

Making Sense

Monthly Market Update

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What are we going to cover?

- 1. Economic Update: Interest Rates | Inflation | Labor Market
- 2. Market Update: Equity Markets | Fixed Income | Potential Headwinds
- 3. Election Year

 Current Environment | Historical Perspective



Economic Update

Interest Rates | Inflation | Labor Market

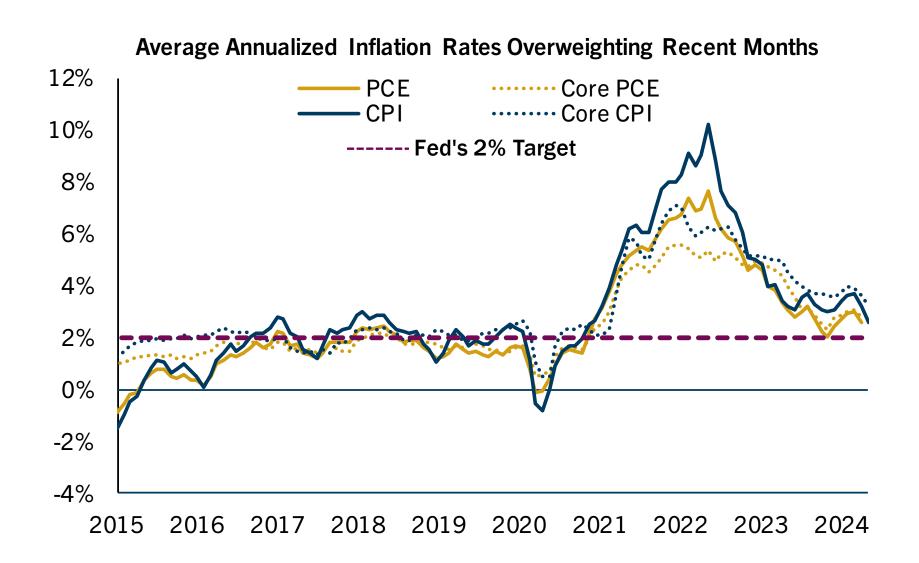
The Global Growth Outlook Has Been Revised Up

World Economic Outlook				
Consensus Real Economic Growth Estimates				
	2023	2024 Estimate as of:		
	Actual Growth	Dec-23	Jul-24	
World	3.3%	2.6%	3.0%	
United States	2.5%	1.3%	2.3%	
Euro Area	0.5%	0.5%	0.7%	
United Kingdom	0.1%	0.3%	0.8%	
Japan	1.9%	0.8%	0.2%	
China	5.2%	4.5%	5.0%	

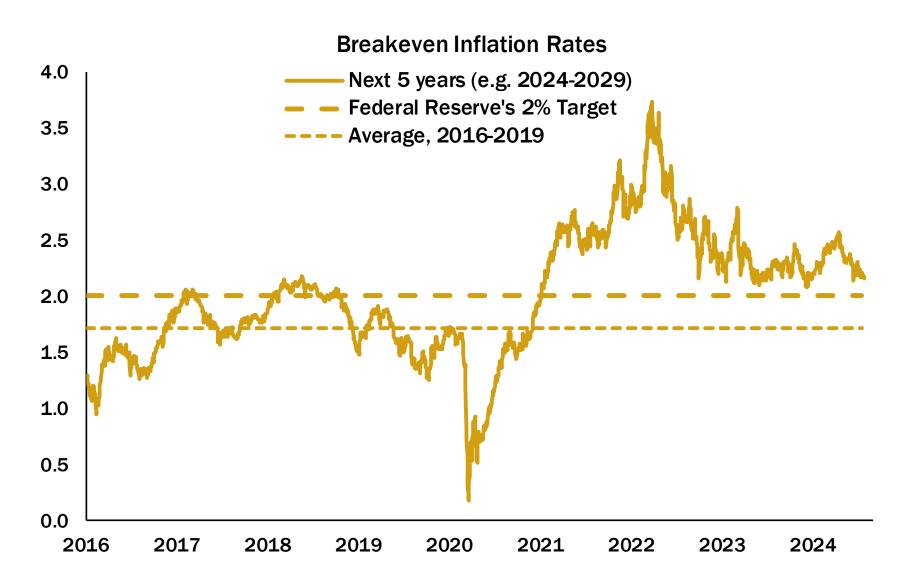
The Outlook for the US Economy Remains Upbeat



