

## March 2024 Outlook

Changing Market Dynamics Provide
Opportunities as Economic Growth Persists



# Agenda

- » Preliminary Performance
- » Broad Outlook
- » Investment Implications
- » Favored Choices
- » The Cash Indicator

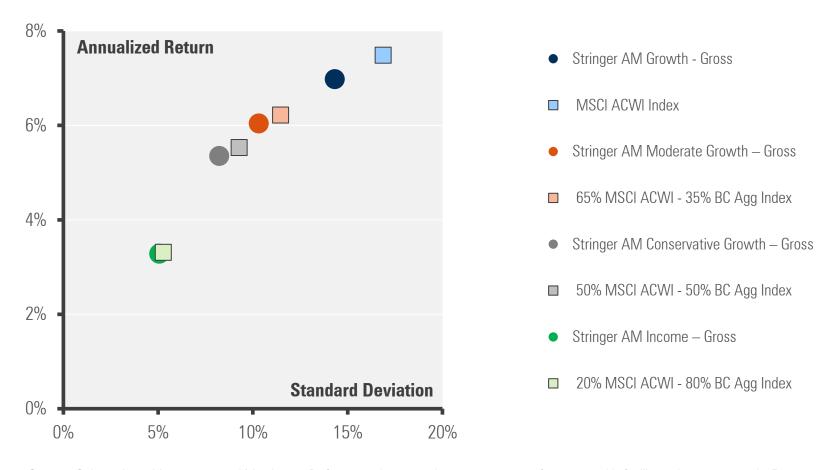


PRELIMINARY MANAGER COMPOSITE (GROSS) VS BENCHMARK: FEBRUARY 2024											
								Since Inception (9/1/2008)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Growth - Gross	2.63%	5.24%	17.18%	4.56%	8.26%	7.89%	6.93%	6.98%	14.33%	0.83	0.39%
MSCI ACWI Index	1.80%	4.90%	23.15%	6.79%	10.51%	9.94%	8.37%	7.49%	16.87%	1.00	-
Stringer AM Moderate Growth – Gross	3.32%	3.32%	11.59%	2.67%	5.97%	5.86%	5.32%	6.04%	10.31%	0.88	0.42%
65% MSCI ACWI - 35% BC Agg Index	2.41%	2.60%	15.95%	3.37%	7.34%	7.06%	6.18%	6.22%	11.46%	1.00	-
Stringer AM Conservative Growth – Gross	3.62%	2.66%	10.00%	1.41%	4.74%	4.64%	4.38%	5.35%	8.23%	0.86	0.42%
50% MSCI ACWI - 50% BC Agg Index	2.67%	1.61%	12.96%	1.89%	5.87%	5.73%	5.15%	5.53%	9.28%	1.00	-
								Since Inception (7/1/2015)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Income w/ Growth – Gross	3.78%	1.26%	7.04%	0.68%	2.63%	2.75%	-	2.47%	6.90%	0.89	-1.39%
35% MSCI ACWI - 65% BC Agg Index	2.92%	0.62%	10.01%	0.38%	4.34%	4.34%	-	4.18%	7.35%	1.00	-
								Since Inception (11/1/2011)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Income – Gross	4.22%	0.40%	5.81%	-0.10%	2.01%	2.20%	2.50%	3.28%	5.07%	0.90	0.19%
20% MSCI ACWI - 80% BC Agg Index	3.18%	-0.37%	7.11%	-1.13%	2.75%	2.91%	2.98%	3.31%	5.27%	1.00	-
								Since Inception (9/1/2015)			
	Yield	YTD	1-YR Trailing	3-YRS Trailing	5-YRS Trailing	7-YRS Trailing	10-YRS Trailing	Trailing Return	Standard Deviation	Beta	Alpha
Stringer AM Tactical Opps - Gross	2.11%	5.31%	10.18%	0.83%	7.84%	6.51%	-	5.73%	14.31%	0.85	-2.78%
MSCI ACWI Index	1.80%	4.90%	23.15%	6.79%	10.51%	9.94%	-	9.94%	15.45%	1.00	-

Sources: Stringer Asset Management and Morningstar. Performance data quoted represents past performance and is for illustrative purposes only. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.** The total returns presented are gross of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. Returns include the reinvestment of income. The indices represented do not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. To the extent a shareholder pays sales charges, the performance shown would be less. All indices are unmanaged and investors can not invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. Please refer to the important disclosures found at the end of this document.



