British Columbia Economic Review & Outlook

Pacific NW Regional Economic Conference
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May 9, 2014



Canada & British Columbia Overview

Canada:

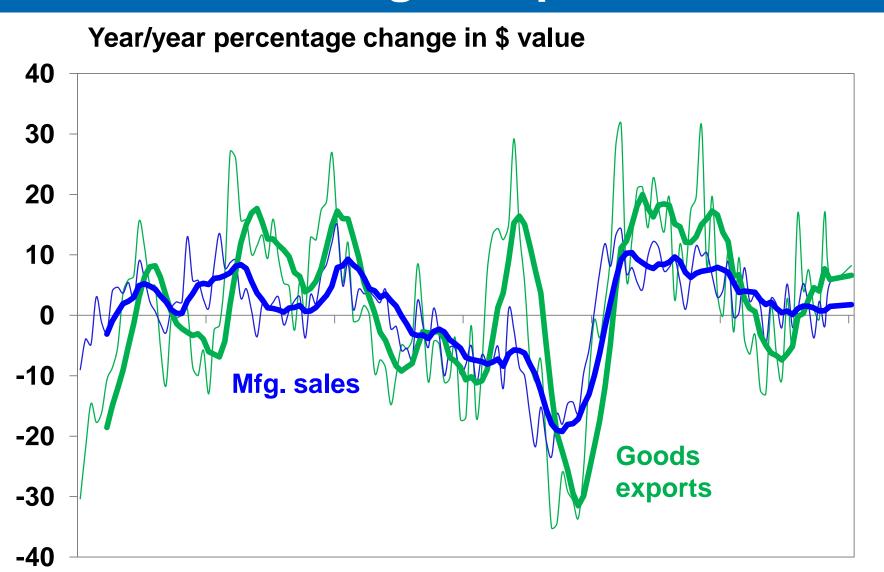
- ~ Lost G-7 lead to U.K. & U.S.
- ~ BRICs still in the doghouse, not great for commodities
- ~ Still hoping for hand-off from consumers & housing to exports & business investment
- ~ Lower C\$ should help

BC:

- ~ Economy tracking national growth
- ~ Commodity picture mixed exports up a bit.
- ~ Consumer, housing activity slow
- Lots of large investment projects on drawing board...but outlook for many is highly uncertain



