



MONTHLY MARKET UPDATE

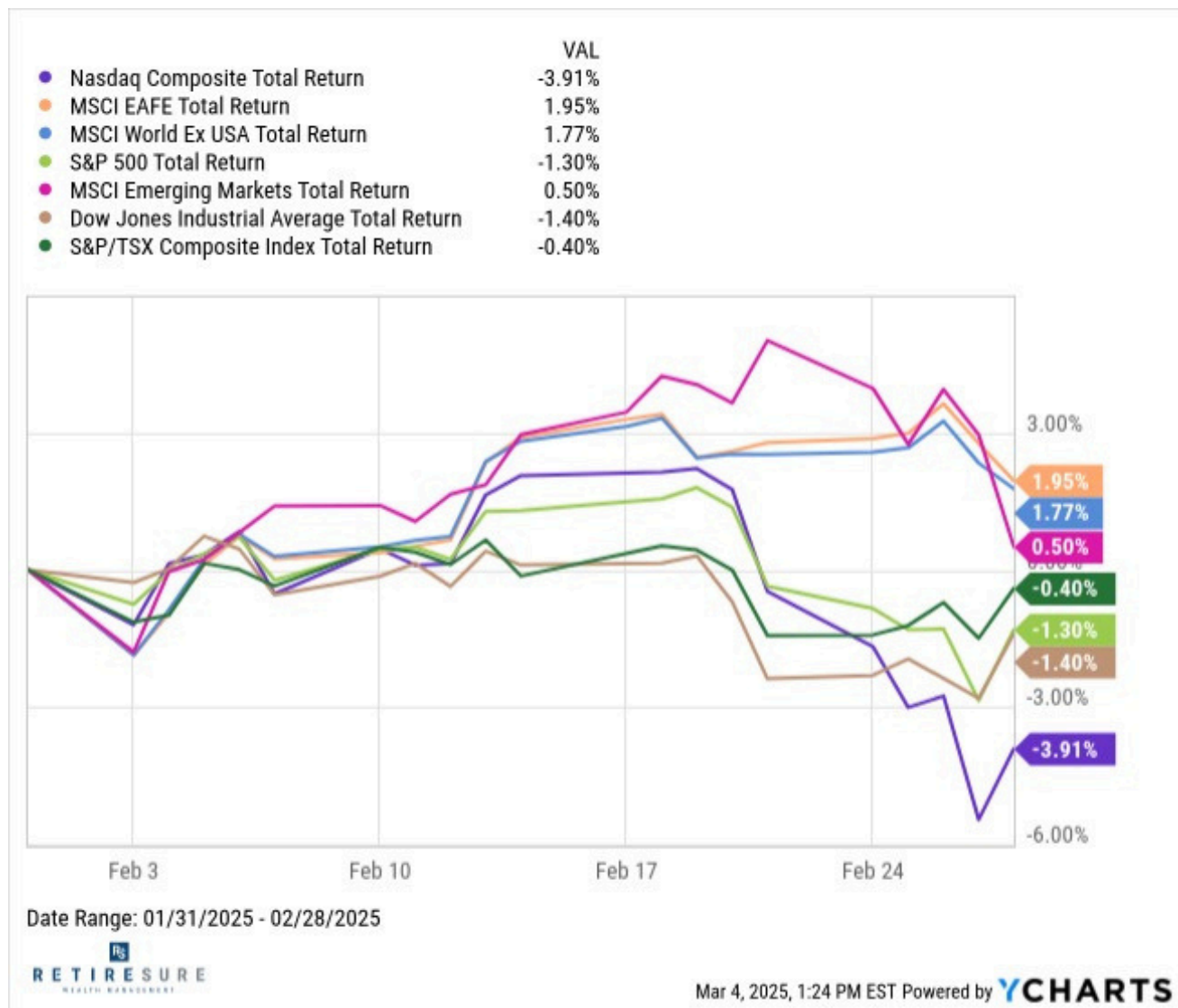
March 2025

Monthly Market Snapshot for February 2025

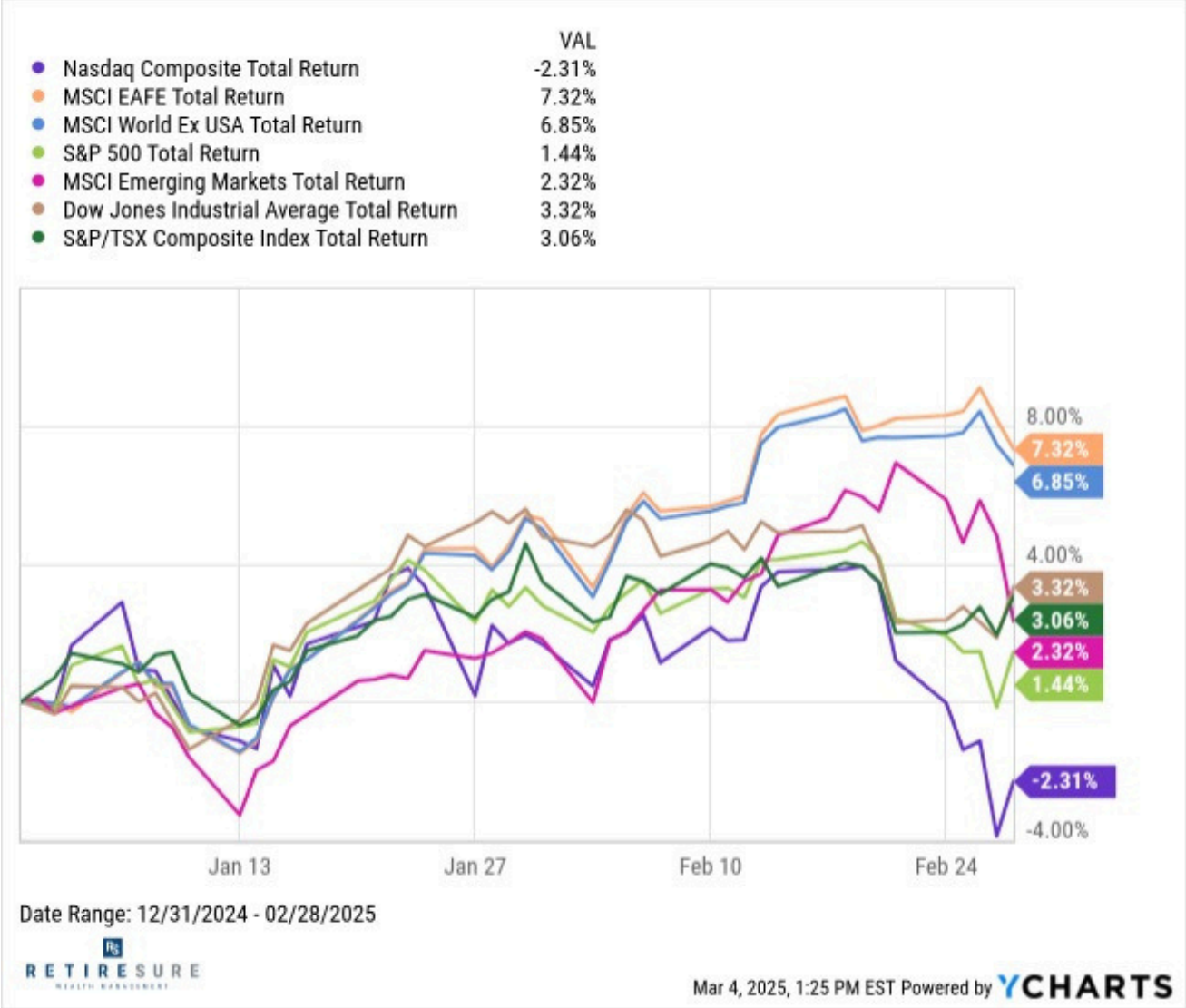
The three major U.S. equity indices declined in February as equities exhibited mixed performance amid economic uncertainties and policy developments. The S&P 500 experienced fluctuations but remain positive for the year. The S&P 500 was down 1.3% in February. The Dow Jones was down 1.4% and the NASDAQ was down 3.9% for the month.

