



GLOBAL MARKET SQUARE



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The Corporate earnings parade shows corporate revenues grew north of 2%, profits rose 4%, and Wall Street closed higher.

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The U.S. & European stock markets began the week mostly up following last week's gains that were the best of 2023. The markets were driven last week by three variables: a steep drop in bond yields, which in turn happened as the Fed left rates unchanged, dispelled concerns over more rate hikes, and a jobs report that, even though it fell -49.49%, it provided a view that a "Soft Landing" may happen.

Investors are looking for additional color regarding the Fed's policy intentions; the markets will have a chance to hear Fed Chair Jerome Powell, who is set to speak at the 24th Jacques Polak Annual Research Conference, Washington, D.C., on Thursday, November 9 at 2:00 P.M. EST.

A sound financial system provides the necessary financing for households, businesses, and economic growth, even in the face of unexpected shocks. A good stress test of the financial system's soundness was this year's bank failures of \$1,087.16 trillion; it proved it was sound and able to recuperate from the crisis quickly. These failures emphasize the vital role of the enhancements made following the financial crisis of 2008 to the financial system, including the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Greater Regulatory Oversight, Basel III, and Stress Testing.

Last week, the indexes rose as follows:

- Nasdaq Composite rose **22.66%** with a **YTD Return of 29.16%**
- S&P 500 rose **12.56%** with a **YTD Return of 13.71%**
- Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index rose **2.09%** with a **YTD Return of 12.07%**
- Dow Jones rose **4.06%** with a **YTD Return of 2.86%**
- Birling U.S. Bank Stock Index fell **-2.62%** with a **YTD Return of -1.41%**

The Eurozone markets mainly closed down as its Services PMI fell to 47.8, down from 1.84%, and the EU Unemployment Rate rose to 6.50%, compared to 6.40%, signaling slowing economic activity.

The Corporate earnings parade is quickly winding down, and we can characterize this 3Q23 season as challenging with a slower economic engine with high rates and inflation to deal with; even with those obstacles, corporate revenues grew north of 2%, and profits rose to near 4%, while the increases have been somewhat timid, this is the first quarter of year-over-year growth since 2Q22, evidencing the companies' ability to navigate aptly and cut costs, particularly in labor and producing higher Y-O-Y profit margins.

Key Economic Data:

- U.S. Retail Gas Price: fell to \$3.60, down from \$3.66 last week, down -1.64%.
- Canada Ivey PMI: rose to 53.40, up from 53.10 last month, up 0.56%.

Eurozone Summary:

- **Stoxx 600** closed at 443.52, down 0.72 points or 0.16%.
- **FTSE 100** closed at 7,417.76, up 0.030 points or 0.0004%.
- **Dax Index** closed at 15,135.97, down 53.28 or 0.35%.

Wall Street Summary:

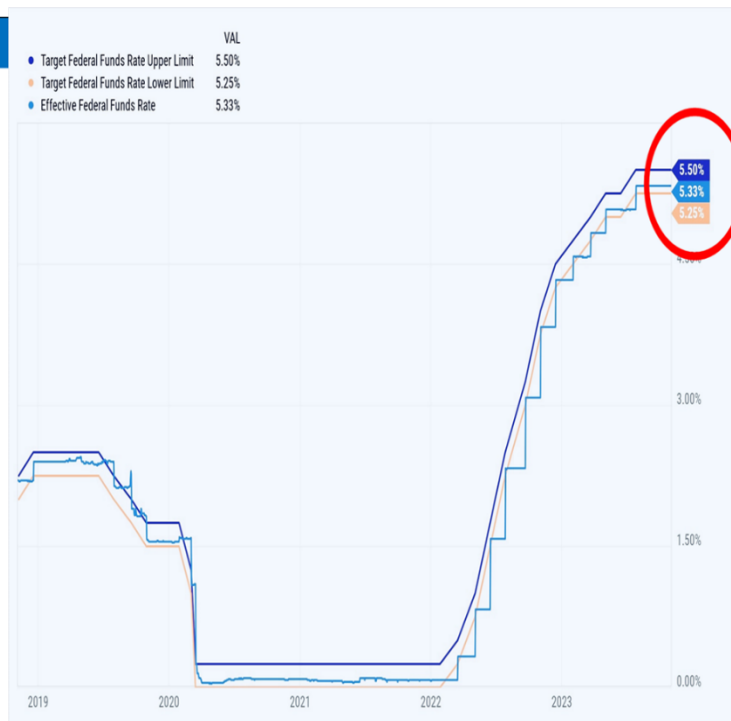
- **Dow Jones Industrial Average** closed at 34,095.86, up 34.54 points or 0.10%.
- **S&P 500** closed at 4,365.99, up 7.65 points or 0.16%.
- **Nasdaq Composite** closed at 13,518.78, up 40.50 points or 0.30%.
- **Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index** closed at 2,824.95, up 72.35 or 2.63%.
- **Birling Capital U.S. Bank Stock Index** closed at 3,634.91, up 108.74 or 3.08%.
- **U.S. Treasury 10-year note** closed at 4.67%.
- **U.S. Treasury 2-year note market** closed at 4.93%.



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Federal Reserve Bank Interest Rate Campaign

FOMC Meeting	Rate Change	Fed Funds Rate
11/1/23	Unchanged	5.25% - 5.50%
9/20/23	Unchanged	5.25% - 5.50%
7/26/23	0.25%	5.25% - 5.50%
5/3/23	0.25%	5.00% - 5.25%
3/22/23	0.25%	4.75% - 5.00%
2/1/23	0.25%	4.50% - 4.75%
12/14/22	0.50%	4.25% - 4.50%
11/2/22	0.75%	3.75% - 4.00%
9/21/22	0.75%	3.00% - 3.25%
7/27/22	0.75%	2.25% - 2.50%
6/16/22	0.75%	1.50% - 1.75%
5/5/22	0.50%	0.75% - 1.00%
3/17/22	0.25%	0.25% - 0.50%





US Retail Gas Price & Canada Ivey PMI





Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, Nasdaq Composite, Birling Puerto Rico Stock Index & Birling US Bank Index YTD Return





Wall Street Recap

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