

Economic and Market Review

THIRD QUARTER 2025

A decorative orange dotted line that starts at the bottom left, curves upwards, and ends with a double arrow pointing to the right.

Invest without boundaries™

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Agenda

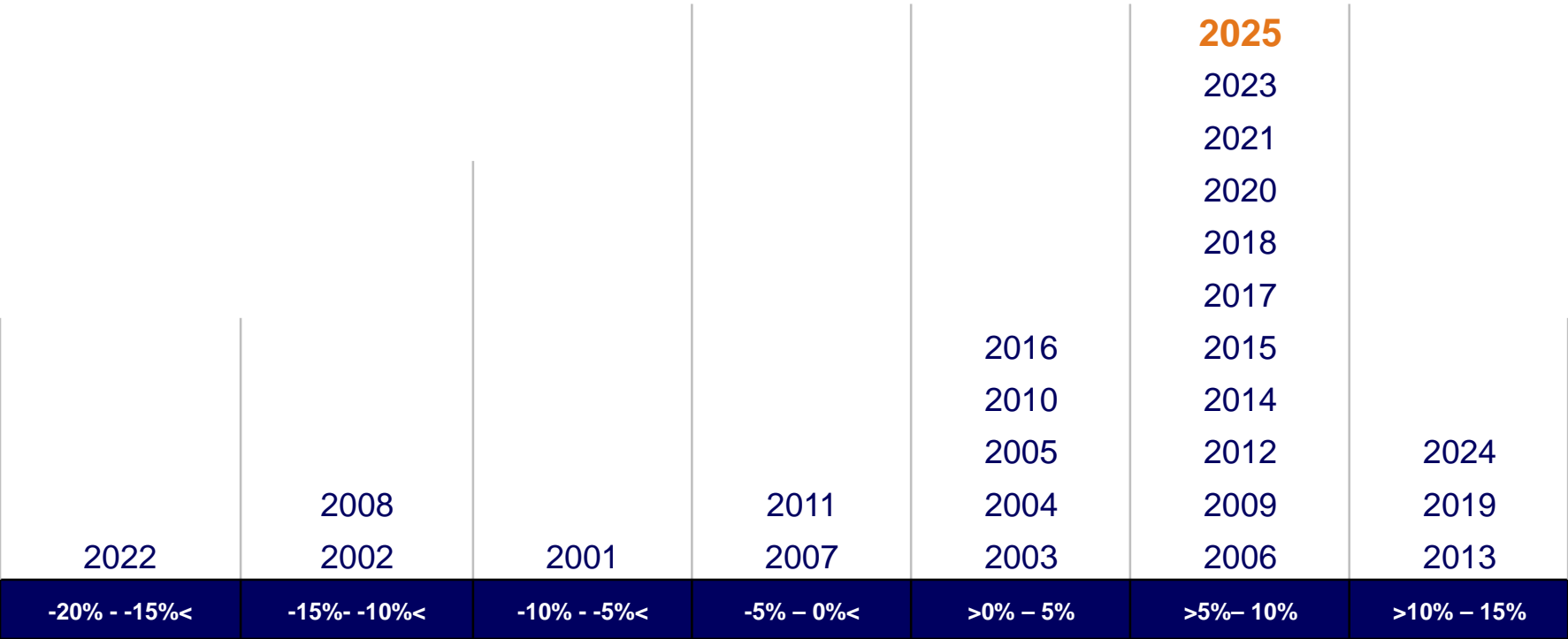
- Markets in review 04
- Equity 09
- Fixed income 17
- Real assets 19
- Global outlook 21
- Stay invested 26

Diversified portfolio has produced strong returns in 2025

An important reminder of the power of staying invested

Return of a global balanced index portfolio

Q3 YTD: 2001 – 2025

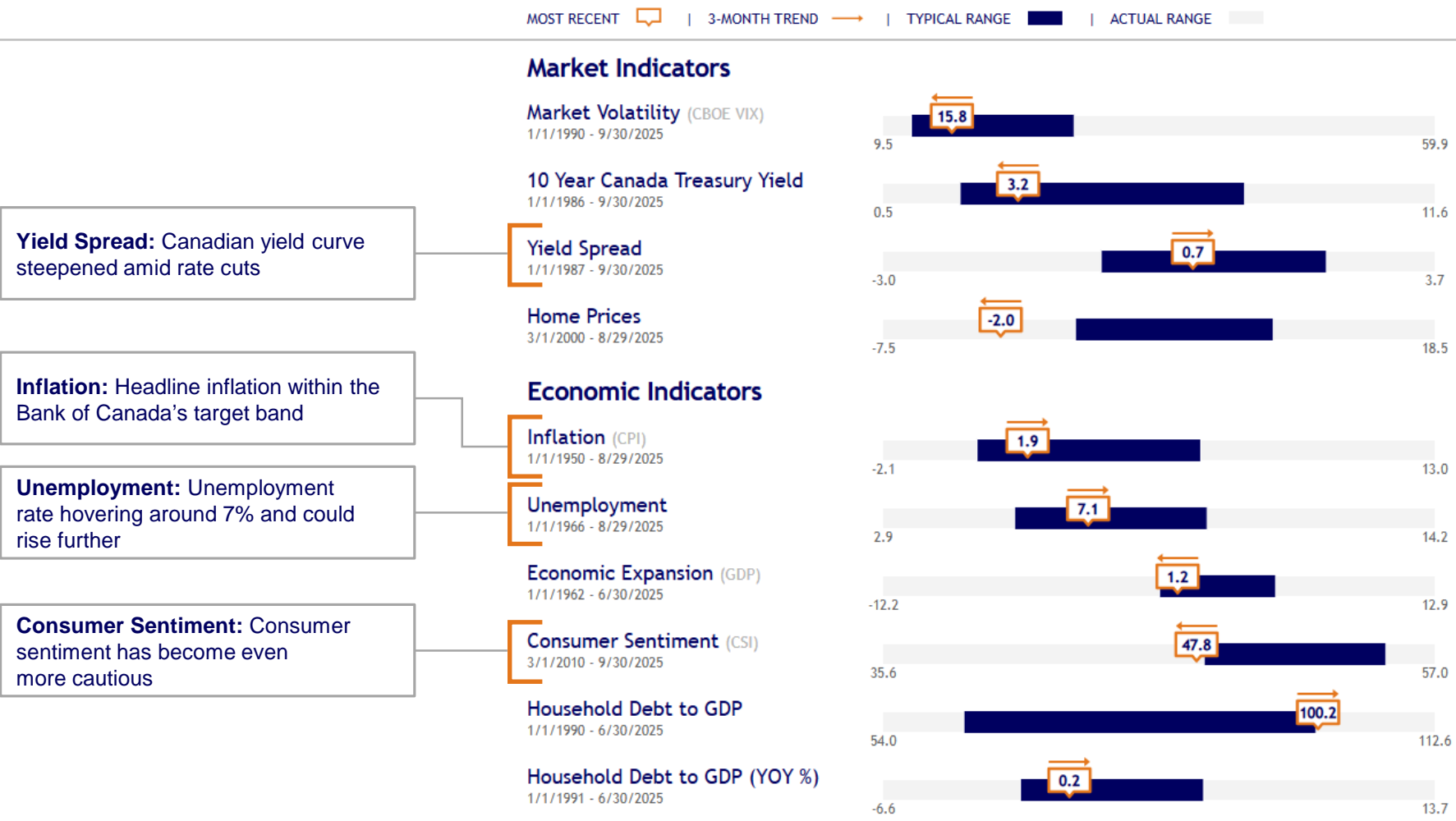


- Despite volatility in March/April, a global balanced index portfolio delivered a return of +9.5% through September YTD
- The strong performance year-to-date in 2025 follows a strong 2024 and 2023.

Source: Morningstar. In CAD. Global Balanced Index Portfolio represented by 60% MSCI World Index for stocks and 40% Bloomberg Canada Aggregate Bond index for fixed income. Index returns represent past performance, are not a guarantee of future performance, and are not indicative of any specific investment.

Economic indicators dashboard - Canada

Q3 2025



Source: LSEG DataStream, St. Louis Fed, Russell Investments, as of September 30, 2025. See Slide 29 for category definitions. Russell Investments' Economic Indicators Dashboard charts several key indicators to help investors assess economic and market trends.

Economic indicators dashboard - U.S.

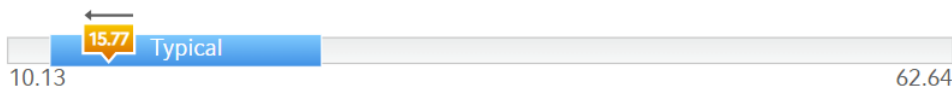
Q3 2025

MOST RECENT  3-MO. TREND  TYPICAL RANGE  ACTUAL RANGE 

▼ MARKET INDICATORS

Market Volatility: Continued to moderate

Market Volatility (CBOE VIX)



10 Yr. U.S. Treasury Yield

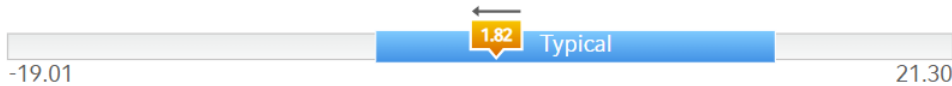


Yield Spread: Turned positive as the curve moved out of inversion

Yield Spread



Home Prices (HPI)



▼ ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Inflation: Rose from 2.4% in Q2

Inflation (CPI)



Unemployment: Remained low, up slightly from 4.1% in Q2

Unemployment



Economic Expansion (GDP)



Consumer Sentiment: Persisted below historical range

Consumer Sentiment (CSI)



