# **ECONOMIC UPDATE & OUTLOOK FOR 2024**







SCAG Economic Analysis Team

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#### **ACCELERATING THE REGION**

## **SCAG Economic Roundtable**

#### **IMPERIAL COUNTY**

**Michael Bracken**, Managing Partner & Chief Economist, Development Management Group, Inc.

#### LOS ANGELES COUNTY

**Shannon Sedgwick**, Director, Institute for Applied Economics, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation

#### **ORANGE COUNTY**

**Wallace Walrod**, Chief Economic Advisor, Orange County Business Council

#### **RIVERSIDE & SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES**

Manfred Keil, Robert Kleinhenz & Fernando Lozano, Inland Empire Economic Council

#### **VENTURA COUNTY (AND SCAG REGION)**

Mark Schniepp, Director, California Economic Forecast

#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

**David Roland-Holst**, Managing Director, Berkeley Economic Advising and Research

#### **EQUITY**

**Karthick Ramakrishnan**, Professor of Public Policy, University of California, Riverside





## **Economic Summit Resources**

The Regional Briefing Book, Event Program **Book and the Economic Update & Outlook** presentation are available. Scan the QR code.





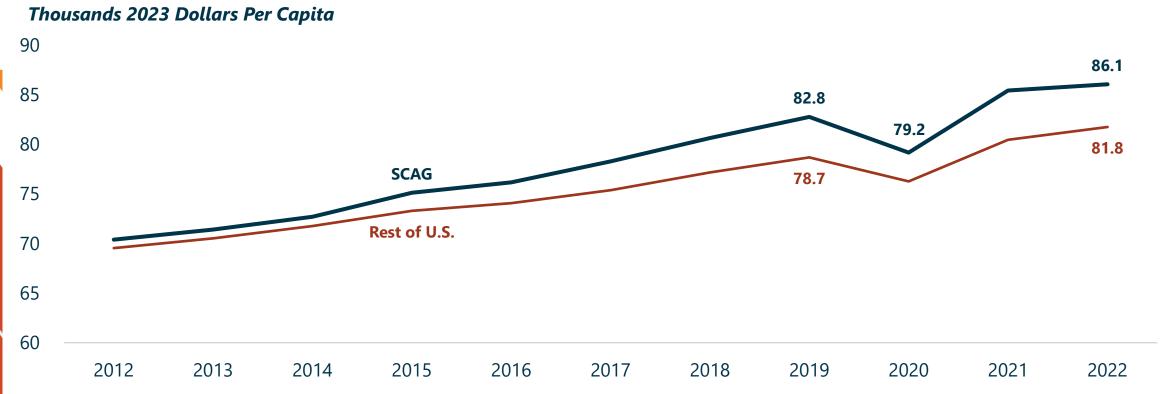






## SCAG REAL GDP PER CAPITA EXCEEDS U.S.

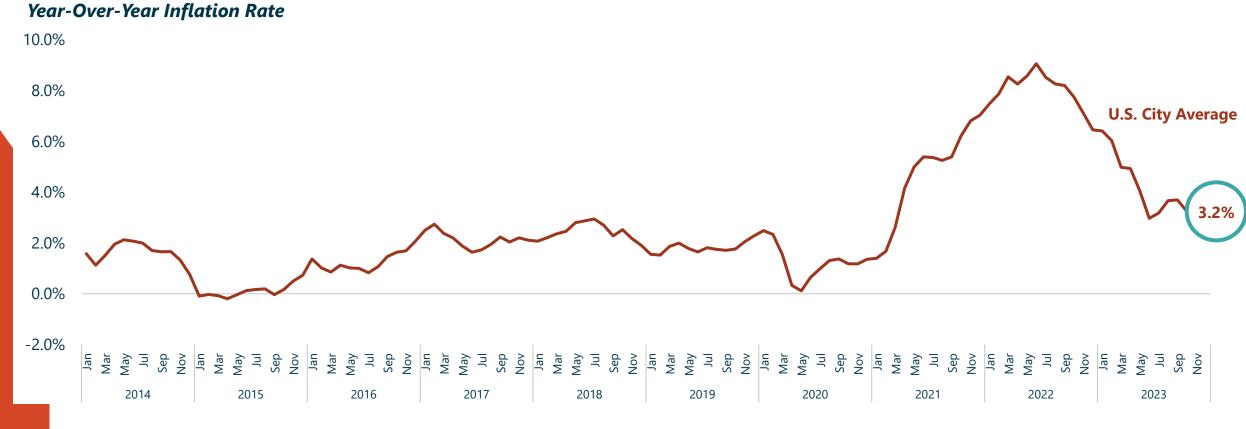
SCAG region's standard of living is back on the pre-pandemic growth trend and consistently higher than in the rest of the U.S.





