

## Market and Economic Highlights

- ▶ The S&P 500 rose for the fifth straight month
- ▶ The market experienced greater breadth in March as tech stocks remained strong
- ▶ Bonds performed well for the month with longer term indices outperforming
- ▶ Fed Chair Powell's commentary leaned dovish following the March 20-21 Fed meeting
- ▶ Headline and Core CPI exceeded economists' forecasts though PCE was in line
- ▶ Personal spending remained strong in February

Source: FactSet

## Market Returns

Market Index	MTD	QTD	YTD	1-Year
Bloomberg 9-12 Month T-Bill	0.41%	0.92%	0.92%	4.78%
Bloomberg 1-5 Year Government	0.40%	-0.04%	-0.04%	2.44%
Bloomberg Intermediate U.S. Gov/ Credit A or Better	0.57%	-0.24%	-0.24%	2.17%
Bloomberg Intermediate U.S. Agg.	0.78%	-0.42%	-0.42%	2.30%
S&P 500	3.22%	10.56%	10.56%	29.88%
Russell 2000	3.58%	5.18%	5.18%	19.71%

Source: Bloomberg

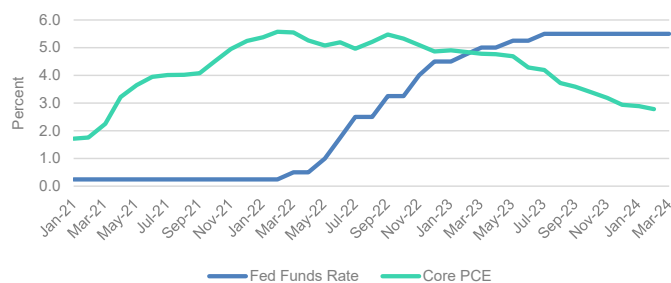
## FEATURED MARKET DATA

### Core Inflation Moderating

Though the path to lower inflation has been somewhat bumpy, the trend in Core PCE (Personal Consumption Expenditures), the Fed's preferred measure of inflation, continues downward. Year-over-year growth in Core PCE declined to 2.8% in February. The reading was aligned with economists' expectations following the CPI report earlier in March which exceeded expectations. Core services excluding energy & shelter decelerated significantly to 0.18% for the month. The reading was down from 0.66% for January and more in line with disinflationary trends that prevailed from May 2023 to Dec 2023. Core PCE is now significantly below the 5.50% upper range of the Fed Funds target rate.

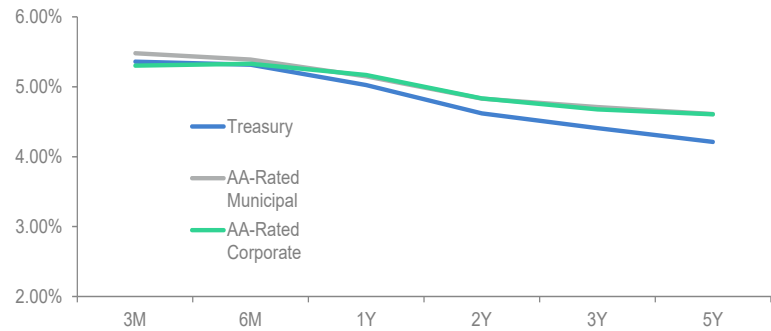
Source: Bloomberg

### Fed Funds Rate Exceeds Core Inflation



Source: Bloomberg

## Market Yields



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 3/29/24

## U.S. Economic Indicators

Event	Event Date	Period	Survey	Actual	Prior / Revised (R)
Core CPI (MoM)	03/12/24	FEB	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
Consumer Price Index (YoY)	03/12/24	FEB	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%
Building Permits	03/19/24	FEB	1,496K	1,518K	1,489K (R)
S&P Case Shiller 20-City Home Price Index (YoY)	03/26/24	JAN	6.12%	6.03%	5.57% (R)
Consumer Confidence	03/26/24	MAR	107.0	104.7	104.8 (R)
Personal Income	03/29/24	FEB	0.4%	0.3%	1.0%
Personal Spending	03/29/24	FEB	0.5%	0.8%	0.2%
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	04/05/24	MAR	205K	--	275K
Unemployment Rate	04/05/24	MAR	3.8%	--	3.9%

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 3/29/24. Glossary terms on following page.

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# Glossary of Terms

Term	What is it:
<b>Building Permits</b>	Records the number of permits for future housing construction.
<b>Capacity Utilization</b>	Tracks the extent to which capacity is being used in the production of goods and services.
<b>Change in Nonfarm Payrolls</b>	This indicator measures the change in the number of employees on business and government payrolls.
<b>Chicago Fed National Activity Index</b>	A nationwide measure of economic activity and inflation pressures. An index value of zero indicates that the national economy is expanding at its historical trend rate of growth.
<b>Consumer Confidence</b>	Index examines how consumers feel about jobs, the economy and spending.
<b>Consumer Price Index (CPI)</b>	Measures the average change in retail prices over time for a basket consisting of more than 200 categories of assorted goods and services paid directly by consumers.
<b>Core Consumer Price Index (Core CPI)</b>	This measure of CPI excludes food and energy costs.
<b>Durable Goods Orders</b>	A measure of new orders placed with domestic manufacturers for durable goods, which are items that last three years or more.
<b>Existing Home Sales</b>	Measures monthly sales of previously owned single-family homes.
<b>GDP Annualized QoQ</b>	Measures the annualized quarterly growth of the final market value of all goods and services produced within a country. GDP is the foremost report on how fast or slow the economy is growing.
<b>Housing Starts</b>	Records the number of new housing units started during a period.
<b>Index of Leading Economic Indicators (LEI)</b>	An index designed to predict the direction of the economy.
<b>Initial Jobless Claims</b>	Tracks new filings for unemployment insurance benefits.
<b>ISM Manufacturing</b>	Measures manufacturing activity based on a monthly survey of purchasing managers.
<b>MBA Mortgage Applications</b>	The Mortgage Bankers Association's weekly mortgage application survey includes home loan application activity for conventional and government loans for home purchases and refinances.
<b>Mortgage Delinquencies</b>	A measure of the percent of total conventional and government loans which are at least one payment past due, but not in the process of foreclosure.
<b>Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE)</b>	The Federal Reserve's preferred measure of inflation tracks overall price changes for goods and services. Core PCE excludes food and energy.
<b>Personal Income and Spending</b>	Index records the income Americans receive, how much they spend, and what they save.
<b>Retail Sales</b>	Tracks the sale of new and used goods for personal or household consumption.
<b>Retail Sales Ex. Auto</b>	Retail sales excluding motor vehicles and parts.
<b>S&amp;P Case-Shiller Home Price Index</b>	Tracks the value of single-family housing within the U.S. There are multiple indexes including the 20-City Composite.
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	The U-3 unemployment rates tracks the percentage of the civilian workforce that is unemployed.

Source: Bloomberg, The Secrets of Economic Indicators by Bernard Baumohl; PMA Asset Management, LLC

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