# A Broader View. A Sharper Focus.<sup>SM</sup>



**Board of Directors** 

Item 6 - March 17, 2011

California & Property Casualty Insurance Outlook



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#### **U.S. Economic Outlook**

- ◆ U.S. GDP growth expected to average about 3.9% over the next two years
- Residential real estate appears to have bottomed, following government stimulus
- Federal Reserve likely on hold through 2011; may cease further asset purchases

|                                |         | Actual  |         | Fore     | cast     |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS        | 2008    | 2009    | 2010    | 2011     | 2012     |
| Gross Domestic Product         | 0.0%    | -2.6%   | 2.8%    | 3.8%     | 4.0%     |
| Civilian Unemployment Rate     | 5.8%    | 9.3%    | 9.6%    | 9.1%     | 8.4%     |
| Capacity Utilization           | 77.9%   | 70.0%   | 74.3%   | 77.6%    | 79.5%    |
| Housing Permits (millions)     | 0.896   | 0.583   | 0.594   | 0.638    | 0.862    |
| New Home Sales (millions)      | 0.482   | 0.374   | 0.321   | 0.315    | 0.393    |
| Existing Home Sales (millions) | 4.894   | 5.149   | 4.918   | 5.222    | 5.528    |
| S&P Case-Shiller C-20 (Y/Y)    | -15.8%  | -11.5%  | 0.1%    | -2.0%    | -0.4%    |
| WTI Oil Price                  | \$99.57 | \$61.69 | \$79.43 | \$104.49 | \$130.55 |
| CPI (Y/Y)                      | 0.1%    | 2.7%    | 1.5%    | 2.7%     | 2.7%     |
| CPI Core (Y/Y)                 | 1.8%    | 1.8%    | 0.8%    | 0.8%     | 1.6%     |
| Fed Funds Rate                 | 1.88%   | 0.16%   | 0.16%   | 0.16%    | 1.35%    |
| 10-Year Note Yield             | 3.61%   | 3.29%   | 3.14%   | 3.80%    | 4.43%    |



## **U.S. Economic Outlook**

#### Impact of oil price spike; who gets hurt quickest?

- Consumers
- Airlines
- Transportation
- Chemicals
- Financials



## **Relative Value Decisions for March 2010**

| Asset Class/Structure           | Bias         | Recommendation   |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Treasurys                       | Underweight  | Corporate bonds offer better relative value. Use Treasurys to shorten duration.  |
| Agencies                        | Underweight  | The U.S. Treasury white paper on housing reform strongly reiterated government support for FNMA and FHLMC, reducing volatility and tightening spreads. Valuations remain unattractive. |
| Corporates:<br>Investment Grade | Overweight   | Spread tightening in recent months has moved the sector closer to fair value, yet fundamentals and technicals remain supportive.   |
| Corporates:<br>High Yield       | Marketweight | Improving economic data, solid earnings and supportive capital markets are tempered by current valuations and the overhang of geopolitical risks.                                      |
| Municipals                      | Marketweight | On a one-year historical basis, municipal yield ratios are fair value across the majority of the curve.  |
| MBS                             | Marketweight | Low supply and steady demand for AAA-rated spread product will keep valuations range-bound and coupon income the main return driver.   |
| CMBS                            | Marketweight | Economic growth, spread contraction and renewed CMBS issuance have lowered future loss expectations and provided new opportunities within the sector.                                  |
| ABS                             | Marketweight | ABS spreads remain at relatively tight levels and supply is well contained.  |
| Equities                        | Overweight   | Despite rising geopolitical risk in recent weeks, the market remains relatively inexpensive based on 13.8x next twelve months earnings.  |
| Duration                        | Short        | While flight-to-quality flows may moderate any increase in yields in the short term, strong global growth will lead to higher interest rates. Allow duration to shorten.               |
| Yield Curve                     | Bullet       | The Fed's extended low interest-rate policy leads us to recommend a bullet portfolio structure until the timing of a change in Fed policy becomes more certain.                        |



