



March Market Update

Cameron Dawson, CFA

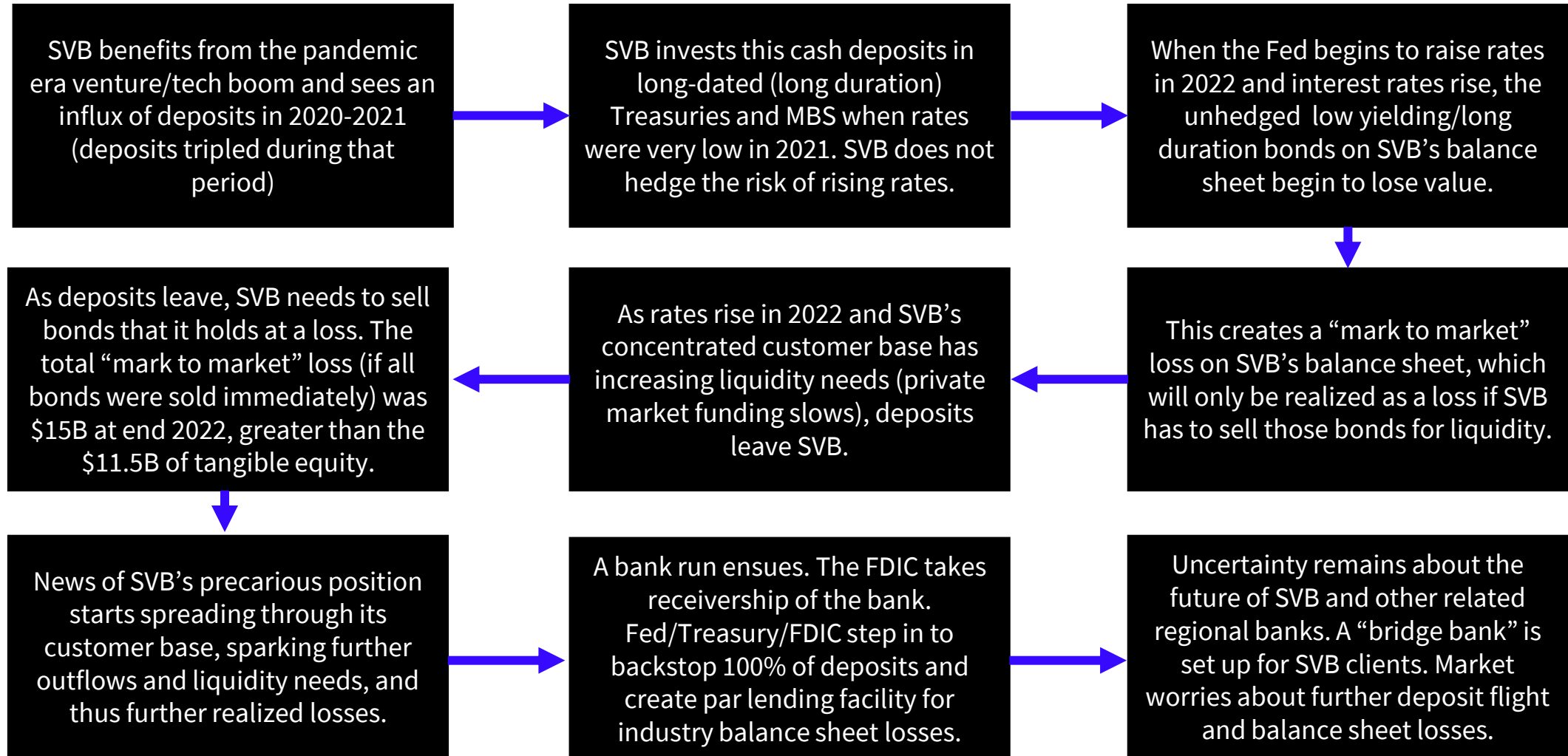
Chief Investment Officer

March 17, 2023

Well, that escalated quickly...

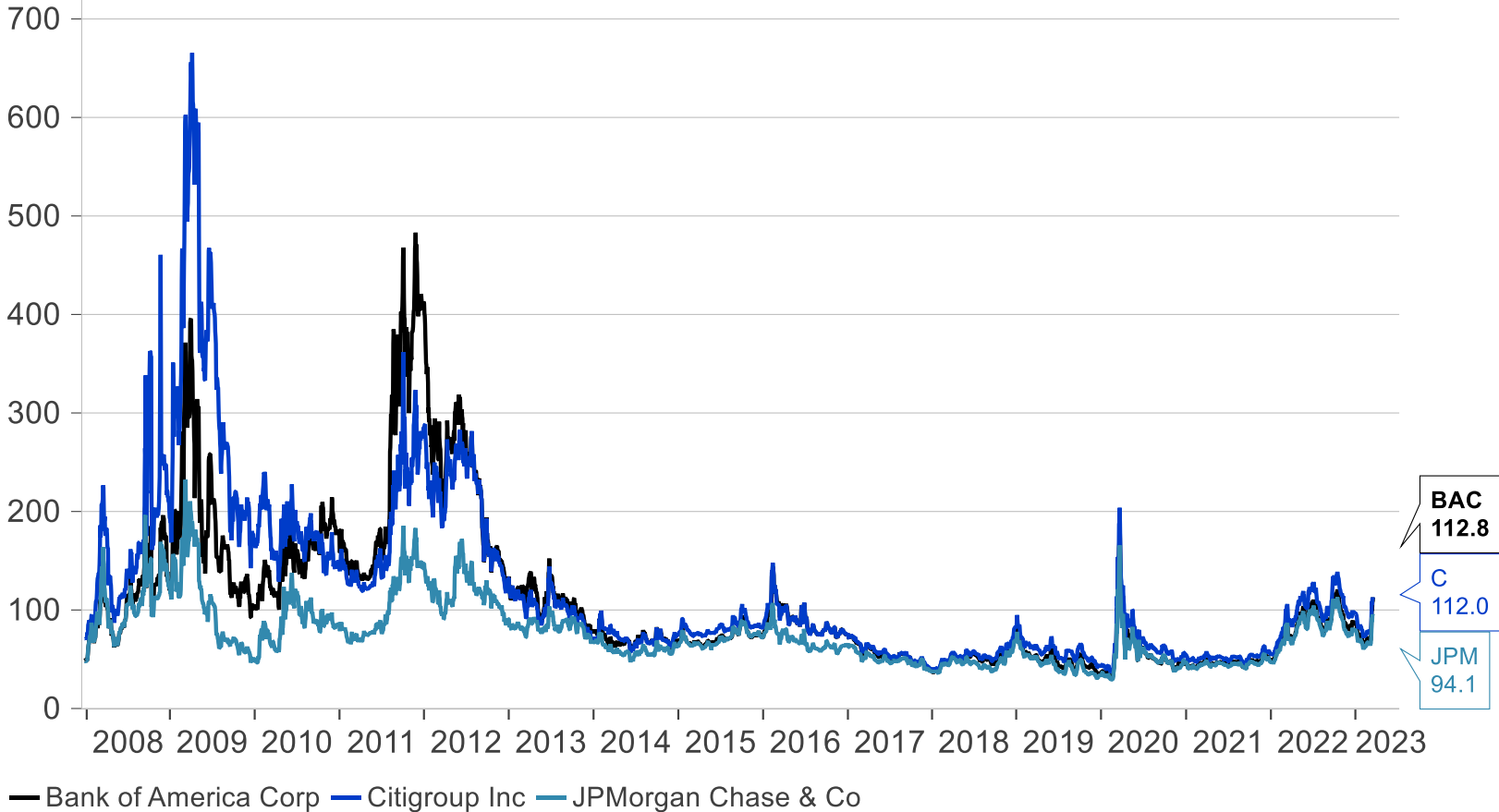
SVB's Collapse and the Fallout

What Happened at SVB?



The Fallout: Large Bank CDS Widening, But Still Below October 2022

Large Bank Credit Default Swaps Widen, But Well Below GFC



Credit Default Swaps (CDS, cost to insure against default) have jumped post SVB for large banks.

Note CDS remain below their October 2022 peaks and well below the Great Financial Crisis highs (when large banks were far more precarious with weak balance sheets, credit issues, excessive leverage, etc.)

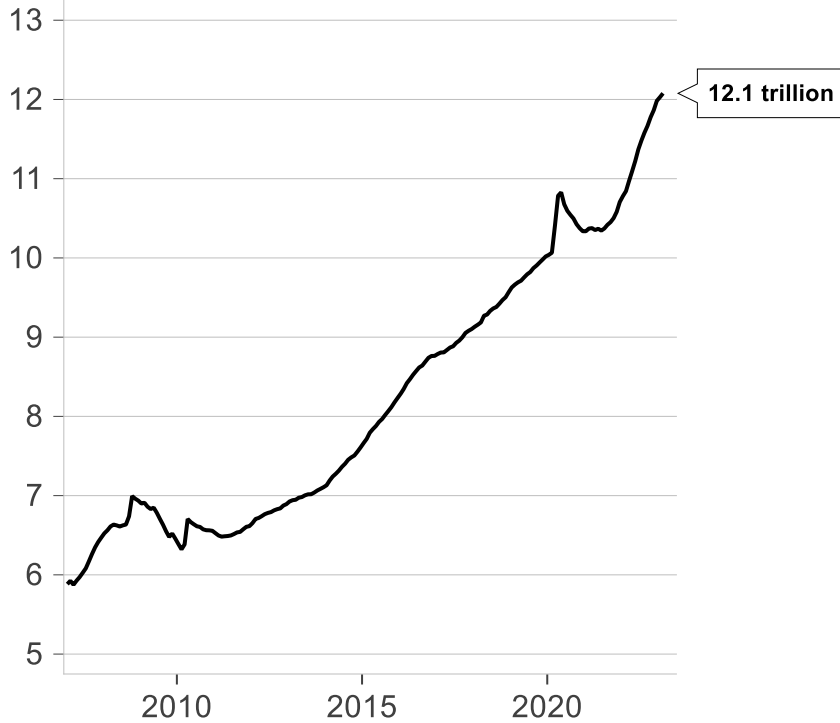
Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

The Fallout: Watch Commercial Bank Loan Growth to Impact the Economy

Total Commercial Bank Loans

USD, trillion



— United States, Balance Sheet & Flows of MFI Sector, Commer...

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg Federal Reserve

Total Commercial Bank Loan Growth YoY %



— United States, Balance Sheet & Flows of MFI Sector, Commer...

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg Federal Reserve

As of February 2023

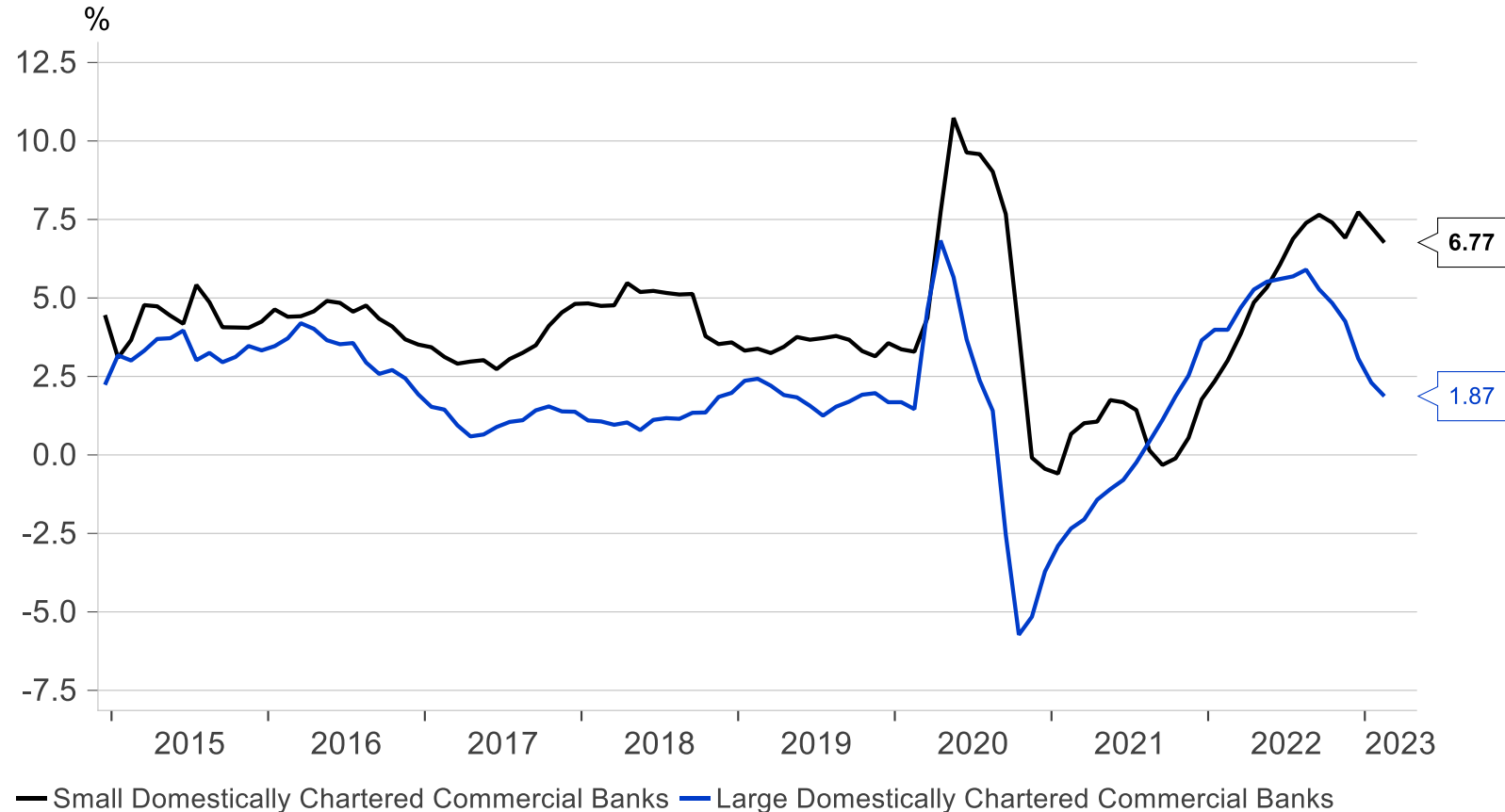
In response to the SVB events, will we see banks pull back on lending, which would have a chilling effect on economic growth?

It is important to note that loan growth and balances remained robust in 2022, despite higher rates.

This is typical during tightening cycles- loan growth and volumes typically lag rate hikes and are more sensitive economic growth and its underlying drivers like employment and corporate profits.

