

Making Sense

January 23, 2024



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Economic Research

What are we going to cover?

1 Economic Update





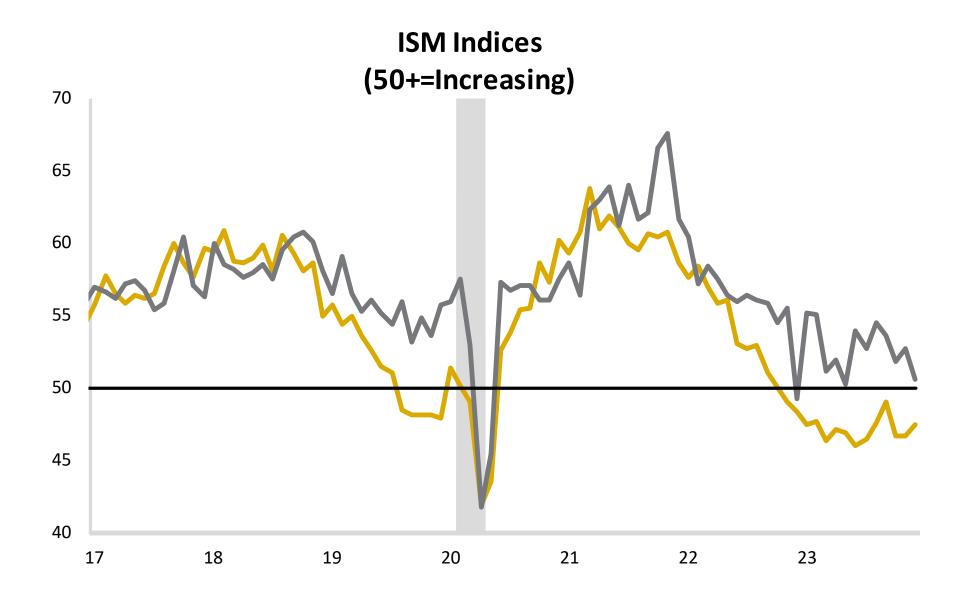
Economic Update

World Economic Outlook

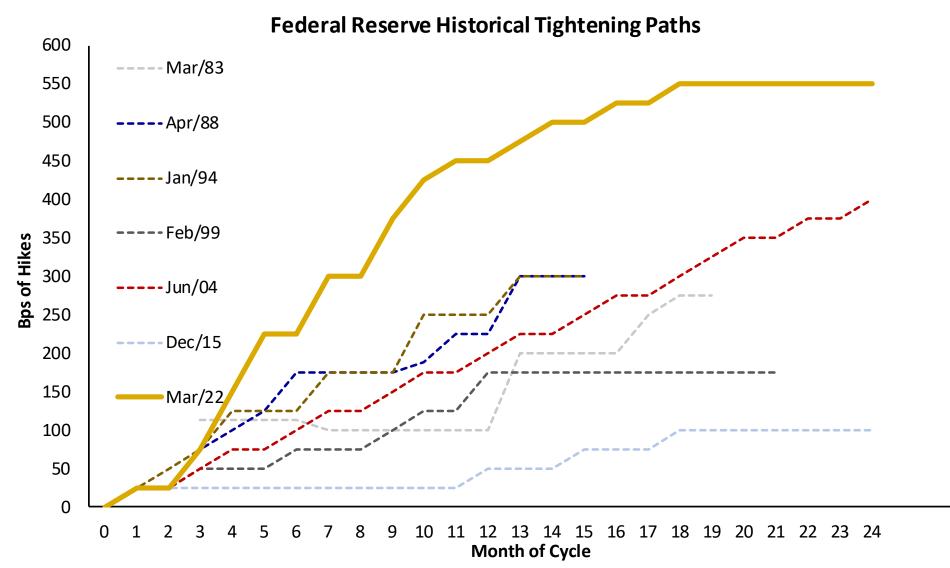
Consensus Real Economic Growth Estimates

	2022	2023 Estimate as of:		2024
	Actual Growth	Dec-22	Jan-24	Est. Growth
World	3.5%	2.1%	3.0%	2.6%
United States	1.9%	0.4%	2.4%	1.3%
Euro Area	3.3%	-0.1%	0.5%	0.5%
United Kingdom	4.5%	-0.9%	0.5%	0.4%
Japan	1.1%	1.3%	2.0%	0.8%
China	3.0%	4.8%	5.2%	4.5%

