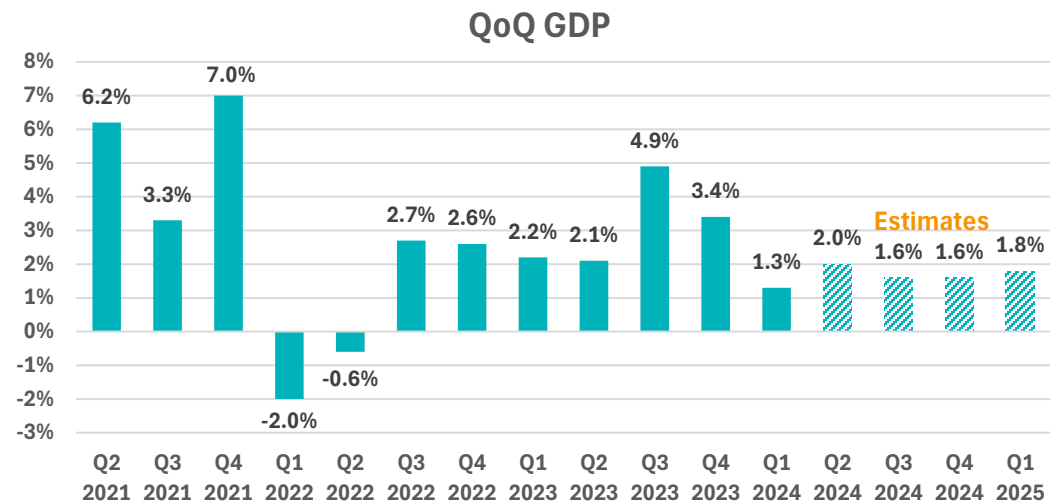


OBSERVATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

- U.S. economic growth should slow in the second half of 2024, but not be negative
- The unemployment rate pushed above 4% in May from the cycle low of 3.4%
- Fed Funds futures are pointing to two .25% cuts this year and four next year
- Intermediate-term rates have increased this year, but are lower than last year's peak

Expected Downshift in Economic Growth

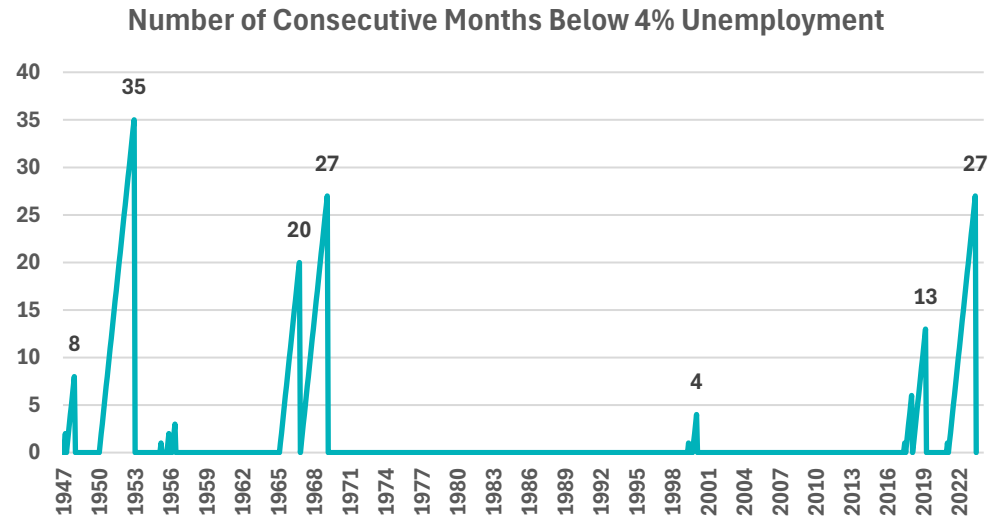
- Economists surveyed by Bloomberg are expecting growth to slow in the coming quarters.
- Higher inflation and interest rates have put a crimp in consumer spending.