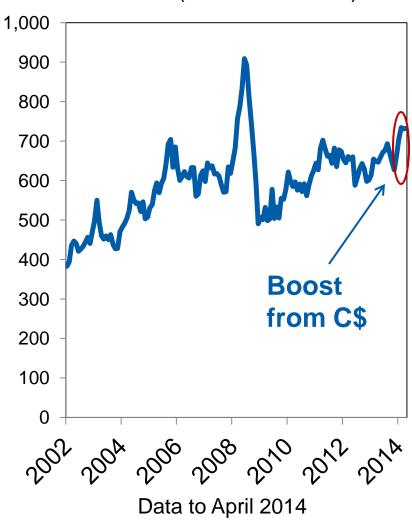
B.C. Manufacturing & Exports

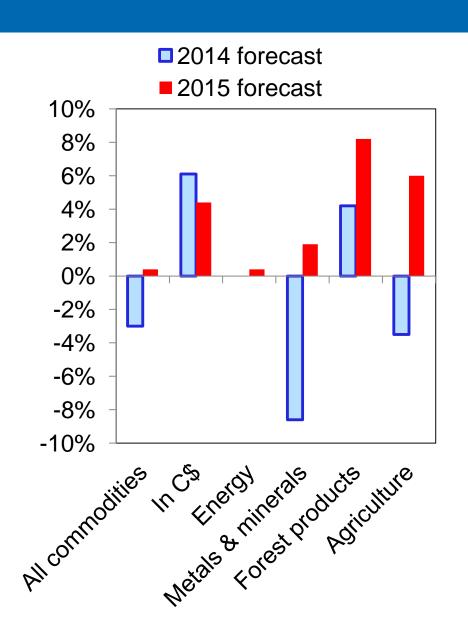


Source: Statistics Canada

Commodity Prices

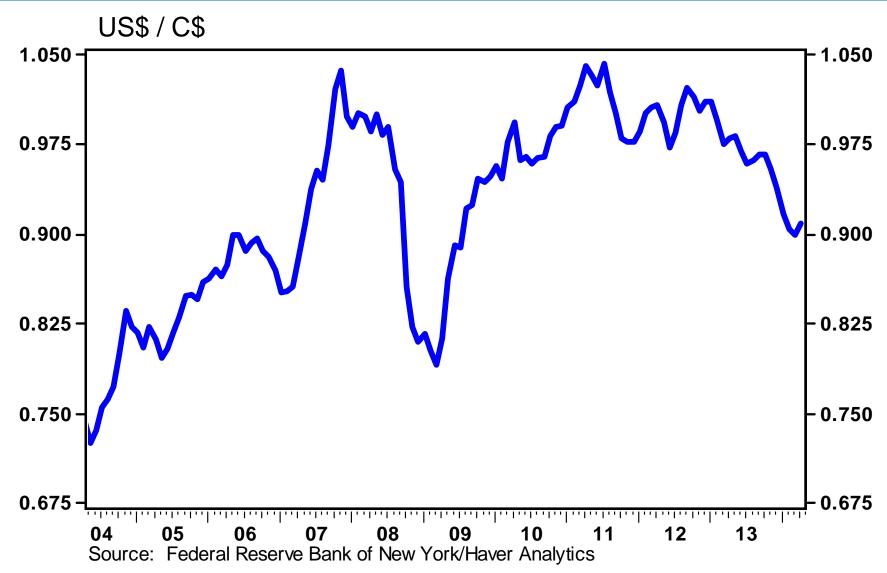
Bank of Canada commodity price index in C\$ (Jan 1972 = 100)





Source: Bank of Canada, BMO Capital Markets

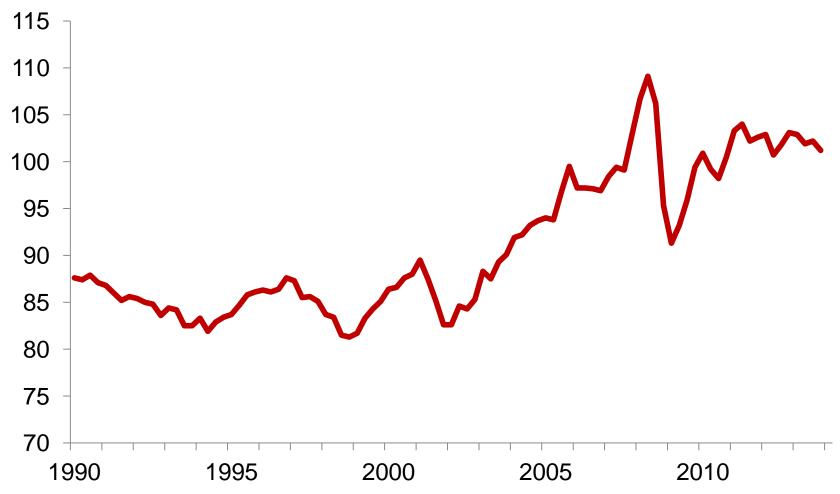
Canadian Dollar





Canada's Terms of Trade

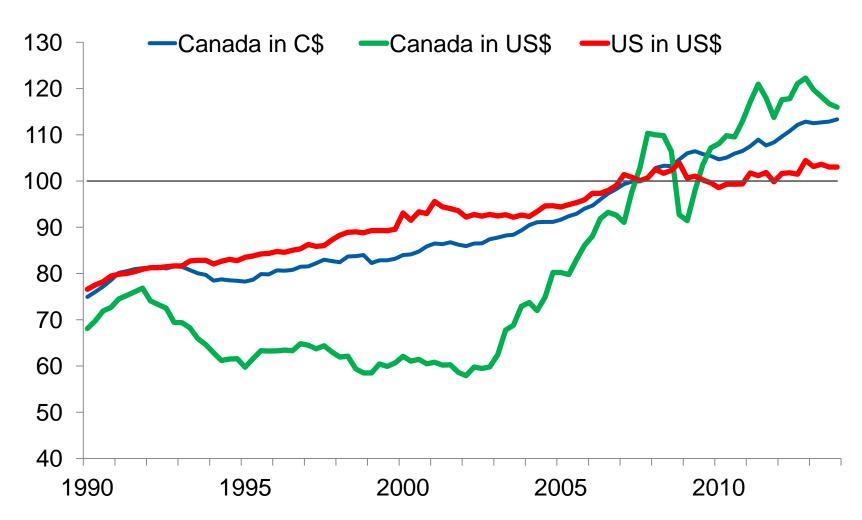
Ratio of export prices to import prices, 2007 = 100