The Pace of Economic Activity Is Slowing

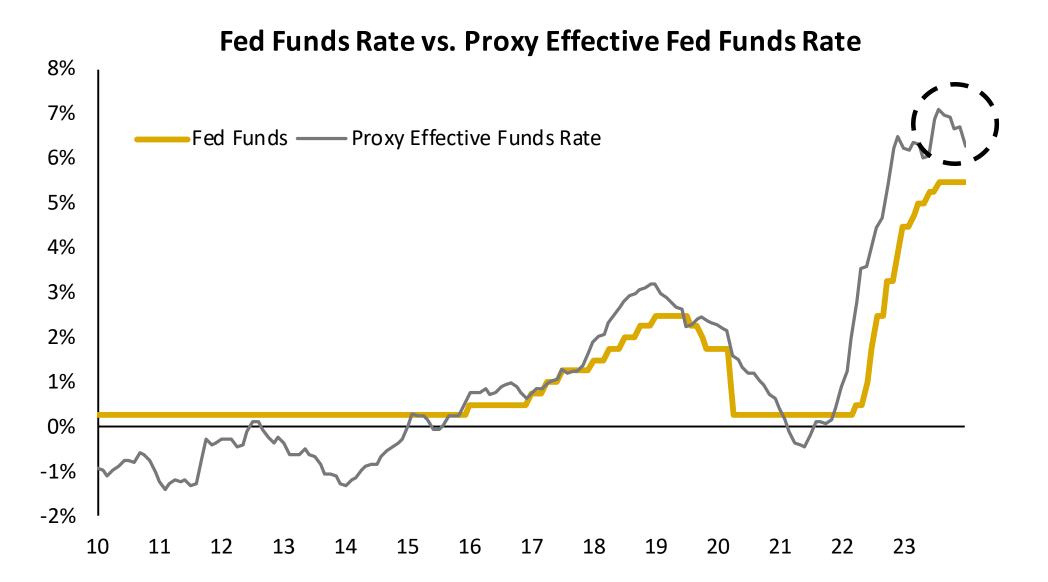


Federal Reserve Has Hiked Aggressively



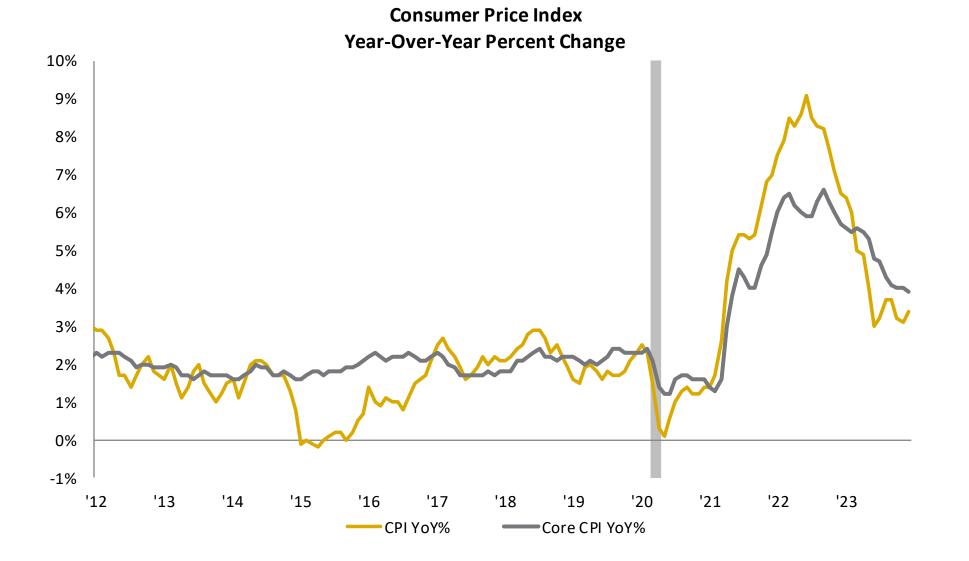
Source: Strategas Research, Bloomberg

Federal Reserve's Proxy Rate Measure Is Elevated



