

# Financial Markets: Is "after the crisis" just "ahead of the crisis"?

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## Outline

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- About BNY Mellon / Mellon Capital
  
- Financial Markets, current conditions and outlook
  - ▶ Equities
  - ▶ Bonds
  - ▶ Commodities
  
- Conclusion



## About BNY Mellon/Mellon Capital

### Bank of New York Mellon

- Bank of New York founded in 1784 by Alexander Hamilton. Mellon Bank founded in 1869. Merger in 2007
- Headquartered in New York
- 47,700 employees (Oct 2010)
- 10<sup>th</sup> largest financial institution in the U.S. by market cap (11/08/2010)
- Custodial services: >\$20t under custody (Oct. 2010)
- Asset Management
  - ▶ \$>1t under management (Oct. 2010)
  - ▶ Distributed over a dozen boutique asset management companies

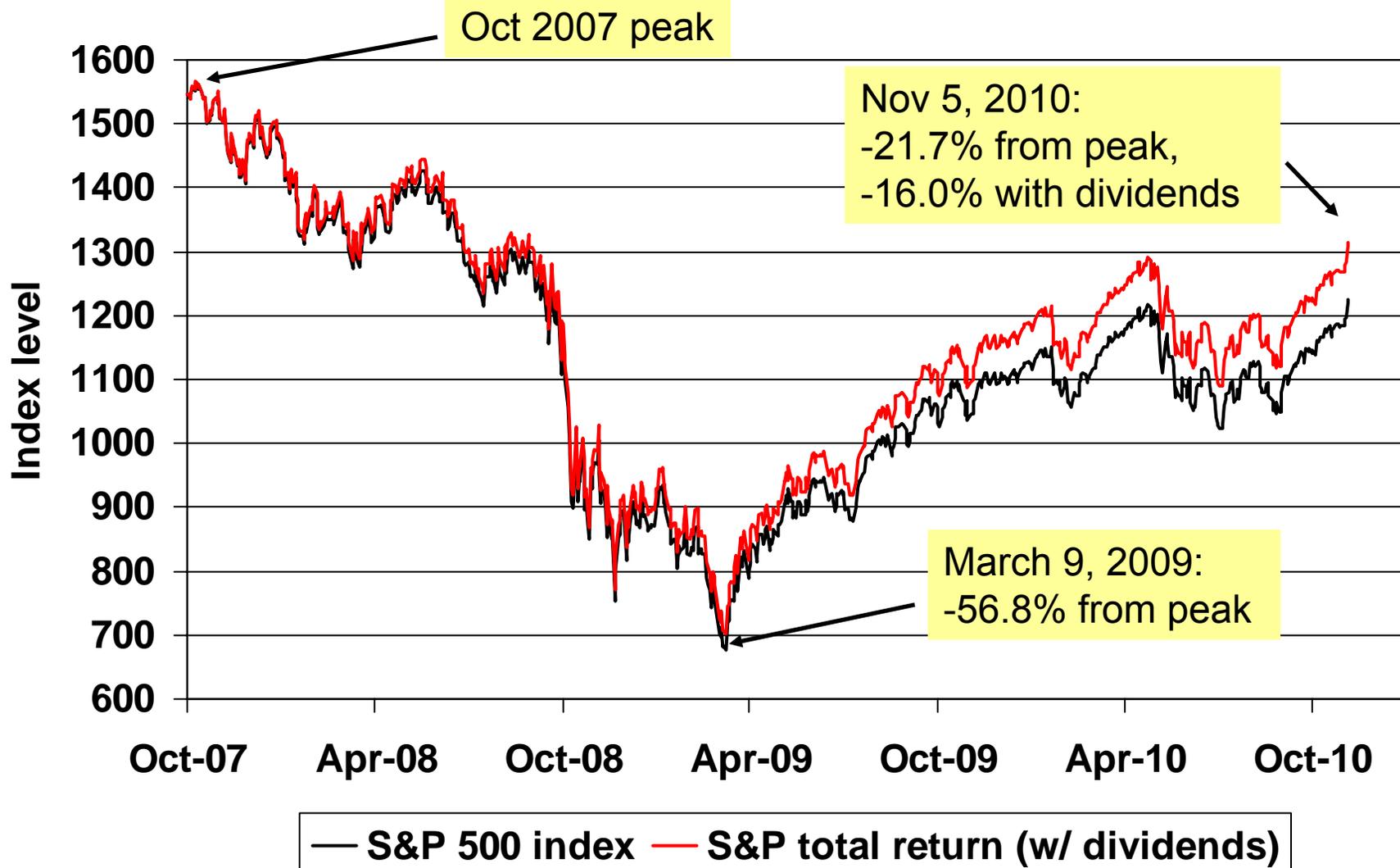
### Mellon Capital Management

- Founded in 1983
- Headquarters in San Francisco
- \$196b under management (Oct. 2010)
- Mostly institutional clients
- Variety of active and passive strategies
- Founded by innovators in indexing

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# Here we go again: the S&P500<sup>®</sup> has recovered 84% of its drawdown



