

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS

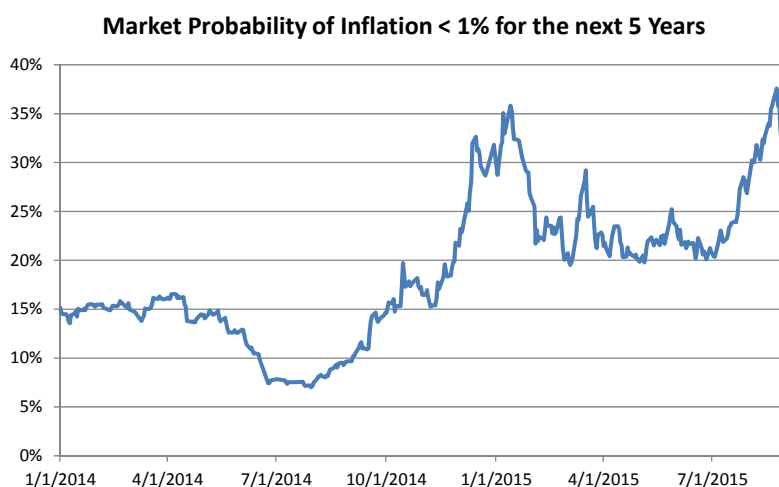
BANKING AND POLICY STUDIES

Minneapolis Options Report – September 4th

The market-based probability of low inflation (less than one percent) over the next five years continued to climb over the past two weeks. Median inflation expectations from market-based probability distributions (MPDs), however, were effectively unchanged over the period. Standard deviations of the MPD of US equity market returns rose noticeably in the past two weeks while statistical skew measures declined sharply. Metrics from MPDs derived from exchange rates have moderated recently but remain elevated relative to reading from early August.

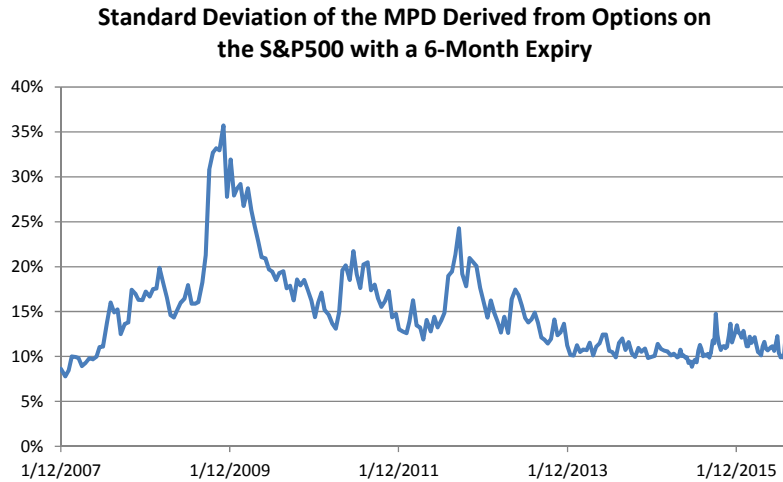
Inflation

Median expectations for inflation from market-based probability distributions (MPDs) were largely unchanged over the past two weeks. The current values are 0.64%, 1.01%, and 1.43% for the 1-, 2-, and 5-year tenors, respectively. The market-based probability of extremely low inflation (less than 1%) over the next five years has begun to climb again and is near its highest level in the past six years (see figure below).