### RISK/REWARD PLOT1: SINCE INCEPTION TO FEBRUARY 2024



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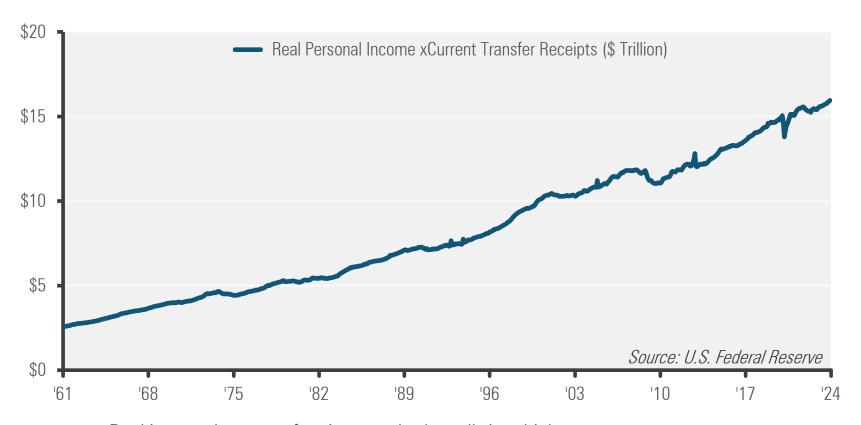


#### BROAD OUTLOOK

- » Our work suggests that continued strength in the private sector will drive economic growth in the months to come.
- We expect to see broader equity market participation this year as earnings growth expand beyond the narrow group of technology-oriented stocks that led last year's gains.
- » Tactical shifts in fixed income have focused on securing current high levels of income by emphasizing defined maturity intermediate duration holdings.
- » Investors over-allocated to money markets and T-Bills may witness a swift decline in interest income with falling interest rates.

## Real Personal Income

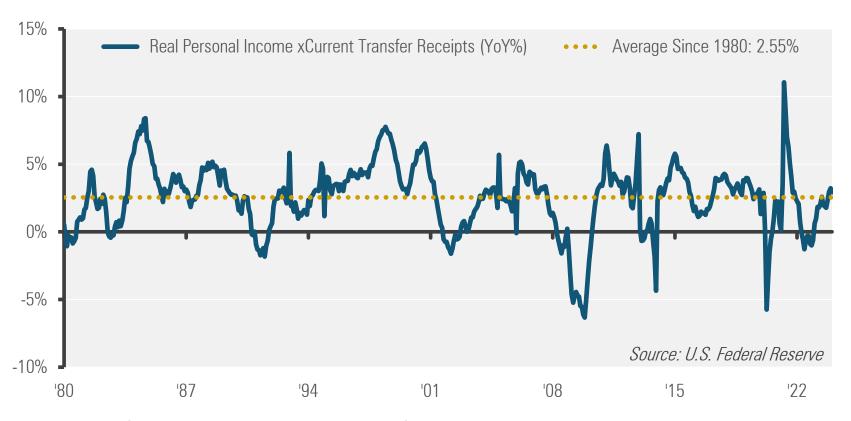




- » Real income less transfers just reached an all-time high.
- » Personal income in the U.S. has never been higher, even after adjusting for inflation and taking out government transfers.
- » As the rate of inflation has fallen from nearly 9% to closer to 3% according to Consumer Price Index data, wage and salary gains have grown at a higher rate than inflation.
- » This makes sense as inflation can move quickly, yet incomes take more time to change as salaries and wages are renegotiated.

## Real Personal Income (YoY%)





- » Inflation-adjusted income growth is finally normalizing on a year-over-year basis.
- » After initially plummeting during the early stages of the pandemic, followed by a spike as the economy reopened and massive government stimulus took effect, and a significant decline once again as inflation eroded income gains, the most recent data shows that real personal income growth has stabilized at close to historical norms for the last several months.

» We expect a smoother path for inflation-adjusted income growth going forward.

## Potential Labor Pool





- » A big part of what is driving this persistent wage growth is the small pool of the unemployed that employers can draw from.
- » Accounting for Americans 16 years or older, the pool of available labor has never been smaller relative to the total number of nonfarm employees.
- » Note that this measure is different from the unemployment rate, which does not count those not looking for work.

