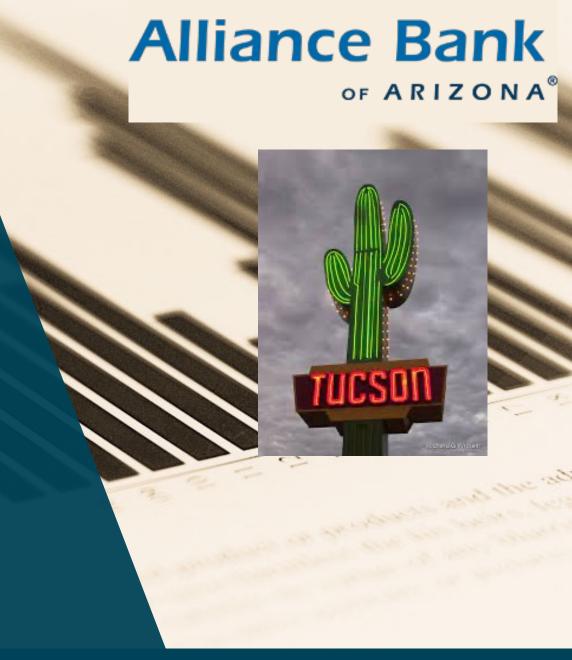


Economic Realities, Social Narratives, and the Outlook for Tucson, AZ

October 2023

Christopher Thornberg, PhD
Founding Partner, Beacon Economics



Overview



The National Situation

- —The curious case of the missing recession
- —Social narratives vs economic realities
- —The Fed Created Credit Crisis
- —Future Fiscal Realities

Focus on Tucson, AZ

- —Lagging or catching up?
- —Housing and Demographics
- —A Border Story



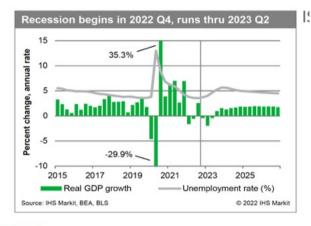
This presentation done in tandem with September 2023 Arizona Regional Intelligence Report

The Forecast: Recession is Nigh!!!

US Fed meeting decision today: PIMCO warns market is underestimating risk of US recession and rate hikes

Opinion: The US economy will likely enter a recession soon

Opinion by Dana Peterson and Erik Lundh Updated 2:38 PM EDT, Wed September 13, 2023



Why a Soft Landing Could Prove Elusive

On the eve of recessions in 1990, 2001 and 2007, many Wall Street economists proclaimed the U.S. was on the cusp of achieving a soft landing, in which interest-rate increases would corral inflation without

Finance

Regulators seize First Republic Bank, sell assets to JPMorgan

By Scott Murdoch, Niket Nishant and Chris Prentice

May 1, 2023 6:11 PM PDT · Updated 5 months ago

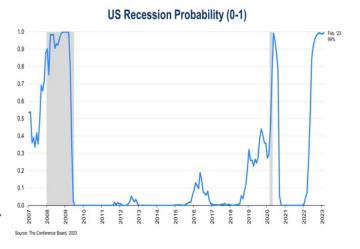
Housing is in a double-dip recession, First American says

By Brad Finkelstein September 18, 2023, 3:29 p.m. EDT 3 Min Read

Larry Summers warns US economy could face 'Wile E. Coyote moment'

Published March 7, 2023 | Updated March 7, 2023, 12:20 p.m. ET





There's a 98% chance of a global recession, research firm warns



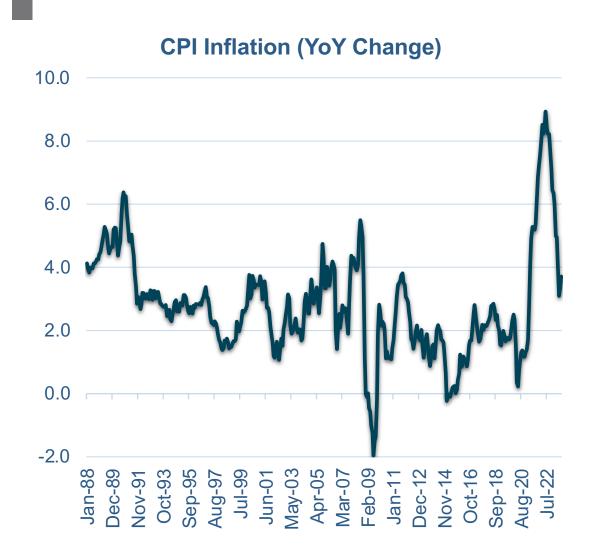
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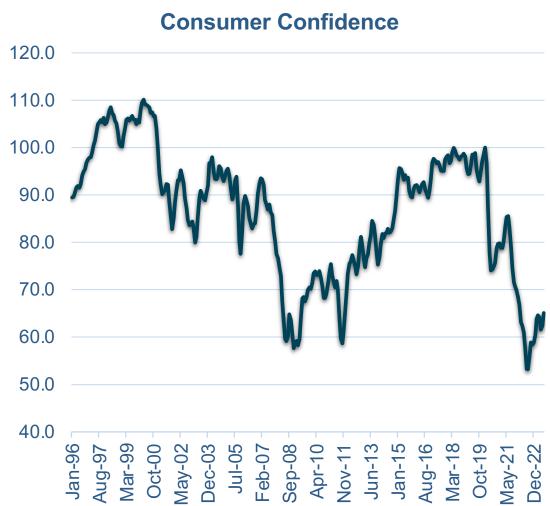
The housing market just slid into a fullblown correction, says top economist Mark Zandi

BY LANCE LAMBERT

The Big News Stories of 22-23

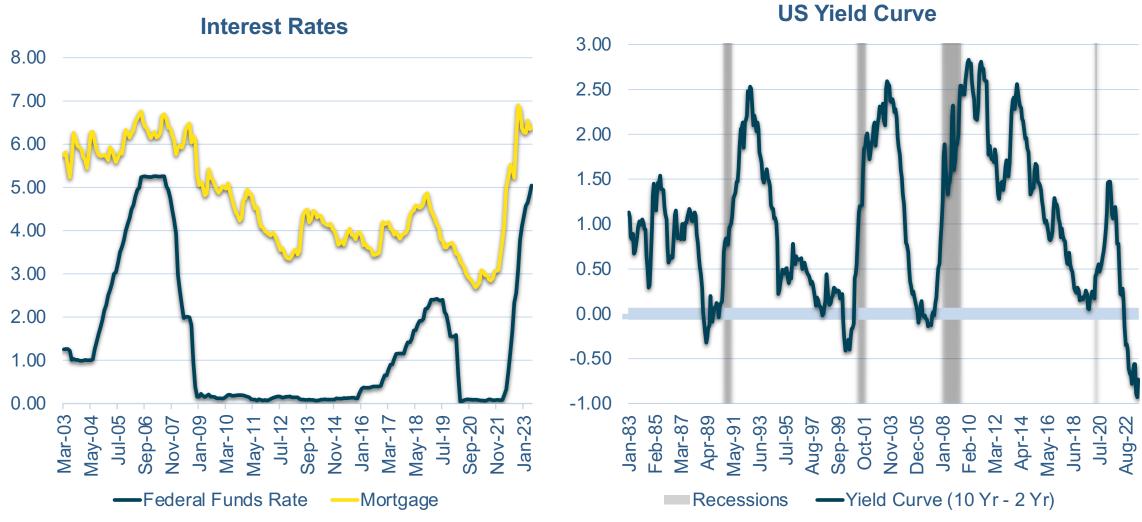






An Interest Rate Shock



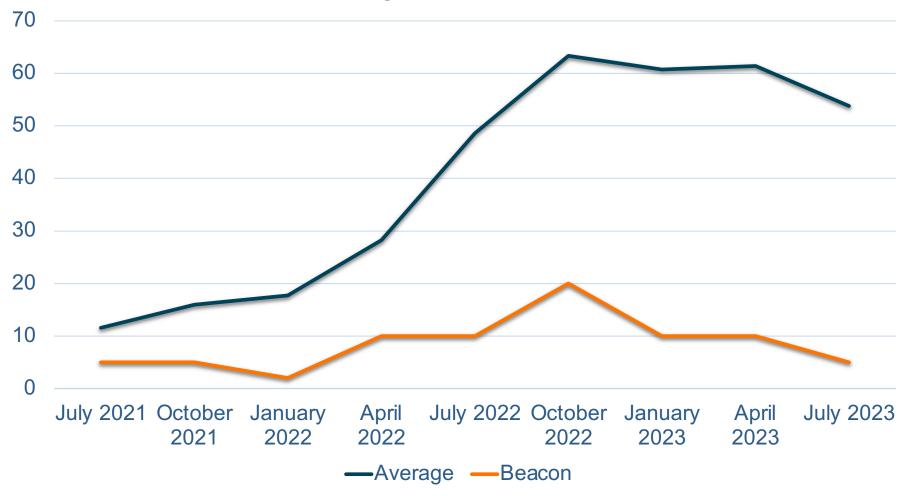


Our View at Beacon



WSJ Economic Survey Recession Probability

Chance of US entering a recession in the next 12 months



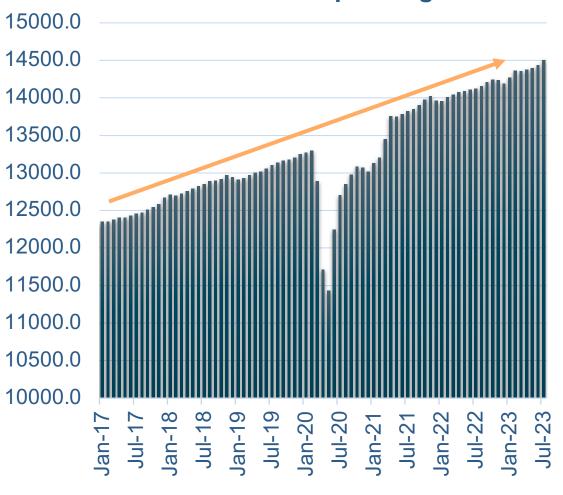
GDP Growth, Consumer Spending: Up







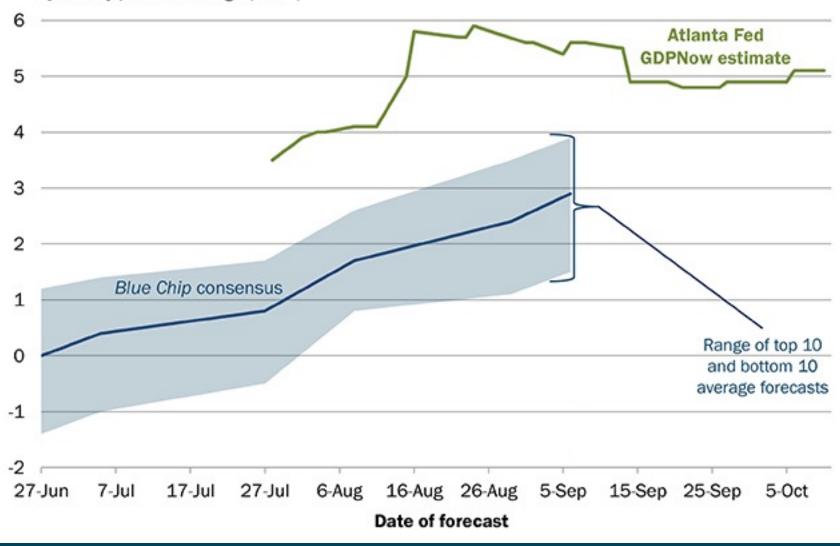
Real Consumer Spending





Evolution of Atlanta Fed GDPNow real GDP estimate for 2023: Q3

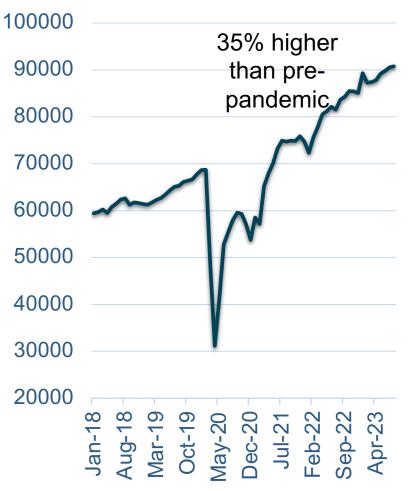
Quarterly percent change (SAAR)



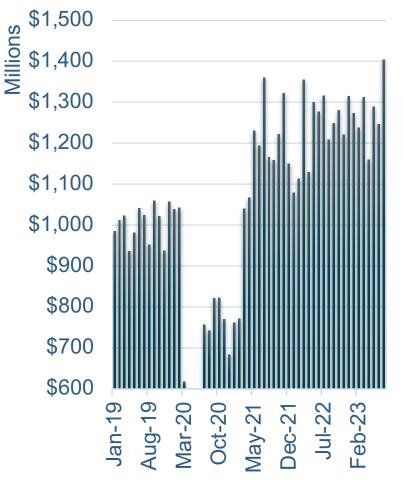
Americans...having Fun!



