

Weekly Review March 17, 2017

Chart of the Week



Weekly Highlights

- The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) elected to raise the federal funds rate at its March meeting from a range of 50-75 basis points up to 75-100 basis points. This was widely anticipated by the market following aggressive forward guidance in recent weeks. The statement accompanying the hike was less hawkish than expected, and both equity and bond markets rallied on the announcement. The Federal Reserve (Fed) is telegraphing two additional hikes this year, leaving projections for the medium-term tightening cycle unchanged.
- The Producer Price Index (PPI) measures came in at 0.3%, higher than expected. Year-over-year, producer prices are up 2.2%, the highest level in nearly five years, pointing to an inflation reading that is coming into line with the Fed's target.
- Housing starts for February were favorable, particularly for single family homes, which were up 6.5% during the month. Multi-family starts fell by 3.7%, but remain up 13.0% on the year.

Talking Points

- The equity market rally continued this week, with global stocks posting modestly positive returns, led by emerging markets.
- Treasury yields rallied on the heels of this week's FOMC meeting, as the statement accompanying the Fed's rate hike was more dovish than many expected.
- The US Dollar ended the week lower against a basket of major trade partners' currencies, based on what many market participants view as a dovish tightening by the Fed.
- Commodities were marginally higher for the week, with crude oil continuing to trade rangebound after its fall earlier this month.
- In other economic news: Initial jobless claims point to continued strength in the labor market, holding at trend level, a favorable signal for the March employment report.

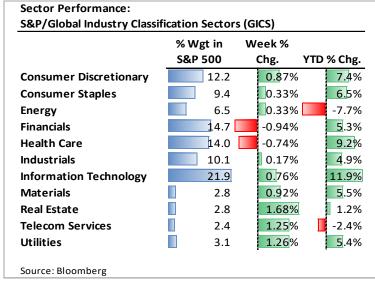
Market Dashboard

	Last Price	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
S&P 500	2,378.25	5.65	0.24%	6.2%
Dow Industrials	20,914.62	11.64	0.06%	5.8%
Nasdaq	5,901.00	39.27	0.67%	9.6%
Russell 2000	1,391.52	26.26	1.92%	2.5%
Euro Stoxx Index	378.32	5.09	1.36%	4.7%
Shanghai Composite	3,237.45	24.69	0.77%	4.3%
Russell Global	1,882.37	25.19	1.36%	6.8%
Source: Bloomberg; Index % char	nge is based on p	orice.		

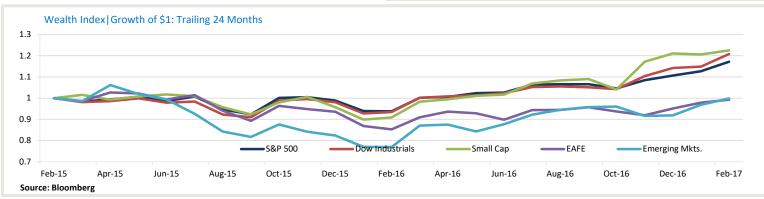
	Last Price	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Russell Global EM	3,051.68	114.57	3.90%	11.7%
10-Year US Treas.	2.50	-8 bps	NM	NM
DJ UBS Comm. ldx.	85.14	0.88	1.04%	-2.7%
Gold	\$1,229.57	\$24.51	2.03%	7.1%
Crude Oil	\$48.70	\$0.23	0.47%	-12.1%
Dollar Index	100.35	-0.89	-0.88%	-1.8%
VIX Index	11.27	-0.40	-3.43%	-19.8%

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		One Weel	(YTD	
	Value		Growth	Value		Growth
L	-0.14%	0.10%	0.33%	3.93%	6.65%	9.30%
	0.88%	0.91%	0.96%	3.48%	5.06%	7.04%
S	2.13%	1.92%	1.70%	0.05%	2.53%	5.30%
	Source: B	loomberg				







The Economy and Markets

A Macro Commentary: Don't Fight the Fed – Monetary Tightening and Global Markets

As expected, the Federal Reserve raised the federal funds target rate from a range of 50-75 basis points up to 75-100 basis points at this week's FOMC meeting. The Fed has telegraphed its desire to normalize monetary policy for some time, but over the past two years, economic data precluded it from doing so more than once at the end of each calendar year. With more robust macroeconomic data to start 2017, the central bank jumped on the opportunity to raise interest rates, a move that markets had priced in as a near certainty, following aggressive forward guidance. Both debt and equity markets rallied on the news, as the statement accompanying the rate hike was viewed as more dovish than many expected. The question remaining for investors, however, is how aggressive will the Fed be going forward, and what will this mean for markets in the months ahead?

