

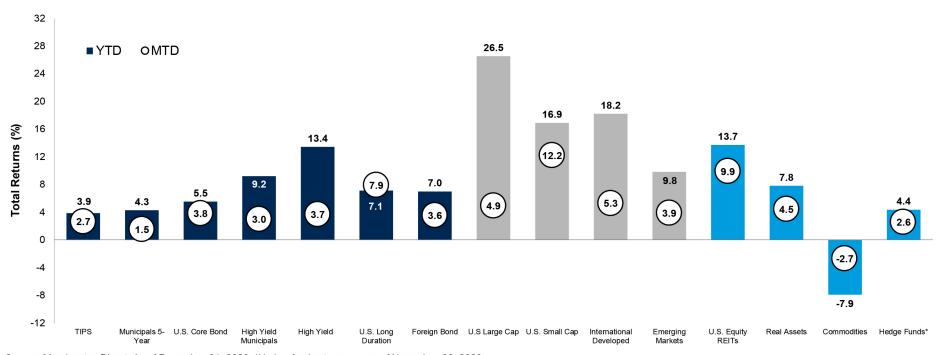
# MARKET RECAP

DECEMBER 2023

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## ASSET CLASS PERFORMANCE





Source: Morningstar Direct. As of December 31, 2023. \*Hedge fund returns are as of November 30, 2023.

### Fixed Income (December)

- + Interest rates continued to decline in the month. Dovish language from the Federal Reserve was a primary driver of the move. While soft landing optimism has grown, economic uncertainty still lingers.
- + Corporate high yield markets had a strong month in the "risk on" environment. Fundamentals remain supportive and optimism around a soft landing has helped propel the sector.
- + A weakening U.S. dollar was additive to non-U.S. debt in the month.

#### **Equity (December)**

- + Equity markets finished the year on a positive note. U.S. small cap was the standout, rallying double digits as the prospects for lower rates eased investors' concerns of "higher-for-longer" for the segment.
- + International developed modestly outpaced the U.S., benefiting from the tailwind of a declining U.S. dollar.
- + Emerging markets, while positive, lagged other equity regions. Weak results in China, which is a large part of the benchmark, was the main detractor.

### Real Asset / Alternatives (December)

- + U.S. REITs experienced favorable results as interest rates declined and the office sector rebounded from lows earlier in the year.
- Commodities struggled in the month, driven by energy. A milder than expected start to the winter led to lower natural gas prices and oil prices continued to fall as uncertainty remains around expectations for global demand.
- + Hedge funds, reported on a month lag, had a modest positive November.

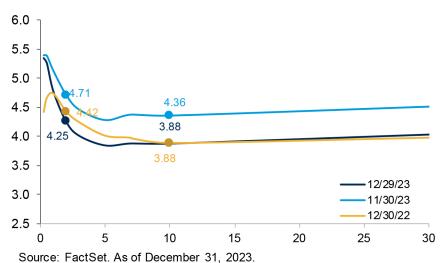
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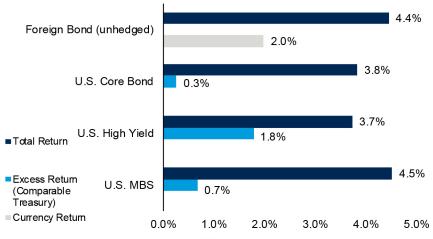
#### **U.S. Treasury Yield Curve**

Short and intermediate U.S. yield curve rates declined, maintaining an inverted curve. Market expectations of U.S. Federal Reserve rate cuts as early as March 2024 alleviated pressure on interest rates.



#### **Index Performance Attribution (December 2023)**

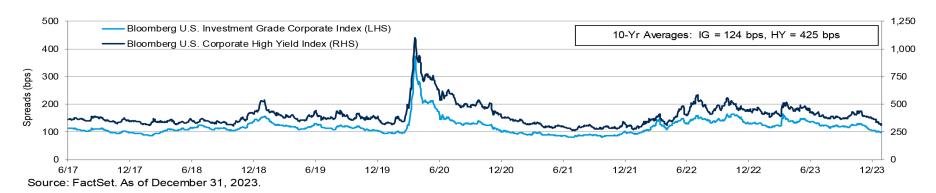
Fixed income markets experienced a robust month, with narrowing credit spreads and declining rates causing spread sectors to surpass Treasuries on a duration-adjusted basis.



Source: FactSet. As of December 31, 2023.

