

## INSURANCE INDUSTRY NEWS

### NAIC Principles-Based Bond Definition

“The implementation of the NAIC Principles-Based Bond Definition is January 1, 2025, and we recommend all insurers be working with their accounting and asset management firms to verify they are ready. Every investment page of the quarterly and annual statements will change as Investment Schedule D Part 1 will now be split into two sections along with new lines/categories/additional columns/etc. Within the new Schedule D1: a. D1.1 for Issuer Credit Obligations (ICO’s) - e.g. government, muni, corporate bonds, etc.; and b. D1.2 for ABS/MBS (NAIC 43R securities). ABS/MBS securities will need to be evaluated to see whether they meet the definition of Asset Backed Securities.

There are many new data points that are required for both ICO and ABS securities in 2025, and asset managers will be instrumental in helping to gather that data. Any securities that are no longer eligible for Schedule D1 will be moved to BA (potentially resulting in increased RBC charge) and held at the lower of amortized cost or fair value.”

Source: PMA Asset Management

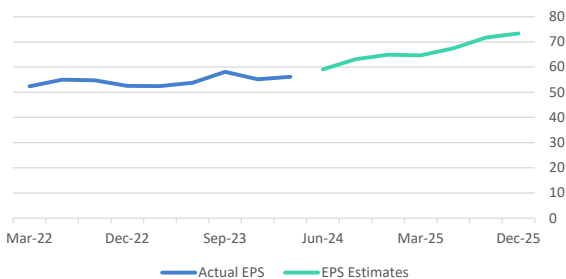
## FEATURED MARKET DATA

### Corporate Earnings Support Markets

With the first quarter corporate earnings season complete, S&P 500 companies reported a blended growth rate of 5.9%. The level was well ahead of market expectations and the strongest since the first quarter of 2022. The breadth of earnings beats was also strong, with the percentage of companies exceeding earnings growth expectations above average. However, those exceeding revenue estimates were below average. Furthermore, after excluding seven large tech companies (the “Magnificent 7”), the earnings growth rate for S&P 500 companies was -1.8% for the quarter. These softer datapoints align with somewhat softer economic data in May. Weaker retail sales and spending data contribute to worries about rising stress on lower-income consumers

Source: FactSet

### S&P 500 Quarterly Earnings Per Share



Source: FactSet

### Market and Economic Highlights

- ▶ U.S. stocks and bonds moved higher in May
- ▶ Big tech drove equity gains
- ▶ Fed speak leaned hawkish with patience a key theme
- ▶ CPI moved lower in April following three months of firmer data
- ▶ Economic data was somewhat softer overall in May

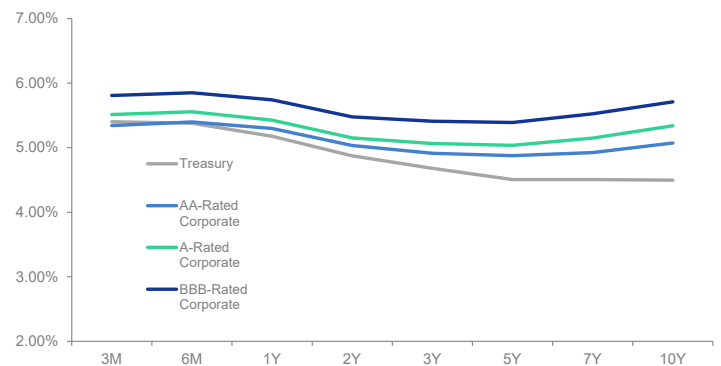
Source: FactSet

## Market Returns

Market Index	1-Month	3-Month	YTD	1-Year
Bloomberg 9-12 Month T-Bill	0.50%	1.15%	1.66%	5.13%
Bloomberg 1-5 Year Government	0.91%	0.46%	0.02%	2.62%
Bloomberg Intermediate U.S. Gov/ Credit A or Better	1.16%	0.37%	-0.44%	2.13%
Bloomberg Intermediate U.S. Agg.	1.46%	0.32%	-0.87%	2.00%
S&P 500	4.96%	3.91%	11.30%	28.17%
Russell 2000	5.01%	1.12%	2.68%	20.08%

