

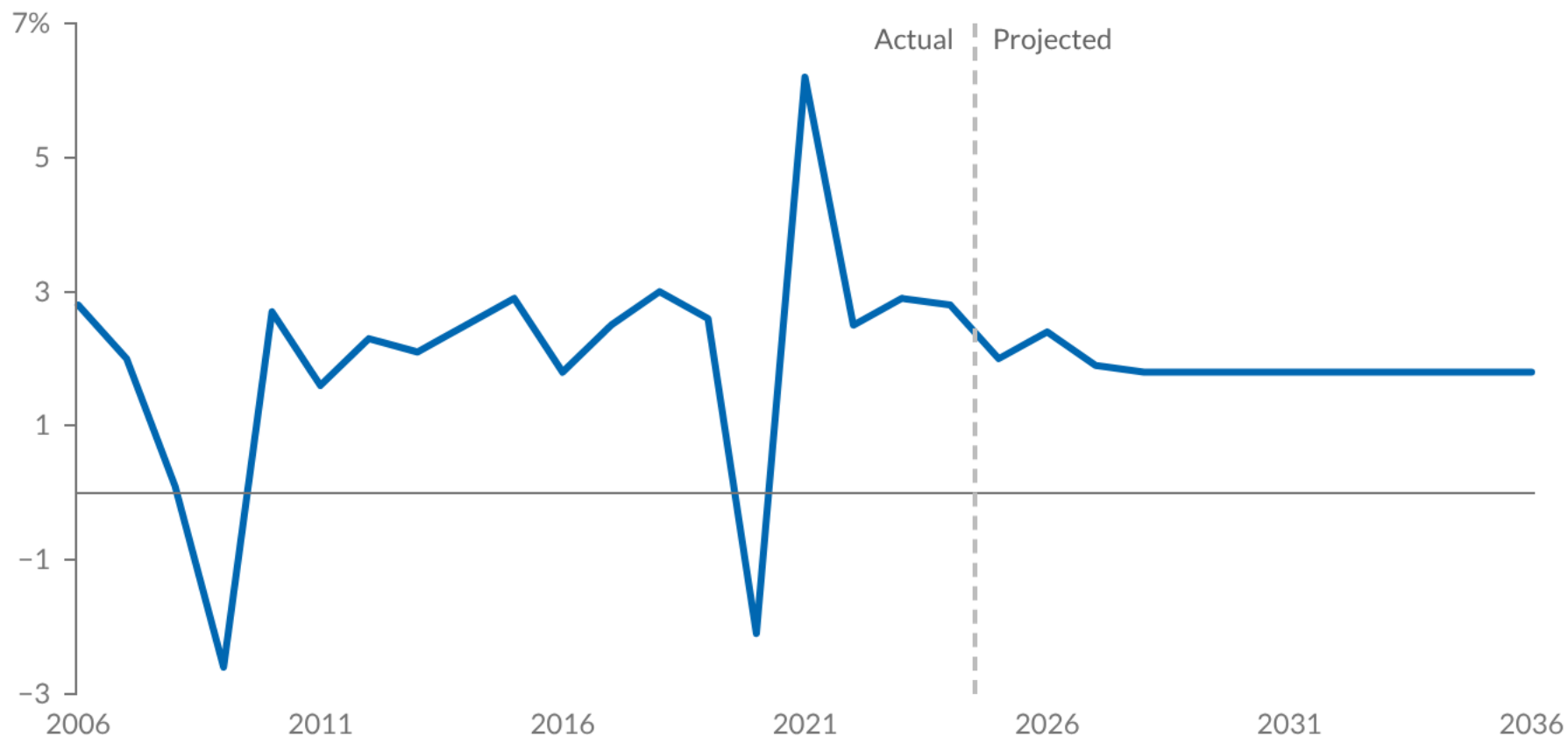
ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Chart Pack

SEPTEMBER 2026

Real GDP growth is projected to remain approximately 1.8 percent throughout the upcoming decade

Year-Over-Year Growth of Real GDP (%)



