

# *The Economic Impact of South Carolina's Private Marine Terminals*

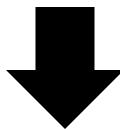


*Joseph Von Nessen, Ph.D.  
Research Economist  
February 21, 2025*

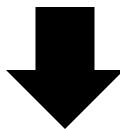
[joey.vonnessen@moore.sc.edu](mailto:joey.vonnessen@moore.sc.edu)

# The Bottom Line

*Private marine terminals are critical assets for  
South Carolina's economy*



*Why?*



*They broaden the import/export capacity of  
the state seaports*

# Selected Product Categories

*Aggregates and Asphalt*

*Chemicals and Fertilizers*

*Fuels and Liquids*

*Raw Metals and Metal Products*

*Increasing seaport capacity supports the growth of South Carolina's primary industry drivers*

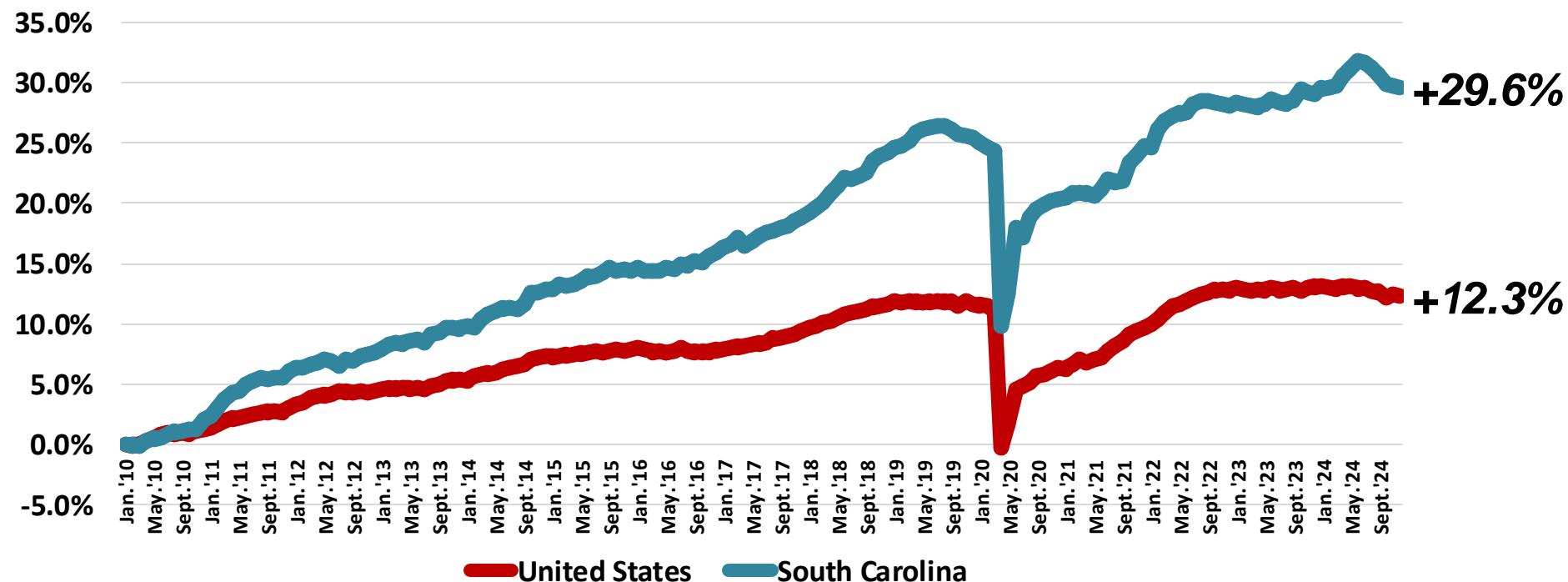
---

*(1) Manufacturing*

*(2) Logistics*

# *Total Manufacturing Employment Growth*

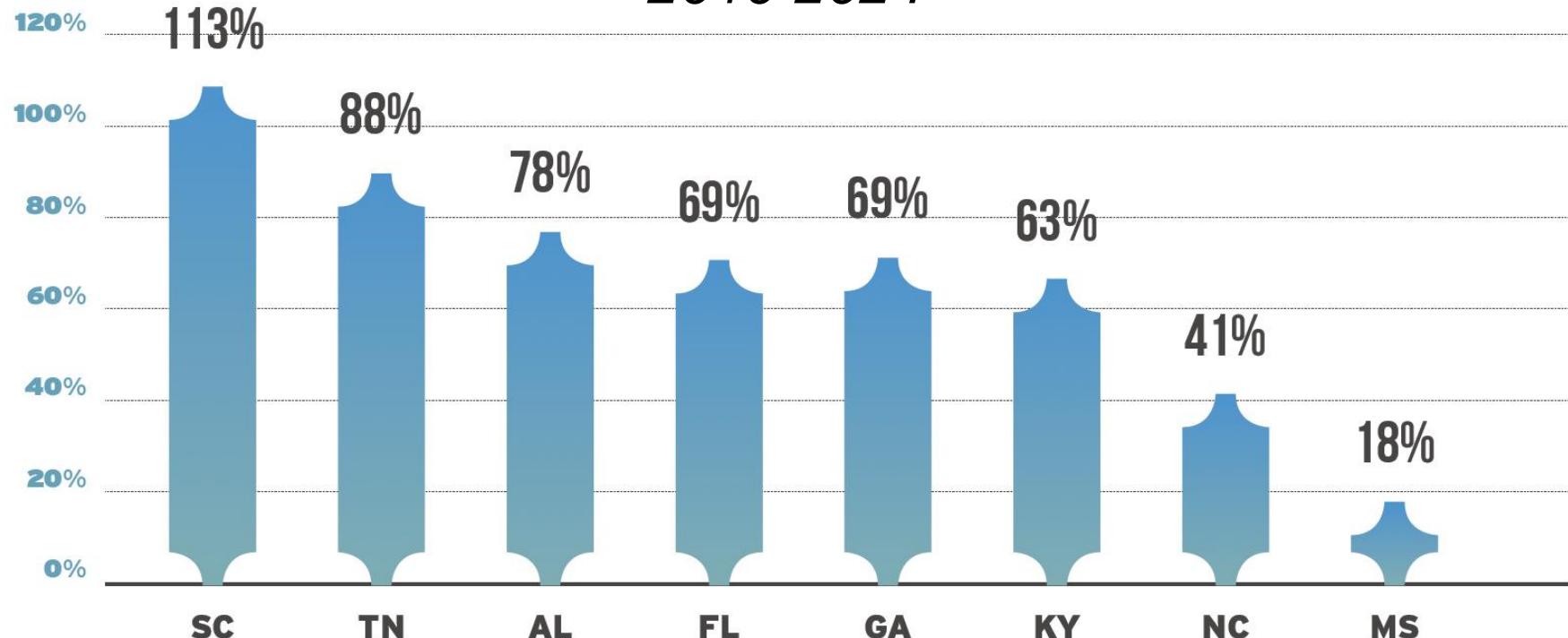
## 2010-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# *Total Adv. Manuf. Employment Growth*

