#### **Market Review**

#### Index Performance for the Period Ended December 31, 2023

Data as of 12.31.2023	1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year <sup>1</sup>	5 Year <sup>1</sup>	10 Year <sup>1</sup>
Equity							
Russell 3000 <sup>®</sup> Index	5.30%	12.07%	25.96%	25.96%	8.54%	15.16%	11.48%
Russell Top 200 <sup>®</sup> Index	4.08%	11.70%	29.85%	29.85%	10.04%	16.53%	12.70%
Russell Top 200 <sup>®</sup> Growth Index	3.97%	14.11%	46.62%	46.62%	10.58%	20.79%	16.06%
Russell Top 200 <sup>®</sup> Value Index	4.25%	8.01%	10.64%	10.64%	9.03%	10.73%	8.46%
Russell 2000 <sup>®</sup> Index	12.22%	14.03%	16.93%	16.93%	2.22%	9.97%	7.16%
Russell 2000® Growth Index	11.98%	12.75%	18.66%	18.66%	-3.50%	9.22%	7.16%
Russell 2000® Value Index	12.45%	15.26%	14.65%	14.65%	7.94%	10.00%	6.76%
Russell Mid Cap® Index	7.73%	12.82%	17.23%	17.23%	5.92%	12.68%	9.42%
Russell Mid Cap® Growth Index	7.58%	14.55%	25.87%	25.87%	1.31%	13.81%	10.57%
Russell Mid Cap® Value Index	7.79%	12.11%	12.71%	12.71%	8.36%	11.16%	8.26%
MSCI World ex-USA IMI Index	5.70%	10.52%	17.18%	17.18%	3.73%	8.24%	4.35%
MSCI World ex-USA Growth Index	5.68%	12.52%	17.45%	17.45%	0.44%	8.94%	5.08%
MSCI World ex-USA Value Index	5.24%	8.57%	18.48%	18.48%	8.19%	7.48%	3.29%
MSCI World ex-USA Small Cap Index	7.15%	10.60%	12.62%	12.62%	-0.20%	7.05%	4.63%
MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index	3.98%	8.02%	11.67%	11.67%	-3.71%	4.46%	3.00%
Fixed Income							
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	3.83%	6.82%	5.53%	5.53%	-3.31%	1.10%	1.81%
Bloomberg U.S. TIPS Index	2.69%	4.71%	3.90%	3.90%	-1.00%	3.15%	2.42%
Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Index	3.73%	7.16%	13.45%	13.45%	1.98%	5.37%	4.60%
Bloomberg Global Treasury ex-U.S. Hedged Index	2.74%	5.35%	7.99%	7.99%	-1.55%	1.22%	2.73%
Bloomberg Emerging Markets Aggregate Index	4.20%	8.10%	9.09%	9.09%	-3.13%	1.84%	3.03%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Annualized. Source: Morningstar. The performance presented represents the returns of the listed index. The volatility of an index varies greatly and investments cannot be made directly in an index. Market conditions vary from year to year and can result in a decline in market value due to a material change in market or economic conditions. The performance is past performance and is not a guarantee for future results.



1

# Sterling Capital Advisory Solutions Monthly Update

January 2024

#### **Equity Market Highlights**

- Positive takeaways from the December Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) Meeting, which signaled rate cuts in 2024, helped global equities rally in December, with the MSCI ACWI IMI Index rising 5.25% to close out 2023. Value outperformed growth during the month (MSCI ACWI Value +5.39% vs. MSCI ACWI Value +4.24%). Industrials was the top-performing sector during December, while energy underperformed. Emerging markets trailed developed markets during the month (MSCI World IMI +5.40% vs. MSCI EM IMI +3.98%), with continued relative weakness in China offsetting strong gains in South Korea, Taiwan, and Brazil.
- In 2023, U.S. Large Blend active managers generally struggled to outperform relative to their passive counterparts, as mega-cap index constituents, which many active managers are underweight, generated outsized returns. U.S. Mid-Cap Value was the only category that posted outperformance during the year.
- On a rolling five-year basis, U.S. growth outperformance relative to value fell from the previous month. Growth's 2023 outperformance was partially driven artificial intelligence exuberance and peak inflation/interest rate hopes.

