Economic Overview and Outlook for the P&C Insurance Industry

Trends and Challenges in the P/C Insurance Industry

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P/C Insurance Overview & Outlook: Outline

- **P/C Financial Overview & Outlook in the Post-COVID, High-Inflation Era**
  - Premium Growth
  - CAT Loss Update/Reinsurance
  - Underwriting Performance
  - Capital and Capacity
- **Economic Overview & Outlook—Impacts for P/C Insurers**
  - Growth, Employment, Inflation and Recession
  - Investment Environment
- **Inflation: Where it Is Headed & What It Means for P/C Insurers**
  - Impacts on claim severities and loss ratios
  - Cost Drivers for P/C insurers and impact on rates
  - Long-term inflation considerations
- **Legal System Abuse/Social Inflation: Another Major Driver of Cost**
- **Summary and Q&A**

P/C Insurance Industry Financial Overview & Outlook:

Challenges Amid Inflation and Higher Interest Rates

The Current Economic Environment Presents Many Challenges for P/C Insurers

Industry Remains Strong

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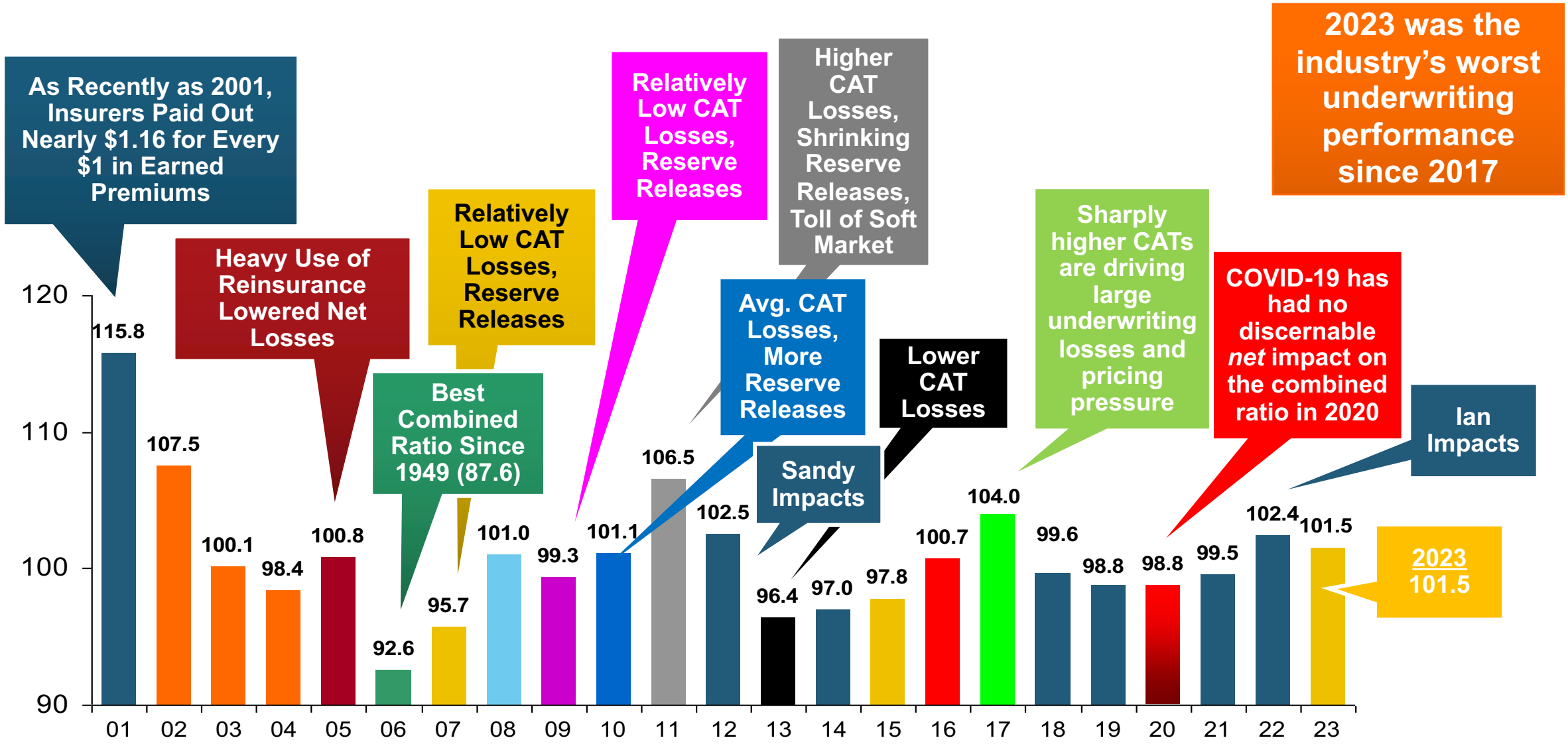
P/C Insurance Industry Combined Ratio, 2001–2023*



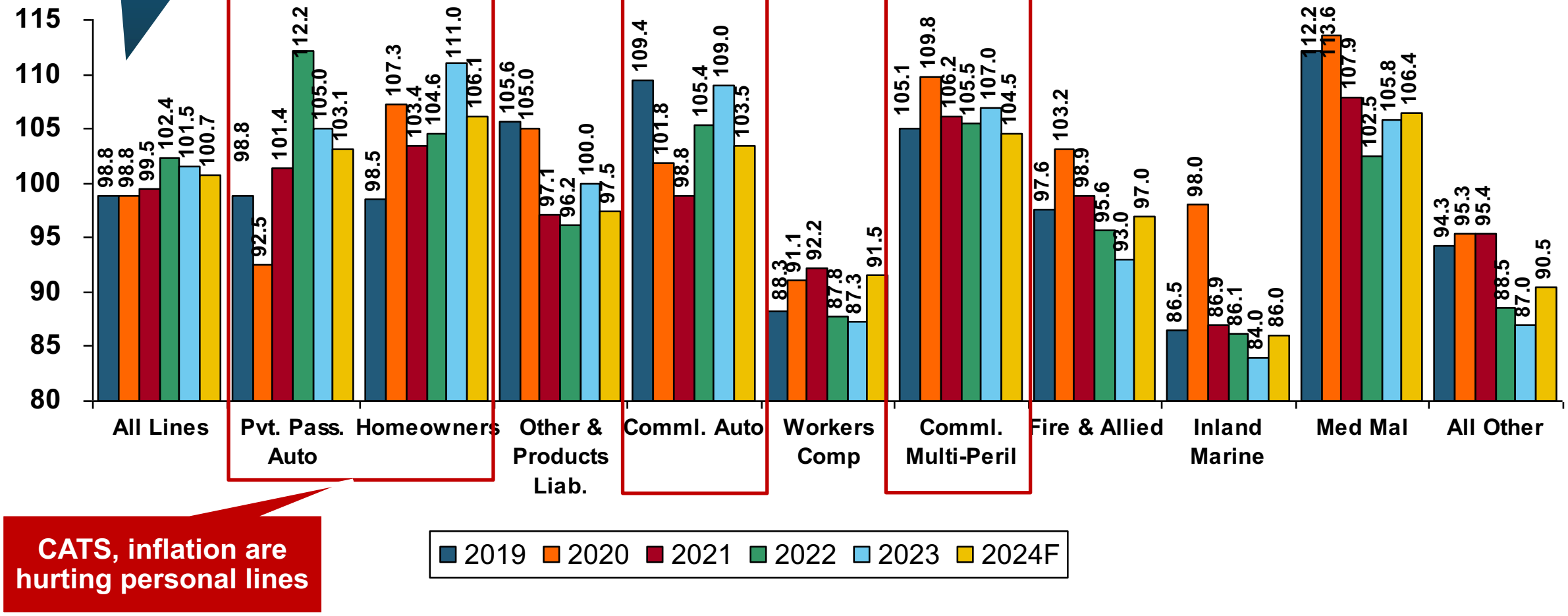
*Excludes Mortgage & Financial Guaranty insurers 2008–2014.
Sources: A.M. Best, ISO (2014-2023).

Combined Ratios by Line: 2019 – 2024F*

High CAT losses and inflation are pushing up combined ratios

Commercial Auto, MP have struggled amid inflation, CATs

Lingering inflation will continue to pressure combined ratios in 2024



CATS, inflation are hurting personal lines

Source: A.M. Best *Review & Preview* (2019-2022; 2024 forecasts as of Mar. 2024); A.M. Best data for 2023 (as of 6/24). Univ. of South Carolina, Risk and Uncertainty Management Center.

P/C Insurance Industry Combined Ratio, 2016–2025F

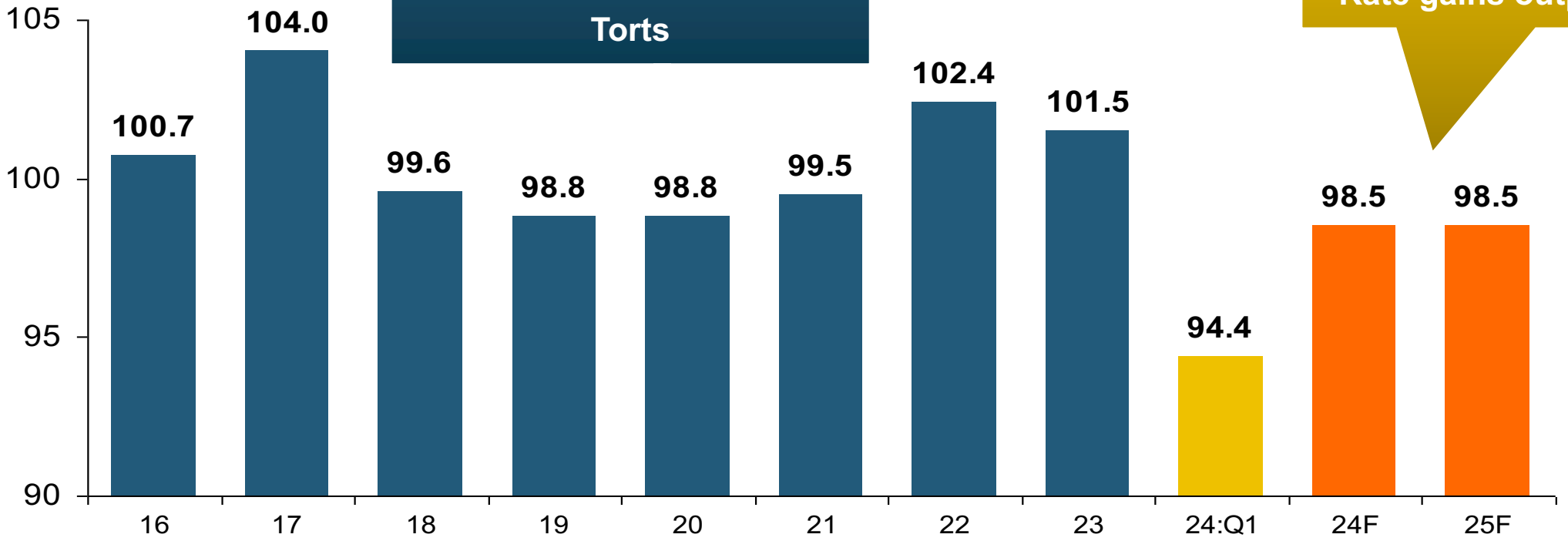
P/C insurer underwriting performance has been highly variable over the past decade, largely due to:

- CATs
- Inflation
- Torts

Significant improvement expected in P/C underwriting performance in 2024/25—led by Personal Lines and especially Personal Auto

DRIVERS

- Inflation moderates
- Rate gains outpace claim costs

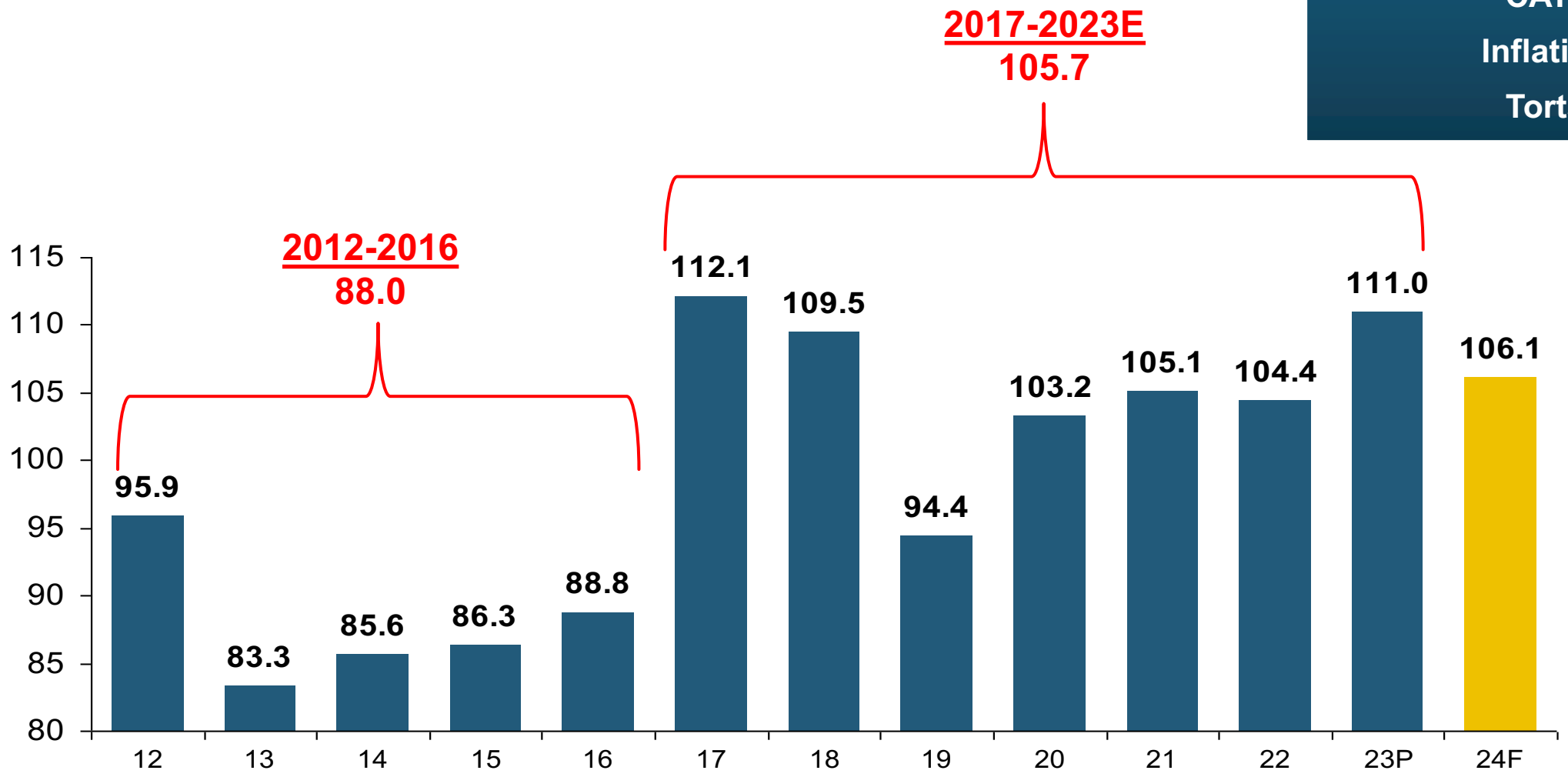


Sources: A.M. Best (2016-2023); Swiss Re (2024:Q1 and 2024F, 2025F).

Homeowners Combined Ratio, 2012–2024F

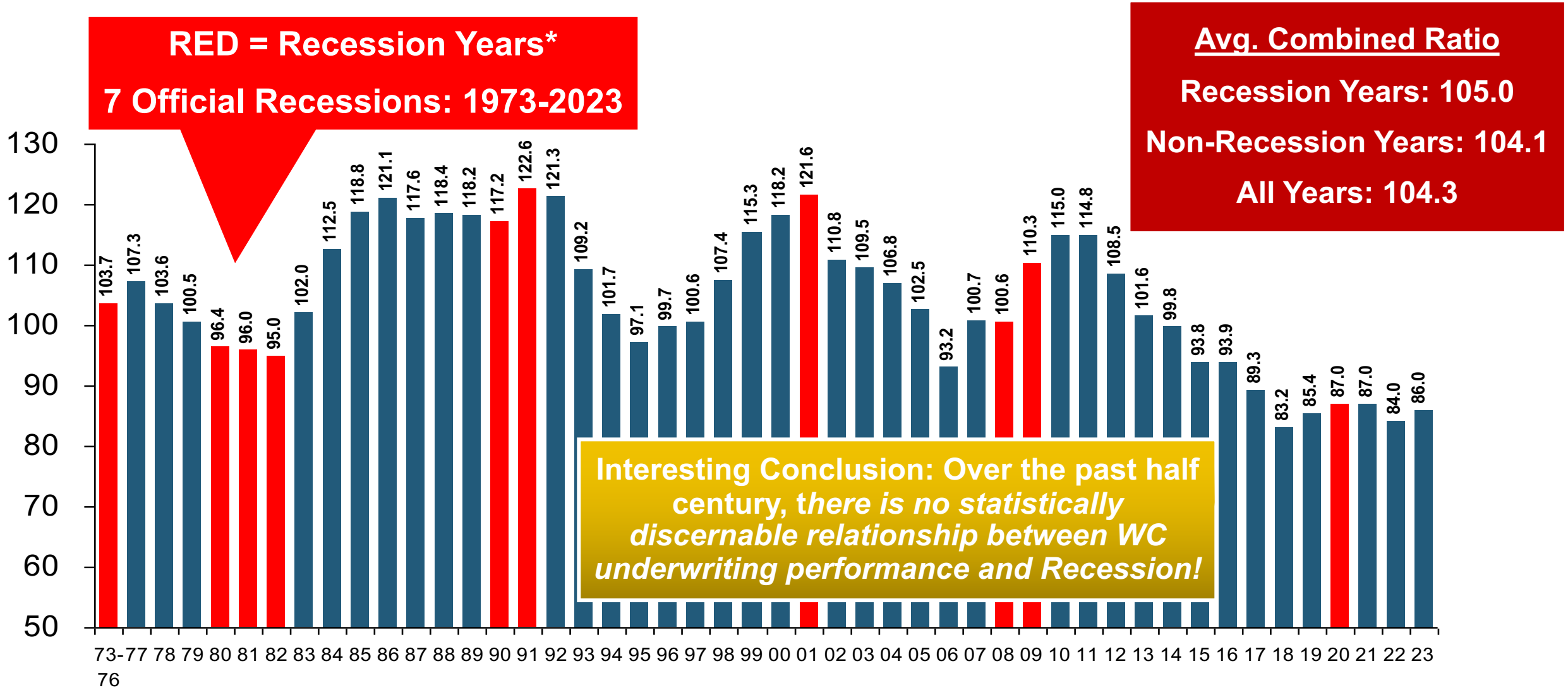
Homeowners insurance results have deteriorated markedly since 2017, largely due to:

- **CATs**
- **Inflation**
- **Torts**



Sources: A.M. Best (2016-2024F); Best's Review & Preview (March 2024).

Workers Comp Combined Ratios: 1973 – 2023p

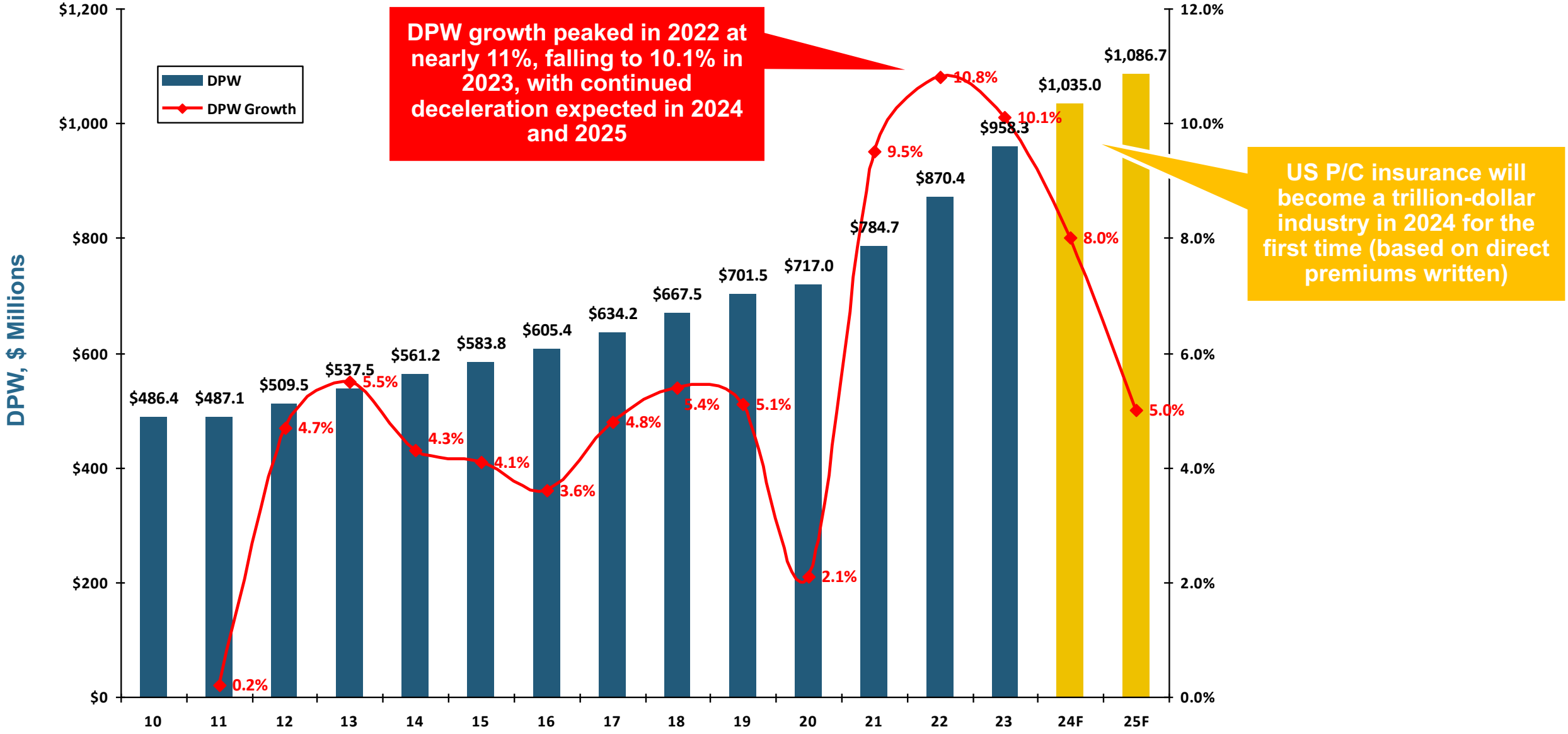


*Years in which 3 or more months of the year were in recession plus 2020 (Covid-related recession) which lasted 2 months. Recession dates from NBER: https://www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions

Note: Data for 1973-1984 are calculated from incurred loss and expense data, excluding policyholder dividends, as sourced below, and are for stock companies only.

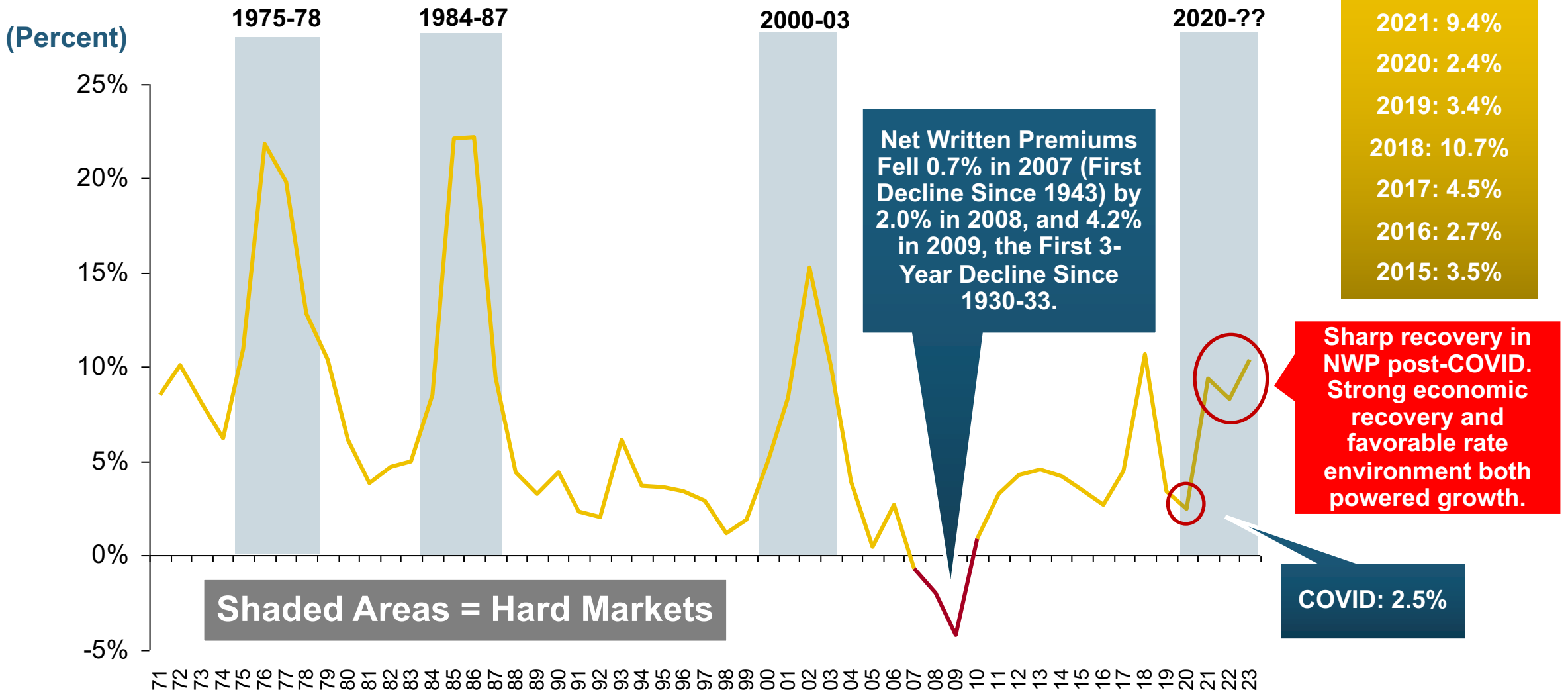
Sources: *Social Security Bulletin*, July 1988 (v. 51, n. 7) accessed at: https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/ssb/v51n7/v51n7p4.pdf; NAIC Annual Statement (1985-2021); NCCI (2022p); University of South Carolina, Risk and Uncertainty Management Center.

P/C Direct Premiums Written Volume and Growth, 2010–2025F



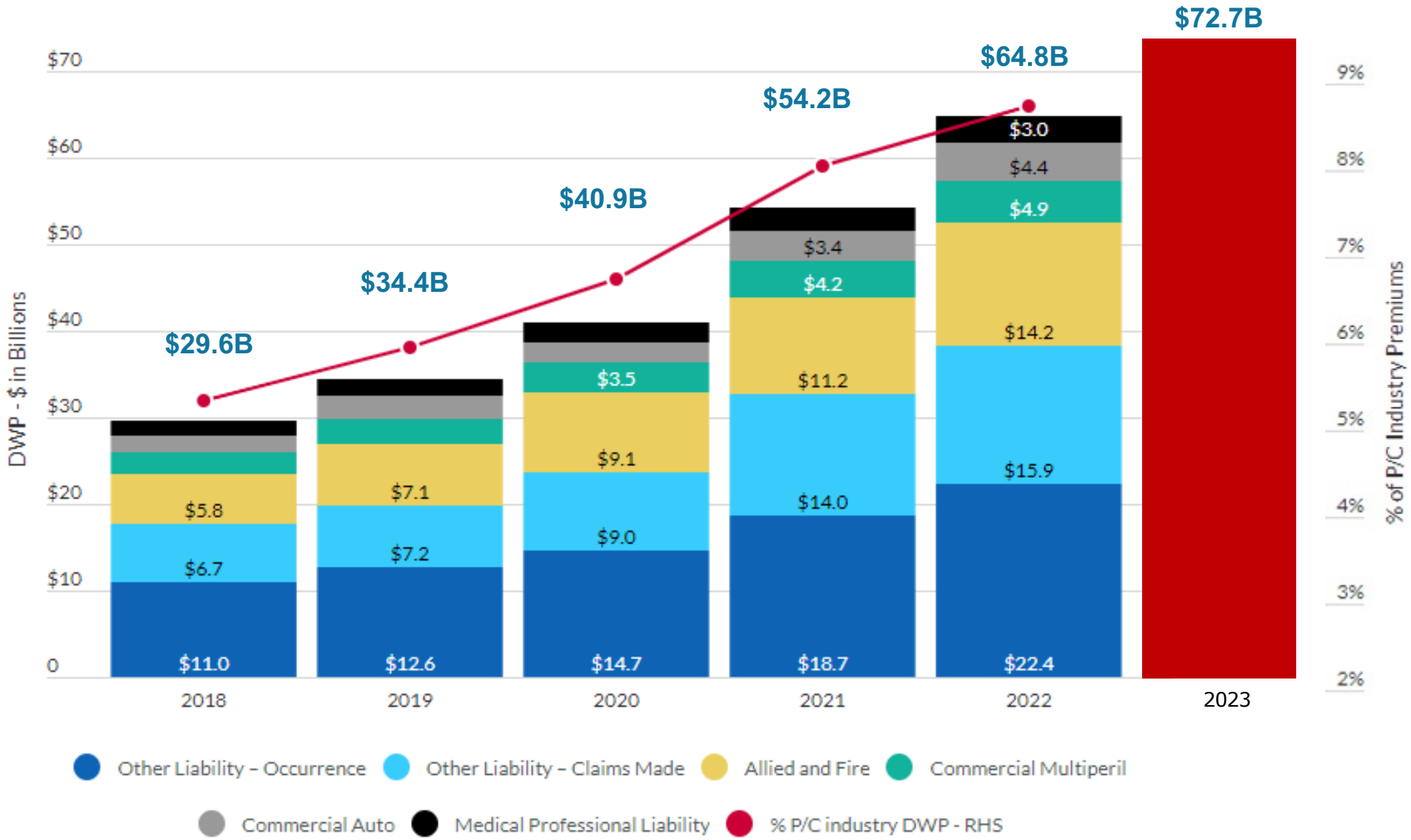
Sources: A.M. Best and NAIC (2010-2022); Forecast figures for 2024-25 from Swiss Re Institute (2024F-2025F) "*US Property & Casualty Outlook: Dog Days are Over,*" (June 2024), accessed at: https://www.swissre.com/dam/jcr:b2178beb-350f-406e-8714-63ea4b3fe2e1/swiss-re-institute-us-pc-dog-days-are-over.pdf.