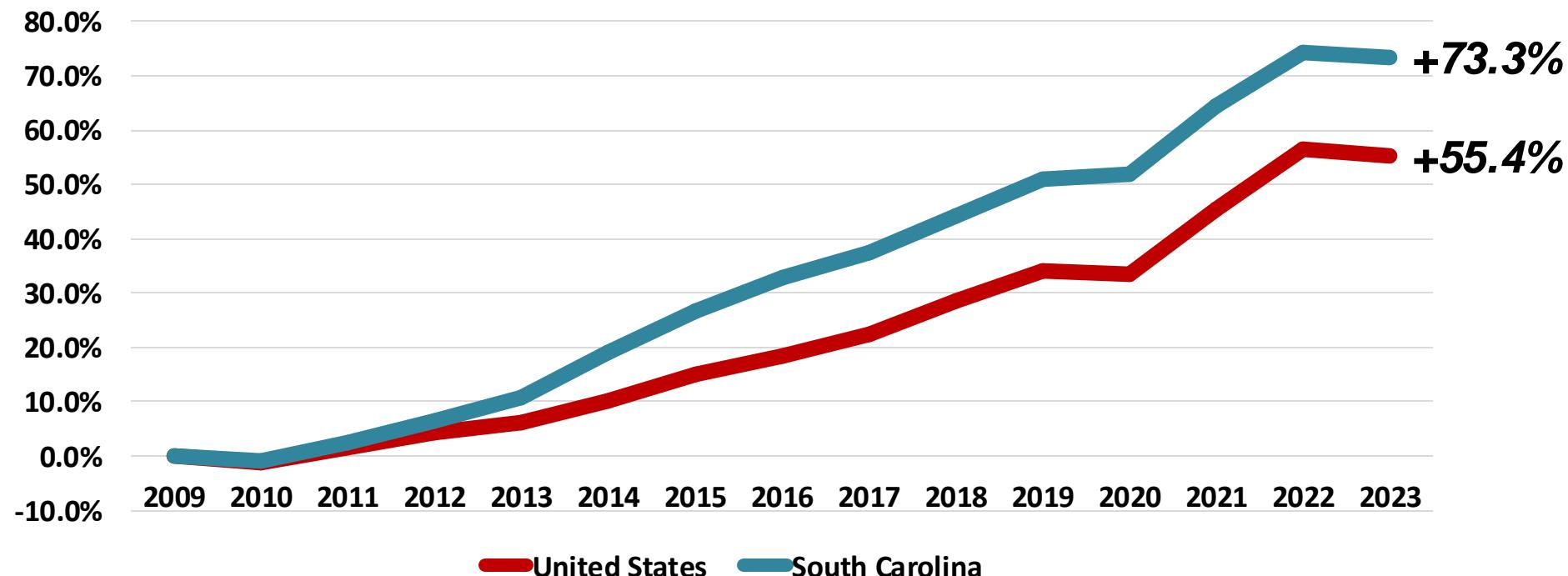
## 2010-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# *Total Transp. & Warehousing Emp. Growth*

## 2010-2024



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# *Projected Population Growth by U.S. Region*

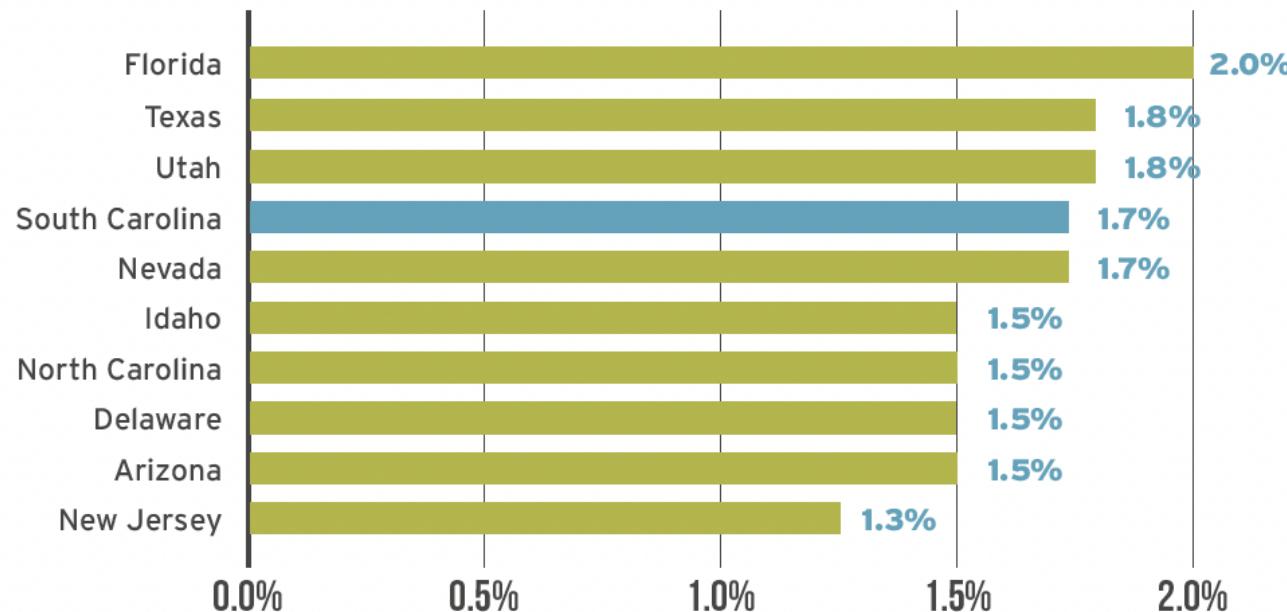
## 2020-2050



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# *Annual Population Growth Rate*

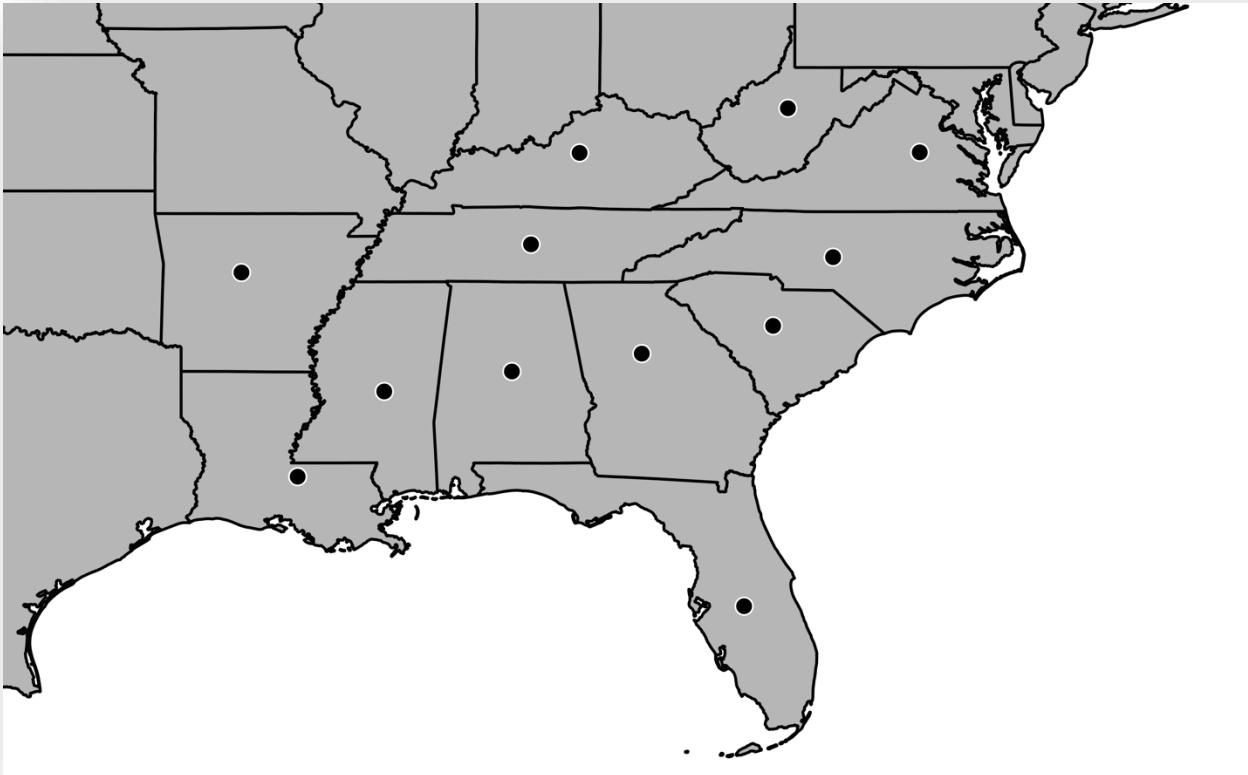
## 2024 vs. 2023



In 2024,  
South  
Carolina  
experienced  
the 4th  
highest  
population  
growth rate in  
the nation.

