



December 2020 Forecast

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Economic Outlook



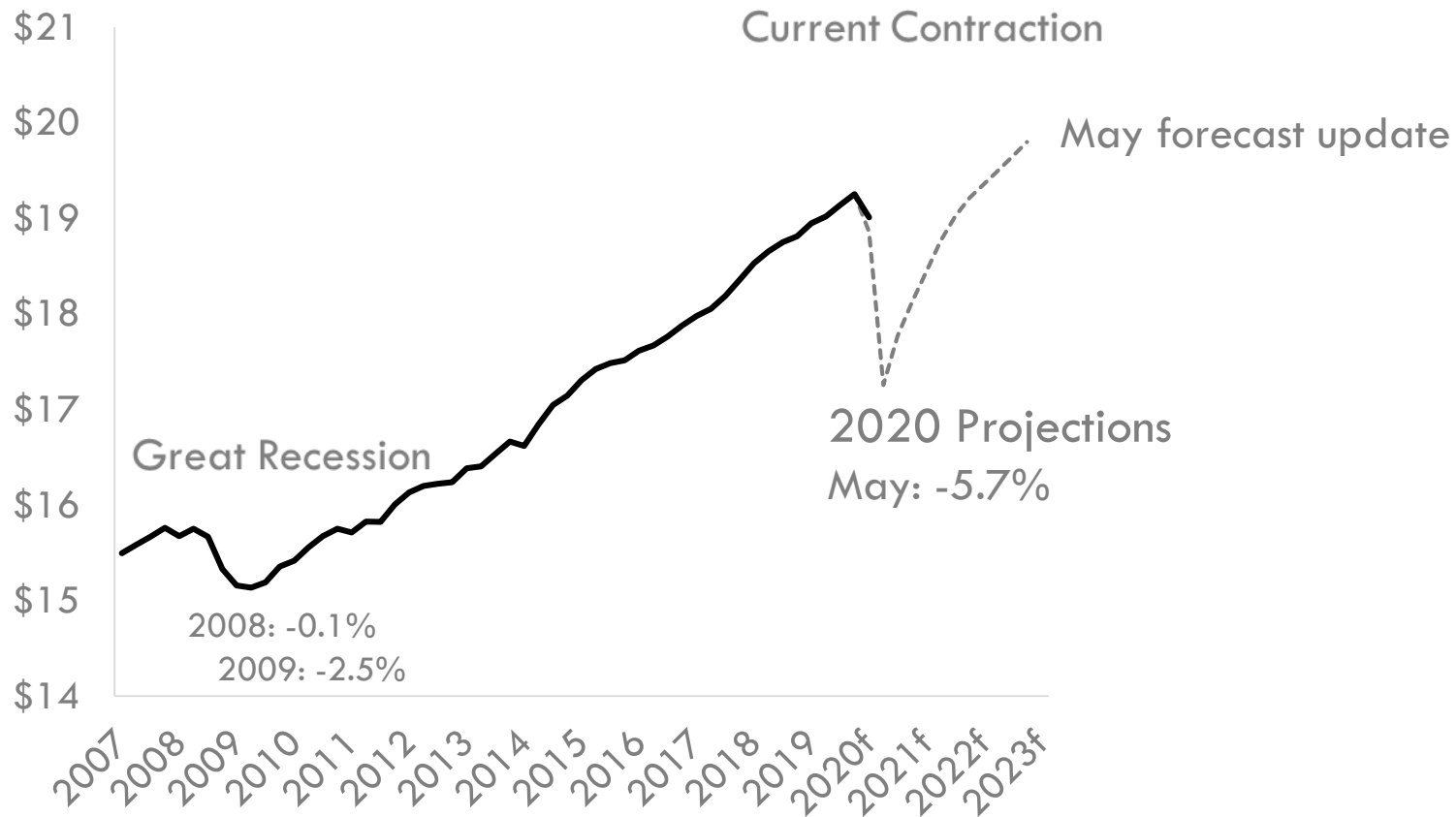
Presentation Overview

- Economic Outlook
- General Fund Revenue Forecast & Budget Outlook
- K-12 Enrollment Forecast
- Assessed Values Forecast

We've learned a lot since May...

Real U.S. Gross Domestic Product

Dollars in Trillions



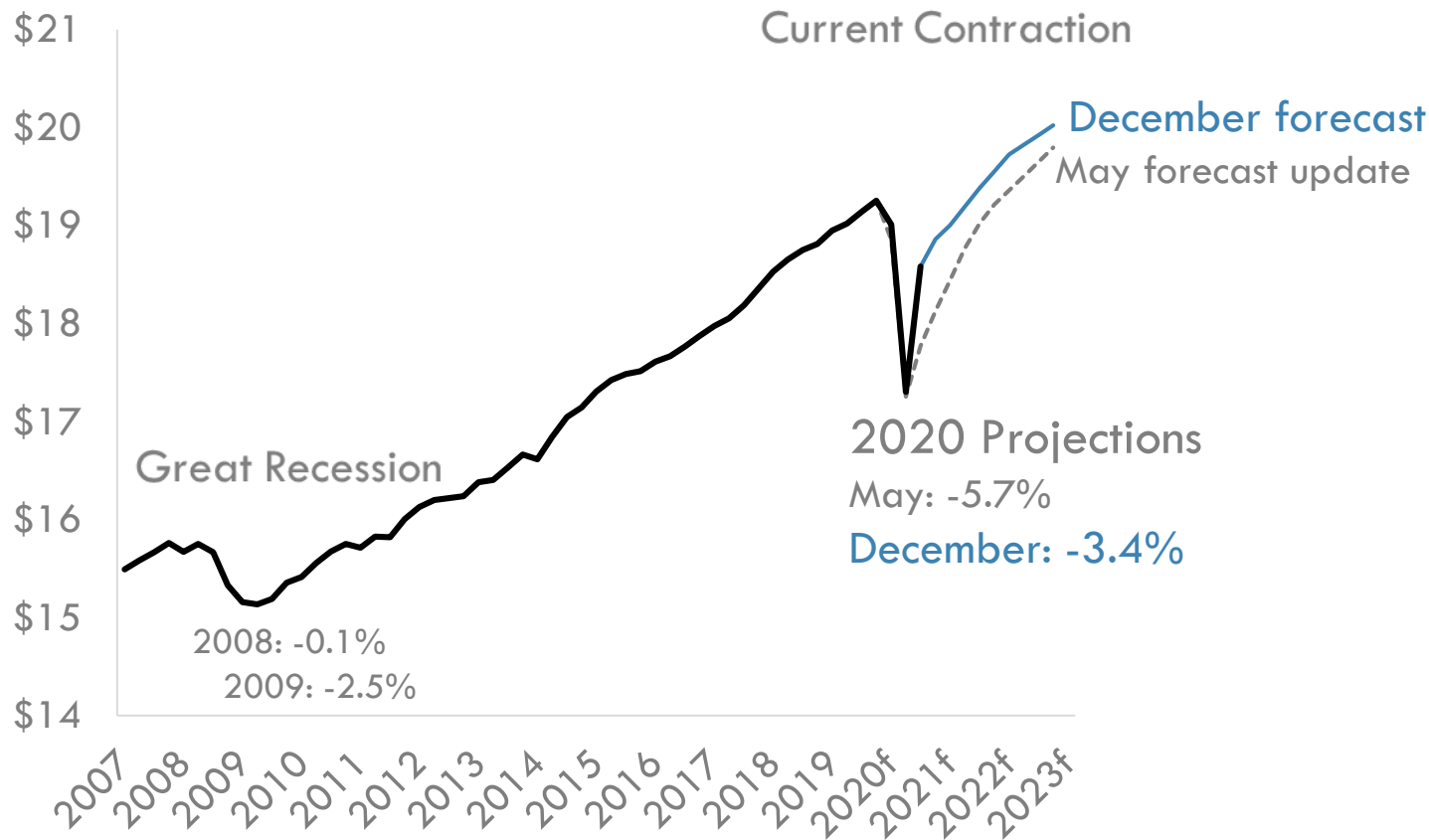
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Legislative Council Staff May 2020 projections.

Real GDP is inflation-adjusted to chained 2012 levels and shown at seasonally adjusted annualized rates.

Economic activity rebounded faster than expected in May, when the current year budget was set

