

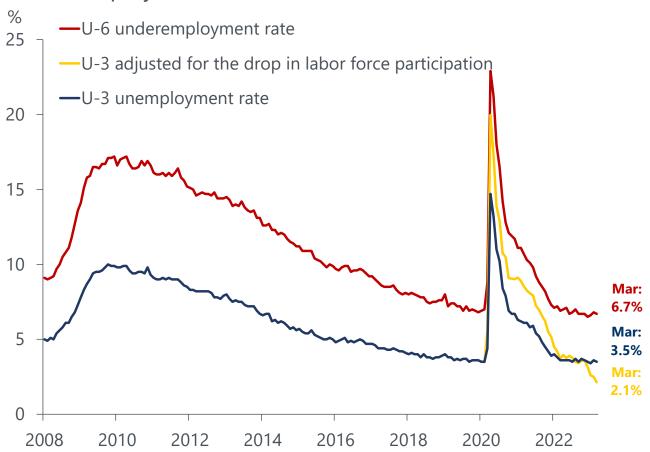
AN OXFORD ECONOMICS COMPANY

# The Outlook for Travel

Zeek Coleman
Vice President, Americas
Tourism Economics
zcoleman@oxfordeconomics.com

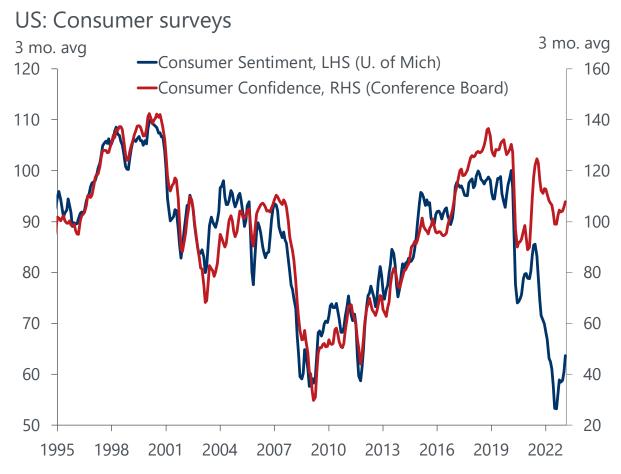
# **US** unemployment rate the lowest in 50 years

#### US: Unemployment rates





# Yet, consumers are feeling uneasy

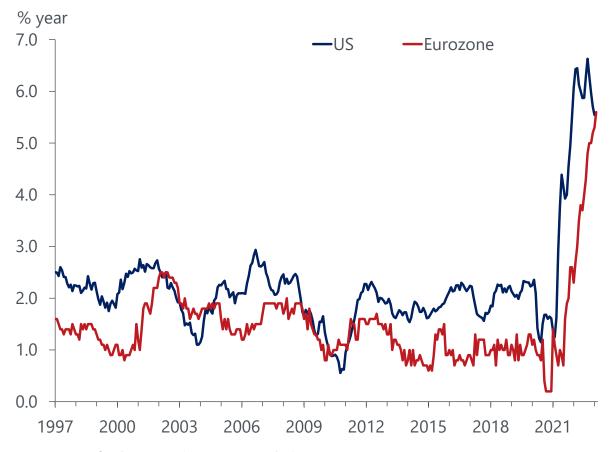






# The culprit? Inflation

#### Advanced economies: Core CPI inflation



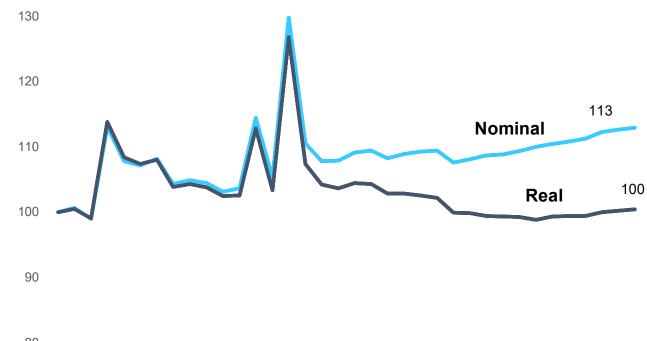
Source : Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



# Inflation has taken a bite out of disposable income

#### **Personal income**





2021

2022

 The average US household is spending an additional \$400/month to buy the same goods and services as last year.

