

# Making Sense

January 23, 2024



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**Economic Research** 

## What are we going to cover?

1 Economic Update





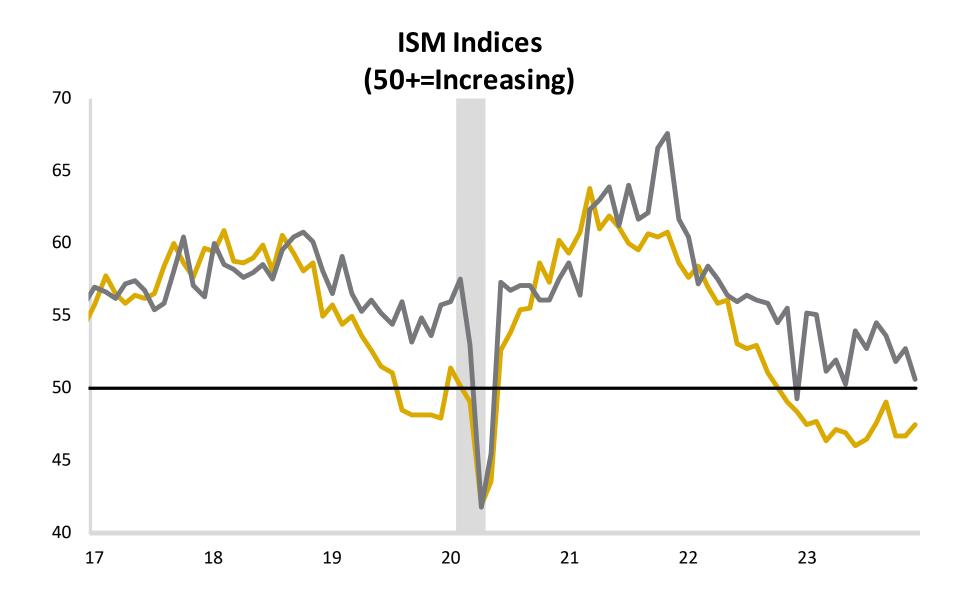
## **Economic Update**

#### World Economic Outlook

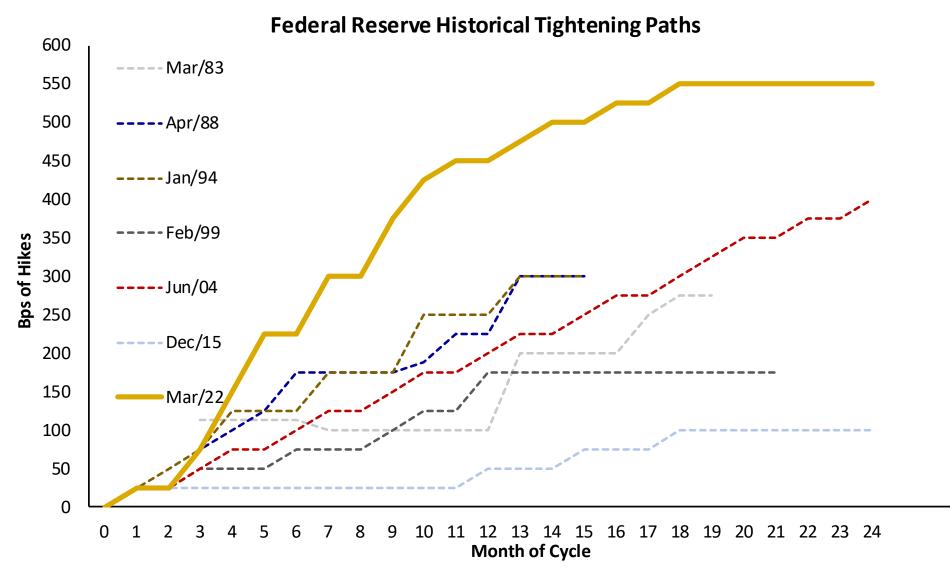
#### **Consensus Real Economic Growth Estimates**

	2022	2023 Estimate as of:		2024
	<b>Actual Growth</b>	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

