

Market Update



Benchmark	August Returns	2021 Year-to-date Returns
S&P500 Index	3.04%	21.58%
Nasdaq Composite Index	4.08%	18.92%
Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	-0.19%	-0.69%
Russell 2000 Index	2.24%	15.83%
MSCI EAFE Index	1.77%	11.96%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	2.65%	3.07%

- Hope everyone had a great summer! As we transition into fall, markets keep plugging along and continuing the momentum from earlier this year
- Major Large Cap U.S. Equity indexes hit multiple new all-time highs during the month of August
- Concerns over the Covid-19 variants remain on the forefront of people's mind as summer comes to an end
- Inflation continues to rise, but the Federal Reserve has not indicated they are ready to begin increasing rates at this point – Although, they did hint that tapering of the bond buying program may start by the end of the year
- The job market continues to gain strength and there are still plenty of companies looking for employees which should help the economy going forward
- International markets continued to do well during the month, and Emerging markets started to stage a comeback after Chinese regulators caused concern for large Chinese companies
- Van Leeuwen & Company remains focused on the economic fundamentals to drive returns in the market and continues to focus on high quality companies with a history of weathering different economic cycles

VLC in the News

Ken in the Media:

- Aug. 11th – Ken was profiled in *Citywire* discussing financial planning for children with special needs
- Aug. 12th – Ken was quoted in *RIA Intel* while discussing The Shocking Truths About College Costs Wealth Managers Must Share With Clients
- Aug. 13th – Ken was published in *WealthManagement.com* regarding how Higher Taxes and Inflation Could Slow the Economic Engine
- Aug. 23rd – Ken was featured on the *TD Ameritrade Network* discussing latest factors impacting financial planning
- Aug. 25th – Ken was quoted in *NJ.com* responding to a reader question about retirement account distributions – Can We Take From an IRA Now and Then Skip Future Years?

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