

# Financial Markets

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# Monetization of Economy

Metal coins used in ancient times

Medium of exchange

Facilitates specialization,  
division of labor

Store of value

Banks established for

Safe keeping

Coin exchange

Some lending

Financial intermediation

Get funds from savers to investors

Paper money allows more loans

Fractional reserve banking

# Greek Coin from 4<sup>th</sup> Century BC



By Classical Numismatic Group, Inc.  
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## Early Misbehavior of Financial Markets



*Christ Expelling the Money-Changers from the Temple*

Nicolas Colombel, 1644-1717  
Saint Louis Art Museum

# Private, Specie-backed Money

Banks issue own paper, locally circulating currency  
Smith thought this was desirable

Risk of excessive loans and note issues

Convertibility in question

Lending risk (adverse selection)

Risk of borrowing short, lending long

Multiple currencies create transaction costs

Fluctuations in gold or silver supplies create instability

Smith thought competition among many small private banks would  
limit misbehavior

Speculative excesses, instability cast doubt

# Early Episodes of Speculative Euphoria

1630's Holland – Tulipmania

1710's France – Mississippi Company

1710's England – South Sea Company

## Chronicler of “Tulipmania”



Charles Mackay, 1814 - 1889

*Extraordinary Popular Delusions and Madness of Crowds*, 1841

# U.S. Experience

18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries – state banks

Recurrent economic crises

Banks over-expand, then collapse

Bad loans, bank runs and failures

Real shocks <--> financial crises

Specie supply does not meet currency needs

National banks fizzle

1913 Federal Reserve



# Great Depression

1920's Florida real estate speculation  
Origin of "Ponzi Scheme"

