# TN's Economic Growth Remains Solid

### **TGFOA**

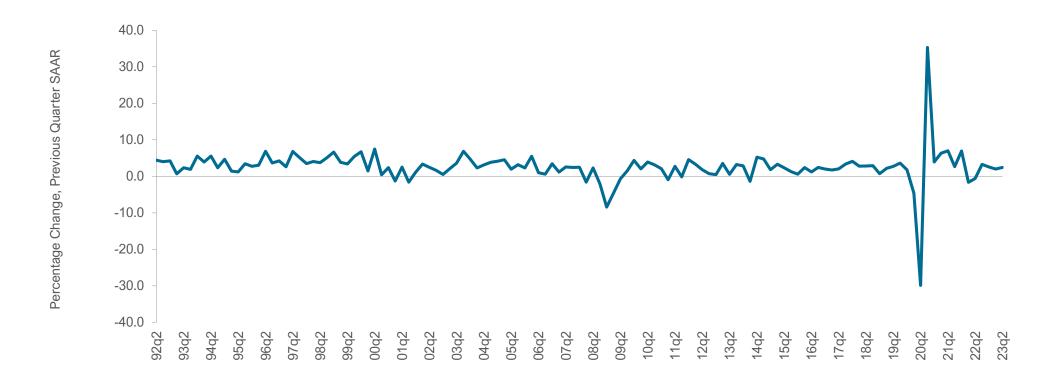
Bill Fox, Special Advisor UTK Chancellor October 2, 2024



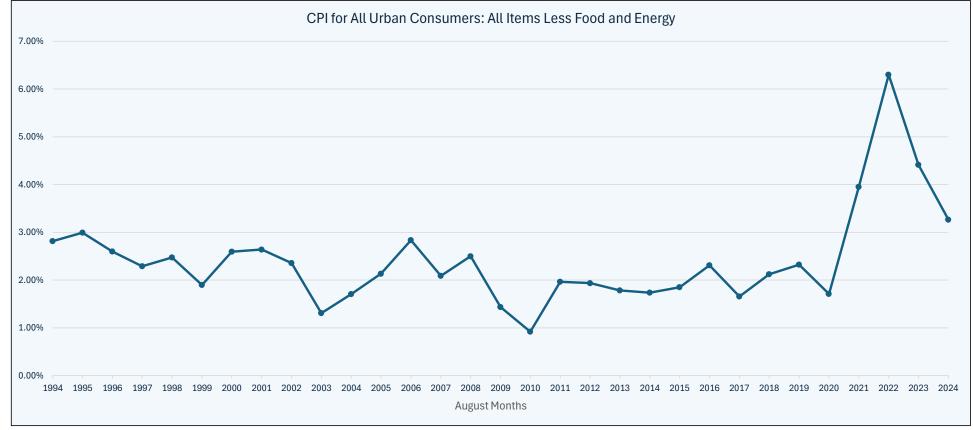
TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE



### GDP Has Grown Strongly Since Covid, Hovering Around Potential Growth



### Inflation Rate Has Fallen Dramatically from Its Covid Peaks, but Remains Above FED target



### **Factors Affecting the Economy**

#### **Sources of Strength**

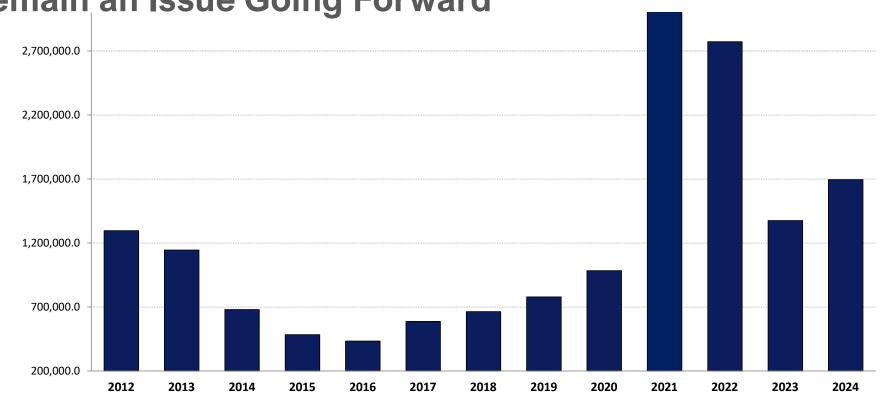
- Consumer Spending
- Equity Markets
- Employment

#### **Potential Shocks**

- Federal Deficits
- Inflation
- Interest rates
- Election
- Geopolitical risks, Oil Prices



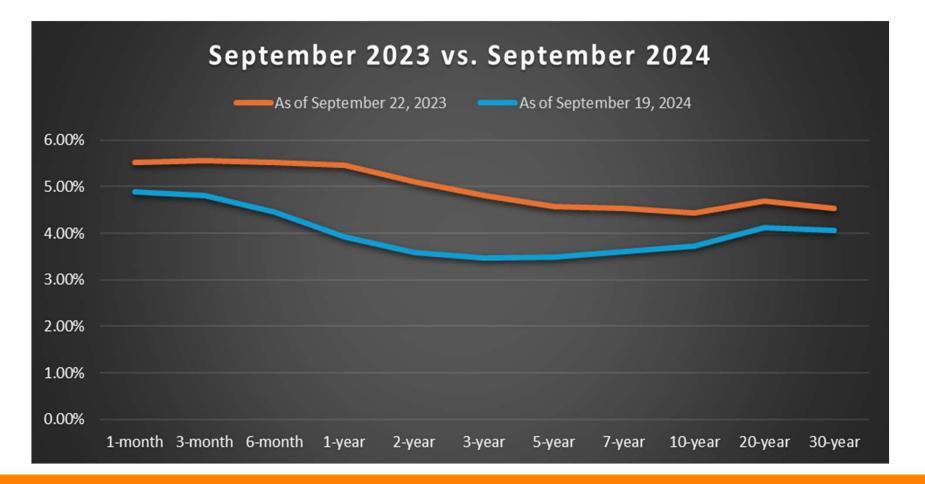
Federal Deficits Fueled the Economy During Covid, but Remain an Issue Going Forward



