Florida Financial Advisors

May Newsletter

Florida Financial Advisors
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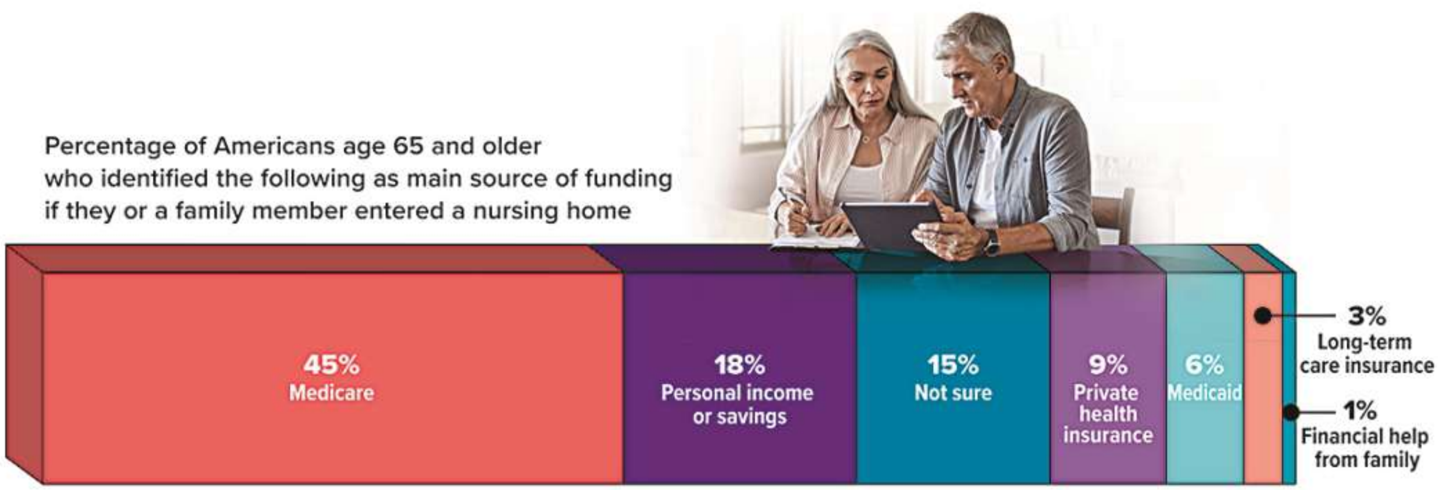
How Would You Pay for Long-Term Care?

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, seven out of 10 people age 65 and over will need some type of long-term care. Medicare only pays for skilled services or rehabilitative care in a nursing home for a maximum of 100 days, and unfortunately, it does not pay for non-skilled assistance with activities of daily living, including walking, bathing, dressing, and many other long-term care services.

Despite this limited coverage, almost half of Americans age 65 and older said that Medicare would be the main source of funding if they or a loved one entered a nursing home due to a long-term illness or disability. And only 6% identified Medicaid, even though it is the primary source of such funding.



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, 2023 (may not total 100% due to rounding)

Investor, Know Thyself: How Your Biases Can Affect Investment Decisions

Traditional economic models are based on the premise that people make rational decisions to maximize economic and financial benefits. In reality, most humans don't make decisions like robots. While logic does guide us, feelings and emotions — such as fear, excitement, and a desire to be part of the "in" crowd — are also at work.

In recent decades, another school of thought has emerged. This field — known as behavioral economics or behavioral finance — has identified unconscious cognitive biases that can influence even the most stoic investor. Understanding these biases may help you avoid questionable financial decisions.

Sound familiar?

What follows is a brief summary of how some common biases can influence financial decision-making. Can you relate to any of these scenarios?

Anchoring refers to the tendency to become attached to something, even when it may not make sense. Examples include a home that becomes too much to care for or a piece of information that is believed to be true despite contradictory evidence. In investing, it can refer to the tendency to hold an investment too long or rely too much on a certain piece of data or information.

Loss aversion bias describes the tendency to fear losses more than to celebrate gains. For example, you may experience joy at the chance of becoming $5,000 richer, but the fear of losing $5,000 might provoke a far greater anxiety, causing you to take on less investment risk than might be necessary to pursue your goals.

The **endowment effect** is similar to anchoring in that it encourages you to "endow" what you currently own with a greater value than other possibilities. You may presume the investments in your portfolio are of higher quality than other available alternatives, simply because you own them.

