

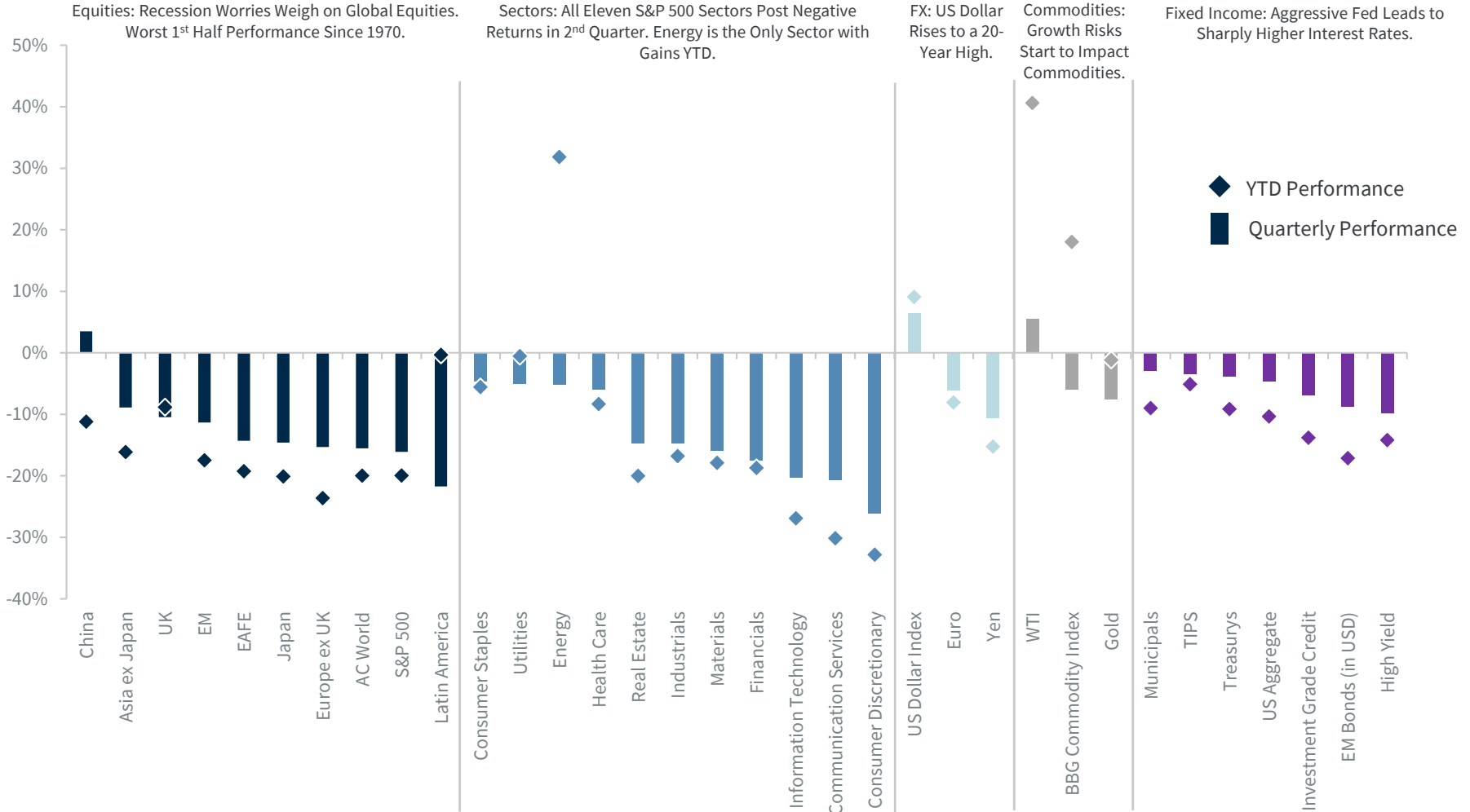


CIO View
Monthly Strategy Snapshot
July 2022

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Chief Investment Officer

Returns By Asset Class | Quarter and Year-to-Date Returns

Returns by Asset Class



Data as of June 30, 2022. All international equity indices are MSCI indices and in USD. Diamonds represent the year-to-date total returns and bars represent monthly returns.

