

DOMESTIC EQUITY

US equities notched their fourth straight month of gains in August, with the benchmark S&P 500 Index gaining +2.03% to close at 6,460. Large-Caps hit an all-time high on Thursday, before settling back in on Friday to close the month. Mid-Caps fared slightly better, gaining +3.39%, while Small-Caps surged +7.06% on renewed optimism surrounding potential Fed rate cuts at the September FOMC meeting. Fed Chair Powell's dovish remarks at the Kansas City Fed's annual Jackson Hole symposium opened the door for rate cuts as the Fed now sees potential downside risks to the labor market trumping inflationary impulses.

For the quarter, Small-Caps are now the notable outperformer, up +8.05%, despite only gaining +3.25% on the year. Small-Caps remain a high conviction trade heading into September, with the potential for continued runway (i.e. more rate cuts) when the Fed releases its Summary of Economic Projections (SEPs), more aptly known as the "dot plot". Small-Caps continue to look attractive on an absolute and relative value basis and stand to benefit from a lower interest rate environment. Absent a recession, the broadening out of the market from the "Mag 7" to the S&P 493 looks likely to continue. The S&P 500 Equal Weight Index rose +2.69% in August, highlighting the "average" stock outperforming.

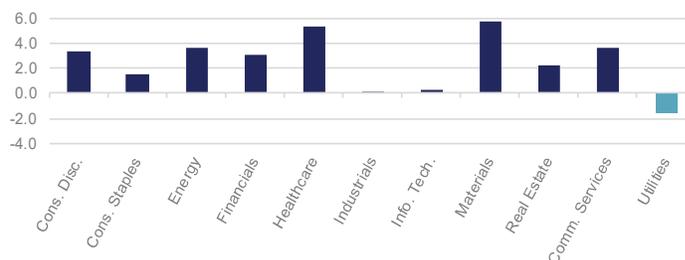
From a sector standpoint, 10 of 11 sectors finished the month in positive territory, led by Materials and Healthcare, which gained +5.76% and +5.38%, respectively. Technology, Industrials, and Utilities, collectively the year's best performing sectors, were the laggards, returning +0.34%, +0.01%, and -1.58%, respectively, underscoring the market's rotation beneath the surface away from the year's best performers.

At the factor level, Value (+3.44%) outperformed Growth (+0.83%), while Momentum (+0.59%) lagged, underpinning the broadening out theme. Looking ahead, we view the broadening out theme as positive in a historically concentrated world dominated by the Mag 7 and Artificial Intelligence (AI) related themes.

DOMESTIC EQUITY MARKET
P/E RATIOS



MTD S&P 500 SECTOR RETURNS



S&P 500 SECTOR RETURNS

SECTOR	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR	% Wt.
Consumer Discretionary	3.40	6.13	2.02	24.82	16.00	9.05	11%
Consumer Staples	1.59	-0.81	5.54	3.02	8.13	8.53	6%
Energy	3.64	6.67	7.49	2.06	7.64	25.61	3%
Financials	3.12	3.07	12.54	19.83	19.94	18.76	14%
Healthcare	5.38	1.94	0.81	-11.09	5.07	6.65	9%
Industrials	0.01	3.01	16.12	17.16	19.74	16.14	8%
Information Technology	0.34	5.55	14.04	22.54	31.39	20.25	33%
Materials	5.76	5.29	11.64	0.34	9.42	10.23	2%
Real Estate	2.17	2.08	5.67	0.49	4.05	6.77	2%
Communication Services	3.58	6.09	17.91	34.31	30.72	14.93	10%
Utilities	-1.58	3.28	13.00	13.81	7.68	10.80	2%

DOMESTIC EQUITY RETURNS

NAME	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR
S&P 500 Index	2.03	4.32	10.78	15.85	19.53	14.73
S&P 400 Mid Cap Index	3.39	5.07	5.27	6.84	11.97	12.73
S&P 600 Small Cap Index	7.06	8.05	3.21	3.46	8.56	11.57
S&P 500/Citi Growth Index	0.83	4.28	13.51	23.91	22.41	14.57
S&P 500/Citi Value Index	3.44	4.36	7.78	6.07	15.42	14.35

