



US Economic Update

Annual MRA Educational Conference & Trade Show

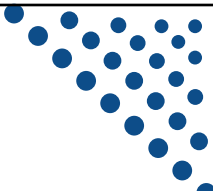
Jon Haveman, Ph.D.
NEED
October 20, 2022



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 - Doris Geide-Stevenson, Weber State
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Outline

- **The State of the US Economy**
 - Recession?
- **Global Comparisons**
- **Inflation**
- **Summary**

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Headline:

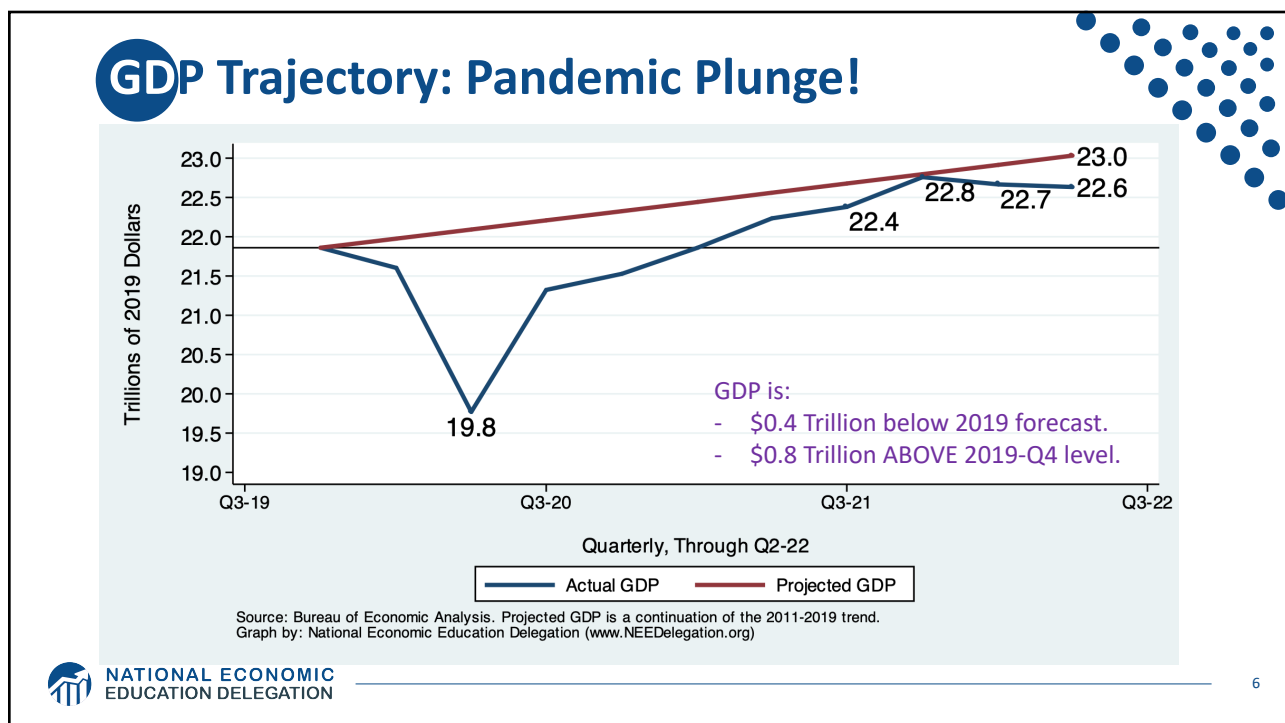
G.D.P. Report Shows a Drop, Fanning Fears of a U.S. Recession

- A key measure of economic output fell for the second straight quarter, raising fears that the United States could be entering a recession.
- Gross domestic product, adjusted for inflation, fell 0.2 percent in the second quarter, the equivalent of a 0.9 percent annual rate of decline. Follow updates.

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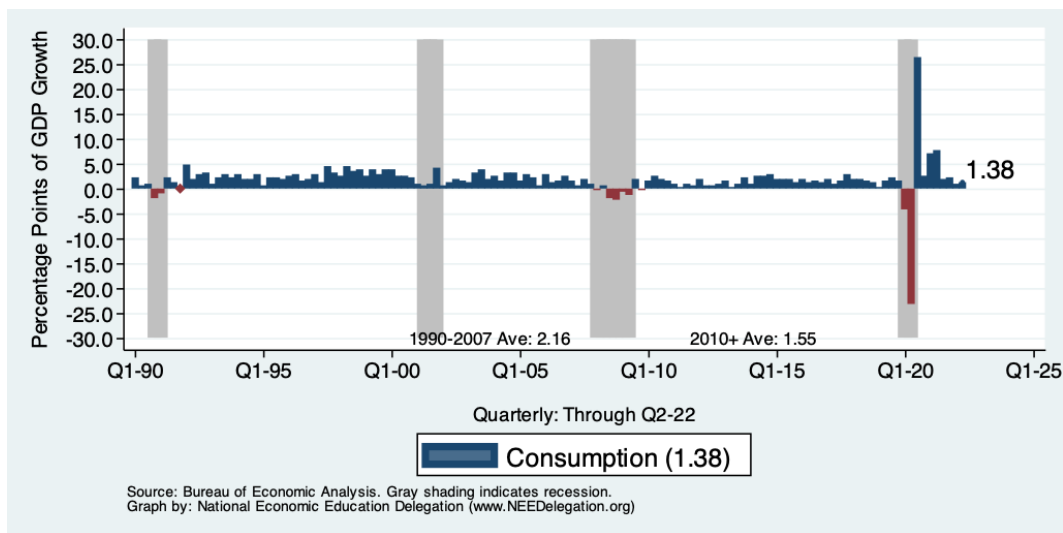
Recession? Two Quarters....

- **Depends on what is driving the drop. Drivers are:**
 - Inventories
 - Housing
 - Government spending
- **Consumer spending is still ok.**
- **Employment growth is solid.**
- **Other indicators are still ok.**



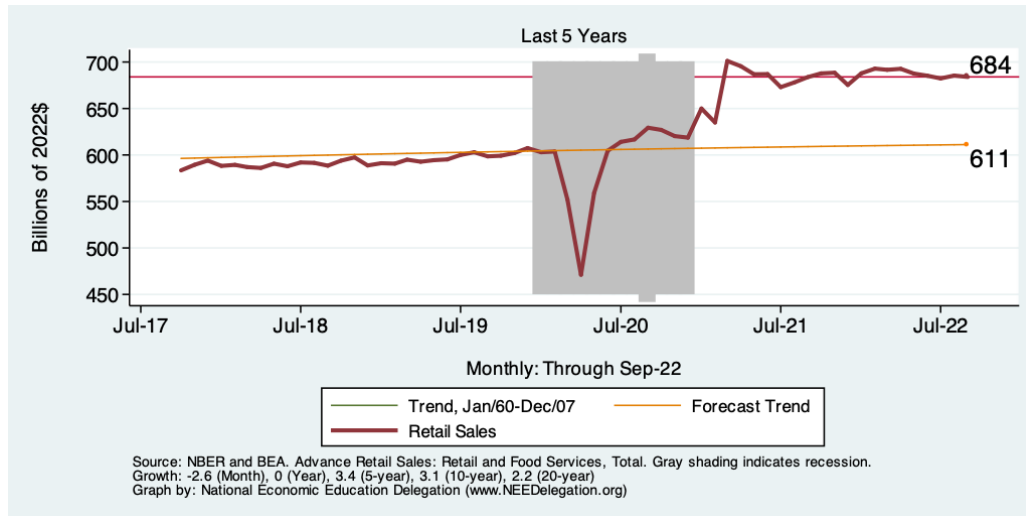
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Contribution to GDP Growth: Consumption



