

Markets: Analysts expect companies in the S&P 500, one of the most widely followed indexes in the US, to report a second consecutive decline in quarterly earnings this week.

Tax workers prep to hit the picket line

If you thought tax season couldn't get any more stressful, the people responsible for processing those returns may be out of office in the near future.

What happened: Over 35,000 tax workers are in a position to strike after union members of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) voted "overwhelmingly" last Friday for a mandate to walk out. They're fighting for a new collective bargaining agreement with higher wages.

- They are demanding raises equalling 20.5% over three years and an immediate 9% bump, arguing the increases are necessary due to inflation.
- A final round of negotiations is scheduled for April 17th to April 20th—if those fail, CRA workers could walk off the job as soon as next week.

Why it matters: For anyone new to adulting (or who continually forgets), the tax filing deadline is May 1st this year. If the strike happens, it could result in delays for **returns** and create a major headache for anyone who hasn't busted out TurboTax yet.

- While most tax returns are processed instantly, the strike could stifle Canadians' access to CRA services during the busiest stretch of tax time.

Zoom out: Mounting labour unrest is another consequence of persistent inflation, as workers try to secure pay hikes in line with rising prices. Over 120,000 [Treasury Board](#) employees will also conclude voting on strike action today, which could disrupt everything from airports to Stats Canada's economic data releases.

Run, Biden, run. US President Joe Biden will run for re-election in 2024, though he is not yet ready to formally launch his campaign. At 80 years old, Biden is already the oldest president in US history. If he were to win a second term, he would be 86 by the end of it. Currently, two other democrats have said they would run for office in 2024. ([BBC](#))

Uber CEO gets behind the wheel. Dara Khosrowshahi and other Uber execs took shifts as drivers, carrying passengers and delivering food, to better understand the driver experience. The experiment is part of a broader push to secure more drivers and has already led to changes in the app, including modifying the sign-up process and ordering queues. ([WSJ](#))

Canada needs farmers. Canada will be short 24,000 farmers by 2033, per a new study from RBC and the University of Guelph, as ~40% of farmers are set to retire over the next ten years. The report suggests Canada must welcome 30,000 permanent immigrants—to take over farms or establish new ones, to prevent a mass labour shortage. ([CTV](#))—QH

