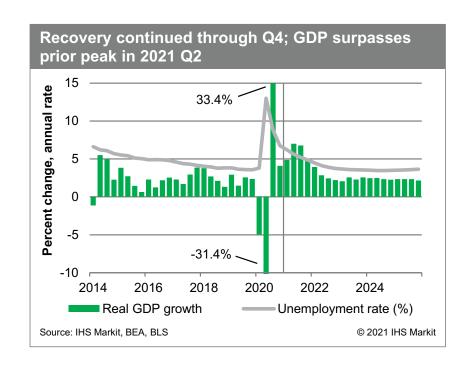
# The US Economic Outlook: Recovering from COVID

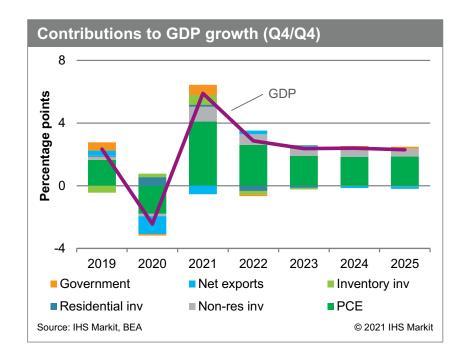
Major factors in the improving US economic outlook

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## **Macro Summary**

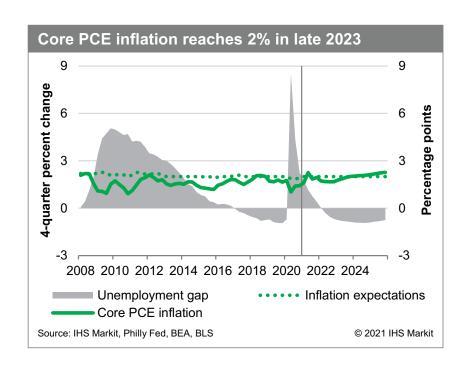
Y/Y GDP growth at 5.7% this year, 4.1% next; previous peak reached in Q2; full employment reached in 2023; PCE leads the rebound

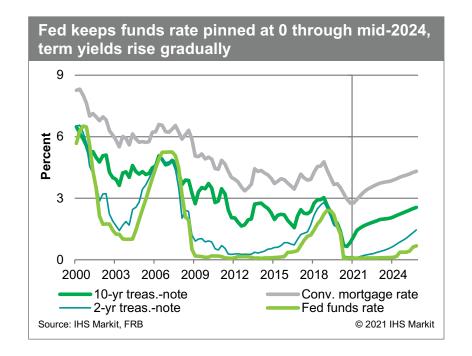




## **Macro Summary**

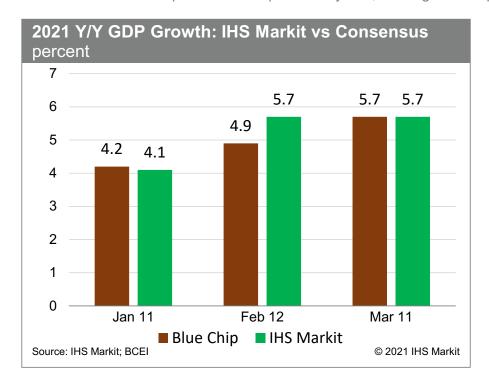
"Fed "lift-off" in 2024 when "maximum employment" and inflation > 2% achieved; term yields and mortgage rates rising in advance

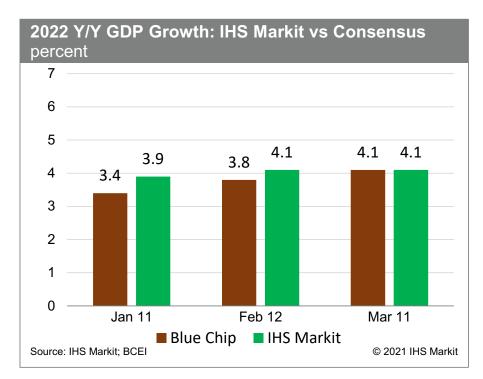




## **GDP** growth in 2021-22: IHS Markit vs the Consensus

We've led the Blue Chip consensus up for both years; faster growth expected in 2021 than 2022.

