#### "A TALE OF TWO ECONOMIES" SC ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK FY 2020-21 AND FY 2021-22



# Presented to South Carolina Senate Finance Committee



#### March 30, 2021

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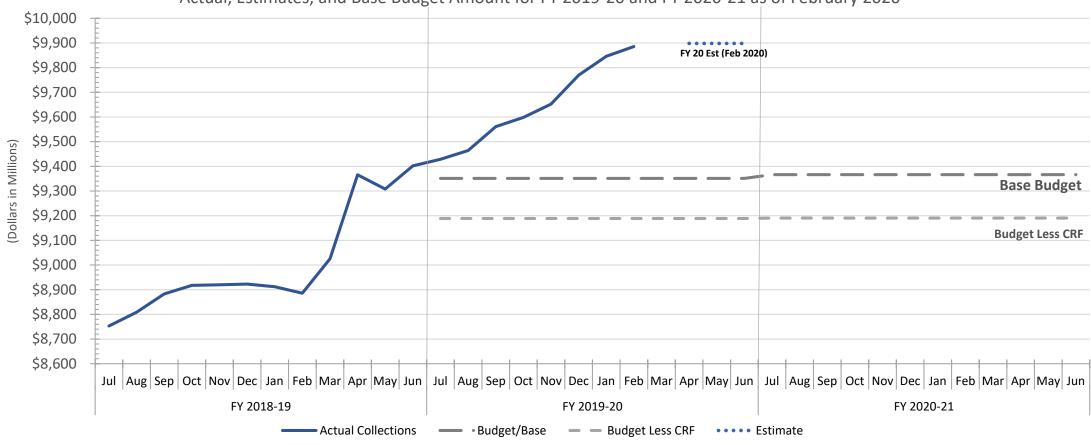
# "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."

- Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities (1859)



#### **One year ago ... "SC is in good shape to withstand ..."** February 4, 2020 – SC Senate Finance Committee

ROLLING FISCAL YEAR - GENERAL FUND REVENUE

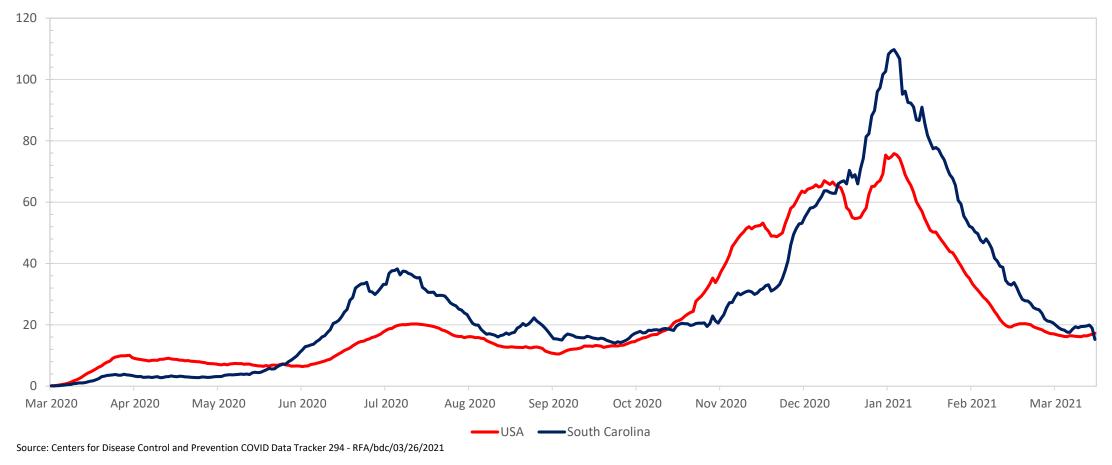


Actual, Estimates, and Base Budget Amount for FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 as of February 2020



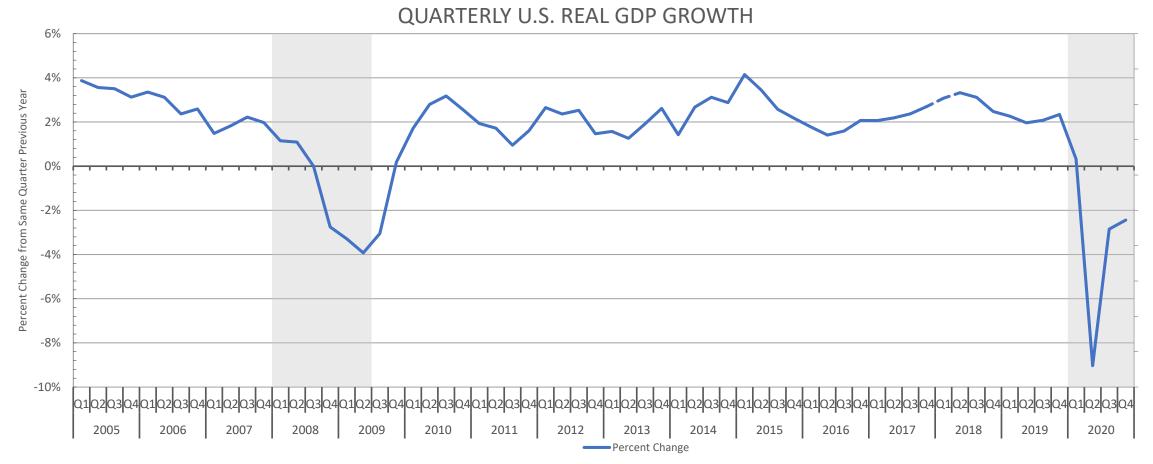
#### Trend in US and SC COVID-19 Infections **Rollercoaster results added uncertainty to the economy**