We all know that rising interest rates are bad for bond valuations. When interest rates go up, the income earned by bondholders on their current holdings suddenly becomes less competitive than what is being offered in the new issuance market, making their bonds less valuable. One way bond investors have been able to avoid this problem historically is by holding securities that are less vulnerable to changes in interest rates and more sensitive to underlying credit fundamentals. However, the difference in this tightening cycle is that investor's yield-chasing behavior in the years since the financial crisis has greatly reduced the spread offered by riskier fixed income assets, which in the past has helped protect these securities from price erosion due to rising rates. Based on the heightened level of current valuations across the majority of fixed income sectors, there are fewer places to hide from the negative impact of rising rates.

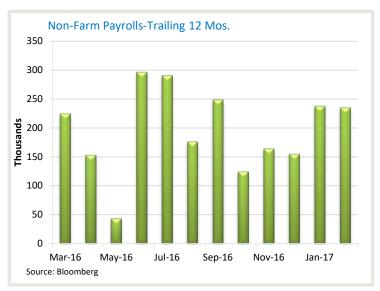
Historically, equity markets have performed well during the onset of a rising interest rate environment, but then declined as the tightening cycle tends to eventually stall the economy and adversely affect corporate bottom lines. One exception is the Financials sector, which benefits from the increased spread between borrowing and lending. Unsurprisingly, income-generating stocks can be more susceptible to rising rates, and in general, these stocks already trade at high valuations—the result of an aggressive bid from yield-hungry investors. Ultimately, historical tightening cycles have occurred in different economic environments, and have had mixed results for equity markets. The last sustained period of rising interest rates was more than 30 years ago, and from a much higher base, meaning there may be some uncertainty around how an upward trajectory in rates might affect equity markets this time around, and uncertainty usually means higher volatility.

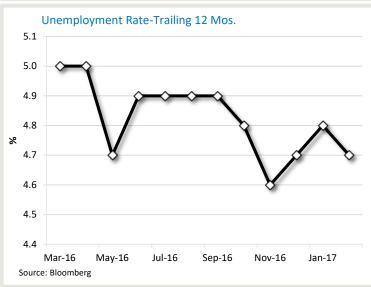
Fed policy also has a multitude of macroeconomic effects that affect both global and domestic markets. In the near term, the yield differential caused by the increasing divergence between the Fed's policies and those of other major central banks (namely the European Central Bank and Bank of Japan) should further encourage capital flows into the US, placing a ceiling on US rates and strengthening the US dollar. However, over the longer term, investors should consider the potential effects of the eventual unwinding of quantitative easing in Europe and Japan (making bond yields more attractive to investors in their respective markets), which should lead to reduced demand for US bonds and the dollar, likely undermining many of the market trends that have developed over the past few years. Higher borrowing costs could hamper the US consumer, the engine of the American economy, as well as firms with less-viable business models, or those that rely heavily on debt financing. In addition, a strong dollar makes US exports more expensive for foreign buyers and imports cheaper for American companies and consumers. This can be either positive or negative for US corporations, depending on whether the firm is a net importer or net exporter. Further complicating matters is the uncertainty surrounding the new administration's policies, particularly those related to foreign trade and domestic growth and inflation, the latter of which could induce more aggressive Fed tightening in the future.

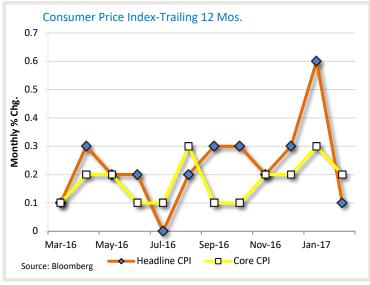
Clearly, the Fed has embarked on a policy path that will likely influence significantly both asset prices and the real economy. Although it remains to be seen how many additional rate hikes we'll ultimately see in 2017, investors must be cognizant of the impact these decisions might ultimately have on their portfolios, and position themselves accordingly.

Economic Data













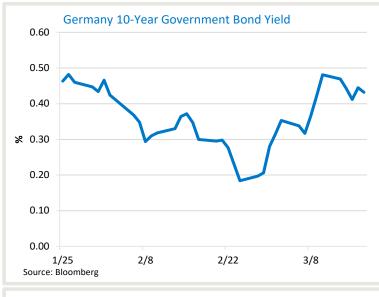
Eurozone

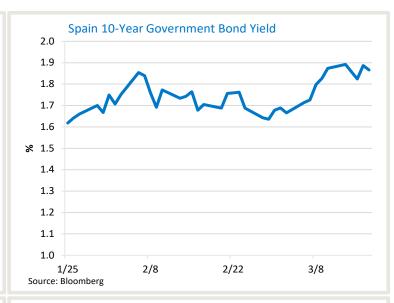
SELECTED EUROPEAN SOVEREIGN YIELD PERFORMANCE

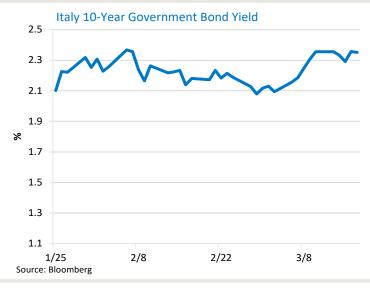
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Germany 10-Yr. Govt.	0.43	5 bps	NM	NM
Greece 10-Yr. Govt.	7.30	-12 bps	NM	NM
Italy 10-Yr. Govt.	2.35	0 bps	NM	NM
Spain 10-Yr. Govt.	1.87	1 bps	NM	NM
Belgium 10-Yr. Govt.	0.92	6 bps	NM	NM

