

The background features a dark blue gradient with faint, semi-transparent financial charts. These include a bar chart with blue bars of varying heights and two line graphs with circular markers. The line graphs are colored in shades of orange and light blue. Numerous numerical values are scattered across the background, such as 3852575, 2126548, 4395792, and 4567356, appearing in a light blue font.

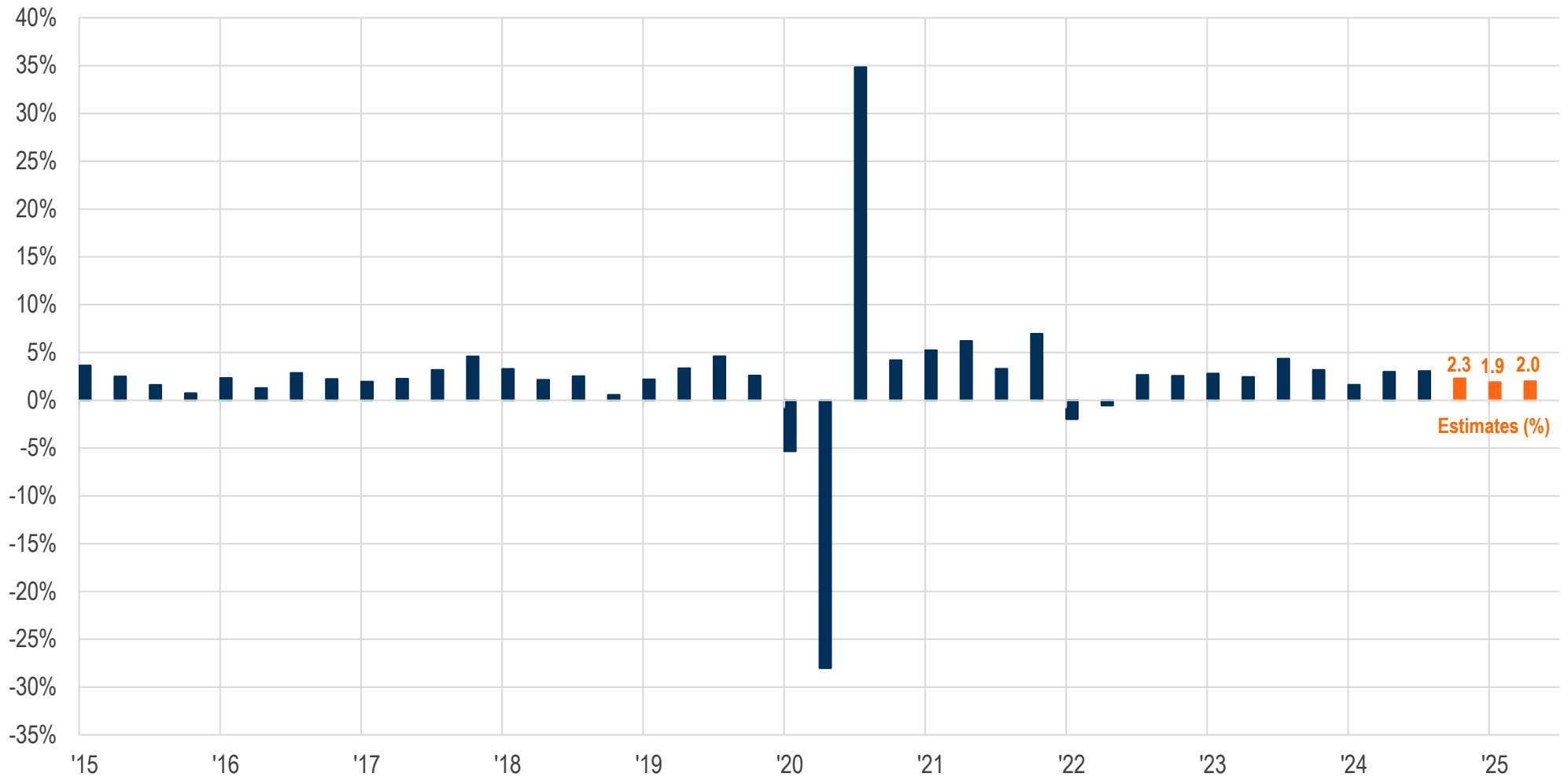
 First Trust  
CLIENT RESOURCE KIT  
**EQUITY**

MACRO	MARKETS	FACTORS
U.S. GDP	Size and Style Indices: Total Returns	Factor Returns vs. S&P 500 EW Index: Last 12 Months
U.S. Labor Market	S&P 500 Sector Index: Total Returns	Factor Returns vs. S&P 500 EW Index: Last 12 Months
Consumer Confidence	Foreign Indices: Total Returns	Factor Returns
Credit Card Balances	S&P 500 Index: Price-to-Next Twelve Months Est. EPS	Factors and Economic Cycles
ISM Manufacturing	S&P 500 Index: Price-to-Book Value	Factor Valuations: Forward Price-to-Earnings Ratio
The CFO Survey: Optimism Indexes	S&P 500 Index EPS	Factor EPS Growth Rates
Inflation	S&P 500 Index: The Largest 5 Names	
M2 Money Supply	S&P 500 Sector Index Valuation and Est. EPS Growth	
U.S. Federal Funds Target Rate	The Importance of Sector Diversification	
10-Yr. U.S. Treasury Yield	The Importance of Style Diversification	
2-Yr. vs. 10-Yr. U.S. Treasury Yield Spread	MSCI Europe Index: Price-to-Next Twelve Months Est. EPS	
U.S. Dollar Index	MSCI Europe Index: Price-to-Book Relative to the S&P 500 Index	
Commodities: Gold and Oil	International Valuation and Est. EPS Growth	
S&P 500 Index		

The information presented is not intended to constitute an investment recommendation for, or advice to, any specific person. By providing this information, First Trust is not undertaking to give advice in any fiduciary capacity within the meaning of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other regulatory framework. Financial professionals are responsible for evaluating investment risks independently and for exercising independent judgment in determining whether investments are appropriate for their clients.

# U.S. GDP: QUARTER-OVER-QUARTER CHANGE (SAAR)

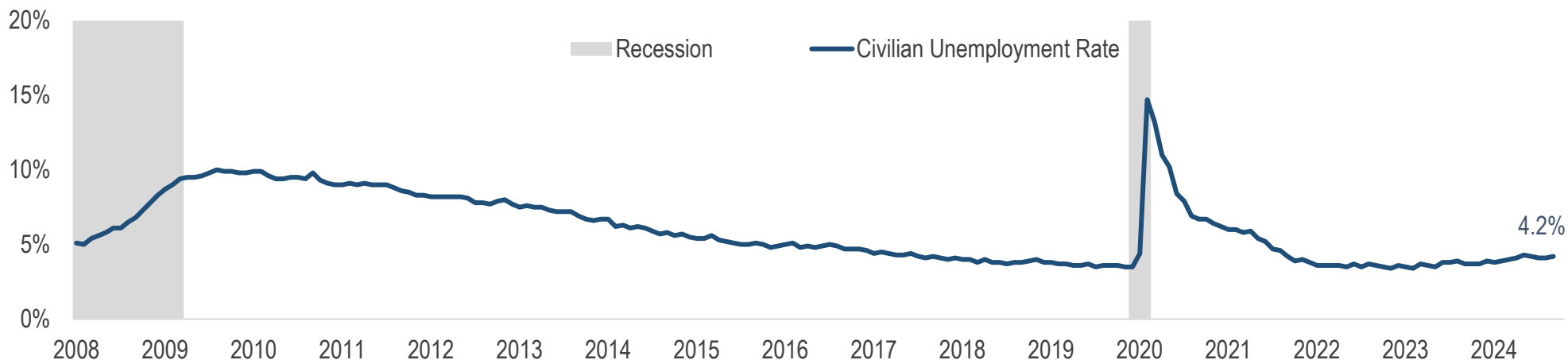
## MACRO



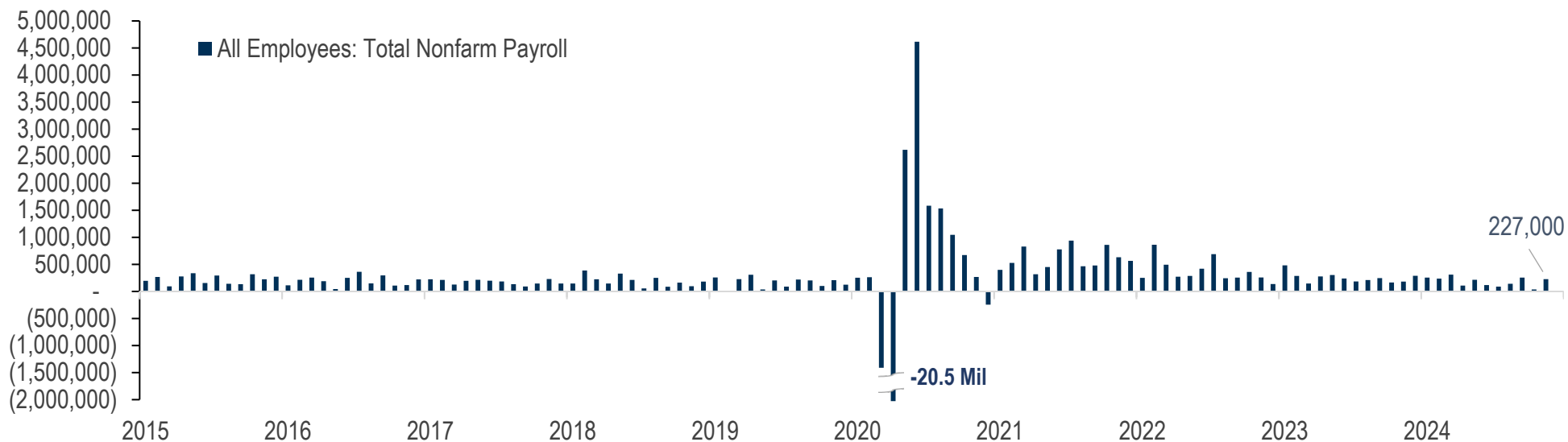
Source: First Trust, Haver Analytics (historical), Bloomberg (consensus estimates). Quarters in orange are consensus estimates. GDP percent change is on a quarter over quarter seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) basis. There can be no assurance that any of the projections cited will occur. Gross domestic product (GDP) is the monetary value of all finished goods and services made within a country during a specific period.

## MACRO

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (U3)

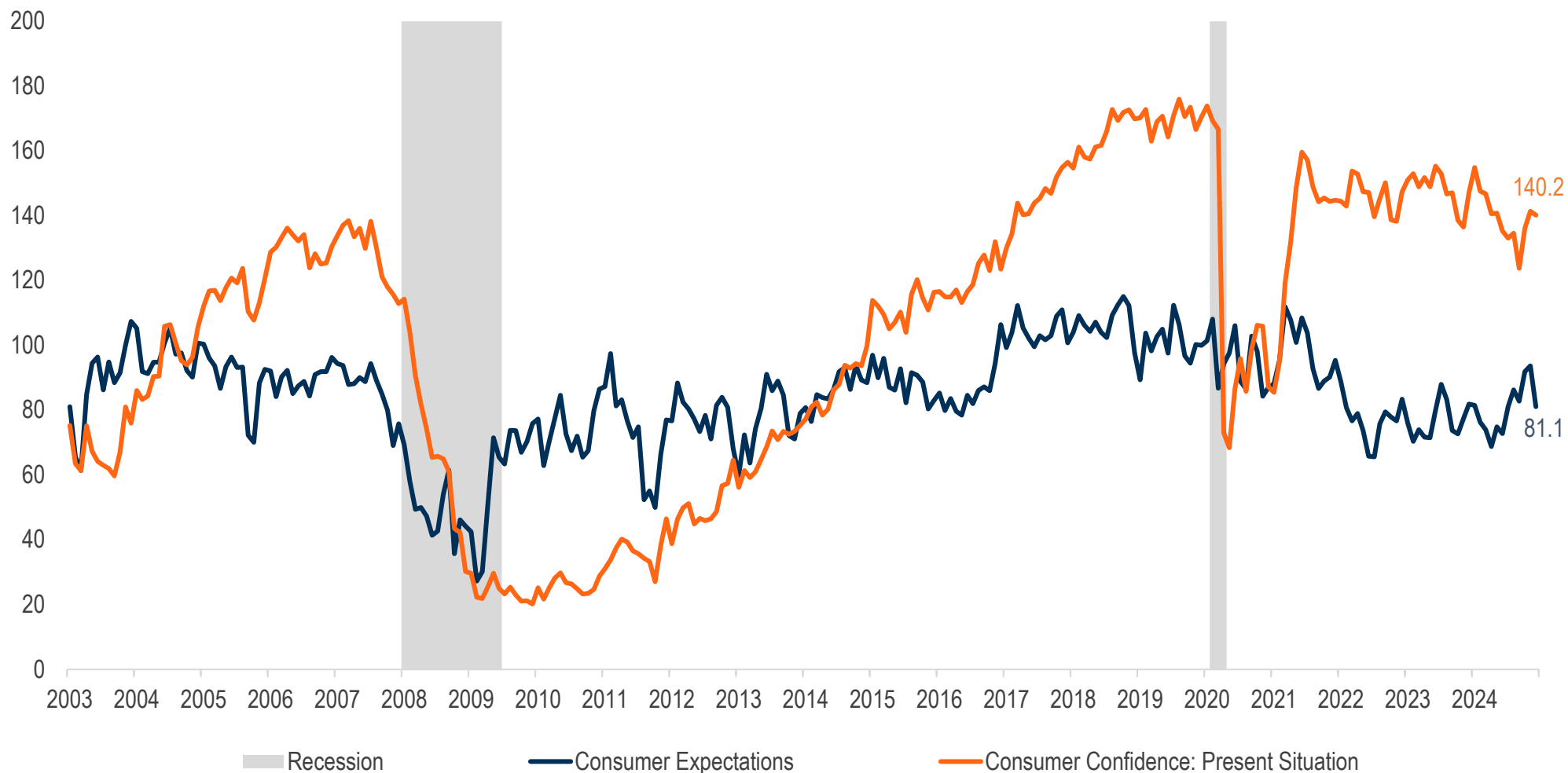


### CHANGE IN TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLLS



Source: First Trust, Haver Analytics. Unemployment data from March 2008 - November 2024 (latest data available). Unemployment Rate: 16+ years, seasonally adjusted. Payroll data from January 2015 - November 2024 (latest data available). Seasonally adjusted. April 2020 uses a broken axis since it has an extreme value.