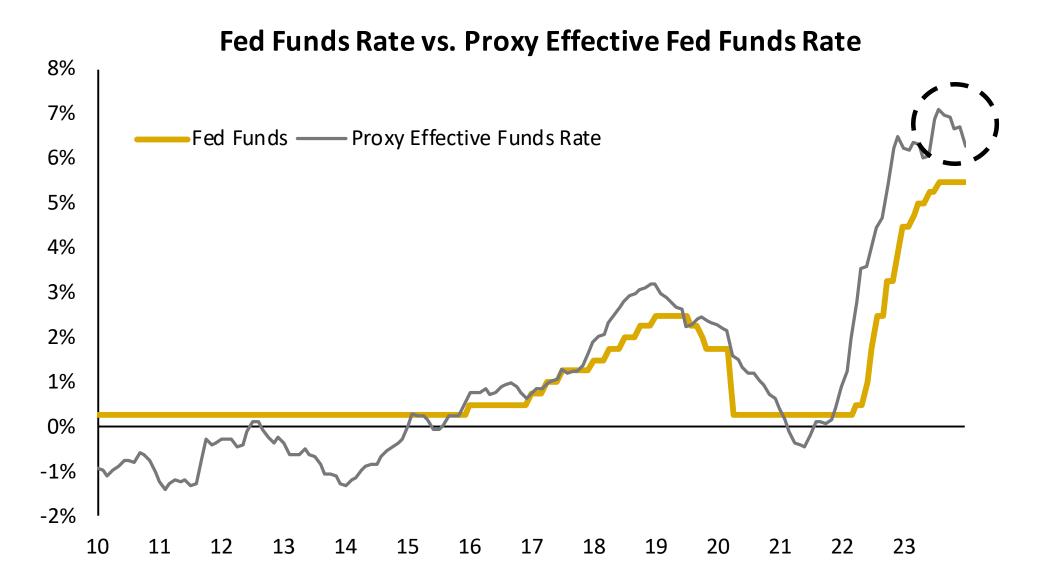


#### **Federal Reserve Has Hiked Aggressively**



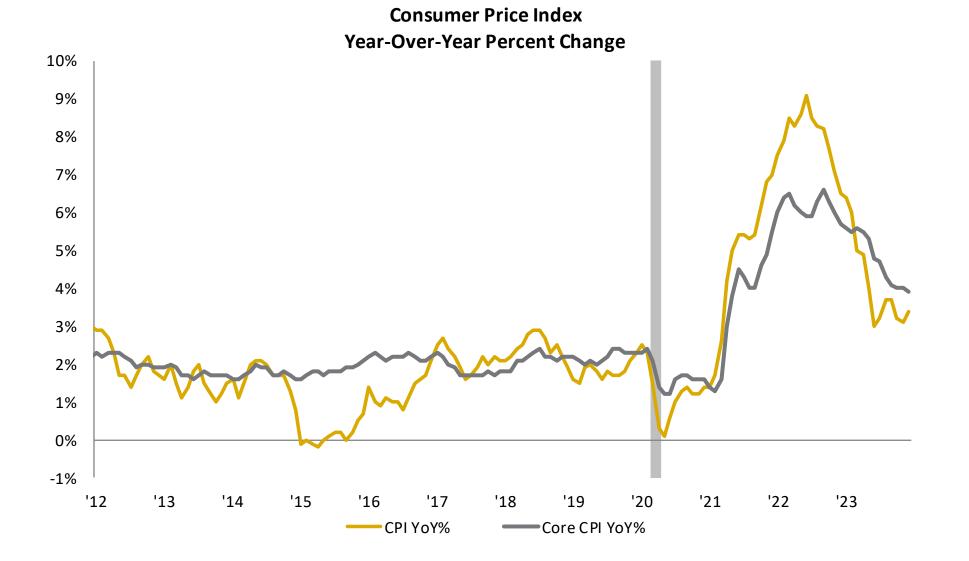
Source: Strategas Research, Bloomberg

#### Federal Reserve's Proxy Rate Measure Is Elevated



Source: Apollo, Bloomberg

