



# Viewpoints

Welcome to **Viewpoints**, a monthly e-mail from PDS Planning to our valued clients and friends. Our goal with each issue of Viewpoints is to provide you with a wide variety of perspectives on life and wealth. Feel free to forward this e-mail to others, and certainly let us know if you prefer not to receive it.

For February 16, 2015

## **Economic and Investment News Bits**

- ✚ "I'm not convinced the current pessimism is warranted. Unemployment numbers have been good, there's a new report of strong job openings, and better yet, there's reasonable wage growth, enough that American employees are quitting their jobs to take higher-paying positions. That's all good news. But you'll be hard-pressed to notice it amid the dire headlines of the past couple of weeks. **It's not fashionable right now to be positive. I advise you to not be a fashionable pessimist,**" (Source: Seth Jayson, The Motley Fool).
- ✚ Historically, **33% of college graduates** in the U.S. that are employed are working in jobs that do not require a college degree. Following the 2008 global financial crisis, the percentage of recent college graduates working in jobs that do not require a college degree has climbed to 44% (Source: New York Federal Reserve Bank).
- ✚ The **top 10% of taxpayers** in 2013 earned at least \$127,695 in adjusted gross income (AGI), reported 45.87% of all AGI nationwide, and paid 69.80% of all federal income tax (Source: IRS).
- ✚ "The **U.S. should follow** Canada's *One-for-One Rule*, introduced in 2012. The rule requires that when a new or amended regulation is introduced, another must be removed," (Source: Warren Buffet).
- ✚ The recent market selloff "is somewhat unjustified" noted David Kelly, JP Morgan's Chief Global Strategist. "**The U.S. economy is not even close to recession.** January spending and employment numbers are strong, along with fairly good wage gains."
- ✚ **Top jobs for the future**, according to Kiplinger, include speech-language pathologist, community service manager, computer systems analyst, app developer, registered nurse, information security analyst, health services manager, medical sonographer, physical therapist, nurse practitioner. Note: technology and health will continue to lead the way.

## **Thought for the week**

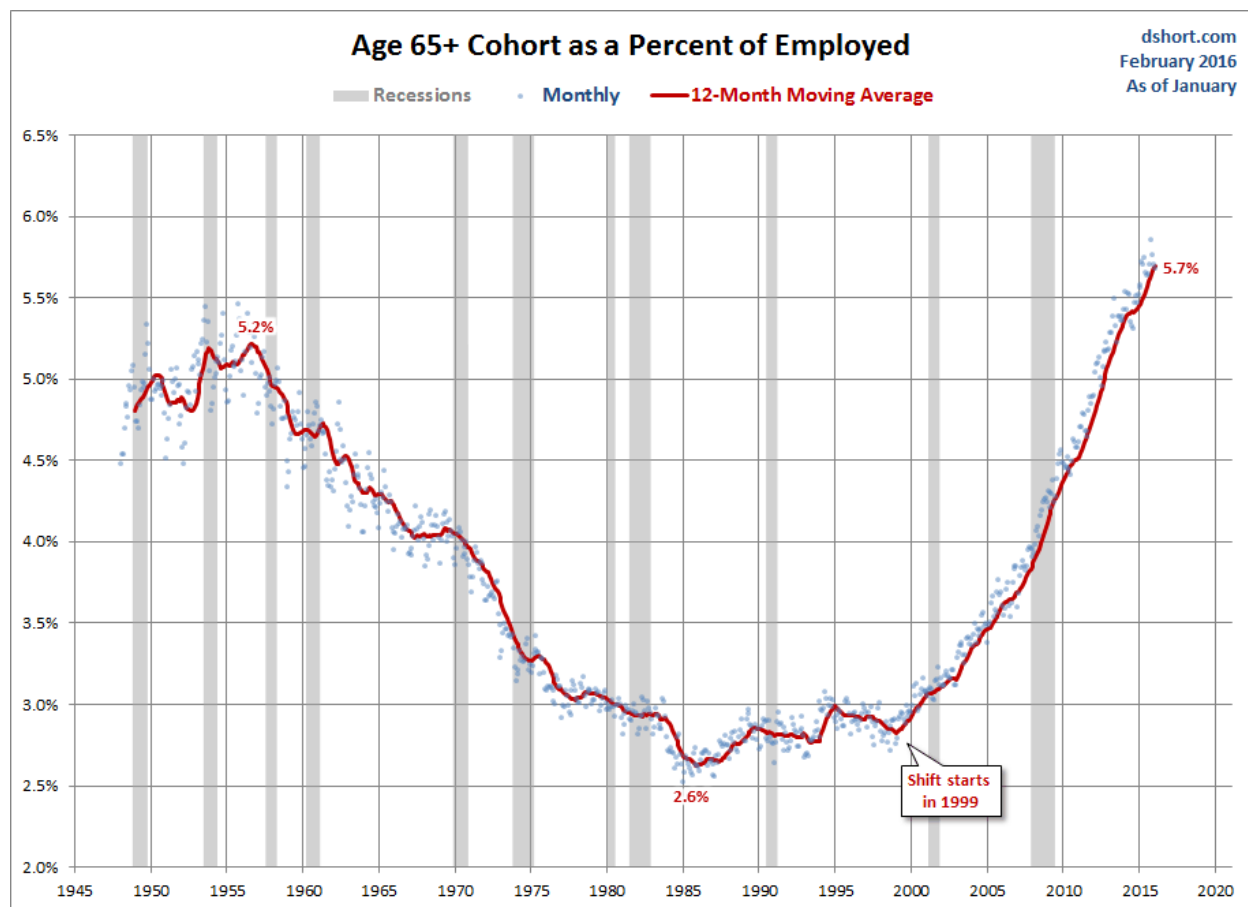
Mark Twain, American author (1835-1910)

*"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."*

## Five Myths About Recent Market Declines

While the financial news in early 2016 has not been good, asset management company Guinness Atkinson suggests the broadcast and electronic media has “been hyperbolic in their treatment of the weak market. We have noted the words nightmarish, plunged, dive, rocked, plummeted used rather frequently.” But the world is not ending, and they list **the following economic myths** as among the worst: #1 China’s economy is a disaster and will lead to a global economic cataclysm. #2 Global oil demand is down. #3 Low oil prices are bad for the economy. #4 The Chinese currency is in serious decline. The company says “the world is NOT going to heck in a hand basket. The U.S. economy is stronger than many believe. We are spending less on oil, and importantly spending less for imported oil. Interest rates remain near historical lows, and inflation is low. We don’t know what the stock markets will do in the next week, month, or year. But we do have an **unshakable faith that the market will do what they always do**, which is fluctuate, wildly at times, but with a strong upward bias.”

## Chart For February



The age 65+ employment average is at its historic high of 5.7%, a trend related to longer life spans, the decline in private pensions, insufficient planning, and the desire to remain productive.

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