



**TOURISM  
ECONOMICS**

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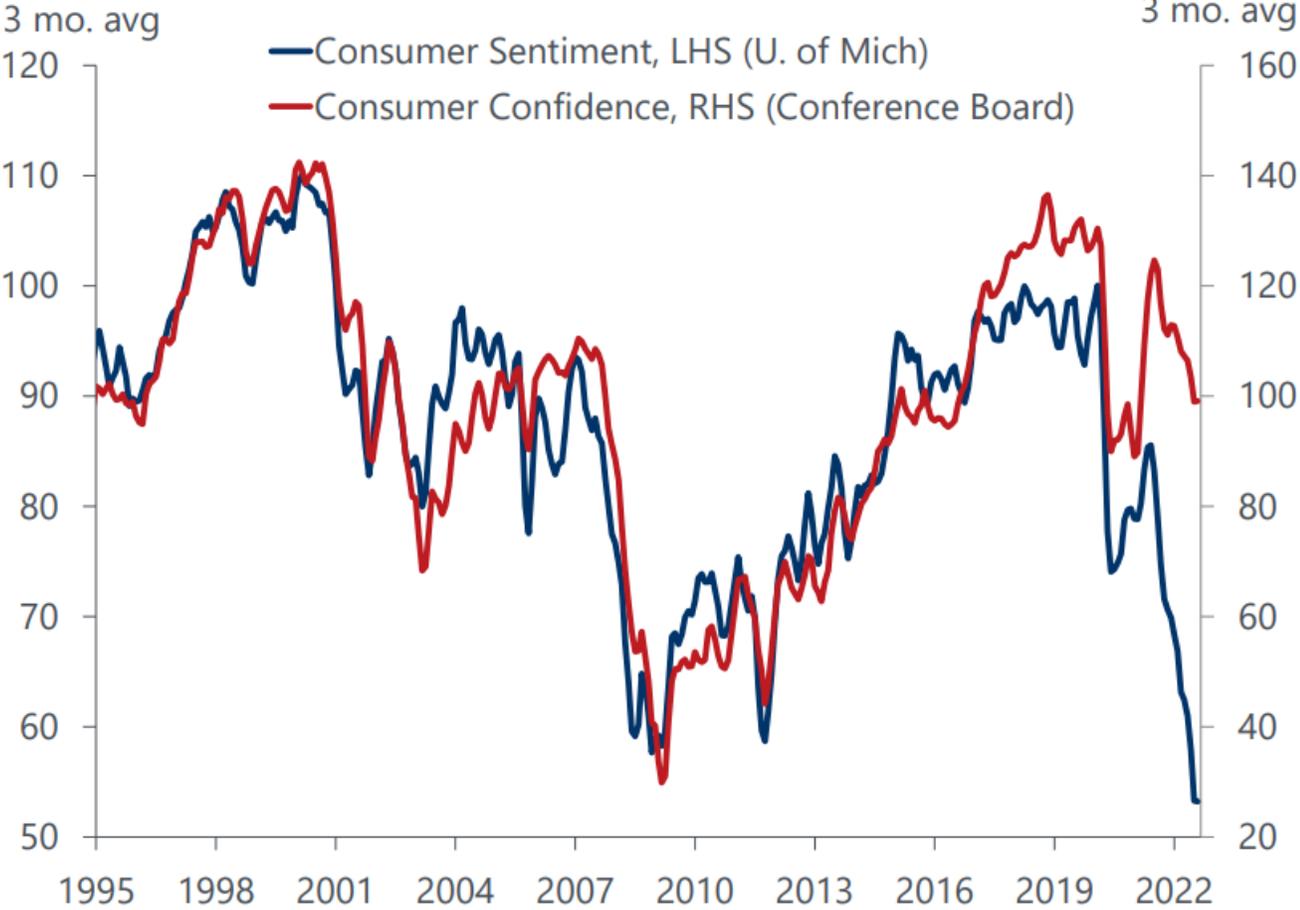
# Will a US Recession Derail the Travel Recovery?

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# Consumers feeling uneasy

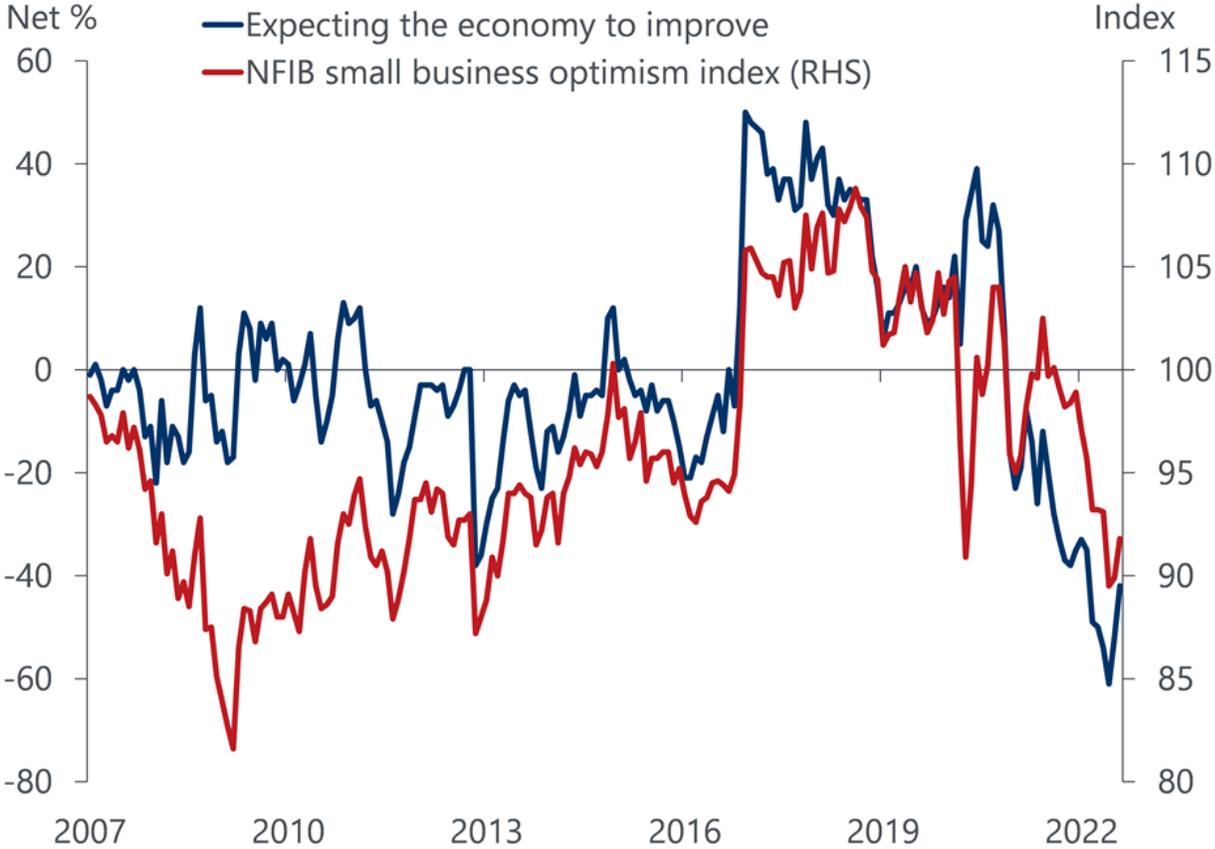
## US: Consumer surveys



Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics

# Small business optimism remains low despite recent uptick

## US: Small businesses confidence

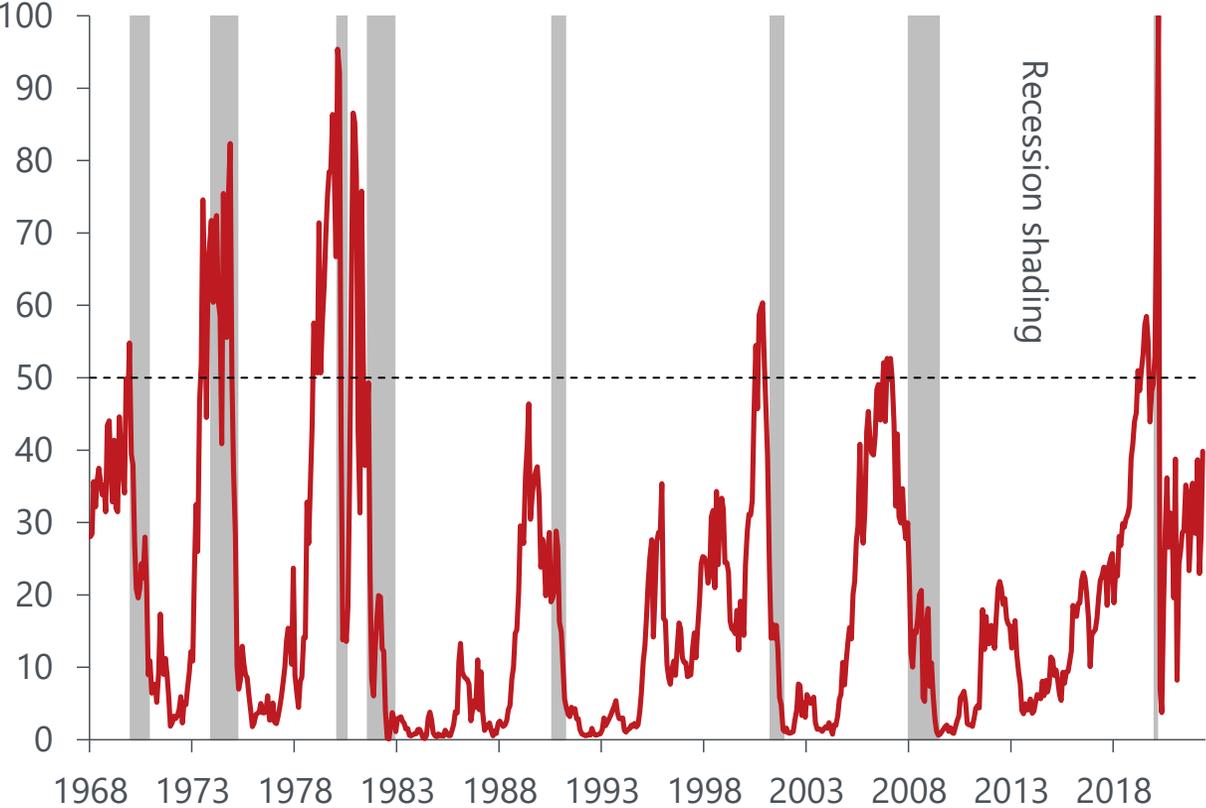


Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics

# Some Oxford indicators don't see near term recession

US: Probability of a recession 3 months ahead

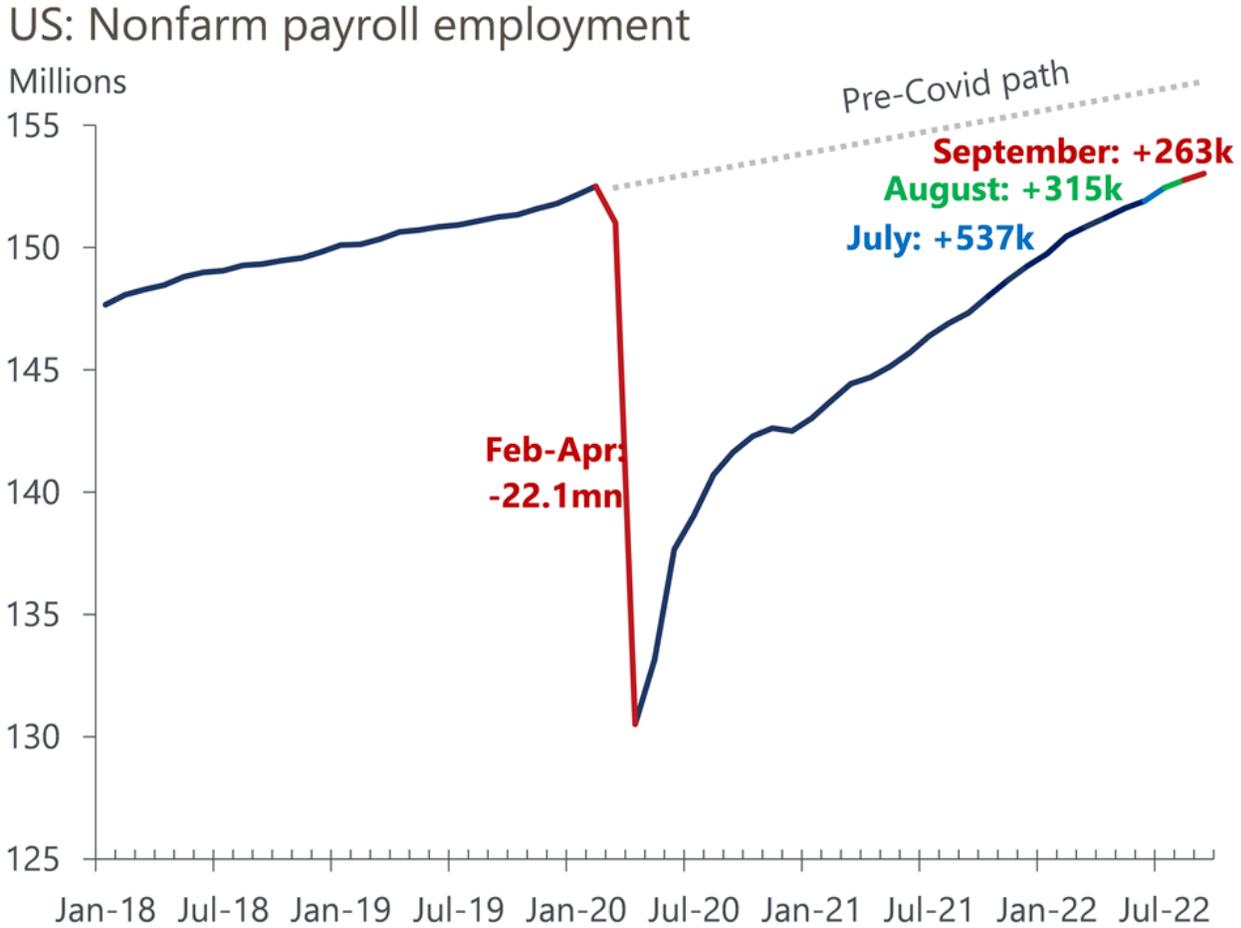
Percent, 3-month lead



Source: Oxford Economics

Using the Chicago Fed National Activity Index, the real federal funds rate & the yield curve

