckload Demand by Length of Haul



Source: Avondale Partners estimates



Trucks Looking Better than Intermodal



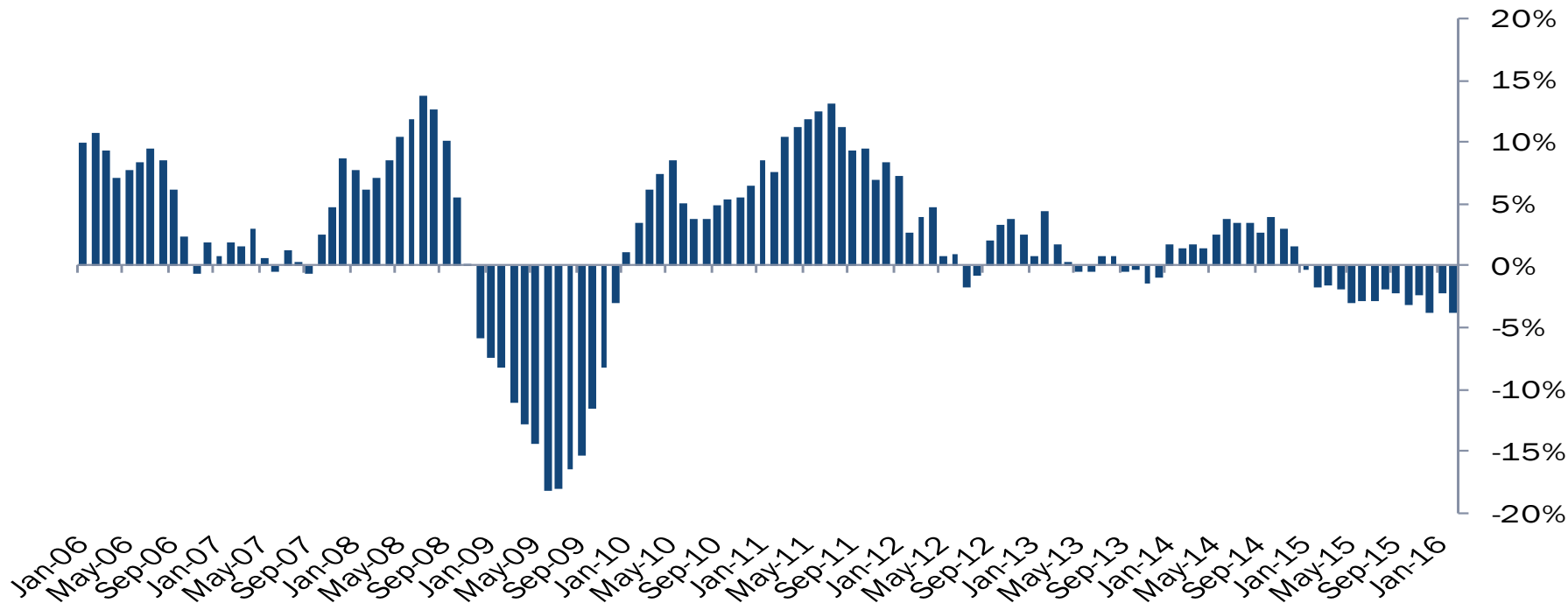
Intermodal Index



The Price?

GOOD QUESTION!

CASS INTERMODAL PRICE INDEX YOY CHANGE



Cass Pricing Index

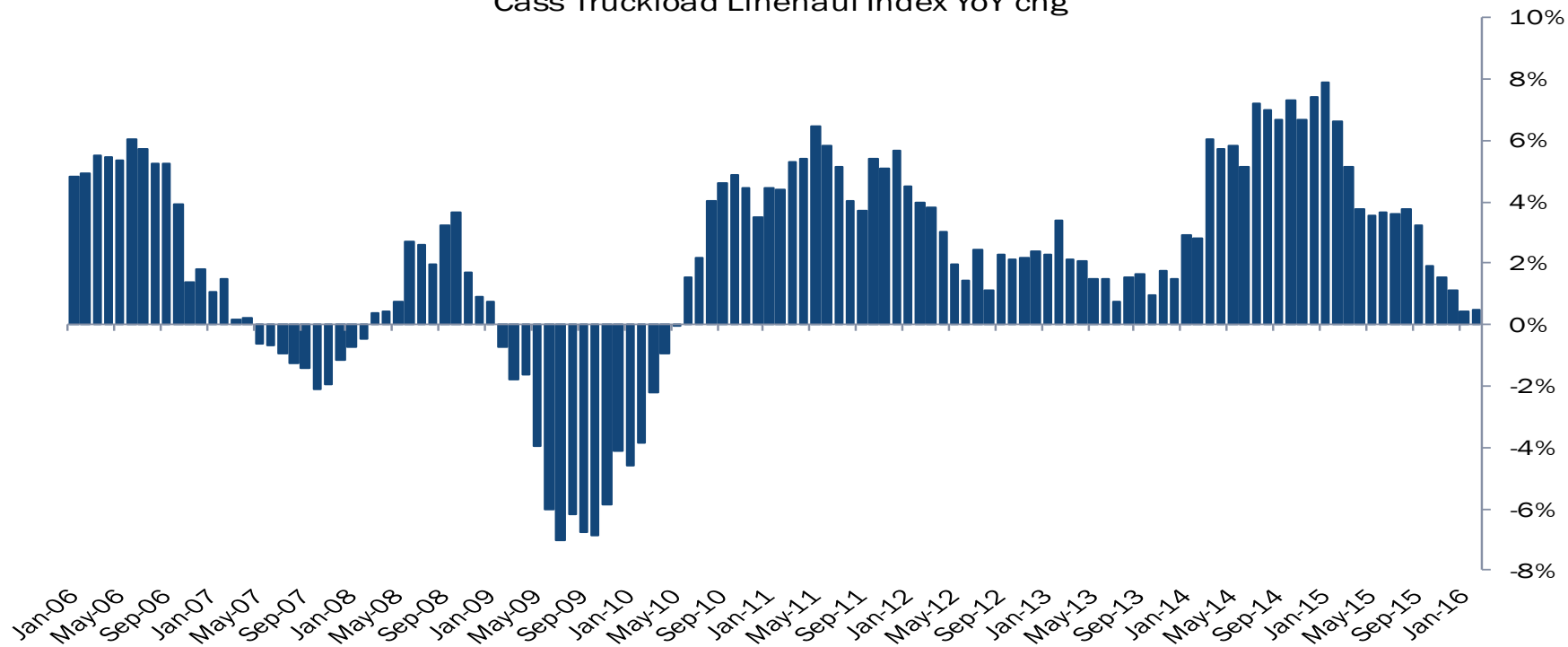
Truckload Index



The Price?

GOOD QUESTION!

Cass Truckload Linehaul Index YoY chg



Railroads Have a Few Issues...



