## The Food Institute Webinar

Inflation's Economic Impact: What It Means for the F&B Industry

Tuesday, September 17 · 2 PM ET



#### FEATURED GUESTS

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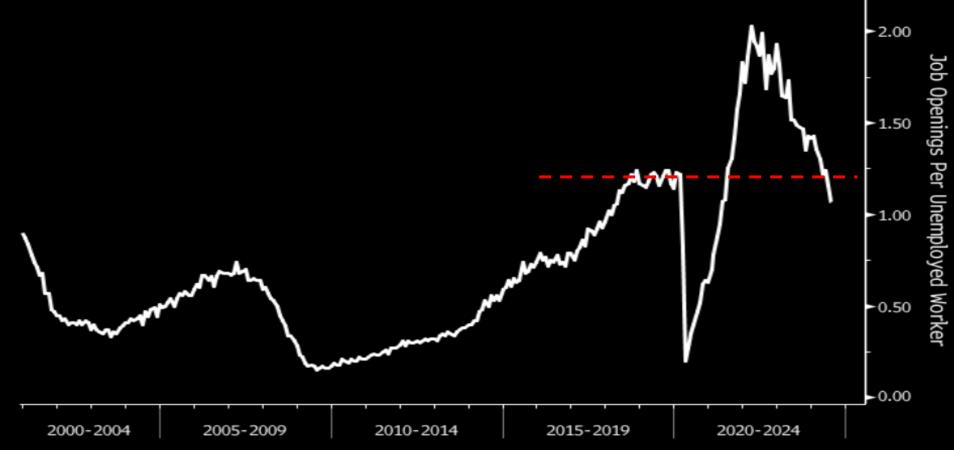


# **US Economic Outlook**

Anna Wong, PhD – Chief US Economist, Bloomberg Economics awong920@bloomberg.net

# Cooling Labor Market Key for the Fed

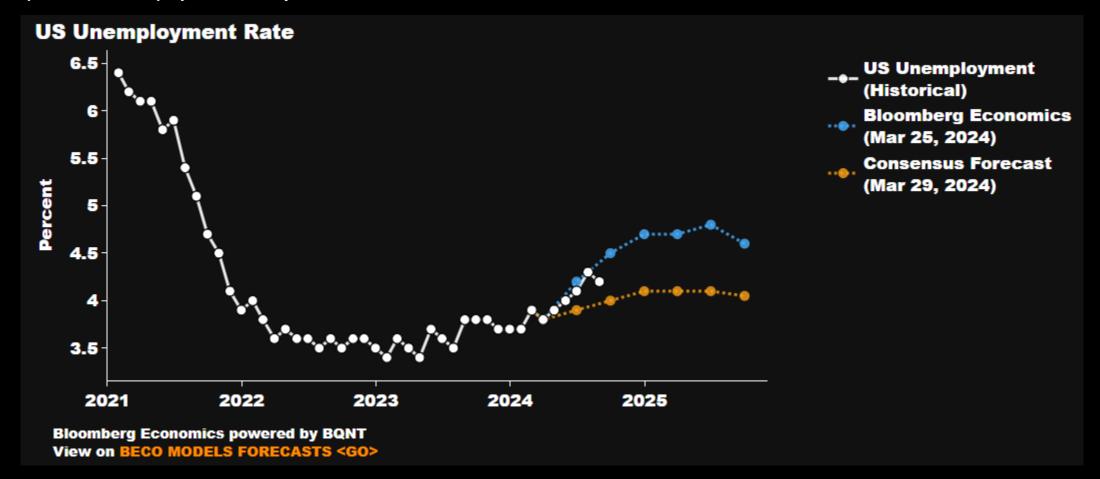
The labor market is looser than it was before the pandemic...



