



June's Financial Roundup Is Here!!

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Market Research Update - A Bear Market Is Officially Here

A bear market is officially here thanks largely to stubbornly high inflation. For many of us, it has probably felt like a bear market for a while now, but the S&P 500 Index didn't close more than 20% below its January 3 record high until Monday. Tech stocks are down a lot more—the Nasdaq Composite is more than 32% below its November 2021 record high.

It's hard to find a silver lining in inflation over 8%, but here's the good news. Goods inflation came down quite a bit, which is likely to continue. Also keep in mind that the Federal Reserve's (Fed) preferred inflation measure, the core personal consumption expenditure index (PCE) is just under 5% (the next core PCE report is due out on June 30). The PCE inflation reading factors in product substitutions, making it a better reflection of how consumers are actually coping in this tough environment.

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Our Monthly Outlook - Bear Market Q & A

The bear market that started on June 13 has left the S&P 500 Index 23.5% below its January 3 high. After the initial positive reaction to the Federal Reserve's first 0.75% rate hike since 1994 and tough talk on inflation, heightened fears of recession and that the Fed might "break something" sent stocks down for the 10th week out of 11 for only the second time in history (The first was in 1970). To help investors manage through this difficult period, we answer some of the top questions we're getting about bear markets and list some things to watch to assess progress toward an eventual durable low..

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