S&P 500 FACTOR RETURNS

NAME	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR
S&P 500 Quality	2.16	1.40	8.62	9.90	20.14	14.30
S&P 500 Momentum	2.76	3.51	23.16	31.45	30.83	19.23
S&P 500 Equal Weight	2.69	3.69	8.69	9.16	12.34	13.15
S&P 500 High Beta	4.01	7.61	18.93	23.35	19.07	20.37
S&P 500 Low Volatility	1.55	1.25	6.47	5.48	7.72	8.52

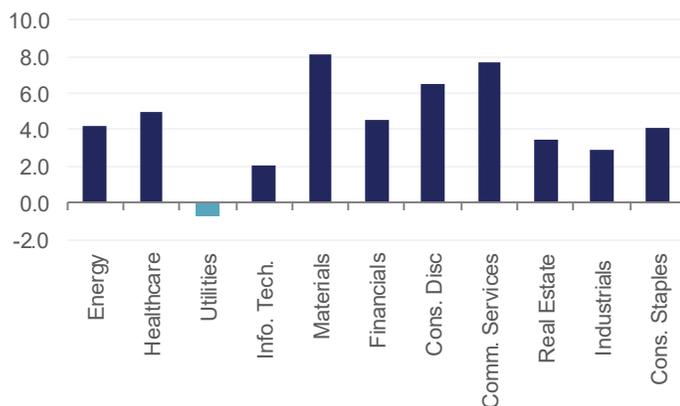
INTERNATIONAL EQUITY

International equities were mostly positive in August, largely outperforming U.S. Large-Cap equities over the last month and well ahead on a year to date (YTD) basis. The MSCI EAFE Index, which tracks developed markets outside the U.S. and Canada, was up +4.65% last month, and an impressive +23.33% on a total return basis YTD. The MSCI EM Index, which tracks Emerging Markets globally, was up a solid +3.53% in August and a notable +20.36% YTD. While the S&P 500 is up +10.78% YTD.

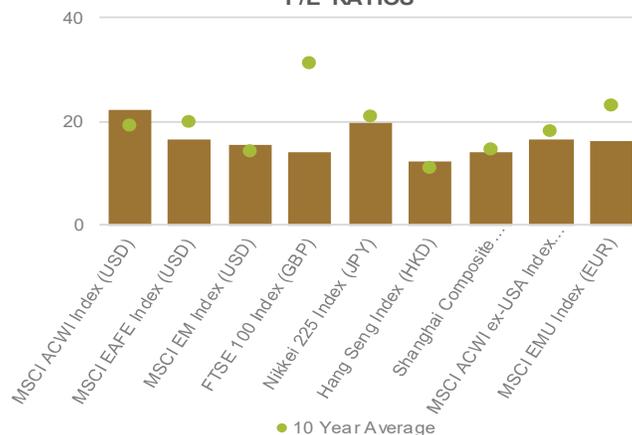
The European Central Bank (ECB) will hold its next monetary policy meeting the second week of September. They will have to decide to keep short-term rates firm at 2% or possibly cut after receiving mixed inflation and growth data from the union's most important states. According to a recent WSJ article, German inflation saw a modest uptick, while France eased to 0.8%, and held steady in Italy and Spain at 1.7% and 2.7%, respectively. The ECB's inflation target is 2%. Economic growth remains uneven. As France grew solidly in the second quarter, Spain's economy stayed resilient thanks to a boost in tourism. However, Germany, Europe's arguably most important economy, contracted 0.3% and faces growing unemployment and weaker consumer confidence. The ECB will also have to consider looming U.S. Tariffs and a strong Euro, both headwinds threatening exports and growth. Despite mixed economic data, the Eurozone is up +3.0% on the month and +29.4% YTD, in USD.

