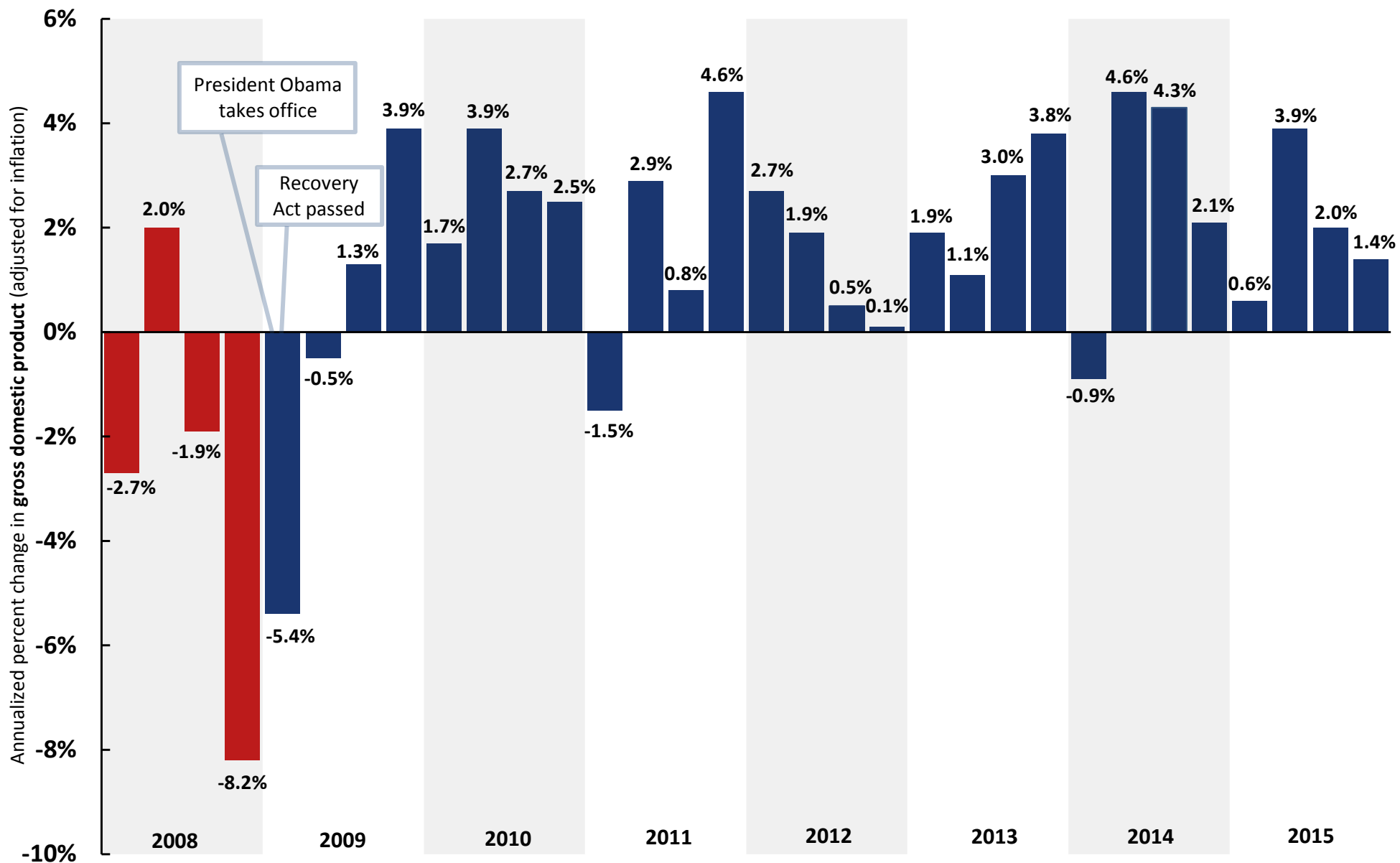


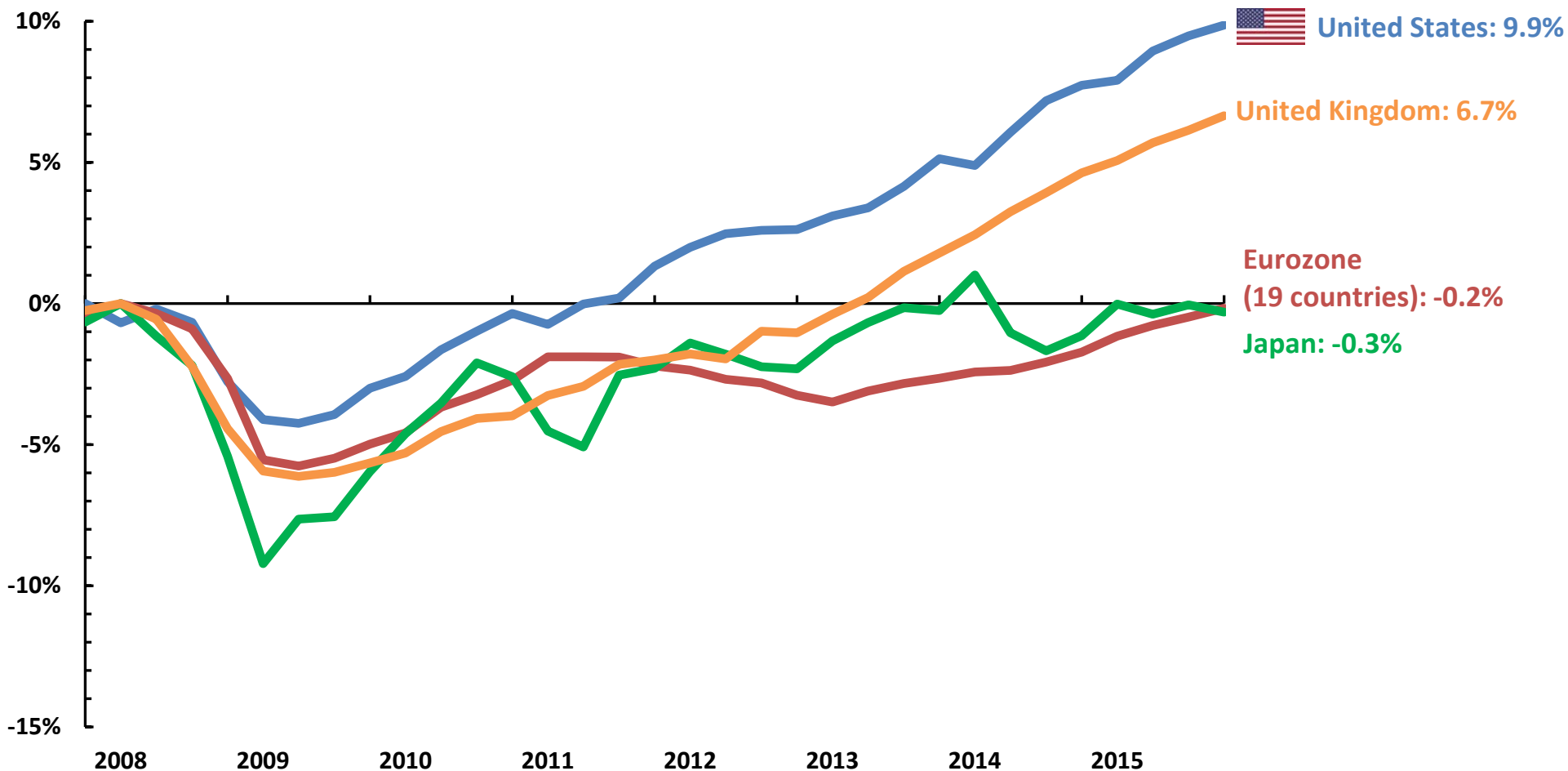
U.S. Economy Has Grown in 24 of the Last 26 Quarters



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (updates next on April 28, 2016)

