

# LPL Financial Research Current Conditions Index

January 27, 2010

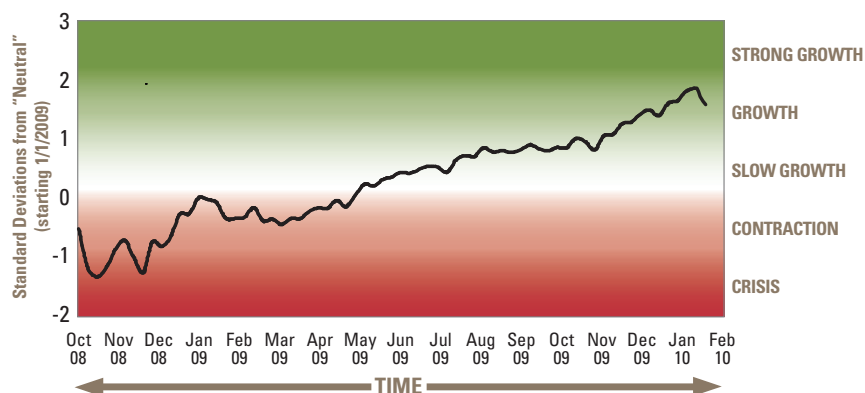
## Overview

The LPL Financial Current Conditions Index is a weekly measure of the conditions that underline our outlook for the markets and economy. The CCI provides real-time context and insight into the trends that shape our recommended actions to manage portfolios. This index has proven to be a useful tool for investment decision making.

This weekly index is not intended to be a leading index or predictive of where conditions are headed, but a coincident measure of where they are right now. We want to track the conditions in real-time to aid in investment decision making. There are thousands of indicators-some lead the economy, some lag, while others merely offer a lot of statistical noise. We chose to create our own index tailored to the current environment to provide the clearest and most useful way to track conditions. The components of the CCI are periodically changed to retune the index to those factors most critical to the markets and economy so it may continue to be a valuable investment decision-making tool.

Over the past week, the LPL Financial Current Conditions Index declined to 1.6. The level of the current conditions index indicates an environment fostering trend-like growth in the economy and markets. We expect that the CCI may weaken in the latter half of 2010 to reflect an environment of slow growth. We will watch current conditions closely as the global tailwinds for growth fade or even give rise to headwinds as we make investment recommendations in 2010.

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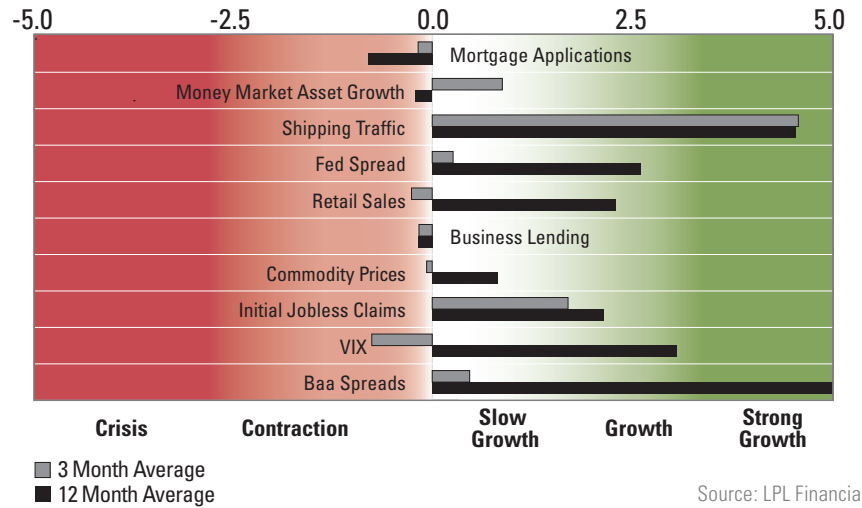
Source: LPL Financial

The weakness in the index was primarily driven by the spike in the VIX\*, as the outlook for stock market volatility sharply increased as Chinese officials announced measures to slow loan growth, the President unveiled reform measures targeted at the top banks, and doubts arose about Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke's confirmation. Components that demonstrated a modest downtick were Retail Sales, Shipping Traffic, and Mortgage Applications.

\*The VIX is a measure of the volatility implied in the prices of options contracts for the S&P 500. It is a market based estimate of future volatility. While this is not necessarily predictive it does measure the current degree of fear present in the stock market.

LPL FINANCIAL RESEARCH CURRENT CONDITIONS INDEX COMPONENTS

STANDARD DEVIATIONS FROM "NEUTRAL" SINCE 1/1/2009



Source: LPL Financial

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide or be construed as providing specific investment advice or recommendations for any individual. To determine which investments may be appropriate for you, consult your financial advisor prior to investing. All performance referenced is historical and is no guarantee of future results. All indices are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly.

Bonds are subject to market and interest rate risk if sold prior to maturity. Bond values will decline as interest rates rise and are subject to availability and change in price.

Stock investing involves risk including loss of principal.

High Yield/Junk Bonds are not investment grade securities, involve substantial risks and generally should be part of the diversified portfolio of sophisticated investors.

The Standard & Poor's 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

The Barclays Aggregate Bond Index is made up of the Barclays Government/Credit Bond Index, Mortgage-Backed Securities Index, and Asset-Backed Securities Index, including securities that are of investment grade quality or better, have at least one year to maturity, and have an outstanding par value of at least \$100 million.

**An investment in money market funds is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Although the Fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1.00 per share, it is possible to lose money by investing in the Fund.**

The fast price swings of commodities will result in significant volatility in and investor's holdings.

CURRENT SNAPSHOT

Component of CCI Index	This Week	One Week Ago	Four Weeks Ago
BAA Spreads	5.4	5.4	5.3
VIX	1.8	3.3	3.0
Initial Jobless Claims	1.7	1.7	1.5
Commodities	0.7	0.8	0.8
Business Lending	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Retail Sales	1.4	1.8	1.7
Fed Spread	3.3	3.3	3.2
Shipping Traffic	4.7	5.0	4.1
Money Market Fund Assets	-0.5	-0.6	-0.7
Mortgage Applications	-2.3	-2.1	-2.5
<b>CCI</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.6</b>

Source: LPL Financial

This research material has been prepared by LPL Financial.

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