7-DAY AVERAGE NEW CASES PER 100,000 PEOPLE





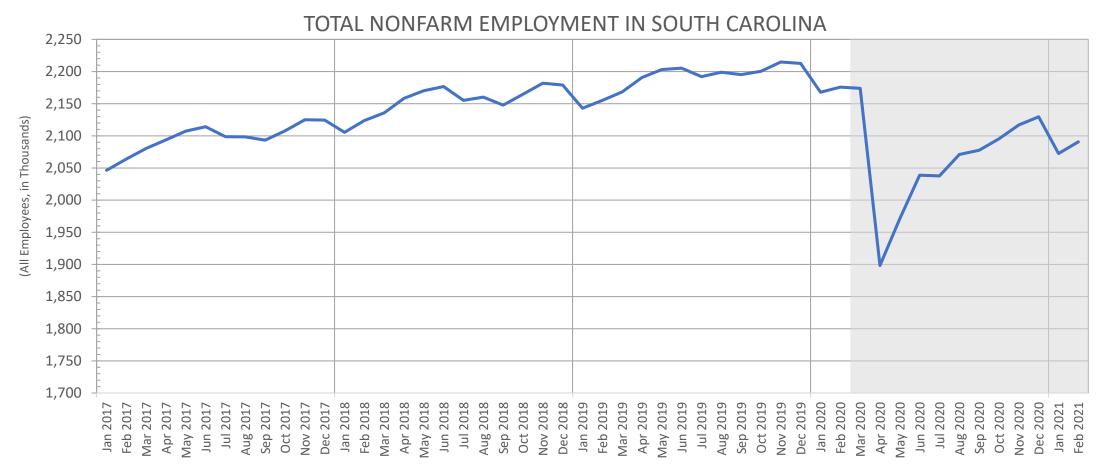
#### **Real GDP Growth** Recession (negative growth) started in early 2020



Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analyses; Federal Reserve Open Market Committee, Mar 2021 RFA/lhj/266/3/26/2021



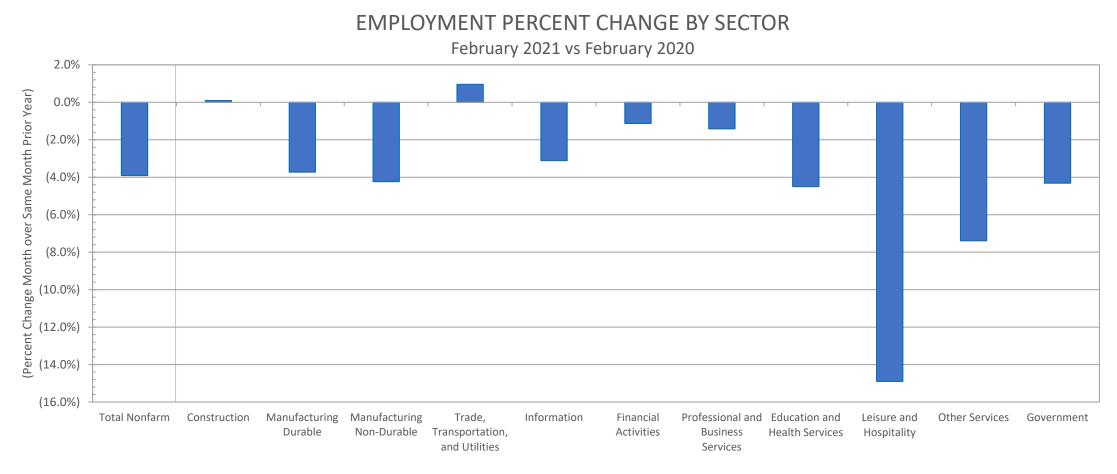
## SC Employment – Steep Drop; Quick But Partial Recovery Lost over 277,000 jobs; recovered 69% of jobs lost



Source: U.S. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics 60-RFA/lhi/3/26/2021



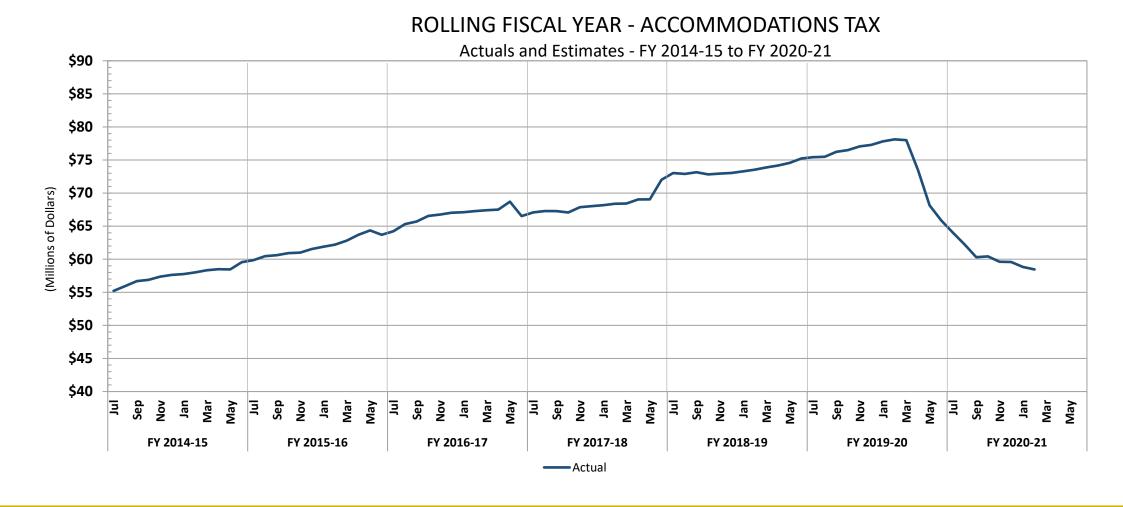
#### **South Carolina Employment** Job losses over the past year vary by sector



Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, FRED 281a--RFA/bdc/3/26/2021



