



MARKET PERSPECTIVES Q4 2025



Presented By





Kieran Osborne, MBus, CFA PARTNER & CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER

Kieran Osborne is responsible for portfolio management, trading, analysis, investment, and economic research functions and leads the firm's Investment Committee.

Mr. Osborne oversees portfolio construction and implementation, conducts in-depth manager research and due diligence, and monitors fund performance on an ongoing basis.





KEY THEMES	COMMENTARY
Market Update	After coming under pressure earlier in the year on the back of trade policy fears, stocks have since rebounded as trade policy overhang has largely abated. Sentiment has been helped by better-than-anticipated economic growth, the Fed restarting its rate-cutting cycle, and positive company earnings and share buyback announcements. Stock market concentration and stretched valuations remain a concern, underscoring the importance of portfolio diversification, while a more cautious outlook for additional Fed rate cuts has contributed to recent volatility. Bond yields trended lower ahead of the Fed restarting its rate-cutting cycle, though yields have ticked up more recently.
The Economy	While the full impact of tariffs and trade policy remains uncertain, underlying economic growth has been more robust than anticipated. Despite some moderation in the labor market, economic data surprises – in aggregate – have trended positive through the back half of the year. 2025 GDP growth has been revised higher, and the economy is expected to expand 1.8% this year. At the same time, inflation is anticipated to remain above the Fed's long-term target of 2% through at least 2027. With this backdrop, we expect the Fed to be cautious in its approach to monetary policy, as it tries to balance cutting interest rates it believes are still restrictive without causing an uptick in inflationary expectations.
Asset Class Outlook	The current economic backdrop may be positive for stocks and bonds. However, we are cautious about stock market valuations and concentration. International stocks still trade at a discount to the U.S. market and may continue to be supported by fiscal and monetary policies and intra-region trade dynamics. Current bond yields remain relatively attractive, with many of our preferred bond funds yielding mid- to high-single digits. Moving forward, we believe alternative strategies may offer attractive risk-adjusted return potential.

Mission Wealth Actions



- The ongoing divergence in performance across asset classes continues to provide us with enhanced rebalancing opportunities.
 - ➤ Ahead of 2025, we were trimming growth stocks and adding to value, international, and emerging markets. In March & April, we were trimming value and international stocks in favor of growth stocks, which have subsequently outperformed.
- We believe broad diversification, disciplined investment decision-making, and a focus on the long term are critical to portfolio performance.
- Where appropriate, we have taken the opportunity to **tax-loss harvest** select positions to **enhance our clients' after-tax returns**.
- We are constructive on bonds. Many of our preferred bond funds yield mid- to highsingle digits, and the current yield is the strongest determining factor for forwardlooking bond total returns.
- We continue to favor alternative investment strategies, which we believe offer attractive risk-adjusted returns and limited correlation to public markets.



Part 1:

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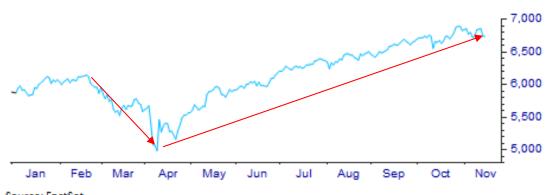
MARKET UPDATE



Stocks Rebound

- Stocks have rebounded from the April lows and are now aligned with historic
 precedent for a Fed rate cutting cycle without a recession (our base case outlook).
- Trade policy overhang has largely abated, the economy has done better than
 anticipated, the Fed began cutting interest rates, and positive company earnings
 and share buyback announcements have all helped underpin investor sentiment.
- More recent volatility has been associated with valuation concerns and a more cautious outlook for future Fed rate cuts.

S&P 500 (SP50-USA)

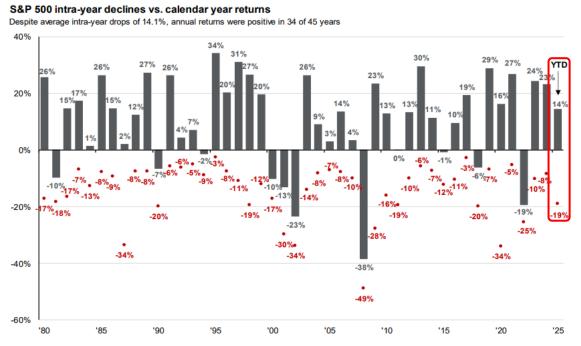


Source: FactSet



Stock Performance in Perspective

- Stock market volatility should be expected: 2025 is a prime example. Staying fully invested and focused on the long haul is critical to investment success.
- Despite average intra-year declines of -14.1%, annual returns have historically been positive more than 75% of the time.





Stock Concentration in Perspective

• Stock market **concentration is historically high**, and the largest companies are trading at **more expensive levels** than the rest of the market.

P/E of top 10 and remaining companies in S&P 500 Next 12 months



Weight of the top 10 companies in the S&P 500

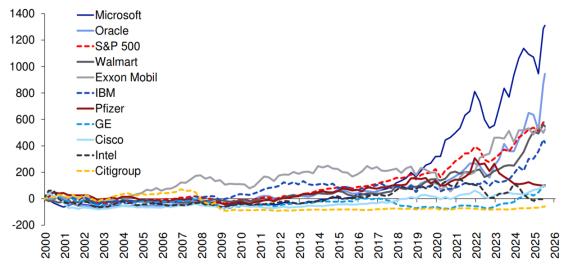




Stock Concentration in Perspective

- Only two of the top 10 companies at the beginning of 2000 have since outperformed the S&P 500.
- Four of the top 10 posted lower earnings in 2024 vs. 2000.
- Underscores the importance of diversification within investment portfolios.

Cumulative total % return of the Top 10 US companies at the end of 1999 to current day. Legend in order of performance. Only two have outperformed the S&P 500.



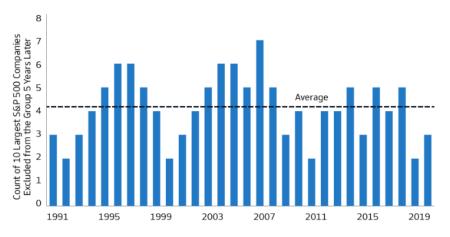
Source : Bloomberg Finance LP, Deutsche Bank



Stock Concentration in Perspective

- It is very difficult for market leaders to maintain their dominance indefinitely.
- Historically, four of the largest ten S&P 500 companies fell out of the top ten in the following five years.
- Higher levels of stock concentration historically have led to larger-cap stocks underperforming smaller-cap stocks.
- Consider diversifying large, concentrated stock exposures.