Source: BLS, Bloomberg Economics

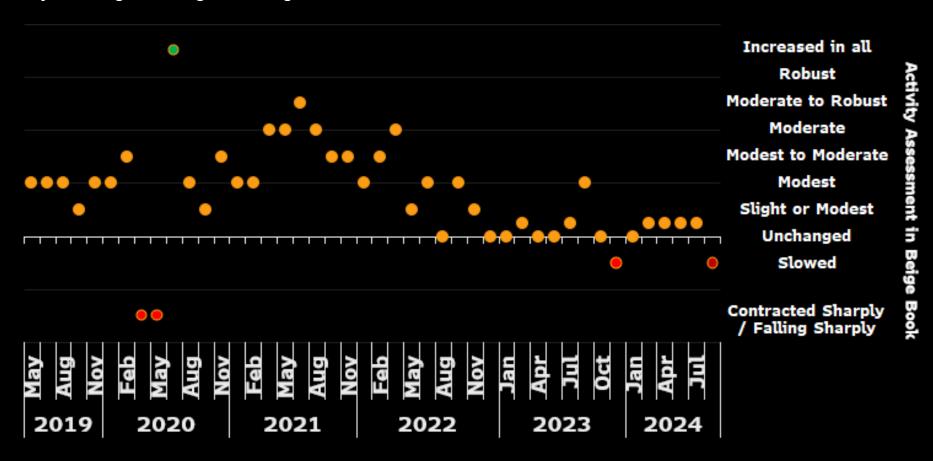
## **More Weakness Ahead**

BE expects 4.5% unemployment rate at year-end...



# "Soft" Data Important in Providing a Real-Time Perspective

Activity already declining according to the Beige Book...



Source: Beige Book, Bloomberg Economics

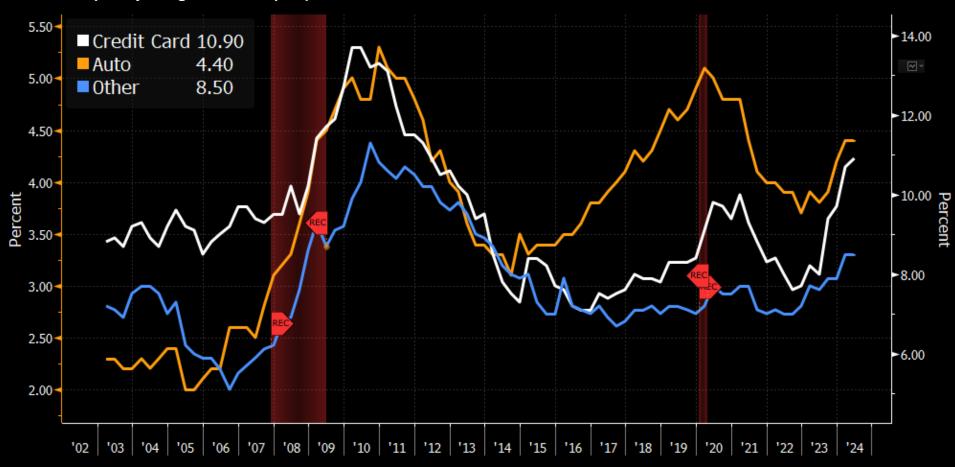
# **Consumers are Running Out of Savings**



Source: BEA, Bloomberg Economics

# **Delinquency Rates Are Rising**

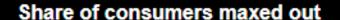
Credit card delinquency are greater than pre-pandemic levels...

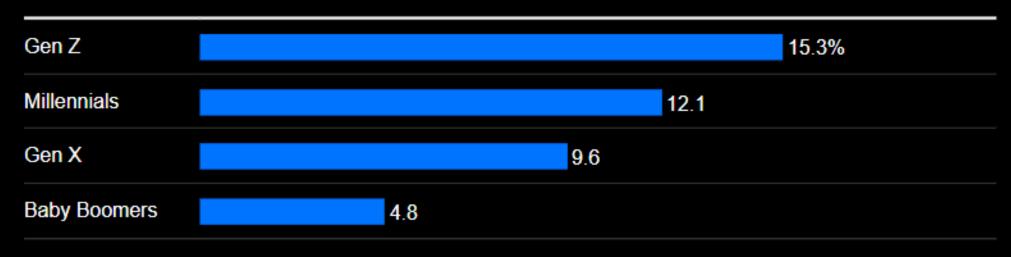


Source: FRB of New York, Bloomberg Economics

# Younger Generations More Apt to See Credit Maxed Out

Younger borrowers and those with lower incomes are more apt to be financially stressed than older borrowers...





Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax

Note: Baby Boomer=born 1946-1964, Gen X=born 1965-1980, and Millennial=born 1981

to around 1996, Gen Z= born 1997-2012

Source: FRB of New York, Bloomberg Economics

# **Consumers Seeing Unprecedented Uncertainty Ahead**

The present level of unease among Americans is at historic levels....



Source: University of Michigan, Bloomberg Economics

## **Consumers Sour on Income Growth**

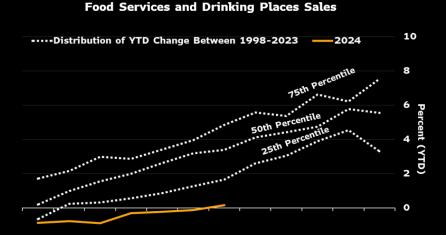


Source: University of Michigan, Bloomberg Economics

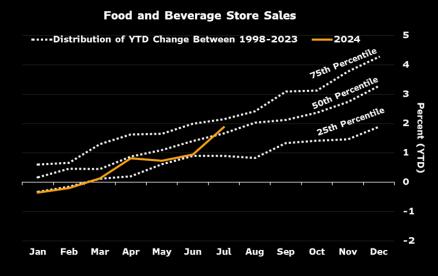
# Most Retail, Except Groceries, See Slower Sales Than Usual







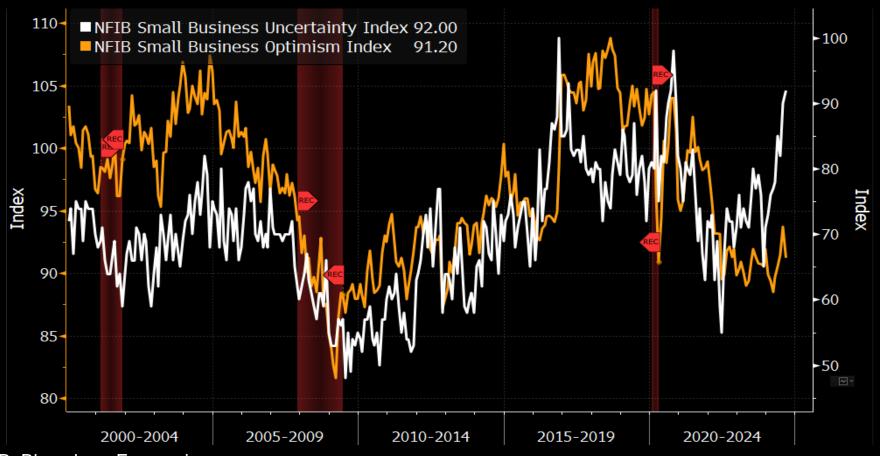
Source: Census, Bloomberg Economics Jun Jul Aug Sep





