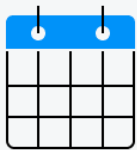


Models & Markets

Latest insights and themes across JPMorgan Model Portfolios



Monthly Update



Key Investment Themes



Guide to the Market Insights

Retail Pulse: Early Holiday Data Shows Continued Consumer Strength

From the Models desk:

Based on JPMorgan Model Portfolios

The facts

Early data from the 2025 holiday season indicates that US consumers remain on steady ground, with spending on track to make this the first quarter trillion-dollar holiday season. US consumers spent \$14.25B on Cyber Monday, bringing total online sales over the Thanksgiving weekend to \$44.2B and marking an ~8% YoY increase. This strength is seen across the country, with a YoY increase in spending across New England, the Midwest, and the Southeast.

Our thoughts

Recent retail and consumer data reinforce our view that the U.S. consumer remains stable, which is key given their historic contribution to economic growth. Further, we see technology and AI fueling consumption momentum, highlighting future opportunities for corporates:

- E-commerce retail sales (excluding autos) jumped +10.4% YoY, as consumers increasingly value speed and convenience.
- This holiday season, traffic from AI sources (LLMs) to retail sites is expected to rise ~520% YoY.

Portfolio positioning

Our Tactical models (6-12 mo. horizon) remain pro-risk, partly through an OW to U.S. equities, given the strong fundamental backdrop. Strategic models (3-5 yr. horizon) continue to prefer U.S. equities given future growth potential.



Guide to the Markets®

slide to guide conversations with clients

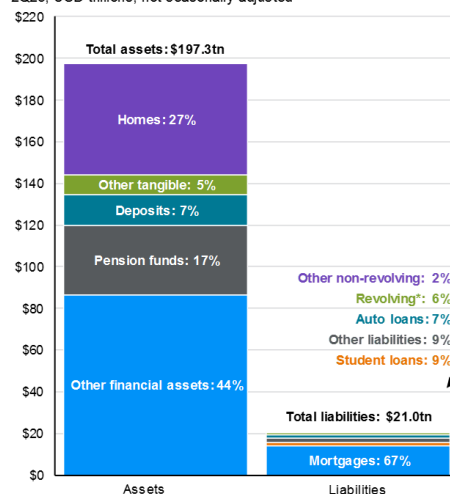


Consumer finances

GTM U.S. 27

Consumer balance sheet

2Q25, USD trillions, not seasonally adjusted



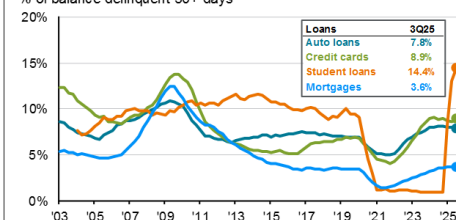
Household debt service ratio

Debt payments as % of disposable personal income, SA



Flows into early delinquencies

% of balance delinquent 30+ days



Source: FactSet, FRB, J.P. Morgan Asset Management; (Top and Bottom right) BEA. Data include households and nonprofit organizations. *Revolving includes credit cards. Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding. **Periods for which official data are unavailable are J.P. Morgan Asset Management estimates. Household debt service ratio data from 1Q80 to 4Q04 are J.P. Morgan Asset Management estimates. Due to the moratorium on delinquent student loan payments being reported to credit bureaus, missed federal student loan payments were not reported until 4Q24. Guide to the Markets - U.S. Data are as of December 3, 2025.

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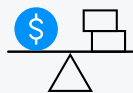
Source: JPMorgan Asset Management, Mastercard Spending Pulse, Adobe for Business. Portfolio positioning as of December 2025. Forecasts, projections and other forward-looking statements are based upon current beliefs and expectations. They are for illustrative purposes only and serve as an indication of what may occur. Given the inherent uncertainties and risks associated with forecasts, projections and other forward statements, actual events, results or performance may differ materially from those reflected or contemplated.



Key Investment Themes

As of January 2026

Latest investment themes



MACRO

On stable ground

Global growth continues to be supported by fiscal and monetary policy

- AI-related corporate investments and resilient consumer spending should support growth
- Maintain modest pro-risk tilt across portfolios



EQUITIES

Playing from strength

Supportive backdrop for equities with expectations for continued strength in earnings

- Prefer US large caps, mindful of valuations
- Opportunistic in emerging markets given AI adoption, fiscal policy, and valuations



FIXED INCOME

Giving credit to credit

Steady growth and stable rate environment provide supportive backdrop

- Attractive all-in yields and low default levels support extended credit
- Maintain allocation to core fixed income for diversification and stability



INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Insights in action

Delivering a consistent and disciplined process to keep clients invested through market cycles

- Diversification drives portfolio construction
- Leverage research and active asset allocation to navigate evolving market environments

Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Forecasts, projections and other forward looking statements are based upon current beliefs and expectations. They are for illustrative purposes only and serve as an indication of what may occur. Given the inherent uncertainties and risks associated with forecasts, projections and other forward statements, actual events, results or performance may differ materially from those reflected or contemplated.