Source: Congressional Budget Office

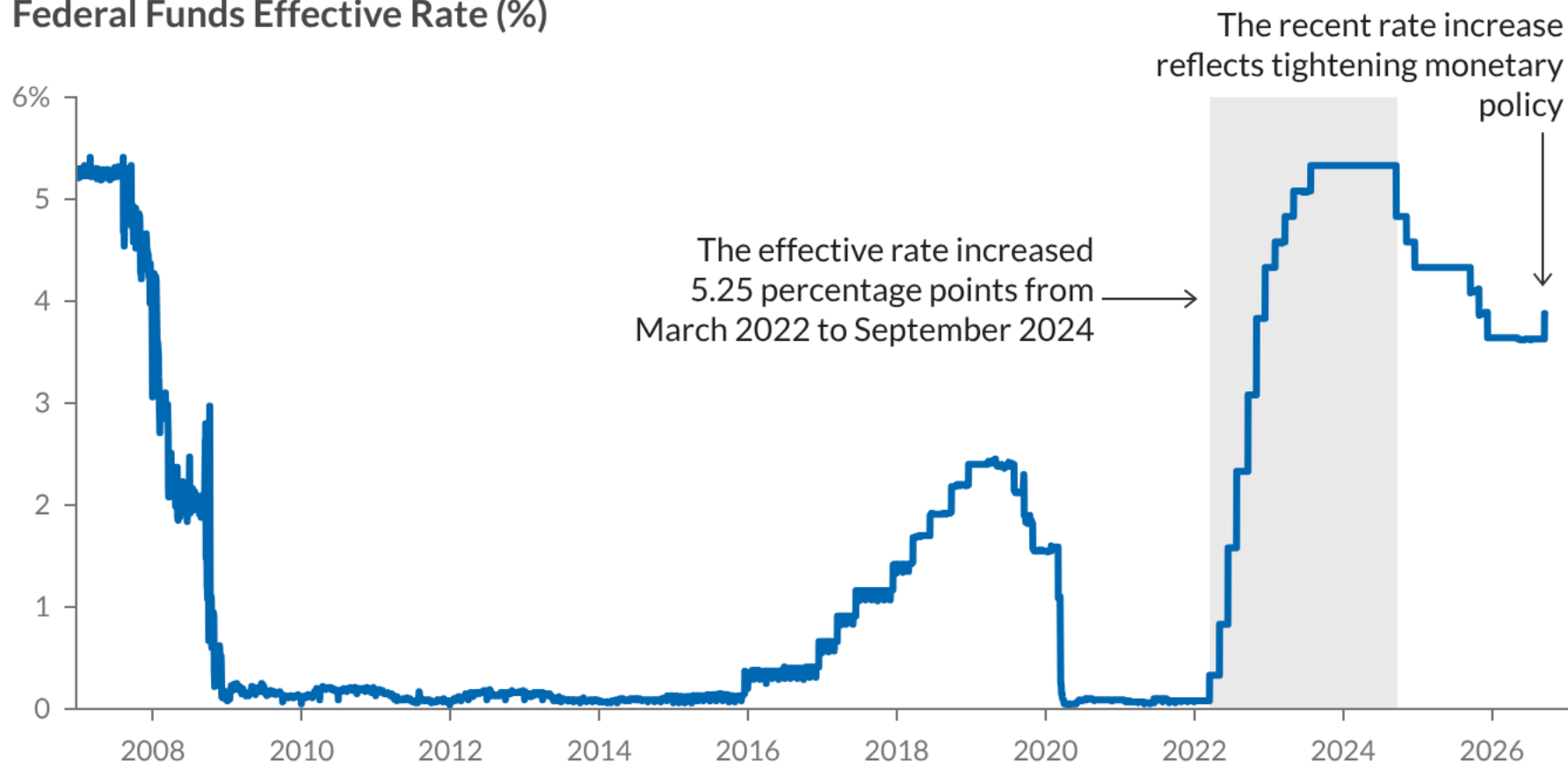
© 2026 Peter G. Peterson Foundation



VISIT [PGPF.ORG](https://www.pgpf.org)

The Federal Reserve increased short-term rates in September 2026 after two-year decline

Federal Funds Effective Rate (%)