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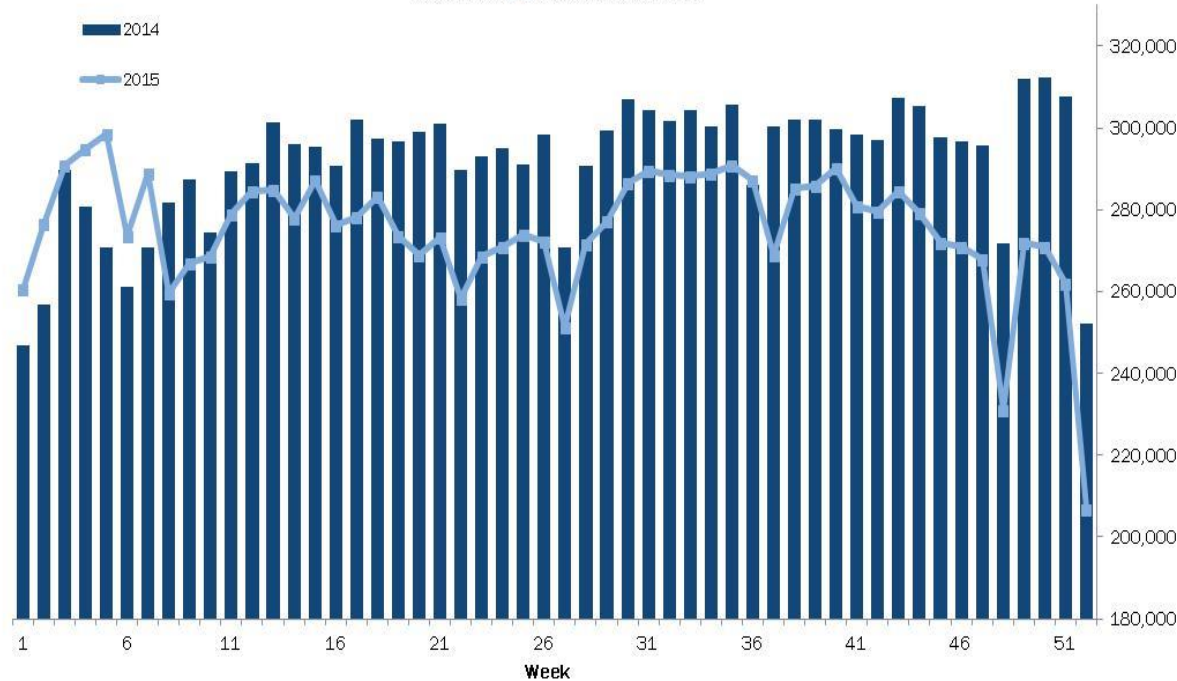
- Fall off in price of crude creating drop in new fracking activity
- Cheap natural gas driving down coal volumes even more
- Cheap diesel driving Intermodal loads off rail back onto highway, especially in shorter lengths of haul
- Strong dollar valuation is driving down exports; will reverse 'on-shoring' trend
- Lower fuel surcharge revenue reduces yield and may pinch margins
- System congestion was plaguing most rail networks



Railroads Have a Few Issues...