Canada's central bank is set to meet the third week of September. Markets are pricing in a 50% chance of a rate cut at this meeting. Q2 GDP came in weaker than expected as exports fell and business investment has slumped. The downturn, driven by escalating U.S. tariffs and weaker trade, has intensified debate over whether the Bank of Canada will cut rates at its Sept. 17 meeting. However, household and government spending provided some support, rising +4.5% and +5.1% annualized, respectively. The Canadian market was up +4.8% in August and is up +17.2% YTD, in USD.

MTD MSCI ACWI SECTOR RETURNS



INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKET P/E RATIOS



MSCI ACWI EX U.S. SECTOR RETURNS

SECTOR	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR	% Wt.
Energy	4.19	4.94	16.95	4.93	11.43	15.04	8%
Healthcare	5.02	3.41	10.22	-9.42	8.45	2.67	7%
Utilities	-0.68	1.55	17.58	13.30	9.59	9.73	6%
Information Technology	2.01	0.30	14.64	12.04	21.64	11.13	12%
Materials	8.15	7.44	24.36	10.68	10.95	7.27	6%
Financials	4.49	4.28	31.91	33.06	25.66	18.54	24%
Consumer Discretionary	6.45	5.25	12.83	12.36	11.44	2.52	10%
Communication Services	7.73	6.04	36.14	36.38	17.42	5.69	6%
Real Estate	3.43	3.09	18.34	11.37	7.14	1.02	2%
Industrials	2.96	2.06	27.34	22.06	22.52	12.77	13%
Consumer Staples	4.07	1.76	16.91	5.21	5.91	2.74	7%

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY RETURNS

NAME	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR
MSCI ACWI Index (USD)	3.94	4.00	14.74	16.41	18.53	12.40
MSCI EAFE Index (USD)	4.65	2.82	23.33	14.52	18.77	10.87
MSCI EM Index (USD)	3.53	4.17	20.36	18.37	12.24	5.42
FTSE 100 Index (GBP)	2.03	5.68	15.67	13.69	12.71	13.41
Nikkei 225 Index (JPY)	3.47	4.27	6.96	11.29	17.43	14.95
Hang Seng Index (HKD)	4.76	6.86	31.27	47.74	13.64	3.88
Shanghai Composite Index (CNY)	8.99	13.49	18.11	39.93	9.72	5.26
MSCI ACWI ex-USA Index (USD)	4.44	3.45	22.41	16.35	16.75	9.50
MSCI EMU Index (EUR)	3.26	1.70	15.49	14.53	17.94	12.91
MSCI China Index (USD)	7.93	11.95	32.89	51.44	11.32	-1.61
MSCI Canada Index (USD)	4.79	6.56	17.16	26.30	18.48	15.45
MSCI EM ex-China (USD)	1.14	0.45	15.04	7.03	12.14	9.33

FIXED INCOME

It was a BIG month for developments in the fixed income world. At the Federal Reserve meeting that concluded on July 30th, interest rates were held steady, although there were two dissenting Fed Governors who wanted a rate cut, along with the President. Powell did not budge. The meeting minutes were released three weeks later on Wednesday, August 20th. The minutes appeared to show that the majority of the Governors agreed that uncertainty around inflation and tariffs outweighed the employment concerns the two dissenting Governors cited to support lowering rates.

Then, two days later on August 22nd at the annual Jackson Hole Economic Policy Symposium, Powell appeared to do an about face, saying that economic conditions "may warrant adjusting our policy stance". Powell noted the shifting balance of risks, saying that downside risks to employment have increased and upside risks to inflation have diminished. "The time has come for policy to adjust." Powell clearly signaled a path toward interest rate cuts, though he mentioned some level of data dependency.

