# SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL FUND REVENUE

## **Quarterly Review** and Forecast Review



April 7, 2022

### **General Fund FY 2021-22 Third Quarter Summary (Preliminary)**

- March numbers are not yet finalized, but preliminary numbers indicate a General Fund excess of \$486.7
- Individual Income is driving the excess in March collections and is currently \$324.4 million ahead of expectations, partly due to the timing of refunds
- Sales tax and Corporate Income tax are ahead of expectations by \$28.5 million and \$88.7 million, respectively
- Higher collections across smaller revenue categories were \$45.1 million above the estimate

#### **General Fund Revenue**



#### **REVENUES V. BEA MONTHLY ESTIMATES**

**JULY - MARCH FY 2021-22** 

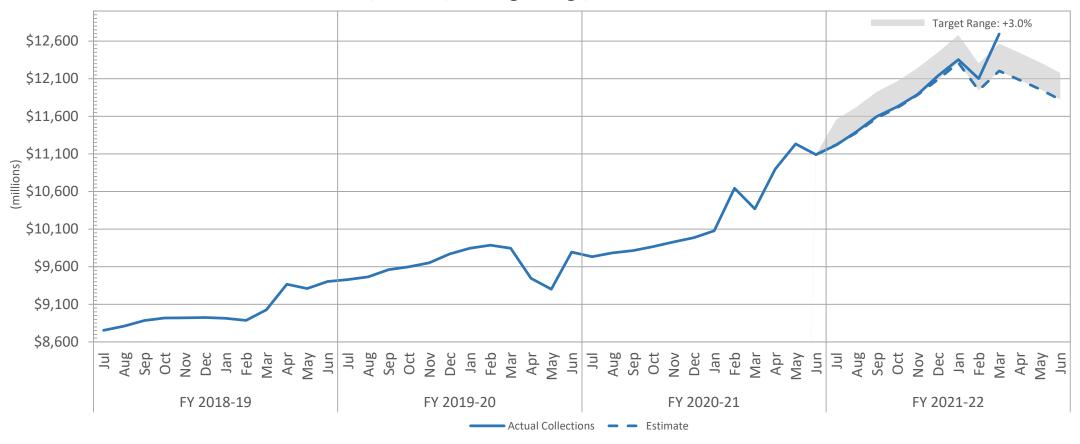
	Over/ Actual Expected (Under) Estimate Actual						Over/ Actual Expected (Under) Estimate Actual				
	Revenues	Revenues	Expected	Full Yr.	YTD		Revenues	Revenues	Expected		YTD
Total General Fund Revenue	\$8,937.7	\$8,450.9	\$486.7	6.6%	21.8%	Other Revenue Items, Sub-Total	\$664.2	\$619.5	\$44.7	8.0%	19.1%
Sales Tax	2,814.8	2,786.3	28.5	5.8%	18.2%	Admissions Tax	23.4	17.0	6.4	26.5%	84.6%
Individual Income Tax	4,670.0	4,345.6	324.4	6.9%	21.1%	Alcoholic Liquors Tax	70.9	66.7	4.3	2.9%	17.1%
Withholdings	5,143.9	5,007.1	136.8	8.6%	13.8%	Bank Tax	38.2	30.4	7.9	(16.8%)	174.3%
Nonwithholdings	822.0	794.0	28.1	(8.7%)	7.8%	Beer and Wine Tax	76.5	74.5	2.0	(1.2%)	2.0%
Refunds	1,296.0	1,455.5	(159.5)	0.3%	(9.1%)	Corporate License Tax	148.4	143.5	4.9	6.8%	10.4%
Corporate Income Tax	571.9	483.1	88.7	20.7%	82.0%	Deed Rec. (Doc. Tax)	102.6	94.4	8.2	11.8%	43.1%
Insurance Tax	216.8	216.4	0.4	(3.6%)	(4.8%)	Earned on Investments	56.0	55.0	1.0	4.6%	3.6%
Other Revenue Items, Sub-Total	664.2	619.5	44.7	8.0%	19.1%	Residual Revenue	148.2	138.2	10.0	(7.4%)	9.4%

Based on BEA Forecast as of February 15, 2022

# General Fund Revenue – Actual vs. February Estimate Revenues are running 21.8% over last year, with March bringing year-to-date collections \$486.7 million above the estimate

#### **ROLLING FISCAL YEAR - GENERAL FUND**

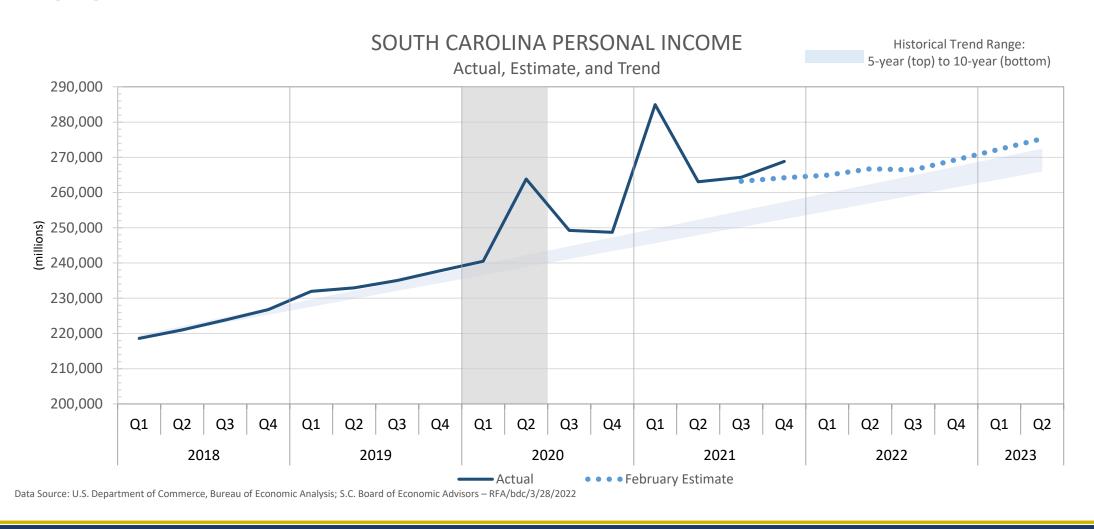
Actual, Estimate, and Target Range, FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-22



