

CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICE

Capital Market Outlook

October 14, 2025

All data, projections and opinions are as of the date of this report and subject to change.

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World? While investors are focused on the day-to-day headlines, including the latest revival in tit-for-tat trade restrictions between the two largest economies in the world, China is busy refining its next “Five-Year Plan”. As with the prior 14, this plan will lay the groundwork for how China develops economically and socially between now and 2030. And the stakes are high for the rest of the world. For the U.S. and Europe, it could mean the widening or narrowing of China’s advantage across a range of technologies. After all, China is entering the next five years with an astounding lead in everything from robotics to drones to shipbuilding and beyond, backstopped by extensive physical infrastructure and lower electricity costs. For Emerging Markets (EM), this next Five-Year Plan could spell the difference between unlocking economic growth via greater share of global manufacturing and buckling under the weight of China’s ongoing export onslaught. We continue to urge an active¹ approach when investing in EMs and expect more U.S. investment in domestic manufacturing with potential beneficiaries including parts of Industrials, robotics, utility infrastructure and commodities.

Market View—*Q3 Earnings Season: Five Key Questions Investors Want Answers To:*

Top-of-mind questions from investors this earnings season include the following: The health of the U.S. consumer? The distribution costs of U.S. tariffs? The free cash flow effects of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA)? The weak U.S. dollar’s impact on earnings? And all things artificial intelligence (AI).

Our hunch is that firms will continue to speak about a bifurcated U.S. consumer and that the future costs of tariffs will increasingly be borne by consumers. We expect Q3 to be the first real quarter whereby firms give more explicit OBBBA-related free cash flow guidance. The weak U.S. dollar, in our opinion, could emerge as a significant catalyst for upside earnings surprises. And the narrative from the hyperscalers regarding their capital expenditures (capex) plans and commentary from AI users over adoption levels will be critical to the durability of the AI trade.

Thought of the Week—*The Bull Market Enters its Fourth Act* The bull market has officially crossed its third anniversary. Whether this advance can continue beyond this point will depend on fundamental factors, but history suggests this bull has more room to run. If the bull market extends through the next year, the fourth year of a bull market has historically delivered solid returns. The setup for stocks for the rest of the year looks bullish and, from a fundamental perspective, it is hard to argue with solid economic growth and a strong profit cycle. We therefore remain constructive on the outlook for U.S. Equities.

¹ Active management seeks to outperform benchmarks through active investment decisions such as asset allocation and investment selection.

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Portfolio Considerations

We maintain an overweight to Equities with a preference for U.S. Equities relative to the rest of the world, and still favor a significant allocation to bonds in a well-diversified portfolio. We used discretion at the end of September to lock in gains and rebalance portfolios back to desired tactical asset allocations as part of a disciplined portfolio management process.

Within our Alternative Investment strategy, we prefer new investment to favor Venture Capital and Growth Equity strategies.

Within Fixed Income, we still suggest that investors extend from cash where appropriate to their strategic duration target as the Federal Reserve (Fed) resumes its interest rate cut campaign. We believe current nominal and real yields should diversify equity and macro risk on a cyclical basis.

What Will China’s Next Five-Year Plan Mean for the Rest of the World?

Ariana Chiu, Assistant Vice President and Wealth Management Analyst

While investors are focused on the day-to-day headlines, including the latest revival in tit-for-tat trade restrictions between the two largest economies in the world, China is busy refining its next “Five-Year Plan”. As with the prior 14, this plan will lay the groundwork for how China develops economically and socially between now and 2030. Thus far, rumblings from the government and news outlets suggest that the next five years will continue to focus on leadership in science and technology, such as addressing the gap between China and the U.S. in advanced semiconductors.

This Five-Year Plan arrives at a critical juncture for the rest of the world. For the U.S. and Europe, it could mean the widening or narrowing of China’s advantage across a range of technologies. As Exhibit 1 makes clear, China is entering the next five years with an astounding lead in a number of strategic industrial activities. From robots to electric vehicles (EV) to nuclear reactors, you name it, China’s building it—and, in many cases, leading the rest of the world.

Exhibit 1: A Sample of China's Lead Over the Rest of the World.