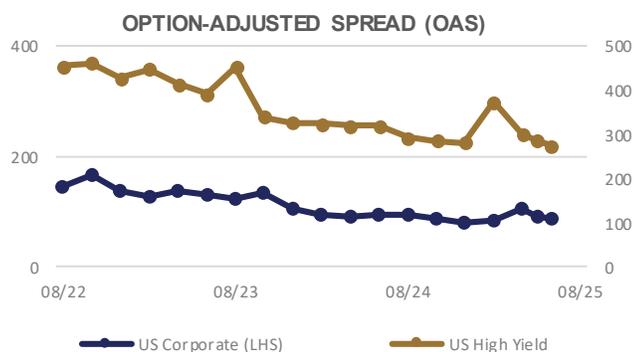
Jackson Hole is often used as an opportunity to highlight coming policy changes. Perhaps he was trying to get ahead of what he thought was coming later in the year, or he has been worn down by the President's consistent bludgeoning. Either way, it is very different posing just three weeks after the July meeting.

In the month of August, the yield curve steepened. Short-term interest rates (less than 10 years) declined, while the 10-year treasury and longer maturities experienced rising rates.

The Government bond index outperformed the Agg and the Investment Grade (IG) Corporate bond indices. Year to date, the IG Corporate bond index continues to outperform both the Agg and the Government bond indices.

High Yield (HY) Corporate bonds were the best performing allocation in August, adding to a very strong year to date return. Credit spreads declined a bit, and the shorter average maturity of High Yield bonds insulated the exposure from rising rates at the long end of the curve.

Tax-free muni bonds had an ok month, but continue to struggle year to date, with a marginally positive return. Shorter maturity bonds have become less attractive as prices have bounced back and yields declined, but there continues to be significant value in longer maturity bonds.



U.S. TREASURY YIELDS

PERIOD	3MOS	1YR	5YR	10YR	20YR	30YR
Current	4.15	3.86	3.75	4.29	4.92	4.98
1 Month Ago	4.28	3.86	3.76	4.22	4.79	4.82
6 Months Ago	4.30	4.09	4.02	4.21	4.53	4.49
1 Year Ago	5.12	4.41	3.70	3.90	4.29	4.20

CENTRAL BANK ACTIVITY

NAME	CURRENT	1 MTH AGO	6 MTH AGO	1 YR AGO
Fed Funds Rate	4.50	4.50	4.50	5.50
Bank of Japan Target Rate	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.25
European Central Bank Rate	2.15	2.15	3.15	4.25
Bank of England Base Rate	4.00	4.25	4.50	5.00

FIXED INCOME RETURNS

NAME	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR
Bloomberg US Government Index	1.05	0.66	4.47	2.44	2.11	-1.41
Bloomberg US Agg Index	0.38	0.93	4.99	3.14	3.22	-0.71
Bloomberg US Corporate Index	0.35	1.08	5.30	3.91	4.94	-0.08
Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Index	1.25	1.71	6.35	8.26	9.31	5.16
Bloomberg EM USD Agg Index	1.16	2.27	7.32	7.61	8.16	1.35
Bloomberg Global Agg Treasuries USD Index	-0.09	0.01	2.30	2.58	3.20	-0.15
Bloomberg Municipal Index	0.87	0.67	0.32	0.08	2.59	0.40

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS

Tariff developments—from court rulings to sweeping new duties—are creating widespread uncertainty in commodities’ markets. While some areas, like precious metals (notably gold and silver), have benefited from these tensions, others—particularly in the agricultural sector—are feeling the pressure of retaliatory measures and disrupted trade flows. Despite the turbulence, broad commodities were up +2.1% during August, as measured by the Bloomberg Commodity Index.

Having written about gold extensively over the years, the shiny metal continues to live up to its “safe-haven” reputation. Gold hit a record high at the end of the month, \$3,447.95 per ounce, fueled by expectations of lower interest rates and political pressures on monetary policy. Gold is up more than +30% through the first 8 months of the year and remains one of the best performing asset classes of the past several years.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell struck a more dovish tone at the Jackson Hole conference, leading markets to price in a greater than 90% probability of a rate cut at the upcoming September Fed meeting. Despite this change in tone, President Trump escalated his criticism of the Federal Reserve, removing Fed Governor Lisa Cook over alleged ethical violations related to personal mortgages. These developments have raised fresh concerns about the Fed’s independence, reinforcing the appeal of assets like gold during uncertain times.