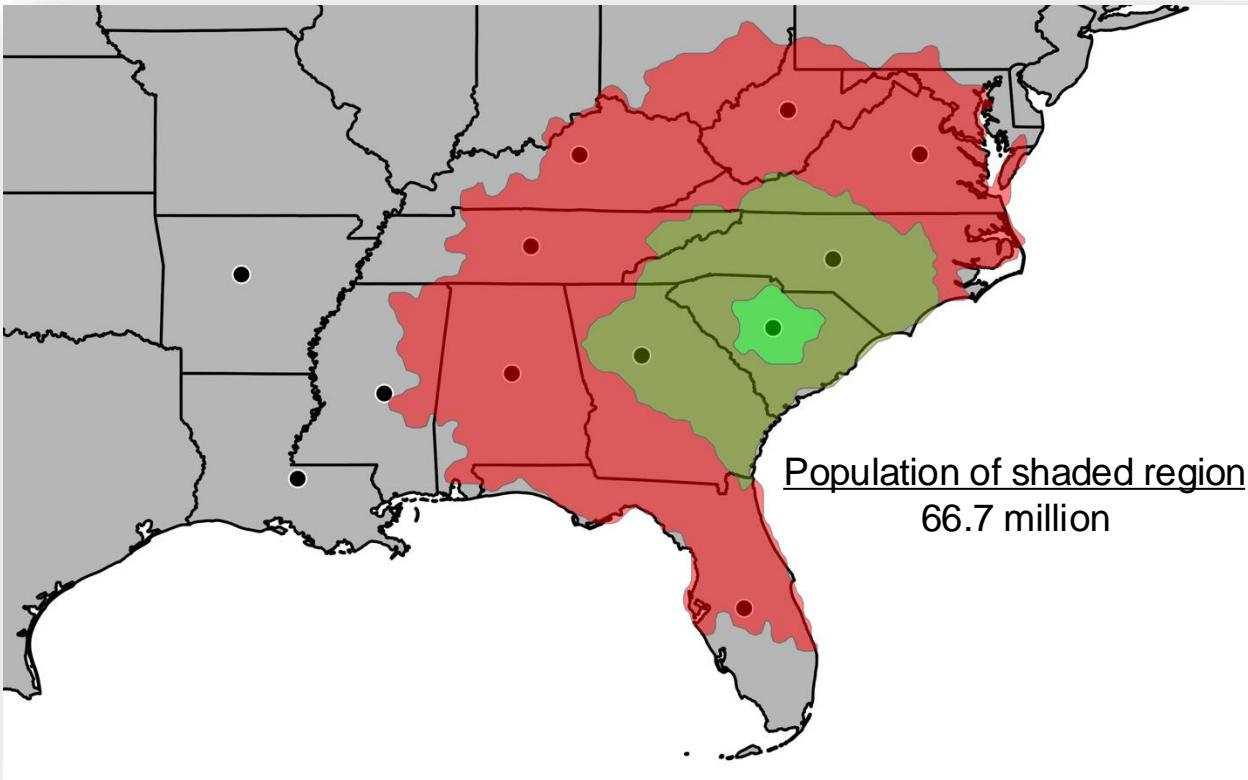
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# *Drive Times from Population Centroids*



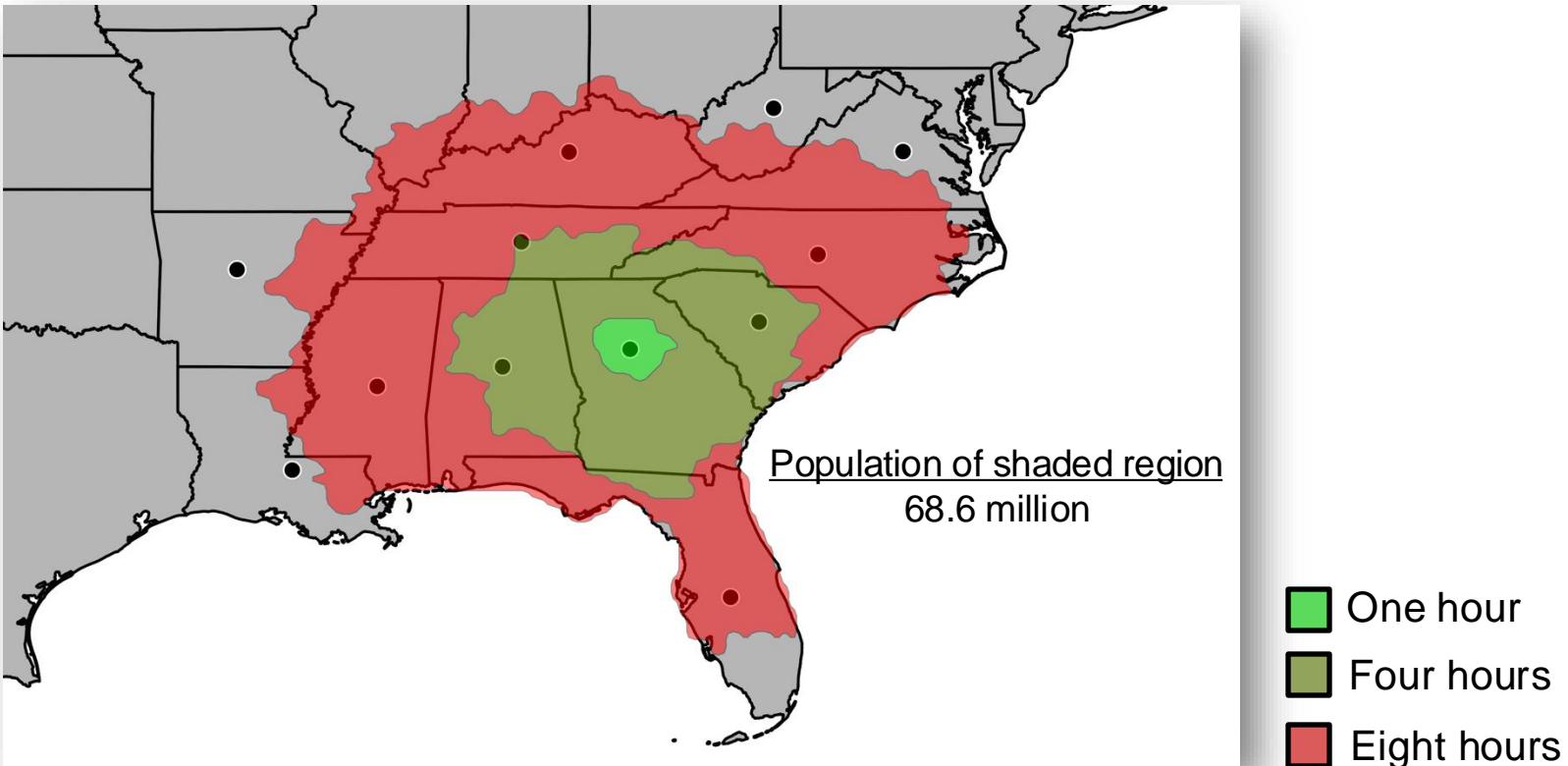
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# *Drive Times from Population Centroids*



