

# Weekly Market Summary, May 16, 2011

Domestic equity markets were mostly flat last week while international markets were relatively weaker due, in large part, to a stronger dollar.

Also, treasuries' strong performance slowed last week, as the 2-year, 10-year, and long bond came off their lowest levels in a month. Read more in our [Weekly Market Summary](#).

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# Weekly Market Summary, May 9, 2011

The anticipated relief rally in equities after the news of Osama Bin Laden's death never really materialized, and markets slid lower last week on poor economic news.

A much better-than-expected jobs number on Friday gave equity markets a boost, but it was not enough to offset weakness from earlier in the week. [Read more](#) in this week's Market Summary (PDF, new window)

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# Weekly Market Summary, May 2, 2011

For the first time ever, the chairman of the Federal Reserve spoke last week to a national audience regarding the Federal Open Market Committee's (FOMC) monetary policy.

Equity markets shrugged off the press conference as a nonevent, but they did move sharply higher on strong earnings results. 2011 estimates for the S&P 500 have been slowly creeping toward \$100 per share.

[Read more in our Weekly Market Summary.](#) (PDF, new window)

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# Weekly Market Summary, April 25, 2011

The 10-year Treasury ended the week where it started, close to its 3.40-percent support level. The negative outlook for the U.S. government issued by Standard & Poor's had less impact than expected, as the larger part of the curve was little changed from the previous week. [Read more in this week's Market Summary](#) (PDF, new window).

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# CFP Board Says: "Let's Make a Plan"

Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. has announced its "Let's Make a Plan" Public Awareness Campaign, designed to help educate Americans about the importance of sound financial planning and raise awareness about the significance of the CFP® certification and the need for competent and ethical financial planning.

Allen Insurance and Financial is supporting this effort in his/her/their local community by encouraging people to learn more about CFP® certification and financial planning.

"People are pulled in so many different directions when it comes to their finances, but a CFP® professional is uniquely qualified to pull all the pieces together and provide a comprehensive evaluation that looks at the whole picture of a person's financial life," said Charles Moran, CFP®, 2011 Chair of CFP Board's Board of Directors.

The integrated campaign includes national cable television and online advertising in addition to its print advertising.

[Click View YouTube Video \(in a new window\)](#)

A public service website – [www.LetsMakeaPlan.org](http://www.LetsMakeaPlan.org) – will serve as a core feature of the campaign, where consumers can learn about financial planning, the personalized approach CFP® professionals provide and find a local CFP® professional through a search function.

The Board of Directors approved the four-year, \$36 million campaign in November 2010 partly in response to many CFP® professionals who want the public to understand the important

role they play in educating Americans on their financial well-being and helping people meet their life goals. The campaign will help provide clarity to consumers who are looking toward designations and certifications to provide guidance on choosing a financial planner or advisor.

“The CFP® mark truly serves as the gold standard for personal financial planning,” said CFP Board CEO Kevin R. Keller, CAE. “Just about anyone can use the term ‘financial planner.’ But only those individuals who have passed a rigorous set of criteria and meet our strict ethical qualifications can call themselves a CFP® professional.”

This is the first large-scale Public Awareness Campaign the organization has underwritten. For more information on the campaign and to find a CFP® professional, visit the public service website at [www.LetsMakeAPlan.org](http://www.LetsMakeAPlan.org).

## **ABOUT CFP BOARD**

The mission of Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. is to benefit the public by granting the CFP® certification and upholding it as the recognized standard of excellence for personal financial planning. The Board of Directors, in furthering CFP Board’s mission, acts on behalf of the public, CFP® professionals and other stakeholders. CFP Board owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, and the federally registered CFP (with flame design) in the U.S., which it awards to individuals who successfully complete CFP Board’s initial and ongoing certification requirements. CFP Board currently authorizes nearly 63,000 individuals to use these marks in the U.S.

## **ABOUT ALLEN INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL**

Allen Insurance and Financial is an employee-owned insurance, employee benefits, and financial services company with offices

in Camden, Rockland and Southwest Harbor. Call 800-439-4311.

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## **Weekly Market Update – April 4, 2011**

Treasuries continued their recent selloff, as the 10-year pushed up to 3.45 percent late last week. The 2-year was up to 0.782 percent, and the 30-year moved to 4.50 percent.

Equities gained ground for a second week due to stronger macroeconomic news. Many indices have been sitting at or near 52-week highs.

[Read more in our Weekly Market Update.](#)

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## **Weekly Market Update: March 28, 2011**

Equity markets shrugged off bad news last week—including spreading tensions in the Middle East and Africa, persistently high crude oil prices, and the unfolding events at Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant—to post solid gains.

[Read more in this week's Market Update.](#)

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# Weekly Market Summary: March 21, 2011

Equity markets dropped again last week, driven lower by escalating tensions in Libya and the devastating impact of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

[Read the complete market summary.](#)

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# Weekly Market Update : March 14, 2011

Equity markets declined across the board last week. They were led lower by cyclical stocks and international markets.

Tensions across Africa and the Middle East, oil's rising cost—more than \$106 per barrel—and questions about inflation and potential policy changes at central banks around the world weighed on investors' minds. [Read more](#) in this week's Market Summary (PDF, new window).

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# Small Gains in Equity Markets,

# Rising Oil Prices: Weekly Market Summary

Equity markets managed to eke out small gains last week, despite a jump in volatility.

Tensions and violence continued to escalate in Africa and the Middle East. The threat of contagion across the region to larger oil-producing nations, such as Saudi Arabia, has pushed crude oil prices well above \$100 per barrel and has many investors seeking to reduce this risk from their portfolios.

[Read more in this week's Market Summary.](#) (PDF, new window)