#### **Fixed Income Market Highlights**

- The broad market, as represented by the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, returned 3.83% for the month of December. This comes following November's return of 4.53% which was the best monthly return since May 1985. The top performer for December was Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS), up 4.31%, bringing its calendar year return to 5.05%. The market was largely positive with Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) producing the lowest return, although still positive at 2.69%. For the calendar year, High Yield was the best-performing sector, up 13.45%, followed by Emerging Market Debt (+9.09%) and U.S. Credit (+8.18%). TIPS produced the lowest returns for the year (+3.90%).
- Following declines in November, 10-year yields continued to fall in December in select countries. Yields in the U.K. declined by 67 basis points (bps), followed by France (53 bps), Italy (51 bps) and Germany (48 bps). The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury declined by 48 bps from 4.36% to 3.88%. For the calendar year, 10-year rates were lower overseas but unchanged domestically.
- For the second consecutive month, Municipal/Treasury ratios moved lower in December as all ratios fell by more than 1% (following a move lower by more than 10% in November). All ratios remain below their five-year average.

Stock Indices	YTD	Bond Indices YTD		Other Indices YTD		U.S. Treas	sury Yields	Rates/Commo	odities
MSCI ACWI IMI	21.58%	Bloomberg US Aggregate	5.53%	US Fund Multialternative	6.51%	6-month	5.26%	Prime Rate	8.50%
Russell 3000	25.96%	Bloomberg Gbl Treas xUS Hdg	7.99%	DJ Equity All REIT	11.30%	1-year	4.78%	LIBOR (3 Mo)	5.59%
S&P 500	26.29%	Bloomberg US TIPS	3.90%	Bloomberg Commodity	-7.91%	3-year	4.01%	Oil Price (\$/barrel)	\$71.65
MSCI EAFE	18.24%	Bloomberg US High Yield	13.45%			5-year	3.85%	Gold (\$/t oz)	\$2,062.97
MSCI EM	9.83%	Bloomberg EM Aggregate	9.09%			10-year	3.88%		
						30-year	4.03%		

Data is as of 12.31.2023. Sources: Morningstar; FactSet; Russell Investments; Bloomberg L.P.; U.S. Department of Treasury. Asset allocation and diversification do not assure a profit or protect against loss in declining financial markets. For illustrative purposes only. The views expressed represent the opinions of Sterling Capital Management. Any type of investing involves risk and there are no guarantees that these methods will be successful. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.



## Global Economic Snapshot



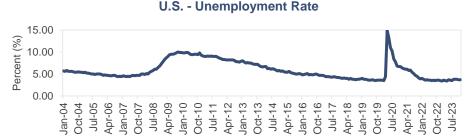
U.S. data is as of 12.31.2023. Japan and Eurozone data is as of 09.30.2023. Source: FactSet.



Eurozone as of 12.31.2023. Japan and U.S. data is as of 11.30.2023. Source: FactSet. The sudden increase in Japan CPI growth in 2014 coincided with an increase in national sales tax that impacted final price levels.



Industrial Production data is as of 11.30.2023. Industrial Productivity data is as of 09.30.2023. Source: FactSet.



Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: FactSet.

- Economic momentum has continued to grow in the U.S. as estimated third quarter gross domestic product (GDP) improved over the prior quarter. Growth in Europe has fallen behind the U.S. recently.
- U.S. unemployment held steady at the very low rate of 3.7% in December amid stronger than expected nonfarm payroll growth.
- Inflation continues to slow from high levels in Europe and the U.S. Inflation in Japan remains near its recent peak for this economic cycle, but it is well below levels in the U.S. and Europe.
- Industrial production growth improved in November but remains weak on a year-over-year basis. U.S. labor productivity has continued to recover from negative levels in 2022 as strong third quarter growth has brought the annual growth rate to 2.4%.

