



PLAN SUMMARY

State of Vermont 940010 940060

Presented by: Gabriel D'Ulisse Vice President and Managing Director

As Of: December 31, 2020

Report contains information up through the last business day of end period.

For Plan Sponsor or Consultant Use Only



Table Of Contents

Section I: Plan Summary

Section II: Economic Outlook

Section I: Plan Summary

Plan Summary and Benchmark Trends

CRD by Range

	12/31/2020
Up to \$5k	5
\$5,001-\$10,000	2
\$10,001-\$25k	2
\$25,001-\$50k	1
\$50,001-\$75k	0
\$75,001+	0

CRD by Status as of 12/31/2020

	PPT Count	Total CRD
Active	9	\$98,500
Termed	1	\$1,368
Total	10	\$99,868

CRD

	12/31/2020
Average	\$24,772
Median	\$18,985
Total_CRDs	\$99,868

CRD-Corona Virus Related Distribution
CRD Data is as of April 2020-December 2020

Plan Demographics Summary

	1/1/2019- 12/31/2019	1/1/2020- 12/31/2020
Total Participants*	2,766	2,870
Active Participants	2,398	2,490
Terminated Participants	342	348
Other Participants**	0	1
Multiple Status Participants***	26	31
Average Participant Balance	\$44,808	\$50,314
Average Account Balance for Active Participants	\$45,717	\$51,025
Median Participant Balance	\$18,572	\$20,974
Median Participant Balance for Active Participants	\$19,136	\$21,652
Participants Age 50 and Over	1,420	1,484
Total Assets for Participants Age 50 and Over	\$89,619,014	\$105,109,734
Total (Contributions + Rollovers In)	\$12,758,825	\$11,722,092
Employee Contributions	\$9,744,110	\$10,037,499
Employer Contributions	\$796,891	\$789,450
Rollovers In	\$2,217,824	\$895,143
Total Distributions	(\$7,785,278)	(\$8,158,938)
Percentage of Assets Distributed	6.3%	5.7%
Market Value Gain / Loss****	\$22,676,622	\$17,796,007
Total Participant Balances	\$123,937,786	\$144,401,804

*Participant(s) with an account balance greater than \$0.

**Participant(s) who are not active, terminated or suspended, but have an account balance greater than \$0 (e.g. break-in-service, rehire, etc.).

*** Participant(s) with an account balance greater than \$0 in more than one participant status category (e.g. Active status in one subplan but Terminated status in another subplan).

****This is not the equivalent of a plan level return on investment due to the timing of additions, distributions and underlying investment performance.

Rollovers In is the total dollars credited to participant accounts within the period defined that originated in other qualified retirement plan accounts.

Plan Features

GoalMaker	12/31/2019	12/31/2020
Plan Assets for Participants in GoalMaker	\$9,949,111	\$14,194,644
% of Plan Assets for GoalMaker Participants	8.0%	9.8%
# of Participants in GoalMaker	499	660
Participation Rate in GoalMaker	18.0%	23.0%
Prudential % of Participants in GoalMaker - As of 12/31/2019	52.3%	

Roth	12/31/2019	12/31/2020
Roth Assets	\$3,873,891	\$5,028,629
# of Participants in Roth	399	385
Participation Rate in Roth	14.4%	13.4%
Prudential % of Participants in Roth - As of 12/31/2019	13.6%	

Stable Value	12/31/2019	12/31/2020
Participation Rate in Stable Value	48.1%	48.3%
% of Plan Assets in Stable Value	10.0%	10.1%
Prudential % of Plan Assets in Stable Value - As of 12/31/2019	22.1%	

Transaction Summary

Transactions	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020
Total Enrollees*	303	225
Contribution Rate Increases for Active Participants**	10	5
Contribution Rate Decreases for Active Participants**	5	3
Total Contribution Rate Changes**	15	8
Number of Participants with Transfers	497	759
Loan Initiations	14	13
Distributions	343	376

*Number of participants that were enrolled into the plan within the reporting period. This can include those individuals who self enrolled or auto enrolled, if applicable on the plan. Rehires may not be included if their original enrollment date falls outside the reporting period.

**Sum of month over month contribution rate (% and \$) changes are for active participants during the reporting period. This excludes any terminations, enrollments or auto enrollments (if applicable on the plan) during the respective months in which contribution rate changes occurred.

Participant Activity

Call Center	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020
Total Call Volume	652	571

Loans	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020
Amount of New Loans Taken	\$172,821	\$176,590
# of New Loans	14	13
# of Outstanding Active Loans	29	33
% of Participants have Outstanding Active Loans	1.1%	1.2%
Prudential % of Participants have Outstanding Active Loans - As of 12/31/2019	13.6%	

Enrollment by Age Groupstate

	1/1/2020-12/31/2020						Grand Total
	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Total	17	77	44	41	35	11	225

Asset Allocation/Net Activity By Age

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Total Participant Balances	\$61,518	\$3,917,447	\$18,194,886	\$42,886,367	\$55,159,960	\$24,181,626	\$144,401,803
% Assets	0.0%	2.7%	12.6%	29.7%	38.2%	16.7%	100.0%
Average Contribution Rate (\$)	\$75	\$60	\$140	\$233	\$235	\$337	\$202
Average Contribution Rate (%)	8.5%	5.6%	7.1%	8.5%	25.3%	0.0%	10.0%
<i>Prudential Avg. Contribution Rate (%) as of 12/31/2019</i>	<i>5.0%</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>6.8%</i>	<i>8.0%</i>	<i>9.6%</i>	<i>11.3%</i>	<i>7.6%</i>
Contributions	\$44,565	\$775,076	\$1,844,091	\$3,697,854	\$3,755,316	\$710,047	\$10,826,949
Rollovers In*	\$0	\$106,001	\$327,320	\$183,154	\$257,411	\$21,258	\$895,143
Total (Contributions + Rollovers In)	\$44,565	\$881,077	\$2,171,411	\$3,881,008	\$4,012,726	\$731,305	\$11,722,092
Cash Distributions	\$0	(\$9,863)	(\$101,894)	(\$59,846)	(\$194,548)	(\$341,293)	(\$707,445)
Rollovers Out	\$0	(\$29,591)	(\$245,130)	(\$428,873)	(\$3,770,509)	(\$2,977,389)	(\$7,451,493)
Total (Cash Distributions + Rollovers Out)	\$0	(\$39,454)	(\$347,025)	(\$488,719)	(\$3,965,058)	(\$3,318,682)	(\$8,158,938)
Net Activity	\$44,565	\$841,622	\$1,824,386	\$3,392,289	\$47,669	(\$2,587,378)	\$3,563,154
Total Participants**	28	392	600	747	753	354	2,874
Average Account Balance	\$2,197	\$9,993	\$30,325	\$57,411	\$73,254	\$68,310	\$50,244
<i>Prudential Avg. Account Balance as of 12/31/2019</i>	<i>\$3,645</i>	<i>\$16,118</i>	<i>\$46,246</i>	<i>\$89,262</i>	<i>\$123,641</i>	<i>\$125,460</i>	<i>\$73,876</i>
Median Account Balance	\$1,184	\$4,522	\$15,726	\$28,126	\$39,097	\$33,565	\$20,974
<i>Prudential Median Account Balance as of 12/31/2019</i>	<i>\$4,531</i>	<i>\$11,969</i>	<i>\$31,729</i>	<i>\$52,216</i>	<i>\$78,108</i>	<i>\$116,384</i>	<i>\$70,895</i>

*Rollovers In is the total dollars credited to participant accounts within the period defined that originated in other qualified retirement plan accounts.

**Total column for participant count is a sum of participants across each age group. E.g. If a participant has both a main account and beneficiary account within different age groups (decedent's date of birth), that participant will be counted twice.

Plan Activity

Contributions by Fund

INVESTMENT OPTIONS	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	%	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020	%	Change	%
VANGUARD INSTITUTIONAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$2,142,016	20.3%	\$2,281,249	21.1%	\$139,233	6.5%
VANGUARD TOTAL INTERNATIONAL STOCK INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$1,519,486	14.4%	\$1,630,606	15.1%	\$111,121	7.3%
VANGUARD TOTAL BOND MARKET INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$1,002,839	9.5%	\$1,076,574	9.9%	\$73,736	7.4%
VANGUARD MID-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$923,013	8.8%	\$975,300	9.0%	\$52,287	5.7%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2030 FUND I CLASS	\$903,883	8.6%	\$944,718	8.7%	\$40,835	4.5%
GUARANTEED LONG-TERM FUND	\$971,404	9.2%	\$906,197	8.4%	(\$65,207)	-6.7%
VANGUARD SMALL-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$871,899	8.3%	\$869,943	8.0%	(\$1,956)	-0.2%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2020 FUND I CLASS	\$650,650	6.2%	\$580,088	5.4%	(\$70,562)	-10.8%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2040 FUND I CLASS	\$473,439	4.5%	\$431,710	4.0%	(\$41,729)	-8.8%
PIMCO TOTAL RETURN ESG FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$384,595	3.7%	\$342,730	3.2%	(\$41,865)	-10.9%
LORD ABBETT SHORT DURATION INCOME FUND CLASS I	\$139,367	1.3%	\$190,158	1.8%	\$50,791	36.4%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BALANCED I FUND I CLASS	\$178,088	1.7%	\$182,744	1.7%	\$4,656	2.6%
CALVERT EQUITY FUND CLASS I	\$175,685	1.7%	\$170,982	1.6%	(\$4,703)	-2.7%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2050 FUND I CLASS	\$82,778	0.8%	\$126,091	1.2%	\$43,314	52.3%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2010 FUND I CLASS	\$60,246	0.6%	\$56,756	0.5%	(\$3,490)	-5.8%
PAX GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$28,892	0.3%	\$31,635	0.3%	\$2,743	9.5%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2060 FUND I CLASS	\$32,722	0.3%	\$29,467	0.3%	(\$3,255)	-9.9%
Total Assets Contributed	\$10,541,001	100.0%	\$10,826,949	100.0%	\$285,948	2.7%

