



## JANUARY 2026 – MARKET REVIEW

**Kate Hennessy, CFP®**

**Patrick R. Côté, CFA, CFP®**

**Susan Powers, CFA, CFP®, CPA**

# AssetGrade Market Summary – January 2026

## *Celebrating a strong 2025 and cautiously optimistic for 2026*

- **The International Story:** Emerging Markets was the best performing asset class in 2025 with a stellar return of **34.4%**, with Developed International Markets in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a return of **31.9%**.
- **Revenge of Diversification:** For the third straight year in a row, a diversified portfolio comprised of equities and bonds posted a double digit return, with a return of **15.8%**.
- **Fixed Income Added Value:** fixed income had a remarkable year with the US Aggregate Index (an index for measuring the U.S. taxable bond market), with the index returning 7.3%. Best return for fixed income in 5 years.
- **Mag 7 Loosens Chokehold:** the magnificent 7 stocks still account for 46% of the return of the S&P 500 Index, but they are becoming less important as earnings growth is occurring across other sectors beyond technology, including utilities and industrials.
- **Strong Market does not equal Strong Economy:** the market reflects the expected future value of publicly traded companies, whereas the economy measures US consumption, the labor market, and commerce.
- **Get Your Portfolio in Shape:** Diversify, Rebalance and Set a Plan.

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# Asset class returns

International was the winner in 2025, with emerging markets leading the charge



2011 - 2025																
Ann.	Vol.	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Large Cap 14.1%	Small Cap 20.3%	REITs 8.3%	REITs 19.7%	Small Cap 38.8%	REITs 28.0%	REITs 2.8%	Small Cap 21.3%	EM Equity 37.8%	Cash 1.8%	Large Cap 31.5%	Small Cap 20.0%	REITs 41.3%	Comdty. 16.1%	Large Cap 26.3%	Large Cap 25.0%	EM Equity 34.4%
Small Cap 9.5%	EM Equity 17.5%	Fixed Income 7.8%	High Yield 19.6%	Large Cap 32.4%	Large Cap 13.7%	Large Cap 1.4%	High Yield 14.3%	DM Equity 25.6%	Fixed Income 0.0%	REITs 28.7%	EM Equity 18.7%	Large Cap 28.7%	Cash 1.5%	DM Equity 18.9%	Small Cap 11.5%	DM Equity 31.9%
REITs 7.8%	REITs 16.4%	High Yield 3.1%	EM Equity 18.6%	DM Equity 23.3%	Fixed Income 6.0%	Fixed Income 0.5%	Large Cap 12.0%	Large Cap 21.8%	REITs -4.0%	Small Cap 25.5%	Large Cap 18.4%	Comdty. 27.1%	High Yield -12.7%	Small Cap 16.9%	Asset Alloc. 10.0%	Large Cap 17.9%
Asset Alloc. 7.3%	DM Equity 15.7%	Large Cap 2.1%	DM Equity 17.9%	Asset Alloc. 14.9%	Asset Alloc. 5.2%	Cash 0.0%	Comdty. 11.8%	Small Cap 14.6%	High Yield -4.1%	DM Equity 22.7%	Asset Alloc. 10.6%	Small Cap 14.8%	Fixed Income -13.0%	Asset Alloc. 14.1%	High Yield 9.2%	Asset Alloc. 15.8%
DM Equity 7.1%	Comdty. 15.4%	Cash 0.1%	Small Cap 16.3%	High Yield 7.3%	Small Cap 4.9%	DM Equity -0.4%	EM Equity 11.6%	Asset Alloc. 14.6%	Large Cap -4.4%	Asset Alloc. 19.5%	DM Equity 8.3%	Asset Alloc. 13.5%	Asset Alloc. -13.9%	High Yield 14.0%	EM Equity 8.1%	Comdty. 15.8%
High Yield 5.7%	Large Cap 14.7%	Asset Alloc. -0.7%	Large Cap 16.0%	REITs 2.9%	Cash 0.0%	Asset Alloc. -2.0%	REITs 8.6%	High Yield 10.4%	Asset Alloc. -5.8%	EM Equity 18.9%	Fixed Income 7.5%	DM Equity 11.8%	DM Equity -14.0%	REITs 11.4%	Comdty. 5.4%	Small Cap 12.8%
EM Equity 4.2%	Asset Alloc. 10.1%	Small Cap -4.2%	Asset Alloc. 12.2%	Cash 0.0%	High Yield 0.0%	High Yield -2.7%	Asset Alloc. 8.3%	REITs 8.7%	Small Cap -11.0%	High Yield 12.6%	High Yield 7.0%	High Yield 1.0%	Large Cap -18.1%	EM Equity 10.3%	Cash 5.3%	High Yield 12.1%
Fixed Income 2.4%	High Yield 9.1%	DM Equity -11.7%	Fixed Income 4.2%	Fixed Income -2.0%	EM Equity -1.8%	Small Cap -4.4%	Fixed Income 2.6%	Fixed Income 3.5%	Comdty. -11.2%	Fixed Income 8.7%	Cash 0.5%	Cash 0.0%	EM Equity -19.7%	Fixed Income 5.5%	REITs 4.9%	Fixed Income 7.3%
Cash 1.5%	Fixed Income 4.6%	Comdty. -13.3%	Cash 0.1%	EM Equity -2.3%	DM Equity -4.5%	EM Equity -14.6%	DM Equity 1.5%	Comdty. 1.7%	DM Equity -13.4%	Comdty. 7.7%	Comdty. -3.1%	Fixed Income -1.5%	Small Cap -20.4%	Cash 5.1%	DM Equity 4.3%	Cash 4.3%
Comdty. -1.1%	Cash 0.9%	EM Equity -18.2%	Comdty. -1.1%	Comdty. -9.5%	Comdty. -17.0%	Comdty. -24.7%	Cash 0.3%	Cash 0.8%	EM Equity -14.2%	Cash 2.2%	REITs -5.1%	EM Equity -2.2%	REITs -24.9%	Comdty. -7.9%	Fixed Income 1.3%	REITs 2.3%

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, MSCI, NAREIT, Russell, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

