

Weather Alert! This weekend's Nor'easter is expected to bring heavy rain, coastal flooding, and damaging winds across much of the Atlantic region. Fortunately, as with most major storms, the worst conditions should be behind us by early next week. Speaking of storms, the financial markets are navigating one of their own. The Treasury yield sell-off intensified this week, pushing the 10-year Treasury yield up to an intraday high of 5.20%—its highest level since 2007. Stronger than expected economic data and growing expectations that interest rates may remain higher for longer are beginning to test investors' resolve. While higher yields reflect an economy that has proven remarkably resilient, they also pose a growing challenge for consumers, businesses, and financial markets alike. Below, we examine how the surge in bond yields is shaping the economic outlook, influencing fixed income and equity markets, and creating greater dispersion beneath the surface.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

The Resilient Economy Is Facing A More Challenging Forecast

Equity Market Shows Calm Skies Above, But Choppier Waters Below

Although The Treasury Storm Is Intensifying, Credit Holds Firm

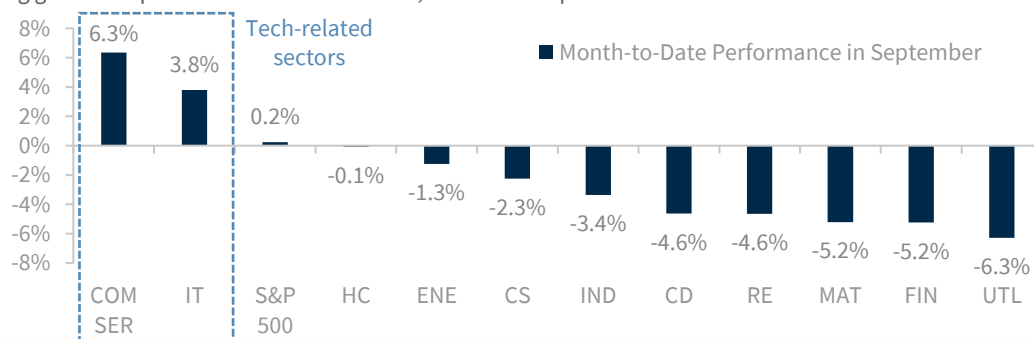
- **Resilient Economy Faces A More Challenging Forecast** | The US economy has weathered a cooling labor market, rising trade tensions, and the recent energy shock remarkably well. Growth has remained resilient, supported by the AI investment boom, recent tax relief, and the spending power of higher-income consumers despite elevated energy costs. For now, there is little evidence the expansion is at risk. Real-time indicators, including Redbook retail sales, restaurant bookings, hotel occupancy and other measures of consumer activity, remain healthy, while bank executives continue to express confidence in the overall consumer. However, that resilience may soon face a more meaningful test. With no end in sight to the US-Iran conflict, oil and diesel prices near record levels, and interest rates at multi-decade highs, pressure is building beneath the surface. While the AI buildout and affluent consumers remain important sources of support, middle- and lower-income households are feeling increasingly squeezed. Higher rates are raising borrowing costs across mortgages, home equity loans, auto financing, and credit cards, creating headwinds for housing activity and consumer spending. At the same time, elevated energy prices are putting added strain on household budgets just as the fiscal boost has faded and the savings rate remains near a four-year low. With those buffers dwindling, the economy is becoming increasingly reliant on higher-income consumers, placing greater importance on holiday spending trends and the durability of consumer demand heading into the critical holiday shopping season.
- **Equity Market Shows Calm Skies Above, Choppier Waters Below** | Despite a sharp rise in interest rates, US equities at the headline level have shown impressive resilience. The 10-year Treasury yield has climbed 43 bps MTD, putting it on track for its largest monthly increase since October 2024, yet the S&P 500 is up 0.2% MTD and sits just 1% below its all-time high. At the same time, volatility remains subdued, with the CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) hovering near 15. Much of that strength has been concentrated in Communication Services and Technology, which have gained 6% and 4% MTD, as AI-driven growth themes have largely shrugged off higher interest rates. Beneath the surface, however, the market tells a different story. Nine of the eleven sectors are negative MTD, while 75% of S&P 500 constituents have declined, marking the highest share of falling stocks during a positive month for the index in at least 20 years. Rate-sensitive areas have borne the brunt of the pressure. Utilities (-6.3%), Financials (-5.2%) and Real Estate (-4.6%) have lagged amid rising yields and a flatter yield curve, while the Russell 2000 remains ~8% below its recent high. Small-cap companies are particularly exposed, with 54% of their debt tied to short-term floating rates. While higher rates are likely to widen the gap between winners and losers, corporate fundamentals remain a key source of support. Interest expense as a share of corporate profits is still near 50-year lows, and forward profit margin estimates continue to reach new highs. As a result, earnings should remain healthy despite higher borrowing costs, supporting our constructive longer-term outlook for equities.
- **The Treasury Storm Intensifies, While Credit Holds Firm** | Despite the steady climb in Treasury yields, credit markets are showing surprisingly few signs of stress. The 10-year Treasury yield has risen ~80 bps over the past three months, from 4.37% to 5.20%, with much of that move occurring over the last few weeks. Even so, the adjustment has remained largely orderly. While the BofA MOVE Index, the bond market's version of the VIX, surged more than 20% on Wednesday, its biggest one-day jump since 1990, credit investors have remained largely unfazed. In fact, credit markets continue to display impressive resilience. Investment grade and high yield spreads remain near multi-year tightness at 77 and 282 bps, respectively, suggesting investors see little evidence of a meaningful deterioration in either the economy or corporate fundamentals. Similar to the growing divide within equities, any weakness has been concentrated among lower-quality borrowers. The spread differential between CCC- and BB-rated debt has widened to 787 bps, its highest level since the Fed's 2022 tightening cycle. Importantly, that pressure remains confined to the weakest credits rather than signaling broader market stress. Instead, it suggests investors are becoming more selective as higher rates begin to test the most leveraged and economically sensitive borrowers.