# **Individual Income Tax and Related Economic Indicators**

#### **SC Personal Income**

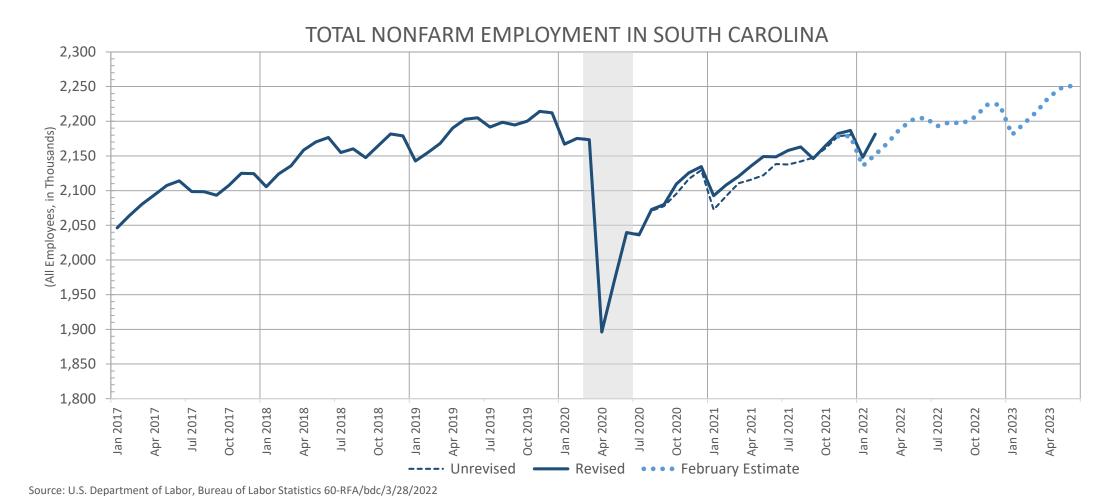
Q3 revised upward by \$1.1 billion in the most recent release; along with this, high wage growth drove personal income 1.7% above the estimate in Q4 2021



April 7, 2022

#### **SC Employment**

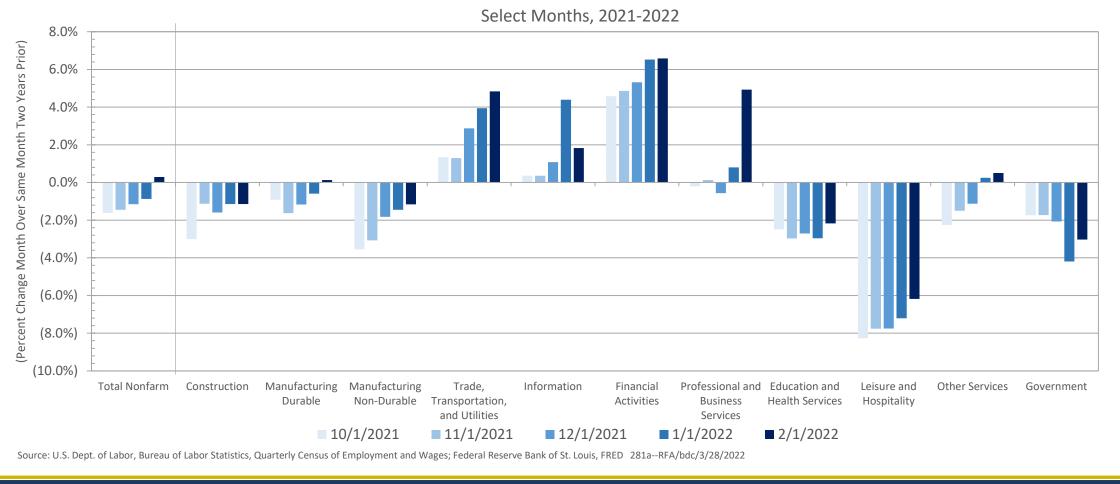
February experienced very strong job growth, ending above pre-pandemic levels; most of FY 2020-21 was revised upward by an average of 15.7 thousand jobs



### **SC** Employment by Industry

Many industries are at or above pre-pandemic levels; Leisure and Hospitality, Education and Health Services, and Government remain markedly low

SC EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY PERCENT CHANGE OVER TWO YEARS PRIOR



