

Table of contents



VERUSINVESTMENTS.COM

SEATTLE 206-622-3700 **LOS ANGELES** 310-297-1777

Economic environment	,
Fixed income rates & credit	1
Equity	2:
Other assets	30
Appendix	4:

4th quarter summary

THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE

- The U.S. economy continues at a lukewarm pace, with improvement in employment rates but lackluster participation and wage growth. p.5
- Inflation remains near zero, but is in a normal range if the effects of food and energy are excluded.
 Inflation rests near zero in developed countries.
 p.11, 13
- Decelerating growth in China has had far reaching impacts. However, milder growth and decreasing fiscal stimulus are in line with China's hoped-for transition to a consumption-oriented economy. p.34

MARKET PORTFOLIO IMPACTS

- The U.S. dollar further appreciated against emerging market currencies – particularly against the "fragile five" currencies. p.35, 40
- Developed economy 10-year yields broadly declined.
 Global FX reserves fell as central banks made efforts to support currency values in the face of falling oil price and weakening demand from China. p.16

THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE

- Risk markets remain expensive relative to history, though August's selloff resulted in improved valuations. p.30
- The Federal Reserve left rates unchanged in
 September. It remains uncertain whether the Fed will watchful of move rates by year-end. p.16

ASSET ALLOCATION ISSUES

- Credit spreads widened substantially across the board, with energy leading the way. It is essential for investors to understand the extent of credit risk exposure in portfolios. p.20
- Recent market behavior reminds us of the need to pause and assess the investment landscape objectively and dispassionately. p.28
- Inflation-hedging assets have realized significant volatility and are increasingly difficult to own. It is important to remember that inflation sensitive assets also provide exposure to downward inflation movement. p.39

We are tactically slightly underweight in risk terms, and watchful of China and commodity-producing economies

Economic progress continues slowly in the developed markets



Economic environment



U.S. economics summary

- U.S. GDP YoY growth remains in the 2% to 3% range, and is flat from the previous 12 month figure. The Atlanta Fed GDPNow model forecasts third quarter GDP growth of approximately 1%.
- Both realized inflation and expected inflation have dropped further. This continues to imply lower nominal asset returns in the future.
- The Federal Reserve left rates unchanged in September. It remains uncertain whether the Fed will move rates by year-end.
- Employment rates continue to improve, as demonstrated by U6 (broader definition) and by U3 (stricter definition). However, the participation rate declined further and is now at a rate not seen since 1977.
- Consumer credit growth showed further improvement, and auto sales growth is very strong relative to history.

	Most Recent	12 Months Prior
GDP (Annual YoY)	2.7% 6/30/15	2.6% 6/30/14
Inflation (CPI)	0.2% 8/31/15	1.7% 8/31/14
Expected Inflation (5yr-5yr forward)	1.9% 9/1/15	2.5% 9/2/14
Fed Funds Rate	0.07% 9/30/15	0.07% 9/30/14
10 Year Rate	2.0% 9/30/15	2.5% 9/30/14
U-3 Unemployment	5.1% 9/30/15	5.9% 9/30/14
U-6 Unemployment	10.0% 9/30/15	11.7% 9/30/14

Higher employment but participation remains low

GDP remains in 2-3% range

Inflation still low, but in normal range ex-Food & Energy

U.S. economics – GDP growth

U.S. GDP has continued to grow and there has been an evident rebound from the slightly weaker Q1 number. However, the Atlanta Fed GDPNow model estimates real GDP growth for Q3 to be approximately 1% - lower than current market expectations. This forecast is driven by weaker export data.

The U.S. economy faces headwinds in the form of a strong dollar, troubles in energy prices, and trade deficit. It is important to note that the U.S. economy

continues to exhibit stronger growth than many other developed markets, which may help explain the policy differences across nations.

Despite this potential slowing, it is important to remember that real GDP growth rates around 2% while somewhat low, do still represent an expansion of the economy and the continuing working out of some of the problems accumulated over the last 10 years.

Strong Q2 rebound, but weaker expected Q3

Strong U.S. dollar proving headwind for export growth

LONG TERM U.S. GDP GROWTH



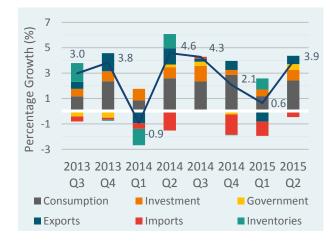
Source: FRED, as of 6/30/15

MEDIUM TERM U.S. GDP GROWTH



Source: FRED, as of 6/30/15

GDP COMPONENTS



Source: FRED



U.S. economics – unemployment

U.S. unemployment has been dropping steadily since the peak in late 2009, with U6 unemployment (broader definition) and U3 unemployment (stricter definition) standing at 10.0% and 5.1% in September, respectively.

Nonfarm payrolls missed expectations in September at 142,000 vs 203,000 expected. Fed Chair Janet Yellen and other senior economists have noted disappointing labor productivity growth despite overall improving employment data.

U6 unemployment includes discouraged and underemployed workers, and includes people unemployed for a short time. Despite improvement, U6 remains elevated relative to history, which is indicative of structural issues in the economy. The drops in U6 may be more indicative of the nature of types of jobs available rather than aggregate job openings. It remains to be seen whether these discouraged workers entering the workplace will find long-term sustainable employment, and begin to move up the job value chain.

Continuing improvement in broad employment measures, but structural concerns persist

UNEMPLOYMENT SINCE 1948



Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15

MORE RECENT UNEMPLOYMENT & U6



Source: FRED, as of 9/1/15

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE



Source: FRED, as of 9/30/15

U.S. economics – the consumer

Consumer spending continues to show improvement, but credit expansion is muted. Auto sales continue to show strong growth.

While the decline in the oil price was originally expected to flow through to lower gas prices and therefore greater consumer discretionary income, this effect has been lackluster as gas prices remain stubbornly high.

Real disposable income growth remains at a normal

level as of August, at 2.5%, up from 1.9% one year prior. Personal savings rates remain at a normal level of 4.6% after spiking during the 2008-2009 crisis.

Consumer behavior appears conservative, but further wage increases could be realized as the job market tightens, which may drive stronger spending and credit expansion. Continuing increases in student loan debt could remain a drag on spending for younger consumers.

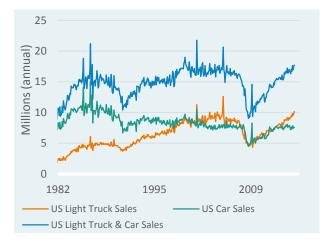
Consumer spending continues to improve

Credit expansion remains muted but auto sales are strong

GROWTH OF DISPOSABLE INCOME



AUTO SALES



Source: FRED, as of 8/31/15

SAVINGS RATE



Source: FRED, as of 8/1/15



Source: FRED, as of 8/1/15

U.S. economics – sentiment

Consumer and market sentiment surveys remain mixed, but appear to be leaning more positive than negative.

