## State, Regional & National Economic Outlook

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**Morrison School of Agribusiness** 



"Why did the agricultural economist bring a ladder to the economic forecast meeting in Arizona?

Because he heard the best way to predict the future in our state is to climb up a saguaro cactus and hope for a 'prickly' accurate outlook on the harvest!"

## overview

**Economic growth** 

Interest rates & inflation

Farm income & commodity price outlook

Thoughts...

## Takeaways for 2024

Stable economic growth

Inflation "rate" generally under control

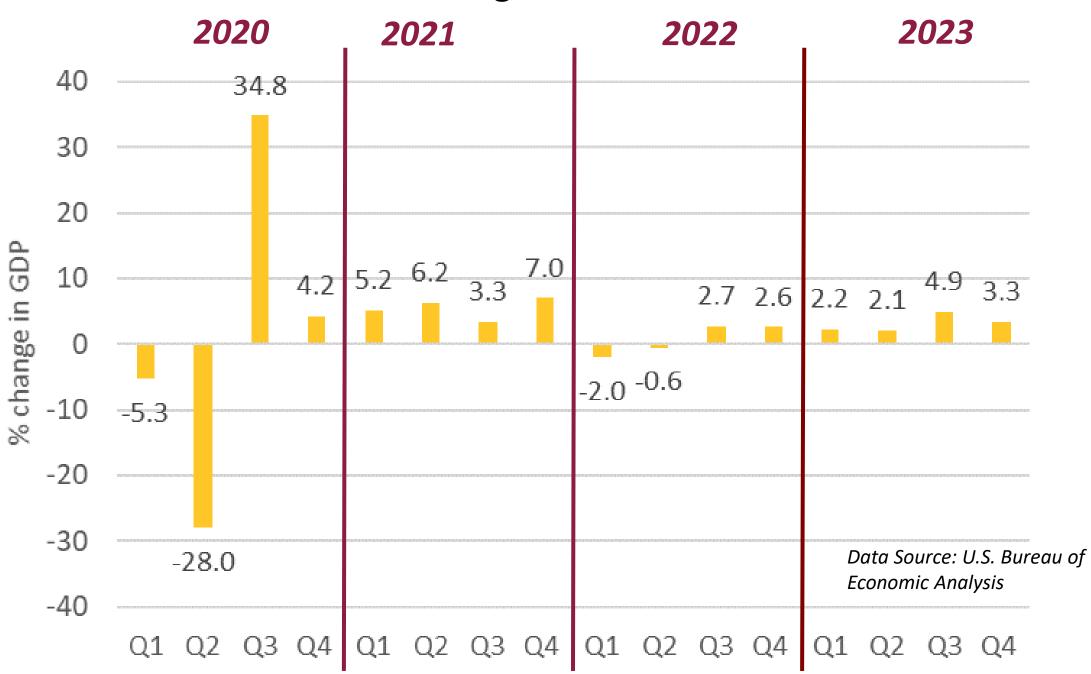
 "Mostly" lower output prices and higher input prices with declining aggregate farm income

## **Economic growth**

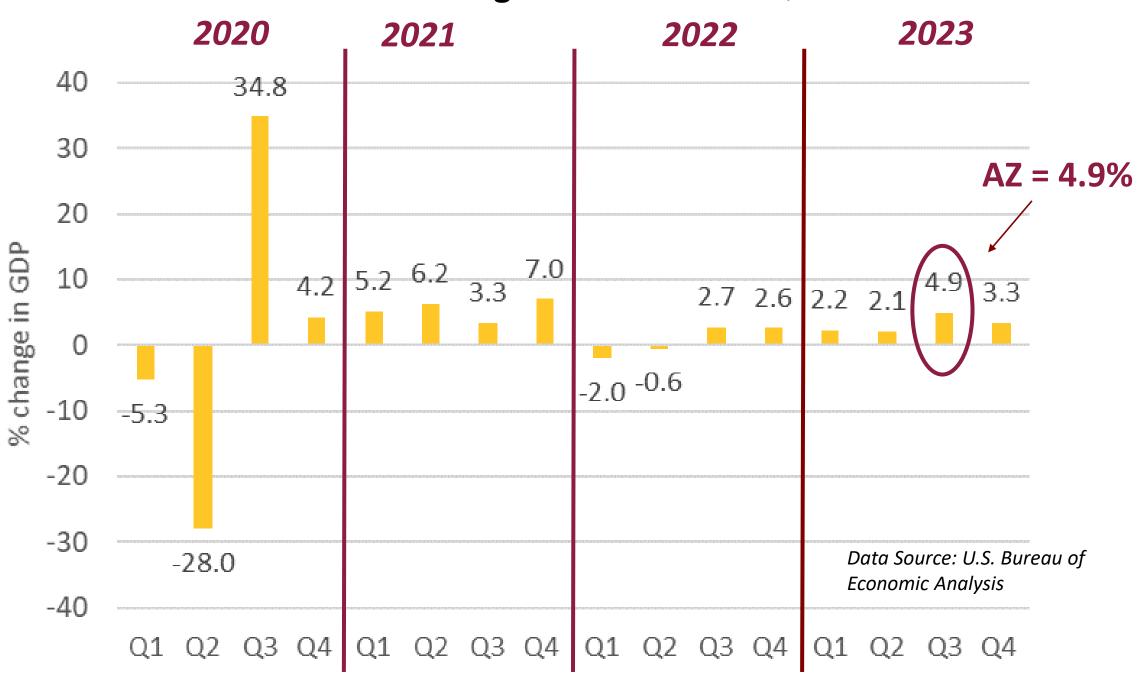
"What do an economist, plumber, and garbage disposal worker have in common? They all handle the gross domestic product!"

