

Monthly Market Review

Thankful & Grateful for the Risk-Asset Rally

November 2019

Optimism Surrounding Trade Outlook Drives Strong Equity Performance

Monthly Highlights

- 3Q19 GDP Revised Higher to 2.1%; Personal Consumption Expenditures Post 39th Consecutive Month of Growth.
- Politics in Focus – Congress Passes CR Through December as Impeachment Hearings Heat Up.
- US and China ‘Phase One’ Deal Highly Anticipated Ahead of December 15th Tariff Deadline.
- The Fed Maintains Its Positive Economic Outlook With Further Rate Cuts On Hold.
- ISM Manufacturing Remains in Contraction Territory for the Fourth Consecutive Month (48.1).
- Euro Zone Economic Sentiment Remains Near Its Lowest Level Since January 2015.
- China Manufacturing PMI Enters Expansionary Territory for First Time Since April.
- US Investment-Grade Spreads Decline Intra-Month to the Lowest Level Since March 2018.
- US 30-Year Treasury Yield Retreats to 2.20% Level After Rising to the Highest Level Since August.
- S&P 500 Continues Best Start to a Year Since 2013 (27.6%), Led By Info Tech (43.8%).
- Gold Falls Below Key \$1,500 oz/Level.
- Oil Rises 1.8% Amid Low US Stockpiles and Positive Trade Discussions.
- US Dollar Posts Best Monthly Gain Since July.

Economy | Third Quarter GDP ‘Trots’ Higher Due to Strong US Consumer.

- The preliminary reading of **3Q19 GDP** was revised higher (+2.1% Quarter-over-Quarter (QoQ)), rising slightly above the 2Q19 growth rate (+2.0%). Personal consumption posted its 39th consecutive quarter of growth (+2.9%) and helped to offset weakness in business fixed investment (-2.7%), which saw the sharpest decline since 4Q15.
- **The Fed** signaled it would be on hold with respect to future rate hikes as Chair Powell highlighted the strength of the consumer and labor market and stated that future actions would be “assessed” in light of global developments and incoming economic data. This patient stance has led the futures market to expect no additional rate cuts until at least July 2020.
- **November ISM Manufacturing** (48.1) declined for the seventh time over the last eight months and remained in contraction territory (a level below 50) for the fourth straight month. New orders, employment, and export orders all fell further, and inventories declined to the lowest level since May 2016.
- **The US added 128k jobs** in October, marking 109 consecutive months of job gains, continuing the longest streak on record. **Wage growth** (3.0% year-over-year (YoY)) was unchanged from the September reading, and the unemployment rate (3.6%) remained near the lowest level in 50 years.

- **Jobless claims** continued to reflect labor market strength as the claims declined slightly intra-month to (213k) and remained near the lowest level since 1969.
- The pace of **headline inflation** (+1.8% YoY) rose slightly but remained below the 2.0% level for the sixth straight month. **Core CPI** (+2.3% YoY) slowed, but remains near the fastest pace since September 2008.
- **Consumer confidence** (125.5) declined for the fourth straight month but remains near the October 2018 peak (which marked the highest level in 20 years). The “present situation” subsector declined modestly, but is still near the highest level since 1999.
- **Core retail sales** (ex. food, autos, and gas, +0.3% month-over-month (MoM)) rose after falling for the second time this year last month, and continue to trend above the 10-year historical average (+4.2% vs. +3.7%) on a YoY basis.
- **Housing data** was mostly positive as building permits (+5.0%), housing starts (+3.8%), and existing homes sales (+1.9%) rose, and only new home sales (-0.7%) declined. The pace of home price gains (S&P Case Shiller Home Price Index +2.1% YoY) nears the August 2012 low.
- **China’s Manufacturing PMI** (50.2) rose to the highest level since March of this year, and entered into expansion territory (a level above 50) for the first time in seven months.
- **Euro Zone Manufacturing PMI** (46.7) remained in contraction territory for the tenth straight month. Euro zone economic sentiment (101.3) rose but remains near the lowest level since January 2015.