Interfund Transfers 1/1/2020 to 12/31/2020

INVESTMENT OPTIONS	IN	OUT	NET
GUARANTEED LONG-TERM FUND	\$2,984,604	(\$1,371,603)	\$1,613,000
VANGUARD TOTAL BOND MARKET INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$1,593,487	(\$682,616)	\$910,870
LORD ABBETT SHORT DURATION INCOME FUND CLASS I	\$224,577	(\$82,868)	\$141,709
CALVERT EQUITY FUND CLASS I	\$428,058	(\$323,270)	\$104,788
PAX GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$111,324	(\$24,612)	\$86,712
PIMCO TOTAL RETURN ESG FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$295,027	(\$220,846)	\$74,181
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2030 FUND I CLASS	\$637,041	(\$587,303)	\$49,738
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2060 FUND I CLASS	\$90,184	(\$65,236)	\$24,948
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2050 FUND I CLASS	\$70	(\$5,873)	(\$5,803)
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2010 FUND I CLASS	\$5,980	(\$58,840)	(\$52,860)
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2040 FUND I CLASS	\$12,661	(\$89,796)	(\$77,135)
VANGUARD TOTAL INTERNATIONAL STOCK INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$502,722	(\$632,853)	(\$130,131)
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BALANCED I FUND I CLASS	\$160,113	(\$344,222)	(\$184,109)
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2020 FUND I CLASS	\$56,188	(\$280,228)	(\$224,040)
VANGUARD SMALL-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$308,479	(\$691,552)	(\$383,074)
VANGUARD MID-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$617,108	(\$1,006,323)	(\$389,215)
VANGUARD INSTITUTIONAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$694,091	(\$2,253,671)	(\$1,559,580)
TOTAL	\$8,721,714	(\$8,721,714)	\$0

Participant Distribution Statistics

Distribution Type	Amount of Withdrawals Taken				# of Withdrawals			
	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020	Change	% Change	1/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020	Change	% Change
Termination	\$7,030,957	\$6,815,230	(\$215,727)	-3%	135	147	12	9%
Direct Transfer	\$216,184	\$337,570	\$121,386	56%	11	11	0	0%
In-Service Withdrawal	\$247,340	\$459,112	\$211,772	86%	19	12	(7)	-37%
Death Distribution	\$76,259	\$290,974	\$214,714	282%	19	18	(1)	-5%
Coronavirus-Related Withdrawal	\$0	\$99,868	\$99,868	n/a	0	10	10	n/a
Installment Payment	\$48,950	\$102,161	\$53,210	109%	113	153	40	35%
Required Minimum Distribution	\$82,928	\$46,413	(\$36,515)	-44%	35	19	(16)	-46%
QDRO	\$54,628	\$0	(\$54,628)	-100%	2	0	(2)	-100%
Hardship Withdrawal	\$27,226	\$3,883	(\$23,343)	-86%	5	2	(3)	-60%
Return of Excess Deferrals/Contributions	\$806	\$3,727	\$2,921	362%	4	4	0	0%
Grand Total	\$7,785,278	\$8,158,938	\$373,660	5%	343	376	33	10%

1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020						
Distribution Sub-Type	Amount of Withdrawals Taken			# of Withdrawals		
	Age < 50	Age >= 50	Total	Age < 50	Age >= 50	Total
Rollover	\$372,226	\$7,079,267	\$7,451,493	23	71	94
Cash	\$115,357	\$592,088	\$707,445	15	267	282
Grand Total	\$487,583	\$7,671,355	\$8,158,938	38	338	376

Termination - A withdrawal that is taken when the participant is active and terminating from employment or is already in a 'Terminated' status.

Direct Transfer - Non-taxable transfer of participant assets from one type of tax-deferred retirement plan or account to another.

In-Service Withdrawal - A distribution that is taken while the participant is still active, before termination from employment.

Death Distribution - Distribution taken by a beneficiary. This could include required minimum distributions, installment payments, etc.

Coronavirus-Related Withdrawal - A distribution that is requested by a participant in which they meet certain qualifications under the CARES Act. Note, the 59 ½ early withdrawal tax penalty does not apply.

Installment Payment - An Installment distribution is a payment option that disburses funds over time (i.e. monthly, quarterly, yearly).

Required Minimum Distribution - Minimum amounts that a participant must withdraw annually upon reaching a certain age or retirement. This would exclude any beneficiary or QDRO accounts.

QDRO - Distribution taken by the recipient of a QDRO. This could include required minimum distributions, installment payments, etc.

Hardship Withdrawal - A distribution which is requested by a participant because of an immediate and heavy financial need that cannot be satisfied from other resources.

Return of Excess Deferrals/Contributions - Could include Actual Contribution Percentage (ACP), Actual Deferral Percentage (ADP), Excess Deferrals, Excess Annual Editions and/or Ineligible Contributions.

Loan Activity

As of 12/31/2020

% of Participants With Withdrawal Activity

1/1/2020 - 12/31/2020

Average loan balance is \$9,840

Prudential Book of Business Average is \$7,754 as of 12/31/2019

1.2% of participants have outstanding active loans

13.6% Prudential Book of Business Average as of 12/31/2019

0.5% initiated a new loan

0.1% initiated Hardship Withdrawal

0.4% initiated In-Service Withdrawal

Loan Utilization

By Participant Age

	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	1.9%	1.1%	0.9%	1.2%
	<25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Overall
Participants*	28	392	600	747	753	354	2,874
w/Loan	0	0	8	14	8	3	33

*Includes all participant statuses with balance > \$0.

Participant Loan Statistics

Loan Initiations	Amount of Loans Taken				# of Active Loans			
	1/1/2019-12/31/2019	1/1/2020-12/31/2020	Change	% Change	as of 12/31/2019	as of 12/31/2020	Change	% Change
General Purpose	\$172,821	\$176,590	\$3,769	2%	28	32	4	14%
Residential	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	1	1	0	0%
Grand Total	\$172,821	\$176,590	\$3,769	2%	29	33	4	14%

	1/1/2019-12/31/2019	1/1/2020-12/31/2020
# of Outstanding Active Loans	29	33
# of New Loans	14	13
Average Loan Balance	\$9,502	\$9,840
Total Outstanding Loan Balance	\$275,547	\$324,707

Participant Transaction Statistics

	1/1/2020 - 3/31/2020	4/1/2020 - 6/30/2020	7/1/2020 - 9/30/2020	10/1/2020 - 12/31/2020
Call Center				
Unique Callers	107	70	108	91
Total Call Volume	153	103	165	150
Participant Website				
Unique Web Logins	759	578	707	654
Total Web Logins	11,426	14,628	15,756	10,975

Call Center Reason Category	1/1/2020 - 3/31/2020	4/1/2020 - 6/30/2020	7/1/2020 - 9/30/2020	10/1/2020 - 12/31/2020
Account Explanations	50	29	48	45
Allocation Changes & Exchange	3	0	3	4
Contributions	6	3	6	2
Disbursements	55	43	73	71
Enrollments	1	1	3	0
Forms	0	2	3	2
Fund Information	3	2	2	0
Hardships	3	4	0	0
IFX	0	0	0	0
IVR or Web Assistance	5	0	9	5
Loans	5	7	5	5
Other	3	3	5	6
Payment Questions	0	0	0	0
Plan Explanations	2	3	2	2
Regen Reg Letter	2	0	0	0
Status of Research	1	0	2	2
Tax Information	2	1	1	0
Website Processing	12	5	3	6
Total	153	103	165	150

Definitions:

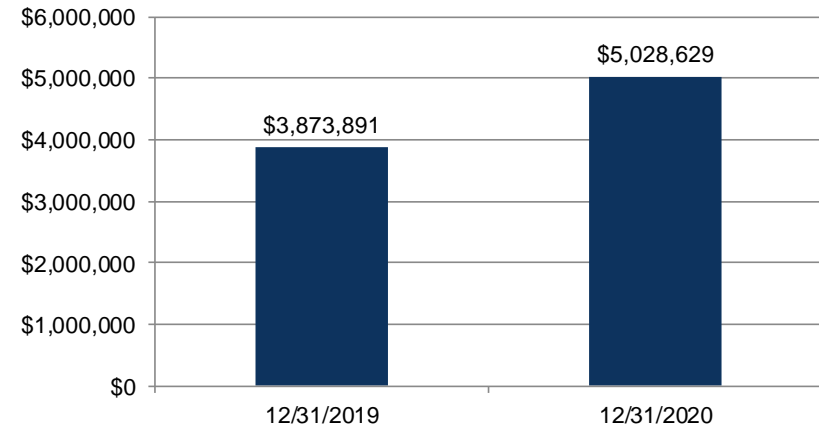
Unique Callers – The number of individuals that spoke to a Participant Service Center Representative during the reporting period (e.g., If the same individual called five times during the reporting period, they would only be counted once).

Total Call Volume – The number of calls to a Participant Service Center Representative during the reporting period (e.g., If the same individual called five times during the reporting period, they would be counted five times).

