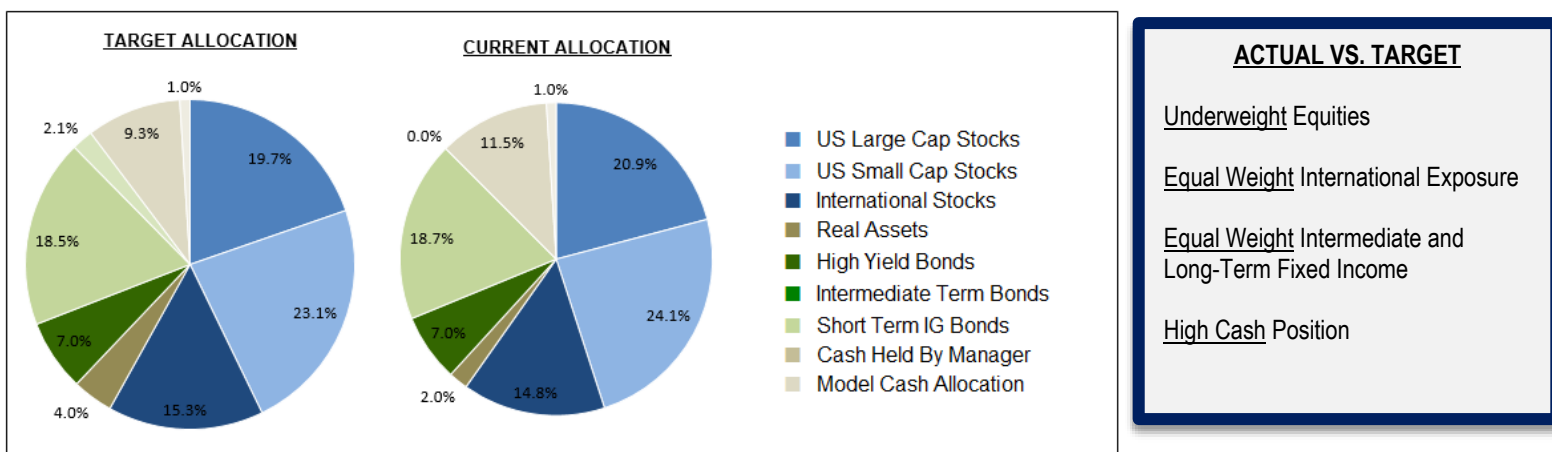


\*General overall portfolio comments refer to the Moderate Growth allocations used in both the Pooled Fund Program and the Unified Managed Account Program. These general comments will be referred to as "Moderate Growth" throughout. Specific references to performance, current allocation, or comparison to indexes are derived from the CWA Model 5 Portfolio in the Pooled Fund Program; these specific comments will be referred to as "Model 5" throughout.

## PORTFOLIO ANALYSIS

**Overall Goal.** We construct portfolios to generate a return that maximizes the probability that an investor will meet their retirement goals, as opposed to maximizing their asset base (which interjects significant risk). We believe that a value bias, international exposure and general diversification provide the best avenue to meet this objective. Our portfolios have lower volatility<sup>†</sup>, but can go through periods where they do not keep pace with the U.S. equity markets (the most common benchmark) because of our focus on value, fixed income and international stocks.

The **Moderate Growth Portfolio** is intended to provide a balanced allocation, with a slight overweight to equities over fixed income. The goal is to provide a balance of growth and income with lower volatility than an all-equity portfolio. Our target and current portfolio asset class allocations for Model 5 are listed below.



## LARGEST EQUITY AND FIXED INCOME POSITIONS

In normal market environments, Moderate Growth has a target allocation of 60% stocks & 40% bonds, with approximately 20% of the portfolio in international equities and fixed income. So, the portfolio is a global one – with a U.S. tilt. By design, the holdings are broadly diversified by location/country, by company size, by credit quality/yield and by maturity/duration. The investment managers have a degree of flexibility which allows them to respond to different market environments, and our equity managers are currently holding a large amount of cash (given current valuations).