U.S. Economy Has Grown Faster Than Other Leading Advanced Economies

Percentage change in real gross domestic product from prerecession peak

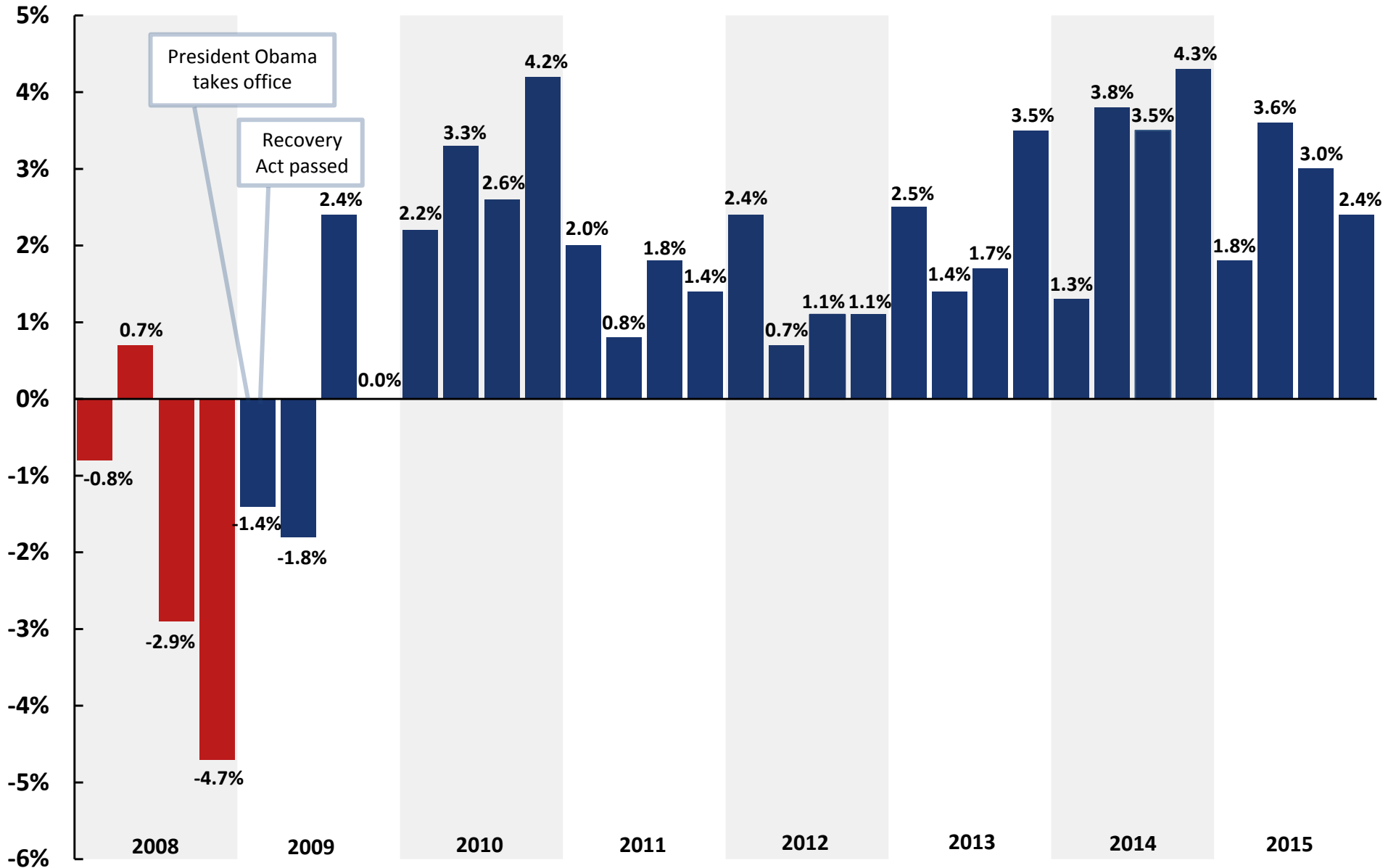


Sources: JEC Democratic staff calculations through Q4-2015 using data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Statistical Office of the European Communities, Cabinet Office of Japan, and the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom (updates next on March 31, 2016)

Notes: Eurozone refers to countries in the European Union that use the Euro as their common currency; prerecession peak in United States was Q4-2007; this peak was Q1-2008 for all others depicted

