### National and Regional Economic Conditions

October 23, 2024 – Colorado Society of CPAs

#### David Rodziewicz Senior Economics Specialist, Denver Branch

The views herein are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect those of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City or the Federal Reserve System



### Overview

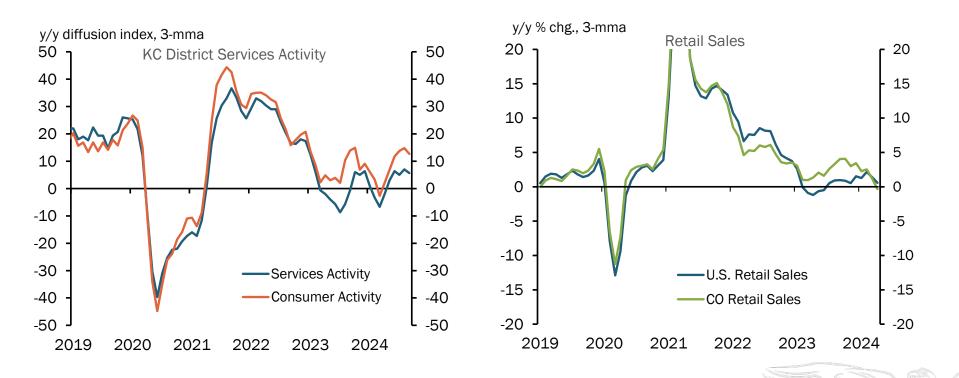
- Regional economic activity is supported by consumer spending, while manufacturing and business services are in decline.
- National and regional labor markets are moderating, and job gain growth remains healthy.
- Inflation is moving to the Fed's 2 percent target and real wages are a positive for households.
- Economic and policy uncertainty remain front of mind as inflation decelerates and economic conditions normalize.



NONCONFIDENTIAL // EXTERNAL

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

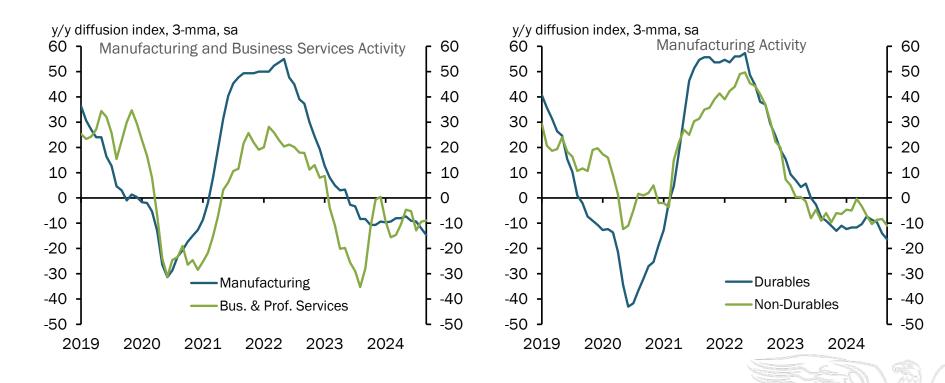
### Continued consumer spending supports regional economic activity.



Source: KC Fed Services Survey, Census/Haver Analytics

3

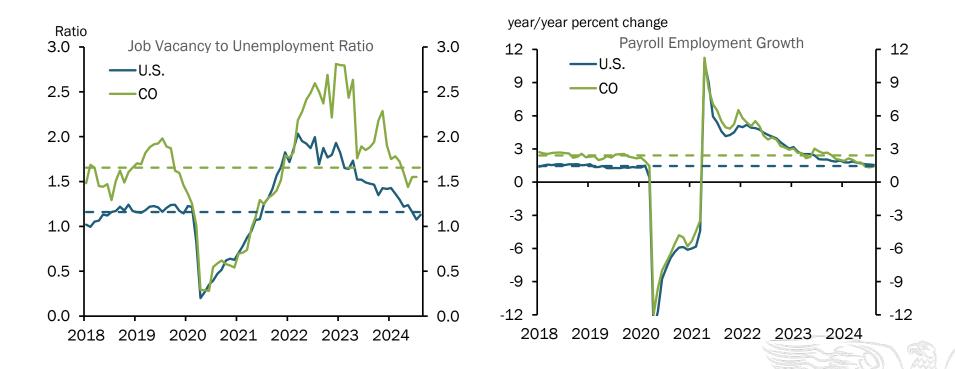
#### Manufacturing and business services continue to soften.