J.P. Morgan Model Portfolios – Themes summary

Below are select slides from J.P. Morgan's *Guide to the Markets* that can be used when speaking to clients about our portfolio themes



On stable ground

17: Components of GDP

Consumption continues to be the largest driver of growth

23: Artificial intelligence: hyperscaler investment

Continued capex spend by AI firms could cause U.S. economic growth to trend higher



Playing from strength

8: S&P 500: Index concentration

The weight and earnings share of the top 10 companies have increased overtime, backing the growth seen in equity valuations

45: Global equity return themes

Global equities offer diversification while providing potential for increased returns through thematic opportunities



Giving credit to credit

35: Credit market dynamics

Despite tight spreads, yields are elevated and default rates remain below historical averages

37: Fixed income yields

Yields remain attractive versus recent history, with fixed income offering income, yield protection, and strong valuations



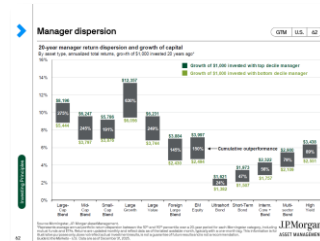
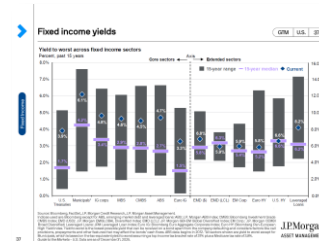
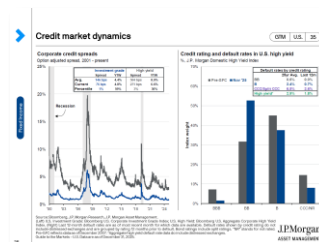
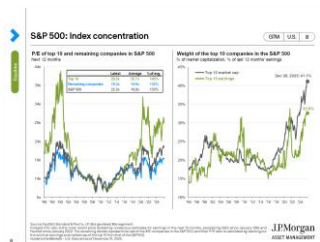
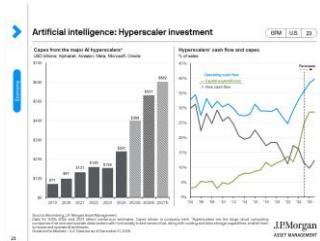
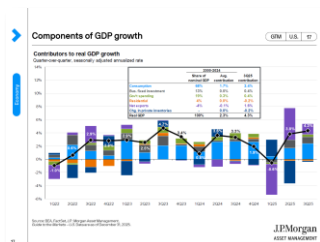
Insights in action

56: Asset class returns

Asset class performance is unpredictable, but a diversified portfolio can lead to more consistent returns over time

62: Manager dispersion

Manager selection is crucial, with top managers far outperforming bottom managers over the long term, particularly in equities



Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management. For illustrative purposes only.



Components of GDP growth

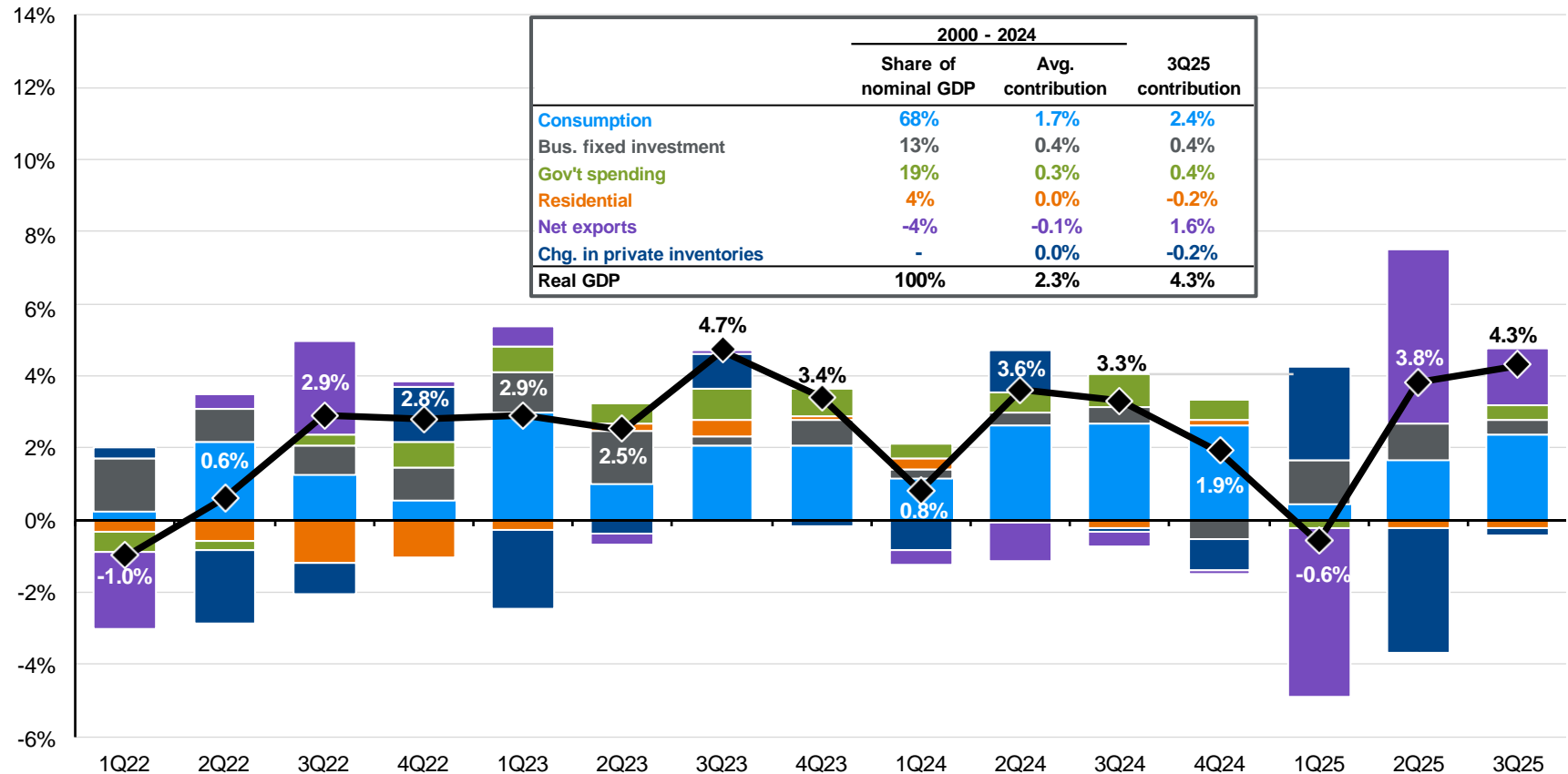
GTM

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Contributors to real GDP growth

Quarter-over-quarter, seasonally adjusted annualized rate



Source: BEA, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.
Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2025.



