Covenant Asset Management, ILC

First Quarter 2019 Investment Perspectives

John Guarino, President | www.covasset.com 125 Maple Avenue Chester, NJ 07930 | (908) 879-4090

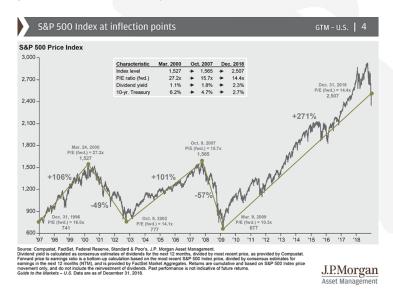
.??}

Economic and Financial Markets Review & Outlook



Covenant Asset Management is pleased to offer our latest investment perspectives. In this publication we review fourth quarter results and highlight key economic, financial and political themes which we expect will drive markets and investment performance in the coming months.

What happened? Three months ago, the U.S. economy and financial markets were riding high. GDP growth had surged above 3%, major U.S. stock indexes had risen to all-time highs and the ten-year U.S. Treasury yield had jumped above 3.2%. Then, by year-end, stock market indexes had plummeted and the ten-year Treasury yield had dropped below 2.7%. Historic declines in stocks in December resulted in all market benchmarks showing declines for 2018. The S&P 500 lost 13.5% in the 4th quarter and 4.4% for the year; the DJIA was down 7.4% in the guarter and 5.6% for the year; and Nasdaq declined 17.3% in the guarter and 3.9% for all of 2019. In a reversal of 2017, cash was the only asset class to produce a positive return last year.



KEY THEMES

- 1. Global and U.S. economic growth is slowing and the risk of recession is rising
- 2. Corporate earnings growth is expected to decelerate sharply this year
- 3. Monetary policy and trade tensions are the biggest risks for the economy and financial markets as we enter 2019
- 4. After reaching all-time highs in October, major stock indexes flirted with bear market territory by year-end
- 5. Expect markets to remain volatile in early 2019 as economic data, Fed policy and China trade negotiations are monitored and assessed

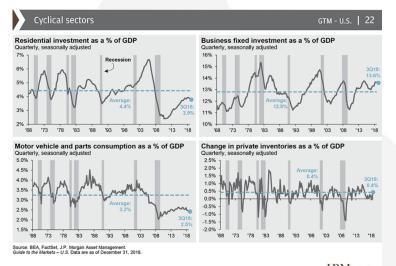
Emerging market equities were the worst performer in 2019, dropping 14.2% after leaping 37.8% in 2017. All asset class returns can be viewed on the last page of this report.

A myriad of factors can be blamed for the harsh selloff in stocks and the flight to safety within financial markets. Markets began to rollover after the Federal Reserve raised the Fed Funds rate in late September and Fed chair Jerome Powell indicated that the Fed believed there was a lot of room to continue raising interest rates. The Federal Open Market Committee indicated at that time that they envisioned another Fed Funds rate hike in 2018 and four more in 2019. These comments and the Fed's forecast took investors by surprise as the economic forecast was much stronger than market consensus. During ensuing weeks, as global economic data, especially from China, pointed to deteriorating economic growth, investors became increasingly dismayed that Fed policy appeared too aggressive. December turned out to be a perfect storm for financial markets. Although the U.S. and China agreed to extend negotiations on trade disputes until March 1,

Economic and Financial Markets Review



President Trump and other officials from the Administration continued to communicate mixed messages about the likelihood of consummating a deal in time to avoid an escalation of tariffs. In the meanwhile, in the midst of an already jittery market, the Fed raised the Fed Funds rate again in mid-December. Comments by chairman Powell after the Fed decision were construed as being out of step with tightening financial market conditions. Mr. Powell suggested that the Fed's program to slowly shrink its balance sheet by not reinvesting all of the securities expiring each month was essentially on auto-pilot. These comments were interpreted by traders as suggesting the Fed was out of touch with what was happening in real-time in the global economy and capital markets.