#### **SC Accommodations Tax (Two Percent)** COVID-19 significantly impacted Hospitality Sector

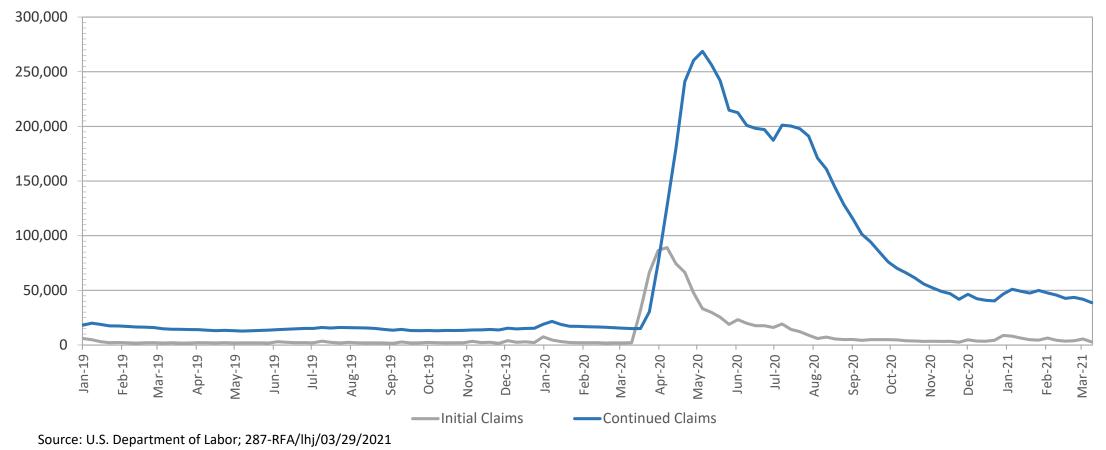




# **SC Unemployment Claims**

#### Spike in claims; gradual return to normal levels

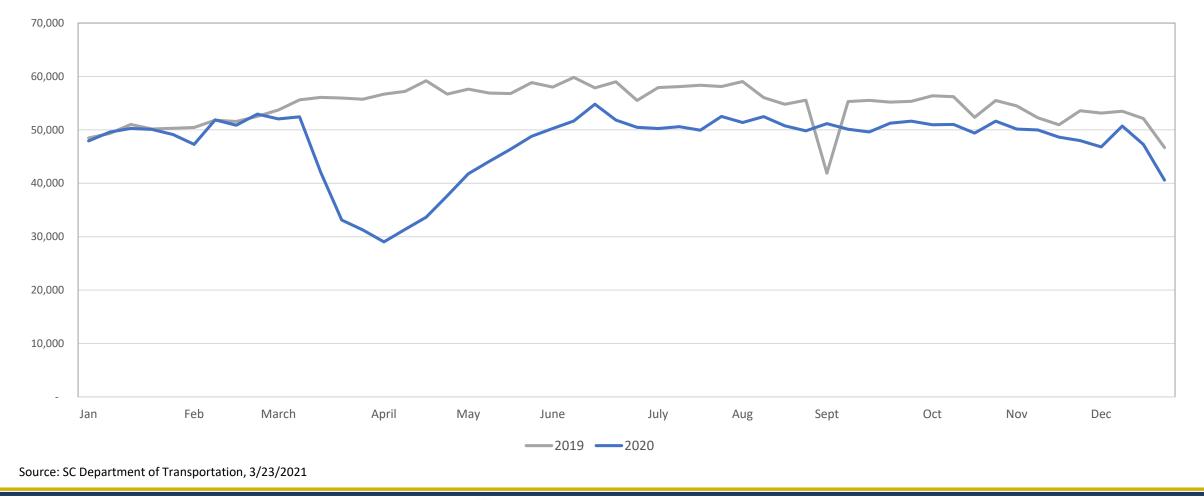
SC UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

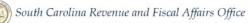




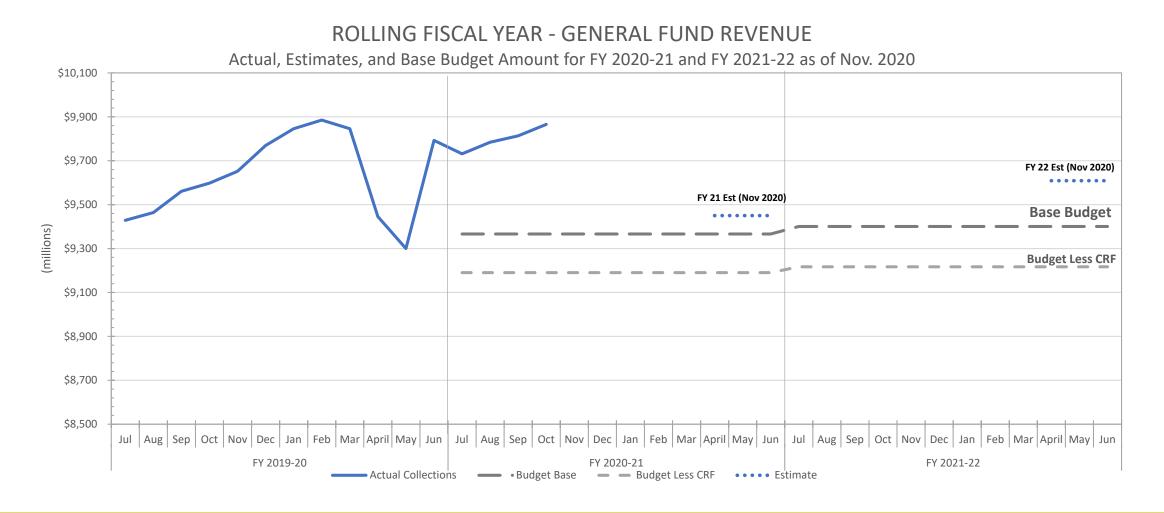
#### **SCDOT Weekly Traffic Volumes** 2020 traffic volumes below 2019 levels

#### S.C. WEEKLY AVERAGE TRAFFIC VOLUME





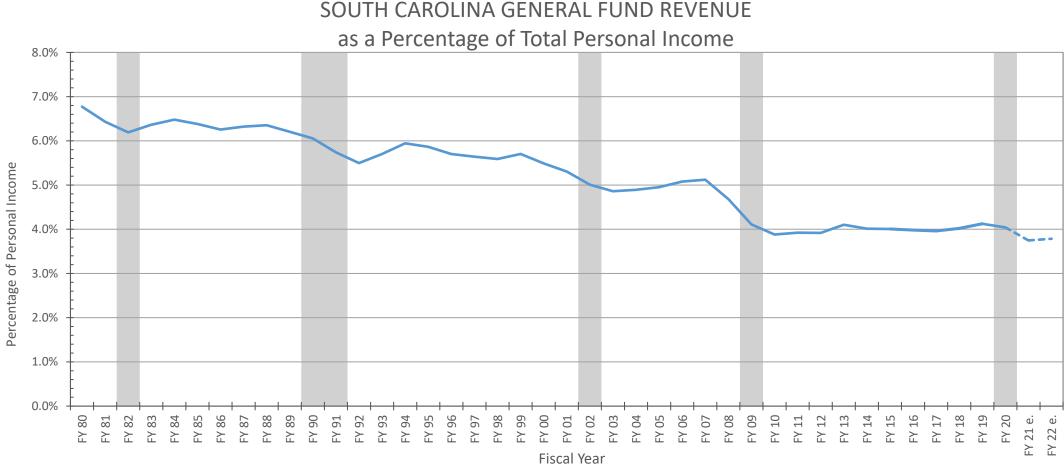
#### **Revenue Forecast Adjusted Down – November 2020** Based on impact of declining economy and employment





