



Ventura Regional Sanitation District

Investment Performance Review For the Quarter Ended September 30, 2023

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Current Market Themes



- ▶ The U.S. economy is characterized by:
 - ▶ Stronger than expected growth, supported by a resilient consumer
 - ▶ Inflation that remains stubbornly above the Federal Reserve's ("Fed") target range
 - ▶ Continued creation of new jobs by the labor market, albeit at a moderating pace



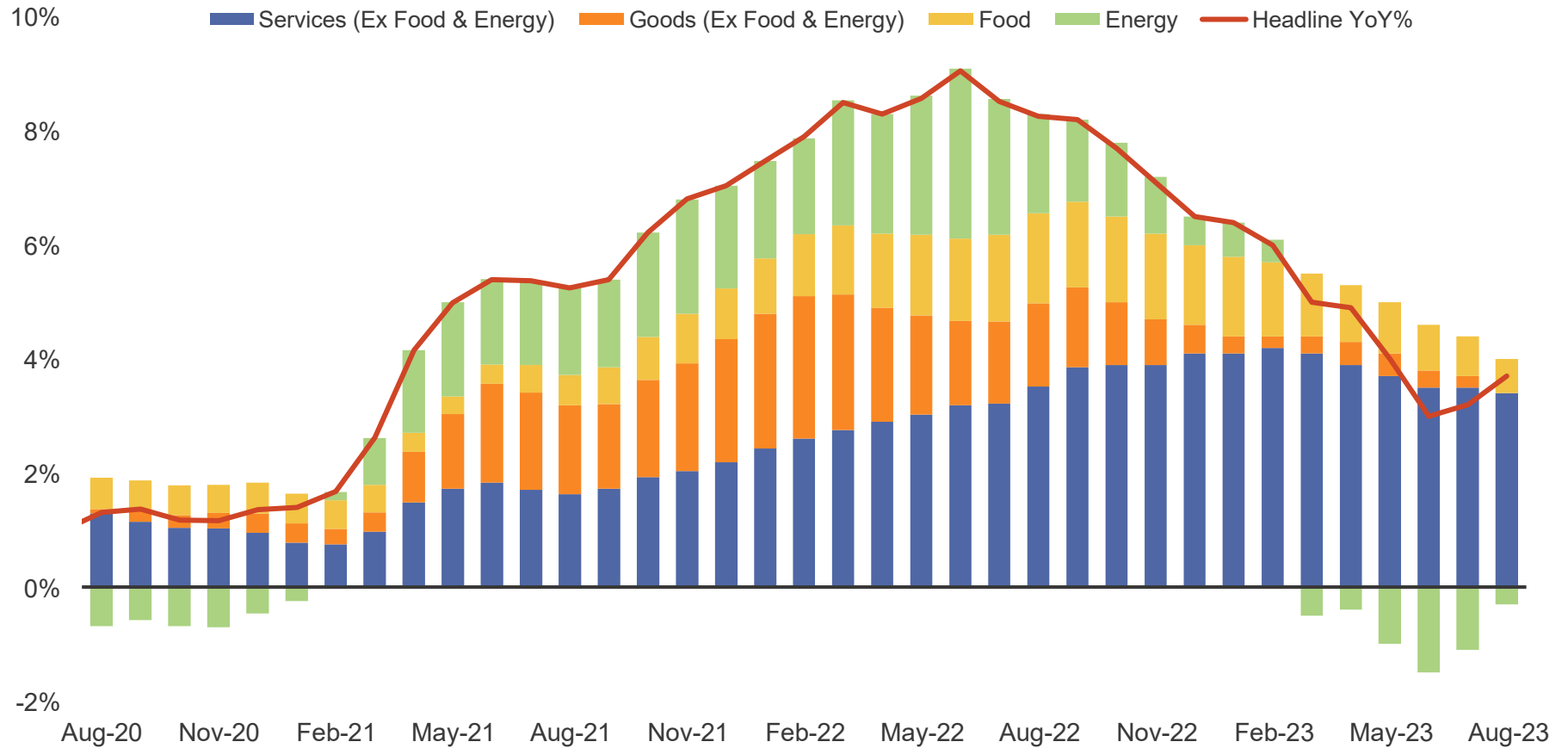
- ▶ Fed pauses again in rate hike campaign
 - ▶ After hiking in July, the Federal Reserve held rates steady at the September FOMC meeting as expected
 - ▶ The Fed's most recent "dot plot" indicated one more rate hike for 2023 and set the stage for interest rates to remain "higher-for-longer"
 - ▶ Updated FOMC economic projections point to stronger GDP growth expectations, higher inflation, and slightly lower unemployment for the remainder of 2023 and into 2024



- ▶ Interest rates reached their highest levels since 2006-7
 - ▶ The U.S. government rating downgrade by Fitch had little impact, although it highlighted growing worry about the erosion of governance standards and fiscal irresponsibility
 - ▶ Treasury yields across the curve rose during Q3. Sticky inflation, a "higher for longer" market consensus, increased Treasury borrowing, and reduced Treasury holdings by China and Japan weighed especially on the long end of the curve
 - ▶ The next concern is the annual federal budget process and potential for a government shutdown

