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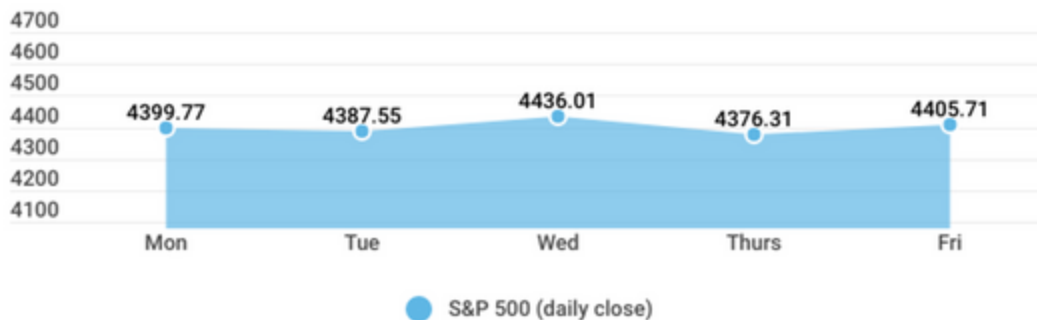
Stocks fluctuated last week, jostled by fitful bond yields and headline news, before ending strongly following Fed Chair Powell's comments on the monetary outlook.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average slipped 0.45%, while the Standard & Poor's 500 gained 0.82%. The Nasdaq Composite index rose 2.26% for the week. The MSCI EAFE index, which tracks developed overseas stock markets, added 0.78%.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

## MARKET INSIGHTS



Market Index	Close	Week	Y-T-D
DJIA	34,346.90	-0.45%	+3.62%
NASDAQ	13,590.65	+2.26%	+29.85%
MSCI-EAFE	2,073.74	+0.78%	+6.68%
S&P 500	4,405.71	+0.82%	+14.75%



	Treasury	Close	Week	Y-T-D
	10-Year Note	4.25%	-0.01%	+0.37%

Sources: The Wall Street Journal, August 25, 2023; Treasury.gov, August 25, 2023

Weekly performance for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Standard & Poor's 500 Index, and NASDAQ

Composite Index is measured from the close of trading on Friday, August 18, to Friday, August 25 close.

Weekly performance for the MSCI-EAFE is measured from Friday, August 18, open to Thursday, August 24

close. Weekly and year-to-date 10-year Treasury note yield are expressed in basis points.

## Stocks Manage Gains

Stock rallied on Monday on upbeat sentiment over the earnings release from a mega-cap semiconductor company scheduled for mid-week, only to see that momentum fizzle the following day on weak retail earnings and a credit downgrade of a handful of banks.

Stocks resumed their rally on weak economic data, which fueled hopes for future Fed dovishness. They also rose on expectations that earnings from a leading AI chipmaker would validate the AI narrative that propelled markets in the second quarter. Despite a blowout earnings report, stocks turned lower as investor attention quickly switched to Fed Chair Powell's presentation scheduled for Friday.

After some initial jitteriness, Investors responded well to Powell's comments, posting gains to close the week.

## **Powell Stands Firm**

Powell spoke on Friday at the Fed's annual economic symposium in Jackson Hole, asserting that, despite considerable progress, inflation remained too high and additional rate hikes may be in the offing. He acknowledged that previous rate increases had not yet thoroughly worked their way through the system, so caution about further hikes was needed.

Investors reacted to Powell's comments far better than in August 2022, when a hawkish presentation sent stocks lower. Powell also addressed a growing feeling among investors that the Fed may eventually raise its inflation target to 2.5-3.0%. Powell rejected this idea unambiguously, stating that the two percent target would remain the Fed's inflation goal.

## **This Week: Key Economic Data**

**Tuesday:** Consumer Confidence. Job Openings and Turnover Survey (JOLTS).

**Wednesday:** Automated Data Processing (ADP) Employment Report. Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

**Thursday:** Personal Income and Outlays. Jobless Claims.

**Friday:** Employment Situation. Institute for Supply Management (ISM) Manufacturing Index.

Source: Econoday, August 25, 2023

The Econoday economic calendar lists upcoming U.S. economic data releases (including key economic indicators), Federal Reserve policy meetings, and speaking engagements of Federal Reserve officials. The content is developed from sources believed to be providing accurate information. The forecasts or forward-looking statements are based on assumptions and may not materialize. The forecasts also are subject to revision.

