

# COMMERCE

THE KNOXVILLE CHAMBER'S MONTHLY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## FEBRUARY 2023

**NOTE – Knoxville MSA includes: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Grainger, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Roane & Union Counties.**

### WORKFORCE

|                               | Dec. 2022   | Nov. 2022   | Dec. 2021   | % Change<br>Nov. '22-<br>Dec. '22 | % Change<br>Dec. '21-<br>Dec. '22 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Resident Labor Force</b>   |             |             |             |                                   |                                   |
| Knox Co.                      | 249,013     | 250,025     | 249,357     | -0.4                              | -0.1                              |
| Knoxville MSA                 | 436,643     | 438,554     | 437,351     | -0.4                              | -0.2                              |
| Tennessee                     | 3,286,597   | 3,300,320   | 3,348,942   | -0.4                              | -1.9                              |
| U.S.                          | 164,224,000 | 164,272,000 | 161,696,000 | 0.0                               | 1.6                               |
| <b>Non-Ag Employment</b>      |             |             |             |                                   |                                   |
| Knoxville MSA                 | 439,500     | 439,700     | 414,300     | 0.0                               | 6.1                               |
| Tennessee                     | 3,301,900   | 3,303,000   | 3,167,300   | 0.0                               | 4.2                               |
| <b>Unemployment Estimates</b> |             |             |             |                                   |                                   |
| Knox Co.                      | 5,956       | 6,910       | 6,547       | -13.8                             | -9.0                              |
| Knoxville MSA                 | 11,455      | 12,997      | 12,471      | -11.9                             | -8.1                              |
| Tennessee                     | 96,624      | 108,261     | 109,741     | -10.7                             | -12.0                             |
| <b>Unemployment Rates</b>     |             |             |             |                                   |                                   |
| Knox Co.                      | 2.4         | 2.8         | 2.6         | -0.4                              | -0.2                              |
| Knoxville MSA                 | 2.6         | 3.0         | 2.9         | -0.4                              | -0.3                              |
| Tennessee                     | 2.9         | 3.3         | 3.3         | -0.4                              | -0.4                              |
| U.S.                          | 3.3         | 3.4         | 3.7         | -0.1                              | -0.4                              |

Sources: Tennessee Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development/U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

### INFLATION RATES - CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) - ALL ITEMS

|                   | Dec. '21-'22 | Nov. '21-'22 | Dec. '20-'21 | % Change<br>Nov. '21-<br>Dec. '22 | % Change<br>Dec. '20-<br>Dec. '22 |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| *Southeast Region | 6.9          | 7.4          | 7.4          | -0.5                              | -0.5                              |
| U.S. Avg.         | 6.5          | 7.1          | 7.0          | -0.6                              | -0.5                              |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*South – City Size Class B/C

### SALES TAX REVENUE - STATE & LOCAL (\$)

|                        | Dec. 2022     | Nov. 2022     | Dec. 2021     | % Change<br>Nov. '22-<br>Dec. '22 | % Change<br>Dec. '21-<br>Dec. '22 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>State Sales Tax</b> |               |               |               |                                   |                                   |
| Knox Co.               | 74,907,594    | 78,677,910    | 72,225,660    | -4.8                              | 3.7                               |
| Knoxville MSA          | 114,596,720   | 120,184,664   | 110,135,765   | -4.6                              | 4.1                               |
| Tennessee              | 1,122,670,200 | 1,132,959,371 | 1,062,729,408 | -0.9                              | 5.6                               |
| <b>Local Sales Tax</b> |               |               |               |                                   |                                   |
| Knox Co.               | 26,521,718    | 27,439,041    | 25,468,995    | -3.3                              | 4.1                               |
| Knoxville MSA          | 43,223,302    | 43,917,055    | 41,135,813    | -1.6                              | 5.1                               |

Source: Tennessee Dept. of Revenue

### RETAIL SALES - NATIONAL (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

| Category                             | Dec. 2022 | Nov. 2022 | Dec. 2021 | % Change<br>Nov. '22-<br>Dec. '22 | % Change<br>Dec. '21-<br>Dec. '22 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Total Retail Sales</b>            | 749,395   | 696,752   | 714,988   | 7.6                               | 4.8                               |
| Building Materials                   | 38,526    | 40,943    | 38,656    | -5.9                              | -0.3                              |
| Clothing Stores                      | 40,739    | 29,217    | 41,676    | 39.4                              | -2.2                              |
| Electronics & Appliances             | 9,764     | 8,442     | 10,912    | 15.7                              | -10.5                             |
| Food & Beverage Stores               | 88,804    | 82,431    | 84,410    | 7.7                               | 5.2                               |
| Food Svcs & Drinking Places          | 89,391    | 84,968    | 73,329    | 5.2                               | 21.9                              |
| Furniture & Home Furnishings         | 12,585    | 12,374    | 13,494    | 1.7                               | -6.7                              |
| Gasoline Stations                    | 54,456    | 60,354    | 51,820    | -9.8                              | 5.1                               |
| General Merchandise Stores           | 88,851    | 76,581    | 89,426    | 16.0                              | -0.6                              |
| Health & Personal Care               | 37,928    | 33,826    | 36,515    | 12.1                              | 3.9                               |
| Miscellaneous Stores                 | 15,620    | 16,228    | 17,072    | -3.7                              | -8.5                              |
| Motor Vehicle & Parts Sales          | 123,914   | 117,504   | 128,825   | 5.5                               | -3.8                              |
| Non-store Retailers                  | 135,424   | 123,493   | 115,372   | 9.7                               | 17.4                              |
| Sporting Goods/Books/<br>Hobby/Music | 13,393    | 10,391    | 13,481    | 28.9                              | -0.7                              |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau – Advance Monthly Retail Trade Report

