

MONTHLY ECONOMIC UPDATE

INVESTMENT NEWSLETTER / NOVEMBER 2017

November Summary

Despite a lackluster start to the month, U.S. stocks eventually gained steam to deliver strong returns in November. Results in other asset classes were mixed. Expectations that tax reform and reduced government regulation would boost corporate profits continued to be a boon for U.S. companies. Several trends rapidly reversed course in the final days of the month. Value stocks rebounded versus growth stocks. Technology stocks unwound but remain the highest performing sector this year. Most U.S. fixed income markets showed modest losses as interest rates and credit spreads both increased for the month. Outside the U.S., Asian markets, notably China and Japan, offset weakness in Europe. Emerging markets took a breather after outpacing developed markets for much of the year. Energy prices rose, but industrial metals and livestock prices lost ground. Volatility in both the stock and bond markets remains remarkably low despite high valuation levels and ongoing political uncertainty.

Global economic growth appears to remain on track. Third quarter U.S.

GDP growth was revised upward to 3.3%. Recent improvements in productivity and business investment spending have offset a slowdown in consumer spending. Federal Reserve policies, including interest rate hikes and the unwinding of quantitative easing, have resulted in higher

short-term rates. At the same time, long-term interest rates have declined. A flatter yield curve makes it more difficult for investors to navigate the fixed income markets and may be a harbinger of weaker economic growth down the road.

Economic Data

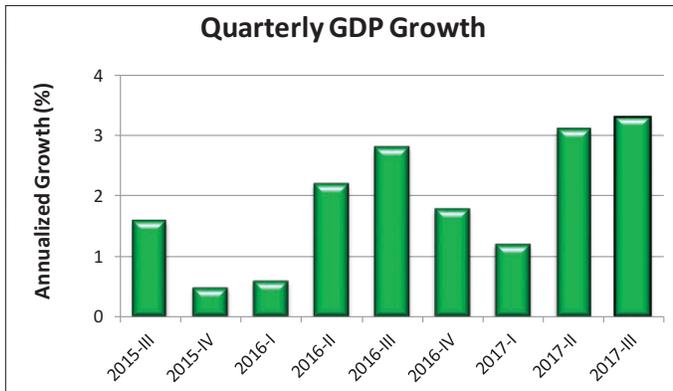
General	Prior	Current
GDP growth	3.1% (Q2)	3.3% (Q3)
Trade balance	-\$44.9B (Sep)	-\$48.7B (Oct)
Employment	Prior	Current
Initial jobless claims	238,000 (11/25)	236,000 (12/2)
Continuing claims	1.96MM (11/18)	1.91MM (11/25)
Change in non-farm payrolls	18,000 (Sep)	261,000 (Oct)
Unemployment rate	4.2% (Sep)	4.1% (Oct)
Average weekly hours	34.4 (Sep)	34.4 (Oct)
Consumer	Prior	Current
Consumer confidence index (Conference Board)	126.2 (Oct)	129.5 (Nov)
Retail sales growth	1.9% (Sep)	0.2% (Oct)
Change in consumer credit	\$13.1B (Aug)	\$20.8B (Sep)
Manufacturing & Service	Prior	Current
ISM manufacturing index	58.7 (Oct)	58.2 (Nov)
ISM non-manufacturing index	60.1 (Oct)	57.4 (Nov)
Durable goods orders growth	2.2% (Sep)	-1.2% (Oct)
Industrial production growth	0.4% (Sep)	0.9% (Oct)
Capacity utilization	76.4% (Sep)	77.0% (Oct)
Real Estate	Prior	Current
New home sales	645,000 (Sep)	685,000 (Oct)
Existing home sales	5.4MM (Sep)	5.5MM (Oct)
S&P CoreLogic CS home price index (YoY)	5.9% (Aug)	6.2% (Sep)
Inflation	Prior	Current
Consumer price index/Core (YoY growth)	2.2%/1.7% (Sep)	2.0%/1.8% (Oct)
Producer price index/Core (YoY growth)	2.6%/2.1% (Sep)	2.8%/2.3% (Oct)



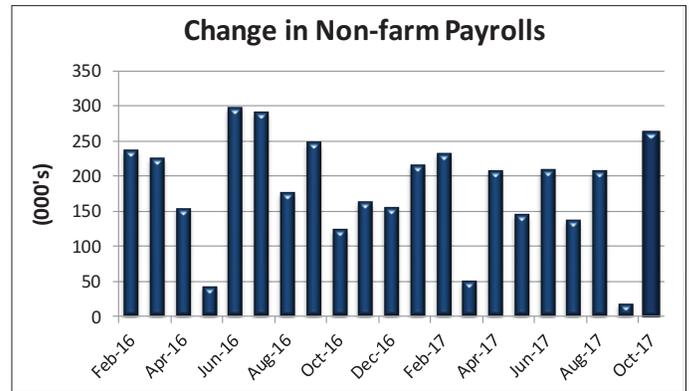
CONWAY WEALTH GROUP

At Summit Financial Resources, Inc.