Source: <a href="https://inomics.com/blog/why-so-serious-10-hilarious-economics-jokes-to-lighten-the-mood-1539204">https://inomics.com/blog/why-so-serious-10-hilarious-economics-jokes-to-lighten-the-mood-1539204</a>

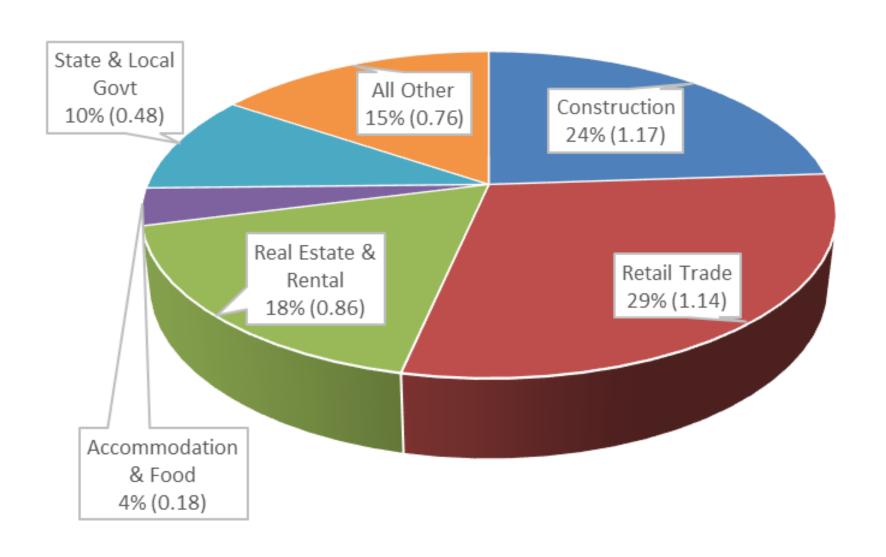
**Real GDP - % Change from Previous Quarter** 



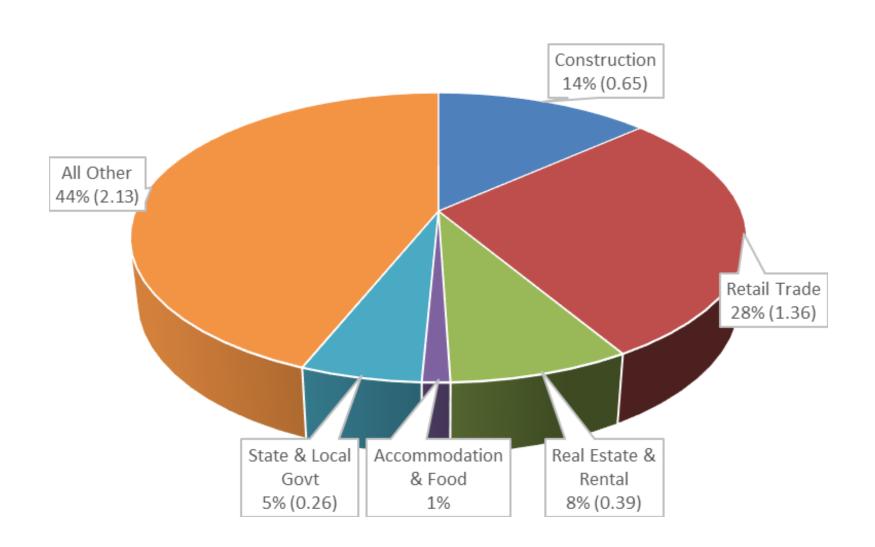
**Real GDP - % Change from Previous Quarter** 



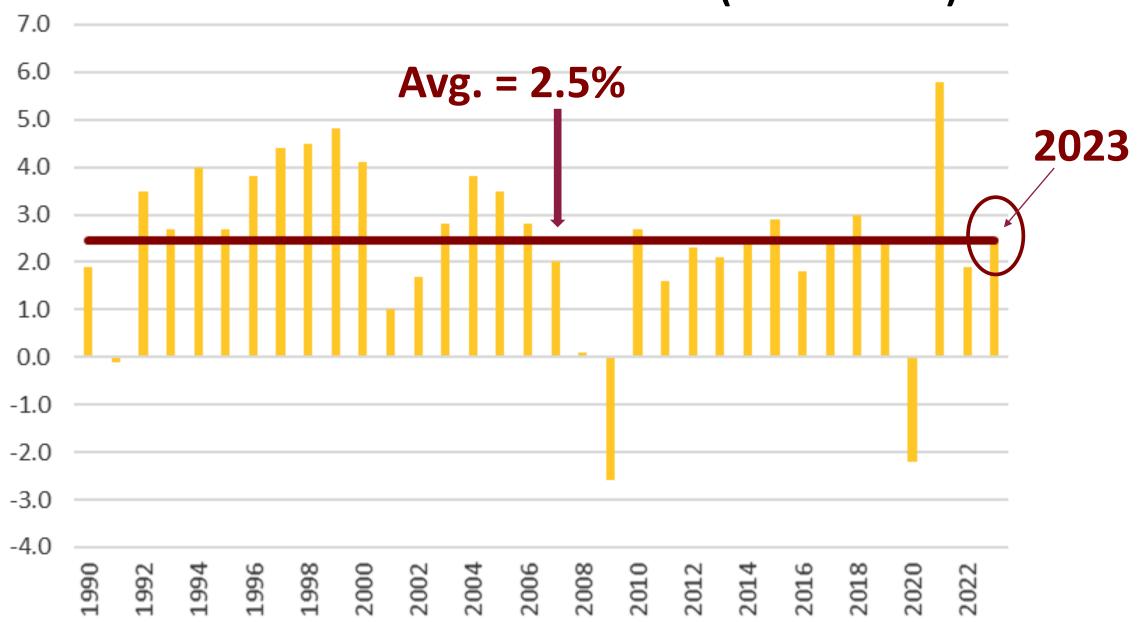
#### 2023 Q3 GDP Growth Contribution - Arizona



#### 2023 Q3 GDP Growth Contribution - United States



### **Real GDP Growth - Annual % (1990 – 2023)**



### **Annual Real GDP 2023 Forecast & Actual**

Country	2023 Forecast	2023 Actual
U.S.	0.30%	2.50%
Canada	0.50%	1.10%
Mexico	1.10%	+ 3.20%
Brazil	1.00%	2.90%
Russia	-2.60%	3.00%
India	5.40%	6.90%
China	5.70%	5.20%
World	1.90%	2.50%

## **Annual Real GDP 2024 + Forecasts**

Country	2024 Forecast	Avg. Forecast 2025 to 2027
U.S.	1.80%	1.93%
Canada	1.20%	1.95%
Mexico	2.30%	2.13%
Brazil	1.70%	2.10%
Russia	1.90%	1.25%
India	6.20%	5.90%
China	4.70%	3.98%
World	2.30%	2.68%

Data Source: Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) Database

## **Interesting GDP Data**

Country	2022	2023	2024
Ukraine	-29.1%	5.0%	4.1%
Guyana	63.3%	39.1%	26.9%
Venezuela GDP Growth	13.3%	-1.0%	3.2%
Venezuela Inflation	186.7%	337.2%	84.7%

Data Source: Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) Database

## thoughts on economic growth

Soft landing? Back to "normal"?

