



# 2012 Economic and Real Estate Outlook Are We There Yet?



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Bentley's First Law of Economics: "The only thing more dangerous than an economist is an amateur economist!"

Bentley's Second Law of Economics: "The only thing more dangerous than an amateur economist is a professional economist."

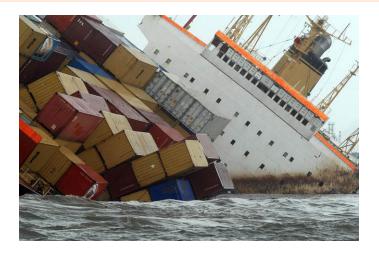
Remember:
Amateurs built the Ark

**Professionals built the Titanic** 

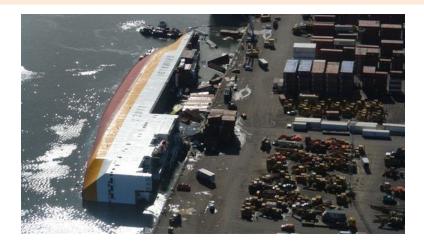
# US Economy in 1996



# US Economy in 2008



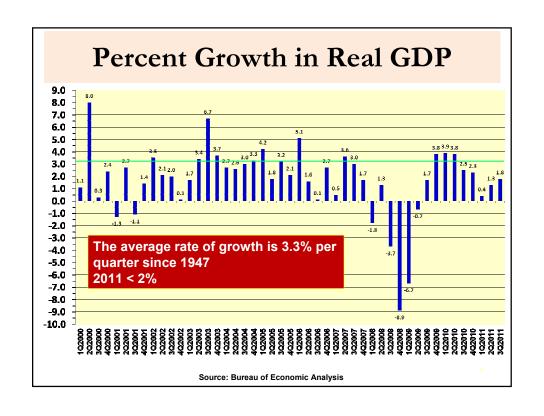
## US Economy in 2012

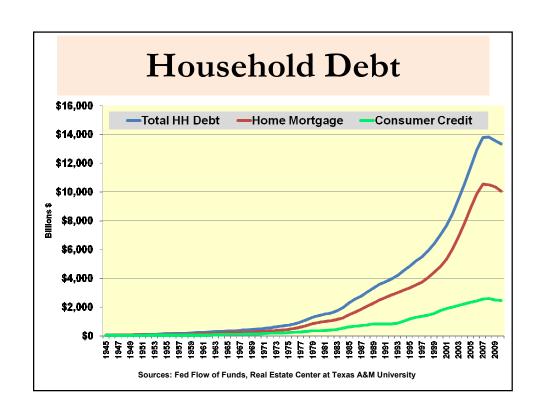


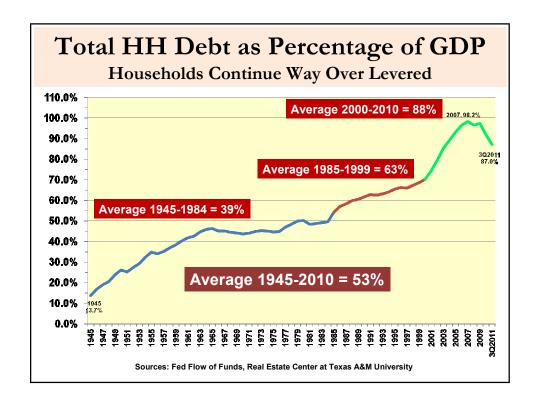
# Economy is Trying to Recover, but Slow Going

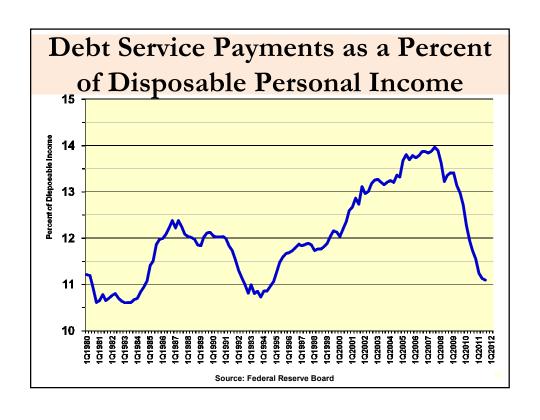
- Great Recession Officially Declared Over
- Employment Texas twice rate of US growth
- Retail Sales and Consumption
- GDP
- Unsustainable Government deficits
- Corporate Earnings
- Housing

Projections for the next couple of years indicate substantive growth doesn't occur until 2013-14