## INFLATION COOLING OFF

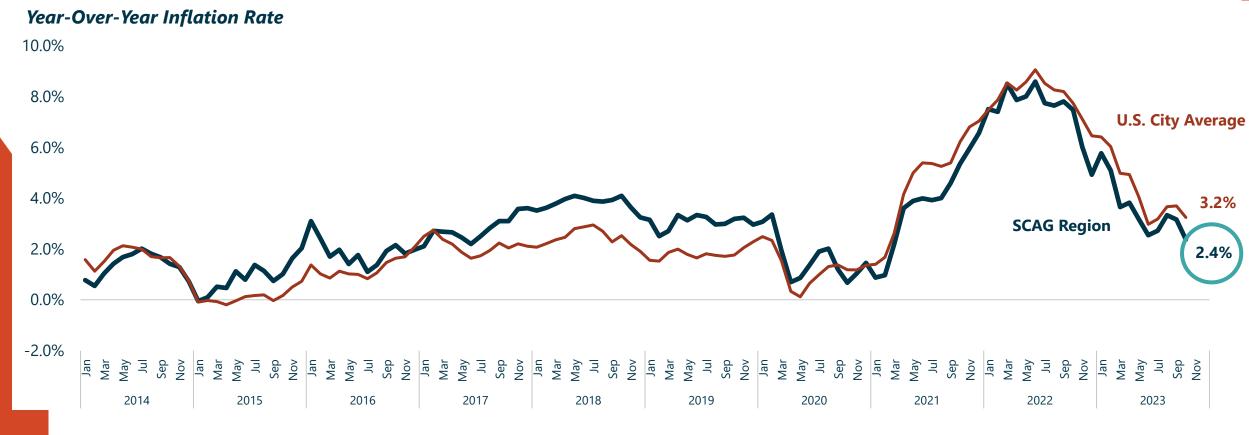
Inflation in the SCAG region is on a downward trend from 2022 highs and lower than average inflation for U.S. cities.





## INFLATION COOLING OFF

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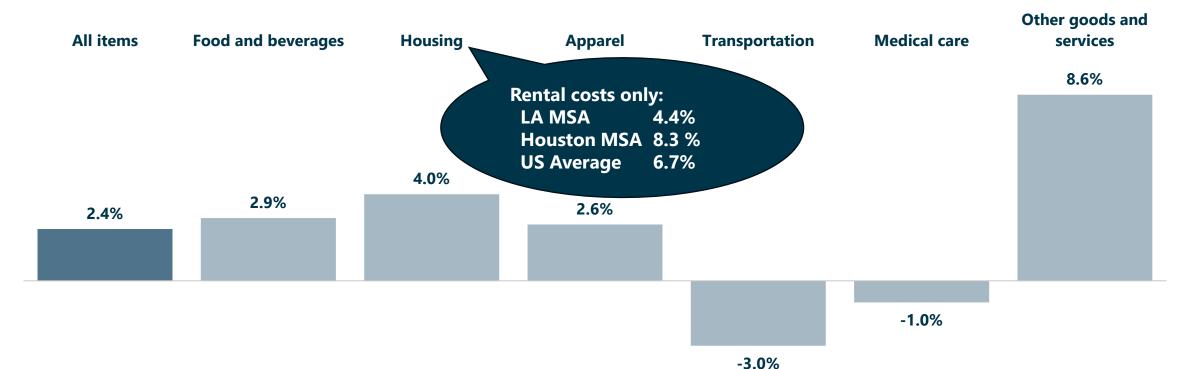




## SCAG INFLATION VARIES BY EXPENDITURE

Price inflation for housing and other goods and services is driving the SCAG region's overall inflation.