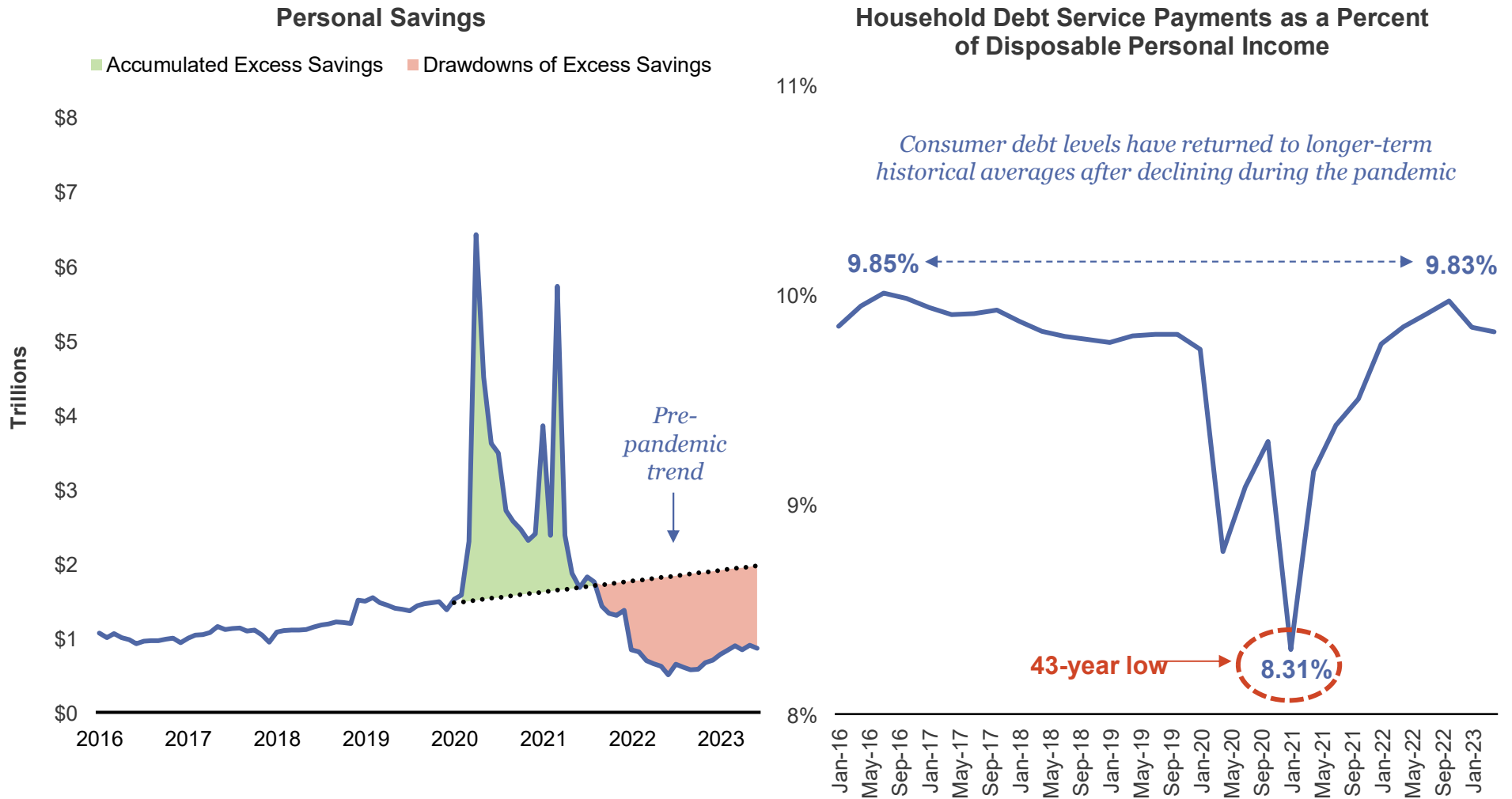
Inflation Gradually Falling, But Sensitive to Recently Rising Energy Prices

Factors Contributing to the Consumer Price Index (CPI YoY)



Source: Bloomberg, as of August 2023.

