

Kate McShane: How fragile is the US consumer? While consumer sentiment has recently turned slightly more optimistic, readings remain lower than in most recessions. This pessimism is likely due to higher rates and persistent inflation. But look under the hood and you'll find signs of strength. Thanks to the robust labor market, disposable personal income continues to grow. It's risen in each of the last six months. That means Americans have more cash to spend this year versus last year.