	China	U.S.	Europe
Share of Industrial Robot Installation	54%	6%	16%
Share of Global Commercial Shipbuilding	53%	0.1%	2%
High Speed Rail Length in operation (km)	40,493	735	12,495
Share of Top-Tier AI Researchers	47%	18%	12%
Share of EV Production	72%	6%	14%
# of New Nuclear Reactors under Construction	32%	0	9
Share of Global Manufacturing Value-Add*	28%	17%	16%

Sources: International Federation of Robotics, Center for Strategic and International Studies, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, International Union of Railways, Paulson Institute, International Energy Agency, European Nuclear Society, *Breakneck: China's Quest to Engineer the Future*, World Bank. *Europe value refers to European Union. For all others, Europe is broader than the European Union. Latest annual data available. Data as of October 2025.

Power generation? China has twice the solar and wind capacity under construction as the rest of the world combined. Batteries? Two firms’ alone control nearly half of global EV battery production. Strategic minerals? China refines 99% of the world’s gallium, 95% of the world’s graphite, and 92% of the world’s rare earths, to name a few. Drones? A single company accounts for more than 90% of the global consumer drone market. Shipbuilding? China’s leading state-owned shipbuilder built more commercial vessels in 2024 alone than the entire U.S. shipbuilding industry has built since World War II. High-speed rail? China boasts a high-speed rail network longer than all other countries’ networks combined. You get the picture.²

Of course, this propensity and capacity to build has rested on physical infrastructure that is second to none. In China, most of the electric grid has been built or modernized in the last two decades. “Ultrahigh voltage transmission lines” carry electricity over long distances, enabling modern transport systems. The country now generates more electricity each year than the U.S. and European Union combined. As a result, and owing to its overflowing renewable capacity, China’s electricity prices have gone down, not up—something the U.S. and Europe each lack. It’s also much cheaper to build in China. The average cost to construct a high-speed line, for example, comes in at around \$33 million per mile, or some 40% cheaper than in Europe and 80% cheaper than California’s long-delayed high-speed rail project.³ It doesn’t hurt that the country has some 70 million industrial workers at its disposal or that science, technology, engineering, and mathematics graduates in China outnumber those in the U.S. by more than eight to one.⁴

In other words, for the U.S. and Europe to meaningfully reduce reliance on China for key technologies in the coming years, significant investment in domestic infrastructure and human capital will be required. Hence our bullish stance toward Industrials and Utilities which are primed to benefit from secular themes like greater reshoring and the buildout of AI

Investment Implications

Sectors like Industrials and Utilities are primed to benefit from secular themes like greater reshoring and the buildout of AI infrastructure, in our view. As competition between the U.S. and China intensifies, we expect AI to continue to be a central theme in both equity markets. Meanwhile, China’s export surge is likely to challenge various EM economies in Asia, Latin America and Africa as well as Europe.

² Paragraph sources: Global Energy Monitor (power generation); Center for European Policy Analysis (EV batteries); International Energy Agency (strategic minerals); Massachusetts Institute of Technology Review (drones); Center for Strategic and International Studies (shipbuilding); and *Breakneck: China's Quest to Engineer the Future* (high-speed rail).
³ Dan Wang, *Breakneck: China's Quest to Engineer the Future*, W.W. Norton & Company, 2025.
⁴ South China Morning Post, June 2025.

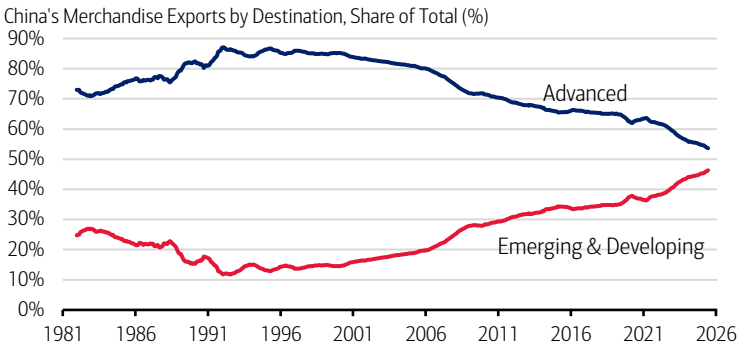
infrastructure. Investment in domestic production and reindustrialization should continue to be a key theme in Europe, which has been in the crosshairs of China’s rerouting of trade away from the U.S. this year.

Meanwhile, for EMs, China’s Five-Year Plan could spell the difference between unlocking economic growth via greater share of global manufacturing and buckling under the weight of China’s export onslaught. A blueprint more focused on boosting domestic consumption and China’s social safety net would create room for countries like India and Vietnam to emerge as manufacturing hubs.

