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TSA throughput we are hitting the skies again



John A. Kvale,
CFA, CFP®

One of our favorite finds over the past three years is the following TSA throughput data. The TSA easily puts out the headcount of folks crossing the checkpoints of the airports across the United States.

If we wanted to look through a gray lens, not part of this review, we could toss up the 2020 throughput numbers and show the dramatic drop, actually stunning drop.

(see **Individuals**, Page 2)

INTERESTING TRENDS

Eating out versus eating in

For the most part, we all know that cooking at home and eating in is healthier than eating out. But we also know that we are social people, some of course more than others.

The very interesting graph on Page 3 shows in great detail the lock down forcing us as a general population home for those healthy meals but away from those social settings.

(see **Interesting**, Page 3)

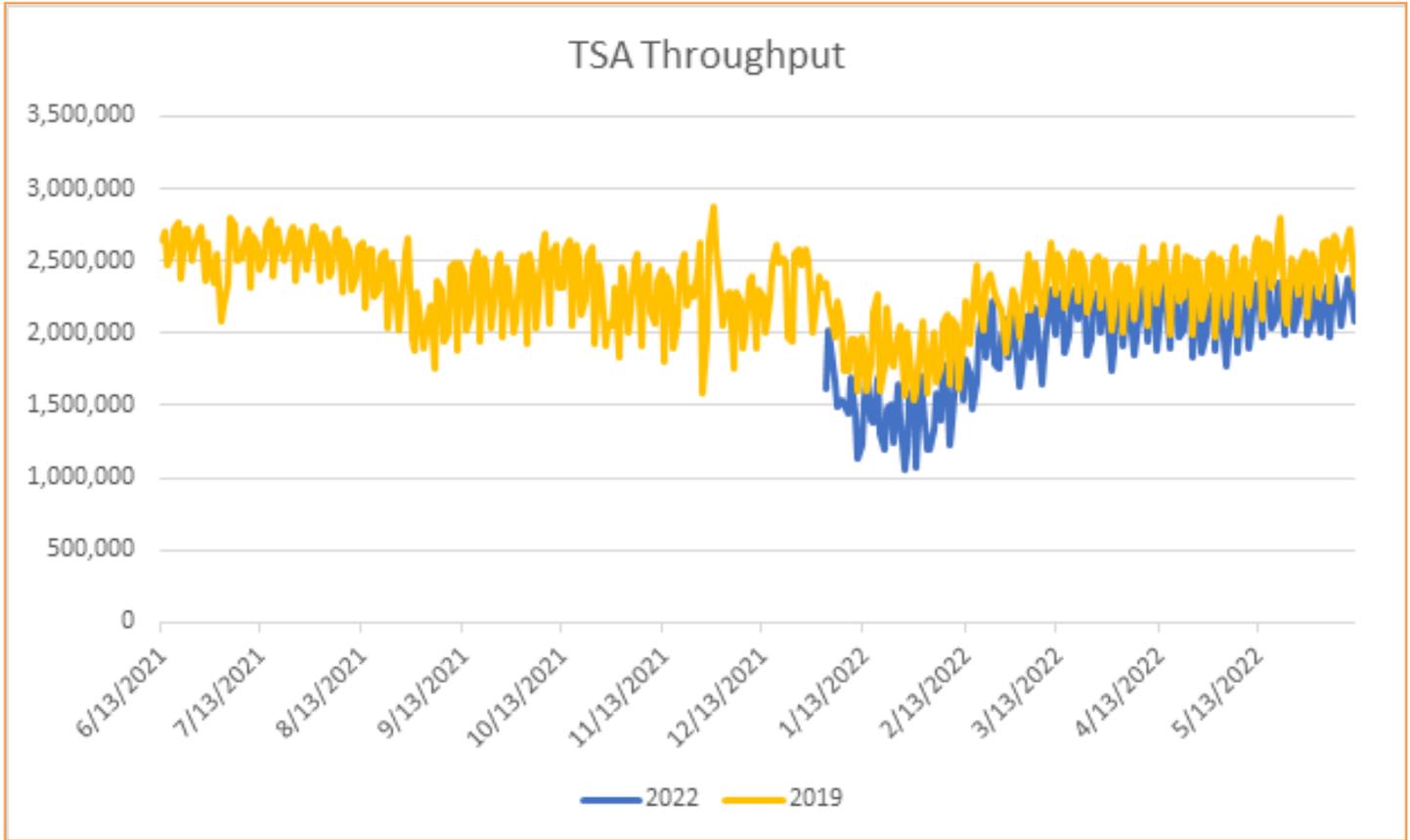
Interest rates higher, safe money begins paying more

We could put up half a dozen to maybe even 10 different charts that show the speed at which interest rates of all shapes and sizes have increased very quickly.