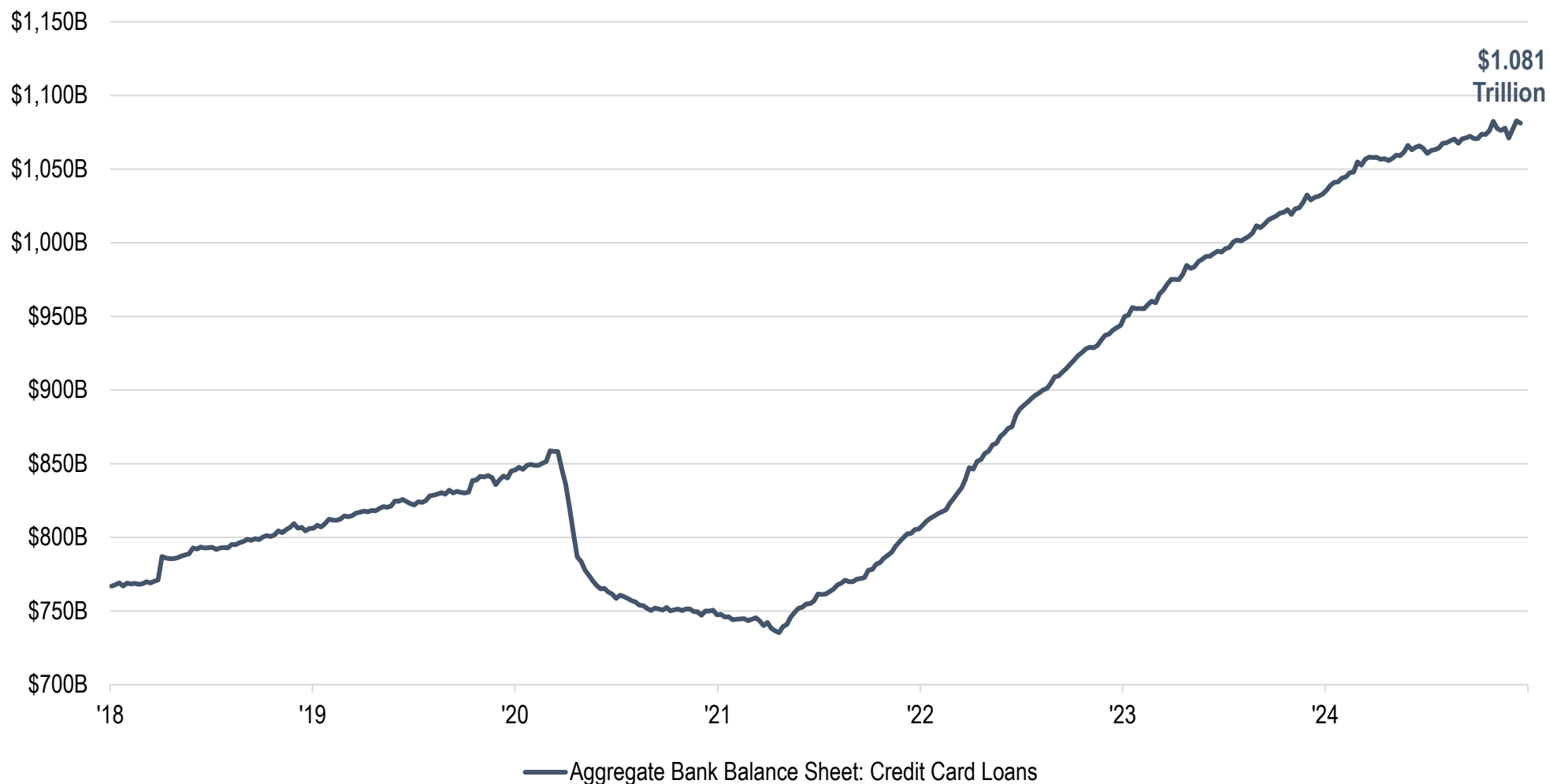
## MACRO



Source: First Trust, The Conference Board/Haver Analytics. Data from January 2003 - December 2024. The Consumer Confidence Index is a survey, administered by The Conference Board, that measures how optimistic or pessimistic consumers are regarding their expected financial situation. The Consumer Confidence Index started in 1967 and is benchmarked to 1985 = 100.

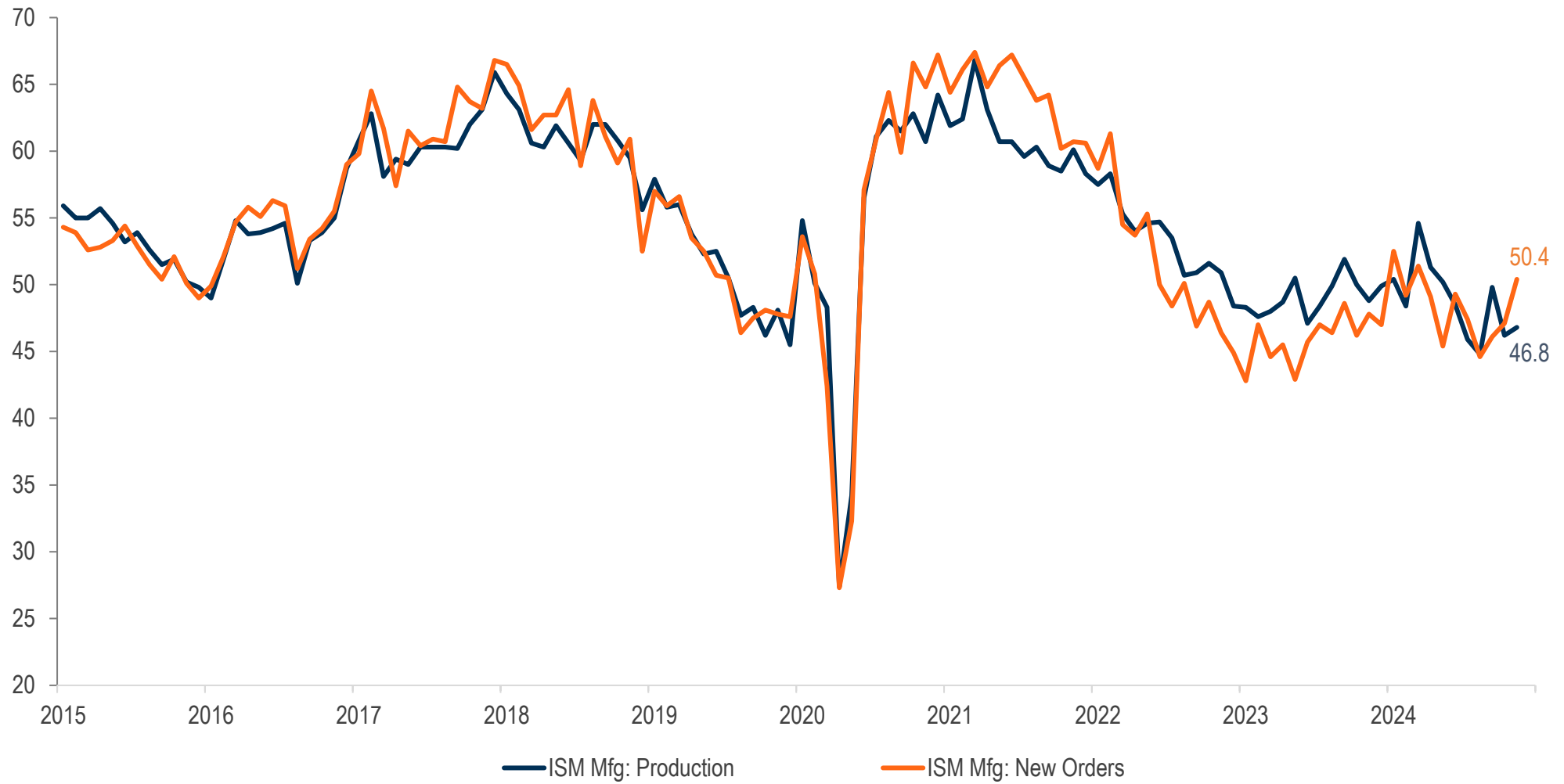
# CREDIT CARD BALANCES

## MACRO



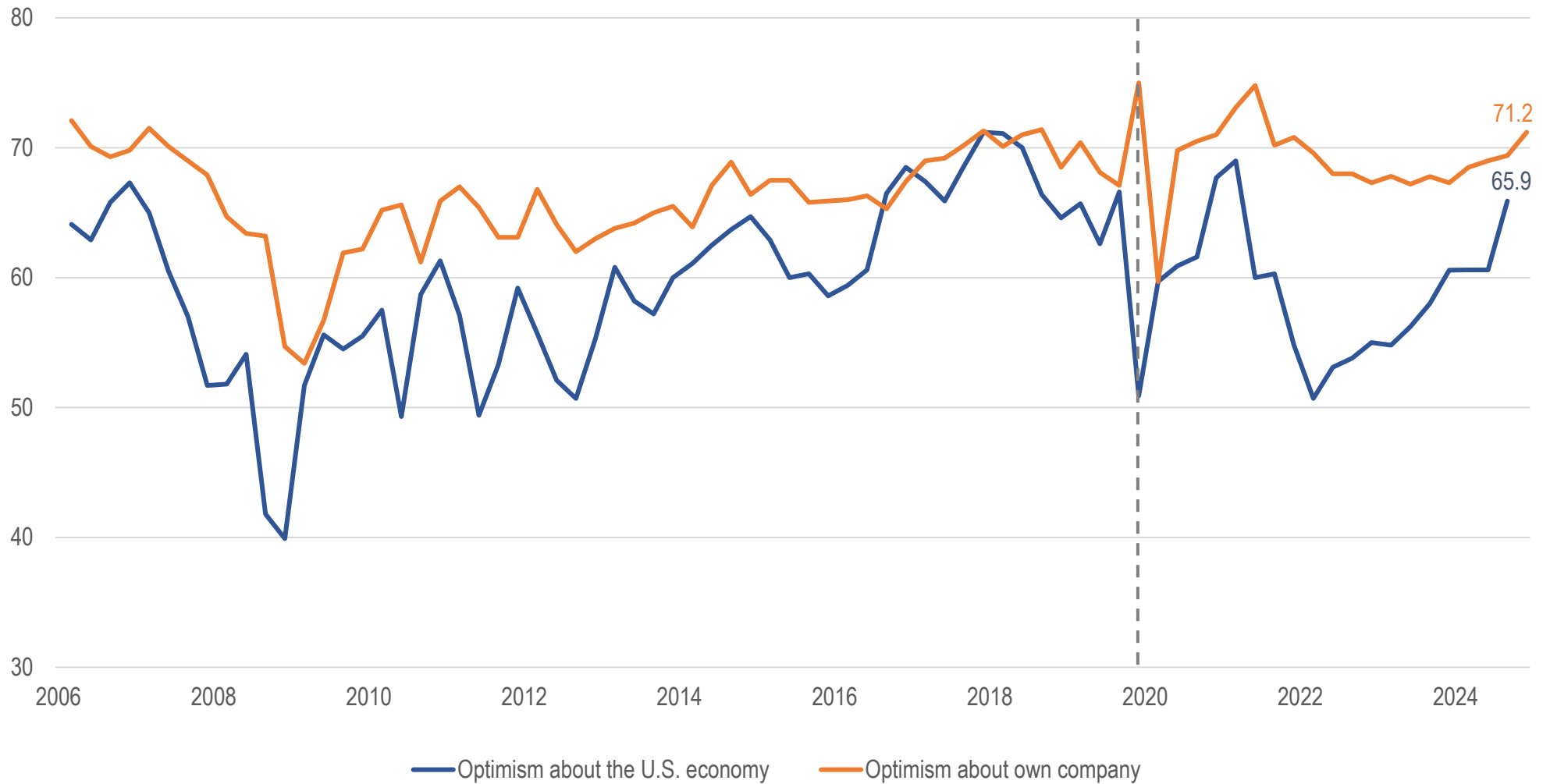
Source: First Trust, Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED). Weekly data from 1/3/2018 to 12/18/2024 (latest data available). Billions of U.S. dollars, seasonally adjusted. Includes consumer loans: credit cards and other revolving plans, all commercial banks.

## MACRO



Source: First Trust, Haver Analytics. Data from January 2015 - November 2024. ISM Manufacturing Index measures manufacturing activity based on a monthly survey, conducted by Institute for Supply Management (ISM), of purchasing managers at more than 300 manufacturing firms. An index reading of more than 50 indicates expansion while a reading of below 50 suggests a contraction of the manufacturing sector.