Fixed Income | Narrowing Credit Spreads Provide a 'Feast' for Most Sectors

- The **Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Index** (-0.1% MoM) fell for the second time in nine months. Rising sovereign bond yields were a headwind for the broader index, however the risk-asset rally led credit spreads to narrow, which resulted in most credit sectors posting positive performance for the month.
- **International sovereign bonds** (G7 ex. US -1.7%) declined for the second time in three months due to strength in the dollar and a slight rise in international sovereign bond yields in November.
- **TIPS** (+0.02% MoM) were positive for the twelfth time over the last thirteen months and outperformed nominal Treasuries (-0.3% MoM) for the second consecutive month.
- **Emerging market bonds** (+0.03% USD MoM) rallied for the twelfth consecutive month, the longest streak since March 2009. Productive discussions surrounding 'phase one' of the trade deal and improving global economic data supported emerging market bonds.
- **Municipals** (+0.3% MoM) rallied for the twelfth time in the past thirteen months. All three muni sectors (high yield +0.4%, general obligation +0.3%, and revenue +0.3%) were in positive territory in November.
- **US investment-grade bonds** (+0.3% MoM) rallied for the eleventh time over the last twelve months as spreads narrowed intra-month to the lowest level (104 bps) since March 2018. The rally in investment grade was led by the Industrials (+0.3%) and Financials (+0.2%) sectors.
- **High-yield bonds** (+0.3% MoM) rallied for the tenth time in the last eleven months. The risk-asset rally, still solid domestic economic fundamentals, and the de-escalation of trade tensions between the US and China supported high-yield bonds.

Equities | Supportive Seasonality the 'Gravy On Top' For US Equities

- **Global equities** (MSCI All Country World Index +2.5% USD MoM) rallied for the fifth time over the last six months. Positive trade developments between the US and China combined with accommodative global central bank policies helped curb concerns about slowing global economic momentum.
- **US Small-Cap** equities (Russell 2000 +4.1% MoM) rose for the third straight month and outperformed US large-cap equities for the third consecutive month and by the widest margin since February.
- **U.S Large-Cap** equities (S&P 500 +3.6% MoM) posted their highest monthly gain since June, their best November since 2016, and remain strongly positive for the year (+27.6% YTD). A better than expected 3Q19 earnings season, optimism surrounding a trade deal, and positive seasonality supported the rally.
- 9 of 11 **S&P 500 sectors** were positive in November led by more cyclical sectors such as Info Tech (+5.4%) and Financials (+5.0%). For the first time since 2013, all sectors are positive year-to-date.
- **European** equities (MSCI Europe ex UK +1.4% USD MoM) rallied but underperformed global equities for the first time over the last four months.
- **Japanese equities** (MSCI Japan +0.6% USD MoM) rallied for the fifth time over the last six months but underperformed global equities for the first time in five months.
- **EM equities** (MSCI EM -0.1% USD MoM) declined for the first time in three months, and underperformed the developed markets (MSCI EAFE USD +1.1% MoM) for the third time over the last four months.
- Within EM, **Asia** (MSCI Asia ex JP +0.2% USD MoM) outperformed **LATAM** (MSCI LATAM -4.1% USD MoM) by the widest margin since February.

