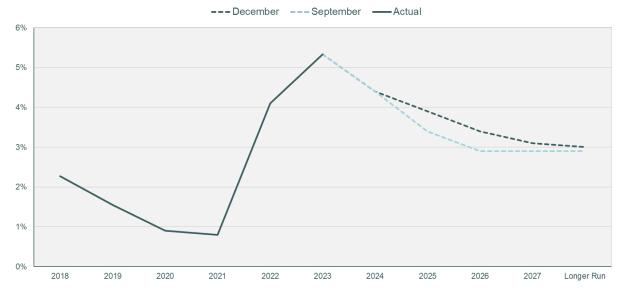
Get the latest update from our own Jeff Bridges, Chief Economist at Enact. Check out some key economic observations from the week of Dec. 30, 2024 – Jan. 3, 2025.

Key Points:

- Members of the Federal Open Market Committee the committee within the Fed that sets policy rates – revised their interest rate expectations upward in December projections.
 - The <u>median member now expects a 3.9% federal funds rate in December 2025</u>, up from 3.4% in September projections.
 - Over the longer-run, the median member expects a rate of 3.0%.
 - This is a notable increase from 2.5% in December 2023.

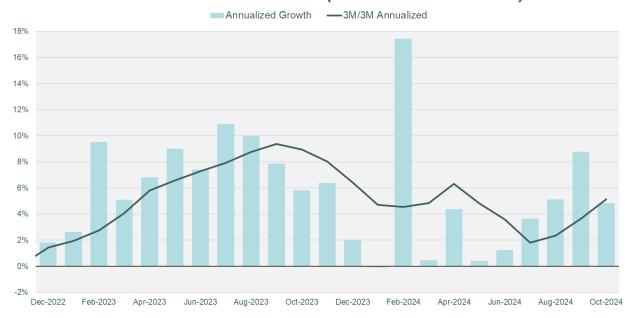
FOMC Federal Funds Rate Projections, Median Member



Source: U.S. Federal Open Market Committee (Federal Reserve)

- The monthly <u>FHFA purchase-only house price index</u> grew at a 4.8% annualized rate in October (4.5% year-over-year).
 - <u>Home price appreciation continues to be a significant driver of inflation</u> given the weight of owner's equivalent rent (OER) in price indices.
 - OER the amount a homeowner would pay to rent their home <u>accounts for</u> <u>around 1/4th of the consumer price index</u> by weight.

FHFA Purchase Index (Dec. 2022 - Present)



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, FHFA