Global Economy | Slowdown Fears Accelerate

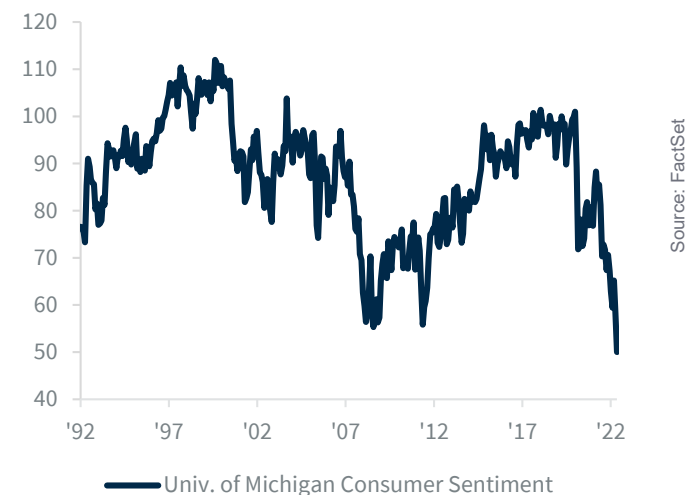
Global Economy | Recent Trends

- **The final revision to 1st quarter GDP showed the US economy declined -1.6%** from the initial estimate of -1.5%. While the downward revision was modest, the composition of growth changed dramatically. Of concern was the sharp downward revision to personal spending, which called into question the health of the consumer.
- **Rising gas prices and surging borrowing costs continue to weigh on consumer sentiment**, which has recently fallen to a multi-year low. While the unemployment rate remains low (3.6%), the pace of monthly job gains is moderating.
- An unexpected increase in the preliminary Univ. of Michigan inflation expectations report (+3.3%) and further gains in the headline inflation (8.6%) rate caused **the Fed to deliver an outsized 75 basis point rate hike at its June meeting**, its largest rate hike since 1994. This pushed the fed funds rate to a range of 1.50% to 1.75%.
- **Euro zone inflation (+8.1%) has continued to rise due to surging energy costs**, its highest level since the inception of the European Union in 1999. The upside surprise is catching the attention of the European Central Bank (ECB).
- **China's economy remains out of sync with its western counterparts**. While the government's anti-virus lockdowns slowed economic activity, recent indicators (i.e., retail sales, industrial production and the Caixin PMI) have improved due to easing restrictions.

Global Economy | 12-Month Outlook

- Consumers are getting squeezed by higher prices and surging borrowing costs, raising concerns about an impending recession. **We do not expect a recession this year, but the odds of a recession in 2023 are rising.** However, if one does materialize, we would expect it to be mild compared to past recessions.
- Rising oil prices have kept headline inflation elevated for longer than we expected, but **the factors driving inflation higher** (i.e., commodity prices, retail inventories, transportation costs) **are now starting to reverse.** We think inflation will move lower over the next 12 months.
- **The Fed has signaled that it intends to hike interest rates** until it sees tangible evidence that inflation is heading back toward its 2.0% target. If inflation evolves as we expect it to, the Fed may not need to move interest rates well into restrictive territory (above 3.5%).
- Europe continues to be in the crosshairs of the Russia/Ukraine conflict. **With Russia starting to cut off gas supplies, growth risks in Europe are firmly tilted to the downside.** Despite recession fears, the ECB is expected to hike interest rates as inflation surges to new highs.
- **China's growth should rebound in the 2nd half of the year** as the economy re-opens from its two-month lockdown. Further fiscal and monetary support should boost growth.

