

February 2022 Investment Report

Highlights

- Russia invaded Ukraine, and the S&P 500 decreased 3.0% in February amid concerns over aggressive Fed tightening, inflation and geopolitical instability.
- Energy prices continued to surge amid increasing demand and supply concerns.
- The Labor Department reported that U.S. employers added 678,000 nonfarm jobs in February, exceeding estimates, and the unemployment rate decreased to 3.8%.
- USEF and IPF outperformed, while MAF, FIF and IEF underperformed their respective benchmarks for February.

Monthly Overview

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

Following months of military buildup along its border, Russia launched a large-scale military invasion into Ukraine with the aim of toppling its current government. The international community responded to the tragedy with severe financial and economic sanctions against Russian entities and individuals. For the first time in its history, NATO activated its response force to defend alliance territory against potential Russian aggression. The Russian ruble declined more than 20% versus the U.S. dollar in February, and the Russian central bank closed the country's stock market as share prices plunged.

In the U.S., the S&P 500 stock index declined 3.0% in February amid significant volatility as mega-cap stocks underperformed small- and mid-cap stocks. The Russell 2000 Index of small company stocks increased 1.1% during the month. International developed market stocks declined 1.8%, and emerging market stocks declined 2.9%, as measured by MSCI EAFE Index and MSCI Emerging Market Index, respectively. The Bloomberg Commodity Index increased 6.2% for the month as investors evaluated the impact of the Russian invasion and sanctions on the supply of energy and agricultural commodities.

U.S. Inflation, Employment and Interest Rates

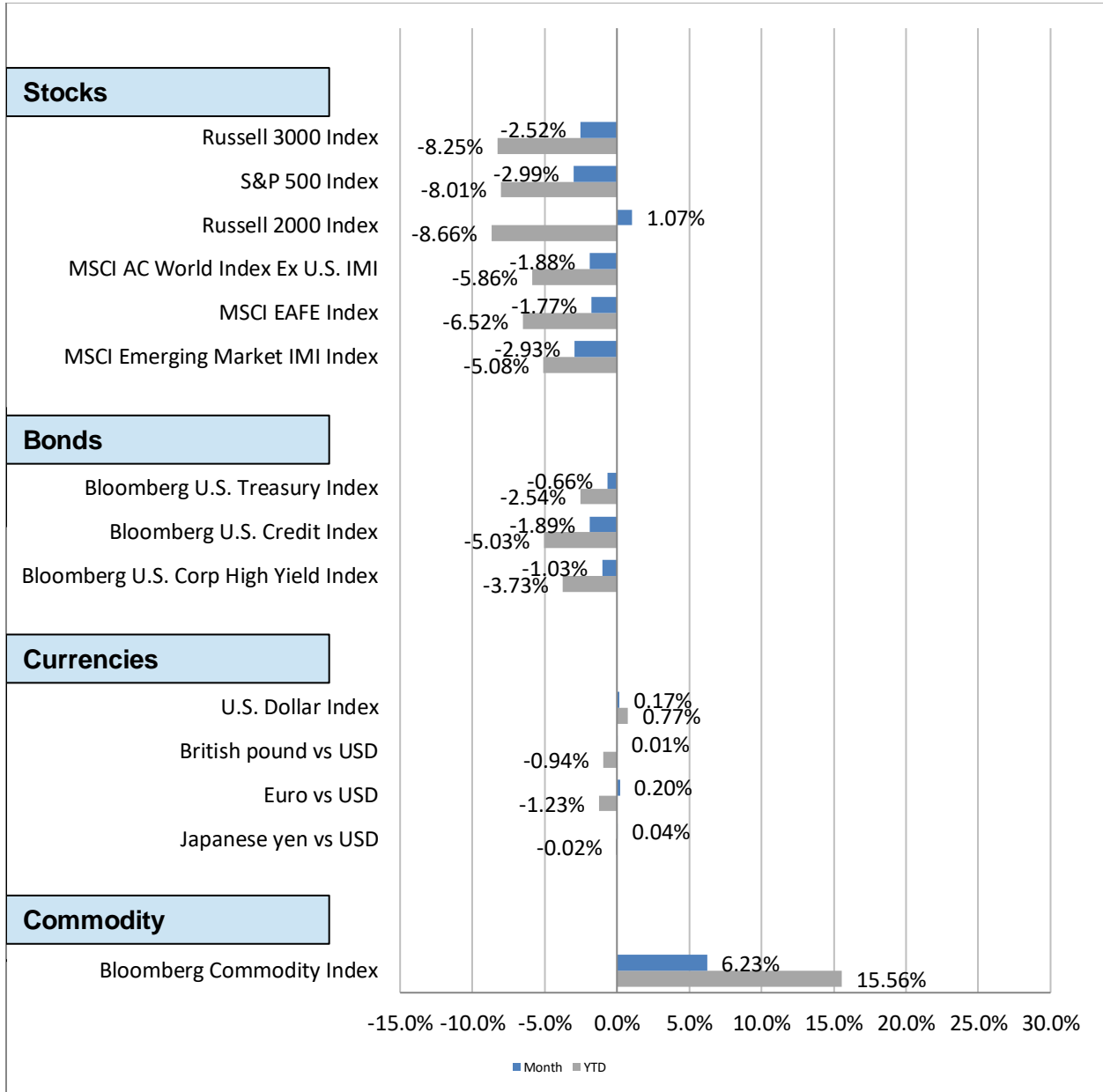
The Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 7.5% versus a year ago, reflecting the highest inflation in 40 years. Food, energy and shelter were the largest contributors to the increase. Core CPI (CPI less food and energy) increased 6.0%. U.S. employers added a robust 678,000 jobs, and the unemployment rate decreased to 3.8% in February. The U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) signaled its intention to soon begin increasing interest rates to address surging inflation amid strong measures of employment and economic growth. Bond prices declined as yields increased. The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index decreased 1.1% for the month.