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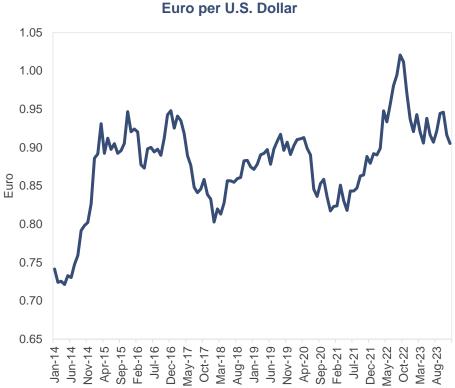
#### U.S. Economic Indicators

Leading In the week ending 12.29.2023 the four-week moving average of Initial Jobless Claims was 207,750 a Initial Jobless Claims decrease of -4,750 from the previous week's revised average. • ISM Manufacturing registered 47.4% in December, a 0.7% increase over the previous reading. A reading below 50.0% indicates contraction. Manufacturing ISM Manufacturing New Orders registered 47.1% in December, down -1.2% from the previous reading. • ISM Non-Manufacturing registered 50.6% in December, a -2.1% decrease from the previous reading. Housing/Construction Building permits were down -0.27% in November and have increased 4.64% over the past year. Consumer Confidence • The Consumer Confidence Index increased to 110.7 compared to 101 in the previous month. Coincident · Total Nonfarm Payroll employment increased by 278,000 in November while the unemployment rate Nonfarm Payrolls decreased to 3.7%. Industrial Production • Industrial Production increased 0.24% in November and decreased -0.39% over the past year. Personal Income • Real Disposable Personal Income increased 0.69% in November and increased 4.25% over the past year. Real Disposable Personal Income was flat in November and decreased -1.8% over the past year. Ratio of Consumer Installment Credit to Consumer borrowing tends to lag improvements in personal income by many months because people tend Personal Income to remain hesitant to take on new debt until they are sure that their improved income level is sustainable. • CPI (All Items) increased 0.14% in November and increased 3.12% over the past year. Inflation • CPI (Core) increased 0.51% in November and increased 3.99% over the past year.



# Currency





■ The Trade-Weighted U.S. Dollar Index (Major Currencies) decreased -2.3% in December and decreased -2.5% year-to-date. The dollar was down -1.2% versus the Euro in December.



## **Global Equity Markets**



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In 2023, U.S. Large Blend active managers generally struggled to outperform relative to their passive counterparts, as mega-cap index constituents, which many active managers are underweight, generated outsized returns. U.S. Mid-Cap Value was the only category that posted outperformance during the year.

Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: Morningstar, Russell Investments. Median return of Morningstar open-end fund category (institutional share class). Russell return of U.S. categories.



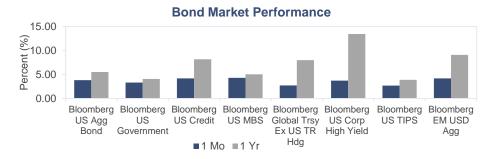
 On a rolling five-year basis, U.S. growth outperformance relative to value fell from the previous month. Growth's 2023 outperformance was partially driven artificial intelligence exuberance and peak inflation/interest rate hopes.

Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: Morningstar.

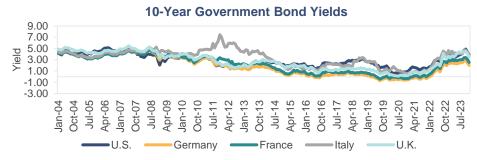
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#### Fixed Income Markets

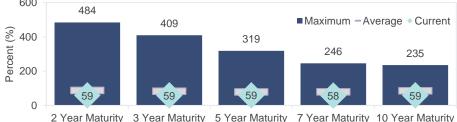


Data is as of 12.31.2023. Sources: Morningstar; Bloomberg L.P.



Data is as of 12.31.2023. Sources: FactSet; U.S. Department of Treasury.

#### Municipal/Treasury Yield Ratios Over The Last 5 Years 600 484



Data is as of 12.31.2023. Sources: Thompson Reuters; Sterling Capital Management Analytics.

