

TWO MINUTE DRILL

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LakePointe Advisors LLC

SEPTEMBER 2023

Index	8/31/2023	Change	% Change	% YTD
Dow Jones Industrial Average	34,721.91	-168.33	-0.48%	4.75%
S&P 500	4,507.66	-7.21	-0.16%	17.40%
NASDAQ Composite	14,034.97	15.66	0.11%	34.09%
Russell 2000	1,899.68	-3.54	-0.19%	7.86%
MSCI EAFE	2,109.16	-8.24	-0.39%	8.50%
MSCI Emerging Market	980.33	-7.98	-0.81%	2.50%

Source: FactSet. All performance percentages are simple appreciation, which excludes the effect of dividends. Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate displays as actual YTD%, as opposed to 12-month, year-over-year performance

TOP NEWS

Markets:

- The S&P 500 fell 1.59% in August, its first monthly decline since February. The Nasdaq 100 fell by 1.62%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average declined by 2.36%. Energy was the one gainer of the eleven S&P Dow Jones Indices in August.

Government:

- Credit rating agency Fitch downgraded the U.S. government's credit rating from AAA to AA+ at the beginning of August. The downgrade was due in part to the high/growing debt burden.

Economy:

- Inflation continued to decline in July. Relative to a year ago, inflation was expected to increase 3.3% but only increased 3.2%. This most likely reduces the need for a September rate increase.



FEATURED TIPS

Live Well-Retire Better

- What does that mean? It means that saving for a comfortable retirement doesn't have to come at the expense of enjoying the pleasures of life while you're working.
 - Did you know that according to the CDC, as of 2021, life expectancy in the United States is 76.1 years.
 - Assuming retirement at age 67, why deny yourself a happy, full life for 67 years to afford some luxury in retirement that may only last for 9 years?
 - My Mission is to help my clients realize a future that is bigger than their past. But we all know that tomorrow isn't promised to anyone. Therefore, I also believe that a person can both enjoy the comforts of life AND plan for a comfortable retirement.
 - With commitment, discipline and a plan, I think we can do both.
- But how? For starters:
 - Eliminate debt
 - Minimize taxes
 - Invest wisely

If you'd like to learn more, go to <https://www.lakepointeadvisors.com/post/live-well-retire-better>

DISCLOSURES:

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Investors cannot invest directly in indexes. The performance of any index is not indicative of the performance of any investment and does not take into account the effects of inflation and the fees and expenses associated with investing.

The Russell 2000 is a stock market index measuring the performance of 2000 small capitalization stocks. It represents the 2000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index, which in turn represents the 3000 largest companies in the U.S. Thus, the Russell 2000 is a barometer of small-cap stocks. Though small, the companies represented by the Russell 2000 are not the smallest of the small as they are not penny stocks. The Russell 2000 is weighted by the market capitalization of the stocks.

The MSCI EAFE Index is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets (Europe, Australasia, Far East) excluding the U.S. and Canada. The Index is market-capitalization weighted.

The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is designed to measure equity market performance in global emerging markets. It is a float-adjusted market capitalization index.

Before deciding whether to retain assets in a 401(k) or roll over to an IRA, an investor should consider various factors including, but not limited to, investment options, fees and expenses, services, withdrawal penalties, protection from creditors and legal judgments, required minimum distributions and possession of employer stock. Please view the Investor Alerts section of the FINRA website for additional information.



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