

Perspective

Don't lose your cool...think big picture

Dear Partners,

Thank you for your continued trust in SAM, and for allowing us to serve your total financial needs. We come to work every day to help guide you on your financial life journey. The past quarter was somewhat of a winding path along that journey. The US market (as measured by S&P 500) was down 14.3% and international markets (MSCI All World ex-US) were down 12.8%. The drop in 4Q was so severe that it resulted in a decline in the S&P 500 of 4.4% for 2018, marking the first negative return for the US markets since 2008 ("The Great Recession").

At SAM, we do not like to focus on negativity, and we especially do not like to focus on the short-term quarter-to-quarter (or even year-to-year) "noise." Your financial journey is a long-term event and because of this we ask you to focus on and keep at the forefront **perspective**.

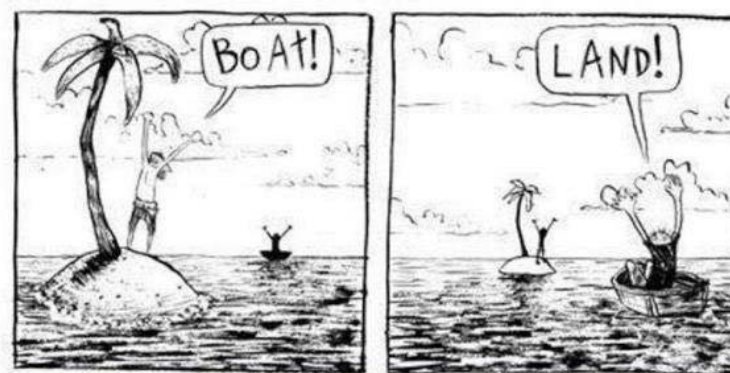
Merriam-Webster dictionary defines ***perspective*** as:

"The interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed; the capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance."

This definition brings up a multitude of philosophies we try to emphasize in our work. The first is how events are "mentally viewed." This ties into one of the items we are so passionate about – solving "The Behavioral Gap." This mental view of focusing on what is taking place right now unfortunately causes investors (even the best ones at times) to do what "feels right" in that moment, act on it, and then regret it at a later date (i.e. buying high/selling low). Why? Because they have lost perspective.

To help combat this we try to coach our clients on having "the capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance." By focusing on a longer-term viewpoint, for example, you can more easily discern the "relative importance" of a current event that is taking place.

On the next page we have outlined a chart that displays the rolling monthly 7-year returns (the annualized return of a 7-year period if someone invested on any given month over that 7-year period) for the S&P 500 and MSCI EAFE going back to January 1970. We use these as proxies for US and International equity markets, respectively. While this is not a true representation of our client portfolios, these broad indices are what investors typically focus on (of course adding to the loss of perspective in the short-term).



Perspective...

Perspective

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Looking at the data over a long period of time can provide investors who tend to focus on and obsess over short-term market swings with some perspective.

As the chart illustrates, if you invested on any given month and held it for at least 7-years (still short by our measures) from January 1970 – December 2018, the following would be true:

- Only 7 & 13 times respectively would you have lost money in the S&P 500 or MSCI EAFE if you would have invested on any given month and held for 7-years.
- **Said another way, 98.6% and 97.4% of the time you would have a positive return on your investment!**
- Your average return would have been 11% and 9.4% respectively, with a high of 23%/31.9% and a low of -3.9%/-2.6%.

	S&P 500	MSCI EAFE
Average	11.0%	9.4%
Median	12.5%	7.7%
Min	-3.9%	-2.6%
Max	23.0%	31.9%
Negative Periods	7	13
Positive %	98.6%	97.4%

Another way to gain perspective is by making things tangible and viewing them in real life terms. This made me think of a recent special event that took place in my own life. On January 4, 2019, my grandmother turned 100 years old! A fantastic milestone moment for my grandmother and family.

With perspective at the forefront, I decided to look up the value of the S&P 500 on the day my grandmother was born. While I was not able to locate the exact date, I got pretty close with Jan 1, 1919. The value of the S&P 500 on this date was 7.85, and on Jan 4, 2019 the S&P 500 closed at 2,531.94. This is an astonishing 322X return, which does not even take into consideration dividends!

Source: Factset

Perspective

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Over the last 100 years, countless US and global events have taken place including wars, depressions, great recessions, US Presidential turmoil, global leadership turmoil, and short-term market meltdowns. However, my grandmother still witnessed the S&P 500 returning a whopping 322X! I say witnessed, as unfortunately she never participated, but she is still an amazing person for all her other great qualities.

For our clients and future clients we preach perspective. Hopefully this information will help you place the short-term events of the last quarter into their proper bucket of relative importance.

Thank you for your continued trust,

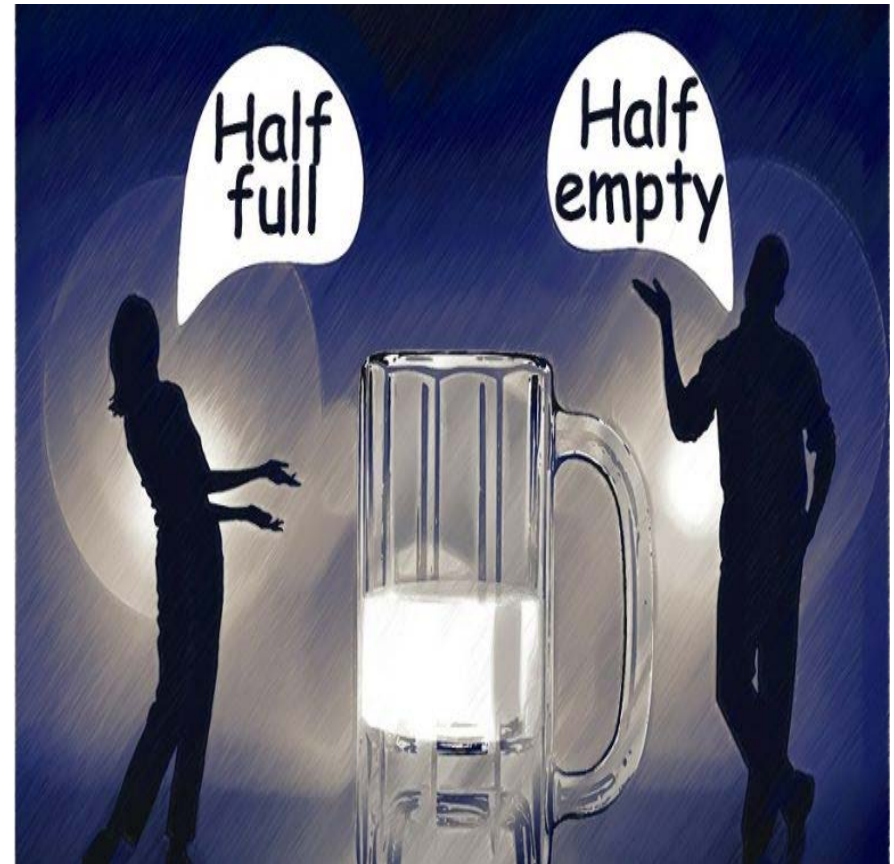
Jason and The Sam Team

Portfolio Updates:

We have started to build a position to **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)** for our clients within your Alternatives allocation. This is not a short-term market timing decision but rather a long-term strategic allocation.

We are attracted to REITs for a variety of reasons. One is the stable and relatively predictable free cash flow nature of the underlying businesses. This stable free cash flow gives the management teams the ability to create a compelling total return for shareholders by distributing the cash to owners and reinvesting some back for growth. Additionally, the value of the assets owned by the REITs can gain value over time.

From a portfolio perspective, REITs display diversification benefits since they do not act 100% like equities or fixed income. We believe, but cannot guarantee, that a strategic allocation to REITs in our client portfolios should result in higher overall returns with lower risk over time.