Source: KC Fed Business Surveys

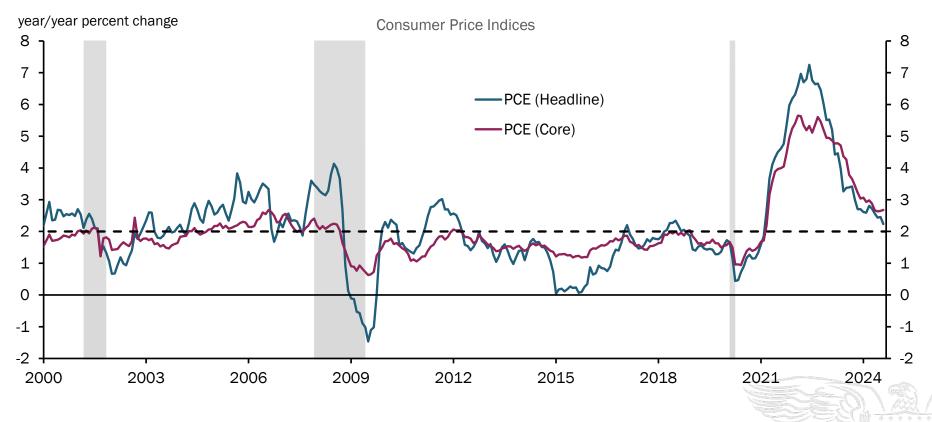
4

# Labor markets continue to moderate, with decelerating job gains both in the U.S. and Colorado.



Sources: BLS, Haver Analytics Note: Dashed lines represent 2018-19 averages

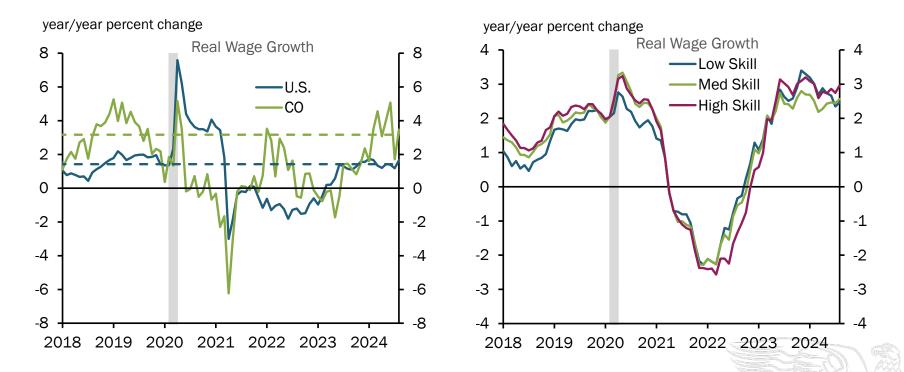
### Inflation continues to slow and is approaching the Fed's 2% target.



Source: BEA, Haver Analytics Note: Dashed line represents Fed's 2% target; Gray bars represent NBER recessions

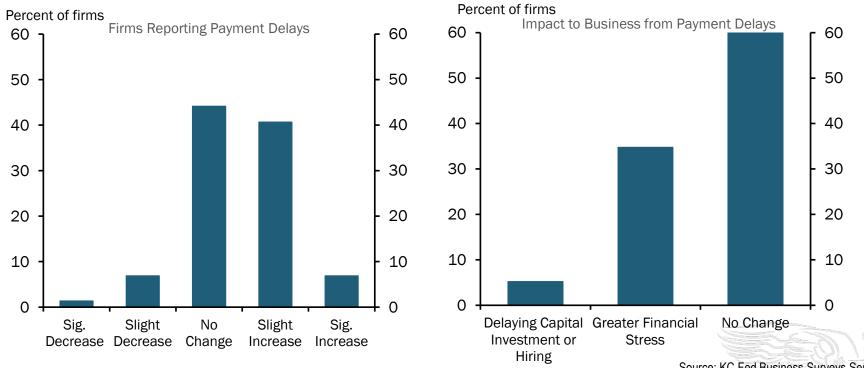
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

## With inflation returning to target and still healthy labor markets, real wages are positive and near pre-pandemic averages.



Sources: BLS, BEA, FRB Atlanta, Analyst Calculations, Haver Analytics Note: Dashed lines represent 2018-19 averages; Gray bars represent NBER recessions

### Some payment delay risks have emerged for District businesses, but economic impacts are limited.



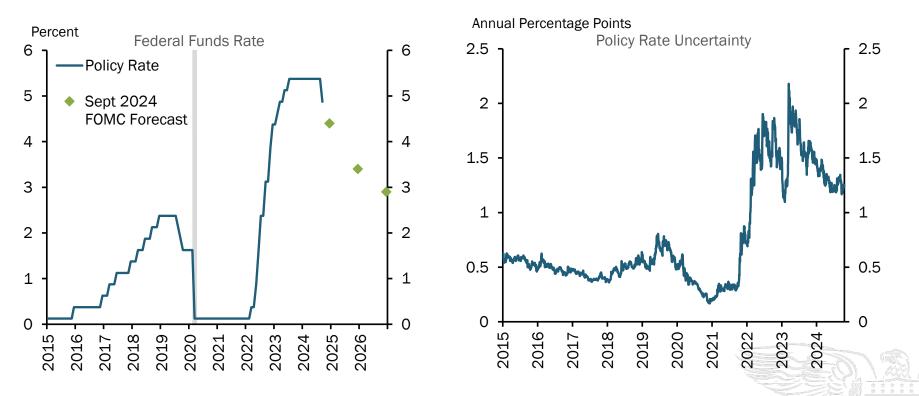
Source: KC Fed Business Surveys Sept-24

Questions: "Since the beginning of the year how has the time taken to receive payment from your customers changed?"

"If the typical time to receive payment has changed, please describe the most significant impact to your business resulting from cash flow management concerns, if any?"

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY

### The projected policy rate is expected to decline, but monetary policy uncertainty remains high.



### **Summary and Looking Ahead**

- Regional labor markets continue to moderate. Healthy labor markets and real wage gains support continued consumer spending.
- Manufacturing remains in a modest slump and some payment risks have emerged for regional businesses.
- Inflation continues marching towards the two percent target, but policy uncertainty remains high.



#### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY



### Get the latest speeches: www.KansasCityFed.org/Speeches

Get emailed the latest resource on economic topics



