

The Stock Market's Long Run of Nothing Continued Last Week. What to Know.

By [Ben Levisohn](#) June 4, 2021 8:55 pm ET

Text size  



NYSE

The [Dow Jones Industrial Average](#) rose 226.94 points, or 0.7%, to 34,756.39 this past week, while the [S&P 500 index](#) advanced 0.6%, to 4229.89, and the [Nasdaq Composite](#) gained 0.5%, to 13,814.49.

...
...
...

The S&P 500 has gone almost nowhere since the middle of April. Yes, there have been weekly moves of more than 1%, up or down—two of the former, [one of the latter](#)—but the index itself has gained just 0.9% since then. Even recent daily moves have been relatively muted. This past Wednesday, the realized five-day volatility of the S&P 500 fell to 1.4%, after having dropped to 2.8% on May 28.

...

Still, the sideways action of the past seven weeks isn't all bad news. First-quarter earnings season started right about then, and the reports were quite good. With 495 of the companies in the S&P 500 having weighed in, earnings look to have grown by more than 50% during the first quarter, while more companies have offered positive second-quarter guidance than negative.