

Cogitations on the South Carolina Economy

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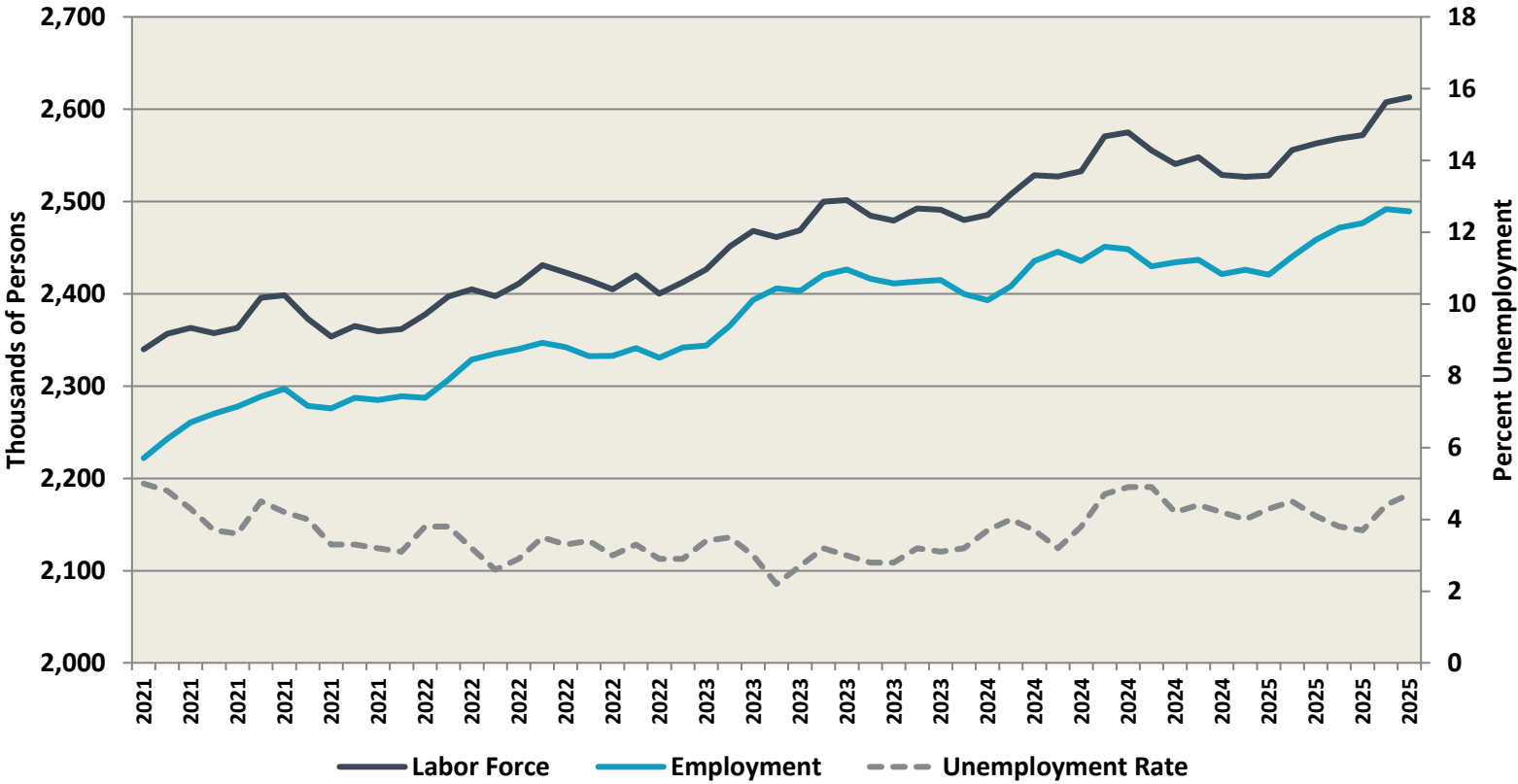
SC Board of Economic Advisors

