Eagle Strategies LLC

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EAGLE FOCUS
weekly

August 17, 2026

MARKET PERFORMANCE RECAP
WEEK ENDING
August 14, 2026

INDEX	LAST FRIDAY'S CLOSE	% CHANGE YTD
S&P 500	7785.76	13.74%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	53732.41	11.8%
Nasdaq Composite	26729.16	15.0%
S&P MidCap 400	3926.98	18.81%
Russell 2000	3075.08	23.63%

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) edged up 0.1% in July, following a decline in the previous month (led by energy), while core CPI, which excludes food and energy, rose 0.2%. On a y/y basis, the CPI eased to 3.4% from 3.5%, while the core dipped to 2.5% from 2.6%. Core inflation matched the pre-Iran war rate, which was the lowest since March 2021. It suggests that higher energy prices from the war have had no meaningful impact on core inflation, so far. (Source: Ned Davis Research, Inc.)

New estimates show that the Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for 2027 may range between 3.4% to 3.6%. The current estimate is based on data through July. There will be two more months of data before the Social Security Administration is expected to announce the official COLA for the upcoming year in October. (Source: CNBC)

The Producer Price Index (PPI) for final demand was unchanged in July, contrary to expectations of a 0.2% increase, as higher services and construction prices were offset by lower goods prices. Overall, easing PPI inflation suggests that PCE inflation is likely to move in the same direction in the near-term. Along with tame CPI inflation, this supports the Fed being cautious on potential rate hikes. (Source: Ned Davis Research, Inc.)

The U.S. Court of International Trade upheld President Donald Trump's elimination of the "de minimis" tariff exemption, which allowed goods valued under $800 to be imported to the U.S. tax free. The de minimis exemption was frequently used by the retail industry, which sells large quantities of low-price clothes and other goods. The suspension of the carve-out had led to more than $1 billion in duty payments, according to Customs and Border Protection. (Source: Bloomberg)

The U.S. Treasury Department and IRS proposed regulations this week on how employers and employees can fund Trump Accounts (530A accounts), the new tax-deferred investing option for children. Under the proposal, certain employer contributions to the 530A accounts could be excluded from an employee's gross income. Furthermore, employees would also be able to fund their dependent children's 530A accounts with pretax dollars from their paychecks. (Source: CNBC)

U.S. government bonds sold at their highest interest rates in over 18 years. On Wednesday, 10-year notes had their highest rates at auction since 2007. On Thursday, 30-year bond yields came in at 5.216%, the highest level since 2001. (Source: Bloomberg)

US retail sales fell in July by the highest in over a year as consumers reduced on purchases at online retailers and auto dealers. The value of retail purchases fell 0.6%, the most since May 2025. The weakness may not be as bad as the headlines number suggests since Amazon moved its Prime Day event from July of last year to June of this year. (Source: Bloomberg)

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) Small Business Optimism Index increased 2.4 points in July, up for the second consecutive month, to an above-consensus 99.8, the highest level in nearly a year. It is historically consistent with moderate economic growth and supports expectations for continued economic expansion in the second half of this year. (Source: Ned Davis Research, Inc.)

The delinquency rate for mortgage loans decreased to a seasonally adjusted rate of 4.37% at the end of the second quarter of 2026, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association's (MBA) National Delinquency Survey. Although mortgage delinquencies slightly declined in the second quarter, the broader trend is that both delinquencies and foreclosures have increased over the last year. (Source: MBA)

Student load borrower delinquency rates fell last quarter relative to the prior year, according to analysis from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Less than 8% of student loan borrowers missed at least three monthly payments in the second quarter. For the second quarter of 2025, that number was approximately 12.9%. (Source: The Hill)

Existing Home Sales fell 1.7% in July to a slightly better than expected 4.06 million unit rate. Sales have been range-bound for the past four years near their lowest level since the GFC, amid high mortgage rates and other affordability challenges. The latest decline was led by single-family homes, while condo/co-op sales were flat. (Source: Ned Davis Research, Inc.)

Gas and diesel prices are at a record seasonal high, according to data from the American Automobile Association. For the first time ever in the second week of August, drivers are paying an average of $4 a gallon for gas and $5.40 a gallon for diesel. This comes as millions of Americans typically hit the road for late-summer vacations. (Source: Bloomberg)

The majority stake in the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team was sold by Mark Walter (co-founder of Guggenheim Partners) to Joshua Kushner (brother of Jared Kushner) and Bob Iger (former CEO of the Walt Disney Company). The deal values the team at $12.5 billion. (Source: CNBC).

On August 17, 1969, the iconic music festival Woodstock ended in Bethel, New York after more than three days of peace, love, and rock 'n' roll. Originally planned as a profit-making event to fund a recording studio, it became a free concert when massive crowds overwhelmed the organizers. Nearly half a million people attended, creating one of the most legendary moments in music history. (Source: History)

The world's largest golf hole resides in South Korea. The par-7 3rd hole at Gunsan Country Club's Jeongeup Course stretches 1,097 yards and challenges golfers with water hazards and bunkers that require both power and precision. The PGA Tour's longest hole, Kapalua's 677-yard par-5 18th, is much shorter by comparison. (Source: Golf Monthly)

The phrase "lion's share" has its origin from Aesop's Fables. In one of the tales, a lion takes most of a hunting reward because he considers himself the strongest and king of the animals. The expression since then entered English in 1742 and has since been used to refer to "the largest portion of something," according to Merriam-Webster. (Source: Word Smarts)

To learn more, contact:

Kevin D. Lindblom, CLU, ChFC

Your Vision Financial Group

3720 Queen Ct SW, Suite 4, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

319-393-1643

kevin@yourvfg.com

www.yourvfg.com

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SMRU 9077531 Exp. Date 08.31.2029