

Fixed Income Group A Division of RJ O'Brien

The Missile www.fixedincomegroup.com

On Bloomberg: WECO <go> Economic Releases



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Fed Speak (All times are CST) On Bloomberg: Fed <go>

United States		6) Bro	<i>i</i> se	06:12:15			01/2	22/24 🗀	- 06/2	6/24
entral Banks		All Centr			w.				la Wee	
Date Time A	М	R Event				Period	Surv(M)	Actual		Revise
1) 01/31 13:00 🐗	Δ	.il FOMC	Rate Deci	ision (Upp	er Bound)	Jan 31			5.50%	
2) 01/31 13:00	۵			ision (Low		Jan 31	5.25%		5.25%	
3) 01/31 13:30					nference Fo	ollowing FC	MC Meeti	ng		
4) 02/14 15:00					BE Conferen					
5) 02/15 11:00					BE Conferen					
6) 02/21 13:00	Ф		leeting N			Jan 31				
7) 03/06 13:00					s Beige Boo	k				
8) 03/19 09:00				wo-Day Me						
9) 03/20 13:00				-Day Meet						
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0 03/20 13:00	Ď			ision (Low		Mar 20	5.25%			
2) 03/20 13:30					ost-Meeting	Press Co	nference			
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5) 04/30 09:00		FOMC	Begins T	wo-Day Me	eeting					
6) 05/01 13:00				-Day Meet						
7) 05/01 13:00 📢	Δ			ision (Upp		May 1				
8) 05/01 13:00	Ŷ			ision (Low		May 1				
9) 05/01 13:30					ost-Meeting		nference			
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1) 05/29 13:00			_		s Beige Boo					
2) 06/11 09:00				wo-Day Me	_					
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						Press Co				

US Treasury Auction Schedule On Bloomberg: NI TRE <go>

evious Next Send -	Actions - Trans	slate +					News: New	vs Stor
24/2024 14:11:36[BN]			C-113			D:1	A A	П I
Bill Auctions	Announcement	Auction	Settles	Numbers	R	Bil	Auction	\$ Bl
4-week	01/30/2024	01/25/2024	01/30/2024	912797JF5		\$90	01/18/2024	\$8
8-week	01/30/2024	01/25/2024	01/30/2024	912797JK4		\$90	01/18/2024	\$8
17-week	01/30/2024	01/31/2024	02/06/2024	TBA		TBA	01/24/2024	\$6
3-month	01/25/2024	01/29/2024	02/01/2024	912797HH3		TBA	01/22/2024	\$7
6-month	01/25/2024	01/29/2024	02/01/2024	912797JU2		TBA	01/22/2024	\$7
1-year	02/15/2024	02/20/2024	02/22/2024	TBA		TBA	01/23/2024	\$4
Note Auctions								
2-year	02/22/2024	02/26/2024	02/29/2024	TBA		TBA	01/23/2024	\$6
3-year	01/31/2024	02/06/2024	02/15/2024	TBA		TBA	01/09/2024	\$5
5-year	02/22/2024	02/26/2024	02/29/2024	TBA		TBA	01/24/2024	\$6
7-year	02/22/2024	01/25/2024	01/31/2024	91282CJX0		\$41	12/28/2023	\$4
10-year	01/31/2024	02/07/2024	02/15/2024	TBA		TBA	01/10/2024	\$3
Bond Auctions								
20-year	02/15/2024	02/21/2024	02/29/2024	TBA		TBA	01/17/2024	\$1
30-year	01/31/2024	02/08/2024	02/15/2024	TBA		TBA	01/11/2024	\$2
TIPS Auctions								
5-yr TIPS	04/11/2024	04/18/2024	04/30/2024	TBA		TBA	12/21/2023	\$2
10-yr TIPS	03/14/2024	03/21/2024	03/28/2024	TBA		TBA	01/18/2024	\$1
30-yr TIPS	02/15/2024	02/22/2024	02/29/2024	TBA		TBA	08/24/2023	\$
Floating Rate Note								
2-year FRN	02/15/2024	02/21/2024	02/23/2024	TBA		TBA	01/24/2024	\$2
Buyback Operation								
Buyback	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA		TBA	11/14/2018	\$.02
Dayback	TDA	TDA	TDA	TUA		TDA	11/14/2010	#.UZ

The World is Smoldering...

