

MILLS WEALTH ADVISORS

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Quarterly Market Review First Quarter 2024



Quarterly Market Review

First quarter 2024

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

Overview:

Market Summary

World Stock Market Performance

US Stocks

International Developed Stocks

Emerging Markets Stocks

Country Returns

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Commodities

Fixed Income

Global Fixed Income

Quarterly Topic: The Next BlackBerry?



Quarterly Market Summary

Index returns

| | US Stock Market | International Developed Stocks | Emerging Markets Stocks | Global Real Estate | US Bond Market | Global Bond Market ex US | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Q1 2024 | | STO | CKS | | ВО | BONDS | | |
| | 10.02% | 5.59% | 2.37% | -1.19% | -0.78% | 0.58% | | |
| Since Jan. 2001 | | | | | | | | |
| Average Quarterly Return | 2.4% | 1.6% | 2.5% | 2.2% | 0.9% | 0.9% | | |
| Best | 22.0% | 25.9% | 34.7% | 32.3% | 6.8% | 5.4% | | |
| Quarter | 2020 Q2 | 2009 Q2 | 2009 Q2 | 2009 Q3 | 2023 Q4 | 2023 Q4 | | |
| Worst | -22.8% | -23.3% | -27.6% | -36.1% | -5.9% | -4.1% | | |
| Quarter | 2008 Q4 | 2020 Q1 | 2008 Q4 | 2008 Q4 | 2022 Q1 | 2022 Q1 | | |

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.

Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net dividends]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net dividends]), IS Bond Market (Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond Market ex US (Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-USD Bond Index [hedged to USD]). S&P data © 2024 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2024, all rights reserved. Bloomberg data provided by Bloomberg.



Long-Term Market Summary

Index returns as of March 31, 2024

| | US Stock Market | International Developed Stocks | Emerging Markets Stocks | Global Real Estate | US Bond Market | Global Bond Market ex US |
|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Year | | STO | CKS | | BOI | NDS |
| | 29.29% | 15.29% | 8.15% | 7.44% | 1.70% | 5.92% |
| | | | | | | |
| 5 Years | | | | | | |
| | 14.34% | 7.48% | 2.22% | 1.21% | 0.36% | 1.03% |
| | | | | | | |
| 10 Years | | | | | | |
| | 12.33% | 4.81% | 2.95% | 3.89% | 1.54% | 2.64% |
| | | | | | | |

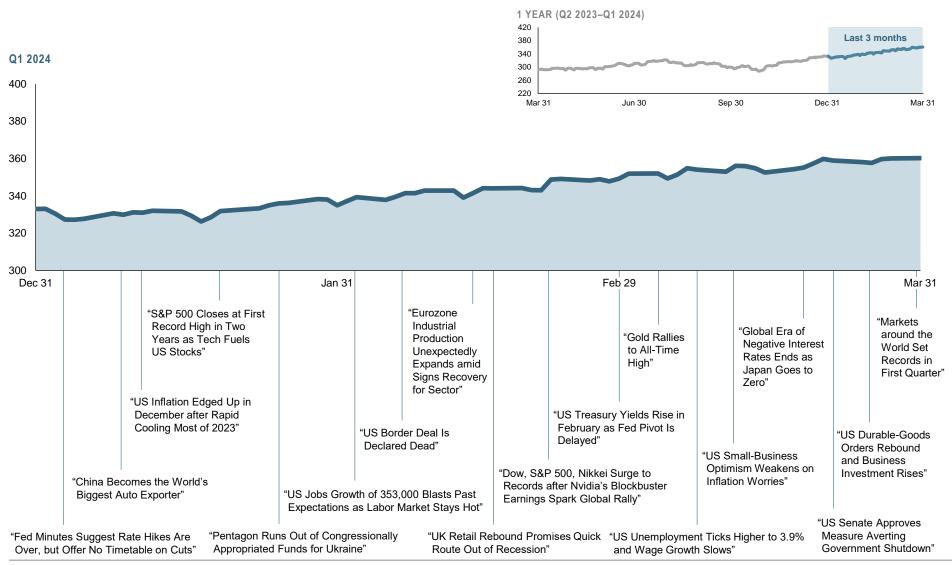
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Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net dividends]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net dividends]), Global Real Estate (S&P Global REIT Index [net dividends]), US Bond Market (Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond Market ex US (Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-USD Bond Index [hedged to USD]). S&P data © 2024 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2024, all rights reserved. Bloomberg data provided by Bloomberg.