Source: Apollo, Bloomberg

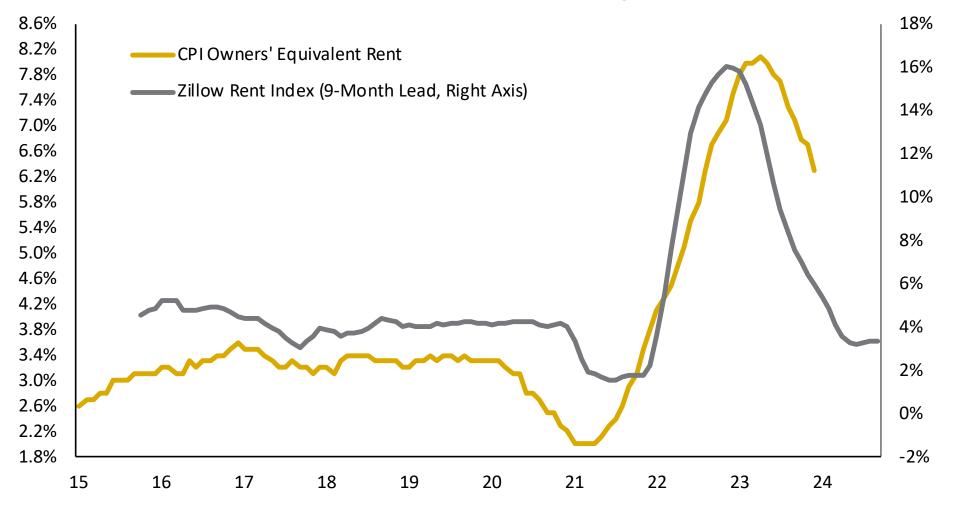
Inflation Moderating at a Slower Pace



Source: Strategas

Path of Inflation

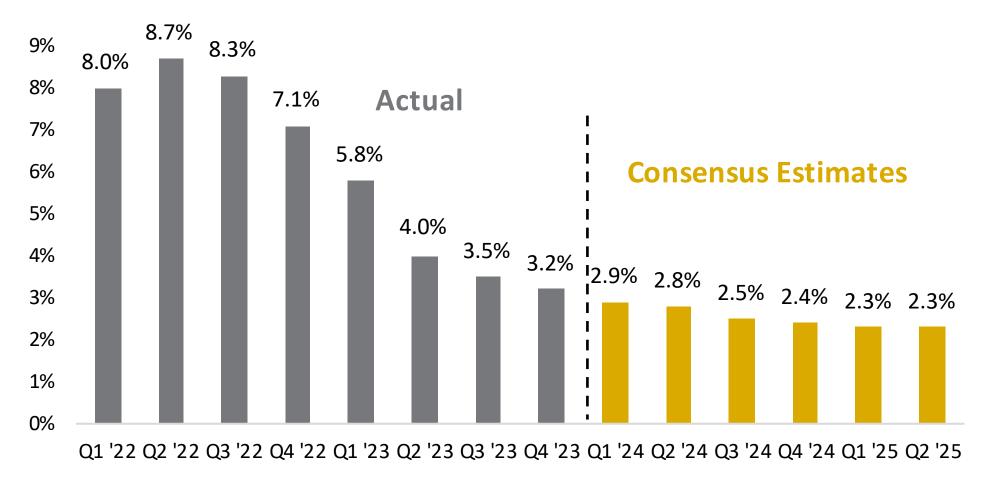
CPI: Owners' Equivalent Rent & Zillow Rent Index Year-Over-Year Percent Change