Commodities | Stronger Dollar Rains on the 'Parade' for Broader Commodities

- The **Bloomberg Barclays Commodity Index** (-2.7% MoM) declined for the first time in three months as a stronger dollar offset tailwinds from positive progress in the US-China trade talks.
- The **US Dollar Index** (+0.9% MoM) rose for the fourth time in five months and posted its best monthly return since July. The dollar rose as a result of stronger US economic data (i.e., better than expected jobs report) and a more neutral Federal Reserve.
- The **Bloomberg Industrial Metals Index** (-5.0% USD MoM) fell for the first time in six months and posted its worst monthly decline since May. Nickel (-18.0% MoM), which declined for the third consecutive month, and lead (-11.9% MoM), which fell for the first time since May, both contributed to the weakness.
- The **Bloomberg Precious Metals Index** (-3.9% MoM) declined for the second time over the last three months. Gold (-3.2% MoM) fell for the second time over the last seven months as strength in the dollar was offset by a more neutral Fed.
- The **Bloomberg Energy Index** (-2.7% MoM) rallied for the third time in five months. Crude oil (+1.8% MoM) rose due to lower than expected US stockpiles and positive trade developments, but cut significant gains at the end of the month amid signals that the anticipated OPEC supply cuts would not occur. Natural gas (-13.4% MoM) posted its worst decline since December 2018 due to record production levels.
- The **Bloomberg Grains Index** (-2.5% MoM) declined for the first time in three months. Weakness in soybean prices (-2.1% MoM) attributed to the decline.
- The **Bloomberg Softs Index** (+6.2% MoM) rallied for the third consecutive month, and posted its highest month of gains since October 2018.

Figure 1: Streak of Strong GDP Growth

US GDP has now grown over 2% on a year-over-year basis for 12 consecutive quarters, the longest streak since 2006.

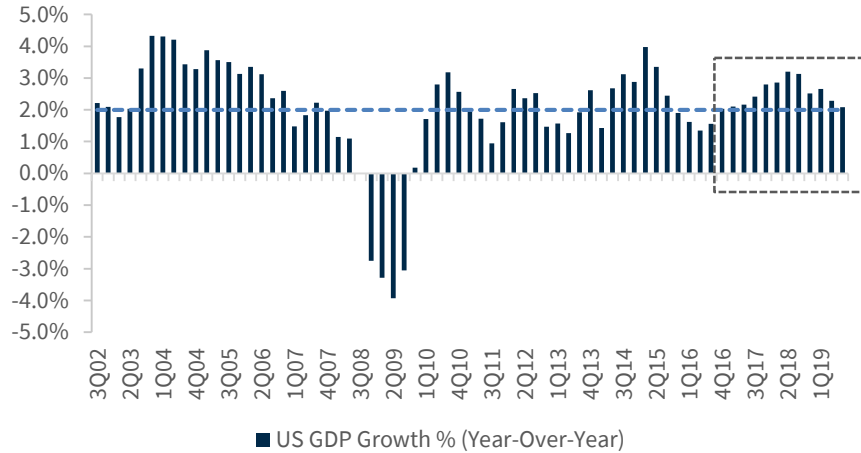


Figure 2: Cyclical Sectors Lead the Way in November

Nine of 11 S&P 500 sectors rallied in November led by Info Tech (+5.4%) and Financials (+5.0%), but all sectors are positive year-to-date for the first time since 2013.

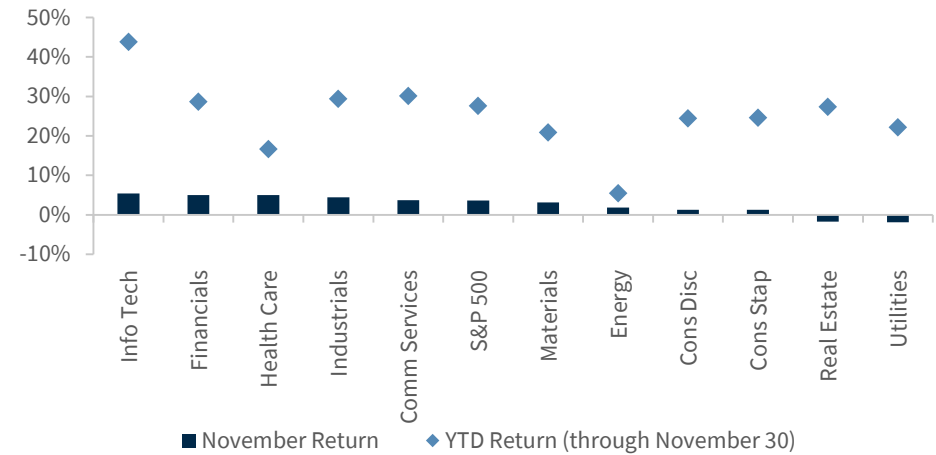


Figure 3: 10-Year/2-Year Yield Curve Retreats

The 10-year/2-year subset of the yield curve had rebounded to the highest spread since July after inverting for the first time since 2007, but it has since retreated to ~18 basis points.

