Highlights

Economics > Asset Allocation

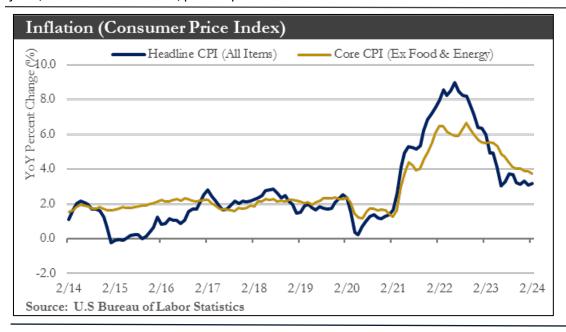
Stocks

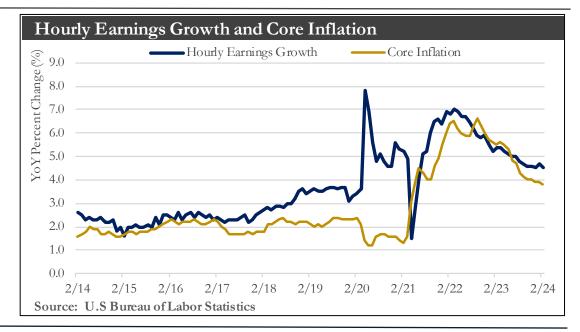
Bonds

Non-Traditional

Highlights of the Month

February and early March have shown that the U.S. economy continues to grow. The Atlanta Fed's unofficial weekly tally of GDP, called GDPNow, is signaling that strength has continued into 2024's first quarter with a March 14th reading of 2.3%. February's labor market gauges pointed to continued resiliency in the jobs market. Unemployment ticked up but remained low at 3.9%, weekly first-time unemployment claims remained low, the JOLTS report showed that there are still 8.9 million job openings, and wage gains remain solid. CPI ticked up 0.4% in February and to 3.2% over the past year while core CPI declined just a tick to 3.8%. The uptick in the shelter, airline fares, vehicle insurance, apparel, and recreation components drove the February numbers. Whether the shelter uptick is another monthly anomaly or the beginning of change in trend could have a significant impact on inflation going forward. Data from landlords would suggest however, it is an anomaly or just a lagging effect from last year's rent increases. And retail sales had a strong rebound in February from January's decline. With inflation still well above the 2% target, the Fed is unlikely to make any changes to interest policy any time soon. February was another strong month for equity returns with the S&P 500 up 5.4%, the Russell Mid Cap up 5.6%, and the Russell 2000 up 5.7%. U.S. markets were led Discretionary and Industrial sector stocks. International equities also moved higher. The Chinese equity market led the way up 8.4%, though it is still down 3.4% YTD through February. Bond markets were mixed as interest rose. Shorter durations, high yield, and munies however, posted positive returns.