- The broad market, as represented by the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, returned 3.83% for the month of December. This comes following November's return of 4.53% which was the best monthly return since May 1985. The top performer for December was Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS), up 4.31%, bringing its calendar year return to 5.05%. The market was largely positive with Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) producing the lowest return, although still positive at 2.69%. For the calendar year, High Yield was the best-performing sector, up 13.45%, followed by Emerging Market Debt (+9.09%) and U.S. Credit (+8.18%). TIPS produced the lowest returns for the year (+3.90%).
- Following declines in November, 10-year yields continued to fall in December in select countries. Yields in the U.K. declined by 67 basis points (bps), followed by France (53 bps), Italy (51 bps) and Germany (48 bps). The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury declined by 48 bps from 4.36% to 3.88%. For the calendar year, 10-year rates were lower overseas but unchanged domestically.

For the second consecutive month, Municipal/Treasury ratios moved lower in December as all ratios fell by more than 1% (following a move lower by more than 10% in November). All ratios remain below their fiveyear average.



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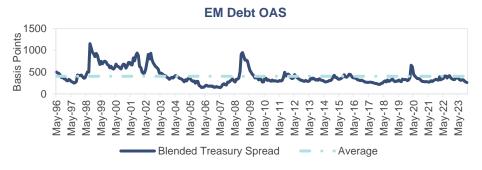
## Fixed Income Spreads and TIPS Breakeven





Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: FactSet.

Data is as of 12.31,2023. Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors.







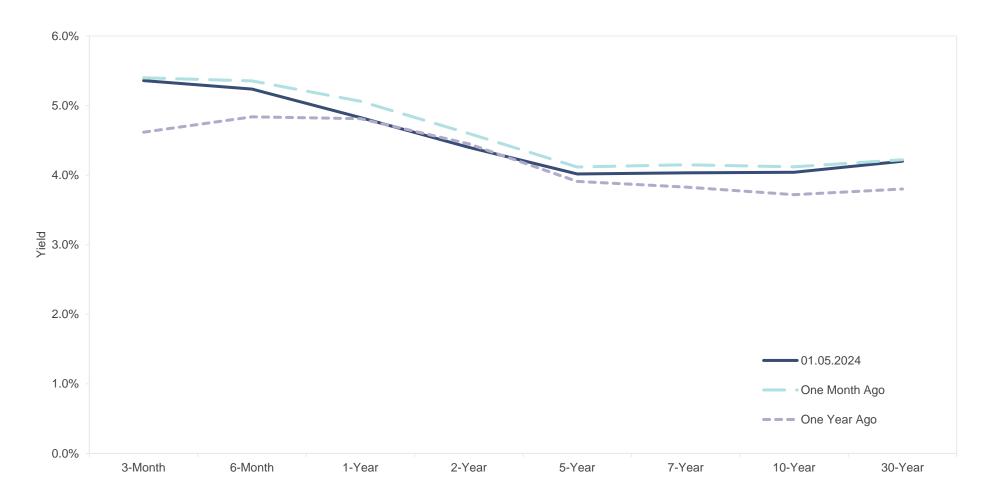
Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: Bloomberg L.P.

Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: Bloomberg L.P.

- Investment grade and high-yield credit spreads continued to move tighter in December and are well below long-run averages.
- For the second consecutive month, the 10-year TIPS breakeven rate declined in December as inflation data continued to improve.
- Similar to other credit markets, Emerging Market Debt credit spreads continued to decline last month and are well below the historical average. For the second consecutive month, the yield spread of U.S. to Global Treasuries declined in December.



# U.S. Treasury Yield Curve



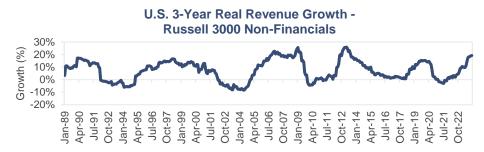
• As of 01.05.2024, the entire yield curve shifted lower month-over-month. The one- to two-year segment of the curve declined the most by 23 bps and 20 bps, respectively. From the prior year, with the exception of the two-year Treasury, all yields were higher than the previous year.



## Global Equity Market Fundamentals



Data is as of 12.31.2023. Sources: Bloomberg L.P.; Robert Shiller "U.S. Stock Markets 1871 - Present and CAPE Ratio."



Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: FactSet; Russell; Bureau of Labor Statistics; Sterling Capital Management Analytics.