Real U.S. Gross Domestic Product

Dollars in Trillions

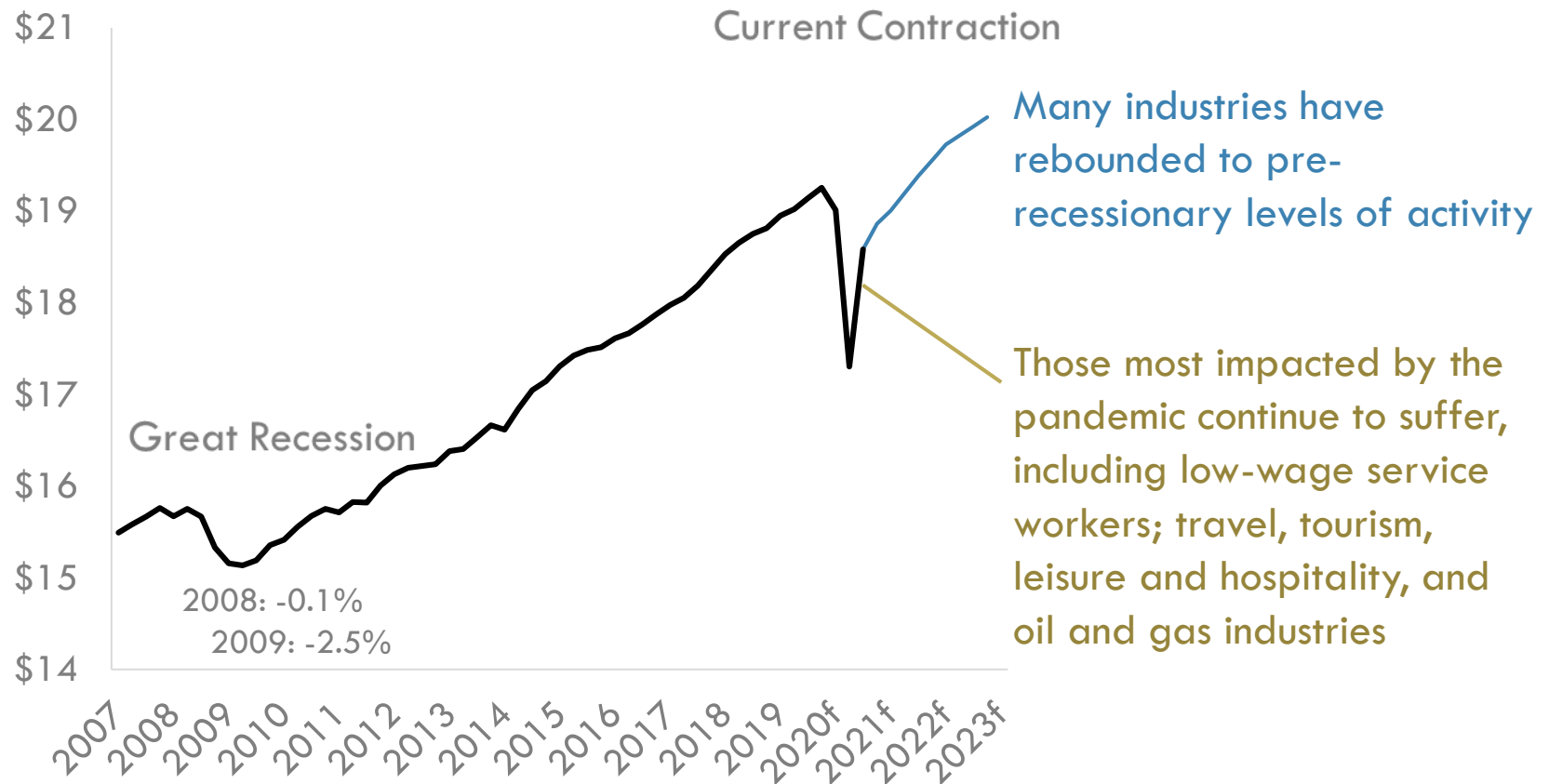


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Legislative Council Staff May and December 2020 projections. Real GDP is inflation-adjusted to chained 2012 levels and shown at seasonally adjusted annualized rates.

The “K-shaped” nature of the pandemic explains some of the higher than expected state revenue growth

Real U.S. Gross Domestic Product

Dollars in Trillions

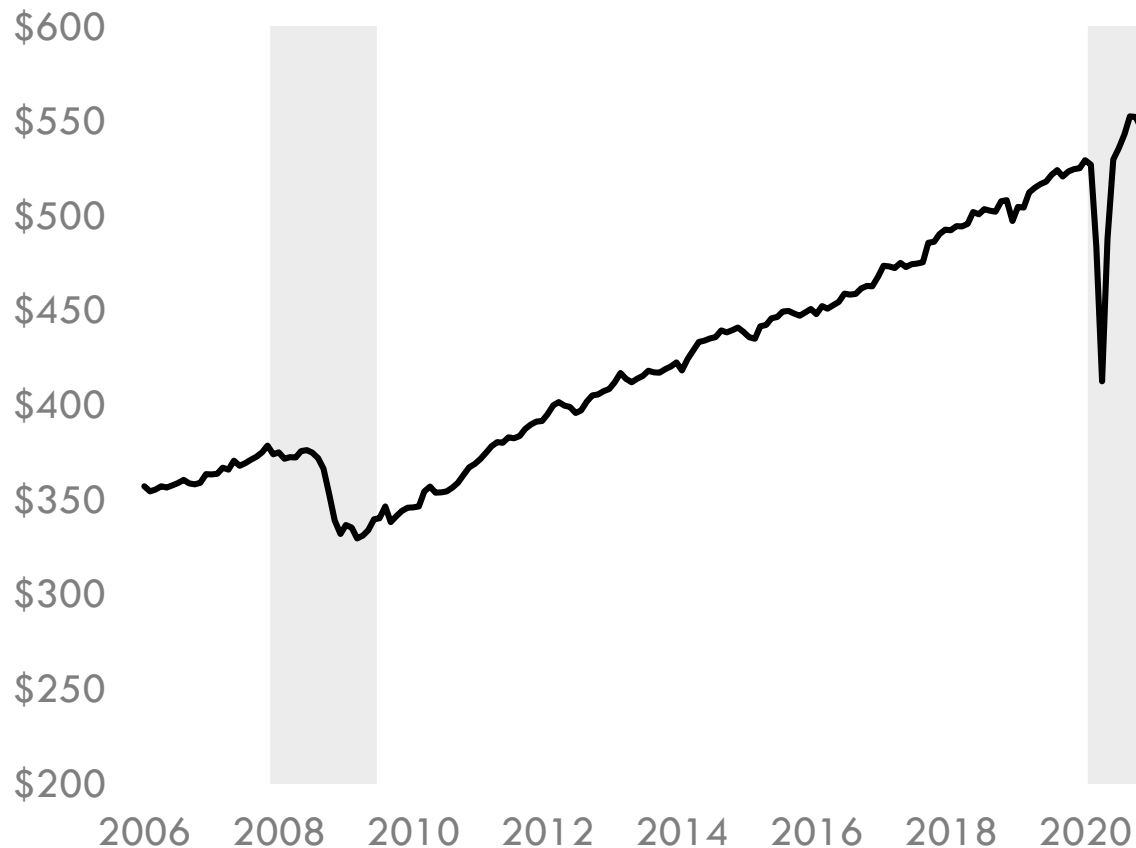


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Legislative Council Staff May and December 2020 projections. Real GDP is inflation-adjusted to chained 2012 levels and shown at seasonally adjusted annualized rates.

Retail sales were boosted above pre-pandemic levels with shifts to in-home consumption

Monthly U.S. Retail Sales

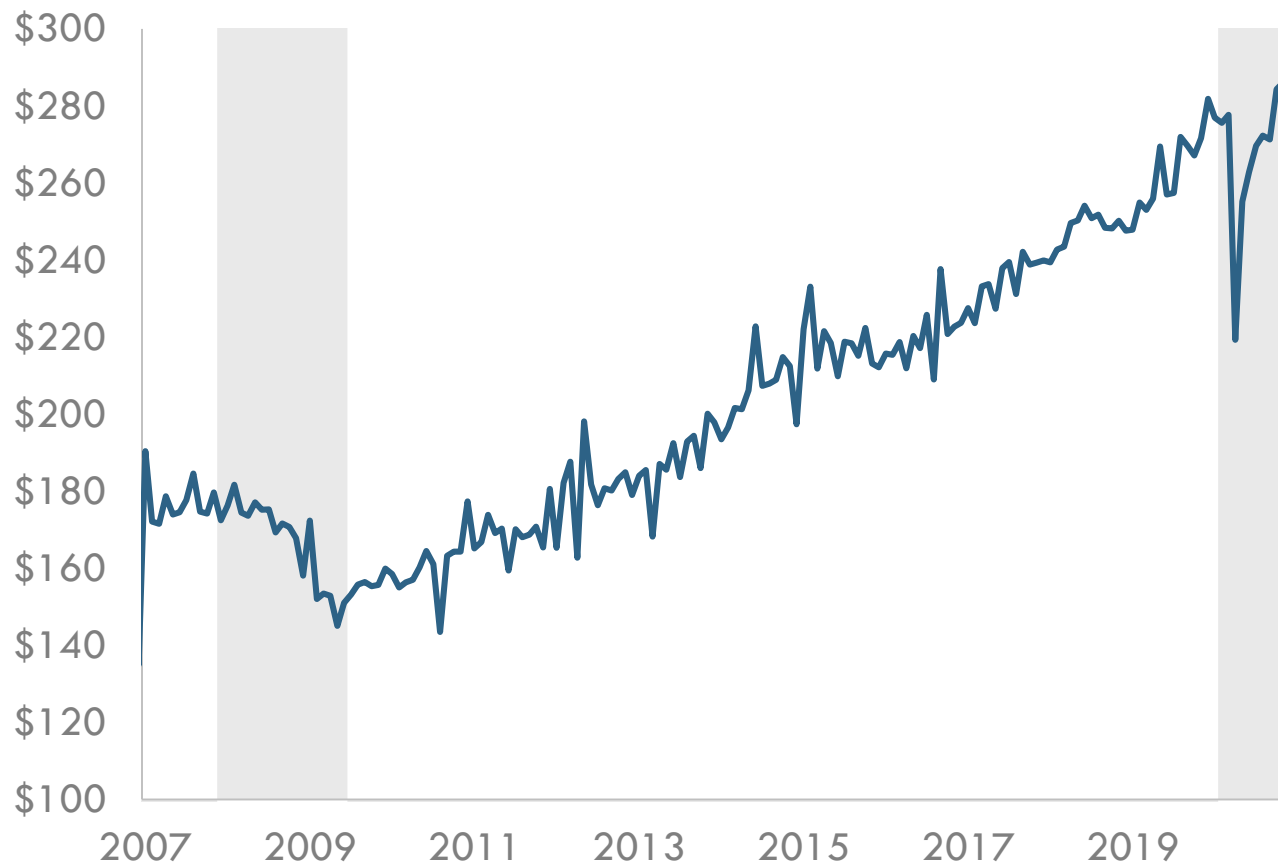
Dollars in Billions



Similarly, state sales taxes have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels

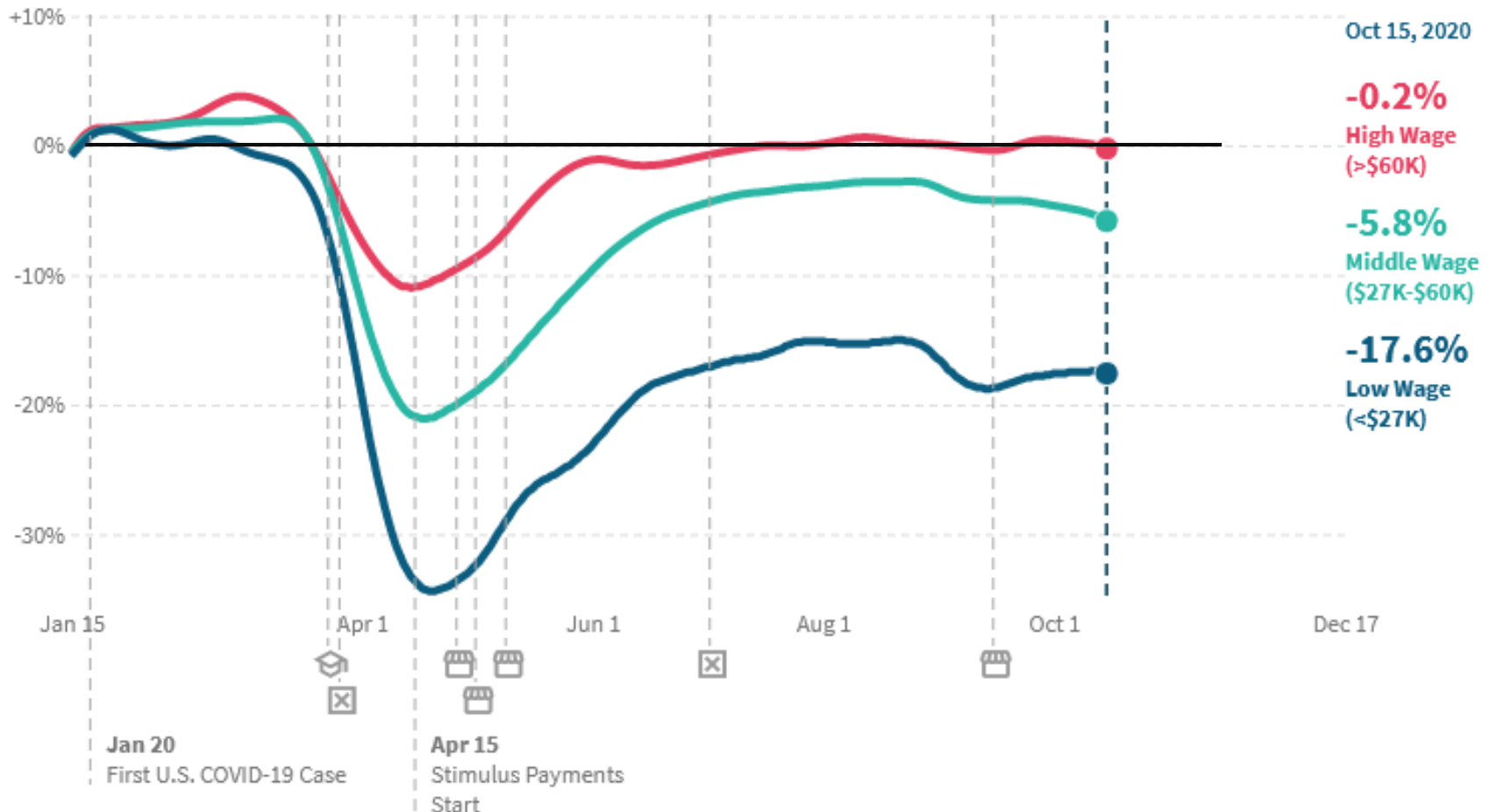
Colorado Monthly Sales Tax Collections

Dollars in Millions



While high-wage employment is at pre-recessionary levels, low-wage workers remain severely impacted

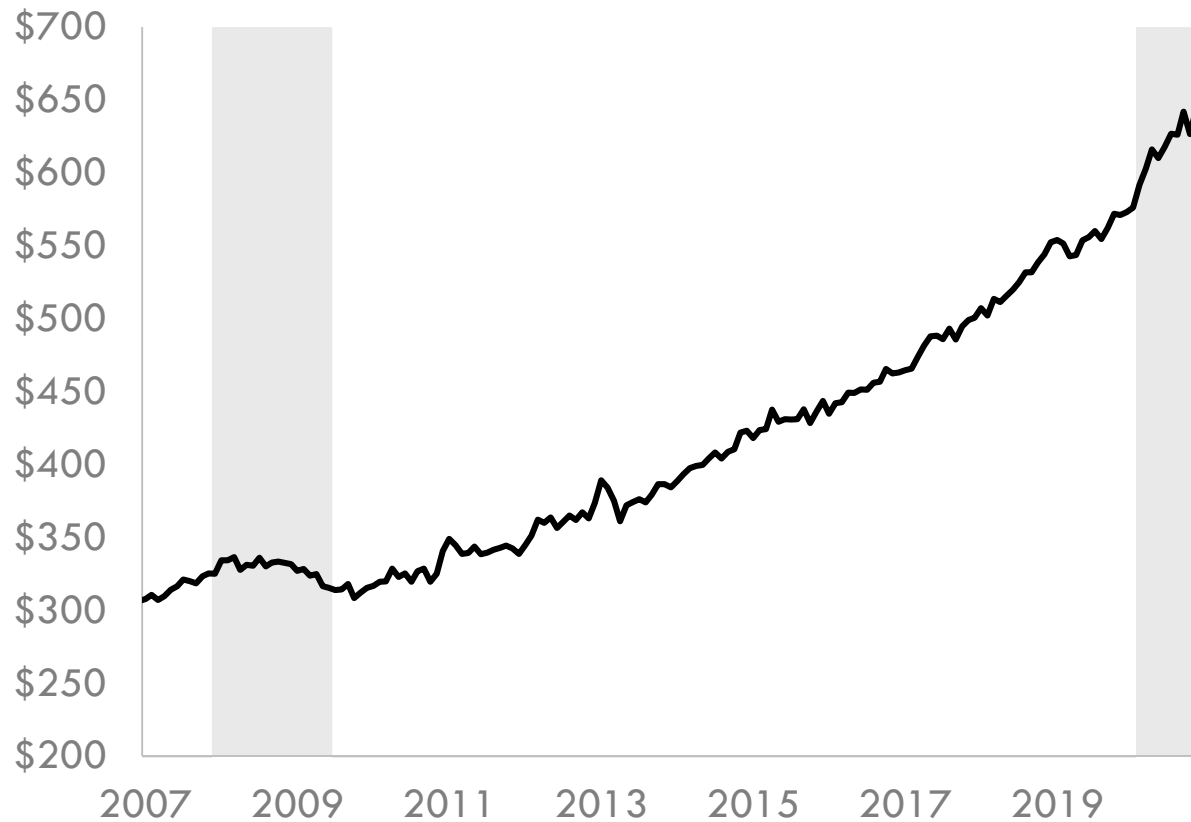
Percent change in Colorado employment since January 2020



Wage withholding continued to grow throughout the pandemic, consistent with a K-shaped recovery

Colorado Monthly Wage Withholding Collections

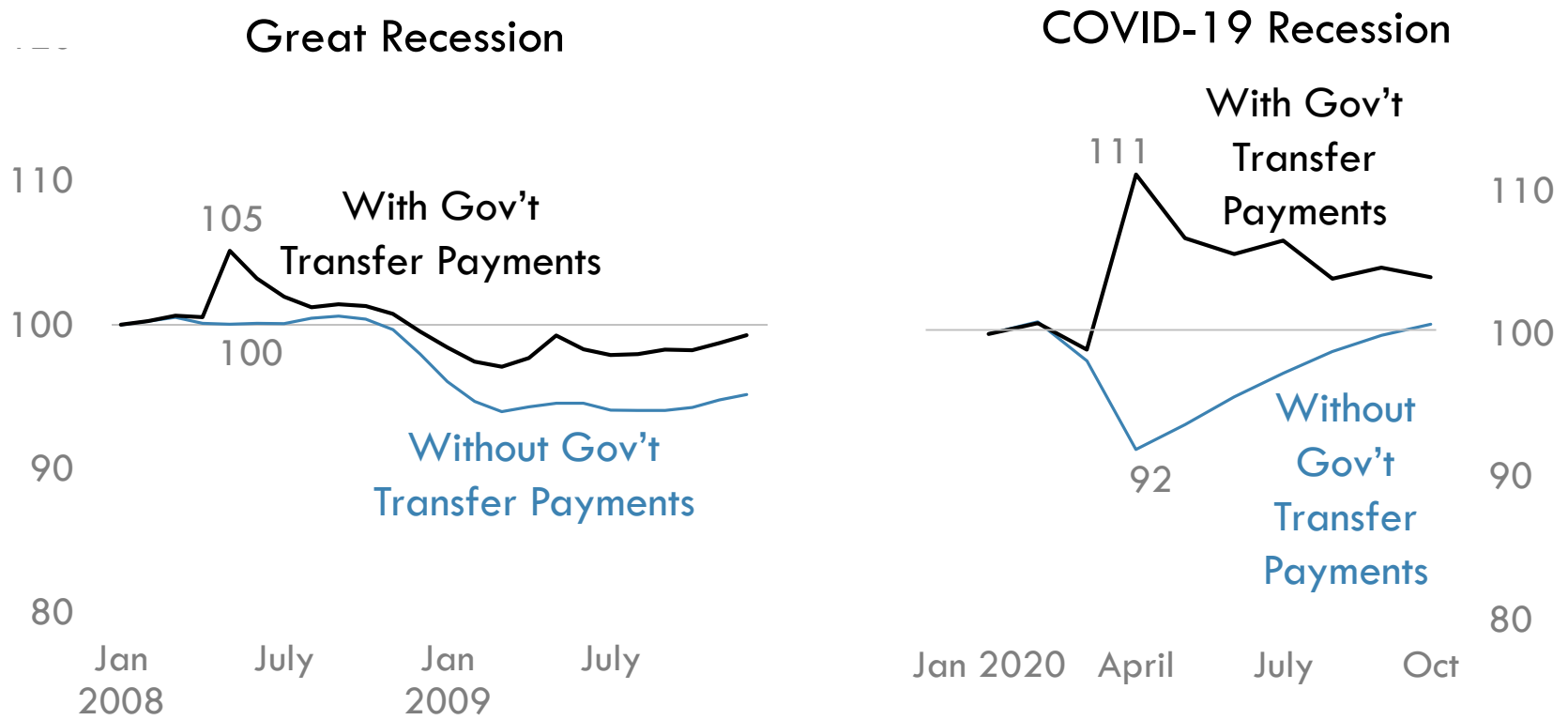
Dollars in Millions



Federal stimulus supported economic activity by more than offsetting wage losses and boosting consumption