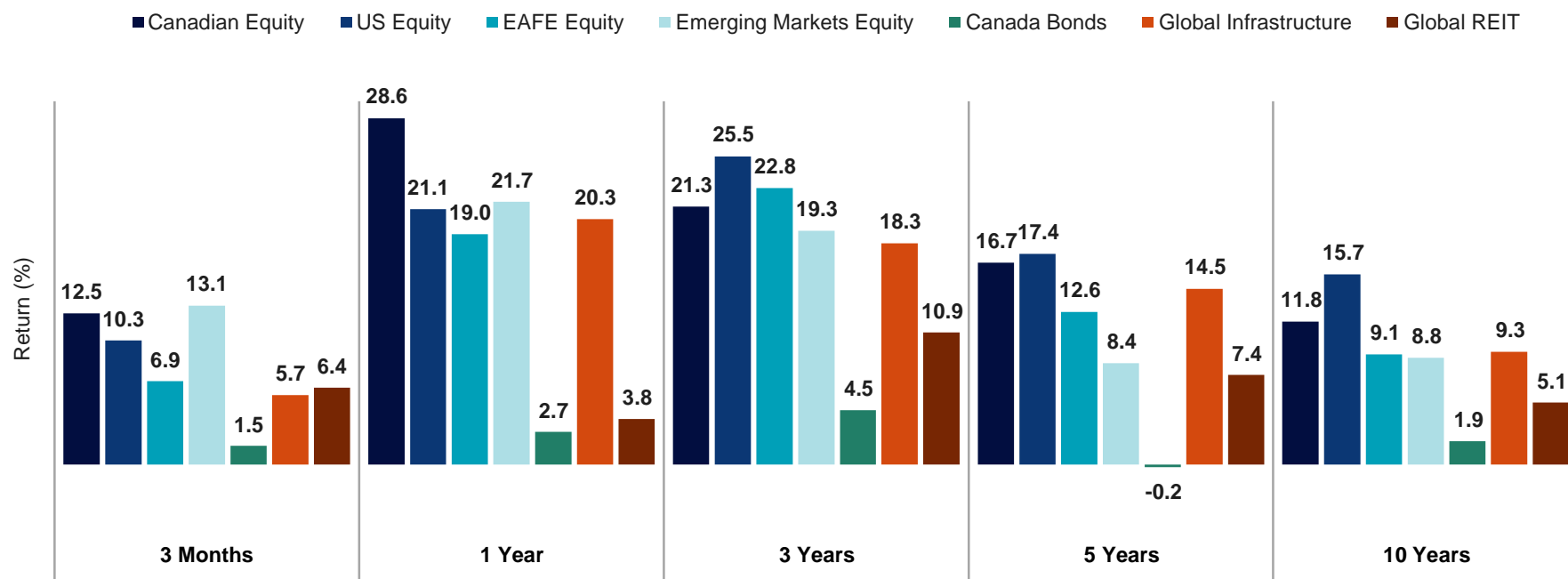
Source: <http://www.russellinvestments.com>, current view from RI.com as of 10/2/2025, data points as of most recent month-end. For more up to date information, please refer to www.russellinvestments.com. See appendix for category definitions. Russell Investments' Economic Indicators Dashboard charts several key indicators to help investors assess economic and market trends.

Capital markets

Periods ending September 30, 2025

Capital market returns (%)

(Annualized for periods greater than 1 year)

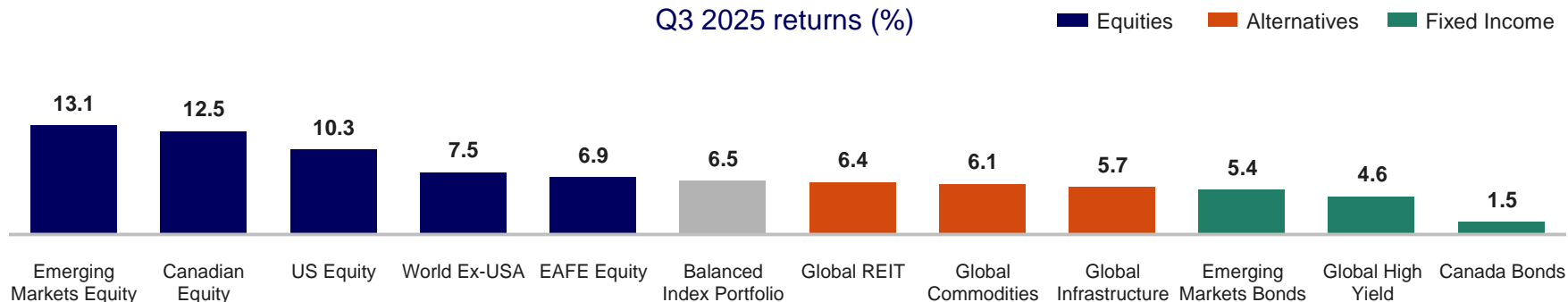


Source: Russell Investments, Morningstar. In CAD. Index returns represent past performance, are not a guarantee of future performance, and are not indicative of any specific investment. Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested in directly. Definitions: Canadian Equity = S&P/TSX Composite Index, US Equity = S&P 500 Index, EAFE Equity = MSCI EAFE Index, Emerging Markets Equity = MSCI Emerging Markets Index, Canada Bonds = Bloomberg Canada Aggregate Index, Global Infrastructure = S&P Global Infrastructure Index, Global Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) = FTSE EPRA NAREIT Developed Index. Returns are annualized except for periods less than one year. EAFE is an acronym referring to Europe, Australasia and the Far East.

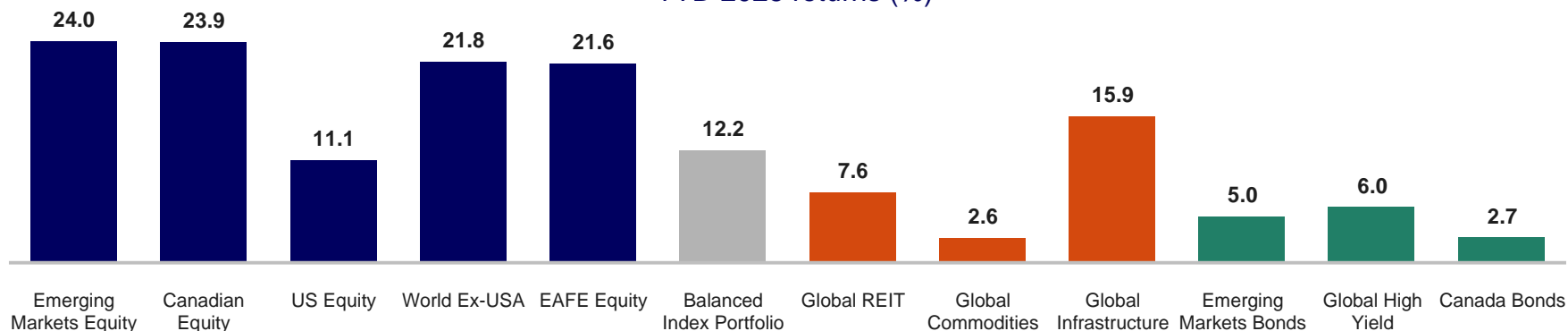
What worked and what didn't

Q3 2025 and YTD 2025

Q3 2025 returns (%)



YTD 2025 returns (%)



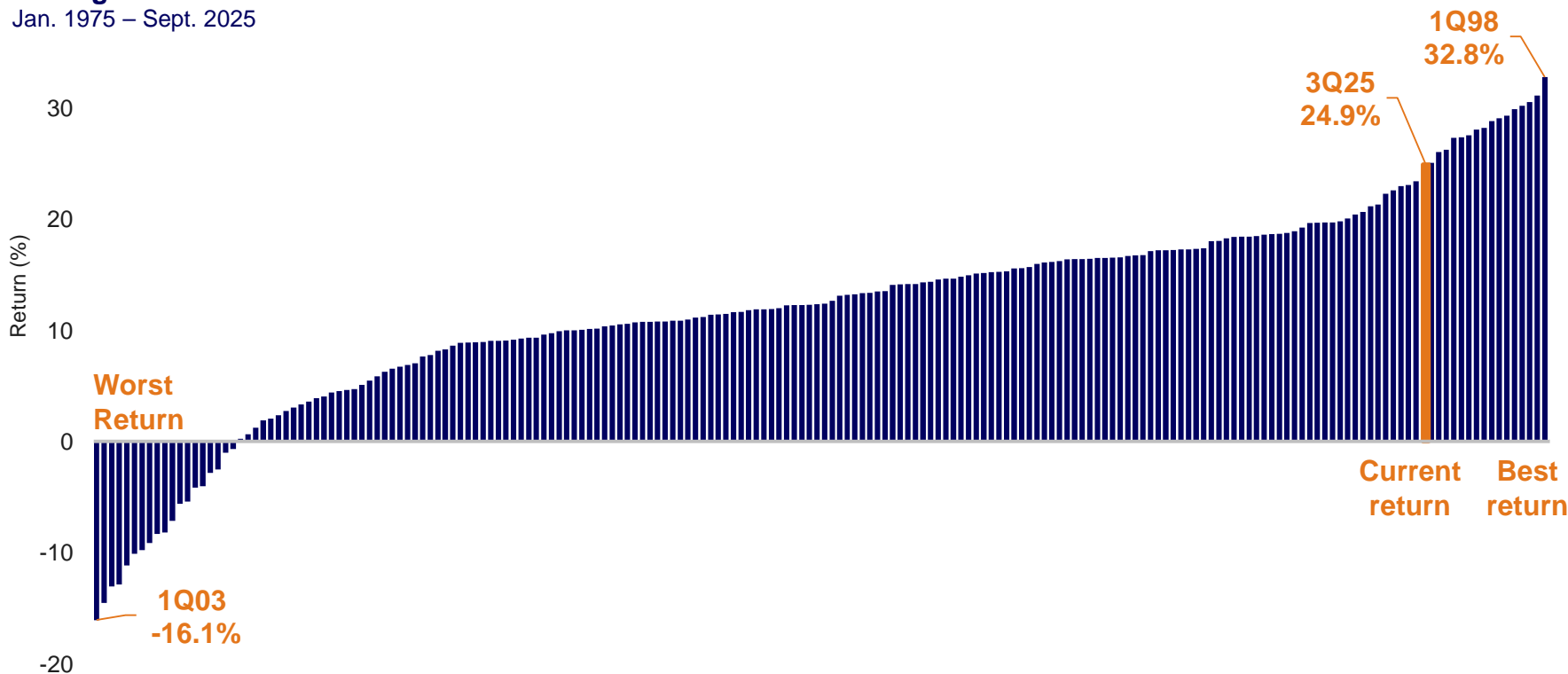
Source: Russell Investments, Morningstar. In CAD. Index returns represent past performance, are not a guarantee of future performance, and are not indicative of any specific investment. Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested in directly. Definitions: Canadian Equity = S&P/TSX Composite Index, US Equity = S&P 500 Index, Global High Yield = Bloomberg Global High Yield Bond Index, World ex-USA = MSCI AC World ex-USA Index, EAFE Equity = MSCI EAFE Index, Emerging Markets Equity = MSCI Emerging Markets Index, Canada Bonds = Bloomberg Canada Aggregate Index, Emerging Markets Bonds = Bloomberg EM USD Aggregate Index, Global Infrastructure = S&P Global Infrastructure Index, Global REIT = FTSE EPRA NAREIT Developed Index, Global Commodities = S&P Goldman Sachs Commodities Index. Balanced Index Portfolio: 20% Canadian Equity, 20% US Equity, 20% EAFE Equity and 40% Canada Bonds. Returns are annualized except for periods of less than one year.