### **Consumer Spending Has Sustained the Post Covid Economy**



#### Interest Rates of All Maturities are Lower than One Year Ago

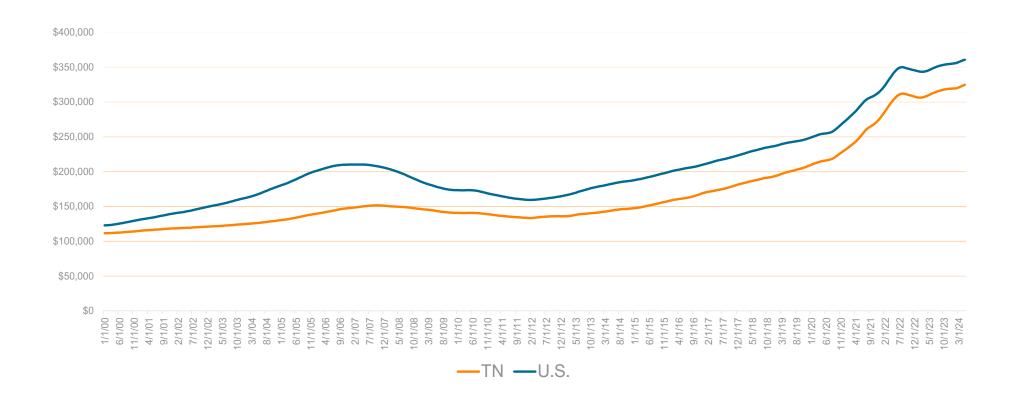


#### Housing Starts in the U.S. Have Not Kept Pace with Population Growth

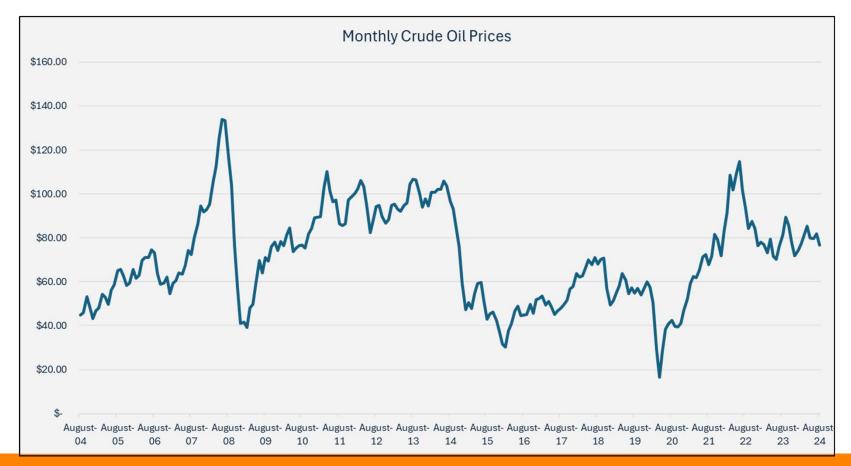




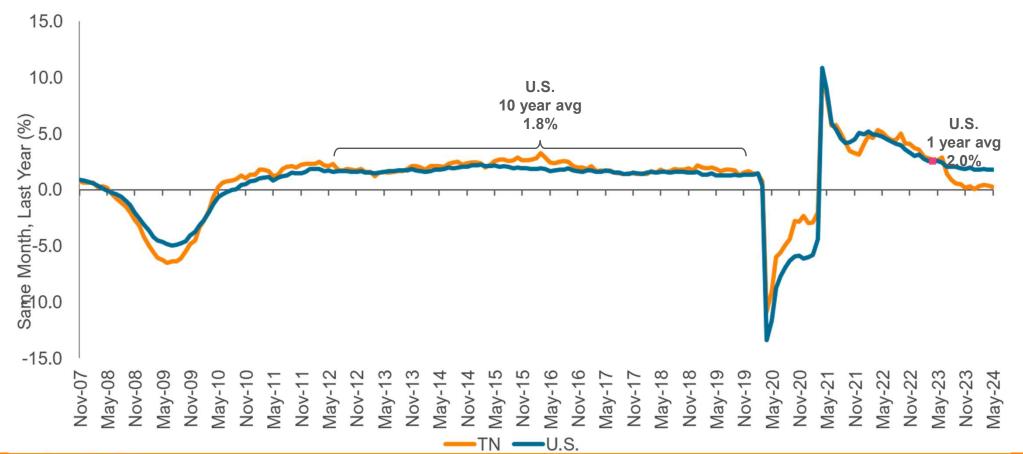
#### Home Values in TN and the U.S. Have Been on the Rise



