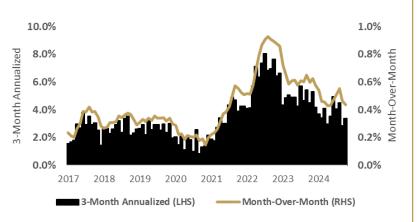
Some Positive News on Inflation

Last week's economic reports reinforced that the U.S. economy ended last year on sound footing. Following last week's report on December retail sales, the Atlanta Fed's GDP Now Tracker increased its estimate of fourth-quarter growth to 3.0%. Confirmation of the economy's continued resilience helped encourage investors to buy stocks last week, evidenced by the S&P's 3% total return for the week.

Perhaps more supportive for markets, however, was positive news on inflation. Both the December Producer Price Index (PPI) and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) reports showed renewed progress on inflation, particularly on core measures that exclude energy and food categories. Because these core measures are considered sticky inflation measures, investors tend to focus more squarely on those figures to gauge inflation's direction.

The most obdurate of all core inflation measures are housing expenses. For much of the post-pandemic period housing expenses have accelerated at an uncomfortably high rate. December's CPI report, however, showed housing expenses (owner's equivalent rent) finally beginning to move lower—a necessary and welcome development for both consumers and markets.

Owners Equivalent Rent Percent Change



- Producer Price Index (Dec.): 0.2% HL / 0.1% C (MoM) 3.3% HL / 3.5% C (YoY)
- Consumer Price Index (Dec.): 0.4% HL / 0.2% C (MoM) 2.9% HL / 3.2% C (YoY)
- Retail Sales (Dec.): 0.4% HL / 0.7% Control (MoM)

-Housing Starts & Building Permits (Dec.):

Starts +16% MoM / Permits -0.7% MoM

This Week

- Leading Economic Indicators (Dec.): 1/22

-Initial & Continuing Jobless Claims: 1/23

-U. of Mich. Sentiment (Jan. P): 1/24

-Existing Home Sales (Dec.): 1/24

Lyantics										
Returns (%)										
Index	Level	1 Week	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3-Year Ann.	5-Year Ann.			
S&P 500	5997	2.93	2.01	2.01	28.26	12.91	14.50			
Russell 1000 Growth	4096	2.16	1.35	1.35	34.84	16.16	18.31			
Russell 1000 Value	1885	4.26	3.46	3.46	20.75	8.57	9.44			
FTSE High Dividend Yield*	468	3.51	3.21	3.21	21.48	9.58	10.33			
S&P Small and Mid Cap	18000	4.49	3.40	3.40	20.85	8.29	10.21			
MSCI EAFE	2314	3.92	2.37	2.37	9.66	3.82	5.67			
MSCI EM	1080	4.00	0.59	0.59	14.47	-1.70	1.95			

Characteristics

Index	NTM P/E	NTM P/E (20Y med)	Div Yield			S&P	Sect	tor R	etur	ns YT	ΓD			
S&P 500	22.2	15.3	1.3	10										
Russell 1000 Growth	29.4	17.7	0.6	8										
Russell 1000 Value	17.0	13.4	2.1	6										
FTSE High Dividend Yield*	12.8	13.1	3.9	8	ergy	s s		S	Ü.	Serv.	Care	te		
S&P Small and Mid Cap	16.1	15.5	1.8	QL 4	В	Materials	ies	-inancials	Cons. Disci		th C	Real Estate		
MSCI EAFE	14.6	13.4	3.1	2		Materia	Jtilities	Finar	Cons	Comm.	Health (Real		
MSCI EM	12.0	11.1	2.8	0									_	Staples
				-2									⊨	Stap

^{*} Bloomberg U.S Large Cap Dividend Yield Total Return Index used as substitute for index characteristics.

rixeu income										
Returns (%)										
Index	Yield	1 Week	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3-Year Ann.	5-Year Ann.			
U.S. Aggregate	4.94	1.10	-0.02	-0.02	2.65	-1.83	-0.50			
U.S. Int. Gov/Credit	4.63	0.64	0.09	0.09	3.69	0.24	0.76			
U.S. Corporates	5.38	1.21	-0.04	-0.04	3.42	-1.45	0.05			
High Yield	7.29	0.80	0.84	0.84	9.84	3.73	4.24			
Municipals (1-10)	3.38	0.34	0.01	0.01	1.72	0.53	0.84			
			Levels (%)							
Key Rates	Last	1 Wk Ago	Last Qtr	Prev YE	1 Yr Ago	3 Yrs Ago	5 Yrs Ago			
2-yr Treasury	4.28	4.37	4.24	4.24	4.37	1.01	1.53			

Key Rates	Last	1 Wk Ago	Last Qtr	Prev YE	1 Yr Ago	3 Yrs Ago	5 Yrs Ago			
2-yr Treasury	4.28	4.37	4.24	4.24	4.37	1.01	1.53			
10-yr Treasury	4.63	4.79	4.57	4.57	4.13	1.76	1.77			
30-yr Treasury	4.86	4.98	4.78	4.78	4.36	2.07	2.22			
SOFR	4.29	4.28	4.49	4.49	5.31	0.05	1.54			
6-mo. CD rate	4.36	4.39	4.33	4.33	5.32	0.38	1.79			
Prime Rate	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.50	3.25	4.75			
30-yr fixed mortgage	7.08	7.07	7.28	7.28	7.03	3.68	3.77			

