

## US Economics Analyst

## 2024 US Economic Outlook: Final Descent (Mericle)

- The US economy defied recession fears in 2023 and made substantial progress toward a soft landing. The key surprise has been much stronger than expected GDP growth, though this has not prevented the labor market from continuing to rebalance or inflation from continuing to fall.
- The hard part of the inflation fight now looks over. It was fair to wonder last year whether labor market overheating and an at times unsettling high inflation mindset could be reversed painlessly. But these problems now look largely solved, the conditions for inflation to return to target are in place, and the heaviest blows from monetary and fiscal tightening are well behind us. As a result, we now see only a historically average 15% probability of recession over the next 12 months.
- Core inflation has fallen sharply from its pandemic peak and should begin its final descent in 2024. We see further disinflation in the pipeline from rebalancing in the auto, housing rental, and labor markets, though we expect a small offset from a delayed acceleration in healthcare. Wage growth has fallen most of the way to its 3.5% sustainable pace, and surveys suggest it will get there next year. All of this should push core PCE inflation to around 2.4% by December 2024.
- We expect GDP to grow 1.8% in 2024 on a Q4/Q4 basis (or 2.1% on a full-year basis), again easily beating low consensus expectations. We forecast just under 2% consumption growth, with real disposable income growth of nearly 3% partly offset by a 1pp rise in the saving rate. We also forecast slower business investment growth of roughly 2% as the surge in manufacturing facility investment driven by CHIPS Act and Inflation Reduction Act subsidies slows, and flat residential investment as the housing shortage continues to temper the impact of reduced affordability.
- We expect the FOMC to deliver its first rate cut in 2024Q4 once core PCE inflation falls below 2.5%. We then expect one 25bp cut per quarter until 2026Q2, when the fed funds rate would reach 3.5-3.75%, a higher equilibrium rate than last cycle. While we do not have any major macroeconomic shocks in our 2024 forecast, we think the bar to cut in response to a growth scare will be low in coming years and would not be surprised by insurance cuts at some point.
- Two key risks remain top of mind. The first is geopolitical conflict and the risk of

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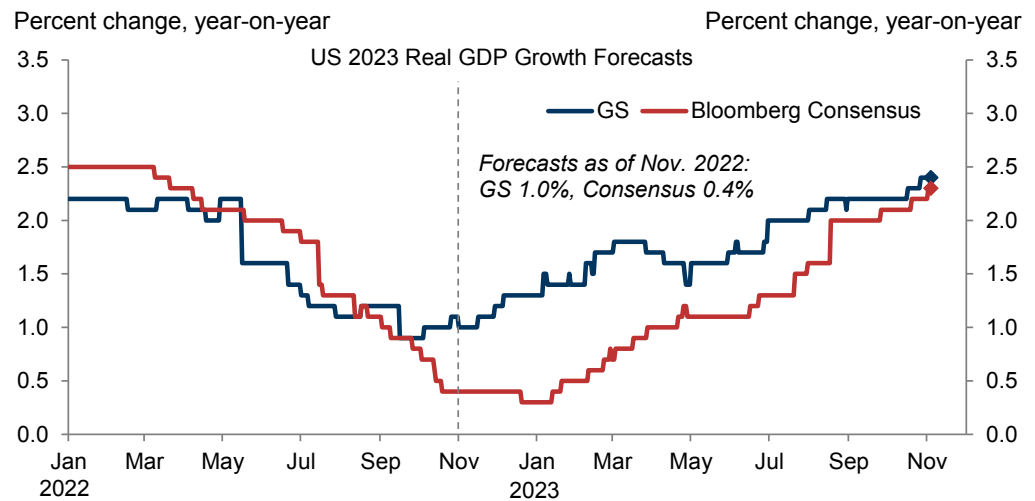
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a spike in oil prices. While possible, we think this would more likely be a setback in the inflation fight than a gamechanger. The second is the risk that something could “break” in the abrupt transition to a higher interest rate regime. Our analysis suggests that the risks are real but manageable, in part because the Fed would be at liberty to cut in response next year and will have plenty of room.

## 2024 US Economic Outlook: Final Descent

The US economy defied recession fears in 2023 and made substantial progress toward a soft landing. The key surprise this year has been much stronger than expected GDP growth (Exhibit 1). We had seen reacceleration as the key risk at the start of the year as the drag on growth from monetary and fiscal policy tightening subsided, but we assumed if it materialized while inflation was still high, the Fed would likely hike more aggressively to ensure that demand growth remained subdued so that supply could continue to catch up. Why didn't it? In the spring the banking stress heightened concern about raising rates too much, and by the summer it became clear that strong GDP growth was not preventing the labor market from continuing to rebalance or wage growth and inflation from continuing to fall after all.

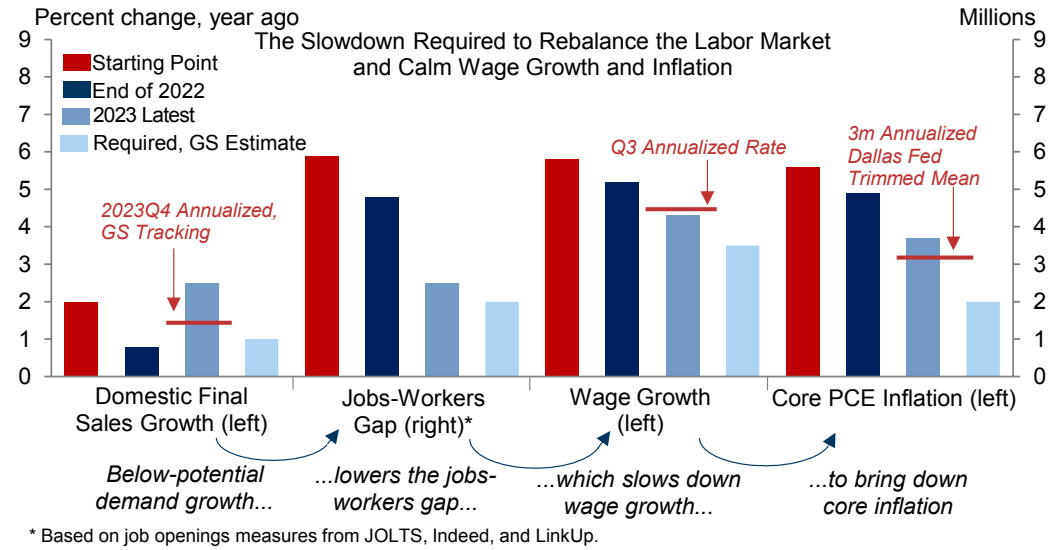
**Exhibit 1: Stronger Than Expected GDP Growth Was the Key Surprise of 2023 ...**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Bloomberg

In fact, despite strong growth, progress on both fronts has been faster this year than last (Exhibit 2). How have we been able to have it both ways in 2023? Part of the answer is the outperformance of the supply side: labor supply has not just mostly recovered but more than recovered, transitory influences on wages and prices have faded or reversed, and high prices have cured themselves by, for example, incentivizing massive construction of rental housing. More surprising at first glance is why labor demand has been contained even as final demand for goods and services accelerated and recession fears faded, but we suspect this reflects the logic that drives the non-linearity of the Beveridge curve, where extremely tight labor markets create a feedback loop between workers quitting and employers preemptively posting more job openings, which can heat up quickly but can cool down quickly too.

