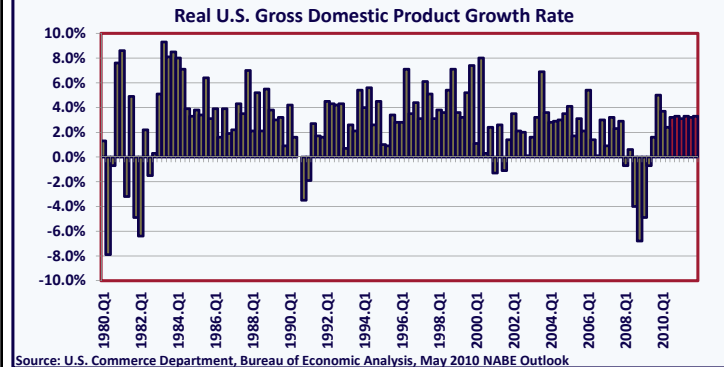


Economic Briefing

Arkansas Economic Issues Breakfast Series

August 18, 2010

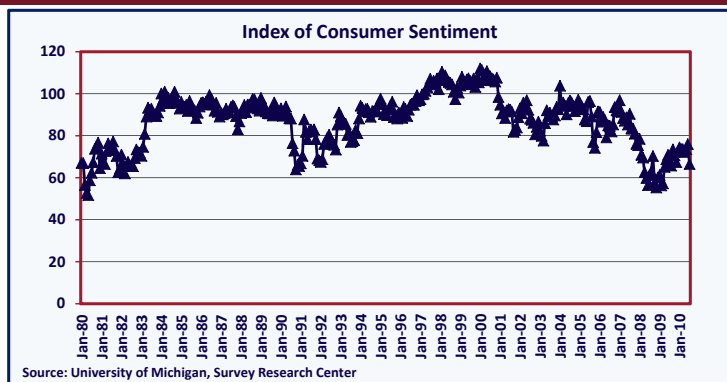
Output is Recovering



Source: U.S. Commerce Department, Bureau of Economic Analysis, May 2010 NABE Outlook