 China's growth slowing with longer-term growth prospects shifting to India

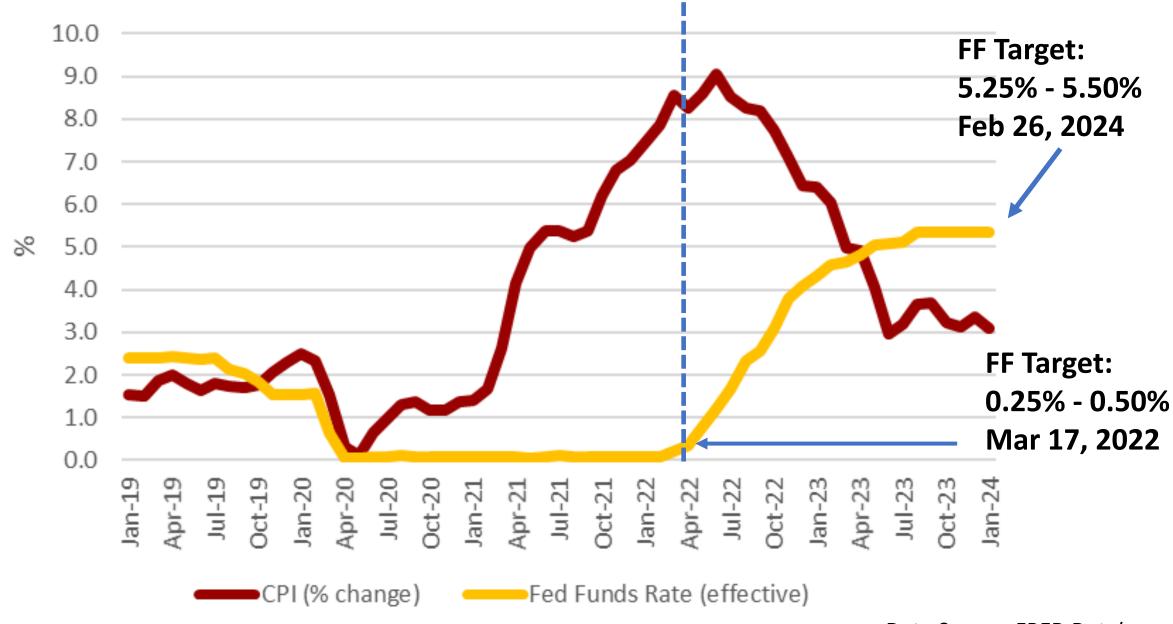
Geopolitical risks remain

## Interest rates & inflation

"A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore..."

