

## U.S. Equity

- ▶ Domestic equity markets, as represented by the S&P 500 Index (S&P), returned 0.43% in May.
- ▶ Within the S&P, only three of the 11 sectors posted positive returns. The Information Technology sector, fueled by the promise of artificial intelligence, was the month's best performer, returning 9.46%. Telecommunications was the second best performer, posting a return of 6.21%. Energy was the worst-performing sector, posting a return of -10.04%.
- ▶ Negative returns were seen across smaller market capitalizations, with small-caps (Russell 2000) returning -0.93% and mid-caps (Russell Mid Cap Index) returning -2.79%. Meanwhile, large-caps (Russell 1000 Index) saw a positive return of 0.47%, and growth stocks outperformed value stocks across all capitalizations.

## Non-U.S. Equity

- ▶ Non-U.S. equity markets, represented by the MSCI ACWI ex-U.S., returned -3.64%. Developed markets, represented by the MSCI EAFE Index, saw returns of -4.23%, and emerging markets (EM), represented by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, saw returns of -1.68% in May.
- ▶ Within the ACWI ex-U.S. Index, only one of the 11 sectors posted positive returns. Information Technology was the best-performing sector internationally, with a return of 7.40%. Industrials were second best, posting a return of -2.67%. Energy was the worst performer, posting a return of -7.91%.
- ▶ Regionally, non-U.S. equities saw mixed returns, with Japan performing the best, returning 1.86%. Pacific ex-Japan performed the worst, returning -5.96%.

## Fixed Income

- ▶ Treasury yields rose across the curve in May. On the long end, the 10-year saw a 22 basis points (bps) increase in rates and the 30-year saw an increase of 18 bps. On the shorter end, the 2- and 5-year rates increased by 40 and 27 bps, respectively, leading the Broad Treasury Index to return -1.23% for the month.
- ▶ The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index (Aggregate) returned -1.09% in May. Investment-grade (IG) credit as a whole returned -1.39%, AAA-rated bonds returned -0.90%, AA-rated bonds returned -1.51%, A-rated bonds returned -1.42% and BBB-rated bonds returned -1.43%. High yield corporates saw a return of -0.92% during the month.