<sup>†</sup> as of 06/30/2018, the 7-year volatility (standard deviation) of Model 5 is 6.0%, versus 10.9% for the S&P 500 Index.

## PERFORMANCE

The Moderate Growth portfolios in the Pooled Fund Program and the Unified Managed Account Program have slightly different investments, costs and thus returns. Accordingly, we direct you to your account statement for your individual performance.

In June, Model 5 (net of fees and expenses) outperformed<sup>(1)</sup> compared to the U.S. 60/40 Index, outperformed compared to the Global 60/40 Index, and outperformed the S&P Moderate Growth Index, which posted the following returns:

PERFORMANCE	JUNE	COMMENTS
Global 60/40 Benchmark Index <sup>(2)</sup>	-0.48%	The S&P 500 Index ended the month higher by 0.6%. International equities and bonds were negative for the month, with domestic bonds ending the month relatively flat to slightly negative. June was a choppy month across all asset classes.
US 60/40 Benchmark Index <sup>(3)</sup>	0.32%	
S&P Moderate Growth Index <sup>(4)</sup>	-0.30%	

(1) "Market Perform" means within a range of +10 bps to -10 bps of the applicable index for the month (or +/- 8 bps per month for YTD performance); "Outperform" means more than +10 bps for the month (or more than +8 bps per month for YTD performance); "Underperform" means more than -10 bps for the month (or more than -8 bps per month for YTD performance). **Please note performance comparison comments are based upon Model 5 Pooled Fund Program data. There are inherent limitations in the use of model performance – please read the Model Disclosure found on page 5. Investors should consult their individual custodial statement for actual performance of individual portfolios. Actual performance comparisons may differ from model comparisons.**

(2) Global 60/40 Benchmark is 60% MSCI ACWI Index & 40% Barclays Global Aggregate Bond Index.

(3) US 60/40 Benchmark is 60% S&P 500 Index & 40% Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index.

(4) S&P Moderate Growth Index is 50% S&P Target Risk Moderate Index & 50% S&P Target Risk Growth Index.

## MARKET PERFORMANCE

### Equities

PERFORMANCE	JUNE	MULTIPLE	COMMENTS
U.S. Equities <sup>(5)</sup>	0.65%	22.4X	The broad equity market was higher in the U.S. for the month of June, however the intraday volatility of the market was higher than market participants have become accustomed to.
International Developed <sup>(6)</sup>	-1.19%	15.5X	International equities were lower. A strong U.S. Dollar, caused by continuing tension surrounding U.S. trade policy, caused international equities to weaken.
Emerging Markets <sup>(7)</sup>	-4.13%	13.4X	The strong U.S. dollar is hurting Emerging Markets.

(5) U.S. Equities are represented by the Russell 3000 Index.

(6) International Developed is the MSCI EAFE Index.

(7) Emerging Markets is the MSCI EM Index.

## Fixed Income

PERFORMANCE	JUNE	SPREAD OVER UST 10 YEAR	COMMENTS
U.S. Treasuries (Medium Duration) <sup>(8)</sup>	0.06%	-	The 10 Year treasury ended the month flat after an initial bump in yield at the very beginning of June.
U.S. Treasuries (Longer Duration) <sup>(9)</sup>	0.19%	0.09%	The yield curve has become extremely flat which bears mentioning – the last two times the yield curve has inverted in has led to a recession.
Global Fixed Income <sup>(10)</sup>	-0.44%	-0.86%	Global bonds still sport yields below that of the U.S., despite having unfavorable debt dynamics and the U.S. being the reserve currency.
Emerging Fixed Income <sup>(11)</sup>	-0.72%	2.82%	Spreads widened during the month as a stronger U.S. Dollar is beginning to have a negative effect on Emerging Markets.
High Yield <sup>(12)</sup>	0.40%	3.69%	High yield was positive during the month – however, spreads widened.