Q4

Quarterly Market Review

Fourth Quarter 2018

Quarterly Market Review

Fourth Quarter 2018

This report features world capital market performance and a timeline of events for the past quarter. It begins with a global overview, then features the returns of stock and bond asset classes in the US and international markets.

The report also illustrates the impact of globally diversified portfolios and features a quarterly topic.

Overview:

Market Summary

World Stock Market Performance

World Asset Classes

US Stocks

International Developed Stocks

Emerging Markets Stocks

Select Country Performance

Select Currency Performance vs. US Dollar

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Commodities

Fixed Income







Global Fixed Income

Impact of Diversification

Quarterly Topic: Why Should You Diversify?

Quarterly Market Summary



















Index Returns

	US Stock Market	International Developed Stocks	Emerging Markets Stocks	Global Real Estate		US Bond Market	Global Bond Market ex US
Q4 2018	STOCKS					BONDS	
	-14.30% 	-12.78% 	-7.47% 	-5.79% 		1.64% 	1.89% 
Since Jan. 2001							
Avg. Quarterly Return	1.8%	1.3%	2.8%	2.4%		1.1%	1.1%
Best Quarter	16.8%	25.9%	34.7%	32.3%		4.6%	4.6%
	2009 Q2	2009 Q2	2009 Q2	2009 Q3		2001 Q3	2008 Q4
Worst Quarter	-22.8%	-21.2%	-27.6%	-36.1%		-3.0%	-2.7%
	2008 Q4	2008 Q4	2008 Q4	2008 Q4		2016 Q4	2015 Q2

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net div.]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net div.]), Global Real Estate (S&P Global REIT Index [net div.]), US Bond Market (Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond Market ex US (Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD Bond Index [hedged to USD]). S&P data © 2019 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg.

Long-Term Market Summary

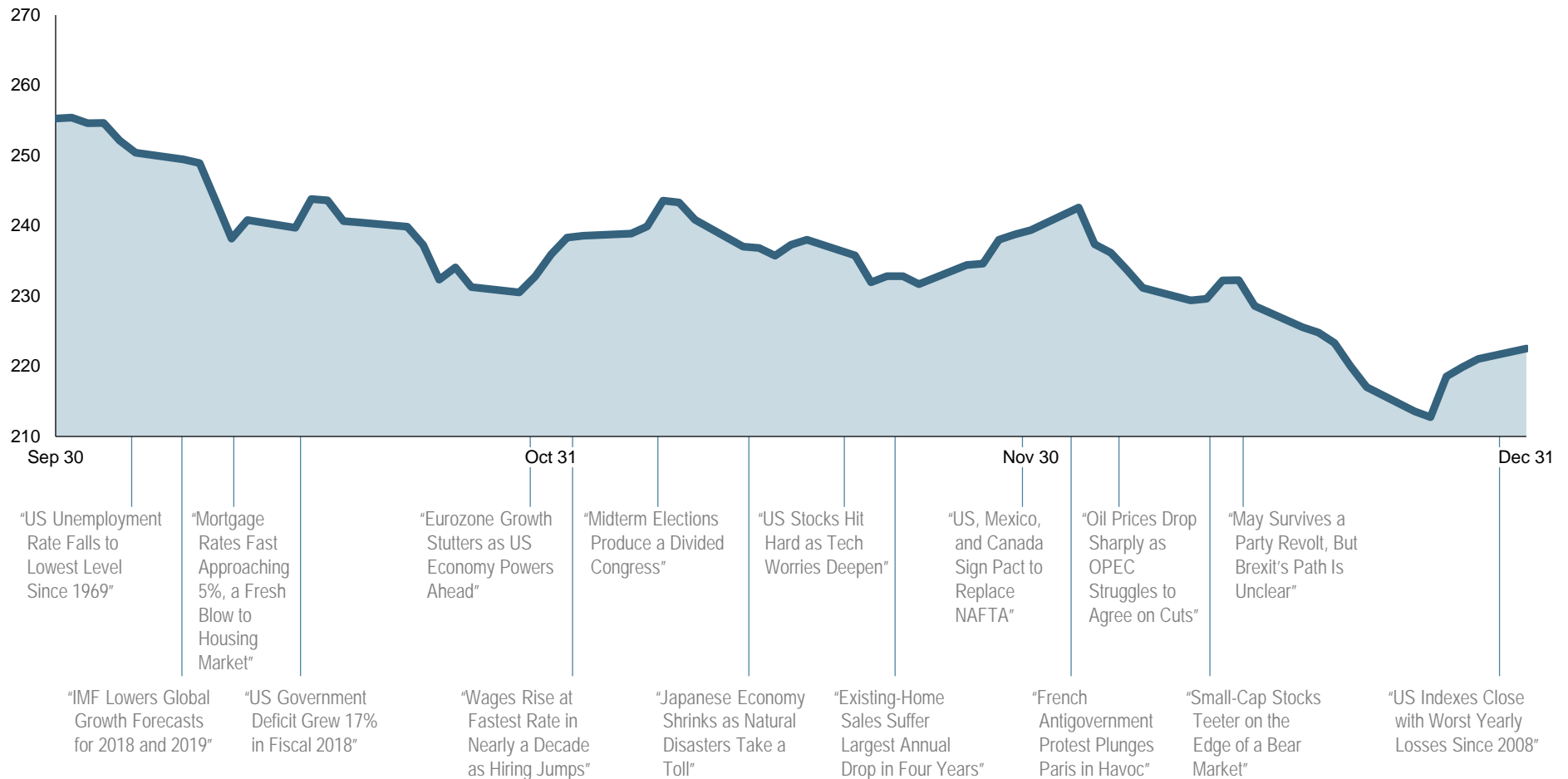
Index Returns

	US Stock Market	International Developed Stocks	Emerging Markets Stocks	Global Real Estate	US Bond Market	Global Bond Market ex US
1 Year	STOCKS				BONDS	
	-5.24% 	-14.09% 	-14.58% 	-5.90% 	0.01% 	3.17% 
5 Years	7.91% 	0.34% 	1.65% 	5.28% 	2.52% 	4.11% 
10 Years	13.18% 	6.24% 	8.02% 	10.05% 	3.48% 	3.98% 

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net div.]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net div.]), Global Real Estate (S&P Global REIT Index [net div.]), US Bond Market (Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond Market ex US (Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD Bond Index [hedged to USD]). S&P data © 2019 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg.