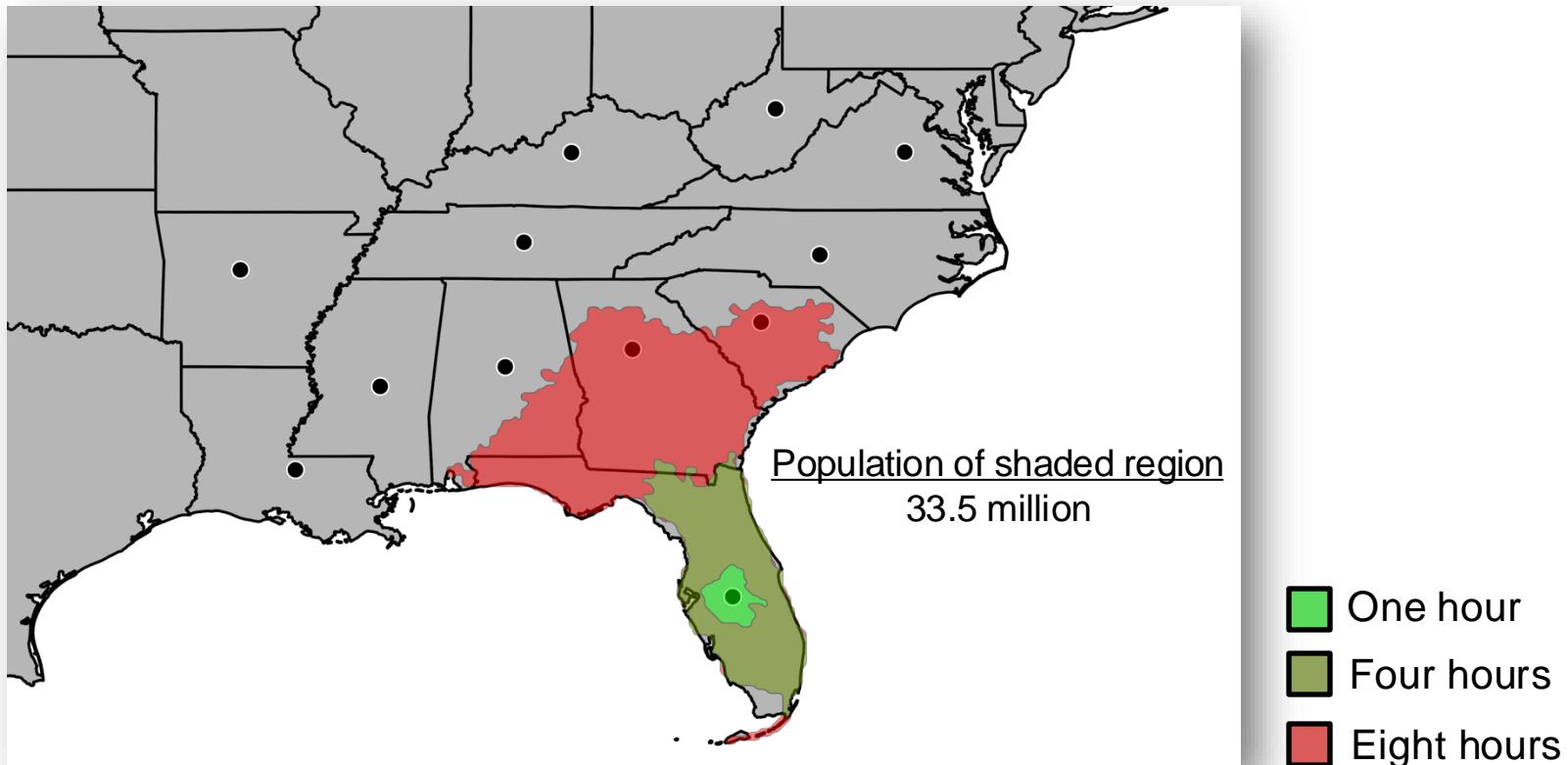
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# *Drive Times from Population Centroids*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# *Drive Times from Population Centroids*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Characteristics of S.C. Newcomers

- *More educated* ➔ *33% have a 4-year degree vs. 25% of current South Carolina residents*
- *Higher income* ➔ *Median family income is 17% higher than current S.C. residents*
- *More likely to be working* ➔ *66% are in the labor force vs. 60% of existing residents*

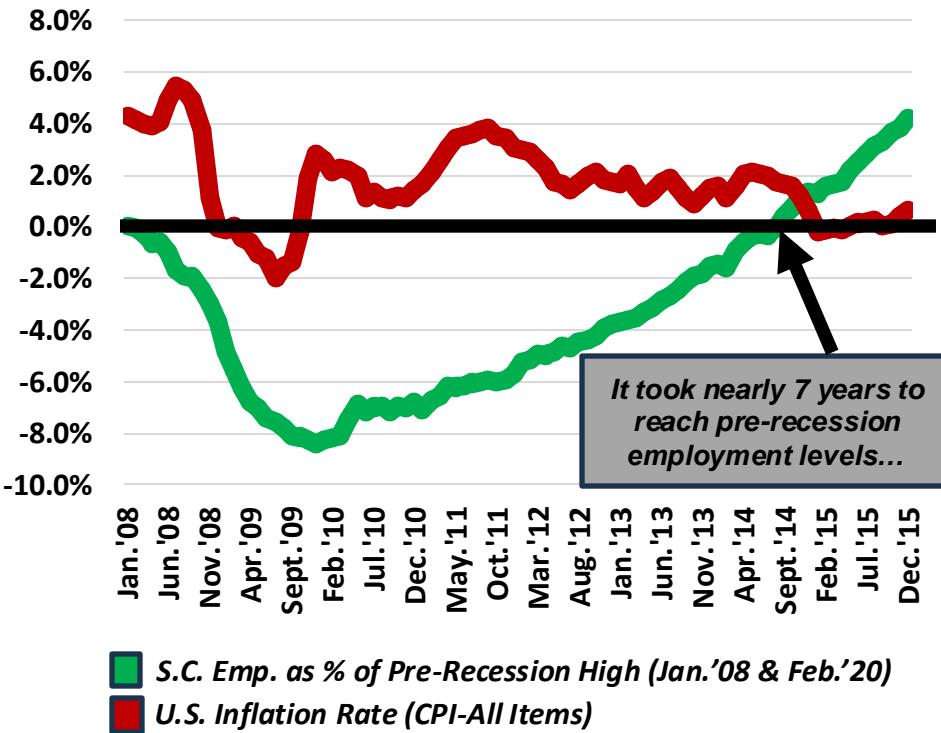
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# 2025: A New Era

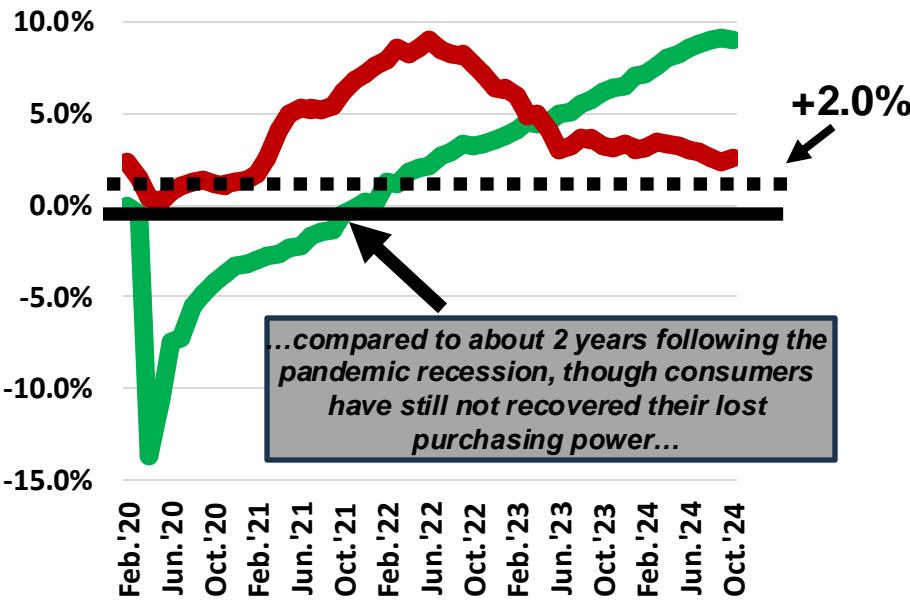
Finally Moving Away from the  
Pandemic Bubble and Towards  
Sustainable Growth Rates

