

GLOBAL MARKET SQUARE



Not even a 40.96% Increase in nonfarm payrolls could eclipse investors' attention from the Ukraine escalating conflict, and Wall Street closed lower.

March 4, 2022

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The U.S. & European stock markets closed the week with more losses; not even a 40.96% rise in nonfarm payrolls was able to diminish the rising geopolitical risks in the Ukraine invasion by Russia have now targeted the largest nuclear plant in Ukraine. Last night on live T.V. and social media, to witness the brutal shelling by the Russian army of the plant in Zaporizhzhia, an attaché the U.S. embassy in Kyiv calling war crime.

LIBOR eradication: A significant change in the financial industry is close to eliminating the London Interbank Offer Rate (LIBOR) used to price trillions of dollars of financial contracts. Regulators directed banks to stop using LIBOR on new contracts at the end of 2021 and eliminate it by mid-2023. The regulators want loans and swaps priced using new benchmark rates rather than bank submissions based on actual transactions.

As investors move to defensive assets and away from risk assets, we note the best and worst-performing sectors.

Top Performers:

1. Energy: with a year-to-date return of 31.75%.
2. Consumer Defensive: with a year-to-date return of -1.62%.
3. Financial Services: with a year-to-date return of -2.84%.

Worst Performers:

1. Consumer Cyclical: with a year-to-date return of -14.71%.
2. Communication Services: with a year-to-date return of -13.16%.
3. Technology: with a year-to-date return of -12.34%.

We share six investment vehicles in each sector in the graph below for comparison.

Key economic data:

- U.S. Nonfarm Payrolls MoM: rose 678,000, up from 481,000 last month, an increase of 40.96%.
- U.S. Unemployment Rate: fell to 3.80%, compared to 4.00% last month.
- U.S. Labor Force Participation Rate is rose to 62.30%, compared to 62.20% last month.
- Canada Ivey PMI: rose to 50.70, up from 45.00 last month, a 12.67% increase.
- Eurozone Retail Trade YoY: rose to 7.80%, compared to 2.10% last month.
- Germany Exports MoM is at -2.80%, compared to 1.20% last month.
- Germany Trade Balance is at a current level of 9.40B, up from 8.10B last month.

Puerto Rico COVID-19 Daily Update:

- New Cases: 71, down 7.79%.
- Positivity Rate: 4.79%, up 1.91%.
- Puerto Rico Vaccination Rate: 85.6%.
- Total Hospitalizations: 73, down 7.59%.
- Deaths: 2, down 66.66%.
- Source: Puerto Rico Department of Health

Eurozone Summary for March 4:

- Stoxx 600 closed at 422.67, down 14.69 points or 3.36%.
- FTSE 100 closed at 6,987.14, down 251.71 or 3.48%.
- Dax Index closed at 13,094.54, down 603.86 points or 4.41%.

Wall Street summary for March 4:

- Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 33,614.80, down 179.86 points or 0.53%.
- Standard & Poor's 500 closed at 4,328.85, down 34.63 or 0.79%.
- Nasdaq Composite Index closed at 13,313.44, down 224.50 points, or 1.66%.
- Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index closed at 2,842.34, down 15.44 or 0.54%.
- The U.S. Treasury 10-year note closed at 1.74%.
- The U.S. Treasury 2-year note closed at 1.50%.



Wall Street March 4, 2022

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2022 Sectors Best and Worst Performers Year to Date: Energy, Consumer Defensive, Financial, Consumer Cyclical, Communications & Technology



- NYSE Energy Sector Index Level % Change
- Morningstar Consumer Defensive Sector Level % Change
- Morningstar Financial Services Sector Level % Change
- Morningstar Consumer Cyclical Sector Level % Change
- MSCI ACWI Communication Services Level % Change
- Nasdaq-100 Technology Sector Level % Change