## **Importance of Personal Income**

Historical relationship between Personal Income and General Fund Revenue



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office 34F-LHJ/03/24/21

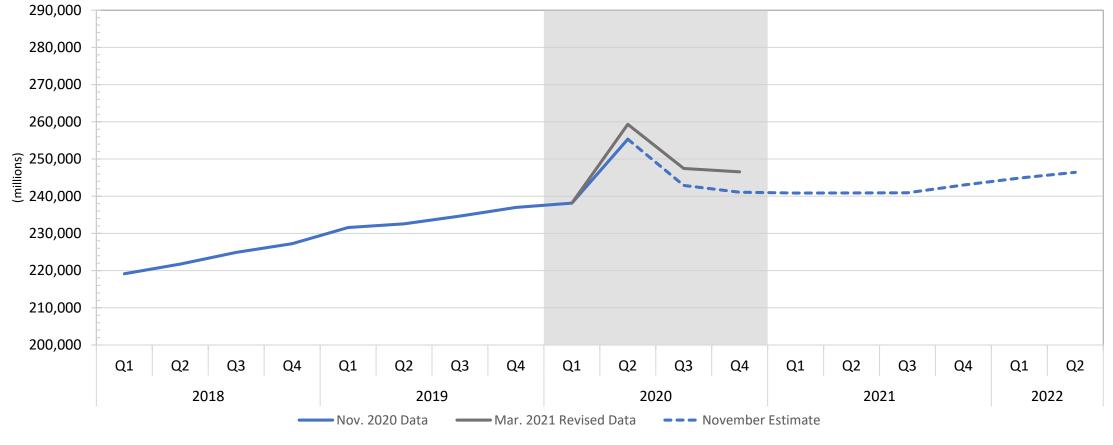


### **SC** Personal Income

# Stimulus boosted income despite employment losses; expect return to normal level, but latest stimulus funds are not included yet

SOUTH CAROLINA PERSONAL INCOME







## **Federal Fiscal Policy - Stimulus Payments to SC**

**Direct to SC Residents and Businesses** 

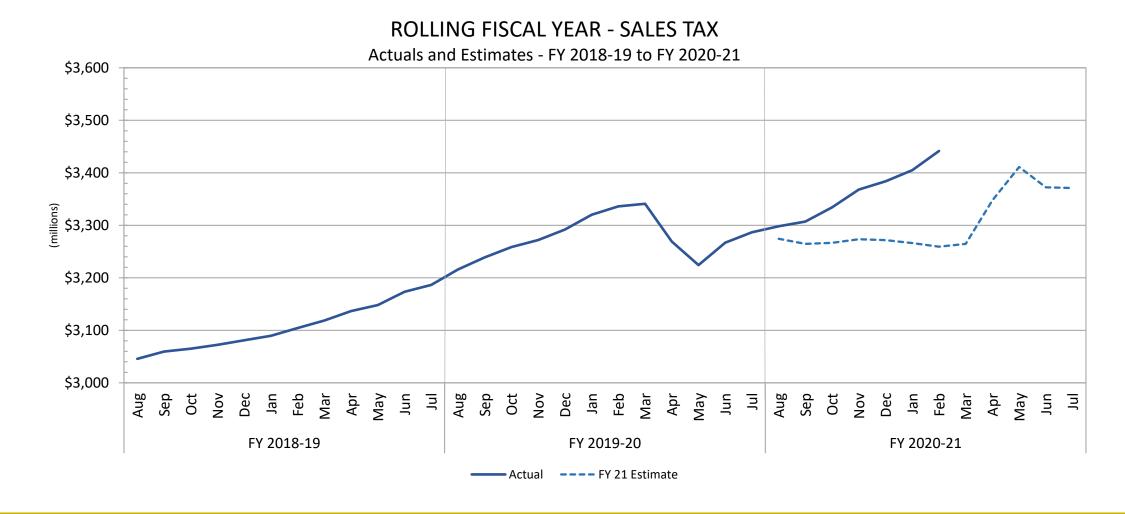
- Federal Stimulus Checks (\$1,200) \$4.32 billion <sup>1</sup>
- Federal Stimulus Checks (\$600/\$1,400) TBD
- PPP Loans \$7.85 billion<sup>2</sup>
- Federal Unemployment Compensation \$4.49 billion<sup>3</sup>
- Direct to State Government for Appropriation
  - CARES Act funds \$1.90 billion
  - American Rescue Plan Act funds \$2.095 billion (preliminary)<sup>4</sup>

- 2- Small Business Administration; sba.gov;  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  round approvals through March 28, 2021
- 3 SC Department of Employment and Workforce; dew.sc.gov; as of March 22, 2021
- 4 NCLS.org estimates for Rescue Plan funds as of March 8, 2021; Total state and local funding of \$3.869 billion



<sup>1 –</sup> I.R.S. Statement on Economic Impact Payments by State as of June 26, 2020