Click the link for the full version: [Monthly Market Snapshot](#)

Major Market Returns for February 2025



Market Returns for 2025 Year-To-Date



MARKET UPDATE

YCHARTS

Asset Class Snapshot		2/28/25
Asset Class	YTD Return	
Global Stock Ex U.S.	5.47%	
U.S. Bond	2.74%	
Canada Bond	2.24%	
Global Bond	2.01%	
U.S. Stock	1.18%	

Region Snapshot		2/28/25
Region	YTD Return	
Europe Stock	10.81%	
Global Stock Ex U.S.	5.47%	
Canada Stock	3.06%	
Emerging Markets	2.28%	
U.S. Stock	1.18%	
Asia Pacific Stock	1.14%	

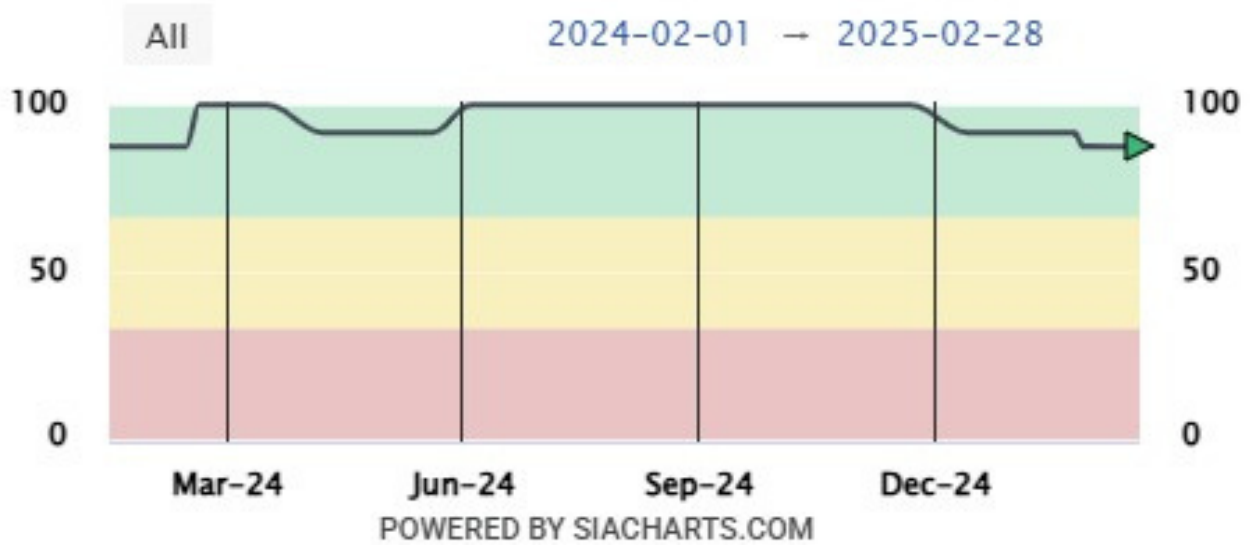
Equity Style Snapshot				2/28/25
YTD	Value	Blend	Growth	
Large	5.22%	1.50%	-1.13%	
Mid	2.64%	2.49%	2.33%	
Small	-0.23%	-1.13%	-2.31%	

[View Full Heatmap Here](#)

Risk Management and Asset Allocation

SIA Equity Action Call™

FAVORED



Asset Class Rank



Mar 3, 2025

RANK	ASSET CLASS	CHANGE
1 st	U.S. Equity	
2 nd	CAD Equity	
3 rd	Cash	
4 th	Intl Equity	
5 th	Currency	
6 th	Commodities	
7 th	Bond	