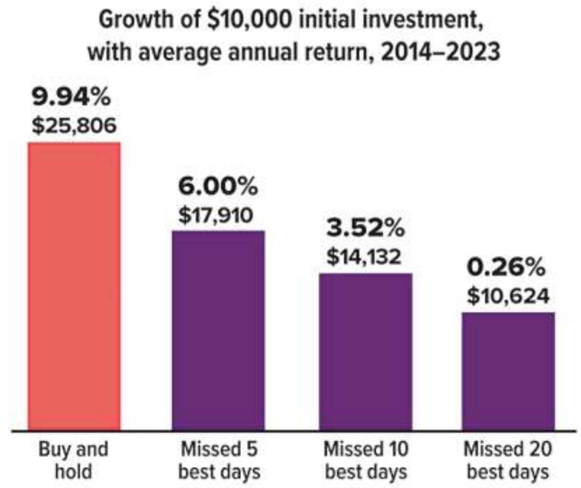
Overconfidence is having so much confidence in your own ability to select investments that you might discount warning signals or the perspective of more experienced professionals.

Confirmation bias is the tendency to assign more authority to opinions that agree with your own. For example, you might give more credence to an analyst report that favors a stock you recently purchased, in spite of several other reports indicating a neutral or negative outlook.

The **bandwagon effect,** also known as **herd behavior,** happens when decisions are made simply because "everyone else is doing it." This can result in buying high and selling low — what most knowledgeable investors strive to avoid.

Risk of Missing Out

Emotion-based decisions can have a significant impact on your portfolio over time. Consider how much a long-term investor might have lost by shifting in and out of the market due to fear, overconfidence, or following the herd, and subsequently missing the best-performing days over the 10-year period ended 2023.



Source: Yahoo Finance, 2024, S&P 500 Index for the period 12/31/2013 to 12/31/2023. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged group of securities considered to be representative of the U.S. stock market in general. The performance of an unmanaged index is not indicative of the performance of any specific investment. Individuals cannot invest directly in any index. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Actual results will vary.

Recency bias refers to the fact that recent events can have a stronger influence on your decisions than those in the past. For example, if you were severely affected by market gyrations in the early days of the pandemic, you may have wanted to sell your stock holdings due to fear. Conversely, if you were encouraged by the stock market's strong performance in 2023, you may have wanted to pour all your money into equities. Yet either of these actions might not have been appropriate for your investment goals and personal circumstances.

An objective view can help

When it comes to our finances, instincts may work against us. Before taking any actions with your portfolio, it might be wise to seek the counsel of a qualified financial professional who can help you identify any unconscious biases at work.

All investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, and there is no guarantee that any investment strategy will be successful. There is no assurance that working with a financial professional will improve investment results.

Social Security 101

Social Security is complex, and the details are often misunderstood even by those who are already receiving benefits. It's important to understand some of the basic rules and options and how they might affect your financial future.

Full retirement age (FRA)

Once you reach full retirement age, you can claim your full Social Security retirement benefit, also called your primary insurance amount or PIA. FRA ranges from 66 to 67, depending on your birth year (see chart).

Claiming early

The earliest you can claim your Social Security retirement benefit is age 62. However, your benefit will be permanently reduced if claimed before your FRA. At age 62, the reduction would be 25% to 30%, depending on your birth year. Your benefit may be further reduced temporarily if you work while receiving benefits before FRA and your income exceeds certain levels. However, when you reach FRA, an adjustment is made, and over time you will regain any benefits lost due to excess earnings.

Claiming later

If you do not claim your benefit at FRA, you will earn delayed retirement credits for each month you wait to claim, up to age 70. This will increase your benefit by two-thirds of 1% for each month, or 8% for each year you delay. There is no increase after age 70.

Spousal benefits

If you're married, you may be eligible to receive a spousal benefit based on your spouse's work record, whether you worked or not. The maximum spousal benefit, if claimed at your full retirement age, is 50% of your spouse's PIA (regardless of whether he or she claimed early) and doesn't include delayed retirement credits. If you claim a spousal benefit before reaching your FRA, your benefit will be permanently reduced.

Dependent benefits

Your dependent child may be eligible for benefits after you begin receiving Social Security if he or she is unmarried and meets one of the following criteria: (a) under age 18, (b) age 18 to 19 and a full-time student in grade 12 or lower, (c) age 18 or older with a disability that started before age 22. The maximum family benefit is equal to about 150% to 180% of your PIA, depending on your situation.