World Stock Market Performance

MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from Q4 2018



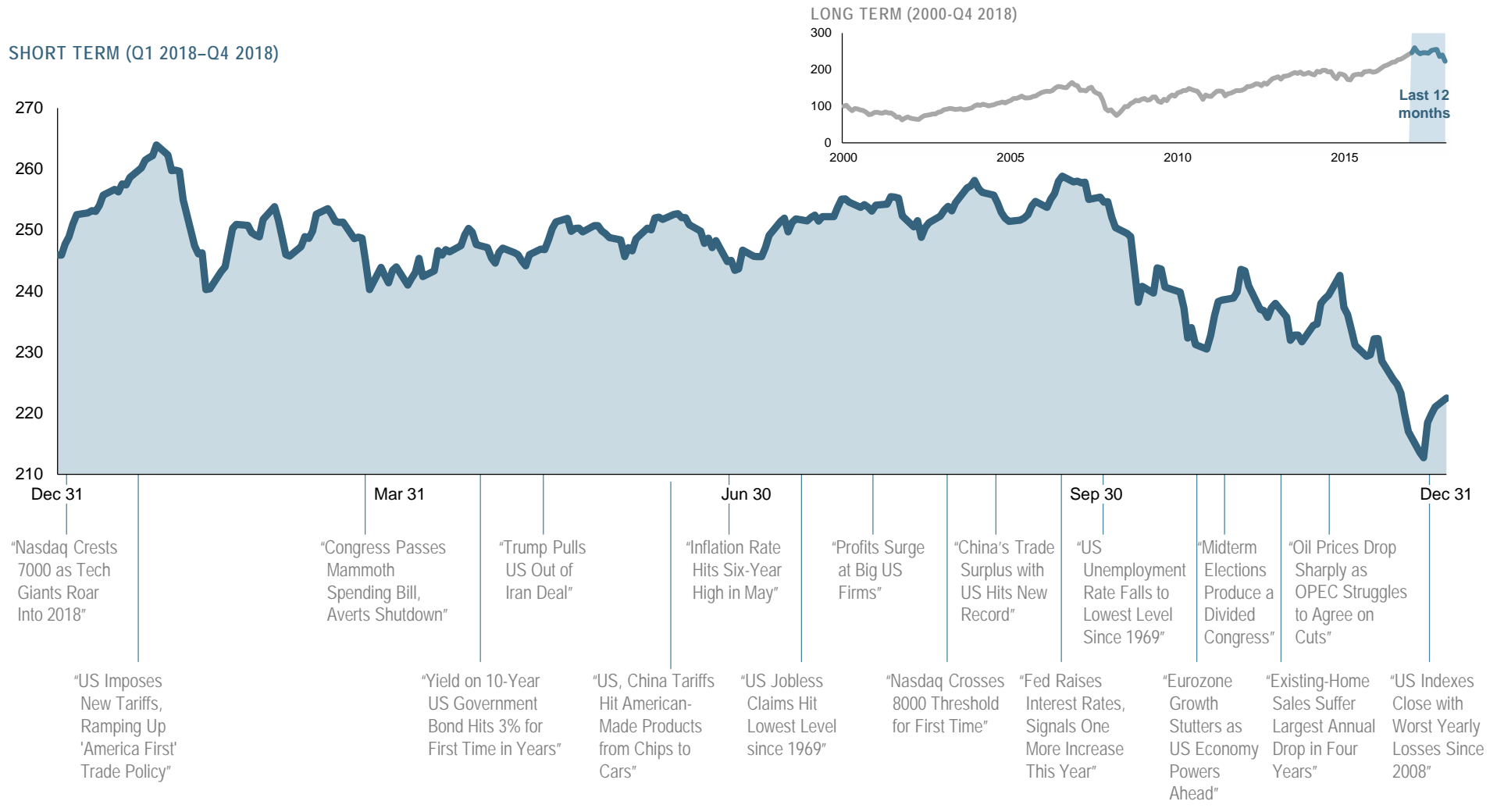
These headlines are not offered to explain market returns. Instead, they serve as a reminder that investors should view daily events from a long-term perspective and avoid making investment decisions based solely on the news.

Graph Source: MSCI ACWI Index [net div.]. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Performance does not reflect the expenses associated with management of an actual portfolio. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

World Stock Market Performance

MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from past 12 months



These headlines are not offered to explain market returns. Instead, they serve as a reminder that investors should view daily events from a long-term perspective and avoid making investment decisions based solely on the news.

Graph Source: MSCI ACWI Index [net div.]. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Performance does not reflect the expenses associated with management of an actual portfolio. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

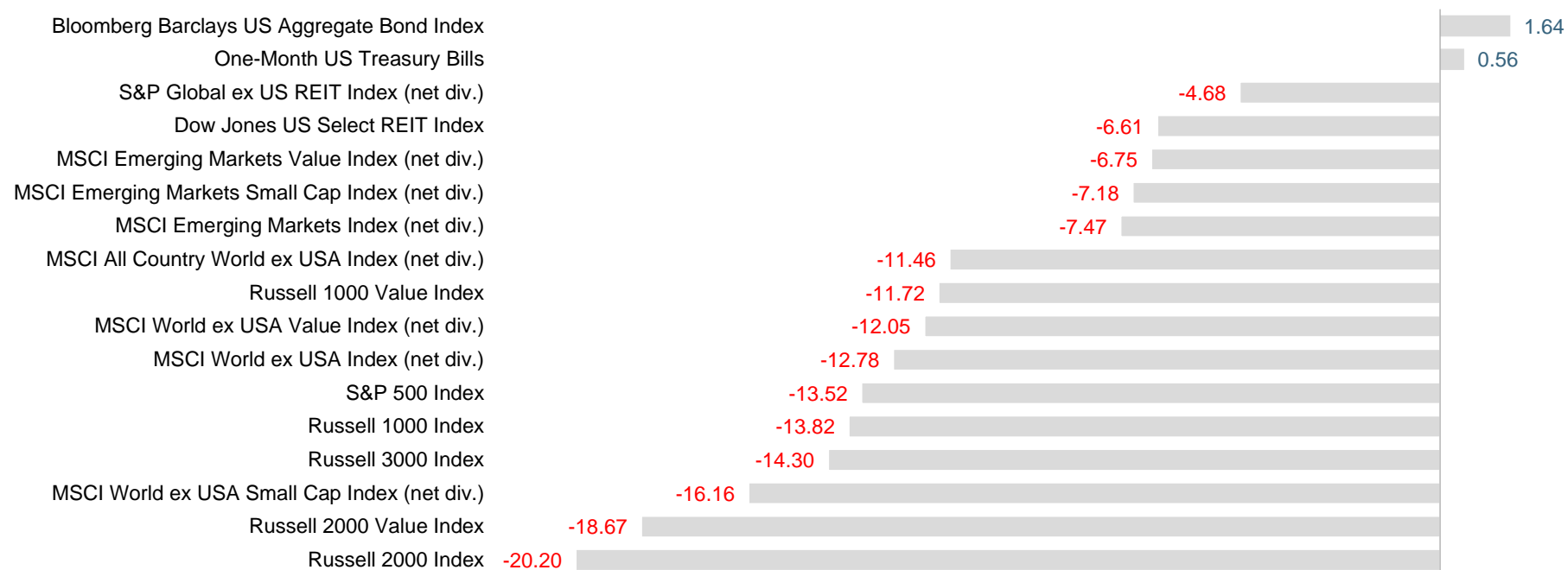
World Asset Classes

Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns (%)

Equity markets around the world posted negative returns for the quarter. Looking at broad market indices, emerging markets outperformed developed markets, including the US.

Value stocks were positive vs. growth stocks in all markets, including the US. Small caps underperformed large caps in the US and non-US developed markets but outperformed in emerging markets.

REIT indices outperformed equity market indices in both the US and non-US developed markets.



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US Stocks

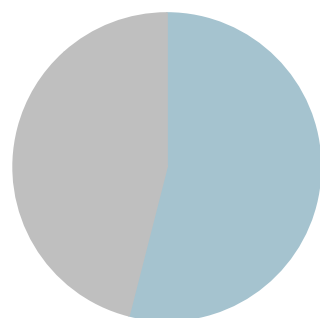
Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

US equities underperformed both non-US developed and emerging markets.

Value outperformed growth in the US across large and small cap stocks.

Small caps underperformed large caps in the US.

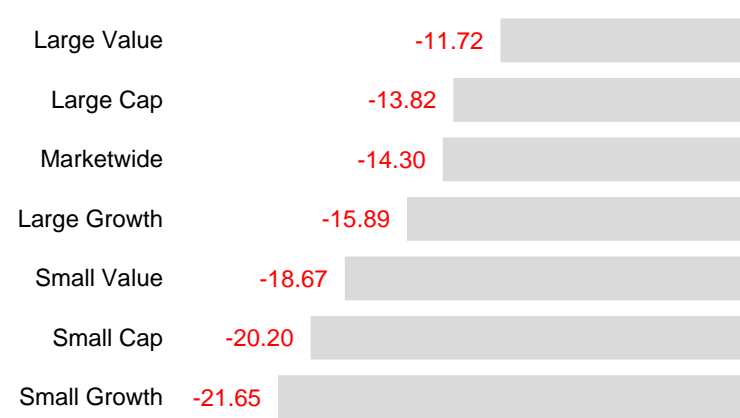
World Market Capitalization—US



54%

US Market
\$25.1 trillion

Ranked Returns for the Quarter (%)



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	* Annualized			
	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Large Growth	-1.51	11.15	10.40	15.29
Large Cap	-4.78	9.09	8.21	13.28
Marketwide	-5.24	8.97	7.91	13.18
Large Value	-8.27	6.95	5.95	11.18
Small Growth	-9.31	7.24	5.13	13.52
Small Cap	-11.01	7.36	4.41	11.97
Small Value	-12.86	7.37	3.61	10.40

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: Marketwide (Russell 3000 Index), Large Cap (Russell 1000 Index), Large Cap Value (Russell 1000 Value Index), Large Cap Growth (Russell 1000 Growth Index), Small Cap (Russell 2000 Index), Small Cap Value (Russell 2000 Value Index), and Small Cap Growth (Russell 2000 Growth Index). World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. Russell 3000 Index is used as the proxy for the US market. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved.

