International Currency Expert Sean Hyman exposes how the recent Gross Domestic Product (GDP) report doesn’t add up. Don’t let the rosy data fool you, things are nearly as good as they “print.”

Was it just me or didn’t anyone else’s antennas go up when they heard the latest U.S. GDP number that was released recently?

The gross domestic product, or GDP, number came in at 5.7 percent, compared with the 4.5 percent expected and much better than the 2.2 percent previous reading.

**Personally, I think they numbers were majorly fudged!**

It’s also amazing that we got these “amazing GDP numbers” not too long after President Barack Obama gave the State of the Union speech.

I just can’t help but wonder if someone was highly incentivized to fudge those numbers.

I know that some may say that could never happen ... but many things like this can be very “political” around critical times in the economy.

Don’t get me wrong ... if they are genuine numbers, I’m thrilled.

However, here’s one thing that’s standing out to me. If your economy grows, it has to be fueled. In other words, it literally takes the use of energy to grow an economy. The more an economy grows, the more demand was put upon the energy resources in order to produce that growth.

Now, I find it very interesting that around the same time this “wonderful” GDP data came out, that Chevron’s profits slumped.

Why did they say they slumped?

They said it was on a “lack of fuel demand.”

OK, that was just one major energy company.

Surely that was a one-time event, right?

Wrong!
The very same day, Shell also said that they may have to cut jobs.

What was the reason for the potential job cuts?

Shell stated that “energy demand remains muted.”

Those are two major energy companies.

So my question is ... How do we have this phenomenal boost in GDP growth of 5.7% for the quarter and we didn’t put hardly any noticeable demand upon the energy supplies?

Now you can see why I’m suspect of the numbers.

The next thing that reinforces this idea in my mind is that oil has dropped from $83 recently to $73 within weeks, not months.

But it’s not just oil prices that have slumped. Natural gas prices and coal prices have both slumped as well.

So when two and two don’t equal four anymore, things start to look fishy in my book.

In the stock market, they used to have a saying for CEOs and CFOs that played with the numbers on their books. They’d say that they “cooked the books.” I think our own government may be guiltier of this right now than many of these corporations that got hammered for doing the very same thing. But hey, when you “are” the law...who’s going to prosecute you?

I suppose that if our government can illegally borrow from our Social Security system, they can make the GDP data to be whatever they need at the time as well.

**So, don’t let the rosy GDP data fool you, things aren’t nearly as good as they “print.”**

If it were, the U.S. weekly unemployment claims wouldn’t have worsened in the past couple of weeks — and commodities wouldn’t be falling like they have been if the GDP data were so great.

Sean Hyman

International Currency Expert

Current rating: 0 (0 ratings)

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Comments

**mwb**

... and the unemployment figures are being printed at about half of what it should be.

2/12/2010 6:22:25 PM

**Robert Gilson**
Why is this a surprise? Seems to me Uncle Sam has been cooking the books for years, if not decades.

2/12/2010 7:33:57 PM

Marcos
I guess the big question is...what can we do about it? I guess know the truth and invest accordingly

2/13/2010 11:08:51 AM

TomGBoston
Susan, the reason Obama is destroying everything can be explained. He is following the Cloward and Piven strategy. google it. It is scary.

2/13/2010 12:51:16 PM

gailjoslyn@gmail.com
TomGBoston, You hit the nail on the head with the Cloward-Piven Strategy. If we do not stop this rotten bunch in DC our "America the Beautiful" will be a 3rd world Country...sooner rather than later. LETS ROLL!

2/13/2010 1:57:43 PM

anonymous
It's not only Cloward_Piven you have to look at community organizers; Saul Alinsky, Obama’s mentor and motivator as was his teacher in Hawaii, Franklin Davis; an avowed communist. Then look at his marxist colleagues while at the university followed by Reverend Wright and Bill Ayers. Should we all be true skeptics?

2/13/2010 4:18:18 PM

hallmalcolm@bellsouth.net
I put all my navigation numbers on my hand. give PALIN a chance and she will get it allright.

2/13/2010 4:18:54 PM

anonymous
It's really scary, and I'm not sure what an average American can do to change it.

2/13/2010 4:40:32 PM

p_bymers@yahoo.com
I have tremendous confidence in the attitudes and ability of the American people. There are some people that cannot be enslaved. This administration and some Republican members of congress have awakened the sleeping giant. They are about to learn what the will of the majority means.

2/13/2010 5:12:50 PM

tankeryanker
With 27 yrs of hauling fuel, this is the slowest I've seen it. This past summer the pipeline where I load was able to keep up with demand & not have any shortages. I think we are in for a long hard ride to ride out this sinking economy.

2/13/2010 5:20:25 PM

AustinAndy
We have yet to see any effort to correct the problems that caused our last economic meltdown. Sarbannes-Oxley should be revoked in total. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac should be put back on their feet, broken up into 3-4 companies each, and put back into the private world without government guarantees. Naked short sells should be prosecuted vigorously
to prevent unwarranted market runs. And the stock owners of a corporation should be given a greater say in the payments and bonuses of the executives of the company. Pay attention to the real estate problems of the commercial kind, as well as the five year ARMs just coming due.