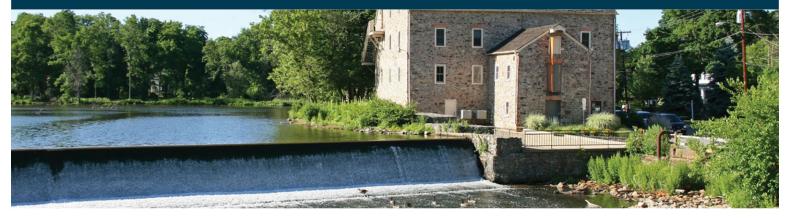
J.P.Morgan

Additionally, there were concerns that the Fed was too reliant on its internal models, which are too backward-looking and don't assign enough weight to forward-looking indicators, such as the performance of financial markets. Even as

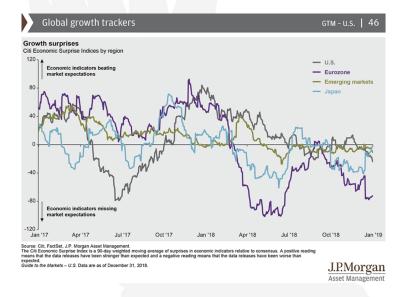
some Fed officials attempted to backtrack on the perception that their policy stance was too rigid, damage had been done to the Fed's credibility. Traders began to factor in the possibility of a monetary policy mistake, which could eventually end with a recession in the U.S. While all of this was playing out in financial markets, the fight over funding for border security led to a partial government shutdown and several high profile members of the Trump Administration were either fired or resigned. There was also some concern that President Trump, through a series of tweets, inappropriately attempted to pressure the Fed to hold off on raising interest rates. Fed Chairman Powell assured us that the Fed is an independent entity and apolitical in its decision-making. However, there was some worry by investors that the President's tweets may have been counterproductive. Some of these factors occurred during the last two weeks of December, a timeframe when trading is typically slower due to holiday schedules. Within this less liquid trading environment, volatility became exaggerated, as stocks endured wild daily and intra-day swings.

As we look ahead, we believe investors will continue to focus on China trade negotiations, monetary policy by central banks throughout the developed world and corporate earnings trends. Recent manufacturing data out of China suggests its economy has weakened considerably in the past several quarters. Tariffs imposed by the U.S. on Chinese exports have likely contributed to recent weakness. It is also apparent that there has been a spillover effect on other Asian and emerging market economies, which tend to be large suppliers to China. Stock prices in China and many emerging markets have been signaling an economic slowdown since last summer, as many of them tumbled following the imposition of China tariffs early last

Economic and Financial Markets Challenges



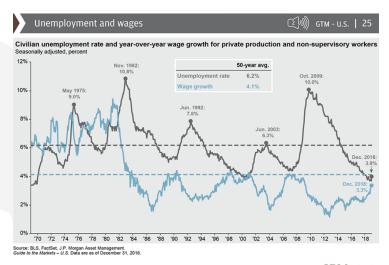
year. Of course, this is part of the calculus by the Trump Administration to put pressure on China to negotiate more equitable trade terms. In addition to lowering tariff's on U.S. imports, U.S. trade negotiators are focused on making China change its policy on forced technology transfers and



intellectual property theft. China's unfair trading practices go back many decades and changes are sorely needed. There are two schools of thought regarding the likelihood of a deal this year. Optimists point to the fact that the U.S. and China have some urgency to agree to terms, as both economies are slowing and President Trump needs a healthy economy and strong financial markets to bolster his chances for reelection in 2020. Others believe that the U.S. needs to stand firm in its demands now, because it will become more difficult to extract fair terms in the future if China's economy eclipses the U.S. as the world's largest. It is difficult to know whether a deal will be reached before the March 1 deadline or whether enough progress will be made to allow the deadline for negotiations to be extended. The

performance of financial markets will partly depend on the outcome of these negotiations.

To some extent, trade negotiations will also influence monetary policy decisions. Should a trade deal be reached and financial markets respond positively, it may provide the Fed the opportunity to raise the Fed Funds rate further in 2019. If negotiations fail and tensions and or tariffs escalate, the global economy is likely to slow further and markets are likely to suffer fresh declines, which will prohibit the Fed from any more monetary tightening. Beyond trade, economic growth in the U.S. is expected to decelerate from 2018's robust pace. When fourth guarter 2018 GDP growth is reported later this month, it is likely to show annual GDP growth above 3% for the first time since 2005. Estimates for 2019 generally range from 2-2.5% with an increasing number of economists worried that growth might drop below 2% by the end of 2019. Slower economic growth expectations are related to slowing momentum from tax cuts, higher interest rates and the effects of the trade war with China and other countries.