## Earnings Per Share Growth



Sector	2023 YoY%	2023 \$ Growth	2024 YoY%	2024 \$ Growth
S&P 500 Index	8.57%	\$16.88	12.62%	\$26.98
Con. Discretionary	41.33%	\$14.83	12.80%	\$6.49
Consumer Staples	13.01%	\$4.35	4.79%	\$1.81
Energy	(31.17%)	(\$25.86)	(7.98%)	(\$4.56)
Financials	26.93%	\$9.13	0.07%	\$0.03
Health Care	(15.53%)	(\$12.13)	32.99%	\$21.76
Industrials	15.28%	\$6.19	4.28%	\$2.00
Info. Technology	11.67%	\$10.51	28.49%	\$28.65
Materials	(25.05%)	(\$8.06)	9.08%	\$2.19
Comm. Services	24.62%	\$2.46	16.79%	\$2.09
Utilities	21.43%	\$3.30	8.45%	\$1.58
Real Estate	(8.42%)	(\$0.62)	0.89%	\$0.06

Sources: S&P Dow Jones Indices. 2024 Earnings include estimates. This material is for informational purposes only. Opinions and forecasts expressed herein may not actually occur. **Past performance is not indicative of future results**. The index represented does not bear transaction costs management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. To the extent a shareholder pays sales charges, the performance shown would be less. All indices are unmanaged and investors can not invest directly in an index. For definitions, see the *Index Definitions* section at the end of this document.

» Earnings growth is expected to both accelerate for the Index as a whole as well as broaden to include more sectors.



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#### **INVESTMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- » With a backdrop of continued economic growth, we expect to see broader equity market participation this year as earnings growth prospects expand beyond the narrow group of technology-oriented stocks that led last year's gains.
- These areas include our continued emphasis on health care and dividend paying stocks, as well as Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs) and equity option overlay strategies to enhance current income from equities.
- » Our tactical shifts in fixed income have focused on securing current high levels of income by emphasizing defined maturity intermediate duration holdings.
- » Investors over-allocated to money markets and T-Bills may witness a swift decline in interest income with falling interest rates.
- » In contrast, those in intermediate duration fixed income may experience more stable income alongside potential capital appreciation as interest rates decrease.
- » We think that diversifying across fixed income maturities can be advantageous today.
- » In short, thoughtful allocation across asset classes will be the key to success in the months ahead in our view.



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INVESTMENT OUTLOOK SUMMARY   FAVORED CHOICES				
EQUITY	U.S. » defensive value, equity income, health care, momentum, technology  Global » dividends, momentum, quality			
FIXED INCOME	short-duration commercial mortgage-backed securities and Treasuries, defined-maturity core fixed income, taxable munis			
ALTERNATIVES	equity option overlay strategies, master limited partnerships (MLPs)			

This material is for informational purpose only. Investments discussed may not be suitable for all investors. No part of the authors' compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific views contained in this report. Information provided is obtained from sources deemed to be reliable; but is not represented as complete, and its accuracy is not guaranteed. The information and opinions given are subject to change at any time, based on market and other conditions, and are not recommendations of or solicitations to buy or sell any security. Opinions and forecasts expressed herein may not actually occur. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for client accounts. The reader should not assume that an investment in the securities identified was or will be profitable.

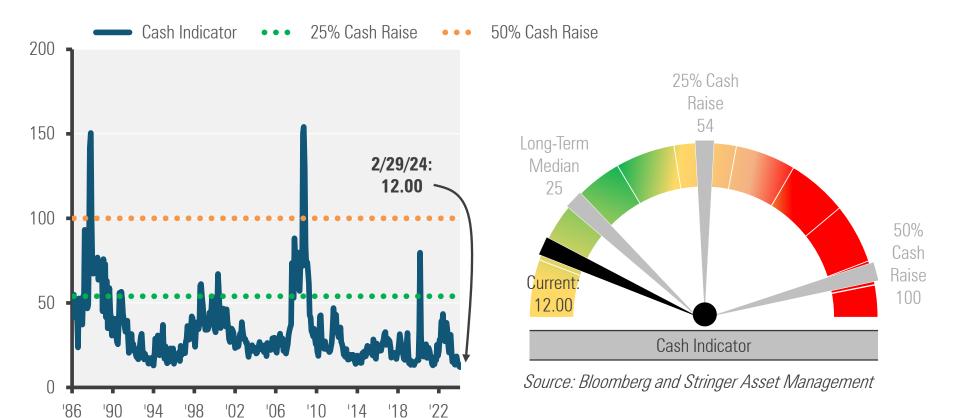


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## The Cash Indicator





- » The Cash Indicator remains at a historically low level as tight fixed income spreads persist and equity markets have exhibited some of the lowest volatility we have seen over the last 30 years.
- » Periods of calm do not last forever, and we are prepared for the eventual return to more normal market volatility.
- » With a positive economic backdrop, volatility can create opportunities for disciplined investors.



