

### Verus business update

### Since our last Investment Landscape webinar:

- Verus hired three employees:
  - Philip Schmitt, Director | Public Markets
  - Christian Reed, Private Markets Performance Analyst
  - Jonathan Powell, Performance Analyst
- Three employees recently passed various levels of the CFA exam. Verus currently has a total of 34 CFA charterholders
- Jonathan Henderson, Director | Operations received the 2022 Verus North Star Award for championing client success
- Verus launched a newly designed website in February, making it easier to find our thought leadership and markets updates
- At the end of March, Verus met with 40 emerging or diverse managers at its Emerging & Diverse Manager Diligence Days event
- Recent research, found at <u>verusinvestments.com/research</u>
  - U.S. Equity Index Concentration (short video)
  - 2023 Active Management Environment
  - Verus Viewpoints on SVB & Broad Market Stress
  - 2023: The Return of Simplicity
  - The Importance of Emerging & Diverse Managers

### Recent Verus research

### Visit: <u>verusinvestments.com/research</u>

### Sound thinking

### 2023: THE RETURN OF SIMPLICITY

Each January, we assess the suggestions that we made the previous year to see what we called correctly and where we got things wrong. We also suggest topics that we believe should be on the agenda for the balance of the coming year:

- 1. Inflation: Down, bumpily
- 2. A landing: But what kind?
- 3. Rates: Lower but slower
- 4. Zero makes heroes: Funded foolishness failing
- More office pain: The slow recognition of reality
- 6. International markets of mystery: Or opportunity?
- Active opportunities: Decision-making matters
- 8. Private pain: A drag for a while
- 9. ESG: Louder not guieter
- 10. Simple beats complex: With a twist

### Thought leadership

### **SVB & BROAD MARKET STRESS**

Given recent events around Silicon Valley Bank's failure, heightened market volatility, and broad uncertainty in the banking sector, Verus shared our perspectives, focusing on asset-owner impacts.

### **U.S. EQUITY INDEX CONCENTRATION**

Does the rising concentration of the U.S. equity market have implications for investors? In a short video, we examined the causes of index concentration, the levels of concentration relative to global markets, and how this environment affects the success of active managers. We answered the following questions:

- What causes index concentration?
- How concentrated has the U.S. equity market become? How does this index concentration compare to other equity markets?
- What are the implications of concentration for active managers?

### Annual research

### **2023 ACTIVE MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENT**

Changing market conditions in recent years continue to suggest a more attractive environment for active managers to demonstrate skill and add value for investors.

- Greater economic uncertainty around the world, aggressive central bank actions, and rising bond yields have created an environment of greater dispersion in active manager performance.
- Higher dispersion is apparent in the most recent 3-year dataset within the document, which also reflects a larger proportion of active managers outperforming the benchmark relative to prior periods.
- Our analysis continues to illustrate stark
  differences regarding the relationship between
  risk and return across asset class universes. In
  many asset classes, there has been a negative
  relationship between risk-taking relative to the
  benchmark and total return. These
  characteristics may provide helpful context to
  investors when discussing active management.

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### 1st quarter summary

### THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE

- Real GDP increased at a 2.7% rate in the fourth quarter (0.9% growth year-over-year). The U.S. economy was supported by mild but positive growth across most aspects of activity. p. 9
- Unemployment continued to suggest a strong labor market, unchanged at 3.5% in March. Widespread layoffs in the technology sector have captured headlines, though the sector makes up a rather small segment of overall jobs. The labor participation rate is showing positive signs as workers who had left the job market during the pandemic are once again seeking employment. p. 12

### PORTFOLIO IMPACTS

- The U.S. inflation picture continued to improve. March headline CPI came in at 5.0% year-over-year—the lowest since Q2 2021. Core inflation remained stubbornly high at 5.6% year-over-year. Many of the goods and services that initially contributed to high inflation, such as used cars, food, and energy, have moderated in price. p. 10
- U.S. real (inflation-adjusted) personal consumption expenditures were modest in February at 2.5% growth year-over-year. Household purchases of services continued to climb, while goods purchases remained flat. During the pandemic, an unprecedented surge in spending on goods occurred to the detriment of services. It appears that trend has now normalized. *p. 13*

### THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE

- U.S. yield curve inversion reached even more extreme levels during Q1. The 10-year 2-year yield spread (short-term interest rates being higher than long-term interest rates) reached ~107 bps on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Inversion has historically preceded recession. *p. 19*
- Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) failed and was transitioned to government ownership on March 10<sup>th</sup>. SVB is among the top 20 largest banks in the United States with approximately 1% of all U.S. domestic bank deposits. In the near-term, sentiment seems to have been shored up by backstops from the Federal Reserve, Treasury, and FDIC, though we are watching conditions closely. p. 20 & 21

### **ASSET ALLOCATION ISSUES**

- Global equities delivered another strong quarter in Q1 (MSCI ACWI +7.3%). A variety of risks are stacking up that could weigh on additional gains, including potential recession in many markets, persistent inflation problems, and tightening credit conditions. p. 26
- U.S. growth stocks delivered strong outperformance in the first quarter (Russell 1000 Growth +14.4% vs. Russell 1000 Value +1.0%), effectively reversing value's rally in Q4 2022. This divergence in style behavior appears to be, once again, mostly a result of relative sector returns. Information technology led the index +21.8% over the quarter, while energy (-4.7%) and financials (-5.6%) were laggards. p. 28

Markets performed well in Q1, further recovering from the losses of 2022

Recession risk, banking stress, and stubborn inflation may create difficulties going forward



### What drove the market in Q1?

### "U.S. Inflation Eases but Stays High, Putting Fed in a Tough Spot"

HEADLINE C	ONSUMER P	RICE INFLATION	ON (YEAR-OVI	ER-YEAR)	
Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
7.7%	7.1%	6.5%	6.4%	6.0%	5.0%

Article Source: AP, March 14th, 2023

### "U.S. Bank Failures Pose Risk to Global Growth"

### FDIC UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES) ON BANK'S INVESTMENT SECURITIES Q3 21 Q4 21 Q1 22 Q2 22 Q3 22 Q4 22 \$29.4B (\$7.9B) (\$293.7B) (\$469.7B) (\$689.9B) (\$620.4B)

Article Source: Wall Street Journal, March 26th, 2023

### "Federal Reserve's Path is Murkier After Bank Blowup"

FED FUNDS	FUTURES PEA	<u>ak</u> implied r	ATE (MONTH	END)	
Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
4.98%	4.92%	4.97%	4.92%	5.42%	4.95%

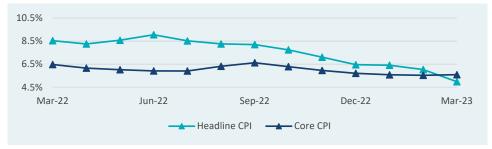
Article Source: The New York Times, March 13th, 2023

### "Fed Hikes Interest Rates 25 Basis Points in March 2023"

FED FUNDS	TARGET RAT	E – UPPER BC	UND		
Q4 21	Q1 22	Q2 22	Q3 22	Q4 22	Q1 23
0.25%	0.50%	1.75%	3.25%	4.50%	5.00%

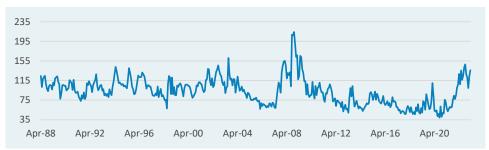
Article Source: Bloomberg, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

### U.S. HEADLINE VS. CORE INFLATION (YEAR-OVER-YEAR)



Source: BLS, as of 3/31/23

### U.S. TREASURIES IMPLIED VOLATILITY (ICE BOFA MOVE INDEX)



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23

### **KBW REGIONAL BANKING INDEX**



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23



### Economic environment



### U.S. economics summary

- Real GDP increased at a 2.7% rate in the fourth quarter (0.9% yearover-year). The U.S. economy in Q4 was supported by mild but positive growth across most aspects of activity. First quarter GDP is expected to come in at 2.2%, according to the Atlanta Fed GDPNow forecast, as of April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The inflation picture improved further. March headline inflation came in at 5.0% year-over-year—the lowest since Q2 2021. Core inflation has remained stubbornly high at 5.6% year-over-year. Many of the goods and services prices that initially contributed to high inflation have moderated or fallen.
- U.S. real personal consumption expenditures were modest in February at 2.5% year-over-year. Household purchases of services continued to climb, while goods purchases were flat. Purchasing trends around goods and services

- appear to have normalized for the first time since the pandemic.
- Although hiring activity may be slowing and layoffs are occurring in places, the labor participation rate is rebounding as workers who had left the job market during the pandemic are once again seeking employment.
- Consumer sentiment remained weak in Q1. According to the University of Michigan, households increasingly expect a recession in the near-term, especially lower income and younger Americans. Inflation fears have reportedly subsided, with expectations for 3.6% inflation over the next year.
- The U.S. housing market has faced a harsh winter season, as high prices and a significant jump in mortgage interest rates severely crimped demand. Existing home sales are as weak as during the lows of 2009-2011 following the U.S. housing bubble.

