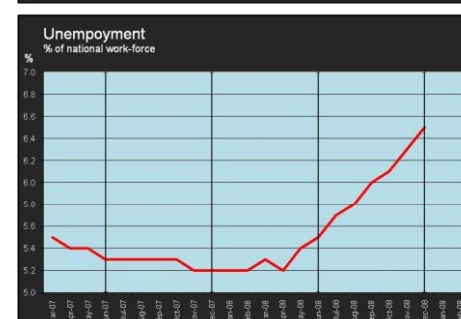
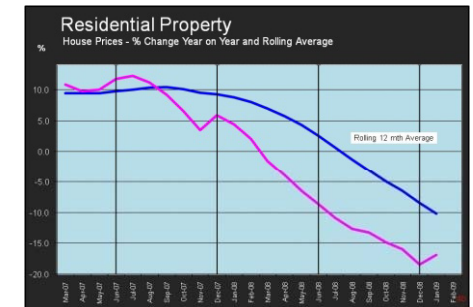
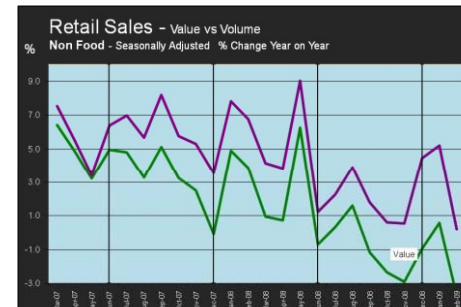
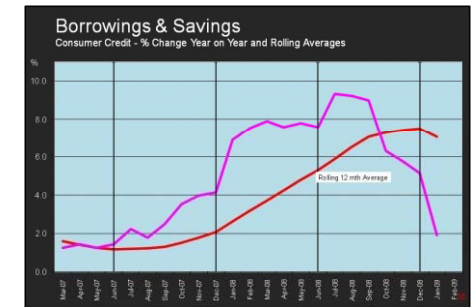
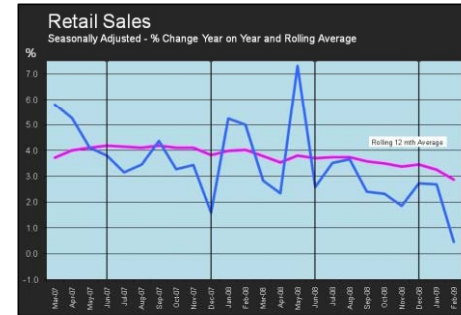


Retail Sales Data - seasonally adjusted				Source ONS		
	Value growth			Volume Growth		
	Food	Non Food	All	Food	Non Food	All
	% on Prior Year			% on Prior Year		
Sep	5.7	-1.2	2.5	0.2	1.8	1.9
Oct	6.9	-2.4	2.5	1.6	0.6	1.9
Nov	6.7	-2.9	2.1	1.5	0.5	1.7
Dec	5.7	-1.0	2.7	0.9	4.5	4.2
Jan	4.9	0.6	2.7	0.4	5.2	3.7
Feb	5.1	-3.7	0.5	-0.6	0.2	0.5

John Lewis Data Sheet						
Week Comm'	Electrical & Technology			Food (W/rose)	Total	
	Fashion	Home	Home		Value Growth % on Prior Year	
07-Feb	-16.8	-12.2	-21.2	3.6	-4.0	
14-Feb	0.4	-1.1	-7.9	4.9	1.9	
21-Feb	2.6	6.1	-11.6	-1.0	-1.2	
28-Feb	-8.9	-2.5	-18.4	-1.3	-4.7	
07-Mar	5.7	-2.5	-8.6	1.7	0.3	
14-Mar	1.5	-4.2	-9.7	-0.1	-1.6	
21-Mar	0.2	-23.0	-15.6	-13.7	-13.3	



### Retail Sales (ons)

Seasonally adjusted retail sales to the end of February grew by 0.5% on 2008.

- The food sector grew by 5.1% in value and fell by 0.6% in volume.
- Non food fell by 3.7% in value and was flat (0.2%) in volume.
- John Lewis for week 21<sup>st</sup> March is compared to Easter last year. Home related products are still performing poorly.

### Retail Price Inflation (ons)

Retail prices continued to fall in February taking the RPI to precisely zero. The major factor being mortgage reductions due to low interest rates.

### Consumer Credit (non property)

Consumer credit (not related to property) fell again in the month (January), to 1.9% up on last year. This compares to a July 08 peak of 9.1% up on prior year and 5.1% in December 08.

### House Prices

House prices showed an increase for the first time since December 2007, albeit up only 1.9%.

### Unemployment

Unemployment has climbed to 2.03m, an increase of 165000 on the previous month. Now representing 6.5% of the UK workforce.

## 2 Minute Briefing

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