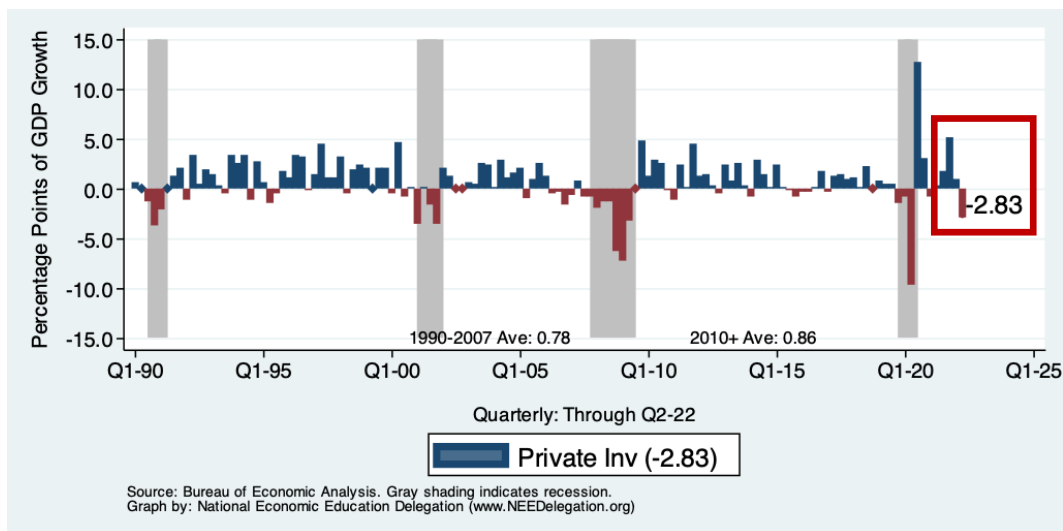
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Retail Sales Are Elevated



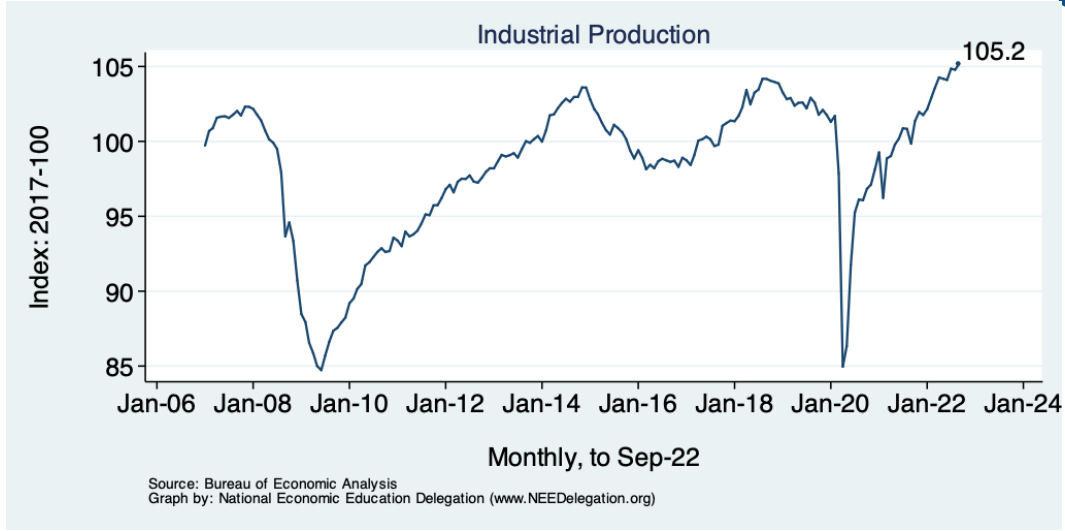
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Contribution to GDP Growth: Inventories



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Industrial Production (Manuf, Util, Mining)

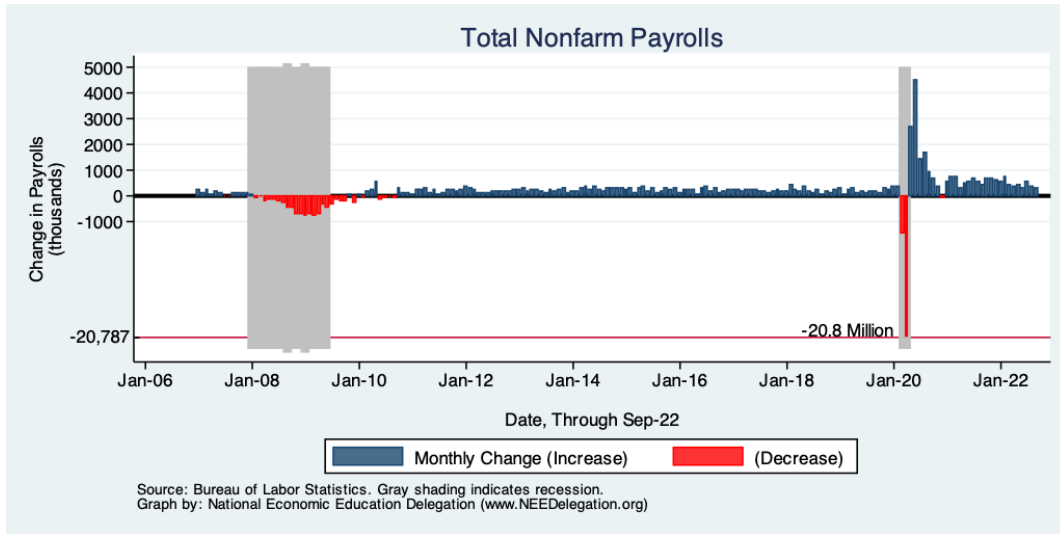


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Monthly Changes in Nonfarm Employment

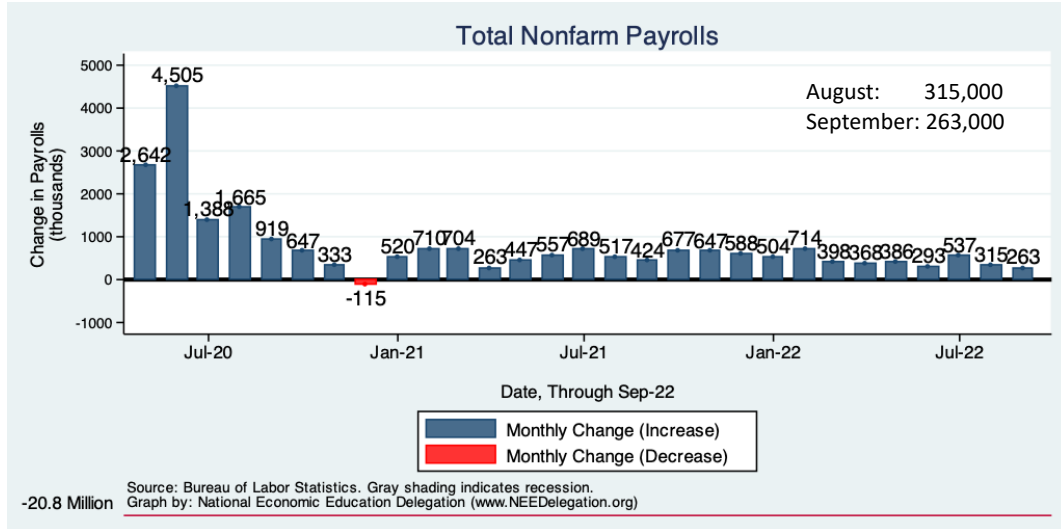


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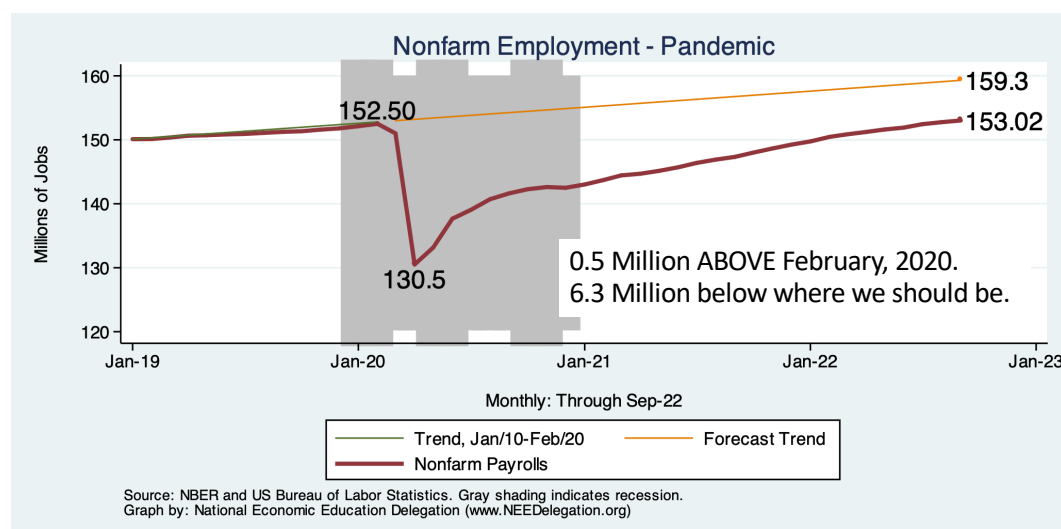
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Monthly Changes in Nonfarm Employment