Most Recent	12 Months Prior
0.9%	5.7%
12/31/22	12/31/21
5.6%	8.5%
3/31/23	3/31/22
2.2%	<b>2.4%</b>
3/31/23	3/31/22
4.75% – 5.00%	0.25% – 0.50%
3/31/23	3/31/22
3.47%	2.34%
3/31/23	3/31/22
3.5%	3.6%
3/31/23	3/31/22
6.7%	6.9%
3/31/23	3/31/22
	0.9% 12/31/22  5.6% 3/31/23  2.2% 3/31/23  4.75% - 5.00% 3/31/23  3.47% 3/31/23  3.5% 3/31/23  6.7%



### GDP growth

Real GDP increased at a 2.7% rate in the fourth quarter (0.9% growth year-over-year). The U.S. economy was supported by mild but positive growth across most aspects of activity. First quarter GDP is expected to come in at 2.2%, according to the Atlanta Fed GDPNow forecast, as of April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Consumer spending increased at a 2.1% annualized rate, boosted by spending on services but dragged lower by fewer goods purchases. Within services, healthcare and housing saw the largest gains. Private investment spending was fueled by manufacturing—primarily in traditional energy products, mining, utilities, and construction. With regard to government spending, increases were reportedly due to higher compensation of government employees

rather than on new projects or initiatives.

Investors remain undecided regarding whether the U.S. economy will enter recession in 2023. Economist forecasts suggest near-zero growth for most quarters this year, but with no recession. Either way, it is reasonable to assume very weak economic growth for the near-term. Furthermore, the failure of Silicon Valley Bank and ensuing stress on the financial sector has created new risks, as this stress will likely lead to a slowdown in traditional bank lending activity. If many banks reduce lending activity and increase lending standards, this may result in a material tightening of economic activity that compounds the existing effects of higher interest rates.

A tightening of bank lending raises the risks of an economic slowdown

### U.S. REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT



### U.S. REAL GDP COMPONENTS (QOQ)



Source: FRED, as of 12/31/22

Verus<sup>77</sup>

Source: FRED, as of 12/31/22

### Inflation

The inflation picture further improved in the United States, as both headline and core inflation figures declined further. March headline inflation came in at 5.0% year-over-year—the lowest since Q2 of 2021. Core inflation has remained stubbornly high at 5.6% year-over-year in March. Many of the goods and services that initially contributed to high inflation, such as used cars, food, and energy, have moderated or are falling in price. Shelter costs remain the largest single driver of inflation. Recent output cuts in oil production by OPEC+ members could reignite some inflation in energy and transportation costs—these effects will be important to watch in the coming months.

U.S. hourly wage gains continued to decelerate during the quarter—now at only a 4.2% year-over-year growth rate. The possibility of persistently high wage increases has been a risk to the inflation story, as accelerating wages can sustain higher spending and therefore higher ongoing inflation. Now that wage growth has slowed, this risk is subsiding.

Overall, inflation (CPI) is very likely to fall to around 4% in Q2, for the technical reasons illustrated below. However, certain persistent monthly price pressures suggest that inflation may stabilize at this level rather than at the 1-2% inflation experienced throughout much of the 2010s.

Persistent monthly Core CPI figures suggest inflation may stabilize at a level higher than the Fed's target

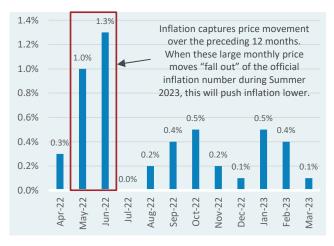
### U.S. CPI (YOY)



### **AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS**



### MONTHLY PRICE MOVEMENT

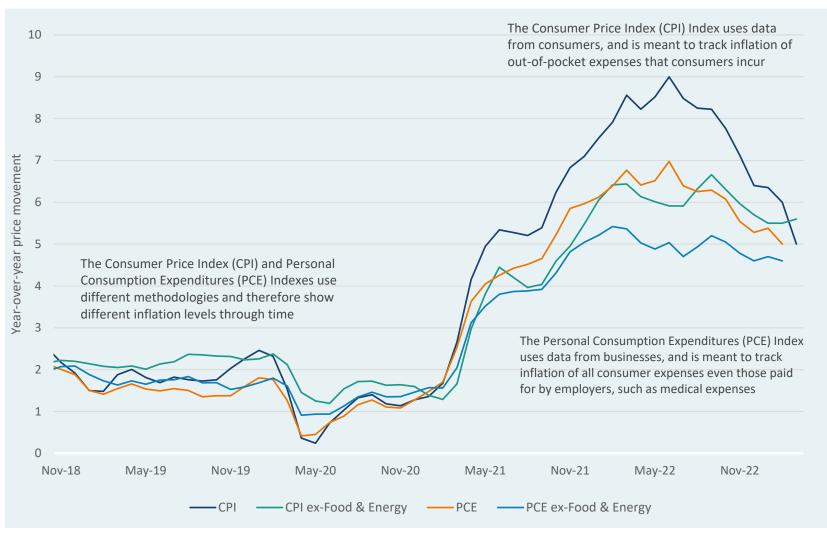


Source: BLS, as of 3/31/23 Source: BLS, as of 3/31/23



Source: BLS, as of 3/31/23

### How are inflation conditions evolving?



Official
inflation
figures
continue to fall,
though
persistent
monthly Core
CPI figures
suggest
inflation may
stabilize at a
level higher
than the Fed's
target

Source: FRED, Verus, PCE data as of 2/28/23, CPI data as of 3/31/23



### Labor market

Unemployment continues to suggest a strong labor market, unchanged at 3.5% in March. Widespread layoffs in the technology sector have captured headlines in recent months, though it is important to remember that this sector makes up a rather small segment of overall jobs in the country, and the job market remains broadly strong by most measures.

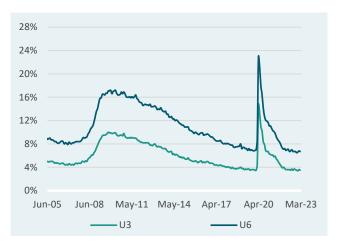
Although hiring activity may be slowing and layoffs are occurring in some places, the labor participation rate is now showing positive signs as workers who had left the job market during the pandemic are once again seeking

employment. Labor data suggests that this recovery has occurred mostly in the age 25 to 55-year cohort, and that older workers are not yet returning to the labor market.

A recovery in total workforce size is a good sign for future economic growth and may take some pressure off wages. This trend also helps relieve the historically large mismatch regarding the number of jobs available and the number of workers available to fill those jobs. An increase in total workforce size while the number of job postings are declining helps to rebalance the labor market.

Workers that left the labor force during the pandemic are slowly returning to the job market

### U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT



### LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE



### WORKERS AVAILABLE VS. AVAILABLE JOBS



Source: FRED, as of 3/31/23 Source: BLS, as of 2/28/23

Source: FRED, as of 3/31/23

### The consumer

U.S. real (inflation-adjusted) personal consumption expenditure growth has been modest, at 2.5% year-over-year in February. Household purchases of services continued to climb, while goods purchases remained flat. During the pandemic, an unprecedented surge in spending on goods occurred, to the detriment of services. It appears that trend has now normalized.

Personal savings rates have improved from extremely low levels. More household savings may be partly a reflection of consumer expectations for recession, as well as weaker job prospects (these sentiments are discussed on the next slide).

Big ticket items such as automobiles and homes have seen slowing sales activity as higher interest rates make purchases less affordable and budgets come under strain. The average size of a car payment in America over time illustrates the significance of this effect, as monthly payments have outstripped the overall rate of inflation—by a significant margin in the case of used vehicles.

Much of the increase in consumer spending has been due to rising prices rather than more goods purchased

### SPENDING TRENDS: GOODS VS. SERVICES



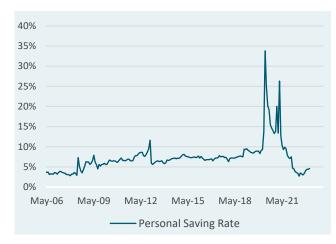
Source: FRED, as of 2/28/23

### **AVERAGE SIZE OF CAR PAYMENT**



Source: Irina Ivanova, Edmunds, as of 9/30/22

### PERSONAL SAVINGS RATE



Source: FRED, as of 2/28/23



### Sentiment

Consumer sentiment was unchanged in the first quarter by most measures but remains depressed. According to the University of Michigan, households increasingly fear a recession in the near-term, especially among lower income and younger Americans. Inflation concerns have subsided, with households expecting 3.6% inflation over the next full year—only moderately higher than the 2.3-3.0% assumed rate of pre-pandemic times.

