

# Weekly Review January 12, 2018

#### **Chart of the Week**



## **Weekly Highlights**

- Treasury yields surged. The yield on the 2-year Treasury bill, which is highly correlated to the federal funds rate, rose above 2%, a nine-year high; the yield on the 10-year Treasury jumped above 2.5%, closing in on 2.6%.
- Stock markets continued to surge. Stock markets worldwide continued to surge, with all major stock market indices already gaining nearly 4% year to date.
- Global government bond yields also jumped. The 10-year German government bond rose to 0.58%, a 14-basis points surge in just a week. Both the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Bank of Japan (BOJ) hinted they may scale down their respective bond-purchase programs earlier than previously planned.

## **Talking Points**

- Among equities, small caps outperformed large caps; value stocks led growth stocks; domestic stocks outperformed international stocks; and emerging markets trailed developed markets.
- Treasury yields surged. The yield on the 10-Year Treasury Note rose above 2.5%, closing in on the 2.6% level.
- Commodity indices rose. Crude oil prices jumped, with WTI crude ending the week at round \$64 per barrel.
- The dollar continued to slide. The dollar index fell to a three-year low, back to the level last seen in January 2015.
- Among major economic data:
   December 2017 headline
   consumer price index (CPI) rose
   2.1% year over year, and core CPI rose 1.8% year over year, respectively, indicating inflation is still tame; December 2017 retail sales rose a solid 0.4% from November.

## **Market Dashboard**

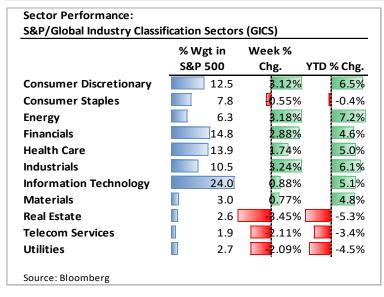
Source: Bloomberg; Index % change is based on price.

	Last Price	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
S&P 500	2,786.24	43.09	1.57%	4.2%
Dow Industrials	25,803.19	507.32	2.01%	4.4%
Nasdaq	7,261.06	124.50	1.74%	5.2%
Russell 2000	1,591.97	31.96	2.05%	3.7%
Euro Stoxx Index	398.49	1.14	0.29%	2.4%
Shanghai Composite	3,428.94	37.19	1.10%	3.7%
Russell Global	2,212.80	13.99	0.64%	3.2%

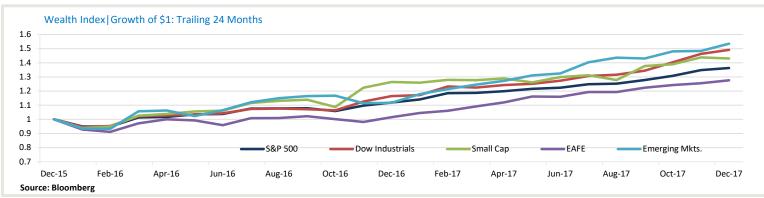
	Last Price	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Russell Global EM	3,764.41	-7.62	-0.20%	3.3%
10-Year US Treas.	2.55	8 bps	NM	NM
DJ UBS Comm. ldx.	88.76	0.84	0.96%	0.7%
Gold	\$1,338.35	\$19.24	1.46%	2.8%
Crude Oil	\$64.48	\$3.00	4.88%	6.7%
Dollar Index	90.94	-1.00	-1.09%	-1.3%
VIX Index	10.16	0.94	10.20%	-8.0%

2800	S&P 500 Index: Trailing 180 Days
2700	
2600	
2500	
2400	
2300	
2200	
2200	/17 7/31 8/14 8/28 9/11 9/25 10/9 10/23 11/6 11/20 12/4 12/18 1/1

	One Week		(	YTD		
	Value		Growth	Value		Growth
L	1.65%	1.59%	1.54%	3.61%	4.35%	5.00%
	1.35%	1.50%	1.70%	2.59%	3.51%	4.70%
S	2.26%	2.05%	1.85%	3.46%	3.68%	3.88%
	Source: B	loomberg				