Consumer Spending Continues to Grow

Annualized percent change in personal consumption expenditures (adjusted for inflation)



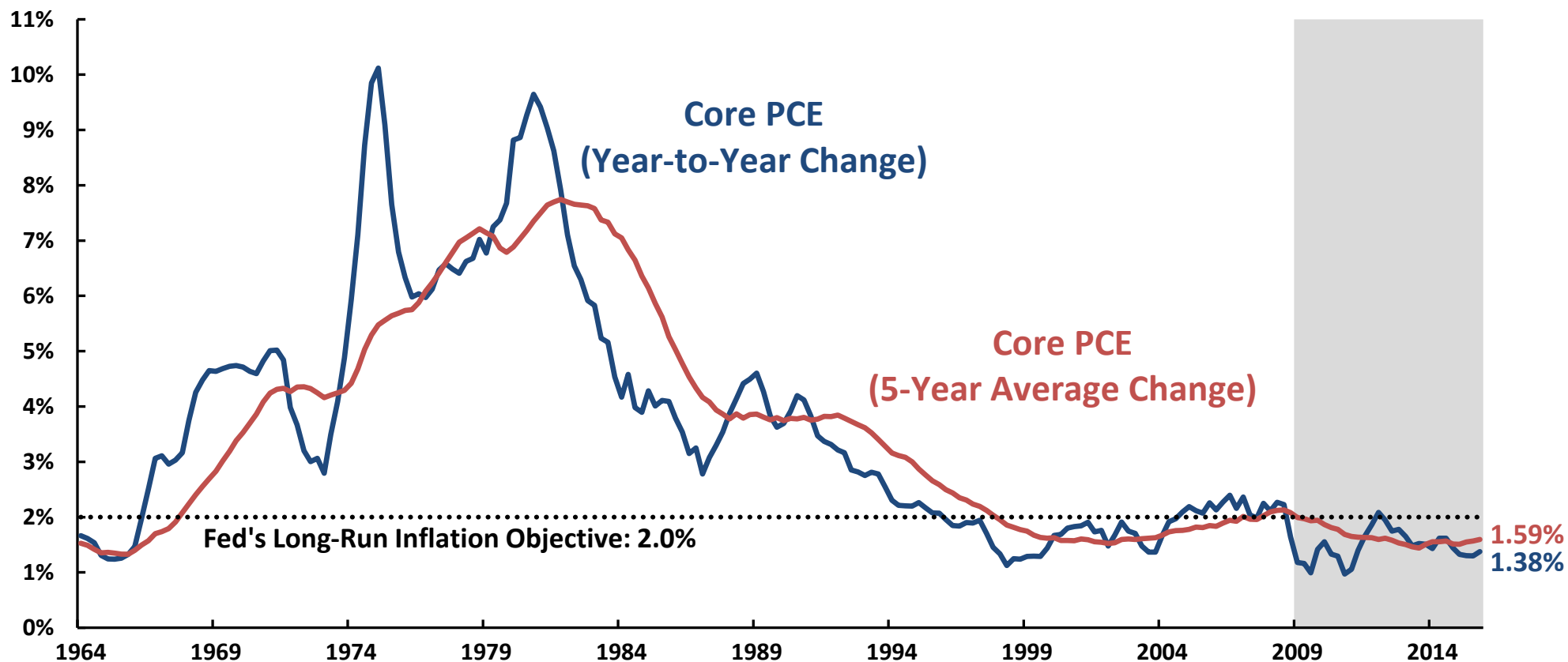
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (updates next on April 28, 2016)

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Percentage Change in Core Personal Consumption Expenditures (Core PCE)