And if 2025 has been any indication, the stakes for the emerging world in the coming years are high. China’s seismic trade surplus is now tracking at nearly \$1.2 trillion on an annualized basis—a true “China Shock” for EMs in Asia, Latin America and Africa who are increasingly collateral damage. To wit, 47% of China’s exports in the first half of 2025 went to emerging and developing economies, up from 36% at the start of the decade and 16% in 2000 (Exhibit 2A).⁵ Exports from China to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries alone rose by 14.5% year-over-year (YoY) through August.⁶ A similar pattern has been observed across Africa (+24.3%) and Latin America (+5.9% YoY), as Exhibit 2B highlights.⁴

Exhibit 2: Where Are China’s Exports Going?

2A) China Increasingly Counts on Emerging Economies to Absorb Exports.



2B) Year-to-Date Evidence of Trade Rerouting from China.

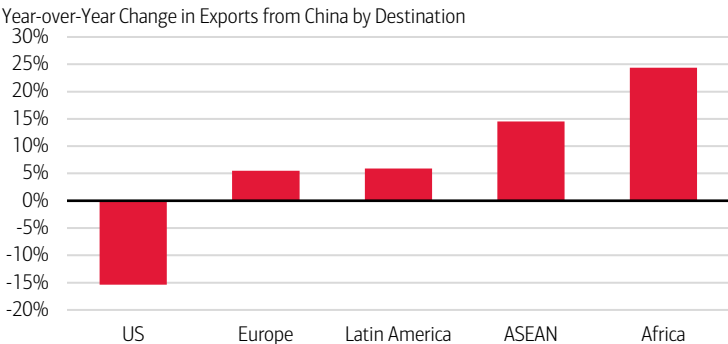


Exhibit 2A) Source: International Monetary Fund. Data as of October 6, 2025. Exhibit 2B) Source: China General Administration of Customs. Data through August, as of October 6, 2025.

And then there’s China. While its high-technology ascent has been impressive and will surely define U.S.-China relations for years to come, its pursuit of exports overall has come with its fair share of drawbacks. Subsidies have fueled market inefficiencies and relentless competition—hardly the recipe for margin expansion and healthy profits. Hence the government’s latest “anti-involution” campaign that hopes to correct overcapacity on the supply side. And yet true reform on the demand side is still missing. Weak consumer demand only raises the stakes on exports to continue driving economic growth, fueling concerns of prolonged deflation.

The Takeaway for Portfolios

There’s little doubt that China’s next Five-Year Plan will have implications for investors, particularly as it relates to the rest of the world’s reliance on strategic technologies. The U.S. has learned this lesson the hard way this year with export restrictions on rare earths continuing to be a key flashpoint for American corporates across sectors like Autos and Defense. While overall trade between the two largest economies in the world may be headed lower, U.S. corporates remain intertwined with China. This won’t change anytime soon.

Given this backdrop, we expect more U.S. investment in domestic manufacturing with potential beneficiaries including parts of Industrials, Robotics, Utility Infrastructure, and Commodities. At-home production is also likely to be a key theme for Europe’s economy in the years ahead as its producers’ grapple with U.S. protectionism and fierce competition from China along the value chain. In the emerging world, a Five-Year Plan that continues to prioritize production over consumption may serve as a lid on advancement for economies in Southeast Asia.

Meanwhile, the AI race is on and increasingly defines competition between the U.S. and China. We expect this competition to only intensify over the next five years. In the near term, we wouldn’t be surprised to see AI and AI-adjacent areas continue to dominate equity markets in both the U.S. and China as well as other AI-levered markets like South Korea and Taiwan. We remain overweight the U.S. and urge an active approach when investing in EMs.

⁵ International Monetary Fund. Data through first half of 2025, as of October 6, 2025.
⁶ China General Administration of Customs. Data through August 2025, as of October 6, 2025.

Q3 Earnings Season: Five Key Questions Investors Want Answers To

Joseph P. Quinlan, Managing Director and Head of CIO Market Strategy

It is that time of year—earnings season—and there is no shortage of questions investors want answers to. Top-of-mind questions include the following: What is the health of the U.S. consumer? What are the distribution costs of U.S. tariffs—who is eating it, in another words? What are the free cash flow effects of the OBBBA? How much has the weaker U.S. dollar added to corporate earnings? And all things AI—Is the hyperscaler capex boom set to slow, and what are AI adoption rates among companies?

