Economic Outlook:

2024 Outlook: Don't Count Your Chickens Before They Hatch

Inflation Remains Elevated with Disappointing Pace of Improvement, Complicating the Federal Reserve's Policy Pathway Relative to Market Expectations

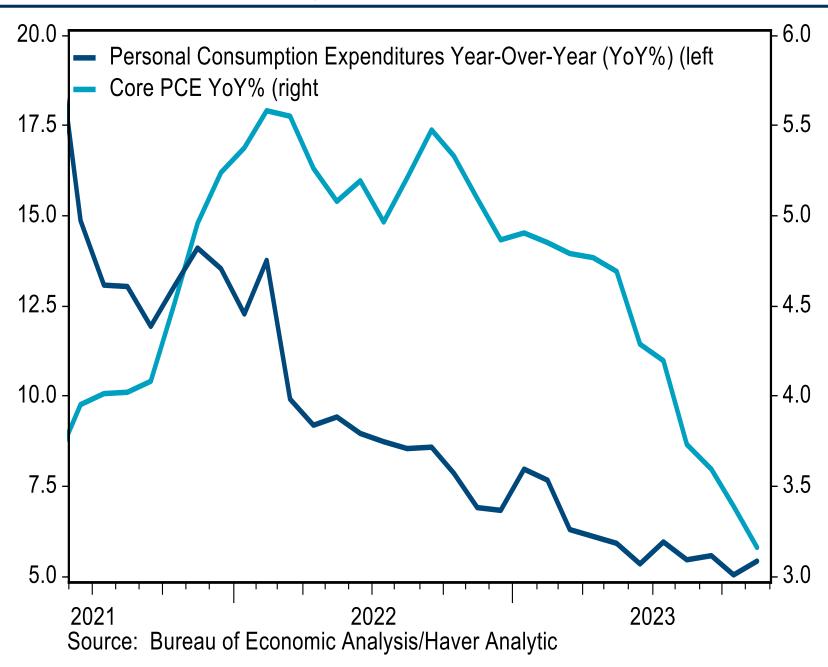
January 2024

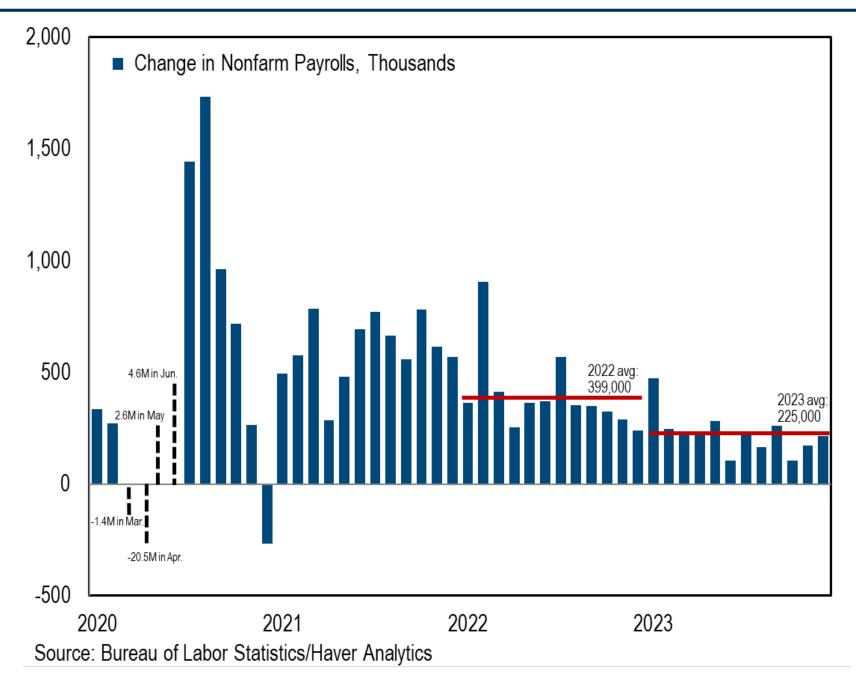


Lindsey M. Piegza, Ph.D.Chief Economist

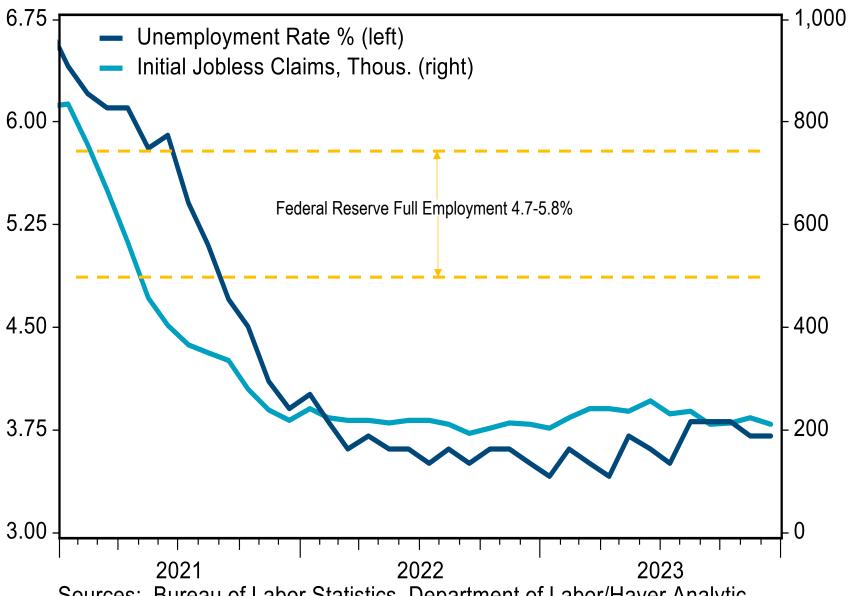
The Drivers of the 2024 Outlook

