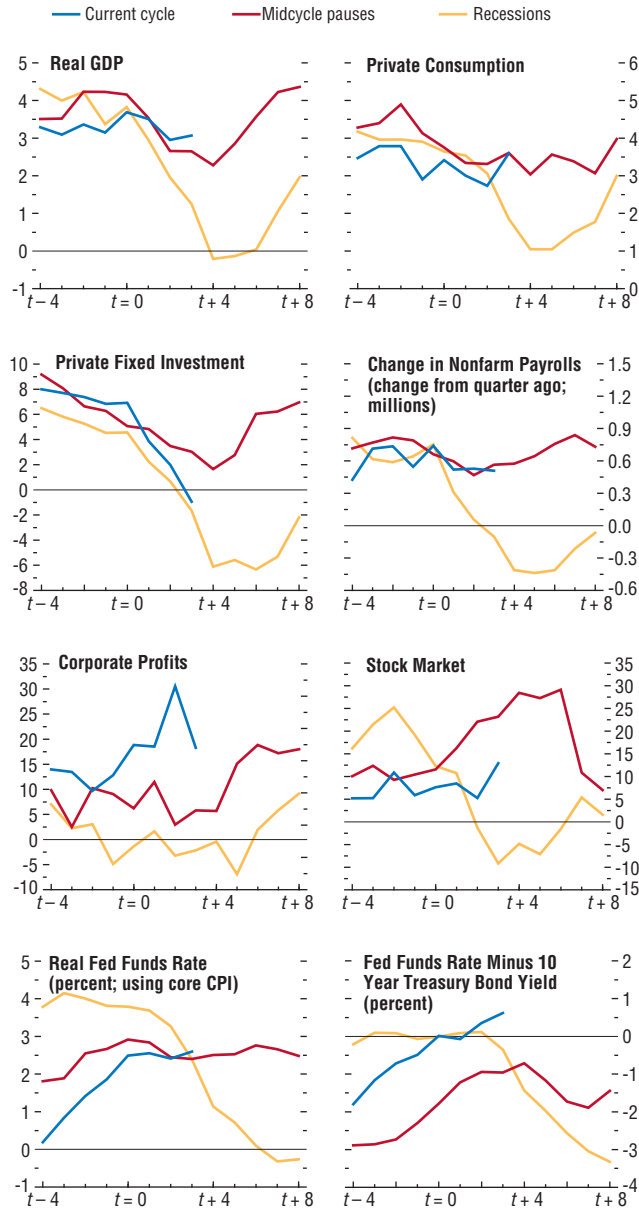


Figure 2.1. United States: How Much Will the U.S. Economy Slow?

(Percent change from four quarters earlier, unless otherwise noted)¹

With employment growth steady, corporate profitability strong, and real interest rates still relatively low, it still seems likely that the current slowdown will be shallow and short lived—a midcycle pause—rather than develop into a more significant downturn.



Sources: Haver Analytics; and IMF staff calculations.

¹ $t=0$ is the peak of the GDP growth cycle. For recessions these peaks are in March 1990 and June 2000, and for midcycle pauses in March 1986 and December 1994. The peak of the current cycle is in March 2006.