J.P.Morgan

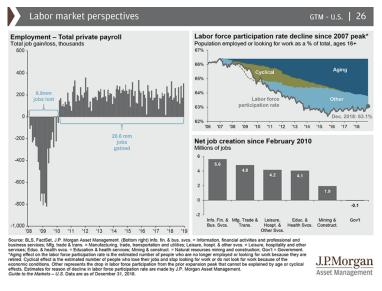
Economic and Financial Markets Challenges



At the same time, U.S. economic fundamentals remain strong. In last year's fourth guarter, job creation averaged over 250,000 per month. The unemployment rate sat at 3.9% and the labor force December participation rate has been rising, as job seekers saw more abundant opportunities for work. In addition, wage growth is above 3%, the highest level since the financial crisis in 2008. Consumer confidence remains near a twenty year high and service sector business activity is robust. Lower energy prices are also likely to have a positive affect on spending, as consumers pay less for gasoline and home heating. Amid all of these signs of strength, higher interest rates have had a negative impact on certain sectors, particularly housing and autos, as the cost of financing those purchases has risen.

After surging over 20% in 2018, corporate profit growth is projected to slow to low-single digits in 2019. Waning effects of last years's tax cut are the primary reason for the slowdown. Also, energy sector profits will be weaker following lower oil prices and tougher year-over-year comparisons.

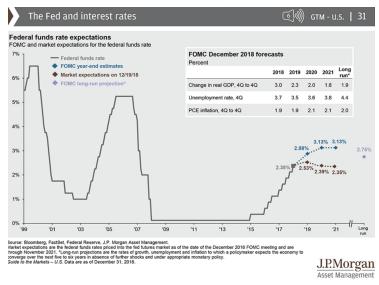
With this economic backdrop, the inevitable question is, where do we go from here? In our view, some of the damage done in the last few months of last year was warranted, as the stock market is forward looking and it is understandable that prices would adjust downward to reflect the anticipation of slowing economic and profit growth. However, short of a full blown recession, the sudden and violent correction that occurred was overdone and likely exacerbated by illiquidity in the final few weeks of December. Economic surveys from China and the U.S. and Apple's profit warning in recent days alarmed investors that global growth was rapidly slowing. Investors were equally worried that the Fed and other central



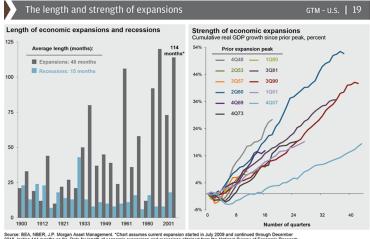
banks were embarking on ill-conceived monetary tightening policies, which would ultimately lead to global recession. The blow-out December jobs report showing 312,000 jobs created, upward revisions of nearly 60,000 jobs for the previous two months and strong wage growth dispelled some the the economic slowdown worries. In addition, Fed chairman Powell, speaking at an economic forum, assured investors that the Fed was ready "to adjust policy quickly and flexibly" if needed and that included halting the policy of shrinking the Fed's balance sheet, if necessary. Momentum appears to have shifted positively in the new year, as markets have gained ground in 6 of the past 7 trading sessions. In the weeks ahead, it would not be surprising to see half or more of the market correction recovered from deeply oversold conditions. Beyond that, markets will be grappling with the core issues of economic growth, monetary policy and trade as discussed in detail previously. For the better part of a year we have been communicating that we are near the

Economic and Financial Markets Challenges





end of a long economic expansion and bull market that began in 2009. Eliminating leverage such as margin and other debt is a sensible step toward becoming more cautious and defensive. Additionally, reviewing investment strategy and asset allocation to ensure they align with your objectives is vital at this stage of the business cycle.



Source: BEA, NBER, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. "Chart assumes current expansion started in July 2009 and continued through December 2018, Issing 114 months so far. Data for length of deconomic expansions and recessions obtained from the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). These data can be found at wurder dargological and reflect information through December 2018. Past performance is not a reliable diode for the Marketon – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2018.

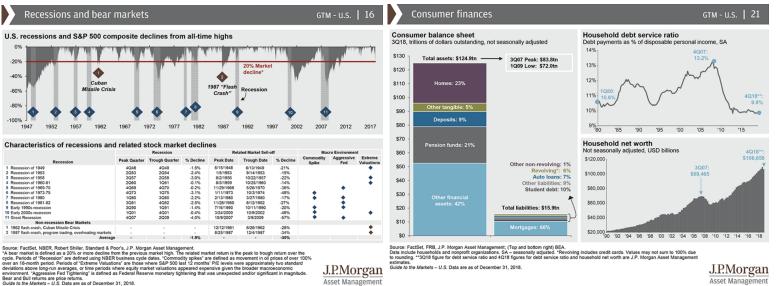
J.P.Morgan Asset Management We will be closely monitoring economic reports, policy changes and financial markets performance, and will be sure to notify you of any recommended changes to investment strategy.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve you. All of us at Covenant look forward this year to helping achieve your financial goals. Please accept our best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous 2019!