Israel Builds Buffer Zone Along Gaza Border, Risking New Rift With U.S.

https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/israel-border-gaza-buffer-zone-4131020d?mod=hp_lead_pos7

Beginning last November, an Israeli soldier and members of his reserve unit worked day after day in a northern section of the Gaza Strip to create a wasteland.

Their orders were to clear a 1-kilometer-wide area along the border, the soldier said, as part of an Israeli plan to construct a security zone just inside Gaza—to which Palestinians would be barred entry.

With bulldozers and other heavy equipment, they leveled greenhouses and other structures, filled Hamas militants' tunnel shafts and plowed under farm fields.

"Everything has been flattened," the soldier said. "It was mostly agriculture. Now it's a military zone, a complete no man's land."

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Red Sea Conflict Prompts India's Navy to Flex Its Muscles

https://www.wsj.com/world/india/red-sea-conflict-prompts-indias-navy-to-flex-its-muscles-5b096317?mod=hp_lead_pos8

India is deploying a growing number of warships to counter rebel attacks on commercial ships plying around the Middle East, while steering clear of joining the official U.S.-led force in the Red Sea, as it looks to protect its ties with Iran.

Houthi rebels in Yemen have <u>attacked ships passing to and from Egypt's Suez Canal</u>, a heavily used trade route vital to India's crude oil imports. The Houthis, <u>a militia backed by Iran</u>, said they are targeting ships in retaliation over <u>Israel's war in Gaza</u> against Hamas. The attacks have snarled global shipping and widened the Middle East conflict. In recent days, after <u>U.S. and U.K. strikes on Houthi weaponry</u>, the rebels have turned their attention to U.S. ships.

India has sent 10 warships to the area stretching from the north and central Arabian Sea to the Gulf of Aden, up from the two that are usually stationed in the region, according to serving and former security officials.

Most of Russia's War Chips Are Made by US and European Companies

 $\underline{https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-01-25/russia-s-war-machine-powered-by-chips-from-intel-amd-infineon-stm?srnd=premium\&sref=k5DuN3at$

Russia imported more than \$1 billion of advanced US and European chips last year, despite restrictions intended to stop President Vladimir Putin's military getting hold of technology to fuel its war in Ukraine.

Classified Russian customs service data obtained by Bloomberg show that more than half of imported semi-conductors and integrated circuits in the first nine months of 2023 were manufactured by US and European companies.

They included <u>Intel Corp</u>, <u>Advanced Micro Devices</u> and <u>Analog Devices Inc.</u> as well as European brands <u>Infineon Technologies AG</u>, <u>STMicroelectronics NV</u> and <u>NXP Semiconductors NV</u>. There's no suggestion the companies breached sanctions laws and the data doesn't indicate who exported the technologies to Russia, from where they were shipped and when the goods were manufactured.

Biden Asks Congress to Allow F-16 Sale to Turkey After NATO Deal

 $\frac{https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-01-25/biden-asks-congress-to-allow-f-16-sale-to-turkey-after-nato-deal?srnd=politics-vp\&sref=k5DuN3at$

President Joe Biden has urged congressional lawmakers to approve the sale of F-16 warplanes to Turkey, after that country agreed to allow Sweden's entry into NATO.

Biden wrote of his wish in a letter Wednesday to the leaders of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Biden had made Turkey's approval of Sweden's NATO membership a prerequisite for the sale of those jets, and Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan has also linked the two issues. The Turkish parliament voted to accept Sweden's accession on Tuesday, sending the measure back to Erdogan for his signature. That leaves Hungary as the lone holdout to the defense alliance's northern enlargement.

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The Fed Risks Getting Caught Up in Politics, Whatever It Does

https://www.wsj.com/economy/central-banking/the-fed-risks-getting-caught-up-in-politicswhatever-it-does-6d33c941?mod=hp_lead_pos6

The problem with being independent of politics is that appearances matter. You don't have to just be independent, you must also appear to be independent—even if that changes what you might otherwise do.