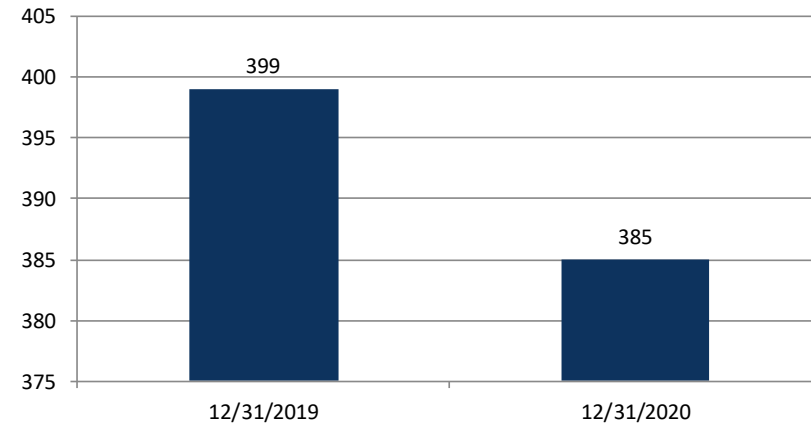
Roth Summary

Sub Plan Name	Sub Plan	Total
Mt. Abraham Unified School Distr	006502	\$1,409
Addison Northwest SD	006503	\$522,012
Champlain Valley School District	006514	\$222,554
Colchester School District	006515	\$688,308
Caledonia Central SU	006516	\$5,672
Essex North SU	006517	\$20,723
Essex Westford Unified SD	006518	\$49,735
Maple Run Unified	006519	\$497,708
Lamoille South SU	006526	\$193
North Country SU	006529	\$2,303
Orleans Central SU	006534	\$56
Orleans Southwest SU	006535	\$30,074
Greater Rutland Central SU	006537	\$110,418
South Burlington Sd	006544	\$1,117,705
Washington Northeast SU	006550	\$758
Washington West SU	006551	\$149,234
Windham Southeast SU	006554	\$0
Windham Southwest SU	006555	\$1,223
Windsor Central Modfd Unfd Un SD	006556	\$84,649
Winooski SD	006560	\$261,569
Patricia A Hannaford Career Cen.	006561	\$62,288
Two Rivers Supervisory Union	006562	\$50,745
Concord School District	016516	\$13,753
Town of Lowell SD	016529	\$4,092
Quarry Valley Unified Union SD	016537	\$357,132
Twin Valley Unified Union SD	016555	\$4,029
Barnard Academy	016556	\$114,541
Green Mtn USD	016562	\$135,625
Lunenburg School District	026516	\$55,277
Southern Valley Unified Union SD	026555	\$1,124
Windsor Central Mod Unif Un SD	026556	\$387,711
Ludlow Mt Holly Union USD	026562	\$441
Rutland Town SD	036537	\$59,740
South Hero Town SD	056523	\$1,262
Champlain Island UUSD	066523	\$14,567
Windham Southeast SD	076554	\$0
TOTAL		\$5,028,629

Roth Assets



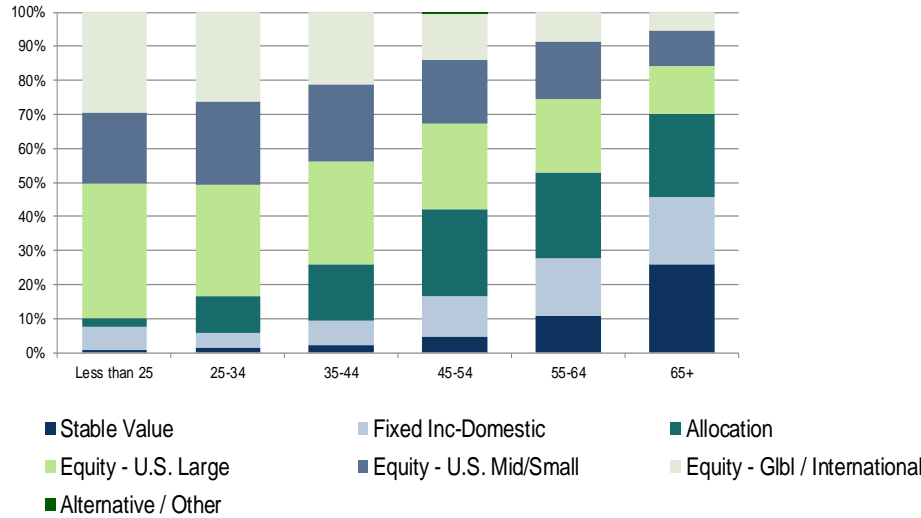
Roth Participants



	12/31/2019	12/31/2020
Roth Assets	\$3,873,891	\$5,028,629
# of Participants in Roth	399	385
Participation Rate in Roth	14.4%	13.4%
Prudential % of Participants in Roth - As of 12/31/2019	13.6%	

Investment Diversification

Assets by Asset Class and Age as of December 31, 2020



Asset Allocation

Asset Class	Your Plan Assets as of 12/31/2020	Your Plan % as of 12/31/2020
Stable Value	\$14,559,679	10.1%
Fixed Inc-Domestic	\$20,757,687	14.4%
Allocation	\$34,282,901	23.7%
Equity - U.S. Large	\$32,807,823	22.7%
Equity - U.S. Mid/Small	\$25,013,443	17.3%
Equity - Gbl / International	\$16,797,849	11.6%
Alternative / Other	\$182,421	0.1%
Total Participant Balances	\$144,401,804	100.0%

Fund Utilization By Age as of December 31, 2020

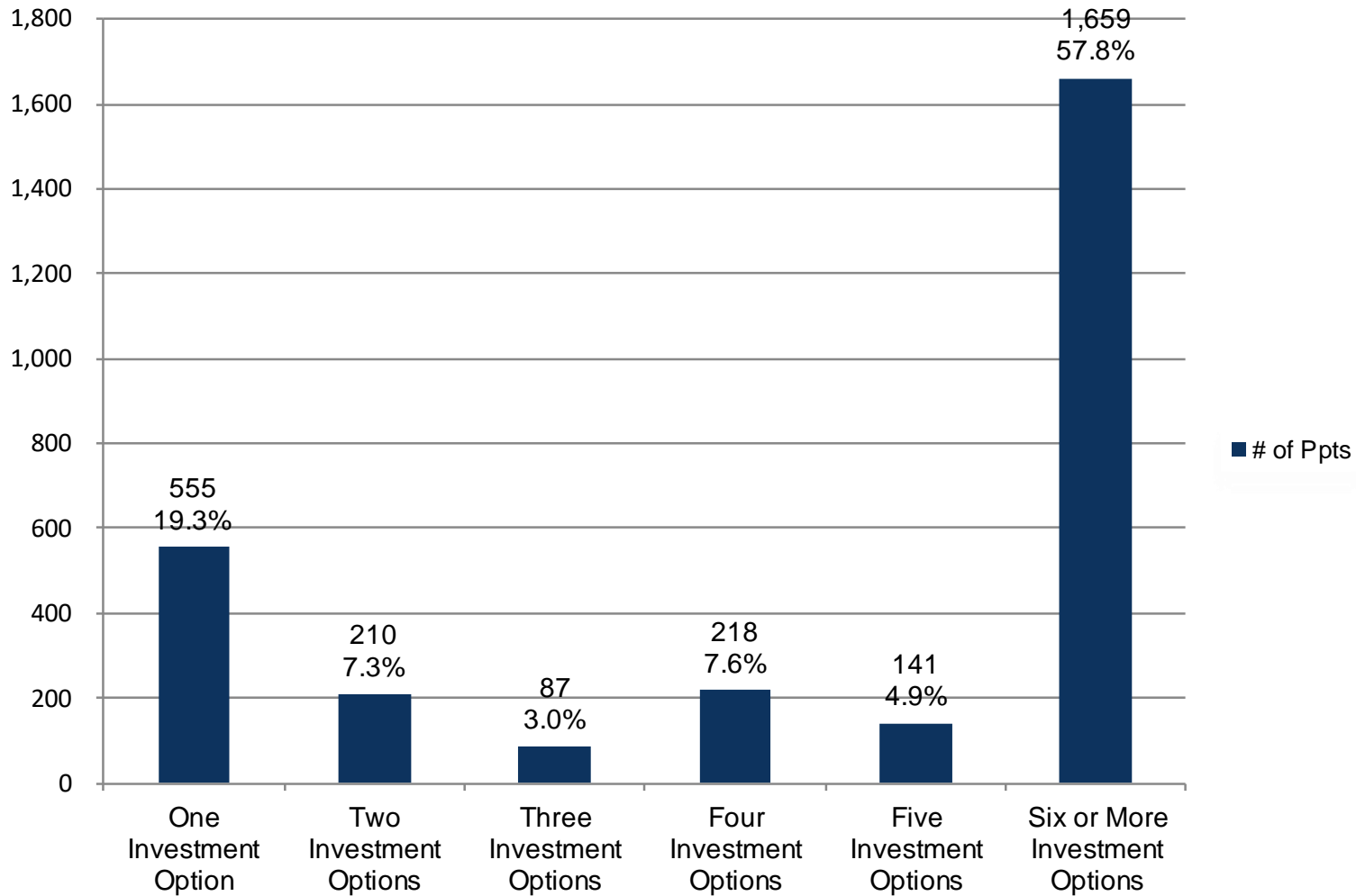
	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Participants Invested in Only One Fund	1	55	73	126	190	123	568
Average # of Funds per Participant	4.8	5.0	5.3	5.2	4.6	3.9	4.8
<i>Prudential Participants Avg. # of Funds per Participant as of 12/31/2019</i>	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.3	4.2	5.3
% of Plan Assets in Stable Value	0.7%	1.4%	2.3%	4.6%	10.6%	25.8%	10.1%
<i>Prudential % of Plan Assets in Stable Value as of 12/31/2019</i>	9.0%	8.2%	10.3%	14.8%	25.3%	41.4%	22.1%

