Annual Meat Conference 2019 – Dallas, TX

Macroeconomic Situation & Outlook

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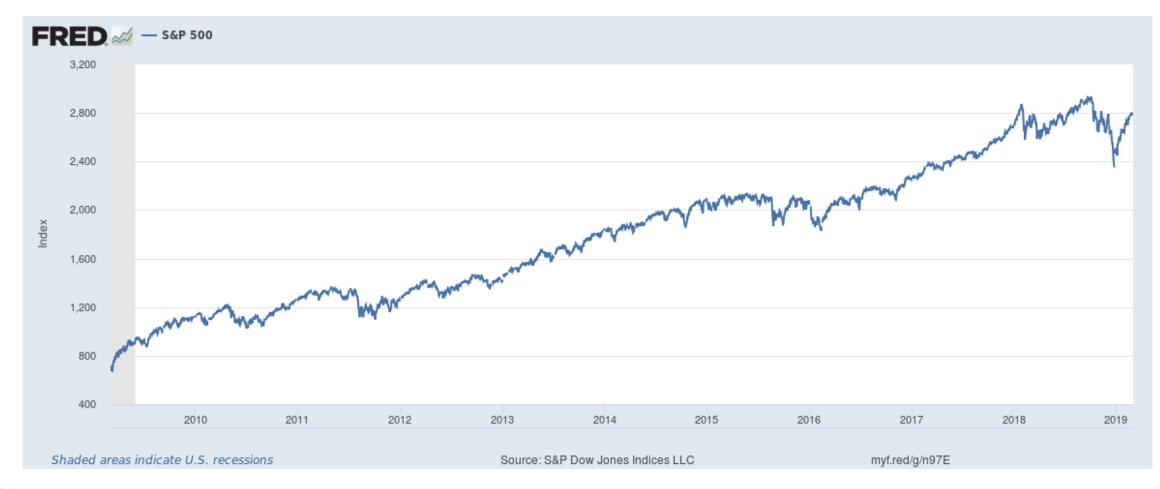


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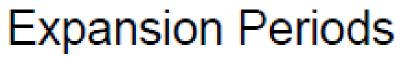
It has been a very nice run!!! – S&P 500 up by 4X since 2008 ... And today's ONLY guarantee: It ain't going forever!



Macro conditions remain generally positive, though . . .

- World economic growth is still positive (IMF: +3.7% in 2019)
 as are most major countries
- Equity markets are volatile but S&P 500 has regained about 80% of its Q4-2018 decline
- Q4 real GDP growth at 3.1% yr/yr, 2.6% qtr/qtr annualized
- RPDI per capita is growing again 2.2% yr/yr in 2018
- U rate at 4.0% in January pushing wages slightly higher
- 2018 inflation = 1.9%, down from 2.1% the past two years
 - And down from 2.3% through October ALL DUE TO ENERGY!
 - 1.9% says Fed is less likely to raise interest rates, 2.3% says they will be aggressive – 2 more .25% hikes this year

THIS RECOVERY: A GOODIE BUT OLDIE!





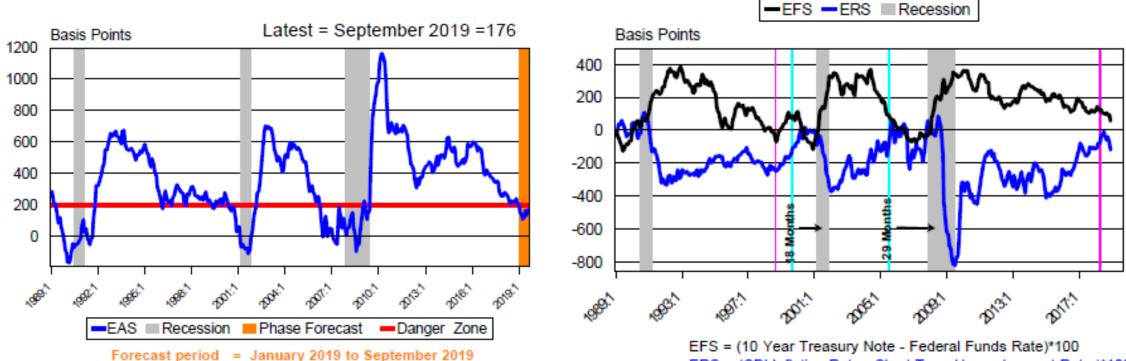


And there are some serious warning signs . . .

