



# **Seattle Metro Area – Current Economic Situation and Outlook**

**June 20, 2025**

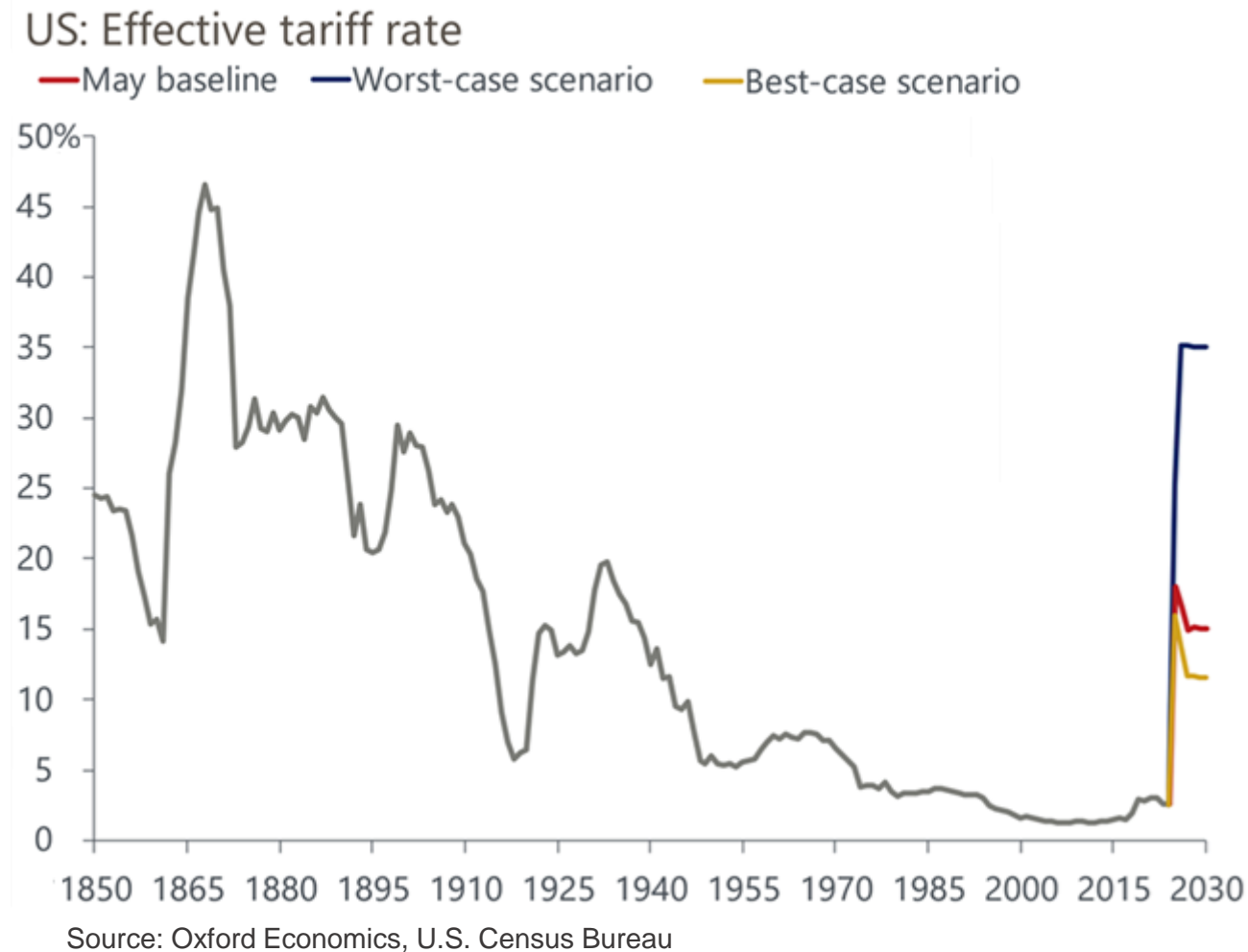
**City of Seattle Select Committee on Federal  
Administration and Policy Changes  
and  
King County Council Committee of the Whole**