Large Banks Have Already Been Pulling Back on Lending

Large and Small Bank Loan Growth (6 month change)



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg Federal Reserve

As of February 2023

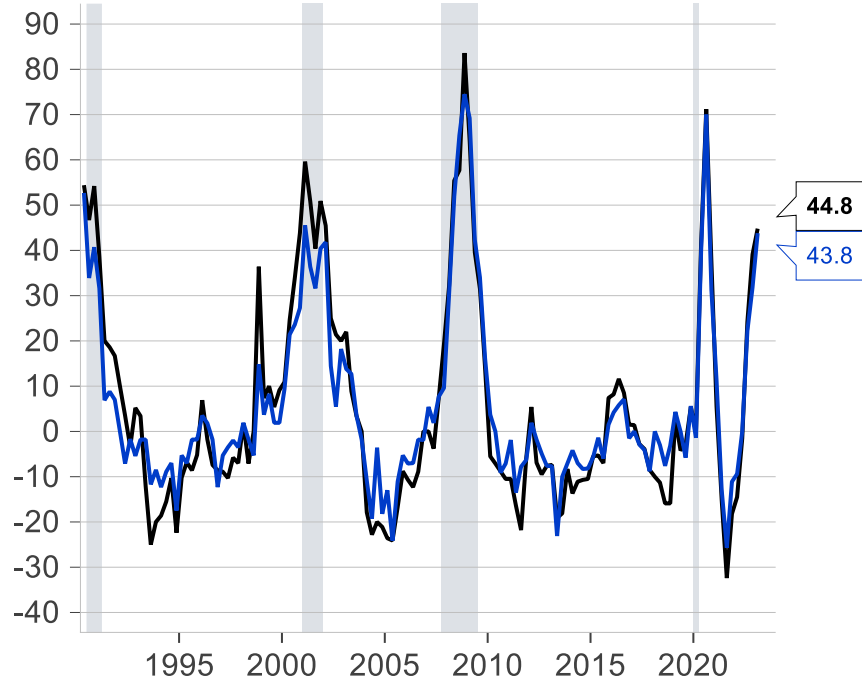
Large banks have been slowing loan growth in recent months, while small banks have maintained a brisk pace of loan growth.

This small banks loan growth is likely to slow given recent events.

As of February 2023, total Loans and Leases for large banks was \$6.5 trillion vs. \$4.5 trillion for small banks (Federal Reserve data).

Loan Standards Have Been Tightening Since 2022

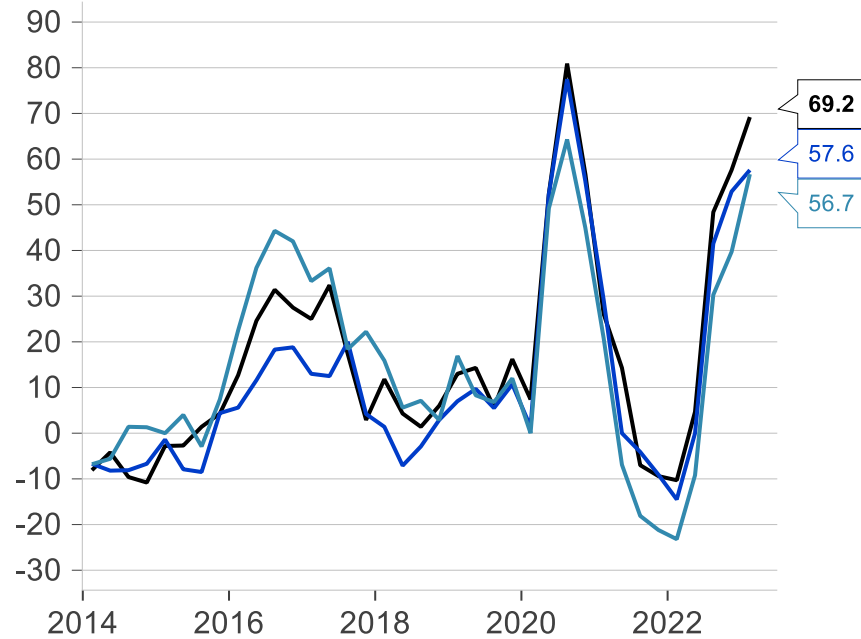
Net % of Domestic Respondents Tightening Standards - C&I Loans



— Net % of Domestic Respondents Tightening Standards - C&I L...
 — Net % of Domestic Respondents Tightening Standards for C&I...

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Tightening Loan Standards for Commerical Real Estate (%)



— Tightening Standards for Construction and Land Development...
 — Tightening Standards for Loans Secured by Nonfarm Nonresid...
 — Tightening Standards for Loans Secured by Multifamily Reside...

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

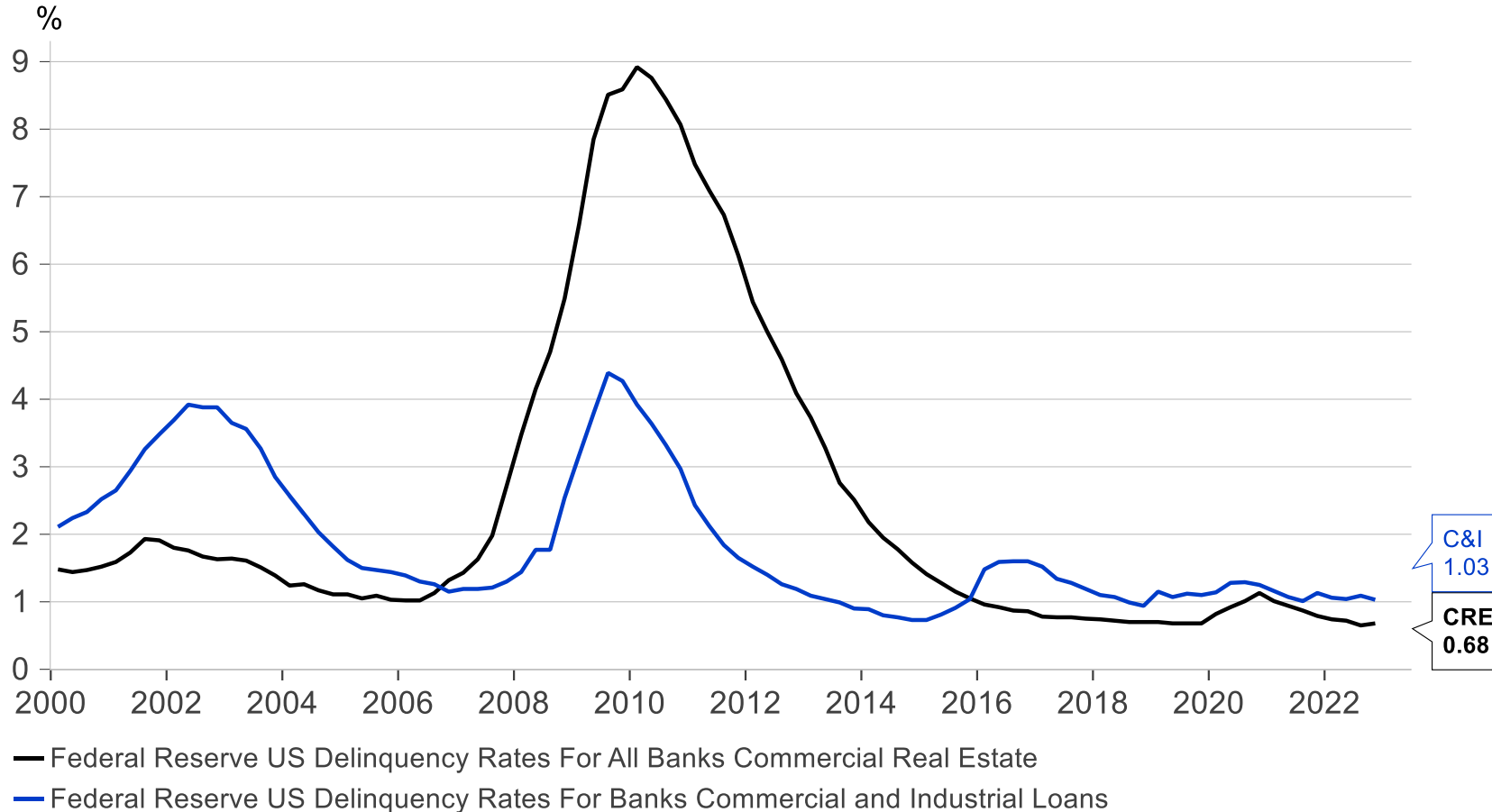
The Senior Loan Officer Survey has shown an increasing percentage of respondents say that loan standards are tightening for both Commercial & Industrial and Commercial Real Estate in 2022.

These tightening standings did not cause loan growth to slow in 2022, but it is interesting to note that the % reporting tighter standards has reached levels typically seen during prior recessions.

As of February 2023

Business Loan Delinquencies Remain Low (but lag tightening cycles)

Delinquency Rates for Commercial Real Estate and Commercial & Industrial



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 4Q22

Despite fears of weakness in businesses given higher rates, as of 4Q22 we have yet to see a meaningful uptick in delinquencies.

We will watch this closely for signs of stress, but note that delinquencies tend to be a lagging indicator.

We are seeing an uptick in bankruptcy filings, with the most bankruptcies filed YTD since 2009.

For Real-time Stress, Watch Credit Spreads

Credit Spreads Pop in Response to Financial Volatility

High Yield and Investment Grade (Baa) Credit Spreads



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg
As of 3/17/23

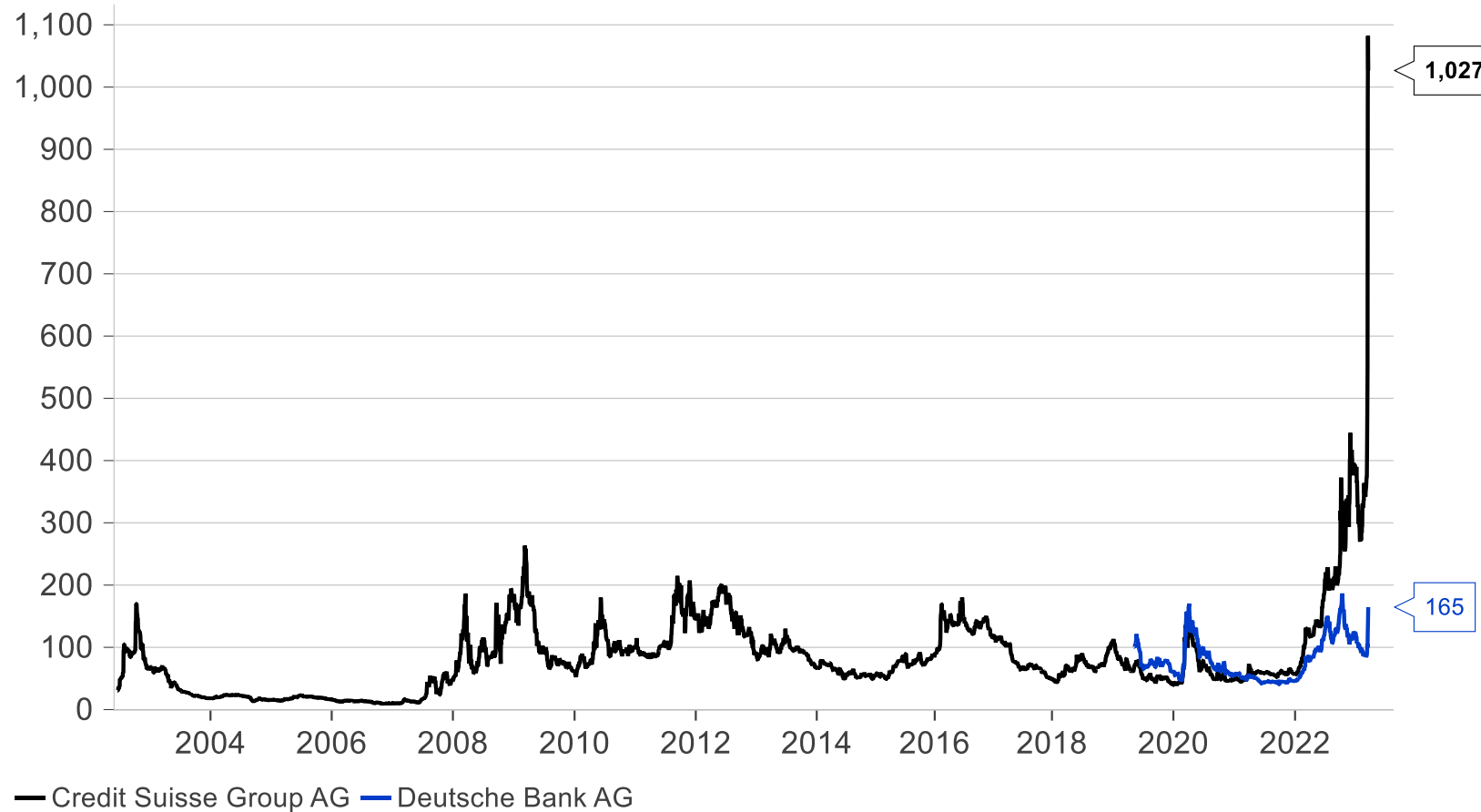
Delinquency rates may lag, but credit spreads on High Yield and Investment Grade provide a more real-time indicator of funding stress.

After being incredibly subdued in 2H22 and early 2023, despite recession fears, credit spreads have now moved higher for both high yield and investment grade in response to SVB.

Both remain well below prior peaks of financial stress (2008, 2016, 2018, 2020).

What About Credit Suisse?

Credit Suisse Group and Deutsche Bank CDS



Credit Suisse came under pressure last week and required intervention/liquidity support from the Swiss National Bank.

We have seen some widening of credit default swaps (CDS) for other European banks, however not to an extreme level that would suggest contagion at this time.

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

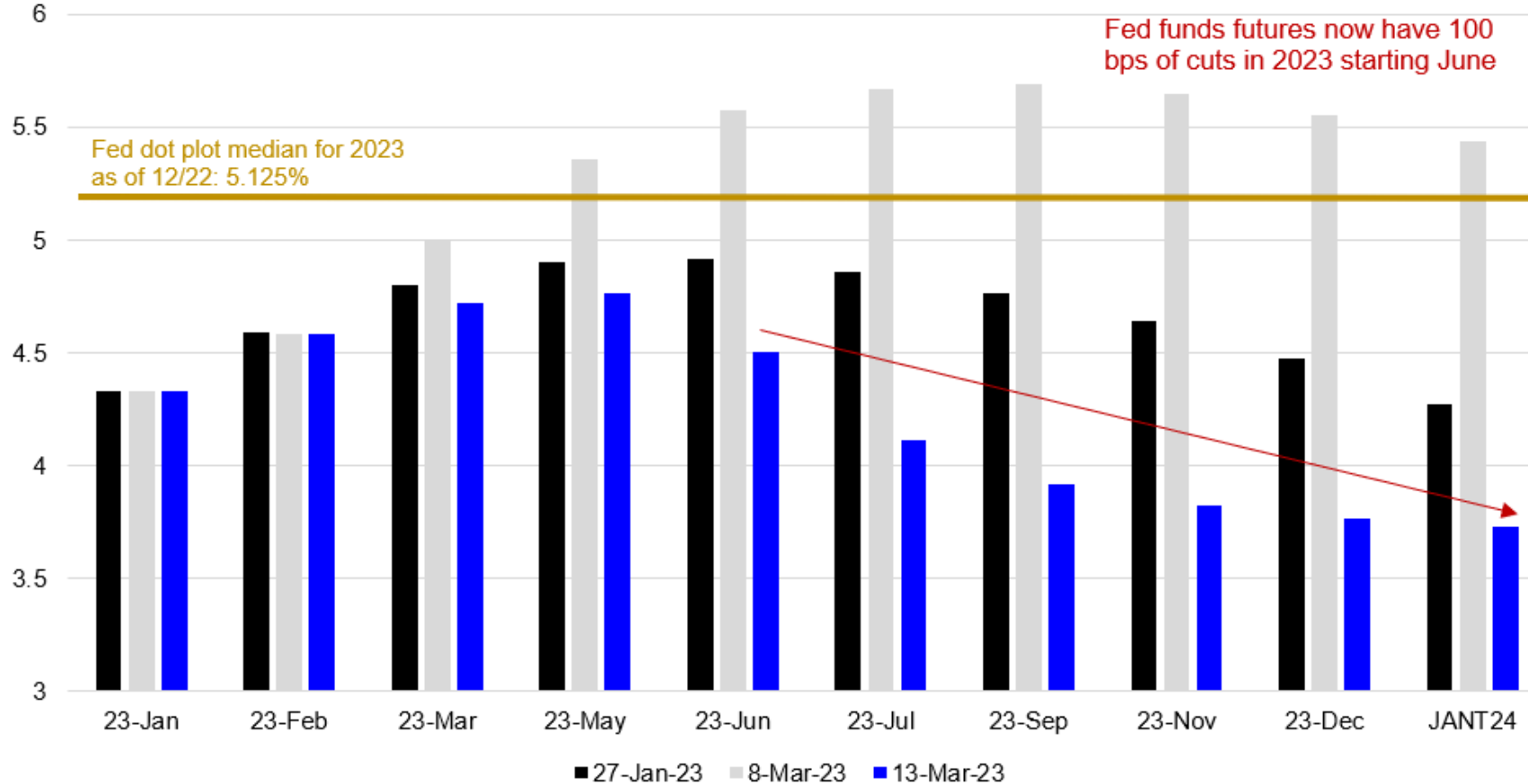
Volt-face:

An about face for the bond market and expectations for the Fed

The Market Expects the Fed to Pivot (again)

Two Incredible Repricings in 1.5 Months

Bloomberg Fed Fund Futures Pricing (WIRP)



Source: Bloomberg, NewEdge Wealth, as of 3/13/23

After pricing out cuts in response to strong economic data in February and early March, the Fed Funds futures market rapidly priced in a very different policy path in response to the SVB collapse.