Survivor benefits

If your spouse dies, and you have reached your FRA, you can claim a full survivor benefit — 100% of your deceased spouse's PIA and any delayed retirement credits. Note that FRA is slightly different for survivor benefits: 66 for those born from 1945 to 1956, gradually rising to 67 for those born in 1962 or later.

Claiming Early or Later

Year of birth	Full retirement age (100% of PIA)	Worker benefit at age 62: percentage of PIA	Worker benefit at age 70: percentage of PIA
1943–54	66	75.00%	132.00%
1955	66 and 2 months	74.17%	130.67%
1956	66 and 4 months	73.33%	129.33%
1957	66 and 6 months	72.50%	128.00%
1958	66 and 8 months	71.67%	126.67%
1959	66 and 10 months	70.83%	125.33%
1960 & later	67	70.00%	124.00%

You can claim a reduced survivor benefit as early as age 60 (age 50 if you are disabled, or at any age if you are caring for the deceased's child who is under age 16 or disabled, and receiving benefits). If you are eligible for a survivor benefit and a retirement benefit based on your own work record, you could claim a survivor benefit first and switch to your own retirement benefit at your FRA or later, if it would be higher.

Dependent children are eligible for survivor benefits, using the same criteria as dependent benefits. Dependent parents age 62 and older may be eligible for survivor benefits if they received at least half of their support from the deceased worker at the time of death.

Divorced spouses

If you were married for at least 10 years and are unmarried, you can receive a spousal or survivor benefit based on your ex's work record. If your ex is eligible for but has not applied for Social Security benefits, you can still receive a spousal benefit if you have been divorced for at least two years.

These are just some of the fundamental facts to know about Social Security. For more information, including an estimate of your future benefits, see ssa.gov.

New SAVE Repayment Plan Offers Key Benefits

In July 2023, the Department of Education launched a new income-driven repayment (IDR) plan for federal student loans called the Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan. The SAVE Plan is the most generous IDR plan to date, and like all IDR plans, it calculates a borrower's monthly payment amount based on income and family size.

The SAVE Plan replaces the existing Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) Plan, and all borrowers who are currently enrolled in REPAYE will be automatically transferred to SAVE.

How SAVE helps borrowers

The SAVE Plan has many benefits, including lower monthly payments, a full interest subsidy for the entire time a borrower is enrolled in the plan, and shortened repayment terms compared to previous IDR plans. SAVE is being implemented in phases, with some benefits taking effect in 2023 and others that are scheduled to take effect in July 2024.

Key benefits that took effect in 2023:

- The amount of income protected from loan payments increased from 150% to 225% of the federal poverty level. Borrowers whose incomes are at or below the 225% threshold will have a $0 monthly payment (this equates to about $32,800 a year for a single borrower or $67,500 for a family of four).
- Unpaid interest will not accrue, so loan balances won't grow as long as borrowers make their monthly payments as calculated under SAVE (even when a borrower's monthly payment is set to $0).

Key benefits scheduled to take effect in July 2024:

- For undergraduate loans, monthly payments will be capped at 5% of discretionary income (compared to 10% under REPAYE), and graduate loans will be capped at 10% of discretionary income. Borrowers who have both undergraduate and graduate loans will pay a weighted average each month of between 5% and 10% of their income based on the original principal balances of their loans.
- For borrowers with original principal balances of $12,000 or less, all remaining loan balances will be forgiven after 10 years of payments. For original loan balances over $12,000, the maximum repayment period will increase by one year for every additional $1,000 borrowed. For example, a $13,000 loan will be forgiven after 11 years of payments, a $14,000 loan will be forgiven after 12 years of payments, and so on. The maximum repayment period under SAVE will be 20 years if *all* loans in repayment are undergraduate loans and 25 years if *any* loans in repayment are graduate loans. (The same maximum terms of 20 and 25 years applied under REPAYE.)

To learn more and to enroll in the SAVE Plan, borrowers can visit studentaid.gov/idr.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, 2023

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Market Month: April 2024

The Markets (as of market close April 30, 2024)

Stocks ended April lower, with each of the benchmark indexes enduring their first downturn in several months. Throughout April, investors had to factor in the escalating crisis in the Middle East, increased spending to support Ukraine in its war with Russia, rising inflation, and the Federal Reserve's apparent intent to hold interest rates at a two-decade high. With April's decline, the S&P 500 was on track to end a streak of five straight monthly gains. Consumer confidence (see below) fell in April to its lowest level since 2022. While the labor market continued to support job growth, labor costs increased the most in a year, driven higher by wage pressures that are helping to push inflation higher.