## The Economy and Markets

#### A Macro View: "Suspicious Minds"—Keeping the Bears at Bay

In honor of Elvis Presley's birthday this week, we pay homage to the King of Rock and Roll by marrying the idea of money and music in our discussion of the stock market's continued resilience. If investors are familiar with Elvis to any degree, then they most likely recognize "Suspicious Minds" as one of his top hits. We can draw parallels to the song on some levels as we contemplate the euphoria with which investors have embraced the stock market's climb. The S&P 500, NASDAQ, and Dow Indices are off to a tremendous start in 2018, up 3.4%, 4.3%, and 3.3%, respectively, in the first eight trading days alone. The Dow surpassed 25,000 last week and is well on its way to 26,000. Additionally, despite a brief pullback on Wednesday, following concerns that the US may pull out of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and that China may cut back on its purchases of US Treasuries, the leading indices re-emerged Thursday unscathed. And they had renewed wind in their sails, as China dispelled rumors, oil inched higher, and earnings season kicked off with a strong start. An exhilarating energy is in the air, and it certainly seems unstoppable.

We can't go on together
With suspicious minds
And we can't build our dreams
On suspicious minds
---Elvis Presley, 1969

On the one hand, the bears caution that the sheer height of the indices alone should merit some pause. Among their peak worries, of course, are inflation and that central banks around the globe could tighten quicker than expected, wreaking havoc on bond prices and, potentially, even the equity markets. Bears are concerned that valuations are already frothy and many companies are overvalued. However, if investors are fearful regarding equities, they aren't showing it—as evidenced by the CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) continuing to hover around 9.8, near its all-time historical low.

Bonds were 'all shook up' on Wednesday, as investors retreated from fixed income over fears of higher yields and falling bond prices. Treasury prices came under pressure, as the market showed sensitivity toward interest rate policy changes by the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Bank of Japan (BOJ), as well as a report that China may scale back its purchase of US government bonds. US bond prices retreated further on Friday in response to a higher-than-expected December Core CPI reading of 0.4%—with the yield on the 10-year US Treasury Note creeping up close to 2.6%—as investors demonstrated concern that inflation could put further pressure on the Federal Reserve's speed and trajectory of interest rate hikes.

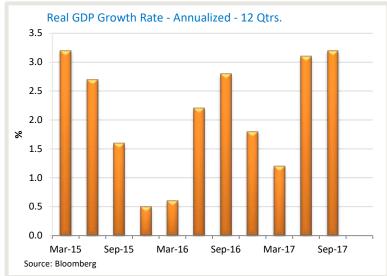
Among other leading indicators this week, Monday's consumer credit reading from the Federal Reserve revealed the largest monthly increase since 2001, with outstanding consumer credit increasing from \$20.6 billion in October to \$27.9 billion in November. Retail sales showed continued strength, increasing 0.8% in November, up from an upwardly revised 0.5% increase in October, and rose an additional 4% in December according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. And, the US dollar decreased relative to a basket of major currencies, due to a lower-than-expected reading in December for US Producer prices. Initial jobless claims increased from 250,000 to 261,000. Also noteworthy, Walmart raised its minimum hourly wage this week to \$11 per hour, and expanded employee benefits and bonuses.

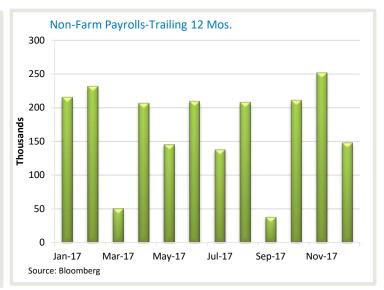
Looking abroad, the ECB released minutes from its December meeting on Thursday, revealing the possibility of an announcement of a change in direction in its bond purchases as early as January, given strong growth in the region. The euro hit a three-year high on prospects of higher interest rates, and the yield on the German Bund rose, as Germany made progress in its coalition negotiations. Earlier this week, the BOJ announced that it would begin reducing its purchases of Japanese government bonds, sending its currency and bond yields higher on Tuesday. Bloomberg also released a report on Wednesday that suggested the Chinese government would look to cut back on its purchases of US government bonds, but China was quick to rebuff that suspicion as unfounded.

