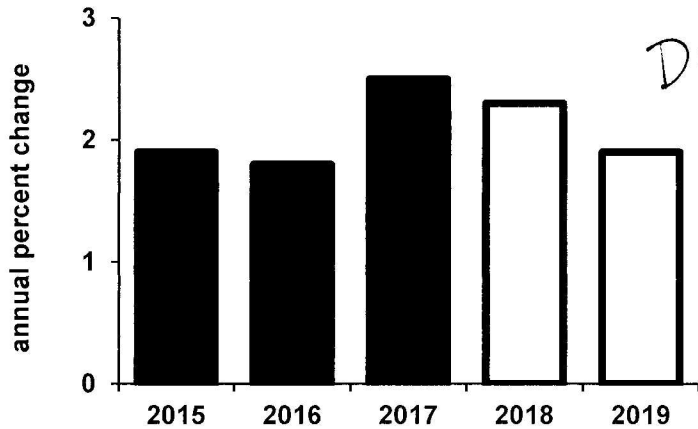


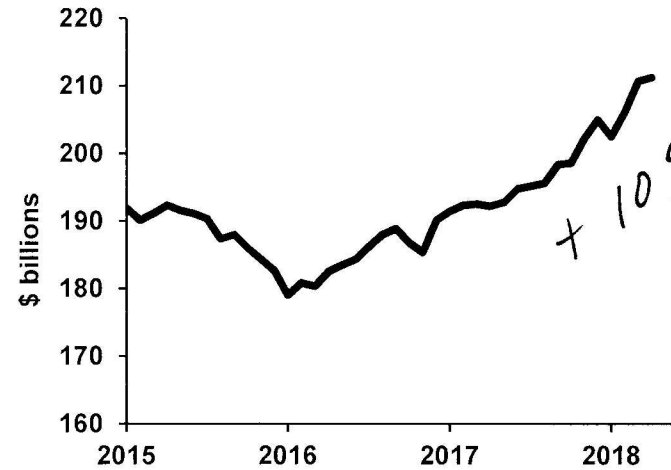
Euro Area Economic Growth

FocusEconomics consensus



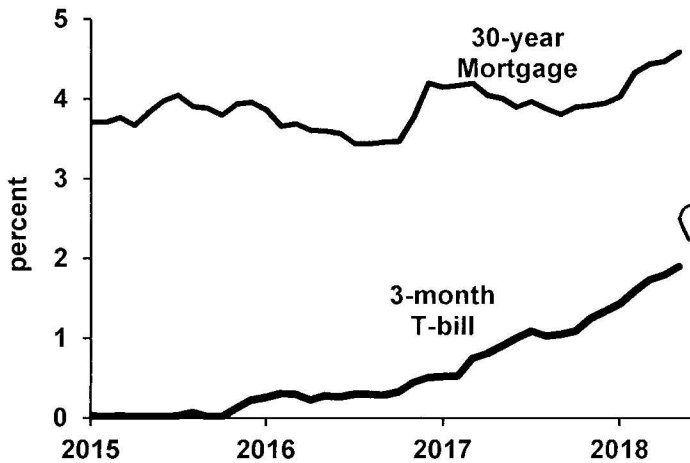
Doing well despite the drama.