... Dr. Dieli's EAS pegged Jan '19 as 1st "eligible" month

Enhanced Aggregate Spread

Components of the Enhanced Aggregate Spread

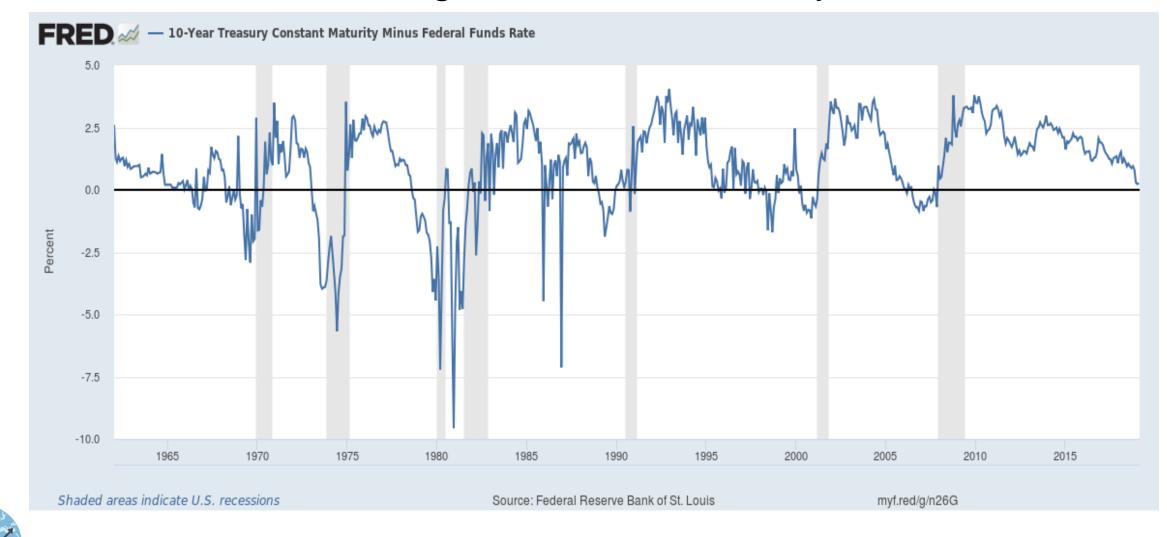


ERS = (CPI Inflation Rate - Short-Term Unemployment Rate)*100

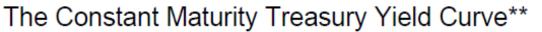
| Date | EAS | DATE | EFS | ERS |
|--------|-----|---------|-----|------|
| 2019:6 | 165 | 2018:9 | 105 | -60 |
| 2019:7 | 136 | 2018:10 | 96 | -40 |
| 2019:8 | 172 | 2018:11 | 92 | -80 |
| 2019:9 | 176 | 2018:12 | 56 | -120 |

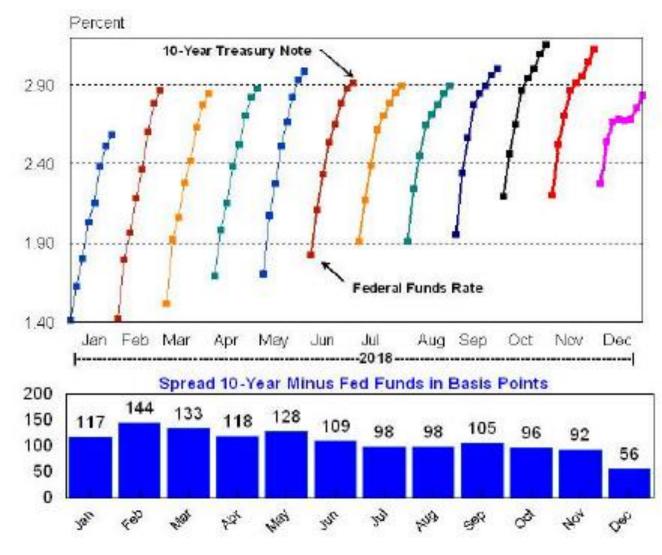
www.nospinforecast.com

NY Fed follows the 10-year – Fed funds rate spread And it is flirting with zero – an early recession indicator



