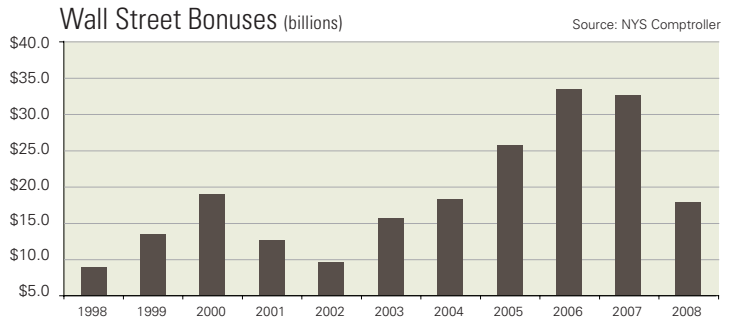


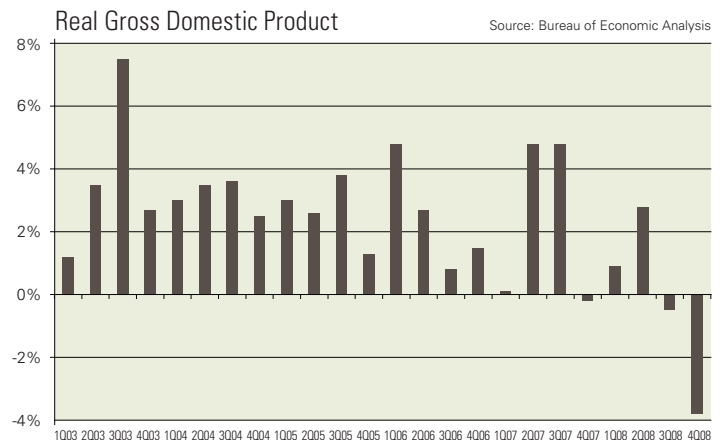
Wall Street Firms Pay \$18.4 Billion in Bonuses for 2008

- Bonuses paid by Wall Street firms fell 44% to \$18.4 billion from 2007's revised figure of \$32.9 billion.
- While much higher than expected, it was the lowest payout since 2003.
- After rising 248% from 2002 to 2006, bonuses have fallen in each of the past 2 years.



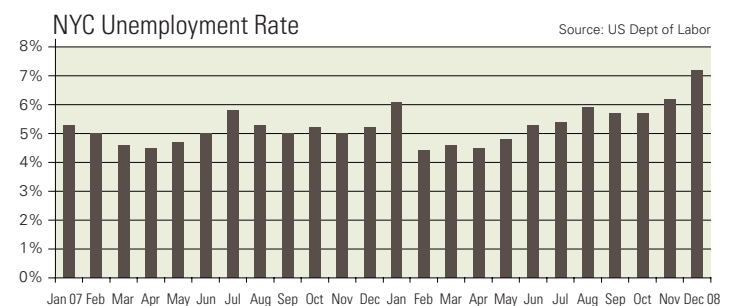
U.S. Economy Shrinks Dramatically in Fourth Quarter

- Gross Domestic Product, the value of goods and services produced in the United States, fell at a 3.8% pace during the fourth quarter.
- This was the slowest growth rate in 25 years.
- While GDP fell by less than expected, it was due mainly to a buildup of inventories.



Unemployment Jumps in New York City in December

- The unemployment rate in New York City rose to 7.2% in December.
- This was up a full percent from November's figure, and marks the first time since January of 2008 that local unemployment is as high as the nation's.



Mortgage Rates Remain Low

- The rate for 30-year conforming mortgages averaged 5.10% for the week ending January 29th, down slightly from the prior week.
- After falling to 4.96%, the lowest figure since Freddie Mac began surveying mortgage rates in 1971, 30-year conforming rates have ticked up slightly.