U.S. stocks posted historically strong 3-year run

Latest trailing returns are elevated, but not at market extremes

Rolling 3-Year S&P 500 Returns

Jan. 1975 – Sept. 2025

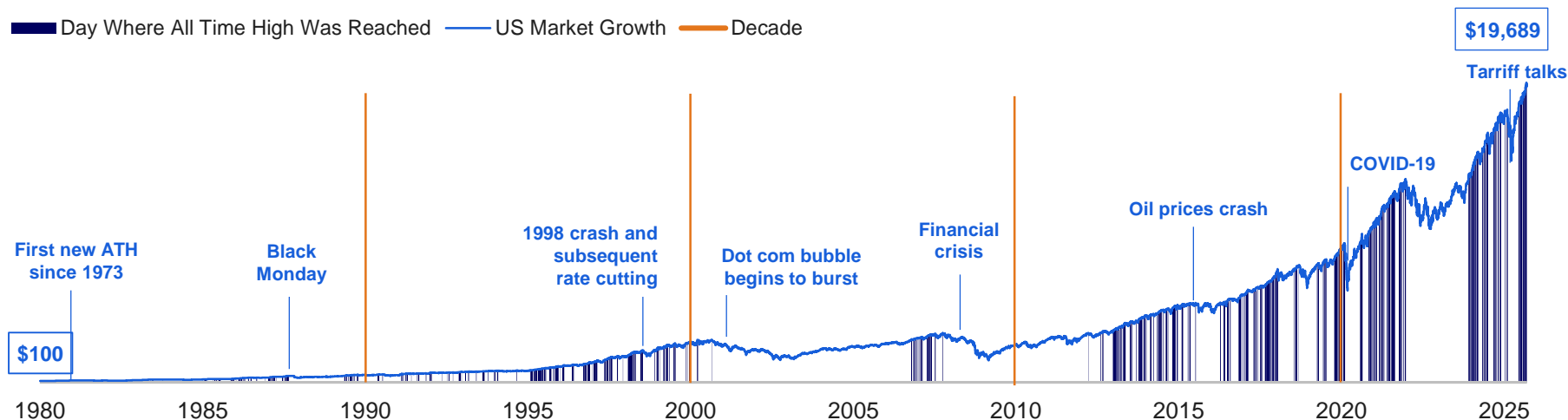


- The S&P500's most recent 3-year return is higher than roughly 90% of previous comparisons over the last 50 years
- In periods that experienced higher returns, the following 3 years still delivered positive returns nearly 66% of the time
- Fewer than 10% of 3-year periods were negative, showing strong markets rarely precede a downturn

Source: Morningstar. S&P 500 Index rolling 3-year return calculated using a quarterly step. Past performance, are not a guarantee of future performance, and are not indicative of any specific investment.

New highs are nothing new

Hitting a market high is a natural part of the course



185 All-Time Highs

354 All-Time Highs

51 All-Time Highs

315 All-Time Highs

216 All-Time Highs

Annualized Return (%) S&P 500 TR

1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2009	2010-2019	2020-YTD '25
17.6	18.2	(1.0)	13.6	15.3

- The average 1-year forward return following an all-time high has been 14.4% since 1980
- Only 21% of the 1-year forward returns following all time highs have been negative
- A decade with more frequent highs may bode well for returns – don't miss the potential run-up

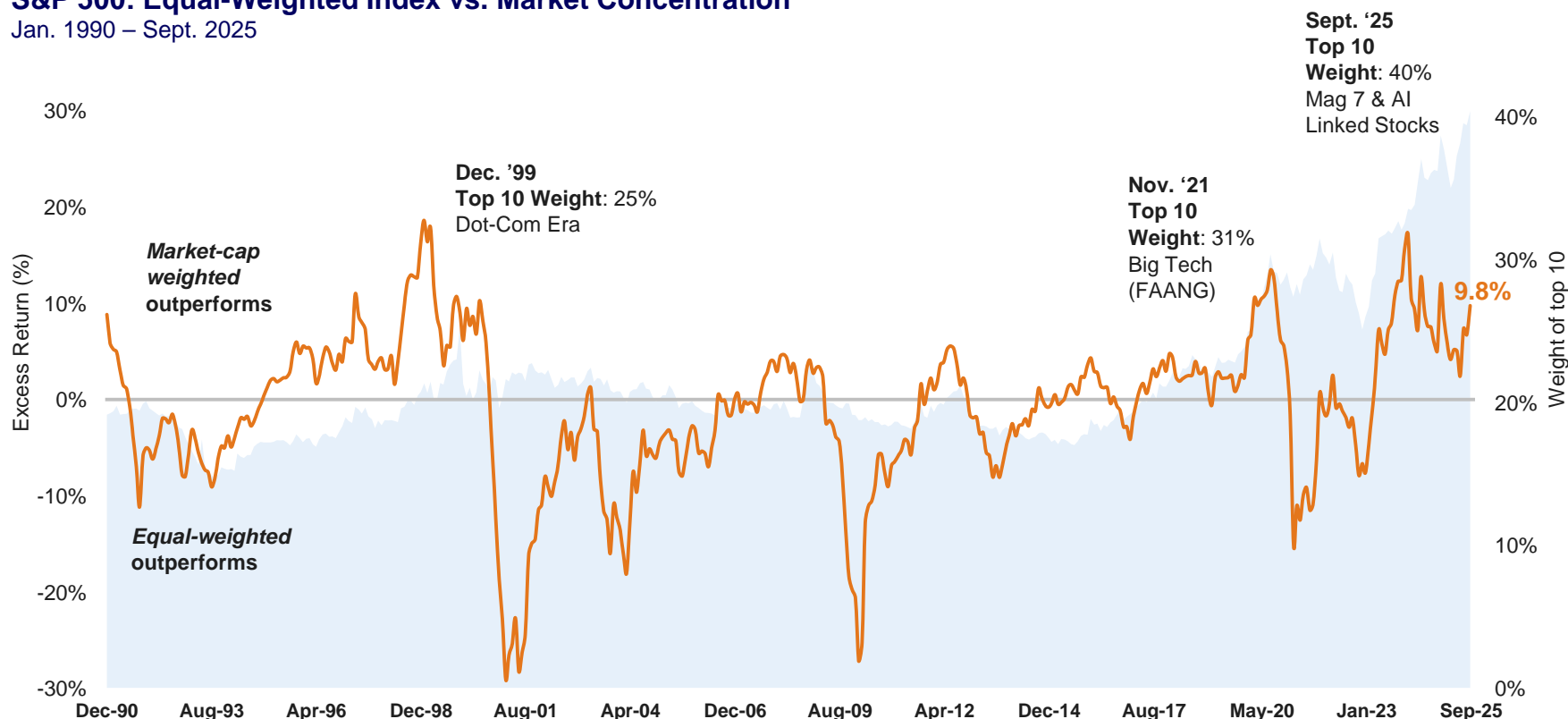
Source: Morningstar; S&P 500 TR; S&P 500 PR used to determine daily market highs from 1980-1988; S&P 500 TR used thereafter.

Concentration has driven markets

Will broader participation pay off next?

S&P 500: Equal-Weighted Index vs. Market Concentration

Jan. 1990 – Sept. 2025



Leadership cycles evolve over time; periods of extreme concentration have historically been followed by phases of broader market participation

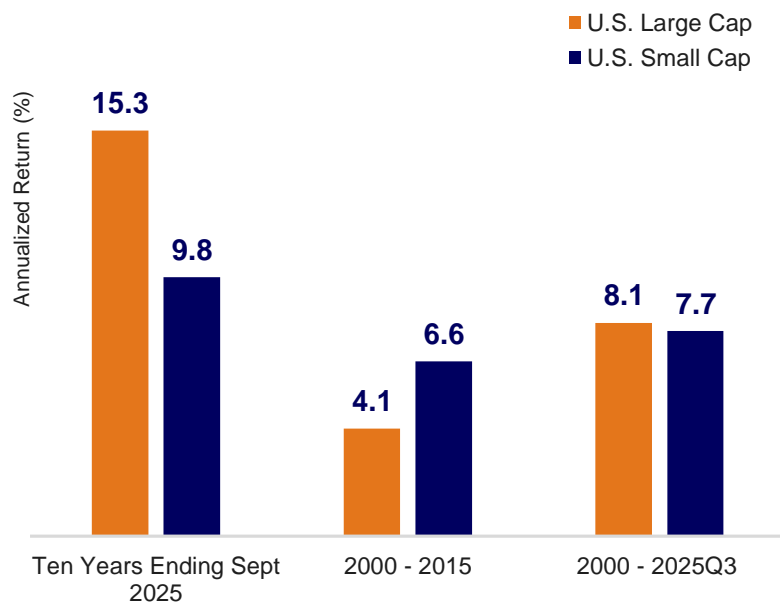
Source: Morningstar Direct. Market Cap Weighted: S&P 500 Total Return Index. Equal Weighted: S&P 500 Equal Weight Total Return Index. Excess Return (%) (Market-Cap Weighted Return – Equal-Weighted Return): Measured on a rolling 1-year basis with 1 month step. Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested in directly. Returns represent past performance, are not a guarantee of future results, and are not indicative of any specific investment.

Do small cap stocks always trail large?