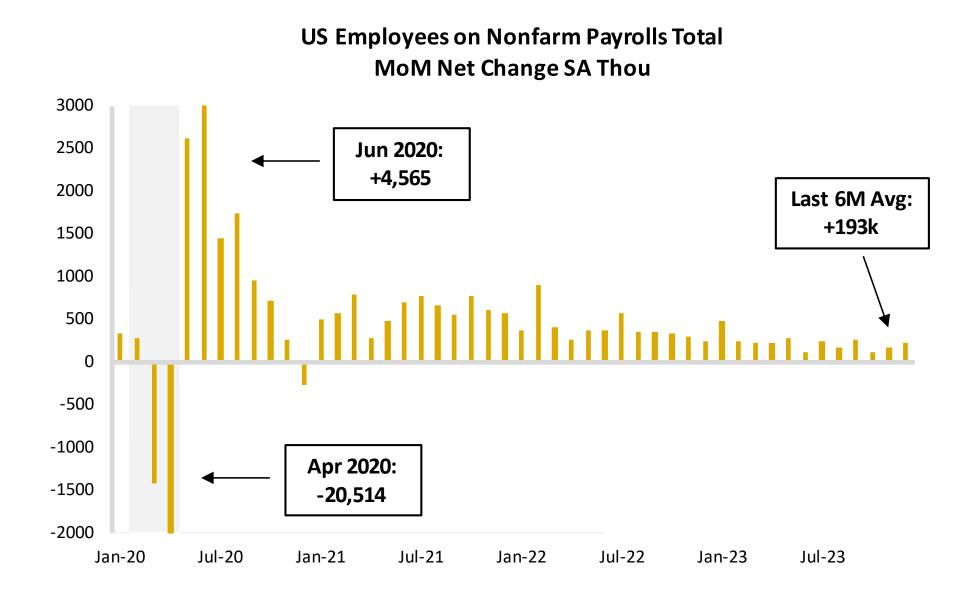
Path of Inflation

Consumer Price Index

Year-over-Year Percent Change

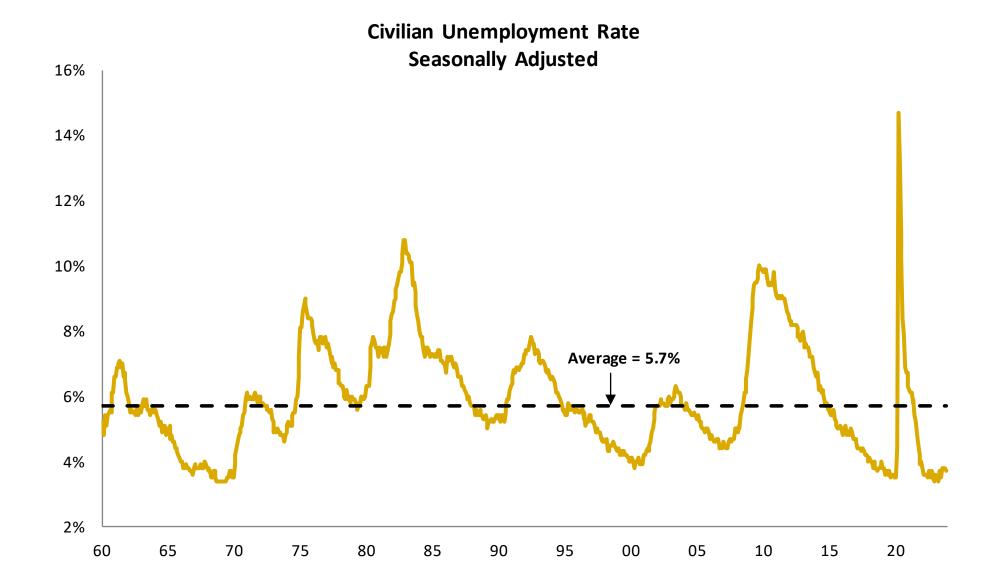


Labor Market Resilient but Job Gains Slowing



Source: BLS, Strategas

Unemployment Has Risen But Remains Historically Low

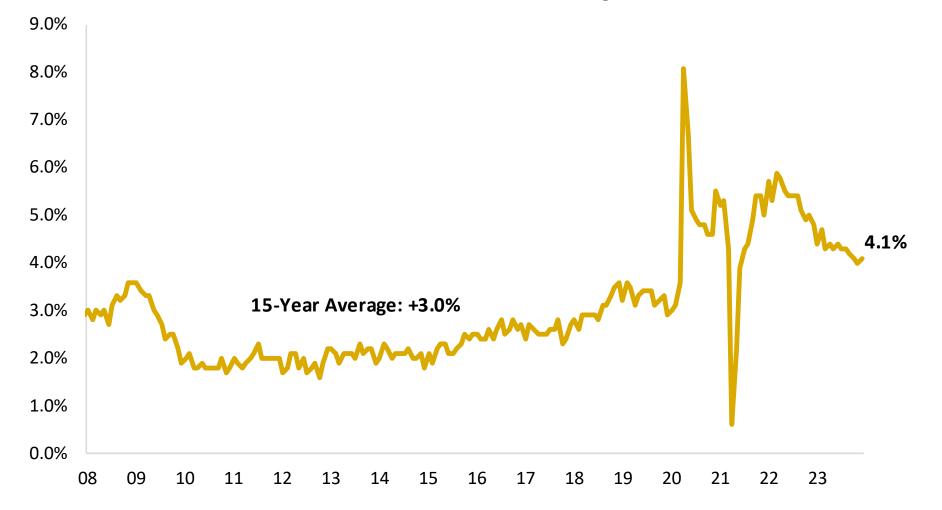


Source: BLS, Strategas

Wage Growth Has Moderated but Remains Robust

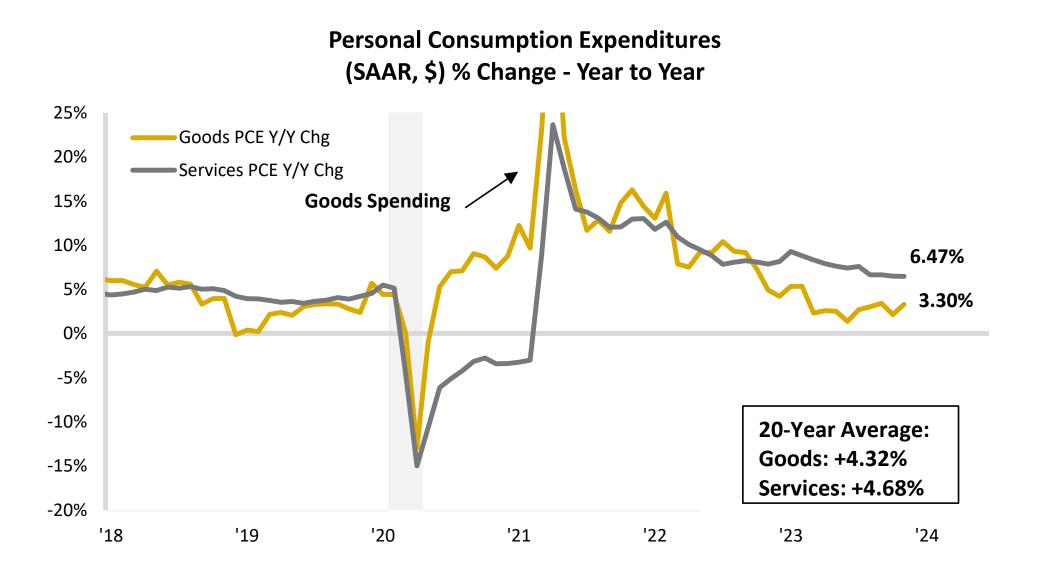