# Individual Income Taxes Key Issues

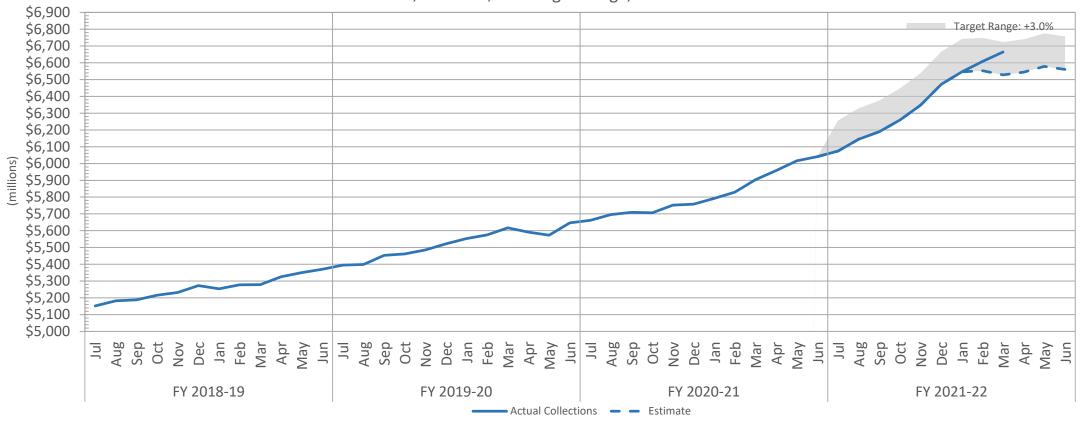
- Wage growth has driven Withholdings above the estimate but is beginning to moderate
- Non-Withholdings is slightly above the estimate with more than 40% of collections still to come; shifting trends and Federal Reserve decisions are expected to keep collections below FY 2020-21, which saw almost 25% growth
- Refunds are below the estimate due to processing timing, but this should be resolved in time

#### Withholdings - Actual vs. Estimate

Year-over-year growth in March was 9.8%; growth is slowing more gradually than expected, pushing collections \$136.8 million above the estimate

#### ROLLING FISCAL YEAR - INDIVIDUAL INCOME WITHHOLDINGS

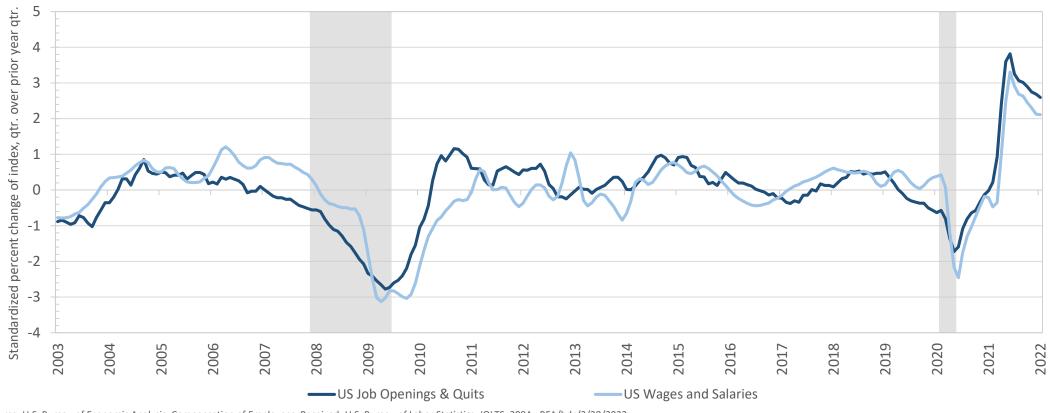
Actual, Estimate, and Target Range, FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-22



## Wage Growth and the Labor Market

Wage growth remains elevated; return to normal levels may be more gradual than expected as the labor shortage continues

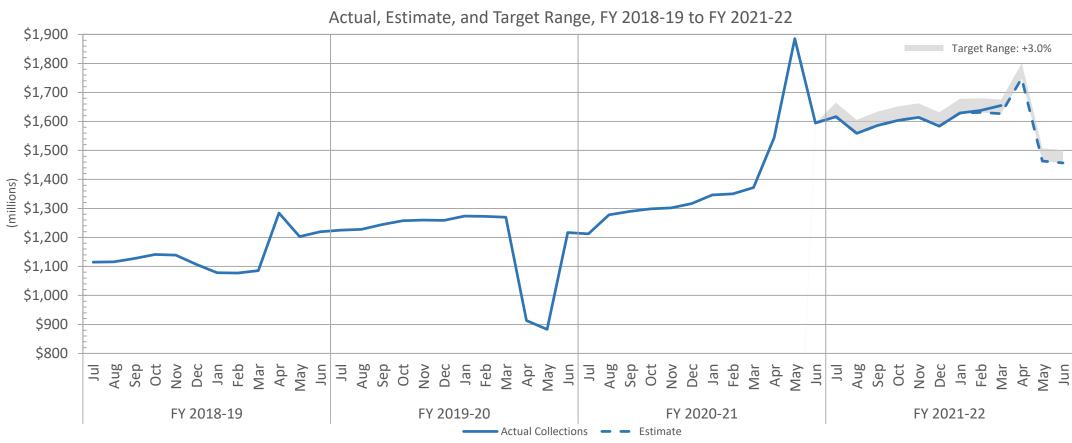
US JOB OPENINGS & QUITS VS. WAGE GROWTH



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Compensation of Employees, Received; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, JOLTS; 309A - RFA/bdc/3/28/2022

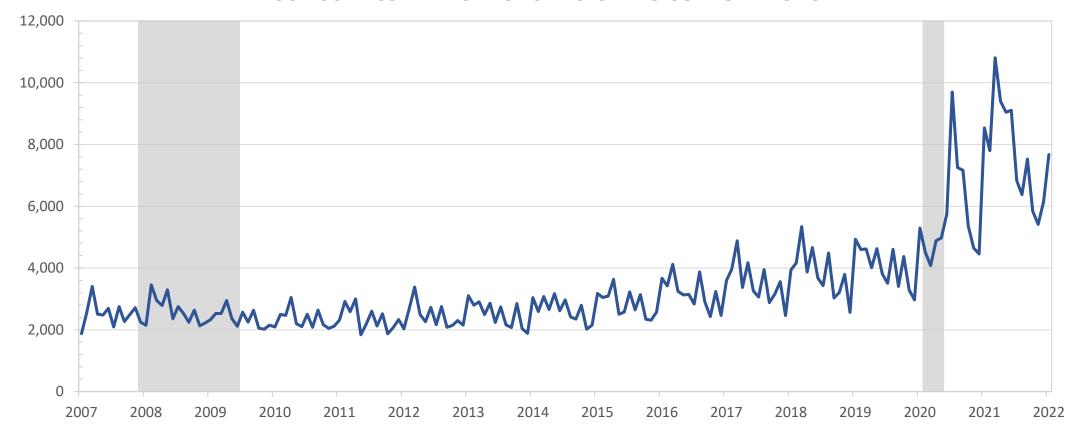
# Non-Withholdings - Actual vs. Estimate Collections are \$28.1 million above the estimate, but more than 40% of expected collections remain