Utilization by Fund as of December 31, 2020

INVESTMENT OPTIONS	Balance	% Invested in Fund	# of Ppts	Ppts Using as Sole Investment
VANGUARD INSTITUTIONAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$29,146,792	20.2%	2,060	19
VANGUARD TOTAL INTERNATIONAL STOCK INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$16,428,768	11.4%	1,995	3
GUARANTEED LONG-TERM FUND	\$14,559,679	10.1%	1,386	92
VANGUARD MID-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$13,426,477	9.3%	2,061	12
VANGUARD TOTAL BOND MARKET INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$13,128,459	9.1%	1,791	16
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2030 FUND I CLASS	\$12,269,325	8.5%	198	101
VANGUARD SMALL-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$11,586,966	8.0%	2,027	7
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2020 FUND I CLASS	\$9,871,024	6.8%	167	94
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2040 FUND I CLASS	\$5,949,547	4.1%	159	79
PIMCO TOTAL RETURN ESG FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$5,173,309	3.6%	1,167	2
CALVERT EQUITY FUND CLASS I	\$3,661,031	2.5%	143	1
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BALANCED I FUND I CLASS	\$2,765,026	1.9%	211	52
LORD ABBETT SHORT DURATION INCOME FUND CLASS I	\$2,455,919	1.7%	381	22
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2010 FUND I CLASS	\$2,415,254	1.7%	55	24
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2050 FUND I CLASS	\$820,463	0.6%	49	26
PAX GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$369,082	0.3%	60	1
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2060 FUND I CLASS	\$192,262	0.1%	19	4
SELF DIRECTED BROKERAGE ACCOUNT	\$182,421	0.1%	3	0
Total	\$144,401,804	100.0%		

The funds in **bold** type denote inclusion in the GoalMaker® product.

Investment Utilization as of December 31, 2020



Due to rounding, bar graph may not equal 100%

GoalMaker® Participation

as of 12/31/2020

	3/31/2020	6/30/2020	9/30/2020	12/31/2020
Plan Assets for Participants in GoalMaker	\$9,202,965	\$11,597,538	\$12,177,021	\$14,194,644
# of Participants in GoalMaker	542	550	609	660
Participation Rate in GoalMaker	19.4%	19.8%	21.6%	23.0%
% of Plan Assets for GoalMaker Participants	8.7%	9.4%	9.5%	9.8%

Prudential Book of Business For Plans Offering GoalMaker – As of 12/31/2019

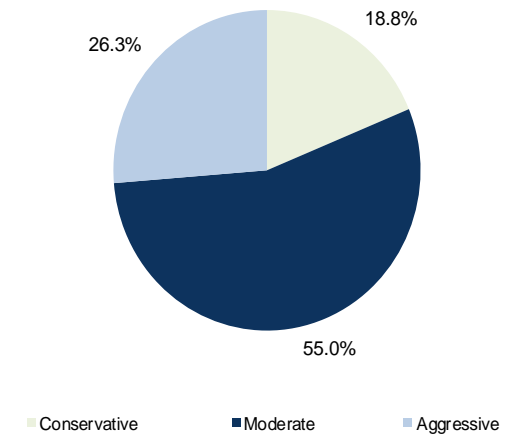
The participation rate in GoalMaker is 52.3%.

The percentage of plan assets for GoalMaker participants is 21.7%.

Participant Age Range	Conservative		Moderate		Aggressive		Total
	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	
Less than 25	1	0	12	0	8	1	22
25-34	25	0	73	1	66	0	165
35-44	16	0	96	2	54	0	168
45-54	16	0	99	3	43	0	161
55-64	25	2	66	6	21	0	120
65+	9	1	10	2	2	0	24
Total	92	3	356	14	194	1	660

Participant Age Range	Conservative		Moderate		Aggressive		Total
	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	
Less than 25	\$371	\$0	\$29,264	\$0	\$13,194	\$5,566	\$48,395
25-34	\$69,631	\$0	\$477,478	\$6,828	\$457,697	\$0	\$1,011,634
35-44	\$231,066	\$0	\$1,684,428	\$43,130	\$912,732	\$0	\$2,871,356
45-54	\$246,949	\$0	\$3,061,373	\$56,443	\$1,734,287	\$0	\$5,099,053
55-64	\$1,335,955	\$278,071	\$1,843,681	\$216,397	\$588,793	\$0	\$4,262,897
65+	\$294,767	\$207,150	\$305,261	\$76,371	\$17,760	\$0	\$901,309
Total	\$2,178,740	\$485,221	\$7,401,485	\$399,168	\$3,724,463	\$5,566	\$14,194,644

Percentage of Assets by GoalMaker® Participation Portfolio - As of 12/31/2020



9.3%

average contribution rate (%) for active GoalMaker participants

Due to rounding, pie chart may not equal 100%

1.5 Years

average length of time GoalMaker participants have been enrolled in GoalMaker

23.0%

GoalMaker participation rate for those who actively elected GoalMaker

Rep Stats

	1/1/2020-3/31/2020	4/1/2020-6/30/2020	7/1/2020-9/30/2020	10/1/2020-12/31/2020	Total
Group Presentations	2	0	3	1	6
Individual Participant Meetings	172	79	177	129	557
New Enrollments as a result of Group/Individual Meeting*	34	10	70	45	159
GoalMaker as a result of Group/Individual Meeting*	33	11	65	44	153
Contribution Rate Increases	49	14	32	22	117
Number of Rollovers	8	3	8	9	28
Rollover Dollars	\$192,923	\$78,517	\$88,560	\$123,000	\$483,000

*Enrollments above obtained by TDA Education Representatives

ESG Funds

Plan # - Plan Name	Fund	Ticker	AUM as of 12/31/2020	# of PPT	% of AUM of the Plan
940010 - 940060 - 403(b) Exclusive & Non-Exclusive					
	Calvert Equity Fund Class I	CEYIX	\$3,661,031	144	
	PIMCO Total Return ESG Fund Institutional Class	PTSAX	\$5,173,309	1168	
	Pax Global Environmental Markets Fund Institutional Class	PGINX	\$369,082	61	

School Districts / Supervisory Unions 403b Plan Balance

Sub Plan ID	Subplan Name	Balance
006503	Addison Northwest SD	\$ 2,400,222.16
006514	Champlain Valley School District	\$ 17,273,082.57
006515	Colchester School District	\$ 10,809,644.23
006516	Caledonia Central SU	\$ 530,241.28
006517	Essex North SU	\$ 956,965.58
006518	Essex Westford Unified SD	\$ 35,462,564.18
006519	Maple Run Unified SD	\$ 8,090,482.41
006523	Grand Isle Supervisory Union	\$ 774,328.49
006526	Lamoille South SU	\$ 8,023,114.07
006537	Greater Rutland Central SU	\$ 855,490.90
006544	South Burlington Sd	\$ 20,974,129.93
006556	Windsor Central Modfd Unfd Un SD	\$ 2,587,358.63
016516	Concord School District	\$ 117,489.02
016523	Alburgh Town SD	\$ 803,370.23
016537	Quarry Valley Unified Union SD	\$ 1,386,707.24
016556	Barnard Academy	\$ 397,009.19
026516	Lunenburg School District	\$ 574,499.62
026556	Windsor Central Mod Unif Un SD	\$ 3,369,250.93
036537	Rutland Town SD	\$ 1,056,898.65
056523	South Hero Town SD	\$ 307,356.09
066523	Champlain Islands UUSD	\$ 1,039,882.94
Total		\$ 117,790,088.33

Subplan	Subplan Name	Balance
006502	Mt. Abraham Unified School Distr	\$ 162,933.32
006509	Burlington SD	\$ 564,032.72
006511	Kingdom East SD District	\$ 2,237,882.12
006520	Franklin Northeast SU	\$ 2,490,779.49
006525	Lamoille North SU	\$ 769,857.66
006527	Milton Town SD	\$ 93,946.69
006529	North Country SU	\$ 4,907.04
006534	Orleans Central SU	\$ 325,958.09
006535	Orleans Southwest SU	\$ 137,323.13
006550	Washington Northeast SU	\$ 758.29
006551	Harwood Unified SD	\$ 2,890,306.79
006554	Windham Southeast SU	\$ 2,044,574.90
006555	Windham Southwest SU	\$ 61,181.11
006560	Winooski SD	\$ 1,657,834.84
006561	Patricia A Hannaford Career Cen.	\$ 256,922.75
006562	Two Rivers Supervisory Union	\$ 490,763.60
016520	Enosburgh-Richford UUSD	\$ 1,973,274.38
016525	Lamoille North Mod Unif Union SD	\$ 938,794.62
016529	Town of Lowell SD	\$ 4,260.65
016555	Twin Valley Unified Union SD	\$ 432,222.19
016562	Green Mtn USD	\$ 426,025.03
026513	Mount Mansfield UUSD	\$ 5,810,134.29
026521	Northern Mountain Valley UUSD	\$ 535,522.47
026525	Cambridge School District	\$ 39,996.54
026529	Jay Westfield Joint Elem School	\$ 19,999.91
026555	Southern Valley Unified Union SD	\$ 142,093.65
026562	Ludlow Mt Holly Union USD	\$ 239,204.26
066554	Vernon School District	\$ 13,798.57
076554	Windham Southeast SD	\$ 1,858,646.78
Total		\$ 26,623,935.85

*Loan Funds are Excluded

**House Accounts are Included

Assets and contributions reflect actual participant account balances and do not include outstanding loan balances, forfeitures, and / or expense account assets.

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Prudential's Book of Business averages are as of 12/31/2019.

