Talking Points

In the latest Take Five released Friday, December 15, 2017, Economist Bill Emmons discusses...

FOMC Policy Statement

- Labor Market
  - The labor market has continued to strengthen and economic activity has been rising at a solid rate. Job gains have been solid, and the unemployment rate declined further.

- Inflation
  - Overall inflation and inflation for items other than food and energy have declined this year and are running below 2 percent.

- Increase in the Federal Funds Target Range
  - The Federal Open Market Committee voted to raise the target range for the federal funds rate to 1.25% to 1.50%.

- Fed Balance Sheet
  - The balance sheet normalization program, which began in October 2017, will continue at a gradual pace.