



# ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVES

BUDGET OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

FISCAL YEAR 2023

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

## THE BUDGET DOCUMENTS

**Budget of the United States Government**, Fiscal Year 2023 contains the Budget Message of the President, information on the President's priorities, and summary tables.

Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2023 contains analyses that are designed to highlight specified subject areas or provide other significant presentations of budget data that place the budget in perspective. This volume includes economic and accounting analyses, information on Federal receipts and collections, analyses of Federal spending, information on Federal borrowing and debt, baseline or current services estimates, and other technical presentations.

Supplemental tables and other materials that are part of the *Analytical Perspectives* volume are available at <a href="https://whitehouse.gov/omb/analytical-perspectives/">https://whitehouse.gov/omb/analytical-perspectives/</a>.

Appendix, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2023 contains detailed information on the various appropriations and funds that constitute the budget and is designed primarily for the use of the Appropriations Committees. The Appendix contains more detailed financial information on individual programs and appropriation accounts than any of the other budget documents. It

includes for each agency: the proposed text of appropriations language; budget schedules for each account; legislative proposals; narrative explanations of each budget account; and proposed general provisions applicable to the appropriations of entire agencies or group of agencies. Information is also provided on certain activities whose transactions are not part of the budget totals.

#### **BUDGET INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The President's Budget and supporting materials are available online at <a href="https://whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/">https://whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/</a>. This link includes electronic versions of all the budget volumes, supplemental materials that are part of the Analytical Perspectives volume, spreadsheets of many of the budget tables, and a public use budget database. This link also includes Historical Tables that provide data on budget receipts, outlays, surpluses or deficits, Federal debt, and Federal employment over an extended time period, generally from 1940 or earlier to 2027. Also available are links to documents and materials from budgets of prior years.

For more information on access to electronic versions of the budget documents, call (202) 512-1530 in the D.C. area or toll-free (888) 293-6498. To purchase the printed documents call (202) 512-1800.

#### **GENERAL NOTES**

- 1. All years referenced for budget data are fiscal years unless otherwise noted. All years referenced for economic data are calendar years unless otherwise noted.
- 2. At the time the Budget was prepared, none of the full-year appropriations bills for 2022 have been enacted, therefore, the programs and activities normally provided for in the full-year appropriations bills were operating under a continuing resolution (Public Law 117-43, division A, as amended by Public Law 117-70, division A; Public Law 117-86, division A; and Public Law 117-95). References to 2022 spending in the text and tables reflect the levels provided by the continuing resolution and, if applicable, the following Public Laws which provided additional appropriations to certain accounts in 2022—
  - The Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-43, division B);
  - The Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-43, division C);
  - The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Appropriations Act (Public Law 117-58, division J); and
  - The Additional Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-70, division B).
- 3. The estimates in the 2023 Budget do not reflect the effects of the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (included in Public Law 117-103) due to the late date of enactment.
- 4. Detail in this document may not add to the totals due to rounding.

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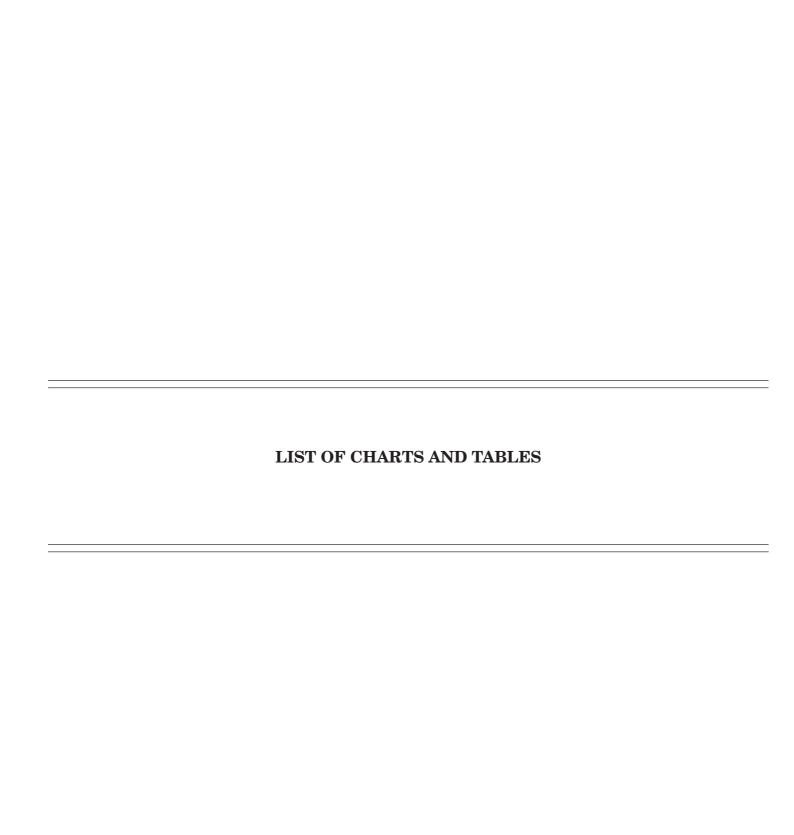
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 $<sup>^*</sup> A vailable \ on \ the \ internet \ at \ \textit{http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/analytical-perspectives/}$ 



