



WEEKLY UPDATE | March 27, 2026



U.S. & World News

The conflict in Iran continues to rage on, entering its 28th day today. Negotiations are taking place between the United States and Iran indirectly through mediators in Pakistan. The United States presented a 15-point plan to end hostilities of which it was at least partially rejected with Iran demanding war reparations and ownership rights in the Strait of Hormuz. The Strait of Hormuz is in international waters and Iran has not held control over it and any attempt to do so or collect tolls would likely be met with international outrage, as of now it has been reported that two vessels that have passed through the Strait of Hormuz have paid tolls. President Trump has said that he believes the Iranian government is now negotiating in good faith and has delayed some US military operations for the next 10-days stating, "Talks are ongoing and, despite erroneous statements to the contrary by the Fake News Media, and others, they are going very well." Today in Paris while meeting with European allies, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said that the United States did not need ground troops to succeed in the war in Iran and that it would end within weeks rather than months. There are also proposals coming out of European countries to escort tankers through the Strait of Hormuz after hostilities die down.



Markets

- Equity markets fell this week. The S&P 500 lost -2.10% and closed at 6,368. The Dow fell -0.90% and closed at 45,166. The year to date returns for the S&P 500 and the Dow are -6.70% and -5.65%, respectively.
- Bond markets fell this week as yields moved higher resulting in a -0.12% loss for the US Aggregate Bond Index. The year to date return for the US Aggregate Bond Index is -0.71%.
- The yield on 2-year treasuries rose slightly to 3.90% and the yield on 10-year treasuries rose this week also to 4.43%.
- The spot price of WTI Crude Oil rose 1.62% this week and closed at \$99.95/barrel. Oil this year so far has risen 74.03%
- The spot price of Gold rose 0.37% this week to close at \$4,508.91/ounce. So far this year gold has risen 4.39%.



Economic Data

- Initial Jobless claims came in slightly higher than expected at 210,000 compared to a median analyst expectation of 209,000. Last week's reading was 205,000
- Consumer Sentiment came in lower than expected at 53.3 for March compared to the median analyst estimate of 54.0. February's sentiment reading was 56.6.
- Nonfarm productivity came in slightly lower than expected for Q4 2025 at 1.8% the median analyst estimate called for a 1.9% increase.

Fact of the Week

LUCKY 11S. Since 2005, 21% of teams with an 11-seed in the NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament have advanced to the Sweet 16. That's a higher percentage than the 7-,8-,9-, and 10-seeds and equal to the percentage of 6-seeds. Five 11-seeds have even made it to the Final Four, most recently NC State in 2024.

(Source: Sportico)

Questions?

Your Wealth Management team is here to answer.

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