Facebook Sets Record for Largest Single Day Decline

Facebook (Meta) stock declined over 32% in February, including a drop of 26% on the day it announced weaker than expected revenue growth forecasts. The company's single-day market capitalization decline of \$230 billion was the largest for any company in U.S. stock market history. The company cited changes in Apple's privacy settings which resulted in a \$10 billion decline in revenue along with macroeconomic factors like inflation and supply chain disruptions that had a negative impact on advertising budgets. Facebook also reported the first ever decline in daily active users.

Sources: BLS, Reuters, Wall Street Journal, CNN, Seeking Alpha, CNBC, and the New York Times.

Market Performance



Source: FactSet, as of February 28, 2022

Key Monthly Economic Statistics

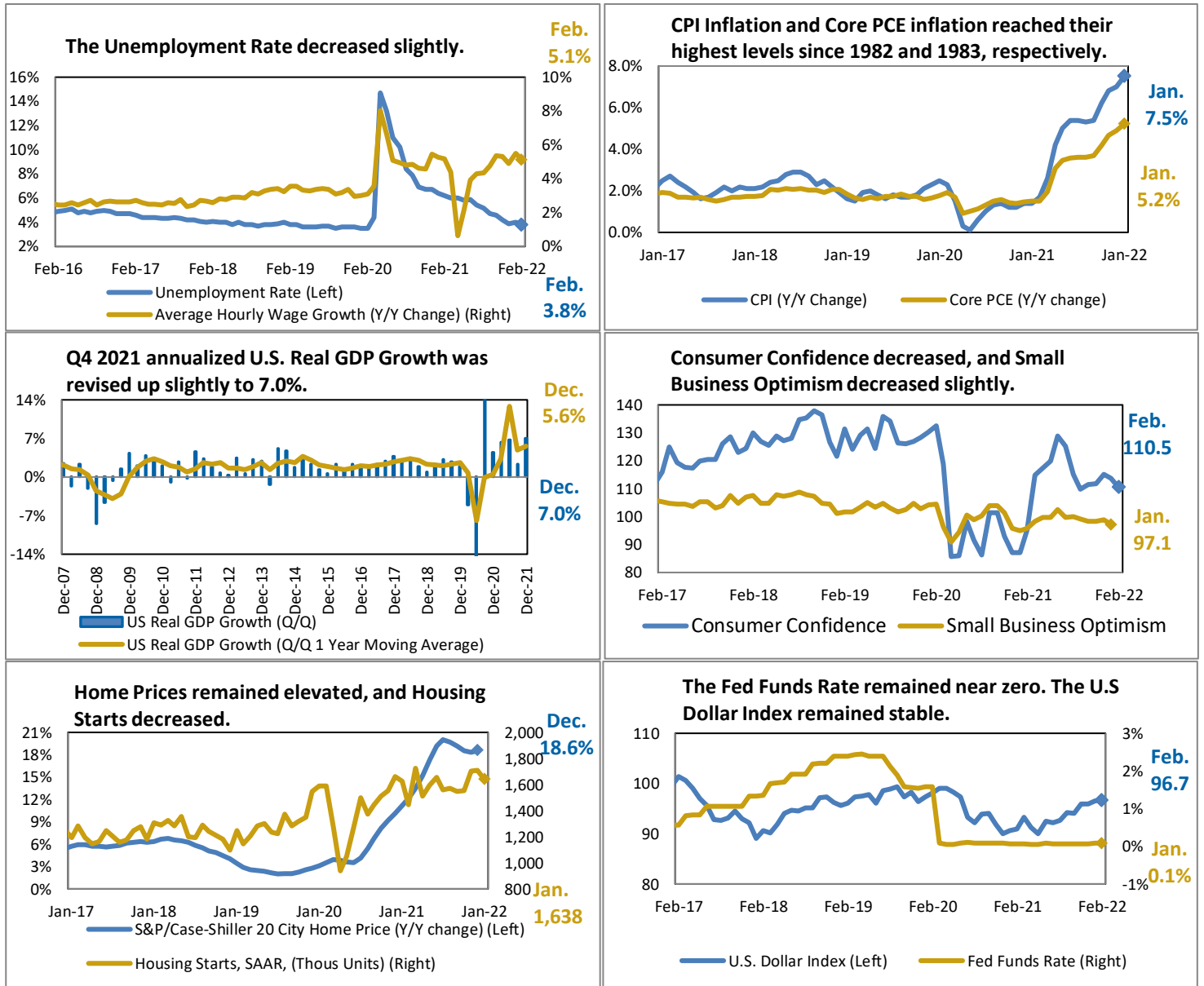
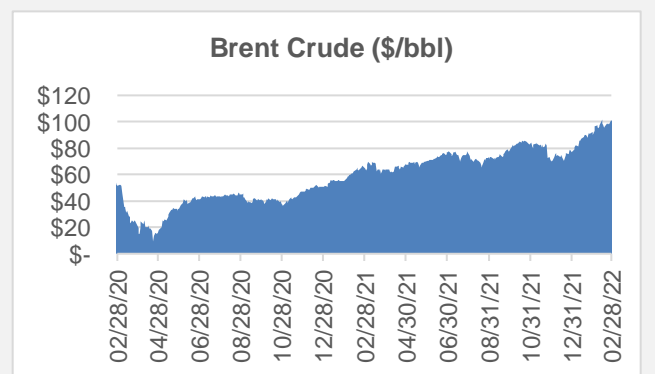


