#### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of NEW YORK

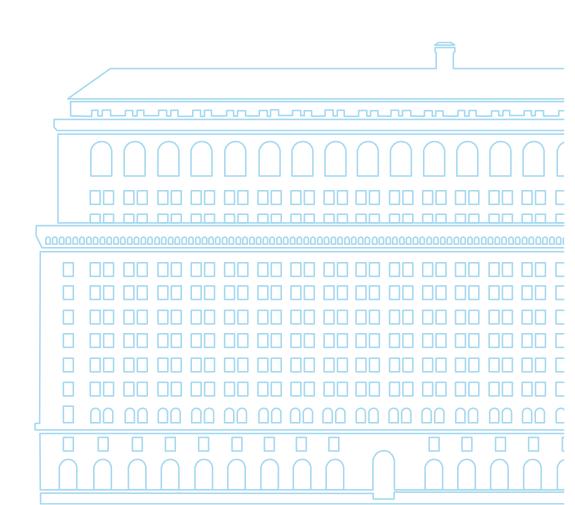
# **Update on the Puerto Rico Economy**

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May 21, 2025

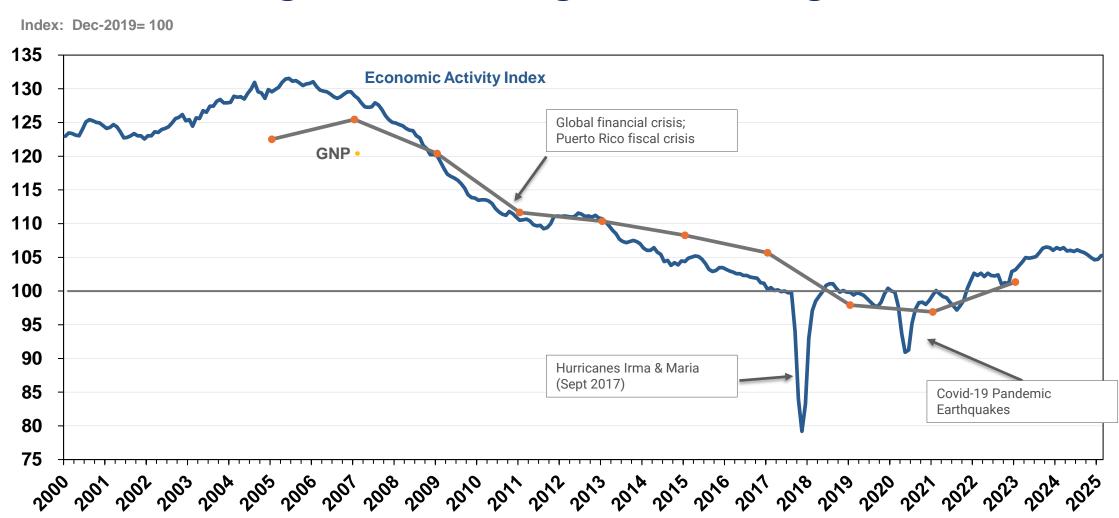
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#### **Summary**

- After a decades long decline, Puerto Rico's economy has begun to grow.
  - Private employment has seen strong growth across most sectors.
- With stronger economic conditions, population has stabilized.
- Home prices have soared due to higher demand and short supply.
- Household delinquencies have stabilized after rising.

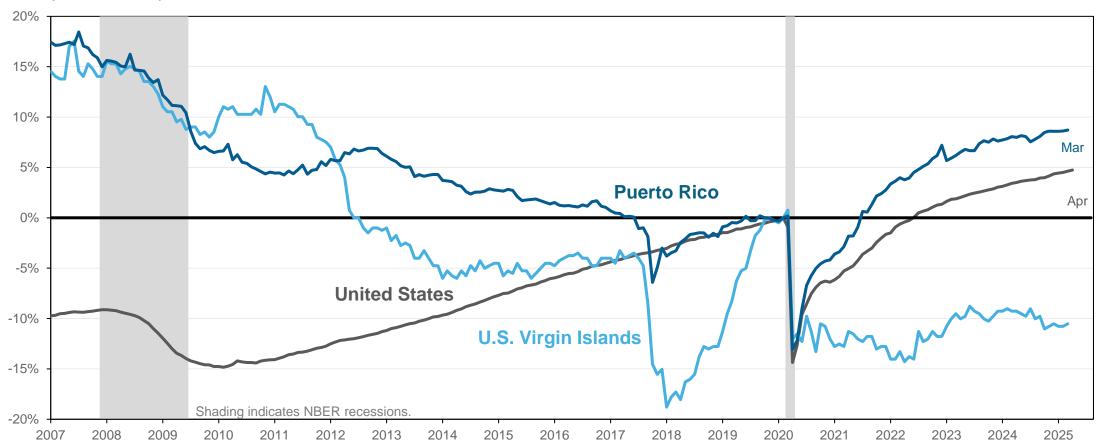
#### PR returns to growth following decades-long decline



