

% Change % Change % Change Trailing

May 28th, 2021

THE WEEK IN NUMBERS

(May 24th - May 28th)

Research Services

Contact your Investment Advisor for more information regarding this document.

INDEX	Last price	Change Week	% Change Week	% Change YTD	%Change 1 Year	Trailing P/E
Dow Jones Industrial	34,529.45	321.61	0.94%	12.82%	35.94%	22.7
S&P 500	4,204.11	48.25	1.16%	11.93%	38.76%	27.6
Nasdaq Composite	13,748.74	277.75	2.06%	6.68%	46.75%	32.2
S&P/TSX Composite	19,852.18	324.88	1.66%	13.87%	30.07%	18.5
Dow Jones Euro Stoxx 50	4,070.56	44.78	1.11%	14.58%	31.54%	24.8
FTSE 100 (UK)	7,022.61	4.56	0.06%	8.70%	12.93%	17.6
DAX (Germany)	15,519.98	82.47	0.53%	13.13%	31.74%	18.8
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	29,149.41	831.58	2.94%	6.21%	33.00%	17.2
Hang Seng (Hong Kong)	29,124.41	665.97	2.34%	6.95%	25.90%	14.4
Shanghai Composite (China)	3,600.78	114.23	3.28%	3.68%	26.51%	13.1
MSCI World	2,980.06	36.93	1.25%	10.78%	38.72%	27.5
MSCI EAFE	2,343.45	28.82	1.25%	9.12%	34.44%	21.0

S&P TSX SECTORS	Last price	Change Week	% Change Week	% Change YTD	%Change 1 Year	Trailing P/E
S&P TSX Consumer Discretionary	275.14	5.55	2.06%	18.01%	57.41%	29.5
S&P TSX Consumer Staples	691.35	7.83	1.15%	9.26%	11.55%	20.1
S&P TSX Energy	127.80	3.50	2.82%	40.42%	61.47%	22.6
S&P TSX Financials	370.92	5.64	1.54%	21.11%	45.49%	13.0
S&P TSX Health Care	73.30	6.07	9.03%	21.86%	21.22%	N/A
S&P TSX Industrials	354.98	9.20	2.66%	7.95%	32.52%	22.8
S&P TSX Info Tech.	187.75	1.86	1.00%	2.96%	24.65%	54.3
S&P TSX Materials	341.30	4.68	1.39%	6.45%	16.60%	19.5
S&P TSX Real Estate	343.54	2.92	0.86%	15.11%	31.01%	15.0
S&P TSX Communication Services	188.68	2.04	1.09%	15.23%	16.47%	23.6
S&P TSX Utilities	322.42	-0.55	-0.17%	0.91%	14.58%	20.6

COMMODITIES	Last price	Change Week	% Change Week	% Change YTD	%Change 1 Year	NBF 2021E
Oil-WTI futures (US\$/Barrels)	\$66.64	3.06	4.81%	37.35%	97.69%	\$59.50
Natural gas futures (US\$/mcf)	\$2.99	0.09	2.99%	17.88%	63.82%	\$2.75
Gold Spot (US\$/OZ)	\$1,904.50	27.80	1.48%	0.60%	11.16%	\$1,845
Copper futures (US\$/Pound)	\$4.67	0.18	3.95%	33.00%	93.68%	\$4.60

CURR	ENCIES	Last price	Curr. Net Change	% Change Week	% Change YTD	%Change 1 Year	NBF Q4/21e
Cdn\$/US\$		0.8282	-0.0002	-0.02%	5.49%	14.00%	0.83
Euro/US\$		1.2190	0.0011	0.09%	-0.19%	10.06%	1.23
Pound/US\$		1.4191	0.0044	0.31%	3.79%	15.22%	1.40
US\$/Yen		109.84	0.90	0.83%	6.39%	2.05%	109

Source: Refinitiv and NBF Research

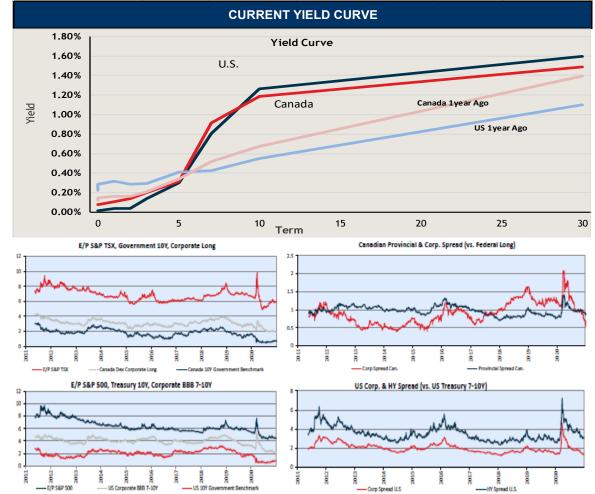
Please see last page for NBF Disclosures

FIXED INCOME NUMBERS

THE WEEK IN NUMBERS (May 25th – May 28th)

Canadian Key Rate	Last	Change 1 month bps		Last	Change 1 month bps
CDA o/n	0.25%	0.0	CDA 5 year	0.91%	-9.3
CDA Prime	2.45%	0.0	CDA 10 year	1.49%	-15.3
CDA 3 month T-Bill	0.11%	-1.0	CDA 20 year	1 .9 1%	-19.2
CDA 6 month T-Bill	0.14%	-1.5	CDA 30 year	2.04%	-20.7
CDA 1 Year	0.21%	-2.0	5YR Sovereign CDS	38.3	0.4
CDA 2 year	0.32%	-3.2	10YR Sovereign CDS	39.92	0.0
US Key Rate	Last	Change 1 month bps		Last	Change 1 month bps
US FED Funds	0-0.25%	0.0	US 5 year	0.80%	-8.6
US Prime	3.25%	0.0	US 10 year	1.60%	-16.2
US 3 month T-Bill	0.02%	-0.2	US 30 year	2.28%	-23.0
US 6 month T-Bill	0.04%	-0.3	5YR Sovereign CDS	9.96	0.4
US 1 Year	0.04%	-0.5	10YR Sovereign CDS	17.44	-0.6
US 2 year	0.14%	-1.7			
					Change