Notes: Inflation computed as year-over-year percent change in monthly CPI as of October. Los Angeles MSA CPI used for SCAG Region. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



## REAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME UP IN INLAND COUNTIES

SCAG 2022 real household incomes are slightly higher than before the pandemic. Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino see large increases.





.0%

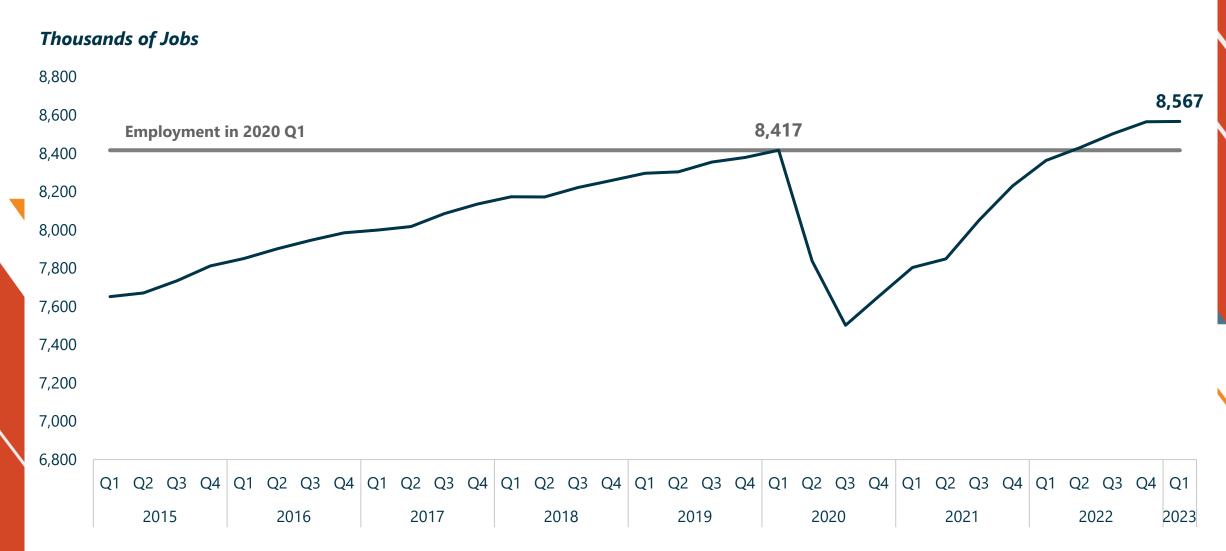
-2.4%

-1.9%

Ventura



