

# Breakout IV: So A Recession is Coming... What Can We Do To Prepare for It?

#A0BA23

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# Session Presenters



Erica is a former FDIC examiner and banker who is a principal and national leader for CLA's (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) Credit Risk Services. With over 20 years of experience, Erica utilizes her experience as former regulator, bank risk director, and commercial lender to lead the credit risk team and work with financial services companies across the country to assess overall loan portfolio quality, evaluate credit risk identification procedures, and assess the overall effectiveness of credit administration practices.



Susan is a CPA with 25 years of combined experience in public accounting and the financial services industry, including experience with Fortune 500 financial services companies. Susan serves as the managing principal of CLA's (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) financial services practice. Her responsibilities include providing engagement oversight in the areas of assurance and internal audit. In addition, Susan provides board advisory and management consulting services in the areas of strategic planning and mergers & acquisitions. Susan has been involved in multiple mergers & acquisitions of sizes ranging from \$150 million to \$500 billion with engagement at all stages of the process.



# Today's Objectives



2023 Economic Outlook



2023 Lending Credit Risk Outlook



Actions You Can Take







# 2023 Economic Outlook

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# 2023 Outlook — Executive Summary



## Half Full

**Economy:** Robust consumer spending to continue.

**Industry:** Strong business profitability trends forecasted while the use of data insights and outsourcing should increase given labor shortages.

**Financial markets:** Attractive valuations in both equity, fixed income and alternative markets.

**Policy:** Congress and the Biden administration will work together on bipartisan and “must pass” legislation.

**Portfolios:** Well-constructed portfolios can participate in market upside while mitigating volatility to help achieve your goals.



## Half Empty

**Economy:** Slowing GDP growth expected in 2023.

**Industry:** Tight labor markets and rising cost of capital may challenge unprepared business owners.

**Financial markets:** Expect more restrictive credit conditions as the Federal Reserve continues to withdraw liquidity in a bid to fight inflation.

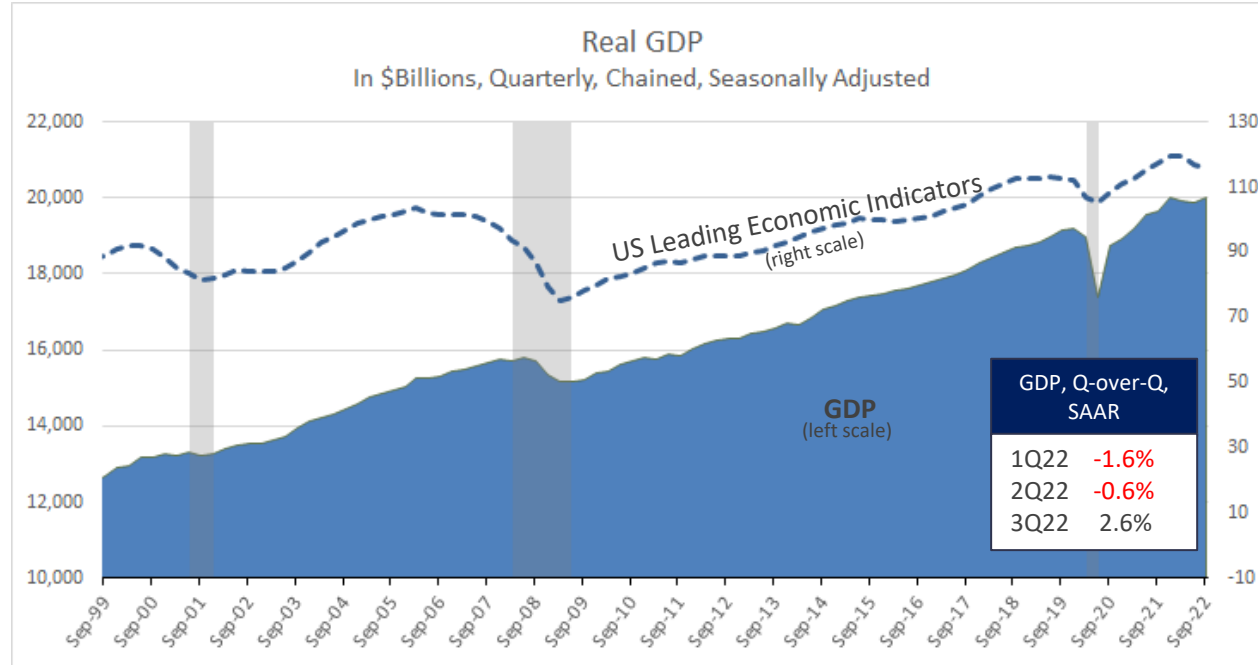
**Policy:** A divided government may result in gridlock.

**Portfolios:** Recoveries take time and reward patient long-term investors rather than market-timers.



# Macroeconomy: GDP

GDP growth is slowing — but still resilient



Grey areas denote recessions.

