

M3 FINANCIAL PULSE

AUGUST 2021

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THE MONTH IN BRIEF

Last month, the stock market posted a solid gain, overcoming investors' fears or higher inflation and an increase in COVID-19 cases.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average picked up 1.25%, while the Standard & Poor's 500 Index gained 2.27%. The Nasdaq Composite lagged, climbing 1.16%.¹

1. The Wall Street Journal

READY FOR YOUR MID-YEAR FINANCIAL CHECKUP?

With July officially behind us, it's time to face the fact: we're headed toward the second half of 2021.

While there's still plenty of time to enjoy the rest of summer, we encourage you to slow down and check up on your financial well-being.

REVIEW YOUR BUDGET

Your spending habits likely look different now than they did in 2020, but did you adjust your yearly budget accordingly? The second half of the year can be expensive, between the holiday season and back-to-school spending. Take some time now to prepare.

CHECK YOUR CREDIT SCORE

If you plan on moving, purchasing a car, or taking out a personal loan this year, you'll want your credit score in good shape. Your score could have been impacted by recently accrued debt, late payments, hard credit inquiries, identity theft, and more.

PREPARE FOR ADVANCED TAX CREDITS

If your family is eligible, you may begin receiving advanced child tax credits in July. Families who qualify are expected to receive six installments via direct deposit or mailed check. If you anticipate getting the credit, you may want to talk it over with your tax professional.

With 2021 looking different than last year, take some time to evaluate your financial standings as we prepare for the second half of the year. Remember, we're always here if you need assistance reassessing or working towards your financial goals.

CONTACT US today to schedule a consultation to review your financial situation.



FACT OF THE MONTH

Only 30% of U.S. households have a long-term financial plan. Research says that 32% of households create a written or computerized plan to track the expenses, while **24% hire professional financial planners.**²

2. Gallup



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