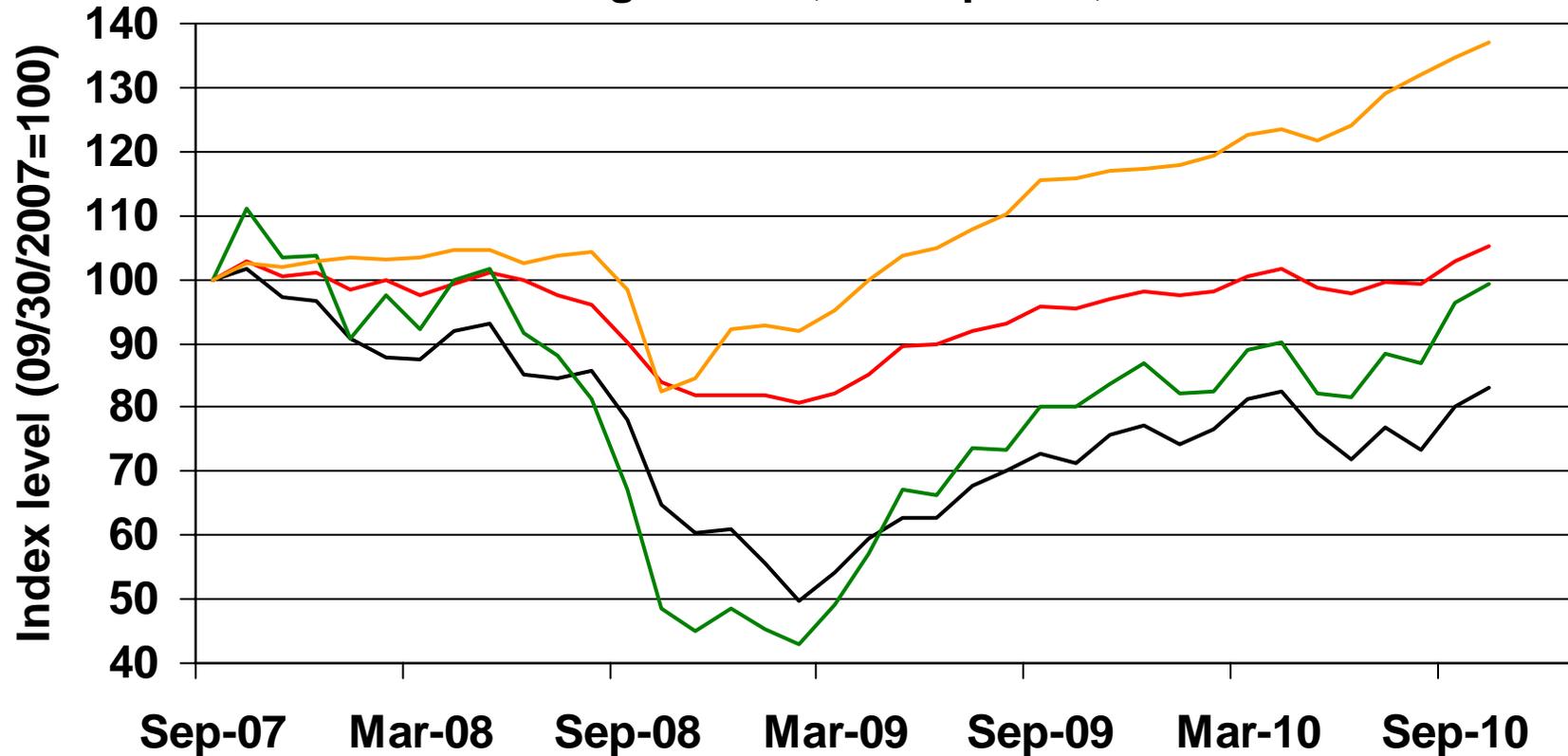
Source: Datastream

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# Hedge funds and emerging market stocks/bonds fared even better!