International Developed Stocks

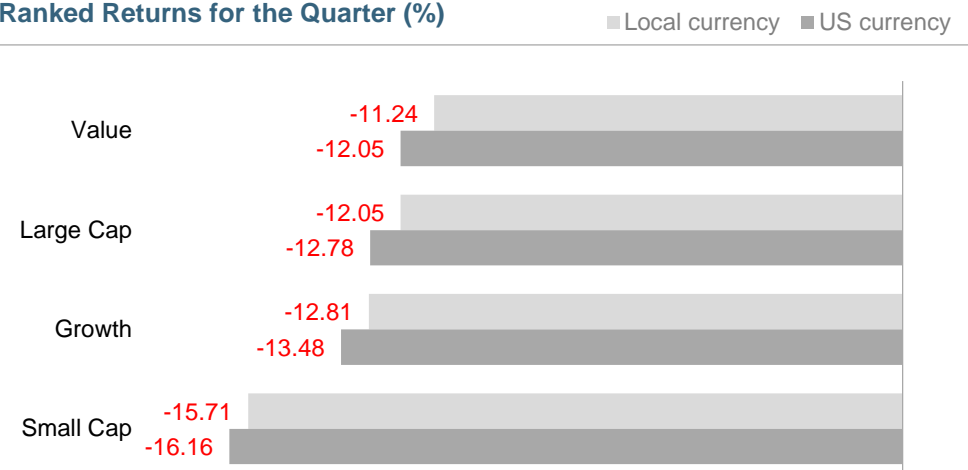
Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

In US dollar terms, developed markets outside the US outperformed the US equity market but underperformed emerging markets during the quarter.

Value outperformed growth across large and small cap stocks.

Small caps underperformed large caps in non-US developed markets.

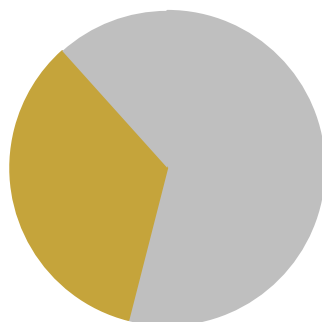
Ranked Returns for the Quarter (%)



World Market Capitalization—International Developed

34%

International
Developed Market
\$16.0 trillion



Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Growth	-13.14	2.84	1.36	6.74
Large Cap	-14.09	3.11	0.34	6.24
Value	-15.06	3.36	-0.73	5.69
Small Cap	-18.07	3.85	2.25	10.06

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI World ex USA Index), Small Cap (MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI World ex USA Value Index), and Growth (MSCI World ex USA Growth Index). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. MSCI World ex USA IMI Index is used as the proxy for the International Developed market. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.

Emerging Markets Stocks

Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

In US dollar terms, emerging markets outperformed developed markets, including the US.

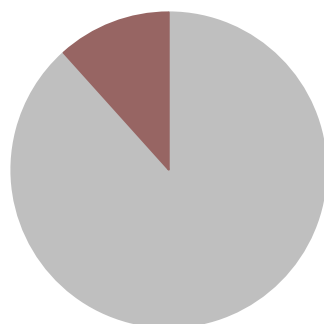
Value outperformed growth across large and small cap stocks.

Small caps outperformed large caps.

World Market Capitalization—Emerging Markets

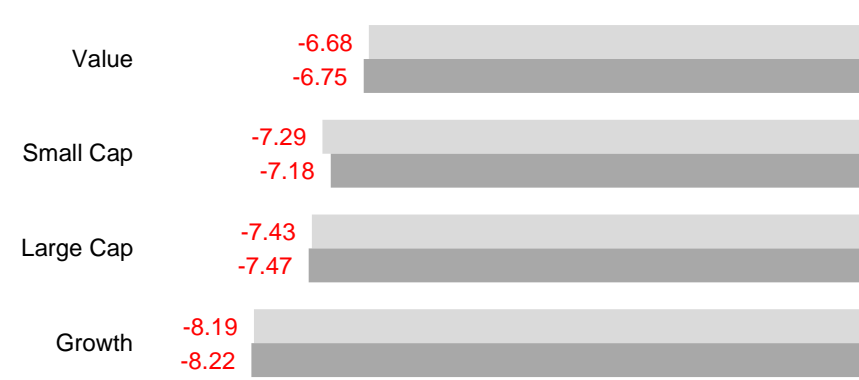
12%

Emerging Markets
\$5.4 trillion



Ranked Returns for the Quarter (%)

■ Local currency ■ US currency



Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Value	-10.74	9.52	0.51	6.99
Large Cap	-14.58	9.25	1.65	8.02
Growth	-18.26	8.89	2.67	8.97
Small Cap	-18.59	3.68	0.95	9.87

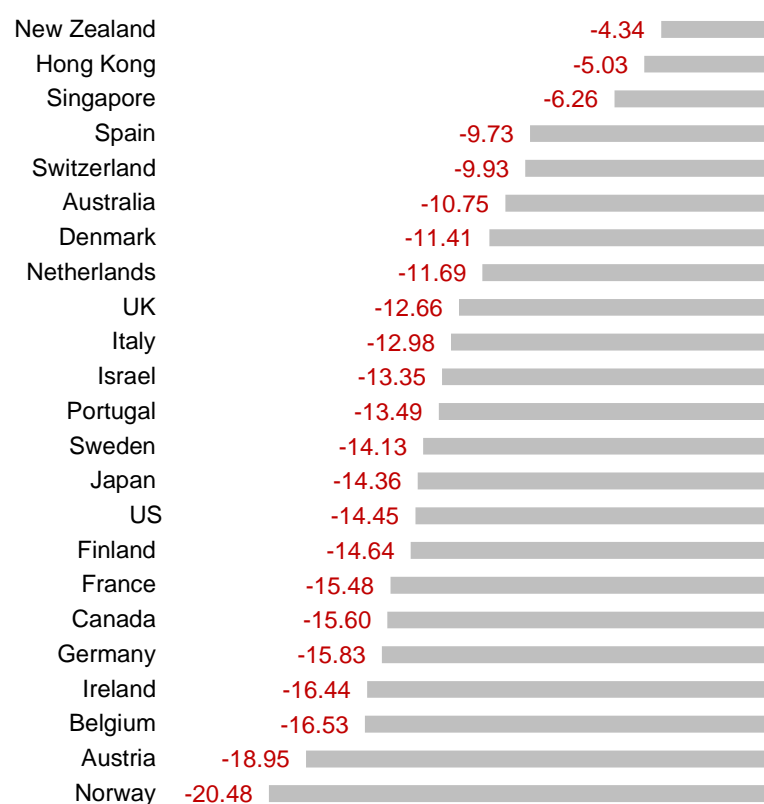
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Select Country Performance