U.S. Personal Income

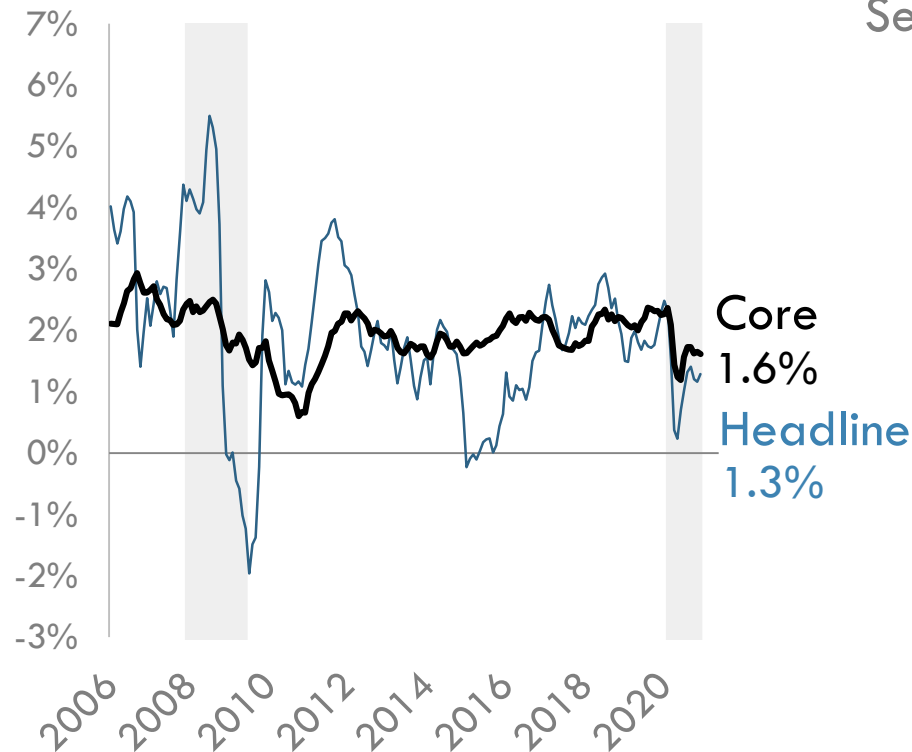
Indexed to Pre-Recession Levels



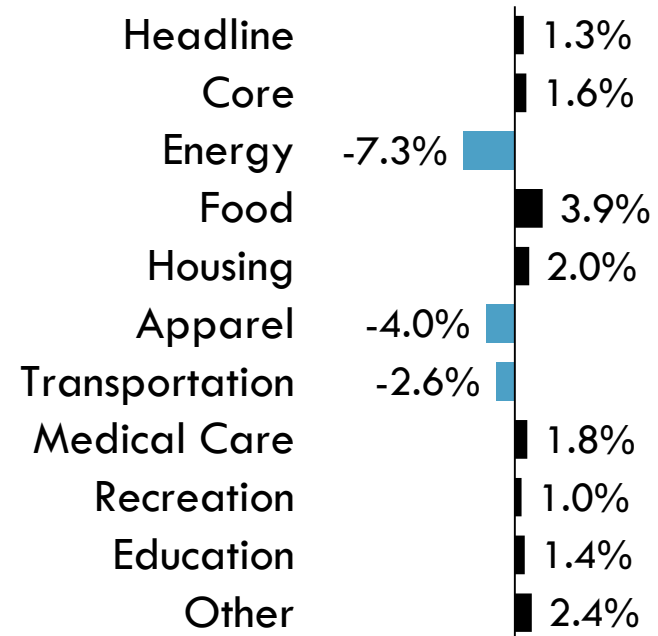
Inflationary pressure remains subdued

U.S. City Average CPI-U Inflation

Year-over-Year Change in Prices



Selected Components, December 2020



Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	2020	2021	2022
CPI-U Inflation	2.0%	2.2%	2.3%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Inflation is calculated as the growth in urban area prices in a given period relative to the same period in the prior year.

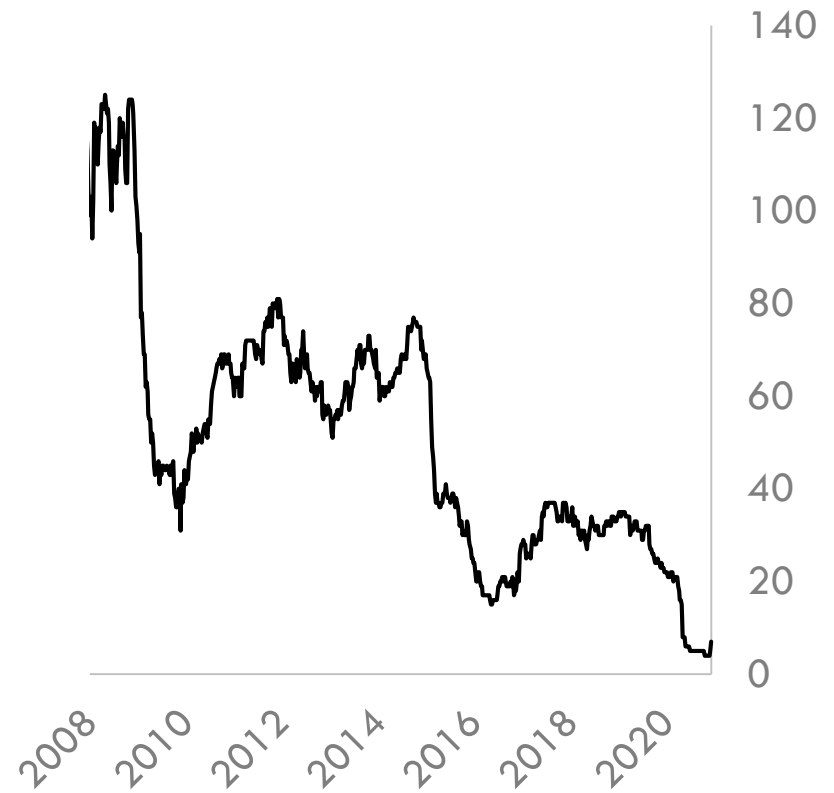
*Headline inflation includes all products and services. **Core inflation excludes food and energy prices.

Reduced travel activity continues to keep downward pressure on oil prices and new exploration in Colorado and nationally

West Texas Intermediate
Crude Oil Prices
Dollars per Barrel



Active Rig Counts in Colorado



Outlook Summary

- The economic recovery continues to outpace expectations, yet softening at the end of the year with the rise in COVID-19 cases poses near-term downside risks
- While many households and businesses have recovered, others continue to be hit hard in this K-shaped recovery
- Vaccine distribution heightened optimism and is expected to boost economic activity starting in the second half of 2021
- Consistent with past recessions, labor markets will lag recovery in other parts of the economy
- Inflationary pressures will remain subdued as low energy prices, low global demand offset global supply constraints

Risks to the Forecast

Downside

- Weakening with the resurgence of COVID-19
- Pullback in consumption and investment as stimulus ends
- Long-term damage from the pandemic (“scarring”)

Upside

- COVID-19 vaccines
- Additional federal stimulus
- Structural shifts resulting in innovations

General Fund Budget Outlook



General Fund collections were increased on higher than expected collections to date, vaccine distribution