# **Small Businesses are Hit by Uncertainty**

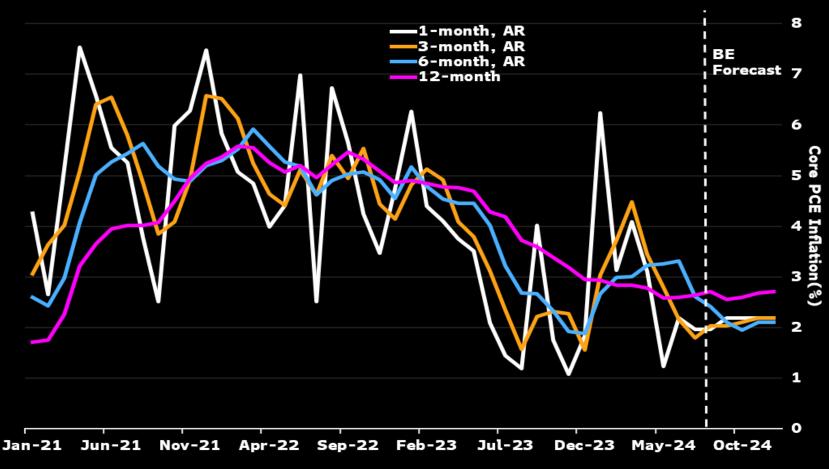
The Uncertainty Index rose to its highest level since October 2020...



Source: NFIB, Bloomberg Economics

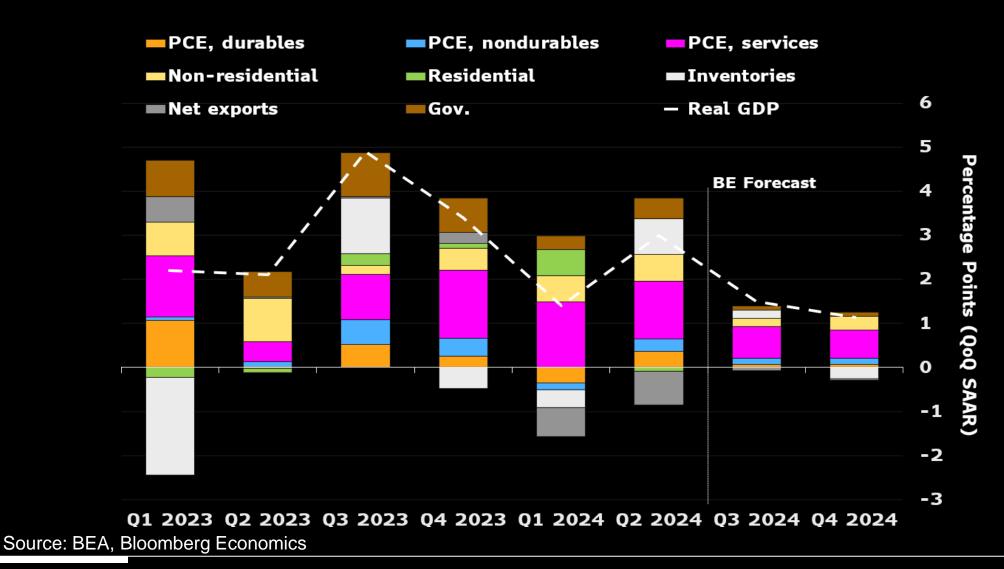
# Fed's Preferred Inflation Gauge to Run Closer to Fed's Target

A long last mile of inflation on YoY basis...



Source: BEA, Bloomberg Economics

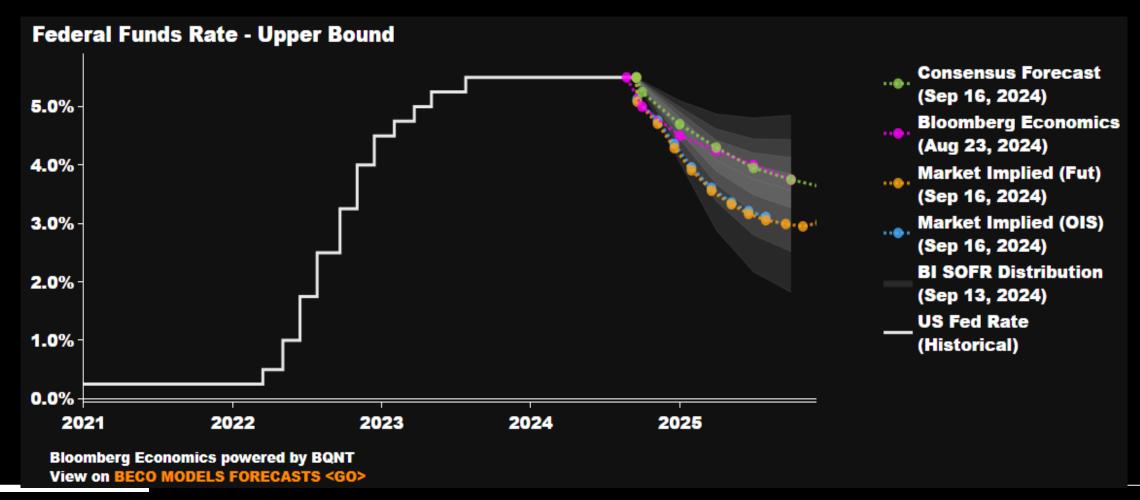
## **US Economic Growth to Slow Below Potential**