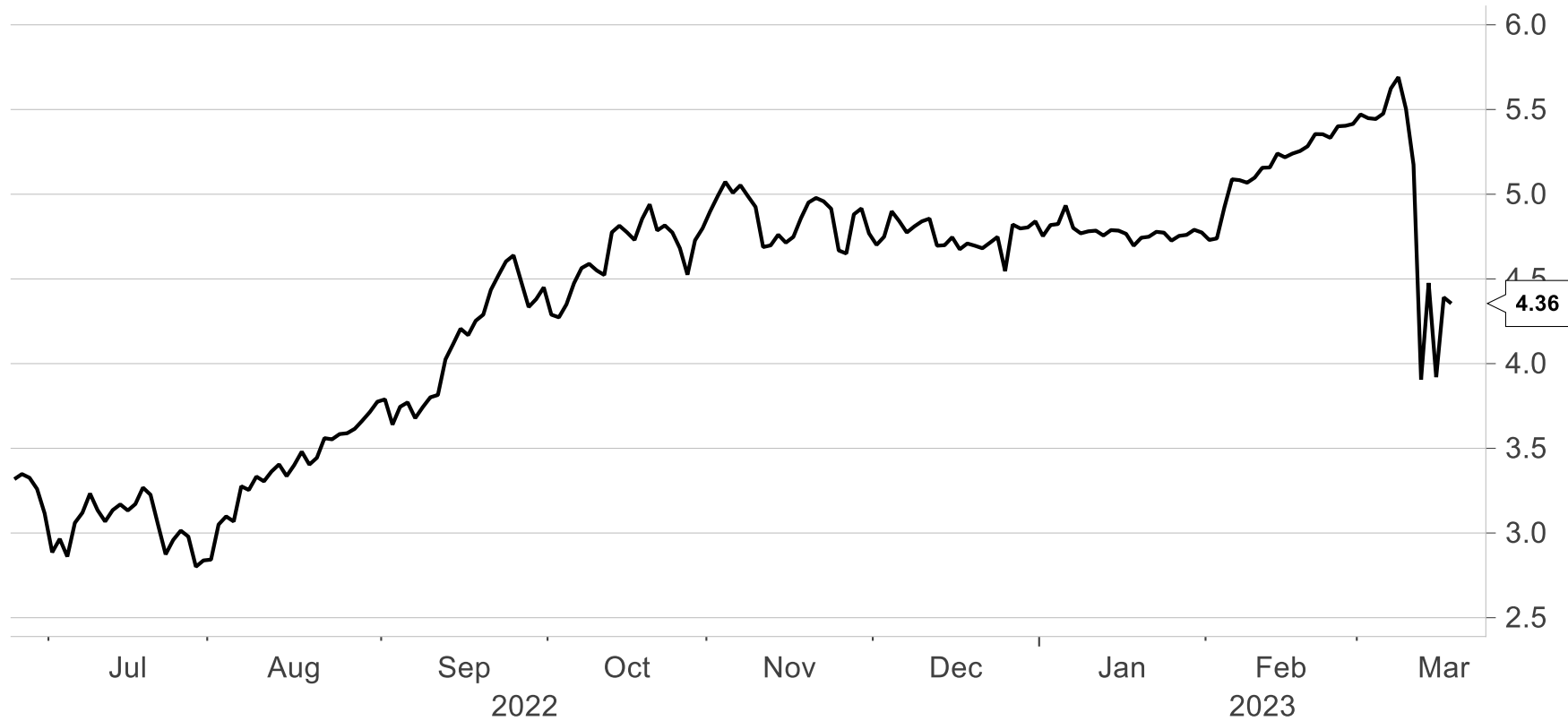
As of March 13, the market now expects the Fed to reach a terminal rate of <5% and to begin cutting rates in June 2023, with a total of 100 bps of cuts through the remainder of the year.

The market expects the Fed to prioritize financial stability over inflation fighting (assuming inflation does not fall rapidly soon).

A Stunning Unwind for Rate Hike Bets

Fed Funds Futures for September 2023

WIRP SEP23



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

Over the course of less than a week, the market has gone from expecting a 5.6% Fed Funds rate in September 2023, to just 3.8% (reflecting the expectations for rate cuts starting soon).

This implies that the market expects a combination of inflation slowing rapidly, growth slowing rapidly, and further financial market distress; all to justify the Fed pivoting to a more accommodative policy stance.

2-Year: Unprecedented Drop, Now Choppy Volatility

U.S. 2-Year Treasury Yield



The three days following the SVB fallout, 2-Year yields plummeted at the fastest pace since the 1987 market crash.

Falling 2-Year yields reflect expectations for lower Fed policy rates in the future.

Sharp movements lower in the 2-Year have often occurred during periods of pronounced market weakness in anticipation of economic disruption (the bond market begins to price in a rapid cutting cycle by the Fed to respond to a weak economy or financial market issue).

10 Year: Flight to Safety, Plus Lower Growth/Inflation

U.S. 10 Year Treasury Yield



10-Year yields are falling as well in a flight to safety (long bonds have typically performed well during weak economic and market periods; except for 2022!).

Lower yields also reflect lower inflation and growth expectations for out years.

Positioning is Amplifying This Rate Move

CFTC Net Futures Positioning, Sum of 2-Year, 5-Year, and 10-Year Treasuries



— Bloomberg CFTC CBT 10-Yr US Treasury Notes Net Non-Commercial Futures Positions+Bloomberg CFTC CBT 2-Yr US Treasury...

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

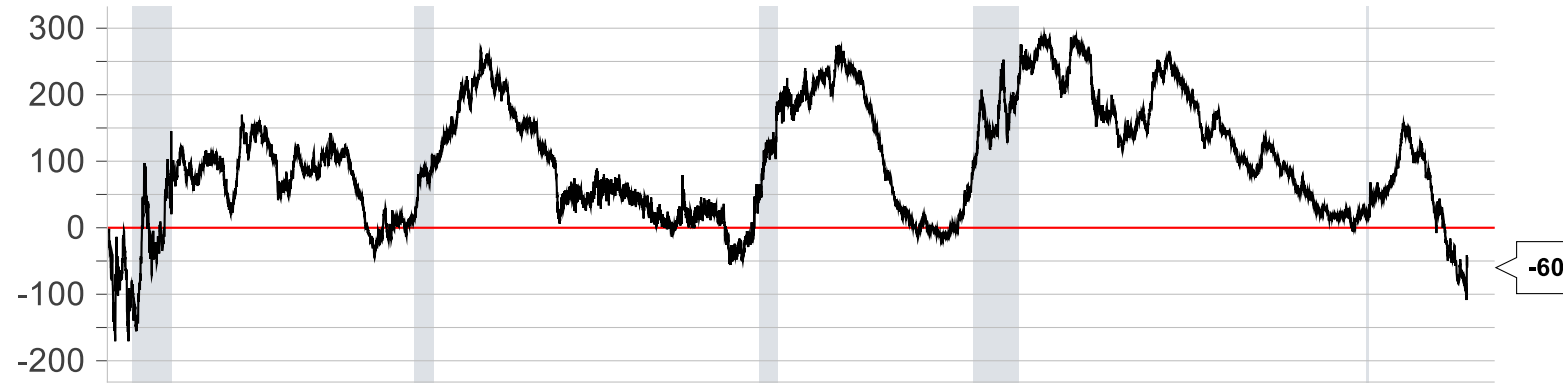
Using CFTC data (which is not a complete picture of total market positioning), traders appear to be very short Treasuries across the curve. This means that traders are positioned for yields to keep rising and bond prices to keep falling.

The movement lower in yields/higher in prices, is likely causing shorts to be covered, which is adding to the magnitude of the downside move in rates.

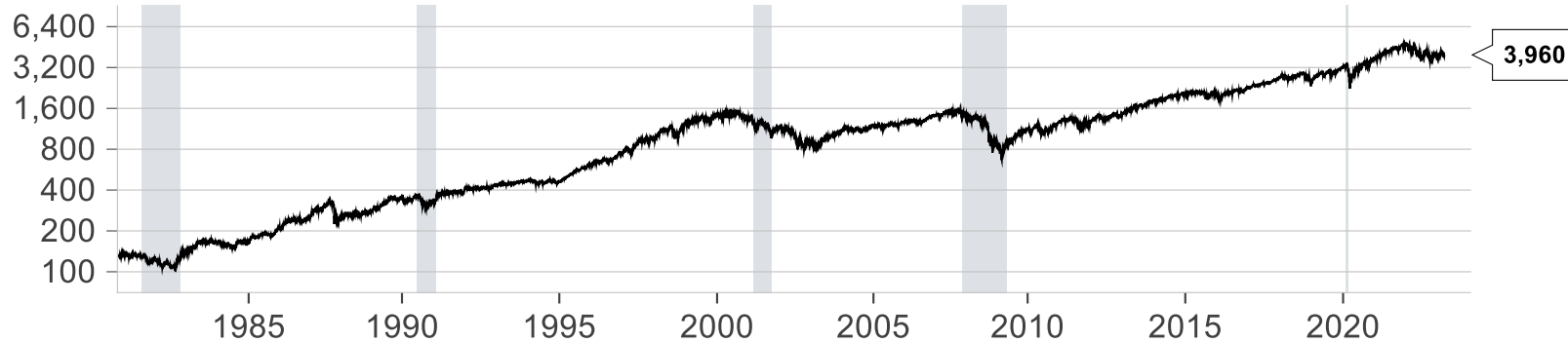
It's Not the Inversion, It's the Re-Steepening That Gets You

Re-Steepening of the Yield Curve Occurs Before Recessions Begin and Risk Assets Bottom

US Treasury 2s10s Curve (NBER Recessions Shaded)



S&P 500 (NBER Recessions Shaded)



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

As mentioned with the 2-year, a sharp drop in short-term yields signals an imminent recession and rate cuts.

This is why a re-steepening of the yield curve (when short-term yields start to drop faster than long-term yields, called a bull steepener) is a much better signal for the timing of a recession than the inversion of the curve itself.

Note that the re-steepening has typically begin before or in the early days of a recession, while risk assets have not bottomed until the re-steepening is well underway.

Serving Two Masters:

Does the Fed Prioritize Financial Stability or Price Stability?

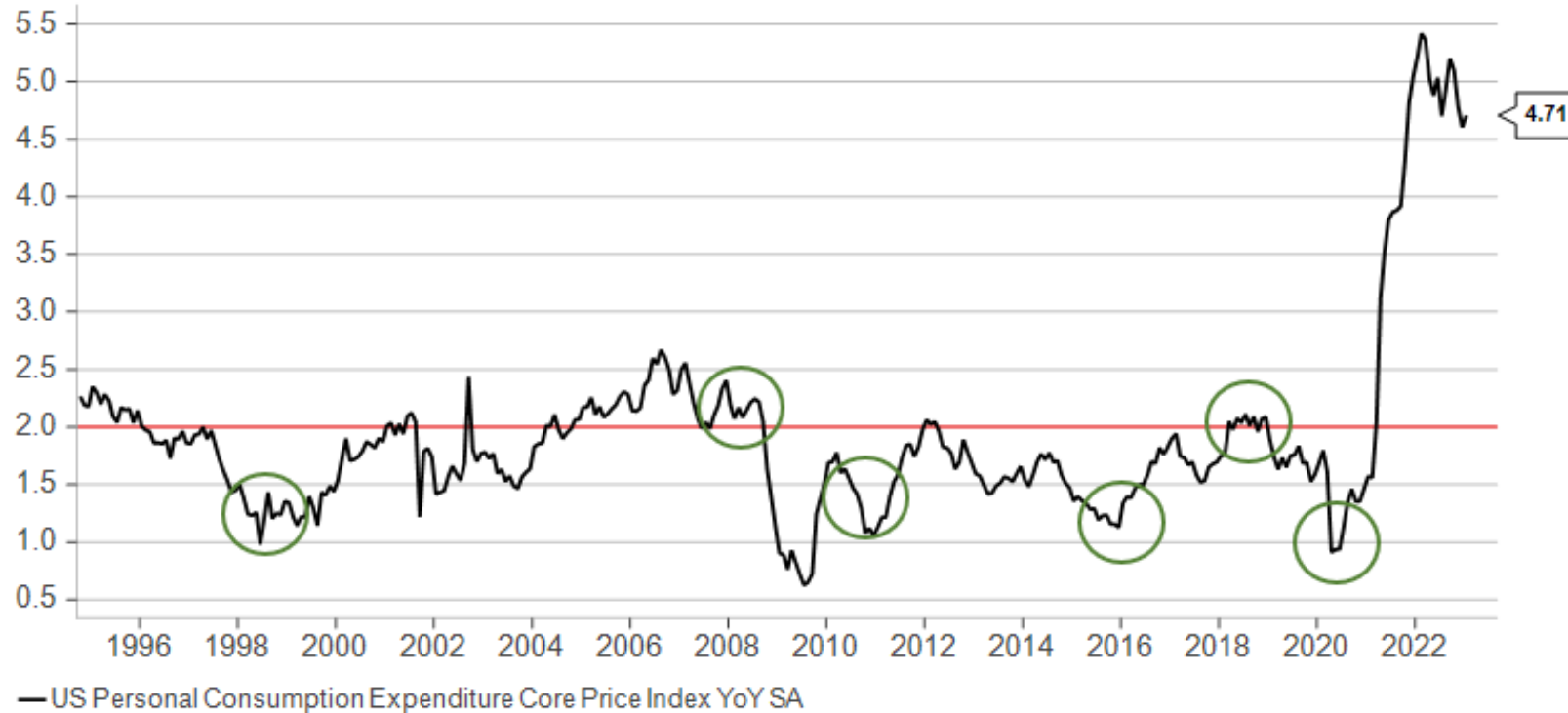
No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

Matthew 6:24

Which Master is Served: Price Stability or Market Stability?