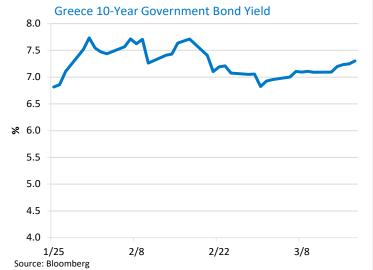
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
France 10-Yr. Govt.	1.11	1 bps	NM	NM
Ireland 10-Yr. Govt.	1.13	2 bps	NM	NM
Portugal 10-Yr. Govt.	4.26	5 bps	NM	NM
Netherlands 10-Yr. Govt.	0.68	5 bps	NM	NM
U.K. 10-Yr. Govt.	1.24	-2 bps	NM	NM

Source: Bloomberg Basis points (bps)









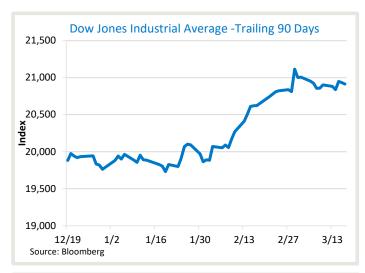
Equities

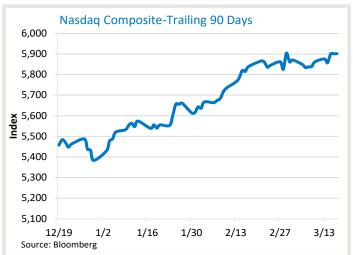
WORLD MARKET PERFORMANCE

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
S&P 500	2,378.25	5.65	0.24%	6.23%
Dow Industrials	20,914.62	11.64	0.06%	5.83%
Nasdaq Composite	5,901.00	39.27	0.67%	9.62%
Russell Global	1,882.37	25.19	1.36%	6.8%
Russell Global EM	3,051.68	114.57	3.90%	11.7%
S&P/TSX (Canada)	15,490.49	-16.19	-0.10%	1.33%
Mexico IPC	48,593.44	1491.13	3.17%	6.46%
Brazil Bovespa	64,209.94	-465.52	-0.72%	6.61%
Euro Stoxx 600	378.32	5.09	1.36%	4.68%
FTSE 100	7,424.96	81.88	1.12%	3.95%
IBEX 35 (Spain)	10,245.80	239.40	2.39%	9.56%

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Swiss Market Index	8,698.53	28.56	0.33%	5.82%
CAC 40 Index (France)	5,029.24	35.92	0.72%	3.43%
DAX Index (Germany)	12,095.24	132.06	1.10%	5.35%
Irish Overall Index	6,714.74	36.26	0.54%	3.03%
Nikkei 225	19,521.59	-83.02	-0.42%	2.13%
Hang Seng Index	24,309.93	741.26	3.15%	10.50%
Shanghai Composite	3,237.45	24.69	0.77%	4.31%
Kospi Index (S. Korea)	2,164.58	67.23	3.21%	6.82%
Taiwan Taiex Index	9,908.69	280.80	2.92%	7.08%
Tel Aviv 25 Index	1,426.86	-12.35	-0.86%	-2.99%
MICEX Index (Russia)	2,036.96	63.00	3.19%	-8.77%

Source: Bloomberg; Index % change is based on price.









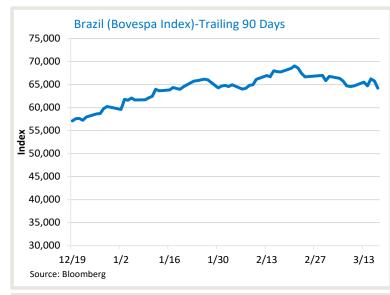
Equities – Emerging and Frontier Markets

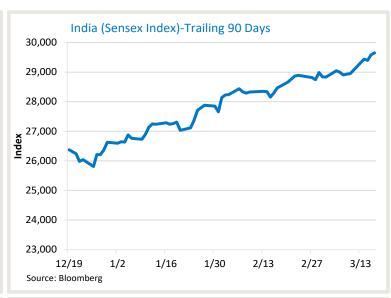
EMERGING AND FRONTIER MARKET PERFORMANCE