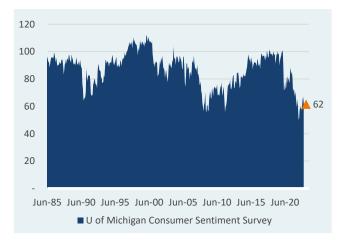
Consumer confidence measured by the Conference Board was also stable. According to the Conference Board survey,

available jobs are 'not so plentiful', discretionary spending plans have been cut back, but spending plans for items such as health care and home repairs increased.

The NFIB Small Business Optimism index remains very depressed, reflecting a poor business outlook. Fewer business owners reported inflation as their top concern for business operations, at twenty-four percent in March. During the quarter, a greater number of business owners expected inflation-adjusted sales to fall in the future.

Sentiment, by most measures, remains very poor

### **CONSUMER SENTIMENT**



Source: University of Michigan, as of 3/31/23

### CONFERENCE BOARD CONSUMER CONFIDENCE



Source: Conference Board, as of 3/31/23

### NFIB SMALL BUSINESS SENTIMENT



Source: NFIB, as of 3/31/23



### Housing

The U.S. housing market has faced a harsh winter season, as high prices and a significant jump in mortgage interest rates severely crimped demand. Existing home sales are as weak as during the lows of 2009-2011 following the housing bubble. However, monthly sales activity surged 14.5% in February, according to the National Association of Realtors, as potential buyers took advantage of a dip in mortgage rates.

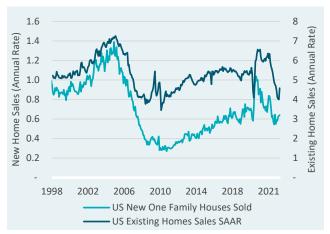
By most measures available, average home prices appear to have plateaued over the latter half of 2022. Price movement has varied significantly by marketplace, with larger markets such as San Francisco experiencing double digit losses in home values, while certain smaller markets—mostly in the southern U.S.—such as Sarasota, Florida seeing some of the largest gains in the nation.

The monthly supply of homes remains high, due to a combination of depressed sales activity and modest increases in inventory levels over the past year. Inventories could stay soft as potential sellers wish to avoid listing their homes and giving up their existing low interest rate mortgage. Additionally, potential sellers who have recently seen the value of their home decline may not wish to sell at lower prices—especially those sellers who may be underwater on a loan.

### U.S. MEDIAN HOME SALES PRICE



### **HOME SALES: NEW & EXISTING (MILLIONS)**



### Source: FRED, as of 2/28/23

### MONTHLY SUPPLY OF HOMES



Source: FRED, as of 2/28/23



Source: FRED, as of 12/31/22

### International economics summary

- Developed economies have experienced a sharp slowdown in growth. The IMF forecasts developed economy GDP to fall from 2.7% in 2022 to 1.3% in 2023. The deteriorating outlook was attributed to monetary tightening by central banks, as well as Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Meanwhile, emerging market economic growth is expected to accelerate in 2023, rising from 3.9% to 4.0%.
- Inflation trends varied by country during the quarter but seem to suggest broad moderation.
   European nations continue to cope with very high inflation rates—much of which have been driven by surging energy costs. In many countries, higher energy prices are contributing to half of official inflation figures.
- Developed central banks, in response to inflation, have carried on with their tightening cycles.
   Both the European Central Bank

- and Bank of England raised rates in March, with the ECB increasing their Deposit Facility Rate by 50 bps to 3.00%, while the BOE implemented a 25 bps hike, bringing their policy rate to 4.25%.
- February 24<sup>th</sup> marked the one-year anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The war has created much uncertainty around Europe's economic outlook, and led Finland to apply, and to be accepted as, a NATO member.
- China made progress on its reopening in Q1, as the country aims to ramp up economic activity following nearly three-years of lockdowns. Mobility data has picked up, while gauges of manufacturing and nonmanufacturing activity have moved into expansionary territory. March non-manufacturing PMIs came in at 58.2—the highest level since 2011.

Area	GDP (Real, YoY)	Inflation (CPI, YoY)	Unemployment
United States	0.9%	5.0%	3.5%
	12/31/22	3/31/23	3/31/23
Eurozone	1.8%	6.9%	6.6%
	12/31/22	3/31/23	2/28/23
Japan	0.4%	3.3%	2.5%
	12/31/22	3/31/23	2/28/23
BRICS	2.5%	2.9%	5.2%
Nations	12/31/22	3/31/23	12/31/21
Brazil	1.9% 12/31/22	<b>4.7</b> % <i>3/31/23</i>	8.5% 3/31/23
Russia	(2.7%)	3.5%	3.5%
	12/31/22	3/31/23	2/28/23
India	<b>4.4%</b>	5.7%	7.8%
	12/31/22	3/31/23	3/31/23
China	2.9%	0.7%	5.6%
	12/31/22	3/31/23	2/28/23

NOTE: India lacks reliable government unemployment data. Unemployment rate shown above is estimated from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy. The Chinese unemployment rate represents the monthly surveyed urban unemployment rate in China.



### International economics

Many developed economies have experienced a sharp slowdown in growth, which is expected to continue in 2023. Near-zero growth or recession is likely in the near-term for the U.S. and many other developed markets. The IMF forecasts developed economy growth to fall from 2.7% in 2022 to 1.3% in 2023. The deteriorating outlook was partly attributed to monetary tightening of central banks, as well as Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

A rosier outlook exists for emerging markets. The IMF forecasts economic growth of 4.0% in 2022 and 3.9% in 2023. Growth

expectations continue to suggest a widening divide between emerging and developed economies, with emerging markets exhibiting a 1.3% *growth premium* over developed markets in 2022, a 2.6% premium in 2023, and a 2.8% premium in 2024.

Inflation trends varied by country during the quarter but seem to suggest broad moderation. European countries continue to cope with higher inflation rates—much of which have been driven by surging energy costs. In many areas, higher energy prices are contributing as much as one half of official inflation figures.

### REAL GDP GROWTH (YOY)



### **INFLATION (CPI YOY)**



### Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23 – or most recent release

### **ECONOMIC GROWTH FORECASTS**



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23 – or most recent release



Source: Bloomberg, as of 12/31/22

## Fixed income rates & credit



### Fixed income environment

- The 10-year U.S. Treasury yield fell during the quarter from 3.88% to 3.47%. It appears increasingly likely that the U.S. has already reached, and is beyond, peak interest rates. The looming possibility of recession, effects of banking stress, and implications from the Federal Reserve that only one interest rate hike may remain, suggests that bond yields may have more room to fall than to rise.
- Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) failed and was transitioned to government ownership on March 10<sup>th</sup>. SVB is among the top 20 largest banks in the United States, with approximately 1% of all U.S. domestic bank deposits. New York regulators closed Signature Bank shortly thereafter, and more failures may follow. Banking stress has implications for the future actions of the Federal Reserve and for the economy.
- During the first quarter, fixed income markets delivered strong

- positive returns despite concerns related to the banking sector and the potential for additional Fed rate hikes. High yield credit performance led the way at 3.6%, followed by 3.5% from investment grade credit and 3.3% from bank loans.
- U.S. yield curve inversion reached even more extreme levels during Q1. The 10-year 2-year yield spread (short-term interest rates being higher than long-term interest rates) reached ~107 bps on March 8<sup>th</sup>, suggesting an incoming recession.
- Uncertainty around the path of Federal Reserve rate hikes and whether inflation is under control has contributed to considerable volatility in bond markets. As indicated by the ICE BofA "MOVE" Index, which measures the volatility priced into U.S. Treasury bonds, domestic and international banking stress further added to fixed income market choppiness in the first quarter.

	QTD Total Return	1 Year Total Return
Core Fixed Income (Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate)	3.0%	(4.8%)
Core Plus Fixed Income (Bloomberg U.S. Universal)	2.9%	(4.6%)
U.S. Treasuries (Bloomberg U.S. Treasury)	3.0%	(4.5%)
U.S. High Yield (Bloomberg U.S. Corporate HY)	3.6%	(3.3%)
Bank Loans (S&P/LSTA Leveraged Loan)	3.3%	2.5%
Emerging Market Debt Local (JPM GBI-EM Global Diversified)	5.2%	(0.7%)
Emerging Market Debt Hard (JPM EMBI Global Diversified)	1.9%	(6.9%)
Mortgage-Backed Securities (Bloomberg MBS)	2.5%	(4.9%)

Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23



### Banking stress

Markets saw significant volatility in March, largely driven by failures within the banking system. We believe these bank failures were widely due to two factors:

First, the bank depositor base was very concentrated in certain lines of business. Silvergate and Signature Bank were both involved in the crypto-currency space (although neither of these banks held crypto-currency directly on their balance sheet). This space came under significant pressure after the crypto-currency exchange FTX and some other smaller firms declared bankruptcy. Silicon Valley Bank had a large exposure to the technology and U.S. venture space, where clients had a greater need to withdraw their cash deposits due to slowing

venture capital deployment and tighter economic conditions.