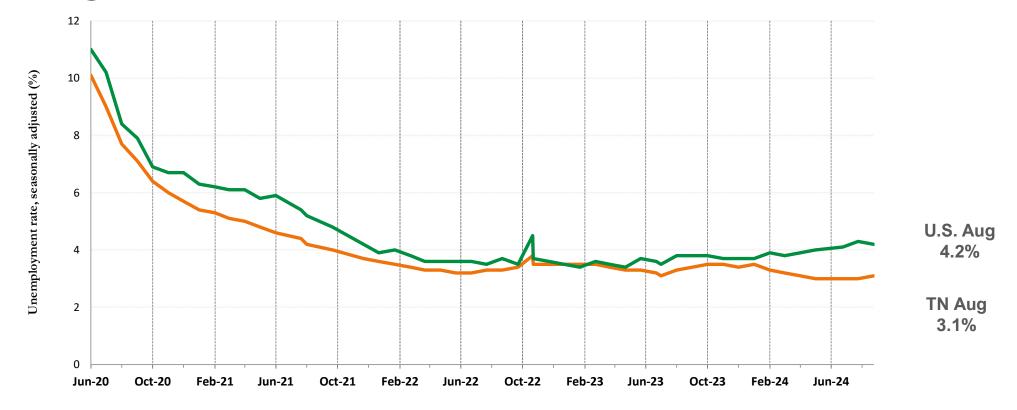
### Oil Prices have Fallen From Covid Peaks, but can Create Shocks



### U.S. Employment Growth is Slowing, but Remains at Levels Consistent with a Growing Economy



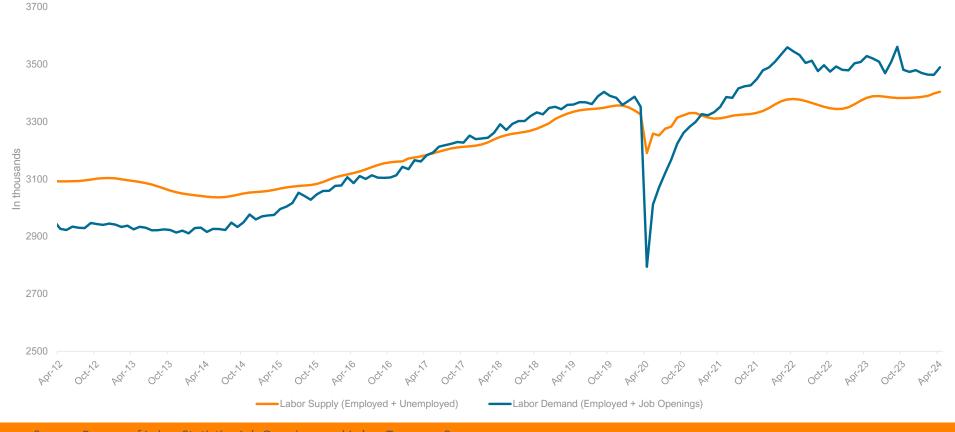
# Tennessee's Unemployment Rate Remains Very Low



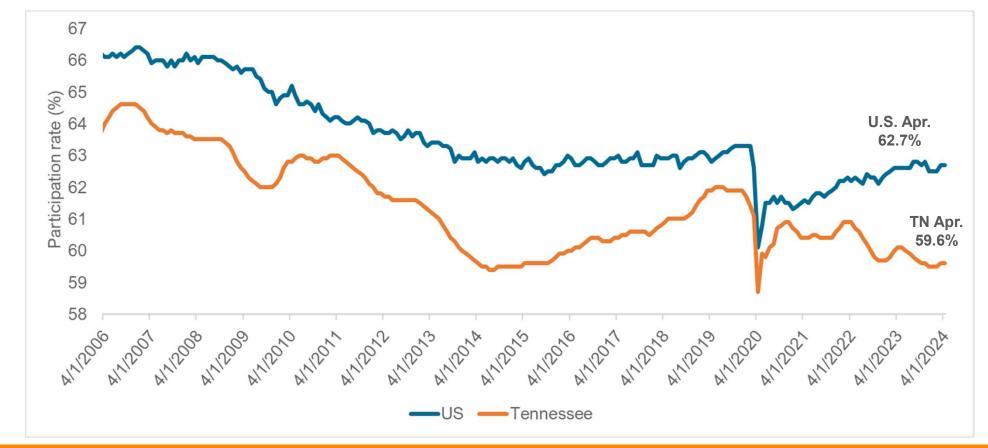
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