### NUMBER OF SCAG REGION JOBS EXCEED PRE-PANDEMIC JOBS

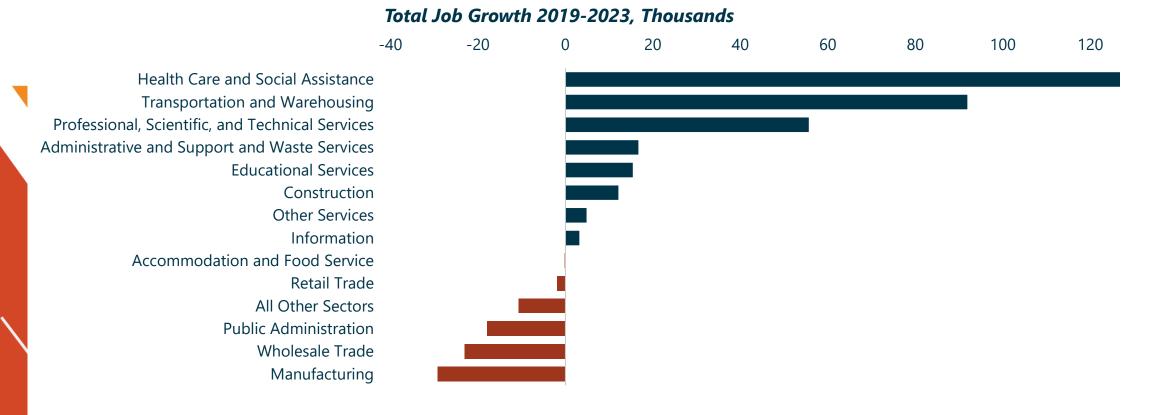




140

## HEALTH CARE SECTOR DOMINATES POST-PANDEMIC JOB GROWTH

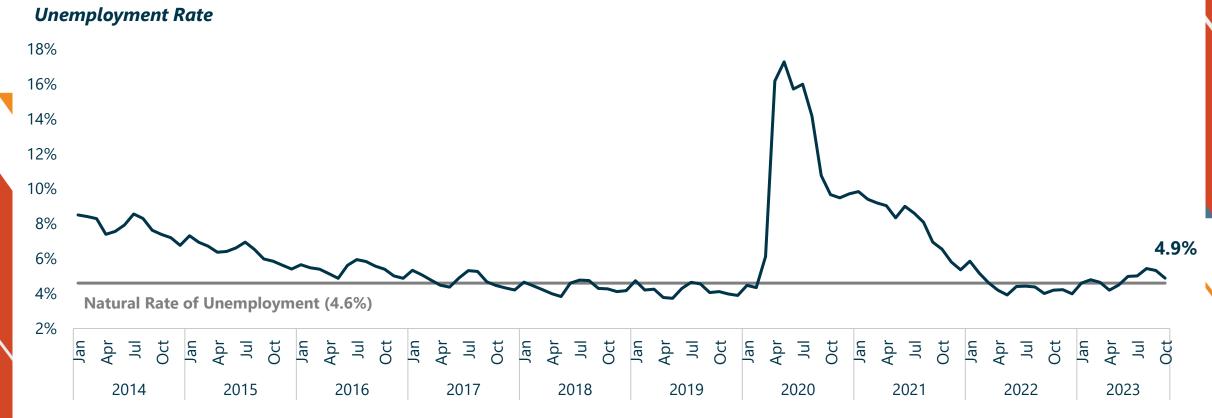
SCAG region's largest **job growth** in Health Care, Transportation and Warehousing, and Professional Services. Largest **job losses** in Manufacturing and Wholesale Trade.





## UNEMPLOYMENT STAYS LOW DESPITE HEADWINDS

SCAG region's unemployment rate hovering around a normal rate of unemployment despite labor market disruptions.