# Economic outlook is **highly** uncertain

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- Remarkable amount of economic uncertainty
- Large trade, immigration, and tax policy changes on federal, state, and local level
- Impacts difficult to predict, but these policies are likely to notably increase costs for households and businesses, and to weigh down on job growth
- Recession fears have subsided somewhat since April, but the likelihood of a recession in the next 12 months is still uncomfortably high, 40%-50%
- Current regional employment situation is even more concerning than situation on the national level
- Overall, regional economy is in a weaker position and faces larger risks

# Large uncertainty regarding tariffs, with substantial downside

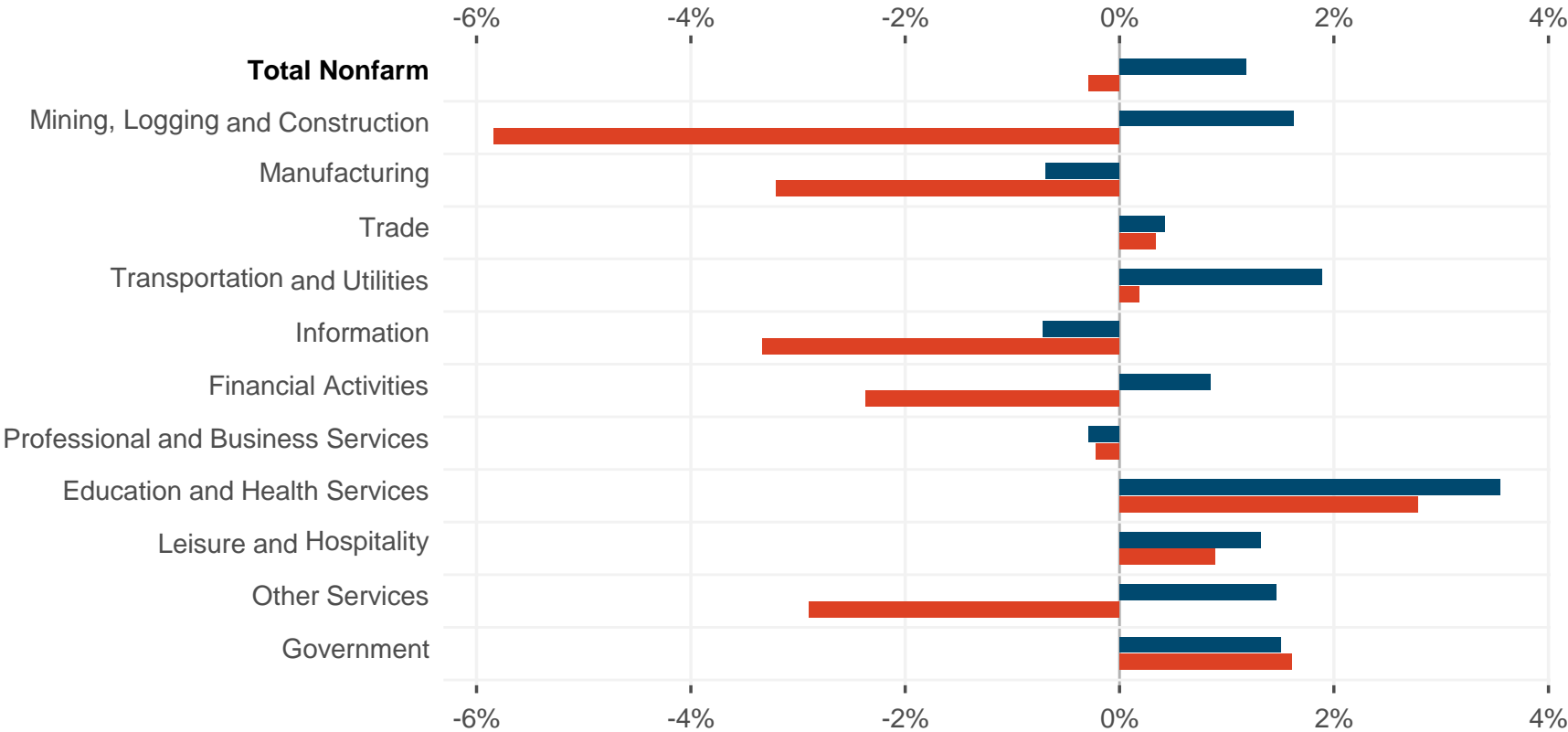


# Regional employment has declined since last year

## Payroll employment by industry

% change year-over-year, as of April 2025

■ Seattle Metropolitan Division ■ United States



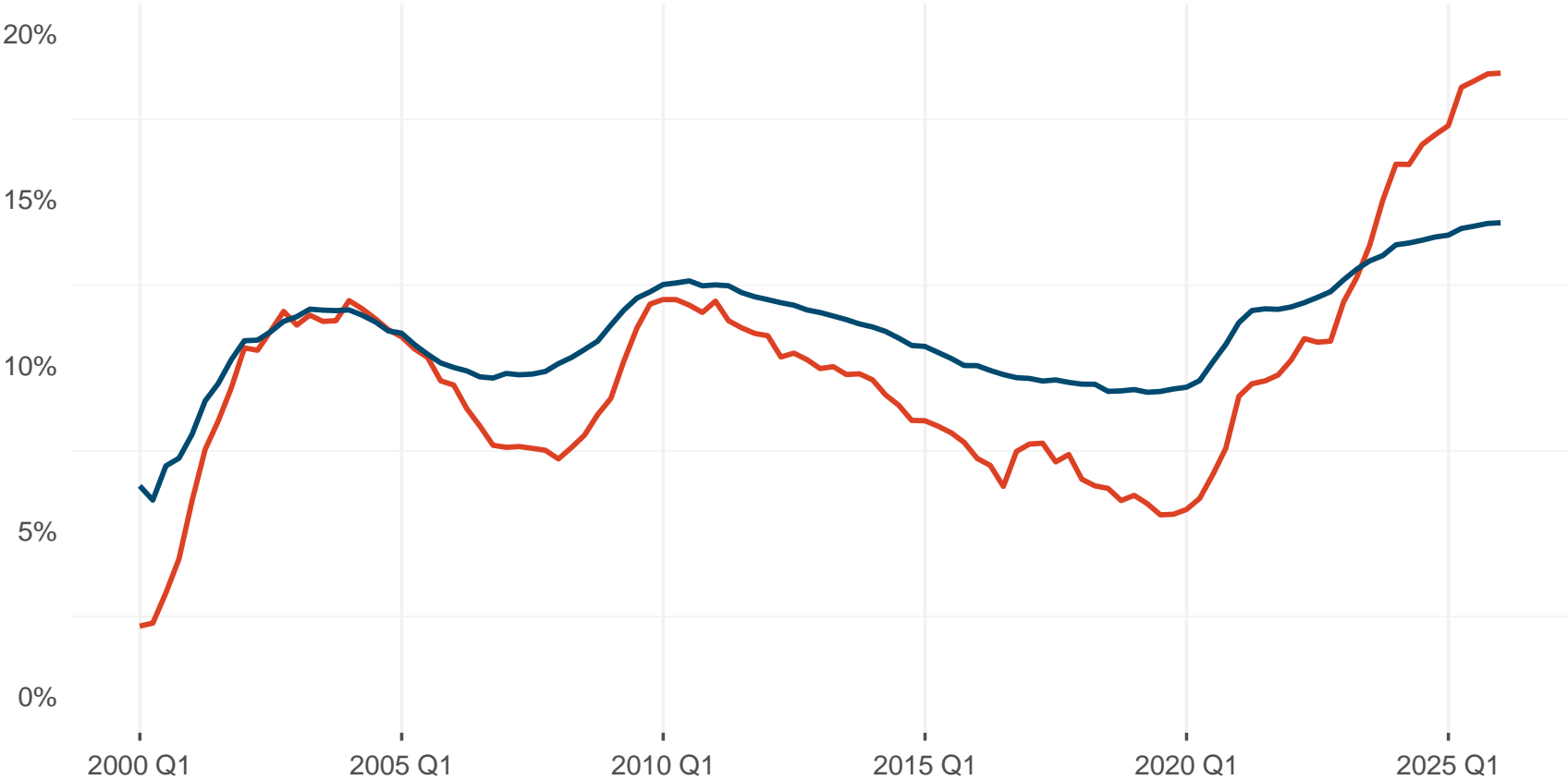
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington State Employment Security Department. Seasonally Adjusted.