US Average Hourly Earnings

Year-over-Year Percent Change



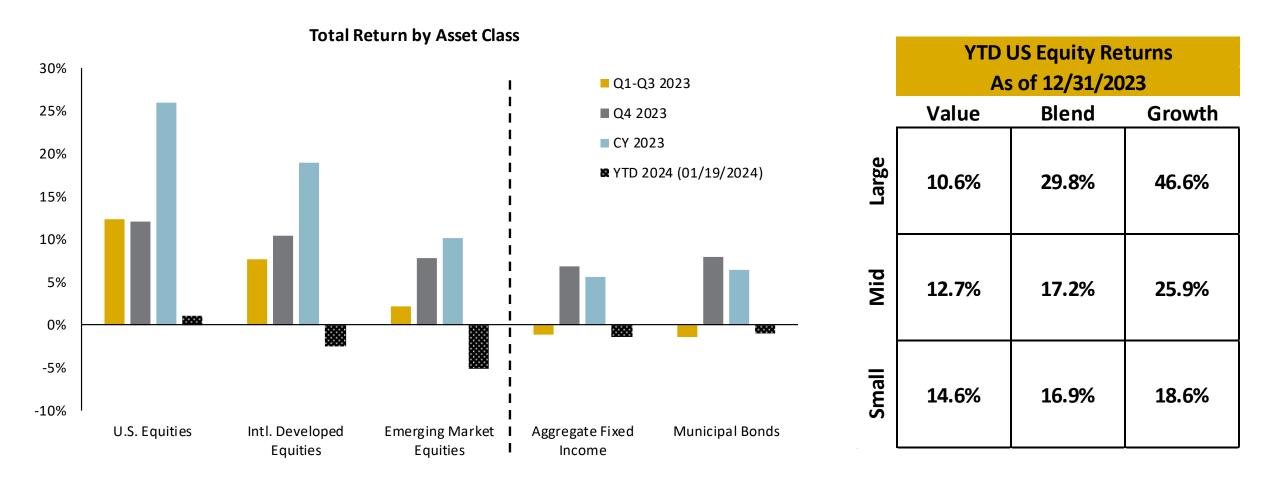
Source: Bloomberg

Consumer Expenditures



Market Update

Global Markets Year-to-Date



Source: Bloomberg. Note: Left chart data represents Russell 3000, MSCI EAFE, MSCI EM, Bloomberg Aggregate Bond, Bloomberg Municipal Bond. Right chart data represents Russell Top 200, Russell Midcap, and Russell 2000.