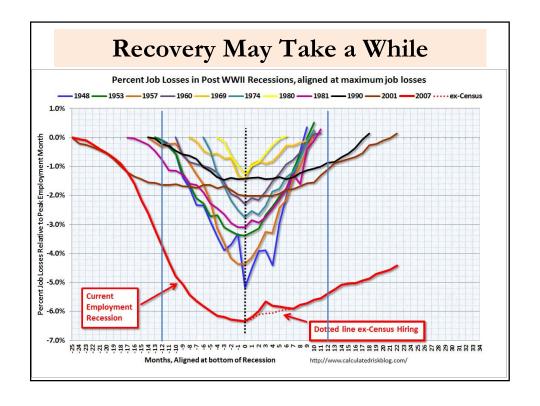


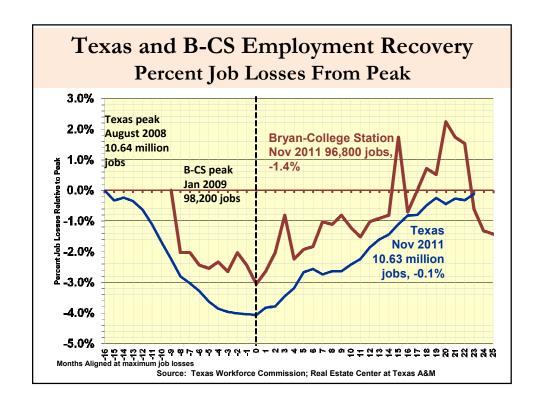
"Until we see a sustained period of stronger job creation, we cannot consider the recovery to be truly established."

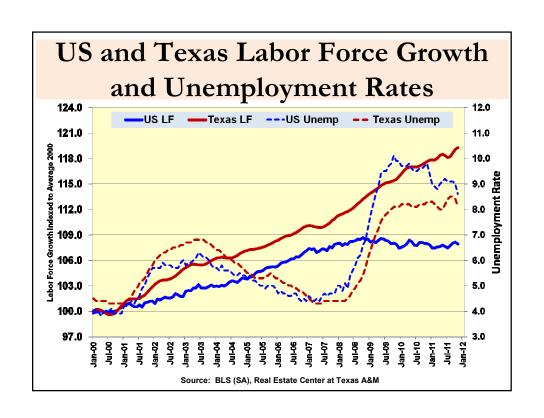
### Ben Bernanke

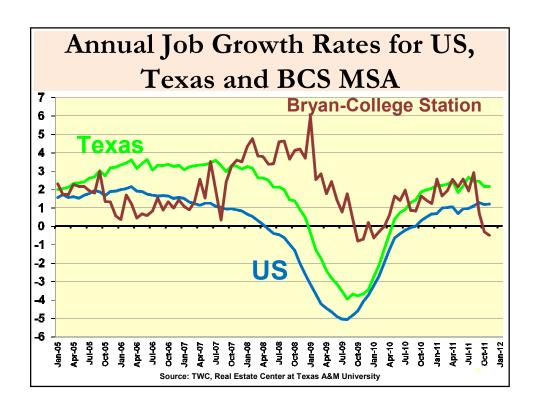
June 7, 2011, International Monetary Conference, Atlanta, Georgia

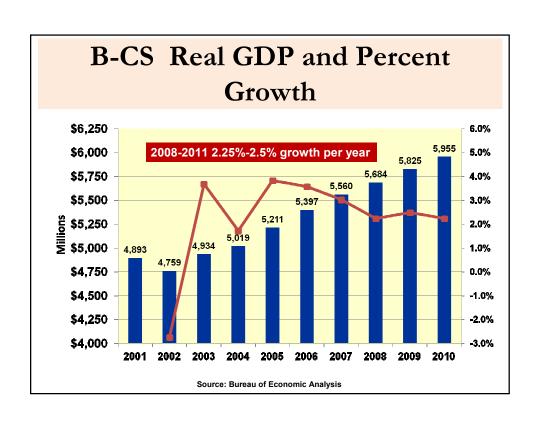
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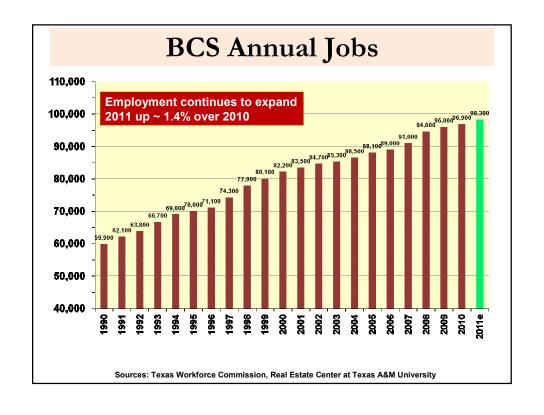