# A Tale of Two Recoveries

## The Great Recession

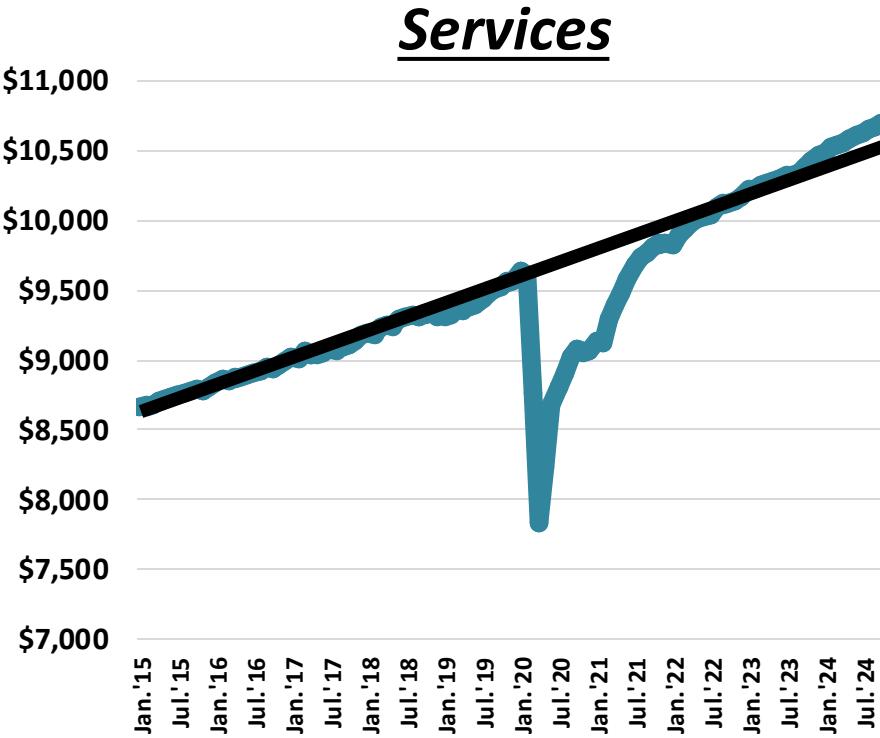
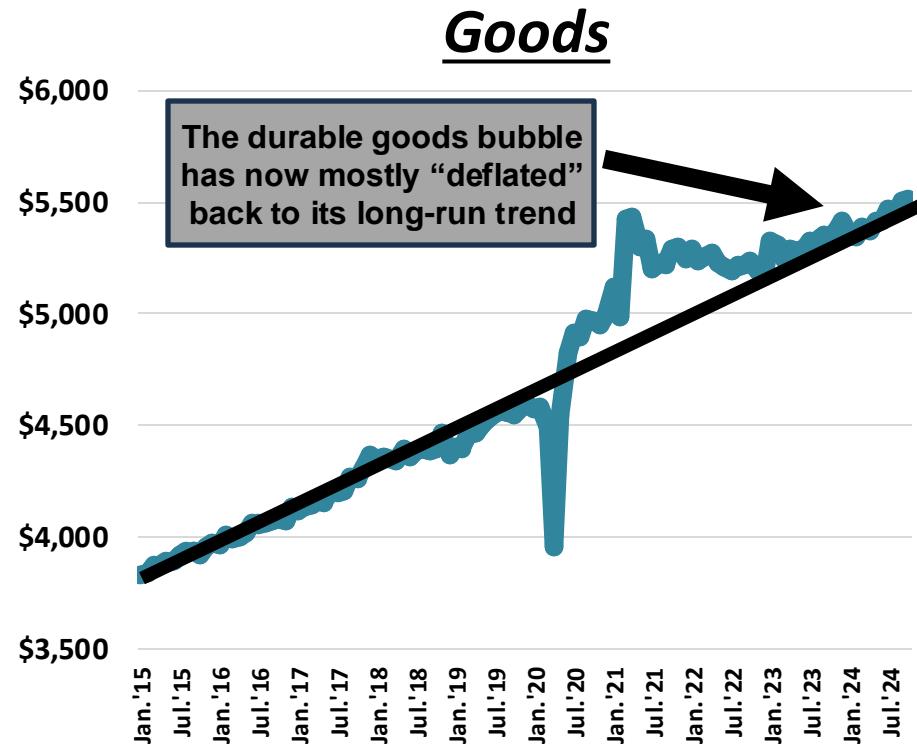


## The COVID-19 Pandemic



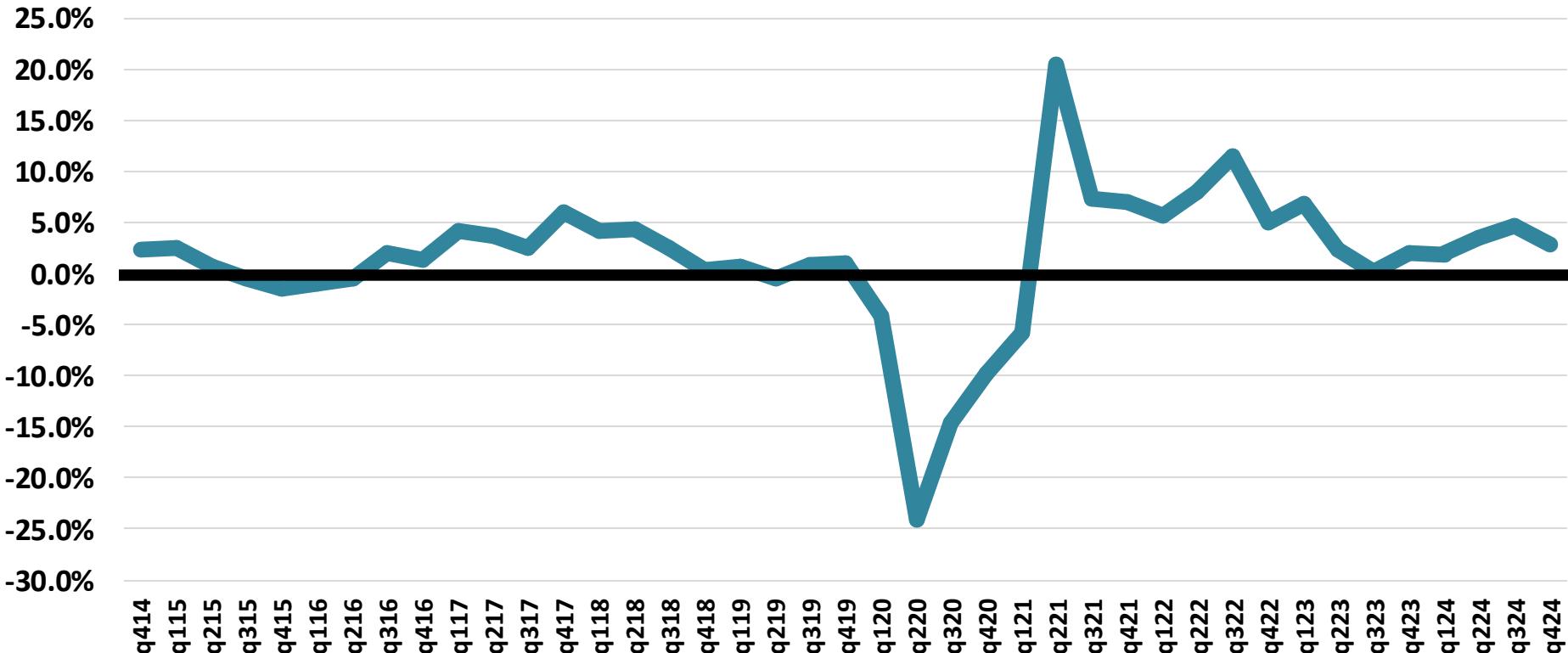
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Real U.S. Consumer Spending