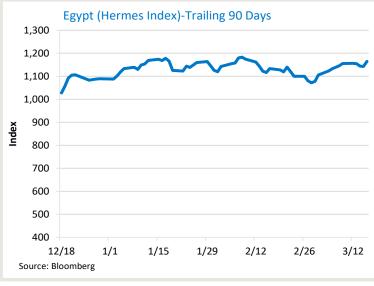
Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %	
48,593.44	1491.13	3.2%	6.5%	
64,209.94	-465.52	-0.7%	6.6%	
2,036.96	63.00	3.2%	-8.8%	
980.79	8.48	0.9%	6.4%	
90,491.39	879.99	1.0%	15.8%	
1,164.39	9.07	0.8%	6.9%	
2,983.68	20.60	0.7%	-6.4%	
6,921.60	4.76	0.1%	-4.0%	
1,227.67	-0.53	0.0%	1.3%	
536.85	1.48	0.3%	1.3%	
	48,593.44 64,209.94 2,036.96 980.79 90,491.39 1,164.39 2,983.68 6,921.60 1,227.67	48,593.44 1491.13 64,209.94 -465.52 2,036.96 63.00 980.79 8.48 90,491.39 879.99 1,164.39 9.07 2,983.68 20.60 6,921.60 4.76 1,227.67 -0.53	48,593.44 1491.13 3.2% 64,209.94 -465.52 -0.7% 2,036.96 63.00 3.2% 980.79 8.48 0.9% 90,491.39 879.99 1.0% 1,164.39 9.07 0.8% 2,983.68 20.60 0.7% 6,921.60 4.76 0.1% 1,227.67 -0.53 0.0%	

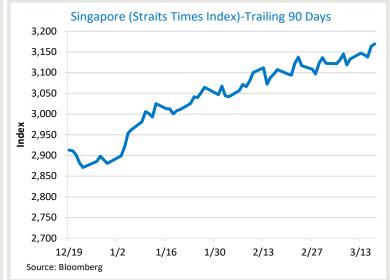
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Hang Seng Index	24,309.93	741.26	3.1%	10.5%
India (Sensex 30)	29,648.99	702.76	2.4%	11.4%
Malaysia (KLCI Index)	1,745.20	27.62	1.6%	6.3%
Singapore (Straits Times Index)	3,169.38	36.03	1.1%	10.0%
Thailand (SET Index)	1,560.98	21.07	1.4%	1.2%
Indonesia (Jakarta)	5,540.43	149.76	2.8%	4.6%
Pakistan (Karachi KSE 100)	48,549.08	-782.40	-1.6%	1.3%
Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh)	710.54	-1.67	-0.2%	6.9%
Sri Lanka (Colombo)	6,047.84	-37.15	-0.6%	-2.9%
Cambodia (Laos)	1,118.42	5.89	0.5%	10.2%

Source: Bloomberg; Index % change is based on price.









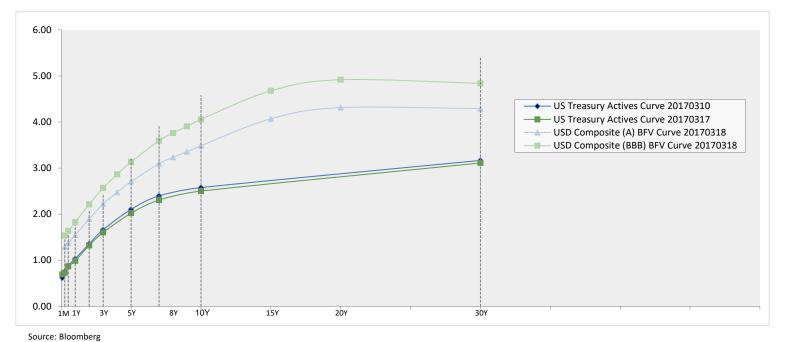
Interest Rates

SELECTED INTEREST RATES

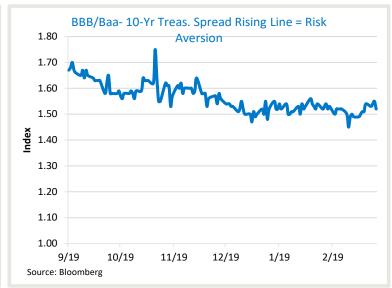
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
2-Yr. U.S. Treasury	1.32%	1 bps	NM	NM
5-Yr. U.S. Treasury	2.02%	-8 bps	NM	NM
10-Yr. U.S. Treasury	2.50%	-8 bps	NM	NM
30-Yr. U.S. Treasury	3.11%	-6 bps	NM	NM
German 10-Yr. Govt.	0.43%	5 bps	NM	NM
France 10-Yr.	1.11%	1 bps	NM	NM
Italy 10-Yr.	2.35%	0 bps	NM	NM
Fed 5-Yr Fwd BE Inf.	1.99%	0 bps	NM	NM

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Prime Rate	4.00%	0.25	NM	NM
Fed Funds Rate	1.00%	0.25	NM	NM
Discount Rate	1.50%	0.25	NM	NM
LIBOR (3 Mo.)	1.15%	3 bps	NM	NM
Bond Buyer 40 Muni	4.25%	-8 bps	NM	NM
Bond Buyer 40 G.O.	4.02%	NA	NM	NM
Bond Buyer 40 Rev.	4.17%	NA	NM	NM