Note: Disposable personal income, seasonally adjusted

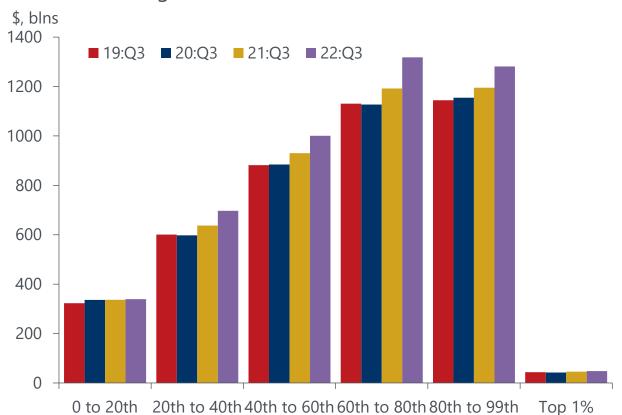
2020

Source: BEA; FRED



# And households are taking on some debt





Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



# Housing market is already in recession

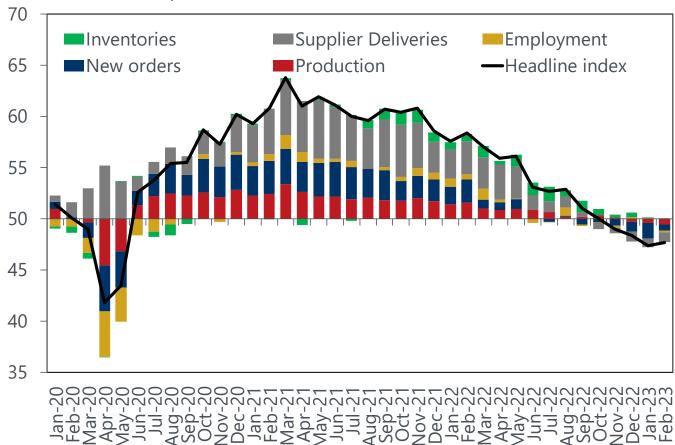




# Manufacturing has also entered downturn territory

#### US: Contribution to headline ISM Manufacturing

Index; above 50=expansion

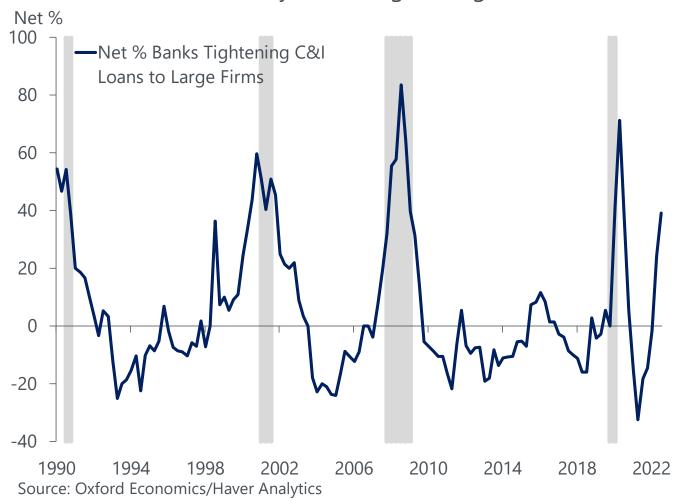


Source: ISM/Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



# **Credit conditions becoming less favorable**

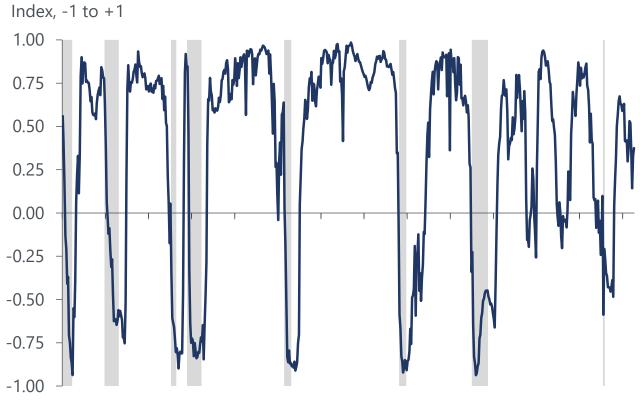
US: FRB Sr Officers Survey: Banks Tightening C&I Loans





## Oxford indicator points to a contraction later this year

US: Oxford Economics' US Business Cycle Indicator (BCI)



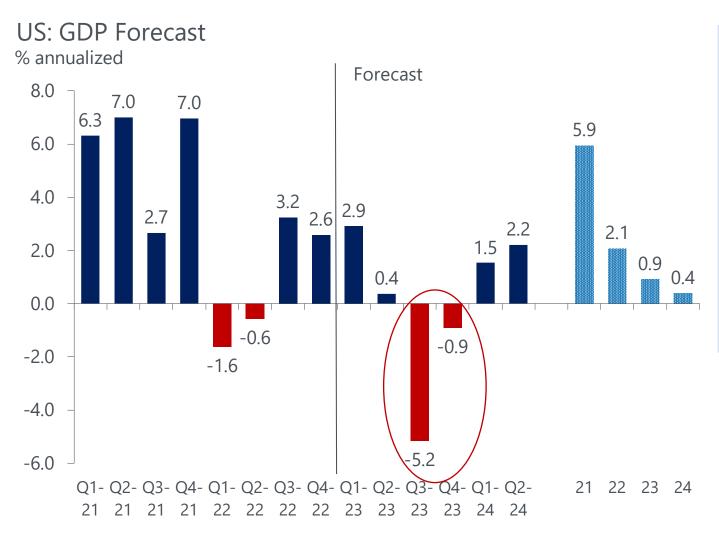
1970 1974 1978 1982 1986 1990 1994 1998 2002 2006 2010 2014 2018 2022

Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics

The sharp fall in our US business cycle indicator in February suggests the economy lost momentum midway through Q1.