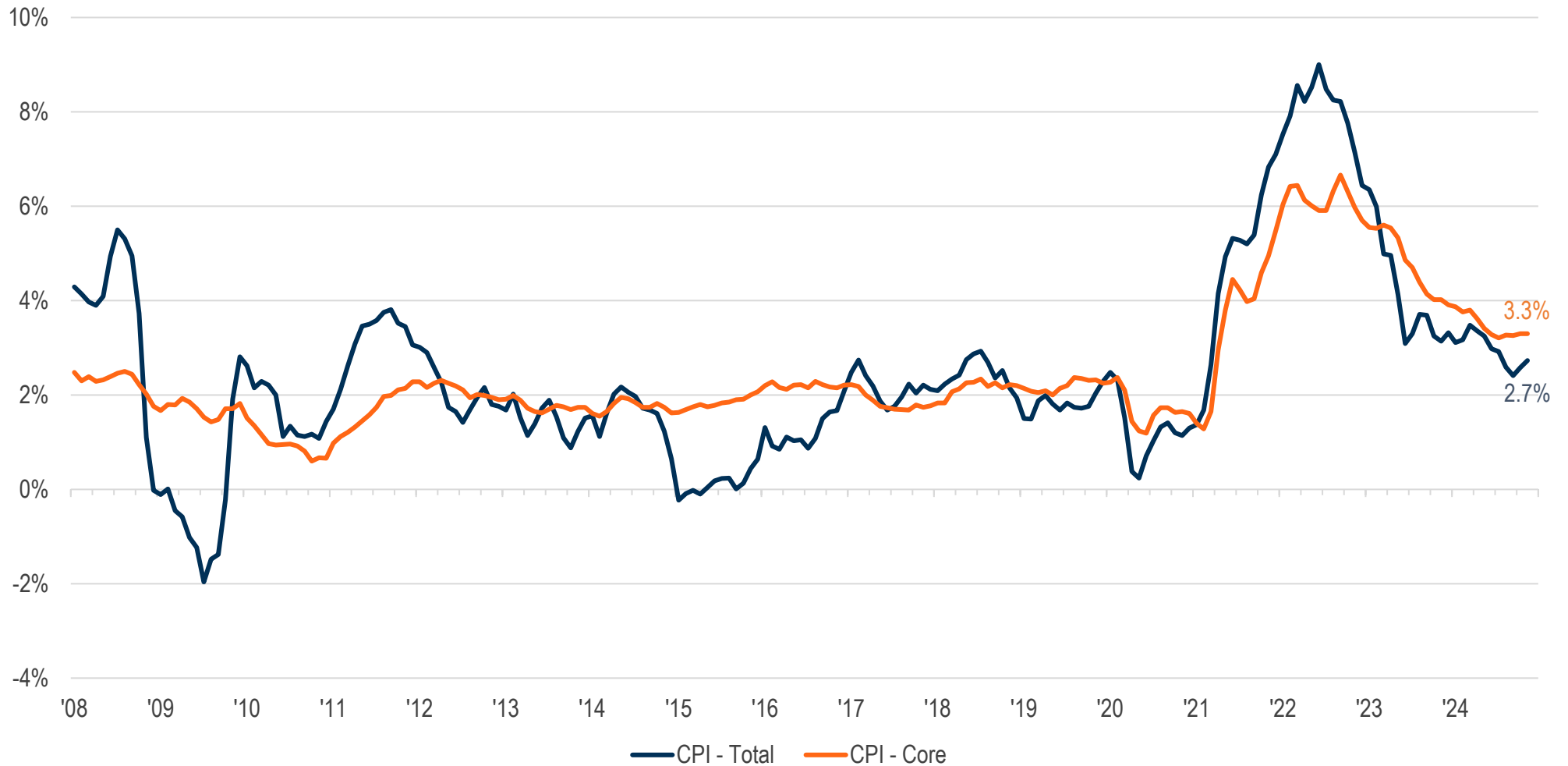
## MACRO



Source: First Trust, Duke University, FRB Atlanta and FRB Richmond, The CFO Survey. March 2006 – December 2024.

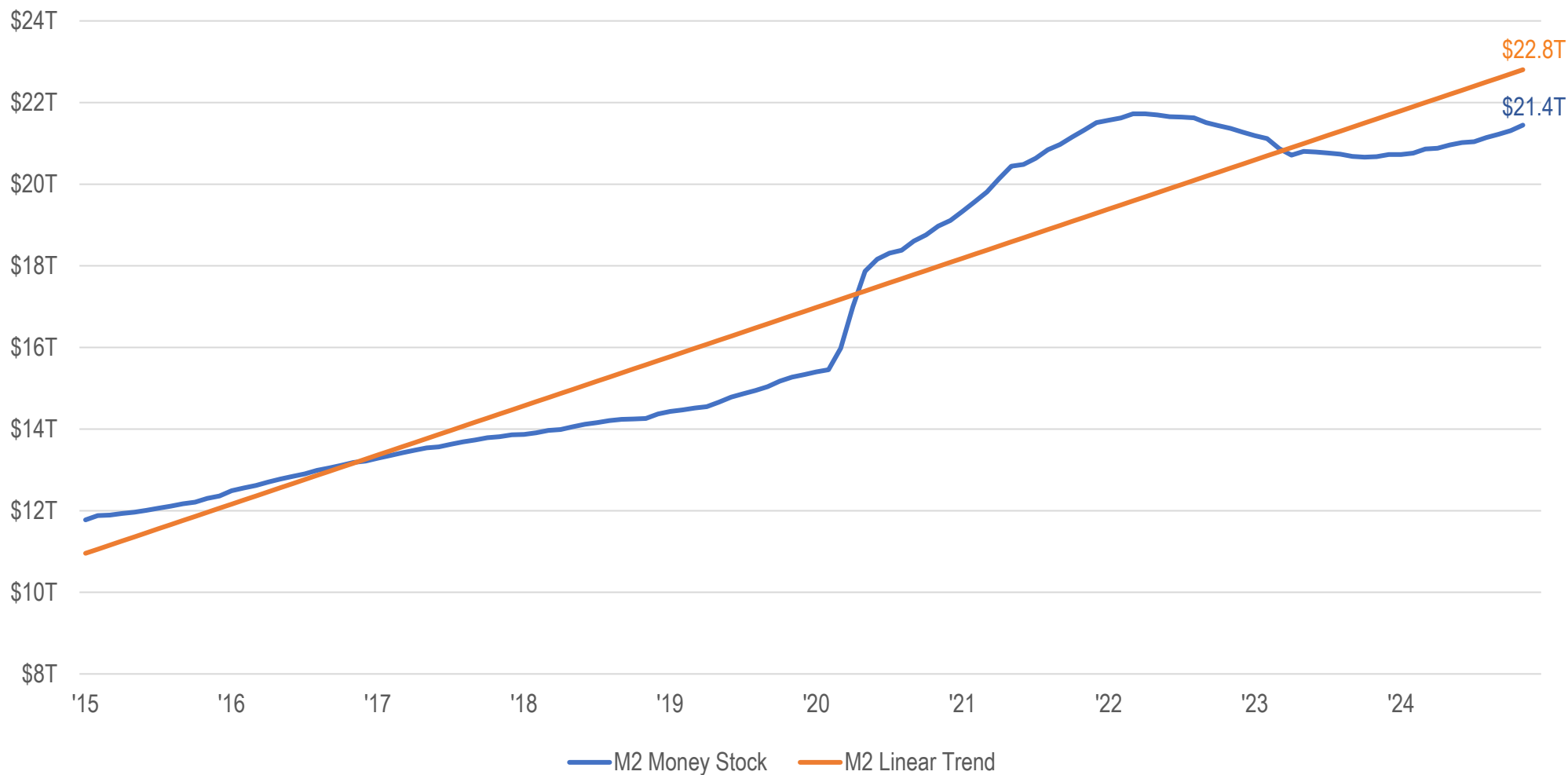


## MACRO



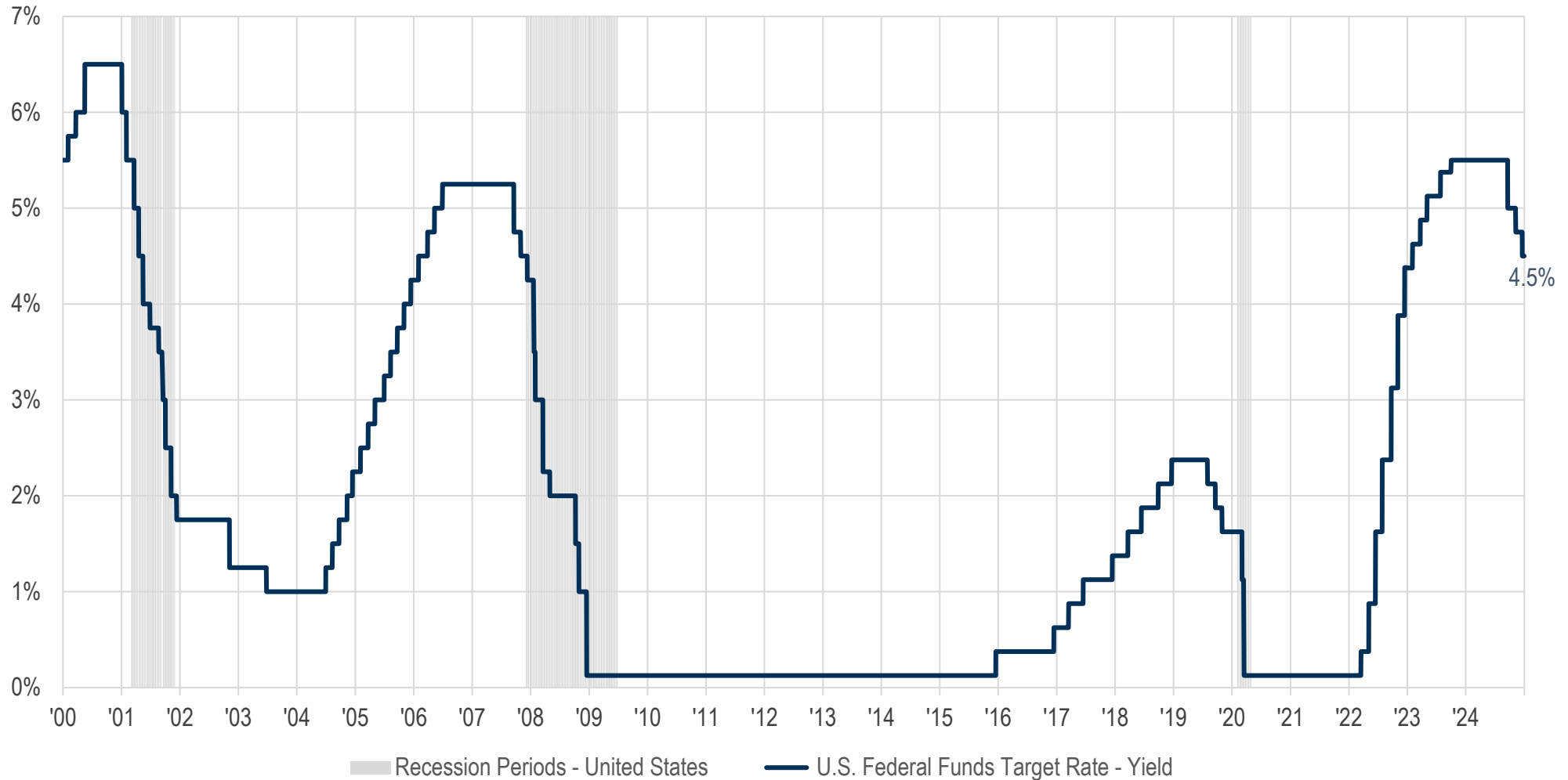
Source: First Trust, FactSet. Data from January 2008 - November 2024 (latest data available), year-over-year. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. Core CPI is CPI minus energy and food prices (categories that tend to be highly volatile).

## MACRO



Source: First Trust, Federal Reserve Board/Haver Analytics, January 2015 – November 2024 (latest data available).

## MACRO



Source: First Trust, FactSet. Data from 12/31/1999 to 12/31/2024.

# 10-YEAR U.S. TREASURY YIELD

## MACRO

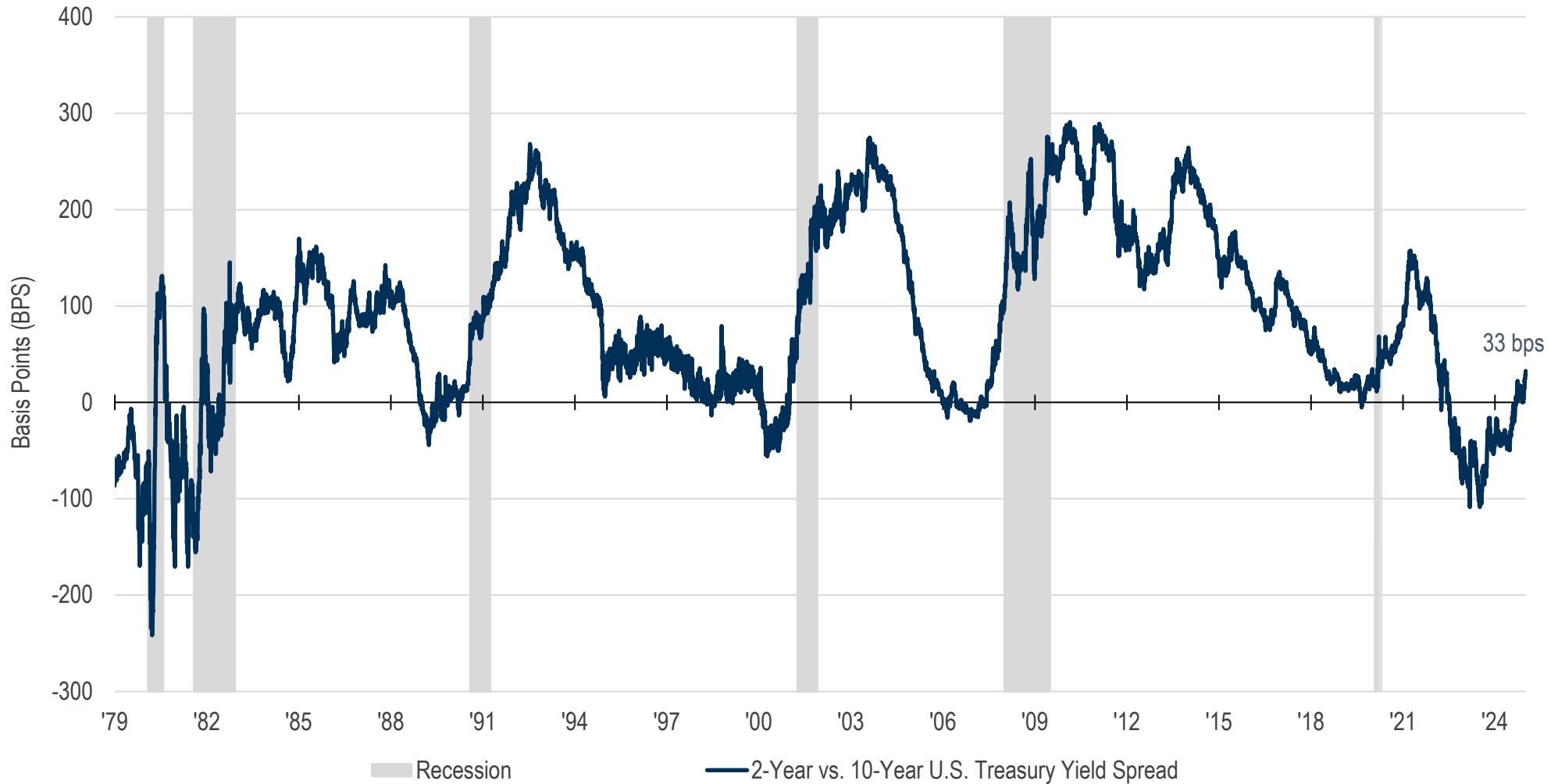


Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Weekly data from January 2000 - December 2024.