Artificial intelligence: Hyperscaler investment

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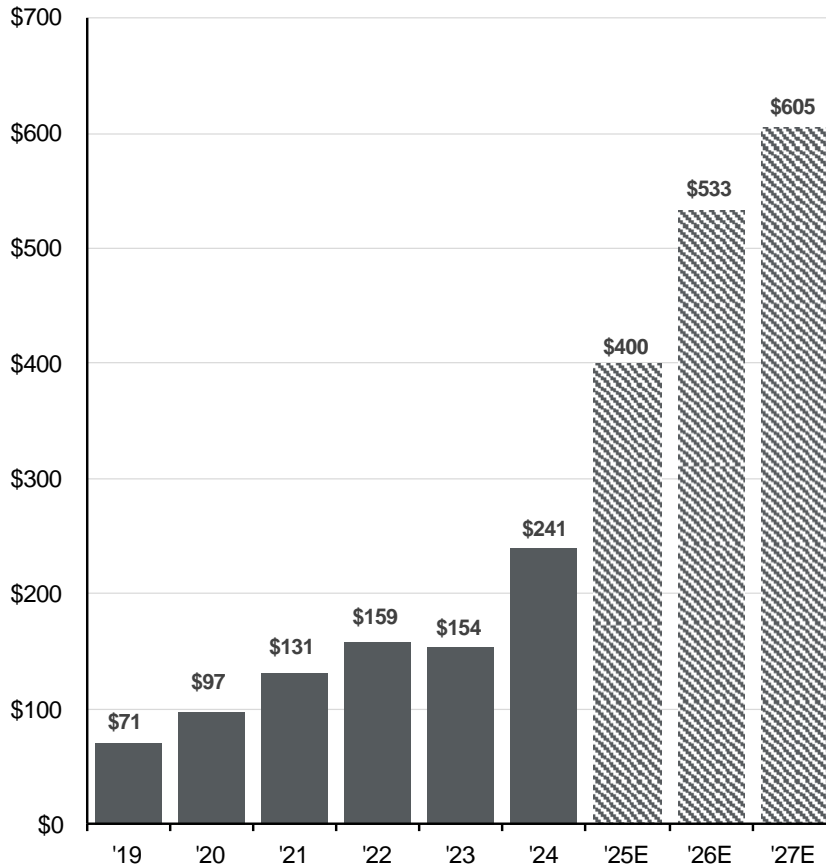
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Economy

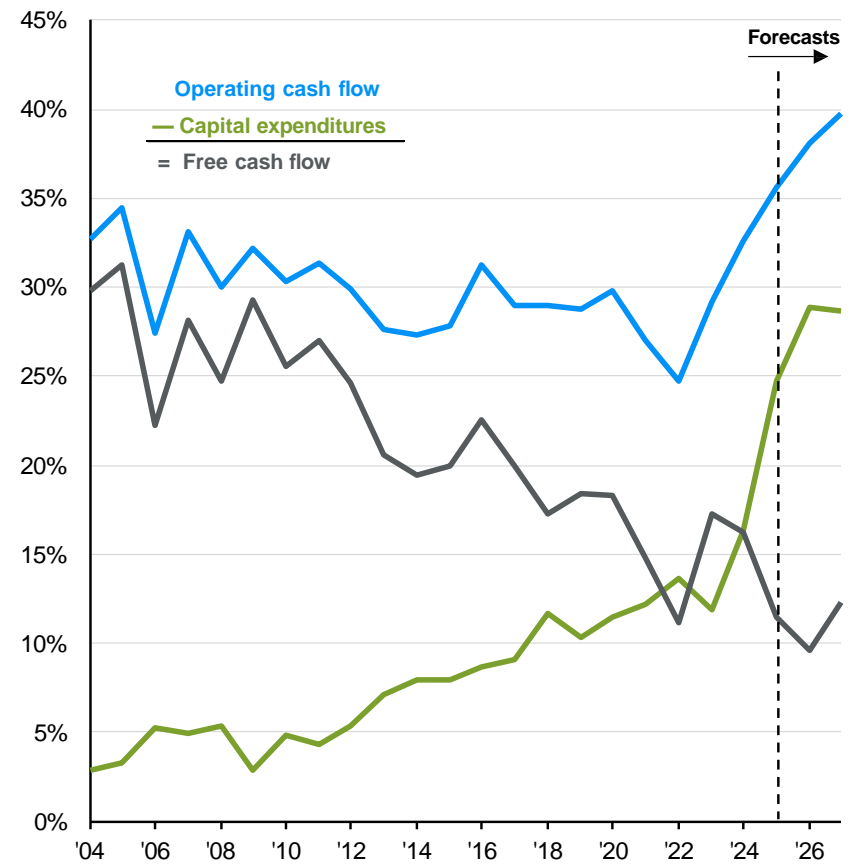
Capex from the major AI hyperscalers*

USD billions; Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, Microsoft, Oracle



Hyperscalers' cash flow and capex

% of sales



Source: Bloomberg, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Data for 2025, 2026 and 2027 reflect consensus estimates. Capex shown is company total. *Hyperscalers are the large cloud computing companies that own and operate data centers with horizontally linked servers that, along with cooling and data storage capabilities, enable them to house and operate AI workloads.