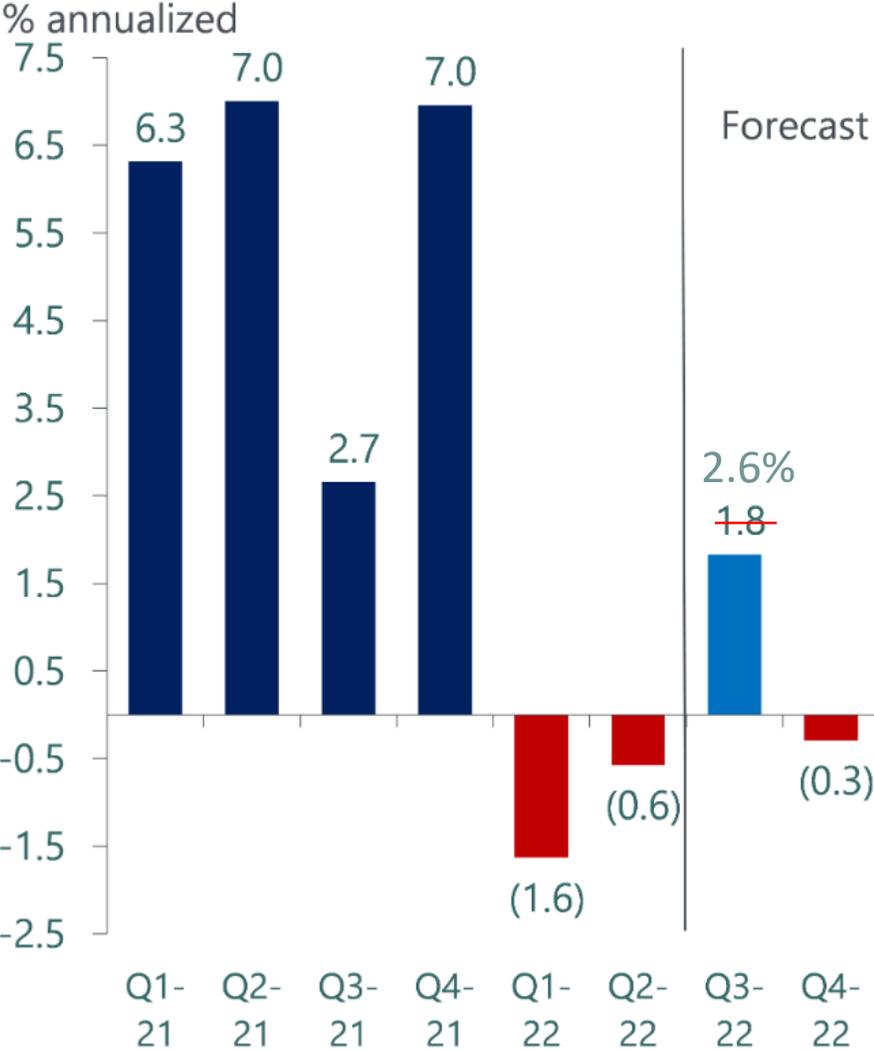
# Job growth moderated slightly in September



**Unemployment rate  
recovers from 15% to  
3.5% in record time**

# The US economy is resuming growth in the second half of 2022

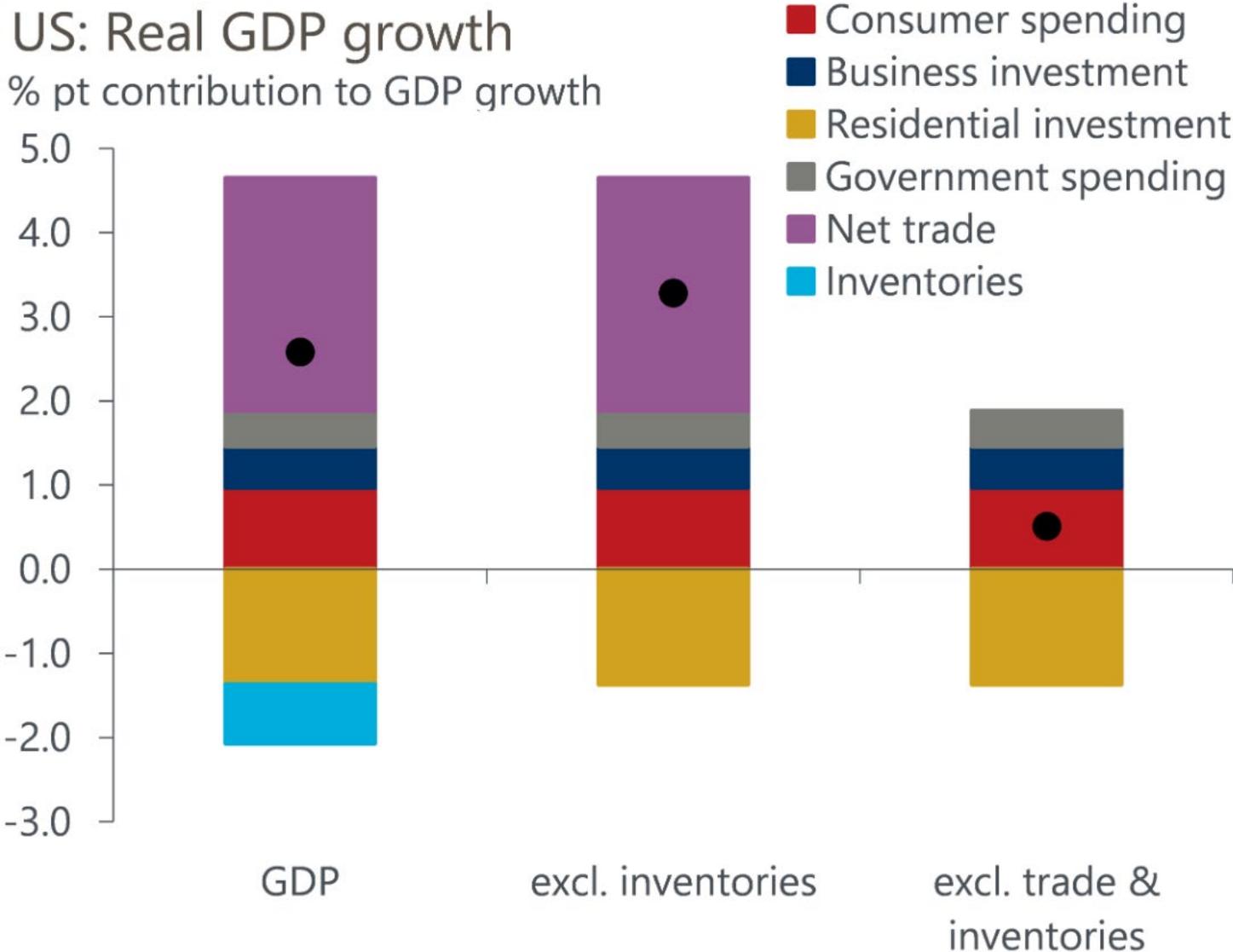
## US: GDP Forecast



# Healthy contributions from consumers & businesses in Q3 2022

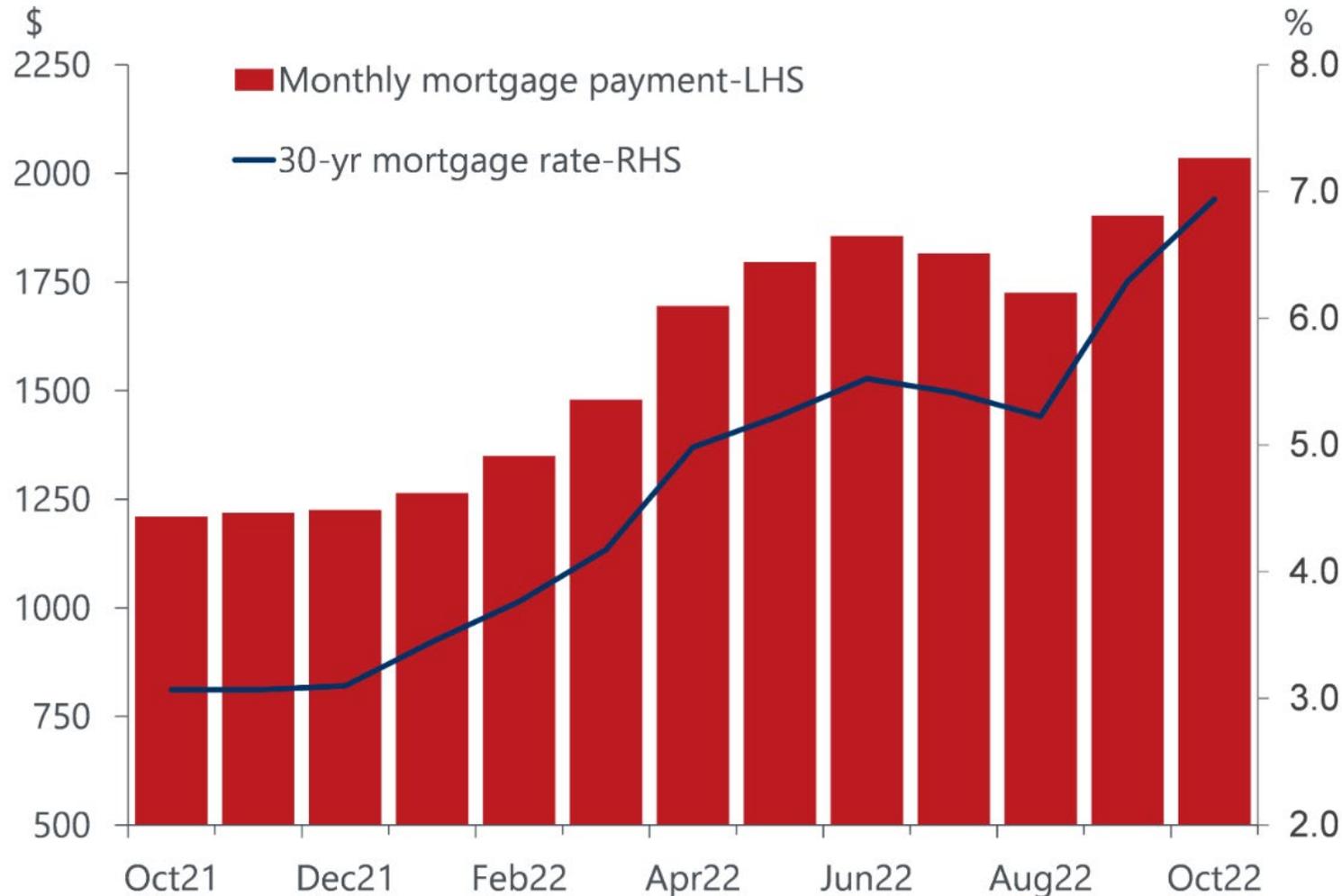
## US: Real GDP growth

% pt contribution to GDP growth



# Higher interest rates will cause a steep deceleration in some sectors

US: 30-year mortgage rates and monthly mortgage payment



Average monthly mortgage payments have risen nearly \$750, with interest rates topping 7%