# California - Conning State of States Rank: #47



#### **Conning Ranking Factors**

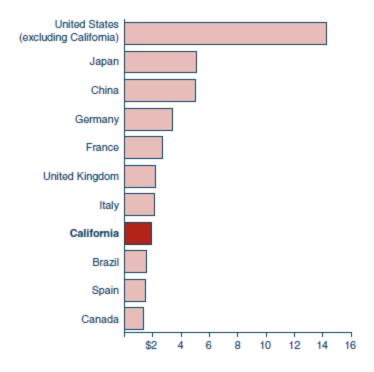
- High income level
- High per capita income
- Large budget gaps
- High unemployment rate
- Weak housing market



# **California Economy**

# California Ranks Among the World's Top Ten Economies

Gross Product in 2009 (In Trillions)



Source: Cal Facts January 2011



#### **California Economic Outlook**

- Year-over-year percentage changes in real GDP and real exports are forecasted to accelerate
- ◆ Personal income will grow at a 3.5% rate in 2011 and at an accelerating rate through 2015
- Housing will remain a drag on growth as unemployment remains high
- Employment has dropped by 1.4 million jobs since 2007; only 100,000 new jobs are expected to be created in 2011

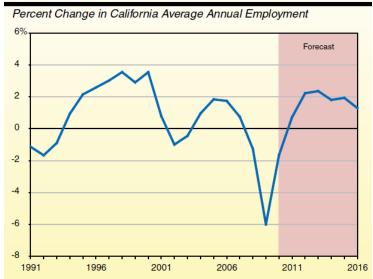
|                             | Actual | Actual Estimated<br>2009 2010 | Forecast |      |      |      |      |      |
|-----------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                             |        |                               | 2011     | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| California                  |        |                               |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Percent change in:          |        |                               |          |      |      |      |      |      |
| Personal Income             | -2.4   | 2.8                           | 3.5      | 4.3  | 4.8  | 5.7  | 5.9  | 5.7  |
| Wage and Salary Employment  | -6.0   | -1.7                          | 0.7      | 2.2  | 2.4  | 1.8  | 2.0  | 1.3  |
| Consumer Price Index        | -0.4   | 1.6                           | 1.6      | 1.9  | 2.0  | 2.1  | 2.1  | 2.1  |
| Unemployment Rate (percent) | 11.4   | 12.5                          | 11.9     | 10.5 | 9.1  | 8.2  | 7.1  | 6.6  |
| Housing Permits (thousands) | 34     | 42                            | 67       | 79   | 99   | 113  | 121  | 121  |



#### **California Economic Outlook**

- California's population base is expected to marginally increase over the next five years
- Inflation is expected to stay in the 1 to 2 percent range over the next 5 years
- California's unemployment rate is expected to hover around 12% throughout 2011 before gradually improving in 2012











#### **Home Prices – A Slow Recovery**

#### Minimal Growth in California Housing Prices Expected





### **Revenue Outlook – Moderate Revenue Growth Expected**

| LAO General | Fund Revenue     | Forecast  |
|-------------|------------------|-----------|
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(Dollars in Millions)