Stocks Have Rallied Sharply; Narrow Rally



S&P 500 Index

S&P 500: Year-to-Date Through 12/31/2023				
Index:	Total Return			
S&P 500	26.3%			
S&P 500 Equal Weighted	13.8%			
Difference	12.5%			

Corporate Earnings

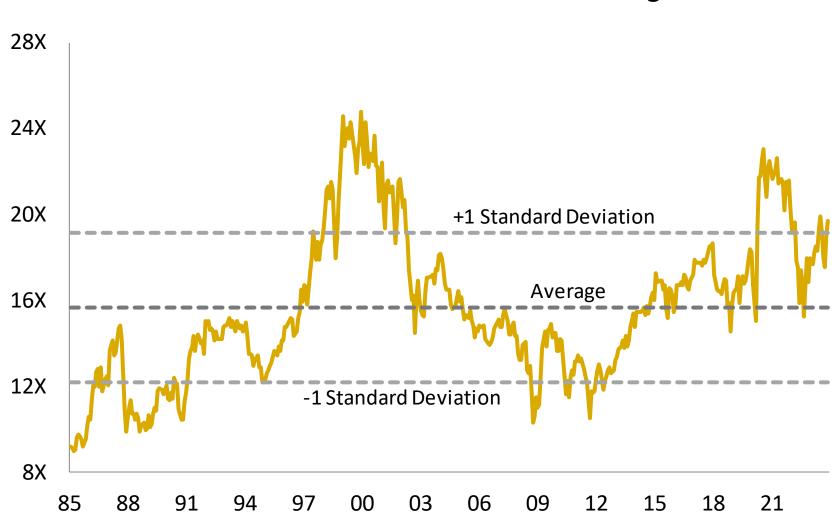
 2023 estimated growth is 0.5% or \$221 per share

- 2024 estimated growth is **11.8%** or \$246 per share
- Average growth since 1950 is 7.6%



Estimated Next 12-Month S&P 500 Operating Margin

Market Valuation Below Extremes but Above Average

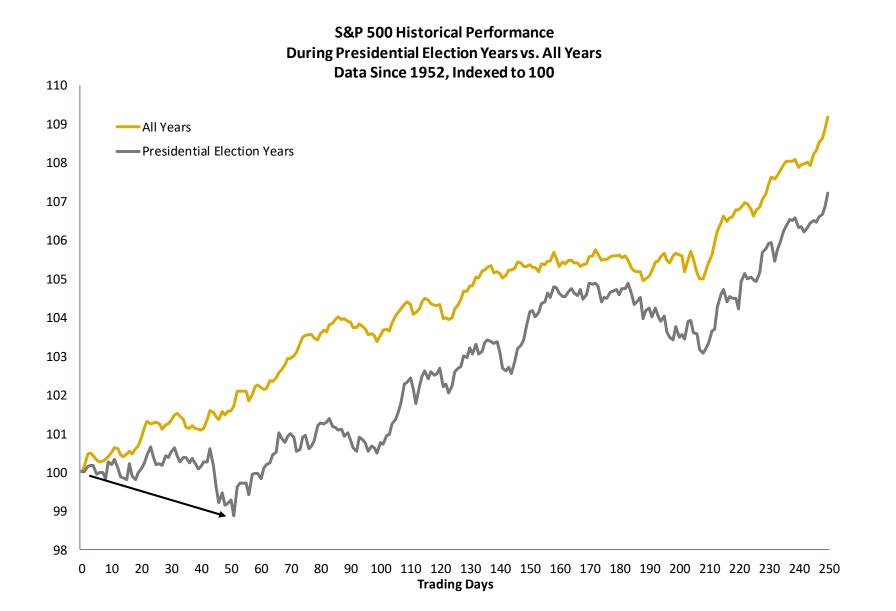


S&P 500 Next Twelve Months Price-to-Earnings Ratio

Next Twelve-Month S&P 500 Price Target

	NTM Price Level	Percent Change from 1/19
Bear	3,700	-23.6%
Base	4,850	0.2%
Bull	5,500	13.6%