# 2-YEAR VS. 10-YEAR U.S. TREASURY YIELD SPREAD

## MACRO



Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Data from January 1979 - December 2024.

## MACRO



**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

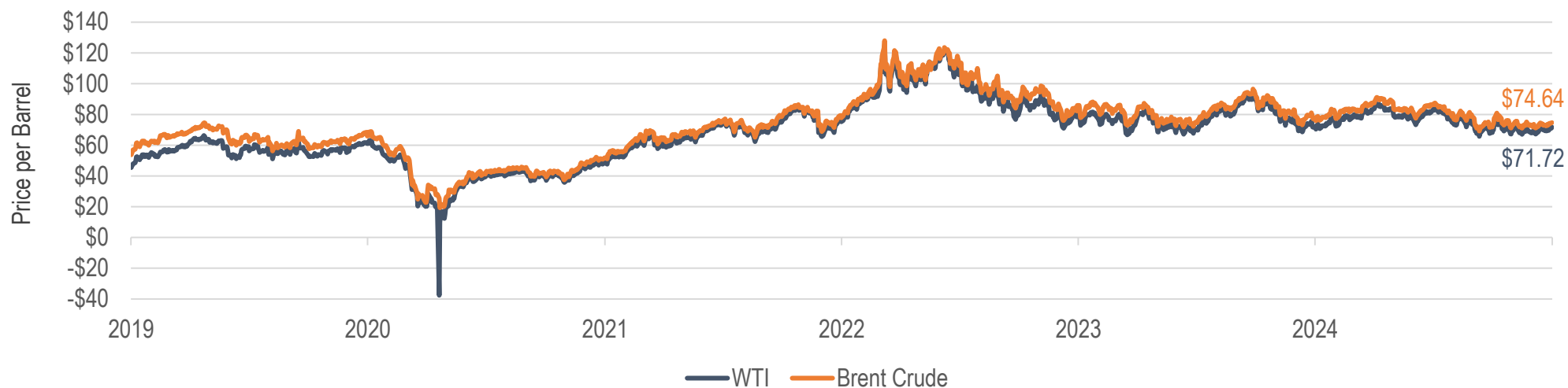
Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Weekly data from January 2014 - December 2024. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The U.S. Dollar Index (DX) indicates the general international value of the dollar relative to a basket of major world currencies. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.

## MACRO

### GOLD SPOT PRICE



### WEST TEXAS INTERMEDIATE (WTI) VS. BRENT CRUDE OIL



Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Gold is monthly data from January 2016 - September 2024. Gold spot price is the current market price. WTI and Brent Crude oil is daily data from January 2019 - December 2024.

## MACRO



**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Weekly data from January 2000 - December 2024. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.



# SIZE AND STYLE INDICES: TOTAL RETURNS

## MARKETS

Index	YTD	3 Mo	6 Mo	12 Mo	3 Yr.^	5 Yr.^	10 Yr.^
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	25.00%	2.39%	35.03%	25.00%	8.92%	14.51%	13.09%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Growth</b>	35.81%	5.99%	45.64%	35.81%	7.62%	17.03%	15.26%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Value</b>	12.27%	-2.68%	22.34%	12.27%	9.13%	10.46%	9.98%
<b>S&amp;P Midcap 400</b>	13.89%	0.33%	21.83%	13.89%	4.83%	10.31%	9.66%
<b>S&amp;P Midcap 400 Growth</b>	15.93%	-0.80%	23.31%	15.93%	3.31%	9.98%	9.85%
<b>S&amp;P Midcap 400 Value</b>	11.65%	1.52%	20.23%	11.65%	6.20%	10.16%	9.10%
<b>S&amp;P SmallCap 600</b>	8.65%	-0.59%	18.85%	8.65%	1.84%	8.29%	8.89%
<b>S&amp;P SmallCap 600 Growth</b>	9.55%	-2.63%	19.76%	9.55%	0.34%	8.16%	9.48%
<b>S&amp;P SmallCap 600 Value</b>	7.54%	1.42%	17.58%	7.54%	3.17%	8.04%	8.12%
<b>Russell 1000</b>	24.50%	2.74%	34.99%	24.50%	8.39%	14.26%	12.86%
<b>Russell 2000</b>	11.53%	0.33%	20.63%	11.53%	1.21%	7.38%	7.79%
<b>Russell 3000</b>	23.80%	2.63%	34.21%	23.80%	7.99%	13.85%	12.53%
<b>Dow Jones Industrial Average</b>	14.99%	0.93%	27.31%	14.99%	7.56%	10.55%	11.56%
<b>The Nasdaq Composite</b>	29.60%	6.36%	41.72%	29.60%	8.17%	17.54%	16.27%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Total returns as of 12/31/2024. ^Annualized returns. For illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Indices do not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.

**Index Definitions:** **S&P 500** - An unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. **S&P 500 Growth** - S&P measures growth stocks using three factors: sales growth, the ratio of earnings change to price, and momentum. Constituents are drawn from the S&P 500 Index. **S&P 500 Value** - S&P measures value stocks using three factors: the ratios of book value, earnings, and sales to price. Constituents are drawn from the S&P 500 Index. **S&P MidCap 400** - A capitalization-weighted index that tracks the mid-range sector of the U.S. stock market. **S&P MidCap 400 Growth** - S&P measures growth stocks using three factors: sales growth, the ratio of earnings change to price, and momentum. Constituents are drawn from the S&P MidCap 400 Index. **S&P MidCap 400 Value** - S&P measures value stocks using three factors: the ratios of book value, earnings, and sales to price. Constituents are drawn from the S&P MidCap 400 Index. **S&P SmallCap 600** - A capitalization-weighted index that tracks U.S. stocks with a small market capitalization. **S&P SmallCap 600 Growth** - S&P measures growth stocks using three factors: sales growth, the ratio of earnings change to price, and momentum. Constituents are drawn from the S&P SmallCap 600 Index. **S&P SmallCap 600 Value** - S&P measures value stocks using three factors: the ratios of book value, earnings, and sales to price. Constituents are drawn from the S&P SmallCap 600 Index. **Russell 1000** - Comprised of the largest 1000 companies in the Russell 3000 Index. It represents the universe of large capitalization stocks from which most active money managers typically select. **Russell 2000** - Comprised of the smallest 2000 companies in the Russell 3000 Index, representing approximately 8% of the Russell 3000 total market capitalization. **Russell 3000** - Comprised of 3,000 large U.S. companies, as determined by market capitalization. It captures approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market. **Dow Jones Industrial Average** - A price-weighted measure of 30 U.S. blue-chip companies. The index covers all industries except transportation and utilities. **The Nasdaq Composite** - A large market-cap-weighted index of more than 2,500 stocks, American depositary receipts (ADRs), and real estate investment trusts (REITs), among others, listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange.

# S&P 500 SECTOR INDEX: TOTAL RETURNS

## MARKETS

Index	YTD	3 Mo	6 Mo	12 Mo	3 Yr.^	5 Yr.^	10 Yr.^
<b>S&amp;P 500 Communication Services</b>	40.23%	8.87%	60.36%	40.23%	9.51%	14.57%	11.19%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Consumer Discretionary</b>	30.14%	14.25%	39.28%	30.14%	5.26%	14.11%	13.61%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Consumer Staples</b>	14.87%	-3.26%	14.01%	14.87%	4.69%	8.56%	8.43%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Energy</b>	5.72%	-2.44%	10.35%	5.72%	19.91%	12.04%	4.86%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Financials</b>	30.50%	7.06%	47.07%	30.50%	9.37%	11.63%	11.38%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Health Care</b>	2.58%	-10.30%	6.26%	2.58%	0.87%	7.99%	9.14%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Industrials</b>	17.30%	-2.41%	25.71%	17.30%	9.38%	11.97%	10.71%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Information Technology</b>	36.61%	4.84%	51.03%	36.61%	15.69%	24.55%	22.35%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Materials</b>	-0.04%	-12.42%	4.42%	-0.04%	-0.44%	8.69%	7.87%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Real Estate</b>	5.23%	-7.94%	13.91%	5.23%	-4.41%	4.55%	5.98%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Utilities</b>	23.43%	-5.51%	21.61%	23.43%	5.22%	6.62%	8.44%

**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Total returns as of 12/31/2024. ^Annualized returns. For illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Indices do not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance, while the 11 major S&P 500 Sector Indices are capitalization-weighted and comprised of S&P 500 constituents representing a specific sector.

As of 9/28/18, GICS was reconstituted, and the Telecommunications Services sector was renamed Communication Services. GICS sector information for periods prior to 9/28/18 may not necessarily be comparable to the reconstituted sectors.

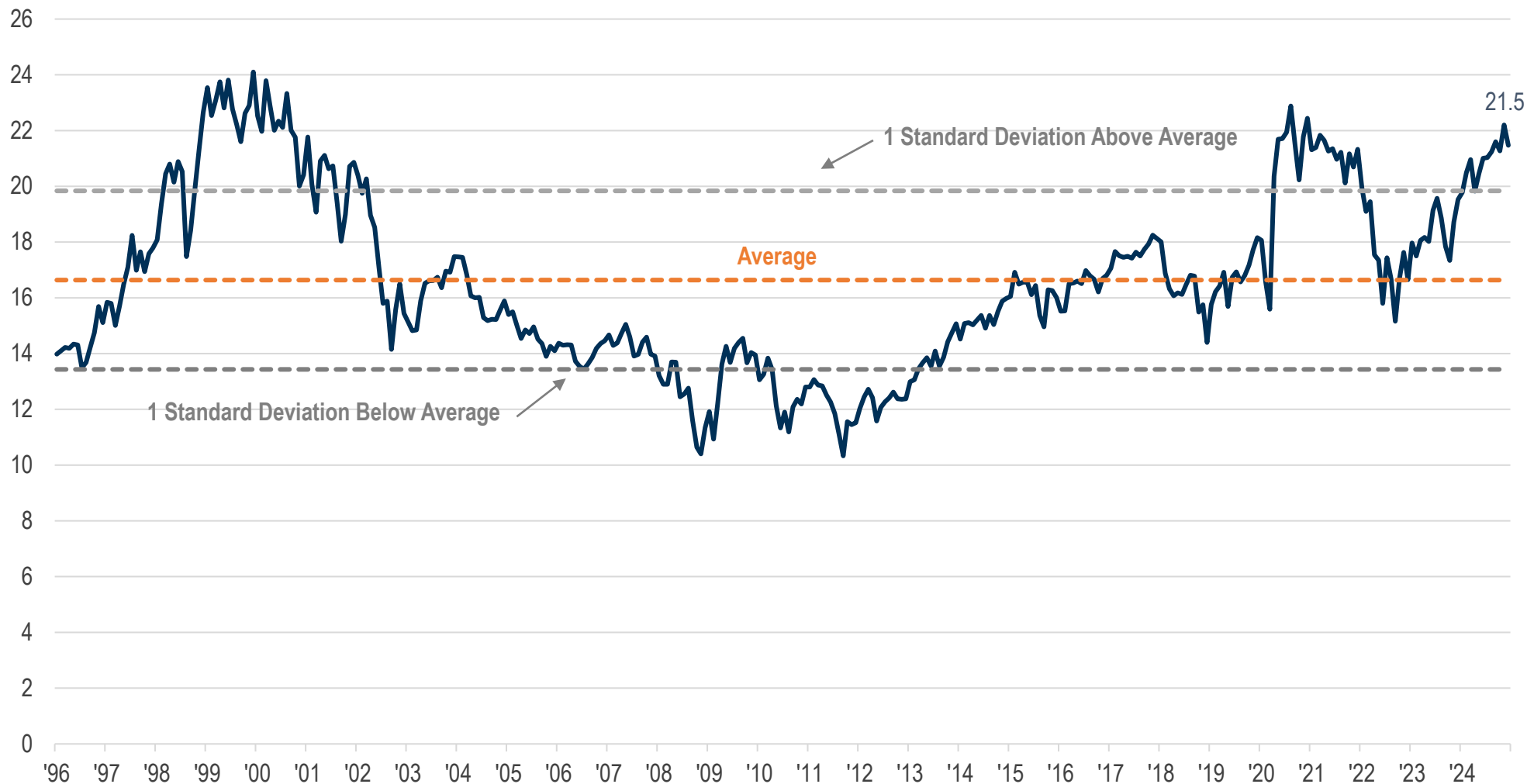
## MARKETS

Index	YTD	3 Mo	6 Mo	12 Mo	3 Yr.^	5 Yr.^	10 Yr.^
<b>MSCI All-Country World Ex-USA</b>	5.53%	-7.60%	11.46%	5.53%	0.82%	4.10%	4.80%
<b>MSCI World Ex-USA</b>	4.70%	-7.43%	10.95%	4.70%	1.91%	5.10%	5.26%
<b>MSCI Europe</b>	-0.58%	-9.98%	4.24%	-0.58%	-1.18%	2.62%	2.51%
<b>MSCI EAFE</b>	4.43%	-8.06%	10.75%	4.43%	2.26%	5.33%	5.80%
<b>MSCI Emerging Markets</b>	7.97%	-7.85%	13.25%	7.97%	-1.55%	2.06%	4.02%

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Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Total returns as of 12/31/2024. ^Annualized returns. Indices do not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index. **MSCI All-Country World (ACWI) Ex-USA** – Captures large and mid cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries (excluding the US) and 24 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. With 2,058 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the US. **MSCI World Ex-USA** - Captures large and mid cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries-- excluding the United States. With 806 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country. **MSCI Europe** - A free-float weighted index designed to measure the equity market performance of the developed markets in Europe. **MSCI EAFE** - A free-float weighted equity index that covers developed market countries in Europe, Australasia, Israel and the Far East. **MSCI Emerging Markets** - A free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of emerging markets.

