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In this week's recap: Powell favors quick movement on rising interest rates.

Weekly Economic Update

Presented by Don Clark, MBA, CFP®, April 25, 2022

THE WEEK ON WALL STREET

Hawkish comments from Fed Chair Jerome Powell overshadowed many largely positive earnings results, sending stocks lower for the week.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average declined 1.86%, while the Standard & Poor's 500 dropped 2.75%. The Nasdaq Composite index fell 3.83% for the week. The MSCI EAFE index, which tracks developed overseas stock markets, advanced 0.50%. ^{1,2,3}

FOCUS COMES OFF EARNINGS

With the inflation report in the rearview mirror and a Fed meeting two weeks away, many may have expected corporate earnings to be in focus last week. Comments by Jerome Powell stole the spotlight.

Investors began the week awaiting earnings reports looking for insight into businesses handling the latest inflation, a jittery consumer, tighter monetary policy, and ongoing supply chain issues. Despite one high-profile earnings disappointment, corporate profits appeared better than expected. By the time trading began on Thursday, 17% of S&P 500 companies had reported, and 81% had beaten Wall Street analysts' estimates. Investors responded

positively, sending share prices higher until Powell's comments on Thursday afternoon triggered selling into the day's close and accelerated through Friday. ⁴

POWELL UNNERVES MARKETS

On Thursday, at an event hosted by the International Monetary Fund, the Fed Chair offered his view that it may be appropriate to move more quickly on raising interest rates. He indicated that a 50 basis point hike was on the table for the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC). ⁵

His comments also emphasized the need to restore price stability, recalling the successful efforts of former Fed Chair Paul Volker, who used a series of rate hikes to tame the inflation of the 1970s and early 1980s. While some observers anticipated these comments, yields rose, and stocks fell in response.

TIP OF THE WEEK



Some small business owners don't have succession plans. If you haven't created one, now is as good a time as any to start. This may not only enable continuity, but also address some legacy-strategy issues.

THE WEEK AHEAD: KEY ECONOMIC DATA

Tuesday: Durable Goods Orders. Consumer Confidence. New Home Sales.

Thursday: Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Jobless Claims.

Friday: Consumer Sentiment.

Source: Econoday, April 22, 2022

The Econoday economic calendar lists upcoming U.S. economic data releases (including key economic indicators), Federal Reserve policy meetings, and speaking engagements of Federal Reserve officials. The content is developed from sources believed to be providing accurate information. The forecasts or forward-looking statements are based on assumptions and may not materialize. The forecasts also are subject to revision.

THE WEEK AHEAD: COMPANIES REPORTING EARNINGS

Monday: The Coca-Cola Company (KO).

Tuesday: Microsoft Corporation (MSFT), Visa, Inc. (V), Alphabet, Inc. (GOOGL), General Motors Company (GM), Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), 3M Company (MMM), Texas Instruments, Inc. (TXN), United Parcel Service, Inc. (UPS), D.R. Horton, Inc. (DHI), Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc. (CMG).

Wednesday: Meta Platforms, Inc. (FB), The Boeing Company (BA), Ford Motor Company (F), Qualcomm, Inc. (QCOM), PayPal Holdings, Inc. (PYPL), Amgen, Inc. (AMGN), ServiceNow, Inc. (NOW), Norfolk Southern Corporation (NSC).

Thursday: Apple, Inc. (AAPL), Amazon.com, Inc. (AMZN), Intel Corporation (INTC), Mastercard, Inc. (MA), Caterpillar, Inc. (CAT), Merck & Co., Inc. (MRK), McDonald's Corporation (MCD), The Southern Company (SO), Eli Lilly and Company (LLY), Northrop Grumman Corporation (NOC).

Friday: AbbVie, Inc. (ABBV), Exxon Mobil Corporation (XOM), Bristol Myers Squibb Company (BMY), Chevron Corporation (CVX), Honeywell International, Inc. (HON), Colgate-Palmolive Company (CL), L3Harris Technologies, Inc. (LHX).

Source: Zacks, April 22, 2022

Companies mentioned are for informational purposes only. It should not be considered a solicitation for the purchase or sale of the securities. Investing involves risks, and investment decisions should be based on your own goals, time horizon, and tolerance for risk. The return and principal value of investments will fluctuate as market conditions change. When sold, investments may be worth more or less than their original cost. Companies may reschedule when they report earnings without notice.

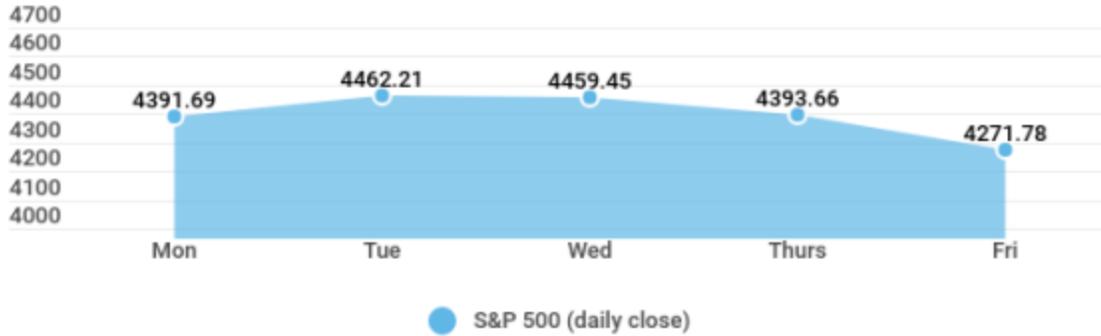
QUOTE OF THE WEEK



“You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows.”

BOB DYLAN

Market Index	Close	Week	Y-T-D
DJIA	33,811.40	-1.86%	-6.95%
NASDAQ	12,839.29	-3.83%	-17.93%
MSCI-EAFE	2,126.64	+0.50%	-8.97%
S&P 500	4,271.78	-2.75%	-10.37%



	Treasury	Close	Week	Y-T-D
	10-Year Note	2.90%	+0.07%	+1.38%

Sources: The Wall Street Journal, April 22, 2022; Treasury.gov, April 22, 2022
 Weekly performance for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Standard & Poor's 500 Index, and NASDAQ Composite Index is measured from the close of trading on Thursday, April 14, to Friday, April 22, close. Weekly performance for the MSCI-EAFE is measured from Friday, April 15, open to Thursday, April 21, close. Weekly and year-to-date 10-year Treasury note yield are expressed in basis points.

THE WEEKLY RIDDLE



Wilson, Xavier, Yolanda, and Zach are standing in line at the market. See if you can figure out their order from these clues: Yolanda is between Wilson and Xavier, Zach is next to Wilson, and Xavier is not first.

LAST WEEK'S RIDDLE: How much dirt is in a 2-foot diameter hole that is 4 feet deep?

ANSWER: No dirt at all. You have made a hole by digging out the dirt, so the hole is empty.

Don Clark, MBA, CFP® may be reached at 913-451-7526 or dclark@personalfinancialgroup.com
www.personalfinancialgroup.com

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CITATIONS:

1. The Wall Street Journal, April 22, 2022
2. The Wall Street Journal, April 22, 2022
3. The Wall Street Journal, April 22, 2022
4. CNBC, April 21, 2022
5. CNBC, April 21, 2022



Don Clark
dclark@personalfinancialgroup.com

Managing Principal
Personal Financial Group
7007 College Boulevard Suite 270, Overland Park, KS 66211
Phone 913-451-7526
www.personalfinancialgroup.com

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