**Bloomberg** 

## Fed Policy: Labor Market Dominates Balance of Risks

With unemployment rate likely to go up to 4.5% at year end, the Fed to deliver 50bps cut this week...



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# Food Inflation

September 17, 2024

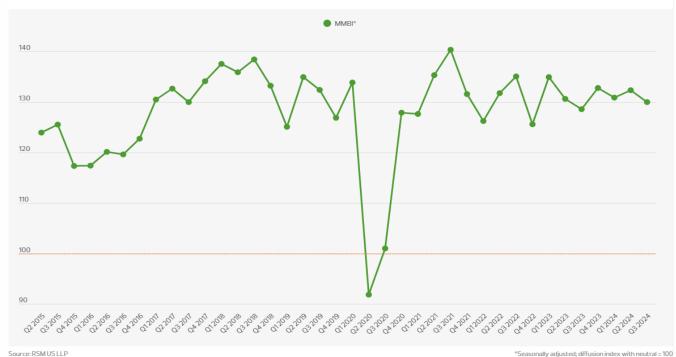




## RSM US Middle Market Business Index

## **Economic Conditions Remain Solid**

#### RSM US MIDDLE MARKET BUSINESS INDEX

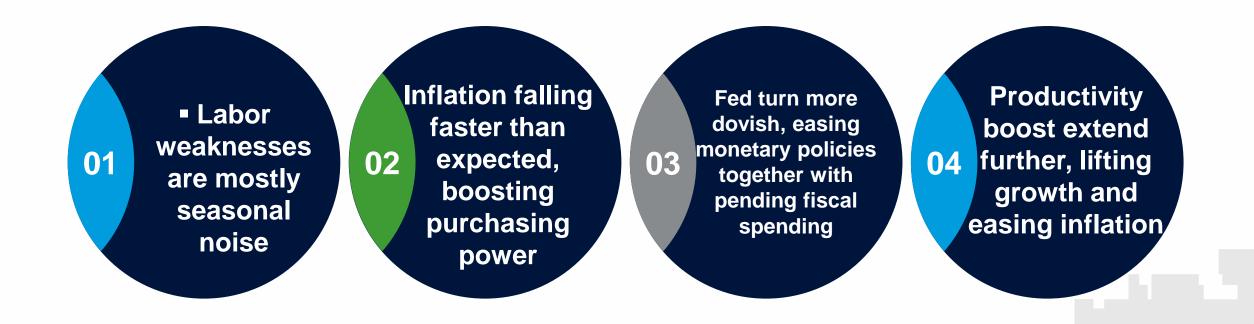


## **Key Takeaways**

- Over half of respondents expect the economy to improve during the final three months of 2024 and into the first quarter of 2025.
- Forty-five percent saw improvement in current-quarter revenues; 65% said they expect further gains in the next six months.
- Data is based on responses from 404 senior executives at middle market firms during July of 2024