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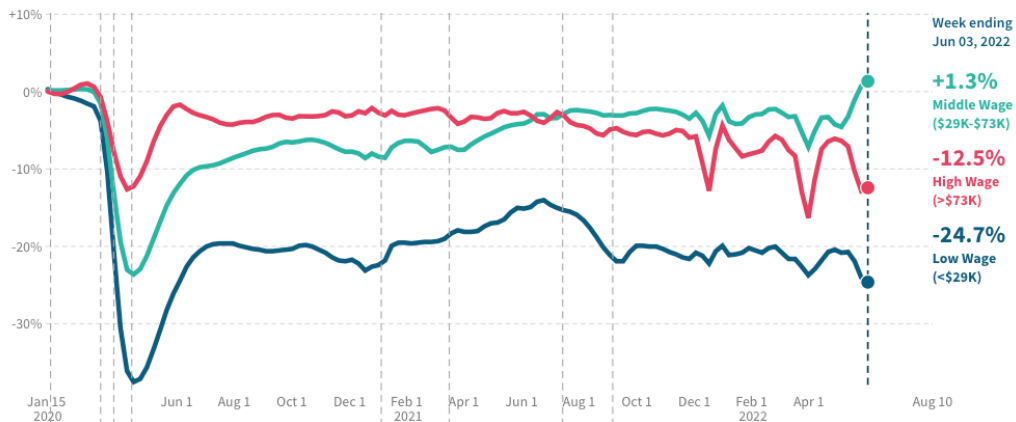
Employment Gap



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Low Wage Employment is Lagging

In the United States, as of June 03 2022, employment rates among workers in the bottom wage quartile decreased by **24.7%** compared to January 2020 (not seasonally adjusted).



Stimulus Payments Saved Low Wage Workers

OPPORTUNITY ECONOMIC TRACKER

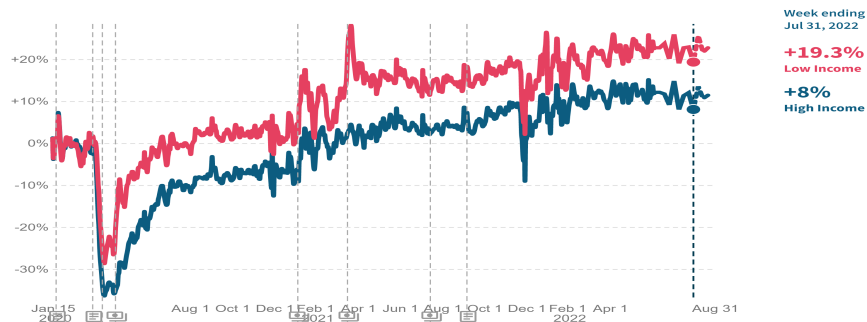
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

BROWN UNIVERSITY

BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

Percent Change in All Consumer Spending*

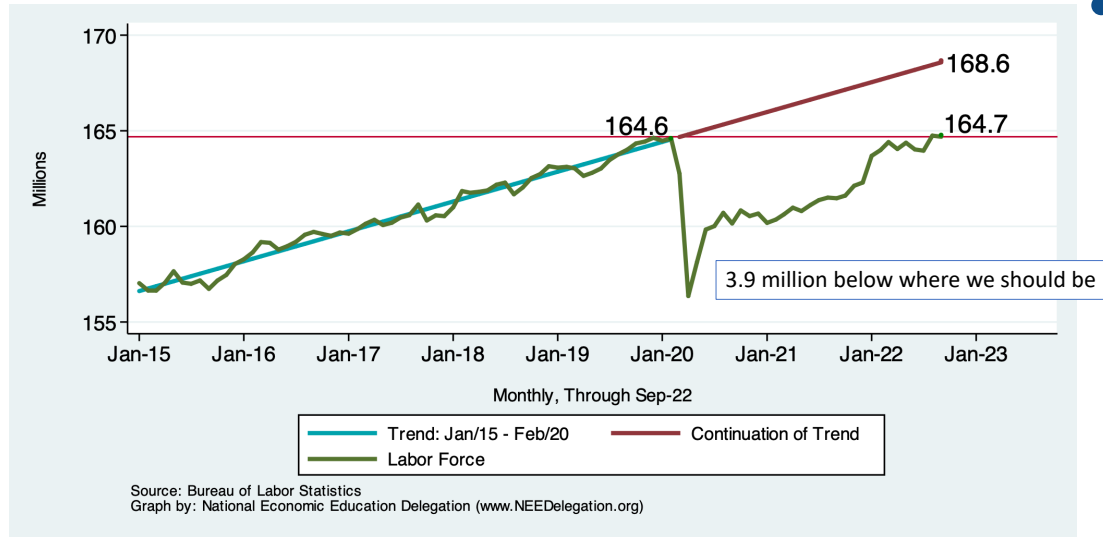
In the United States, as of July 31 2022, total spending by high-income consumers **increased** by **8%** compared to January 2020.



data source: Affinity

*Change in average consumer credit and debit card spending, indexed to January 4-31, 2020 and seasonally adjusted. The dashed segment of the line is provisional data, which may be subject to non-negligible revisions as newer data is posted. This series is based on data from Affinity Solutions.
last updated: August 30, 2022 next update expected: September 07, 2022

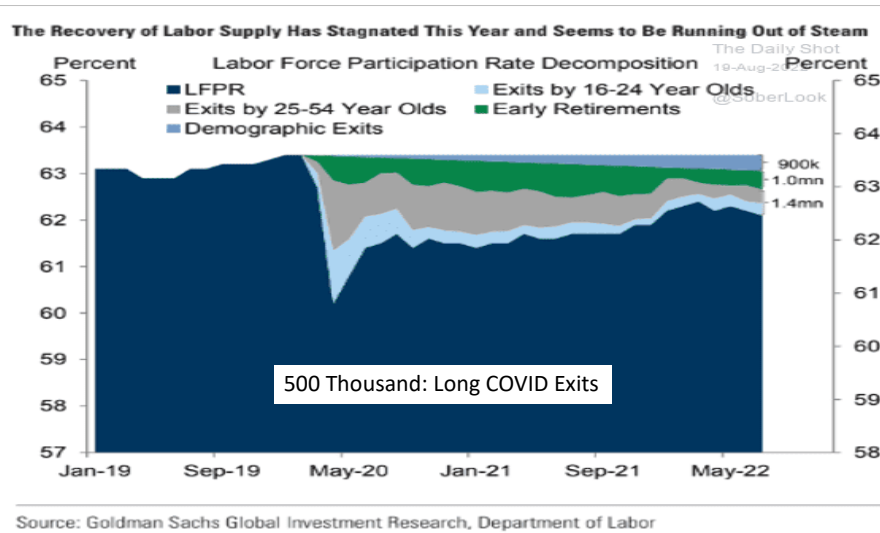
Where Have All the Workers Gone?