Section II: Economic Outlook



ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

by **Robert F. DeLucia, CFA**
Consulting Economist

Summary and Major Conclusions:

Both the history and theory of business cycles reveal that the early years of a traditional expansion cycle are the most dynamic. In principle, above-average growth in GDP is fueled by monetary and fiscal policy stimulus, pent-up demand from the previous recession, a rebuilding of business inventories, and a surge in productivity. The US economy will likely transition from its current partial recovery to a classic self-sustaining economic expansion during the second half of the year, continuing throughout 2022. The critical assumption is that widespread vaccination of the population against COVID-19 will be achieved by the middle of the year.

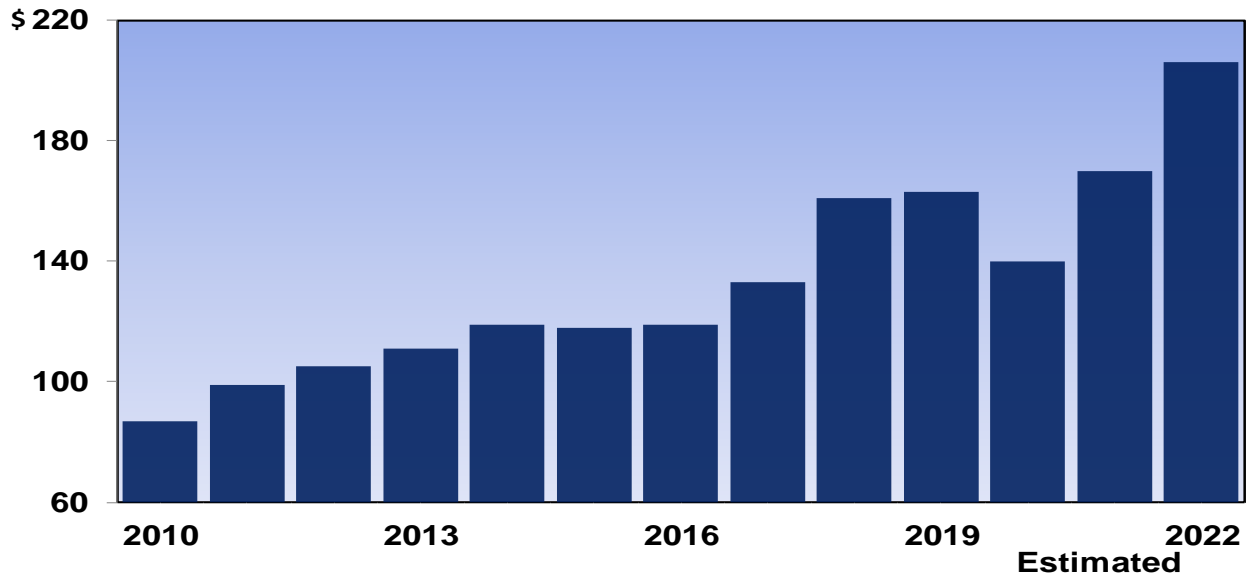
- US economic growth slowed abruptly during the final months of last year, with weakness concentrated in spending on consumer services and employment. The pandemic has created a split economy, as manufacturing and housing construction continue to expand at a brisk pace.
- The loss of economic momentum between September and December can be attributed to two factors: A surge in COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations, which resulted in partial shutdowns across the nation; and the failure of Congress and the White House to pass legislation necessary to extend vital COVID-relief programs.
- Fourth quarter GDP growth slowed from its record pace of Q3 to an estimated 5%. The surge in company profits that began in the third quarter continued in Q4, with operating earnings increasing at a 10% annual rate.
- The outlook for the US economy in 2021 is clouded by an unusually high degree of uncertainty. My base case is that the US economy will transition from its current partial recovery to a classic self-sustaining economic expansion during the second half of the year, continuing through 2022.
- Widespread availability of vaccines during the first half of this year will be the primary catalyst for a strong acceleration in economic growth in the final two quarters of this year. GDP growth in the second half of this year and in 2022 could be in a range of 5% to 6%.
- The central economic theme for 2021 and 2022 revolves around the classic business cycle. History shows that the first several years of an economic expansion are the most dynamic of the business cycle, with spending and output increasing at their fastest paces.
- Business spending on equipment and software, residential construction, and consumer purchases of autos and household durable goods will lead the economy this year. A full recovery of the service sector will lag but should become the primary driver of growth in 2022 and 2023 when vaccines provide herd immunity.
- Corporate earnings will continue to surprise on the upside. A confluence of factors has created an optimum environment for business profitability that should persist into 2022. Company earnings could expand by 20% to 25% this year and in 2022, benefiting from both rising revenues and widening profit margins.
- Consumer inflation should remain dormant for all of this year and for much of 2022 because of massive economic slack in labor and resource markets. However, in the years beyond 2020, inflation could become a long-term economic and investment risk for the first time since the 1990s.

- The Federal Reserve will continue to provide maximum liquidity to the economy to underpin credit markets and ensure a sustained economic recovery. Although it is a short-term economic necessity, the Fed's new policy framework is a risk to price stability in the long term.
- While the Fed is unlikely to raise short-term policy rates until 2023, long-term interest rates should trend steadily higher during 2021 and 2022. The result would be a gradual but steady steepening in the US Treasury yield curve, which would be a signal of faster economic growth and higher inflation in coming years.
- The cyclical recovery in employment should resume in the second half of the year, but job creation is likely to lag aggregate output for the first two years of the expansion. Labor productivity will play a relatively larger role in driving real GDP growth in 2021 and 2022, as hiring is constrained with firms sharply focused on protecting profit margins.
- The number one priority of the Biden administration will be passage of COVID-relief legislation within the next two months. Depending upon its size and composition, a fiscal spending package should successfully support the economy until vaccines are widely available by the summer months.
- The economic recovery could also be supercharged by pent-up demand. The pandemic has resulted in deferred spending in four key areas of the economy: Housing, consumer services, business expenditures on equipment and software, and inventory investment.
- Real GDP could expand at an annual rate of 2.5% in the first half of this year, accelerating to 6% in the second half as the economic reopening quickens, resulting in full-year growth of 4%. Real GDP growth for all of 2022 could exceed 5%.
- Following a decline of 4% in 2020, world GDP could expand by nearly 5% this year and 6% in 2022, led once again by China, emerging Asia, and the US. World inflation should increase by 2% this year and 2.5% in 2022.
- The outlook for world economic growth in 2021 will improve as the year unfolds. China and the US will be at the forefront of the recovery, with Japan, the eurozone, and the UK being laggards. Emerging economies in Asia along with Germany will benefit from a strong Chinese recovery and should grow at a robust pace.

ECONOMIC REVIEW

The final quarter of 2020 was characterized by numerous crosscurrents. In the positive column, vaccines for COVID-19 by both Pfizer and Moderna were approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use, and the first vaccines were administered on December 14. The outcome of the 2020 presidential election became official on December 14 when the members of the electoral college officially certified Joe Biden as president, with a comfortable margin of 306 electoral votes versus 232 for Donald Trump. Finally, although there were increased signs of weakness, the economy managed to expand at an estimated growth of 5% in Q4.

Chart 1: Strong Earnings Recovery Expected in 2021
Earnings Per Share, S&P 500 Companies
Source: FactSet



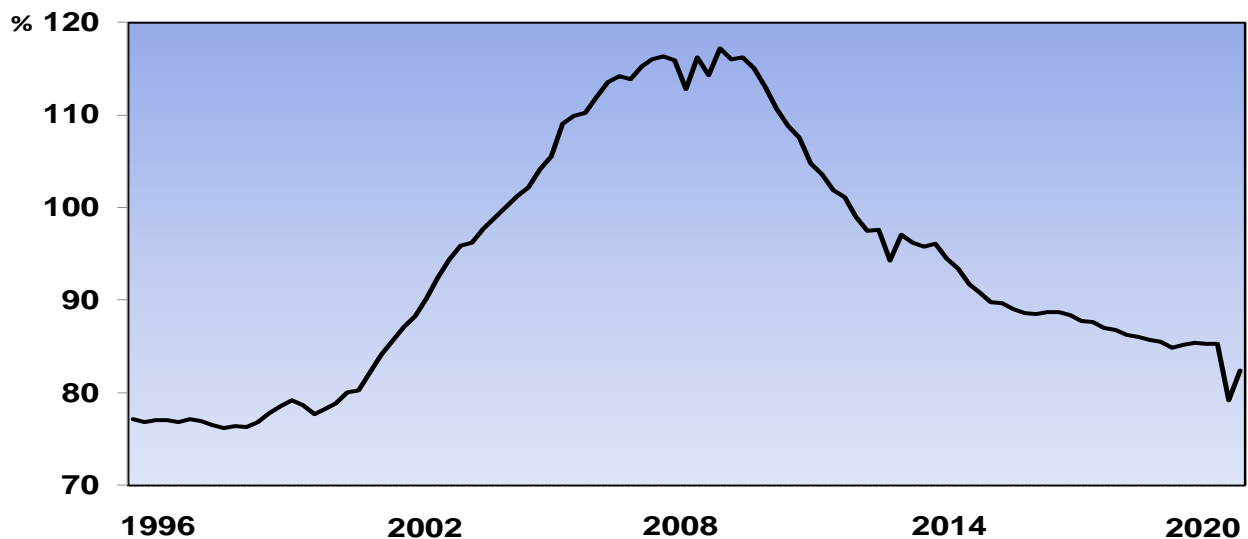
In the negative column, the pandemic entered its worst but hopefully final phase, with new coronavirus infections reaching a daily record of 280 thousand, cumulative US deaths exceeding 350 thousand, and hospitalizations rising to more than 110 thousand. The labor market continued to weaken, with service sector spending remaining at extremely depressed levels and initial jobless claims ending the year at greater than 800 thousand. Spending on services and goods continue to move in opposite directions.

