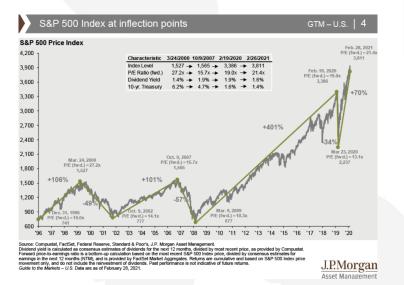


Economic and Financial Markets Review & Outlook



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

It has now been a full year since the world has lived with the pandemic known as Covid-19. Sadly, coronavirus cases worldwide have reached 128 million and deaths have topped 2.8 million. The virus has affected our lives in myriad ways. We have suffered through the quickest and one of the most significant economic declines in modern history. Travel, dining out and live entertainment



have taken the largest hit and are only now beginning to show signs of improvement. Financial markets have defied many expectations during the past year. After plummeting nearly 40% over a three week period, markets have soared since the March 23, 2020 bottom. During this time, the DJIA and the S&P 500 are both up 81%, and the Nasdaq

Key Themes

- 1. Covid-19 vaccinations in the U.S. are increasing at a rapid pace leading to optimism for an economic rebound.
- 2. Massive Federal Reserve Bank and Federal Government stimulus coupled with confidence in improving economic growth, have prompted investors to sell bonds causing a surge in interest rates.
- 3. Rising interest rates and a strengthening economy have triggered a sharp rotation away from growth stocks and into economically sensitive value stocks.
- 4. A new wave of Covid cases in Europe and South America caused by new strains of the virus has caused some concern. Health experts are hopeful that the vaccination rate in the U.S. will be fast enough to avoid a significant new wave before herd immunity is achieved.

has doubled. Initially, economic uncertainty caused growth stocks to lead the way by a very wide margin. The flood of liquidity produced by central banks around the globe, coupled with massive additional government aid, buoyed economies and financial markets.

The U.S. is rapidly vaccinating its population as nearly 100 million people have now had at least one injection. With approximately 3 million inoculations per day presently, the spread of the virus is expected to slow dramatically by the June/July timeframe. Many states have begun to ease coronavirus-related restrictions and more people and businesses are beginning to resume normal activities. The economic benefit of re-opening the economy is very significant and financial markets are responding favorably. Although the Fed is committed to retaining its zero

Economic and Financial Markets Review

short-term interest rate policy and massive asset purchase program, market-based bond yields have risen sharply this year. The ten-year U.S. Treasury note yield has jumped from 0.93% at year-end 2020 to 1.75% at the end of the first quarter of 2021. The rapid rise in interest rates and expectations for a robust rebound in U.S. GDP growth in the first half of 2021 have pressured growth stocks in a big way this quarter. After outperforming value stocks by about 30 percentage points last year, growth stocks have underperformed value stocks by over 10 percentage points this year. In 2020, when interest rates were near zero, investors bought the fastest growing companies with little regard to valuation levels. Now that interest rates are on the rise, many investors, including ourselves, have begun to reduce exposure to extremely high priced stocks and reinvest in more reasonably valued growth stocks that are expected to benefit from an economic rebound. Growth stock valuations tend to be highly sensitive to the level of interest rates. As interest rates rise, future earnings are not worth as much when discounted to calculate a present value. Also, relative earnings growth for more economically cyclical companies, such as banks and energy companies, is typically greater in the early quarters of an economic recovery. As the recovery matures and interest rates and earnings growth rates level off, growth stocks usually return to favor. Our expectation is for several quarters of continued outperformance by value stocks. As investors begin to look ahead to 2022, GDP growth and cyclical earnings gains will likely slow and growth stocks should become relatively more attractive. This is especially true, if the Biden administration is able to sign legislation raising tax rates on corporate earnings, wealthy individuals, capital and estates.

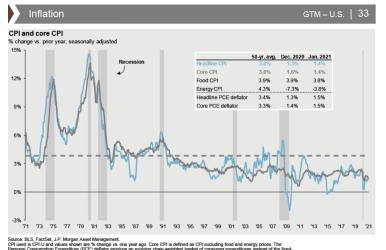
Despite its potential merits in raising needed revenues, higher tax rates will inevitably retard economic growth. Some of the concerns that investors have expressed related to the recent behavior of markets is excessive speculation. This sentiment is reflected in the trading patterns of alternative energy stocks, cryptocurrencies and Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs).

Our belief is that some of the capital from government stimulus payments is finding its way into investment instruments. Many inexperienced investors trading through their Robinhood brokerage accounts have driven stocks like Nio, Gamestop and Churchill Capital to irrational heights. Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies have also been a favorite of these newer investors. The recent rise in interest rates has put a halt to some of this speculation, but, until the federal stimulus ends, we are likely to see bouts of speculation continue. Some economists have been suggesting that the massive stimulus and re-opening of the global economy might lead to higher inflation. While prices for many commodities have been rising, we remain skeptical that goods and services producers will be able to pass along higher raw materials costs to consumers for a sustained period of time. Instead, we believe much of the excess capital is showing up in asset prices such as stocks and real estate.