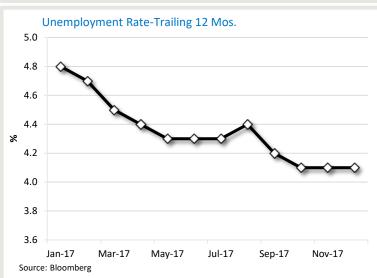
All in all, the preponderance of economic data appears to favor investors' inclination to stay the course. For now, the US economy is doing well, and both business and consumer confidence are strong. Companies have cash on hand, and they're spending it, bolstered by the prospective benefits of the new tax reform law. Bloomberg estimates that corporate profits will be up 15% in 2018. So, where are the bears? Well, it appears they've exited stage right faster than Elvis could leave the building. So, as the King would say, "Dry the tears from your eyes, let's don't let a good thing die." It's looking like the stock market will continue to 'melt up' long before it melts down.

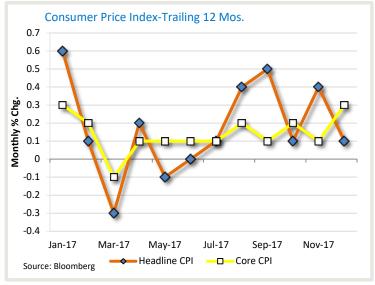
Source: Bloomberg

## **Economic Data**

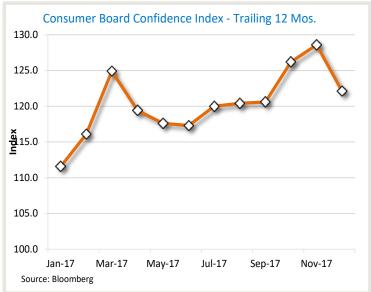












### **Eurozone**

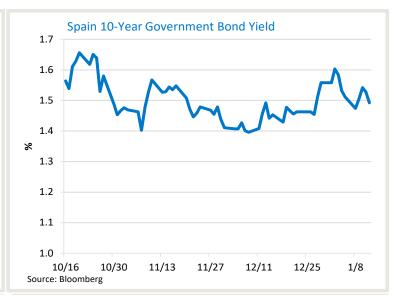
#### SELECTED EUROPEAN SOVEREIGN YIELD PERFORMANCE

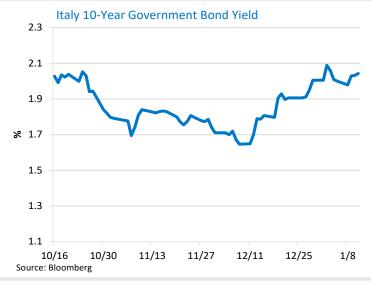
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Germany 10-Yr. Govt.	0.58	0 bps	NM	NM
Greece 10-Yr. Govt.	3.86	-11 bps	NM	NM
Italy 10-Yr. Govt.	1.98	2 bps	NM	NM
Spain 10-Yr. Govt.	1.49	2 bps	NM	NM
Belgium 10-Yr. Govt.	0.72	-6 bps	NM	NM

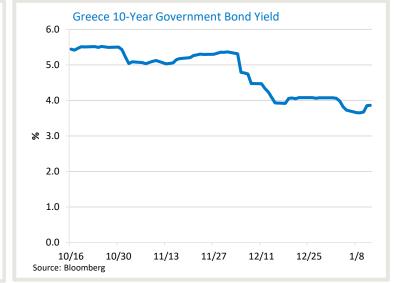
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
France 10-Yr. Govt.	0.85	-5 bps	NM	NM
Ireland 10-Yr. Govt.	0.98	-5 bps	NM	NM
Portugal 10-Yr. Govt.	1.78	12 bps	NM	NM
Netherlands 10-Yr. Govt.	0.61	-7 bps	NM	NM
U.K. 10-Yr. Govt.	1.34	-11 bps	NM	NM

Source: Bloomberg Basis points (bps)