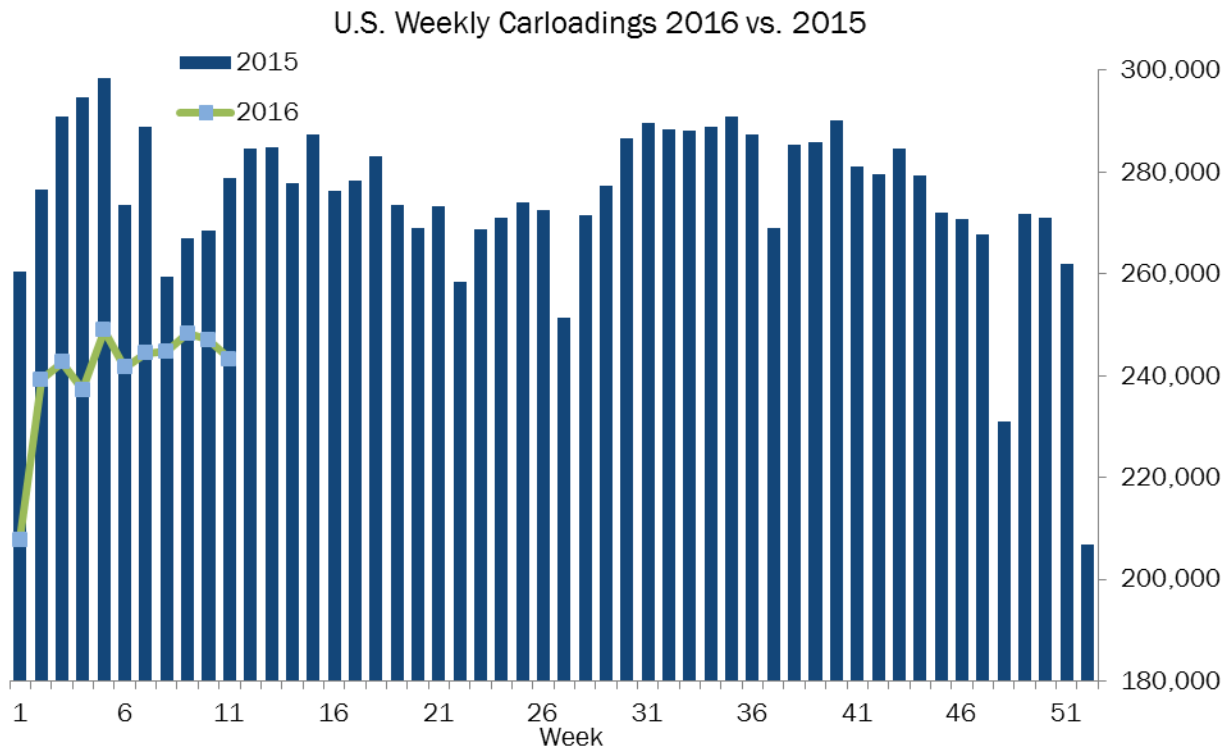
U.S. Weekly Carloadings 2015 vs. 2014

Source: AAR and Avondale Partners LLC



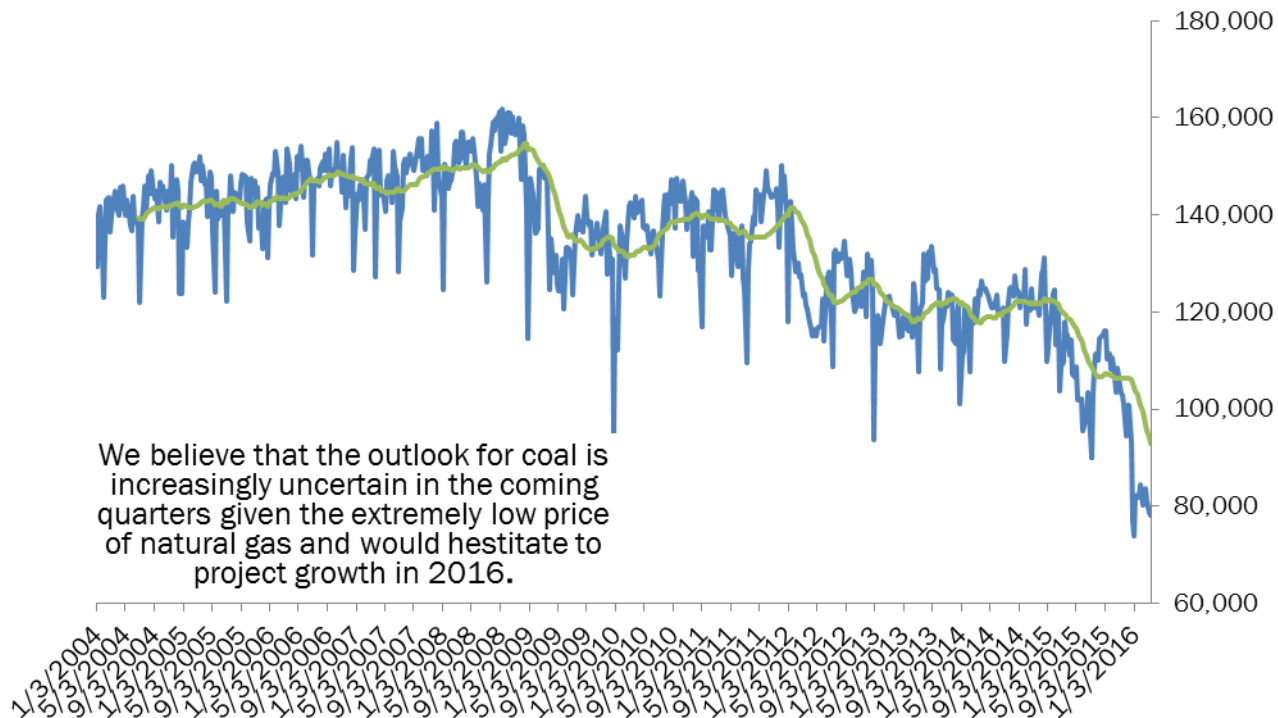
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Railroads Have a Few Issues...



Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Coal Carloads

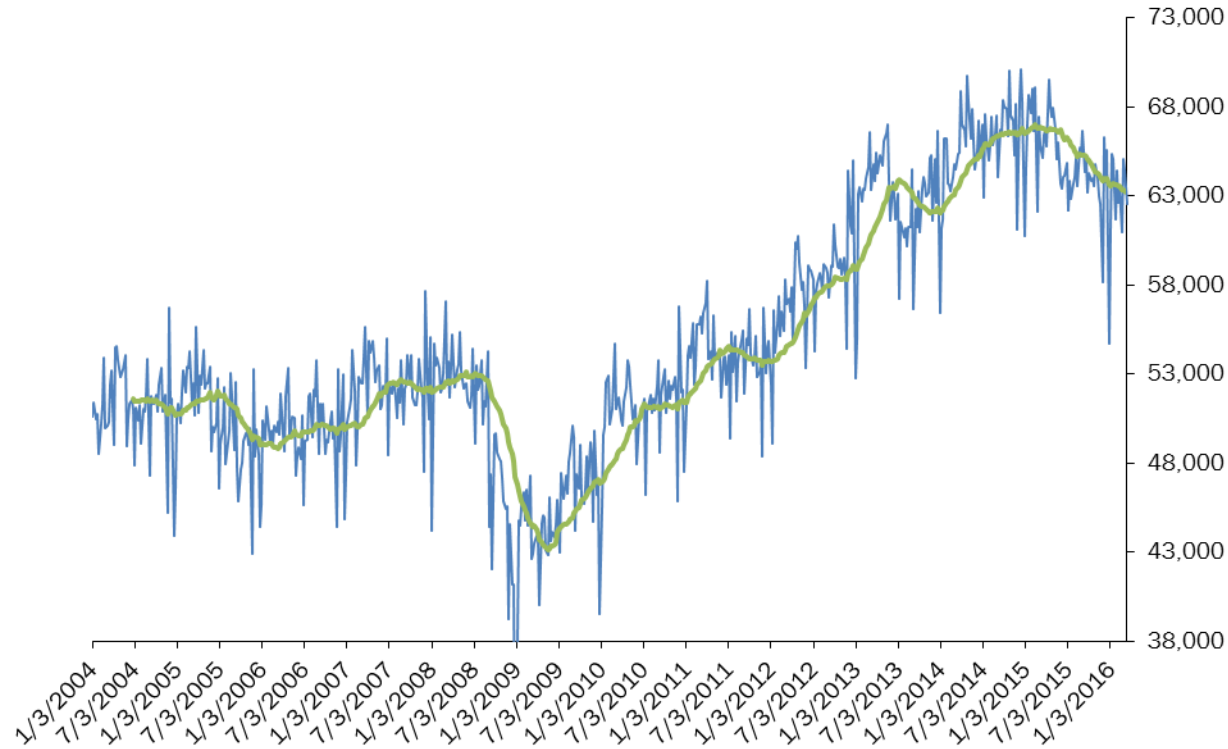


We believe that the outlook for coal is increasingly uncertain in the coming quarters given the extremely low price of natural gas and would hesitate to project growth in 2016.



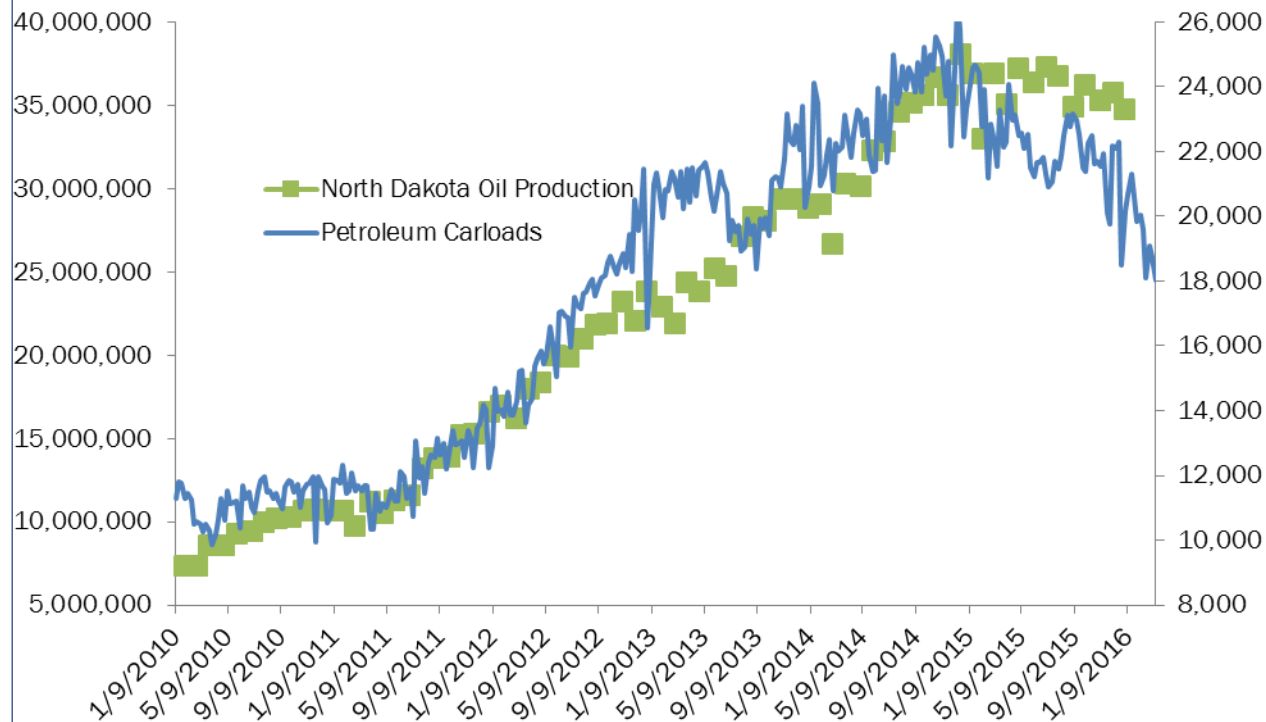
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Chemical Carload Volume