Of concern is also the rising number of coronavirus cases in Europe and South America due to variants that are more contagious. The fear is that the U.S. may face a similar new variant wave of the virus before enough people are vaccinated to provide the herd immunity that health experts anticipate by this



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summer. Europe and South America have been slower to approve and immunize their populations, so it is not surprising that they are suffering through a new wave of cases. We can only hope that the U.S. population continues on a faster pace of immunizations. Israel has now vaccinated greater than 50% of its population and its new Covid-19 cases have dropped dramatically. At the current pace of vaccinations, the U.S. should exceed the 50% level by May. Experts do not believe that level is sufficient to achieve herd immunity, but coupled with warmer weather and factoring in the number of people who have already been infected and who possess antibodies, the number of new cases should drop materially. This is the scenario that financial markets are anticipating, as capital flows into sectors that benefit from the reopening of the economy and bond yields rise.

If the past year has taught investors anything, it is that trying to time the market based on a perceived notion of overvaluation or event risk is nearly impossible. Honestly, how many investors would have predicted that markets would soar during a global pandemic, a deep recession and a contentious U.S. presidential election that would eventually lead to a change in political party government control? Similarly, who knows with enough certainty when investors will tire of value stocks and rotate back to growth? Or when foreign equity markets will begin to outperform U.S. markets? Most market studies and our own years of experience have taught us to focus on carefully defining individual investor objectives and creating an asset allocation that has a high probability of meeting or exceeding those expectations over time. We suggest our clients stay disciplined and follow these well-established strategies. Happy spring to all of our clients and friends! We look forward to speaking or meeting with you soon.

Financial Markets Charts



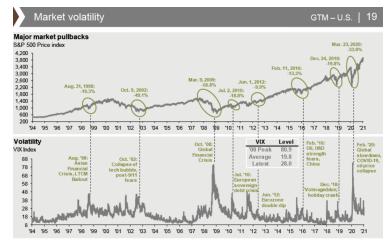
Rather than write extensively about equity valuations, economic statistics and investing principles, we offer the following charts organized by topic and courtesy of J.P. Morgan Asset Management:

	Retur	Returns and valuations by style								GT	м - u.s.		
QTD			YTD					Current P/E vs. 20-year avg. P/E					
	Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth		
200	5.6%	8.9%	13.2%	Large	-11.6%	5.6%	24.3%	Large	17.2	21.5	30.5		
2	6.4%	7.5%	9.4%	Mid	-12.8%	-2.3%	13.9%	Pi	18.0	22.2	38.0		
5	2.6%	4.9%	7.2%	Small	-21.5%	-8.7%	3.9%	Small	20.6	36.8	124.4		
	Since market peak (February 2020) Since market low (March 2020)								Current P/E as % of 20-year avg. P/E				
	Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth		
a a a	-12.6%	0.5%	13.8%	Large	41.3%	51.7%	66.0%	Large	126.3%	139.7%	163.6%		
2	-14.3%	-5.9%	6.5%	Mid	51.4%	57.5%	65.6%	PIM	125.6%	136.9%	187.4%		
	-19.9%	-10.1%	-1.2%	Small	40.9%	51.5%	60.6%	Small	123.9%	174.6%	193.8%		

Source: Facilities, Tuessell Investment Group, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

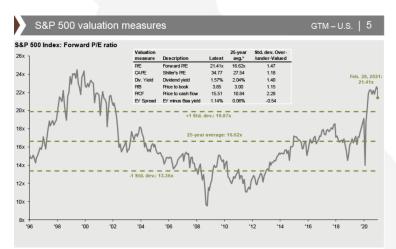
All acclusations are cumulative total return, including dividences invented for the stated period. Since Market Peak represents period between March 23, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Since Market Low represents period between March 23, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Since Market Low represents period between March 23, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Since Market Low represents period between March 23, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Since Market Low represents period between March 23, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Since Market Low represents period between March 23, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Returns are submitted to the state of the state of

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Source: CBOE, FactSet, Standard & Poor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management Drawdowns are calculated as the prior peak to the lowest point.

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Source FactSet, FRB, Robert Shiler, Standard & Poor's, Thomson Reuters, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

Trice-be-earning is price divided by consensus analyst estimates of earnings per share for he mer 12 Tromths as provided by JBES since February.