CANADIAN BOND - TOTAL RETURN	Change Week	Change Y-T-D
FTSE Universe Bond Index	0.64%	-4.48%
FTSE Short Term Bond Index	0.09%	-0.33%
FTSE Mid Term Bond Index	0.33%	-3.48%
FTSE Long Term Bond Index	1.57%	-10.16%



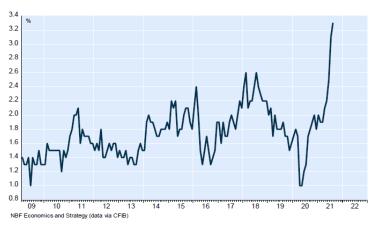
Source: Refinitiv & NBF

NBF Economy & Strategy Group

WEEKLY ECONOMIC WATCH

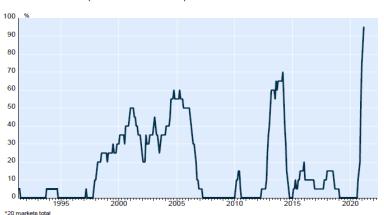
CANADA - In May, the **CFIB Business Barometer Index** climbed 2.8 points to 66.2, an improvement likely owed to the vaccine rollout gaining momentum. Most of the provinces registered heightened business confidence, with Ontario (+5.8 to 68.6) and Newfoundland & Labrador (+3.3 to 56.8) leading the pack. The exceptions included Nova Scotia (-7.4 to 64.6) and Manitoba (-2.4 to 67.1), where the epidemiological situations took a turn for the worse, and, to a lesser extent, British Columbia (-1.4 to 68.0). Of the 13 industry groups surveyed, eight saw optimism pick up in the month, notably transportation and information, arts and services (+6.0 to 66.0 and +5.7 to 64.6, respectively). Despite noticeable pullbacks in retail and agriculture (-5.6 to 60.1 and -5.4 to 65.8, respectively), all industry groups reported an index of business confidence of 60.0 or more, a first since 2014. Regarding employment, 16.7% of businesses reported that they planned on cutting full-time jobs in the next 3-4 months, well below the 22.3% that planned on hiring during this period. On average, businesses expected their prices to increase 3.3% in the coming year, the highest percentage on record.





UNITED STATES - In March, the **S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller 20 city Index** grew at its fastest annual pace (+13.3%) since 2013. Every city but Chicago (9.0%) registered double-digit increases from a year earlier, a first occurrence on record. Seasonally adjusted data showed that the index rose 1.6% m/m in March after climbing 1.3% in February. This was the 108th consecutive monthly gain for this indicator and its steepest jump since April 2013. The increase was generalized across all 20 cities, with Phoenix (+3.1%), Seattle (+2.9%) and San Diego (+2.6%) topping the list. The steep price growth in March was consistent with persistently high demand and low supply on the resale market. In April, the inventory of unsold properties listed for sale stood at only 2.4 months of supply. This was up from 2.1 in March but was still very low by historical terms and continued to reflect tight market conditions. (According to the National Association of Realtors, a ratio <5 is indicative of a tight market.).

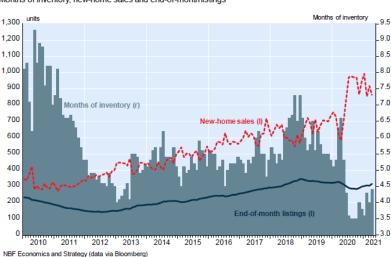




NBF Economics and Strategy (data via Bloombe

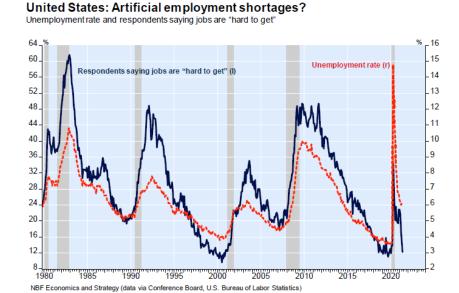
NBF Economy & Strategy Group

In April, seasonally adjusted new-home sales dropped 5.9% m/m (March's total was subject to a substantial downward revision). The 863K sales in the month fell short of the 950K expected by consensus, a performance influenced by the mounting cost of building materials, which acted as a headwind on demand. Still, new-home sales remained above their pre pandemic peak of 756K and were up 48.3% from a year earlier when COVID 19 restrictions slowed down the market. As April sales declined while listings increased 4.0%, the inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 4.0 to 4.4, a tick above its February level.



United States: New-home market remained tight despite improvements Months of inventory, new-home sales and end-of-month listings

In May, the **Conference Board Consumer Confidence Index** dipped 0.3 point to 117.2, its first decline since December 2020. This essentially flat print was characterized by increased confidence in the present situation (+12.4 points to 144.3) but decreased optimism about the future (-8.8 to 99.1). Where the current conditions subindex is concerned, the percentage of respondents who stated that jobs were "hard to get" fell to 12.2%, only three ticks above the prepandemic low, indicating that current labour shortages stemmed from the supply side rather than demand side. Also worth noting, the percentage of respondents who deemed that jobs were "plentiful" jumped from 36.3% in April to 46.8% in May, just four ticks shy of this indicator's prepandemic peak (47.2%). For its part, the expectations subindex, which tracks consumer sentiment towards the coming six months, fell sharply from a revised 107.9 in April to 99.1 in May, marked by a 2.7-pp increase in the proportion of respondents who believed that business conditions will worsen over the next six months, a result likely influenced by the fading out of government support and high inflation expectations. The share of respondents who stated that they intended to buy a home in the next six months shrank 1.7 pp in May, the second sharpest monthly decline on record (tied with November 2019) behind the drop of December 2012. This could contribute to calm the housing market in the coming months.