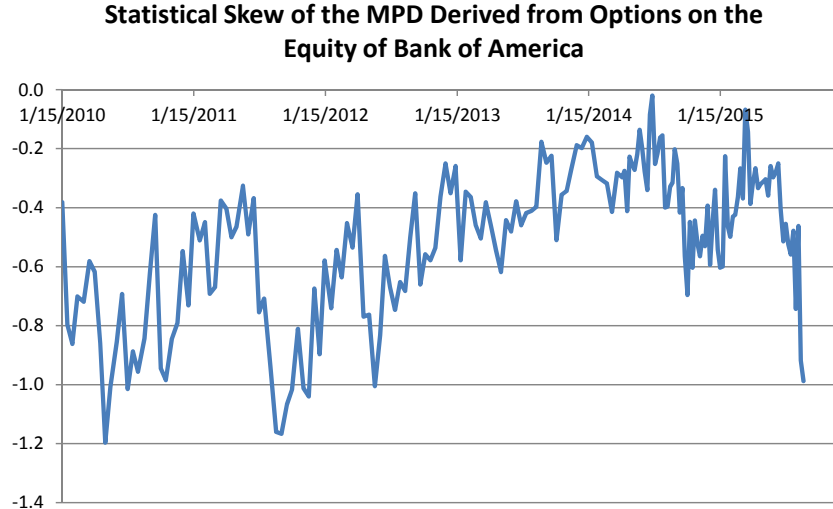


Equity Markets

The S&P 500 declined more than 6% over the past two weeks as the selloff in the Chinese stock market spread to other markets. The MPD standard deviation of the return distribution derived from options on the S&P500 with a 6-month expiry increased noticeably during the period and is at its highest level since the fall of 2011 (see the figure below).



Skew measures associated with the MPDs of the return distribution of the S&P500 over the next 6- and 12-months also declined markedly in the last two weeks. These metrics are both at their lowest recorded level since 2007. Similar trends were evident in the MPDs of the return distributions from the bank and insurance companies we follow. The figure below shows the statistical skew measured from the MPD of future returns derived from options on the equity of Bank of America. This measure has been steadily falling since July and become noticeably more negative during the past month. Similar results are found with other large US banking institutions.



Other Assets

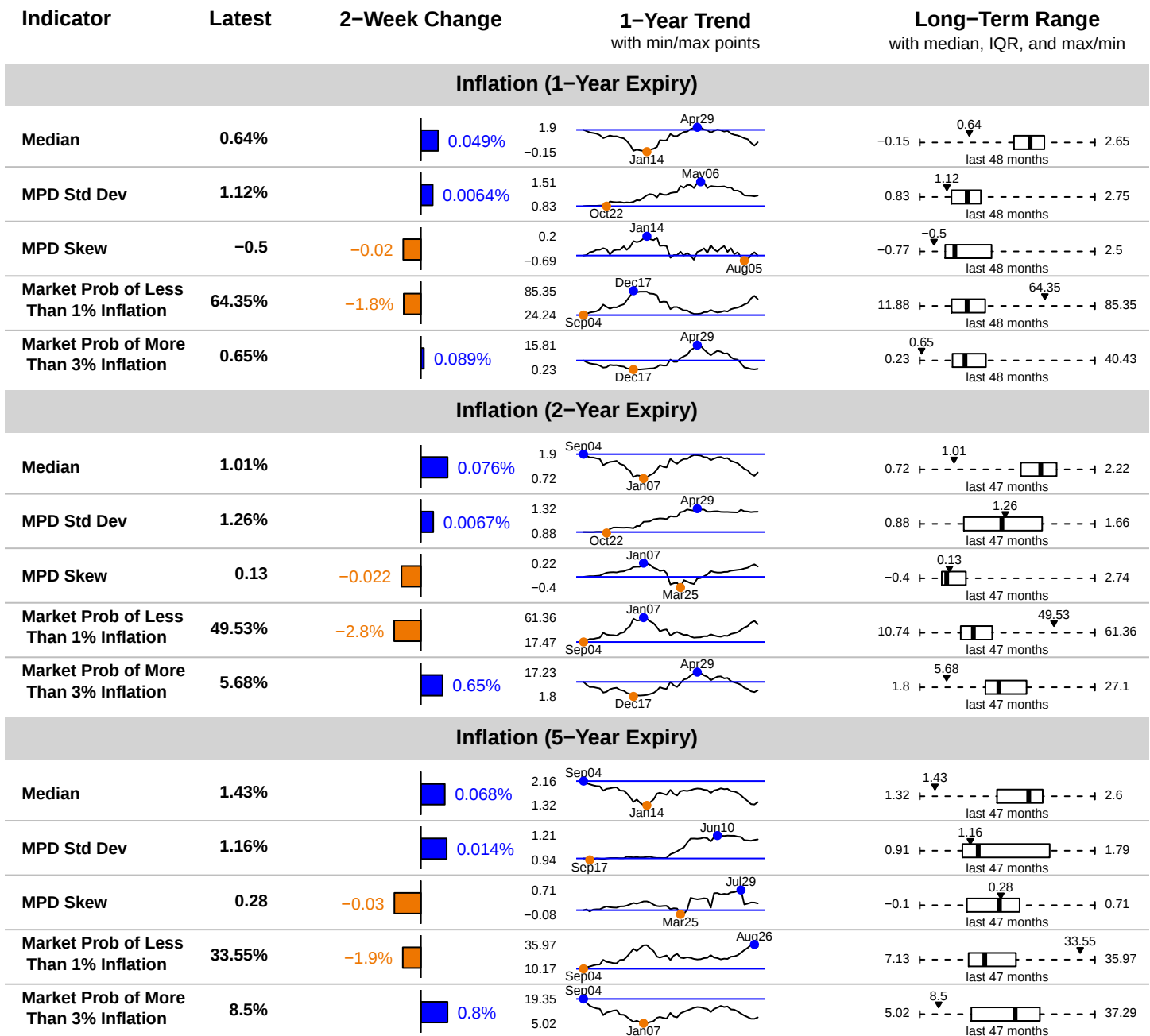
- The standard deviation of the MPD of future returns derived from options on WTI crude oil futures continued to increase over the last two weeks and the level has risen to over 32% (see the figure below). Statistical skew has risen noticeably during this period and the median value of the MPD of future returns is negative for the first time in over one year.