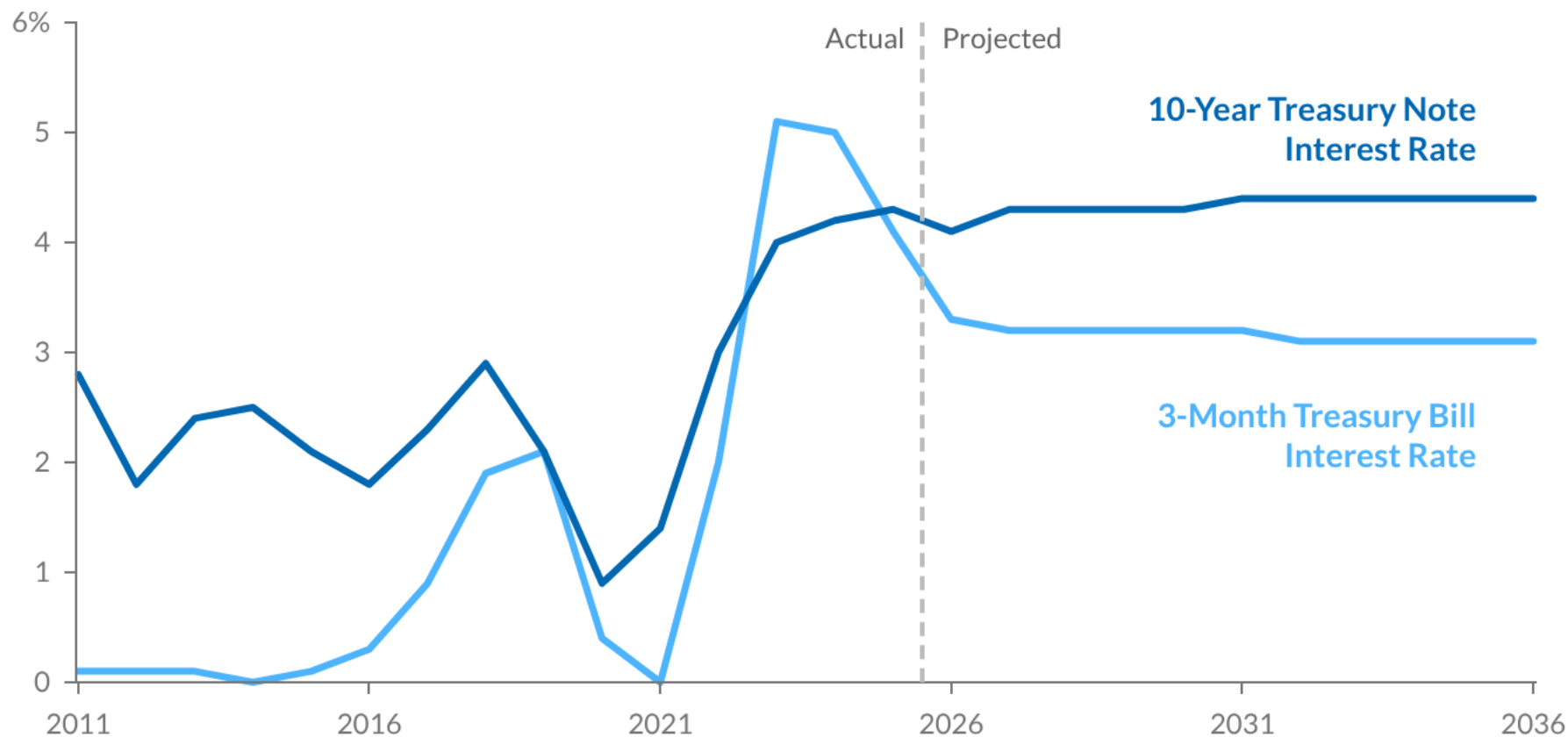


Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Notes: The effective rate is calculated as a weighted average of all rates charged by the banks for lending to other banks across the country. The target rate range is specified by the members of the Federal Open Market Committee under the Federal Reserve.