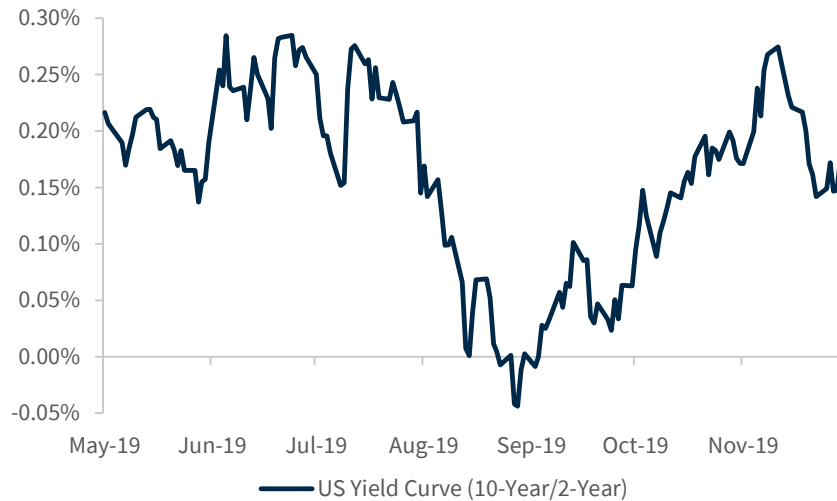
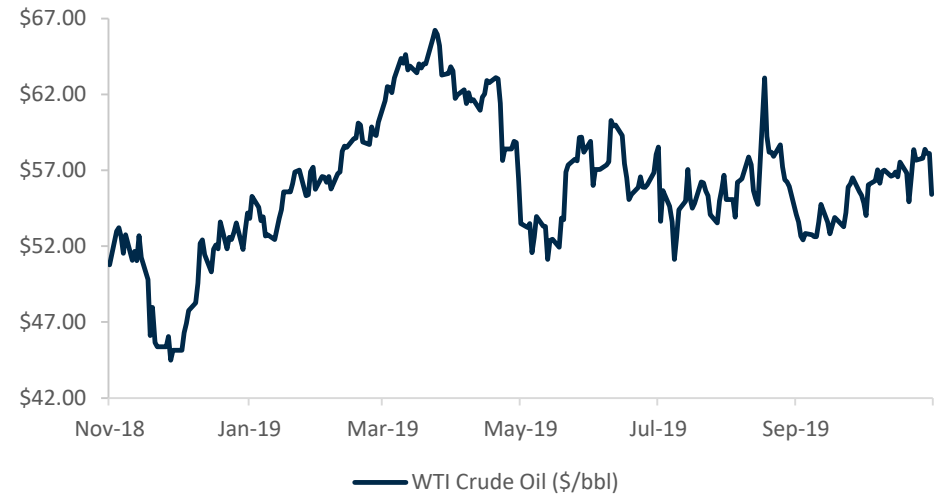


Figure 4: Oil Prices Lose Intra-Month Gains

Oil prices rose ~8% intra-month due to lower US stockpiles and positive trade progress, but signals that OPEC would not implement the expected supply cut led to a sharp decline.