**Exhibit 2: ... But Strong Demand Growth Has Not Prevented the Labor Market from Rebalancing Substantially Further or Wage Growth and Inflation from Falling This Year**



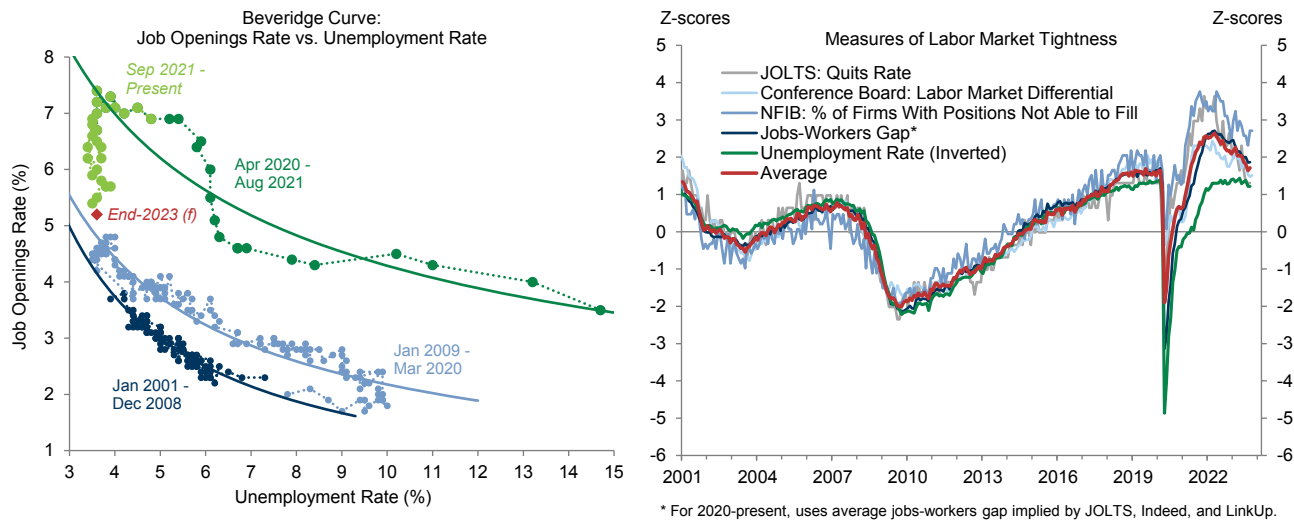
Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

**The Hard Part Is Over**

It was fair to wonder at the outset of the Fed’s hiking cycle whether extreme labor market overheating and an at times unsettling high inflation mindset could be reversed painlessly without a recession. After all, to expect this was to expect something historically unprecedented. While we felt strongly that there was a coherent way to navigate these problems gently, that did not mean it would be simple.

But at this point the hard part of the inflation fight looks over. Following a vertical drop on the Beveridge curve (Exhibit 3, left), the unemployment rate is barely changed but other measures of labor market tightness have fallen sharply and are now on average only slightly above pre-pandemic levels (Exhibit 3, right). This cooling off to date is likely good enough or nearly good enough because inflation was a bit too low before the pandemic, and this means that further below-potential growth is no longer needed.

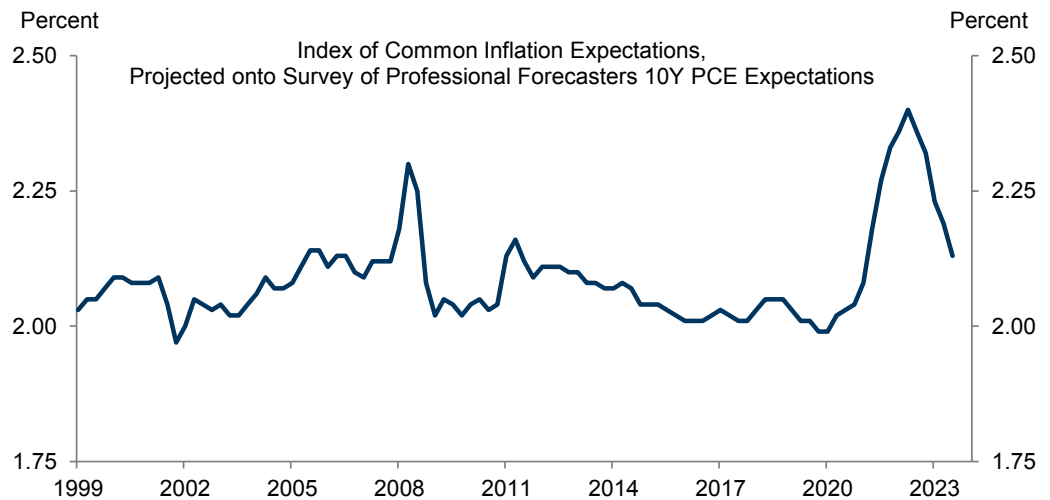
**Exhibit 3: After a Painless Rebalancing Captured by the Vertical Drop on the Beveridge Curve, Measures of Labor Market Tightness Are Now Only Slightly Above Pre-Pandemic Levels on Average**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Labor, The Conference Board, NFIB

Inflation psychology has normalized too from the days when prices seemed to be spiking everywhere and many businesses and workers felt it was only fair that their own prices and wages rise accordingly. The Fed's composite inflation expectations index has fallen sharply to a roughly target-consistent level as the price shocks associated with reopening and shortages have become a more distant memory (Exhibit 4).