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Durable goods orders fell in April. Total orders decreased 1.3% m/m, a far cry from the +0.8% print expected by consensus. The March result was revised up two ticks to 1.0%. Following the monthly decline for this indicator, total orders stood 6.6% above their February 2020 pre-pandemic level. The deterioration in April was due mainly to a 6.7% decline in the transportation category, where the vehicle/parts segment regressed 6.2%. Excluding transportation, orders rose 1.0% (three ticks above expectations) on gains for primary metals (+3.0%), machinery (+1.4%), fabricated metals (+0.9%), and computers/electronics (+0.4%). These were more than enough to offset the decline for electrical equipment (-0.9%). The report also showed that shipments of non defence capital goods excluding aircraft, a proxy for business investment spending, rose 0.9% in April after progressing 1.5% the prior month. Core shipments stood a solid 11.6% above their pre pandemic level. Core orders, which are indicative of future capital spending, sprang 2.3% in the month, topping their pre-pandemic level.

In April, **the pending home sales index** dropped 4.4% m/m as low inventories acted as a damper on the housing market. The index stood at 106.2, close to its pre-pandemic level of 110.8.

Initial jobless claims dropped 38K to a post-pandemic low of 406K in the week ending May 22nd. Continued claims, meanwhile, fell 96K to 3,642K, practically erasing last week's growth. Topping these up were the roughly 11.7 million people who received benefits in the week ended May 8 under two emergency programs: Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation.

The second estimate of **Q1 GDP growth** came in unchanged at 6.4% in annualized terms. The details of this report showed upward revisions in consumption, business investment in equipment and intellectual property products, and residential investment. These were offset by downward revisions to trade, inventories, government spending, and business investment in structures. Q1 growth still left U.S. GDP 0.9% below its pre-pandemic peak (2019Q4).

Contributions to Q1 real GDP growth					
	2nd est.	1st est.			
GDP	6.4	6.4			
Consumption	7.4	7.0			
Business Investm. Equip./Intell.	1.5	1.4			
Business Investm. Struct.	-0.2	-0.1			
Residential Investm.	0.6	0.5			
Government	1.0	1.1			
Domestic Demand	10.4	9.9			
Exports	-0.3	-0.1			
Imports	-0.9	-0.8			
Trade	-1.2	-0.9			
Final Sales	11.6	9.0			
Inventories	-2.8	-2.6			

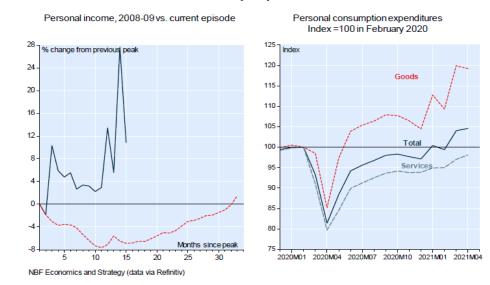
NBF Economics and Strategy (data via Bloomberg)

Nominal personal income sank 13.1% in April after March's 20.9% increase, better than consensus expectations calling for a 14.2% drawback. The decline was expected as lump sum assistance checks were sent to households in the prior month. As a result, governments transfers dropped 41.6% from March's all time high to \$4,751 billion (seasonally adjusted at annual rates). As the labour market continued to recover, the wage/salary component of income progressed 1.0%. This improvement was obviously not enough to offset the decline in government transfers, and as a result disposable income decreased 14.6% in the month.

Nominal **personal spending**, for its part, improved 0.5% in April and stood 4.6% above its prepandemic peak. While goods consumption stood 18.6% above its pre crisis mark, services consumption was still 1.9% below its peak. The latter segment, which typically holds up better in times of recession, was hit harder during lockdowns and was recovering more laboriously because of rules of physical distancing imposed to limit the spread of the virus.

NBF Economy & Strategy Group

U.S.: Income remains well above pre-pandemic levels



As income dropped with spending remaining essentially unchanged, the saving rate drew back from an 11-month high of 27.7% to a still elevated 14.9%. Adjusted for inflation, disposable income contracted 15.1% m/m, while spending edged down 0.1%. Also in April, the headline PCE deflator came in at 3.6% y/y (one tick above expectations) and up from 2.4% in the prior month. The core PCE measure, for its part, clocked in at 3.1% y/y, two ticks stronger than consensus and up from 1.9% in the month of March.

WORLD - The European Commission's Economic Sentiment Index rose 4 points to 114.5 in May following a steep improvement in April, reaching its highest level since January 2018. This increase was due to improved confidence in all sectors surveyed, markedly services (+8.8 to 11.7). On a country level, Italy (+11.0 to 115.8), Poland (+5.1 to 106.7) and France (+5.0 to 110.8) registered the largest gains. The progressive re-opening of the economy and ramping up of the vaccination campaign should help maintain optimism in the coming months.



Eurozone: Economic confidence climbs further in May Economic sentiment index

In **Japan**, the **unemployment rate** climbed from 2.6% in March to 2.8% in April, its first hike in 6 months amid a worsening epidemiological situation and a trailing vaccination campaign. The state of emergency was further extended on Friday in the country's virus hot spots and is now scheduled to end on June 20.