World Stock Market Performance

MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from Q1 2024

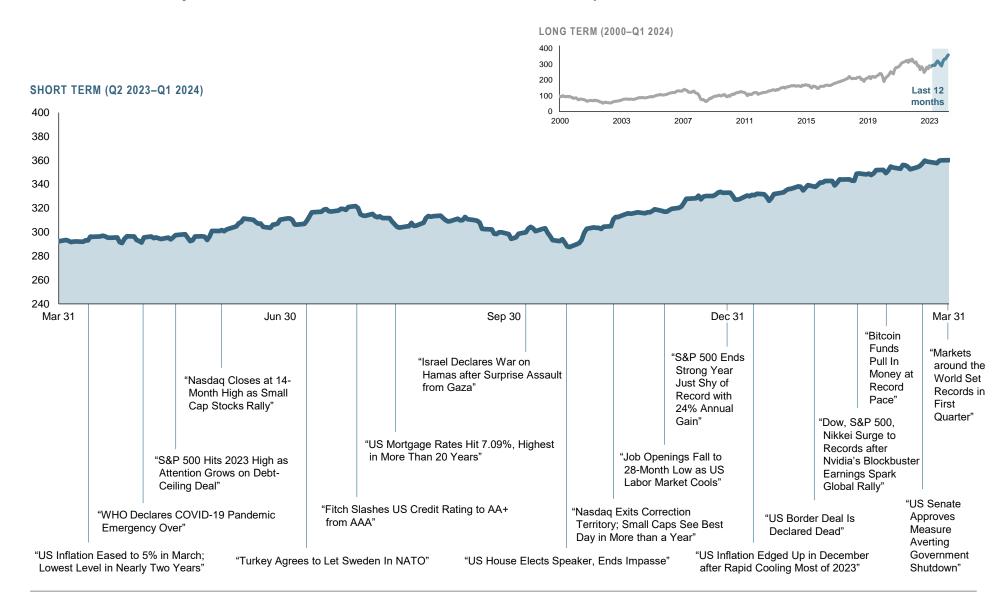


These headlines are not offered to explain market returns. Instead, they serve as a reminder that investors should view daily events from a long-term perspective and avoid making investment decisions based solely on the news.



World Stock Market Performance

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



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



US Stocks

First quarter 2024 index returns

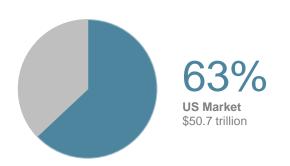
The US equity market posted positive returns for the quarter and outperformed both non-US developed and emerging markets.

Value underperformed growth.

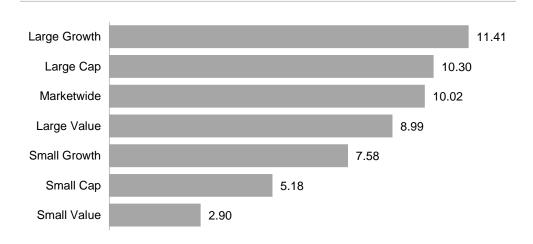
Small caps underperformed large caps.

REIT indices underperformed equity market indices.

World Market Capitalization—US



Ranked Returns (%)



Period Returns (%)

| | | | Annualized | | | | |
|--------------|-------|--------|------------|---------|----------|--|--|
| Asset Class | QTR | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | | |
| Large Growth | 11.41 | 39.00 | 12.50 | 18.52 | 15.98 | | |
| Large Cap | 10.30 | 29.87 | 10.45 | 14.76 | 12.68 | | |
| Marketwide | 10.02 | 29.29 | 9.78 | 14.34 | 12.33 | | |
| Large Value | 8.99 | 20.27 | 8.11 | 10.32 | 9.01 | | |
| Small Growth | 7.58 | 20.35 | -2.68 | 7.38 | 7.89 | | |
| Small Cap | 5.18 | 19.71 | -0.10 | 8.10 | 7.58 | | |
| Small Value | 2.90 | 18.75 | 2.22 | 8.17 | 6.87 | | |

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Market segment (index representation) as follows: Marketwide (Russell 3000 Index), Large Cap (Russell 1000 Index), Large Value (Russell 1000 Value Index), Large Growth (Russell 1000 Growth Index), Small Cap (Russell 2000 Index), Small Value (Russell 2000 Value Index), and Small Growth (Russell 2000 Growth Index). World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. Russell 3000 Index is used as the proxy for the US market. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index used as proxy for the US REIT market. MSCI data © MSCI 2024, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.