Slump in farm prices and income

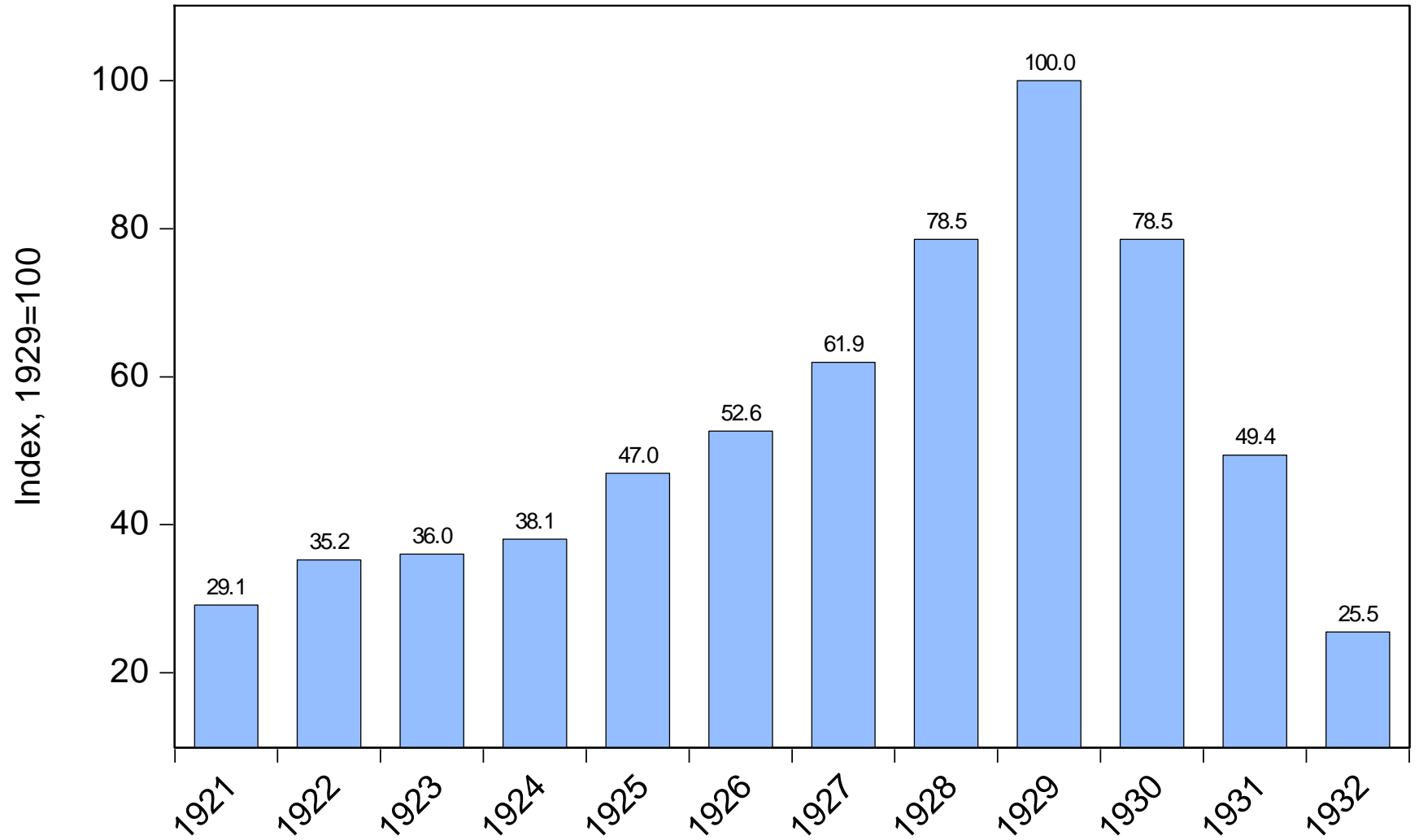
Growing stock market speculation

October 1929 NYSE collapse

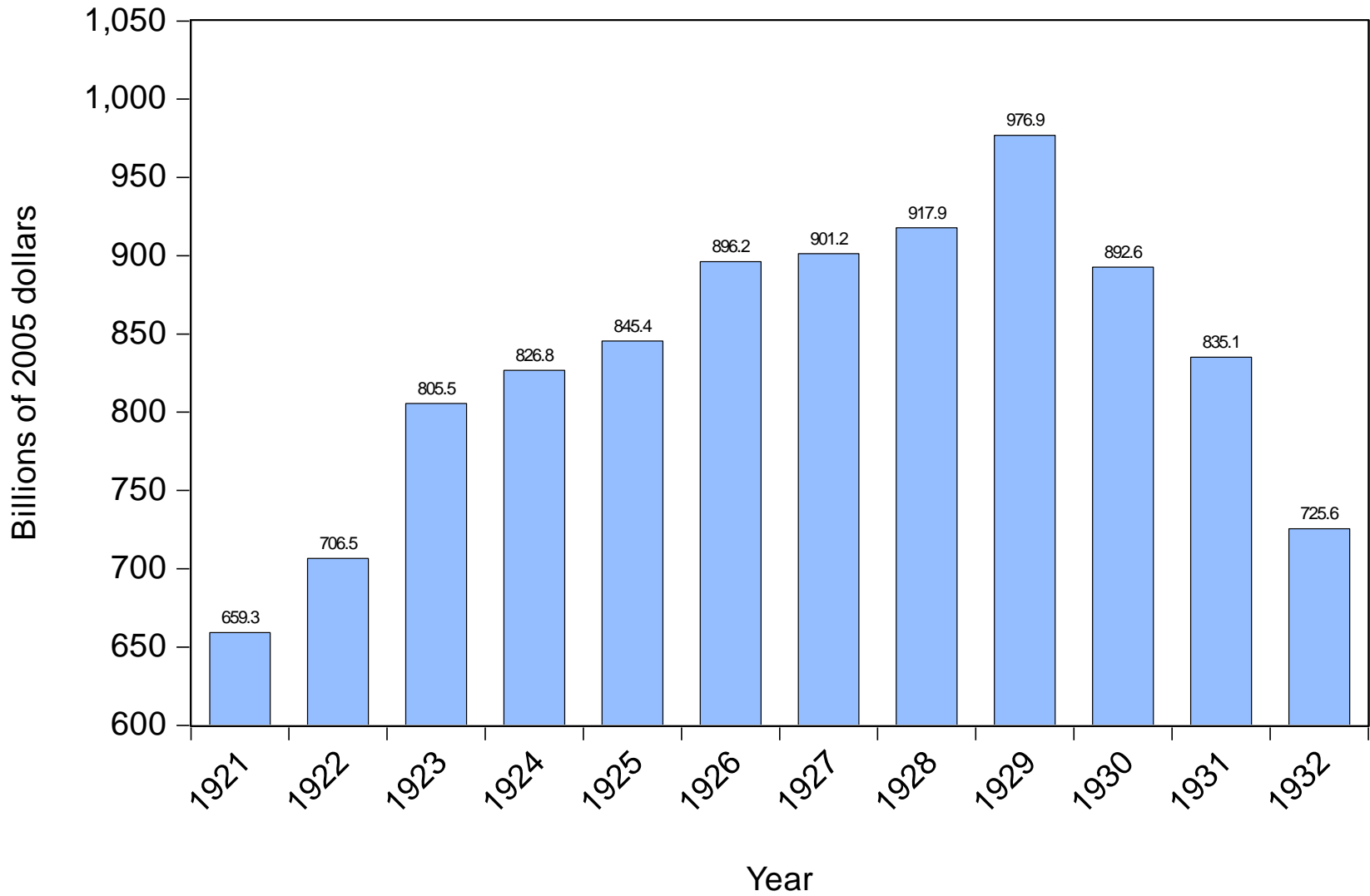
GDP decline, unemployment, deflation