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Some Explanations

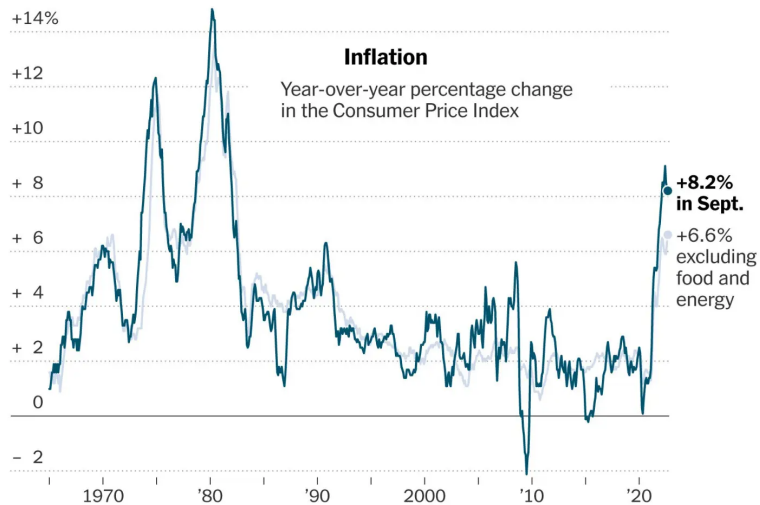


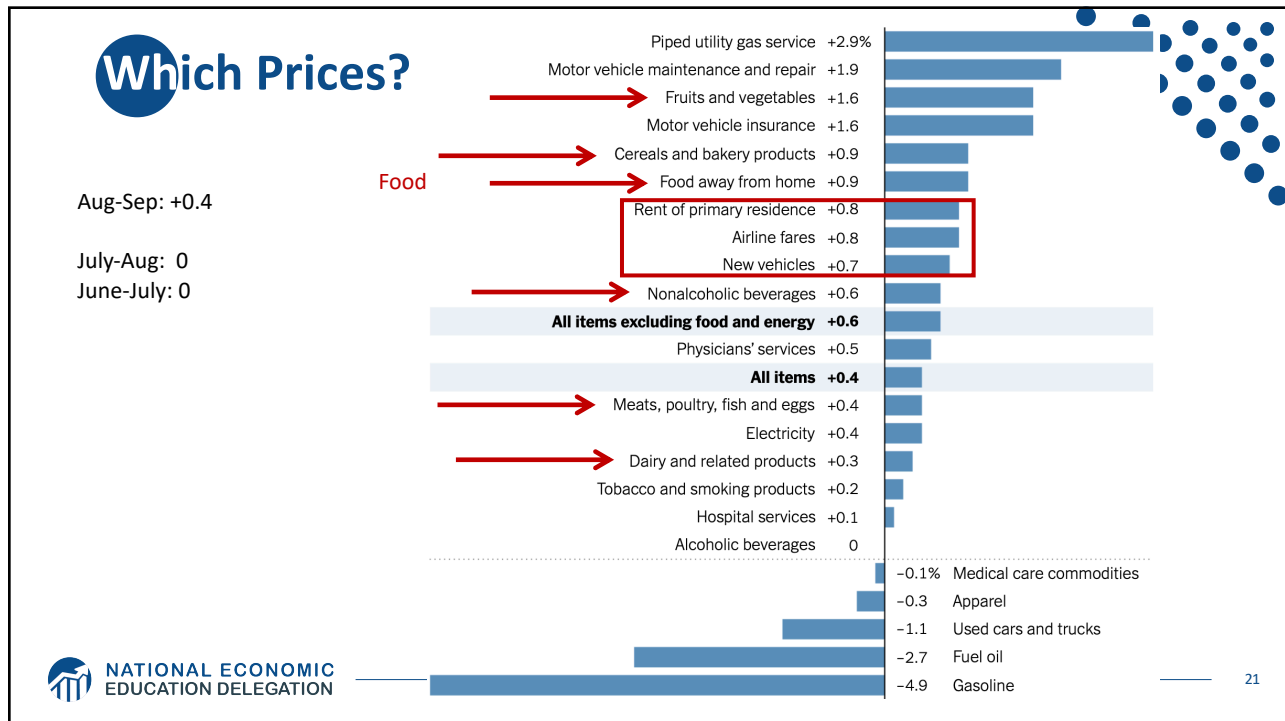
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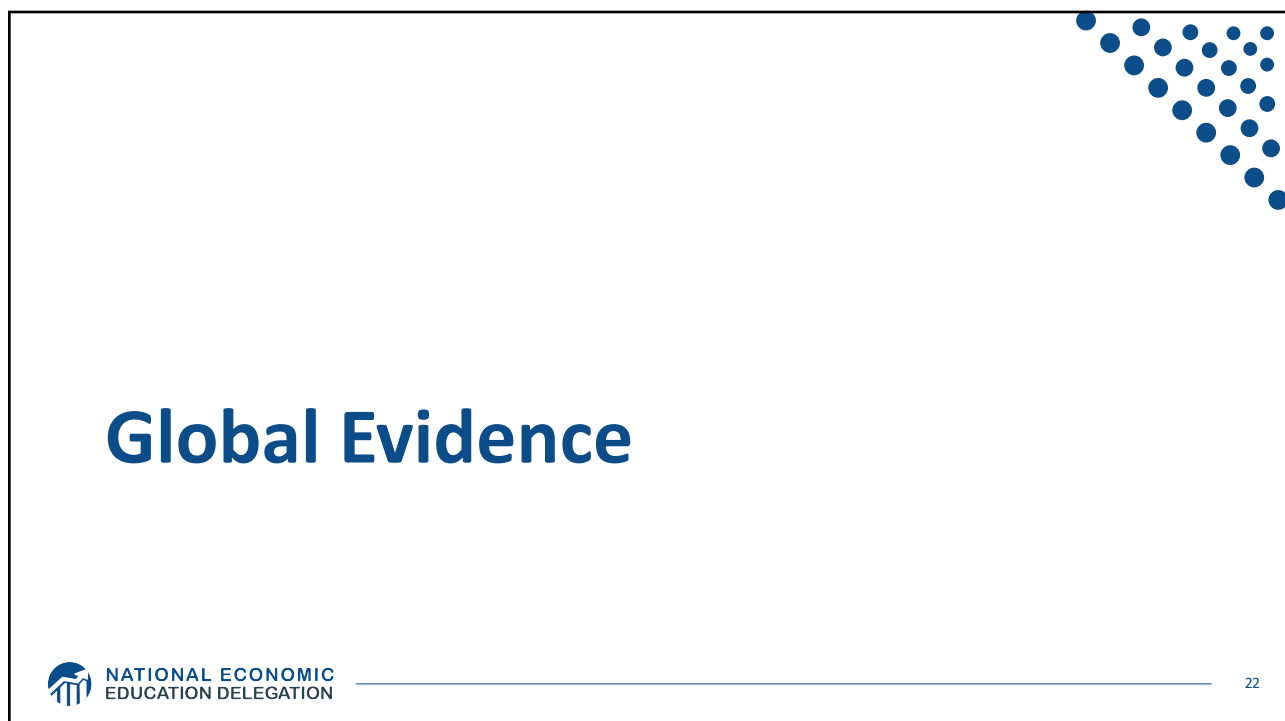
Inflation