Source: Bloomberg







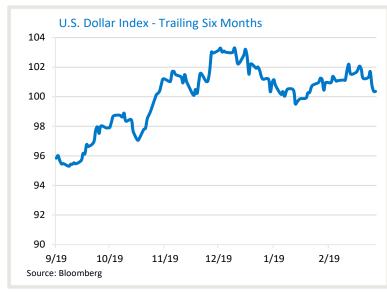
Currencies

SELECTED CURRENCY PERFORMANCE

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Dollar Index	100.35	-0.890	-0.88%	-1.81%
Euro	1.07	0.006	0.60%	2.09%
Japanese Yen	112.66	-2.080	1.85%	3.77%
British Pound	1.24	0.023	1.85%	0.42%
Canadian Dollar	1.33	-0.013	0.96%	0.73%

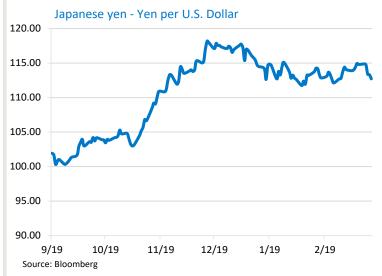
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Chinese Yuan	6.90	-0.006	0.09%	0.60%
Swiss Franc	1.00	-0.013	1.25%	2.06%
New Zealand Dollar	0.70	0.009	1.26%	1.10%
Brazilian Real	3.09	-0.051	1.64%	5.30%
Mexican Peso	19.08	-0.530	2.78%	8.64%

Source: Bloomberg







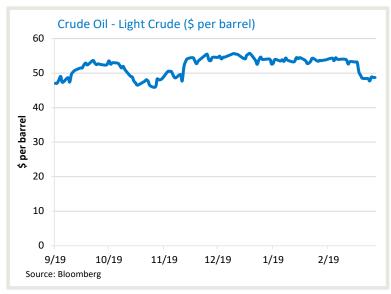


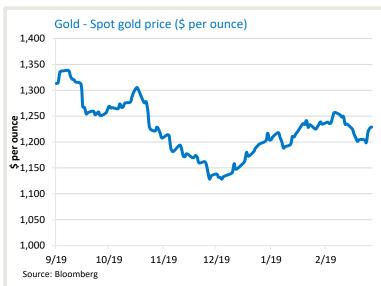
Commodities

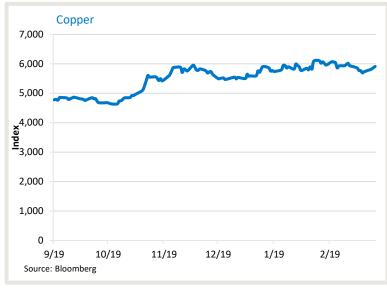
SELECTED COMMODITY MARKET PERFORMANCE

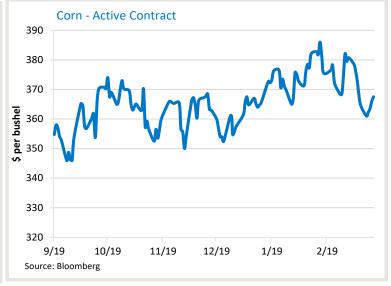
	SELECTED CONTINUED IT										
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %							
Bloomberg Comm. ldx.	85.14	0.88	1.04%	-2.71%							
Crude Oil	\$48.72	\$0.23	0.47%	-12.11%							
Natural Gas	\$2.95	-\$0.06	-2.06%	-17.39%							
Gasoline (\$/Gal.)	\$2.29	-\$0.01	-0.44%	-1.97%							
Heating Oil	150.89	0.59	0.39%	-13.22%							
Gold Spot	\$1,229.44	\$24.51	2.03%	7.12%							
Silver Spot	\$17.39	\$0.34	2.02%	9.14%							
Source: Bloomberg; % change is based on price.											

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Platinum Spot	\$964.08	\$21.60	2.29%	6.75%
Corn	367.50	3.25	0.89%	2.80%
Wheat	436.25	-4.25	-0.96%	3.75%
Soybeans	1,000.00	-6.50	-0.65%	-1.23%
Sugar	18.17	-0.05	-0.27%	-5.61%
Orange Juice	180.95	8.90	5.17%	-5.61%
Aluminum	1,900.00	20.00	1.06%	12.23%
Copper	5,909.00	177.00	3.09%	6.75%









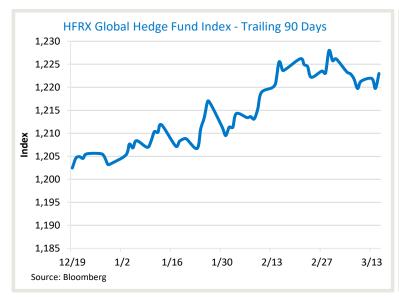
Alternative Investments

SELECTED ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT INDEX PERFORMANCE

