NEWSLETTER

Spring 2022-May 1, 2022

Summary

- Economic News The Fed is no longer giving sustained high levels of monetary support and beginning to phase out asset purchases more rapidly.
- · Market Events The S&P 500 lost 1.4% over the past year.

Economic News

The US Real GDP decreased at an annual rate of 1.4% in the first quarter of 2022.

Inflation measured in the 12-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage change was 8.5% in March 2022. The Personal Consumption Expenditure Price Index (PCE) change was 6.6% in March 2022. 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 has seen notices strength in the labor market. Inflation is now well above their 2% longer run goal. They state the economy will still no longer need sustained high levels of monetary support. Asset purchases will be phased out more rapidly and the target range will again be raised for the federal funds rate.

The US Dollar maintained stability with the US Dollar Index increasing to 103. Oil prices have continued to drift upwards increasing to \$104 a barrel.

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Market Events

The S&P 500 closed Friday 1.4% lower from a year ago. The 10-year treasury rate is at 2.89%.