Source: SIA Charts

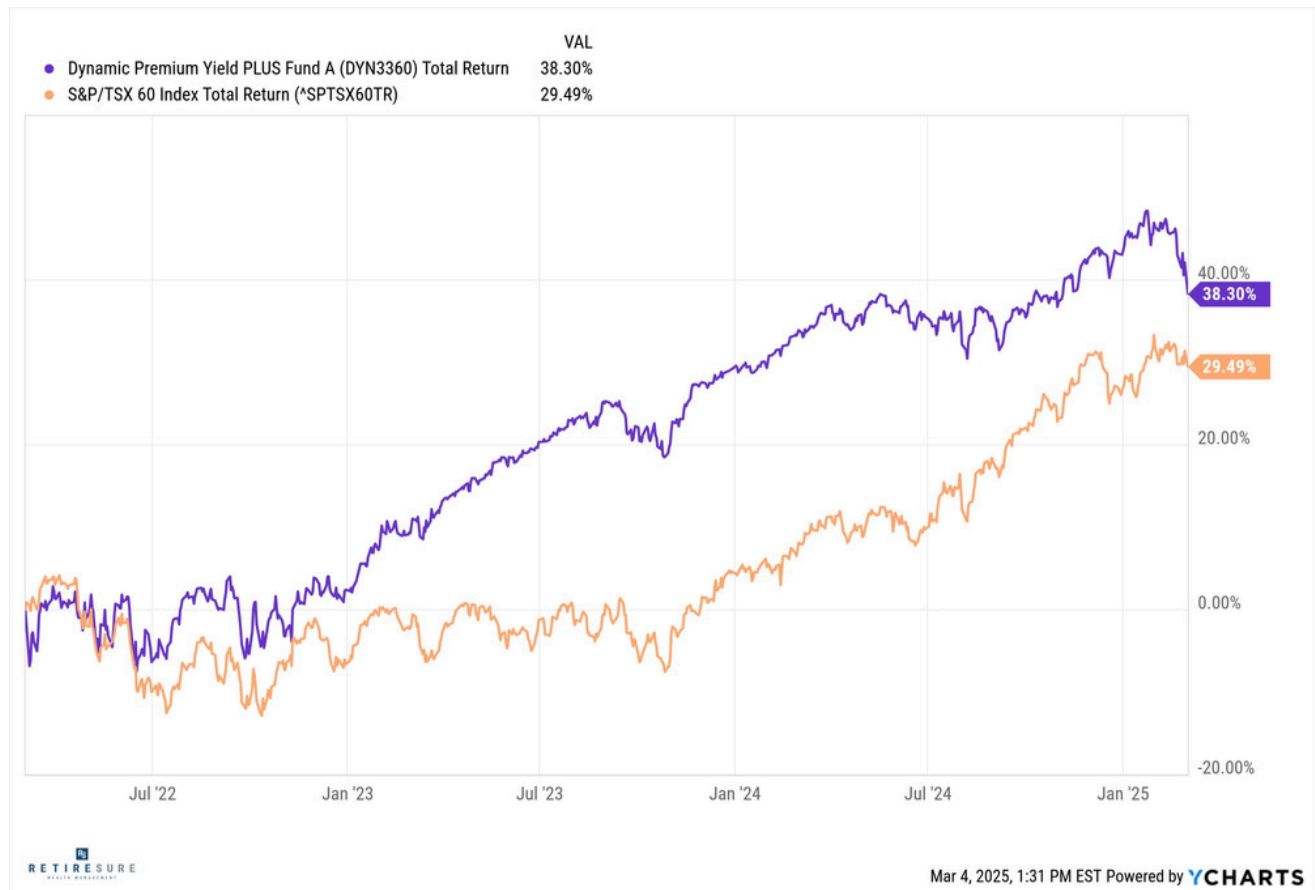
February did not see any changes in the Asset Class Rankings. U.S. Equity, CAD Equity and Cash all remain the top 3 positions respectively.

Fund of the Month

Dynamic Premium Yield PLUS Fund

Dynamic Premium Yield PLUS Fund provides access to an alternative portfolio strategy, which includes options writing, to provide U.S. equity exposure with reduced volatility. The fund uses moderate leverage to potentially enhance total returns, including offering a higher yield, but with systematic downside protection.

Dynamic Premium Yield PLUS Fund is a great opportunity to earn attractive monthly income, with the funds current yield being 9.9%, in addition to the opportunity for capital appreciation.



GIC Best Rates

We shop the market for the best Annual GIC rates in Canada so you don't have to. We also carry compound GICs, Monthly Pay GICs, Short Term Deposits, Cashables and USD GICs. Call us for a quote.