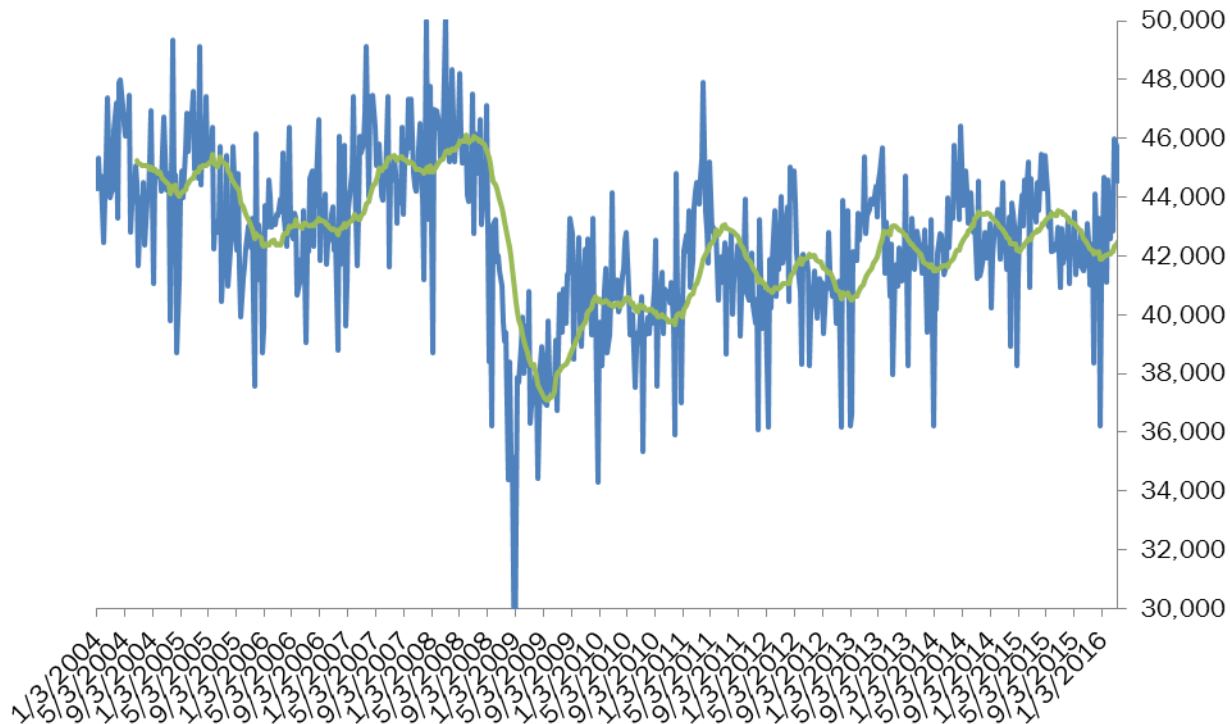
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Petroleum Carloads vs. North Dakota Oil Production



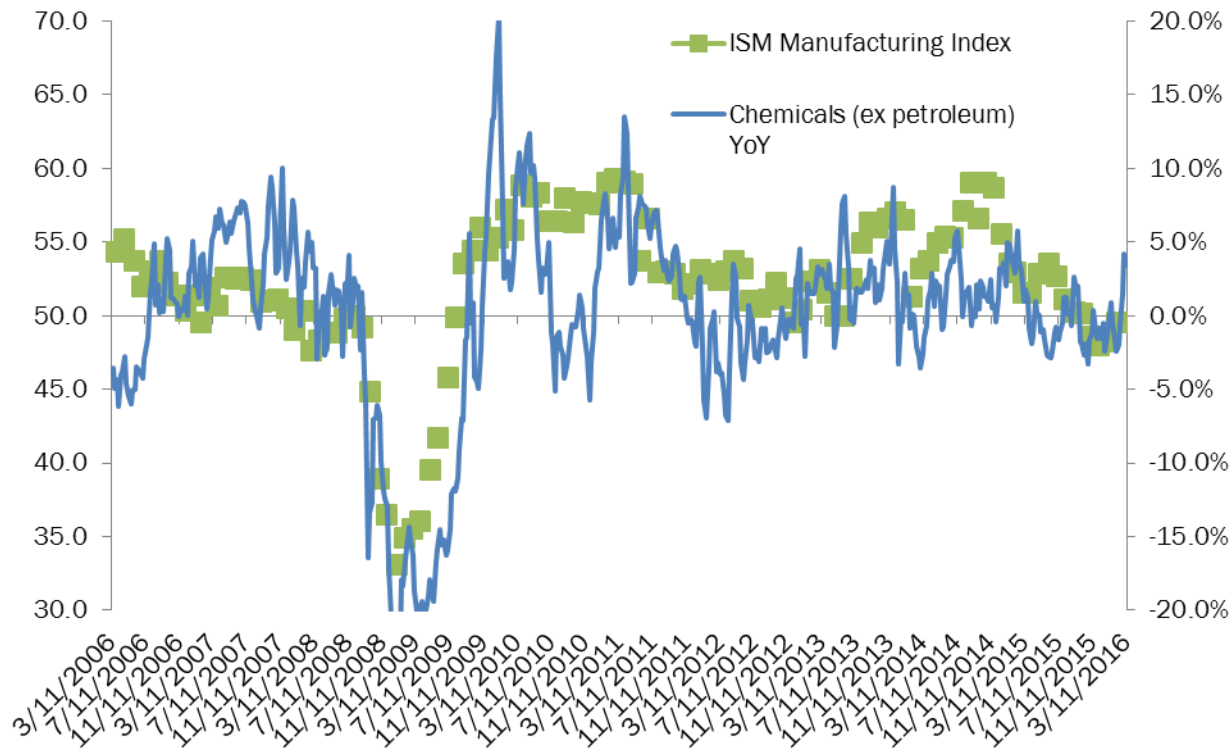
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Chemicals (ex petroleum) Carloads



