# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021-May 4, 2021

## **Summary**

- Economic News The Fed is looking maintain course for inflation to moderately exceed 2 percent for some time.
- Market Events The S&P 500

gained 46.1% over past year.

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## **Economic News**

The US Real GDP increased at an annual rate of 6.4% in the first quarter of 2021.

Inflation measured in the 12-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage change was 1.6% in March 2021. The Personal Consumption Expenditure Price Index (PCE) change was 2.3% in March 2021. The Fed's objective for inflation continues to remain at a 2 percent average over the longer run.

The Fed continues to set the federal funds rate to target a range of 0 to 0.25 percent and maintaining it until labor market conditions have reached a level consistent with Committee's assessment of maximum employment and inflation moderately exceeds 2 percent for some time.

The US dollar maintained stability. The US Dollar Index has remained in the low 90's range. Oil prices have drifted upwards and increased to \$62 a barrel.

### **Market Events**

The S&P 500 closed yesterday 46.1% higher from a year ago. The 10-year treasury rate is at 1.59%.