Gross General Fund Revenue

Billions of Dollars

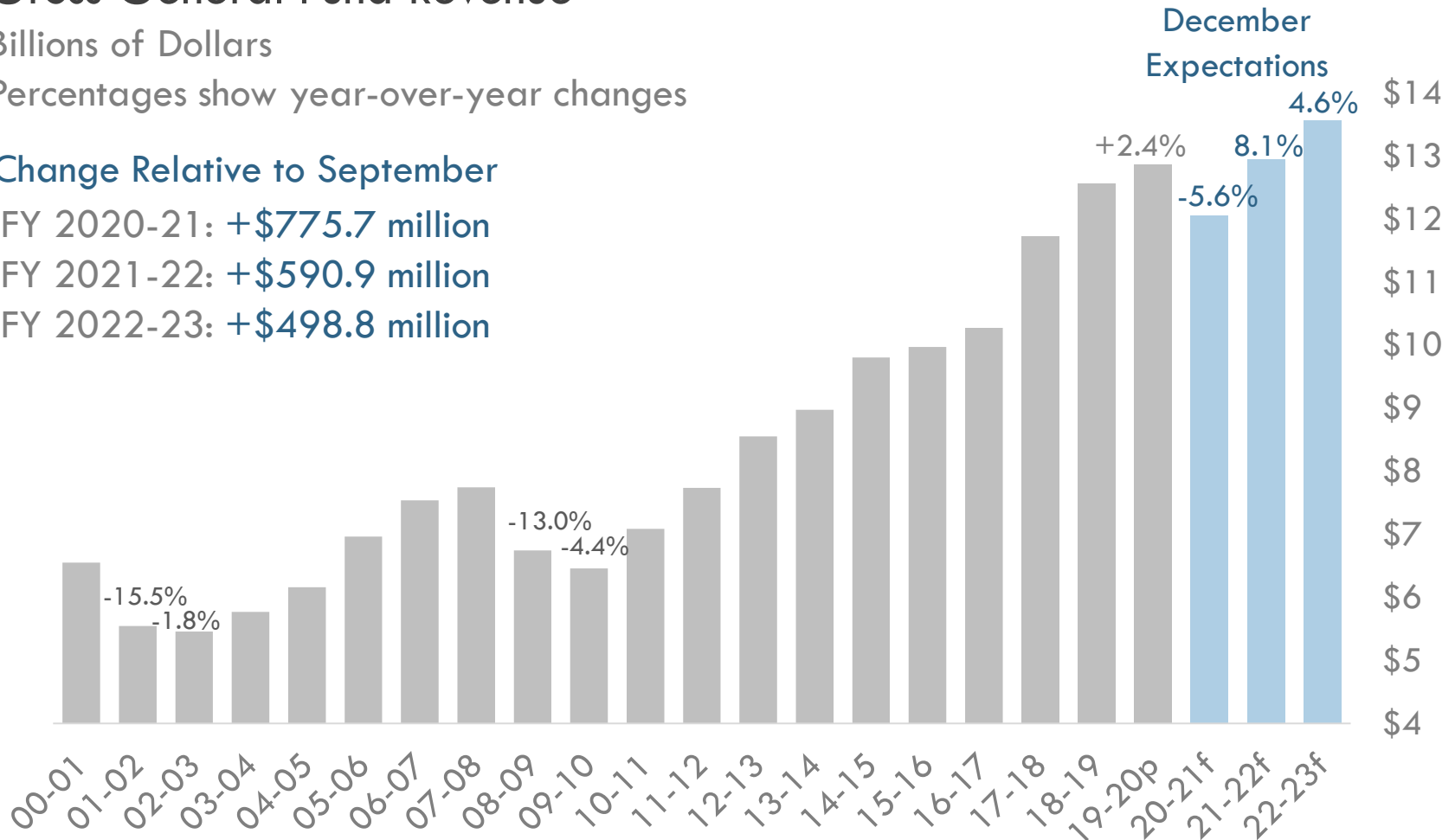
Percentages show year-over-year changes

Change Relative to September

FY 2020-21: +\$775.7 million

FY 2021-22: +\$590.9 million

FY 2022-23: +\$498.8 million

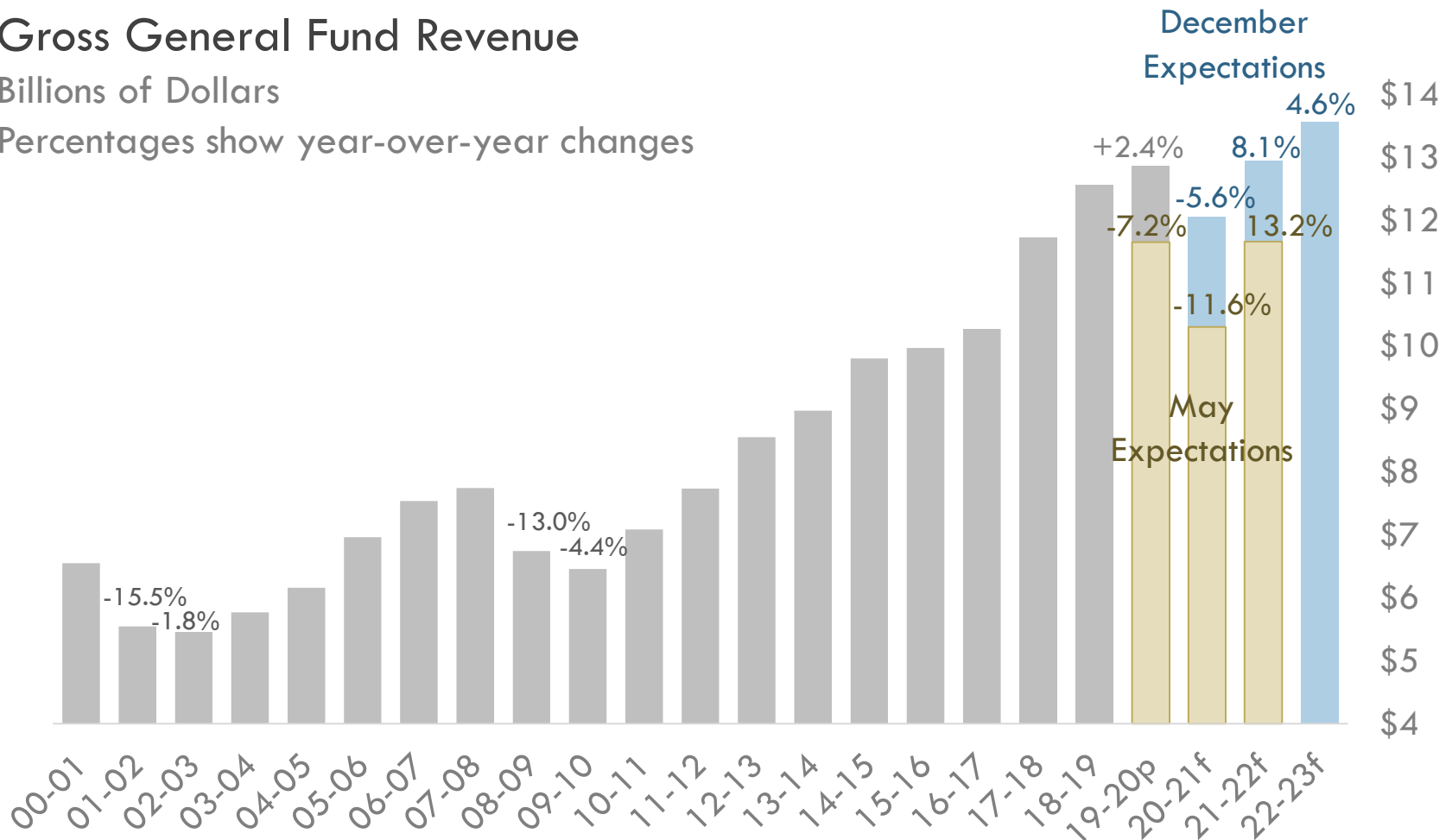


Revenue expectations have increased considerably as data have become available and suggested a much stronger economic landscape than imagined in May

Gross General Fund Revenue

Billions of Dollars

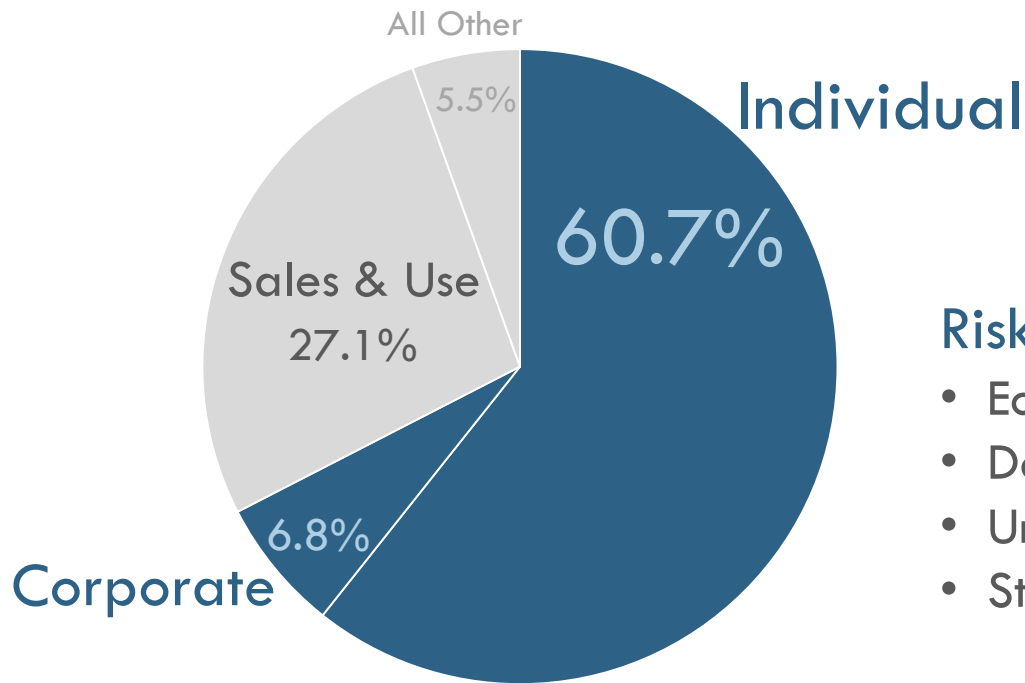
Percentages show year-over-year changes



Source: Colorado Office of the State Controller and Legislative Council Staff December and May 2020 forecasts.