Date Range: 12/31/2021 - 03/04/2022



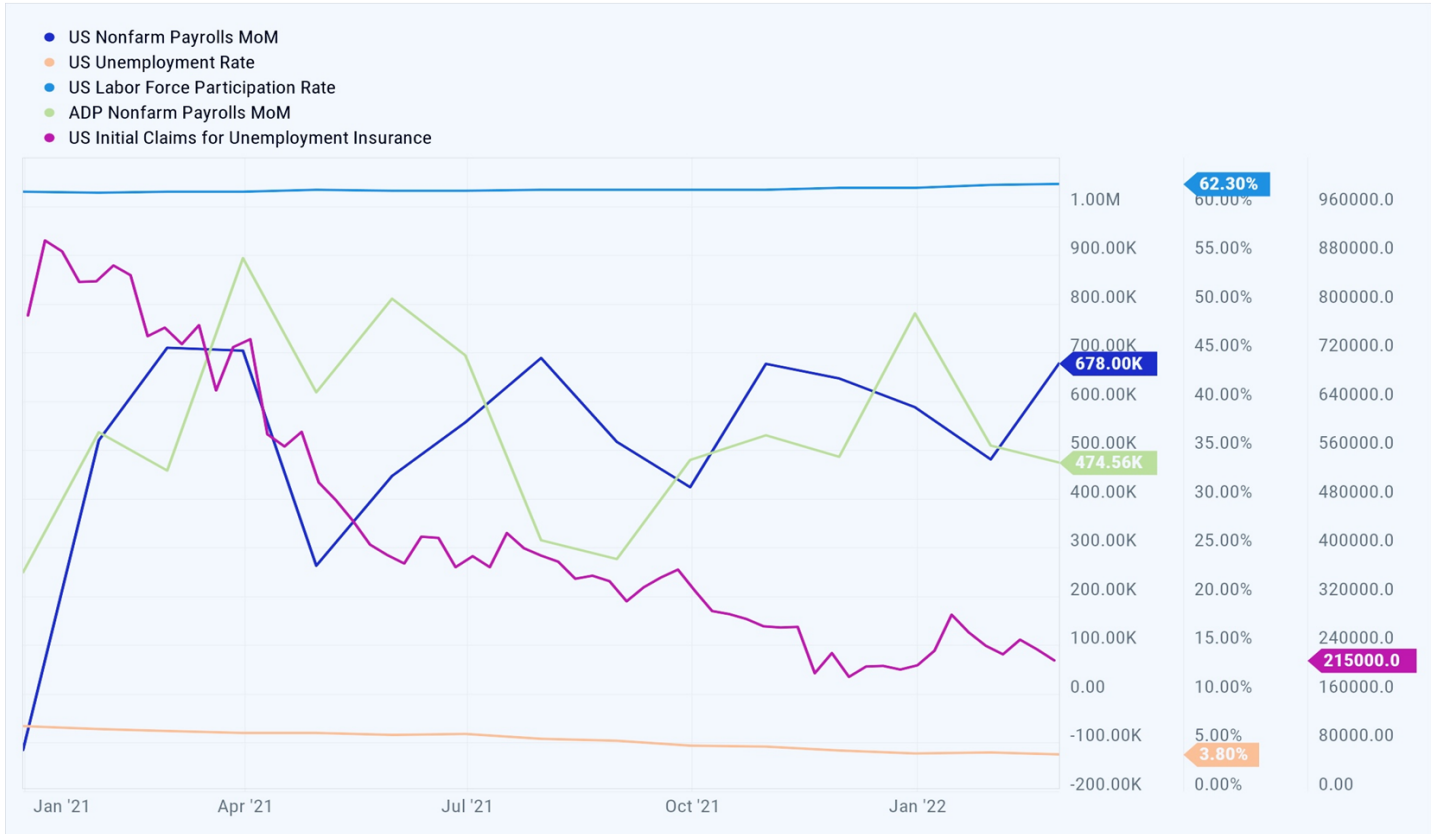
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Jobs Growth

3.4.22



The federal Labor Department reported on March 4 that last month nonfarm payrolls grew 678,000 versus 481,000 a 40.91% increase.



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