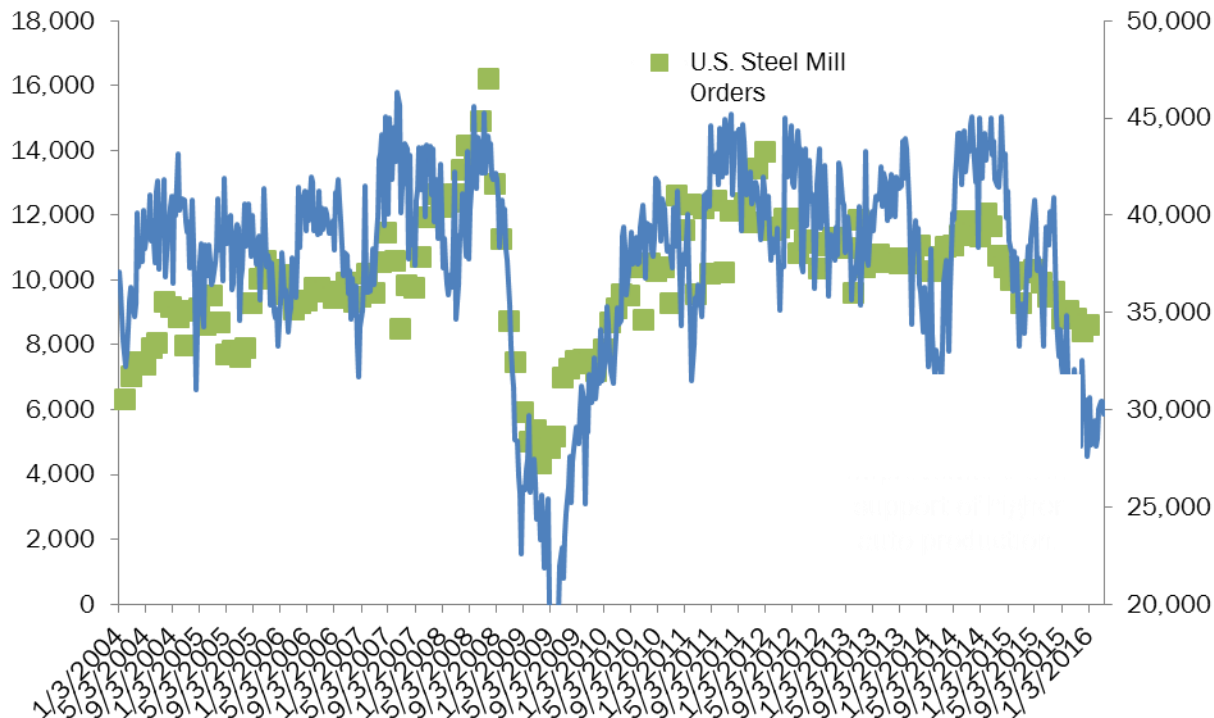
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Chemical Carloads vs. ISM



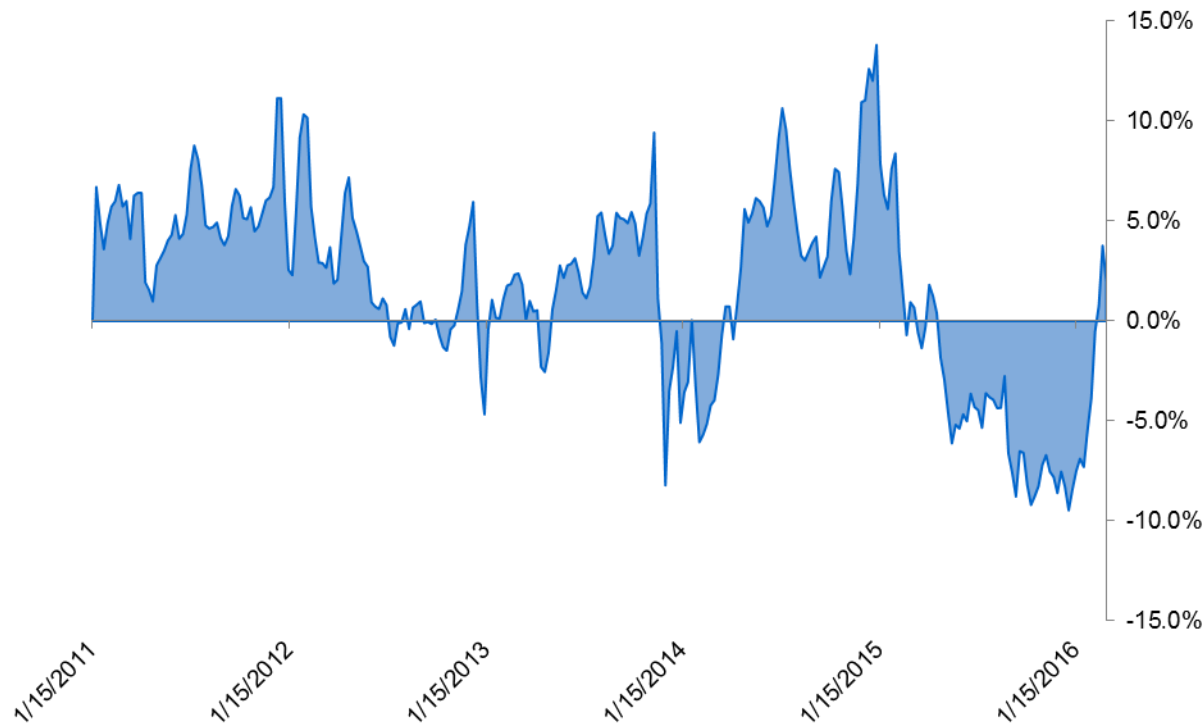
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Metals Carloads vs. US Steel Mill Orders



