

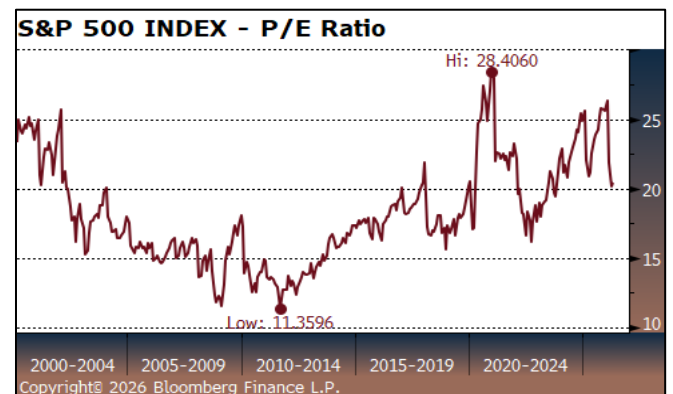
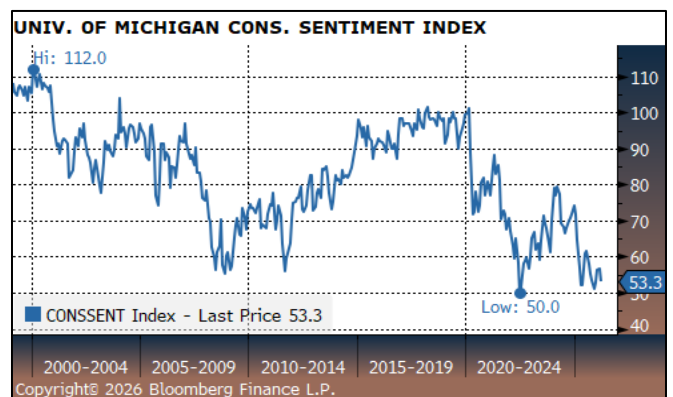
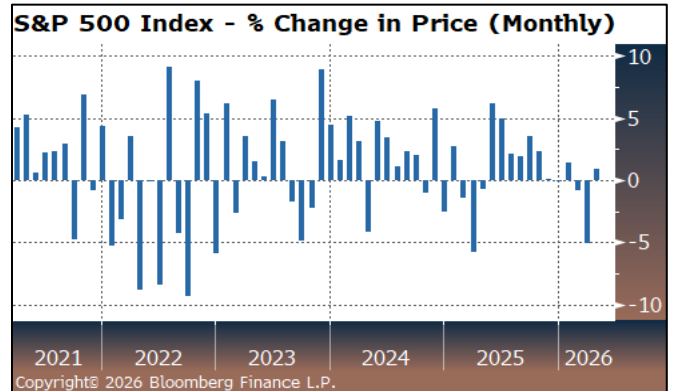
**Executive Summary:**

- Higher oil prices (inflationary pressures) have reduced the prospects for a near-term Fed rate cut.
- Equity valuations have become more reasonable, and profit expectations remain strong.
- The U.S. economy continues to show resilience, and the latest ISM data points to expansion.

The financial markets have been heavily influenced by headlines related to the war with Iran. Both stocks and bonds ended the first quarter lower, as higher oil prices and softer labor data raised concerns about inflation and the potential impact on the U.S. economy. The pullback in equities weighed on investor sentiment as higher oil prices also reduced prospects for a near-term Federal Reserve rate cut. Sentiment indicators, often viewed as contrarian signals, remain at depressed levels. We believe investors can look beyond near-term risks and maintain a constructive outlook for equities. Valuations that appeared stretched a few months ago have become more reasonable, profit expectations remain resilient, and optimism around artificial intelligence continues to support the longer-term growth narrative. Historically, markets have also tended to rebound following geopolitical shocks.

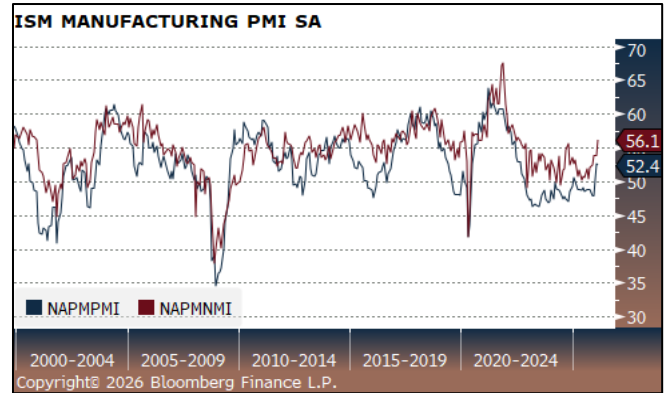
The S&P 500 posted its steepest monthly decline since March 2025. Investor anxiety was evident in the CBOE Volatility Index (VIX), which rose above 30 near the end of the month. In more stable markets, this indicator typically trades in the mid-teens. The VIX generally moves inversely to the S&P 500 Index, rising as investors increase their demand for put options to protect against downside risk. Historically, sharp spikes in volatility have often created attractive entry points for disciplined, long-term investors who can tolerate short-term fluctuations and capitalize on prices pressured by fear.