# Higher rates have taken a toll on housing

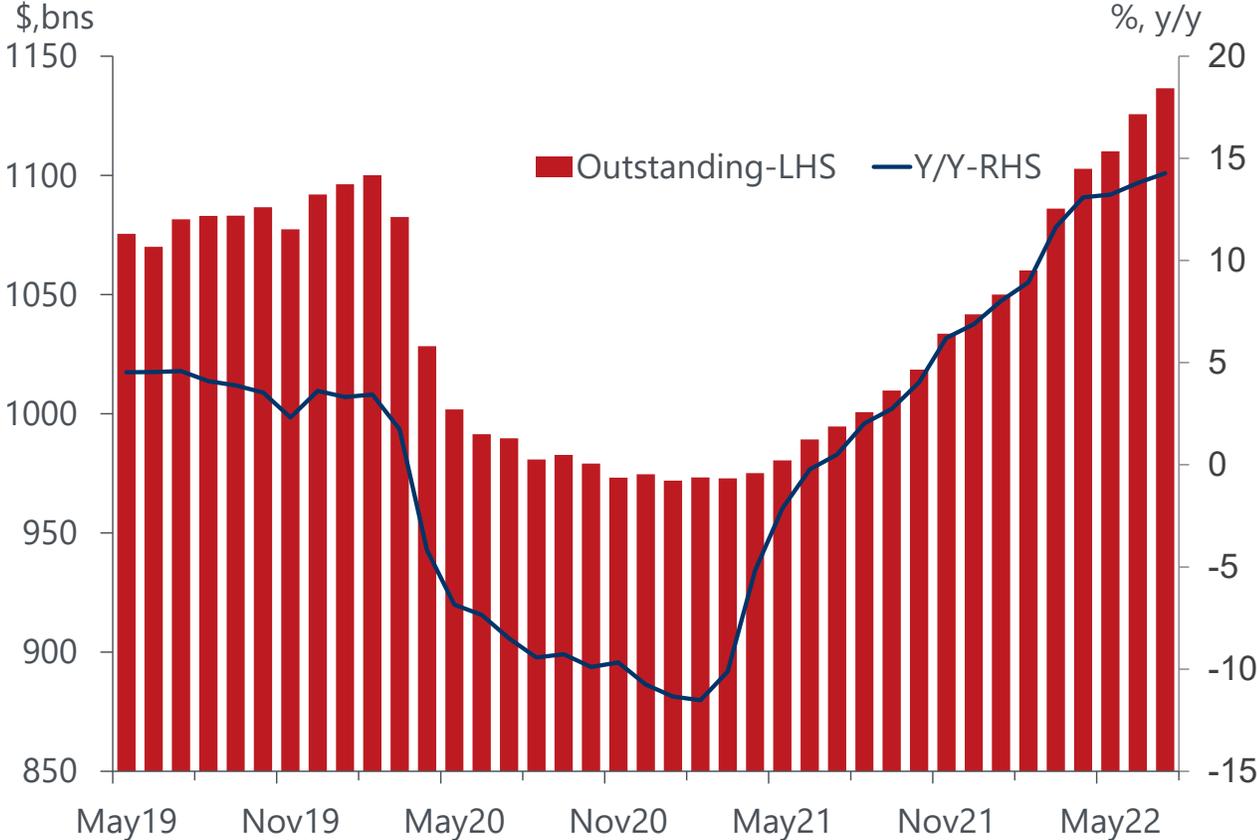


~20 mn households  
have been priced  
out by higher rates



# And households are taking on some debt

US: Revolving credit is back to prepandemic levels

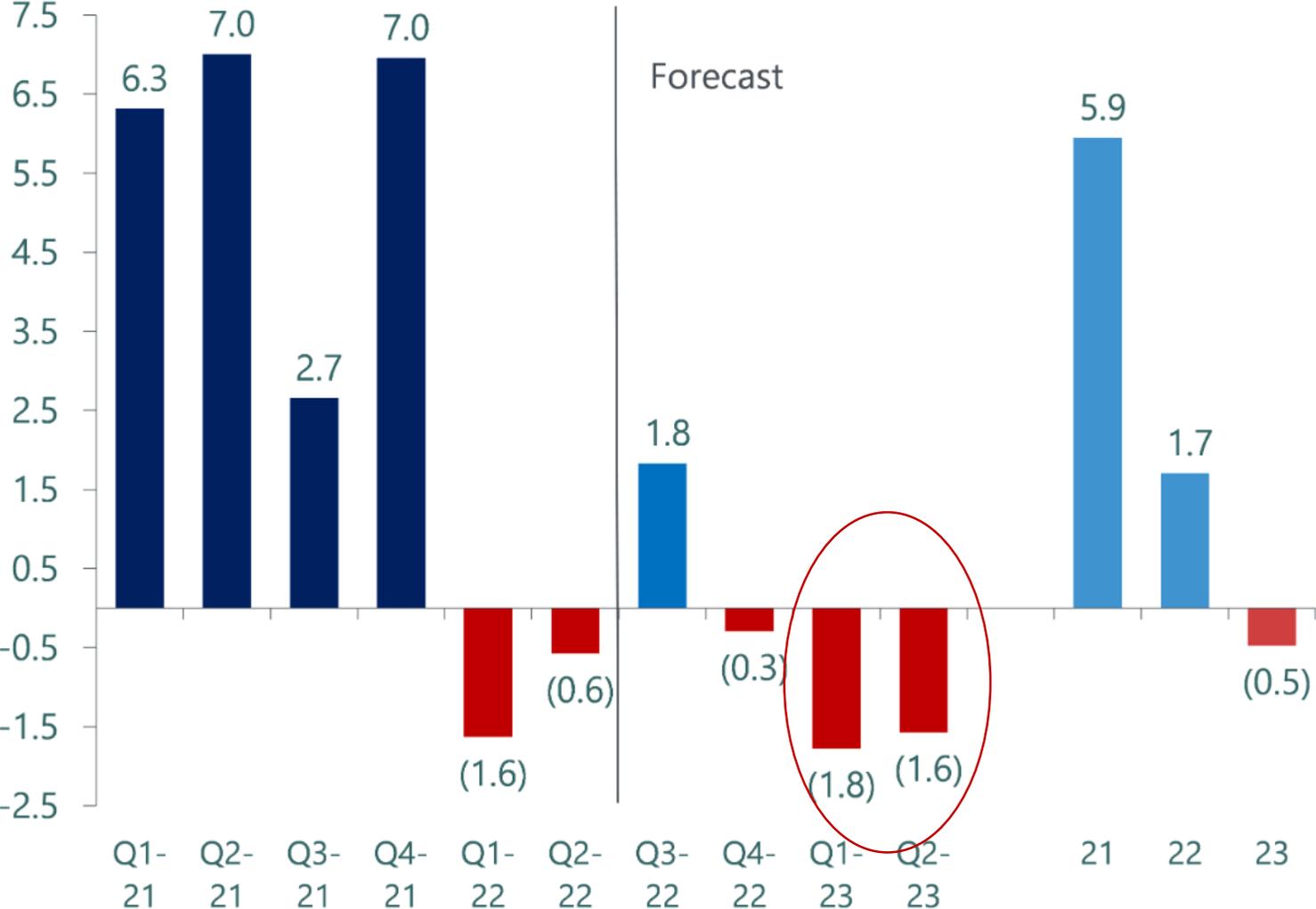


Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics

# We are headed toward a recession in 2023

## US: GDP Forecast

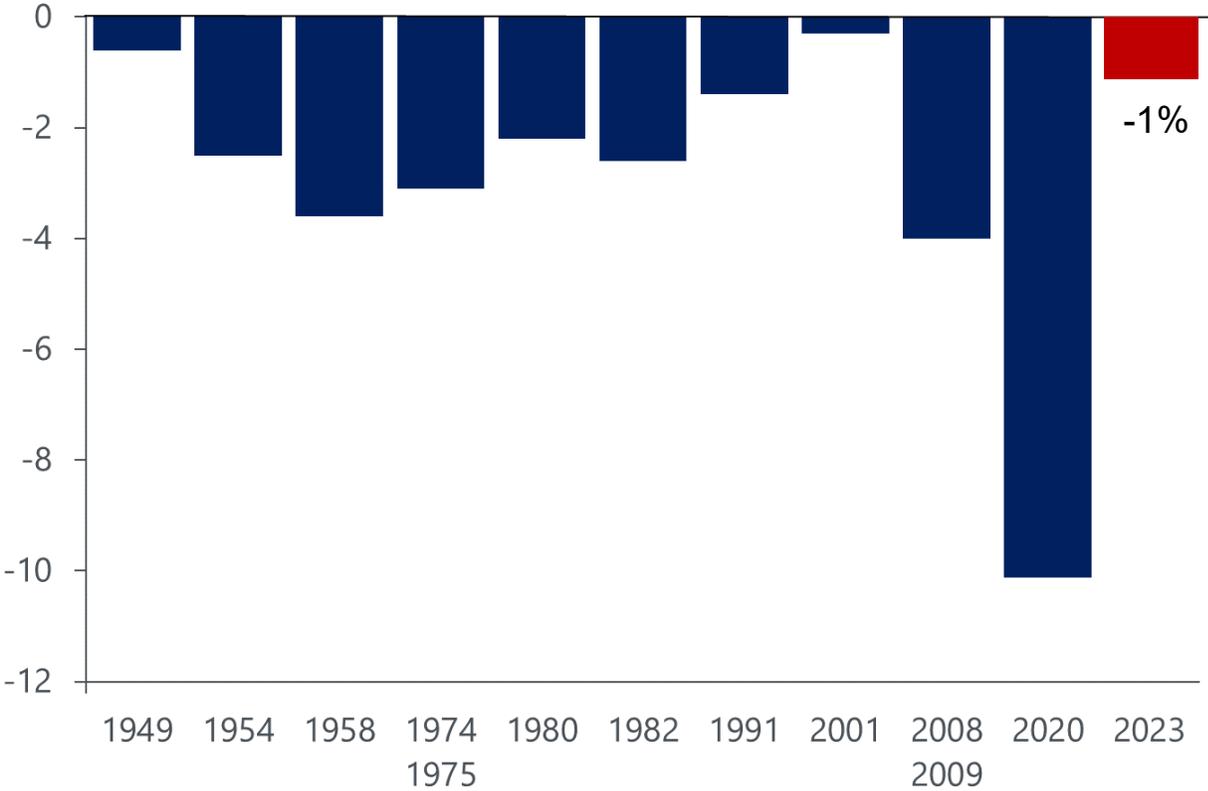
% annualized



# The recession will be mild by historical standards

US: Peak-to-trough recessions since 1949

% change, peak to trough



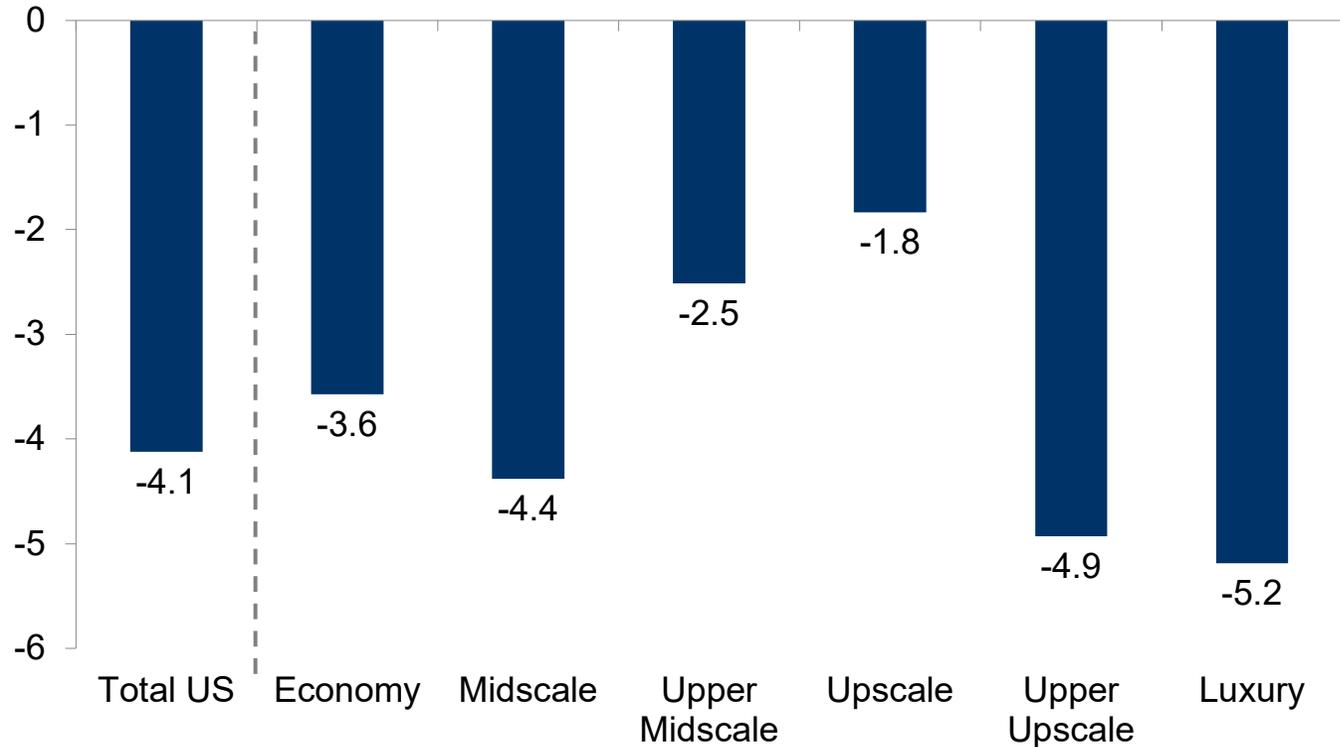
Source : Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



# What is the usual relationship?

## Hotel demand response to GDP during recessions

% change in room demand from -1% change in real GDP, 1987-2019



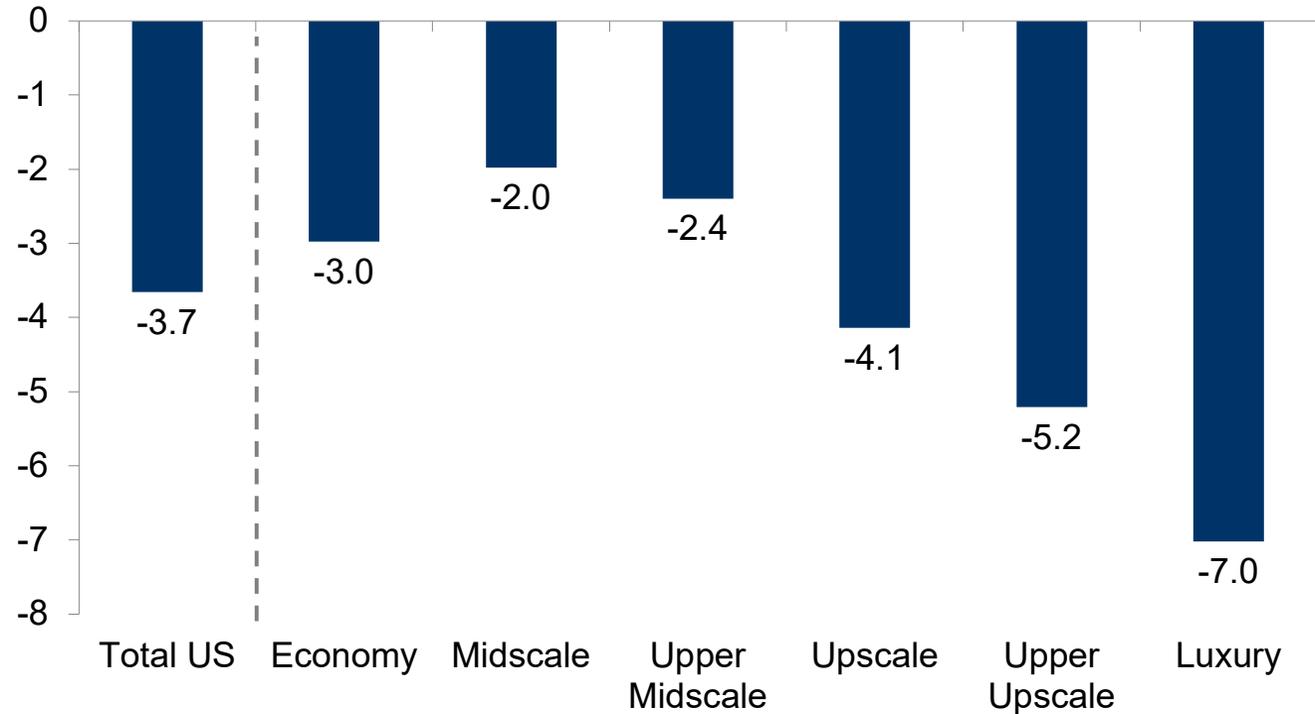
**Over the past three recessions (not counting 2020), hotel demand fell on average 4x the rate of GDP.**

Source: Tourism Economics

# Rates react most at the top end

## Hotel ADR response to GDP during recessions

% change in ADR from -1% change in real GDP, 1987-2019



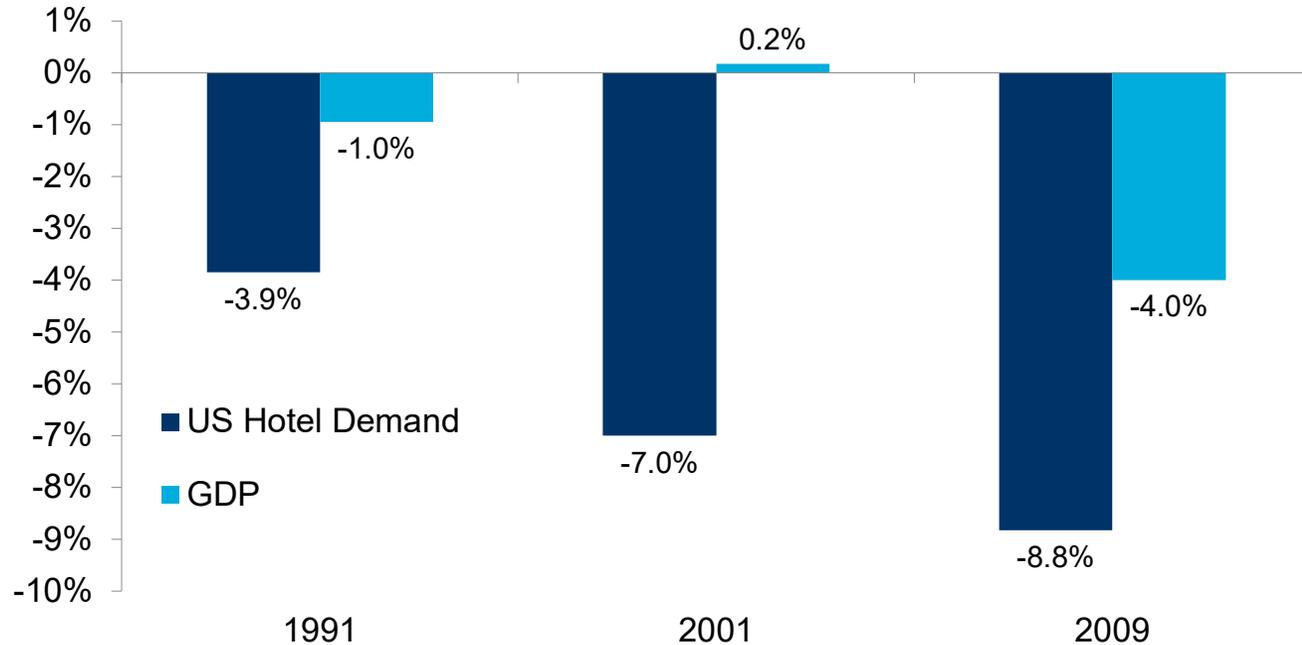
**For every 1% drop in GDP, Luxury ADR falls 7%**

