

**MARKET WEEK: JUNE 23, 2025** 

# The Markets (as of market close June 20, 2025)

Stocks closed the week with mixed results as investors weighed the escalating tensions in the Middle East against the likelihood of the Federal Reserve cutting interest rates amidst an apparent disagreement between Federal Reserve governors. The Dow, the NASDAQ, and the Russell 2000 closed the week higher, while the S&P 500 and the Global Dow ended the week in the red. Information technology and energy were the only market sectors to finish the week higher. Health care fell by more than 2.5%. Crude oil prices rose for the third straight week as heightened tensions between Iran and Israel threatened supply disruptions, although Iran continued to export crude oil, reaching its highest level in five weeks. Gold prices marked their first decline in the last three weeks. Long-term bond prices climbed on increased demand, pulling yields lower.

### **Stock Market Indexes**

Market/Index	<b>2024 Close</b>	Prior Week	As of 6/20	Weekly Change	YTD Change
DJIA	42,544.22	42,197.79	42,206.82	0.02%	-0.79%
NASDAQ	19,310.79	19,406.83	19,447.41	0.21%	0.71%
S&P 500	5,881.63	5,976.97	5,967.84	-0.15%	1.47%
Russell 2000	2,230.16	2,100.51	2,109.27	0.42%	-5.42%
Global Dow	4,863.01	5,377.25	5,339.42	-0.70%	9.80%



fed. funds target rate	4.25%-4.50%	4.25%-4.50%	4.25%-4.50%	0 bps	0 bps
10-year Treasuries	4.57%	4.42%	4.37%	-5 bps	-20 bps
US Dollar-DXY	108.44	98.18	98.82	0.65%	-8.87%
Crude Oil-CL=F	\$71.76	\$73.34	\$75.00	2.26%	4.52%
Gold-GC=F	\$2,638.50	\$3,452.40	\$3,383.40	-2.00%	28.23%

Chart reflects price changes, not total return. Because it does not include dividends or splits, it should not be used to benchmark performance of specific investments.

## **Last Week's Economic News**

- The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) decided to maintain the target range for the federal funds rate at 4.25%-4.50% following its meeting last week. In reaching its decision, the Committee noted that economic activity has continued to expand at a solid pace, although swings in net exports have affected the data. The unemployment rate remained low and labor market conditions continued to be solid, while inflation was somewhat elevated. The FOMC observed that uncertainty about the economic outlook had diminished but remained prevalent. The Committee's summary of economic conditions projects two rate cuts of 25 basis points each by the end of 2025. The FOMC next meets on July 30.
- Retail sales fell 0.9% in May from the previous month but were 3.3% above the May 2024 estimate. Retail trade sales were down 0.9% last month but were up 3.0% from last year. Nonstore (online) retail sales climbed 0.9% in May and advanced 8.3% from last year, while sales at food service and drinking places fell 0.9% in May but rose 5.3% from May 2024.
- Prices for imports were unchanged in May following an advance of 0.1% in April. Import prices rose 0.2% from May 2024. Import fuel prices declined 4.0% in May, the largest monthly decline since September 2024. Prices for nonfuel imports advanced 0.3% in May and rose 1.7% over the last 12 months. Prices for exports decreased 0.9% in May, the largest one-month decline since October 2023. Despite the May decline, export prices increased 1.7% from May 2024 to May 2025.



- Industrial production (IP) fell 0.2% in May after increasing 0.1% in April. Manufacturing output ticked up 0.1% in May, driven by a 4.9% gain in motor vehicles and parts. Manufacturing excluding motor vehicles and parts fell 0.3%. Mining increased 0.1% last month, while utilities decreased 2.9%. Total IP in May was 0.6% above its year-earlier level.
- Building permits issued for privately-owned homes in May were 2.0% below the April rate and 1.0% under the May 2024 estimate. Issued building permits for single-family homes in May were 2.7% below the April total. Privately-owned housing starts in May were 9.8% below the April estimate and 4.6% less than May 2024. The drop in housing starts in May marked the lowest level since May 2020. Single-family housing starts in May were 0.4% above the April approximation. Privately-owned housing completions in May were 5.4% above the April estimate but 2.2% below the May 2024 figure. Single-family housing completions in May were 8.1% above the April rate.
- The national average retail price for regular gasoline was \$3.139 per gallon on June 16, \$0.031 per gallon above the prior week's price but \$0.296 per gallon less than a year ago. Also, as of June 16, the East Coast price increased \$0.034 to \$2.983 per gallon; the Midwest price climbed \$0.060 to \$3.026 per gallon; the Gulf Coast price increased \$0.019 to \$2.735 per gallon; the Rocky Mountain price rose \$0.029 to \$3.114 per gallon; and the West Coast price declined \$0.027 to \$4.127 per gallon.
- For the week ended June 14, there were 245,000 new claims for unemployment insurance, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's level, which was revised up by 2,000. According to the Department of Labor, the advance rate for insured unemployment claims for the week ended June 7 was 1.3%, unchanged from the previous week's rate. The advance number of those receiving unemployment insurance benefits during the week ended June 7 was 1,945,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's level, which was revised down by 5,000. States and territories with the highest insured unemployment rates for the week ended May 31 were New Jersey (2.3%), California (2.2%), Massachusetts (2.1%), Washington (2.1%), Rhode Island (2.0%), the District of Columbia (1.9%), Nevada (1.7%), Puerto Rico (1.7%), Illinois (1.6%), and New York (1.6%). The largest increases in initial claims for unemployment insurance for the week ended June 7 were in California (+8,930), Minnesota (+4,809), Pennsylvania (+3,939), Texas (+3,355), and Florida (+3,088), while the largest decreases were in Kentucky (-4,249), North Dakota (-980), Tennessee (-693), Mississispipi (-273), and Kansas (-178).