#### ROLLING FISCAL YEAR - INDIVIDUAL INCOME NON-WITHHOLDINGS



## SC Business Applications Business applications are elevated but less so than the prior year

#### SC BUSINESS APPLICATIONS EXCLUDING CORPORATIONS

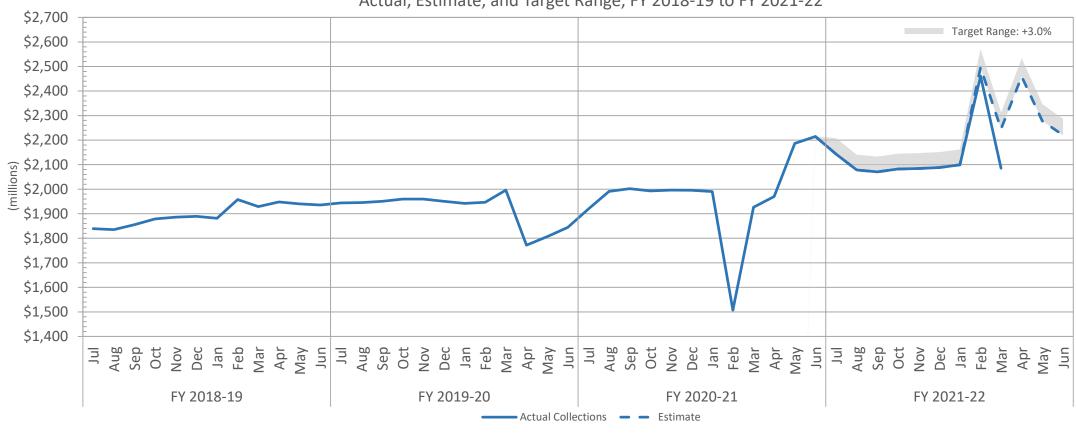


U.S. Census Bureau, Business Applications for South Carolina - 311B RFA/bdc/3/28/2022

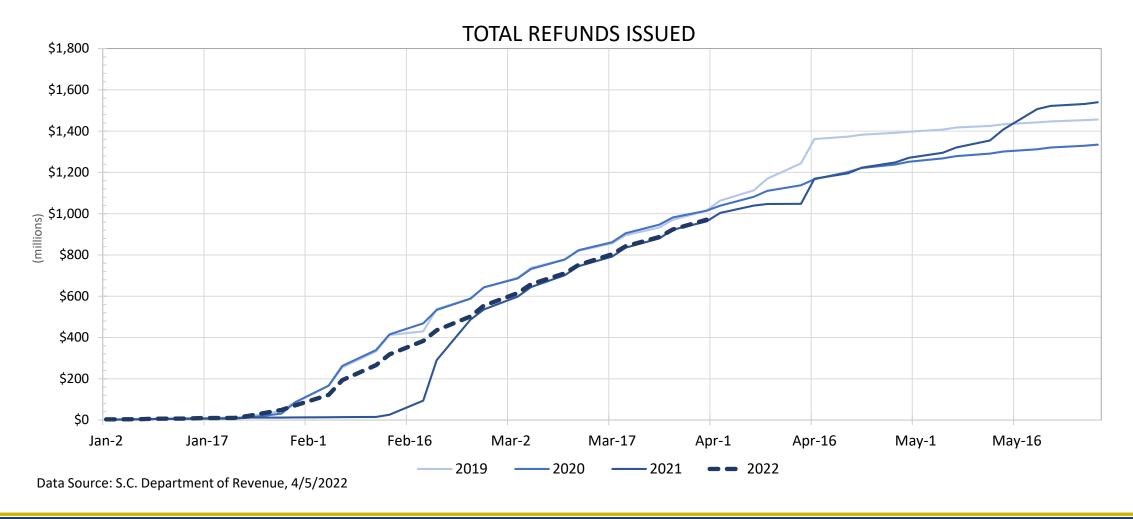
### Refunds - Actual vs. Estimate Refunds are \$159.5 million below the estimate due to the timing of refunds processing; this is expected to even out during tax filing season

#### ROLLING FISCAL YEAR - INDIVIDUAL INCOME REFUNDS

Actual, Estimate, and Target Range, FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-22



# Refunds Total refunds issued are in line with 2021 but below previous years



# **Consumption Taxes and Related Economic Indicators**

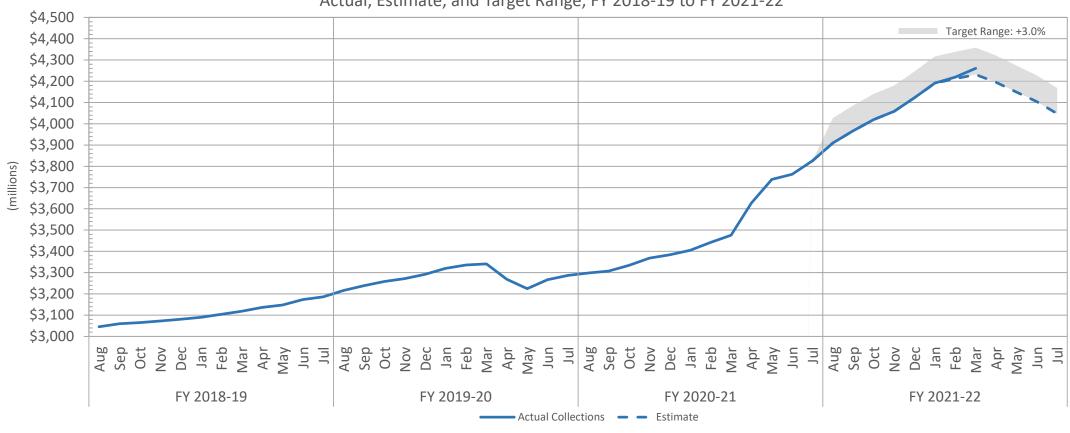
# **Consumption Taxes Key Issues FY 2021-22**