#### We are headed toward a recession in the second half of 2023



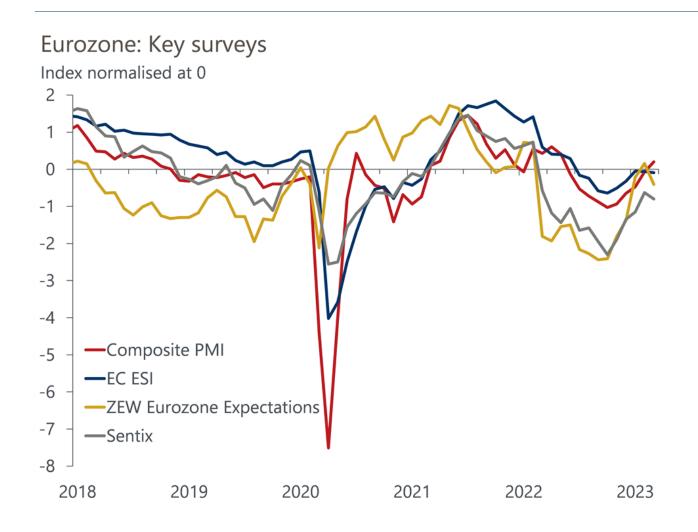
We expect the recession to be mild because there are no glaring imbalances in the economy's balance sheet.

Household balance sheets are in great shape, nonfinancial corporate balance sheets are healthy, and state and local governments are flush with cash.

Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



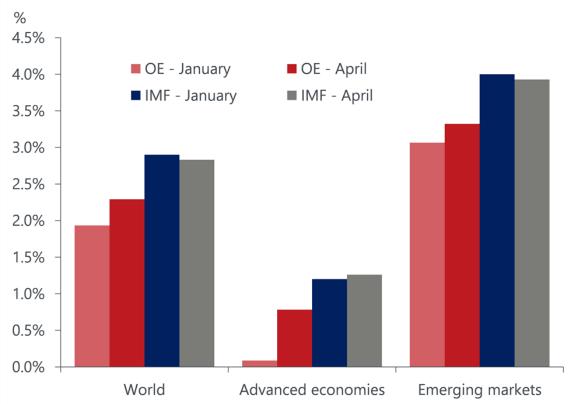
# **European economy in a fragile spot**





## Our view of GDP growth is much more cautious than the IMF





Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics

Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics , From: Global: The IMF's GDP growth forecasts are still too optimistic

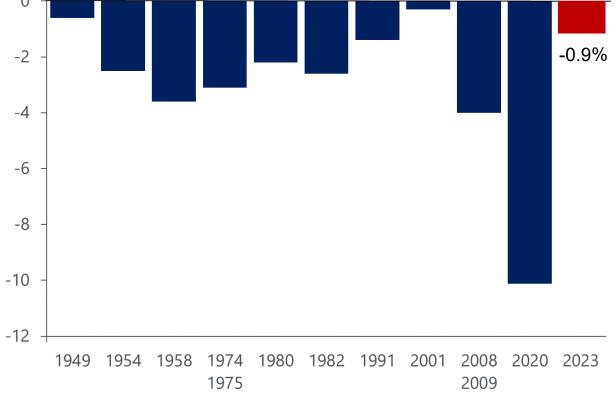


# The US recession will be mild by historical standards

US: Peak-to-trough recessions since 1949



Unemployment will reach 5%



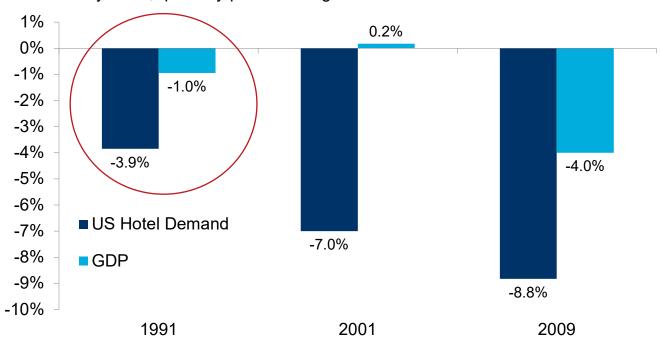
Source: Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



#### What have the last three "normal" recessions looked like?

#### Hotel demand during recessionary periods

Year-over-year %, quarterly peak-to-trough



Source: STR, BEA



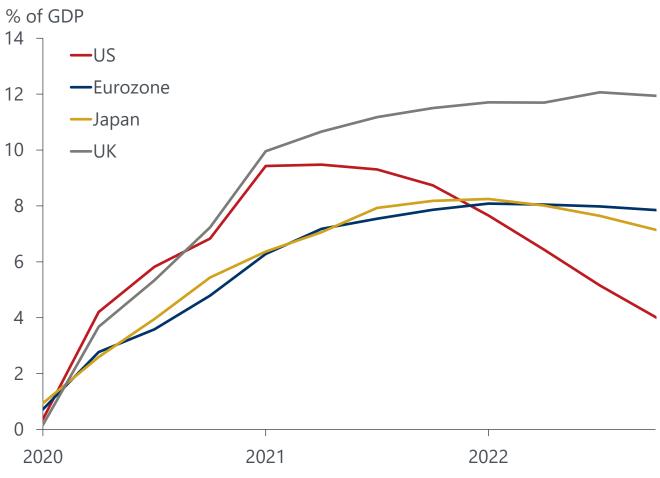
# Why the travel industry may defy economic gravity

- 1. Households are in a position of strength
- 2. Pent-up demand and prioritization of travel is real
- 3. Businesses are still restoring necessary travel
- 4. International still rebuilding



# Excess savings are buffer, especially to high-end travelers









"To date, however, we have not seen signs of demand softening. Certainly, trends could change quickly but booking demand and pricing remains strong."

Marriott earnings call, February 14, 2023

(Remarks edited for clarity)



# Why the travel industry may defy economic gravity

- 1. Households are in a position of strength
- 2. Pent-up demand and prioritization of travel is real
- 3. Businesses are still restoring necessary travel
- 4. International still rebuilding



"We continue to see that people are prioritizing travel over just about everything.

