Weekly Vantage Point

April 15, 2019

S&P 500 Posts Fractional Weekly Gain

April 8-12, 2019 Recap

- Stocks Edge Mostly Higher. Stocks extended gains Friday with the S&P 500 closing above the 2,900 level for the first time in six months amid solid bank earnings and a major merger deal within the U.S. oil industry. Stronger-than-expected exports data from China also helped ease world growth concerns, rising nearly double what economists expected.
- Weekly Performance. For the week, the S&P 500 gained 0.56%, the Dow Industrials slipped 0.05% and the Nasdaq Composite rose 0.58%. The S&P 500 narrowed the gap from its 2930.75 September 20, 2018 record high to within 24 points.
- **Import Prices Jump.** The price of imported goods rose 0.6% in March after a revised 1% increase in February but officials noted that for a second month, nearly all increases were due to higher oil prices. The cost of imports excluding oil related items declined, signaling inflation remains subdued. Export prices rose 0.7%.
- **Financials Performed Best.** Nine of the 11 major sectors posted weekly gains, led by Financials (+2.10%), Communication Services (+1.81%) and Technology (+1.19%). Utilities (+0.20%) rose the least, while Healthcare (-2.38%) and Energy (-0.17%) lagged.
- Treasurys Ease, Yields Rise. Treasury prices fell as equity risk appetites rose, sending the yield on benchmark 10-year notes up seven basis points last week to 2.566%, the highest level in nearly a month. The U.S. Dollar Index fell 0.43% last week, while U.S. crude oil posted its sixth weekly advance, its longest winning streak in three years. WTI oil futures rose 1.28% last week, ending at \$63.89/barrel.

What We're Reading

Bond Yields Rise with Stocks

Oil Rises Sixth Week

China Exports Surge

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Week's Economic Calendar

Monday, April 15: New York Fed's Empire State Manufacturing Activity;

Tuesday, April 16: Industrial Production, Homebuilder Sentiment:

Wednesday, April 17: Trade Deficit, Wholesale Inventories, Fed Beige Book;

Thursday, April 18: Jobless Claims, Retail Sales, Philly Fed Index, Business Inventories, Leading Indicators;

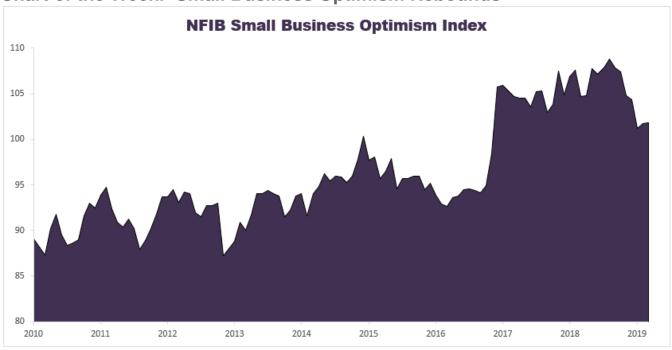
Friday, April 19: Housing Starts, Building Permits.

Market Watch

Stocks	1-Week	MTD	3-Month	YTD	1-Year	3-Year
Dow Jones Industrial Avg.	-0.05	1.87	10.07	13.22	7.89	14.24
S&P 500	0.56	2.66	12.58	16.67	11.35	14.46
NASDAQ Composite	0.58	3.32	14.85	20.69	13.05	19.24
Russell 3000	0.58	2.75	12.55	17.18	10.69	14.50
MSCI EAFE	0.28	2.28	8.27	12.49	-3.16	8.36
MSCI Emerging Markets	0.40	2.99	9.18	13.20	-5.19	12.02
Bonds	1-Week	MTD	3-Month	YTD	1-Year	3-Year
Barclays Agg Bond	-0.12	-0.41	2.34	2.52	4.30	1.83
Barclays Municipal	0.08	-0.22	2.35	2.67	4.99	2.45
Barclays US Corp High Yield	0.57	1.07	5.11	8.40	6.09	8.59
Commodities	1-Week	MTD	3-Month	YTD	1-Year	3-Year
Bloomberg Commodity	0.46	2.09	4.46	8.55	-5.10	2.05
S&P GSCI Crude Oil	1.47	6.45	23.48	40.98	-4.38	13.99
S&P GSCI Gold	-0.03	-0.25	0.03	1.08	-3.48	0.90

Source: Morningstar

Chart of the Week: Small Business Optimism Rebounds



Source: Cetera Investment Management, Koyfin, NFIB. Data as of 3/31/2019.