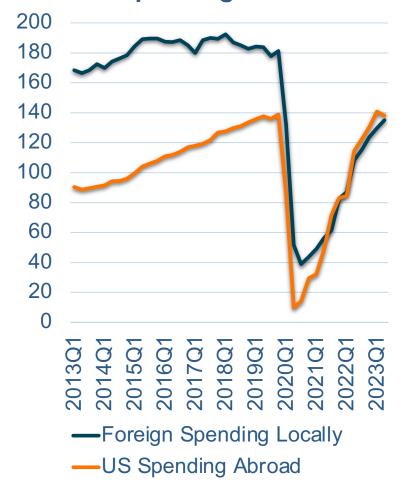
Retail Sales: Restaurants



Nevada Gaming Revenues



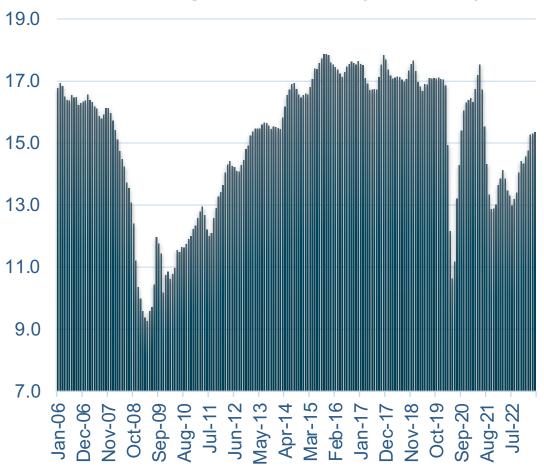
Real Spending on Travel



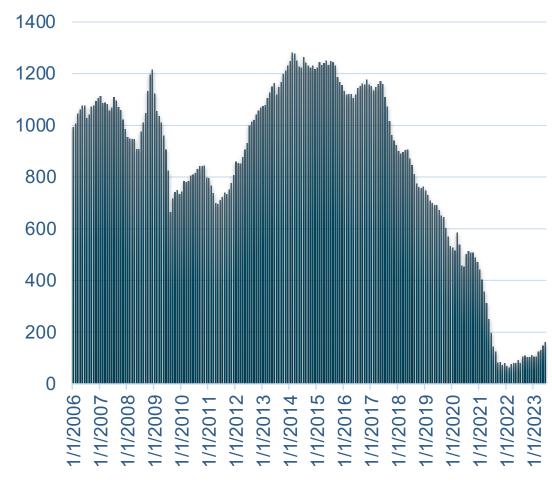
The Auto Sector: Still Catching Up







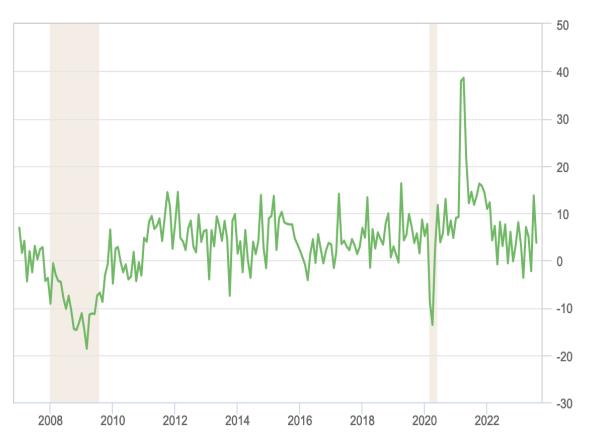
Domestic Inventories of Cars 000s



Arizona Taxable Sales



Tucson Retail Sales (YoY Growth)

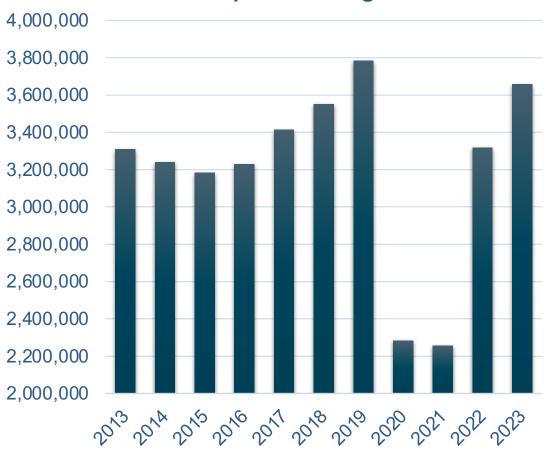


State Taxable Sales and Growth	Jul. 2023 (\$, 000s)	1-Yr.% Growth	Growth (%) since 2020
Total	8,731,114	13.1	36.7
Amusements	191.8	45.2	432.0
Hotel	262.3	2.5	87.6
Restaurants & Bars	1699.5	7.2	67.5
Rentals Personal Property	553.1	4.5	45.6
Contracting	2179.8	19.0	39.4
Mining, Oil, & Gas	19.7	-2.6	26.1
Printing	17.1	-19.8	7.4
Publishing	2.3	-5.3	-7.0
Communications	125.6	18.8	-8.2
Mining Severance	5.2	-89.2	-95.1

Local Tourism



Tucson Int Airport Passenger Traffic



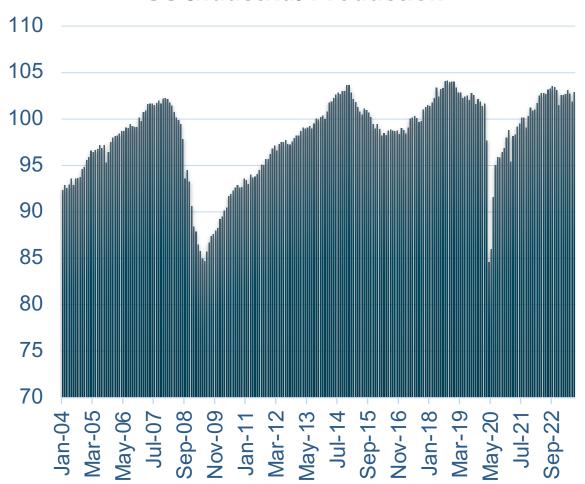
Hotel Performance

	Occupancy	ADR	RevPAR
US	66.7%	\$152	\$101
2023Q2	66.3%	\$157	\$104
YoY Ch	-0.7%	3.2%	2.5%
Mountain	69.8%	\$150	\$105
2023Q2	69.4%	\$153	\$107
YoY Ch	-0.6%	2.6%	1.9%
Phoenix	69.1%	\$157	\$109
2023Q2	67.5%	\$157	\$106
YoY Ch	-2.2%	-0.1%	-2.3%
Tucson	61.6%	\$140	\$86
2023Q2	61.0%	\$141	\$86
YoY Ch	-0.9%	0.8%	-0.1%

Industrial Production and Investment



US Industrial Production

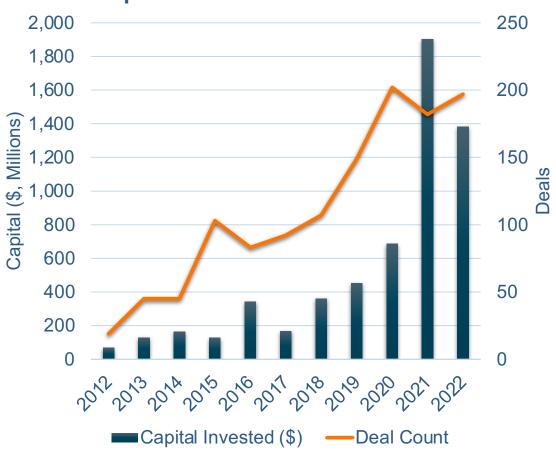


Real Investment	2023	Change
rteal investinent	Q2	Q4 19
Real Non-Residential Investment	3049.1	8.1%
Commercial and health care	141.5	-18.9%
Manufacturing	87.7	40.5%
Power and communication	80.9	-37.2%
Mining exploration, shafts	97.2	-15.9%
Information processing eq	537.2	12.0%
Industrial equipment	263.4	10.6%
Transportation equipment	277.7	3.6%
Software	693.9	43.0%
Research and development	546.4	16.7%
Entertainment, literary, art	96.4	12.4%

Venture Capital





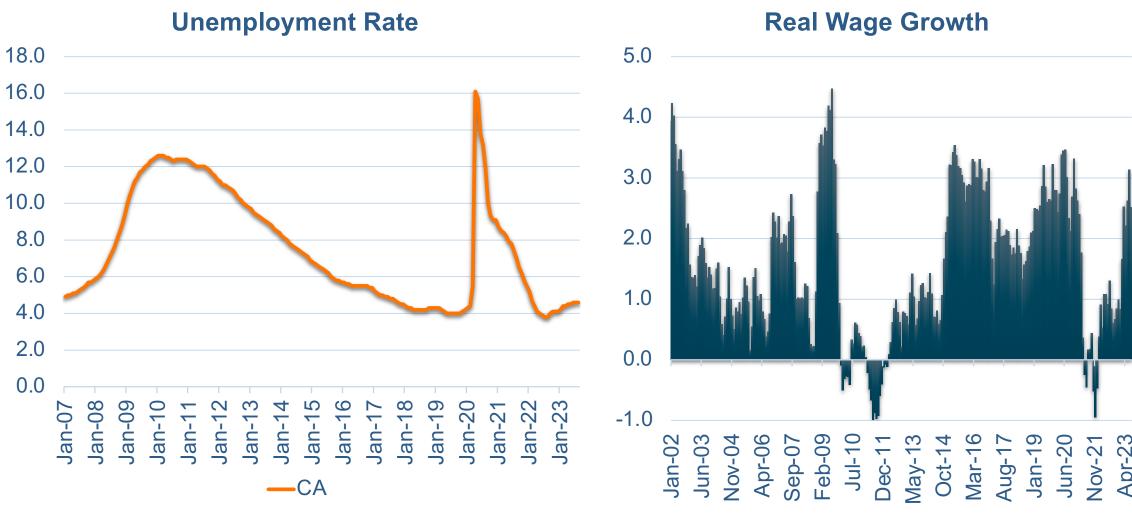


Company Name (AZ HQ)	Deal Size (\$, Mil.)	Industry	Location
Nextiva	200.00	Information Technology	Scottsdale
Arkos Health	130.00	Healthcare	Gilbert
Emerge (Scottsdale)	172.50	Information Technology	Scottsdale
SOURCE	236.82	Information Technology	Scottsdale
Bishop Fox	165.55	Information Technology	Tempe
Mangata	133.02	Information Technology	Phoenix
Postscript	138.13	Information Technology	Scottsdale
OnePointOne	147.96	Materials and Resources	Avondale
Phantom Space	88.76	Business Products and Services (B2B)	Tucson
Persefoni	164.48	Information Technology	Mesa

Source: PitchBook Beacon Economics

Labor Markets Remain Tight, Wages Up

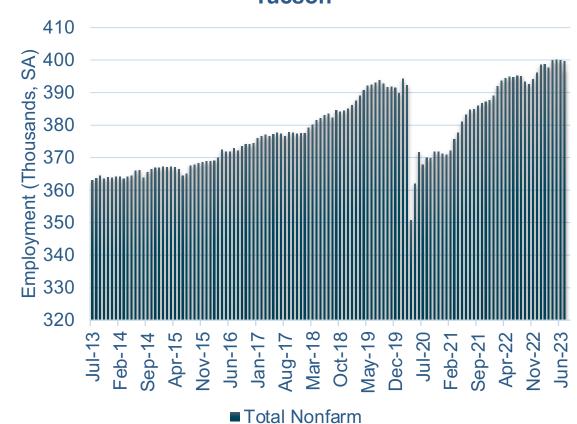




Regional Labor Market







Unemployment Rate



Source : BLS Beacon Economics

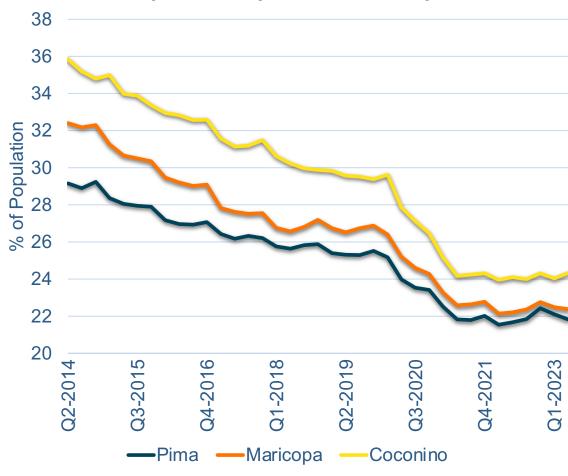
Personal Finances







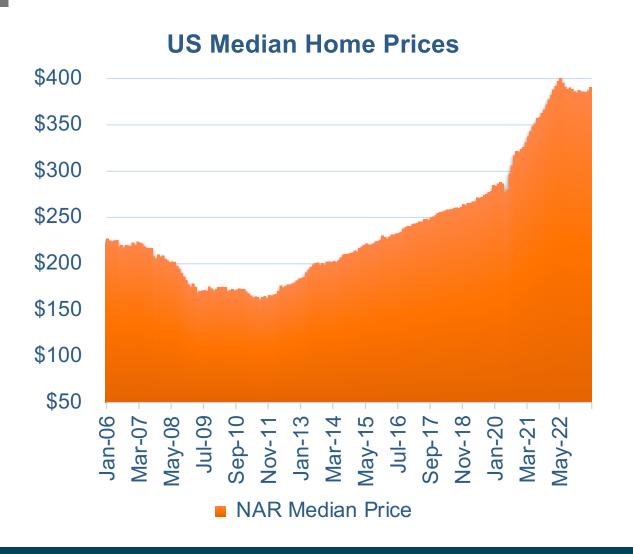
Equifax Subprime Credit Pop.