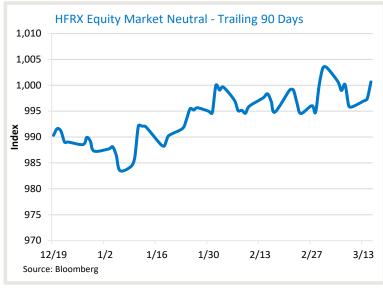
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
HFRX Global Hedge Fund Index	1222.99	1.67	0.14%	1.62%
HFRX Equity Market Neutral	1000.67	4.81	0.48%	1.36%
HFRX Equity Hedge Index	1189.72	5.06	0.43%	2.97%
HFRX Event-Driven Index	1603.05	1.66	0.10%	2.47%
HFRX Absolute Return Index	1034.36	1.26	0.12%	0.57%

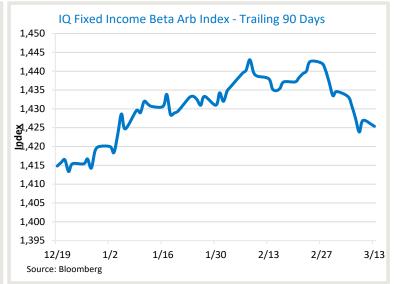
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
HFRX Distressed Index	1091.92	-0.09	-0.01%	1.76%
HFRX Merger Arbitrage Index	1811.35	0.23	0.01%	-0.07%
HFRX Convertible Arbitrage Index	756.20	-0.99	-0.13%	1.83%
HFRX Macro CTA Index	1129.15	-0.19	-0.02%	-0.55%
IQ Fixed Income Beta Arb Index	1433.16	6.22	0.44%	0.93%

Source: Bloomberg; Index % change is based on price.

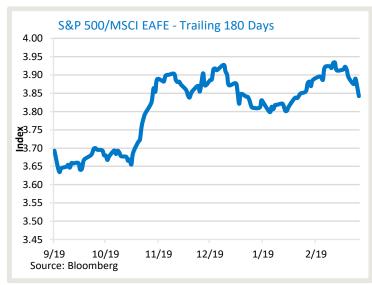


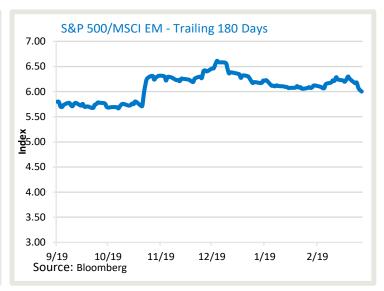






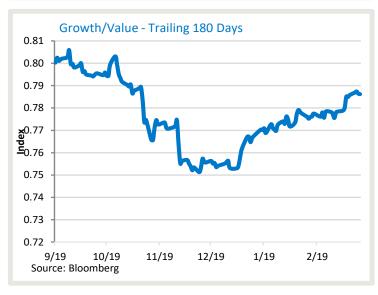
Portfolio Construction





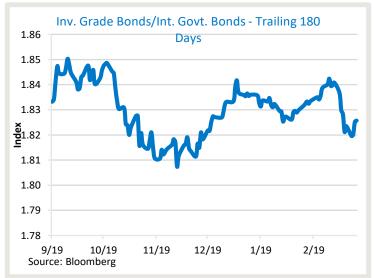


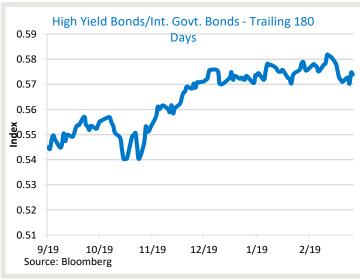


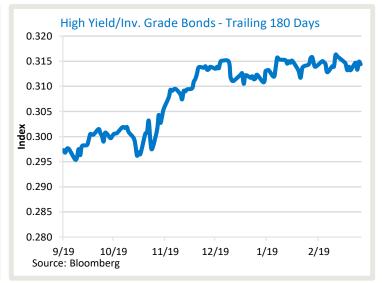


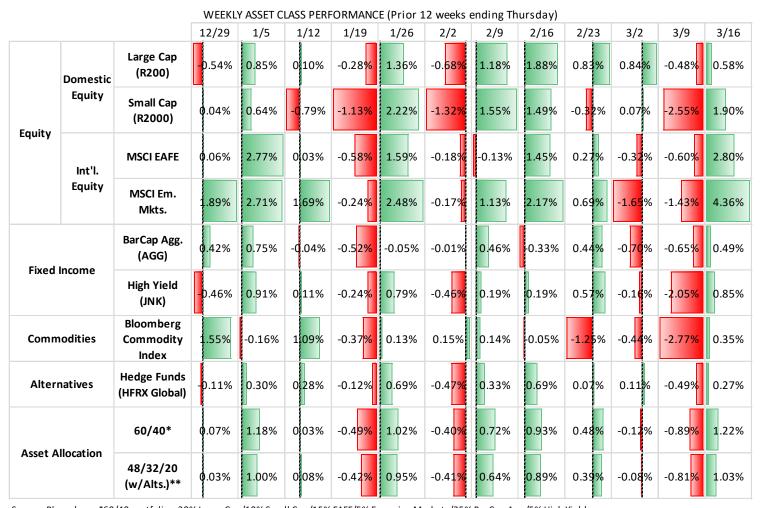
Portfolio Construction (continued)