Source: Bureau of of Economic Analysis; Economic Development Bank of Puerto Rico; Haver Analytics; author's calculations

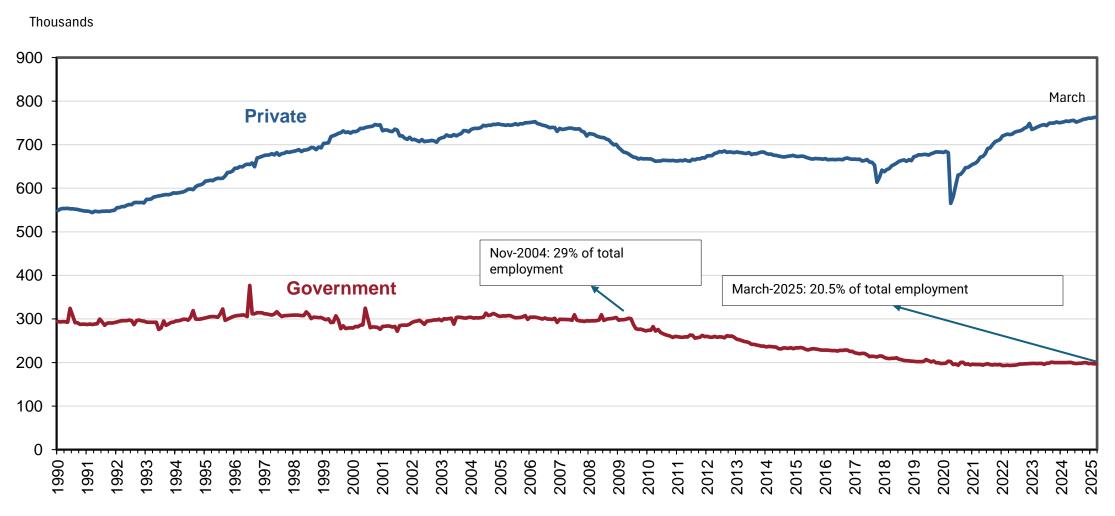
#### Post-pandemic surge in PR labor market





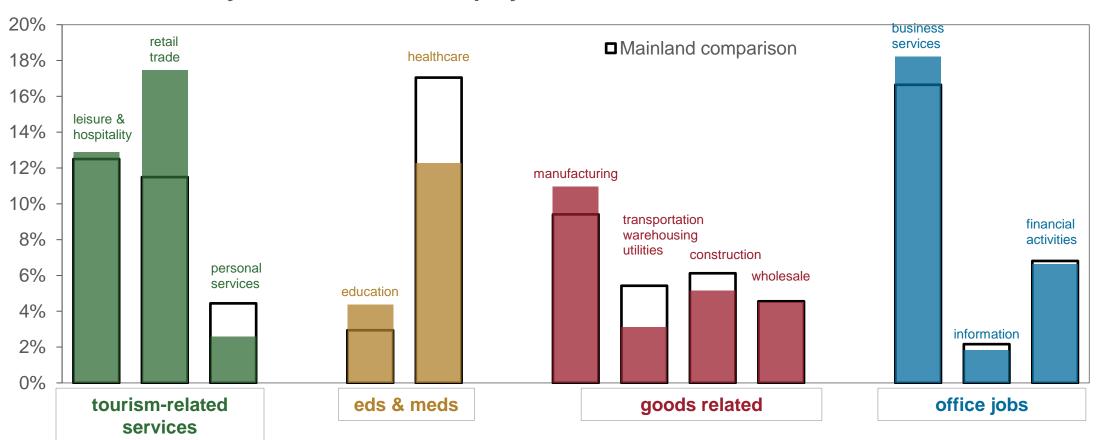
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Moody's Economy.com; data are early benchmarked by FRBNY staff.