Second, bank assets were sharply devalued as interest rates rose quickly. The rapid rise in interest rates impacted assets such as Treasuries and mortgage-backed securities. In many cases, interest rate duration mismatch between bank assets and liabilities could arguably be attributed to a lack of risk management oversight. It is important to note that although these assets lost value very quickly, most assets are high quality with low default risk. This is a key differentiator from banking stress that occurred during the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis when banks held complex securitized assets—many of which turned out to be very low quality with high default risk.

### TIMELINE

Date	Event
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Silvergate Bank announces it will be winding down operations
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Silicon Valley Bank falls into FDIC receivership after a failed attempt to raise equity following large losses associated with a substantial sale of its Available-For-Sale securities portfolio
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	Signature Bank fails. The bank had a similar deposit base to Silvergate Bank, who rapidly pulled cash after previous failures
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Eleven large banks deposit \$30B at First Republic Bank to shore up liquidity and improve confidence. First Republic's shares had tanked as investors feared contagion risks spreading to First Republic
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	The Swiss government announced the acquisition of Credit Suisse by rival UBS. The acquisition was in order to prevent CS from collapsing

### **KBW REGIONAL BANKING INDEX**



Source: Verus, Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23



### Impacts outside the financial sector

Expectations for the Fed's hiking cycle has weakened dramatically alongside bond yields, as markets began to doubt the Federal Reserve's willingness to hike rates in the face of financial stress. Banking issues will likely translate to a lower risk tolerance for many banks, as well as the offloading of many existing loans, and reduced overall lending activity. These effects would create an additional tightening of financial conditions regardless of future Federal Reserve actions.

Money market funds have seen very large inflows, as cash is transferred from traditional bank deposits to much higher yielding, and in many instances safer (if bank deposits were not FDIC insured), vehicles.

It will take time for all implications and effects to be clear. In the near term, sentiment seems to have been largely shored up by backstops from the Federal Reserve, Treasury, and the FDIC. In addition to the Federal Reserve's discount lending window, the Bank Term Funding Program (BTFP) was created to increase liquidity for banks which hold high quality assets. This has increased the Fed's balance sheet, counteracting recent efforts to reduce the size of the balance sheet.

Repricing for a softer FOMC tightening cycle has arguably had the largest impact from a macroeconomic perspective

### IMPLIED PROBABILITY: 50 BP RATE HIKE BY FED

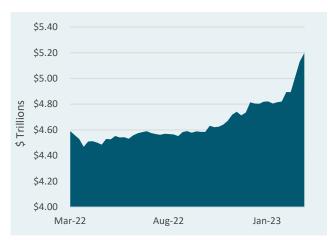


### U.S. YIELD CURVE



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23

### ICI MONEY MARKET FUNDS ASSETS



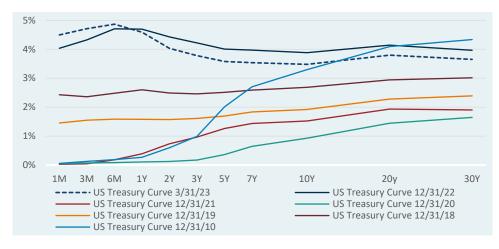
Source: ICI, Bloomberg, as of 3/29/23



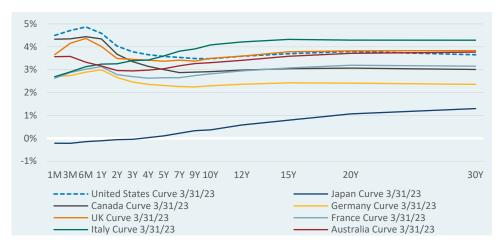
Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/13/23

### Yield environment

### **U.S. YIELD CURVE**



### **GLOBAL GOVERNMENT YIELD CURVES**



### YIELD CURVE CHANGES OVER LAST FIVE YEARS



### **IMPLIED CHANGES OVER NEXT YEAR**



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23



### Credit environment

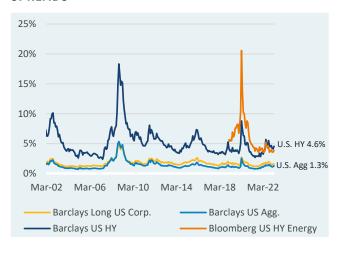
During the first quarter, fixed income markets delivered strong, positive returns despite concerns related to the banking sector and the potential for additional Fed rate hikes. High yield credit returns led the way with 3.6%, followed by 3.5% from investment grade credit and 3.3% from bank loans.

Within high yield bonds, unlike the performance witnessed during the fourth quarter where higher quality credit outperformed, performance was driven primarily by lower quality CCC-rated bonds. These bonds returned 5.1% during the quarter compared to 3.4% and 3.8% for Brated and BB-rated bonds, respectively. Bank loan performance was

driven primarily by continued strong demand from CLOs.

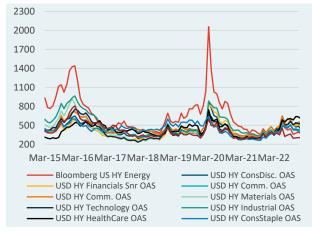
Credit spreads widened with investment grade spreads rising 0.10% to 1.4% while high yield spreads rose by 0.30% to 4.6%. Despite the jump, credit spreads remain below their long-term averages, which suggests that investors remain positive on the health of the market. However, should the economy begin to slow, credit spreads could move wider from here.

### **SPREADS**



Source: Barclays, Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23

### HIGH YIELD SECTOR SPREADS (BPS)



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23

	Credit Spread (OAS)								
Market	3/31/23	3/31/22							
Long U.S. Corp	1.6%	1.6%							
U.S. Inv Grade Corp	1.4%	1.2%							
U.S. High Yield	4.6%	3.3%							
U.S. Bank Loans*	5.6%	4.3%							

Source: Barclays, Credit Suisse, Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23

\*Discount margin (4-year life)



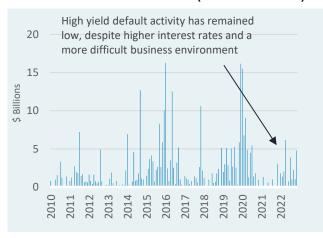
### Default & issuance

Default activity remained below the long-term trend in Q1. During the quarter, 17 companies defaulted totaling \$20.6 billion, with large defaults concentrated in the Media, Technology, and Consumer-related sectors. Combined defaults during the quarter were the highest since the beginning of the pandemic in 2Q 2020.

Past twelve-month default rates for both high yield bonds and bank loans decreased to 1.9% and 2.2%, respectively. This compares favorably to the long-term average of roughly 3.2% for bonds and 3.1% for loans. High yield recovery rates ended the quarter at 47.4%, down roughly 7.9% from the end of last year. Similarly, the recovery rate of bank loans ended the quarter at roughly 45.7%, down from 51.8% in 2022.

The pace of investment grade credit issuance accelerated in the first quarter with \$404.2 billion of issuance compared with \$200.2 billion in Q4 2022. The story was very different in levered credit which saw high yield bond and bank loan issuance decline to roughly \$40.2 and \$48.3 billion, respectively, during the period. For context, the level of high yield issuance ranked as the second lowest since the Global Financial Crisis in 2008-2009.