### Tennessee Does Not Have Enough Workers to Fill All of the Current Job Openings

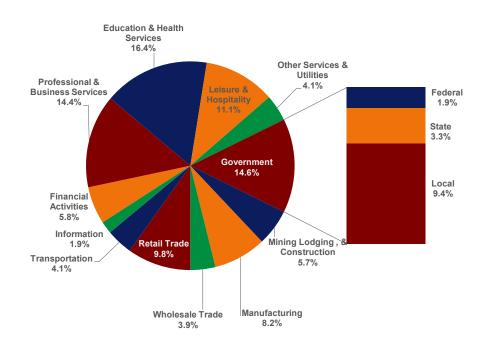


### TN and the U.S. Labor Force Participation Rates Continue Their Long-Term Decline with an Aging Population

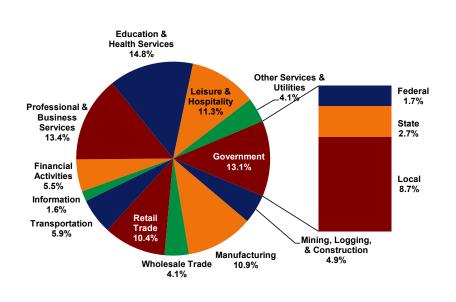


### Tennessee has More Transportation and Manufacturing Jobs, Less Education and Health and Government Jobs

#### **United States**



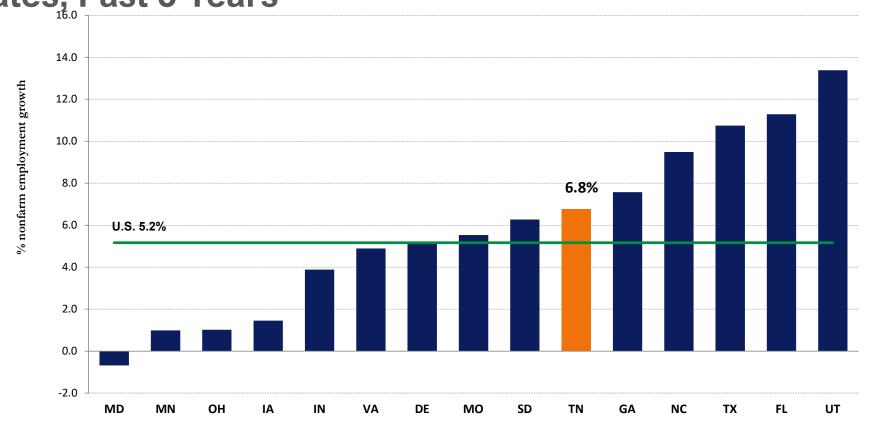
#### Tennessee



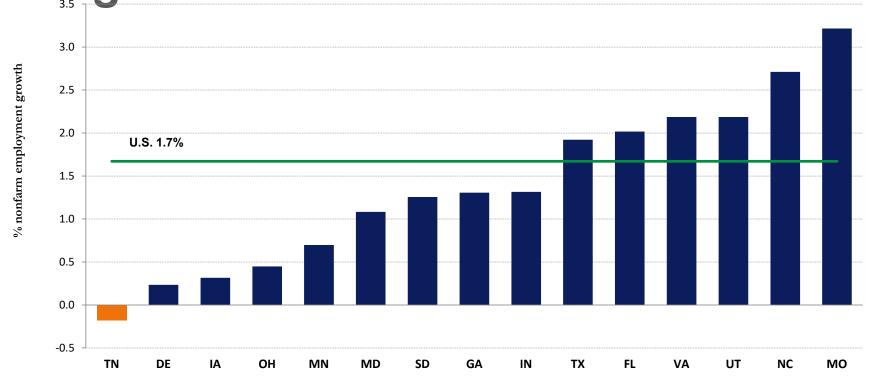
Notes: Carruthers (2023) using the 2021 American Community Survey, limited to 18-64 year-olds working full-time in the previous year.



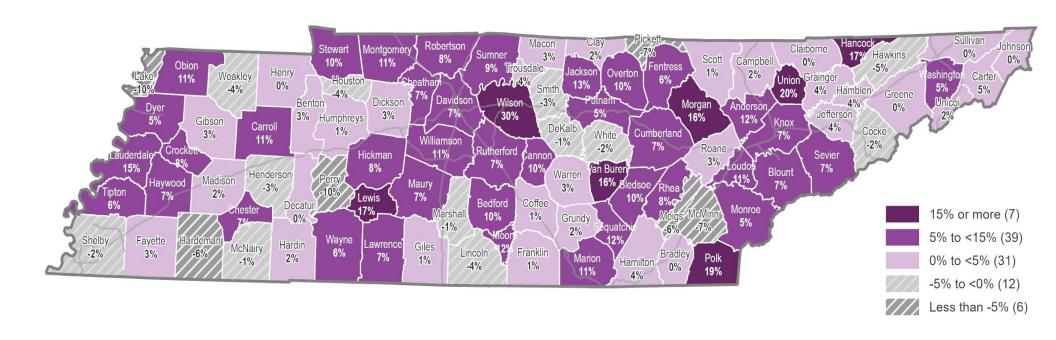
Tennessee Employment Growth Exceeds Many Highly Rated States, Past 5 Years



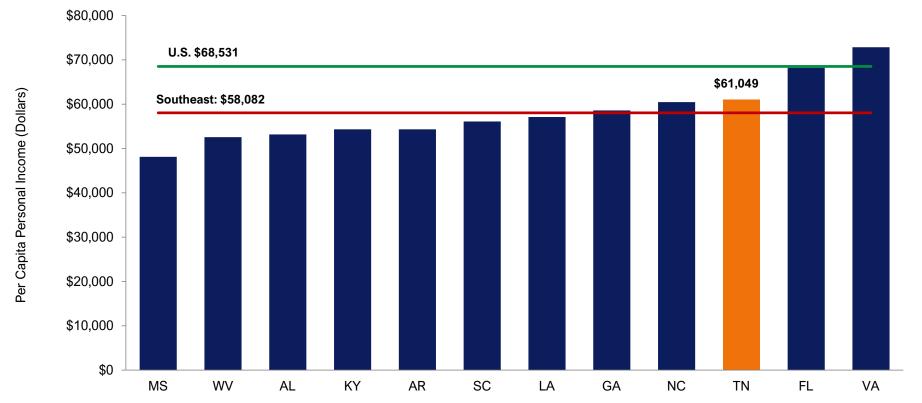
TN Employment Growth has Lagged During the Past Year