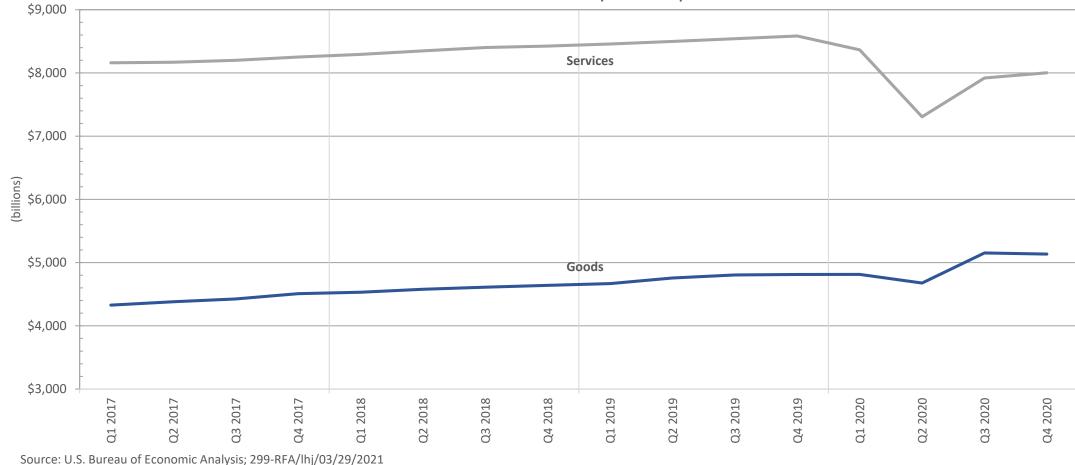
#### **SC Sales Tax Revenue** Sales Tax Revenue grew with stimulus, changing habits





# **U.S. Consumer Spending**

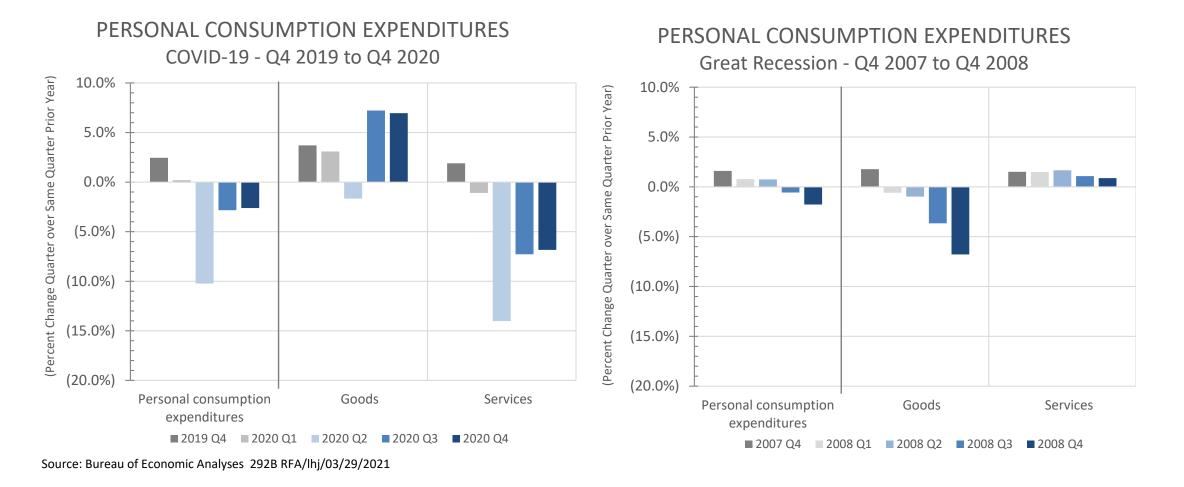
# Consumption of goods is above historical trends while spending on services is well below normal