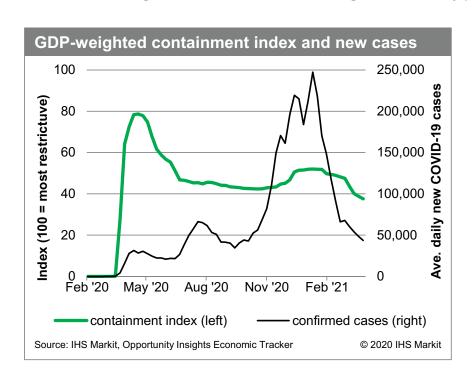


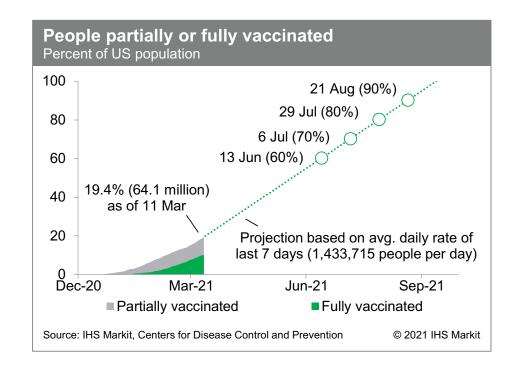


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## **Progress on the pandemic!**

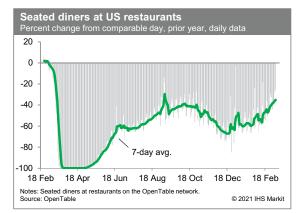
Infection rate falling, containment measures easing, herd immunity possible later this year. Vaccinations race against spread of new strains.

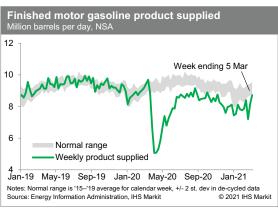


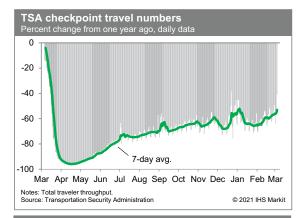


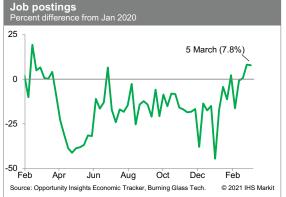
## Uneven improvement already underway, although still a way to go

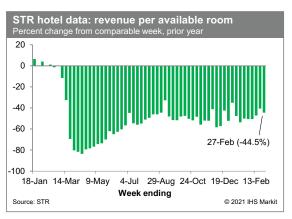
However, these data don't yet reflect the coming boost from additional fiscal stimulus and accelerating progress controlling the virus

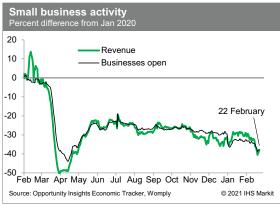






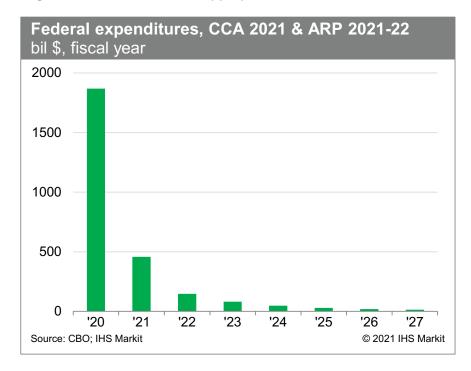


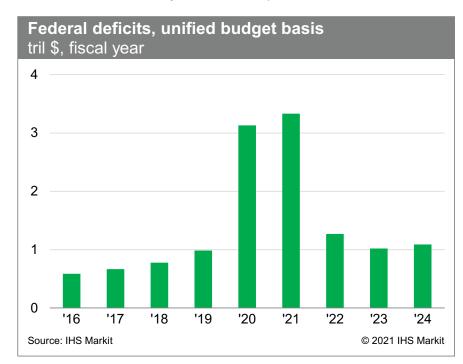




## Unprecedented, if temporary, federal fiscal expansion

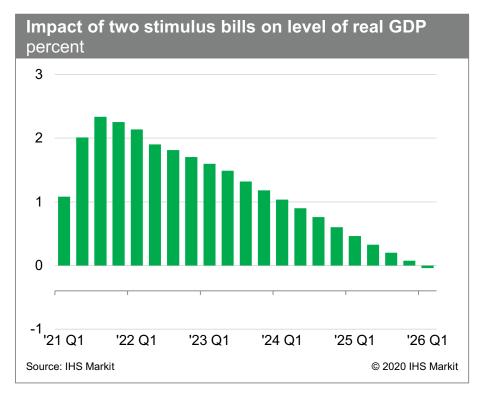
Together, the Consolidated Appropriations Act and the American Rescue Plan Act commit nearly \$3 trillion for pandemic relief.