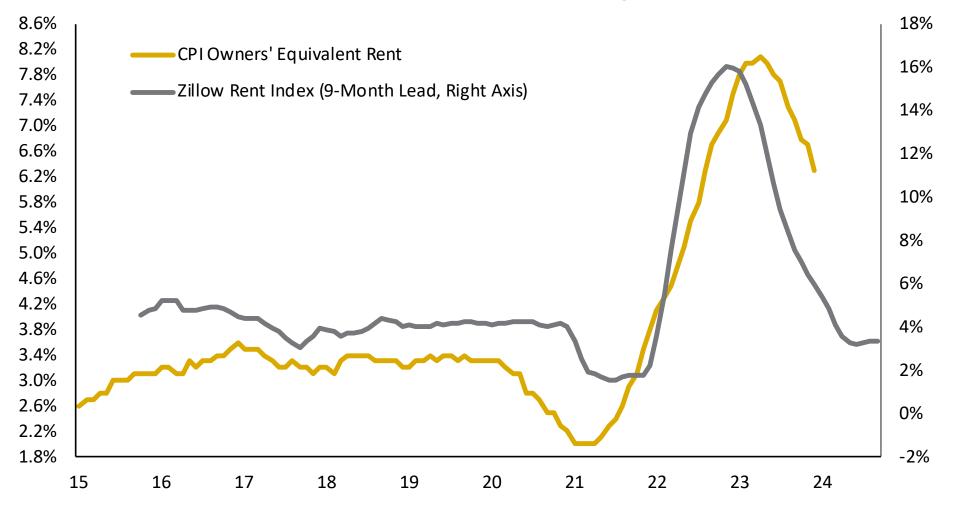
### **Inflation Moderating at a Slower Pace**



Source: Strategas

## **Path of Inflation**

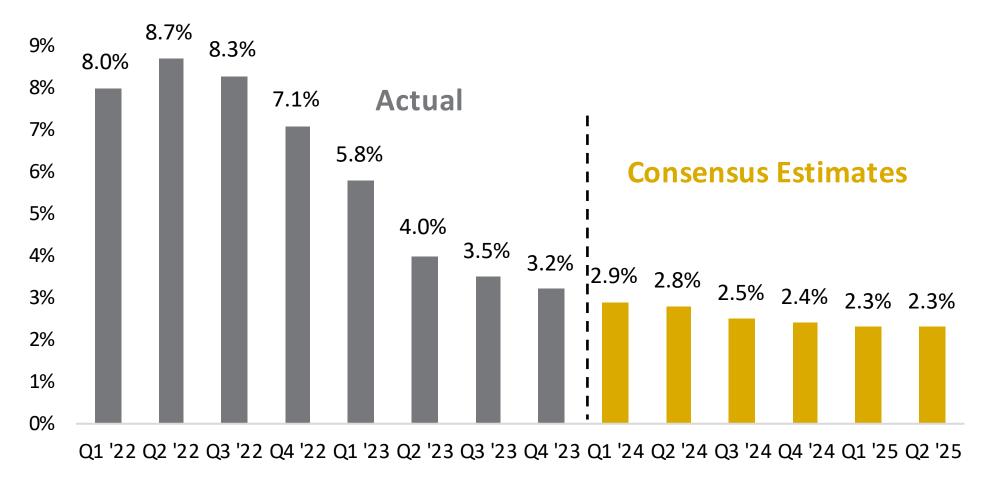
#### CPI: Owners' Equivalent Rent & Zillow Rent Index Year-Over-Year Percent Change