## S&P 500 vs. Hedge Funds, EM equities, EM bonds



— S&P500 total return

— HFRI Composite Index

— MSCI Emerging Market Equities

— BofA Emerging Market Sovereign Plus

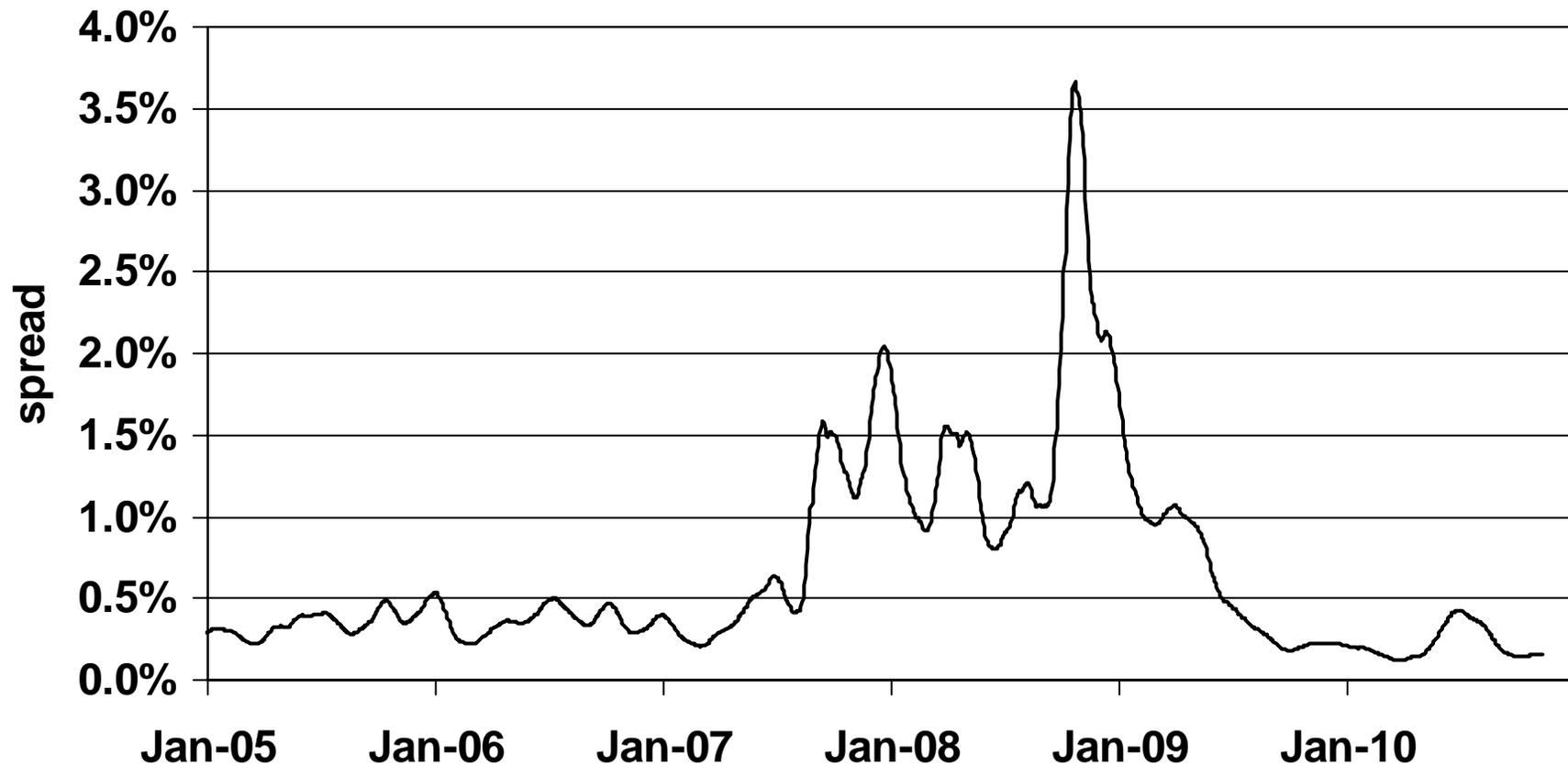
Source: Datastream and Mellon Capital Management

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## TED Spread: back to pre-crisis levels, hardly moved in mid 2010 crisis

3M LIBOR over T-bill spread  
(20d rolling average)

