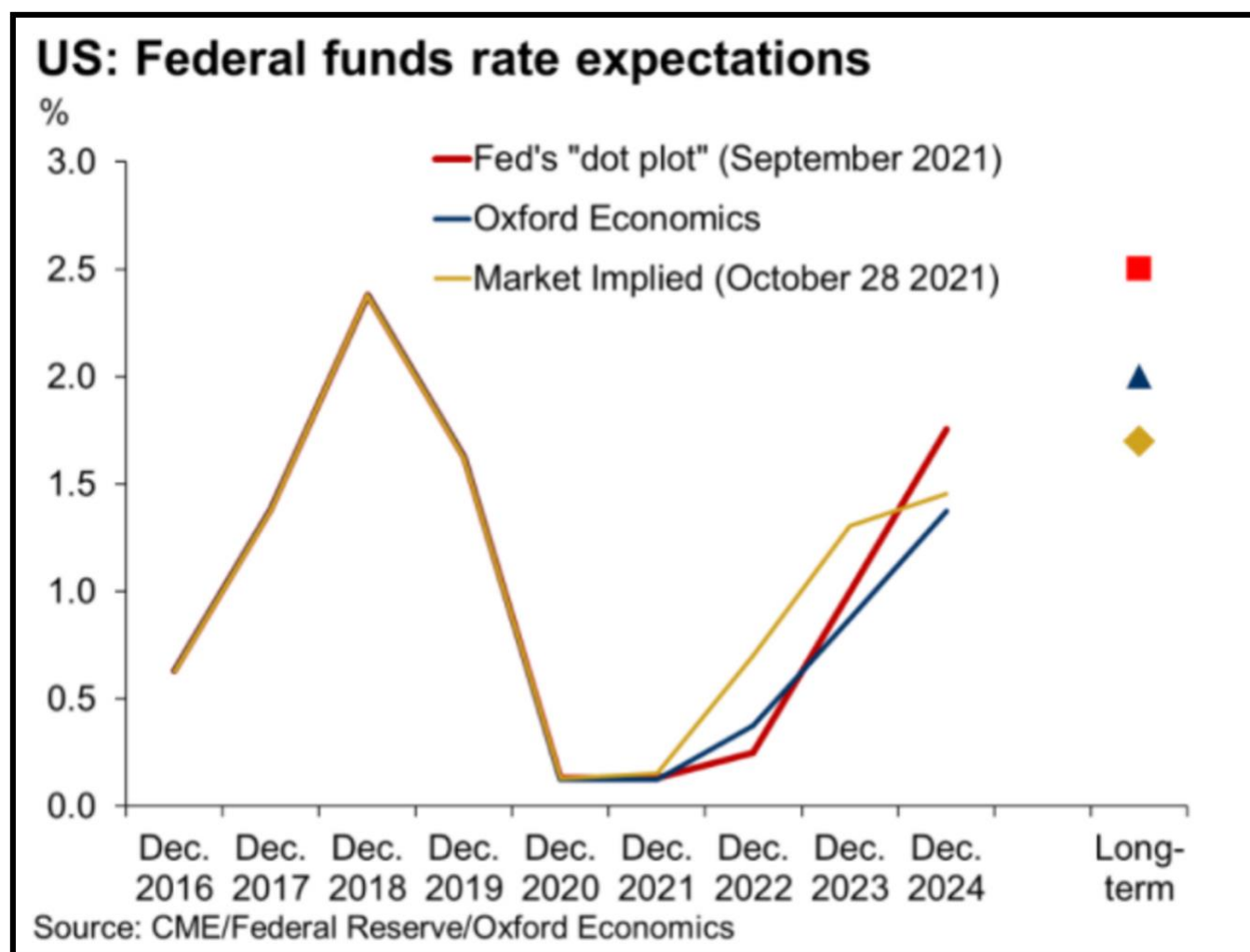


This week...