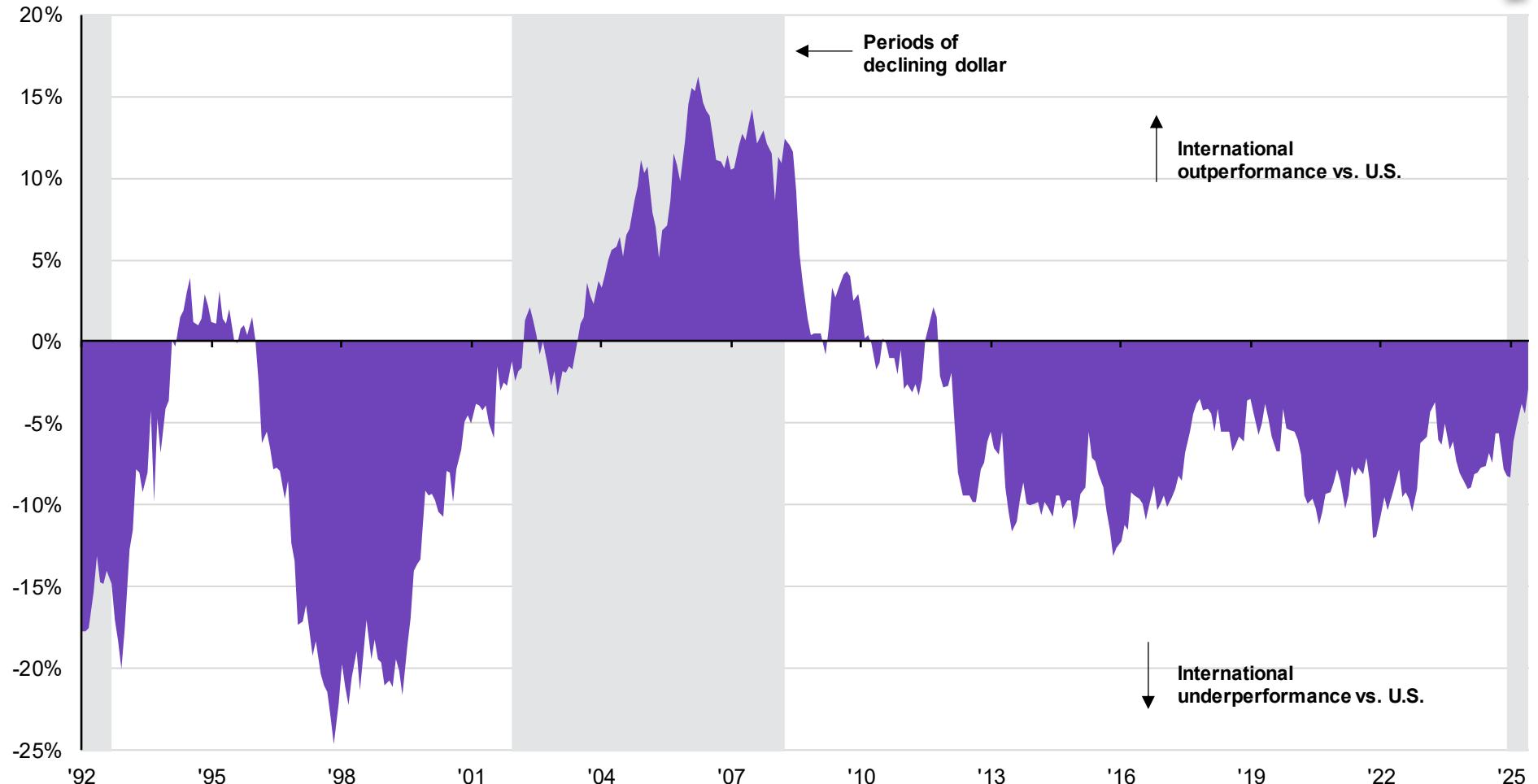
Large Cap: S&P 500, Small Cap: Russell 2000, EM Equity: MSCI EME, DM Equity: MSCI EAFE, Comdty: Bloomberg Commodity Index, High Yield: Bloomberg Global HY Index, Fixed Income: Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate, REITs: NAREIT Equity REIT Index, Cash: Bloomberg 1-3m Treasury. The "Asset Allocation" portfolio is for illustrative purposes only and assumes annual rebalancing with the following weights: 25% in the S&P 500, 10% in the Russell 2000, 15% in the MSCI EAFE, 5% in the MSCI EME, 25% in the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate, 5% in the Bloomberg 1-3m Treasury, 5% in the Bloomberg Global High Yield Index, 5% in the Bloomberg Commodity Index and 5% in the NAREIT Equity REIT Index. Annualized (Ann.) return and volatility (Vol.) represents the period from 12/31/2010 to 12/31/2025. Please see the disclosure page at the end for index definitions. All data represent total return for stated period. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2025.

# Global equity performance and the U.S. dollar

International markets are back in favor, after a long stretch of underperformance relative to its' US counterparts

## Cycles of international outperformance and the U.S. dollar

International out/underperformance versus U.S., MSCI AC World ex-U.S., S&P 500, total return, USD, rolling 3-yr. ann.



Source: FactSet, MSCI, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current and future results.  
*Guide to the Markets – U.S.* Data are as of June 30, 2025.

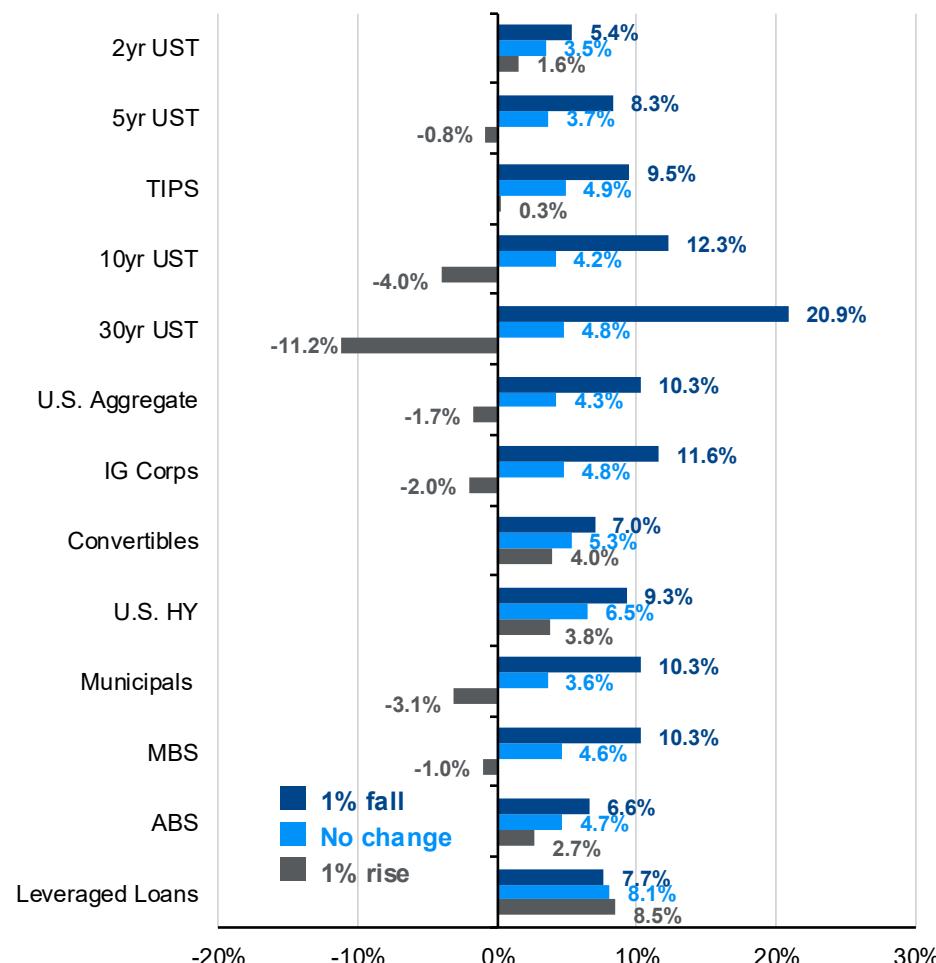
# Fixed income market dynamics

Fixed income proved to be a strong performer while generating income for investors in 2025

	Yield		Return			
	12/31/2025	12/31/2024	2025	Avg. Maturity	Correlation to 10-year	Correlation to S&P 500
<b>U.S. Treasuries</b>						
2-Year	3.47%	4.25%	4.95%	2 years	0.74	0.02
5-Year	3.73%	4.38%	7.15%	5	0.94	0.02
<b>TIPS</b>	1.69%	2.13%	7.01%	7.1	0.75	0.37
10-Year	4.18%	4.58%	8.19%	10	1.00	-0.01
30-Year	4.84%	4.78%	3.73%	30	0.93	-0.05
<b>Sector</b>						
<b>U.S. Aggregate</b>	4.32%	4.91%	7.30%	8.2	0.91	0.29
<b>IG Corps</b>	4.81%	5.33%	7.77%	10.4	0.70	0.51
<b>Convertibles</b>	5.27%	6.13%	17.78%	-	0.01	0.86
<b>U.S. HY</b>	6.53%	7.49%	8.62%	4.8	0.12	0.79
<b>Municipals</b>	3.60%	3.74%	4.25%	13.5	0.73	0.32
<b>MBS</b>	4.63%	5.27%	8.58%	7.3	0.83	0.30
<b>ABS</b>	4.69%	5.38%	6.02%	2.2	0.39	0.29
<b>Leveraged Loans</b>	8.13%	8.68%	5.99%	4.7	-0.20	0.61