Bottom Line—Despite a sharp rise in interest rates, the economy and financial markets have remained remarkably resilient. However, mounting rate pressures are creating greater dispersion beneath the surface, a trend we expect to continue until rates stabilize.

CHART OF THE WEEK

Equity Sector Dispersion Beneath the Surface

Tech-related sectors have kept headline index performance afloat amidst the rise in rates, but nine of the eleven S&P 500 sectors are in negative territory this month.



Source: FactSet

Economy

- New home sales were stronger than expected in August (+6.4% MoM), while July was revised higher, pointing to stronger activity in the new home market. The median price was down 5.8% YoY as high mortgage rates push builders toward more aggressive incentives.
- Durable goods orders were stronger than expected in August (0% MoM vs. expected -0.3%). Capital goods orders were solid (+0.7% MoM), led by a 1.6% increase in core capital goods orders, suggesting manufacturing continues to support economic growth.
- **Focus of the Week:** With markets focused on the path forward for rates, next week's labor and inflation data will be especially important. Tuesday's JOLTS job openings are expected to soften slightly but remain above 7m, reflecting still-strong labor demand, while we expect Friday's payrolls report to show around 70k jobs added in September. On Wednesday, the Fed's preferred inflation gauge, August PCE prices, will also be in focus, where we expect headline inflation to remain elevated at 3.7% YoY amid higher energy prices (oil surpassed \$105/bbl in September), while core PCE to tick up from 3.3% to 3.4% YoY as services inflation remains sticky.

September 28 – October 2

MON		WED	PCE Wholesale Inventories	FRI	Employment Report Factory Orders
TUE	JOLTS FHFA & Shiller Home Price Indices Consumer Confidence	THU	Construction Spending ISM Manufacturing	FUTURE EVENTS	10/5 ISM Services 10/7 FOMC Minutes

Equity

- As noted on the first page, the S&P 500 has held up quite well in the face of rising interest rates. But, despite the headline strength, breadth continues to deteriorate beneath the surface. Just 25% of S&P 500 companies are trading above their respective 50-day moving average, marking the lowest level on record when the S&P 500 is trading within 1% of all-time highs. This highlights how the largest mega-cap tech companies have kept the headline index afloat amidst the rise in interest rates as MAGMAN* (a composite of mega-cap tech names which make up ~32% of S&P 500 market cap) is outperforming the rest of the S&P 500 by ~6% MTD. We expect market leadership to remain narrow until we see a stabilization of interest rates.
- One of the market's weakest areas in September has been Financials, as investors contend with a more challenging backdrop. In the near term, a flatter yield curve is weighing on expectations for banks' net interest margins. Looking further ahead, advances in AI are raising questions about the future role of traditional asset managers as 'robo-advisors' and other AI-enabled solutions gain traction. As a result, the sector is caught between near-term cyclical pressures and longer-term structural questions. While accelerating capital markets activity is a positive, elevated price-to-book valuations and these lingering uncertainties keep us neutral on the sector.
- **Focus of the Week:** Markets will get their first glimpse into 3Q AI infrastructure demand via Micron's earnings on Wednesday evening.

Fixed Income

- Evidence of accelerating growth gave Fed officials cover to vocalize concerns about inflation, raising market expectations for more tightening. S&P PMI data showed business activity expanding at its fastest pace in more than five years, while Fed Governor Barr—viewed as a centrist—said that further rate hikes will likely be needed as economic shocks (tariffs, energy, investment demand from the AI buildout) have raised risks to achieving 2% inflation. As a result, odds for an October hike jumped to ~70%, with markets now pricing nearly four rate hikes over the next year while the policy-sensitive 2-year Treasury yield broke higher to 4.90% (+56 bps MTD).
- Those dynamics also lifted longer-term Treasury yields. The 10-year climbed back above 5% to its highest level (5.18%, +43 bps MTD) since 2007, while the 30-year rose to 5.47%, eclipsing its 2007 high water mark to reach its highest since 2004. Notably, yields broke through key technical resistance levels even as oil prices retreated, suggesting investors are increasingly focused on broader inflation pressures and healthy economic activity rather than just higher oil prices due to the fallout from the US-Iran conflict.
- **Focus of the Week:** PCE inflation and September's jobs report are on deck as the US ends its fiscal year and markets turn toward Q4.

Washington Policy

- Domestic energy policy made headlines this week: the Trump administration is actively considering restrictions on US diesel exports as diesel prices at all-time highs (averaging ~\$6.50/gallon) exacerbate cost pressures for agriculture, trucking, manufacturing, and other fuel-sensitive parts of the economy. President Trump has publicly expressed support for export restrictions, but opposition from Energy Secretary Chris Wright and petroleum industry groups has left the final policy unsettled. We believe the administration ultimately takes some action on diesel affordability, though a blanket export ban is unlikely. A ban could have unintended consequences, notably widening the divergence in diesel prices between US regions. The key problem is that restricting exports would not necessarily boost domestic diesel supply in aggregate. US refineries simultaneously produce diesel, gasoline, jet fuel, and other products, and Gulf Coast refiners produce more diesel than the domestic market can readily absorb.