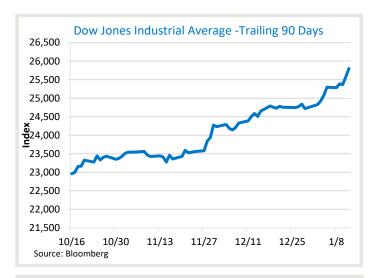
# **Equities**

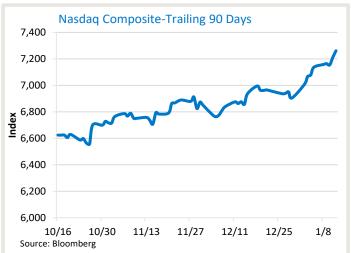
#### WORLD MARKET PERFORMANCE

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
S&P 500	2,786.24	43.09	1.57%	4.21%
Dow Industrials	25,803.19	507.32	2.01%	4.39%
Nasdaq Composite	7,261.06	124.50	1.74%	5.18%
Russell Global	2,212.80	13.99	0.64%	3.2%
Russell Global EM	3,764.41	-7.62	-0.20%	3.3%
S&P/TSX (Canada)	16,308.18	-41.26	-0.25%	0.61%
Mexico IPC	49,135.91	-708.27	-1.42%	-0.35%
Brazil Bovespa	79,349.12	277.65	0.35%	3.86%
Euro Stoxx 600	398.49	1.14	0.29%	2.39%
FTSE 100	7,778.64	54.42	0.70%	1.18%
IBEX 35 (Spain)	10,462.40	51.00	0.49%	4.17%

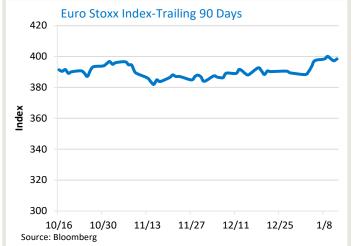
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Swiss Market Index	9,546.61	-10.37	-0.11%	1.76%
CAC 40 Index (France)	5,517.06	46.31	0.85%	3.85%
DAX Index (Germany)	13,245.03	-74.61	-0.56%	2.53%
Irish Overall Index	7,074.44	-99.70	-1.39%	0.51%
Nikkei 225	23,653.82	147.49	0.63%	3.90%
Hang Seng Index	31,412.54	597.90	1.94%	4.99%
Shanghai Composite	3,428.94	37.19	1.10%	3.68%
Kospi Index (S. Korea)	2,496.42	-1.10	-0.04%	1.17%
Taiwan Taiex Index	10,883.96	4.16	0.04%	2.27%
Tel Aviv 25 Index	1,531.65	-4.24	-0.28%	1.45%
MICEX Index (Russia)	2,262.38	54.97	2.49%	7.24%

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









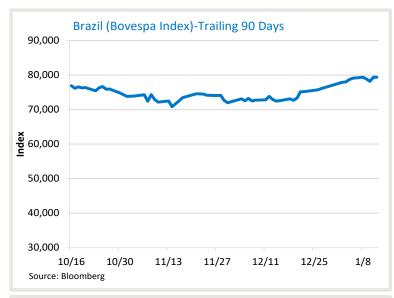
# **Equities – Emerging and Frontier Markets**

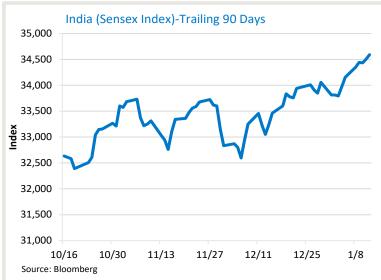
#### EMERGING AND FRONTIER MARKET PERFORMANCE

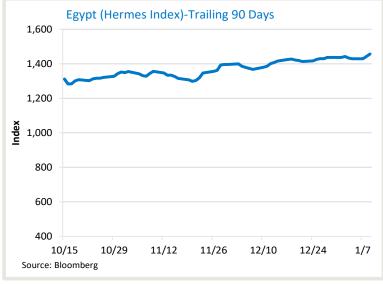
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	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %		
Mexico IPC	49,135.91	-708.27	-1.4%	-0.4%		
Brazil (Bovespa Index)	79,349.12	277.65	0.4%	3.9%		
MICEX Index (Russia)	2,262.38	54.97	2.5%	7.2%		
Czech Republic (Prague)	1,108.81	3.49	0.3%	2.8%		
Turkey (Istanbul)	114,644.62	-1993.30	-1.7%	-0.6%		
Egypt (Hermes Index)	1,480.71	51.43	3.6%	3.0%		
Kenya (Nairobi 20 Index)	3,708.75	-4.66	-0.1%	-0.1%		
Saudi Arabia (TASI Index)	7,338.04	60.98	0.8%	1.5%		
Lebanon (Beirut BLOM Index)	1,162.66	1.23	0.1%	1.2%		
Palestine	578.10	3.38	0.6%	0.6%		