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 $<sup>*</sup> A vailable on the internet at {\it http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/analytical-perspectives/a}$ 

INTRODUCTION

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Analytical Perspectives volume presents analyses that highlight specific subject areas or provide other significant data that place the President's 2023 Budget in context and assist the public, policymakers, the media, and researchers in better understanding the Budget. This volume complements the main Budget volume, which presents the President's Budget policies and priorities, and the Budget Appendix volume, which provides appropriations language, schedules for budget expenditure accounts, and schedules for selected receipt accounts.

Presidential Budgets have included separate analytical presentations of this kind for many years. The 1947 Budget and subsequent budgets included a separate section entitled Special Analyses and Tables that covered four, and later more, topics. For the 1952 Budget, the section was expanded to 10 analyses, including many subjects still covered today, such as receipts, investment, credit programs, and aid to State and local governments. With the 1967 Budget this material became a separate volume entitled Special Analyses, and included 13 chapters. The material has remained a separate volume since then, with the exception of the Budgets for 1991–1994, when all of the budget material was included in one volume. Beginning with the 1995 Budget, the volume has been named Analytical Perspectives. Since the 2022 Budget was released following a presidential transition, OMB published an abbreviated Analytical Perspectives volume. The 2023 Budget includes a more comprehensive Analytical Perspectives volume.

In addition to the information included in this volume, supplemental tables and other materials that are part of the *Analytical Perspectives* volume are available at <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/analytical-perspectives">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/analytical-perspectives</a>. Tables included at this link are shown in the List of Tables in the front of this volume with an asterisk instead of a page number.

## Overview of the Chapters

#### Economic and Budget Analyses

Economic Assumptions and Overview. This chapter reviews recent economic developments; presents the Administration's assessment of the economic situation and outlook; compares the economic assumptions on which the 2023 Budget is based with the assumptions for last year's Budget and those of other forecasters; provides sensitivity estimates for the effects on the Budget of changes in specified economic assumptions; and reviews past errors in economic projections.

Long-Term Budget Outlook. This chapter assesses the long-term budget outlook under current policies and under the Budget's proposals. It focuses on 25-year

projections of Federal deficits and debt to illustrate the long-term impact of the Administration's proposed policies. It also discusses the uncertainties of the long-term budget projections and discusses the actuarial status of the Social Security and Medicare programs.

Federal Borrowing and Debt. This chapter analyzes Federal borrowing and debt and explains the budget estimates. It includes sections on special topics such as trends in debt, debt held by the public net of financial assets and liabilities, investment by Government accounts, and the statutory debt limit.

#### Management

Delivering a High-Performance Government. This chapter describes the Administration's Performance Framework approach to performance management and its application by the Biden-Harris Administration to improve outcomes that make a difference in the lives of the American people. It discusses the Federal Government's use of strategic planning and priority goal-setting to define success, regular data-driven performance reviews to remain on-track, and communicating transparently about results to build trust with the American public.

Building and Using Evidence to Improve Government Effectiveness. This chapter discusses the Administration's commitment to evidence-based policymaking through its efforts to build and promote a culture of evidence and evaluation in the Federal Government, including implementing Title I of the Evidence Act and new initiatives to accelerate progress. It highlights examples of new evidence-building investments at agencies, including evaluations capacity and priority cross-cutting evaluations that span agencies and functions. It also includes examples of programmatic agency investments that are supported by evidence of effectiveness.

Strengthening the Federal Workforce. This chapter presents summary data on Federal employment and compensation, and discusses the approach the Administration is taking with Federal human capital management.