- Growth through March was slightly above the estimate –
   anticipating negative growth rates beginning with April revenues
- Consumers continue to spend more than pre-pandemic levels, with excess savings driving elevated spending over FY 2020-21
- Consumers are facing high gas prices and high inflation
- In response, the Federal Reserve has signaled up to six rate hikes in 2022 to curb inflation
- Coupled with higher costs, interest rate increases present an incentive to contract spending

#### Sales Tax - Actual vs. Estimate Collections in February and March were slightly above the estimate, with yearto-date growth declining slightly from 18.6% to 18.2%



Actual, Estimate, and Target Range, FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-22

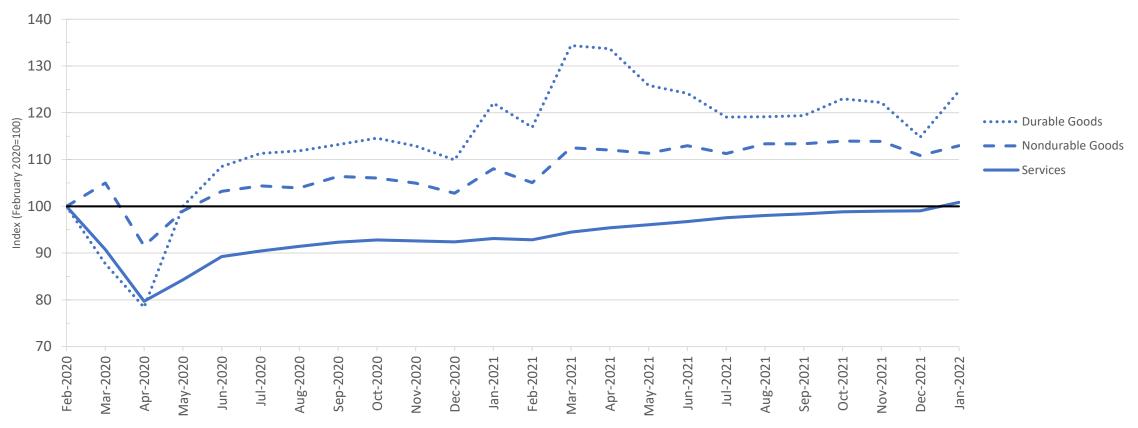


### **US Consumer Spending**

## Consumer spending remains elevated over pre-pandemic levels, with goods continuing to drive growth



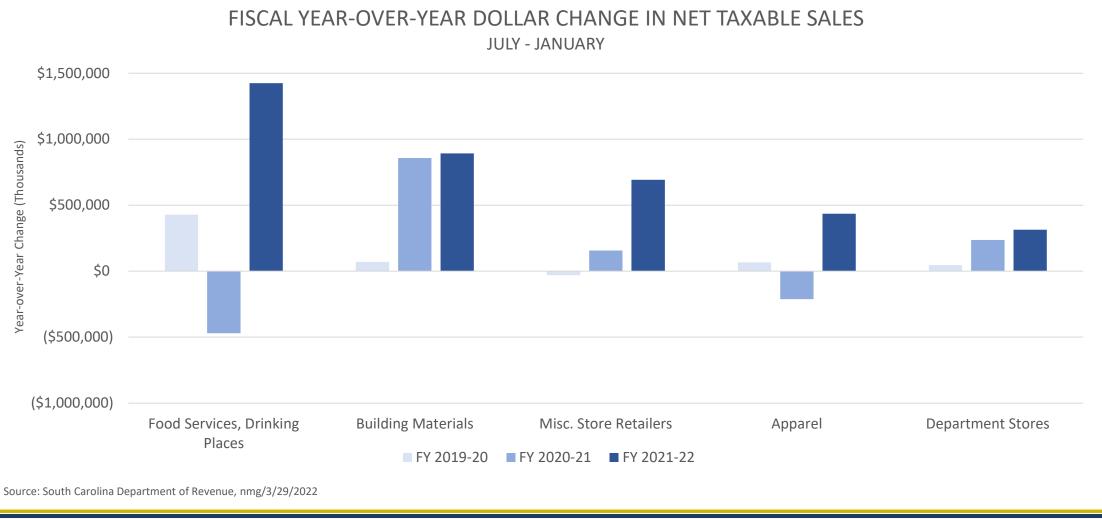
Indexed to February 2020



Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Personal Consumption Expenditures, nmg/3/28/2022