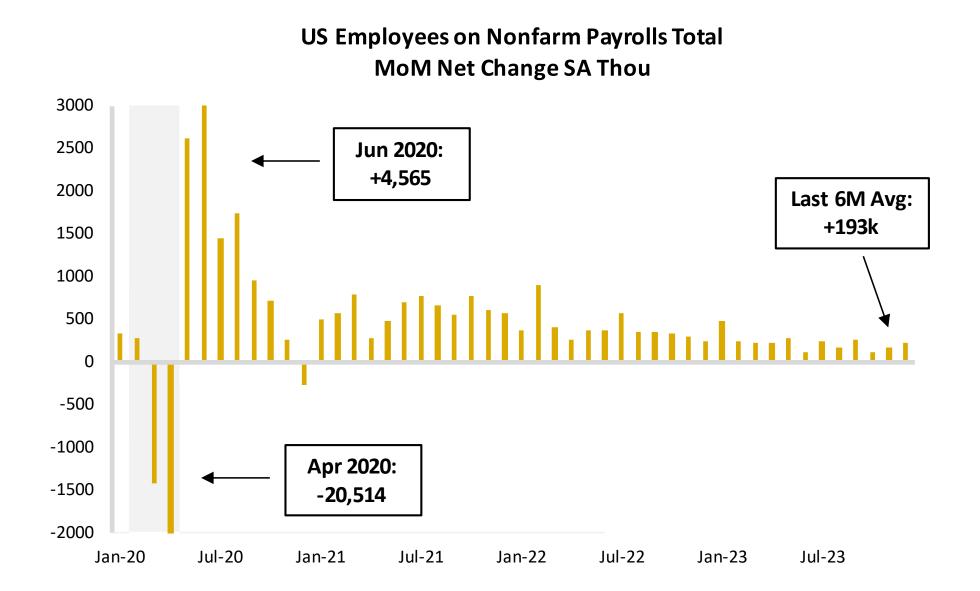
## **Path of Inflation**

#### **Consumer Price Index**

#### Year-over-Year Percent Change

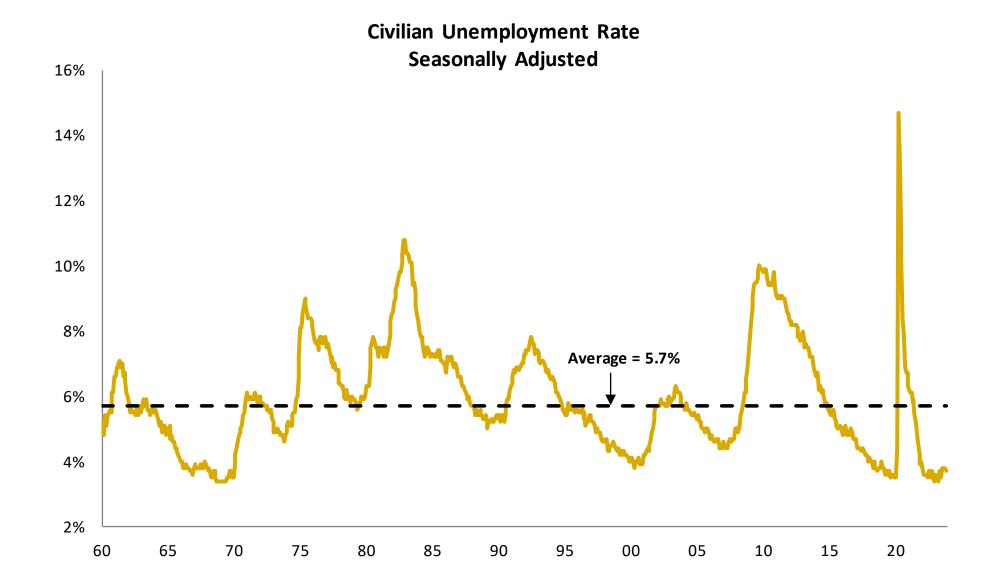


#### Labor Market Resilient but Job Gains Slowing



Source: BLS, Strategas