Term	Institution	This Month	Last Month
1 Year	MCAN Mortgage Corp (5,000 min - 1,000,000 max)	3.46%	3.70%
2 Year	HomEquity Bank (5,000 min - 1,000,000 max)	3.54%	3.55%
3 Year	Haventree Bank (5,000 min - 49,999 max)	3.60%	3.39%
4 Year	HomEquity Bank (5,000 min - 1,000,000 max)	3.60%	3.39%
5 Year	HomEquity Bank (5,000 min - 1,000,000 max)	3.70%	3.42%

Rates as of March 4, 2025. All rates are annualized and subject to change without notice.
Source: NBIN Advisor Site

4 STEPS TO BETTER BUDGETING



Whether traveling with family, friends, or solo, there are a few tricks to minimize expenses so you can spend more on unique experiences and spontaneous opportunities.

Below are 5 steps to help you budget for your next trip.

1.) MAP OUT COSTS

- Start with a fixed budget or calculate the cost of the trip and work backwards.
- Prioritize essential expenses and cut costs on non-essentials by opting for low-cost lodging over pricey hotels. If staying with a pool and umbrella drinks are a non-negotiable, that's fine too! The point is to decide what expenses to keep and cut.

2.) RESEARCH YOUR DESTINATION

- Before you go, research transportation expenses, food, lodging, and prices of attractions you want to visit. Once you know the bottom line, start looking for ways to reduce expenses through discount sites and off-peak travel dates.

3.) START SAVING EARLY

- Plan and save up overtime. Settle on a manageable amount to set aside each paycheck so you have savings on hand. This requires preparation well in advance, but being able to pay for your vacation directly can help avoid debt.

4.) USE TRAVEL LOYALTY PROGRAMS AND CREDIT CARD REWARDS

- These are valuable tools for economizing or saving for a family vacation. As long as you keep within the boundaries of your normal spending, using rewards cards for day-to-day expenses may provide points that can be applied to lower your vacation costs.

What's ahead for March and beyond?

Wall street wanders into March with hopes of a recovery, but obstacles from jobs to tariffs loom. The markets were noticeably down on March 3rd and 4th when the tariffs were implemented. As the uncertainty of the economic environment continues with volatility to be expected, the markets and investors will price in the impacts of the tariffs and should stabilize as we move forward further into 2025.

Tariff News

Currently, the main factor affecting the stock market moving further into 2025 are the geopolitical policy uncertainties. The Trump administration announced that on March 4th, they are going forward with implementing a 25% tariff on imports from Canada and Mexico and a 10% additional tariff on imports from China. Energy resources from Canada will have a lower 10% tariff. In addition, Trump has also threatened additional 25% tariffs for certain industries, including steel, aluminum and auto imports. The White House has previously said those tariffs, the steel and aluminum levies are set to take effect on March 12th which will be stacked on top of the 25 per cent tariff on Canada. It is currently unknown if the additional tariffs will be implemented or not.

Tariffs are duties paid on goods imported into the U.S. The most common type are ad valorem tariffs, which represent a fixed percentage tax on the value of the imports. These are the tariffs Trump imposed as a 25% import tax on goods shipped from Mexico or Canada, such as avocados or lumber.

The Canadian Government has pledged to hit the U.S. with retaliatory 25 per cent tariffs on \$155 billion worth of American goods coming into Canada. There will be an immediate \$30 billion implemented, and the remaining \$125 billion in the following weeks. The first \$30-billion phase of the Canadian counter-tariff response will hit American products like orange juice, peanut butter, wine, spirits, beer, coffee, appliances, and apparel.

Interest Rate Decisions:

On January 29th, the Bank of Canada cut its benchmark interest rate by 0.25% (25 basis points), bringing the policy rate down to 3.0%. The move was widely expected by markets and most economists. This marks the sixth consecutive rate cut as inflation remains around 2% and the threat of U.S. tariffs looms. The next scheduled Bank of Canada interest rate announcement is scheduled for March 12th.

Also on January 29th, The Federal Reserve announced it will keep interest rates at the same level set last month, a target interest range of 4.25% to 4.5%. The Fed seeks to gauge where inflation is headed and what policies President Donald Trump may pursue. The Federal Reserve's next scheduled opportunity to adjust monetary policy, including rates, is March 19th.

STOCK MARKET FUN FACT

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