Economic Slowdown: The loss of economic momentum between September and December can be attributed to two factors:

- A surge in COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations, resulting in partial shutdowns in many states nationwide.
- The lengthy delay on the part of politicians in passing legislation to extend vital COVID-relief programs, all of which expired in 2020.

Corporate Earnings: The surge in company profits that began in the third quarter continued in Q4, with operating earnings increasing at a 10% annual rate. Most of the increase was derived from expanding profit margins, which rose to an all-time high. Business firms continue to keep a tight lid on operating expenses. A surge in productivity growth has resulted from a combination of rising output and weakness in hours worked (see chart 1).

Chart 2: A Protracted Household Deleveraging Cycle Since 2010
Household Debt Percentage of Disposable Personal Income
Source: Federal Reserve



RECESSION PERSPECTIVE

For the full year, US real GDP declined by an estimated 3.5%, with a peak-to-trough decline of 10% between the end of 2019 and Q2. This was the deepest recession since the 1930s and far greater than the 4% cumulative contraction during the 2009 recession. The duration of the 2020 recession was only two months, which compares with 18 months for the 2009 recession. The average duration of all recessions since 1945 is 11 months. There are several notable differences between the 2020 and 2009 recessions:

- **Income Recession:** Whereas the slump in 2009 was a *balance sheet recession*, the 2020 downturn was an *income statement recession*, resulting from the steep decline in consumer wages and business revenues caused by the lockdown of the economy.
- **Financial Crisis:** The 2009 recession resulted from the worst credit crisis since the Great Depression. The banking system was at the brink of collapse in 2008 because of a mountain of toxic assets and inadequate capital. The result was a protracted *deleveraging* cycle that restrained spending and output for much of the last decade (see chart 2).
- **Credit Conditions:** The 2020 recession occurred at a time when the financial system was in far better health. Banks, households, and businesses are swimming in liquidity, while consumer and mortgage delinquencies remain low. Leverage in both the banking and household sectors is moderate by historical standards.

- **No Deleveraging Cycle:** The economic implications are clear: *Unconstrained by another painful deleveraging cycle, GDP growth in 2021 and 2022 is likely to easily exceed that of the years following the 2009 recession.*

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The outlook for the US economy in 2021 is characterized by an unusually high degree of uncertainty because of various unpredictable variables pertaining to domestic politics and public health conditions. ***Nonetheless, there are several definitive conclusions that can be reached regarding the outlook for the US economy over the next one to two years:***

- ◆ The US economy will likely *transition* from its current partial recovery to a classic self-sustaining economic expansion during the second half of the year, continuing through 2022. The critical assumption is that widespread vaccination of the population against COVID-19 will be achieved by the middle of the year.
- ◆ Both the theory and history of business cycles reveal that the early years of a *traditional economic cycle* are the most dynamic. In principle, above-average growth in GDP is fueled by monetary and fiscal policy stimulus, pent-up demand from the previous recession, a rebuilding of business inventories, and a surge in productivity.
- ◆ *Spending on business equipment, enterprise software, residential construction, and consumption of autos and household durable goods* will lead the economy this year. A full recovery of the service sector will lag during most of the year but should be the primary driver of growth later in the year and in 2022.
- ◆ Assuming a smooth rollout of COVID-19 *vaccines*, a majority of the US adult population should be inoculated for COVID-19 by the middle of the year. Widespread distribution of vaccines should result in herd immunity by the summer, implying a gradual recovery in the beleaguered service industries.
- ◆ *Corporate earnings* will continue to surprise on the upside. A confluence of factors has created an optimum environment for business profitability, which should persist well into 2022. Company earnings will benefit from both rising revenues and widening profit margins.

Chart 3: Inflation Under Good Control
Core Consumer Price Index
Percent Annual Rate
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

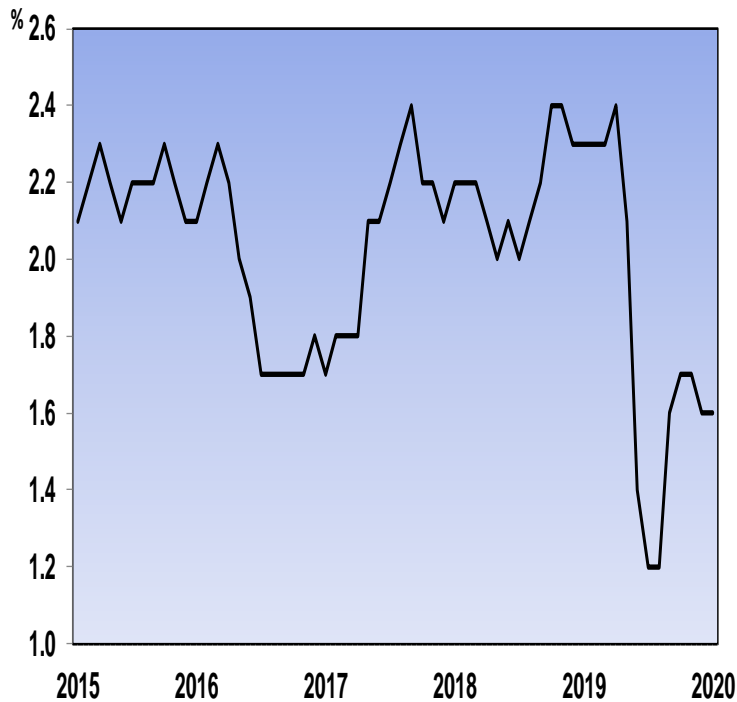
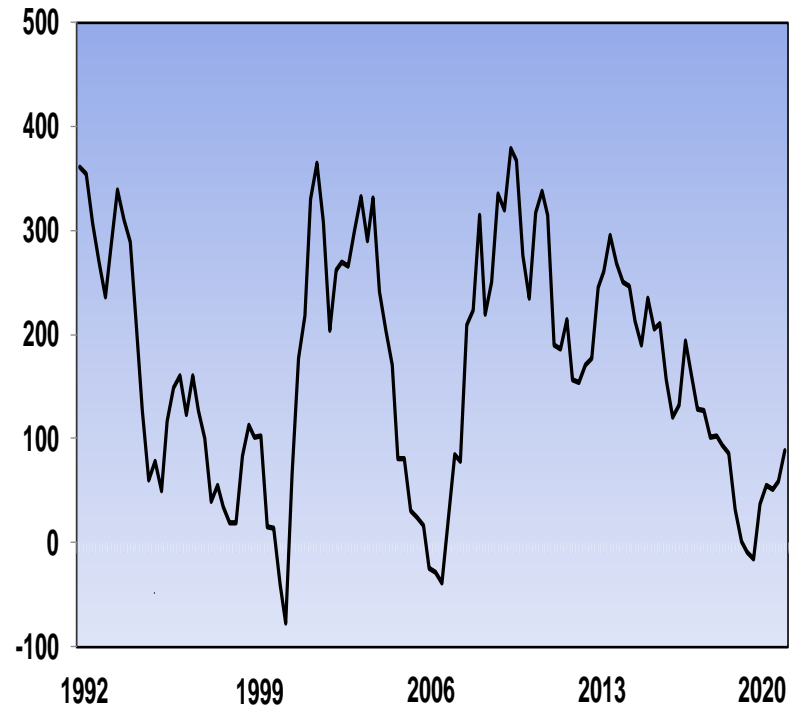
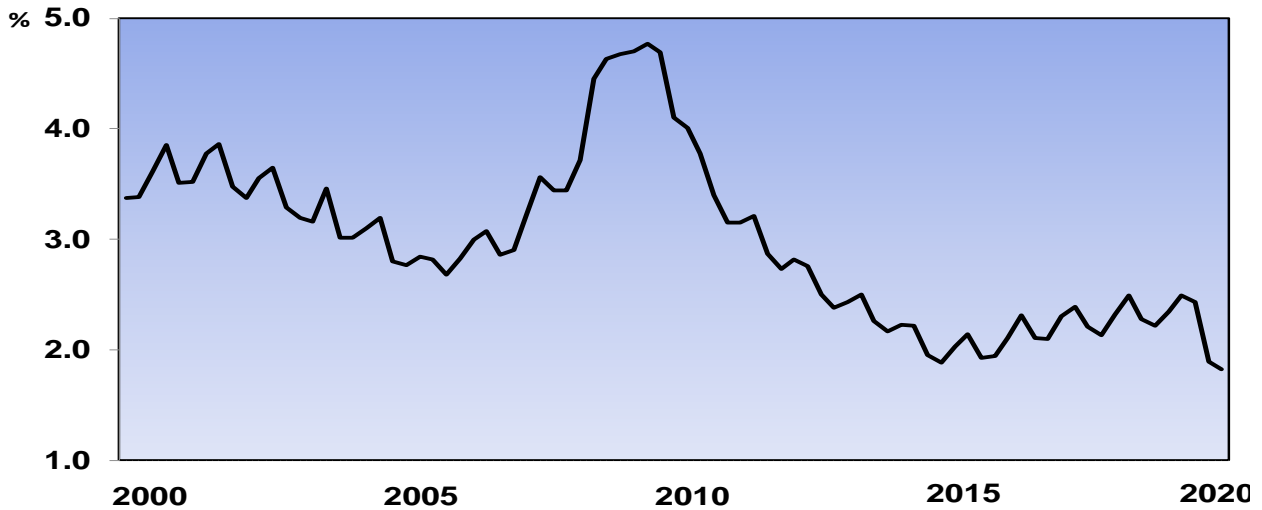


Chart 4: US Treasury Yield Curve Shows Clear Business Cycle Pattern
Interest Rate Spread: Ten-Year Treasury Bond Yield Less
Market Yield on 3-Month Treasury Bills (Basis Points)
Source: Federal Reserve



- ◆ A long-awaited additional tranche of *COVID-relief legislation* to support businesses and households will likely be enacted shortly after the inauguration of Joe Biden. Further fiscal policy stimulus in excess of \$1 trillion is needed to offset the expiration of various relief initiatives in the CARES Act and bridge the economy until the pandemic reaches mass immunity.
- ◆ *Consumer inflation* should remain dormant for all of this year and for much of 2022 because of massive economic slack in labor and resource markets. However, inflation could become a long-term economic and investment risk beyond 2022 for the first time since the 1990s (see chart 3).
- ◆ *The Federal Reserve* will continue to provide maximum liquidity to the economy to underpin credit markets and ensure a sustained economic recovery. Although an economic necessity in the short term, the Fed's new policy framework is a risk to price stability in the long term.
- ◆ The Fed is unlikely to raise short-term policy rates until 2023, but *long-term interest rates* should trend higher during 2021 and 2022. The result will be a sustained steepening in the *Treasury yield curve*, which would be a classic signal of faster economic growth and higher inflation. The yield curve has been a consistent and reliable indicator of unfolding economic cycles over many decades (see chart 4).