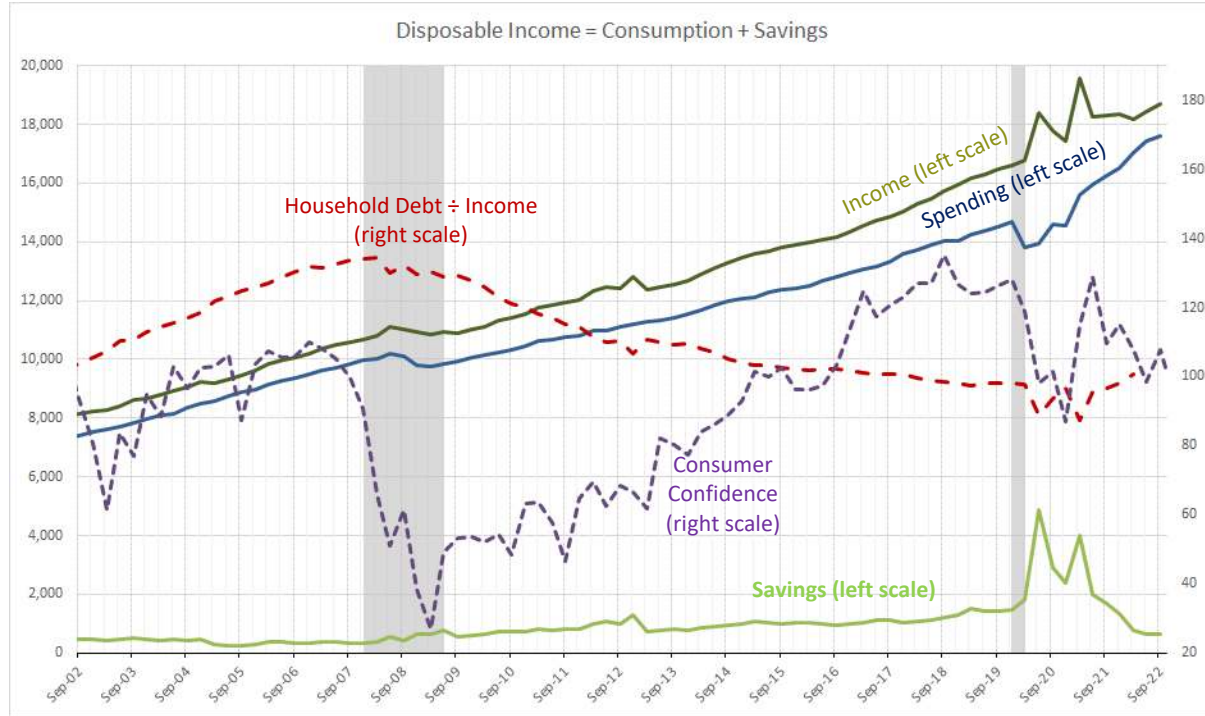
Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis, Conference Board, National Bureau of Economic Research, Bloomberg, CLA Wealth Advisors





# Macroeconomy: Consumer

Healthy consumer spending and income levels despite lower savings



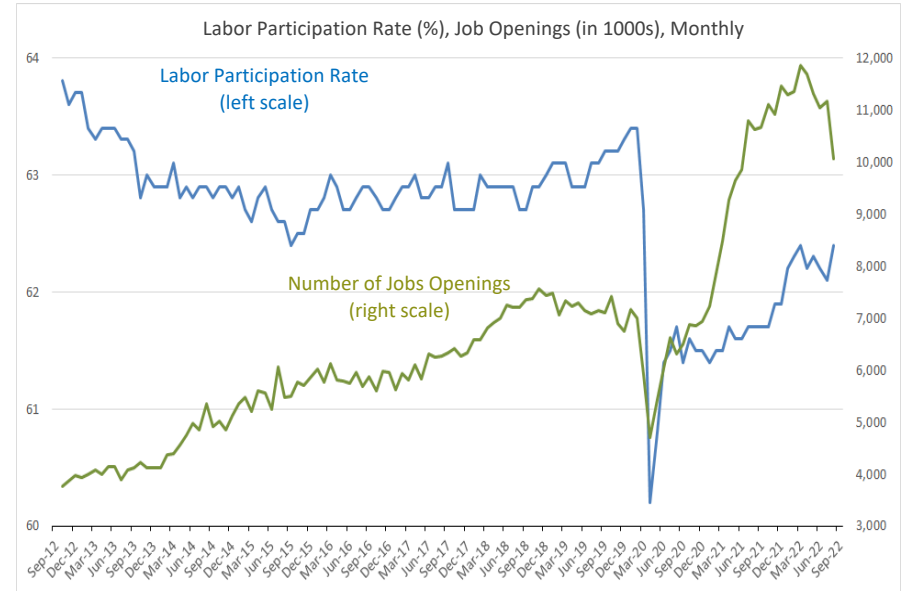
Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis, Federal Reserve, Conference Board, Bloomberg, CLA Wealth Advisors

Grey areas denote recessions.



# Macroeconomy

Low unemployment remains, making it tough to find labor



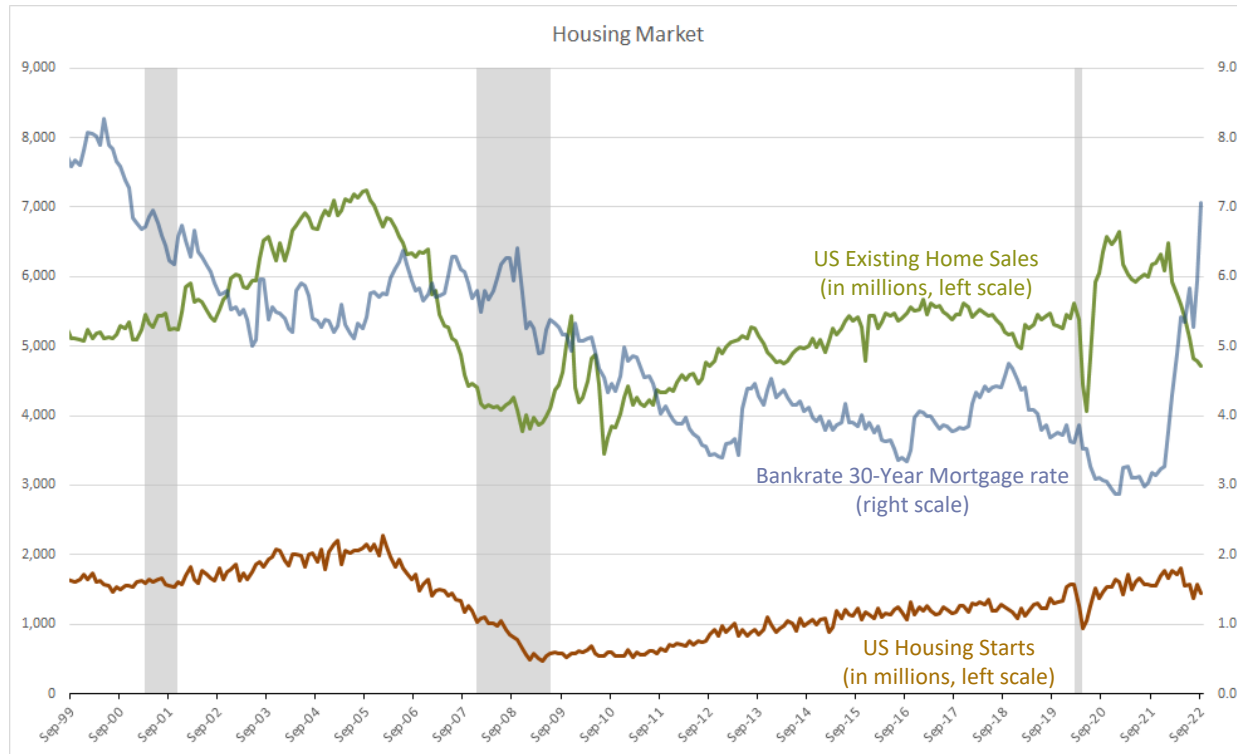
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Atlanta Federal Reserve, Bloomberg, CLA Wealth Advisors

Grey areas denote recessions.