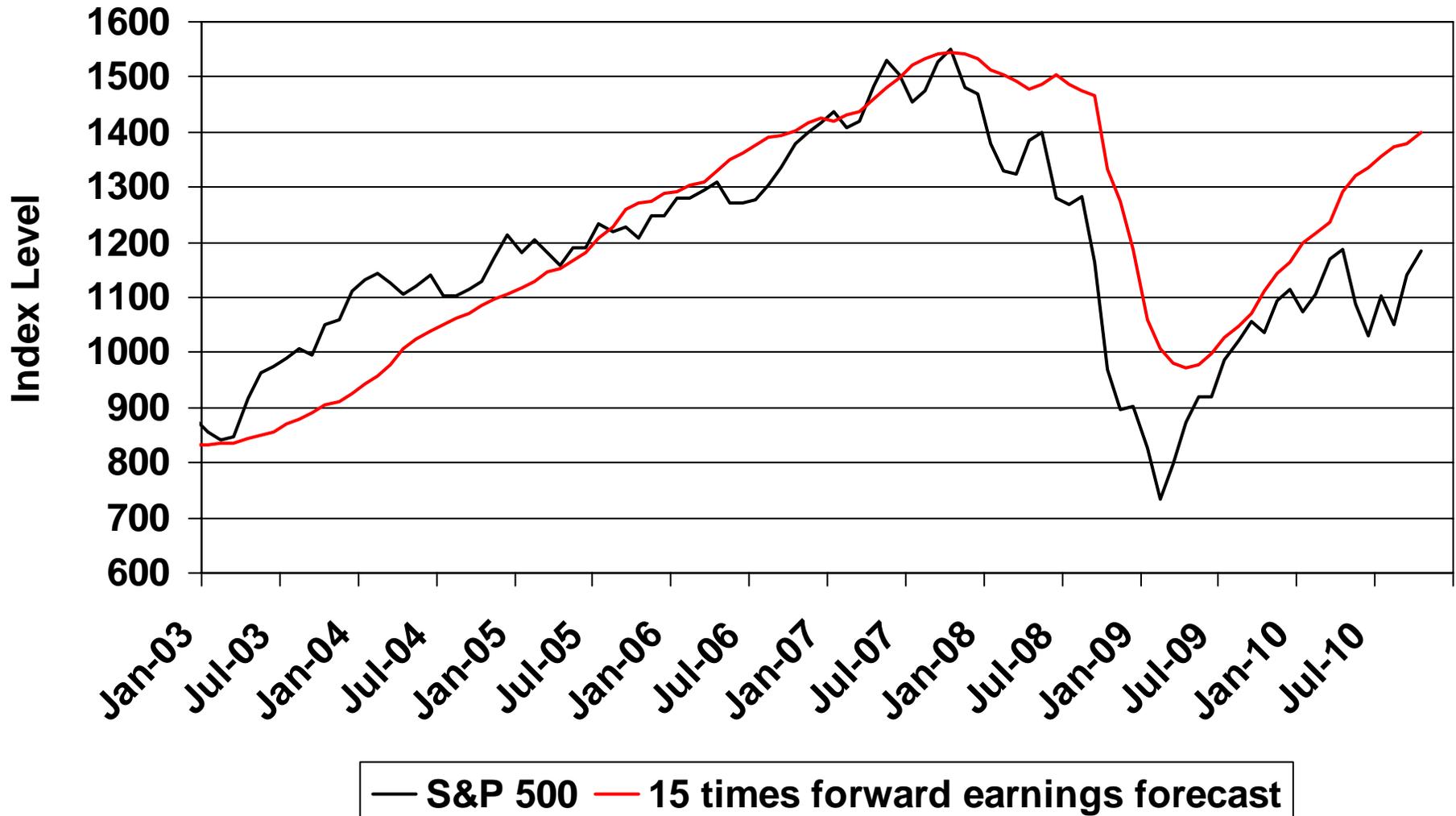


Source: Datastream and Mellon Capital Management

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## Relative to earnings, the S&P500<sup>®</sup> is still properly valued, by historical comparison

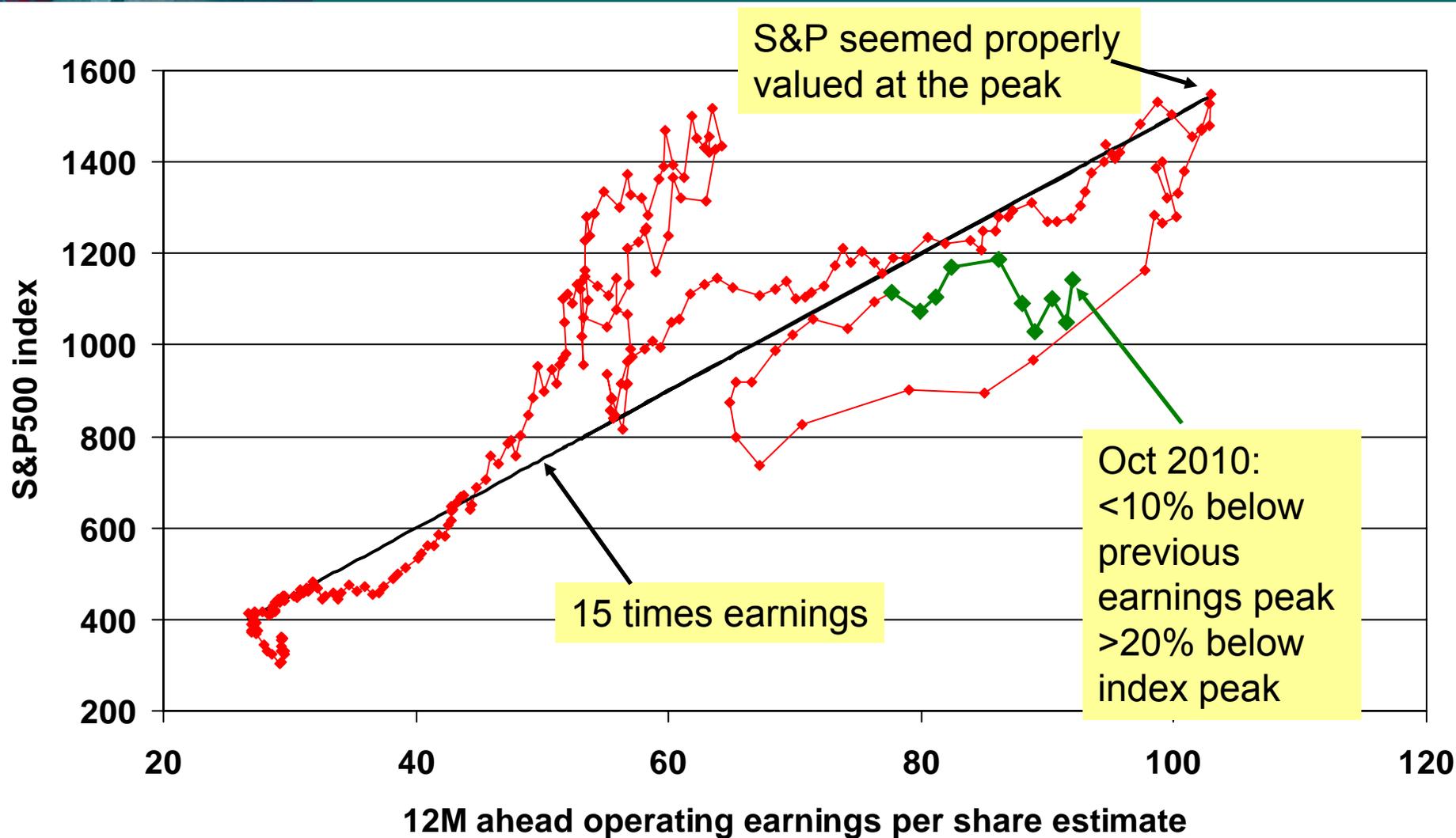


Source: Datastream and Mellon Capital Management

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# Earnings vs. S&P500<sup>®</sup> index: 1990-current



Source: Datastream and Mellon Capital Management

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## Bonds: the next bubble?