Depressed Consumer Sentiment



Prolonged Peak in Headline Inflation



Equities | Recession Fears Weigh on Stocks

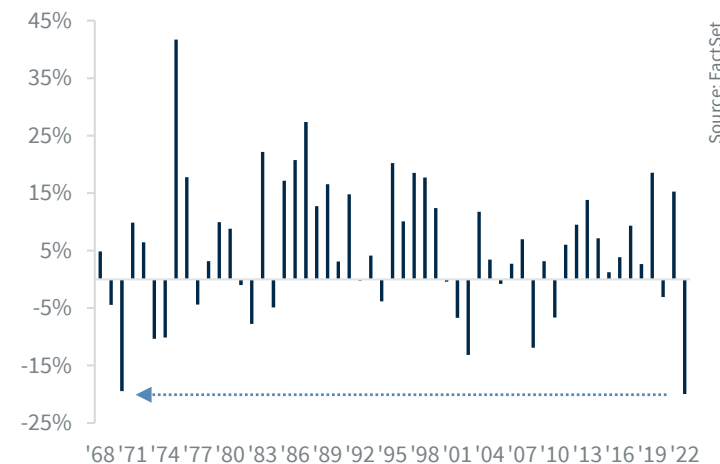
Global Equities | Recent Trends

- **Equity markets remain in risk-off mode** as tightening financial conditions, inflation uncertainty and aggressive central bank action continue to weigh on sentiment. US stocks moved lower in June, with the S&P 500 suffering its worst 1st half (-20%) since 1970.
- **All eleven S&P 500 sectors posted sharp losses during the quarter**, led by Consumer Discretionary (-26.2%), Info Technology (-20.2%) and Communication Services (-20.7%). The steep sector specific quarterly losses are similar to the losses which occurred during prior recessions.
- **Despite rising recession concerns, US earnings estimates continue to grind higher.** 2022 consensus earnings have risen to \$227, up from \$221 at the start of the year. Multiple compression remains the key driver of market performance, with the S&P 500's forward-earning multiple falling from 21.5x to 15.9x.
- **Developed market international stocks remained under pressure** as central banks in Europe became increasingly hawkish, stoking fears of stagflation. Performance varied across the region, with the oil producing countries (i.e., Norway & the UK) faring the best.
- **Emerging market equities** finished the quarter lower (-11.3%), but outperformed US and developed market stocks. Chinese stocks recovered as COVID restrictions were lifted.