Data is as of 12.31.2023. Sources: FactSet; Russell; MSCI.



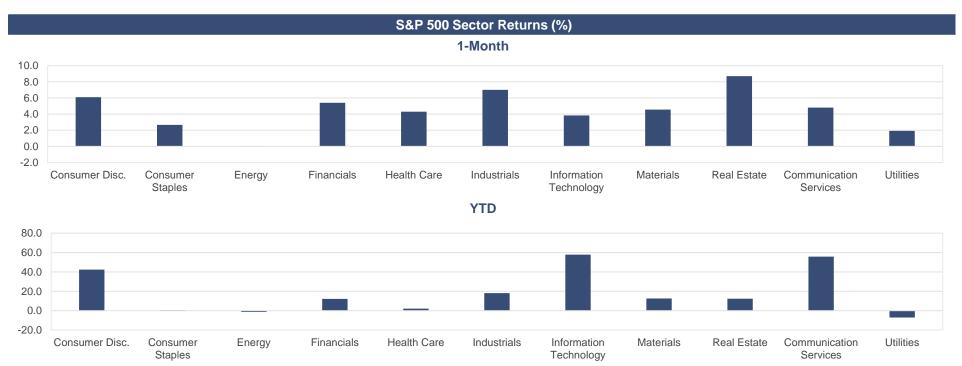
Data is as of 11.30.2023. Sources: FactSet; Russell; MSCI.

- The U.S. cyclically-adjusted earnings yield continued to decline in December due to equity price increases.
- Long-term real U.S. sales growth for non-financial companies is showing rapid improvement and has reached its highest level in over ten years. Companies have been growing revenues at a rate outpacing inflation and, in addition, growth is now calculated over a base year that was depressed by COVID-19 impacts.
- Revenue-to-firm value ratios and dividend yields declined in December with the rise in equity prices.



# U.S. Equity Market Style and Sector Returns

S&P 1500 by Capitalization & Style <sup>1</sup>							
	1-Month			YTD			
	Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth
	5.53%	4.54%	3.72%	Large	22.23%	26.29%	30.03%
	10.19%	8.72%	7.40%	Mid	15.39%	16.44%	17.49%
	13.40%	12.80%	12.10%	Small	14.89%	16.05%	17.10%



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Style boxes are derived from the components of the S&P 1500<sup>®</sup> Index. Please refer to the appendix for further information about capitalization/style returns. Data is as of 12.31.2023. Source: FactSet. For illustrative purposes only. The views expressed represent the opinions of Sterling Capital Management. Any type of investing involves risk and there are no guarantees that these methods will be successful. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.



# Appendix



## **Important Information**

#### Disclosures & Technical Terms

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Investment advisory services are available through Sterling Capital Management LLC, an investment adviser registered with the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission and an independently-operated subsidiary of Truist Financial Corporation. Sterling Capital Management LLC manages customized investment portfolios, provides asset allocation analysis and offers other investment-related services to affluent individuals and businesses. Securities and other investments held in investment management or investment advisory accounts at Sterling Capital Management LLC are not deposits or other obligations of Truist Financial Corporation, Truist Bank or any affiliate, are not guaranteed by Truist Bank or any other bank, are not insured by the FDIC or any other federal government agency, and are subject to investment risk, including possible loss of principal invested.

Sterling Capital does not provide tax or legal advice. You should consult with your individual tax or legal professional before taking any action that may have tax or legal implications.

Core Consumer Price Index: a measure of the aggregate price level in an economy, excluding certain volatile items.

Option Adjusted Spread (OAS): A bond's yield spread over comparable maturity government bonds, adjusted for any embedded options.

Real GDP: Real gross domestic product (GDP) is an inflation-adjusted measure that reflects the value of all goods and services produced by an economy in a given year, expressed in base-year prices.

Nonfarm payroll refers to the number of jobs in the private sector and government agencies. It excludes farm workers, private household employees, proprietors, non-profit employees, and actively serving military.

Revenue-to-Firm Value: Total Index Revenues of the past 12 months divided by the sum of equity market value and the value of total debt. This is a measure of total sales generated on the total value (debt plus equity) of firms in the index.