October 14, 2025

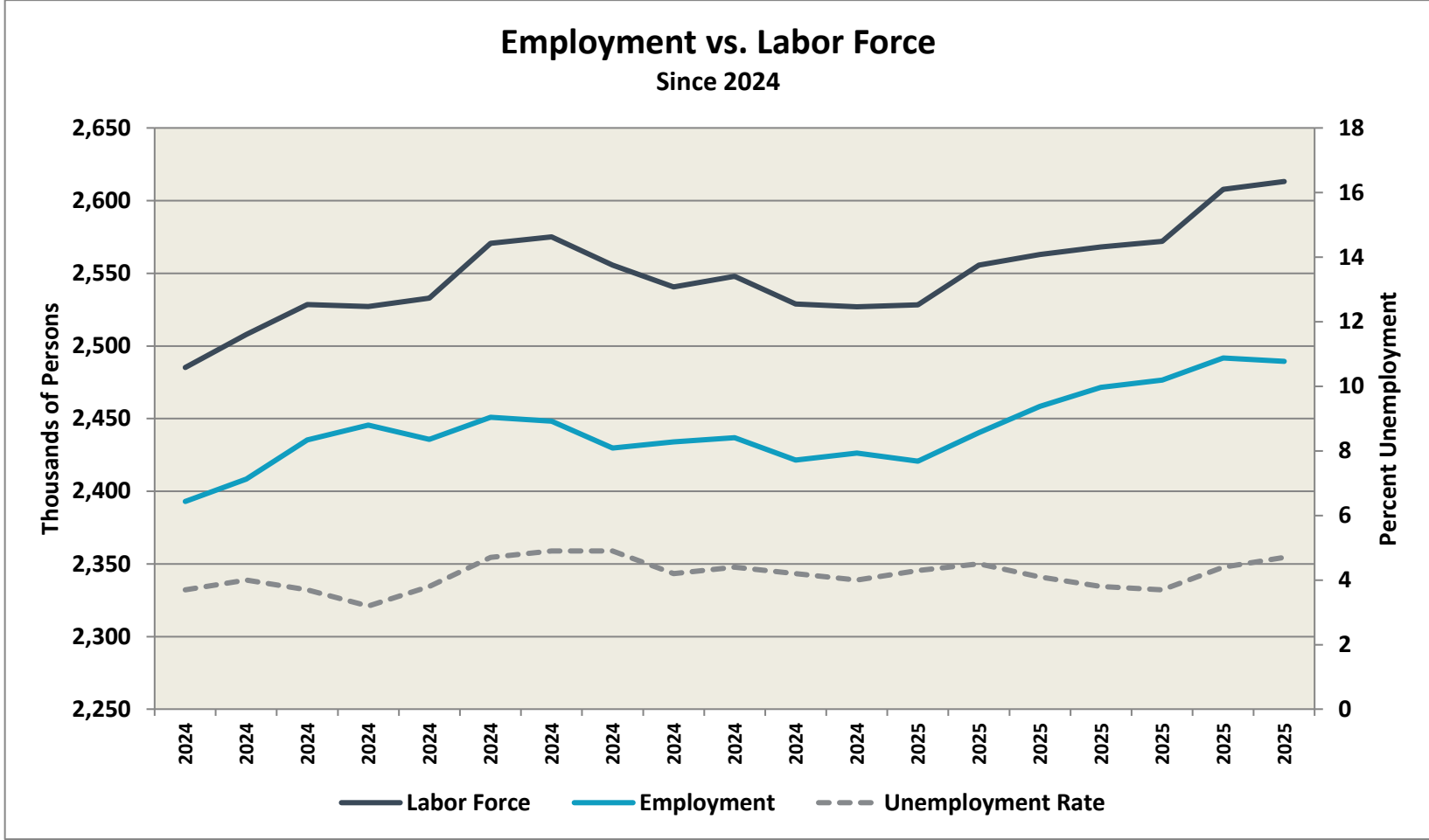


Employment vs. Labor Force

Since 2021

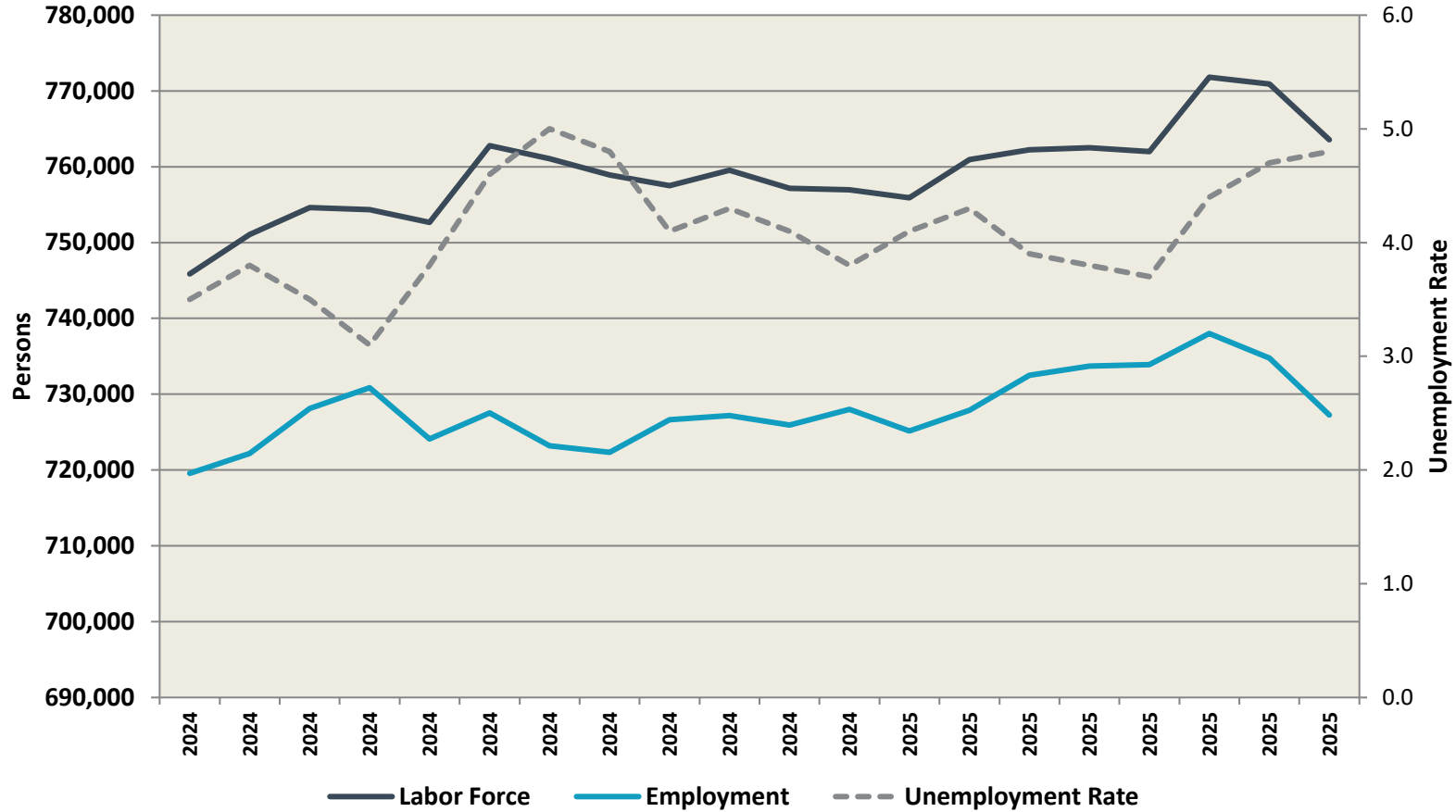


UNEMPLOYMENT
RATE (SC)



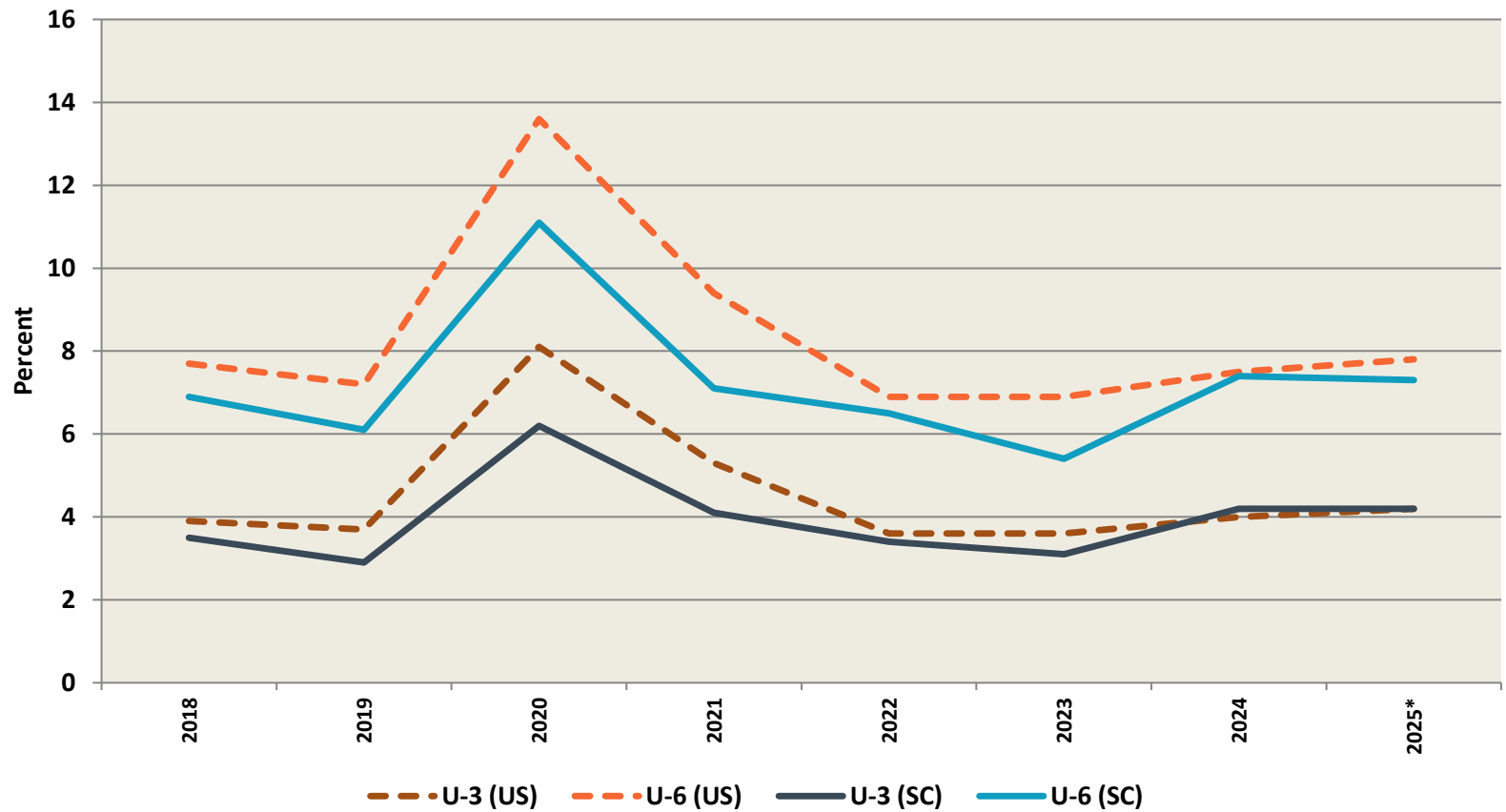
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (SC)