Fed Pivots Since 1998 Had Benign Inflation Backdrop

Core PCE Inflation YoY (%), with Fed's 2% Target & Pivots Circled



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of February 2023

Every time the Fed pivoted to become more accommodative since 1998, inflation has been benign (at or below their 2% target).

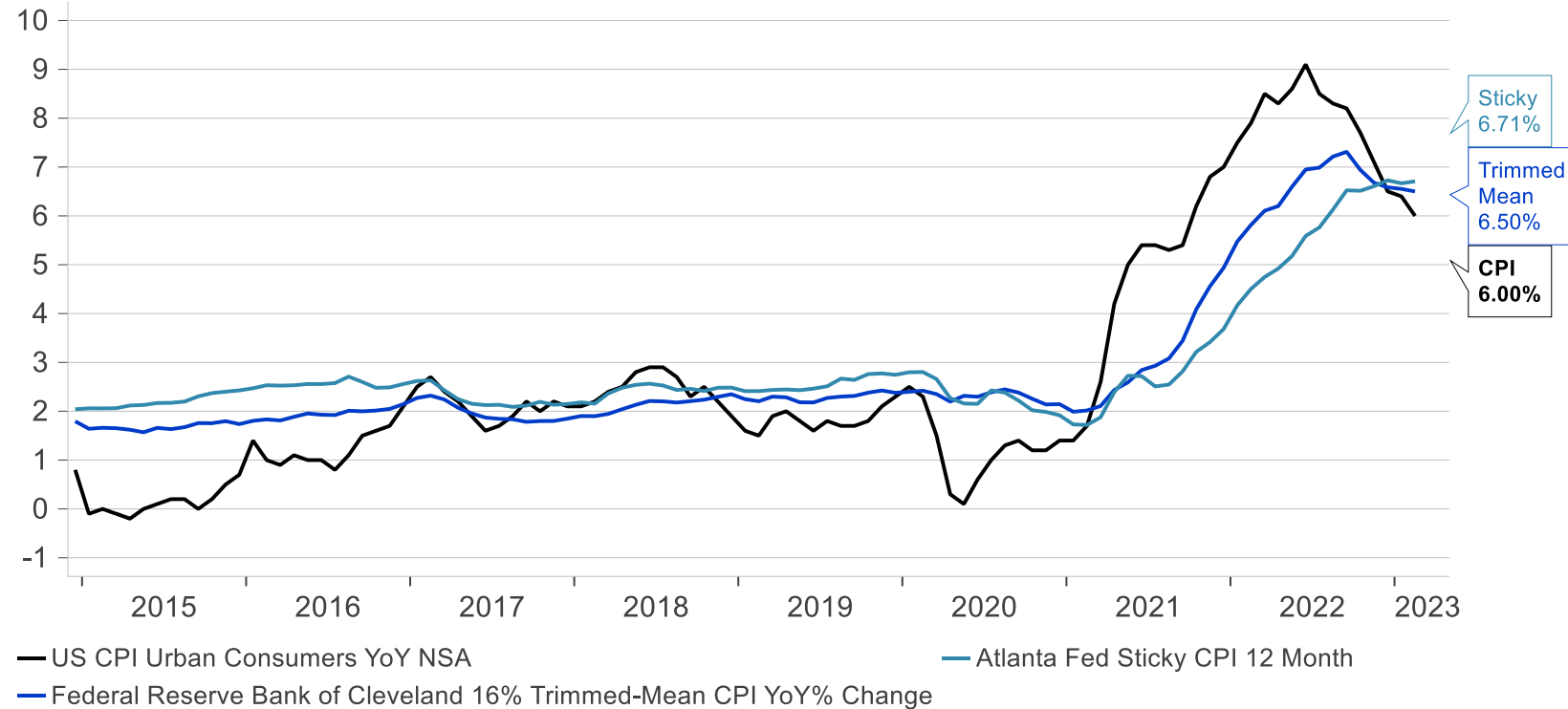
This allowed the Fed to put market stability first because it was not in an active fight against inflation.

But now that we have elevated inflation, how will the Fed handle this trade-off between fighting inflation to support price stability (but risk hurting market stability) and supporting market stability (but risk exacerbating inflation/price stability issues).

Is Inflation Still a Problem?

Inflation Peaked but Broad and Sticky Inflation Keeps Fed in the Fight

Headline CPI YoY%, Trimmed-Mean CPI YoY%, and Atlanta Fed Sticky CPI YoY%



Inflation has peaked, but inflation remains broad and sticky, with both Trimmed Mean Inflation and Sticky Inflation remaining well above the Fed's 2% target (and not falling as rapidly as the headline index).

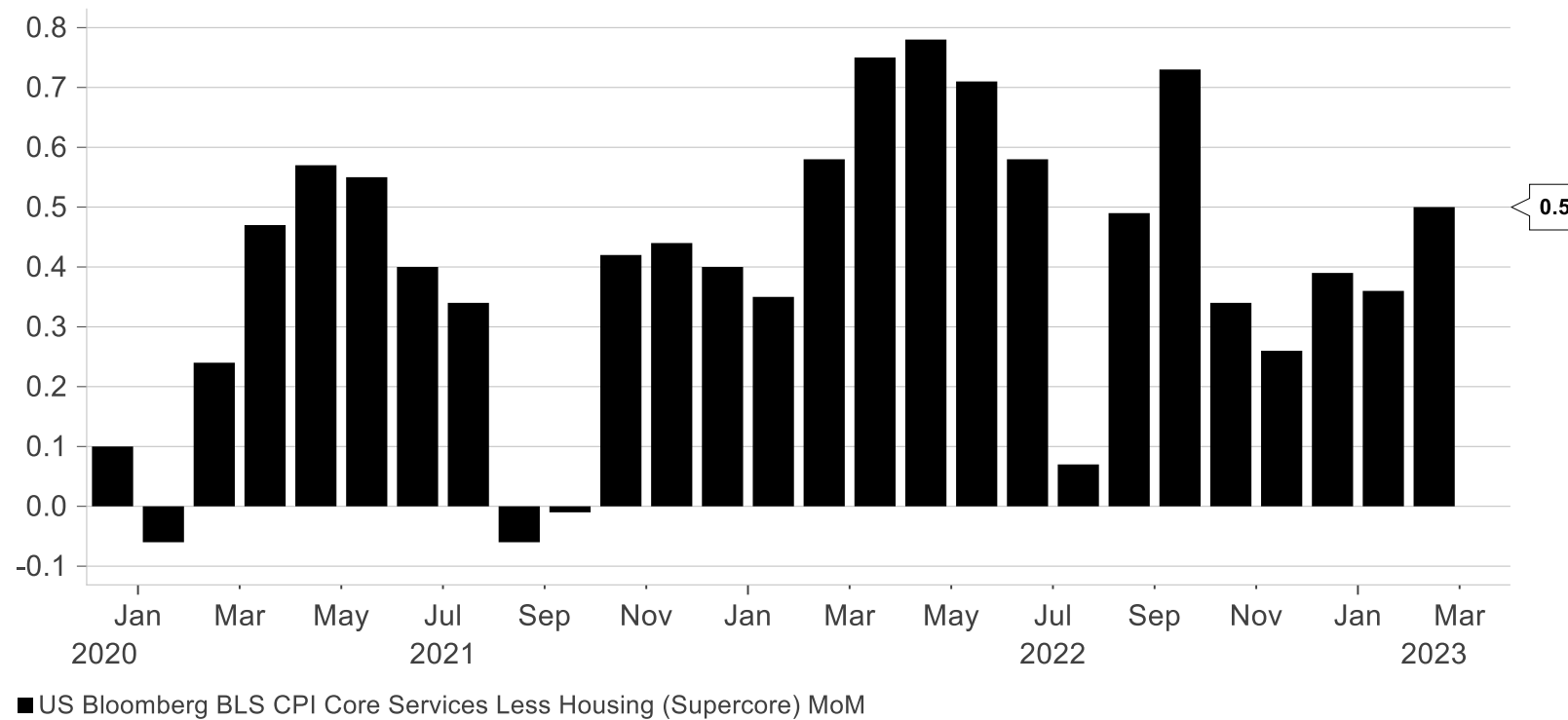
Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

February 2023

The Fed Doesn't Like to See This...

Supercore CPI MoM Goes in the Wrong Direction

US Bloomberg BLS CPI Core Services Less Housing (Supercore) MoM



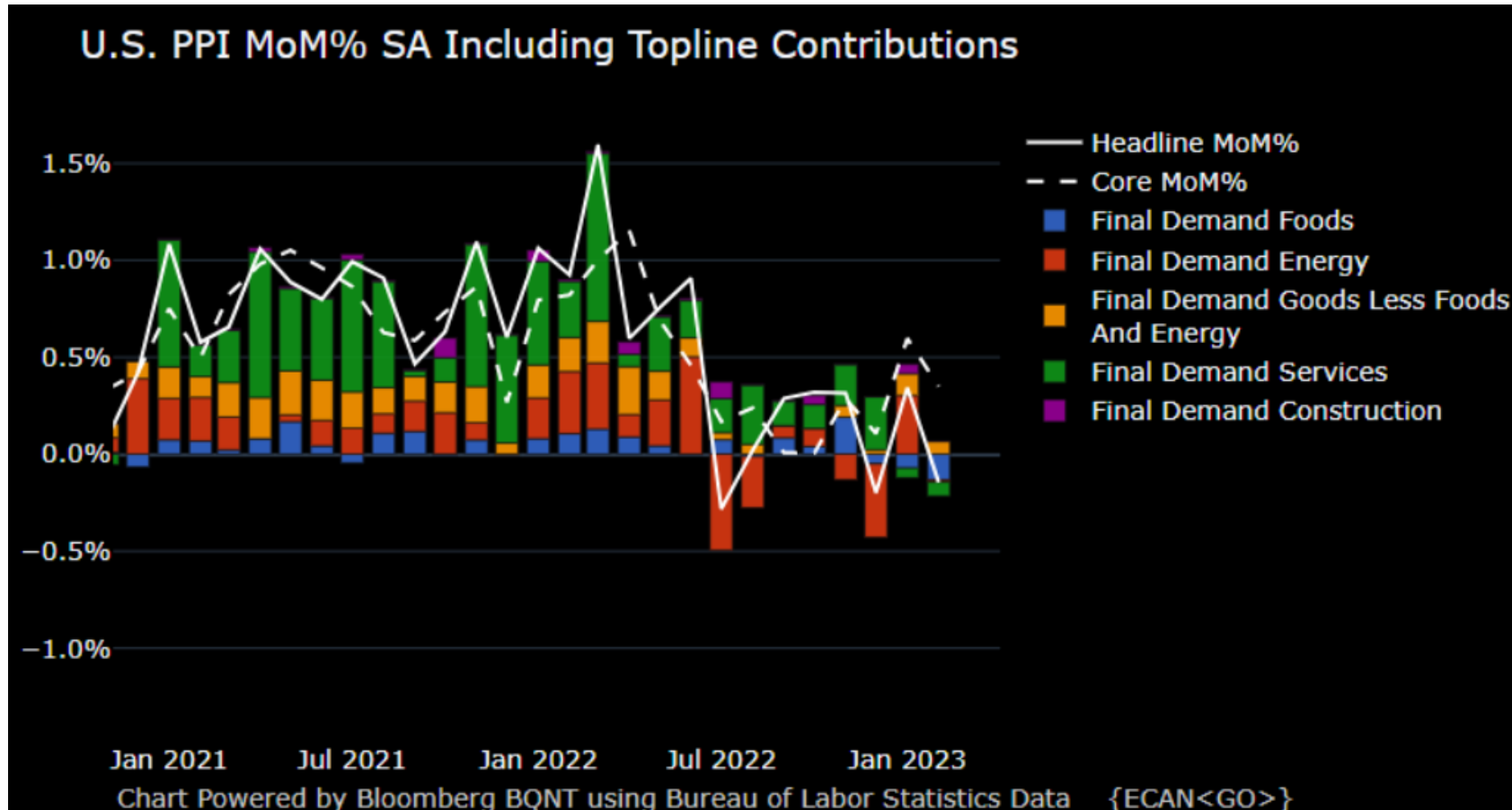
Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of February 2023

The Fed's new favorite inflation metric, Supercore CPI (Core Services Ex-Housing), expanded at a faster pace in February than it did in January.

This is not what the Fed wants to see, and likely points to the continued pressure that higher wages are having on Services inflation outside of Housing (which has well known lags).

A Sign of Relief From PPI on Wednesday



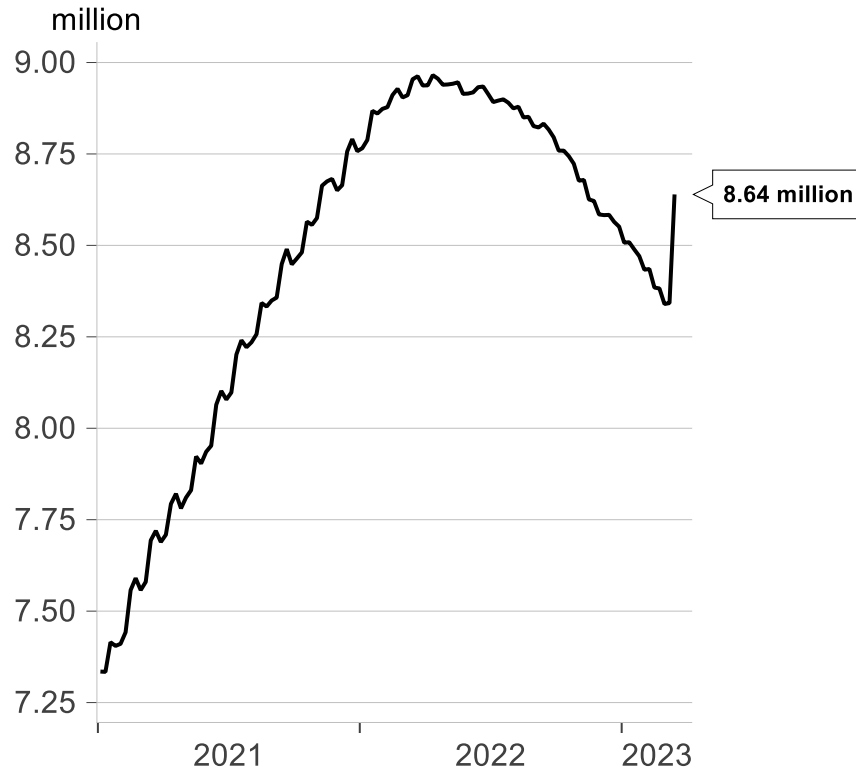
Month over Month Core Producer Price Index (PPI) fell -0.1% vs. an expected increase of +0.3%.

