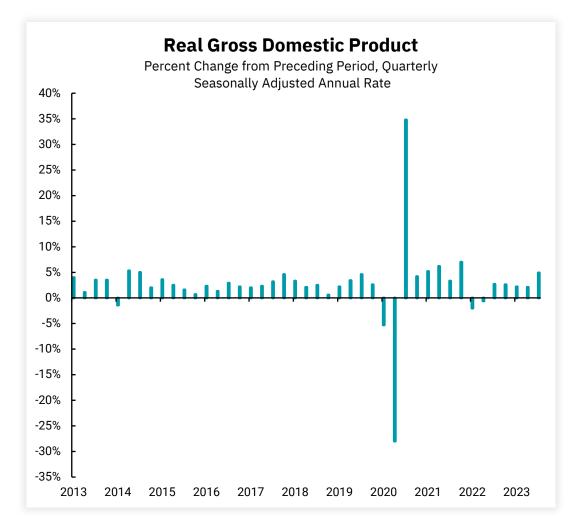
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Weekly market update

Chart of the week (Oct. 27, 2023)





Real gross domestic product (GDP) is the broadest measure of economic activity in the U.S. Hence, GDP is the economic yardstick that many investors and economists look to as a gauge of the economy's health. This week, we received the first estimate of real GDP growth in the U.S. for the third quarter, and the data came in strong, showing real growth of 4.9% on an annualized basis. When we consider the measure of inflation within the data was 3.5%, this means nominal growth was a substantial 8.4%. While this level of economic growth is not likely sustainable in the long run, especially in a developed market economy like ours, it is still worth noting. This most recent report is the highest GDP reading since the fourth quarter of 2021, and looking forward to the fourth quarter, the New York Federal Reserve is forecasting another robust economic growth at 2.3%.

Although the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) is the final arbiter of determining if a recession has occurred, a rough definition of a recession is two negative consecutive quarters of economic growth. As of right now, we're not seeing it in the data. However, economic growth is not a leading economic indicator; it is actually a lagging indicator. Still, in the short run, the domestic economy continues to show strength against a backdrop of higher interest rates, inflation above the Fed's 2% target, a dysfunctional federal government and global geopolitical discord. To the surprise of many, the U.S. consumer has been able to drive the economy forward.

Whether the consumer can continue to support the economy is a question on the minds of many investors. The job market remains strong, but the U.S. consumer savings rate is low. Indeed, much of the data shows the U.S. consumer spending through the excess savings they accumulated during the pandemic years. However, if the consumer can remain unexpectedly strong in the face of these headwinds, it is possible that this economy can stay resilient.

All else equal, the latest reading on GDP provides further ammunition for the Federal Reserve to maintain its current posture toward higher interest rates for longer. For the Fed to achieve its goal of 2% inflation, it will likely require lower levels of real economic growth than 4.9%. At its Nov. 1 meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee will likely hold its target for the Federal Funds rate at 5.25% to 5.5%, but it will certainly keep the most recent GDP report in mind.

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Weekly market update



Commentary (Oct. 27, 2023)

Domestic Equities

- U.S. Stocks were negative again this week despite earnings reports largely surprising to the upside. High interest rates and an inverted yield curve continue to weigh on sentiment.
- Nearly half of U.S. companies have reported third quarter earnings so far, with 75% beating expectations.
- Microsoft, Meta, Alphabet and Amazon all reported better-than-expected earnings, driven by growing enthusiasm about artificial intelligence.
- Capital One became the latest lender to report increased revenue and income as increasing rates force their customers to pay more. Purchase volume and loan balances increased over last year. The stock surged over 10% on the news.

Bonds

- U.S. Treasury yields retreated from recent highs on mixed earnings and economic data. Additionally, the yield curve flattened, with longer term rates moving lower, while the front end was essentially unchanged.
- The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index was positive for the week, with longer duration U.S. Treasuries and agency mortgage-backed securities leading the index higher.
- Across corporate credit, investment-grade bonds outperformed high yield.
 AAA-rated corporates were the top performing segments of the market, while lower quality CCC-rated credits and convertible bonds were the worst.
- After ten consecutive rate hikes, the European Central Bank (ECB) decided to pause its rate hiking cycle on Thursday, with the Governing Council leaving the deposit rate unchanged at 4%.

