



Weekly Review—December 6, 2024

She works hard for the money... (Donna Summers). My mother would sing along when this song would come on the radio when I was a kid in Columbia, Missouri. At nine years old, I did not fully grasp the struggles of a single mother working, going back to school, and raising a cute but very selfish son. Songs like this empowered her to keep up the fight and provided the appreciation for the struggle, then, that her much older son can only now begin to understand. My mother's example showed me that perseverance and strength were not reserved for the sports heroes I worshiped in my youth, but for everyday people who show up and work hard for the money. Despite predictions of a much tougher year, this year continues to tell the age-old fairy tale of the three bears.

I have not heard an official entry yet but my word for 2024 is "Goldilocks." We have heard the potential for a soft landing by the Federal Reserve referred to as the "Goldilocks" scenario. And even after today's positive employment data, I again read of the labor markets as being in the "Goldilocks zone" according to Josh Jammer quoted in a Bloomberg posting. The last three payrolls have averaged around +173,000 print, the wage data continues to keep pace with inflation, and the unemployment rate and initial jobless claims remain steady and near historic averages. I will leave it to much wiser and learned historians to explain why we have not seen the recession we envisioned and expected to happen over the last year or two, but as someone living in the moment, I am certainly happier that it did not occur.

Investors seek more certainty than uncertainty. This provides more confidence when choosing where to put money to work. There are still some areas of concern, but in fixed income, there appears to be wider instances of investors placing bets that things will remain "just right," not too hot, not too cold. Please reach out to your investment representative to help execute your strategy as we near the close of a year that was not Pollyannish, but Goldilocks. I am not saying we will all live happily ever after, but we appear to be being treated like we deserve. *She works hard for the money...so you better treat her right.*

Have a great weekend!

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NEW ISSUE MUNICIPAL CALENDAR			
Date	Amount (\$)	Description	Maturity
12/09/2024	\$2,625,000	Pleasant Hill, MO Rev	2026-2049
12/09/2024	\$1,050,000	Harper KS GO	2025-2039
12/11/2024	\$9,950,000	Fulton School District #58, MO GO	2036-2040
12/12/2024	\$12,000,000	Kearney, MO Fire & Rescue GO	2027-2044

Economic Release	Data Period	Date	Survey	Actual	Prior
ISM Manufacturing	Nov	12/02/2024	47.5	48.4	46.5
JOLTS Job Openings	Oct	12/03/2024	7,519k	7,744k	7,372k (rev down)
MBA Mortgage Applications	Nov 29	12/04/2024	NA	2.8%	6.3%
ADP Employment Change	Nov	12/04/2024	150k	146k	184k (rev down)
ISM Service Index	Nov	12/04/2024	55.7	52.1	56.0
Factory Orders	Oct	12/04/2024	0.2%	0.2%	-0.2% (rev up)
Durable Goods Orders	Oct (F)	12/04/2024	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%
Initial Jobless Claims	Nov 30	12/05/2024	215k	224k	215k (rev up)
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	Nov	12/06/2024	220k	227k	36k (rev up)
Unemployment Rate	Nov	12/06/2024	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%

KEY INDICES				MUNI AA—BQ		CMO Spreads to Treasuries		
	Current	Last Month	One Year Ago				PAC	Vanilla
Prime Rate	7.75	8.00	8.50	3 Mo.	2.17	1-Year	N/A	+45
Discount Rate	4.75	5.00	5.50	6 Mo.	2.26	2-Year	60	70
Fed Funds Rate	4.58	4.83	5.33	1-Year	2.68	3-Year	75	95
Interest on Reserve Bal.	4.65	4.90	5.40	2-Year	2.55	5-Year	100	110
SOFR	4.59	4.82	5.33	3-Year	2.54	MBS Current Coupon Yields		
11th Dist COFI (ECOFC)	3.11	3.21	3.09	5-Year	2.59	GNMA 30 Yr.	5.27%	
1-Yr. CMT	4.19	4.27	5.06	7-Year	2.67	FNMA 30 Yr.	5.35%	
Dow	44,642.52	43,729.93	36,054.43	10-Year	2.84	FNMA 15 Yr.	4.68%	
NASDAQ	19,859.77	18,983.46	14,146.71	30-Year	3.79			
S&P 500	6,090.27	5,929.04	4,549.34					
Bond Buyer	3.98	4.16	3.41					

Treasuries & New Issue Agencies (Spread to Treasuries)										
	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	1-Yr.	2-Yr.	3-Yr.	5-Yr.	7-Yr	10-Yr	20-Yr	30-Yr
Treasuries	4.40	4.34	4.17	4.09	4.05	4.03	4.09	4.15	4.42	4.33
Bullets				0	1	3	12	20		
NC-6 Mo.				45	60	95	110	115		
NC-1 Year				25	45	76	92	102		
NC-2 Year					20	48	65	77		

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