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



S&P 500: Index concentration

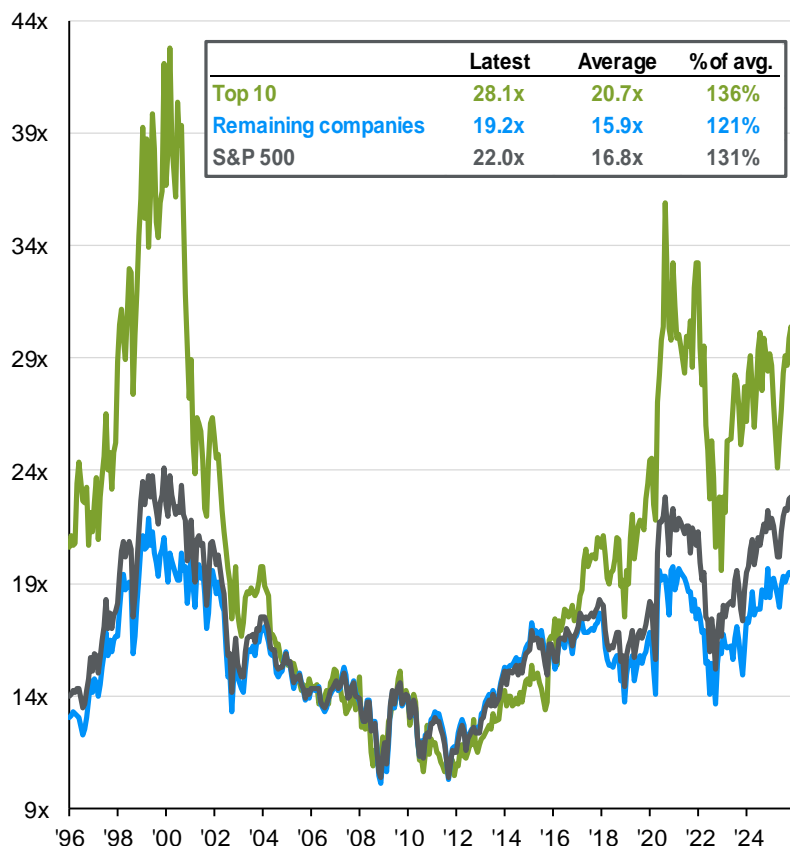
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P/E of top 10 and remaining companies in S&P 500

Next 12 months



Weight of the top 10 companies in the S&P 500

% of market capitalization, % of last 12 months' earnings



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

Forward P/E ratio is the most recent price divided by consensus estimates for earnings in the next 12 months, provided by IBES since January 1996 and FactSet since January 2022. The remaining stocks represent the rest of the 490 companies in the S&P 500, and their P/E ratio is calculated by backing out the nominal earnings and market cap of the top 10 from that of the S&P 500.

