

# **PUREfi Wealth Market Outlook**

**Risky Business** 

Q1 2025

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# **Another Dominant Year from the Mega-Caps**

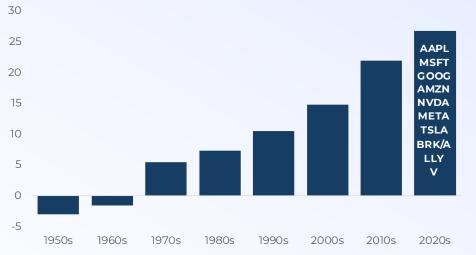
# 2024 Recap

The eight mega-caps with \$1+ trillion valuations now make up 36% of market capitalization in the S&P 500 and accounted for 60% of S&P 500 returns in 2024.

But they are delivering.

### Share of S&P 500 2024 Total Return (%) 60 ■ All Other Stocks 50 ■TSLA ■ MSFT 40 ■ GOOGL 30 ■ META 20 AVGO AMZN 10 AAPI 0 ■ NVDA All Other Stocks 8 Megacaps

### Free Cash Flow Margins by Decade: Ten Largest Stocks



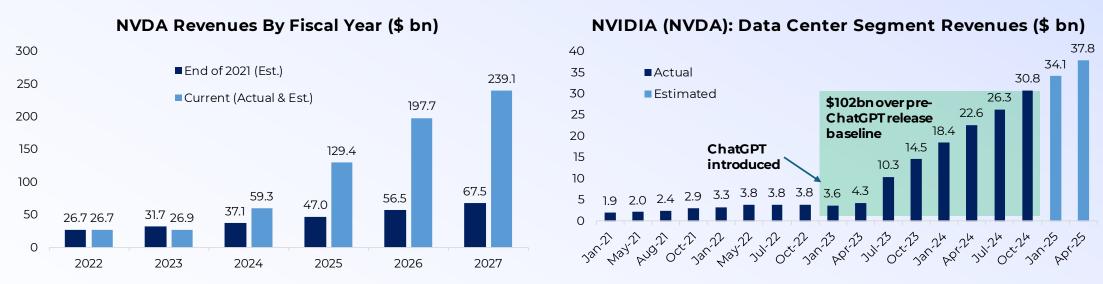
Source: Empirical Research, JP Morgan



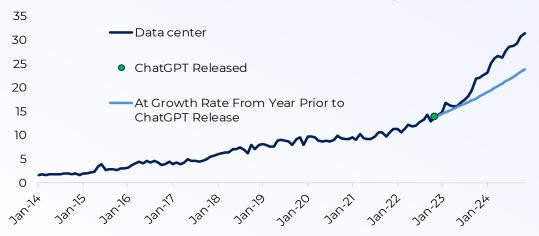


# **NVDA + Hyperscalers Drove Returns, Not the Fed**

# 2024 Recap



US Data Center Construction Spending: \$ bn, SAAR



Source: Bloomberg, Bespoke Investment Group



# **Growth Trumps Value, Again**

# 2024 Recap

### Value Continued to be out of Favor

The two-year performance spread between growth and value hit a record high. In Q4, Value was down 14 consecutive days in a row which has never happened before.

# **Major Factor Performance Dispersion**

Momentum Factors substantially outperformed the market driven by the AI narrative, earnings, and continuation of the consistent theme.

Getting your factors right in 2024 was key to portfolio outperformance.

### Source: Bloomberg, Bespoke Investment Group



### S&P 500 Growth vs. Value Relative Strength Since 1995



### **Momentum Factor Dominated Value in 2024**



# American Exceptionalism Kicks Into Overdrive

# 2024 Recap

# **Tech and AI Further Along**

Driven by companies in the US, Artificial Intelligence has been a major theme with promise of major productivity gains for domestic businesses.

# **Earnings and Margins**

The US has grown margins and earnings more than companies abroad and is home to one of the most innovative technologies to drive productivity.