This lighter reading was largely driven by falling food prices (the great egg bubble is over!) but also saw low prices in Services as well.

As of February 2023

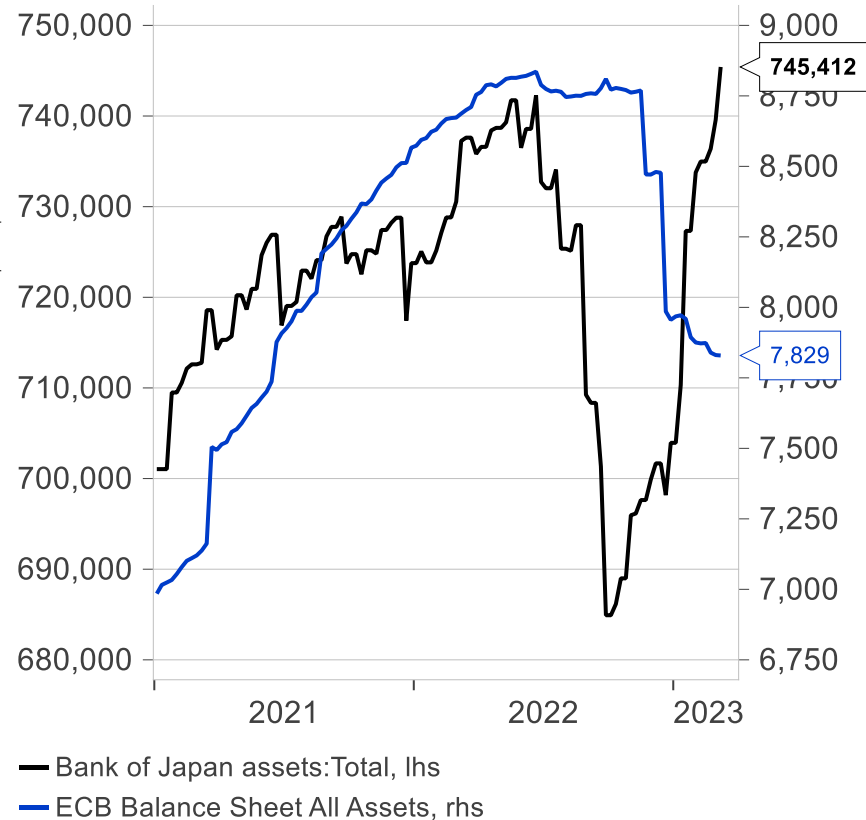
Hitting the Gas and the Brakes at the Same Time?

US Condition of All Federal Reserve Banks Total Assets



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

BOJ and ECB Balance Sheets



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

With the new facilities to support regional banks, the Fed has seen its balance sheet return to expansion.

The Bank of Japan's balance sheet has hit a new all-time high, as it has had to buy Japanese Government Bonds (JGB's) in order to defend its Yield Curve Control (YCC) policy. This buying has added liquidity into the global financial system and likely contributed to better risk asset performance in recent months.

The ECB has yet to return to balance sheet expansion.

I'm Still Standing:

Does Labor Market and Consumer Resilience Continue?

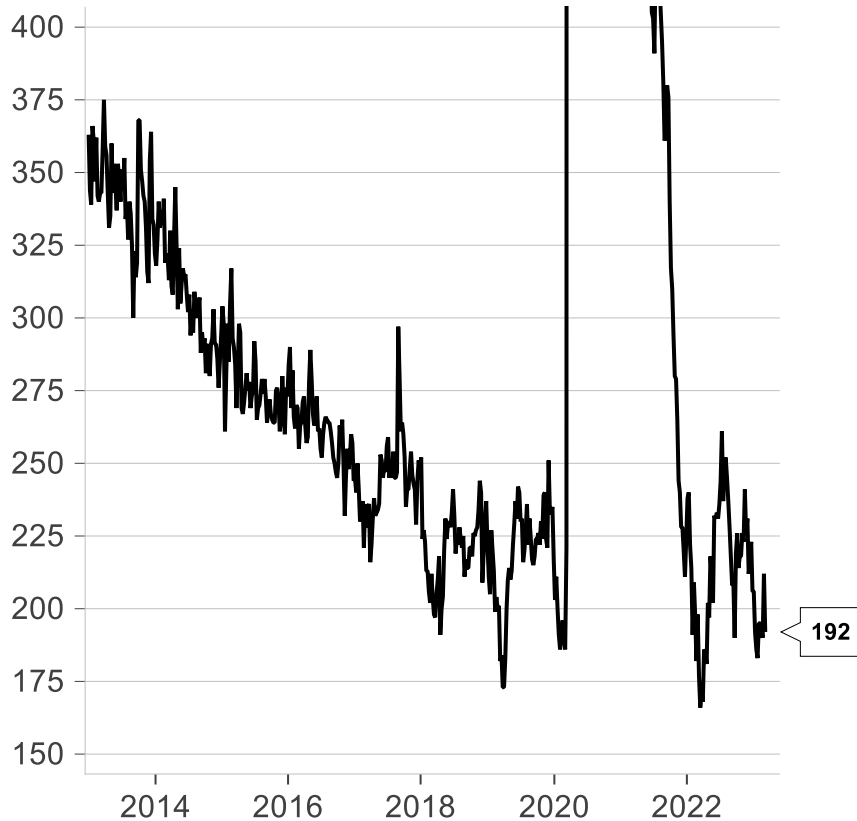
Don't you know I'm still standin' better than I ever
did?

Lookin' like a true survivor, feelin' like a little kid
And I'm still standin' after all this time
Pickin' up the pieces of my life without you on my
mind

- "I'm Still Standing", Elton John

The Job Market is Still Tight

US Initial Jobless Claims SA



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

US Job Openings By Industry Total SA



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Despite lay-off headlines, initial jobless claims remain subdued and near prior cycle lows (tight labor market in 2018 and 2019).

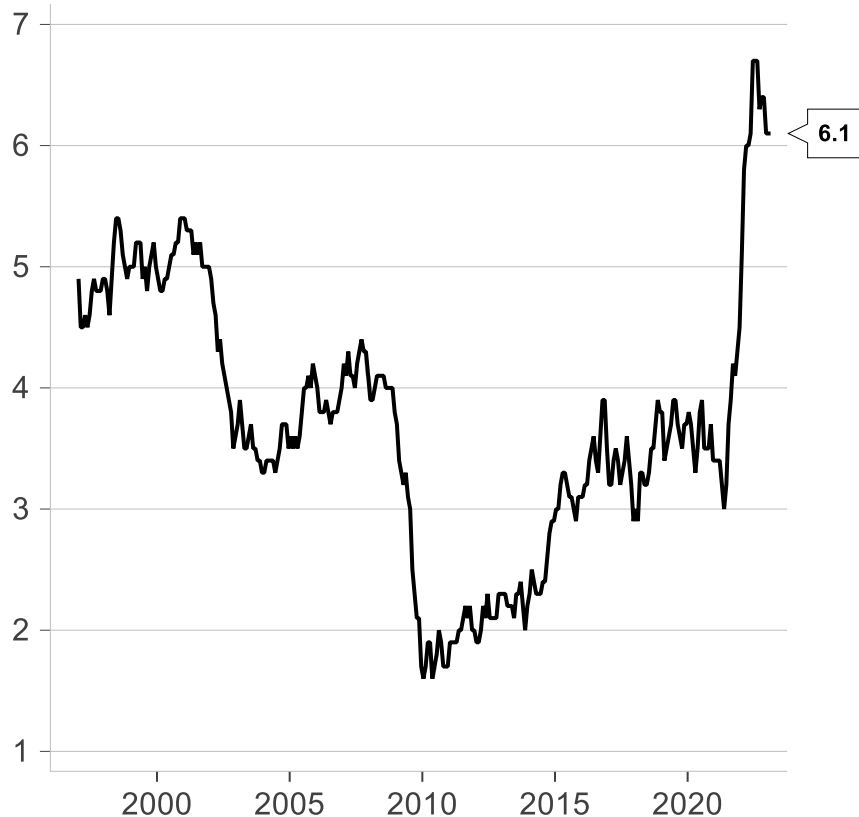
This resilience could be due to:

- 1) job openings remaining elevated (so laid off workers may be able to find new jobs quickly)
- 2) “labor hoarding” after so much trouble hiring in the past few years
- 3) Many of the announced lay-offs don’t get enacted until 2Q23 (this could mean that we start to see higher claims starting in April)

As of 3/17/23

And Wage Growth is Still Strong (Though Slowing)

Atlanta Fed Wage Growth Tracker Overall



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

US Real Average Weekly Earnings (YoY %)



— US Real Average Weekly Earnings 1982-1984 USD YoY SA

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

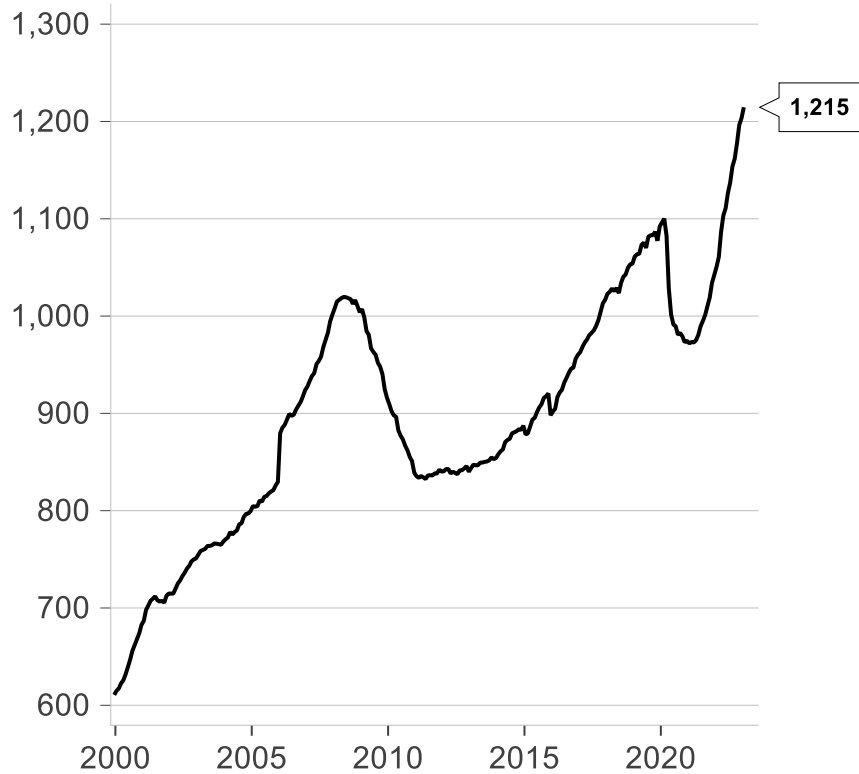
Wage growth remains elevated, though could slow if job switching slows, or the labor market loosens.

As inflation moderates from the 2022 peak, we are seeing real earnings growth recover. This is helping consumer sentiment and supporting continued consumer spending as purchasing power improves.

As of 3/17/23

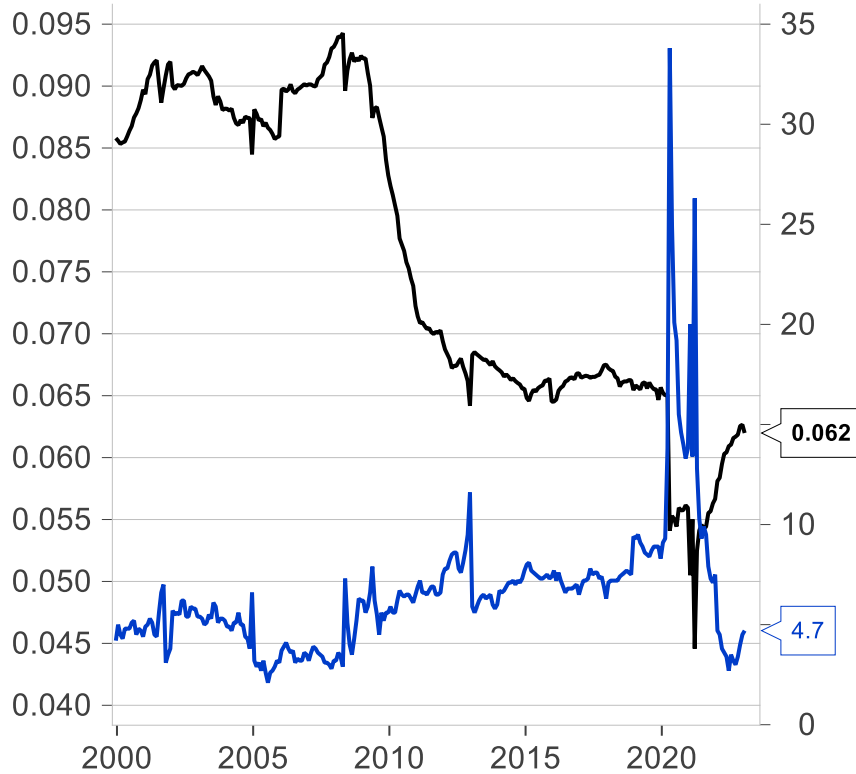
Are Consumers Stretched?

Federal Reserve Consumer Credit Outstanding Amount Revolving SA



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Consumer Revolving Credit as a % of Disposable Income



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Credit card balances have surged to a new all-time high, but remain low as a % of disposable income.

Note that Savings as % of disposable income are also ticking higher. This could be due to some caution by consumers, plus improving real wage growth.

On Wednesday we did see a decline in February retail sales, after a very strong January.

As of 3/17/23

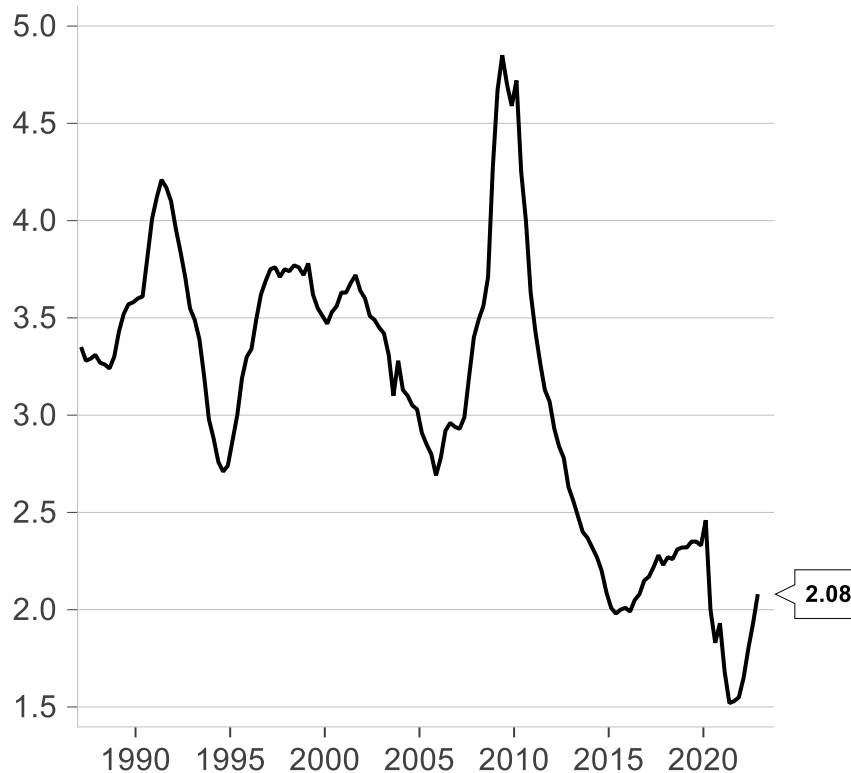
Interest Rates Starting to Pinch, But Delinquencies Remain Low

Credit Card Interest Rate %



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Federal Reserve US Delinquency Rates For All Banks All Consumer Loans



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Rates on credit card debt have surged to a new all-time high, watch if this pinches credit usage/exacerbates servicing costs.