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

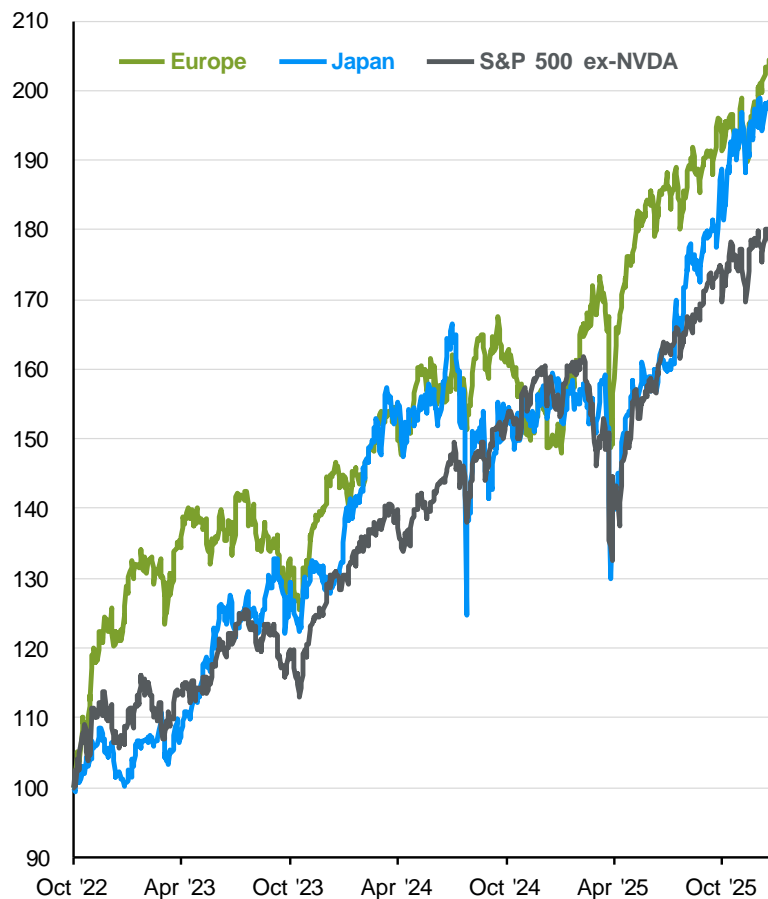


Global equity return themes

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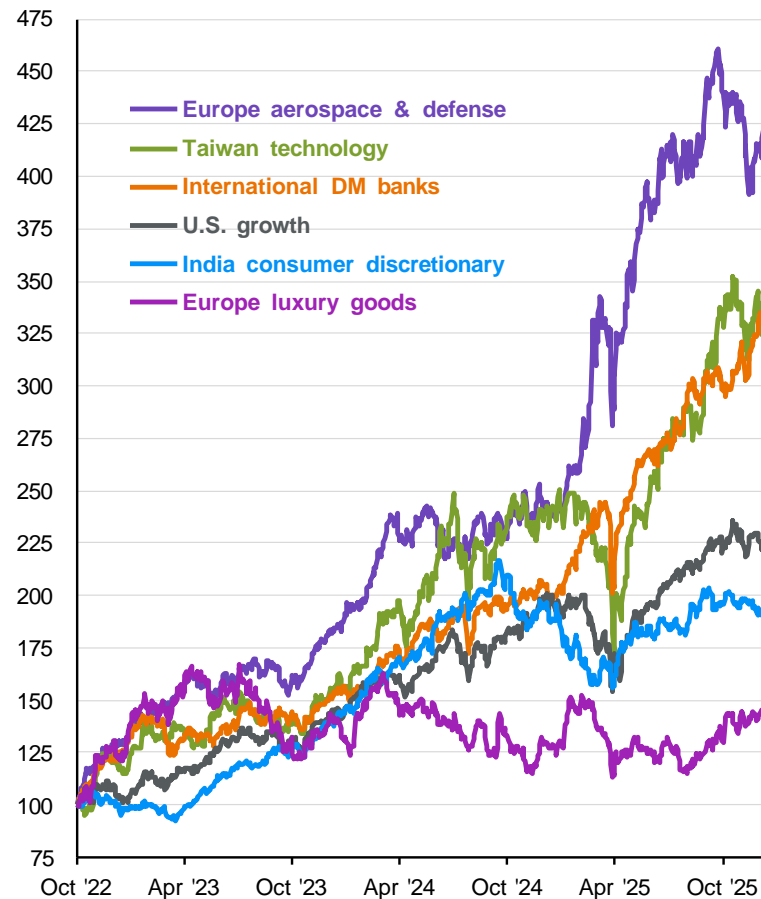
Regional performance since 2022

Oct 12, 2022 = 100, total return, USD



Major global investment themes

Oct 12, 2022 = 100, total return, USD



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

10/12/2022 was the market bottom for U.S. equities. (Right) Europe aerospace & defense = MSCI Europe / Aerospace & Defense Index, International DM banks = MSCI EAFE / Banks Index, Taiwan technology = MSCI Taiwan / Information Technology Index, U.S. Growth = Russell 1000 Growth Index, India consumer discretionary = MSCI India / Consumer Discretionary Index, Europe luxury goods = MSCI Europe / Textiles & Apparel & Luxury Goods Index. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.
Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2025.

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Credit market dynamics

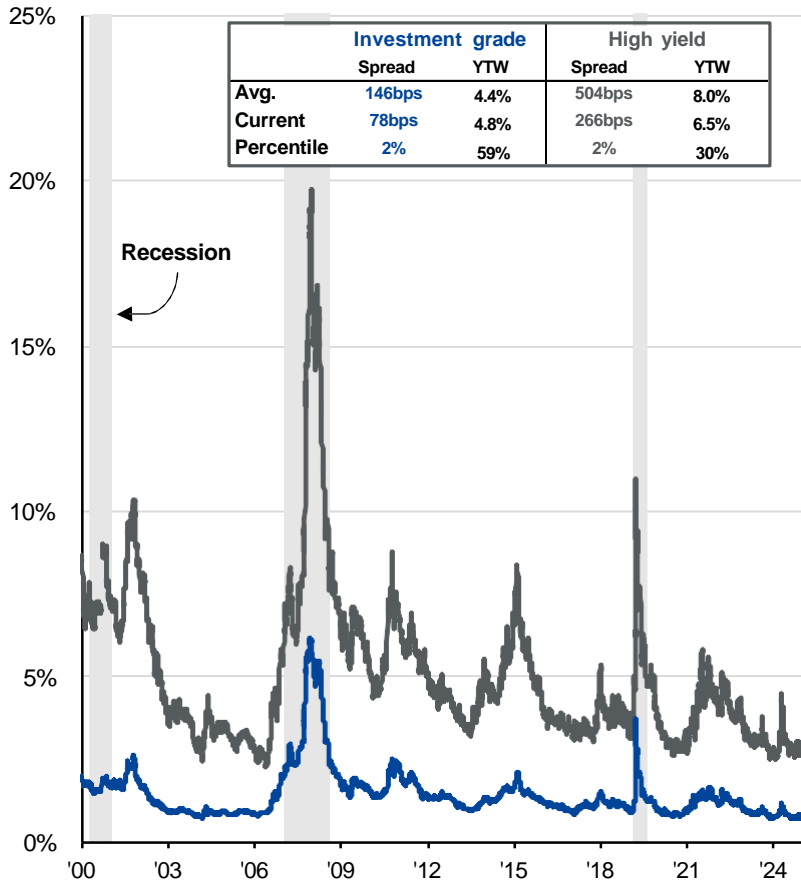
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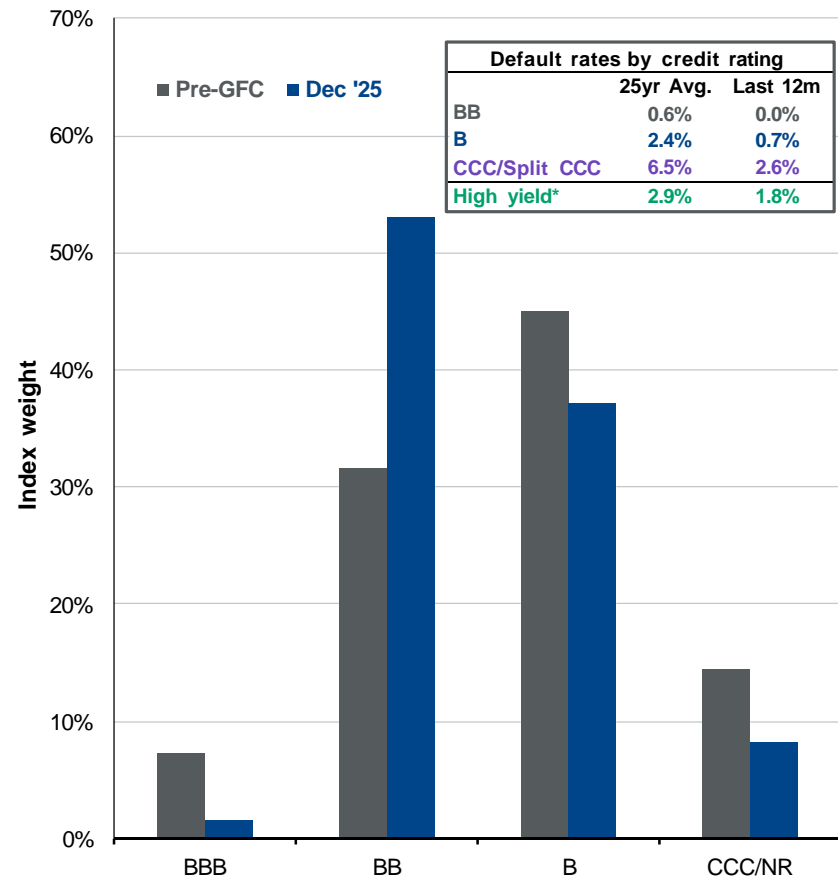
Corporate credit spreads