- The Consumer
- Inflation
- Policy Decisions

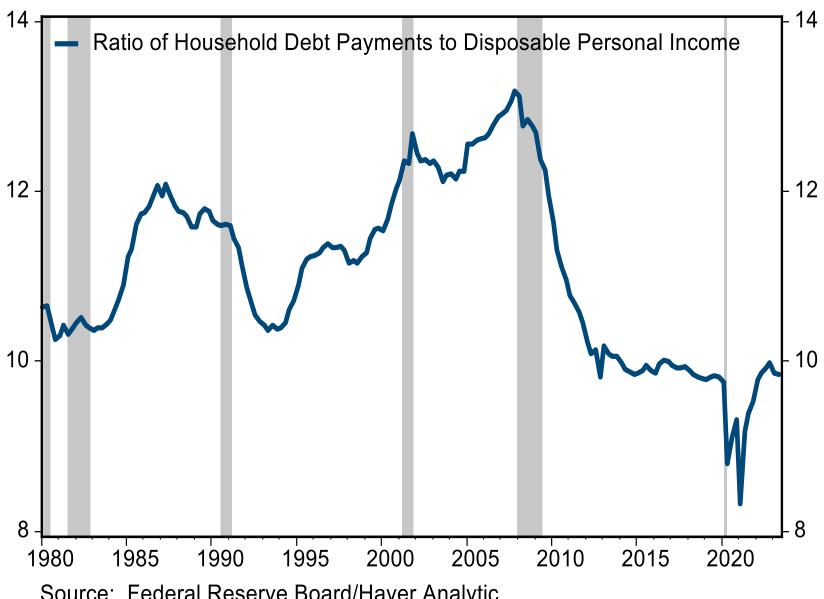


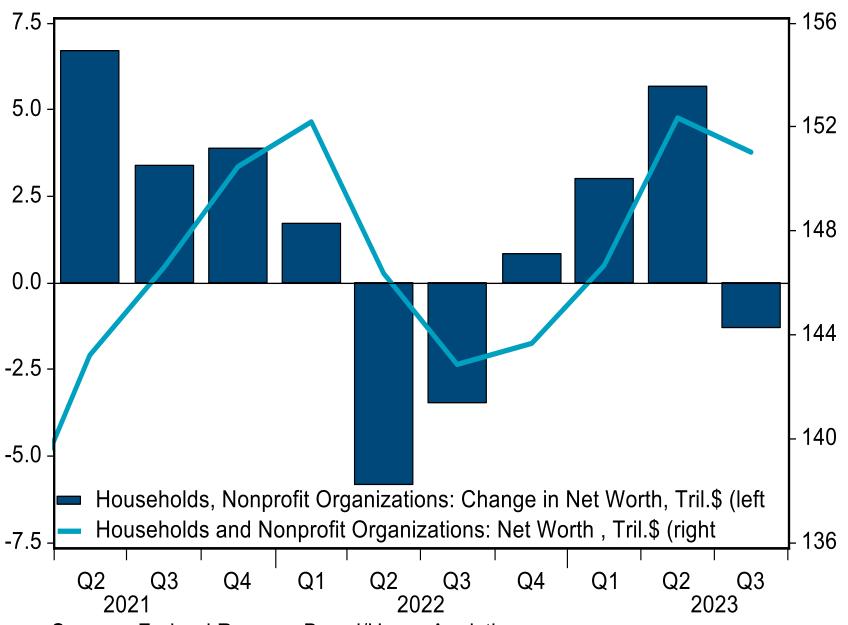


3.7% U.S. Unemployment Rate, Well Below Full-Employment Range

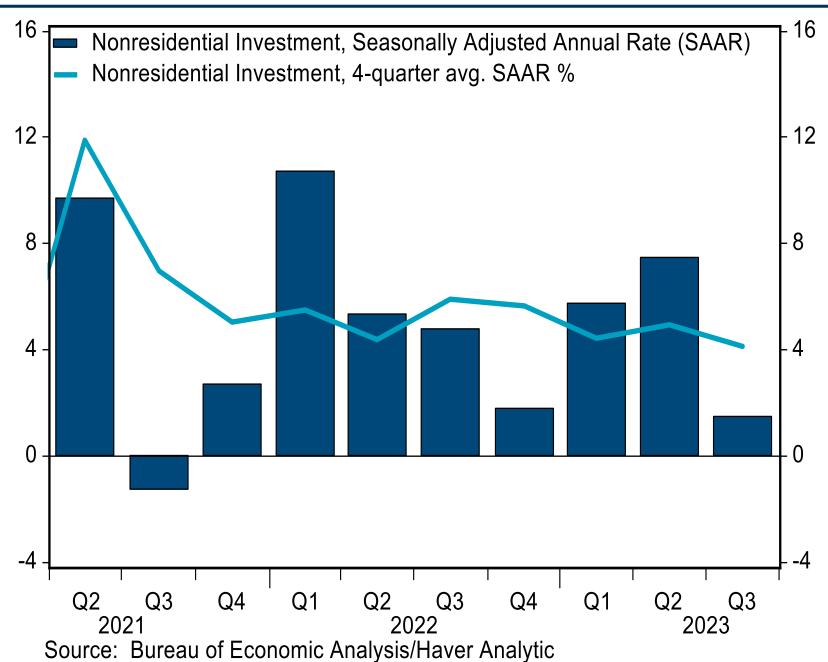


Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor/Haver Analytic

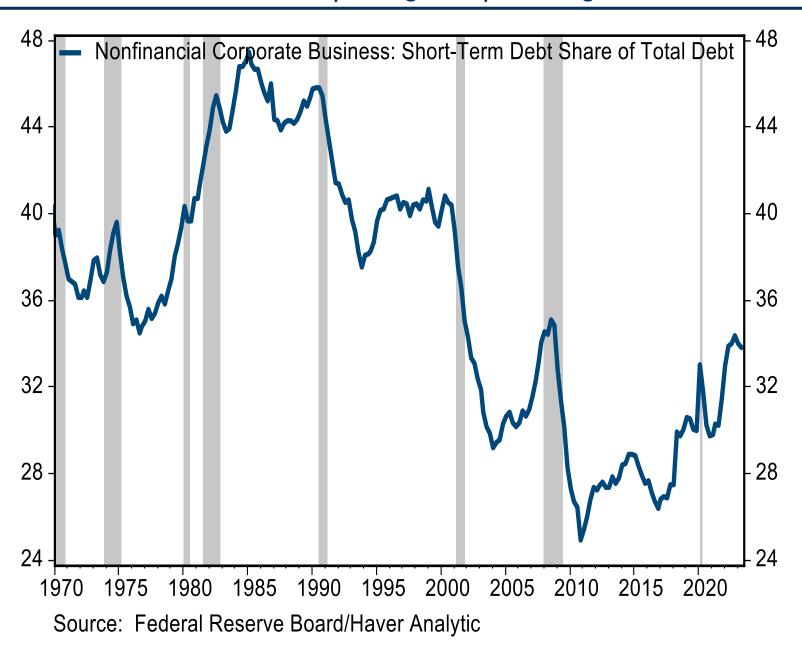




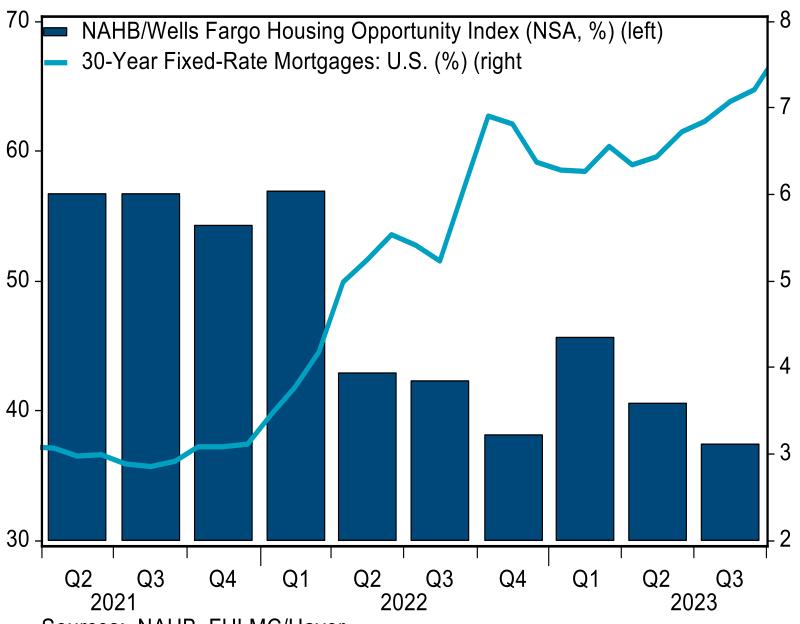
Source: Federal Reserve Board/Haver Analytic