U.S. Exports to World



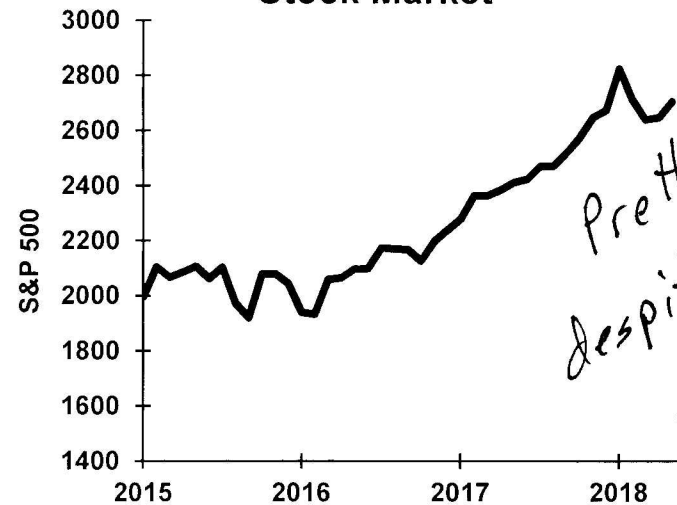
+ 10% last year

Interest Rates



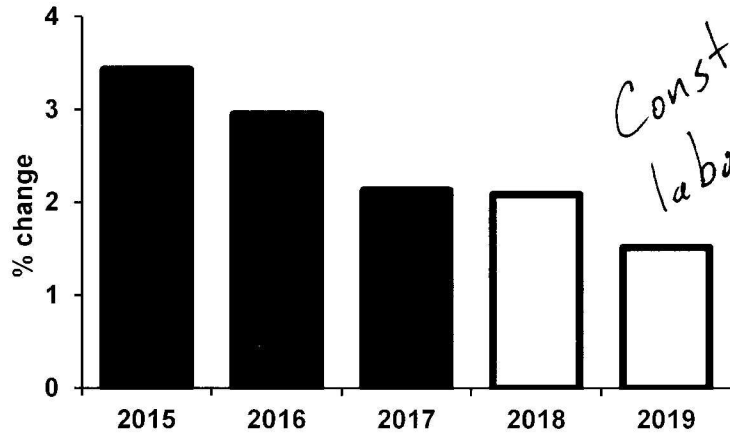
Look for rates to keep rising.

Stock Market



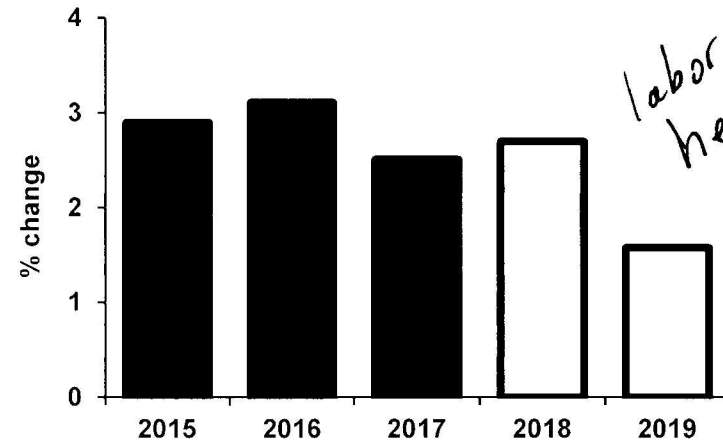
Pretty good despite dip. recent

Oregon Employment Growth



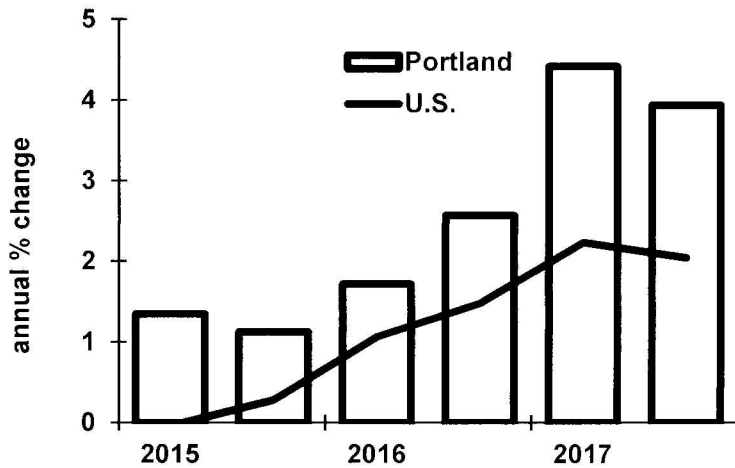
Constrained by labor & housing availability

Washington Employment Growth



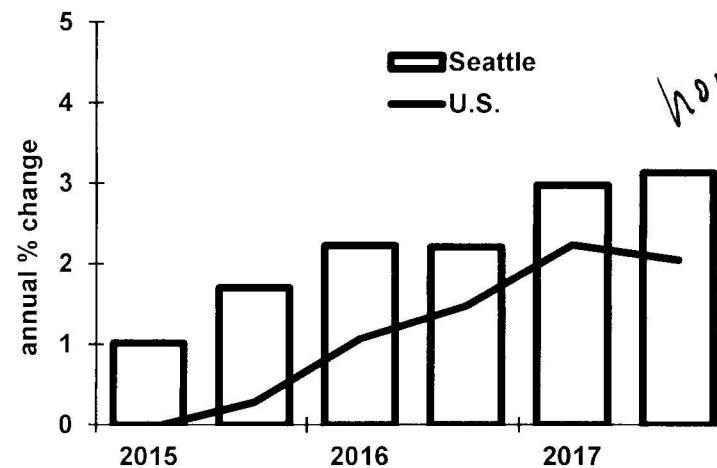
labor constraint here, too

Portland CPI



Real estate costs much higher here

Seattle CPI



housing costs a factor

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Time to check key assumptions

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Visualize a baseball game. A fast runner is on first base, looking to steal second. The runner takes a lead, then plants himself in a flexible stance. He's ready to run in either direction: to second base if he gets a chance to steal, or back to first base if the pitcher tries to pick him off. Using that stance in business is the subject of Dr. Bill Conerly's latest book, *The Flexible Stance: Thriving in a Boom/Bust Economy*.