Net Written Premium Growth (All P/C Lines): Annual Change, 1971–2023



NOTE: Shaded areas denote “hard market” periods.
Sources: A.M. Best (1971-2013), ISO (2014-21); NAIC (2022-2023); Risk & Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina

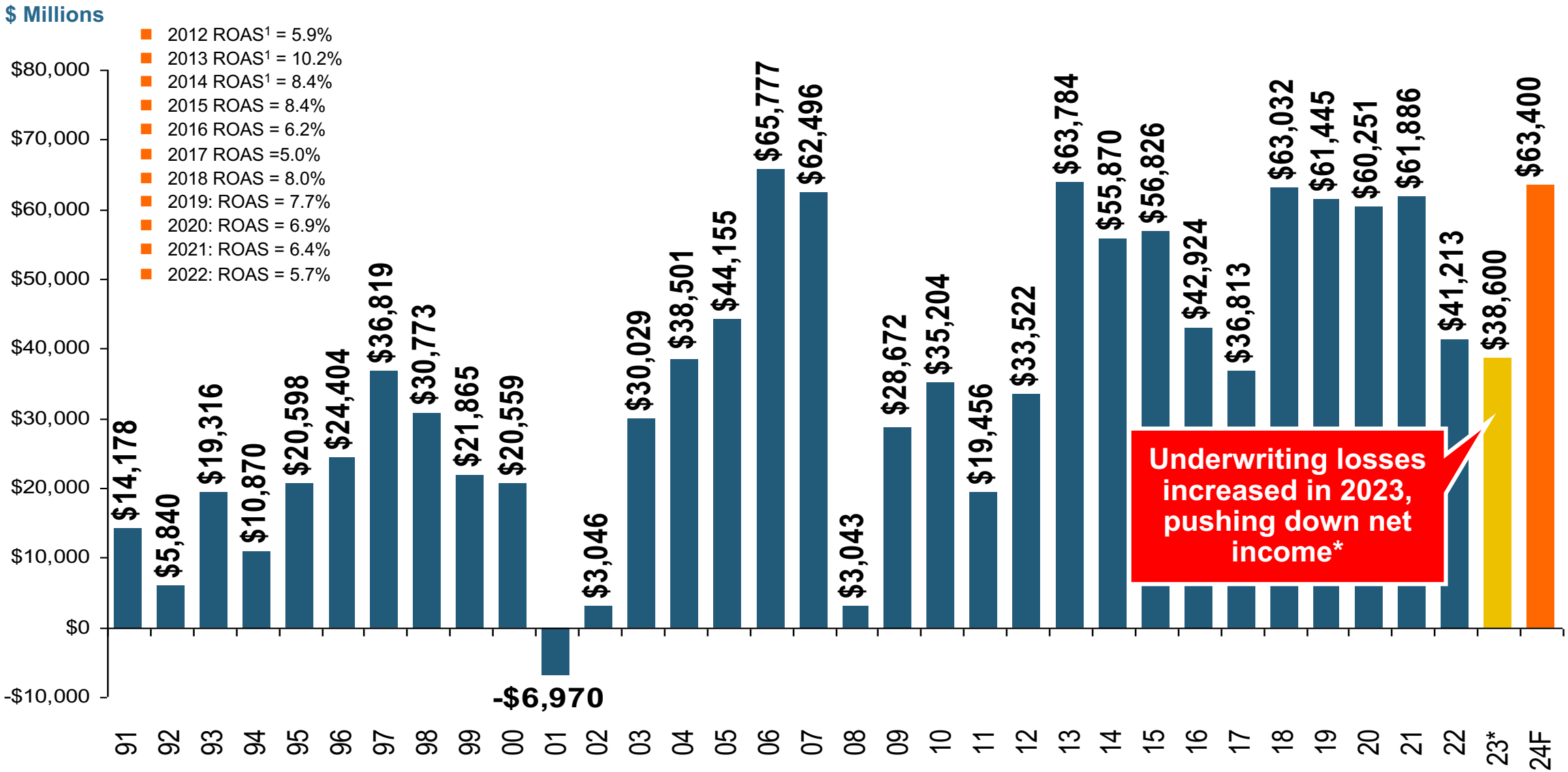
E&S Market Direct Written Premium Trends



E&S premium grew by ~14.6% in 2023, down from 20% in 2022 (up 146% since 2018), approaching 9% of the total P/C market (up from 5.5% in 2018)

Sources: Data for 2018 – 2022: Fitch Ratings (*Fitch Wire*, Oct. 4, 2023) accessed at: https://www.fitchratings.com/research/insurance/us-excess-surplus-insurance-market-outperformance-to-continue-04-10-2023; For 2023: Insurance Journal from WSIA, accessed at: https://www.insurancejournal.com/news/national/2024/02/14/760715.htm#; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

P/C Industry Net Income After Taxes, 1991–2024F*

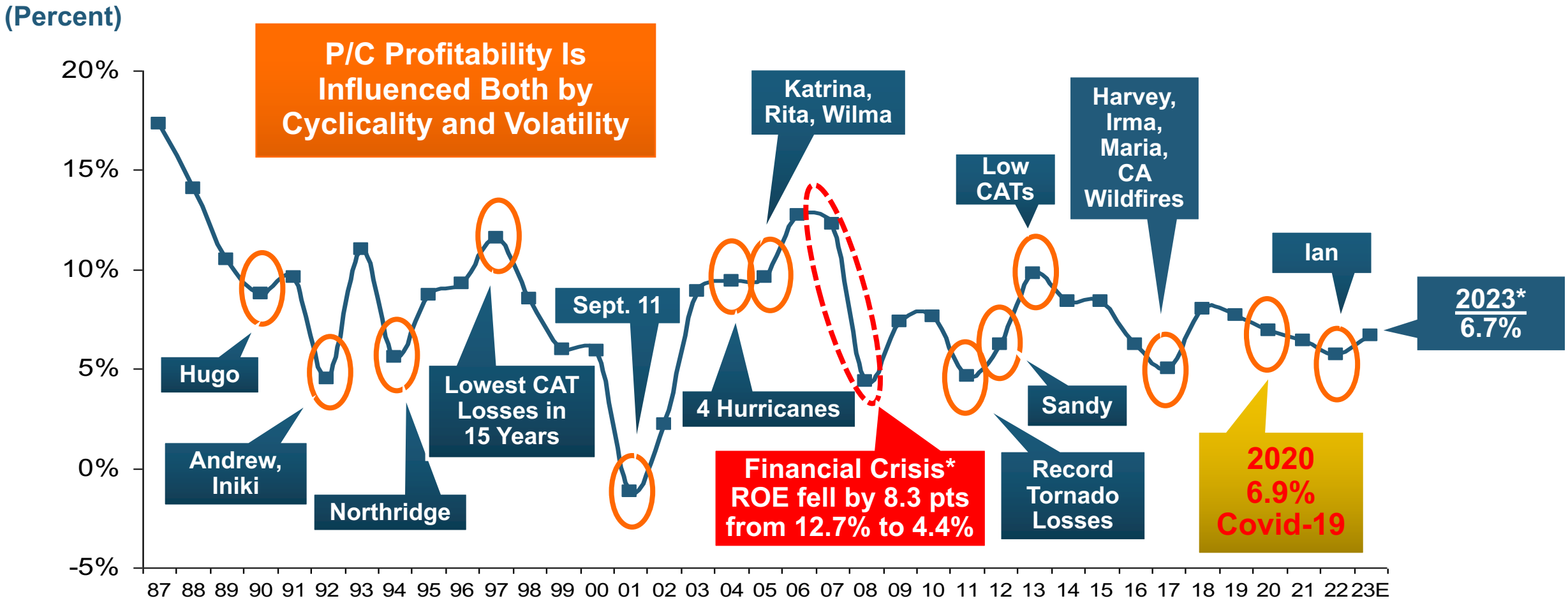


*2023 figure is adjusted is adjusted to reflect $50B realized gain from a large reinsurer (National Indemnity). Including this gain, net income after tax is $86.6B.

Note: ROE figures are GAAP; [1]Return on avg. surplus. Excludes Mortgage & Financial Guaranty insurers for years (2009-2014).

Sources: A.M. Best, ISO, APCIA.

ROE: Property/Casualty Insurance by Major Event, 1987–2023*

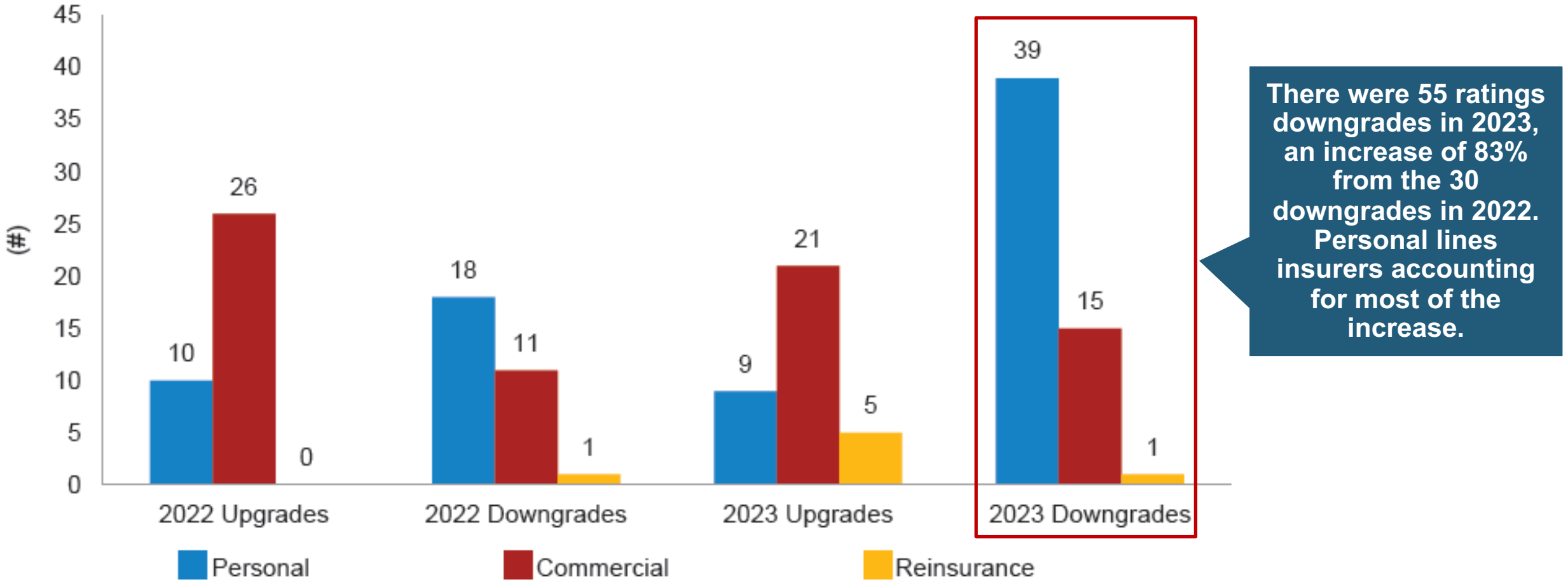


*Excludes Mortgage & Financial Guarantee in 2008 – 2014. 2023 figure is through Q3.
Sources: A.M. Best, ISO, *Fortune,* APCIA; USC RUM Center.

Upgrades, Downgrades and M&A Activity

Underwriting Performance, CATs and Capital Are Impacting Ratings and M&A Activity

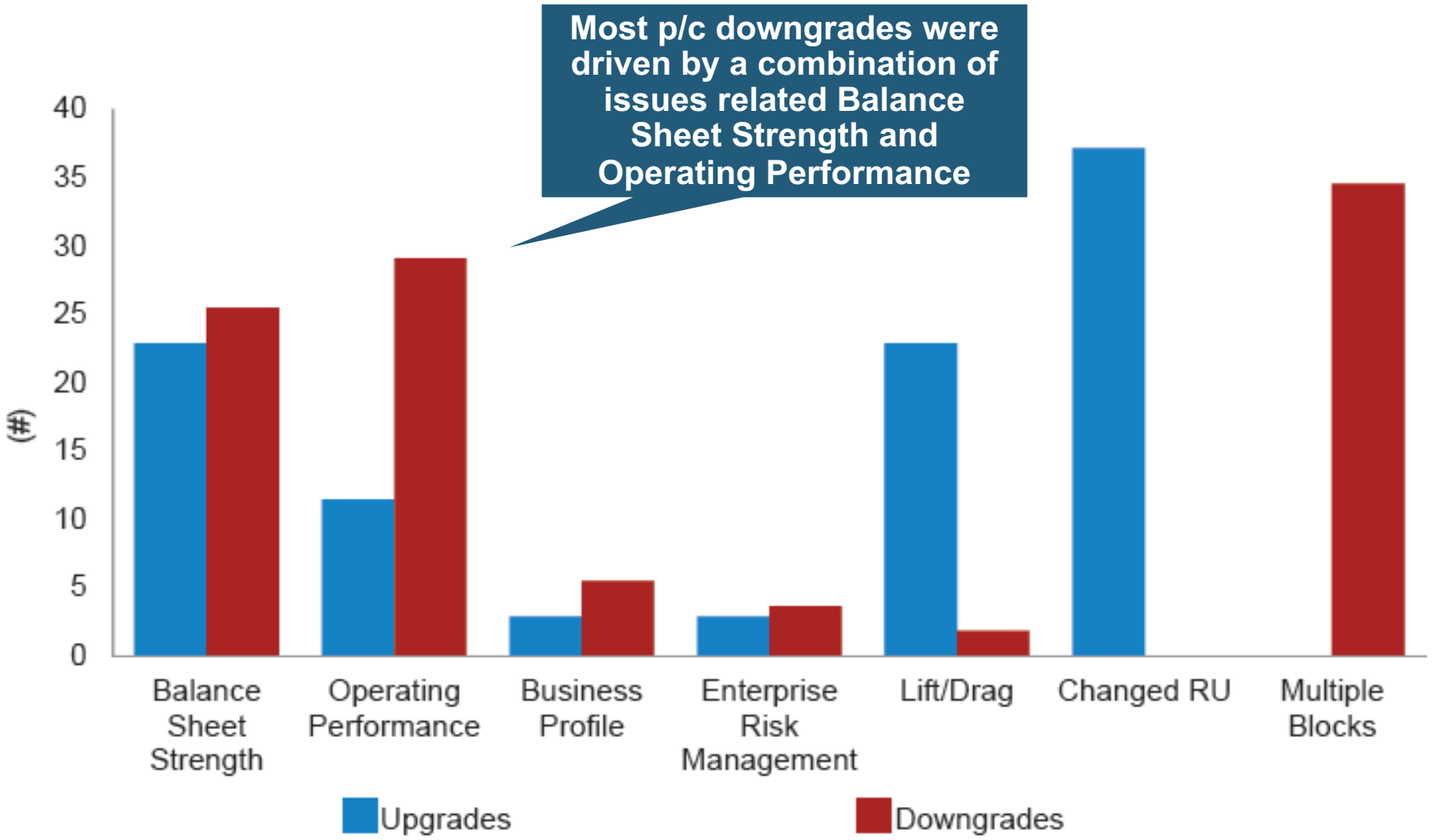
US P/C: Rating Upgrades & Downgrades, by Segment, 2023



There were 55 ratings downgrades in 2023, an increase of 83% from the 30 downgrades in 2022. Personal lines insurers accounting for most of the increase.

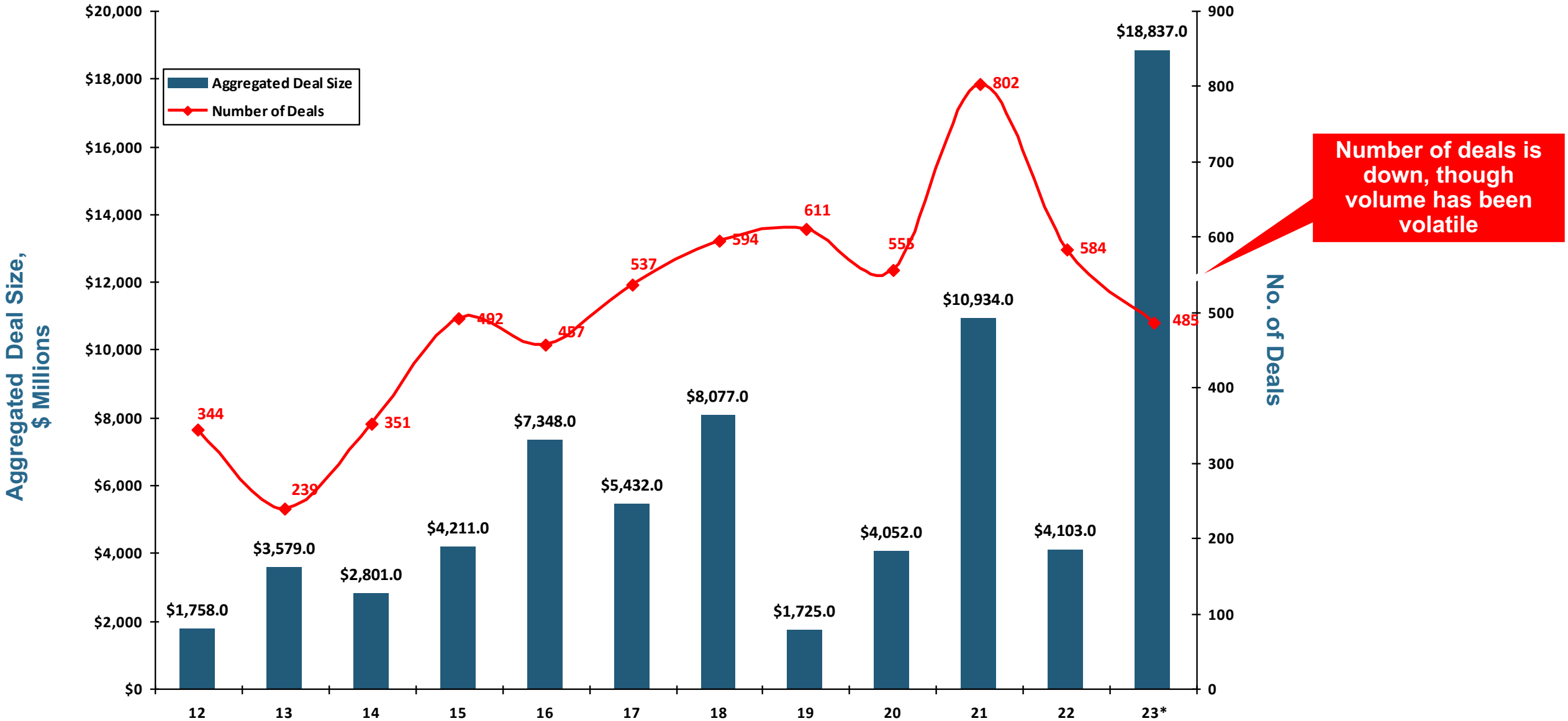
Source: A.M. Best Review & Preview (March 11, 2024), *US Property/Casualty Downgrades Outpace Upgrades in 2023.*

US P/C: Drivers of Rating Upgrades & Downgrades, 2023



Source: A.M. Best Review & Preview (March 11, 2024), *US Property/Casualty Downgrades Outpace Upgrades in 2023.*

Broker M&A: Number and Aggregated Deal Value, 2012–2023*



*2023 aggregated deal value skewed by Aon's $13.6B acquisition of NFP Insurance Services (announced 12/20/23).

Source: Deloitte, *2024 Insurance M&A Outlook*, accessed at: https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/pages/financial-services/articles/insurance-m-and-a-outlook.html; Risk & Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Economic Overview
The U.S. Economy Remain Resilient and Consumer Gloom is Lifting

Inflation, Geopolitical Conflicts and Still-High Interest Rates Have Weighed Heavily on Business and Consumer Sentiment

Is the Fed About to "Thread the Needle" and Achieve a "Soft Landing"?

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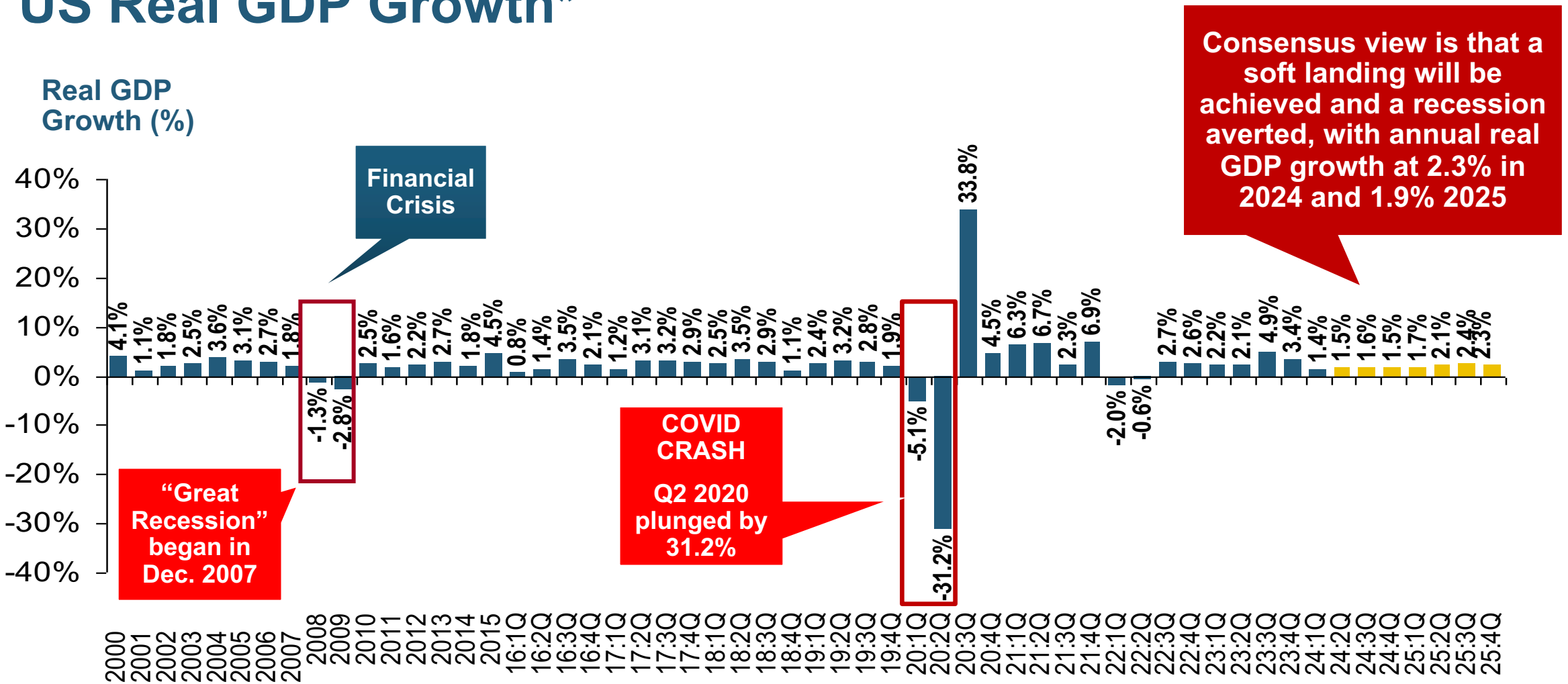
US Real GDP Growth*

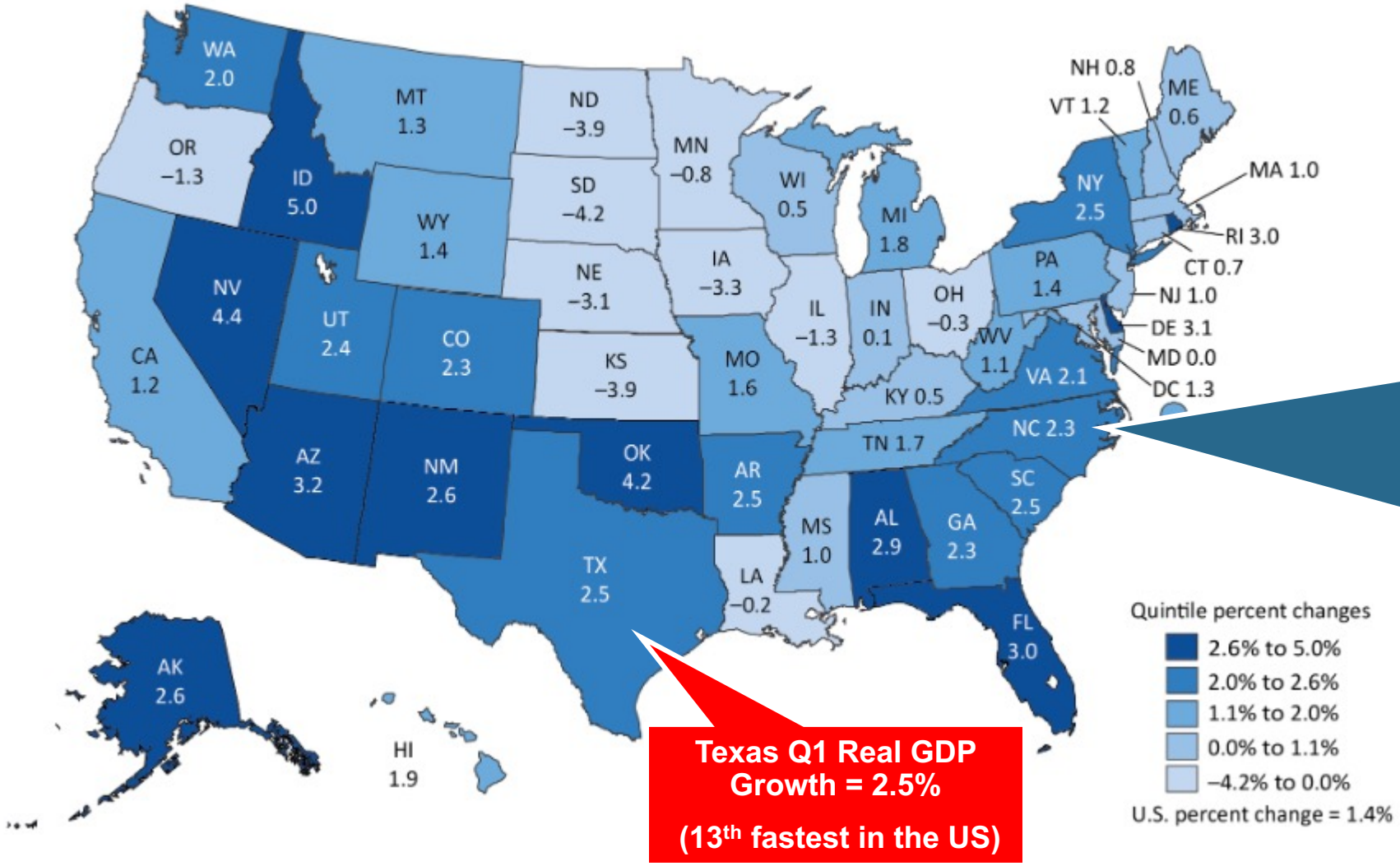


Demand for Insurance Increased Materially in 2021/22 During Recovery from the Pandemic—Particularly in Economically Sensitive Commercial Lines Such as WC. Premium growth will likely slow as Economy Slows.

* Estimates/Forecasts from Wells Fargo Securities.

Source: US Department of Commerce, Wells Fargo Securities (7/24); Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management, University of South Carolina.

Real GDP by State, 2023:Q4 – 2024:Q1



Texas Q1 Real GDP Growth = 2.5%

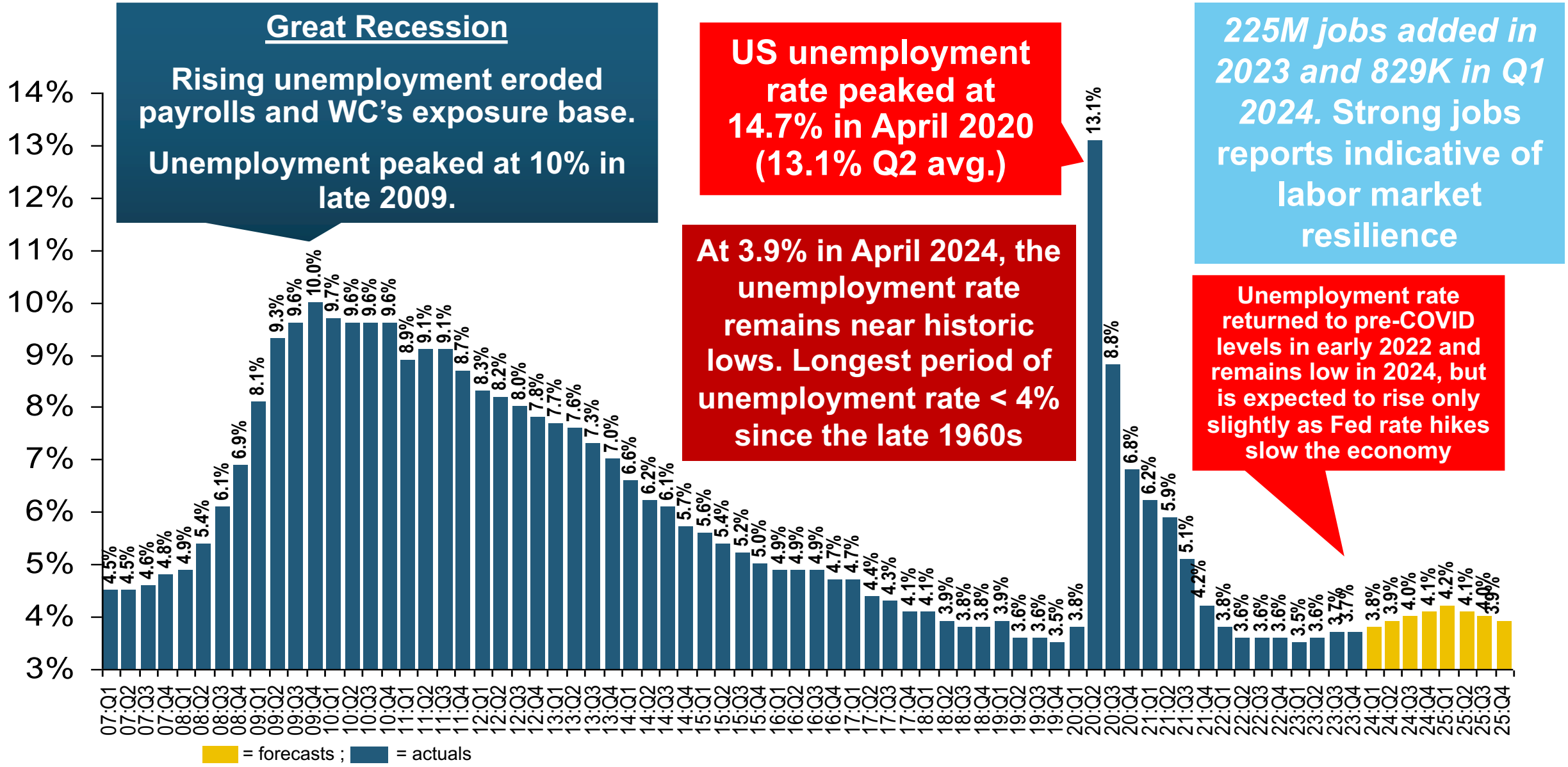
(13th fastest in the US)

Economic performance is strong overall, with slower growth in the Midwest and Plains states

Real GDP increased in 39 states in Q1

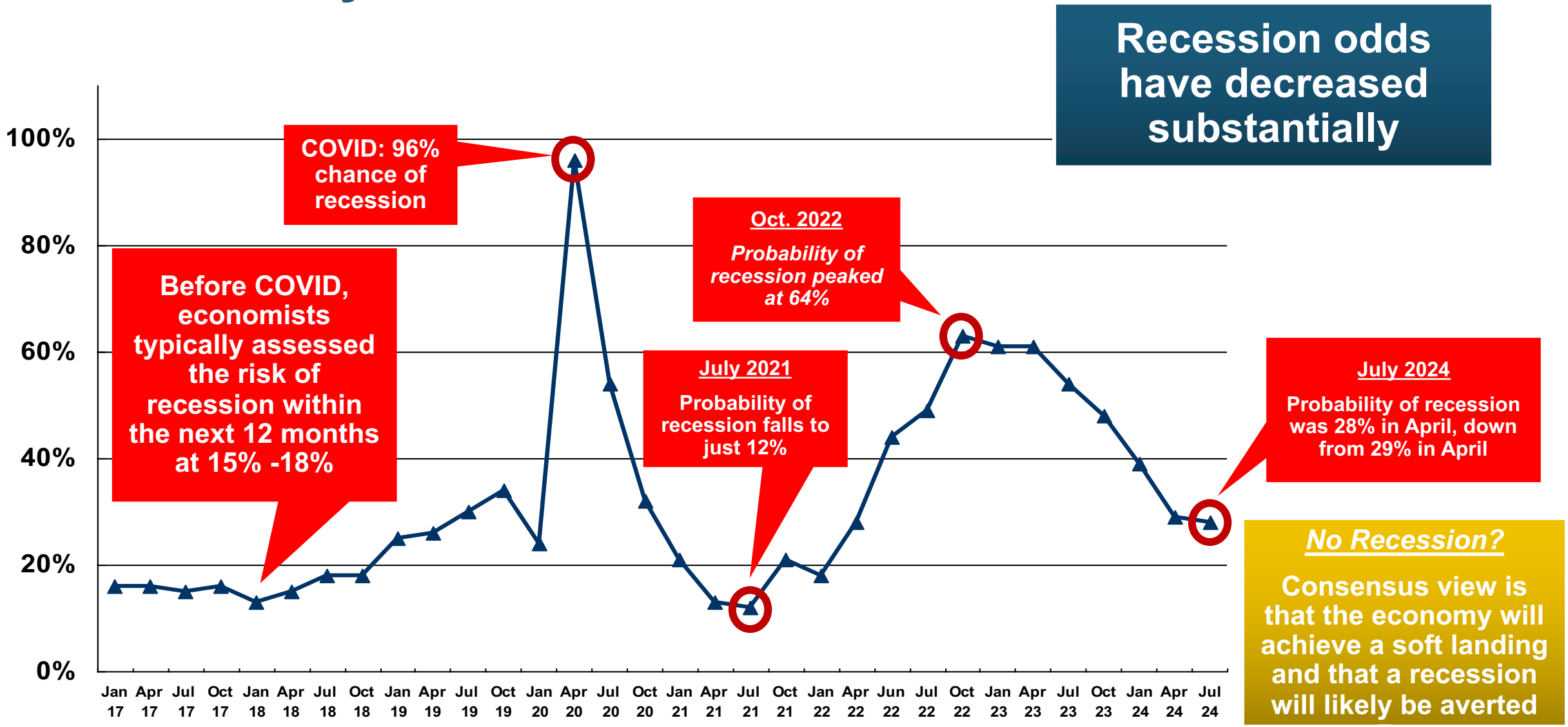
Sources: US Bureau of Economic Analysis at https://www.bea.gov/data/gdp/gdp-state; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

US Unemployment Rate Forecast: 2007:Q1–2025:Q4



Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; Wells Fargo Securities (6/24 edition); Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Probability the U.S. Is in a Recession Within Next 12 Months: Jan. 2017 – July 2024*



*April 2024 survey included the responses of 75 economists.

