

Strong Fundamentals Are Masking Rising Geopolitical Risks. With the US-Iran conflict nearing the five-month mark, equity markets have mostly shrugged off the latest escalation. On one hand, that's understandable—a healthy economy and record corporate profits continue to support the market's fundamentals. But a note of caution is warranted. Investors may be underestimating the magnitude of risks created by the conflict's resurgence. With oil supplies disrupted, gasoline prices are back above \$4.00/gallon, and other key commodities are facing pressure as well. While outright shortages remain unlikely in the US and other developed economies, higher input costs could add to inflation pressures, frustrating consumers and complicating the Fed's job. For companies with significant commodity input exposure, margin pressures may also emerge. Below, we examine the effects on consumers, the Fed, and corporate earnings.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

With The SPR Down 25% Since February, The Oil Market's Supply Cushion Is Fading

Markets Are Pricing In Fed Tightening, Though We Still Expect It To Hold Steady

Once Oil Begins To Cool Again, It's Likely To Pressure Energy Stocks, While Giving A Boost To Industrials and Consumer Discretionary

- **Oil Inventories Are Shrinking, And Other Commodities Are Also Disrupted** | WTI oil has been on a rollercoaster, surging from \$68/barrel (2/28—start of conflict) to its recent peak of \$113 (4/27), falling to \$69 (7/6—MOU agreement), and then rebounding to \$90 today. As a result, the national average gasoline price rose back above the psychologically important \$4.00/gallon mark this week for the first time since mid-June. Markets are responding to renewed supply concerns, with oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz once again near a standstill and new Houthi attacks in the Red Sea targeting oil tankers. Meanwhile, US commercial petroleum inventories have fallen by 46 million barrels (4%) since February, while the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) has declined by 104 million barrels (25%) to its lowest level since 1983. Compared to the conflict's initial phase, the supply cushion is much thinner, increasing the risk that demand destruction and broader economic pain play a larger role in rebalancing the market. Beyond oil, disruptions in the Middle East are affecting several other economically important commodities, including LNG, helium, aluminum, and fertilizer, while Ukraine's drone strikes have forced Russia to halt gasoline and diesel exports and have curtailed agricultural shipments. That said, our *base case* remains a renewed US-Iran ceasefire by mid-August, which would support a pullback in WTI toward \$70 by year-end and have little impact on our broader economic outlook.
- **Rising Fuel Prices Add Another Strain On Consumers** | Speaking of “cushions,” during 1H26 consumers benefited from larger tax refunds and moderate interest rates that helped offset the initial jump in fuel prices. Those tailwinds have now faded. The longer gasoline prices remain elevated, the greater the risk to discretionary spending, particularly for lower-income households. And fuel isn't the only affordability challenge. A key food price index is near a four-year high, housing affordability remains strained by elevated mortgage rates (average 30-year mortgage rate: 6.85%—a 12-month high), and healthcare costs continue to outpace inflation.
- **Amid Inflationary Pressures, The Fed Faces A Dilemma** | Warsh has made clear in his first weeks as Fed chair that returning inflation to the 2% target is a top priority. While inflation showed signs of cooling in June, the latest surge in fuel prices has complicated the outlook. The policy-sensitive 2-year Treasury yield recently climbed to 4.36%, its highest level since February 2025 and up 98 bps since the conflict began. Ahead of next week's FOMC meeting (July 28-29), market-implied odds of a rate *hike* have risen from ~10% to ~35% over the past week, with investors pricing in roughly two hikes over the next 12 months. We disagree. Our base case remains that the Fed stays on hold through mid-2027, with the next move being a rate *cut* in the second half of 2027. Supporting that view, long-term inflation expectations have remained well anchored. However, the longer oil prices stay elevated, the greater the upside risk to inflation and, in turn, the Fed's policy path.
- **Corporate America Can Manage Around High Oil Prices—Up To A Point** | Despite higher oil prices and yields, investors have largely ignored these headwinds, with the S&P 500 up ~9% YTD and just ~2.5% below its June record high. Much of that resilience reflects strong fundamentals, as early 2Q26 results point to EPS growth of 37% YoY, with 85% of S&P 500 companies beating estimates. But if elevated oil prices begin to erode margins or weigh on economic activity, earnings could be pressured. Beneath the surface, performance has been far less uniform. The Energy sector is up ~13% month-to-date, while Consumer Discretionary (-7%) and parts of Industrials—such as energy intensive industries like airlines (-13%)—have lagged. Once a diplomatic off-ramp emerges, we expect oil to cool and these trends to reverse. That supports our positive view on Consumer Discretionary and Industrials, while remaining underweight Energy. Volatility may persist amid conflict-related headlines, but we expect a favorable fundamental backdrop to lift the S&P 500 to 8,200 over the next 12 months.
- **Bottom Line** | The widening Iran conflict, including renewed threats to Red Sea shipping, in parallel with the ongoing Russia/Ukraine war, are raising geopolitical risks. Alongside oil prices surging 38% since the Iran conflict first began, the 10-year Treasury yield has climbed to 4.70%, up ~74 bps. While we continue to believe the US and Iran are incentivized to reach a resolution within the next month, we are not complacent. We'll be closely monitoring real-time indicators and corporate commentary this earnings season for signs that higher energy costs and interest rates are affecting consumer behavior, economic activity, or the market outlook.