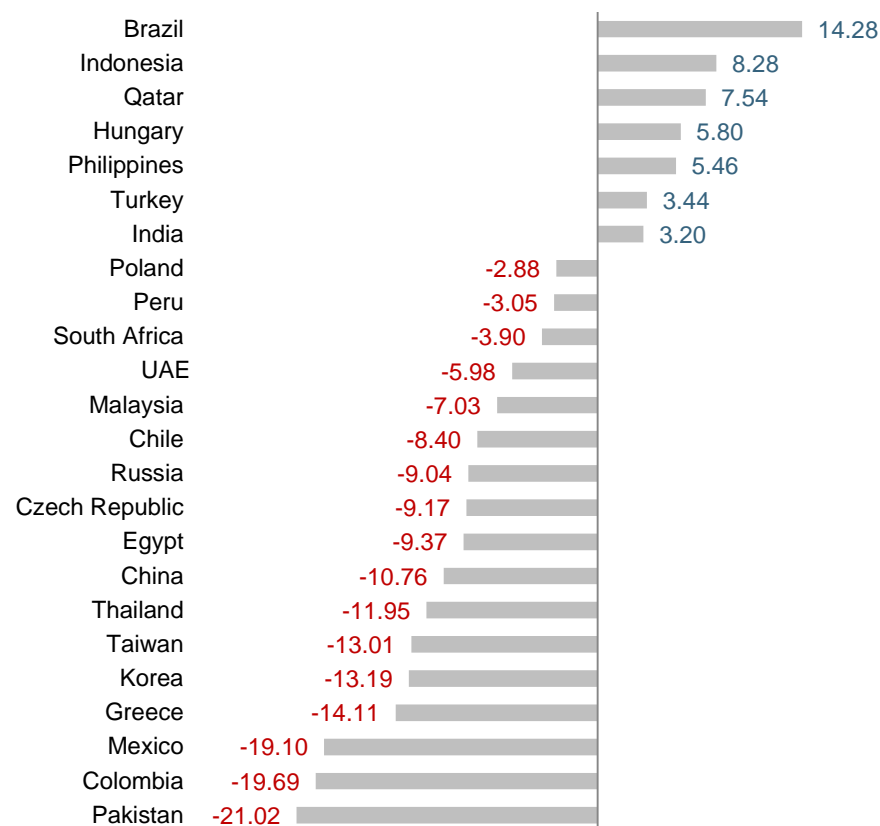
Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

In US dollar terms, New Zealand and Hong Kong recorded the highest country performance in developed markets, while Austria and Norway posted the lowest returns for the quarter. In emerging markets, Brazil and Indonesia recorded the highest country performance, while Colombia and Pakistan posted the lowest performance.

Ranked Developed Markets Returns (%)



Ranked Emerging Markets Returns (%)



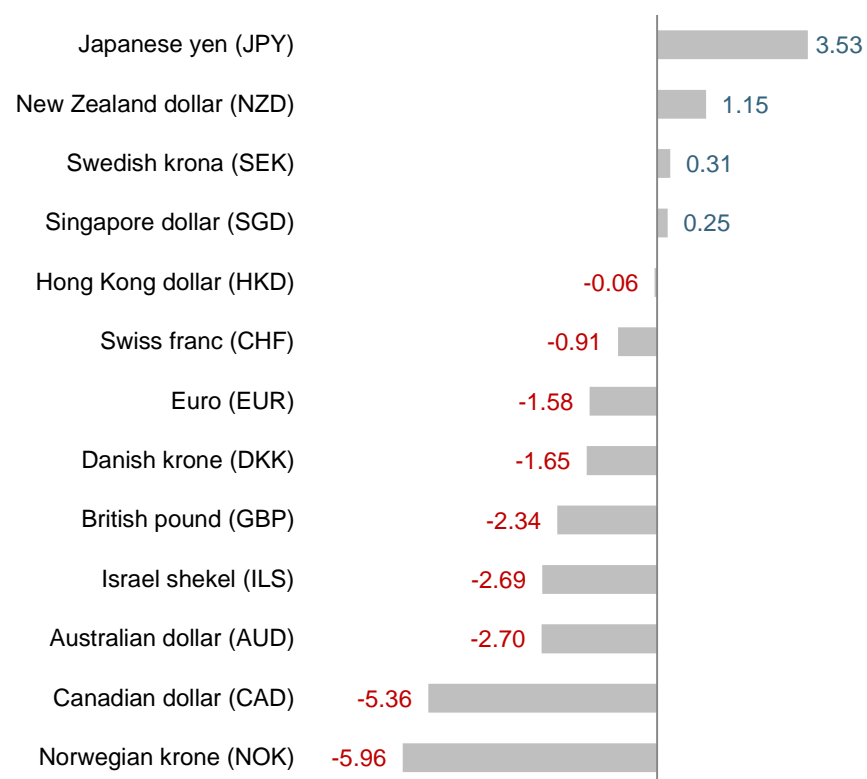
Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Country performance based on respective indices in the MSCI World ex US IMI Index (for developed markets), MSCI USA IMI Index (for US), and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. All returns in USD and net of withholding tax on dividends. MSCI data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved. UAE and Qatar have been reclassified as emerging markets by MSCI, effective May 2014.

Select Currency Performance vs. US Dollar

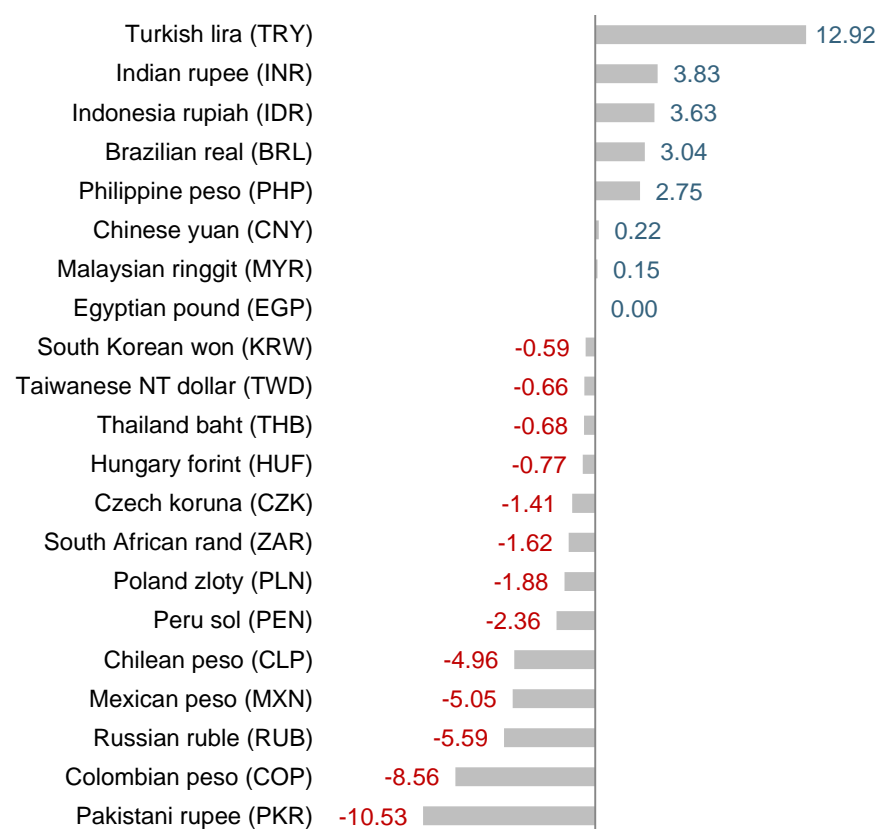
Fourth Quarter 2018

In developed markets, currencies mostly depreciated vs. the US dollar with a few exceptions, including the Japanese yen, which appreciated over 3.5%. In emerging markets, currencies were mixed against the US dollar, ranging from +12% to -10%.