### U.S. HY MONTHLY DEFAULTS (PAR WEIGHTED)

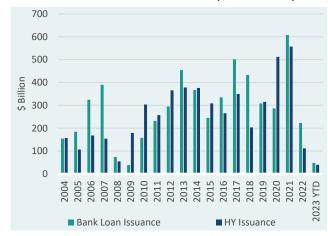


### U.S. HY SECTOR DEFAULTS (LAST 12 MONTHS)



### Source: BofA Merrill Lynch, as of 3/31/23 – par weighted

### **DEVELOPED MARKET ISSUANCE (\$ BILLIONS)**



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch, all developed markets, as of 3/31/23



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch, as of 3/31/23

# Equity

### Equity environment

- Global equities delivered another strong quarter in Q1 (MSCI ACWI +7.3%). A variety of risks are stacking up that could weigh on additional gains, including potential recession in many markets, persistent inflation problems, and tightening credit conditions.
- The outlook for domestic stocks remains challenged, especially against the backdrop of high inflation and expectations for slowing economic growth. Earnings growth has started to decline, with year-over-year S&P 500 earnings falling -4.9% in Q4 2022, the first decline seen since Q2 2020.
- The effects of currency volatility on portfolio performance was mixed during the first quarter. Over the past full year, currency movement led to a -8.5% loss for investors with unhedged exposure to international developed equity (MSCI EAFE unhedged -1.4%, MSCI

- EAFE hedged +7.1%), led by a -12.6% loss in Japanese equities (TOPIX unhedged -3.1%, TOPIX hedged +9.5%). We continue to believe that a thoughtful currency program may allow investors to reduce their total portfolio risk while also increasing long-term expected returns.
- Growth stocks delivered strong outperformance in the first quarter (Russell 1000 Growth +14.4% vs. Russell 1000 Value +1.0%), effectively reversing value's rally in Q4 2022. This divergence in style behavior appears to be, once again, mostly a result of relative sector returns.
- The Cboe VIX implied volatility index surged in March on the news of Silicon Valley Bank's failure, and the possibility of contagion across the financial sector, but ended the quarter at 18.7%—near the longerterm average.

	QTD TOTA	L RETURN	1 YEAR TOT	AL RETURN					
	(unhedged)	(hedged)	(unhedged) (hedged)						
U.S. Large Cap (S&P 500)	7.5	5%	(7.7	7%)					
U.S. Small Cap (Russell 2000)	2.7	7%	(11.	6%)					
U.S. Equity (Russell 3000)	7.2	2%	(8.6%)						
U.S. Large Value (Russell 1000 Value)	1.0	0%	(5.9%)						
US Large Growth (Russell 1000 Growth)	14.	4%	(10.9%)						
Global Equity (MSCI ACWI)	7.3%	7.3%	(7.4%)	(4.8%)					
International Large (MSCI EAFE)	8.5%	8.3%	(1.4%)	7.1%					
Eurozone (EURO STOXX 50)	16.2%	15.0%	10.8%	17.1%					
U.K. (FTSE 100)	6.4%	3.8%	(1.1%)	6.9%					
Japan (TOPIX)	5.8%	8.5%	(3.1%)	9.5%					
Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets)	4.0%	3.8%	(10.7%)	(6.6%)					

Source: Russell Investments, MSCI, STOXX, FTSE, Nikkei, as of 3/31/23

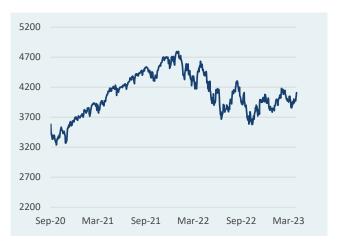
### Domestic equity

U.S. equities finished the first quarter up 7.5%, marking another positive quarter as the S&P 500 recovers from the losses of 2022. Much volatility persisted through recent months, with shares moving higher in January, before falling sharply in line with expectations for a more hawkish Federal Reserve. The fallout in the banking system challenged the financial sector, but ultimately proved to be a significant tailwind to the broader index, as investor expectations for the Federal Reserve's rate path were significantly cut down. This boosts equity market valuations because lower interest rates increase the present value of equities through the discounting of cash flows. Growth stocks tend to benefit the most from this effect, as businesses with larger earnings expected further into the future are more sensitive to interest rate changes.

Despite recent gains, the outlook for domestic stocks remains challenged, given the backdrop of high inflation and expectations for slowing economic growth. Corporate earnings have been weakening, with year-over-year S&P 500 earnings falling -4.9% in Q4 2022—the first decline seen since Q2 2020. Analysts believe this trend will continue—FactSet expects Q1 2023 earnings to slide -6.6%.

Domestic companies continue to face margin compression due to higher input prices and wages, although many companies are now implementing cost cutting measures—most visibly within the technology and financial sectors—to help retain earnings. The normalization of earnings growth within the energy sector, which had previously provided a large tailwind to broad earnings, has also been a drag.

### **S&P 500 PRICE INDEX**



### **ENERGY EARNINGS GROWTH (YEAR-OVER-YEAR)**



S&P 500 EARNINGS GROWTH (YEAR-OVER-YEAR)



Source: FactSet, as of 3/31/23 Source: FactSet, as of 3/31/23



Source: Standard & Poor's, as of 3/31/23

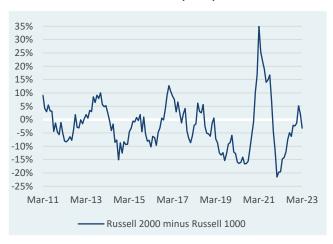
### Domestic equity size & style

Growth stocks delivered strong outperformance in the first quarter (Russell 1000 Growth +14.4% vs. Russell 1000 Value +1.0%), effectively reversing the value rally of Q4 2022. This divergence in style behavior appears to be, once again, mostly a result of relative sector returns. Information technology led the index at +21.8% over the quarter, while energy (-4.7%) and financials (-5.6%) were laggards.

Small capitalization stocks underperformed large capitalization stocks during Q1 (Russell 2000 +2.7%, Russell 1000 +7.5%) and have also lagged over the past year (Russell 2000 -11.6%, Russell 1000 -8.4%).

Large disparities in sector performance and the significant impact of this ongoing volatility on style factors supports our view that factor timing should rarely be pursued for most investors. There are occasions when market mispricing offers a compelling case to tilt into a style factor, though these occasions come along perhaps every few decades rather than every few years. We believe that style investing is most appropriately pursued in a strategic manner based on each individual investor's market beliefs and long-term goals.

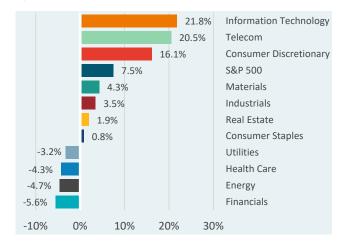
### SMALL CAP VS LARGE CAP (YOY)



### VALUE VS GROWTH (YOY)



### Q1 2023 SECTOR PERFORMANCE



Source: FTSE, as of 3/31/23

Source: Morningstar, as of 3/31/23



Source: FTSE, as of 3/31/23

### International developed equity

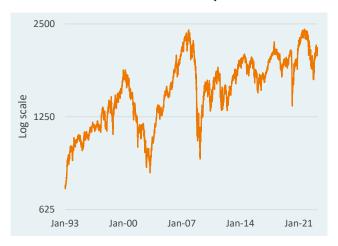
International developed equities outperformed global peers for a consecutive quarter, with the MSCI EAFE Index finishing up 8.3% in unhedged currency terms. Currency market movement was more muted, leading to a smaller 0.2% difference between currency hedged and unhedged index returns. This was likely a welcome change, given large and painful currency movements of the past year as the U.S. dollar appreciated.

European shares outperformed, due to larger European companies delivering positive earnings despite much economic uncertainty. The larger capitalization STOXX 50

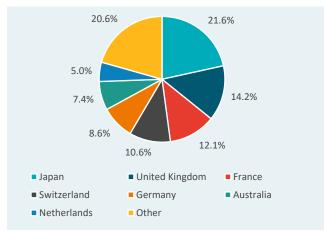
Index returned 16.2%, compared to the broader STOXX 600 Index which finished the quarter up 10.3%. Japanese equities lagged most other markets in Q1.

Inflation uncertainty has likely been a key contributor to the cheaper valuations of international developed equities, although inflation pressures have started to show some relief in the Eurozone, driven primarily by moderating energy prices. Despite these positive signs, both the European Central Bank and Bank of England have signaled that additional rate hikes are ahead. The drag presented by central bank hawkishness may be an ongoing theme of 2023.

### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPED EQUITY



### MSCI EAFE INDEX COUNTRY DECOMPOSITION



### **EUROPEAN INFLATION**



Source: MSCI, as of 3/31/23

Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23. U.K. CPI as of 2/28/23



Source: MSCI, as of 3/31/23

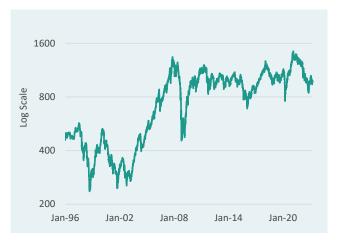
### Emerging market equity

Emerging market equities lagged the global opportunity set during the quarter. The MSCI EM Index finished up 4.0%, relative to 8.5% from the MSCI EAFE Index and 7.5% from the S&P 500.

Chinese equities—the largest country weight in the index at thirty percent—saw a slowdown in economic momentum from the COVID-19 reopening, yet still finished the quarter +4.7%. China generated a drag on the overall emerging market index despite large gains from markets in Mexico, Taiwan, and South Korea.