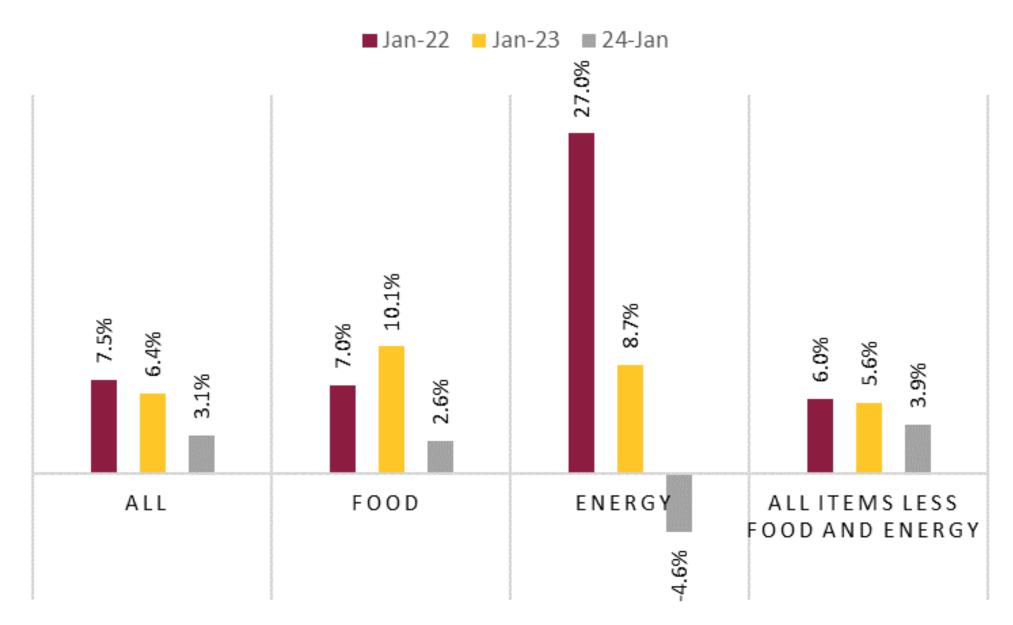
Yogi Berra

## **CPI % Change vs. Effective Federal Funds Rate**



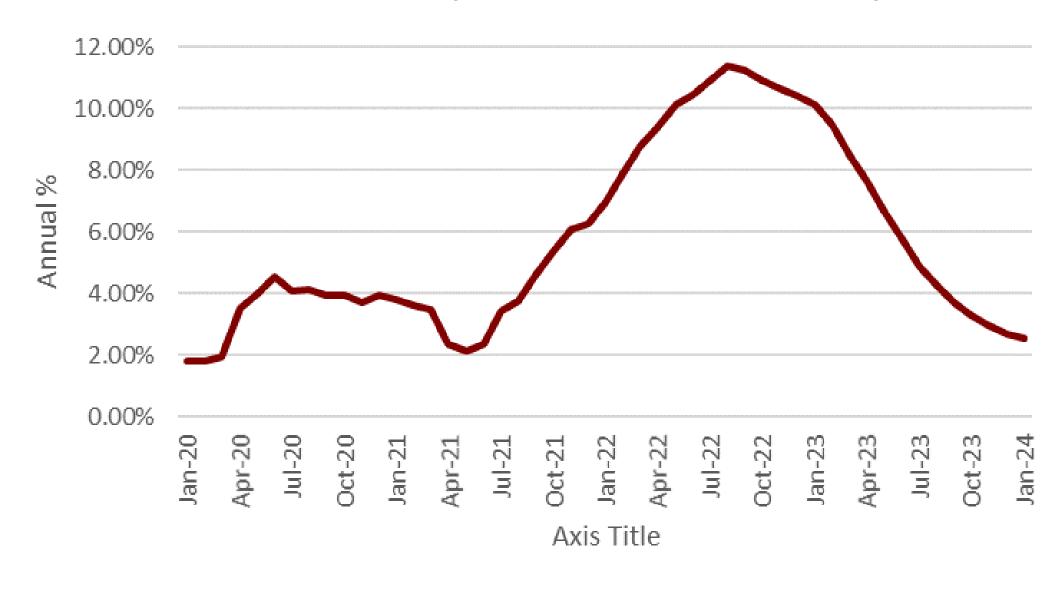
Data Source: FRED Database

## 12 month % change in CPI (Jan. to Jan.)



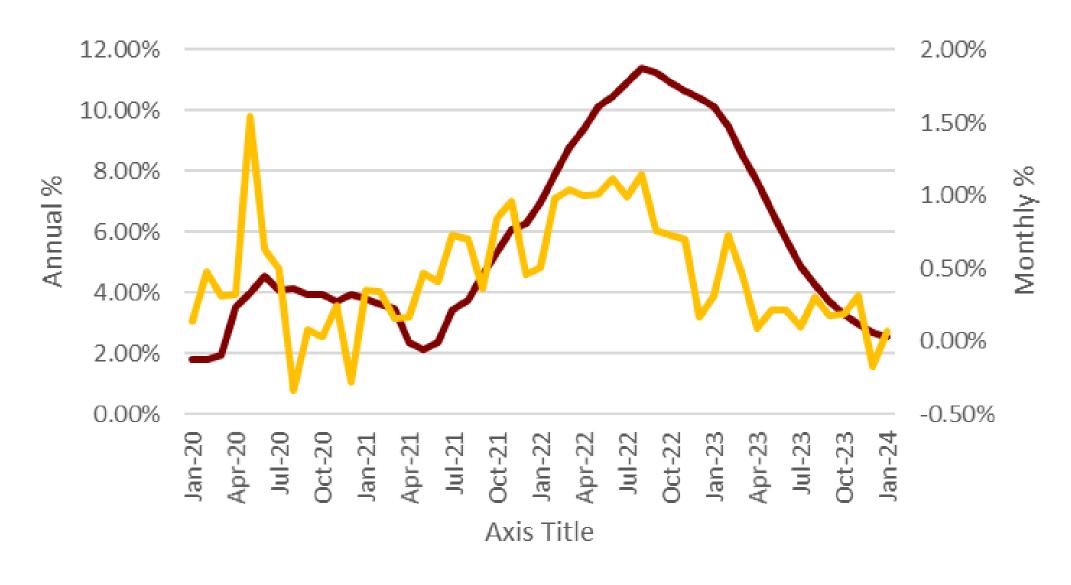
Data Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Food Price Inflation (Jan 2020 to Jan 2024)



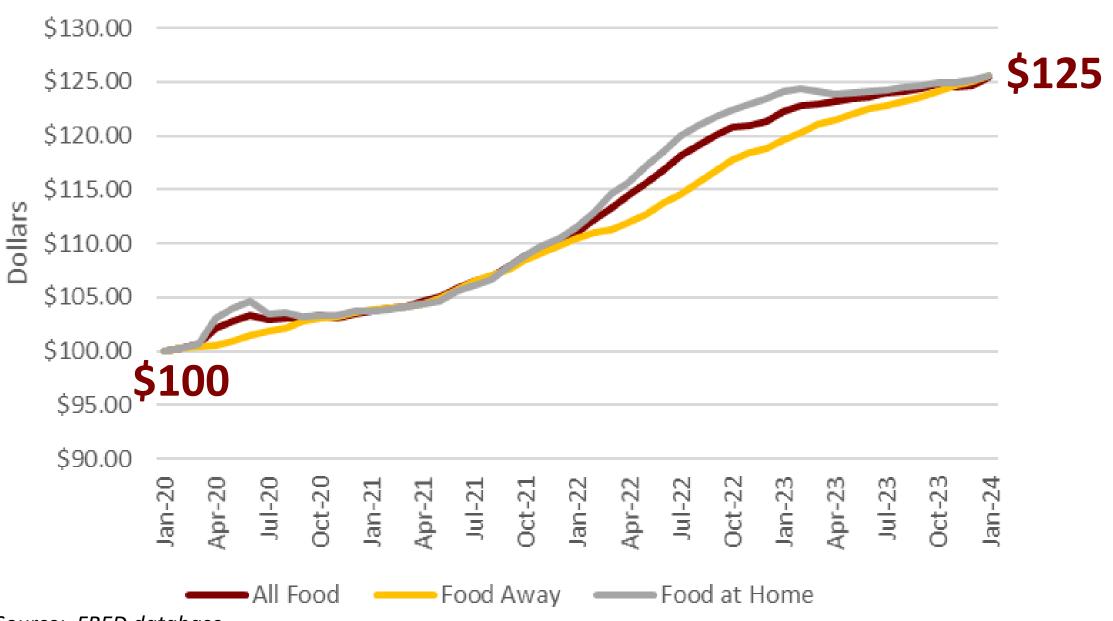
All Food (% Annual)

## Food Price Inflation (Jan 2020 to Jan 2024)



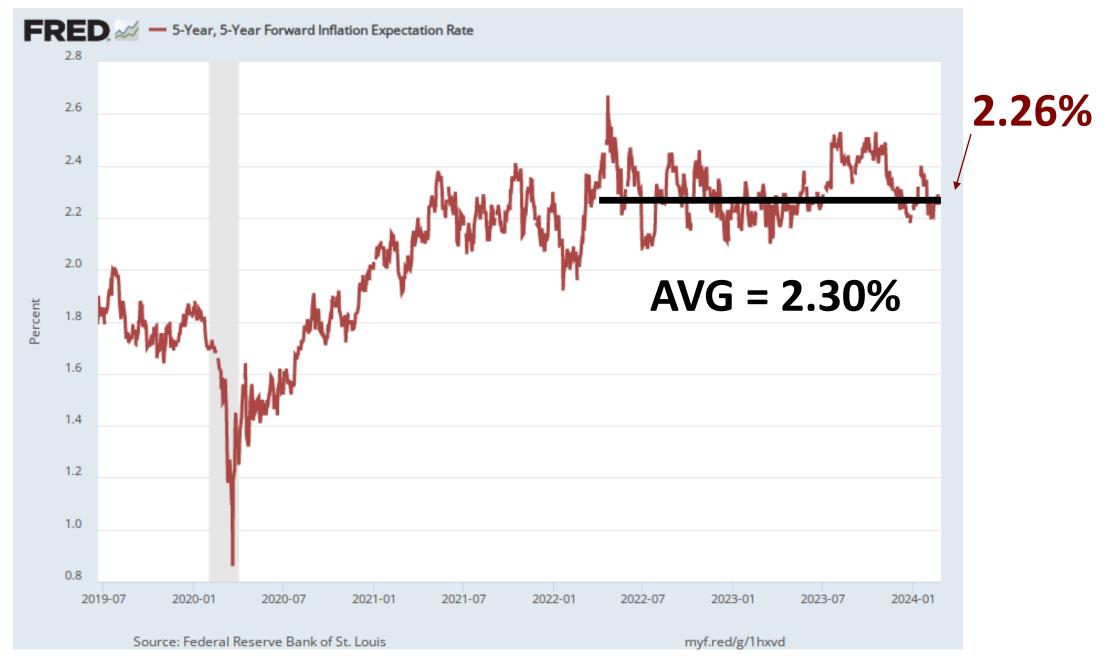
Data Source: FRED Database ——All Food (% Annual) ——All Food (% monthly)