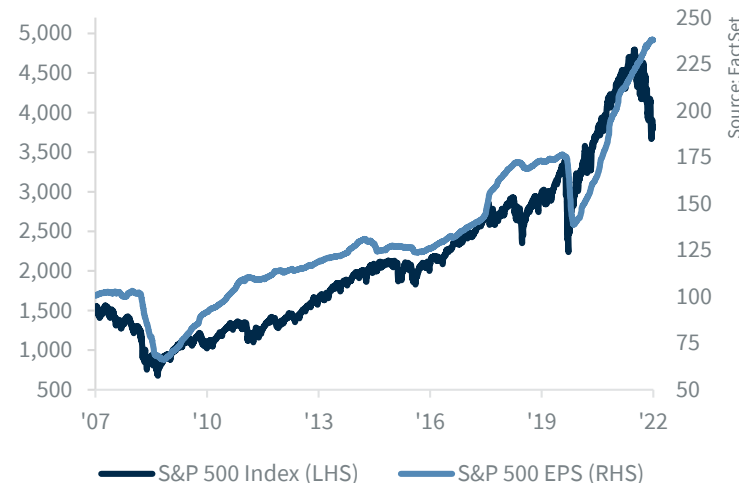
Global Equities | 12-Month Outlook

- Equity markets have entered bear territory as the market adjusts to a normalizing economy and tighter financial conditions. With the market already discounting a mild recession, we maintain our **2022 year-end price target for the S&P 500 at 4,180** (\$220 EPS and a 19x multiple).
- Recession fears, the near-term path for inflation and a hawkish Fed will likely to keep volatility elevated in the coming months. However, if the economy evolves as we expect, we think equities will rebound. **We have a 12-month forecast of 4,400.**
- **Our longer-term bias toward US equities remains intact** as US stocks continue to benefit from stronger earnings growth, better profitability and a more resilient economy. We favor Financials, Energy and Health Care.
- The **European economy is at risk for a greater slowdown** given its proximity to the conflict in the region and dependency on Russia oil. Depressed sentiment and the ECB tightening into a growth slowdown does not bode well for European equities.
- **China's reopening from its two-month lockdown will be supportive for Emerging Markets and EM Asian equities.** While China's growth has been weak, further fiscal and monetary support and multi-year low valuations should provide a tailwind to the region.