Contagion of bank failures, foreclosures

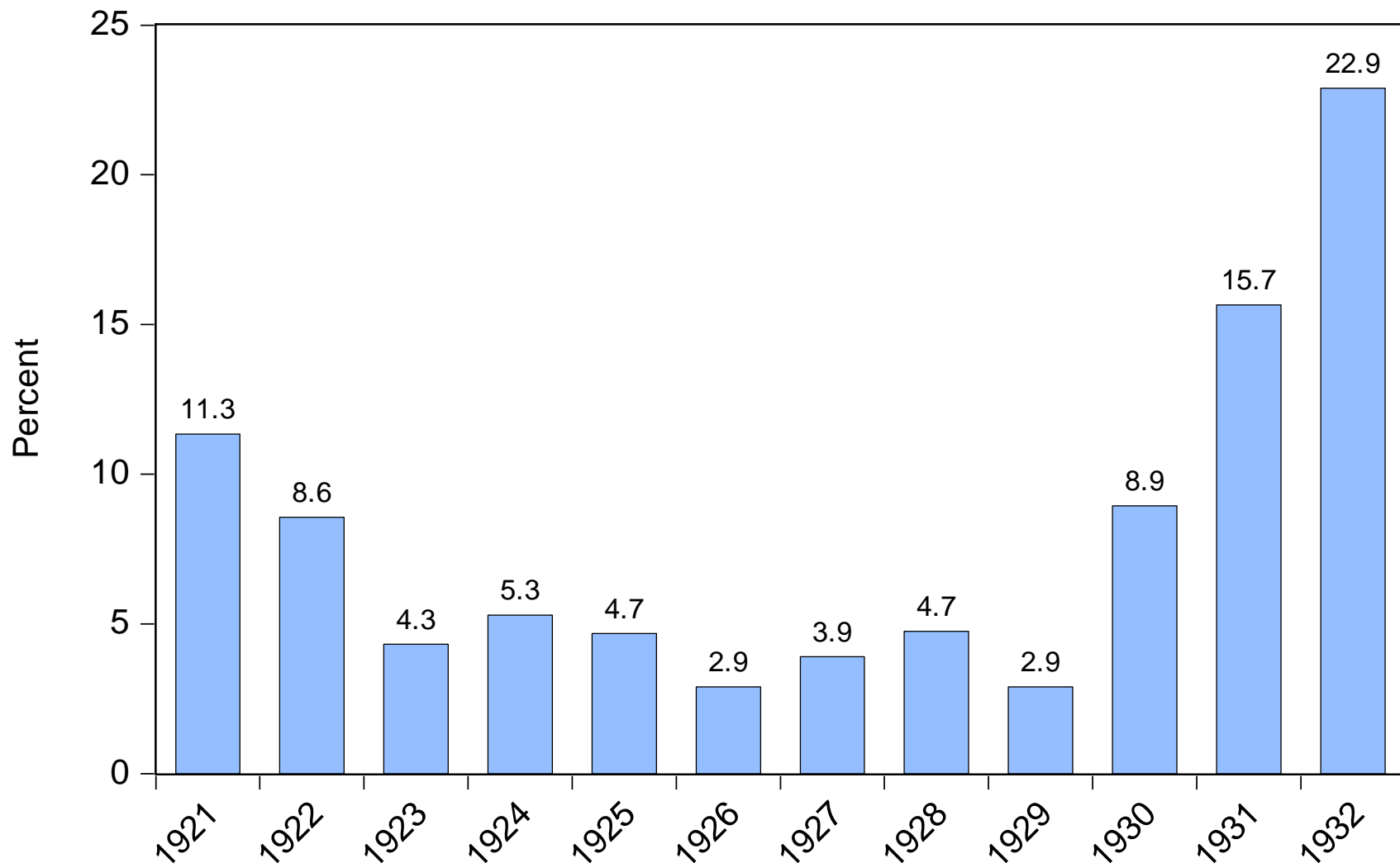
# S&P Stock Price Index, 1921-1932



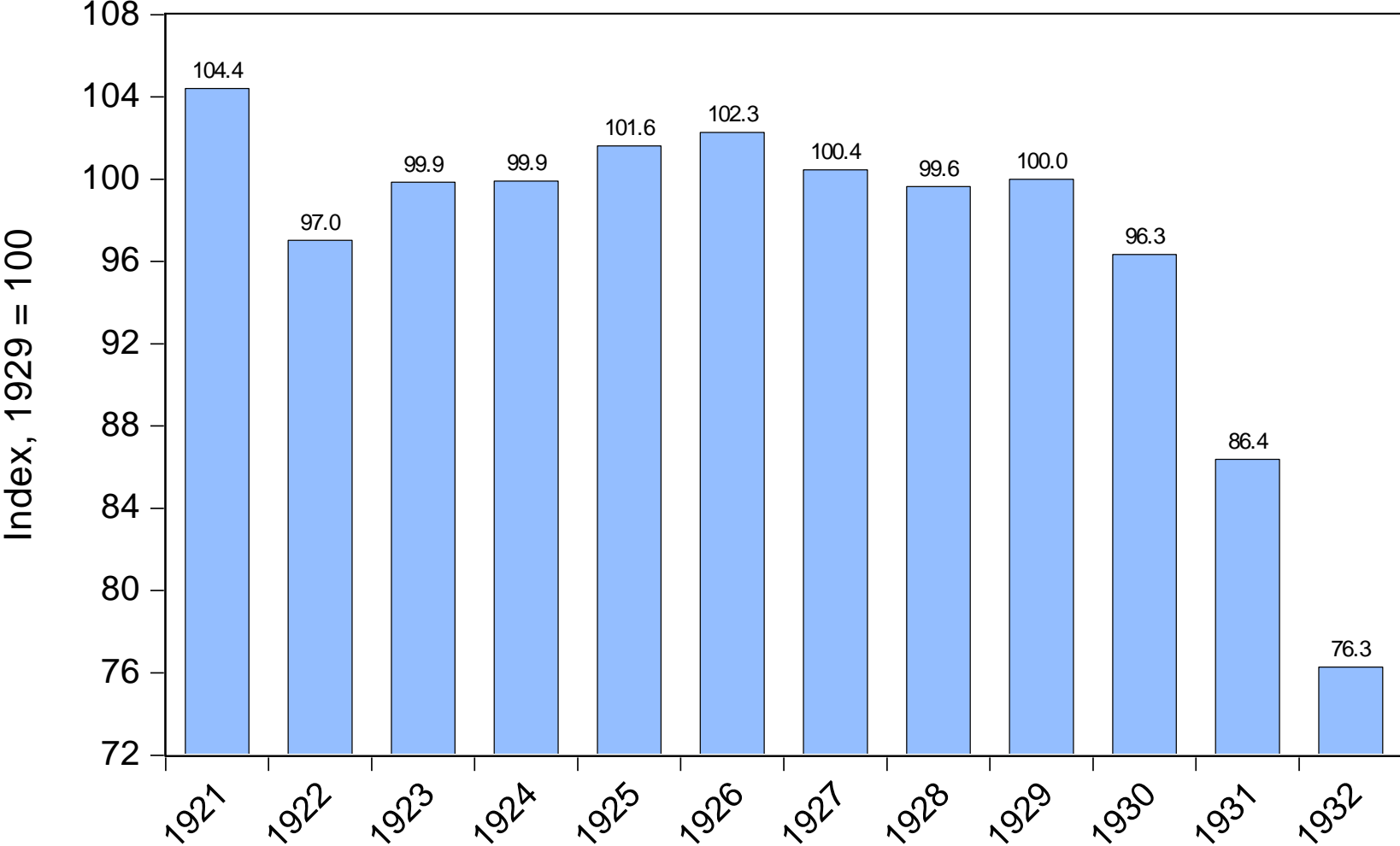
