## Real Estate Markets in Asia before/after the Subprime Crisis vs Government Macro Economy Tools

By

Dr. Cheng-Few Lee

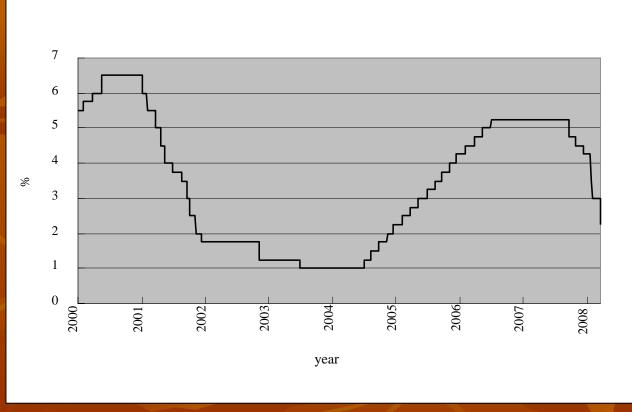
Distinguished Professor, Rutgers University, USA

Distinguished Professor, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan
Editor, Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting
Editor, Review of Pacific Basin Financial Markets and Policies

### **Outline**

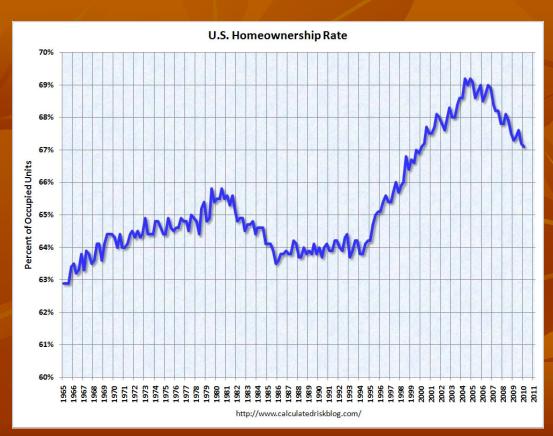
- 1. Introduction
- 2. Subprime Crisis
- 3. Securitized mortgaged credit
  - 3.1 Benefits of mortgage securitization
  - 3.2 The dark side of mortgage securitization
- 4. Government Macro Economy Tools
- 5. Summary

### Figure 1: Federal Funds Rate



The federal funds rate published for April 30, 2010, should have been 0.20 Source: US Federal Reserve Board, May 2008

### Figure 2-1: Homeownership Rate Q1 2010



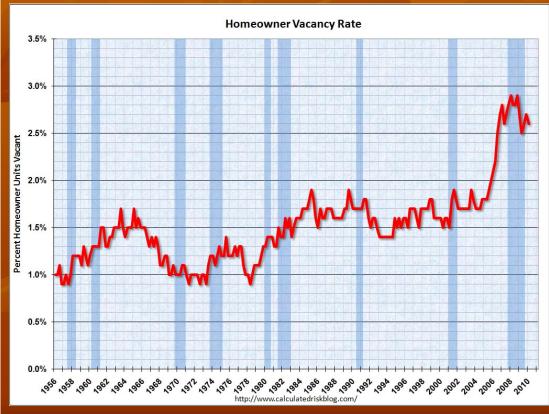
The homeownership rate declined to 67.1%. This is the lowest level since Q1 2000.

Note: graph starts at 60% to better show the change.

The homeownership rate increased in the '90s and early '00s because of changes in demographics and "innovations" in mortgage lending. The increase due to demographics (older population) will probably stick, so I've been expecting the rate to decline to the 66% to 67% range - and not all the way back to 64% to 65%.

Source: Posted by CalculatedRisk on 4/26/2010 10:00:00 AM at http://www.calculatedriskblog.com/2010/04/q1-2010-homeownership-rate-lowest-since.html

#### Figure 2-2: Homeownership Rate Q1 2010



The homeowner vacancy rate was 2.6% in Q1 2010.

A normal rate for recent years appears to be about 1.7%.

This leaves the homeowner vacancy rate about 0.9% above normal. This data is not perfect, but based on the approximately 75 million homeowner occupied homes, we can estimate that there are close to 675 thousand excess vacant homes.

Source: Posted by CalculatedRisk on 4/26/2010 10:00:00 AM at http://www.calculatedriskblog.com/2010/04/q1-2010-homeownership-rate-lowest-since.html

### Figure 2-3: Homeownership Rate Q1 2010



The rental vacancy rate was 10.6% in Q1 2010.