# Office vacancy rate is higher in Seattle area than in U.S.

Office Vacancy Rate

■ Seattle Metropolitan Division ■ United States



Source: CoStar

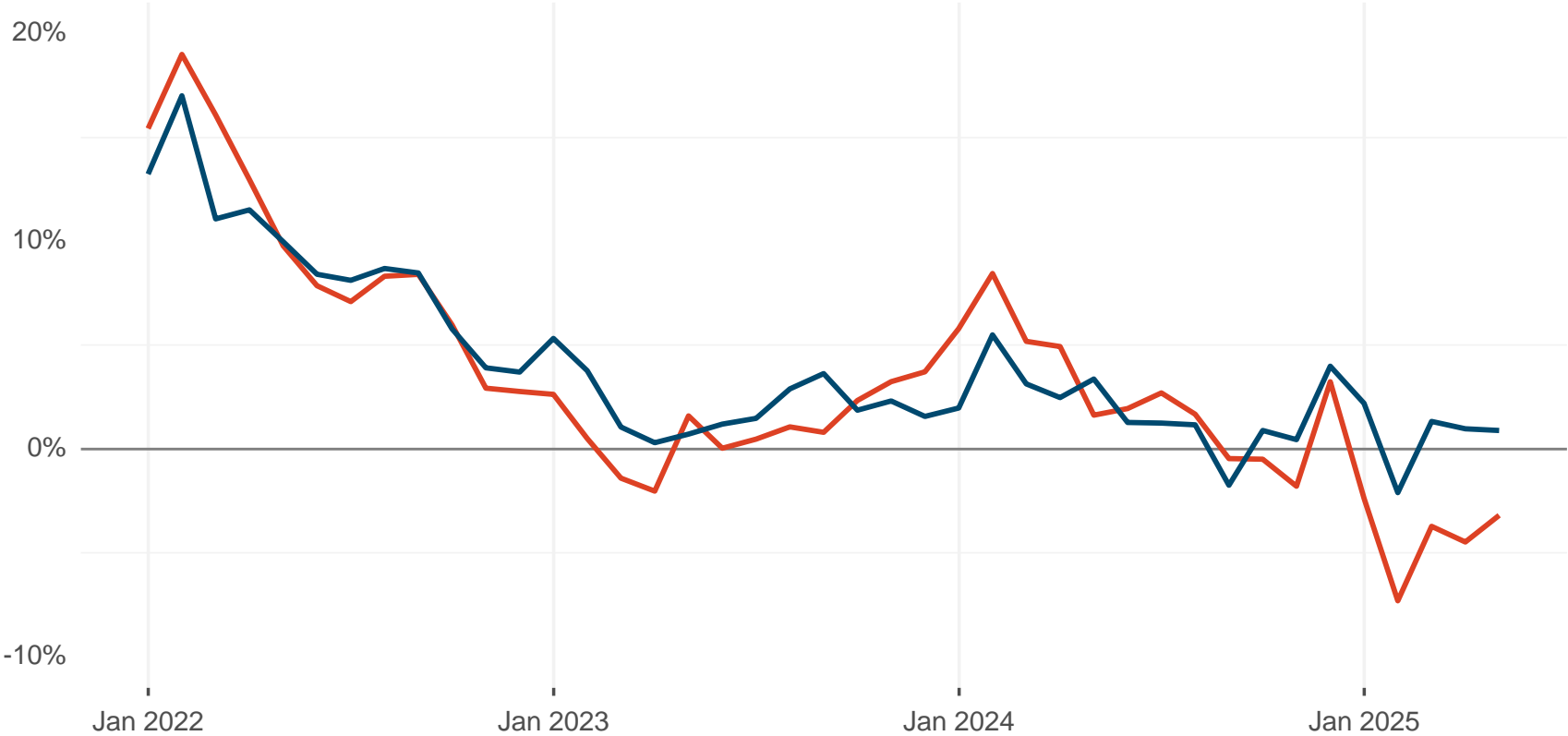


# Consumer spending has weakened substantially too

## Consumer Credit and Debit Card Spending

Year-over-year % change