## Positive risks to the outlook



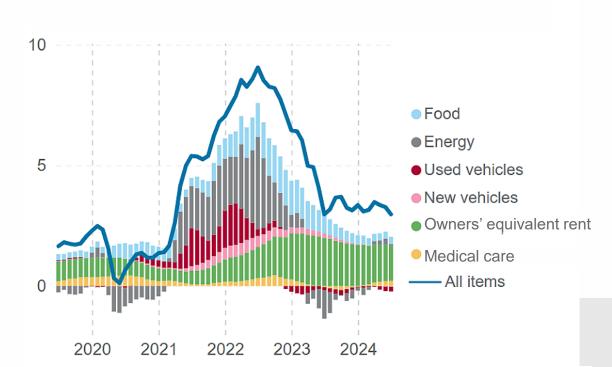


## CPI inflation cooled again

■ The lowest rate since February 2021

# **CPI** inflation 2% target 2020 2022 2024 ● All items ● Core items ● Core goods ● Core services ● Supercore

#### **Component contribution**



Source: BEA, RSM US



# Personal spending and income outlook

01

 American consumers are much more resilient than expected, supported by a strong labor market and excess savings.

02

Personal income grows faster than inflation, helping real income to stay positive toward the end of 2023 and the start of 2024.

03

Consumers spending down their pandemic excess savings, which will likely runout by mid-year. Most of the excess savings is held by the top income earners.

04

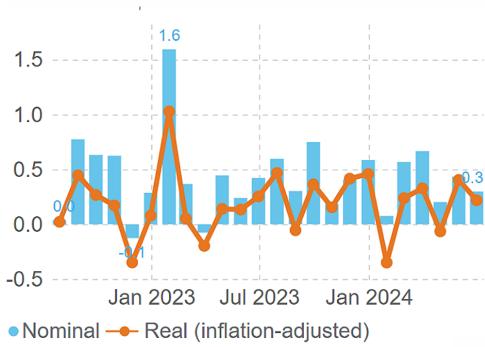
 Consumer confidence has picked up in the last 6 months as inflation is under control, slowly catching up with the hard data on overall consumption demand.



## American consumers are much more resilient than expected

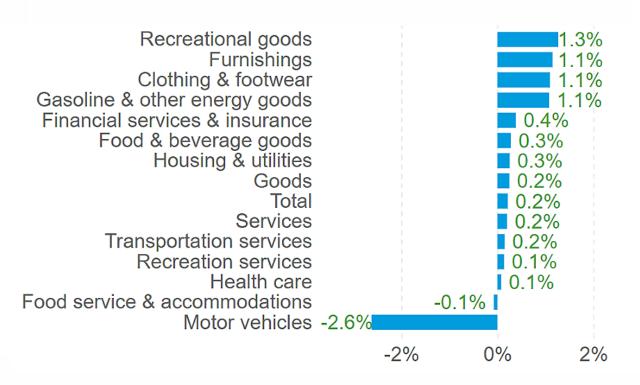
Services spending continues to be a strong support