Many investors think the Federal Reserve might be pushed to do exactly that, lowering interest rates in March to get the rate-cutting cycle started before the election campaigns really get going. Its desire to avoid political controversy helps explain why traders are still pricing around a 50-50 chance of a March cut, despite stronger than expected jobs and inflation figures and pushback from Fed policymakers against imminent easing.

FOMC Projections Materials, Accessible Version

For release at 2:00 p.m., EST, December 13, 2023

Table 1. Economic projections of Federal Reserve Board members and Federal Reserve Bank presidents, under their individual assumptions of projected appropriate monetary policy, December 2023

Percent															
			Media	n ¹			Cent	ral Tendenc	y^2			1	Range ³		
Variable	2023	2024	2025	2026	Longer run	2023	2024	2025	2026	Longer run	2023	2024	2025	2026	Longer run
Change in real GDP September projection	2.6 2.1	1.4 1.5	1.8 1.8	1.9 1.8	1.8 1.8	2.5-2.7 1.9-2.2	1.2-1.7 $1.2-1.8$	1.5-2.0 $1.6-2.0$		1.7-2.0 1.7-2.0	2.5-2.7 1.8-2.6	0.8 – 2.5 0.4 – 2.5	1.4-2.5 1.4-2.5		1.6-2.5 1.6-2.5
Unemployment rate September projection	3.8 3.8	4.1 4.1	4.1 4.1	$\frac{4.1}{4.0}$	4.1 4.0	3.8 3.7–3.9	4.0-4.2 3.9-4.4	4.0-4.2 $3.9-4.3$		3.8-4.3 3.8-4.3	3.7-4.0 3.7-4.0	3.9-4.5 3.7-4.5	3.8-4.7 3.7-4.7	3.8-4.7 3.7-4.5	
PCE inflation September projection	2.8 3.3	$\frac{2.4}{2.5}$	$\frac{2.1}{2.2}$	$\frac{2.0}{2.0}$	2.0 2.0	2.7-2.9 $3.2-3.4$	2.2-2.5 $2.3-2.7$	2.0-2.2 $2.0-2.3$	$2.0 \\ 2.0-2.2$	2.0 2.0	2.7–3.2 3.1–3.8	2.1-2.7 $2.1-3.5$	2.0-2.5 2.0-2.9	2.0-2.3 2.0-2.7	2.0 2.0
Core PCE inflation ⁴ September projection	3.2 3.7	$\frac{2.4}{2.6}$	2.2 2.3	$\frac{2.0}{2.0}$		3.2–3.3 3.6–3.9	2.4-2.7 $2.5-2.8$	2.0-2.2 $2.0-2.4$	2.0-2.1 2.0-2.3		3.2-3.7 3.5-4.2	2.3-3.0 $2.3-3.6$	2.0-2.6 2.0-3.0	2.0-2.3 2.0-2.9	
Memo: Projected appropriate policy path															
Federal funds rate September projection	5.4 5.6	$\frac{4.6}{5.1}$	3.6 3.9	2.9 2.9	2.5 2.5	5.4 5.4–5.6	4.4-4.9 $4.6-5.4$	3.1 – 3.9 3.4 – 4.9	2.5 - 3.1 2.5 - 4.1	2.5-3.0 2.5-3.3	5.4 5.4–5.6	3.9 – 5.4 $4.4 – 6.1$	2.4 - 5.4 2.6 - 5.6	2.4-4.9 $2.4-4.9$	2.4-3.8 2.4-3.8

Note: Projections of change in real gross domestic product (GDP) and projections for both measures of inflation are percent changes from the fourth quarter of NOTE: Projections of change in real gross domestic product (GDF) and projections for not measures of innation are percent changes from the fourth quarter of the year indicated. PCE inflation and core PCE inflation are the percentage rates of change in, respectively, the price index for personal consumption expenditures (PCE) and the price index for PCE excluding food and energy. Projections for the unemployment rate are for the average civilian unemployment rate in the fourth quarter of the year indicated. Each participant's projections are based on his or her assessment of appropriate monetary policy. Longer-run projections represent each participant's assessment of the rate to which each variable would be expected to converge under appropriate monetary policy and in the absence of further shocks to the economy. The projections for the federal funds rate are the value of the midpoint of the projected appropriate target range for the federal funds rate or the projected appropriate target level for the federal funds rate at the end of the specified calendar year or over the longer run. The September projections were made in conjunction with the meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee on September 19–20, 2023. One participant did not submit longer-run projections for the change in real GDP, the unemployment rate, or the federal funds rate in conjunction with the September 19–20, 2023. meeting, and one participant did not submit such projections in conjunction with the December 12-13, 2023, meeting