The 2020 regular income tax filing season will show the impact of the COVID recession. However, these collections won't start to come in until at least February 2020

Share of General Fund Revenue*



Risks to the Income Tax Forecast

- Economic uncertainty
- Delayed filing deadlines
- Unemployment insurance benefits
- State and federal policy changes

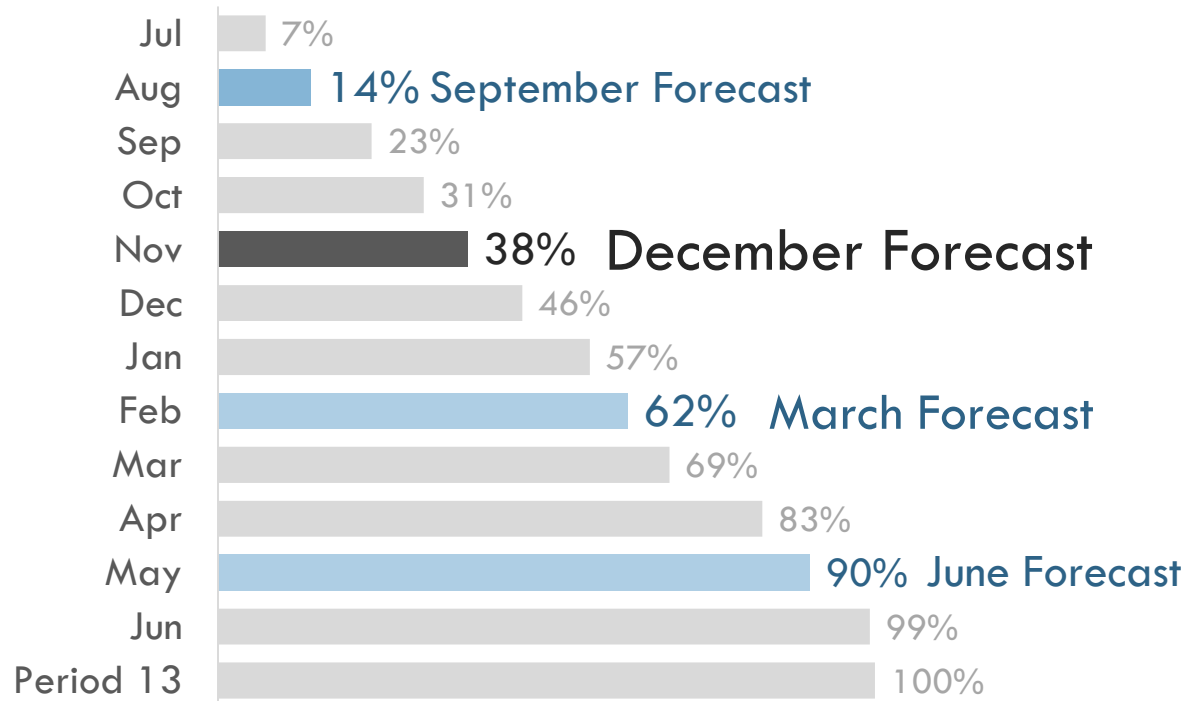
Source: Colorado Office of the State Controller and Legislative Council Staff calculations.

*Based on FY 2018-19 collections. Income taxes net of the State Education Fund diversion.

Projections for FY 2020-21 are still based on limited data

How Much Do We Know About FY 2020-21?

Available General Fund Collections Data as a Share of Total Fiscal Year Collections*



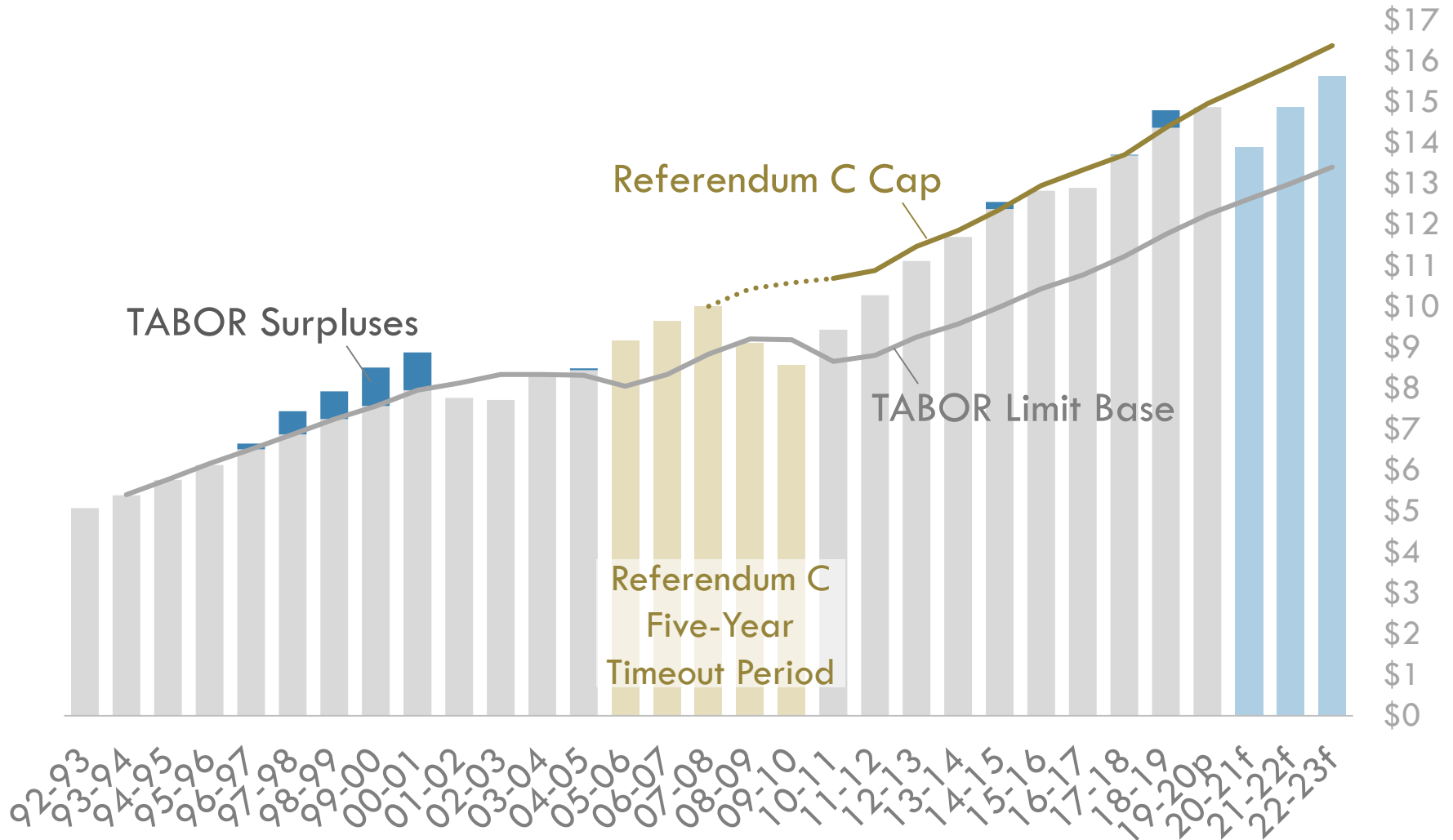
Source: Colorado Office of the State Controller and Legislative Council Staff calculations.

*Six-year average of actual collections data, FY 2013-14 to FY 2018-19.

TABOR Outlook

Revenue Subject to TABOR

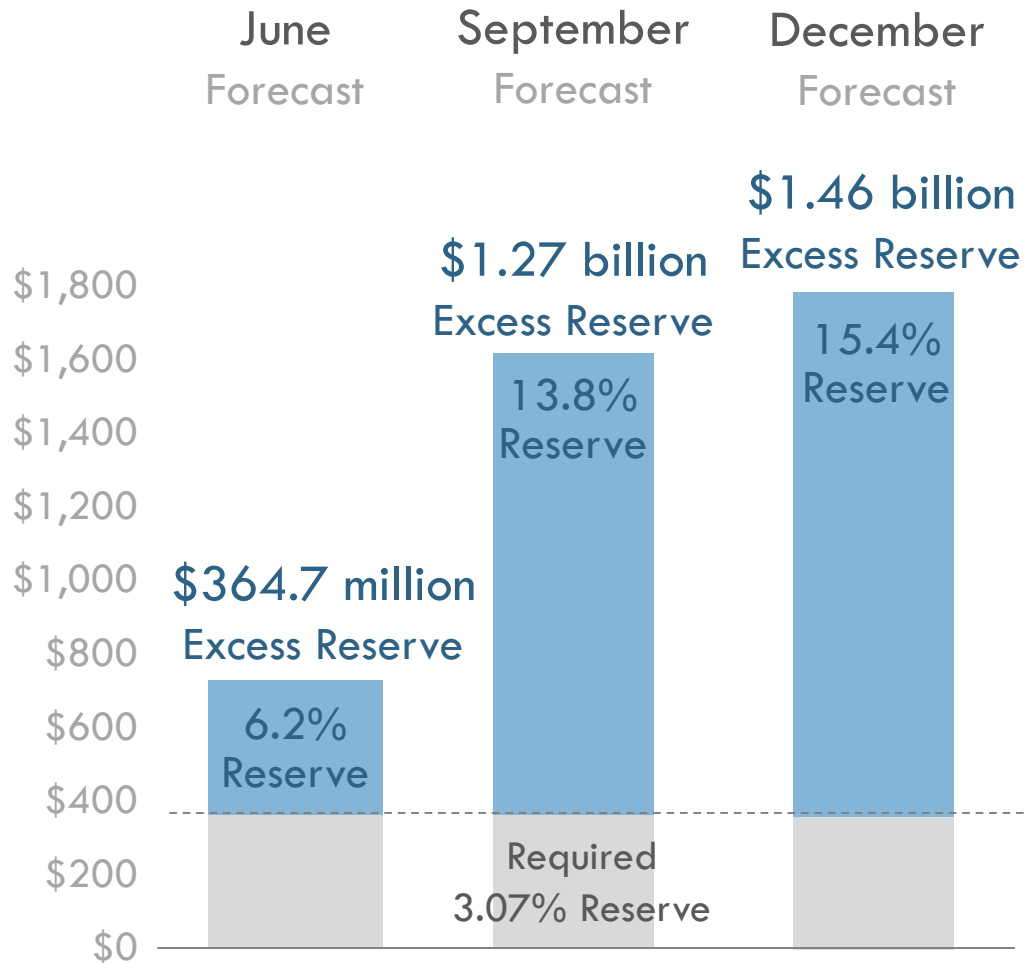
Dollars in Billions



Source: Colorado Office of the State Controller and Legislative Council Staff December 2020 forecast.