Chart of the Month

- Supply chain issues, rising demand, diminished reserves and global instability drove the price of oil higher.
- Oil prices (Brent) exceeded \$100 per barrel for the first time in over a decade
- Instability in energy markets may drive oil prices and volatility higher as global economies continue to develop clean energy sources and transition away from carbon emissions.



Investment Fund Review (Net-of-Fees Performance)ⁱ

Equity Funds

U.S. Equity Fund

Fund	February	YTD
U.S. Equity Fund	-1.87%	-7.80%
Russell 3000 Index	-2.52%	-8.25%
Difference (percentage points)	+0.65	+0.45

- During the month and year to date, the fund outperformed its benchmark due to a strategic underweight to poor performing mega-cap companies and dedicated holdings in private equity and private real estate investments. Stocks excluded in accordance with Wespath's Exclusions Policy (described [here](#)) detracted from relative performance during both periods.

International Equity Fund

Fund	February	YTD
International Equity Fund	-3.36%	-7.98%
MSCI ACWI ex U.S. Investable Market Index (Net)	-1.88%	-5.86%
Difference (percentage points)	-1.48	-2.12

- During the month and year to date, the fund underperformed its benchmark mainly due to poor performing investments held by growth-oriented active managers. The fund's exposure to Russia was minimal and similar to that of the benchmark, so relative performance was not meaningfully impacted by the fall in the Russian stock market. The fund's fair market valuation policy (described [here](#)) negatively impacted benchmark-relative performance along with stocks excluded in accordance with Wespath's Exclusions Policy (described [here](#)). Investments in private equity and private real estate contributed modestly to relative performance.

U.S. Equity Index Fund

Fund	February	YTD
U.S. Equity Index Fund	-2.71%	-8.45%
Russell 3000 Index	-2.52%	-8.25%
Difference (percentage points)	-0.19	-0.20

- The U.S. Equity Index Fund is a passively managed fund designed so that it closely matches the fund benchmark, less fees and expenses.

Fixed Income Funds

Fixed Income Fund

Fund	February	YTD
Fixed Income Fund	-1.76%	-3.70%
Barclays U.S. Universal (ex MBS) Index	-1.48%	-3.85%
Difference (percentage points)	-0.28	+0.15

- The largest detractor from benchmark-relative performance in February was the overweight allocation to emerging market debt. The fund's allocations to U.S. agency commercial mortgage-backed securities, the Positive Social Purpose Lending Program and high yield rated corporate debt positively contributed to benchmark-relative performance.
- Year to date, the fund has outperformed its benchmark due to positive manager security selection and allocations to U.S. agency commercial mortgage-backed securities, the Positive Social Purpose Lending Program, high yield rated corporate debt and global bonds. The fund's allocation to emerging market debt detracted from benchmark-relative performance.

