

Reflecting on the YTD Market Volatility & Recovery



Evan Kulak Financial Advisor phone: (203) 291 - 0411

email:

evan@cuwgroup.com

Connect with your advisor

- ✓ Financial Planning
- ✓ Investment Management
- ✓ Wealth Management
- ✓ Retirement / 401(k) Advice

Looking for help with your investments?

Visit:

mygecreditunion.com/en-US/Bank-It/Retirementand-Investments

Monthly Market Summary

- The S&P 500 Index returned +6.3%, its strongest 1-month return since November 2023. Large Cap Growth stocks led the rally, with the Nasdaq 100 and Russell 1000 Growth gaining +9.2% and +8.9%, respectively.
- Technology was the top-performing S&P 500 sector for a second consecutive month, with the Industrials and Consumer Discretionary sectors also gaining over +8%. Health Care was the only sector to trade lower, and defensive sectors were relative underperformers as the market traded higher.
- Bonds ended the month with a slight loss, with the U.S. Bond Aggregate posting a -0.6% total return. Corporate bonds outperformed as credit spreads tightened, with investment-grade posting a +0.2% total return and high-yield returning +1.7%.
- International stocks traded higher but underperformed the S&P 500. Developed Markets gained +4.8%, while Emerging Markets returned +4.0%.

Markets Back Near All-Time Highs, But Forward Visibility Remains Low

The defining story of 2025 has been changing trade policy. Markets have weathered two months of policy-driven volatility, only to end up roughly where they started. After a nearly 20% decline from late February to early April, the S&P 500 has rebounded and is within 4% of its all-time high. What remains is weakened business and consumer confidence, rising inflation expectations, and a Federal Reserve that has paused interest rate cuts. The threat of a full-scale trade war and global supply chain disruption has diminished, but the full impact of recent events may take months to become known. Early economic data suggests the tariffs have had a limited impact, but we will continue monitoring what happens to economic and earnings growth in the coming quarters.

To date, the administration has introduced multiple 90-day tariff pauses. The pauses are temporary and staggered: the pause for most countries runs through early July, while the agreement with China extends through mid-August. A recent court ruling adds a layer of uncertainty by challenging the administration's authority to impose tariffs, although the decision is under appeal. The U.S. economy entered the year with solid momentum, and current market conditions suggest investors are pricing in only a modest impact from tariffs. With policy details still emerging, markets are likely to remain sensitive to new developments, which could mean continued volatility over the coming months.

Looking Ahead: Navigating Uncertainty with a Steady Plan

What is most notable about this period is how quickly sentiment can change. Markets are forward-looking, which means they price in not only current conditions but also future expectations. This helps explain why the market can rally when data is weak and selloff despite strong earnings and economic growth. The stock market's sharp decline and quick rebound is a reminder of the importance of maintaining a long-term perspective. Periods like this reinforce several important investment principles. Staying invested can help avoid the costly mistakes of poorly timed exits and re-entries. Emotional discipline and a well-diversified portfolio are your best defenses against making reactive decisions during market volatility. With the potential for more volatility, it's important to focus on what you can control—diversification, discipline, and sticking to your long-term plan.

THIS MONTH IN NUMBERS

FIGURE 1

U.S. Style Returns (May in %)

	Value	Blend	Growth
Large	3.5	6.3	8.9
Mid	4.4	5.7	9.6
Small	4.2	5.2	6.3

Data Reflects Most Recently Available As of 5/31/2025

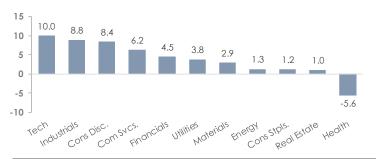
FIGURE 3
U.S. Style Returns (YTD in %)

	Value	Blend	Growth
Large	2.3	0.9	-0.4
Mid	-0.6	0.9	5.0
Small	-7.8	-7.0	-6.2

Data Reflects Most Recently Available As of 5/31/2025

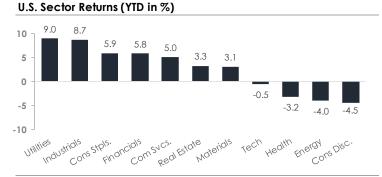
FIGURE 2

U.S. Sector Returns (May in %)