#### **Budget Concepts and Budget Process**

*Budget Concepts.* This chapter includes a basic description of the budget process, concepts, laws, and terminology, and includes a glossary of budget terms.

Coverage of the Budget. This chapter describes activities that are included in budget receipts and outlays (and are therefore classified as "budgetary") as well as those activities that are not included in the Budget (and are therefore classified as "non-budgetary"). The chapter also defines the terms "on-budget" and "off-budget" and includes illustrative examples.

Budget Process. This chapter describes the Administration's approach and proposals related to

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budget enforcement, such as sequestration and Pay-As-You-Go procedures, and budget presentation, such as adjustments to the baseline to improve comparisons of the cost of policy. Suggested reforms in budgeting for large Federal capital projects and pandemic preparedness are discussed.

#### Federal Receipts

Governmental Receipts. This chapter presents information on estimates of governmental receipts, which consist of taxes and other compulsory collections. It includes descriptions of tax-related legislation enacted in the last year and describes proposals affecting receipts in the 2023 Budget.

Offsetting Collections and Offsetting Receipts. This chapter presents information on collections that offset outlays, including collections from transactions with the public and intragovernmental transactions. In addition, this chapter presents information on "user fees," charges associated with market-oriented activities and regulatory fees. Detailed tables of offsetting receipts and offsetting collections in the Budget are available at the internet address cited above.

*Tax Expenditures.* This chapter describes and presents estimates of tax expenditures, which are defined as revenue losses from special exemptions, credits, or other preferences in the tax code.

### Special Topics

Aid to State and Local Governments. This chapter presents crosscutting information on Federal grants to State and local governments. The chapter also includes a table showing historical grant spending, and a table with budget authority and outlays for grants in the Budget. Tables showing State-by-State spending for major grant programs are available at the internet address cited above.

Leveraging Federal Statistics to Strengthen Evidence-Based Decision-Making. This chapter discusses the vital role of the trusted Federal statistical system in generating data that the public, businesses, and governments need to make informed decisions. The chapter describes how a strong statistical infrastructure and operation as a seamless Federal statistical system will improve its ability to meet growing demands, while addressing new and emerging challenges. The chapter presents examples of innovative developments and applications throughout the Federal statistical community and highlights 2023 Budget proposals for the Government's principal statistical agencies and units.

Information Technology and Cybersecurity Funding. This chapter addresses Federal information technology (IT) and cybersecurity, highlighting initiatives and proposed funding levels to deliver critical citizen services, keep sensitive data and systems secure, and further the vision of modern Government. The Administration will invest in modern, secure technologies and services to drive enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. This will include undertaking complex Government-wide modernization efforts, driving improved delivery of citizen-facing services, and improving the overall management of the

Federal IT portfolio. The Administration will also continue its efforts to further build the Federal IT workforce and seek to reduce the Federal Government's cybersecurity risk in order to better serve and protect the American public.

Federal Investment. This chapter discusses federally financed spending that yields long-term benefits. It presents information on annual spending on physical capital, research and development, and education and training.

Research and Development. This chapter presents a crosscutting review of research and development funding in the Budget.

Credit and Insurance. This chapter provides crosscutting analyses of the roles, risks, and performance of Federal credit and insurance programs and Government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs). The chapter covers the major categories of Federal credit (housing, education, small business and farming, energy and infrastructure, and international) and insurance programs (deposit insurance, pension guarantees, disaster insurance, and insurance against terrorism-related risks). Five additional tables address transactions including direct loans, guaranteed loans, and GSEs. These tables are available at the internet address cited above.

Federal Drug Control Funding. This chapter displays enacted and proposed drug control funding for Federal Departments and Agencies.

Federal Budget Exposure to Climate Risk. This chapter discusses the financial risks that the Federal government faces from broad exposure to threats caused by global climate change. It summarizes recent OMB analyses of individual programmatic climate impacts that are informed by distinct climate scenarios, as well as potential impacts on revenues.

#### Technical Budget Analyses

Current Services Estimates. This chapter discusses the conceptual basis of the Budget's current services, or "baseline," estimates, which are generally consistent with the baseline rules in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (BBEDCA). The chapter presents estimates of receipts, outlays, and the deficit under this baseline. Two detailed tables addressing factors that affect the baseline and providing details of baseline budget authority and outlays are available at the internet address cited above.

Trust Funds and Federal Funds. This chapter provides summary information about the two fund groups in the Budget—Federal funds and trust funds. In addition, for the major trust funds and certain Federal fund programs, the chapter provides detailed information about income, outgo, and balances.