## Fixed income returns in different interest rate scenarios

Total return, assumes a parallel shift in the yield curve



Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Standard & Poor's, U.S. Treasury, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Sectors shown above are provided by Bloomberg unless otherwise noted and are represented by – U.S. Aggregate; MBS: U.S. Aggregate Securitized - MBS; ABS: J.P. Morgan ABS Index; IG Corporates: U.S. Corporates; Municipal: Muni Bond; High Yield: Corporate High Yield; Leveraged Loans: J.P. Morgan Leveraged Loan Index; TIPS: Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities; Convertibles: U.S. Convertibles Composite. Convertibles yield is as of most recent month-end and is based on U.S. portion of Bloomberg Global Convertibles Index. Yield and return information based on bellwethers for Treasury securities. Yields shown for TIPS are real yields. TIPS returns consider the impact that inflation could have on returns by assuming the Cleveland Fed's 1-year inflation expectation forecasts are realized. Sector yields reflect yield to worst. Leveraged loan yields reflect the yield to 3-year takeout. Correlations are based on 15 years of monthly returns for all sectors. ABS returns prior to June 2012 are sourced from Bloomberg. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

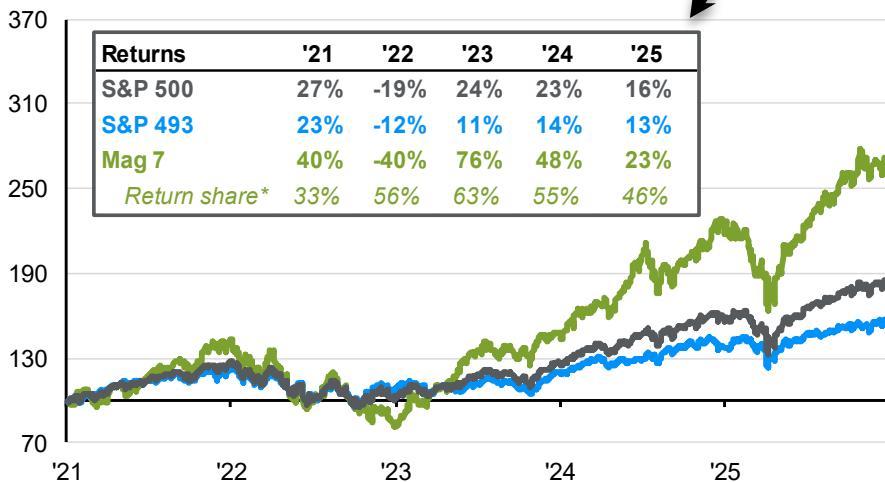
Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2025.

# Magnificent 7: Performance, earnings and dispersion

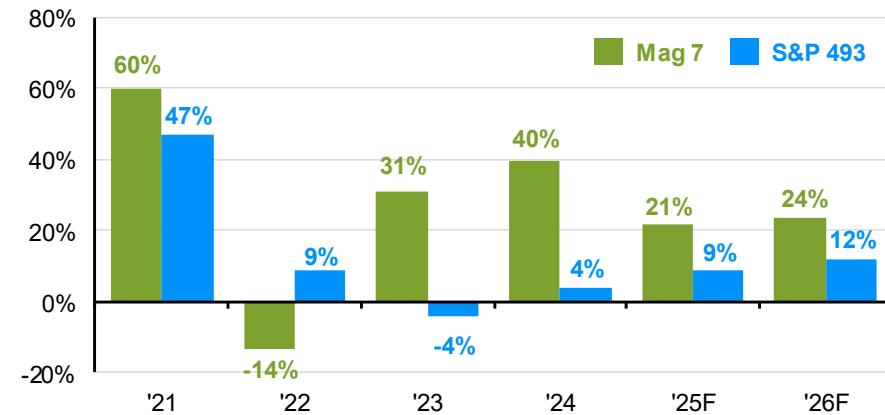
The Mag 7 return of 23% was higher than the rest of the S&P 500, although not by as much as prior years.

## Magnificent 7 performance in the S&P 500

Indexed to 100 on 1/1/2021, price return

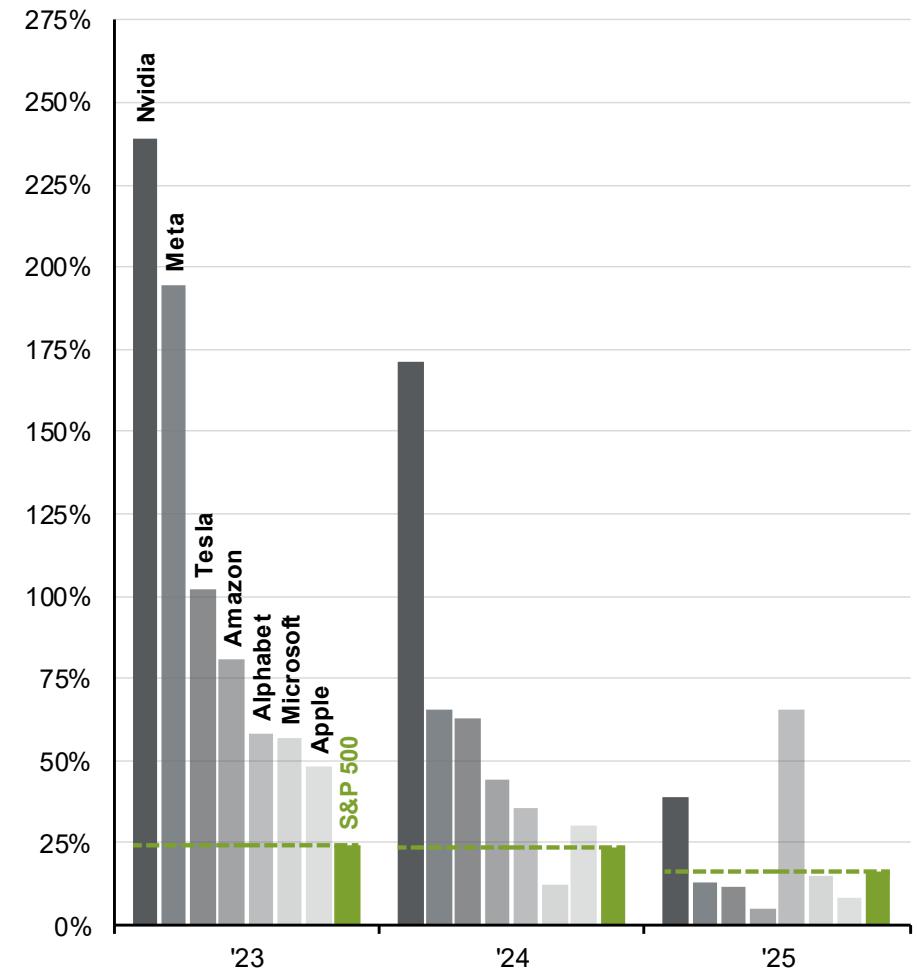


## Year-over-year earnings growth



## Magnificent 7 performance dispersion

Price return



Source: FactSet, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Magnificent 7 (Mag 7) includes AAPL, AMZN, GOOGL/GOOG, META, MSFT, NVDA and TSLA. The S&P 500 ex-Mag 7 (S&P 493) is calculated by backing out a weighted average Mag 7 price return from the S&P 500 price return. \*Share of returns represents the Mag 7's contribution to the index return. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

