NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025-May 1, 2025

Summary

- Economic News The Fed kept the Fed funds rate unchanged.
- Market Events The S&P 500 gained 10.97% over the past year.

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Economic News

The US Real GDP decreased at an annual rate of 0.3% in the first quarter of 2025.

Inflation measured in the 12-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage change was 2.8% in March 2025. The Personal Consumption Expenditure Price Index (PCE) change was 2.3% in March 2025. 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 left the fed funds rate unchanged to a target rate range of 4.25 to 4.5 percent in the March 19th FOMC meeting. Ongoing rate changes are undecided, but the Fed will continue restrictive monetary policy. The Fed believes this will assist in lowering inflation. President Trump imposed tariffs on other countries. Most had an initial set of 10% on April 5th. The largest was on China with a total of 125% fully imposed on April 10th.

The US Dollar weakened with the US Dollar Index at 100.19. Oil prices have decreased to \$58.98 a barrel.

Market Events

The S&P 500 today is 10.97% higher from a year ago. The 10-year treasury rate is at 4.22%.