### **SC Consumer Spending**

## Pandemic spending habits have continued to significantly impact select industries

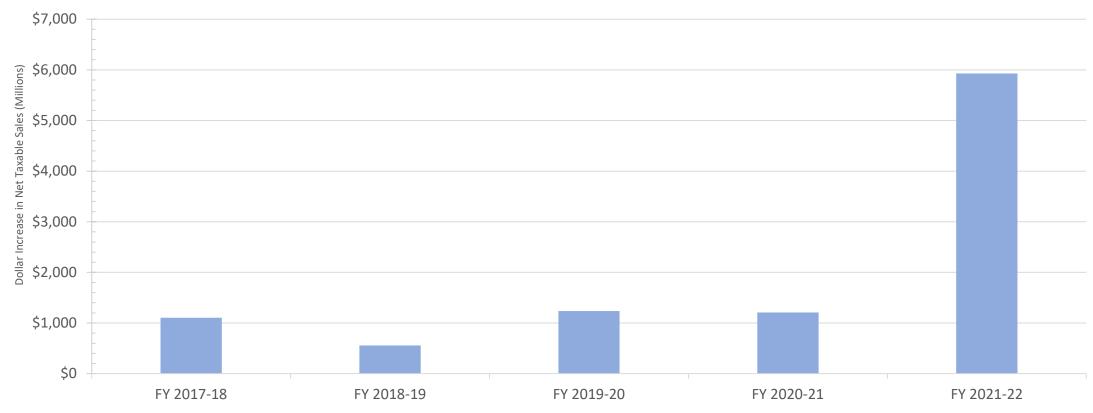


### **SC** Consumer Spending

Net taxable sales have increased nearly \$6 billion fiscal YTD, compared to a historical average increase of \$1.2 billion

#### CHANGE IN NET TAXABLE SALES BY FISCAL YEAR

July through January

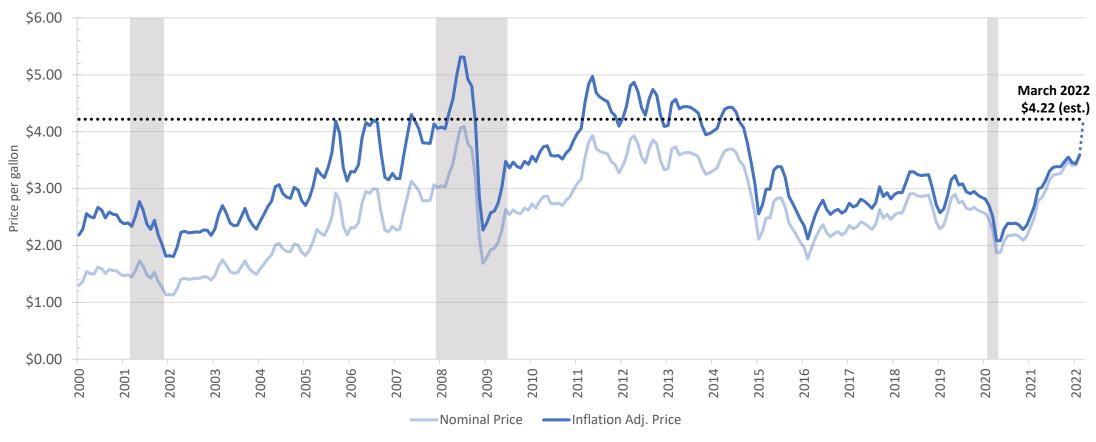


Source: South Carolina Department of Revenue, nmg/3/30/2022

#### **Consumer Spending**

Gas prices rose quickly following the ban on the importation of Russian oil and liquefied natural gas. These prices may moderate following the release of 60 million barrels from reserves.

#### U.S. AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE FOR REGULAR GASOLINE

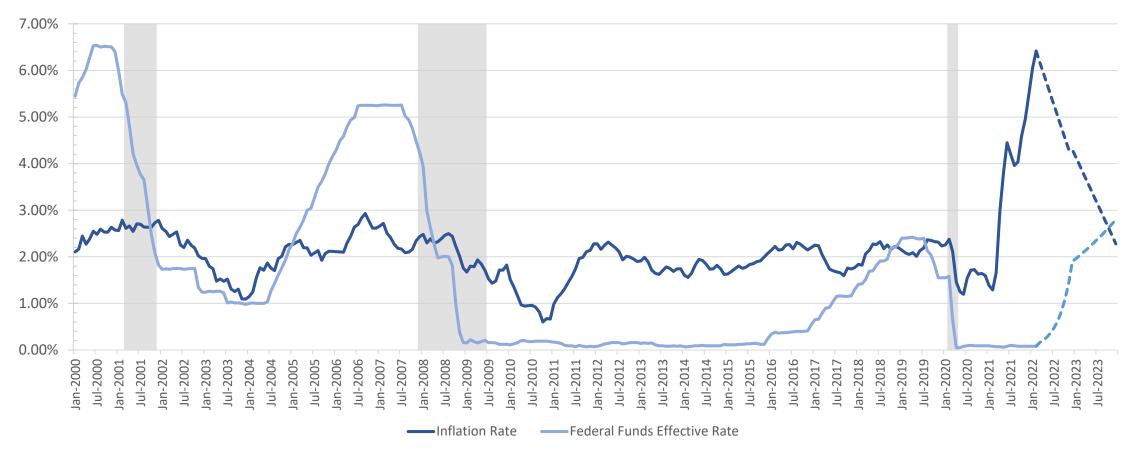


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Average Price: Gasoline, Unleaded Regular (Cost per Gallon/3.785 Liters) in U.S. City Average, nmg/3/25/2022

#### **Interest Rates and Inflation**

The Federal Reserve is expected to raise interest rates six times in 2022 to curb inflation; economic analysts are predicting more modest rate hikes in 2023

#### FEDERAL FUNDS RATE VS INFLATION



Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Funds Effective Rate; Federal Open Market Committee, March 16, 2022: FOMC Projections materials; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items Less Food and Energy in U.S. City Average; Trading Economics, United States Fed Funds Rate Forecast for 2023, nmg/3/25/2022

