

Market Data Insight for Actionable Strategy

FSI Snapshot

March 16, 2025

Just When Will The Dip Stop Dipping?

The **market carnage extended for a fourth straight week**, dragged down by investors wrestling with a flip-flopping tariffs policy and intensifying recession fears. This week, the S&P 500 tumbled 2.3% and the Nasdaq Composite fell 2.4%. Both **sharply rebounded Friday** but **failed to exit correction territory**—defined as a drop of 10% or more from a recent high.

While there is pain, Fundstrat Head of Technical Strategy Mark Newton reminded investors that the declines are **in line with what is historically noted** during the first quarter of any new administration. Besides, it was a mere 17 trading days ago that the **S&P 500 set a fresh all-time high**, he pointed out.

"The economy arguably is still in very good shape, the **earnings picture is good**— even as fear levels are higher," Newton said during the weekly huddle. "I don't think we can jump to conclusions and talk 'recession' just based on these declines."

Stocks' "dire" situation is not shared by bonds, Head of Research Tom Lee said. Sure, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that there is no Trump put for stocks, but "**there may be one on the economy**," meaning that the White House could be forced to turn around its policies if it sees the economy deteriorate too much, Lee highlighted.

The **bond market** is also pricing in odds of 3.4 interest-rate cuts from the Federal Reserve this year, up from 1.5 previously, he said. The divergence between stocks and bonds has historically been a "pretty good entry point for stocks," said Lee, citing data from Renaissance Macro Research.

On the technical side, Newton has been encouraged to see **stocks down to the same levels of oversold territory** as the ones that coincided with bottoms seen in August and April of 2024. "People are disgruntled, but we're certainly not seeing evidence of true fear," he said.





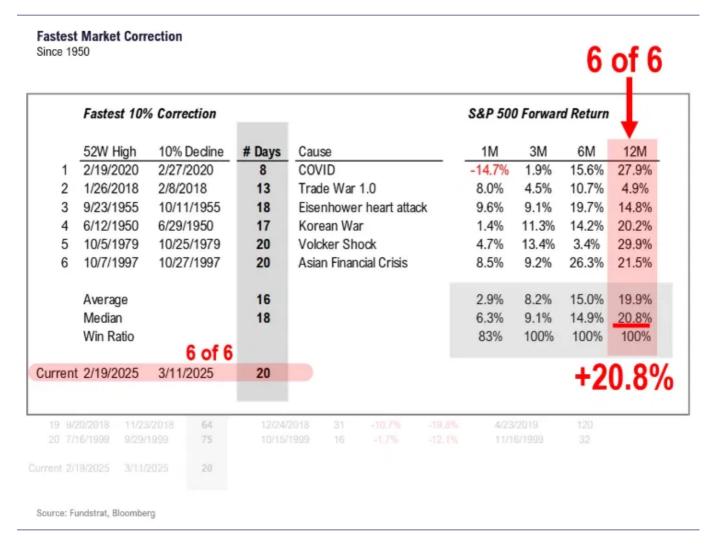
He expects that lows to this sell-off could be "achieved within the next two weeks from a timing perspective, and prices are nearing possible support."



Chart of the Week







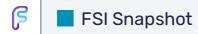
Putting the recent declines into perspective, Fundstrat Head of Research Tom Lee said that the 10% correction noted in the S&P 500 is the fifth-fastest in the past three quarters of a century, taking 20 days. The median gain from all prior declines was 21% over the next 12 months. The quickest was from the Covid decline, prompting Lee to say, "Is this worse than the global pandemic? I don't think so."

Recent ≠ Flash Insights



To me, the silence (or lack of bashing) of Trump on China and Mexico is telling





 I would put >50% probability that a deal with one of those 2 countries is announced within the next 2 weeks

This would end talk of "White House wants a recession" Stay the course

- With the tariffs set to go into effect on 4/2, one might be tempted to argue that going away for the next 3 weeks makes sense.
 However, this is premised on the notion that <u>April 2nd</u> is the date of resolution. That is:
 - the tariff negotiations could see a breakthrough before 4/2
 - in 2018, stocks bottomed well before the July 2018 tariff

deadlines

- notably, we think it is interesting that there is little "bashing" of China & Mexico
- is it possible progress is being made on those fronts?