### **Credit Market Spreads – Trailing 5 Years**

In December, credit spreads for both investment-grade and high-yield assets contracted to new lows for 2023. This was driven by continued resilience in fundamentals. The decrease in rates has heightened investor interest in taking on risk, driven by expectations of reduced future debt service costs.



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# EQUITY MARKET UPDATE



### Market Capitalization & Style Performance (December 2023)

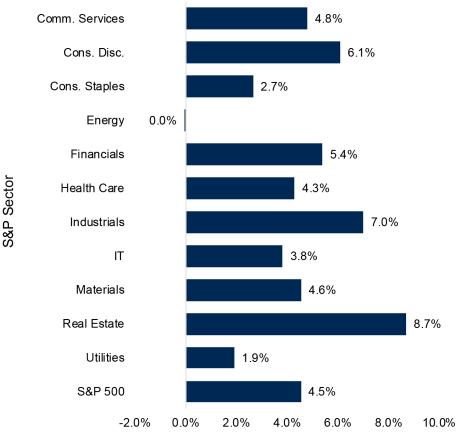
Small cap equities continued to rally in December. Reasonably strong economic data (a favorable jobs report, declining inflation) and a more dovish Fed helped fuel the strong return. Financials and health care were standout sectors within U.S. small cap.



Source: Morningstar Direct. As of December 31, 2023.

#### U.S. Equities - Returns by Sector (December 2023)

Almost all sectors in the S&P 500 had positive results in December. Real estate led the way as the interest rate sensitive sector benefited from falling rates. Energy was the laggard as oil prices and other energy related commodity prices fell.



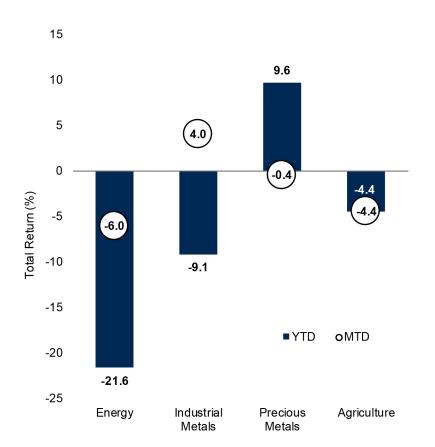
Source: Morningstar Direct. As of December 31, 2023.

### REAL ASSET MARKET UPDATE



#### **Commodity Performance (December 2023)**

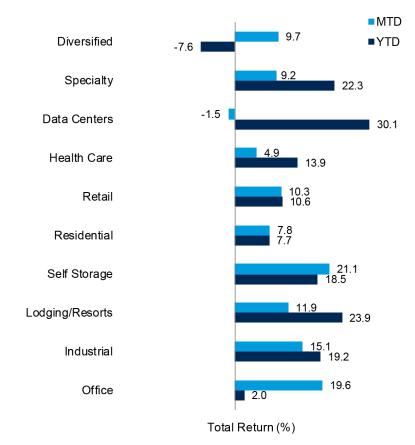
Commodities faced challenges, mainly due to a downturn in the energy sector. The persistent decline in oil prices had a negative impact on overall performance, influenced by subdued demand and an elevated inventory, particularly from non-OPEC producers.



Source: FactSet. As of December 31, 2023.

#### **REIT Sector Performance (December 2023)**

REITs reaped the benefits of the booming equity market and the declining interest rate environment. This proved advantageous for office sectors, resulting in a positive year-end performance. Nevertheless, despite these gains, vacancy rates persist at historically high levels.



Source: FactSet. As of December 31, 2023.