Source: Wall Street Journal surveys of economists: https://www.wsj.com/economy/central-banking/where-do-economists-think-were-headed-these-are-their-predictions-b3db91ea?mod=hp_listb_pos1; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Not All Recessions Are Created the Same – What Are the Possibilities Over the Next 12 Months?

A soft landing occurs when an economy sustains a mild slowdown whereby consumer and investment spending softens, but continues to register positive growth.

Soft Landing

A hard landing describes a recession with a sharp contraction in spending, resulting in many workers losing their jobs and companies significantly reducing their capital investments.

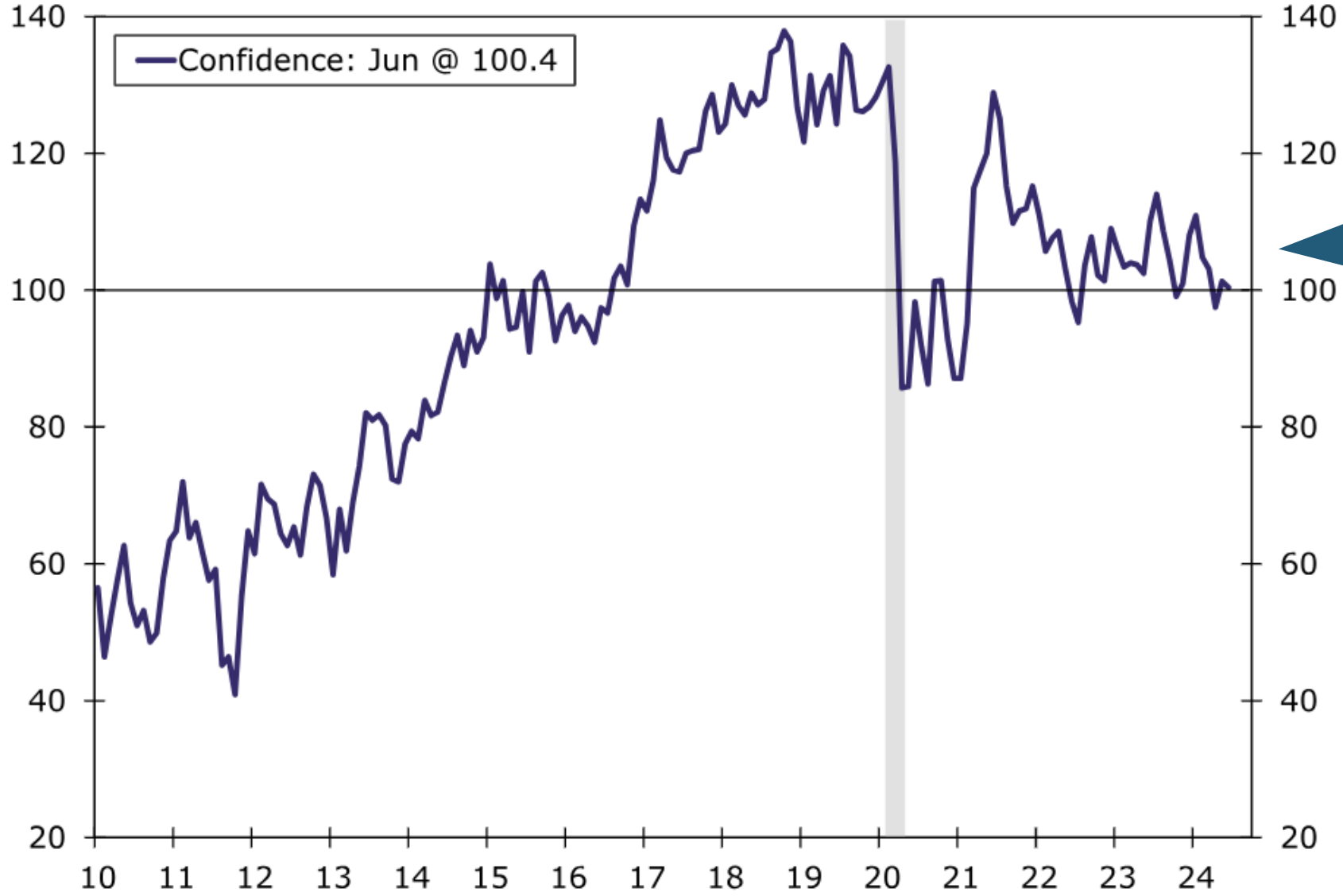
Hard Landing

In a "no landing" scenario, the economy averts a recession altogether.

No Landing

Source: Public Mutual; Univ. of South Carolina, Risk and Uncertainty Management Center.

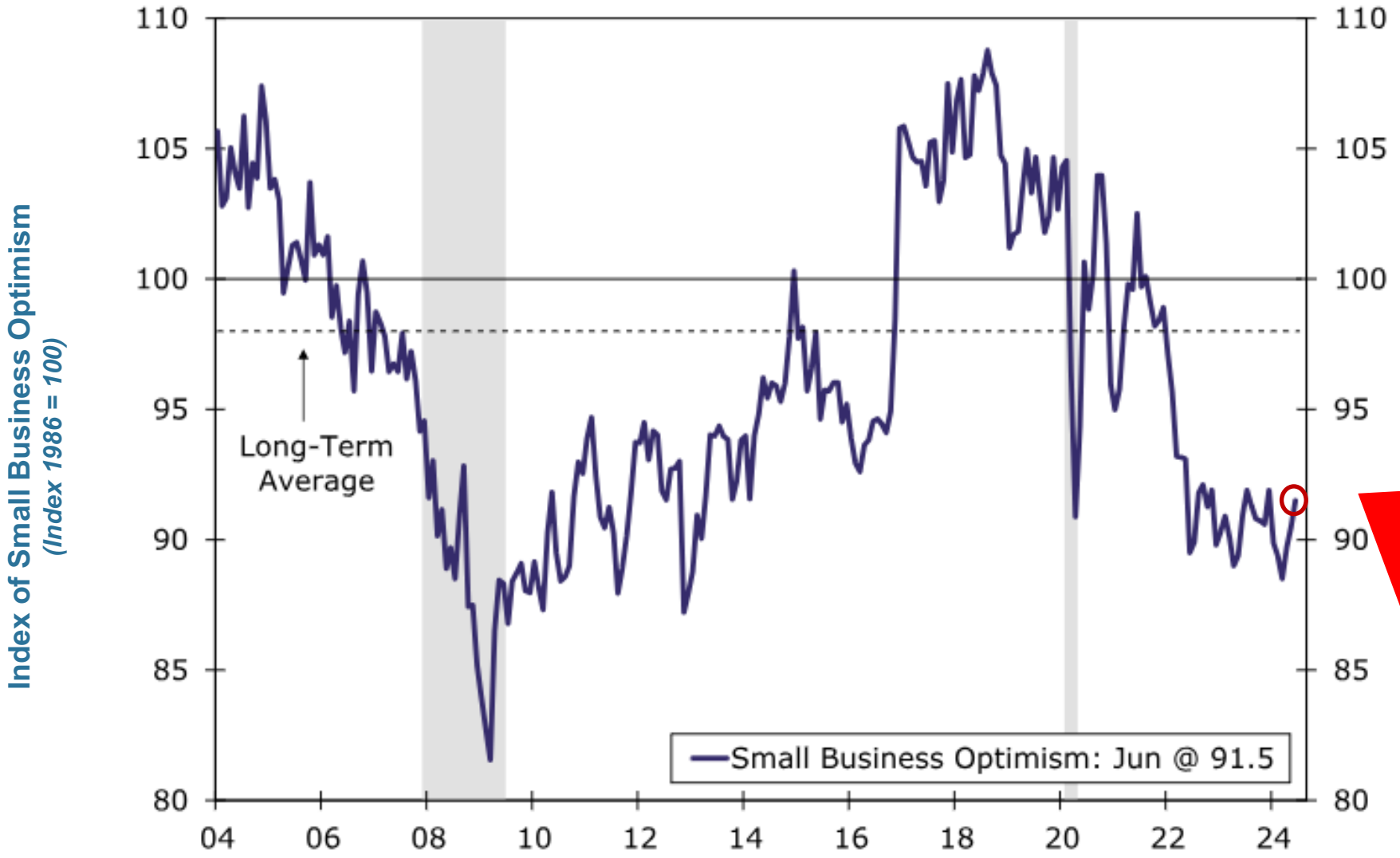
Consumer Confidence: Holding Steady Labor Markets, Lower Inflation



Consumers are generally optimistic about their current situation but pessimistic about the future

Source: The Conference Board and Wells Fargo Economics.

Small Business Sentiment: Optimism Remains Low

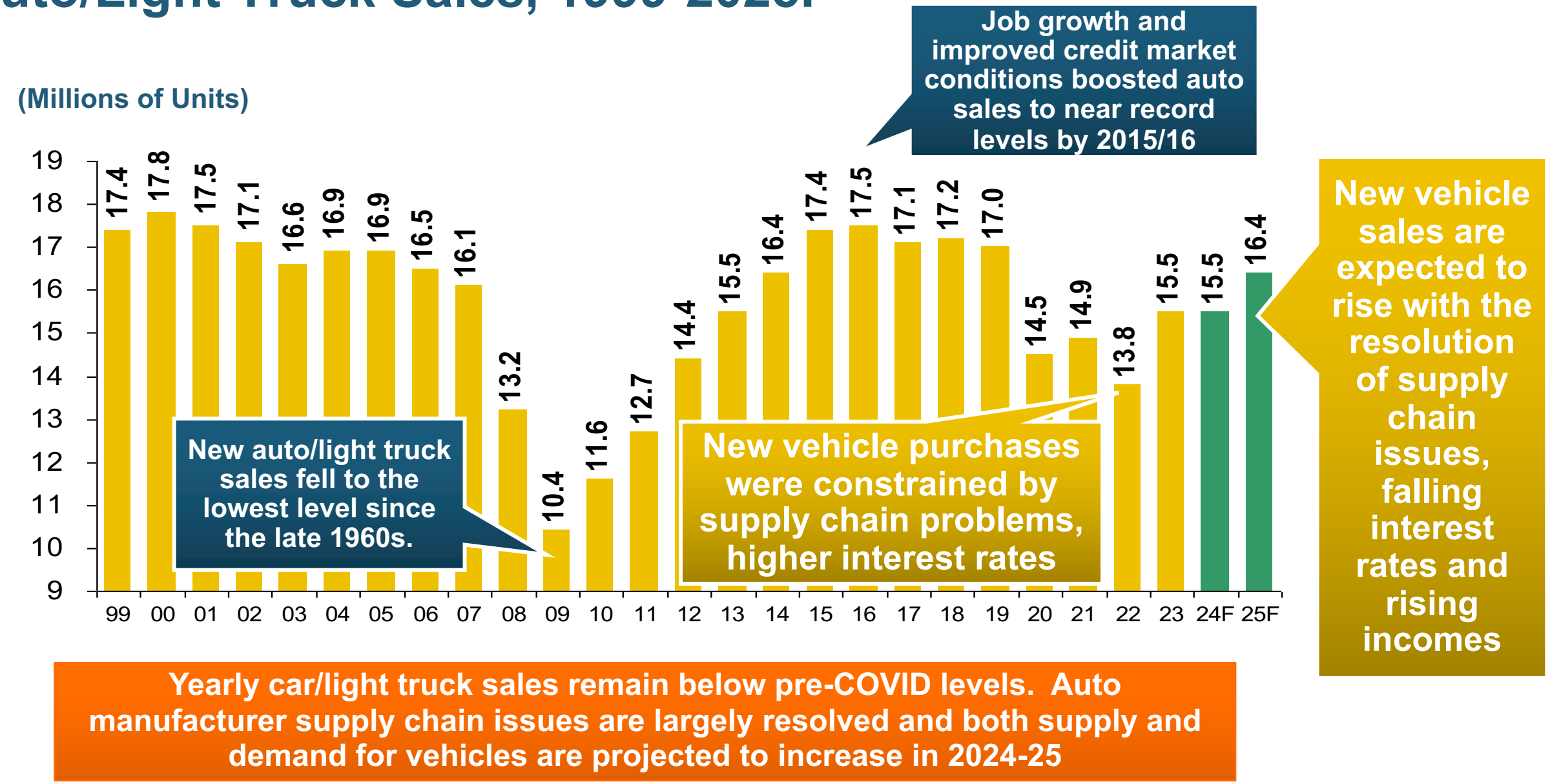


Small businesses today are even *more* pessimistic than they were during the depths of pandemic, despite strong spending by consumers, easing labor market issues, lower inflation and receding odds of a recession.

Business owner concerns include inflation, labor quality and cost, taxes and regulation

Source: NFIB and Wells Fargo Economics.

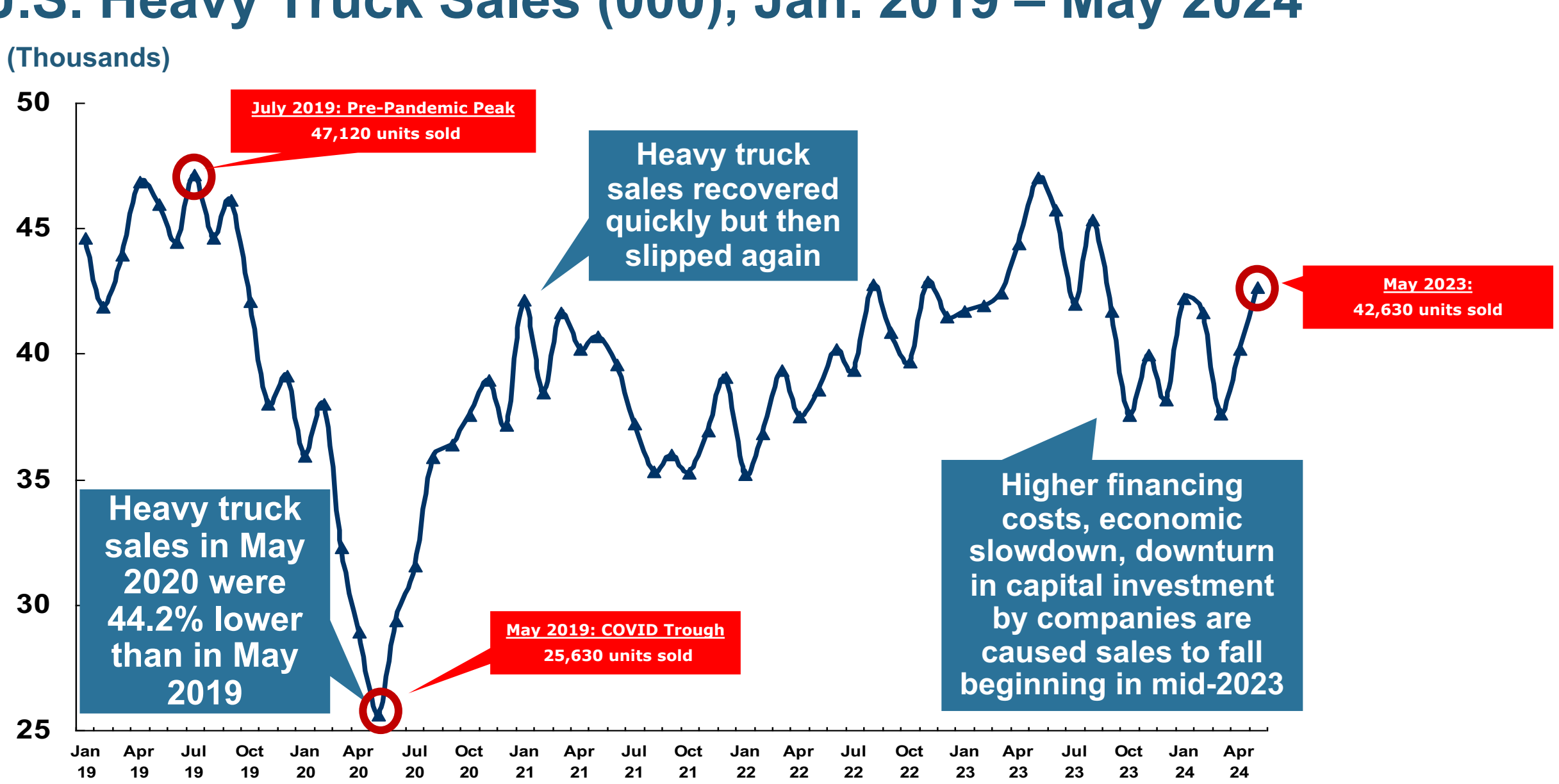
Auto/Light Truck Sales, 1999-2025F



Yearly car/light truck sales remain below pre-COVID levels. Auto manufacturer supply chain issues are largely resolved and both supply and demand for vehicles are projected to increase in 2024-25

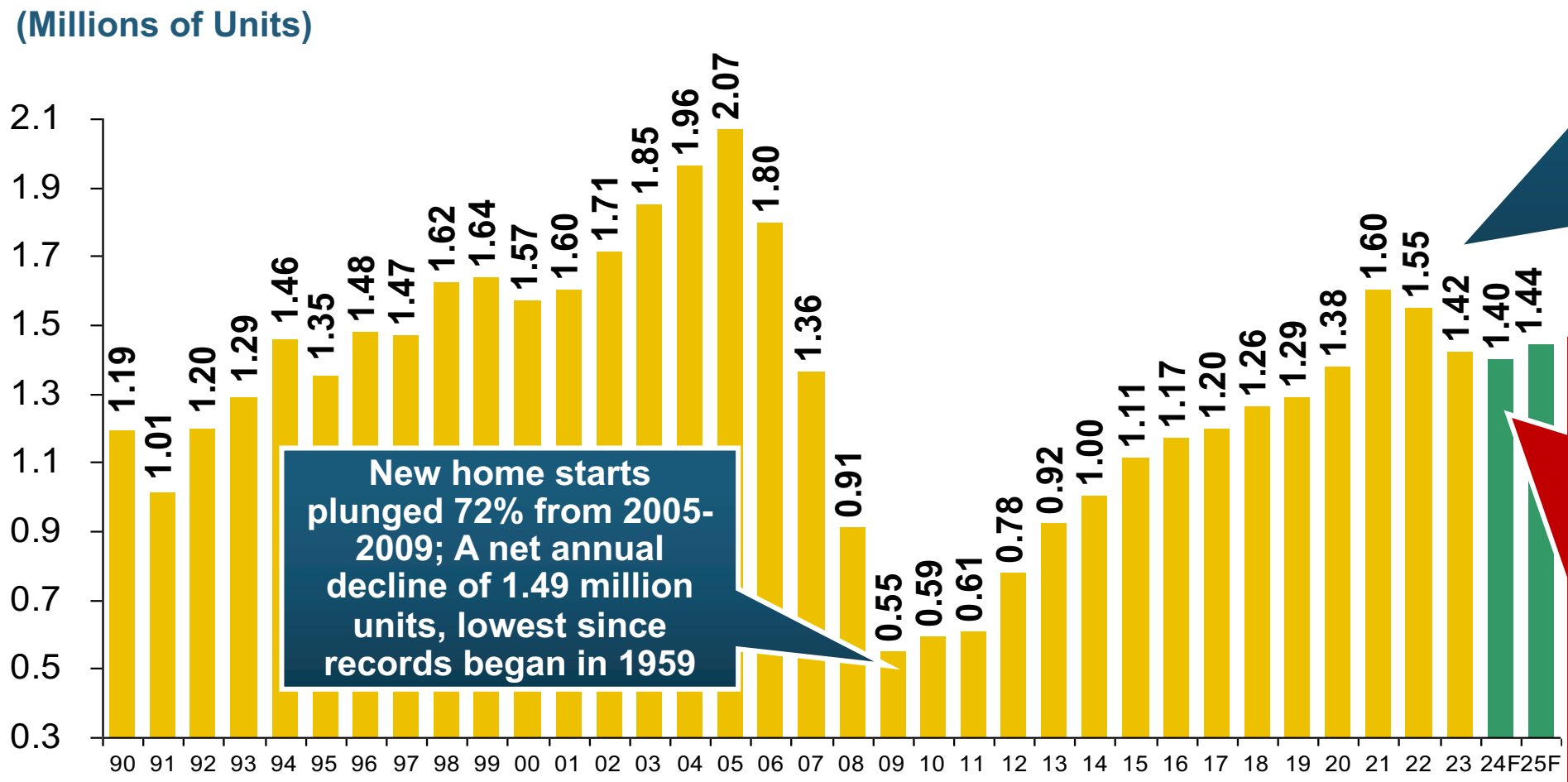
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce; Wells Fargo Securities (7/24 for 2023F-25F); Univ. of South Carolina, Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management..

U.S. Heavy Truck Sales (000), Jan. 2019 – May 2024*



Sources: U.S Bureau of Economic Analysis from Ycharts.com at: https://ycharts.com/indicators/us_retail_sales_of_heavy_trucks_sa;
Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

New Private Housing Starts, 1990-2025F



Job growth, low inventories of existing homes, low mortgage interest rates and demographics propelled new home construction into 2022, though materials prices, supply chain problems, lack of labor were headwinds

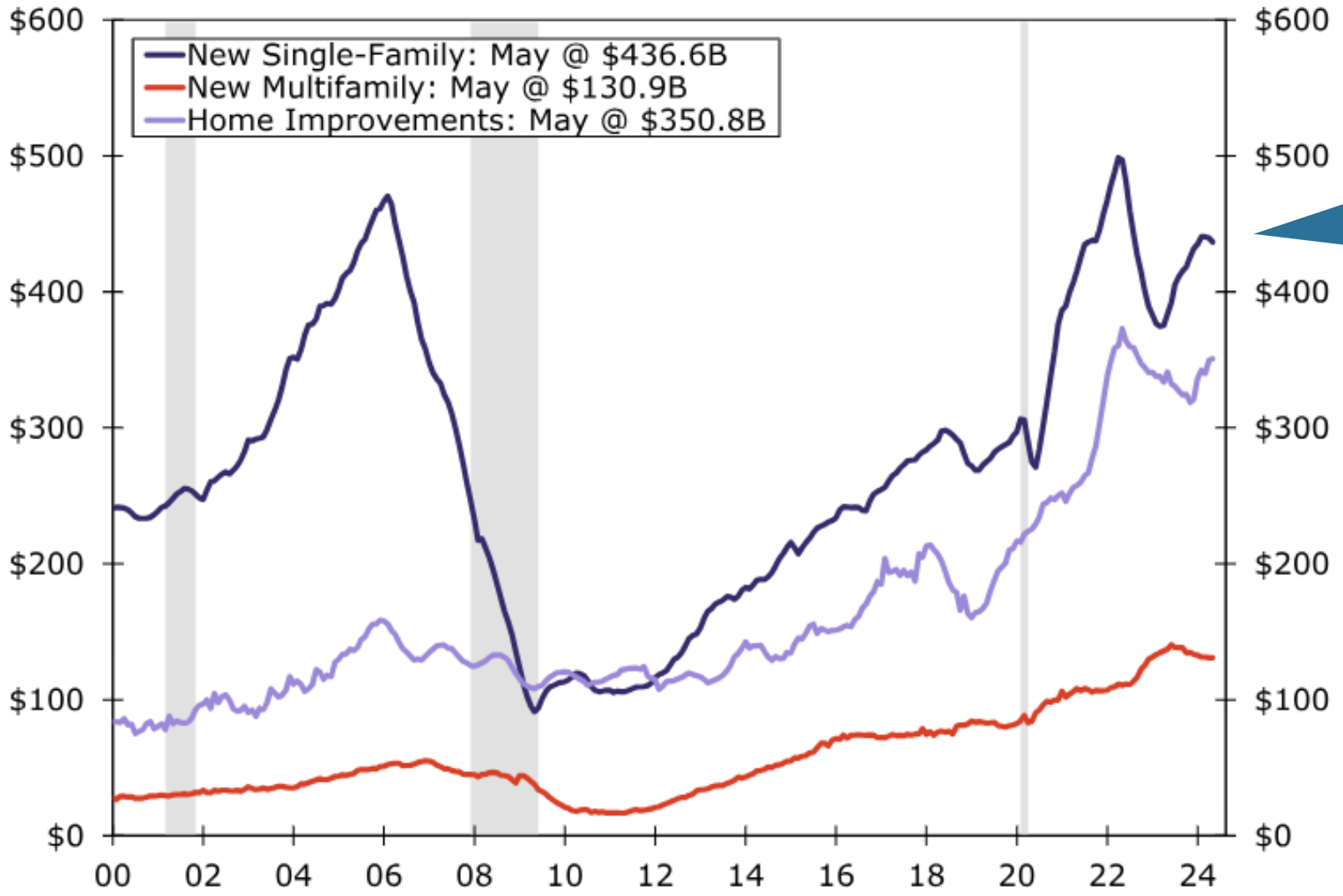
High prices, rising mortgage rates, tempered new home construction activity through 2023, though low inventory of existing homes is propping up demand. Falling mortgage rates should prop up demand by late 2024 and into 2025

No Repeat of the Housing Collapse that Began in 2007

Insurers Are Continue to See Meaningful Exposure Growth in the Homeowners Line as well as Lines Associated with Home Construction: Construction Risk Exposure, Surety, Commercial Auto; Potent Driver of Workers Comp Exposure

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce; Wells Fargo Securities (7/24 for 2023F-25F); Univ. of South Carolina, Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management..

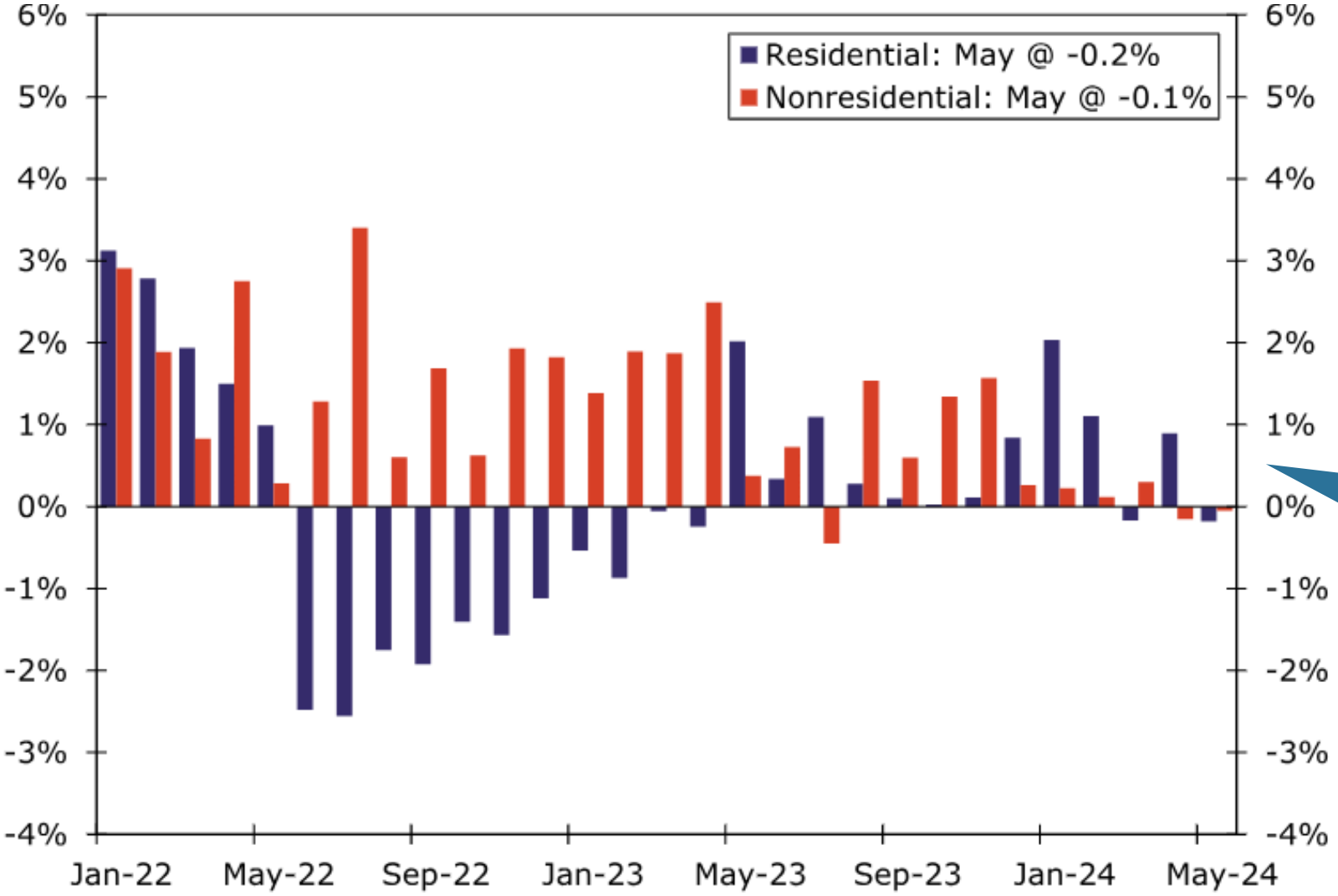
Residential Construction Activity: Higher Interest Rates Leading to a Slowdown, but No Crash Expected



Construction activity remains somewhat resilient despite higher financing costs, supporting growth in many lines of insurance

Source: U.S. Department of Labor and Wells Fargo Economics.

