INVESTMENT STRATEGY QUARTERLY QUICKVIEW

THEMES



ECONOMY: Trade Talk And Tariff Truths

Before World War II, tariffs were primarily used as a source of revenue for the federal government. They have evolved and are now also used for trade protection, with the Trump Administration demonstrating an extreme example of this on 'Liberation Day.' Amid the rhetoric there have been misunderstandings about what tariffs are and what they do. Tariffs are fundamentally taxes paid by importers, not foreign countries. When a company imports goods, it pays the tariff directly to the government. In addition, tariffs are regressive taxes and disproportionally affect lower-income households that have fewer options than higher-income households.



POLITICS: Has The US Lost Its Safe-Haven Appeal?

The US—particularly the US Treasury market—has long been considered a 'safe haven' for investors as it historically delivered a rare trifecta: enviable economic growth fueled by a resilient consumer, superior equity performance relative to the rest of the world, and a strong dollar. Recent market activity, fueled by Liberation Day and the ever-changing trade policy, in addition to fiscal concerns, have caused some to question US exceptionalism. Despite volatility, there is simply no viable alternative to the US Treasury market or to the dollar as the world's reserve currency.



COMMODITIES: Power Prices Propel Us Data Center Buildout

The AI megatrend is a story about energy as well as chips. Hyperscale data centers, which are key enablers of AI, are examples of highly energy-intensive infrastructure. The US has nearly half of the world's data centers, with a particularly large concentration in Virginia. Lower-cost electricity gives the US an advantage in the data center buildout, but power prices are trending up, and we also need to keep an eye on water risks.

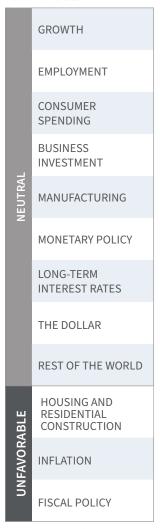


Q&A: Rumors Of The Dollar's Demise Are Exaggerated

Despite numerous doom-laden headlines, conflating weakness with imminent loss of special status is inappropriate, in our view. The currency maintains a dominant position in short-term funding markets, trade invoicing, and foreign exchange transactions—the key plumbing in global finance. Efforts to develop alternatives to supplant the dollar's status are still a very long way from achieving the critical mass necessary to mount a serious challenge.

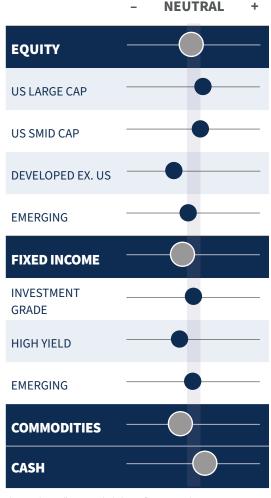
Economic Snapshot

Economic Indicator



Eugenio J. Alemán, PhD *Chief Economist, Raymond James*

Tactical Outlook



The tactical asset allocation outlook above reflects Raymond James Investment Strategy's recommendations for current positioning. Your financial advisor can help you interpret each recommendation within this material relative to your individual asset allocation policy, risk tolerance and investment objectives.

For more information, refer to the full **Investment Strategy Quarterly**.

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Capital Markets Snapshot

EQUITY	AS OF 6/30/2025	2Q 2025 RETURN**	12-MONTH RETURN**
DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE	44,094.77	4.98%	12.72%
S&P 500 INDEX	6,204.95	10.57%	13.63%
NASDAQ COMPOSITE INDEX	20,369.73	17.75%	14.87%
MSCI EAFE INDEX	1,599.66	12.07%	18.33%
RATES	AS OF 6/30/2025	AS OF 3/31/2025	AS OF 6/30/2024
FED FUNDS RATE TARGET RANGE	4.25-4.50	4.25-4.50	5.25-5.50
3-MONTH SOFR	4.34	4.35	5.35
2-YEAR TREASURY	3.71	3.89	4.72
10-YEAR TREASURY	4.23	4.21	4.37
30-YEAR MORTGAGE	6.80	6.77	7.26
PRIME RATE	7.50	7.50	8.50
COMMODITIES	AS OF 6/30/2025	2Q 2025 RETURN	12-MONTH RETURN
GOLD	\$3,307.70	5.00%	41.38%
CRUDE OIL	\$65.11	-8.91%	-20.15%

^{*}Price Level

Sector Snapshot

	SECTOR	S&P WEIGHT
OVERWEIGHT	HEALTH CARE	9.7%
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	32.3%
	INDUSTRIALS	8.7%
	COMMUNICATION SERVICES	9.8%
IGHT	FINANCIALS	14.0%
EQUAL WEIGHT	CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	10.4%
	CONSUMER STAPLES	5.7%
	UTILITIES	2.3%
UNDERWEIGHT	ENERGY	3.1%
	REAL ESTATE	2.1%
	MATERIALS	1.9%

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INDEX DESCRIPTIONS: Please note that all indices are unmanaged and investors cannot invest directly in an index. An investor who purchases an investment product which attempts to mimic the performance of an index will incur expenses that would reduce returns. Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500): Measures changes in stock market conditions based on the average performance of 500 widely held common stocks. Represents approximately 68% of the investable U.S. equity market. The Dow Jones Industrial Average is an unmanaged index of 30 widely held securities. The NASDAQ Composite Index is an unmanaged index of all stocks traded on the NASDAQ over-the-counter market. The MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australia, Far East) index is an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of the international stock market. The returns noted do not include fees and charges which will affect an investor's return.

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