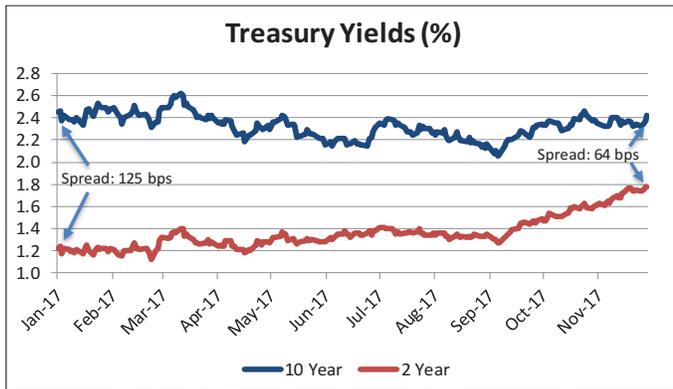
Aligning Life & Wealth®



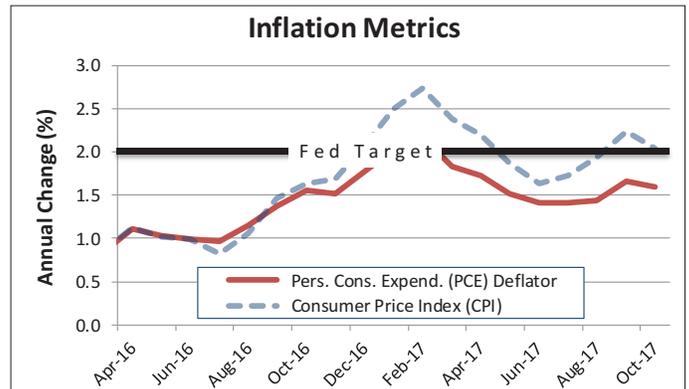
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis



U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



U.S. Department of The Treasury



U.S. Bureaus of Labor Stats. & Economic Analysis

Market Returns

	Nov 2017	YTD 2017
Cash and Fixed Income		
Barclays Aggregate Bond	-0.1%	3.1%
Barclays Municipal Bond	-0.5%	4.4%
Barclays Gbl Agg. ex. U.S.	2.1%	10.2%
Alternatives		
Bloomberg Commodity	-0.5%	-1.2%
DJ US Real Estate	2.6%	9.9%

Morningstar

	Nov 2017	YTD 2017
Domestic Equities		
Wilshire 5000	3.0%	19.7%
S & P 500	3.1%	20.5%
Russell 2000	2.9%	15.1%
International Equities		
MSCI EAFE (Developed)	1.0%	23.1%
MSCI EM (Emerging)	0.2%	32.5%

Disclaimers

This commentary was written by Noreen Johnston, CFA, Director of Research, and Daniel Cohen, Investment Analyst at Summit Equities, Inc. and Summit Financial Resources, Inc. Source of performance: Morningstar®. Indices are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. The investment and market data in this newsletter is not an offer to sell or purchase any security or commodity. Past performance does not guarantee future results. The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is a market capitalization-weighted index comprising Treasury securities, Government agency bonds, mortgage backed bonds, corporate bonds, and some foreign bonds traded in the U.S. The Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond Index covers the U.S. dollar-denominated long-term tax-exempt bond market. The index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and pre-refunded bonds. The Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Ex U.S. Index measures the performance of global investment grade fixed-rate debt markets that excludes USD-dominated securities. The Bloomberg Commodity Index measures the performance of the commodity sector representing an unleveraged, long-only investment in commodity futures that is broadly diversified, and primarily liquidity weighted. The Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate Index measures the performance of the real estate sector of the U.S. equity market. It includes companies in the following industries: real estate holding and development and Real Estate Investment Trusts. The Wilshire 5000 Total Market Index measures the performance of all U.S. headquartered equities with readily available price data. It is market capitalization-weighted and is designed to track the overall performance of the U.S. stock market. The S&P 500 Index is a market capitalization-weighted Index of 500 widely held stocks often used as a proxy for the stock market. It measures the movement of the largest issues. Standard and Poor's chooses the member companies for the 500 based on market size, liquidity and industry group representation. Included are the stocks of industrial, financial, utility, and transportation companies. The Russell 2000 Index measures the performance of the small cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000 Index is a subset of the Russell 3000 Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2,000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets. Information throughout this Newsletter or any other statement(s) regarding markets or other financial information are obtained from sources which we and our suppliers believe to be reliable, but we do not warrant or guarantee the timeliness or accuracy of this information. Neither we nor our information providers shall be liable for any errors or inaccuracies, regardless of cause, or the lack of timeliness of, or for any delay or interruption in the transmission thereof to the reader. To unsubscribe from this investment newsletter please reply to this email with "unsubscribe" in the subject. Opinions expressed are subject to change without notice and are not intended to be investment advice or a guarantee of future performance. Consult your financial professional before making any investment decision. Securities and Investment Advisory Services offered through Summit Equities, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC, and Financial Planning Services offered through Summit Equities, Inc.'s affiliate Summit Financial Resources, Inc. 4 Campus Drive, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Tel. 973-285-3600, Fax: 973-285-3666.

20171208-1375