# US vs. MSCI All World Ex. US Total Return (%) Since 2000



# US vs. Rest of World Earnings Growth Since 2000



Source: Bloomberg, Bespoke Investment Group



# Investors & Strategists Are Expecting Another Year of Market Gains

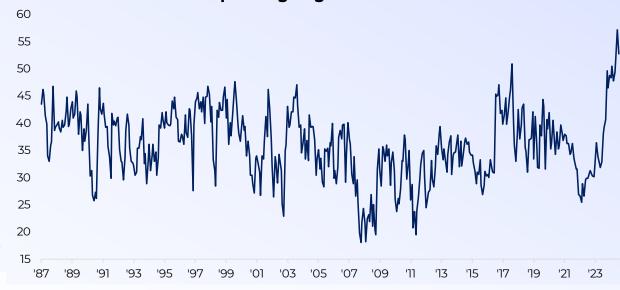
# 2025 Outlook

### Wall Street Strategists Projected S&P 500 % Chg vs. Actual % Chg



\*Bloomberg Collected Year-end Price Targets From Major Wall Street Strategists

### % of Households Expecting Higher Stock Prices in 12 Months\*



\*From Confidence Boards' Monthly Consumer Confidence Survey





# **But Markets Have Already Had Quite the Run**

# 2025 Outlook

S&P 500 Price vs. 200-Day Moving Average: 2024



The S&P traded above its 200-day moving average for the entirety of 2024, which has happened only eleven other times since 1952.

Source: Bespoke Investment Group



S&P 500: Above 200-DMA All Year
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	Full-	% of Days	Avg. %	Next
	Year %	Above 200-	Above	Year's
Year	Chg	DMA	200-DMA	% Chg
1954	45.0	100	11.4	26.4
1955	26.4	100	12.2	2.6
1961	23.1	100	8.5	-11.8
1964	13.0	100	5.9	9.1
1989	27.3	100	9.4	-6.6
1993	7.1	100	3.5	-1.5
1995	34.1	100	9.4	20.3
1997	31.0	100	11.8	26.7
2013	29.6	100	8.3	11.4
2017	19.4	100	6.4	-6.2
2021	26.9	100	11.3	-19.4
2024	23.3	100	10.3	?
Avg.	25.51		Avg.	4.6
S&P Avg. % Chg. All Years Since 1952:				9.2

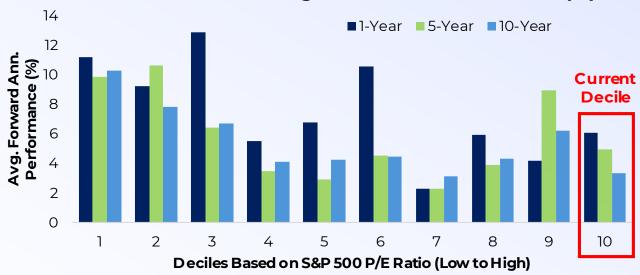
Avg. % Ung. All Years Since 1952:

The S&P has averaged a gain of 4.6% (median gain of +2.6%) in the year after prior years where the S&P has traded above its 200 DMA all year. That 4.6% average next-year change for the S&P is about half the normal ~9% gain the index has seen for all years since 1952.

# **And Valuations are Elevated**

# 2025 Outlook

# **S&P 500 Deciles: Average Annual Performance (%)**



Deciles represent equally sized groups of months, sorted by the S&P 500's price to earnings ratio at the time, sorted lowest to highest. Y-axis shows these groups' average performance going forward the next year, 5 years, and 10 years on an annualized basis.

Data Source: Professor Robert Shiller | shillerdata.com, 2024

The S&P is currently in the top decile of valuations, which have historically been followed by weaker long-term returns.



# 2024 Rolling Macro Shocks: A Prelude to Higher Volatility in 2025?

# 2025 Outlook

# July CPI/Russell 2000 Rotation

Following a soft inflation report, small caps soared meaningfully as investors anticipated increased rate cuts. While this move upward wasn't substantiated, the velocity of the move is something to note.

# **August Yen Volatility Quake**

The VIX spiked to 60, courtesy of a surprise rate hike from the Bank of Japan in August, forcing a global carry trade unwind and causing a 3+ standard deviation move down in the NASDAQ.

# **September China Melt-up**

Global investors were caught off-sides as capital poured into the "ex-China" narrative earlier in the year, leading many to miss a multi-standard deviation surge in Chinese stocks in response to policy stimulus.

# **Rolling Shocks Throughout The Year**





# **Policy Mistake?**

# 2025 Outlook

Since the Fed lowered the Federal Funds Rate, 10 Year Yields have gone 100bps+ higher, highly unusually, and a sign of a policy mistake. 10 Year yields need to be monitored.