Inflation Has Improved in Recent Months

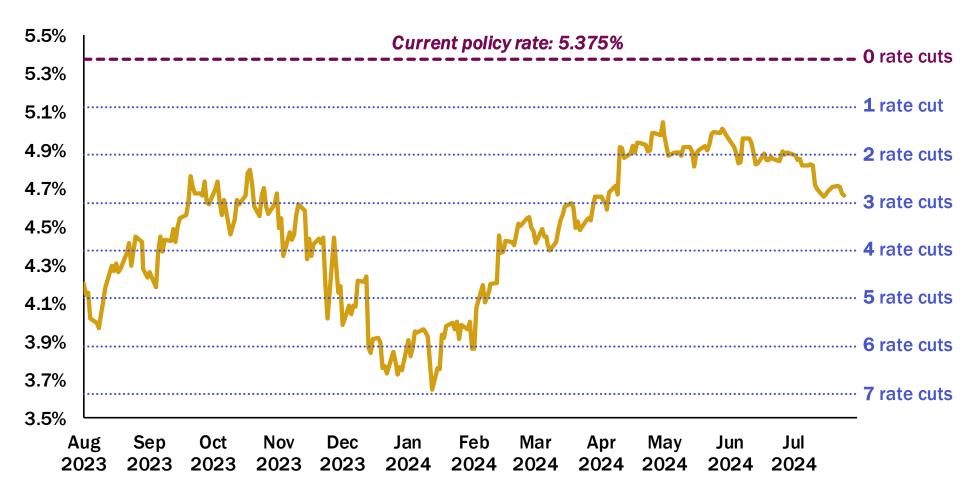


Market Inflation Expectations Are Settling Modestly Above 2%

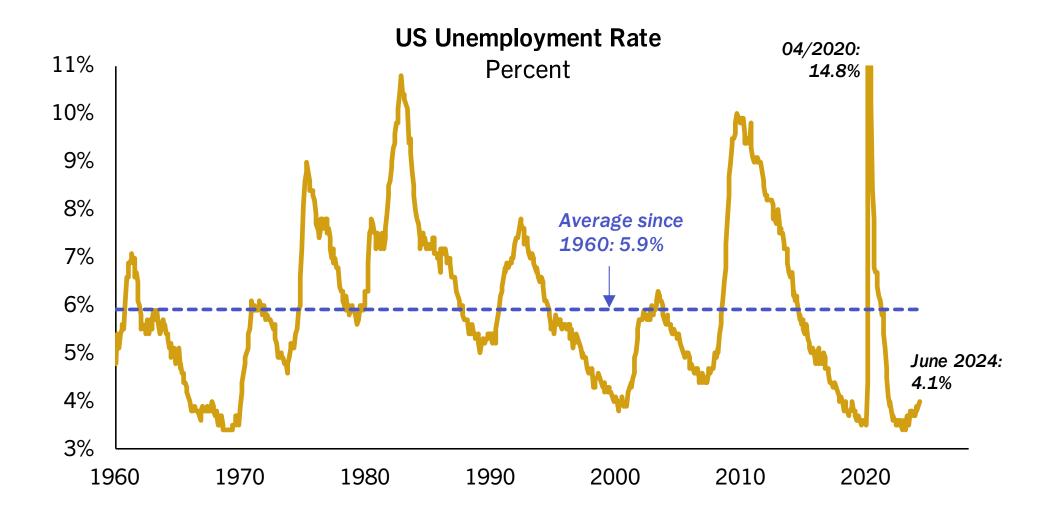


After Volatile Swings, Markets Expect 2-3 Interest-Rate Cuts This Year

Market-Implied Federal Funds Rate in December 2024

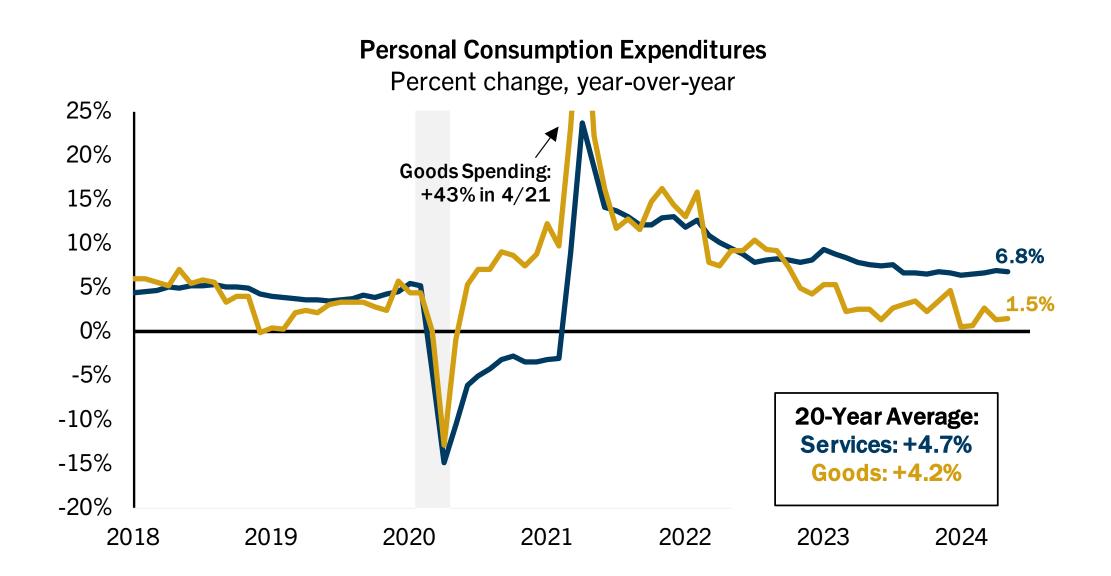


The Unemployment Rate Has Moved Up Despite Strong Job Growth



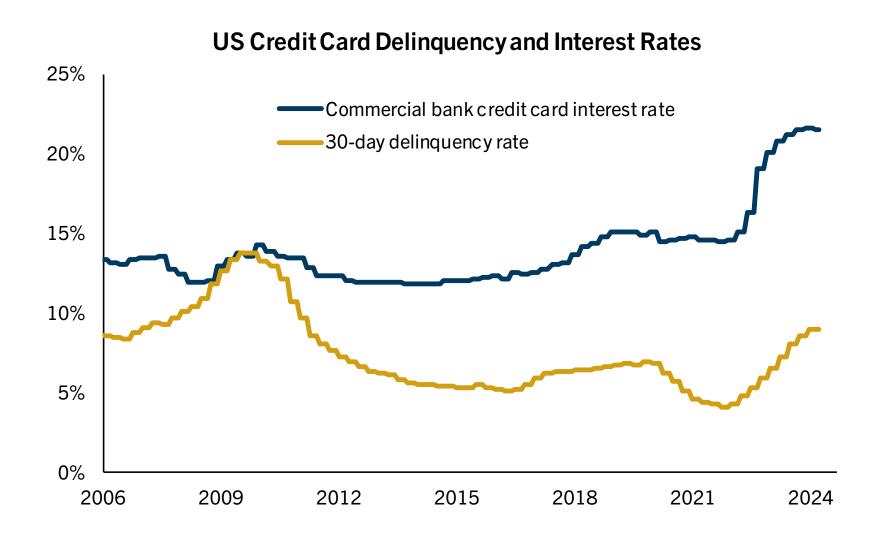
Source: Department of Labor, Bloomberg

Consumer Expenditures Are Holding Up, Led by Services Spending



Source: Department of Commerce, Strategas

Revolving Credit Rates Have Surged, and Delinquencies Are Up



Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg

Economic Tailwinds and Headwinds

Tailwinds

- Service sector employment and
- Corporate earnings

spending

- Disinflationary trend
- Interest-rate cuts from the Fed
- Job gains and limited layoffs
- Financial conditions

Headwinds

- Elevated interest rates with incoming maturity wall
- Softer consumer spending and increased CC delinquencies
- Waning fiscal stimulus effect
- Housing sector
- Government debt and deficits
- Geopolitical tension/risks
- Softening labor demand

