



FISCAL BAROMETER



FISCAL IMPACT

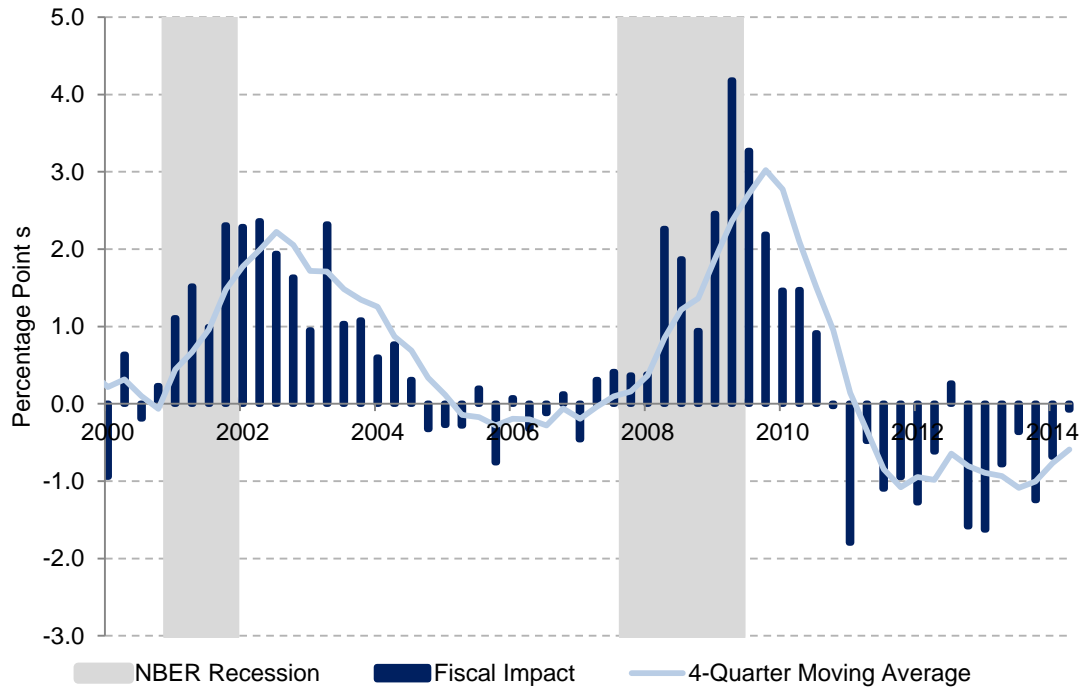
JOBS+PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

TAXES+SPENDING

THE LONGER RUN

Fiscal Impact Measure

Contribution of Fiscal Policy to Real GDP Growth



Source: Hutchins Center Calculations based on BEA data; shaded areas indicate recessions.

BROOKINGS 

The fiscal impact measure shows how much federal, state, and local government taxes and spending added to or subtracted from the overall pace of economic growth. Between 2008 and 2011, fiscal impact was positive, indicating that government policy was stimulative; in recent years, it has been negative, indicating restraint. (For more detail on how this measure was constructed and how to interpret it, see our methodology.)