

Cherry Bekaert Wealth Management

Market Update: The Quarter in Review

Useful Information for Your Business & Financial Success

Summary

Second Quarter 2018

Looking at broad market indices, the US outperformed non-US developed and emerging markets during the second quarter. Small caps outperformed large caps in the US but underperformed in both non-US developed and emerging markets. The value effect was negative in the US as well as markets outside the US.

The US equity market posted a positive return, outperforming both non-US developed and emerging markets in the second quarter. Large cap value stocks underperformed large cap growth stocks in the US; however, small cap value stocks outperformed small cap growth. There was a positive size premium, as small cap stocks generally outperformed large cap stocks in the US.

In US dollar terms, developed markets outside the US underperformed the US but outperformed emerging markets during the second quarter. Value underperformed growth in non-US developed markets across large and small cap stocks. Small caps underperformed large caps in non-US developed markets.

In US dollar terms, emerging markets posted negative returns in the second quarter, underperforming

developed markets including the US. The value effect was negative in large caps; however, value and growth stocks had similar performance among small cap stocks within emerging markets. Small caps underperformed large caps in emerging markets.

Interest rates increased in the US during the second quarter. The yield on the 5-year Treasury note rose 17 basis points (bps), ending at 2.73%. The yield on the 10-year T-note rose 11 bps to 2.85%. The 30-year Treasury bond yield climbed 1 bps to 2.98%.

The 1-month Treasury bill yield rose 14 bps to 1.77%, while the 1-year Treasury bill yield increased 24 bps to 2.33%. The 2-year Treasury note yield finished at 2.52% after increasing 25 bps.

In terms of total return, short-term corporate bonds gained 0.29%, while intermediate-term corporate bonds declined 0.10%. Short-term municipal bonds added 0.66%, while intermediate-term munis returned 0.81%. Revenue bonds performed in-line with general obligation bonds, returning 0.90% and 0.87%, respectively.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This information is provided for educational purposes only and should not be considered investment advice or a solicitation to buy or sell securities. Please see page 4 for additional footnotes and disclosures.

E+R=O, a Formula for Success¹

Second Quarter 2018

Combining an enduring investment philosophy with a simple formula that helps maintain investment discipline can increase the odds of having a positive financial experience.

“The important thing about an investment philosophy is that you have one you can stick with.”

-David Booth

Founder and Executive Chairman, Dimensional Fund Advisors

An Enduring Investment Philosophy

Investing is a long-term endeavor. Indeed, people will spend decades pursuing their financial goals. But being an investor can be complicated, challenging, frustrating, and sometimes frightening. This is exactly why, as David Booth says, it is important to have an investment philosophy you can stick with, one that can help you stay the course.

This simple idea highlights an important question: How can investors, maintain discipline through bull markets, bear markets, political strife, economic instability, or whatever crisis du jour threatens progress towards their investment goals?

Over their lifetimes, investors face many decisions, prompted by events that are both within and outside their control. Without an enduring philosophy to inform their choices, they can potentially suffer unnecessary anxiety, leading to poor decisions and outcomes that are damaging to their long-term financial well-being.

When they don't get the results they want, many investors blame things outside their control. They might point the finger at the government, central banks, markets, or the economy. Unfortunately, the majority will not do the things that might be more beneficial—evaluating and reflecting on their own responses to events and taking responsibility for their decisions.

e+r=o

Some people suggest that among the characteristics that separate highly successful people from the rest of us is a focus on influencing outcomes by controlling one's reactions to events, rather than the events themselves. This relationship can be described in the following formula:

$e+r=o$ (Event + Response = Outcome)

Simply put, this means an outcome—either positive or negative—is the result of how you respond to an event, not just the result of the event itself. Of course, events are important and influence outcomes, but not exclusively. If this were the case, everyone would have the same outcome regardless of their response.

Let's think about this concept in a hypothetical investment context. Say a major political surprise, such as Brexit, causes a market to fall (event). In a panicked response, potentially fueled by gloomy media speculation of the resulting uncertainty, an investor sells some or all of his or her investment (response). Lacking a long-term perspective and reacting to the short-term news, our investor misses out on the subsequent market recovery and suffers anxiety about when, or if, to get back in, leading to suboptimal investment returns (outcome).

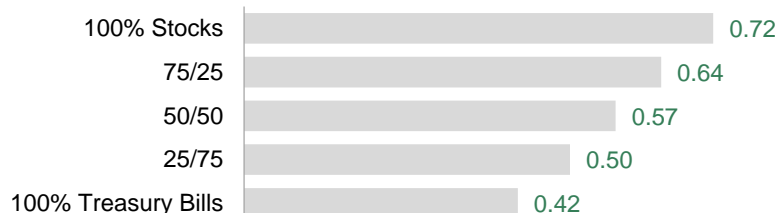
1. Jack Canfield, *The Success Principles: How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2004).

Impact of Diversification

Second Quarter 2018 Index Returns

These portfolios illustrate the performance of different global stock/bond mixes and highlight the benefits of diversification. Mixes with larger allocations to stocks are considered riskier but have higher expected returns over time.