### **Most Counties Have Experienced Good Employment Growth Since Before Covid**

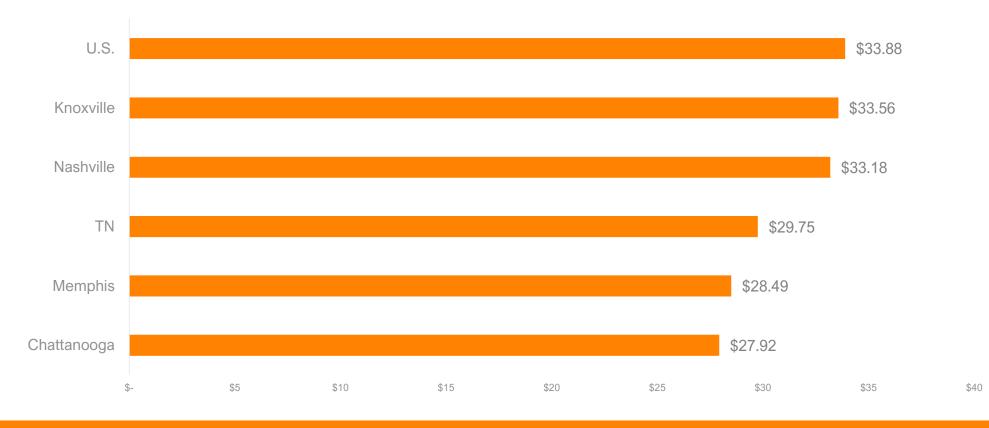


## Tennessee Per Capita Personal Income Among Highest in the Southeast, 35<sup>th</sup> in the Nation, 2023





### Wages Across Tennessee Remain Below the National Average

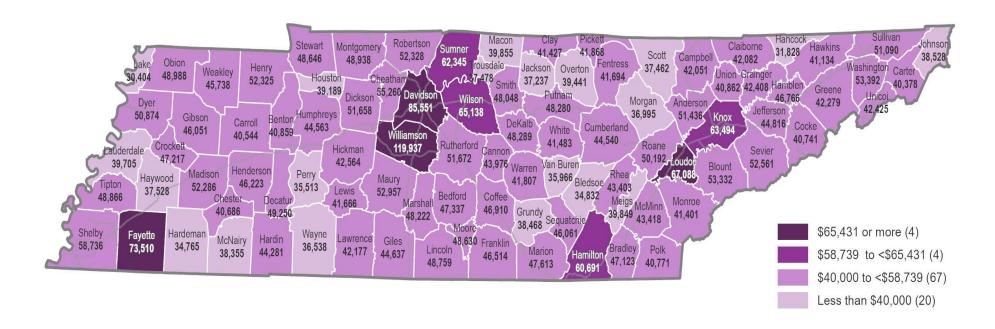




### Tennessee Per Capita Income Trails the Nation but Varies Widely Across the State

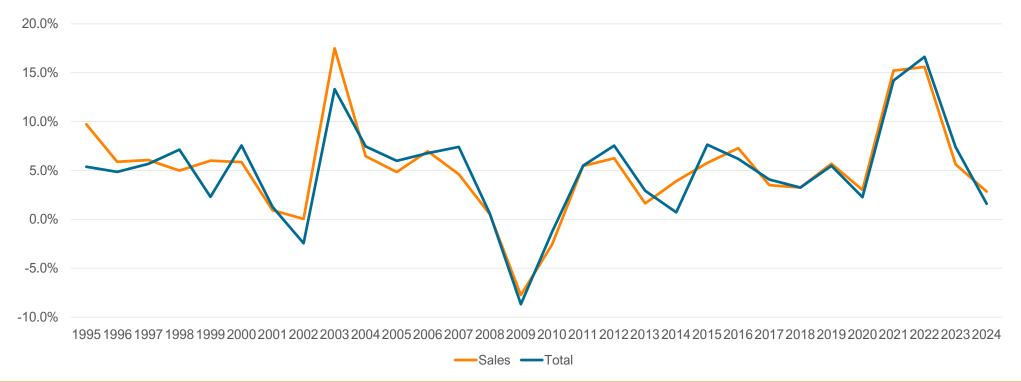
Tennessee: \$58,739

U.S.: \$65,431



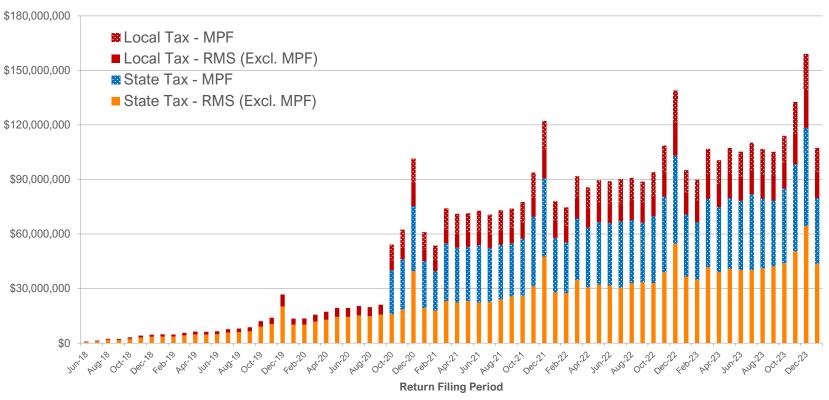


### Tax Revenue Growth Rate Has Returned to more Normal Patterns – Last Year was Negative Net of Inflation



### Tennessee Tax on New Remote Sellers has Risen **Dramatically Since the Wayfair Case**

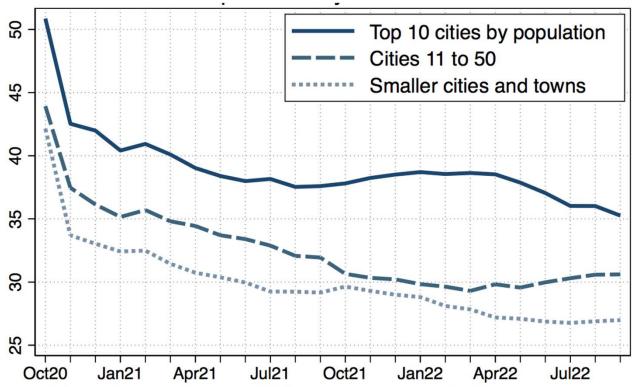
#### State and Local Sales Tax Due by Remote Sellers