 $Source: Bloomberg; *60/40\ portfolio = 30\%\ Large\ Cap/10\%\ Small\ Cap/15\%\ EAFE/5\%\ Emerging\ Markets/35\%\ BarCap\ Agg./5\%\ High\ Yield.$

^{**48/32/20} portfolio = 24% Large Cap/8% Small Cap/12% EAFE/4% Emerging Markets/28% BarCap Agg./4% High Yield/20% HFRX Global Index.

	Large Cap Core	Large Cap Growth	Large Cap Value	Mid Cap Core	Mid Cap Growth	Mid Cap Value	Small Cap Core	Small Cap Growth	Small Cap Value	Int'l. Developed	Emerging Markets	REITs	Comm.	Int. Bond	High Yield
Large Cap Core	1.00	0.95	1.10	1.18	1.12	1.24	1.26	1.20	1.31	1.03	1.03	1.35	1.57	1.48	1.39
Large Cap Growth	1.05	1.00	1.16	1.25	1.18	1.30	1.33	1.27	1.38	1.09	1.08	1.42	1.66	1.56	1.46
Large Cap Value	0.91	0.87	1.00	1.08	1.03	1.13	1.15	1.10	1.20	0.94	0.94	1.23	1.43	1.35	1.26
Mid Cap Core	0.84	0.80	0.93	1.00	0.95	1.04	1.06	1.01	1.11	0.87	0.87	1.14	1.33	1.25	1.17
Mid Cap Growth	0.89	0.84	0.98	1.05	1.00	1.10	1.12	1.07	1.17	0.92	0.91	1.20	1.40	1.32	1.23
Mid Cap Value	0.81	0.77	0.89	0.96	0.91	1.00	1.02	0.97	1.06	0.83	0.83	1.09	1.27	1.20	1.12
Small Cap Core	0.80	0.75	0.87	0.94	0.89	0.98	1.00	0.96	1.04	0.82	0.82	1.07	1.25	1.18	1.10
Small Cap Growth	0.83	0.79	0.91	0.99	0.94	1.03	1.05	1.00	1.09	0.86	0.85	1.12	1.31	1.23	1.15
Small Cap Value	0.76	0.72	0.83	0.90	0.86	0.94	0.96	0.91	1.00	0.78	0.78	1.03	1.20	1.13	1.05
Int'l. Developed	0.97	0.92	1.06	1.15	1.09	1.20	1.22	1.17	1.27	1.00	1.00	1.31	1.52	1.44	1.34
Emerging Markets	0.97	0.92	1.07	1.15	1.10	1.20	1.23	1.17	1.28	1.00	1.00	1.32	1.53	1.44	1.35
REITs	0.74	0.70	0.81	0.88	0.83	0.91	0.93	0.89	0.97	0.76	0.76	1.00	1.16	1.10	1.03
Commodities	0.64	0.60	0.70	0.75	0.72	0.79	0.80	0.76	0.84	0.66	0.65	0.86	1.00	0.94	0.88
Int. Bond	0.67	0.64	0.74	0.80	0.76	0.83	0.85	0.81	0.89	0.70	0.69	0.91	1.06	1.00	0.93
High Yield	0.72	0.68	0.79	0.85	0.81	0.89	0.91	0.87	0.95	0.74	0.74	0.97	1.13	1.07	1.00

Source: Bloomberg

The Relative Strength Matrix provides an indication of how the various asset classes have performed relative to one another over the past 30 days. A number greater than 1.0 indicates that the asset class in the far left column has outperformed the corresponding asset class in the top row over the past 30 days. A number below 1.0 means the asset class on the left has underperformed the asset class at the top. The green shading indicates outperformance, and the red shading indicates underperformance.