The Bloomberg consumer comfort index had been significantly below average since December 2007. This index now sits at the bottom end of a normal range. The University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Survey dipped in September, but remains near average levels.

The Citi Economic Surprise index recently dropped into

levels not seen since 2012, but has bounced back to an average range.

According to sentiment indicators, the U.S. consumer has been on a steady recovery since the great recession, although spending behavior has not yet fully reflected this change. In the recent quarter we have seen indicators turn to the downside, but absolute levels are healthy. We continue to believe sentiment may be vulnerable to a stream of bad news.

Sentiment and comfort indices in average range, but slightly down in Q3

CONSUMER COMFORT INDEX



Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/20/15 (see Appendix)

CONSUMER SENTIMENT



Source: University of Michigan, as of 9/30/15 (see Appendix)

ECONOMIC SURPRISE



Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15 (see Appendix)



U.S. economics – housing

The U.S. housing market has normalized in terms of pricing, rate of new home construction, and rate of home sales. The home affordability index remains higher (homes more affordable) than average. This index measures how easily a typical family with a median income is able to qualify for a mortgage on a typical median-priced home. Low interest rates have increased affordability while rising home prices have decreased affordability.

There continues to be potential pent up demand for

homes, as indicated by the considerably low homeownership rate. At 63.5%, this is the lowest level on record (the data series began in 1980). Though home affordability influences ownership rates, other factors such as mediocre wage growth, rising student loan debt, changing demographics, and propensity to borrow also affect rates.

Monthly home sales for both existing and new housing have continued a steady upward climb since the crisis, although remain far from previous high levels.

Continued improvement in U.S. housing market is consistent with continuing slow economic recovery

HOME AFFORDABILITY



Source: National Association of Realtors, as of 6/30/15

HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE



Source: FRED, as of 4/1/15

ANNUAL HOME SALES



Source: FRED



U.S. economics – inflation

Long-term U.S. inflation expectations declined slightly in the 3rd quarter, as indicated by the 10 Year TIPS Breakeven Rate. Headline inflation rests at 0.2%, while Core CPI, which excludes food and energy prices, remains in a normal range (Core CPI of 1.8%).

The decline in oil price is expected to translate to lower gas prices – a major part of the CPI calculation. However, gas prices do not yet fully reflect the movement in oil price. Lower oil price has also flowed

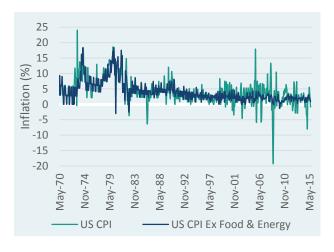
through to other areas of the CPI calculation, such as shipping and air transportation.

Domestic inflation is an input to Federal Reserve policy, and continued disinflation will certainly influence rate hike decisions. However, even in a low inflation environment interest rates could reasonably be at a modestly higher level than they are today. Lowered inflation expectations suggest a reduction in expected future nominal returns.

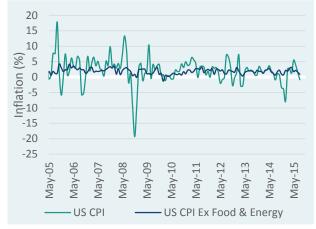
Lower than target U.S. inflation

Energy prices have been a driver of CPI change

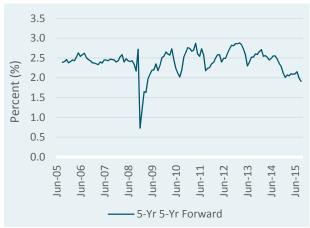
LONG TERM U.S. CPI



MEDIUM TERM U.S. CPI



MARKET EXPECTATIONS OF INFLATION



Source: FRED, as of 8/1/15 Source: FRED, as of 9/1/15

Source: FRED, as of 8/1/15



International economics – current

- GDP growth remains muted. The IMF cut global growth expectations once again, from July's forecast of 3.3%, to 3.1%.
- U.S. GDP growth continues to outpace many other developed economies.
- Easy monetary policy continues in Europe and Japan.
- Currency movement was a major factor in Q3.
 Specifically, the "fragile five" emerging market currencies fell sharply against the U.S. dollar.
- Commodities remain volatile, and this uncertainty has affected across commodityproducing nations.

- Emerging markets struggle with concerns over China's growth, choppiness of commodity prices, and currency volatility. GDP expectations continue to be adjusted downwards.
- Global unemployment is slowly decreasing, but the BRIC nations experienced an uptick. Unemployment in Europe remains high, though disparate.
- Decelerating growth in China has had far reaching impacts. However, milder growth and decreasing fiscal stimulus are in line with China's hoped-for transition to a consumption-oriented economy.

Area	GDP (Real, YoY)	Inflation (CPI)	Unemployment
United States	2.7% 6/30/15	0.2% 8/31/15	5.1% 9/30/15
Western Europe	1.8% 6/30/15	0.2% 6/30/15	9.2% 6/30/15
Japan	0.8% 6/30/15	0.2% 8/31/15	3.3% 6/30/15
BRIC Nations	4.7% 6/30/15	4.2% 6/30/15	5.0% 3/31/15
Brazil	(2.6%) 6/30/15	9.5% 8/31/15	6.7% 6/30/15
Russia	(4.6%) 6/30/15	15.7% 9/30/15	5.3% 8/31/15
India	7.0% 6/30/15	5.9% 6/30/15	8.6% 12/31/14
China	7.0% 6/30/15	2.0% 8/31/15	4.0% 6/30/15

High level of central bank involvement

Some nations dialing back QE programs

Structural employment issues remain a concern

International economics

Economies across the globe broadly exhibit slowing to flat growth, improving employment (since the financial crisis), and subdued inflation.

Inflation levels continue to hover around zero. Inflation in the Eurozone dipped into negative territory, while Japan faced further disinflation.

Real GDP growth remains moderate, while BRIC nations

experienced further slowing. Core economies in the Eurozone displayed modest growth, while certain periphery nations experienced great difficulties.

Unemployment across the globe has come back to normal levels, with the exception of Europe where aggregate unemployment is high and conditions vary significantly. BRIC nations recently experienced a slight uptick in unemployment. Economies around the global exhibit slowing to flat growth, improving employment, and low inflation

INTERNATIONAL INFLATION (CPI)



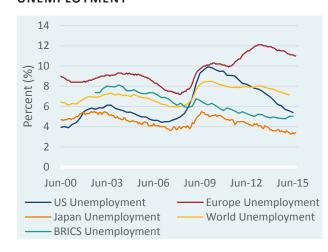
Source: Bloomberg, as of 8/31/15

REAL GDP GROWTH



Source: Bloomberg, as of 6/30/15

UNEMPLOYMENT



Source: Bloomberg, as of 8/31/15



What do you mean "Europe"?

The investment community often refers to economic health and attractiveness of "Europe". "Europe", however, is in fact a combination of developed, less developed, and emerging markets. This spectrum of economies possesses widely different characteristics.

Bright spots exist on the Euro stage, including Germany, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland, while other countries face severe economic problems or stagnation following the financial crisis.