# FINANCIAL MARKETS PERFORMANCE

Total Return as of December 31, 2023

Periods greater than one year are annualized

All returns are in U.S. dollar terms

Global Fixed Income Markets	MTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR	7YR	10YR	15YR
Bloomberg 1-3-Month T-Bill	0.5%	5.1%	5.1%	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%	1.2%	0.8%
Bloomberg U.S. TIPS	2.7%	3.9%	3.9%	-1.0%	3.2%	2.5%	2.4%	3.5%
Bloomberg Municipal Bond (5 Year)	1.5%	4.3%	4.3%	-0.3%	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%	2.7%
Bloomberg High Yield Municipal Bond	3.0%	9.2%	9.2%	0.8%	3.5%	4.5%	5.0%	7.2%
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate	3.8%	5.5%	5.5%	-3.3%	1.1%	1.3%	1.8%	2.7%
Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield	3.7%	13.4%	13.4%	2.0%	5.4%	4.6%	4.6%	9.2%
Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-U.S. Hedged	2.7%	8.3%	8.3%	-1.2%	1.5%	1.9%	2.8%	3.1%
Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-U.S. Unhedged	4.5%	5.7%	5.7%	-7.2%	-1.6%	0.0%	-0.8%	0.6%
Bloomberg U.S. Long Gov / Credit	7.9%	7.1%	7.1%	-8.7%	1.1%	1.6%	3.2%	4.3%
Global Equity Markets	MTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR	7YR	10YR	15YR
&P 500	4.5%	26.3%	26.3%	10.0%	15.7%	13.4%	12.0%	14.0%
ow Jones Industrial Average	4.9%	16.2%	16.2%	9.4%	12.5%	12.1%	11.1%	12.9%
IASDAQ Composite	5.6%	44.6%	44.6%	6.0%	18.8%	16.9%	14.8%	17.4%
Russell 3000	5.3%	26.0%	26.0%	8.5%	15.2%	12.8%	11.5%	13.8%
Russell 1000	4.9%	26.5%	26.5%	9.0%	15.5%	13.2%	11.8%	14.0%
Russell 1000 Growth	4.4%	42.7%	42.7%	8.9%	19.5%	17.7%	14.9%	16.7%
Russell 1000 Value	5.5%	11.5%	11.5%	8.9%	10.9%	8.3%	8.4%	11.1%
Russell Mid Cap	7.7%	17.2%	17.2%	5.9%	12.7%	10.1%	9.4%	13.6%
Russell Mid Cap Growth	7.6%	25.9%	25.9%	1.3%	13.8%	12.5%	10.6%	14.7%
Russell Mid Cap Value	7.8%	12.7%	12.7%	8.4%	11.2%	7.8%	8.3%	12.4%
Russell 2000	12.2%	16.9%	16.9%	2.2%	10.0%	7.3%	7.2%	11.3%
Russell 2000 Growth	12.0%	18.7%	18.7%	-3.5%	9.2%	8.1%	7.2%	12.1%
Russell 2000 Value	12.4%	14.6%	14.6%	7.9%	10.0%	6.1%	6.8%	10.3%
MSCI ACWI	4.8%	22.2%	22.2%	5.8%	11.7%	10.0%	7.9%	10.2%
MSCI ACWI ex. U.S.	5.0%	15.6%	15.6%	1.5%	7.1%	6.3%	3.8%	6.7%
MSCI EAFE	5.3%	18.2%	18.2%	4.0%	8.2%	6.9%	4.3%	6.9%
MSCI EAFE Growth	5.7%	17.6%	17.6%	0.3%	8.8%	8.0%	5.2%	7.6%
MSCI EAFE Value	4.9%	19.0%	19.0%	7.6%	7.1%	5.5%	3.2%	6.0%
/ISCI EAFE Small Cap	7.3%	13.2%	13.2%	-0.7%	6.6%	6.0%	4.8%	9.2%
ASCI Emerging Markets	3.9%	9.8%	9.8%	-5.1%	3.7%	5.0%	2.7%	6.6%
Alternatives	MTD	YTD	1YR	3YR	5YR	7YR	10YR	15YR
Consumer Price Index*	0.1%	3.0%	3.1%	5.7%	4.0%	3.5%	2.8%	2.5%
TSE NAREIT Equity REITs	9.9%	13.7%	13.7%	7.2%	7.4%	5.3%	7.6%	10.5%
S&P Real Assets	4.5%	7.8%	7.8%	3.9%	5.9%	4.8%	3.9%	6.9%
TSE EPRA NAREIT Developed	9.6%	10.9%	10.9%	2.2%	3.8%	3.6%	4.5%	8.2%
TSE EPRA NAREIT Developed ex U.S.	9.2%	7.1%	7.1%	-3.9%	0.2%	2.0%	1.6%	6.1%
Bloomberg Commodity Total Return	-2.7%	-7.9%	-7.9%	10.8%	7.2%	3.6%	-1.1%	-0.2%
HFRI Fund of Funds Composite*	2.6%	4.4%	4.7%	2.9%	4.4%	4.0%	3.2%	3.6%
HFRI Asset Weighted Composite*	-0.2%	3.1%	3.3%	4.9%	4.0%	4.0%	3.5%	4.9%
Alerian MLP	-2.2%	26.6%	26.6%	32.5%	12.0%	5.4%	1.9%	10.4%

Sources: Morningstar, FactSet. As of December 31, 2023. \*Consumer Price Index and HFRI indexes as of November 30, 2023.