S&P 500 Posts Worst 1st Half Since 1970

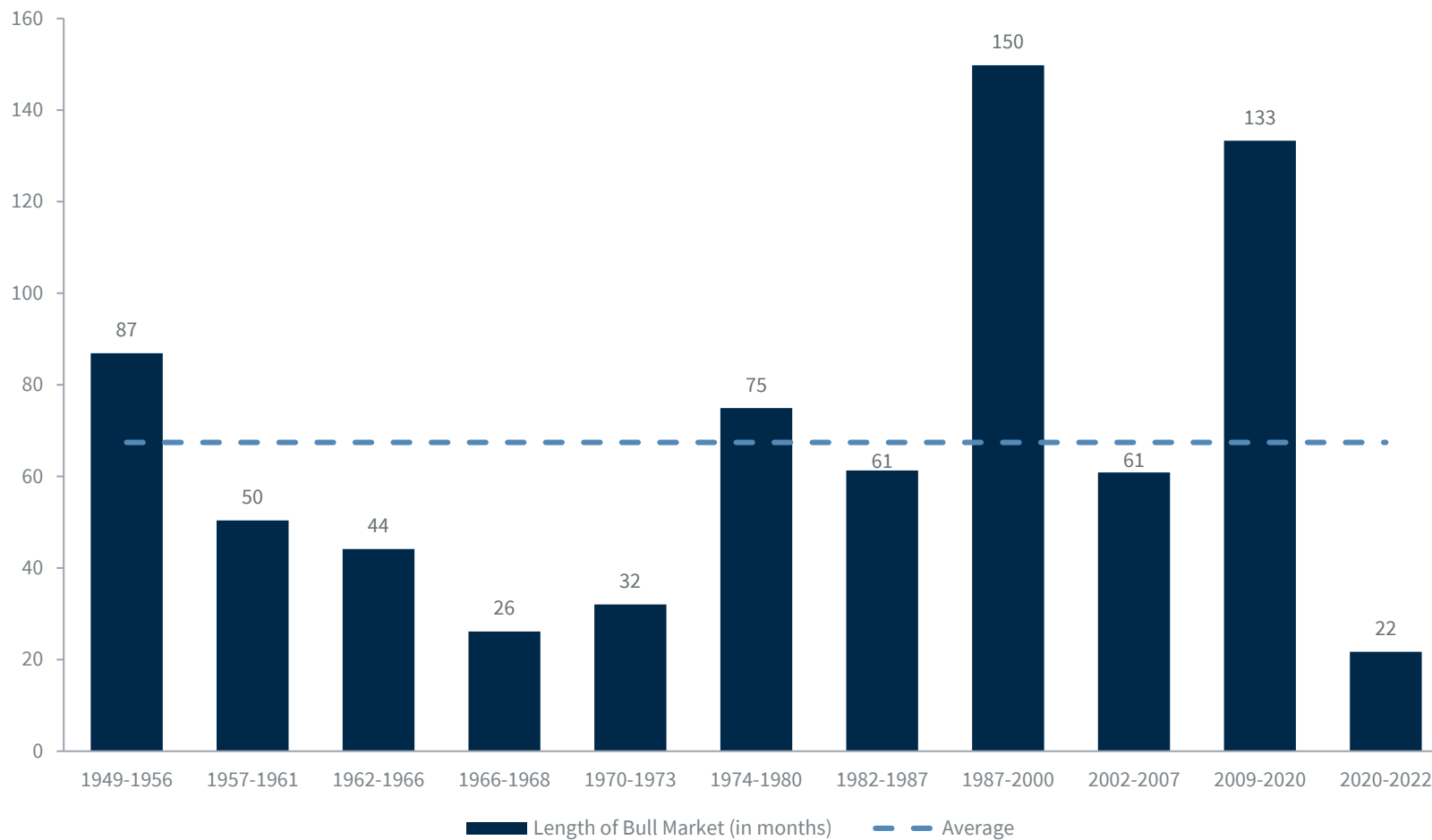


Equities Ultimately Follow Earnings



HISTORICALLY BAD START TO THE YEAR FOR EQUITY MARKETS

SHORTEST BULL MARKET ON RECORD



Source: FactSet, Data as of 6/30/2022.

Fixed Income | Yields Fall on Growth Concerns

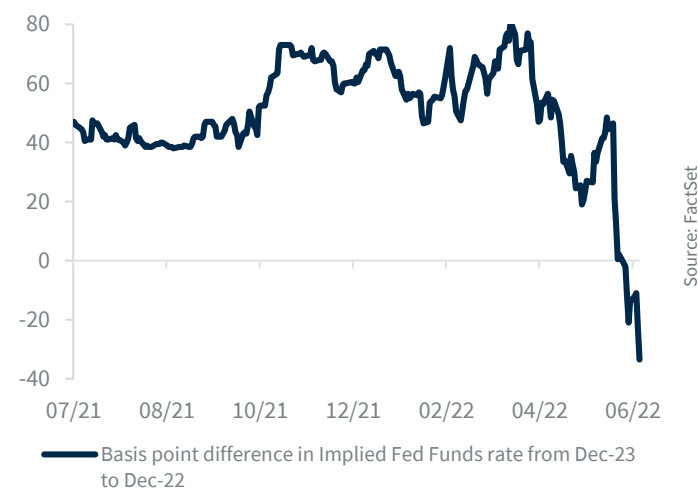
Global Bonds | Recent Trends

- **Treasury yields continue to climb as the Fed signals that fighting inflation is its top priority.** 2-year and 10-year Treasury yields soared to ~3.4% and ~3.5% in mid-June, before dropping down to 2.93% and 2.98% at the end of the quarter.
- **Weakening economic data has caused the market to walk back its expectations for the peak fed funds rate.** After hitting an intra-month high of nearly 4%, the market now expects a ~3.5% peak, with rate cuts commencing by the end of 2023.
- **The Bloomberg US Aggregate Index declined 10.4% in the 1st half of 2022**, by far the worst performance on record since the inception of the Index in 1976. The only times bond returns were negative on a calendar year basis occurred in '94 (-2.9%), '13 (-2.0%) and '21 (-1.5%).
- **Investment grade corporates (-14.4% YTD) and high yield debt (-14.2% YTD) have had equally poor performance.** Credit spreads have continued to widen with a mild recession scenario starting to get priced in. This pushed investment-grade and high-yield spreads 39 and 244 basis points wider during the quarter.
- **Market based measures of inflation implied in breakeven rates (the difference between Treasury yields and real yields) continue to decline.** The closely watched 5-year breakeven rate, which has been rising in tandem with gas prices, fell another ~40 basis points this month to 2.58% and is now nearly 1.0 % lower than its peak in mid-March.