Same spread presented differently . . . Compression and a kink







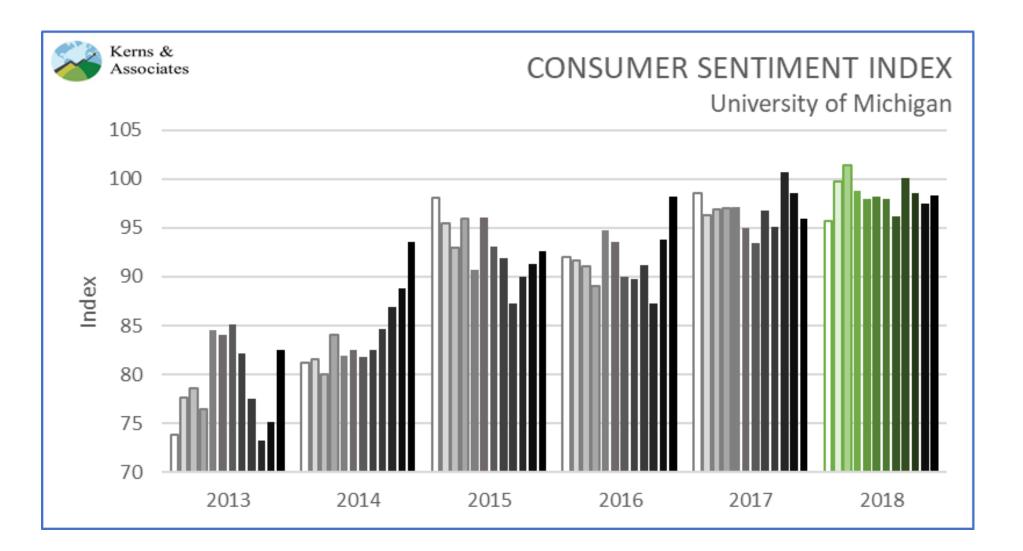
\$US is back into it's recent trading range Probably not "flight to safety" yet, but stronger



Major adjustment in crude oil -- slowing economies?