U.S. Personal Consumption Expenditures

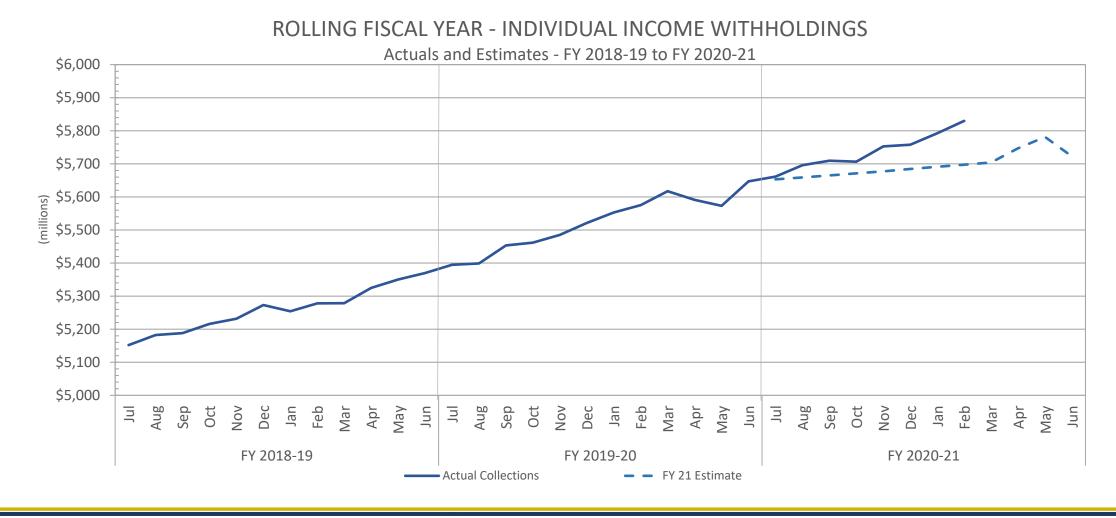


## **Personal Consumption of Goods and Services** Great recession saw greater decline in goods than services





#### **SC Individual Withholdings Tax** Growth continues to grow despite lower employment

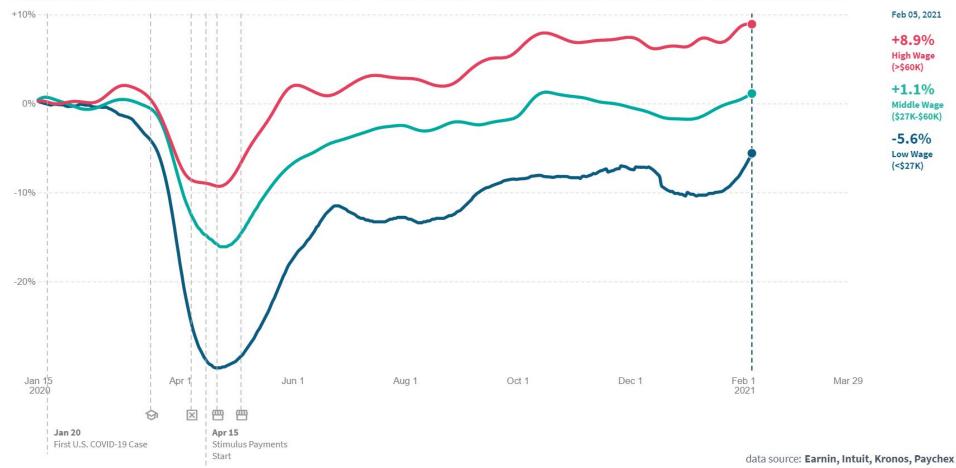




#### **SC Employment Change by Wage Level** Employment losses are in low wage jobs; high wage jobs are up

#### Percent Change in Employment\*

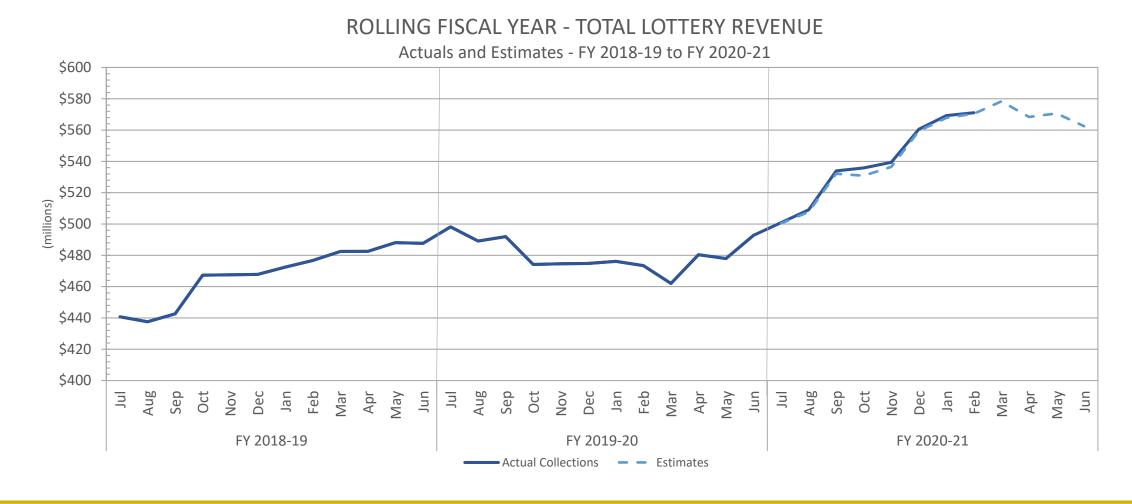
In South Carolina, as of February 05 2021, employment rates among workers in the bottom wage quartile decreased by 5.6% compared to January 2020 (not seasonally adjusted).



Source: Opportunity Insights Economic Tracker tracktherecovery.org, retrieved March 29, 2021; Data as of February 5, 2021



#### Lottery Revenues also Boosted by Stimulus Funds But FY 22 revenues expected to drop from FY 21 high





# SC CURRENT FISCAL STATUS AND NATIONAL PERSPECTIVES



## SC FY 2019-20 Results Compared to Other States

#### **Across the Nation**

- Thirty-five states reported GF revenues for FY20 came in below their budget projections.
- General Fund revenues declined by 1.6 percent in FY20 compared to FY19.

#### **South Carolina**

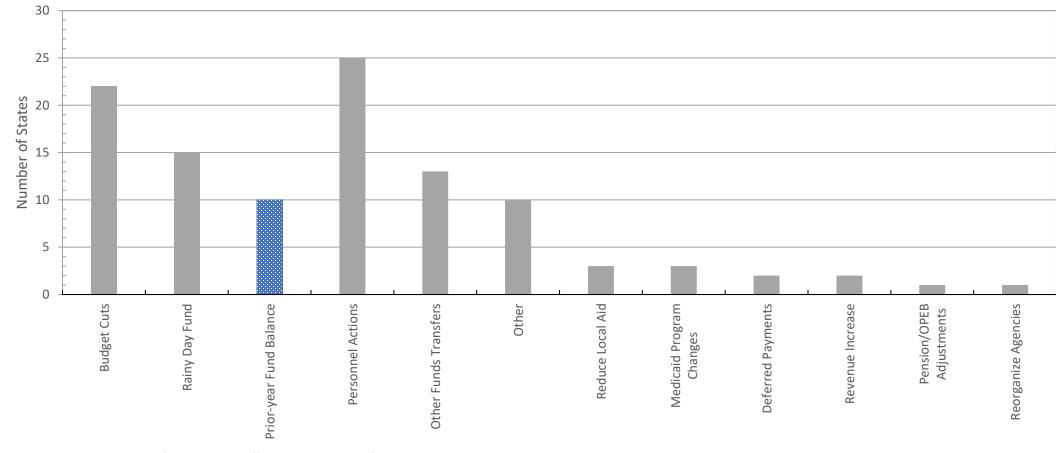
- General Fund revenues for FY20 were \$462.6M above the February 2019 estimate.
- FY20 General Fund revenue increased 4.2 percent over FY19.

Source: National Association of State Budget Officers, Fiscal Survey of States, Fall 2020



# How States Managed Budgets in 2020

SC avoided most of the options adopted in other states; did use fund balance



#### STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING EFFECTS OF COVID-19

Source: National Association of State Budget Officers, Fiscal Survey of States, Fall 2020



#### **SC Unemployment Trust Fund** CARES Act funding of \$847 million<sup>1</sup> helped maintain funded ratio

#### SC UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND STATUS

1.5 1.4 1.3 1.29 1.17 1.2 Projected 1.14 First Quarter 1.1 .08 Goal 1.0 Balance 1 03 1 2021 0.95 0.9 0.86 0.8 0.79 0.7 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.47 0.4 0.40.37 0.34 0.3 0.28 0.26 0.2 Projected 0.1 Status without 0 2016 2018 2019 2020 2000 2006 2008 2010 2014 2015 2021e 2001 2002 2004 2005 2009 2011 2012 2013 2017 2003 2007 CARES Act Funds - USDOL /GA Goal Year End Balance