What is the general health of the U.S. consumer? The health of the U.S. consumer is key to the profits of many companies, including U.S. banks, which kick off earnings season this week. For the past few quarters, the banks have highlighted the bifurcation among U.S. consumers, with high-income households better positioned to spend and borrow than to lower-income households struggling with rising costs associated with rents, healthcare, food, electricity and basic staples. Delinquency rates on credit cards, mortgages and auto loans have trended higher among lower-income cohorts. In contrast, high-income households have the wind at their back when it comes to spending thanks to the positive wealth effect from the three-year bull market in U.S. Equities and strong home price appreciation. Watch for banks (and retailers) to speak about a two-tiered U.S. consumer.

As Exhibit 3A illustrates, and **as a sign of a stable and steady U.S. consumer base, loan loss provisions from the top four U.S. banks⁷ have remained basically flat over the past few quarters. We expect more of the same in Q3**—which is a bullish indicator for the U.S. economy and earnings.

How are the costs of U.S. tariffs being distributed between companies and consumers? The cost of U.S. tariffs to Corporate America remains a known unknown since many firms have begun to slice and dice—spread out—the added costs of imported finished and intermediate goods. Over Q2, many companies were reluctant to pass on the costs to consumers, fearing a loss of sales and market share. In many cases (think autos, for example), companies worked off inventories, rejiggered global supply chains or absorbed the bulk of the price increases themselves in a bid to spare the consumer the pain of higher prices. That said, we suspect companies were not that generous in Q3—and won't be in the future.

To this point, according to the *Financial Times*, since April, “leading retailers have raised prices on 11 of 29 “soft line” products, such as T-shirts and shoes; 12 of 18 “hard lines,” such as bicycles and dishwashers; and five of 16 sporting goods items.”⁸ U.S. importers, retailers or U.S. consumers—who pays? Investors will be keenly attuned to who is footing the bill for higher tariffs. **Our hunch is that future costs will be increasingly borne by the consumer, with underlying consequences for profits, consumer spending and inflation expectations.**

How much free cash flow is being generated for corporations from OBBBA? While OBBBA only became law on July 4, 2025, a handful of firms have already explicitly mentioned the benefits of the law—think 100% bonus depreciation, immediate expensing of domestic research & development (R&D), increased tax deductions, enhanced after-tax income pass-throughs and related measures. All of the above is expected to generate more after-tax operating margins and, by extension, free cash flow, notably in capital-intensive and R&D-intensive sectors of the economy.

Investors, accordingly, will be listening carefully to how much free cash flow firms can expect in the near term, and their plans to deploy this capital. **We expect Q3 to be the first real quarter whereby firms give more explicit OBBBA-related free cash flow guidance.**

How much has the weak U.S. dollar turbocharged U.S. corporate earnings? Nothing makes for a more negative headline than the near-10% decline in the U.S. dollar this year, the steepest annual drop in decades. However, a little perspective is in order. The positive and less publicized offset is the boost in U.S. corporate earnings, with a weaker greenback a driver of rising exports and foreign earnings of U.S. multinationals. As Exhibit 3B shows, U.S.

Investment Implications

We expect a generally positive Q3 earnings performance, with earnings support stemming from a resilient U.S. consumer, dispersed costs related to tariffs, rising free cash flow, a weaker U.S. dollar and strong capex spending.

⁷ Includes JP Morgan, Citi, Wells Fargo and Bank of America.

⁸ See “Impact of Trump tariffs is beginning to show in US consumer prices,” *Financial Times*, October 5, 2025.

domestically focused companies have underperformed more globally oriented firms this year, and we suspect the divergence will become more pronounced as we head to year-end.