Source: Equifax, BLS Beacon Economics

Housing Starts, Home Prices stable

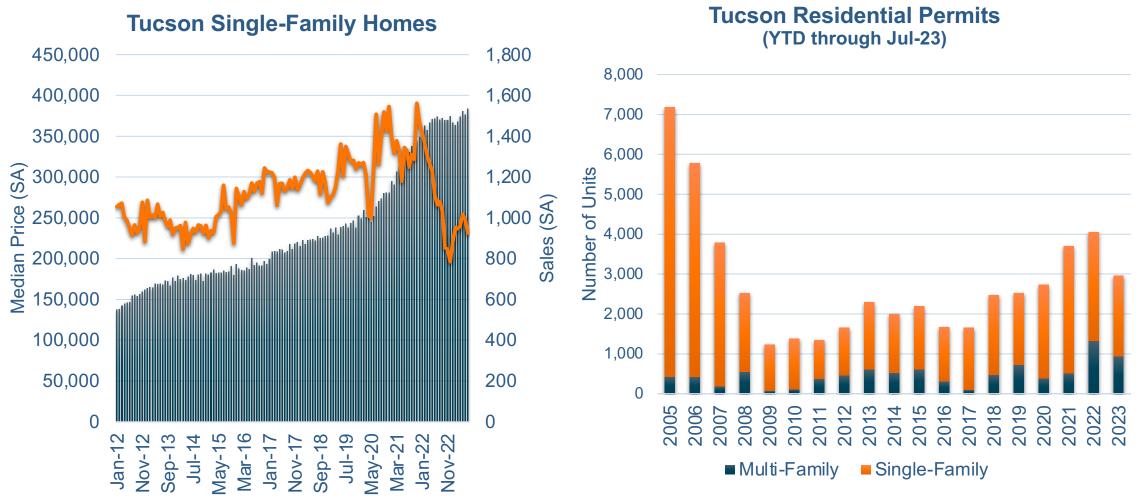






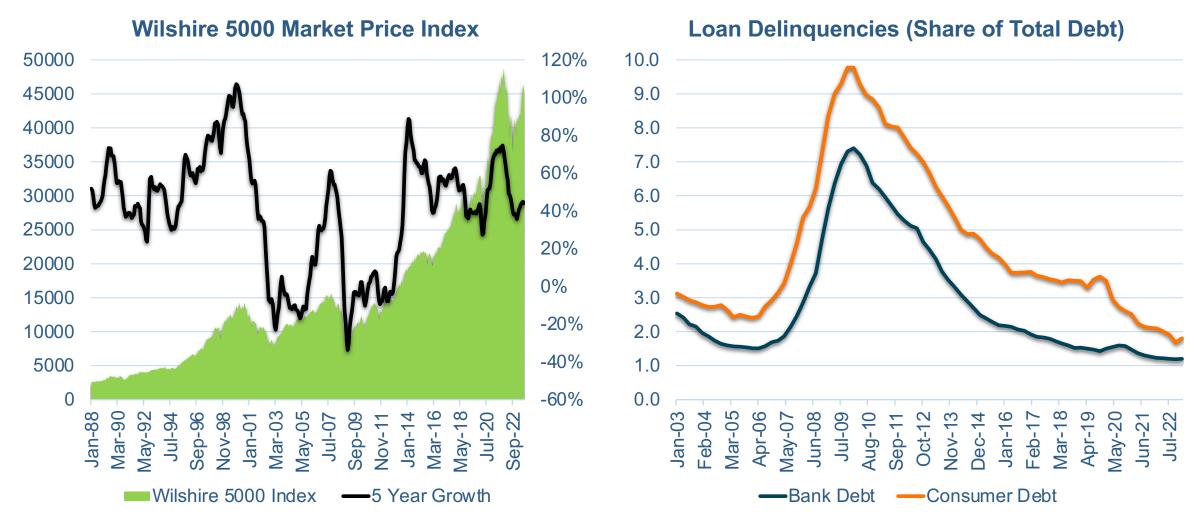
Residential Market - Tucson

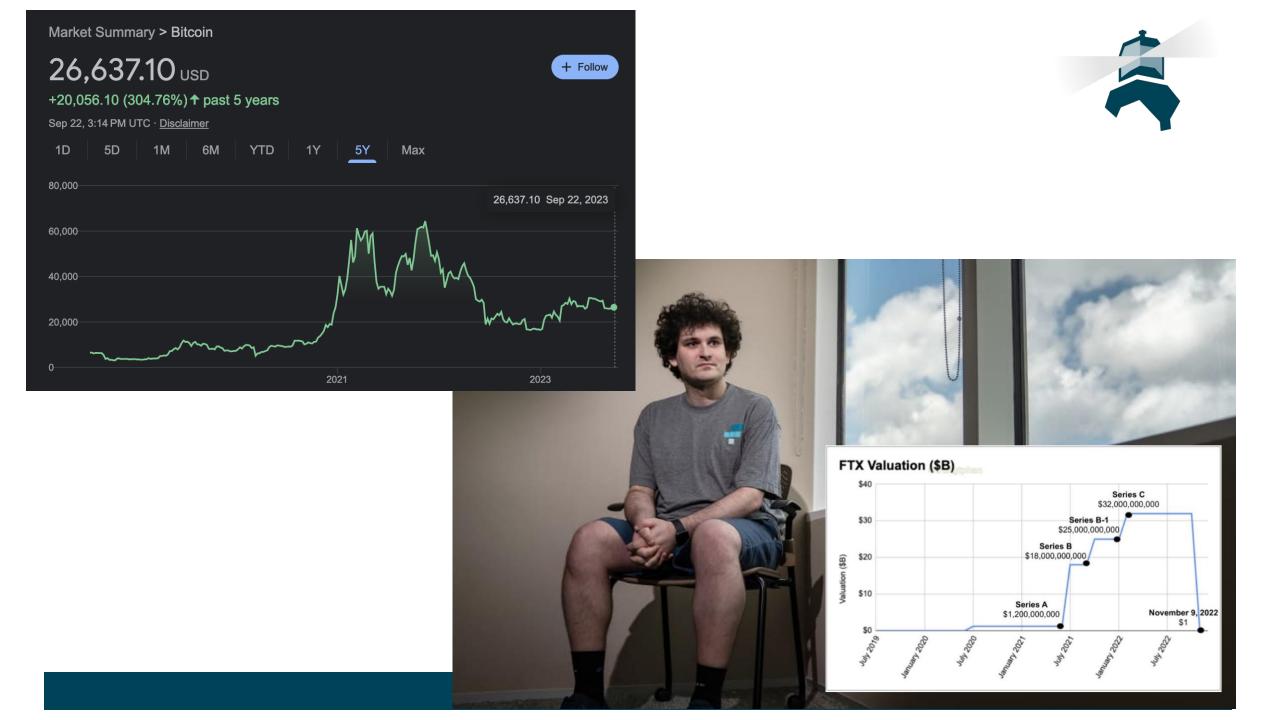




Stock market still bullish, credit markets clean







Beware the Narrative!



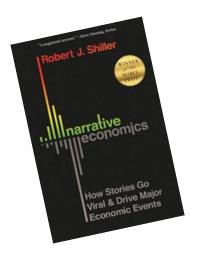
The Positive Value of Bitcoin

Ticketmaster fees are too high

The Unsustainable Federal Deficit



- ✓ Narratives skewing interpretations of economic news
- ✓ Narratives at the root of economic bubbles
- ✓ Narratives driving bad policy choices



"We need to incorporate the contagion of narratives into economic theory. Otherwise, we remain blind to a very real ... mechanism for economic change.."

—R. Shiller, <u>Narrative Economics: How Stories Go Viral & Drive</u> <u>Major Economic Events</u>

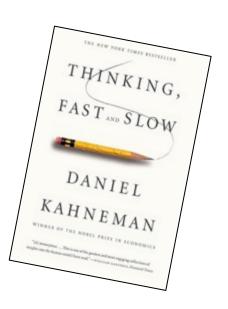
Beware the Narrative!



"People have two modes of thought: "System 1" is fast, instinctive and emotional; "System 2" is slower, more deliberative, and more logical."

"System 1 is gullible and biased to believe, System 2 is in charge of doubting and unbelieving, but System 2 is sometimes busy, and often lazy"

— D. Kahneman, *Thinking Fast and Slow*

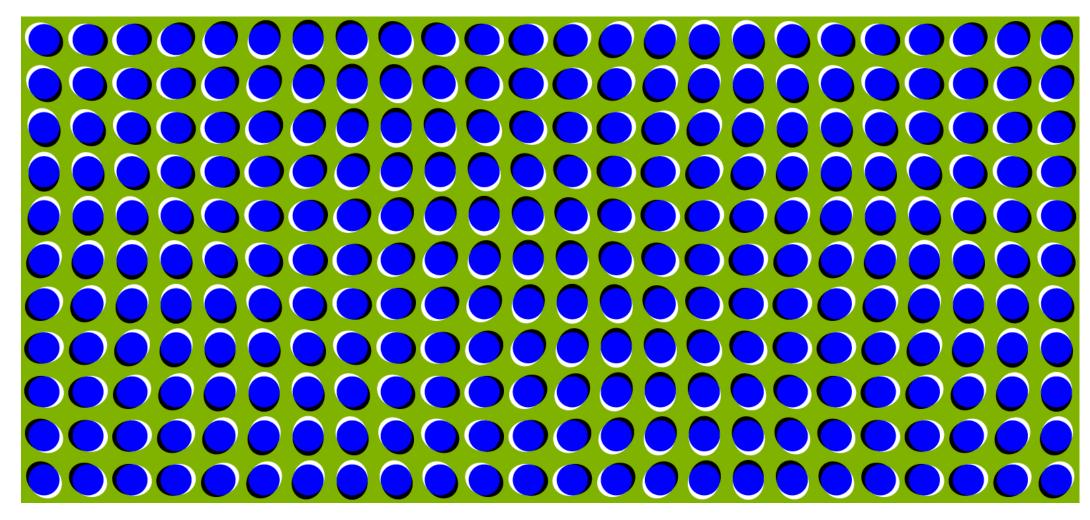


Some Examples of Cognitive Biases

Anchoring bias Apophenia Availability heuristic Cognitive dissonance Confirmation bias Egocentric bias Extension neglect False priors Framing effect Logical fallacy Prospect theory Self-assessment Truth judgment

Examples of a Visual Cognitive Bias





Miserabilism and the Pandemic



CBO: Coronavirus pandemic will scar U.S. labor market for the next decade

FINANCE · ECONOMY

What shape will the recovery take? U-shape, check mark, square root symbol, and swoosh are all on the table, say economists

As many as 30% of Americans with home loans — about **15 million** households — could stop paying if the U.S. economy remains closed through the summer or beyond, according to an estimate by Mark **Zandi**, chief economist for Moody's Analytics.

Coronavirus to cause worst economic downturn since Great Depression, IMF forecasts 30-40 Million People in America Could Be Evicted from Their Homes by the End of 2020

Coronavirus: Leading economist warns of 10 years of depression and debt

3 22 May 2020

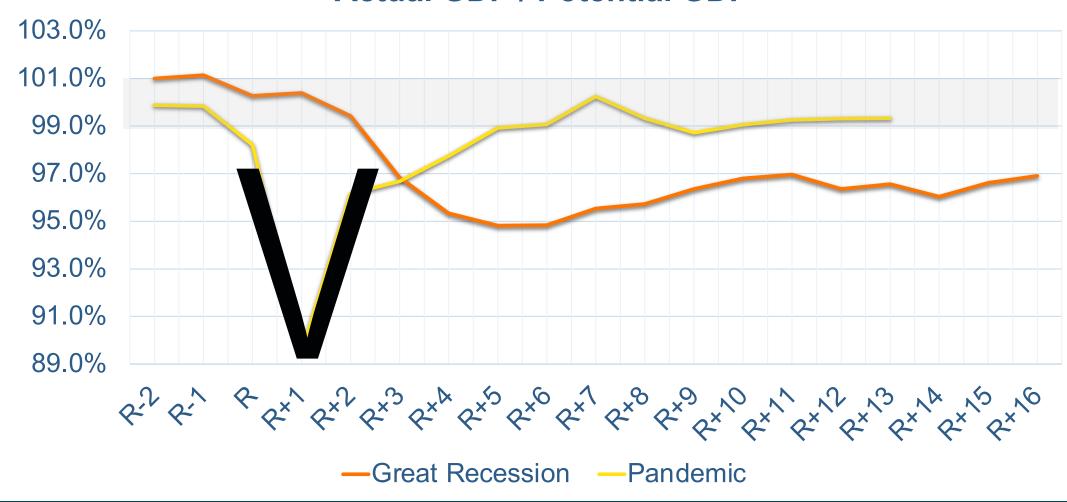
Home prices rose in June, but they'll likely fall in 2021: CoreLogic

'Make no mistake...the pandemic morphed into a Depression-like crisis,' says UCLA economist, who predicts U.S. economy won't recover from coronavirus until 2023

The Pandemic Over-reaction



Actual GDP / Potential GDP





Actual Lost GDP: \$1.2 Trillion

Fiscal Stimulus: \$6 Trillion

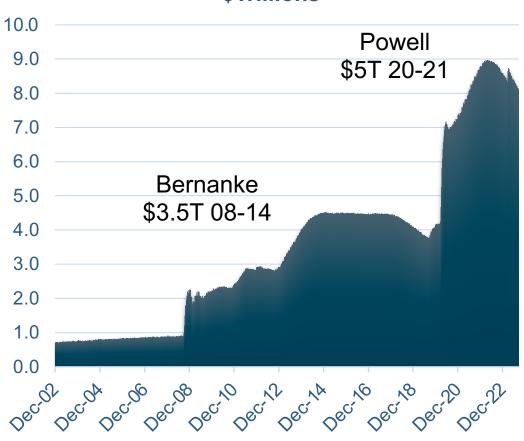
5 to 1 stimulus to loss ratio

\$50,000 in stimulus / household

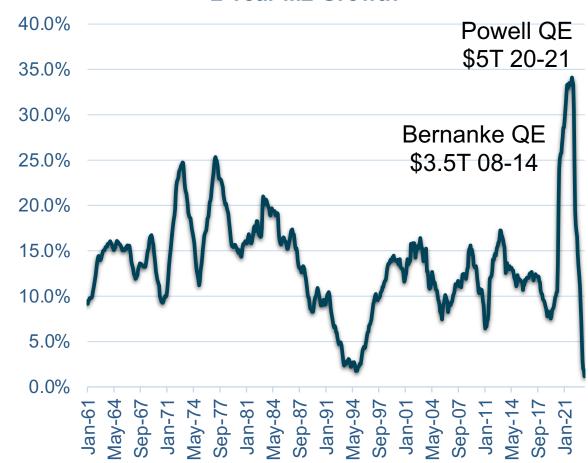
Federal Fiscal (Over)reaction



Federal Reserve Balance Sheet \$Trillions



2 Year M2 Growth



Money Mischief



The Problem with Excess Money

Short term: Money illusion

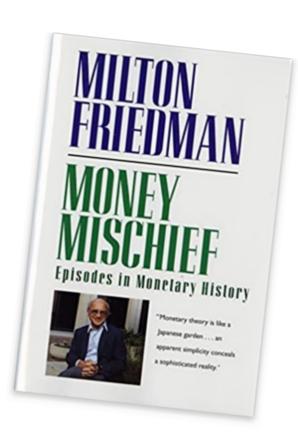
- Falling interest rates, Asset price surge
- Spending and investment binge ensues

Medium term: The Hangover

- Inflation hits, rates rise, asset markets sag
- Spending subsides back to normal Recession? Unlikely...

Long Run: The Consequences

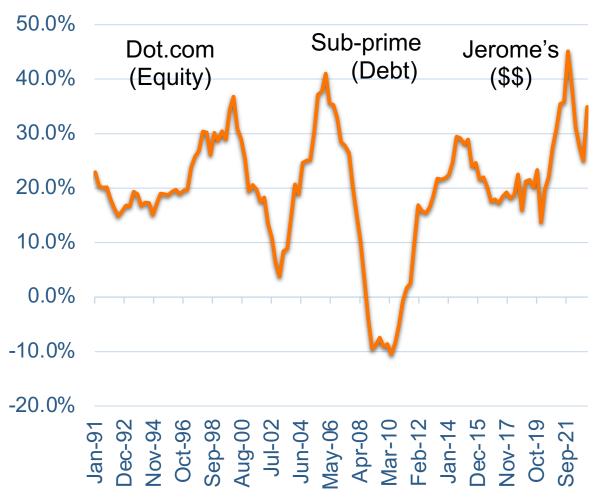
- Winners and Losers and political strife
- Financial risks increase, less investment
- Economic growth slows, economy is brittle



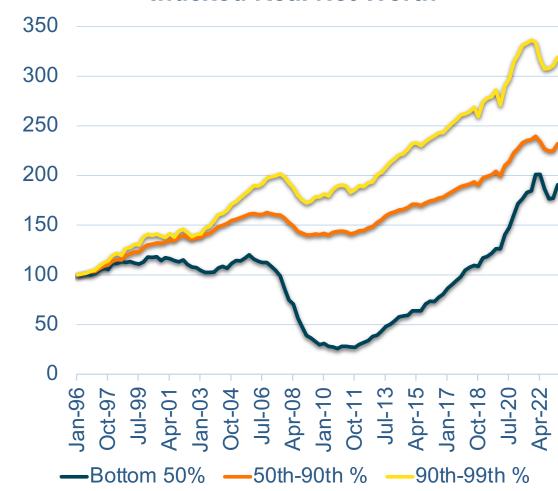
More Wealth = More Demand = Higher Prices







Indexed Real Net Worth



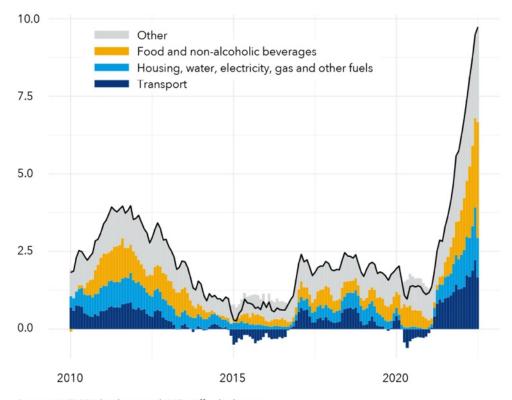
The Inflation Conversation



- Supply chain issues
- The federal deficit
- Corporate Greed
- Not enough manufacturing jobs
- Low Interest Rates
- Inflation expectations
- Its Putin's fault!
- The resale price of Swift concert tickets
- Dodgers awful pitching rotation
- Elon Musk can't get [his rocket] up

Inflation drivers

Food and energy prices continue to drive the global inflation surge. (percent, median inflation rate)



Source: IMF CPI database and IMF staff calculations.