INDEX OVERVIEW

The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index comprised of 500 widely held securities considered to be representative of the stock market in general. The S&P/Case-Shiller Home Price Indices measure the residential housing market, tracking changes in the value of the residential real estate market in 20 metropolitan regions across the United States. The Nasdaq Composite is a stock market index of the common stocks and similar securities listed on the NASDAQ stock market. The MSCI EAFE Index represents 21 developed markets outside of North America. The MSCI EAFE Growth Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of growth stocks of Europe, Australasia and the Far East. The MSCI EAFE Value Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of value stocks of Europe, Australasia and the Far East. 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 an unmanaged index considered representative of stocks of developed European countries. The MSCI Pacific Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of the developed markets in the Pacific region. The Barclays US Credit Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of publicly issued, SEC-registered US corporate and specified foreign debentures and secured notes. The Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index is a market capitalization-weighted index of investment-grade, fixed-rate debt issues, including government, corporate, asset-backed, and mortgage-backed securities, with maturities of at least one year. The Barclays US Corporate High Yield Index covers the USD-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high-yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below. The index may include emerging market debt. The Barclays Capital Municipal Bond Index is an unmanaged index comprised of investment-grade, fixed-rate municipal securities representative of the tax-exempt bond market in general. The Barclays US Treasury Total Return Index is an unmanaged index of public obligations of the US Treasury with a remaining maturity of one year or more. The Citigroup World Government Bond Index is a market capitalization weighted bond index consisting of the government bond markets of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The DJ-UBS Commodity Index Total ReturnSM measures the collateralized returns from a basket of 19 commodity futures contracts representing the energy, precious metals, industrial metals, grains, softs and livestock sectors. The Russell 1000 Index is a market capitalization-weighted benchmark index made up of the 1000 largest U.S. companies in the Russell 3000 Index. The Russell 1000 Growth Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of large-cap growth stocks. The Russell 1000 Value Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of large-cap value stocks. The Russell 2000 Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of small-cap stocks. The Russell 2000 Growth Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of small-cap growth stocks. The Russell 2000 Growth Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of small-cap value stocks. The Russell 3000 Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of the US stock market. The Russell Midcap Index is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index. It includes approximately 800 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell Midcap Growth Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of mid-cap growth stocks. The Russell Midcap Value Index is an unmanaged index considered representative of mid-cap value stocks. The HFRX Indices are a series of benchmarks of hedge fund industry performance which are engineered to achieve representative performance of a larger universe of hedge fund strategies. Hedge Fund Research, Inc. employs the HFRX Methodology (UCITS compliant), a proprietary and highly quantitative process by which hedge funds are selected as constituents for the HFRX Indices. The ISM Non-Manufacturing Index is an index based on surveys of more than 400 nonmanufacturing firms' purchasing and supply executives, within 60 sectors across the nation, by the Institute of Supply Management (ISM). The ISM Non-Manufacturing Index tracks economic data, like the ISM Non-Manufacturing Business Activity Index. A composite diffusion index is created based on the data from these surveys that monitors economic conditions of the nation. The ISM Manufacturing Index is an index based on surveys of more than 300 manufacturing firms by the Institute of Supply Management. The ISM Manufacturing Index monitors employment, production inventories, new orders and supplier deliveries. A composite diffusion index is created that monitors conditions in national manufacturing based on the data from these surveys. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures the change in the cost of a fixed basket of products and services. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rate is a measurement of the output of goods and services produced by labor and property located in the United States. Basis Point(s) is a unit that is equal to 1/100th of 1%, and is used to denote the change in a financial instrument. The basis point is commonly used for calculating changes in interest rates, equity indexes and the yield of a fixed-income security. The CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) is an up-to-the-minute market estimate of expected volatility that is calculated by using real-time S&P 500 Index option bid/ask quotes. The Index uses nearby and second nearby options with at least 8 days left to expiration and then weights them to yield a constant, 30-day measure of the expected volatility of the S&P 500 Index. The MSCI World ex-U.S. Index captures large and mid-cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets DM countries*--excluding the United States. With 1,002 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country. (* DM countries include: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK.) The MSCI Japan Index - is designed to measure the performance of the large and mid-cap segments of the Japanese market. With 320 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in Japan. The Barclays Global Aggregate ex-U.S. Index - is a market capitalization-weighted index, meaning the securities in the index are weighted according to the market size of each bond type. Most U.S. traded investment grade bonds are represented. Municipal bonds, and Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities are excluded, due to tax treatment issues. The index includes Treasury securities, Government agency bonds, Mortgage-backed bonds, Corporate bonds, and a small amount of foreign bonds traded in U.S. The University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index (MCSI) is a survey of consumer confidence conducted by the University of Michigan. The Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index (MCSI) uses telephone surveys to gather information on consumer expectations regarding the overall economy. A separately managed account (SMA) is an individual managed investment account offered typically by a brokerage firm through one of their brokers or financial consultants and managed by independent investment management firms (often called money managers for short) and have varying fee structures. An open-end index fund continuously issues and redeems shares based on investor demand. As an index fund, its investment objective is to duplicate the performance of the index it uses as a benchmark. Investment Grade or Investment Grade Bond – The broad credit designation given to corporate and municipal bonds which have a high probability of being paid and minor, if any, speculative features. Bonds rated Baa and higher by Moody's Investor Services or BBB and higher by Standard & Poor's are deemed by those agencies to be "investment grade". Non-Investment Grade - By definition, junk bonds are non-investment grade. A bond rated lower than Baa/BBB, also called a "high-yield" bond. Junk bonds are speculative compared with investment grade bonds. Risk-On Risk-Off - An investment setting in which price behavior responds to, and is driven by, changes in investor risk tolerance. Risk-on risk-off refers to changes in investment activity in response to global economic patterns. During periods when risk is perceived as low, risk-on risk-off theory states that investors tend to engage in higher-risk investments. When risk is perceived as high, investors have the tendency to gravitate toward lower-risk investments.

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