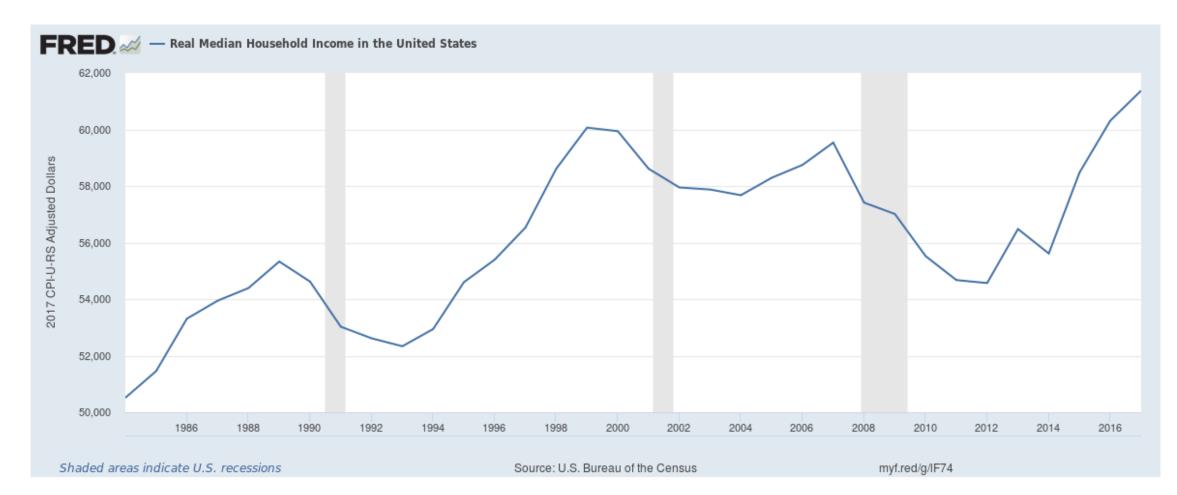


For the moment, consumers still feel very good about things





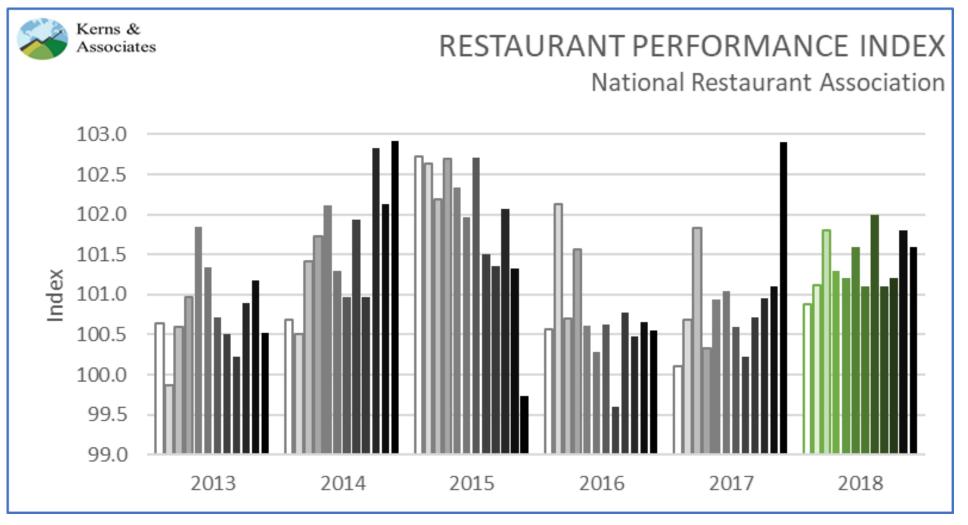
One reason: A rise in median real household income But it took 18 YEARS to set a new record in '16





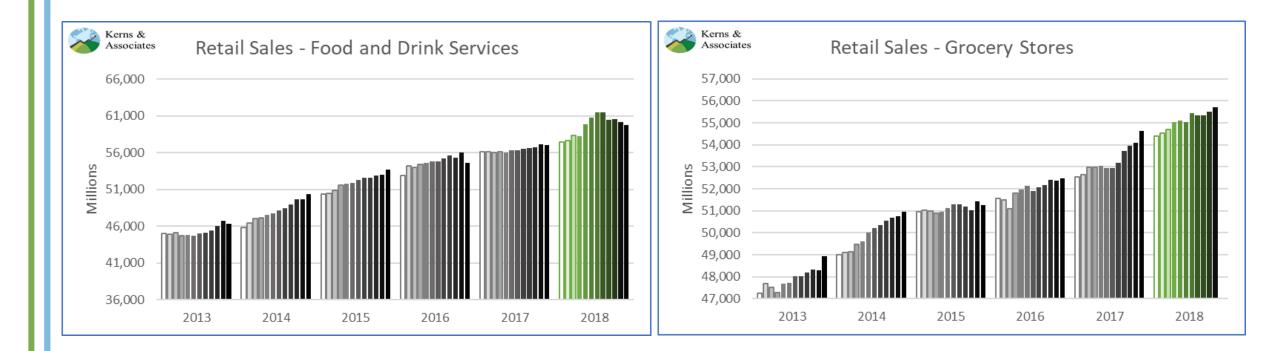
Restaurant performance has bounced back . . .