#### **Unemployment Has Risen But Remains Historically Low**

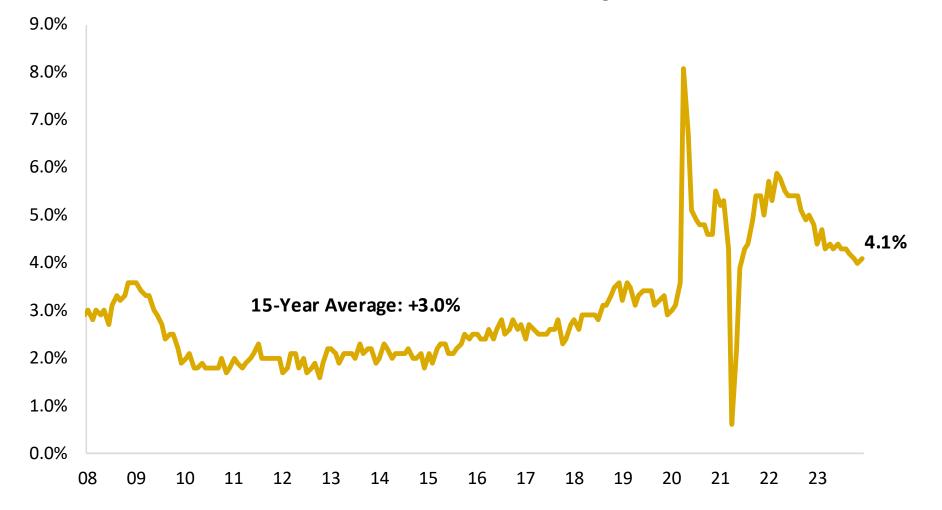


Source: BLS, Strategas

#### Wage Growth Has Moderated but Remains Robust

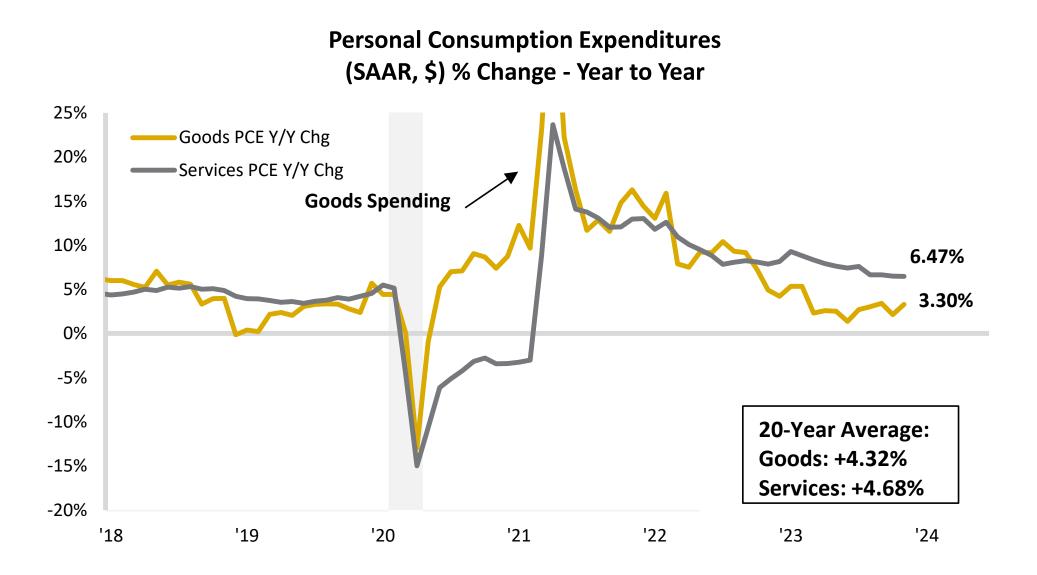