Relative Decline in Short-Term Debt Helps Mitigate Impact of Higher Rates

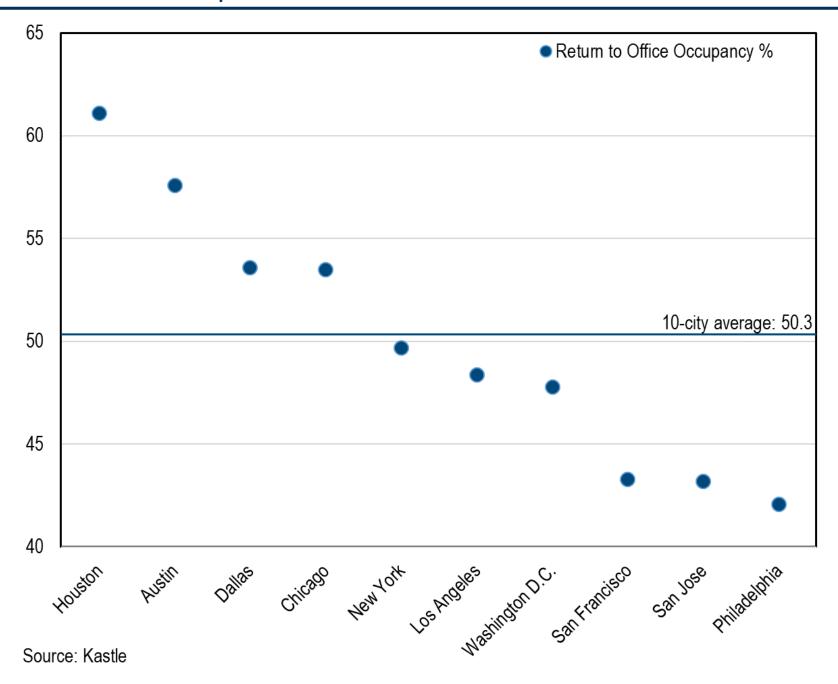


Household Affordability Near Record Low as Mortgage Rates Remain Elevated

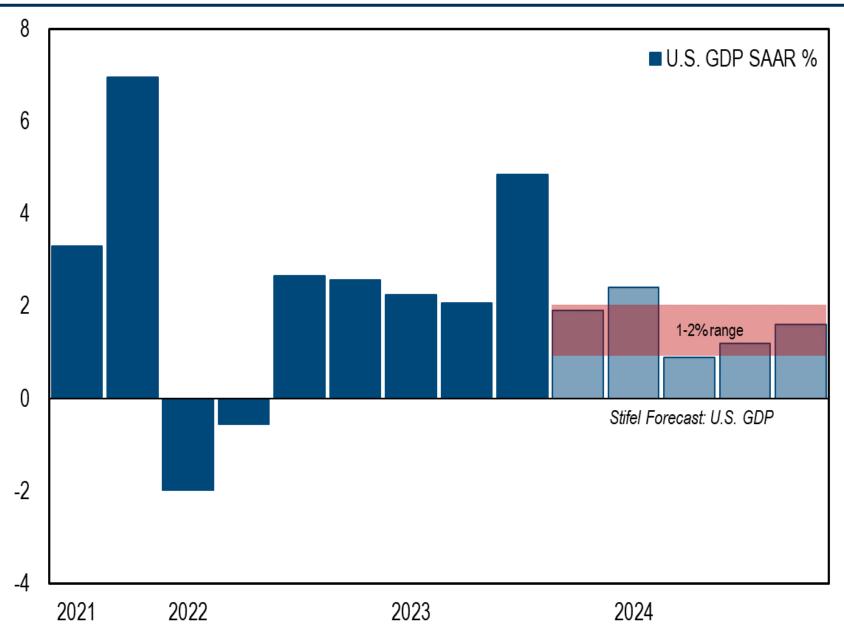


Sources: NAHB, FHLMC/Haver

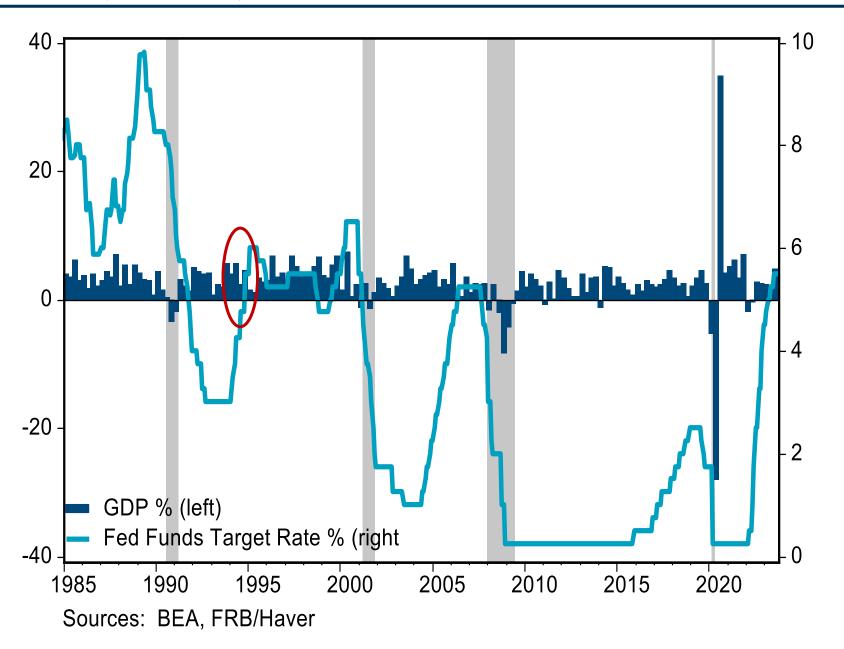
Return to Office Rates Complicate Commercial Real Estate Market Outlook

