

4/29/2024

The Week Ahead



THINGS TO WATCH

–AMAZON AND APPLE EARNINGS: After the market closes tomorrow, Amazon (AMZN) will deliver its 1Q24 results. Investors will be looking for sales in its AWS cloud computing segment to accelerate from last quarter’s 13% growth rate and its emerging advertising sales division to maintain a 20%-plus rate of annual growth. Thursday afternoon, Apple’s (AAPL) quarterly results and commentary will be closely examined for signs of stabilization in iPhone demand in China. Investors will also be listening for hints from management of plans for embedded generative artificial intelligence functionality in new products ahead of the company’s Worldwide Developers Conference to be held the week of June 10-14.

–APRIL JOBS DATA: Wednesday morning, ADP data is expected to show U.S. private employers added 180,000 workers in April after a gain of 184,000 in March. According to ADP, workers who changed jobs in March saw their wages increase 10% from a year ago, an acceleration from a range of 7.5% - 8.5% over the prior five months. The April nonfarm payroll release on Friday morning is likely to show monthly aggregate job growth in the U.S. of 250,000 following gains of 303,000 in March and 270,000 in February.

–FED MEETING: On Wednesday, after, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) is widely expected to keep the federal funds rate unchanged in a range of 5.25% to 5.50% for the sixth consecutive meeting. Fed Chair Powell’s comments in his post-meeting press conference on either 1) the timeline for rate cuts following a string of slightly hotter-than-expected inflation readings in recent months or 2) the pace of the central bank’s balance sheet runoff could move markets.

–TRAVEL TRENDS: Hotelier Marriott International’s (MAR) quarterly results pre-market Wednesday should shed light on travel demand trends after a strong 2023. In the fourth quarter, MAR recorded sales growth of 9%, 7%, and 6% in its group, business, and leisure segments, respectively.

LAST WEEK’S ECONOMIC DATA	LATEST	3MO PRIOR	CHANGE
S&P Global U.S. Manufacturing PMI	49.9	50.7	▼
S&P Global U.S. Services PMI	50.9	52.5	▼
New Home Sales (Thousands Annualized)	693	654	▲
GDP (Q/Q Annualized)	1.6%	3.4%	▼
Core PCE Price Index (Y/Y)	2.8%	2.9%	▼
U. of Mich. 1-year Inflation Expectations	3.2%	2.9%	▲

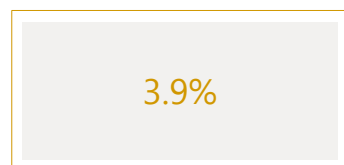
INDEX	LEVEL	WEEK	YTD	12 MO
DJ Industrial Average	38239.66	0.67%	2.05%	17.26%
NASDAQ	15927.90	4.23%	6.33%	35.49%
S&P 500	5099.96	2.68%	7.38%	27.69%
MSCI EAFE	2282.78	2.42%	3.46%	10.54%
BB U.S. Aggregate	2087.57	-0.05%	-3.09%	-1.24%

KEY BOND RATES	WEEK	1MO AGO	1YR AGO
3-Month T-Bill	5.39%	5.36%	5.11%
10-Year Treasury	4.66%	4.23%	3.45%

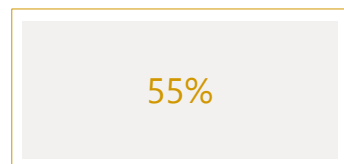
REPORTS DUE THIS WEEK	LATEST
JOLTS Job Openings (Millions)	8.76
ISM Manufacturing PMI	50.3
Non-Farm Payrolls (Thousands)	303
Unemployment Rate	3.8%
Average Hourly Earnings (Y/Y)	4.1%

Total returns are as of 4/26/24. Source data: Bloomberg and Morningstar are believed to be correct but not verified.

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK



The Atlanta Fed GDPNow tracker’s estimate for 2Q24 real U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) growth as of last Friday. This would mark a turn from a weaker-than-expected 1Q24 in which U.S. GDP slowed to an annualized rate of 1.6% from 3.4% in 4Q23 amid weak capital expenditures and consumer spending on goods. Last quarter’s softness might be overstated, however, as final sales to domestic purchasers (GDP excluding trade and inventory components) grew at a 2.8% clip in the first three months of the year.



According to a research note last week from Bernstein analysts, the percentage of short-form video service TikTok’s U.S. advertising revenue that would likely be diverted to Meta Platforms’ (META) Reels if the ByteDance-owned platform is banned in the U.S. The analysts projected Alphabet’s (GOOGL) YouTube Shorts could draw another 25% of TikTok’s U.S. sales following a prospective ban. Last week, President Biden signed a law that will force TikTok to divest its U.S. operations in 12 months or face a ban.

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