But note that delinquency rates for all consumer loans remain low and below pre-pandemic peaks.

Items to watch for the consumer going forward:

- End to student loan debt moratorium/relief, which could pinch disposable incomes

- Potential fiscal austerity from debt ceiling fight

- 2Q layoffs enacted

As of 3/17/23

Snap Back to Reality:

The Path Forward For Equity Markets

... Snap back to reality
Oh, there goes gravity

- “Lose Yourself”, Eminem

Don't Call it a Breakout

S&P 500 (daily)



Will this February- March move prove to be a false breakout above the downtrend line and 200-day moving average? Mostly given valuations at the February peak reached nearly 19x 2023's EPS, a very expensive multiple.

We are still watching this 200-week moving average (now at 3,697) as important support.

We could overshoot in a sharp sell-off (like we did during COVID) and if EPS deteriorates sharply. 3,500 is the October low, 3,400 the pre-pandemic high.

Historically, forward returns improve materially after similar peak-to-trough declines (>30%).

Potential S&P 500 Outcomes

S&P 500 2023 Potential Price Levels at Various EPS and PE

		PE on 2023 EPS								
		14x	15x	16x	17x	18x	19x	20x	21x	
Change vs. 2022	-24%	\$170	2,380	2,550	2,720	2,890	3,060	3,230	3,400	3,570
	-19%	\$180	2,520	2,700	2,880	3,060	3,240	3,420	3,600	3,780
	-15%	\$190	2,660	2,850	3,040	3,230	3,420	3,610	3,800	3,990
	-10%	\$200	2,800	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,800	4,000	4,200
	-6%	\$210	2,940	3,150	3,360	3,570	3,780	3,990	4,200	4,410
	-1%	\$220	3,080	3,300	3,520	3,740	3,960	4,180	4,400	4,620
	3%	\$230	3,220	3,450	3,680	3,910	4,140	4,370	4,600	4,830
	8%	\$240	3,360	3,600	3,840	4,080	4,320	4,560	4,800	5,040
	12%	\$250	3,500	3,750	4,000	4,250	4,500	4,750	5,000	5,250

The blue outlined box shows our expectations for potential upside and downside based on fundamentals for the S&P 500 in 2023.

Of course, we can trade outside of these bands at any given time. Oftentimes technicals, positioning, and sentiment can cause short term prices to diverge from medium-term fundamentals.

We use a range of \$200-220 (-10% to flat) for our 2023 EPS and a wide range of 16x-19x for the PE multiple.

S&P 500 2023 Potential % Change from 2022 Close at Various EPS and PE

		PE on 2023 EPS								
		14x	15x	16x	17x	18x	19x	20x	21x	
Change vs. 2022	-24%	\$170	-38%	-34%	-29%	-25%	-20%	-16%	-11%	-7%
	-19%	\$180	-34%	-30%	-25%	-20%	-16%	-11%	-6%	-2%
	-15%	\$190	-31%	-26%	-21%	-16%	-11%	-6%	-1%	4%
	-10%	\$200	-27%	-22%	-17%	-11%	-6%	-1%	4%	9%
	-6%	\$210	-23%	-18%	-12%	-7%	-2%	4%	9%	15%
	-1%	\$220	-20%	-14%	-8%	-3%	3%	9%	15%	20%
	3%	\$230	-16%	-10%	-4%	2%	8%	14%	20%	26%
	8%	\$240	-12%	-6%	0%	6%	13%	19%	25%	31%
	12%	\$250	-9%	-2%	4%	11%	17%	24%	30%	37%

We lean towards the lower end of this valuation band given Fed hawkishness and the level of interest rates, which could put downward pressure on valuations.

Wall Street Consensus for 2023

Low: 3,200

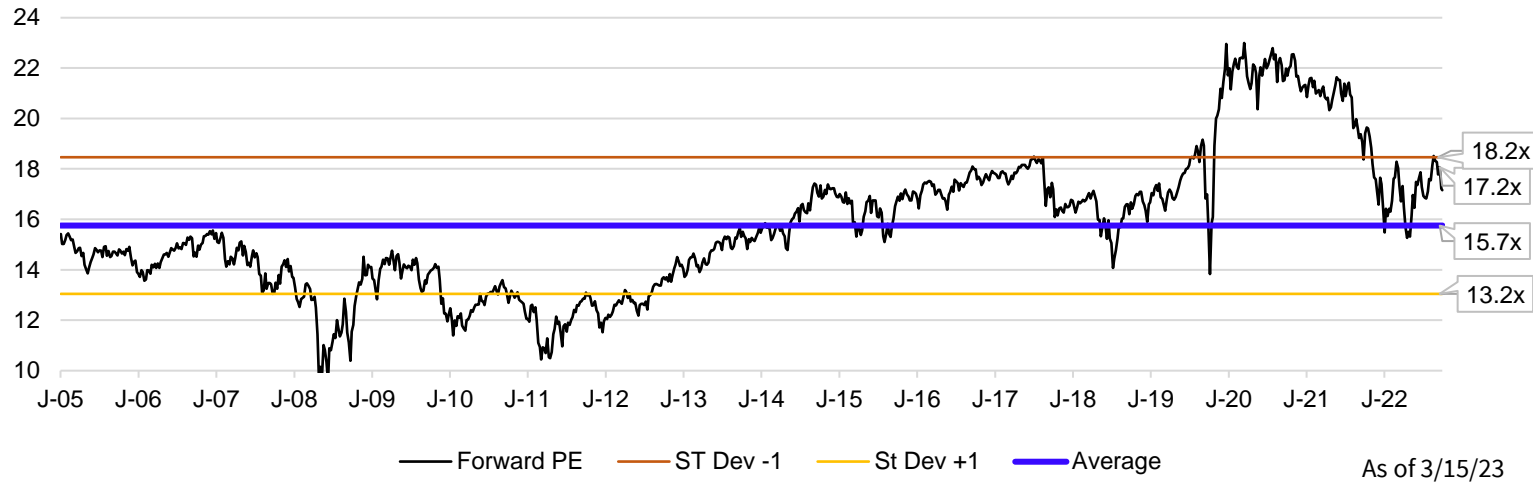
High: 4,750

2022 Close: 3,839

Source: Bloomberg, NewEdge Wealth, as of 3/15/23

Valuations Not Historically Cheap, EPS Still Optimistic?

S&P 500 PE with 20 Year Statistics



Valuations are still above long-term averages (note markets bottomed near the long-term average ~15.5x in 2022).

On earnings, estimates have been cut down to \$220/sh for 2023 (vs. an estimate for \$243/sh last summer). These estimates reflect lower revenue growth and ongoing margin compression, but not a recession.

S&P 500 Earnings with 2023 and 2024 Consensus & 2023 Scenario Analysis

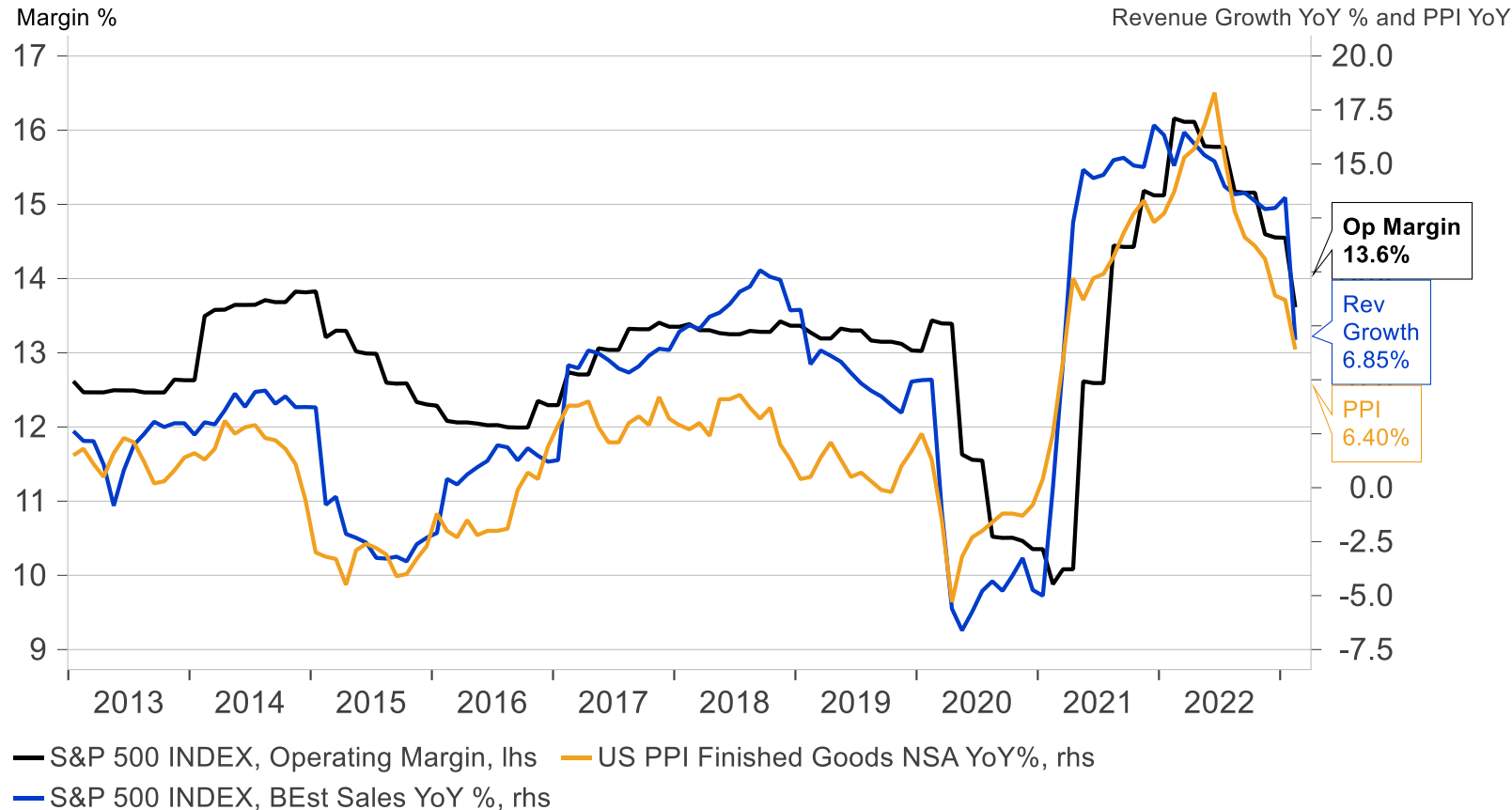
	2022	2023 Cons	2023 Mild Growth, Margin Down	2023 No-Land, Higher Revenue, Flat Margin	2023 Recession, Revenue and Margin Down	2024 Cons
Revenue	\$ 1,711.79	\$ 1,772.53	\$ 1,772.56	\$ 1,814.50	\$ 1,677.55	\$1,857.95
Growth YoY	15.22%	3.55%	3.55%	6%	-2%	4.82%
EBIT	\$ 250.94	\$ 284.10	\$ 248.16	\$ 272.17	\$ 226.47	\$ 309.73
Margin	14.57%	16.03%	14.00%	15.00%	13.50%	16.67%
Earnings	\$ 223.36	\$ 221.09	\$ 210.93	\$ 231.35	\$ 192.50	\$ 242.72
Growth YoY	12%	-1%	-6%	4%	-13%	10%

Source: Bloomberg Data and Consensus, NewEdge Wealth Analysis, as of 2/24/23

2024 estimates are for \$243/sh, which may be too aggressive if 2023 earnings are lower or a recession hits later in 2023/2024.

Operating Margins Are Falling Back to Earth

S&P 500 Revenue Growth Slows As Inflation Slows, Will Margins Decline?



We continue to expect operating margins to fall back to pre-pandemic levels as revenue growth slows (partially driven by lower inflation).

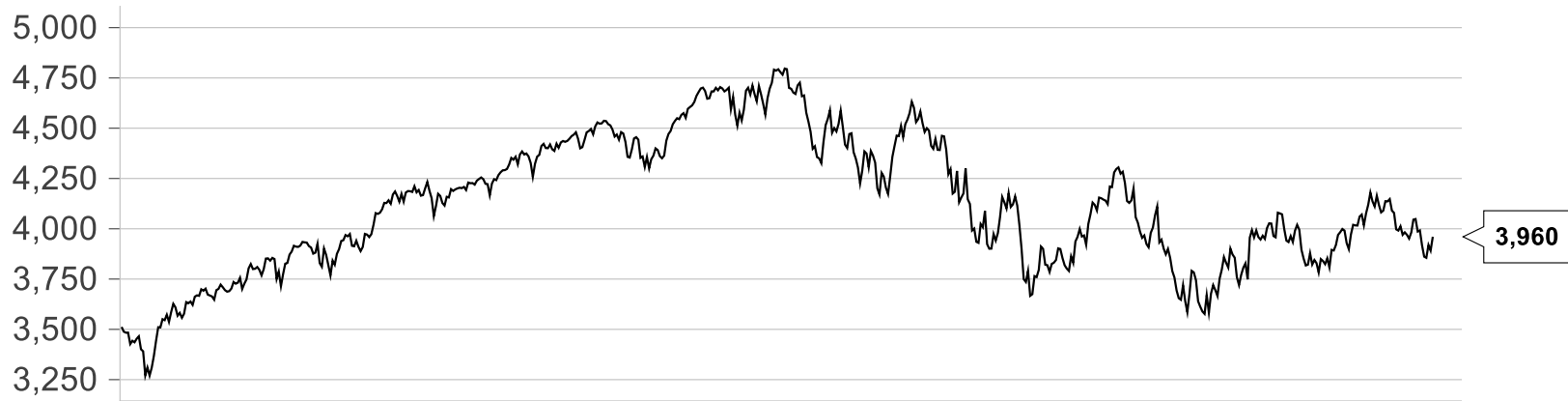
If margin compression continues, we could see earnings decline in 2023 even without a recession (revenue decline).