Inflation: Latest Figures

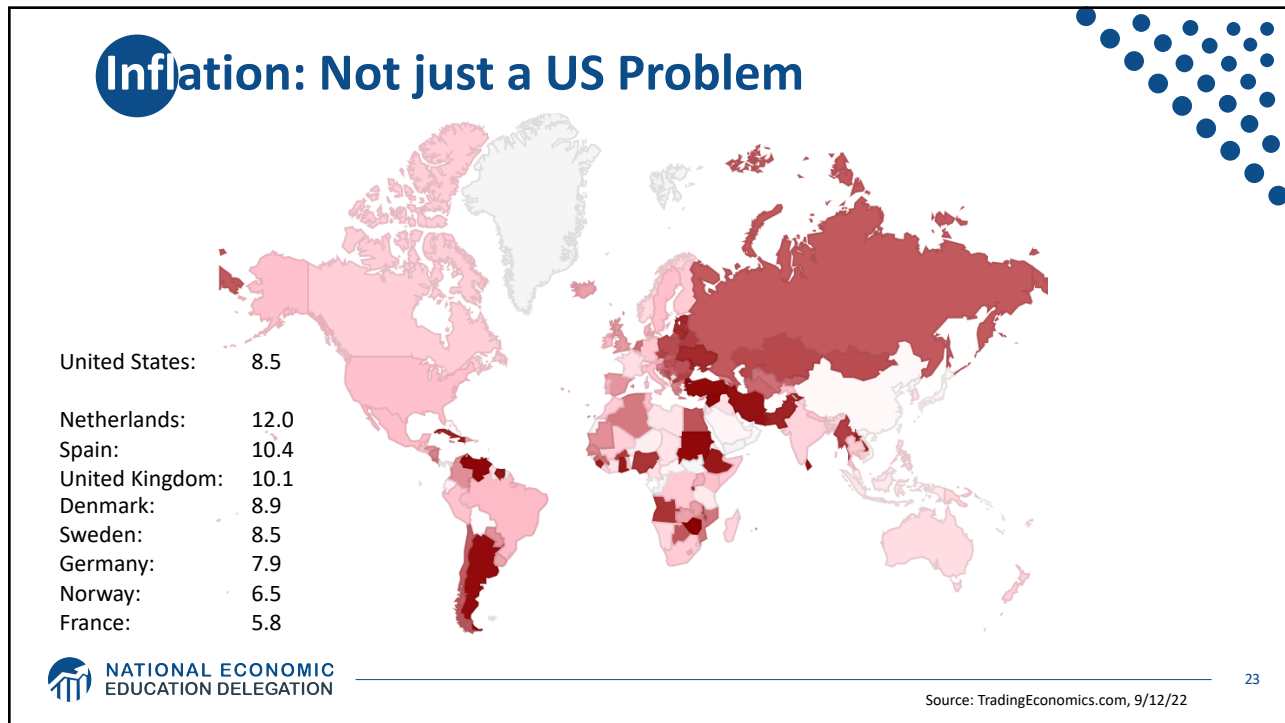




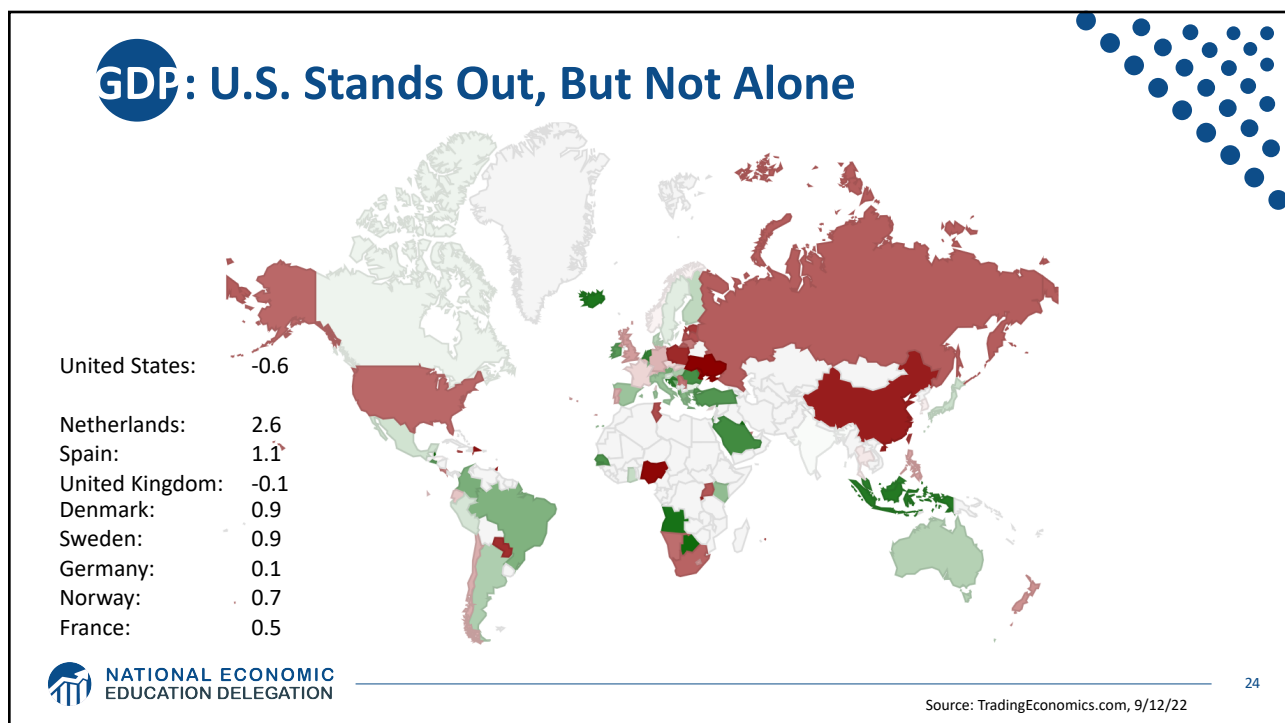
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Global Summary

- **Developed economies are uniformly down.**
 - Not entirely a surprise. Went through the same pandemic gyrations:
 - Supply chain issues.
 - Import prices are way up.
- **Somewhat surprising because the economic responses varied across countries.**
 - All used stimulus, but US used MUCH more.
- **Inflation – tale of two sources:**
 - United States – much more one of elevated demand.
 - Europe – much more one of food and energy prices (war).