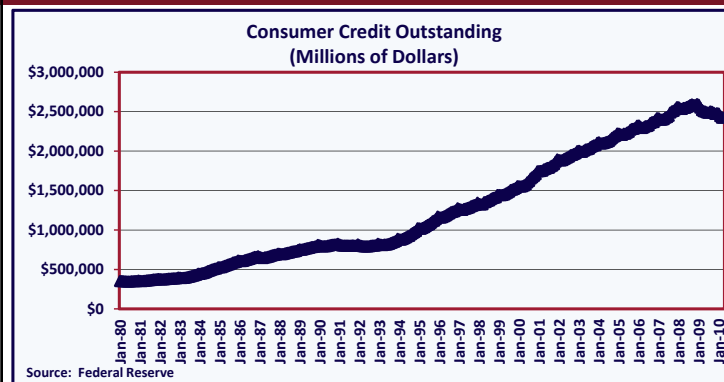
Consumer Sentiment Remains Low



Source: University of Michigan, Survey Research Center



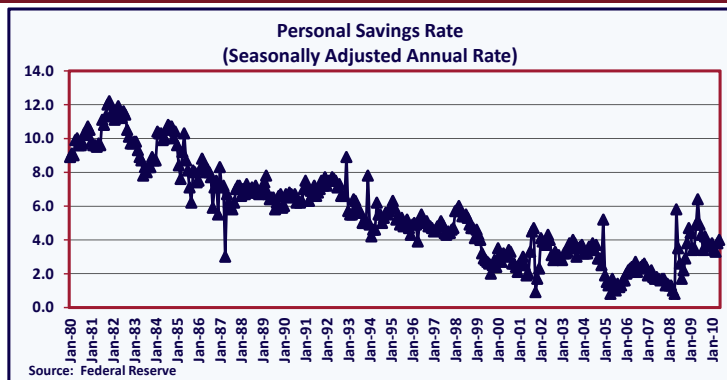
Consumer Credit Keeps Falling



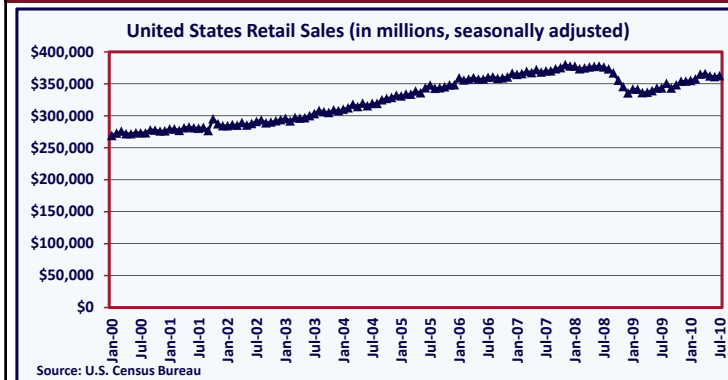
Source: Federal Reserve



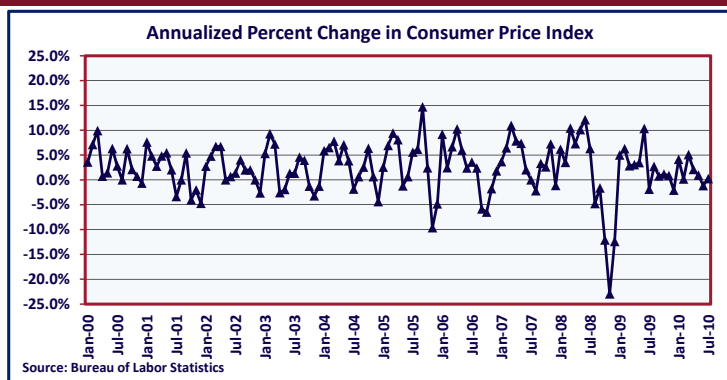
And Personal Savings Is Up



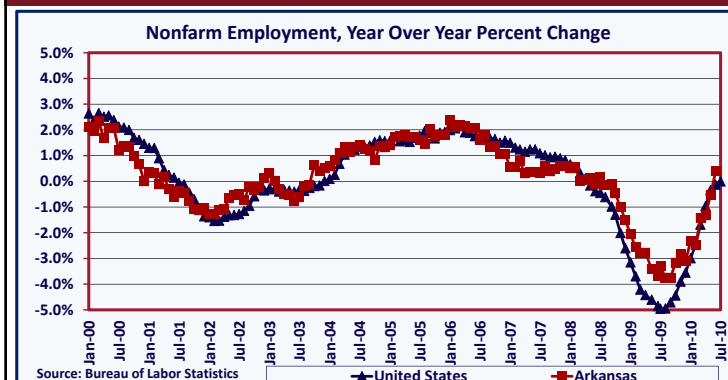
Retail Sales Suffer as a Result



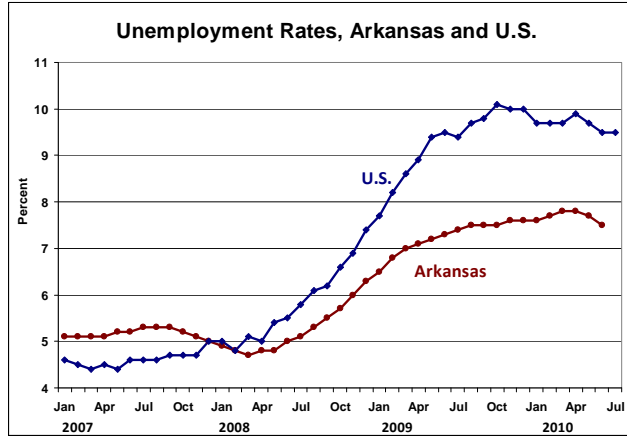
Inflation/Deflation Both Muted



Employment Recovery is the Key

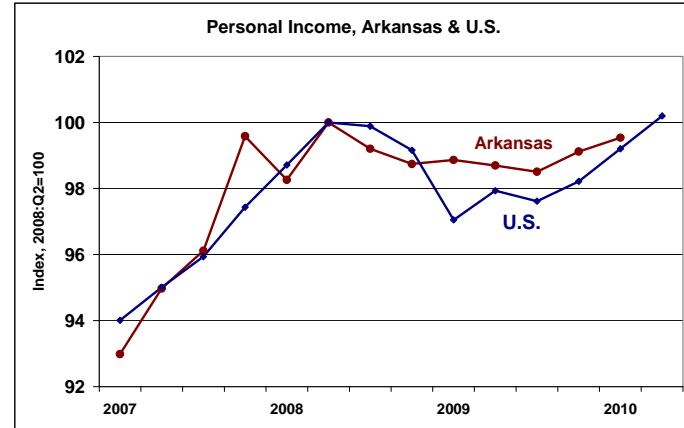


Arkansas Unemployment Rate



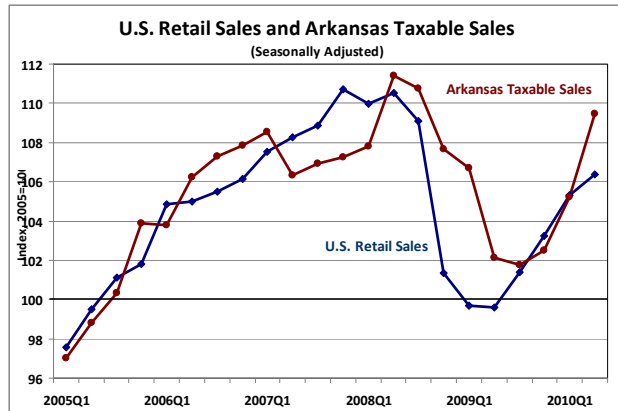
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Personal Income



