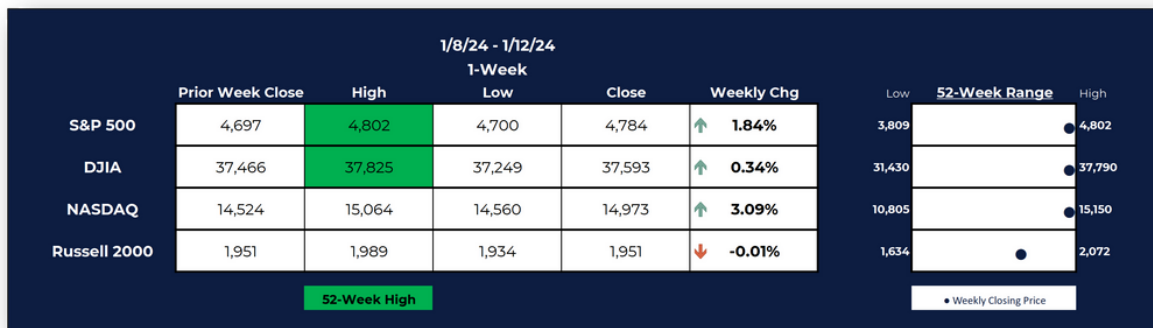


## MARKET RECAP

### U.S. Equities

Stocks were largely higher for the week, though performance ranged. The Dow was barely higher (+0.34%), the S&P 500 rose 1.84%, and the Nasdaq gained more than 3%, while the small-cap Russell 2000 fell 1 basis point. Q4 earnings season began this week, and it was a mixed bag from the big financial firms (JPMorgan, Bank of America, Citigroup, and Wells Fargo), with loan write-offs growing notably, particularly those tied to commercial real estate. In inflation news, results were split with CPI coming in above expectations and PPI coming in lower. CPI increased +0.3% in December, and was +3.4% YoY (vs. +3.1% in November). Excluding food and energy, "core" CPI, rose 0.3% last month and +3.9% YoY (vs. +4% in November). PPI fell 0.1% in December and was +1% YoY while core PPI was flat last month and +2.5% YoY.



### U.S. Treasuries

Yields reversed course this week, with the benchmark 10-year falling back below 4% (down 10.2 basis point to 3.94%). The curve also steepened a bit, with the short-end falling more than the long-end; the 5-year fell 18.5 bps to 3.83% while the 30-year was down 2.3 bps to 4.18%. With disinflation slowing down per the most recent results from CPI & PPI, market participants are expecting the Fed will hold its current target rate steady at its January 31 meeting, but cut it by 25 basis points in March, per the CME FedWatch tool.



### Commodities

It was a choppy week in the commodity market, fueled by volatility in oil. Escalating military actions in the Middle East caused a spike in oil prices on Friday after Great Britain and the U.S. struck Houthi-controlled targets within Yemen (in response to drone attacks in the Red Sea). Crude prices eventually settled down a bit, and WTI closed at \$72.68 per barrel, down 1.53% from a week prior. Gold prices also rose amidst safe-haven buying, with the precious metal rising 1.7% on Friday. However, on the week, gold was up only 0.09%.



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"There are two main reasons why people sell investments: because they're up and because they're down. You may say that sounds nutty, but what's really nutty is many investors' behavior."*

- HOWARD MARKS

---

## WEEKEND READS

[Easy Money](#) - Howard Marks

[The Thirty Second Mind](#) - *The Rational Walk*

[2024 Outlook: Private Equity & Venture Capital](#) - Cambridge Associates

---

## LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

GET SINECERA CAPITAL'S LATEST WEEKLY REVIEWS DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX!

[SUBSCRIBE BY CLICKING HERE](#)

### DISCLAIMER

The information provided is for educational purposes only. The views expressed here are those of the author and may not represent the views of SineCera Capital. Neither SineCera Capital nor the author makes any warranty or representation as to the accuracy, completeness or reliability of this information. Please be advised that this content may contain errors, is subject to revision at all times, and should not be relied upon for any purpose. Under no circumstances shall SineCera Capital be liable to you or anyone else for damage stemming from the use or misuse of this information.