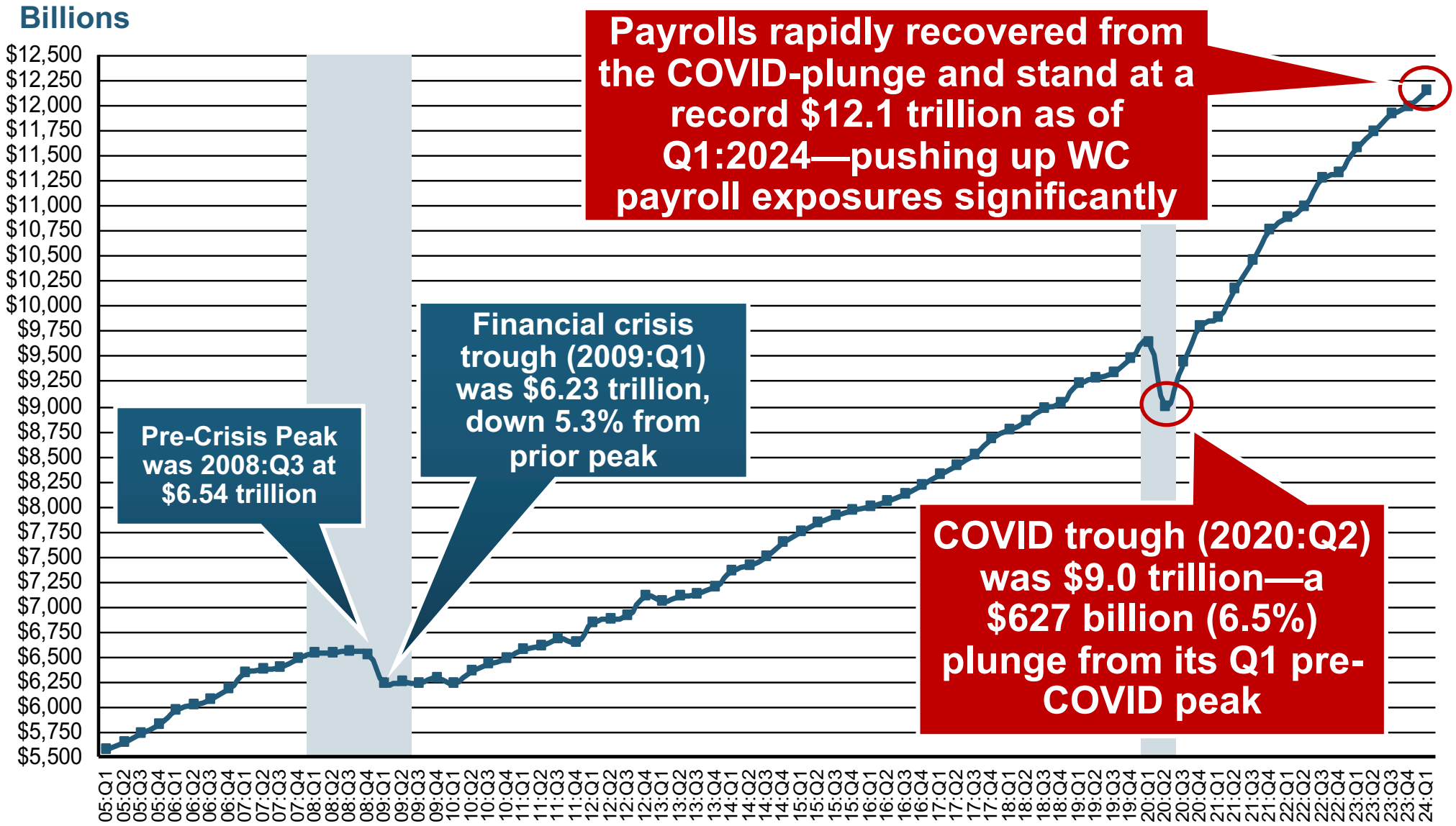
Nonresidential Construction Activity: Higher Interest Rates Leading to a Slowdown in Nonresidential, but No Crash



Construction activity remains somewhat resilient despite higher financing costs, supporting growth in many lines of insurance

Source: U.S. Department of Labor and Wells Fargo Economics.

Nonfarm Payroll (Wages and Salaries): Quarterly, 2005:Q1–2024:Q1



Growth rates

2023: 6.1%
2022: 7.8%
2021: 9.0%
2020: 1.5%
2019: 4.8%
2018: 4.6%
2017: 4.5%
2016: 3.4%
2015: 3.2%
2014: 4.9%
2013: 5.2%
2012: 2.3%
2011: 3.9%
2010: 5.5%

Note: Recession indicated by gray shaded column. Data are seasonally adjusted annual rates.
Sources: http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/WASCUR; National Bureau of Economic Research (recession dates).

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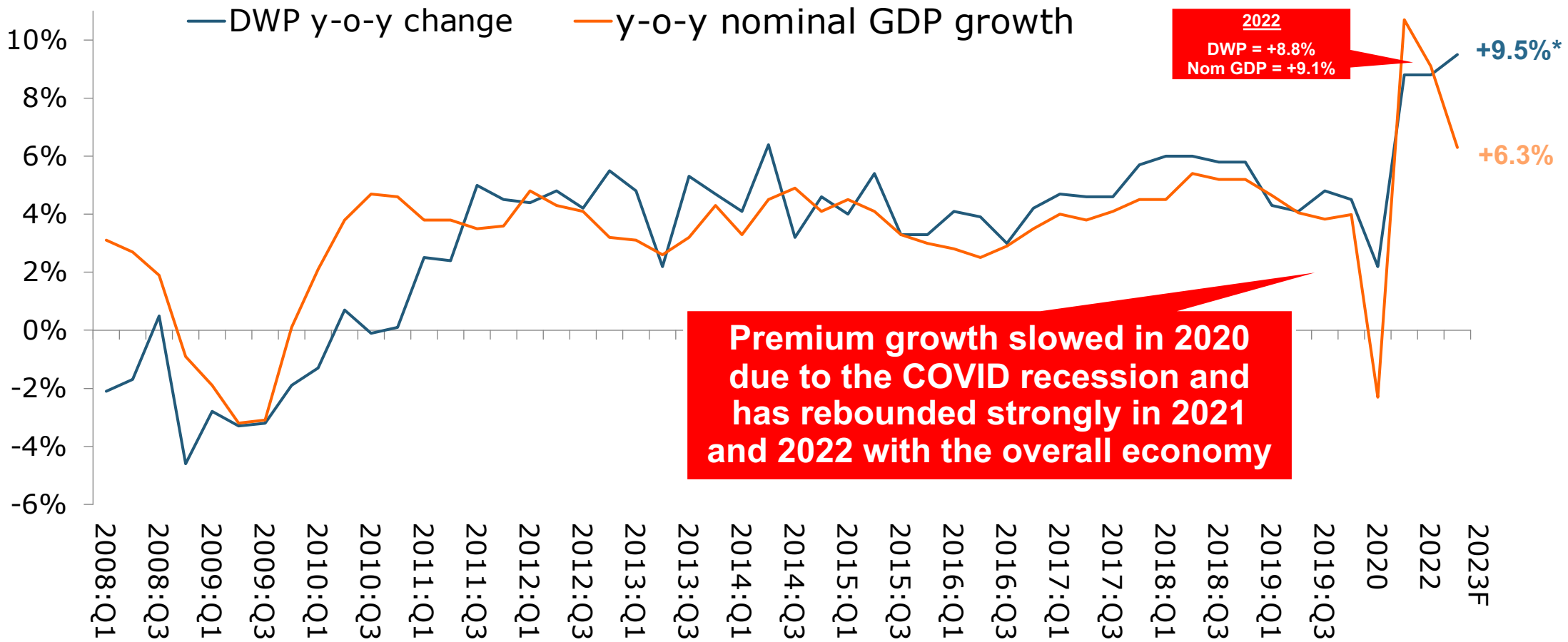
The Economy Drives P/C Insurance Industry Premiums: 2006:Q1–2023F*

Direct Premium Growth (All P/C Lines) vs. Nominal GDP: Quarterly Y-o-Y Pct. Change



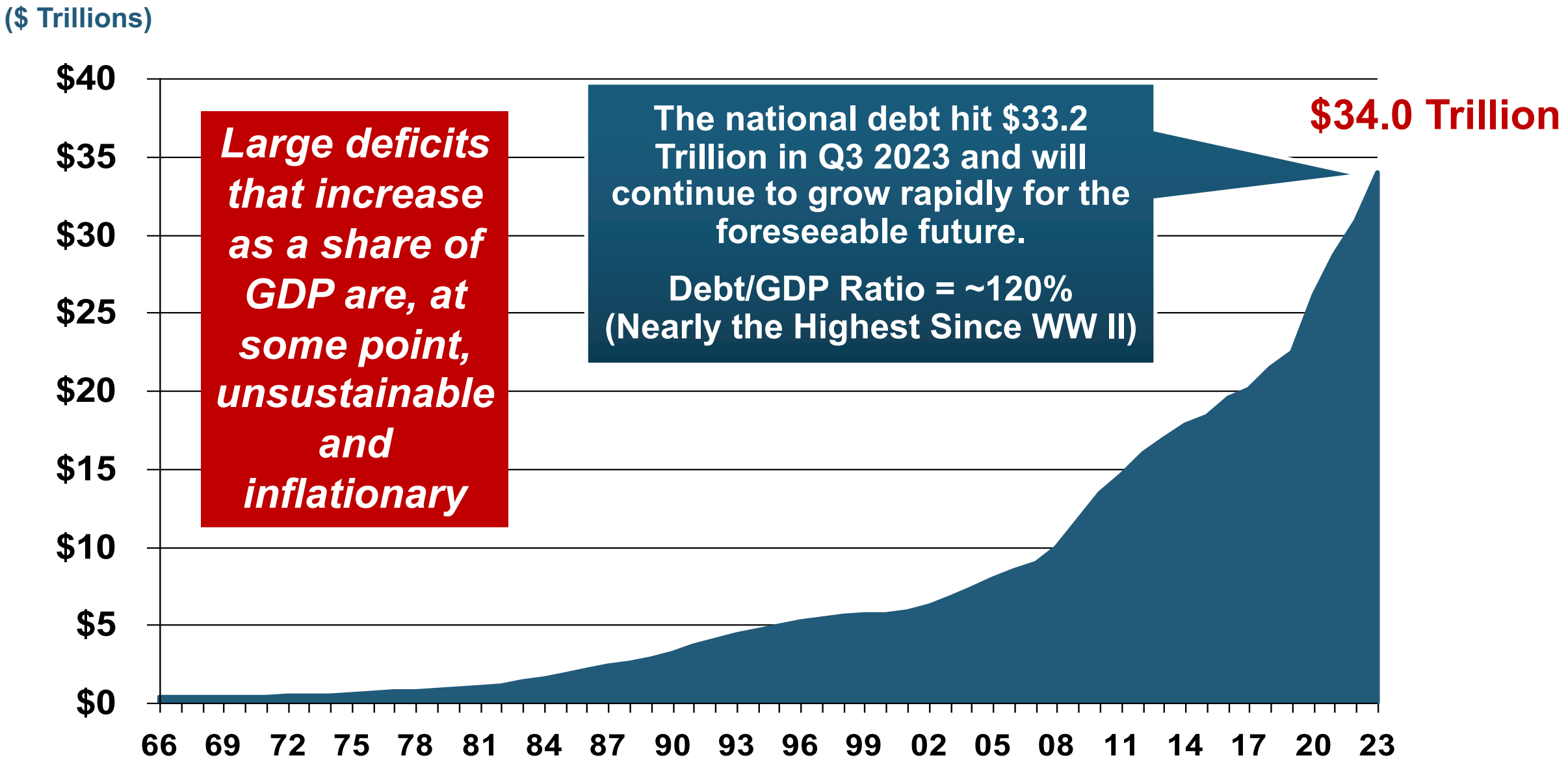
Premium growth slowed in 2020 due to the COVID recession and has rebounded strongly in 2021 and 2022 with the overall economy

Direct written premiums track nominal GDP fairly tightly over time, suggesting the P/C insurance industry's growth prospects inextricably linked to economic performance.

*2020-23F figures are annual.

Sources: SNL Financial; U.S. Commerce Dept., Bureau of Economic Analysis; ISO;, Swiss Re (2023F) I.I.I.; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

U.S. National Debt, 1966 – 2023:Q4



Source: Congressional Budget Office; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis: https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/GFDEBTN.

The Inflation Threat

Inflation Has Been the #1 Concern of U.S. Consumers and Corporations…

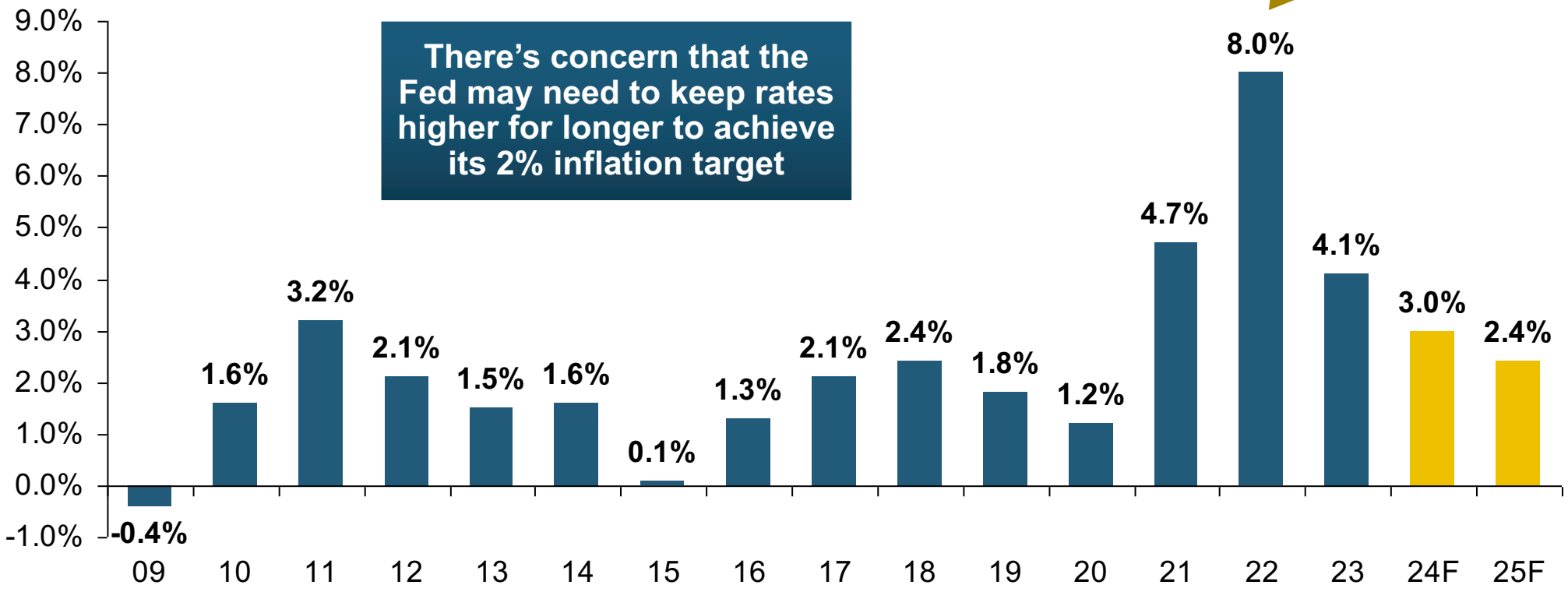
And a Major Concern of Insurers

Is the Threat Finally Subsiding?

U.S. Inflation Rate: 2009-2025F*

Inflation accelerated sharply in 2021 before peaking at 9.1% in June 2022. Inflation was nearly halved in 2023 and should continue to moderate through 2024/25; Forecast is highly dependent of trajectory of energy prices, Fed rate hikes and labor market tightness

Percentage Change (%)



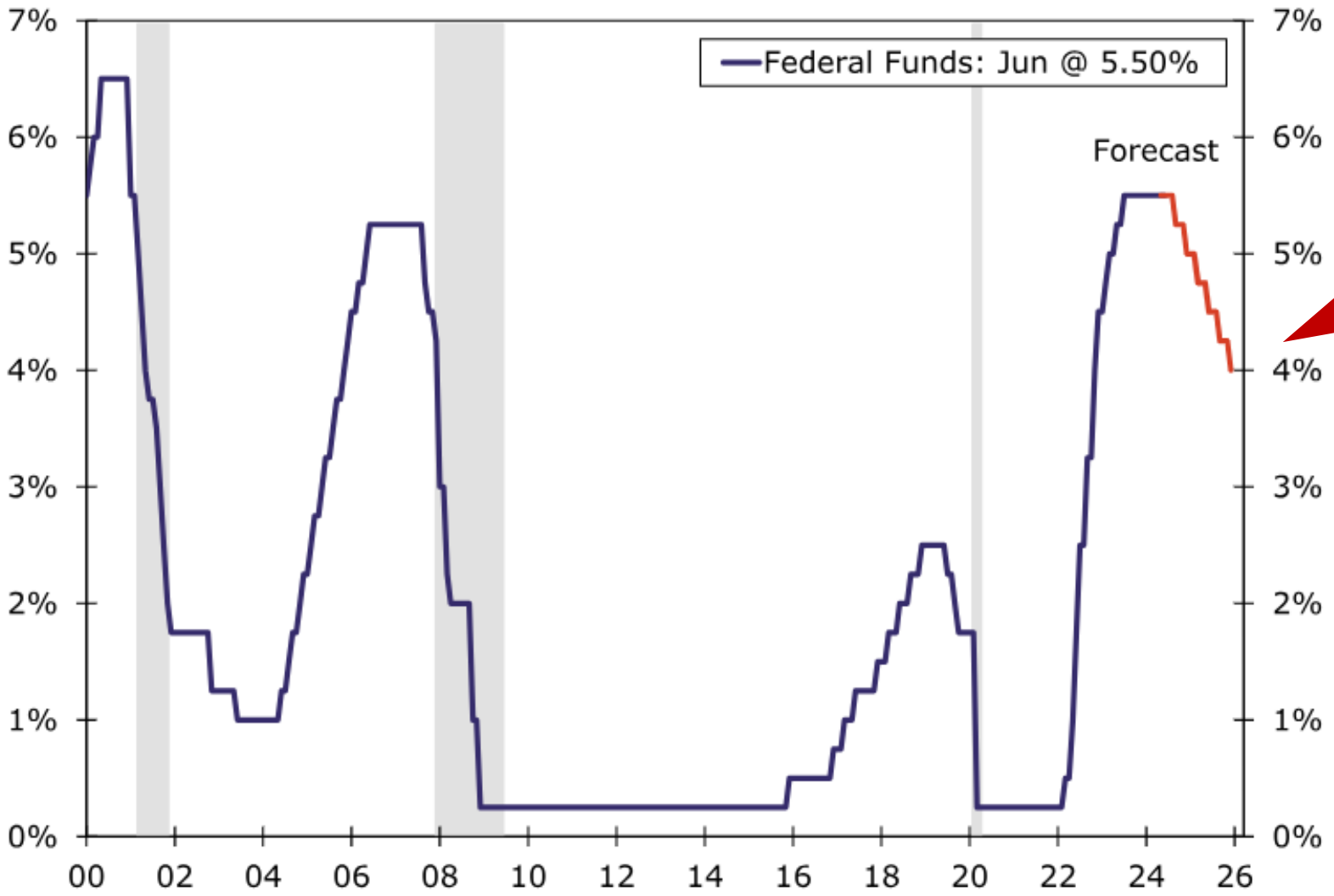
Insurer Concerns About Inflation

- **Rate Inadequacy**
- **Reserve Inadequacy**
- **Insurance-to-Value**

*Annual change in Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Wells Fargo Securities (7/24); USC Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management.

Federal Funds Target Rate, 2000 – 2025F



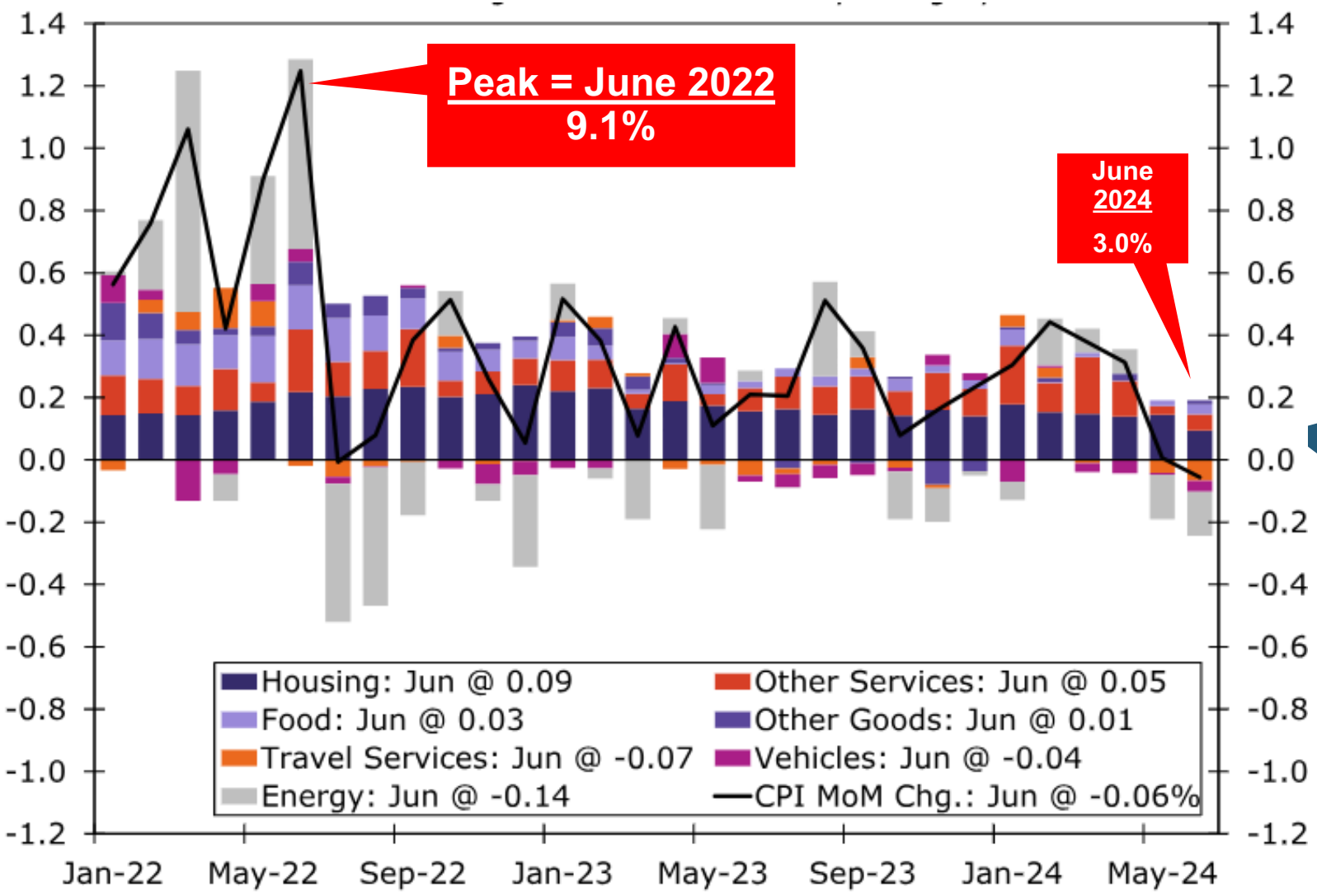
Consensus view is that the Fed will begin to cut rates at its September 18 meeting…

2024: 50bps

2025: 100bps

Source: Federal Reserve Board and Wells Fargo Securities.

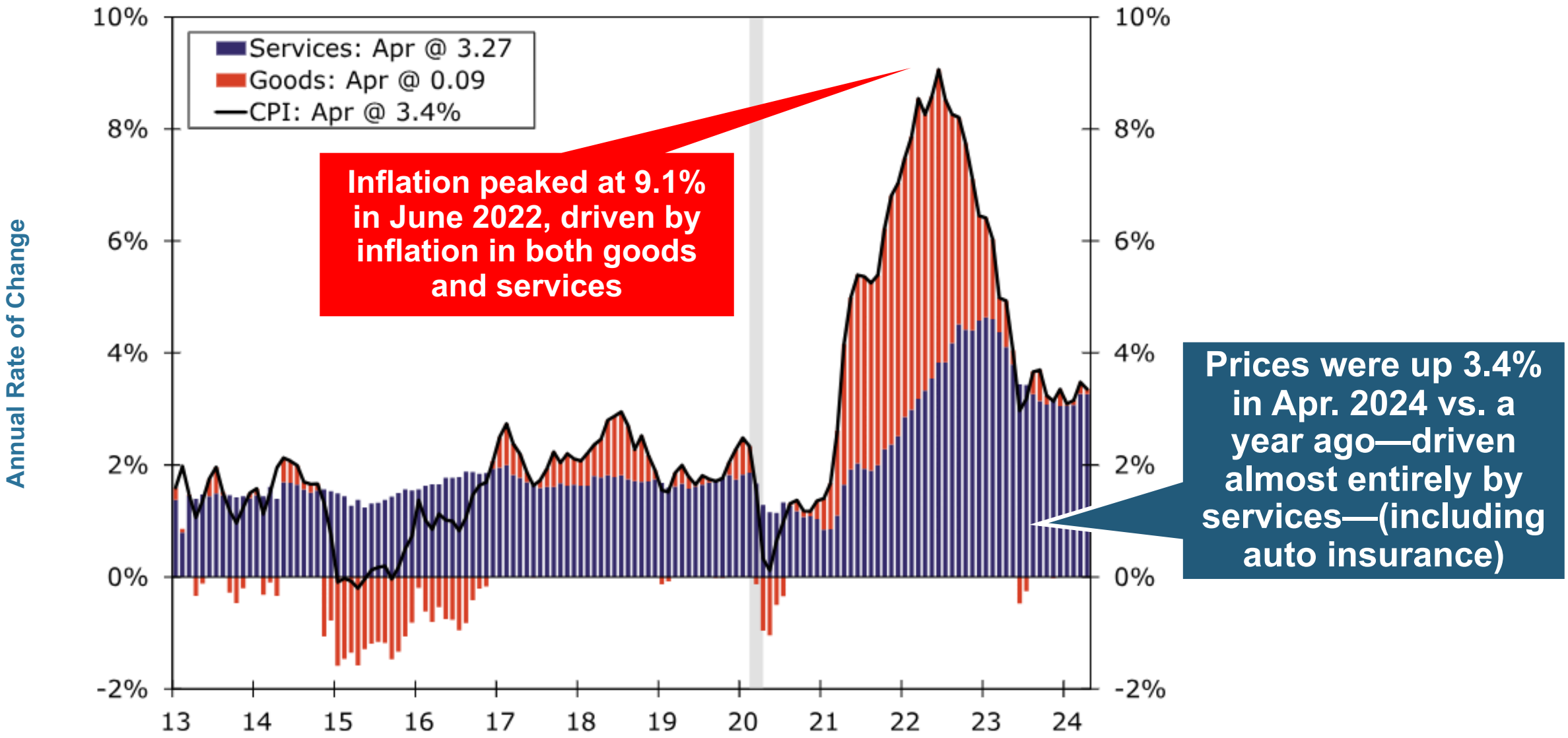
Contribution to CPI by Category: Jan. 2020 – June 2024



Prices were up 3.0% in June 2024 vs. a year ago—the smallest increase since Jan. 2021—and down from the June 2022 peak of 9.1%. Increases in Shelter (Housing), Food and Other Services (which includes auto insurance) are the most significant obstacles to bringing inflation down to the Fed's 2% goal

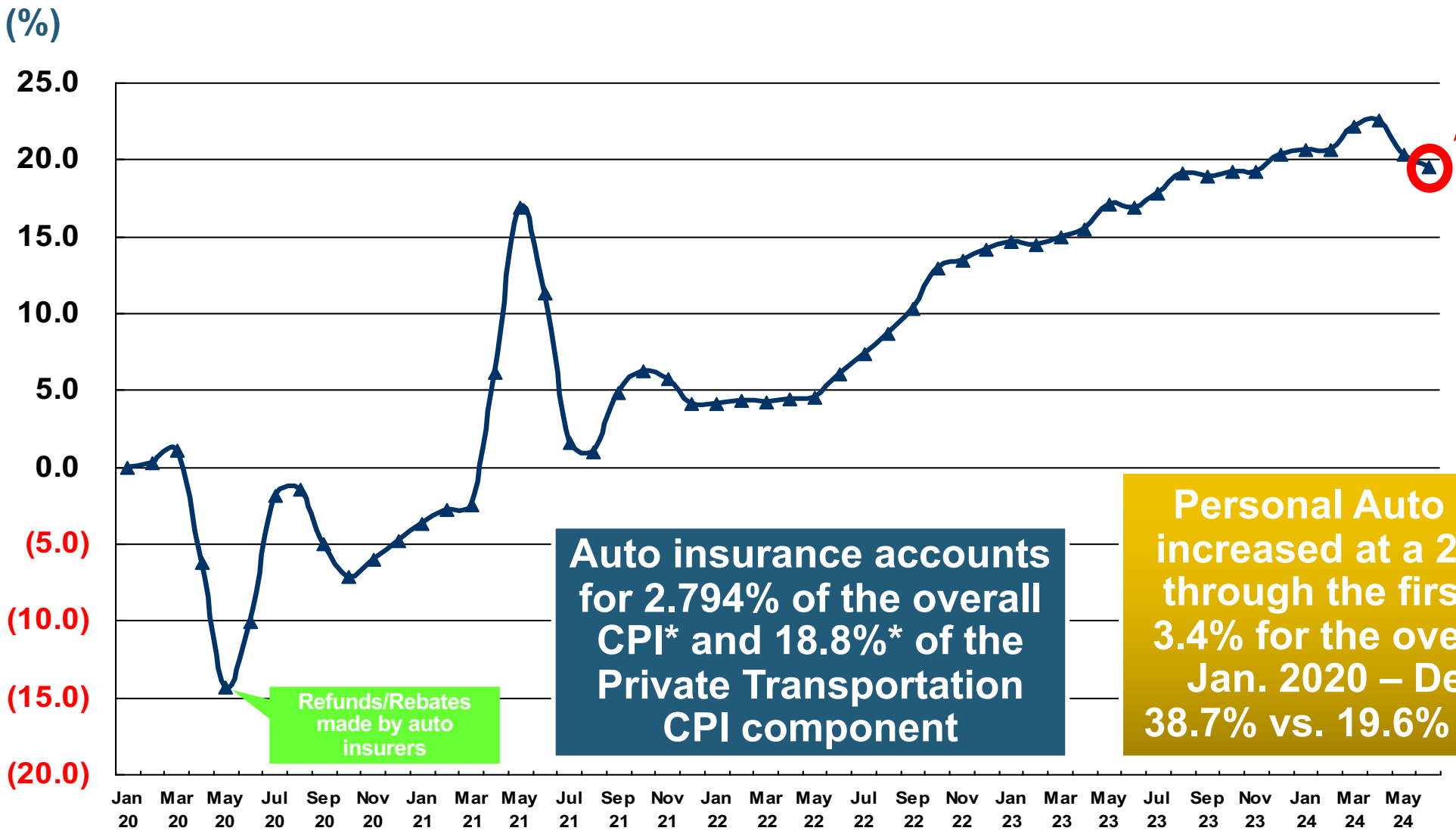
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce and Wells Fargo Economics.

Contribution to CPI, Goods vs. Services, Apr. 2024



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce and Wells Fargo Economics.

CPI for Motor Vehicle Insurance, 12-Month Change: Jan. 2020 – June 2024



The auto insurance component of the Consumer Price Index in June was up 19.5%. While still high, the increase marks the smallest of 2024 and is the lowest since Nov. 2023. The June reading reaffirms the likelihood that a sustained deceleration in auto insurance price increases is underway.