■ Seattle Metropolitan Statistical Area ■ United States



Source: Earnest Analytics

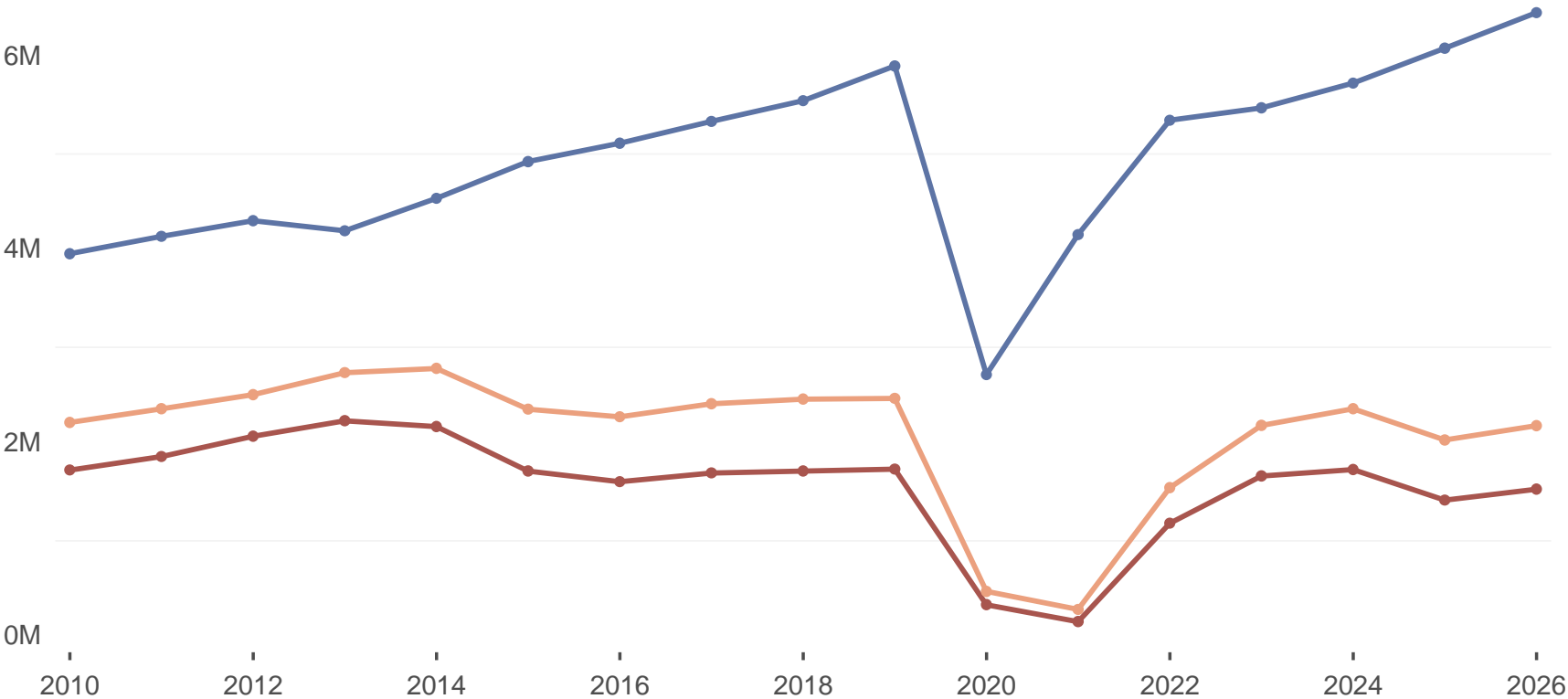


# Fewer international visitors are expected in Seattle in 2025

Overnight visits to Seattle by origin

Millions

Domestic International Canada



Source: Tourism Economics

