

## May 2022 Review of the Markets

Hello Joseph,

Markets ended relatively flat this month, with many weeks seeing further volatility due to inflation and the continuing conflict in Ukraine. Although higher oil prices led to an advance in commodity markets, Real estate trailed to become the worst performing class, and the U.S. economy suffered a 1.5% contraction overall. Energy, utilities, and financials were this month's leading sectors.

The team at [Myriad Private Wealth](#) has created this brief May 2022 recap to show you what has been going on in the markets.

### Month of May in Review

#### **S&P TSX**

After starting off the month with its worst day since Nov. 30th last year, S&P TSX ended the month by taking a modest loss of **0.16%**. This comes as a definite improvement from last month's loss of 5.15%, and leaves the index relatively stable when compared to U.S. markets. S&P TSX's year-to-date is now **-2.33%**.

#### **DOW JONES**

After a tough April and a rocky -3.12% day to start the month, Dow Jones stabilized somewhat in May, gaining **0.04%** by the month's end. This gives it a **-9.21** year to date, bringing an end to its eight-week stretch of decline.

#### **S&P 500**

Saved from an overall loss by gaining 6.58% at the very end of the month, the S&P 500 was up **0.01%** in May, bringing its YTD return up a notch to **-13.30%**. Performance across the index's sectors was fairly mirrored to that of the S&P TSX.

#### **NASDAQ**

While the Dow and S&P markets remained somewhat stable, NASDAQ Composite fell once again during May, ending at a **3.46%** loss. This brings it to a **-22.88** YTD. Zoom Communications dropped to a 70% 12-month loss, and the gradual return of employees from home office continues to spell a difficult period for many other tech based companies.

#### **MARKET STATISTICS**

Commodities saw a rather divided month, with natural gas and crude oil gaining **12.4%** and **9.5%** respectively, but copper dipping **2.3%**, silver **5.9%**, and gold **3.6%**.

Year-over-year inflation rates rose once more as predicted, reaching their highest point since 1991 in Canada at **6.8%**, and continuing upwards in the U.S. at **8.3%**.

Canada's unemployment rate sunk somewhat to **5.2%**, with that of the U.S. remaining unchanged at **3.6%**, and both countries had a Q1 GDP change of **3.1%** and **-1.5%** respectively.

When it comes to currency, exchange rates for the month ended agreeably. The USD into the CAD remained quite stable with a small dip to **1.26**, with the Euro into CAD falling to a similar level at **1.36** and the GBP being worth **1.59** CAD. On the other hand, the CAD itself rose somewhat sharply in relation to the JPY, resting at 1 CAD to **101.71** Yen.

### ***LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE***

With the unstable nature of previous months, it appears unlikely that investors will find calm waters coming into June with the Federal Reserve's anti-inflation measures continuing to intensify. Most indexes have already become or are close to becoming bear markets, despite this platonic May, and as such patience, research, and careful thinking remain indispensable. With the correct information, you will be in a perfect position to take advantage of the situation when any opportunities do arise.

Feel free to [contact us](#) today to discuss further.

REFERENCE: [Month in Review - May 2022 \(fidelity.ca\)](#)

Thank you,

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