- 1. For each period, the median is the middle projection when the projections are arranged from lowest to highest. When the number of projections is even, the
- median is the average of the two middle projections.

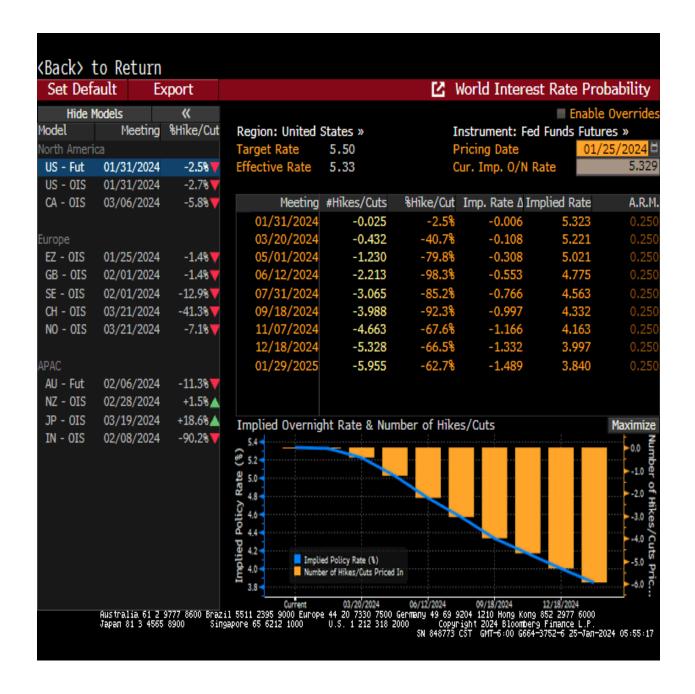
 2. The central tendency excludes the three highest and three lowest projections for each variable in each year
 - 3. The range for a variable in a given year includes all participants' projections, from lowest to highest, for that variable in that year.

Longer-run projections for core PCE inflation are not collected.

https://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/files/fomcprojtabl20231213.pdf

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US Interest Rate Probabilities WIRP [GO]



Select STIR Rates

	Date		Change
Term SOFR	1/25/2024 6:16	Settles	
1 Month		5.33659	0.0000
3 Month		5.31959	-0.00446
6 Month		5.17225	-0.01571
12 Month		4.81968	-0.02724
Term BSBY	1/25/2024 6:16	Settles	
1 Month		5.3633	-0.00628
3 Month		5.39444	0.00464
6 Month		5.32021	0.0004
12 Month		5.17442	-0.00038

THE STIR CURVE: Distributed by The Fixed Income Group at RJ O'Brien





^{**} Futures indicative prices supplied for analytics purposes only. Rates are not intended as a real-time offer to buy or sell.

	Term SOFR from 1-day Returns						
5.34306%	5.33906%	5.20199%	5.01502%	4.85365%	4.56366%	4.35198%	4.17619%
1.004600972	1.013495962	1.026298927	1.038169864	1.049345433	1.069342246	1.088369354	1.127141703
1mo	3mo	6mo	9mo	12mo	18mo	24mo	36mo
1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024
2/24/2024	4/24/2024	7/24/2024	10/24/2024	1/24/2025	7/24/2025	1/24/2026	1/24/2027
31	91	182	274	366	547	731	1096

	Term FedFunds from 1-day Returns						
5.35058%	5.33248%	5.18489%	5.00543%	4.83248%	4.52883%	4.31347%	
100.46074%	101.34793%	102.62125%	103.80969%	104.91302%	106.88130%	108.75874%	
1mo	3mo	6mo	9mo	12mo	18mo	24mo	
1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	1/25/2024	
2/24/2024	4/24/2024	7/24/2024	10/24/2024	1/24/2025	7/24/2025	1/24/2026	
31	91	182	274	366	547	731	
						1/25/2024 6:21	ct

For more information, contact Rocco Chierici (SVP, RJO FIG) or Corrine Baynes (VP, RJO FIG) at RJ O'Brien: 312-373-5439

The risk of loss in trading futures and/or options is substantial, and each investor and/or trader must consider whether this is a suitable investment.