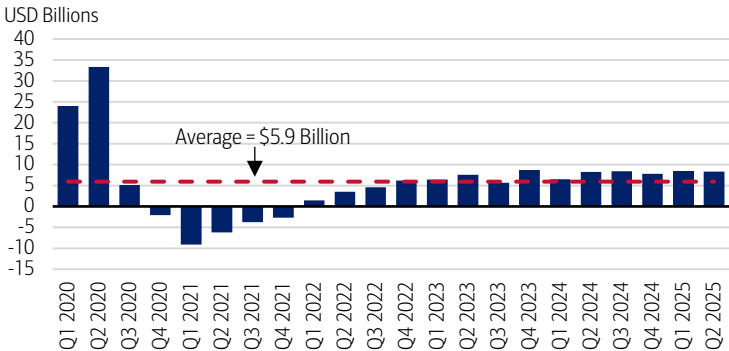
The weak U.S. dollar, in our opinion, could emerge as a significant catalyst for upside earnings surprises in Q3. And by sector, the most surprises could emanate from U.S. technology leaders, which are among the most globally exposed. Ditto for Materials. Among the least exposed—or most domestically focused: Healthcare and Utilities.

The AI super capex-cycle—Will the hyperscalers maintain their aggressive buildout plans, and is there any evidence that firms are leveraging AI to lower costs, boost productivity? The AI capex boom has some investors concerned that firms are spending too much on the AI infrastructure, creating parallels with the late 1990s dotcom boom and bust. As Exhibit 3C highlights, capex spending among the hyperscalers⁹ is expected to surge by over 50% this year to roughly \$345 billion and \$405 billion in 2026. Against this backdrop, investors will be listening carefully to any clues that firms are pulling back on spending owing to slower demand growth, free cash flow constraints, or tepid revenue expectations in key areas like cloud services. The stakes are huge since the bulk of the gains from the S&P 500 this year have been generated by mega-tech names. The effects on the real economy have been just as pronounced: As Exhibit 3D depicts, data center construction is now almost equal to spending on general office construction.

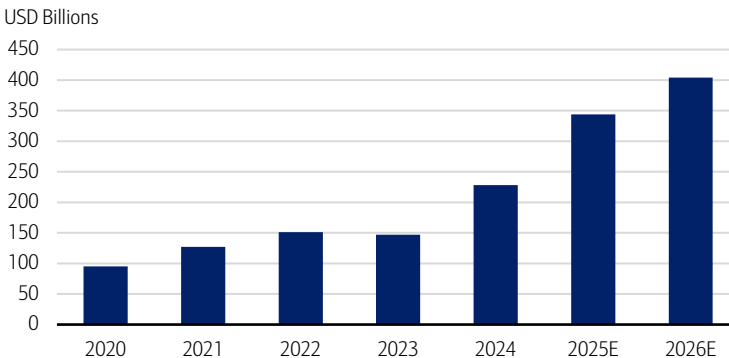
Investors will also be attuned to how firms are leveraging AI to their competitive advantage. Thus far, there have been no signs of AI decimating the U.S. labor market, and there remains a long runway for AI adoption across the corporate landscape. According to the Census Bureau, only 9.9% of U.S. survey report actively using AI-related technologies to drive growth and earnings. **Suffice it to say that the narrative from the hyperscalers regarding their capex plans and commentary from AI users over adoption levels will be critical to the durability of the AI trade.**

Exhibit 3: From the Consumer to Capex Spend: Key Things To Watch in Q3 Earnings Season.

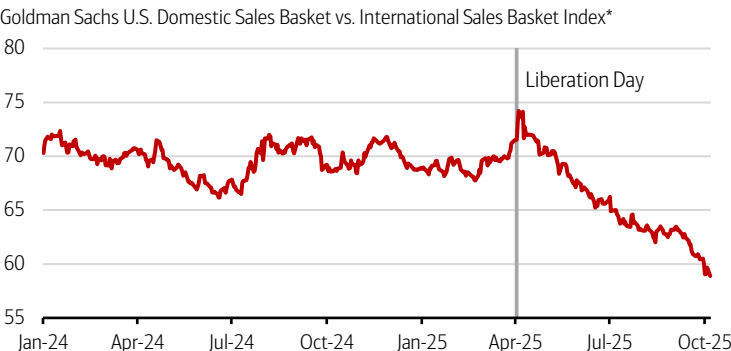
3A) What, Me Worry? Loan-Loss Provisions of Largest U.S. Banks.



3C) Hyperscaler Capex Spend Projected to Exceed \$400 Billion in 2026



3B) Stocks with Higher Domestic Sales Have Underperformed Amid Weaker Dollar.



3D) Data Center Construction Poised to Surpass General Office Construction.

