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Charting the Course of Connecticut's COVID Economy

> 2020 Issues Conference Office of Legislative Research Office of Fiscal Analysis

### **Presentation Overview**

- Part I: Employment
- Part II: Housing
- Part III: Consumers and Businesses
- Part IV: State Budget



# Part I: Employment

## Connecticut's official unemployment rate peaked in July at 10.2%; The national rate peaked at 14.7% in April

**CT vs. US Unemployment Rates** 



# CT DOL analysts believe the official BLS estimate understates the actual unemployment level. They estimate CT's unemployment rate peaked in April at 19%.

**CT Unemployment Rates: Actual vs. Estimated** 



### **Unemployment Claims**

44,075

80,570

Average weekly **initial UI claims** for April 2020 **1** 963% from April 2019

318,463 Number of continuing claims CT DOL processed for the week of May 2, 2020, nearly 18% of the state's workforce

Number of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) **continuing claims** for the week of May 9, 2020





## Since February, industry sectors providing "in-person" services have suffered the greatest job losses

Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation Accommodation & Food Services **Other Services Educational Services** Real Estate, Rental, & Leasing State Government Local Government Administrative & Support Retail Trade US CT Construction Information Management of Companies & Enterprises Health Care & Social Assistance Manufacturing Finance & Insurance Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services Wholesale Trade Federal Government 25010 30% 20% 15% 20% 20% solo 500

Employment Change: February 2020 to October 2020

Source: CT DOL and US BLS, Current Employment Statistics

## Who are the Unemployed?

- More Female
- Younger
- Lower Wage



### Which Industries are Hiring?





Health Care and Social Assistance 10,632 postings **Retail Trade** 7,884 postings



**Finance & Insurance** 4,622 postings



**Manufacturing** 3,865 postings



Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services 2,866 postings

## Part II: Housing

17-

CU

### **Unequal Impacts of COVID-19**



Looming Eviction Crisis



**Booming Housing Market** 



# Existing eviction moratoriums are set to expire at the end of December



#### As protections expire, evictions are increasing

#### Hartford County

#### **Fairfield County**



**EVICTION FILINGS BY WEEK** 

Jun

Jul

Source: Princeton University Eviction Lab, March 15-Nov. 22, 2020

Sep

Aug

Oct

Nov :

# Many renters are behind on rent and believe eviction is likely in the near future

Not Caught Up On Rent (among adults in rental housing), Oct. 28 – Nov. 23.

| СТ | 19% |
|----|-----|
| NY | 25% |
| NJ | 21% |
| MA | 17% |
| RI | 17% |
| ME | 14% |
| NH | 12% |
| νт | 12% |

### 38,882

CT renters behind on rent who believe eviction is likely in the next two months

### \$40 Million

Current funding for the state's COVID-19 Temporary Rental Housing Assistance Program (TRHAP)

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey

#### Landlords expect the pandemic to drive an increased eviction rate

**3.1%** Average statewide eviction rate between 2001 and 2016

Source: DataHaven analysis (2019) of Eviction Lab data

4.9%

Best case estimate of average expected 2020 eviction rate by CT landlords

Source: State survey of residential landlords, May 2020

### 16.5%

Worst case estimate of average expected 2020 eviction rate by CT landlords

Source: State survey of residential landlords, May 2020

#### Black and Latino renters are more likely to be impacted by an increased eviction rate



#### Eviction Filings, March 11 to Nov. 23, 2020

61%

Share of Black renter households

**66%** Share of Latino renter households

**12%** Share of White renter households **26%** Severe Cost-Burden Renter Rate\*

Source: Source: Census Bureau ACS, 2018 & 2017(\*)

The pandemic housing market is strong across the country





Home sales yearover-year Median sale price year-over-year



Inventory year-overyear **38 days** Average time from listing to contract



Source: RE/MAX, Oct. 2020

#### Home values in the state are at their highest level since the housing crash

Typical Connecticut Home Values, 2008–2020



Source: Zillow Home Value Index (ZHVI)

# Experts cite several pandemic-related factors driving the strong performance of the housing market



**Low Interest Rates** 

**Increased Mobility** 

**Pandemic Priorities** 

# A booming housing market may exacerbate existing inequities in homeownership



## Part III: Consumers and Businesses

The economy rebounded a bit in 3rd quarter after a 2nd quarter drop, but it's not enough

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) US ↓31.1% ↓31.4% 2Q **↑33.1%** data not **3**Q yet available

**↑53%** 

3Q increase necessary to return to 2019 4Q level

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

#### Consumer spending has bounced back since its low point in April, but the rate of growth has slowed



<sup>(</sup>in billions of chained 2012 dollars)