TIPS Breakeven: The inflation rate implied by the spread in yield between U.S. TIPS (Treasury Inflation Protected Securities) and nominal U.S. Government Bonds of equal maturity.

**U.S. 3-Year Real Revenue Growth, Russell 3000 Non-Financials:** For the Russell 3000 excluding financial firms, the percentage change in trailing 12-month inflation adjusted revenue over 12-month inflation adjusted revenue three years prior.

U.S. Cyclically Adjusted Earnings Yield: The 10-year average of annual, inflation adjusted earnings divided by the current inflation adjusted price of the S&P 500 index. This measure is the inverse of the Shiller CAPE Ratio.

YOY U.S. Productivity Growth: The year-over-year growth in real U.S. output produced per hour worked for non-farm workers.

Capitalization/Style Returns: Capitalization/Style returns are based on the S&P Indexes. All values are cumulative total return for stated period including the reinvestment of dividends. The indexes used from left to right, top to bottom are as follows: S&P 500 Value Index, S&P 500 Index, S&P 500 Growth Index, S&P Mid Cap 400 Value Index, S&P Mid Cap 400 Index, S&P Small Cap 600 Index, S&P Small Cap 600 Growth Index. The S&P 500® Index is a readily available, carefully constructed, market-value-weighted benchmark of common stock performance. Currently, the S&P® Composite includes 500 of the largest stocks (in terms of stock market value) in the United States; prior to March 1957 it consisted of 90 of the largest stocks. The S&P Midcap 400 is designed to measure the performance of the middle capitalization sector of the U.S. equities market. This market capitalization weighted index was created in June of 1991 and consists of 400 domestic stocks from the NYSE, NASDAQ, and AMEX chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. The S&P SmallCap 600 is designed to measure the performance of the small capitalization sector of the U.S. equities market. This index consists of 600 domestic stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, (bid-asked spread, ownership, share turnover and number of no trade days) and industry group representation. The S&P Style indices measure growth and value along two separate dimensions, with three factors are 3 Year Change in Earnings per Share over Price per Share, 3 Year Sales per Share Growth Rate, and Momentum. The Value factors are Book Value to price Ratio, Earnings to Price Ratio, and Sales to Price Ratio.



## **Important Information**

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The **Bloomberg Emerging Markets Hard Currency Aggregate Index** is a flagship hard currency Emerging Markets debt benchmark that includes USD-denominated debt from sovereign, quasi-sovereign, and corporate EM issuers.

The **Bloomberg Global Treasury Ex U.S. Hedged Index** is comprised of securities issued by developed ex. U.S. and emerging market governments. The index is hedged against constituent currencies versus the U.S. dollar.

The **Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index** is an unmanaged index composed of securities that are SEC-registered, taxable, and dollar denominated. The index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities. It is not possible to invest in the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, which is unmanaged and does not incur fees and charges.

The **Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Index** measures the U.S. corporate market of non-investment grade, fixed-rate corporate bonds. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch, and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below.

The **Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index** measures the investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate and government related bond markets. It is composed of the U.S. Corporate Index and a non-corporate component that includes foreign agencies, sovereigns, supranationals and local authorities.

The Bloomberg U.S. Government Index is comprised of securities issued by the U.S. government and its agencies with at least one year until final maturity.

The **Bloomberg U.S. MBS Index** covers the mortgage-backed pass-through securities of Ginnie Mae (GNMA), Fannie Mae (FNMA), and Freddie Mac (FHLMC). It is formed by grouping the universe of individual fixed rate MBS pools into generic aggregates.

The **Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index** (Series-L) measures the performance of the U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) market. Federal Reserve holdings of U.S. TIPS are not index eligible and are excluded from the face amount outstanding of each bond in the index.

The **Bloomberg Commodity Index** and related sub-indices are composed of futures contracts on physical commodities and represents 22 separate commodities traded on U.S. exchanges, with the exception of aluminum, nickel and zinc.

Bloomberg L.P: "Bloomberg®" and the Bloomberg indices are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates, including Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL"), the administrator of the index (collectively, "Bloomberg") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by Sterling Capital Management LLC and its affiliates. Bloomberg is not affiliated with Sterling Capital Management LLC or its affiliates, and Bloomberg does not approve, endorse, review, or recommend the product(s) presented herein. Bloomberg does not guarantee the timeliness, accurateness, or completeness of any data or information relating to the product(s) presented herein.

