

# United States Confidence Cracks: U.S. Consumer Sentiment Falls in 100 Days 29.42% to 52.2 in April, as Wall Street Looks Ahead.

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The U.S. and European stock markets closed with gains amid reports that China may carve out exemptions for select U.S. goods from its steep 125% tariff regime as thousands of retailers raise prices, cancel orders, and look outside China for suppliers. On the investment climate front, the final April report of the much-expected University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index fell to 52.2, down - 8.24% from last month's 57.0, reflecting a more highly pessimistic view of current economic conditions among consumers. However, as we dig deeper, the decrease since January 2, 2025, has been 29.45%, as the U.S. Index of Consumer Sentiment was 74.0, and when President Trump took over. European stocks closed higher as well and Asian indices closed in positive territory.

## Earnings Season Momentum

Earnings season is hitting full stride, with Alphabet (Google's parent company) delivering a robust quarterly report that topped Wall Street estimates for both revenue and profits. With roughly 36% of S&P 500 companies having released earnings, the trend is encouraging, with 74% outperforming analyst's expectations.

Despite a slight downgrade in projected Q1 earnings growth for the S&P 500—now at 6.1%—the outlook remains positive.

## Bond Market Update

Bond markets are currently pricing in expectation of three to four interest rate cuts this year, outpacing the Federal Reserve's projection of just two. A softer rate environment would ease financing costs for households and businesses, further supporting the economic and corporate profit outlook.

Treasury yields fell, with the 10-year yield down to 4.xx%, some 20 basis points below its early April peak.

## GDPNow:

- The GDPNow for the first quarter was updated on April 24, down to -2.50% from -2.20%, a 13.64% decrease.

## Economic Update:

- **U.S. Index of Consumer Sentiment:** fell to 52.20, down from 57.00 last month, decreasing -8.42%.
- **UK Retail Sales YoY:** rose to 2.60%, compared to 1.80% last month.

### Eurozone Summary:

- **Stoxx 600:** Closed at 520.45, up 1.84 points or 0.35%.
- **FTSE 100:** Closed at 8,415.25, up 7.81 or 0.093%.
- **DAX Index:** Closed at 22,242.45, up 177.94 or 0.81%.

### Wall Street Summary:

- **Dow Jones Industrial Average:** closed at 40,113.50, up 20.10 points or 0.05%.
- **S&P 500:** closed at 5,525.21, up 40.44 points or 0.74%.
- **Nasdaq Composite:** closed at 17,382.94, up 216.90 points or 1.26%.
- **Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock Index:** closed at 3,597.10, up 43.30 points or 1.22%.
- **Birling Capital U.S. Bank Index:** closed at 6,050.47, up 146.02 points or 2.47%.
- **U.S. Treasury 10-year note:** closed at 4.29%.
- **U.S. Treasury 2-year note:** closed at 3.74%.



