

## MarketWatch: The stock market's wild swings are sending a message about the escalating Iran conflict

March 4, 2026



[Peter Ricchiuti](#), senior professor of practice and research director of Burkenroad Reports, was interviewed by [MarketWatch](#) for a story about the stock market's reaction to the escalating conflict in Iran.

Inflation matters to markets largely because it influences Federal Reserve policy, said Peter Ricchiuti, professor of business at Tulane University's Freeman School of Business.

“Investors are more concerned now about persistent energy prices,” he told MarketWatch in an email. “This would increase interest rates. Earnings and interest rate are the two most important factors in stock prices, almost every time.”

To read the story in its entirety, visit [marketwatch.com](https://www.marketwatch.com):

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/the-stock-markets-wild-swings-are-sending-a-message-about-the-escalating-iran-conflict-9dc81cac>