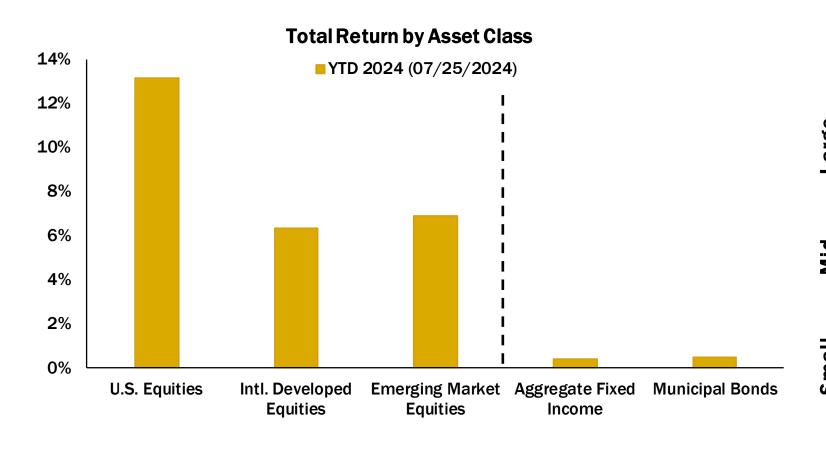
12 Source: First Citizens Wealth



Market Update

Equity Markets | Fixed Income | Potential Headwinds

Global Markets Year-to-Date

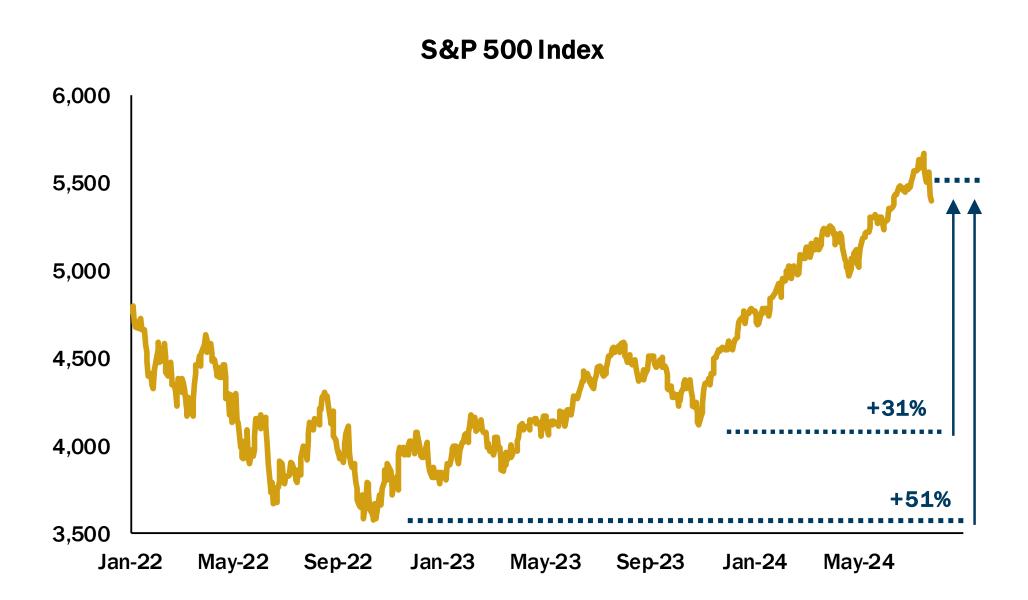


YTD US Equity Returns As of 07/25/2024

	Value	Blend	Growth
Large	10.6%	15.2%	17.6%
B E	8.1%	7.5%	5.4%
Small	9.7%	10.5%	11.4%