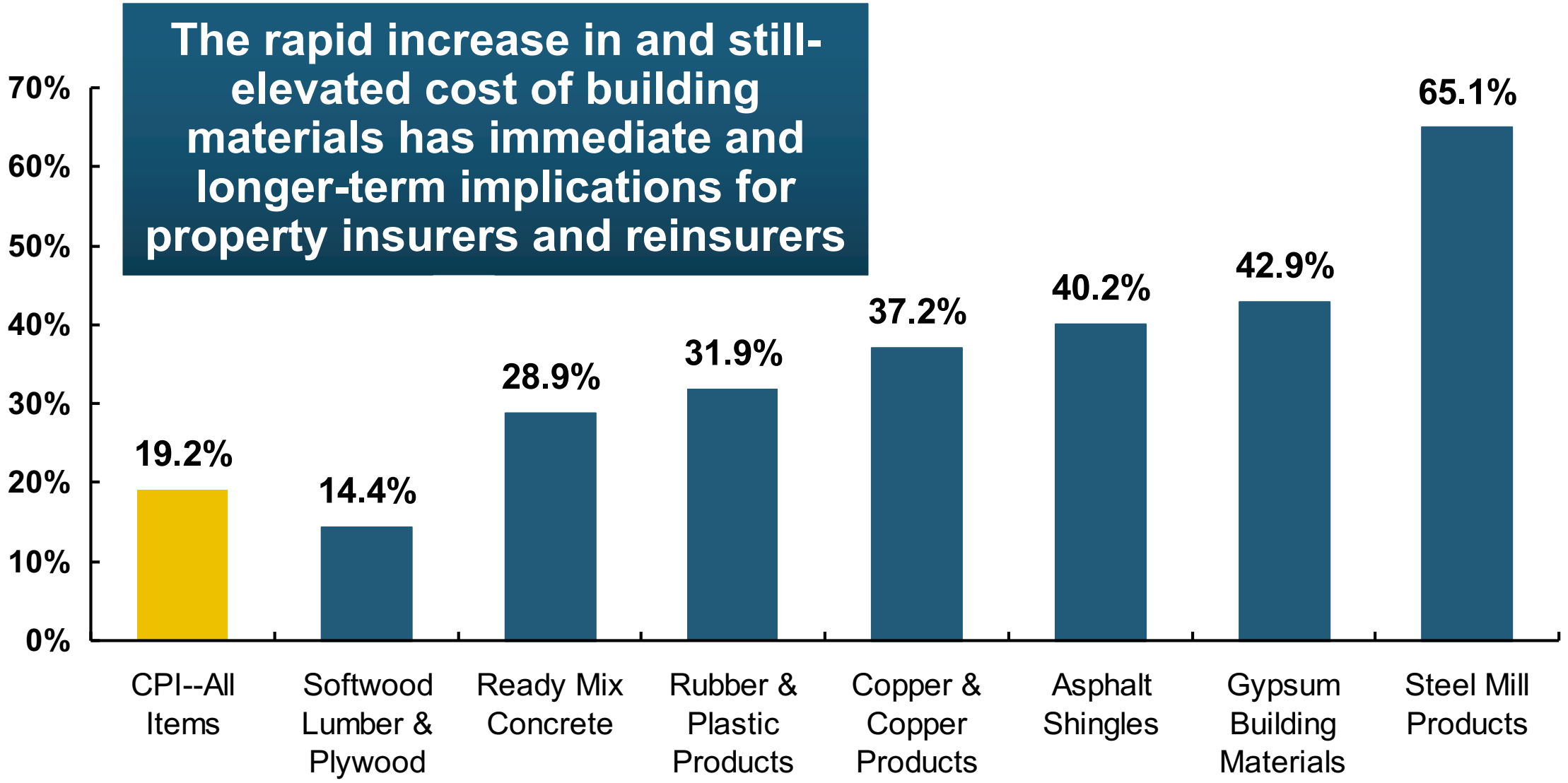
Auto insurance accounts for 2.794% of the overall CPI* and 18.8%* of the Private Transportation CPI component

Personal Auto Insurance prices increased at a 21.0% annual pace through the first half of 2024 (vs. 3.4% for the overall CPI) and from Jan. 2020 – Dec. 2023 were up 38.7% vs. 19.6% for the overall CPI

*Weighting as of Dec. 2023: https://www.bls.gov/cpi/factsheets/motor-vehicle-insurance.htm

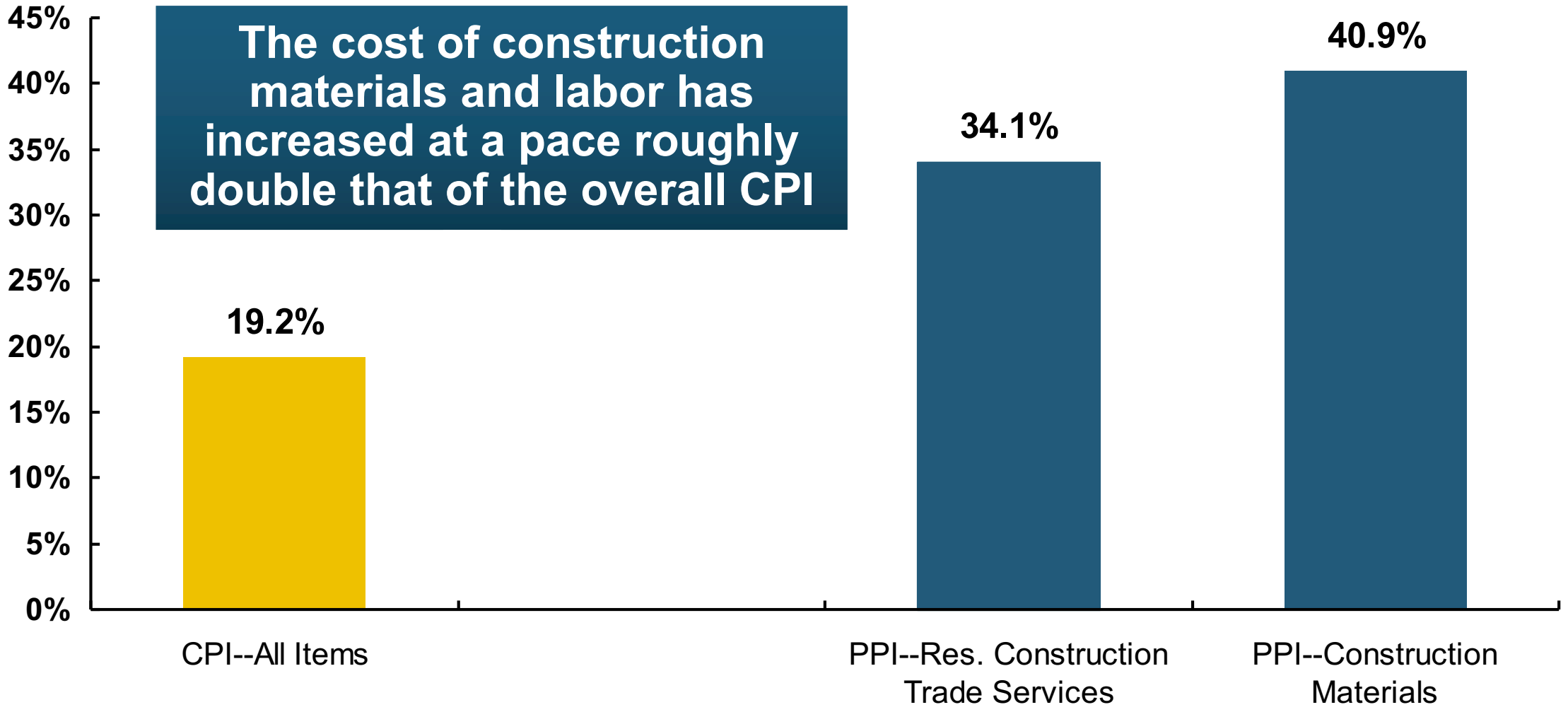
Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, accessed at: https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CUUR0000SETE. Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Change in Cost Indicators for Selected Construction Inputs, Jan. 2020 – Dec. 2023



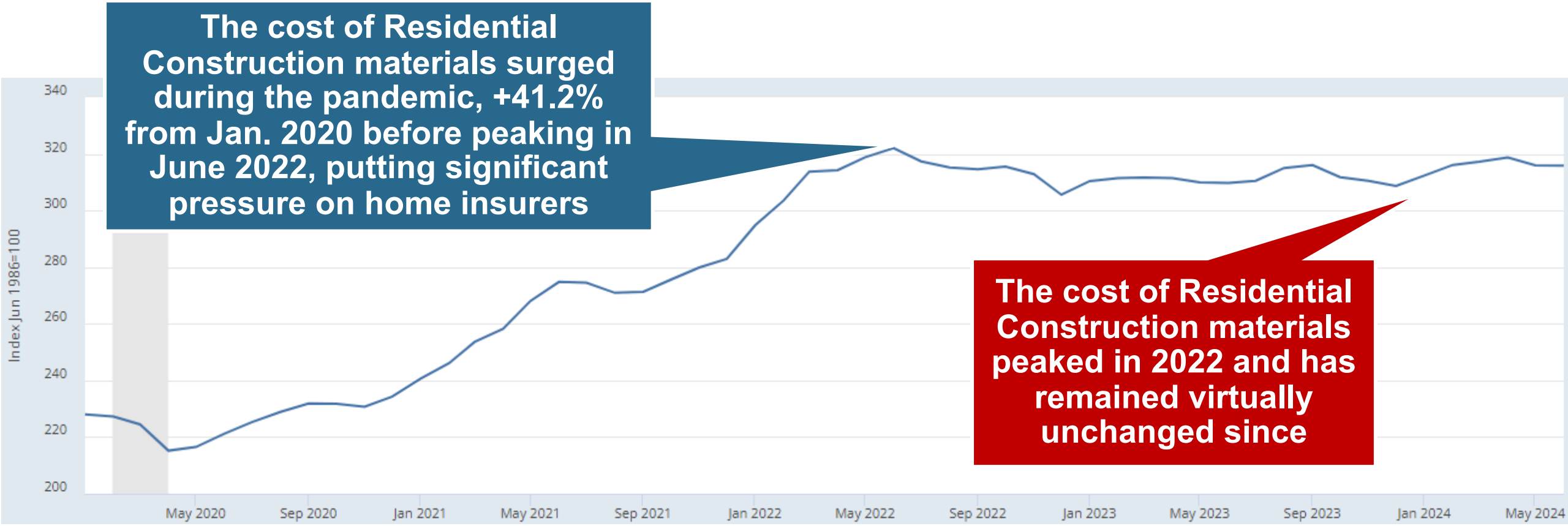
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Cost Indicators for Homeowners, Price Index Changes, Jan. 2020 – Dec. 2023



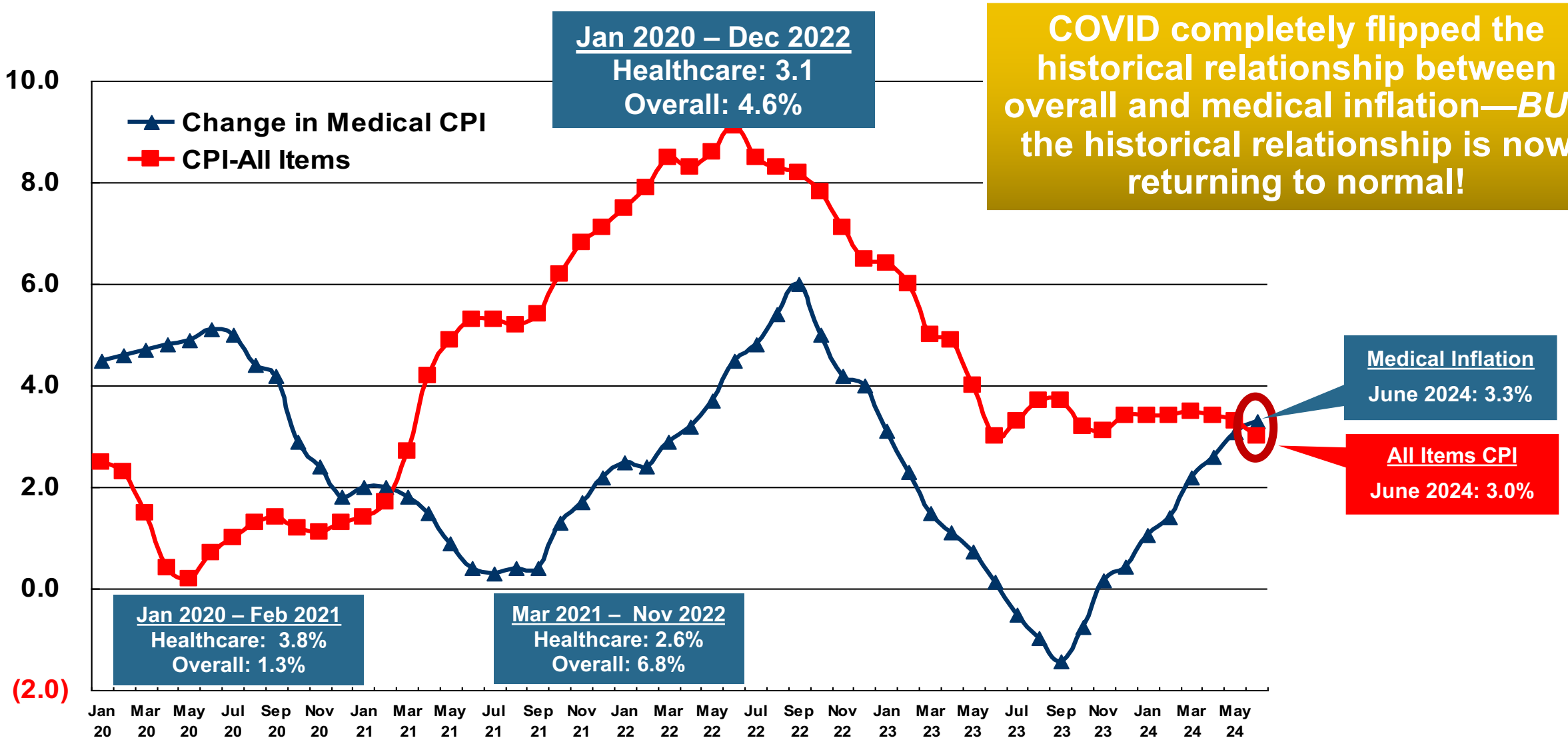
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

PPI: Net Inputs to Residential Construction, Goods, Jan. 2019 – June 2024



Sources: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis from US Bureau of Labor Statistics: https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/WPUIP2311001; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Medical Cost Inflation vs. Overall CPI Since COVID, Jan. 2020 – June 2024 *(Percent Change from Year Ago)*



Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

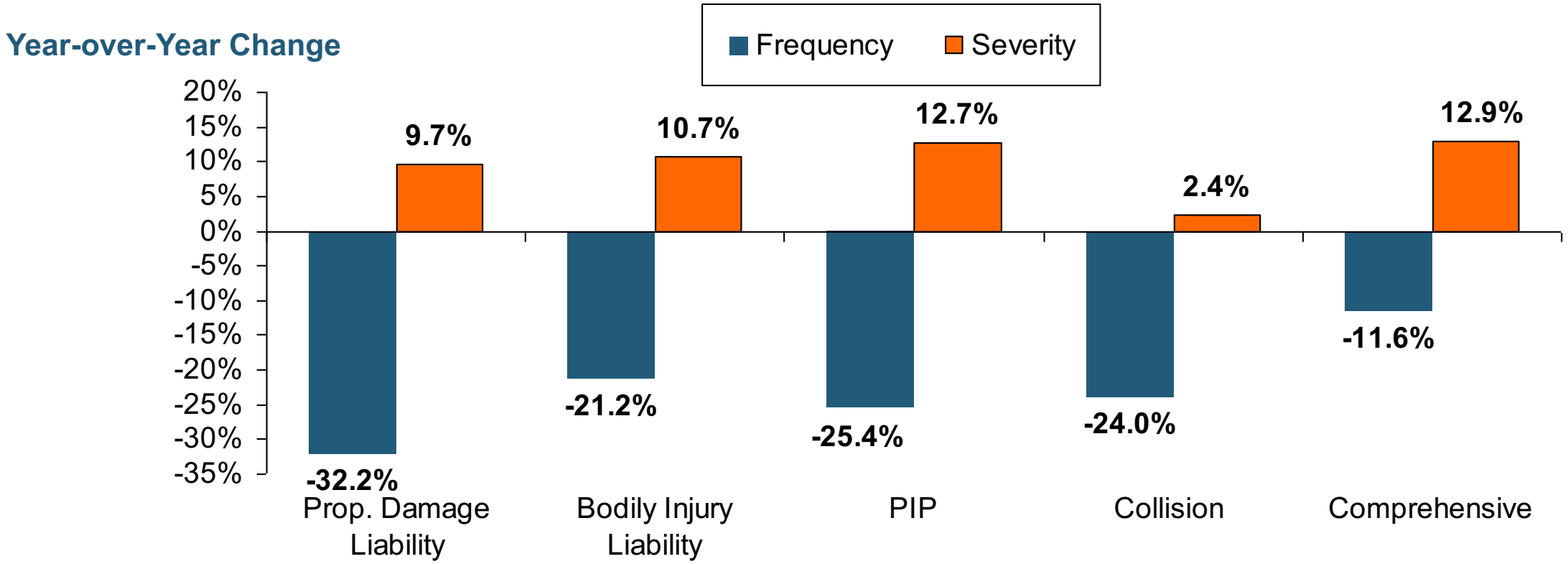
UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
Darla Moore School of Business

U.S. Private Passenger Auto Frequency & Severity Trends

Frequency, Severity and Loss Ratio Trends Are Adverse

Inflation is a Major Driver

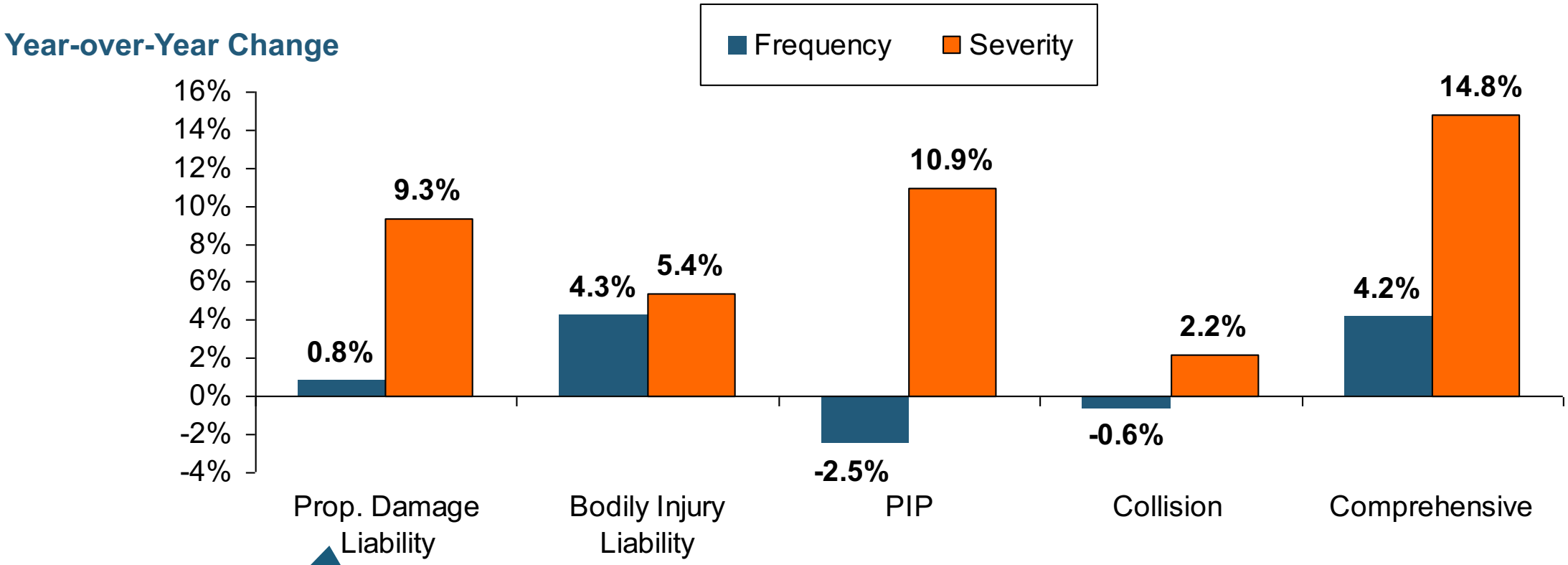
At the Peak of the Pandemic, Frequencies Across All Coverages Plummeted and But Severities Rose: 4 Qtrs. Ending Q1 2021



The COVID-19 Pandemic Introduced Unparalleled Volatility in the Personal Auto Line

Source: ISO/PCI *Fast Track* data for 4 quarters ending in Q1 2021; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina.

Personal Auto Claim Severities Continue to Trend Upward; Frequency Increase Are Moderating: 4 Qtrs. Ending Q4 2023



Recall: PD Liability claims were down 32.2% for the 4 qtrs. ending Q1 2021

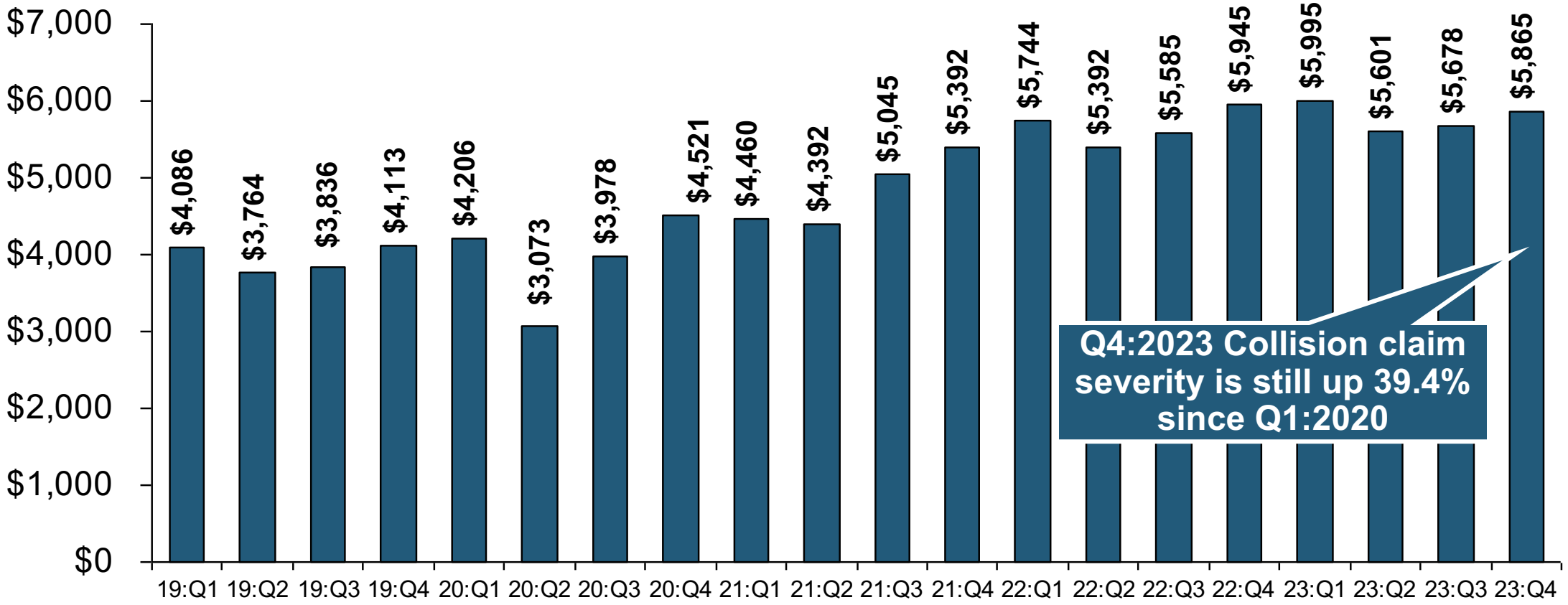
Auto Claim Frequencies Fell Sharply During the Pandemic, though Claim Severities Rose Materially

Source: ISO/PCI *Fast Track* data for Q4 2023; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina.

Collision Claim Severity: Rising to New Record Highs

Collision claim severity reached a record high in 2023:Q1, up 42.6% from 2020:Q1

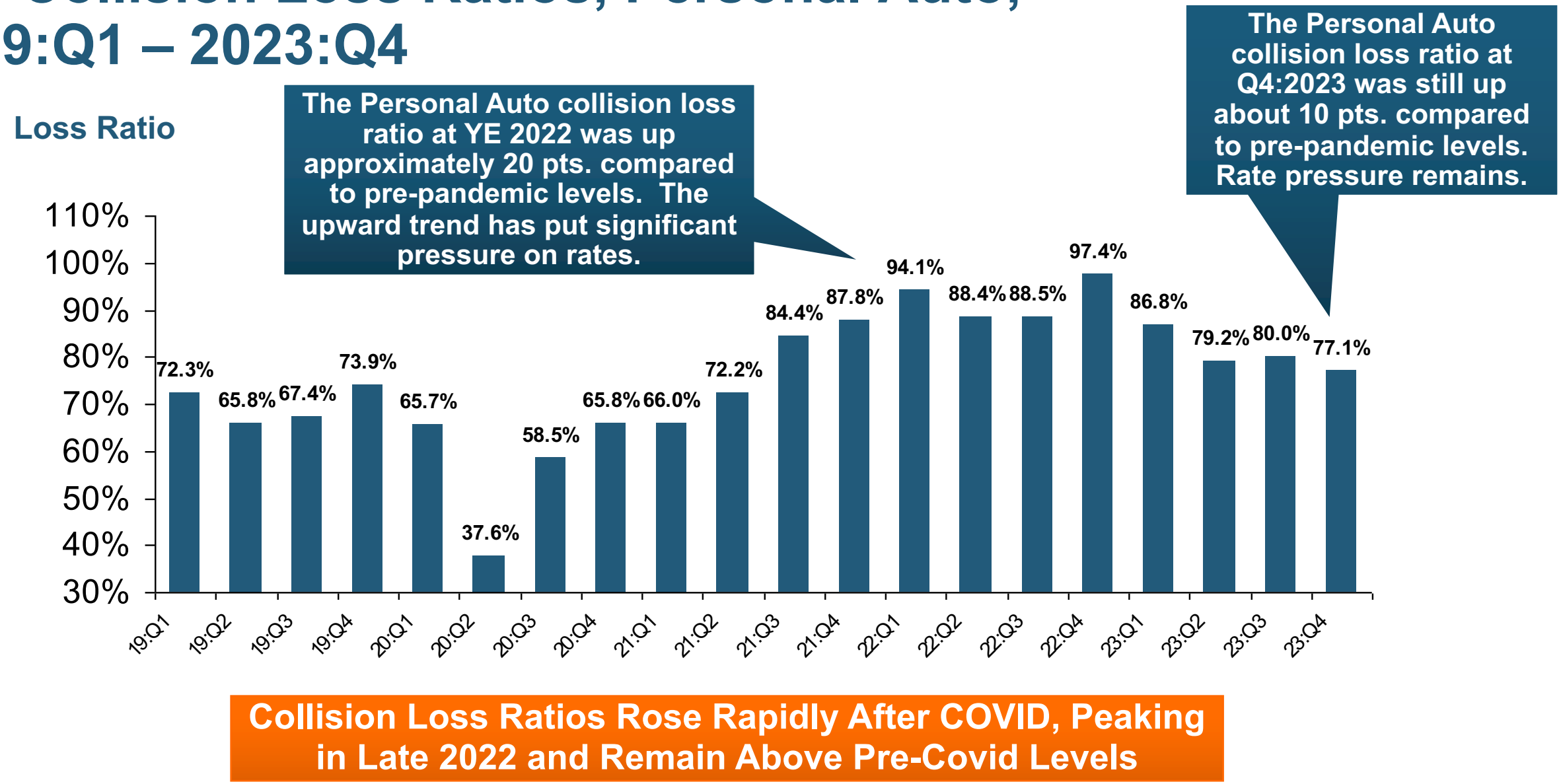
Average Loss, 2018:Q1 through 2023:Q4



Severities Are Up Sharply—Inflation Is a Major Factor

Source: ISO/PCI *Fast Track* data; Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management, Univ. of South Carolina.

US: Collision Loss Ratios, Personal Auto, 2019:Q1 – 2023:Q4



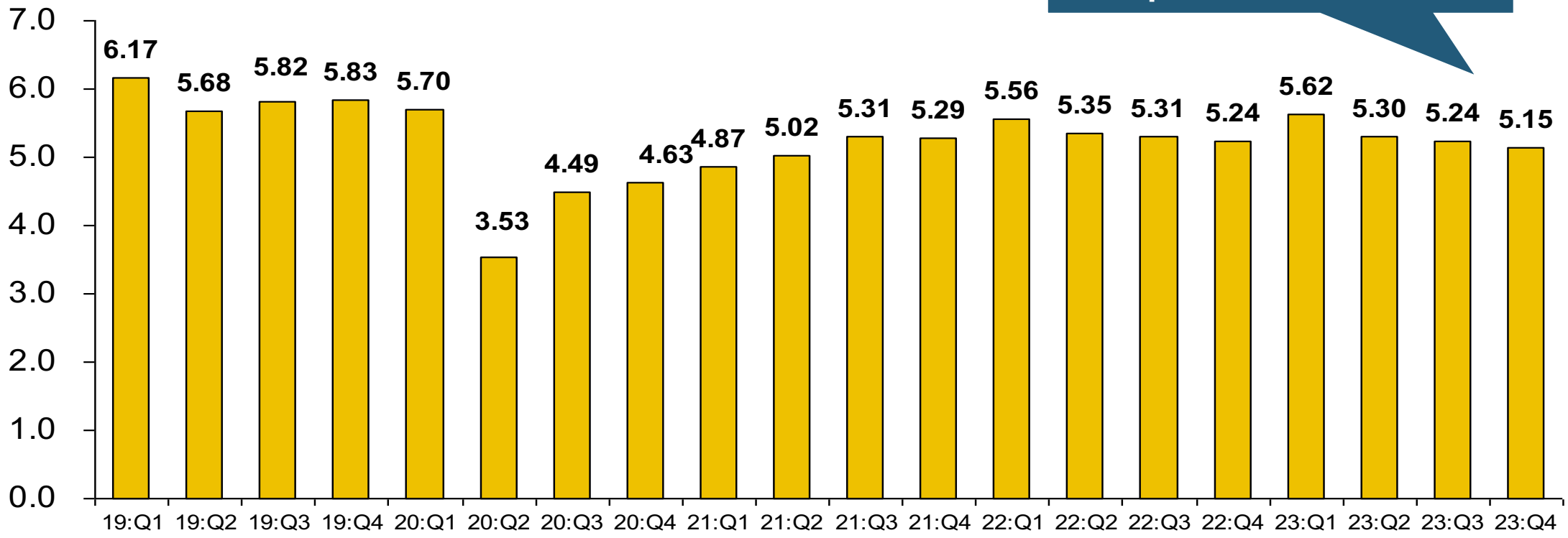
Collision Loss Ratios Rose Rapidly After COVID, Peaking in Late 2022 and Remain Above Pre-Covid Levels

Source: Fast Track data; University of South Carolina, Risk & Uncertainty Management Center.

US Collision Claim Frequency Trend: Returning to Pre-Pandemic Levels?

Paid Claim Frequency, 2019:Q1 through 2023:Q4*

Collision claim frequency remains below pre-pandemic levels

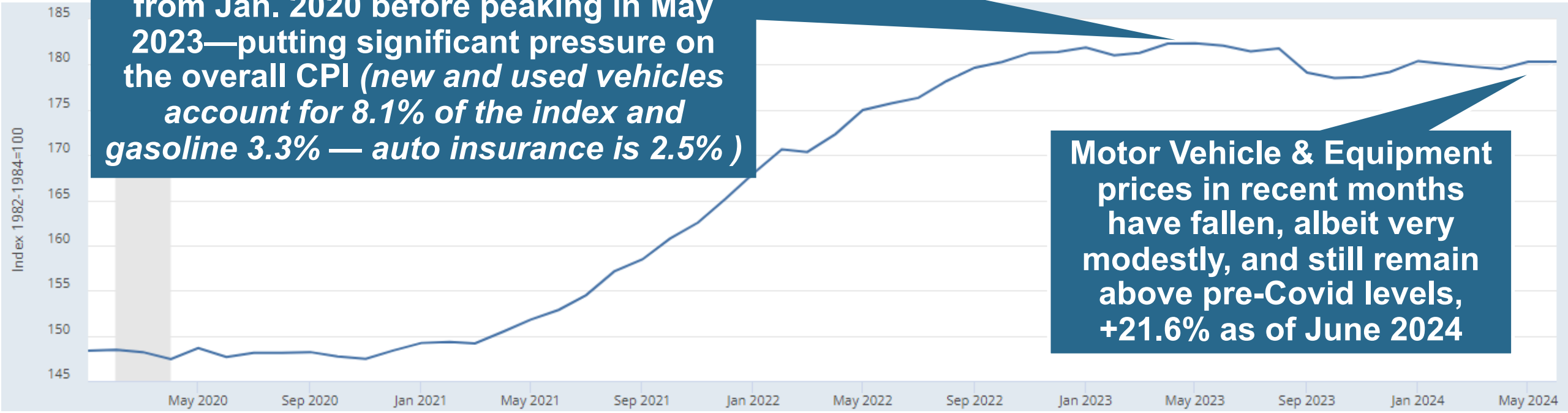


Pandemic-Induced Frequency Decline Was Short-Lived and Has Now Nearly Normalized

*Number of claims per 100 earned car years.

Source: ISO/PCI *Fast Track* data; Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management, Univ. of South Carolina.