Large and small cap leadership does ebb and flow

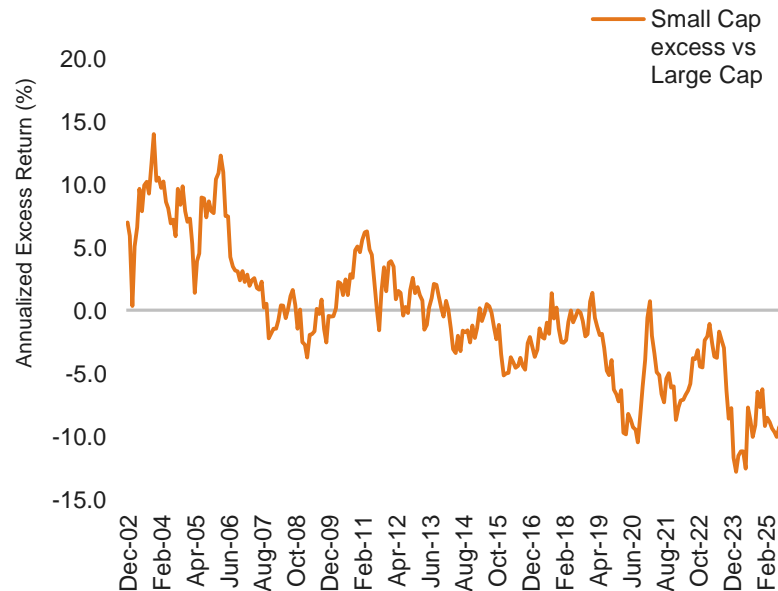
U.S. Equity Market Returns

Periods through Sept. 2025



U.S. Small Cap vs U.S. Large Cap

3-Year Excess Rolling Periods thru Sept 2025



- The Large Cap stocks have dominated U.S. equity markets in recent years, making small caps look poor in comparison
- That is not always the case, in fact, small cap stocks topped large cap for the first 16 years of the century
- Given relative valuations, and earning outlooks, small caps may be poised to reverse the current trend

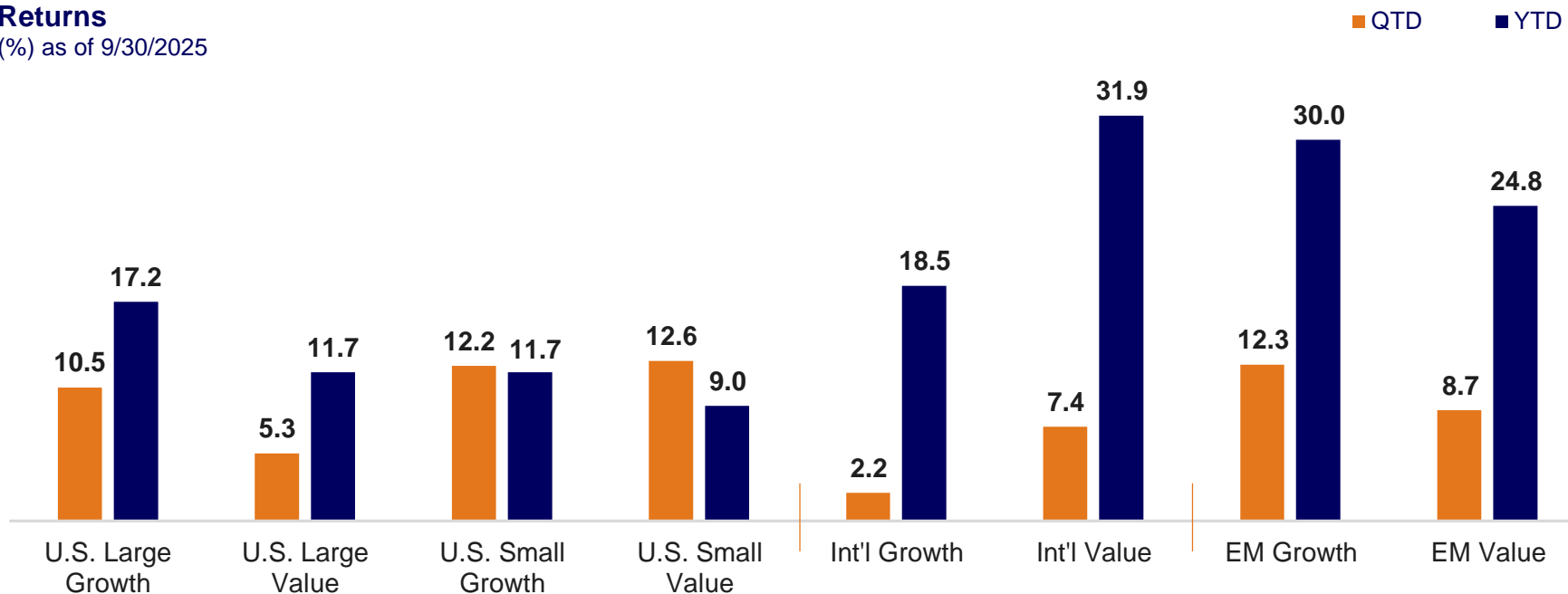
Sources: Large Cap = S&P 500 Index, Small Cap = Russell 2000 Index

Where to potentially find value

Style returns have been mixed globally

Returns

(%) as of 9/30/2025



- Despite record highs for the S&P 500 index this quarter, small cap value stocks outpaced large growth in U.S. markets
- YTD, Non-U.S. markets have delivered strong returns in the value space, potentially benefitting from diversification and insulation amidst tariffs
- Emerging markets growth stocks benefited following the April 1st drop in markets

Source: Morningstar. U.S. Large Growth: Russell 1000 Growth ; U.S. Large Value: Russell 1000 Value ; U.S. Small Growth: Russell 2000 Growth ; U.S. Small Value: Russell 2000 Value. Non-U.S. Value: MSCI EAFE Value ; Non-U.S. Growth: MSCI EAFE Growth ; Emerging Markets Value: MSCI EM Value ; Emerging Markets Growth: MSCI EM Growth

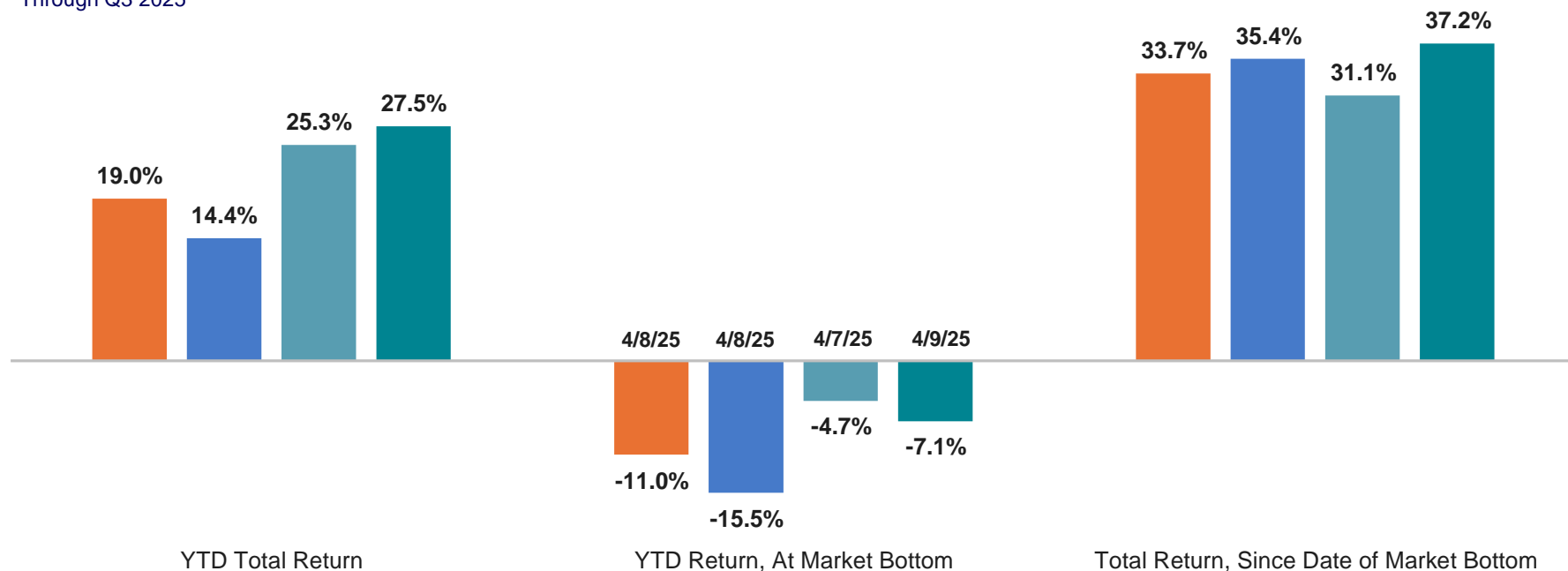
Global diversification has worked so far in 2025

A global portfolio has outperformed U.S. stocks with less drawdown

Global Equity Returns

Through Q3 2025

■ Globally Diversified Stocks ■ U.S. Stocks ■ Non-U.S. developed stocks ■ Emerging Market Stocks



- Non-U.S. stocks have outperformed U.S stocks
- Although all regions hit their low point in the same week, they have bounced back at different levels
- Leadership rotates and diversification ensures participation when that rotation occurs

Source: Morningstar Direct. U.S. Stocks represented by the Russell 3000 index; Non-U.S. Developed Stocks represented by the MSCI World ex-USA Net index; Emerging Market Stocks represented by the MSCI EM Net index. Globally Diversified Stocks are allocated based on the MSCI ACWI index, which is 64% U.S. Stocks, 29% Non-U.S. Developed Stocks, and 7% Emerging Market Stocks. Index returns represent past performance, are not a guarantee of future performance, and are not indicative of any specific investment.

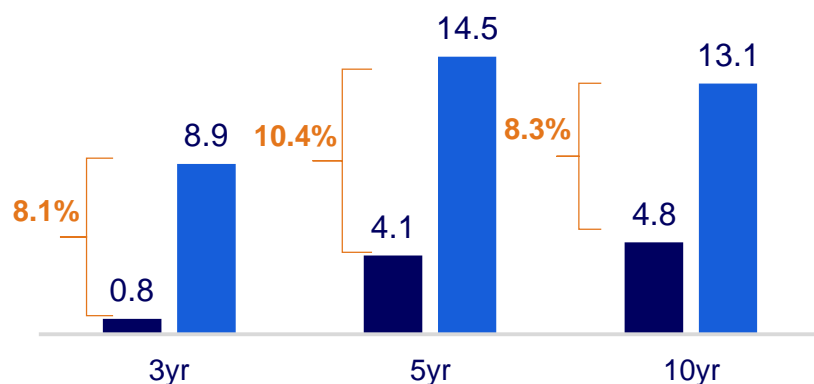
Closing the gap

Non-U.S. markets are still catching up to longer-term U.S. returns

Returns

As of 12/31/2024

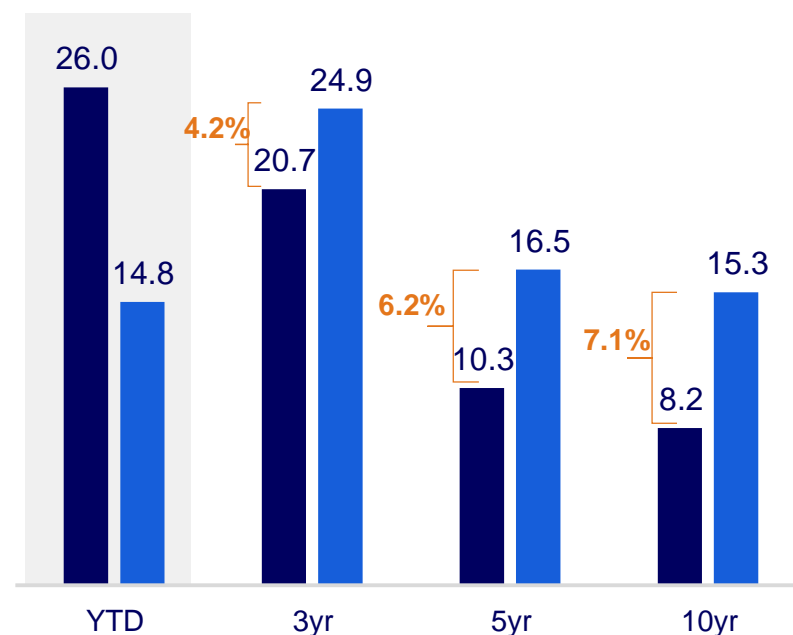
■ Non-U.S. ■ U.S.