# Macroeconomy: Housing

Home sales are starting to fall due to higher mortgage rates



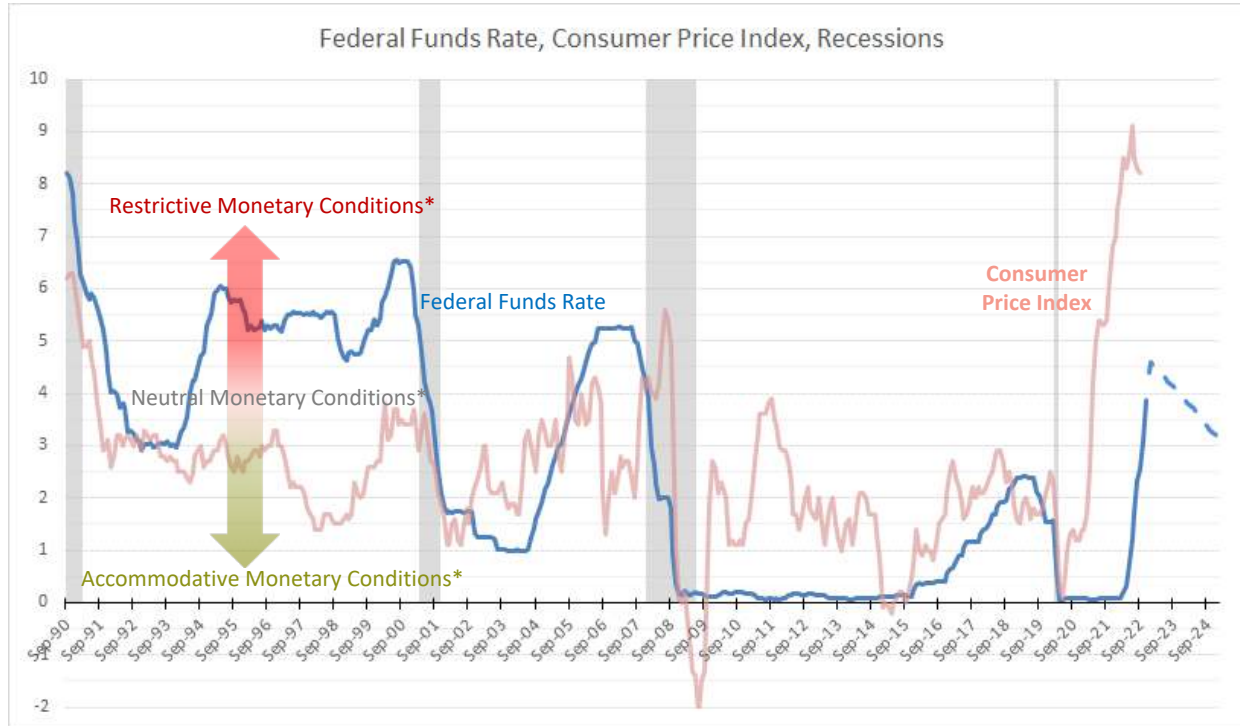
Source: Bankrate.com, National Assoc. of Realtors, U.S. Census Bureau, Bloomberg, CLA Wealth Advisors

Grey areas denote recessions.



# Federal Reserve Policy

The Fed may raise rates from 0% in 2022 to ~ 5% in 2023



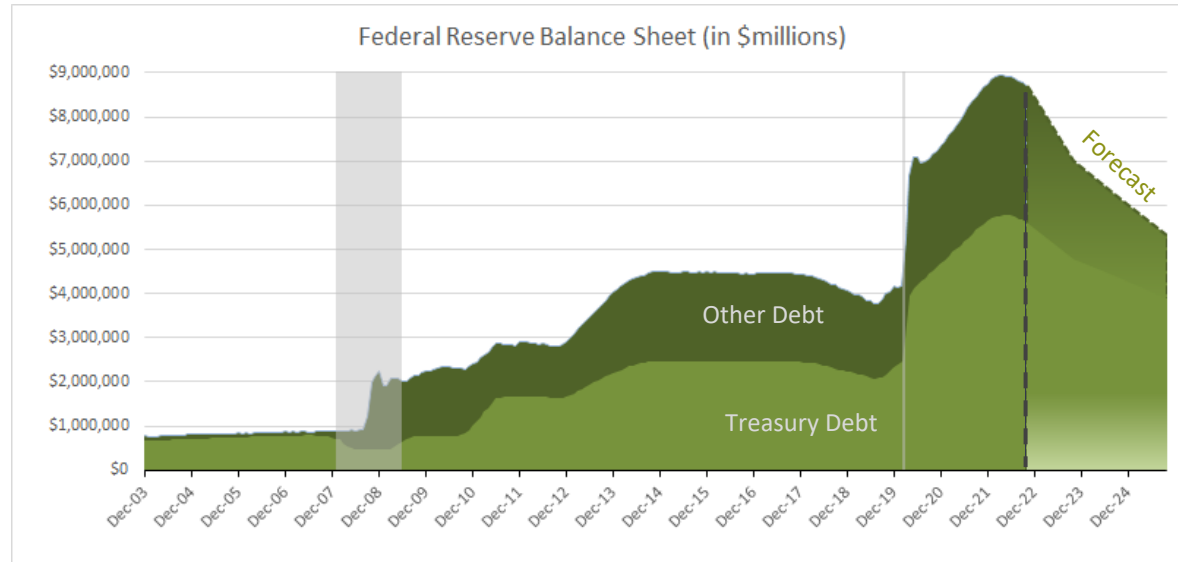
Source: Federal Reserve Board, Bloomberg, NBER, CLA Wealth Advisors

Grey areas denote recessions.