With the FOMC, led by Jerome Powell, talking aggressively about higher interest rates, capital markets took note and in almost startling like format

(see **Higher**, Page 4)

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Individuals, families are on the road

(continued from Page 1)

Remember we're looking through our positive lenses; yes, some may say rose-colored but that's OK, we are almost back to normal.

See the 2019 versus 2022 TSA throughput numbers above in the chart.

In an even more positive note, business travel has yet to rebound, meaning individuals and families are making up the difference of the road warriors who are now likely in many cases saving compa-

Individuals and families are making up the difference of the road warriors who are now likely in many cases saving company money, having more family time and being more productive!

ny money, having more family time and being more productive!

Way to go families and individuals. You are hitting the friendly skies and making experiences that will last the rest of your life.

Yes, nothing replaces a face-to-face meeting, so eventually we may get some of our road warrior numbers back, further enhancing our numbers but until then, families and individuals are doing their best!

INTERESTING TRENDS

Social activities, eating out back on track

(continued from Page 1)

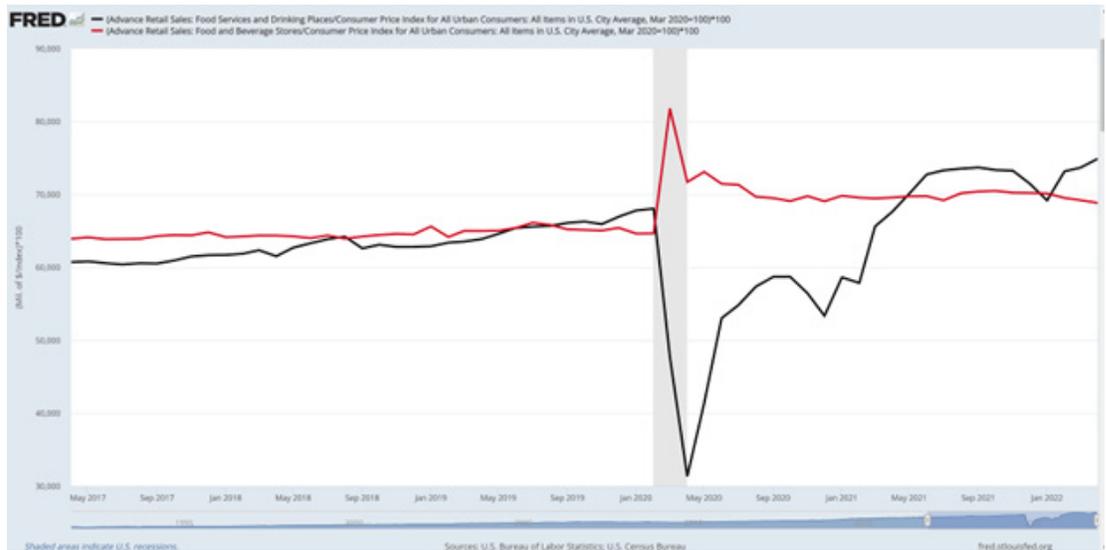
The red line in the graph represents eating in the home. Upon lockdown note it spikes for obvious reasons.

Fast forward to most recent data and note that eating out in social environments has taken over eating in.

Also of interest are the bumps in the black lines, resurgent which of course can be related to new waves during the recovery.

All in all, our social desires are back on track and we are once again eating out.

In this longer-term chart below, what we find very interesting, and worth reviewing, are the tendencies of more eating out. Black

