WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010

Three Decades of S&P 500 Sector Performance

The Big Picture details how the various sectors of the S&P 500 have fared over the last three decades:

Have a look at the table of S&P 500 sectors — the only one that has outperformed in each of the past three decades is health care. No, Medical and pharmacy inflation was not in your imagination.

Telecom services is the only sector to underperform in all three decades.

Below are two charts showing details of that table. The first shows the absolute performance of each sector over each decade, while the second shows the relative performance of each sector vs. the broader S&P 500 index over each decade. Please note that the order of the sectors move from best performing sector at the top (consumer staples) to worst performing sector at the bottom (telecom) over that 30 year period.

Absolute Performance

S&P 500 Sector Returns

- Consumer Staples
- Health Care
- Consumer Discretionary
- Energy
- S&P 500
- Information Technology
- Industrials
- Financials
- Materials
- Telecom
EconomPic: Three Decades of S&P 500 Sector Performance

Second Largest Equity Pullback Since the March Bot...

EconomPic of the Week (1/30/09)

Real (and Nominal) GDP Back to Black

GDP Rocks at 5.7%

Durable Goods / GDP Expectations

Three Decades of S&P 500 Sector Performance

Japanese Exports Expand for First Time Since Crisi...

Consumer Confidence Ticks Higher

Case Shiller: Still a Soft Housing Market

U.K. GDP Figure Disappoints

Avatar Takes the "I'm the King of the World!" Cro...

Texas Factory Output Growth in January