Data Reflects Most Recently Available As of 5/31/2025

FIGURE 4



Data Reflects Most Recently Available As of 5/31/2025

FIGURE 5
Market Data Center

Stocks	1 month	3 months	6 months	YTD	1 year	3 years
S&P 500	6.3%	-0.5%	-1.6%	0.9%	13.1%	47.7%
Dow Jones	4.1%	-3.2%	-5.3%	-0.1%	10.8%	34.0%
Russell 2000	5.2%	-4.2%	-14.7%	-7.0%	0.9%	14.9%
Russell 1000 Growth	8.9%	1.3%	0.5%	-0.4%	17.2%	70.1%
Russell 1000 Value	3.5%	-2.5%	-4.7%	2.3%	8.4%	24.6%
MSCI EAFE	4.8%	8.9%	13.8%	17.5%	12.4%	36.1%
MSCI EM	4.0%	5.3%	6.9%	8.8%	11.4%	13.8%
NASDAQ 100	9.2%	2.3%	2.1%	1.7%	15.8%	70.9%

Fixed Income	Yield	1 month	3 months	YTD	1 year	3 years
U.S. Aggregate	4.71%	-0.6%	-0.2%	2.6%	5.5%	4.2%
U.S. Corporates	5.26%	0.2%	-0.5%	2.4%	5.3%	5.8%
Municipal Bonds	4.26%	-0.6%	-2.8%	-1.5%	1.3%	4.2%
High Yield Bonds	7.71%	1.7%	0.7%	3.1%	9.2%	16.9%

Key Rates	5/31/2025	4/30/2025	2/28/2025	11/30/2024	5/31/2024	5/31/2022
2 yr Treasury	3.90%	3.59%	3.98%	4.15%	4.87%	2.54%
10 yr Treasury	4.39%	4.16%	4.19%	4.17%	4.49%	2.84%
30 yr Treasury	4.91%	4.69%	4.47%	4.36%	4.63%	3.05%
30 yr Mortgage	6.95%	6.85%	6.83%	7.12%	7.29%	5.35%
Prime Rate	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	7.75%	8.50%	4.00%

Data Reflects Most Recently Available As of 5/31/2025

Dividend Yield	NTM P/E	P/B
1.22%	21.3x	4.9x
1.52%	19.4x	5.3x
1.20%	23.3x	1.9x
0.45%	27.5x	11.8x
1.85%	16.6x	2.7x
2.76%	14.7x	1.9x
2.23%	12.4x	1.7x
0.58%	26.4x	7.6x

Commodities	Level	1 month	YTD
Oil (WTI)	60.79	4.4%	-15.2%
Gasoline	2.01	3.1%	-0.1%
Natural Gas	3.46	-4.8%	11.7%
Propane	0.75	1.2%	-3.6%
Ethanol	1.63	-1.5%	10.5%
Gold	3,313	-0.2%	25.4%
Silver	33.08	0.8%	13.1%
Copper	4.65	2.0%	16.7%
Steel	835	3.1%	17.8%
Corn	4.43	-6.7%	-3.3%
Soybeans	10.59	0.7%	5.0%

Important Disclosures

Wealth management products and services are offered independently through Credit Union Wealth Group, LLC, an SEC registered investment advisor. Credit Union Wealth Group and GE Credit Union are not affiliated. Products and services made available through Credit Union Wealth Group are not insured by NCUA or any other agency of the United States and are not deposits or obligations of nor guaranteed or insured by any credit union, credit union service organization, or credit union affiliate. These products are subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested.

The information and opinions provided herein are provided as general market commentary only and are subject to change at any time without notice. This commentary may contain forward-looking statements that are subject to various risks and uncertainties. None of the events or outcomes mentioned here may come to pass, and actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in these statements. No mention of a particular security, index, or other instrument in this report constitutes a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold that or any other security, nor does it constitute an opinion on the suitability of any security or index. The report is strictly an informational publication and has been prepared without regard to the particular investments and circumstances of the recipient.

Past performance does not guarantee or indicate future results. Any index performance mentioned is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect any management fees, transaction costs, or expenses. Indexes are unmanaged, and one cannot invest directly in an index. Index performance does not represent the actual performance that would be achieved by investing in a fund.