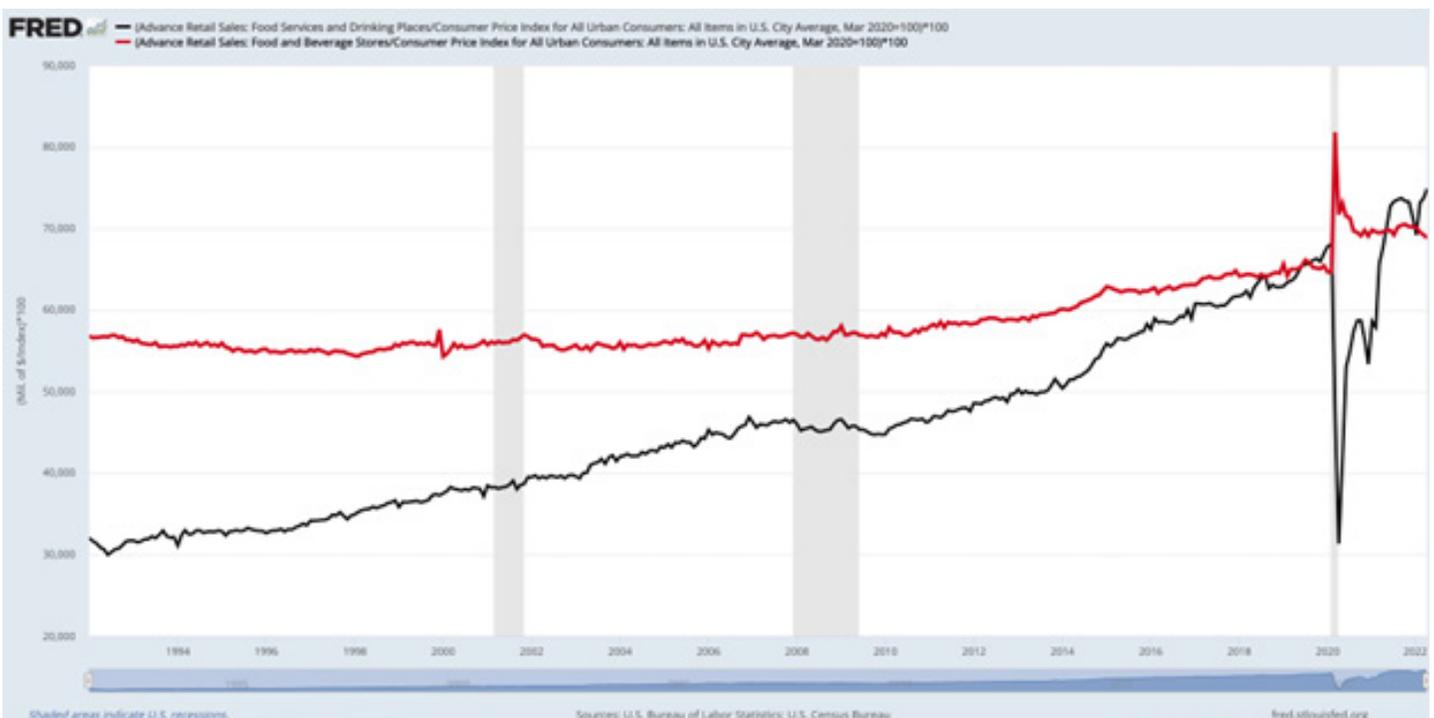


line gaining on the red line!

From our positive point of view, we will know our tendency to want more social environments over the longer-term.

So, there we have it, a return to more social environments, maybe at the expense a little bit of our waistslines but well desired happiness nevertheless!

JK





Current 2 Year Treasury Rate

Mean:	3.14%
Median:	2.66%
Min:	0.12% (Feb 2021)
Max:	8.72% (Apr 1990)

<https://www.multip.com/2-year-treasury-rate>

Higher interest rates now looking forward, we will be earning greater returns

Bumpy is mostly behind us, safe money will have better returns

(continued from Page 1)

began to increase interest rates from some of the lowest levels they've ever been.

Bumpy, due to the speed of the rise, which is now mostly behind us, higher rates now looking forward, earn our safe money greater returns and begin covering up the bumps

and bruises that may have occurred from the speedy rate increase.

Said another way, after one of the fastest percentage moves ever in our safe money, interest rates, looking forward we will be earning greater returns!

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JOLTS: Job Openings and Labor Turnover Surveys

In this graph below, we point to the far right or most recent data that shows a tremendous amount of job openings in the United States.

Staying with our positive theme, with literally more job openings than laborers, this survey speaks to the strength of the current employment market.

If we wanted to go down the dark path, which we are not, we could mention the tight labor force but staying with our

glass half full, we choose to look at this graph and survey from a positive, and once again admire the strength of the current employment situation of the United States.

Commonly known as a FOMC favorite, the Federal Reserve led by Jerome Powell monitors this closely and shift or change may change their current posture of attempting to slow the economy very aggressively.

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Prices more reasonable, P/E Ratio set up for longer term, better returns

Prices divided by earnings is one of the bluntest valuation metrics used for capital markets of all kinds.