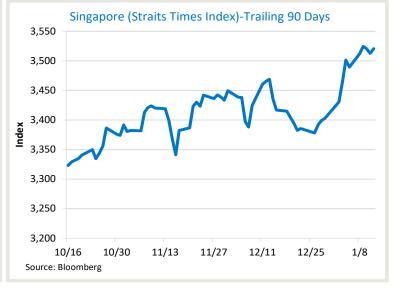
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Hang Seng Index	31,412.54	597.90	1.9%	5.0%
India (Sensex 30)	34,592.39	438.54	1.3%	1.6%
Malaysia (KLCI Index)	1,822.67	4.70	0.3%	1.4%
Singapore (Straits Times Index)	3,520.56	31.11	0.9%	3.5%
Thailand (SET Index)	1,810.19	14.74	0.8%	3.2%
Indonesia (Jakarta)	6,370.07	16.33	0.3%	0.2%
Pakistan (Karachi KSE 100)	42,933.72	409.73	1.0%	6.1%
Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh)	1,050.11	37.46	3.7%	6.7%
Sri Lanka (Colombo)	6,473.62	-41.11	-0.6%	1.6%
Cambodia (Laos)	977.04	-8.55	-0.9%	-2.1%

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









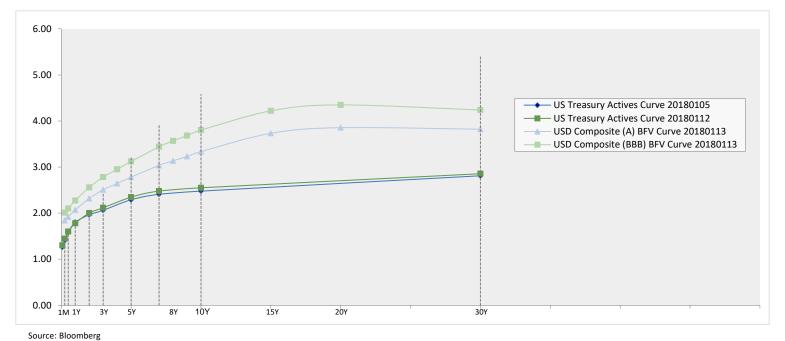
## **Interest Rates**

#### **SELECTED INTEREST RATES**

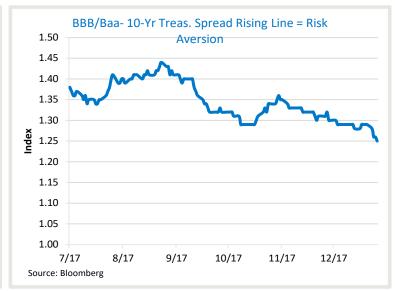
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
2-Yr. U.S. Treasury	2.00%	-1 bps	NM	NM
5-Yr. U.S. Treasury	2.35%	6 bps	NM	NM
10-Yr. U.S. Treasury	2.55%	8 bps	NM	NM
30-Yr. U.S. Treasury	2.85%	4 bps	NM	NM
German 10-Yr. Govt.	0.58%	0 bps	NM	NM
France 10-Yr.	0.85%	-5 bps	NM	NM
Italy 10-Yr.	1.98%	2 bps	NM	NM
Fed 5-Yr Fwd BE Inf.	1.98%	2 bps	NM	NM

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Prime Rate	4.50%	0.00	NM	NM
Fed Funds Rate	1.50%	0.00	NM	NM
Discount Rate	2.00%	0.00	NM	NM
LIBOR (3 Mo.)	1.72%	2 bps	NM	NM
Bond Buyer 40 Muni	3.51%	14 bps	NM	NM
Bond Buyer 40 G.O.	3.54%	NA	NM	NM
Bond Buyer 40 Rev.	4.03%	NA	NM	NM