Note: Chart shows median total inflation and in select categories across 88 countries, including 28 advanced economies and 60 emerging and developing economies.



The public narrative on inflation?



85% of Americans Are Feeling Impact of Inflation in Day-to-Day Lives, Finds New Survey

NEWS PROVIDED BY

L.E.K. Consulting →

05 Dec, 2022, 09:30 ET

- About 90% of Americans said that initiation has had an impact on their spending over the past year when it comes to food and beverage, including 54% who said the impact has been significant.
- A similar number 88% said inflation has impacted their spending at restaurants.
- About 89% said inflation has had an impact on their motor vehicle spending, such as gasoline including 56% who said it's had a significant impact.
- Eighty-six percent said inflation has impacted their spending on travel over the past year (45% said significantly).

Context...



5 Year Change in Consumer Prices (PCE Basis)

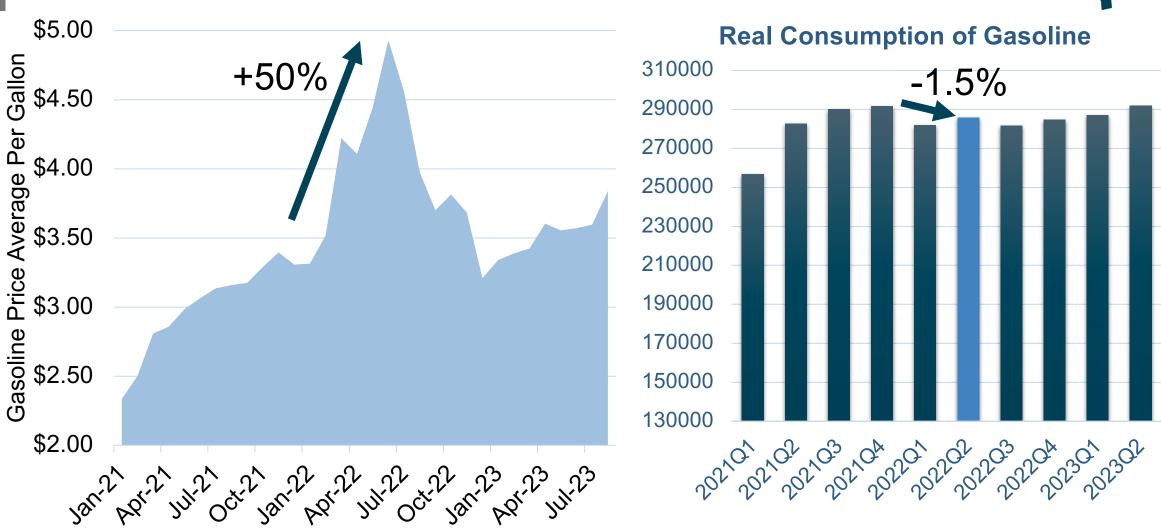


Real Consumer Spending Growth 2019-23

Necessary		Discretionary	
Prescription drugs	19.1%	Video and audio equipment	74.8%
Household supplies	16.9%	Sporting equipment, guns, ammo	61.7%
Outpatient services	11.7%	Pleasure boats, aircraft, other rec	36.3%
Social assistance	9.1%	Therapeutic appliances / eq	35.5%
Imputed rental of owner- occupied	5.4%	Foreign travel by U.S. residents	28.9%
Hospital and nursing home	5.1%	Jewelry and watches	28.1%
Ground transportation	4.0%	Air transportation	26.6%
Rental of tenant-occupied housing	3.4%	Alcoholic beverages	17.9%
Food for off-premises consumption	2.5%	Food services	11.4%
Elementary, secondary schools	2.3%	Accommodations	10.4%
Household utilities	0.1%	Recreation services	-1.0%
Higher education	-0.9%	Personal care services	-10.9%

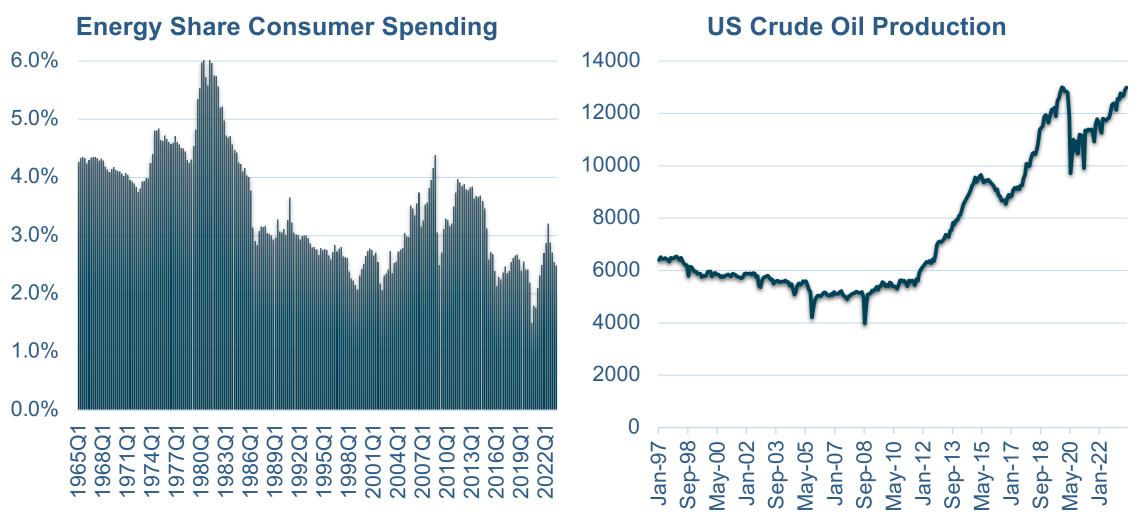
Gasoline Prices: Supply or Demand?





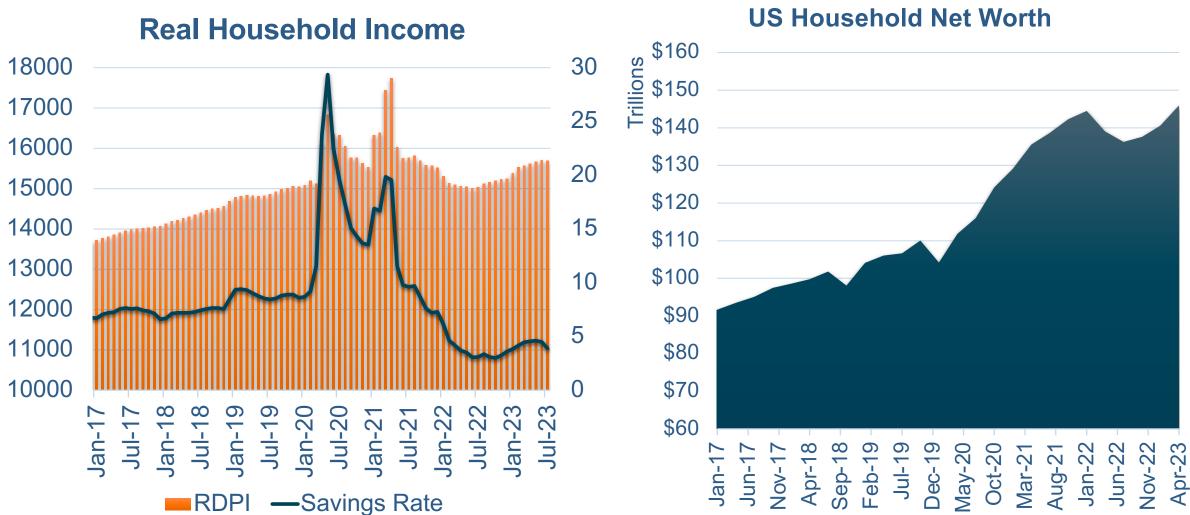
The current surge in oil prices?





The Outlook for Consumer Demand

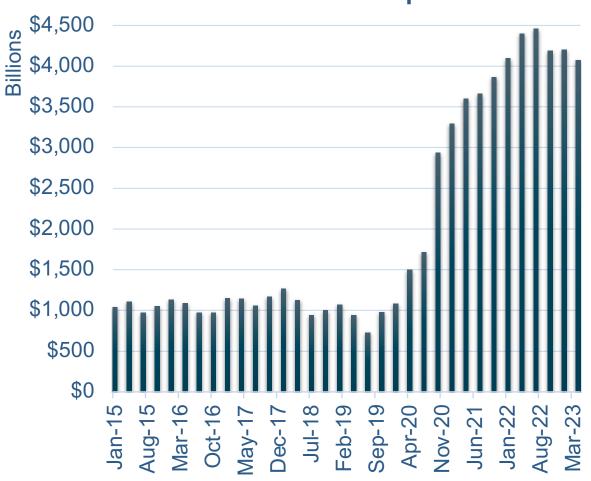




Plenty of Fuel for Growth



Household Checkable Deposits

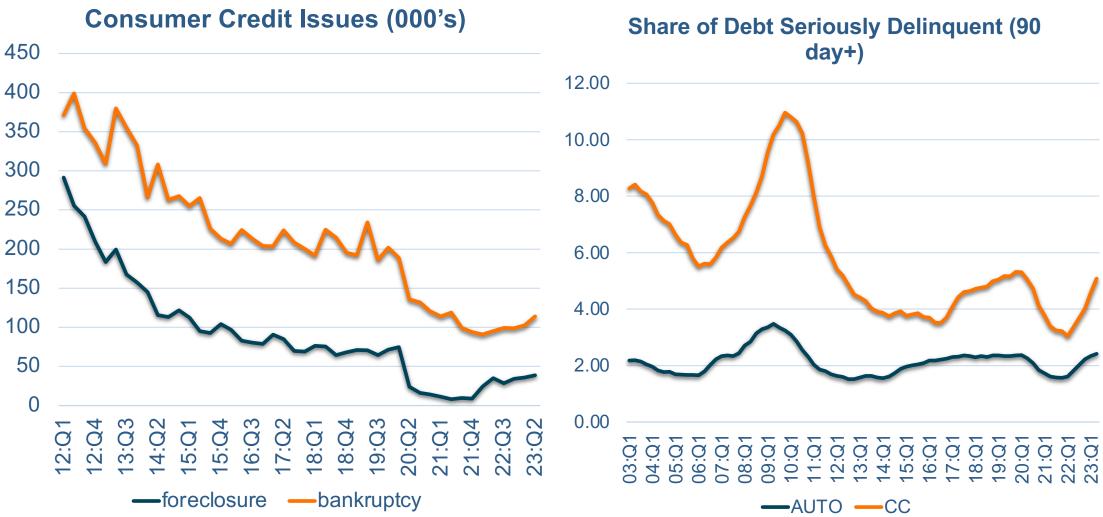


Financial Obligations as % of DPI



Debt Issues?

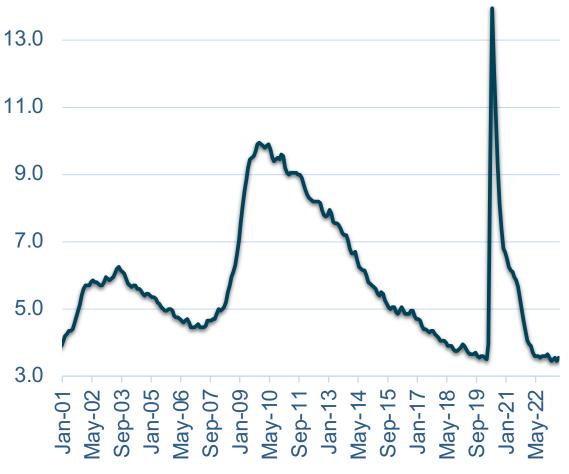




Recent Labor Market Evidence





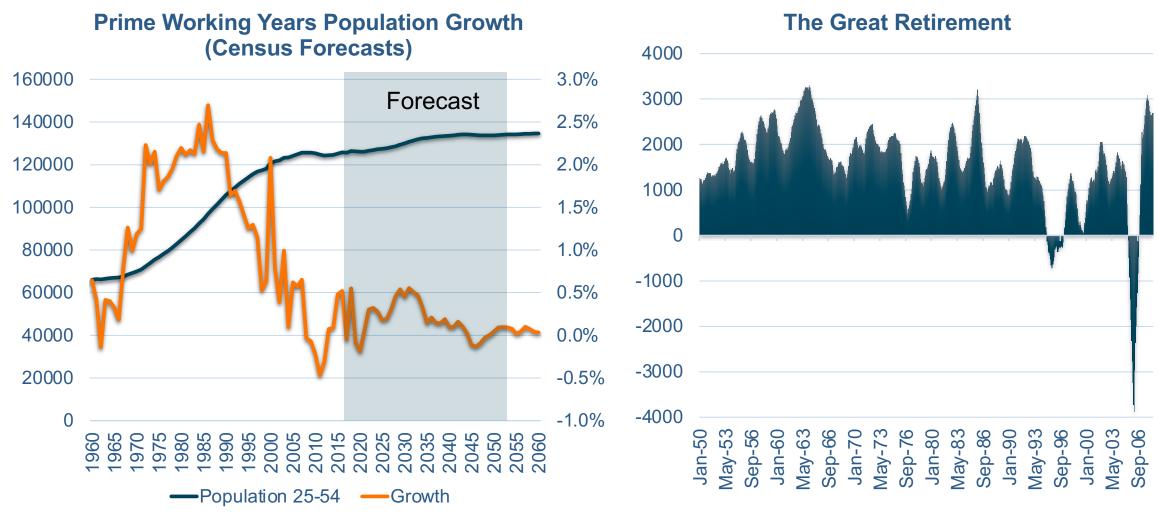


Job Openings / Unemployed Person



The Era of Labor Shortages is Here

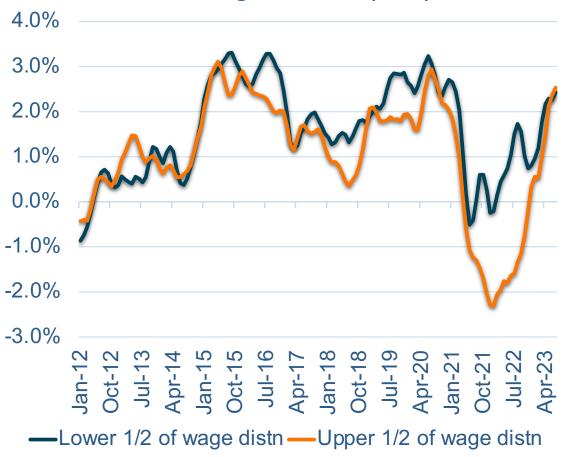




The Impact of Labor Shortages



Real Wage Growth (YoY)