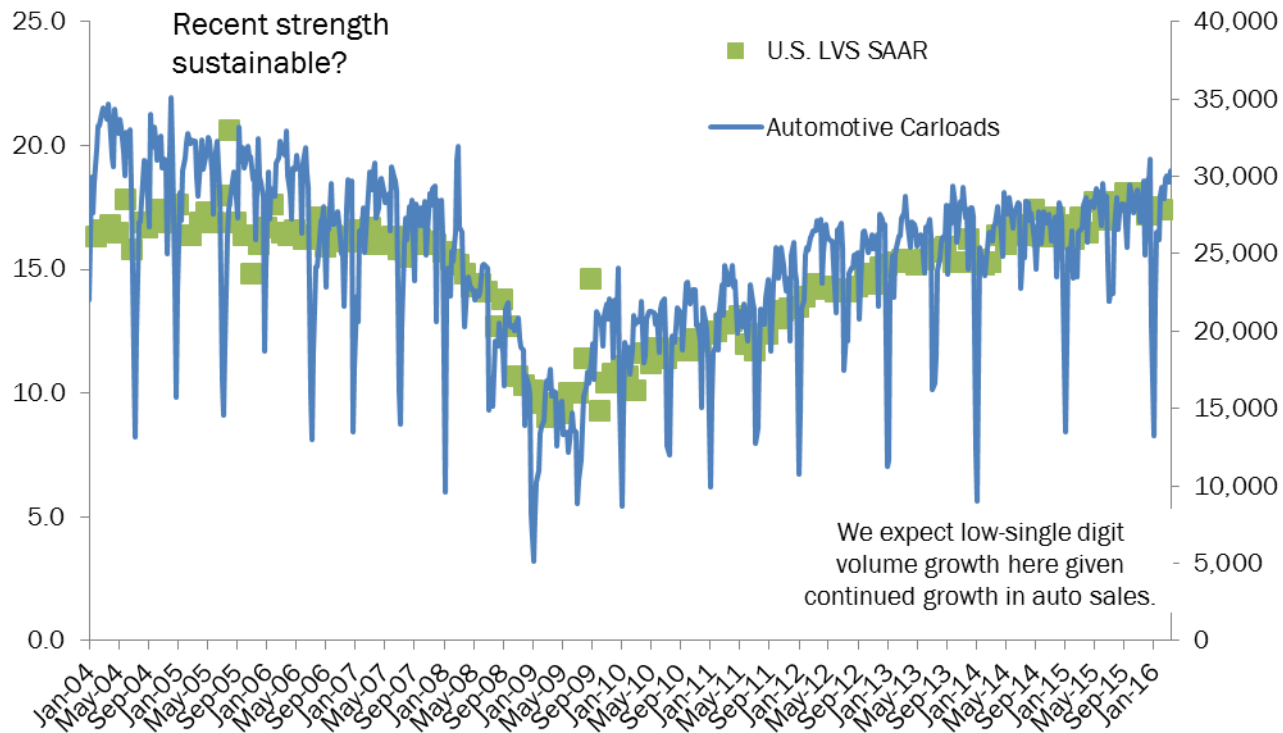
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Rail Carloads (ex coal, ag, and petroleum)



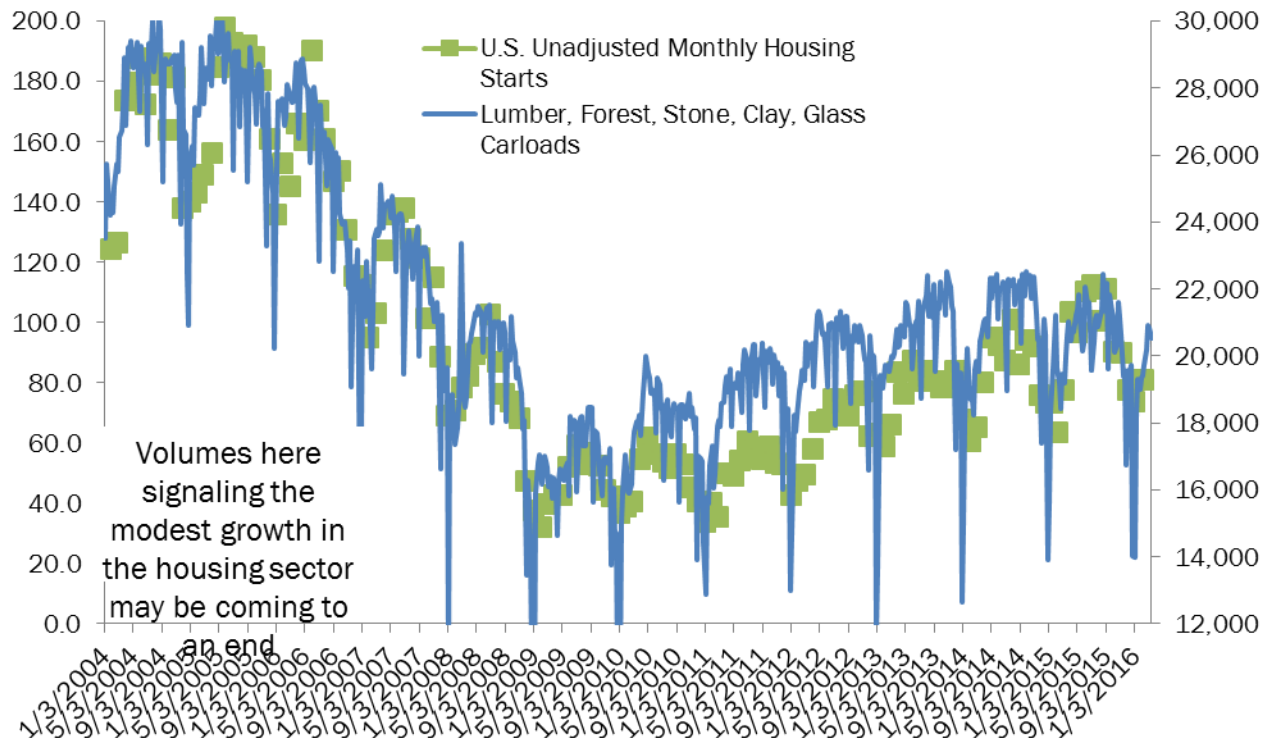
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Auto Carloads vs. Light Vehicle Sales



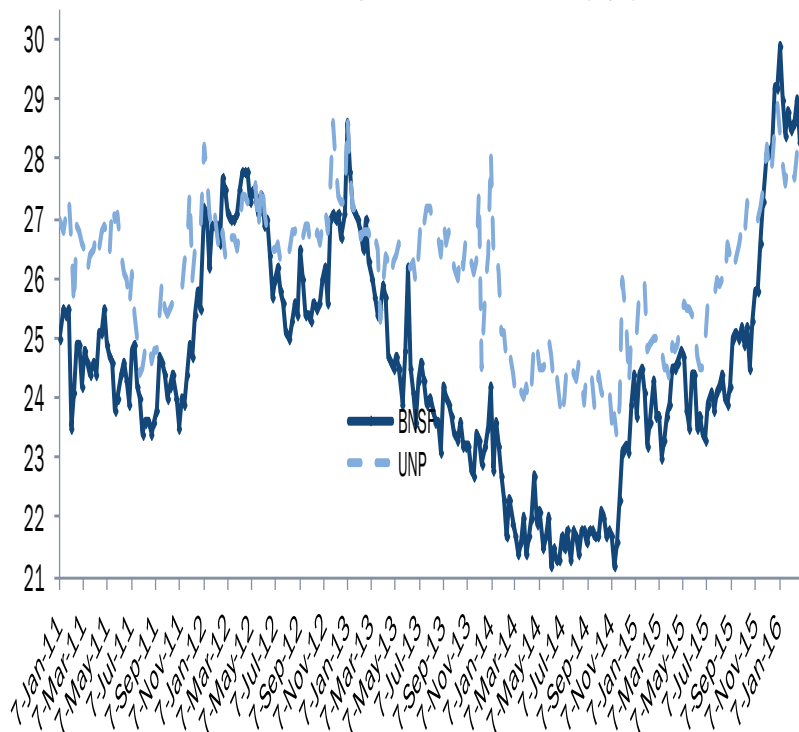
Railroads Have a Few Issues...