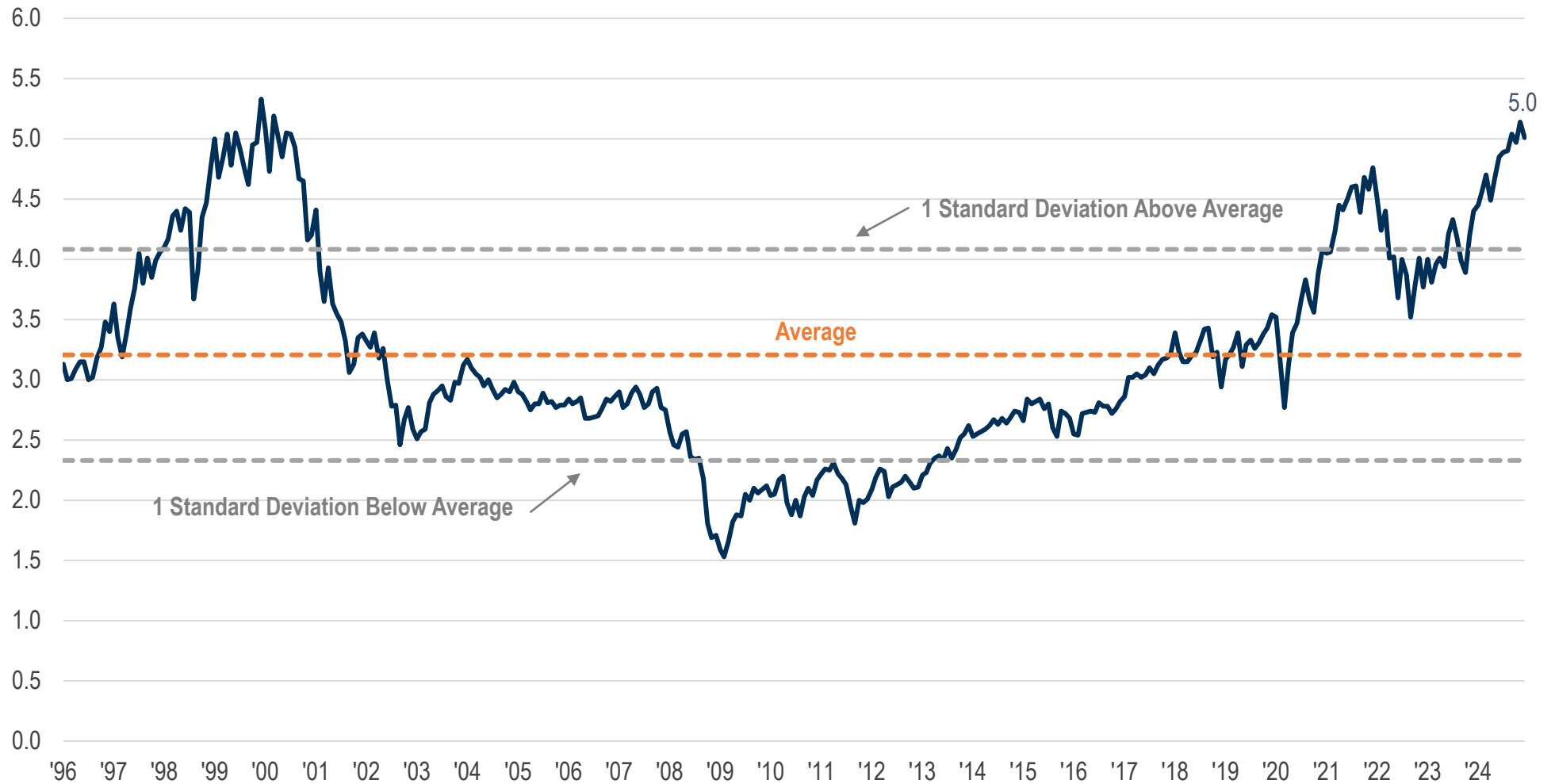
## MARKETS



**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Source: First Trust, FactSet. Data from 1/31/1996 to 12/31/2024. Standard Deviation is a measure of price variability (risk). There can be no assurance that any of the projections cited will occur. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Price-to-Next Twelve Months earnings is price divided by FactSet consensus forecasted earnings per share over the next twelve months. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

## MARKETS

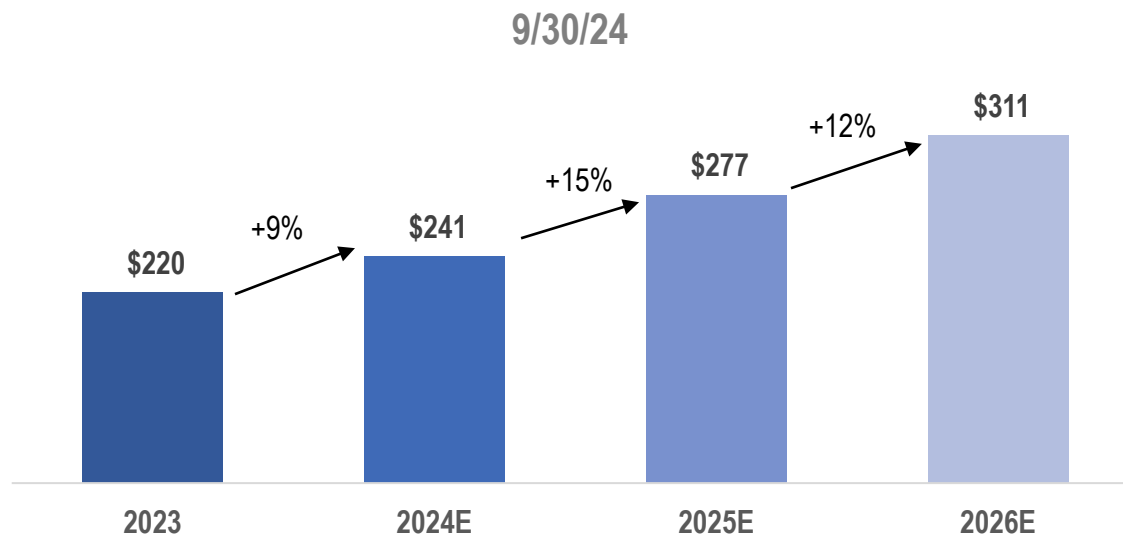
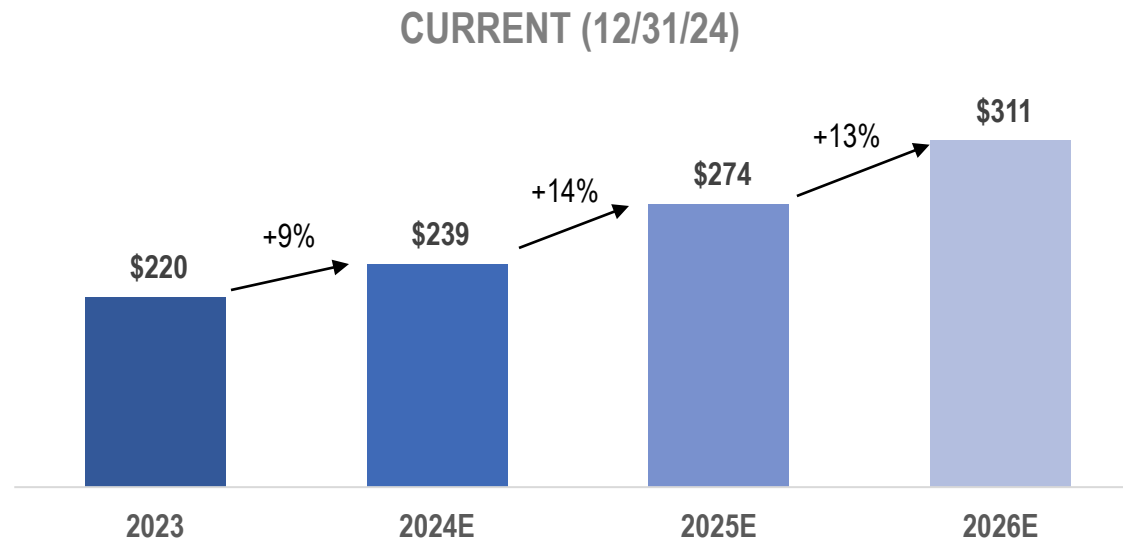


**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Source: First Trust, FactSet. Data from 1/31/1996 to 12/31/2024. Price-to-book ratio is the share price divided by book value of equity per share. Standard Deviation is a measure of price variability (risk).

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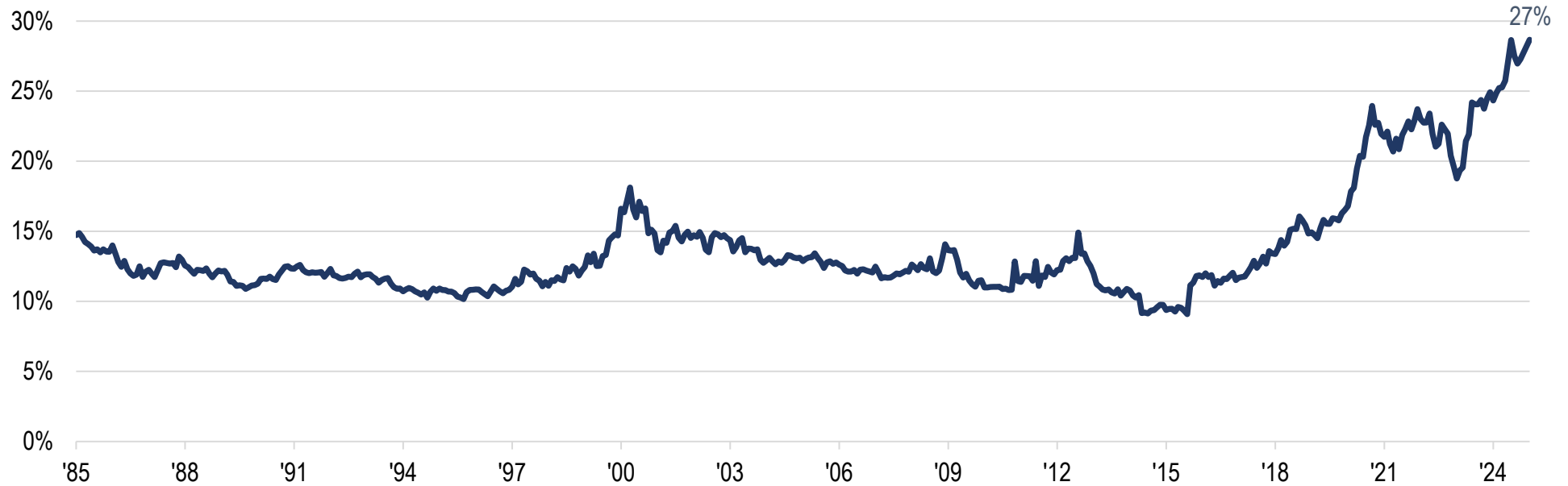
## MARKETS



Source: First Trust, FactSet. 2024-2026 numbers are consensus estimates. For illustrative purposes only. There can be no assurance that any of the projections cited will occur. Earnings per share (EPS) is a company's net profit divided by the number of common shares it has outstanding. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

## MARKETS

### % SHARE OF S&P 500 INDEX



### TOP 5 MEMBER FIRMS BY WEIGHT IN THE INDEX

Ticker	Company Name	Weight in S&P 500 Index (12/31/24)
AAPL	Apple Inc.	7.60%
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	6.61%
MSFT	Microsoft Corp.	6.29%
AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	4.12%
META	Meta Platforms, Inc.	2.56%

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg, FactSet. Data from 12/31/1984 to 12/31/2024. References to specific companies or securities should not be construed as a recommendation to buy or sell any such security, nor should they be assumed profitable. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

# S&P 500 SECTOR INDEX VALUATION AND EST. EPS GROWTH

## MARKETS

S&P 500 Sector Index	PRICE TO NTM EPS			EST. EPS GROWTH			PRICE-TO-BOOK			EST. RETURN ON EQUITY	
	12/31/24	10-Yr. Median	Ratio to Median	2024	2025	2026	12/31/24	10-Yr. Median	Ratio to Median	2024	2025
<b>Communication Services</b>	19.4	16.3	119%	24%	14%	13%	5.0	3.3	150%	21.6%	21.3%
<b>Consumer Discretionary</b>	28.6	21.7	132%	12%	12%	14%	10.2	8.1	126%	30.8%	27.7%
<b>Consumer Staples</b>	20.8	19.9	104%	4%	5%	9%	6.5	5.8	113%	29.2%	28.2%
<b>Energy</b>	13.6	16.8	81%	-20%	4%	20%	2.0	1.9	107%	13.5%	14.0%
<b>Financials</b>	16.6	13.3	125%	16%	8%	12%	2.2	1.4	161%	12.7%	12.8%
<b>Health Care</b>	16.6	16.3	102%	5%	20%	10%	4.7	4.5	106%	23.3%	25.0%
<b>Industrials</b>	21.6	17.7	122%	-2%	19%	15%	6.3	4.8	131%	23.5%	25.7%
<b>Information Technology</b>	28.9	19.6	147%	18%	23%	17%	13.0	7.5	173%	35.1%	35.1%
<b>Materials</b>	18.3	16.9	108%	-9%	18%	14%	2.7	3.0	89%	12.6%	14.1%
<b>Real Estate</b>	17.7	18.1	97%	1%	5%	8%	3.0	3.3	92%	16.0%	17.3%
<b>Utilities</b>	17.3	17.7	97%	10%	9%	8%	2.2	2.0	108%	11.3%	11.6%

**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Source: First Trust, FactSet. As of 12/31/2024. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. There can be no assurance that any of the projections cited will occur.

The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance, while the 11 major S&P 500 Sector Indices are capitalization-weighted and comprised of S&P 500 constituents representing a specific sector. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Indices do not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown.

**Price-to-Book ratio** - Share price divided by book value of equity per share. **Est. Return on Equity (ROE)** - Estimated return on common equity utilizing FactSet consensus estimated earnings per share in calendar year divided by equity per share. **Est. EPS Growth** - Expected year-over-year growth in FactSet consensus forecasted Earnings Per Share. **Price to NTM EPS** - Price divided by FactSet consensus forecasted earnings per share over the next twelve months.

As of 9/28/18, GICS was reconstituted, and the Telecommunications Services sector was renamed Communication Services. GICS sector information for periods prior to 9/28/18 may not necessarily be comparable to the reconstituted sectors.