**US Average Hourly Earnings** 

Year-over-Year Percent Change



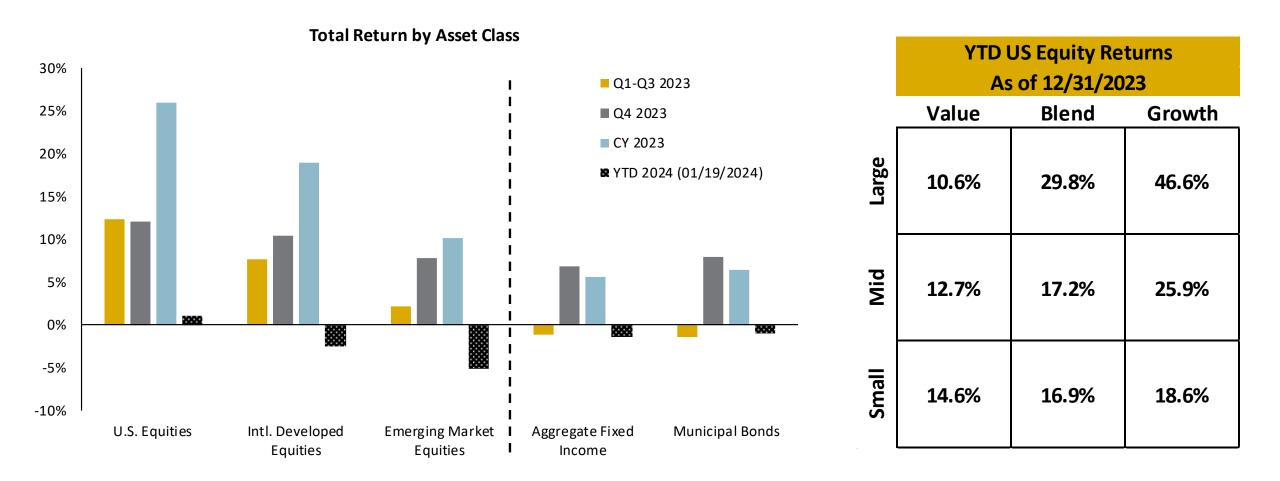
Source: Bloomberg

#### **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**

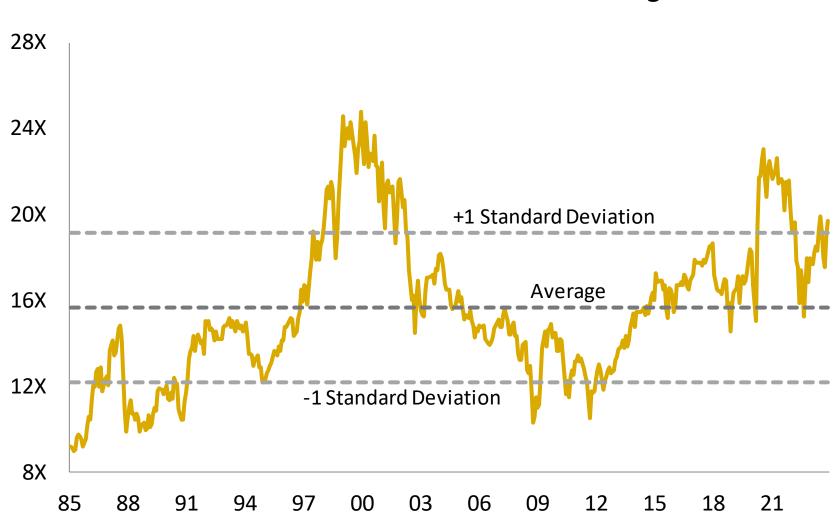
 2023 estimated growth is 0.5% or \$221 per share