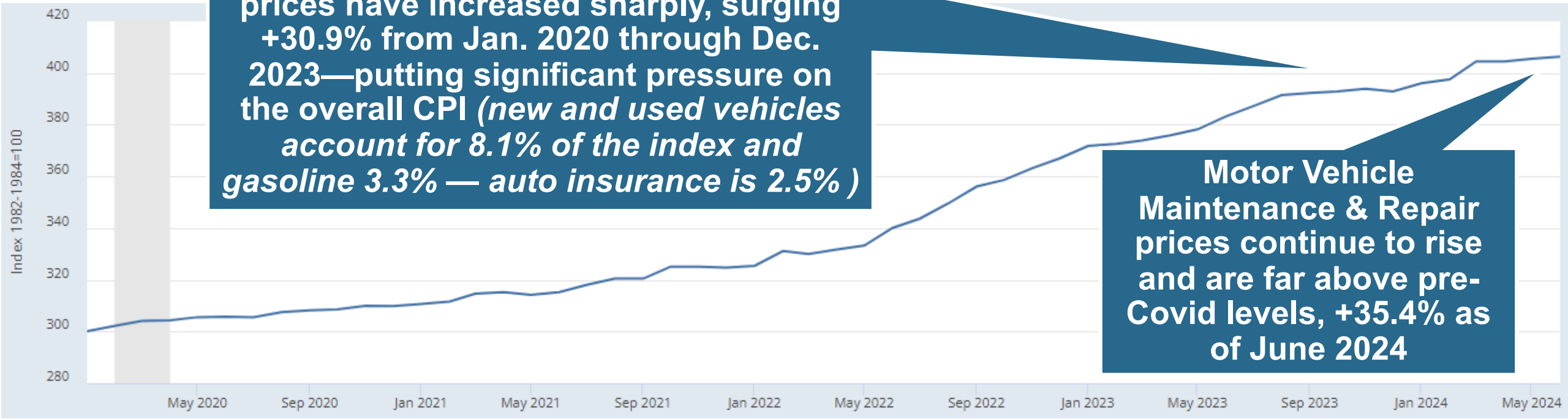
Price Index Changes for Motor Vehicle Parts & Equipment, Jan. 2020 – June 2024



Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics: https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CUUR0000SETC; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Price Index Changes for Motor Vehicle Maintenance & Repair, Jan. 2020 – June 2024

Motor Vehicle Maintenance & Repair prices have increased sharply, surging +30.9% from Jan. 2020 through Dec. 2023—putting significant pressure on the overall CPI *(new and used vehicles account for 8.1% of the index and gasoline 3.3% — auto insurance is 2.5%)*



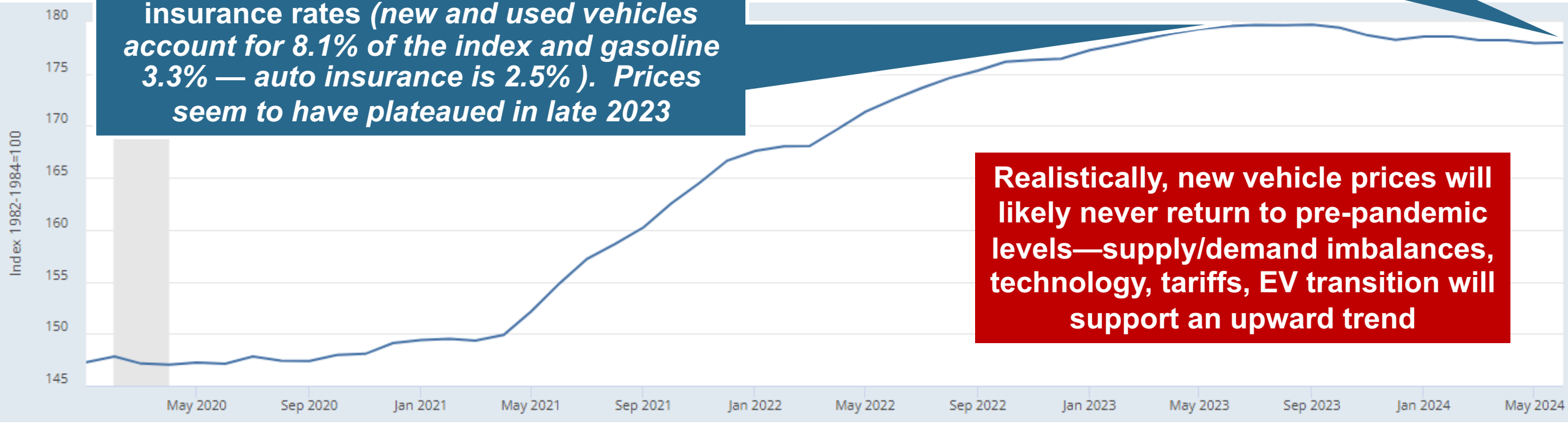
Motor Vehicle Maintenance & Repair prices continue to rise and are far above pre-Covid levels, +35.4% as of June 2024

Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center: https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CUSR0000SETD; University of South Carolina.

Price Index for New Vehicles, Jan. 2020 – June 2024

New vehicle prices surged during and after the pandemic, +22.1% from Jan. 2020 to Sept. 2023 (peak), putting significant pressure on the overall CPI and auto insurance rates *(new and used vehicles account for 8.1% of the index and gasoline 3.3% — auto insurance is 2.5%). Prices seem to have plateaued in late 2023*

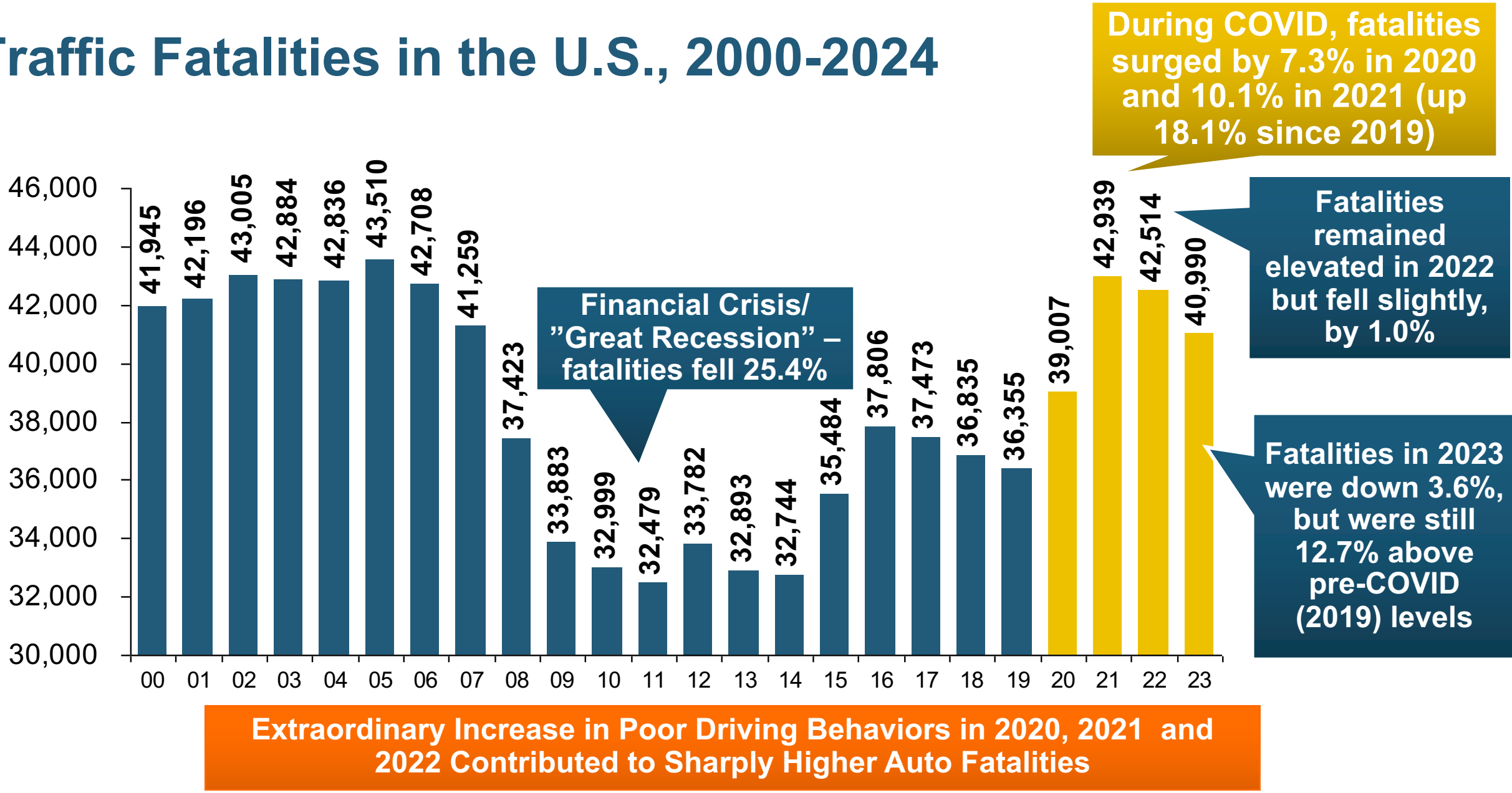
New car prices in recent months have begun to fall, but only slightly and still remain well above pre-Covid levels, +20.9% as of June 2024



Realistically, new vehicle prices will likely never return to pre-pandemic levels—supply/demand imbalances, technology, tariffs, EV transition will support an upward trend

Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center: https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CUUR0000SETA01; University of South Carolina.

Traffic Fatalities in the U.S., 2000-2024



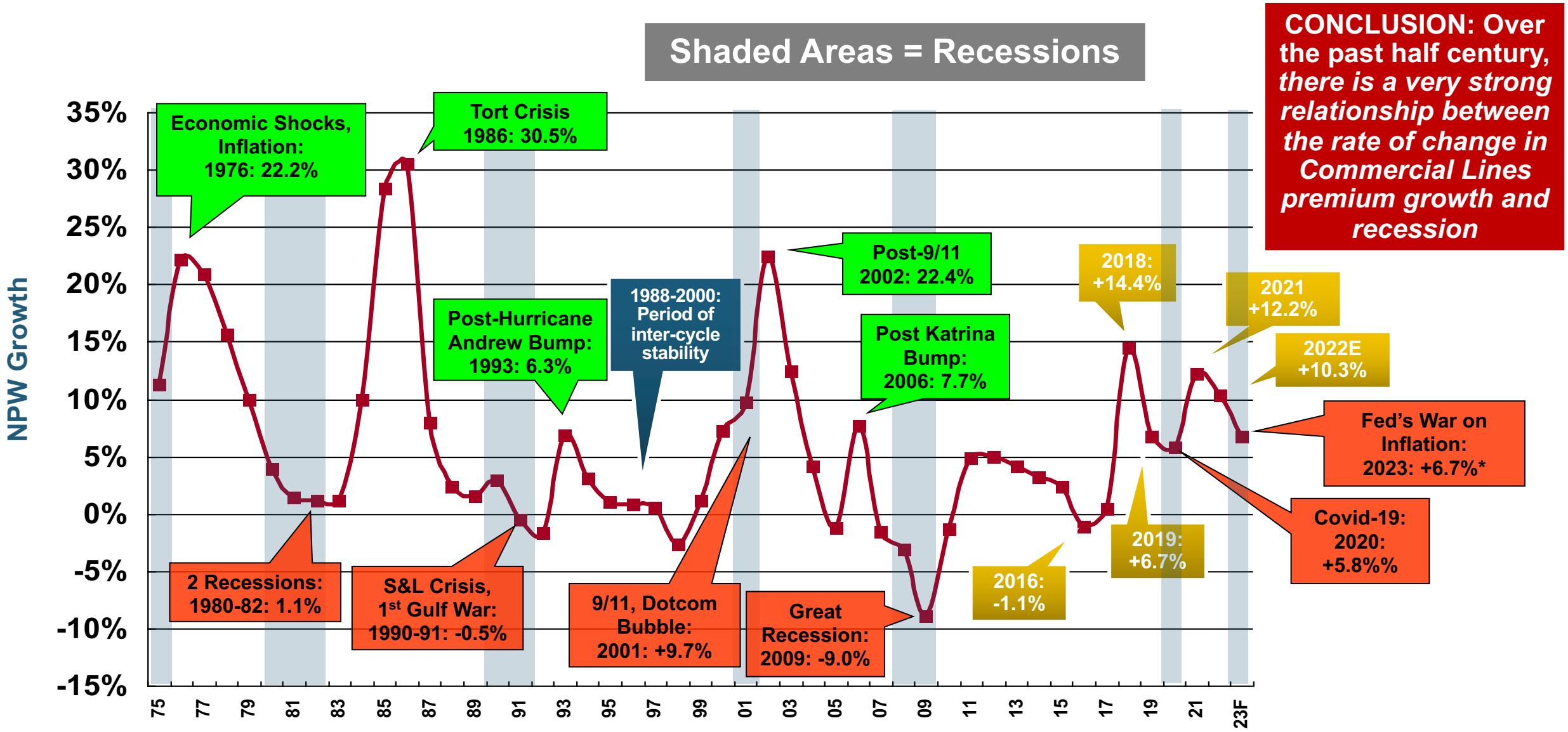
Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and Highway Loss Data Institute: https://www.iihs.org/iihs/topics/t/general-statistics/fatalityfacts/overview-of-fatality-facts and NHTSA: https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/2022-traffic-deaths-2023-early-estimates; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Commercial Lines Growth & Pricing Cyclicality

Economic and Tort Environment Create Pricing Pressure

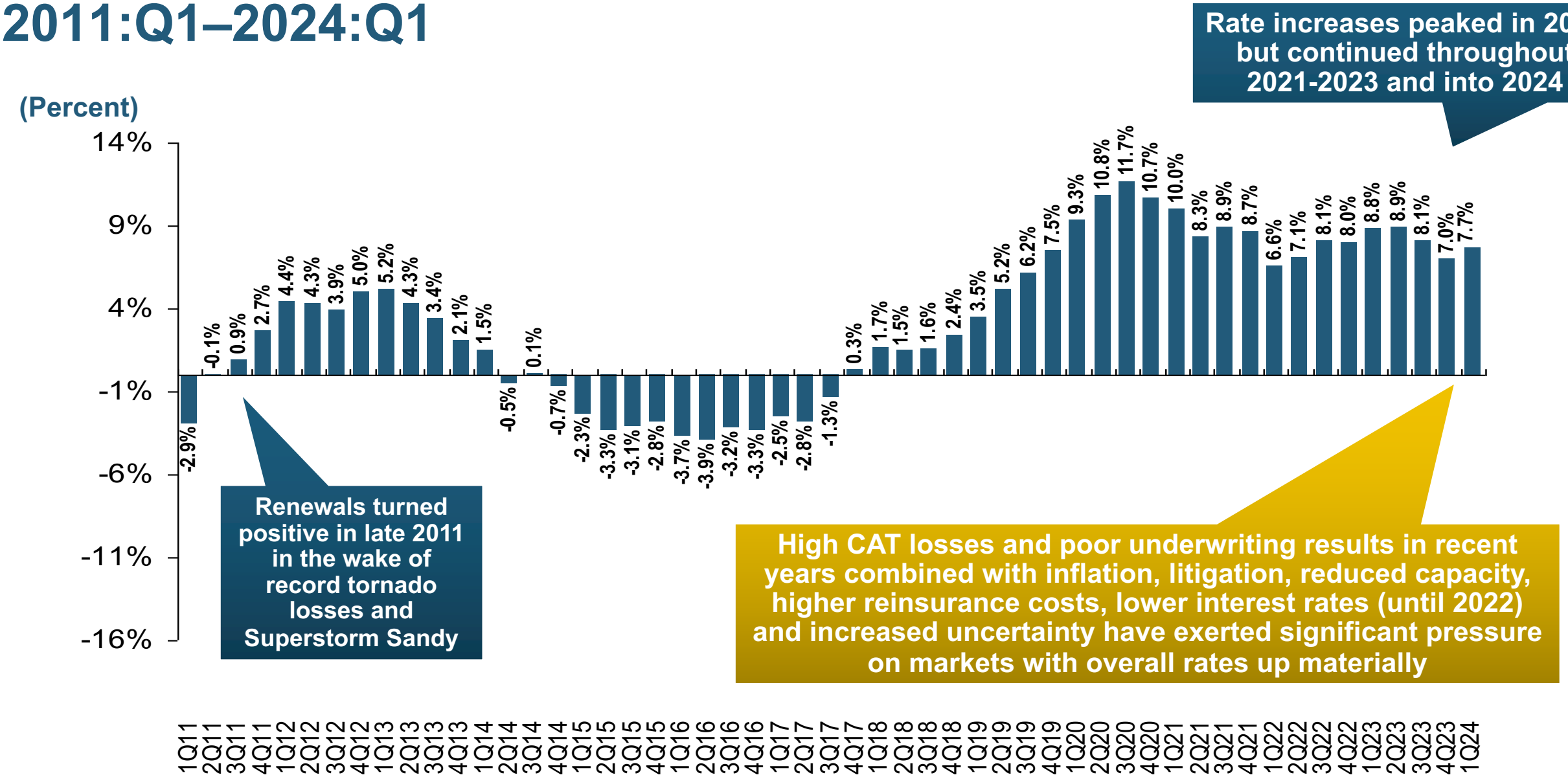
79

Commercial Lines NPW Premium Growth: 1975 – 2023F



*2023 data based on data through H1.
Note: Data include state funds beginning in 1998. . Recession dates (1975–2022) from NBER: https://www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions
Source: A.M. Best (2022E-23P); ISO; APCIA; Univ. of South Carolina Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management Center.

CIAB: Average Commercial Rate Change, All Lines, 2011:Q1–2024:Q1

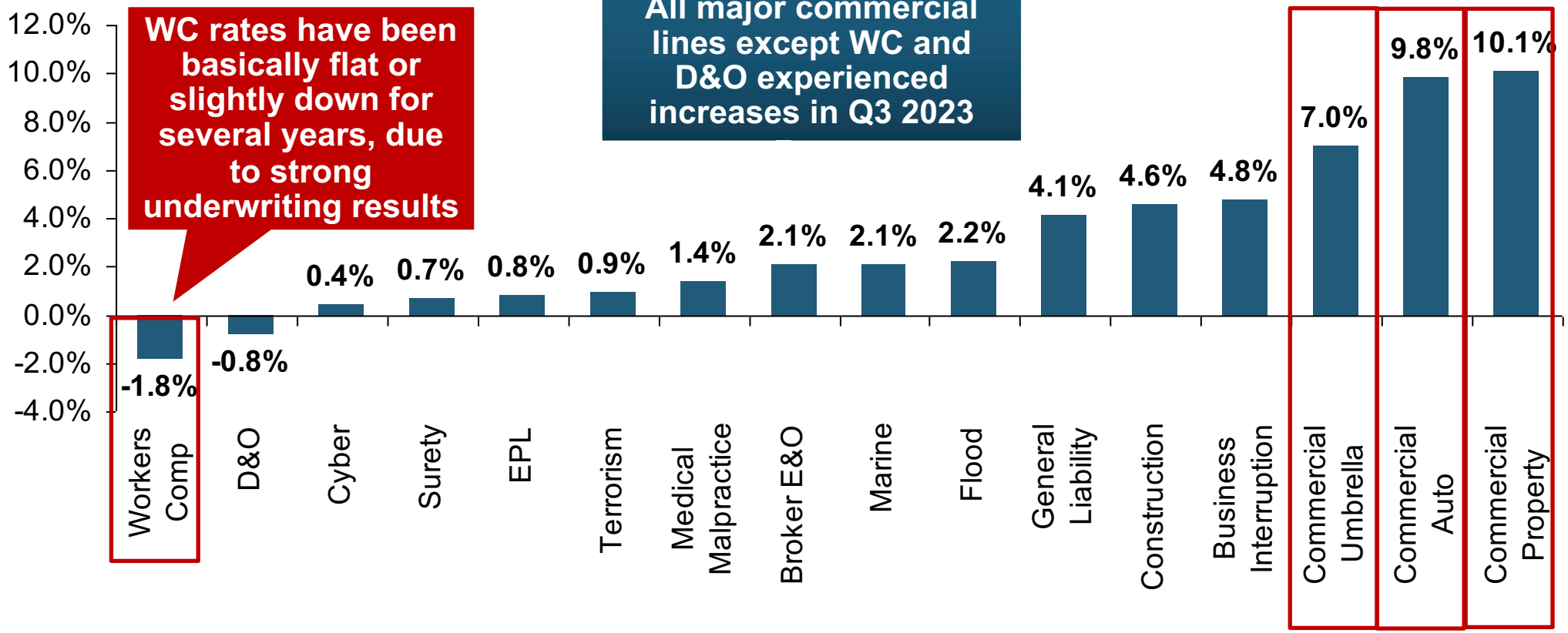


Note: CIAB data cited here are based on a survey. Rate changes earned by individual insurers can and do vary, potentially substantially.
Source: Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers; Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management, Univ. of South Carolina.

Change in Commercial Rate Renewals, by Line: 2024:Q1

Commercial Property is experiencing sharp increases due to high CAT losses, inflation and expensive reinsurance. Commercial Auto and Umbrella are impacted by legal system abuse/social inflation

(Percent Change)



Note: CIAB data cited here are based on a survey. Rate changes earned by individual insurers can and do vary, potentially substantially.

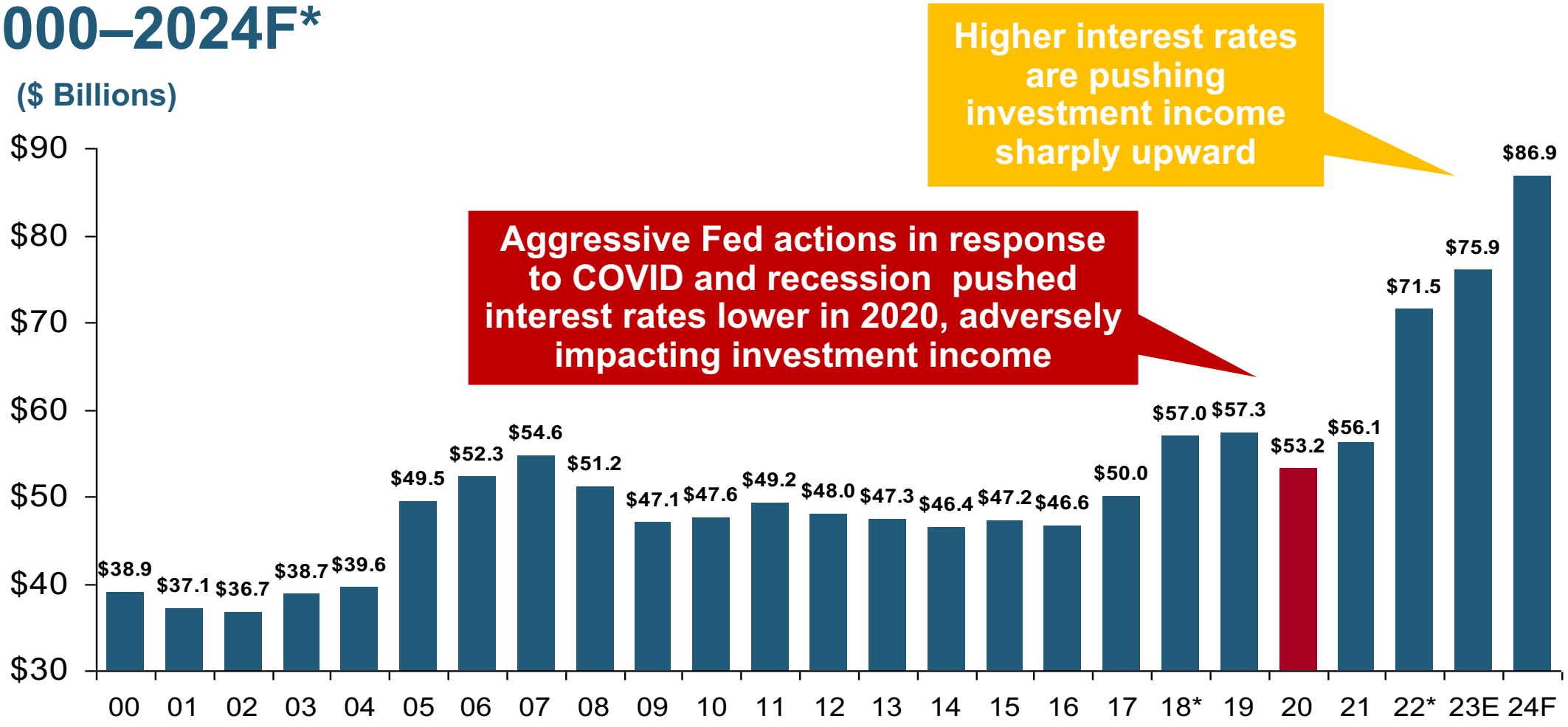
Source: Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers; USC Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management.

Investments:
Wall Street's Wild Ride Continues

Investment Performance Is a Key Driver of Insurer Profitability

How Has the Hawkish Fed Impacted Insurer Portfolios?

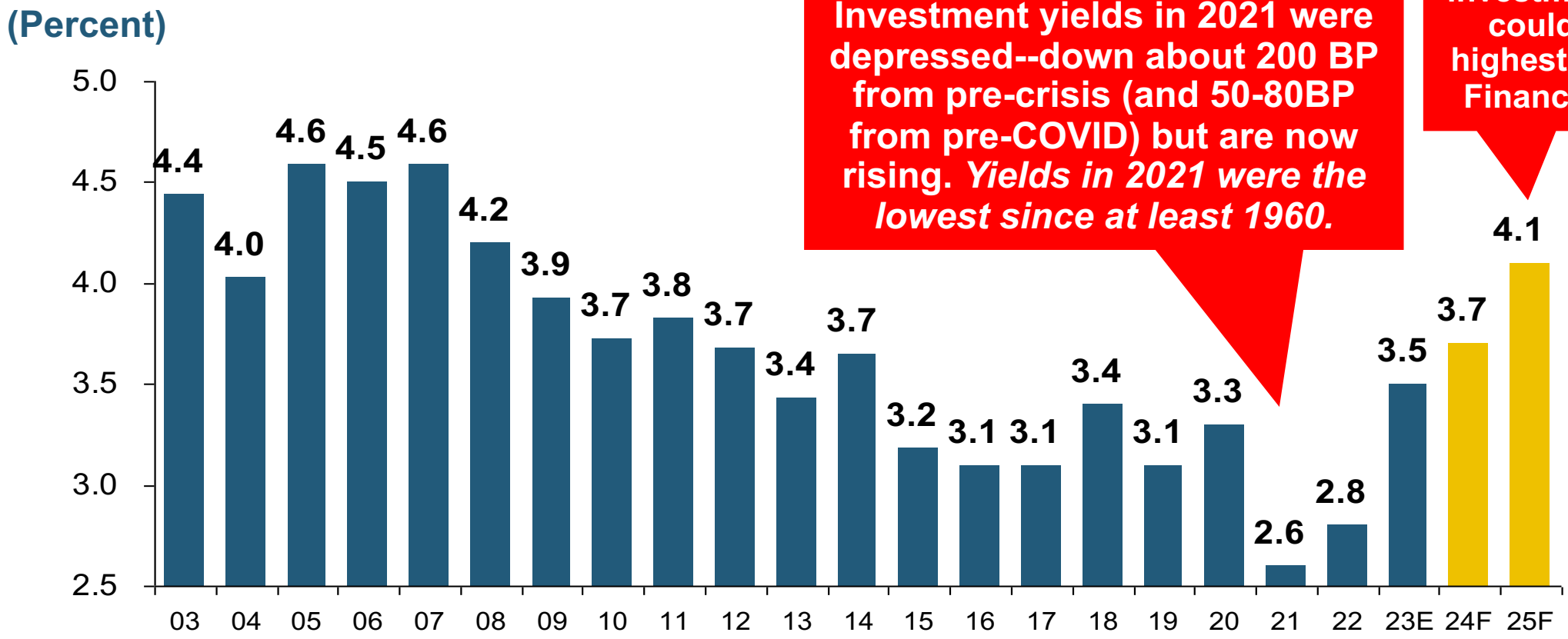
Property/Casualty Insurance Industry Investment Income: 2000–2024F*



Due to persistently low interest rates, investment income remained below pre-crisis levels for a decade. Lower interest rates during COVID drove investment income down once again. Fed rate hikes in 2022-23 are reversing this trend.

* 2018-19 figures are distorted by provisions of the TCJA of 2017. Increase reflects such items as dividends from foreign subsidiaries.
**2022 figure includes a $10.8B intercompany distribution by a large reinsurer that flowed through NII.
[1] Investment gains consist primarily of interest and stock dividends. Sources: A.M. Best Review & Preview (March 2024); ISO; University of South Carolina, Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management.

Net Investment Yield on Property/Casualty Insurance Invested Assets, 2007–2025F



Investment yields in 2021 were depressed--down about 200 BP from pre-crisis (and 50-80BP from pre-COVID) but are now rising. *Yields in 2021 were the lowest since at least 1960.*

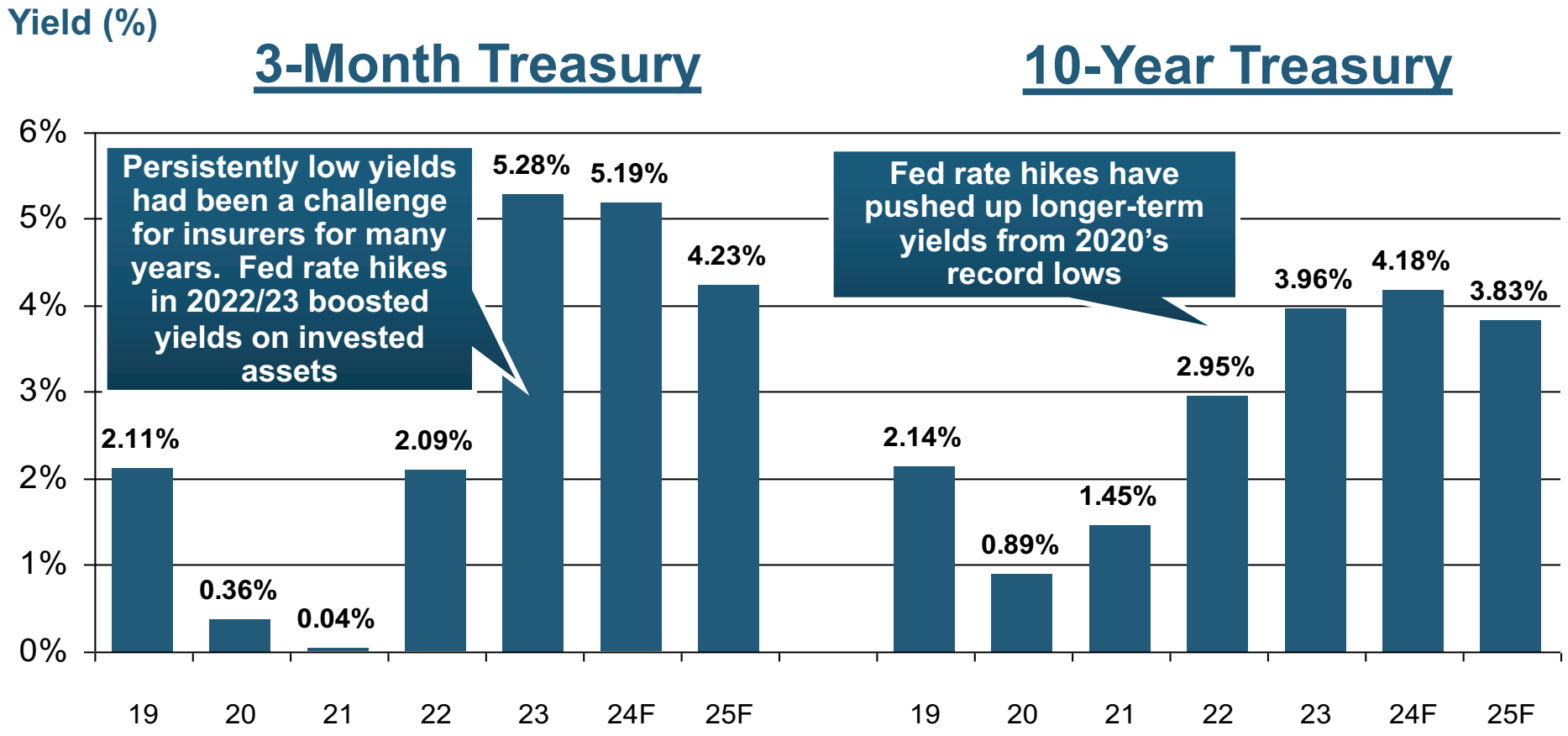
By 2025, investment yields could be the highest since the Financial Crisis

The yield on invested assets remains depressed relative to pre-financial crisis and pre-COVID yields. Fed rate hikes in 2022-23 are lifting yields and investment income.