### Some Tax Issues for the Changing Economy

- Cross Border Shopping
- Digital Transactions
- Social Media and Items Not Monetized to Consumers
- Electric, More Fuel Efficient and Autonomous Vehicles
- Property Taxes and Remote Work

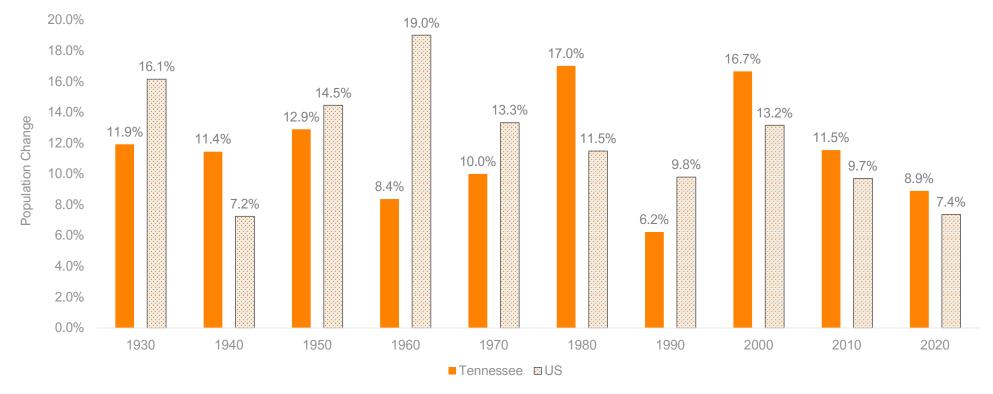
#### Percent of Paid Full Days Worked from Home



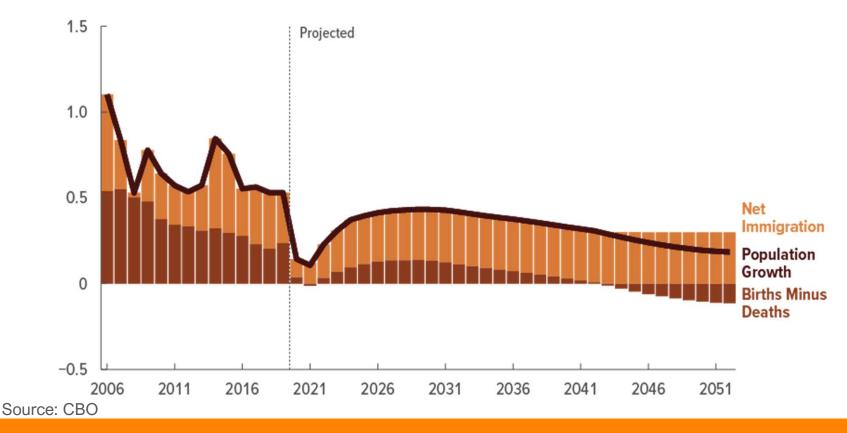
\*We define cities using Combined Statistical Areas and use the location of the respondent's current job.



# Over the Last Two Decades, Population Growth has Slowed Radically for TN and the Nation. Lowest Growth since the 1940s



# Natural Population Change will provide few New People in next 30 Years, Meaning Immigration likely will be the Source of Most Population Growth