Personal Savings and Consumer Debt Have Returned to Pre-Pandemic Levels



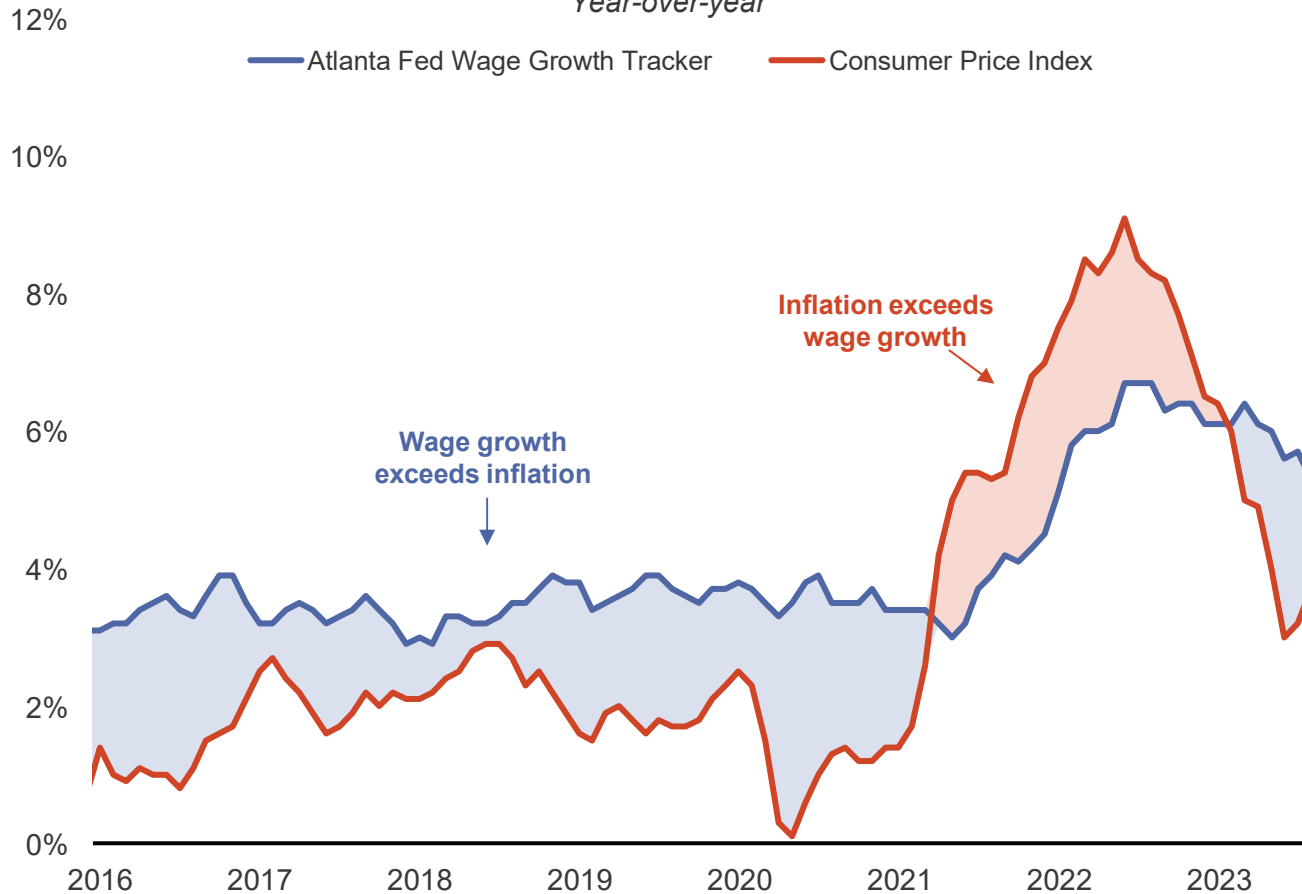
Source: Bloomberg and New York Fed Household Debt and Credit Report. Data as of June 30, 2023. (Left chart)

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Data as of April 1, 2023. (Right chart)

Wages Have Caught Up to Inflation Once Again

Wage Growth vs. Inflation

Year-over-year



Labor Market Stats

Unemployment Rate (Sept.) 3.8%

Peaked during COVID at 14.7%

Excess Job Openings (Sept.) 3 mil.

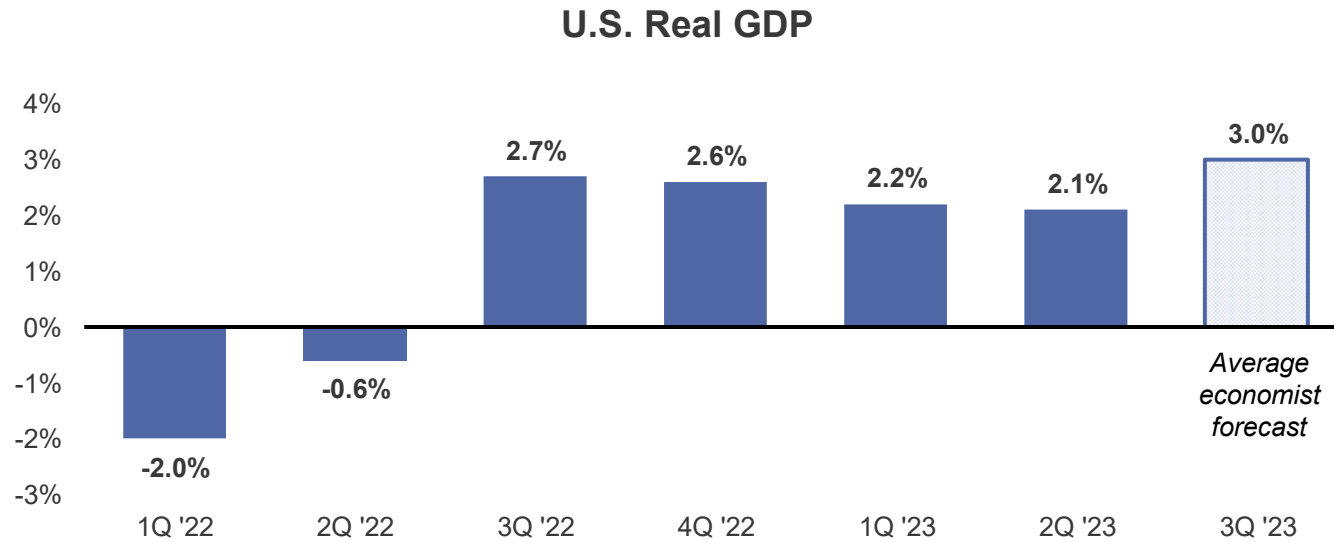
For each unemployed worker, there are approximately 1.5 job openings