Ranked Returns (%)

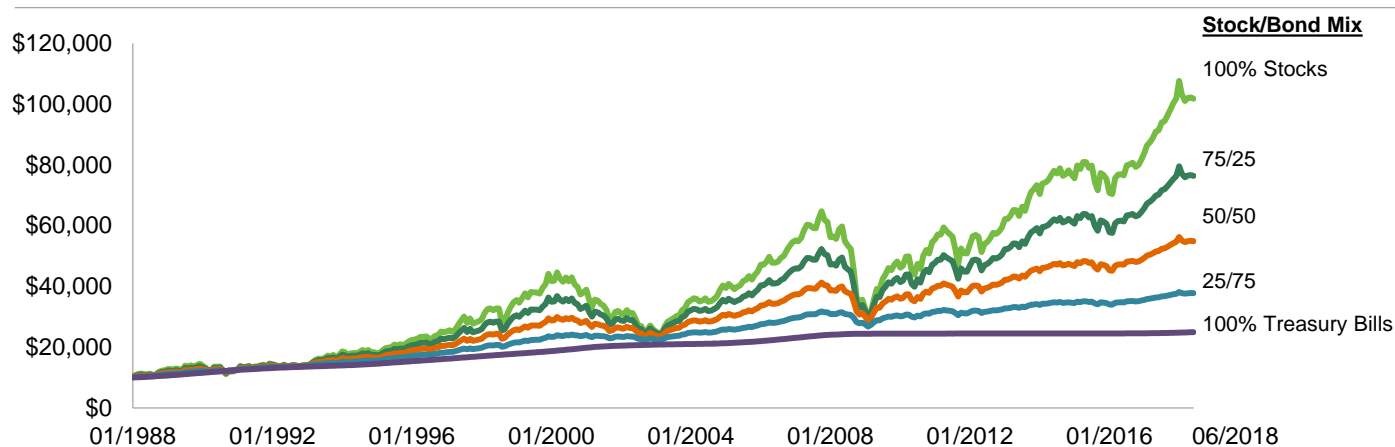


Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	QTR	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*	10-Year STDEV ¹
100% Stocks	0.72	11.31	8.78	10.00	6.37	16.41
75/25	0.64	8.79	6.79	7.61	5.09	12.30
50/50	0.57	6.27	4.75	5.21	3.64	8.19
25/75	0.50	3.77	2.69	2.79	2.03	4.09
100% Treasury Bills	0.42	1.27	0.59	0.36	0.27	0.13

Growth of Wealth: The Relationship between Risk and Return









1. STDEV (standard deviation) is a measure of the variation or dispersion of a set of data points. Standard deviations are often used to quantify the historical return volatility of a security or portfolio.

Diversification does not eliminate the risk of market loss. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.** Asset allocations and the hypothetical index portfolio returns are for illustrative purposes only and do not represent actual performance. Global Stocks represented by MSCI All Country World Index (gross div.) and Treasury Bills represented by US One-Month Treasury Bills. Globally diversified allocations rebalanced monthly, no withdrawals. Data © MSCI 2018, all rights reserved. Treasury bills © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefeld).

Market Summary

Index Returns

	US Stock Market	International Developed Stocks	Emerging Markets Stocks	Global Real Estate	US Bond Market	Global Bond Market ex US
Q2 2018	3.89%	-0.75%	-7.96%	6.05%	-0.16%	0.48%
						

Since Jan. 2001						
Avg. Quarterly Return	2.0%	1.5%	3.0%	2.6%	1.1%	1.1%
Best Quarter	16.8% Q2 2009	25.9% Q2 2009	34.7% Q2 2009	32.3% Q3 2009	4.6% Q3 2001	4.6% Q4 2008
Worst Quarter	-22.8% Q4 2008	-21.2% Q4 2008	-27.6% Q4 2008	-36.1% Q4 2008	-3.0% Q4 2016	-2.7% Q2 2015

Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net div.]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net div.]), Global Real Estate (S&P Global REIT Index [net div.]), US Bond Market (Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond ex US Market (FTSE WGBI ex USA 1-30 Years [hedged to USD]). S&P data copyright 2018 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2018, all rights reserved. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg. FTSE fixed income © 2018 FTSE Fixed Income LLC, all rights reserved. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. This information is provided for educational purposes only and should not be considered investment advice or a solicitation to buy or sell securities. There is no guarantee an investing strategy will be successful. Diversification does not eliminate the risk of market loss.

Investing risks include loss of principal and fluctuating value. Small cap securities are subject to greater volatility than those in other asset categories. International investing involves special risks such as currency fluctuation and political instability. Investing in emerging markets may accentuate these risks. Sector-specific investments can also increase these risks.

Fixed income securities are subject to increased loss of principal during periods of rising interest rates. Fixed income investments are subject to various other risks, including changes in credit quality, liquidity, prepayments, and other factors. REIT risks include changes in real estate values and property taxes, interest rates, cash flow of underlying real estate assets, supply and demand, and the management skill and creditworthiness of the issuer.

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