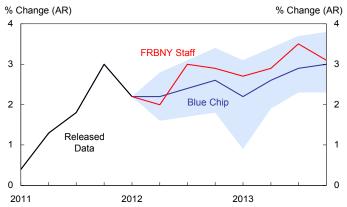
# Comparison of FRBNY Staff and Blue Chip Forecasts

#### **GDP Forecasts**



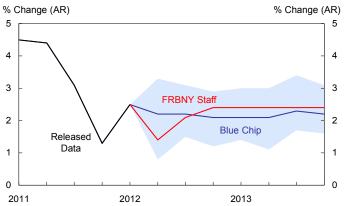
Note: The blue band represents the top 10 and bottom 10 averages of the Blue Chip survey.

Source: FRBNY Staff and Blue Chip Economic Indicators

#### Staff GDP Forecast Summary

- · Moderate real GDP growth through 2013
  - · somewhat above Blue Chip consensus
- Near-term influences:
  - Extent activity was pulled forward by warm winter
  - · Motor vehicle production
- Medium term factors:
  - Lessening of headwinds associated with labor market and financial conditions
  - · Accommodative monetary policy
  - · Significant fiscal drag in 2013

#### **Total CPI Inflation Forecasts**



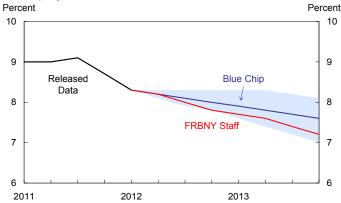
Note: The blue band represents the difference between the top 10 and bottom 10 average of the Blue Chip survey.

Source: FRBNY Staff and Blue Chip Economic Indicators

## Staff Inflation Forecast Summary

- Overall inflation expected to be low in near term because of declines in oil and gasoline prices
  - · Below Blue Chip consensus
- Medium-term inflation near FOMC's longer-run goal
  - Staff analysis: 2.5% CPI inflation ≈ 2% PCE inflation
  - · Slightly above Blue Chip consensus
- Underlying assumptions
  - · Anchored inflation expectations
  - Expectations larger influence than slack relative to many private forecasters

#### **Unemployment Rate Forecasts**



Note: The blue band represents the difference between the top 10 and bottom 10 average of the Blue Chip survey.

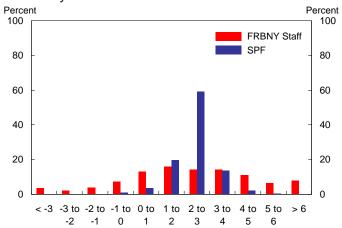
Source: FRBNY Staff and Blue Chip Economic Indicators

#### Staff Unemployment Forecast Summary

- Project gradual decline in unemployment rate to an average of about 71/4% in 2013Q4.
  - · Faster decline than Blue Chip consensus
- Factors in this forecast
  - GDP, productivity growth
  - Participation margin
  - · Significant slack in resource utilization
  - · Less reliant on Okun's Law
- Unemployment rate can be misleading about health of labor market

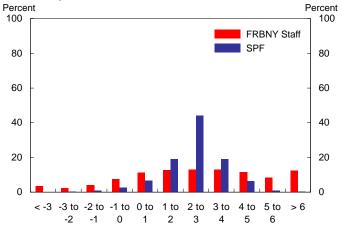
# Forecast Distributions: FRBNY Staff and SPF

#### Probability of Growth of Real GDP: 2011-2012



Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters and FRBNY Staff

### Probability of Growth of Real GDP: 2012-2013

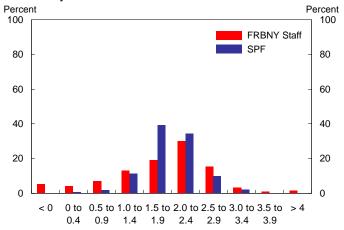


Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters and FRBNY Staff

#### Risks to FRBNY Staff Real Activity Outlook

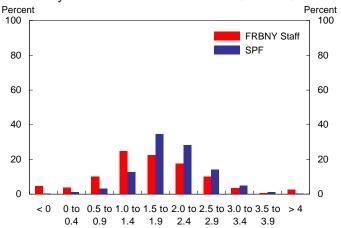
- Considerable uncertainty around staff GDP growth forecast; much more than in the SPF
- Balance of risks is to the downside
- Major risks
  - Spillovers from an intensification of European sovereign debt crisis
  - Impact from additional actions to address fiscal sustainability
    - Fiscal policy uncertainty leads to deferred spending
  - · Geopolitical-related surge in oil prices