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

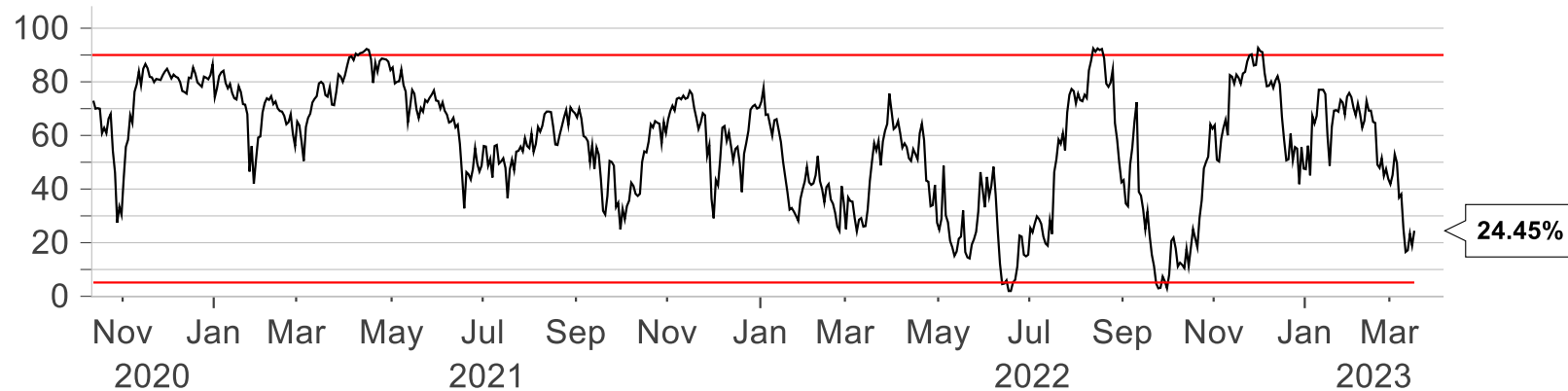
As of 3/17/23

Breadth Deteriorating, Not Quite Washed Out

S&P 500 Index Breadth (% issues above their 50 day moving average)



Percentage of Constituents Above 50 Day Moving Average (with 99th percentile low)



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

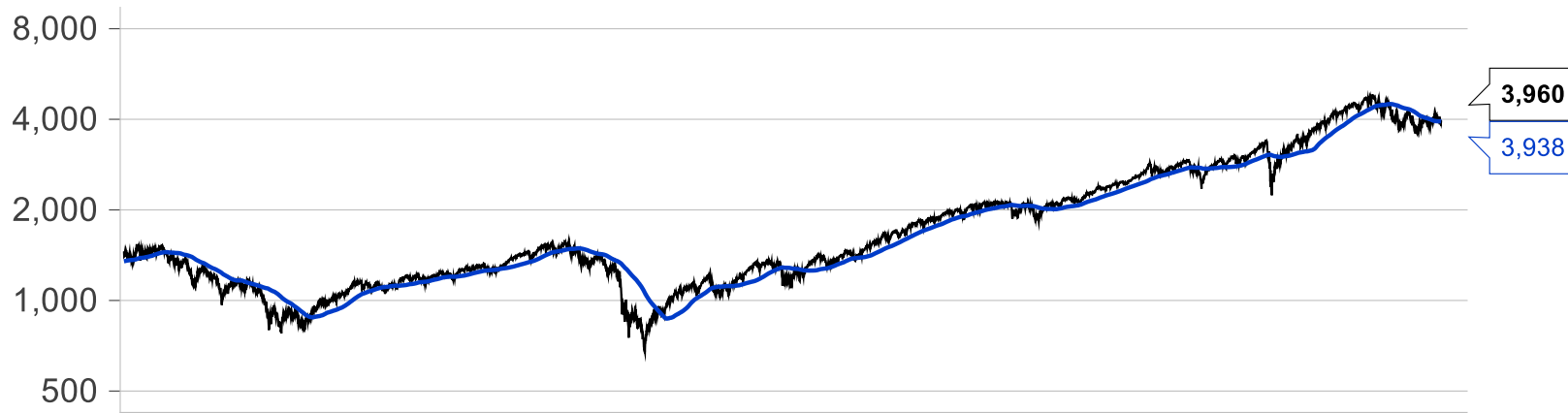
Breadth has been deteriorating since early February, as weakness started emerging under the surface of this market.

This deterioration left us skeptical that February was the breakout to start a new bull market.

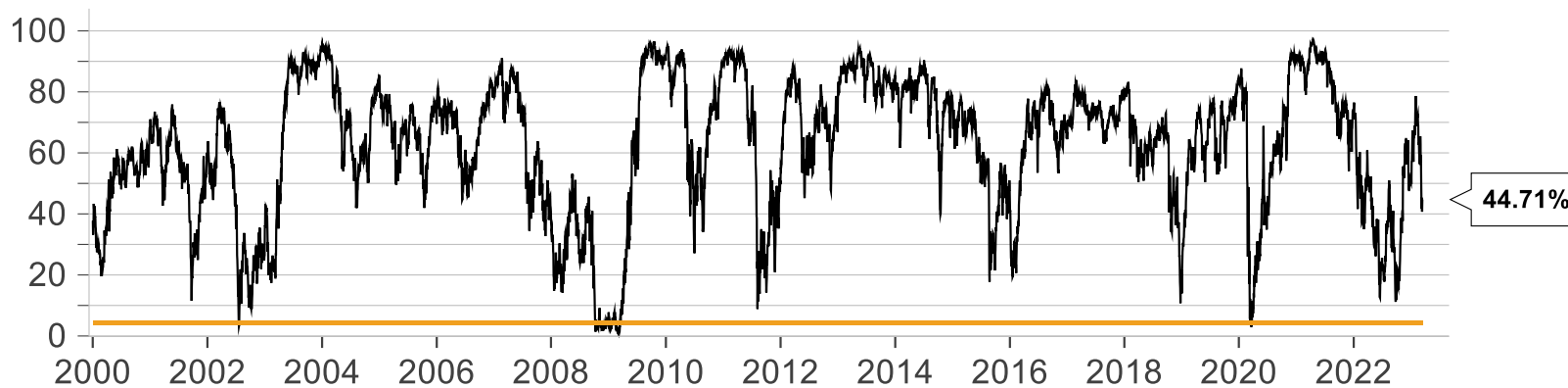
Note, there are more names trading below their 50-day than at the December low, suggesting more deterioration in trend under the surface.

Medium Term Breadth Not Washed Out (like in 2022)

S&P 500 Index with % of Issues Above 200 Day



Percentage of Constituents Above 200 Day Moving Average (with 99th percentile)



Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg
As of 3/17/23

It will be important to watch if the names that experienced a lot of trend improvement in 2H22 (coming out of the June lows) start to see their trends deteriorate in this current sell-off.

There are now more names trading below their 200-day than during the December low, which suggests deterioration under the surface.

Small Caps Flashing Warning Signs

Russell 2000 Index (RTY) Absolute and Relative to S&P 500



The Russell 2000 started flashing warning signs 2 weeks ago when it started to materially underperform the S&P 500.

Small cap relative performance is a sign of risk-taking and pro-cyclical appetite. Small caps typically outperform at the start of an easing and economic cycle when liquidity is abundant and sentiment is recovering off lows.

Small caps are lower quality companies (40% are unprofitable) and have higher exposure to floating rate debt (~40% of S&P 600 is floating).

The Riskiest of the Risk Underperforming

Microcaps Sat Out the Recent Risk Rally

Microcap Index vs. Russell 2000 Small Cap Index



Microcap stocks are even riskier than small caps, and when they outperform small caps, it is typically a sign of expanding risk appetite.

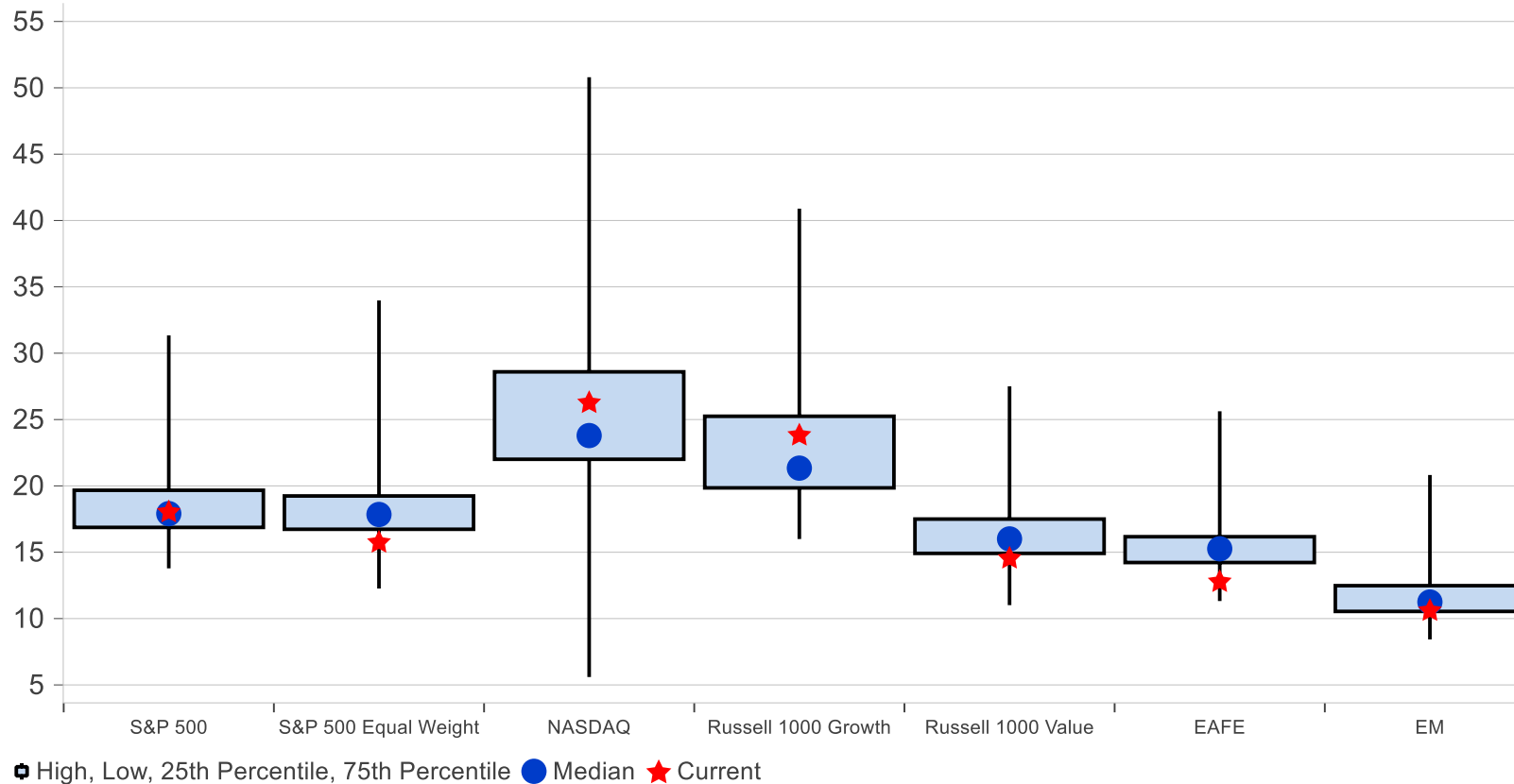
After the meme and speculative bubble topped in 2021 (coincided with the peak in money supply growth), microcaps have been underperforming.

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg
As of 3/17/23

Valuations Now Back to Average

Some Markets are Cheaper Than Others

10 Year Valuation Statistics for Major Equity Indices



After the recent market rout, valuations have come back to average levels for the S&P 500.

NASDAQ and Growth look expensive, while Equal Weight, Value, and International Developed are below average, but not screamingly cheap.

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

International Developed Under Pressure

MSCI International Developed EAFE Index (MXEA) Absolute and Relative to U.S. S&P 500



International developed is consolidating came under sharp pressure in the fallout of the Credit Suisse issues that resulted in weakness European financials (the EAFE index has a higher weight to financials than the S&P 500).

We continue to watch the USD as an important driver of international performance as well.

Emerging Markets Retreating

MSCI Emerging Markets Index (MXEF) Absolute and Relative to U.S. S&P 500



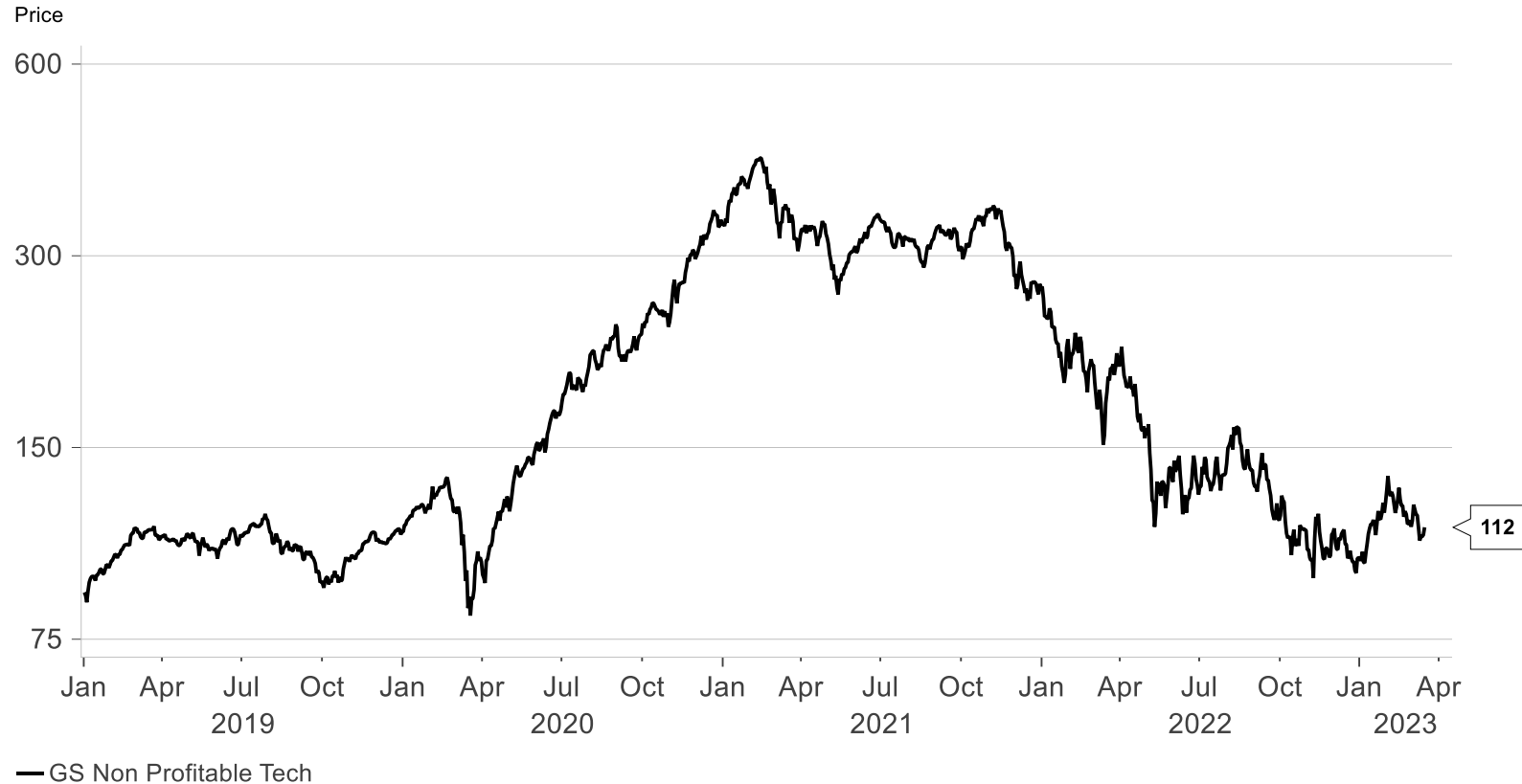
Emerging markets look much weaker and are giving back a lot of their recent outperformance.