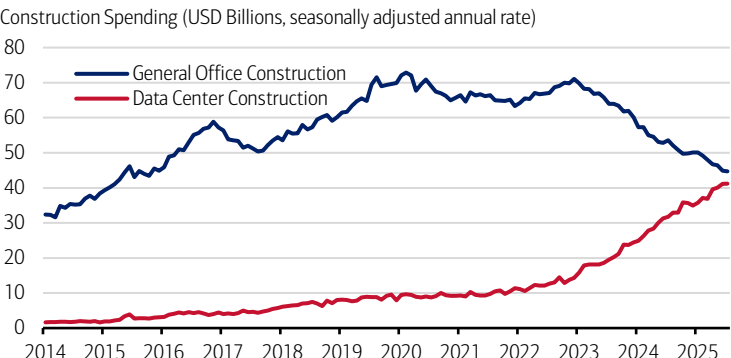


Exhibit 3A) Includes JP Morgan, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and Citigroup. Source: Bloomberg. Data as of October 6, 2025. Exhibit 3B) Domestic sales basket includes 50 S&P 500 stocks with highest international sales share. *Goldman Sachs U.S. Domestic vs. International Sales Index represents a custom basket pair trade that represents an equal notional pair trade of going long domestic sales and short international sales. Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs. Data as of October 6, 2025. Exhibit 3C) Includes Amazon, Alphabet, Meta and Microsoft. Source: FactSet, BofA Global Research. Data as of October 6, 2025. Exhibit 3D) Source: Census Bureau. Data through July 2025, as of September 2, 2025. Latest data available. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** Please refer to index definitions at the end of this report. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

⁹ Includes Alphabet, Amazon, Meta and Microsoft.

The Bull Market Enters its Fourth Act

Kirsten Cabacungan, Vice President and Investment Strategist

The bull market has officially crossed its third anniversary. The S&P 500 climbed over 13% over the past year, even as a stretch of tariff-related volatility in the spring nearly derailed the rally. That extends the total gain since this bull market began in October 2022 to 83%. Whether this advance can continue beyond this point will depend on fundamental factors, but history suggests this bull has more room to run. Among the only eight cyclical bull markets that reached a third birthday over the last several decades, the average duration was almost seven years long, with an average cumulative gain of around 234%, a promising sign that this bull market could have further to go. If the bull market extends through the next year, the fourth year of a bull market has historically delivered solid returns, averaging a gain of 15% by the end of the full year (Exhibit 4).

The bull market enters this next phase with strong momentum. Stocks are coming off their strongest September in 15 years, after the S&P 500 defied its typically weak seasonality period. The index also remains near record highs after capturing 23 new all-time highs in Q3, tying with Q4 2017 for the most in a single quarter since 1998. We believe the setup for the rest of the year looks even more bullish. Historically the last quarter tends to be the strongest for the S&P 500, averaging a 4.2% gain and finishing positive 80% of the time since 1950.

From a fundamental perspective, it is hard to argue with solid economic growth and a strong profit cycle. The Atlanta Fed GDPNow real gross domestic product (GDP) growth estimate for Q3 is tracking 3.8%, matching the strength from Q2. The Federal Reserve has also resumed its interest rate-cutting campaign to ease financial conditions and cushion any further softening in the labor market. And despite ongoing concerns about the impact of tariffs, corporate earnings have held up. In fact, Q2 marked a third consecutive quarter of double-digit YoY earnings per share growth for the S&P 500 Index, signaling the middle of an earnings cycle, not its end. Not to mention, structural forces, including increased investment in AI and a continued shift toward a more digital economy, are building the foundation for higher productivity and resilient earnings growth. Over the longer term, these megatrends should help extend the runway for stocks.

Portfolio Considerations

In our view, U.S. Equities remain well positioned to deliver attractive returns on an absolute and relative basis over the longer term, given the U.S. maintains the best exposure to the primary growth engines of the future. That keeps us slightly overweight U.S. Equities, including both Large- and Small-caps as well as Growth and Value, and constructive on cyclical sectors.

Exhibit 4: Year 4 Tends To Be Strong For Bull Markets.