Construction Materials vs. Housing Starts

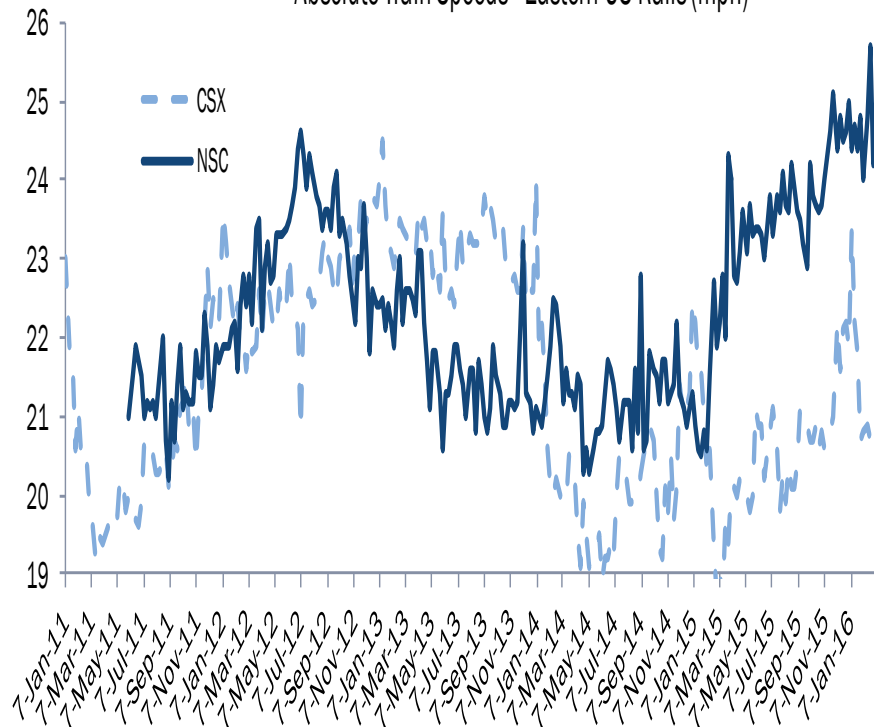


Railroads Have a Few Issues...

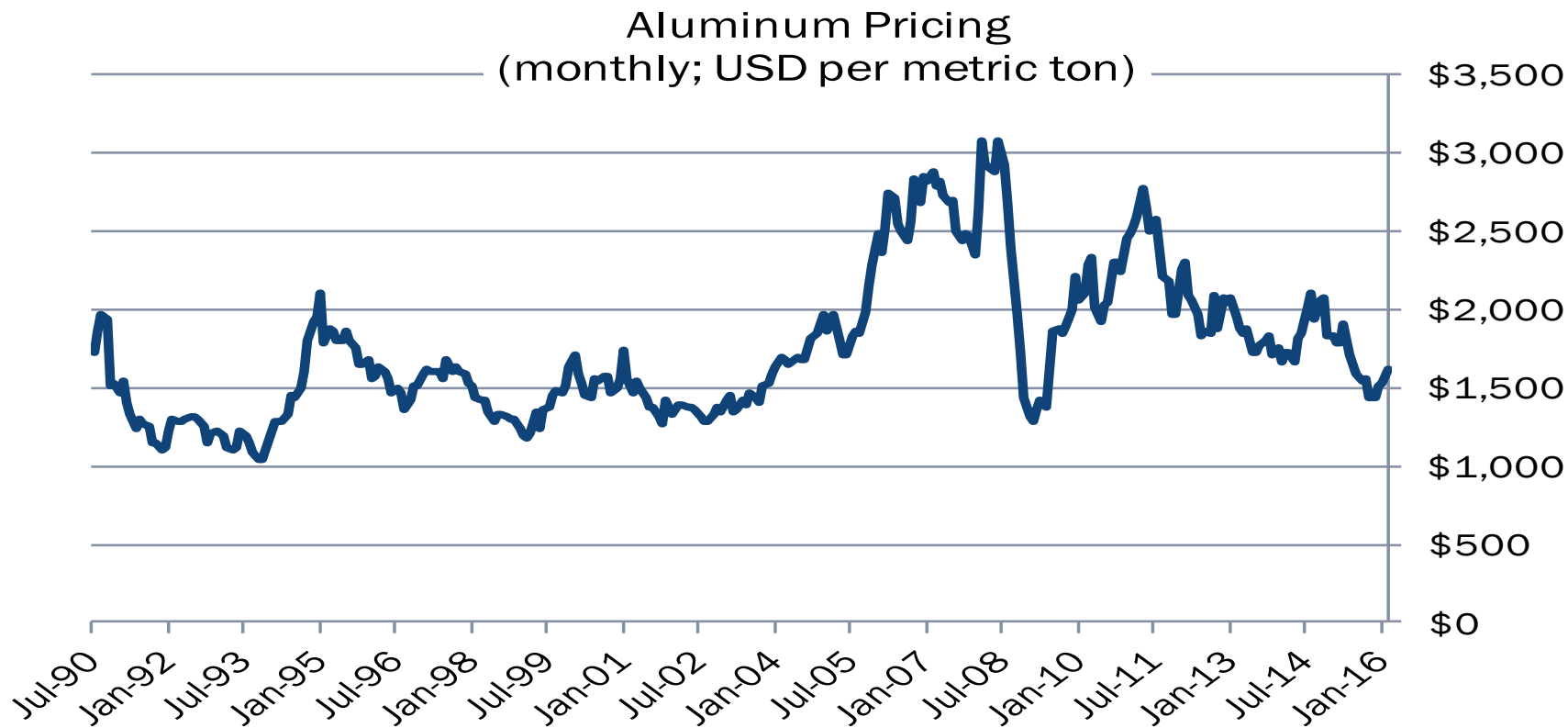
Absolute Train Speeds - Western US Rails (mph)