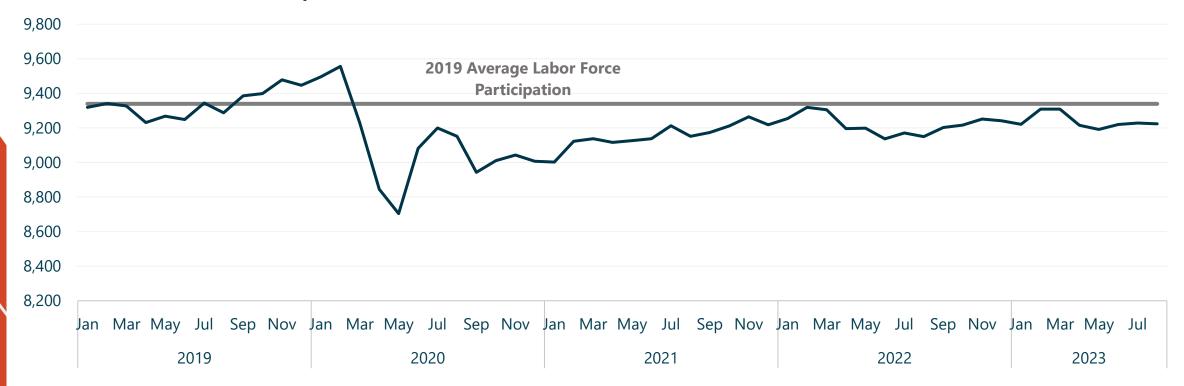




## SMALLER LABOR FORCE BRINGS OPPORTUNITIES

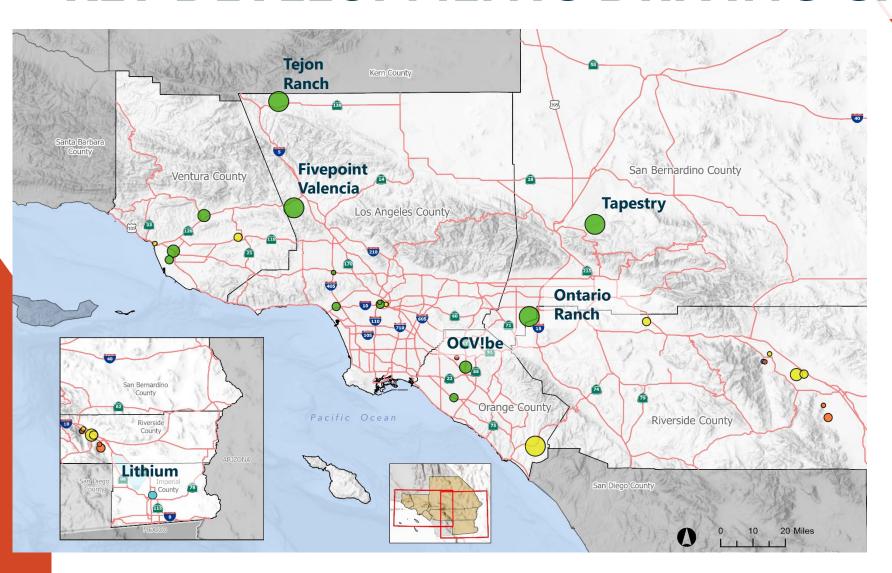
Population shocks shrink labor force and bring opportunities to increase participation from historically excluded groups.

#### **Thousands of Labor Force Participants**





## KEY DEVELOPMENTS DRIVING GROWTH



#### Project Type

- Mixed Uses
- Housing
- Hotel and Housing
- Retail
- Hotel
- Energy
- Freeway

#### **Total Housing Units**

- Less than or equal to 475
- 475.01 1,069
- 1,069.01 1,900
- Greater than 1,900

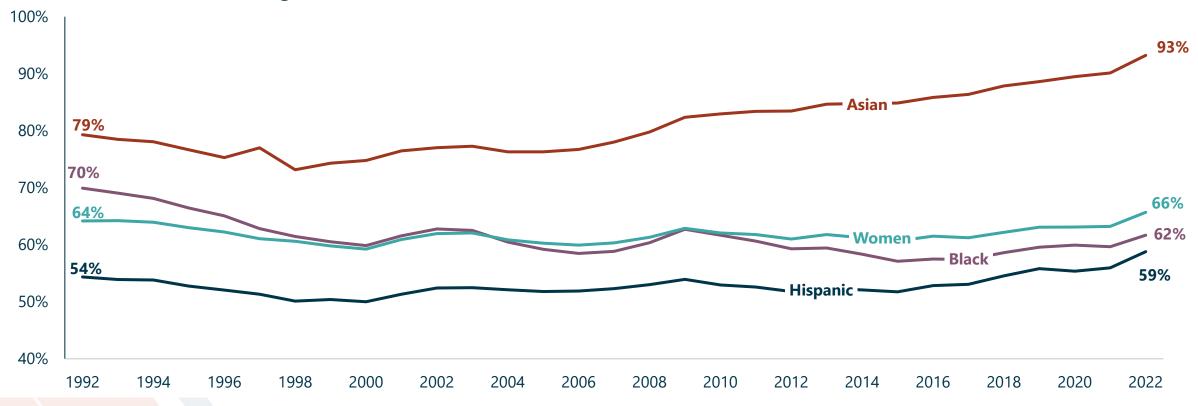
Source: SCAG 2023



## **EQUITY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Race and gender wage disparities are large and persistent, but postpandemic reduction in the gap across all groups offers hope.