CBO projects that interest rates will remain elevated over the next decade

Rate (%)



Source: Congressional Budget Office

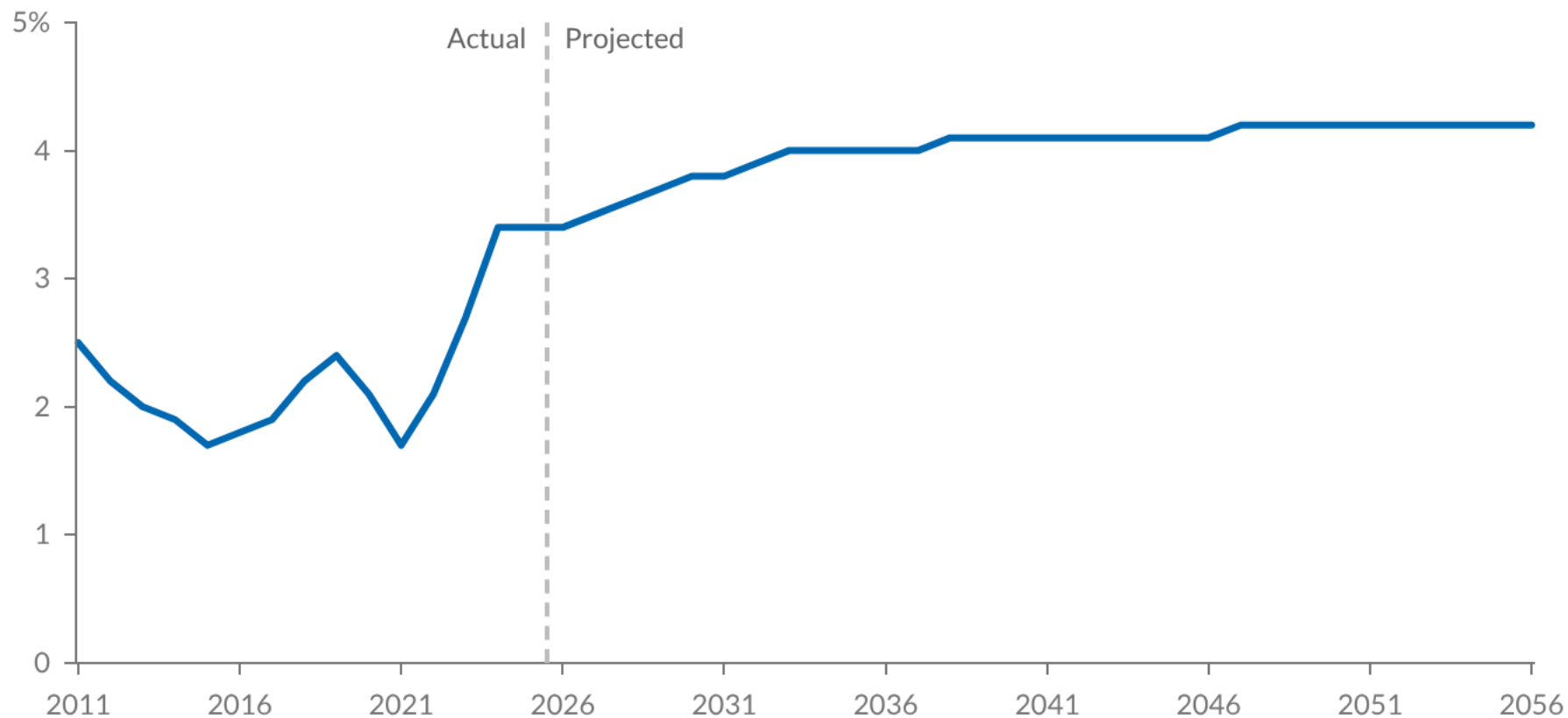
© 2026 Peter G. Peterson Foundation



[VISIT PGPF.ORG](https://www.pgpf.org)

The average interest rate on federal debt will remain above its pre-pandemic level

Nominal Interest Rate on all Federal Debt Held by the Public (%)



Source: Congressional Budget Office

Note: The interest rate on all federal debt held by the public equals net interest payments in the current fiscal year divided by debt held by the public at the end of the previous fiscal year.