Comparison of Actual to Estimated Totals. This chapter compares the actual receipts, outlays, and deficit for 2021 with the estimates for that year published in the 2021 Budget.

The following materials are available at the internet address cited above.

#### **Detailed Functional Table**

Detailed Functional Table. Table 25–1, "Budget Authority and Outlays by Function, Category, and Program," displays budget authority and outlays for major Federal program categories, organized by budget function (such as healthcare, transportation, or national defense), category, and program.

#### Federal Budget by Agency and Account

Federal Budget by Agency and Account. Table 26–1, "Federal Budget by Agency and Account," displays budget authority and outlays for each account, organized by agency, bureau, fund type, and account.

## Calfed Bay-Delta Program Federal Budget Crosscut

Calfed Bay-Delta Program Crosscut. The Calfed Bay-Delta Program interagency budget crosscut report provides an estimate of Federal funding by each of the participating Federal Agencies with authority and pro-

grammatic responsibility for implementing this program, fulfilling the reporting requirements of section 106(c) of Public Law 108–361.

# Columbia River Basin Federal Budget Crosscut

Columbia River Basin Federal Budget Crosscut. The Columbia River interagency budget crosscut report includes an estimate of Federal funding by each of the participating Federal agencies to carry out restoration activities within the Columbia River Basin, fulfilling the reporting requirements of section 123 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1275).

#### Lead Pipe Federal Budget Crosscut

Lead Pipe Federal Budget Crosscut. The lead pipe interagency budget crosscut report provides an estimate of Federal funding by agency that can be used for investments in lead pipe replacement and related activities, fulfilling the commitment made in the Biden-Harris Lead Pipe and Paint Action Plan.

ECONOMIC AND BUDGET ANALYSES

#### 2. ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS

This chapter presents the economic assumptions that underlie the Administration's 2023 Budget.¹ It provides an overview of the recent performance of the American economy, presents the Administration's projections for key macroeconomic variables, compares them with forecasts prepared by other prominent institutions, and discusses the unavoidable uncertainty inherent in providing an eleven-year forecast.

This chapter proceeds as follows:

The first section provides an overview of the recent functioning of the U.S. economy, examining the performance of a broad array of key economic indicators.

The second section presents a detailed exposition of the Administration's economic assumptions underlying the 2023 Budget, discussing how key macroeconomic variables are expected to evolve over the years 2022 to 2032.

The third section compares the forecast of the Administration with those of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the Federal Open Market Committee of the Federal Reserve, and the Blue Chip panel of professional forecasters.

The fourth section discusses the sensitivity of the Administration's projections of Federal receipts and outlays to alternative paths of macroeconomic variables.

The fifth section considers the errors in past Administrations' forecasts, comparing them with the errors in forecasts produced by the CBO and the Blue Chip panel of professional forecasters.

The sixth section uses information on past accuracy of Administration forecasts to provide understanding and insight into the uncertainty associated with the Administration's current forecast of the budget balance.

#### **Recent Economic Performance**

The President took office in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even as COVID-19 variants posed health and economic challenges throughout 2021, the President's policies helped power a historic economic and jobs recovery. Thanks in part to the American Rescue Plan and the Administration's vaccination program, more than 70 percent of Americans are fully vaccinated, our economy is growing, and Americans are continuing to get back to work.

Economic growth in 2021 far exceeded expectations. When the President took office, the Blue Chip panel of professional forecasters projected that real GDP growth in 2021 (fourth-quarter-over-fourth-quarter) would be 3.9 percent. Instead, 2021 growth was 5.6 percent. More than 6.5 million jobs were created in 2021, a record for any first

year President. The unemployment rate dropped from 6.4 percent in January 2021 to 3.8 percent as of February 2022—lower than the Congressional Budget Office, in its pre-American Rescue Plan baseline, projected we would reach any time this decade and years earlier than they projected the economy would begin to approach that rate. The pandemic and a surge in consumer spending that was concentrated in certain goods sectors—in combination with supply chains and labor supply that were also impacted by the pandemic and unable to keep up—led to elevated prices. However, as discussed below, inflation is expected to gradually moderate over the course of 2022 and beyond as supply chain issues continue to improve and the composition of demand adjusts, although the further Russian invasion of Ukraine has put additional upward pressure on prices in the near term.