2/13/2010 6:48:57 PM

OregonGrandma
It's not just the federal gov't...Oregon just passed a job-killing tax that is INSANE in this economy.

2/13/2010 7:43:34 PM

maryforhealth@live.com
One of the indicators that they don't talk about that much is TARP. Wasn't that what was supposed to help the banks? Didn't they borrow from TARP to pay for some thing else?
Mary B.

2/13/2010 8:15:47 PM

ash mike
who do i belive who is telling the truth

2/13/2010 9:33:37 PM

Robert E
To anonymous and others, "I'm not sure what that average American can do to change it". First, remember what the great statesman Churchill said, "The best argument against democracy is a 5 minute conversation with the average voter". Make sure everyone in your sphere of influence is not "an average voter". Form an email campaign, get involved in the Tea Party and get more grassroots REVOLUTION movements in play. Fight the evolution of the progressives that Glenn Beck talks about. An yes, be aware who Cloward & Piven, Saul Alinsky, Franklin Davis and Rahm Emanuel are and what dangers they pose to the America I grew up to know and love. Get active, Stay active and encourage others to become active. It is our only hope.

2/13/2010 9:44:28 PM

No Sunshine Florida
We are in the "eye of the Hurricane" and Bro. Hyman can see/smell a wall of pain on the way as they(the Gov.)-forecast blue sky’s & sunshine ahead, buy tour life rafts now,your gonna them!

2/14/2010 12:32:25 AM

susansja@earthlink.net
yaaaahoo! It arrived! Picked up my book tonight @ 8:40 PM (PDST) at the USPO. Took AFTERSHOCK to dinner to review the front/back/flaps, Contents, Acknowledgment, Executive Summary, peruse Index, and read thru half of Appendix A. What a work of Grace these authors have penned. Will finish reading it on President's Day.

After reading the Intro by Author/Eagle Scout Robert A. Wiedemer, I'm thinking it would be just mint if every Eagle Scout was given opportunity to read this book, join us February 25 for the Webinar, and be followed up by a Mentor - lest D.C.'s Gibb-erish destroy even AMERICA'S Boy Scouts!

Thanks for running with the vision given you Christopher Ruddy; for making AFTERSHOCK available to us... for setting aside February 25 to reinforce its substance... for instilling a desire in each of us for something we did not yet know existed. Can hardly wait for that day to arrive ~ GOD bless... Susan (Main Street Mama)

2/14/2010 2:41:08 AM
rrpatreilly@aol.com
I hope and pray that the republican party gets the message that WE THE PEOPLE want an open, honest and smaller national government.
The progressives in both parties are ruining the future of America. Send these spendthrifts a message to get back to the powers of the Constitution before it is too late.
2/14/2010 6:54:15 AM

Mary GS
Our nation is in the hands of an administration that is intent on ruining it. I pray that our constitution prevails. What options (beside our vote) do we have? We are aware that we have MAJOR problems with this administration. Is there no recourse to safeguard our country? There are sound economic principles (cutting taxes, reduce spending) that should be implemented. Instead this administration is intentionally working to destroy our nation. Many brave men and women fought to preserve our nation and our freedom. We must honor them and stand up for our nation. The founding fathers gave us a constitution to govern by. We must honor it. We must find a way to stop this insanity. Is there a way to put an end to this administration that misrepresented itself and deceives at every level? We must call upon our representatives NOW-not in 9 months (it may be too late). STOP OBAMA and his administration NOW. Write your representative. Demand that Obama and his administration be held accountable. Obama swore under oath to uphold the constitution. Instead he has abused it (nationalizing banks, takeover of GM...)This is OUR NATION.
2/14/2010 2:20:55 PM

lasi96@comcast.net
I have been emailing and faxing my senators and representatives on a consistent basis reminding them that they work for us not the other way around. I believe in the constitution and want them to uphold it as they swore they would do. I have told them we will take back our country and do it legally by voting them out of office if they deviate from the constitution in any way.
2/16/2010 12:02:10 PM

sew.fast@hotmail.com
What a "Wake Up Call" this administration has been to the average American. We have been spoiled and unaware.

Now is the time to become informed and get active. Nobody is going to take our America without a fight. We have our "Constitution" and what a great gift it is. Every public official is sworn to uphold it. Let's keep them accountable. Vote them out!
2/16/2010 5:11:00 PM

anonymous
We can still exercise our right to leave our country if things get much worse. There are still places in the world with a constitution designed after our own, where they are not trying to change it every 5 minutes. And, they teach children in public schools to speak English. Retire in a country on 10% - 15% of what it costs in the USA--No, not Mexico.
2/17/2010 12:40:42 PM

1eyedjack@bellsouth.net
My sentiments are exactly like RobertE's I might add get yourself and anyone you know to vote in November according to their principles and conscience
2/17/2010 1:07:02 PM

hesmith10@gmail.com
Do not forget states rights. Most state level politicians are more accessible. The tenth amendment movement is strong in
many states and it offers some defense against the feds.

2/20/2010 4:46:04 PM