This affects the political conversation underway in Europe. The difference in viewpoints expressed are often due to the wide range of experiences endured by the populations of the countries concerned. This may act as a continuing barrier to eventual solution of the economic issues. Solutions that could be easier to implement in a more integrated economy, or with more integrated political systems, may be harder to achieve, and risk tolerances should reflect that reality.

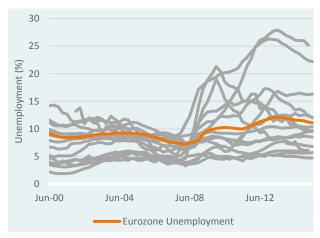
European economic behavior remains divergent

European equity remains attractive

REAL GDP GROWTH (%YOY)

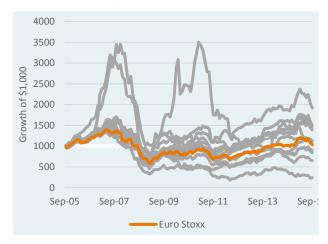


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



Eurozone member nations, as of 6/30/15

CUMULATIVE EQUITY PERFORMANCE



Eurozone member nations, as of 9/30/15

Eurozone member nations, as of 6/30/15



Fixed income rates & credit



Interest rate environment

- The Federal Reserve left rates unchanged in September. It remains uncertain whether the Fed will move rates by yearend.
- Interest rates decreased broadly in Q3 across developed markets, with the exception of Japan.
- U.S. interest rates remain high relative to other developed markets, which may provide ongoing support for U.S. Treasury prices.
- The falling oil price in conjunction with slowing global economic growth has resulted in downward pressure on emerging market currencies.
- Central banks have sold

- considerable amounts of FX reserves to support their currencies, which may place upward pressure on interest rates. Some have referred to this effect as "quantitative tightening".
- China sold billions in reserve assets (U.S.
 Treasuries) to support the value of the yuan.
- Future rate rises in developed markets could have implications for emerging market economies and nations with high debt-to-GDP ratios.
- The market is pricing in slow and moderate interest rate rises.

Area	Short Term	10 Year
United States	(0.03%)	2.03%
Germany	(0.34%)	0.54%
France	(0.25%)	0.93%
Spain	(0.06%)	1.82%
Italy	(0.05%)	1.68%
Greece	4.79%	8.14%
UK	0.55%	1.74%
Japan	(0.02%)	0.33%
Australia	2.01%	2.62%
China	2.30%	3.27%
Brazil	14.19%	15.40%
Russia	10.01%	10.91%

Interest rates decreased across the developed markets in Q3

Negative nominal interest rates continue to persist

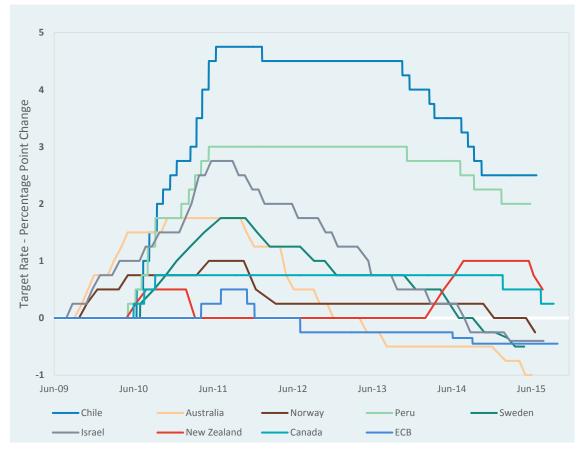
— Certifal ballks flave sold

Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15



Central bank behavior

- Central banks have held interest rates at historic lows around the globe for a significant period.
 While necessary, there has been increasing understanding that a move to more normalized rates would be helpful, if only to reset the interest rate tool in the central bank toolkit.
- Despite this being a valuable goal this return to more normal rate levels has been difficult to achieve.
- Many central banks have been forced to back off in recent years due primarily to concerns over slowing economic growth. They have opted to (or been pressured to) move rates downward once again.



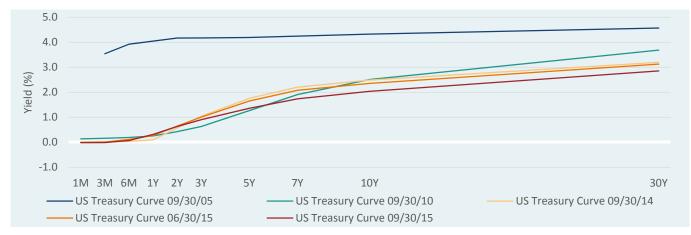
Rate rises appear fragile where they happen, and may be derailed by continuing economic weakness

Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15



Global yield curve

U.S. YIELD CURVE



GLOBAL GOVERNMENT YIELD CURVES



The middle of the U.S. yield curve flattened upon expectations of "lower for longer"

Interest rates decreased across major markets in Q3

Negative nominal interest rates persist

Source: Bloomberg



Global yield curve changes

INTERNATIONAL YIELD CURVE CHANGES OVER LAST FIVE YEARS



EXPECTED INTEREST RATE CHANGES ONE YEAR FORWARD IMPLIED BY MARKET PRICING



Major rates yield curves have moved lower and flatter, with the exception of China

Forward curves imply flat or modestly higher rates in most countries

Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15



Credit environment

Domestic credit spreads widened across the board in Q3, led by the energy sector. However, spreads broadly remain in a normal range.

Widening of spreads, and a deceleration of borrowing (though still high historically), may suggest we are at or nearing a peak in the borrowing cycle. Although spreads have widened, we believe credit risk remains less attractive relative to history.

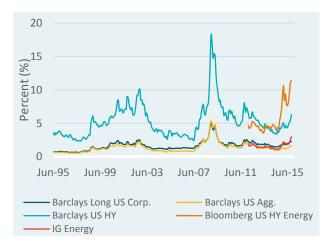
borrowers, especially for those linked to commodities. Energy spreads have widened further on continued volatility and uncertainty surrounding the price of oil. Emerging market economies are increasingly feeling this pain, with emerging market CDS spreads widening to significant levels.

Investors should be cognizant of the nature and size of their exposure to credit risk to ensure that it matches their broader views. Credit spreads widening across the board

Energy spreads continue higher

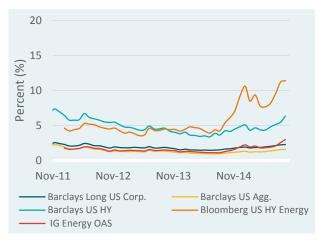
Borrowing is becoming tighter for lower-quality

LONG TERM CREDIT SPREADS



Source: Barclays Capital Indices, Bloomberg, as of 8/31/15

SHORT TERM CREDIT SPREADS



Source: Barclays Capital Indices, Bloomberg, as of 8/31/15

SPREADS

Market	Credit Spread (9/30/2015)	Credit Spread (1 Year Ago)
Long US Corporate	2.12%	1.52%
US Aggregate	1.17%	1.08%
US High Yield	6.84%	4.80%
US High Yield Energy	11.38%	5.38%
US Bank Loans	3.86%	3.84%

Source: Barclays, Credit Suisse, Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15



Issuance and default

Debt issuance has continued at a substantial pace, particularly in the high yield market.