IN THE NEWS

Thursday May 27th, 2021 U.S. weekly jobless claims drop sharply; second-U.S. and Canadian News quarter GDP growth unrevised at 6.4 pct Initial claims for state unemployment benefits totaled a Monday May 24th, 2021 seasonally adjusted 406,000 for the week ended May 22, Fed's Brainard says she expects pricing pressures to compared to 444,000 in the prior week. That was the subside over time lowest since mid-March 2020. Economists had forecast The recent inflation spike seen in some areas of the 425,000 applications for the latest week. Gross domestic economy should settle down after prices recover from the product increased at a 6.4% annualized rate last quarter, lows reached at the start of the pandemic and temporary the government said in its second estimate for the first imbalances between supply and demand are addressed, three months of the year. That was unrevised from the estimate reported last month and followed a 4.3% growth Federal Reserve Board Governor Lael Brainard said. Tuesday May 25th, 2021 rate in the fourth guarter. U.S. home prices rose more than expected in March U.S. Republicans unveil \$928 billion infrastructure The S&P/Case Shiller composite index of 20 metropolitan counteroffer areas gained 13.3% through the 12 months ended in U.S. Senate Republicans unveiled a new infrastructure offer on Thursday that would spend \$928 billion over eight March on a seasonally adjusted basis, the largest annual years to revitalize America's roads, bridges and broadband price increase since December 2013. Economists had systems, still well below President Joe Biden's last forecast a 12.3% increase. On month-to-month basis, the proposal. 20-city composite index rose 1.6% from February. Biden to push \$6 trillion U.S. budget for next fiscal Economists had been expecting a 1.2% increase. vear U.S. new home sales drop in April; March sales President Joe Biden will seek \$6 trillion in U.S. federal revised sharply lower New home sales dropped 5.9% to a seasonally adjusted spending for the 2022 fiscal year, rising to \$8.2 trillion by annual rate of 863.000 units last month. March's sales 2031, the New York Times reported, a day before the pace was revised lower to 917,000 units from the White House is expected to unveil its budget proposal. U.S. core capital goods orders, shipments increase previously reported 1.021 million units. Economists had strongly in April forecast new home sales at a rate of 970,000 units in Orders for non-defense capital goods excluding aircraft, a April. closely watched proxy for business spending plans, U.S. consumer confidence little changed in May jumped 2.3% last month. These so-called core capital The Conference Board said its Consumer Confidence Index dipped to a reading of 117.2 this month, following a goods orders increased 1.6% in March. Economists had forecast core capital goods orders rising 1.0%. Orders shot reading of 117.5 in April. Economists had forecast a up 14.7% year-on-year in April. reading of 119.2 in May. Bank of Canada seen cutting bond purchases further Canada's Algoma Steel to go public via merger with blank-check firm Legato as lockdowns ease Canada's trailblazing central bank is likely to cut its bond-Canadian steelmaker Algoma Steel is becoming a publicly listed company through a merger agreed with buying program again this year, possibly as soon as July, New York-based blank-check firm Legato Merger Corp in as provinces ease curbs to contain the coronavirus a deal that will value the combined company at more than pandemic and inflation pressures build, analysts said. \$1 billion. Fridav May 28th, 2021 Wednesday May 26th, 2021 U.S. consumer inflation surges in April Consumer prices as measured by the personal U.S. mortgage applications tick down as refinance consumption expenditures (PCE) price index, excluding the activity declines volatile food and energy components, increased 0.7% last The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) said its seasonally adjusted Purchase Index decreased 4.2% in month after gaining 0.4% in March. In the 12 months through April, the so-called core PCE price index vaulted the week ended May 21 from a week earlier, reflecting a 3.1%. That followed a 1.9% year-on-year gain in March. 7.2% decline in applications for refinancing. Amazon agrees to buy MGM Studios for US\$8.45B Economists had forecast the core PCE price index rising 0.6% in April and surging 2.9% year-on-year. Amazon.com Inc. agreed to buy the Metro-Goldwyn-U.S. consumer sentiment declined in May Mayer movie company for US\$8.45 billion, a bet that a The University of Michigan's Consumer Sentiment Index nearly century-old Hollywood icon can feed an insatiable fell to a final reading of 82.9 from April's final level of 88.3, demand for streaming content. though it was little changed from May's preliminary reading of 82.8. Finance Department says preliminary deficit of \$314 billion for last fiscal year The early deficit figure for the 12-month period between April 2020 to March 2021 compares to a deficit of \$21.8

billion over the preceding fiscal year.

IN THE NEWS



International News

Monday May 24th, 2021

- Erdogan Aims Again at Central Bank With Deputy Governor Ousting

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has ousted another central bank official, the latest of his sudden decisions this year to restructure leadership of the bank. The move comes two months after Erdogan fired the bank's third governor in less than two years, Naci Agbal, a surprise that shocked investors and set its markets into a nosedive.

Tuesday May 25th, 2021

- Japan's PM fine-tunes spending plans as way out of COVID-19 slump

Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga on Tuesday unveiled a plan for targeted government spending, steering a careful course between the twin aims of reviving economic growth after a coronavirus-induced slump and balancing the budget..

- Mexico swings to trade surplus in April, powered by record exports

Mexico posted a \$249 million trade surplus last month after logging a deficit of nearly \$3.4 billion in March. April's exports were up by more than 74% from the same month in 2020.

- <u>Summer boom beckons for German economy after</u> winter COVID blues

Ifo business climate index readout showed a jump to 99.2, up from April's revised 96.6 and beating the 98.2 forecast of analysts. In the first quarter, GDP contracted by 1.8% quarter on quarter and by 3.1% on the year. UK retail sales slip back after post-lockdown surge

The Confederation of British Industry said its monthly balance for whether sales were above or below normal for the time of year dropped to -3 in May from +16 in April.

 Vonovia to make agreed \$22 bln takeover offer for Deutsche Wohnen

Europe's largest residential property group Vonovia SE said it agreed to take over its closest German rival Deutsche Wohnen for about 18 billion euros to better shoulder future investments in heat insulation.

Wednesday May 26th, 2021

- China renews push to allow land rights as collateral to modernise farms Chinese regulators stepped up efforts to finance the modernisation of farms and widen the range of collateral to back bank loans to the agricultural sector to include
- to back bank loans to the agricultural sector to include rights to the use of some communal land. Japan cuts economic view in May on spending
- <u>downgrade</u> The world's third-largest economy likely grew at a

slower-than-initially-expected pace in the current quarter due to ramifications of the coronavirus emergency curbs, following a sharp decline in the first quarter. The government will release revised first-quarter GDP figures on June 8.