Stickier inflation and higher for longer rates mean the Fed is no longer a tailwind for equity markets

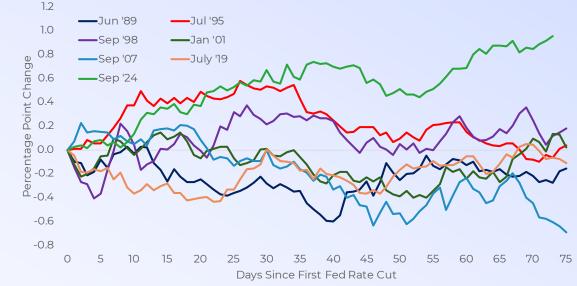
### Fed Core PCE Forecasts For Subsequent Year (%)



Source: Bespoke Investment Group, JP Morgan



### 10Y Treasury Yield Change After First Fed Cut



Source: JP Morgan

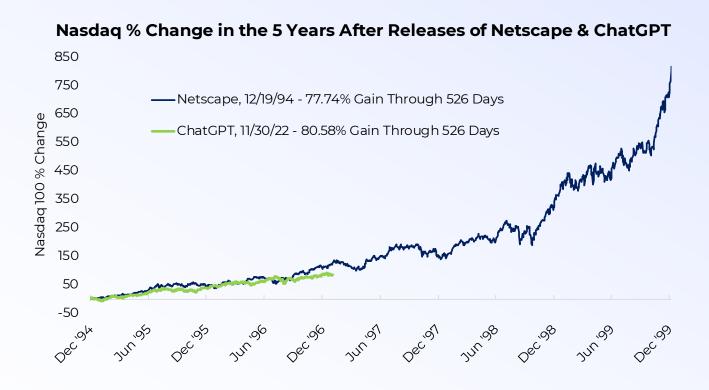
### Fed Funds Target Rate: Year End 2023 vs. Year End 2024



Source: JP Morgan

# **Artificial Intelligence Created This Slide**

# 2025 Outlook



Companies will be under increased pressure to deliver on earnings and ROI given the high levels of capex spend on building out AI



# **More Companies Are Staying Private**

# **Private Market Ideas**

# 1. Diversify using Private Markets

The correlation between total returns for stocks and bonds has risen to the highest levels since the end of the 1990s. In a higher for longer rate environment with potential upside on inflation, we would expect this to continue, making the case to diversify using private markets.

# 2. Growth Equity Through Private Channels

While IPOs and equity markets are beginning to regain momentum, the need for growth equity capital continues to rise, fueled by an unprecedented backlog of unicorns. With companies staying private longer, it makes sense to access a portion of growth equity exposure through private markets.

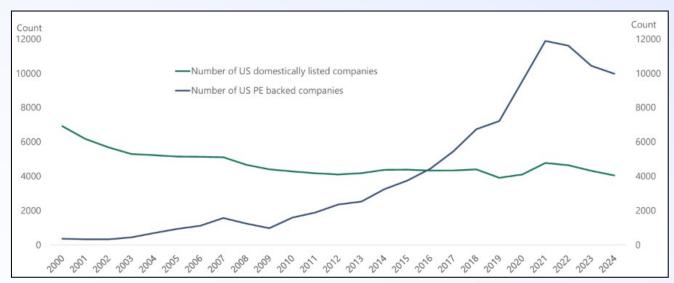
### Source: Bespoke Investment Group, Apollo Chief Economist

# PURE fi

# **Stocks-Bonds Correlation Is At 25 Year Highs**



# The Number of PE-backed Companies and Publicly-Listed Companies



# **Higher for Longer**

# **Private Market Ideas**

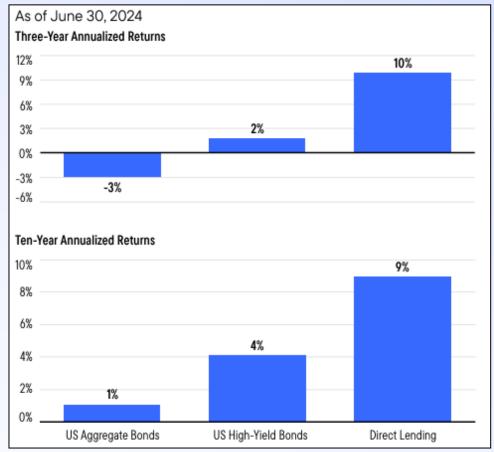
# 3. Fixed Income Replacement Using Private Credit

Competitive yields to maturity keep direct lending attractive to institutional and individual investors. We expect it to maintain outperformance over public debt markets in a "higher for longer" rate environment.

