



Equity markets struggled to take a stand on mixed, but within consensus, economic results while corporate earnings, especially financial services, exceeded consensus estimates. Sowell's tactical indicators remain in conservative positive territory with extended inflation concerns. With rising bond yields, the market rotation, evidenced by value stocks holding steady and growing their momentum stocks backing off, is consistent with the current market cycle.

GAUGE OF THE GRADE



BEARISH

NEUTRAL



BULLISH



Volatility in the equities market continued last week, with equity indexes ending the week mixed as inflation remains the focus of investors. Consumer inflation in December rose at the fastest pace in almost four decades. Financials shares came under pressure as JP Morgan Chase, and Citigroup reported lower profits in the fourth quarter. Utilities, real estate, technology, and health care all underperformed during the week. Energy stocks outperformed as oil prices continued to climb higher. Technology stocks performance near term will remain linked to the moves in the 10-year Treasury. Higher rates will affect technology shares negatively through higher discount rates used to value them. The 10-year Treasury closed the week just below 1.8%. Consumer sentiment remains low as the University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index for January fell to the second-lowest level in a decade. With inflation high, rising yields, and valuation concerns, economically sensitive value stocks continue to do relatively well this year.

The focus this week turns to fourth-quarter company earnings, which in general is expected to be a stronger profit growth for economically sensitive value stocks such as energy, materials, and industrials compared to high growth technology companies. These economically sensitive sectors do better when there is inflation as their margins increase. The earnings reports will also show how companies are handling inflation. Notable names are reporting this week, such as Goldman Sachs, Travelers, and Bank of America, along with Netflix, United Airlines, and Procter & Gamble. We will get multiple data on the housing market on the economic front. The NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index for January will be

released on Tuesday, and the Census Bureau will report U.S. housing starts and building permits for December on Wednesday. Existing home sales data will be released on Thursday.

MONDAY JANUARY 17, 2022	
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - all market closed	
Euro Zone CPI and Core CPI	
TUESDAY JANUARY 18, 2022	
NAHB Housing Market Index	
OPEC Monthly Report	
US Foreign Buying , T-Bonds	
Bank of New York, Charles Schwab, Goldman Sachs, Interactive Brokers, J.B. Hunt, Old National Bancorp, PNC Financial Services, and Truist Financial earnings	
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 19, 2022	
Redbook	
Mortgage Market Index	
Housing Starts	
Alcoa, ASML, Bank of America, Comerica, Discover Financial, Kinder Morgan, Morgan Stanley, Prologis, Umpqua, United Airlines, and UnitedHealth earnings	
THURSDAY JANUARY 20, 2022	
Initial jobless claims (weekly)	
Continuing jobless claims	
Gasoline Production	
American Airlines, Baker Hughes, CSX, Fifth Third Bancorp, Intuitive Surgical, M&T Bank, Netflix, Northern Trust, and Union Pacific earnings	
FRIDAY JANUARY 21, 2022	
US Leading Index	
Euro Zone Consumer Confidence	
UK Retail Sales	
Ally Financial, First Hawaiian, Huntington Bancshares, IHS Markit, and Schlumberger earnings	

Source: Refinitiv Datastream/Fathom Consulting

U.S. Treasury Yields and Inflation Expectations



December's U.S. employment report showed that employment grew at half the rate that economists had expected. The report also showed that wages increased, and the unemployment rate dropped to 3.9%. Despite the tight labor market, the expectations are for inflation to come down this year and into next. The gradual withdrawal of fiscal and monetary policy will prompt inactive workers to re-enter the labor market, increasing labor supply and pressuring wages lower. Inflation will remain above the Fed's target of 2% despite the Fed's likely increase in the federal funds rate in March and the ending of the quantitative easing program. Therefore, the gap between the U.S. treasury yield and the 5-year forward inflation expectation rate will begin to close, as was the case before the pandemic, which means that the 10-year Treasury yield will continue to rise.

SELECT INDICES							
	YTD Daily	1 Wk Daily	1 Mo Daily	3 Mo Daily	6 Mo Daily	1 Yr Daily	3 Yr Annualized Daily
S&P 500 Index	(2.11)	(0.29)	0.73	5.42	7.33	24.59	23.91
S&P 500 Growth Index	(5.10)	(0.65)	(2.66)	4.35	6.19	26.20	28.71
S&P 500 Value Index	1.20	0.10	4.55	6.34	8.34	22.48	17.80
Basic Materials	(1.99)	(0.36)	2.22	7.28	9.80	19.87	23.09
Communication Services	(2.67)	0.32	(0.84)	(6.27)	(6.20)	15.74	21.55
Consumer Cyclical	(4.48)	(1.53)	(1.32)	2.95	5.47	13.06	28.25
Consumer Defensive	(0.65)	(0.89)	2.59	7.69	8.32	18.76	18.85
Energy	15.77	5.23	17.47	13.67	30.10	53.02	6.83
Financial Services	3.51	(0.68)	5.13	2.60	7.34	26.29	20.74
Healthcare	(5.60)	(0.51)	(1.32)	2.20	1.90	10.21	17.26
Industrials	(1.01)	(0.75)	2.04	3.80	4.04	17.70	18.84
Real Estate	(5.62)	(1.38)	(0.12)	3.68	5.81	33.24	15.27
Technology	(5.91)	(0.19)	(3.23)	4.80	8.74	25.98	38.98
Utilities	(2.83)	(1.30)	0.78	6.42	8.77	14.46	12.93

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