Competitiveness

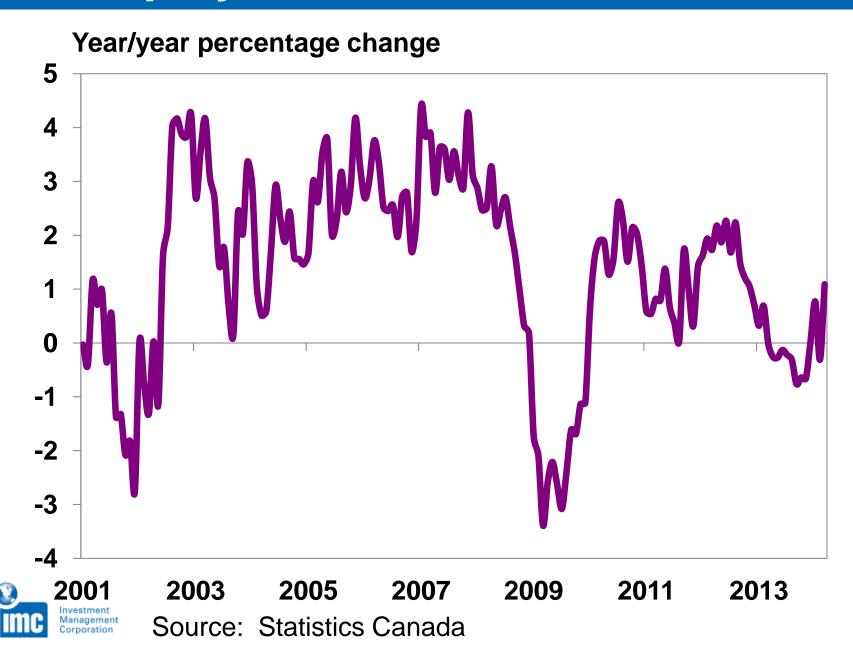
Unit labour costs (2007=100):



