Economic & Market Commentary

Index Total Returns - July 14, 2023

Stocks rallied strongly last week while bonds prices rose modestly, driven higher by not only lower than expected inflation numbers but also by a Federal Reserve economic report that showed the U.S. economy continues to weaken, albeit at a slow pace. June inflation numbers came in better than expected as headline inflation for the month rose +0.20% vs. +0.30 and over the past 12 months came in at +3.0% vs. +3.1% expected. At the core level, which excludes food and energy, it rose +0.20% for the month vs +0.30% expected and for the last 12 months +4.8% vs. +5.0% expected. While the CPI report showed broad-based declines of many categories over the month, there were still many core categories showing elevated increases. Moreover, the vast majority of 12-month core categories posted levels north of +4.0%. This is why the Federal Reserve is likely to raise the short-term rate next month. Presently, the CBOE FedWatch Tool is showing a 96.1% probability of a +0.25% rate hike later this month and staying at this rate for the remainder of the year. Since March 2022, the Fed raised rates 10 consecutive times and it is clear these rate hikes are having an effect on the economy. The Fed's most recent Beige Book, which provides regional insights on economic activity, showed the economy continues to cool down. The report cited, "Overall economic activity increased slightly in May. Five Districts reported slight or modest growth, five noted no change, and two reported slight and modest declines. Employment increased modestly this period, with most Districts experiencing some job growth. Many Districts reported that labor availability had improved. Prices increased at a modest pace overall, and several Districts noted some slowing in the pace of the increase." We are now in the "hurry up and wait mode" as both the bond market and the Fed indicate that after the next rate hike later this month, short-term rates will be likely be on hold through year end.

U.S. Consumer Price Index - CPI

index Total Returns - July	/ 14, 2023			U.S. Consumer Price Inde	X - CPI		
	1-Wk	YTD	1-Yr	10 nov. — CPI, All Items, U.S., Y/Y% SA (Left) — CPI, All Items Less Foo	d and Energy, U.S., Y/Y% SA (Ri	ght)	CPL, All Berns, U.S SA, Avg. 256 CPL, All Berns Less Food and Energy, U.S SA, Avg. 236 797
NASDAQ	3.32	35.47	26.57	Two A			A
S&P 500	2.44	18.41	20.91	8.0%			
MSCI-Developed	4.87	14.71	26.16				
S&P 400	2.74	11.03	20.38	6.0%			59
Russell 2000	3.58	10.55	14.85				\mathcal{N}
MSCI-Emerging	4.95	9.38	9.61	4.0%	\wedge		42
Dow Jones	2.29	5.30	15.12	200 A- NVV		\	13.1
Barclay's U.S. Bond Inde	X			Lash V	VW/	W	
High Yield	1.60	6.42	8.81	0.0%	\bigwedge	my my	V 2
Municipal	0.48	2.84	1.89		/ \\\\\	~ 4	$\backslash M$
Aggregate	1.51	2.29	-1.03	2.0%			15
Int. Gov. Credit	1.13	1.92	0.34	 			
5-year Muni	0.37	1.38	0.65	4.0% '04 '06 '08 '10	12 14	'16 '18 '2	0 "22
U.S. Treasury Yields				S&P 500 Sector Total Returns - July 14, 2023			
	Latest	Week	1-Year	Sector	1-Wk	YTD	1-Yr
Treasury Yields	Close	Ago	Ago	Info Tech	2.81	44.67	38.69
U.S. 1-Yr	5.32	5.42	3.03	Communication Services	3.36	40.64	20.81
U.S. 2-Yr	4.73	4.94	3.12	Consumer Discretionary	3.31	37.03	23.82
U.S. 3-Yr	4.35	4.66	3.15	Industrials	2.22	11.47	29.31
U.S. 5-Yr	4.03	4.34	3.06	Materials	2.50	8.22	20.03
U.S. 10-Yr	3.82	4.05	2.96	Real Estate	2.55	6.46	-0.45
U.S. 30-Yr	3.93	4.04	3.10	Consumer Staples	1.21	1.41	6.00
Municipal Yields - Bloomberg/Barclays Index				Financials	1.98	1.06	13.83
	Latest	Week	1-Year	Health Care	2.11	-2.27	5.37
Issue Type	Close	Ago	Ago	Utilities	2.26	-3.68	-0.93
U.S. AAA	3.22	3.27	2.67	Energy	0.62	-5.57	25.97
U.S. AA	3.35	3.43	2.82		P/E	P/E NTM	Dividend
U.S. A	3.85	3.93	3.30	Index Characteristics	NTM	10yr-Avg.	Yield
U.S. Baa	4.48	4.54	3.80	S&P 500 - Large Cap	19.48	17.64	1.48
U.S. Municipal	3.51	3.58	2.98	S&P 400 - Mid Cap	14.08	15.49	1.48
Michigan	3.67	3.75	3.09	S&P 600 - Small Cap	13.98	15.88	1.74