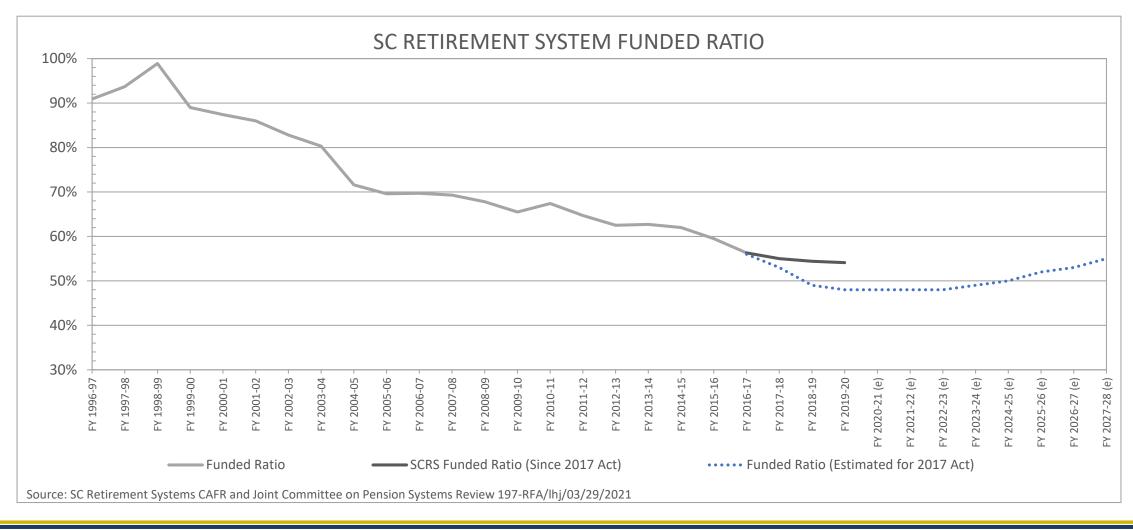
Ratio of Fund Balance to One Year Payout (Moderate Recession) - Actual vs Goal

Source: S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce 271-RFA/mkm/03/29/2021

1- Total appropriations of \$920 million



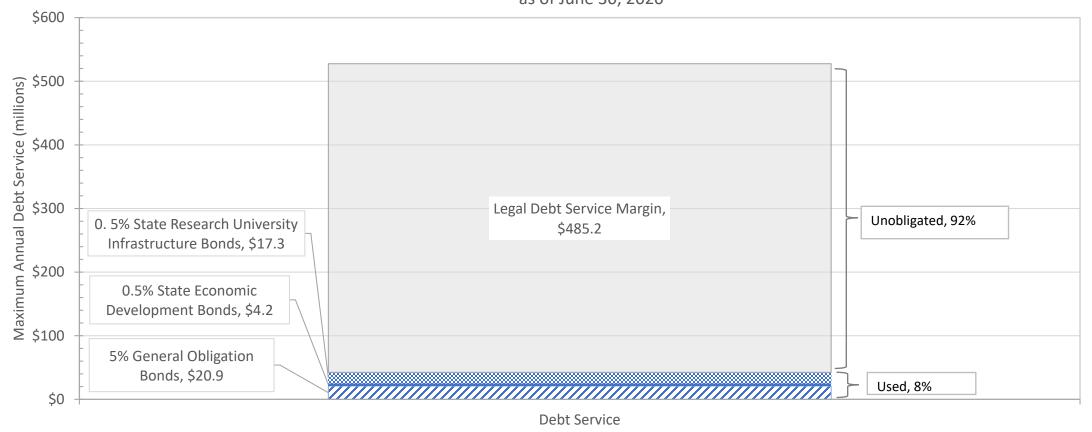
#### **Retirement System Funding Progress** Funded ratio remains above the original projections in reform bill





#### **Debt Service** Appropriations well below constitutional limit

Annual General Obligation Debt Service Utilization as of June 30, 2020

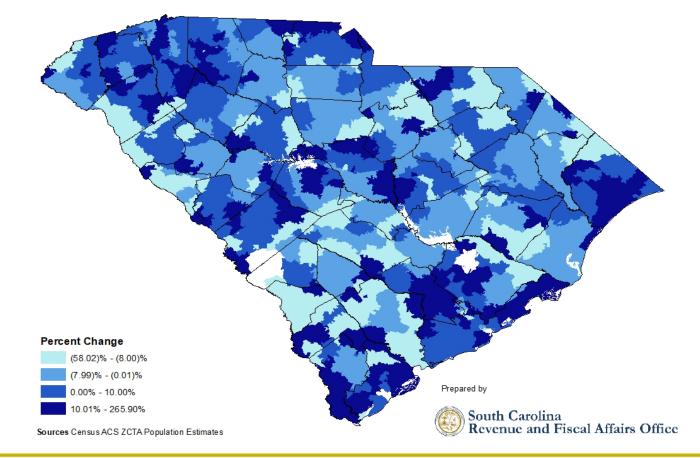


Source: S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs 300-RFA/3/29/2021; data from South Carolina Annual State Debt Report



#### **SC Population** SC continues to grow faster than U.S., but a wide range of differences exists

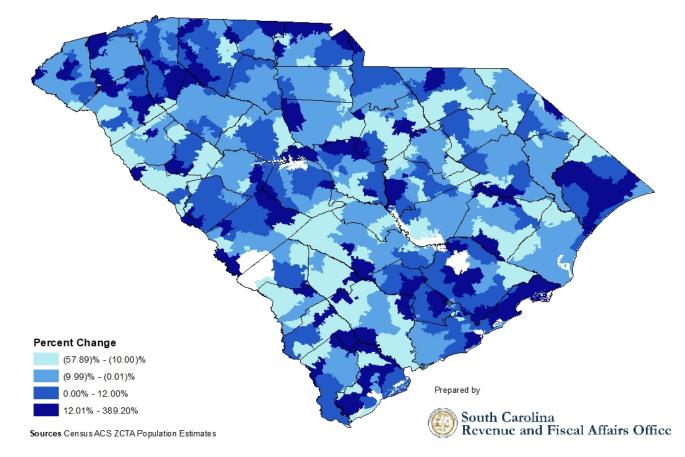
5 Year Percent Change in Total Population 2014 - 2019