Number of 10 Largest S&P 500 Companies No Longer in Top 10 5 Years Later



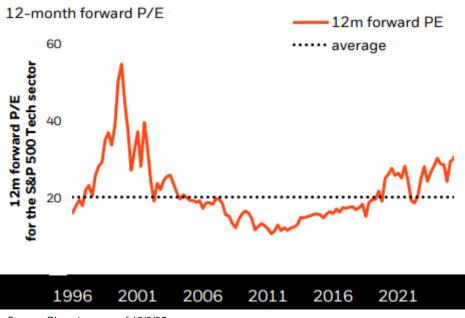
Source: Bloomberg and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. As of March 31, 2024.





Stock Valuations in Perspective

- Strong returns from AI-related names have drawn parallels with the dot.com tech bubble.
- To be sure, valuations are currently elevated. However, today's valuations are not as stretched as those witnessed in 2000.



Source: Bloomberg, as of 10/9/25.

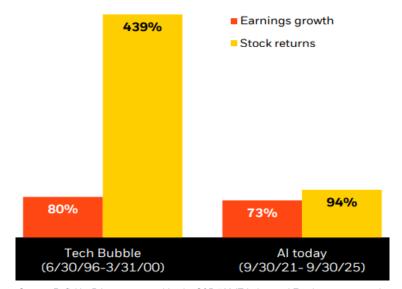


Stock Valuations in Perspective

- The spread between earnings growth and stock returns was far wider during the Tech bubble, ending in 2000.
- Today, earnings are keeping pace with returns: earnings growth and stock returns are much more comparable.

Tech bubble returns far outpaced earnings

4-year earnings growth and performance (%)



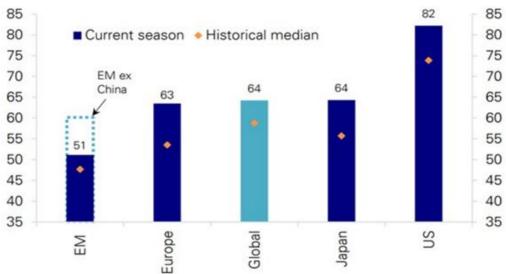
Source: Refinitiv. Price represented by the S&P 500 IT Index, and Earnings represented by the I/B/E/S S&P 500 IT Index consensus 12-month forward earnings.



Positive Earnings

- With the bulk of the Global Q3 earnings season complete, it has been a **very positive earnings season globally**.
- Earnings beats rose across regions in Q3 to the top of historical ranges, and **global** earnings rose 11.3%, the highest in over three years.



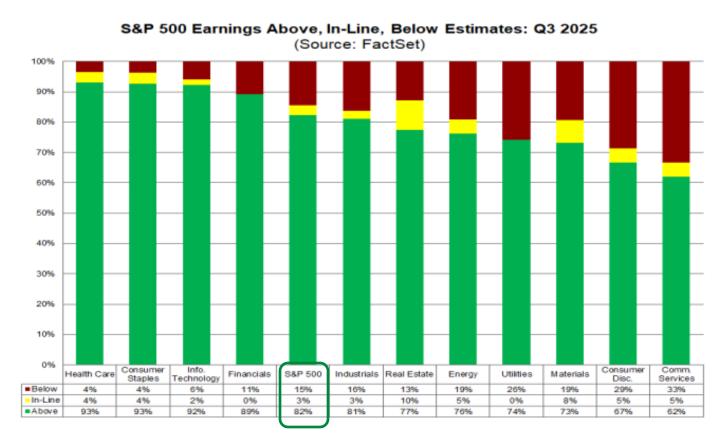


Source: Bloomberg Finance LP, Deutsche Bank Asset Allocation



Positive Earnings

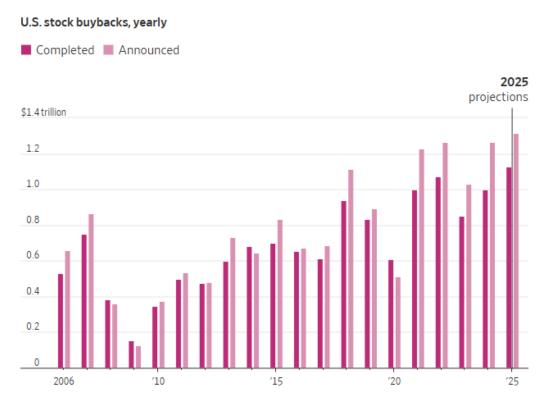
• Per FactSet, with over 90% of S&P 500 companies reporting, **82% have reported a positive earnings surprise for Q3**, the largest number since Q3 2021 (also 82%).





Positive Buyback Announcements

• U.S. companies are on pace for a **record year for share buybacks**, helping underpin stock market strength and investor sentiment.



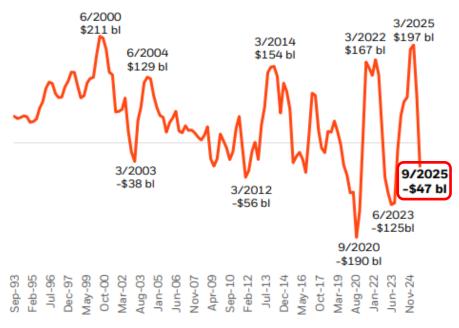
Source: Birinyi Associates



Negative Stock Fund Flows

- Despite strong stock market performance, stock mutual fund and ETF flows are actually negative YTD.
- Negative stock flows have historically preceded strong future stock market returns.





Source: Morningstar and BlackRock as of 9/30/25.



Bond Yields Move Lower

Source: FactSet

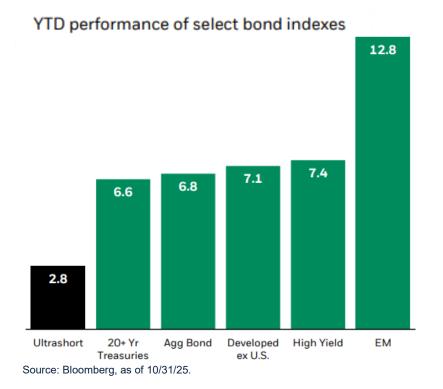
- Bond yields trended lower ahead of the Fed restarting its rate cutting cycle. With that said, rates have ticked higher more recently on the back of scaled back expectations for the aggressiveness of Fed rate cuts.
- Yields remain relatively attractive, and a still uncertain macroeconomic backdrop, combined with the Fed continuing its rate cutting cycle, may support bond prices.