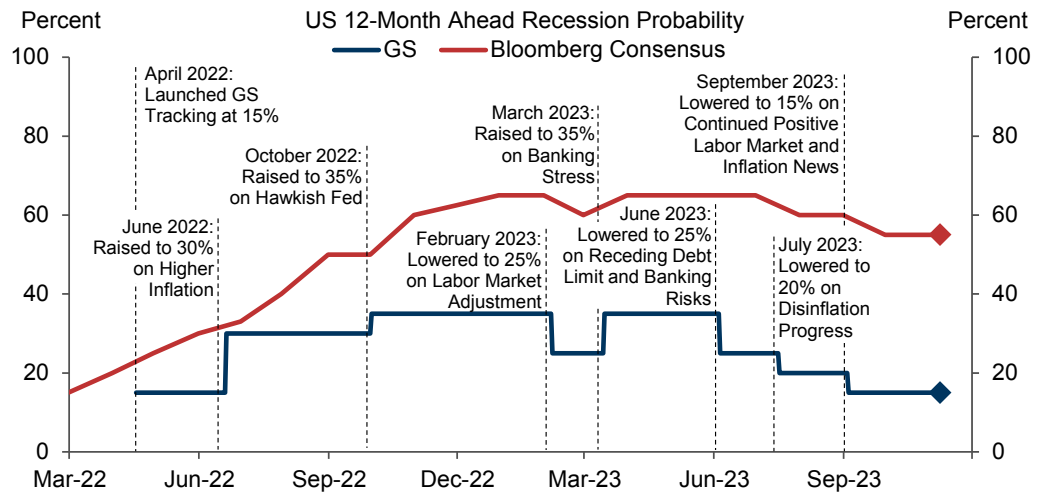
**Exhibit 4: Inflation Expectations Have Fallen Sharply to Roughly Target-Compatible Levels**



Source: Federal Reserve Board

With the more daunting problems largely solved, the conditions for inflation to return to target in place, and the heaviest blows from monetary and fiscal tightening well behind us (Exhibit 10 below), we now see only a historically average 15% probability of recession over the next 12 months. The consensus, in contrast, still sees a much higher recession probability of 48% over the next 12 months (Exhibit 5).

**Exhibit 5: With the Hard Part of the Inflation Fight Now Behind Us, We See Only a Historically Average Recession Probability of 15% Over the Next 12 Months**

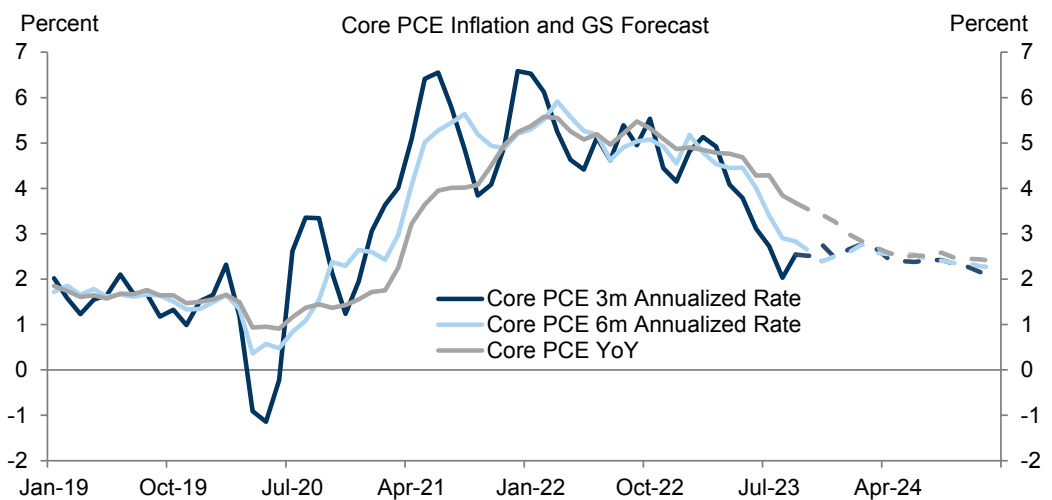


Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Bloomberg

### 2024 Inflation Outlook: Final Descent

Inflation has fallen sharply from its pandemic peak and should begin its final descent in 2024. Core PCE inflation is down from a 5.5-6% to a 2.5-3% sequential annualized pace (Exhibit 6), and other measures of the underlying trend such as the trimmed mean and the median have softened significantly as well.

**Exhibit 6: Core Inflation Has Fallen Sharply from the Peak and Is on Track to Fall Further in 2024**



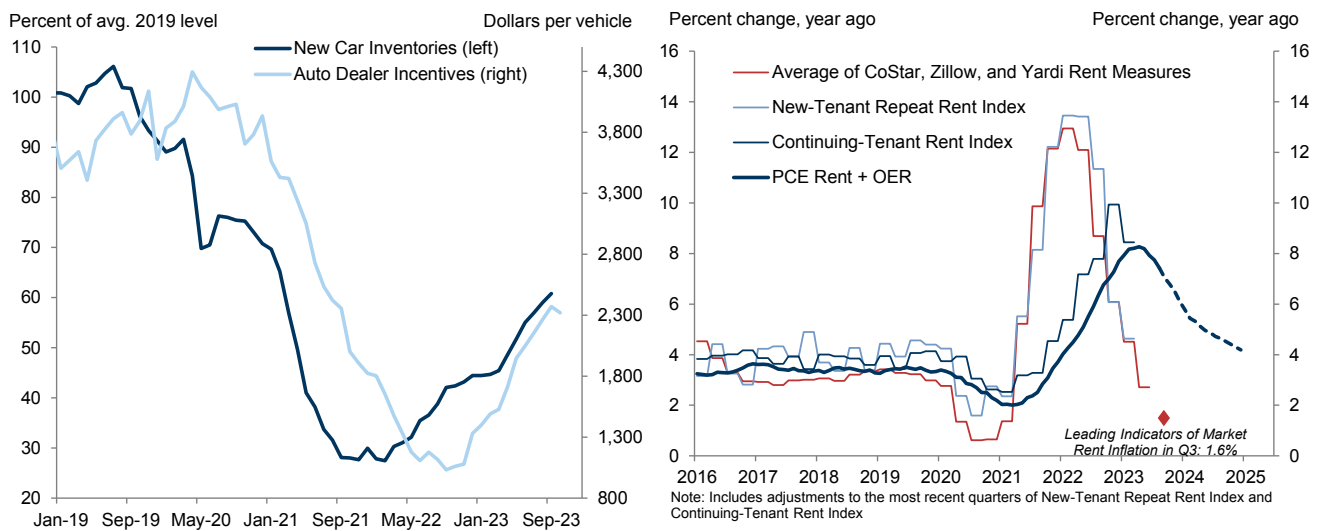
Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Commerce

We see further disinflation in the pipeline from rebalancing in the auto, housing rental, and labor markets. In the auto market, it took longer than expected but eventually fixing supply chain problems, restoring production to normal levels, and rebuilding inventories reintroduced competition among dealers and manufacturers that has begun to reverse

shortage-driven price spikes. Inventory levels have more room to recover in 2024, and new and used car prices have further to fall (Exhibit 7, left).

In the housing rental market, normalization of elevated pandemic demand and a large increase in apartment supply has slowed leading indicators of new tenant rent inflation to a 1-2% annualized pace this year (Exhibit 7, right). The official housing inflation numbers have slowed less because they also cover continuing tenant rents, which fell behind the rapid growth of market rates in 2021 and 2022 and have been catching up. But we estimate that the gap between market rates and continuing tenant rents has fallen from 7.5% to around 2%, meaning that catch-up is coming to an end and the official numbers should converge more quickly toward the slower pace of the leading indicators next year.