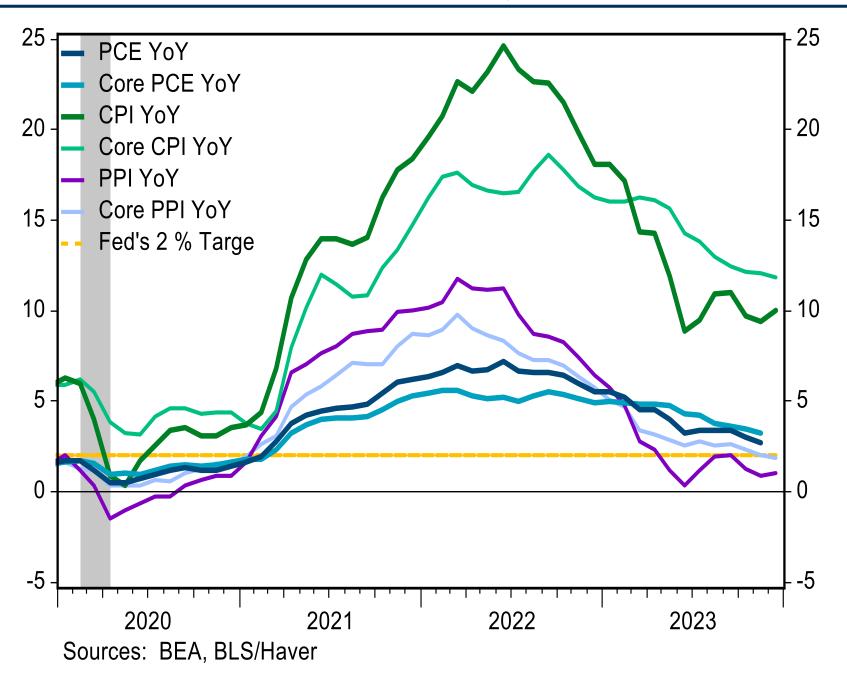


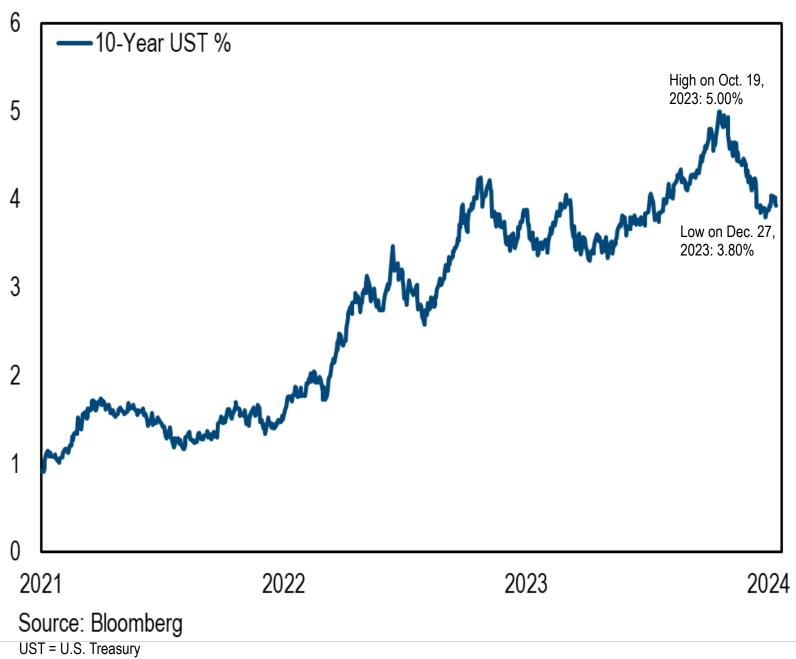
Higher Rates Likely to Weigh on Nominal Growth (While Avoiding Recession?)