Completed Year | FY 2019-20 General Fund Reserve

Dollars in Millions



Changes across forecasts:

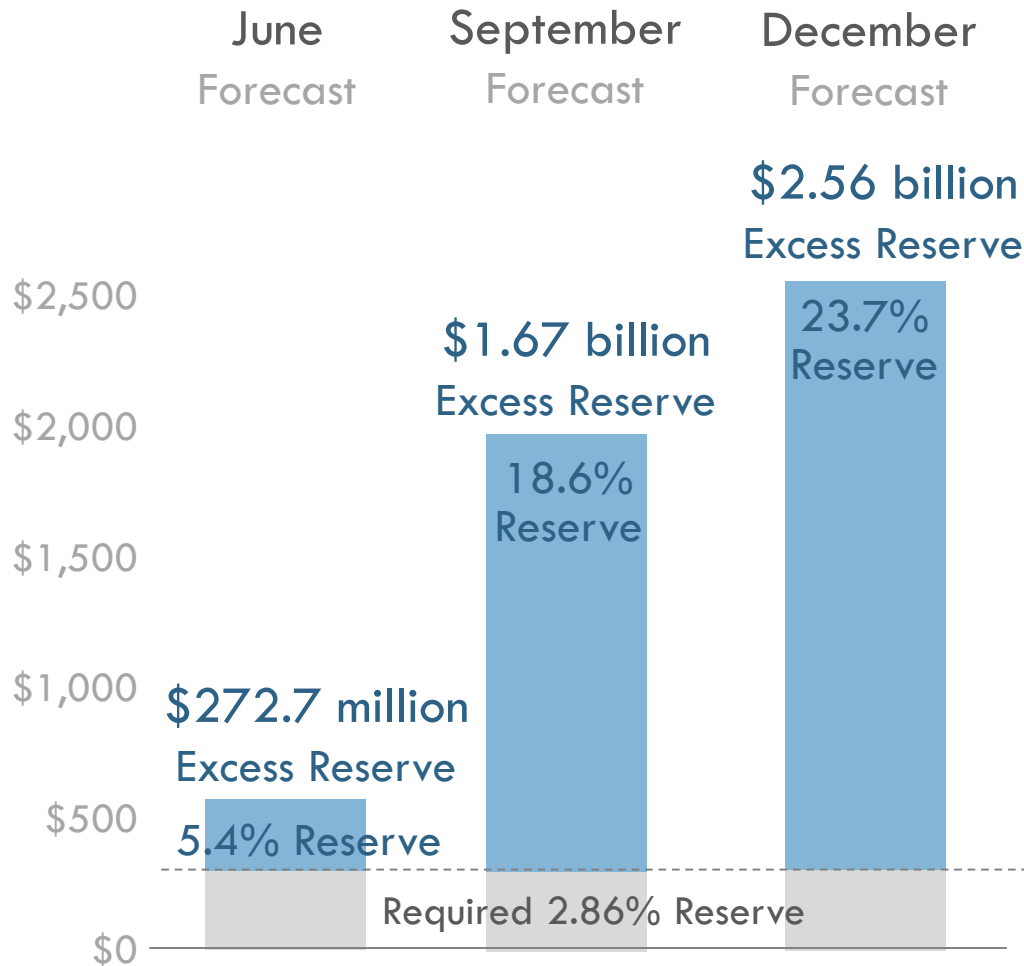
Revenue: 2019 incomes tax collections came in much stronger than expected

Appropriations: Reduced with budget balancing actions in May

Net transfers from the General Fund also reduced with budget balancing legislation

Source: Legislative Council Staff forecasts based on current law.
See Table 2 in the December 2020 forecast for more information.

Current Year | FY 2020-21 General Fund Revenue



Changes across forecasts:

Beginning balance: +\$1.8 billion carried over from FY 2019-20

Revenue expectations increased considerably on higher 2019 collections and increased economic expectations

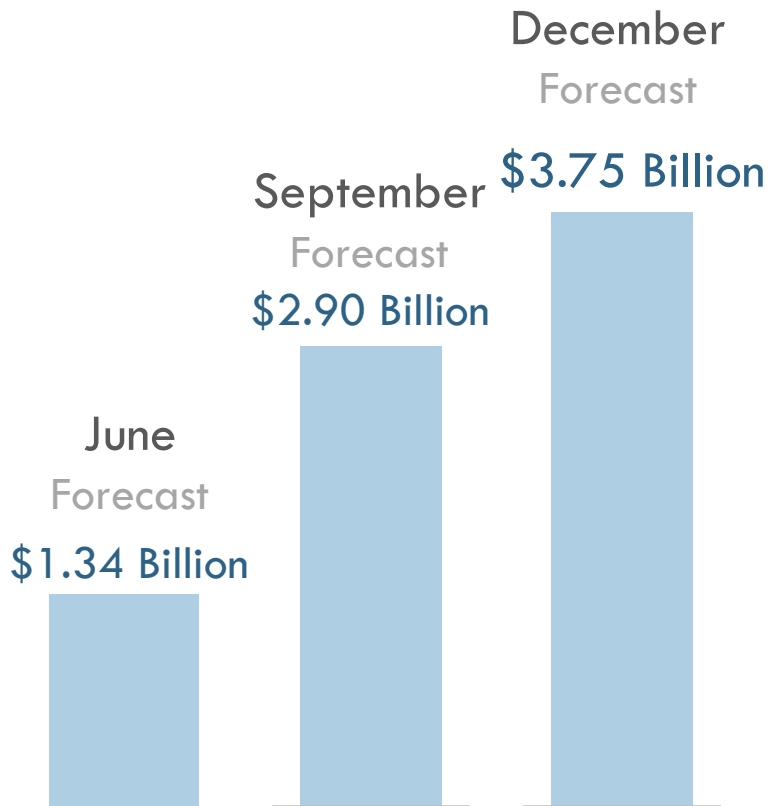
Net transfers reduced with budget balancing legislation

Net transfers and appropriations subsequently increased with special session legislation, November election outcomes

Source: Legislative Council Staff forecasts based on current law. See Table 2 in the December 2020 forecast for more information.

Next Year | FY 2021-22 Budget Outlook

Additional revenue available to spend or save above FY 2020-21 spending levels. Amounts hold FY 2020-21 appropriations constant and incorporate the revenue forecast, current law transfers, rebates and expenditures, and the 2.86% reserve requirement.



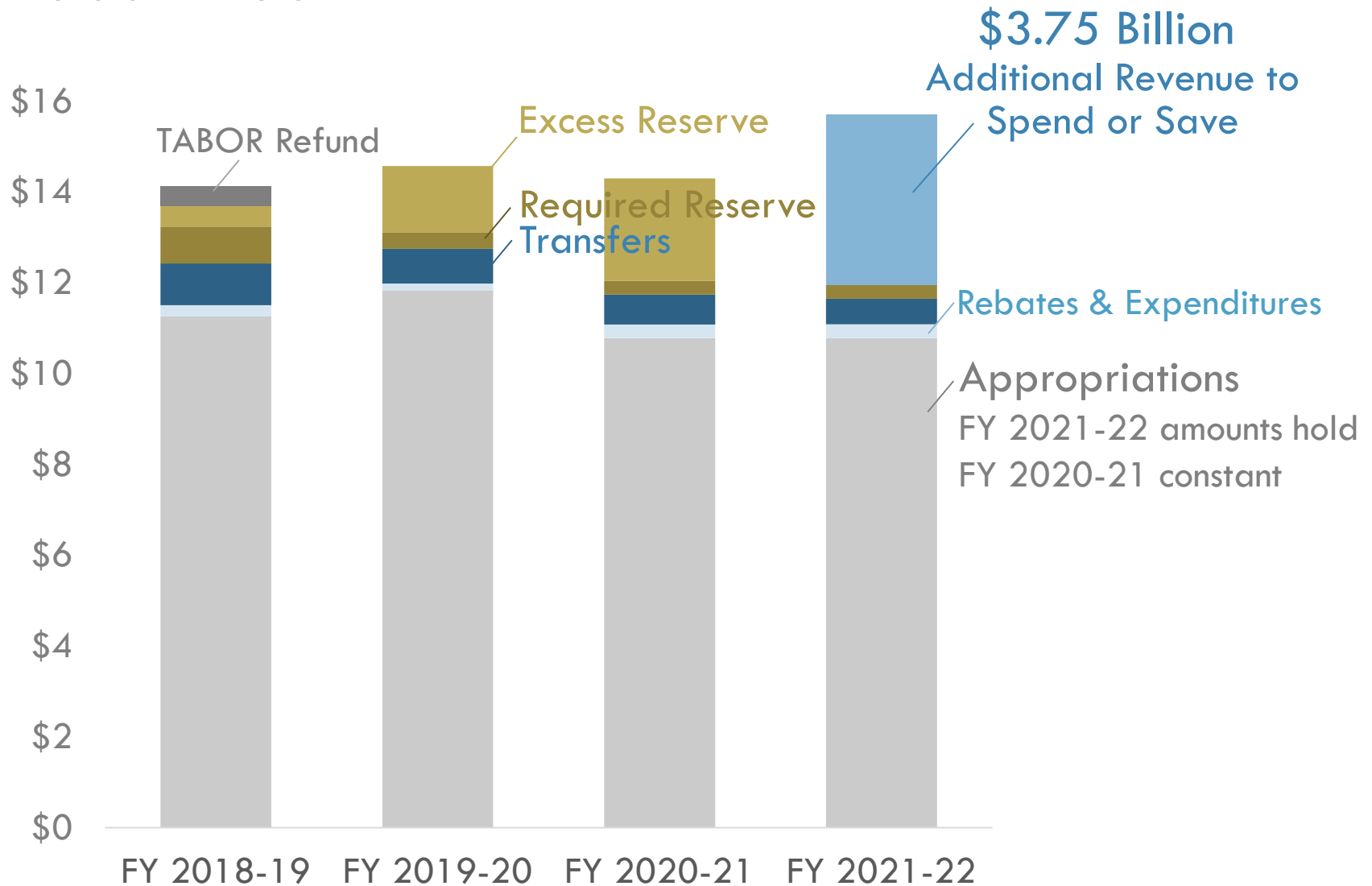
Amounts do not account for caseload growth, inflationary, or other budgetary pressures

Other considerations

- Any changes made to FY 2020-21 budget will impact this amount
- Elevated uncertainty
- CARES Act CRF moneys no longer available

General Fund Budget (Spending or Saving)

Dollars in Billions



Source: Legislative Council Staff December 2020 forecast and current law.