# Federal Reserve Policy

Further tightening seen with \$95bln / month of balance sheet runoff



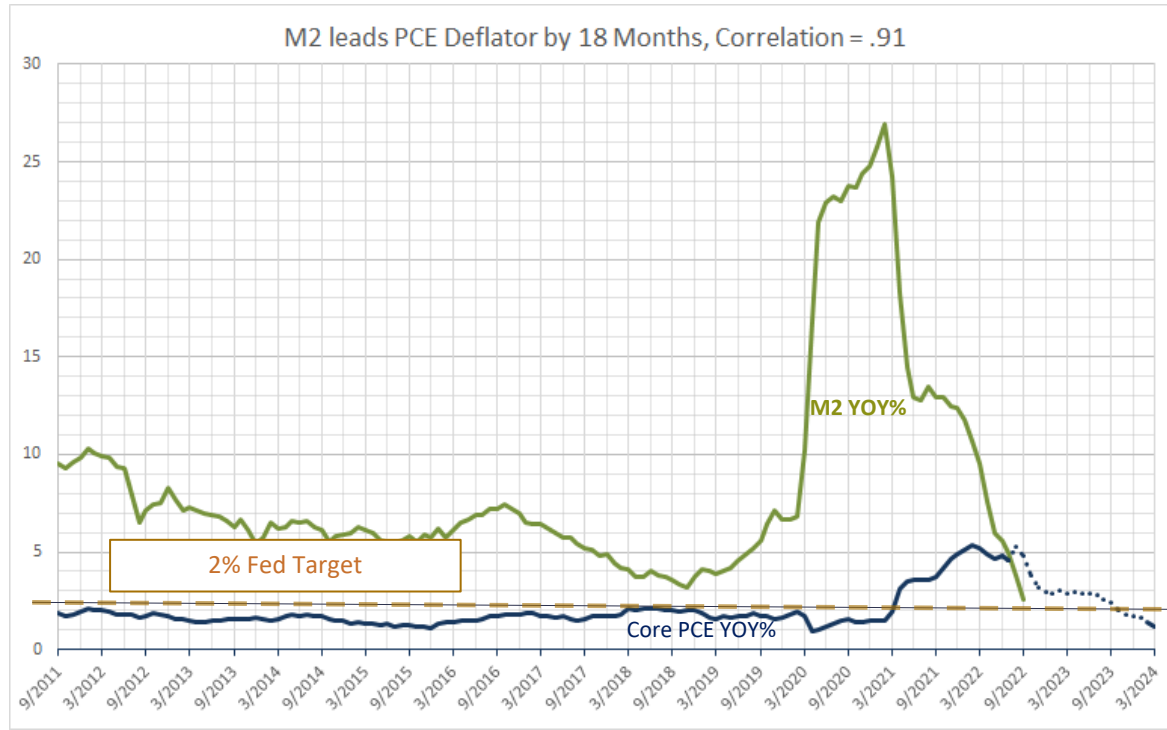
Grey areas denote recessions.

Source: Bloomberg, Federal Reserve, NBER, CLA Wealth Advisors



# Federal Reserve Policy

Inflation has likely peaked and should normalize by early 2024



Source: Bloomberg, CLA Wealth Advisors







# 2023 Lending Credit Risk Outlook

# Current Credit Conditions



**STRONG ASSET  
QUALITY**



**LOAN GROWTH  
OPPORTUNITIES**



**ADEQUATE  
CAPITAL LEVELS**



**STAFFING  
CHALLENGES**

# Credit Cycles: Where are we now?

## Expansion

- Increasing Leverage
- EBITDA Peak Growth
- Narrow Credit Spreads; Greater Risk Tolerance

## Downturn

- Increasing leverage
- Decreasing EBITDA Growth
- Widening Credit Spreads; Reduced Risk Tolerance
- Downgrades/Defaults