Nonfarm Payrolls (Sept.) 336,000

Although the pace has declined, the economy continues to create jobs at a healthy pace

Source: As of September 2023. St. Louis Federal Reserve Economic Data. Excess job openings refers to the difference in job openings, as reported by JOLTS, and the total number of unemployed workers as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

GDP Remains Surprisingly Robust



GDP Contributors

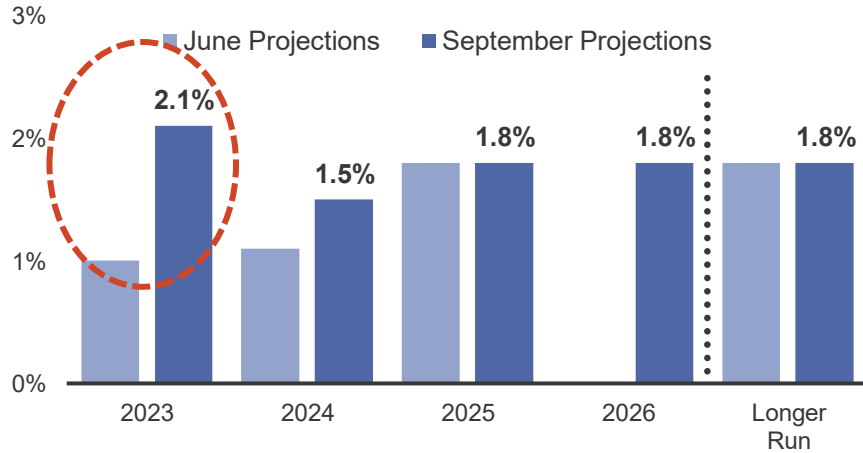
	1Q '22	2Q '22	3Q '22	4Q '22	1Q '23	2Q '23
Real GDP	-2.0%	-0.6%	2.7%	2.6%	2.2%	2.1%
Personal Consumption	0.0%	1.3%	1.1%	0.8%	2.5%	0.6%
Private Investment	1.2%	-2.1%	-1.5%	0.6%	-1.7%	0.9%
Net Exports	-2.6%	0.6%	2.6%	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%
Gov't Expenditures	-0.5%	-0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	0.8%	0.6%

The U.S. Consumer has been the backbone of economic growth; historically being the largest contributor

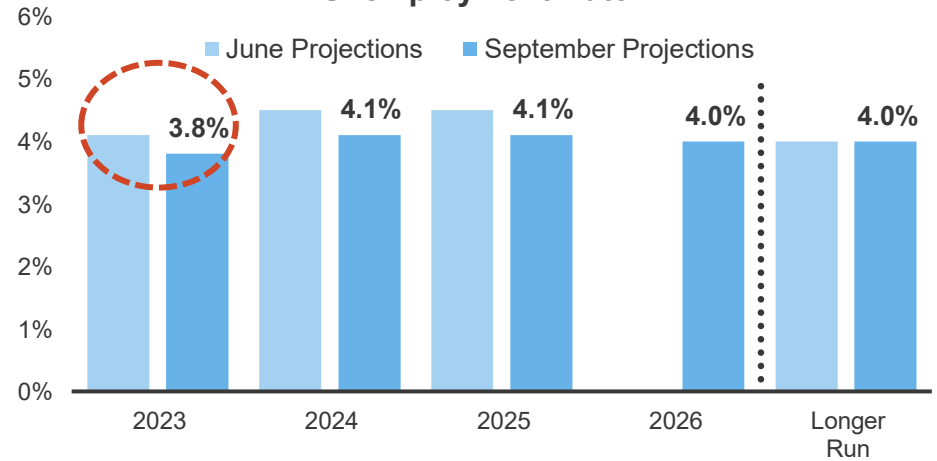
Source: St. Louis Federal Reserve Economic Data, Bureau of Economic Analysis. Average economist forecast sourced from Bloomberg.