## Private employment at all-time high



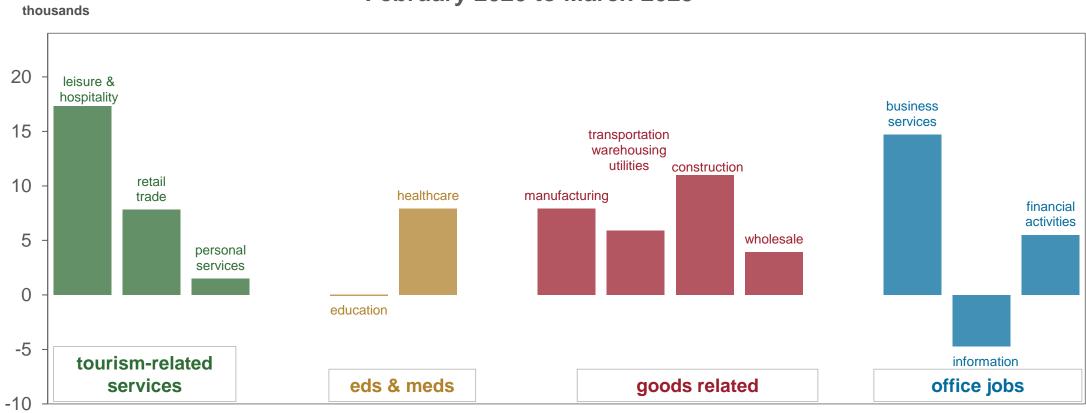
### Some similarities with US Mainland industry balance