Employment vs. Labor Force
Since 2024



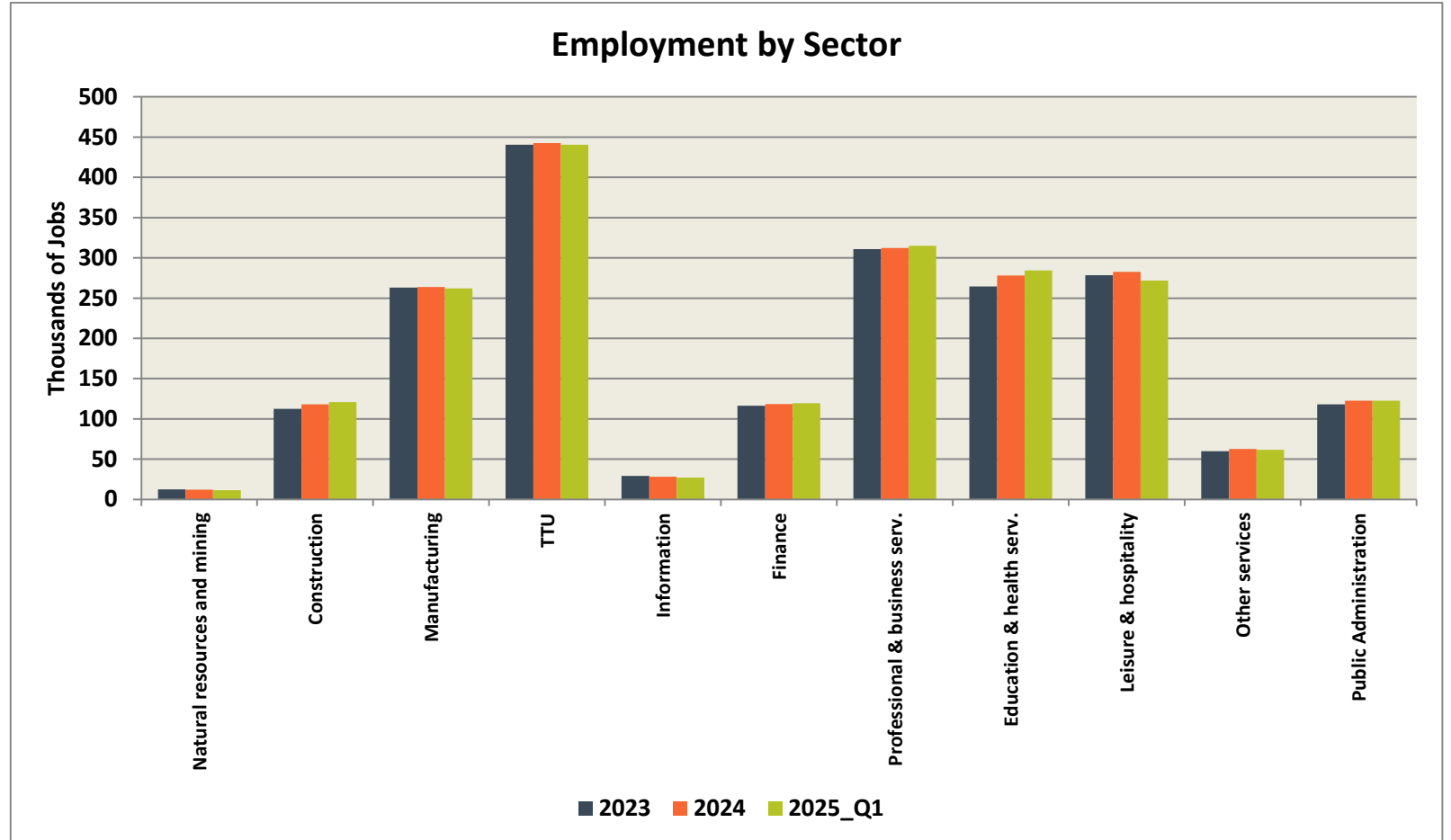
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATE
(GREENVILLE-
SPARTANBURG-
ANDERSON CSA)

U-3 vs. U-6



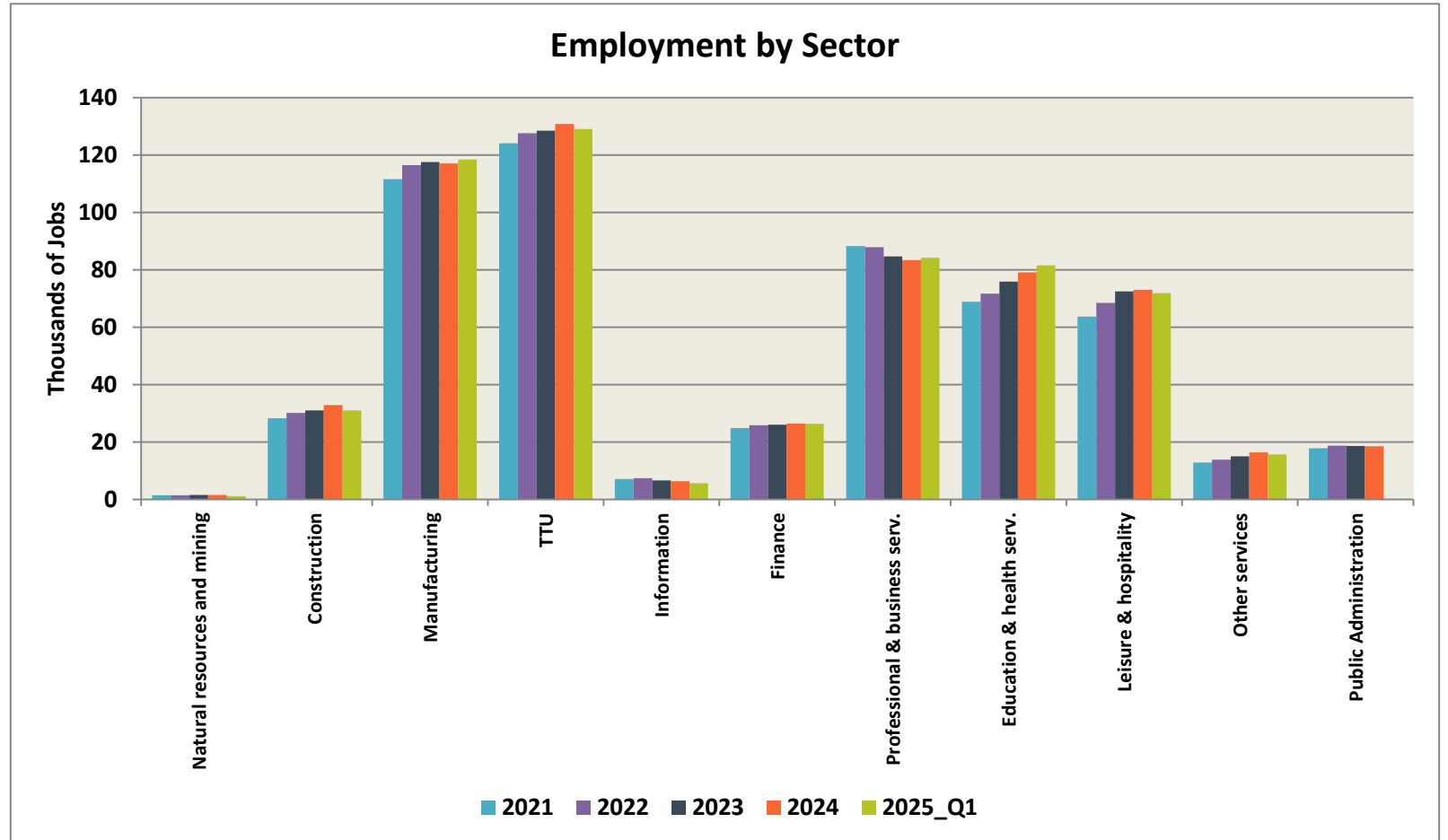
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATE (SC vs. US)

EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR (STATEWIDE)



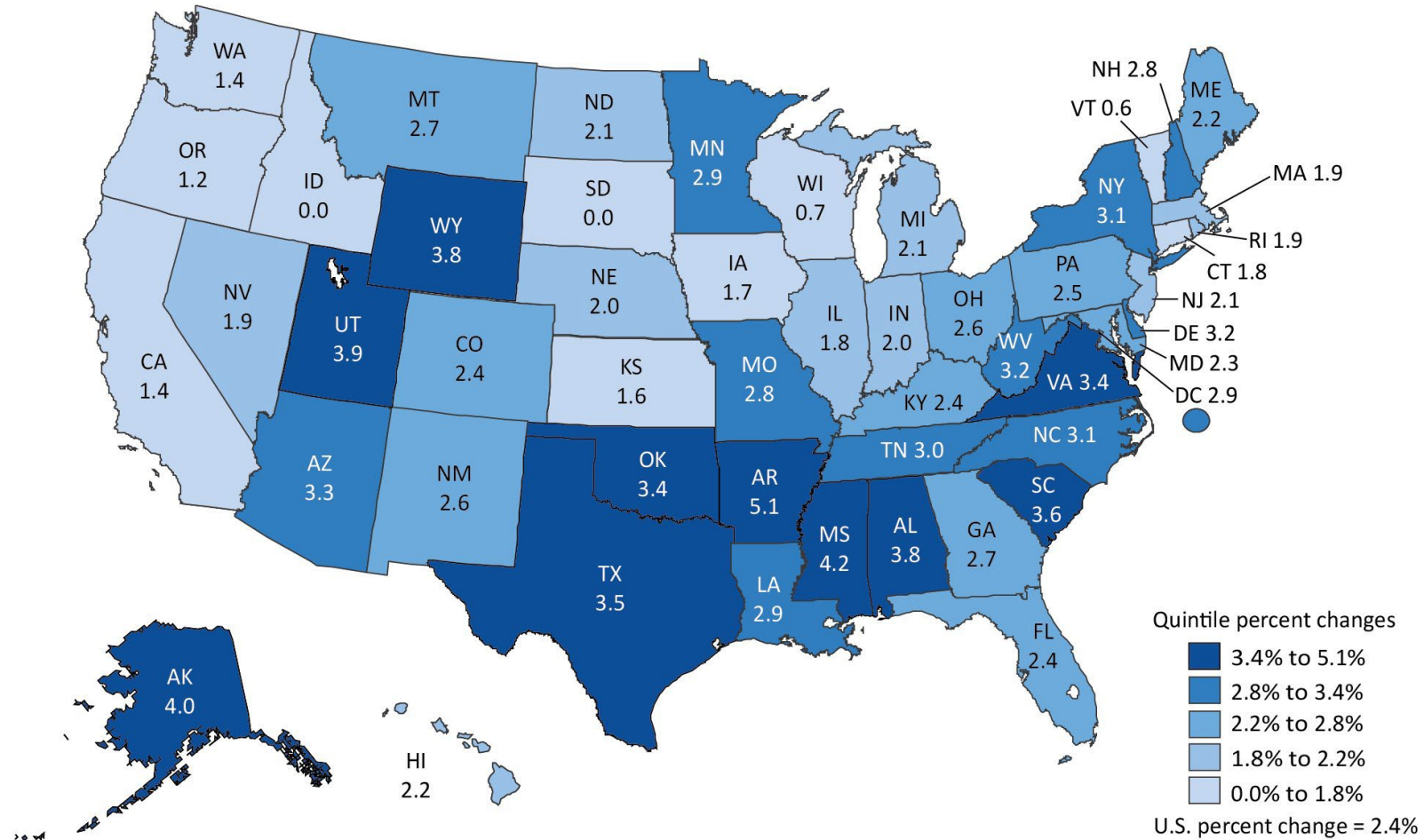
BEA CEW

EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR (10 UPSTATE COUNTIES)