# Real GDP, 1921-1932



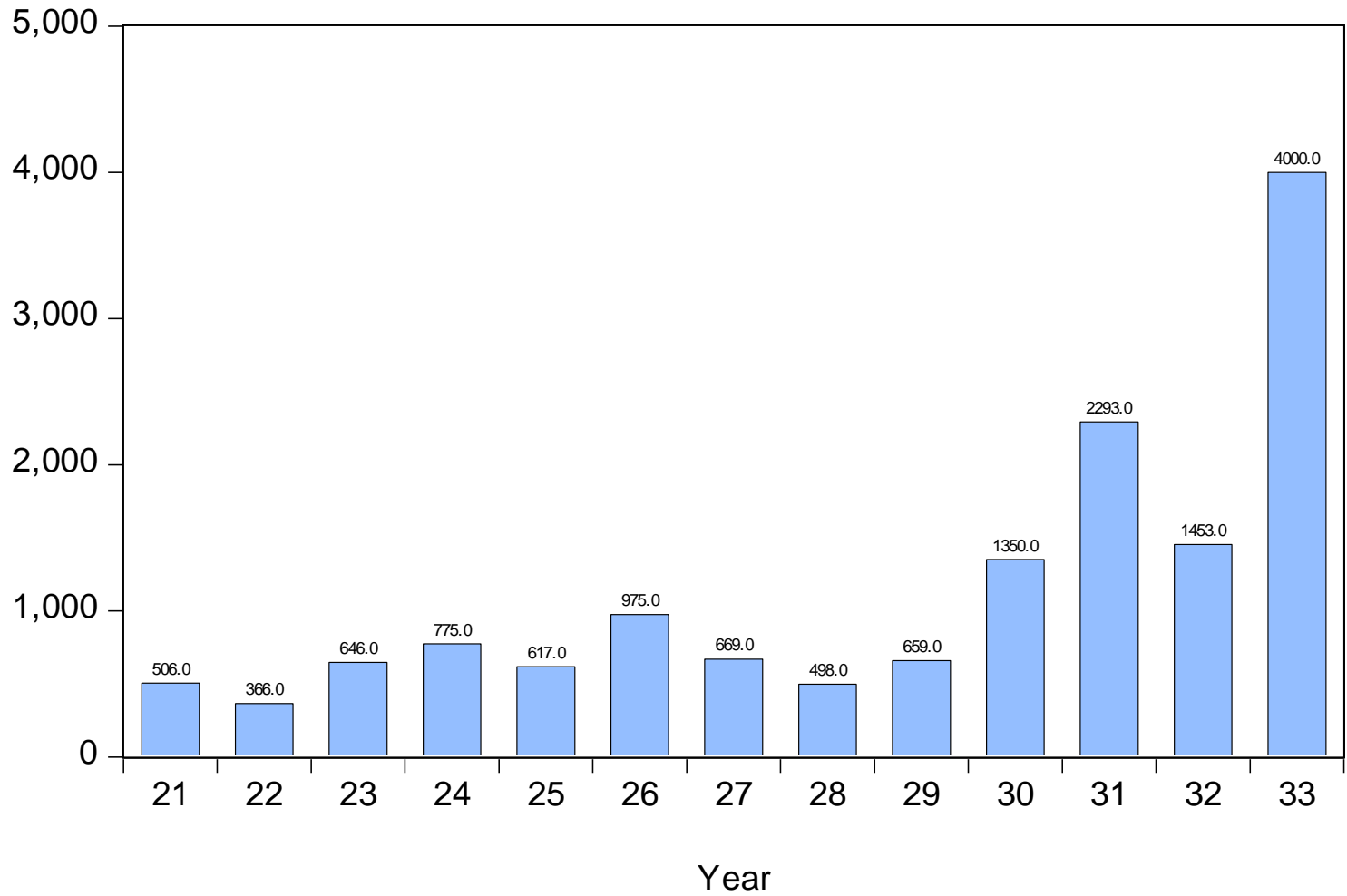
## Unemployment Rate, 1921-1932



# Price Level, 1921-1932 (Implicit GDP Deflator)



# Bank Failures, 1921 - 1933



Source: FDIC

# Aftermath of Great Depression

- 1932      Federal Home Loan Bank Act
- 1933      Securities Act  
            FDIC established
- 1934      Securities and Exchange Commission
- 1940      Investment Company Act