Returns

As of 9/30/2025

■ Non-U.S. ■ U.S.



- Strong YTD non-U.S. returns are helping narrow the gap with U.S. stocks, especially over a 3-year period. The 5-and 10-year gaps still have room to narrow
- Market leadership can flip quickly. A globally diversified portfolio may still offer strong longer-term results

Source: Morningstar. US: S&P 500 ; Non-US: MSCI ACWI ex US

Emerging markets resurging

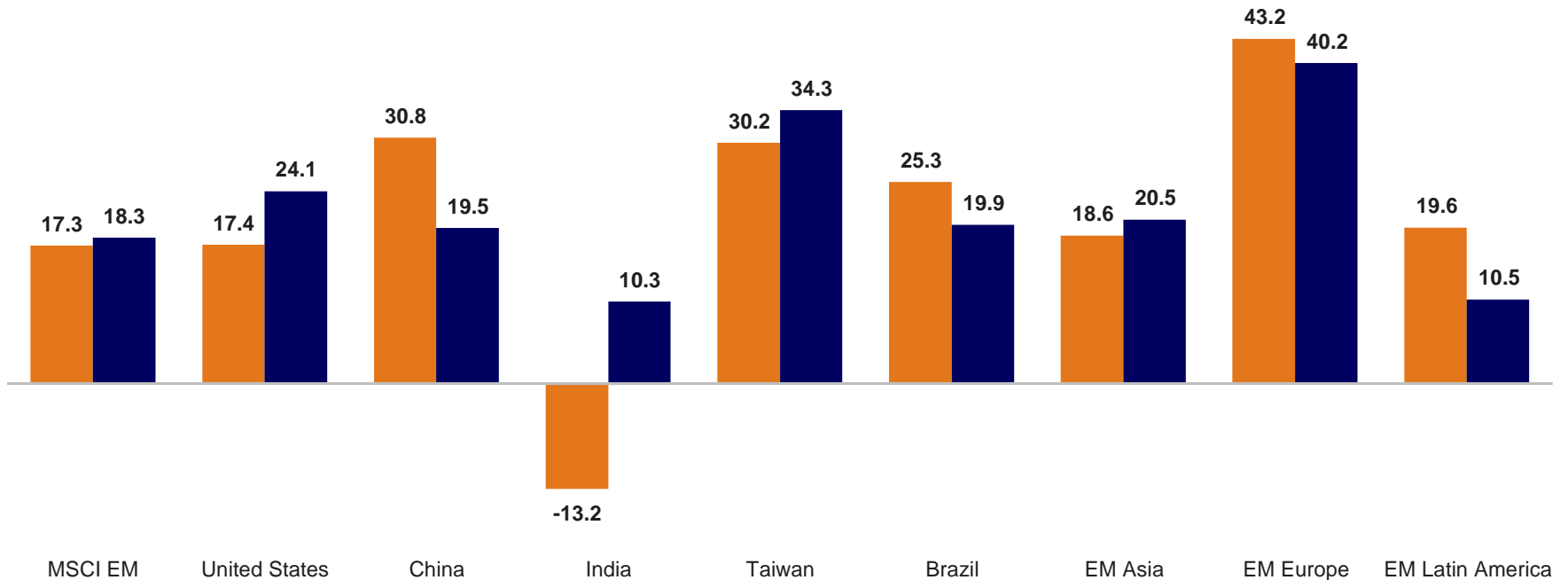
Strong returns delivered across regions

Emerging Markets Returns

One-Year and Three-Year Annualized Returns (%)

Periods Ending Sept. 2025

■ One Year ■ Three Years



- Emerging markets have been 2025's best performing equity asset class
- Markets in Europe, Asia, and Latin America have posted strong results over the last three years
- Value measures and growth projections suggest a solid base for future results in these markets

Source: MSCI Emerging Markets Index, United States = S&P 500 index

Stock and bond volatility continues to decline from peaks

However, market “fear gauge” indicators remain above recent lows

Market “fear gauges”

VIX and MOVE Levels
Sept. 2020 – Sept. 2025



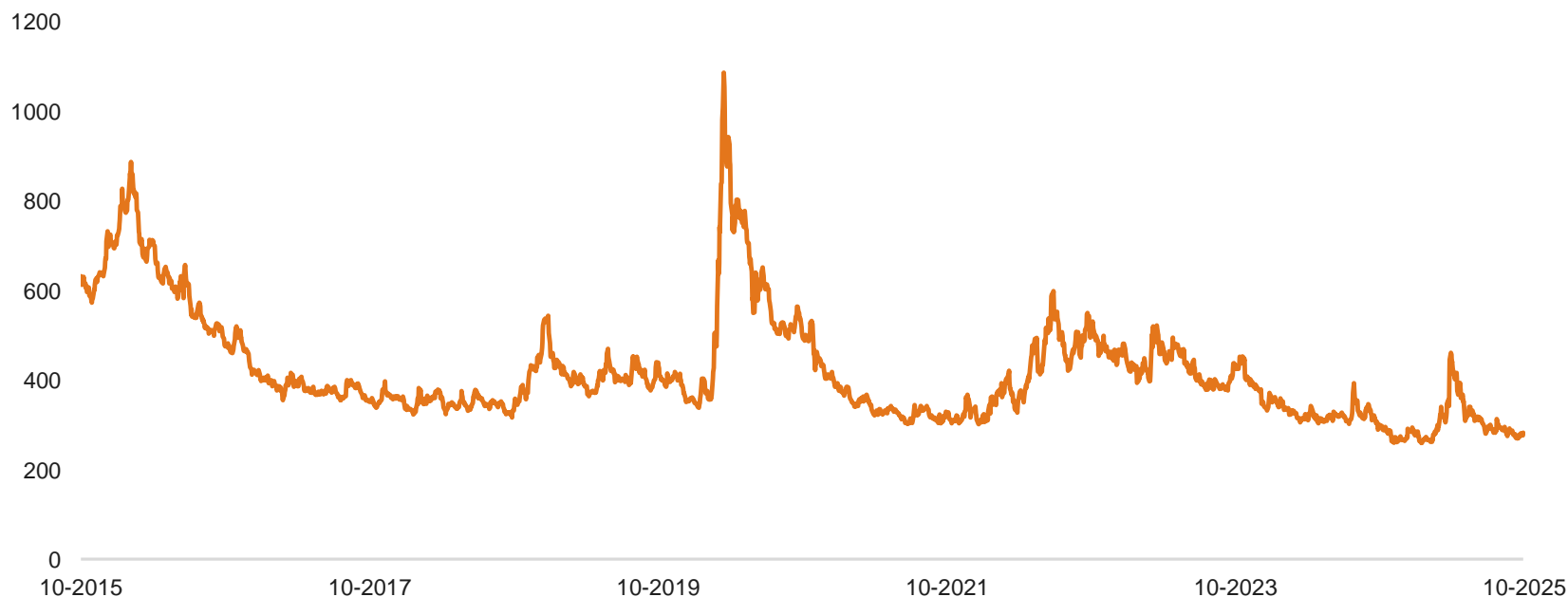
- The VIX measures expected volatility in equities, while the MOVE Index measures expected volatility in bonds
- Since September 2020, the MOVE Index peaked in March 2023 while the VIX peaked in April 2025
- Both indexes have eased since April's selloff but remain above their lows, reflecting lingering caution remains

Source: St. Louis Fed and Yahoo. VIX: CBOE Volatility Index, MOVE : Merrill Lynch Option Volatility Estimate

Credit spreads are currently tight, but could widen later

Creating a potential relative performance tailwind for active management

U.S. High Yield Credit Spread (basis points)



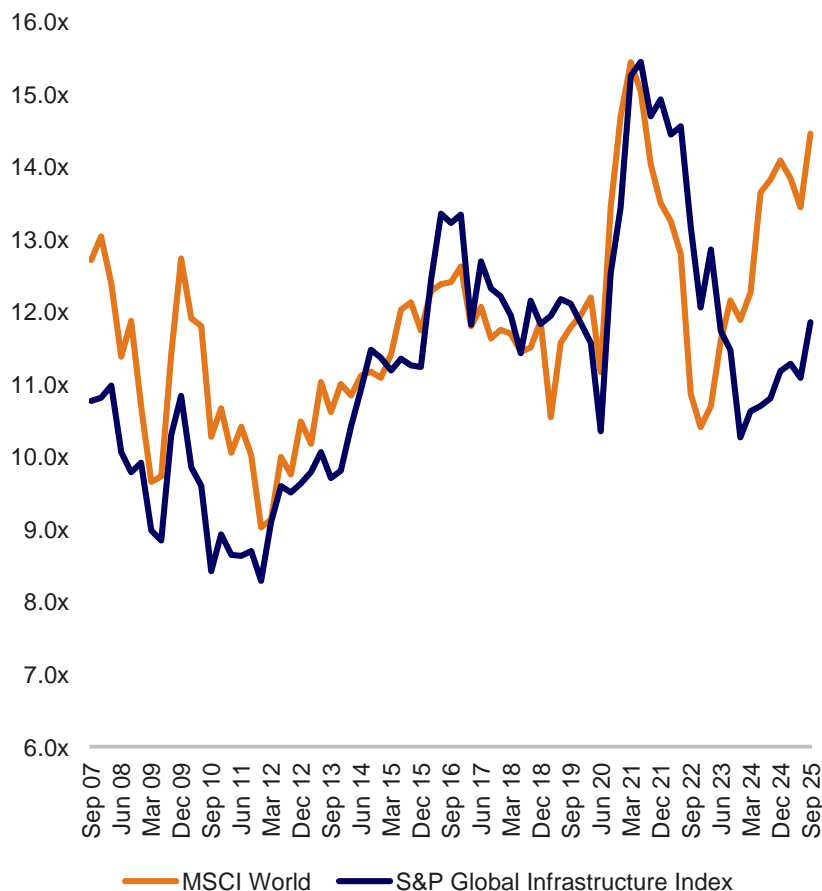
- Credit spreads in the U.S. are extraordinarily tight amid strong corporate balance sheets
- History shows that during tight credit spread regimes, active fixed income managers tend to outperform passive over the next 12 months