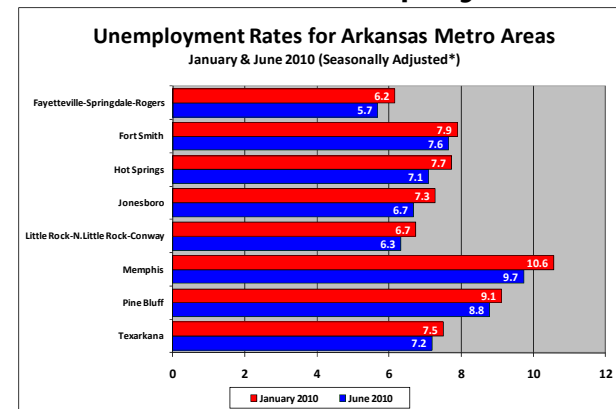
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Arkansas Retail Sales



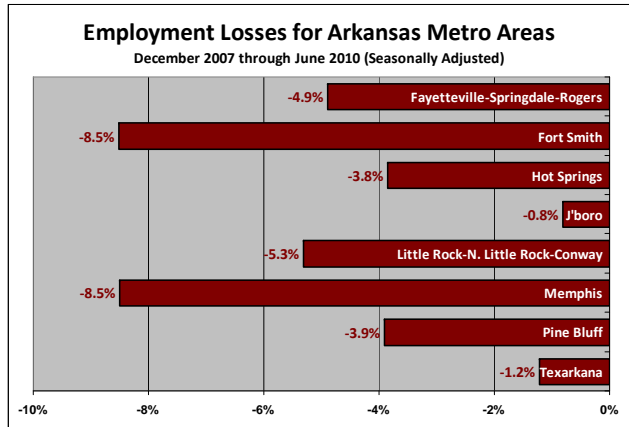
Sources: U.S. Retail Sales from the Census Bureau. Arkansas Taxable Sales is calculated by the Institute for Economic Advancement using data on sales and use tax collections from the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration.

Metro Area Unemployment



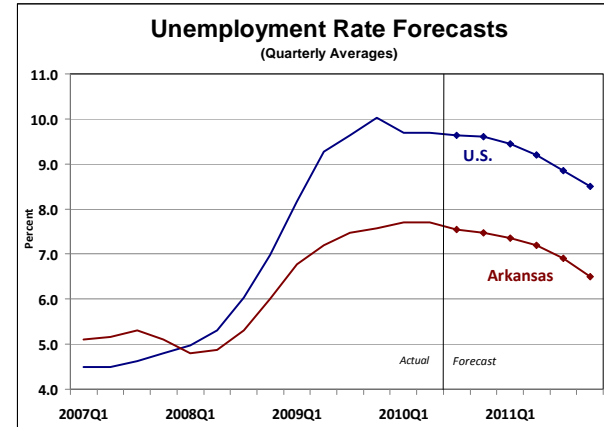
*Unemployment data for MSAs were seasonal adjusted by the Institute for Economic Advancement.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Metro Area Employment



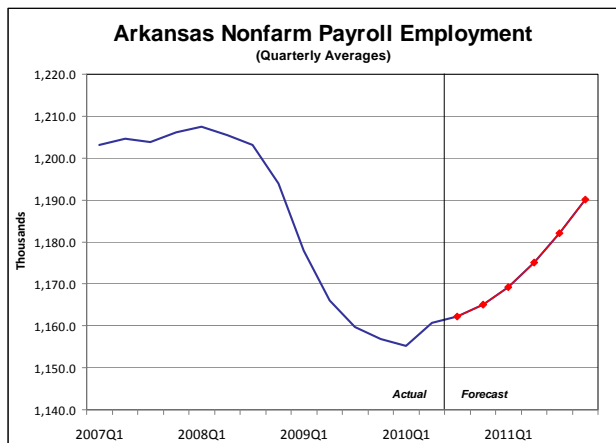
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Unemployment Forecasts



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Institute for Economic Advancement.

Employment Forecasts



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Institute for Economic Advancement.