# As consumer spending decreased, personal savings hit a record high. But only some are saving.

Personal Savings as a Percentage of Disposable Personal Income



66% +

Share of spending reductions attributable to households in the top 25% of income distribution

Source: Opportunity Insights Economic Tracker

# Spending on services has not recovered as well as spending on goods



### **Connecticut residents are traveling less**



### Telework down from April, but still part of life for most Americans

| 100 |                        |                           |
|-----|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 75  | Always (51%)           | Always (33%)              |
| 50  |                        | Sometimes (25%)           |
|     | Sometimes (18%)        |                           |
| 25  | Never (31%)            | Never (42%)               |
| 0   | April<br>Source: Gallu | September<br>up News Poll |

69%

worked from home at least sometimes in April

58%

worked from home at least sometimes in September

# Significantly fewer businesses expect to be profitable in 2020, but most expect to at least break even

#### **Business Profitability Expectations**

#### **Business Sales Growth**



Source: Connecticut Business and Industry Assocation Business Survey 2020

The Federal Paycheck Protection Program may have mitigated some of the pandemic's effects on businesses

64,629

Number of PPP loans received by CT businesses



Average loan amount to CT businesses



Total PPP loans awarded to CT businesses Economists found that **PPP significantly increased** companies' employment, financial health, and continuity in the short-term, but its medium-term effects are unknown.

Source: Has the Paycheck Protection Program Succeeded?; Hubbard and Strain

## Part IV: State Budget

### **FY 21 General Fund Summary**

#### In Millions of Dollars

| Summary                                      |          | FY 21     |  |
|--|----------|-----------|--|
| Budgeted Balance                             |          | 166.2     |  |
| Revenue                                      |          |           |  |
| Budgeted                                     |          | 20,252.5  |  |
| Consensus Adjustment                         |          |           |  |
| Withholding                                  |          | (487.9)   |  |
| Sales & Use Tax                              |          | (342.1)   |  |
| Corporations                                 |          | (313.8)   |  |
| Estimates & Finals / Pass-Through Entity Tax |          | (371.9)   |  |
| Volatility Cap                               |          | 301.5     |  |
| Other  |          | (201.1)   |  |
|  | Subtotal | (1,415.3) |  |
| Expenditures                                 |          |           |  |
| Budgeted                                     |          | 20,086.3  |  |
| Rescissions, CRF & Hiring Savings            |          | 155.4     |  |
| Lapses <sup>1</sup>                          |          | 370.3     |  |
| Deficiencies <sup>1</sup>                    |          | (131.1)   |  |
|  | Subtotal | 394.6     |  |
| SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)                            |          | (854.5)   |  |

<sup>1</sup>These represent cumulative lapses and deficiencies across all General Fund accounts in all agencies.

### General Fund Fixed Cost Changes and Non-Fixed Cost Reductions In Millions of Dollars

| Category                                 | FY 21     | FY 22     | FY 23     | FY 24     |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| January (Pre-Pandemic) Consensus Revenue | 20,317.3  | 19,764.1  | 20,091.7  | 20,618.0  |
| Base Shift                               | (1,480.1) | (1,454.2) | (1,293.0) | (1,315.4) |
| November Consensus Revenue               | 18,837.2  | 18,309.9  | 18,798.7  | 19,302.6  |
| Previous Year Expenditure                |           | 19,691.7  | 18,309.9  | 18,798.7  |
| Fixed Cost Growth                        |           | 685.2     | 652.2     | 415.5     |
| Non-Fixed Cost Expenditure Reductions    |           | (2,067.0) | (163.4)   | -         |
| Subtotal - Expenditures                  | 19,691.7  | 18,309.9  | 18,798.7  | 19,214.2  |
| BALANCE                                  | (854.5)   | -         | -         | 88.4      |
| Unadjusted Balance                       | (854.5)   | (2,067.0) | (2,230.4) | (2,142.0) |

### Projected Revenue Changes from FY 21 to FY 22

#### In Millions of Dollars



#### **Projected Deficits and Budget Reserve Fund Balances**

In Millions of Dollars

| Description                                | FY 21   | FY 22     | FY 23     | FY 24     |  |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Budget Reserve Fund Balance at End of Year | 3,012.9 | 2,158.4   | 91.4      | -         |  |
| Projected Deficits                         | (854.5) | (2,067.0) | (2,230.4) | (2,142.0) |  |
| Use of Budget Reserve Fund                 | 854.5   | 2,067.0   | 91.4      | -         |  |
| Revised Deficits                           | -       | -         | (2,139.0) | (2,142.0) |  |
| Budget Reserve Fund Balance at End of Year | 2,158.4 | 91.4      | -         | -         |  |

## Questions?

Presented by: Rute Pinho Shaun McGann Heather Poole Neil Ayers