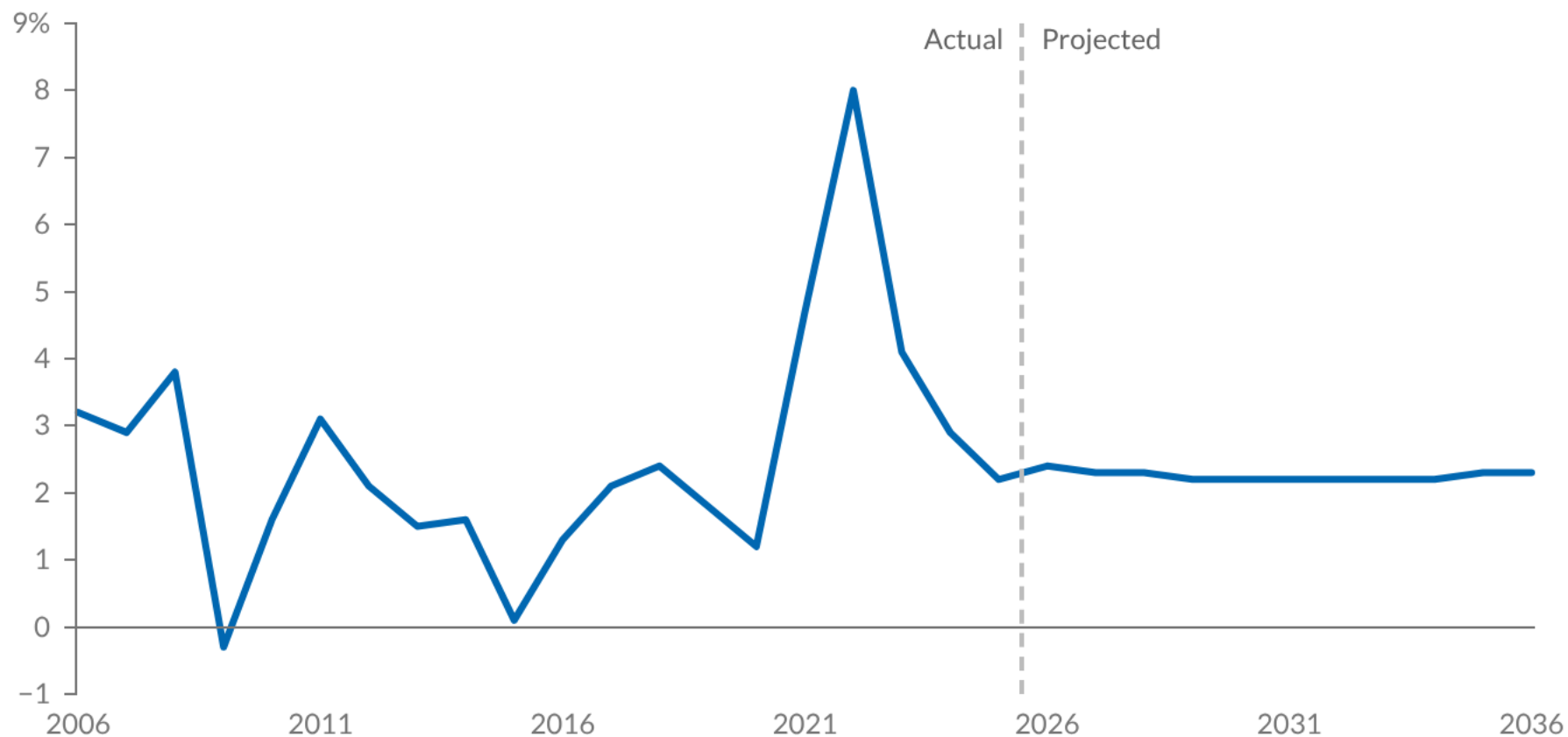
© 2026 Peter G. Peterson Foundation



VISIT [PGPF.ORG](https://www.pgpf.org)

Inflation is projected to moderate to around 2.3 percent over the next 10 years

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (%)