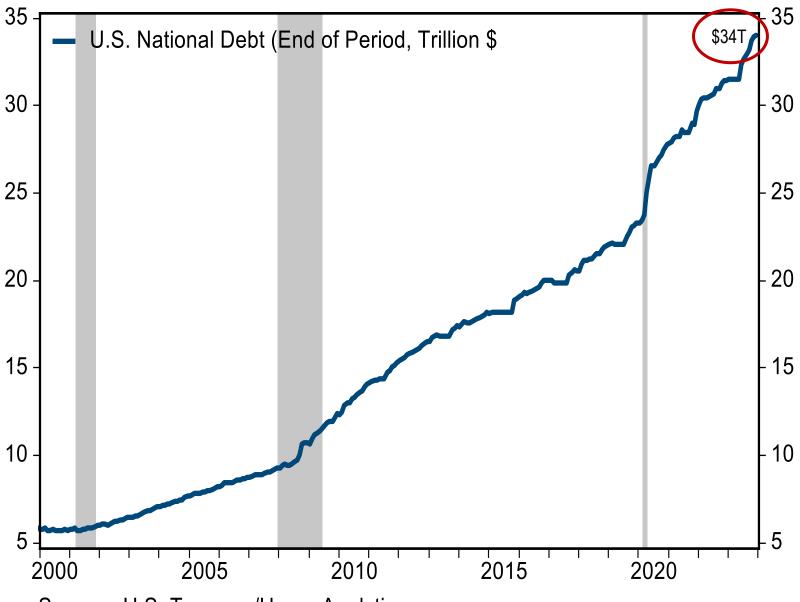
Source: Census Bureau/Bloomberg/Stifel





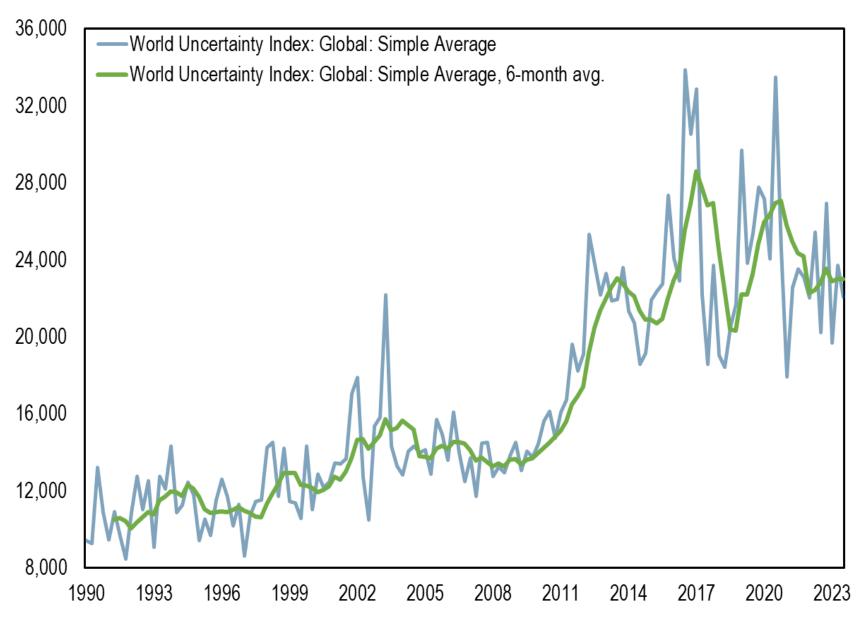


U.S. Debt Continues to Increase Risking Pressure On Inflation, Longer-Term Rates



Source: U.S. Treasury/Haver Analytic

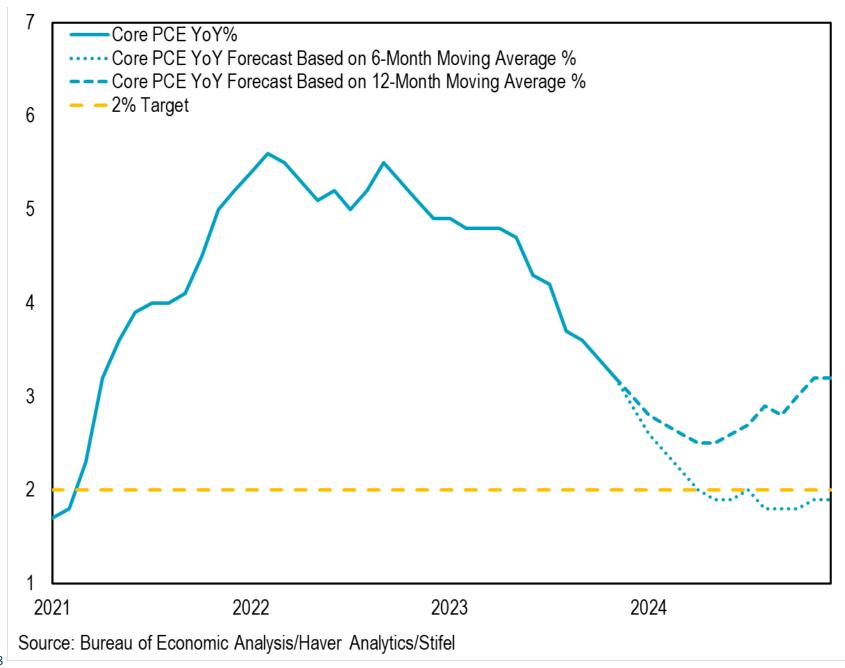
International Wild Cards Complicate Outlook