The Fed's Projections for Growth and Employment Were More Upbeat

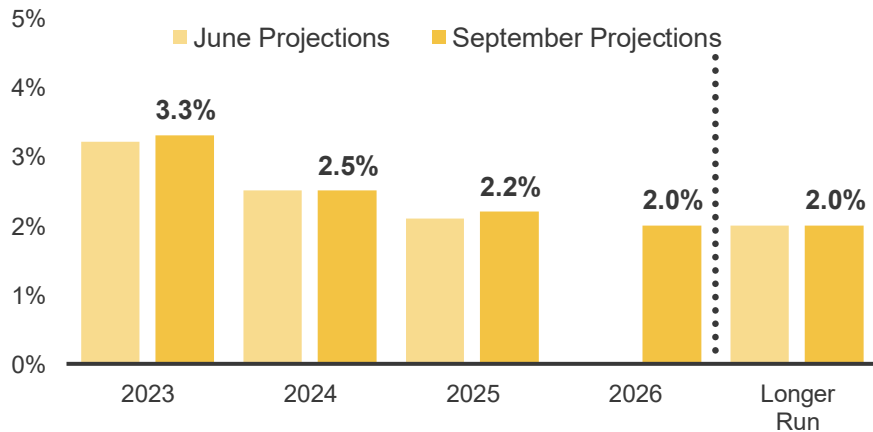
Change in Real GDP



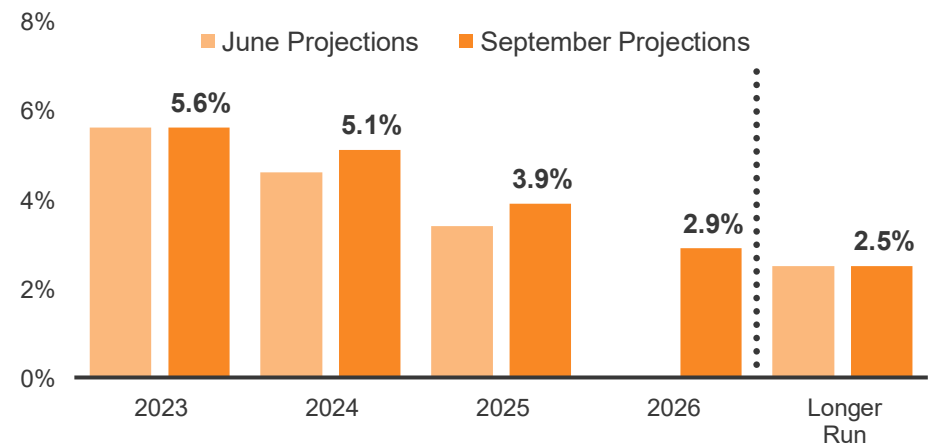
Unemployment Rate



PCE Inflation



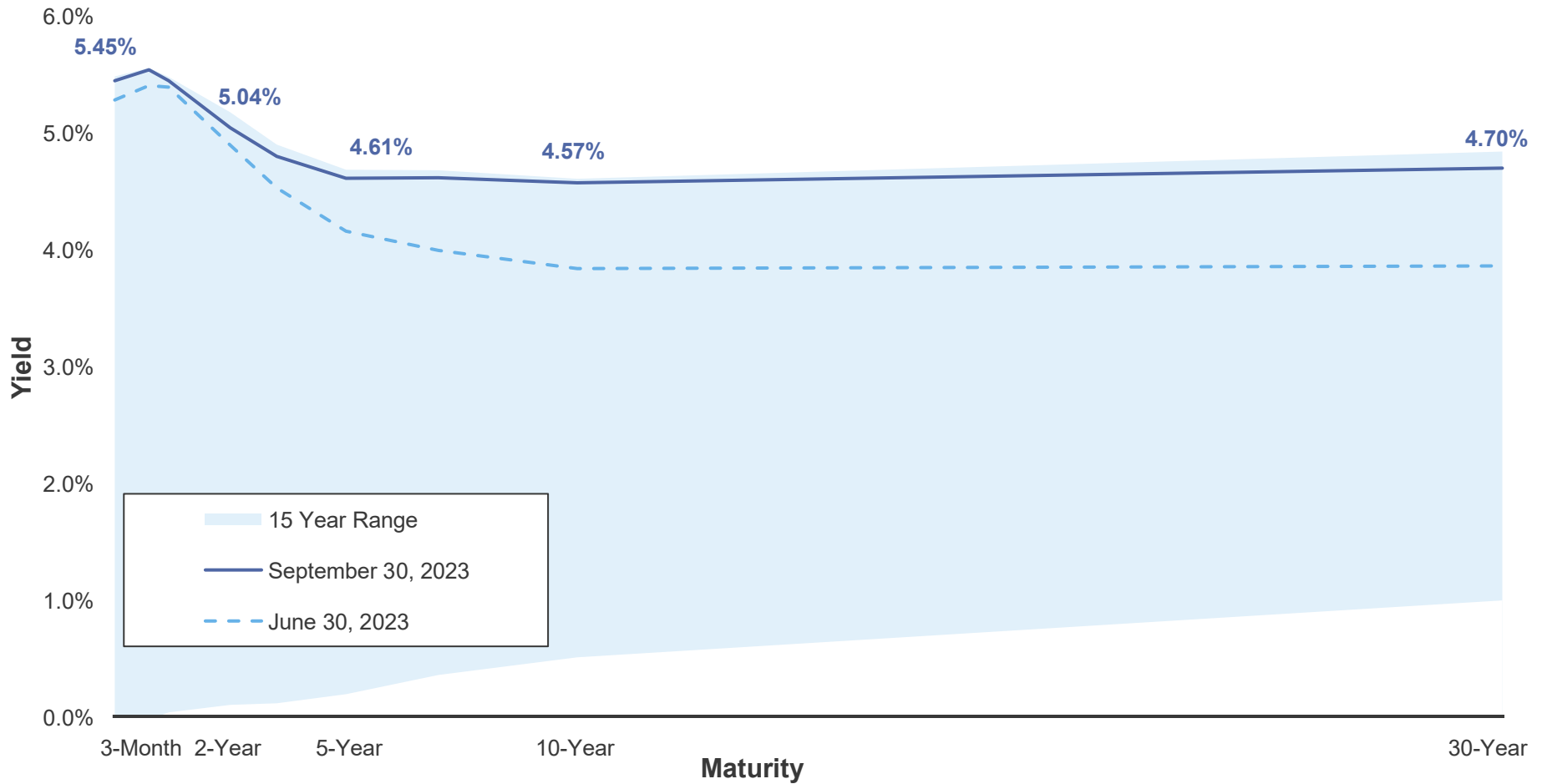
Federal Funds Rate



Source: Federal Reserve, latest economic projections as of September 2023.