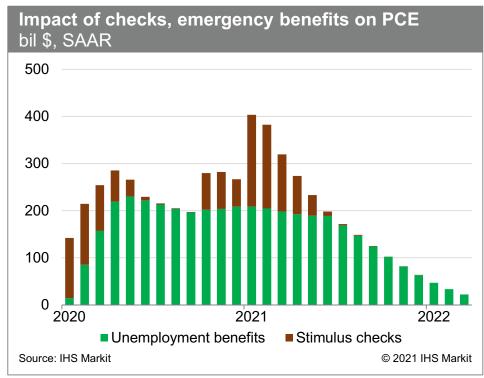




## Recent stimulus to boost GDP by > 2% by mid-year, followed by payback

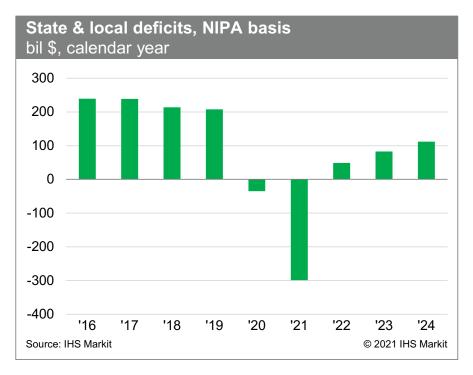
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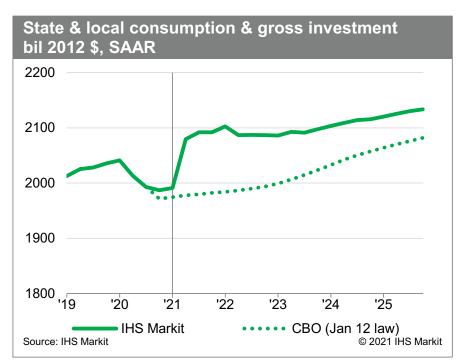




## The "all in" aid to states is four times larger than in the CARES Act

States will receive a huge injection of funds this year with use not subject to expiration. Can, (how) will they spend it?

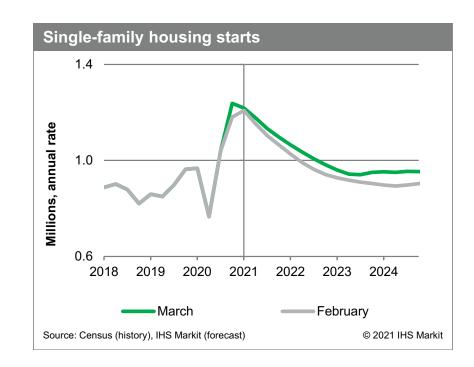




### Housing near peak

A unique set of forces has boosted housing activity during the pandemic, but both demand and supply factors will limit / reverse recent strength

- Housing starts have been boosted by:
  - · Low mortgage rates, high stock prices
    - · Second homes
  - · Geographic shifts, partly COVID-related
  - · February dip only partly weather-related
- But headwinds are gathering
  - Starts > household formations
    - Downwardly revised projected household formations
  - Affordability: mortgage rates & prices both rising
  - Supply (chain) issues: lots, labor, lumber, chips

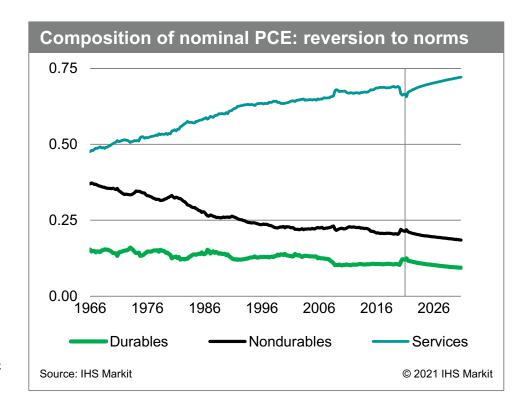


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## **Transitions in consumer spending**

The composition of personal consumption expenditures will shift back toward the pre-pandemic allocation.

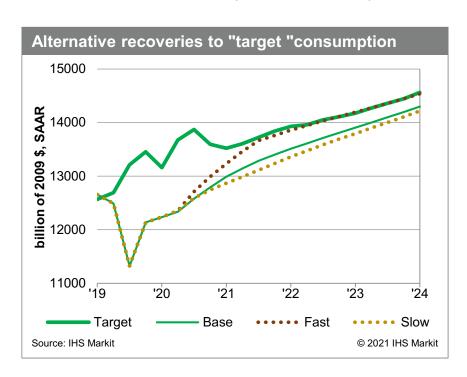
- During pandemic, composition of PCE shifted
  - Shares devoted to services affected by social distancing dropped sharply; shares devoted to goods, both durables and nondurables rose
  - Durable goods can "produce" leisure and entertainment service substitutes; nondurables include food at home
- This shift will unwind as services recover
  - Aided by overshooting in spending on durables, impact of higher rates on big ticket items
  - Switch back from eating at home to eating out
  - · With associated implications for employment, etc

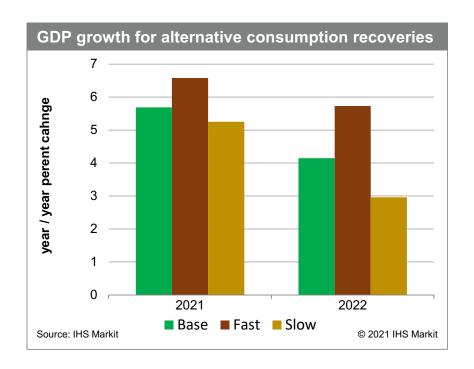


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## How much upside is there here?