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Chart shows the option adjusted spread for the ICE B of A High Yield Index

Listed infrastructure valuations

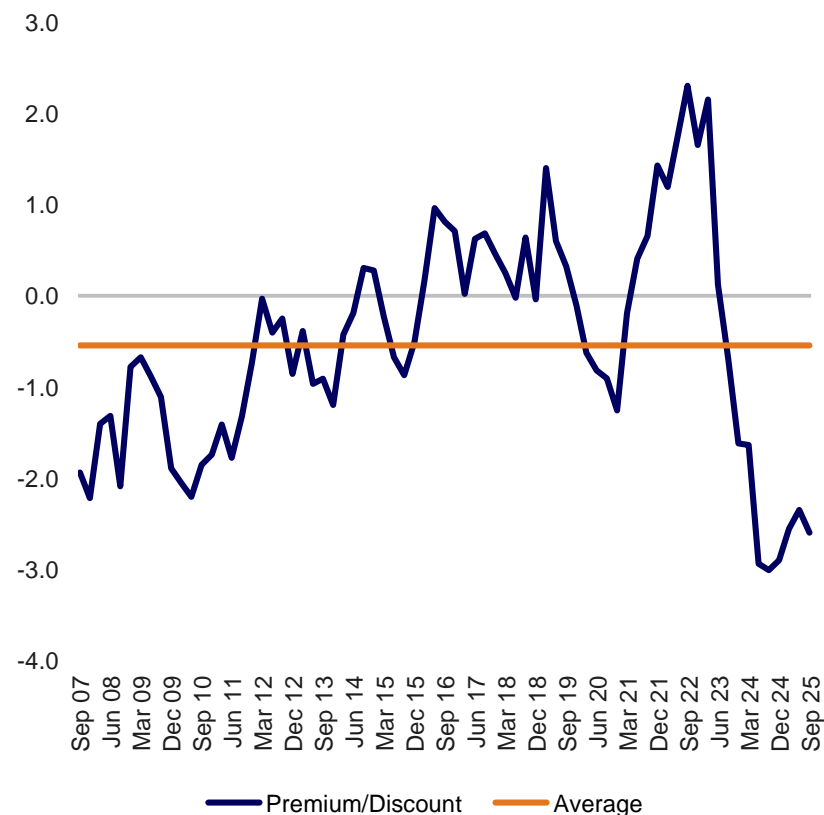
Current earnings multiples indicate attractive pricing versus history and equities

Infrastructure vs. Global Equity EV/EBITDA



EV/EBITDA Premium/Discount

(S&P Global Infrastructure Index vs. MSCI World Index)



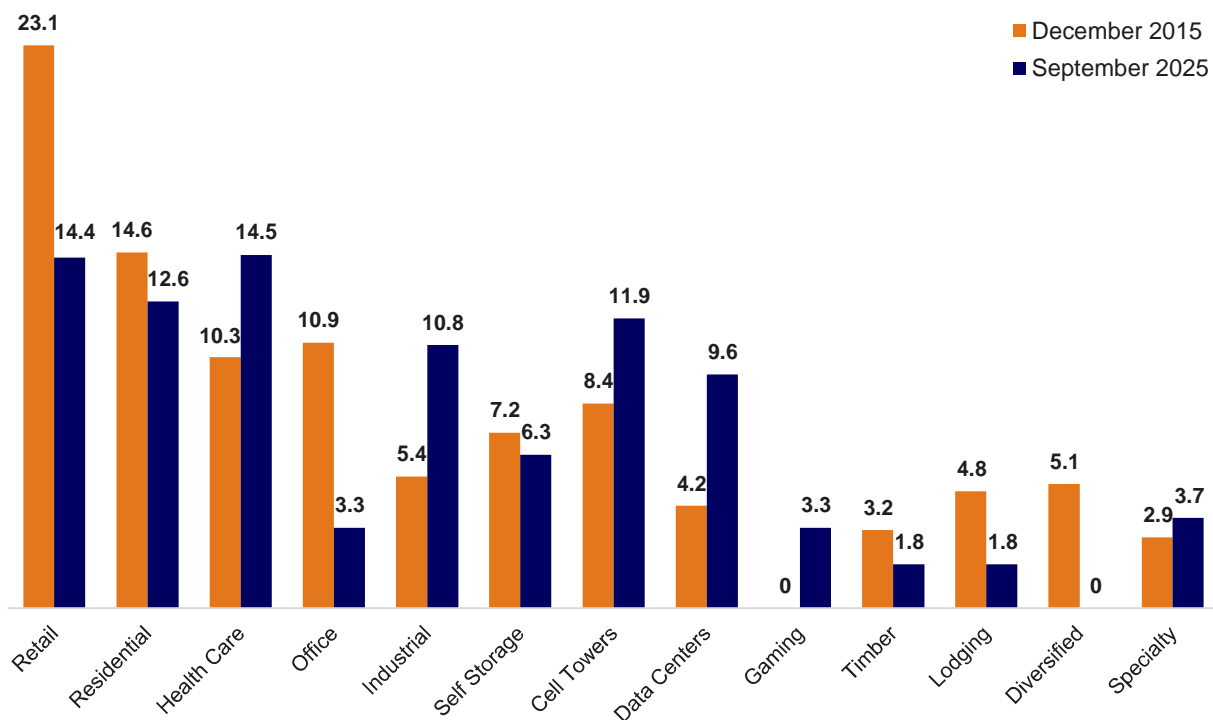
Source: Bloomberg, Russell Investments. Infrastructure sector metrics based on S&P Global Infrastructure Index. Data as of September 30, 2025.

U.S. REIT market evolving in step with the economy

Retail and office space becoming less prominent

U.S. REIT Sector Allocations (%)

Dec 2015 vs Sept 2025



Sector	1-Yr Return (%)	3-Yr Return (%)
Retail	2.2%	14.9%
Residential	-10.3%	2.6%
Health Care	19.3%	24.1%
Office	-1.4%	7.2%
Industrial	-6.1%	5.8%
Self Storage	-13.6%	3.2%
Cell Towers	-13.7%	-3.4%
Data Centers	1.1%	19.6%
Gaming	2.7%	--
Timber	-17.2%	-0.3%
Lodging	-10.2%	2.9%
Diversified	9.8%	3.7%
Specialty	-3.6%	24.0%

REITs markets are moving away from retail and office space and towards health care, cell towers, data centers and industrial sectors, reflecting the changing economy

Source: FTSE NAREIT U.S. Real Estate Index

Russell Investments' global market outlook

Q3 2025

MARKET REVIEW: KEY THEMES FROM THE THIRD QUARTER



Soaring equities

Equities pushed new all-time highs across many global markets. EM led the way



Small cap shines

Russell 2000 outperformed by 5ppt in Q3, the most since 2021. Cyclical won globally



Divergent rates

US fixed income rallied into falling yields and tight spreads, while G6 rates rose¹

GLOBAL MARKET OUTLOOK



Economy

We see ongoing resilience with U.S. recession risk declining to 25% for the year ahead. Outside of the U.S., economic headwinds may be stronger



Stocks

Sentiment not yet euphoric, implying rally might have more room to run



Sovereign bonds

We expect one additional rate cut by the Federal Reserve this year



Credit

Extremely tight spreads signal key role for active management



Currency

We expect the USD to weaken further over the medium term



Real Assets

Listed infrastructure and listed real estate can serve as key portfolio diversifiers

Russell Investments. October 2025.

¹ "G6 rates" refers to the sovereign yields of Japan, Germany, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Canada.

Global Recession Monitor and Economic Scenarios

U.S. economy looks resilient, other regions see higher risks.

RECESSION RISK	US	CAN	UK	EU	EM
Unemployment Rate	Green	Red	Red	Green	Gray
Central Bank Stance	Orange	Gray	Gray	Gray	Green
Consumer Spending	Gray	Orange	Orange	Gray	Gray
Household Debt	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Gray
Yield Curve	Gray	Gray	Green	Green	Green
Financial Conditions	Green	Green	Gray	Gray	Green
PMIs	Gray	Orange	Orange	Gray	Orange
Overall	Gray	Orange	Orange	Gray	Orange

U.S. Economic Scenarios



NEUTRAL
55%
July: 60%



BEAR
25%
July: 30%



BULL
20%
July: 10%

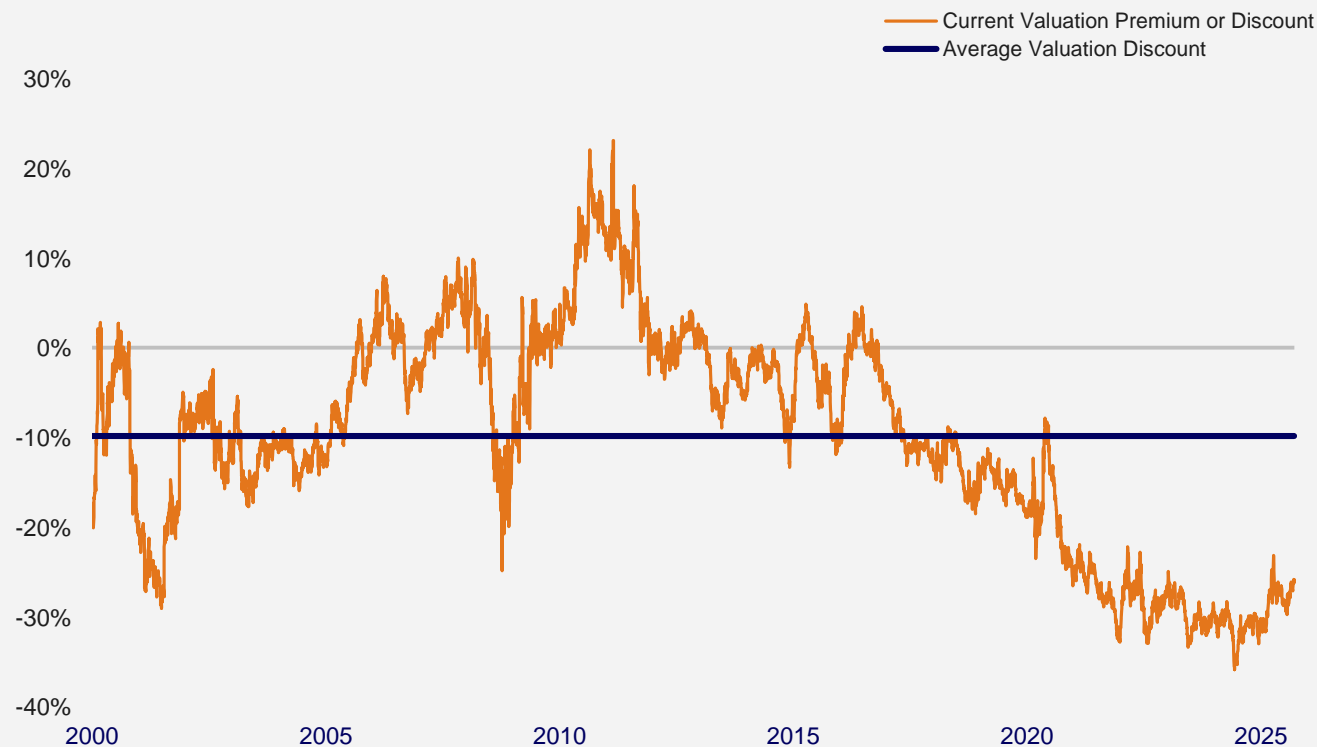
- Soft landing is most likely outcome for the U.S., with recession risks having edged lower compared to July
- Other regions may face higher cyclical headwinds than the U.S., even as our macroeconomic outlook remains generally optimistic