It's hard to define a "normal" rental vacancy rate based on the historical series, but we can probably expect the rate to trend back towards 8%. According to the Census Bureau there are close to 41 million rental units in the U.S. If the rental vacancy rate declined from 10.6% to 8%, there would be 2.6% X 41 million units or over 1 million units absorbed.

This suggests there are still about 1.7 million excess housing units, and these excess units will keep pressure on housing starts, rents and house prices for some time.

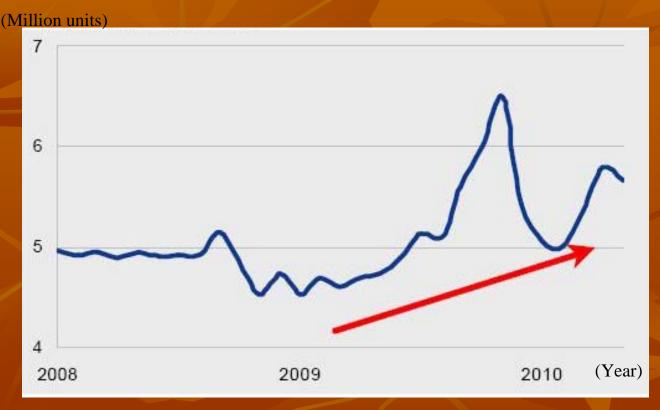
# Figure 3: Trend and Forecast of U.S. House Prices



Source: S&P/Case-Shiller Indices [8]

[8] 2008年至2012年之走勢預測係根據芝加哥期貨交易所(CME)房價指數期貨報價。

# Figure 4: US Home sale annual rate (January 2008 to May 2010)



Source: Bloomberg, Compiled by Grand Cathay Securities Corporation

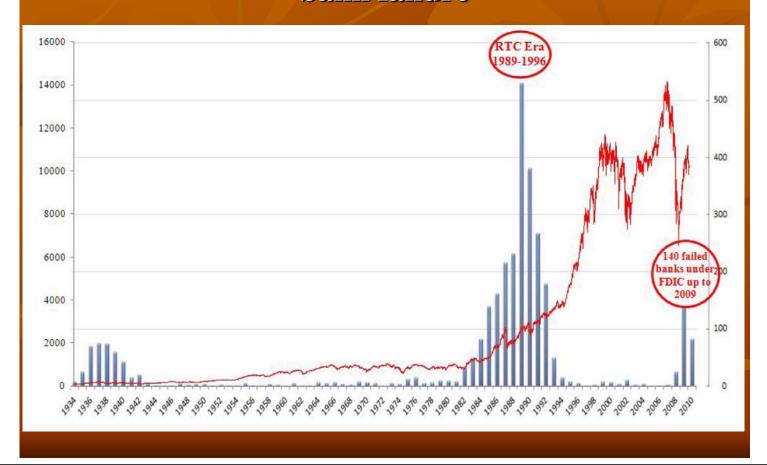
#### Table 1: 2008-2010 Major financial events

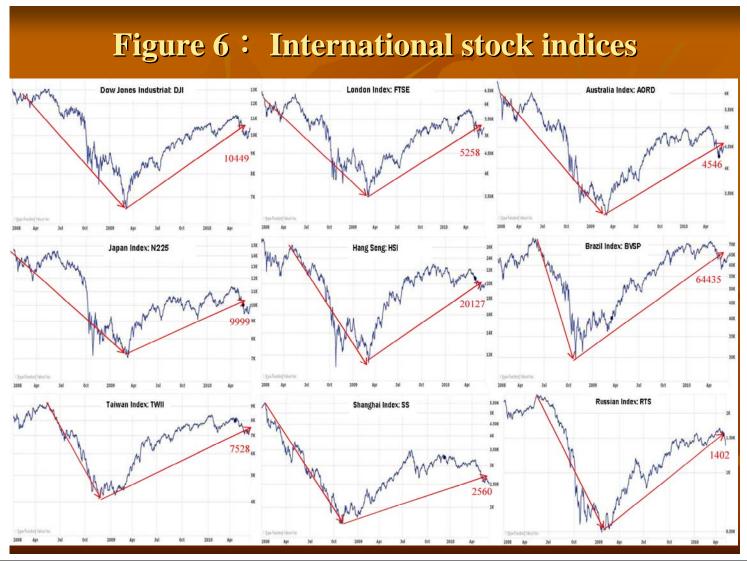
- ➤ 2008/1/22 The largest rate cut since October 1984 by the U.S. Federal Reserve.
- ➤ 2008/3/16 Shotgun wedding of Bear Stearns to J.P. Morgan for \$2 a share, a bargain-basement \$236.2 million. Federal Reserve bank to provide financing for the deal.
- ➤ 2008/7/14 Fannie Mae & Freddie Mac posted losses, stock prices both drop approximately 80%.
- ➤ 2008/9/15 Lehman expected to file for bankruptcy protection, the largest failure of an investment bank since the collapse of Drexel Burnham Lambert 18 years ago.
- > 2008/9/17 Fed agreed to take over the insurance giant AIG, an unprecedented \$US85 billion bail-out.