# Post World War II

Important advances in financial research and innovation

1970s Securitization of mortgages and other loans  
Emergence of MMMFs

1980 Depository Institutions Deregulation Act  
Removed Regulation Q  
Allowed Interest-paying checking  
Allowed S+L and CU to offer checking

1982 Garn-St. Germain Act  
Further deregulation of S+L  
Allowed adjustable rate mortgages

1980s Savings and loan crisis



# Post World War II

1980s Growth of leveraged buyouts, hedge funds, private equity

1987 One-day collapse of NYSE

1990s Stock market euphoria and collapse

# Post World War II

1990s Stock market euphoria and collapse

1997-98 Collapse of hedge fund LTCM

1999 Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act  
Banks can sell and trade securities and insurance

2002 Sarbanes-Oxley  
Tightens accounting and corporate governance

2007-08 Housing market collapse, deep recession

2010 Dodd-Frank Act

# Financial Innovators – Nobel Laureates

## Portfolio theory

Harry Markowitz (1952)

James Tobin (1958)

William Sharpe (1963)

## Corporate finance and cost of capital

Franco Modigliani, Merton Miller (1958)

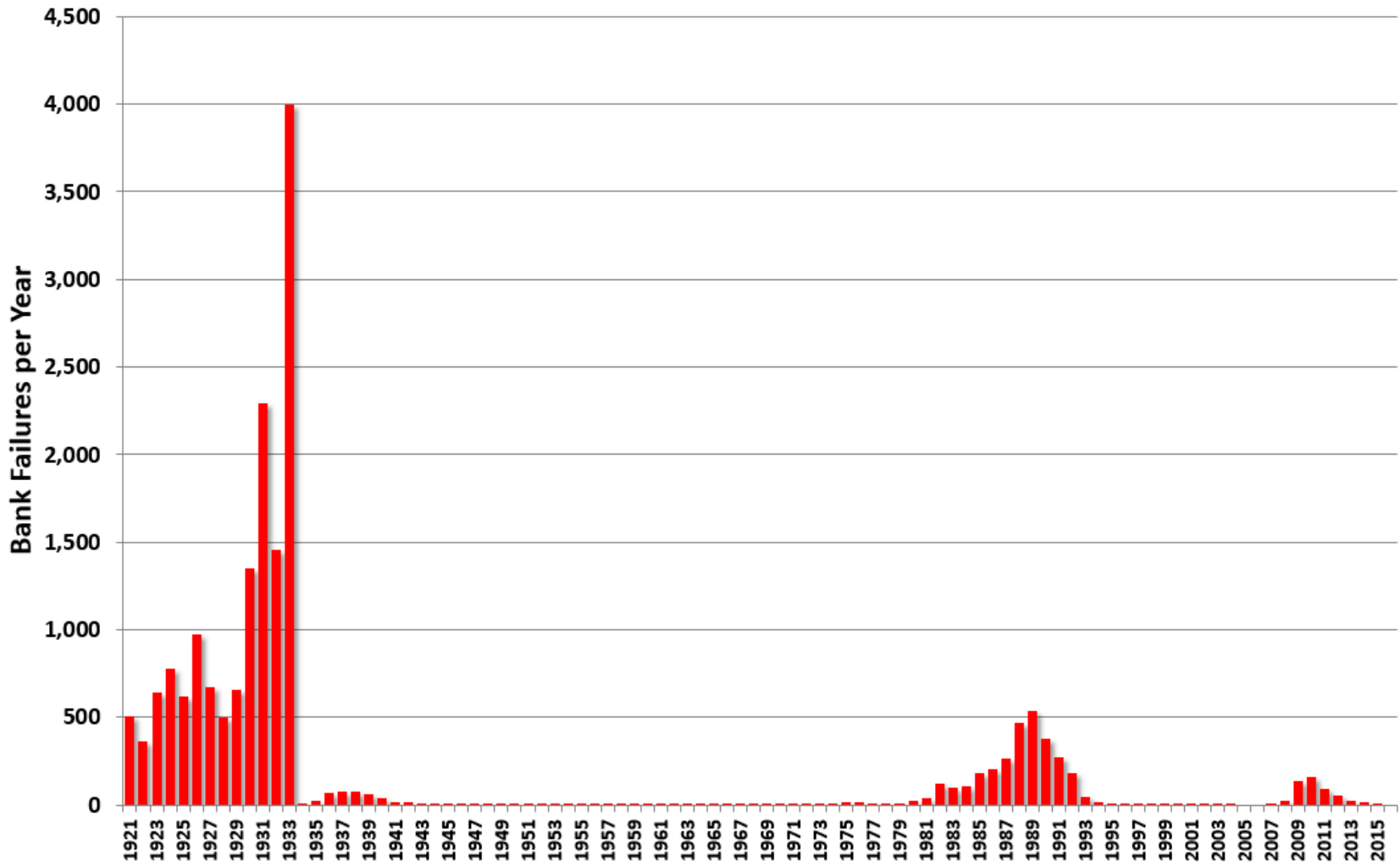
## Efficient markets theory

Eugene Fama (1965)

## Options pricing

Fisher Black, Myron Sholes, Robert Merton (1973)

