

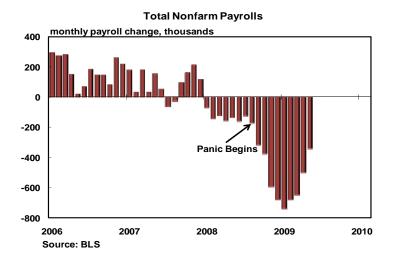
Jun 10, 2009

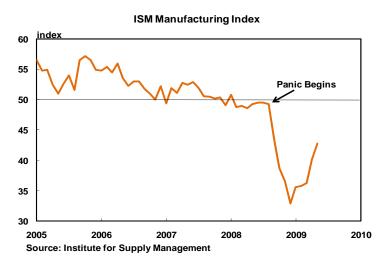
Economic Commentary

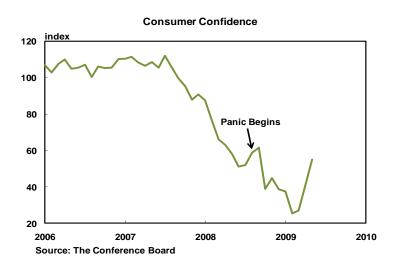
V-Shaped Recovery Underway

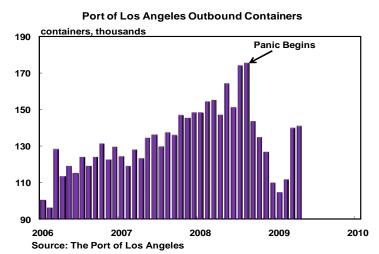
In September 2008, the collapse of Lehman Brothers, the chaos surrounding the TARP proposal, and President Bush's horrific primetime speech to the nation combined to create a financial panic, an event that has not occurred in multiple generations. We continue to believe that without the culmination of these events, the US would have avoided recession altogether. This recession was different than most previous recessions because it was caused by a dramatic slowdown in monetary velocity (the speed with which money circulates through the economy), rather than an actual tightening of monetary policy by the Federal Reserve. We have said from the beginning that the recession would end quickly and a V-shaped recovery would follow. Now, a combination of loose monetary policy and reforms to overly strict (and inappropriate) mark-to-market accounting rules have ended the financial panic.

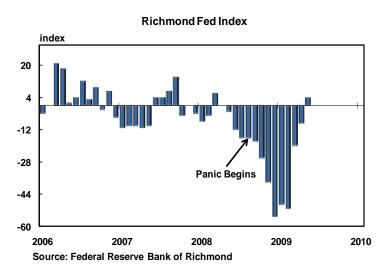
The following charts speak for themselves.

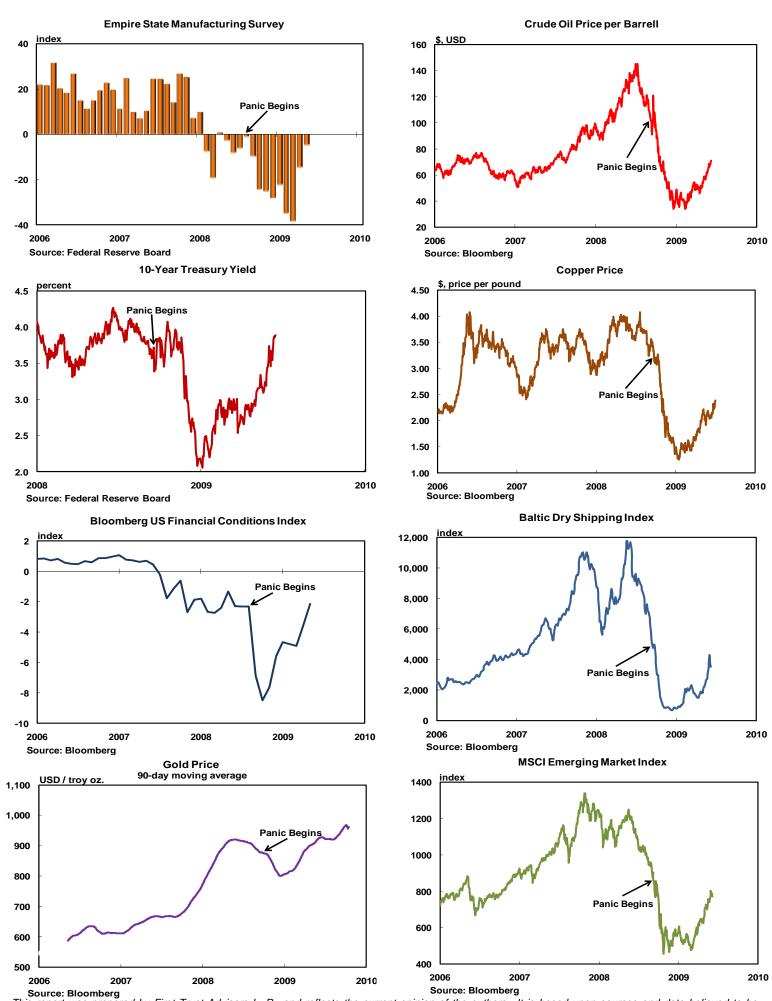












This report was prepared by First Trust Advisors L. P., and reflects the current opinion of the authors. It is based upon sources and data believed to be accurate and reliable. Opinions and forward looking statements expressed are subject to change without notice. This information does not constitute a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any security.