Source: Tourism Economics

# What have the last three “normal” recessions looked like?

## Hotel demand during recessionary periods

Year-over-year %, quarterly peak-to-trough



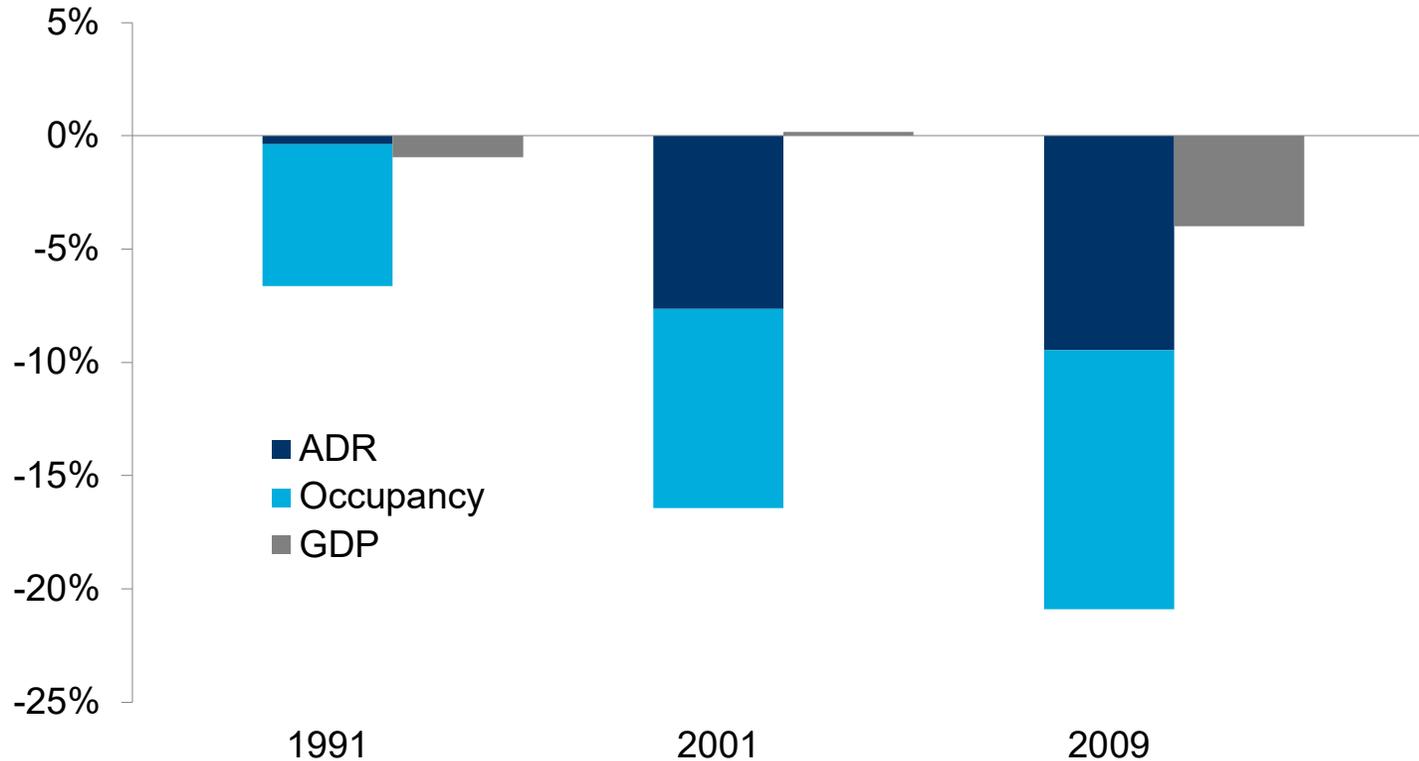
**Quite a bit of variation is evident in the GDP-hotel room demand relationship**

Source: STR, BEA

# Overall performance (choose your own adventure)

## Hotel performance during recessionary periods

Year-over-year %, quarterly peak-to-trough



Source: STR, BEA

**Quite a bit of variation is evident in the GDP-hotel room demand relationship**

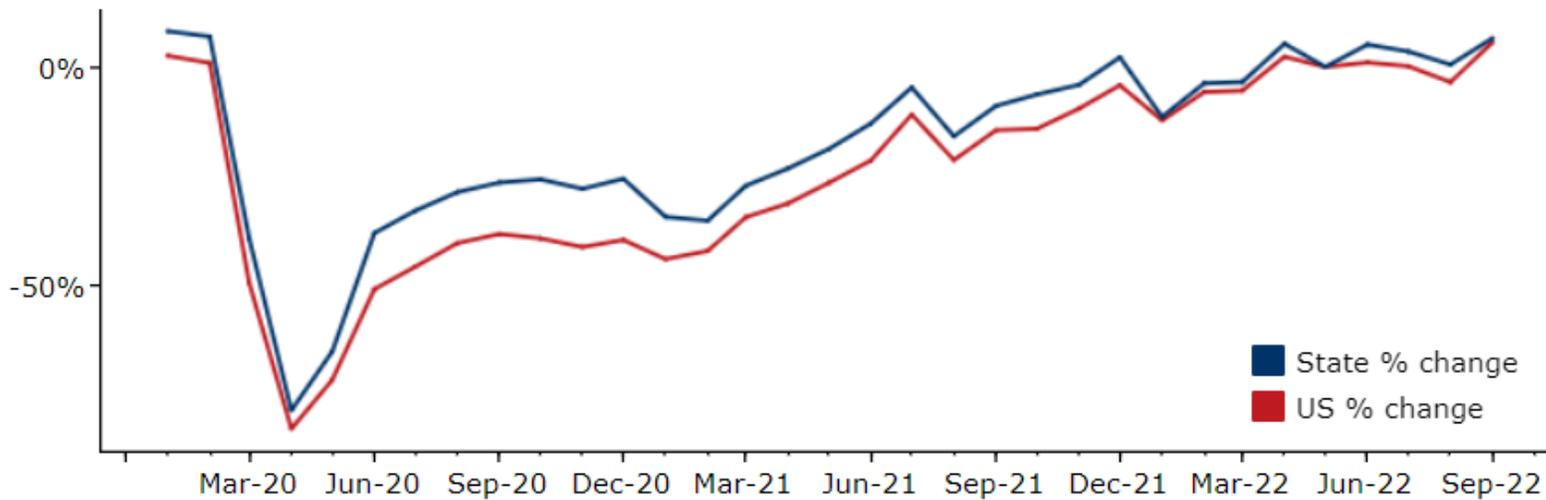




# North Carolina Travel Spending outpacing US – averaging about 5-6% above 2019 levels

## Travel Spending (% change vs 2019)

North Carolina vs U.S. total



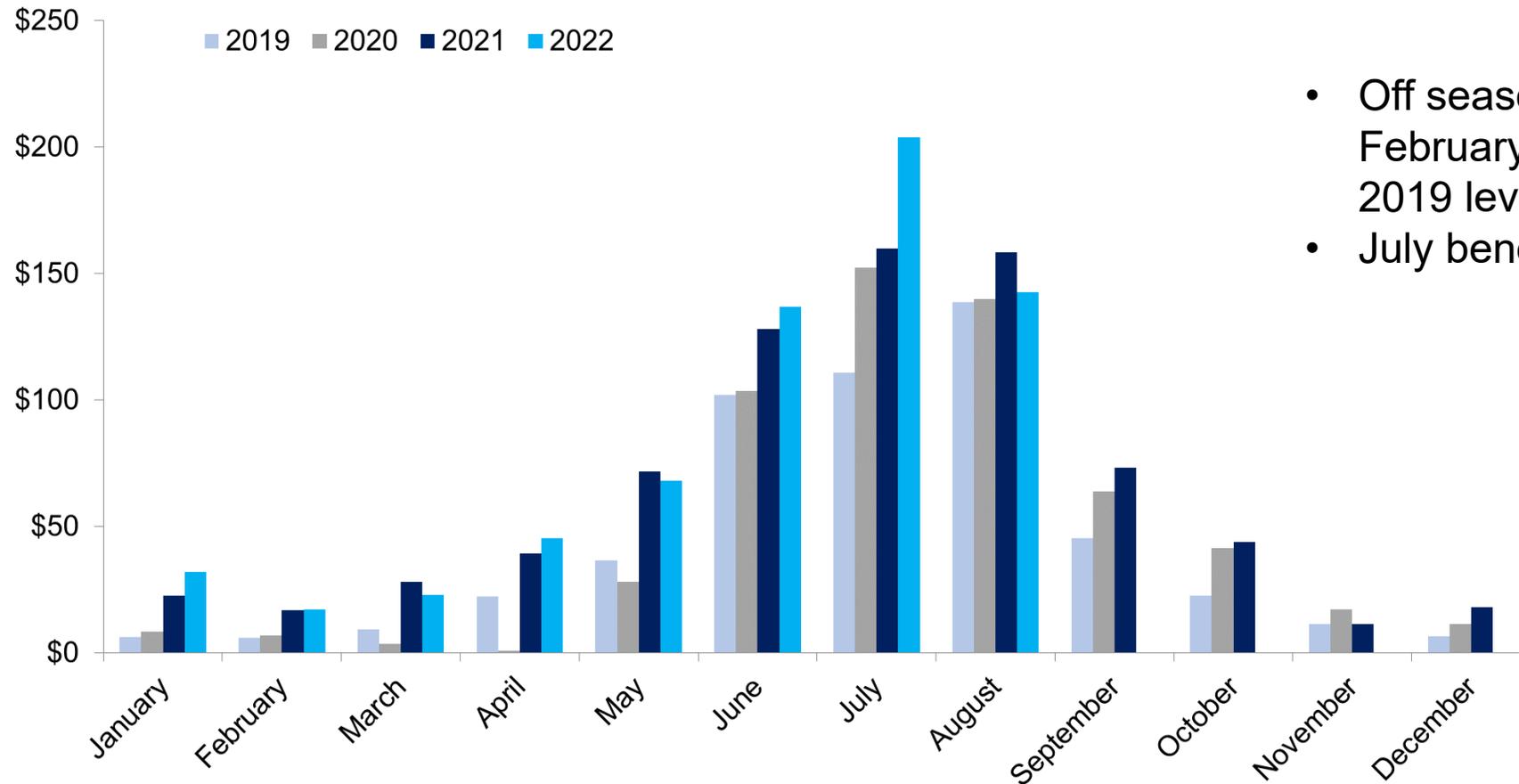
## North Carolina Travel Spending

	Travel Spending	vs. 2019	Market Growth Index (US = 100)*
Oct-21	\$2.3B	↘ -6.1%	109
Nov-21	\$2.2B	↘ -3.9%	106
Dec-21	\$2.4B	↗ +2.4%	107
Jan-22	\$2.0B	↘ -11.3%	101
Feb-22	\$2.1B	↘ -3.6%	102
Mar-22	\$2.4B	↘ -3.3%	102
Apr-22	\$2.6B	↗ +5.5%	103
May-22	\$2.5B	↗ +0.2%	100
Jun-22	\$2.7B	↗ +5.3%	104
Jul-22	\$2.7B	↗ +3.7%	103
Aug-22	\$2.6B	↗ +0.7%	104
Sep-22	\$2.6B	↗ +6.8%	101

# OBX gross revenues holding above 2019 levels

## Outer Banks Gross Occupancy

Millions (\$), 2019 to 2022

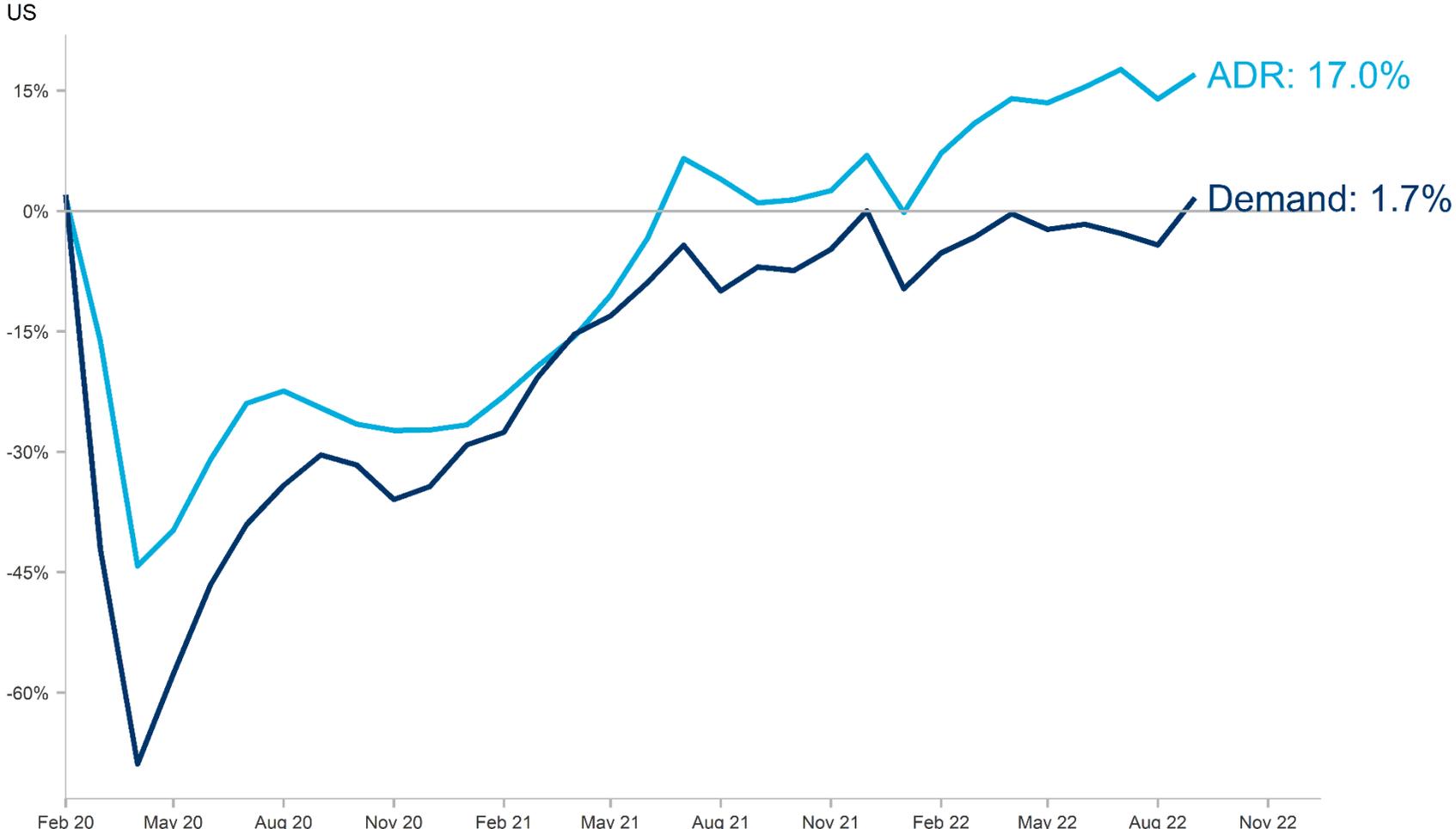


- Off season revenues for January & February were many multiples above 2019 levels
- July benefitted from calendar shift