Source: Bloomberg







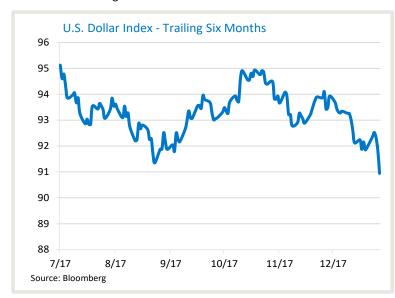
## **Currencies**

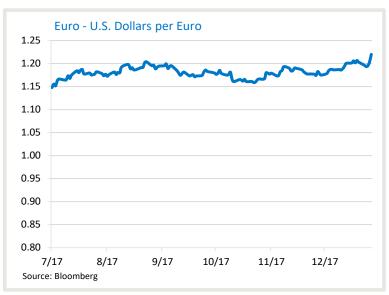
### **SELECTED CURRENCY PERFORMANCE**

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Dollar Index	90.94	-1.005	-1.09%	-1.28%
Euro	1.22	0.017	1.41%	1.62%
Japanese Yen	111.00	-2.070	1.87%	1.54%
<b>British Pound</b>	1.37	0.017	1.23%	1.67%
<b>Canadian Dollar</b>	1.25	0.005	-0.41%	0.87%

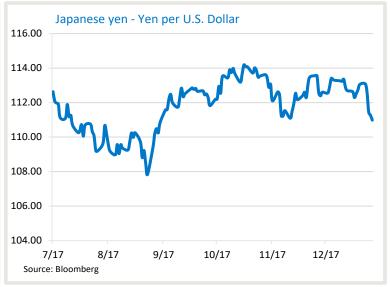
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Chinese Yuan	6.47	-0.019	0.30%	0.58%
Swiss Franc	0.97	-0.007	0.77%	0.72%
<b>New Zealand Dollar</b>	0.73	0.009	1.24%	2.31%
Brazilian Real	3.21	-0.024	0.73%	3.21%
Mexican Peso	19.04	-0.136	0.71%	3.23%

Source: Bloomberg







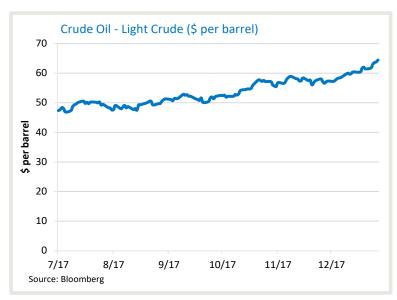


## **Commodities**

#### SELECTED COMMODITY MARKET PERFORMANCE

		JLL	SELECTED CONTINUED !!										
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %									
Bloomberg Comm. ldx.	88.76	0.84	0.96%	0.67%									
Crude Oil	\$64.47	\$3.00	4.88%	6.65%									
Natural Gas	\$3.20	\$0.41	14.63%	8.50%									
Gasoline (\$/Gal.)	\$2.52	\$0.03	1.20%	1.37%									
Heating Oil	208.75	08.75 2.90		0.95%									
<b>Gold Spot</b>	\$1,338.40	\$19.24	1.46%	2.77%									
Silver Spot	\$17.25	\$0.04	0.25%	1.93%									
Source: Bloomberg; % change is based on price.													

	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
Platinum Spot	\$994.47	\$25.92	2.67%	7.21%
Corn	346.25	-5.00	-1.42%	-1.28%
Wheat	420.50	-10.25	-2.38%	-1.52%
Soybeans	960.50	-10.25	-1.06%	-0.13%
Sugar	14.18	-0.90	-5.97%	-6.46%
Orange Juice	136.20	-1.80	-1.30%	-0.47%
Aluminum	2,175.50	-27.00	-1.23%	-4.08%
Copper	7,140.50	19.50	0.27%	-1.47%