While slowing economic growth amongst developed economies provides a headwind to emerging markets, a lack of inflationary pressures amongst most emerging countries helps paint a more optimistic picture. Fewer inflation problems allows for looser central bank policies, which combined with a continuation of pandemic reopening in China, could allow for higher economic growth in the nearterm. The IMF's World Economic Outlook sees emerging & developing economy growth at 3.9% in 2023—much higher than the expected 1.3% for advanced economies.

### **EMERGING MARKET EQUITY**

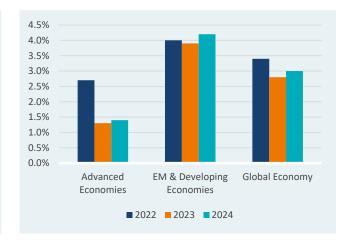


### Q1 2023 MSCI COUNTRY RETURNS (USD)



### Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, as of 3/31/23

### IMF'S APRIL REAL GDP GROWTH FORECASTS



Source: IMF April World Economic Outlook



Source: MSCI, as of 3/31/23

### Equity valuations

Equity valuations continued to move higher in the first quarter, as global equities advanced and corporate earnings remained relatively flat. Forward price-to-earnings in the U.S. ended March at 18.6x, sliding below the 5-year average, but still higher than the 10-year average of 17.8x. In contrast, international developed (12.8x) and emerging market (11.8x) valuations sit below or at their respective five- and ten-year averages.

U.S. equities led global markets over the past decade largely

due to a boom in corporate earnings and the success of technology-focused mega cap stocks. However, part of that outperformance was due to U.S. equity multiples rising to elevated levels. This is reflected in current U.S. valuations and the near-record divide between U.S. and non-U.S. markets. Lofty multiples may limit further upside of domestic equities without a rebound in earnings, especially given the possibility of U.S. recession, persistent inflation, and recent banking stress. However, an incoming global economic slowdown could support domestic equities as investors tend to prefer high quality markets during times of stress.

U.S. markets remain relatively expensive, despite potential recession, inflation, banking, and other risks

### **FORWARD P/E RATIOS**



Source: MSCI, 12m forward P/E, as of 3/31/23

### TRAILING 12M EPS (INDEX 100)



Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, as of 3/31/23

### VALUATION METRICS (3-MONTH AVERAGE)



Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, as of 3/31/23 - trailing P/E



### Equity volatility

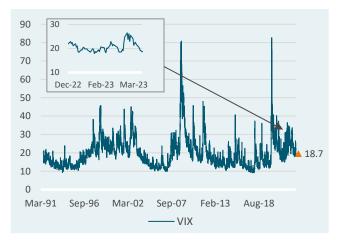
The Cboe VIX implied volatility index surged in March on the news of Silicon Valley Bank's failure, and the possibility of contagion across the financial sector, but ended the quarter at 18.7%—near the longer-term average. Markets have faced an ongoing drumbeat of risks in recent years, from the global pandemic, to ensuing inflation shock and aggressive response from central banks, now to banking/credit stress and possible recession.

Realized volatility of global equity markets remains above average, while emerging market volatility continues to be in

line with developed markets—a trend that has been uncommon historically.

Many market stories of the past year have related to Federal Reserve tightening and the path of interest rates. These stories have contributed to considerable volatility in bond markets. As indicated by the ICE BofA "MOVE" Index, which measures the volatility priced into U.S. Treasury bonds, domestic and international banking stress in the first quarter further added to market choppiness.

### U.S. IMPLIED VOLATILITY (VIX)

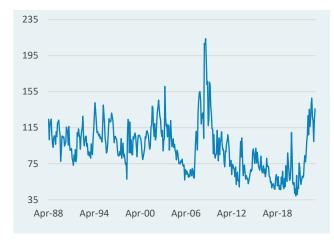


### REALIZED VOLATILITY



### Source: S&P, MSCI, as of 3/31/23

### U.S. TREASURY IMPLIED VOL ("MOVE" INDEX)



Source: Bloomberg, as of 3/31/23



Source: Choe, as of 3/31/23

### Long-term equity performance



Source: MPI, as of 3/31/23



# Other assets



### Currency

The effects of currency volatility on portfolio performance was mixed during the first quarter. Over the past full year, currency movement led to a -8.5% loss for investors with unhedged exposure to international developed equity (MSCI EAFE unhedged -1.4%, MSCI EAFE hedged +7.1%), fueled by a -12.6% currency loss from Japanese equities (TOPIX unhedged -3.1%, TOPIX hedged +9.5%). The U.S. dollar depreciated -1.6% during the quarter, according to the U.S. Trade Weighted Dollar Index, providing a tailwind to most unhedged international investments.

A thoughtful currency program may allow investors to reduce their total portfolio risk while also increasing long-term expected returns. The MSCI

Currency Factor Mix Index—a representation of a passive investment in the currency market—has shown a positive one-year rolling return over most periods with very low volatility. This contrasts to the unhedged currency exposure (what we refer to as "embedded currency") that most investors own, which has demonstrated high volatility and frequent losses. This currency program would have delivered cumulative outperformance of +22.5% over the past five years for an international developed equity portfolio, and +52.0% cumulative outperformance over the past ten years, while also reducing total risk in the portfolio.

### EFFECT OF CURRENCY (1-YEAR ROLLING)



### **BLOOMBERG DOLLAR SPOT INDEX**



### Source: Federal Reserve, as of 3/31/23

### EMBEDDED CURRENCY VS CURRENCY FACTORS



Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, as of 3/31/23



Source: MSCI, as of 3/31/23

### A reversal in CTA strategy performance

In 2021 and for most of 2022, systematic CTA strategies were the top performing hedge fund strategy. Trend following was paying off after several years of mediocre returns from 2016-2020. This periodicity is typical of trend following/CTA type strategies, and the end of 2022 and first quarter of 2023 served as examples of weak runs for these strategies. CTA strategies, as proxied by the SocGen CTA Index, had their worst ever consecutive quarters from Q4 '22 through Q1 '23, looking back to the year 2000.

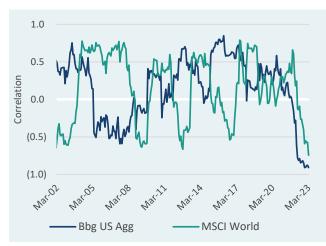
at their all time most-negative levels. Rolling 3-year performance of CTAs relative to other strategy types has reversed after COVID-19 drawdowns begin to roll off and as CTAs have suffered from the recent reversals in both stocks and bonds. As intermediate (6-12 month) trends in markets begin to flatten out and the first half of 2022 rolls off, we believe CTA positioning may level out and potentially support a rebound in performance.

A key driver of underperformance is apparent when examining one-year correlations of these strategies to stocks and bonds, which were recently

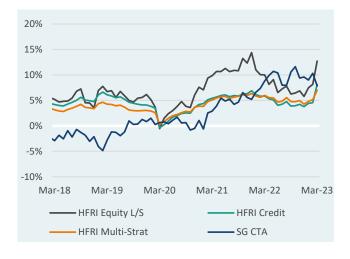
### **ROLLING 6-MONTH RETURNS FOR CTA INDEX**