Inflationary data showed price pressures continued to rise in March, with the Consumer Price Index and the Personal Consumption Expenditures Price Index rising 0.4% and 0.3%, respectively, unchanged from the prior month. The CPI rose 3.5% for the 12 months ended in March (3.2% for the year ended in February), while the PCE Price Index increased 0.2 percentage point to 2.7% for the year ended in March. The U.S. economy, as measured by gross domestic product, increased 1.6% in the first quarter, following a 3.4% increase in the fourth quarter (see below). This is the weakest rate of growth since the second quarter of 2022. Consumer spending slowed more than expected, coming in at 2.5% in the first quarter compared to 3.3% in the fourth quarter. Spending on services rose 4.0% in the first quarter, following a 3.4% increase in the previous period.

Job growth continued in March (see below). In addition, a slight downward revision to the February estimate and an upward revision to January yielded a net upward revision of 22,000 in the two months preceding March. Wages continued to rise, increasing 4.1% over the last 12 months. New unemployment claims decreased from a year ago, while total claims paid increased (see below).

At the mid-point of Q1 corporate earnings season, S&P 500 companies continued to generally outperform expectations. Overall, roughly 46% of the S&P 500 companies have reported actual earnings results. Of those companies, 77% have reported earnings per share above estimates. Multiple sectors have reported favorable earnings results, including communication services, financials, industrials, and information technology. Health care has lagged.

The housing market continued to be influenced by high mortgage rates and available inventory. Sales of existing homes declined, while sales of new single-family homes increased. Selling prices for new homes and existing homes continued to climb.

Industrial production ticked higher in March for the second consecutive month. According to the latest survey from the S&P Global US Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index™, the manufacturing sector saw its highest rate of expansion in 22 months in March. The services sector saw business accelerate but at its slowest pace in the last three months.

Among the market sectors, only utilities ended April higher. The remaining 10 sectors ended in the red, with real estate (-8.4%), information technology (-5.3%), and health care (-5.2%) falling the furthest.

Bond yields gained as bond prices declined in April. Ten-year Treasury yields generally closed the month higher. The 2-year Treasury yield rose nearly 35.0 basis points to about 5.05% on the last day of April. The dollar surged against a basket of world currencies. Gold prices climbed higher. Crude oil prices dipped lower. The retail price of regular gasoline was $3.653 per gallon on April 29, $0.130 above the price a month earlier and $0.053 higher than the price a year ago.

Key Dates/Data Releases

5/1: S&P Global Manufacturing PMI, JOLTS, FOMC meeting statement

5/2: International trade in goods and services

5/3: Employment situation, S&P Global Services PMI

5/10: Treasury statement

5/14: Producer Price Index

5/16: Housing starts, import and export prices, industrial production

5/15: Consumer Price Index, retail sales

5/22: Existing home sales

5/23: New home sales

5/24: Durable goods orders

5/30: GDP, international trade in goods

5/31: Personal income and outlays

Stock Market Indexes

Market/Index	2023 Close	Prior Month	As of April 30	Monthly Change	YTD Change
DJIA	37,689.54	39,807.37	37,815.92	-5.00%	0.34%
Nasdaq	15,011.35	16,379.46	15,657.82	-4.41%	4.31%
S&P 500	4,769.83	5,254.35	5,035.69	-4.16%	5.57%
Russell 2000	2,027.07	2,124.55	1,973.91	-7.09%	-2.62%
Global Dow	4,355.28	4,676.17	4,552.50	-2.64%	4.53%
fed. funds target rate	5.25%-5.50%	5.25%-5.50%	5.25%-5.50%	0 bps	0 bps
10-year Treasuries	3.86%	4.20%	4.68%	48 bps	82 bps
US Dollar-DXY	101.39	104.55	106.30	1.67%	4.84%
Crude Oil-CL=F	$71.30	$83.06	$81.58	-1.78%	14.42%
Gold-GC=F	$2,072.50	$2,244.70	$2,302.10	2.56%	11.08%