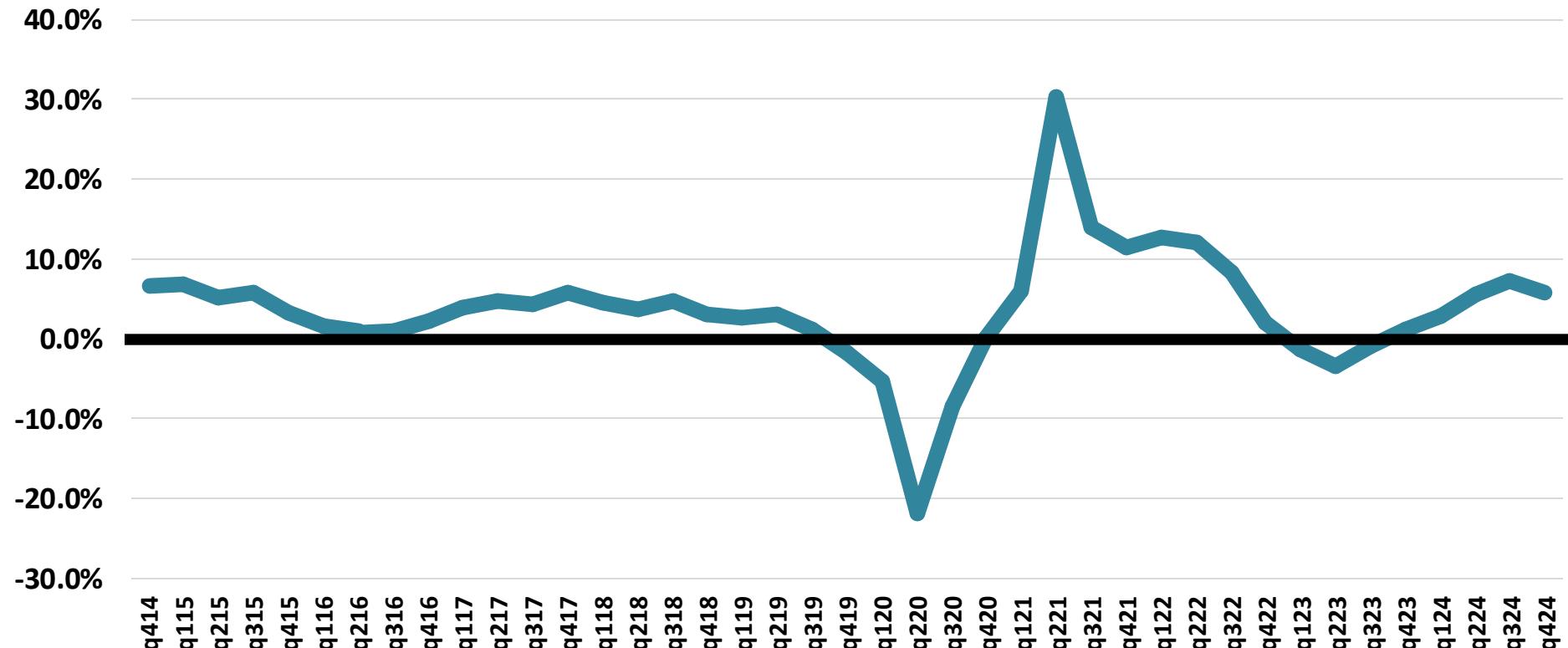
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, in billions

# *Real U.S. Annual Export Growth*



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

# *Real U.S. Annual Import Growth*

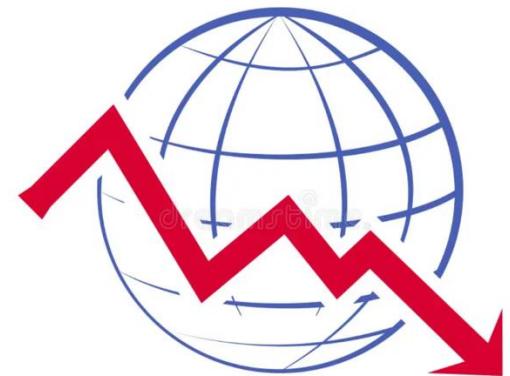


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

# *What About the Labor Market?*

# Unemployment Rates Are On The Rise

	<u>Jan.'24</u>	<u>Jan.'25</u>
<u>S.C.</u>	3.0%	4.7% (Dec.'24)
<u>U.S.</u>	3.7%	4.0%



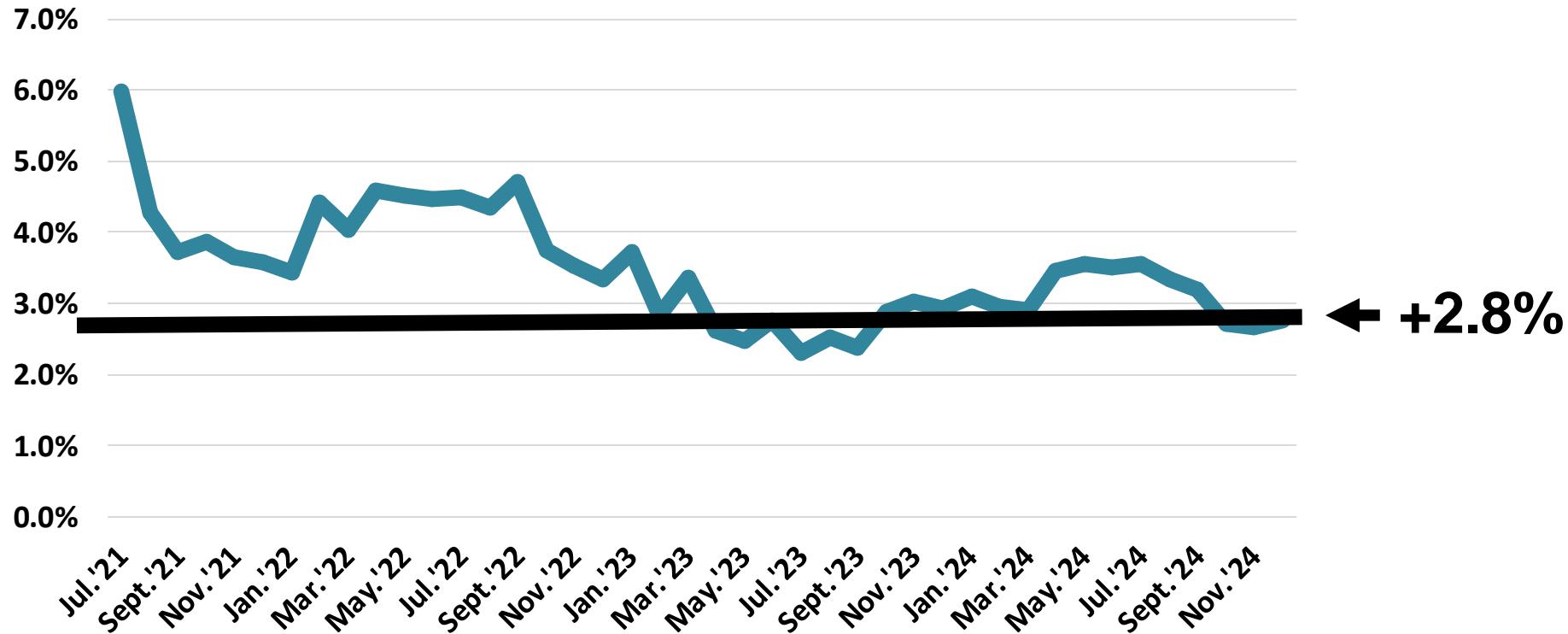
→ *Is a Recession Looming?*

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Unemployment is rising due  
to slower job growth...**