### RETAIL SALES - KNOXVILLE MSA (\$)

| Category                  | Sep. 2022     | Aug. 2022     | Sep. 2021     | % Change<br>Aug. '22-<br>Sep. '22 | % Change<br>Sep. '21-<br>Sep. '22 |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Total Retail Sales</b> | 1,786,490,952 | 1,845,189,492 | 1,519,489,376 | -3.2                              | 17.6                              |
| Building Materials        | 163,958,552   | 164,196,017   | 122,711,184   | -0.1                              | 33.6                              |
| General Merchandise       | 231,907,978   | 247,296,621   | 198,755,282   | -6.2                              | 16.7                              |
| Food Stores               | 249,065,302   | 256,680,645   | 223,091,169   | -3.0                              | 11.6                              |
| Autos, Boats, Aircraft    | 382,775,033   | 427,660,263   | 331,537,682   | -10.5                             | 15.5                              |
| Service Stations          | 112,211,881   | 125,170,326   | 71,894,585    | -10.4                             | 56.1                              |
| Apparel & Accessories     | 39,510,345    | 34,243,254    | 35,118,923    | 15.4                              | 12.5                              |
| Furniture & Home Decor    | 62,412,833    | 61,591,149    | 76,832,145    | 1.3                               | -18.8                             |
| Eating/Drinking Places    | 225,094,402   | 210,982,692   | 182,913,287   | 6.7                               | 23.1                              |
| Other Retail              | 319,059,845   | 316,811,929   | 276,630,984   | 0.7                               | 15.3                              |

Note: Local retail sales estimates lag behind several months. Source: Tennessee Department of Revenue

### HOUSING MARKET

|                              | Dec. 2022 | Nov. 2022 | Dec. 2021 | % Change<br>Nov. '22-<br>Dec. '22 | % Change<br>Dec. '21-<br>Dec. '22 |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Homes Sold (SAAR)*</b>    | 18,446    | 17,747    | 26,281    | 3.9                               | -29.8                             |
| Active Listings Inventory    | 3,220     | 3,807     | 2,372     | -15.4                             | 35.8                              |
| Median Home Sales Price (\$) | 318,000   | 312,000   | 291,000   | 1.9                               | 9.3                               |
| Months of Inventory          | 2.05      | 2.24      | 0.00      | -0.19                             | 2.05                              |

Source: Knoxville Area Association of Realtors

\*Note: The Knoxville Area Association of REALTORS® (KAAR) reports monthly home sales patterns using a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR), an adjusted rate that takes into account typical seasonal fluctuations in data and is expressed as an annual total. Comparing month-over-month housing market data using this method provides a more accurate depiction of home sales.

### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

|                         | Dec. 2022* | Dec. 2021 | % Change<br>Dec. '21-<br>Dec. '22 |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Knoxville (City)</b> |            |           |                                   |
| Total                   | 16         | 103       | -84.5                             |
| Single-Family           | 16         | 23        | -30.4                             |
| Multi-Family            | 0          | 80        | -100.0                            |
| <b>Knox Co.</b>         |            |           |                                   |
| Total                   | 122        | 242       | -49.6                             |
| Single-Family           | 114        | 147       | -22.4                             |
| Multi-Family            | 8          | 95        | -91.6                             |
| <b>Knoxville MSA</b>    |            |           |                                   |
| Total                   | 237        | 401       | -40.9                             |
| Single-Family           | 198        | 270       | -26.7                             |
| Multi-Family            | 39         | 131       | -70.2                             |
| <b>Tennessee</b>        |            |           |                                   |
| Total                   | 2,107      | 4,223     | -50.1                             |
| Single-Family           | 1,526      | 2,131     | -28.4                             |
| Multi-Family            | 581        | 2,092     | -72.2                             |

\*All 2022 building permit data is preliminary and therefore subject to revision throughout the year.

Sources: U.S. Housing & Urban Development – SOCDs – State of the Cities Data Systems; U.S. Census Bureau – Building Permits Survey

### AIR SERVICE (MCGHEE-TYSON AIRPORT)

|                   | Dec. 2022 | Nov. 2022 | Dec. 2021 | % Change<br>Nov. '22-<br>Dec. '22 | % Change<br>Dec. '21-<br>Dec. '22 |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Passengers</b> | 202,343   | 213,345   | 185,605   | -5.2                              | 9.0                               |
| <b>Freight</b>    | 6,974,764 | 6,956,208 | 7,835,353 | 0.3                               | -11.0                             |

Source: Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority

For more information on research, contact Joe Riley, jriley@knoxvillechamber.com. To learn more about this data, please visit [www.knoxvillechamber.com/eco](http://www.knoxvillechamber.com/eco). If you are interested in being a participant in our monthly economic outlook surveys, please register at [www.knoxvillechamber.com/ecoregistration](http://www.knoxvillechamber.com/ecoregistration).