Labor Markets—The labor market improved dramatically in 2021. After entering the year at 6.7 percent, the unemployment rate declined throughout 2021 and ended the year at 3.9 percent, falling to 3.8 percent as of February 2022. Likewise, both the median duration of unemployment and the long-term unemployment rate (U1), which measures the percent of the labor force unemployed for 15 weeks or longer, declined dramatically over the course of the year. Other metrics of labor market health, such as the number of workers who identify as marginally attached to the labor force, the number of discouraged workers, and the number of workers working part-time for economic reasons, all exhibited marked improvement during 2021. By December, the number of Americans filing for unemployment reached its lowest level since 1969 – before moving higher during the height of Omicron and then falling again when cases, hospitalizations, and deaths fell.

Despite the large gains in employment, as of February 2022 there remain 2.1 million fewer people employed relative to before the pandemic. The labor force participation rate remains depressed compared to pre-pandemic levels, likely due to a combination of factors. However, the labor force participation rate rose by 0.4 percentage points in 2021, and the prime-age labor force participation rate rose by 0.9 percentage points. Looking ahead, the pace at which Americans rejoin the labor force is currently, and will remain, an important factor in the economic recovery.

Consumption—Consumption by private households is the largest component of the country's economy, accounting for over two-thirds of total output. Because of its large share of GDP, consumer spending growth is essential to economic growth in the United States. Real personal consumption expenditures (PCE), which adjusts for inflation, increased throughout 2021.

A prominent feature of the pandemic has been the extent of the economic damage in specific sectors, par-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Economic performance, unless otherwise specified, is discussed in terms of calendar years (January-December). Budget figures are discussed in terms of fiscal years (October-September).

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Table 2-1. ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS<sup>1</sup>

(Calendar Years, Dollar Amounts in Billions)