#### **Percent of White Men's Wages**

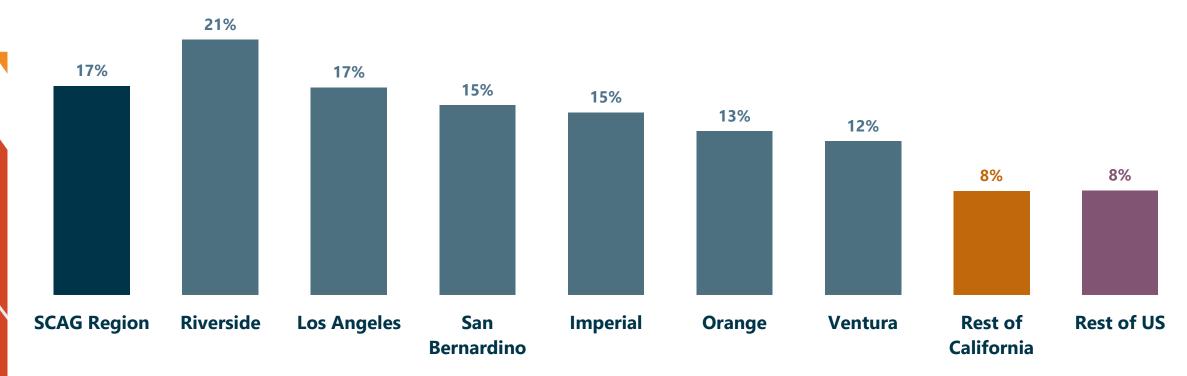




## **EQUITY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Region and county economic output would be significantly larger by eliminating race and gender wage inequity.

Percent of GDP, 2021





## IMPERIAL COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

Imperial County is a leader in renewable energy production in California.





#### **Key Indicators for Imperial County**

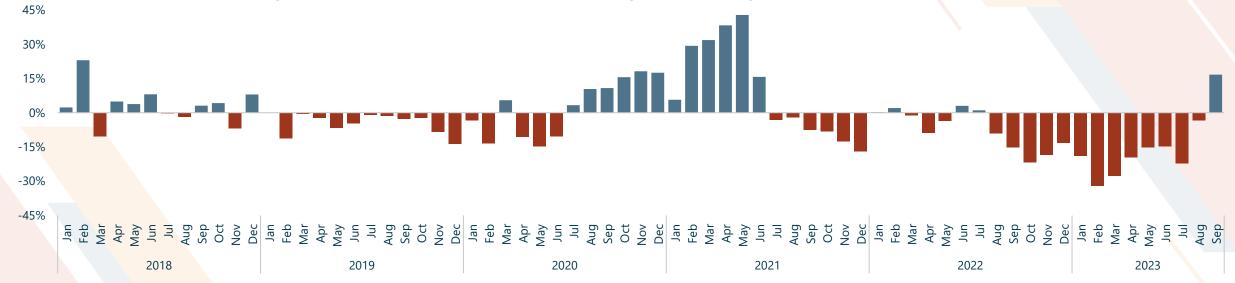
October 2023 Unemployment Rate	19.3%
Change from last month	Up 0.8 percentage points
Change from last year	Up 2.4 percentage points
2022 Real Median Household Income	\$58,974
Change from last year	Up 3%
Change from 2019	Up 4.3%
New Housing Units from Permits, 2023	14,148
Change from last year	Up 1.2%



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

Los Angeles County port container traffic is on the rebound.