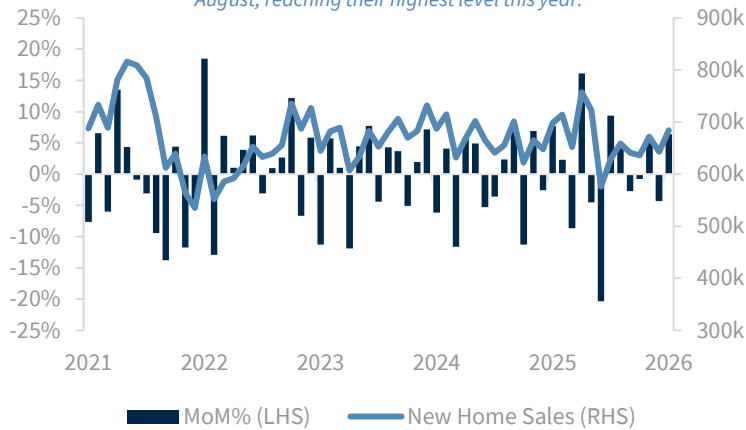
Energy

- As the US-Iran conflict nears its seven-month mark, the resulting increase in oil prices continues to affect consumers and businesses around the world, regardless of whether any given country exports oil (as is the case with the US) or depends on imports. As noted above, diesel price hikes have been especially hefty. But when it comes to natural gas, market dynamics have moved very differently. What Americans pay for natural gas has essentially no linkage to prices in Europe or Asia. North America's abundance of gas resources translates into prices (currently near \$3/Mcf) that are far lower than they are overseas (\$15–\$20/Mcf). In fact, US gas prices are broadly unchanged over the past seven months, whereas international prices have more than doubled, outpacing oil.
- Here is the context: many long-term contracts for supply of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to buyers in Asia and (to a lesser extent) Europe are benchmarked to oil, reflecting what's known as *energy parity*: one Mcf of gas has one-sixth as much energy content as one barrel of oil. LNG typically acts as a price-setting mechanism even in markets where LNG accounts for only a modest portion of gas supply, such as the UK. This week's news of a major UK chemical firm shuttering plants due to high gas prices illustrated this point.

Charts of the Week

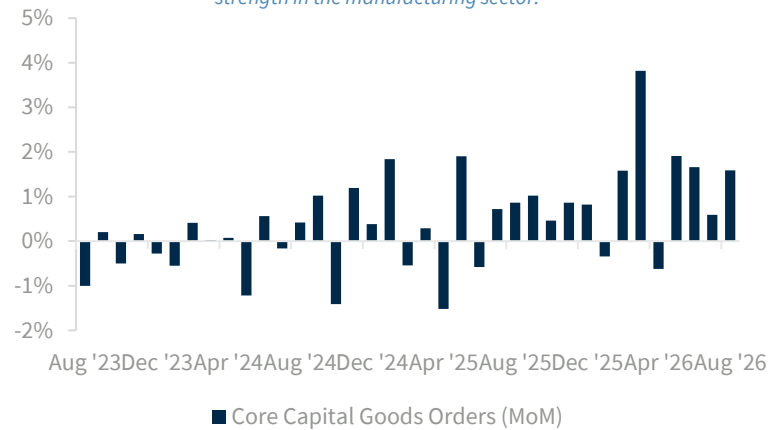
New Home Sales Rise

New home sales rose a stronger than expected 6.4% MoM in August, reaching their highest level this year.



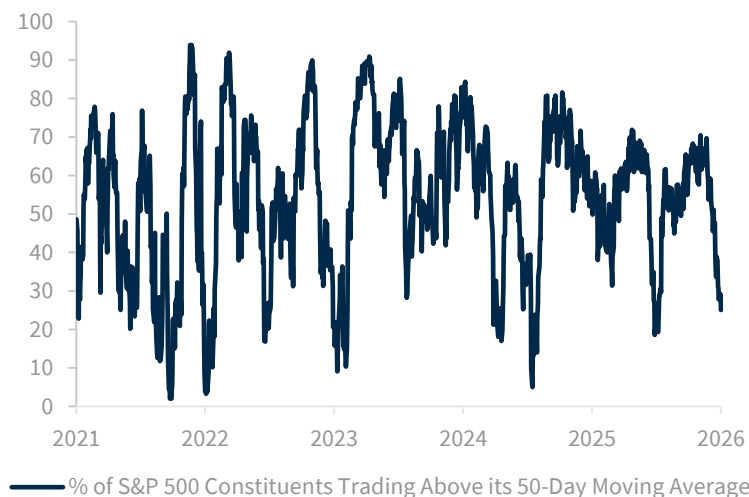
Durable Orders Remain Robust

Core capital goods orders were up 1.6% MoM, highlighting the strength in the manufacturing sector.



Market Breadth Deteriorates

Only 25% of S&P 500 constituents are trading above their 50-day moving average, the lowest level on record with the index within 1% of all-time high.



Flattening Yield Curve Challenges Financials

Financials' relative performance has been correlated to the yield curve in 2026.