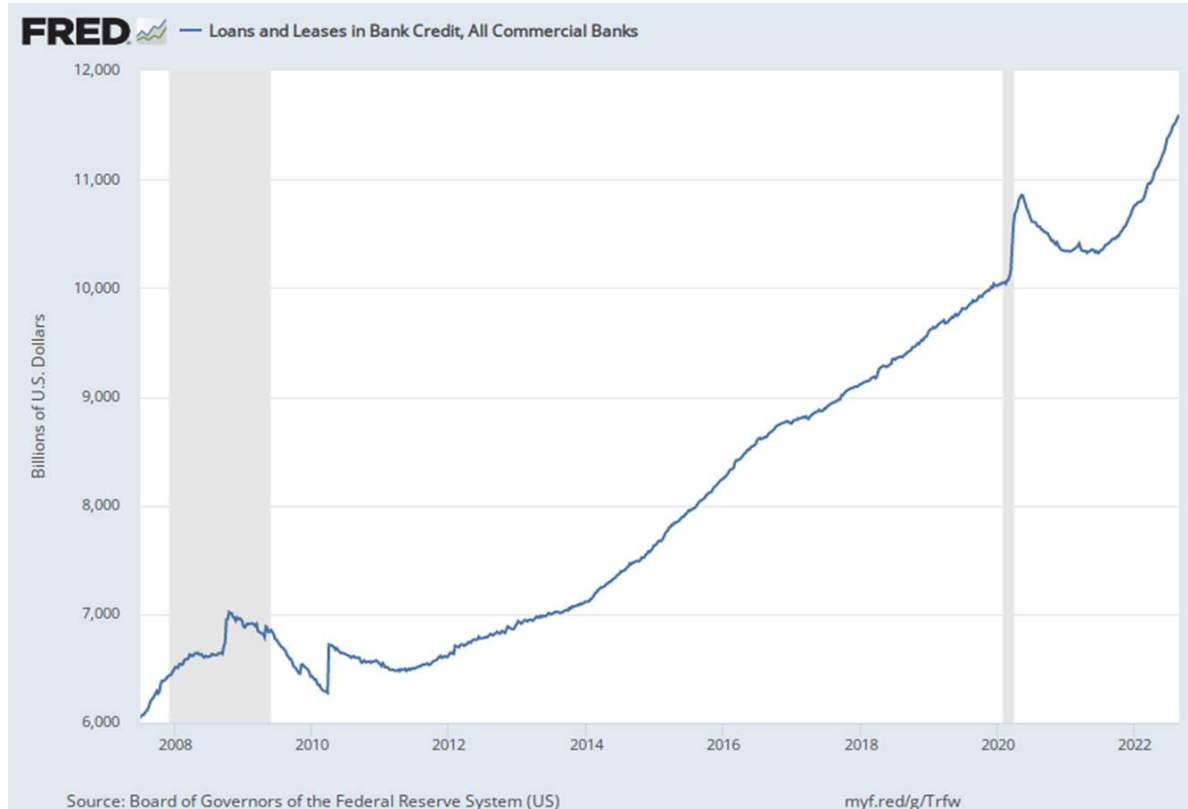
## Recovery

- Decreasing Leverage
- Stable EBITDA Growth
- Narrowing Credit Spreads

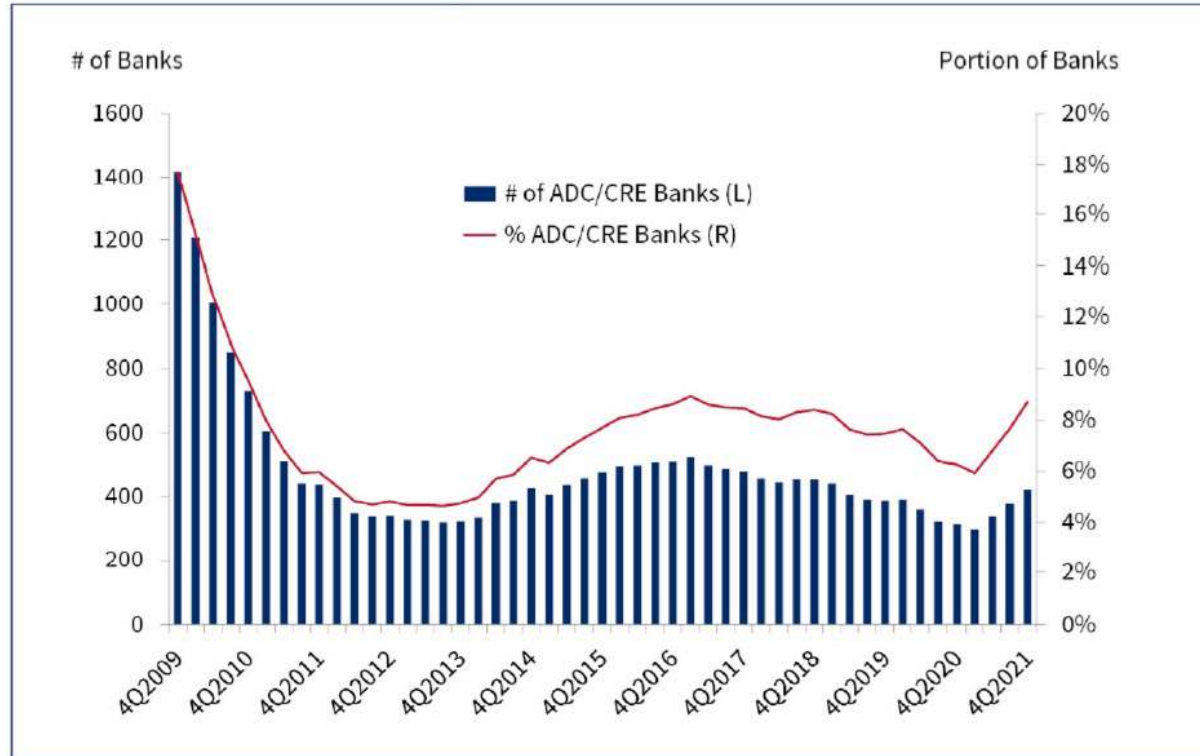
## Repair

- Decreasing Leverage
- Increasing EBITDA Growth
- Narrowing Credit Spreads
- Increased Refinance Activity

# Loan Growth: 2007 – 2022 (United States)



# Banks Exceeding CRE Supervisory Criteria

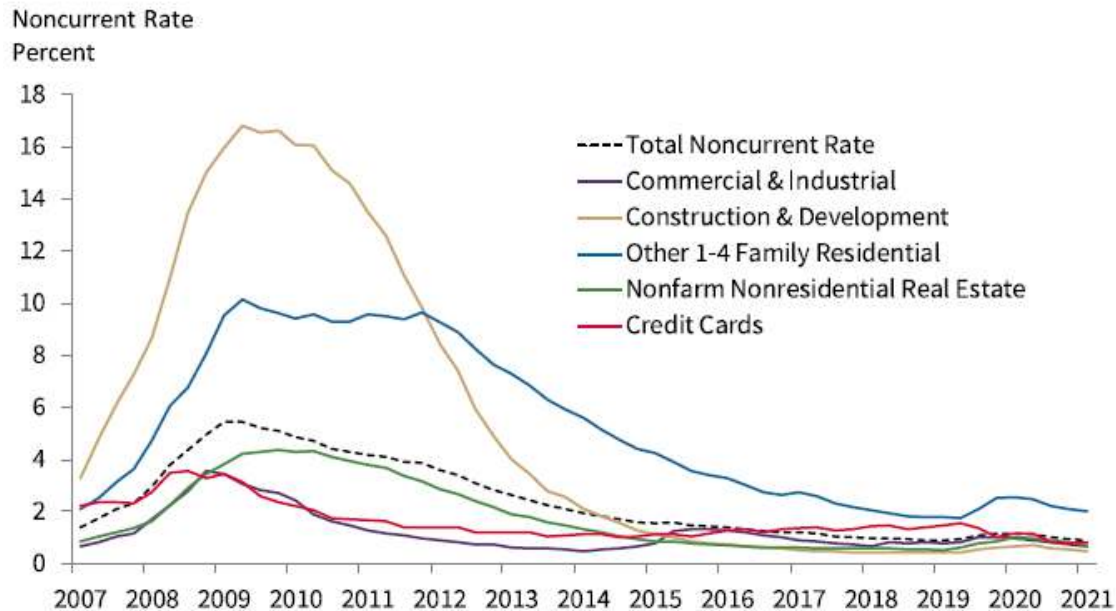


Source: FDIC; Consolidated Reports of Condition and Income.