Chart 5: Remarkable Stability in Consumer Credit Quality
Delinquency Rate, Consumer Bank Loans
Source: FDIC



- ◆ The cyclical recovery in employment will resume in the second half of the year, but *job creation* is likely to lag aggregate output for the first two years of the expansion. *Labor productivity* will play a relatively larger role in driving real GDP growth in 2021 and 2022, as hiring is constrained as businesses strive to protect profit margins.

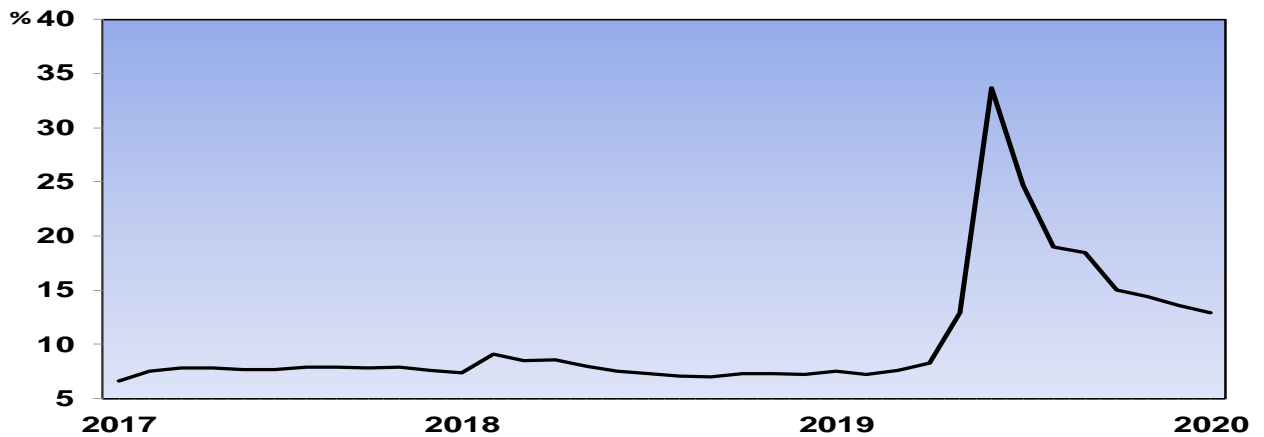
GROWTH FACTORS

Following the brief but steep recession last spring, the US economy is in the very early stages of a traditional business cycle expansion. Current economic and financial conditions are still fragile but should eventually transition to a more robust phase that is increasingly consistent with sustained economic growth. *Investors could be surprised by the unusually rapid growth in GDP during the six quarters beginning in the third quarter of this year.*

The following are the most prominent factors in support of a healthy and self-perpetuating economic recovery:

1. **Vaccine Rollout:** A tentative timetable for vaccination of the US population has been established through the spring of this year, with plans for inoculation of a large portion of the country by the first half of the year. Attainment of herd immunity will be the key for a full reopening of the economy, manifested in accelerating growth in spending and output.
2. **Credit Conditions:** As discussed previously, the US financial system is in good health and supportive of sustained economic growth. Delinquency rates on credit cards and home mortgages have risen only slightly, while corporate bond defaults are in a declining trend. Private sector balance sheets are flush with cash (see chart 5).

Chart 6: Household Savings Surged to Record Highs in 2020
Personal Savings Rate
Household Savings, Percent of Disposable Personal Income
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis



3. **Fiscal Policy Support:** The number one priority of the Biden administration will be passage of COVID-relief legislation. Depending upon its size and composition, a fiscal spending package should successfully support the economy until vaccines are widely available by the spring and summer months.
4. **Monetary Policy Support:** The Federal Reserve is the primary constant in the outlook. The Fed has pledged to maintain ultra-accommodative monetary conditions for an extended period, even if the inflation rate exceeds 2%.
5. **Low Resource Utilization:** There remains an enormous amount of slack in the economy to support economic growth over the next several years. With an unemployment rate and capacity utilization rate of 6.7% and 72.5%, respectively, the risk of emerging bottlenecks is minimal until 2023.

To conclude, favorable prospects for economic growth in 2021 and 2022 should be viewed in the context of a classic economic cycle. Powerful business cycle forces should be the dominant economic force, temporarily deferring long-term structural economic challenges in the intermediate term. However, the rate of economic growth could slow sharply beginning in 2023, as these formidable structural forces begin to undermine growth.

Pent-Up Demand: The economic recovery in 2021 could also be supercharged by deferred spending. The pandemic has constrained spending in three areas of the economy:

- **Services:** Because of obvious physical distancing constraints, the pandemic has created an enormous pent-up demand for a wide range of services, most notably in the recreation, hospitality, entertainment, and travel industries. Household savings during 2020 spiked to record levels (see chart 6).

Chart 7: Extreme Shortage of Single-Family Homes
Vacancy Rate, Single-Family Homes
Source: Census Bureau

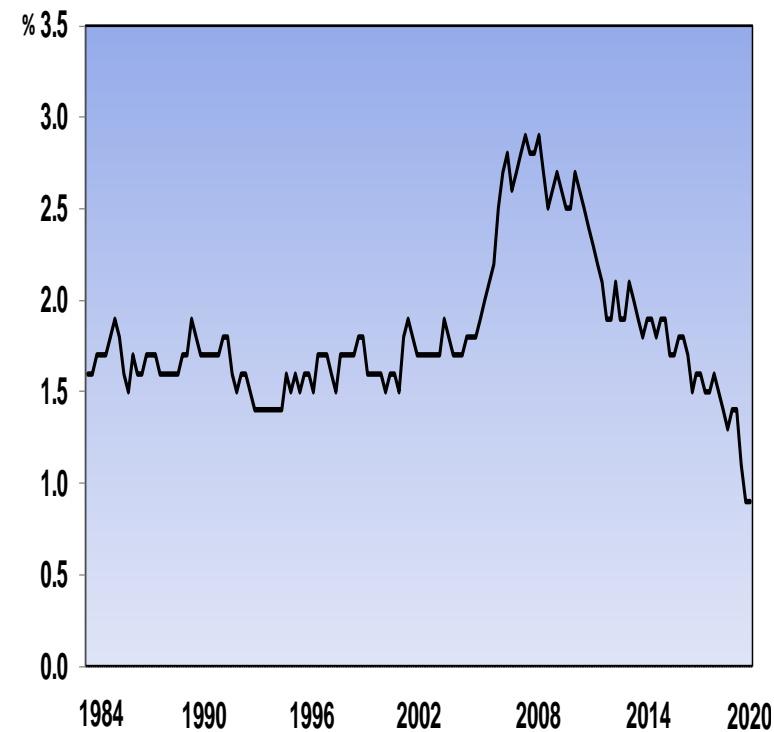
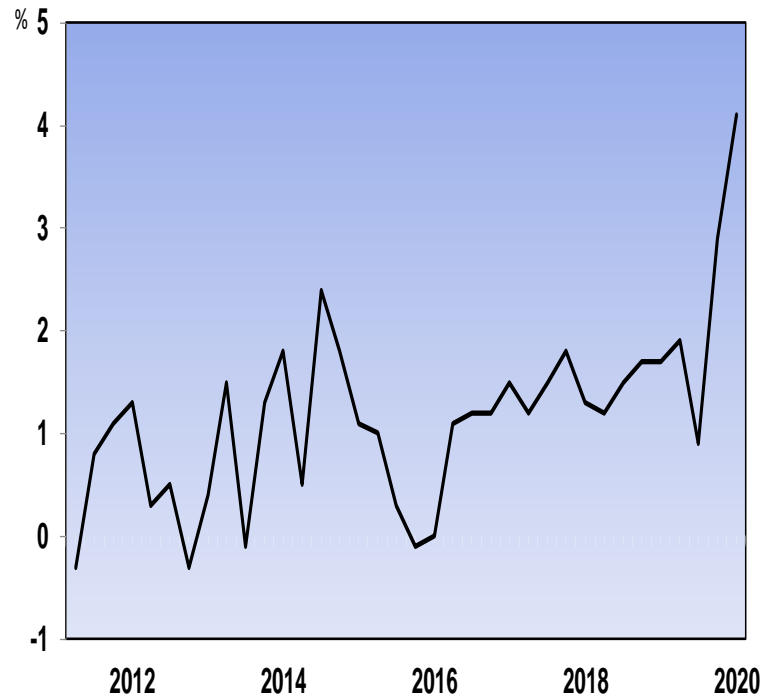


Chart 8: Accelerating Growth in Labor Productivity
Output Per Hour, Nonfarm Business Sector
Annual Percentage Growth Rate
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



- **Housing:** There is also huge pent-up demand for housing. Demand for single-family homes is extremely strong at a time of enormous shortage of homes for sale. The vacancy rate for single-family homes has fallen to a record low of 1%. Several consecutive years of strong new construction will be needed to allow the supply of homes to catch up with booming demand (see chart 7).
- **Inventories:** The current low level of business inventories should also propel manufacturing during the next year. As always occurs during a recession, businesses have overreacted to the decline in final demand, slashing output and reducing inventories to rock-bottom levels.