## Bank and Thrift Failures, including pre-FDIC



<http://www.calculatedriskblog.com/>

# Largest Daily Changes in the DJIA Percent

## Increases

1933-03-15 15.3

1931-10-06 14.9

1929-10-30 12.3

1932-09-21 11.4

2008-10-13 11.1

## Decreases

1987-10-19 -22.6

1929-10-28 -12.8

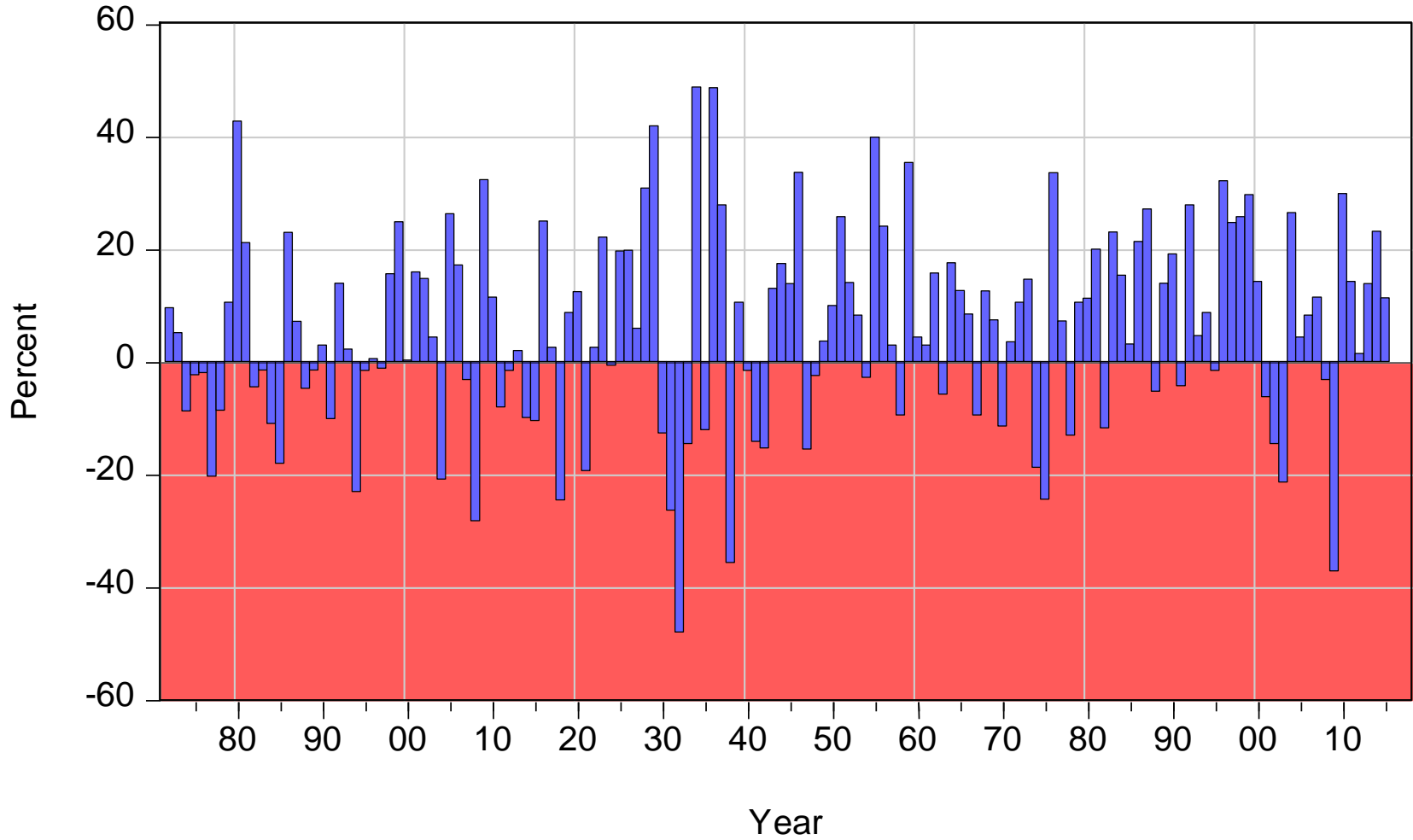
1899-12-18 -12.0

1929-10-29 -11.7

1929-11-06 -9.9

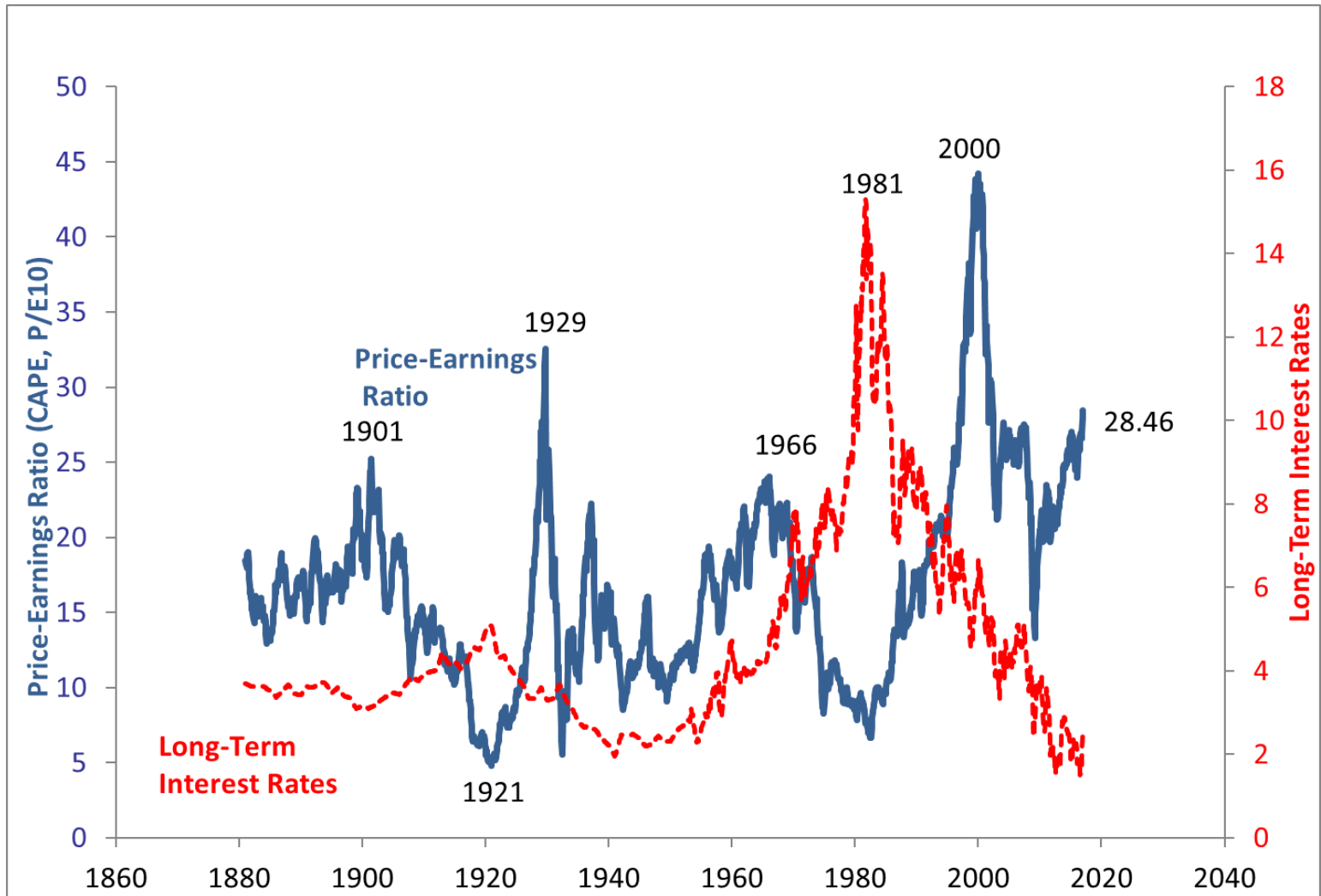
# S&P 500, 1872 - 2015

Annual Percent Change, Jan. - Jan.