International Developed Stocks

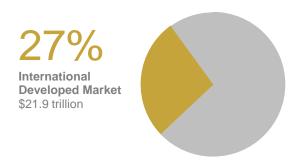
First quarter 2024 index returns

Developed markets outside of the US posted positive returns for the quarter and underperformed the US market, but outperformed emerging markets.

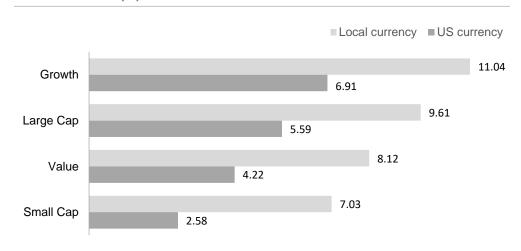
Value underperformed growth.

Small caps underperformed large caps.

World Market Capitalization—International Developed



Ranked Returns (%)



Period Returns (%)

| | | | Annualized | | | | |
|-------------|------|--------|------------|---------|----------|--|--|
| Asset Class | QTR | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | | |
| Growth | 6.91 | 13.66 | 2.83 | 7.86 | 5.74 | | |
| Large Cap | 5.59 | 15.29 | 4.93 | 7.48 | 4.81 | | |
| Value | 4.22 | 16.90 | 6.80 | 6.62 | 3.61 | | |
| Small Cap | 2.58 | 10.04 | -0.93 | 5.39 | 4.54 | | |

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Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI World ex USA Index), Small Cap (MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI World ex USA Value Index), and Growth (MSCI World ex USA Growth Index). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. MSCI World ex USA IMI Index is used as the proxy for the International Developed market. MSCI data © MSCI 2024, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.



Emerging Markets Stocks

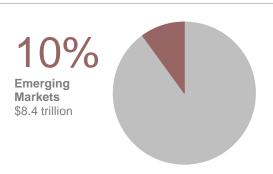
First quarter 2024 index returns

Emerging markets posted positive returns for the quarter and underperformed both US and non-US developed markets.

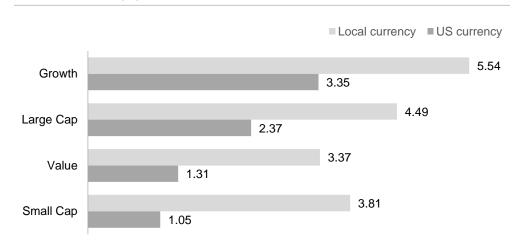
Value underperformed growth.

Small caps underperformed large caps.

World Market Capitalization—Emerging Markets



Ranked Returns (%)



Period Returns (%)

| | | | | Annualized | |
|-------------|------|--------|---------|------------|----------|
| Asset Class | QTR | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
| Growth | 3.35 | 5.16 | -8.85 | 2.24 | 3.63 |
| Large Cap | 2.37 | 8.15 | -5.05 | 2.22 | 2.95 |
| Value | 1.31 | 11.36 | -0.91 | 2.09 | 2.15 |
| Small Cap | 1.05 | 20.56 | 4.23 | 8.51 | 5.09 |