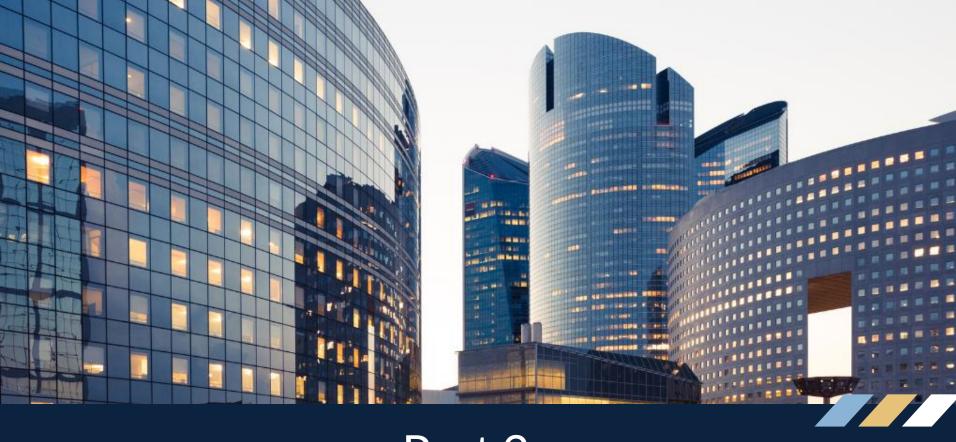




Cash Has Lagged

- Despite historically high levels of cash, returns on cash (ultrashort) have lagged all major bond categories, in addition to stocks.
- Underscores the importance of staying fully invested and not sitting on the sidelines.





Part 2:

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THE ECONOMY



Economic Outlook

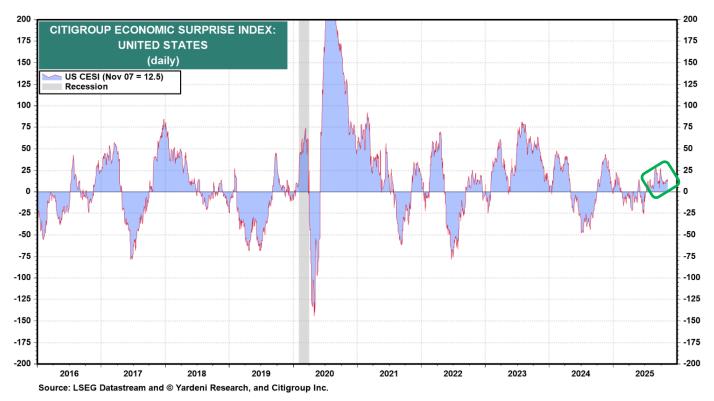
- While the full impact of tariffs and trade policy remains uncertain, underlying economic growth has been more robust than anticipated.
- 2025 GDP growth has been revised higher, with the economy currently expected to grow 1.8%, improved from recent expectations as policy uncertainty has abated.
- Measures of inflation are anticipated to remain above the Fed's long-term target of 2% through at least 2027.

United States Economy	2022	2023	2024	2025 Est.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Real GDP (%y/y)	2.5	2.9	2.8	1.8	1.8	1.9
Household Consumption (Real, %y/y)	3.0	2.6	2.9	2.2	1.5	1.9
Government Consumption (Real, %y/y)	-1.2	3.5	3.8	1.4	1.0	1.3
Gross Private Domestic Investment, Residential (Real, %y/y)	-8.1	-7.8	3.2	-1.9	0.8	2.7
Gross Private Domestic Investment, Non-Residential (Real, %y/y)	6.5	7.3	2.9	3.9	2.4	3.1
Inflation						
CPI (%q/q, SAAR)	8.0	4.1	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.4
Core CPI (%q/q, SAAR)	6.2	4.8	3.4	3.0	3.0	2.4
PPI (%y/y)	9.5	2.0	2.4	2.7	2.1	2.2
Source: FactSet						



Economic Data

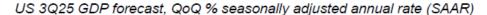
 Despite some recent moderation in labor market data, economic data surprises – in aggregate – have trended positive through the back half of the year as the impact from trade policy has not been as negative as previously anticipated.

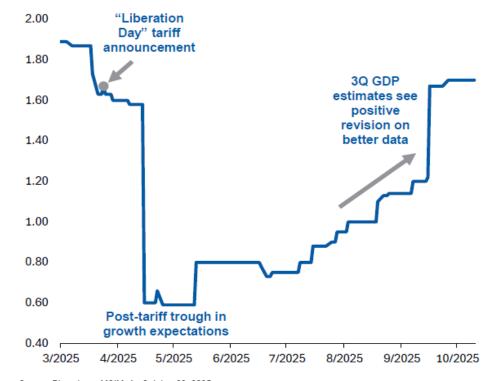




Resilient Growth Despite Trade Uncertainty

• Despite expectations for weaker growth associated with tariff headwinds, **economic growth estimates for 2H25 have been revised higher**.



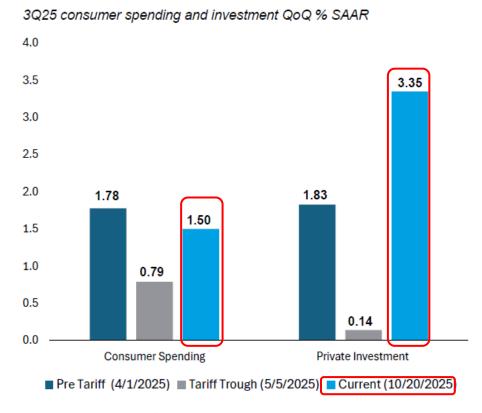


Source: Bloomberg, MSIM. As October 20, 2025.



Resilient Growth Despite Trade Uncertainty

• Both **consumer spending and investment have trended stronger** than anticipated compared to the post-tariff announcement trough.





Trade Policy Uncertainty Reduced

- Trade agreements have been reached with the vast majority of major trading partners, reducing uncertainty related to trade policy.
- This brings greater clarity for businesses: with the "rules of the road" now largely determined, businesses can better plan and invest.
- We expect a continued rebound in business investment and capital markets activity as trade policy uncertainty abates.

Trade policy uncertainty



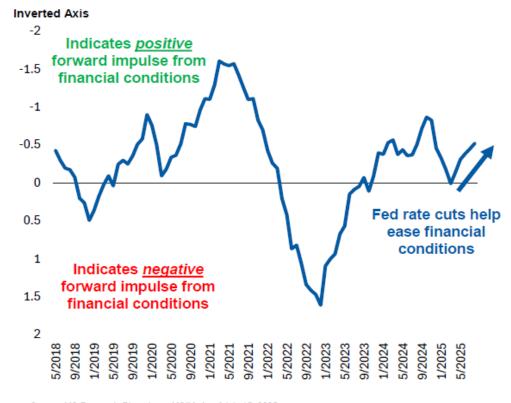
Source: Haver Analytics, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research



Improved Financial Conditions

- Financial conditions are supportive of ongoing economic growth.
- Fed rate cuts combined with more certainty around trade policy are likely to support improved capital market activity and investment.