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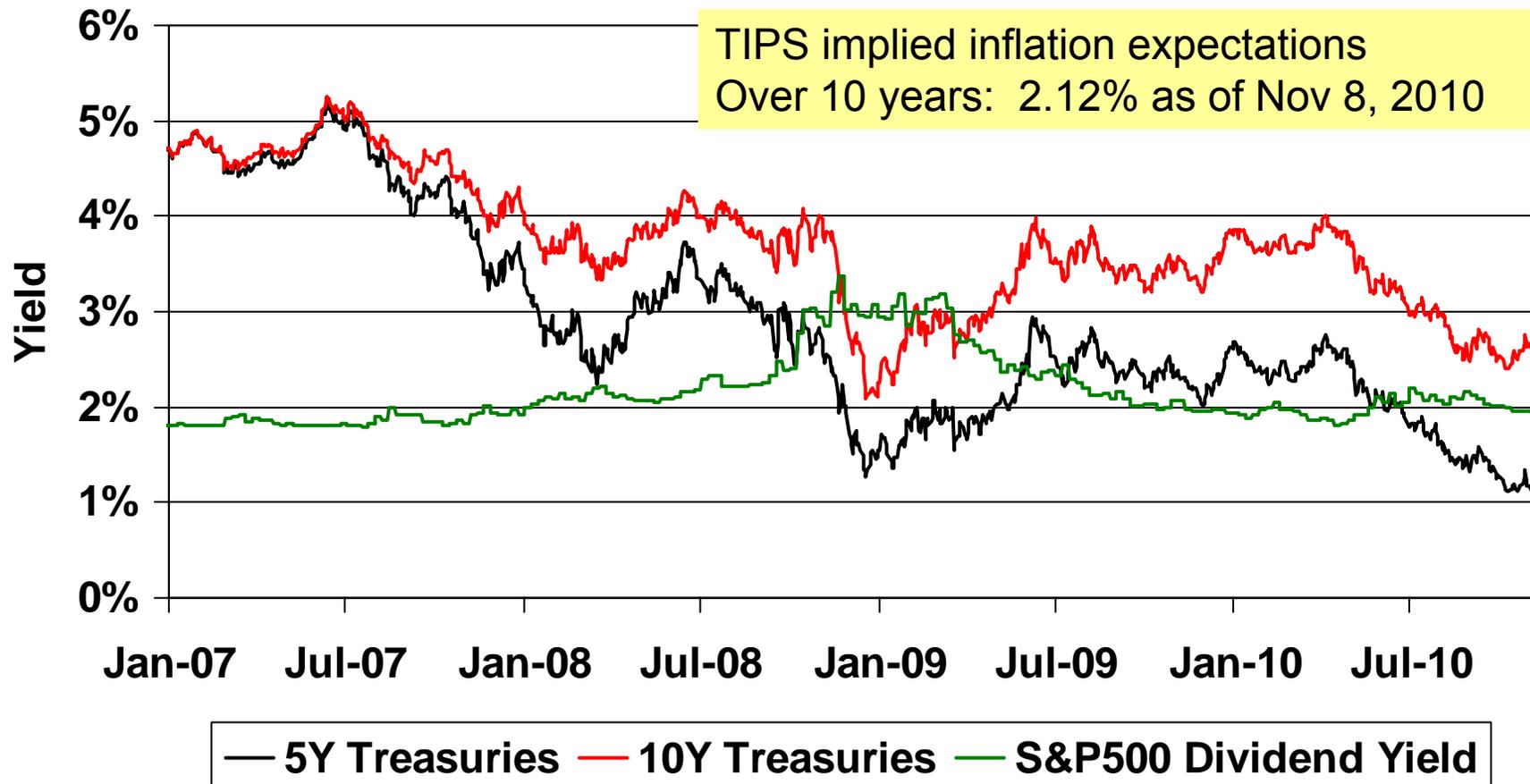
- Bonds yields are at or close to record-low levels
- Large deficits, especially in developed economies
- Inflation risk

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## 5 year yields at all time low, 10 year yields close to 2008 lows