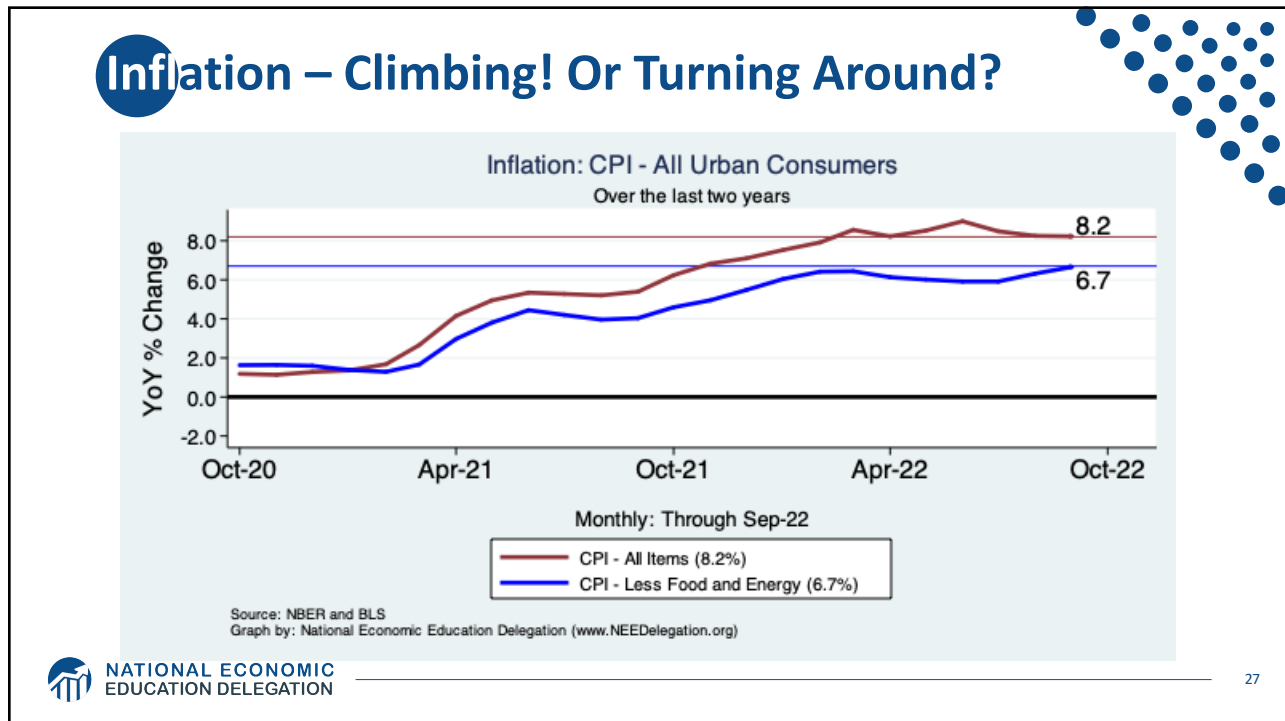


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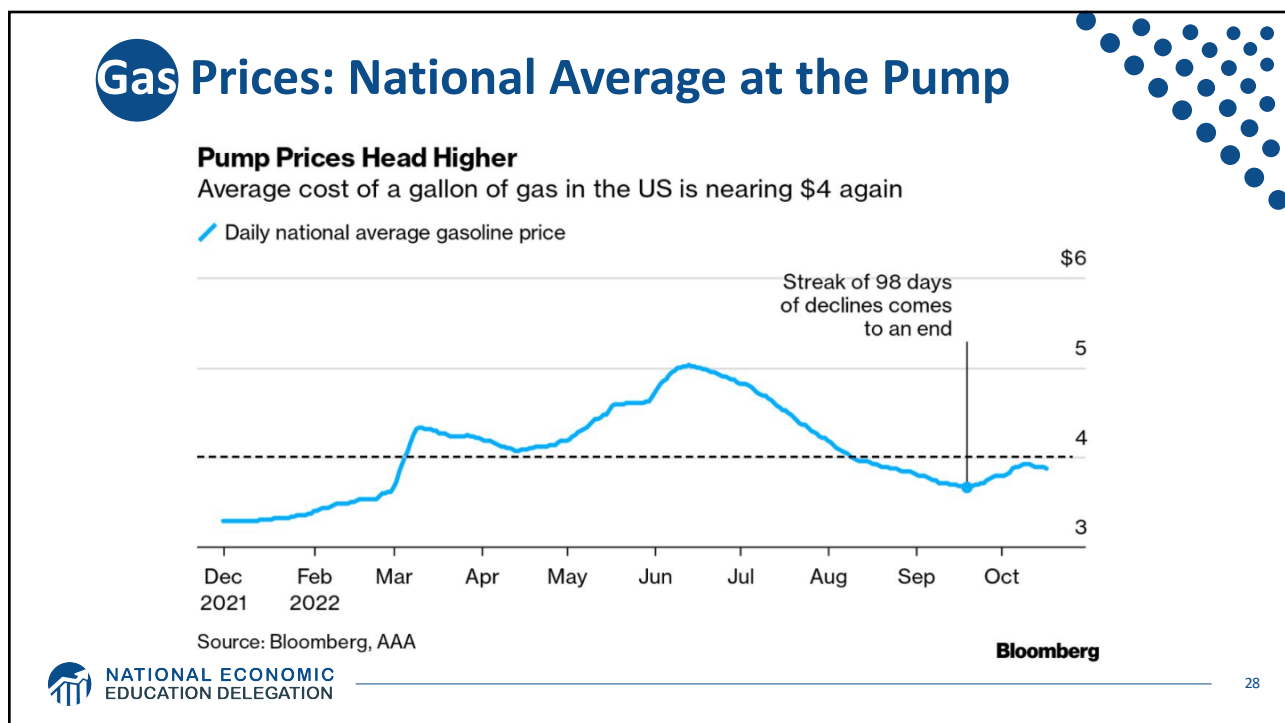
Inflation: A Closer Look



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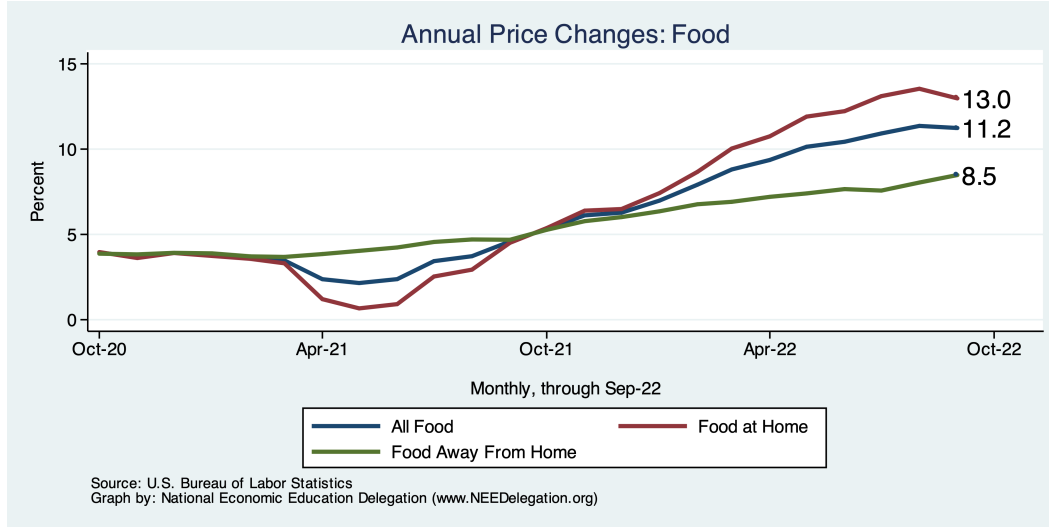


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Food Costs Continue to Rise



How Does Inflation Work?

Inflation represents the rate at which the cost of goods and services increase over a period of time.

Demand-Pull



When demand for goods/service exceeds production capacity.

Cost-Push



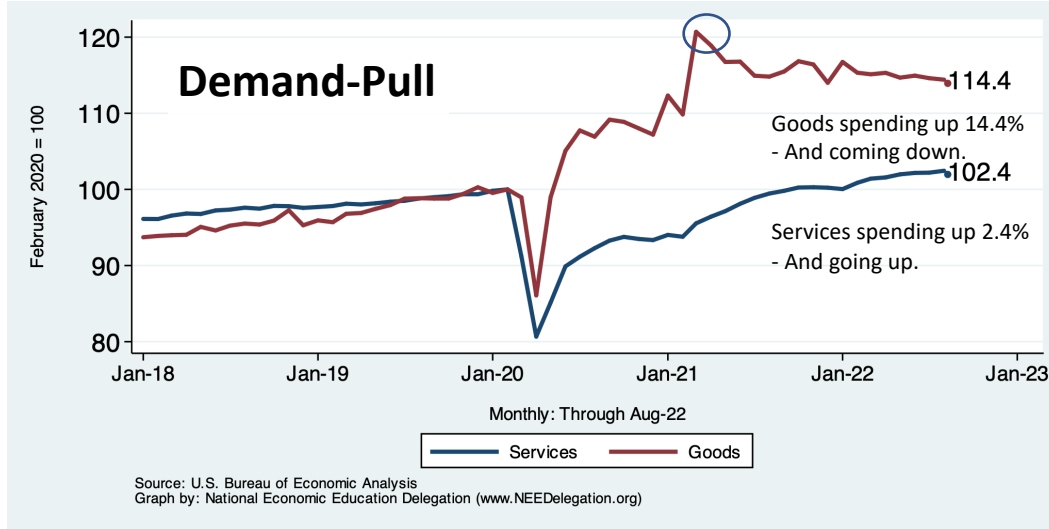
When production costs increase prices.

Built-In



When prices rise, wages rise too, in order to maintain living costs.

Spending Patterns Changed - More Goods!