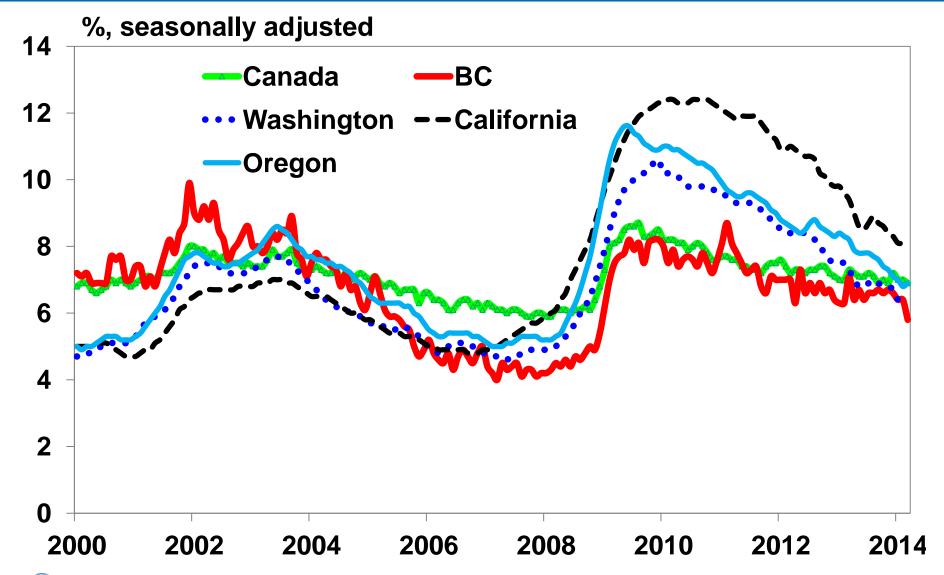


Source: Haver Analytics, Statistics Canada

B.C. Employment



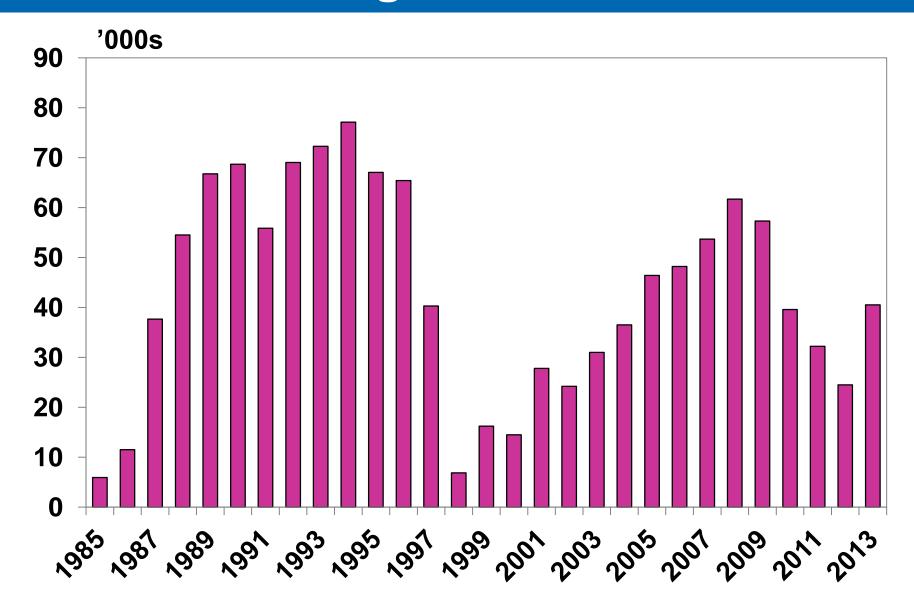
Unemployment Rates





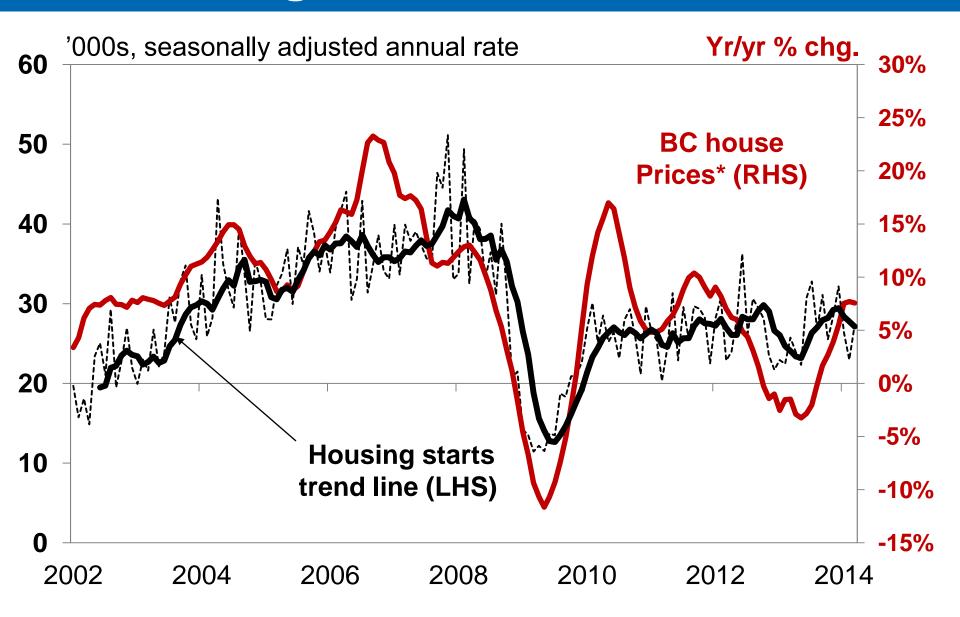
Source: Statistics Canada, Bureau of Labor Statistics