### 5Y and 10Y Treasury yields vs. S&P 500 dividend yield

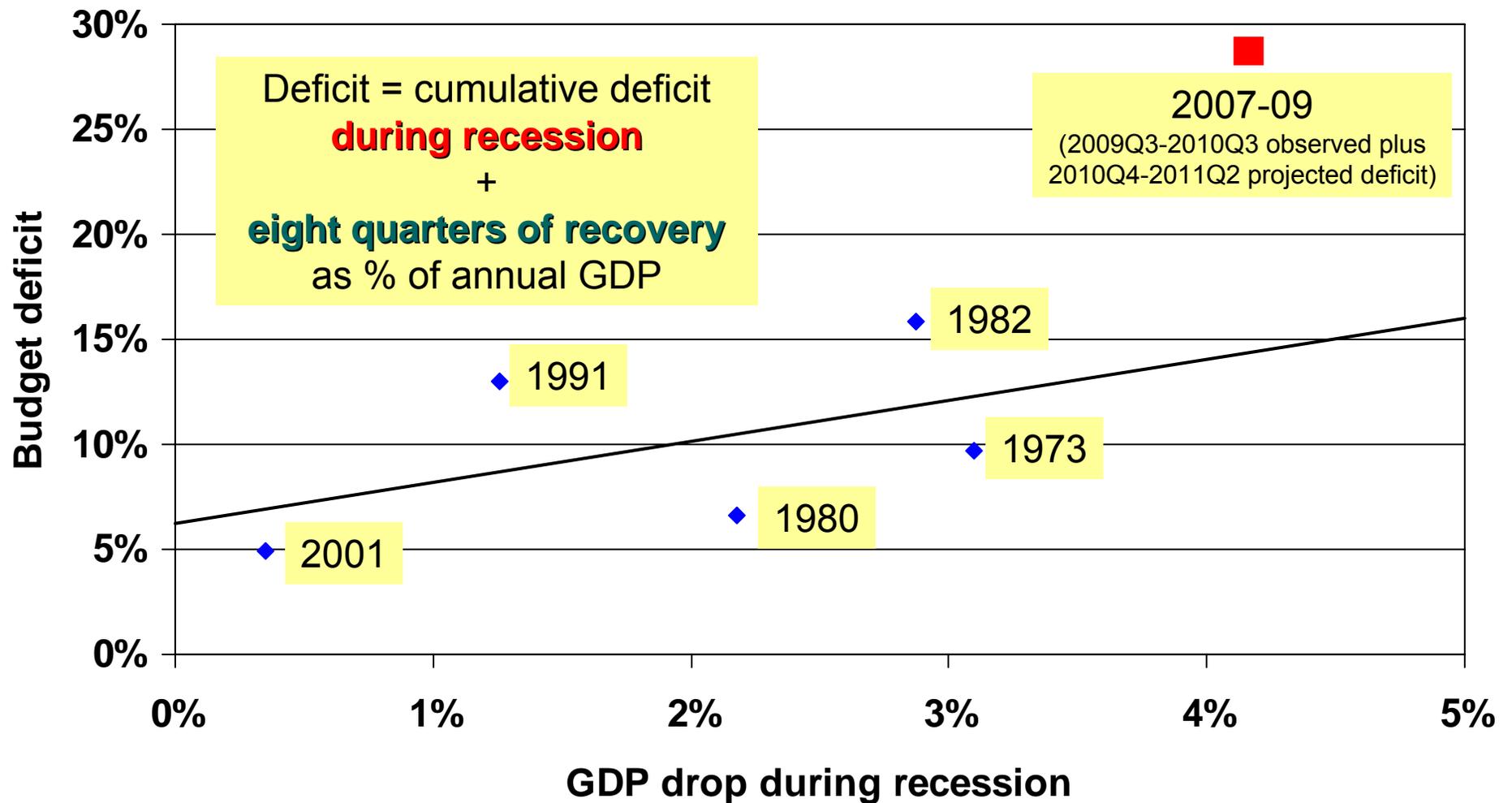


Source: Datastream and Mellon Capital Management

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## Severity of recession vs. U.S. budget deficit