U.S. Fed financial conditions, monthly, one-year look back

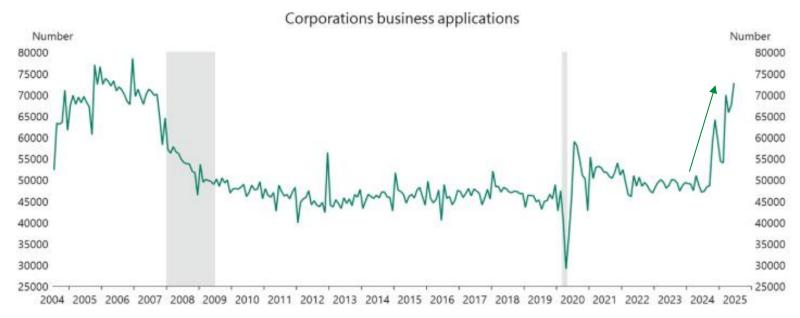


Source: MS Research, Bloomberg, MSIM. As of July 15, 2025.



New Business Creation Expanding

• The number of new businesses created has expanded significantly recently, which bodes well for investment and economic growth.



Sources: US Census Bureau, Macrobond



Real Estate Investment Set to Rebound

 Indicators of real estate investment point towards an increase in non-residential structures investment, a key component of GDP.

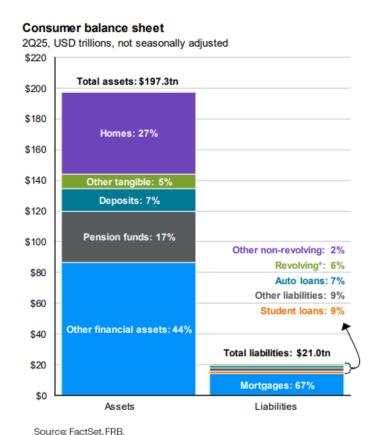
The Dodge Momentum Index—Which Tracks the Monthly Value of Nonresidential Building Projects Entering Planning Stages Points to a Rebound in Structures Investment in 2025H2

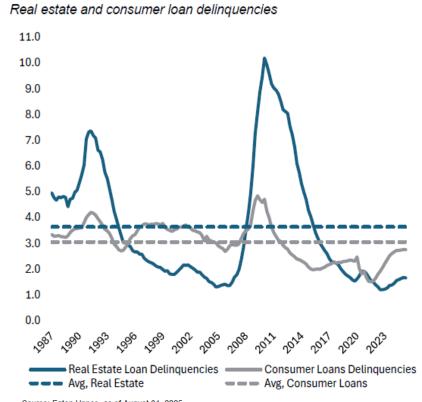




Healthy Fundamentals

 Consumer balance sheets are strong, and loan delinquencies remain below long-term averages.





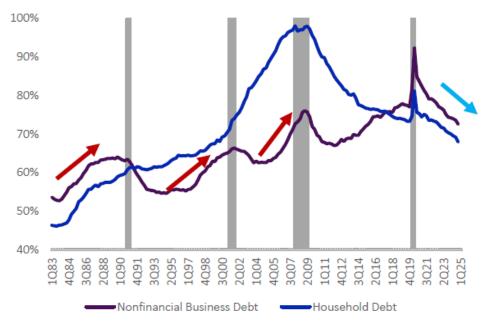
Source: Eaton Vance, as of August 31, 2025.



Healthy Fundamentals

- Business and consumer leverage levels have decreased during this cycle, which helps buffer against an outsized default cycle.
- Increased leverage tends to perpetuate downside economic outcomes.



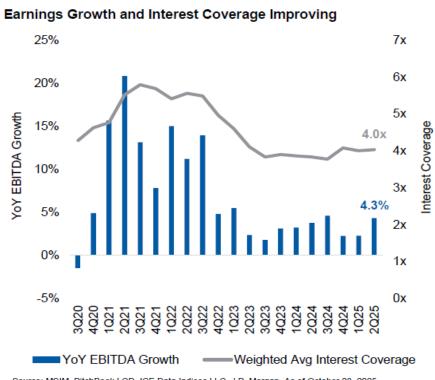


Gray shading denotes recessionary quarters. Data as at June 10, 2025. Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, KKR Global Macro & Asset Allocation analysis.



Healthy Fundamentals

 Despite headlines and some isolated issues, underlying business fundamentals have continued to improve, which may be further supported in a lower interest rate environment.

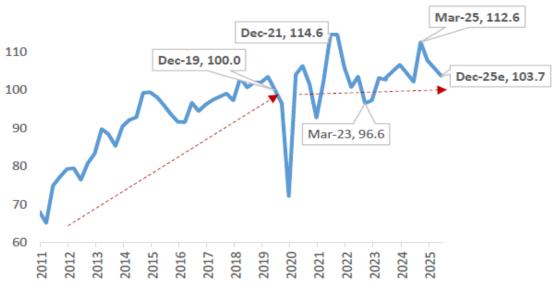




Healthy Fundamentals

- Economic hard landings are usually caused by housing and inventory issues: real
 construction and inventory investment tend to be the two most cyclical factors,
 and they drove the decline in GDP in 9 out of the last 10 recessions.
- We have not seen excesses in those areas during this economic cycle.

Real Construction + Inventory Investment (4Q19=100)

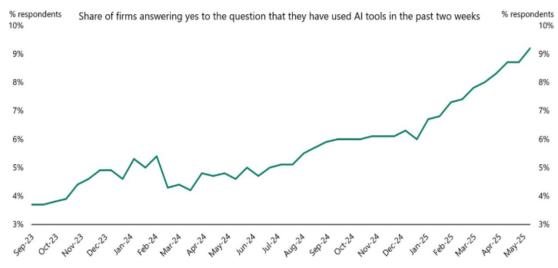


Data as at June 10, 2025. Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Haver Analytics, KKR Global Macro



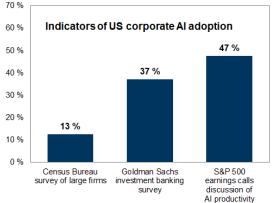
Al Set to Enhance Productivity, But Watching the Labor Market

- We are just beginning to see the benefits of Artificial Intelligence (AI) adoption, which is likely to result in productivity gains, helping underpin ongoing economic growth.
- Balancing act: on the one hand, AI may increase productivity; on the other hand, it may have labor market implications.