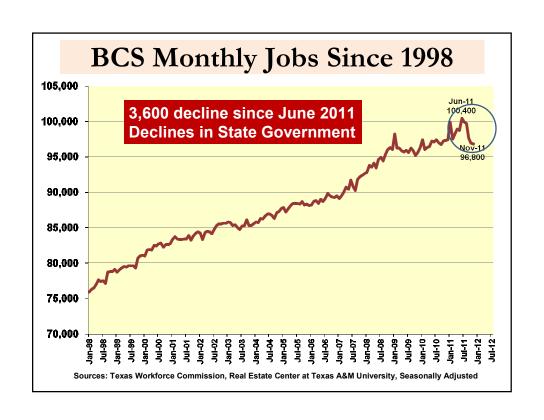


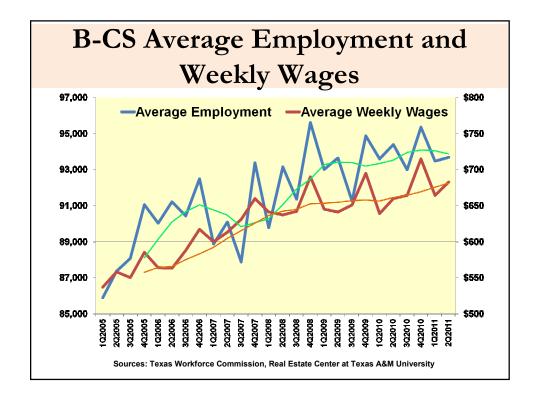






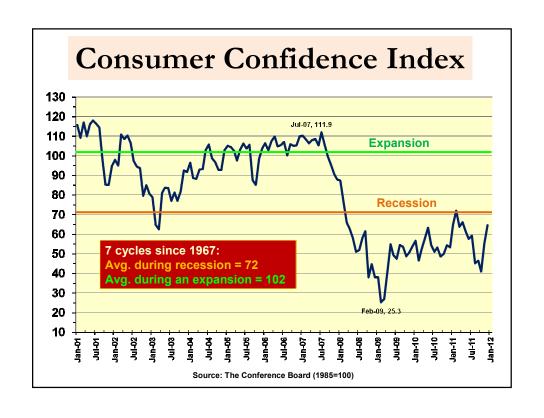


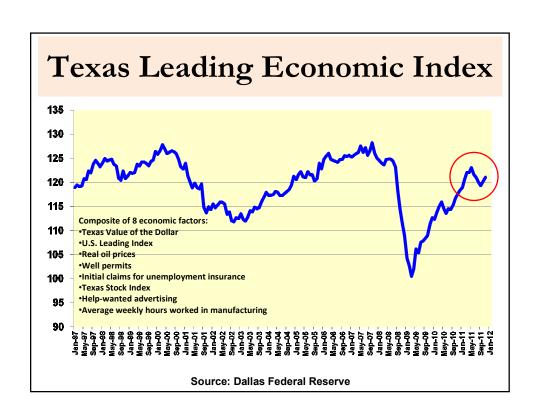




## Major Hurdles for 2012

- 1. Tepid growth in private sector: jobs and spending
- 2. Continued Government constriction
- 3. Credit tightening continues for businesses, consumers, mortgages except government
- 4. Housing: prices declining; foreclosures; new construction down
- 5. Commercial real estate drag
- 6. UNCERTAINTY & Lack of CONFIDENCE government actions, regulations and taxes; national debt & deficits; global disruptions

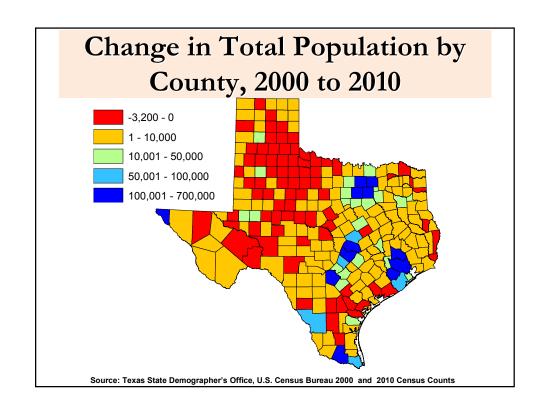


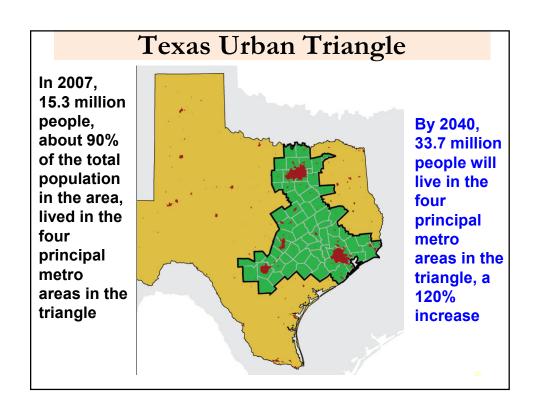


# Reasons for Optimism

- ☐ Texas job growth double the national rate
- Relentless population growth in Texas
- □ Government budgets finally getting real maybe
- □ Four years of pent up demand
  - Retiring
  - "Undoubling" & Parents tired of kids
  - Move Up & Move In
  - Expanding a business
  - Relocating a business to Texas