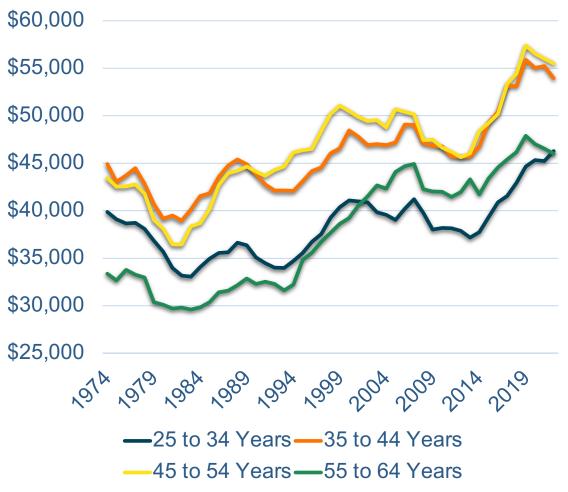
Weekly Earnings for Non-Supervisory Employees

	Q1 23	Gr 17-20	Gr 20-23
Accommodation	\$603.5	6.5%	33.8%
Childcare	\$561.8	11.6%	28.7%
Food and Drink	\$418.6	10.6%	26.2%
Nursing Homes	\$704.4	12.6%	23.5%
Truck Transport	\$1,200.4	13.3%	20.1%
Total Private	\$964.8	10.0%	19.6%
Retail	\$620.0	14.6%	19.0%
Warehouses	\$857.2	10.0%	14.2%

Real Earnings by Age



Real Earnings by Age

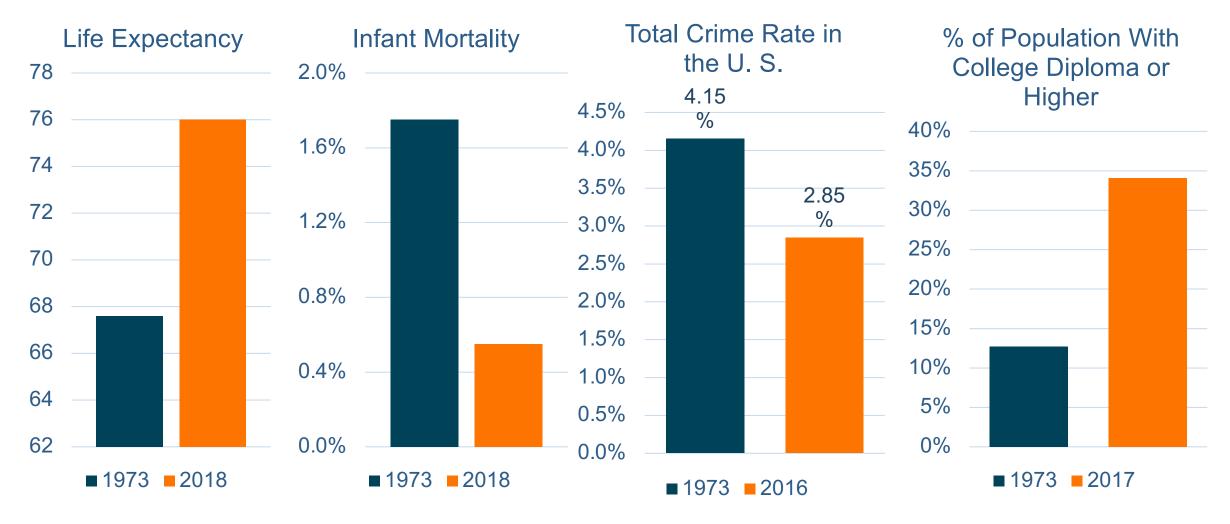


Cohort Comparison Real Earnings

Age in 2022	25 to 34 Years	35 to 44 Years	45 to 54 Years	55 to 64 Years
Inc. Year	2022	2012	2002	<u>1992</u>
Median	\$46,280	\$45,690	\$49,440	\$32,290
Mean	\$59,030	\$62,290	\$67,740	\$45,880
Age in 2004	25 to 34 Years	35 to 44 Years	45 to 54 Years	55 to 64 Years
Inc. Year	2004	<u>1994</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1974</u>
Median	\$39,570	\$42,100	\$38,700	\$33,380
Mean	\$47,530	\$55,030	\$49,490	\$43,780

Other Metrics on Quality of Life





The Local Situation



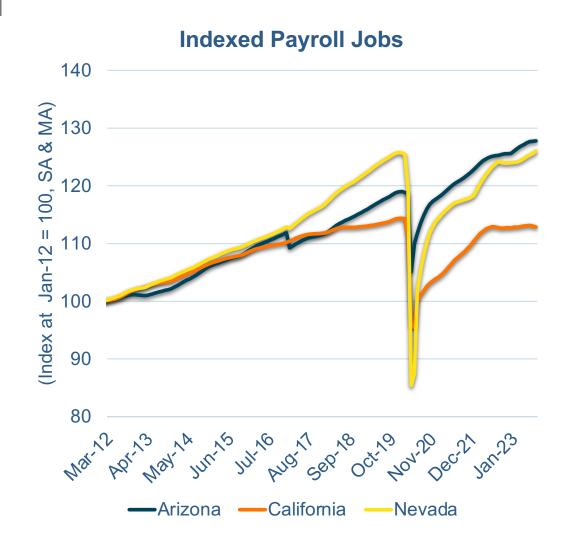
Index of Payroll Employment

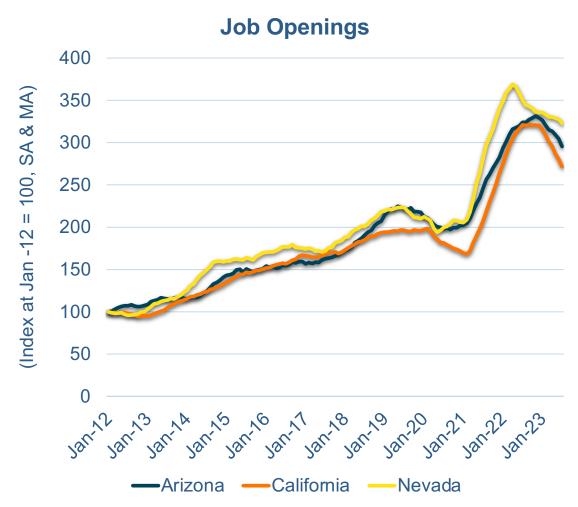


	Change in Payrolls 19-23				
1	Idaho	12.2%			
2	Utah	10.9%			
3	Nevada	9.1%			
4	Florida	8.9%			
5	Texas	8.8%			
6	North Carolina	7.6%			
7	Arizona	7.5%			
8	Arkansas	6.5%			
9	Tennessee	6.4%			
10	Montana	6.3%			
11	Georgia	6.1%			
12	South Carolina	5.1%			
13	Washington	4.6%			
14	South Dakota	4.4%			
15	Colorado	4.0%			
16	Indiana	3.9%			
17	California	3.8%			
18	Alabama	3.7%			

Labor Markets





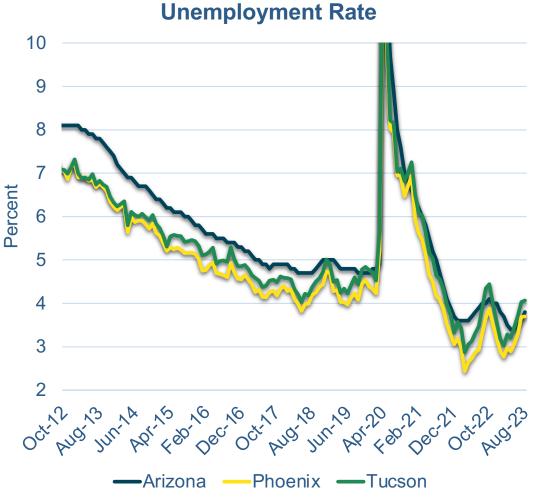


Source : BLS Beacon Economics

Regional Labor Market



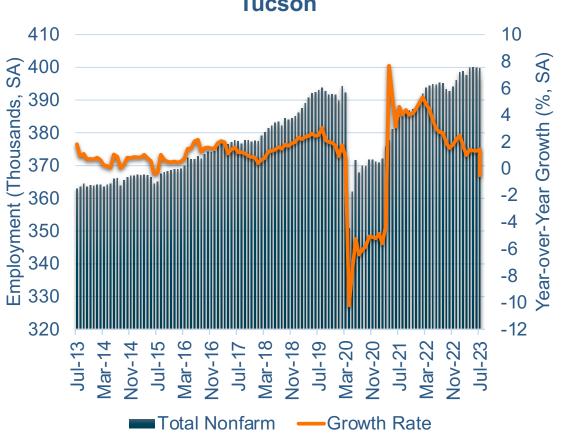




Tucson Employment







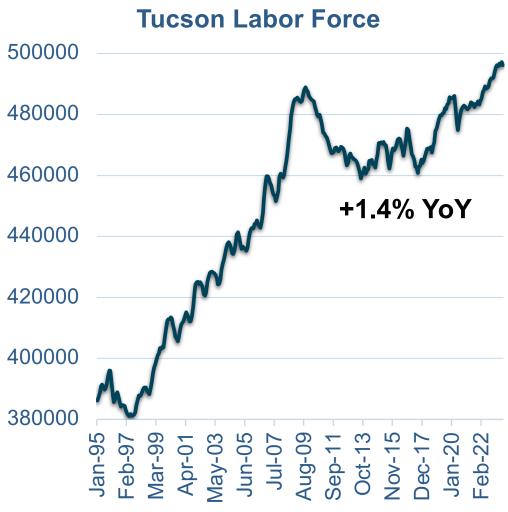
Industry	Aug. 2023	3-Yr.% Growth		
madeli y	Emp (000s)	Tucson	Arizona	
Total Nonfarm	397.4	12.2	7.4	
Leisure & Hospitality	42.7	37.4	27.7	
Wholesale Trade	7.9	20.9	14.6	
Construction	20.3	17.7	14.2	
Manufacturing	29.7	10.1	9.3	
Information	5.1	13.3	8.2	
Trade,Transport,Util.	68.3	9.2	5.8	
Financial Activities	19.6	7.8	5.5	
Government	79.0	2.8	3.2	
Prof Sci and Tech	19.0	15	2.9	
Retail Trade	41.0	5.1	0.7	
Admin Support	26.1	5.6	-1.9	

Source: BLS EDD Beacon Economics

Tucson: Recent Job Numbers

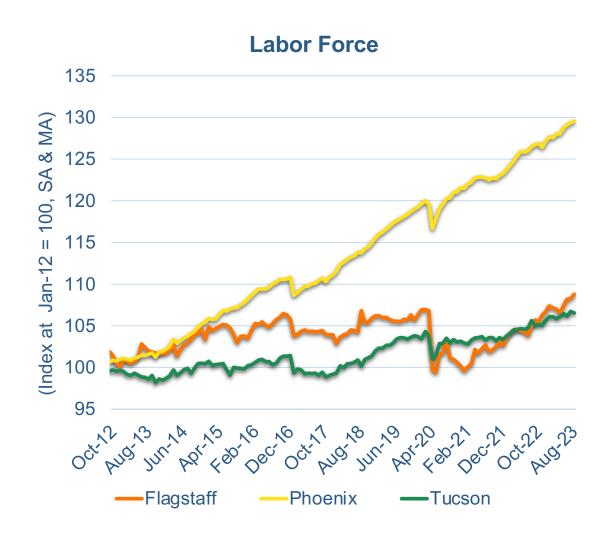


	Aug-23	
Total Nonfarm	397.4	0.5%
NR/Construction	22.5	4.7%
Manufacturing	29.7	4.6%
Government	79	2.9%
Other Services	14.4	2.9%
Wholesale Trade	7.9	2.6%
Education/Health	67.9	1.0%
Financial Activities	19.6	1.0%
Professional/Business	48.5	-0.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	42.7	-2.7%
Retail Trade	41	-3.5%
Information	5.2	-3.7%
Logistics	19.4	-4.4%

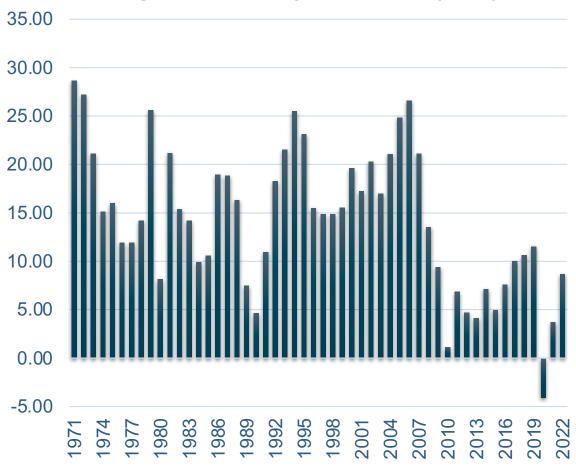


Regional Labor Market





Change Pima County Population (000s)

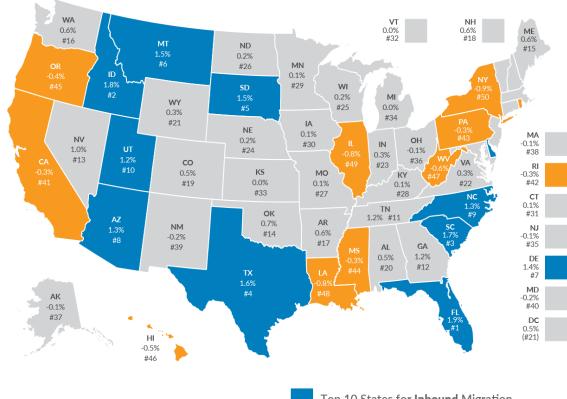


Source : BLS Beacon Economics

Population = Growth

State Population Change in 2022

State Migration Patterns, from Most Inbound to Most Outbound, 2022



Note: D.C's rank does not affect states' ranks, but the figure in parentheses indicates where it would have ranked if included.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TAX FOUNDATION