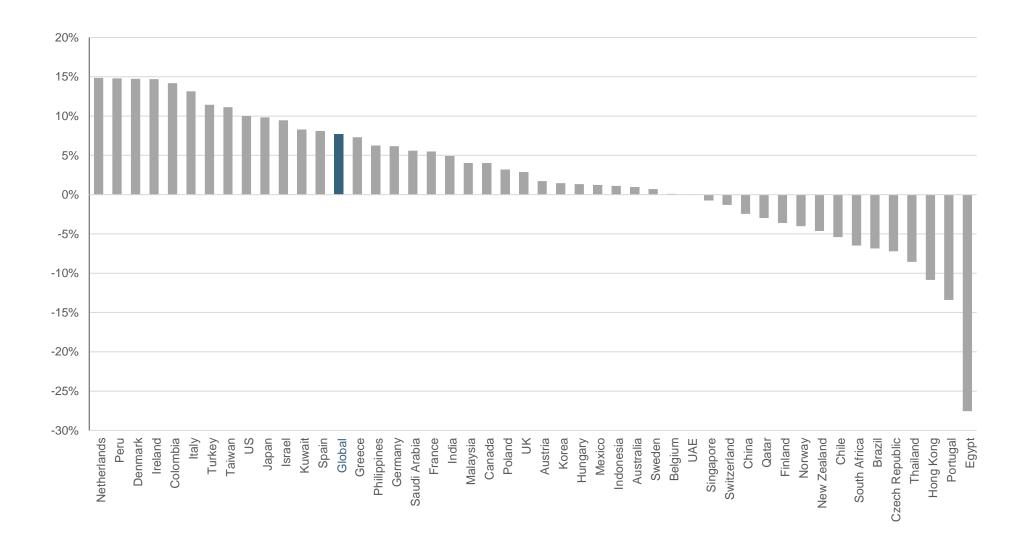
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Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI Emerging Markets Index), Small Cap (MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index), and Growth (MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Index). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index used as the proxy for the emerging market portion of the market. MSCI data © MSCI 2024, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.



Country Returns

First quarter 2024 index returns



Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

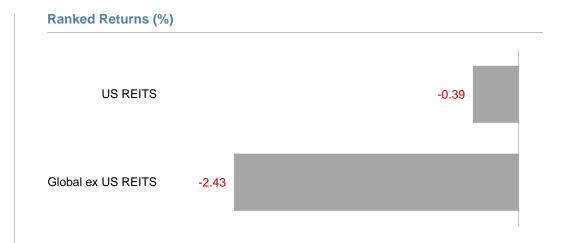
Country returns are the country component indices of the MSCI All Country World IMI Index for all countries except the United States, where the Russell 3000 Index is used instead. Global is the return of the MSCI All Country World IMI Index. MSCI index returns are net dividend. Indices are not available for direct investment. Their performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2024, all rights reserved.



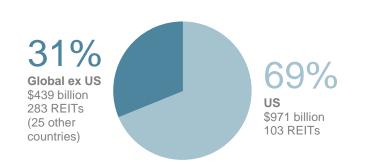
Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

First quarter 2024 index returns

US real estate investment trusts outperformed non-US REITs during the quarter.



Total Value of REIT Stocks



Period Returns (%)

| | | | | Annualized | |
|--------------------|-------|--------|---------|------------|----------|
| Asset Class | QTR | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
| US REITS | -0.39 | 10.45 | 3.69 | 2.99 | 5.91 |
| Global ex US REITS | -2.43 | 3.96 | -4.19 | -2.21 | 1.35 |

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.

Number of REIT stocks and total value based on the two indices. All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. Total value of REIT stocks represented by Dow Jones US Select REIT Index and the S&P Global ex US REIT Index. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index used as proxy for the US market, and S&P Global ex US REIT Index used as proxy for the World ex US market. Dow Jones and S&P data © 2024 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved.



Commodities

First quarter 2024 index returns

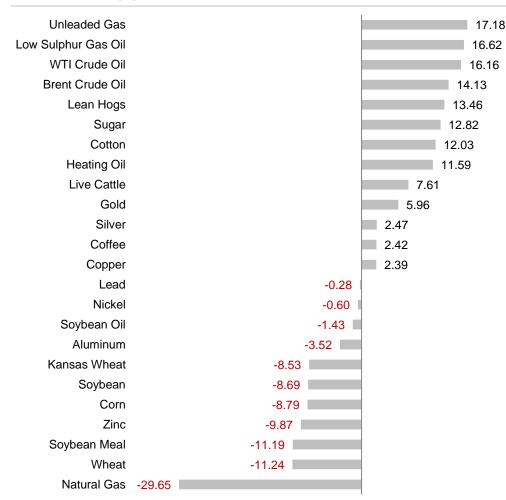
The Bloomberg Commodity Total Return Index returned +2.19% for the first quarter of 2024.

Unleaded Gas and Low Sulfur Gas Oil were the best performers, returning +17.18% and +16.62% during the quarter, respectively. Natural Gas and Wheat were the worst performers, returning -29.65% and -11.24% during the quarter, respectively.