#### TN Natural Population Growth was Negative Last Year

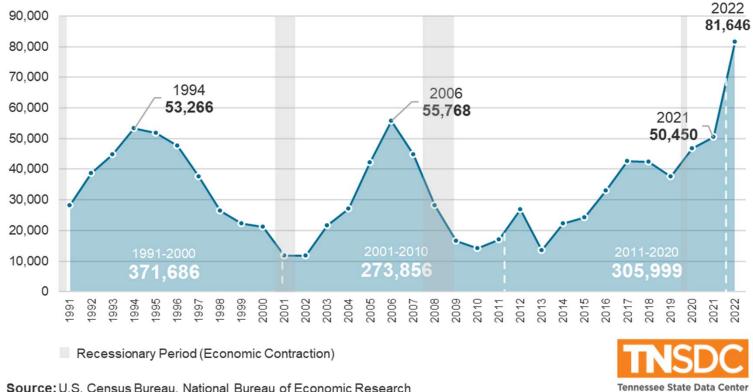


Source: Tennessee Department of Health, Vital Statistics Bulletins



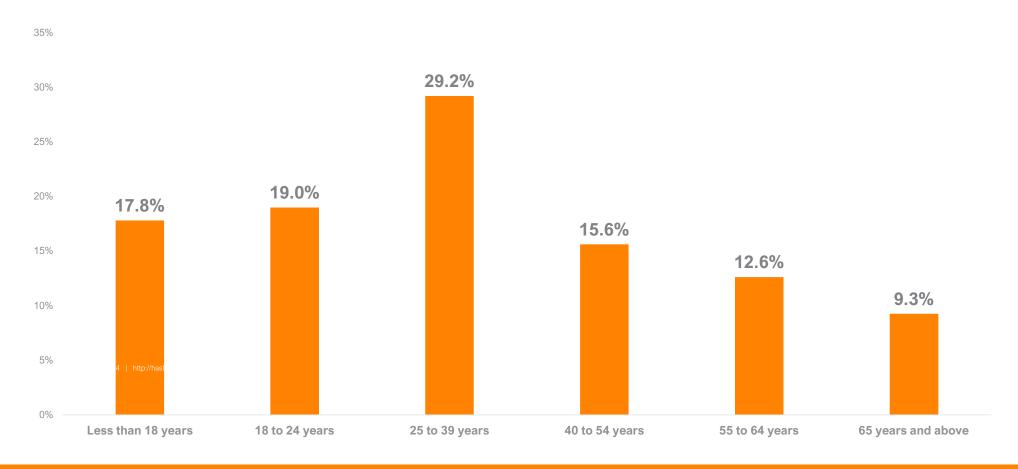


#### Net Migration Has Risen in Tennessee and is Essential to Finding **Needed Workers**

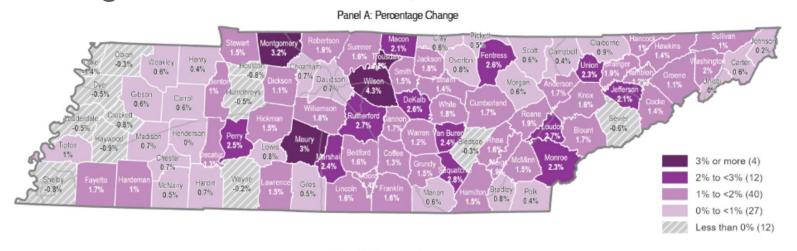


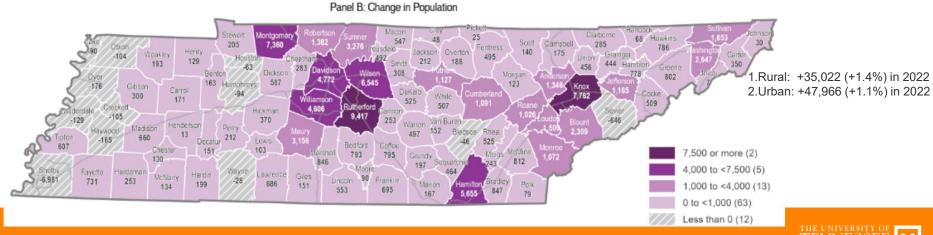


### **Most Migrants are of Working Age**



### Most Population Increases in Metro Areas, but Many Others are Experiencing Good Growth Rates, 2021 to 2022





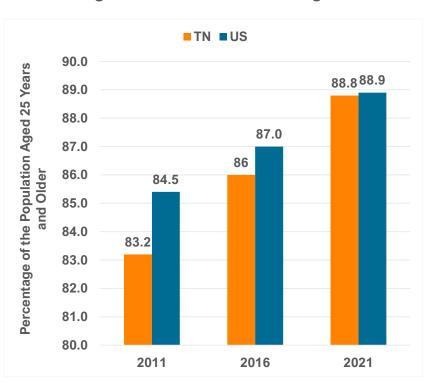
### Some Implications of Slow Population Growth

- Difficulty in funding Social Security and Medicare
- Slower labor force growth and therefore slower economic growth
- Inability to Meet Employer Needs
- Changing demands for local services
  - Less demand for k-12 education and perhaps lower demand for post-HS education
  - More demand for parks,...