This week is all signal and no noise when it comes to the [economic calendar this week](#). The Fed begins its [two-day meeting](#) tomorrow, with a decision on rates and the Jerome Powell interview on Thursday. A [taper in bond purchases](#) is on the way, as is a higher Fed funds rate.



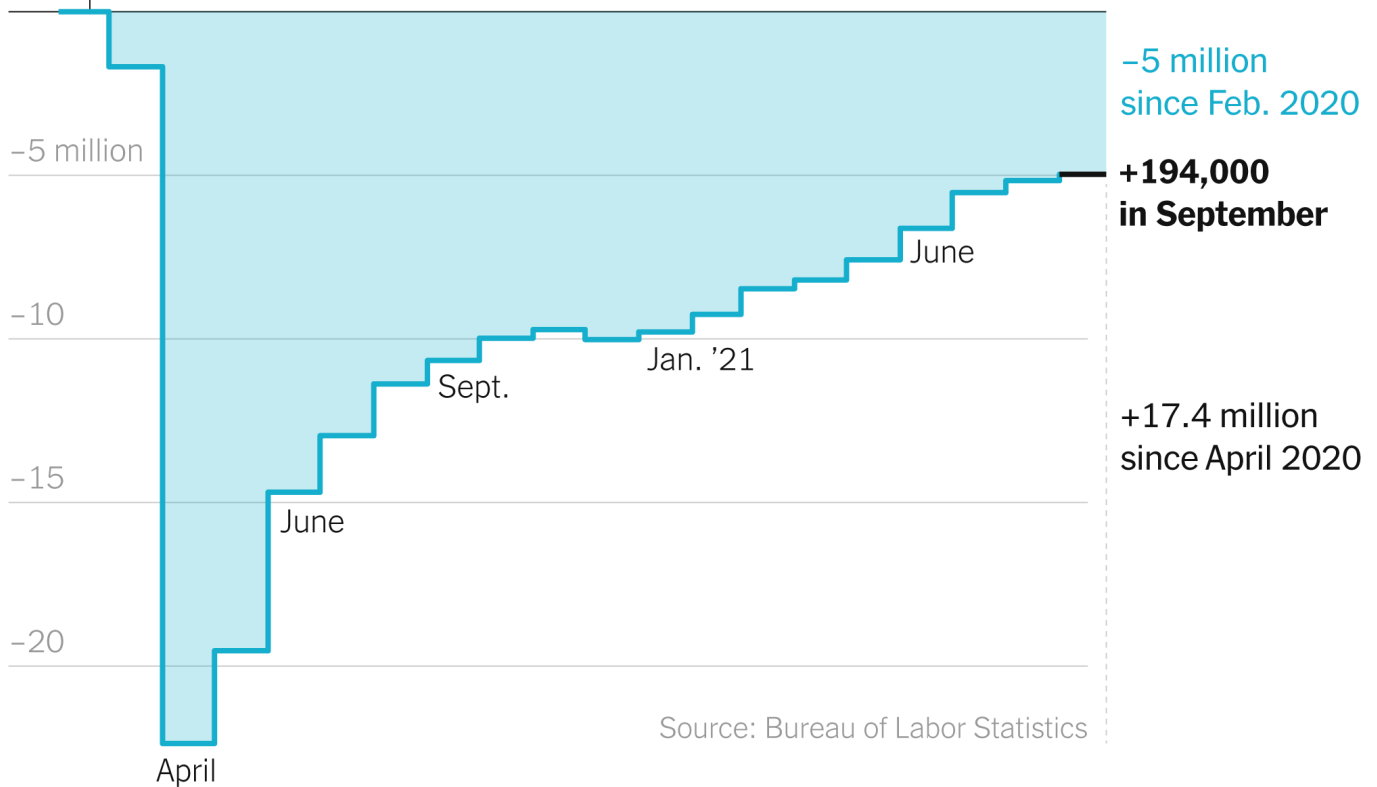
But how do you [unwind this monster](#) without disturbing the markets? The assumption is very carefully determined and done with a ton of telegraphing. For you chart and stat nerds, read S&P Global's articulation of what a [slow normalization](#) looks like. And by slow, I mean glacially slow. Gone are the days of a Fed not being afraid to throw a hard pitch at the market hard and see how it handles the chin music.