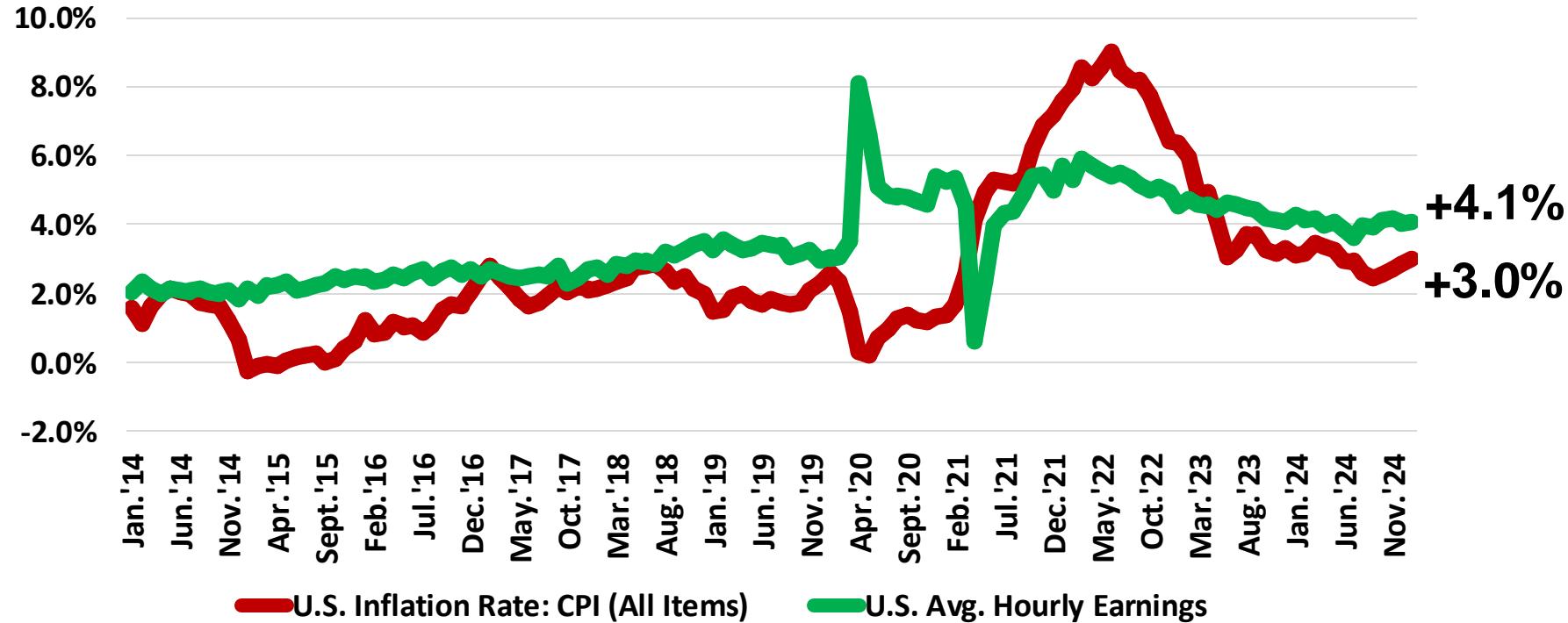
**...not due to increased  
layoff activity**

# *Total South Carolina Employment Growth*



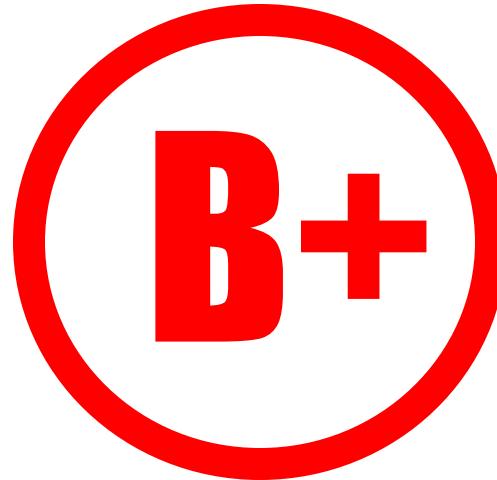
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# *U.S. Wage Growth and Inflation Rates*



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Grading the Economy



Economic growth remains steady and unemployment is low, though consumers have lost significant purchasing power...

# Assessing the Economic Impact of the Private Marine Terminals

*(1) Direct Operations*

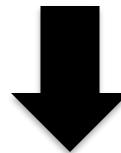
*(2) Indirect (Support) Operations*

*(3) Terminal Users*

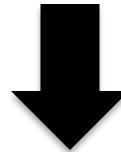


# Economic Impact Analysis

*Initial change in economic activity (e.g., new business formation)*



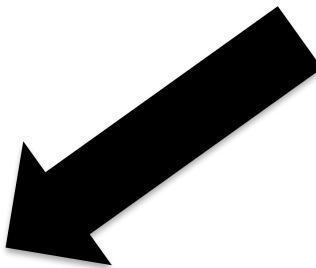
*Spending activity*



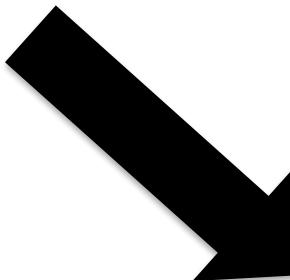
*Economic activity (GDP), Job creation, Income creation*

# Economic Impact Analysis

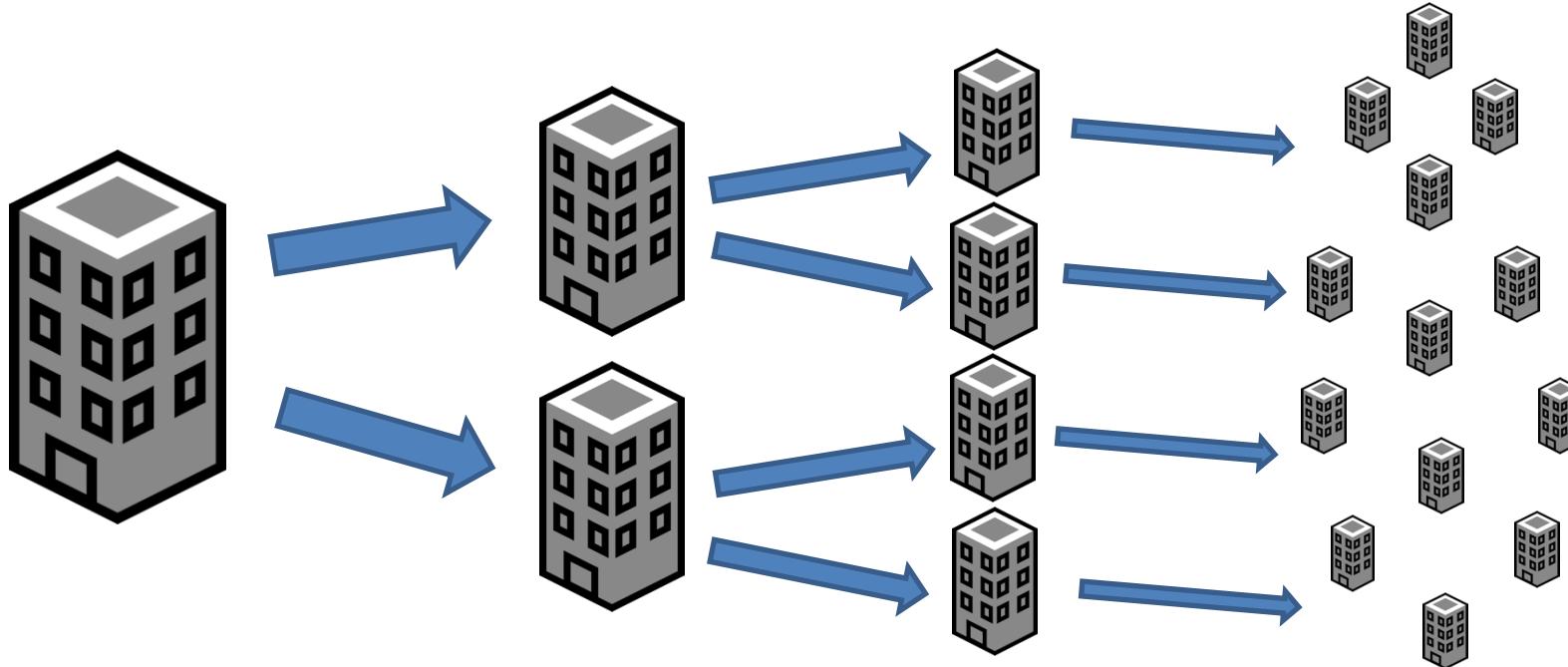
*Direct Effects*



*Indirect Effects  
(Supply Chain Multiplier)*



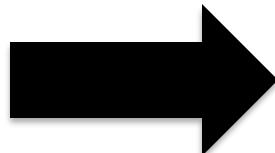
*Induced Effects  
(Household Spending Multiplier)*



# *The Economic Multiplier Effect*

# *The Current Economic Impact of the Private Marine Terminals*

	Employment	Labor Income	Total Impact
Direct Effect	5,069	\$616,155,644	\$3,948,796,694
Multiplier Effect	12,746	\$761,748,034	\$2,580,137,116
<b>Total Impact</b>	<b>17,815</b>	<b>\$1,377,903,678</b>	<b>\$6,528,933,810</b>