#### **Industry Share of Private Employment: PR and US Mainland**

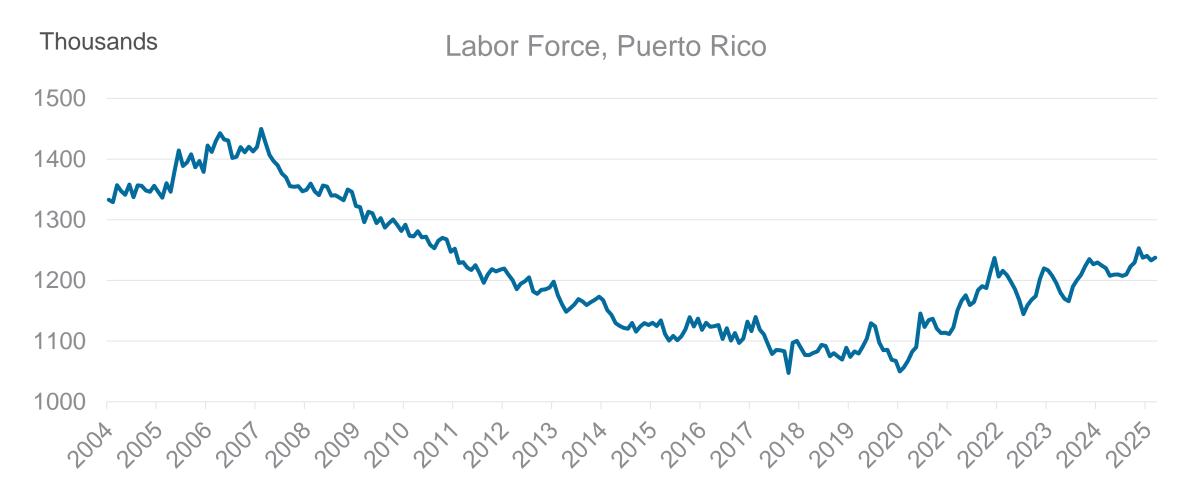


#### Solid job growth across nearly all sectors

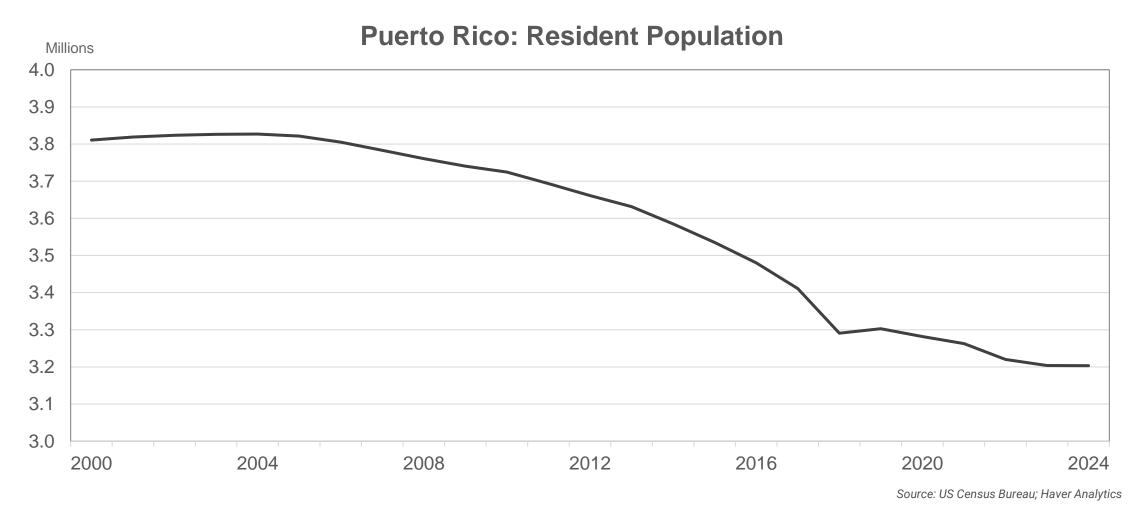
## Change in Puerto Rico Employment by Sector February 2020 to March 2025



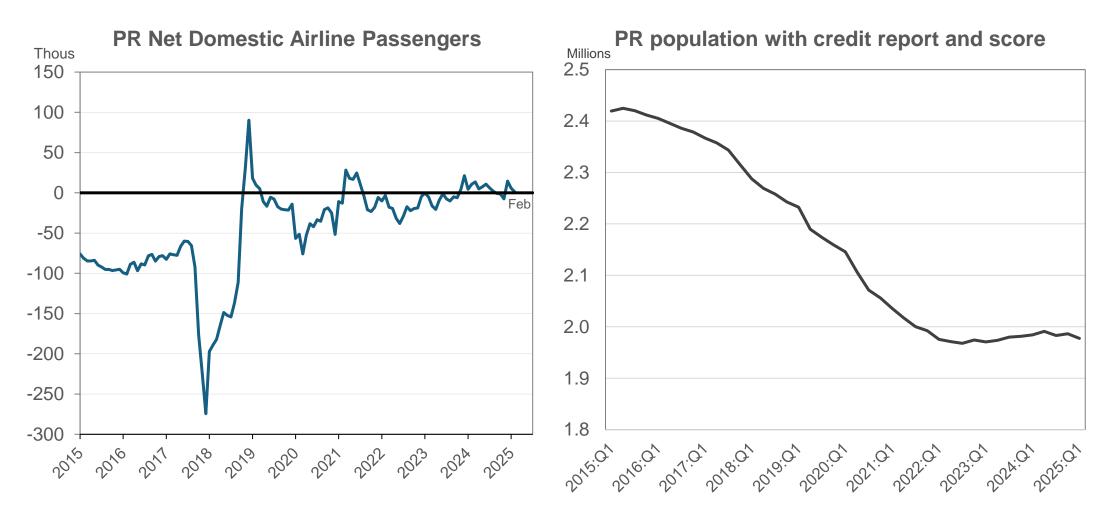
#### Labor force has grown with employment



