Quantitative easing (QE) is an unconventional monetary policy in which a central bank purchases securities in order to lower interest rates and increase the money supply to promote increased lending and liquidity.

The recovery rate is the extent to which principal and accrued interest on a debt instrument can be recovered in default, expressed as a percentage of the instrument's face value.

The redemption is the return of an investor's principal in a fixed-income security, upon maturity or cancellation by the issuer.

A rig is a machine used to drill an oil well.

Rig count details the number oil and gas drilling rigs, as well as their operational status and regional location.

The S&P 500 Index includes 500 leading U.S. companies capturing approximately 80% coverage of available U.S. market capitalization.

On the secondary market, securities or assets are purchased from other investors, rather than from issuing companies themselves.

The shale industry belongs to the mining industry and extracts shale oil and gas.

Shale oil is a type of unconventional oil found in shale formations.

The spread is the difference between the quoted rates of return on two different investments, usually of different credit quality.

The STOXX Europe 600 Index is an index representing the performance of 600 listed companies across 18 European countries.

Systemic risk describes the possibility that an event at the company level could trigger severe instability or make an entire industry or economy collapse.

The Federal Reserve System, which serves as the U.S. central bank, was established in 1913, consisting of the U. S. Federal Reserve Board (Fed) with seven members headquartered in Washington, D.C., and twelve Reserve Banks located in major cities throughout the United States.

Volatility is the degree of variation of a trading-price series over time.

The wealth effect is the change in spending that accompanies a change in perceived wealth (also known as the wealth channel).

An oil well is a drilled hole in the earth that is designed to bring petroleum oil hydrocarbons to the surface.

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) is a grade of crude oil used as a benchmark in oil pricing.