

March 27, 2023 – Economic Commentary

While the banking turmoil of the last two weeks appears to have (temporarily?) abated, tensions remain elevated over the impact of rising rates and still-high inflation on the economy. The Fed's decision to raise rates modestly and signal a possible tempering of monetary tightening going forward will no doubt be re-evaluated at the end of this week with the release of important inflation indicators for February. All indications point to a US consumer that is still supporting the economy with quite strong spending, sustained by increases in personal income and employment. But the manufacturing sector continues to weaken, and it is questionable how long this particular combination of restrictive monetary policy and expansive economic growth can continue.

Data to Watch:

1. Testimony by Fed Vice-Chair for Supervision Michael Barr to US Senate Committee on Banking, Tuesday, March 28 (formal statement released Monday, March 27)
2. US Core PCE price index for February, released Friday, March 31
3. US Personal Income and Spending for March, released Friday, March 31

Suggested Reading:

[Work from Home Era ends for Millions of Americans](#)

[How Bank Oversight Failed: The Economy Changed, Regulators Didn't](#)

[World Bank Warns of 'Lost Decade' for Global Economic Potential](#)

Disclosures

Investment advisory services offered through Robertson Stephens Wealth Management, LLC ("Robertson Stephens"), an SEC-registered investment advisor. Registration does not imply any specific level of skill or training and does not constitute an endorsement of the firm by the Commission. This material is for general informational purposes only and should not be construed as investment, tax or legal advice. It does not constitute a recommendation or offer to buy or sell any security, has not been tailored to the needs of any specific investor, and should not provide the basis for any investment decision. Please consult with your Advisor prior to making any Investment decisions. The information contained herein was carefully compiled from sources believed to be reliable, but Robertson Stephens cannot guarantee its accuracy or completeness. Information, views and opinions are current as of the date of this presentation, are based on the information available at the time, and are subject to change based on market and other conditions. Robertson Stephens assumes no duty to update this information. Unless otherwise noted, any individual opinions presented are those of the author and not necessarily those of Robertson Stephens. Indices are unmanaged and reflect the reinvestment of all income or dividends but do not reflect the deduction of any fees or expenses which would reduce returns. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Forward-looking performance targets or estimates are not guaranteed and may not be achieved. Investing entails risks, including possible loss of principal. Alternative investments are only available to qualified investors and are not suitable for all investors. Alternative investments include risks such as illiquidity, long time horizons, reduced transparency, and significant loss of principal. This material is an investment advisory publication intended for investment advisory clients and prospective clients only. Robertson Stephens only transacts business in states in which it is properly registered or is excluded or exempted from registration. A copy of Robertson Stephens' current written disclosure brochure filed with the SEC which discusses, among other things, Robertson Stephens' business practices, services and fees, is available through the SEC's website at: www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. © 2023 Robertson Stephens Wealth Management, LLC. All rights reserved. Robertson Stephens is a registered trademark of Robertson Stephens Wealth Management, LLC in the United States and elsewhere.