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#### **Performance:**

Stringer Asset Management LLC is a registered investment adviser that generally provides services through model portfolios on a sub-advisory business. The firm primarily allocates client's investment management assets among exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") and secondarily among mutual funds. A fully compliant GIPS presentation along with a complete list and description of all composites is available at <a href="https://www.stringeram.com">www.stringeram.com</a> or by calling 901-800-2956. Stringer Asset Management LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®).

Past performance is not indicative of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares when redeemed may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance data quoted. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The performance of any individual portfolio may not be considered comparable to the Composite performance.

The Growth Composite includes all portfolios that mainly invest in equity and alternative ETFs selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Growth Composite has risk characteristics similar to that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and capitalization risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is the MSCI ACWI Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the benchmark was the MSCI World Index rebalanced quarterly. Prior to January 1, 2015, the blended benchmark was 70% Russell 3000 Index and 30% MSCI ACWI xUS Index rebalanced quarterly. In both cases, the benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.

The Moderate Growth Composite includes all portfolios that mainly invest the majority of their assets in equity exchange-traded funds but also includes fixed income and alternative ETFs selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Moderate Growth Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 65% MSCI ACWI Index and 35% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the blended benchmark was 65% MSCI World Index and 35% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. Prior to January 1, 2015, the blended benchmark was 45% Russell 3000 Index, 20% MSCI ACWI xUS Index and 35% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. In both cases, the benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.



#### **Performance (continued):**

The Conservative Growth Composite includes all portfolios that invest their assets in equity, fixed income and alternative exchange-traded funds selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Conservative Growth Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 50% MSCI ACWI Index and 50% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the blended benchmark was 50% MSCI World Index and 50% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. Prior to January 1, 2015, the blended benchmark was 35% Russell 3000 Index, 15% MSCI ACWI xUS Index and 50% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. In both cases, the benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.

The Income with Growth Composite includes all portfolios that invest their assets in equity, fixed income and alternative exchange-traded funds selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Income with Growth Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 35% MSCI ACWI Index and 65% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific developed market indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite. As of 12/30/16, the Conservative Composite was renamed the Income with Growth Composite.

The Income Composite includes all portfolios that invest their assets in equity, fixed income and alternative exchange-traded funds selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Income Composite has risk characteristics lower than that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and credit risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is a blend of 20% MSCI ACWI Index and 80% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly as of January 1, 2016. The benchmark is market-cap weighted and is composed of several country-specific indices. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; however, there have not been material differences to date. Prior to January 1, 2016, the benchmark was a blend of 20% MSCI World Index and 80% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index rebalanced quarterly. The benchmark was retroactively changed to more closely follow our investment strategy. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.



#### **Performance (continued):**

The Tactical Opportunities Composite includes all portfolios that mainly invest in equity and alternative ETFs selected from the global investment opportunity set. The Tactical Composite has risk characteristics similar to that of the broad equity market and include but are not limited to equity risk, international investing risk and capitalization risk. The total returns presented are gross and net of fees. Advisory fees and any other expenses incurred in the management of the account will reduce actual returns. The benchmark is the MSCI ACWI Index rebalanced quarterly. The index represented does not bear transaction costs or management fees, and cannot be actually bought or sold. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. For index definitions, see the Index Definitions section at the end of this document. The U.S. Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Material use of leverage, derivatives and short positions are not used in this composite.

#### **Index Definitions:**

Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index — This Index provides a measure of the U.S. investment grade bond market, which includes investment grade U.S. Government bonds, investment grade corporate bonds, mortgage pass-through securities and asset-backed securities that are publicly offered for sale in the United States. The securities in the Index must have at least 1 year remaining to maturity. In addition, the securities must be denominated in US dollars and must be fixed rate, nonconvertible and taxable.