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When referencing asset class returns or statistics, the following indices are used to represent those asset classes, unless otherwise noted. Each index is unmanaged, and investors can not actually invest directly into an index:

TIPS: Bloomberg Global Inflation-Linked: U.S. TIPS Total Return Index Unhedged

Municipals 5-Year: Bloomberg Municipal Bond 5 Year (4-6) Total Return Index Unhedged USD

Core Bond: Bloomberg US Aggregate Total Return Index USD

High Yield Municipals: Bloomberg Muni High Yield Total Return Index Value Unhedged USD

High Yield: Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Total Return Index USD

U.S. Long Duration: Bloomberg US Aggregate Government & Credit - Long

Foreign Bond: Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-USD Total Return Index Value USD (50/50 blend of hedged and unhedged)

Real Assets: S&P Real Assets

U.S. Large Cap: Russell 1000 Total Return Index

U.S. Small Cap: Russell 2000 Total Return Index

International Developed: MSCI EAFE Net Total Return USD Index

Emerging Markets: MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return USD Index U.S. Equity REITs: FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Total Return Index USD

Commodities: Bloomberg Commodity Total Return Index

Hedge Funds: Hedge Fund Research HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index

Foreign Bond: Bloomberg Global Aggregate x USD Total Return Unhedged

U.S. Core Bond: Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Total Return Index USD

U.S. High Yield: Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Total Return Index USD

U.S. MBS: Bloomberg U.S. MBS (30Y) Total Return Index

U.S. All Cap: Russell 3000 Total Return Index

U.S. Large Cap: Russell 1000 Total Return Index

U.S. Small Cap: Russell 2000 Total Return Index

US Value: Russell 3000 Value Total Return Index

US Growth: Russell 3000 Growth Total Return Index

International Developed All Cap: MSCI EAFE IMI Net Total Return USD Index

International Developed Large Cap: MSCI EAFE Large Cap Net Total Return USD Index

International Developed Small Cap: MSCI EAFE Small Cap Net Total Return USD Index

International Developed Value: MSCI EAFE Value Net Total Return USD Index

International Developed Growth: MSCI EAFE Growth Net Total Return USD Index

Emerging Markets All Cap: MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Net Total Return USD Index

Emerging Markets Large Cap: MSCI Emerging Markets Large Cap Net Total Return USD Index

Emerging Markets Small Cap: MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Net Total Return USD Index

Emerging Markets Value: MSCI Emerging Markets Value Net Total Return USD Index

Emerging Markets Growth: MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Net Total Return USD Index

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# MATERIAL RISKS & LIMITATIONS



**Fixed Income** securities are subject to interest rate risks, the risk of default and liquidity risk. U.S. investors exposed to non-U.S. fixed income may also be subject to currency risk and fluctuations.

Cash may be subject to the loss of principal and over longer period of time may lose purchasing power due to inflation.

**Domestic Equity** can be volatile. The rise or fall in prices take place for a number of reasons including, but not limited to changes to underlying company conditions, sector or industry factors, or other macro events. These may happen quickly and unpredictably.

International Equity can be volatile. The rise or fall in prices take place for a number of reasons including, but not limited to changes to underlying company conditions, sector or industry impacts, or other macro events. These may happen quickly and unpredictably. International equity allocations may also be impact by currency and/or country specific risks which may result in lower liquidity in some markets.

**Real Assets** can be volatile and may include asset segments that may have greater volatility than investment in traditional equity securities. Such volatility could be influenced by a myriad of factors including, but not limited to overall market volatility, changes in interest rates, political and regulatory developments, or other exogenous events like weather or natural disaster.

**Private Equity** involves higher risk and is suitable only for sophisticated investors. Along with traditional equity market risks, private equity investments are also subject to higher fees, lower liquidity and the potential for leverage that may amplify volatility and/or the potential loss of capital.

**Private Credit** involves higher risk and is suitable only for sophisticated investors. These assets are subject to interest rate risks, the risk of default and limited liquidity. U.S. investors exposed to non-U.S. private credit may also be subject to currency risk and fluctuations.

**Private Real Estate** involves higher risk and is suitable only for sophisticated investors. Real estate assets can be volatile and may include unique risks to the asset class like leverage and/or industry, sector or geographical concentration. Declines in real estate value may take place for a number of reasons including, but are not limited to economic conditions, change in condition of the underlying property or defaults by the borrow.