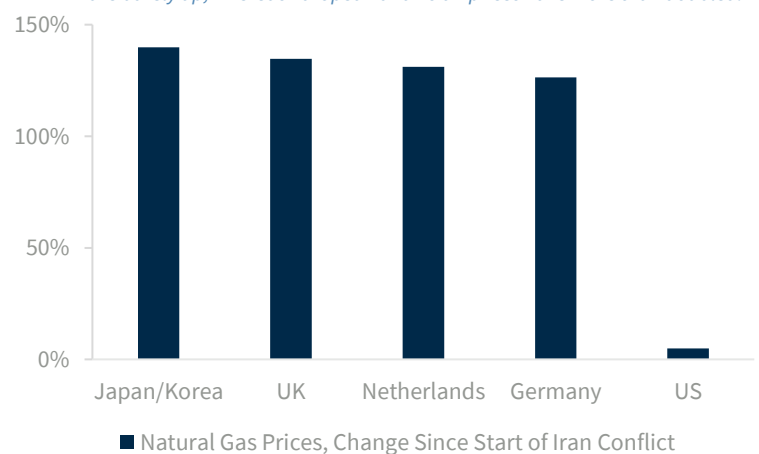
10-Year Surges Above 5%, Decoupling From Oil

The 10-year Treasury yield spiked above 5% to its highest level since 2007, decoupling with weaker oil prices.



Unlike Oil, Natural Gas Prices Have Diverged

Over the seven months since the start of the Iran conflict, US natural gas prices are barely up, whereas European and Asian prices have more than doubled.

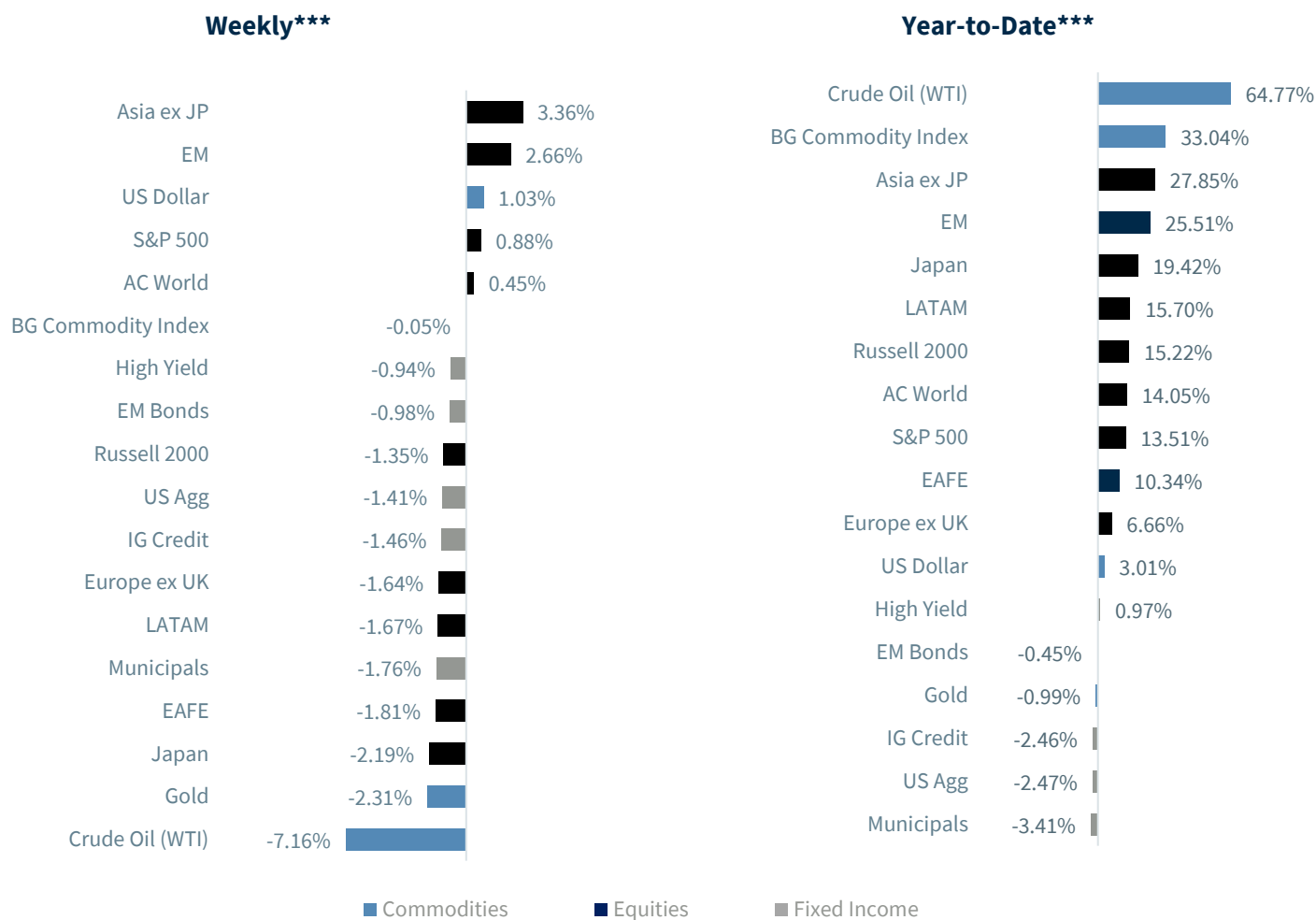


Source for charts: FactSet, as of 9/24/2026.

