

**Markets**

## A \$2 Trillion Stock-Options Deadline Is Make-Or-Break Moment for Bulls

- Options trading seen having lifted stocks, capping volatility
- Brace for price swings in both directions: Nomura strategist

By [Lu Wang](#)

August 18, 2022, 1:13 PM PDT

---

Stocks have restored roughly \$7 trillion in values since mid-June, as what began as a short squeeze cascaded into a buying spree by those who exited equities during the first-half carnage amid fears that the Fed's aggressive inflation-fighting campaign could tip the economy into a recession. Shares have since recovered as data showed a robust labor market and cooler-than-expected inflation.