This is being dragged down by China.

EM remains in a 15-year relative downtrend vs. the U.S.

The YTD Rebound in Profitless Tech Reverses

GS Non Profitable Tech



After a brutal bear market in 2022, non profitable tech has staged a powerful rebound (+21% YTD, reached a peak of +35% on Feb 2).

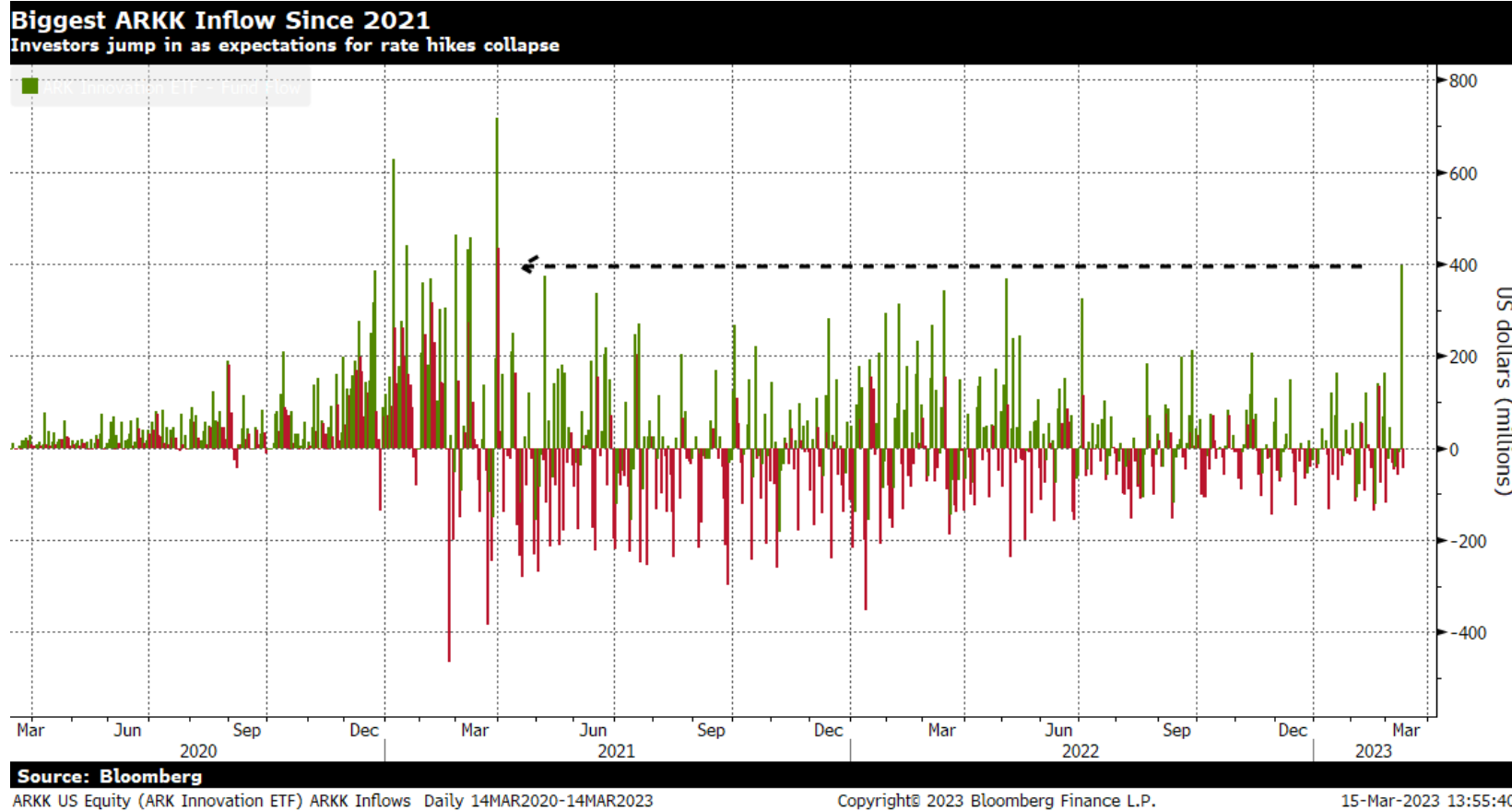
This rebound occurred without the help from additional liquidity (like what happened in 2020-2021).

It appeared to be more driven by positioning and a brief valuation rebound.

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

The Dream Doesn't Die!



On Friday of last week, ARKK had its largest inflow since April of 2021 (right after the relative high in the ETF performance).

This was fueled by bets that financial instability would cause the Fed to pivot and thus be supportive of the valuations and business models of these speculative/low-no profit business.

Black and Yellow:

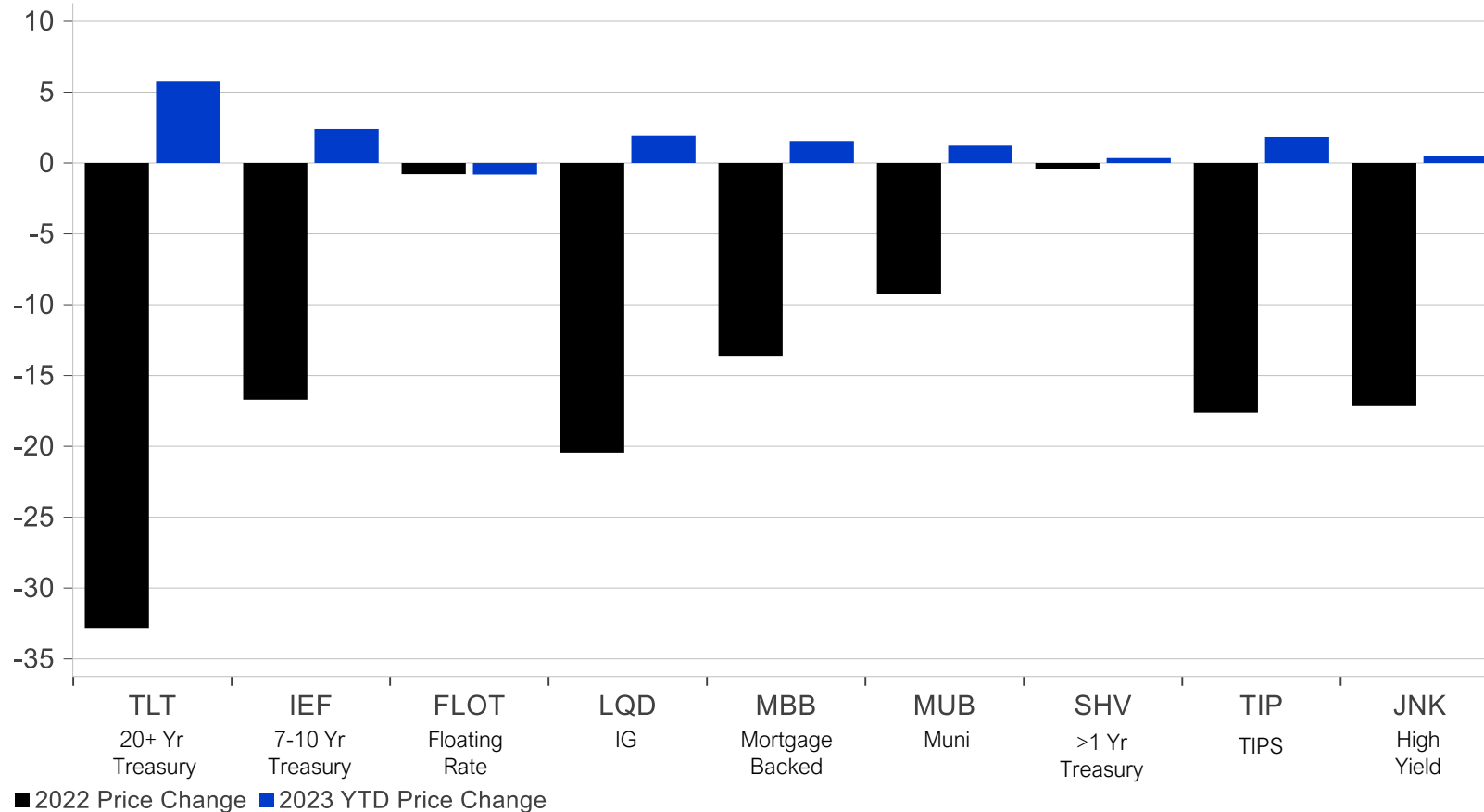
Bonds and Gold Have a Good Start to 2023

Yeah, you know what it is
Black and yellow

- “Black and Yellow”, Whiz Khalifa

After an Ugly 2022, Stabilization to Start 2023

Fixed Income ETF Price Change (2022 and 2023 YTD)



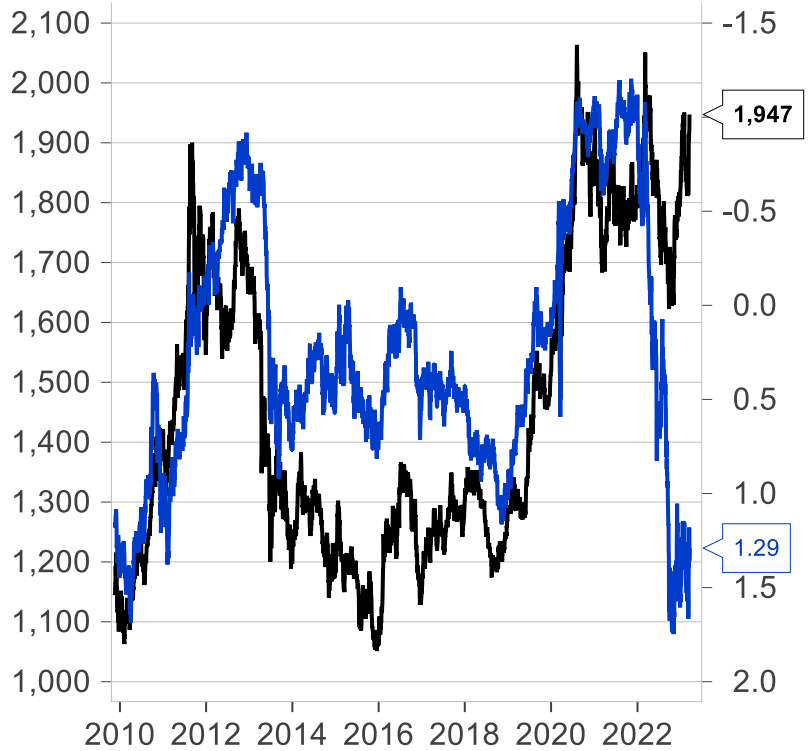
Bonds have had a better start to 2023 than 2022, but gains have been focused in risk-off parts of the bond market (long-dated Treasuries), while riskier bonds (credit, HY) have not been as resilient.

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

Gold and Real Yields Divergence, But Gold Lockstep with the USD

Gold Prices and Real Yields Inverted (10 Year)



— XAUUSD Spot Exchange Rate - Price of 1 XAU in USD, lhs
 — Real Yields Inverted, rhs

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

Gold Prices and USD Inverted (1 Year)



— XAUUSD Spot Exchange Rate - Price of 1 XAU in USD, lhs
 — DXY Currency, rhs

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

For most of the prior cycle, Gold traded inversely with real yields (10 Year Treasury Yield minus inflation).

In late 2022 this relationship broke down, with Gold rallying despite the rise in real yields.

Instead, Gold has been trading lockstep with the USD inversely, with a weaker USD sparking higher Gold prices.

Heavy central bank buying likely also contributed to higher Gold prices.

As of 3/17/23

No More Golden Slumbers: Gold Outperforming Stocks

Gold vs. S&P 500



— XAUUSD Spot Exchange Rate vs. SPX Index

Source: NewEdge Wealth, Macrobond, Bloomberg

As of 3/17/23

Gold has been outperforming stocks to start 2023.

Chris Verrone from Strategas has been noting that if October was the ultimate low for this bear, it would be incredibly unique that gold (a typically risk-off asset) has been leading stocks (a risk-on asset).

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When referencing asset class returns or statistics, the following indices are used to represent those asset classes, unless otherwise notes. You cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns shown are total returns which includes interest, capital gains, dividends, and distributions realized over a given period of time. An individual who purchases an investment product which attempts to mimic the performance of a benchmark or index will incur expenses such as management fees and transaction costs which reduce returns.

TIPS: Bloomberg Barclays Global Inflation-Linked: U.S. TIPSTotal Return Index Unhedged
Municipals 5-Year: Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond 5 Year (4-6) Total Return Index Unhedged USD
Core Bond: Bloomberg Barclays USAgg Total Return Value Unhedged USD
U.S. MBS: Bloomberg Barclays US MBS Index
High Yield Municipals: Bloomberg Barclays Muni High Yield Total Return Index Value Unhedged USD
High Yield: Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate High Yield Total Return Index Value Unhedged USD
Foreign Bond: Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD Total Return Index Value USD (50/50 blend of hedged and unhedged)
EM Debt (unhedged): J.P. Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Composite Unhedged USD
U.S. Large Cap: S&P 500 Total Return Index
U.S. Small Cap : Russell 2000 Total Return Index
International Developed: MSCI EAFE Net Total Return USD Index
Emerging Markets: MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return USD Index
World: MSCI ACWI Net Total Return USD Index
U.S. Equity REITs: FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Total Return Index USD
Commodities: Bloomberg Commodity Total Return Index
Midstream Energy: Alerian MLP Total Return Index
Hedge Funds: Hedge Fund Research HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index
U.S.: MSCI USA Net Total Return USD Index


Europe: Euro Stoxx 50
United Kingdom: UK FTSE 100
Japan: Tokyo TOPIX Stock Exchange Index
China: Hang Seng Index
Brazil: Ibovespa Brasil Sao Paulo Stock Exchange Index
India: NSE Nifty Index
South Korea: Korea Stock Exchange KOSPI Index
Taiwan: Taiwan Stock Exchange Index

REITS Diversified: FTSE Nareit Eqty Diversified Total Return Index
REITS Healthcare: FTSE Nareit Eqty Health Care Total Return Index
REITS Industrial: FTSE Nareit Eqty Industrial Total Return Index
REITS Lodging/Resorts: FTSE Nareit Eqty Lodging/Resorts Total Return Index
REITS Office: FTSE Nareit Eqty Office Total Return Index
REITS Residential: FTSE Nareit Eqty Residential Total Return Index
REITS Retail: FTSE Nareit Eqty Retail Total Return Index
REITS Self Storage: FTSE Nareit Eqty Self Storage Total Return Index
REITS Data Centers: FTSE Nareit Equity Data Centers Total Return Index
REITS Specialty: FTSE Nareit Equity Specialty Total Return Index
Real Assets Agriculture: Bloomberg Sub Agriculture Total Return Index
Real Assets Industrial Metals: Bloomberg Sub Industrial Metals Total Return Index
Real Assets Precious Metals: Bloomberg Sub Precious Metals Total Return Index
Real Assets Energy: Bloomberg Sub Energy Total Return Index

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