### **Benefits of Private Credit:**

Illiquidity Premium: Private credit offers an attractive illiquidity premium compared to core and high-yield bonds. Floating Rate & Short Duration: With its floating rate structure and short duration profile, private credit minimizes interest rate risk.

# Illiquidity Premium – Public vs Private Markets



Source: Analysis by Franklin Templeton Institute

Indexes used: Bloomberg US Aggregate Total Return Value Unhedged USD, ICE BofA US High Yield Index, and Cliffwater Direct Lending Index, Indexes are unmanaged and one cannot directly investin them. They do not include fees, expenses or sales charges. Past Performance is not an indicator or guarantee of future results. Important data provider notices and terms available at www.franklintempletondatasources.com.

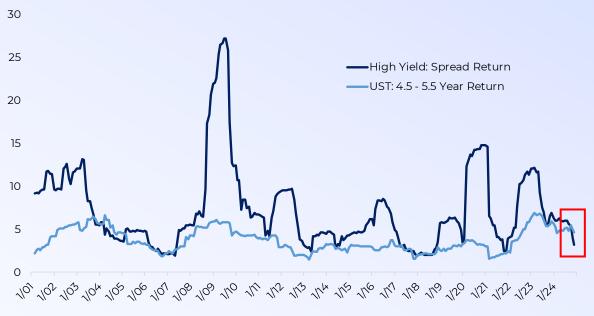


# **Public Market Ideas**

### Income Over Duration

High yield spread returns are now less volatile than interest rates, a very unusual development for fixed income markets. With more volatility in duration, finding smart income through active managers should prove prudent in areas like securitized, agencies, and other IG and Treasurys in the belly of the curve.

### Realized Monthly Volatility, Rolling 1y: Lower Spread Volatility Than Rates!



Source: Bloomberg, Bespoke Investment Group



# **Public Market Ideas**

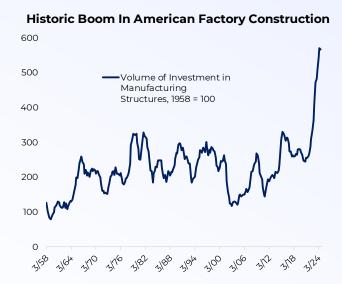
# 2. Hedged Equity & Structured Products for a Smoother Ride in Q1

Expect increased cross-asset volatility in equities and booming, yields continue to rise, and US dollar strength weighs on valuations and stretched sentiment. To provide a smoother ride for clients, hedged equity and structured products can play this role in the equity portfolio.



# 3. Staying with the US Industrial Renaissance Theme

Factory construction is booming, and the US energy pipeline is stuffed to the gills with solar, wind, and battery development as those technologies outcompete fossil fuels. With an aging power grid and more on-shoring due to deglobalization, the US will need to modernize its infrastructure to regain economic independence.



# US Grid Additions: GW of Capacity, By Year 70 60 9 Other 9 Wind 9 Gas 9 Battery 10 Solar

2027

2028

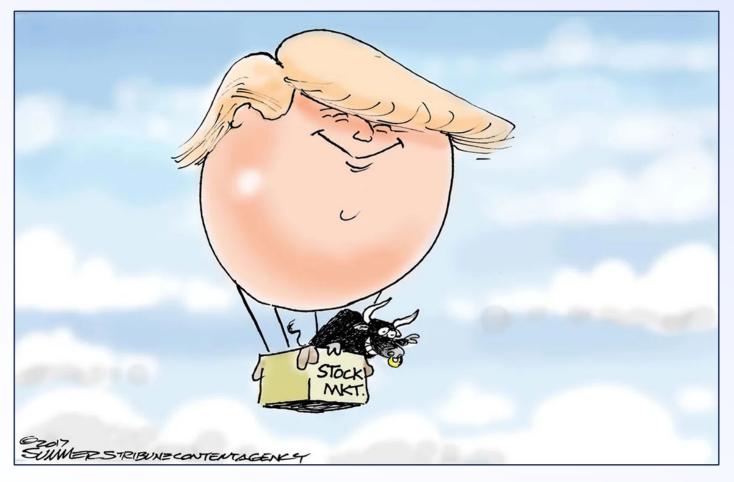
2026



# **Public Market Ideas**

# 4. Potential Upside Surprise with Policy

While the market seems to be bracing for the inflationary shock of tariffs and deportations, we think the stronger and currently underpriced probability is that Trump will prioritize pro-growth and lower inflation policies, which would be more market friendly.





# **PUREfi** Wealth **Team POWERED BY DYNASTY**





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