Top 10 States for Inbound Migration

Top 10 States for Outbound Migration

@TaxFoundation



Solutions

- Extensive: Increasing labor force through immigration (SR) or birthrates (LR)
- Intensive: Raising participation rates among the existing population
- —Productivity enhancements: capital investments
- —Productivity enhancements: worker skill training

Beacon Economics

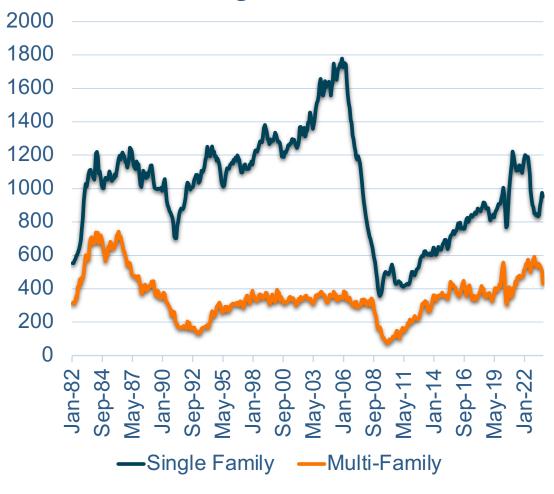
Current Housing Activity







Housing Starts SAAR



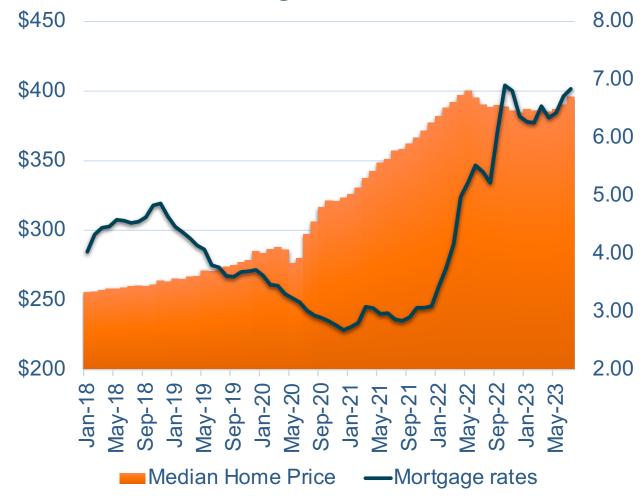
Housing: A Rate Whiplash



Case Shiller Home Price Appreciation July 20 – July 22

Tampa	64.0%	Los Angeles	37.9%
Phoenix	62.0%	SF	35.1%
Miami	61.4%	New York	34.9%
Dallas	54.2%	Boston	34.6%
Charlotte	49.5%	Portland	33.6%
LV	49.2%	Cleveland	30.9%
SD	49.1%	Detroit	29.4%
Atlanta	45.8%	Chicago	27.4%
Seattle	43.9%	DC	26.0%
Denver	40.3%	Minneapolis	24.6%

Existing Home Market

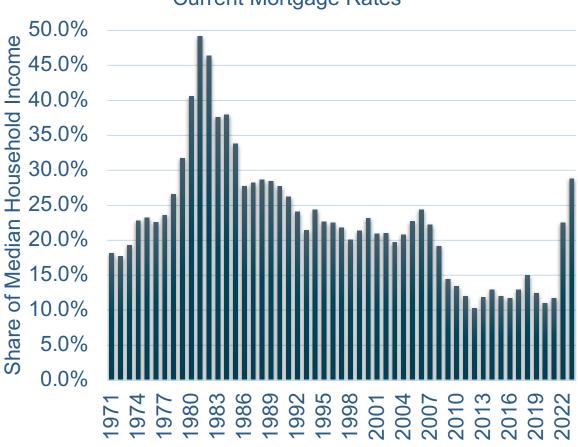


Affordability vs Fundamentals

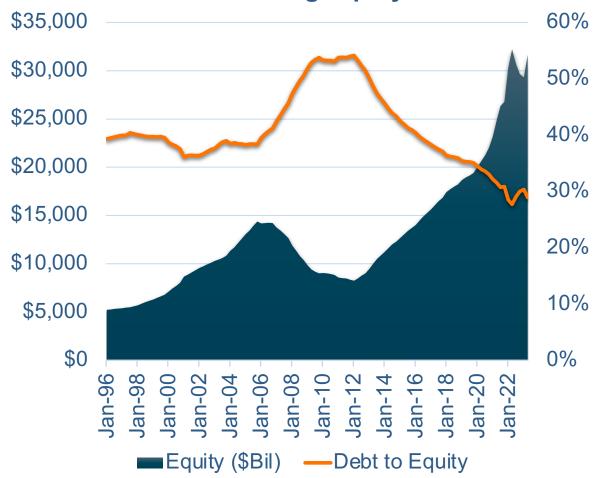


Existing Home Affordability

Interest Payment on Median Priced Home at Current Mortgage Rates

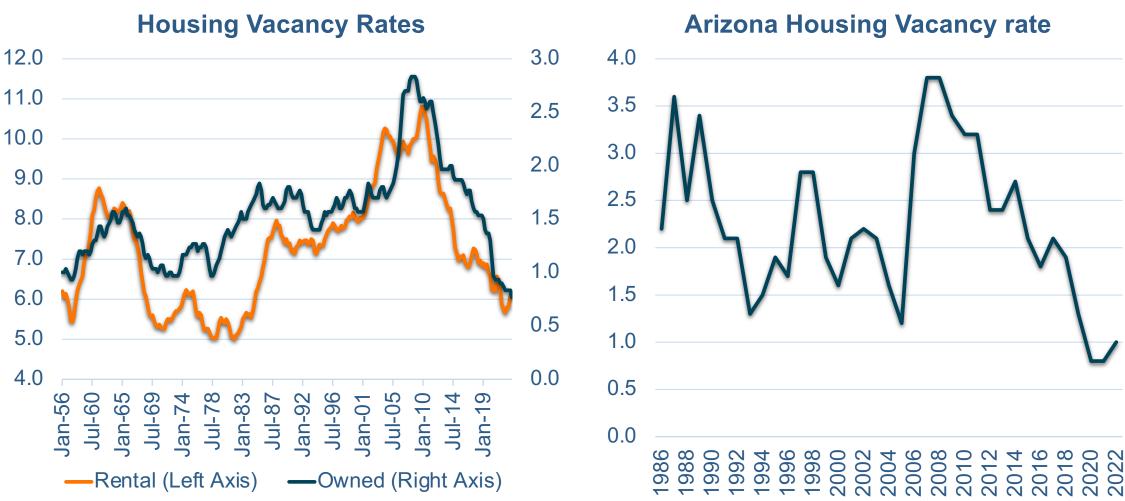


Household Housing Equity and Debt



The Deeper Issue: A Collapse in Filtering





Residential Market - Tucson



Tucson Single-Family Homes



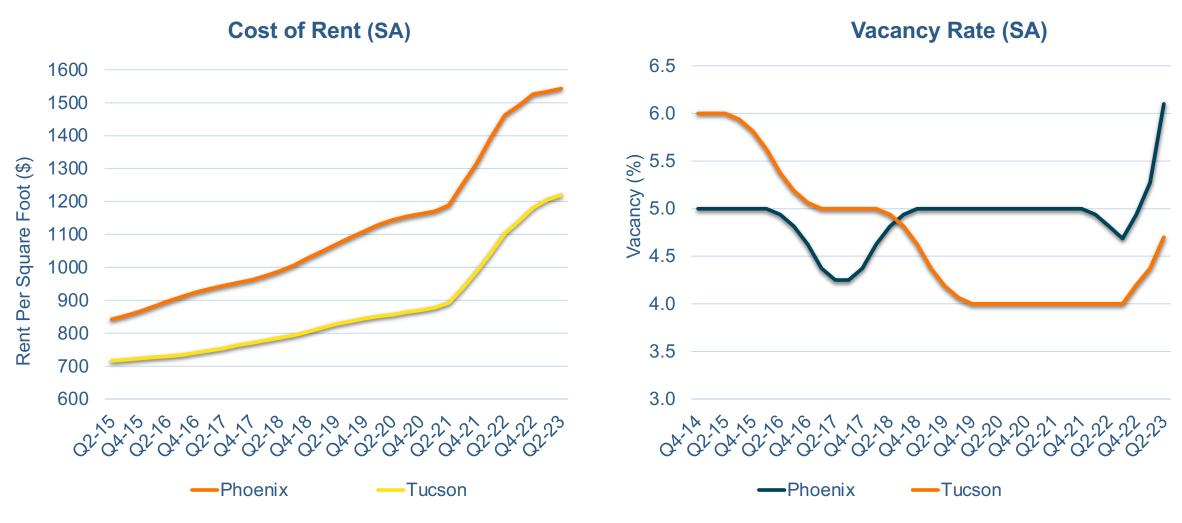
Tucson Inventory of Single-Family Homes



Source: Redfin

Apartment Market – Arizona MSAs

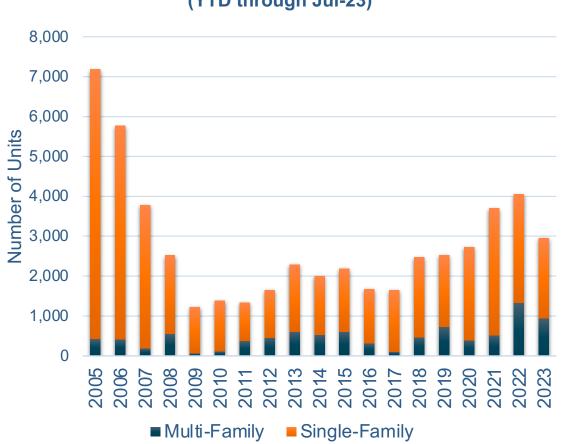




Residential Construction Activity







	Single	-family	Multifamily		
Metro 2022		5-Yr Change	2022	5-Yr Change	
AZ Total	37,404	9,938	23,321	13,305	
Phoenix	26,829	11,223	20,110	6,374	
Tucson	918	199	962	878	

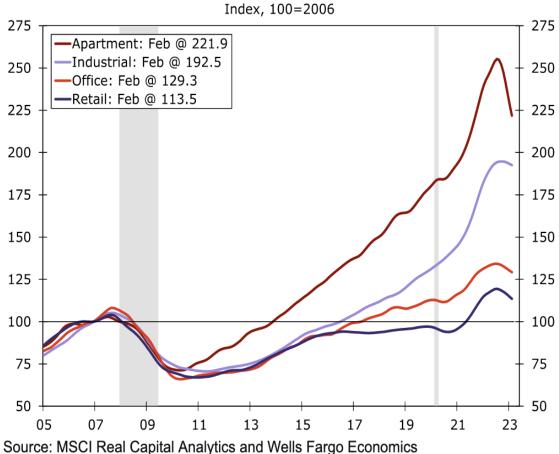
Source : American Census Survey

Beacon Economics

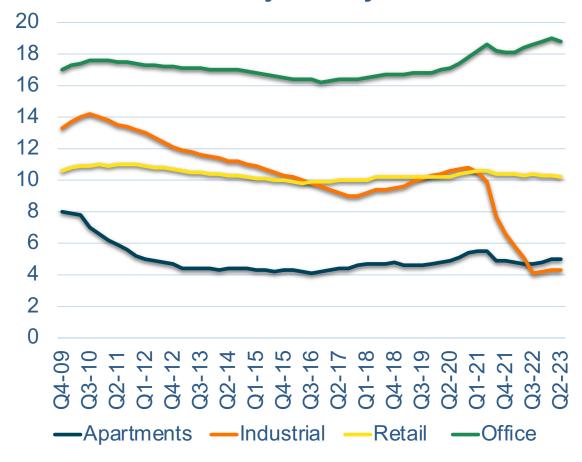
A Commercial Real Estate Shoe?



Commercial Property Price Index

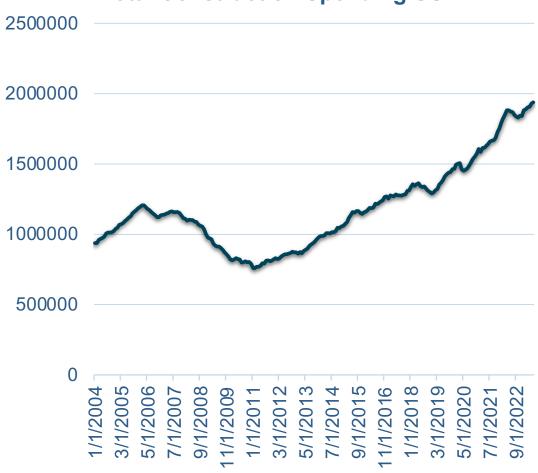


US Vacancy Rate by Class



Construction Spending



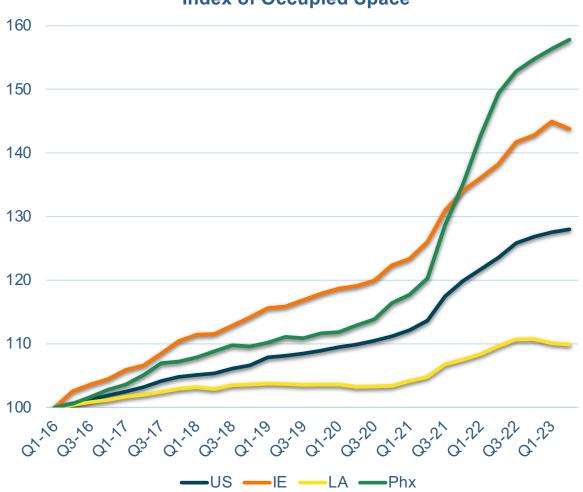


Type of Construction	Jun 2023 ^p	Jun 2022
Total Construction	1,938,357	3.5
Residential	866,408	-10.3
Nonresidential	1,071,949	18.1
Lodging	23,121	20.0
Office	97,227	7.9
Commercial	126,007	4.0
Health care	60,499	10.7
Educational	111,020	7.9
Public safety	12,697	7.5
Amusement and recreation	31,687	5.7
Transportation	63,408	9.0
Communication	24,369	0.7
Power	115,529	4.9
Highway and street	129,260	20.3
Sewage and waste disposal	39,912	24.2
Water supply	26,369	6.4
Manufacturing	195,898	79.9