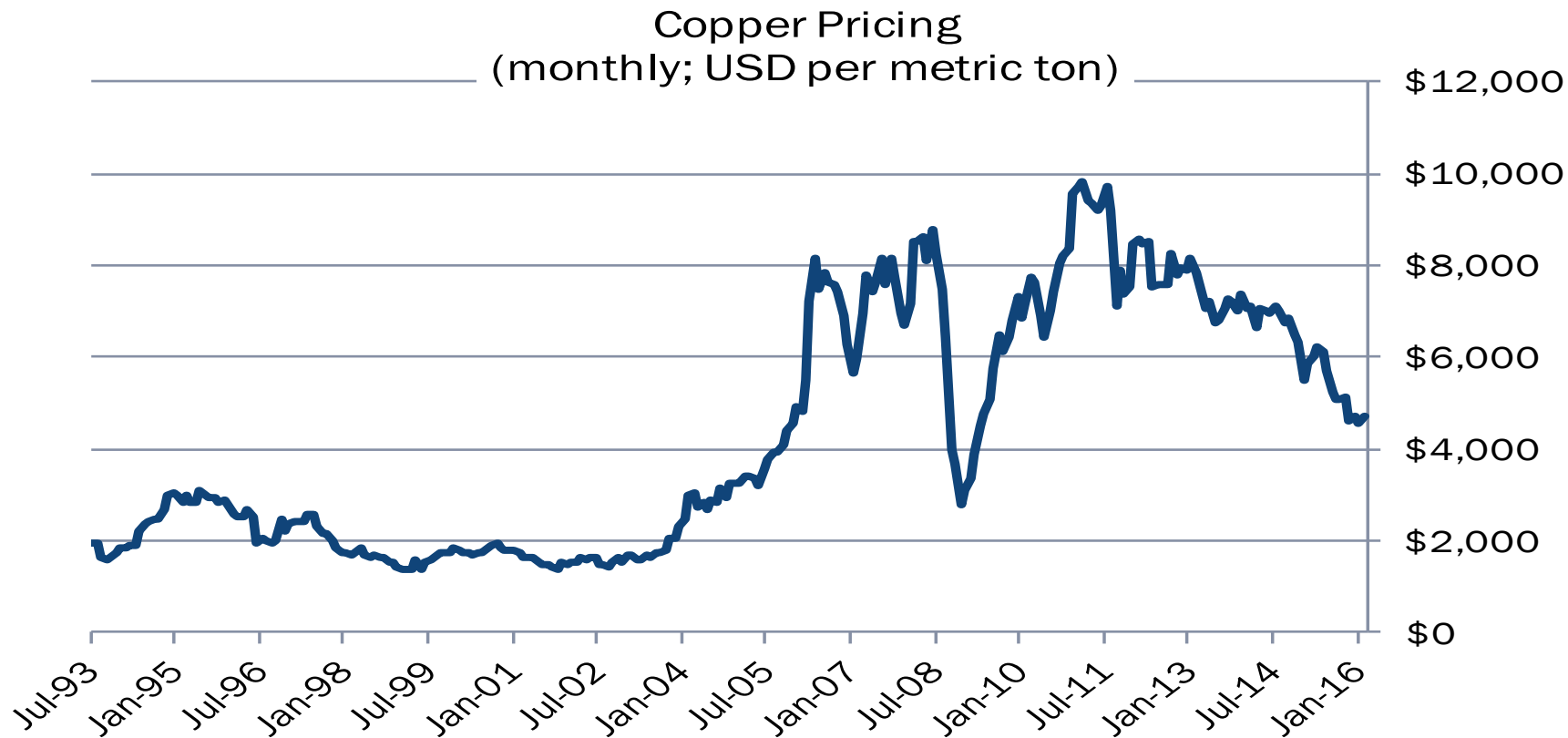
Absolute Train Speeds - Eastern US Rails (mph)



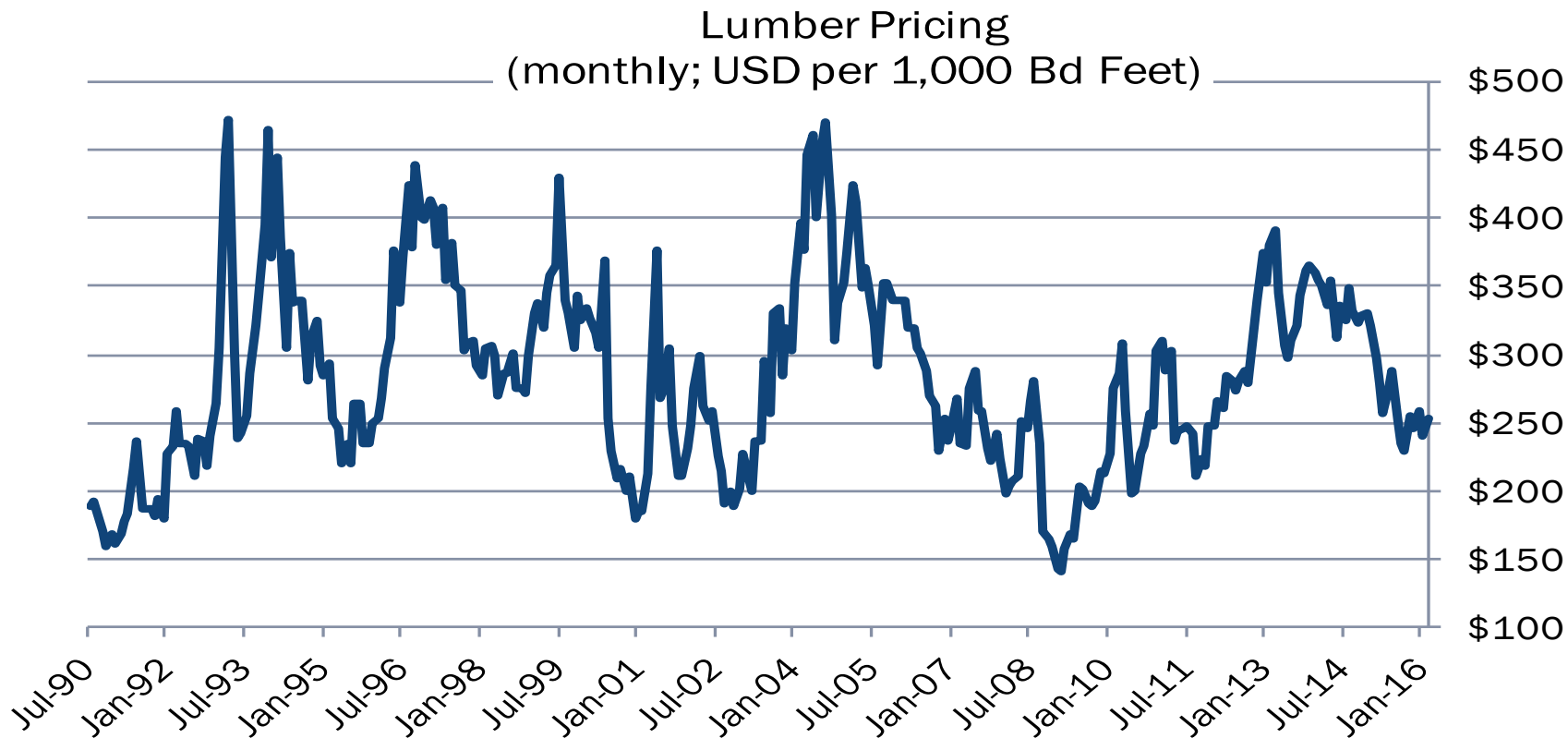
Other Indicators...



Other Indicators...



Other Indicators...



In Tonnage We Trust

- Truck tonnage showing some growth, capacity was tight. At intermodal's expense?
- Recent rail volumes show deceleration across almost all commodity groups.
- Intermodal: Intermodal has decelerated. How much is due to diesel, economy or port situation?
- Overall freight volumes contracting, and contracting at a faster pace.



Predictions for 2016-2017

- Driver market stays tough until end of cycle
- TL pricing power of only -1 to 2%
- EOBR's will have a big impact on capacity and an even bigger impact on equipment visibility
- Railroad glory days take a pause, stumble and fall
- Cheaper diesel moves loads off-rail onto-road, increasing truckload demand
- Consolidation in transportation poised to dramatically increase
- Fracking and natural gas still woefully under-estimated
- Next stage of economic growth has to be consumer driven
- Risk of Recession grows daily
- At least one, maybe both of the front runners not get the nomination (Trump, Clinton)





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