**Standard Deviation of the MPD Derived from Options on
WTI Crude Oil Futures Contracts**



- The MPD standard deviations of the three foreign exchange rates we follow, which had generally been declining during 2015, increased sharply during the week of 8/26 but have fallen slightly since then. Importantly, all three measures remain elevated relative to the levels they were at during the beginning of August.
- Statistics for market-based probability densities associated with short-term and longer-term interest rates have been largely unchanged over the past two weeks. Standard deviations and skews from options on 5-year and 10-year Treasury notes continue to remain within the long-term interquartile range of the various statistics.

Inflation MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015



Medium-to-Long Bond Price MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
5 Year Treasury (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	119.52	-0.075%	120.99 118.05 	118.05 - 119.52 - 120.99 last 12 months
MPD Std Dev	1.81%	0.13%	2.3 1.41 	1.41 - 1.81 - 2.3 last 12 months
MPD Skew	-0.2	-0.031	0.36 -0.54 	-0.54 - -0.2 - 0.36 last 12 months
Market Prob of -3% or More Decline	5.25%	0.86%	8.74 2.44 	2.44 - 5.25 - 8.74 last 12 months
Volume	22298	-40%	377550 0 	2054 - 22298 - 377550 last 12 months
10 Year Treasury (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	127.16	-0.24%	130.47 124.05 	122.97 - 127.16 - 130.47 last 23 months
MPD Std Dev	2.94%	0.24%	3.8 2.38 	2.17 - 2.94 - 3.8 last 23 months
MPD Skew	0.02	-0.046	0.31 -0.39 	-0.75 - 0.02 - 0.31 last 23 months
Market Prob of -5% or More Decline	4.65%	1.2%	8.48 2.35 	1.62 - 4.65 - 8.48 last 23 months
Volume	109820	50%	1185098 0 	5226 - 109820 - 1185098 last 23 months

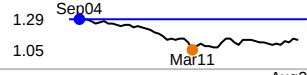
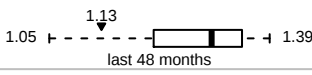
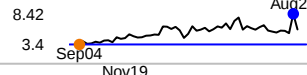
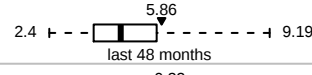
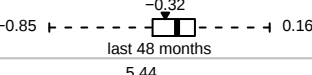
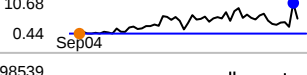
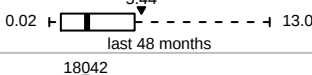
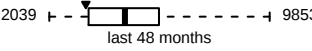
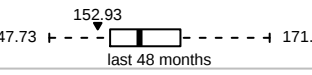
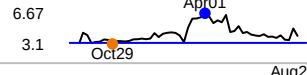
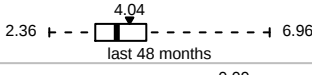
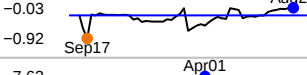
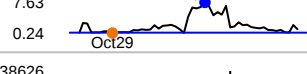
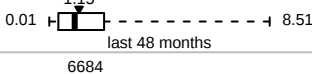
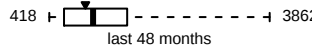
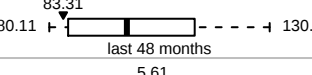
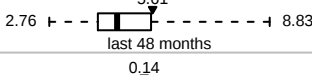
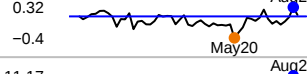
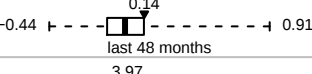
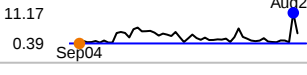
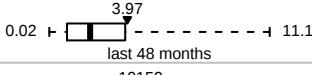
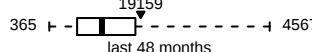
Short Interest Rates MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
3 Month LIBOR (3-Year Expiry)				
Median	1.31%	-0.042%		
MPD Std Dev	1.25%	-0.081%		
MPD Skew	0.89	-0.24		
Market Prob of Less Than 0.5% LIBOR	18.49%	0.27%		
Market Prob of More Than 1% + Spot	48.95%	-1.6%		
3 Month LIBOR (5-Year Expiry)				
Median	1.63%	-0.54%		
MPD Std Dev	1.97%	0.086%		
MPD Skew	1.57	0.12		
Market Prob of Less Than 1% LIBOR	32.12%	2.7%		
Market Prob of More Than 2% + Spot	40.48%	-7.6%		