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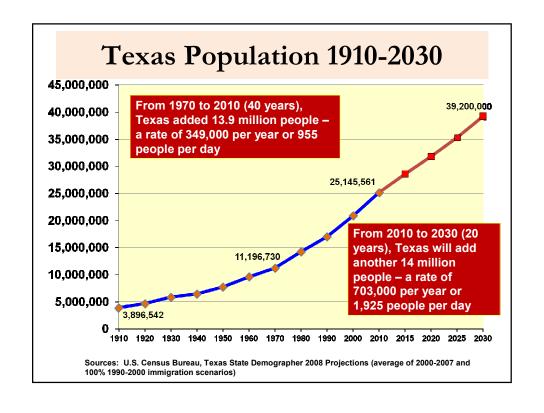


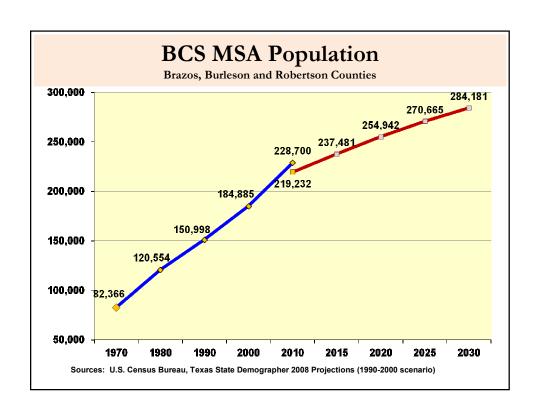


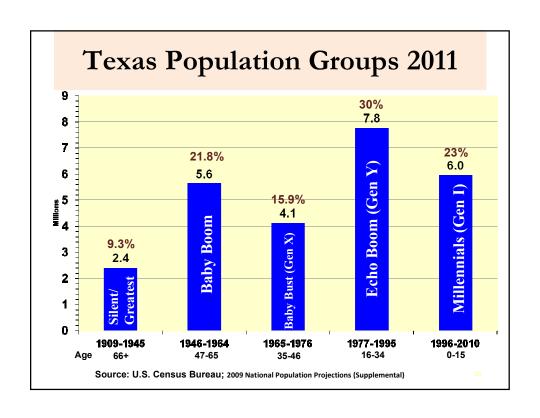
# States with Largest Unauthorized Immigrant Populations, 2010

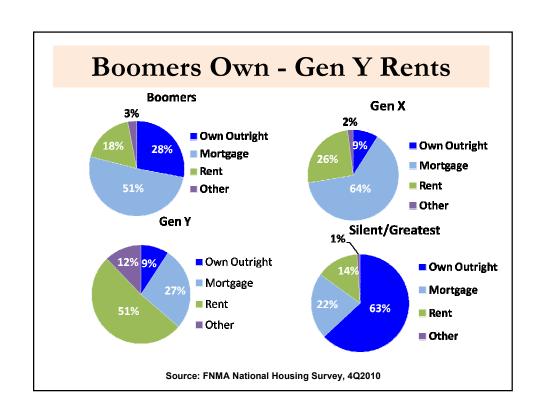
State	Estimate (thousands)	Range	Percent of 2010 Pop
California	2,550	(2,350 - 2,750)	6.8%
Texas	1,650	(1,450 - 1,850)	6.5%
Florida	825	(725 - 950)	4.4%
New York	625	(525 - 725)	3.2%
New Jersey	550	(425 - 650)	6.3%
Illinois	525	(425 - 625)	4.1%
Georgia	425	(300 - 550)	4.4%
Arizona	400	(275 - 500)	6.3%

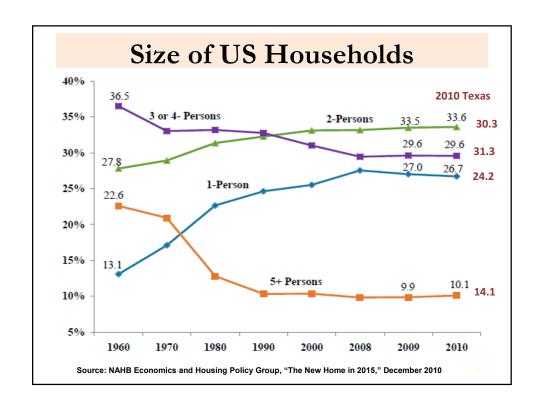
Sources: Texas State Demographer's Office; Pew Hispanic Center estimates based on residual methodology applied to March Supplements to the Current Population Survey (February 1, 2011)