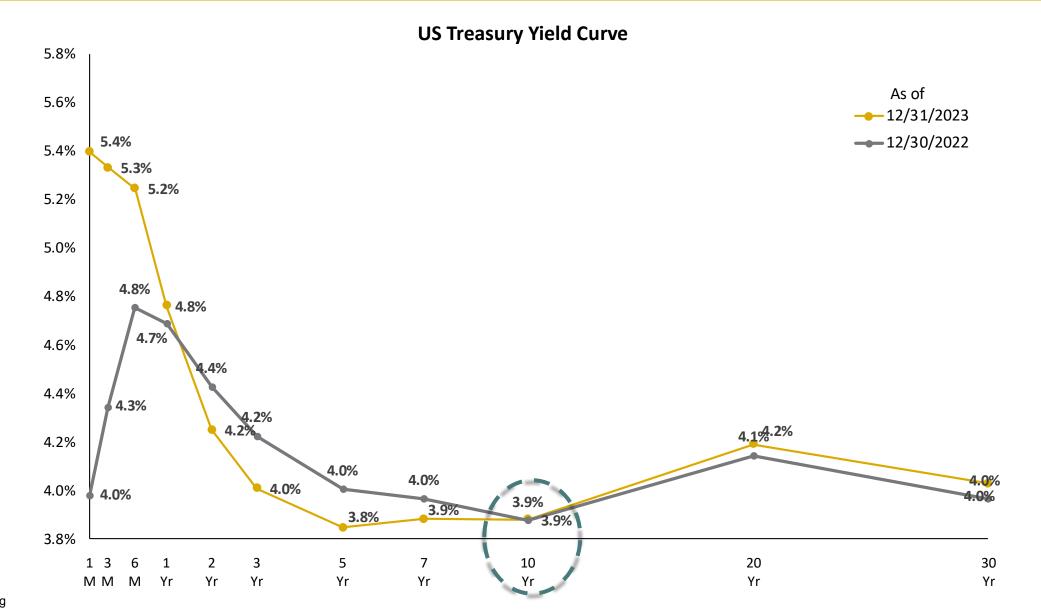
US Equities During Election Years



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Source: Strategas

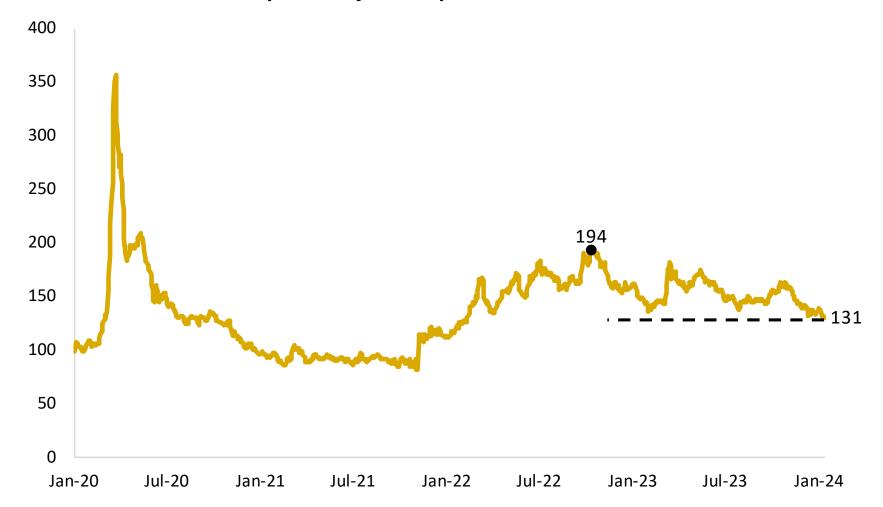
US Treasury Yield Curve Remains Inverted