## MARKETS

### TOTAL RETURNS OF THE S&P 500 SECTOR INDICES

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
36.8%	35.3%	-15.4%	61.7%	27.7%	19.9%	28.7%	43.1%	29.0%	10.1%	27.4%	38.8%	6.5%	50.3%	43.9%	54.4%	65.4%	57.8%	40.2%	● Comm. Services
24.2%	22.4%	-22.8%	48.6%	26.7%	14.0%	23.9%	41.5%	25.3%	6.9%	23.5%	23.8%	4.1%	32.7%	33.3%	46.1%	1.6%	55.8%	36.6%	● Info. Tech.
21.0%	19.4%	-29.0%	41.3%	22.2%	12.7%	18.3%	40.6%	20.1%	6.6%	22.7%	23.0%	0.8%	32.1%	23.6%	34.9%	-0.6%	42.3%	30.5%	● Financials
19.2%	16.3%	-30.5%	20.9%	20.4%	6.3%	17.9%	35.6%	16.0%	5.9%	18.8%	22.1%	-0.3%	29.3%	20.7%	34.5%	-2.0%	18.1%	30.1%	● Consumer Disc.
18.6%	14.2%	-33.5%	19.7%	19.0%	6.1%	15.3%	28.4%	15.2%	3.4%	16.7%	22.1%	-2.2%	29.0%	13.4%	27.3%	-5.5%	12.5%	23.4%	● Utilities
18.2%	12.0%	-34.9%	17.2%	14.1%	4.7%	15.0%	26.1%	9.8%	-1.6%	16.3%	21.0%	-8.4%	27.9%	11.1%	26.1%	-10.6%	12.3%	17.3%	● Industrials
14.4%	11.9%	-39.9%	14.9%	12.1%	2.4%	14.8%	25.6%	9.7%	-2.6%	13.8%	13.5%	-12.5%	27.6%	10.7%	24.4%	-12.3%	12.1%	14.9%	● Consumer Staples
13.2%	7.1%	-43.1%	13.8%	10.2%	-0.6%	10.8%	25.0%	6.9%	-4.8%	6.0%	12.1%	-13.0%	26.3%	0.5%	21.6%	-26.2%	2.1%	5.7%	● Energy
8.4%	-13.2%	-45.7%	11.9%	5.5%	-9.8%	4.6%	13.2%	3.0%	-8.4%	5.4%	10.9%	-13.3%	24.6%	-1.8%	21.1%	-28.2%	0.5%	5.2%	● Real Estate
7.5%	-18.6%	-55.3%	8.9%	2.9%	-17.1%	1.3%	11.5%	-7.8%	-21.1%	-2.7%	-1.0%	-14.7%	20.8%	-2.2%	18.6%	-37.0%	-1.4%	2.6%	● Health Care
											-1.3%	-18.1%	11.8%	-33.7%	17.7%	-39.9%	-7.1%	0.0%	● Materials

#### Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

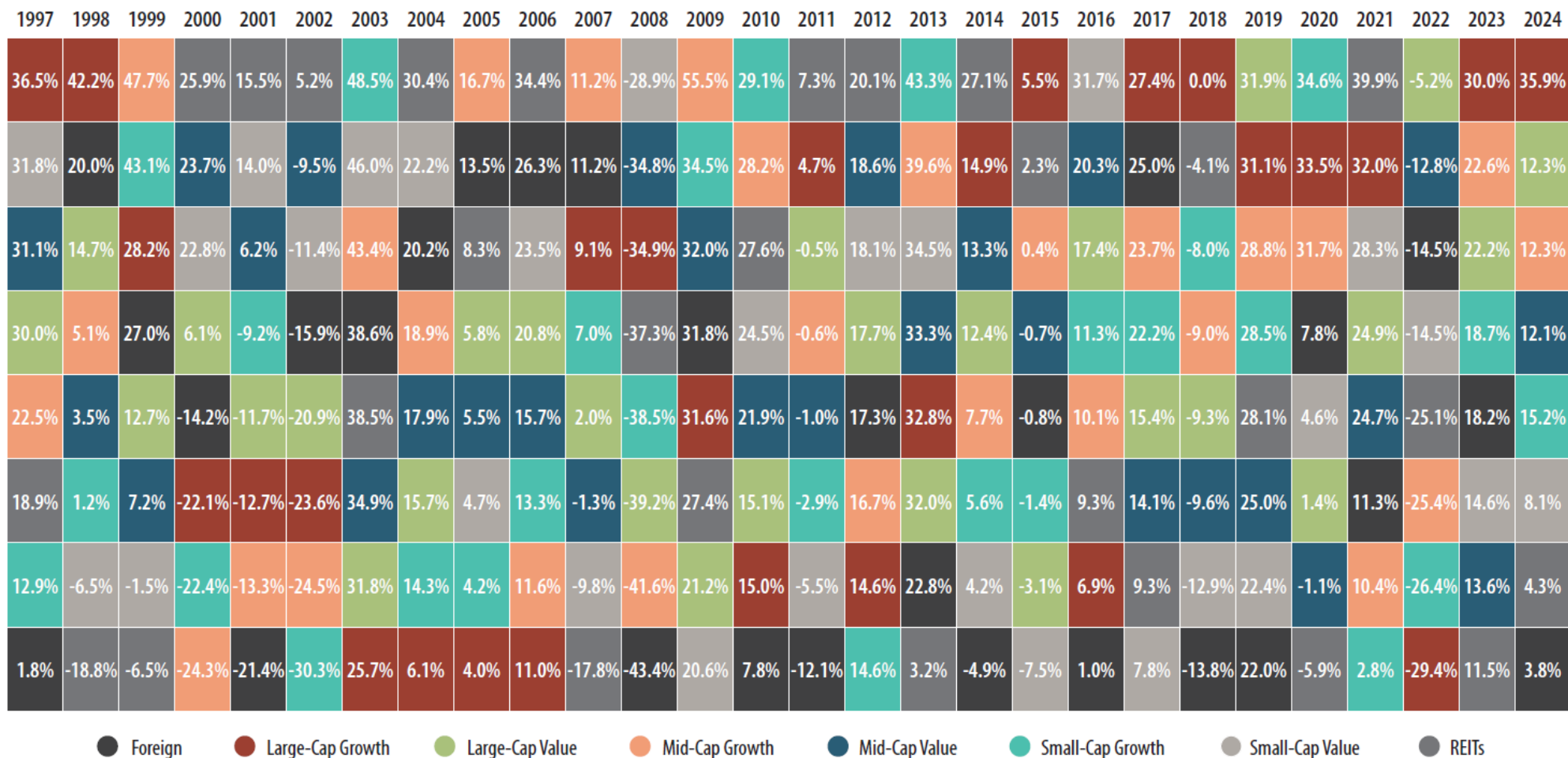
Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. For illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. All indices are unmanaged, statistical composites that cannot be purchased directly by investors. An index does not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown.

In addition to the risks of investing in common stocks which includes the possible loss of principal, investing in individual sectors is subject to non-diversification risk, which generally will result in greater price fluctuations than the overall market.

Prior to 2017, Real Estate was included in the Financials sector. As of 9/28/18, the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) was reconstituted, and the Telecommunications Services sector was renamed Communication Services. GICS sector information for periods prior to 9/28/18 may not necessarily be comparable to the reconstituted sectors.

## MARKETS

### ANNUAL RETURNS OF KEY EQUITY ASSET CLASSES



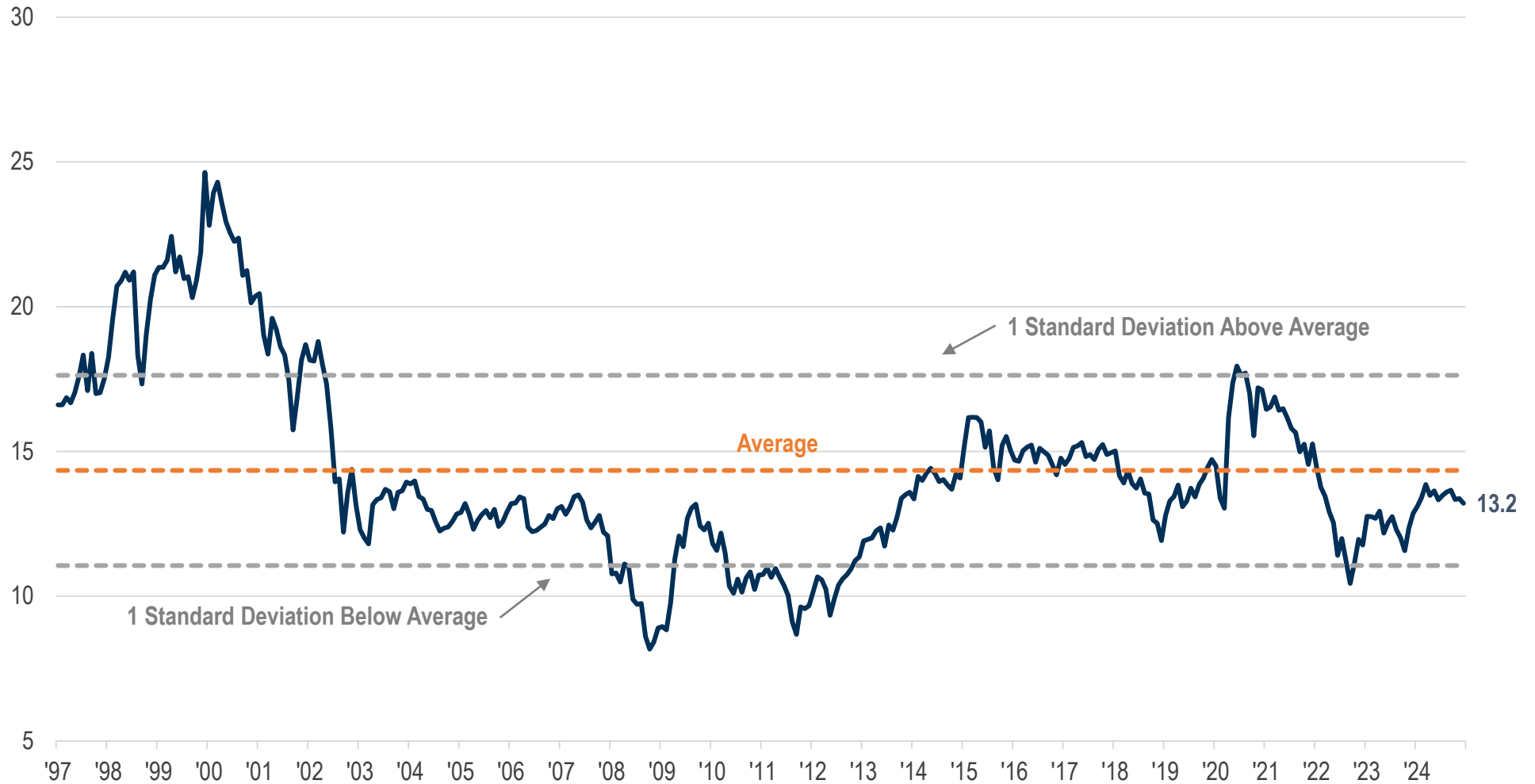
● Foreign   
 ● Large-Cap Growth   
 ● Large-Cap Value   
 ● Mid-Cap Growth   
 ● Mid-Cap Value   
 ● Small-Cap Growth   
 ● Small-Cap Value   
 ● REITs

#### Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Bloomberg, NAREIT. Diversification does not guarantee a profit or protect against a loss. For illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. All indices are unmanaged, statistical composites that cannot be purchased directly by investors. An index does not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown.

The S&P 500 Growth and S&P 500 Value Indices were used to measure the performance of large-capitalization companies. The Dow Jones U.S. Mid-Cap Growth Total Stock Market Index and Dow Jones U.S. Mid-Cap Value Total Stock Market Index were used to measure the performance of mid-capitalization companies. The Russell 2000 Growth and Russell 2000 Value Indices were used to measure the performance of small-capitalization companies. The MSCI EAFE Index was used to measure the performance of foreign stocks. The NAREIT Composite Index was used to measure the performance of REITs. Small company stocks are more volatile than large company stocks and can be subject to significant price fluctuations. Foreign stocks are subject to additional risks including currency fluctuations, political risks, withholding, the lack of adequate financial information, and exchange control restrictions impacting foreign issuers.

## MARKETS

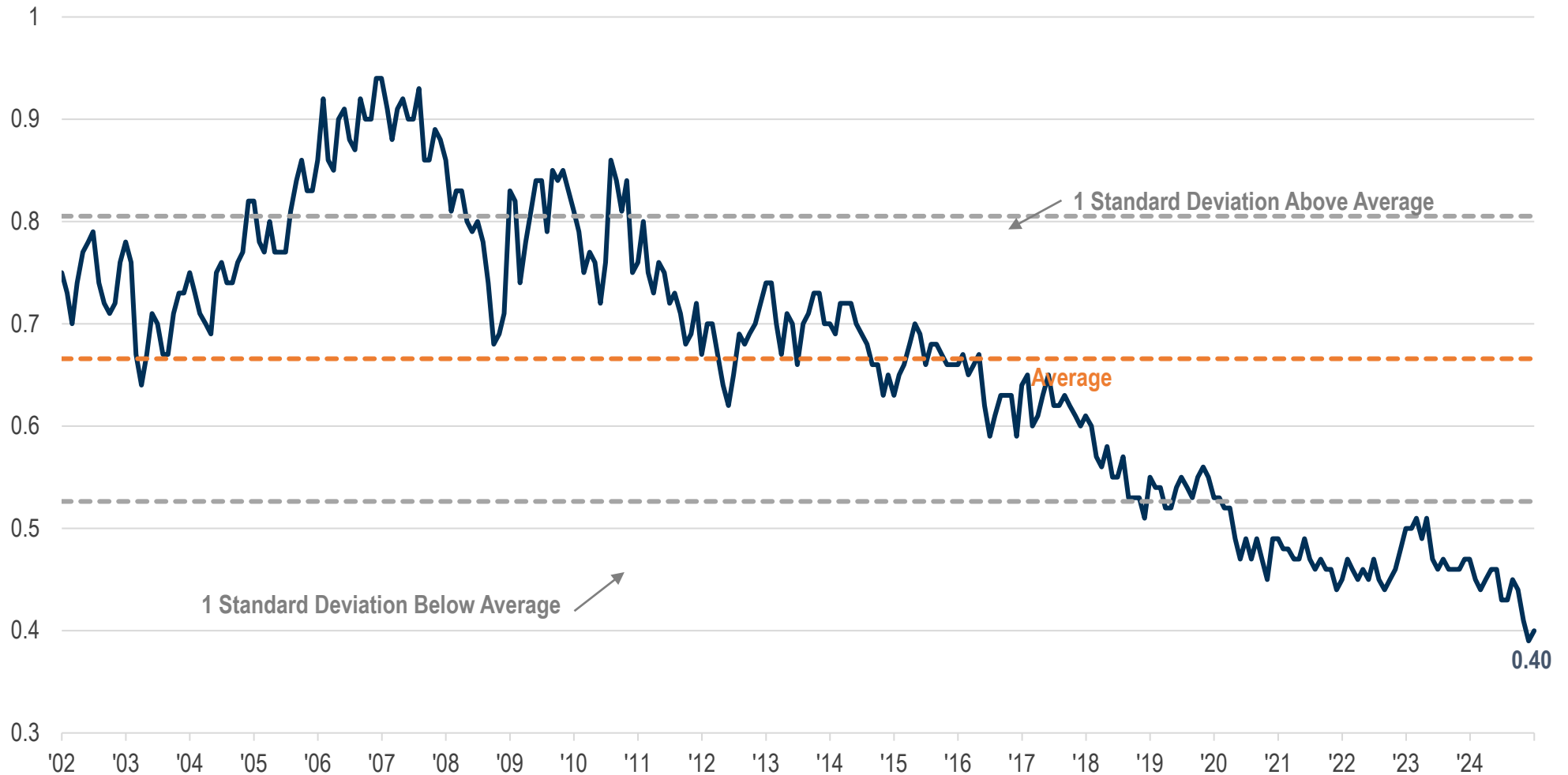


**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

Source: First Trust, FactSet. Data from 1/31/1997 to 12/31/2024. Price-to-Next Twelve Months earnings is price divided by FactSet consensus forecasted earnings per share (EPS) over the next twelve months. Standard Deviation is a measure of price variability (risk). There can be no assurance that any of the projections cited will occur. The MSCI Europe Index captures large and mid cap representation across 15 Developed Markets countries in Europe. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.