Ranked Developed Markets (%)



Ranked Emerging Markets (%)

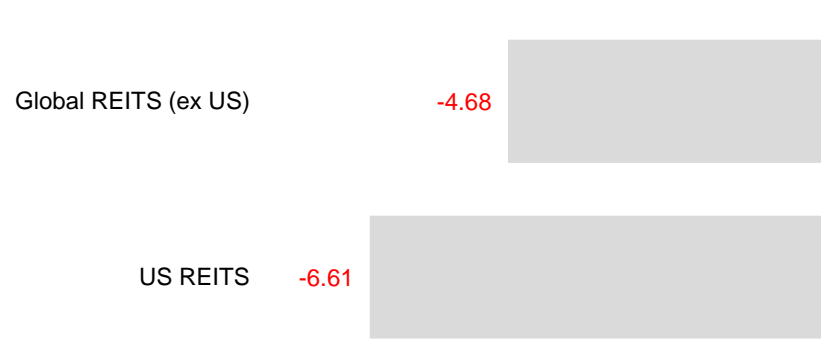


Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

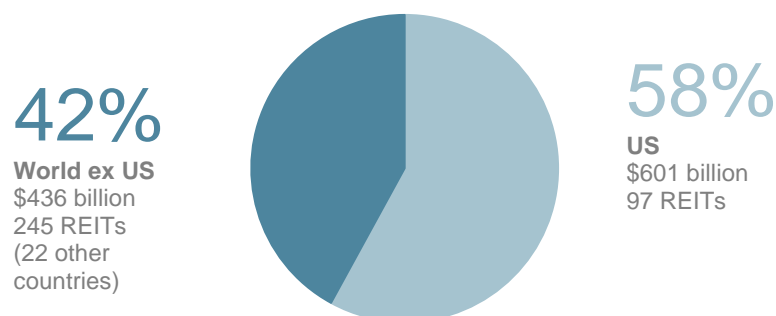
Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

Non-US real estate investment trusts outperformed US REITs in US dollar terms.

Ranked Returns for the Quarter (%)



Total Value of REIT Stocks



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	* Annualized			
	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
US REITS	-4.22	1.97	7.89	12.05
Global REITS	-7.42	3.35	3.39	8.94

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Number of REIT stocks and total value based on the two indices. All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. Total value of REIT stocks represented by Dow Jones US Select REIT Index and the S&P Global ex US REIT Index. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index used as proxy for the US market, and S&P Global ex US REIT Index used as proxy for the World ex US market. Dow Jones and S&P data © 2019 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved.

Commodities

Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

The Bloomberg Commodity Index Total Return declined 9.41% during the fourth quarter of 2018, bringing the total annual return to -11.25%.

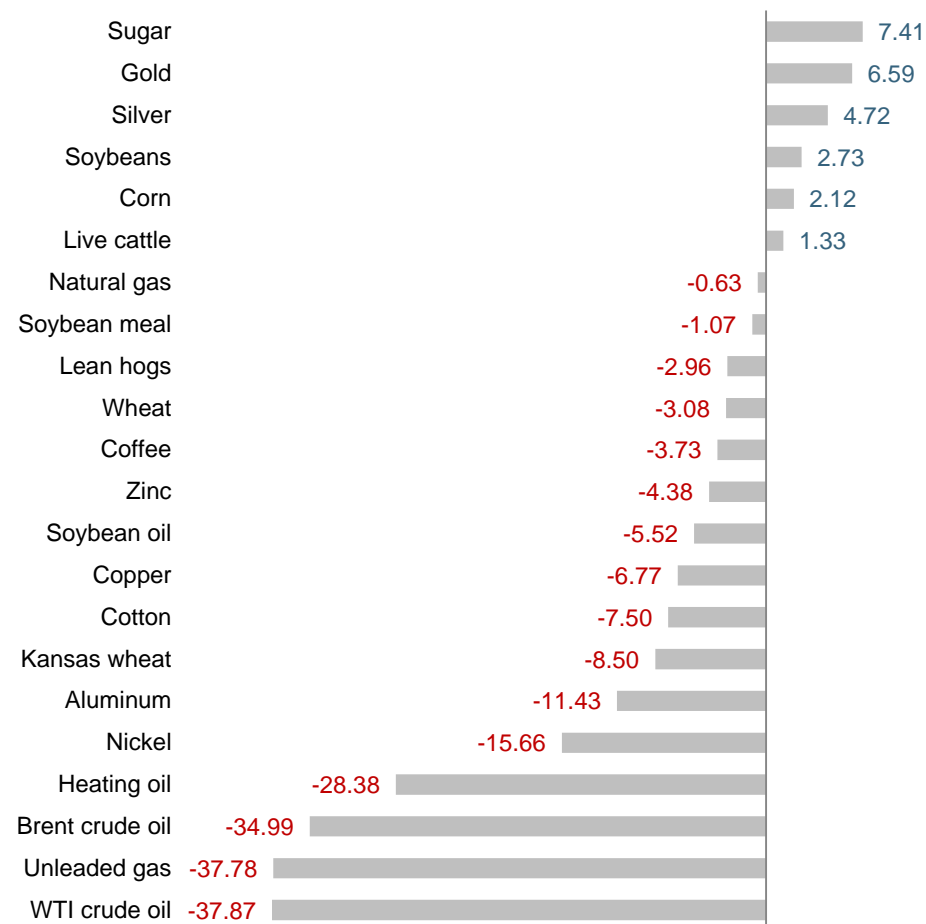
Sugar led quarterly performance with a gain of 7.41%. Energy was the worst-performing complex, with WTI crude oil and unleaded gas declining by 37.87% and 37.78%, respectively.

Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	QTR	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Commodities	-9.41	-11.25	0.30	-8.80	-3.78

Ranked Returns for Individual Commodities (%)



Fixed Income

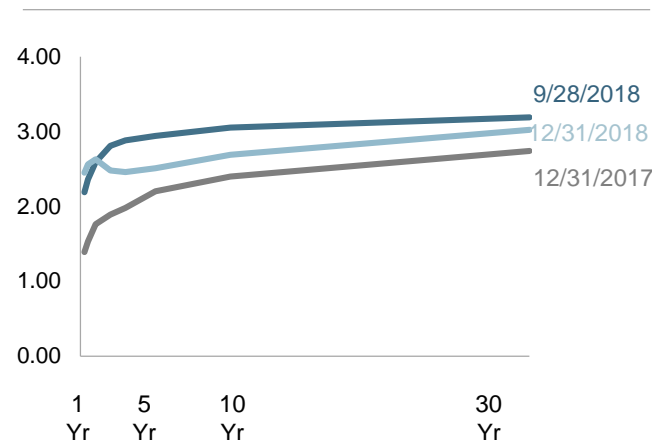
Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

Interest rate changes across the US fixed income market were mixed during the fourth quarter of 2018. The yield on the 5-year Treasury note declined 43 basis points (bps), ending the quarter at 2.51%. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note decreased 36 bps to 2.69%. The 30-year Treasury bond yield decreased 17 bps to finish at 3.02%. For 2018, yields on the 10-year Treasury and 30-year Treasury increased 29 bps and 28 bps, respectively.

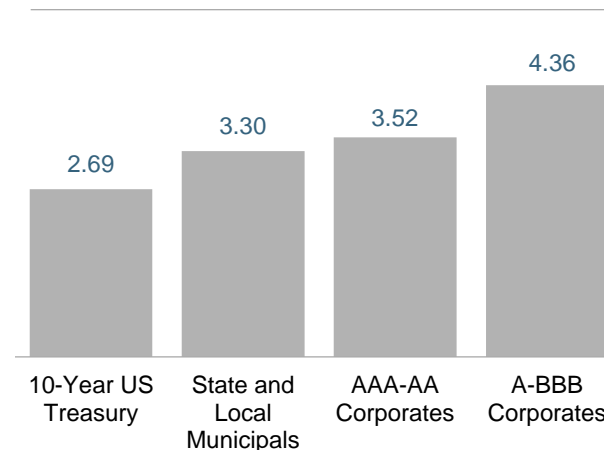
In terms of total returns, short-term corporate bonds increased 0.78% during the quarter. Intermediate-term corporate bonds had a total return of 0.58%.