Interest Rates Are At Their Highest Levels Since 2006-07

U.S. Treasury Yield Curve



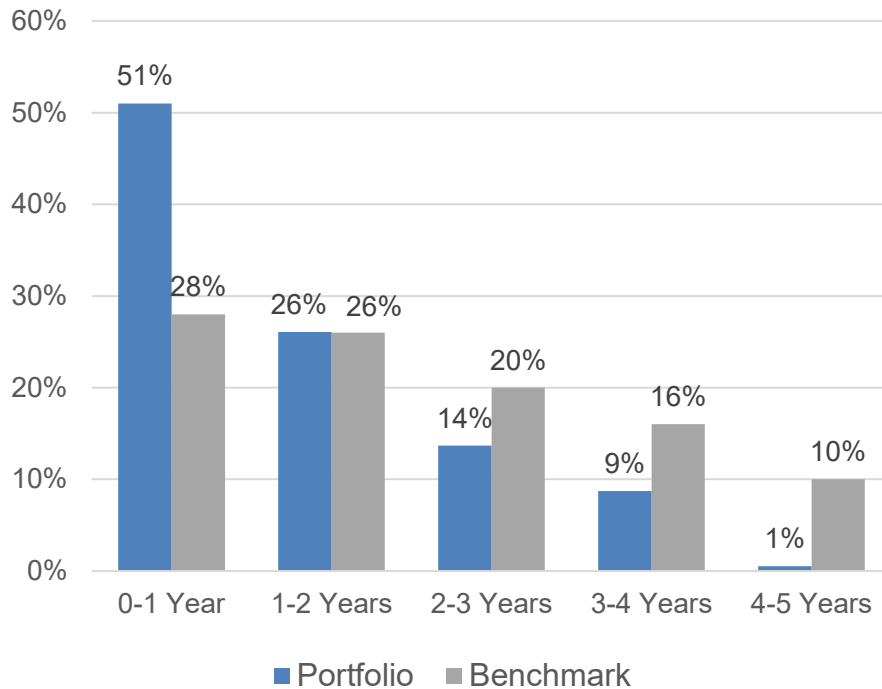
Source: Bloomberg, as of September 30, 2023.

Sector Allocation

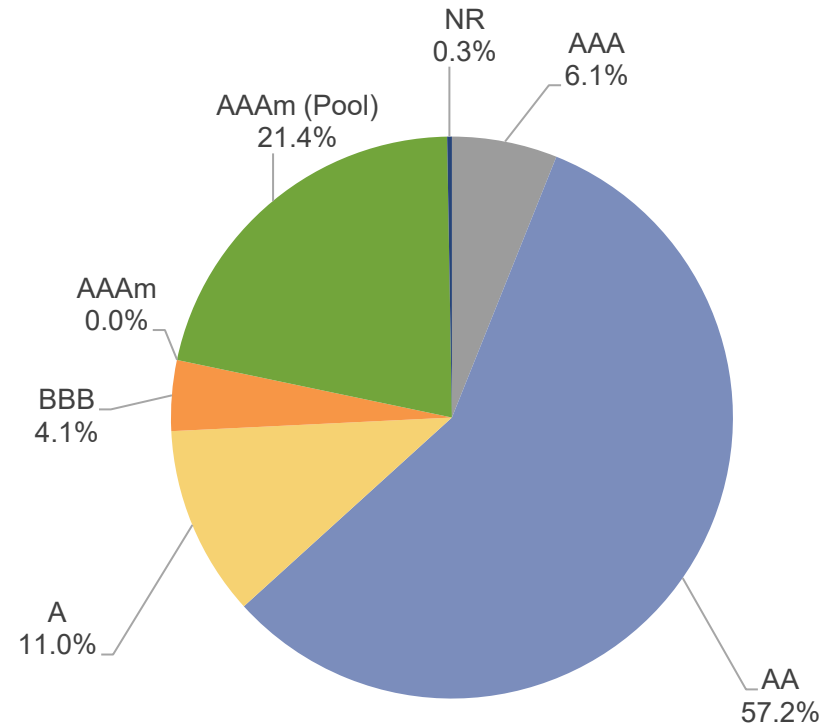
<u>Security Type</u>	<u>Market Value as of September 30, 2023</u>	<u>% of Portfolio</u>	<u>% Change vs. Prior Quarter</u>	<u>Policy Limits</u>
U.S. Treasury	\$7,616,256	35.8%	-3.4%	100%
Federal Agency	\$3,617,428	17.0%	-0.7%	100%
Municipal Obligations	\$663,470	3.1%	-1.2%	100%
Supranational	\$774,623	3.6%	1.2%	30%
Corporate Notes	\$3,724,708	17.5%	5.4%	30%
Commerical Paper	\$0	0.0%	0.0%	30%
Asset-Backed	\$312,962	1.5%	0.2%	20%
Security Sub-Total	\$16,709,448	78.6%		
Accrued Interest	\$65,384			
Securities Total	\$16,774,832			
CAMP Pool	\$4,560,919	21.4%	-1.6%	100%
Total Investments	\$21,335,751	100.0%		