Extended Term Fixed Income Fund

Fund	February	YTD
Extended Term Fixed Income Fund	-2.06%	-5.39%
Barclays U.S. Government/Credit Long Term Index	-2.54%	-7.32%
Difference (percentage points)	+0.48	+1.93

- The fund's policy of maintaining a lower sensitivity to interest rate movements contributed positively to benchmark-relative returns during the month and year-to-date periods.

Inflation Protection Fund

Fund	February	YTD
Inflation Protection Fund	+0.97%	+0.67%
IPF Benchmark ⁱⁱ	+0.93%	+0.34%
Difference (percentage points)	+0.04	+0.33

- The fund's underweight exposure to U.K. inflation-linked securities and global bonds positively contributed to benchmark-relative performance during the month. Manager selection of emerging market inflation-linked securities and an overweight allocation to floating-rate senior loans detracted from the fund's benchmark-relative performance.
- On a year-to-date basis, the fund's underweight exposure to U.K. inflation-linked securities and global bonds and its overweight allocation to commodities contributed positively to benchmark-relative performance. The fund's overweight allocation to U.S. inflation-linked bonds and floating-rate senior loans and manager selection of emerging market inflation-linked securities detracted from the fund's benchmark-relative performance.

Balanced Fund

Multiple Asset Fund

Fund	February	YTD
Multiple Asset Fund	-1.96%	-5.95%
MAF Benchmark ⁱⁱⁱ	-1.72%	-5.59%
Difference (percentage points)	-0.24	-0.36

- During the month, the U.S. Equity Fund and Inflation Protection Fund positively contributed to benchmark-relative performance, but the International Equity Fund and Fixed Income Fund detracted from benchmark-relative performance.
- Year to date, the U.S. Equity Fund, Fixed Income Fund and Inflation Protection Fund positively contributed to benchmark-relative performance, but the International Equity Fund detracted from benchmark-relative performance.

Social Values Choice Suite of Funds

Social Values Choice Bond Fund

Fund	February	YTD
Social Values Choice Bond Fund	-1.36%	-3.44%
Barclays U.S. Universal (ex MBS) Index	-1.48%	-3.85%
Difference (percentage points)	+0.12	+0.41

- The fund's duration positioning, security selection in high-yield corporate bonds and exposure to securitized assets contributed positively to benchmark-relative performance during the month and year to date. Allocations to emerging market debt detracted from relative performance.

Social Values Choice Equity Fund

Fund	February	YTD
Social Values Choice Equity Fund	-3.40%	-9.16%
SVCEF Benchmark ^{iv}	-3.13%	-9.11%
Difference (percentage points)	-0.27	-0.05

- The Social Values Choice Equity Fund is a passively managed fund designed so that it closely matches the fund benchmark, less fees and expenses. The fund's fair market valuation policy (described [here](#)) negatively impacted benchmark-relative performance for the month and year to date.

U.S. Treasury Inflation Protection Fund

Fund	February	YTD
U.S. Treasury Inflation Protection Fund	+0.92%	-1.41%
Barclays U.S. Inflation Linked Bond Index	+0.82%	-1.41%
Difference (percentage points)	+0.10	0.00

- The U.S. Treasury Inflation Protection Fund is a passively managed fund designed to closely match the performance of the fund benchmark, less fees and expenses.

For additional information, please contact:**Karen Manczko***Director, Institutional Relationships*

(847) 866-4236 direct

(847) 866-4100 general

kmanczko@wspath.org**Evan Witkowski, CIPM, FSA Credential Holder***Manager, Institutional Relationships*

(847) 866-5271 direct

(847) 866-4100 general

ewitkowski@wspath.org

1901 Chestnut Avenue
Glenview, Illinois 60025
(847) 866-4100
wspath.org

ⁱ Historical returns are not indicative of future performance. Fund returns are net of fees. Please refer to the [Investment Funds Description – P Series](#) for more information about the funds. This is not an offer to purchase securities.

ⁱⁱ The benchmark for the Inflation Protection Fund is comprised of 80% Barclays World Government Inflation Linked Bond Index (Hedged), 10% Barclays Emerging Market Tradeable Inflation Linked Bond Index (Unhedged) and 10% Bloomberg Commodity Index.

ⁱⁱⁱ The benchmark for the Multiple Asset Fund is comprised of 35% Russell 3000 Index, 30% MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) excluding USA Investable Market Index (IMI), 25% Barclays Capital U.S. Universal Index ex-Mortgage Backed Securities and 10% Inflation Protection Fund (IPF) Benchmark.

^{iv} The benchmark for the Social Values Choice Equity Fund is the MSCI World Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ex Fossil Fuels Index.