Global Bonds | 12-Month Outlook

- **The Fed has responded more forcefully to prolonged inflationary pressures.** While the Fed knows it cannot control inflation stemming from Russia/Ukraine war and China's two-month lockdown, it is concerned about unanchoring inflation expectations. Due to a more aggressive Fed, **we are lifting our year-end target for the 10-year Treasury to 2.85%.**
- However, with growth expectations decelerating and inflation expectations now rolling over, we think 10-year Treasuries have likely peaked. **Our 12-month forecast for the 10-year Treasury is 2.65%.**
- Tightening financial conditions and a rising probability of a recession should push credit spreads wider. However, **we think investment grade credit is attractive as rates have reset and spreads are already priced for a mild recession.** However, high-yield bond spreads have room to widen further if a recession materializes.
- We think **muni bonds offer an attractive entry point for investors** after the substantial sell-off in the 1st half of the year. While fund flows have exacerbated the moves this year, the seasonal pattern of net-negative supply in the coming months should provide a technical tailwind.

Market Anticipates Rate Cuts in 2023



Credit Spreads Widen on Growth Concerns



Commodities & Currencies | Peak Commodities?

Commodities & Currencies | Recent Trends

- Recession fears drove commodity prices sharply lower on the quarter, with the exception of energy. Broad-based weakness in the sub-indices led the **Bloomberg Commodity Index down 5.9% for the quarter**, but still up 18% YTD.
- Weakening economic growth prospects caused **oil prices to tumble from over \$120 to \$105 in June**, however prices were up ~6% during the quarter. G-7 leaders explored the idea of capping the price of Russian oil, without providing any specifics on how it could work.
- Industrial metals prices have plummeted, falling 9.9% in June and were down 26.5% on the quarter. **Copper, which is widely viewed as a barometer for the health of the global economy, tumbled 13.6% in June and fell 21.7% during the quarter.**
- For the first time ever, the **national average retail gasoline price soared above \$5 a gallon** before retreating to \$4.87 at month's end. With Americans now paying ~\$1.80 more per gallon than they did a year ago, it is not surprising that President Biden is proposing a gas tax holiday to ease the pressure.
- **The US dollar surged to its strongest level versus the euro and the Japanese Yen in over 20-years, rising 6.5% during the quarter and up 9.1% YTD.** Expectations for aggressive Fed tightening, capital flows and souring risk appetite have continued to underpin the US dollar in the first six months of the year.

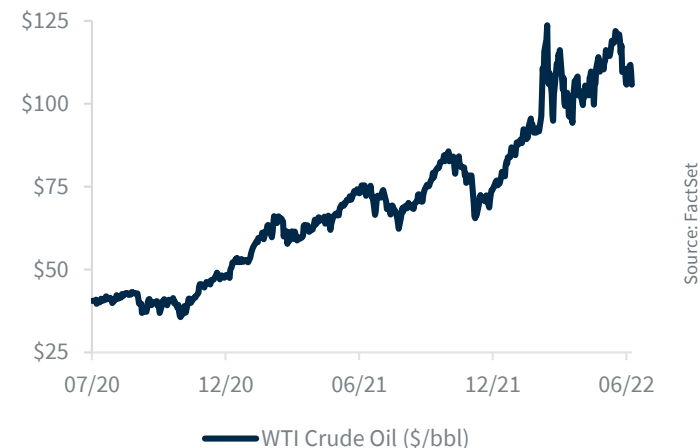
Commodities & Currencies | 12-Month Outlook

- Rising oil prices are reducing consumer's spending power and depressing sentiment. This has raised concerns that the US economy may be going into a recession. **Growth fears have caused commodity prices to retreat from their recent peaks.**
- While increased production from the US and other OPEC countries could stem the rise in oil prices, we think a peaceful resolution to the Russia/Ukraine crisis will be needed to allow oil prices to fall sustainably below \$100/barrel. **Therefore, we have raised our year-end oil target to \$105 per barrel.**
- **Clean energy solutions, such as solar and wind**, will remain in the limelight amid the current energy crisis. Dramatic shifts in the European Union's energy policy should underpin green investments as the EU looks to expeditiously reduce its dependency on Russia for its energy needs.
- **The US dollar should remain elevated in the near term** as the Fed continues to front-load its tightening cycle relative other central banks. However, with Fed rate hikes being pared back and the European Central Bank (ECB) expected to kick off its tightening cycle earlier than expected, a key source of the dollar's strength may soon start to fade.