- 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**

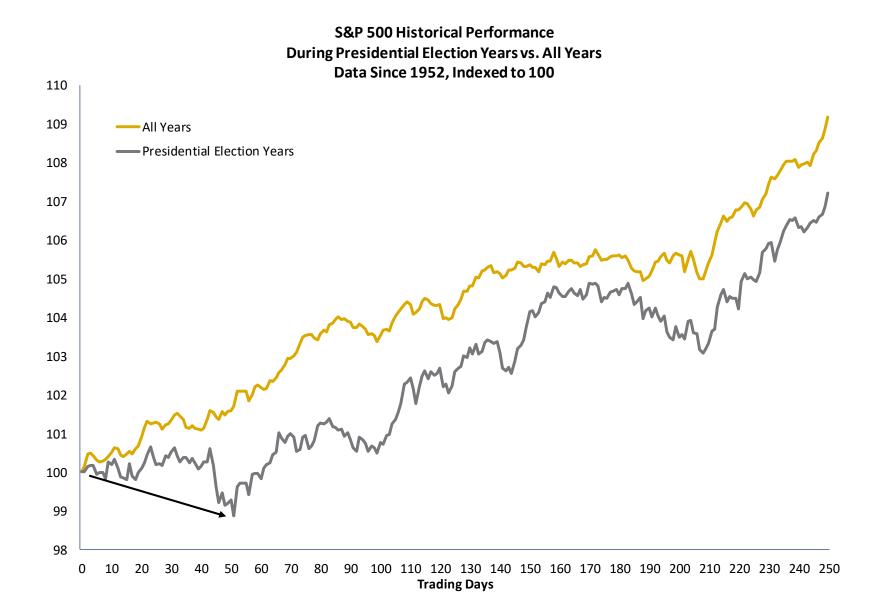


S&P 500 Next Twelve Months Price-to-Earnings Ratio

#### 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%

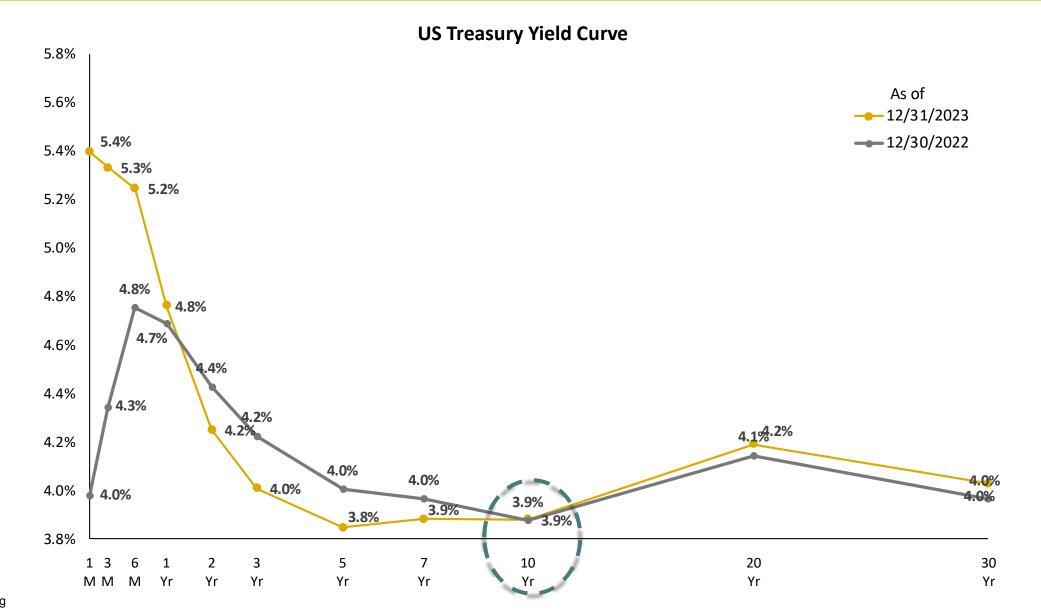
### **US Equities During Election Years**



21

Source: Strategas

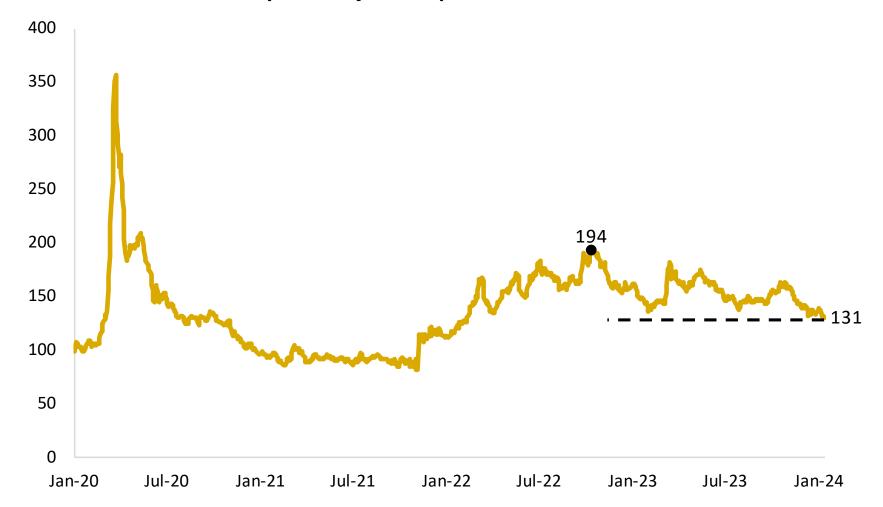
#### **US Treasury Yield Curve Remains Inverted**