Total returns for short-term municipal bonds were 1.10% for the quarter. Intermediate-term municipal bonds returned 2.00%.

US Treasury Yield Curve (%)



Bond Yield across Issuers (%)



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	QTR	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Bloomberg Barclays US Government Bond Index Long	4.16	-1.79	2.63	5.90	4.15
Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond Index	1.69	1.28	2.30	3.82	4.85
Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index	1.64	0.01	2.06	2.52	3.48
FTSE World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years (hedged to USD)	1.53	2.12	1.58	1.53	1.69
FTSE World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years	0.94	-0.76	1.56	-0.82	0.29
ICE BofAML 1-Year US Treasury Note Index	0.78	1.86	1.06	0.70	0.62
ICE BofAML US 3-Month Treasury Bill Index	0.56	1.87	1.02	0.63	0.37
Bloomberg Barclays US TIPS Index	-0.42	-1.26	2.11	1.69	3.64
Bloomberg Barclays US High Yield Corporate Bond Index	-4.53	-2.08	7.23	3.83	11.12

*Annualized

One basis point equals 0.01%. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Yield curve data from Federal Reserve. State and local bonds are from the S&P National AMT-Free Municipal Bond Index. AAA-AA Corporates represent the Bank of America Merrill Lynch US Corporates, AA-AAA rated. A-BBB Corporates represent the ICE BofAML Corporates, BBB-A rated. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg. US long-term bonds, bills, inflation, and fixed income factor data © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (S&BBI) Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefeld). FTSE fixed income indices © 2019 FTSE Fixed Income LLC, all rights reserved. ICE BofAML index data © 2019 ICE Data Indices, LLC. S&P data © 2019 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved.

Global Fixed Income

Fourth Quarter 2018 Yield Curves

Interest rates in the global developed markets generally decreased during the quarter.

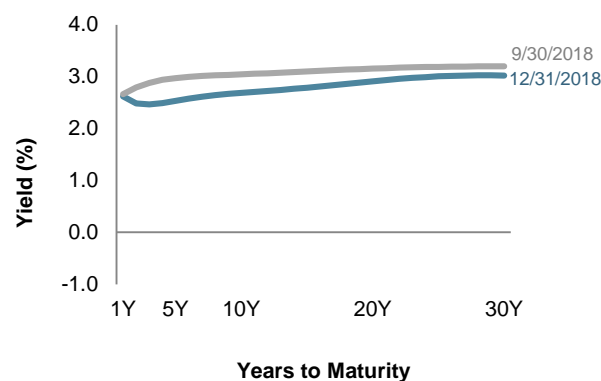
Longer-term bonds generally outperformed shorter-term bonds in the global developed markets.

For the year, longer-term bonds underperformed shorter-term bonds in the US but generally outperformed shorter-term bonds in the non-US developed markets.

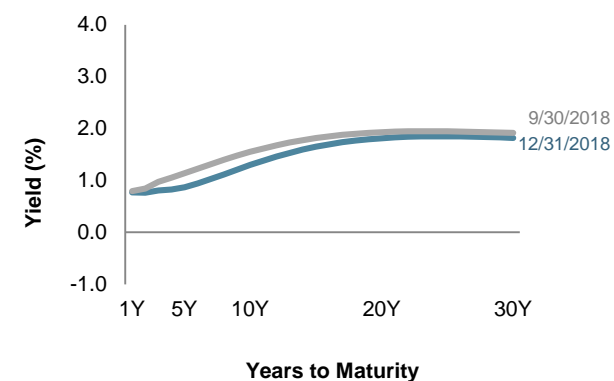
Changes in Yields (bps) since 9/30/2018

	1Y	5Y	10Y	20Y	30Y
US	-4.2	-44.0	-35.5	-24.4	-17.6
UK	-2.3	-26.9	-25.2	-11.6	-9.3
Germany	-15.2	-18.9	-21.8	-18.9	-19.6
Japan	-1.6	-9.3	-14.2	-14.6	-16.3

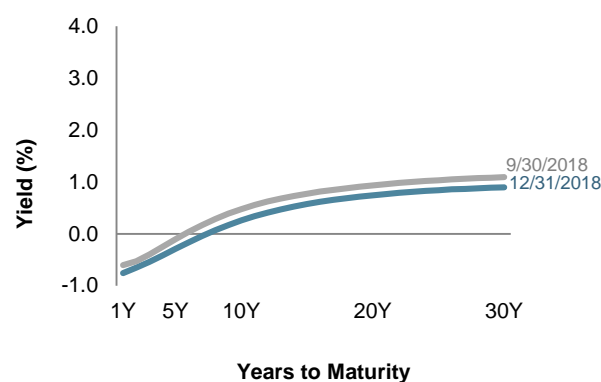
US



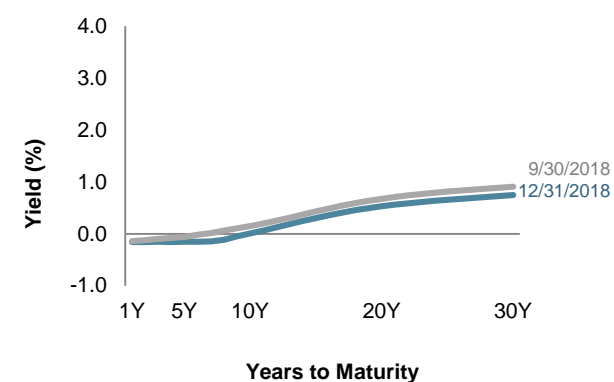
UK



Germany



Japan



Impact of Diversification

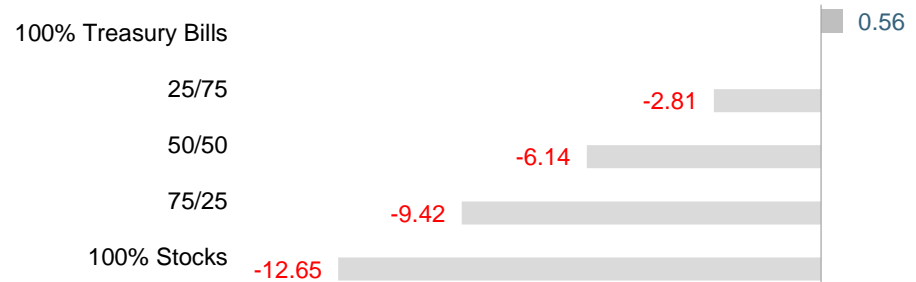
Fourth Quarter 2018 Index Returns

These portfolios illustrate the performance of different global stock/bond mixes and highlight the benefits of diversification. Mixes with larger allocations to stocks are considered riskier but have higher expected returns over time.