In a separate move, President Trump signed an executive order in early August directing regulators to expand the types of alternative investments permitted in 401(k) plans. While the order doesn’t change existing law, it directs Federal agencies to explore regulatory changes and relax guidance of inclusion of alternative assets in plans. These alternative assets could include private equity, private credit, private real estate, and even cryptocurrencies. While this shift was widely anticipated—and discussed in last month’s market wrap—it’s unlikely to lead to rapid adoption in the industry.

Defined contribution plans have trended toward greater transparency and lower-cost options over the past decade. Many plan sponsors may remain cautious about embracing alternatives due to concerns about fees, liquidity, and legal risk associated with these more complex asset classes, at least in the immediate future.

SPOT RATES

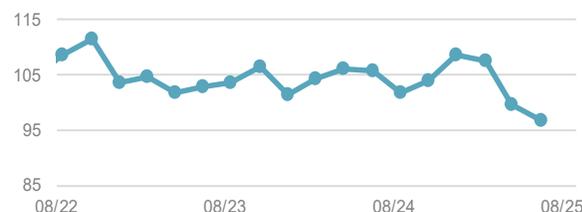
DESCRIPTION	CURRENT	1 MTH AGO	3 MTHS AGO	6 MTHS AGO	1 YR AGO
CAD / USD	1.38	1.38	1.37	1.45	1.35
JPY / USD	148.64	147.09	142.71	149.50	146.92
GBP / USD	0.75	0.75	0.74	0.79	0.76
EUR / USD	0.86	0.86	0.87	0.95	0.90

HEDGE FUNDS

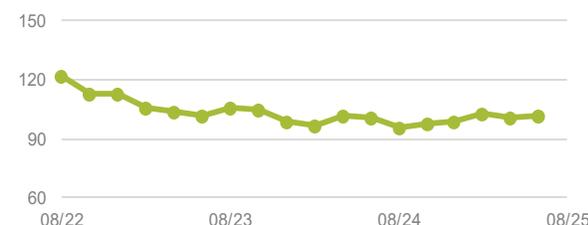
NAME	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR
Global Hedge	1.18%	1.18%	5.33%	8.37%	7.91%	6.78%
Conv. Arbitrage	0.90%	0.90%	5.59%	8.35%	8.59%	8.29%
Event Driven	2.27%	2.27%	4.89%	6.75%	7.45%	8.39%
Macro Hedge	0.05%	0.05%	0.59%	2.10%	2.76%	4.22%
Merger Arbitrage	0.74%	0.74%	5.38%	5.21%	4.94%	7.02%

Note: Price Return, Returns as of 7/31/2025

U.S. DOLLAR INDEX SPOT



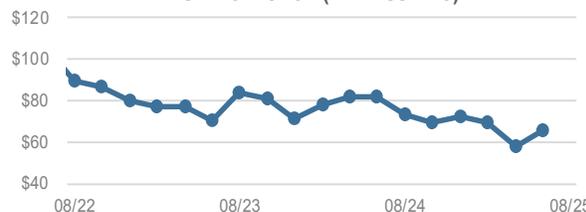
BLOOMBERG COMMODITY INDEX



GOLD SPOT



CRUDE OIL SPOT (WTI CUSHING)



FTSE NAREIT All REIT's



COMMODITIES

	MTD	QTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR
Dollar	-0.83%	0.90%	-8.31%	-2.54%	-2.45%	0.67%
BCOM	2.15%	0.75%	4.08%	-5.96%	-6.46%	7.04%
Gold	2.51%	4.38%	31.38%	36.75%	25.65%	11.89%
WTI	-3.45%	6.06%	-10.75%	-15.68%	-11.34%	9.79%
FTSE NAREIT	3.34%	2.23%	4.06%	-1.39%	3.79%	5.88%

*WTI Crude Oil uses Price return and annualized numbers are calculated using arithmetic returns

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact any member of our investment team:

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S&P 500 Index (SPX) – Standard and Poor’s 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks. The index is designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

S&P 500 Sector Indices (S5COND, S5CONS, S5ENRS, S5FINL, S5HLTH, S5INDU, S5INFT, S5MATR, S5TELS, S5UTIL, S5RLST) – The S&P 500 is broken down into eleven sub-indices according to the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) sectors. These eleven sectors include Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Energy, Financials, Health Care, Industrials, Information Technology, Materials, Communication Services, Utilities, and Real Estate.

