

# Investment Weekly

For the week ended Dec 27, 2024

## Commentary

- **U.S. equities were mostly higher** on light trading during the holiday-shortened week. Large caps and growth led the way. Overseas markets were also higher, driven by Japan.
- **The S&P is on track for another 20%+ annual performance** but recent concerns about the reappearance of inflation (possibly worsened by trade wars), the Fed's apparent hesitancy to cut next year and the continued lack of market breadth are worrisome.
- **Treasuries were weaker as yields rose and the curve continued to steepen.** The spread between the 2yr and 10yr hit its most positive level since 06/22 and the yield on the 30yr rose 46bp this month. The Agg is hanging onto a slight positive return year-to-date.
- **The dollar was up again.** It ended the week stronger against the yen but little changed vs. the euro and sterling.
- Gold fell again, its fourth drop in five weeks. **Oil rose.**
- There was a mix of economic reports this week:
  - **December consumer confidence missed** as the present situation and expectations dropped, but labor market views improved.
  - **November new-home sales were higher but missed consensus.**
  - **Manufacturing was mixed** as headline November durable-goods orders were light, but core capital-goods orders were stronger than expected.
  - **Initial jobless claims were lower** though continuing claims increased to the highest level since 11/21.
- **3Q24 earnings summary.** The earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 was 13.1% and the revenue growth rate was 5.9%. Seventy-three percent of S&P 500 companies have beat consensus EPS expectations and 62% have surpassed consensus sales expectations according to FactSet.

## Market data

Index prices (\$)	12/27/24	12/29/23
Dow Jones Industrial Average	42,992	37,690
S&P 500	5,971	4,770

Returns (%)	1wk	QTD	YTD	3mo
<b>Equities</b>				
S&P 500	0.67	3.95	26.90	4.40
S&P Mid Cap 400	0.46	0.86	14.52	1.00
S&P Small Cap 600	-0.02	-0.06	9.26	0.28
Russell 1000	0.58	4.27	26.36	4.68
Russell MidCap	0.00	1.61	16.48	1.76
Russell 2000	0.10	0.93	12.20	1.21
Dow Jones Industrial Average	0.35	1.99	16.20	2.03
NASDAQ Composite	0.76	8.61	32.32	9.03

<b>Fixed income</b>				
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate	-0.33	-3.36	0.93	-3.59
Bloomberg Global Aggregate	-0.33	-5.19	-1.78	-5.35
Bloomberg High Yield Bond	0.11	0.09	8.10	0.11
S&P / LSTA Senior Loan	0.12	2.41	8.67	2.50
JPM EMBI+ Emerging Markets Bond	-0.12	-1.47	7.64	-1.40

<b>S&amp;P 500 sectors</b>				
Technology	0.87	7.11	39.57	7.72
Materials	-0.27	-11.57	0.93	-12.09
Consumer discretionary	0.45	17.25	33.56	16.92
Health care	1.12	-9.42	3.58	-8.86
Utilities	0.39	-5.04	24.05	-4.63
Consumer staples	-0.18	-2.24	16.09	-2.13
Energy	1.21	-3.65	4.40	-2.86
Financials	0.91	8.00	31.66	8.36
Industrials	0.02	-1.20	18.76	-0.70
Communication services	0.92	10.76	42.68	11.64
Real Estate	0.44	-8.30	4.82	-7.52

<b>Equity style performance</b>				
Large cap value	0.50	-1.24	15.23	-0.95
Large cap growth	0.65	9.31	36.15	9.85
Mid cap value	0.26	-1.05	13.87	-0.87
Mid cap growth	-0.73	10.05	24.26	10.11
Small cap value	0.18	-0.98	8.14	-0.65
Small cap growth	0.02	2.79	16.39	3.03

<b>International equities</b>				
MSCI EAFE	1.79	-7.53	4.96	-8.93
MSCI U.K.	1.18	-6.68	7.71	-7.52
MSCI Europe ex-U.K.	1.27	-9.90	1.66	-10.95
MSCI Japan	3.48	-3.14	9.17	-6.97
MSCI AC Asia ex-Japan	1.49	-6.74	13.32	-6.73
MSCI Emerging Markets	1.06	-7.21	8.79	-7.50
MSCI ACWI	0.90	0.31	19.44	0.19

Source: FactSet.

### Economic calendar

Date	Country/Region	Event
12/30/24	U.S.	Chicago PMI (Dec)
	U.S.	Pending Home Sales (Nov)
	China	CFLP PMI Manufacturing/Non-manufacturing (Dec)
12/31/24	U.S.	FHFA Home Price Index (Oct)
01/01/25	China	Markit/Caixin PMI Manufacturing (Dec)
01/02/25	Germany	Markit PMI Manufacturing (Dec)
	Eurozone	M3 (Nov)
	Eurozone	Markit PMI Manufacturing (Dec)
	U.K.	CIPS Manufacturing PMI (Dec)
	U.S.	Initial Claims (12/28)
	U.S.	Markit PMI Manufacturing (Dec)
	U.S.	Construction Spending (Nov)
01/03/25	Germany	Unemployment Rate (Dec)
	U.K.	BoE Mortgage Approvals (Nov)
	U.S.	ISM Manufacturing (Dec)

Source: FactSet.