International Equities

- Global sentiment remains cautious as investors monitor new economic data and corporate earnings news while grappling with the never-ending geopolitical uncertainty.
- Developed markets struggled to gain traction as major markets in the Pacific
 and European regions fell. European stocks delivered sluggish performance
 amidst disappointing corporate earnings and weakening economic data.
 Some investors believe eurozone interest rates may have peaked following
 the European Central Bank's (ECB) decision to leave policy rates unchanged.
- Emerging markets stock endured more volatility but finished the week on a
 positive note as key markets in Latin America rallied. Chinese policymakers
 plan to increase support for the world's second-largest economy by raising
 the budget deficit ratio to 3.8% of GDP to issue more sovereign debt to
 support the country's economy.

Economics

- The Bureau of Economic Analysis's (BEA) first estimate of third quarter real GDP indicated the U.S. economy expanded at a 4.9% annualized rate, the fastest expansion since the fourth quarter of 2021. This increase was widespread as all major subcategories increased in the quarter.
- The BEA also reported personal income increased 0.4%, primarily due to rising employee compensation. Despite the increase in personal income, the personal savings rate declined to 3.4%.
- Finally, the BEA reported consumer spending increased 0.7% in September. Spending on services increased 0.8%, while spending on durable and non-durable goods increased 1% and 0.5% respectively. Notably, personal interest payments increased 7.2% in the month, the highest monthly increase since January 1980.
- The October jobs report will be released on Friday.



