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Stocks End September With Losses but S&P 500 Ekes Out Quarterly Gain

Index posts sixth quarter of rises, despite concerns around inflation, Evergrande and signs Federal Reserve may reduce bond buying



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After a long stretch of gains for the U.S. stock market this year, September was the month when percolating investor anxiety [finally came to a head](#), forcing all three major indexes lower. The S&P 500 tumbled 4.8% in September, its largest monthly decline since March 2020, when the coronavirus pandemic spurred a selloff. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 4.3% for September, while the Nasdaq fell 5.3%.

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Despite the slump, the S&P 500 managed to eke out a 0.2% gain for the quarter to notch its sixth consecutive quarter of gains. The Nasdaq and Dow, meanwhile, ended the period lower, marking their first quarterly losses since the first three months of 2020.