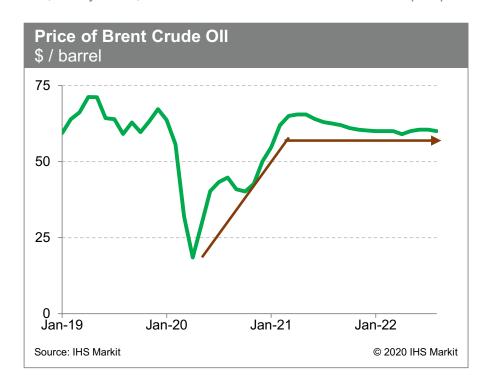
Full return to historical relationships between consumption & fundamentals at the pace of vaccinations would boost GDP growth significantly

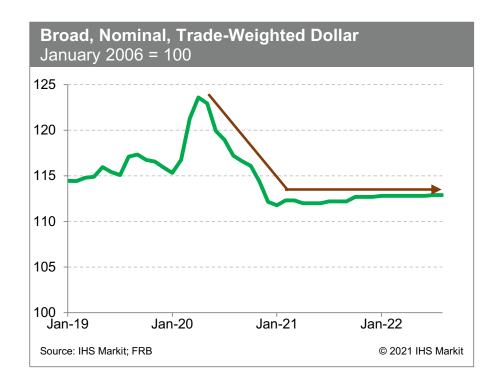




## Oil prices and the USD: from inflationary to neutral

And, in any event, these variations are modest in historical perspective.

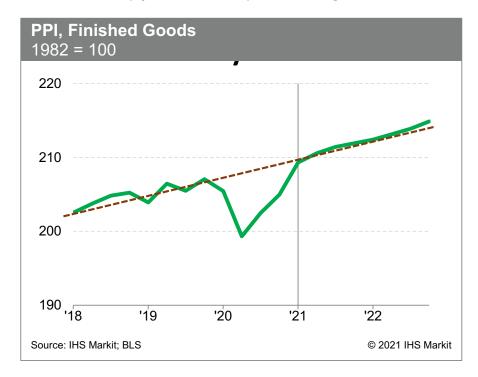


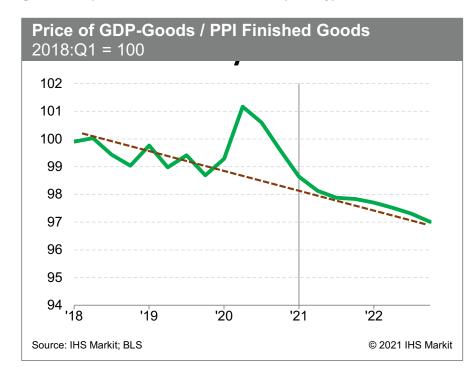


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## Rebound in producer prices is mostly a margin story

The PPI fell sharply relative to the price of final goods in GDP in the early stages of the pandemic, and that now has (merely) reversed.

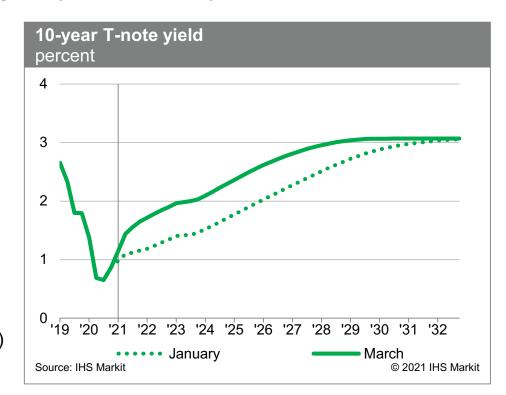




## Financial transitions: improving outlook roils markets

Markets expect Fed to "lift off" in 2023; term yields have backed up significantly since the start of the year

- Significant increases in consumption coming
  - Private
    - Unwinding of COVID shock
    - · Supported by stimulus funds
  - Public
    - Some federal...
    - · ...but mostly state & local
- Markets are reacting to reallocate demand from interest sensitives to consumption
  - Higher term yields (housing, durables, investment)
  - End to dollar depreciation (net exports)



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