# Nonperforming Loans by Loan Category

**Despite Early Concerns at the Onset of the Pandemic, Noncurrent Rates Are at Low Levels**



*“The best credit quality we’ve ever experienced”*

Source: FDIC.

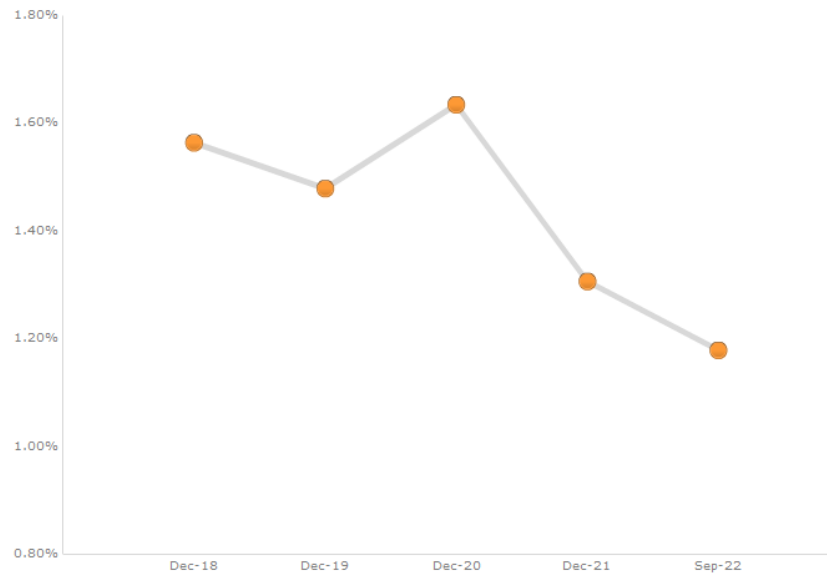
Note: Percent of loans that are 90 days or more past due or in nonaccrual status.





# Delinquencies and Net Charge-offs

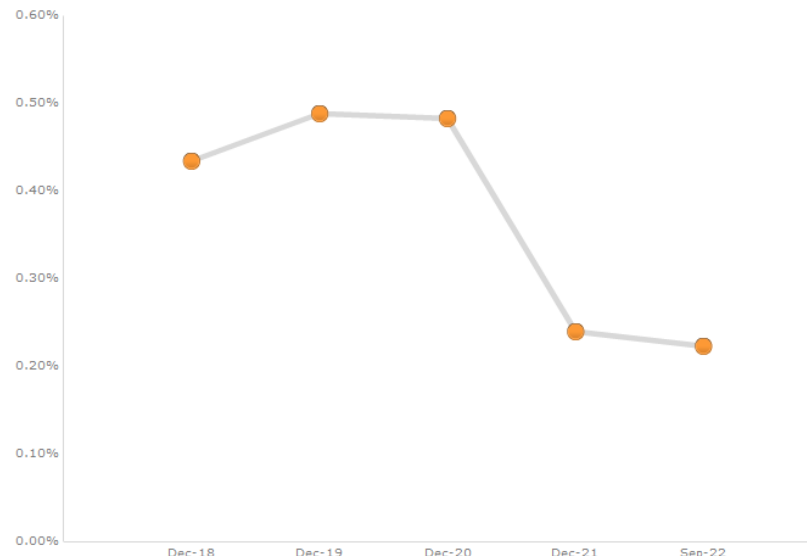
## Total Delinquencies to Loans



National Average

1.56%	1.48%	1.63%	1.31%	1.18%
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## Net Charge-offs to Loans



National Average

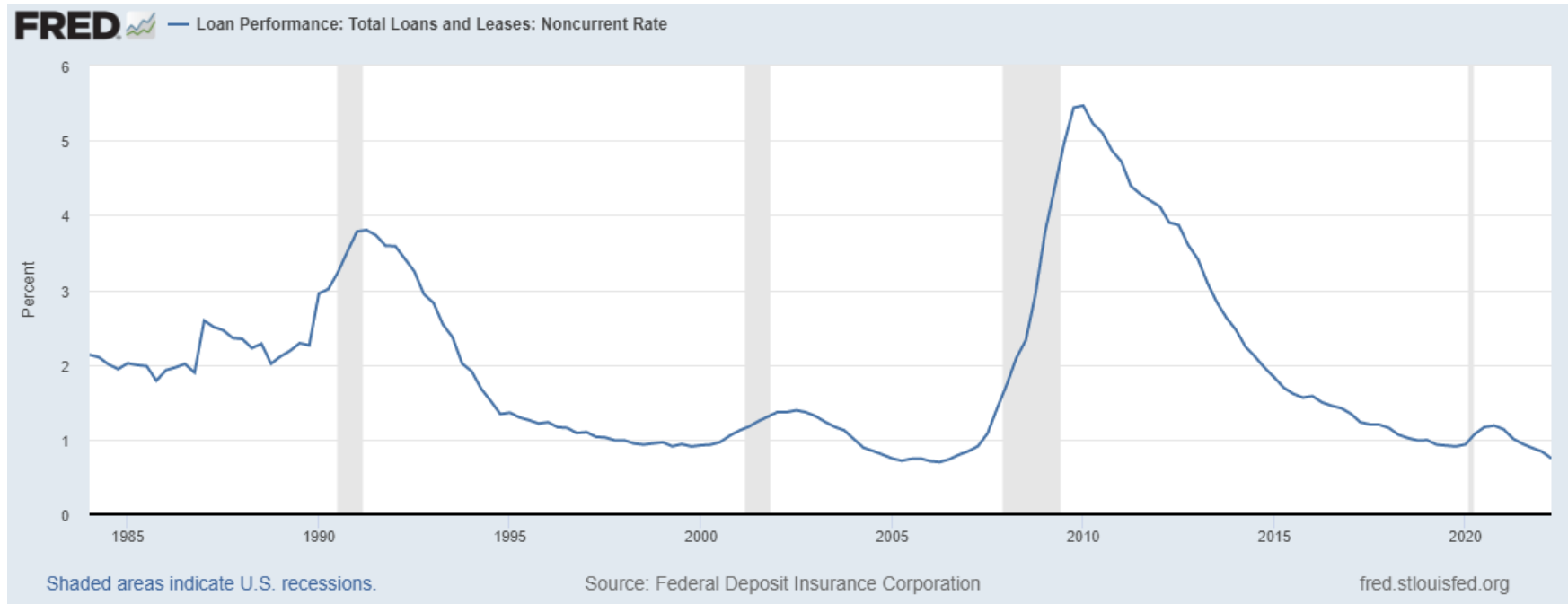
0.43%	0.49%	0.48%	0.24%	0.22%
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# Then & Now: Crisis & Credit Stress