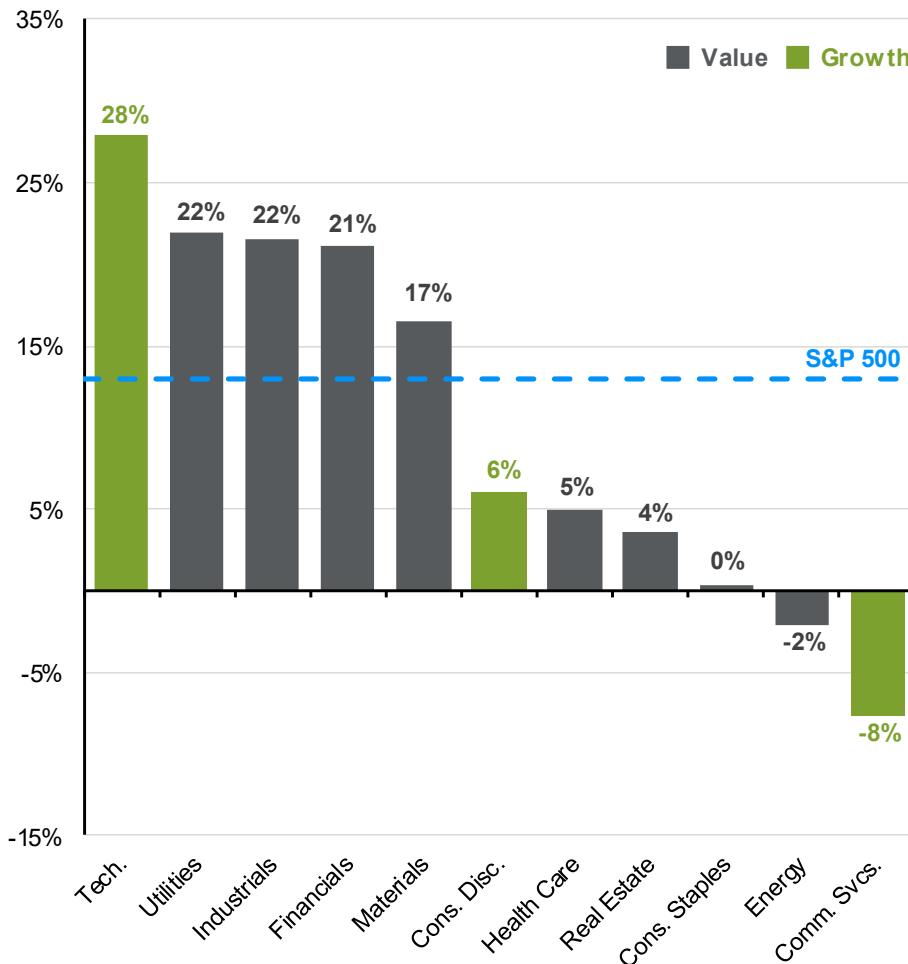
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# Value vs. growth: Earnings, performance and valuations

Many sectors beyond technology had double digit earnings growth, including Utilities, Industrials, and Financials

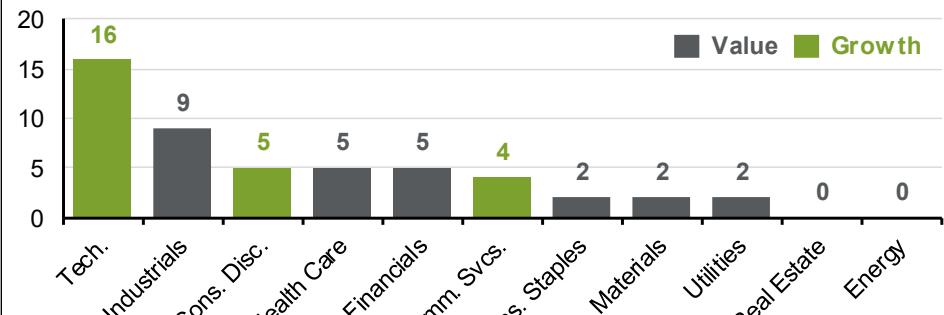
## S&P 500 earnings growth by sector

3Q25, year-over-year



## Top 50 performing S&P 500 companies by sector

2025, number of companies



## Value vs. growth P/E discount

Russell 1000 Value vs. Growth, next 12 months



Source: FactSet, FTSE Russell, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Growth is represented by the Russell 1000 Growth Index and value is represented by the Russell 1000 Value Index. (Top right) Graph was made by ranking the S&P 500 constituents by total return. (Bottom right) Long-term averages are calculated monthly since December 1997. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

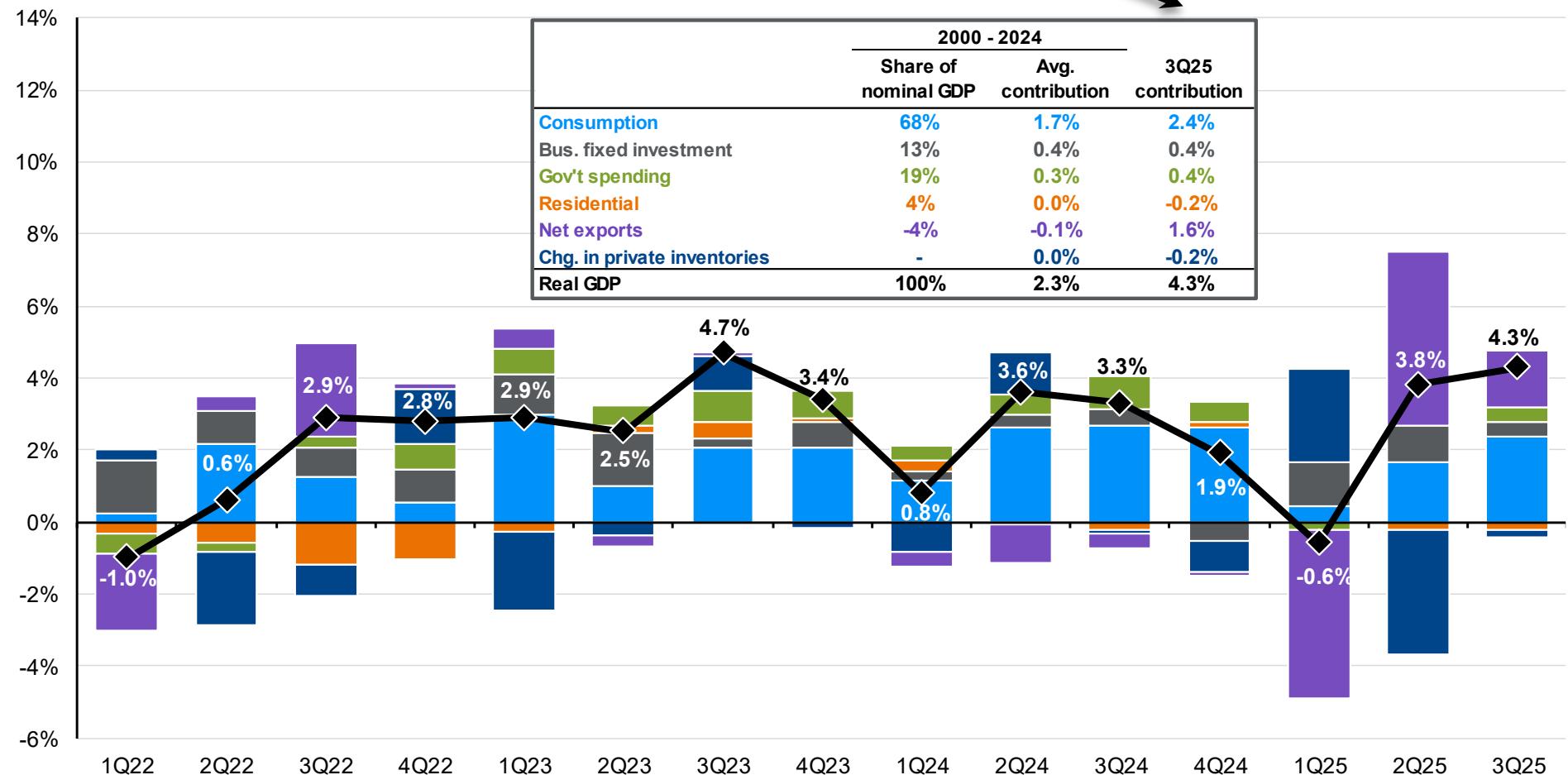
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# Components of GDP growth