The **Dow Jones Equity All REIT Index** is designed to measure all publicly traded real estate investment trusts in the Dow Jones U.S. stock universe classified as equity REITs according to the S&P Dow Jones Indices REIT Industry Classification Hierarchy. These companies are REITs that primarily own and operate income-producing real estate.

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

The MSCI EAFE Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada.

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

The MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Index captures large and mid cap securities exhibiting overall growth style characteristics across 26 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. The growth investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using five variables: long-term forward EPS growth rate, short-term forward EPS growth rate, current internal growth rate and long-term historical EPS growth trend and long-term historical sales per share growth trend.

The MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index captures large and mid cap securities exhibiting overall value style characteristics across 26 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. The value investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using three variables: book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield.

The MSCI ACWI ex USA Growth Index captures large and mid cap securities exhibiting overall growth style characteristics across 22 Developed Markets (DM) countries and 26 Emerging Markets (EM) countries.



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The MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index captures small cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries (excluding the United States). With 2,529 constituents, the index covers approximately 14% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

The MSCI World ex USA Value Index captures large and mid cap securities exhibiting overall value style characteristics across 22 of 23 Developed Markets countries.

The Russell 2000® Growth Index measures the performance of growth style of investing in small cap U.S. stocks. The Growth Index contains those Russell 2000 securities with greater-than-average growth orientation.

The Russell 2000® Value Index measures the performance of value style of investing in small cap U.S. stocks. The Value Index contains those Russell 2000 securities with less-than-average growth orientation. Securities in the Value Index generally have lower price-to-book and price-to-earnings ratios than those in the Growth Index.

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

The Russell Midcap® Growth Index measures the performance of growth styles of investing in Mid Cap U.S. stocks. The Growth Index contains those Russell Mid Cap securities with greater-than-average growth orientation.

The Russell Midcap® Value Index measures the performance of value style of investing in Mid Cap U.S. stocks. The Value Index contains those Russell Mid Cap securities with less-than-average growth orientation. Securities in the Value Index generally have lower price-to-book and price-to-earnings ratios than those in the Growth Index.

The **Russell Top 200**<sup>®</sup> **Growth Index** offers measures the performance of the especially large cap segment of the U.S. equity universe represented by stocks in the largest 200 by market cap. It includes Russell Top 200<sup>®</sup> Index companies with higher growth earning potential as defined by Russell's leading style methodology.

The Russell Top 200® Index is an index of the largest 200 companies in the Russell 3000 index. It is commonly used as a benchmark index for U.S.-based ultra large-cap (mega-cap) stocks with the average member commanding a market capitalization of upwards of \$200 billion.

The S&P® 500 Index is an unmanaged capitalization-weighted index of 500 U.S. stocks designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

The **S&P Small Cap 600® Index**: The S&P SmallCap 600® Index is designed to measure the performance of the small capitalization sector of the U.S. equities market. This index consists of 600 domestic stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, (bid-asked spread, ownership, share turnover and number of no trade days) and industry group representation.

The **S&P Mid Cap 400**<sup>®</sup> **Index**: The S&P MidCap 400<sup>®</sup> **Index** is designed to measure the performance of the mid capitalization sector of the U.S. equities market. This index consists of 400 domestic stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, (bid-asked spread, ownership, share turnover and number of no trade days) and industry group representation.

The **S&P 1500**: An investable U.S. equity benchmark, the S&P Composite 1500 combines three leading indices, the S&P 500®, the S&P MidCap 400, and the S&P SmallCap 600 to cover approximately 90% of the U.S. market capitalization. It is designed for investors seeking to replicate the performance of the U.S. equity market or benchmark against a representative universe of tradable stocks.

The **Trade-Weighted U.S. Dollar Index**, also known as the broad index, is a measure of the United States dollar relative to other world currencies. It is a trade weighted index that improves on the older U.S. Dollar Index by using more currencies and the updating the weights yearly.