## Food Price Inflation (Jan 2020 to Jan 2024) of \$100



Data Source: FRED database

#### 5-Year, 5-Year Forward Inflation Expected Rate



# CME Fed Watch: a market-based forecast

## CME FedWatch Tool

Stay up-to-date with the latest probabilities of FOMC rate moves with the CME FedWatch Tool.

https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/interest-rates/countdown-to-fomc.html

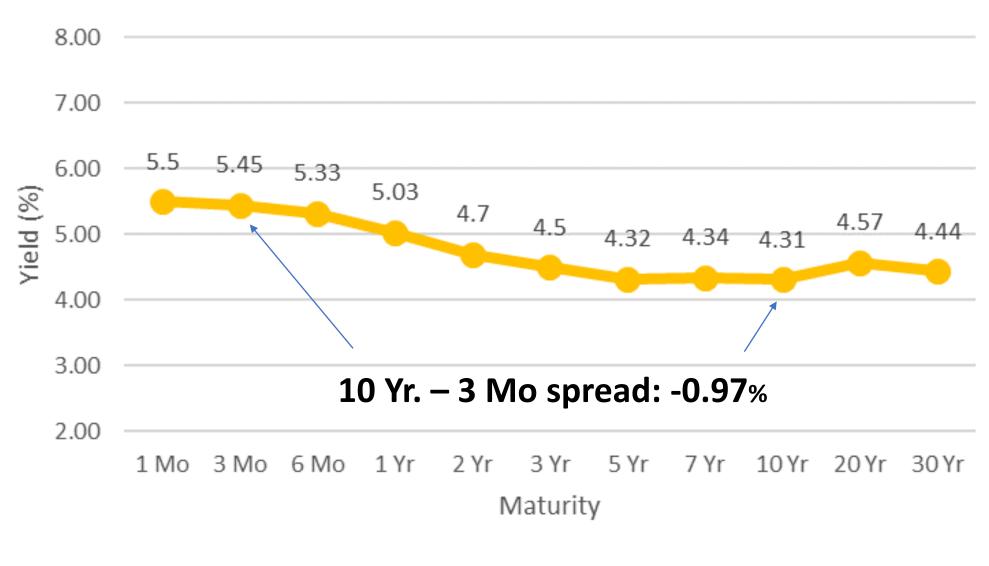
## CME FedWatch (Feb. 28, 2024)

MEETING				
DATE	Target	Prob	Prob >	Prob <
3/20/2024	525-550	99.5%	0.0%	0.5%
5/1/2024	525-550	80.8%	0.0%	19.2%
6/12/2024	500-525	51.5%	38.4%	10.1%
7/31/2024	500-525	44.3%	17.4%	38.2%
9/18/2024	475-500	40.7%	31.1%	28.1%
11/7/2024	475-500	33.1%	17.9%	49.0%
12/18/2024	450-475	33.0%	28.3%	38.6%

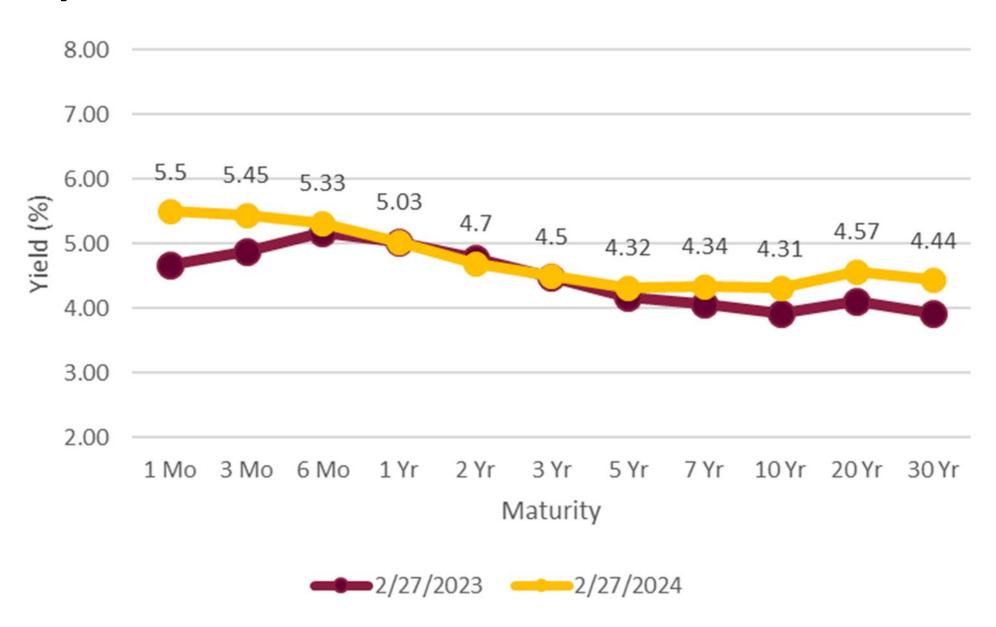
CME FedWatch (accessed 2/27/2023):

https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/interest-rates/countdown-to-fomc.html