Weekly Market Update

For Week Ending October 27, 2023

Markets					Equ	uity Styl	е							Economic Data		
	Last Price	Change From Prior Week	Change From Year End	Change From Year Ago	52	.00		S&P 500							Last Release	Year Ago
Capital Markets								5&P 500						Inflation		
Dow Jones Industrial Avg	32,417.59	-2.1%	-0.5%	3.4%	47	00 -					m			CPI Headline Inflation	3.7%	8.2%
S&P 500 Index	4,117.37	-2.5%	8.6%	9.9%	12	200					~~	~~~	~~L	CPI Core Inflation	4.1%	6.6%
NASDAQ	12,643.01	-2.6%	21.6%	18.2%	42	.00	~~	~~~	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	~~~			1	Personal Consumption Exp (PCE) Core	3.7%	5.5%
S&P 400 Midcap Index	2.326.82	-2.8%	-3.0%	-1.0%	37	00 - M	" Cope							1 (1) 1 1		
S&P 600 Smallcap Index	1,068.80	-2.2%	-6.3%	-7.1%	ļ .									Jobs		
MSCI EAFE	6.753.69	-0.8%	2.6%	13.5%	32	.00								Unemployment Rate (U3)	3.8%	3.5%
MSCI Emerging Markets	478.02	-0.6%	-1.7%	9.9%										Broader Unemployment Rate (U6)	7.0%	6.7%
Bloomberg US Agg	1,998.02	0.7%	-2.5%	0.0%	27	00 -								JOLT Survey (in millions)	9.61	10.20
Bloomberg Municipal 5 Yr	463.72	0.1%	-1.1%	2.2%	22	00								Jobless Claims (000's)	210	201
Bloomberg US Corporate	2,924.01	0.8%	-1.5%	2.6%	22		D 0	0 5-1-0	00 4 00		00	A 00	0-1-00	Change in Non-Farm Payroll (000's)	336	350
Bloomberg Glb Agg ex US Hdg	535.64	0.3%	2.7%	2.1%		Oct-22	Dec-2	2 Feb-2	23 Apr-23	J	un-23	Aug-23	Oct-23	Average Hourly Earnings (Y/Y % Change)	4.2%	5.1%
		0.4%												Average Hourly Earnings (1/1 % Change)	4.2%	3.176
Bloomberg High Yield	2,280.43		4.3%	6.0%			1 Month	*			Υe	ear to Da	te*			
MSCI US REIT Index	1,737.59	-2.7%	-9.2%	-7.4%			•					_		Consumer & Spending		
Bloomberg Commodity Index	240.22	-0.1%	-2.3%	-2.0%		Value	Core	Growth	_		Value	Core	Growth	Consumer Confidence (Conf Board)	103.0	107.8
					g					e e				Consumer Spending (\$ Bil)	18,853	17,804
	Last Price/Yield	Prior Week	Year End	Year Ago	Large	-3.70	-3.58	-3.48	> 10%	Large	3.28	8.64	13.56	Consumer Credit (\$ Bil)	4,969	4,779
Key Rates					-									Retail Sales (\$ Bil)	705	679
Fed Funds Target	5.50%	5.50%	4.50%	3.25%	_					-						
3-Month Treasury	5.45%	5.45%	4.34%	4.00%	Mid	-7.21	-6.25	-5.91	0% - 10%	Μġ	-6.35	-2.97	0.17	Housing		
1-Year Treasury	5.39%	5.38%	4.69%	4.42%	_					_				Housing Starts (000's)	1,358	1,463
2-Year Treasury	5.00%	5.07%	4.43%	4.27%	=					=				Case-Shiller Home Price Index	310.16	307.14
5-Year Treasury	4.76%	4.86%	4.00%	4.06%	Small	-7.21	-6.59	-5.92	<0%	Small	-8.79	-6.32	-3.86			
7-Year Treasury	4.84%	4.92%	3.97%	3.99%	ű					ū				U.S. Productivity		
10-Year Treasury	4.83%	4.91%	3.87%	3.92%		*S&P Indice	s		_					Real Gross Domestic Product (\$ Bil)	22,492	21,851
30-Year Treasury	5.01%	5.08%	3.96%	4.08%										Quarter over Quarter Change	4.9%	2.7%
oo roa. rroadary	3.0170	3.0070	3.3076	4.0070	Fix	ed Incor	me Style							Year Over Year Change	2.9%	1.7%
Consumer Rates							01,.0							ISM Manufacturing	49.00	51.00
30-Year Mortgage	8.05%	8.01%	6.66%	5.83%	6.0)% ¬			Yield Curve	9				Capacity Utilization	79.68	80.84
Prime Rate	9.25%	9.25%	8.25%	7.00%	5.5	50/								Markit US Composite PMI		
SOFR	5.31%	5.30%	4.77%	3.04%	0.0	,,0								Markit 03 Composite Fivil	51.00	48.20
SUFR	5.31%	5.30%	4.77%	3.04%	5.0)% -			_				_	U.S. General		
					4.5	-0/										
Commodities	0.000.07	1 001 10	4 00 4 00	4 000 04	4.0	76								Leading Economic Indicators	104.6	113.5
Gold	2,006.37	1,981.40	1,824.02	1,663.31	4.0	4.0%							Trade Weighted Dollar Index	124.0	127.9	
Crude Oil (WTI)	85.54	88.08	80.26	77.94	_ ,								EUR / USD	1.06	1.00	
Gasoline	3.50	3.55	3.21	3.76	3.5									JPY / USD	149.66	146.29
Natural Gas	3.48	3.26	4.48	5.51	3.0	3.0% - ——1 Year Ago								CAD / USD	0.72	0.74
Copper	3.65	3.56	3.81	3.47	١.,	-0.				i i cai	Agu			AUD / USD	0.63	0.65
					2.5	5% -										
		2.0%														
	P/E	P/E	Price to	Current Div			3 Mo	2 Yr	5 Yr	7 Y	r 10) Yr	30 Yr	S&P 500 Sector Returns		
	Forward	Trailing	Book	Yield											1 Month	YTD
Index Characteristics					1		1 Month	*			Ye	ear to Da	te*	Communication Services	-3.58%	34.84%
Dow Jones Industrial Avg	17.78	18.62	4.20	2.20		Short	Interm.	Long			Short	Interm.	Long	Information Technology	-0.69%	32.35%
S&P 500	18.56	18.72	3.92	1.73	1 .									Consumer Discretionary	-4.93%	18.64%
S&P 500 Value	16.07	16.60	2.59	2.24	Govt	0.61	0.17	-3.81	> 10%	Govt	2.11	0.20	-12.25	Industrials	-4.95%	-0.54%
S&P 500 Growth	21.26	21.16	6.92	1.31	Ō					Ō				Energy	-8.37%	-0.91%
NASDAQ	26.75	30.09	5.11	0.90	ĺ									Material	-3.71%	-2.07%
S&P Midcap 400	13.87	12.67	2.00	2.32	Corp	0.46	-1.60	-3.70	0% - 10%	Corp	2.61	-1.73	-6.16	Financials	-5.33%	-2.07%
S&P Smallcap 600	12.41	11.99	1.55	2.05	ŭ	0.40	1.00	3.70	0% - 10%	ပိ	2.01	1.75	0.10			
					ĺ									Consumer Staples	-3.06%	-7.70%
MSCI EAFE	12.51	11.73	1.56	3.58	>	0.27	1.40	2.40		>	6 70	4.44	0.00	Health Care	-4.61%	-8.26%
MSCI Emerging Markets	12.78	12.71	1.45	3.32	Ŧ	-0.37	-1.19	-3.49	<0%	₹	6.70	4.44	-0.03	Real Estate	-3.75%	-10.21%
					I									Utilities	-2.25%	-14.68%
Source: Bloomberg						1-3 Yrs	1-10 Yrs	+10 Yrs			1-3 Yrs	1-10 Yrs	+10 Yrs			

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