Thursday May 27th, 2021

German consumer morale improves less than expected heading into June - GfK

The GfK institute said its consumer sentiment index, based on a survey of around 2,000 Germans, edged up to -7.0 from a revised -8.6 in the previous month. The reading missed a forecast for a bigger rise to -5.2.

Brazil's unemployment hits historic high 14.7% in the first quarter

Brazil's unemployment rate rose to a historic high of 14.7% in the first quarter of the year as a record number of people out of work and other indicators pointed to general weakness across the labor market. The official unemployment rate rose from 13.9% in the three months through December.

China's industrial profits growth slows in April amid high commodity prices

Profits at China's industrial firms rose 57% year-on-year in April to 768.63 billion yuan (US\$120.22 billion), down from 92.3% in March. For the January-April period, industrial firms' profits grew 106% from the same period a year earlier.

Friday May 28th, 2021

- China securities regulator paying great attention to commodity price fluctuations

The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) pays great attention to commodity price fluctuations and has been cracking down on irregularities in the futures market, amid worry about higher prices being passed on to consumers.

French GDP revision shows economy contracted again in Q1

France's economy contracted 0.1% in the first quarter of 2021, revised official data showed, marking a slip into recession as it struggled to recover from a pandemicinduced downturn. The unusually sharp downwards revision from an initially reported expansion of 0.4% in January-March reflected a poorer than expected performance in the construction sector.

Click on title to view the full story.

WEEKLY PERFORMERS – S&P/TSX

S&P/TSX: LEADERS	LAST	CHANGE	%CHG
Aurora Cannabis Inc	\$11.54	\$2.38	25.98%
Cronos Group Inc	\$10.81	\$1.88	21.05%
BlackBerry Ltd	\$12.14	\$1.84	17.86%
OrganiGram Holdings Inc	\$3.84	\$0.55	16.72%
Lithium Americas Corp	\$18.49	\$2.39	14.84%
Canopy Growth Corp	\$31.45	\$3.74	13.50%
Village Farms International Inc	\$11.75	\$1.28	12.23%
Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Inc	\$17.54	\$1.80	11.44%
Tilray Inc	\$20.20	\$1.84	10.02%
First Quantum Minerals Ltd	\$30.05	\$2.71	9.91%

S&P/TSX: LAGGARDS	LAST	CHANGE	%CHG
Finning International Inc	\$30.00	-\$2.40	-7.41%
Sunopta Inc	\$15.08	-\$0.88	-5.51%
Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd	\$11.14	-\$0.51	-4.38%
Dye & Durham Ltd	\$40.99	-\$1.84	-4.30%
Capital Power Corp	\$38.44	-\$1.52	-3.80%
Ritchie Bros Auctioneers Inc	\$72.16	-\$2.80	-3.74%
Trillium Therapeutics Inc	\$9.63	-\$0.37	-3.70%
Kinaxis Inc	\$136.99	-\$4.58	-3.24%
Home Capital Group Inc	\$34.80	-\$1.14	-3.17%
B2Gold Corp	\$6.18	-\$0.19	-2.98%

Source: Refinitiv

WEEKLY PERFORMERS – S&P500

S&P500: LEADERS	LAST	CHANGE	%CHG
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd	\$93.27	\$10.45	12.62%
Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd	\$31.90	\$3.20	11.15%
Ulta Beauty Inc	\$345.36	\$29.28	9.26%
Ford Motor Co	\$14.53	\$1.20	9.00%
Carnival Corp	\$29.56	\$2.39	8.80%
NVIDIA Corp	\$649.78	\$50.11	8.36%
MGM Resorts International	\$42.87	\$3.17	7.98%
Dexcom Inc	\$369.39	\$27.30	7.98%
TransDigm Group Inc	\$648.84	\$47.84	7.96%
L Brands Inc	\$69.87	\$5.08	7.84%

S&P500: LAGGARDS	LAST	CHANGE	%CHG
Dollar Tree Inc	\$97.50	-\$11.08	-10.20%
Cabot Oil & Gas Corp	\$16.40	-\$1.41	-7.92%
HP Inc	\$29.23	-\$2.43	-7.68%
Biogen Inc	\$267.48	-\$15.71	-5.55%
Ball Corp	\$82.16	-\$4.62	-5.32%
Amgen Inc	\$237.94	-\$13.07	-5.21%
Mckesson Corp	\$192.39	-\$10.29	-5.08%
NRG Energy Inc	\$32.15	-\$1.67	-4.94%
HollyFrontier Corp	\$32.47	-\$1.52	-4.47%
Baker Hughes Co	\$24.40	-\$1.14	-4.46%

Source: Refinitiv

NBF RATINGS & TARGET PRICE CHANGES

Company	Symbol	Current Rating	Previous Rating	Current Target	Previous Target
ATS Automation Tooling Systems Inc.	ATA	Outperform	Outperform	C\$38.00	C\$33.00
Bank of Montreal	BMO	Outperform	Outperform	C\$136.00	C\$128.00
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	СМ	Outperform	Outperform	C\$156.00	C\$140.00
Capital Power Corporation	CPX	Restricted	Outperform	Restricted	C\$45.00
Kelt Exploration Ltd.	KEL	Outperform	Outperform	C\$4.50	C\$4.00
Killam Apartment REIT	KMP.UN	Restricted	Outperform	Restricted	C\$22.00
New Look Vision Group Inc.	BCI		Restricted		Restricted
Royal Bank of Cda	RY	Outperform	Outperform	C\$137.00	C\$130.00
Saputo Inc.	SAP	Sector Perform	Sector Perform	C\$40.00	C\$39.00
Spartan Delta Corp.	SDE	Outperform	Outperform	C\$7.25	C\$6.75
TELUS International (CDA) Inc.	TIXT	Outperform		US\$40.00	
TFI International Inc.	TFII	Outperform	Outperform	C\$129.00	C\$115.00
Thinkific Labs, Inc.	THNC	Outperform		C\$20.00	
Toronto-Dominion Bank	TD	Sector Perform	Sector Perform	C\$89.00	C\$87.00