Option adjusted spread, 2001 - present



Credit rating and default rates in U.S. high yield

% , J.P. Morgan Domestic High Yield Index



Source: Bloomberg, J.P. Morgan Research, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

(Left) U.S. Investment Grade: Bloomberg U.S. Corporate Investment Grade Index; U.S. High Yield: Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Corporate High Yield Index. (Right) Last 12-month default rates are as of most recent month for which data are available. Default rates shown by credit rating do not include distressed exchanges and are grouped by rating 12 months prior to default. Bond ratings include split ratings. "NR" stands for not rated. Pre-GFC reflects data as of December 2007. *Aggregate high yield default rate data do include distressed exchanges.

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

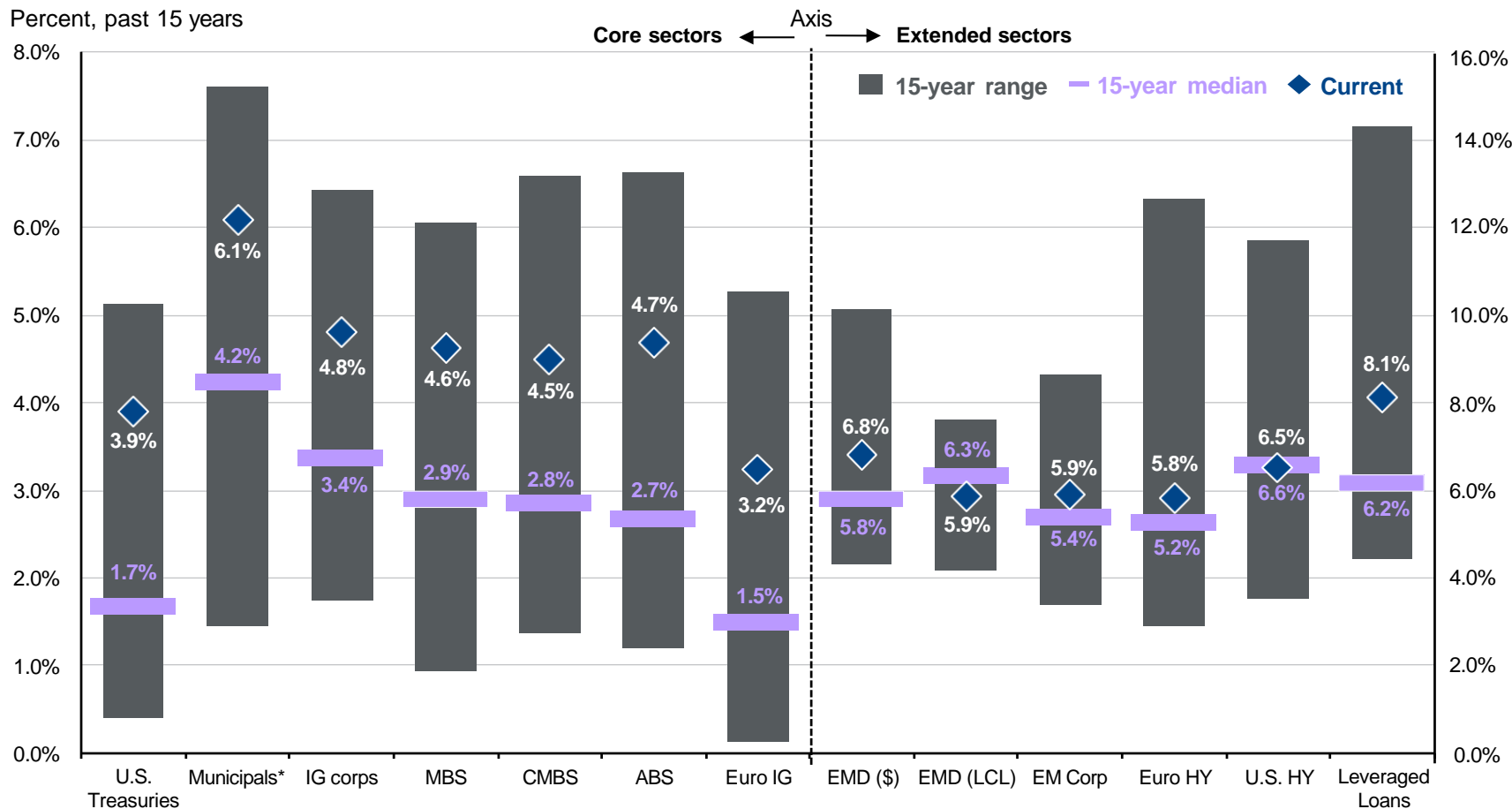


Fixed income yields

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Yield to worst across fixed income sectors

Percent, past 15 years



Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Credit Research, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Indices used are Bloomberg except for ABS, emerging market debt and leveraged loans: ABS: J.P. Morgan ABS Index; CMBS: Bloomberg Investment Grade CMBS Index; EMD (USD): J.P. Morgan EMIGLOBAL Diversified Index; EMD (LCL): J.P. Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Index; EM Corp.: J.P. Morgan CEMBI Broad Diversified; Leveraged Loans: JPM Leveraged Loan Index; Euro IG: Bloomberg Euro Aggregate Corporate Index; Euro HY: Bloomberg Pan-European High Yield Index. Yield to worst is the lowest possible yield that can be received on a bond apart from the company defaulting and considers factors like call provisions, prepayments and other features that may affect the bonds' cash flows. ABS data begins in 2012. *All sectors shown are yield to worst except for Municipals, which is based on the tax-equivalent yield to worst assuming a top income tax bracket rate of 37% plus a Medicare tax rate of 3.8%.