CHART OF THE WEEK

Alongside Oil Prices, Rate Hike Expectations Have Increased

The latest oil price spike has reignited inflationary concerns, leading markets to price in roughly two Fed rate hikes over the next 12 months—whereas we still expect the Fed to remain on hold.



Source: FactSet, Data as of 7/23/2026.

Economy

- Initial jobless claims fell to 187k last week, the lowest level since Sept. 1969. While weekly claims can be volatile and subject to revisions, the 4-week average has also fallen to a two-month low, reinforcing our view that labor market conditions remain healthy.
- New home sales rose 1.6% MoM in June, with prior months revised higher, providing a boost to Q2 residential investment. However, lower home prices and builder discounts underscore persistent affordability issues from high mortgage rates and construction costs.
- Focus of the Week:** Data releases pick up meaningfully next week, highlighted by two key reports. We expect the first estimate of 2Q26 GDP on Thursday to reflect a 2.8% QoQ annualized pace (vs. Atlanta GDPNow estimate of 1.7%). Attention will then shift to the June PCE Price Index, where we expect core PCE inflation to edge down to 3.3% YoY from 3.4%—its first YoY deceleration in four months.

July 27 – July 31

MON	Durable Orders	WED	FOMC Meeting	FRI	Employment Cost Index (Q2) Michigan Sentiment
TUE	Wholesale Inventories Consumer Confidence FHFA, C-S Home Price Indices	THU	2Q26 GDP (1 st Est.) PCE BOE & BOJ Meetings	FUTURE EVENTS	8/4 JOLTS 8/7 Employment Report

Equity

- Following this week's pullback, the S&P 500 is now down ~3% from its recent high. However, it's important to keep that move in perspective, as volatility has been relatively subdued this year. The index has experienced just one drawdown of 5% or more in 2026, compared with an average of 3-4 such pullbacks annually since 1980. Near term, we expect volatility to remain elevated due to midterm election uncertainty and ongoing developments in Iran. With the S&P 500 now below its 50-day moving average, the key technical support levels we are watching are the 100-day moving average (7,173) and the 200-day moving average (7,002).
- Despite recent weakness, corporate fundamentals remain solid, as reflected in the 2Q26 earnings season. Consensus expects S&P 500 EPS growth of 37% YoY in 2Q26, marking a second consecutive quarter of 20%+ growth. Even against that higher bar, companies have exceeded estimates by 41% in aggregate (driven in part by GOOGL's revaluation of private securities), well above the long-term average of 7%. Meanwhile, the pullback in equity prices has brought the S&P 500's NTM P/E down to 19.7x, which is closer to its 10-year average of 19.5x and well below the 22.2x level to start the year. The combination of strong earnings and more reasonable valuations supports our 12-month S&P 500 target of 8,200, representing 11% upside from current levels.
- Focus of the Week:** Next week marks the busiest week of the 2Q26 earnings season with 173 companies representing 35% of the S&P 500 market cap reporting results highlighted by 4 mega-cap names (Apple, Amazon, Meta, and Microsoft).