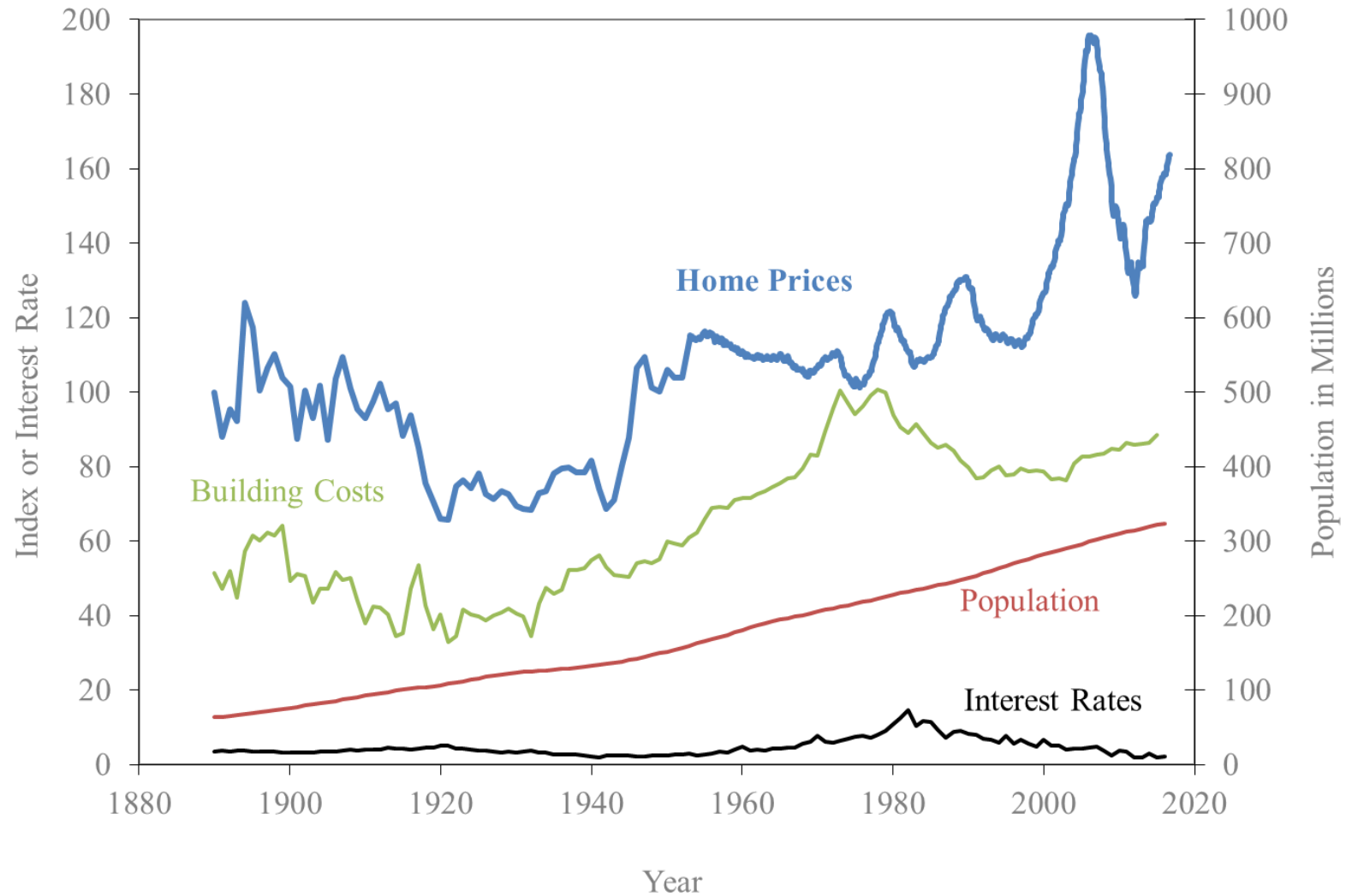


# U.S. Price-Earnings Ratio of Corporate Stocks, 1871 – 2016

S&P 500, cyclically adjusted



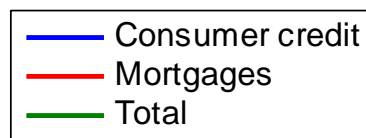
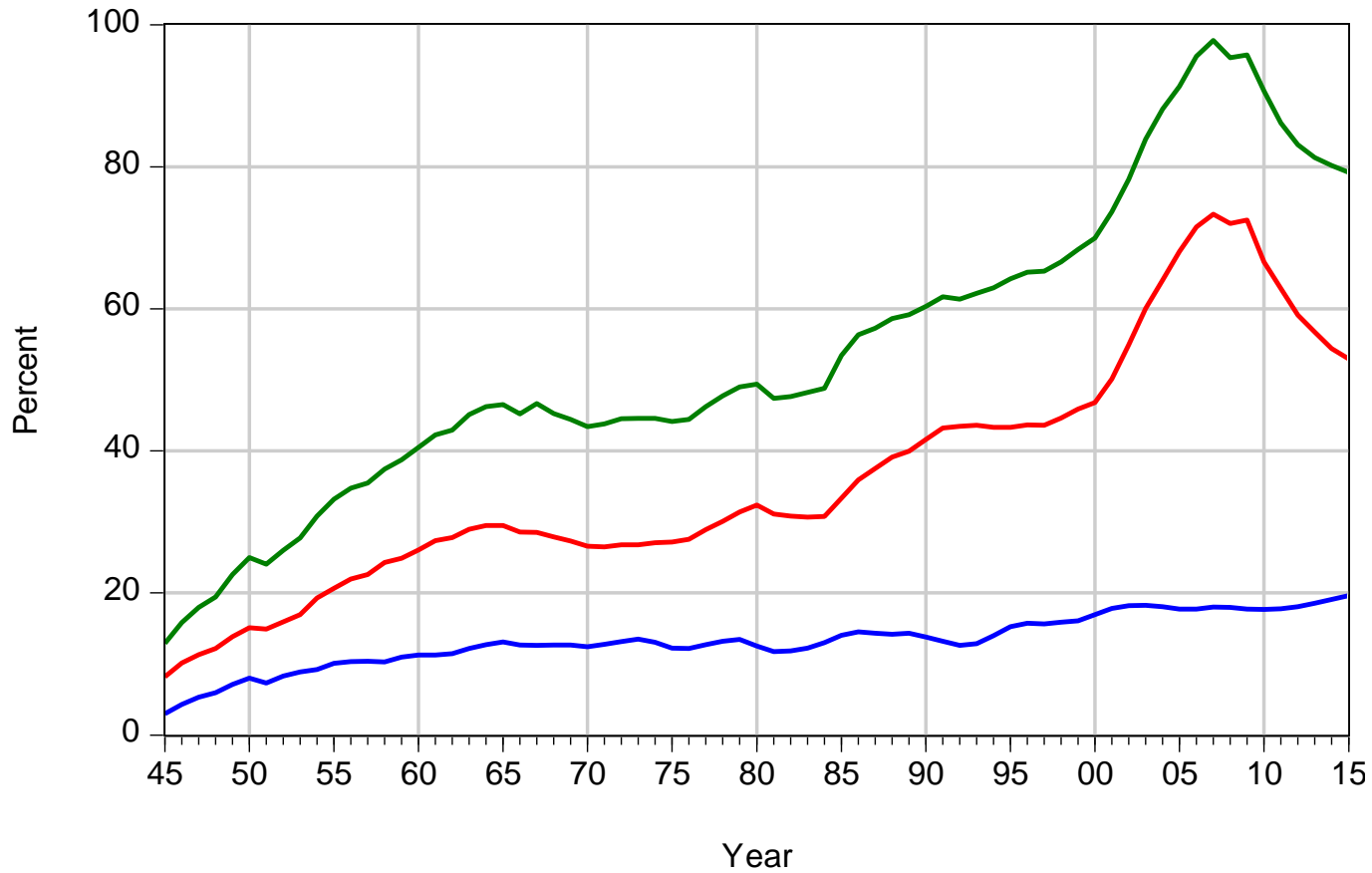
# U.S. Home Prices and Related Series, 1890 - 2016





# Household Debt

Percent of GDP



# Post World War II

Have financial innovations and regulatory changes made financial markets more stable or less stable?

Changes promote risk-taking, innovation

Dodd-Frank created comprehensive oversight

Fed has become professional and independent

Public's financial knowledge is growing

Growing complexity challenges regulators

Bubbles probably unavoidable

**END**