

## The Market Week in Review

For the Week Ending April 14, 2012

### THE MARKETS

All four of the major market indexes finished the week in the red this week. The selling was attributed to lower QE3 hopes, fallout from March's disappointing jobs report, slower economic growth in China and rising bond yields in Europe. It was the first time in 14 weeks that the Nasdaq lost ground. It was pulled lower by Apple, the single largest component of that tech heavy index.

Index	Week Open	Week Close	Change	% Change	YTD %
DJIA	13,060.14	12,849.59	-210.55	-1.61%	5.17%
NASDAQ	3,080.50	3,011.33	-69.17	-2.25%	15.59%
S&P 500	1,398.08	1,370.26	-27.82	-1.99%	8.96%
Russell 2000	818.18	796.29	-21.89	-2.68%	7.47%

### DAILY DEVELOPMENTS

#### MONDAY

China posted an unexpected trade surplus in March of \$5.35B vs. an expected deficit of \$3.15B, with imports up only 5.3% vs. expectations of +9%. Exports were a larger than expected +8.9%. The reported numbers seem to suggest that the commonly held belief that China's economy is undergoing a retraction could be mistaken.

#### TUESDAY

There were no major economic announcements on Tuesday.

#### WEDNESDAY

There were no major economic announcements on Wednesday.

#### THURSDAY

Unemployment claims increased 13,000 in the week ended April 7<sup>th</sup> to 380,000, the highest since January 28<sup>th</sup>, the Labor Department reported today in Washington. The median forecast in a Bloomberg News survey called for 355,000 claims.

#### FRIDAY

The consumer price index (CPI) increased 0.3 percent, following a 0.4 percent increase last February. Analysts forecast a 0.3 percent gain. Core CPI (which excludes the volatile food and energy sectors) rose by 0.2 percent in March, following a 0.1 percent uptick the prior month. Market expectations called for a 0.2 percent rise.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have."*

*Thomas Jefferson*

I hope you have found the information in this week's market summary helpful. If you would like to comment on any of the information found in this week's Market Commentary please e-mail me at [awillms@estatecounselors.com](mailto:awillms@estatecounselors.com). If you would like to discuss how current market conditions could impact your investments, please feel free to call me at the number listed below.

Best regards,

***Andy***

Andrew J. Willms, J.D. LL.M.  
Estate Counselors, LLC  
414 N. Main Street  
Thiensville, WI 53092  
Phone (262) 238-6996  
Fax (262) 238-6999  
[awillms@estatecounselors.com](mailto:awillms@estatecounselors.com)  
[www.estatecounselors.com](http://www.estatecounselors.com)

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