"Maybe it's still the effect of COVID and people realizing there's more valuable things to do with their lives."

Expedia earnings call, February 9, 2023

(Remarks edited for clarity)

# Question: Which best describes how excited you are about LEISURE TRAVEL in the NEXT TWELVE (12) MONTHS?







# Travel budget for next 12 months has increased 13% over past year

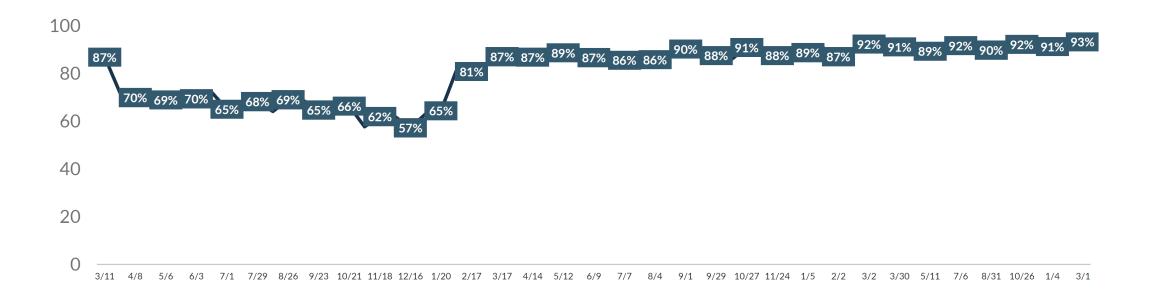
### **Maximum Expected Annual Travel Budget**





#### And overall intentions to travel remain elevated

## Travelers with Travel Plans in the Next Six Months Comparison



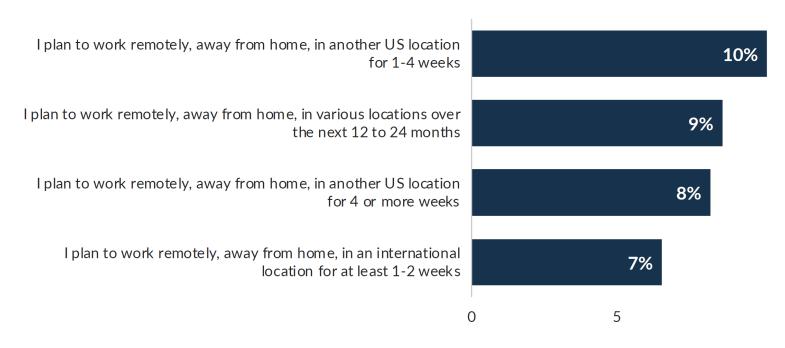
Travel Sentiment Study Wave 71





## 34% plan to travel... as they work remotely

#### Which of the following describes your remote work plans within the next 12-24 months?



Travel Sentiment Study Wave 67





"There's been a permanent structural change in leisure demand because of the flexibility that hybrid work allows. This is not pent-up demand. It's the new normal."

United Airlines earnings call, October 19, 2022



# Why the travel industry may defy economic gravity

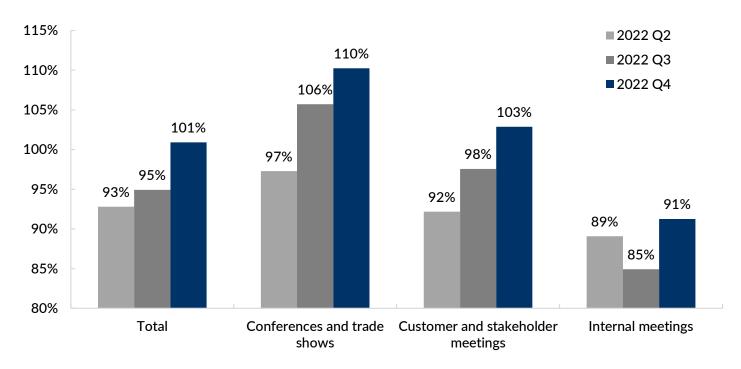
- 1. US households are in a position of strength
- 2. Pent-up demand and prioritization of travel is real
- 3. Businesses are still restoring necessary travel
- 4. International still rebuilding



#### **Business travel intentions now exceed 2019**

#### Average expected trips versus 2019

Average monthly trips expected in next six months relative to pre-pandemic (2019=100%)



[q1&q2] How many times do you travel on average for business purposes?

Business Travelers Survey BASE: Q4 = 790; Q3 N = 1641; Q2 N = 2545



# Momentum is building in the MICE sector

"For 2023 group position is up 25% year-over-year and nearly back to 2019 levels."
 Hilton earnings call (Feb 9 2023)

• "Our group business experienced the most meaningful improvement in 2022...Group revenue for 2023 is already pacing up 20 percent year over year"

Marriott earnings call (Feb 14 2023)

• "you are seeing that progressive set of recovery in the Group segment ... Cannot find conference and meeting space in many of the major markets right now ...

...strangely enough hybrid working is actually a tailwind for groups because people are getting people together, too."

IHG earnings call (Feb 21 2023)



"In our recent corporate survey, results were positive with 96% of respondents expecting to travel as much or more in Q1 than Q4."