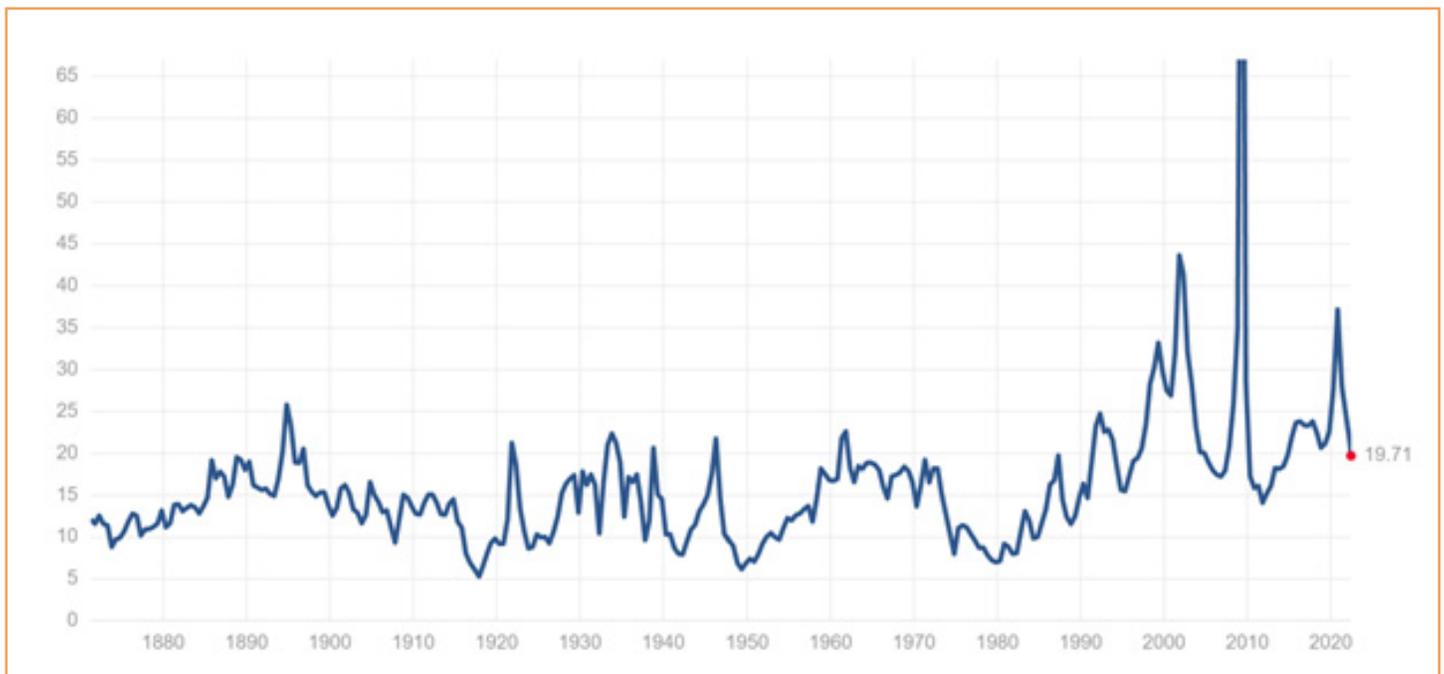
When the P/E ratio drops, prices are making for better long-term returns in the future in most cases.

While it is true that capital markets are one of the few places when things go on sale,

people run for the doors! Not kidding.

BUT, if you are reading this positive outlook, you are certainly not part of this clan and are licking your chops for the future better returns.

Note how close our P/E ratio is to the long term mean and median, too!



Current S&P 500 PE Ratio: 19.71

Mean: 15.97

Median: 14.89

Min: 5.31 (Dec 1917)

Max: 123.73 (May 2009)

Price to earnings ratio, based on trailing twelve month "as reported" earnings.

Current PE is estimated from latest reported earnings and current market price.

Source: Robert Shiller and his book Irrational Exuberance for historic S&P 500 PE Ratio.

<https://www.multpl.com/s-p-500-pe-ratio>

Bottom line, lower prices may eventually mean better long-term returns!

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Unemployment rate great levels



Note: Over past years, many workers retire, and retire early, possibly pushing rate to lower numbers.

Similar to a reviewer of the Sjolts survey, the unemployment rate has fallen to a very low rate, once again speaking to the strength of the employment situation in the U.S. economy.

We choose to look through this with our positive glasses and admire the ability for those that wish to get a job.

Worth noting, over the past several years there have been a lot of workers retire, and retire early, possibly pushing this rate to lower numbers than it otherwise would be.

No matter, we look at this as a positive and respect the employment situation of the economic workforce.

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Parting thoughts for you...

In today's "breaking news" world of headlines, also flashing from many different technological devices, in this newsletter we decided to swim against the current and find positives to point out. Yes, you may say we are looking through our positive lenses or rose-colored glasses, however that saying goes, but we choose to think that we took the high road and pointed out many of the positives that are going on right now.

We will let others point out

the negatives, and of course we watch and know of them for our own safety but wanted to point out many of the positives anyway.

With many compliments from the last newsletter, we continued with our theme of multiple, shorter articles; however, as we mention, we did have one theme of the newsletter, all about the positives.

Thank you so much for your time and will talk to you again in the fall.

Dates:

July 4 Independence Day - Capital markets closed

Sept. 5 - Labor Day - Capital markets closed

Nov. 19 - J.K. Financial, Inc. Holiday Party - Dallas Save the date!