Copper Prices Plummet on Growth Concerns



Oil Prices Retreat from Recent Peak



Summary | Views and Key 2022 Year-End Targets

1 ECONOMY

2022 US GDP: ~2.0%

We do not see a recession this year, as the economy is still being supported by a robust labor market, healthy balance sheets and tailwinds from the reopening. We expect GDP to grow at a 2% pace in 2022. However, the sharp tightening in financial conditions is raising the probability of a recession in 2023. If a recession does materialize, we think it would be very mild compared to prior recessions.

2 BOND MARKET

2022 10-Year Treasury: 2.85%

The Fed is forcefully responding to prolonged inflation pressures, which has led to a rapid tightening in financial conditions. With growth now decelerating and inflation expectations rolling over, bond yields should find some support. Given the historic moves in interest rates over the last six months, bonds now have the most generous yields in over a decade. We favor Treasuries, higher-quality corporate bonds and municipals.

3 EQUITIES

2022 S&P 500: 4,180

Geopolitical events, an increasingly hawkish Fed and sharp increases in bond yields have weighed on sentiment and pushed the S&P 500 into bear territory. With the market now fully discounting a mild recession, we think rewards outweigh the risks going forward. Attractive valuations, mid-single digit earnings growth, increased dividends and robust buybacks should support the market and we have a year end and 12-month price target of 4,180 (\$220 EPS and 19x P/E) and 4,400 for the S&P.

4 DOLLAR DIRECTION

2022 EUR/USD: 1.07

The US dollar continues to benefit from stronger economic growth, favorable interest rate differentials and consistent flows into US assets. The dollar should continue to find support as long as the Russia/Ukraine conflict persists, and the Federal Reserve is poised to out-tighten the rest of the world. However, with the European Central Bank about to kick off its tightening program and US growth downshifting, a key source of support for the dollar could start to fade.

5 OIL

2022 Oil: ~\$105/barrel

Elevated and continually increasing commodity prices remain the biggest risk to our economic outlook, and risk assets in general. While increased US and OPEC production could help alleviate some of the near-term pressures on energy prices, we think a peaceful resolution to the Russia/Ukraine crisis will be needed to see oil prices sustainably fall below \$100/barrel. Our year-end price target for oil is \$105/barrel.

6 VOLATILITY

Volatility: ↑

Volatility is likely to remain elevated given the current macro backdrop. Possible triggers include, ongoing geopolitical uncertainty, elevated commodity prices, still snarled supply chains, persistently high inflation, concerns about a Fed-induced policy error, the rapid reduction in liquidity from central bank quantitative tightening programs, the upcoming midterm elections, or any new variant that leads to another COVID wave.

DISCLOSURES

Diversification does not ensure a profit or guarantee against a loss

INTERNATIONAL INVESTING | International investing involves additional risks such as currency fluctuations, differing financial accounting standards, and possible political and economic instability. These risks are greater in emerging markets.

SECTORS | Sector investments are companies engaged in business related to a specific economic sector and are presented herein for illustrative purposes only and should not be considered as the sole basis for an investment decision. Sectors are subject to fierce competition and their products and services may be subject to rapid obsolescence. There are additional risks associated with investing in an individual sector, including limited diversification.

OIL | Investing in oil involves special risks, including the potential adverse effects of state and federal regulation and may not be suitable for all investors.

CURRENCIES | Investing in currencies is generally considered speculative because of the significant potential for investment loss. Their markets are likely to be volatile and there may be sharp price fluctuations even during periods when prices overall are rising.

GOLD | Gold is subject to the special risks associated with investing in precious metals, including but not limited to: price may be subject to wide fluctuation; the market is relatively limited; the sources are concentrated in countries that have the potential for instability; and the market is unregulated.