Delta Airlines earnings call, January 13, 2023



# Why the travel industry may defy economic gravity

- 1. Households are in a position of strength
- 2. Pent-up demand and prioritization of travel is real
- 3. Businesses are still restoring necessary travel
- 4. International still rebuilding



"We expect a strong demand environment to continue in 2023 and anticipate further improvement in long-haul international travel this year."

American Airlines earnings call, January 26, 2023



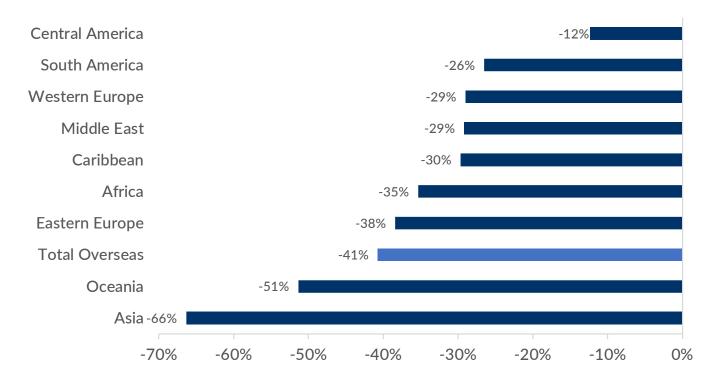
# A Deep Dive on International Markets



## **US: LATIN AMERICA RECOVERED THE MOST IN 2022**

#### 2022 International arrivals to US

% change vs 2019

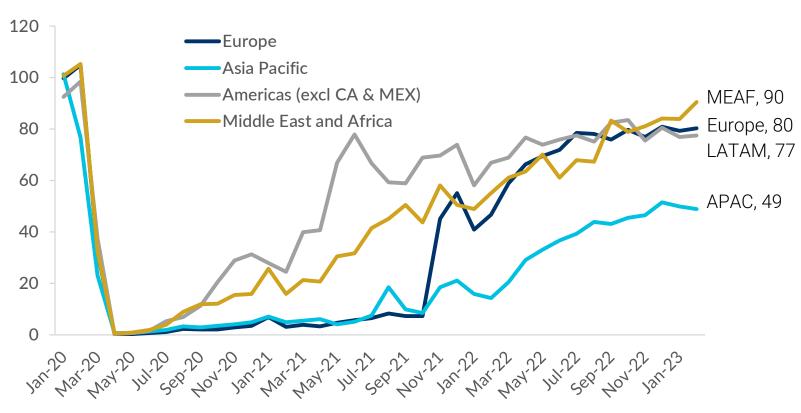




#### FIRST WAVE OF RECOVERY IS CLEAR OVER PAST YEAR

#### International arrivals to US

Index, same month 2019≡100

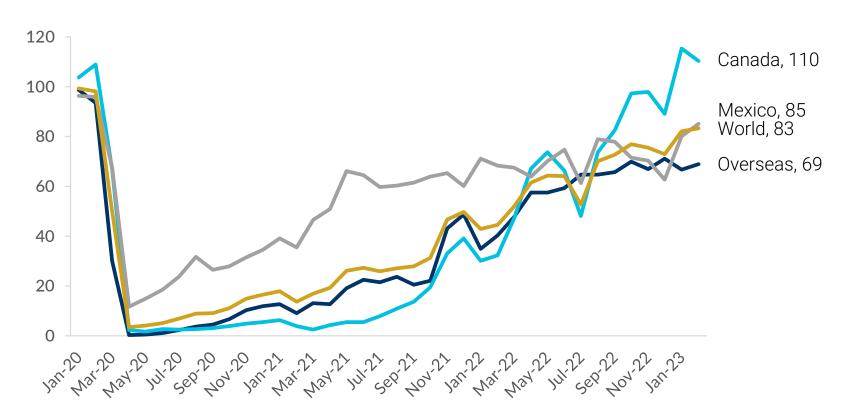




