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Video | US Economics

US 2014 Outlook: Growth Pickup is Delayed, Not Derailed

The government shutdown is a transitory drag that has delayed an inflection point in the recovery by one quarter. Final demand is strengthening as we move toward the New Year and the pieces remain in place for growth to shift into higher gear.

Watch the video



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For important disclosures, refer to the Disclosures Section, located at the end of this report.

Key Exhibits

Exhibit 1: US politicians delayed, but did not derail, a pickup in growth...

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- The government shutdown pulls down 2013:Q4 and pushes up 2014:Q1 GDP growth.
- Thereafter, real GDP expands in a 2-1/2% growth channel, up from the 2% channel we've been stuck in.

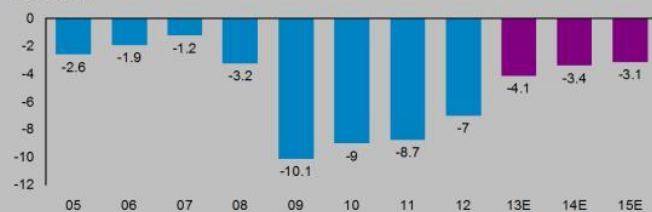
Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 2: Less Drag, More Spending

Less Drag, More Spending

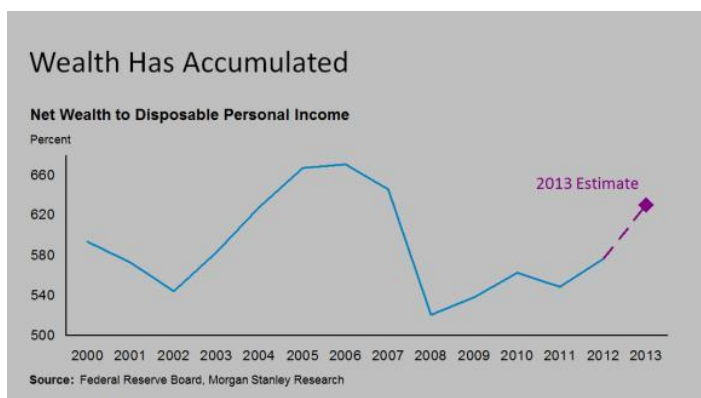
Federal Deficit to GDP (Fiscal Year)

Percent of GDP



Source: Office of Management and Budget, Morgan Stanley Research

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 3: Wealth Has Accumulated

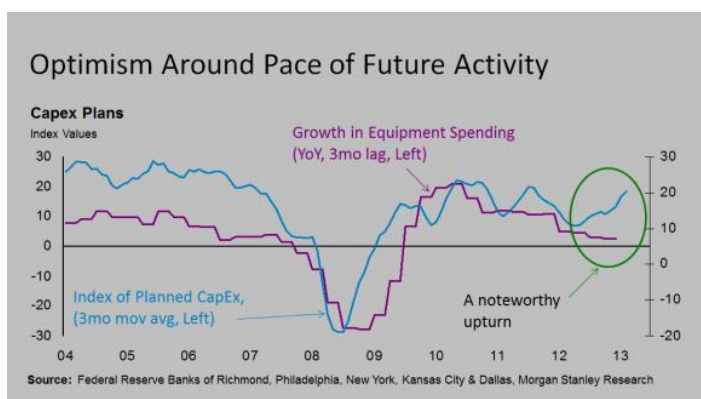
Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 4: Four fundamentals support this inflection in aggregate demand...

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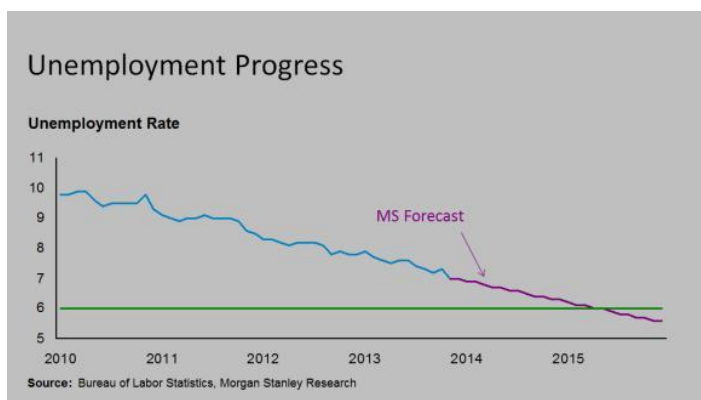
1. The headwinds on growth from the financial crisis have abated.
2. We're past the peak fiscal drag.
3. Wealth has accumulated.
4. When firms see sales and expect more, CAPEX will pick up.

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 5: Optimism Around Pace of Future Activity

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 6: Unemployment Progress



Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 7: With real GDP expanding at 2.6% in 2014 and 2.7% in 2015...

With real GDP expanding at 2.6% in 2014 and 2.7% in 2015...

- Monthly gains in payrolls average 175K to 200K, on net.
- The unemployment rate drifts lower.
- Inflation stays subdued.

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 8: The Federal Reserve will keep policy accommodative...

The Federal Reserve will keep policy accommodative...

- Relying on forward interest-rate guidance.
 - *The Yellen-led Fed is all about the current and expected future path of the short-term rate.*
- QE is a legacy policy.
 - *Net new purchases will end, but*
 - *The balance sheet will stay large through reinvestment of maturing proceeds.*

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 9: The beginning of the end of QE--tapering asset purchases--

The beginning of the end of QE-- tapering asset purchases--

- Starts once the Fed has a confirmed leader AND
- Data show a sustained improvement.
 - *Nonfarm payroll gains average 200K, and*
 - *Real GDP growth is forecast to pick up.*

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 10: Tapering asset purchases...

Tapering asset purchases...

- May start as early as December or January
 - *But Q4 real GDP, which will be weak, won't be published until after those meetings.*
- Most likely, Chairwoman Yellen will use testimonies in January and February to prepare the way for tapering in March,
 - *Starting slowly with Treasuries, and*
 - *Pairing the action with a reduction of the Fed's unemployment rate threshold.*

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Exhibit 11: Policy rates won't rise until 2016...

Policy rates won't rise until 2016...

Source: Morgan Stanley Research

Related Research

[US Economics: US 2014 Outlook: Growth Pickup is Delayed, not Derailed](#)

[2014 Outlook Slides](#)

[US Economics: Will Data Pressure the Fed to Act Sooner?](#)

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