3Q25 GDP growth was strong at 4.3%, with personal consumption (the consumer) being the biggest contributor. 4Q25 GDP due out at end of January 2026.

## Contributors to real GDP growth

Quarter-over-quarter, seasonally adjusted annualized rate



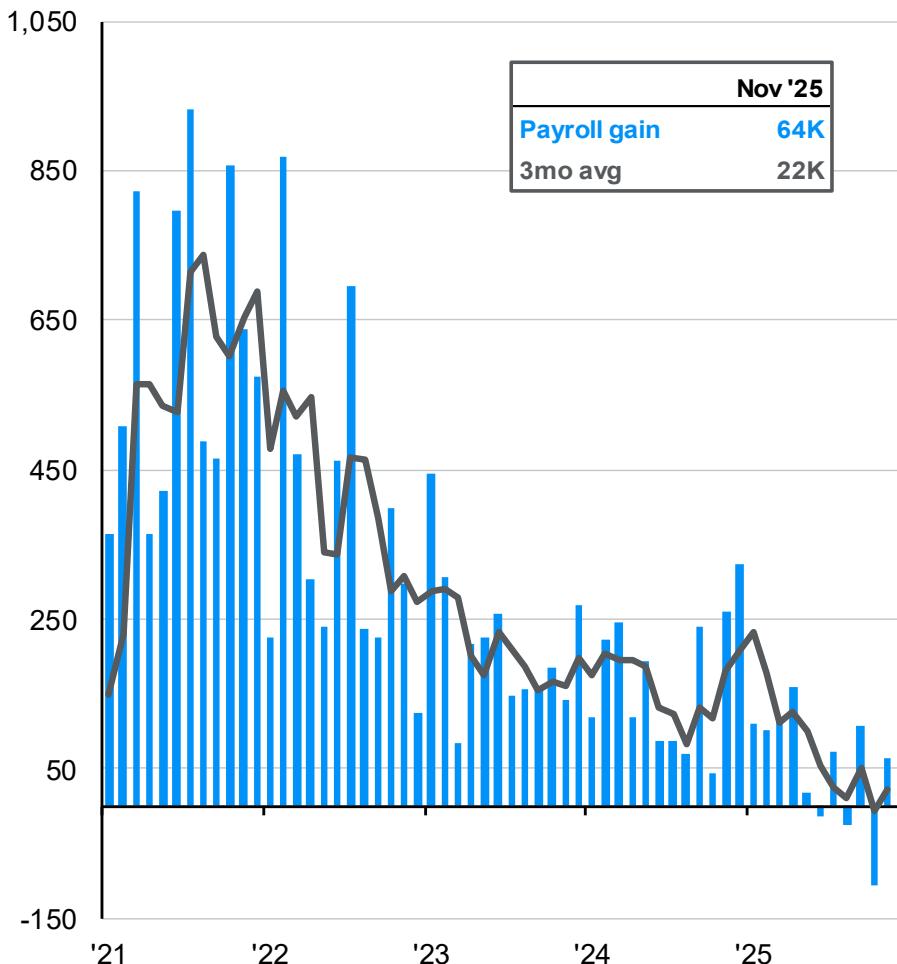
Source: BEA, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.  
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# Labor market dynamics

The unemployment rate rose to 4.6% in November. Although not depicted on this chart, the unemployment rate for recent college graduates is higher than national average, and is near 9.7%

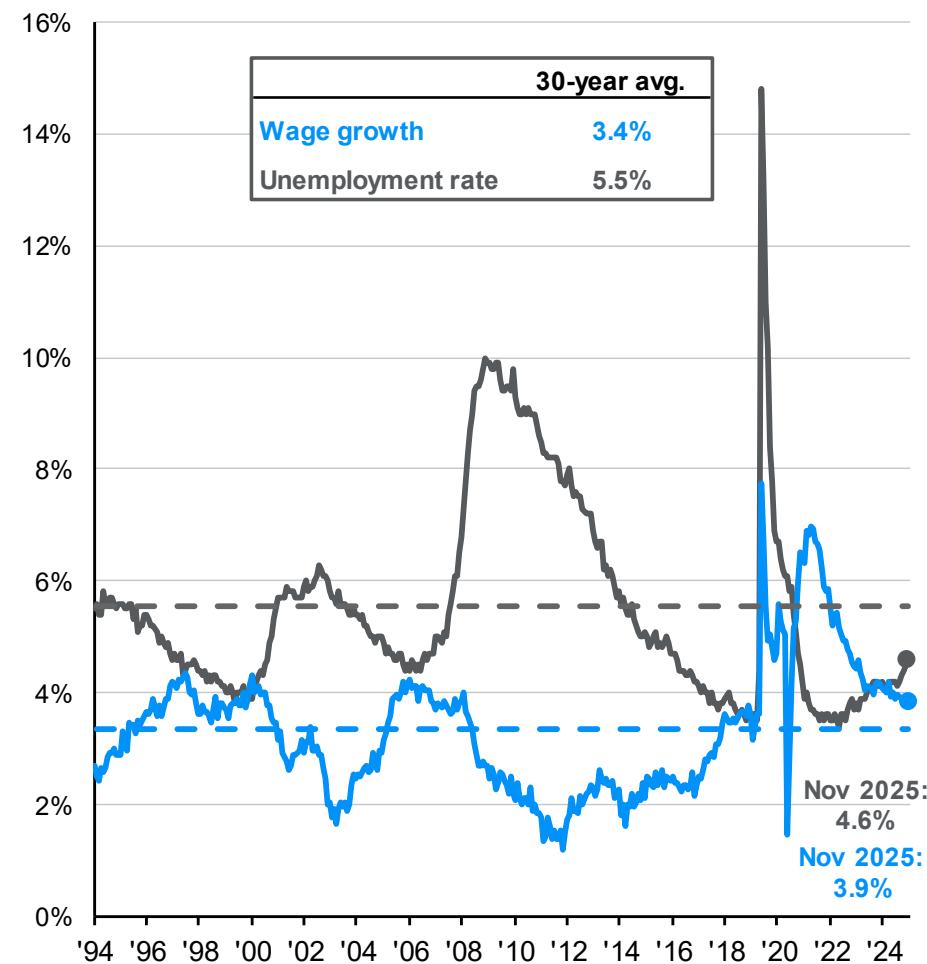
## Nonfarm payroll gains

Month-over-month change and 3-month moving average, thousands, SA



## Civilian unemployment rate and annual wage growth

Private production and non-supervisory workers, seasonally adjusted, %



Source: BLS, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Private production and non-supervisory jobs represent just over 80% of total private nonfarm jobs.