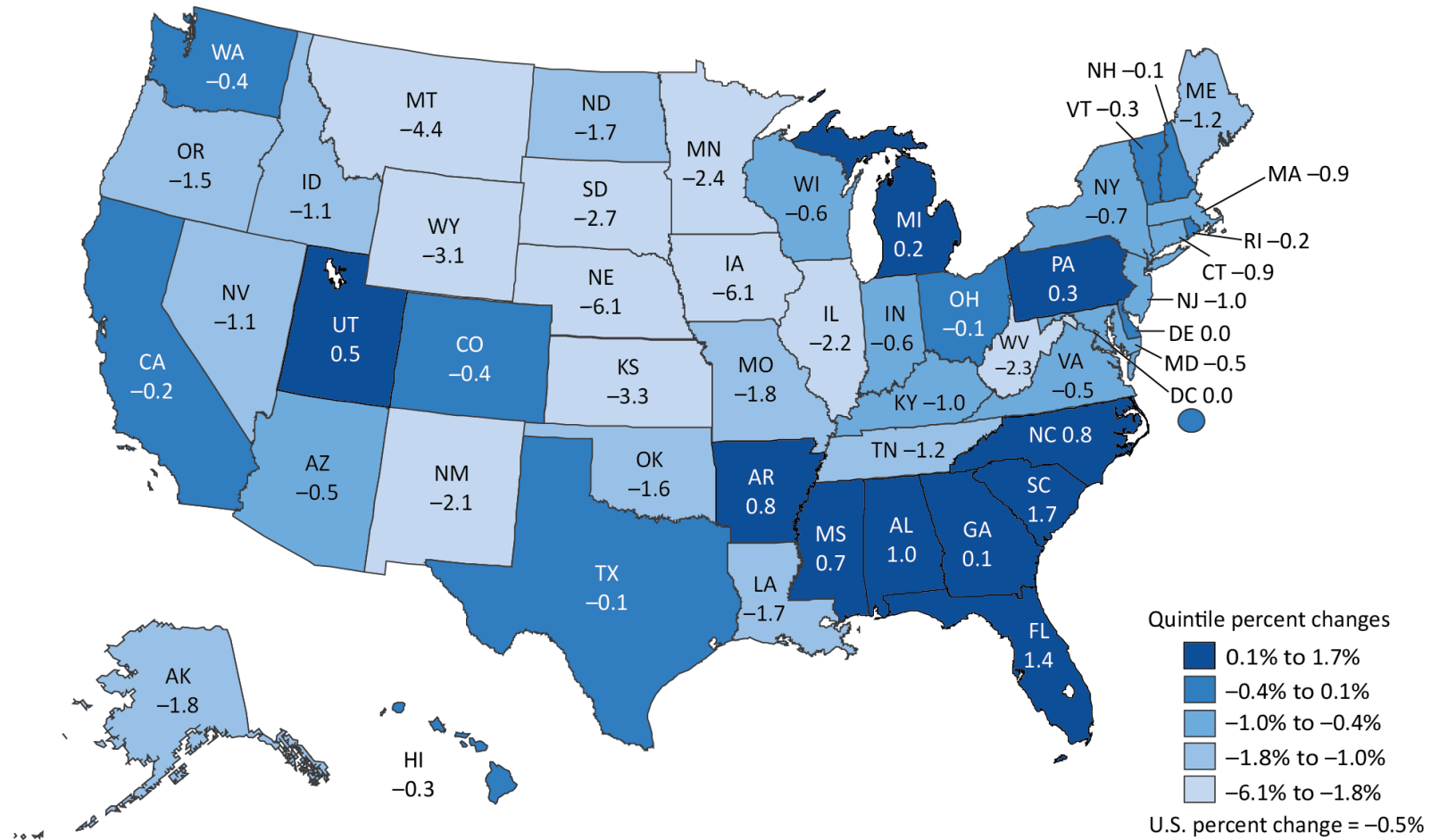
BEA CEW

Real GDP: Percent Change at Annual Rate, 2024:Q3–2024:Q4



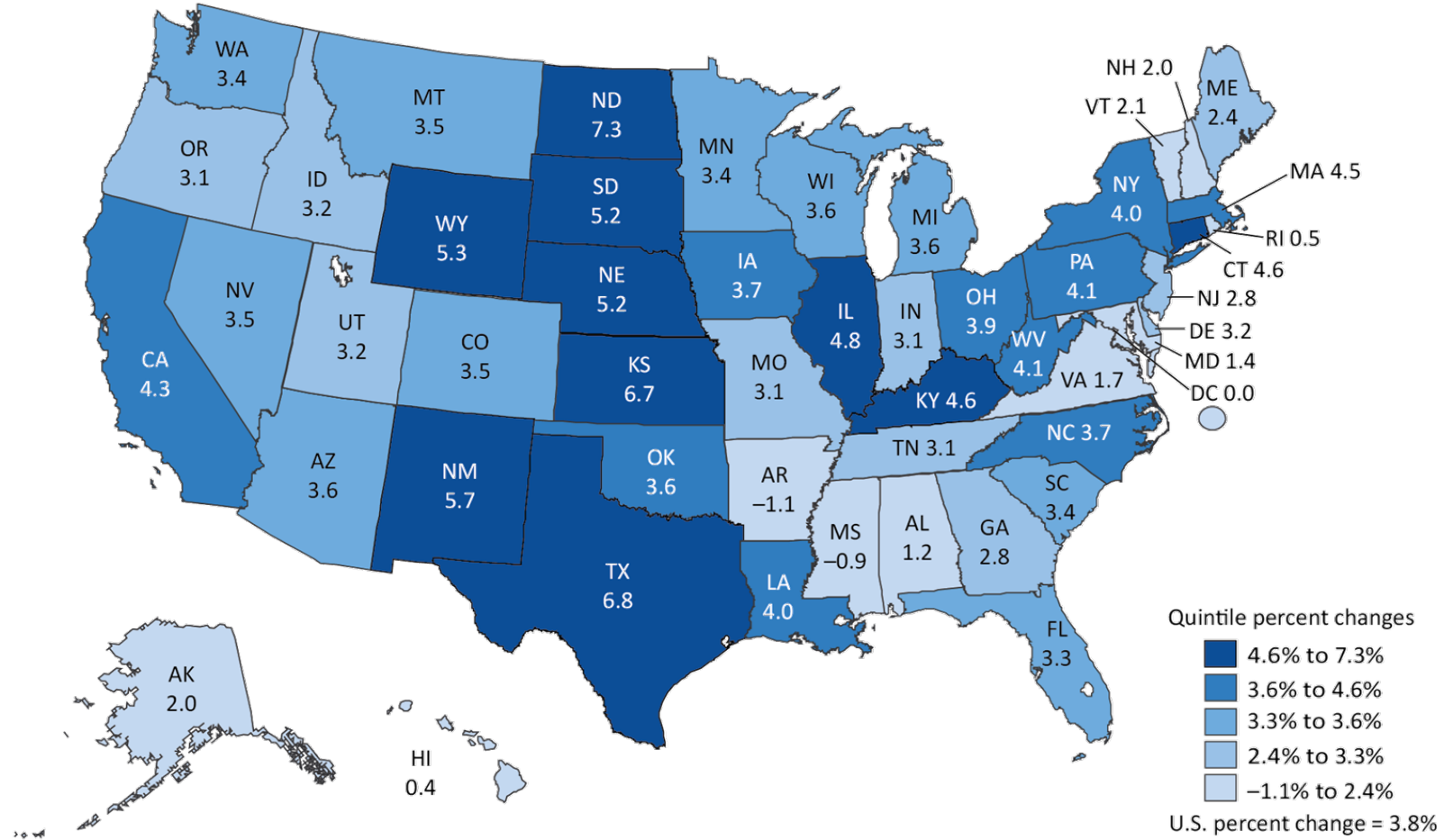
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Real GDP: Percent Change at Annual Rate, 2024:Q4–2025:Q1



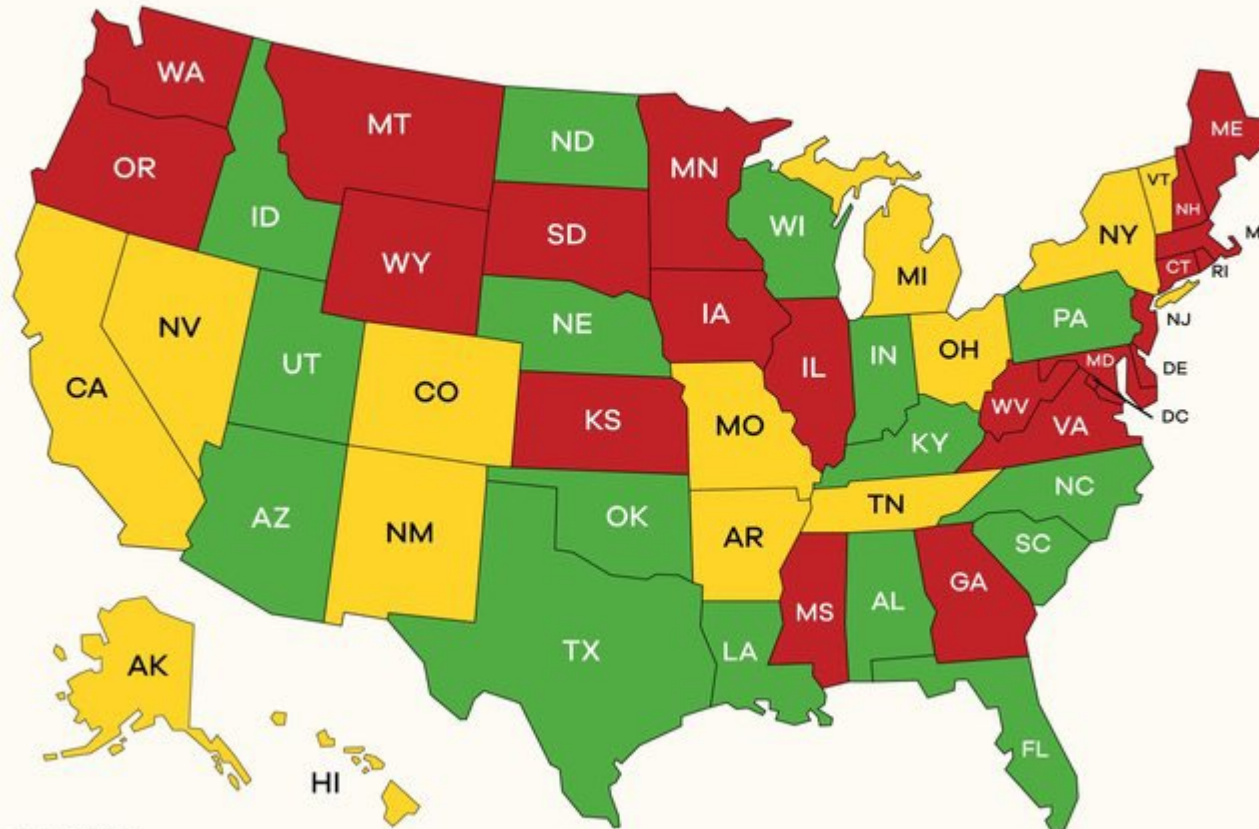
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Real GDP: Percent Change at Annual Rate, 2025:Q1–2025:Q2