Note: All adoption rate answers the question: In the last two weeks, did this business use Artificial Intelligence (AI) in producing goods or services? Examples of AI: machine learning, natural language processing, virtual agents, voice recognition, etc. Sources: US Census Bureau Business Trends and Outlook Survey, Apollo Chief Economist





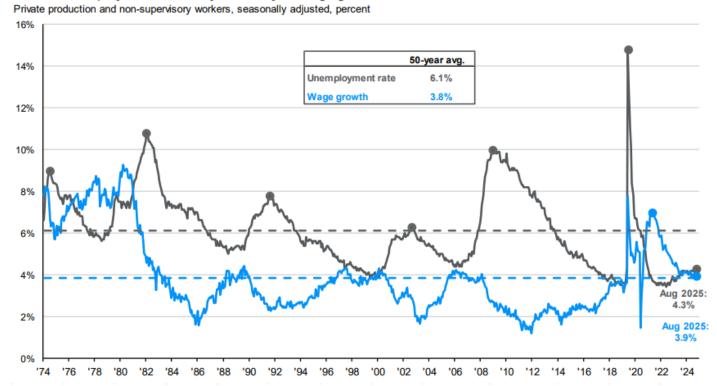
Source: Census Bureau, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research



What We Are Watching: Moderating Labor Market

• Labor market conditions have begun to ease, wage growth has moderated, and the unemployment rate is trending higher, though still remains relatively low.

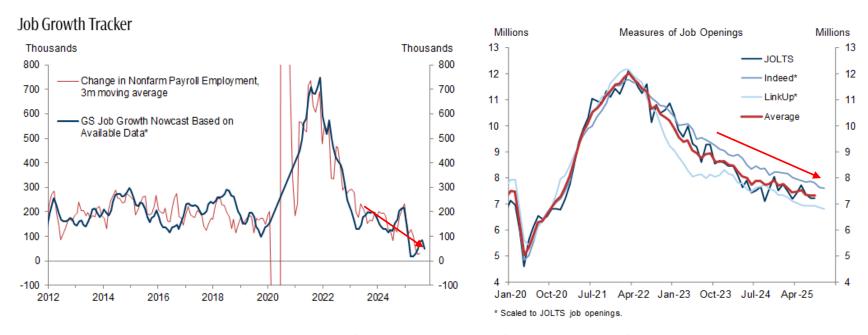
Civilian unemployment rate and year-over-year wage growth





What We Are Watching: Moderating Labor Market

- The **labor market is experiencing a slowdown**. Measures of new job openings are clearly on a downward trajectory.
- A continued slowdown in the labor market may weigh on consumer spending and economic growth.





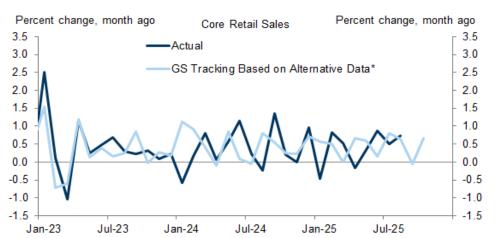
What We Are Watching: Moderating Labor Market

- Measures of job layoffs show an upward trend over recent months.
- However, data does not yet indicate a slowdown in consumer spending.
- Any impact on consumer spending would reduce economic growth; consumer spending is the most important contributor to the U.S. economy, making up ~70% of GDP.



* First principal component of our tracking of WARN notices, initial claims, Challenger layoffs, and earnings call layoff discussions.

Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Department of Labor, Challenger, Gray & Christmas, GS Datawork



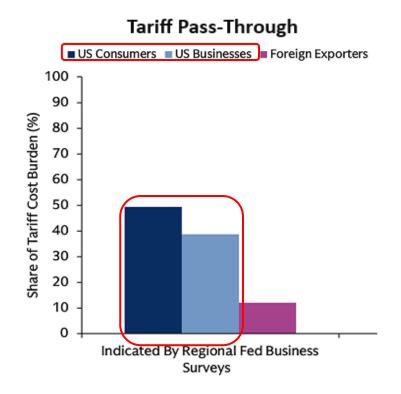
*Second Measure, Johnson Redbook, Fiserv, Visa spending momentum index, UMich consumer sentiment index, and the Conference Board consumer confidence index.

Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, Second Measure, Johnson Redbook, Fisery, Visa.com, University of Michigan, The Conference Board



What We Are Watching: Cost of Tariffs

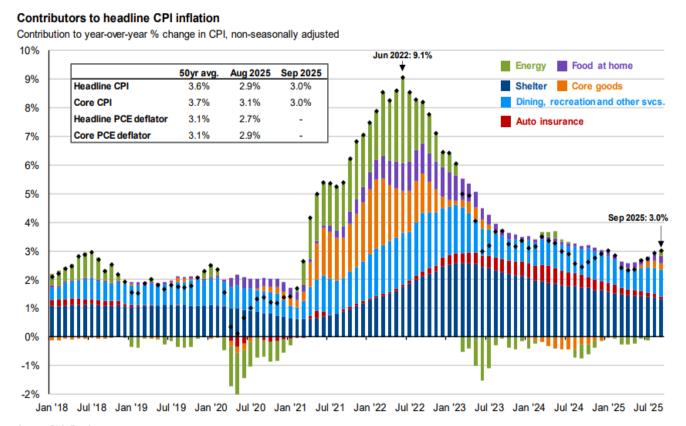
- Business surveys indicate that ~50% of the cost of tariffs has been transferred to consumers, causing increased inflationary pressures.
- Another 35-40% of the cost of tariffs has been borne by businesses.
- Should businesses continue to bear a large portion of tariff expenses, we may see downward pressure on margins and earnings.





What We Are Watching: Inflation

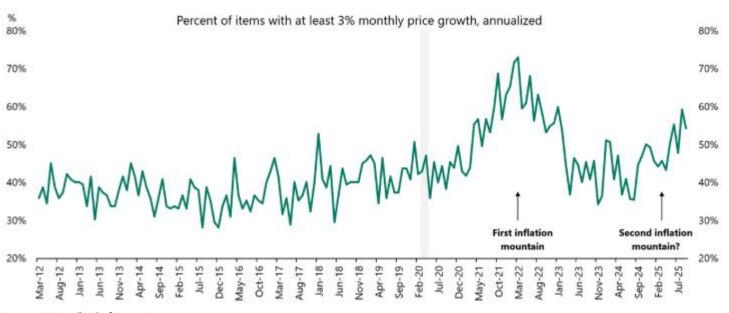
• Inflation has moved higher on the back of increased tariff costs, and inflation is expected to remain above the Fed's 2% target for the foreseeable future.





