

The TTC (Trump Tax Cut) & Retail Sales

The “**optimist**”:

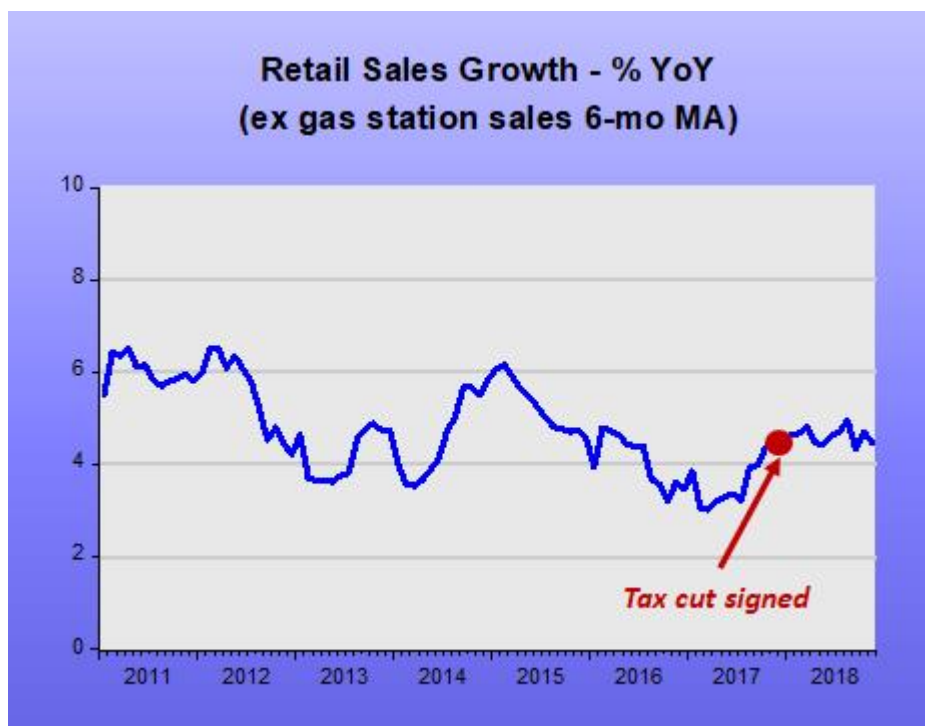
A drop in prices at the pump and a pick-up in wages at the low end of the income strata are delivering more broad-based gains in consumer spending. Look for consumers to remain a driver of GDP gains in the fourth quarter, even as overall growth moderates a bit.

Trump on signing Tax Cut in December 2017:

*And just as I promised the American people from this podium 11 months ago, we enacted the **biggest tax cuts and reforms in American history**. Our massive tax cuts provide tremendous relief for the middle class and small business.*

Reality:

Excluding the oil price effect that drives gas station sales, consumer spending growth throughout 2018 has remained near the low end of recent history, **with no change observed after the passage of the reform bill**.



Bottom line: The long depression just keeps getting longer!

Retail Sales & Trend