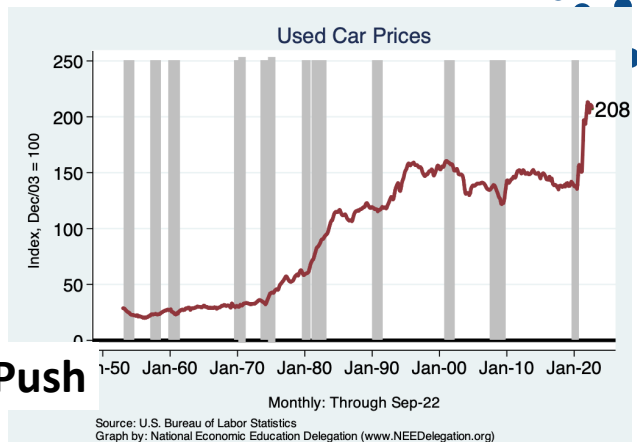


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Inflation: Concentrated



Cost-Push



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Supply Chains

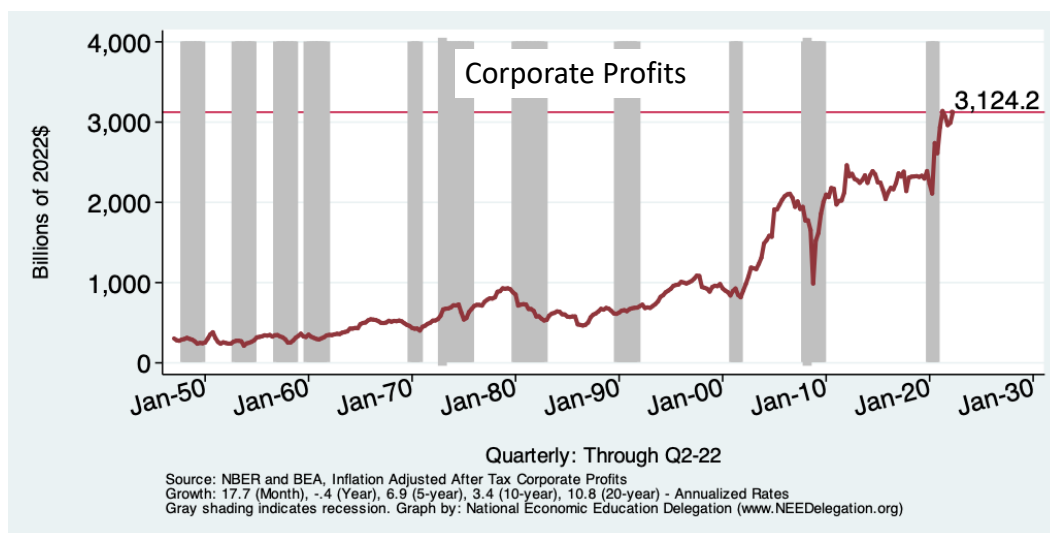


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Corporations Have Pricing Power!



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My Diagnosis for the Uptick in Inflation

- Spending patterns have changed dramatically.
- Yes, there were supply chain issues that affected some areas in particular (e.g., computer chips).
- But there was also too much total spending.
- Fiscal stimulus led households to increase saving over 2021 by more than \$2 trillion. Strong retail sales numbers suggest they are prepared to spend it.
- Whose to Blame: ARP probably too big, but the Fed could have acted sooner.

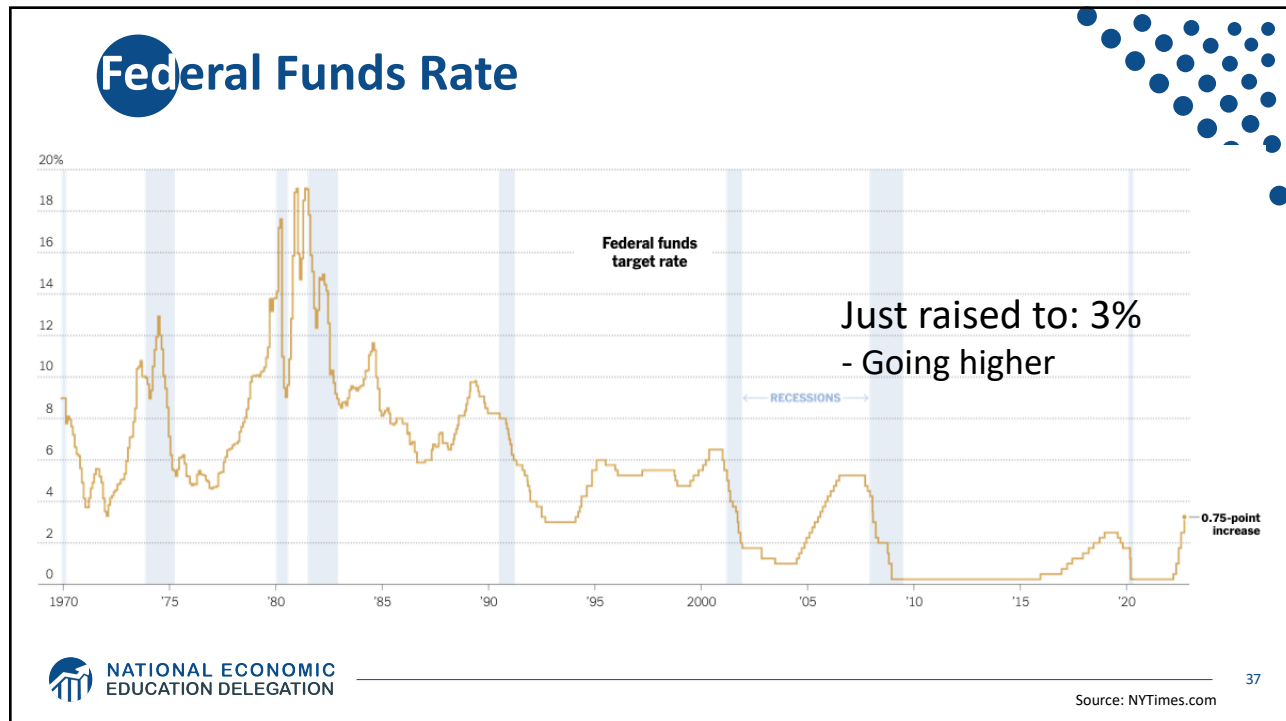


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What's the Fed Doing About It?



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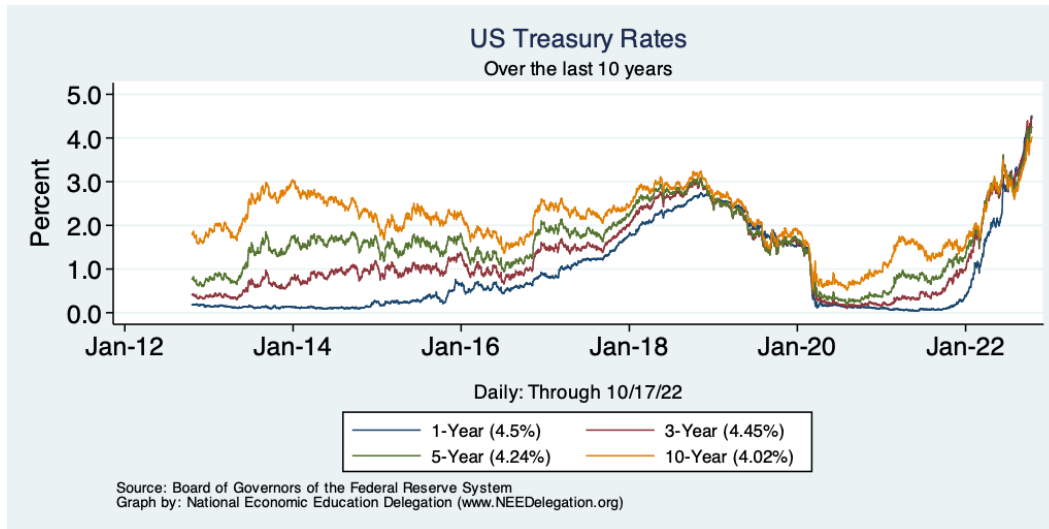
Implications for Demand

- Investment borrowing
- Home loans – tied to 10-year Treasury
- Car loans
- Credit cards
- Savings accounts – positive
- And more....