#### Personal spending, monthly growth



Source: BEA, RSM US

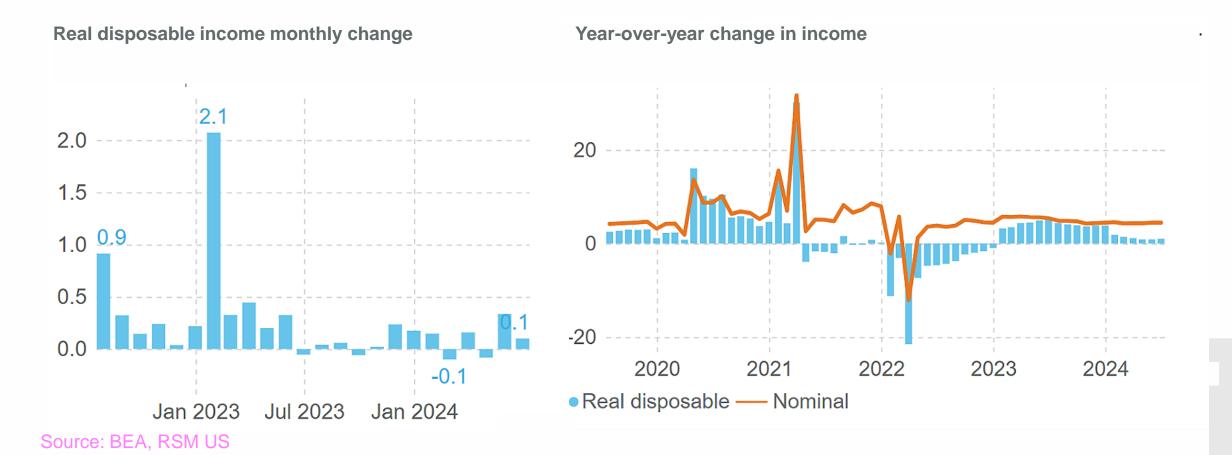
#### Real spending monthly changes





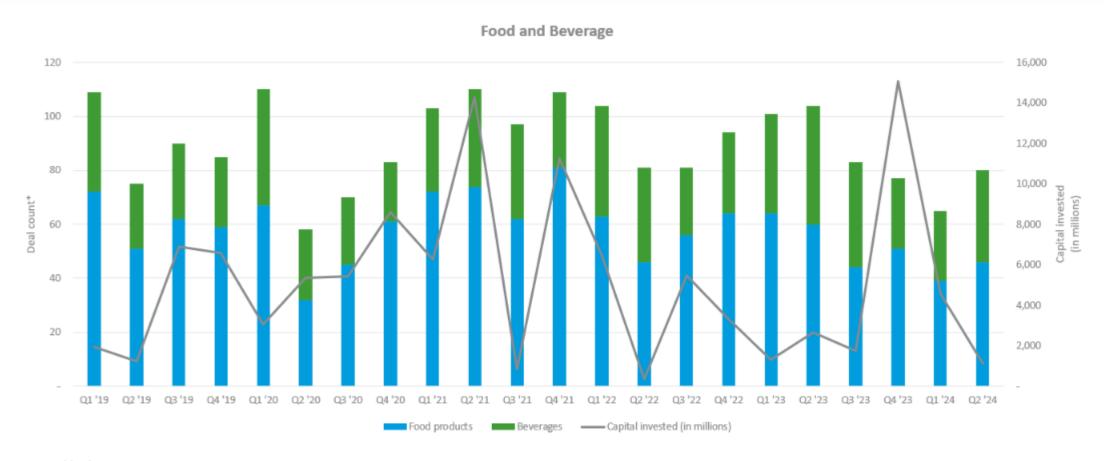
## Income stays solid due to strong labor market

Labor force participation remains high





# M & A activity



Source: Pitchbook Data, Inc., RSM US LLP

<sup>\*</sup> Deal count includes US headquartered closed M&A transactions through June 30, 2024, based on data available through July 26, 2024. Note: Capital investment is limited to transactions that disclose deal value.



# Fiscal and household balance sheets

01

 Fiscal policies are restrictive in the short-run to avoid inflationary pressures, as well as to allow normalization after massive pandemic relief efforts.

02

 Long-term spending however is implemented via industrial policies that are expected to boost productivity and lower inflation.

03

Household balance sheets remain strong, bolstered by equity market gains and solid income growth.