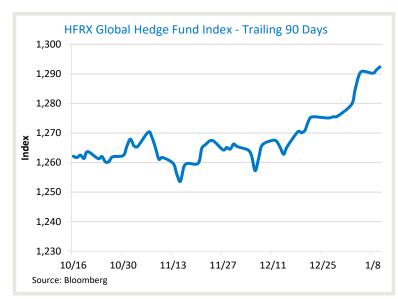
## **Alternative Investments**

#### SELECTED ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT INDEX PERFORMANCE

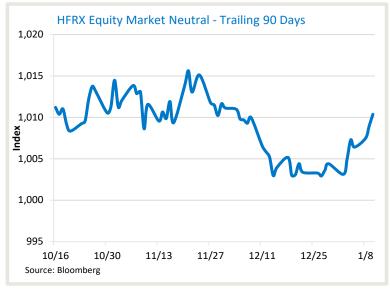
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
HFRX Global Hedge Fund Index	1292.35	1.48	0.11%	1.31%
HFRX Equity Market Neutral	1010.37	3.97	0.39%	0.59%
HFRX Equity Hedge Index	1290.18	1.56	0.12%	1.53%
HFRX Event-Driven Index	1690.82	2.63	0.16%	1.51%
HFRX Absolute Return Index	1066.63	0.19	0.02%	0.32%

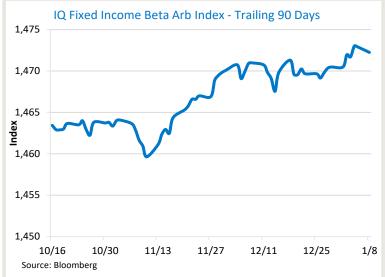
	Last	Change	% Chg.	YTD %
HFRX Distressed Index	1117.18	1.26	0.11%	0.95%
HFRX Merger Arbitrage Index	1855.43	0.74	0.04%	0.13%
HFRX Convertible Arbitrage Index	796.56	2.19	0.28%	0.04%
HFRX Macro CTA Index	1187.12	2.99	0.25%	2.00%
IQ Fixed Income Beta Arb Index	1476.88	4.01	0.27%	0.44%