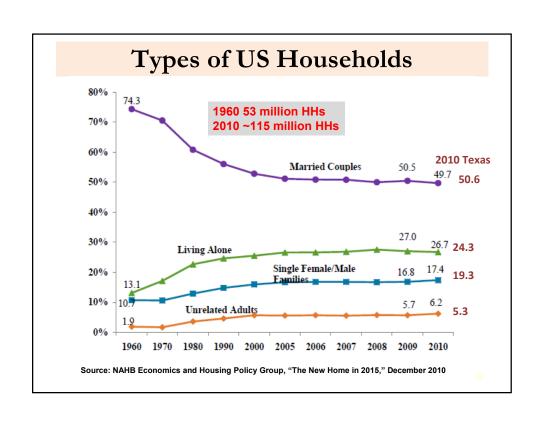








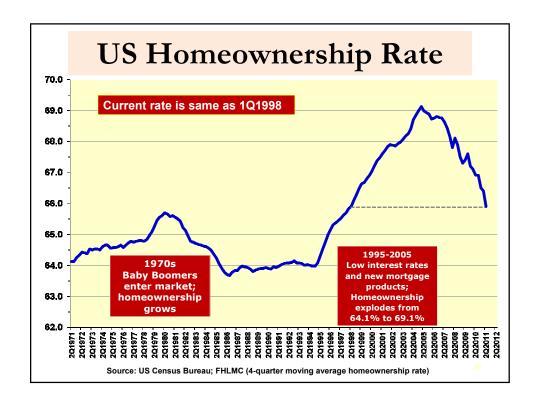


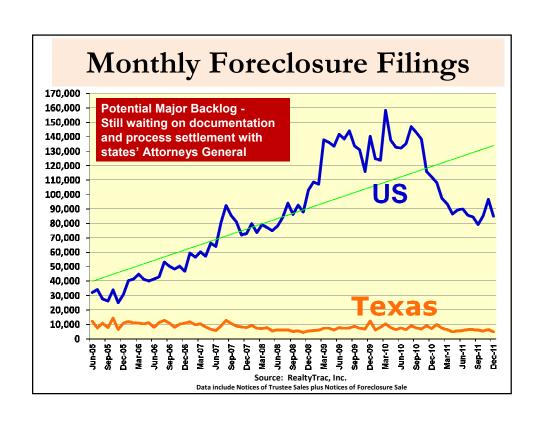


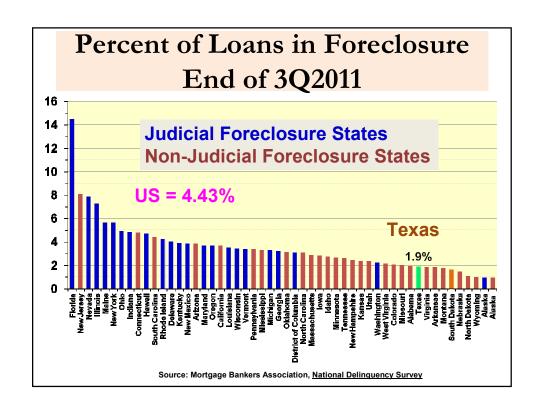
# The Housing Market Must Mend to Lead a General Economic Recovery

## **Current Housing Issues**

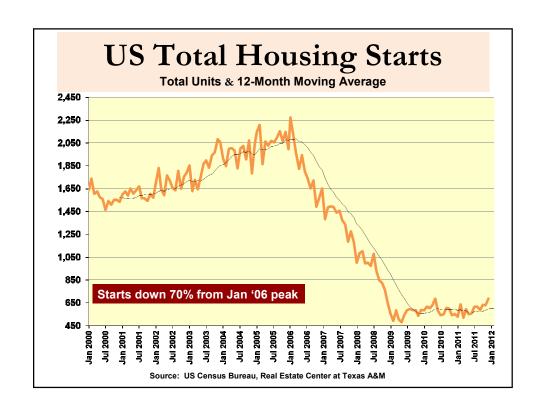
- Government stimulus efforts prolonged market recovery
- Low Demand High Supply = Weak Home Values
- FNMA/FHLMC resolution
- Lenders remain sensitive & reflexive: CRE and other bad loans have not been cleared; QRM; CMBS market
- Renting regarded as viable option to buying
- First-time buyers financially unable to buy
- FHA essentially a subprime lender

