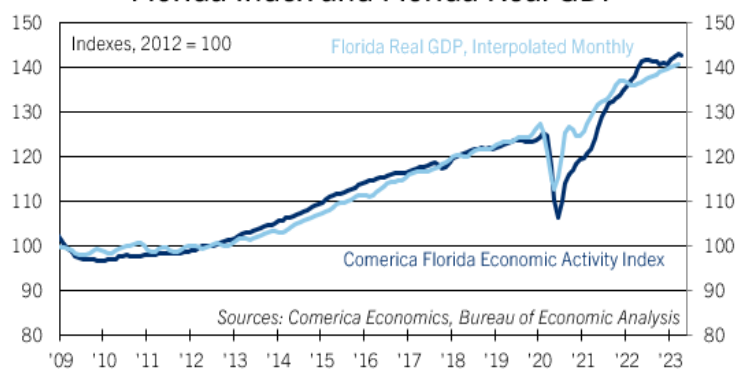


■ Bill Adams ■ Waran Bhahirethan

Florida Economic Snapshot, April 2023

	Apr-23	Mar-23	Feb-23	Jan-23	Dec-22
Comerica Florida Index					
3-month % change, annual rate	3.4	6.1	3.7	2.3	-1.7
Year-over-year % change	2.2	3.6	3.9	4.3	4.2
Real GDP (Quarterly)		Mar-23			Dec-22
Quarterly change, annual rate	--	3.5	--	--	3.7
Year-over-year % change	--	3.1	--	--	1.9
Unemployment Rate, %	Apr-23	Mar-23	Feb-23	Jan-23	Dec-22
Percent	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7

Florida Index and Florida Real GDP



Florida Index Rose Solidly in April

The Comerica Florida Economic Activity Index increased a solid 3.4% in three-month annualized terms in April and was up 2.2% from a year earlier. Three of the index's nine components rose in the month, while six declined.

Florida's labor market continues to be among the best in the nation: 25,100 jobs were added in April; continuing claims for unemployment insurance rose only modestly; and the unemployment was nearly a full percentage point below the national unemployment rate.

Housing starts fell sharply on the month and fell a quarter from a year earlier. House prices rose for the second consecutive month but remain 1.5% below their peak last July. Housing activity is likely to be subdued over the next few quarters, since prices rose much faster than incomes between the onset of the pandemic and early 2022, and then mortgage interest rates surged. The critical tourism sector was

mixed in April, with a pullback in hotel occupancy rates while air passenger volumes posted a strong increase. Seasonally and inflation-adjusted sales tax revenues pulled back 2.9% in April after three consecutive months of robust increases and were up a modest 1.5% in the first four months of the year from the same period in 2022.

Despite the devastation caused by Hurricane Ian, Florida's economy grew 4.0% in 2022, nearly twice the national economy's 2.1% expansion. Florida's economy grew another 3.5% annualized in the first quarter of 2023, well exceeding the national economy's growth rate of 2.0%. Looking forward, Florida's strong labor market and population growth will help the Sunshine State weather a cooler national economy. However, Florida's economic growth will be slower this year than in 2022 due to headwinds from high inflation, high interest rates, and spillovers from weaker national and global economies.

The **Comerica Florida Economic Activity Index** is a monthly composite indicator of state economic activity. The Index provides a wholistic advance view of the state of Florida's economy, using economic data that are available about one quarter earlier than real GDP is released. The Index is comprised of nine components: Nonfarm payroll employment, continuing claims for unemployment insurance, housing starts, house prices, industrial electricity sales, foreign trade, hotel occupancy, enplanements, and sales tax revenue. All data are seasonally adjusted with nominal values converted to constant dollar values as appropriate. To filter out month-to-month volatility in the Index's components, the Index is calculated from the three-month moving averages of its components. Values of a minority of components are projected from their releases in the prior month due to the timing of data releases.

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