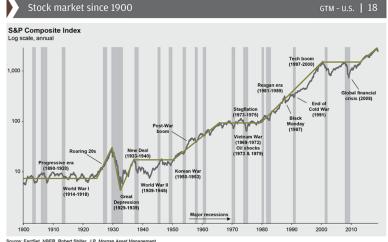
Economic & Financial Markets Charts



Rather than write extensively about equity valuations, economic statistics and investing principles, we offer the following charts organized by topic and courtesy of J.P. Morgan Asset Management:



Aggressive red inginology a second red inginology and the second r



ce: FactSet, NBER, Robert Shiller, J.P. Morgan Asset Managem shown in log scale to best illustrate long-term index patterns. Pa e of future returns. Chart is for illustrativ

purposes only. Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2018.

J.P.Morgan Asset Management

Federal finances The 2019 federal budget CBO Baseline forecast, USD trillions Federal budget surplus/deficit % of GDP, 1990 – 2028, 2018 CBO Baselin -12 \$5.0 -10% Total spending: \$4.5tn \$4.5 -8% Other: \$499bn (11%) \$4.0 Borrowing: \$981bn (22%) -6% Net int.: \$390bn (9%) \$3.5 ther: \$238bn (5%) -2% ՄՄԵ \$3.0 \$2.5 \$1,231bn (28%) bn (15% \$2.0 '15 Social Security \$1.043bn (23% \$1.5 Federal net debt (accumulated deficits) % of GDP, 1940 – 2028, 2018 CBO Baseline, end \$1.0 120% \$0.5 \$0.0 Total government spend CBO's Baseline assumptio Sources of financing 80% сво 2019 2020 '21-'22 '23-'28 609 Forecas Real GDP growth 3.0% 2.1% 1.6% 1.7% 409 10-year Treasury 3.5% 3.8% 4.0% 3.7% 2.4% 2.4% Headline inflati ion (CPI) 2.3% 2.5% 20% Unemployment 3.4% 3.5% 4.3% 4.8% '56 '64 72 '80 '88 '96 '04 '12 20 '48

Source: CBO, J.P. Morgan Ass 2019 Federal Budget is based of Congressional Budget Office (C subsidies, income security and Suide to the Markets – U.S. Da Treasury Dep ril 2018 Base ne Budget F the Co ast. CBO Ba mited to, heal ough Sep. 30). er spending includes, but is not hown are fiscal years (Oct. 1 thr ar 31 2018

J.P.Morgan Asset Manas

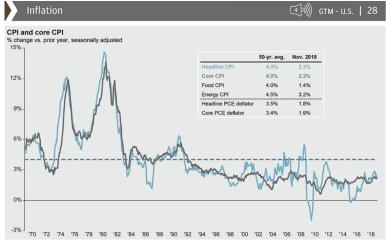
ent

Economic & Financial Markets Charts



Rather than write extensively about equity valuations, economic statistics and investing principles, we offer the following charts organized by topic and courtesy of J.P. Morgan Asset Management:

Inv

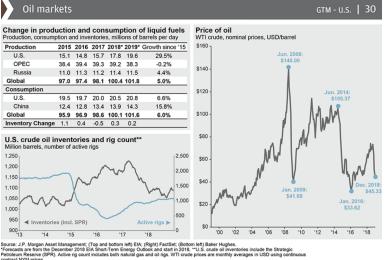


BLS, FactSet, J.P. Morgan A d is CPI-U and values shown wn are % change vs. re (PCE) deflator emr ago. Core CPI is defir ng food and en

weight basket used in CPI calculations. Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2018

J.P.Morgan Asset Mana

nent



the December 201 (SPR). Active rig o YM prices. e Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2018

J.P.Morgan Asset Manage



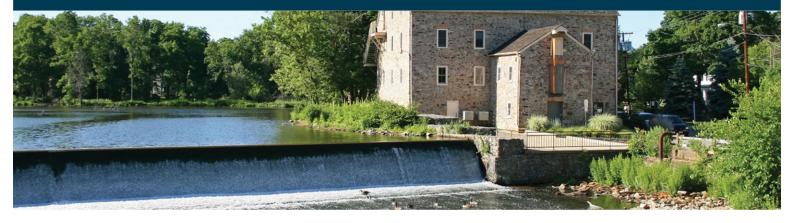




urce: FactSet, Federal Reserve, J.P. Morgan Asset Managerr ed bond is 2-year from June 1976. Time to recession is calcu ession, and the onset of recession. ide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of December 31, 2018.