Period Returns (%)

| | | | Annualized | | | | |
|-------------|------|--------|------------|---------|----------|--|--|
| Asset Class | QTR | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | | |
| Commodities | 2.19 | -0.56 | 9.11 | 6.38 | -1.56 | | |

Ranked Returns (%)





Fixed Income

First quarter 2024 index returns

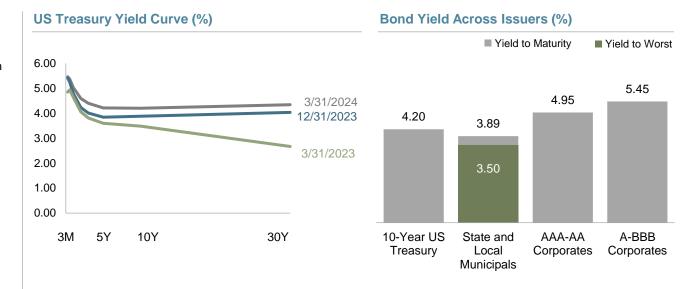
Interest rates generally increased in the US Treasury market for the guarter.

On the short end of the yield curve, the 1-Month US Treasury Bill yield decreased 11 basis points (bps) to 5.49%, while the 1-Year US Treasury Bill yield increased 24 bps to 5.03%. The yield on the 2-Year US Treasury Note increased 36 bps to 4.59%.

The yield on the 5-Year US Treasury Note increased 37 bps to 4.21%. The yield on the 10-Year US Treasury Note increased 32 bps to 4.20%. The yield on the 30-Year US Treasury Bond increased 31 bps to 4.34%.

In terms of total returns, short-term US treasury bonds returned -0.05% while intermediate-term US treasury bonds returned -0.36%. Short-term corporate bonds returned +0.60% and intermediate-term corporate bonds returned +0.26%.¹

The total returns for short- and intermediateterm municipal bonds were -0.19% and -0.52%, respectively. Within the municipal fixed income market, general obligation bonds returned -0.70% while revenue bonds returned -0.27%.²



Period Returns (%)

| | | | Annualized | | |
|--|-------|--------|------------|---------|----------|
| Asset Class | QTR | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
| Bloomberg U.S. High Yield Corporate Bond Index | 1.47 | 11.15 | 2.19 | 4.21 | 4.44 |
| ICE BofA US 3-Month Treasury Bill Index | 1.29 | 5.24 | 2.58 | 2.02 | 1.38 |
| ICE BofA 1-Year US Treasury Note Index | 0.83 | 4.30 | 1.44 | 1.66 | 1.25 |
| FTSE World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years (hedged to USD) | 0.26 | 3.66 | 0.11 | 1.16 | 1.41 |
| Bloomberg U.S. TIPS Index | -0.08 | 0.45 | -0.53 | 2.49 | 2.21 |
| Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index | -0.39 | 3.13 | -0.41 | 1.59 | 2.66 |
| Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index | -0.78 | 1.70 | -2.46 | 0.36 | 1.54 |
| FTSE World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years | -1.35 | 1.27 | -2.61 | -0.40 | -0.68 |
| Bloomberg U.S. Government Bond Index Long | -3.24 | -6.03 | -8.01 | -2.77 | 1.25 |

^{1.} Bloomberg US Treasury and US Corporate Bond Indices.

^{2.} Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index.

One basis point (bps) equals 0.01%. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Yield curve data from Federal Reserve. State and local bonds and the Yield to Worst are from the S&P National AMT-Free Municipal Bond Index. AAA-AA Corporates represent the ICE BofA US Corporates, AA-AAA rated. A-BBB Corporates represent the ICE BofA Corporates, BBB-A rated. Bloomberg data provided by Bloomberg. US long-term bonds, bills, inflation, and fixed income factor data © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (SBBI) Yearbook TM, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefield). FTSE fixed income indices © 2024 FTSE Fixed Income LLC, all rights reserved. ICE BofA index data © 2024 ICE Data Indices, LLC. S&P data © 2024 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Bloomberg data provided by Bloomberg.



Global Fixed Income

First quarter 2024 yield curves

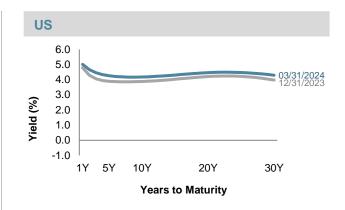
Interest rates generally increased across global developed markets for the quarter. Short-term rates in Japan turned positive.