Asset Class Performance | Distribution by Asset Class and Style (as of September 24)**

		US Equities (Russell indices)			International Equities (MSCI indices)			Fixed Income (Bloomberg indices)				
Weekly Returns (as of September 24)		Value	Blend	Growth		Dev. Mkt	World	Emerg. Mkt		1-3 YR	Medium	Long
	Large Cap	-0.8%	0.8%	2.6%	Large Cap	-0.7%	0.9%	3.0%	Treasury	0.1%	-1.0%	-1.9%
	Mid Cap	-1.4%	-0.6%	1.7%	Mid Cap	-0.5%	-0.3%	0.4%	Invest. Grade	-0.3%	-1.0%	-1.5%
	Small Cap	-1.6%	-1.3%	-1.1%	Small Cap	-0.5%	-0.5%	1.2%	High Yield	-0.5%	-0.9%	-1.9%
Year-to-Date Returns (as of September 24)		Value	Blend	Growth		Dev. Mkt	World	Emerg. Mkt		1-3 YR	Medium	Long
	Large Cap	20.7%	13.2%	6.6%	Large Cap	12.6%	15.1%	25.7%	Treasury	2.6%	-2.9%	-4.8%
	Mid Cap	16.8%	13.2%	2.0%	Mid Cap	12.5%	12.1%	25.0%	Invest. Grade	0.9%	-1.3%	-3.0%
	Small Cap	19.0%	15.2%	11.7%	Small Cap	11.5%	14.2%	15.6%	High Yield	2.0%	1.0%	-0.3%

Asset Class Performance | Weekly and Year-to-Date (as of September 24)**



**Weekly performance calculated from Thursday close to Thursday close.

4 ***Assumes all asset classes are priced in US dollars unless otherwise noted. Ranked in order of performances (best to worst).

Weekly Data

As of 9/24/2026 **

US Equities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
S&P 500	7704.1	0.9	0.3	13.5	17.4	22.8	13.2	15.4
DJ Industrial Average	51350.0	(0.8)	(3.5)	6.8	11.3	14.7	8.1	10.9
NASDAQ Composite Index	26939.4	2.0	2.2	15.9	19.7	26.7	12.4	17.6
Russell 1000	8050.7	0.8	0.1	13.2	19.8	20.8	12.1	15.1
Russell 2000	7047.1	(1.3)	(4.0)	15.2	26.5	17.5	6.8	10.6
Russell Midcap	11051.8	(0.6)	(3.0)	13.2	17.9	16.8	8.1	11.7

Equity Sectors

Sector	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Materials	629.1	(1.1)	(5.0)	10.8	13.0	10.4	6.3	10.0
Industrials	1430.0	0.2	(3.3)	9.8	12.3	20.1	12.6	13.0
Comm Services	479.6	2.1	6.4	6.6	12.7	30.3	12.5	12.8
Utilities	400.1	(4.8)	(6.0)	(5.8)	(6.1)	10.9	7.1	7.9
Consumer Discretionary	1831.8	(0.6)	(4.5)	(4.5)	(3.9)	13.9	5.3	12.3
Consumer Staples	912.5	(0.9)	(2.0)	7.4	7.1	9.8	7.1	8.1
Health Care	1982.4	1.0	0.0	11.2	26.7	11.2	7.0	10.8
Information Technology	7223.6	2.9	3.8	27.6	31.5	36.2	22.2	26.0
Energy	959.6	(2.3)	(1.2)	42.5	43.0	15.5	24.2	10.8
Financials	908.1	(2.0)	(5.1)	0.9	3.4	19.3	9.3	13.1
Real Estate	270.7	(1.9)	(4.2)	10.2	9.1	11.7	2.3	6.4

Fixed Income

Index	Yield	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
3-Month Treasury Bill (%)	4.1	0.1	0.2	2.7	3.8	4.6	3.8	2.4
2-Year Treasury (%)	4.9	(0.3)	(0.7)	0.2	1.3	3.8	1.5	1.5
10-Year Treasury (%)	5.2	(1.9)	(3.1)	(4.8)	(3.7)	2.3	(2.6)	(0.3)
Bloomberg US Corporate HY	8.2	(0.9)	(1.7)	1.0	2.2	8.2	3.7	5.2
Bloomberg US Aggregate	5.5	(1.4)	(2.2)	(2.5)	(1.3)	3.9	(0.6)	1.2
Bloomberg Municipals	--	(1.8)	(3.6)	(3.4)	(2.0)	2.6	(0.1)	1.6
Bloomberg IG Credit	6.0	(1.5)	(2.1)	(2.5)	(1.5)	4.8	(0.5)	2.1
Bloomberg EM Bonds	6.7	(1.0)	(1.9)	(0.4)	1.5	8.1	1.5	2.9

Commodities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
WTI Crude (\$/bl)	94.6	(7.2)	10.3	64.8	45.6	1.7	5.0	7.8
Gold (\$/Troy Oz)	4298.0	(2.3)	(4.1)	(1.0)	14.1	30.2	19.7	12.3
Bloomberg Commodity Index	145.9	(0.0)	3.2	33.0	40.3	11.2	8.1	5.6

Currencies

Currency	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
US Dollar Index	101.3	1.0	1.9	3.0	3.5	(1.4)	1.7	0.6
Euro	1.14	(1.0)	(2.1)	(3.2)	(3.1)	2.2	(0.6)	0.1
British Pound	1.32	(1.0)	(2.5)	(1.7)	(1.7)	2.5	(0.7)	0.2
Japanese Yen	158.90	(2.0)	0.5	(1.4)	(6.4)	(2.3)	(7.0)	(4.4)