STRATEGIC LIST - WEEKLY UPDATE

(May 25th – May 28th)

No Changes this Week:

Comments:

Communication Services (Market Weight)

Telecom Services:

NBF: About 22 months after its decision to surprisingly materially lower final rates for Aggregated Wholesale High-Speed Access Services (AWHSAS) or Third Party Internet Access (TPIA) and make its decision retroactive to 2016, the CRTC. following successful industry appeals, reversed course in a dramatic fashion as it ultimately reverted to setting its final rates at the higher interim levels set in 2016. It acknowledged it was correcting errors that led to uncertainty and it was simply easier to fall back on the prior interim rates instead of "completing a fulsome revision of all the costs studies [that] would prolong the period of regulatory and market uncertainty". Incumbents will be mostly thrilled and wholesalers entirely disappointed. The lower 2019 rates were setting up NBF telecom coverage for a growing aggregate retroactive charge that NBF estimated at over \$545M - Rogers \$225M, Bell \$165M, Quebecor \$80M, Cogeco \$55M, Shaw \$15M (had booked a related charge of \$10M in its 4Q19 which can now get largely reversed), and TELUS \$6M (wholesale activity is a lot lower out West). Any retroactive charges to be reported with the next quarterly results will be significantly reduced. We'll note that some access rates are being set slightly below the interim 2016 rates. For Bell, the decrease is -6% instead of -42% and -7% instead of -25% for TELUS. All capacity rates have been reverted to the interim 2016 level except Bell's which was reduced -7% versus the 2016 level. NBF thinks the Rogers charge may end up being closer to \$25M, with Bell maybe around \$40M or lower given that NBF believes that wholesalers were likely getting some discounts over the past two years. There's another part of the decision which relates to Disaggregated Wholesale High-Speed Access Services (DWHSAS) or access to fibre. As NBF reflects on the recent MVNO decision and now this remarkable reversal on TPIA, it sees a regulator and government that are entirely supportive of facilities-based competition and seemingly easing off what appeared to be more aggressive rhetoric towards the industry and a harder posture on regulatory oversight. A purely light touch going forward isn't to be expected and election posturing will inevitably occur in the fall, but investors can look at the Canadian telecom sector with less fear of regulatory risk and uncertainty.

Financials (Overweight)

Bank of Montreal (BMO)

NBF: Q2/21 Results: BMO reported Q2/21 adjusted EPS of \$3.13 vs. NBF \$2.44 and consensus \$2.77. The beat was driven by higher net revenues (+\$0.46), lower PCLs (+\$0.18), lower expenses (+\$0.04) and a lower tax rate (+\$0.05). Despite a quarter that exceeded all our expectations, the stock reaction was flat. One main issue was guidance for flat NII on a full-year basis, despite a 2% YTD increase. Lower excess liquidity levels, a weaker USD and fading prepayment income (e.g. Canadian mortgages, U.S. PPP loans) are factors. However, NBF believes the biggest drag is tied to the Capital Markets business, where H2/20 NII was up >40% Y/Y (or ~\$500 mln) due largely to frothy FICC trading conditions that are fading (e.g. FICC was down 31% Q/Q during Q2/21). NBF believes the outlook for relatively stronger performance in the P&C businesses is more important. Consistent improvement in fee income, along with a rebound in commercial lending (especially) could put BMO in a relatively stronger position in "core banking" performance. NBF believes this positioning will help the stock's relative performance in the second half. NBF estimates increased to reflect lower PCLs and higher non-interest income. As a result, NBF target price went to \$136.00 from \$128.00, and is derived by applying a 11.5x multiple to its 2022E EPS.

Royal Bank (RY)

NBF: Q2/21 Results: RY reported Q2/21 core cash EPS of \$2.79 vs. NBF estimate of \$2.51 and consensus estimate of \$2.51. The beat was the result of lower PCLs (+22c), higher net revenues (+20c), partially offset by higher than expected taxes (-11c) and higher NIX (-3c). RY's 12.8% CET 1 ratio was slightly ahead of expectations. Importantly, the bank quantified a 55-70 bps CET 1 boost anticipated during Q3/21, owing to model refinements. Another \$10 bln of RWAs (~20 bps CET 1 benefit) may evaporate as RY could reverse the impact of negative credit migration that took place last year. All told, the bank has upwards of ~\$12 bln of (pro forma) excess capital above an 11% CET 1 ratio, which prompts deployment

questions. RY's answers were clear, and NBF believes, positive. In terms of returning capital to shareholders if/when OSFI removes distribution restrictions, RY could target the upper end of its 40-50% payout ratio range (implying ~20% of upside from its current dividend). An accelerated buyback program is also part of the plan. In terms of organic growth, the bank is targeting initiatives to increase RWA consumption relative to pre-COVID levels. These include mid-market commercial lending in the U.S., accommodating commercial/wholesale drawdowns and expansion of the Global Capital Markets business. In terms of M&A, RY said that it is "focused" and "picky", which doesn't sound aggressive (i.e., good). NBF increased its 2022E primarily to reflect lower PCLs and higher fee income. NBF target price went to \$137.00 from \$130.00 and is derived using a 12x multiple on its 2022E EPS.