Bull Markets		S&P 500 Price Return for Each Full Year of a Bull Market											
Start	End	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
6/13/1949	8/2/1956	42%	12%	13%	-2%	20%	39%	17%	x				
10/22/1957	12/12/1961	31%	10%	-5%	28%	x							
6/26/1962	2/9/1966	33%	17%	2%	x								
10/7/1966	11/29/1968	33%	7%	x									
5/26/1970	1/11/1973	44%	11%	x									
10/3/1974	11/28/1980	38%	21%	-7%	6%	7%	18%	x					
8/12/1982	8/25/1987	58%	2%	13%	30%	37%	x						
12/4/1987	3/24/2000	21%	29%	-7%	16%	14%	8%	-2%	35%	21%	31%	21%	22%
10/9/2002	10/9/2007	34%	8%	7%	13%	16%	x						
3/9/2009	2/19/2020	69%	16%	4%	13%	21%	11%	-4%	19%	18%	-2%	x	
3/23/2020	1/3/2022	75%	x										
10/12/2022	?	22%	34%	13%									
Average		42%	15%	4%	15%	19%	19%	3%	27%	20%	15%	21%	22%

Reflects the returns during each full year of a bull market. Green shading reflects a positive return. Red shading reflects a negative return. Yellow shading reflects the full year period when a bull market ended. Sources: Bloomberg, Yardeni Research, CFRA Research. Data as of October 10, 2025. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** Please refer to index definitions at the end of this report. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Equities

Total Return in USD (%)				
	Current	WTD	MTD	YTD
DJIA	45,479.60	-2.7	-1.9	8.3
NASDAQ	22,204.43	-2.5	-2.0	15.6
S&P 500	6,552.51	-2.4	-2.0	12.5
S&P 400 Mid Cap	3,161.88	-3.8	-3.1	2.5
Russell 2000	2,394.60	-3.3	-1.7	8.5
MSCI World	4,237.72	-2.3	-1.6	15.6
MSCI EAFE	2,757.98	-1.9	-0.3	24.8
MSCI Emerging Markets	1,365.67	-0.6	1.5	29.4

Fixed Income†

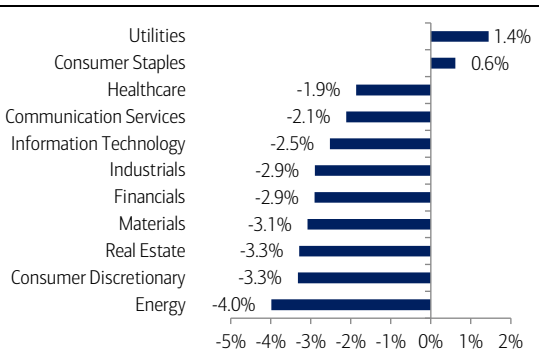
Total Return in USD (%)				
	Current	WTD	MTD	YTD
Corporate & Government	4.18	0.35	0.56	6.52
Agencies	4.01	0.29	0.43	5.33
Municipals	3.62	0.32	0.53	3.19
U.S. Investment-Grade Credit	4.30	0.33	0.58	6.75
International	4.78	0.11	0.40	7.30
High Yield	6.99	-0.73	-0.62	6.55
90 Day Yield	3.94	3.95	3.93	4.31
2 Year Yield	3.50	3.58	3.61	4.24
10 Year Yield	4.03	4.12	4.15	4.57
30 Year Yield	4.62	4.71	4.73	4.78

Commodities & Currencies

Total Return in USD (%)				
	Current	WTD	MTD	YTD
Commodities				
Bloomberg Commodity	259.92	-1.1	-0.4	8.9
WTI Crude \$/Barrel††	58.90	-3.3	-5.6	-17.9
Gold Spot \$/Ounce††	4017.79	3.4	4.1	53.1

Total Return in USD (%)				
Currencies	Current	Prior Week End	Prior Month End	2024 Year End
EUR/USD	1.16	1.17	1.17	1.04
USD/JPY	151.19	147.47	147.90	157.20
USD/CNH	7.15	7.14	7.13	7.34

S&P Sector Returns



Sources: Bloomberg, Factset. Total Returns from the period of 10/06/2025 to 10/10/2025. †Bloomberg Barclays Indices. ††Spot price returns. All data as of the 10/10/2025 close. Data would differ if a different time period was displayed. Short-term performance shown to illustrate more recent trend. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Economic Forecasts (as of 10/10/2025)

	Q1 2025A	Q2 2025A	Q3 2025A	Q4 2025E	2025E	2026E
Real global GDP (% y/y annualized)	-	-	-	-	3.2	3.0
Real U.S. GDP (% q/q annualized)	-0.6	3.8	2.7*	1.6	2.0	1.9
CPI inflation (% y/y)	2.7	2.5	2.9*	3.1	2.8	3.0
Core CPI inflation (% y/y)	3.1	2.8	3.1*	3.1	3.0	2.9
Unemployment rate (%)	4.1	4.2	4.3*	4.4	4.2	4.5
Fed funds rate, end period (%)	4.38	4.38	4.13	3.88	3.88	3.13

