

**Business & Industry Consulting** 

INFLATION REPORT AND CU STRATEGY

Market Analysis

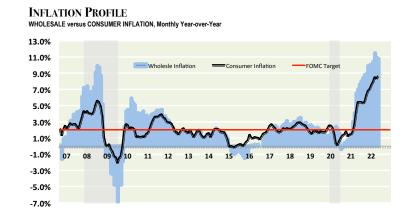
Strategic Solutions

**Financial Investments** 

Risk Management

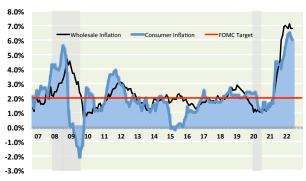
egulatory Expert

## INFLATION ENVIRONMENT









		Annual Rates					Monthly Year-over-Year							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Oct'21	Nov	Dec	Jan '22	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
Wholesale Inflation														
Overall Wholesale Inflation	2.6%	2.2%	2.2%	0.8%	9.8%	8.8%	9.6%	9.8%	10.0%	10.4%	11.5%	11.0%	10.8%	
Core Wholesale Inflation	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	1.1%	7.0%	6.3%	6.9%	7.0%	6.8%	6.7%	7.1%	6.9%	6.8%	
Consumer Inflation														
Overall Consumer Inflation	2.1%	1.9%	1.9%	1.4%	7.0%	6.2%	6.8%	7.0%	7.5%	7.9%	8.5%	8.3%	8.6%	
Food	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	3.9%	6.3%	5.3%	6.1%	6.3%	7.0%	7.9%	8.8%	9.4%	10.1%	
- Food at Home	0.9%	0.6%	0.6%	3.9%	6.5%	5.4%	6.4%	6.5%	7.4%	8.6%	10.0%	10.8%	11.9%	
- Food Away from Home	2.5%	2.8%	2.8%	3.9%	6.0%	5.3%	5.8%	6.0%	6.4%	6.8%	6.9%	7.2%	7.4%	
Energy	6.9%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-7.0%	29.3%	30.0%	33.3%	29.3%	27.0%	25.6%	32.0%	30.3%	34.6%	
- Gasoline	10.7%	-2.1%	-2.1%	-15.2%	49.6%	49.6%	58.1%	49.6%	40.0%	38.0%	48.0%	43.6%	48.7%	
Core Consumer Inflation	1.8%	2.2%	2.2%	1.6%	5.5%	4.6%	4.9%	5.5%	6.0%	6.4%	6.5%	6.2%	6.0%	
- New Vehicles	-0.5%	-0.3%	-0.3%	2.0%	11.8%	9.8%	11.1%	11.8%	12.2%	12.4%	12.5%	13.2%	12.6%	
- Used Vehicles	-1.0%	1.4%	1.4%	10.0%	37.3%	26.4%	31.4%	37.3%	40.5%	41.2%	35.3%	22.7%	16.1%	
- Apparel	-1.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-3.9%	5.8%	4.3%	5.0%	5.8%	5.3%	6.6%	6.8%	5.4%	5.0%	
- Medical care	2.3%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-2.5%	0.4%	-0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	1.4%	2.5%	2.7%	2.1%	2.4%	

(June 2022) ... U.S. consumer prices are increasing at a 8.6% annualized pace - while core consumer inflation, which excludes commodity-driven food and energy prices, is increasing 6.0%. Overall inflation has been impacted by a 10.1% increase in food costs, fueled by increases in both grocery prices and prices for food eaten away from home. Also impacting consumer inflation is a 34.6% increase in energy prices, including a 48.7% spike in gasoline prices.

Wholesale inflation increased at a 10.8% pace. This demonstrates producers' inability to pass on their higher costs to the consumer in fear of slashing already volatile consumer demand. It also adversely impacts producers' earnings and future hiring and advances in manufacturing. This endangers future growth potential.

Strategically... A certain level of inflation is needed in a growing economy to increase the value of goods and services produced - contributing to the nation's GDP growth profile. However, the nation's GDP is beingsignificantly diluted by the prevailing inflation rate thus resulting in a net growth rate that is insufficient to create a sustained pace of recovery needed to put the country on a strong path.

We continue to note that, at this pace of inflation, the FOMC will be forced to aggressively increase their overnight benchmark rate. This would positively increase yields on cash but most likely will not impact consumer loan rates.

BRIAN TURNER President, Chief Economist 972.740.9531 bturner@meridian-ally.com www.Meridian-ally.com