Source: OBX Visitor Bureau, Tourism Economics

# National Hotel demand was stronger than expected in September

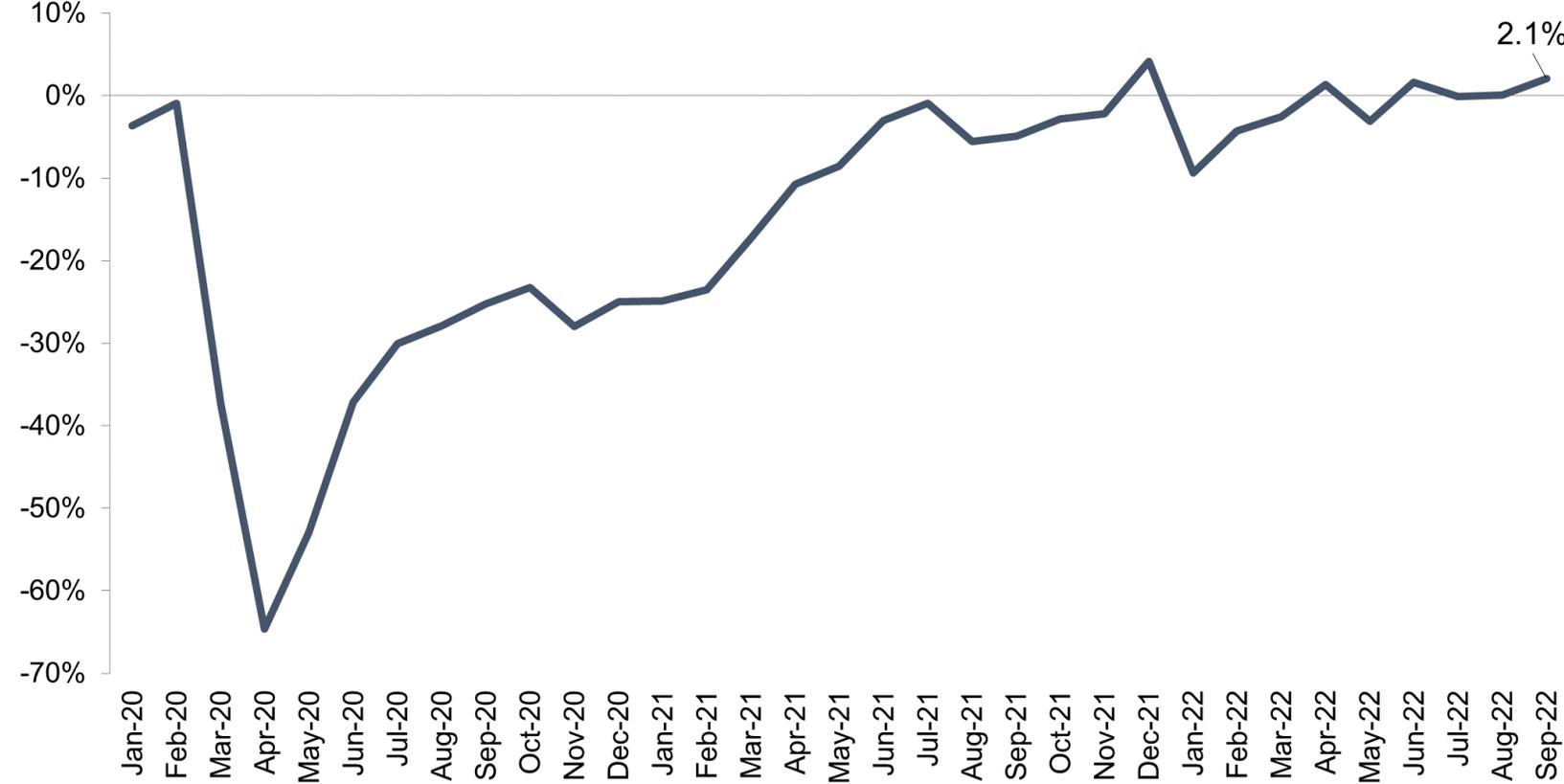
## Recovery relative to 2019



Note: Monthly data through September 2022 based on month to date. Comparison to 2019 on a calendar day basis.  
Source: STR

# North Carolina Hotel Room Demand Gained in September

**North Carolina Hotel Room Demand**  
STR Roomnights sold vs 2019 Levels

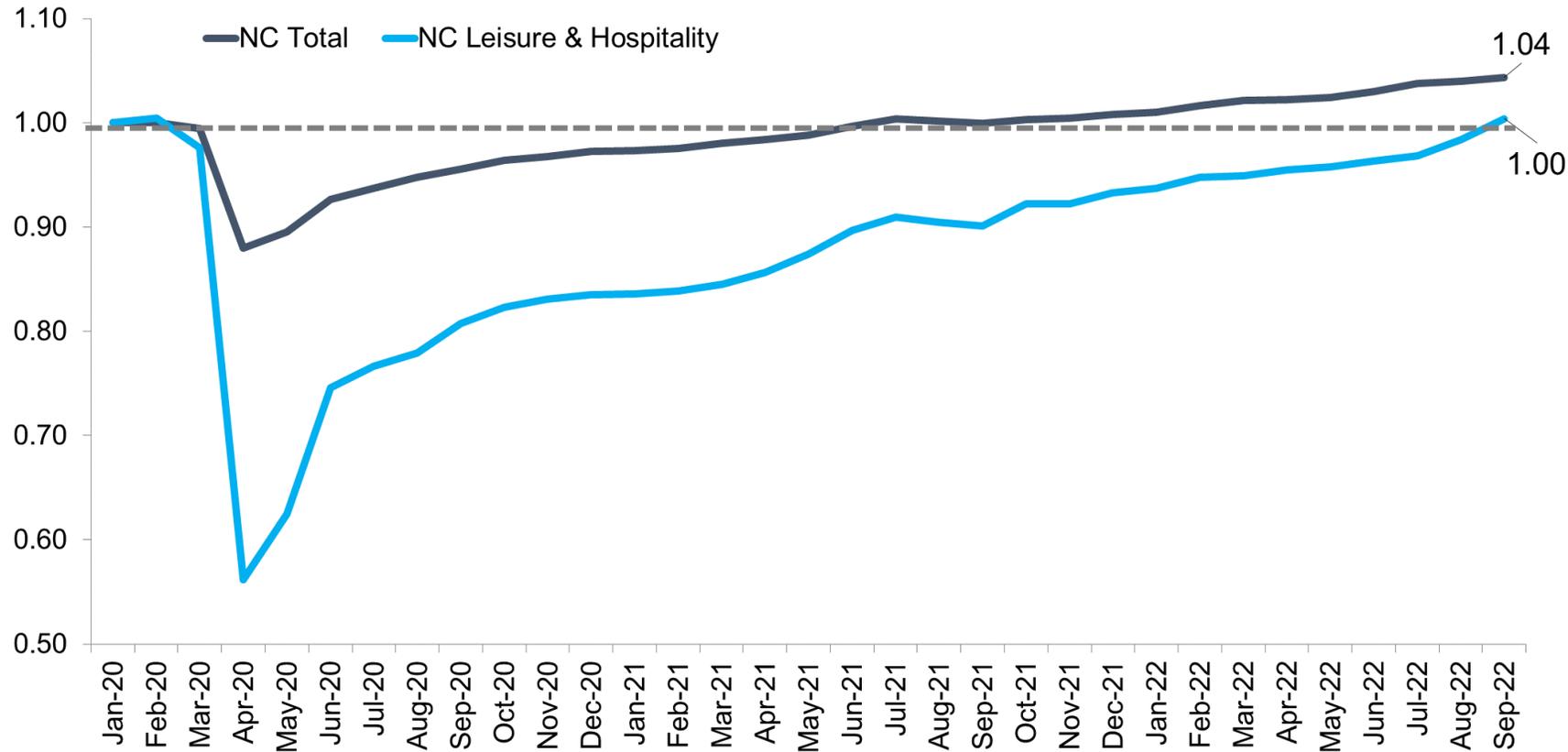


Source: STR, Tourism Economics

# NC Labor Market steadily adding Leisure & Hospitality jobs

## North Carolina Employment Recovery

Payrolls Indexed to January 2020



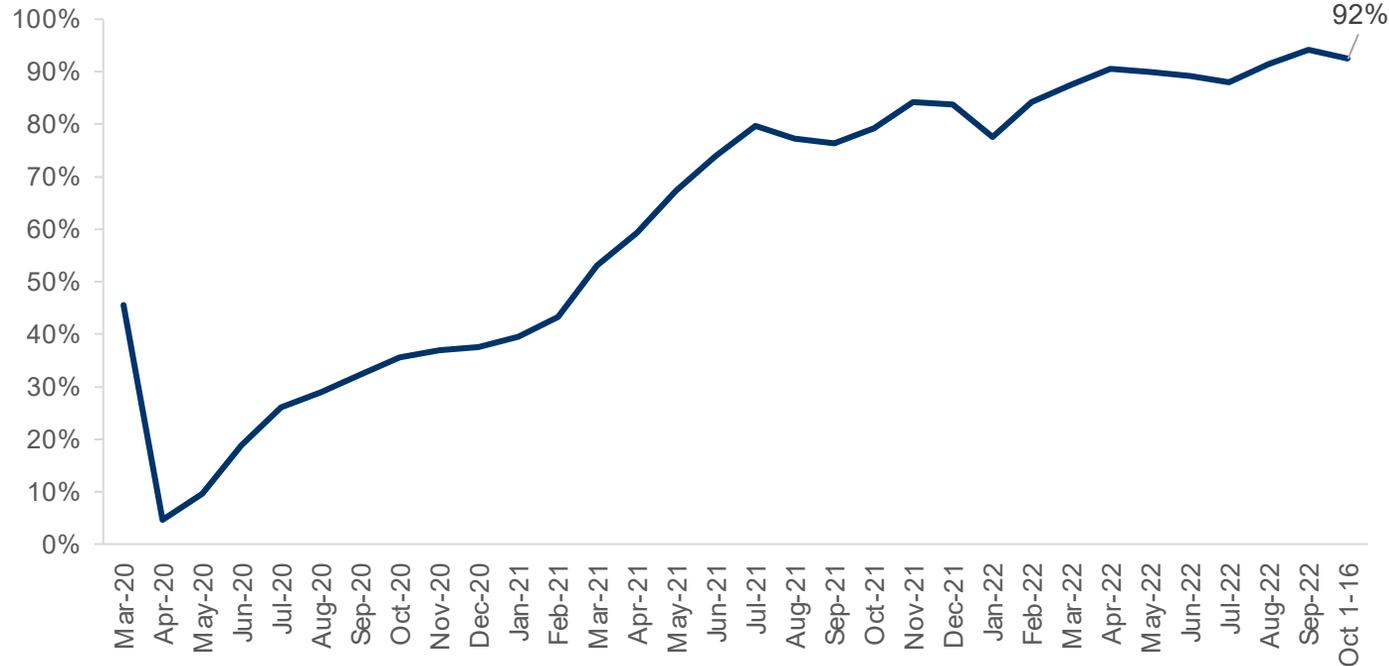
**Leisure & Hospitality jobs crossed the pre-pandemic threshold for the first time in September 2022**

Source: BLS, Tourism Economics

# Air transportation continues to make gains

## Air Passenger Volume

% of 2019 level



Source: TSA

**“We are expecting a very, very robust demand for the holiday periods for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and it looks to us now is the business is going to have a very strong fall.**

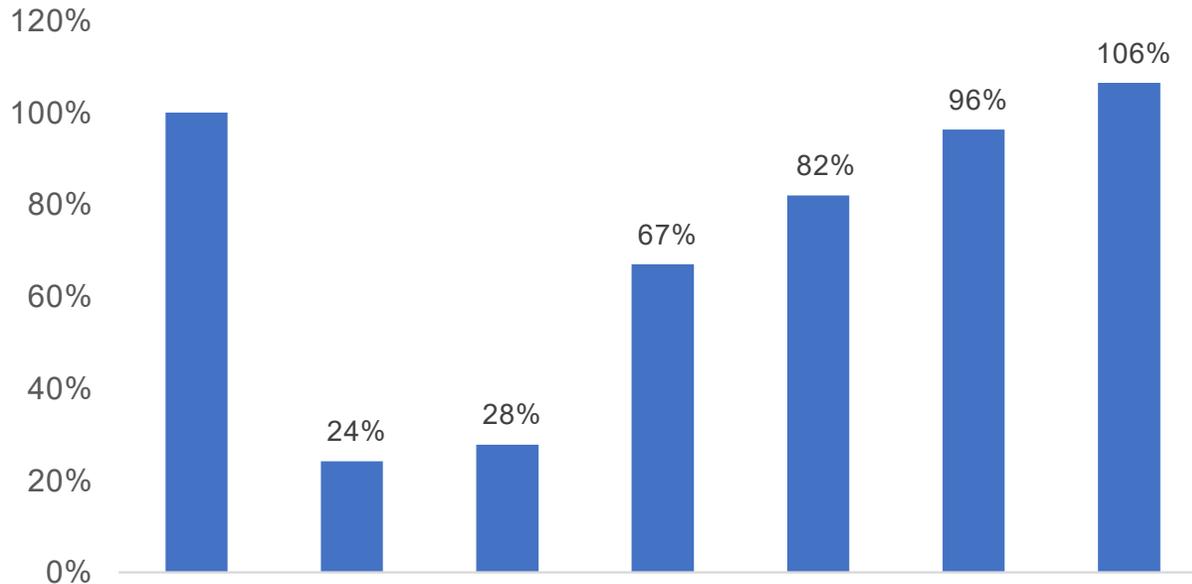
**I think everybody is looking for cracks. And what I'd say is we haven't seen any cracks in our demand set yet.”**

Delta earnings call, Sept 14

# International travel represents a headwind

## International inbound forecast

% of 2019



**August overseas inbound = 2.6 mn**  
**66% of Aug 2019 visits**

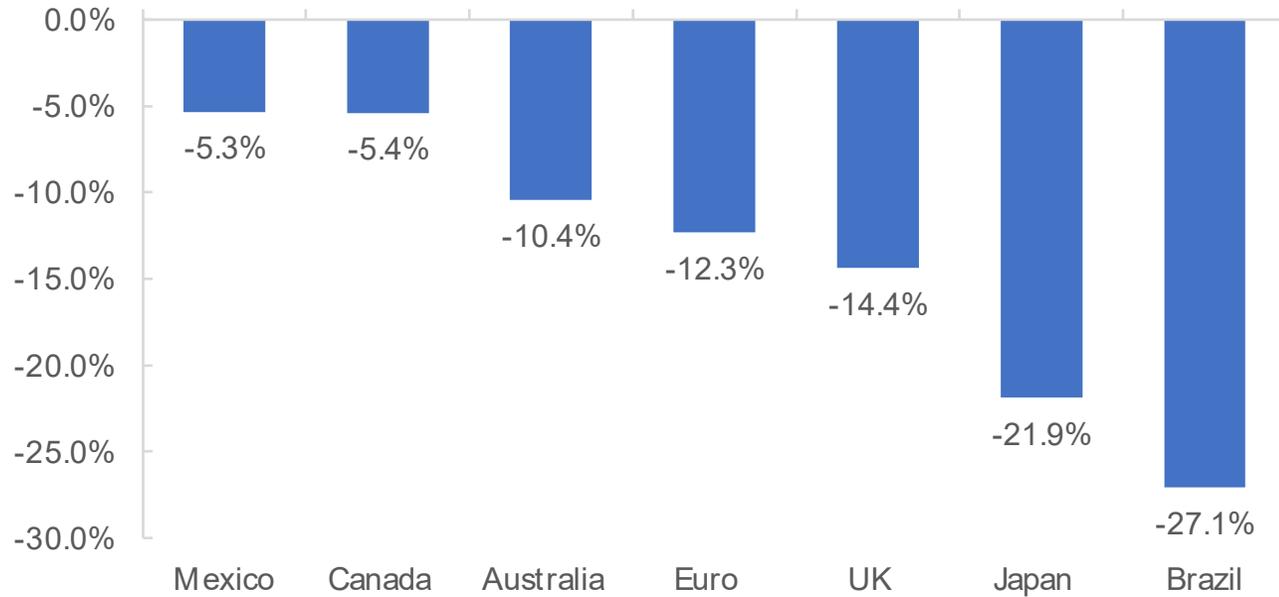
**June outbound = 4.5 mn**  
**75% of June 2019 departures**

Source: Tourism Economics

# And traveling to the US has gotten more expensive

## Change in USD Exchange Rates versus 2019

% change from end-2019 spot rate, as of Oct 15, 2022 (USD/LCU)



Sources: Tourism Economics, Haver

Note: Negative change implies depreciation of local currency (LCU) versus USD.