## Alternatives and Other Asset Classes

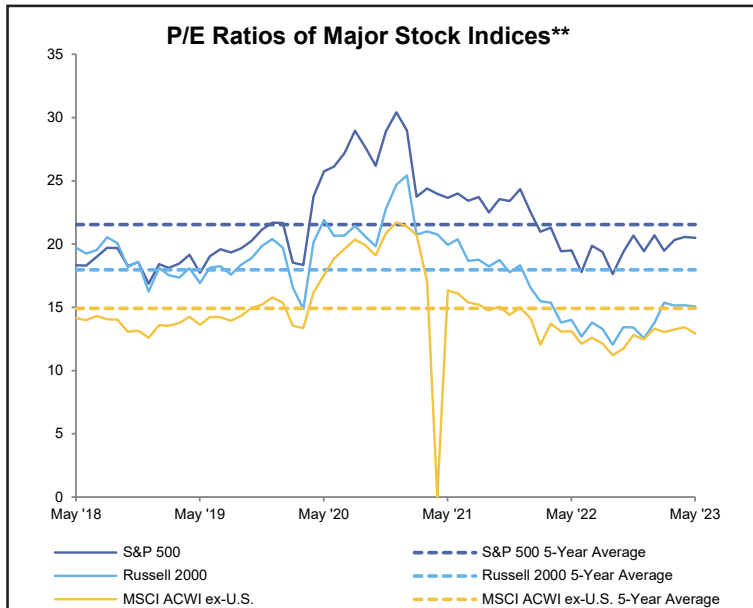
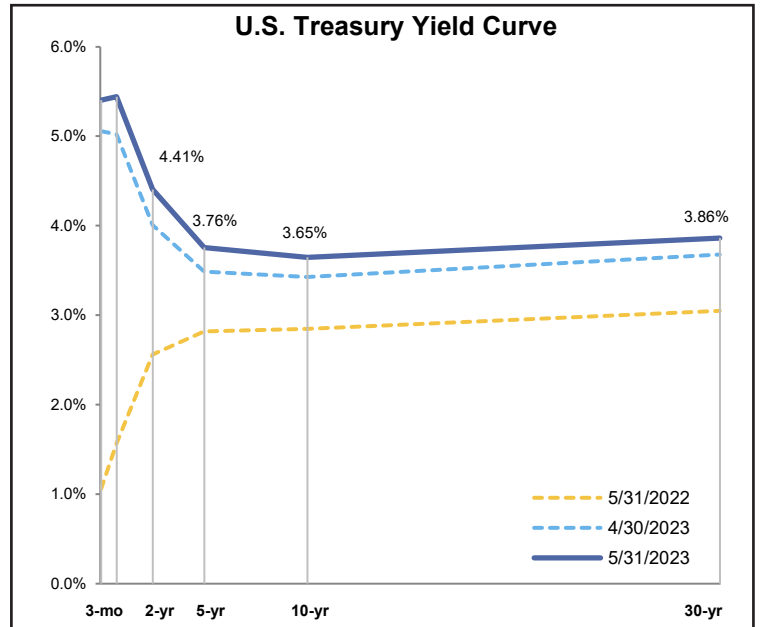
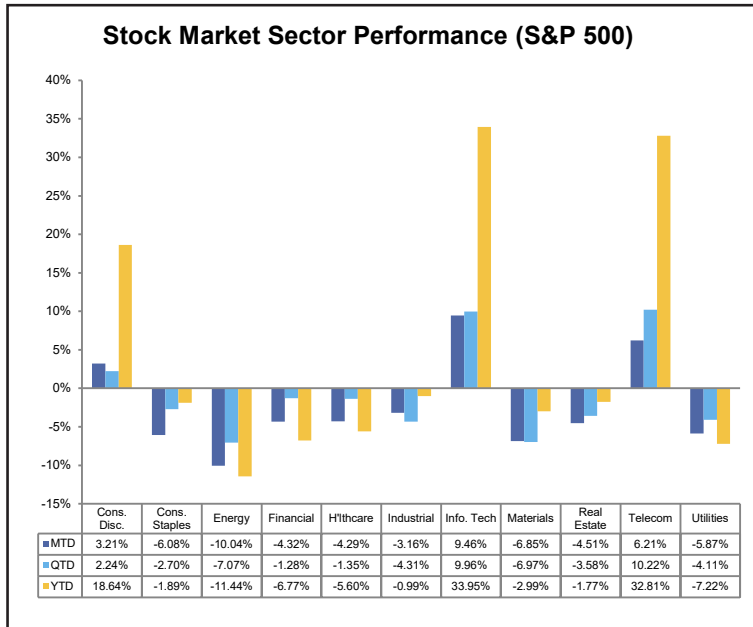
- ▶ Real estate investment trusts (REITs), represented by the FTSE NAREIT Index, returned -3.22%. Performance was mixed, with two of the nine real estate sectors seeing positive returns. Data Centers did the best, returning 3.43%. The worst performing sector of the month was Office, returning -7.30%.
- ▶ The active contract for West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude fell to \$68.09/barrel in May, down from \$76.78/barrel at the end of April and down \$46.58 year-over-year.

