# **NEWSLETTER**

Fall 2024-November 1, 2024

## **Summary**

- Economic News The Fed lowered the Fed funds rate by 50 basis points.
- · Market Events The S&P 500 gained 35.81% over the past year.

## Summary

The US Real GDP increased at an annual rate of 2.8% in the third quarter of 2024.

**Economic News** 

Inflation measured in the 12-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage change was 3.3% in September 2024. The Personal Consumption Expenditure Price Index (PCE) change was 2.1% in September 2024. The Fed's objective for inflation continues to remain at a 2 percent average and they expect to return to this level over time.

The Fed lowered the fed funds rate by 50 basis points to a target rate range of 4.75 to 5 percent in the September 18<sup>th</sup> FOMC meeting. Ongoing rate changes are undecided, but the Fed will continue restrictive monetary policy. The Fed believes this will assist in lowering inflation.

The US Dollar remained steady with the US Dollar Index at 103.94. Oil prices have lowered to \$70.14 a barrel.

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### **Market Events**

The S&P 500 today is 35.81% higher from a year ago. The 10-year treasury rate is at 4.32%.