Marketable Alternatives involves higher risk and is suitable only for sophisticated investors. Along with traditional market risks, marketable alternatives are also subject to higher fees, lower liquidity and the potential for leverage that may amplify volatility or the potential for loss of capital. Additionally, short selling involved certain risks including, but not limited to additional costs, and the potential for unlimited loss on certain short sale positions.

## DISCLOSURES - Index & Benchmark Definitions



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#### Index & Benchmark Definitions

Fixed Income

- Bloomberg 1-3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index is designed to measure the performance of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury that have a remaining maturity of greater than or equal to 1 month and less than 3 months.
- Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond
  market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage passthrough securities, and asset-backed securities.
- Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex. USD Indices represent a broad-based measure of the
  global investment-grade fixed income markets. The two major components of this index
  are the Pan-European Aggregate and the Asian-Pacific Aggregate Indices. The index also
  includes Eurodollar and Euro-Yen corporate bonds and Canadian government, agency and
  corporate securities.
- Bloomberg U.S. Corporate 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.
- Bloomberg US Government/Credit 1-3 Year Index is the 1-3 year component of the U.S.
  Government/Credit Index, which includes securities in the Government and Credit Indices.
  The Government Index includes treasuries and agencies, while the credit index includes publicly issued U.S. corporate and foreign debentures and secured notes that meet specified maturity, liquidity, and quality requirements.
- Bloomberg US Government/Credit Long Index is the Long component of the U.S.
  Government/Credit Index, which includes securities in the Government and Credit Indices.
  The Government Index includes treasuries and agencies, while the credit index includes publicly issued U.S. corporate and foreign debentures and secured notes that meet specified maturity, liquidity and quality requirements.
- Bloomberg US Treasury Inflation Protected Securities Index consists of Inflation-Protection securities issued by the U.S. Treasury.
- Bloomberg Muni Index is a rules-based, market-value-weighted index engineered for the long-term tax-exempt bond market. Bonds must be rated investment-grade by at least two ratings agencies.
- Bloomberg High Yield Municipal Bond Index covers the universe of fixed rate, noninvestment grade debt.
- Bloomberg Intermediate U.S. Gov't/Credit is the Intermediate component of the U.S.
  Government/Credit index, which includes securities in the Government and Credit Indices.
  The Government Index includes treasuries and agencies, while the credit index includes publicly issued U.S. corporate and foreign debentures and secured notes that meet specified maturity, liquidity, and quality requirements.
- JPMorgan 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

#### Equity

- The S&P 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index designed to measure performance
  of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500
  stocks representing all major industries. Russell 3000 Value Index measures the
  performance of those Russell 3000 companies with lower P/B ratios and lower forecasted
  growth values.
- Russell 3000 Index is a market-cap-weighted index which consists of roughly 3,000 of the largest companies in the U.S. as determined by market capitalization. It represents nearly 98% of the investable U.S. equity market.
- Russell 3000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 3000 companies with higher P/B ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
- Russell 1000 Value Index measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with lower P/B ratios and lower forecasted growth values.
- Russell 1000 Index consists of the largest 1000 companies in the Russell 3000 Index.
- Russell 1000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 1000 companies with higher P/B ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
- Russell Mid Cap Value Index measures the performance of those Russell Mid Cap companies with lower P/B ratios and lower forecasted growth values.
- Russell Mid Cap Index measures the performance of the 800 smallest companies in the Russell 1000 Index.
- Russell Mid Cap Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell Mid Cap companies with higher P/B ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
- Russell 2000 Value Index measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies with lower P/B ratios and lower forecasted growth values.
- Russell 2000 consists of the 2,000 smallest U.S. companies in the Russell 3000 index.
- Russell 2000 Growth Index measures the performance of the Russell 2000 companies with higher P/B ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
- MSCI ACWI (All Country World Index) ex. U.S. Index captures large and mid-cap representation across Developed Markets countries (excluding the United States) and Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the U.S.
- MSCI ACWI Index captures large and mid cap representation across Developed Markets and Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the global investable opportunity set.
- MSCI EAFE IMI Index is an equity index which captures large, mid and small cap representation across Developed Markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The index covers approximately 99% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.
- MSCI EAFE Value Index captures large and mid cap securities exhibiting overall value style characteristics across Developed Markets countries around the world, excluding the US and Canada. The value investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using three variables: book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield.
- MSCI EAFE Index is an equity index which captures large and mid-cap representation across Developed Markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