Business Capital Investment: There is also deferred demand for investment in business equipment and software, which has fallen below desired levels. Business investment spending should recover strongly during 2021 and 2022 because of several positive fundamental factors:

- An unusually low *cost of capital* along with an elevated after-tax return on capital is an incentive for capital formation.
- Businesses are keen to improve productivity and profit margins through automation, *substituting capital for labor* (see chart 8).

- Despite high debt levels, *business finances* are in good shape: Holdings of cash and other liquid assets have surged to an all-time high, while corporate profits and cash flow are entering a rapid growth phase.
- *Technological innovation* continues to escalate, providing new software and hardware applications for businesses to improve operating efficiencies.

Business spending for equipment and software could expand at an annual rate in excess of 10% in both 2021 and 2022, the fastest pace since 2012.

ECONOMIC FORECAST

My GDP forecast assumes two separate and distinct phases of growth during 2021 defined by the timeline for COVID-19 vaccinations. Economic growth should be sluggish during the first half of the year prior to widespread vaccination of the population, which is expected by the end of summer. Real GDP should then begin to accelerate during the second half of the year and throughout 2022, assuming widespread vaccinations create an environment of mass immunity.

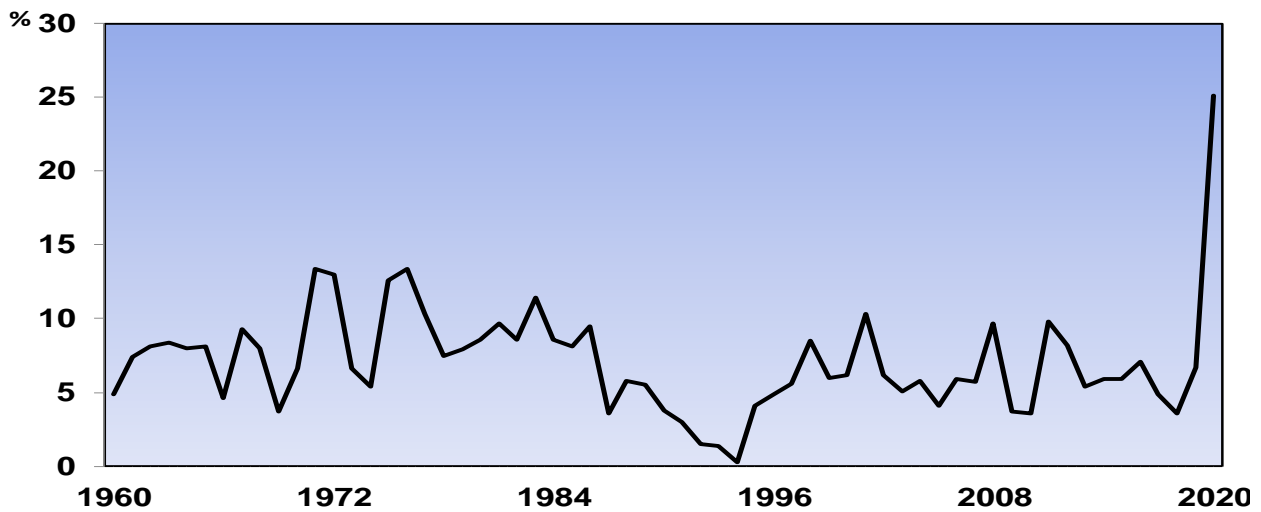
- **Gross Domestic Product:** Real GDP could expand at an annual rate of 2.5% in the first half of this year, accelerating to 6% in the second half, resulting in full-year growth of 4%. Real GDP growth for all of 2022 could exceed 5%. *If so, GDP growth in 2021 and 2022 would be the fastest since the 1990s.* Real GDP growth could slow precipitously in 2023 and 2024 to 2% or less as several powerful structural forces pertaining to government policy begin to impede growth.

Inflation: My forecast for inflation also encompasses two distinct timeframes. Inflation should remain dormant for all of this year because of excess capacity in commodity and finished goods markets along with exceptionally high unemployment. *Compared with an annual rate of 1.5% in 2020, core consumer inflation could average less than 2% again this year. However, I expect inflation to reach an inflection point during 2022, at which time a rising trend could become visible.*

Monetary Policy: There are two primary macroeconomic factors that could spark a rise in inflation in 2022:

- Unprecedented fiscal and monetary stimulus during 2020 — and possibly another stimulus bill early in the Biden administration — in response to persistent economic weakness and high unemployment.

Chart 9: Fastest Money Supply Growth on Record
The M2 Money Supply, Annual Growth Rate
Source: Federal Reserve



- The revolutionary monetary policy methodology of the Federal Reserve. *In adopting a more flexible and discretionary definition of its 2% price target, the Fed has signaled that it wants to create more inflation.* The M2 money supply is currently expanding at the fastest rate on record (see chart 9).

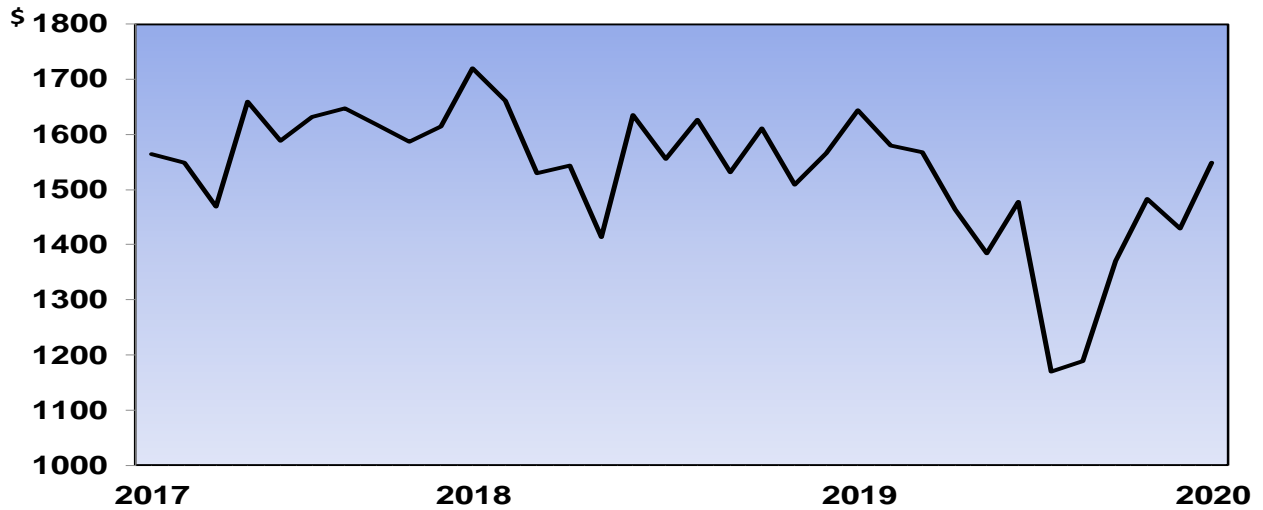
Because it is a classic lagging indicator, a monetary-induced rise in the inflation rate may not become evident until 2022 and 2023. *The primary risk is that the Fed might be compelled to tighten policy prematurely to slow the rise in inflation, triggering a spike in borrowing costs and threatening the sustainability of the economic expansion.*

Corporate Profitability: The outlook for corporate earnings is favorable. Businesses have been extremely successful in implementing productivity and efficiency initiatives that have boosted profit margins. Total labor compensation increased at an annual rate of 1.75% in the third quarter — the slowest pace in more than a decade — reflecting management’s tight control over labor costs. Earnings will benefit from accelerating revenue growth in 2021 and 2022 as the rollout of the vaccine spurs a reopening of the economy. I expect earnings to increase by 20% to 25% in both 2021 and 2022.

THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

The outlook for world economic growth in 2021 is mixed, with China at the forefront and Japan, the eurozone, and the UK trailing. Emerging economies in Asia will also be at the leading edge of global growth, benefiting from exports to China and more effective control of the pandemic. The US economy should be in the middle, although GDP growth will be more similar to Asia than to Europe and Japan.

Chart 10: Strong Rebound in World Trade
World Exports, \$ Billions
Source: International Monetary Fund



Following a decline of 4% in 2020, world GDP could expand at a 4.5% rate this year and achieve 5% growth in 2022, led once again by China, emerging Asia, and the US. World inflation should increase by 2% this year and 2.5% in 2022. World trade has already rebounded from its April low and could grow at a solid pace this year and in 2022. There is a strong correlation between world trade and corporate profitability (see chart 10).

As in the US, economic growth in both Europe and Japan will likely be sluggish in the first half of the year, but gradually accelerate later in the year and during 2022. Following a steep decline of 7.5% in 2020, European GDP could rebound strongly, expanding at a rate of 3.5% this year and nearly 4% in 2022. Japanese GDP could expand by 2.5% this year and 3.5% in 2022. Once again, China should be the world growth leader this year, with expected GDP growth in excess of 7%, its fastest pace in nearly a decade, slowing to 5.5% in 2022.



Robert F. DeLucia, CFA, was formerly Senior Economist and Portfolio Manager for Prudential Retirement. Prior to that role, he spent 25 years at CIGNA Investment Management, most recently serving as Chief Economist and Senior Portfolio Manager. He currently serves as the Consulting Economist for Prudential Retirement. Bob has 45 years of investment experience.

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280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103