... To post 2 years of 100-plus (expansion) readings





But sales in food/drink places softened late in '18 While grocery store sales have surged since mid-2017





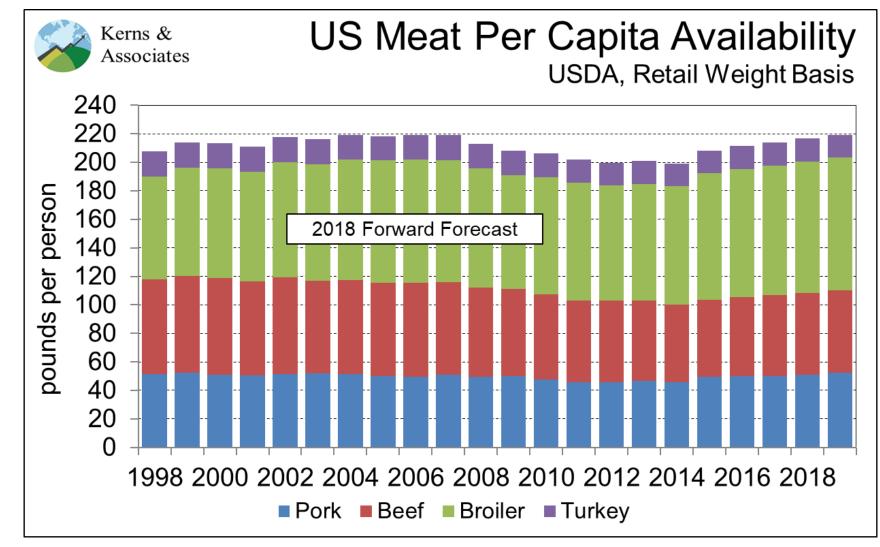
Some macro problem areas . . .

- Trade war(s) will have an impact
 - China is forecast to grow by 6.3% -- "worst of the last 10 years and best of the next 10 years"?
 - Trade war and ASF could be a very problematic situation
 - Inflation driver for the U.S.
- EU is better but BIG issues loom
 - Italy and Portugal debt problems could make Greece look simple
 - Brexit is not resolved more a British problem but not good for EU
- U.S. federal deficits and debt Modern Monetary Theory

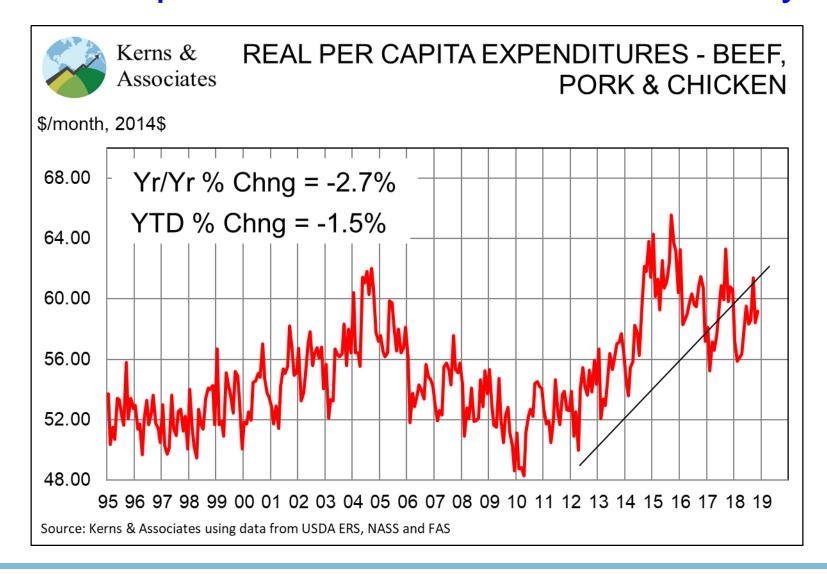


Per cap meat & poutry availability/disappearance . . .

... from 198.9 in '14 back to 214.5 in '17– 220 in 2019? 2020?