Average: 1960-2019 = 4.9%
Low: 2.8% (1961)
High: 8.2% (1984/85)

Sources: NAIC data, sourced from S&P Global Market Intelligence; 2017-19 figures are from ISO. 2020-22 data from APCIA. 2023E-25FP from Swiss Re (Jan. 2024). Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina.

Interest Rate Forecasts: 2019 – 2025F: *Higher for Longer*



Rising interest rates will provide a modest tailwind for insurers as the Fed raises interest rates. This will be especially beneficial to longer-tailed lines such as Workers Comp.

Sources: Wells Fargo Securities (7/24); Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

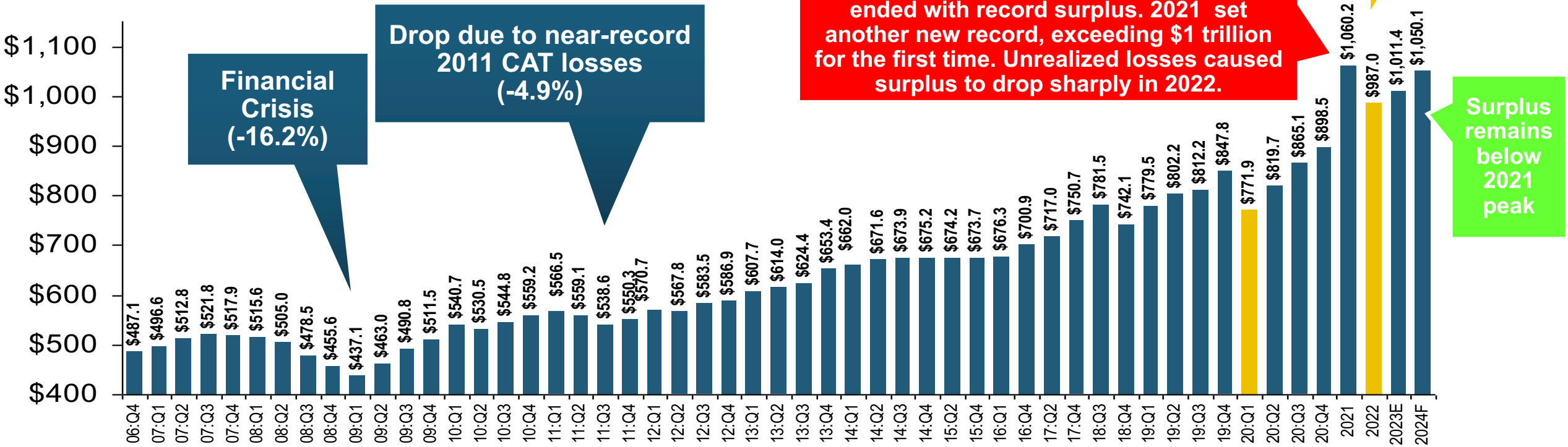
Capital and Capacity

P/C Insurance: Capitalized Crunch?

Will Industry Capacity Recover?

Policyholder Surplus (Capacity), 2006:Q4 – 2024F

($ Billions)

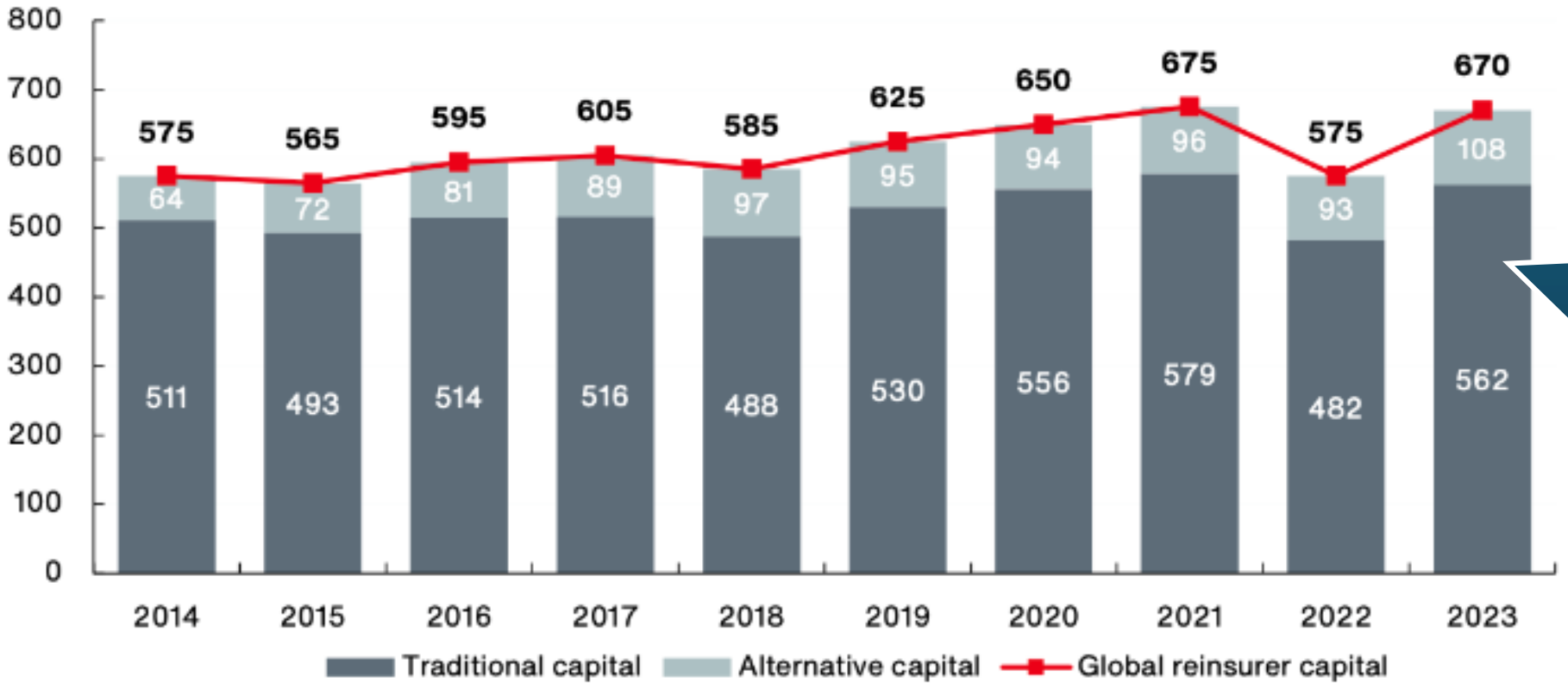


Policyholder Surplus is the industry's financial cushion against large insured events, periods of economic stress and financial market volatility. It is also a source of capital to underwrite new risks.

Sources: ISO, A.M. Best, NAIC. Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, University of South Carolina.

Global Reinsurance Capital, 2013 – 2023

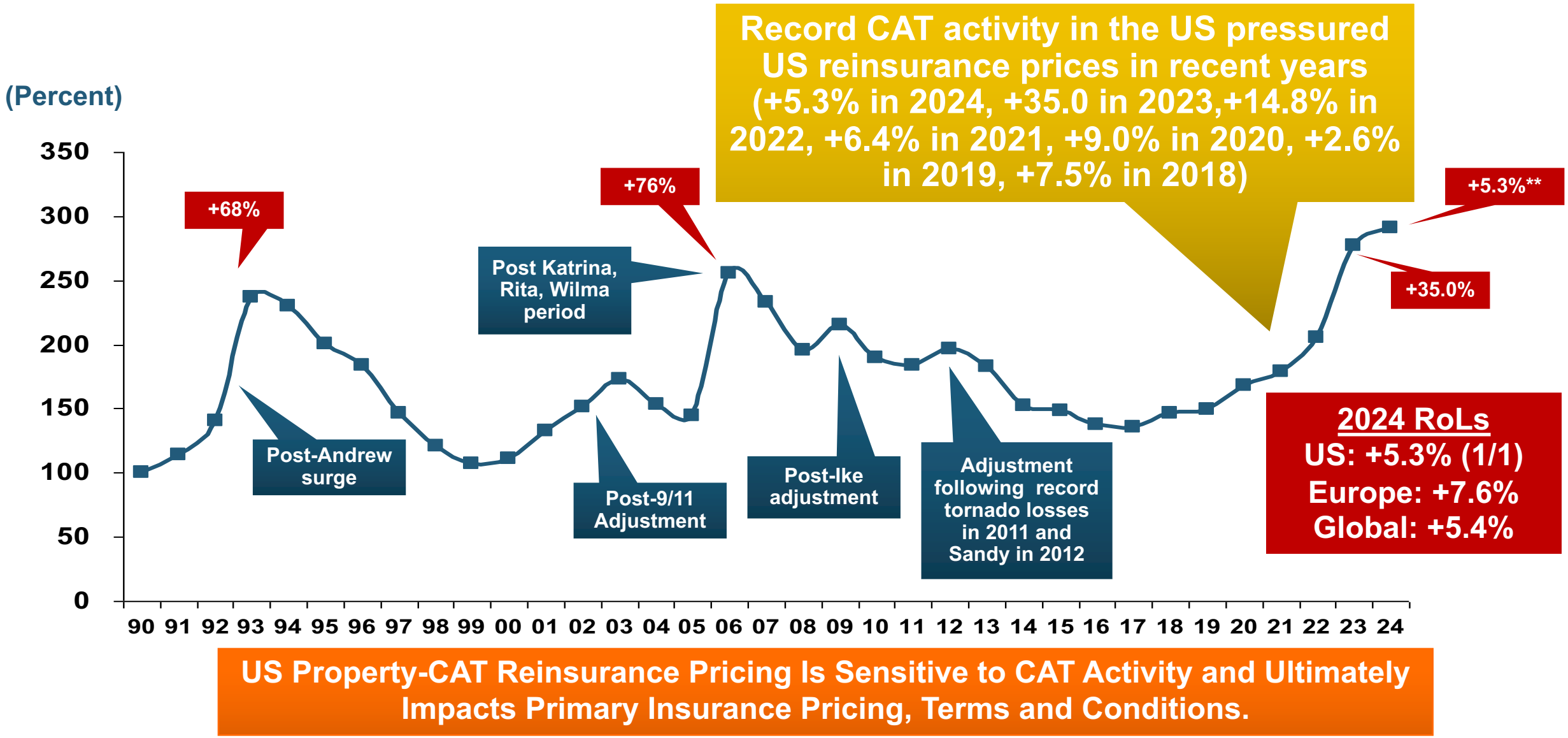
$ Billions



Global reinsurance capital fell by $80B or 14.8% in 2022, contributing to today's property insurance challenges. Most of that capital was recovered in 2023—with ILS playing a key role

Source: Aon Reinsurance Solutions/Aon Securities from Artemis.bm, accessed at:

US Property Catastrophe Rate-on-Line Index: 1990 – 2024*



US Property-CAT Reinsurance Pricing Is Sensitive to CAT Activity and Ultimately Impacts Primary Insurance Pricing, Terms and Conditions.

*As of January 1 each year.

**Figure as of 1/1/24. Guy Carpenter reports that mid-year renewals (as of 6/1/24) were up just 1.2%. See: https://www.artemis.bm/us-property-cat-rate-on-line-index/

Source: Guy Carpenter; Artemis.bm accessed at: http://www.artemis.bm/us-property-cat-rate-on-line-index

Catastrophe Loss Trends

The Rise in CAT Losses Shows No Signs of Easing

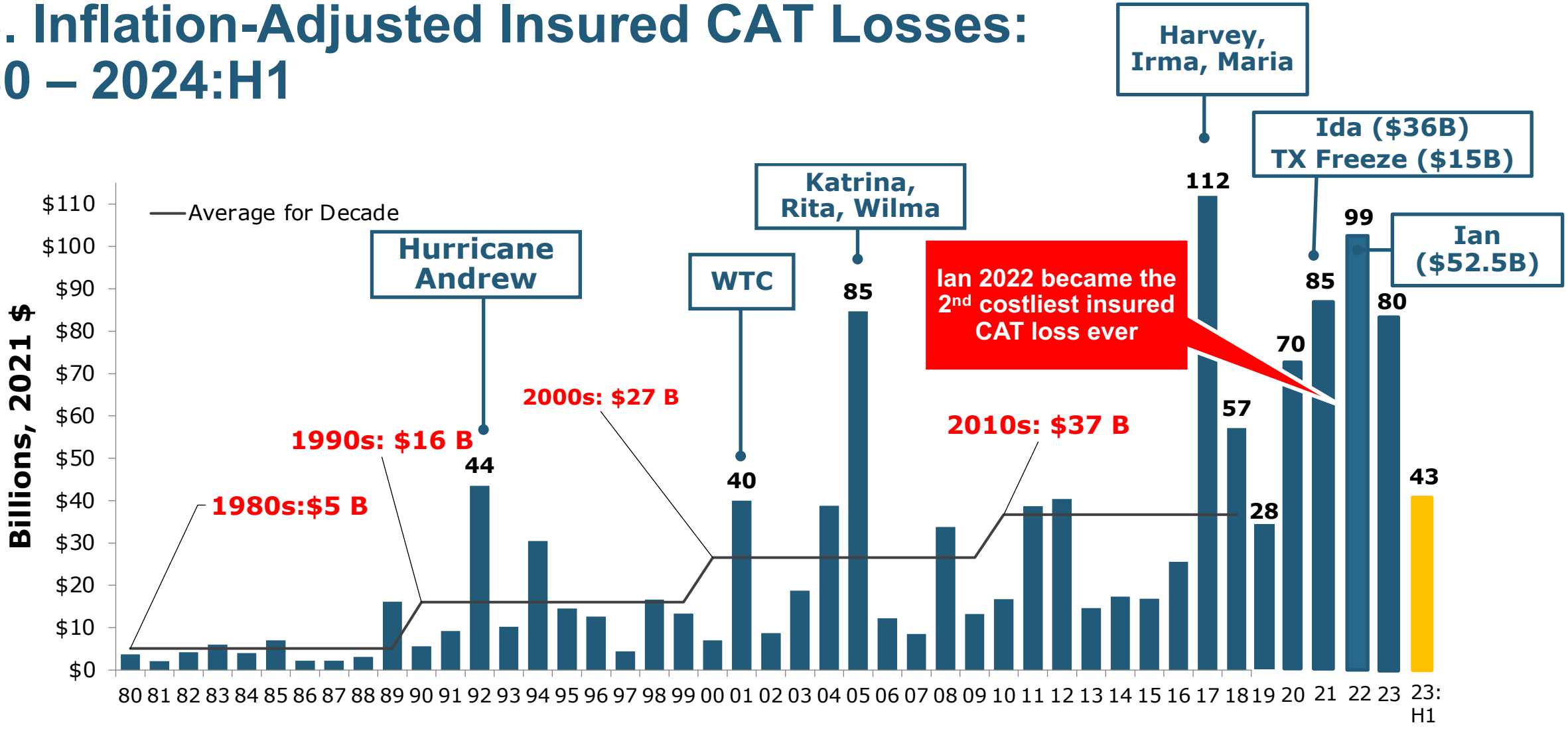
The 2020s Are Off to an Ominous Beginning

Hurricane Beryl: Dodged a Bullet

Beryl was at one time a CAT 5 storm, the earliest on record, but came ashore on July 7 as a CAT 1 near Matagorda, TX. Millions lost power but actual damage was modest as the storm moved quickly inland to the northeast.

Source: NOAA, accessed 7/7/24 at: https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/graphics_at2.shtml?cone.

U.S. Inflation-Adjusted Insured CAT Losses: 1980 – 2024:H1



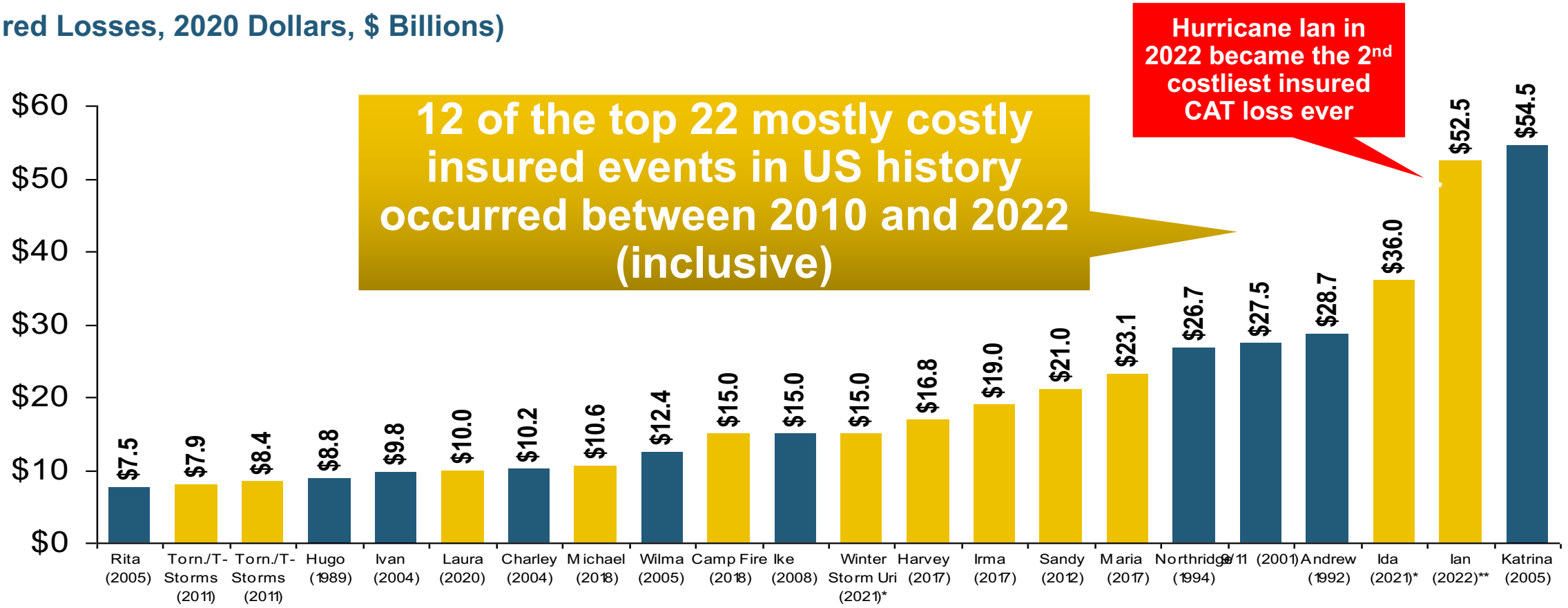
Average Insured Loss per Year*
1980-2021: $23.8 Billion
2012-2021: $44.1 Billion

The 2020s are off to an ominous start with $83.5B in average annual insured losses (2020-23)

*Stated in 2021 dollars except 2022 -2024 (in current dollars).
Sources: Property Claims Service, a Verisk Analytics business (1980-2019); 2020-22 figures from Munich Re; 2023 and 2024:H1 figure from Aon. Insurance Information Institute; University of South Carolina, Risk & Uncertainty Management Center.

Top 22 Most Costly Disasters in U.S. History

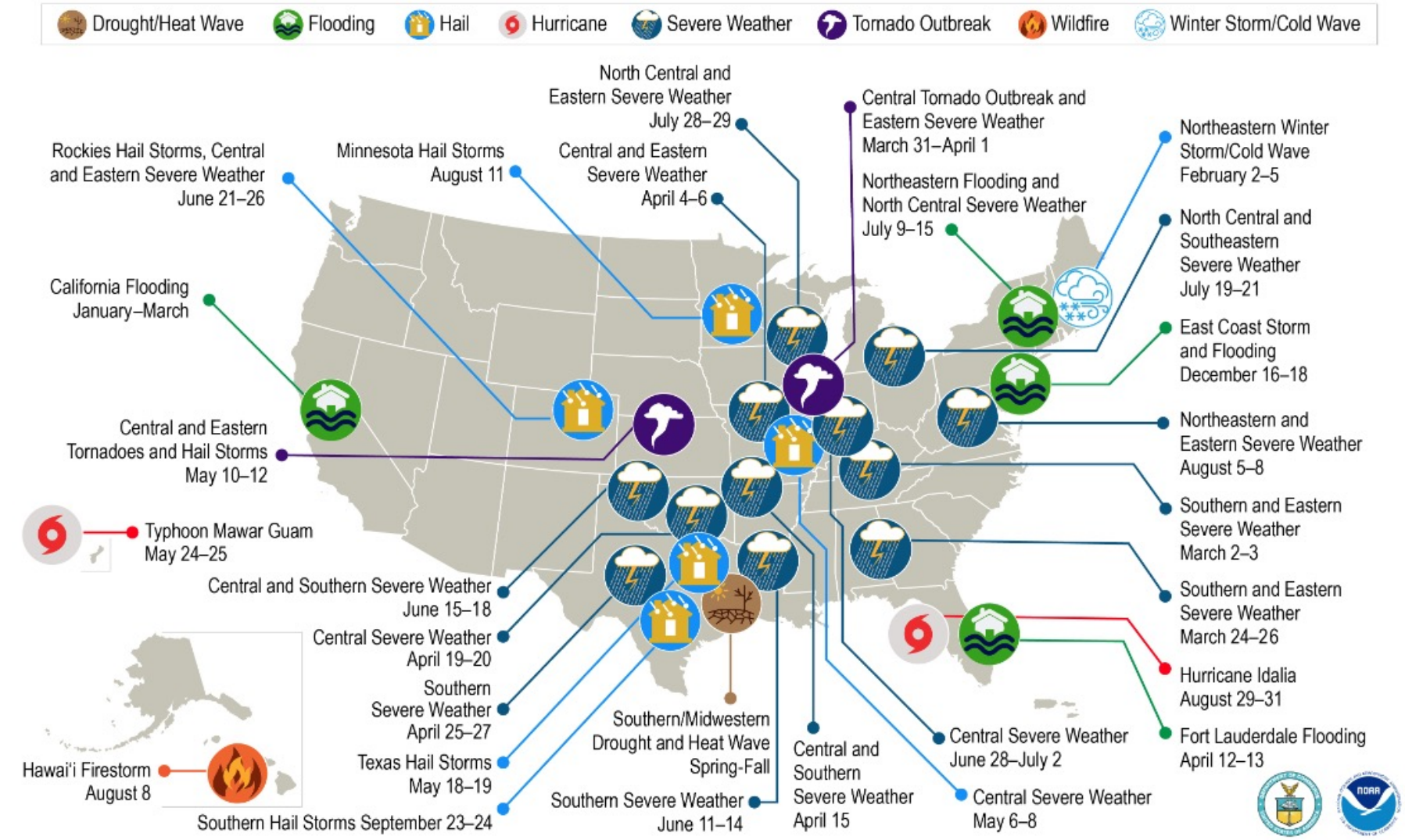
(Insured Losses, 2020 Dollars, $ Billions)



*2021 dollars; **2022 dollars (Aon insured loss estimate as of 1/25/23).

Sources: PCS, RMS, Aon, Karen Clark & Co; USC Center for Risk and Uncertainty Management adjustments to 2020 dollars using the CPI.

US Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disaster Events, Economic Costs, 2023

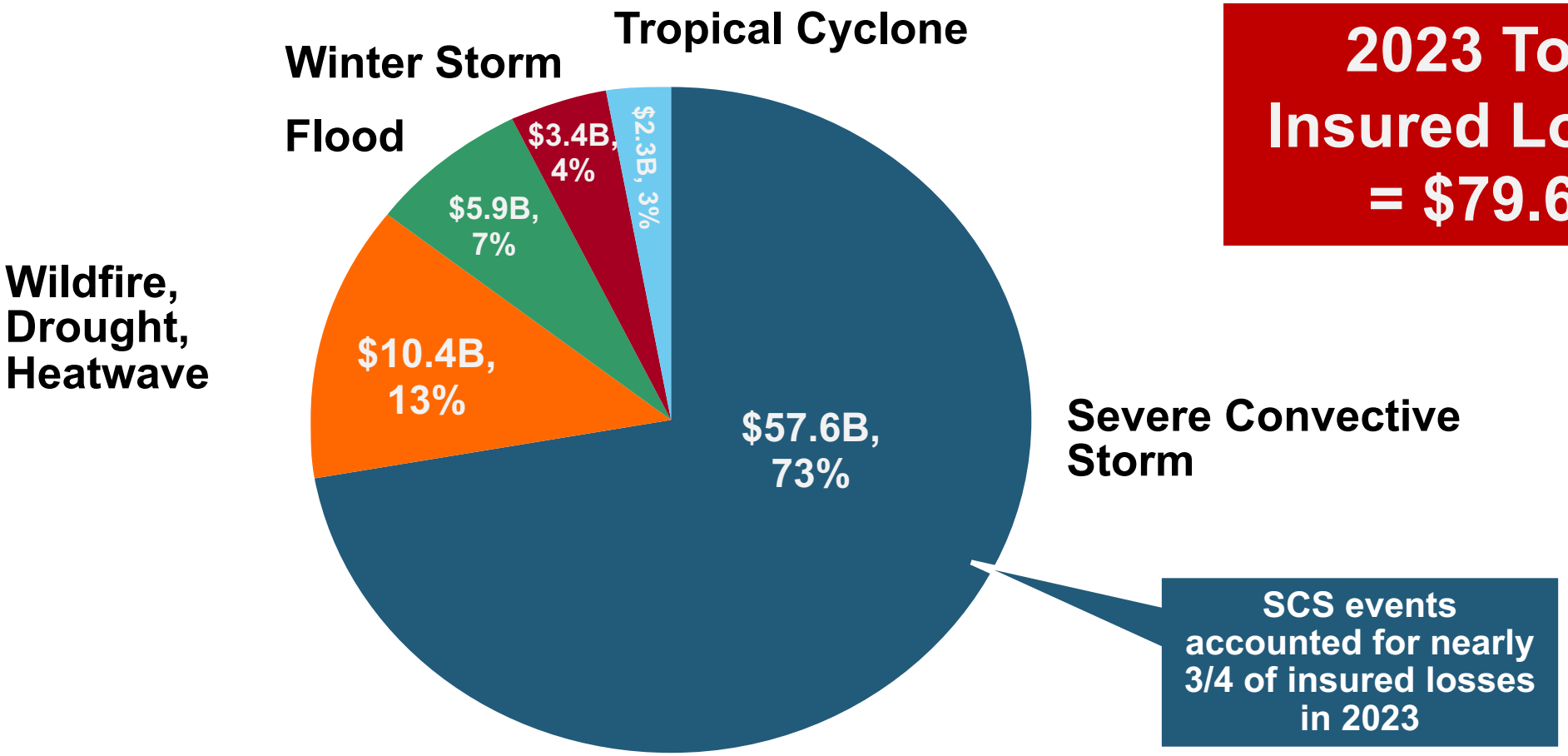


*This map denotes the approximate location for each of the **28 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the United States in 2023.***

There were a record 28 events in the US in 2023 that caused at least $1B in economic damage, up from 18 in 2022

Source: NOAA, accessed at: https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/time-series.

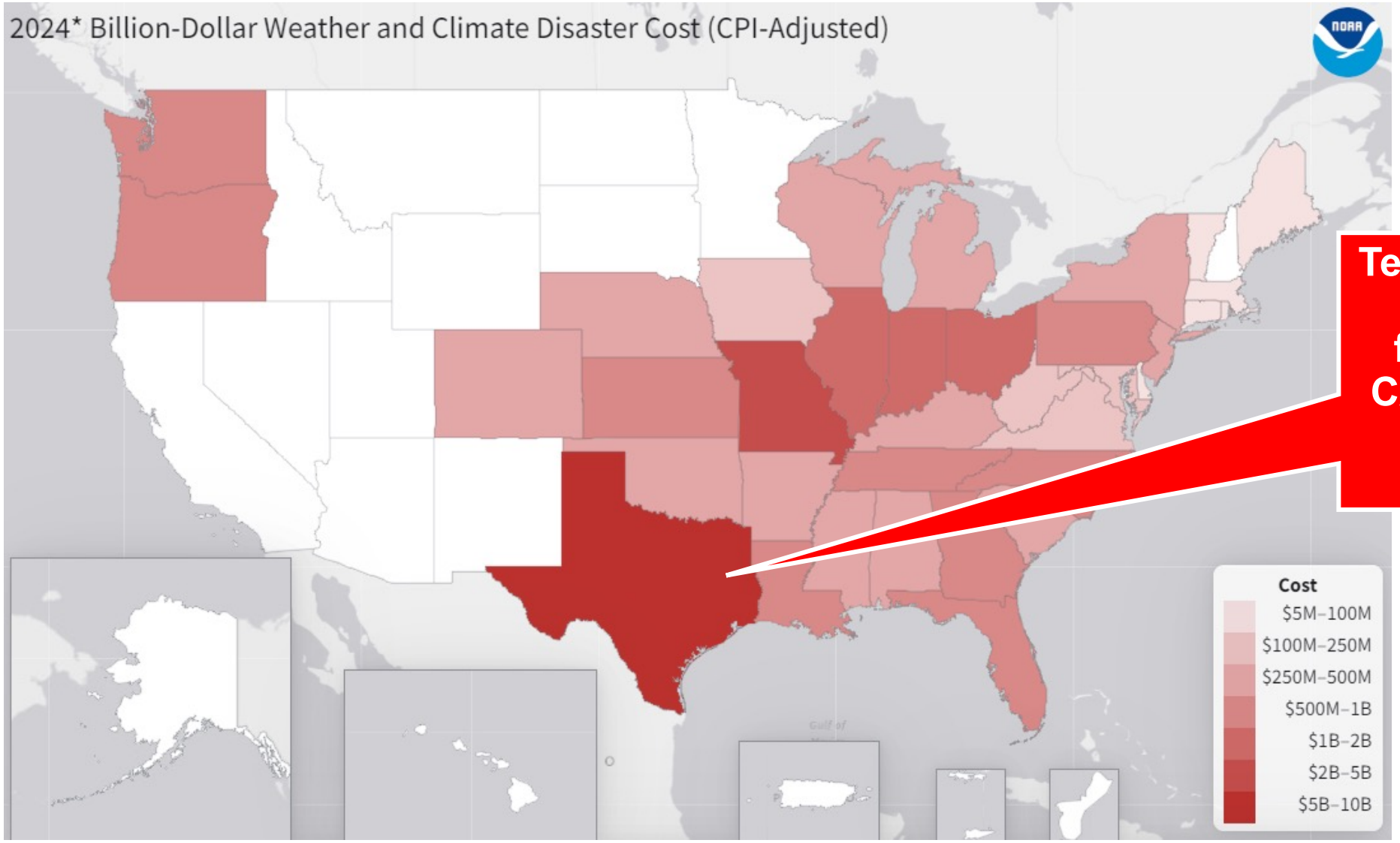
Natural Disaster Losses by Peril, 2023 ($ Billions)



2023 Total Insured Losses = $79.6B

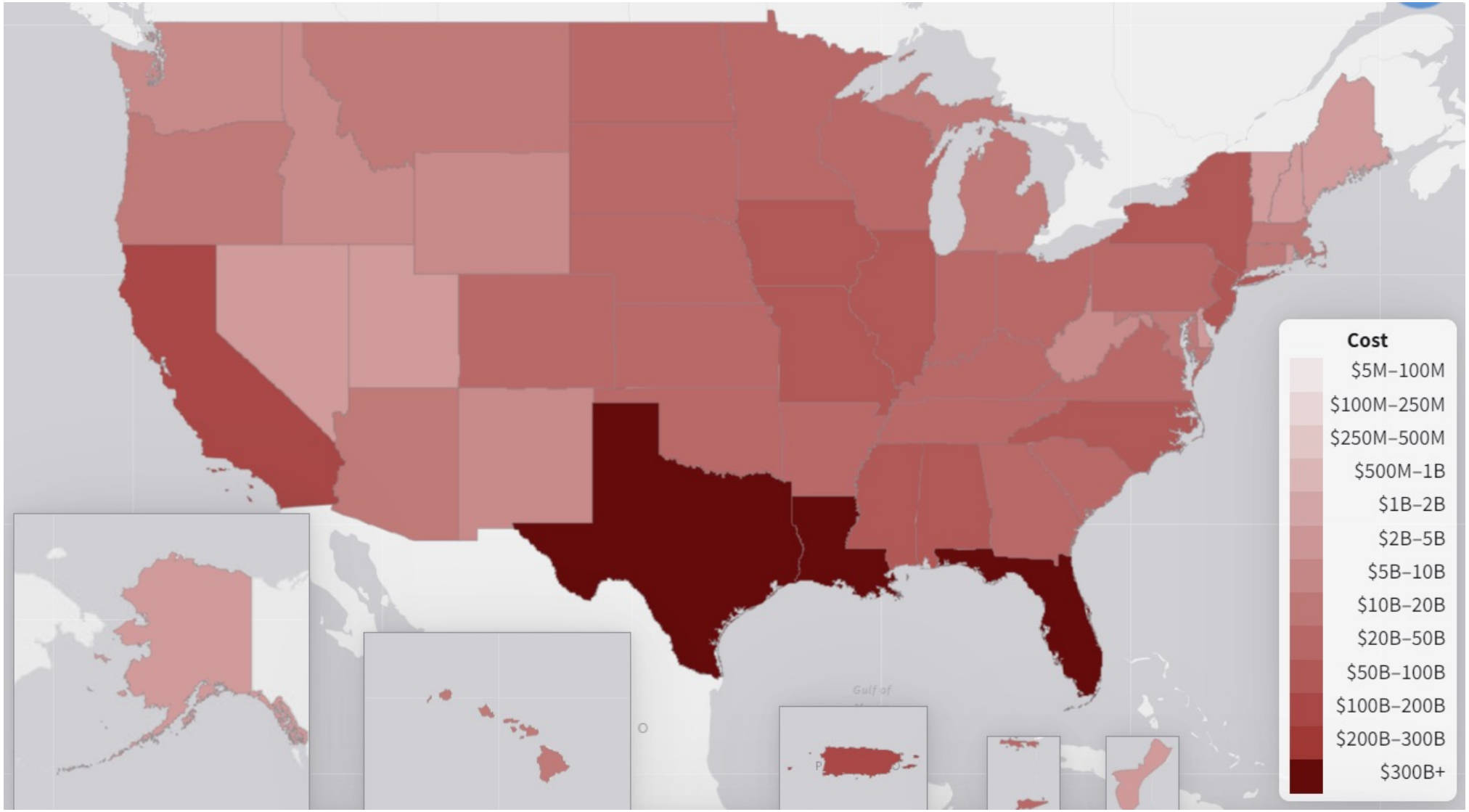
Source: Aon. Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of SC.