The Rise of Industrial





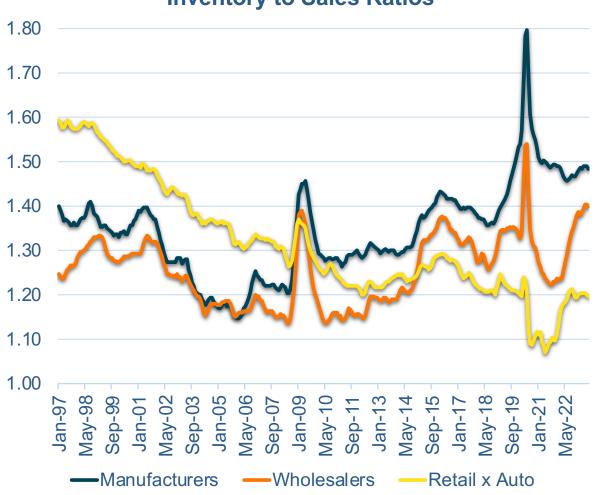


	Q2-23		Q2-23		Q2-23	
	SF					
	Space	2 Yr Ch	Vacancy	1 Yr Ch	Rate	1 Yr Ch
United States	7610.5	6.0%	4.3	-0.8	7.7	11.6%
Inland Empire	476.7	8.7%	3.7	0.8	12.8	20.8%
Los Angeles	473.5	1.3%	2.1	0.4	13	14.0%
Phoenix	197.4	20.6%	5.5	0	8.1	9.5%
Denver	154.4	8.4%	7.5	1.5	6.9	6.2%
Seattle	136.6	4.3%	3.1	-1.4	9.8	7.7%
Oakland (MD)	135.1	1.0%	2.8	-1.8	8.8	11.4%
Orange	109.0	3.6%	2.5	0.3	10.5	12.9%
Sacramento	104.6	4.4%	3.9	-1.3	6.4	10.3%
Portland, OR	82.2	1.2%	4.5	-2.5	8.1	9.5%
Las Vegas	81.4	4.6%	2.3	-1.2	9	9.8%
San Diego	78.7	6.3%	2	-0.7	11.6	8.4%
Stockton	59.0	13.8%	5.9	-0.8	7.6	7.0%
Salt Lake City	50.6	6.5%	3.5	0	8.1	11.0%
Tacoma	45.2	4.6%	4.5	-1	9.4	6.8%

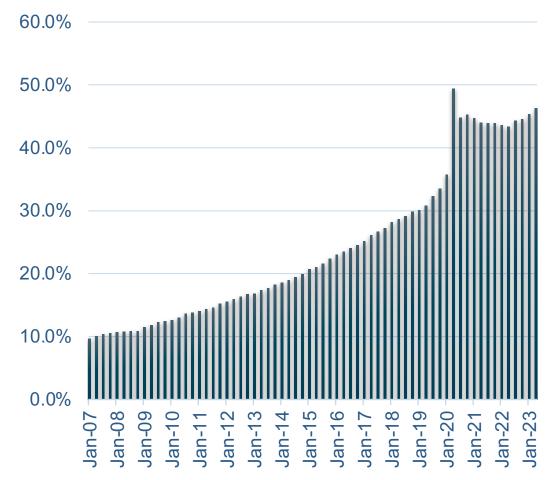
Shifting Trade / Inventories



Inventory to Sales Ratios



E-Commerce Share of Retail Sales



Nonresidential Rents and Vacancies



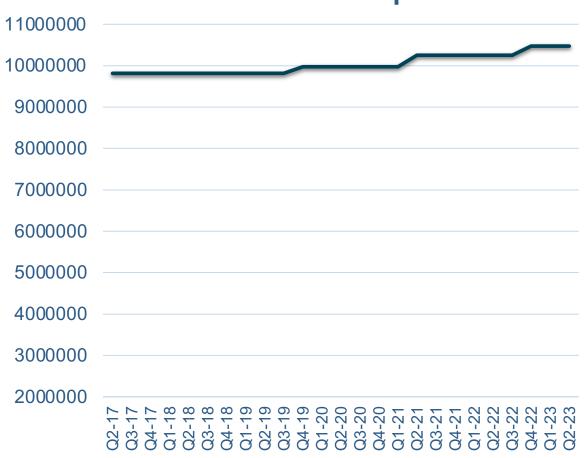
Office	Cost	of Rent	Vacancy Rate		
	Q2-23 (\$)	1-Yr % Growth	Q2-23 (%)	1-Yr Change	
Tucson	22.7	3.1	19.6	-0.2	
Phoenix	28.0	2.8	22.7	-0.9	
Las Vegas	27.2	2.1	23.1	-0.7	
Reno	21.6	1.5	18.5	-2.1	
Retail					
Las Vegas	23.0	2.3	13.2	-0.5	
Reno	20.8	2	13.9	-0.2	
Tucson	18.5	1.5	9.1	-0.1	
Phoenix	21.1	0.7	8.6	-0.5	
Warehouse/Distrib	ution				
Tucson	6.7	10.1	3.1	-4.3	
Las Vegas	9.7	9.9	2.4	-2.2	
Reno	6.5	9.9	3.0	-1.9	
Phoenix	8.4	9.3	5.3	-0.1	

Source: REIS

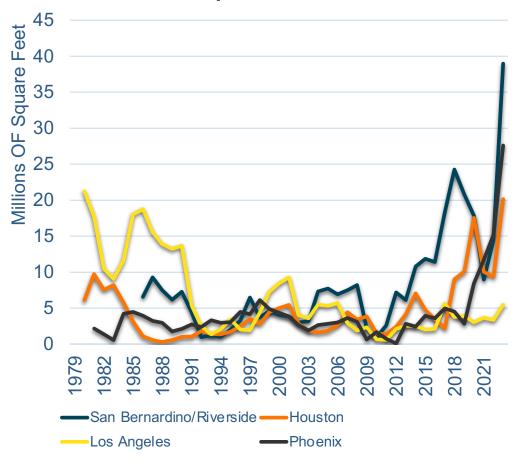
An Over-Supply Problem Coming





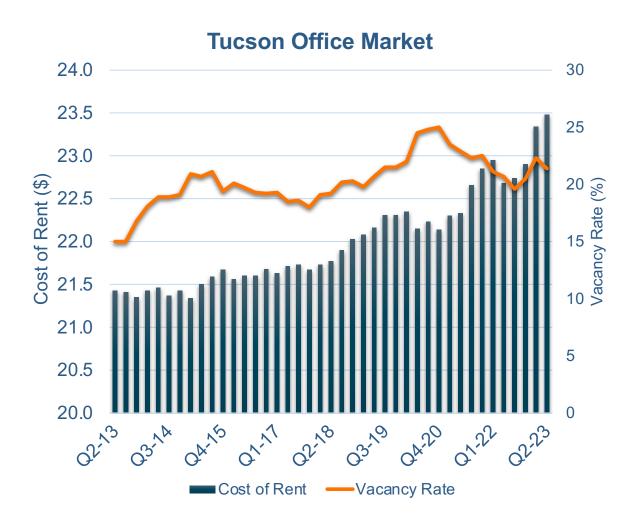


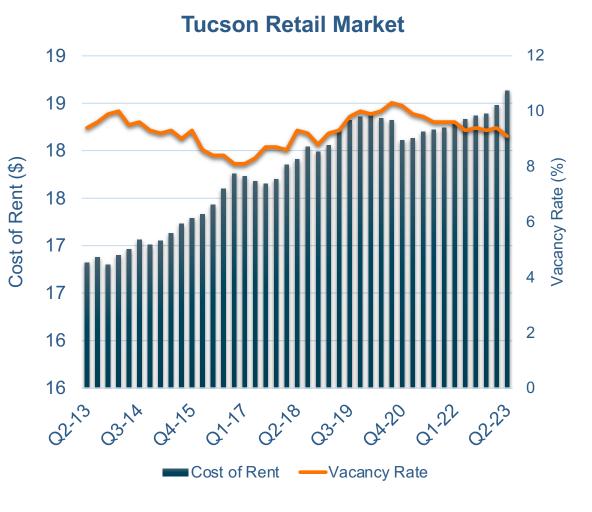
Annual Industrial Completions in Square Feet



Commercial Real Estate







Source: REIS

Nonresidential Construction-Tucson





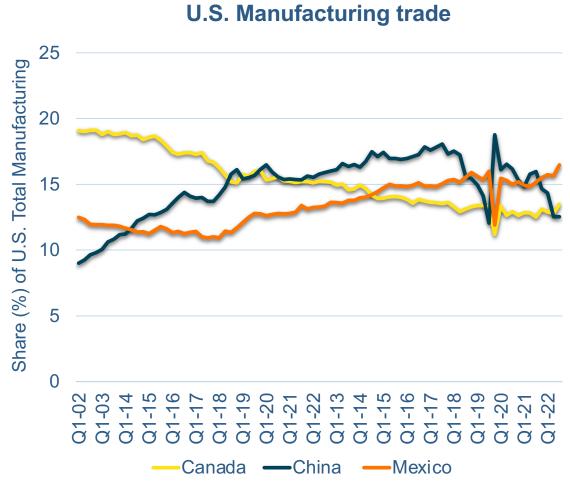
Property Type	_	pletions ft., 000s)	Net Absorption (Sq. Ft., 000s)		
	2022	5-Yr Change	2022	5-Yr Change	
Warehouse	221.0	221.0	765.0	0.9	
Retail	30.0	8.0	64.0	0.1	
Office	0.0	-54	116.0	0.2	

Source: REIS Beacon Economics

Deepening Relationship Between the United States and Mexico







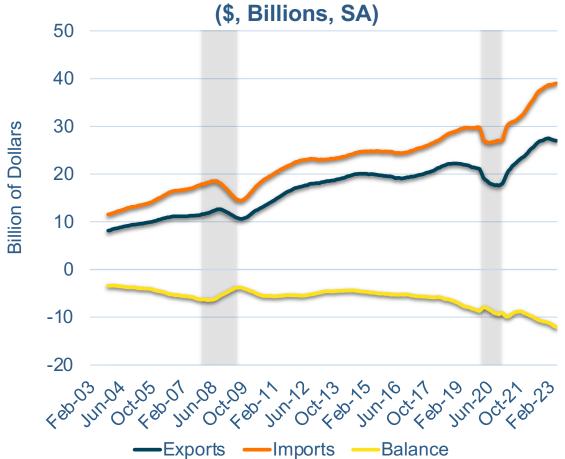
U.S. Trade with Mexico

Value US Exports to Mexico as % of GDP in 2022:

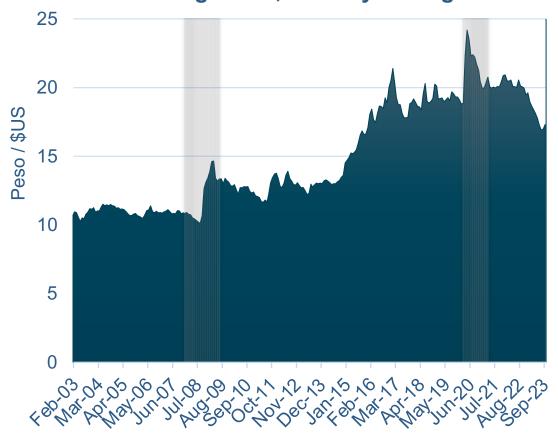
Value Mexico
Exports to US as
% of GDP in 2022:
1.9%



U.S. trade in goods with Mexico, (\$, Billions, SA)



Mexican Pesos to U.S. Dollar Spot Exchange Rate, Monthly Average



Southern Border States Performance



	Imports from Mexico			Exports to Mexico		
Southern Border States	Jul 2023 Imports Volume (\$,Mills)	1-Yr.% Growth	% Share of U.S. Total	Jul 2023 Exports Volume (\$,Mills)	1-Yr.% Growth	% Share of U.S. Total
Arizona	\$844.2	4.6	2.2	\$640.3	-9.2	2.4
California	\$4,748.1	6.3	12.2	\$2,654.3	8.28	10.1
New Mexico	\$198.7	8.3	0.5	\$274.7	-47.5	1.0
Texas	\$11,412.9	-9.5	29.3	\$10,789.5	-12.3	40.8
So. Border States Total	\$17,204.7	-4.8	44.2	\$14,358.8	-10.1	54.4
U.S. Total	\$38,903.9	4.4	-	\$26,405.6	-3.1	-

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, USA Trade Online

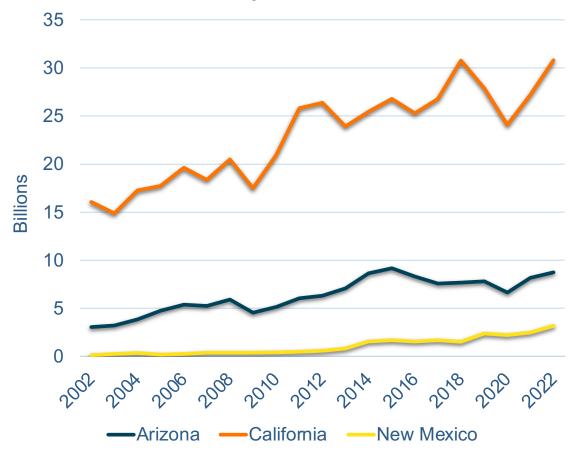
Southern Border States



Total Imports from Mexico



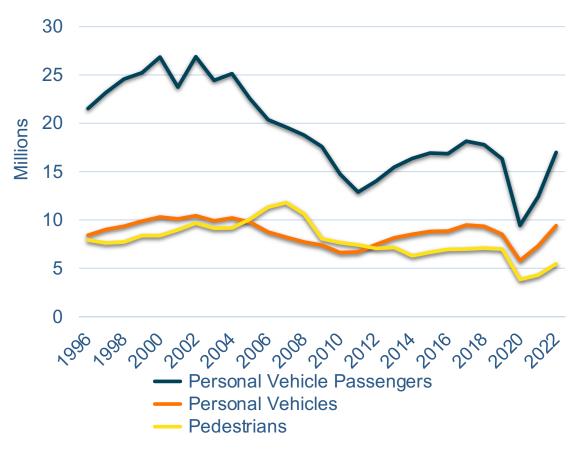
Total Exports to Mexico



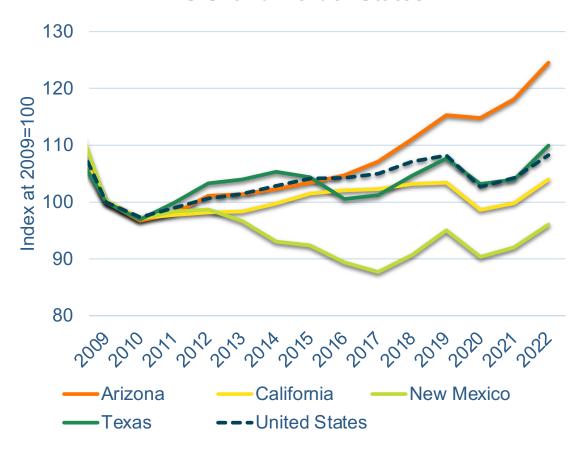
Arizona Border



Total Border Crossings Nogales District

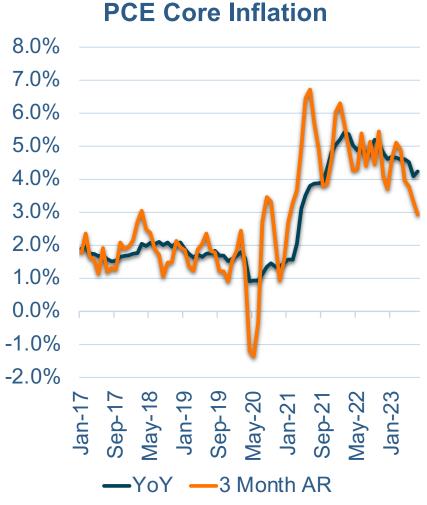


Manufacturing Employment U.S. and Border States

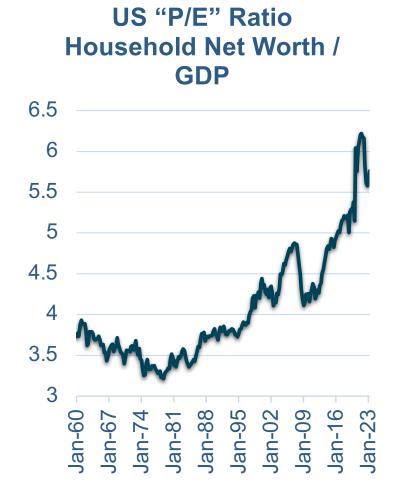


How much farther can inflation really go?