Cross Domestic Product (GDP)		(Oai	enuai i	Jai 5, DC	mai Aili		בוווטווט	,						
Cores   Domestic Product (GDP)		Actual	Projections											
Levels, Dollar Amounts in Billions: Current Dollars			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
Current Dollars	Gross Domestic Product (GDP)													
Real, Chained (2012) Dollars   18,385   19,402   20,213   20,786   21,254   21,687   22,120   22,563   23,028   23,526   24,059   24,612   25,141   25,142   25,143   21,687   22,142   23,143   24,152   25,143   21,145   25,145   21,145	Levels, Dollar Amounts in Billions:													
Chained Price Index (2012=100), Annual Average Percent Change, Fourth-Quarter-over-Fourth-Quarter:  Current Dollars — -1.0 10.1 6.3 4.6 4.1 4.0 4.0 4.0 4.1 4.3 4.4 4.3 Real, Chained (2012) Dollars — -2.3 5.1 3.8 2.5 2.1 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0	Current Dollars	20,894	22,899	24,631	25,853	26,966	28,064	29,200	30,379	31,626	32,957	34,382	35,877	37,437
Average	Real, Chained (2012) Dollars	18,385	19,402	20,213	20,786	21,254	21,687	22,120	22,563	23,028	23,526	24,059	24,612	25,178
Quarter:         Current Dollars         -1.0         10.1         6.3         4.6         4.1         4.0         4.0         4.1         4.3         4.4         4.3           Real, Chained (2012) Dollars         -2.3         5.1         3.8         2.5         2.1         2.0 <td></td> <td>114</td> <td>118</td> <td>122</td> <td>125</td> <td>127</td> <td>130</td> <td>132</td> <td>135</td> <td>138</td> <td>140</td> <td>143</td> <td>146</td> <td>149</td>		114	118	122	125	127	130	132	135	138	140	143	146	149
Real, Chained (2012) Dollars														
Chained Price Index (2012=100)	Current Dollars	-1.0	10.1	6.3	4.6	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
Percent Change, Year-over-Year:  Current Dollars	Real, Chained (2012) Dollars	-2.3	5.1	3.8	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3
Current Dollars	Chained Price Index (2012=100)	1.5	4.8	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Current Dollars	Percent Change, Year-over-Year:													
Chained Price Index (2012=100)       1.3       3.9       3.3       2.1       2.0       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.3       2.3	Current Dollars	-2.2	9.6	7.6	5.0	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3
Chained Price Index (2012=100)       1.3       3.9       3.3       2.1       2.0       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.2       2.3       2.3	Real, Chained (2012) Dollars	-3.4	5.5	4.2	2.8	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3
Domestic Corporate Profits		1	3.9	3.3	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Domestic Corporate Profits	,													
Employee Compensation	•	1 780	2 105	2 314	2 415	2 383	2 311	2 278	2 247	2 256	2 274	2 200	2 312	2 207
Wages and Salaries       9,444       10,195       10,918       11,493       12,004       12,516       13,055       13,619       14,205       14,848       15,543       16,278       17,0         Nonwage Personal Income       5,274       5,498       5,794       6,124       6,512       6,847       7,184       7,530       7,854       8,202       8,575       8,932       9,2         Consumer Price Index (All Urban) <sup>2</sup> :         Level (1982–1984 = 100), Annual Average       258.8       270.9       283.7       290.3       296.9       303.6       310.5       317.5       324.7       332.0       339.6       347.3       35         Percent Change, Fourth-Quarter - over-Fourth-Quarter       1.2       6.6       2.9       2.3	•	1 '		'										l ′
Nonwage Personal Income       5,274       5,498       5,794       6,124       6,512       6,847       7,184       7,530       7,854       8,202       8,575       8,932       9,2         Consumer Price Index (All Urban) <sup>2</sup> :       Level (1982–1984 = 100), Annual Average       258.8       270.9       283.7       290.3       296.9       303.6       310.5       317.5       324.7       332.0       339.6       347.3       35         Percent Change, Fourth-Quarter-over-Fourth-Quarter       1.2       6.6       2.9       2.3														
Consumer Price Index (All Urban) <sup>2</sup> :         Level (1982–1984 = 100), Annual Average       258.8       270.9       283.7       290.3       296.9       303.6       310.5       317.5       324.7       332.0       339.6       347.3       35         Percent Change, Fourth-Quarter       1.2       6.6       2.9       2.3	· ·													
Level (1982–1984 = 100), Annual Average       258.8       270.9       283.7       290.3       296.9       303.6       310.5       317.5       324.7       332.0       339.6       347.3       35         Percent Change, Fourth-Quarter       1.2       6.6       2.9       2.3	-	3,274	3,430	3,734	0,124	0,512	0,047	7,104	7,550	7,054	0,202	0,373	0,302	9,200
Percent Change, Fourth-Quarter-over-Fourth-Quarter         1.2         6.6         2.9         2.3         2.	,													
Quarter       1.2       6.6       2.9       2.3       <	,,	258.8	270.9	283.7	290.3	296.9	303.6	310.5	317.5	324.7	332.0	339.6	347.3	355.2
Percent Change, Year-over-Year       1.2       4.6       4.7       2.3		1 2	6.6	20	23	23	23	23	23	23	2.3	23	23	2.3
Unemployment Rate, Civilian, Percent		1											ł	
		1.2	4.0	٦.,	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
	Annual Average	1	5.4								ł		ł	
Fourth Quarter Level	Fourth Quarter Level	6.7	4.5	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Interest Rates, Percent	Interest Rates, Percent													
91-Day Treasury Bills	91-Day Treasury Bills	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.9	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
10-Year Treasury Notes	10-Year Treasury Notes	0.9	1.5	2.1	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on information available as of mid-October 2021

ticularly services. Notably, while total real consumer spending remains roughly at pre-pandemic trend, consumer spending on services in December 2021 was still below its pre-pandemic level and trend, though up significantly relative to December 2020. While overall real PCE approximately recovered during 2021 to its pre-pandemic trend, the pandemic-driven decline in services spending, and corresponding increase in goods spending, is one of several factors behind the elevated levels of inflation experienced during 2021. A rebalancing of spending away from goods and towards services could help alleviate inflationary pressure in the goods economy, particularly for durable goods.

Nonresidential Fixed Investment—After declining at an annual rate of 5.3 percent in 2020 (year-over-year), real nonresidential fixed investment increased 7.4 percent for 2021. Equipment and intellectual property investment increased 13.0 and 10.2 percent, respectively.

Business structures investment declined for the second consecutive year in 2021, although to a lesser extent than in 2020.

The Government Sector—Topline real government expenditures on consumption and investment increased 0.5 percent in 2021 (year-over-year), which includes a 0.9 percent decline in Federal spending offset by a 0.9 percent increase in State and Local spending. Within the Federal spending category, nondefense spending rose 2.8 percent while defense spending decreased 3.7 percent.

## **Economic Projections**

The Administration's forecast was finalized on November 10, 2021, with the parameters of that forecast close to the consensus prevailing at that date. The forecast informs the 2023 Budget and assumes implementation of the Administration's policy proposals. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Seasonally Adjusted