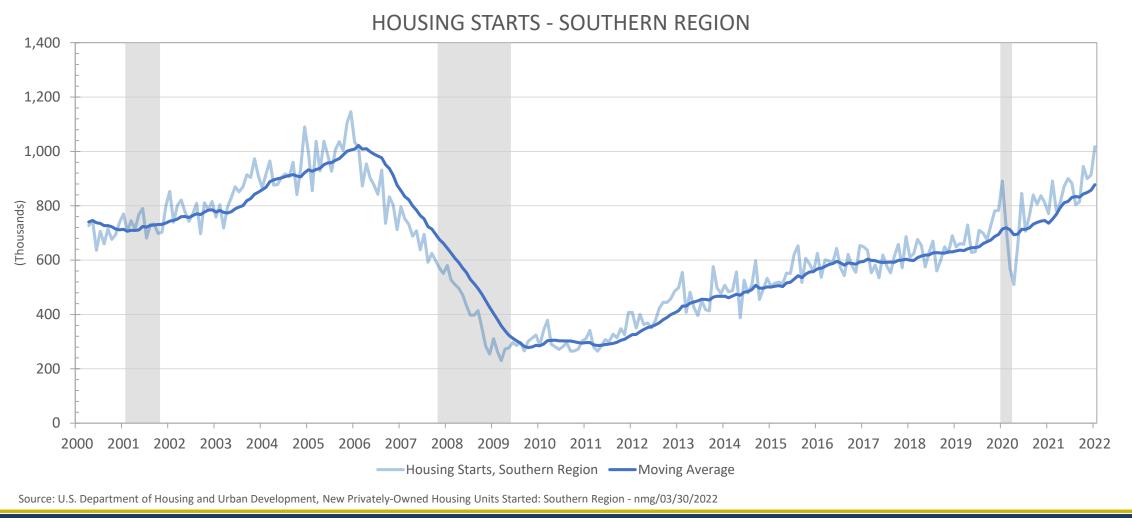
# Housing Statistics – South Carolina Prices continue to rise, even as the number of units sold declines – a sign that demand continues to outpace supply

#### SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENTIAL SALES

Number Sold vs. Median Sales Price



# Housing Statistics – Southern Housing Starts Housing starts continue to increase; however, inflation, supply issues, and labor shortages continue to present ongoing issues for contractors

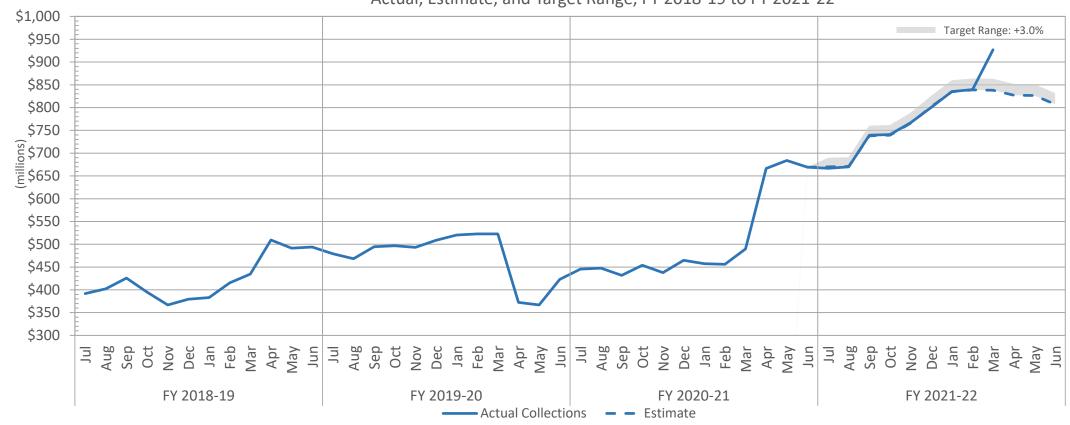


**Revenue Trends and Legislative Impacts** 

# Corporate Income Tax - Actual vs. Estimate Collections in March to end the quarter greatly exceeded the estimate, bringing the year-to-date excess to \$88.7 million

#### ROLLING FISCAL YEAR - CORPORATE INCOME TAX

Actual, Estimate, and Target Range, FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-22



### **Legislative Provisions with Revenue Impacts**

- Income tax conformity reduces revenue by \$15.4 million for FY 2021-22 and less than \$500,000 in FY 2022-23 and beyond
- State housing tax credit pending legislation would limit the impact in future years
- House and Senate tax proposals
  - H. 4880 reduces income tax rates and provides full exemption for military retirement income: \$604.3 million (FY 2022-23)
  - S. 1087 reduces income tax rates, provides full exemption for military retirement income, and expands property tax exemption for manufacturing property: \$1.001 billion (FY 2022-23)

### **House and Senate Proposals – Income Tax Rate Changes**

H. 4880 (amended 2.17.22)
Reduces the individual income tax rates in 2022 with a provision to further reduce the rates depending on General Fund Growth