GDP Gross domestic product
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

● Recession/High Risk ● Expansion ● Treading Water

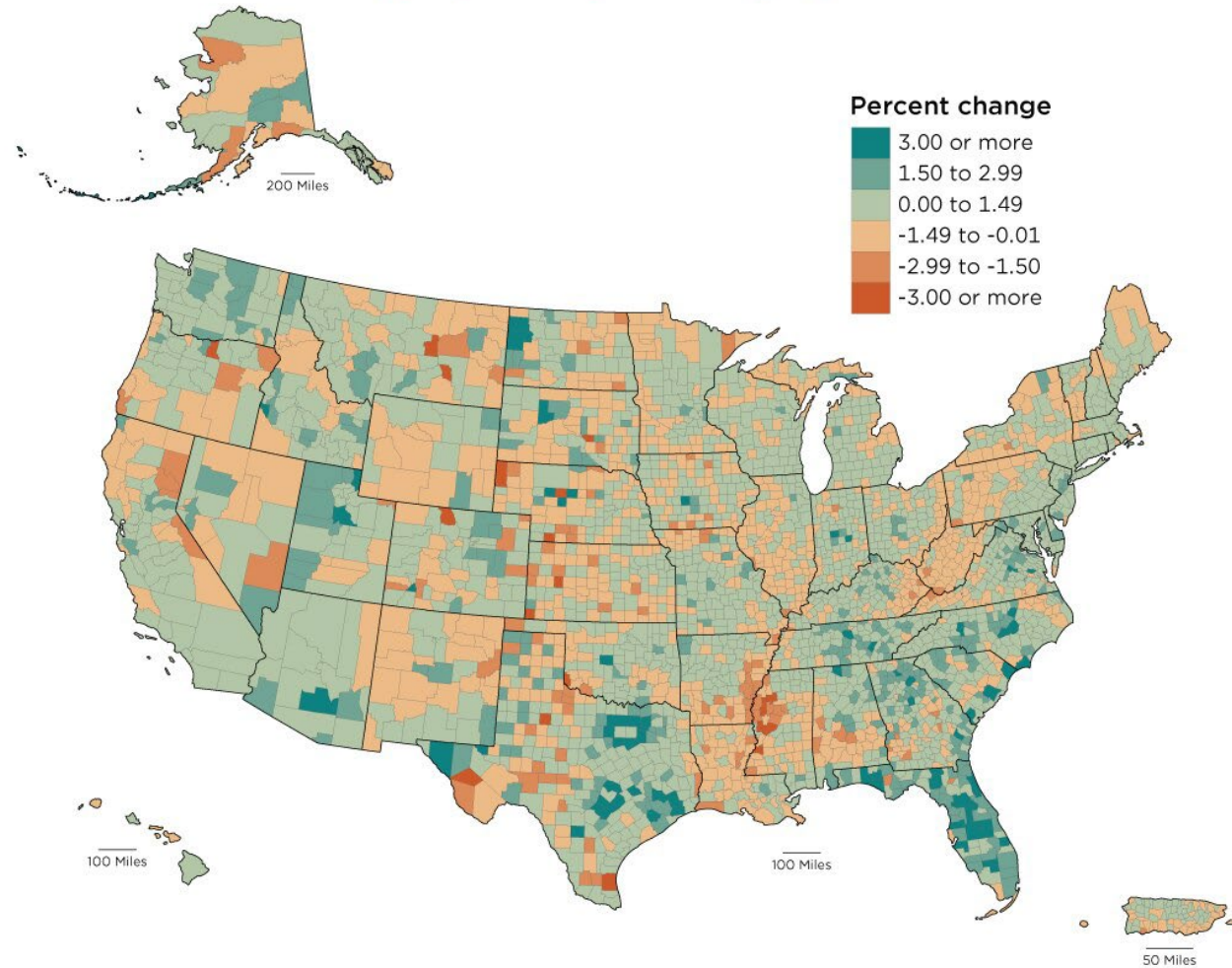


Source: Moody's Analytics

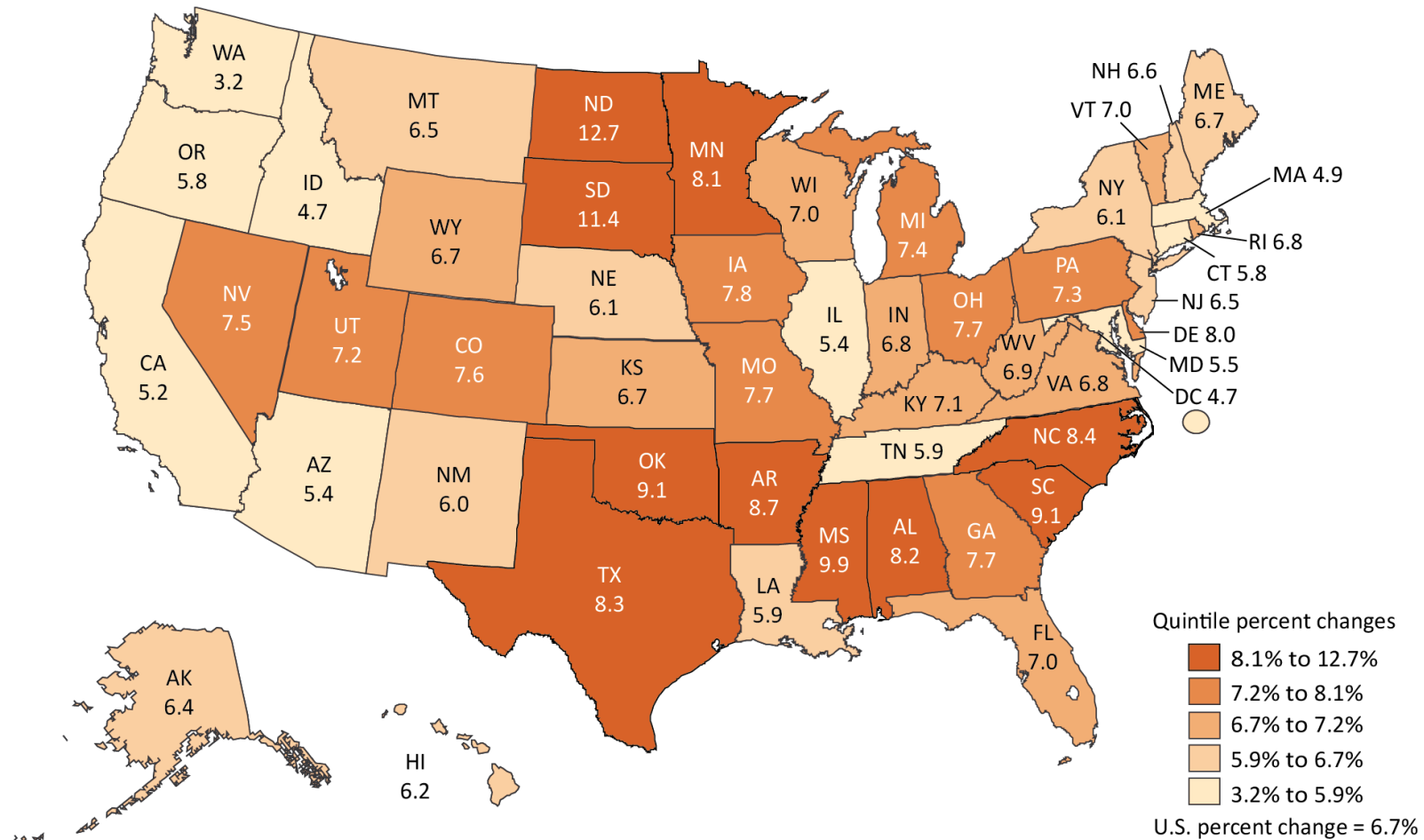
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Percent Change in County Population: July 1, 2023, to July 1, 2024