International Equities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
MSCI AC World	1142.4	0.5	(0.5)	14.0	18.6	22.1	11.6	13.0
MSCI EAFE	3119.0	(1.8)	(3.4)	10.3	16.8	18.3	9.3	9.5
MSCI Europe ex UK	3389.9	(1.6)	(4.2)	6.7	14.0	17.7	8.9	10.3
MSCI Japan	5668.3	(2.2)	(1.4)	19.4	23.9	19.8	8.9	9.5
MSCI EM	1732.2	2.7	0.9	25.5	31.0	24.8	9.6	9.5
MSCI Asia ex JP	1150.0	3.4	1.2	27.9	32.7	26.3	10.0	10.1
MSCI LATAM	3053.5	(1.7)	0.2	15.7	25.7	15.6	13.0	7.7
Canada S&P/TSX Composite	25254.8	(0.5)	(1.6)	12.6	20.0	21.7	11.8	9.3

**Weekly performance calculated from Thursday close to Thursday close.

Disclosures

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SMALL CAPS | Investing in small cap stocks generally involves greater risks, and therefore, may not be appropriate for every investor. The prices of small company stocks may be subject to more volatility than those of large company stocks.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTING | International investing involves additional risks such as currency fluctuations, differing financial accounting standards, and heightened political and/or economic instability. These risks are greater in emerging markets.

ENERGY COMMODITIES | Investing in energy commodities is generally considered speculative, with high levels of volatility, limited market regulation, and emerging markets risk. Oil prices are influenced by OPEC decisions and tend to be economically sensitive. Natural gas prices are influenced by weather.

MINING COMMODITIES | Investing in mining commodities is generally considered speculative, with high levels of volatility, limited market regulation, and emerging markets risk. Prices of precious metals such as gold are influenced by central bank decisions. Prices of industrial metals such as copper tend to be economically sensitive.

SECTORS | Sector investments are companies focused on a specific economic sector and are presented here for illustrative purposes only. Sectors, including Tech, are subject to varying levels of competition, economic sensitivity, and political and regulatory risks. Investing in any individual sector involves limited diversification.

CURRENCIES | Currency investing is generally considered speculative, with high levels of volatility and limited market regulation. These risks are greater in emerging markets.

FIXED INCOME | Fixed-income securities (or bonds) are exposed to various risks including but not limited to credit (risk of default of principal and interest payments), market and liquidity, interest rate, reinvestment, legislative (changes to the tax code), and call risks. There is an inverse relationship between interest rate movements and fixed income prices. Generally, when interest rates rise, fixed income prices fall and when interest rates fall, fixed income prices generally rise. A credit rating of a security is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold the security and may be subject to review, revision, suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning Rating Agency. Ratings and insurance do not remove market risk since they do not guarantee the market value of the bond.

MUNICIPAL BONDS | Municipal securities typically provide a lower yield than comparably rated taxable investments in consideration of their tax-advantaged status. Investments in municipal securities may not be appropriate for all investors, particularly those who do not stand to benefit from the tax status of the investment. Please consult an income tax professional to assess the impact of holding such securities on your tax liability.

US TREASURIES | US Treasury securities are guaranteed by the US government and, if held to maturity, generally offer a fixed rate of return and guaranteed principal value.

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES | The Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Price Index is a measure of the prices that people living in the United States, or those buying on their behalf, pay for goods and services.

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX | The Producer Price Index (PPI) is a measure of wholesale inflation, while the Consumer Price Index measures the prices paid by consumers.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX | The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.

CONSUMER SENTIMENT INDEX | The University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Survey (MCSI) is a monthly survey measuring US consumer confidence regarding personal finances, business conditions, and buying conditions. It serves as a key leading economic indicator, forecasting consumer spending by interviewing approximately 600–1,000 households.

ISM MANUFACTURING INDEX | The ISM Manufacturing Index, or Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), is a crucial monthly report on US economic activity based on surveys of manufacturing supply executives. It gauges sector health by tracking new orders, production, employment, supplier deliveries, and inventories. A reading above 50 indicates expansion; below 50 signals contraction.

ISM SERVICES INDEX | The ISM Services Index, now officially known as the Services PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index), is a monthly economic indicator released by the Institute for Supply Management. It measures the performance of the US service sector—which constitutes nearly 80% of the economy—based on surveys of over 400 purchasing managers across 60+ industries, such as finance, retail, and healthcare.

IMPORT/EXPORT PRICE INDICES | The Import and Export Price Indices are economic indicators that measure the average change in prices of goods and services imported into a country from foreign sources, or exported from the US, respectively. These indices act as key metrics for inflation, tracking how changing international costs affect domestic consumers, businesses, and economic policy.

US DOLLAR INDEX | The US Dollar Index is an index (or measure) of the value of the United States dollar relative to a basket of foreign currencies.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX | The Employment Cost Index (ECI) measures the change in the hourly cost of labor to employers, tracking both wages and salaries and employee benefits. It is a key economic indicator published quarterly by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

UNIT LABOR COST | Unit labor cost is how much a business pays its workers to produce one unit of output. It is measured by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

BoFA MOVE INDEX | The ICE BoFA MOVE Index is a market-implied measure of expected interest rate volatility in the U.S. Treasury bond market. Often called the "VIX for bonds," it tracks investor uncertainty over future yield swings.