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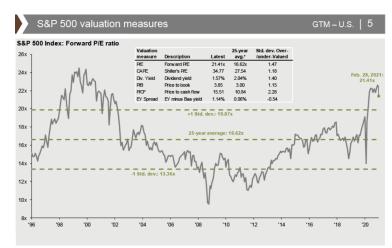
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	10-year an	nualized	YTD				Current P/E vs. 20-year avg. P/E					
	Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth	
Large	10.5%	13.5%	16.5%	Large	5.1%	1.7%	-0.8%	Large	17.7	21.4	29.0	
MIG	10.7%	12.4%	14.5%	Mid	7.5%	5.3%	1.4%	PIW	18.4	22.4	37.2	
Small	9.7%	11.9%	13.8%	Small	15.2%	11.6%	8.3%	Small	18.2	30.2	83.2	
	Since market peak (February 2020) Since market low (March 2020)							Current	nt P/E as % of 20-year avg. P/E			
	Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth		Value	Blend	Growth	
Large	6.7%	14.6%	25.8%	Large	72.5%	73.1%	83.5%	Large	129.3%	138.7%	156.7%	
DIM	10.9%	18.8%	28.5%	PIM	96.1%	98.8%	99.8%	PIW	128.3%	137.3%	183.6%	
Small	23.1%	31.8%	38.7%	Small	116.4%	122.1%	125.4%	Small	108.3%	143.5%	268.6%	

Source: FactSet, Russell Investment Group, Standard & Proor's, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.
Al accludations are numbrate botal return, including dividents reinvested for the stated period. Since Market Peak represents period from February 19, 2020 b February 28, 2021. Returns are cumulative returns, not manualized. For all time periods, fact in erain a based on Russell skyle indices with the exception of the large before display, which is based on States skyle indices with the exception of the large beford display, which is based on the most skyle indices with the exception of the large beford display, which is based on the most skyle indices with the exception of the large beford allowing, which is based on the most skyle indices are all a bottom-up calculation based on the most recent index rince, olivided by consessue selamates to exemings in the next 21 zeronfs (VITM), and is provided by FaccEdel Market Agoggeties.

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Source: Facilise, FRB, Robert Shiller, Standard & Foor's, Thomson Reutlers, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

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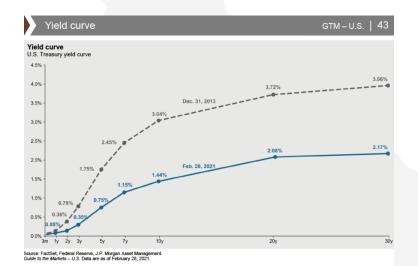
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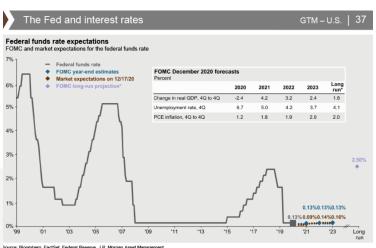
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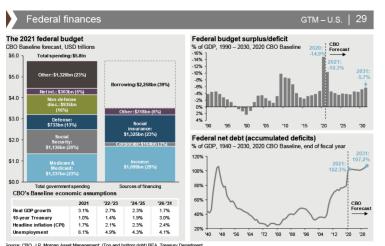


Vanket expectations are the federal funds rates priced into the fed futures market as of the following date of the December 2002 FOMC meeting and are through December 2002. Fong puri projections are the rates of growth, unemployment and inflation to which a policymaker expects the economy to converge over the next five to six years in absence of further shocks and under appropriate monetary policy. Suide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of February 26, 2021.

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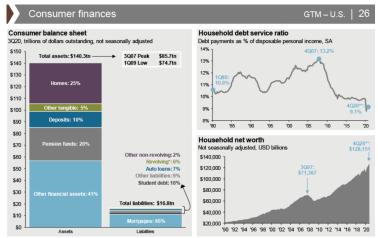
Financial Markets Charts





302 Federal Budget is based on the Congressional Budget Office (SDI) February 2021 Beseline Budget Forecast. CBO Baseline conomic assumptions are based on the Congressional Budget Office (SCI) February 2021 Beseline Budget Forecast. CBO Baseline sections in Budget Office (SCI) February 2021 Update to Economic Cutodoc. Other spending includes, but is no imited to, health insurance subsides, income security and federal civilian and military referement. Note: Years shown are faceal years (Oct. 1 throug Sides to the Makelson - U.S. Data are on 6 February 28.0 and 6 February 28.0 and

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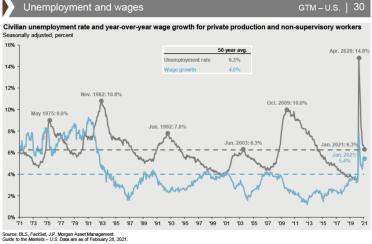
Source: FadSet, FRB, J.P. Morgan Asset Management; (Top and bottom right) BEA.
Data include households and nonprofit organizations. SA – seasonally adjusted. "Revolving includes credit cards. Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding. "40,20 figures for debt service ratio and household net worth are J.P. Morgan Asset Management estimates.

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*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 guoted.

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