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

Latest Economic Reports

- **Employment:** Total employment increased by 303,000 in March, following a downwardly revised February total of 270,000 new jobs. Employment trended up in health care, government, and construction. Over the 12 months ended in March, employment increased by an average of 231,000 per month. In March, the unemployment rate dipped 0.1 percentage point to 3.8% but was 0.3 percentage point higher than the rate a year earlier. The number of unemployed persons was relatively unchanged at 6.4 million, which was nearly 500,000 above the March 2023 figure. In March, the number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 1.2 million, accounted for 19.5% of all unemployed people. Both the labor force participation rate, at 62.7%, and the employment-population ratio, at 60.3%, increased 0.2 percentage point from February. In March, average hourly earnings increased by $0.12 to $34.69. Since March 2023, average hourly earnings rose by 4.1%. The average workweek increased by 0.1 hour to 34.4 hours in March.
- There were 207,000 initial claims for unemployment insurance for the week ended April 20, 2024. During the same period, the total number of workers receiving unemployment insurance was 1,781,000. A year ago, there were 209,000 initial claims, while the total number of workers receiving unemployment insurance was 1,722,000.
- **FOMC/interest rates:** The Federal Open Market Committee began its meeting at the end of April, with the results available after issuance of this report. Nevertheless, all indications are that the Fed will not decrease interest rates in May or June. The Fed is also likely to adjust its forecast of three interest rate reductions this year.
- **GDP/budget:** The economy, as measured by gross domestic product, accelerated at an annualized rate of 1.6% in the first quarter of 2024, according to the initial estimate from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. GDP increased 3.4% in the fourth quarter. Personal consumption expenditures rose 2.5% in the first quarter compared to a 3.3% increase in the previous quarter. Consumer spending on goods dipped 0.4%, while spending on services rose 4.0%. Gross domestic investment rose 3.2% in the first quarter, well above the 0.7% increase in the fourth quarter. Nonresidential fixed investment advanced 2.9% in the first quarter (3.7% in the fourth quarter), while residential fixed investment jumped 13.9% in the first quarter compared to a 2.8% increase in the fourth quarter. Exports inched up 0.9%, while imports, which are a negative in the calculation of GDP, increased 7.2%. Consumer prices increased 3.4% in the first quarter, compared with an increase of 1.8% in the previous quarter. Excluding food and energy prices, the PCE price index increased 3.7%, compared with an increase of 2.0% in the fourth quarter.
- March saw the federal budget deficit come in at $236.0 billion, well below the $296.0 billion February deficit. Through the first six months of fiscal year 2024, the total deficit sits at $1,065.0 billion, which is roughly $36.0 billion lower than the deficit through the first six months of the previous fiscal year. So far in fiscal year 2024, total government receipts were $2.2 trillion ($2.0 trillion in 2023), while government outlays were $3.3 trillion, compared to $3.1 trillion over the same period in the previous fiscal year.