Equity Index MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points		Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
S&P 500 (6-Month Expiry)					
Spot	1948.86	-6.3%	2125.85 1862.49		1131.42 - - - - - 1948.86 - - - - - 2125.85 last 48 months
MPD Std Dev	16.21%	4.6%	16.21 9.85		8.87 - - - - - 16.21 - - - - - 24.27 last 48 months
MPD Skew	-1.58	-0.19	-1.16 -1.59		-1.59 - - - - - -1.58 - - - - - -0.86 last 48 months
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	10.79%	3.6%	10.79 4.72		3.65 - - - - - 10.79 - - - - - 17.56 last 48 months
Volume	128170	150%	183574 0		13428 - - - - - 128170 - - - - - 309308 last 48 months
S&P 500 (12-Month Expiry)					
Spot	1948.86	-6.3%	2125.85 1862.49		1131.42 - - - - - 1948.86 - - - - - 2125.85 last 48 months
MPD Std Dev	21.64%	5%	21.64 15.11		10.5 - - - - - 21.64 - - - - - 32.71 last 48 months
MPD Skew	-1.59	-0.23	-1.13 -1.59		-1.59 - - - - - -1.59 - - - - - -0.98 last 48 months
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	14.19%	2.3%	16.05 10.07		5.51 - - - - - 14.19 - - - - - 23.65 last 48 months
Volume	100038	410%	100038 0		3174 - - - - - 100038 - - - - - 161766 last 48 months
iShares US Real Estate Index (3-Month Expiry)					
Spot	69.88	-8.2%	82.44 69.22		50.57 - - - - - 69.88 - - - - - 82.44 last 48 months
MPD Std Dev	11.52%	3.9%	11.52 5.63		4.77 - - - - - 11.52 - - - - - 21.53 last 48 months
MPD Skew	-0.89	-0.1	-0.35 -1.49		-2.09 - - - - - -0.89 - - - - - -0.35 last 48 months
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	18.48%	6.9%	18.48 6.17		3.43 - - - - - 18.48 - - - - - 25.19 last 48 months
Volume	12976	6.2%	141443 0		62 - - - - - 12976 - - - - - 141443 last 48 months

Exchange Rate MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Dollar-Euro Futures (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1.13	 1.8%		
MPD Std Dev	5.86%	 0.61%		
MPD Skew	-0.32	 -0.37		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	5.44%	 2.7%		
Volume	18042	 -59%		
Dollar-Pound Futures (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	152.93	 -2.5%		
MPD Std Dev	4.04%	 0.49%		
MPD Skew	-0.09	 -0.047		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	1.15%	 0.8%		
Volume	6684	 -54%		
Dollar-Yen Futures (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	83.31	 3.1%		
MPD Std Dev	5.61%	 1.6%		
MPD Skew	0.14	 0.052		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	3.97%	 3.1%		
Volume	19159	 15%		

Metal and Energy Commodity MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Gold (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1134.6	0.48%		
MPD Std Dev	12.41%	1.2%		
MPD Skew	-0.29	0.14		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	6.44%	1.4%		
Volume	1401	-87%		
Silver (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	14.72	-3.6%		
MPD Std Dev	21.33%	1.9%		
MPD Skew	-0.37	-0.035		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	17.66%	3.5%		
Volume	526	41%		
West Texas Intermediate Crude (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	49.5	11%		
MPD Std Dev	31.37%	5.6%		
MPD Skew	-0.39	0.09		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	27.63%	5.4%		
Volume	48041	2800%		