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

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Asset class returns

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2011 - 2025

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

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

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

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



Manager dispersion

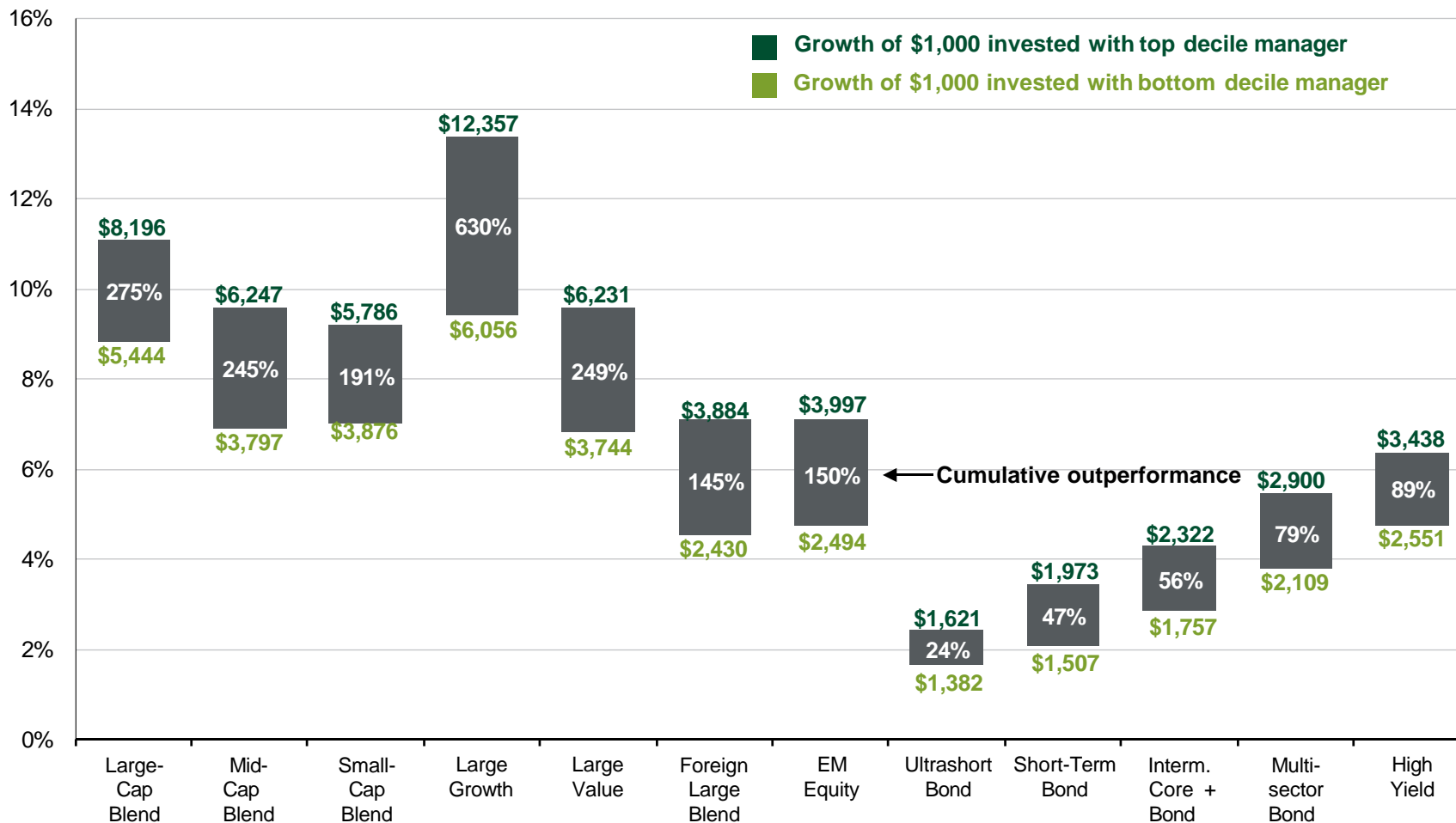
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20-year manager return dispersion and growth of capital

By asset type, annualized total returns, growth of \$1,000 invested 20 years ago*



Source: Morningstar, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

*Represents average annual portfolio return dispersion between the 10th and 90th percentile over a 20-year period for each Morningstar category, including mutual funds and ETFs. Returns are updated monthly and reflect data as of the latest available month, typically with a one-month lag. This information is for illustrative purposes only, does not reflect actual investment results, is not a guarantee of future results and is not a recommendation.

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

J.P. Morgan Asset Management – Index definitions

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

Equities:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The **S&P 500 Index** is widely regarded as the best single gauge of the U.S. equities market. The index includes a representative sample of 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The S&P 500 Index focuses on the large-cap segment of the market; however, since it includes a significant portion of the total value of the market, it also represents the market.

Fixed income:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

J.P. Morgan Asset Management – Definitions

Other asset classes:

The Alerian MLP Index is a composite of the 50 most prominent energy Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs) that provides investors with an unbiased, comprehensive benchmark for the asset class.