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US-SWAP curve IRSB <GO>



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Getting Granular

The Fed watches 1-month bills v. 1-month bills 6-months forward. Below is a chart of 1-month SOFR v. 1-month SOFR 6-months forward.



Federal Reserve economists said, watching forward rates relative to those on current Treasury bills has served traders well in the past.

When the short term forward spread inverts, it indicates easier Fed policy in the near future.

Treasury 2s/10s



THE TREND

3-Month SFRH4: 94.93^ is the pivot point.

Above the pivot you should be long, below short.

Resistance is at 94.93^{and 95-04**}

Support is at **94-81****

^Pivot Point is a 20-day moving average.

The long position from 94.99 (1/12/23) has rolled over resulting in a 5-tick winner (\$156.25) and a short position from 94.94 (1/16/24).



^{** 2-}STD Deviations from the pivot point.

Ultra 10-year Note (UXYH4): 116-15[^] is the pivot point.

Above the pivot you should be long, below short.

Resistance is at 116-15[^] and 118-18**

Support is at **114-12****

^Pivot Point is a 20-day moving average.

The trend that had you long from 109-16 (11/1/23) has rolled over, resulting in a 240 tick (\$7500.00) winner and a short position from 116-09 (1/4/24).





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^{** 2-}STD Deviations from the pivot point.

EQUITIES



The S&P is +6 and the NASDAQ is +35.

Earnings: www.moneycentral.msn.com/investor/market/earncalendar

On Bloomberg type in ACDR <GO>

UK

In the UK the FTSE is at -0.21%. BOE Rate 5.00% (.50% increase). Next meeting 02/01/24

EU:

The CAC Index is at -0.52%. The DAX Index is at -0.43%.

ECB Main Refinancing Operations Rate 4.50% (no change). Deposit Facility Rate 4.00%.

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Next meeting 01/25/24

Japan:

The TOPIX closed +0.11%.
The NIKKEI closed +0.03%.
BOJ Policy Balance Rate -0.10% (No Change).
Next meeting 01/23/24

China:

The Hang Seng closed +1.96%.

The Shanghai Composite closed +3.03%.

S&P Municipal Bond General Obligation Index

PBOC

Deposit Rate: 1.50%

1-Year Prime Rate: 3.45% 7-Day Repo Rate: 1.8813%

Reserve Requirement Ratio: 10.50% (25 BP Cut)

Muni IG Curve

The S&P Municipal Bond Index and its sub-indices are market value-weighted and based on bonds that are tax-exempt but may be subject to alternative minimum tax (AMT). Data are available for 12/02/2009 through 09/20/2021.

https://emma.msrb.org/ToolsAndResources/MBISYieldCurve?daily=False

Date Range: 10/24/2023 to 01/24/2024 Indices: 5 selected 7 6 3 Tager And And Andrea Andre

Historical Index Data

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S&P Municipal Bond Revenue Index

S&P Municipal Bond High Yield Index
 S&P Municipal Bond Investment Grade Index

The Fundamentals

LABOR

Bureau of Labor and Statistics

http://www.bls.gov/news.release/

CPI, ECI, Employment situation PPI, CPI, Productivity and Costs, Real Earnings and US import/exports.

Average Hourly Earnings y/y Department of Labor Department.



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Bureau of Labor Statistics

https://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesnaicsrev.htm

Nonfarm Payroll Employment: Revisions between over-the-month estimates, 1979-present

KC Federal Reserve Agricultural Finance Update NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Farm debt balances at commercial banks grew steadily in the third quarter but loan performance remained strong. Despite some indications of <u>slower lending activity in recent</u> <u>surveys</u> and <u>subdued loan demand</u> for some lenders, outstanding debt at commercial banks in aggregate grew at a pace similar to the past year. Alongside ongoing strength in farm finances, delinquency rates on agricultural loans dropped for the third consecutive year and remained at historically low levels.