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## DISCLOSURES - Index & Benchmark Definitions



- MSCI EAFE Growth Index captures large and mid cap securities exhibiting overall growth style characteristics across Developed Markets countries around the world, excluding the US and Canada. The growth investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using five variables: long-term forward EPS growth rate, short-term forward EPS growth rate, current internal growth rate and long-term historical EPS growth trend and long-term historical sales per share growth trend.
- MSCI EAFE Large Cap Index is an equity index which captures large cap representation
  across Developed Markets countries around the world, excluding the US and Canada. The
  index covers approximately 70% of the free-float adjusted market capitalization in each
  country.
- MSCI EAFE Small Cap Index is an equity index which captures small cap representation across Developed Markets countries around the world, excluding the US and Canada. The index covers approximately 14% of the free float adjusted market in each country.
- MSCI ACWI (All Country World Index) ex. U.S. Index captures large and mid-cap representation across Developed Markets countries (excluding the United States) and Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the U.S.
- MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index captures large, mid and small cap representation across 24 Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 99% of the freefloat adjusted market capitalization in each country.
- MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index captures large and mid-cap securities exhibiting
  overall value style characteristics across Emerging Markets countries. The value
  investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using three variables:
  book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield.
- MSCI Emerging Markets Index captures large and mid-cap representation across Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the free-float adjusted market capitalization in each country.
- MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Index captures large and mid-cap representation across
  Emerging Markets countries. The growth investment style characteristics for index
  construction are defined using five variables: long-term forward EPS growth rate, shortterm forward EPS growth rate, current internal growth rate and long-term historical EPS
  growth trend and long-term historical sales per share growth trend.
- MSCI Emerging Markets Index captures large and mid-cap representation across Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 85% of the free-float adjusted market capitalization in each country.
- MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Small Cap Index includes small cap representation across
  Emerging Markets countries. The index covers approximately 14% of the free floatadjusted market capitalization in each country. The small cap segment tends to capture
  more local economic and sector characteristics relative to larger Emerging Markets
  capitalization segments.

#### Alternatives & Miscellaneous

- S&P Real Asset Index is designed to measure global property, infrastructure, commodities, and inflation-linked bonds using liquid and investable component indices that track public equities, fixed income, and futures. In the index, equity holds 50% weight, commodities 10%, and fixed income 40%.
- FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Index contains all Equity REITs not designed as Timber REITs or Infrastructure REITs.
- FTSE EPRA Nareit Developed Index is designed to track the performance of listed real estate companies and REITS worldwide.
- FTSE EPRA Nareit Developed ex US Index is a subset of the FTSE EPRA Nareit
  Developed Index and is designed to track the performance of listed real estate companies
  and REITS in developed markets excluding the US.
- Bloomberg Commodity Index is calculated on an excess return basis and reflects commodity futures price movements. The index rebalances annually weighted 2/3 by trading volume and 1/3 by world production and weight-caps are applied at the commodity, sector and group level for diversification.
- HFRI Asset Weighted Composite Index is a global, asset-weighted index comprised of single-manager funds that report to HFR Database. Constituent funds report monthly net of all fees performance in US Dollar and have a minimum of \$50 Million under management or \$10 Million under management and a twelve (12) month track record of active performance. The HFRI Asset Weighted Composite Index does not include Funds of Hedge Funds. The constituent funds of the HFRI Asset Weighted Composite Index are weighted according to the AUM reported by each fund for the prior month.
- HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index is a global, equal-weighted index of all fund of hedge funds that report to the HFR Database. Constituent funds report monthly net of all fees performance in U.S. Dollars and have a minimum of \$50 million under management or a twelve (12) month track record of active performance.
- The Alerian MLP Index is a float adjusted, capitalization-weighted index, whose constituents represent approximately 85% of total float-adjusted market capitalization, is disseminated real-time on a price-return basis (AMZ) and on a total-return basis.

#### Additional Information

- Equity sector returns are calculated by S&P, Russell, and MSCI for domestic and international markets, respectively. S&P and MSCI sector definitions correspond to the GICS® classification (Global Industry Classification System); Russell uses its own sector and industry classifications.
- MSCI country indices are free float-adjusted market capitalization indices that are designed to measure equity market performance of approximately 85% of the market capitalization in each specific country.
- Currency returns are calculated using FactSet's historical spot rates and are calculated using the U.S. dollar as the base currency.

Past performance does not indicate future performance and there is a possibility of a loss