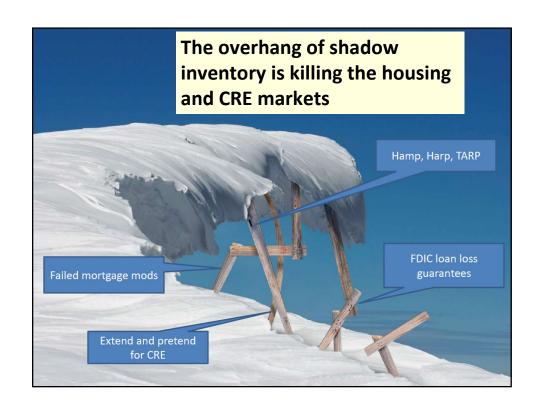






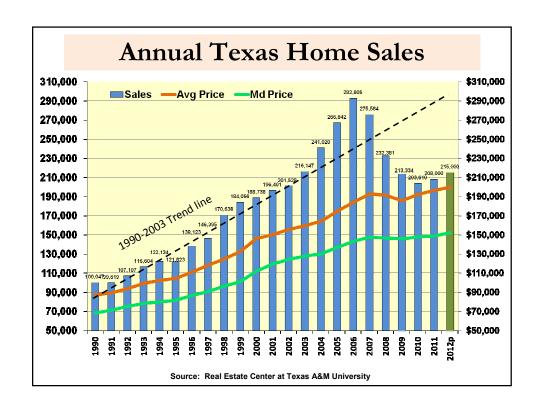


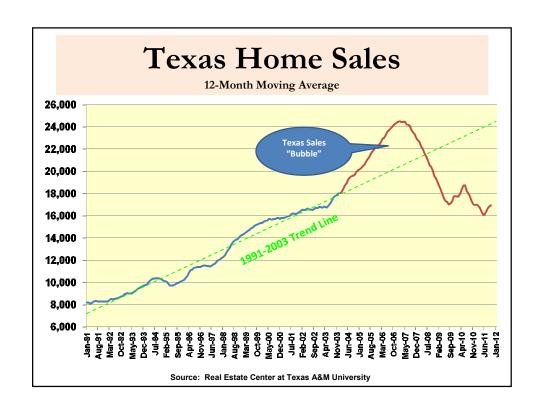


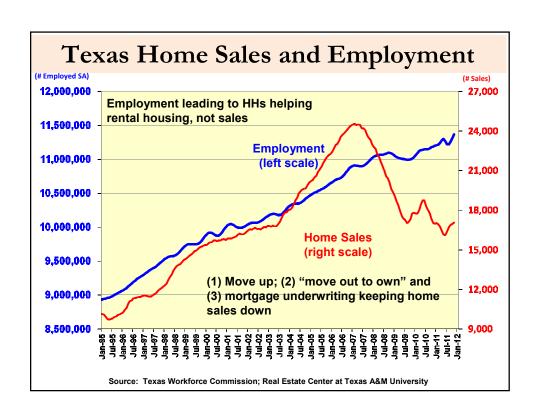


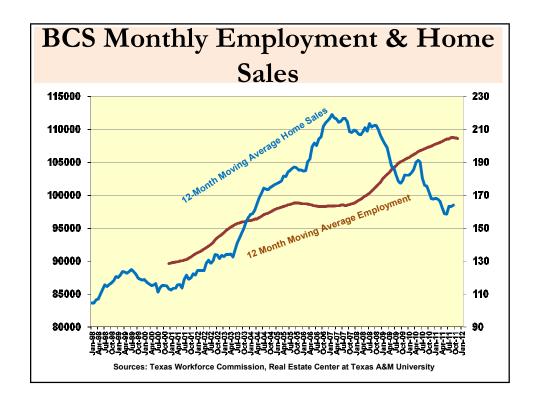
# Texas & B-CS Housing Markets

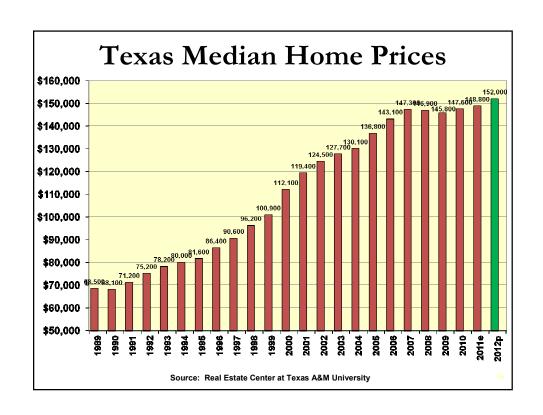
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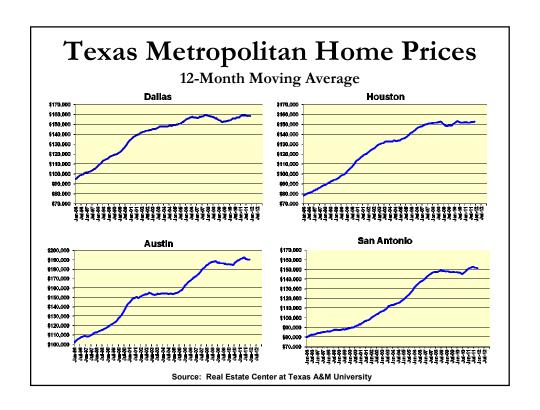


