



CHAO & COMPANY
FIDUCIA PERPETUA

FOMC December 19, 2018 Press Release - Changes from November 08, 2018?

Summary

- Labor market continues to strengthen with strong job gains. (**no change**)
- Economic activity rising at a strong rate. (**no change**)
- Unemployment rate has remained low. (**no change**)
- Gains in jobs are strong. (**no change**)
- Household spending has grown stronger. (**no change**)
- Business fixed investment has grown stronger. (**no change**)
- Inflation (core and nominal) remain near to 2% (**no change**)
- Further gradual increase in the target rate range based on sustained economic activity, strong labor market and the “symmetric” 2% objective in the medium term. (**no change**)
- Continue to monitor global economic and financial developments and assess their implications for the economic outlook (**new**)
- Long-term inflation expectation remains unchanged. (**no change**)
- Risks to the economic outlook appear roughly balanced. (**no change**)
- The federal funds rate target range changed to 2-1/4% to 2-1/2%. (**change**)

For release at 2 p.m. EST ~~December 19~~ ~~November 8~~, 2018

Information received since the Federal Open Market Committee met in ~~November~~ ~~September~~ indicates that the labor market has continued to strengthen and that economic activity has been rising at a strong rate. Job gains have been strong, on average, in recent months, and the unemployment rate has ~~declined~~ ~~remained~~ low. Household spending has continued to grow strongly, while growth of business fixed investment has moderated from its rapid pace earlier in the year. On a 12-month basis, both overall inflation and inflation for items other than food and energy remain near 2 percent. Indicators of longer-term inflation expectations are little changed, on balance.

Consistent with its statutory mandate, the Committee seeks to foster maximum employment and price stability. The Committee ~~expects~~ ~~judges~~ that further gradual increases in the target range for the federal funds rate will be consistent with sustained expansion of economic activity, strong labor market conditions, and inflation near the Committee's symmetric 2 percent objective over the medium term. ~~The Committee judges that risks~~ ~~Risks~~ to the economic outlook ~~appear~~ ~~are~~ roughly balanced, ~~but will continue to monitor global economic and financial developments and assess their implications for the economic outlook.~~

In view of realized and expected labor market conditions and inflation, the Committee decided to ~~maintain~~ ~~raise~~ the target range for the federal funds rate ~~at 2~~ to 2-1/4 to ~~2-1/2~~ percent.

In determining the timing and size of future adjustments to the target range for the federal funds rate, the Committee will assess realized and expected economic conditions relative to its maximum employment objective and its symmetric 2 percent inflation objective. This assessment will take into account a wide range of information, including measures of labor market conditions, indicators of inflation pressures and inflation expectations, and readings on financial and international developments.

Voting for the FOMC monetary policy action were: Jerome H. Powell, Chairman; John C. Williams, Vice Chairman; Thomas I. Barkin; Raphael W. Bostic; ~~Michelle W. Bowman~~; Lael Brainard; Richard H. Clarida; Mary C. Daly; Loretta J. Mester; and Randal K. Quarles.

Source: The Federal Reserve

<https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/monetary20181219a.htm>