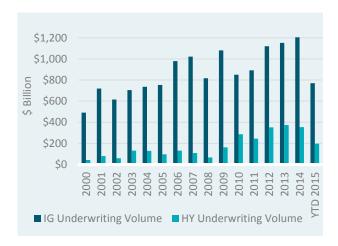
Despite the lower creditworthiness of firms accessing these markets over the last few years, there remain few signs of inability to pay amongst these issuers. However, those that believe we are further along in the economic cycle may decide against taking on new exposure to credit risk.

Default rates remain low, but if they were to rise suddenly, investors basing their expectations of return from credit portfolios on a continuation of the current low default rate environment could well be disappointed.

Issuance continues at a record pace

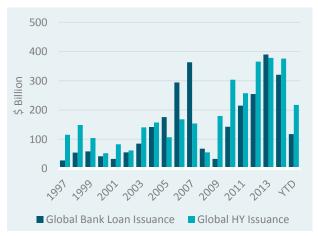
The default rate remains low

IG & HIGH YIELD ISSUANCE



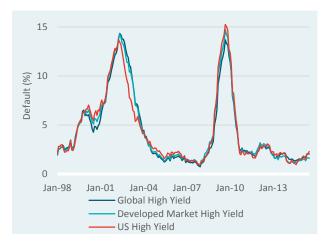
Source: Bloomberg, as of 6/30/15

BANK LOAN & GLOBAL HY ISSUANCE



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research, as of 7/31/15

DEFAULT TRENDS (ROLLING 12 MONTH)



Source: Credit Suisse, BofA, as of 6/30/15



Equity

Equity environment

- Domestic equity markets experienced a 10% correction in August, but have retraced most of the loss.
- Volatility picked up substantially from previously low levels, but now remains in a normal range. Increased price uncertainty follows large fluctuations in commodities and lowered expectations of Chinese economic growth.
 monetary easing, of with new corporat governance and so initiatives may profurther tailwinds for equities.
 Emerging markets experienced significations of Chinese economic growth.
- U.S. small cap equities felt greater pain than large cap equities in Q3.
- Currency movement has generally caused unhedged international equity investors to underperform those with hedging programs.

- Japan rallied during H1 but experienced a selloff in Q3.
 Signs of weakness appeared in August's industrial output and export data. Continuing monetary easing, coupled with new corporate governance and social initiatives may provide further tailwinds for Japan equities.
 - experienced significant volatility and losses.
 Currency depreciation has amplified these effects for those with unhedged currency exposure.
 Uncertainty surrounding oil price, and Fed comments on global growth, weigh on valuations.

	QTD Total Return (unhedged)	QTD Total Return (hedged)	YTD Total Return (unhedged)	YTD Total Return (hedged)	1 Year Total Return (unhedged)	1 Year Total Return (hedged)	
US Large Cap (Russell 1000)	(6.8	9%)	(5.2	%)	(0.6%)		
US Small Cap (Russell 2000)	(11.9	9%)	(7.7	%)	1.2%		
US Large Value (Russell 1000 Value)	(8.4%)		(9.0	%)	(4.4%)		
US Large Growth (Russell 1000 Growth)	(5.3%)		(1.5%)		3.2%		
International Large (MSCI EAFE)	(10.2%)	(4.4%)	(5.3%)	3.7%	(8.7%)	5.5%	
Eurozone (Euro Stoxx 50)	(9.1%)	(9.3%)	(7.1%)	0.7%	(12.9%)	(1.3%)	
UK (FTSE 100)	(8.6%)	(5.5%)	(5.4%)	(4.4%)	(10.2%)	(4.7%)	
Japan (NIKKEI 225)	(11.7%)	(14.2%)	(1.1%)	(0.6%)	0.2%	6.9%	
Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets)	(17.9%)	(10.9%)	(15.5%)	(7.2%)	(19.3%)	(12.0%)	

Small cap performance reversed in Q3 and now trails large cap equities

Currency
effects
remain
important for
unhedged
equity
investors

Source: Russell Investments, MSCI, STOXX, FTSE, Nikkei, as of 9/30/15



Close look at recent correction



Equity
markets
have
retraced
much of their
losses from
earlier in the
year

These markets are still below May levels

Source: Bloomberg, as of 10/27 Returns are for the drawdown and rebound observed during the 5/21/15 thru 10/27/15 period. Indices are stated in USD and returns are gross.



Domestic equity historical return

The U.S. equity market has performed exceptionally well since the global financial crisis, but experienced a correction in Q3. Equity exposure remains an integral part of the portfolio as the primary means for investors to access long term productive capacity of the economy.

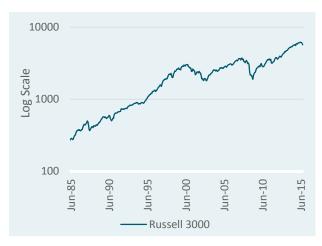
It is important to keep in mind the long-term nature of equity behavior, and to resist short-term attempts at market timing. A systematic rebalancing policy can be very helpful to long-term performance by avoiding

emotional buying or selling which can damage longterm returns. The recent equity bull market has been strong but is certainly not anomalous relative to history. Arguments that the behavior of the last six years are unprecedented should be placed in their true historical context. Market corrections can be frequent and may allow rebalancing opportunities for the patient investor.

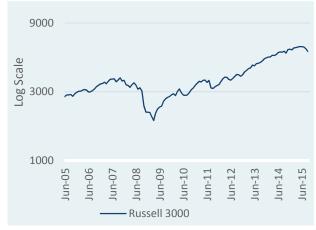
Domestic equities fundamentals have shown slight weakening as of late. Other developed equity markets may provide better opportunity.

Recent strong market returns are somewhat extended, but not unheard of historically

LONG TERM PERFORMANCE



INTERMEDIATE RETURN





Source: FRED, as of 9/1/15

Source: FRED, as of 10/1/15

DOWNSIDE EVENTS



Source: FRED, as of 9/1/15

Domestic equity recent

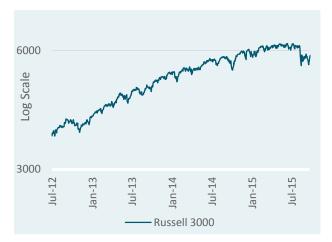
Domestic equities flattened out in 2015 and then exhibited a correction in Q3. The domestic market has likely been affected by normalizing monetary policy, heightened valuations, and concerns over decelerating growth abroad. Earnings growth for 2015 is expected to be negative after poor Q1 and Q2 performance, though Q4 is expected to be positive. Weakness in the energy sector has driven underperformance, as 2015 earnings have been positive on an ex-energy basis. Even despite the effects of the energy sector, 2016 earnings growth is expected to be positive.

Small cap equities experienced a reversal in Q3, underperforming large cap. Large cap growth outperformed large cap value in Q3.