The bad news? The good news...



The Federal Reserve Narrative

- US inflation due to some exogenous shock
- Inflation is now being driven by inflation expectations
- Inflation is causing substantial harm to American households
- The Fed must fight inflation and it is worth the loss of some jobs / higher unemployment



moneycontrol

"We have got to get inflation behind us. I wish there were a painless way to do that. There isn't."

Business Alert

Sept. 20, 2:01 p.m. EDT

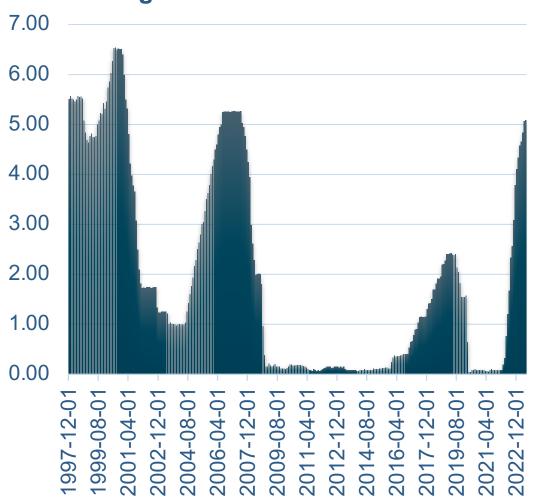
Federal Reserve leaves interest rates unchanged but forecasts another hike this year

The central bank has been racing to get inflation down, and now officials are moving more slowly to see how their rate increases over the past year are slowing the economy.

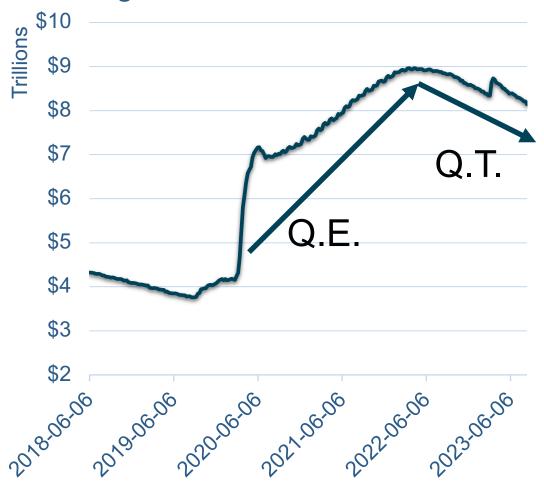
The Fed Response



Stage 1: Federal Funds Rate

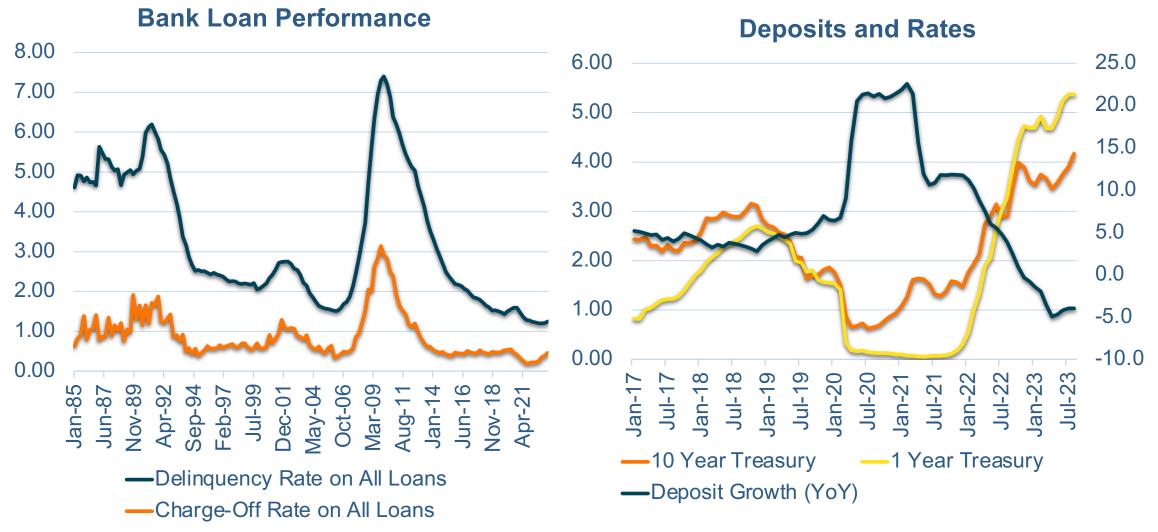


Stage 2: Federal Reserve Assets



Bank Failures? Forced to Buy High, Sell Low

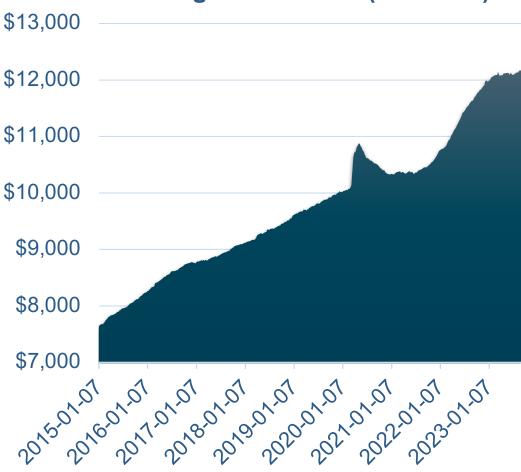




Credit getting tighter



Outstanding Bank Loans (\$Billions)

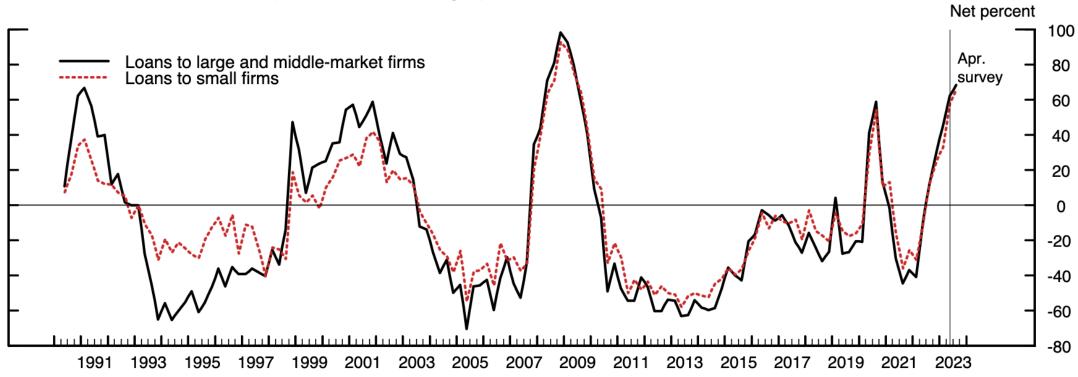


Banks Tightening Standards (Commercial/Industrial Loans)











ECONOMY

Mortgage rates just hit their highest since 2002

August 17, 2023 · 1:45 PM ET





What Does the Fed Do?



- Conducting the nation's monetary policy ... in pursuit of full employment and stable prices.
- Supervising and regulating banks ... to ensure the safety and soundness of the nation's banking and financial system.

Error #1: Panic over full employment has negatively impacted price stability

Error #2: Panic over price stability has negatively impacted the credit system



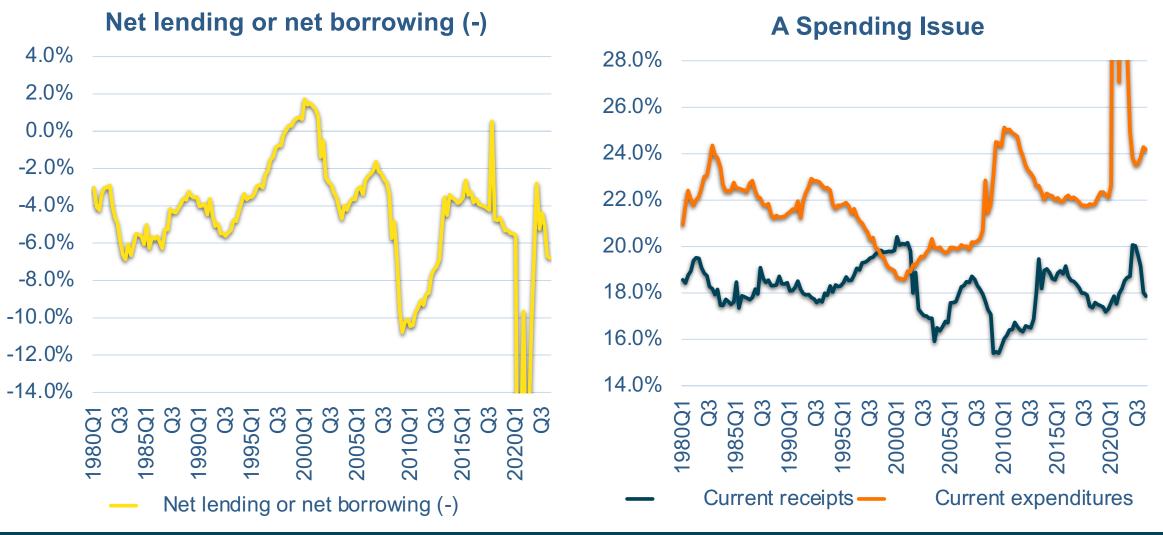
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Fed's Barr Calls Silicon Valley Bank a Textbook Case of Mismanagement'

Top bank regulator to testify Tuesday alongside other officials

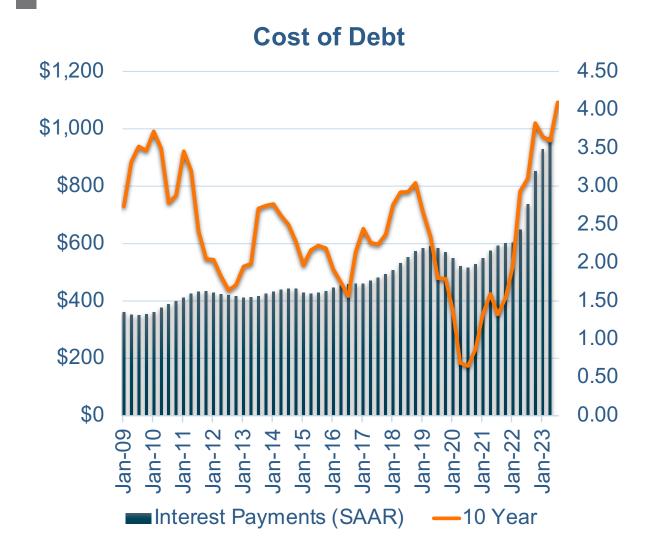
The Fed is on the Brake, Congress is the Gas

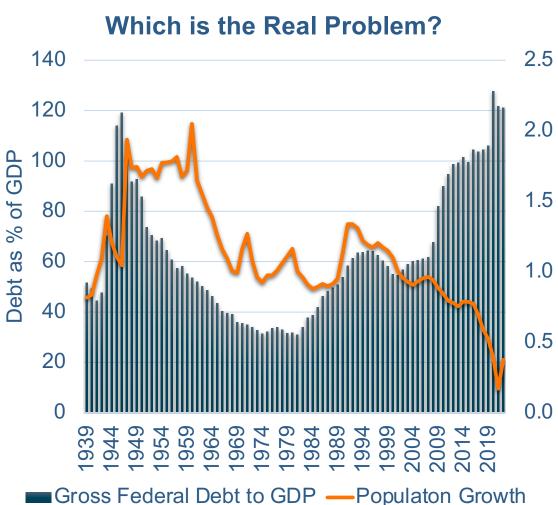




Feedback Effects







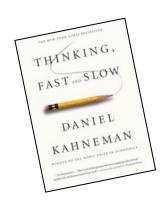
Out of the Woods?



- We were never actually in the woods
 - —Household finances solid, consumer demand driving the economy
 - —Leading economic indicators remain solid, growth to continue
- Headwinds will intensify
 - —Inflation will stay above target, Fed continues to tighten
 - —Public deficits at all levels of government are unsustainable
- Tucson
 - —The economy is fundamentally strong,
 - —Biggest constraint: the lack of labor supply / slow population growth
 - —Big opportunities exist at the border, particular in manufacturing
- The bigger issue: Social Narratives
 - —Broken narratives are pushing toxic politics and bad policy choices

The Economy is Fine, Our Heads Need Fixing

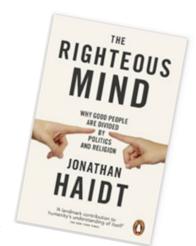




"Our comforting conviction that the world makes sense rests on a secure foundation: our almost unlimited ability to ignore our ignorance."

— Daniel Kahneman, *Thinking Fast and Slow*

"People can believe pretty much whatever they want to believe about moral and political issues, as long as some other people near them believe it, so you have to focus on indirect methods to change what people want to believe.



— Jonathan Haidt, The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion



Thank You

- Economic Outlooks
- Revenue Forecasts
- Cost Projections
- Regional Development
- Housing Studies



- Impact Reports
- CEDS Analysis
- Policy Studies
- Industry Studies
- Labor Markets