On Friday, the Labor Department will release the [October jobs report](#), with Street expectations of 400,000 adds. August and September were less than stellar, and while two might be noise, three a trend makes. Our best guess is a big print of 500,000 new jobs created and a further spike in wages. This thing is going to get out of hand in a hurry and the Fed will be behind the curve.

## Cumulative change in jobs since before the pandemic

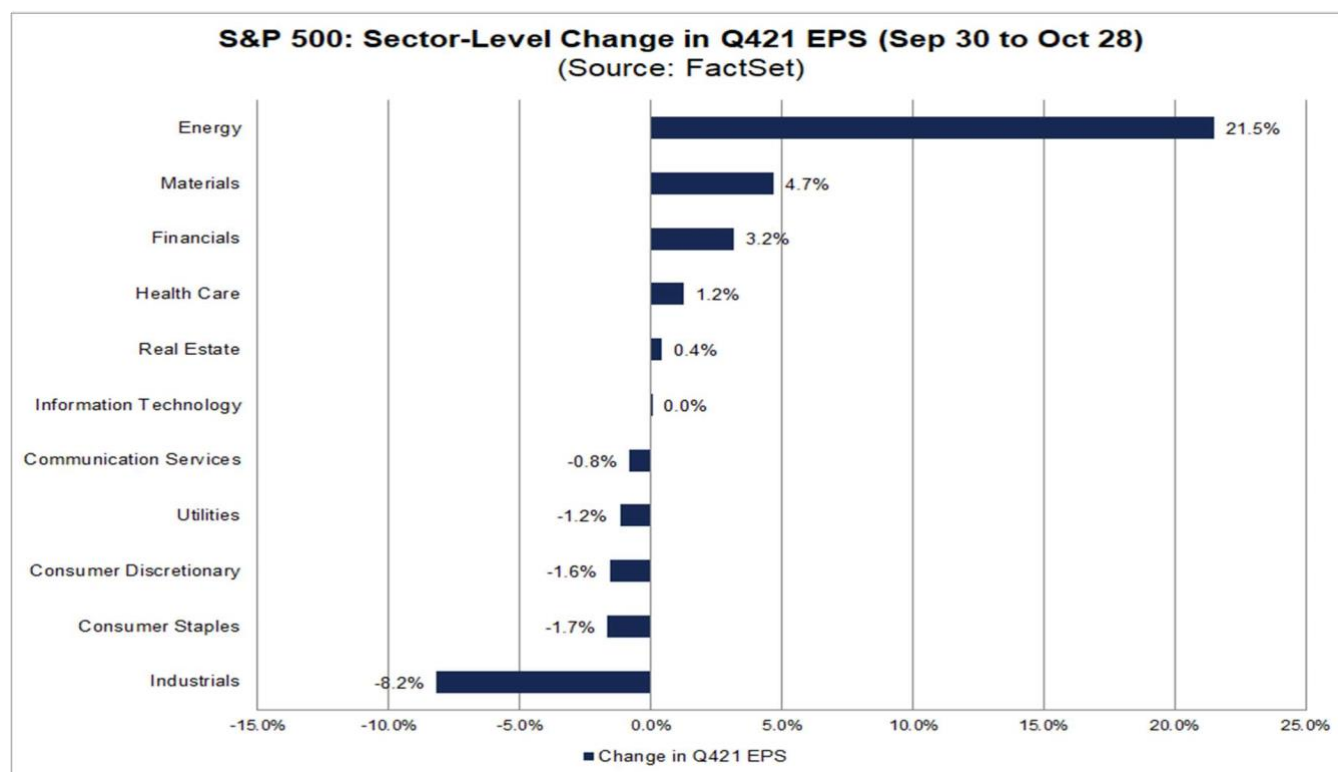
152.5 million jobs in February 2020



Earnings for the third quarter keep rolling in, and by and large, they are more than delivering. That said, there is a narrative under the surface that makes a lot of sense, and that is the tale of two economies, the [tangible and intangible](#). Bottom line to all of this, is that if you need to move product or bring in things like commodities, semiconductors, or even animal products, you are not sitting in high cotton. Selling software and services, you are living in the land of milk and honey.