MSCI ACWI (Net) Index – This 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 ACWI Index consists of 23 developed and 23 emerging market country indexes. Net total return includes the reinvestment of dividends after the deduction of withholding taxes, using a tax rate applicable to non-resident institutional investors who do not benefit from double taxation treaties.

S&P 500 Index – This Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks. The Index is designed to measure performance of a broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

S&P 500 Consumer Discretionary Index - This capitalization-weighted Index encompasses those businesses that tend to be the most sensitive to economic cycles. Its manufacturing segment includes automobiles & components, household durable goods, leisure products and textiles & apparel. The services segment includes hotels, restaurants, and other leisure facilities. It also includes distributors and retailers of consumer discretionary products.

S&P 500 Consumer Staples Index - This capitalization-weighted Index comprises companies whose businesses are less sensitive to economic cycles. It includes manufacturers and distributors of food, beverages and tobacco and producers of non-durable household goods and personal products. It also includes distributors and retailers of consumer staples products including food & drug retailing companies.



#### **Index Definitions (continued):**

S&P 500 Energy Index - This capitalization-weighted Index comprises companies engaged in exploration & production, refining & marketing, and storage & transportation of oil & gas and coal & consumable fuels. It also includes companies that offer oil & gas equipment and services.

S&P 500 Financials Index - This capitalization-weighted Index contains companies engaged in banking, financial services, consumer finance, capital markets and insurance activities. It also includes Financial Exchanges & Data and Mortgage REITs.

S&P 500 Health Care Index - This capitalization-weighted Index includes health care providers & services, companies that manufacture and distribute health care equipment & supplies, and health care technology companies. It also includes companies involved in the research, development, production and marketing of pharmaceuticals and biotechnology products.

S&P 500 Industrials Index - This capitalization-weighted Index includes manufacturers and distributors of capital goods such as aerospace & defense, building products, electrical equipment and machinery and companies that offer construction & engineering services. It also includes providers of commercial & professional services including printing, environmental and facilities services, office services & supplies, security & alarm services, human resource & employment services, research & consulting services. It also includes companies that provide transportation services.

S&P 500 Information Technology Index - This capitalization-weighted Index comprises companies that offer software and information technology services, manufacturers and distributors of technology hardware & equipment such as communications equipment, cellular phones, computers & peripherals, electronic equipment and related instruments, and semiconductors and related equipment & materials.

S&P 500 Materials Index - This capitalization-weighted Index includes companies that manufacture chemicals, construction materials, forest products, glass, paper and related packaging products, and metals, minerals and mining companies, including producers of steel.

S&P 500 Real Estate Index - This capitalization-weighted Index contains companies engaged in real estate development and operation. It also includes companies offering real estate related services and Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs).

S&P 500 Communication Services Index - This capitalization-weighted Index includes companies that facilitate communication and offer related content and information through various mediums. It includes telecom and media & entertainment companies including producers of interactive gaming products and companies engaged in content and information creation or distribution through proprietary platforms.

S&P 500 Utilities Index - This capitalization-weighted Index comprises utility companies such as electric, gas and water utilities. It also includes independent power producers & energy traders and companies that engage in generation and distribution of electricity using renewable sources.



#### **Statistical Definitions:**

Standard deviation — A statistical measure of volatility, standard deviation is often used as an indicator of the 'risk' associated with a return series. Standard deviation of return measures the average deviations of a return series from its mean. A large standard deviation implies that there have been large swings in the return series of the manager.

Alpha — Alpha is a measure of risk (beta)-adjusted return. Alpha measures the difference between a portfolio's actual returns and what it might be expected to deliver based on its level of risk. In an ideal sense, higher risk should equate to higher return. A positive alpha means the fund has beaten expectations. A negative alpha means that the fund has failed to match performance given its level of risk. If two managers have the same return, but one has a lower beta, that manager would have a higher alpha.

Beta — This represents the systematic risk of a portfolio and measures its sensitivity to a benchmark. A portfolio with a beta of one is considered to be as risky as the benchmark and would therefore provide expected returns equal to those of the market benchmark during both up and down periods. A portfolio with a beta of two would move approximately twice as much as the benchmark.

*Yield* – Portfolio and benchmark yields are calculated using a harmonic weighted average of the net dividends per share during the past 12 months for each holding as of the date identified at their respective target weighting.