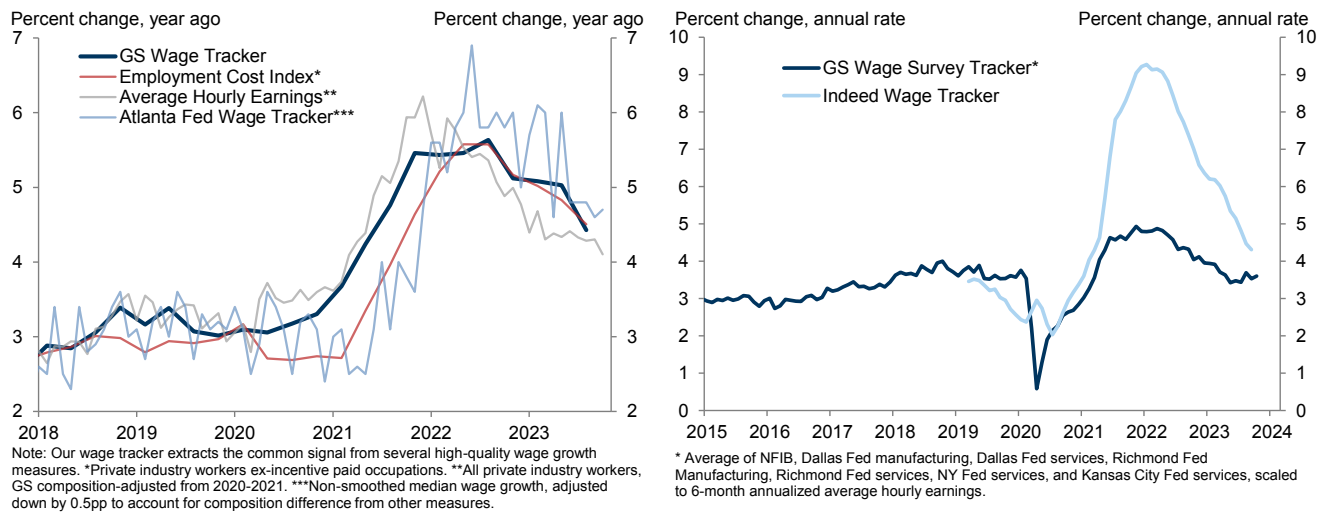
**Exhibit 7: There Is More Disinflation in the Pipeline on the Goods Side from Autos and on the Services Side from Shelter**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Commerce, CoStar, Zillow, Yardi, Department of Labor

In the labor market, a narrower jobs-workers gap and lower year-ahead inflation expectations have brought our wage growth tracker down from a peak of 5.6% year-on-year to 4.4%, and business surveys point to a further decline next year to roughly the 3.5% rate that we estimate would be compatible with 2% inflation (Exhibit 8). While recent headlines about union wage demands have sparked concern about a reacceleration, the wage hikes they have won have not been as large as advertised, and unionized workers' wage growth rate is a lagging indicator because they tend to have longer-lasting contracts.

**Exhibit 8: Wage Growth Is Slowing, and Business Surveys Point to Further Deceleration Next Year to the 3.5% Rate Compatible with 2% Inflation**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Labor, Federal Reserve, Indeed

We expect a small offset to these disinflationary pressures from a delayed acceleration in the healthcare sector, where multi-year contracts have so far prevented large cost increases from flowing through fully to prices.

These and other trends are summarized in our component-level forecast table (Exhibit 9) and described in more depth in our [2024 Inflation Outlook](#). We expect core PCE goods inflation to fall from 0.1% now to -1.2% in December 2024, housing services to fall from 7.2% to 4.1%, and core services ex-housing to fall from 4.3% to 3.4%, implying a decline in overall core PCE inflation from 3.7% to 2.4% by December 2024. Core CPI inflation is likely to run hotter this fall and winter, but we expect it to fall to 2.7% by December 2024.

While we are confident that core inflation will fall meaningfully further next year, it is worth bearing in mind that it was hard to forecast even in the pre-pandemic decades of low and stable inflation, when the average absolute year-ahead forecast error for private sector and Fed forecasters was about 0.4pp. Surprises of that magnitude should not be surprising, and they are large enough to influence Fed policy.



**Exhibit 9: We Expect Core PCE Inflation to Fall to 3.3% by December 2023 and 2.4% by December 2024, with Declines in Most Categories Partly Offset by a Delayed Acceleration in Health Care Services**

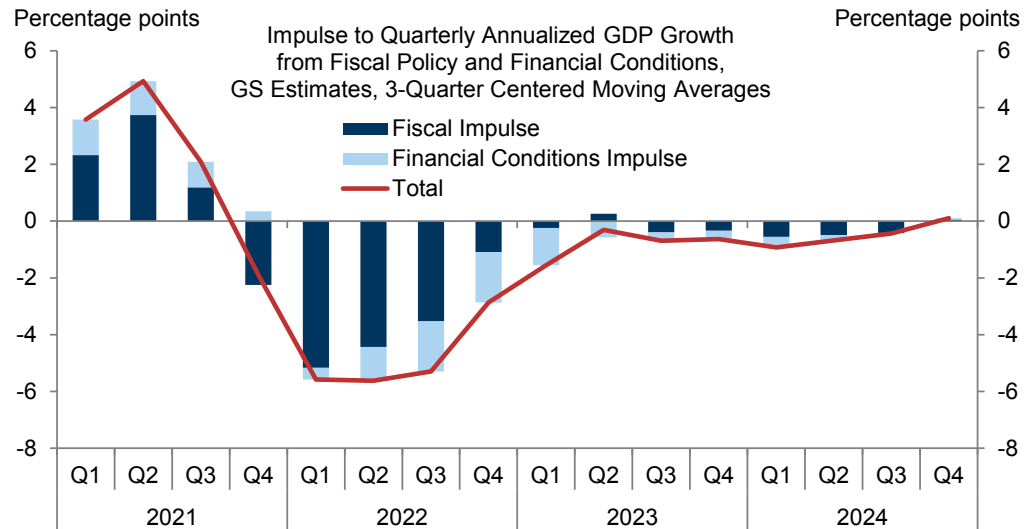
	Weight	GS Bottom-up Core PCE Forecast				
		Sep. 2023	Dec. 2023		Dec. 2024	
		YoY	YoY	Contribution to Change	YoY	Contribution to Change
<b>Core PCE</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
<b>Core Goods</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
New Vehicles	2.4	2.6	0.7	0.0	-1.7	-0.1
Used Vehicles	1.5	-8.0	-7.3	0.0	-5.5	0.0
Household Appliances	0.5	-6.4	-8.2	0.0	-3.5	0.0
Video, Audio, Computers	2.5	-7.1	-6.0	0.0	-9.0	0.0
Recreational Vehicles	0.6	2.0	0.7	0.0	1.0	0.0
Jewelry, Watches	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.0	1.1	0.0
Clothing & Footwear	3.1	2.4	2.6	0.0	0.3	-0.1
Pharma & Medical	3.9	3.4	3.7	0.0	1.9	-0.1
Pets Products	0.7	4.8	3.4	0.0	1.3	0.0
Expenditures Abroad	0.1	11.5	6.7	0.0	0.5	0.0
Residual Core Goods	10.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.7	-0.1
<b>Core Services</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
Housing	17.4	7.2	6.3	-0.1	4.1	-0.5
Ground Transportation	0.4	2.2	2.1	0.0	1.9	0.0
Air Transportation	1.2	3.5	0.2	0.0	3.9	0.0
Food Services & Accommodation	8.3	6.0	4.8	-0.1	3.5	-0.2
Financial Services & Insurance	8.2	5.6	5.1	0.0	3.4	-0.2
Medical Services	18.3	2.3	2.6	0.1	3.3	0.2
Foreign Travel	1.4	-0.7	-4.6	-0.1	2.6	0.0
Residual Core Services	18.7	5.4	5.0	-0.1	3.5	-0.4
<b>Core services ex. housing</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>-0.5</b>

Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Commerce

## 2024 Growth Outlook: Holding Up at Higher Rates

We think that the main reason the economy accelerated from 2022 to 2023 is that the impact of fiscal and monetary policy tightening on GDP growth diminished sharply. The impact should be similar next year, with a bit of further drag from both fiscal tightening and the recent tightening in financial conditions worth about ¼-½pp in total.

**Exhibit 10: The Drag on GDP Growth from Fiscal and Monetary Policy Tightening Peaked in 2022, Declined Sharply in 2023, and Should Remain Modest in 2024**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Below we discuss the growth outlook by GDP component. Our return to a textbook  $C + I + G + NX$  approach and our traditional forecasting models marks the end of the period when assumptions about special factors such as virus spread or supply chain disruptions played a large role in cyclical trends.

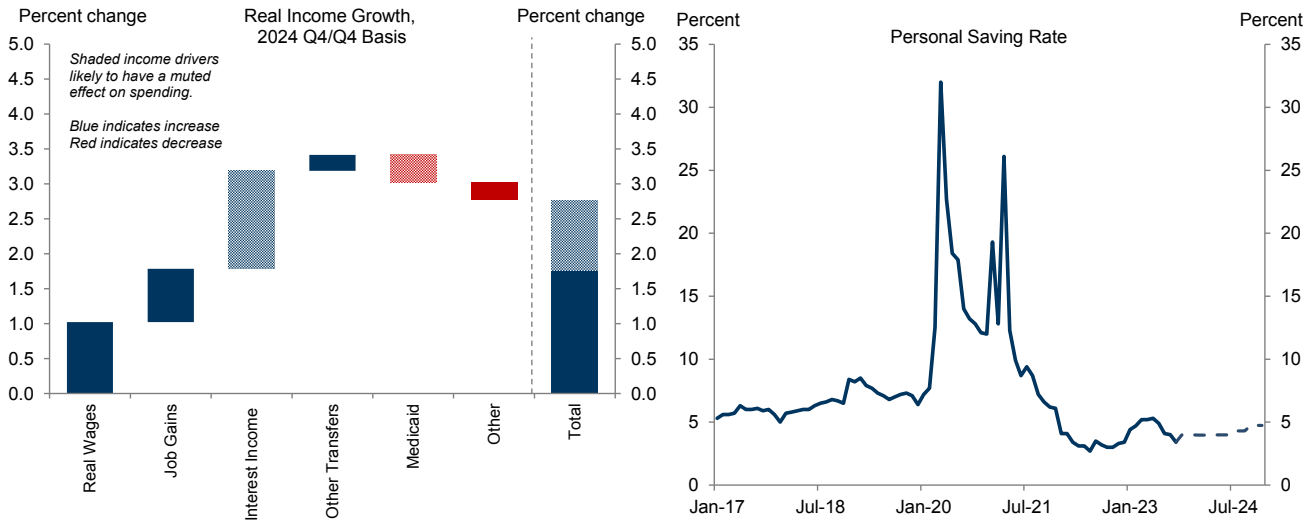
**Consumption**

Our 2024 Consumer Outlook notes that we expect slowing but solid job gains, roughly 1% real wage growth, and a large increase in household interest income to fuel real disposable income growth of nearly 3% next year (Exhibit 11). Interest income will accrue mostly to the top income quintile, where we expect 4% real income growth, versus just 1½% for the bottom income quintile.

We expect strong income growth to be partly offset by a 1pp rise in the saving rate. The saving rate ought to be very low at the moment because both the precautionary and retirement motives for saving are weak at a time when the layoff rate is low and the wealth-to-income ratio is historically high, but it is a little too low compared to its pre-pandemic level, when the same was true to a slightly lesser degree.

On net, real income growth of just under 3% and a 1pp rise in the saving rate imply consumption growth of just under 2% in 2024 on a Q4/Q4 basis. The last few years have seen large shifts in the composition of consumer spending between goods and services, but we think that these are largely over. While the share of services in total consumer spending remains below its pre-pandemic level, this appears to be due to the large increase in the share of people working from home, which has now stabilized.

**Exhibit 11: We Expect Real Disposable Income Growth of Just Under 3% to Be Partially Offset by a Modest Rise in the Saving Rate, Resulting in Consumption Growth of Just Under 2% in 2024**

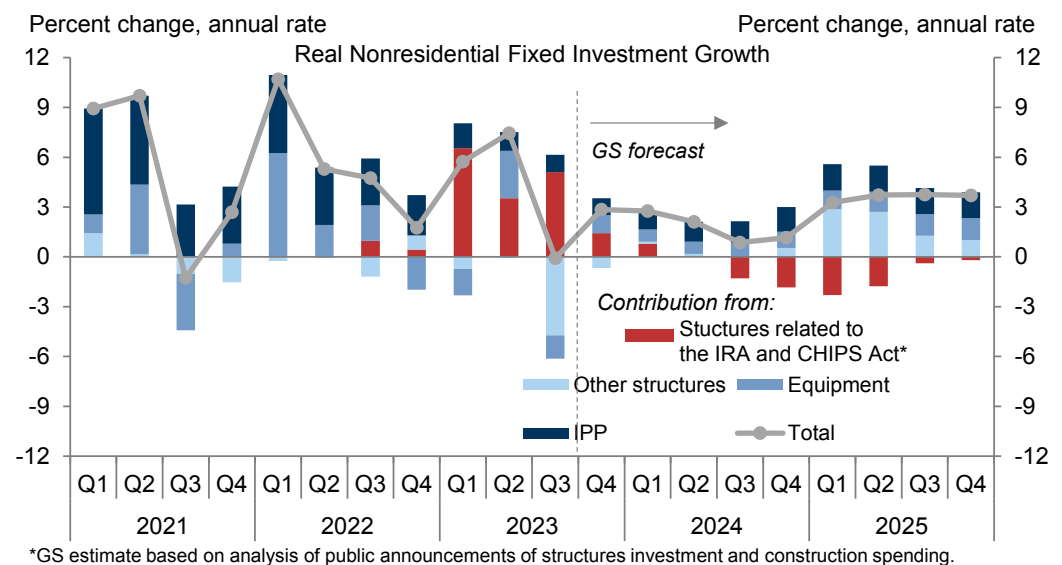


Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Commerce

### Business investment

Our [2024 Business Investment Outlook](#) highlights two key headwinds and two key tailwinds. The headwinds are the end of the surge in new manufacturing facility investment driven by CHIPS Act and Inflation Reduction Act subsidies, which accounted for all of the net growth in business investment this year, and more difficult financing conditions, especially for commercial real estate. The tailwinds are rising investment in artificial intelligence and less self-restraint as business leaders' recession fears fade. We expect these forces to net out to business investment growth of 1¾% in 2024.