Another one for the data geeks is FactSet's [earnings monitor](#), which is great to have around every time companies driving the global economy lift the curtain on how things are going. One of the more intriguing charts they produce is the one that shows how earnings are being revised on a weekly basis. As you can see below, energy is getting a huge boost from higher prices for oil and natural gas, while the industrial sector is getting pinched by the logistical pinch points.



Patagonia did the right thing late last week, when CEO Ryan Gellert called on others to join the Ventura, California based maker of all things cool to [boycott Facebook](#), or Meta, depending on how you now look at the company. Excerpts of the statement Gellert made...

"We believe Facebook has a responsibility to make sure its products do no harm, and until they do, Patagonia will continue to withhold our advertising. We encourage other businesses to join us in pushing Facebook to prioritize people and planet over profit. Patagonia stopped all paid advertising on Facebook platforms in June 2020 because they spread hate speech and misinformation about climate change and our democracy. We continue to stand by that boycott 16 months later."

We applaud this action for a whole host of reasons, one of them being we are fully aware of a similar belief that Facebook's social good compass is busted, they hide that fact when they can, and while we may not make a king's ransom of it, the shares of FB will be a short position in the Stillwater Hedged ESG strategy come January 2, 2022. Plus, Patagonia is about the coolest outdoor wear company ever.





A funny thing happened on the way to staying the world's second richest man, Warren Buffett stopped being that man. Not only was he lapped by Tesla's Elon Musk, but he was [thrice lapped](#). That's right, Elon is now triple the billionaire that Warren is, and he has taken a lot of other people with him.



Musk got to the astronomical figure through the astronomical rise of the shares of Tesla, the long controversial maker of electric vehicles. Fortunately for us, we got out of the game of trying to short the stock two years ago and never looked back.



**Elon Musk**  @elonmusk · 6m

Limited edition short shorts now available at



Tesla Short Shorts  
[shop.tesla.com](https://shop.tesla.com)

 1,334

 938

 7,544



**Elon Musk**  @elonmusk · 4m

Only \$69.420!!

