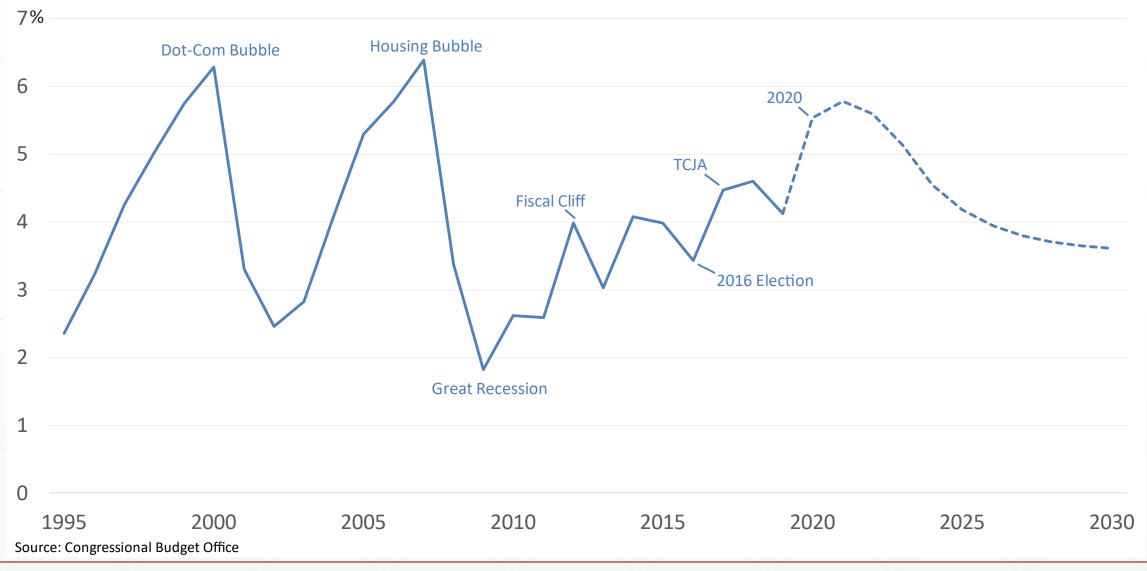
# Back-Casting and Forecasting Capital Gains Realizations

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#### Capital Gains Realizations Have Been Extremely Volatile Over the Past 25 Years

Realizations as a Share of GDP, Actual and CBO Projections



### **Revenue and Budget Context**

| Question   | Maine                        | Montana                      | New York City                  | North Carolina             | \$10.5 billion                 |  |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Size of annual General Fund<br>budget (FY22)               | \$4.1 billion                | \$2.6 billion                | N/A                            | \$26.0 billion             |                                |  |
| General Fund Revenue (FY22)                                | \$5.4 billion                | \$3.9 billion                | \$68.7 billion                 | \$33.2 billion             | \$10.3 billion                 |  |
| Individual Income Tax Revenues (FY22)                      | \$2.6 billion                | \$2.4 billion                | \$16.7 billion                 | \$17.6 billion             | \$3.1 billion                  |  |
| YOY Change Individual Income<br>Tax Revenues (FY21 & FY22) | 12.7% (FY21)<br>24.7% (FY22) | 23% (FY 21)<br>35.6% (FY 22) | 11.4% (FY 21)<br>10.6% (FY 22) | 27% (FY 21)<br>11% (FY 22) | 11.2% (FY 21)<br>16.4% (FY 22) |  |
| Capital Gains Share of AGI<br>(TY 2019)                    | 5.6%                         | 8.6% (TY 19)<br>9.8% (TY 20) | 11.4%                          | 5.7%                       | 9%                             |  |