What We Are Watching: Inflation

• 55% of items in the CPI basket are growing faster than 3%, putting upward pressure on inflation and **complicating things for the Fed.**

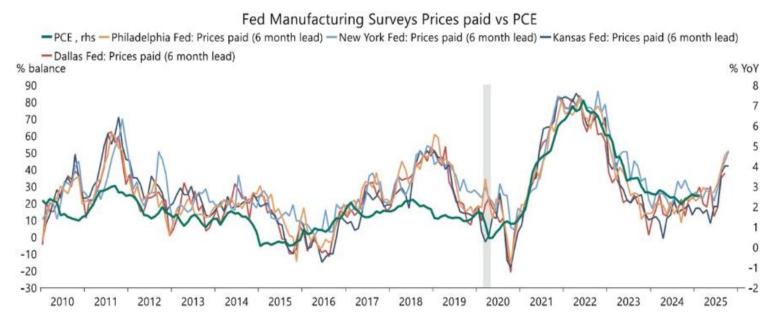


Sources: BLS, Apollo Chief Economist



What We Are Watching: Inflation

- Manufacturing surveys indicate ongoing upward pressure on inflation.
- With that said, we anticipate the impact of tariffs to result in a one-time price adjustment.

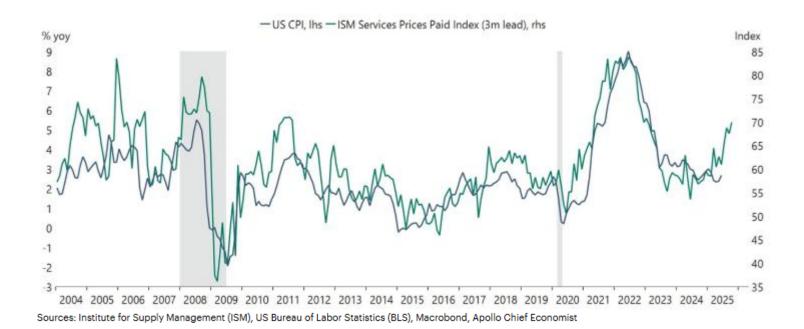


Sources: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist



What We Are Watching: Inflation

• ISM Services Prices paid data shows **inflation pressures in the service sector are increasing**, pointing to potential upside for inflation data ahead.





Fed Policy: A Balancing Act

- With a better-than-expected economy and rising inflation, the Fed is aiming to thread a needle, balancing:
 - Cutting interest rates it believes are still restrictive in the face of a slowing labor market;
 - Without causing an uptick in inflationary expectations.
- The Fed wants to move to a more neutral rate (~3%) over time.
 - We expect the Fed to be cautious and measured in its approach and may be slower to cut rates than previously forecast.

Economic Projections of Fed Board members and presidents, September 2025

Percent

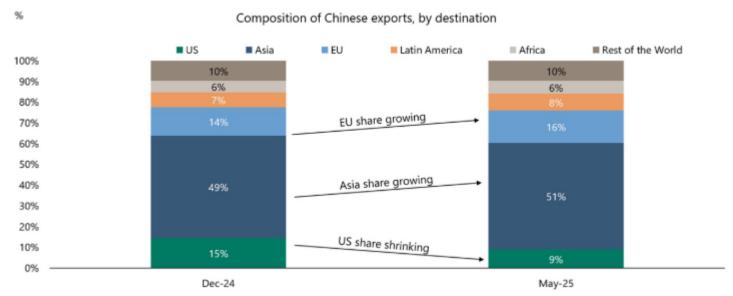
Variable	Median ¹				
variable	2025	2026	2027	2028	Longer
					run
Change in real GDP	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8
June projection	1.4	1.6	1.8	i	1.8
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2
June projection	4.5	4.5	4.4		4.2
PCE inflation	3.0	2.6	2.1	2.0	2.0
June projection	3.0	2.4	2.1		2.0
Core PCE inflation ⁴	3.1	2.6	2.1	2.0	
June projection	3.1	2.4	2.1		
Memo: Projected	-0.25% -0.25%				
appropriate policy path	. ↓	+		į	
Federal funds rate	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.0
June projection	3.9	3.6	3.4		3.0

Source: Federal Reserve

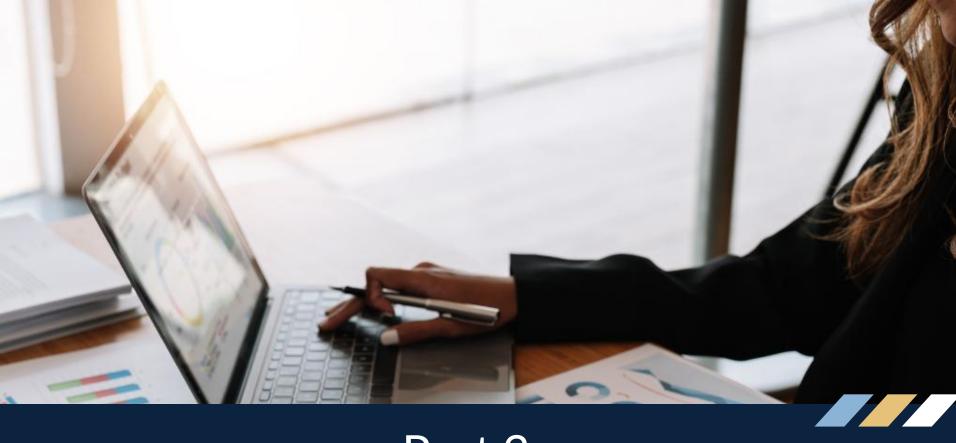


International Trade

- Current U.S. trade policy may result in **closer trade co-operation abroad**, potentially **resulting in increased intra-Asia and intra-Europe trade volumes**.
- Since the end of 2024, the share of China's exports to the U.S. has declined, while intra-Asia exports, European, and Latin American exports have increased.