Fixed Income | Credit Sectors Lead

	November	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
High Yield	0.3%	12.1%	9.7%	6.3%	5.4%	7.7%
US Investment Grade	0.3%	14.2%	15.9%	6.0%	4.5%	5.4%
Municipals	0.3%	7.2%	8.5%	5.0%	3.6%	4.3%
EM Bonds	0.0%	11.4%	12.9%	5.9%	5.0%	6.5%
TIPS	0.0%	6.1%	6.5%	2.6%	1.9%	2.3%
US Aggregate	-0.1%	8.8%	10.8%	4.1%	3.1%	3.6%
Treasuries	-0.3%	7.5%	9.8%	3.5%	2.5%	2.9%
International Bonds	-1.7%	3.8%	7.2%	3.2%	1.8%	0.6%

Commodities & FX | Commodities Decline as Dollar Rallies

	November	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Crude Oil (WTI)	1.8%	21.5%	8.3%	3.7%	-3.6%	-3.3%
US Dollar Index	0.9%	2.2%	1.0%	-1.1%	2.2%	2.8%
Copper	0.5%	1.2%	-4.5%	0.4%	-1.3%	-1.8%
BBG Commodity Index	-2.7%	0.5%	-6.6%	-3.6%	-7.3%	-5.6%
BBG Energy Index	-2.7%	2.5%	-16.9%	-3.2%	-14.4%	-12.6%
Gold	-3.2%	14.9%	20.1%	7.9%	4.6%	2.2%
BBG Precious Metals	-3.9%	10.4%	16.6%	3.6%	2.0%	0.3%
BBG Industrial Metals	-5.0%	1.8%	-3.6%	-0.8%	-3.0%	-3.7%

S&P 500 Sectors | Cyclical Lead in November

	November	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Information Technology	5.4%	43.8%	31.7%	26.5%	18.7%	17.6%
Financials	5.0%	28.7%	14.2%	12.4%	11.0%	11.8%
Health Care	5.0%	16.6%	6.6%	15.2%	9.2%	14.6%
Industrials	4.5%	29.4%	15.6%	10.9%	9.5%	13.6%
Communication Services	3.7%	30.1%	20.6%	6.7%	6.1%	9.9%
Materials	3.2%	20.9%	12.6%	8.5%	6.3%	9.0%
Energy	1.8%	5.5%	-7.9%	-4.5%	-2.9%	2.6%
Consumer Discretionary	1.3%	24.5%	14.0%	15.6%	12.7%	17.4%
Consumer Staples	1.3%	24.7%	13.3%	10.2%	7.6%	11.8%
Real Estate	-1.7%	27.3%	17.9%	12.9%	8.5%	14.0%
Utilities	-1.8%	22.1%	17.2%	14.4%	10.3%	12.0%

Equities | Growth Outperforms Value

	November	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Russell 2000 Growth	5.9%	25.6%	10.9%	12.2%	9.5%	13.7%
Russell 1000 Growth	4.4%	32.4%	21.0%	19.8%	13.7%	15.2%
Russell 2000	4.1%	22.0%	7.5%	8.6%	8.2%	12.4%
Russell 1000	3.8%	27.7%	16.1%	14.7%	10.8%	13.5%
DJ Industrial Average	3.7%	20.3%	9.8%	13.6%	9.5%	10.5%
S&P 500	3.6%	27.6%	16.1%	14.9%	11.0%	13.4%
Russell 1000 Value	3.1%	23.2%	11.3%	9.6%	7.8%	11.7%
Russell 2000 Value	2.3%	18.3%	4.0%	5.0%	6.8%	11.0%

International Equities (in USD) | International Lags US

	November	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
MSCI AC World	2.5%	22.9%	14.3%	12.6%	7.8%	9.2%
MSCI UK	1.7%	15.2%	10.8%	8.0%	1.7%	4.8%
MSCI Europe ex UK	1.4%	21.7%	15.7%	12.1%	4.9%	5.8%
MSCI EAFE	1.1%	18.8%	13.0%	10.2%	4.8%	5.8%
MSCI Japan	0.6%	17.6%	9.8%	8.9%	7.3%	6.7%
MSCI Asia ex JP	0.2%	11.1%	8.1%	9.9%	5.0%	6.1%
MSCI EM	-0.1%	10.6%	7.7%	9.4%	3.5%	3.7%
MSCI LATAM	-4.1%	6.8%	6.0%	7.9%	0.5%	-1.1%