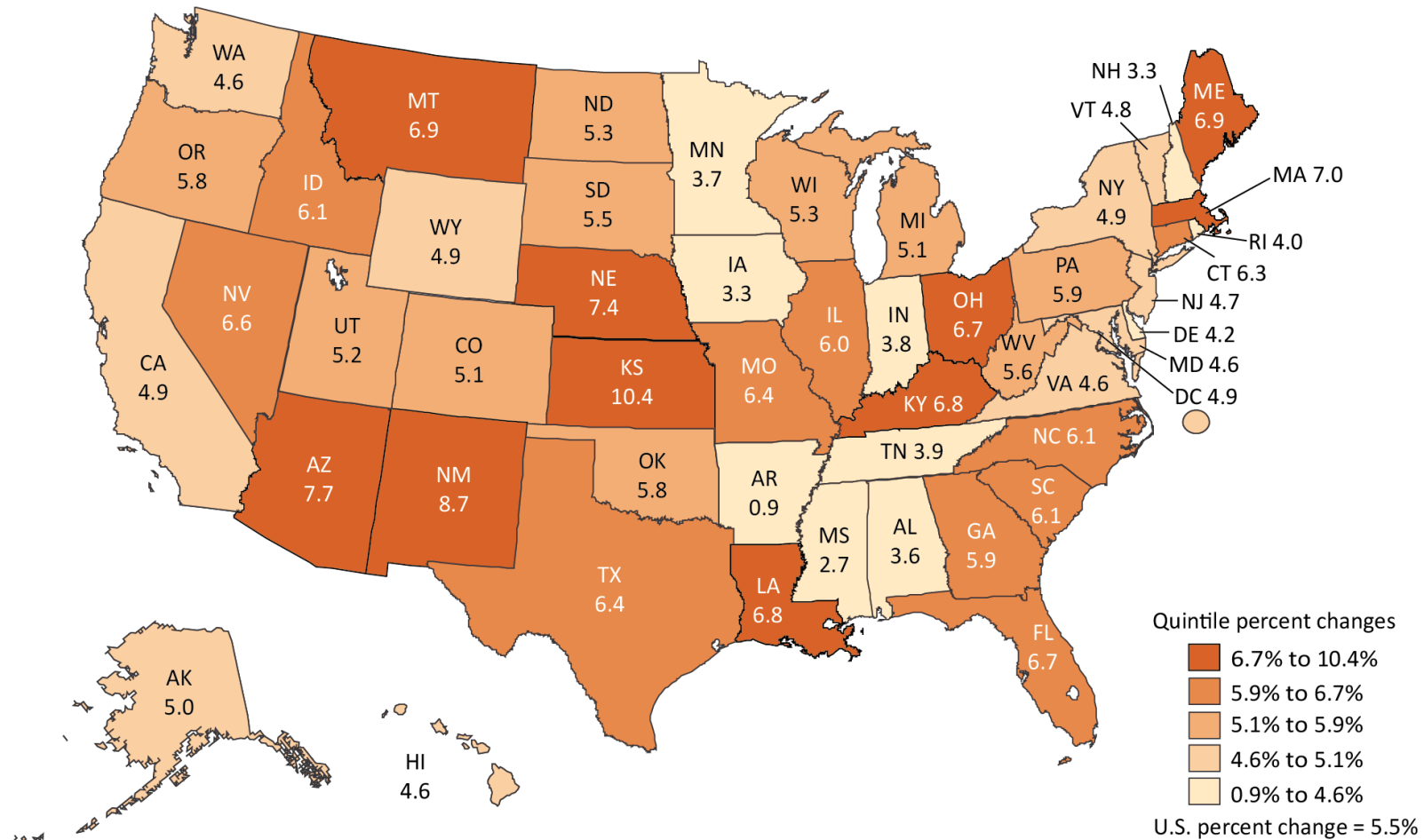


Personal Income: Percent Change at Annual Rate, 2024:Q4–2025:Q1



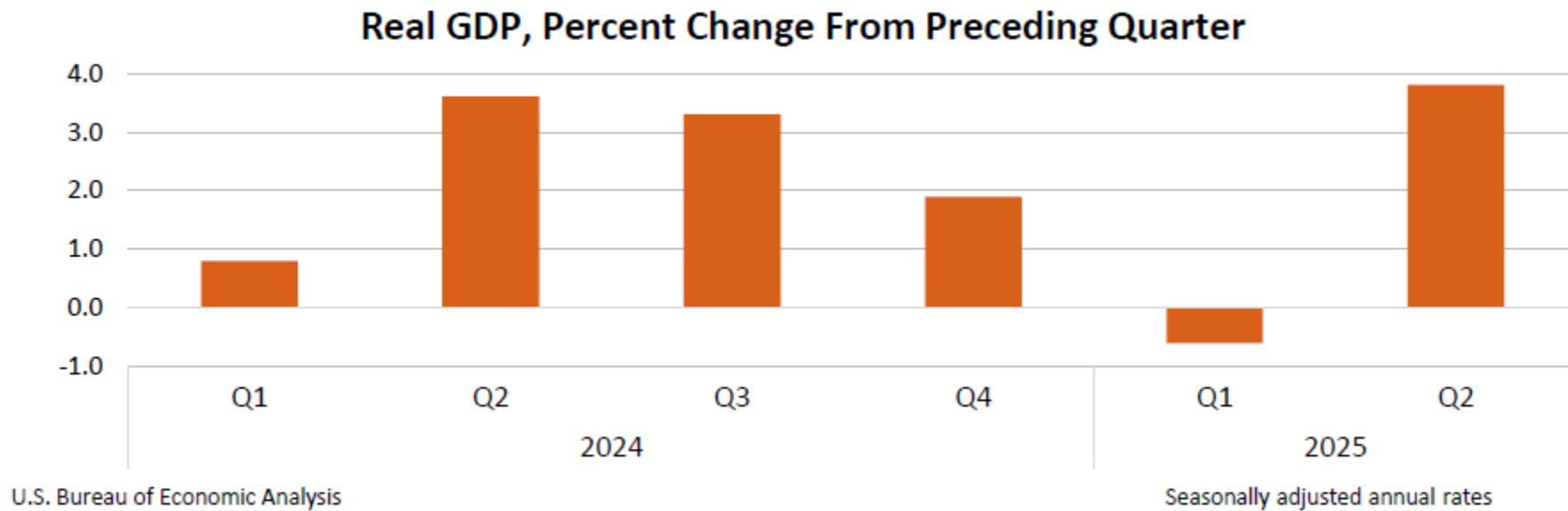
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Personal Income: Percent Change at Annual Rate, 2025:Q1–2025:Q2