Recent weak economic news, along with negative earnings growth, have led us to be happy with a shortterm underweight in U.S. domestic equity allocations relative to policy. Equity corrections often present rebalancing opportunities

Recent weakness in earnings should be monitored

SHORT TERM PERFORMANCE (3YR)



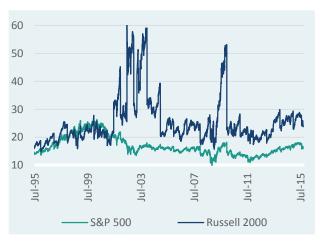
Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15

SMALL/LARGE & GROWTH/VALUE



Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15

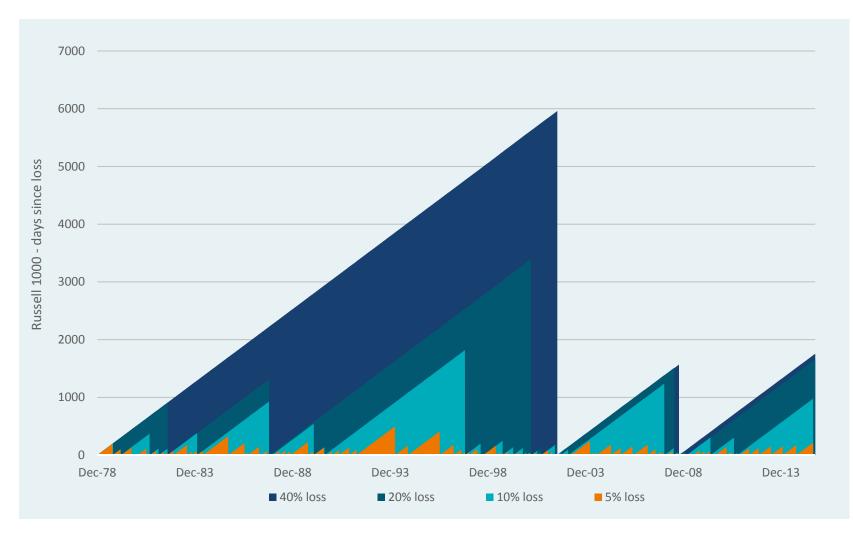
FORWARD P/E



Source: Standard & Poor's, Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15



Drawdowns happen more than you think



The recent drawdown when examined over a 30 year period appears relatively normal

Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15



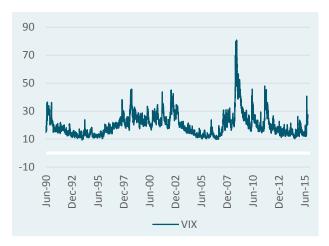
Equity volatility

During August's sell-off, domestic equity volatility spiked but then returned to an average range. Disparate views relating to the impact and magnitude of a decelerating China, and falling oil price, has contributed to greater price uncertainty.

As mentioned previously, VIX is not a perfect proxy for true equity volatility. This index is prone to properties of the options market, including dealer activity and the premium built into options prices (which changes over time). It is possible that investor use of options instruments is changing, and this could mean that VIX currently reflects other factors unrelated to true equity volatility levels.

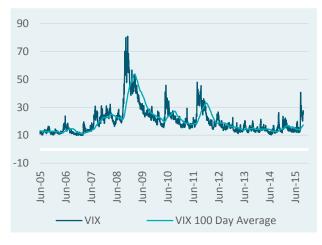
Volatility levels typically exhibit muted behavior during bull markets and spike during market downturns, which makes it important to monitor volatility. The current spike in volatility should be watched, but is not necessarily cause for action. Equity volatility spiked in Q3 but then returned to normal level

LONG TERM VOLATILITY %



Source: CBOE, as of 9/30/15

INTERMEDIATE TERM VOLATILITY %



Source: CBOE, as of 9/30/15

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY VOLATILITY %



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15



Domestic equity size and style

The long-term trend of small cap outperformance reversed in Q3, with small cap underperforming by 5%. Growth continues to beat value, with large cap growth outperforming large cap value by 3% during Q3.

Although the long term cumulative difference is important, it is necessary to take note of the degree of periodicity in these returns. Recent small cap outperformance reversed sharply in Q3 and now trails large cap.

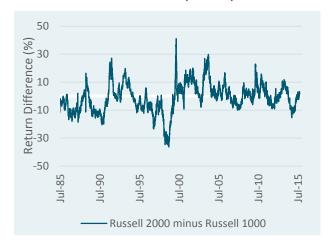
Similar behavior can be seen in style terms, with a significant move over the last two years towards growth and away from value.

On an underlying factor basis it should be noted that most of the risk embedded in each of these exposures is primarily equity risk – however factor awareness and potentially management in certain portfolio structures can be important.

Small cap trailed large cap in Q3

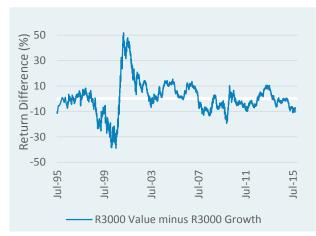
Growth continues to beat value

SMALL CAP VS LARGE CAP (% YOY)



Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15

VALUE VS GROWTH (% YOY)



Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15

ROLLING 5 YEAR RETURN



Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15



Domestic equity valuations

Domestic equity valuations remain relatively high, but were brought down by the Q3 correction. A decrease in inflation and global growth expectations may justify the valuation adjustment. Appropriateness of valuations ultimately depends on the accuracy of earnings forecasts.

Strong profit margins and growing earnings of recent years have justified expanding valuations, but earnings growth is now expected to be negative for the next year. This should be monitored to determine whether it is a short-term fluctuation or a long-term trend, particularly as negativity appears concentrated in the energy sector. Current valuations do not seem cause for immediate concern but a trend towards negative earnings could be expected to affect valuations.

A continued rise in interest rates would bring the equity/debt yield relationship back closer to the long-term average.

Growth
concerns and
an indecisive
Fed have
brought
equity
valuations
down
slightly

12 MONTH FORWARD P/E



Source: Standard & Poor's, Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15

EQUITY YIELD LESS BOND YIELD



Source: Standard & Poor's, Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15

SHILLER P/E LONG-TERM



Source: Shiller, as of 9/30/15



International equity historical return

Investors with international developed equity exposure (MSCI EAFE) have realized losses year-to-date, though positive if the effects of currency are removed. International developed equities have underperformed both U.S. and emerging market equities on a 10-year basis.

Emerging markets were relatively range bound in recent years, but exhibited losses in Q3. Growth concerns in China, and the depressed price of oil, have contributed to currency and equity volatility. Volatility is likely to

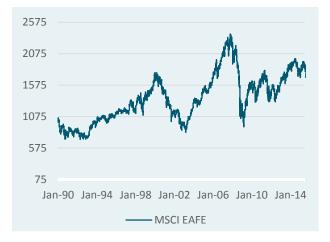
continue, but with significant disparities between markets. Active management may be preferable.