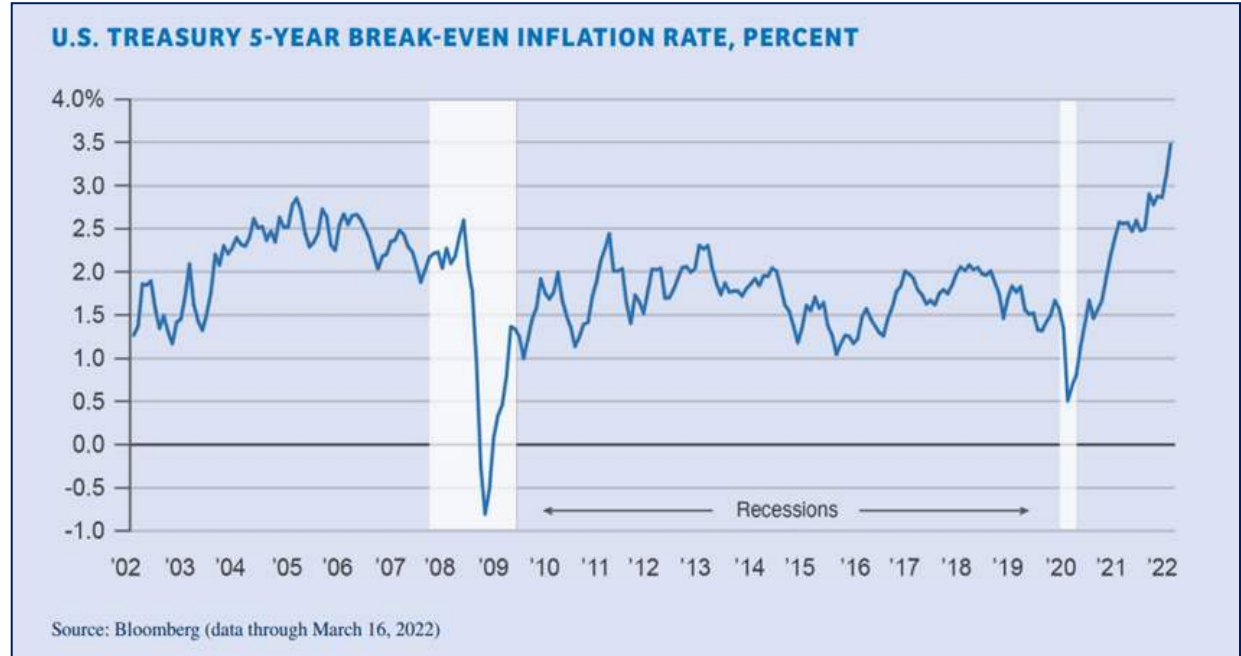


# Historical Credit Stress During Recession



# Current Headwinds and Interest Rate Environment

- Inflation at highest pace in 40 years
- Interest rates increasing rapidly
- Rising rates, falling jobs



# Additional Considerations for Credit Impact

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## **Banks better postured for downturn**

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Credit staffing shortages

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Collection of updated financials for ongoing monitoring – leniency from COVID gone; timely collection and review essential to identify red flags

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Opportunities to identify where your bank can take on additional risk based on current portfolio composition

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CRE concentrations – additional emphasis; growing or slowing?

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# Additional Considerations for Credit Impact

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Decreasing liquidity of borrowers as rates increase, expenses balloon, and supply chain issues persist

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Potential for repayment issues as cash flow constricts

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Refinance risk increasing given interest rate fluctuations

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Problem loan management – ready or not?

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OCC 2023 Exam Priorities (Credit): focus on commercial real estate performance specifically regarding office, hotel, and retail properties

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# Actions You Can Take

# Actions You Can Take



Reduce Risk



Communicate



Document



Monitor

# Reduce Risk

1

Tighten lending  
standards

2

Diversify loan  
portfolios

3

Hedge against  
potential losses



# Communicate



Reach out to your most vulnerable customers — commercial and consumer.



Consider forming an internal group and assign individual ownership of your critical lines of communication — regulators, auditors, customers, vendors, and employees



# Document



## Keep Notes

Keep notes from your conversations with borrowers. Listen to their needs and measure their reaction.



## Assess

Assess your loan portfolio by industry type and/or risk characteristics. Utilize NAIC codes in the core system to evaluate your portfolio. Be cognizant of upstream and downstream impacts to industries.



## Remain Aligned

Strive to remain aligned with your current policies. Document any changes in policies and procedures.

# Monitor

Remain connected  
to higher risk  
customers.



Meet regularly,  
internally. Be  
prepared to react,  
as necessary.