#### **SC Working Age Population** Overall increase, but wide differences exist within the state

5 Year Percent Change in Working Age Population 2014 - 2019



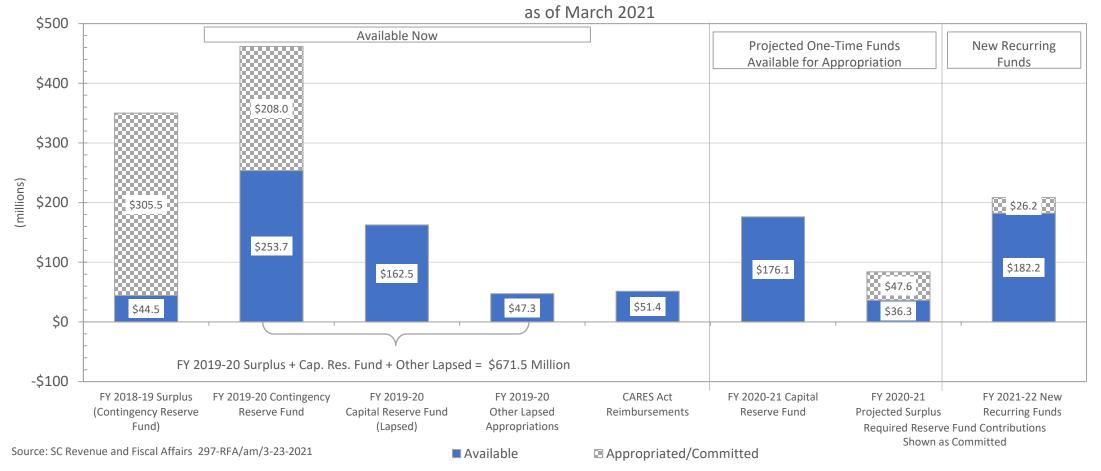


# FY 2021-22 OUTLOOK



## FY 2021-22 Available Funds

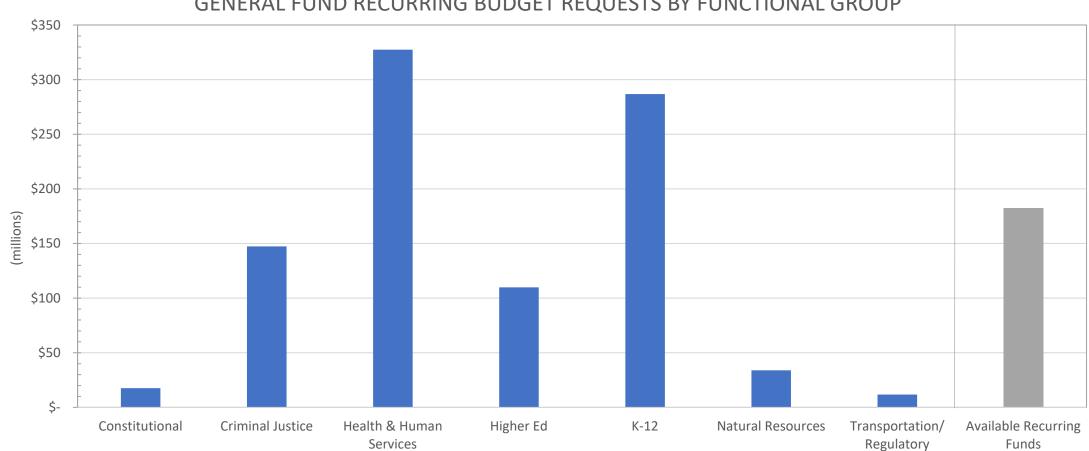
\$771.8m in one-time funds and \$182.2m new recurring money; more to come



AVAILABLE FUNDS - FY 2021-22 BUDGET PROCESS



#### **SC** Major Budget Areas/Requests **\$182.2** million in unobligated recurring funds

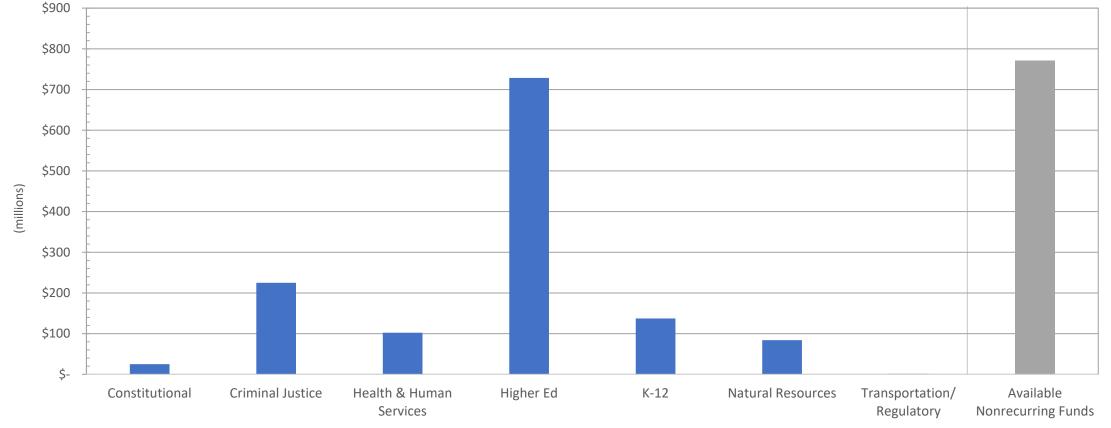


GENERAL FUND RECURRING BUDGET REQUESTS BY FUNCTIONAL GROUP



#### SC Major Budget Areas/Requests \$771.8 million in unobligated non-recurring funds

#### GENERAL FUND NON-RECURRING BUDGET REQUESTS





## CONCLUSION

- SC has fared better than expected during this pandemic
  - Most of the negative impact has been in one sector (Hospitality)
  - Federal stimulus funds have more than offset the loss in total income
  - SC avoided many of the fiscal problems experienced in other states
- FY 2021-22 budget outlook cautiously improving
  - FY 21 revenues are not declining but growing; an additional surplus is likely
  - FY 22 in a better starting place but determining where the economy settles in a post-pandemic and post-stimulus environment is still unclear
  - Additional Funds from DOE Settlement and American Rescue Plan Act