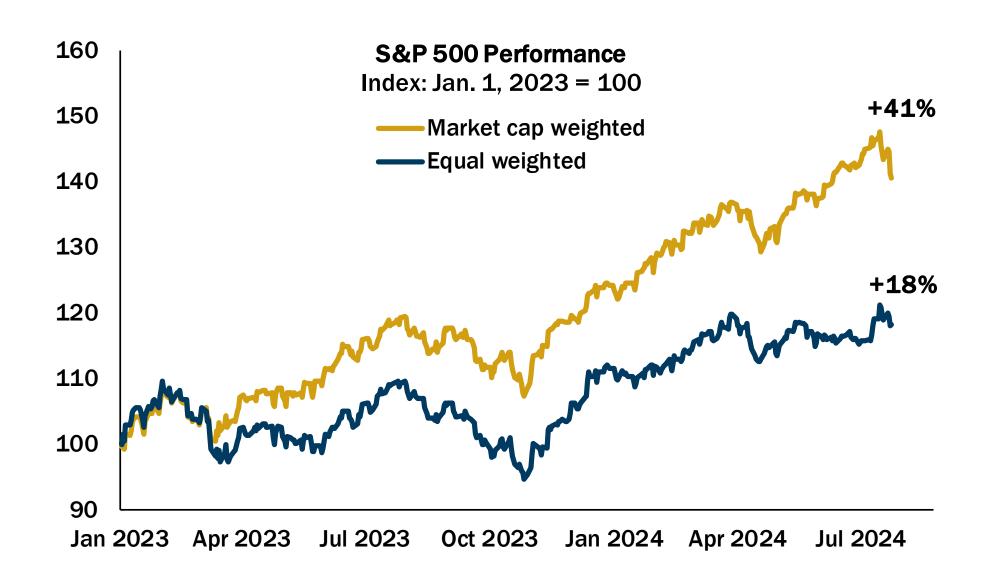
Source: Bloomberg

Stocks Have Rallied Sharply

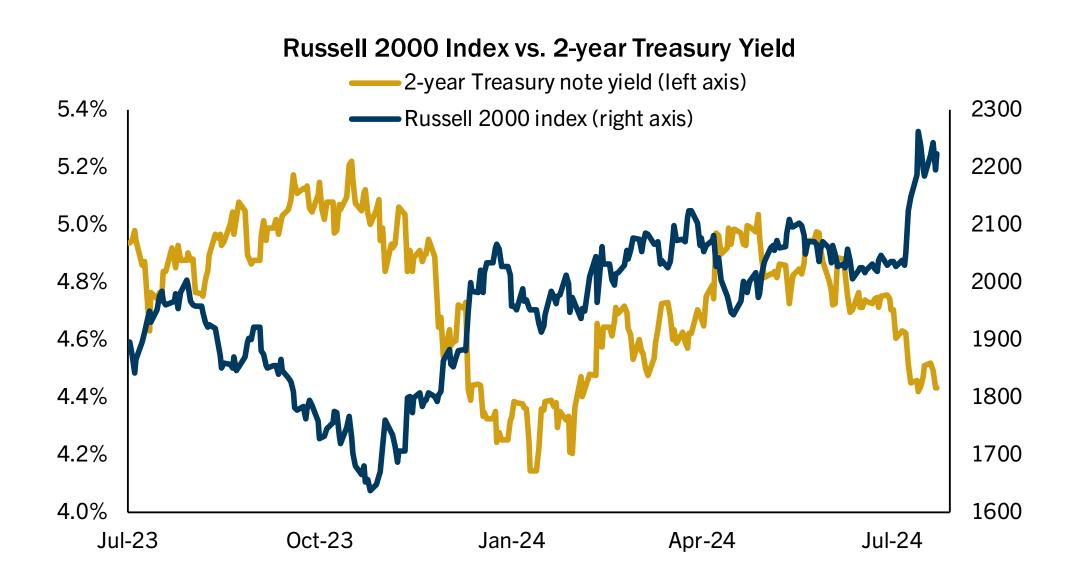


Source: Bloomberg

Large-cap Stocks Have Outperformed by a Significant Margin



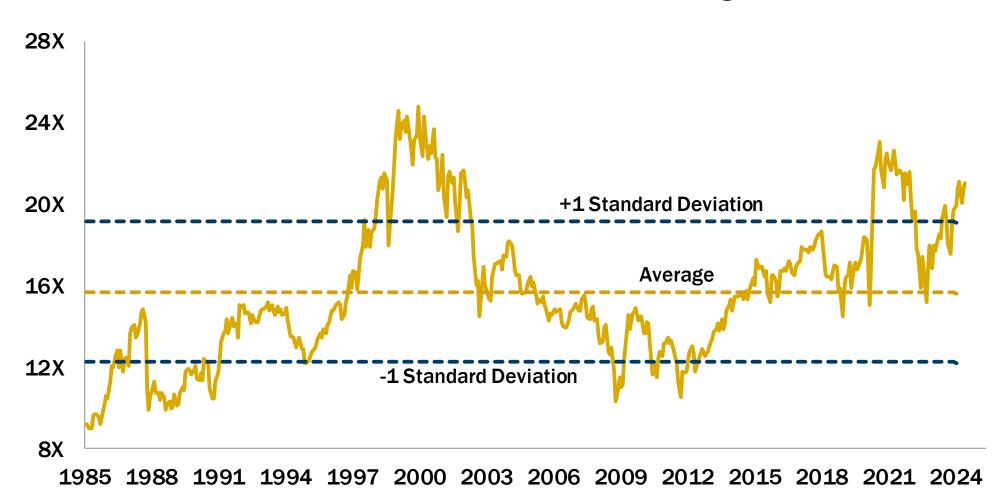
Rate-Sensitive Small-Cap Stocks Have Surged Recently