SOURCE: BLOOMBERG, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS,

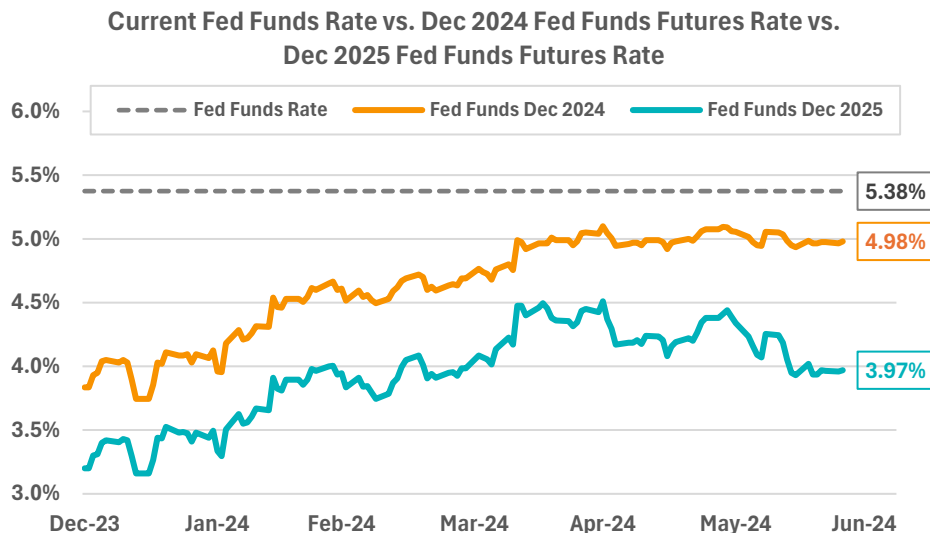
The Unemployment Rate Climbed Above 4%

- The U.S. just finished its second longest streak of having the unemployment rate below 4%.
- The Federal Reserve and most economists expect the unemployment rate to push higher with job growth slowing later this year.



SOURCE: BLOOMBERG, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

The Fed vs. The Market

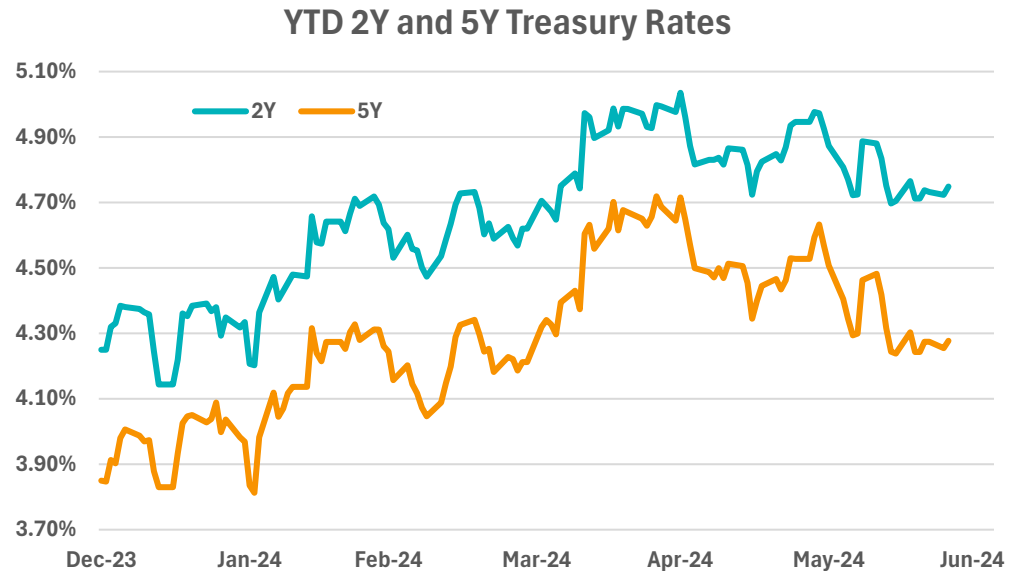


- The Federal Reserve is expecting one .25% cut this year to the Fed Funds Rate and four next year.
- The Fed Funds futures market is expecting two .25% cuts this year and four next year to push the Fed Funds rate down to 3.97% from its current rate of 5.38%

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

Intermediate-Term Rates Higher In 2024

- Both the 2-year and 5-year U.S. Treasury rates had their cycle peaks last October at 5.22% and 4.96%, respectively.
- Intermediate-term U.S. Treasury rates have climbed higher this year as market participants realized inflation remains sticky and Fed will cut the Fed Funds rate fewer times than was anticipated at the start of 2024.



SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

Takeaways

- With intermediate-term interest rates near their highest levels since 2007, locking in those yields will most likely prove prudent.
- It will be interesting to observe Federal Reserve policy later this year as inflation probably remains above their target, with unemployment increasing.



866.633.3371 | meederpublicfunds.com

Commentary offered for information and educational purposes only. Opinions and forecasts regarding markets, securities, products, portfolios or holdings are given as of the date provided and are subject to change at any time. No offer to sell, solicitation, or recommendation of any security or investment product is intended. Certain information and data has been supplied by unaffiliated third-parties as indicated. Although Meeder believes the information is reliable, it cannot warrant the accuracy, timeliness or suitability of the information or materials offered by third-parties. Investment advisory services are offered by Meeder Public Funds, Inc.