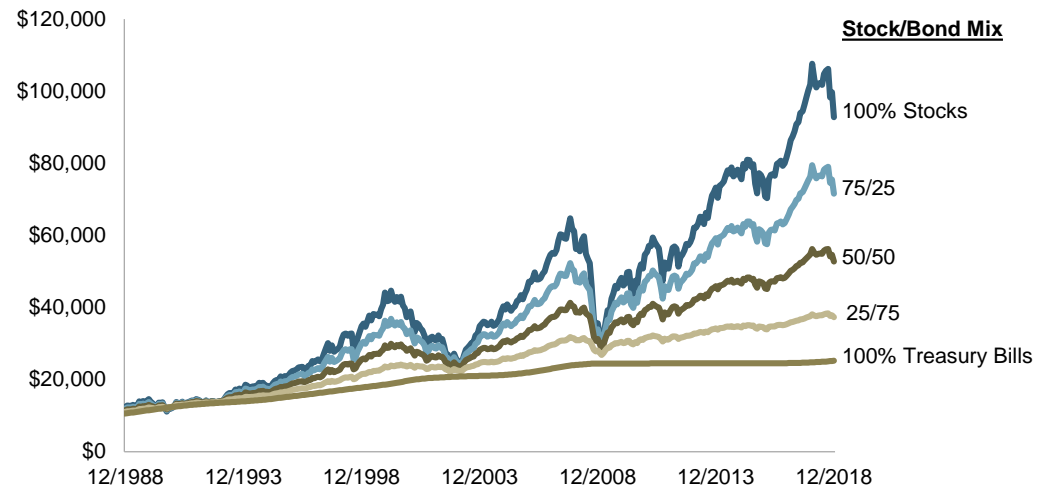
Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	* Annualized				
	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*	10-Year STDEV ¹
100% Treasury Bills	1.81	0.93	0.57	0.32	0.16
25/75	-0.82	2.57	1.73	2.88	3.65
50/50	-3.49	4.16	2.82	5.36	7.32
75/25	-6.19	5.70	3.86	7.75	10.98
100% Stocks	-8.93	7.18	4.82	10.05	14.65

Ranked Returns (%)



Growth of Wealth: The Relationship between Risk and Return



1. STDEV (standard deviation) is a measure of the variation or dispersion of a set of data points. Standard deviations are often used to quantify the historical return volatility of a security or portfolio. Diversification does not eliminate the risk of market loss. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Asset allocations and the hypothetical index portfolio returns are for illustrative purposes only and do not represent actual performance. Global Stocks represented by MSCI All Country World Index (gross div.) and Treasury Bills represented by US One-Month Treasury Bills. Globally diversified allocations rebalanced monthly, no withdrawals. Data © MSCI 2019, all rights reserved. Treasury bills © Stocks, Bonds, and Inflation Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefeld).

Why Should You Diversify?

Fourth Quarter 2018

As 2019 approaches, and with US stocks outperforming non-US stocks in recent years, some investors have again turned their attention towards the role that global diversification plays in their portfolios.

For the five-year period ending October 31, 2018, the S&P 500 Index had an annualized return of 11.34% while the MSCI World ex USA Index returned 1.86%, and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index returned 0.78%. As US stocks have outperformed international and emerging markets stocks over the last several years, some investors might be reconsidering the benefits of investing outside the US.

While there are many reasons why a US-based investor may prefer a degree of home bias in their equity allocation, using return differences over a relatively short period as the sole input into this decision may result in missing opportunities that the global markets offer. While international and emerging markets stocks have delivered disappointing returns relative to the US over the last few years, it is important to remember that:

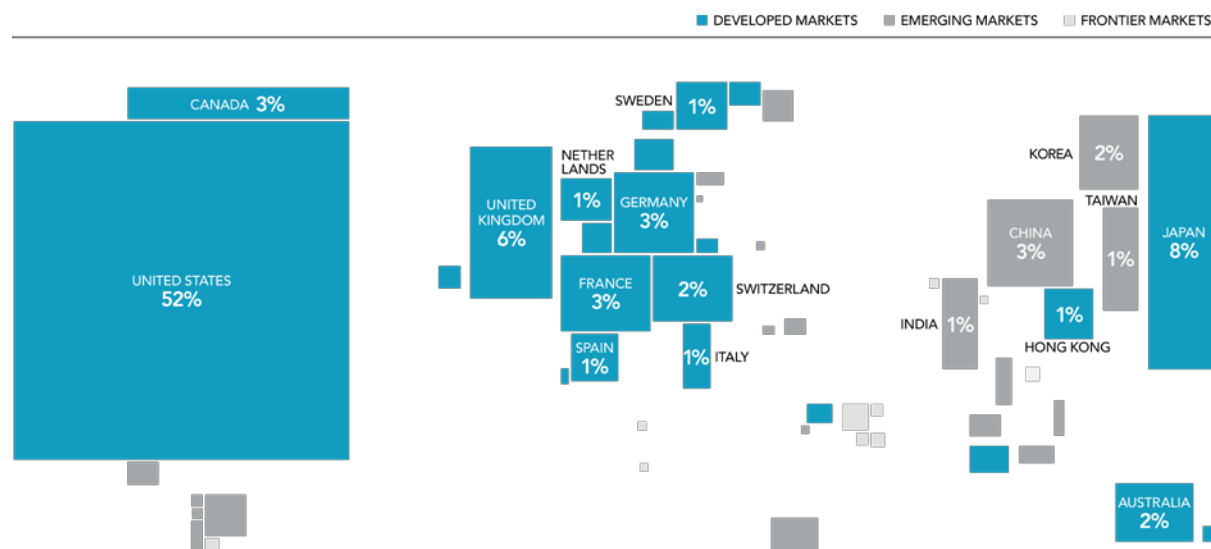
- Non-US stocks help provide valuable diversification benefits.
- Recent performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

THERE'S A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY IN EQUITIES

The global equity market is large and represents a world of investment opportunities. As shown in **Exhibit 1**, nearly half of the investment opportunities in global equity markets lie outside

the US. Non-US stocks, including developed and emerging markets, account for 48% of world market capitalization¹ and represent thousands of companies in countries all over the world. A portfolio investing solely within the US would not be exposed to the performance of those markets.

Exhibit 1. World Equity Market Capitalization



As of December 31, 2017. Data provided by Bloomberg. Market cap data is free-float adjusted and meets minimum liquidity and listing requirements. China market capitalization excludes A-shares, which are generally only available to mainland China investors. For educational purposes; should not be used as investment advice.

1. The total market value of a company's outstanding shares, computed as price times shares outstanding.

Why Should You Diversify?

(continued from page 21)

THE LOST DECADE

We can examine the potential opportunity cost associated with failing to diversify globally by reflecting on the period in global markets from 2000–2009. During this period, often called the “lost decade” by US investors, the S&P 500 Index recorded its worst ever 10-year performance with a total cumulative return of –9.1%. However, looking beyond US large cap equities, conditions were more favorable for global equity investors as most equity asset classes outside the US generated positive returns over the course of the decade. **(See Exhibit 2.)** Expanding beyond this period and looking at performance for each of the 11 decades starting in 1900 and ending in 2010, the US market outperformed the world market in five decades and underperformed in the other six.² This further reinforces why an investor pursuing the equity premium should consider a global allocation. By holding a globally diversified portfolio, investors are positioned to capture returns wherever they occur.

Exhibit 2. Global Index Returns, January 2000–December 2009

	Total Cumulative Return (%)
S&P 500 Index	–9.10
MSCI World ex USA Index (net div.)	17.47
MSCI World ex USA Value Index (net div.)	48.71
MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index (net div.)	94.33
MSCI Emerging Markets Index (net div.)	154.28
MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index (net div.)	212.72

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PICK A COUNTRY?

Concentrating a portfolio in any one country can expose investors to large variations in returns. The difference between the best- and worst-performing countries can be significant. For example, since 1998, the average return of the best-performing developed market country was approximately 44%, while the average return of the worst-performing country was approximately –16%. Diversification means an investor’s portfolio is unlikely to be the best or worst performing relative to any individual country, but diversification also provides a means to achieve a more consistent outcome and more importantly helps reduce and manage catastrophic losses that can be associated with investing in just a small number of stocks or a single country.

A DIVERSIFIED APPROACH

Over long periods of time, investors may benefit from consistent exposure in their portfolios to both US and non-US equities. While both asset classes offer the potential to earn positive expected returns in the long run, they may perform quite differently over short periods. While the performance of different countries and asset classes will vary over time, there is no reliable evidence that this performance can be predicted in advance. An approach to equity investing that uses the global opportunity set available to investors can provide diversification benefits as well as potentially higher expected returns.

2. Source: Annual country index return data from the Dimson-Marsh-Staunton (DMS) Global Returns Data, provided by Morningstar, Inc.

Important Disclosures

January, 2019

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