### Market data, cont'd

As of:	Last close	Prior week	Year end	3 mos ago
<b>U.S. bond rates (%)</b>				
U.S. federal funds target rate	4.50	4.50	5.50	5.00
U.S. 2yr Treasury	4.31	4.31	4.25	3.54
U.S. 10yr Treasury	4.62	4.53	3.89	3.75
U.S. 20yr Treasury	4.90	4.81	4.19	4.15
U.S. 30yr Treasury	4.82	4.72	4.05	4.10
High yield (Merrill U.S. Corporates)	6.98	6.94	6.98	6.64
<b>Consumer rates (%)</b>				
30yr mortgage rate	7.28	7.22	6.99	6.69
Prime rate	7.50	7.50	8.50	8.00
<b>Commodities</b>				
Gold (USD/oz)	\$2,632	\$2,645	\$2,072	\$2,668
Crude oil (USD/bbl)	\$70.60	\$69.46	\$71.65	\$68.18
Copper (LME \$/mt)	\$8,843	\$8,793	\$8,476	\$9,860
Gasoline (USD/gal)	\$3.22	\$3.20	\$3.36	\$3.43
<b>Exchange rates</b>				
\$ per €	1.04	1.04	1.10	1.12
\$ per £	1.26	1.25	1.27	1.34
¥ per \$	157.56	157.14	140.98	142.87
U.S. Dollar Index	108.00	107.62	101.33	100.38

Source: FactSet.

## Index definitions

Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index measures a wide range of global government, government-related, corporate and securitized fixed-income investments, all with maturities greater than one year.

Bloomberg High Yield Bond Index tracks the performance of below investment grade U.S. dollar-denominated corporate bonds publicly issued in the U.S. domestic market.

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index is a bond market index composed of U.S. securities in Treasury, Government-Related, Corporate, and Securitized sectors that are of investment-grade quality or better, have at least one year to maturity, and have an outstanding par value of at least \$250 million.

Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted average computed from the stock prices of 30 of the largest and most widely held public companies in the United States, adjusted to reflect stock splits and stock dividends.

FTSE EPRA / NAREIT Global Real Estate Index represents general performance trends of the equity securities of real estate companies involved in the ownership, disposition and development of income-producing properties worldwide.

JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Plus (EMBI+) tracks total returns for traded foreign currency denominated debt instruments in the emerging markets which meet minimum criteria for face value outstanding and market trading liquidity.

MSCI ACWI Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to provide a broad measure of equity-market performance throughout the world, capturing large and mid cap representation across 23 Developed Markets (DM) and 26 Emerging Markets (EM) countries.

MSCI EAFE Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure developed markets' equity performance, excluding the U.S. & Canada, for 21 countries.

MSCI Europe ex-U.K. Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure equity performance of the 15 developed European markets except the United Kingdom.

MSCI U.K. Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure equity performance of listed common stocks in the United Kingdom.

MSCI Asia ex-Japan Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure equity performance of the 15 developed Asian markets except Japan.

MSCI Japan Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure equity performance of listed common stocks in Japan.

MSCI Emerging Markets Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that measures emerging market equity performance of 23 countries.

Municipal Bond Index is a bond index that includes investment-grade, tax-exempt fixed-rate bonds with long-term maturities (greater than two years) selected from issues larger than \$50 million.

NASDAQ Composite Index is a market capitalization weighted index of the performance of domestic and international common stocks listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market including over 2,800 securities.

Large Growth: Russell 1000 Growth Index measures the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity market including Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and forecasted growth.

Large Value: Russell 1000 Value Index measures the large-cap value segment of the U.S. equity market including Russell 1000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth.

Midcap Growth: Russell MidCap Growth Index measures the performance of the mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity market including Russell Midcap Index companies with higher price-to-book ratios and forecasted growth.

Midcap Value: Russell MidCap Value Index measures the performance of the mid-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity market including Russell Midcap Index companies with lower price-to-book ratios and forecasted growth.

Small Cap Growth: Russell 2000 Growth Index measures the performance of small-cap growth stocks in the U.S. equity market including Russell 2000 companies with higher price-to-value ratios and forecasted growth.

Small Cap Value: Russell 2000 Value Index measures the performance of small-cap growth stocks in the U.S. equity market including Russell 2000 companies with lower price-to-value ratios and forecasted growth.

S&P 500 Index is a widely regarded as the best single gauge of the U.S. equities market, including 500 leading companies in major industries of the U.S. economy.

S&P 500 Sectors are defined as the GICS (Global Industry Classification Standard) sectors which provide standardized industry definitions consisting of 10 sectors, 24 industry groups, and 67 industries.

The S&P MidCap 400 includes 400 companies and represents almost 6% of the U.S. markets. To be eligible for inclusion in the index, a company should be a U.S. company, have a market cap between USD 3.3 billion to USD 11.8 billion, maintain a public float of at least 10% of its shares outstanding, and its most recent quarter's earnings and the sum of its trailing four consecutive quarters' earnings must be positive. The index implements changes on an as-needed basis.

The S&P SmallCap 600 includes 600 companies and represents almost 3% of the U.S. market. To be eligible for inclusion in the index, a company should be a U.S. company, have a market cap between USD 750 million to USD 3.3 billion, maintain a public float of at least 10% of its shares outstanding, and its most recent quarter's earnings and the sum of its trailing four consecutive quarters' earnings must be positive. The index implements changes on an as-needed basis.

The Russell 1000 Index measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the U.S. equity market and includes approximately 1,000 of the largest securities based on market capitalization and representing approximately 92% of the U.S. market.

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