# Household balance sheets remain strong

## Household debt service

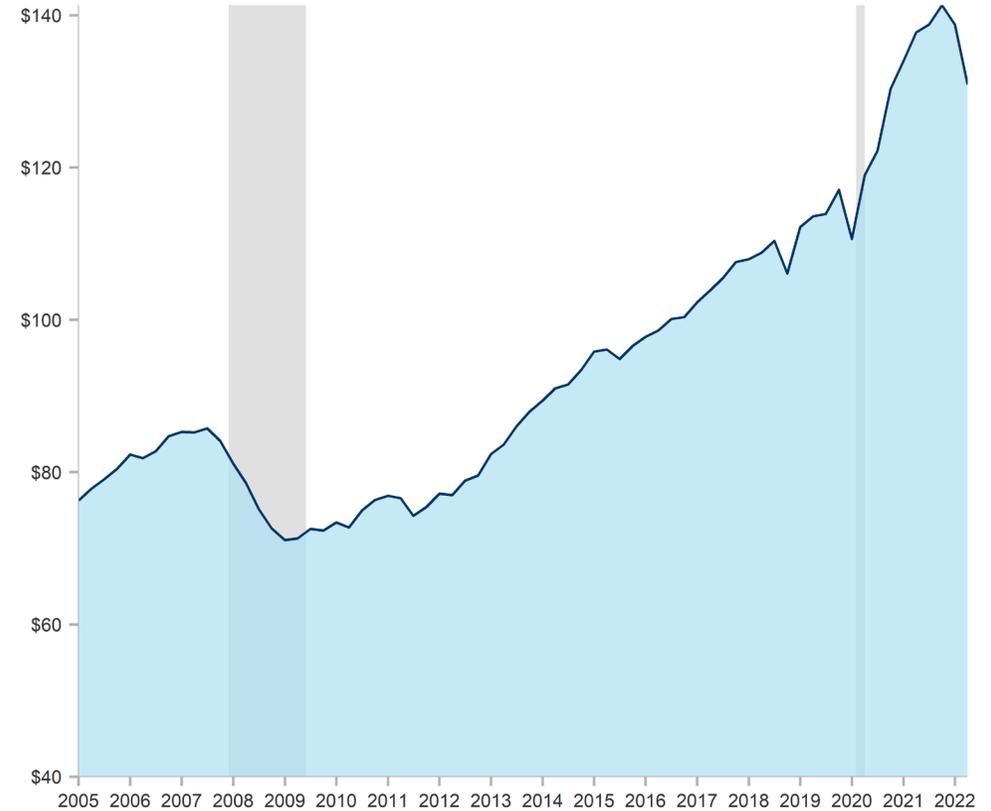
Financial obligations as ratio to disposable income



Note: Quarterly data through 2022Q2. Financial obligations ratio is the ratio of household debt payments, and payments such as rent and auto leases, to disposable income. Source: Federal Reserve, NBER

## Household net worth

In trillions, real



Note: 2020 dollars. Quarterly data through 2022Q2. Net worth of households and nonprofit organizations. Measures assets such as housing and financial assets, minus liabilities. Source: Federal Reserve, NBER



# The savings war chest is being tapped

## Personal savings rate

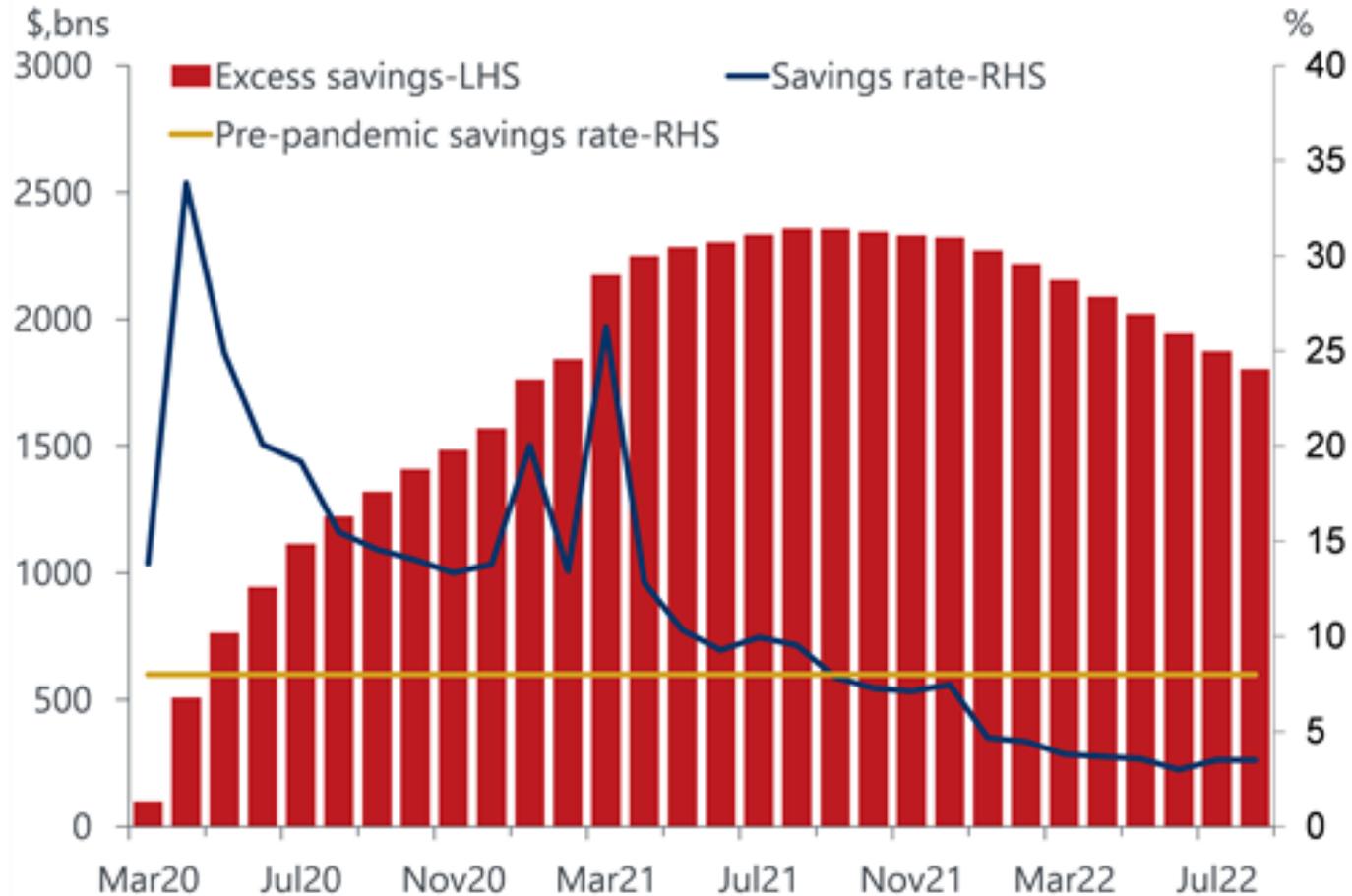
% of income



Note: Data is seasonally adjusted, three-month average. Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

# Excess savings remain, but are drawing down

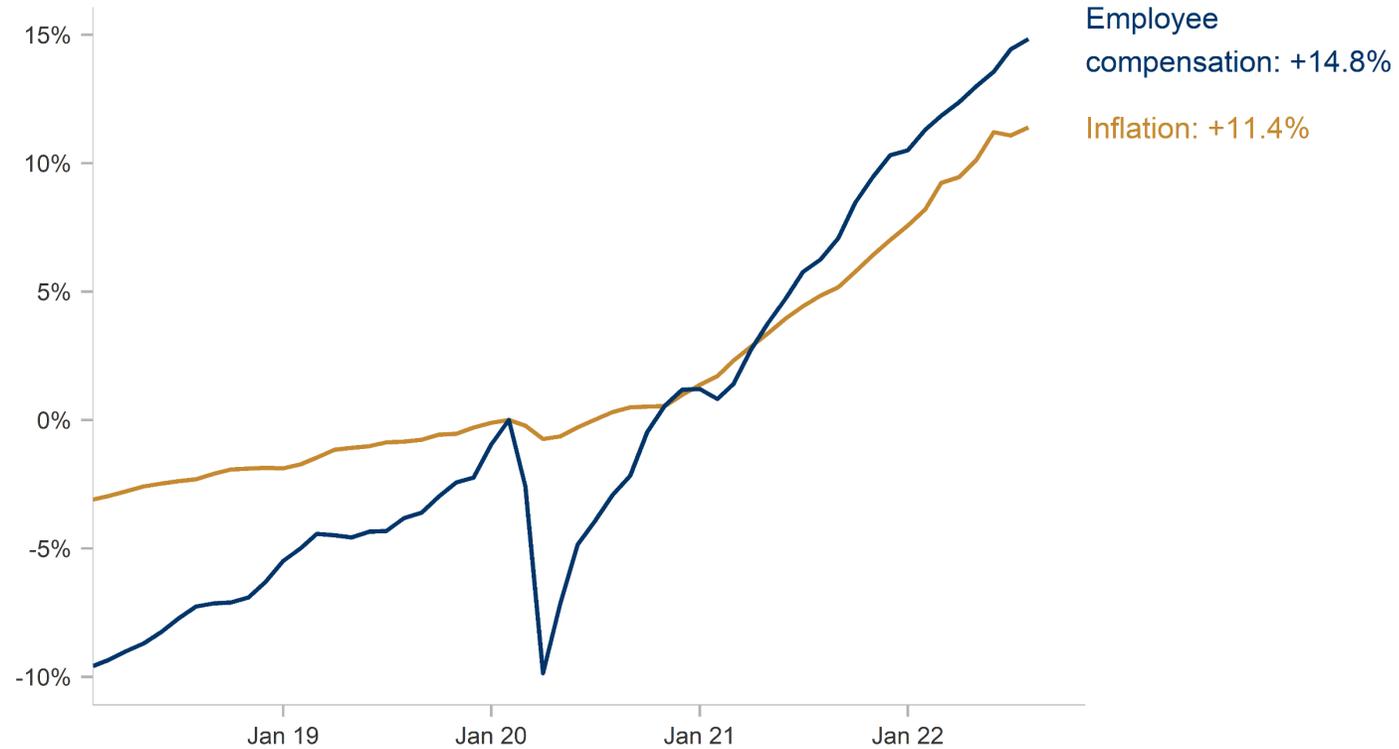
US: Excess savings based on reported personal income data



# And wages still ahead of inflation over past 2+ years

## Compensation compared to inflation

Growth since February 2020



Note: US nominal employee compensation (wages, salaries, insurance, etc.) in aggregate. Inflation measured using PCE deflator. Data is seasonally adjusted, through August 2022.

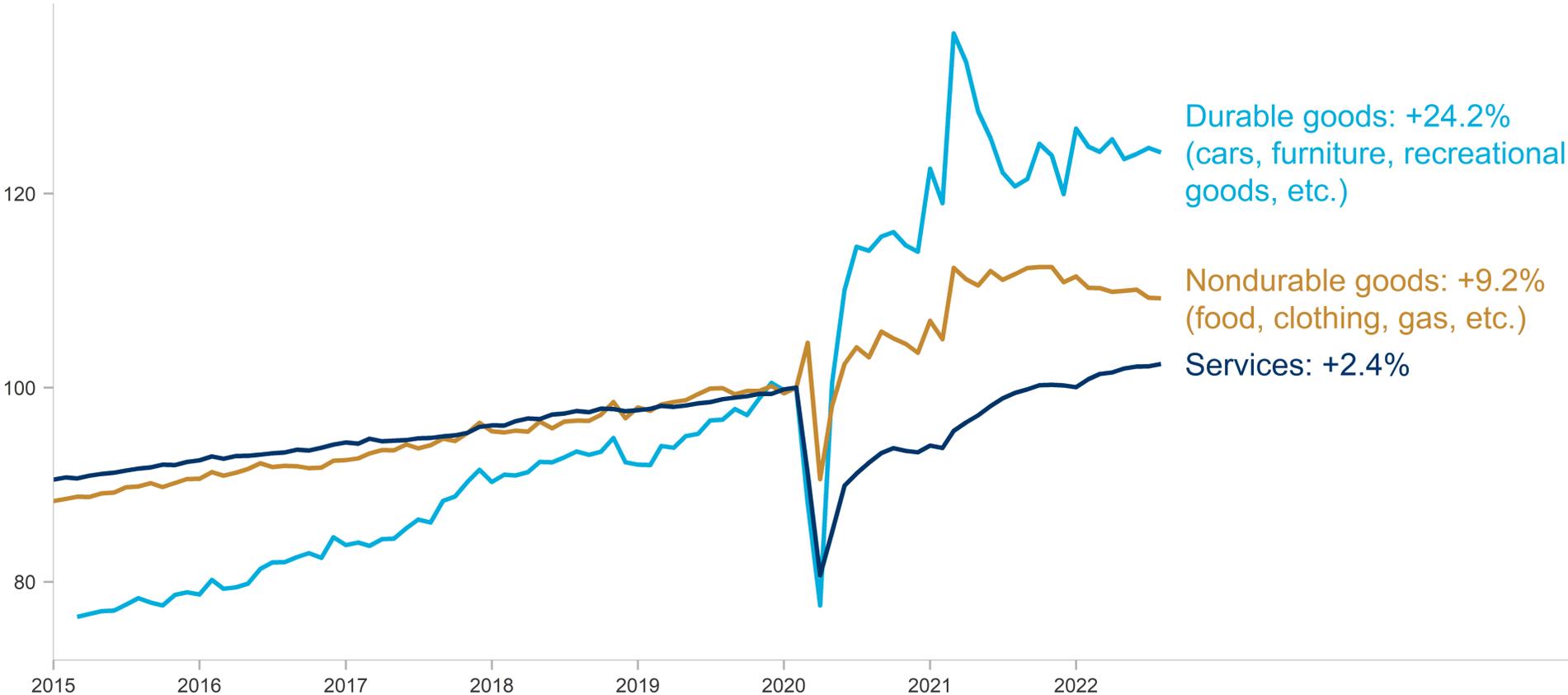
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis



# Spending continues to rise... especially for services

## Consumer spending, real

Index (Feb 2020=100), increase since February 2020 in labels

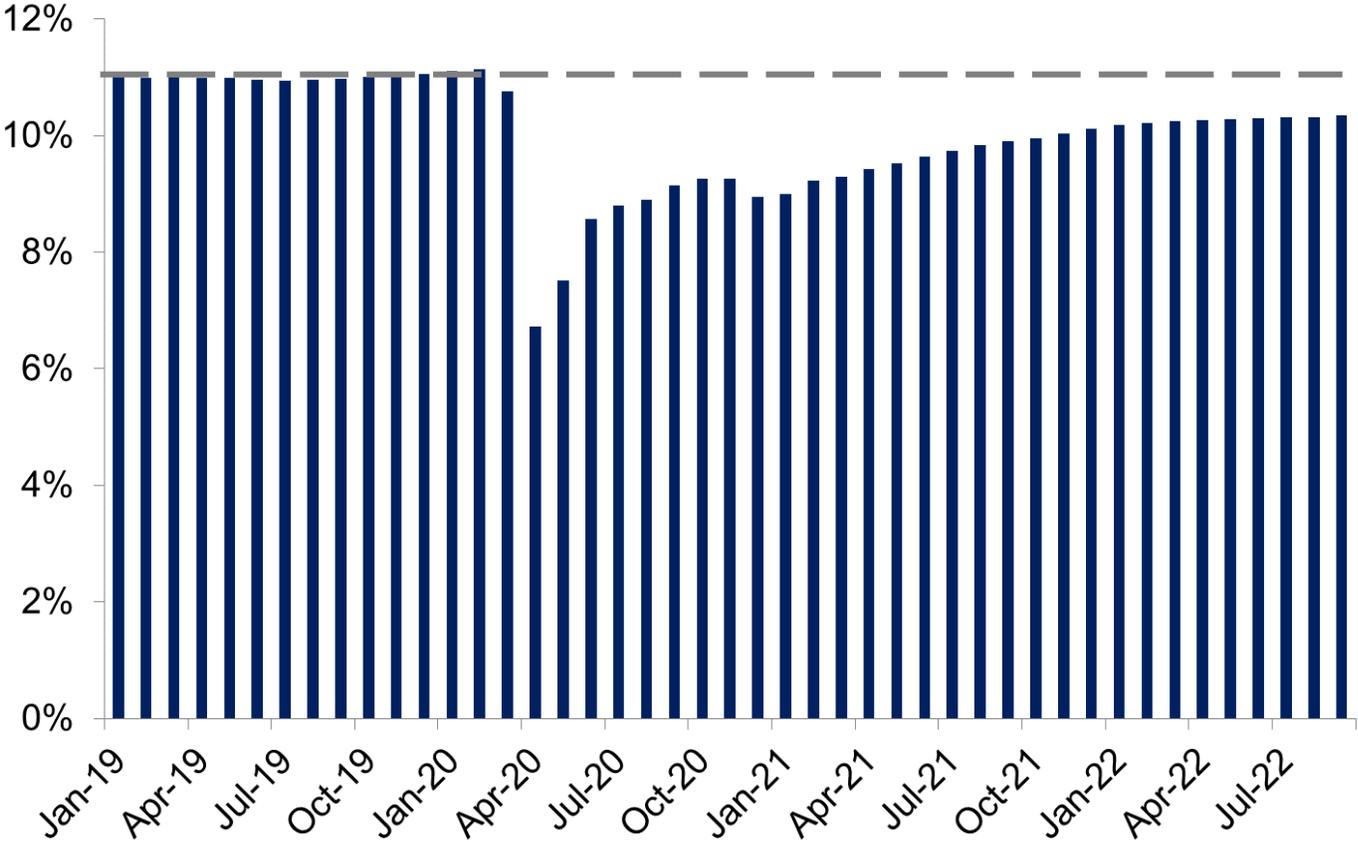


Note: Real. Seasonally adjusted monthly data through August 2022  
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

# Labor market orienting back towards services, reflecting consumer spending

## Share of Leisure & Hospitality Jobs

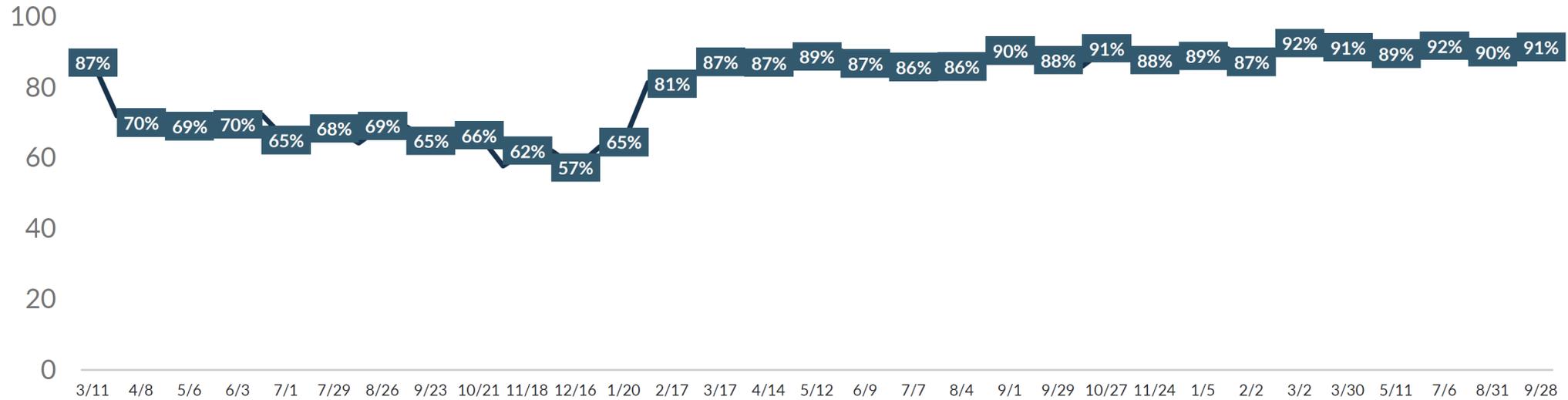
Monthly, percentage of total US Nonfarm Payrolls



Source: BLS, Tourism Economics


# And overall intentions to travel remain elevated

## Travelers with Travel Plans in the Next Six Months Comparison

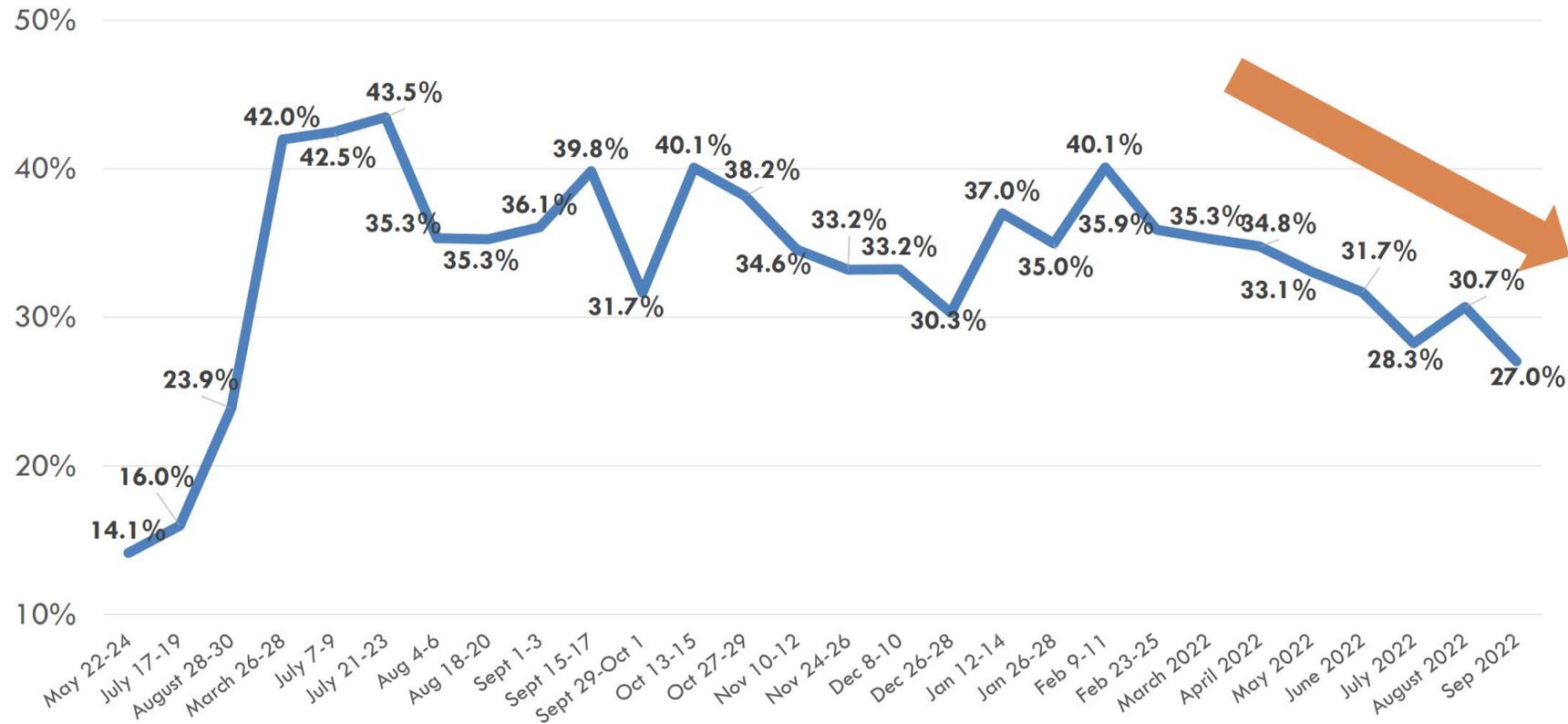


Travel Sentiment Study Wave 66



# A drop-off among those expecting to travel more

**% Expecting to Take More Trips**

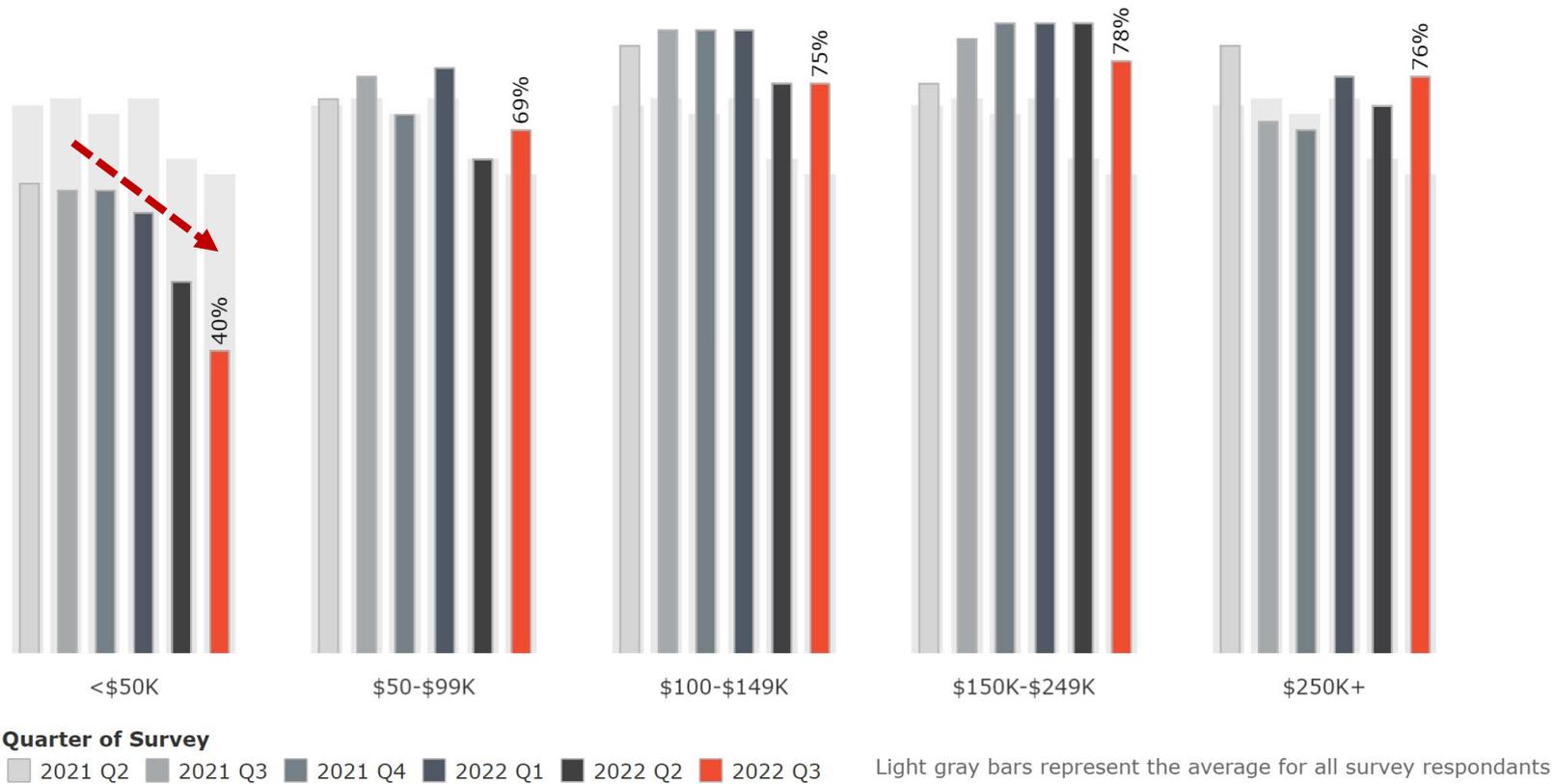


**Question:** In the NEXT 12 MONTHS, do you expect to travel more or less for leisure than you did in the most recent 12-month period? (Select one)

*(Base: All respondents, 1,200+ completed surveys each wave in 2021. 4,000+ completed surveys each wave in 2022)*