Fixed Income

- Surging oil prices, pressure from higher global yields, limited technical support, and rising expectations for Fed hikes drove Treasury yields higher ahead of the July 28-29 FOMC meeting. The policy-sensitive 2-year yield climbed to 4.36%, its highest level since February 2025, about 60 bps above the Fed's target range as markets price in two hikes by next January, setting the stage for elevated volatility next week. Notably, the latest move continues to be driven by rising real yields rather than inflation expectations, with breakeven inflation rates well below levels seen the last time crude traded above \$90. While FOMC voters Hammack and Logan argued for higher rates ahead of the blackout period, anchored inflation expectations should give the Fed room to remain patient next week.
- CCC-rated spreads have climbed to a 15-month high and now sit at their widest level relative to BB-rated high yield bonds in nearly two years. This growing divergence at the lower end of the credit spectrum suggests investors are increasingly more discerning as markets price in tighter Fed policy and a more challenging environment for the weakest borrowers. While the trend warrants monitoring, we continue to favor investment grade credit, where investors can lock in attractive yields while assuming less credit risk.
- Focus of the Week:** 2-, 5-, and 7-year Treasury auctions open the week, before the FOMC meeting and Warsh's post-meeting press conference (Wednesday) take center stage.

Washington Policy

- The White House has announced country-level tariffs on all major trading partners. These tariffs—under Section 301—replace the across-the-board 10% tariff that was imposed in February but expired today (July 24). Tariffs on the EU, Mexico, and India stay at 10%, while the rate for China, Japan, and many mid-size economies rises to 12.5%. Also taking into account the new standalone tariffs on Canada and branded pharma, we estimate that the weighted average tariff rate increases from ~8% to ~10%.
- The tariff announcements also arrive against the backdrop of an increasingly uncertain USMCA landscape. Although the agreement remains fully in force through 2036, the United States declined to approve the treaty's 16-year extension. At the same time, bilateral negotiations continue with Mexico, while Canada remains largely outside the formal negotiating process.

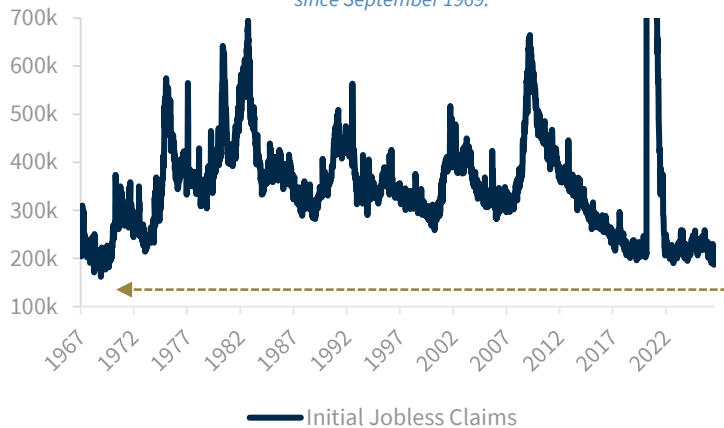
International

- Andy Burnham, who this week became the UK's seventh prime minister in the past ten years, has a tough job ahead. His five predecessors lasted anywhere from 50 days to just over three years in office—which speaks to the political pitfalls that he will need to navigate. Those challenges parallel what's happening in the UK economy. In the wake of Brexit, the UK is facing dual headwinds of weak growth (IMF projects 1.0% in 2026) and elevated inflation (running above the Bank of England's 2% target since October 2024). The latest jobs data is a case in point: June marked the seventh month out of the past 12 with payrolls in negative territory.
- At the heart of Burnham's proposed solution to the economic sluggishness is an ambitious plan to decentralize how the UK is governed. As it stands, the central government holds nearly all power in England—which accounts for ~85% of the UK's population. Burnham aims to hand more power to England's cities, which he says will lead to more innovation. This approach largely replicates reforms from the 1990s, which created regional governments in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and London. The strategy could be helpful, but we are skeptical that it can single-handedly fix the UK's post-Brexit difficulties—and we retain a negative stance on UK equities.