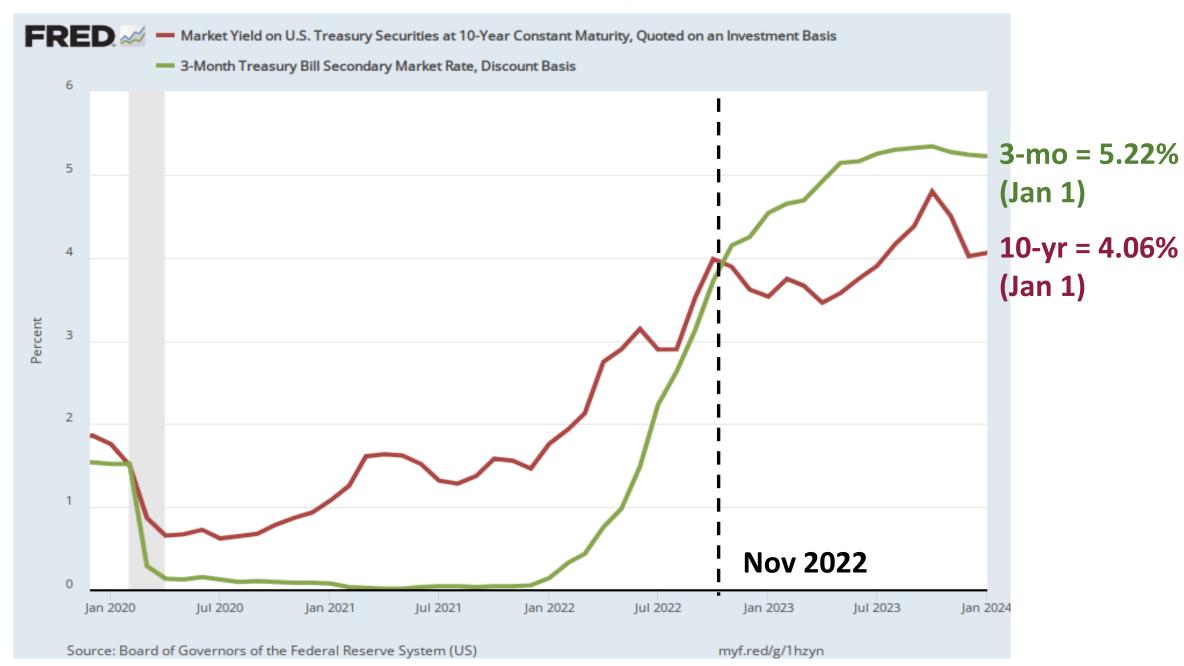
#### **Treasury Yield Curve**



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### 10-yr vs. 3-mo Treasury Yield (Monthly)



## thoughts on inflation & interest rates

• Fed will keep steady (or raise) FFR to get to target inflation to 2%... Market suggests "maybe" a 0.25% decrease by summer

 Inflation rate slowed but prices sticky relative to pre-Covid reference point

Yield curve still inverted but no recession? Still a signal?

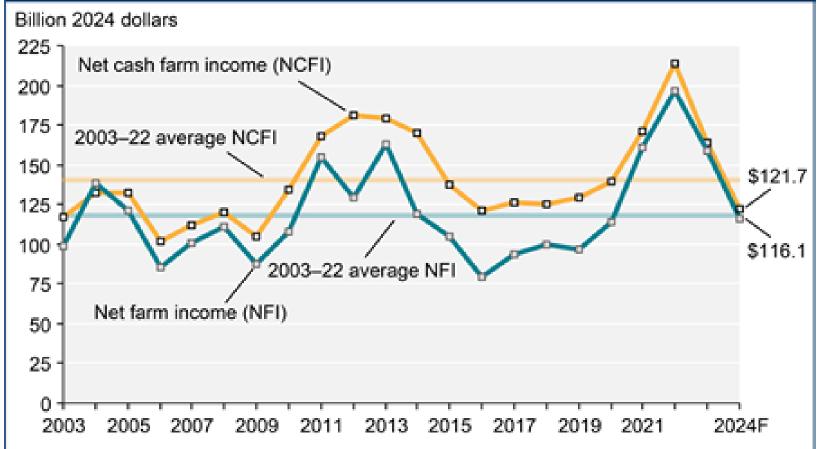
# Farm income & commodity price outlook

"I don't let people do projections for me because I don't like throwing up on the desk."

**Charlie Munger** 

Source: <a href="https://mastersinvest.com/forecastingquotes-1">https://mastersinvest.com/forecastingquotes-1</a>

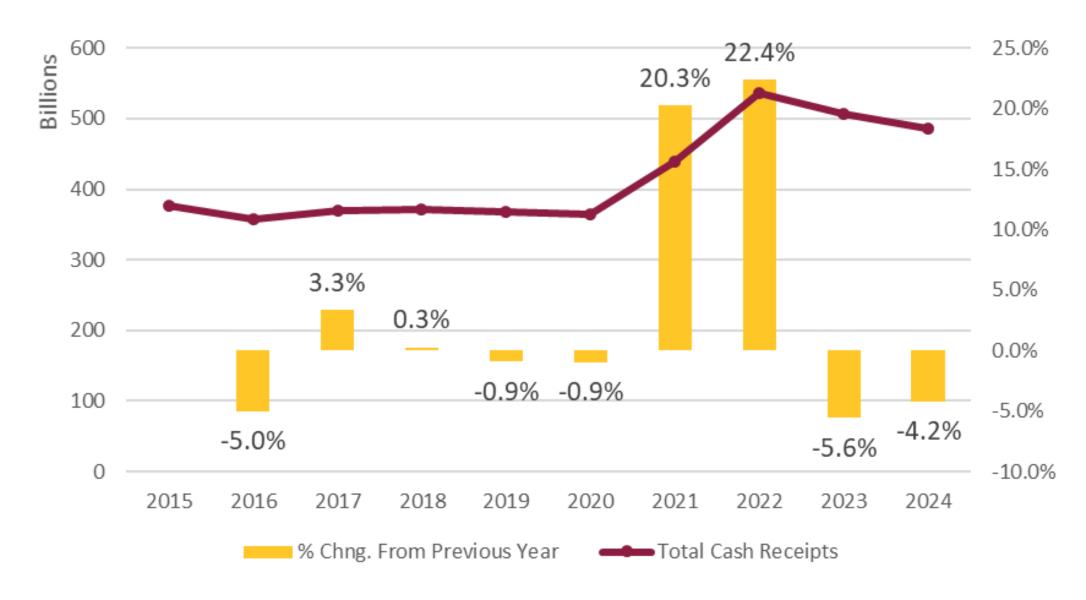
## U.S. net farm income and net cash farm income, inflation adjusted, 2003–24F



Note: F = forecast; data for 2023 and 2024 are forecasts. Values are adjusted for inflation using the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Gross Domestic Product Price Index (BEA API series code: A191RG) rebased to 2024 by USDA, Economic Research Service.