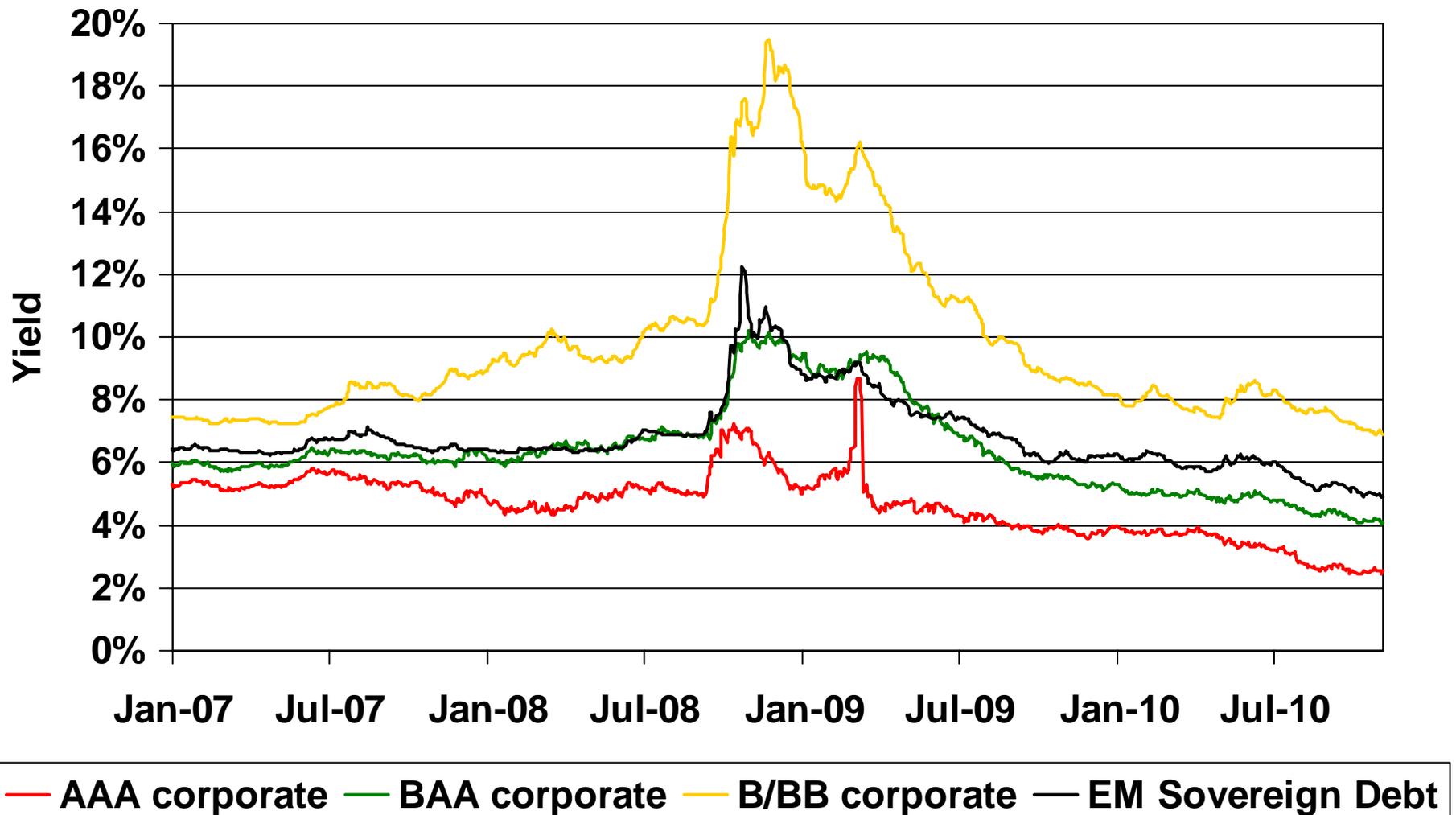


Source: Datastream, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Mellon Capital Management

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## Chasing yields: risky bonds yields are at or close to all-time lows



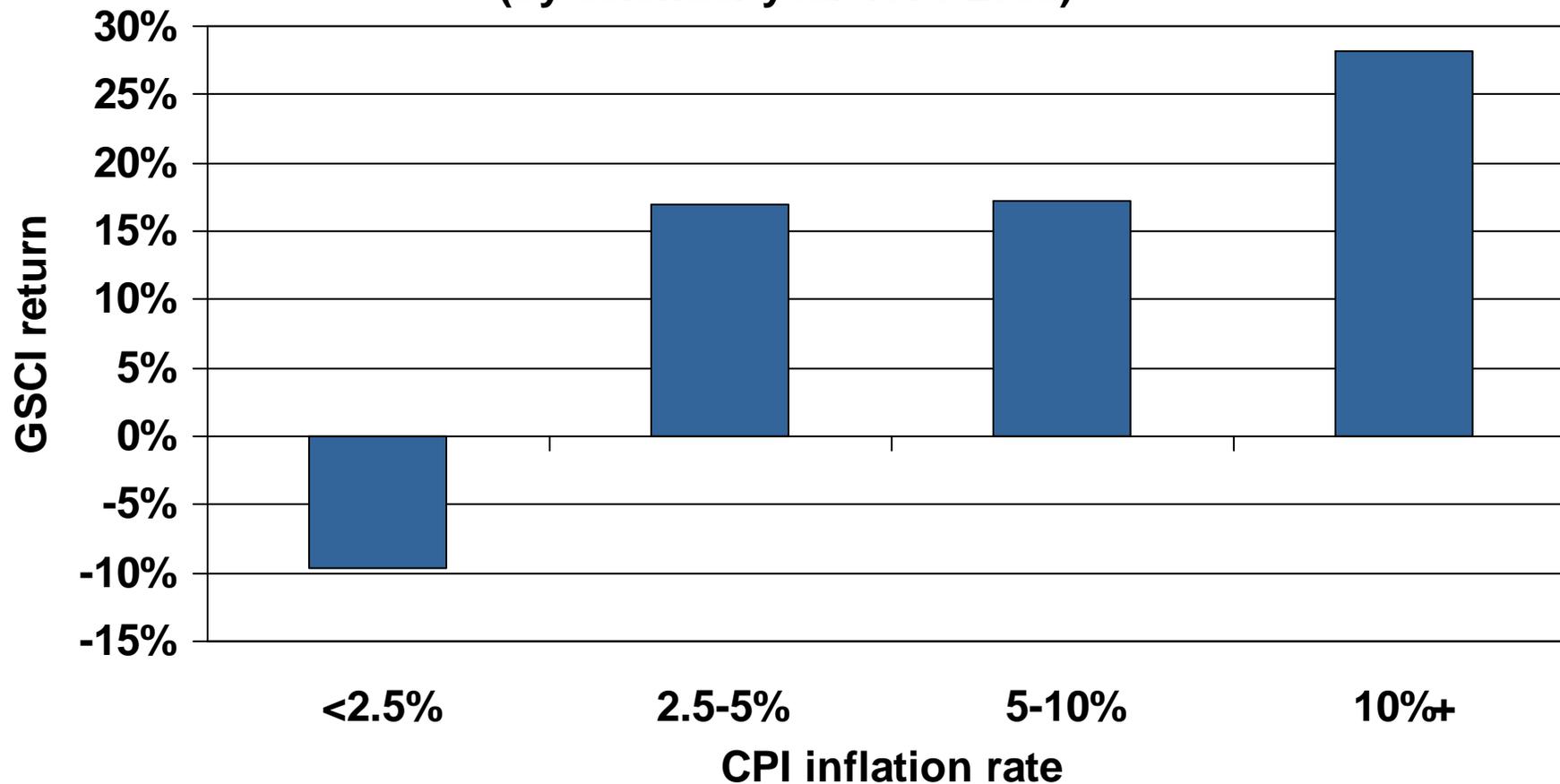
Source: Datastream, Barclays and Bank of America