Sources: China General Administration of Customs, Macrobond



Part 3:

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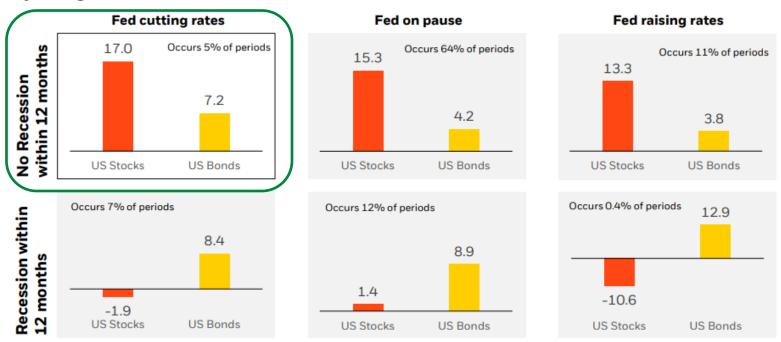
OUTLOOK



Fed Rate Cuts + No Recession May be Positive

Currently, the Fed is cutting interest rates, and no recession is expected.
 Historically, this has been a positive environment for both stocks and bonds.

1 year avg. forward returns (1/1/1990 - 9/30/2025)

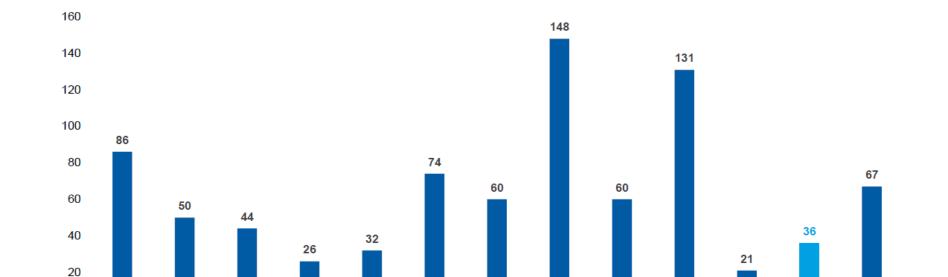


Source: Morningstar as of 9/30/25. U.S. stocks are represented by the S&P 500 Index. U.S. bonds are represented by the Bloomberg U.S. aggregate bond index.



Current Bull Market Is Still Relatively Young

 Historically, bull markets have lasted 67 months on average. The current bull market is now 36 months long, still relatively young by historic standards.



Average

Source: Carson, MSIM. As of October 27, 2025.

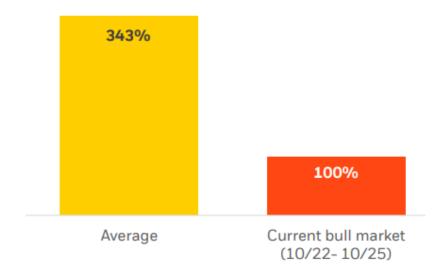
Length of the current and previous bull markets (months)



Current Bull Market May Have Further Upside

- Historically, the **cumulative return during bull markets has been strong**, indicating further potential **upside from current levels**.
- In comparison, bear markets have historically been shorter (16 months) and less severe (average -38%).

Cumulative return during bull markets, since 1926



Source: Morningstar and Blackrock as of 10/31/25.



...But Valuations Are Stretched

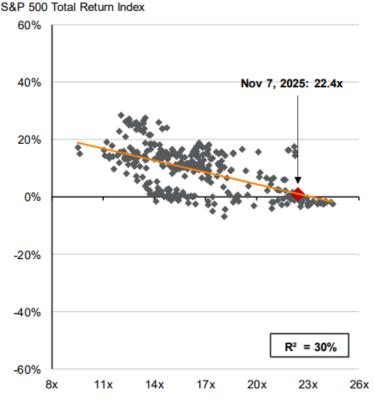
- Stocks are trading at expensive valuation multiples.
- It is unlikely that valuation multiples drive stock market returns moving forward.
- Implication: While there may be further upside potential, expect more moderate returns.

S&P 500 Index

Valuation measure	Description	Latest	30-year avg.
P/E	Forward P/E	22.4x	17.1x
CAPE	Shiller's P/E	39.8x	28.5x
Div. Yield	Dividend yield	1.5%	2.0%
EY Spread	EY minus Baa yield	-0.6%	0.7%

As of 11/7/2025

Forward P/E and subsequent 5-year annualized returns

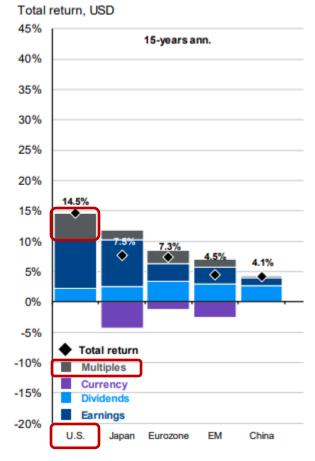




...But Valuations Are Stretched

- Over the last 15 years, stock valuation multiple expansion drove approximately 1/3rd of the total returns for U.S. stocks.
- Given that stocks are currently trading at expensive valuation multiples, it is unlikely that multiple expansion will contribute positively to future U.S. stock market returns.
- Implication: expect more moderate returns for U.S. stocks going forward.

Sources of global equity returns

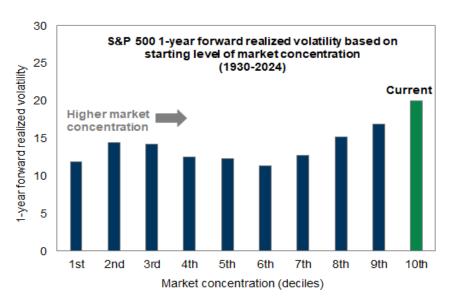


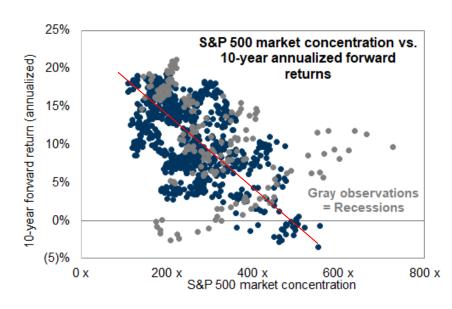
Source: FactSet, MSCI, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Data are as of November 7, 2025.



Bumpier, More Moderate Road Ahead

- Higher levels of stock concentration tend to be associated with higher levels of volatility.
- Higher market concentration also tends to be associated with lower forward returns.



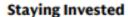


Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research



Stay Invested

- Take a long-term perspective. **Don't overreact** or make investment decisions based on the **short-term news headlines** of the day.
- The market's strongest days typically immediately follow the worst days. Missing
 out on those strongest days can have a significant negative impact on long-term
 performance.
- Since 1990, missing the 10 best days each year would have resulted in an annual loss of -13% vs. the S&P 500's annual return of over 10%.