These recent results reiterate the importance of understanding the currency exposures that are implicit in taking on unhedged equity exposure to international markets. At times the return from the currency portfolio involved can be as large or larger than the equity return. Where possible investors should think of these two exposure sets as separate investment decisions.

Emerging market currencies saw broad sell-off in Q3

Currency remains an important decision

EAFE LONG TERM (USD)



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

EMERGING MARKETS LONG TERM (USD)



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

HEDGED VS UNHEDGED - 3YR ROLLING



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15



International equity valuations

The equity market drawdown in Q3 increased the attractiveness of international equity valuations. In contrast to Q2, Europe now appears slightly cheap relative to history. Japan valuations are at the low end of the historical range, further contributing to our belief that Japan deserves a neutral or perhaps overweight position in portfolios.

Continued ECB intervention has helped keep deflation at bay, depreciation of the Euro has helped exports, and corporate earnings are improving. However, large valuation differences exist between individual countries in Europe.

Emerging market general valuation levels remain very cheap on an historical basis, and have become cheaper following the Q3 selloff. There are well known underlying quality concerns relating to emerging markets, but investors prepared to accept the volatility involved have the opportunity to selectively buy at attractive valuations.

Valuations more in line with history

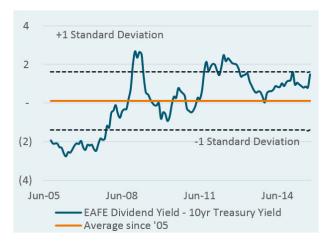
Though very volatile, select EM countries may offer value

12 MONTH FORWARD P/E



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

EQUITY YIELD LESS BOND YIELD



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

HISTORICAL EARNINGS SURPRISE



Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15



International equity recent

International equity markets are broadly positive YTD on a currency hedged basis, but negative on an unhedged currency basis. Currency fluctuations have overwhelmed positive equity returns in many markets.

Japan's fundamentals have been trending up over the medium term, but signs of weakness appeared in August's industrial output and export data. Continued monetary easing, coupled with new corporate governance and social initiatives may provide further tailwinds for Japan equities.

The European Central Bank continues accommodative monetary policy, and Mario Draghi expressed willingness to provide further quantitative easing if necessary.

Emerging markets experienced significant volatility and losses. Many markets have been positive in local terms, but currency movements have pushed returns to the downside. India continues to exhibit strong economic progress and equity returns.

Broad sell-off during Q3

Currency a negative impact for U.S. investors with unhedged exposure

SHORT TERM PERFORMANCE



ROLLING 3 YEAR RETURN



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

FORWARD P/E



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

China – from a sprint to a jog

Over recent years China has remained a global driver of growth, although in part due to extensive government-sponsored investment. In recent quarters we have seen a moderating of Chinese growth expectations and government spending, along with a devaluation of the yuan – the effects of which have been felt across the economies of China's trading partners.

Emerging market commodity producers have felt much pain from both lower commodity prices and from lower

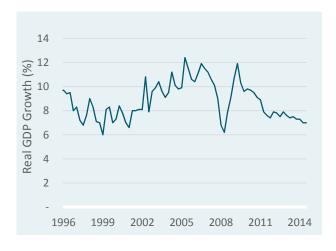
go-forward demand from China.

However, these developments may be expected to have positive long-term effects on the Chinese economy, through containment of public and private debt growth (which expanded drastically after '09) and a reduction in industrial excess capacity. These changes are consistent with China's progression towards becoming a consumption-oriented rather than export-oriented nation, and a transition to a service-based economy.

China has been the largest contributor to global growth

Slowing and changing composition

CHINA REAL GDP



Source: Bloomberg, as of 6/30/15

CHINA REAL GDP FORECAST



Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15

DRIVERS OF GLOBAL GROWTH



Source: Bloomberg



Emerging market equity

Emerging markets continue to feel the effects of decelerating Chinese growth and oil volatility. Lessened demand has negatively impacted currency values in many nations, and central banks are spending down FX reserves to support their currencies. The movement in oil has also helped those economies which rely more on oil usage than oil production. For example, the Indian equity market has demonstrated strong relative returns on the back of oil price moves.

"Risk-on / risk-off" behavior continues, as can be seen in recent large price moves. However, volatility is an

expected characteristic of the emerging markets, and its occurrence should not alter the role of this asset class.

Wide disparity in country-to-country performance may make active management particularly attractive.

Eventual interest rate rises in developed economies may pose problems for emerging market economies if current exchange rates have not fully discounted this change.

Volatility and currency moves continue

The role of EM has not changed

Valuations appear normal

LONG TERM PERFORMANCE

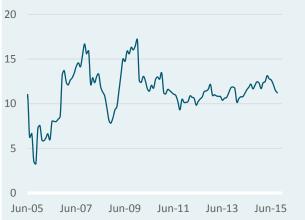


ROLLING 3 YEAR RETURN



20

FORWARD P/E



Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15

Source: MSCI, as of 9/30/15



Other assets

Other asset volatility

Rates volatility continues to be range-bound between 50 and 100, which is low relative to history.

The JP Morgan G7 volatility index captures the volatility of a basket of currencies, representing significant FX moves over the past year, but remaining at a normal level. An alternative approach is to calculate the volatility of the RCCI currency beta index, which spiked in O1 but has since come back to a normal level.

Commodity volatility remains above average, driven in large part by volatility in the oil price. This can be seen by contrasting broad commodity index volatility and the volatility of the energy component.

Spikes in volatility in these markets, even if to higher but normal levels, should be watched carefully in case they act as a sign of a broader phase shift in the markets. Volatility generally within normal ranges across asset classes

FIXED INCOME VOLATILITY



Source: Merrill Lynch, as of 9/30/15 (see Appendix)

FX VOLATILITY %



Source: JP Morgan, Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15

COMMODITY VOLATILITY %



Source: Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15



Real estate & REITs

Real estate assets provide high exposure to the general business cycle. The recovery from the economic crisis has benefited the real estate market, which has shown significant recovery.

Real estate fundamentals remain strong with continued low and declining vacancy rates across all property types. NOI is strongest in apartments and office. Low commodity prices may act as a tailwind for real estate, as lower inflation expectations encourages dovish monetary policy (lower interest rates help real estate

returns).

A variety of opportunities in this space have attracted investors, and the long term allocations required to access these returns have led to significant levels of dry powder. Picking the correct fund remains important.

REITs have been volatile, trading down with the uncertainty of potential rate rises and resulting in a discount to fund NAV. This discount to NAV disappeared following the Fed decision to leave rates unchanged.

Provides broad exposure to economic cycle

Some opportunities but careful selection needed

REAL ESTATE & THE BUSINESS CYCLE



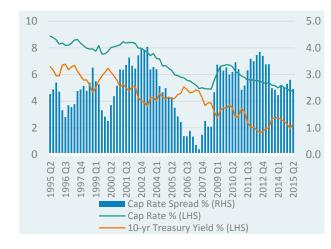
Source: NCREIF, as of 6/1/15

REAL ESTATE VACANCY BY TYPE %



Source: NCREIF, as of 6/30/15

CAP RATE SPREADS



Source: NCREIF, as of 6/1/15



Commodities – inflation beta works both ways

The Bloomberg Commodity Index returned -14.5% in Q3, with energy and agriculture leading the way. Oil continues to exhibit strong volatility.