Charts of the Week

Claims At Historic Lows

Initial jobless claims fell to 187,000 last week, the lowest level since September 1969.



New Home Sales Rise

New home sales surprised to the upside and rose 1.6% MoM in June, with prior months revised higher.



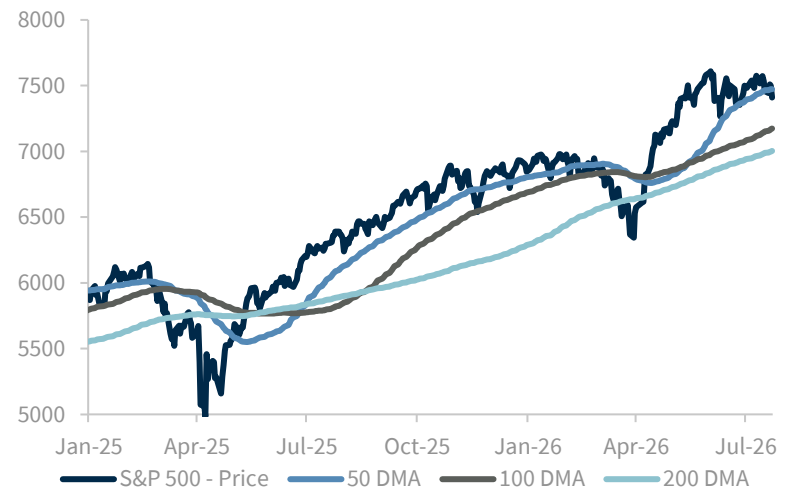
Moderating Equity Valuations

The S&P 500's NTM P/E has moderated to 19.7x, near the 10Y average of 19.5x.



Technicals in Focus

The S&P 500 broke below its 50-day moving average and is now only 3% above its 100-day moving average.



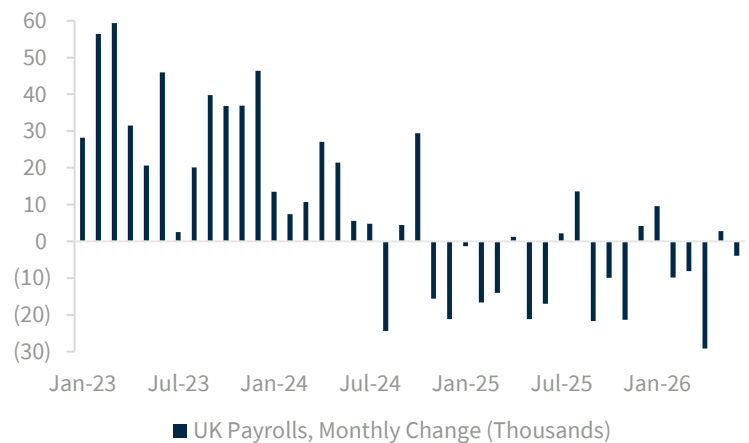
Inflation Expectations Remain Well-Anchored

Market measures of inflation expectations are well below levels seen the last time crude traded above \$90, giving the Fed room for patience next week.



UK Payrolls Are Languishing In Negative Territory

After strong growth in 2023 and a modest uptick in 2024, UK payrolls turned negative on a full-year basis in 2025 and could stay negative in 2026.



Source for charts: FactSet, as of 7/23/2026.