Steady loan growth has coincided with a pullback in deposit growth and firmed liquidity at agricultural banks. Higher interest rates have induced greater competition for deposits, pushed up costs of funding and compressed net interest margins slightly in recent months. Profits for agricultural banks, however, have stayed solid with support from higher interest income. Sound liquidity has continued to ease much of the risk surrounding elevated levels of unrealized losses at many banks and will remain important going forward.

https://www.kansascityfed.org/agriculture/agfinance-updates/credit-conditions-strong-but-softening/

How do Farm Incomes Compare to the average population

https://www.ers.usda.gov/faqs/#Q1

Charge-off Delinquency Rates on Loans and Leases at Commercial Banks https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/chargeoff/delallsa.htm

Baker Hughes Rig Count Overview and Summary Count

https://bakerhughesrigcount.gcs-web.com/rig-count-overview?c=79687&p=irol-rigcountsoverview

What is U.S. electricity generation by energy source?

https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm table grapher.php?t=epmt es1b

Biofuels International

https://biofuels-news.com/home/

Renewable Fuels Association

http://www.ethanolrfa.org/

How Many Electric Vehicles are on the Road in America

https://usafacts.org/articles/how-many-electric-cars-in-united-states/

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How do Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles Work Using Hydrogen

https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/how-do-fuel-cell-electric-cars-work

Trucking 01/05/24

Scions - Dire	ctory Export Settings				Вю	omberg Ir	ntelligeno
earch BI Resear							
	Dashboard (BI 3PLSG) Global ☆ Air Airport Ocean Ports U.S. Ex/Im	N.A. Surface	Mainland (China Fu	al Cumus	/ Results	
search Dashboard Ho	North America Truck North America Rail	N.A. Surrace	Maintand	cilina Fu	et surve	y Results	
ndustry	View 12 Week Growth None					Curr	ency USD
quity	Name	01/12	01/05	12/29	12/22	12/15	12/08
odcasts	Truckstop.com Stats	01/12	01/03	12/29	12/22	12/13	12/00
ta Library	Average Market Demand Index (MDI)	51.09	52.10	35.82	34.03	35.82	37.77
larket Share	U.S. Dry-Van Market Demand Index	72.90	80.34	52.58	53.62	59.93	65.68
lacro	U.S. Flatbed Market Demand Index	61.29	59.46	34.36	37.71	39.41	39.82
ndustry	 U.S. Temperature-Controlled Market De 	93.29	89.91	93.92	56.38	47.11	53.91
ompany	U.S. Specialty Market Demand Index	14.80	16.27	11.32	11.13	12.97	13.14
nalyzer							
aluation	 Weekly Avg Truckload Rates Inc. Fuel Su 						
Contributors	 Average Rate Per Mile 	2.326	2.302	2.376	2.277	2.225	2.225
nitor	 Dry-Van Rate Per Mile 	2.081	2.131	2.144	2.050	1.970	1.995
lews/Research	 Flatbed Rate Per Mile 	2.331	2.265	2.255	2.311	2.295	2.299
vents	 Temperature Controlled Rate Per Mile 	2.542	2.639	2.742	2.342	2.196	2.252
Comp Sheets	 Specialized Rate Per Mile 	2.481	2.319	2.501	2.521	2.467	2.402
farkets							
	U.S. Fuel Surcharge	0.47	0.48	0.49	0.48	0.50	0.52
	Weekly average rates are weighted by						
	the # of loads per day.						
	Load Turnaround (minutes)	287.5	270.8	261.5	261.9	265.9	264.8
	Truck Turnaround (minutes)	1,080.9	1,075.3	1,150.7	1,096.7	1,090.1	1,129.4
	Truckers Looking for Loads	29.941M	22.817M	18.108M	27.732M	32.679M	33.158M
	Shippers Looking for Truckers	94,866.0	83,356.0	62,605.0	89,436.0	85,091.0	88,213.0
	Truckers' Average Credit Scores	20.1	19.9	19.9	19.9	20.0	19.9
	Source: Truckstop.com						

Rail Traffic

For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 397,553 carloads and intermodal units, down 13.2 percent compared with the same week last year.

