10/19/12: Ryan Vice of Sierra Pacific Advisors suggested this metric: Bank Cash Assets as a percentage of Money Supply. As we've gone through the two quantitative easings recently, money supply has grown and so have banks cash assets. A high ratio means that banks are not able to lend all the money they are receiving from the QE's. It takes a while for them to put the money to work. Given the long history of the metric, not clear what low on this metric will be. (TMP)