### **Eve on the Week Ahead**

This week is loaded with important, potentially market-moving economic data. The latest data on sales of new and existing homes is available at the beginning of the week. The final estimate of gross domestic product for the first quarter is released midweek. The



week ends with the release of the latest data covering personal income, consumer spending, and consumer prices.

Data sources: Economic: Based on data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (unemployment, inflation); U.S. Department of Commerce (GDP, corporate profits, retail sales, housing); S&P/Case-Shiller 20-City Composite Index (home prices); Institute for Supply Management (manufacturing/services). Performance: Based on data reported in WSJ Market Data Center (indexes); U.S. Treasury (Treasury yields); U.S. Energy Information Administration/Bloomberg.com Market Data (oil spot price, WTI, Cushing, OK); www.goldprice.org (spot gold/silver); Oanda/FX Street (currency exchange rates).

News items are based on reports from multiple commonly available international news sources (i.e., wire services) and are independently verified when necessary with secondary sources such as government agencies, corporate press releases, or trade organizations. All information is based on sources deemed reliable, but no warranty or guarantee is made as to its accuracy or completeness. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes a solicitation for the purchase or sale of any securities, and should not be relied on as financial advice. Forecasts are based on current conditions, subject to change, and may not come to pass. U.S. Treasury securities are guaranteed by the federal government as to the timely payment of principal and interest. The principal value of Treasury securities and other bonds fluctuates with market conditions. Bonds are subject to inflation, interest-rate, and credit risks. As interest rates rise, bond prices typically fall. A bond sold or redeemed prior to maturity may be subject to loss. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. All investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal, and there can be no quarantee that any investing strategy will be successful.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is a price-weighted index composed of 30 widely traded blue-chip U.S. common stocks. The S&P 500 is a market-cap weighted index composed of the common stocks of 500 largest, publicly traded companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The NASDAQ Composite Index is a market-value weighted index of all common stocks listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange. The Russell 2000 is a market-cap weighted index composed of 2,000 U.S. small-cap common stocks. The Global Dow is an equally weighted index of 150 widely traded blue-chip common stocks worldwide. The U.S. Dollar Index is a geometrically weighted index of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to six foreign currencies. Market indexes listed are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment.



### IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Note: Advisory services offered through Carolina Wealth Advisors (CWA) and The Strategic Financial Alliance, Inc. (SFA), registered investment advisers. Securities offered through The Strategic Financial Alliance, Inc. (SFA), member FINRA/SIPC. Christopher St. John, M. Radcliff Lowery, and Christy Horlacher, are registered representatives and investment adviser representatives of SFA, which is otherwise unaffiliated with CWA. CWA and SFA do not provide any tax or legal advice. SFA corporate offices 678-954-4000.

Insurance Products guarantees are subject to the financial strength and claims-paying ability of the issuing company, and may be subject to restrictions, limitations or early withdrawal fees. Annuities are not FDIC insured.

Broadridge Investor Communication Solutions, Inc. does not provide investment, tax, or legal advice. The information presented here is not specific to any individual's personal circumstances.

To the extent that this material concerns tax matters, it is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, by a taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed by law. Each taxpayer should seek independent advice from a tax professional based on his or her individual circumstances.

These materials are provided for general information and educational purposes based upon publicly available information from sources believed to be reliable—we cannot assure the accuracy or completeness of these materials. The information in these materials may change at any time and without notice.

This communication is strictly intended for individuals residing in the state(s) of AZ, CA, CT, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, MD, MA, MT, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OK, PA, SC, TX, VA, WA and WV. No offers may be made or accepted from any resident outside the specific states referenced.

Prepared by Broadridge Advisor Solutions Copyright 2025.