2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024



International Relatively Cheaper

- International stocks continue to trade at historical discounts to the U.S. market.
- International stocks may be supported by fiscal and monetary policies and increased trade coordination.

Relative valuation

Price-to-earnings, next 12 months, MSCI ACWI ex-U.S. divided by S&P 500

Current 20-Year average

Discount vs. the U.S.

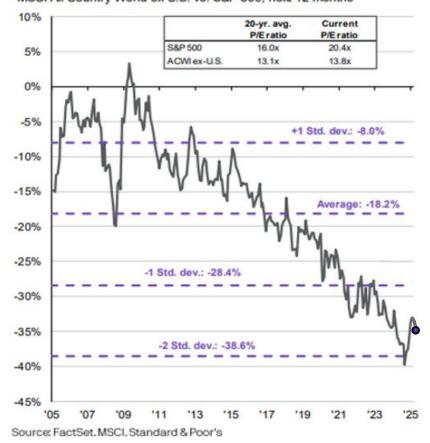
ACWI ex-U.S.

-35%
-18%

-50% -40% -30% -20% -10%

20%

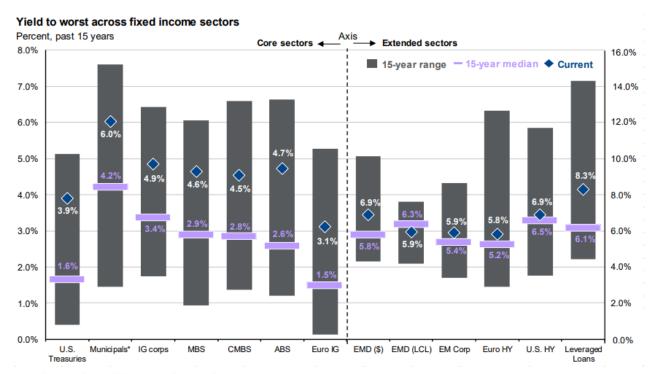
International: Price-to-earnings discount vs. U.S. MSCI All Country World ex-U.S. vs. S&P 500, next 12 months





Bond Yields Remain Attractive

- Despite a recent decline in yields, current **bond yields remain attractive** relative to recent history.
- Mission Wealth preferred bond funds are yielding mid- to high-single digits.

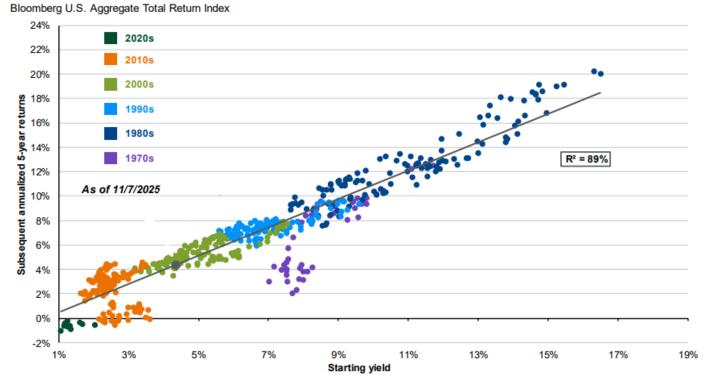




Bond Outlook

• The current yield on Mission Wealth preferred bond funds is in the **mid- to high-single digit range**, implying a **healthy forward-looking return expectation**.

Yield to worst and subsequent 5-year annualized returns



Outlook - Alternatives



Private Equity

We believe private equity (PE) offers attractive upside potential. PE has historically outperformed public stock markets with less volatility. PE represents a large, untapped investment opportunity for many investors.

Real Assets

- A lower interest rate environment may bode well for Real Estate transaction volumes and valuations. We have a positive outlook, particularly for residential, industrial logistics, medical office, data centers, and others.
- We believe infrastructure offers the potential for long-term consistency in returns and yield in assets like power and utilities, ports, airports, toll roads, data centers, cell towers, and fiber networks.

Direct Credit

 We have high conviction in direct lending strategies, with still high interest rates – albeit normalizing – underpinning current yield and continued robust business fundamentals supporting credits.

Disclosures



The information in this presentation is subject to change without notice. Certain statements contained within are forward-looking, including, but not limited to, statements that predict or indicate future events, trends, plans, or objectives. Undue reliance should not be placed on such statements because, by their nature, they are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Although the opinions expressed are based upon assumptions believed to be reliable, there is no guarantee that they will come to pass. This information may change at any time due to market or other conditions.

International investing entails special risk considerations, including currency fluctuations, lower liquidity, economic and political risks, and differences in accounting methods. Diversification cannot guarantee profits or protect against losses.

Investments in commodities may be affected by overall market movements, changes in interest rates, and other factors such as weather, disease, embargoes, and international economic and political developments. Commodities are volatile investments and should form only a small part of a diversified portfolio. The use of derivative instruments may add additional risk. An investment in commodities may not be suitable for all investors.

Diversification helps spread risk throughout your portfolio, so investments that perform poorly may be balanced by others that perform relatively better. Neither diversification nor rebalancing can ensure a profit or protect against a loss.

Real estate may not be appropriate for all investors. Its value may fluctuate based on economic, regulatory, and environmental factors. Redemption may be at a price higher or lower than the original price paid.

Do not act upon this information solely and seek professional guidance before making investment decisions. This presentation is not intended to provide any specific investment advice. No investment strategy can ensure a profit.

Fixed-income securities carry interest rates, inflation, and credit and default risks. Any fixed-income security sold or redeemed before maturity may be subject to a substantial gain or loss. Interest income generated by municipal bonds is generally expected to be free from federal income taxes and, if the bonds are held by an investor resident in the state of issuance, state and local income taxes. Such interest income may be subject to federal and/or state alternative minimum taxes. Investing in municipal bonds to generate tax-exempt income may not be appropriate for investors in all tax brackets. Short- and long-term capital gains and gains characterized as market discounts recognized when bonds are sold or mature are generally taxable at both the state and federal levels. Short- and long-term losses recognized when bonds are sold or mature may generally offset capital gains and/or ordinary income at the state and federal levels.

Fixed income yields are based on Bloomberg indices and from the following sources: US Treasury, FactSet, PIMCO, JP Morgan Asset Management, and are represented by Broad Market, U.S. Treasuries, Municipals, U.S. Corporate bonds, MBS, ABS, Euro Corporates, Emerging Markets Debt, Emerging Markets Corporates, U.S. High Yield, Euro High Yield, Leveraged Loans. Yield-to-worst is the lowest possible yield that can be received on a bond, apart from the company defaulting, and it considers factors like call provisions, prepayments, and other features that may affect the bond's cash flows.

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