

# WEEKLY MARKET UPDATE

Week of March 1, 2023



## By The Numbers

<u>Index</u>	<u>DOW</u>	<u>S&amp;P 500</u>	<u>NASDAQ</u>	<u>10YR Yield</u>
Yesterday's Close	32,656	3,970	11,455	3.91%
Market Change since Last Meeting	-1.4%	-0.7%	-0.3%	+0.26%
Market Change Year-To-Date	-1.7%	+3.1%	+9.3%	+3.2%

## GOODBYE FEBRUARY

February was a difficult month for the stock market. For the month, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 4.19%, the S&P 500 was down 2.61% and the Nasdaq was down 1.11%. Those losses came after a strong start to the year for stocks; the S&P 500 was up over 6% in the month of January. However, a sharp increase in Treasury yields in February killed the momentum for stocks as market participants feared higher Federal Reserve rates will remain in place for longer.

## INFLATION & THE FED

The most influential news this past week came last Wednesday (2/22/2023) when the Fed released the minutes from their last meeting. The minutes showed inflation remained “well above” the central bank’s 2% target, adding that the labor market is still “very tight, contributing to the continuing upward pressure on wages and prices.” Fed officials also noted that “inflation data received over the past three months showed a welcomed reduction in the monthly pace of price increases but stressed that substantially more evidence of progress across a broader range of prices would be required to be confident that inflation was on a sustained downward path,” the minutes said.

In other news the Personal Consumption Expenditures Price Index, which is the Fed’s preferred measurement of inflation, rose 0.6% in the month of January and was 4.7% higher than one year ago, both of which were higher than economist’s expectations.

## LOOKING FORWARD

March 10	Nonfarm payrolls
March 14	Consumer Price Index
March 22	Fed meeting and announcement

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