**Exhibit 12: Business Investment Is Likely to Decelerate in 2024 as the Growth Boost to Manufacturing Structures from CHIPS Act and Inflation Reduction Act Subsidies Fades**

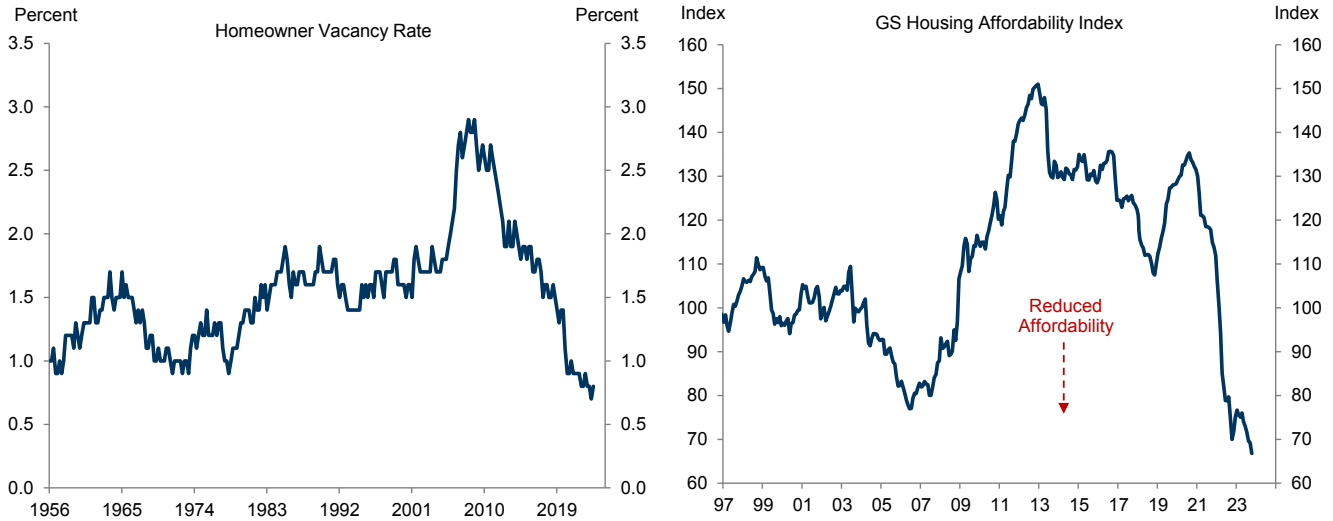


Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Commerce

### Residential investment

Our [2024 Housing Outlook](#) calls for higher mortgage rates to keep existing home sales very weak next year at around 3.8mn because nearly all mortgage holders are paying interest rates below market rates, which makes moving costly, but to have less impact on homebuilding, where a serious national shortage of single-family homes should continue to temper the impact of higher mortgage rates. Overall, we expect residential investment to end 2024 roughly flat. The same competing forces—low affordability but very tight supply—should generate modest home price growth of about 1% next year.

**Exhibit 13: We Forecast Roughly Flat Residential Investment in 2024 as the Housing Shortage Continues to Temper the Impact of the Decline in Affordability Caused by Higher Home Prices and Mortgage Rates**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Commerce

### Government spending

We are penciling in roughly flat federal spending and 0.5% growth in state and local spending in 2024. We continue to see some risk of a government [shutdown](#) either this week or early next year, which would shift growth between quarters, and some downside risk to our full-year forecast if Congress continues to avoid shutdowns through temporary extensions, which would lead to automatic spending cuts that take effect in May, resulting in a step-down in funding of 0.4% of GDP in 2024Q2 and 2024Q3.

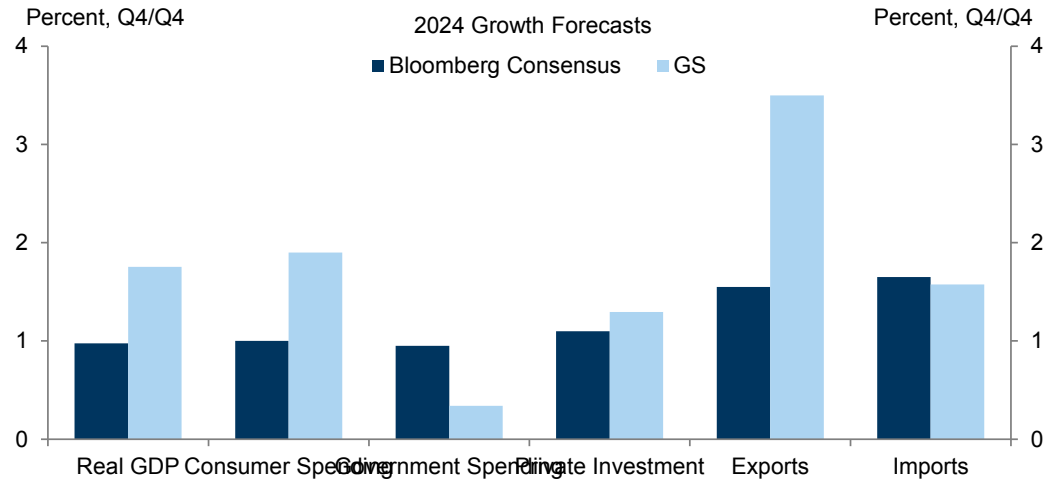
### Net exports

Our [2024 Trade Outlook](#) notes that US imports have come down from an elevated level fueled by pandemic stimulus, but US exports remain depressed. We expect a recovery in foreign growth next year to boost demand for US exports, narrowing the trade deficit enough in 2024 to contribute 0.2pp to GDP growth. Beneath the surface, some changes in US trade patterns—the increase in petroleum net exports due to rising shale production in response to higher prices, and the decline in travel services exports due to tighter visa restrictions—look likely to persist.

**Total GDP**

Adding up these components, we expect real GDP to grow 1.8% in 2024 on a Q4/Q4 basis (or 2.1% on a full-year basis), once again easily beating low consensus expectations (Exhibit 14).