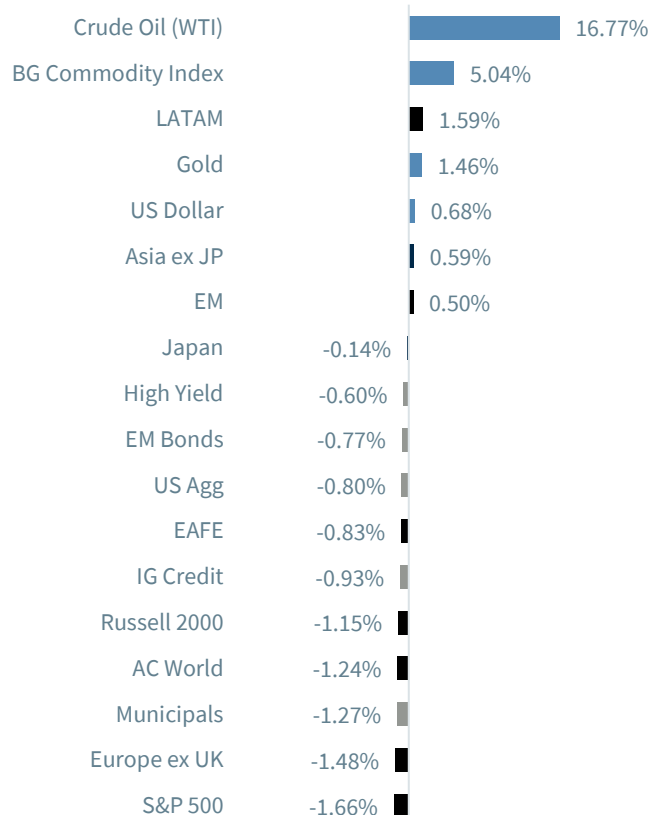
LHS/RHS: Left-hand side/Right-hand side axes.

Asset Class Performance | Distribution by Asset Class and Style (as of July 23)**

US Equities (Russell indices)				International Equities (MSCI indices)				Fixed Income (Bloomberg indices)				
Weekly Returns (as of July 23)		Value	Blend	Growth		Dev. Mkt	World	Emerg. Mkt		1-3 YR	Medium	Long
	Large Cap	-1.3%	-1.7%	-2.1%	Large Cap	-0.1%	-1.2%	0.6%	Treasury	0.1%	-0.7%	-1.0%
	Mid Cap	-1.4%	-1.0%	0.0%	Mid Cap	0.1%	-0.5%	-0.1%	Invest. Grade	-0.3%	-0.6%	-0.9%
	Small Cap	-1.5%	-1.2%	-0.8%	Small Cap	-0.4%	-0.6%	-1.4%	High Yield	-0.3%	-0.6%	-1.0%
Year-to-Date Returns (as of July 23)		Value	Blend	Growth		Dev. Mkt	World	Emerg. Mkt		1-3 YR	Medium	Long
	Large Cap	18.0%	8.8%	0.6%	Large Cap	12.5%	11.1%	23.3%	Treasury	2.0%	-1.1%	-1.9%
	Mid Cap	17.8%	13.8%	1.4%	Mid Cap	11.3%	11.9%	21.6%	Invest. Grade	1.0%	-0.1%	-0.9%
	Small Cap	22.7%	19.2%	16.0%	Small Cap	10.3%	14.5%	12.3%	High Yield	2.0%	1.5%	1.4%

Asset Class Performance | Weekly and Year-to-Date (as of July 23)**

Weekly***



Year-to-Date***



■ Commodities

■ Equities

■ Fixed Income

**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**

US Equities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
S&P 500	7408.3	(1.7)	(1.2)	8.9	17.9	19.3	12.5	14.9
DJ Industrial Average	51711.7	(1.6)	(1.2)	7.6	14.9	13.6	8.1	10.8
NASDAQ Composite Index	25137.7	(2.9)	(4.1)	8.2	19.6	21.4	11.1	17.3
Russell 1000	7753.6	(1.7)	(1.4)	8.8	22.0	20.5	12.7	15.3
Russell 2000	7307.0	(1.2)	(2.8)	19.2	40.8	18.6	7.0	11.6
Russell Midcap	11138.1	(1.0)	(1.3)	13.8	21.6	16.5	8.5	12.0