Total carloads for the week ending January 20 were 173,371 carloads, down 22.4 percent compared with the same week in 2023, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 224,182 containers and trailers, down 4.5 percent compared to 2023.

None of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2023. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2023 included coal, down 21,055 carloads, to 47,731; nonmetallic minerals, down 11,953 carloads, to 18,628; and grain, down 5,246 carloads, to 15,752.

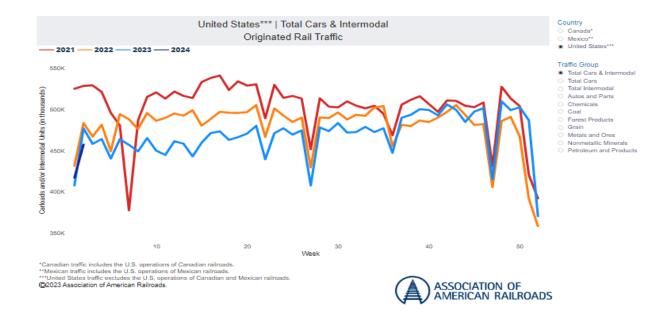
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For the first three weeks of 2024, U.S. railroads reported cumulative volume of 594,824 carloads, down 10.8 percent from the same point last year; and 677,439 intermodal units, up 0.2 percent from last year. Total combined U.S. traffic for the first three weeks of 2024 was 1,272,263 carloads and intermodal units, a decrease of 5.3 percent compared to last year. North American rail volume for the week ending January 20, 2024, on 12 reporting U.S., Canadian and Mexican railroads totaled 265,838 carloads, down 20.3 percent compared with the same week last year, and 289,982 intermodal units, down 6.0 percent compared with last year. Total combined weekly rail traffic in North America was 555,820 carloads and intermodal units, down 13.5 percent. North American rail volume for the first three weeks of 2024 was 1,778,528 carloads and intermodal units, down 5.6 percent compared with 2023.

Canadian railroads reported 74,967 carloads for the week, down 21.5 percent, and 54,327 intermodal units, down 15.6 percent compared with the same week in 2023. For the first three weeks of 2024, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 424,647 carloads, containers and trailers, down 9.8 percent.

Mexican railroads reported 17,500 carloads for the week, up 18.1 percent compared with the same week last year, and 11,473 intermodal units, up 24.0 percent. Cumulative volume on Mexican railroads for the first three weeks of 2024 was 81,618 carloads and intermodal containers and trailers, up 17.7 percent from the same point last year.

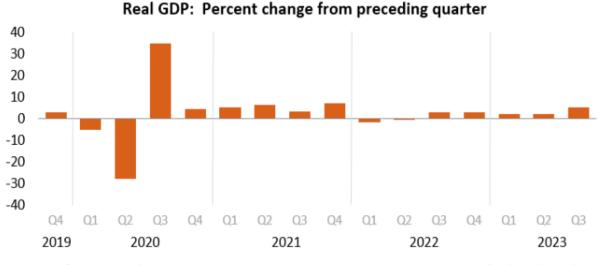
https://www.aar.org/news/weekly-rail-traffic-for-the-week-ending-january-20-2024/



GDP

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of economic analysis http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/national/gdp/gdpnewsrelease.htm
GDP, Personal Income, Outlays, Consumer Spending, Corporate Profits and Fixed Assets

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U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Seasonally adjusted annual rates

Atlanta Fed GPD-Now Estimate Latest estimate: 2.4 percent -- January 19, 2024

The GDPNow model estimate for real GDP growth (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the fourth quarter of 2023 is **2.4 percent** on January 19, unchanged from January 18 after rounding. After this morning's existing-home sales report from the National Association of Realtors, the nowcast of fourth quarter real residential investment growth decreased from -0.4 percent to -0.6 percent.