B.C. Total Net Migration*



Source: B.C. Stats * International plus inter-provincial

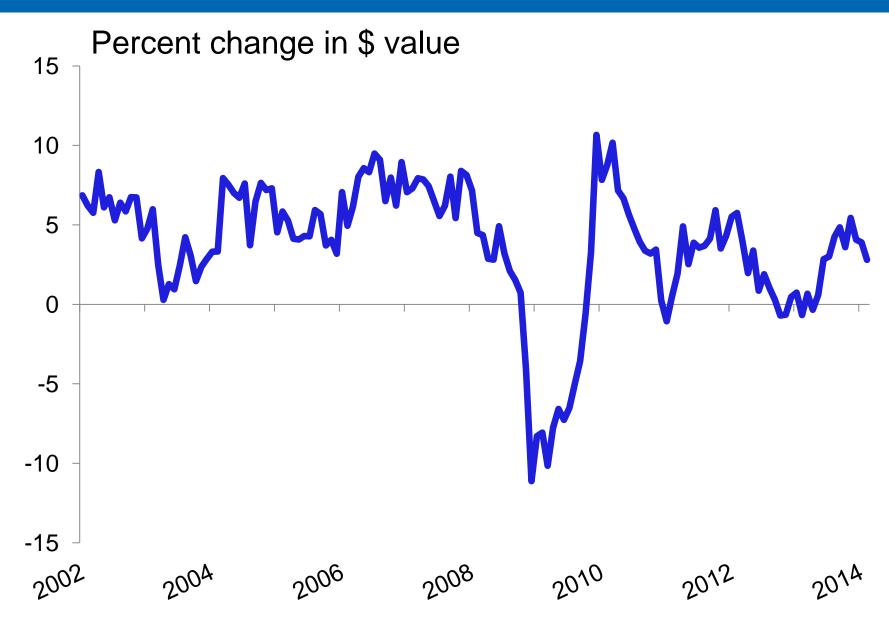
B.C. Housing Starts & Prices



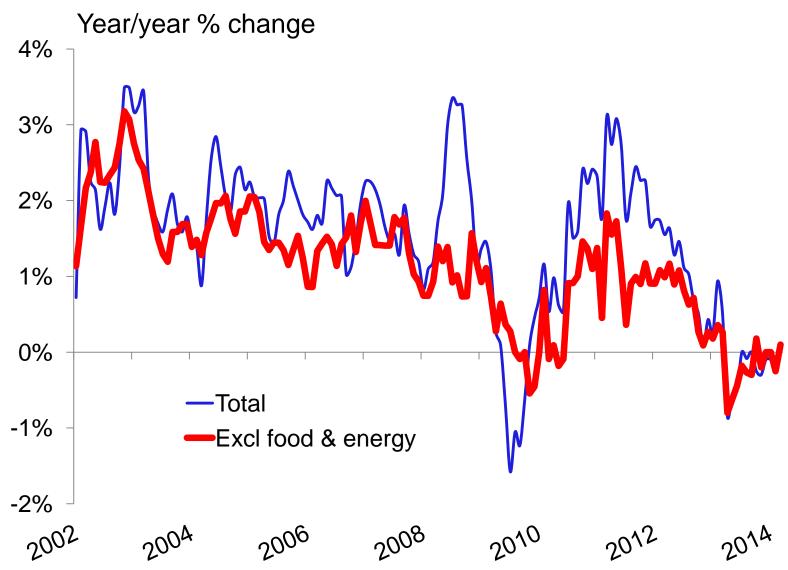
Source: CMHC, Teranet, bcIMC calculations