S&P 400 Mid Cap Index (MID) – Standard and Poor’s Mid Cap 400 Index is a capitalization-weighted index, which measures the performance of the mid-range sector of the U.S. stock market.

S&P 600 Small Cap Index (SML) – Standard & Poor’s Small Cap 600 Index is a capitalization-weighted index that measures the performance of selected U.S. stocks with a small market capitalization.

S&P 500/Citigroup Growth Index (SGX) – The S&P 500/Citigroup Growth Index is a market capitalization weighted index. All the stocks in the underlying parent index are allocated into value or growth. Stocks that do not have pure value or pure growth characteristics have their market caps distributed between the value & growth indices.

S&P 500/Citigroup Value Index (SVX) – The S&P 500/Citigroup Value Index is a market capitalization-weighted index. All the stocks in the underlying parent index are allocated into value or growth. Stocks that do not have pure value or pure growth characteristics have their market caps distributed between the value & growth indices.

MSCI AC World Index (MXWD) – The MSCI AC World Index is a free float-weighted equity index. The index includes both emerging and developed world markets.

MSCI EAFE Index (MXEA) – The MSCI EAFE Index is a capitalization-weighted index that monitors the performance of stocks from developed markets in Europe, Australia-Asia, and the Far East.

MSCI Emerging Market Index (MXEF) – The MSCI Emerging Market Index is a free-float weighted index that is designed to measure the equity performance of international emerging markets.

FTSE 100 Index (UKX) – The FTSE 100 Index is a capitalization weighted index of the 100 most highly capitalized companies traded on the London Stock Exchange. The equities use an investability quotient weighting in the index calculation.

Nikkei 225 Stock Average Index (NKY) – The Nikkei-225 Stock Average is a price-weighted average of 225 top-rated Japanese companies listed in the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

Hang Seng Index (HSI) – The Hang Seng is a free-float capitalization-weighted index of selected companies from the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong. The components of the index are divided into four sub-indices: Commerce and Industry, Finance, Utilities, and Properties.

Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index (SHCOMP) – The Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index is a capitalization weighted index. The index tracks the daily price performance of all A-shares and B-shares listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange.

MSCI USA Extended ESG Focus Index - The Index is designed to maximize exposure to positive environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the MSCI USA Index.

MSCI EAFE Extended ESG Focus Index - The Index is designed to maximize exposure to positive environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the MSCI EAFE Index.

MSCI Emerging Markets Extended ESG Focus Index - The Index is designed to maximize exposure to positive environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors while exhibiting risk and return characteristics similar to those of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

MSCI ACWI ex USA Index (MXWDU) – The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index is a free-float weighted index.

MSCI ACWI ex USA Sector Indices – The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index is broken down into eleven sub-indices according to the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) sectors. These eleven sectors include Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Energy, Financials, Health Care, Industrials, Information Technology, Materials, Communication Services, Utilities, and Real Estate.

MSCI EMU Index (MXEM) – The MSCI EMU (European Economic and Monetary Union) Index is a free-float weighted equity index.

Bloomberg Global Treasuries USD Hedged Index (LGTTRUHH) – The Bloomberg Global Treasury Index tracks fixed-rate, local currency government debt of investment grade countries. The index represents the treasury sector of the Global Aggregate Index and contains issues from 37 countries denominated in 24 currencies.

Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index (LMBITR) – The Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index covers the USD denominated long-term tax exempt bond market. The index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and pre-refunded bonds.

Bloomberg U.S. Government Index - Bloomberg US Government Bond Index is comprised of the US Treasury and US Agency Indices. The index includes US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, nominal US Treasuries and US agency debentures (securities issued by US government owned or government sponsored entities, and debt explicitly guaranteed by the US government).