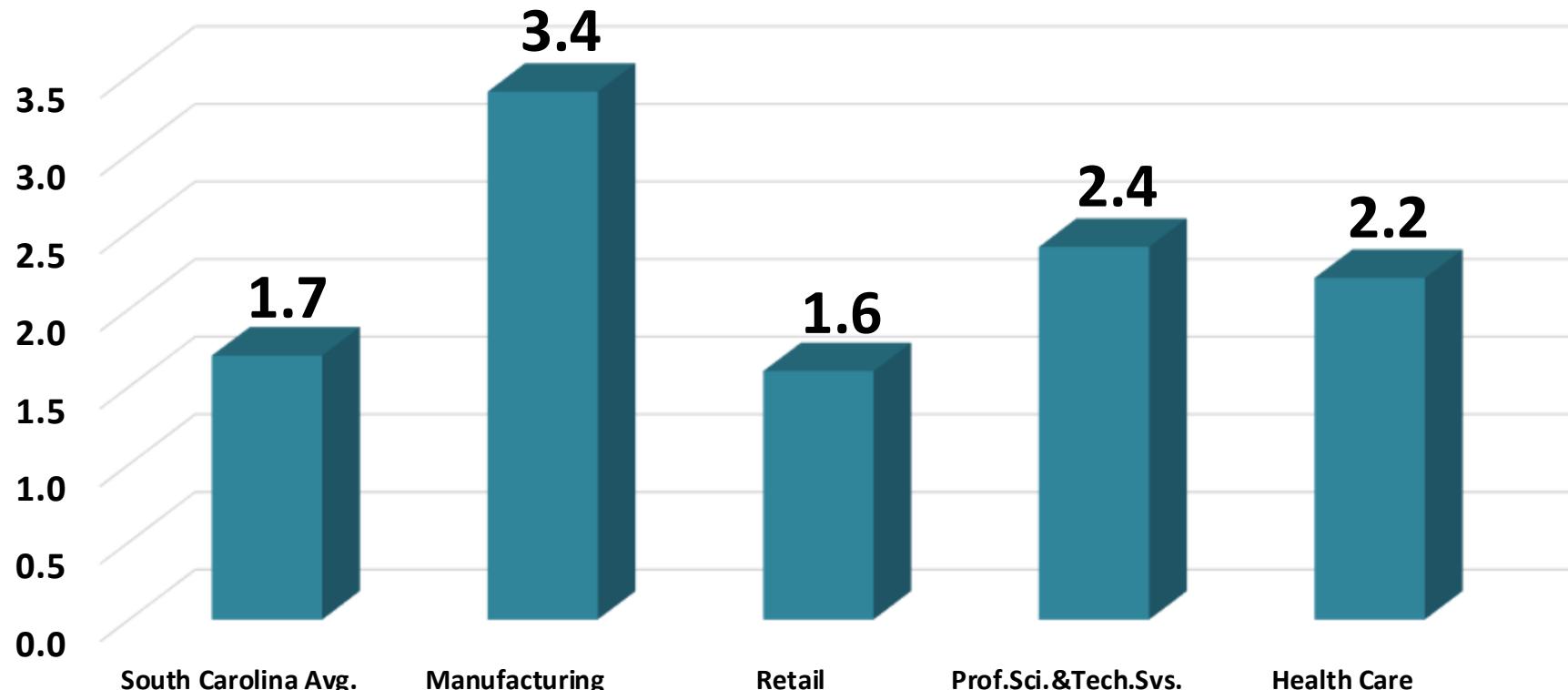


*South Carolina's private marine terminals currently facilitate more than \$6.5 billion in annual statewide economic activity*

# *The Current Economic Impact of the Private Marine Terminals*

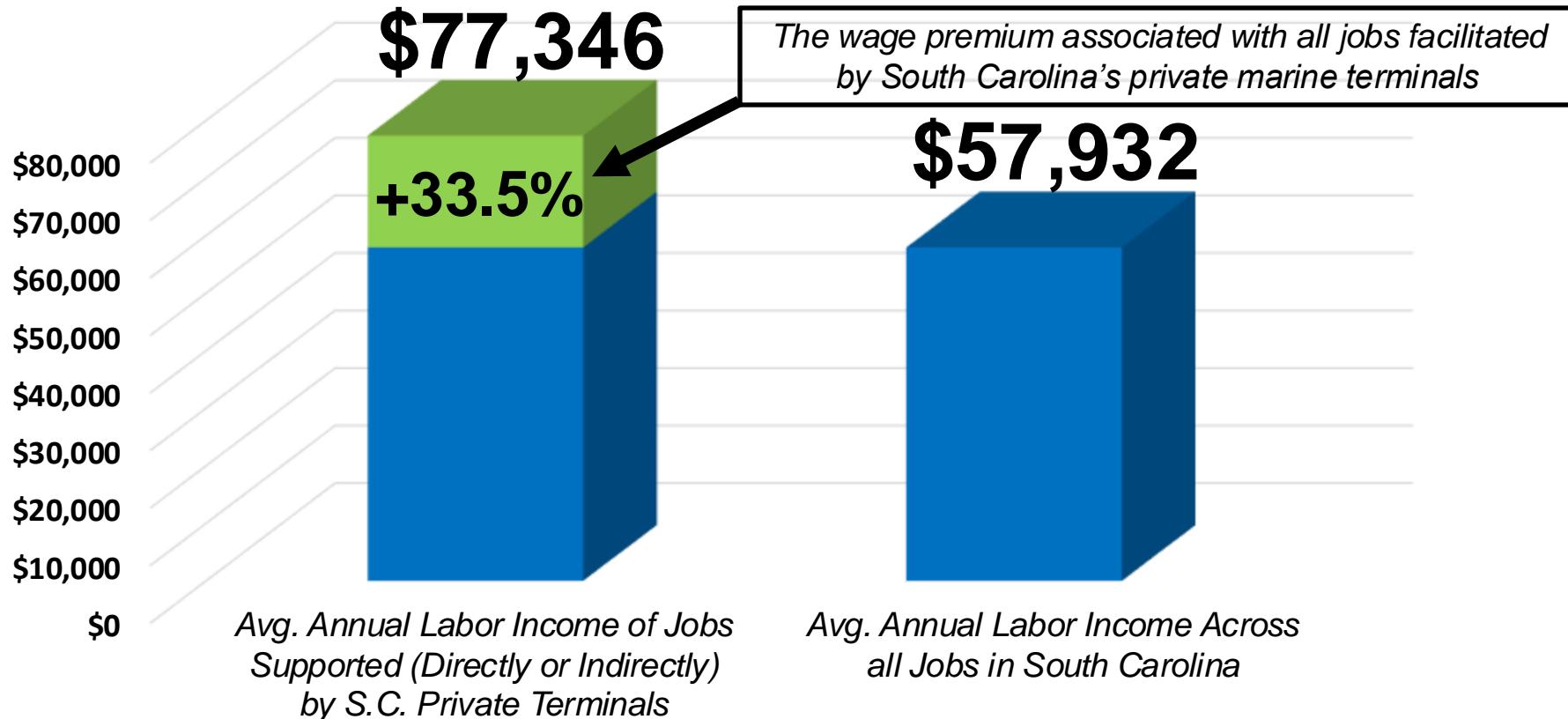
- *The private marine terminals support in-state businesses that maintain an average employment multiplier of 3.5.*
- *For every 10 jobs created through terminal operations and terminal users, an additional 25 jobs are created elsewhere in South Carolina – for a total of 35 jobs.*
- *This employment multiplier is significantly higher than the average for South Carolina (at 1.7) and is largely the result of the significant support that these terminals provide to the manufacturing industry.*

# *Selected S.C. Employment Multipliers*



*Note: Multipliers denote averages across the largest subsectors within each industry*

# *Annual Labor Income Comparisons*

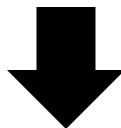


# *Annual State Tax Revenue Derived from Economic Activity Facilitated by S.C. Private Marine Terminals*

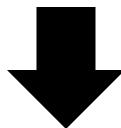
<b>Category</b>	<b>Dollar Value</b>
Current Annual Economic Impact	\$6,528,933,810
Estimated Annual Tax Revenue Generated for S.C.	\$99,439,723

# The Bottom Line

*Private marine terminals are critical assets for  
South Carolina's economy*



*Why?*



*They broaden the import/export capacity of  
the state seaports*

# *Thank You!*