# Credit Risk Monitoring

- Rising rate environment – how will borrowers perform as interest rates continue to increase?
  - Stress Testing Model Review
  - Top Down vs. Bottom-Up Testing
- Stressed financial condition of borrowers may lead to liquidity crunch and credit performance issues
  - Underwriting Standards and Assumptions (Debt Yield calc, leverage, liquidity, financial covenants, etc.)
  - Problem Loan Management Assessment





# Additional Considerations for Recessionary Preparation

# Steps to Prepare for a Recessionary Period

## Strengthen

Strengthen capital and liquidity: Banks can build up their capital and liquidity buffers to help weather a potential downturn. This could involve retaining earnings, issuing new capital, or reducing dividends.



## Stay Up To Date

Stay up to date on regulatory changes: It's important for banks to stay informed about regulatory changes that may impact operations, and to ensure that they are compliant with all relevant regulations.



## Manage

Manage costs: Banks can also focus on cost management, for example by reducing expenses, streamlining operations, and increasing efficiency.





# About CLA

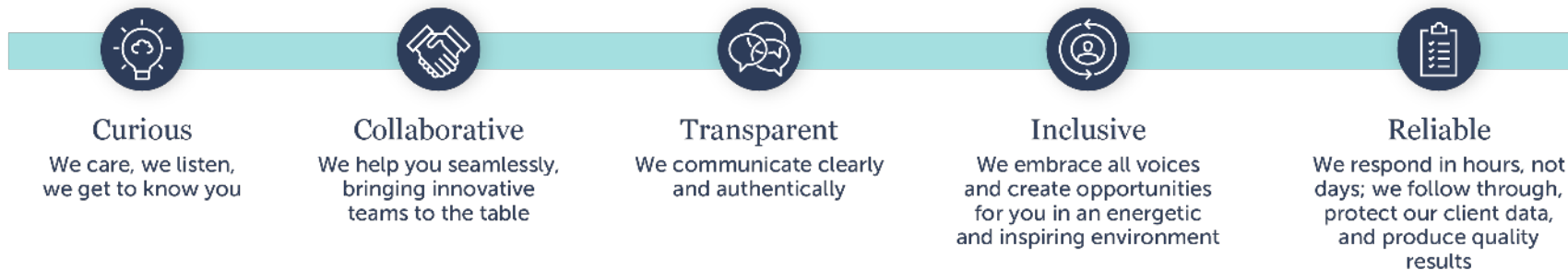
## Background and Knowledge

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# The Four Essential Elements of the CLA Promise



## Driven by **Our Values**



# Creating Opportunities for Our Clients

**232,000+**

Active clients

**120,000+**

Private households served

**73,000+**

Private businesses served

**10,300+**

Nonprofit organizations  
served

**4,200+**

Government organizations  
served

**640+**

Higher education  
organizations served

**4,800+**

Financial institutions served

**10,000+**

Health care organizations  
served

**7,700+**

Clients engaged in global  
capabilities

**5,840+**

Client engaging employee  
benefit plan capabilities

**33,200+**

Clients engaging outsourcing  
capabilities

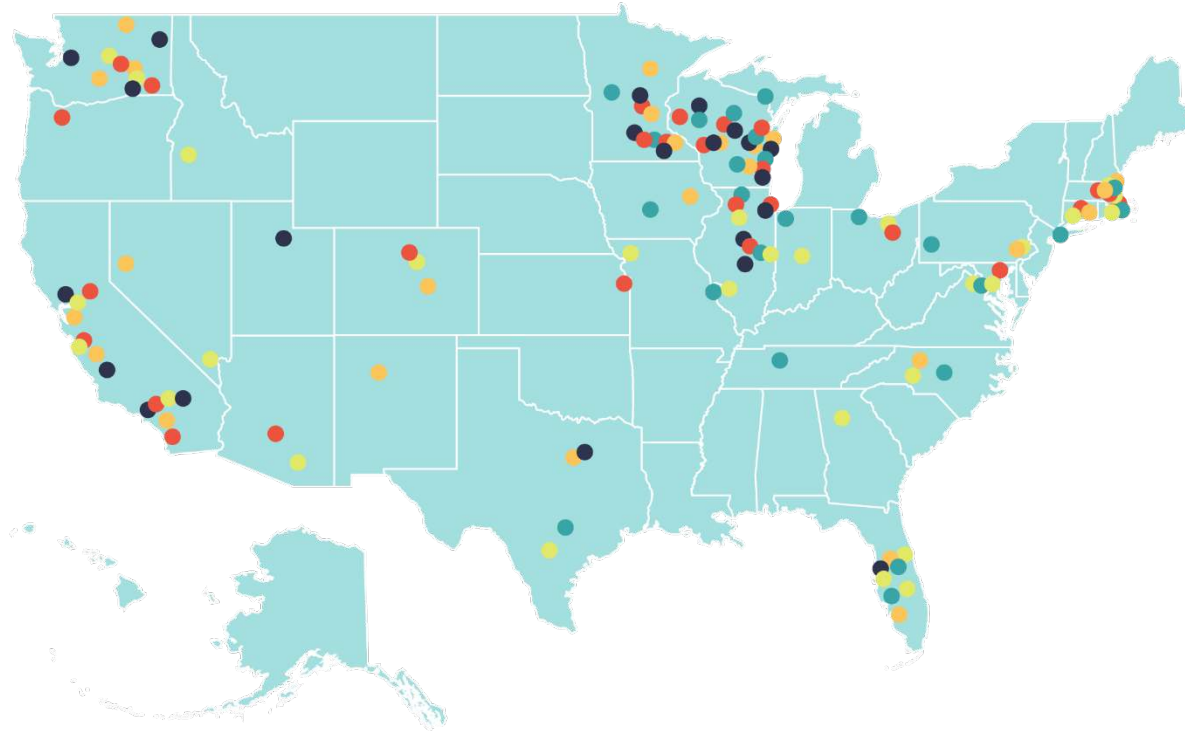
**6,850+**

Clients engaging wealth  
advisory capabilities

**9.1%**

Organic growth

# National and International Reach



CLA has more than 7,500 professionals, operating from 121 locations across the country.



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# THANK YOU!

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create opportunities —  
for our clients, our people,  
and our communities.