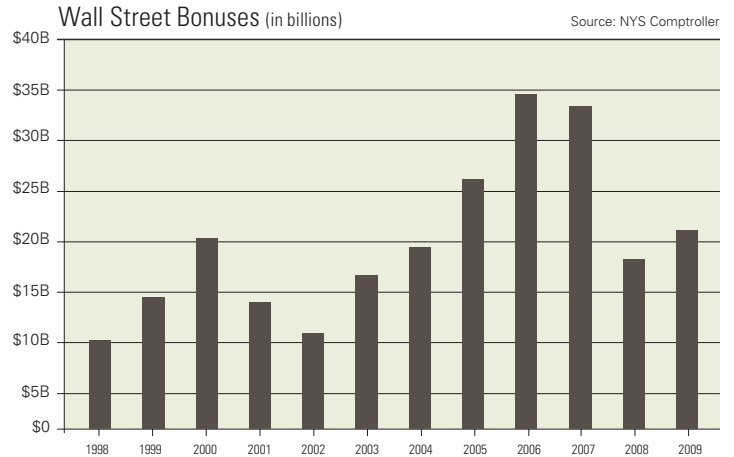


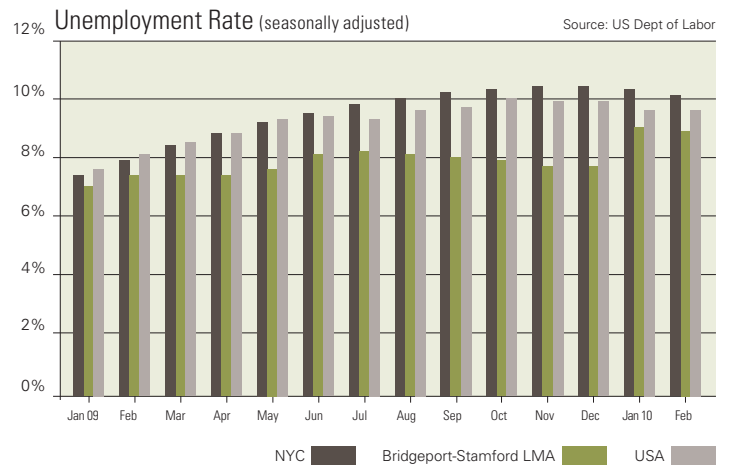
Wall Street Bonuses Rise 17%

- Securities firms paid out \$20.3 billion in bonuses for 2009, according to the State Comptroller.
- This is a 17% increase from 2008, although bonuses remain 40% below the record level of 2006.
- Firms continue to pay an increasing share of bonuses in stock and deferred compensation.



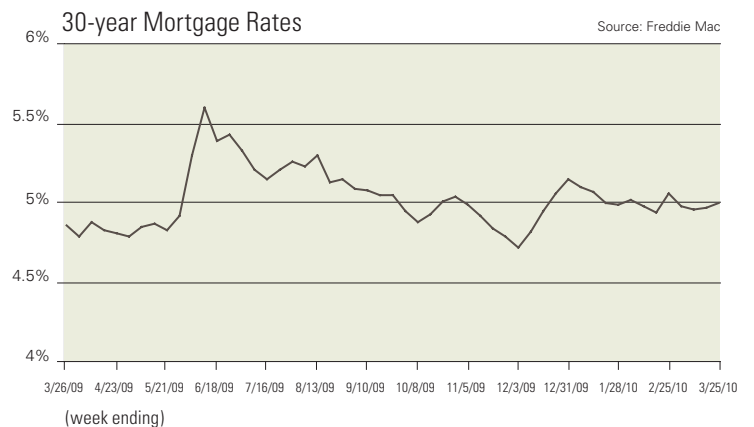
Unemployment Falls in New York City

- New York City's unemployment rate fell to 10.2% in February, the second straight month the rate has fallen.
- The nation's rate of 9.7% was unchanged from January.
- After rising sharply in January, the unemployment rate fell to 9.0% in the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA, which includes Fairfield County.



Conforming Rates Remain Below 5%

- Rates for 30-year conforming mortgages averaged 4.99% for the week ending March 25th, up from 4.96% the prior week.
- One year ago, conforming rates averaged 4.85%.



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