Utilities (Underweight)

Innergex Renewable Energy Inc. (INE)

NBF: The sell-off in green stocks continued into May, in part with rising bond yields and inflation concerns. This has a direct impact on valuation (NBF had previously adjusted its targets to account for higher bond yields), but the impact of inflation on cash flows is more complex, yet limited. Most of the IPPs in NBF's coverage have some spot exposure (or contracts ending in the next few years), but the majority of assets are under long-term contracts. While inflation can lead to higher construction costs for new projects, NBF believes rising power prices will provide an offset and benefit existing assets (when it comes time to repower or recontract). In any case, over the last few days, bond yields have fallen to the lowest levels we have seen for the last couple of months (Cda 10-year at 1.45%), and this should help the stocks. Last week, the IEA released "Net Zero by 2050" (highlighted in NBF's ESG weekly), in advance of the November meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC), COP 26. The report highlights a need to accelerate global investment into the energy sector to \$5 trillion/year by 2030, to meet net zero-emission (NZE) goals and limit the average global temperature increase to 1.5oC. NBF believes the meeting could be a catalyst for the sector, raising the profile of the investment opportunity as the UN pushes for Energy Compacts (NZE commitments) from public and private entities on a local and regional basis. With some stocks down >35% from the peak in January and with the market trading at record highs, NBF believes the sector offers a compelling entry point. Valuations are back to pre-pandemic levels, with a sector Beta of 1 by NBF's math. While inflation could be a headwind in the short run, it should support the value of existing assets. Accelerated investment into renewable energy should also support the value of existing assets and development pipelines and improve opportunities for repowering and recontracting. NBF's top three picks - BLX, NPI and INE - have the best combination of relative valuation and duration risk. NBF maintained its Outperform rating and \$26.00 target price on INE.

NBF STRATEGIC LIST

Company	Symbol	Addition Date		ddition Price	La	st Price	Yield	Beta	% SPTSX	NBF Sector Weight	NOTES
Communication Services		Date		Frice			(%)		4.9	Market Weight	
Quebecor Inc.	QBRb.TO	29-Nov-18	\$	28.70	\$	32.83	3.4	0.5			
Rogers Communications Inc.	RCIb.TO	13-Feb-20	\$	65.84	\$	62.37	3.2	0.5			
Consumer Discretionary			Ŷ	00101	Ŷ	02.01	0.2	0.0	4.1	Market Weight	
Dollarama Inc.	DOL.TO	19-Mar-20	\$	38.96	\$	52.84	0.4	0.6			
Gildan Activewear Inc.	GIL.TO	20-May-21	\$	42.72	\$	43.70	1.7	1.9			
Consumer Staples			Ŧ		*				3.6	Market Weight	
Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc.	ATDb.TO	26-Jan-17	\$	30.09	\$	44.18	0.8	0.7			
Loblaw Companies Ltd.	L.TO	25-Mar-21	\$	68.50	\$	74.34	1.8	0.3			
Energy	1	20 1101 21	Ŷ	00.00	Ŷ			0.0	12.9	Market Weight	
Cenovus Energy Inc.	CVE.TO	16-Jan-20	\$	12.26	\$	9.81	0.7	2.4			
Enbridge Inc.	ENB.TO	21-Jan-15	\$	59.87	\$	46.47	7.2	0.9			
Tourmaline Oil Corp.	TOU.TO	13-Aug-20	\$	16.68	\$	29.43	2.2	1.4			
Financials		10 / lag _0	Ŷ		Ŷ	20110			31.4	Overweight	
Bank of Montreal	ВМО.ТО	25-Mar-21	\$	112.23	\$	126.83	3.4	1.1	•	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	
Element Fleet Management Corp	EFN.TO	02-Apr-20	\$	8.58	\$	13.66	1.9	1.3			
Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd.	FFH.TO	20-Dec-18	*	585.81	\$	567.40	2.3	0.9			
Intact Financial Corp.	IFC.TO	11-Jun-20	*	130.04	\$	164.04	2.0	0.8			
Royal Bank of Canada	RY.TO	19-Jun-13	\$	60.69	\$	125.62	3.4	0.9			
Sun Life Financial	SLF.TO	10-Dec-20	\$	57.07	\$	65.07	3.4	1.4			
Health Care	01110	10 200 20	Ŷ	01101	Ŷ	00101	0.1		1.3	Market Weight	
Industrials									11.9	Market Weight	
Lifeworks Inc.	LWRK.TO	26-Sep-19	\$	32.72	\$	33.48	2.3	0.7			
Stantec Inc.	STN.TO	20-May-21	\$	53.96	\$	54.04	1.2	0.7			
Toromont Industries Ltd	TIH.TO	05-Dec-19	\$	67.24	\$	109.76	1.6	0.7			
Information Technology		00 200 10	Ŷ	01121	Ŷ			0	9.1	Underweight	
Kinaxis Inc.	KXS.TO	19-Mar-20	\$	100.05	\$	136.99	0.0	0.7		e	
Open Text Corp.	OTEX.TO	26-Oct-16	\$	41.61	\$	56.75	1.7	0.9			
Materials	012/010	20 000 10	Ŷ		Ŷ	00110		0.0	13.1	Overweight	
Agnico Eagle Resources Ltd.	AEM.TO	17-Dec-14	\$	27.00	\$	86.98	2.0	0.5			
SSR Mining Inc.	SSRM.TO	30-Jan-20	\$	23.81	\$	22.39	1.1	0.6			
Teck Resources Ltd.	TECKb.TO	01-Nov-17	\$	27.15	\$	29.80	0.7	1.2			
REITs			Ŧ	1	Ŧ	20.00	0		3.2	Underweight	
Canadian Apartment Properties REIT	CAR_u.TO	10-Dec-20	\$	49.82	\$	55.28	2.5	0.7			
RioCan REIT	REI u.TO	23-Aug-18	\$	19.95	\$	21.24	4.5	1.2			
Utilities			Ŧ		Ŧ				4.6	Underweight	
Capital Power Corp.	CPX.TO	22-Aug-19	\$	30.90	\$	38.44	5.4	1.2			R
Innergex Renewable Energy Inc.	INE.TO	22-Aug-19	\$	15.00	\$	20.25	3.5	0.8			