# MSCI EUROPE INDEX: PRICE-TO-BOOK RATIO RELATIVE TO THE S&P 500 INDEX

## MARKETS



### Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, FactSet. Data from 12/31/2001 to 12/31/2024. Price-to-book (P/B) ratio is the share price divided by book value of equity per share. Standard Deviation is a measure of price variability (risk). This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The MSCI Europe Index captures large and mid cap representation across 15 Developed Markets countries in Europe. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.

# INTERNATIONAL VALUATION AND EST. EPS GROWTH

## MARKETS

Index	PRICE TO NTM EPS			EST. EPS GROWTH			PRICE TO BOOK			EST. RETURN ON EQUITY	
	12/31/24	10-Yr. Median	Ratio to Median	2024	2025	2026	12/31/24	10-Yr. Median	Ratio to Median	2024	2025
MSCI Europe	13.2	14.3	92%	-2%	7%	11%	2.0	1.9	107%	13.9%	13.9%
MSCI Germany	13.1	12.9	102%	-8%	9%	13%	1.7	1.6	104%	11.3%	11.5%
MSCI Switzerland	15.9	17.0	93%	9%	10%	10%	3.8	2.9	129%	19.3%	19.9%
MSCI United Kingdom	11.3	13.0	87%	1%	6%	10%	1.8	1.8	103%	14.8%	14.6%
MSCI Japan	14.7	14.1	104%	8%	8%	9%	1.6	1.4	113%	9.3%	9.6%
MSCI Pacific ex Japan	15.8	15.3	104%	0%	3%	5%	1.8	1.6	110%	10.9%	10.8%
MSCI Canada	15.3	14.5	105%	-2%	9%	10%	2.1	1.8	115%	12.7%	13.3%
MSCI Emerging Markets (EM)	12.0	12.1	100%	13%	14%	13%	1.8	1.7	106%	12.9%	13.3%
MSCI China	10.2	10.6	96%	16%	9%	12%	1.5	1.6	97%	12.3%	12.2%
MSCI EM Latin America	7.9	12.0	66%	-20%	16%	11%	1.4	1.7	82%	15.6%	16.8%
MSCI Brazil	7.0	11.1	63%	-27%	16%	11%	1.5	1.7	87%	16.9%	17.9%
MSCI India	22.8	19.3	118%	8%	16%	16%	3.9	3.4	113%	15.2%	15.5%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, FactSet. As of 12/31/2024. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. There can be no assurance that any of the projections cited will occur. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Indices do not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown.

The above International MSCI Indices are designed to measure the performance of the large- and mid-cap segments of each region/country. **Price-to-Book ratio** - Share price divided by book value of equity per share. **Est. Return on Equity (ROE)** - Estimated return on common equity utilizing FactSet consensus estimated earnings per share in calendar year divided by equity per share. **Est. EPS Growth** - Expected year-over-year growth in FactSet consensus forecasted Earnings Per Share. **Price to NTM EPS** - Price divided by FactSet consensus forecasted earnings per share over the next twelve months.

# FACTOR RETURNS VS. S&P 500 EQUAL WEIGHT INDEX

## FACTORS

**Value:** Lowest price-to-book

**Quality:** Highest return-on-equity

**Low Volatility:** Lowest 1-year price variability

**Momentum:** Highest 12-month price change

**Size:** Lowest market capitalization

**Dividend Yield:** Highest dividend yield

	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	12 Month
Top	Low Volatility 0.40%	Momentum 9.18%	Dividend Yield 6.58%	Low Volatility -3.67%	Size 4.44%	Low Volatility -0.27%	Size 8.09%	Low Volatility 3.65%	Momentum 3.30%	Value -0.49%	Momentum 12.78%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt -6.26%	Momentum 23.40%
2	Quality 0.18%	Quality 7.01%	Value 6.43%	Dividend Yield -4.09%	Momentum 4.28%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt -0.45%	Value 8.07%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 2.50%	Quality 2.73%	Momentum -0.60%	Size 10.54%	Low Volatility -6.32%	Low Volatility 16.71%
3	Momentum -0.65%	Size 4.51%	Quality 4.91%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt -4.87%	Value 4.10%	Quality -0.68%	Dividend Yield 7.23%	Momentum 2.21%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 2.34%	Dividend Yield -0.87%	Value 8.24%	Dividend Yield -6.77%	Quality 16.44%
4	S&P 500 Equal Wgt -0.82%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 4.16%	Size 4.50%	Value -5.01%	Quality 3.32%	Momentum -0.69%	Low Volatility 5.66%	Dividend Yield 2.11%	Size 1.71%	Low Volatility -0.87%	Quality 7.57%	Quality -6.89%	Size 13.78%
5	Dividend Yield -2.05%	Low Volatility 3.57%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 4.46%	Quality -5.80%	Dividend Yield 3.31%	Dividend Yield -0.99%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 4.49%	Quality 0.91%	Dividend Yield 1.53%	Size -1.07%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 6.42%	Value -7.50%	Dividend Yield 13.13%
6	Value -2.48%	Value 1.87%	Momentum 4.01%	Size -6.05%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 2.82%	Size -1.30%	Quality 4.37%	Value 0.80%	Low Volatility 1.39%	Quality -1.16%	Low Volatility 6.34%	Size -7.68%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt 13.01%
Bottom	Size -2.99%	Dividend Yield 1.60%	Low Volatility 3.79%	Momentum -6.32%	Low Volatility 2.65%	Value -1.85%	Momentum 3.44%	Size -0.07%	Value 1.04%	S&P 500 Equal Wgt -1.63%	Dividend Yield 5.84%	Momentum -7.92%	Value 12.53%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Capital IQ. As of 12/31/2024. Returns are total returns. Universe: largest 1,000 U.S. firms with \$1 million in average daily volume over the last 3 months and 12 months of trading history. Top 30% of stocks by factor are selected. Stocks are then equally weighted. These examples are for illustrative purposes and do not represent any actual investment.

The S&P 500 Index is an index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. S&P 500 Equal Weight Index (EWI) - The equal-weight version of the S&P 500 Index. The index includes the same constituents as the capitalization-weighted S&P 500, but each company in the S&P 500 EWI is allocated a fixed weight - or 0.2% of the index total at each quarterly rebalance. An index does not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.

# FACTOR RETURNS VS. S&P 500 INDEX

## FACTORS

**Value:** Lowest price-to-book

**Momentum:** Highest 12-month price change

**Quality:** Highest return-on-equity

**Size:** Lowest market capitalization

**Low Volatility:** Lowest 1-year price variability

**Dividend Yield:** Highest dividend yield

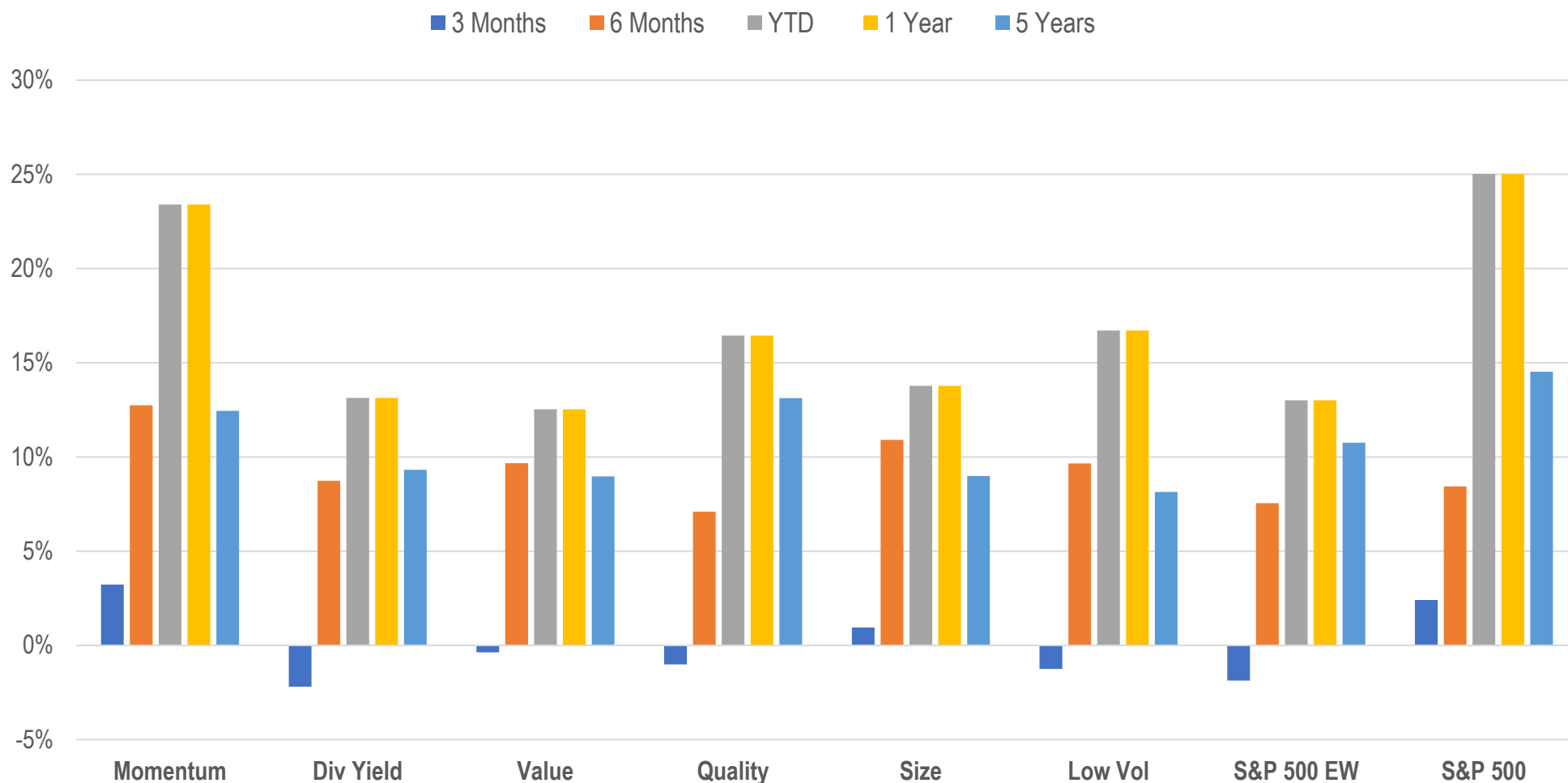
	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	12 Month
Top	S&P 500 1.68%	Momentum 9.18%	Dividend Yield 6.58%	Low Volatility -3.67%	S&P 500 4.96%	S&P 500 3.59%	Size 8.09%	Low Volatility 3.65%	Momentum 3.30%	Value -0.49%	Momentum 12.78%	S&P 500 -2.38%	S&P 500 25.02%
2	Low Volatility 0.40%	Quality 7.01%	Value 6.43%	S&P 500 -4.08%	Size 4.44%	Low Volatility -0.27%	Value 8.07%	S&P 500 2.43%	Quality 2.73%	Momentum -0.60%	Size 10.54%	Low Volatility -6.32%	Momentum 23.40%
3	Quality 0.18%	S&P 500 5.34%	Quality 4.91%	Dividend Yield -4.09%	Momentum 4.28%	Quality -0.68%	Dividend Yield 7.23%	Momentum 2.21%	S&P 500 2.14%	Dividend Yield -0.87%	Value 8.24%	Dividend Yield -6.77%	Low Volatility 16.71%
4	Momentum -0.65%	Size 4.51%	Size 4.50%	Value -5.01%	Value 4.10%	Momentum -0.69%	Low Volatility 5.66%	Dividend Yield 2.11%	Size 1.71%	Low Volatility -0.87%	Quality 7.57%	Quality -6.89%	Quality 16.44%
5	Dividend Yield -2.05%	Low Volatility 3.57%	Momentum 4.01%	Quality -5.80%	Quality 3.32%	Dividend Yield -0.99%	Quality 4.37%	Quality 0.91%	Dividend Yield 1.53%	S&P 500 -0.91%	Low Volatility 6.34%	Value -7.50%	Size 13.78%
6	Value -2.48%	Value 1.87%	Low Volatility 3.79%	Size -6.05%	Dividend Yield 3.31%	Size -1.30%	Momentum 3.44%	Value 0.80%	Low Volatility 1.39%	Size -1.07%	S&P 500 5.87%	Size -7.68%	Dividend Yield 13.13%
Bottom	Size -2.99%	Dividend Yield 1.60%	S&P 500 3.22%	Momentum -6.32%	Low Volatility 2.65%	Value -1.85%	S&P 500 1.22%	Size -0.07%	Value 1.04%	Quality -1.16%	Dividend Yield 5.84%	Momentum -7.92%	Value 12.53%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: First Trust, Capital IQ. As of 12/31/2024. Returns are total returns. Universe: largest 1,000 U.S. firms with \$1 million in average daily volume over the last 3 months and 12 months of trading history. Top 30% of stocks by factor are selected. Stocks are then equally weighted. These examples are for illustrative purposes and do not represent any actual investment.