#### **Forecasting Capital Gains**

| Question                                       | Maine  | Montana   | New York City   | North Carolina   | Washington, D.C.   |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Why forecast capital gains?                    | Source of income in microsimulation model. Volatile source of income   | Currently forecast 10<br>sources of income<br>CG receives a Preferential<br>Rate (2% Credit)<br>Volatile source of PIT                        | We forecast most non-<br>wage income types. Apply<br>an ETR directly to the<br>total of these incomes | Input into some forecasting models for non-withholding individual income tax     | Capital gains realizations makes up the most volatile component of individual income tax because of progressive rate structure   |
| Forecast national or state/city capital gains? | State  | State   | Local Only  | Both   | State (DC)   |
| Forecast methods                               | Use CBO forecast, estimated payments, YTD S&P 500, conversations with financial advisors and accountants, and tax policy considerations to forecast current tax year.  Assume CG/PI will revert back to long-term average. | Currently: LS: CG Inc=-1 yr.<br>S&P Chg., Proprietors' Inc,<br>& Median Home value<br>Exploring: LS Log-Log<br>PIT= MT PI & 3 yr. S&P<br>Chg. | Log-log equation with<br>S&P, NYC Large<br>Commercial, and rate<br>change variables                   | ARIMAX models with 1-<br>year S&P change, rate<br>changes, and stock<br>buybacks | Forecast is for "nonwithholding" and not specifically cg. Simple regression using sp500 and dummies for federal law changes Benchmark with CBO forecast of capital gains |
| Data Sources                                   | latest IMF/IRTF from IRS, IRS SOI<br>data, EFILE returns   | Prior year Tax filings and<br>S&P Global.<br>Losing Prior Year tax<br>detail after TY 23  | 1) Value of large commerical real estate transactions in NYC 2) S&P Global/IHS Markit                 | IRS Statistics of Income<br>S&P Global (Buybacks)                                | SPGlobal/Moodys, tax<br>return data, CBO   |

## Past and Future Estimates of Capital Gains Realizations

|   |  | $\times$                                 |  |  |                  |
|---|--|--|--|--|------------------|
| Question  | Maine                                    | Montana                                  | New York City                            | North Carolina                           | Washington, D.C. |
| Historical Range of<br>Annual Realizations<br>Change<br>(years) | +61% to -59%<br>(TY 2012 and<br>TY 2008) | +51% to -37%<br>(TY 2004 and<br>TY 2001) | +76% to -40%<br>(TY 2004 and<br>TY 2009) | +62% to -51%<br>(TY 2012 and<br>TY 2009) | +60% to -60%     |
| Tax Year 2020 Change  | 40.0% (Est. 3/22)                        | 16% (actual)                             | 37% (actual)                             | +2% to +9% (est.)                        | -23%             |
| Tax Year 2021 Change  | 39.5% (Est. 3/22)                        | 11.8% (Mar 21)                           | 54% (Implied)                            | +55% to +74%                             | 39%              |
| Tax Year 2022 Change  | -33.8% (Est. 3/22)                       | 3.8% (Mar 21)                            | -45% (April 22)                          | -27% to -15%                             | -20%             |
| Tax Year 2023 Change  | 2.0% (Est. 3/22)                         | 0.9% (Mar 21)                            | -26% (April 22)                          | -15% to -9%                              | 0                |

## **Challenges Forecasting Capital Gains Realizations**

| Q  | uestion     | Maine  | Montana   | New York City  | North Carolina                    | Washington, D.C.  |
|----|-------------|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| CI | nallenge #1 | Discretionary source of income that's not part of Personal Income forecast | Modeling complex behavior (w/necessarily simpler models)  | Payment<br>timing/taxpayer<br>behavior               | Data lags                         | Data lags   |
| CI | nallenge #2 | Taxpayer behavior sensitive to federal and state tax changes               | Federal tax changes (retroactive?) induce taxpayer changes in timing and source of income (if possible) | Market Volatility and<br>Global Shocks               | Unpredictable taxpayer behavior   | Timing of realizations<br>Extension payments<br>lack detail |
| CI | nallenge #3 | Data lags  | State change in starting point (AGI to FTI) / loss of most current data / Offsetting forecast errors    | Disagreement with forecasts for underlying variables | General modeling uncertainty      | Buildings/real<br>estate/business sales                     |
| CI | nallenge #4 | Limit exposure to significant declines                                     | Using MicroSim model to forecast(fiscal notes)  | Desire for a conservative, consistent forecast       | Pandemic-era modeling uncertainty | Federal tax uncertainty                                     |