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## NATIONAL OUTLOOK

(CONSENSUS FORECASTING GROUP)

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AUGUST 9, 2019

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## **Control Scenario**

(Probability - 55%)

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- □ Growth slows to 2.0% in CY2019
  - Slowing global growth
  - □ Fading fiscal stimulus
  - Continued uncertainty in tariff policy
- Housing starts and residential fixed investment downgraded
- □ Federal Reserve will pause increases in Federal Funds rate, hold at 2.38% through end of calendar 2019
- Increases in Brent oil prices, as oil expected to rise to \$69/bbl in calendar 2019 and fall back to \$67/bbl by 2020

## **Optimistic Scenario**

(Probability – 10%)

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- □ Increases in Real GDP to 2.4% in CY19
  - Housing market fuels growth due to increased household formation among young adults
  - Consumer spending growth expands to 2.4% in CY19 due to faster real income growth
  - Productivity growth averages 2.1% over CY19-22, 0.8% higher than the control forecast
- On the demand side, higher incomes and low inflation support robust consumer spending of 2.4% in CY19 and 3.4% in CY20

## **Pessimistic Scenario**

(Probability - 35%)

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- □ Three quarter recession beginning in Q4 of FY20
  - Broad loss in confidence and growing risk aversion
  - Declines in wide range of investment and consumer spending categories
  - Current expansion ends after 131 consecutive months of growth
- Real consumer spending in CY19 manages only 1.5% growth, falls to 0.2% in CY20
- □ Unemployment rate starts rising, reaching 6.0% by 2021
- □ Stock market drops 9.8% during CY20



