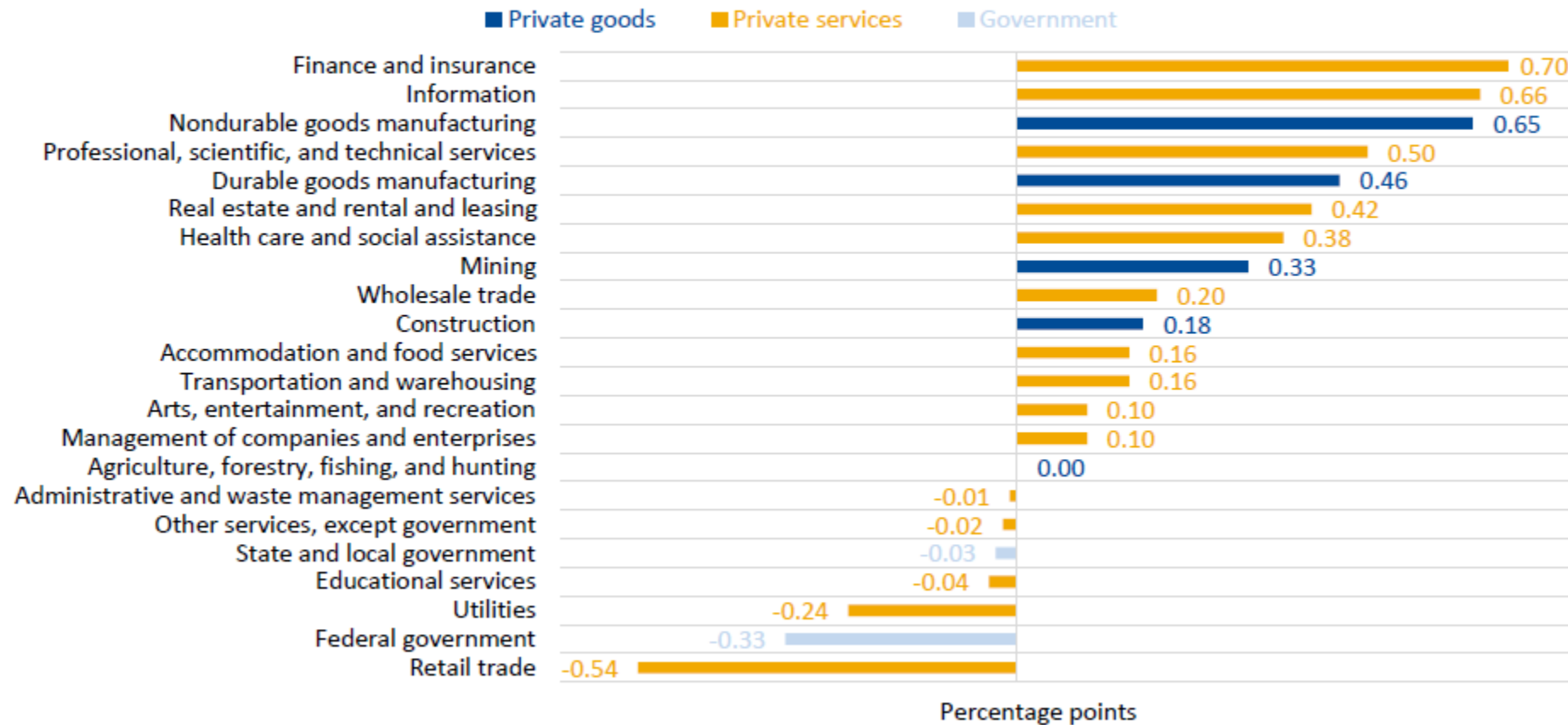
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

NATIONAL GDP



Contributions to Percent Change in Real GDP by Industry Group, 2nd Quarter 2025

Real GDP increased 3.8 Percent



Seasonally adjusted annual rates

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

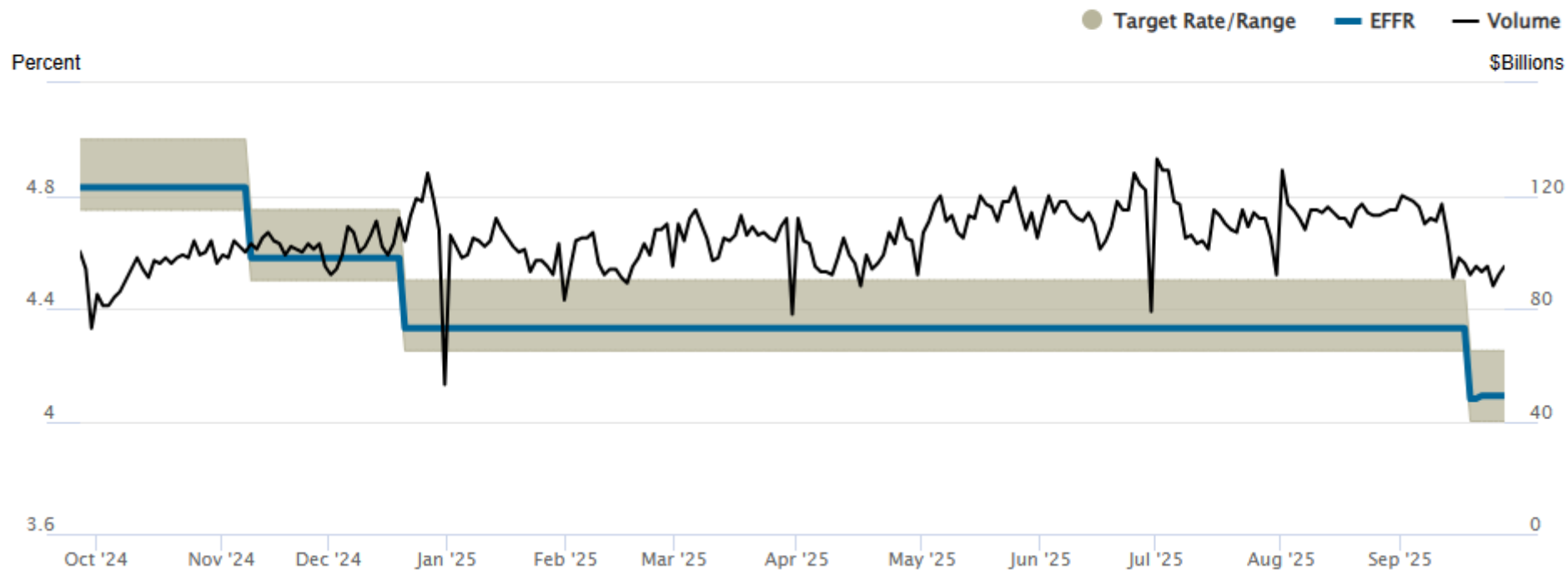
LINGERING QUESTIONS

- Tariffs... to be or not to be?
 - SCOTUS?
 - Trade deals?
- Job reports? *
 - * Government shutdown permitting
- How goes the Fed?

FEDERAL FUNDS CHART

1m 3m **1y** All

From Sep 26, 2024 To Sep 26, 2025



Source: <https://www.newyorkfed.org/markets/reference-rates/effr>

PROGNOSTICATION

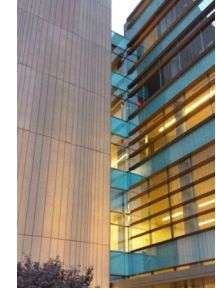
- My expectations:
 - National recession?
 - Tariffs and/or uncertainty about them a drag
 - I think we'll squeak by without a recession, but...
 - SC is well-positioned to weather one largely due to our economic diversity

PROGNOSTICATION

- My expectations:
 - Slower personal income growth than previous year
 - Barring recession, continued job growth, somewhat slower rate
- Inflation:
 - w/o Tariffs, consistent with past few months
 - w/ Tariffs, a little higher



The Clemson University Regional Economic Analysis Laboratory (CU-REAL) conducts public policy and economic and fiscal impact analysis for public, private, and non-profit sector clients. CU-REAL is a unit of the Department of Political Science, College of Behavioral, Social & Health Sciences.



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