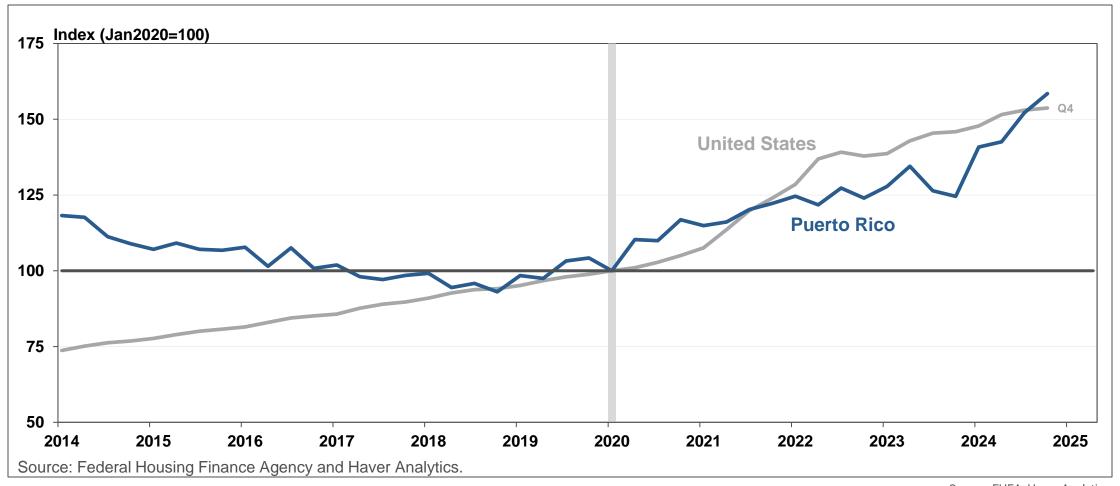
#### Population stabilizes after decades-long decline



## Even some signs of population growth in alternative data



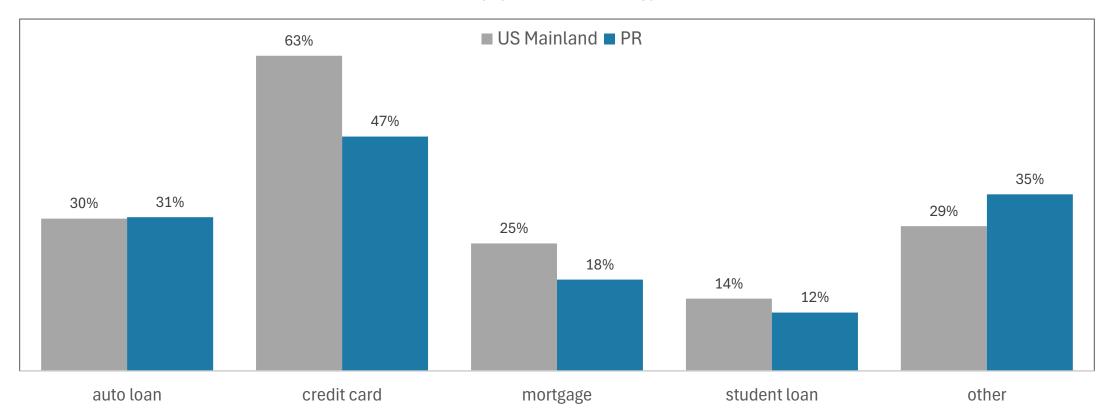
#### House prices soar and homes are in short supply



#### Credit market participation depends on product

#### Credit Product Participation in 2024:Q3

% of population with loan type



Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel / Equifax

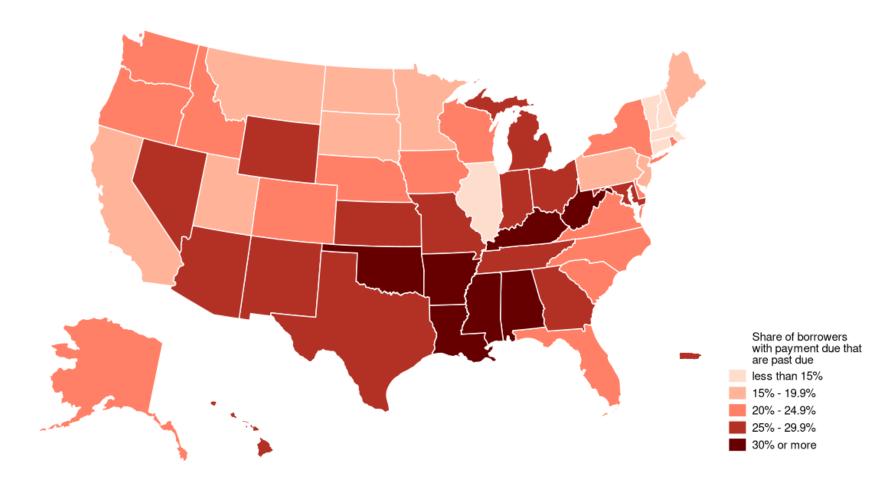
#### Higher loan balances for some products