Maturity & Credit Quality Distribution

Duration Distribution



Credit Quality



- ICE BofAML 0-5 Year Index from Bloomberg.
- Detail may not total to 100% due to rounding.
- Includes CAMP pool balances as of 9/30/23.
- Callable securities in the portfolio are included in the distribution analysis to their stated maturity date, although they may be called prior to maturity.
- The portfolios are no longer managed to the 0-5 Year Benchmark, but instead they are being managed to meet to the District's cash flow requirements.
- Security ratings by Standard & Poor's.

Total Return Performance

	Duration (years)	Past Quarter	Past 12 Months	Past 3 Years	Past 5 Years	Past 10 Years	Yield to Maturity at Cost	Yield to Maturity at Market
Total Portfolio	1.53	0.75%	3.35%	-0.48%	1.54%	1.21%	2.25%	5.15%
Main	1.30	1.10%	4.09%	0.46%	2.11%	1.44%	3.08%	5.34%
Toland	1.58	0.92%	3.60%	-0.63%	1.44%	1.18%	1.57%	5.15%
Coastal	1.70	0.52%	2.86%	-0.88%	1.30%	1.11%	2.10%	5.16%
Bailard	1.91	0.45%	2.83%	-0.86%	1.29%	1.10%	2.25%	4.94%
ICE BofAML 0-5 Year U.S. Treasury Index		0.50%	2.67%	-1.04%	1.13%	0.92%	-	-

- Performance on trade-date basis, gross (i.e., before fees), in accordance with the CFA Institute's Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS).
- Includes CAMP pool balances in performance and duration computations.
- Quarterly returns are presented on an unannualized basis. Performance numbers for periods greater than one year are presented on an annualized basis.
- ICE BofAML Indices provided by Bloomberg.
- Inception date for the combined portfolio is 6/30/2007 and is the case for all individual portfolios except for the Main portfolio which has an inception date of 12/31/2006.
- The portfolios are no longer managed to the 0-5 Year Benchmark, but instead they are being managed to meet to the District's cash flow requirements.

Issuer Diversification

Security Type / Issuer	Market Value (%)	S&P / Moody's / Fitch
U.S. Treasury	45.6%	
UNITED STATES TREASURY	45.6%	AA / Aaa / AA
Federal Agency	21.6%	
FANNIE MAE	6.5%	AA / Aaa / AA
FEDERAL FARM CREDIT BANKS	1.4%	AA / Aaa / AA
FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS	7.1%	AA / Aaa / NR
FREDDIE MAC	6.7%	AA / Aaa / AA
Supranational	4.6%	
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK	4.6%	AAA / Aaa / AAA
Municipal	4.0%	
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY	0.4%	AA / Aa / NR
STATE OF WISCONSIN	1.6%	AAA / NR / AA
VENTURA COUNTY COMM COLLEGE DISTRICT	2.0%	AA / Aa / NR
Corporate	22.3%	
AMAZON.COM INC	0.8%	AA / A / AA
AMERICAN EXPRESS CO	2.3%	BBB / A / A
AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE	0.5%	A / A / A
APPLE INC	1.0%	AA / Aaa / NR
BANK OF AMERICA CO	0.3%	A / A / AA
CITIGROUP INC	1.4%	BBB / A / A
DEERE & COMPANY	1.3%	A / A / A
GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC	1.5%	BBB / A / A
IBM CORP	0.9%	A / A / NR
INTEL CORPORATION	1.0%	A / A / A
JP MORGAN CHASE & CO	1.0%	A / A / AA
LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP	0.2%	A / A / A
Meta Platforms Inc	0.4%	AA / A / NR

Security Type / Issuer	Market Value (%)	S&P / Moody's / Fitch
Corporate	22.3%	
MORGAN STANLEY	3.1%	A / A / A
NATIONAL RURAL UTILITIES CO FINANCE CORP	0.2%	A / A / A
NORTHERN TRUST	0.7%	A / A / A
PACCAR FINANCIAL CORP	0.5%	A / A / NR
PEPSICO INC	0.4%	A / A / NR
TARGET CORP	0.2%	A / A / A
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON CORPORATION	0.8%	A / A / AA
THE WALT DISNEY CORPORATION	0.6%	A / A / A
TOYOTA MOTOR CORP	0.6%	A / A / A
US BANCORP	1.7%	A / A / A
WAL-MART STORES INC	1.0%	AA / Aa / AA
ABS	1.9%	
CAPITAL ONE FINANCIAL CORP	0.8%	AAA / NR / AAA
CARMAX AUTO OWNER TRUST	0.1%	AAA / NR / AAA
GM FINANCIAL LEASINGTRUST	0.0%	AAA / NR / AAA
HONDA AUTO RECEIVABLES	0.5%	AAA / Aaa / AAA
MERCEDES-BENZ AUTO LEASE TRUST	0.2%	AAA / NR / AAA
WORLD OMNI AUTO REC TRUST	0.2%	AAA / NR / AAA
Total	100.0%	

Ratings shown are calculated by assigning a numeral value to each security rating, then calculating a weighted average rating for each security type / issuer category using all available security ratings, excluding Not-Rated (NR) ratings. For security type / issuer categories where a rating from the applicable NRSRO is not available, a rating of NR is assigned. Includes accrued interest and excludes balances invested in overnight funds.