Source: Congressional Budget Office

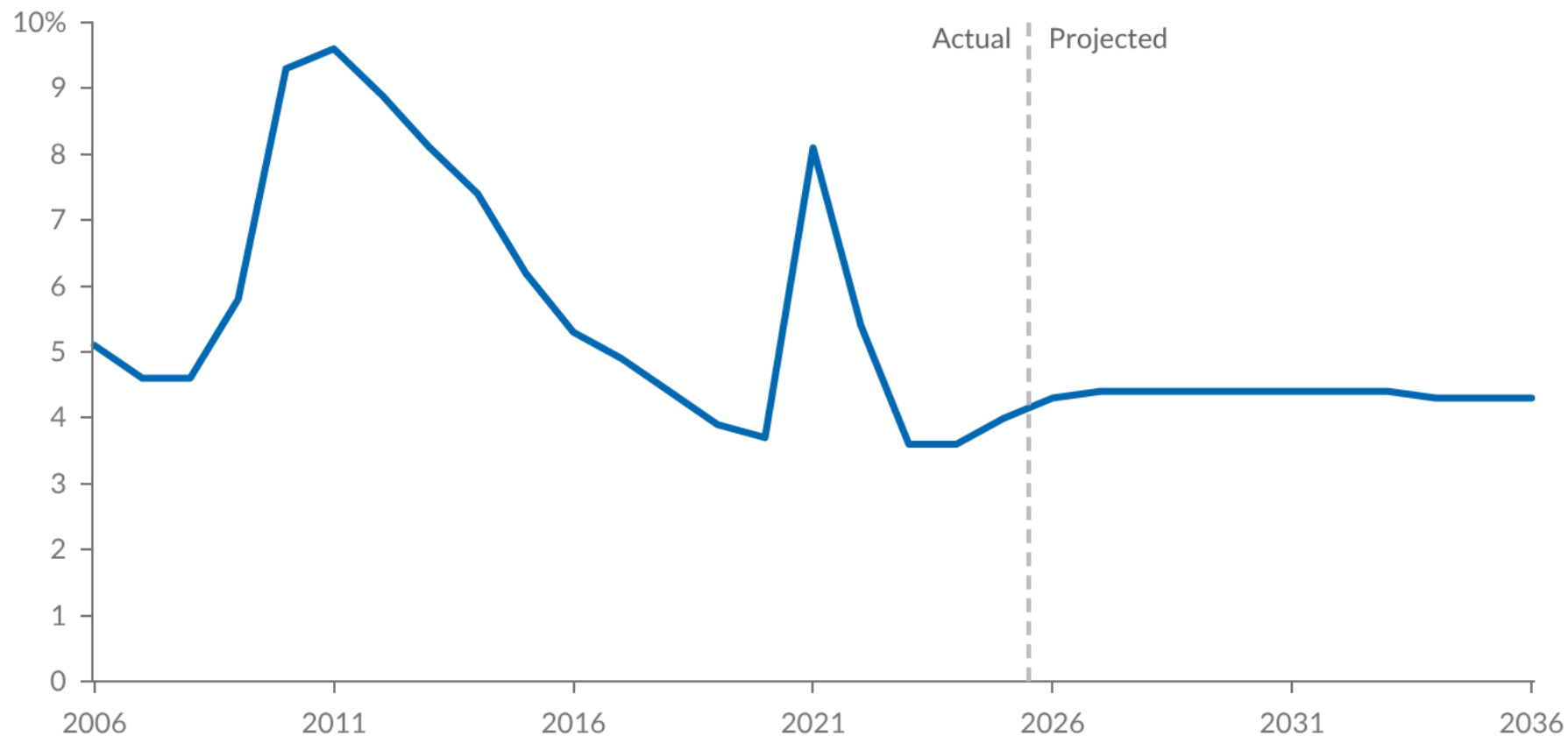
© 2026 Peter G. Peterson Foundation



VISIT [PGPF.ORG](https://www.pgpf.org)

The unemployment rate is projected to be approximately 4.4 percent over the next 10 years

Unemployment Rate (%)



Source: Congressional Budget Office

© 2026 Peter G. Peterson Foundation



VISIT [PGPF.ORG](https://www.pgpf.org)