Source: Bloomberg

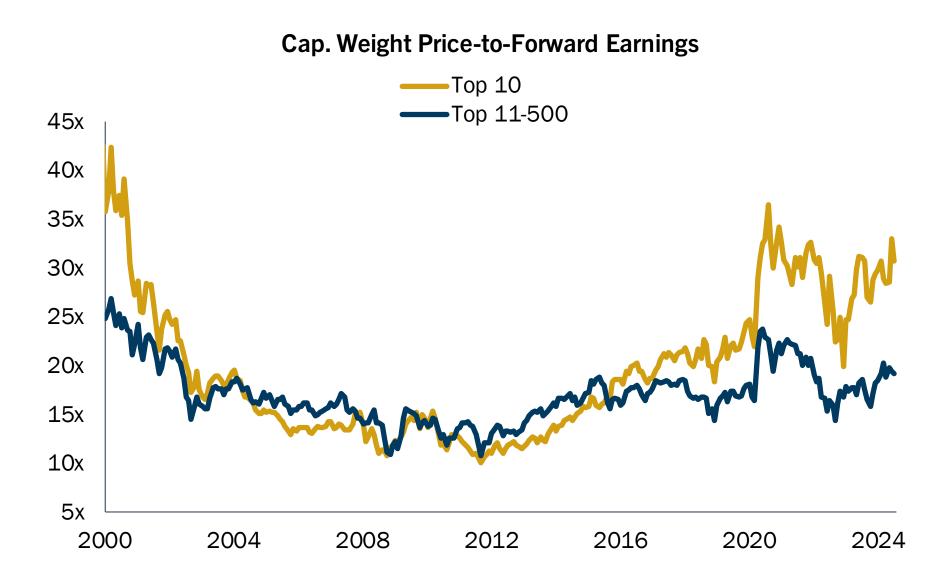
Market Valuation Below Extremes but Above Average