This is the last GDPNow forecast for the fourth quarter. The first GDPNow forecast for the first quarter will be on Friday, January 26. Please see the "Release Dates" tab below for a list of upcoming releases.

https://www.atlantafed.org/cqer/research/gdpnow

St. Louis Fed GDP Now Q4 2023 2.38% 01/19/2024

https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/GDPNOW

Manufacturing AT A GLANCE December 2023

Index	Series Index Dec	Series Index Nov	Percentage Point Change	Direction	Rate of Change	Trend* (Months)
Manufacturing PMI [®]	47.4	46.7	+0.7	Contracting	Slower	14
New Orders	47.1	48.3	-1.2	Contracting	Faster	16
Production	50.3	48.5	+1.8	Growing	From Contracting	1
Employment	48.1	45.8	+2.3	Contracting	Slower	3
Supplier Deliveries	47.0	46.2	+0.8	Faster	Slower	15
Inventories	44.3	44.8	-0.5	Contracting	Faster	10
Customers' Inventories	48.1	50.8	-2.7	Too Low	From Too High	1
Prices	45.2	49.9	-4.7	Decreasing	Faster	8
Backlog of Orders	45.3	39.3	+6.0	Contracting	Slower	15
New Export Orders	49.9	46.0	+3.9	Contracting	Slower	7
mports	46.4	46.2	+0.2	Contracting	Slower	14
	OVERALL	ECONOMY		Contracting	Slower	3
	Manufact	uring Sector		Contracting	Slower	14

Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business® data is seasonally adjusted for the New Orders, Production, Employment and Inventories indexes.
*Number of months moving in current direction.

THE LAST 12 MONTHS

Month	Manufacturing PMI [®]
Dec 2023	47.4
Nov 2023	46.7
Oct 2023	46.7
Sep 2023	49.0
Aug 2023	47.6
Jul 2023	46.4

Month	Manufacturing PMI [®]
Jun 2023	46.0
May 2023	46.9
Apr 2023	47.1
Mar 2023	46.3
Feb 2023	47.7
Jan 2023	47.4

Average for 12 months - 47.1 High - 49.0 Low - 46.0

https://www.ismworld.org/supply-management-news-and-reports/reports/ism-report-on-business/pmi/december/

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<u>US Census Bureau (Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders).</u> http://www.census.gov/manufacturing/m3/

Ranking of Countries by Military might.

www.military.com

Our Nation in numbers

The Constitution gives us four missions...

- 1. Establish Justice and Ensure Domestic Tranquility.
- 2. Provide for the Common Defense.
- 3. Promote the General welfare.
- 4. Secure the Blessings of Liberty to Ourselves and Our Posterity.

www.usafacts.org

US Foreign Assistance

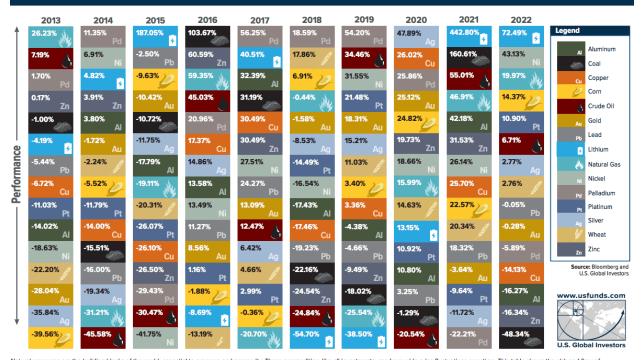
http://foreignassistance.gov/

How much aid do we give around the world?

https://usaid.gov

How Natural Resources have performed over the last 10 years.

The Periodic Table of Commodities Returns 2022



Natural resources are the building blocks of the world, essential to progress and prosperity. These commodities, like all investments, can have wide price fluctuations over time. This table shows the ebb and flow of commodity prices over the past decade and illustrates the principle of mean reversion — the concept that returns eventually move back towards their mean or average. The price movement of commodities is historically both seasonal and cyclical. That's why when investing in natural resources, we believe it is important for your portfolio to hold a diversified basket of commodities and to be actively managed by professionals who understand these specialized assets and the global trends impacting them. As with all investments, diversification does not protect an investor from market risks and does not assure a profit, and of course, past performance does not quarantee future results. Returns are based on historical soot prices or futures prices.

https://www.usfunds.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/23-006-CommoditiesPeriodicTable.pdf

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