The U.S. economy continues to show resilience, with demand driven primarily by services even as inflation and rate uncertainty remain key crosscurrents. The latest ISM data point to expansion across both major sectors: the ISM Manufacturing PMI for March was 52.3 (above the 50 breakeven level), while the ISM Services PMI for February rose to 56.1, signaling a faster pace of growth



in the largest part of the economy. Together, these readings suggest activity remains solid and broad-based, though the policy outlook will stay sensitive to any renewed price pressures.

Thank you for your business!



SECTORS	2025	YTD	EQUITY INDICES	TICKER	2025	YTD	COMM. & CURRENCIES	LAST CLOSE	YTD
S&P 500 COMM SVC	33.56%	-5.32%	S&P 500 INDEX	SPX	17.86%	-3.67%	WTI CRUDE FUTURE May26	101.38	74.81%
S&P 500 CONS DISCRET IDX	6.04%	-8.42%	DOW JONES INDUS. AVG	INDU	14.92%	-2.65%	BRENT CRUDE FUTR Jun26	103.97	67.02%
S&P 500 CONS STAPLES IDX	3.90%	7.18%	NASDAQ COMPOSITE	CCMP	21.17%	-5.95%	NATURAL GAS FUTR May26	2.88	-12.79%
S&P 500 ENERGY INDEX	8.68%	32.38%	S&P 400 MIDCAP INDEX	MID	7.48%	3.73%	LME COPPER 3MO (\$)	12,335.50	-0.70%
S&P 500 FINANCIALS INDEX	14.97%	-9.38%	RUSSELL 1000 GROWTH INDEX	RLG	18.55%	-8.87%	Gold Spot \$/Oz	4,731.41	10.59%
S&P 500 HEALTH CARE IDX	14.60%	-3.89%	RUSSELL 1000 VALUE INDEX	RLV	15.88%	2.80%	Silver Spot \$/Oz	74.89	4.89%
S&P 500 INDUSTRIALS IDX	19.27%	6.75%	RUSSELL MIDCAP RT INDEX	RMC	10.59%	2.21%	Euro Spot	1.16	-1.29%
S&P 500 INFO TECH INDEX	24.04%	-8.29%	RUSSELL 2000 INDEX	RTY	12.79%	2.10%	British Pound Spot	1.33	-0.99%
S&P 500 MATERIALS INDEX	10.54%	10.94%	MSCI ACWI ex US	NDUEACWZ	32.39%	-0.71%	Japanese Yen Spot	158.52	-1.33%
S&P 500 REAL ESTATE IDX	3.15%	3.06%	MSCI EAFE	MXEA	32.03%	-1.08%	DOLLAR INDEX SPOT	99.96	1.25%
S&P 500 UTILITIES INDEX	16.04%	8.82%	MSCI EM	MXEF	34.33%	-0.12%			

Source: Bloomberg

As of: 4/1/2026

**Total Return**

Bloomberg Barclays Bond Indices	2024	2025	YTD	Effective Duration	Avg. Maturity	Yield-to-Worst	Key Rates	
U.S. Aggregate	1.25%	7.30%	-0.05%	5.95	8.17	4.57%	Effective Fed Funds	3.64%
Intermediate	3.00%	6.97%	-0.02%	3.82	4.28	4.20%	2-yr Treasury	3.80%
Global Agg ex USD	-4.22%	8.85%	-1.87%	6.63	8.17	3.09%	10-yr Treasury	4.32%
Inv Grade Corporate	2.13%	7.77%	-0.54%	6.90	10.42	5.14%	10-yr German Bond	2.98%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	8.19%	8.62%	-0.50%	3.37	4.81	7.40%	Prime Rate	6.75%
<b>Tax Exempt</b>							30 Year Fixed Mortgage	6.48%
Muni 1-10 Yr Blend (1-12)	0.91%	5.14%	-0.23%	4.14	6.31	3.17%		

Source: Bloomberg

As of: 4/1/2026

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