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## Commodities may hedge against inflation

**GSCI average annual return in different inflation environments  
(by calendar year 1970-2009)**

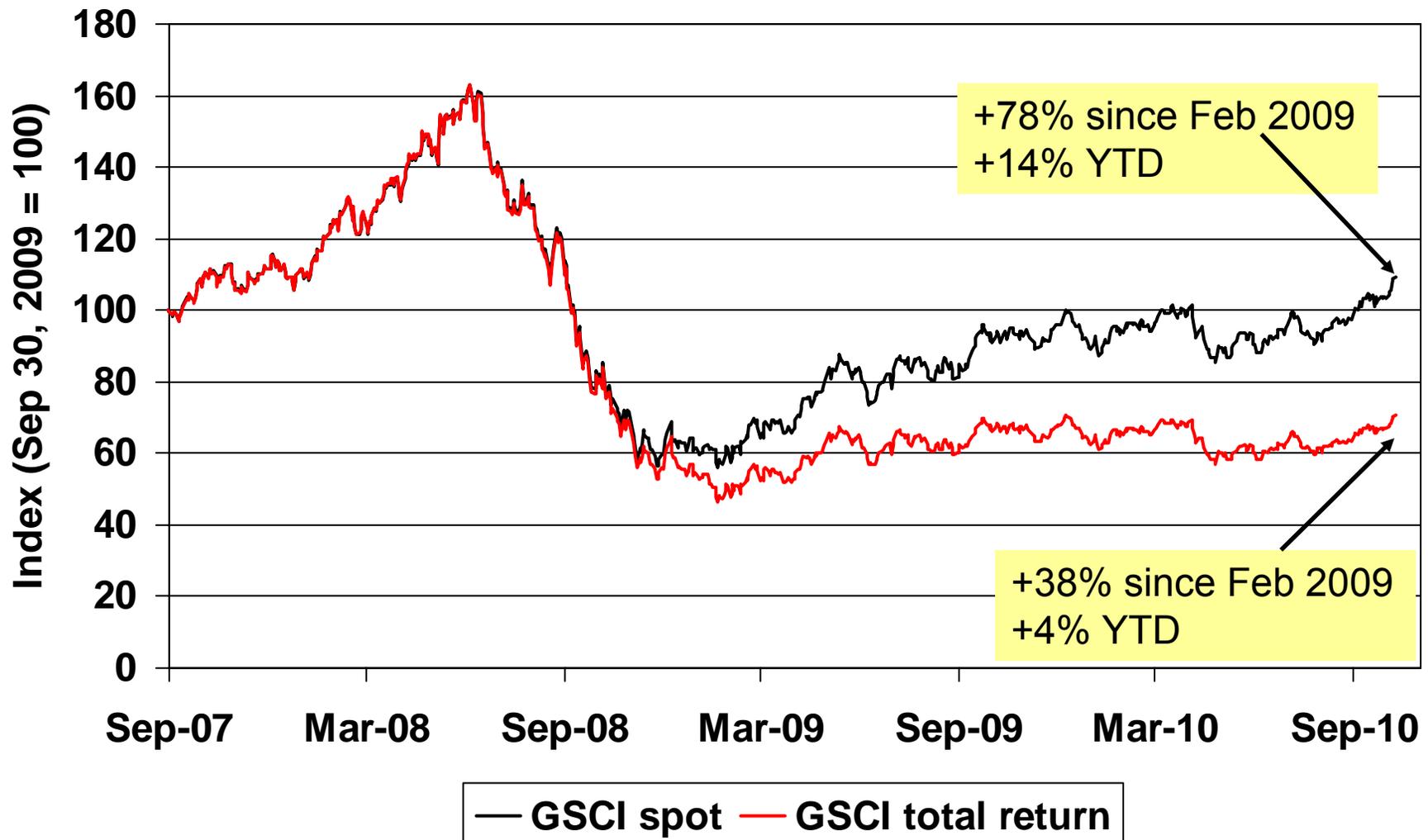


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Mellon Capital Management

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## Caveat: since 2009 actual commodity returns lagged spot returns



Source: Datastream and Mellon Capital Management

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## Why commodity total returns have underperformed spot returns in 2009/10

### Example: Commodity fund/ETF

- Hold December 2010 WTI crude oil contract:
- Investor never wants to take delivery of oil, thus before Dec 1:
  - ▶ has to sell December contract
  - ▶ buys January 2011 (or later) contract
- Nov 9, 2010 futures prices are in contango (from Bloomberg)
  - ▶ \$86.77 for December 2010 contract
  - ▶ \$87.36 for January 2011 contract (0.7% premium over Dec)
  - ▶ \$87.85 for February 2011 contract (1.2% premium over Dec)
  - ▶ \$88.37 for March contract (1.8% premium over Dec)

=> Sell cheaper contract, buy expensive contract
- Negative “roll yield” reduces returns by about 0.6-0.7% per month!



## Conclusion

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- Unlike rest of the economy, financial markets are in full swing again
- Equities seem adequately valued
- Bonds seem expensive
- Commodities bound to continue their rally, but beware of negative roll yields

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