# Why? Slippage evident among lower income earners

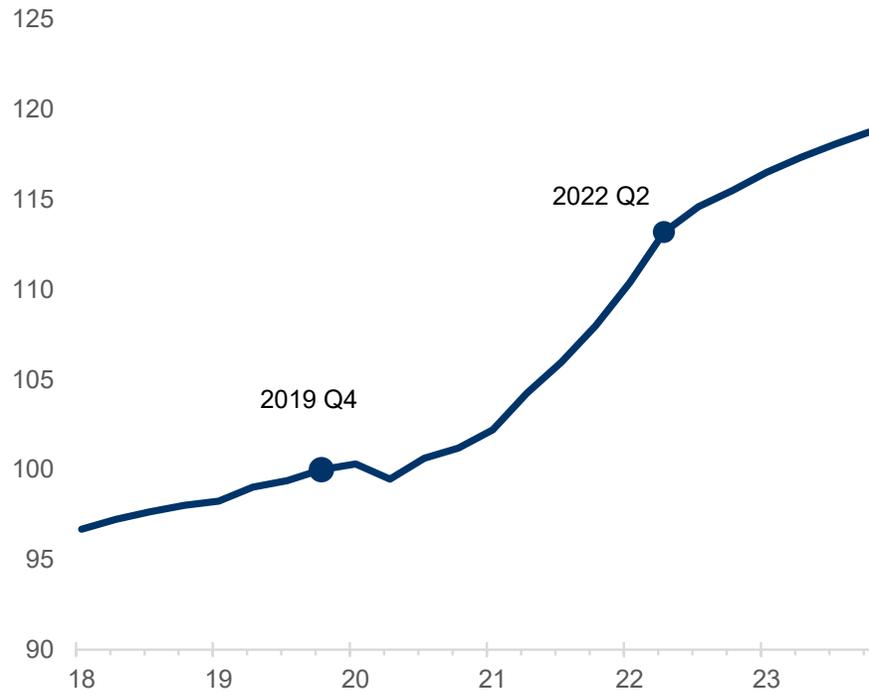
Planning Leisure Travel Within the Next 6 Months  
% of American Consumers



# Expect inflation to slow as we proceed through next year

## Consumer price index: Level

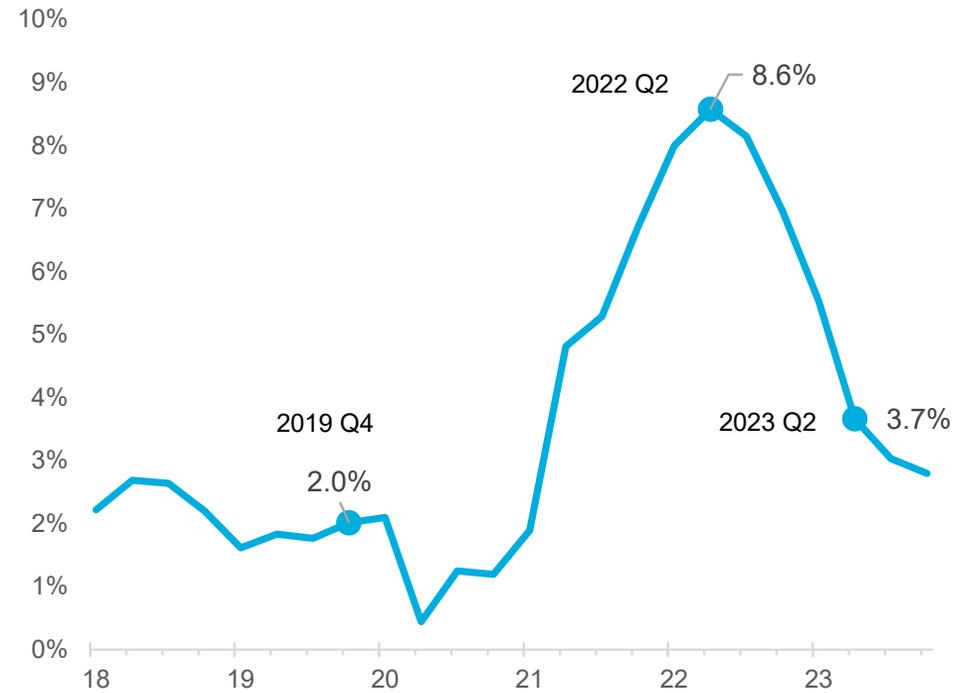
Index (2019 Q4 = 100)



Note: Seasonally adjusted, quarterly data.

Source: BLS, Oxford Economics

## Consumer price index: Year-over-year change



Note: Seasonally adjusted, quarterly data.

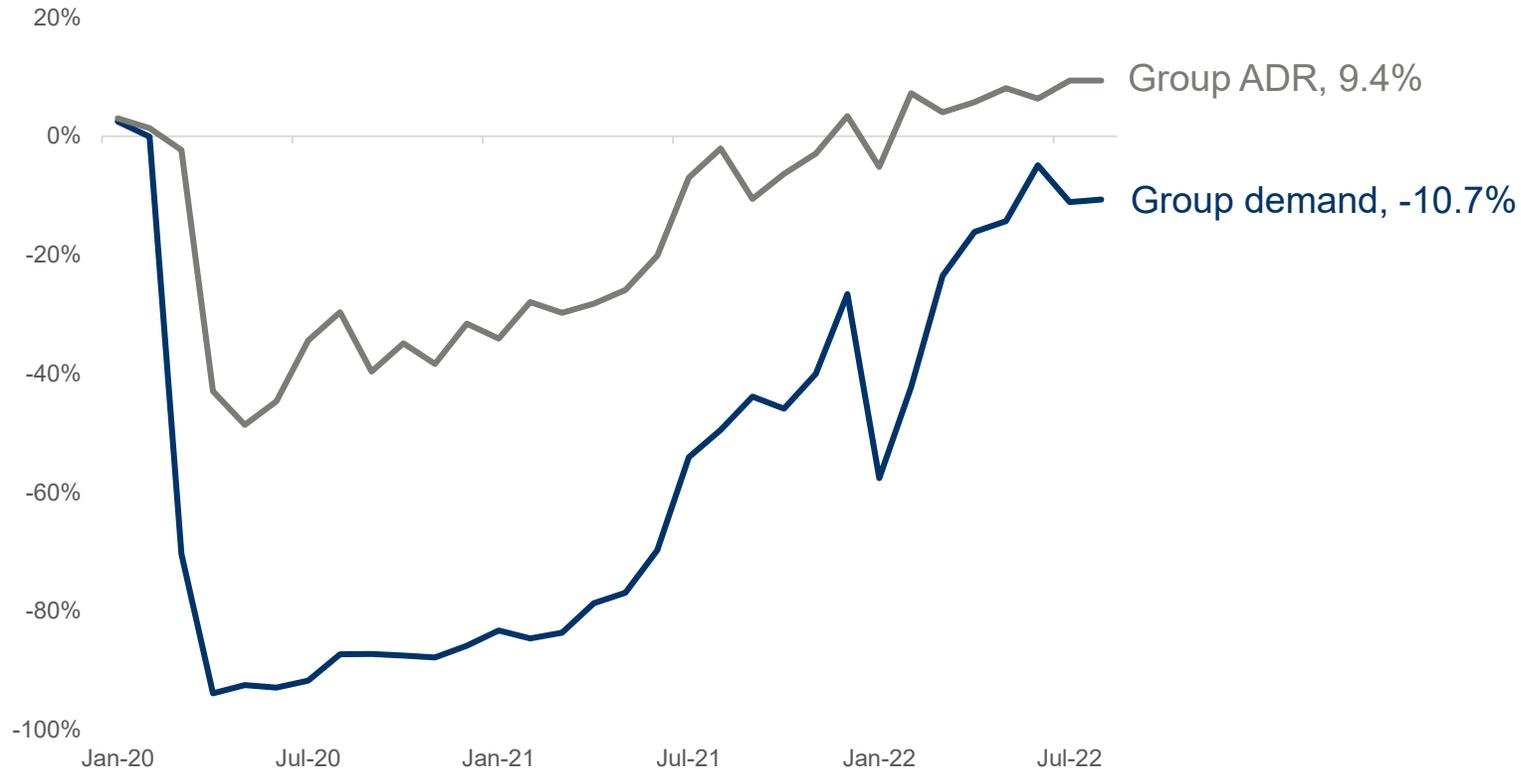
Source: BLS, Oxford Economics



# Group demand approaching 2019 levels

## Hotel group performance: Top 25 US markets

Relative to 2019



**“We are 9-10% off group position system wide for 2023...but our tentative and pipeline are off the charts... Our biggest issue is keeping up with all the demand.”**

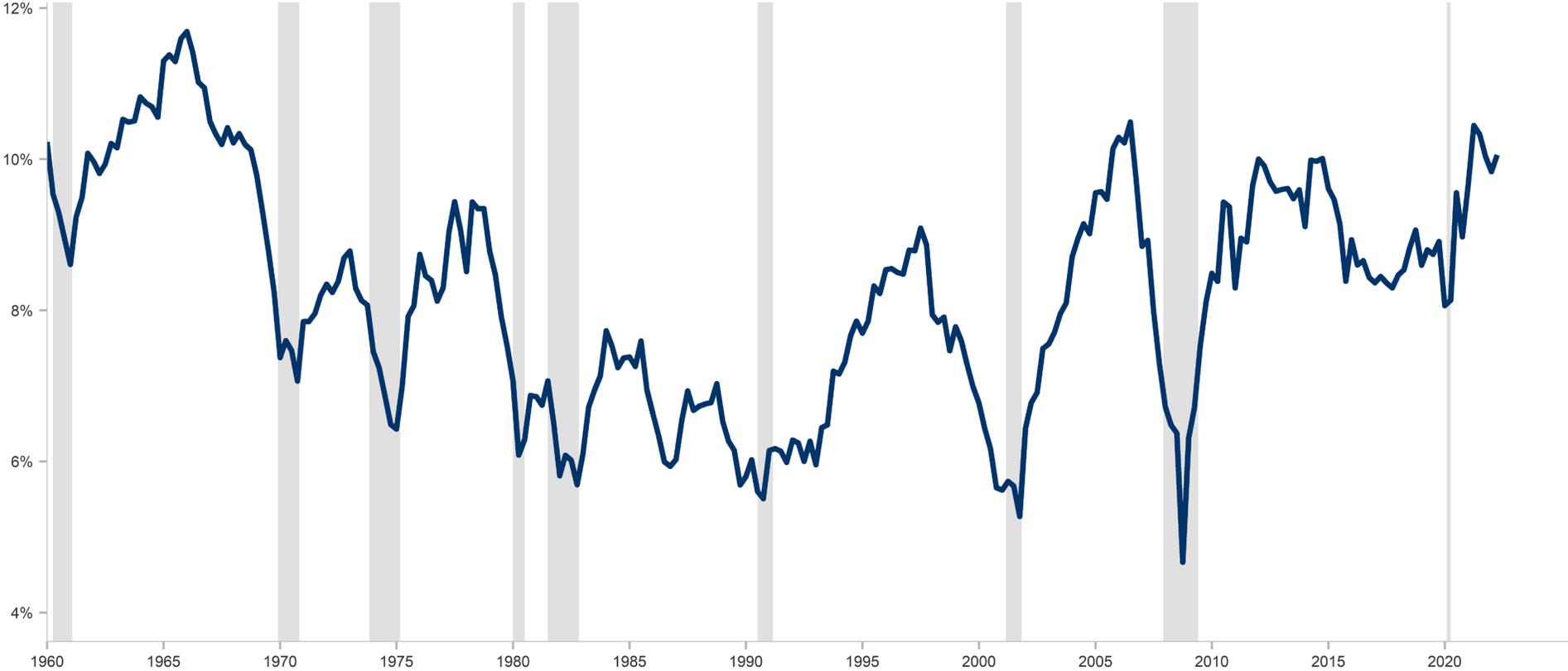
Hilton earnings call, Oct 26

Note: Data through August 2022. Source: STR

# And corporate profit margins remain strong

## Corporate profit margins

Grey bars indicate recessions

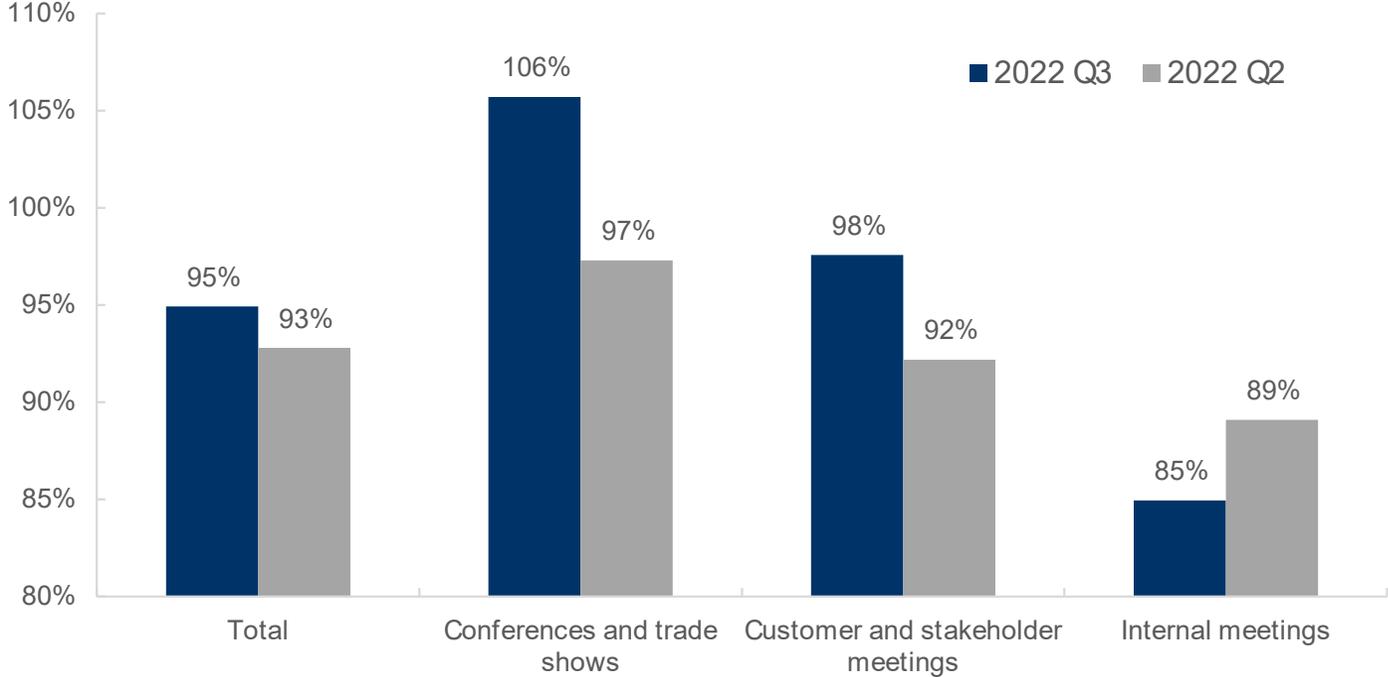


Note: Quarterly data through 2022Q2. Corporate profits before tax as a ratio to GDP. Based on corporate profits with inventory valuation and capital consumption adjustments, domestic industries. Source: BEA, NBER

# Business travel expectations INCREASED in Q3

## Average expected trips versus 2019

(% average monthly trips expected in six months relative to average monthly pre-pandemic trips)



[q1&q2] How many times do you travel on average for business purposes?

Business Travelers Survey BASE: Q3 N = 1641; Q2 N = 2545