#### Probability of Core PCE Inflation: 2012Q4/2011Q4



Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters and FRBNY Staff

#### Probability of Core PCE Inflation: 2013Q4/2012Q4



Source: Survey of Professional Forecasters and FRBNY Staff

### Risks to FRBNY Staff Inflation Outlook

- Considerable uncertainty around staff inflation forecast; more than in the SPF
  - More probability in tails of staff forecast distribution than in SPF distribution
- Near-term inflation risks are roughly balanced
  - · Upside oil price surge risk offsets other downside risks
- Medium-term balance of inflation risks is modestly to the downside
  - Downside real risks would induce more slack that pushes down inflation and inflation expectations

# **FRBNY Staff Forecast**

	2012 Q1		2012 Q2		2012 Q3		2011 Q4/Q4	2012 Q4/Q4		2013 Q4/Q4	
		Advance					Final				
Summary	4/13	Release	4/13	5/9	4/13	5/9	Release	4/13	5/9	4/13	5/9
Real GDP	2.7	2.2	2.2	2.0	3.2	3.0	1.6	2.8	2.5	2.9	3.0
Total PCE Deflator	2.3	2.4	1.9	1.3	1.8	1.5	2.7	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.0
Core PCE Deflator	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9
Nonfarm Business Sector											
Output	3.2	2.7	3.2	2.4	4.0	3.8	2.3	3.5	3.1	3.6	3.8
Hours	3.0	3.2	2.2	1.4	2.5	2.3	1.9	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.0
Productivity Growth	0.2	-0.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	0.4	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.7
Compensation	2.5	1.5	2.5	1.8	2.5	2.0	3.5	2.5	1.9	2.7	2.7
Unit Labor Costs	2.3	2.0	1.5	0.8	1.0	0.5	3.1	1.4	0.9	1.0	0.9
Real GDP Growth Contributions*											
Final Sales to Domestic Purchasers	2.3	1.6	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.4	1.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.6
Consumption	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.5
BFI: Equipment and Software	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8
BFI: Nonresidential Structures	0.0	-0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3
ResidentialInvestment	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Government: Federal	0.2	-0.5	-0.3	0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2
Government: State and Local	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Inventory Investment	0.0	0.6	-0.4	-1.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Net Exports	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Real GDP Components' Growth Rates											
Final Sales to Domestic Purchasers	2.3	1.6	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.4	1.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.5
Consumption	2.4	2.9	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.5	1.6	2.3	2.6	2.1	2.1
BFI: Equipment and Software	6.0	1.7	8.0	5.0	10.0	8.0	9.6	8.5	6.1	10.0	10.0
BFI: Nonresidential Structures	0.0	-12.0	5.0	2.5	8.0	5.0	4.4	5.2	0.5	8.0	10.0
ResidentialInvestment	10.0	19.0	25.0	25.0	15.0	15.0	3.5	15.4	17.7	10.0	10.0
Government: Federal	2.0	-5.6	-3.3	1.0	-3.3	-3.3	-3.2	-2.0	-2.8	-3.3	-2.6
Government: State and Local	-1.3	-1.2	-1.4	-1.2	-1.2	-1.0	-2.5	-1.2	-1.0	-0.3	0.1
Inventory Investment	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Net Exports	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Exports	7.1	5.4	7.2	7.2	8.4	8.2	4.7	7.9	7.4	8.1	7.5
Imports	3.8	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.3	3.6	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.2
Labor Market											
Nonfarm Payroll Employment	212	233	237	194	280	249	147	238	222	214	228
(Average per Month, Thousands)**											
Unemployment Rate***	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.2	7.7	8.0	8.7	7.5	7.8	6.7	7.2
Income											
Real Disposable Personal Income	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.3	2.6	2.4	0.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.3
Personal Saving Rate***	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.9	3.7	4.5	3.8	3.5	3.1	2.7

<sup>\*</sup>Grow th contributions may not sum to total due to rounding.

Blue and italic text indicate released data; gray font indicates Staff prior forecasts, and black indicates the most recent Staff forecast.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Change in quarterly average, converted into monthly changes.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Quarterly values are the average rate for the quarter. Yearly values are the average rate for Q4 of the listed year.