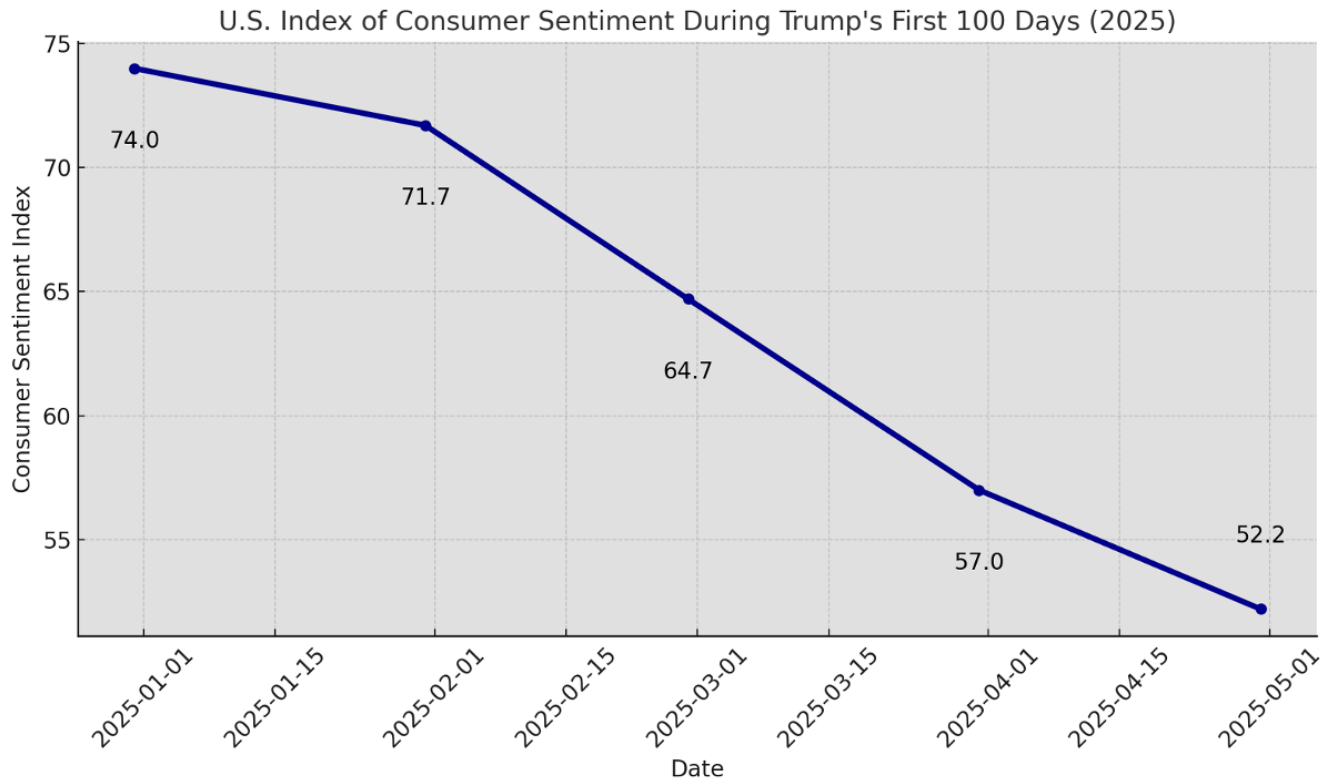
## GDPNow 1Q25

Date	GDPNow 1Q25	Change
1/31/25	2.90%	Initial Forecast
2/3/25	3.90%	34.48%
2/5/25	2.90%	-25.64%
2/7/25	2.90%	0.00%
2/14/25	2.30%	-20.69%
2/19/25	2.30%	0.00%
2/28/25	-1.50%	-165.22%
3/3/25	-2.80%	-86.67%
3/6/25	-2.40%	14.29%
3/7/25	-1.60%	-33.33%
3/17/25	-2.10%	31.25%
3/17/25	-2.10%	0.00%
3/18/25	-1.80%	-14.29%
3/26/25	-1.80%	0.00%
3/28/25	-2.80%	55.56%
4/1/25	-3.70%	32.14%
4/3/25	-2.80%	-24.32%
4/9/25	-2.40%	-14.29%
4/16/25	-2.20%	-8.33%
4/17/25	-2.20%	0.00%
4/24/25	-2.50%	13.64%



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## U.S. Index of Consumer Sentiment Falls 29.45% from 74.0 to 52.20 during President Trump's First 100 Days

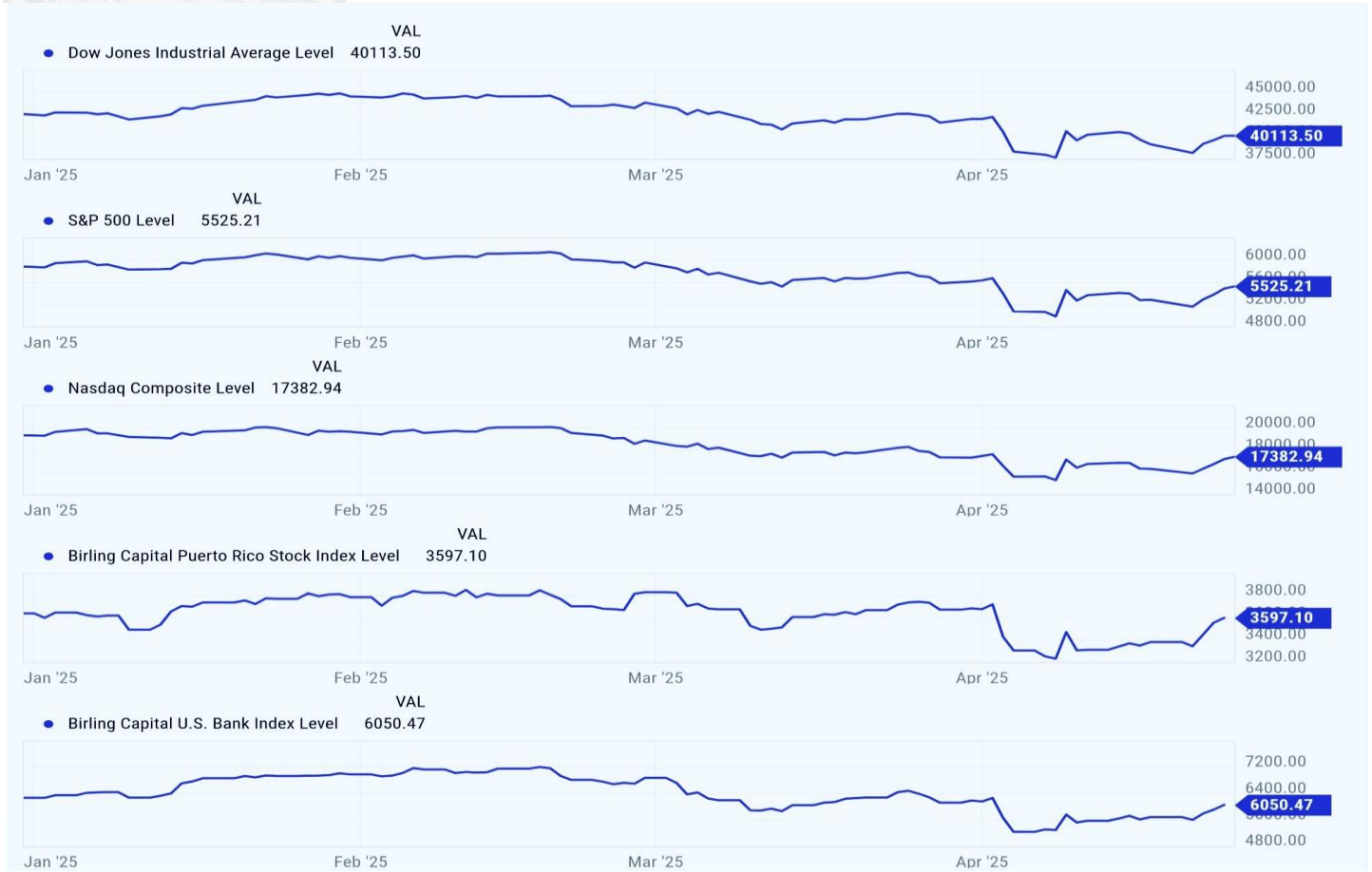


# US Index of Consumer Sentiment YTD 2025 and UK Retail Sales





## Wall Street Recap April 25, 2025



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