Equity Sectors

Sector	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Materials	629.1	(1.1)	(1.4)	10.5	10.7	8.0	6.2	9.7
Industrials	1540.0	1.0	(1.8)	18.0	20.0	20.2	13.7	13.7
Comm Services	431.5	(8.8)	(4.9)	(4.2)	14.7	27.0	10.3	10.9
Utilities	469.2	1.6	1.9	9.7	12.6	13.9	10.4	9.3
Consumer Discretionary	1772.1	(7.7)	(7.1)	(7.8)	(2.3)	10.6	4.5	11.7
Consumer Staples	921.5	(3.0)	(0.1)	7.9	6.0	7.8	7.3	7.8
Health Care	1881.7	(0.2)	1.7	5.2	20.6	7.7	6.0	9.9
Information Technology	6619.8	0.2	(2.5)	16.8	29.5	29.2	20.5	25.5
Energy	912.0	4.7	12.5	34.6	41.8	16.0	24.4	9.9
Financials	928.9	(1.6)	4.1	2.9	7.0	18.5	11.0	13.4
Real Estate	290.9	(0.7)	2.5	17.7	13.8	10.4	3.7	6.7

Fixed Income

Index	Yield	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
3-Month Treasury Bill (%)	3.8	0.1	0.2	2.0	3.9	4.7	3.7	2.4
2-Year Treasury (%)	4.4	(0.3)	(0.1)	0.4	2.7	4.0	1.6	1.5
10-Year Treasury (%)	4.7	(1.0)	(1.8)	(1.9)	2.0	1.9	(2.3)	(0.1)
Bloomberg US Corporate HY	7.7	(0.6)	(0.4)	1.5	5.0	8.3	4.0	5.5
Bloomberg US Aggregate	5.0	(0.8)	(1.3)	(0.7)	3.0	3.6	(0.4)	1.4
Bloomberg Municipals	--	(1.3)	(2.0)	0.3	5.5	2.8	0.5	2.0
Bloomberg IG Credit	5.5	(0.9)	(1.6)	(0.8)	2.9	4.6	(0.2)	2.3
Bloomberg EM Bonds	6.3	(0.8)	(1.3)	0.7	6.3	7.7	1.7	3.2

Commodities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
WTI Crude (\$/bl)	92.2	16.8	32.6	60.6	41.3	6.2	5.0	7.6
Gold (\$/Troy Oz)	4050.2	1.5	0.3	(6.7)	19.2	27.2	17.6	11.8
Bloomberg Commodity Index	136.3	5.0	10.6	24.2	30.8	8.7	7.3	4.9

Currencies

Currency	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
US Dollar Index	101.4	0.7	0.3	3.2	4.4	0.1	1.8	0.4
Euro	1.14	(0.6)	(0.5)	(3.2)	(3.1)	0.8	(0.7)	0.4
British Pound	1.33	(1.3)	0.3	(1.0)	(1.8)	1.2	(0.6)	0.2
Japanese Yen	163.94	(0.9)	(0.9)	(4.4)	(10.7)	(4.7)	(7.6)	(4.2)

International Equities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
MSCI AC World	1107.7	(1.2)	(1.1)	10.3	19.9	18.9	11.0	12.8
MSCI EAFE	3105.5	(0.8)	(0.3)	9.5	18.6	16.1	9.5	9.9
MSCI Europe ex UK	3401.6	(1.5)	(1.9)	6.9	15.3	15.0	8.9	10.7
MSCI Japan	5494.9	(0.1)	(0.2)	15.7	27.9	18.6	10.2	9.9
MSCI EM	1671.9	0.5	(2.7)	20.6	35.2	21.3	8.0	9.7
MSCI Asia ex JP	1109.8	0.6	(2.7)	23.0	36.5	22.7	8.2	10.4
MSCI LATAM	3046.3	1.6	3.4	14.6	40.8	12.9	11.0	7.7
Canada S&P/TSX Composite	24981.5	(0.4)	1.0	11.0	28.4	19.6	11.8	9.2

**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).

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 07/23/2026

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.

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 EW Index 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.

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.

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.

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.

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