J.P.Morgan Asset Manage nent

Economic Charts



Rather than write extensively about equity valuations, economic statistics and investing principles, we offer the following charts organized by topic and courtesy of J.P. Morgan Asset Management:

Manufacturing momentum

≤り))) GTM - U.S. | 47

Global Purchasing Managers' Index for manufacturing, quarterly

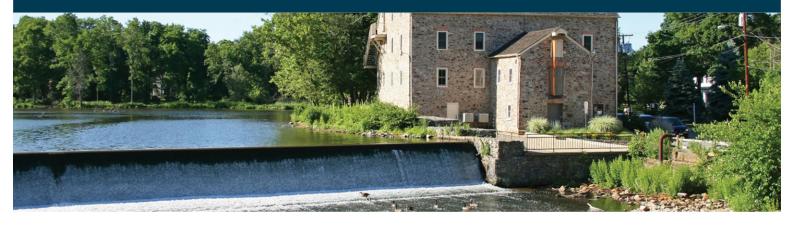


Source: Markit, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Heatmap colors are based on PMI relative to the 50 level, which indicates acceleration or deceleration of the sector, for the time period shown. Heat map is based on quarterly averages, with the exception of the two most recent figures, which are single month readings. Data for Canada, Indonesia and Mexico are back-tested and filled in from December 2007 to November 2010 for Canada and May 2011 for Indonesia and Mexico due to lack of existing PMI figures for these countries. DM and EM represent developed markets and emerging markets, respectively. *Guide to the Markets – U.S.* Data are as of December 31, 2018.



Financial Markets Charts



Rather than write extensively about equity valuations, economic statistics and investing principles, we offer the following charts organized by topic and courtesy of J.P. Morgan Asset Management:

Asset class returns 🕬 GTM - u.s. б														60				
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2004 - 2018 2018 Ann. Vo				
REITS	EM Equity	REITS	EM Equity	Fixed Income	EM Equity	REITS	REITS	REITS	Small Cap	REITS	REITS	Small Cap	EM Equity	Cash	REITS	REITS		
31.6%	34.5%	35.1%	39.8%	5.2%	79.0%	27.9%	8.3%	19.7%	38.8%	28.0%	2.8%	21.3%	37.8%	1.8%	8.5%	22.4%		
EM Equity	Comdty.	EM Equity	Comdty.	Cash	High Yield	Small Cap	Fixed Income	High Yield	Large Cap	Large Cap	Large Cap	High Yield	DM Equity	Fixed Income	EM Equity	EM Equity		
26.0%	21.4%	32.6%	16.2%	1.8%	59.4%	26.9%	7.8%	19.6%	32.4%	13.7%	1.4%	14.3%	25.6%	0.0%	8.3%	22.1%		
DM Equity	DM Equity	DM Equity	DM Equity	Asset Alloc.	DM Equity	EM Equity	High Yield	EM Equity	DM Equity	Fixed Income	Fixed Income	Large Cap	Large Cap	REITS	Large Cap	Small Cap		
20.7%	14.0%	26.9%	11.6%	-29.4%	32.5%	19.2%	3.1%	18.6%	23.3%	6.0%	0.5%	12.0%	21.8%	-4.0%	7.8%	18.6%		
Small Cap	REITS	Small Cap	Asset Alloc.	High Yie M	REITS	Comdty.	Large Cap	DM Equity	Asset Alloc.	Asset Alloc.	Cash	Comdty.	Small Cap	High Yield	Small Cap	Comdty.		
18.3%	12.2%	18.4%	7.1%	-26.9%	28.0%	16.8%	2.1%	17.9%	14.9%	5.2%	0.0%	11.8%	14.6%	-4.1%	7.5%	18.6%		
High Yield	Asset Alloc.	Large Cap	Fixed Income	Small Cap	Small Cap	Large Cap	Cash	Small Cap	High Yield	Small Cap	DM Equity	EM Equity	Asset Allac.	Large Cap	High Yield	DM Equity		
13.2%	8.1%	15.8%	7.0%	-33.8%	27.2%	15.1%	0.1%	16.3%	7.3%	4.9%	-0.4%	11.6%	14.6%	-4.4%	7.3%	17.6%		
Asset Allec.	Large Cap	Arset Alloc.	Large Cap	Comdty.	Large Cap	High Yield	Asset Alloc.	Large Cap	REITS	Cash	Asset Alec.	REITS	High Yield	Asset Altoc.	Asset Alloc.	Large Cap		
12.8%	4.9%	15.3%	5.5%	-35.6%	\$6.5%	14.8%	.0.7%	16.0%	2.9%	0.0%	-2.0%	8.6%	10.4%	- 5.8%	6.2%	14.5%		
Large	Small	High Yield	Cash	Large	Asset	Asset	Small	Asset	Cash	High Yield	High Yield	Asset	REITS	Small	DM	High Yield		
Cap 10.9%	Cap 4.6%	13.7%	4.8%	Cap -37.0%	Aloc. 25.0%	Alloc. 13.3%	Cap -4.2%	Auge. 12.2%	0.0%	0.0%	-2.7%	Auge. 8.3%	8.7%	Cap - 11.0%	Equity 5.2%	11.0%		
Comdty.	High Yield	Cash	High Yield	REITS	Comdty.	DM	DM	Fixed	Fixed	EM	Small	Fixed	Fixed	Comdty.	Fixed	Asset		
9.1%	3.6%	4.8%	3.2%	- 37.7%	18.9%	Equity 8.2%	Equity - 11.7%	Income 4.2%	Income -2.0%	Equity - 1.8%	Cap -4.4%	Income 2.6%	Income 3.5%	- 11.2%	Income 3.9%	Alloc. 10.3%		
Fixed	Cash	Fixed	Small	DM	Fixed	Fixed	Comdty.	Cash	EM	DM	EM	DM	Comdty.	DM	Cash	Fixed		
Income 4.3%	3.0%	Income 4.3%	Cap - 1.6%	Equity - 43.1%	Income 5.9%	Income 6.5%	- 13.3%	0.1%	Equity - 2.3%	Equity -4.5%	Equity - 14.6%	Equity 1.5%	1.7%	Equity - 13.4%	1.3%	Income 3.3%		
Cash	Fixed	Comdty.	REITs	EM	Cash	Cash	EM	Comdty.	Comdty.	Comdty.	Comdty.	Cash	Cash	EM	Comdty.	Cash		
1.2%	Income 2.4%	2.1%	- 15.7%	Equity - 53.2%	0.1%	0.1%	Equity - 18.2%	- 1.1%	-9.5%	- 17.0%	-24.7%	0.3%	0.8%	Equity - 14.2%	-2.5%	0.8%		

Source: Barclays, Bloomberg, FactSet, MSCI, NAREIT, Russell, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Large cap: S&P 500, Small cap: Russell 2000, EM Equity: MSCI EME, DM Equity: MSCI EAFE, Comdty: Bloomberg Commodity Index, High Yield: Bloomberg Barclays Global HY Index, Fixed Income: Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate, REITs: NAREIT Equity REIT Index, Cash: Bloomberg Barclays 1-3m Treasury. The "Asset Allocation" portfolio assumes the following weights: 25% in the S&P 500, 10% in the Russell 2000, 15% in the MSCI EAFE, 5% in the MSCI EME, 25% in the Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate, 5% in the Bloomberg Barclays 1-3m Treasury, 5% in the Bloomberg Barclays Global High Yield Index, 5% in the Bloomberg Commodity Index and 5% in the NAREIT Equity REIT Index. Balanced portfolio assumes annual rebalancing. Annualized (Ann.) return and volatility (Vol.) represents period of 12/31/03 – 12/31/18. Please see disclosure page at end for index definitions. All data represents total return for stated period. Past performance is not indicative of future returns. *Guide to the Markets – U.S*. Data are as of December 31, 2018.

*Any performance-related data listed in this report may represent un-audited results compiled by Covenant Asset Management or others. It could be intended to reflect results that are indicative of Covenant's individual client's equity performance who religiously invest according to our model portfolios. This performance data represents past performance and individual client results may vary materially. Past performance does not guarantee future results and current performance may be higher or lower than the performance data quoted.



Main: (908) 879-4090 fax: (908) 879-6468

125 Maple Avenue, Chester, NJ 07930

www.covasset.com