Year-Over-Year Percent Change in Container Traffic at Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach



#### **Key Indicators for Los Angeles County**

#### **October 2023 Unemployment Rate**

Change from last month

Change from last year

5.0%

Down .8 percentage pt

Up .5 percentage pt

#### 2022 Real Median Household Income

Change from last year

Change from 2019

#### **New Housing Units from Permits, 2023**

Change from last year

\$84,911

-0.9%

On par

15,816

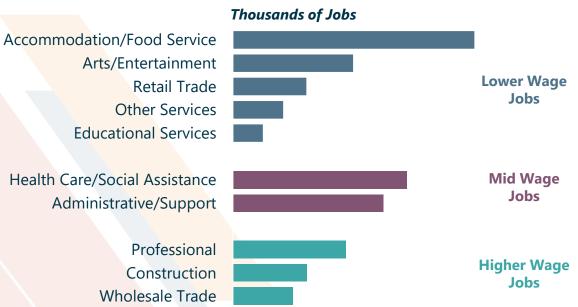
Down 39.2%



## ORANGE COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

Robust job growth is projected for Orange County, with lower- and mid-wage jobs dominating growth.

## Projected Employment Growth in Orange County's Largest Sectors, 2020-2030



#### **Key Indicators for Orange County**

3.7%
on par
Up 1 percentage point
\$111,183
Down 1.7% Down 2.4%
14,148
Up 1.2%

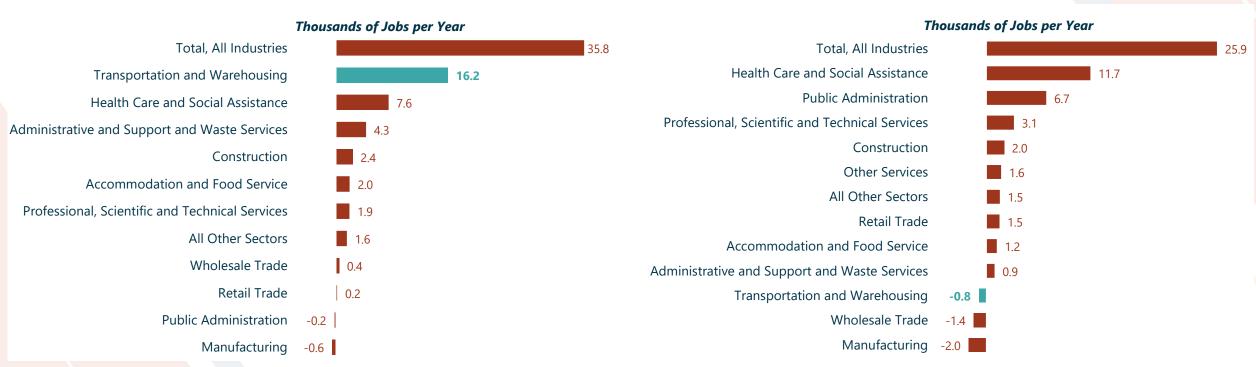


## RIVERSIDE AND SAN BERNARDINO HIGHLIGHTS

The Transportation and Warehousing sector has been a driver of job growth over the past 5 years but faces contraction in 2023.