Commodities are typically held in portfolios to provide inflation sensitivity. Inflation sensitivity translates to strong performance during inflation *shocks* and negative performance during inflation *drops*. As shown in the bottom-left chart, commodities continue to fulfill their role of providing inflation sensitivity.

Commodities exposure aims to provide strong returns during inflation shocks, provide high medium-term correlation to inflation, and potentially boost portfolio returns. It may be tempting to forego inflation protection when the market's fear of inflation is dampened, but inflation forecasts have been very inaccurate and inflation shocks often occur from a low-inflation starting point.

Commodities continue to correlate with inflation

Oil has been volatile and somewhat range-bound

3 YR ROLLING RETURNS



Source: Standard & Poor's, Bloomberg, as of 9/30/15

COMMODITY CORRELATION (3YR ROLLING)



Source: MPI, as of 9/30/15 - correlation to Bloomberg Commodity

COMMODITY CUMULATIVE RETURNS



Source: S&P Dow Jones, as of 9/30/15



Currency

Investors can look at the behavior of the currency markets from the standpoint of a U.S. investor on a trade-weighted or similar basis. The U.S. dollar had been depreciating fairly steadily since the mid 1980s, but the recent reversal has caused losses across various unhedged international asset exposures.

When measured and managed using unhedged benchmarks, international equity portfolios hold significant exposure to a currency portfolio derived from the size and structure of the equity markets concerned. Despite recent dollar moderation, the trend towards U.S. dollar strength has made this a negative contribution for investors over the short and medium term.

Treating currency as an independent market allows investors additional insight. Although typically return from this exposure has been positive, recent price movements have tipped rolling one year return from currency beta into slightly negative territory.

Recent dollar strength likely to continue, though sensitive to timing of fed rate hikes

LONG TERM TRADE WEIGHTED USD



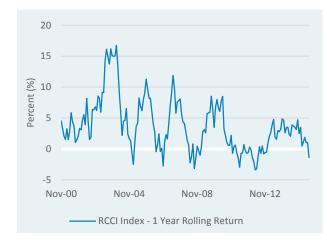
Source: FRED, as of 10/2/15

EFFECT OF CURRENCY (1YR ROLLING)



Source: FRED, as of 9/30/15

CURRENCY MARKET BEHAVIOR



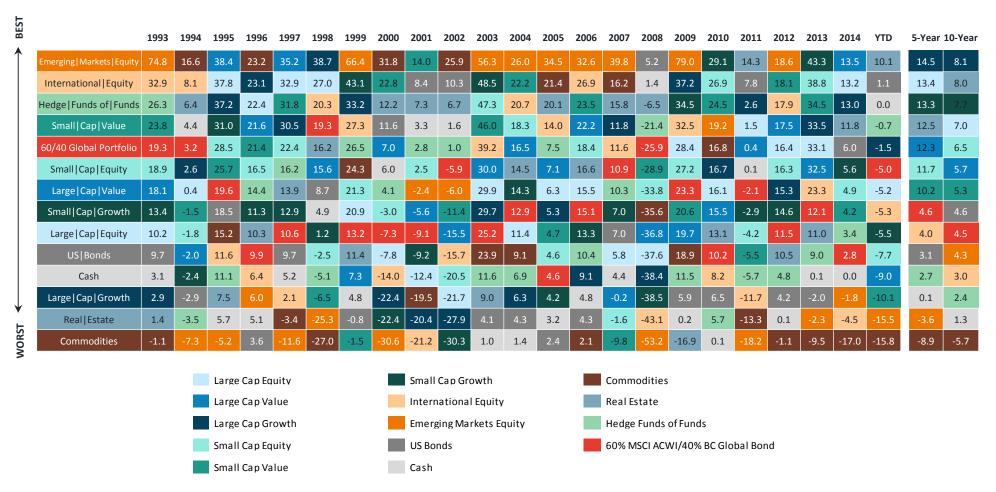
Source: Russell Investments, as of 9/30/15



Appendix



Periodic table of returns - September 2015

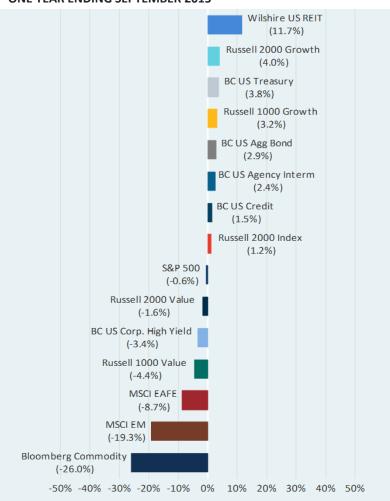


Source Data: Morningstar, Inc., Hedge Fund Research, Inc. (HFR), National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries (NCREIF). Indices used: Russell 1000, Russell 1000 Value, Russell 1000 Growth, MSCI EAFE, MSCI EM, BC Agg, T-Bill 90 Day, Bloomberg Comm Index, NCREIF Property, HFRI FOF, MSCI ACWI, BC Global Bond.