Realized term premiums were generally negative across global developed markets, as longer-term bonds generally underperformed shorter-term bonds.

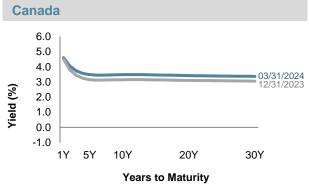
In Australia, short- and intermediateterm rates decreased. However, in Australia, UK, Germany, and Canada, the short-term segment of the yield curve remained inverted.

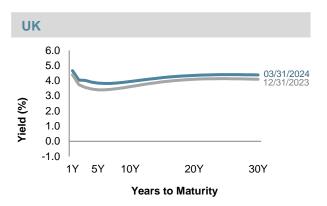
Changes in Yields (bps) since 12/31/2023

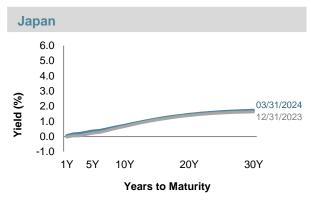
| | 1Y | 5Y | 10Y | 20Y | 30Y |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| US | 21.7 | 36.7 | 29.4 | 25.5 | 31.5 |
| UK | 27.7 | 43.7 | 33.7 | 25.8 | 28.2 |
| Germany | 29.6 | 40.0 | 24.8 | 19.0 | 20.2 |
| Japan | 8.1 | 14.0 | 7.9 | 7.1 | 10.1 |
| Canada | 8.4 | 33.3 | 32.8 | 31.9 | 31.9 |
| Australia | 5.7 | -2.9 | 0.9 | 1.7 | 4.9 |

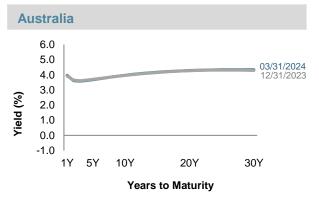














The Next BlackBerry?

First quarter 2024

Wes Crill, PhD, Senior Investment Director and Vice President, Dimensional Fund Advisors

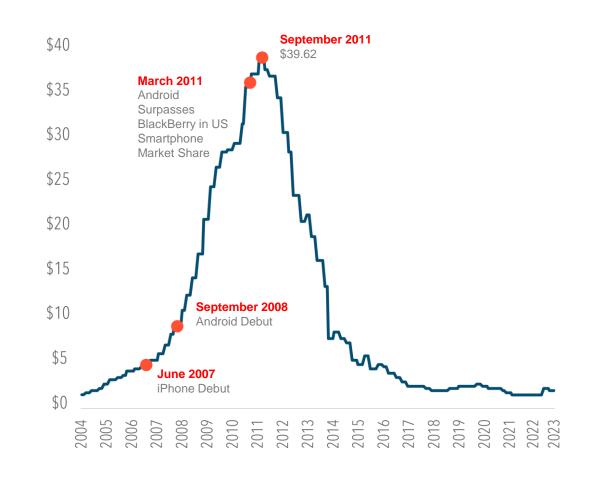
Some investors attribute the Magnificent 7 stocks' dominance to a "winner-take-all" environment in which a handful of companies achieve sufficient market share to hinder competition. In businesses where gaining users drives success, establishing a strong market share may be like building a moat around profitability. But that doesn't guarantee these companies can stay on top.

Think about the state of mobile phones 15 years ago. In all likelihood, you would have been reading this on a BlackBerry, such was that device's entrenchment for mobile business communication. Then, along came iPhones and Androids and suddenly BlackBerry's foothold was eroded.

History is littered with examples of household names that were usurped by the Next Big Thing. Remember, Sears was a Top 10-sized stock in the US once upon a time. AOL was synonymous with internet access in the 1990s. And in 2003, the most popular social media network starting with the letter F was Friendster.

Even the biggest companies have uncertain futures, highlighting the need for broadly diversified investments. And even if these companies stay at the top of the market, that's no assurance higher returns will continue if their success is expected.

BLACKBERRY TRAILING 12-MONTH SALES PER SHARE February 2004—January 2024



^{1.} Magnificent 7 include Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta, Microsoft, Nvidia, and Tesla. Named securities may be held in accounts managed by Dimensional. See following page for important disclosure.



The Next BlackBerry?

(continued from page 15)

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

In USD. Source: FactSet.

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