**Exhibit 14: Our 2024 Q4/Q4 GDP Growth Forecast of 1.8% Is Well Above the Consensus Forecast of 1.0%**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Bloomberg

GDP growth near the economy’s potential growth rate should mean roughly stable labor market conditions in 2024. We put the current trend pace of job growth at around 175k per month and expect it to slow to 130k in 2024H1 and 100k in 2024H2, near our slightly higher than usual estimate of the breakeven pace that would stabilize the unemployment rate while immigration remains elevated. We do not attach much significance to the recent modest rise in the unemployment rate and expect it to continue hovering in the mid-to-high 3s next year because the layoff rate remains low and job openings remain even higher than in 2019—one of the best labor markets in US history—in nearly every industry.

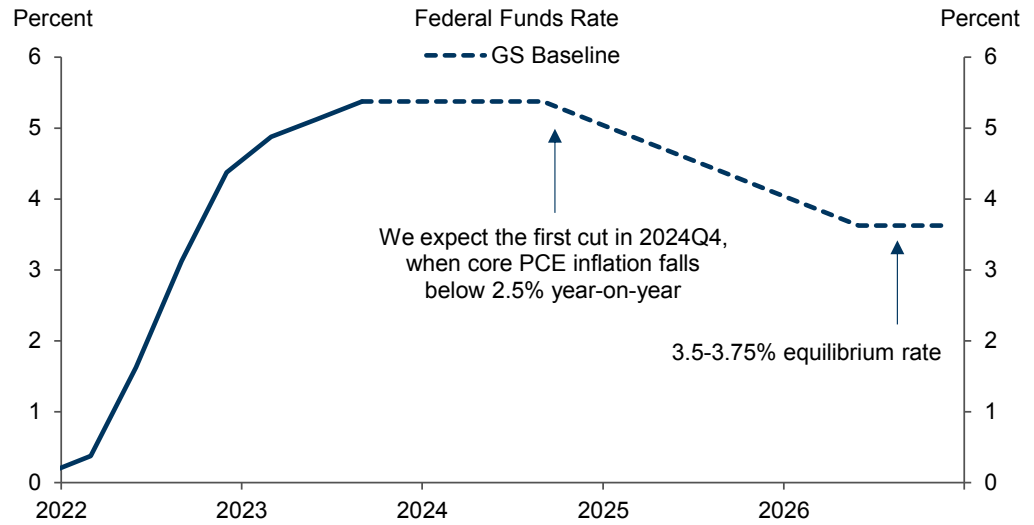
**2024 Fed Outlook: A Long Road to Rate Cuts and a Higher Equilibrium Rate**

We expect the FOMC to deliver its first rate cut in 2024Q4 once core PCE inflation falls below 2.5%. We then expect one 25bp cut per quarter until 2026Q2, when the fed funds rate would reach 3.5-3.75% (Exhibit 15). While we see rate cuts next year as optional in that they are not necessary to avoid recession, we expect the FOMC to conclude that while neutral might not be as low as the 2.5% median longer run dot, it probably is not as high as 5.25-5.5%, so some amount of normalization makes sense as inflation falls. We think this rationale is enough to cut to 3.5-3.75% but probably not further. Our forecast could be thought of as a compromise between Fed officials who see little reason to keep the funds rate high once the inflation problem is solved and those who see little reason to stimulate an already-strong economy.

We expect the equilibrium rate to be higher than last cycle because the post-financial crisis headwinds are behind us, much larger fiscal deficits that boost aggregate demand

are likely to persist, the funds rate is approaching equilibrium from above rather than below, and the  $r^*$  narrative is changing. We discussed these issues in a recent [Q&A on Fed policy, financial conditions, and the neutral rate](#).

**Exhibit 15: We Expect the FOMC to Deliver Its First Rate Cut in 2024Q4 and Then Cut 25bp Per Quarter to an Equilibrium Rate of 3.5-3.75%, Higher Than Last Cycle**

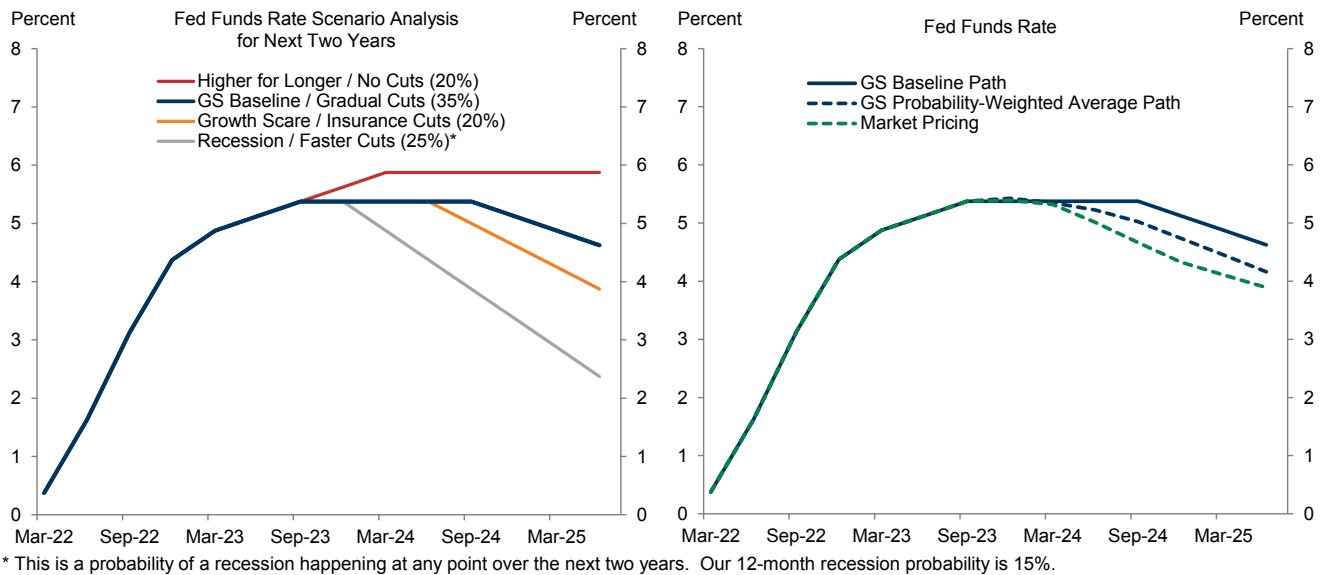


Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Other paths are also possible. The FOMC undertook two dovish pivots last cycle in response to growth scares that did not look like serious recession threats to us, and if the bar for responding was low last cycle, it will likely be even lower starting from a higher funds rate of 5.25-5.5%. As a result, while we do not have any major macroeconomic shocks in our forecast for 2024, we would not be surprised by insurance cuts at some point.