Fixed-Income Sector Outlook – 4Q 2023

Sector	Our Investment Preferences
COMMERCIAL PAPER / CD	
TREASURIES	
T-Bill	
T-Note	
FEDERAL AGENCIES	
Bullets	
Callables	
SUPRANATIONALS	
CORPORATES	
Financials	
Industrials	
SECURITIZED	
Asset-Backed	
Agency Mortgage-Backed	
Agency CMBS	
MUNICIPALS	



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- In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, information is presented on a trade date basis; forward settling purchases are included in the monthly balances, and forward settling sales are excluded.
- Performance is presented in accordance with the CFA Institute's Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS). Unless otherwise noted, performance is shown gross of fees. Quarterly returns are presented on an unannualized basis. Returns for periods greater than one year are presented on an annualized basis. Past performance is not indicative of future returns.
- Bank of America/Merrill Lynch Indices provided by Bloomberg Financial Markets.
- Money market fund/cash balances are included in performance and duration computations.
- Standard & Poor's is the source of the credit ratings. Distribution of credit rating is exclusive of money market fund/LGIP holdings.
- Callable securities in the portfolio are included in the maturity distribution analysis to their stated maturity date, although, they may be called prior to maturity.
- MBS maturities are represented by expected average life.

Glossary

- **Accrued Interest:** Interest that is due on a bond or other fixed income security since the last interest payment was made.
- **Agencies:** Federal agency securities and/or Government-sponsored enterprises.
- **Amortized Cost:** The original cost of the principal of the security is adjusted for the amount of the periodic reduction of any discount or premium from the purchase date until the date of the report. Discount or premium with respect to short-term securities (those with less than one year to maturity at time of issuance) is amortized on a straight line basis. Such discount or premium with respect to longer-term securities is amortized using the constant yield basis.
- **Asset-Backed Security:** A financial instrument collateralized by an underlying pool of assets – usually ones that generate a cash flow from debt, such as loans, leases, credit card balances, and receivables.
- **Bankers' Acceptance:** A draft or bill of exchange accepted by a bank or trust company. The accepting institution guarantees payment of the bill as well as the insurer.
- **Commercial Paper:** An unsecured obligation issued by a corporation or bank to finance its short-term credit needs, such as accounts receivable and inventory.
- **Contribution to Total Return:** The weight of each individual security multiplied by its return, then summed for each sector to determine how much each sector added or subtracted from the overall portfolio performance.
- **Effective Duration:** A measure of the sensitivity of a security's price to a change in interest rates, stated in years.
- **Effective Yield:** The total yield an investor receives in relation to the nominal yield or coupon of a bond. Effective yield takes into account the power of compounding on investment returns, while nominal yield does not.
- **FDIC:** Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. A federal agency that insures bank deposits to a specified amount.
- **Interest Rate:** Interest per year divided by principal amount and expressed as a percentage.
- **Market Value:** The value that would be received or paid for an investment in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.
- **Maturity:** The date upon which the principal or stated value of an investment becomes due and payable.
- **Negotiable Certificates of Deposit:** A CD with a very large denomination, usually \$1 million or more, that can be traded in secondary markets.
- **Par Value:** The nominal dollar face amount of a security.
- **Pass-through Security:** A security representing pooled debt obligations that passes income from debtors to its shareholders. The most common type is the mortgage-backed security.

Glossary

- Repurchase Agreements: A holder of securities sells these securities to an investor with an agreement to repurchase them at a fixed price on a fixed date.
- Settle Date: The date on which the transaction is settled and monies/securities are exchanged. If the settle date of the transaction (i.e., coupon payments and maturity proceeds) occurs on a non-business day, the funds are exchanged on the next business day.
- Supranational: A multinational union or association in which member countries cede authority and sovereignty on at least some internal matters to the group, whose decisions are binding on its members.
- Trade Date: The date on which the transaction occurred; however, the final consummation of the security transaction and payment has not yet taken place.
- Unsettled Trade: A trade which has been executed; however, the final consummation of the security transaction and payment has not yet taken place.
- U.S. Treasury: The department of the U.S. government that issues Treasury securities.
- Yield: The rate of return based on the current market value, the annual interest receipts, maturity value, and the time period remaining until maturity, stated as a percentage on an annualized basis.
- YTM at Cost: The yield to maturity at cost is the expected rate of return based on the original cost, the annual interest receipts, maturity value, and the time period from purchase date to maturity, stated as a percentage on an annualized basis.
- YTM at Market: The yield to maturity at market is the rate of return based on the current market value, the annual interest receipts, maturity value, and the time period remaining until maturity, stated as a percentage on an annualized basis.