Risks to the Forecast

Unknowns

- Extent of economic damage and its lasting effects (“scarring”)
- Impacts of coming off of the federal stimulus; Additional stimulus?
- Influence of the recession and policy changes on 2020 income taxes

Downside risk: Greater than expected weakening with the rise in COVID-19 cases, long-term damage (“scarring”) from the pandemic

Upside risk: Additional stimulus, resiliency and innovation

K-12 Enrollment Forecast



K-12 Public School Enrollment

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Students

Region	Actual 2020-21	Percent Change	Estimated 2021-22	Percent Change	Estimated 2022-23	Percent Change
Metro Denver	479,633	-2.9%	489,740	2.1%	489,485	-0.1%
Northern	89,704	-2.2%	92,639	3.3%	93,322	0.7%
Colorado Springs	122,299	-1.3%	124,660	1.9%	123,643	-0.8%
Pueblo	32,172	-3.5%	33,299	3.5%	32,863	-1.3%
Eastern Plains	26,430	-1.7%	26,946	2.0%	26,698	-0.9%
San Luis Valley	7,121	-4.0%	7,371	3.5%	7,271	-1.4%
Mountain	24,305	-4.6%	25,124	3.4%	24,886	-0.9%
Southwest Mountain	14,583	7.6%	14,750	1.2%	14,435	-2.1%
Western	49,671	-4.3%	51,332	3.3%	51,391	0.1%
Statewide Total	845,916	-2.6%	865,860	2.4%	863,994	-0.2%

Enrollment Forecast Assumptions

- Students not enrolled in public school this year were either:
 - Homeschooled
 - In learning-pods
 - In private school
 - Held back (mostly for kindergarten)
- Most school districts will return to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year
- Most students will return to their prior school districts next year
- Longer-term pressures on enrollment remain (lower birth rates, housing affordability issues, slowing net in-migration)

Risks to the K-12 Enrollment Forecast

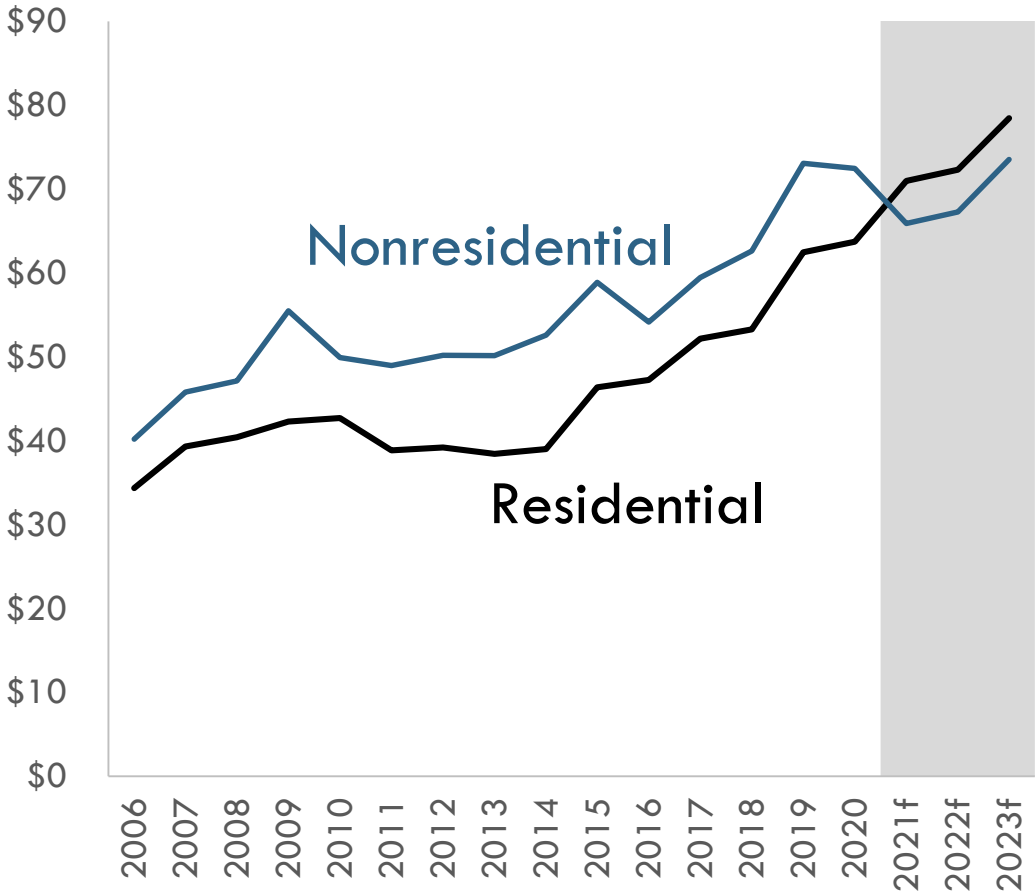
- Uncertainty around vaccine roll out timelines
- Stickiness of current alternative education choices
- “Redshirt” kindergarteners: enroll in K or move to 1st?
- Relocation of families for employment, health concerns, or housing affordability

Assessed Valuation Forecast



Assessed Values in Colorado

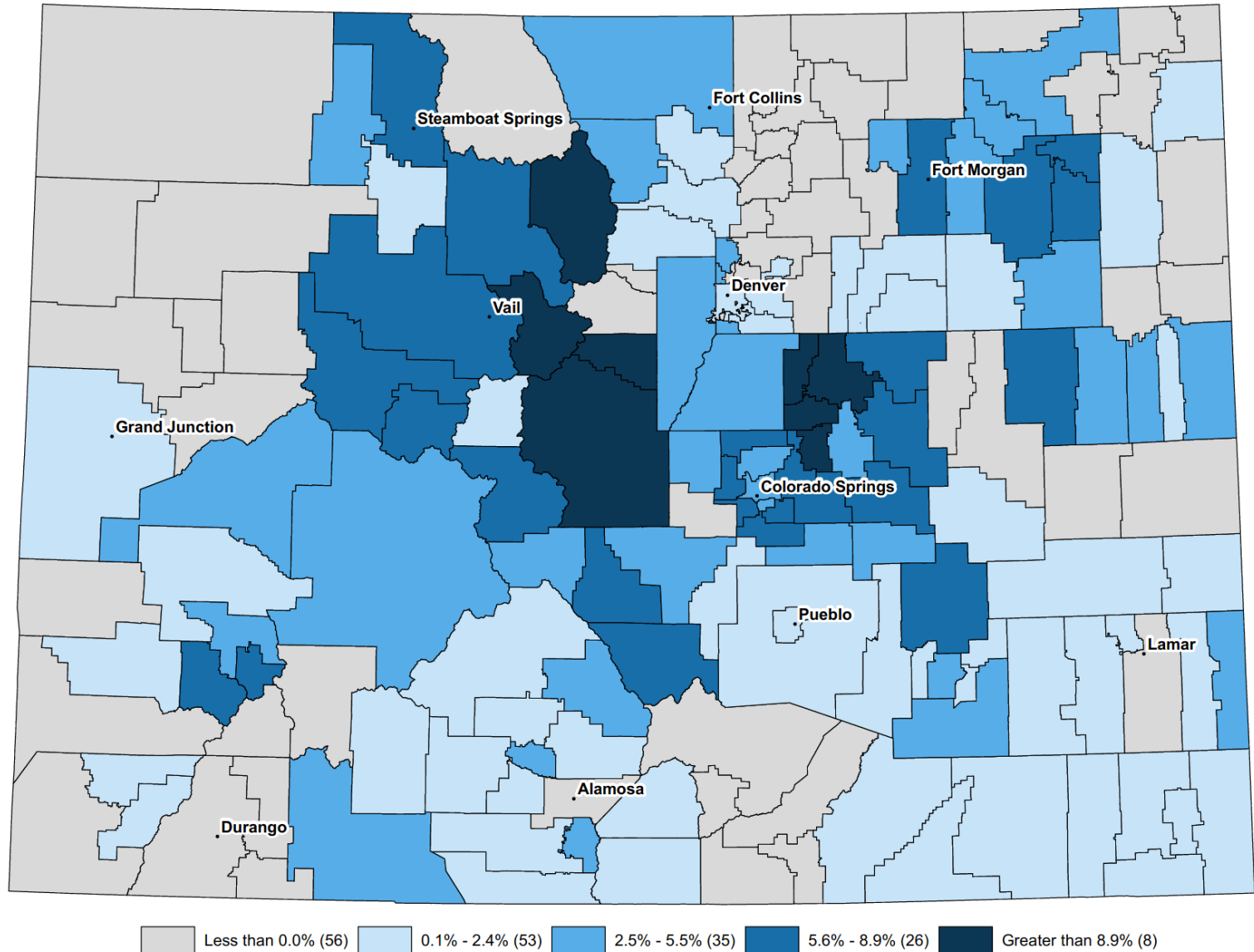
Dollars in Billions



Year	Total Assessed Value	Percent Change
2014	\$91.6	3.3%
2015	\$105.3	15.0%
2016	\$101.4	-3.7%
2017	\$111.6	10.1%
2018	\$115.9	3.8%
2019	\$135.6	17.0%
2020	\$136.2	0.5%
2021f	\$136.9	0.5%
2022f	\$139.6	2.0%
2023f	\$152.0	8.9%

Source: Colorado Division of Property Taxation and Legislative Council Staff December 2020 forecast (f).

Change in Total Assessed Values by School District 2020 to 2021



Questions?

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