The judgmental probabilities that we assign to several plausible paths for the funds rate over the next couple of years—no rate cuts, gradual normalization as inflation falls in our baseline, insurance cuts, and cuts in a potential recession—imply a probability-weighted average Fed path that is below our baseline path but somewhat above market pricing, although much less so than earlier this year (Exhibit 16).

**Exhibit 16: We Expect the First Rate Cut in 2024Q4, Though Insurance Cuts at Some Point Are Also a Risk; Market Pricing Is Now Slightly More Dovish Than Our Views, Though Much Less So Than Earlier This Year**



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

### Risks to Our 2024 Outlook

Two key risks remain top of mind. The first is geopolitical conflict and the risk of a spike in oil prices. While possible, we think this would more likely be a setback in the inflation fight than a gamechanger. We doubt that a spike in oil prices alone would take us back to the inflation environment of late 2021 and 2022, when price spikes were widespread across many commodities and other goods in short supply. After all, the US economy saw many large fluctuations in energy prices in the twenty years before the pandemic that had much more limited effects on core inflation and inflation expectations.

The second risk is that something could “break” in the abrupt transition to a higher interest rate regime. We think most of the impact of higher interest rates is already behind us, and the impact yet to come—in particular from the looming corporate debt maturity wall—will be modest. Our analysis suggests that the costs of an unwinding of other potential risks—valuations in financial markets, unprofitable firms in the corporate sector, and large deficits in the public sector—would be meaningful but manageable. A major reason is that if any of these risks materialized as a major growth headwind next year, the FOMC would likely feel at liberty to cut in response in a way it would not have last year, and it will have plenty of room to do so. In fact, if higher rates cause problems and the Fed cuts in response, investors might well revise their expectations of future interest rates part way back down, which would provide further relief.

**David Mericle**

# The US Economic and Financial Outlook

(% change on previous period, annualized, except where noted)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2023				2024			
		(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>OUTPUT AND SPENDING</b>														
Real GDP	<b>1.9</b>	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.0	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.9
Real GDP (annual=Q4/Q4, quarterly=yoy)	<b>0.7</b>	2.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.9</b>	2.7	2.6	2.4	1.7	1.8
Consumer Expenditures	<b>2.5</b>	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.0	<b>3.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Residential Fixed Investment	<b>-9.0</b>	-11.5	-1.5	2.6	3.2	2.4	<b>-5.3</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>3.9</b>	-7.0	-4.0	1.0	2.0	2.0
Business Fixed Investment	<b>5.2</b>	4.2	2.2	2.7	3.7	3.6	<b>5.7</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	2.9	2.8	2.1	0.9	1.2
Structures	<b>-2.1</b>	11.4	1.7	0.1	3.2	3.0	<b>30.3</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	3.3	4.0	0.8	-6.0	-6.0
Equipment	<b>5.2</b>	0.1	1.9	3.0	3.5	3.2	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	2.9	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.8
Intellectual Property Products	<b>9.1</b>	4.5	2.9	3.9	4.3	4.5	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.5	4.0
Federal Government	<b>-2.8</b>	4.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>5.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>	2.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	<b>0.2</b>	3.6	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.0	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>3.7</b>	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.9
Net Exports (\$bn, '17)	<b>-1,051</b>	-932	-899	-895	-900	-887	<b>-935</b>	<b>-928</b>	<b>-938</b>	-926	-907	-902	-894	-892
Inventory Investment (\$bn, '17)	<b>128</b>	47	55	60	60	60	<b>27</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>81</b>	64	60	50	50	60
Industrial Production, Mfg.	<b>2.7</b>	-0.4	1.8	3.1	3.4	3.4	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.7	3.1
<b>HOUSING MARKET</b>														
Housing Starts (units, thous)	<b>1,551</b>	1,388	1,335	1,430	1,515	1,535	<b>1,385</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,359</b>	1,358	1,335	1,325	1,325	1,355
New Home Sales (units, thous)	<b>637</b>	686	723	771	781	858	<b>638</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>724</b>	690	708	708	728	747
Existing Home Sales (units, thous)	<b>5,081</b>	4,093	3,838	4,244	4,372	5,005	<b>4,327</b>	<b>4,250</b>	<b>4,023</b>	3,773	3,740	3,796	3,863	3,952
Case-Shiller Home Prices (%yoy)*	<b>7.5</b>	3.5	0.6	3.8	4.9	4.9	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	2.2	3.5	3.1	1.6	0.2	0.6
<b>INFLATION (% ch, yr/yr)</b>														
Consumer Price Index (CPI)**	<b>6.4</b>	3.3	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.3	<b>5.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.5
Core CPI **	<b>5.7</b>	4.0	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.4	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	4.1	3.7	3.1	3.1	2.8
Core PCE** †	<b>4.9</b>	3.3	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>	3.4	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.4
<b>LABOR MARKET</b>														
Unemployment Rate (%)^	<b>3.5</b>	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
U6 Underemployment Rate (%)^	<b>6.5</b>	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.7	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8
Payrolls (thous, monthly rate)	<b>399</b>	222	115	80	75	75	<b>312</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>233</b>	142	130	130	100	100
Employment-Population Ratio (%)^	<b>60</b>	60.3	60.2	60.1	59.9	59.7	<b>60.4</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>60.4</b>	60.3	60.3	60.3	60.3	60.2
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)^	<b>62</b>	62.6	62.5	62.3	62.1	61.9	<b>62.6</b>	<b>62.6</b>	<b>62.8</b>	62.6	62.6	62.6	62.6	62.5
Average Hourly Earnings (%yoy)	<b>5.3</b>	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.8
<b>GOVERNMENT FINANCE</b>														
Federal Budget (FY, \$bn)	<b>-1,375</b>	<b>-1,700</b>	-1,700	-1,900	-1,900	-2,050	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>FINANCIAL INDICATORS</b>														
FF Target Range (Bottom-Top, %)^	<b>4.25-4.5</b>	5.25-5.5	5-5.25	4-4.25	3.5-3.75	3.5-3.75	<b>4.75-5</b>	<b>5-5.25</b>	<b>5.25-5.5</b>	5.25-5.5	5.25-5.5	5.25-5.5	5.25-5.5	5-5.25
10-Year Treasury Note^	<b>3.88</b>	4.30	4.30	4.25	4.25	4.25	<b>3.48</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>4.59</b>	4.30	4.60	4.60	4.50	4.30
Euro (€/\$)^	<b>1.07</b>	1.06	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	<b>1.09</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>1.06</b>	1.06	1.08	1.10	1.11	1.15
Yen (\$/¥)^	<b>132</b>	150	135	135	135	135	<b>133</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>149</b>	150	152	154	152	135

\* Weighted average of metro-level HPIs for 381 metro cities where the weights are dollar values of housing stock reported in the American Community Survey. Annual numbers are Q4/Q4.

\*\* Annual inflation numbers are December year-on-year values. Quarterly values are Q4/Q4.

† PCE = Personal consumption expenditures. ^ Denotes end of period.

Note: Published figures in bold.

Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research



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