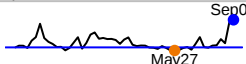
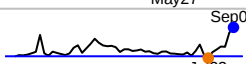
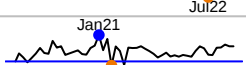
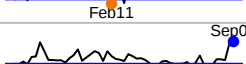
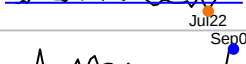
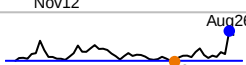
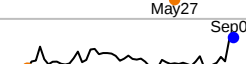
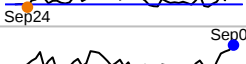
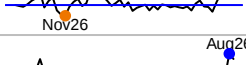
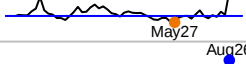
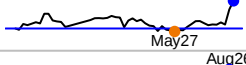
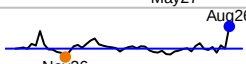
Agricultural Crop Commodity MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Corn (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	379	0.032%		
MPD Std Dev	19.23%	-0.84%		
MPD Skew	0.21	-0.026		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	17.18%	1%		
Volume	48076	-76%		
Soybeans (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	879.13	-2.3%		
MPD Std Dev	13.95%	0.12%		
MPD Skew	-0.12	-0.076		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	8.55%	-0.042%		
Volume	6849	-11%		
Wheat (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	486.66	-2.8%		
MPD Std Dev	17.86%	-1.2%		
MPD Skew	0.3	0.0091		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	14.69%	-0.13%		
Volume	2764	-86%		

Agricultural Livestock Commodity MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Cattle (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	143.22	-2.8%	170.32 139.48 	129.05 - 143.22 - 170.32 last 26 months
MPD Std Dev	10.7%	1.3%	12.2 6.02 	3.6 - 10.7 - 12.2 last 26 months
MPD Skew	-0.45	0.057	-0.21 -0.72 	-0.94 - -0.45 - -0.17 last 26 months
Market Prob of -5% or More Decline	29.13%	2.7%	31.3 18.13 	8.46 - 29.13 - 31.3 last 26 months
Volume	14789	81%	24569 0 	1263 - 14789 - 33850 last 26 months
Hogs (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	68.62	2.1%	94.48 60.95 	60.95 - 68.62 - 94.48 last 11 months
MPD Std Dev	18.37%	0.0089%	20.24 13.88 	13.88 - 18.37 - 20.24 last 11 months
MPD Skew	-0.66	-0.061	0.17 -0.66 	-0.66 - -0.66 - 0.17 last 11 months
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	14.34%	-0.85%	16.7 8.05 	8.05 - 14.34 - 16.7 last 11 months
Volume	1170	-37%	16073 0 	53 - 1170 - 16073 last 11 months

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points		Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Standard Deviation (3-Month Expiry)					
American Express	13.67%	3.6%	13.78 8.03		7.82  13.67 last 48 months 24.05
Bank of America	16.81%	5.4%	16.81 9.68		9.68  16.81 last 48 months 44.07
BB&T	13.98%	4.1%	13.98 7.54		7.29  13.98 last 48 months 27.58
Barclays	16.36%	-0.49%	19.56 10.93		10.93  16.36 last 48 months 42.39
Bank of NY Mellon	13.65%	3.9%	13.65 7.13		7.13  13.65 last 48 months 27.34
Citigroup	15.57%	4.7%	15.57 8.94		8.52  15.57 last 48 months 33.38
Capital One	13.93%	3.7%	13.93 8.35		7.72  13.93 last 48 months 29.49
Credit Suisse	15.29%	1.1%	16.67 10.68		9.84  15.29 last 48 months 34.13
Deutsche Bank	14.45%		19.88 11.65		11.33  14.45 last 43 months 41.68
Fifth Third	14.41%	3.2%	15.68 8.23		8.21  14.41 last 48 months 30.73
Goldman Sachs	15%	4.7%	16 8.4		8.23  15 last 48 months 31.2
JP Morgan	15%	5.4%	15 8.11		7.41  15 last 48 months 30.37
Keycorp	16.07%	1.5%	16.07 8.98		8.98  16.07 last 48 months 35.48
Morgan Stanley	17.08%	5.7%	18.78 8.97		8.97  17.08 last 48 months 41.77
PNC Financial	14.46%	5.6%	14.53 7.45		7.45  14.46 last 48 months 26.31
Regions Financial	18.84%	6.8%	18.84 10.09		10.09  18.84 last 47 months 39.37
SunTrust	15.5%	5.5%	15.82 7.82		7.82  15.5 last 48 months 34.43
State Street	15.54%	5.1%	16.05 8.81		8.81  15.54 last 48 months 27.95
UBS	13.36%		19.02 8.7		8.7  13.36 last 40 months 39.87
US Bancorp	13.31%	5%	13.31 6.99		6.58  13.31 last 48 months 26.01
Wells Fargo	13.66%	5.1%	14.79 7.32		7.16  13.66 last 48 months 28.37