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) Small Business Optimism Index climbed narrowly in March to 101.8, which was slightly ahead of expectations. Small business optimism has stabilized after falling sharply in the fourth quarter. The index remains at a historically high level and the NFIB is anticipating positive growth from the small business sector of the economy.

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Additional risks are associated with international investing, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic instability, and differences in accounting standards.

Glossary

The **Dow Jones Industrial Average** is a price-weighted average of 30 significant stocks traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ.

The **S&P 500** is an index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping (among other factors) designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe.

The **NASDAQ Composite Index** includes all domestic and international based common type stocks listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market. The NASDAQ Composite Index is a broad based index

The **Russell 2000 Index** measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe and is a subset of the Russell 3000 Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership.

The **Russell 3000 Index** measures the performance of the largest 3,000 U.S. companies representing approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market.

The **Russell Midcap Index** measures the performance of the mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe and is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index. It includes approximately 800 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell Midcap represents approximately 31% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 1000 companies.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US** Aggregate **Bond Index**, which was originally called the Lehman Aggregate Bond Index, is a broad based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market. The index includes Treasuries, government—related and corporate debt securities, MBS (agency fixed-rate and hybrid ARM pass-throughs), ABS and CMBS (agency and non-agency) debt securities that are rated at least Baa3 by Moody's and BBB-by S&P. Taxable municipals, including Build America bonds and a small amount of foreign bonds traded in U.S. markets are also included. Eligible bonds must have at least one year until final maturity, but in practice the index holdings has a fluctuating average life of around 8.25 years. This total return index, created in 1986 with history backfilled to January 1, 1976, is unhedged and rebalances monthly

The **Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate High Yield Index** measures the USD-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch, and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below, excluding emerging market debt. Payment-in-kind and bonds with predetermined step-up coupon provisions are also included. Eligible securities must have at least one year until final maturity, but in practice the index holdings has a fluctuating average life of around 6.3 years. This total return unhedged index was created in 1986, with history backfilled to July 1, 1983 and rebalances monthly.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US Municipal Bond Index** covers the USD-denominated long-term tax exempt bond market. The index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and prerefunded bonds. Many of the subindicies of the Municipal Index have historical data to January 1980. In addition, several subindicies based on maturity and revenue source have been created, some with inception dates after January 1980, but no later than July 1, 1993. Eligible securities must be rated investment grade (Baa3/BBB- or higher) by Moody's and S&P and have at least one year until final maturity, but in practice the index holdings has a fluctuating average life of around 12.8 years. This total return index is unhedged and rebalances monthly

The MSCI All-Country World Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. The SMCI ACWI consists of 46 country indexes comprising 23 developed and 23 emerging market country indexes. The developed country indexes include: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The emerging market

country indexes included are: Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Russia, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.

The **MSCI EAFE Index** is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets (Europe, Australasia, Far East) excluding the U.S. and Canada. The Index is market-capitalization weighted.

The **MSCI Emerging Markets Index** is designed to measure equity market performance in global emerging markets. It is a float-adjusted market capitalization index.

The **MSCI Europe Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance in Europe.

The **MSCI Pacific Index** captures large and mid-cap representation across five Developed Markets (DM) countries in the Pacific region. With 470 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

The **Bloomberg Commodity Index** is a broadly diversified index that measures 22 exchange-traded futures on physical commodities in five groups (energy, agriculture, industrial metals, precious metals, and livestock), which are weighted to account for economic significance and market liquidity. No single commodity can comprise less than 2% or more than 15% of the index; and no group can represent more than 33% of the index. However, between rebalancings, group weightings may fluctuate to levels outside the limits. The index rebalances annually, weighted 2/3 by trading volume and 1/3 by world production.

The **S&P GSCI Crude Oil Index** is a sub-index of the S&P GSCI, provides investors with a reliable and publicly available benchmark for investment performance in the crude oil market.

The **S&P GSCI Gold Index**, a sub-index of the S&P GSCI, provides investors with a reliable and publicly available benchmark tracking the COMEX gold futures market.

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) is a crude oil stream produced in Texas and southern Oklahoma which serves as a reference or "marker" for pricing a number of other crude streams. WTI is the underlying commodity of the New York Mercantile Exchange's oil futures contracts

The **Choe Volatility Index**® **(VIX®)** is a key measure of market expectations of near-term volatility conveyed by S&P 500 stock index option prices.

The **U.S. Dollar Index** is a weighted geometric mean that provides a value measure of the United States dollar relative to a basket of major foreign currencies. The index, often carrying a USDX or DXY moniker, started in March 1973, beginning with a value of the U.S. Dollar Index at 100.000. It has since reached a February 1985 high of 164.720 and has been as low as 70.698 in March 2008.