## Table 1: 2008-2010 Major financial events (continued)

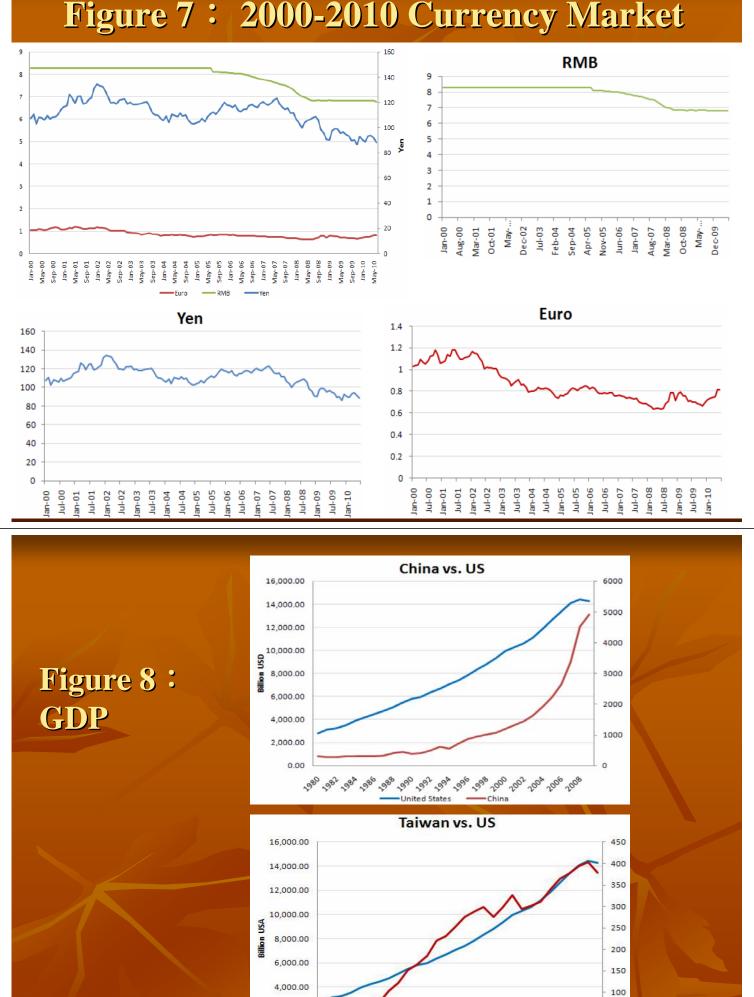
- ➤ 2008/10/3 The first \$350 billion of TARP-Troubled Asset Relief Program was released. TARP is created to curb the ongoing financial crisis of 2007-2008. The TARP gives the U.S. Treasury purchasing power of \$700 billion to buy up mortgage backed securities (MBS) from institutions across the country.
- ➤ 2009/3/9 The stock market plunged to a 12-year closing low: 6,547.
- ➤ 2009/3/23 The United States Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Federal Reserve, and the United States Treasury Department announced the Public-Private Investment Program for Legacy Assets. The program is designed to provide liquidity for so-called "toxic assets" on the balance sheets of financial institutions.
- ➤ 2009/5/10/ Europe's leaders finally passed The nearly \$1 trillion bailout package, arranged over the weekend, is intended to head off Greece's default and stop the crisis from dragging under other weak economies Portugal, Spain, Ireland and Italy are all vulnerable.
- ➤ 2010/4/26 The stock market rose to a 54-week high: 11309

## Figure 5: 1934-2010 US financial market vs bank failure





### Figure 7: 2000-2010 Currency Market



2,000.00

Taiwan Province of China

United States

50

### Figure 9: 1980-2010 CPI