 494

 384

 5,387



**Elon Musk** 

@elonmusk

Dang, we broke the website

1:04 PM · 7/5/20 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

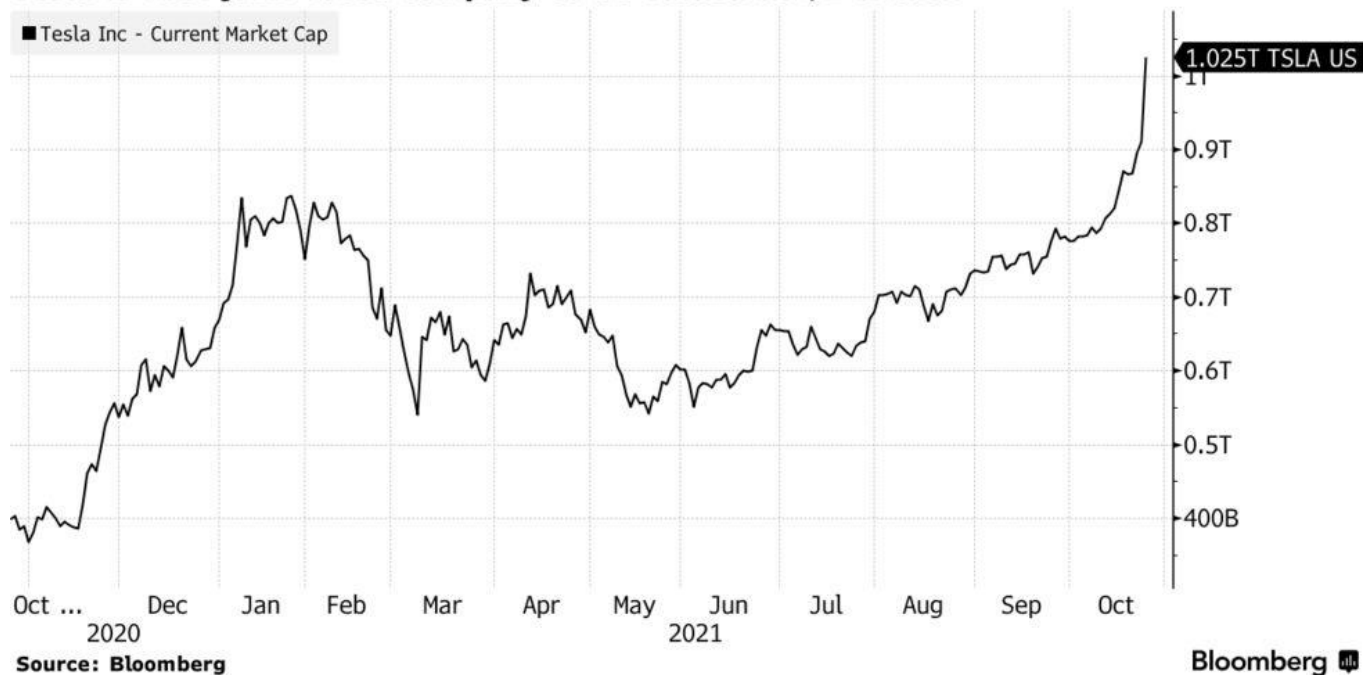
122 Retweets 2,657 Likes



Good on ya' if you stayed long the stock, and kudos to portfolio manager Leigh Crawford, among others, for standing by the name and making his clients some nice coin. Last week the company crossed the \$1 trillion valuation mark.

## Massive Cushion

**Tesla is first junk-rated company to be valued at \$1 trillion**



This week's inflation 'fun fact', smoked brisket is [no longer economical](#) for restaurants to serve in Texas right now. You read that right, because employees at the four major beef processors have been slow to return to work, barbecue joints are losing money every time they slice into that fine piece of bovine.



Like a phoenix from the ashes, restaurateur and Houston Rockets owner Tillman Fertitta did the opposite of getting killed during the Covid pandemic, he [absolutely killed it](#) right back. While the Forbes article we highlighted goes long, it's well worth reading. Just make sure to always have a motions sickness comfort bag available.



DAILY COVER | Oct 11, 2021, 06:30am EDT | 3,455 views

# How Clever Deals Made Houston Rockets Owner Tilman Fertitta Billions Richer During The Pandemic



Christmas and Thanksgiving came early to the lovers of the winter mountains, as the early season monsoonal storm that came through California last week also pounded the mountain states with enough snow to get a few mountains going well ahead of schedule. In California that means Mammoth, in Colorado, Keystone and A-Basin. [SkiCentral.com](http://SkiCentral.com) has a compelling format for finding out what is open, and the conditions you can expect when you. Pray for (more) snow!



***DISCLOSURE:*** Stillwater Capital, LLC is a Registered Investment Adviser. Advisory services are only offered to clients or prospective clients where Stillwater Capital, LLC and its representatives are properly licensed or exempt from licensure. This website is solely for informational purposes.

*Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. Investing involves risk and possible loss of principal capital. No advice may be rendered by Stillwater Capital, LLC unless a client service agreement is in place.*

*Stillwater Capital, LLC provides links for your convenience to websites produced by other providers or industry related material. Accessing websites through links directs you away from our website. Stillwater Capital, LLC is not responsible for errors or omissions in the material on third party websites and does not necessarily approve of or endorse the information provided. Users who gain access to third party websites may be subject to the copyright and other*



*restrictions on use imposed by those providers and assume responsibility and risk from the use of those websites.*

*General Notice to Users: While we appreciate your comments and feedback, please be aware that any form of testimony from current or past clients about their experience with our firm on our website or social media platforms is strictly forbidden under current securities laws.*