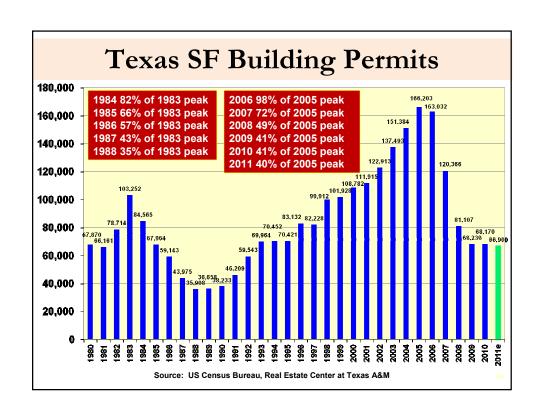


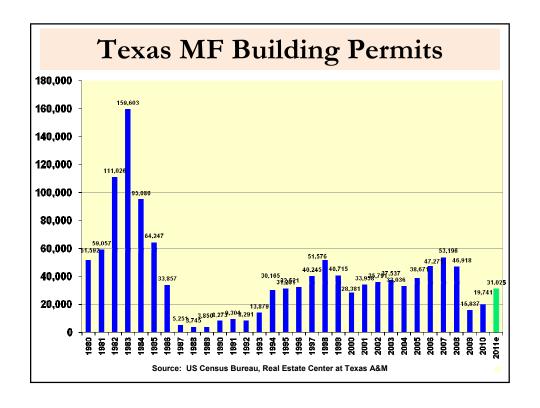


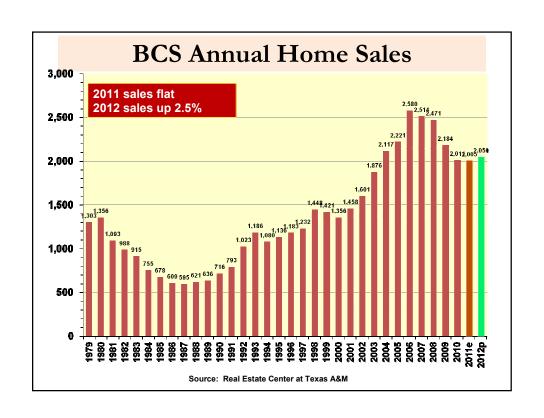


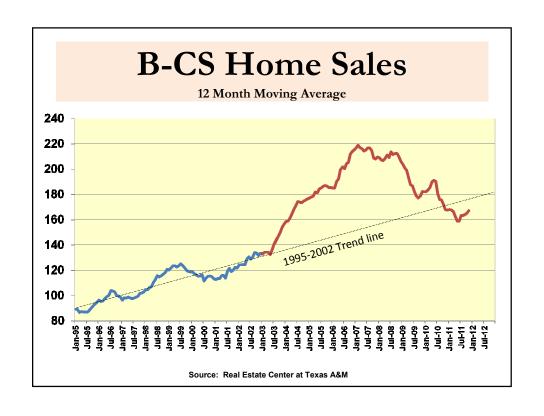


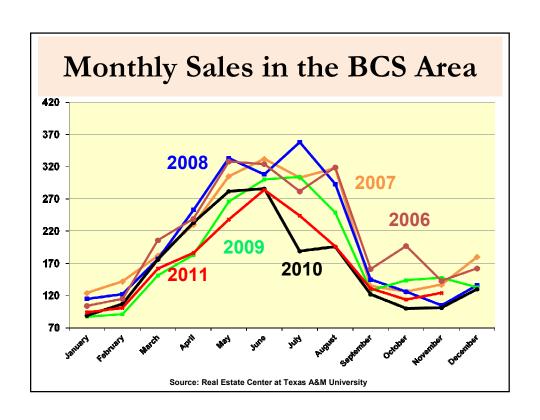


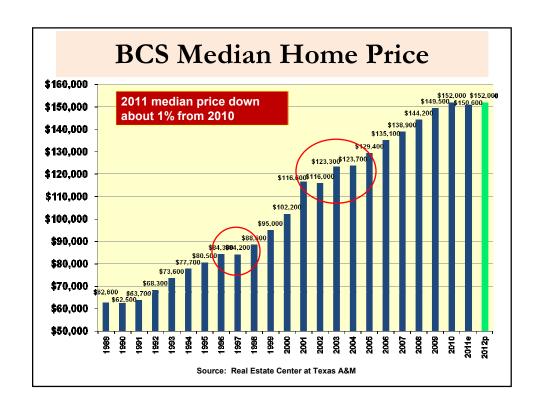


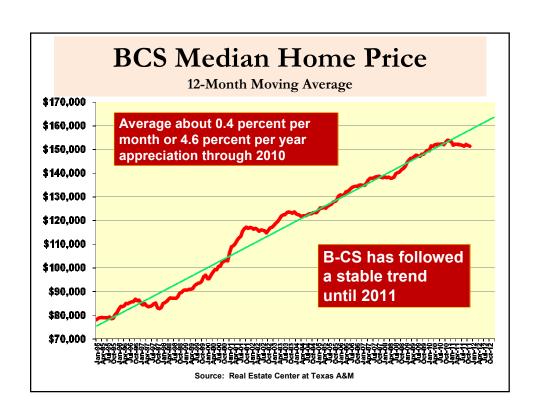


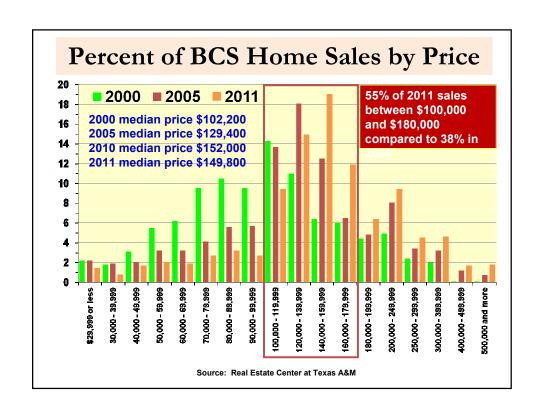


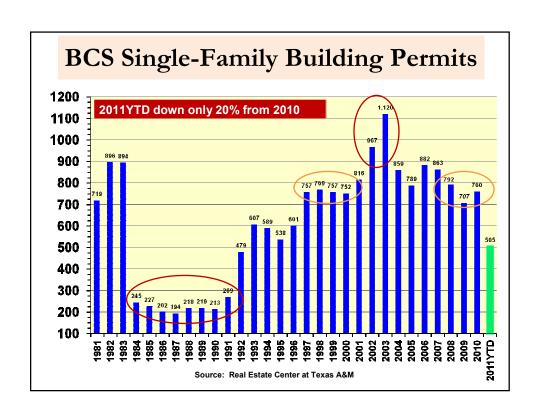












## 2012+ Economic Outlook

<ul> <li>2011 ended generally positive – but without substantial rebound</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Major business, investment and political decisions postponed</li> </ul>
☐ Sluggish growth into the first quarter of 2013.
☐ Interest rates stay low through 2013, at least.
☐ Housing cannot be counted on to help
<ul> <li>Recession exposed credit dependency of US households and government</li> </ul>
☐ Limited government resources leads to inability to cover spending promises of prior generations
☐ International capital market highly uncertain
□ BCS housing & commercial markets should show some modest improvement but no major upgrade

# 2012 Housing Outlook

#### **Market Headwinds**

- ➢ Distressed/Investor sales: ~1/3 of market (~10%-20% in Texas) at much lower prices
- Tight lending & low appraisals leading to 33% cancellation rate on new and existing contracts
- > Crisis of Confidence
  - No feeling of "well being"
  - > Lost wealth: real estate & other assets
  - Flat income (declining real income)
  - No confidence in future: job, home value
- New wave of <u>foreclosures</u> hit market in 1H2012 adding to distressed inventory
- Move-up & move-over buyers can't sell current home
- > Move-out still renting or doubling up
- Unknown & problematic <u>political</u> decisions-policies

#### **Reasons for Optimism**

- □ General economic improvement jobs especially
- □ Very <u>low interest rates</u> but little impact
- Pent up demand by those who've postponed housing or doubled-up
- Many markets have simply <u>bottomed</u> and will show statistical improvement
- ☐ <u>Investors</u> buoy sales but not prices
- □ Price effect Affordability
  - Long-term opportunists looking to buy at bottom
  - Prices more in line with current income levels
- ☐ Rent-Own "gap" closing: \$'s & quality
- □ Sellers and sellers' agents working harder to find <u>qualified buyers</u>
- ☐ Home builders still offering substantial incentives
- Population and household growth, especially in Texas, strong

## Albert Einstein

"If we knew what we were doing, it wouldn't be called research, would it?"





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