Source: Bloomberg

## Market Yields



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 5/31/24

## U.S. Economic Indicators

Event	Event Date	Period	Survey	Actual	Prior / Revised (R)
Core CPI (MoM)	05/15/24	APR	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Consumer Price Index (YoY)	05/15/24	APR	3.4%	3.4%	3.5%
Chicago Fed National Activity Index	05/23/24	APR	0.13	-0.23	-0.04 (R)
S&P Case Shiller 20-City Home Price Index (YoY)	05/28/24	MAR	6.60%	6.49%	6.53% (R)
Consumer Confidence	05/28/24	MAY	96.0	102.0	97.5 (R)
Personal Income	05/31/24	APR	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%
Personal Spending	05/31/24	APR	0.3%	0.2%	0.7% (R)
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	06/07/24	MAY	190K	--	175K
Unemployment Rate	09/07/24	MAY	3.9%	--	3.9%

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 5/31/24. Glossary terms on following page.

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# Glossary of Terms

Term	What is it:
<b>Building Permits</b>	Records the number of permits for future housing construction.
<b>Capacity Utilization</b>	Tracks the extent to which capacity is being used in the production of goods and services.
<b>Change in Nonfarm Payrolls</b>	This indicator measures the change in the number of employees on business and government payrolls.
<b>Chicago Fed National Activity Index</b>	A nationwide measure of economic activity and inflation pressures. An index value of zero indicates that the national economy is expanding at its historical trend rate of growth.
<b>Consumer Confidence</b>	Index examines how consumers feel about jobs, the economy and spending.
<b>Consumer Price Index (CPI)</b>	Measures the average change in retail prices over time for a basket consisting of more than 200 categories of assorted goods and services paid directly by consumers.
<b>Core Consumer Price Index (Core CPI)</b>	This measure of CPI excludes food and energy costs.
<b>Durable Goods Orders</b>	A measure of new orders placed with domestic manufacturers for durable goods, which are items that last three years or more.
<b>Existing Home Sales</b>	Measures monthly sales of previously owned single-family homes.
<b>GDP Annualized QoQ</b>	Measures the annualized quarterly growth of the final market value of all goods and services produced within a country. GDP is the foremost report on how fast or slow the economy is growing.
<b>Housing Starts</b>	Records the number of new housing units started during a period.
<b>Index of Leading Economic Indicators (LEI)</b>	An index designed to predict the direction of the economy.
<b>Initial Jobless Claims</b>	Tracks new filings for unemployment insurance benefits.
<b>ISM Manufacturing</b>	Measures manufacturing activity based on a monthly survey of purchasing managers.
<b>MBA Mortgage Applications</b>	The Mortgage Bankers Association's weekly mortgage application survey includes home loan application activity for conventional and government loans for home purchases and refinances.
<b>Mortgage Delinquencies</b>	A measure of the percent of total conventional and government loans which are at least one payment past due, but not in the process of foreclosure.
<b>Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE)</b>	The Federal Reserve's preferred measure of inflation tracks overall price changes for goods and services. Core PCE excludes food and energy.
<b>Personal Income and Spending</b>	Index records the income Americans receive, how much they spend, and what they save.
<b>Retail Sales</b>	Tracks the sale of new and used goods for personal or household consumption.
<b>Retail Sales Ex. Auto</b>	Retail sales excluding motor vehicles and parts.
<b>S&amp;P Case-Shiller Home Price Index</b>	Tracks the value of single-family housing within the U.S. There are multiple indexes including the 20-City Composite.
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	The U-3 unemployment rates tracks the percentage of the civilian workforce that is unemployed.

Source: Bloomberg, The Secrets of Economic Indicators by Bernard Baumohl; PMA Asset Management, LLC

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