Core PCE (excluding food and energy), Q1-1964 to Q4-2015



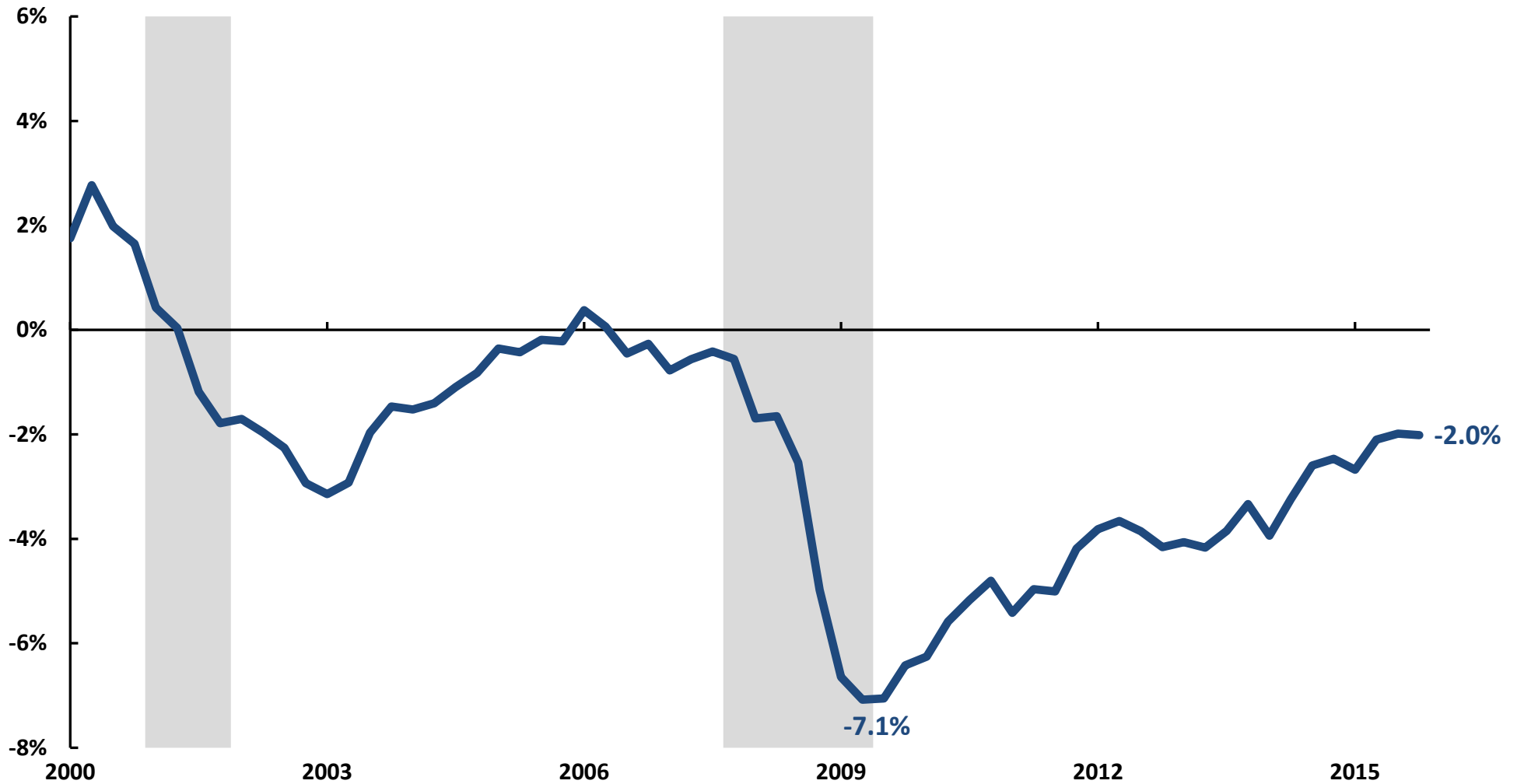
Core PCE has been persistently below the Fed's target of 2.0 percent since 2009

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (updates next on April 28, 2016)

Notes: Dotted line represents the long-run inflation objective of the Federal Open Market Committee (2.0 percent); the core PCE price index measures the prices paid by consumers for goods and services without the volatility caused by movements in food and energy prices to reveal underlying inflation trends

U.S. Output Gap

Actual minus potential real GDP as percent of potential GDP, Q1-2000 to Q4-2015



Sources: JEC Democratic staff calculations using data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis and Congressional Budget Office, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2016 to 2026* (January 2016) (updates next on April 28, 2016)

Note: Grey areas represent periods of recession as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research