### CANADA AND MEXICO HAVE PACED THE EARLY RECOVERY

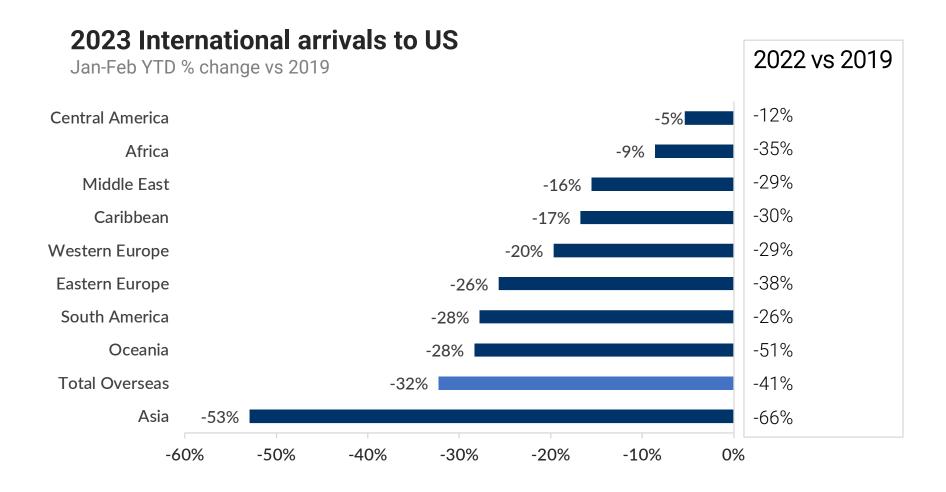
#### International arrivals to US

Index, same month 2019=100





## THIS YEAR IS STARTING FROM A HIGHER PLANE

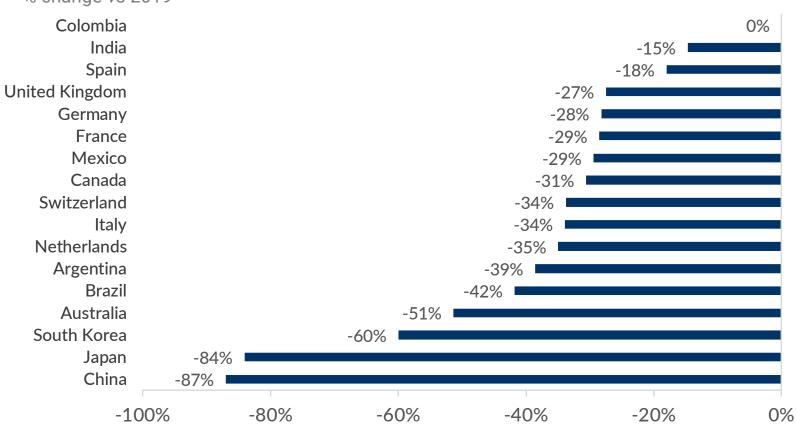




# 2022 performance informs our view of 2023

#### 2022 International arrivals to US

% change vs 2019

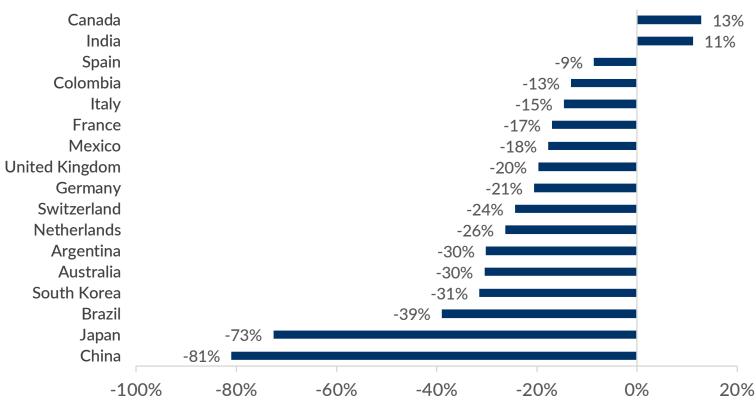




## SOLID RECOVERY IN 2023 FROM WESTERN MARKETS + INDIA

#### 2023 International arrivals to US

Jan-Feb YTD % change vs 2019

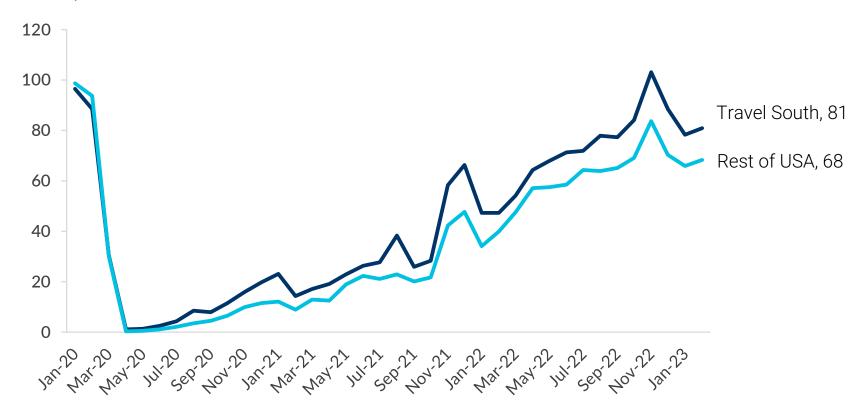




## TRAVEL SOUTH STATES ARE RECOVERING FASTER

## **Overseas arrivals to US**

Index, same month 2019=100



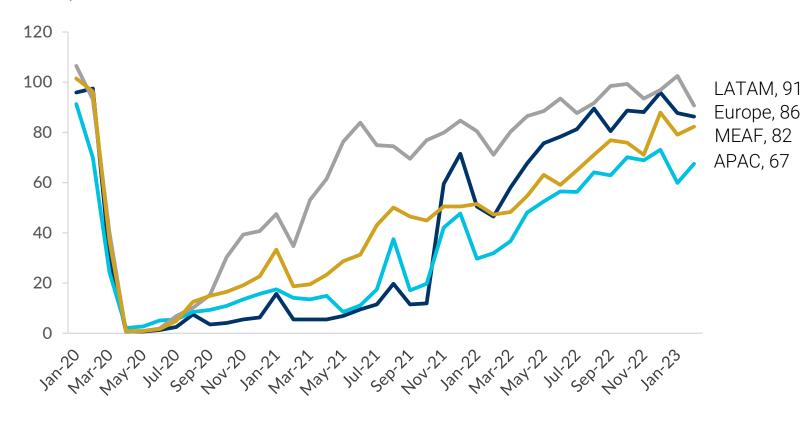
Note: Travel South States include: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, MO, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV



## TS IS AHEAD FROM EVERY REGION

#### **Overseas arrivals to TS states**

Index, same month 2019=100



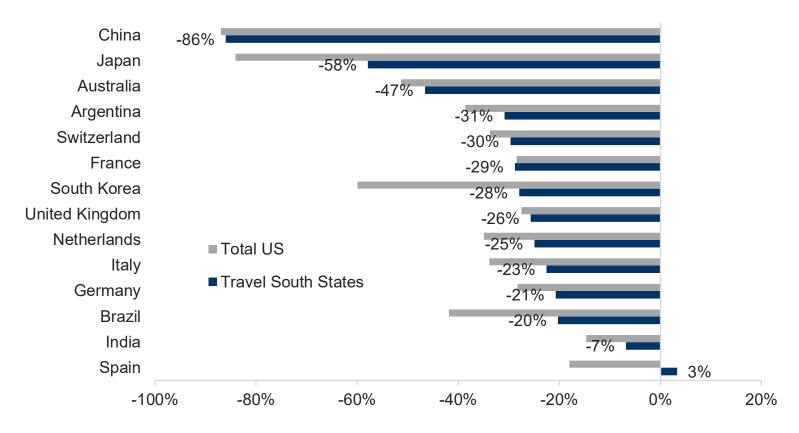
Note: Travel South States include: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, MO, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV



## TS AHEAD FOR EVERY COUNTRY IN 2022

#### **Overseas arrivals to TS states**

Index, same month 2019=100



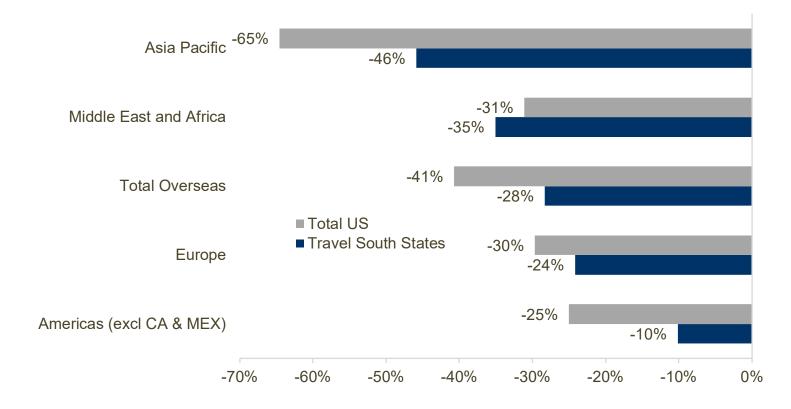
Note: Travel South States include: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, MO, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV



## LATIN AMERICA WELL ON ITS WAY TO RECOVERY IN 2022

#### 2022 Overseas arrivals to TS states

Index, same month 2019=100



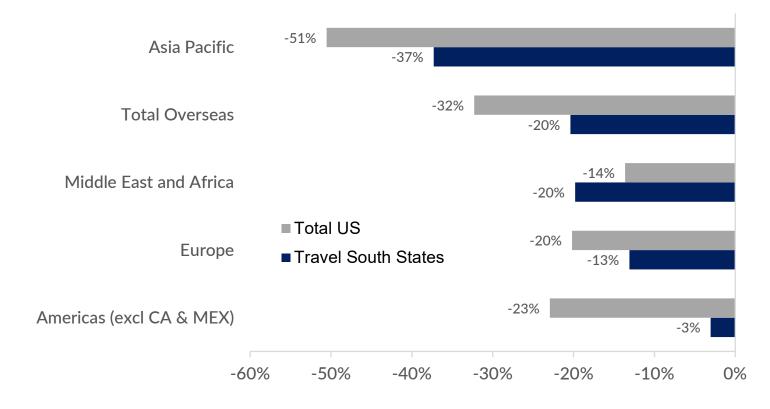
Note: Travel South States include: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, MO, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV



## **EARLY RETURNS ON 2023 SHOW FURTHER STRENGTHENING**

#### 2023 Overseas arrivals to TS states

Jan-Feb YTD % change vs 2019



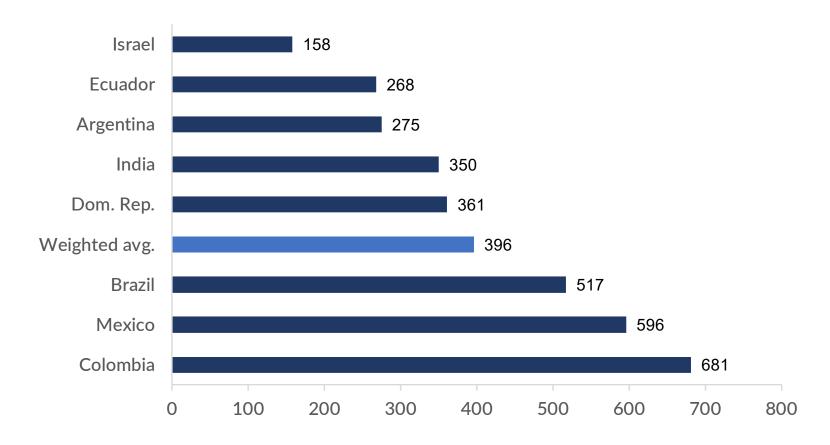
Note: Travel South States include: AL, AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, MO, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV



## VISA WAIT TIMES REMAIN A CONCERN

#### **US Visitor Visa Wait Times**

DAYS, ss of April 2023



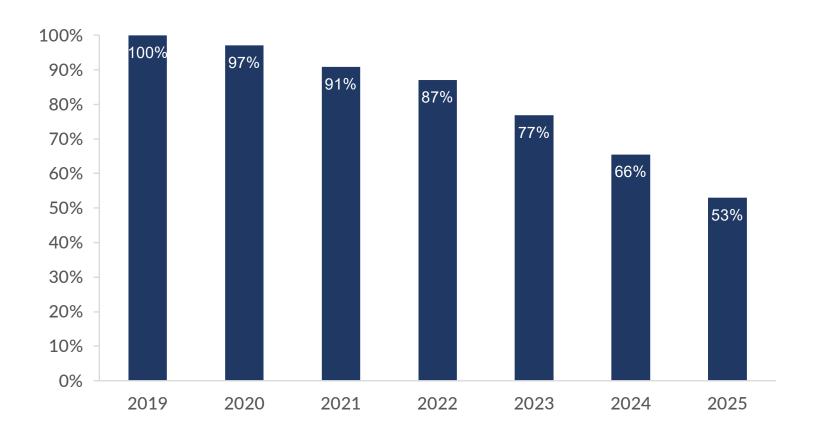
Source: <u>Consulate/embassy level data from State</u>, and then its weighted for every country based on the number of visas each consulate/embassy issued in 2019.



## HALF LIFE OF EXISTING VISAS

#### **Valid US Visitor Visas**

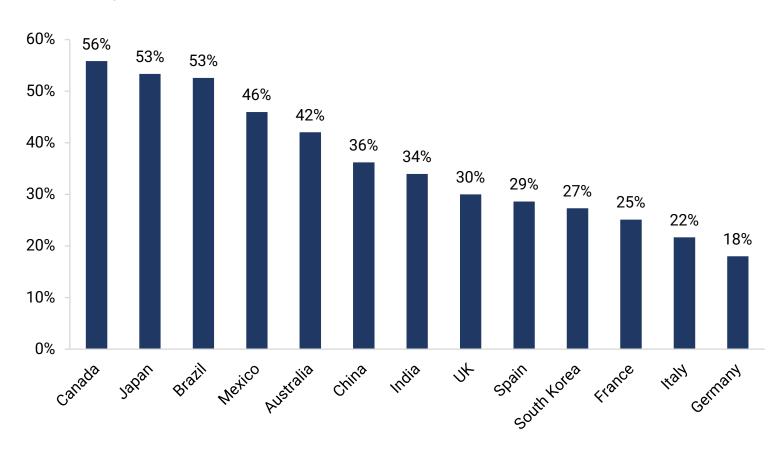
% of 2019 visas

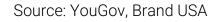


## **INTEREST IN USA**

## **Would consider visiting the USA**

2022 Survey



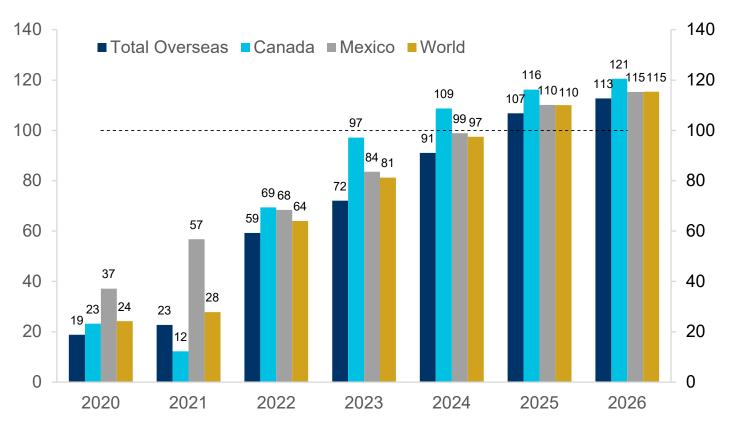




## Big picture outlook

## **US Inbound Visits**

2019=100



## **International recovery forecast**

- 64% back in 2022
- 81% way back in 2023
- Recovery in reach in 2024

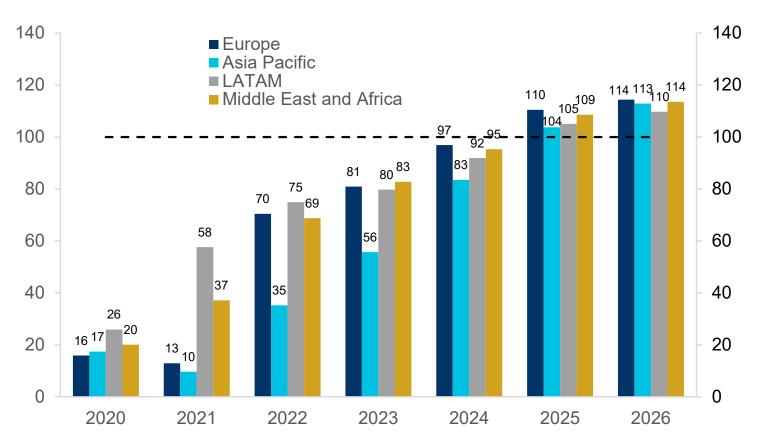
Source: Tourism Economics - Global Travel Service



## Asia will be the last region to recover

## **US Overseas Arrivals Recovery**

2019=100



Europe, LATAM, MEAF, to lead overseas recovery

Source: Tourism Economics - Global Travel Service



## **Summary**

# 1 A mild recession is likely in 2023

- Inflation and higher interest rates will leave a mark
- Strong balance sheets should limit the downside

# **2** Visitor economy is well-positioned

- Households are in a fiscally strong position
- Pent-up demand is prioritizing travel
- Business travel continues to rebuild
- International is coming back...especially for Travel
   South