## **This Week: Companies Reporting Earnings**

**Tuesday:** Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company (HPE), HP, Inc. (HPQ)

**Wednesday:** Salesforce, Inc. (CRM), Veeva Systems, Inc. (VEEV), CrowdStrike (CRWD).

**Thursday:** lululemon athletica, inc. (LULU), Broadcom, Inc. (AVGO), Dollar General Corporation (DG), Dell Technologies, Inc. (DELL), VMware, Inc. (VMW)

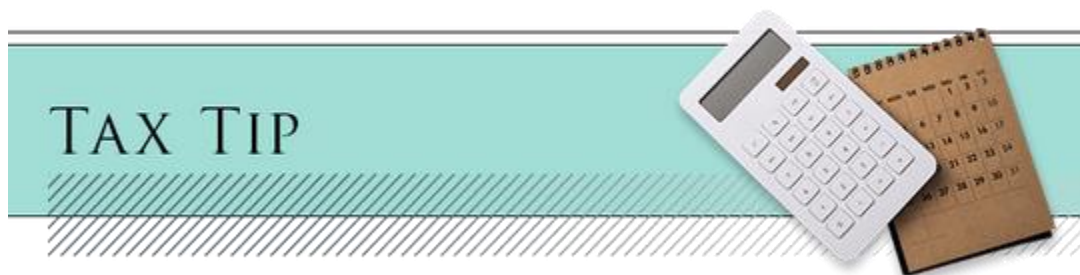
Source: Zacks, August 25, 2023

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*"Every man is working out his destiny in his own way and nobody can be of any help except by being kind, generous, and patient."*

**– Henry Miller**



## **Starting A New Business**

Starting a new business? Here's a tip that the Internal Revenue Service shares for new business owners:

Choose an appropriate business structure: The form of business determines which income tax return a business taxpayer needs to file.

If necessary, apply for an Employer Identification Number (EIN): An EIN is used to identify a business structure outside a personal identification number.

*\*This information is not intended to substitute for specific individualized tax advice. We suggest you discuss your specific tax issues with a qualified tax professional.*

Tip adapted from IRS.gov<sup>4</sup>



## **Boost Your Productivity With These Tips**

Take regular breaks. It seems counterintuitive, but most people are more productive when they take frequent breaks.

Do the complicated tasks first. Mark Twain famously said to "eat the frog first thing in the morning," meaning that you should tackle your most challenging task immediately.

Make two to-do lists, one with your weekly goals and objectives and one with your daily tasks.

Divide large projects into manageable steps. Make the things on your to-do list specific so you can continue to cross things out and make progress.

Tip adapted from Formstack<sup>5</sup>

## WEEKLY RIDDLE



At a picnic, a photo has to be taken that depicts 6 children, 4 grandchildren, 2 brothers, 2 sisters, 3 sons, 3 daughters, 2 fathers, 2 mothers, 1 grandfather, 1 grandmother, 1 daughter-in-law, 1 mother-in-law, and 1 father-in-law. What is the smallest number of people that could appear in the photo?

*Last week's riddle: Which of these five words doesn't belong on this list: that, what, cat, sat, chat. Answer: What, as it doesn't rhyme with the other words on the list.*

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK







*Table Mountain, Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa*

## Footnotes And Sources

1. The Wall Street Journal, August 25, 2023

2. The Wall Street Journal, August 25, 2023

3. The Wall Street Journal, August 25, 2023

4. IRS.gov, March 1, 2023

5. Formstack, April 24, 2023

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The Dow Jones Industrial Average is an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of large-capitalization companies on the U.S. stock market. Nasdaq Composite is an index of the common stocks and similar securities listed on the NASDAQ stock market and is considered a broad indicator of the performance of technology and growth companies. The MSCI EAFE Index was created by Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) and serves as a benchmark of

the performance of major international equity markets, as represented by 21 major MSCI indexes from Europe, Australia, and Southeast Asia. The S&P 500 Composite Index is an unmanaged group of securities that are considered to be representative of the stock market in general.

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