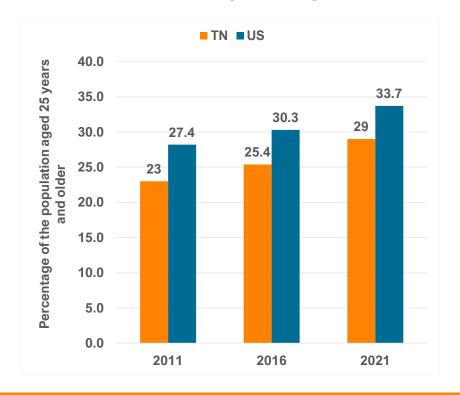


### Tennessee Has Lower Post-HS Educational Attainment than the US Average

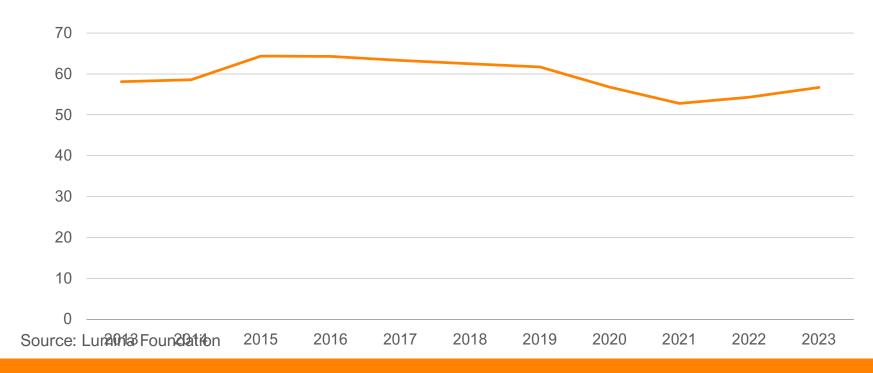
**High School Graduates or Higher** 



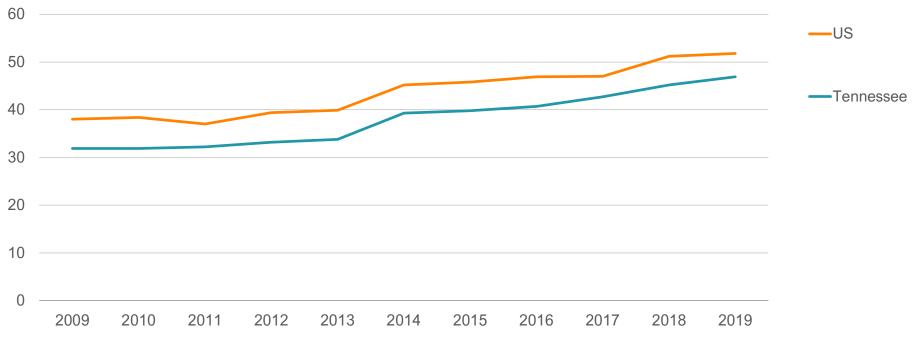
#### **Bachelor's Degree or Higher**



# Tennessee Promise Significantly Increased College Going Rate, but the Gains were Lost During Covid, Percent

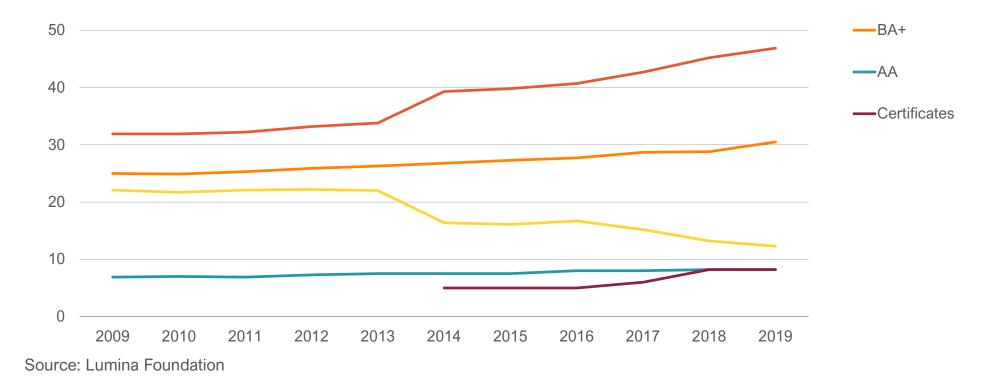


### Pre-Covid TN Saw Very Strong Increases in Post High School Attainment, But Remained well **Under US and the Drive to 55 Target**

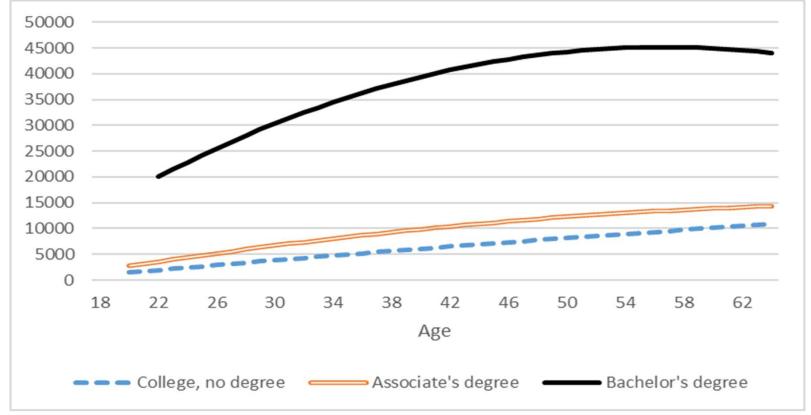


Source: Lumina Foundation

## TN Improved in all Areas of Post HS Attainment, except some college



### The additional earnings for college educated workers, relative to high school-educated workers, widen over workers' careers



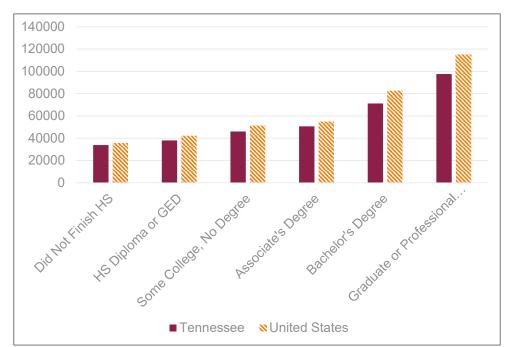
Source: Carruthers. 2023

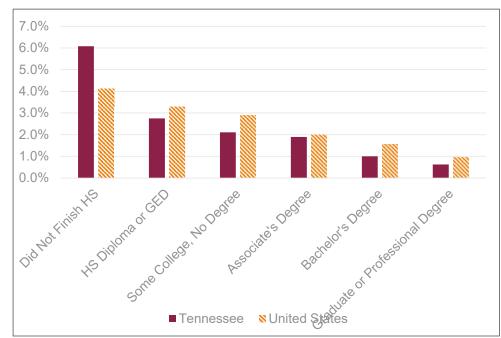


### Better Educated People have Higher Earnings and Lower Unemployment

Annual Salary and Wages (2021\$)

Unemployment Rate (%)

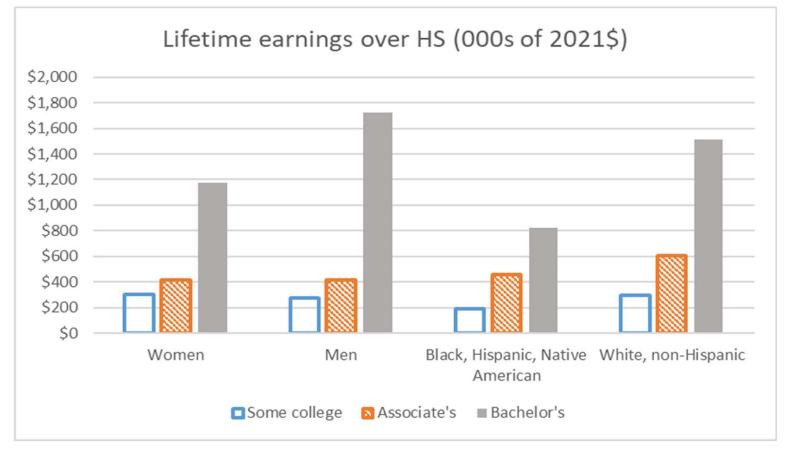




Notes: Carruthers (2023) using the 2021 American Community Survey, limited to 18-64 year-olds working full-time in the previous year.



#### All Demographic Groups Benefit from More Education



Carruthers, 2023