#### **Average loan balances by product (2024Q3)**

	auto loan	credit card	other	student loan	mortgage
US Mainland	\$23,806	\$6,029	\$10,654	\$38,339	\$258,201
Puerto Rico	\$26,619	\$4,079	\$9,707	\$35,547	\$106,054

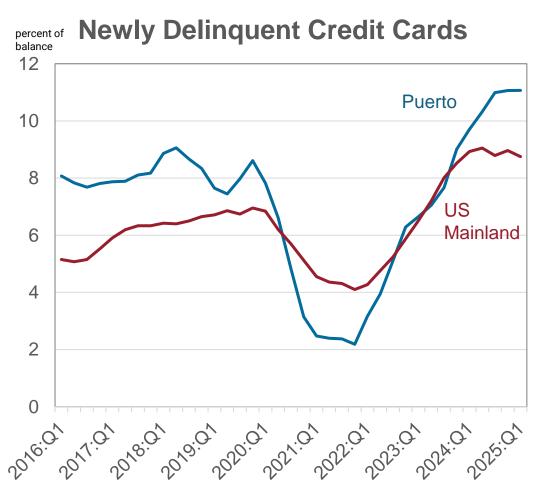
Note: Per person, conditional on having that type of account. Not adjusted for jointly held accounts. Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel / Equifax

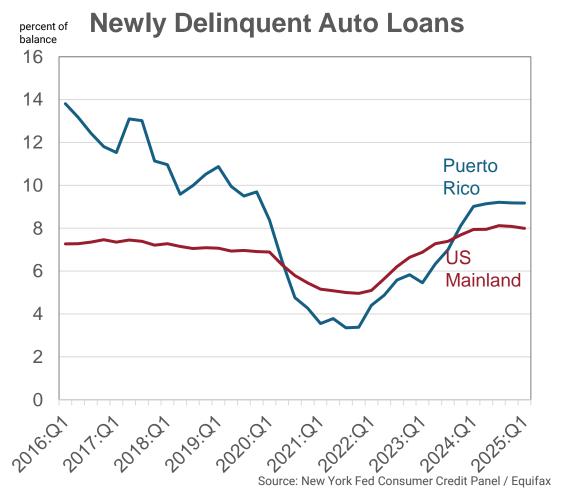
## Student loan delinquencies are back



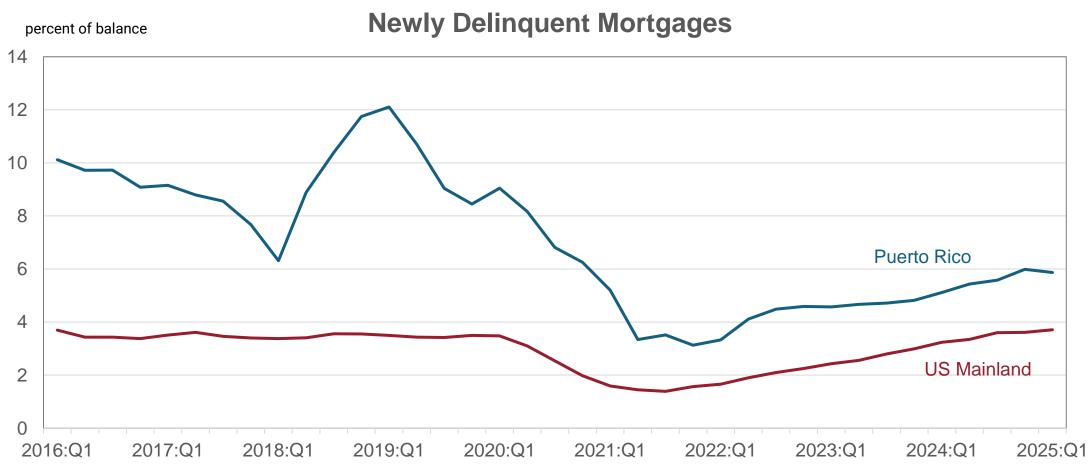
Source: New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel / Equifax

### Delinquencies rise, after artificial pandemic lows





#### Mortgage delinquency rates generally higher



#### **Takeaways**

- Puerto Rico has seen a broad-based return to growth post-pandemic.
- The island's population loss appears to have stabilized, and the labor force has expanded.
- After rising, delinquencies in the consumer sector have now stabilized.