CBOE VOLATILITY INDEX | The Chicago Board of Exchange Volatility Index (VIX), is a real-time market index that measures the expected 30-day volatility of the U.S. stock market based on S&P 500 index options. Often called the market's "fear gauge" or "fear index," it reflects investor sentiment, uncertainty, and perceived risk.

NEW HOME SALES INDEX | The New Home Sales report, released monthly by the US Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), tracks the number of newly constructed, privately-owned single-family homes sold across the US. As a key leading economic indicator, it measures new, signed sales contracts rather than closings.

LEADING ECONOMIC INDEX | The Leading Economic Index (LEI) is a monthly composite statistic published by The Conference Board that predicts future shifts in the business cycle, typically looking six to nine months ahead. It combines 10 forward-looking economic components, such as stock prices, building permits, and manufacturing orders, to signal upcoming economic expansions or recessions before they become evident in the overall economy.

MICHIGAN CONSUMER SENTIMENT INDEX | The Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index (MCSI) is a monthly survey-based economic indicator measuring US consumer confidence regarding their personal finances, business conditions, and buying power. It is a leading indicator for predicting consumer spending, which drives the majority of the US economy.

FHFA HOME PRICE INDEX | The FHFA Home Price Index is a weighted, repeat-sales index, meaning that it measures average price changes in repeat sales or refinancings on the same properties.

CASE SHILLER HOME PRICE INDEX | The Case Shiller Home Price Index, U.S. National Home Price NSA Index measures the change in the value of the U.S. residential housing market by tracking the purchase prices of single-family homes. The index is compiled and published monthly.

NFIB SMALL BUSINESS INDEX | The NFIB Small Business Optimism Index is a monthly composite indicator that measures the outlook of U.S. small business owners on economic conditions, employment, and business health.

NAHB/WELLS FARGO HOUSING MARKET INDEX (HMI) | The NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI) is a monthly survey-based gauge of sentiment among U.S. single-family home builders that reflects their views on current and near-term housing market conditions.

Disclosures

DATA SOURCE | FactSet, Bloomberg as of 09/24/2026

DOMESTIC EQUITY DEFINITION

DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE (DJIA) | The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is an index that tracks 30 large, publicly-owned companies trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the NASDAQ.

NASDAQ COMPOSITE INDEX | The Nasdaq Composite Index is the market capitalization-weighted index of over 3,300 common equities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange.

NASDAQ 100 | The Nasdaq-100 Index® includes 100 of the largest domestic and international non-financial companies listed on The Nasdaq Stock Market based on market capitalization. The Index reflects companies across major industry groups including computer hardware and software, telecommunications, retail/wholesale trade and biotechnology. It does not contain securities of financial companies including investment companies.

WILSHIRE 5000 INDEX | The Wilshire 5000 is a broad-market, free-float capitalization-weighted index that measures the performance of the entire U.S. stock market

S&P 500 | The S&P 500 Total Return Index: The index is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. There is over USD 7.8 trillion benchmarked to the index, with index assets comprising approximately USD 2.2 trillion of this total. The index includes 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

S&P 500 EQUAL WEIGHT INDEX | The S&P 500 Equal Weight Index: The index includes the same constituents as the capitalization weighted S&P 500, but each company in the S&P 500 EWI is allocated a fixed weight - or 0.2% of the index total at each quarterly rebalance.

S&P SMALL CAP 600 | The S&P Small Cap 600: The index tracks 600 US small-capitalization companies. It acts as a benchmark for the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity market and is used by investors to measure performance or gain exposure to smaller-tier growth companies.

LARGE GROWTH | Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 1000 Index with a greater- than-average growth orientation. Companies in this index have higher price-to-book and price-earnings ratios, lower dividend yields and higher forecasted growth values. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

MID GROWTH | Russell Mid Cap Growth Total Return Index: This index contains stocks from the Russell Midcap Index with a greater-than-average growth orientation. The stocks are also members of the Russell 1000 Growth Index. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

LARGE BLEND | Russell 1000 Total Return Index: This index represents the 1000 largest companies in the Russell 3000 Index. This index is highly correlated with the S&P 500 Index. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

SMALL GROWTH | Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 2000 Index with a greater- than-average growth orientation. The combined market capitalization of the Russell 2000 Growth and Value Indices will add up to the total market cap of the Russell 2000. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

MID BLEND | Russell Mid Cap Total Return Index: This index consists of the bottom 800 securities in the Russell 1000 Index as ranked by total market capitalization. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

SMALL BLEND | Russell 2000 Total Return Index: This index covers 2000 of the smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index, which ranks the 3000 largest US companies by market capitalization. The Russell 2000 represents approximately 10% of the Russell 3000 total market capitalization. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

LARGE VALUE | Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 1000 Index with a less-than-average growth orientation. Companies in this index have low price-to-book and price-earnings ratios, higher dividend yields and lower forecasted growth values. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

MID VALUE | Russell Mid Cap Value Total Return Index: This index contains stocks from the Russell Midcap Index with a less-than-average growth orientation. The stocks are also members of the Russell 1000 Value Index. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

SMALL VALUE | Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 2000 Index with a less-than-average growth orientation. The combined market capitalization of the Russell 2000 Growth and Value Indices will add up to the total market cap of the Russell 2000. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

COMMODITY INDEX DEFINITION

BLOOMBERG COMMODITY INDEX (BCOM) | The Bloomberg Commodity Index is a broadly diversified commodity price index distributed by Bloomberg Index Services Limited.