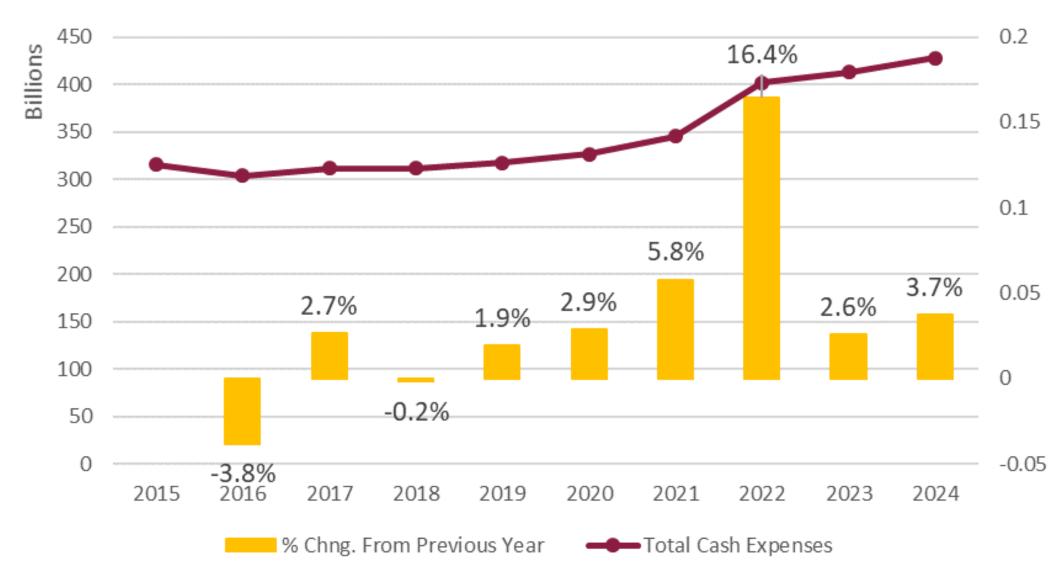
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, Farm Income and Wealth Statistics. Data as of February 7, 2024.