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



Source: Bloomberg, Strategas

P/E Ratios Suggest There is Room For Broadening



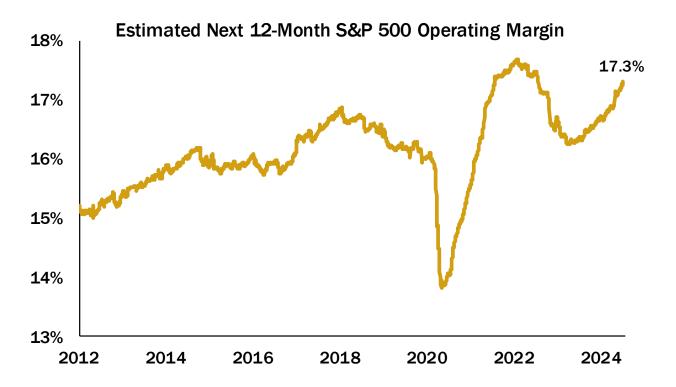
Source: Trivariate Research

Corporate Earnings

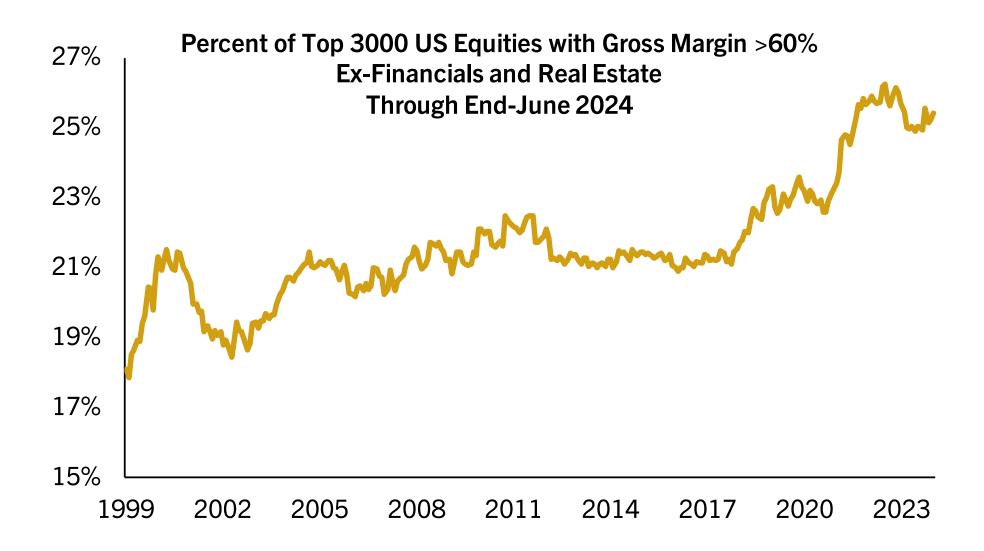
2024 estimated growth is 10.9%

2025 estimated growth is 14.8%

Average growth since 1950 is 7.6%



25% of Companies Have Greater Than 60% Gross Margin



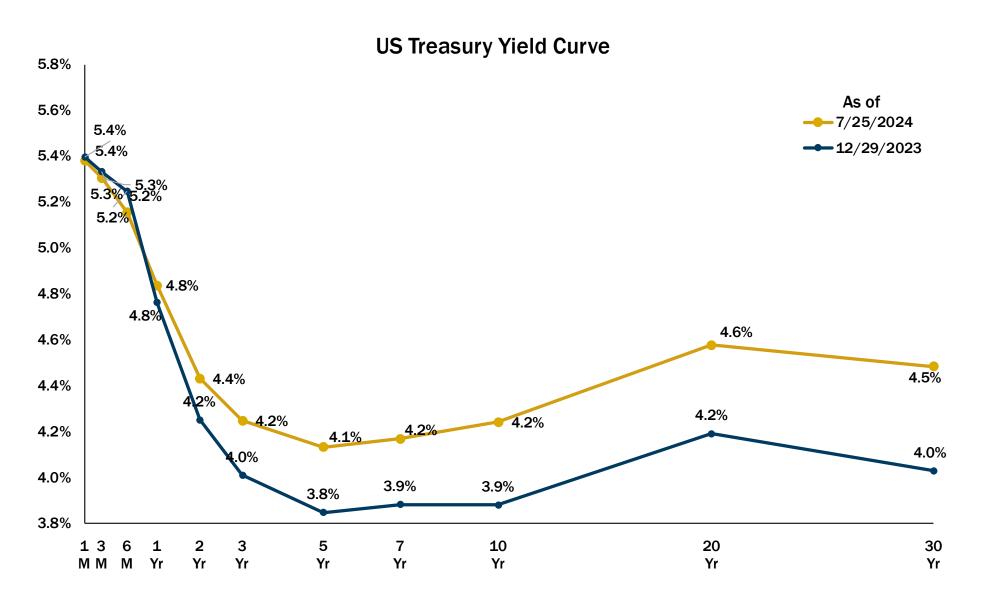
Source: Trivariate Research

Next Twelve-Month S&P 500 Price Target

	NTM Price Level	Percent Change from 7/29/24
Bear	4,400	-19.5%
Base	5,900	7.9%
Bull	6,500	18.9%

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet

US Treasury Yield Curve Remains Inverted



Source: Bloomberg

Bond Yields Remain Elevated Versus Recent History

US Fixed Income Indices			
	Yield-to-Worst		
Index	12/31/2021	7/25/2024	
2-Year Treasury	0.73%	4.43%	
10-Year Treasury	1.51%	4.24%	
Aggregate Bond	1.75%	4.82%	
Intermediate Government/Credit	1.30%	4.60%	
Municipal Bond	1.11%	3.58%	
Investment Grade Corporate Bond	2.33%	5.32%	
High Yield Corporate Bond	4.21%	7.66%	