The Bloomberg Commodity Index and related sub-indices are composed of futures contracts on physical commodities and

represents twenty two separate commodities traded on U.S. exchanges, with the exception of aluminum, nickel, and zinc

The Cambridge Associates U.S. Global Buyout and Growth Index® is based on data compiled from 1,768 global (U.S. & ex

–U.S.) buyout and growth equity funds, including fully liquidated partnerships, formed between 1986 and 2013.

The CS/Tremont Hedge Fund Index is compiled by Credit Suisse Tremont Index, LLC. It is an asset-weighted hedge fund index and includes only funds, as opposed to separate accounts. The Index uses the Credit Suisse/Tremont database, which tracks over 4500 funds, and consists only of funds with a minimum of US\$50 million under management, a 12-month track record, and audited financial statements. It is calculated and rebalanced on a monthly basis, and shown net of all performance fees and expenses. It is the exclusive property of Credit Suisse Tremont Index, LLC.

The HFRI Monthly Indices (HFRI) are equally weighted performance indexes, utilized by numerous hedge fund managers as a benchmark for their own hedge funds. The HFRI are broken down into 4 main strategies, each with multiple sub strategies. All single-manager HFRI Index constituents are included in the HFRI Fund Weighted Composite, which accounts for over 2200 funds listed on the internal HFR Database.

The NAREIT EQUITY REIT Index is designed to provide the most comprehensive assessment of overall industry performance, and includes all tax-qualified real estate investment trusts (REITs) that are listed on the NYSE, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ National Market List.

The NFI-ODCE, short for NCREIF Fund Index -Open End Diversified Core Equity, is an index of investment returns reporting on both a historical and current basis the results of 33 open-end commingled funds pursuing a core investment strategy, some of which have performance histories dating back to the 1970s. The NFI-ODCE Index is capitalization-weighted and is reported gross of fees. Measurement is time-weighted.

Definitions:

Investing in alternative assets involves higher risks than traditional investments and is suitable only for sophisticated investors. Alternative investments involve greater risks than traditional investments and should not be deemed a complete investment program. They are not tax efficient and an investor should consult with his/her tax advisor prior to investing. Alternative investments have higher fees than traditional investments and they may also be highly leveraged and engage in speculative investment techniques, which can magnify the potential for investment loss or gain. The value of the investment may fall as well as rise and investors may get back less than they invested.

Bonds are subject to interest rate risks. Bond prices generally fall when interest rates rise.

Investments in commodities may have greater volatility than investments in traditional securities, particularly if the instruments involve leverage. The value of commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments. Use of leveraged commodity-linked derivatives creates an opportunity for increased return but, at the same time, creates the possibility for greater loss.

Derivatives may be riskier than other types of investments because they may be more sensitive to changes in economic or market conditions than other types of investments and could result in losses that significantly exceed the original investment. The use of derivatives may not be successful, resulting in investment losses, and the cost of such strategies may reduce investment returns.

Distressed Restructuring Strategies employ an investment process focused on corporate fixed income instruments, primarily on corporate credit instruments of companies trading at significant discounts to their value at issuance or obliged (par value) at maturity as a result of either formal bankruptcy proceeding or financial market perception of near term proceedings.

Investments in emerging markets can be more volatile. The normal risks of investing in foreign countries are heightened when investing in emerging markets. In addition, the small size of securities markets and the low trading volume may lead to a lack of liquidity, which leads to increased volatility. Also, emerging markets may not provide adequate legal protection for private or foreign investment or private property.

The price of equity securities may rise, or fall because of changes in the broad market or changes in a company's financial condition, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual companies, sectors or industries, or the securities market as a whole, such as changes in economic or political conditions. Equity securities are subject to "stock market risk" meaning that stock prices in general may decline over short or extended periods of time.

Equity market neutral strategies employ sophisticated quantitative techniques of analyzing price data to ascertain information about future price movement and relationships between securities, select securities for purchase and sale. Equity Market Neutral Strategies typically maintain characteristic net equity market exposure no greater than 10% long or short.

Global macro strategies trade a broad range of strategies in which the investment process is predicated on movements in underlying economic variables and the impact these have on equity, fixed income, hard currency and commodity markets.

International investing involves a greater degree of risk and increased volatility. Changes in currency exchange rates and differences in accounting and taxation policies outside the U.S. can raise or lower returns. Some overseas markets may not be as politically and economically stable as the United States and other nations.

There is no guarantee that the use of long and short positions will succeed in limiting an investor's exposure to domestic stock market movements, capitalization, sector swings or other risk factors. Using long and short selling strategies may have higher portfolio turnover rates. Short selling involves certain risks, including additional costs associated with covering short positions and a possibility of unlimited loss on certain short sale positions.

Merger arbitrage strategies which employ an investment process primarily focused on opportunities in equity and equity related instruments of companies which are currently engaged in a corporate transaction.

Mid-capitalization investing typically carries more risk than investing in well-established "blue-chip" companies. Historically, mid-cap companies' stock has experienced a greater degree of market volatility than the average stock.

Price to forward earnings is a measure of the price-to-earnings ratio (P/E) using forecasted earnings. Price to book value compares a stock's market value to its book value. Price to cash flow is a measure of the market's expectations of a firm's future financial health. Price to dividends is the ratio of the price of a share on a stock exchange to the dividends per share paid in the previous year, used as a measure of a company's potential as an investment.

Real estate investments may be subject to a higher degree of market risk because of concentration in a specific industry, sector or geographical sector. Real estate investments may be subject to risks including, but not limited to, declines in the value of real estate, risks related to general and economic conditions, changes in the value of the underlying property owned by the trust and defaults by borrower.

Relative Value Strategies maintain positions in which the investment thesis is predicated on realization of a valuation discrepancy in the relationship between multiple securities.

Small-capitalization investing typically carries more risk than investing in well-established "blue-chip" companies since smaller companies generally have a higher risk of failure. Historically, smaller companies' stock has experienced a greater degree of market volatility than the average stock.

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