#### **Principal Risks:**

Allocation risk – The performance of the portfolio relative to its benchmark will depend largely on the decisions to strategic asset allocation and tactical adjustments made to the asset allocation. At times, judgments as to the asset classes in which the portfolio should invest may prove to be wrong, as some asset classes may perform worse than others or the equity markets generally from time to time or for extended periods of time. Market risk - The value of securities in the portfolio may decline due to daily fluctuations in the securities markets, including fluctuation in interest rates, national and international economic conditions and general equity market conditions. Management style risk - To the extent the portfolio focuses on a particular style of stocks, such as growth or value, its performance may at times be better or worse than that of similar portfolios with other focuses or that have a broader investment style. Business and sector risk - From time to time, a particular set of circumstances may affect a particular industry or certain companies within an industry, while having little or no impact on other industries or other companies within the industry. Large company risk - The portfolio may invest in larger, more established companies, which may be unable to respond quickly to new competitive challenges such as changes in consumer tastes or innovative smaller competitors. Also, large companies are sometimes unable to attain the high growth rates of successful, smaller companies, especially during extended periods of economic expansions. Mid-sized company risk - The portfolio may invest in mid-cap companies, which may be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic events than larger, more established companies. In particular, these mid-sized companies may pose additional risks, including liquidity risk, because these companies tend to have limited product lines, markets and financial resources, and may depend upon a relatively small management group. Small company risk - The portfolio may invest in smaller companies, which generally have less experienced management teams, serve smaller markets, and find it more difficult to obtain financing for growth or potential development than larger companies. Real Estate Investment Trust ("REIT") risk — The portfolio may invest in ETFs or other pooled investment vehicles that invest in REITs. REITs are susceptible to the risks associated with investing in real estate generally, including, among others, declines in the value of real estate, lack of ability to access the credit markets and defaults by borrowers or tenants. Commodities risk - The portfolio may invest in ETFs or other pooled investment vehicles that invest in commodities, such as raw materials or agricultural products. Commodities are tied to future market values and future income and are vulnerable to adverse movements in prices and exchange rates. Additionally, the price of commodities may be affected by geopolitical changes and relations. Credit risk — An issuer of debt securities may not make timely payments of principal and interest. Debt securities risk - Increases in interest rates typically lower the value of debt securities held by the portfolio. Investments in debt securities include credit risk. There is also the risk that a bond issuer may "call," or repay its high yielding bonds before their maturity dates. Debt securities subject to prepayment can offer less potential for gains during a declining interest rate environment and similar or greater potential for loss in a rising interest rate environment. Limited training opportunities for certain debt securities may make it more difficult to sell or buy a security at a favorable price or time. High yield securities risk - Investments in high yield fixed income securities, also known as "junk bonds", involve a greater risk of default and are subject to a substantially higher degree of credit risk or price fluctuations than other types of debt securities. Interest rate risk - Increases in interest rates typically lower the present value of a company's future earnings stream. Accordingly, stock prices will generally decline when investors anticipate or experience rising interest rates. Issuer risk – The value of an individual security or particular type of security can be more volatile and thus perform differently than the market as a whole. Shares of other investment companies and ETFs risk – Investors will indirectly bear fees and expenses charged by the underlying funds in which the portfolio may invest in addition to the portfolio's direct fees and expenses and, as a result, the cost of investing in the portfolio will generally be higher than the cost of investing directly in the underlying fund shares. Investments in ETFs bear the risk that the market price of the ETF's shares may trade at a discount to their net asset value or that an active trading market for an ETF's shares may not develop or be maintained. Non-diversified fund risk – A non-diversified fund is generally subject to the risk that a large loss in an individual issue will cause a greater loss for the fund than it would if the fund was required to hold a larger number of securities or smaller positions. Foreign exposure risk – Foreign markets, particularly emerging markets, can be more volatile than the U.S. market due to increased risks of adverse issuer, political, regulatory, or economic developments. Foreign currency risk – The value of an investment denominated in a foreign currency will decline in dollar terms if that currency weakens against the dollar. Additionally, certain countries may utilize formal or informal currency-exchange controls or "capital controls." Such controls may also affect the value of the portfolio's holdings. U.S. Government and U.S. agency obligations risk - There can be no assurance that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to its agencies or instrumentalities (including government-sponsored enterprises) that issue or guarantee certain securities where it is not obligated to do so.



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