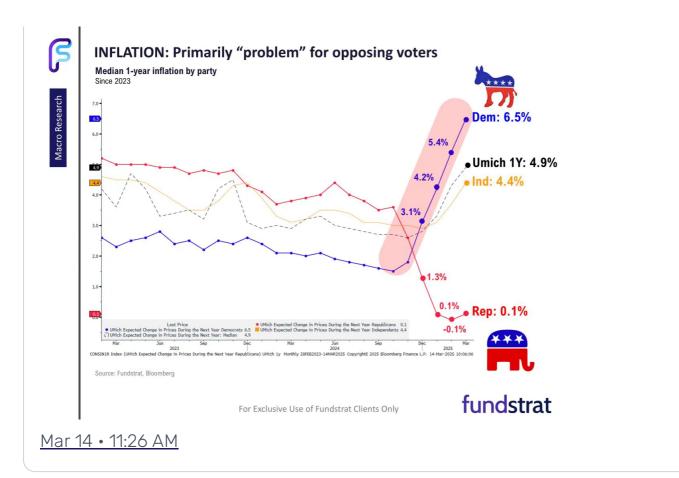
Mar 14 • 12:09 PM



Tom Lee, CFA, CFA_AC Head of Research

If one needed evidence that U Mich survey is polluted by political leanings, see the latest survey results of 1-yr inflation – Dems now +6.5% – Republicans +0.1% Feb Core CPI showed inflation tanking





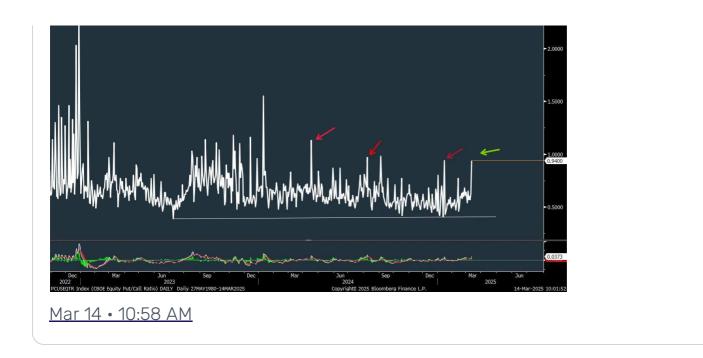


Mark L. Newton, CMT_AC Head of Technical Strategy

Last night's data on Equity Put/call did in fact get back into the zone of fear, reaching 0.94, the highest reading since January. I had discussed last night that seeing a spike in Equity Put/call ratio was important in showing some evidence of capitulation which henceforth had been lacking despite the chronic bearishness. While the volume readings haven't yet produced abnormally high readings on the downside via the TRIN, or Arms index, seeing nearly an Equal level of Put options being traded as Calls is an important piece of the sentiment puzzle that suggests that market lows are growing close.