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					In	dex Per	formand	e as of: 02/29/2024							
	1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year		1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Russell								International Equity - Broad	Market						
Russell 3000 Value	3.66	9.60	3.48	13.72	7.17	9.04	8.55	MSCI EAFE NR	1.83	7.86	2.42	14.32	3.97	6.71	4.39
Russell 3000	5.41	12.22	6.58	29.10	8.98	13.76	12.01	MSCI Emerging Mkts NR	4.76	3.80	-0.11	6.50	-6.83	1.88	3.00
Russell 3000 Growth	6.88	14.46	9.25	44.81	10.39	17.77	15.08	MSCI Frontier Markets NR	0.06	4.13	1.06	9.99	-0.49	2.46	1.67
Russell 1000 Value	3.69	9.52	3.80	14.23	7.58	9.23	8.71	MSCI ACWI NR	4.29	9.94	4.90	23.18	6.08	10.40	8.37
Russell 1000	5.40	12.13	6.87	30.36	9.76	14.25	12.37	MSCI ACWI ex USA NR	2.53	6.61	1.51	11.79	0.82	5.40	3.96
Russell 1000 Growth	6.82	14.33	9.49	46.87	11.51	18.56	15.65	MSCI AC Asia ex Japan NR	5.60	3.35	-0.16	2.62	-8.92	1.69	4.02
Russell Midcap Value	4.77	10.89	2.90	11.03	5.95	8.78	8.16								
Russell Midcap	5.58	12.11	4.08	15.61	4.63	10.19	9.43	International Equity - Country Region							
Russell Midcap Growth	7.52	15.04	6.94	25.18	2.19	11.43	10.87	MSCI Brazil NR	0.25	1.10	-5.66	28.66	10.80	1.87	3.04
Russell 2000 Value	3.27	10.87	-1.42	5.75	1.32	6.45	6.52	MSCI BRIC NR	5.34	1.47	-0.57	0.35	-12.59	-1.69	2.31
Russell 2000	5.65	13.96	1.54	9.92	-2.06	6.67	7.10	MSCI China NR	8.39	-5.44	-3.11	-17.99	-21.73	-6.24	0.97
Russell 2000 Growth	8.12	17.18	4.65	13.77	-5.67	6.21	7.30	MSCI Europe NR	1.94	7.39	3.55	11.17	9.44	8.31	6.52
								MSCI India NR	2.74	13.74	5.22	35.72	12.33	13.13	10.52
Standard & Poors								MSCI Japan NR	3.00	12.46	7.75	26.60	2.40	7.25	6.23
S&P 500	5.34	11.96	7.11	31.05	11.01	14.58	12.67	MSCI EM Latin Amer NR	-0.16	2.92	-4.95	21.13	11.37	3.26	2.42
Consumer Discretionary	8.71	11.27	4.87	34.34	4.79	12.19	12.21								
Consumer Staples	2.32	6.66	3.89	8.78	9.25	10.12	9.14								
Energy Sector	3.18	2.71	2.79	4.09	25.61	10.57	3.88	Fixed Income-Taxable							
Financials Sector	4.16	13.07	7.32	15.64	8.70	10.93	10.84	Bloomberg US Agg TR	-1.41	2.08	-1.68	3.93	-3.10	0.60	1.43
Health Care Sector	3.22	10.90	6.32	16.13	10.12	11.32	11.26	Bloomberg US Agg 1-3 YR	-0.35	1.25	0.05	4.81	0.10	1.37	1.22
Industrials Sector	7.23	13.68	6.29	21.63	11.05	11.68	10.72	Bloomberg US Agg 3-5 YR	-1.02	1.51	-0.74	4.92	-1.58	1.08	1.42
Information Technology	6.31	14.74	10.51	60.14	17.65	25.89	21.74	Bloomberg US Agg 5-7 YR	-1.44	1.79	-1.40	4.42	-2.61	0.81	1.47
Materials Sector	6.46	6.96	2.30	8.50	7.33	12.17	8.62	Bloomberg U.S. T-Bills	0.42	1.33	0.86	5.30	2.50	1.97	1.31
Real Estate Sector	2.58	6.22	-2.28	7.80	4.99	5.94	6.95	Bloomberg US Govt	-1.30	1.72	-1.56	2.86	-3.29	0.26	0.95
Communication Services	5.70	16.35	11.01	59.41	5.62	13.07	9.40	Bloomberg US Credit	-1.44	2.51	-1.62	6.28	-2.69	1.67	2.38
Utilities Sector	1.12	-0.05	-1.93	0.52	4.65	5.08	8.02	Bloomberg US Corp HY	0.29	4.03	0.29	11.24	1.76	4.15	4.34
								Bloomberg US TIPS	-1.07	1.77	-0.90	2.81	-0.78	2.74	2.08
Other U.S. Equity								Bloomberg Global-Agg	-1.26	1.43	-2.62	3.26	-5.50	-0.98	-0.13
Dow Jones Industrial Avg	2.50	8.96	3.84	21.95	9.53	10.76	11.60	Bloomberg Gbl Agg ex-USI	-1.18	0.86	-3.45	2.56	-7.37	-2.34	-1.40
NASDAQ 100 Stock	5.41	13.37	7.40	52.41	11.66	21.36	18.37	Bloomberg EM USD Agg	0.38	4.00	-0.19	8.31	-2.48	1.04	2.80
Alternative Investments								Fixed Income-Tax Exempt							
Alerian MLP	4.36	6.53	8.90	30.67	27.69	10.85	2.63	Bloomberg Municipal	0.13	1.93	-0.38	5.43	-0.21	1.93	2.67
Bloomberg Commodity	-1.47	-3.74	-1.08	-4.97	7.36	5.76	-1.84	Bloomberg Muni 3 YR	0.11	0.85	-0.11	3.52	0.12	1.19	1.19
FTSE Nareit Equity REITs	2.03	7.49	-2.21	6.99	4.81	4.51	6.44	Bloomberg Muni 5 YR	0.06	1.27	-0.25	4.00	-0.12	1.42	1.66
S&P Global Nat Res	-0.40	-2.05	-5.69	-4.88	6.73	7.50	4.61	Bloomberg Muni 7 YR	0.04	1.63	-0.37	4.31	-0.09	1.73	2.24
S&P N.Amer Nat Res	2.57	1.64	0.58	5.05	18.65	9.99	2.81	Bloomberg Muni HY	0.79	3.33	0.32	8.37	0.50	3.33	4.48

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