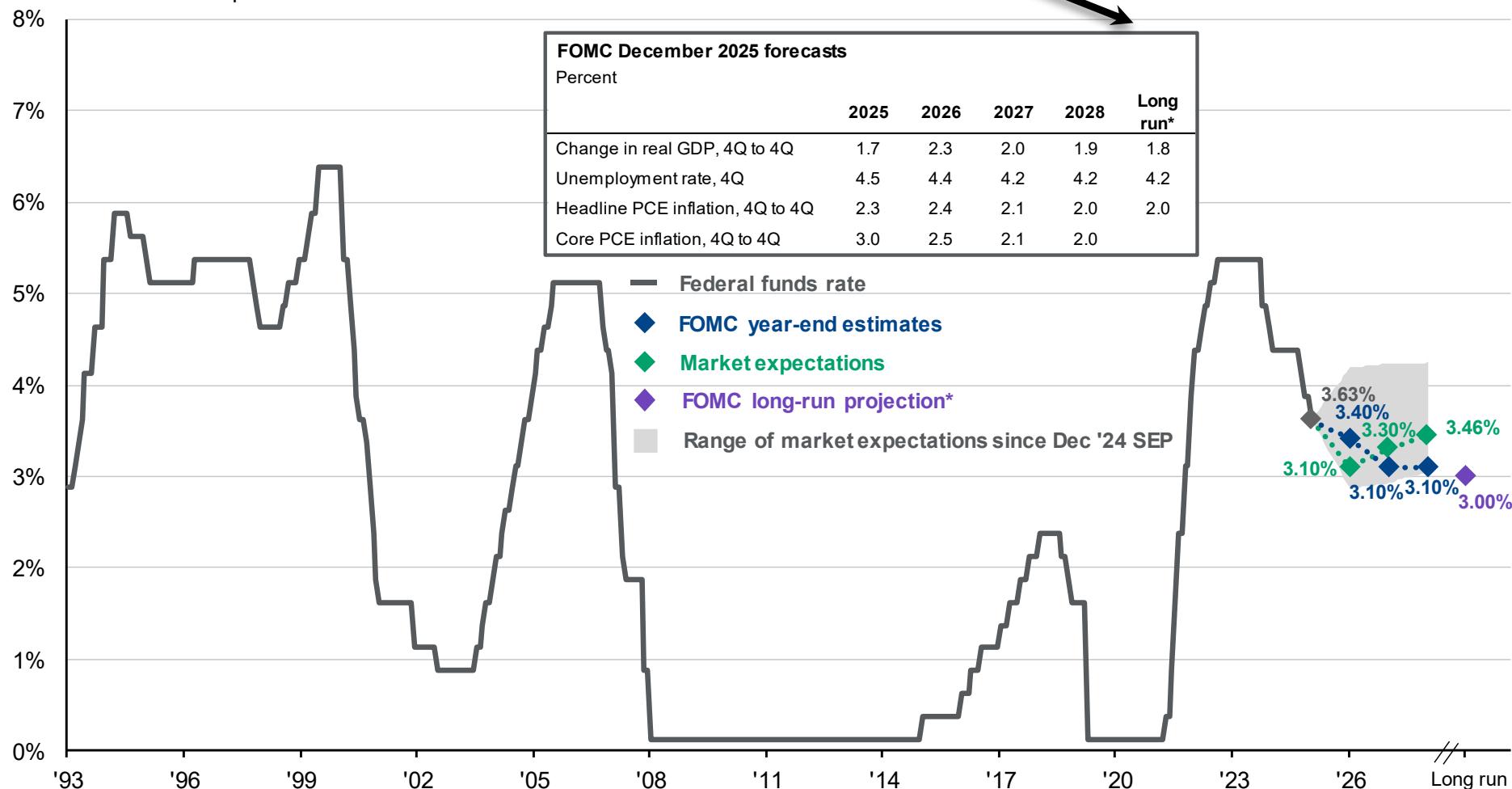
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# The Fed and interest rates

After three cuts in 2025, the effective Fed Funds rate is around 3.63%. President Trump will be naming a new Fed chairman in early 2026 to replace Jerome Powell. The new chairman could impact monetary policy.

## Federal funds rate expectations

FOMC and market expectations for the federal funds rate



Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, Federal Reserve, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Market expectations are based off of USD Overnight Index Swaps. \*Long-run projections are the rates of growth, unemployment and inflation to which a policymaker expects the economy to converge over the next five to six years in absence of further shocks and under appropriate monetary policy. Forecasts, projections and other forward-looking statements are based upon current beliefs and expectations. They are for illustrative purposes only and serve as an indication of what may occur. Given the inherent uncertainties and risks associated with forecasts, projections or other forward-looking statements, actual events, results or performance may differ materially from those reflected or contemplated.

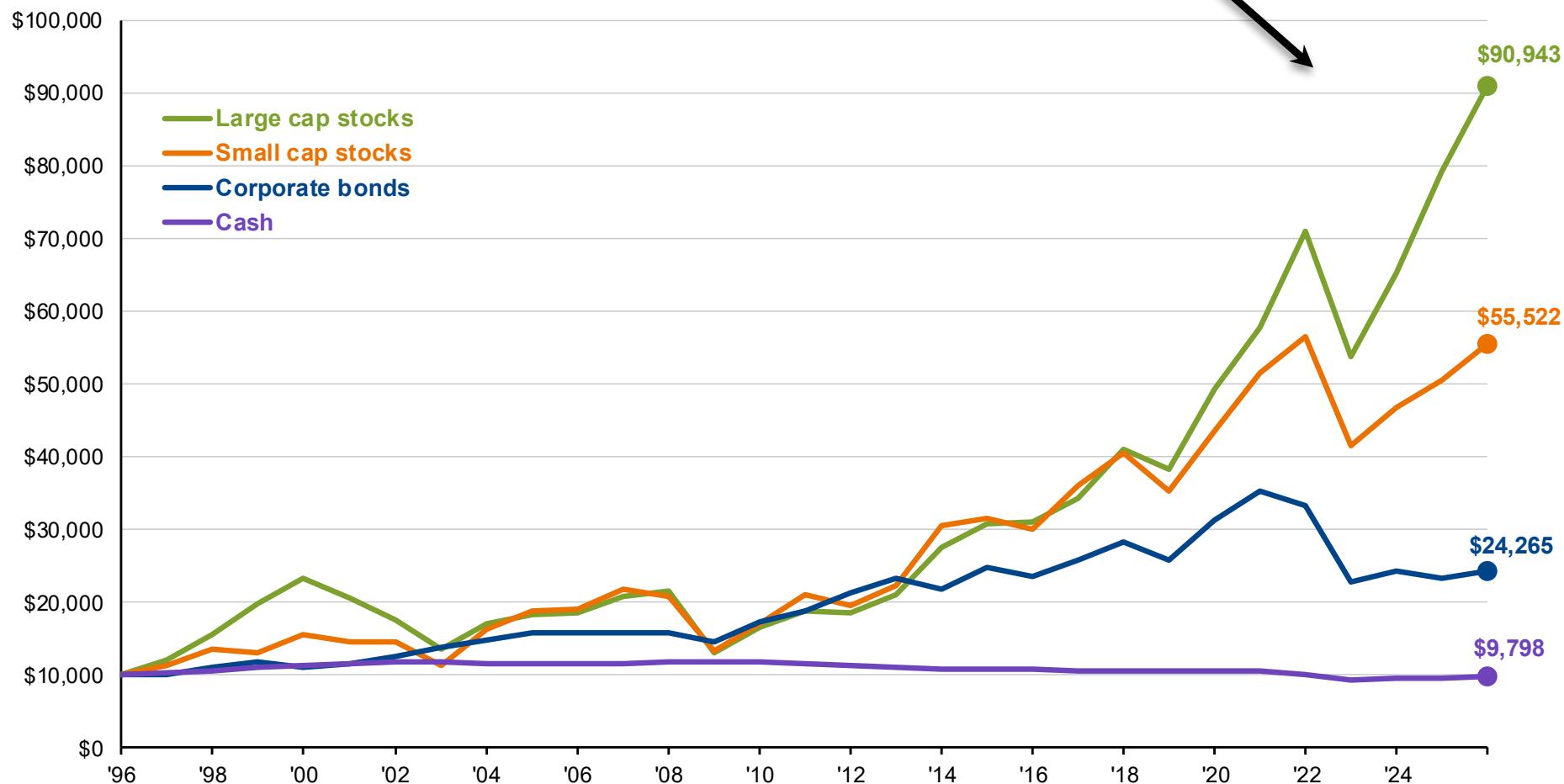
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# Risk investing and the power of compounding

