

Last Week at a Glance

North American Markets	Last	Change	% Change
S&P/TSX Composite	22,264.40	97.40	0.44%
Dow Jones	38,904.04	-903.33	-2.27%
S&P500	5,204.34	-50.01	-0.95%
NASDAQ	16,248.52	-130.94	-0.80%
Russell 2000	2,063.47	-61.08	-2.87%

Overseas Markets	Last	Change	% Change
FTSE 100	7,911.16	-41.46	-0.52%
DAX GERMANY	18,175.04	-317.45	-1.72%
NIKKEI 225 INDEX	38,992.08	-1,377.36	-3.41%
HANG SENG INDEX	16,723.92	182.50	1.10%

Commodities / FX	Last	% Change
Crude Oil WTI	\$86.91	4.50%
Natural Gas	\$1.79	1.25%
Gold	\$2,345.40	4.78%
CAD / USD	\$0.74	-0.42%
CAD / EUR	€0.68	-0.21%

Government Bonds	2YR	10YR
CANADA (YLD%)	4.21%	3.59%
U.S. (YLD%)	4.76%	4.41%

Source: Refinitiv - Optimize

Week in Review:

- **Employment Report Highlights Strong Job Growth:** The U.S. economy added over 300K jobs in March, surpassing expectations, with gains reflected in both the labour force and civilian employment. Consequently, the unemployment rate declined to 3.8%.
- **Manufacturing Data Highlights Improvement in U.S. Economy:** Surpassing the 50 threshold for the first time in sixteen months, the ISM manufacturing index indicated expansion, with increased production and new orders contributing to a positive outlook for manufacturing activity.
- **Bank of Canada's Rate Cut Speculation Grows :** The Bank of Canada observed various economic indicators, including labour market updates, business and consumer sentiment, and international trade data, suggesting potential market speculation regarding a rate cut in June.

Week Ahead:

- **U.S. CPI Report in Focus:** The release of the March CPI report for the U.S. is expected to garner significant attention, especially considering the likely positive impact of rising gasoline prices on the headline index.
- **Bank of Canada Monetary Policy Meeting:** The central bank's monetary policy meeting on Wednesday will be closely watched in Canada. Despite the likelihood of the BoC maintaining its benchmark rate at 5%, recent encouraging inflation data may influence future forecasts.
- **Corporate Earnings Highlights:** Major corporate earnings reports expected this week include Blackrock, JP Morgan, and Delta, generating interest in the market.