FIXED INCOME DEFINITION

AGGREGATE BOND | Bloomberg US Agg Bond Total Return Index: The index is a measure of the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable bond market of roughly 6,000 SEC-registered securities with intermediate maturities averaging approximately 10 years. The index includes bonds from the Treasury, Government-Related, Corporate, MBS, ABS, and CMBS sectors.

HIGH YIELD | Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Total Return Index: The index measures the USD-denominated, high yield, fixed- rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below.

Disclosures

BLOOMBERG US CORPORATE INVESTMENT GRADE | The index commonly used as the standard benchmark for US investment-grade corporate debt, and tracks the performance of the USD-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. It captures publicly issued securities across industrial, utility, and financial issuers by companies inside and outside the US.

BLOOMBERG MUNICIPAL BOND INDEX | The index is a measure of the long-term tax-exempt bond market with securities of investment grade (rated at least Baa by Moody's Investors Service and BBB by Standard and Poor's). This index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and prerefunded bonds.

BLOOMBERG US CONVERTIBLE LIQUID BOND INDEX | The index tracks the performance of USD-denominated convertible securities, specifically bonds and convertible preferred stock, issued in the US market with a minimum amount outstanding of \$350 million.

BLOOMBERG CAPITAL AGGREGATE BOND TOTAL RETURN INDEX | This index represents securities that are SEC-registered, taxable, and dollar denominated. The index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities. The index is designed to minimize concentration in any one commodity or sector. It currently has 22 commodity futures in seven sectors. No one commodity can compose less than 2% or more than 15% of the index, and no sector can represent more than 33% of the index (as of the annual weightings of the components).

BLOOMBERG EMERGING MARKET BOND INDEX | The Bloomberg USD Emerging Market Composite Bond Index is a rules-based, market-value-weighted index engineered to measure USD fixed-rate sovereign and corporate securities issued from emerging markets. The index includes both investment-grade and below-investment-grade securities.

BLOOMBERG WIRP FUTURES MODEL | The Bloomberg World Interest Rate Probability (WIRP) function calculates the implicit forecast for rates after each meeting over the next year for the biggest developed world central banks, based on pricing in futures and overnight index swaps markets.

BLOOMBERG TREASURY INDEX | The Bloomberg US Treasury Index measures US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, nominal debt issued by the US Treasury. Treasury bills are excluded by the maturity constraint but are part of a separate Short Treasury Index. The Index is a component of the US Aggregate, US Universal, Global Aggregate and Global Treasury Indices. The index includes securities with remaining maturity of at least one year.

BLOOMBERG BELLWETHERS INDEX | The Bloomberg US Treasury Bellwethers 30 Yr. Index is a single-security market index that tracks the most recently issued 30-year US Treasury bond.

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY DEFINITION

EMERGING MARKETS EASTERN EUROPE | MSCI EM Eastern Europe Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across four Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Eastern Europe.

EMERGING MARKETS ASIA | MSCI EM Asia Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across eight Emerging Markets countries. With 554 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

EMERGING MARKETS LATIN AMERICA | MSCI EM Latin America Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across five Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Latin America. With 116 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

EMERGING MARKETS | MSCI Emerging Markets Net Return Index: This index consists of 23 countries representing 10% of world market capitalization. The index is available for a number of regions, market segments/sizes and covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each of the 23 countries.

PACIFIC EX-JAPAN | MSCI Pacific Ex Japan Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across four of 5 Developed Markets (DM) countries in the Pacific region (excluding Japan). With 150 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

JAPAN | MSCI Japan Net Return Index: The index is designed to measure the performance of the large and mid cap segments of the Japanese market. With 319 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in Japan.

NIKKEI 225 INDEX | The Nikkei 225 is Japan's main stock market index, tracking the performance of 225 large, highly traded "blue-chip" companies listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE). It's a price-weighted index, meaning higher-priced stocks have a greater impact, similar to the Dow Jones Industrial Average, and serves as a key indicator of the Japanese economy.

FOREIGN DEVELOPED MARKETS | MSCI EAFE Net Return Index: This index is designed to represent the performance of large and mid-cap securities across 21 developed markets, including countries in Europe, Australasia and the Far East, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The index is available for a number of regions, market segments/sizes and covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each of the 21 countries.

MSCI EAFE | The MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, and Far East) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance, excluding the United States & Canada. The EAFE consists of the country indices of 22 developed nations.

MSCI ACWI | The MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) is a stock index designed to track broad global equity-market performance. The index is comprised of the stocks of about 3,000 companies from 23 developed countries and 26 emerging markets.

MSCI ACWI EX US | The MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) is a stock index designed to track broad global equity-market performance. The index is comprised of the stocks of about 3,000 companies from 23 developed countries and 26 emerging markets.

Disclosures

CANADA S&P/TSX COMPOSITE | The S&P/TSX Composite Index is a capitalization-weighted equity index that tracks the performance of the largest companies listed on primary stock exchange, the Toronto Stock Exchange.

STOXX EUROPE 600 | The Represents large, mid and small capitalization companies across 17 countries of the European region: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

CREDIT | Bloomberg US Credit Total Return Index: The index measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate and government related bond markets. It is composed of the US Corporate Index and a non-corporate component that includes foreign agencies, sovereigns, supranationals and local authorities.

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