- **Inflation/consumer spending:** According to the latest personal income and outlays report, personal income rose 0.5% in March (0.3% in February), while disposable personal income increased 0.5%, up from 0.2% in February. Consumer prices climbed 0.3% in March, the same increase as in the previous month. Consumer prices excluding food and energy (core prices), rose 0.3% in March, the same as in February. Consumer prices rose 2.7% since March 2023, 0.2 percentage point more than the advance for the 12 months ended in February. Core prices increased 2.8% over the same period, unchanged from the 12 months ended in February. Consumer spending rose 0.8% in March, the same increase as in February.
- The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4% in March, the same increase as in February. Over the 12 months ended in March, the CPI rose 3.5%, up 0.3 percentage point from the period ended in February. Excluding food and energy, the CPI rose 0.4% in March, unchanged from the previous month, and 3.8% from March 2023. Prices for shelter rose in March, as did prices for gasoline. Combined, these two indexes contributed over half of the monthly increase in the CPI for all items. Energy prices rose 1.1% over the month. Food prices rose 0.1% in March.
- Prices that producers received for goods and services rose 0.2% in March following a 0.6% increase in the previous month. Producer prices increased 2.1% for the 12 months ended in March, up from the 1.6% increase for the 12 months ended in February. Producer prices less foods, energy, and trade services advanced 0.2% in March (0.4% in February), while prices excluding food and energy increased 0.2%. For the 12 months ended in March, prices less foods, energy, and trade services moved up 2.8%. Prices less foods and energy increased 2.4% for the year ended in March.
- **Housing:** Sales of existing homes fell 4.3% in March and 3.7% over the last 12 months. According to the National Association of Realtors®, existing home sales have stagnated because interest rates have not moved lower. The median existing-home price was $393,500 in March, up from the February price of $383,800 and well above the March 2023 price of $375,300. Unsold inventory of existing homes represented a 3.2-month supply at the current sales pace, up slightly from 2.9 months in February and above the 2.7-month supply from a year earlier. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased 4.3% in March and 2.8% from the prior year. The median existing single-family home price was $397,200 in March, up from $388,000 in February and above the March 2023 price of $379,500. According to Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 6.88% as of April 11, up from 6.82% the previous week and from 6.27% one year ago.
- New single-family home sales climbed higher in March, increasing 8.8% from February. Sales were up 8.3% from March 2023. The median sales price of new single-family houses sold in March was $430,700 ($406,500 in February). The March average sales price was $524,800 ($488,600 in February). The inventory of new single-family homes for sale in March represented a supply of 6.9 months at the current sales pace, down from 8.0 months in February.
- **Manufacturing:** Industrial production edged up 0.4% in March, the same increase as in the prior month. Manufacturing output rose 0.5% in March, helped in part by a 3.1% gain in motor vehicles and parts. Manufacturing output excluding motor vehicles and parts moved up 0.3%. Mining decreased 1.4%, while utilities increased 2.0%. For the 12 months ended in March, total industrial production was unchanged compared to its year-earlier level. For the 12 months ended in March, manufacturing increased 0.8%, mining fell 2.0%, and utilities decreased 3.1%.
- New orders for durable goods rose 2.6% in March following a 0.7% (revised) February increase. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 0.2% in March. Excluding defense, new orders rose 2.3%. New orders for transportation equipment advanced 7.7% in March, contributing to the overall increase in new orders. New orders for nondefense capital goods in March increased 5.4%, while new orders for defense capital goods increased 10.6%.
- **Imports and exports:** U.S. import prices advanced 0.4% in March following a 0.3% advance in the previous month. Import prices increased for the third straight month in March, and have advanced 0.4% over the last 12 months, the first yearly increase since January 2023. Import fuel prices rose 4.7% in March, the largest one-month increase since September 2023. Import prices excluding fuel ticked up 0.1% in March. Export prices rose 0.3% in March after advancing 0.7% in February. Higher nonagricultural prices in March more than offset lower agricultural prices. Despite the recent increases, export prices fell 1.4% from March 2023, the smallest 12-month drop since the year ended February 2023.
- The international trade in goods deficit was $91.8 billion in March, up $1.5 billion, or 1.7%, from February. Exports of goods were $169.2 billion in March, $6.1 billion, or 3.5%, less than in February. Imports of goods were $261.0 billion in March, $6.1 billion, or 1.7%, under the February estimate. Since March 2023, exports declined 2.1%, while imports increased 2.5%.
- The latest information on international trade in goods and services, released April 4, is for February and revealed that the goods and services trade deficit was $68.9 billion, up $1.3 billion, or 1.9%, from the

January deficit. February exports were $263.0 billion, 2.3% more than January exports. February imports were $331.9 billion, 2.2% more than January imports. Year over year, the goods and services deficit decreased $3.9 billion, or 2.8%, from February 2023. Exports increased $9.3 billion, or 1.8%. Imports increased $5.4 billion, or 0.8%.

- **International markets:** Eurozone inflation remained at 2.4% in April, in line with expectations. Prices advanced for food, alcohol, and tobacco, while energy prices decreased. For April, consumer prices rose 0.4%. On a positive note, Eurozone gross domestic product expanded by 0.3% in the first quarter, the fastest rate of growth since the third quarter of 2022. China's manufacturing activity expanded in April for the second consecutive month, albeit at a slower pace than in the previous month. The Japanese yen weakened against the dollar as U.S. interest rates have climbed while Japan's rate has remained near zero. The result is money has flowed out of the yen and into higher-yielding assets. For April, the STOXX Europe 600 Index fell 0.4%; the United Kingdom's FTSE gained 2.9%; Japan's Nikkei 225 Index declined 3.5%; and China's Shanghai Composite Index gained 1.0%.
- **Consumer confidence:** Consumer confidence receded for the third consecutive month in April. The Conference Board Consumer Confidence Index® was 97.0 in April, well under a downwardly revised 103.1 in March. The Present Situation Index, based on consumers' assessment of current business and labor market conditions, declined to 142.9 in April, down from 146.8 in the previous month. The Expectations Index, based on consumers' short-term outlook for income, business, and labor market conditions, slipped to 66.4 in April, down from 74.0 in March.

Eye on the Month Ahead

May begins with the Federal Open Market Committee meeting. The employment figures for April are also available early in the month. Investors will also be focused on corporate earnings throughout the month and impact of ongoing tensions in the Middle East. Despite April's slide, May has historically been a positive month for stocks.

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 guarantee 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.