Source: Refinitiv (Priced May 28, 2021 after market close)

* R = Restricted Stocks - Stocks placed under restriction while on The NBF Strategic List will remain on the list, but noted as Restricted in accordance with compliance requirements

Week Ahead

THE ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(May 31st – June 4th)

U.S. Indicators

Date	Time	<u>Release</u>	Period	Previous	Consensus	<u>unit</u>
1-Jun	09:45	Markit Mfg PMI Final	May	61.5		Index (diffusion)
1-Jun	10:00	Construction Spending MM	Apr	0.2%	1.0%	Percent
1-Jun	10:00	ISM Manufacturing PMI	May	60.7	60.8	Index
3-Jun	07:30	Challenger Lavoffs	May	22.913k		Person
3-Jun	07:30	ADP National Employment	May	742k	545k	Person
3-Jun	08:30	Initial Jobless Clm	24 May, w/e	/42K	JHJK	Person
3-Jun	08:30	Jobless Clm 4Wk Avg	24 May, w/e 24 May, w/e			Person
3-Jun	08:30	Cont Jobless Clm	17 May, w/e			Person
3-Jun	09:45	Markit Comp Final PMI	May	68.1		Index (diffusion)
3-Jun	09:45	Markit Svcs PMI Final	May	70.1		Index (diffusion)
3-Jun	10:00	ISM N-Mfg PMI	May	62.7	62.9	Index
3-Jun	10:30	EIA-Nat Gas Chg Bcf	24 May, w/e	02.7	02.9	Cubic foot
3-Jun	11:00	EIA Wkly Crude Stk	24 May, w/e 24 May, w/e	-1.662M		Barrel
0-Juli	11.00		Z4 May, w/c	-1.002101		Darrei
4-Jun	08:30	Non-Farm Payrolls	May	266k	621k	Person
4-Jun	08:30	Private Payrolls	May	218k	600k	Person
4-Jun	08:30	Manufacturing Payrolls	May	-18k		Person
4-Jun	08:30	Government Payrolls	May	48k		Person
4-Jun	08:30	Unemployment Rate	May	6.1%	5.9%	Percent
4-Jun	08:30	Average Earnings MM	May	0.7%	0.2%	Percent
4-Jun	08:30	Average Earnings YY	May	0.3%		Percent
4-Jun	08:30	Average Workweek Hrs	May	35.0	35.0	Hour
4-Jun	10:00	Factory Orders MM	Apr	1.1%		Percent
4-Jun	10:00	Factory Ex-Transp MM	Apr	1.7%		Percent

Canadian Indicators

Date	<u>Time</u>	Release	Period	Previous	Consensus Unit
31-May	08:30	Current Account C\$	Q1	-7.26B	CAD
31-May	08:30	Producer Prices MM	Apr	1.6%	Percent
31-May	08:30	Producer Prices YY	Apr	10.0%	Percent
31-May	08:30	Raw Materials Prices MM	Apr	2.3%	Percent
31-May	08:30	Raw Materials Prices YY	Apr	34.7%	Percent
1-Jun	08:30	GDP QQ	Q1	2.3%	Percent
1-Jun	08:30	GDP QQ Annualized	Q1	9.6%	Percent
1-Jun	08:30	GDP Implicit Price QQ	Q1	1.1%	Percent
1-Jun	08:30	GDP YY	Q1	-3.23%	Percent
1-Jun	08:30	GDP MM	Mar	0.4%	Percent
1-Jun	09:30	Markit Mfg PMI SA	May	57.2	Index (diffusion)
2-Jun	08:30	Building Permits MM.	Apr	5.7%	Percent
3-Jun	08:15	Reserve Assets Total	May	84,237M	USD
4-Jun	08:30	Avg hrly wages Permanent employee YY	May	-1.60%	Percent
4-Jun	08:30	Employment Change	May	-207.1k	Person
4-Jun	08:30	Unemployment Rate	May	8.1%	Percent
4-Jun	10:00	Ivey PMI	May	59.9	Net balance

Source : Refinitiv

U.S. Markets are closed Monday May 31 for Memorial Day

S&P/TSX QUARTERLY EARNINGS CALENDAR

Monday May 31st, 2021

None

Tuesday June 1st, 2021

COMPANY*	SYMBOL	TIME	EPS ESTIMATE
Bank of Nova Scotia/The	BNS	06:00	1.757
Canaccord Genuity Group Inc	CF	Aft-mkt	0.623
Canopy Growth Corp	WEED	Bef-mkt	(0.273)

Wednesday June 2nd, 2021

COMPANY*	SYMBOL	TIME	EPS ESTIMATE
Descartes Systems Group Inc	DSG	Aft-mkt	0.183
Laurentian Bank of Canada	LB	Bef-mkt	0.891

Thursday June 3rd, 2021

COMPANY*	SYMBOL	TIME	EPS ESTIMATE
Saputo Inc	SAP		0.391

Friday June 4th, 2021

None

Source: Bloomberg, NBF Research *Companies of the S&P/TSX index expected to report. Stocks from the Strategic List are in Bold.

S&P500 INDEX QUARTERLY EARNINGS CALENDAR

Monday May 31st, 2021

None

Tuesday June 1st, 2021

None

Wednesday June 2nd, 2021

COMPANY*	SYMBOL	TIME	EPS ESTIMATE
Advance Auto Parts Inc	AAP	Bef-mkt	3.082
PVH Corp	PVH	Aft-mkt	0.834

Thursday June 3rd, 2021

COMPANY*	SYMBOL	TIME	EPS ESTIMATE
Broadcom Inc	AVGO	Aft-mkt	6.448
Cooper Cos Inc/The	COO	16:15	3.074
J M Smucker Co/The	SJM	07:00	1.638

Friday June 4th, 2021

None

Source: Bloomberg, NBF Research * Companies of the S&P500 index expected to report.

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