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Skew (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	-0.96	-0.39		
Bank of America	-0.99	-0.53		
BB&T	-0.8	0.097		
Barclays	0.31	0.81		
Bank of NY Mellon	-1.02	-0.21		
Citigroup	-1.01	-0.21		
Capital One	-0.79	-0.081		
Credit Suisse	0.1	0.93		
Deutsche Bank	-0.74			
Fifth Third	-1.11	-0.45		
Goldman Sachs	-1.09	-0.43		
JP Morgan	-1.16	-0.41		
Keycorp	-0.42	0.011		
Morgan Stanley	-1.12	-0.53		
PNC Financial	-1	-0.24		
Regions Financial	-0.62	0.0037		
SunTrust	-0.97	-0.21		
State Street	-0.8	-0.029		
UBS	-0.04			
US Bancorp	-0.92	-0.53		
Wells Fargo	-1.3	-0.7		

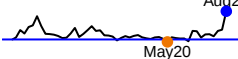
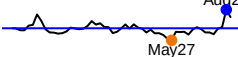
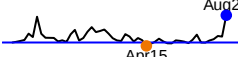
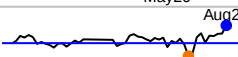
Bank MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Market Probability of -20% or More Decline (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	8.77%	5.1%		
Bank of America	10.62%	5.2%		
BB&T	9.77%	5.3%		
Barclays	13.85%	-0.59%		
Bank of NY Mellon	8.14%	3.9%		
Citigroup	9.94%	5.2%		
Capital One	9.73%	4.9%		
Credit Suisse	11.34%	1.6%		
Deutsche Bank	10.06%			
Fifth Third	7.82%	3.2%		
Goldman Sachs	9.74%	5.7%		
JP Morgan	9.62%	5.7%		
Keycorp	13.06%	2.7%		
Morgan Stanley	12.33%	7%		
PNC Financial	9.39%	6.3%		
Regions Financial	15.09%	9.4%		
SunTrust	10.89%	6.8%		
State Street	10.06%	5.1%		
UBS	7.28%			
US Bancorp	7.89%	5.9%		
Wells Fargo	8.34%	5.9%		

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Volume (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	15576	140%	32713 0	623 15576 last 48 months
Bank of America	71259	75%	138459 0	7419 71259 last 48 months
BB&T	815	150%	6459 0	136 815 last 48 months
Barclays	437	5400%	11011 0	8 437 last 48 months
Bank of NY Mellon	1600	3500%	13099 0	44 1600 last 48 months
Citigroup	4920	-42%	140439 0	1104 4920 last 48 months
Capital One	335	-55%	6937 0	148 335 last 48 months
Credit Suisse	408	720%	15145 0	0 408 last 48 months
Deutsche Bank	6538		25112 0	182 6538 last 43 months
Fifth Third	804	-72%	7607 0	28 804 last 48 months
Goldman Sachs	15187	670%	15721 0	296 15187 last 48 months
JP Morgan	6615	-3%	132116 0	943 6615 last 48 months
Keycorp	800	94%	3300 0	44 800 last 48 months
Morgan Stanley	11363	91%	48955 0	327 11363 last 48 months
PNC Financial	1033	55%	3466 0	83 1033 last 48 months
Regions Financial	1536	74%	47940 0	20 1536 last 47 months
SunTrust	2112	560%	4808 0	61 2112 last 48 months
State Street	285	-47%	2086 0	42 285 last 48 months
UBS	124		2034 0	6 124 last 40 months
US Bancorp	743	51%	9927 0	172 743 last 48 months
Wells Fargo	47248	590%	62697 0	950 47248 last 48 months