Source: Bloomberg

## **Credit Spreads Remain Below 2022 Highs**

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

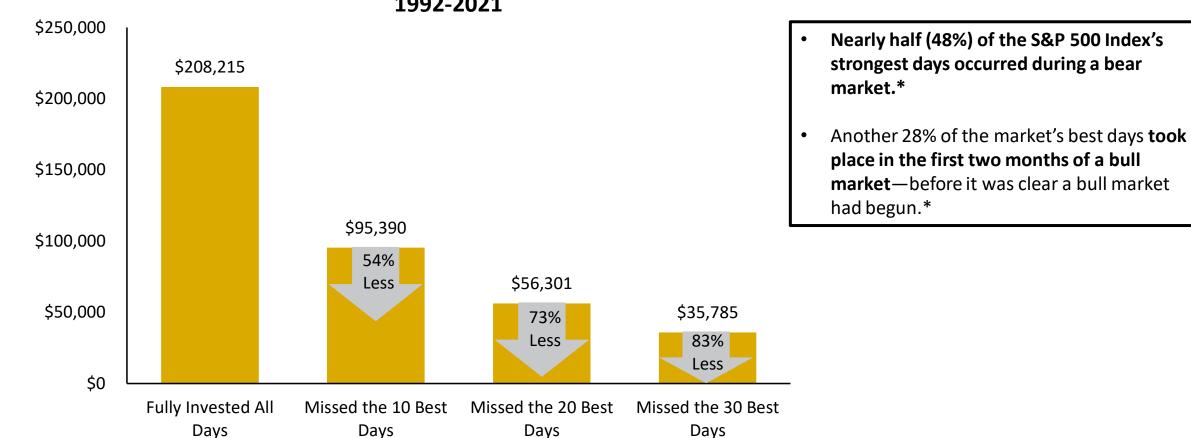


Source: Bloomberg

#### **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%			

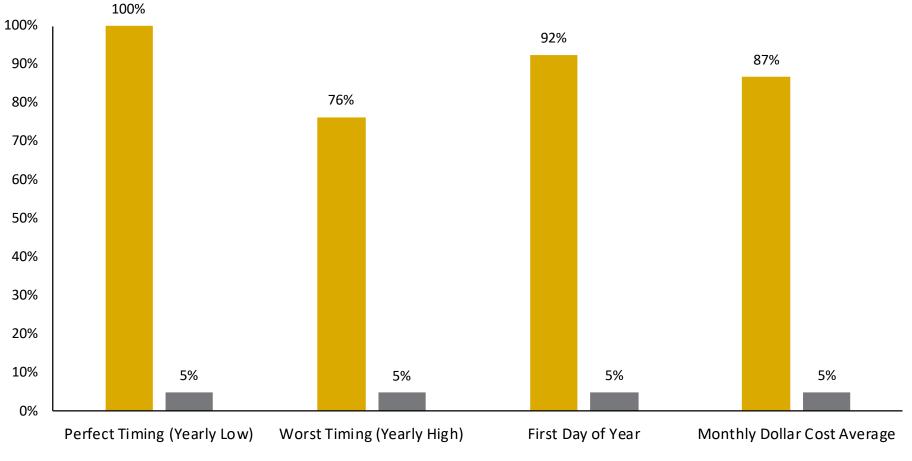
### **Timing Markets Can Prove Costly**



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

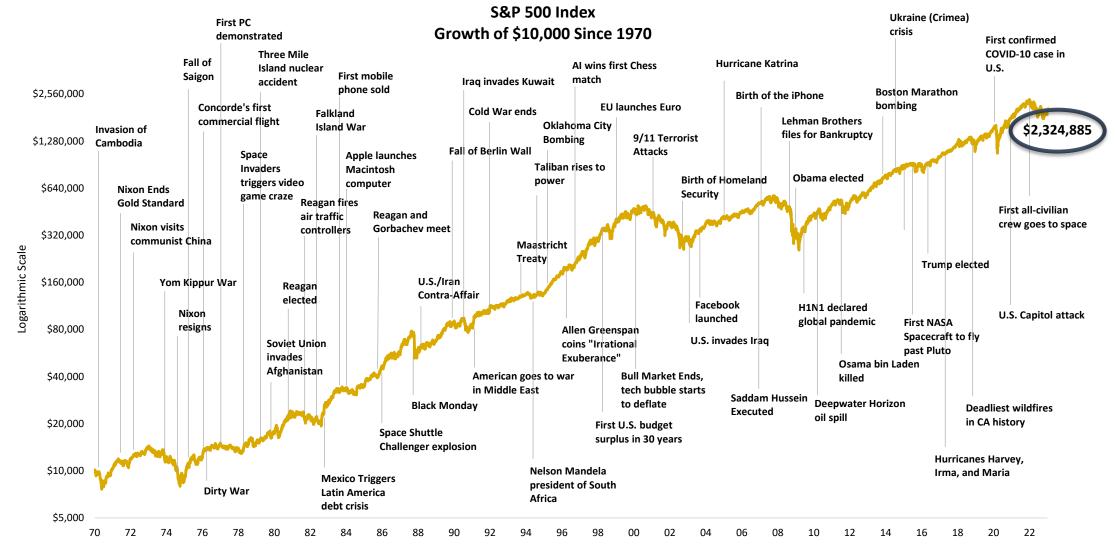
## Market Timing, Anyone?

#### 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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