### 12-MONTH CORRELATION VS CTA INDEX



### **CUMULATIVE RETURN LAST 12 MONTHS**



Source: HFR, MPI, Morningstar. SocGen, Data as of 3/31/23

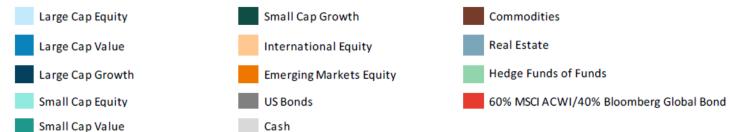


# Appendix

### Periodic table of returns

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	YTD	5-Yea	ır
Large Cap Growth	56.3	26.0	34.5	32.6	39.8	5.2	79.0	29.1	14.3	18.6	43.3	13.5	13.3	31.7	37.3	6.7	36.4	38.5	28.3	16.1	14.4	13.7	
International Equity	48.5	22.2	21.4	26.9	16.2	1.4	37.2	26.9	7.8	18.1	38.8	13.2	5.7	21.3	30.2	1.9	31.4	34.6	27.6	9.4	8.5	10.9	
Large Cap Equity	47.3	20.7	20.1	23.5	15.8	-6.5	34.5	24.5	2.6	17.9	34.5	13.0	0.9	17.3	25.0	0.0	28.5	21.0	27.1	1.5	7.5	7.5	
Small Cap Growth	46.0	18.3	14.0	22.2	11.8	-21.4	32.5	19.2	1.5	17.5	33.5	11.8	0.6	12.1	22.2	-1.5	26.5	20.0	26.5	-4.7	6.1	7.5	
60/40 Global Portfolio	39.2	16.5	7.5	18.4	11.6	-25.9	28.4	16.8	0.4	16.4	33.1	6.0	0.0	11.8	21.7	-3.5	25.5	18.3	25.2	-7.5	5.6	5.4	
Emerging Markets Equity	30.0	14.5	7.1	16.6	10.9	-28.9	27.2	16.7	0.1	16.3	32.5	5.6	-0.4	11.3	17.1	-4.8	22.4	14.0	17.7	-13.0	4.0	4.7	
US Bonds	29.9	14.3	6.3	15.5	10.3	-33.8	23.3	16.1	-2.1	15.3	23.3	4.9	-0.8	11.2	14.6	-6.0	22.0	10.3	14.8	-14.5	3.0	4.5	
Small Cap Equity	29.7	12.9	5.3	15.1	7.0	-35.6	20.6	15.5	-2.9	14.6	12.1	4.2	-1.4	8.0	13.7	-8.3	18.6	7.8	11.3	-14.5	2.7	4.3	
Hedge Funds of Funds	25.2	11.4	4.7	13.3	7.0	-36.8	19.7	13.1	-4.2	11.5	11.0	3.4	-2.5	7.1	7.8	-9.3	18.4	7.5	8.9	-17.3	1.6	3.9	
Cash	23.9	9.1	4.6	10.4	5.8	-37.6	18.9	10.2	-5.5	10.5	9.0	2.8	-3.8	5.7	7.7	-11.0	8.7	4.6	6.5	-19.1	1.1	3.5	
Large Cap Value	11.6	6.9	4.6	9.1	4.4	-38.4	11.5	8.2	-5.7	4.8	0.1	0.0	-4.4	2.6	7.0	-11.2	7.8	2.8	2.8	-20.1	1.0	3.3	
Real Estate	9.0	6.3	4.2	4.8	-0.2	-38.5	5.9	6.5	-11.7	4.2	-2.0	-1.8	-7.5	1.0	3.5	-12.9	7.7	0.5	0.0	-20.4	0.0	1.3	
Small Cap Value	4.1	4.3	3.2	4.3	-1.6	-43.1	0.2	5.7	-13.3	0.1	-2.3	-4.5	-14.9	0.5	1.7	-13.8	6.4	0.5	-1.5	-26.4	-0.7	0.9	
Commodities	1.0	1.4	2.4	2.1	-9.8	-53.2	-16.9	0.1	-18.2	-1.1	-9.5	-17.0	-24.7	0.3	0.9	-14.6	2.1	-3.1	-2.5	-29.1	-5.4	-0.9	
	La	rge Cap	o Equit	v				Small	Cap Gr	owth				Co	mmod	ities							

r 10-Year 14.6 12.0 8.8 8.5 8.0 7.2 5.0 3.3 0.8 -1.7

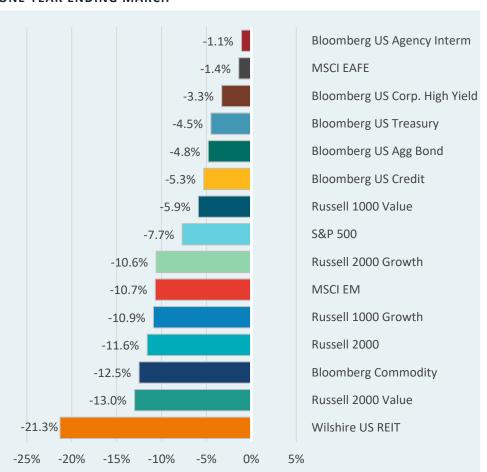


Source Data: Morningstar, Inc., Hedge Fund Research, Inc. (HFR), National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries (NCREIF). Indices used: Russell 1000, Russell 1000 Value, Russell 1000 Growth, Russell 2000, Russell 2000 Value, Russell 2000 Growth, MSCI EAFE, MSCI EM, Bloomberg US Aggregate, T-Bill 90 Day, Bloomberg Commodity, NCREIF Property, HFRI FOF, MSCI ACWI, Bloomberg Global Bond. NCREIF Property Index performance data as of 12/31/22.



### Major asset class returns

### ONE YEAR ENDING MARCH



### TEN YEARS ENDING MARCH



\*Only publicly traded asset performance is shown here. Performance of private assets is typically released with a 3- to 6-month delay.

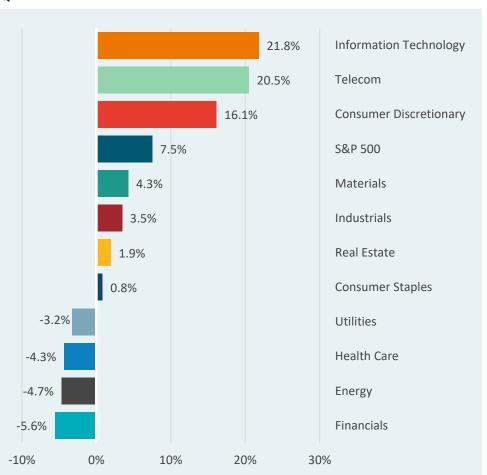
Source: Morningstar, as of 3/31/23

Source: Morningstar, as of 3/31/23

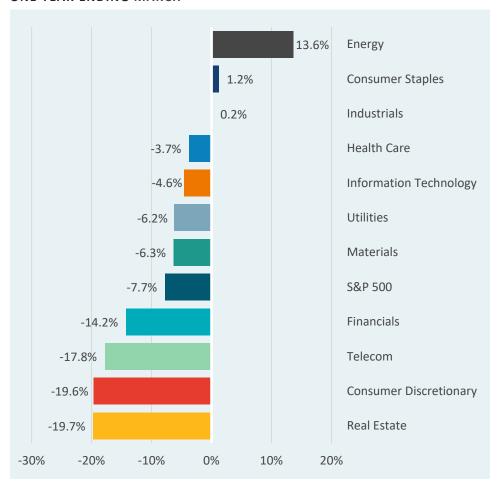


### S&P 500 sector returns

### QTD



### ONE YEAR ENDING MARCH



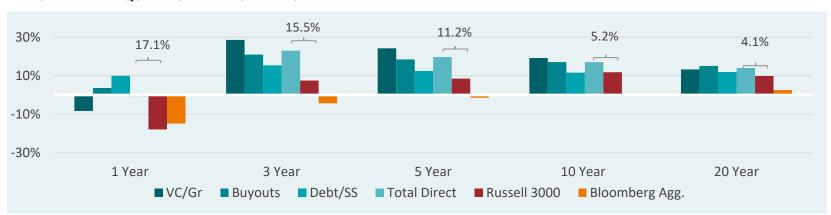
Source: Morningstar, as of 3/31/23

Source: Morningstar, as of 3/31/23



### Private equity vs. traditional assets performance

### **DIRECT PRIVATE EQUITY FUND INVESTMENTS**



Direct P.E Fund Investments outperformed comparable public equites across all time periods

### "PASSIVE" STRATEGIES



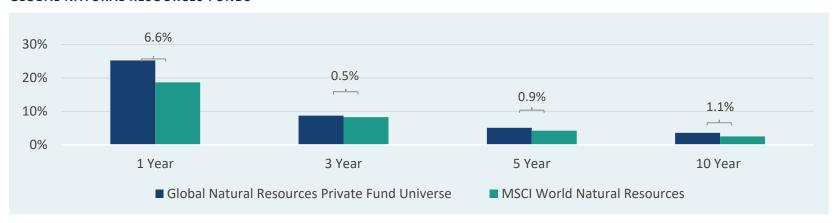
"Passive" strategies outperformed comparable public equities across all time periods

Sources: Refinitiv PME: U.S. Private Equity Funds sub asset classes as of September 30, 2022. Public Market Equivalent returns resulted from "Total Passive" and Total Direct's identical cash flows invested into and distributed from respective traditional asset comparable.