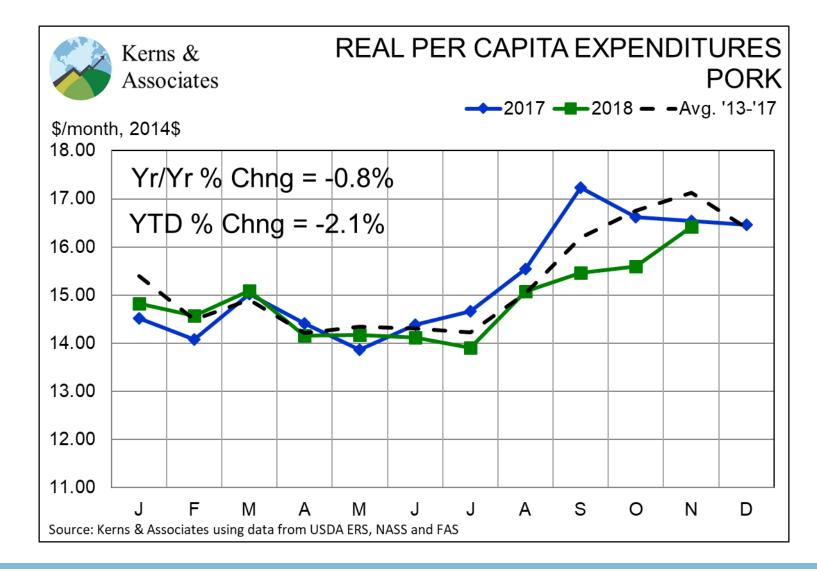




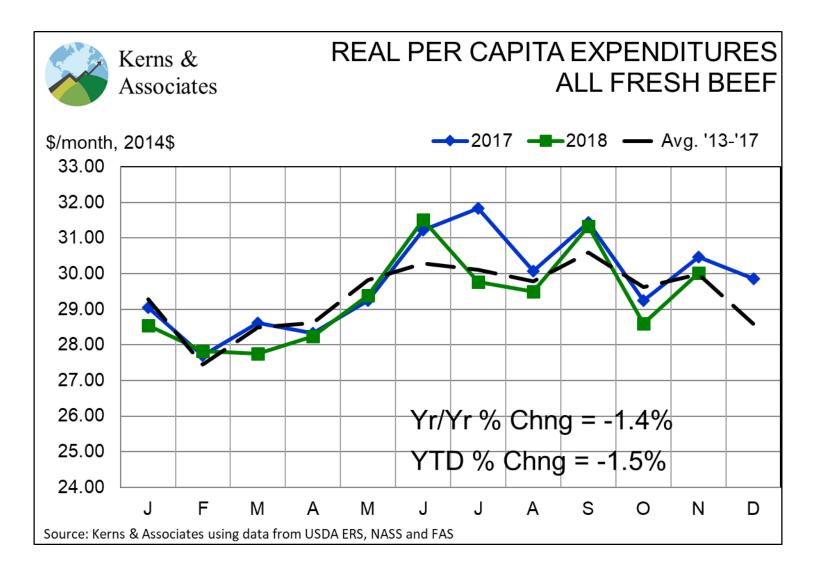


Pork demand struggled in Q3 but had a good Nov. . .

... And is now down just 2.1% YTD

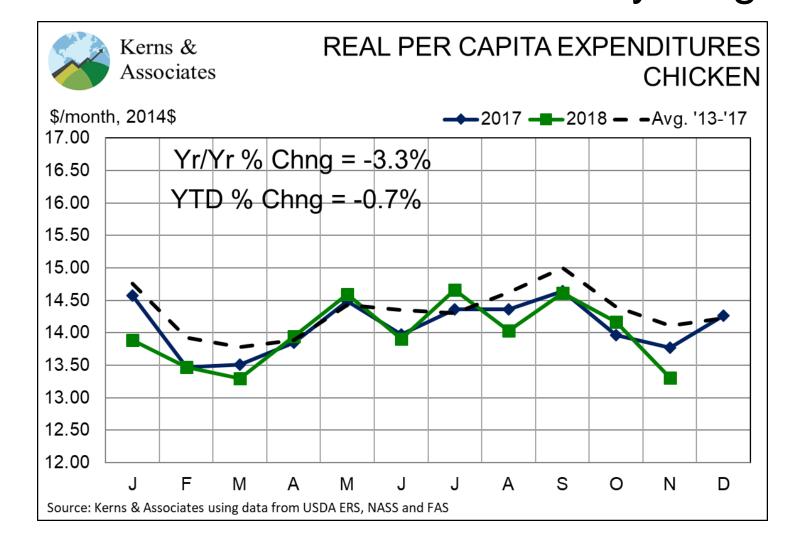


Beef demand is down from '18 but near 5-yr. average





Chicken demand has been VERY close to year-ago levels Until a very tough November



And now . . .

Randy Blach CEO CattleFAX