#### **Average Annual Job Growth between 2018 and 2023**

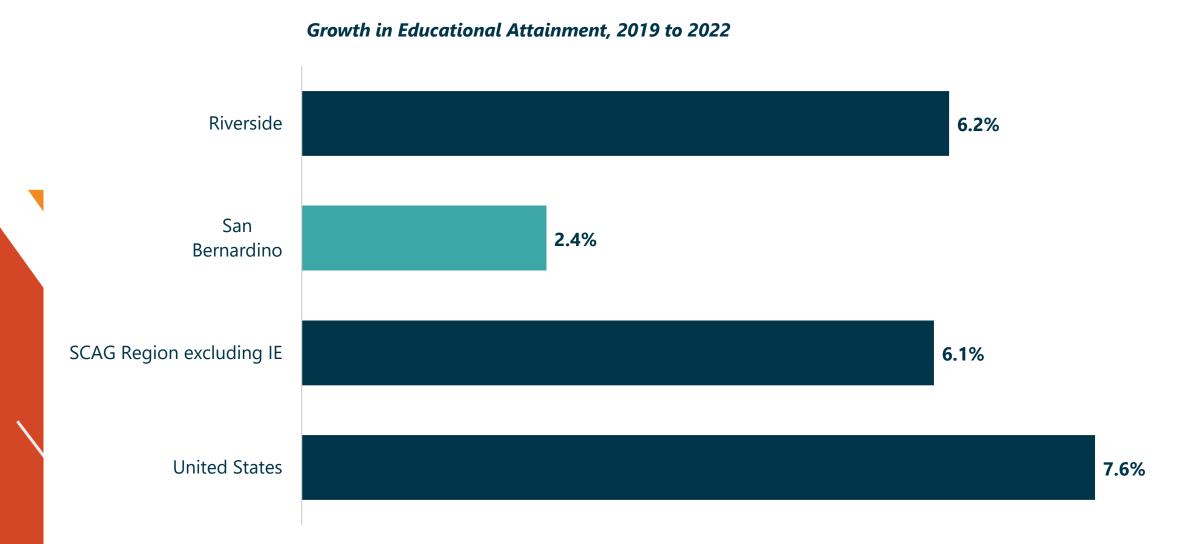
#### **Average Annual Job Growth between 2022 and 2023**



Notes: Includes wage and salary employment only. "All Other Sectors" includes sectors accounting for less than 10 percent of employment. Based on data from the California Employment Development Department (2018-2023).



## RIVERSIDE AND SAN BERNARDINO HIGHLIGHTS





## **RIVERSIDE HIGHLIGHTS**

October 2023 Unemployment Rate	5.2%
Change from last month	Up 0.1 percentage pt
Change from last year	Up 1.1 percentage pt

Riverside

2022 Real Median Household Income	\$89,266
Change from last year	Up 2.1%
Change from 2019	Up 4.4%

New Housing Units from Permits	12,754
Change from last year	Up 9.2 %



## SAN BERNARDINO HIGHLIGHTS

October 2023 Unemployment Rate

**Change from last month** 

**Change from last year** 

2022 Real Median Household Income

**Change from last year** 

**Change from 2019** 

New Housing Units from Permits

Change from last year

**San Bernardino** 

5.0%

Up 0.2 percentage pt

Up 1.1 percentage pt

\$81,387

Down 1.7%

Up 2.7%

7,136

Up 37%

GDP Per Capita, Thousands 2022 Dollars

65



## **VENTURA COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS**

Ventura GDP per capita is at a 10-year high.

2019

2022

## 73.6 73 71 69

#### **Key Indicators for Ventura County**

#### **October 2023 Unemployment Rate**

Change from last month

Change from last year

#### **2022 Real Median Household Income**

Change from last year Change from 2019

**New Housing Units from Permits, 2023** 

Change from last year

#### 4.5%

Up 0.1 percentage point
Up 0.9 percentage point

#### \$105,546

Down 1.0% Down 1.9%

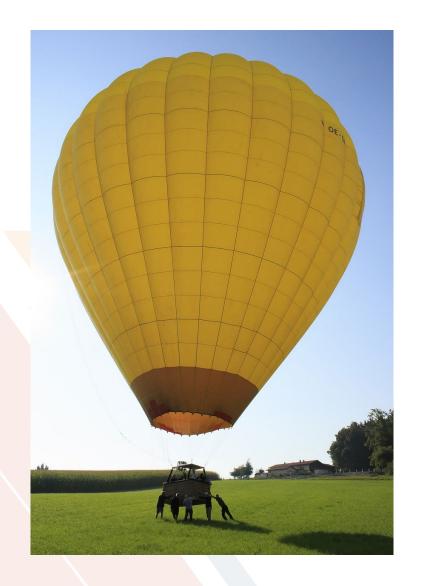
#### 912

Down 63%

Southern California has remained resilient, despite threats of a recession for more than a year. We're entering the new year with economic momentum.



## WHAT TO DO WITH A SOFT LANDING?



- Celebrate solid economy in 2023 despite obstacles.
- Prepare for a slowing economy in 2024.
- Reduce obstacles for growth and nurture resilience.