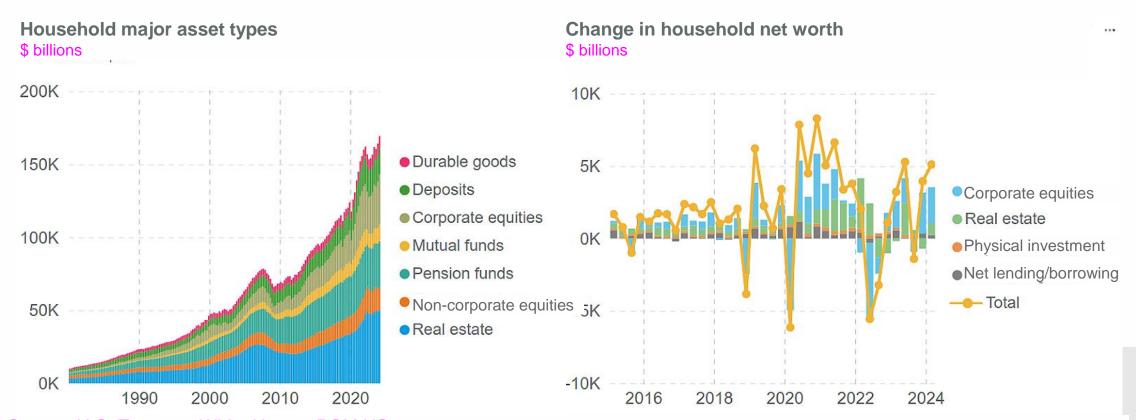
04

■ The debt problems for both the government and consumers remain insignificant and non-systematic at the current time. Yet, any early signs of distresses should be closely watched.



## Household net worth continues to rise

Via equity and real estate price surges





## Consumer Sentiment Rebounds

### University of Michigan consumer sentiment Monthly index





# If the economy is strong,

### why does everything seem so expensive?

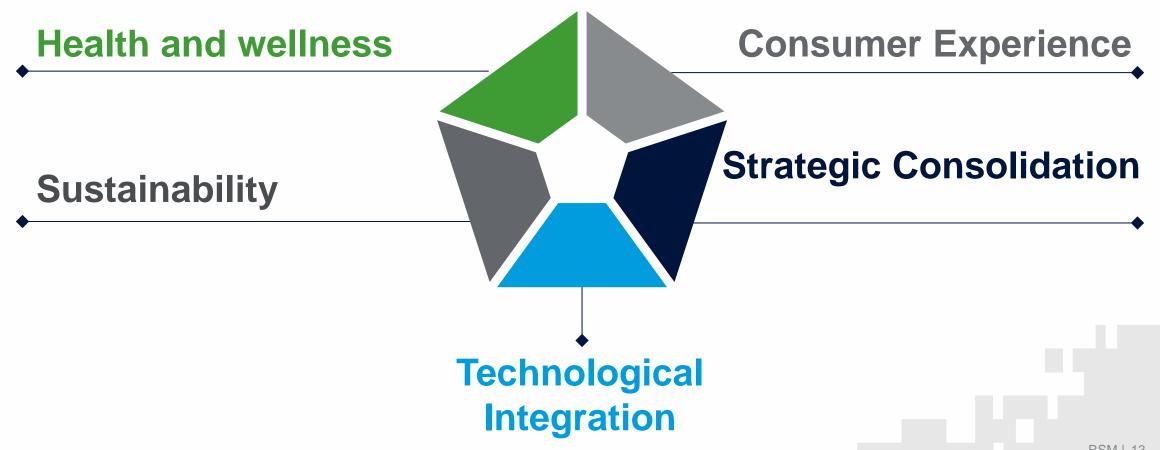


## A few reasons why

- While inflation has cooled, it doesn't mean prices are falling
- Supply chain problems continue due to geopolitical tensions and weather-related issues
- Retail energy prices such as electricity have yet to fall significantly
- Housing disinflation has only begun in Q2 of 2024



# Strategic direction in food and beverage





## **Focus Five**

For Food and Beverage

- Rebalance revenue growth and cost reduction initiatives against risk
- Develop strategies to maintain customer engagement
- Achieve greater supply chain resilience with advanced inventory management using predictive analytics and Al
- Create a culture of workforce innovation
- Build a sustainable future aligning ESG strategy with business priorities



# Building a sustainable future

Targeted Sustainability Programming

Sustainable Product Formulation

Creating environmentally friendly packaging or sustainable design principals

**Green Supply Chain Management** 

Select suppliers with strong environmental and social practices

**Circular Economy Initiatives** 

Resource efficiency and waste reduction





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