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

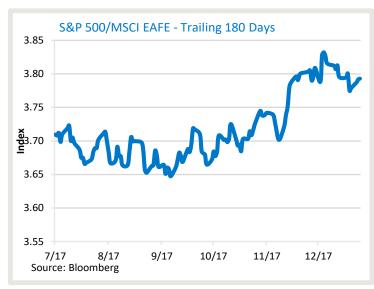


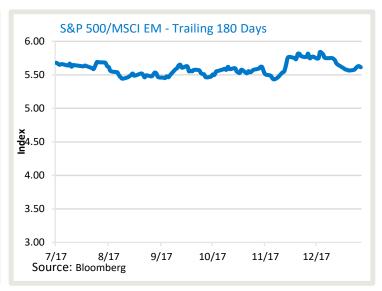


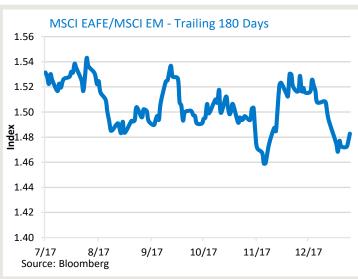




## **Portfolio Construction**





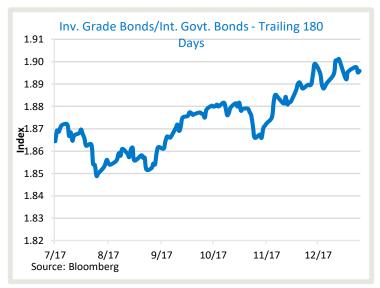


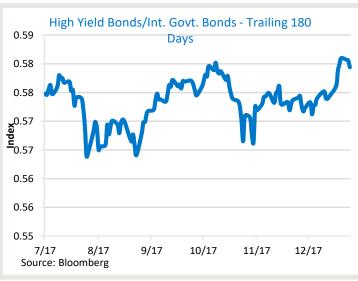


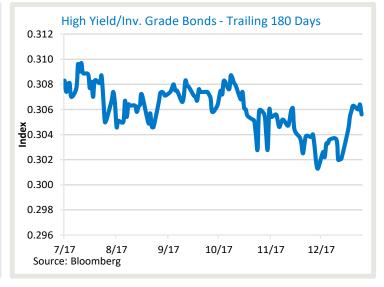


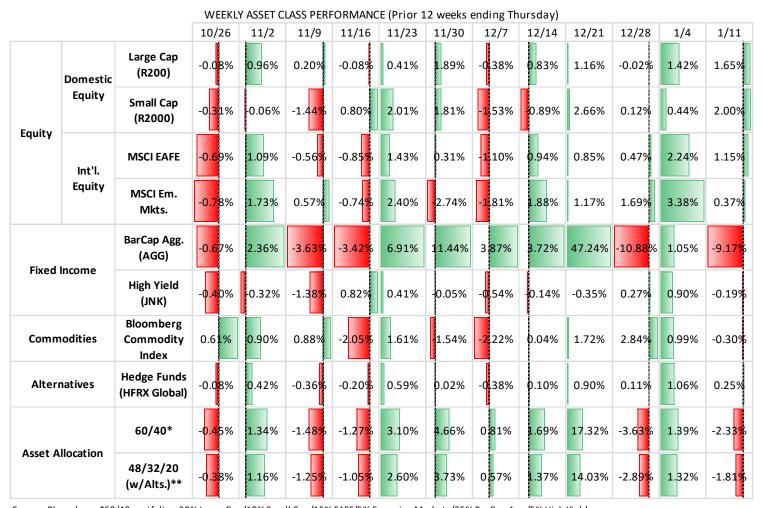
# **Portfolio Construction (continued)**











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

<sup>\*\*48/32/20</sup> portfolio = 24% Large Cap/8% Small Cap/12% EAFE/4% Emerging Markets/28% BarCap Agg./4% High Yield/20% HFRX Global Index.

RELATIVE STRENGTH MATRIX (	BASED ON 30-DAY RSI)

	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	1.03	1.04	1.06	1.05	1.11	1.16	1.15	1.21	1.03	1.13	1.96	1.26	1.31	1.47
Large Cap Growth	0.97	1.00	1.01	1.03	1.02	1.08	1.12	1.11	1.17	1.00	1.10	1.90	1.22	1.26	1.42
Large Cap Value	0.96	0.99	1.00	1.02	1.01	1.07	1.12	1.10	1.16	0.99	1.09	1.88	1.21	1.26	1.41
Mid Cap Core	0.94	0.97	0.98	1.00	0.99	1.05	1.09	1.08	1.14	0.97	1.07	1.85	1.19	1.23	1.38
Mid Cap Growth	0.95	0.98	0.99	1.01	1.00	1.06	1.10	1.09	1.15	0.98	1.08	1.86	1.20	1.24	1.40
Mid Cap Value	0.90	0.93	0.94	0.96	0.95	1.00	1.04	1.03	1.09	0.93	1.02	1.76	1.13	1.18	1.32
Small Cap Core	0.86	0.89	0.90	0.91	0.91	0.96	1.00	0.99	1.04	0.89	0.97	1.69	1.09	1.13	1.26
Small Cap Growth	0.87	0.90	0.91	0.93	0.92	0.97	1.01	1.00	1.06	0.90	0.99	1.71	1.10	1.14	1.28
Small Cap Value	0.83	0.85	0.86	0.88	0.87	0.92	0.96	0.95	1.00	0.85	0.93	1.62	1.04	1.08	1.21
Int'l. Developed	0.97	1.00	1.01	1.03	1.02	1.08	1.13	1.11	1.17	1.00	1.10	1.90	1.22	1.27	1.42
Emerging Markets	0.88	0.91	0.92	0.94	0.93	0.98	1.03	1.01	1.07	0.91	1.00	1.73	1.11	1.15	1.30
REITs	0.51	0.53	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.57	0.59	0.58	0.62	0.53	0.58	1.00	0.64	0.67	0.75
Commodities	0.79	0.82	0.83	0.84	0.83	0.88	0.92	0.91	0.96	0.82	0.90	1.55	1.00	1.04	1.16
Int. Bond	0.77	0.79	0.80	0.81	0.81	0.85	0.89	0.88	0.93	0.79	0.87	1.50	0.97	1.00	1.12
High Yield	0.68	0.70	0.71	0.72	0.72	0.76	0.79	0.78	0.83	0.70	0.77	1.33	0.86	0.89	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 Return<sup>SM</sup> 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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