Election Year

Current Environment | Historical Perspective

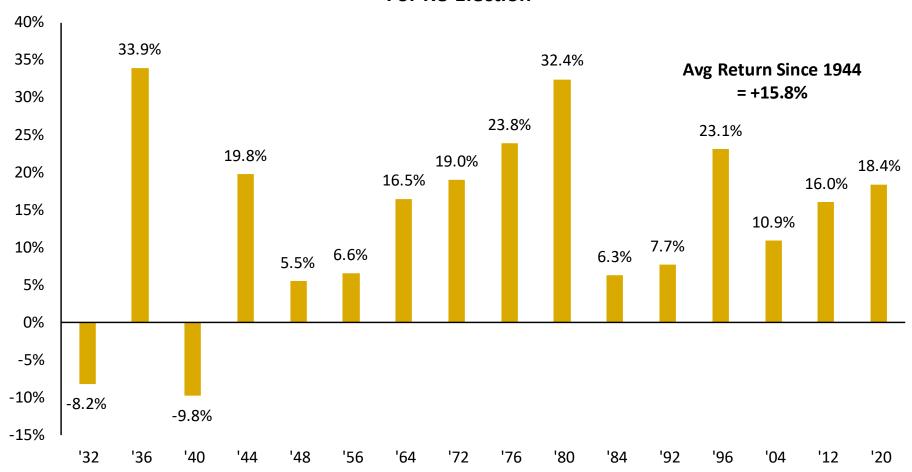
The Political Environment Has Changed Substantially in Recent Weeks

Prediction Market-Implied Probability of Winning Presidential Election					
	luno 1 2024	Presidential debate	Pres. Trump assassination attempt	Pres. Biden withdraws from 2024 election	Latest
	June 1, 2024	June 27, 2024	July 13, 2024	July 21, 2024	July 25, 2024
Democratic Party Candidate	50%	43%	36%	42%	46%
Republican Party Candidate	50%	57%	64%	58%	54%

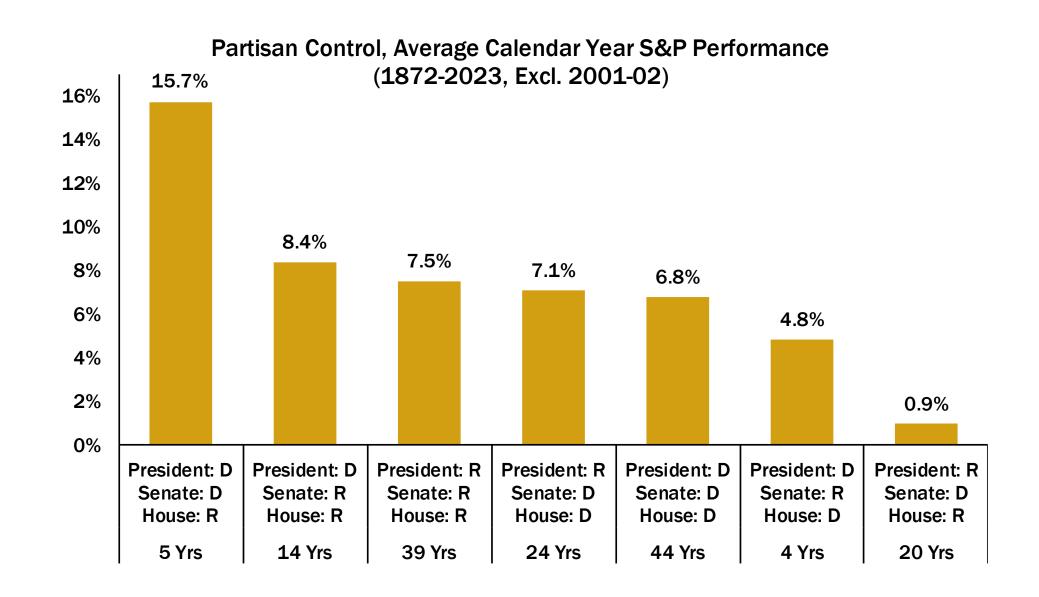
Source: Predictlt, Bloomberg

Presidential Cycle: S&P 500 Returns

S&P 500 Total Return In Election Years With Incumbent President Running For Re-Election



S&P Performance Does Not Appear to Depend on Partisan Control





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