Key Asset Class Levels

	November	Start of Year	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
S&P 500	3,141	2,507	2,738	2,205	2,068	1,091
DJIA	28,051	23,327	25,339	19,122	17,828	10,310
MSCI AC World	547	456	490	414	426	292
S&P 500 Dividend Yield	1.97	2.32	2.11	2.20	2.07	2.11
1-3M T-Bills (Cash, in %)	1.58	2.39	2.31	0.38	0.01	0.02
2YR Treasury Yield (in %)	1.60	2.50	2.82	1.10	0.49	0.70
10YR Treasury Yield (in %)	1.78	2.69	3.03	2.30	2.20	3.21
30Yr Treasury Yield (in %)	2.20	3.02	3.33	2.95	2.91	4.21
EURUSD	1.10	1.14	1.14	1.06	1.25	1.50
Crude Oil - WTI (\$/bbl)	56	45	51	45	66	76
Gold (\$/oz)	1469	1281	1224	1188	1175	1176

DISCLOSURES

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

SECTORS | Sector investments are companies engaged in business related to a specific economic sector and are presented herein for illustrative purposes only and should not be considered as the sole basis for an investment decision. Sectors are subject to fierce competition and their products and services may be subject to rapid obsolescence. There are additional risks associated with investing in an individual sector, including limited diversification.

OIL | Investing in oil involves special risks, including the potential adverse effects of state and federal regulation and may not be suitable for all investors.

CURRENCIES | Currencies investing are generally considered speculative because of the significant potential for investment loss. Their markets are likely to be volatile and there may be sharp price fluctuations even during periods when prices overall are rising.

GOLD | Gold is subject to the special risks associated with investing in precious metals, including but not limited to: price may be subject to wide fluctuation; the market is relatively limited; the sources are concentrated in countries that have the potential for instability; and the market is unregulated.

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.

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.

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DOMESTIC EQUITY DEFINITION

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

FIXED INCOME DEFINITION

AGGREGATE BOND | Bloomberg Barclays 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.

MUNICIPAL | Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Total Return 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.

US INDEXES AND EQUITY SECTORS 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.

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.

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. With 50 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

BLOOMBERG BARCLAYS 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).

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.

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.

EUROPE EX UK | MSCI Europe Ex UK Net Return Index: The index captures large and mid cap representation across 14 Developed Markets (DM) countries in Europe. With 337 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization across European Developed Markets excluding the UK.

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.

COMMODITY DEFINITIONS

US DOLLAR INDEX | The US dollar index (USDX) is a measure of the value of the US dollar relative to the value of a basket of currencies of the majority of the US's most significant trading partners. This index is similar to other trade-weighted indexes, which also use the exchange rates from the same major currencies.

BLOOMBERG BARCLAYS COMMODITY INDEX | Bloomberg Barclays Commodity Index is a commodity group sub index of the Bloomberg CTR. The index is composed of futures contracts on crude oil, heating oil, unleaded gasoline and natural gas. It reflects the return on fully collateralized futures positions and is quoted in USD.

BLOOMBERG INDUSTRIAL METALS INDEX | Bloomberg Industrial Metals Index is composed of futures contracts on aluminum, copper, nickel and zinc. It reflects the return of underlying commodity futures price movements only. It is quoted in USD.

BLOOMBERG SOFTS INDEX | Bloomberg Softs Index is a commodity group sub index of the Bloomberg CI. It is composed of futures contracts on coffee, cotton and sugar. It reflects the return of underlying commodity futures price movements only and is quoted in USD.

BLOOMBERG PRECIOUS METALS INDEX | Bloomberg Precious Metals index is a commodity group sub index of the Bloomberg CI. It is composed of futures contracts on gold and silver. It reflects the return of underlying commodity futures price movements only and is quoted in USD.

BLOOMBERG GRAINS INDEX | Bloomberg Grains Index is a commodity group subindex of the Bloomberg CI. It is composed of futures contracts on corn, soybeans and wheat. It reflects the return of underlying commodity futures price movements only and is quoted in USD.

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DATA SOURCES:

FactSet and Bloomberg.

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