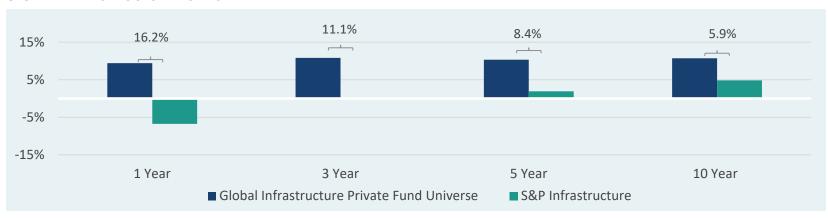
### Private vs. liquid real assets performance

### **GLOBAL NATURAL RESOURCES FUNDS**



N.R. funds outperformed the MSCI World Natural Resources benchmark across all periods

### GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS



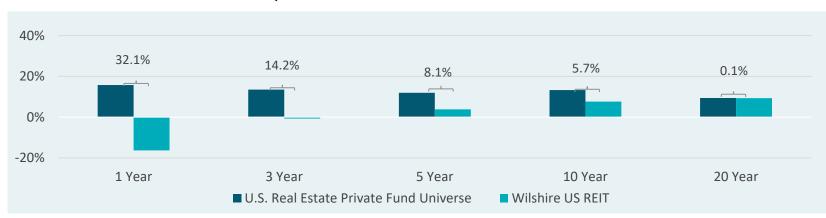
Infra. funds outperformed the S&P Infra. across all periods

Sources: Refinitiv PME: Global Natural Resources (vintage 1999 and later, inception of MSCI World Natural Resources benchmark) and Global Infrastructure (vintage 2002 and later, inception of S&P Infrastructure benchmark) universes as of September 30, 2022. Public Market Equivalent returns resulted from identical cash flows invested into and distributed from respective liquid real assets universes.



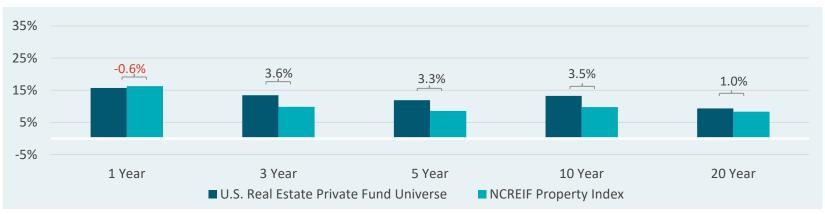
### Private vs. liquid and core real estate performance

### U.S. PRIVATE REAL ESTATE FUNDS VS. LIQUID UNIVERSE



U.S. Private
R.E. funds
outperformed
the Wilshire
U.S. REIT Index
across all time
periods

### U.S. PRIVATE REAL ESTATE FUNDS VS. CORE FUNDS



U.S. Private
R.E. Funds
outperformed
the NCREIF
Property Index
across all time
periods, aside
from the 1-year

Sources: Refinitiv PME: U.S. Real Estate universes as of September 30, 2022. Public Market Equivalent returns resulted from identical cash flows invested into and distributed from respective liquid real estate universes.



### Detailed index returns

DOMESTIC EQUITY								FIXED INCOME							
	Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year		Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Core Index								Broad Index							
S&P 500	3.7	7.5	7.5	(7.7)	18.6	11.2	12.2	Bloomberg US TIPS	2.9	3.3	3.3	(6.1)	1.8	2.9	1.5
S&P 500 Equal Weighted	(0.9)	2.9	2.9	(6.3)	22.1	10.0	11.4	Bloomberg US Treasury Bills	0.4	1.1	1.1	2.5	0.8	1.4	0.9
DJ Industrial Average	2.1	0.9	0.9	(2.0)	17.3	9.0	11.1	Bloomberg US Agg Bond	2.5	3.0	3.0	(4.8)	(2.8)	0.9	1.4
Russell Top 200	4.9	8.7	8.7	(8.3)	18.4	11.9	12.8	Bloomberg US Universal	2.3	2.9	2.9	(4.6)	(2.0)	1.0	1.6
Russell 1000	3.2	7.5	7.5	(8.4)	18.6	10.9	12.0	Duration							
Russell 2000	(4.8)	2.7	2.7	(11.6)	17.5	4.7	8.0	Bloomberg US Treasury 1-3 Yr	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.2	(8.0)	1.1	0.8
Russell 3000	2.7	7.2	7.2	(8.6)	18.5	10.5	11.7	Bloomberg US Treasury Long	4.7	6.2	6.2	(16.0)	(11.3)	(0.4)	1.5
Russell Mid Cap	(1.5)	4.1	4.1	(8.8)	19.2	8.1	10.1	Bloomberg US Treasury	2.9	3.0	3.0	(4.5)	(4.2)	0.7	0.9
Style Index								Issuer							
Russell 1000 Growth	6.8	14.4	14.4	(10.9)	18.6	13.7	14.6	Bloomberg US MBS	1.9	2.5	2.5	(4.9)	(3.3)	0.2	1.0
Russell 1000 Value	(0.5)	1.0	1.0	(5.9)	17.9	7.5	9.1	Bloomberg US Corp. High Yield	1.1	3.6	3.6	(3.3)	5.9	3.2	4.1
Russell 2000 Growth	(2.5)	6.1	6.1	(10.6)	13.4	4.3	8.5	Bloomberg US Agency Interm	1.8	1.9	1.9	(1.1)	(1.6)	0.9	0.9
Russell 2000 Value	(7.2)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(13.0)	21.0	4.5	7.2	Bloomberg US Credit	2.7	3.5	3.5	(5.3)	(0.7)	1.5	2.2
INTERNATIONAL EQUITY								OTHER							
Broad Index								Index							
MSCI ACWI	3.1	7.3	7.3	(7.4)	15.4	6.9	8.1	Bloomberg Commodity	(0.2)	(5.4)	(5.4)	(12.5)	20.8	5.4	(1.7)
MSCI ACWI ex US	2.4	6.9	6.9	(5.1)	11.8	2.5	4.2	Wilshire US REIT	(2.6)	3.2	3.2	(21.3)	11.0	5.7	5.9
MSCI EAFE	2.5	8.5	8.5	(1.4)	13.0	3.5	5.0	CS Leveraged Loans	(0.1)	3.1	3.1	2.1	8.4	3.5	3.9
MSCI EM	3.0	4.0	4.0	(10.7)	7.8	(0.9)	2.0	S&P Global Infrastructure	2.4	3.9	3.9	(3.5)	15.6	5.9	6.4
MSCI EAFE Small Cap	(0.2)	4.9	4.9	(9.8)	12.1	0.9	5.9	Alerian MLP	(0.7)	3.4	3.4	13.9	46.3	6.9	0.6
Style Index								Regional Index							
MSCI EAFE Growth	5.3	11.1	11.1	(2.8)	10.9	4.9	6.0	JPM EMBI Global Div	1.0	1.9	1.9	(6.9)	(0.0)	(0.6)	2.0
MSCI EAFE Value	(0.3)	5.9	5.9	(0.3)	14.6	1.7	3.7	JPM GBI-EM Global Div	4.1	5.2	5.2	(0.7)	0.9	(2.4)	(1.5)
Regional Index								Hedge Funds							
MSCI UK	(0.6)	6.1	6.1	(0.8)	14.6	3.0	3.4	HFRI Composite	(0.8)	1.2	1.2	(2.1)	10.5	4.7	4.4
MSCI Japan	4.0	6.2	6.2	(5.2)	7.4	1.3	5.0	HFRI FOF Composite	0.1	1.6	1.6	(1.1)	7.5	3.3	3.3
MSCI Euro	4.1	15.6	15.6	7.7	17.1	3.9	6.0	Currency (Spot)							
MSCI EM Asia	3.6	4.8	4.8	(9.4)	7.1	0.1	4.2	Euro	2.5	1.8	1.8	(2.4)	(0.3)	(2.5)	(1.7)
															(0.0)
MSCI EM Latin American	0.8	3.9	3.9	(11.1)	18.1	(1.8)	(1.9)	Pound Sterling	2.1	2.8	2.8	(6.1)	(0.1)	(2.5)	(2.0)

Source: Morningstar, HFRI, as of 3/31/23.



### **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 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)

NFIB Small Business Outlook - Small Business Economic Trends (SBET) is a monthly assessment of the U.S. small-business economy and its near-term prospects. Its data are collected through mail surveys to random samples of the National Federal of Independent Business (NFIB) membership. The survey contains three broad question types: recent performance, near-term forecasts, and demographics. The topics addressed include: outlook, sales, earnings, employment, employee compensation, investment, inventories, credit conditions, and single most important problem. (<a href="https://www.nfib-sbet.org/about/">https://www.nfib-sbet.org/about/</a>)

NAHB Housing Market Index – the housing market index is a weighted average of separate diffusion induces for three key single-family indices: market conditions for the sale of new homes at the present time, market conditions for the sale of new homes in the next six months, and the traffic of prospective buyers of new homes. The first two series are rated on a scale of Good, Fair, and Poor and the last is rated on a scale of High/Very High, Average, and Low/Very Low. A diffusion index is calculated for each series by applying the formula "(Good-Poor + 100)/2" to the present and future sales series and "(High/Very High-Low/Very Low + 100)/2" to the traffic series. Each resulting index is then seasonally adjusted and weighted to produce the HMI. Based on this calculation, the HMI can range between 0 and 100.

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