S. 1087
Reduces the individual income tax rates in 2022

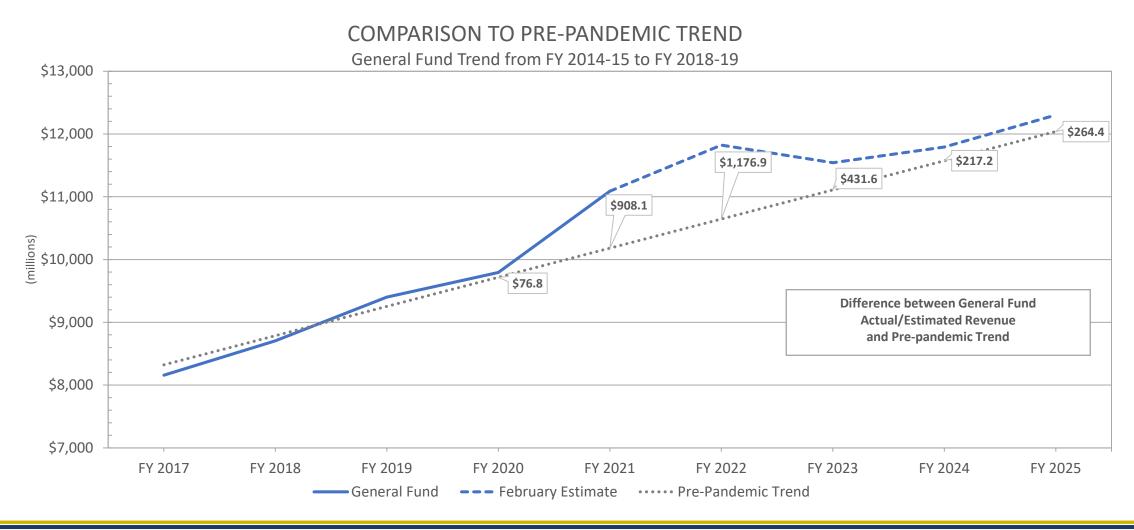
Tax Year 2022 Impact: \$576.0m

2022 Tax Rate	Taxable Income
0.00%	\$0 to 3,200
3.00%	\$3,200 to 16,040
6.50%	Over \$16,040

Tax Year 2022 Impact: \$886.9m

2022 Tax Rate	Taxable Income
0.00%	\$0 to 3,200
3.00%	\$3,200 to 6,410
4.00%	\$6,410 to 9,620
5.00%	\$9,620 to 12,820
5.70%	Over \$12,820

### Revenue Effects of Stimulus and Other Pandemic-Related Changes General Fund projections are above the historical trend prior to the pandemic



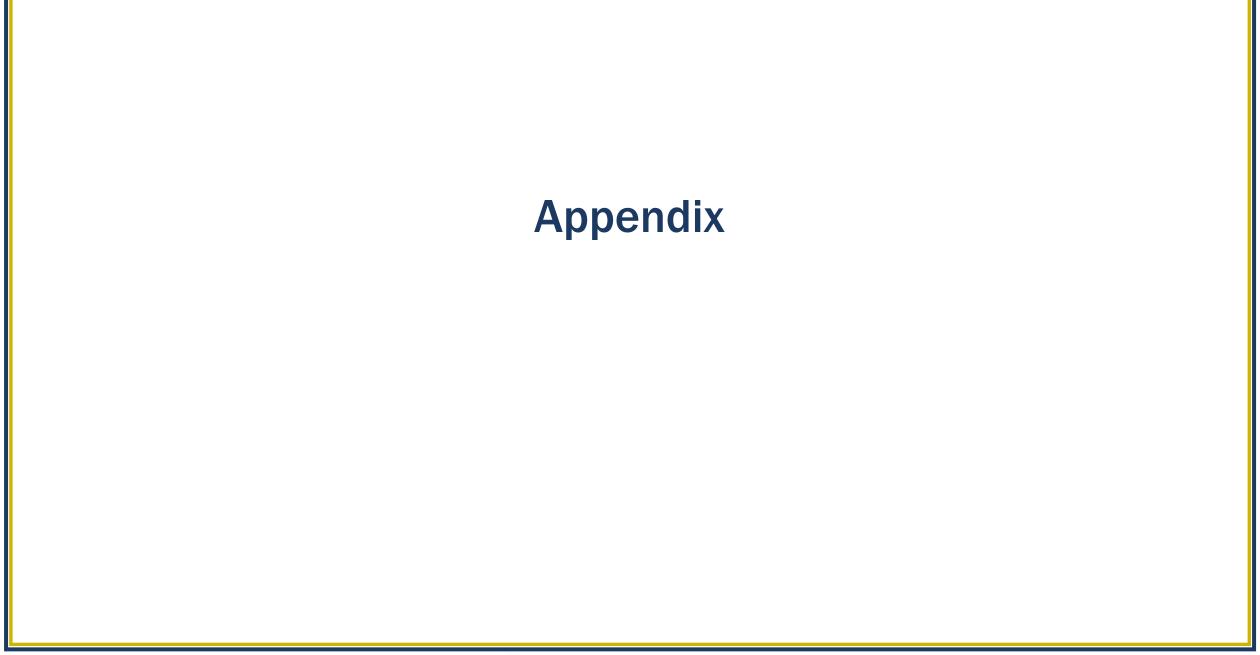
**Consideration of the Revenue Estimate** 

### Consideration of the Revenue Estimate Pursuant to §11-9-1130

- Despite excess revenues through March, recommend no change to the February 15, 2022 forecasts for FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23
- Tax season is not complete and could have a significant impact
- Additional economic uncertainties
  - Invasion of Ukraine and Russian sanctions
  - Inflation, ongoing supply chain issues, and high gas prices
  - Federal Reserve rate decisions

Reports from Working Group Members

# **Other Business**



### Quarterly Review and April 10th Forecast Requirements

- SC Code of Laws §11-9-1130 requires a review of revenue collections relative to the estimates, with a final forecast for the next fiscal year to be made by April 10<sup>th</sup>
- If any quarter shows a shortfall over 1.5 percent of projected collections a synopsis must be prepared indicating the factors contributing to the shortfall; and is similarly required for a shortfall of 1.5 percent in sales, individual income tax, corporate income tax, insurance tax, and earnings on investments
- SC Code of Laws §11-9-1140 requires a quarterly review of estimated and actual revenues
- If, at the end of the first (Jul Sep), second (Oct Dec), or third (Jan Mar) quarter, the BEA reduces the estimate by
  - 3.0 percent or less, the Director of the Executive Budget Office must reduce appropriations
  - More than 3.0 percent, the General Assembly may take action; otherwise, the Director of the Executive Budget Office must reduce appropriations