^{*} Vancouver & Victoria composite

Retail Sales

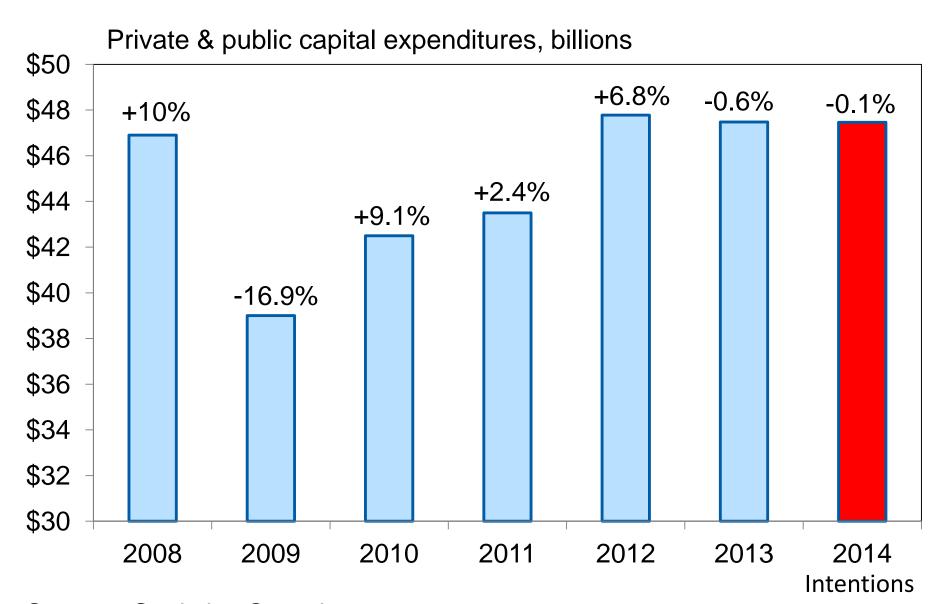


B.C. Consumer Price Index

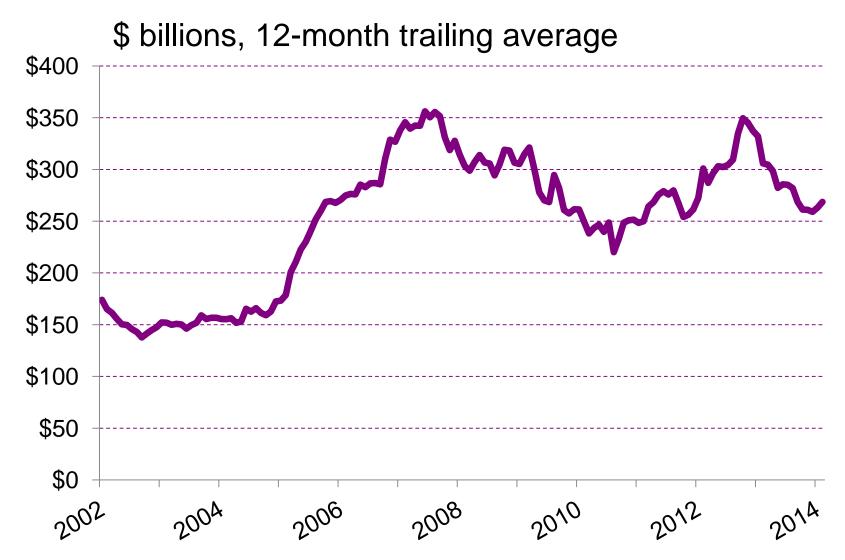




B.C. Capital Expenditures

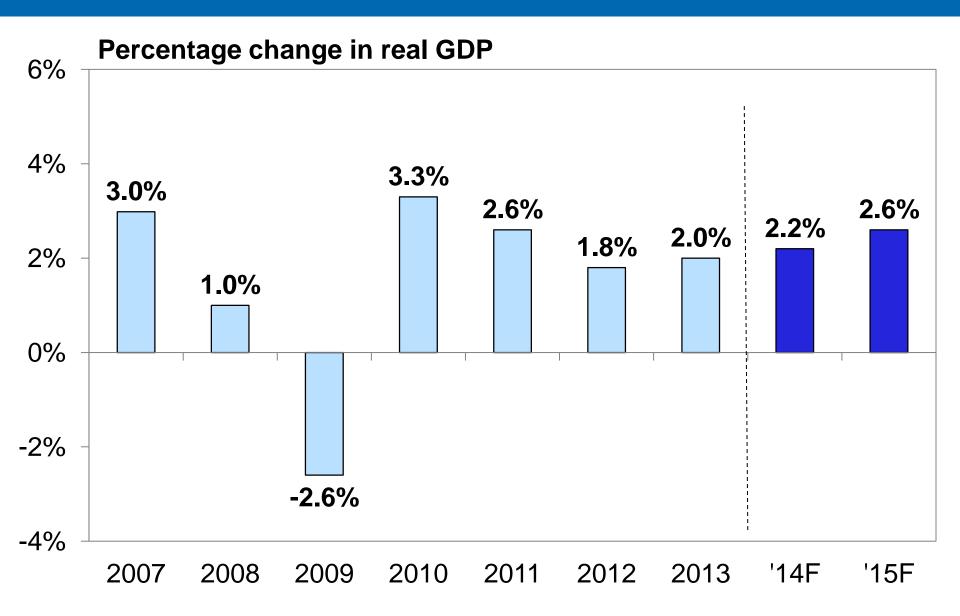


B.C. Non-residential Building Permits





B.C. Economic Outlook



Source: Statistics Canada, private sector forecasts