FS Insight Video: Weekly Highlight







Key incoming data

- 3/3 9:45 AM ET: Feb F S&P Global Manufacturing PMI Tame
- 3/3 10:00 AM ET: Feb ISM Manufacturing PMI Tame
- 3/5 9:45 AM ET: Feb F S&P Global Services PMI Tame
- 3/5 10:00 AM ET: Feb ISM Services PMI Tame
- 3/5 10:00 AM ET: Jan F Durable Goods Orders Tame
- 3/5 2:00 PM ET: Mar Fed Releases Beige Book
- 3/6 8:30 AM ET: 4Q F Non-Farm Productivity Tame
- 3/6 8:30 AM ET: Jan Trade Balance Tame
- 3/6 8:30 AM ET: 4Q F Unit Labor Costs Tame
- 3/7 8:30 AM ET: Feb Non-Farm Payrolls Tame
- 3/7 9:00 AM ET: Feb F Manheim Used Vehicle index Tame
- 3/10 11:00 AM ET: Feb NY Fed 1yr Inf Exp Tame
- 3/11 6:00 AM ET: Feb Small Business Optimism Survey Tame
- 3/11 10:00 AM ET: Jan JOLTS Job Openings Tame
- 3/12 8:30 AM ET: Feb CPI **Tame**
- 3/13 8:30 AM ET: Feb PPI **Tame**
- 3/14 10:00 AM ET: Mar P U. Mich. Sentiment and Inflation Expectation Hot
- 3/17 8:30 AM ET: Feb Retail Sales Data
- 3/17 8:30 AM ET: Mar Empire Manufacturing Survey
- 3/17 10:00 AM ET: Mar NAHB Housing Market Index
- 3/19 9:00 AM ET: Mar M Manheim Used Vehicle index
- 3/19 2:00 PM ET: Mar FOMC Decision
- 3/19 4:00 PM ET: Jan Net TIC Flows





- 3/20 8:30 AM ET: Mar Philly Fed Business Outlook
- 3/20 10:00 AM ET: Feb Existing Home Sales
- 3/24 8:30 AM ET: Feb Chicago Fed Nat Activity Index
- 3/24 9:45 AM ET: Mar P S&P Global Manufacturing PMI
- 3/24 9:45 AM ET: Mar P S&P Global Services PMI
- 3/25 9:00 AM ET: Jan S&P CoreLogic CS home price
- 3/25 10:00 AM ET: Mar Conference Board Consumer Confidence
- 3/25 10:00 AM ET: Feb New Home Sales
- 3/26 10:00 AM ET: Feb p Durable Goods Orders
- 3/27 8:30 AM ET: 4Q T GDP
- 3/28 8:30 AM ET: Feb PCE Deflator
- 3/28 10:00 AM ET: Mar F U. Mich. Sentiment and Inflation Expectation
- 3/31 10:30 AM ET: Mar Dallas Fed Manuf. Activity Survey

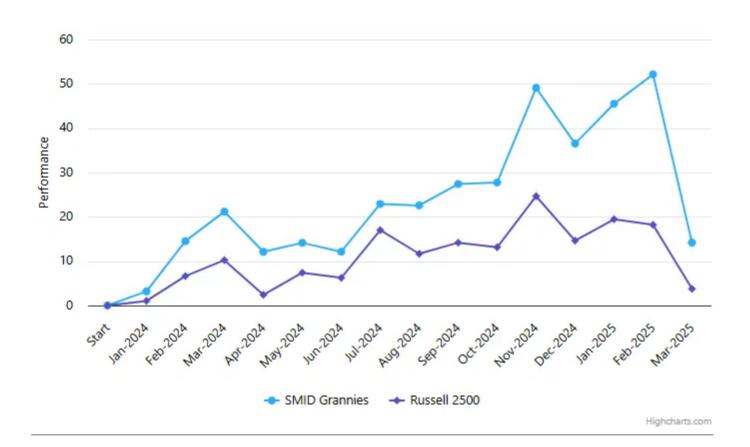






Stock List Performance

Inception to Date SMID Granny Shots Performance (January 16, 2024)

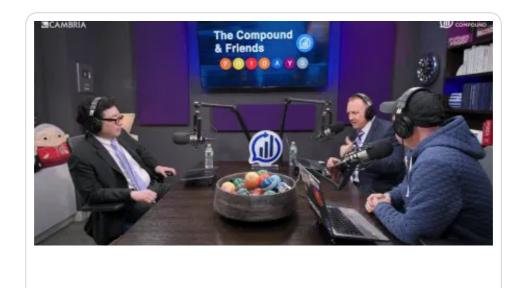




Upticks Against the SPY (Inception to Date)



In the News





Tom Lee to the Rescue | TCAF 181

Mar 7, 2025





The spring could have huge rallying months, says Fundstrat's Tom Lee

Mar 5 2025





Expect bitcoin to do better than \$150,000 this year,



says Fundstrat's Tom Lee

Mar 3, 2025



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