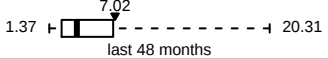
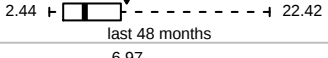
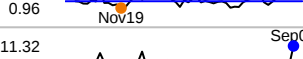
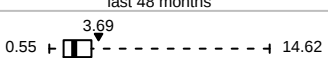
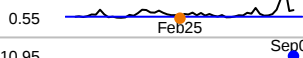
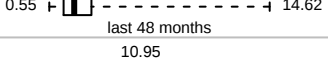
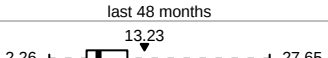
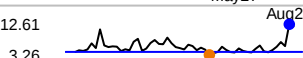
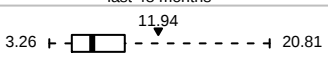
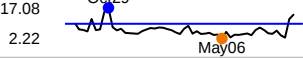
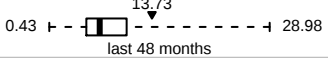
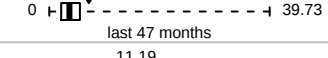
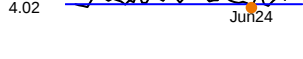
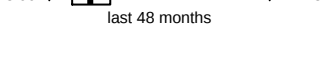
Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points		Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Standard Deviation (3-Month Expiry)					
Aflac	12.94%	3.4%	13.29 7.11		7.11  12.94 last 48 months 28.3
AIG	15.04%	5.6%	15.15 8.7		8.7  15.04 last 48 months 34.63
Allstate	12.03%	3.1%	12.03 6.34		5.83  12.03 last 48 months 22.82
Ameriprise	15.2%	4.2%	15.2 8.98		8.98  15.2 last 48 months 28.12
Chubb	8.98%	-15%	24.08 5.96		5.96  8.98 last 48 months 24.08
Hartford Financial	16%	3%	16 8.35		8.35  16 last 48 months 34.59
Lincoln National	15.86%	3%	18.05 8.98		8.98  15.86 last 48 months 35.56
Met Life	16.38%	4.8%	16.59 9.4		9.4  16.38 last 48 months 31.28
Principal Financial	15.89%	6.8%	17.34 8.26		8.02  15.89 last 48 months 34.89
Progressive	12.24%	1.3%	12.88 5.79		5.79  12.24 last 47 months 24.84
Prudential	16.17%	4.4%	17.36 10.09		10.09  16.17 last 48 months 30.06

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Skew (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	-1	-0.03		
AIG	-0.97	-0.25		
Allstate	-0.83	-0.11		
Ameriprise	-0.76	-0.12		
Chubb	-1.42	-1.5		
Hartford Financial	-0.78	-0.4		
Lincoln National	-0.44	0.11		
Met Life	-0.95	-0.34		
Principal Financial	-0.3	0.44		
Progressive	-0.47	0.14		
Prudential	-0.89	-0.12		

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Market Probability of -20% or More Decline (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	7.02%	 3.1%		
AIG	9.46%	 6.2%		
Allstate	6.97%	 4.1%		
Ameriprise	11.32%	 5.6%		
Chubb	3.69%	 -8.8%		
Hartford Financial	10.95%	 2.5%		
Lincoln National	13.23%	 6%		
Met Life	11.94%	 6%		
Principal Financial	13.73%	 11%		
Progressive	7.12%	 1.4%		
Prudential	11.19%	 4.9%		

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 02, 2015

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Volume (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	1557	-51%	13324 0	1557 386 1557 last 48 months 22718
AIG	3564	-19%	69392 0	3564 432 3564 last 48 months 103998
Allstate	339	-6.9%	4626 0	339 63 339 last 48 months 68926
Ameriprise	176	47%	881 0	176 5 176 last 48 months 1114
Chubb	44	1400%	9027 0	44 3 44 last 48 months 11114
Hartford Financial	331	-93%	9444 0	331 65 331 last 48 months 37285
Lincoln National	971	-5%	2635 0	971 51 971 last 48 months 10682
Met Life	3195	240%	29248 0	3195 319 3195 last 48 months 161416
Principal Financial	104	-68%	545 0	104 2 104 last 48 months 2956
Progressive	208	73%	1084 0	208 0 208 last 47 months 4283
Prudential	1162	98%	17185 0	1162 222 1162 last 48 months 17185