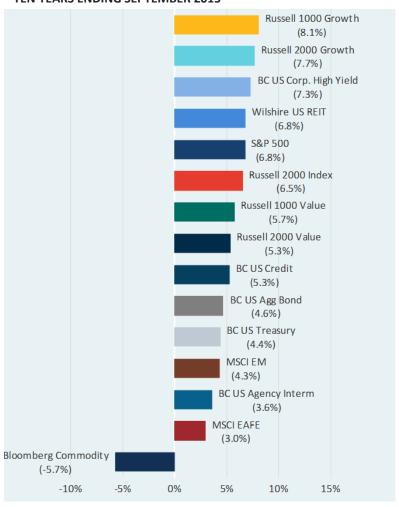


Major asset class returns

ONE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 2015



TEN YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 2015



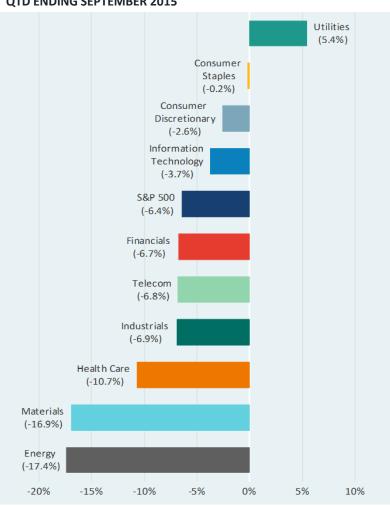
Source: MPI, as of September 30, 2015

Source: MPI, as of September 30, 2015



S&P 500 and S&P 500 sector returns

QTD ENDING SEPTEMBER 2015



ONE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 2015



Source: MPI, as of 9/30/15



Detailed index returns

DOMESTIC EQUITY

FIXED INCOME

	Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Core Index							
S&P 500	(2.5)	(6.4)	(5.3)	(0.6)	12.4	13.3	6.8
S&P 500 Equal Weighted	(3.2)	(7.5)	(6.9)	(1.2)	14.3	13.8	8.3
DJ Industrial Average	(1.4)	(7.0)	(7.0)	(2.1)	9.3	11.4	7.2
Russell Top 200	(2.4)	(6.3)	(5.0)	(0.8)	12.1	13.4	6.6
Russell 1000	(2.7)	(6.8)	(5.2)	(0.6)	12.7	13.4	7.0
Russell 2000	(4.9)	(11.9)	(7.7)	1.2	11.0	11.7	6.5
Russell 3000	(2.9)	(7.2)	(5.4)	0.5	12.5	13.3	6.9
Russell Mid Cap	(3.6)	(8.0)	(5.8)	0.2	13.9	13.4	7.9
Style Index							
Russell 1000 Growth	(2.5)	(5.3)	(1.5)	3.2	13.6	14.5	8.1
Russell 1000 Value	(3.0)	(8.4)	(9.0)	(4.4)	11.6	12.3	5.7
Russell 2000 Growth	(6.3)	(13.1)	(5.5)	4.0	12.8	13.3	7.7
Russell 2000 Value	(3.5)	(10.7)	(10.1)	(1.6)	10.2	10.2	5.3

	Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Broad Index							
BC US Treasury US TIPS	(0.6)	(1.1)	(0.8)	(0.8)	(1.8)	2.5	4.0
BC US Treasury Bills	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.4
BC US Agg Bond	0.7	1.2	1.1	2.9	1.7	3.1	4.6
Duration							
BC US Treasury 1-3 Yr	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.2	0.7	0.8	2.6
BC US Treasury Long	1.5	5.1	0.2	8.8	2.8	6.2	7.0
BC US Treasury	0.9	1.8	1.8	3.8	1.3	2.5	4.4
Issuer							
BC US MBS	0.6	1.3	3.4	2.7	2.0	3.0	4.7
BC US Corp. High Yield	(2.6)	(4.9)	(3.4)	(2.9)	3.5	6.1	7.3
BC US Agency Interm	0.5	0.8	2.4	1.8	1.1	1.6	3.6
BC US Credit	0.5	0.5	1.5	(0.4)	2.0	4.1	5.3

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY

OTHER

	Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Broad Index							
MSCI EAFE	(5.1)	(10.2)	(5.3)	(8.7)	5.6	4.0	3.0
MSCI AC World ex US	(4.6)	(12.2)	(8.6)	(12.2)	2.3	1.8	3.0
MSCI EM	(3.0)	(17.9)	(15.5)	(19.3)	(5.3)	(3.6)	4.3
MSCI EAFE Small Cap	(3.4)	(6.8)	2.6	0.3	10.2	7.3	4.7
Style Index							
MSCI EAFE Growth	(4.0)	(8.7)	(2.4)	(4.7)	6.5	4.8	3.8
MSCI EAFE Value	(6.2)	(11.8)	(8.2)	(12.6)	4.7	3.1	2.1
Regional Index							
MSCI UK	(4.5)	(10.0)	(8.2)	(12.1)	3.0	4.5	3.0
MSCI Japan	(6.8)	(11.8)	0.2	(2.2)	9.0	4.9	1.1
MSCI Euro	(5.3)	(8.9)	(6.0)	(10.8)	6.7	2.6	2.2
MSCI EM Asia	(1.5)	(17.0)	(12.8)	(13.1)	(0.4)	(0.1)	6.3
MSCI EM Latin American	(7.7)	(24.3)	(29.1)	(38.7)	(17.5)	(12.9)	1.8

	Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Index							
Bloomberg Comm. Index	(3.4)	(14.5)	(15.8)	(26.0)	(16.0)	(8.9)	(5.7)
Wilshire US REIT	3.3	2.9	(3.0)	11.7	10.1	12.5	6.8
Regional Index							
JPM EMBI Global Div	(1.3)	(1.7)	(0.1)	(0.6)	1.5	4.7	6.9
JPM GBI-EM Global Div	(3.0)	(10.5)	(14.9)	(19.8)	(8.7)	(3.6)	4.5

Source: Morningstar, as of 9/30/15



Definitions

Bloomberg US Weekly Consumer Comfort Index - tracks the public's economic attitudes each week, providing a high-frequency read on consumer sentiment. The index, based on cell and landline telephone interviews with a random, representative national sample of U.S. adults, tracks Americans' ratings of the national economy, their personal finances and the buying climate on a weekly basis, with views of the economy's direction measured separately each month. (www.langerresearch.com)

University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index - A survey of consumer attitudes concerning both the present situation as well as expectations regarding economic conditions conducted by the University of Michigan. For the preliminary release approximately three hundred consumers are surveyed while five hundred are interviewed for the final figure. The level of consumer sentiment is related to the strength of consumer spending. (www.Bloomberg.com)

Citi Economic Surprise Index - objective and quantitative measures of economic news. Defined as weighted historical standard deviations of data surprises (actual releases vs Bloomberg survey median). A positive reading of the Economic Surprise Index suggests that economic releases have on balance been beating consensus. The indices are calculated daily in a rolling three-month window. The weights of economic indicators are derived from relative high-frequency spot FX impacts of 1 standard deviation data surprises. The indices also employ a time decay function to replicate the limited memory of markets. (www.Bloomberg.com)

Merrill Lynch Option Volatility Estimate (MOVE) Index – a yield curve weighted index comprised of a weighted set of 1-month Treasury options, including 2.5.10 and 30 year tenor contracts. This index is an indicator of the expected (implied) future volatility in the rate markets.

Notices & Disclosures

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This report or presentation is provided for informational purposes only and is directed to institutional clients and eligible institutional counterparties only and should not be relied upon by retail investors. Nothing herein constitutes investment, legal, accounting or tax advice, or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold a security or pursue a particular investment vehicle or any trading strategy. The opinions and information expressed are current as of the date provided or cited only and are subject to change without notice. This information is obtained from sources deemed reliable, but there is no representation or warranty as to its accuracy, completeness or reliability. Verus Advisory Inc. and Verus Investors, LLC expressly disclaim any and all implied warranties or originality, accuracy, completeness, non-infringement, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. This report or presentation cannot be used by the recipient for advertising or sales promotion purposes.

The material may include estimates, outlooks, projections and other "forward-looking statements." Such statements can be identified by the use of terminology such as "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "anticipates," or the negative of any of the foregoing or comparable terminology, or by discussion of strategy, or assumptions such as economic conditions underlying other statements. No assurance can be given that future results described or implied by any forward looking information will be achieved. Actual events may differ significantly from those presented. Investing entails risks, including possible loss of principal. Risk controls and models do not promise any level of performance or guarantee against loss of principal.

"VERUS ADVISORY™ and VERUS INVESTORS™ and any associated designs are the respective trademarks of Verus Advisory, Inc. and Verus Investors, LLC. Additional information is available upon request.