Distribution of Losses from US Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disaster Events, YTD 2024*



*As of June 10, 2024.
Source: NOAA, accessed at: https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/mapping.

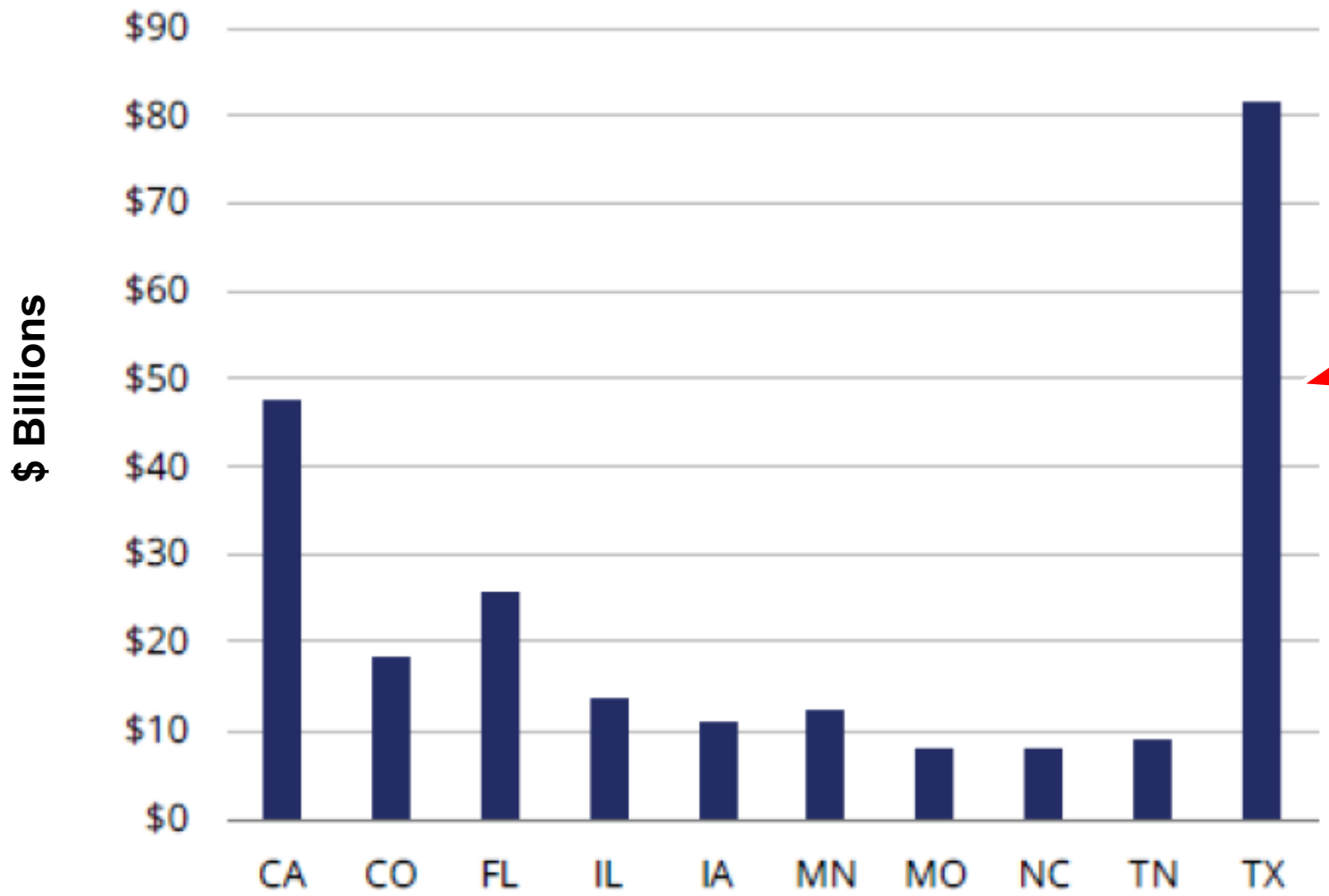
Distribution of Losses from US Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disaster Events, 1980 - 2024* (CPI-Adjusted)



Heavy concentration of losses in Gulf Coast states and CA

*As of May 8, 2024.
Source: NOAA, accessed at: https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/mapping.

Secondary Peril Losses, Top 10 States, 2014 – 2023



Texas leads the country in "Secondary-Peril" losses, which are accounting for an increasing share of total losses

Source: Conning, Inc.

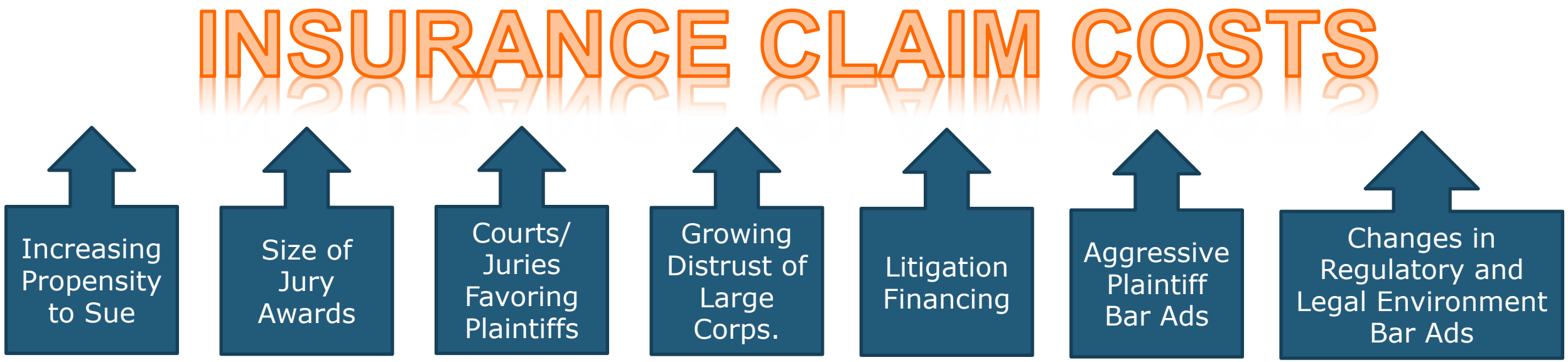
Legal System Abuse (Social Inflation) & Litigation Trends

Rising Litigation Costs Are a Concern for Businesses Large and Small—*and Their Insurers*

Major Driver of Rate Across Multiple Lines

103

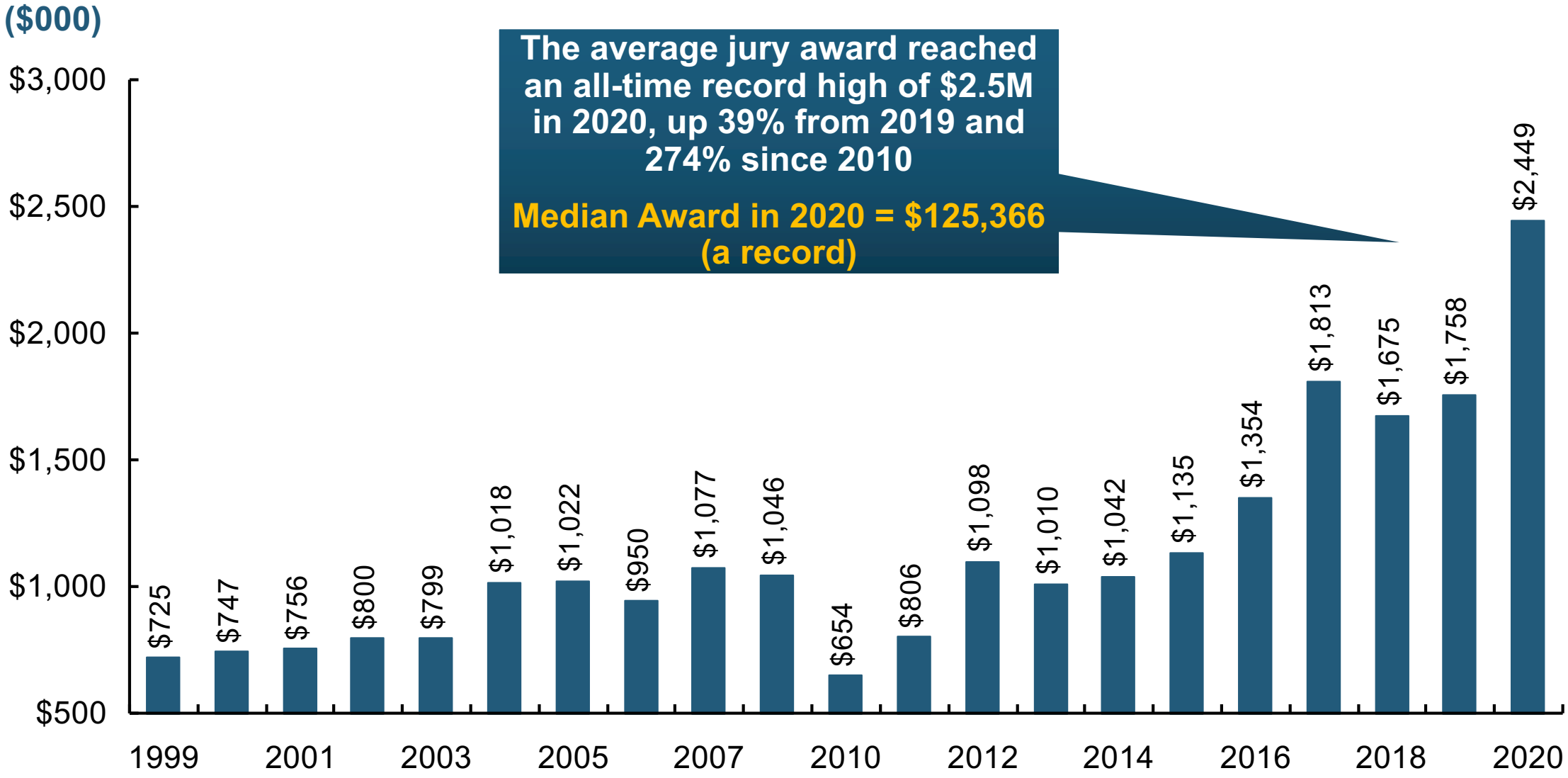
Social Inflation: Many Interrelated Causes, Difficult to Manage



Applied to a seemingly limitless number of issues, these drivers are pushing tort costs (and therefore claim costs upward)

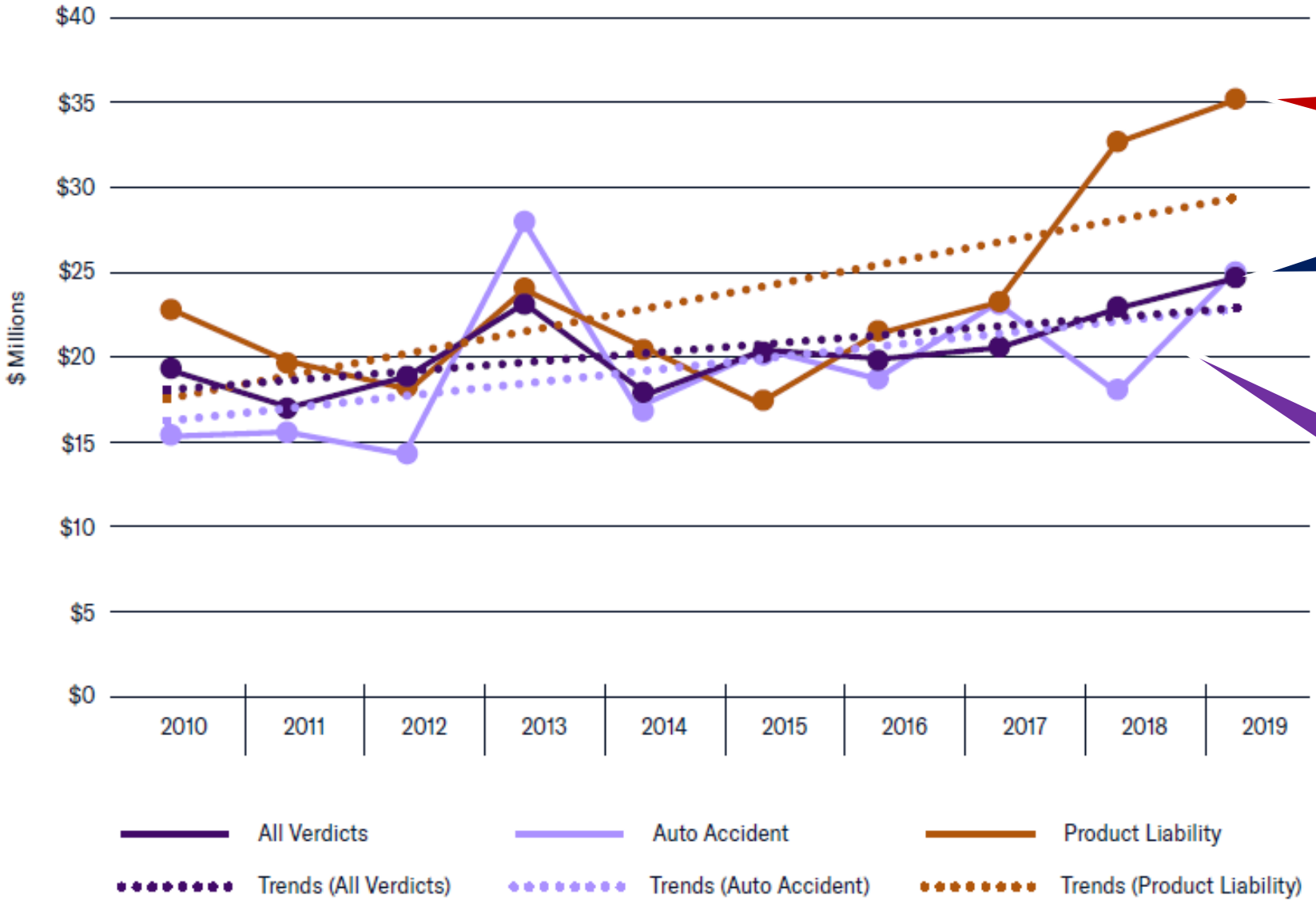
Source:Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina, adapted from Verisk “Social Inflation” presentation (2020).

Average Jury Awards, 1999 – 2020 (latest available)



Source: Jury Verdict Research; *Current Award Trends in Personal Injury* (61st Edition), Thomson Reuters; Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina.

Median Nuclear Verdict and Trend Line: 2010 – 2019*



Products Liability

+53.2% from $23.0M in 2010 to $35.1M in 2019

All Nuclear Verdicts

+27.5% from $19.3M in 2010 to $24.6M in 2019

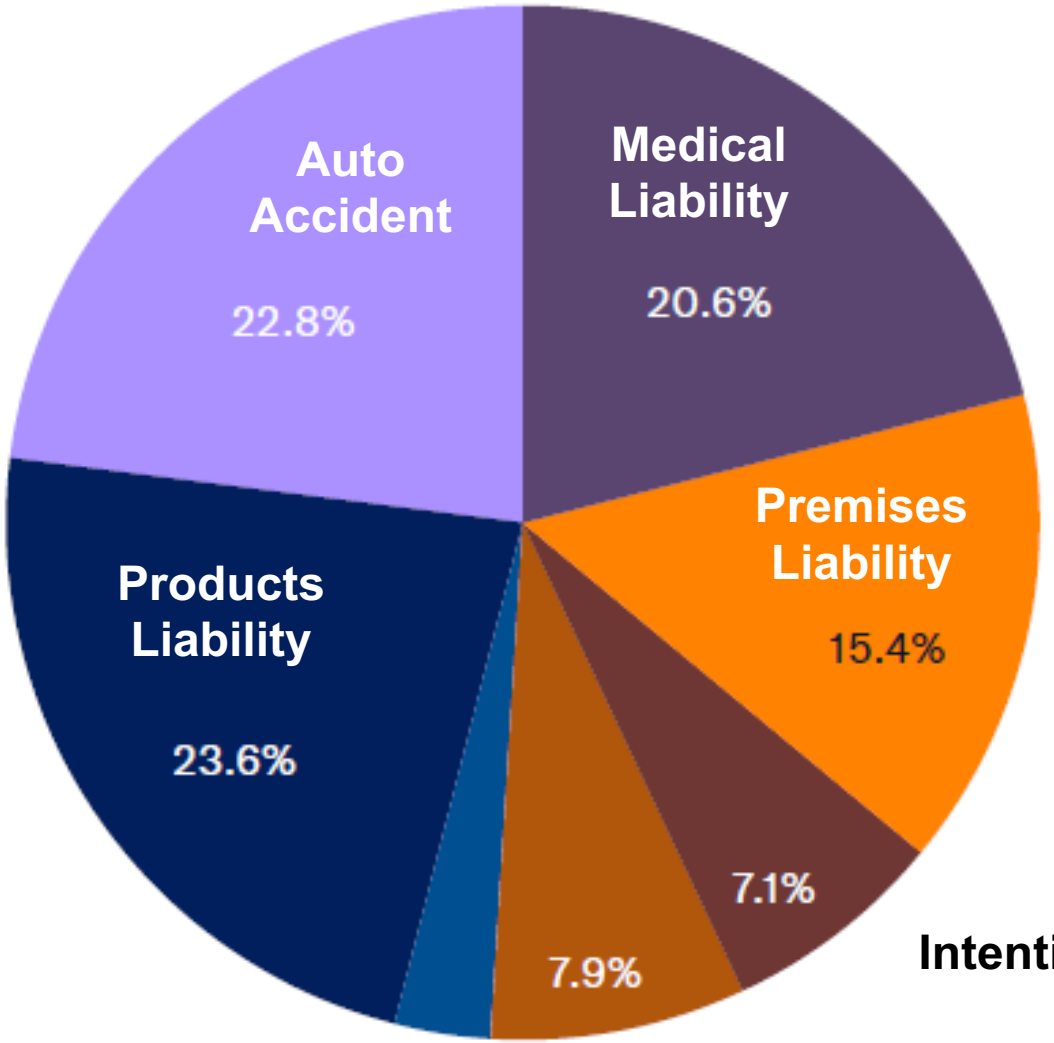
Auto Accident

+63.2% from $15.2M in 2010 to $24.8M in 2019

**The ILR defines a nuclear verdict as a jury verdict of $10M or more.*

Source: US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform (Sept. 2022), "*Nuclear Verdicts: Trends, Causes and Solutions,*" accessed at: https://instituteforlegalreform.com/research/nuclear-verdicts-trends-causes-and-solutions/. Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of SC.

Nuclear Verdicts by Case Type: 2010 – 2019*



Products, Auto and Medical Liability account for 2/3 of nuclear verdicts

**The ILR defines a nuclear verdict as a jury verdict of $10M or more.*

Source: US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform (Sept. 2022), "*Nuclear Verdicts: Trends, Causes and Solutions,*" accessed at: https://instituteforlegalreform.com/research/nuclear-verdicts-trends-causes-and-solutions/. Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of SC.

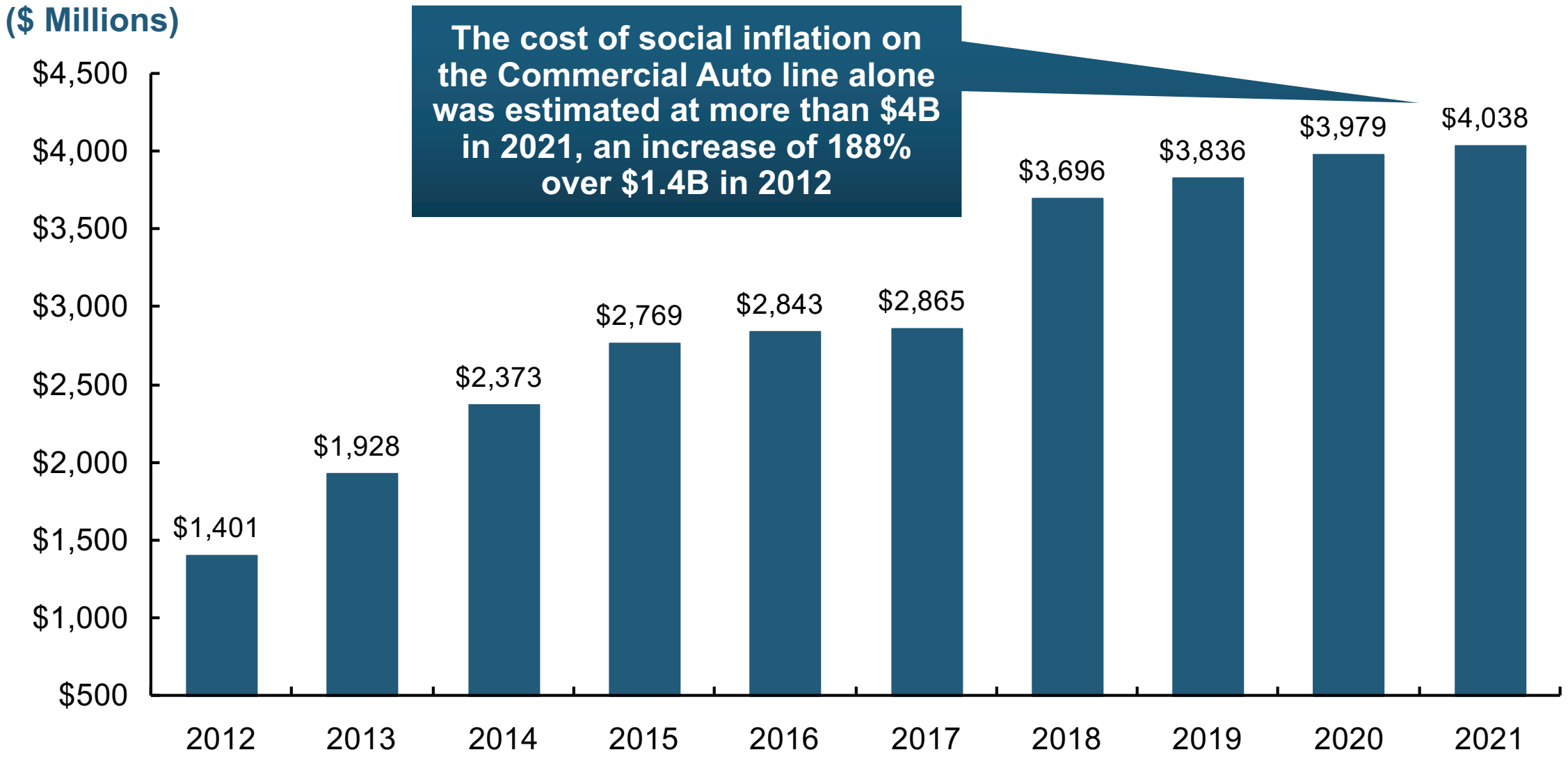
Direct Economic Tort Costs by Category of Tort: 2016 – 2020*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Average Annual Growth
Commercial Liability	222	220	248	264	291	7%
Personal Liability	128	138	149	153	152	4%
Total Tort Costs	**350**	**358**	**396**	**418**	**443**	**6%**
National GDP	18,586	19,370	20,402	21,243	20,760	3%
Consumer Price Index	240	245	251	256	259	2%
Total Costs as % of GDP	**1.88%**	**1.85%**	**1.94%**	**1.97%**	**2.13%**	**3.15%**

- **Total tort costs reached $443B in 2020**
  - ***$291B Commercial Liability***
  - ***$152B Personal Liability***
- **Tort costs as a share GDP hit 3.15% in 2020, up from 1.88% in 2016 (an increase of $93B**
- **Tort costs grew at twice the pace of GDP from 2016 – 2016**

Source: US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform (Nov. 2022), "Tort Costs in America: An Empirical Analysis of Costs and Compensation of the U.S. Tort System" accessed at: https://instituteforlegalreform.com/research/tort-costs-in-america-an-empirical-analysis-of-costs-and-compensation-of-the-u-s-tort-system/. Risk and Uncertainty Management Center, Univ. of South Carolina.

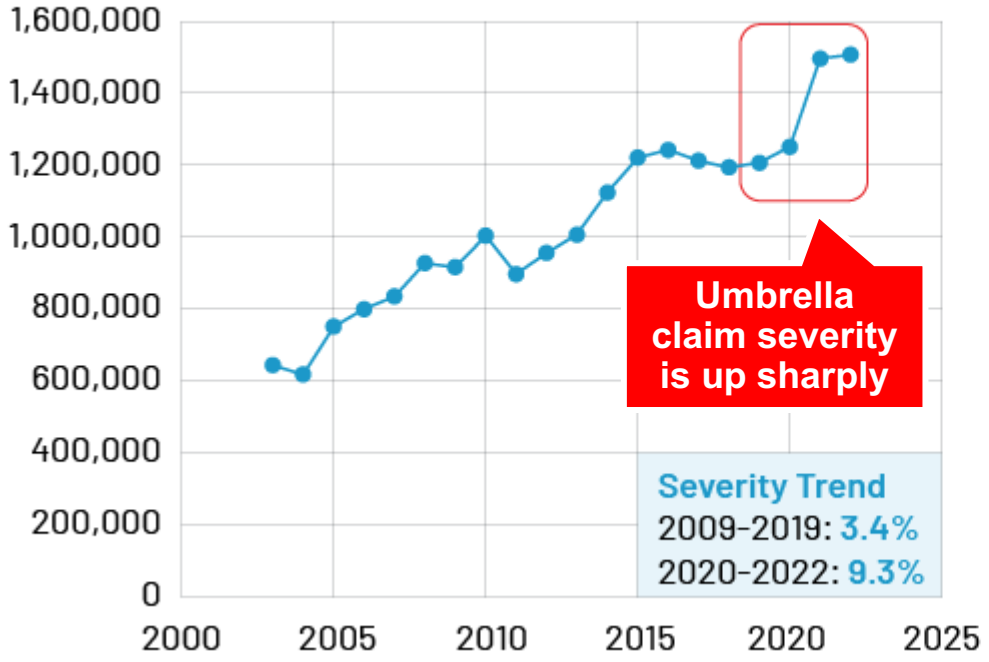
Commercial Auto Liability: Estimated Impact of Social Inflation, 2012 – 2021*



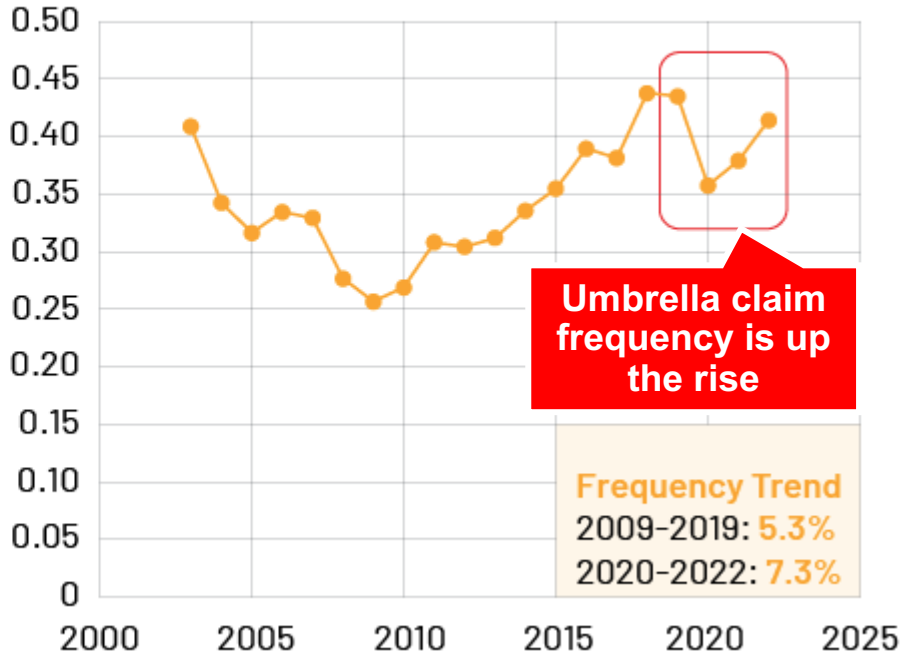
*Case-incurred estimates.
Source: CAS Research Paper; *Social Inflation and Loss Development—An Update* (2023) accessed at: https://www.iii.org/sites/default/files/docs/pdf/cas_social_inflation_03062023.pdf.

Commercial Umbrella: A Casualty of Legal System Abuse

Commercial Umbrella Severity (Loss & ALAE)



Commercial Umbrella Frequency (Claims per On-Leveled Premium)



"A decade ago an average single-person loss that would be contained in primary limits is now well into Umbrella limits, and the tail associated with Commercial Umbrella claims has likely been underestimated"

-Gen Re

Contributing Factors

Legal system abuse

Nuclear verdicts

Sophisticated trial bar

3rd Party Litigation Funding

Distracted driving

Aggravated damages

Source: Gen Re analysis using ISO data as published (Feb. 9, 2024) accessed at: https://www.genre.com/us/knowledge/publications/2024/february/battered-umbrella-a-market-in-urgent-need-of-fixing-en.

SUMMARY

- **The P/C Insurance Industry Remains Strong, Stable, Sound and Secure**
  - **Auto lines, property and reinsurance segments are stressed but not impaired**
  - **Continued migration toward E&S markets**
- **Odds of a "Soft Landing" or "No Landing" Increasing; Recession in 2024/25 Unlikely**
- **Asset Price Volatility Will Persist as Inflation Uncertainty**
- **Higher Interest Rates Provide a Modest Tailwind for Investment Income**
- **Inflationary Pressures Will Persist in 2024, though Subsiding**
- **Loss Cost Challenges Remain but Should Slowly Ease in 2024—Inflation, Supply Chain, etc.**
- **Legal System Abuse Issues Remain a Long-Term Challenge and Major Cost Driver**

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Thank you for your time and your attention!

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Download at www.uscriskcenter.com