Source: Russell Investments October 2025. Red represents areas of high risk; orange/gray represent areas of intermediate risk; green represents areas of low risk

Canadian equities and U.S. equities both at record highs

But Canadian stocks trading at a significantly lower multiple

Canadian Equities Premium or Discount to U.S.



Canadian stocks and U.S. stocks are both hovering near record highs

However, Canadian stocks are trading at a 25% discount to U.S. stocks on a forward P/E multiple basis

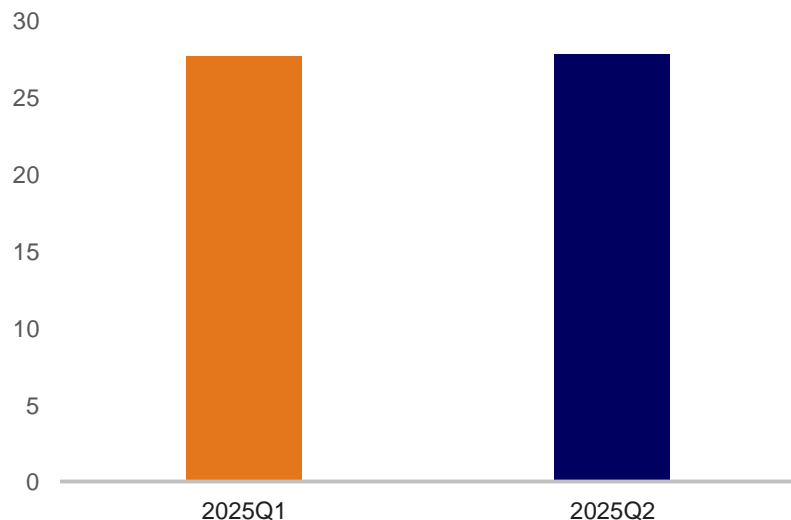
This discount helps to offset some of the cyclical headwinds in Canada, keeping us neutral on the U.S. vs Canada allocation

Source: Russell Investments, LSEG Datastream, data through September 29, 2025. Valuation Premium or Discount reflects the percentage premium or discount of the TSX Composite Index forward P/E multiple relative to that of the S&P 500 Index.

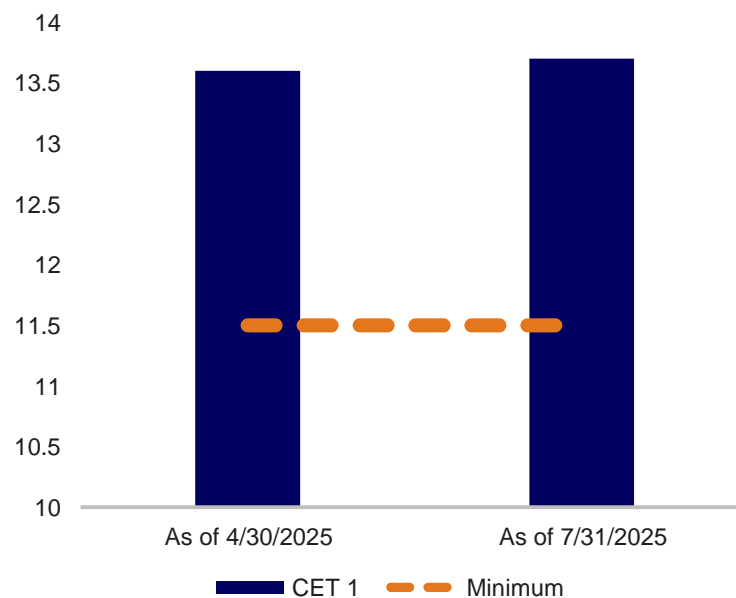
Canada's financial sector well-equipped for economic slowdown

Helping to limit systemic risks

Net percentage of banks tightening non-price mortgage lending conditions in Canada



Canadian Big Six Banks CET 1 Ratio (%)



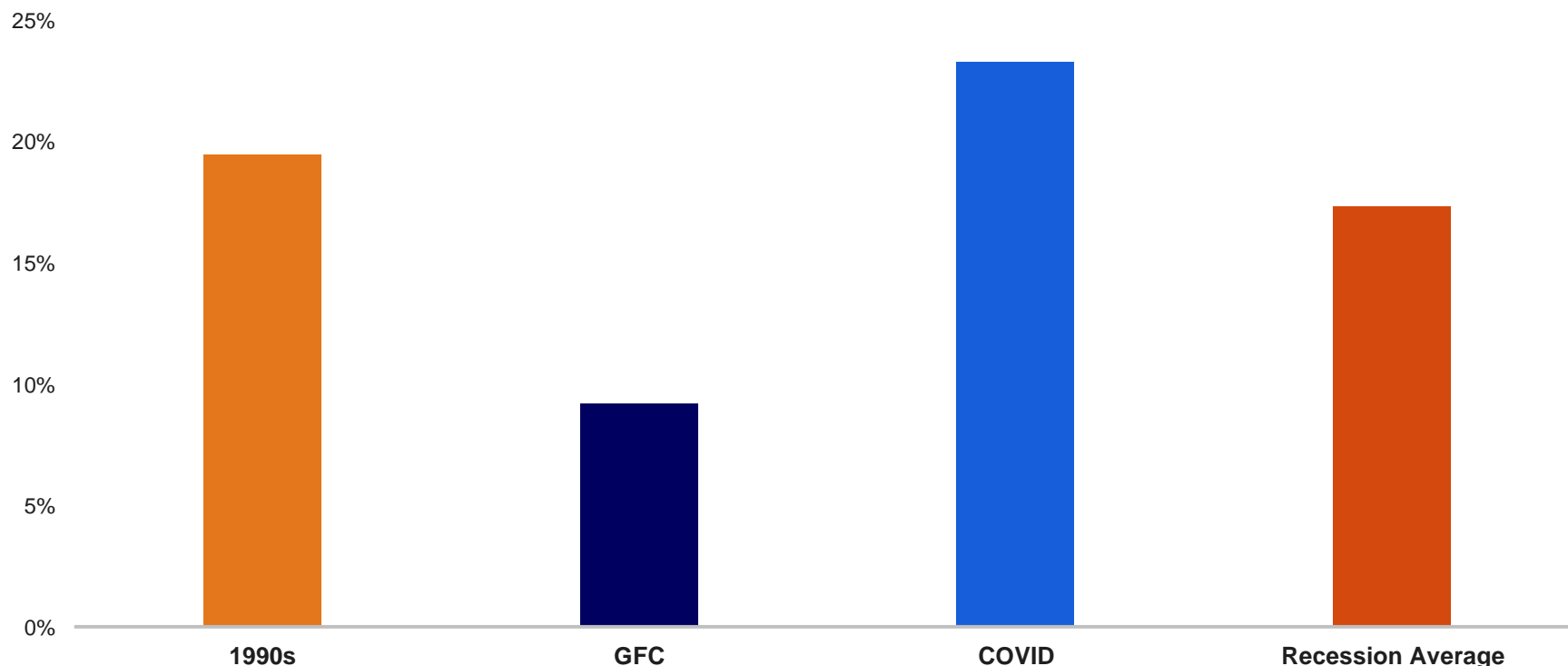
- Canadian banks have been tightening lending standards in 2025 amid the challenging macroeconomic environment
- Canadian banks have been maintaining a CET 1 Capital Ratio well above the regulatory minimum. This means they are better positioned to withstand losses

Source: Russell Investments, Bank of Canada, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, and financial statements from the Big Six Canadian Banks (Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto-Dominion Bank, Bank of Montreal, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Bank of Nova Scotia, and National Bank)