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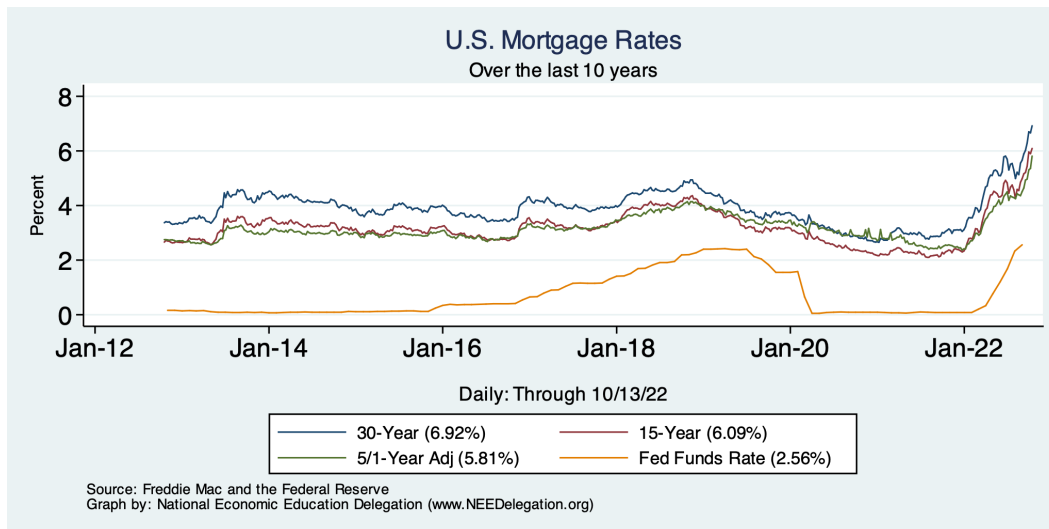
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Treasuries



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Mortgage Rates



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Takeaways

- **Is a recession on the horizon?**

- Larry Summers, Jamie Dimon, and Elon Musk are worried about a recession.
- While the chances of slipping into a recession have increased, I think on many dimensions the economy is doing quite well.
 - o Consumer's have been driving the recovery, and consumer's account for two-thirds of GDP.
 - o Job creation remains robust – 263k in September.

- **What about GDP?**

- 2022:Q1 was -1.6%, 2022:Q2 was -0.6.
- Much of this lower growth was driven by lower inventory.
 - o Inventories led GDP growth in 2021:Q4, didn't sell, so production in Q1&Q2 fell.
- Housing markets – very tightly linked to interest rates – softened ... A LOT.
- Government spending is falling.
- Stay tuned – next week Q3 release



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Thank you!

Any Questions?

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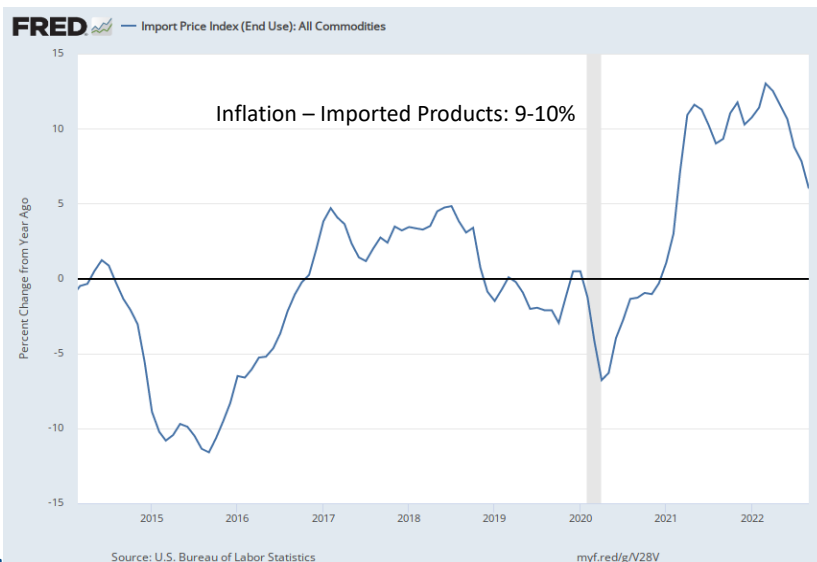
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www.NEEDelegation.org/LocalGraphs

For every state and county in the United States.
Detailed graphs on employment, housing, moves, and other statistics.



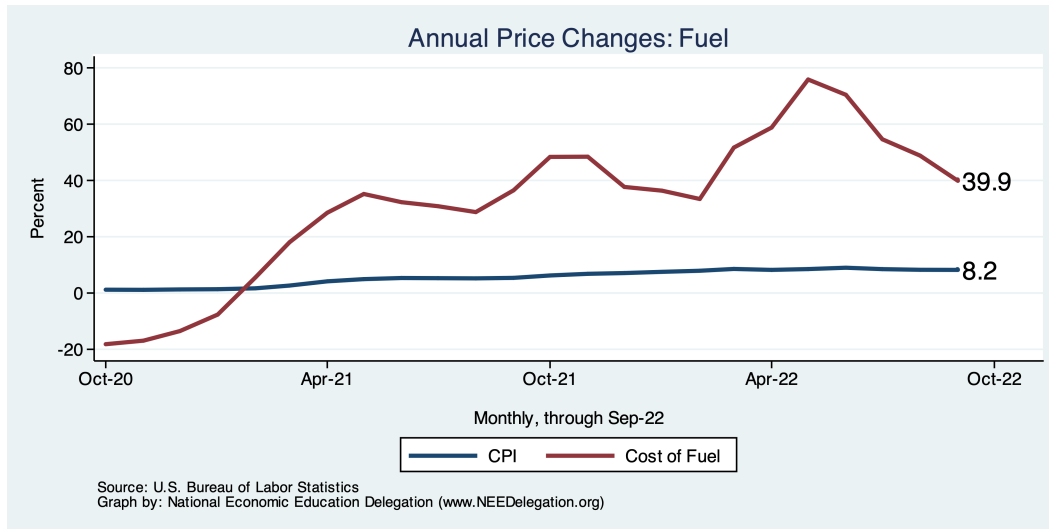
Import Prices Are Elevated



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Fuel Costs Are Still Elevated

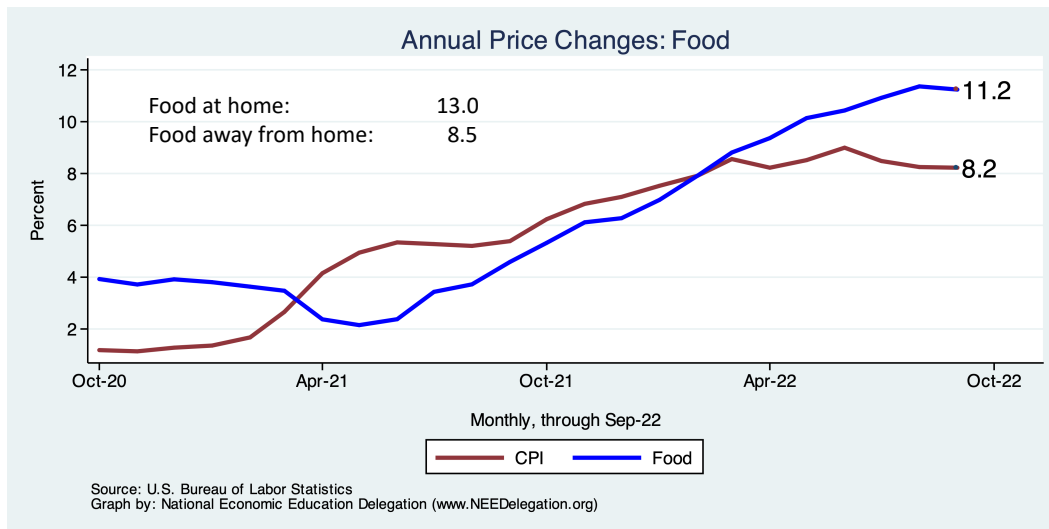


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Food Costs Continue to Rise



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Measure of Inflation Expectations



Source: NBER and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Grey indicates recession.
Difference between standard treasury security interest rate and the inflation-indexed rate.
Graph by: National Economic Education Delegation (www.NEEDelegation.org)

Breakeven Inflation Rate = Difference between nominal and real 5-year and 10-year Treasury constant maturity securities.

Market participants expect around 2.4% inflation annually over the next 10 years and 2.6% over the next 5 years.

Inflation expectations are calming down.