| Revenue Source                  | 2009-10    | 2010-11    | 2011-12    | 2012-13    | 2013-14    | 2014-15    | 2015-16    |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal income tax             | \$44,575   | \$46,731   | \$44,252   | \$47,909   | \$50,868   | \$54,072   | \$57,507   |
| Sales and use tax               | 26,741     | 27,310     | 25,370     | 27,725     | 29,137     | 30,397     | 31,622     |
| Corporation tax                 | 9,500      | 10,418     | 8,567      | 8,125      | 8,531      | 9,255      | 9,963      |
| Subtotal, "Big Three"           | (\$80,816) | (\$84,460) | (\$78,189) | (\$83,760) | (\$88,536) | (\$93,724) | (\$99,092) |
| Percent change                  | 5.4%       | 4.5%       | -7.4%      | 7.1%       | 5.7%       | 5.9%       | 5.7%       |
| Insurance tax                   | \$2,020    | \$2,033    | \$2,060    | \$2,093    | \$2,129    | \$2,168    | \$2,223    |
| Vehicle license fee             | 1,380      | 1,428      | 159        | 34         | _          | _          | _          |
| Estate tax                      | _          | 850        | 1,838      | 1,988      | 2,150      | 2,325      | 2,515      |
| Sales of fixed assets           | _          | 1,286      | 1          | 1          | 1          | 7          | 7          |
| Other revenues                  | 2,378      | 2,205      | 2,136      | 1,861      | 2,072      | 2,233      | 2,342      |
| Net transfers and loans         | 447        | 1,021      | -853       | -1,014     | -180       | 21         | 18         |
| Total Revenues and<br>Transfers | \$87,041   | \$93,283   | \$83,530   | \$88,723   | \$94,708   | \$100,478  | \$106,197  |
| Percent change                  | 5.2%       | 7.2%       | -10.5%     | 6.2%       | 6.7%       | 6.1%       | 5.7%       |



#### **Workers' Compensation Update**

#### CRC Industry Projections (Workers' Compensation)

- Conning Research and Consulting (CRC) forecasts workers' compensation loss and combined ratios to climb in 2010 and 2011. GAAP return-on-equity is expected to remain in the 4%-5% range over the next three years.
- Conning predicts continued negative premium growth through 2010, but reversing in 2011.

| Worke | Workers' Comp Projections (2010 Fourth Quarter) |       |         |          |           |  |  |
|-------|---|-------|---------|----------|-----------|--|--|
|       | GAAP  |       |         |          |           |  |  |
|       | Premium   | Loss  | Expense | Combined | Return on |  |  |
| Year  | Growth  | Ratio | Ratio   | Ratio    | Equity    |  |  |
| 2009  | -13.5%  | 83.6% | 26.7%   | 112.4%   | 3.0%      |  |  |
| 2010  | -3.0%   | 85.0% | 27.0%   | 114.0%   | 5.0%      |  |  |
| 2011  | 5.5%  | 90.0% | 26.0%   | 117.0%   | 4.5%      |  |  |
| 2012  | 10.0%   | 91.0% | 25.0%   | 117.0%   | 4.3%      |  |  |

Source: Conning Property-Casualty Forecast & Analysis By Line of Insurance 4Q10



### **Workers' Compensation Update**

#### CRC Forecast Changes (Workers' Compensation)

| Premium Growth                                  |       |       |        |  |  |  |
|---|-------|-------|--------|--|--|--|
|   | 3Q10  | 4Q10  | Change |  |  |  |
| 2010  | -4.0% | -3.0% | 1.0%   |  |  |  |
| 2011  | 5.5%  | 5.5%  | 0.0%   |  |  |  |
| 2012  | 10.0% | 10.0% | 0.0%   |  |  |  |
| Source: Company statutory filings, CRC analysis |       |       |        |  |  |  |

| Combined Ratio                                  |        |        |       |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------|--------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| 3Q10 4Q10 Change                                |        |        |       |  |  |  |  |
| 2010  | 114.5% | 114.0% | -0.5% |  |  |  |  |
| 2011  | 117.0% | 117.0% | 0.0%  |  |  |  |  |
| 2012  | 117.0% | 117.0% | 0.0%  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: Company statutory filings, CRC analysis |        |        |       |  |  |  |  |

| GAAP Return on Equity                           |      |      |       |  |  |  |
|---|------|------|-------|--|--|--|
| 3Q10 4Q10 Change                                |      |      |       |  |  |  |
| 2010  | 4.9% | 5.0% | 0.1%  |  |  |  |
| 2011  | 4.6% | 4.5% | -0.1% |  |  |  |
| 2012  | 4.5% | 4.3% | -0.2% |  |  |  |
| Source: Company statutory filings, CRC analysis |      |      |       |  |  |  |

- Conning's fourth quarter workers' comp forecast highlights:
  - > Premium growth less negative in 2010
  - Combined ratio rising slightly through 2012
  - > GAAP ROE declining in 2011-12