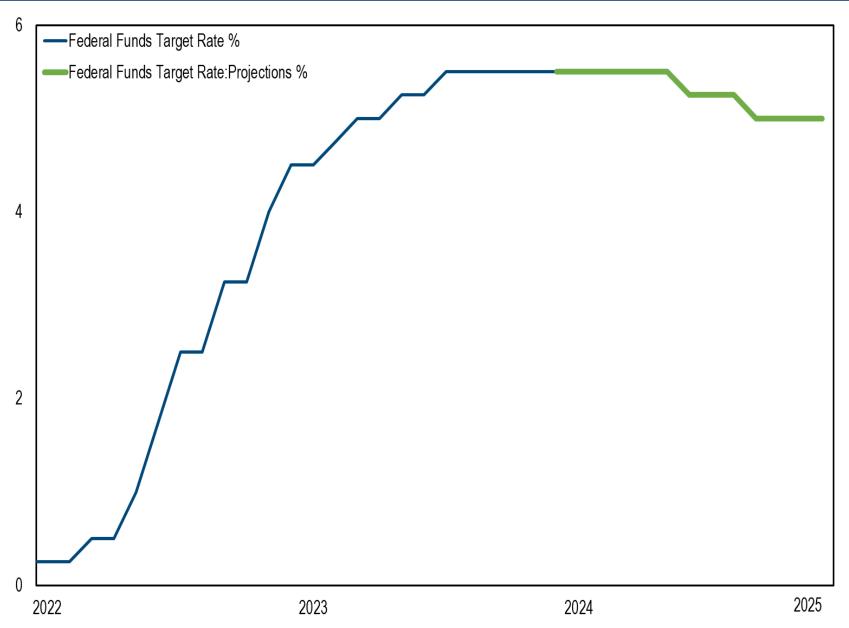
Source: FRED

- Bloated and growing government balance sheet
- A reduction in longer-dated yields
- Rising equity market valuations
- A more confident and "spendy" consumer
- High investor confidence for a first-quarter rate cut
- International and geopolitics risks

Inflation to Remain Uneven, Uncertain, Elevated

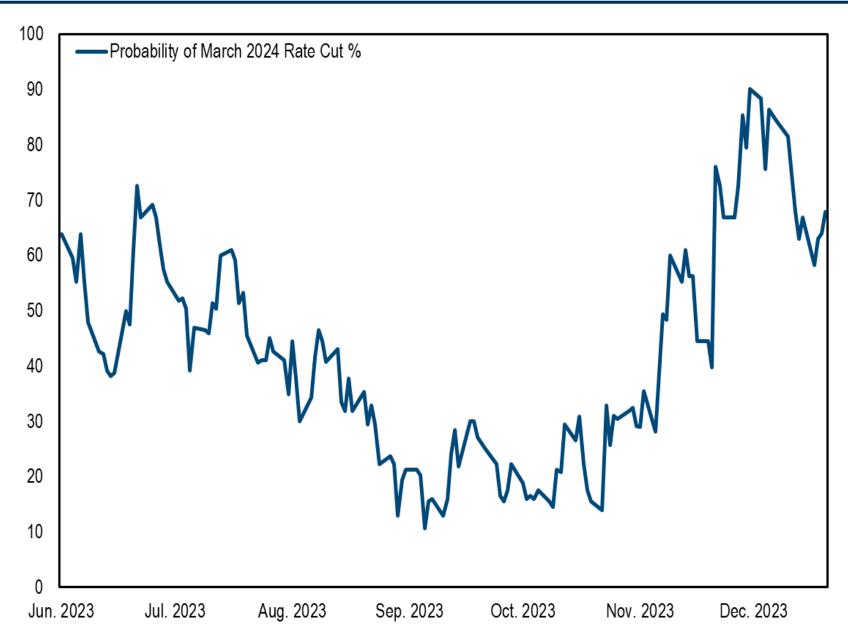


Fed Likely to Cut Rates - Eventually, Likely Delayed Until the Second Half of 2024



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis/Federal Reserve Board/Stifel

Market Expectations for March Rate Cut Remain Robust Despite Still Too-High Inflation



Source: Bloomberg



Thank you

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