Source: Bloomberg

Credit Spreads Remain Below 2022 Highs

US Investment-Grade Fixed Income Option Adjusted Spread in Basis Points

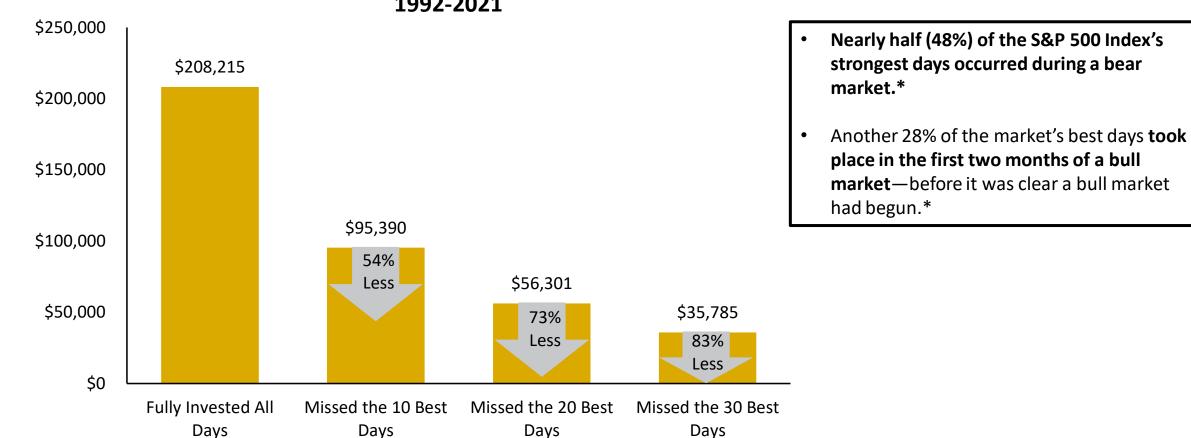


Source: Bloomberg

Bond Yields Remain Elevated versus Recent History

US Fixed Income Indices					
	Yield-to-Worst				
Index	12/31/2021	12/31/2023			
2-Year Treasury	0.73%	4.25%			
10-Year Treasury	1.51%	3.88%			
Aggregate Bond	1.75%	4.53%			
Intermediate Government/Credit	1.30%	4.37%			
Municipal Bond	1.11%	3.22%			
Investment Grade Corporate Bond	2.33%	5.06%			
High Yield Corporate Bond	4.21%	7.59%			

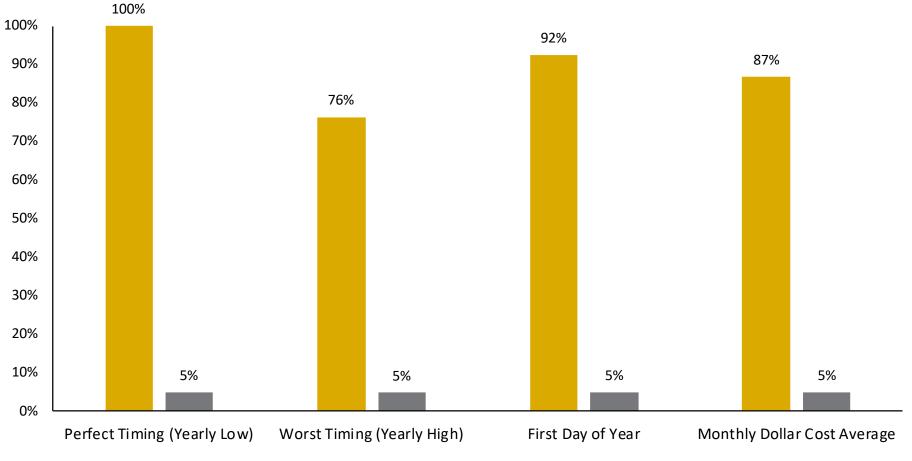
Timing Markets Can Prove Costly



Growth of \$10,000: S&P 500 Average Annual Total Returns 1992-2021

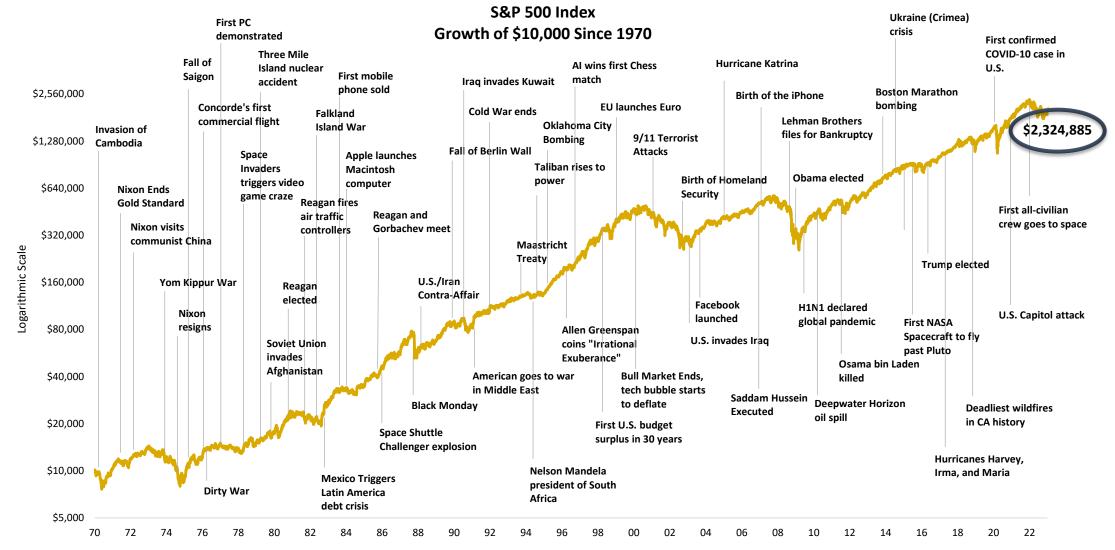
Market Timing, Anyone?

Percent Capture of Perfect Timing with \$12,000 Annual Contribution 1980-2023 YTD Perfect Timing Portfolio Value: \$10,516,789



Staying Invested Matters!

S&P 500 Average Annual Return Since 1970: +10.6%



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