While cash has a place in a portfolio, too much cash can lead to a loss when adjusted for inflation.

## Change in purchasing power by investment in major asset class

Growth of \$10,000, adjusted for inflation, 1996 - 2025, annual returns



Source: Bloomberg, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Ibbotson, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

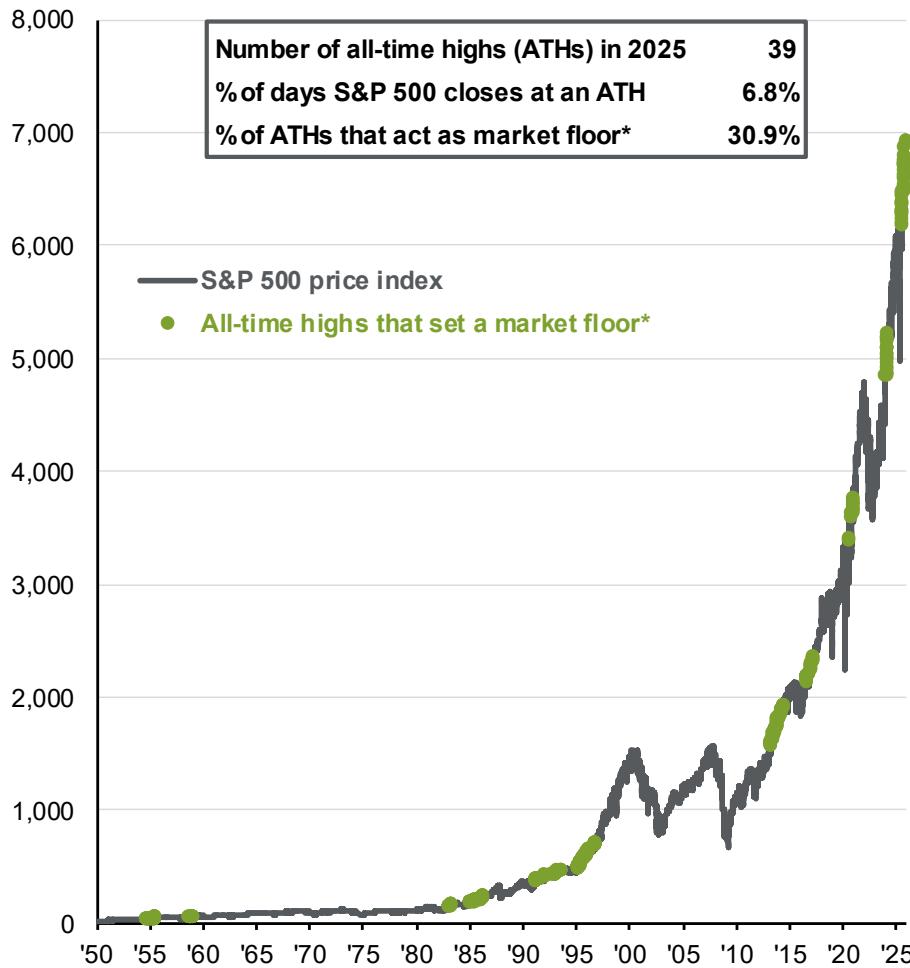
Large cap stocks: S&P 500 TR Index; Small cap stocks: Russell 2000 TR Index; Corporate bonds: Bloomberg Long U.S. Corporate Index; Cash: Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Bills Index. All returns are inflation-adjusted total returns, using annual average headline CPI inflation.  
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# Investing at all-time highs

If you have a long-term time horizon, don't let fear hold you back. There were 39 all-time market highs in 2025. Studies show that investors that invest at new highs outperform other investors.

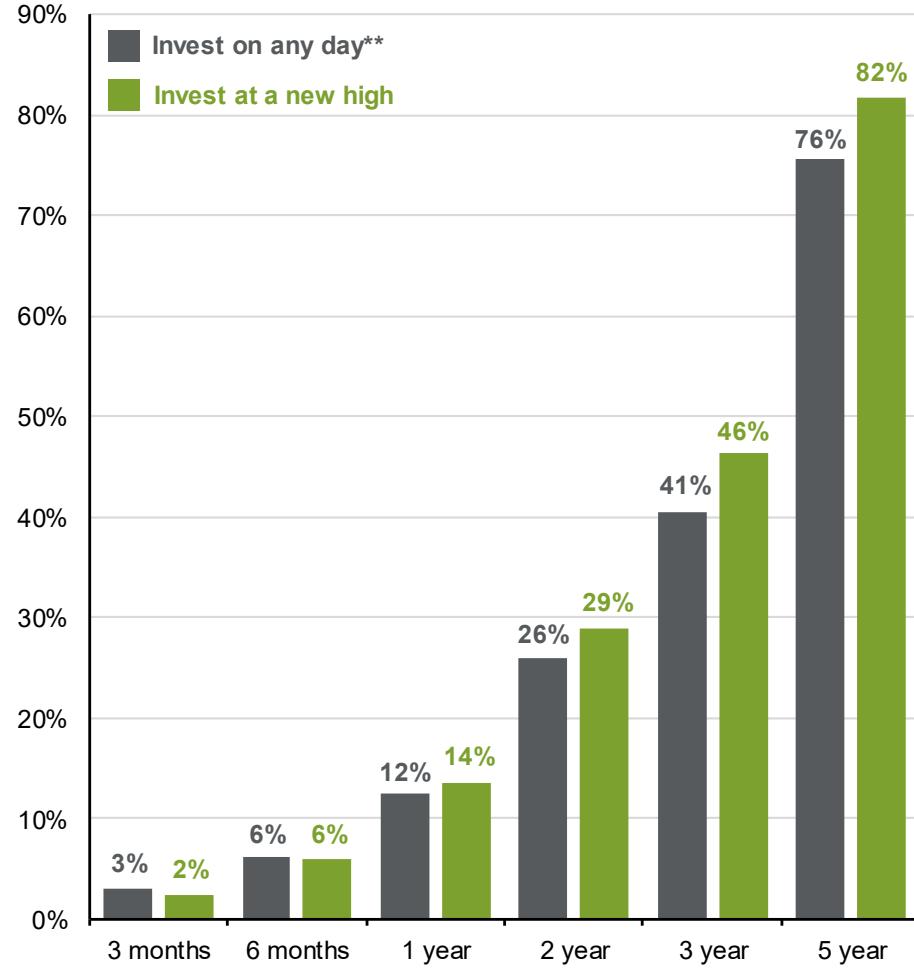
## All-time highs and market floors

S&P 500 price index, daily, 1950 - present



## Average cumulative S&P 500 total returns

Jan 1, 1988 - Dec 31, 2025



Source: FactSet, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

(Left) \*Market floor is defined as an all-time high from which the market never fell more than 5%. (Right) \*\*"Invest on any day" represents average of forward returns for the entire time period whereas "Invest at a new high" represents average of rolling forward returns calculated from each new S&P 500 high for the subsequent 3-month, 6-month, 1-year, 2-year, 3-year and 5-year intervals, with data starting 1/1/1988 through 12/31/2025.

Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2025.

# Appendix

## Disclosures

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All indexes are unmanaged, and an individual cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns do not include fees or expenses.

### Equities:

The **Dow Jones Industrial Average** is a price-weighted average of 30 actively traded blue-chip U.S. stocks.

The **MSCI ACWI (All CountryWorld Index)** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets.

The **MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East)** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the US & Canada.

The **MSCI Emerging Markets Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets.

The **MSCI Europe Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance in Europe.

The **MSCI Pacific Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the Pacific region.

The **Russell 1000 Index** measures the performance of the 1,000 largest companies in the Russell 3000.

The **Russell 1000 Growth Index** measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

The **Russell 1000 Value Index** measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values.

The **Russell 2000 Index** measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index.

The **Russell 2000 Growth Index** measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

The **Russell 2000 Value Index** measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values.

The **Russell 3000 Index** measures the performance of the 3,000 largest U.S. companies based on total market capitalization.

The **Russell Midcap Index** measures the performance of the 800 smallest companies in the Russell 1000 Index.

The **Russell Midcap Growth Index** measures the performance of those Russell Midcap companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The stocks are also members of the Russell 1000 Growth index.

The **Russell Midcap Value Index** measures the performance of those Russell Midcap companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The stocks are also members of the Russell 1000 Value index.

The **S&P 500 Index** is widely regarded as the best single gauge of the U.S. equities market. The index includes a representative sample of 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy.

The **S&P 500 Index** focuses on the large-cap segment of the market; however, since it includes a significant portion of the total value of the market, it also represents the market.

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## Disclosures

### Fixed income:

The **Bloomberg Barclays 1-3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index** includes all publicly issued zero-coupon US Treasury Bills that have a remaining maturity of less than 3 months and more than 1 month, are rated investment grade, and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. In addition, the securities must be denominated in U.S. dollars and must be fixed rate and non convertible.

The **Bloomberg Barclays Global High Yield Index** is a multi-currency flagship measure of the global high yield debt market. The index represents the union of the US High Yield, the Pan-European High Yield, and Emerging Markets (EM) Hard Currency High Yield Indices. The high yield and emerging markets sub-components are mutually exclusive. Until January 1, 2011, the index also included CMBS high yield securities.

The **Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Index** consists of a broad selection of investment-grade general obligation and revenue bonds of maturities ranging from one year to 30 years. It is an unmanaged index representative of the tax-exempt bond market.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US Dollar Floating Rate Note (FRN) Index** provides a measure of the U.S. dollar denominated floating rate note market.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate Investment Grade Index** is an unmanaged index consisting of publicly issued US Corporate and specified foreign debentures and secured notes that are rated investment grade (Baa3/BBB or higher) by at least two ratings agencies, have at least one year to final maturity and have at least \$250 million par amount outstanding. To qualify, bonds must be SEC- registered.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US High Yield Index** covers the universe of fixed rate, non-investment grade debt. Eurobonds and debt issues from countries designated as emerging markets (sovereign rating of Baa1/BBB+/BBB+ and below using the middle of Moody's, S&P, and Fitch) are excluded, but Canadian and global bonds (SEC registered) of issuers in non-EMG countries are included.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US Mortgage Backed Securities Index** is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of investment grade fixed-rate mortgage backed pass-through securities of GNMA, FNMA and FHLMC.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US TIPS Index** consists of Inflation-Protected securities issued by the U.S. Treasury.

The **J.P. Morgan Emerging Market Bond Global Index(EMBI)** includes U.S. dollar denominated Brady bonds, Eurobonds, traded loans and local market debt instruments issued by sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities.

The **J.P. Morgan Domestic High Yield Index** is designed to mirror the investable universe of the U.S. dollar domestic high yield corporate debt market.

The **J.P. Morgan Corporate Emerging Markets Bond Index Broad Diversified (CEMBI Broad Diversified)** is an expansion of the **J.P. Morgan Corporate Emerging Markets Bond Index (CEMBI)**. The CEMBI is a market capitalization weighted index consisting of U.S. dollar denominated emerging market corporate bonds.

The **J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified (EMBI Global Diversified)** tracks total returns for U.S. dollar-denominated debt instruments issued by emerging market sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities: Brady bonds, loans, Eurobonds. The index limits the exposure of some of the larger countries.

The **J.P. Morgan GBI EM Global Diversified** tracks the performance of local currency debt issued by emerging market governments, whose debt is accessible by most of the international investor base.

**Other asset classes:** The **Alerian MLP Index** is a composite of the 50 most prominent energy Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs) that provides investors with an unbiased, comprehensive benchmark for the asset class. The **Bloomberg Commodity Index** and related sub-indices are composed of futures contracts on physical commodities and represents twenty two separate commodities traded on U.S. exchanges, with the exception of aluminum, nickel, and zinc. The **Cambridge Associates U.S. Global Buyout and Growth Index®** is based on data compiled from 1,768 global (U.S. & ex - U.S.) buyout and growth equity funds, including fully liquidated partnerships, formed between 1986 and 2013. The **CS/Tremont Hedge Fund Index** is compiled by Credit Suisse Tremont Index, LLC. It is an asset-weighted hedge fund index and includes only funds, as opposed to separate accounts. The Index uses the Credit Suisse/Tremont database, which tracks over 4500 funds, and consists only of funds with a minimum of US\$50 million under management, a 12-month track record, and audited financial statements. It is calculated and rebalanced on a monthly basis, and shown net of all performance fees and expenses. It is the exclusive property of Credit Suisse Tremont Index, LLC. The **HFRI Monthly Indices (HFRI)** are equally weighted performance indexes, utilized by numerous hedge fund managers as a benchmark for their own hedge funds. The HFRI are broken down into 4 main strategies, each with multiple sub strategies. All single-manager HFRI Index constituents are included in the HFRI Fund Weighted Composite, which accounts for over 2200 funds listed on the internal HFR Database. The **NAREIT EQUITY REIT Index** is designed to provide the most comprehensive assessment of overall industry performance and includes all tax-qualified real estate investment trusts (REITs) that are listed on the NYSE, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ National Market List. The **NFI-ODCE**, short for NCREIF Fund Index - Open End Diversified Core Equity, is an index of investment returns reporting on both a historical and current basis the results of 33 open-end commingled funds pursuing a core investment strategy, some of which have performance histories dating back to the 1970s. The NFI-ODCE Index is capitalization-weighted and is reported gross of fees. Measurement is time-weighted.

The **U.S. Treasury Index** is a component of the U.S. Government index.

Past performance cannot guarantee future results.

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