Bloomberg EM Hard Currency Aggregate Index (LG20TRUU) - The Bloomberg Emerging Markets Hard Currency Aggregate Index is a hard currency Emerging Markets debt benchmark that includes USD-denominated debt from sovereign, quasi-sovereign, and corporate EM issuers.

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index (LBSTRUU) - The Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index is a broad-based benchmark that measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market. The index includes Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, MBS (agency fixed-rate and hybrid ARM pass-through), ABS and CMBS (agency and non-agency).

Bloomberg U.S. Corporate Index (LUACTRUU) - The Bloomberg US Corporate Bond Index measures the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. It includes USD denominated securities publicly issued by US and non-US industrial, utility and financial issuers.

Bloomberg U.S. Corp High Yield Index (LFTR ML U.S. Corporate Index (COA0)) – The Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Bond Index measures the USD denominated, high yield, below-investment grade fixed-rate corporate bond market.

S&P Green Bond Select Index (SPGRSLLT) - The S&P Green Bond Select Index is a market value-weighted subset of the S&P Green Bond Index that seeks to measure the performance of green-labeled bonds issued globally, subject to stringent financial and extra-financial eligibility criteria.

ML U.S. Corporate Index (COA0) – The Merrill Lynch U.S. Corporate Index tracks the performance of U.S. dollar denominated investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market.

ML U.S. High Yield Index (HOA0) – The Merrill Lynch U.S. High Yield Index tracks the performance of U.S. dollar denominated below investment grade corporate debt publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market.

FTSE NAREIT All REITs Index (FNAR) – The FTSE NAREIT All REITs Index is a free float adjusted market capitalization-weighted index that includes all tax qualified REITs listed in the NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ National Market.

Bloomberg Commodity Index (BCOM) – Bloomberg Commodity Index (BCOM) is calculated on an excess return basis and reflects commodity futures price movements. The index rebalances annually weighted 2/3 by trading volume and 1/3 by world production and weight-caps are applied at the commodity, sector and group level for diversification. Roll period typically occurs from 6th-10th business day based on the roll schedule.

U.S. Dollar Index (DXY) – The U.S. Dollar Index (USDIX) indicates the general int’l value of the USD. The USDIX does this by averaging the exchange rates between the USD and 6 major world currencies. The ICE US computes this by using the rates supplied by some 500 banks.

The Bloomberg All Hedge Index represents the average performance of hedge funds, as defined by the Bloomberg Hedge Fund Classifications.

The Bloomberg Convertible Bond Arbitrage Hedge Fund Index represents the average performance of hedge funds with a convertible bond arbitrage strategy, as defined by the Bloomberg Hedge Fund Classifications.

The Bloomberg Event Driven Hedge Fund Index represents the average performance of hedge funds with an event driven strategy, as defined by the Bloomberg Hedge Fund Classifications.

The Bloomberg Macro Hedge Fund Index represents the average performance of hedge funds with a macro strategy, as defined by the Bloomberg Hedge Fund Classifications.

The Bloomberg Merger Arbitrage Hedge Fund Index represents the average performance of hedge funds with a merger arbitrage strategy, as defined by the Bloomberg Hedge Fund Classifications.

Economic Data Sources:

PPI & CPI – Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Rate – Bureau of Labor Statistics

Consumer Confidence – Conference Board

SP/Case-Shiller Composite 20 – Case-Shiller

Industrial Production – Federal Reserve

Capacity Utilization – Federal Reserve

Retail Sales – U.S. Census Bureau

Housing Starts – U.S. Department of Commerce

Factory Orders – U.S. Census Bureau

Leading Indicators – Conference Board

Unit Labor Costs – Bureau of Labor Statistics

GDP – Bureau of Economic Analysis

Wholesale Inventories – U.S. Census Bureau

MBA Mortgage Applications – Mortgage Bankers Association

4-Week Moving Average of Initial Claims, SA – Bureau of Labor Statistics

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