Canadian government bonds are a crucial diversifier

Potential to outperform should the economy slow significantly

Annualized Total Return on Canadian Government Bonds



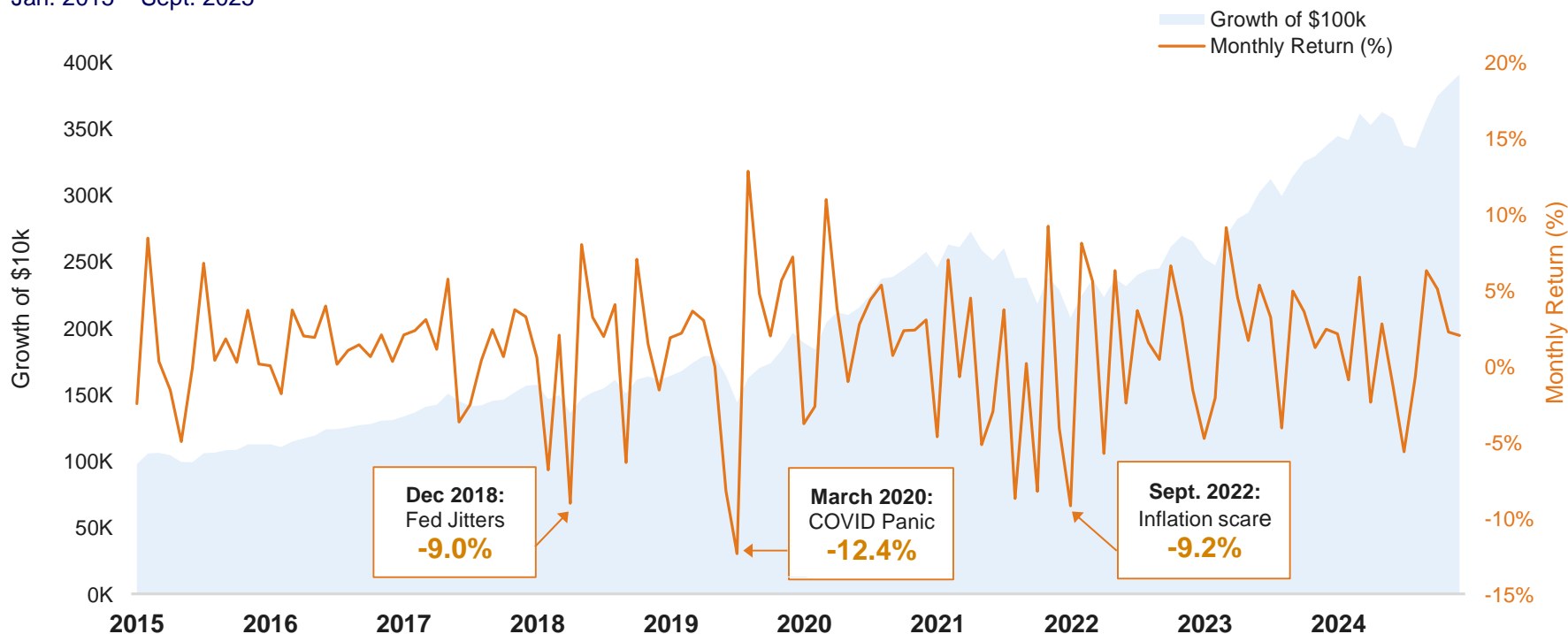
Source: LSEG Datastream. C.D. Howe Institute. Bars indicate annualized returns during Canada's three most recent recessionary periods: April 1990 to May 1992, Global Financial Crisis (Canadian recession during this period was from October 2008 to May 2009), and COVID pandemic (Canadian recession period from March 2020 to April 2020). Annualized returns reflect total returns (yield plus price appreciation on the Canadian 10-Year Government Bond). Recession average reflects average annualized returns during the aforementioned three Canadian recessionary periods. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

The 10-year investor return experience

Don't let short term-volatility throw off your long-term goals

S&P 500 Growth of \$100k vs. Monthly Returns

Jan. 2015 – Sept. 2025



- While short-term returns were often volatile, sharply negative at times, the long-term outcome was largely positive
- Even the deepest pullbacks over the past decade were typically followed by meaningful recoveries
- Emotional decisions made during these dips could have significantly impacted long-term outcomes

Source: Russell Investments. Growth of \$100k and monthly returns of the S&P 500 Index as of 9/30/2025. Index returns represent past performance, are not a guarantee of future performance, and are not indicative of any specific investment.

Check out these other resources

Timely market commentary to help guide you through the noise



Our weekly wrap-up on global investment news in a quick five-minute video. Available on Youtube.



Follow our corporate page and the LinkedIn accounts of our Investment Strategy Team



Visit our Russell Investments website
<https://russellinvestments.com/>

Index definitions

FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index: A global market capitalization weighted index composed of listed real estate securities in the North American, European and Asian real estate markets.

MSCI country indices: Indices which include securities that are classified in that country according to the MSCI Global Investable Market Index Methodology, together with companies that are headquartered or listed in that country and carry out the majority of their operations in that country.

MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East) Index: A free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada.

MSCI Emerging Markets Index: A float-adjusted market capitalization index that consists of indices in 24 emerging economies.

MSCI World Ex-US Index: A broad global equity index that represents large and mid-cap equity performance across 23 developed market countries.

Russell 1000® Index: Measures the performance of U.S. large-capitalization equity universe.

Russell 1000® Growth Index: Measures the performance of the broad growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Russell 1000® Value Index: Measures the performance of the broad value segment of U.S. equity value universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values.

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

Russell 3000® Index: Measures the performance of the largest 3000 U.S. companies representing approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market.

FTSE Canada Long Term Overall Bond Index - a market capitalization index designed as a broad measure of the Canadian long-term fixed income market.

FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index measures the performance of marketable government and corporate bonds outstanding in the Canadian market.

S&P/TSX Composite Index: The benchmark Canadian index, representing roughly 70% of the total market capitalization on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

S&P 500® Index: A free-float capitalization-weighted index published since 1957 of the prices of 500 large-cap common stocks actively traded in the United States. The stocks included in the S&P 500® are those of large publicly held companies that trade on either of the two largest American stock market exchanges: the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ.

S&P Goldman Sachs Commodities Index: A composite index of commodity sector returns representing an unleveraged, long-only investment in commodity futures that is broadly diversified across the spectrum of commodities.

The **S&P Global Infrastructure Index:** Provides liquid and tradable exposure to 75 companies from around the world that represent the listed infrastructure universe. To create diversified exposure across the global listed infrastructure market, the index has balanced weights across three distinct infrastructure clusters: Utilities, Transportation, and Energy.

Citigroup 1-3 Month T-Bill Index: An unmanaged index that tracks short-term U.S. government debt instruments.

Index definitions continued

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index: An index, with income reinvested, generally representative of intermediate-term government bonds, investment grade corporate debt securities, and mortgage-backed securities. (specifically: the Government/Corporate Bond Index, the Asset-Backed Securities Index, and the Mortgage-Backed Securities Index).

Bloomberg Global High Yield Index: An index which provides a broad-based measure of the global high-yield fixed income markets. The Global High-Yield Index represents the union of the U.S. High-Yield, Pan-European High-Yield, U.S. Emerging Markets High-Yield, CMBS High-Yield, and Pan-European Emerging Markets High-Yield Indices.

The **Bloomberg US Government/Credit Bond Index** is a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the non-securitized component of the U.S. Aggregate Index. It includes investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate Treasuries, government related and corporate securities.

The **Bloomberg Canada Aggregate Bond Index** measures the Canadian investment grade fixed income market and is comprised of government, government-related and corporate securities.

Economic Indicators Dashboard definitions - Canada

LSEG DataStream source for all data.

Market Indicators

HOME PRICES – Teranet - National Bank House Price: Composite 11, Index. The index is estimated by tracking the observed or registered home prices over time.

MARKET VOLATILITY(VIX) – CBOE VIX (Chicago Board Options Exchange Volatility Index) measures annualized implied volatility as conveyed by S&P 500 stock index option prices and is quoted in percentage points per annum. For instance, a VIX value of 15 represents an annualized implied volatility of 15% over the next 30 day period. The VIX measures implied volatility, which is a barometer of investor sentiment and market risk.

10 YR. CANADATREASURY YIELD – The yield on the 10 year Canadian Treasury note issued by the Canadian Government. It is important because it is seen as a benchmark for interest rate movements and borrowing costs in the economy.

YIELD SPREAD – The spread between 3 month Treasury bill yields and 10 year Treasury note yields measures the market outlook for future interest rates. A normal or upward-sloping yield curve, can imply that investors expect the economy to grow and inflation to eat into asset returns. They thus demand a higher yield for long-term Treasuries. An inverted yield curve has often been an indicator of coming recessions, but not always. For example, reduced inflation expectations could cause the yield curve to flatten.

Economic Indicators

CONSUMER SENTIMENT – The Thomson Reuters/Ipsos Consumer Sentiment Index (CSI) is based on a monthly random sample of consumer citizens in chosen countries who answer 11 standard quantitative questions. The eleven tracked questions are then used to create a series of Indexes.

ECONOMIC EXPANSION (GDP) – GDP (Gross Domestic Product) measures the total market value of a nation's output of goods and services during a specific time period. It is usually measured on a quarterly basis. Calculating Real GDP growth allows economists to determine if production increased or decreased, regardless of changes in the purchasing power of the currency.

INFLATION – The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time of goods and services purchased by households. This indicator value represents the trailing year over year % change in the CPI index as of last month-end.

UNEMPLOYMENT – Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, etc.) is the number unemployed in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group.

HOUSEHOLD DEBT TO GDP – Canada, Household Sector, Debt to Gross Domestic Product

Economic Indicators Dashboard definitions - U.S.

Market Indicators

HOME PRICES – The S&P/Case-Shiller Home Price Index is a measurement of U.S. residential real estate prices, tracking changes in top 20 metropolitan regions. This indicator value represents the trailing year over year % change in the home prices index as of last month-end. Residential real estate represents a large portion of the U.S. economy, and the Home Price index helps us monitor the value of real estate.

MARKET VOLATILITY(VIX) – CBOE VIX (Chicago Board Options Exchange Volatility Index) measures annualized implied volatility as conveyed by S&P 500 stock index option prices and is quoted in percentage points per annum. For instance, a VIX value of 15 represents an annualized implied volatility of 15% over the next 30-day period. The VIX measures implied volatility, which is a barometer of investor sentiment and market risk.

10 YR. U.S. TREASURY YIELD – The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note issued by the U.S. Government. It is important because it is seen as a benchmark for interest rate movements and borrowing costs in the economy.

YIELD SPREAD – The spread between 3-month Treasury bill yields and 10-year Treasury note yields measures the market outlook for future interest rates. A normal or upward-sloping yield curve, can imply that investors expect the economy to grow and inflation to eat into asset returns. They thus demand a higher yield for long-term Treasuries. An inverted yield curve has often been an indicator of coming recessions, but not always. For example, reduced inflation expectations could cause the yield curve to flatten.

Economic Indicators

CONSUMER SENTIMENT – The University of Michigan Survey of Consumer Sentiment Index is an economic indicator which measures the degree of optimism that consumers feel about the overall state of the economy and their personal financial situation.

ECONOMIC EXPANSION (GDP) – GDP (Gross Domestic Product) measures the total market value of a nation's output of goods and services during a specific time period. It is usually measured on a quarterly basis. Current GDP is based on the current prices of the period being measured. Nominal GDP growth refers to GDP growth in nominal prices (unadjusted for price changes). Real GDP growth refers to GDP growth adjusted for price changes. Calculating Real GDP growth allows economists to determine if production increased or decreased, regardless of changes in the purchasing power of the currency.

INFLATION – The Consumer Price Index (CPI) NSA (non-seasonally adjusted) measures changes in the price level of a market basket of consumer goods and services purchased by households. This indicator value represents the trailing year over year % change in the CPI index as of last month-end.

UNEMPLOYMENT – The Bureau of Labor Statistics measures employment and unemployment of all persons over the age of 15 using two different labor force surveys conducted by the United States Census Bureau (within the United States Department of Commerce) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (within the United States Department of Labor) that gather employment statistics monthly. The data reported here is seasonally adjusted (SA) to account for seasonal gains in employment leading up to Christmas.