## Items to Watch

- ▶ Banks reported tighter lending standards and weaker demand for commercial and industrial (C&I) loans across all firm sizes during the first quarter. The net percentage of domestic banks tightening standards for C&I loans to large- and middle-market firms was 46.0%, and 46.7% for loans to small firms at the end of the first quarter, up from 44.8% and 43.8%, respectively, in the previous survey from year-end. Looking forward, more than half also said they expect to tighten small business lending standards further in 2023.
- ▶ On the household side, 30.4% of banks have tightened standards for consumer credit card loans, which is sharply higher than a year ago. As the cost of credit increases and its availability becomes more restricted, the likely slowdown in spending will serve as an additional headwind to the economy.
- ▶ Overall inflation, as measured by consumer prices (CPI), continued to cool, rising 4.9% YoY in April. This marked the slowest increase since June 2021. A resilient labor market also enabled personal income to rise 4.3% YoY in April, which helped to narrow the inflation gap for consumers. However, the personal savings rate remained relatively low at 4.9% in April.
- ▶ U.S. consumer confidence, as measured by the Conference Board (CB) Consumer Confidence survey, slipped to a six-month low of 102.3 in May, with concerns about the labor market and the now-resolved debt ceiling crisis weighing on sentiment.
- ▶ On the other hand, European consumers saw confidence increase in May, hitting a one-year high at -17.4. This comes as inflation in the Euro Area continues to cool, with readings falling to 6.1% last month, the lowest rate since February 2022.

Total Return of Major Indices				
Domestic Equity	MTD	QTD	YTD	1 YR
S&P 500	0.43%	2.00%	9.64%	2.89%
Russell 3000	0.39%	1.46%	8.73%	2.01%
Russell 2000	-0.93%	-2.71%	-0.06%	-4.71%
Russell 1000	0.47%	1.71%	9.29%	2.42%
International Equity	MTD	QTD	YTD	1 YR
MSCI ACWI ex-U.S.	-3.64%	-1.96%	4.77%	-1.41%
MSCI EAFE	-4.23%	-1.53%	6.81%	3.06%
MSCI Emerging Markets	-1.68%	-2.79%	1.05%	-8.49%
Fixed Income	MTD	QTD	YTD	1 YR
Bloomberg U.S. Agg	-1.09%	-0.49%	2.46%	-2.14%
Bloomberg Global Agg	-1.95%	-1.52%	1.44%	-4.48%
Bloomberg U.S. HY	-0.92%	0.07%	3.64%	0.05%
Alternatives	MTD	QTD	YTD	1 YR
FTSE NAREIT Equity	-3.22%	-2.41%	0.21%	-12.07%
Bloomberg Commodity	-6.08%	-7.15%	-13.16%	-25.41%

Economic Indicators		
Domestic	Current	Previous Month
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.7%	3.4%
Initial Jobless Claims (4 week average)	229.5 K	232 K
CB Leading Economic Indicators	-0.6	-1.2
Capacity Utilization	79.7%	79.4%
GDP (annual growth rate)	1.3%	2.6%
University of Michigan Consumer Confidence	59.2	63.5
New Home Starts	683 K	656 K
Existing Home Sales	4.3 MM	4.4 MM
Retail Sales (YoY)	2.1%	2.9%
U.S. Durable Goods (MoM)	1.1%	3.3%
Consumer Price Index (YoY)	4.9%	5.0%
Producer Price Index (MoM)	0.5%	-1.3%
Developed International*	3/31/2023	12/31/2022
Market GDP (annual rate)	2.1%	1.9%
Market Unemployment	4.2%	4.2%



Source: Bloomberg. Data as of May 31, 2023, unless otherwise noted.  
 \*Developed market data is calculated with respect to the weightings in the MSCI World ex-U.S. Index. Most current data is as of March 31, 2023 due to release dates of numerous countries.  
 \*\*P/E ratios are calculated based on one-year-forward estimates and adjusted to include only positive earning results for consistency.

The views expressed constitute the perspective of PFM Asset Management (PFMAM) at the time of distribution and are subject to change. The content is based on sources generally believed to be reliable and available to the public; however, PFMAM cannot guarantee its accuracy, completeness or suitability. This material is for general information purposes only and is not intended to provide specific advice or a specific recommendation.

PFM Asset Management LLC ("PFMAM") is an investment adviser registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a subsidiary of U.S. Bancorp Asset Management, Inc. ("USBAM"). USBAM is a subsidiary of U.S. Bank National Association ("U.S. Bank"). U.S. Bank is a separate entity and subsidiary of U.S. Bancorp. U.S. Bank is not responsible for and does not guarantee the products, services or performance of PFMAM.

**NOT FDIC INSURED : NO BANK GUARANTEE : MAY LOSE VALUE**