FIXED INCOME | Fixed-income securities (or “bonds”) are exposed to various risks including but not limited to credit (risk of default of principal and interest payments), market and liquidity, interest rate, reinvestment, legislative (changes to the tax code), and call risks. There is an inverse relationship between interest rate movements and fixed income prices. Generally, when interest rates rise, fixed income prices fall and when interest rates fall, fixed income prices generally rise.

US TREASURIES | US Treasury securities are guaranteed by the US government and, if held to maturity, generally offer a fixed rate of return and guaranteed principal value.

US DOLLAR | The US Dollar Index is an index (or measure) of the value of the United States dollar relative to a basket of foreign currencies,[1] often referred to as a basket of U.S. trade partners' currencies.[2] The Index goes up when the US dollar gains "strength" (value) when compared to other currencies.

DEFINITIONS

AGGREGATE BOND | **Bloomberg US Agg Bond Total Return Index:** The index is a measure of the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable bond market of roughly 6,000 SEC-registered securities with intermediate maturities averaging approximately 10 years. The index includes bonds from the Treasury, Government-Related, Corporate, MBS, ABS, and CMBS sectors.

HIGH YIELD | **Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Total Return Index:** The index measures the USD-denominated, high yield, fixed-rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below.

CREDIT | **Bloomberg US Credit Total Return Index:** The index measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate and government related bond markets. It is composed of the US Corporate Index and a non-corporate component that includes foreign agencies, sovereigns, supranationals and local authorities.

MUNICIPAL | **Bloomberg Municipal Total Return Index:** The index is a measure of the long-term tax-exempt bond market with securities of investment grade (rated at least Baa by Moody's Investors Service and BBB by Standard and Poor's). This index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and prerefunded bonds.

BG COMMODITY INDEX | **Bloomberg Commodity Index** is calculated on an excess return basis and reflects commodity futures price movements.

BLOOMBERG INDUSTRIAL METALS INDEX | **Bloomberg Industrial Metals Index** reflects the returns that are potentially available through an unleveraged investment in the futures contracts on industrial metal commodities.

MSCI EM ASIA INDEX | The **MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Asia Index** captures large and mid cap representation across 8 Emerging Markets countries*.

With 1,160 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

DATA SOURCES

FactSet as of 6/30/2022.

S&P 500 | The **S&P 500 Total Return Index**: The index is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities.

EMERGING MARKETS EASTERN EUROPE | **MSCI EM Eastern Europe Net Return Index**: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across four Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Eastern Europe. With 50 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

ASIA EX JAPAN INDEX | **The MSCI AC Asia ex Japan** Index captures large and mid cap representation across 2 of 3 Developed Markets (DM) countries* (excluding Japan) and 9 Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Asia. With 983 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float adjusted market capitalization in each country.

AC WORLD INDEX | **The MSCI AC World** Index is a market capitalization weighted index designed to provide a broad measure of equity-market performance throughout the world. The MSCI ACWI is maintained by Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) and is comprised of stocks from 23 developed countries and 24 emerging markets.

EMERGING MARKETS LATIN AMERICA | **MSCI EM Latin America Net Return Index**: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across five Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Latin America. With 116 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

EMERGING MARKETS | **MSCI Emerging Markets Net Return Index**: This index consists of 23 countries representing 10% of world market capitalization. The index is available for a number of regions, market segments/sizes and covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each of the 23 countries.

JAPAN | **MSCI Japan Net Return Index**: The index is designed to measure the performance of the large and mid cap segments of the Japanese market. With 319 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in Japan.

EUROPE EX UK | **MSCI Europe Ex UK Net Return Index**: The index captures large and mid cap representation across 14 Developed Markets (DM) countries in Europe. With 337 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization across European Developed Markets excluding the UK.

MSCI EAFE | The **MSCI EAFE** (Europe, Australasia, and Far East) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance, excluding the United States & Canada. The EAFE consists of the country indices of 22 developed nations.

MSCI EM | The **MSCI Emerging Markets Index** captures large and mid cap representation across 25 Emerging Markets (EM) countries*. With 1,420 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

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