The forecasts in the table above are the base line view from BofA Global Research. The Global Wealth & Investment Management (GWIM) Investment Strategy Committee (ISC) may make adjustments to this view over the course of the year and can express upside/downside to these forecasts. Historical data is sourced from Bloomberg, FactSet, and Haver Analytics. **There can be no assurance that the forecasts will be achieved. Economic or financial forecasts are inherently limited and should not be relied on as indicators of future investment performance.**

A = Actual. E = Estimate. *Data as of October 10, 2025.
Sources: BofA Global Research; GWIM ISC as of October 10, 2025.

Asset Class Weightings (as of 10/7/2025)

Asset Class	CIO View		
	Underweight	Neutral	Overweight
Global Equities	●	●	●
U.S. Large-cap Growth	●	●	●
U.S. Large-cap Value	●	●	●
U.S. Small-cap Growth	●	●	●
U.S. Small-cap Value	●	●	●
International Developed	●	●	●
Emerging Markets	●	●	●
Global Fixed Income	●	●	●
U.S. Governments	●	●	●
U.S. Mortgages	●	●	●
U.S. Corporates	●	●	●
International Fixed Income	●	●	●
High Yield	●	●	●
U.S. Investment-grade	●	●	●
Tax Exempt	●	●	●
U.S. High Yield Tax Exempt	●	●	●
Alternative Investments*			
Hedge Strategies			
Private Equity & Credit			
Real Assets			
Cash			

*Many products that pursue Alternative Investment strategies, specifically Private Equity and Hedge Funds, are available only to qualified investors. CIO asset class views are relative to the CIO Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA) of a multi-asset portfolio. Source: Chief Investment Office as of October 7, 2025. All sector and asset allocation recommendations must be considered in the context of an individual investor's goals, time horizon, liquidity needs and risk tolerance. Not all recommendations will be in the best interest of all investors.

CIO Equity Sector Views

Sector	CIO View		
	Underweight	Neutral	Overweight
Financials	●	●	●
Utilities	●	●	●
Consumer Discretionary	●	●	●
Industrials	●	●	●
Communication Services	●	●	●
Information Technology	●	●	●
Real Estate	●	●	●
Healthcare	●	●	●
Consumer Staples	●	●	●
Materials	●	●	●
Energy	●	●	●

Index Definitions

Securities indexes assume reinvestment of all distributions and interest payments. Indexes are unmanaged and do not take into account fees or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Indexes are all based in U.S. dollars.

S&P 500 Index is a stock market index tracking the stock performance of 500 leading companies listed on stock exchanges in the United States.

S&P 500 Price Return Index is a stock market index tracking the stock performance of 500 leading companies listed on stock exchanges in the United States, price return represents the return generated by price changes in the S&P 500 index. The return from reinvesting dividends distributed by the companies in the index is labeled as the dividend return. Total return is the sum of the price return and dividend return.

Goldman Sachs U.S. Domestic Index and International Sales Index is a custom basket pair trade that represents an equal notional pair trade of going long Domestic Sales and short International Sales. Performance reflects each side rebalanced back to equal notional at the close of each trading day.

Important Disclosures

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Alternative Investments are speculative and involve a high degree of risk.

Alternative investments are intended for qualified investors only. Alternative Investments such as derivatives, hedge funds, private equity funds, and funds of funds can result in higher return potential but also higher loss potential. Changes in economic conditions or other circumstances may adversely affect your investments. Before you invest in alternative investments, you should consider your overall financial situation, how much money you have to invest, your need for liquidity and your tolerance for risk.

Nonfinancial assets, such as closely-held businesses, real estate, fine art, oil, gas and mineral properties, and timber, farm and ranch land, are complex in nature and involve risks including total loss of value. Special risk considerations include natural events (for example, earthquakes or fires), complex tax considerations, and lack of liquidity. Nonfinancial assets are not in the best interest of all investors. Always consult with your independent attorney, tax advisor, investment manager, and insurance agent for final recommendations and before changing or implementing any financial, tax, or estate planning strategy.

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