The S&P 500 Index is an index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. S&P 500 Equal Weight Index (EWI) - The equal-weight version of the S&P 500 Index. The index includes the same constituents as the capitalization-weighted S&P 500, but each company in the S&P 500 EWI is allocated a fixed weight - or 0.2% of the index total at each quarterly rebalance. An index does not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.

## FACTORS



**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

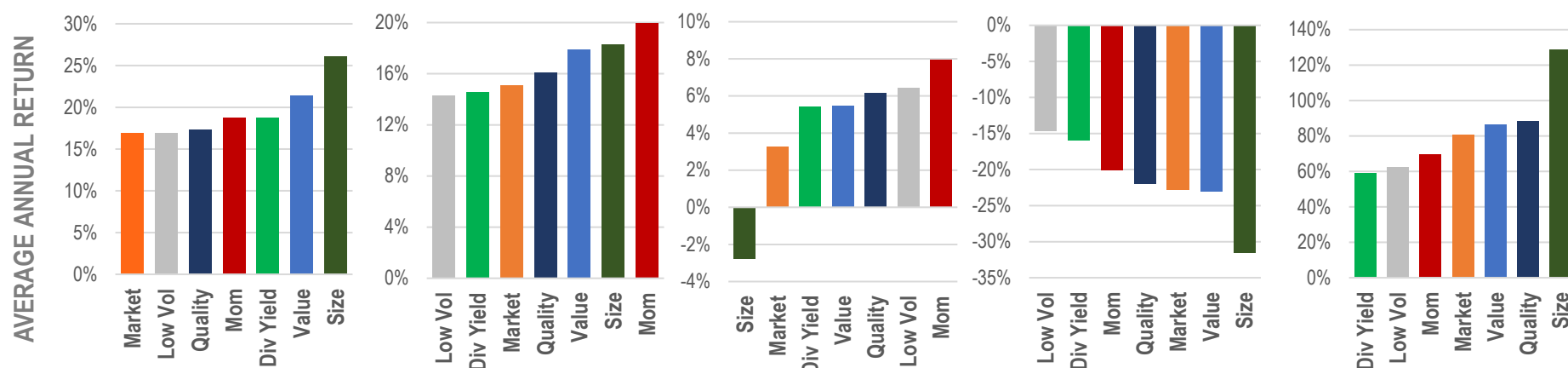
Source: First Trust, Capital IQ. As of 12/31/2024. Universe: largest 1,000 U.S. firms with \$1 million in average daily volume over the last 3 months and 12 months of trading history. 3 Year and 5 Year returns are annualized.

Value: Lowest price-to-book. Momentum: Highest 12-month price change. Quality: Highest return-on-equity. Size: Lowest market capitalization. Low Volatility: Lowest 1-year price variability. Dividend Yield: Highest dividend yield. The S&P 500 Index is an index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. The S&P 500 Equal Weight Index (EWI) is the equal-weight version of the S&P 500 Index. The index includes the same constituents as the capitalization-weighted S&P 500, but each company in the S&P 500 EWI is allocated a fixed weight - or 0.2% of the index total at each quarterly rebalance. An index does not charge management fees or brokerage expenses, and no such fees or expenses were deducted from the performance shown. Indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index.



## FACTORS

	Recovery	Expansion	Late Expansion	Early Recession	Late Recession
Economy	High Growth Off Bottom	Continued Stable Growth	Slowing Growth	Negative Growth	Negative Growth
Fed Policy	Accommodative	Neutral	Tightening	Accommodative	Accommodative
Sentiment	Risk-On	Risk-On	Switching from Risk-On to Risk-Off	Risk-Off	Risk-Off
Equities	High Equity Returns	High Equity Returns	Lower Equity Returns	Negative Returns	Highest Returns
Top Factors	Size and Value	Momentum and Value	Early: Momentum Late: Low Volatility and Quality	Low Volatility, Dividend Yield and Quality	Size and Quality



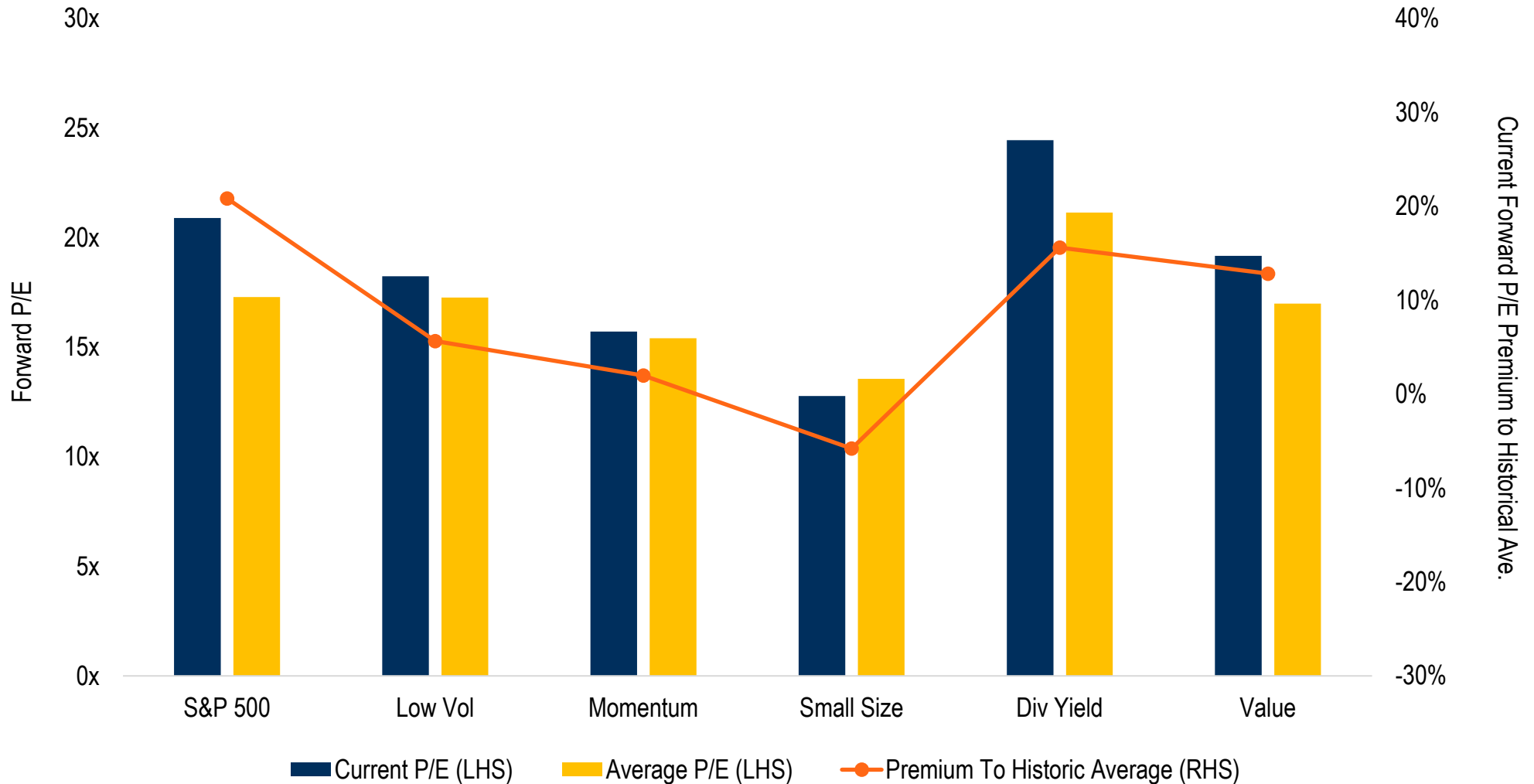
- **Market:** All NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ traded stocks
- **Quality:** Highest operating profitability
- **Size:** Lowest market capitalization
- **Low Volatility:** Lowest trailing 60-day variance
- **Momentum:** Highest 12-month price change lagged one month
- **Dividend Yield:** Highest dividend yield

### Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

As of 12/31/2024. This example is for illustrative purposes and does not represent any actual investment. We define economic cycles as follows: Recovery – 18 months following the end of a recession. Expansion – time between recovery and late-expansion. Late expansion – last 18 months before peak economic growth. Early recession – start of a recessionary period until 3 months before it ends. Late recession – last 3 months before the economy bottoms. Business cycle dates were sourced from the National Bureau of Economic Research. Data source for performance: Kenneth R. French data library using the CRSP database, July 1963 through May 2022 (for the purposes of this analysis we ended expansion 18 months from the end of late recession). Universe includes all NYSE, AMEX & Nasdaq stocks. Top 30% of stocks by factor are selected. Stocks are then market cap weighted.

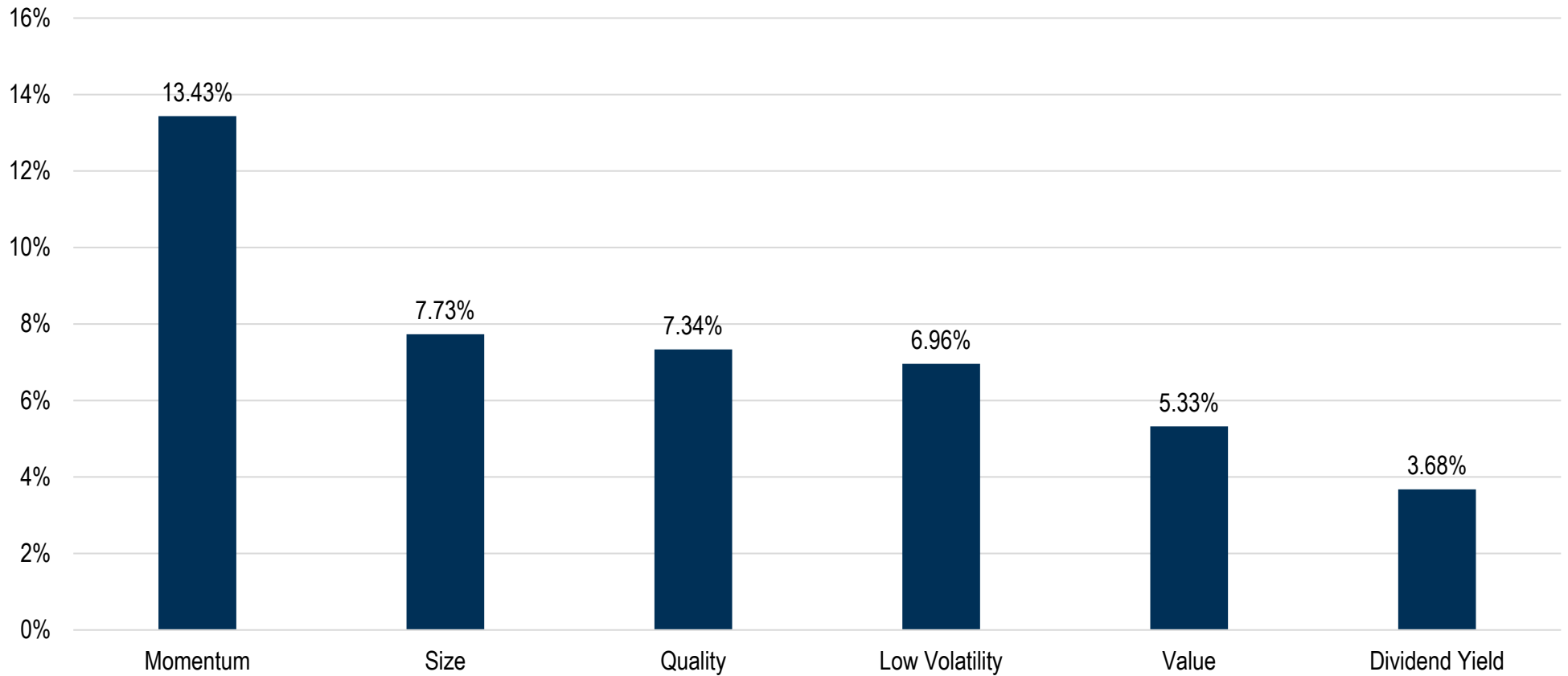
# FACTOR VALUATIONS: FORWARD PRICE-TO-EARNINGS RATIO

## FACTORS



Source: First Trust, Bloomberg & Capital IQ. Monthly data is calculated from 12/31/1999 to 12/31/2024. For illustrative purposes and does not represent any actual investment. The median monthly forward price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio is used for each factor. Each factor is comprised of the top 30% of stocks from a universe of the largest 1,000 U.S. stocks with at least \$1 million dollars in average daily volume over the last 3 months and 12 months of trading history. Value: Lowest price-to-book. Momentum: Highest 12-month price change. Quality: Highest return-on-equity. Size: Lowest market capitalization. Low Volatility: Lowest 1-year price variability. Dividend Yield: Highest dividend yield.

## FACTORS



Source: First Trust, Bloomberg & Capital IQ. As of 12/31/2024. Chart shows median next twelve-month EPS growth for each factor group. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Universe: largest 1,000 U.S. firms with \$1 million in average daily volume over the last 3 months and 12 months of trading history. Top 30% of stocks by factor are selected. Stocks are then equally weighted. Earnings per share (EPS) is a company's net profit divided by the number of common shares it has outstanding. Growth rates are based on the next twelve months earnings estimates compared to the trailing twelve months. Value: Lowest price-to-book. Momentum: Highest 12-month price change. Quality: Highest return-on-equity. Size: Lowest market capitalization. Low Volatility: Lowest 1-year price variability. Dividend Yield: Highest dividend yield.