## **NCFI: Total Cash Receipts**



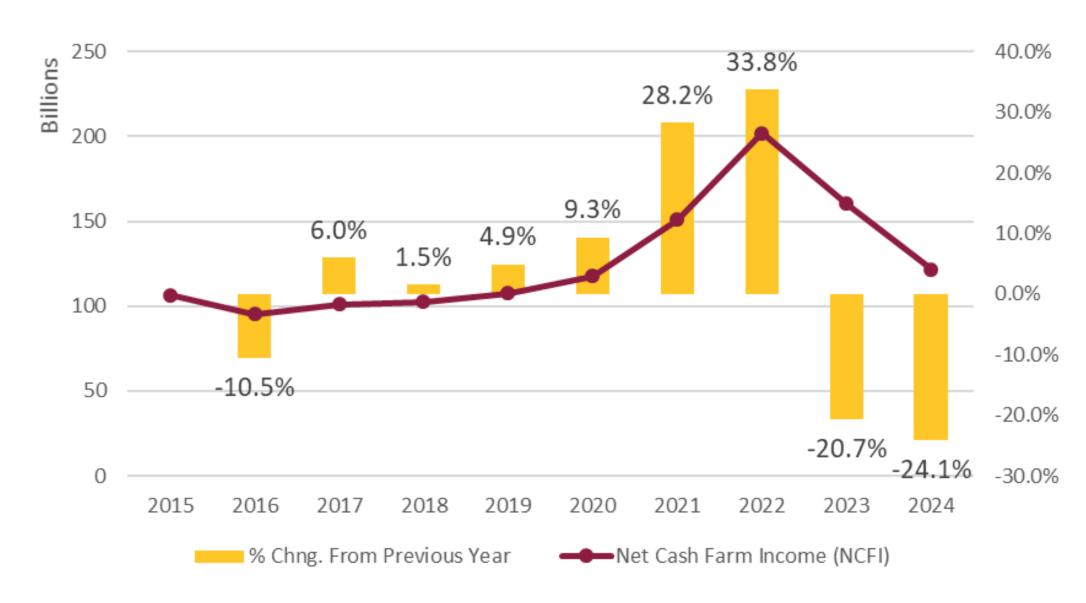
Data Source: USDA-ERS

## NCFI: Total Cash Expenses (Excluding Dwellings)



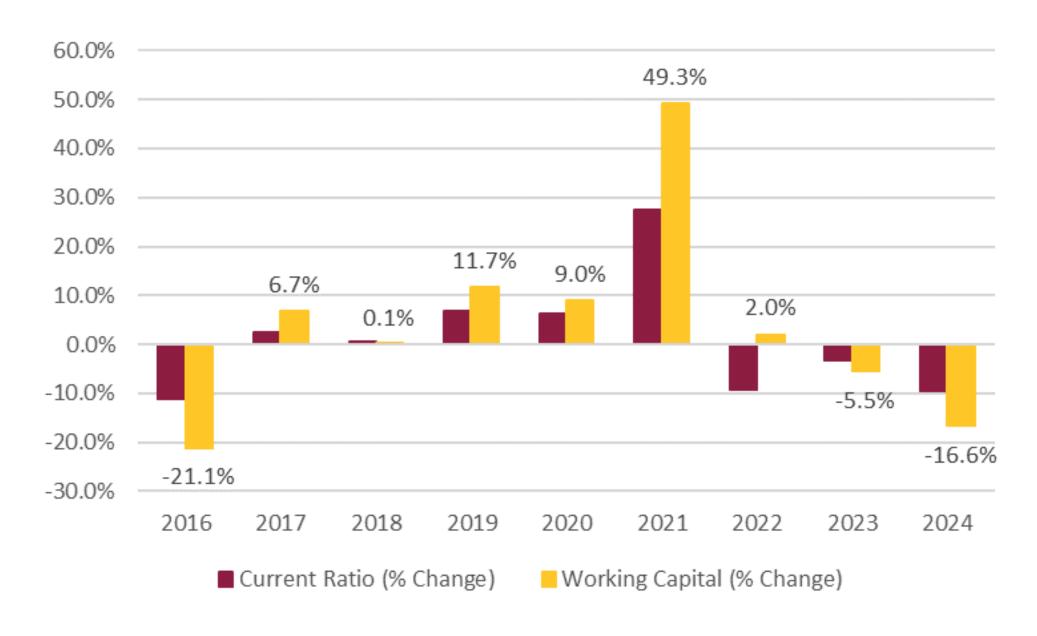
Data Source: USDA-ERS

#### **NCFI: Net Cash Farm Income**



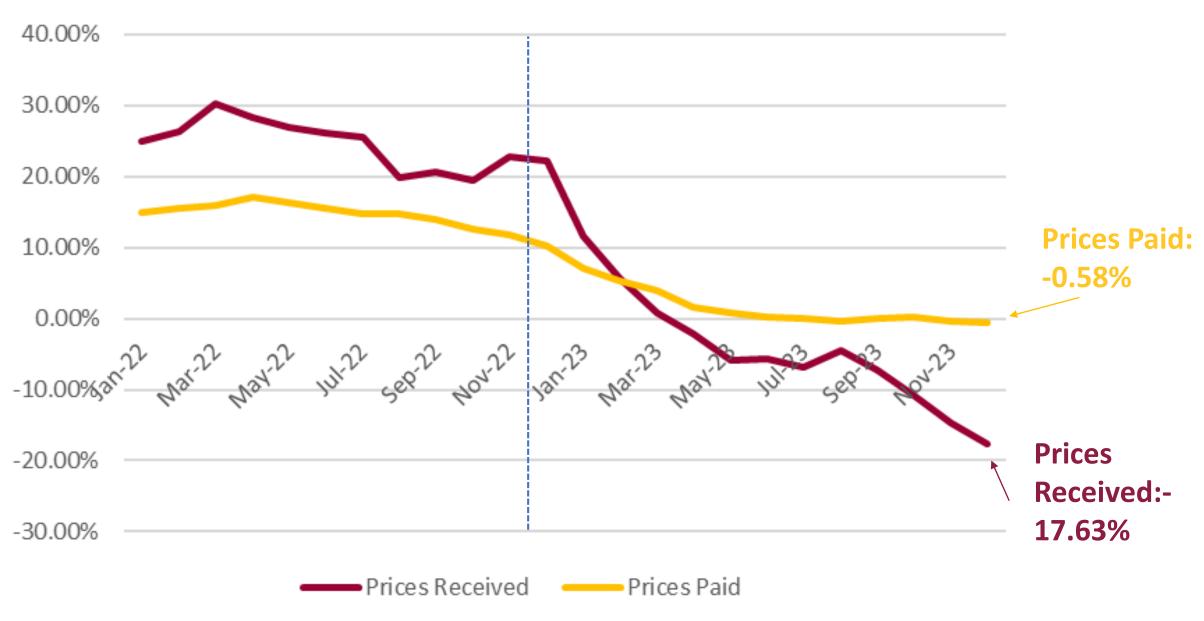
Data Source: USDA-ERS

## **Current Ratio and Working Capital (% Change)**



#### **2024 Farm Sector Income Forecast** % Change from 2023F to USDA – ERS (as of Feb 7, 2024) 2024F Farm Cash Receipts - 4.2% **Crop Receipts** - 6.3% **Animal Receipts** - 1.9% Govt. Payments - 15.9% Cash Expenses + 3.7% Feed + 0.9% Fertilizer + 4.3% Interest expense + 0.7% Labor + 7.4% Fuel & Oil - 7.4%

#### 12 Month % Change in Prices Received and Paid by Farmers Index



Data source: USDA - NASS

## S&P GSCI (FKA - Goldman Sachs Commodity Index)



Source: cmdtyView

Commodity	WASDE Annual Price Forecast (as of 2/7/24)	% Change from 2023 WASDE Estimate
Corn	\$4.80 / bu.	- 26.6%
Wheat (All)	\$7.20 / bu.	- 18.5%
Soybean Meal	\$380.00 / st.	- 15.9%
Steers	\$180 / cwt.	+ 2.6%
Milk (All)	\$20.95 / cwt.	- 2.3%
Cotton (Upland)	\$0.77 / lb.	- 9.2%

Source: USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)

# thoughts on farm income and commodity price outlook

 Period of low crop prices after two years of highs ... or more "normal" pre-pandemic

Continued margin squeeze

Declines in liquidity... problematic?

## Takeaways for 2024

Stable economic growth

Inflation "rate" generally under control

 "Mostly" lower output prices and higher input prices with declining aggregate farm income

## Thank you!



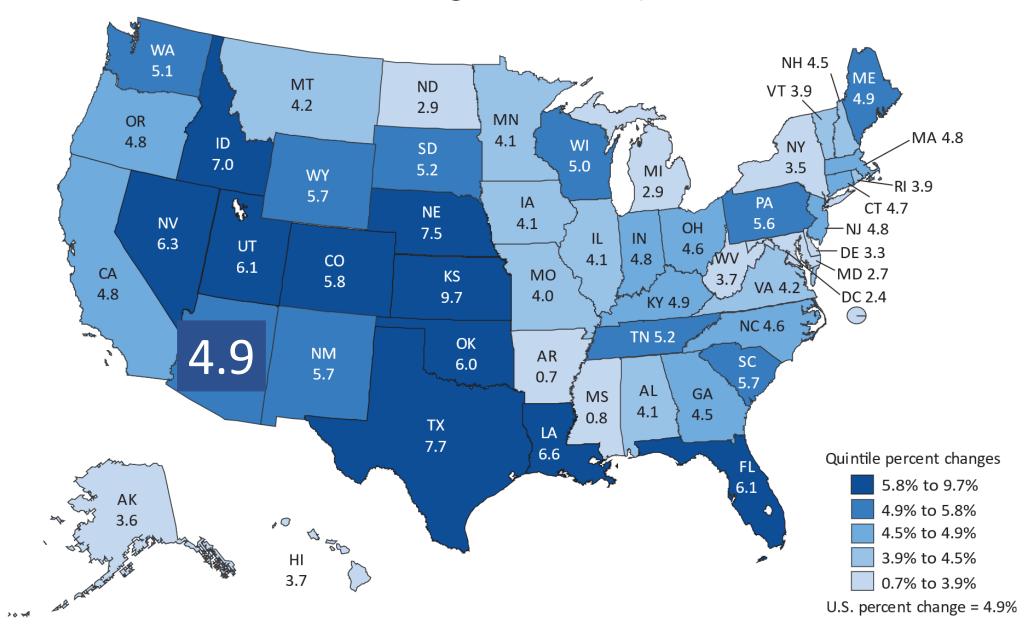
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Real GDPPercent Change at Annual Rate, 2023:Q2-2023:Q3



#### Real Investment vs. 10-yr. Treasury Rate