(8) U.S. Treasuries (7-10 Years), represented by the Barclays U.S.T 7-10 Yr Total Return Index

(9) U.S. Treasuries (20+ Years), represented by the Barclays U.S.T 20+ Yr Total Return Index

(10) Barclays Global Aggregate Bond Index.

(11) Barclays Emerging Markets EMEA Total Return

(12) Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield Index.

**Commodities and Real Assets.** The Model 5 portfolios do not have significant exposure to commodities, except indirectly. However, commodities and real assets (real estate) provide a good sense of global demand (in the case of industrial commodities) or fear (gold).

PERFORMANCE	JUNE	TREND	COMMENTS
Energy <sup>(13)</sup>	5.32%	UP	Oil is in a defined up trend driven by favorable demand dynamics and a growing global economy.
Real Estate <sup>(14)</sup>	4.06%	UP	Real Estate has taken off in 2018, due in part to the prospects for higher inflation and growing replacement cost dynamics.
Industrial Metals <sup>(15)</sup>	-4.64%	-	Industrial metals sold off during the month.
Gold <sup>(16)</sup>	-3.61%	DOWN	Gold had one of its worst months in many years, exacerbated by a stronger U.S. dollar.

(13) S&P GSCI Energy Total Return Index.

(14) Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate Index.

(15) S&P GSCI Industrial Metals Total Return Index.

(16) SPDR Gold Shares (GLD).

### Market Comments

It must be admitted – our current Administration, at the very least, has dispensed with the “summer doldrums” for the markets.

The current rhetoric between the U.S. and China over trade had a dramatic impact on the Renminbi this week. The Chinese currency fell 0.8% on July 3, its fourth largest intra-day drop ever. Unlike past drops for the Renminbi - and what makes this particular drop worth mentioning - is that the currency also weakened against a basket of foreign currencies and not just the U.S. Dollar.

This is important because in the past, China had their currency pegged to the U.S. Dollar, so any move downward would trigger a move by the Central Bank in China to correct for the drop. However, the currency wouldn't really move against other foreign currencies like the Euro.

Now that China is floating their currency and is relying on supply and demand to be its foundation going forward, a move lower like earlier this week signals that the Chinese currency is beginning to look shaky to global market participants.

China is the engine that runs the global economy, and any dramatic weakening of the currency will have a profound effect on global markets. China's trade surplus is almost certain to shrink no matter what the outcome of trade negotiations are and confirming evidence can be found in onshore Chinese markets, which are seeing market participants hoard U.S. Dollars and short the Renminbi.

We have written in the past about the troubling aspects of the experiment China is running with their banking system. The stability of their currency remains paramount towards any future success of their economy, and how they move to negate any future devaluation will have impacts felt both here and abroad. We will continue to monitor the situation and believe that our risk management practices continue to be very prudent and necessary given the global macroeconomic backdrop.

### Further Reading

- 1) **China central bank seeks to reassure after renminbi tumble**, Financial Times, June 3, 2018

This article discusses in detail the weakening of the Renminbi and its implications and ramifications for both China and the US economy.

<https://www.ft.com/content/1e49cc2c-7e73-11e8-bc55-50daf11b720d>

**For questions, or to request additional information, please contact your CWA Financial Planner**

### DISCLOSURES

#### **PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT AN INDICATOR OF FUTURE MARKET RETURNS.**

*Cain Watters is a Registered Investment Advisor. Request Form ADV Part 2A for a complete description of Cain Watters Advisors' investment advisory services. Diversification does not ensure a profit and may not protect against loss in declining markets. No inference should be drawn that managed accounts will be profitable in the future or that the Manager will be able to achieve its objectives. Investing involves risk and the possibility of loss, including a permanent loss of principal.*

*This commentary contains the opinions of the CWA Investment Committee at the time of publication and is subject to change. Market and economic factors can change rapidly, producing materially different results. This update is intended for clients currently invested in CWA Recommended Investment Programs. This is not intended to be personalized investment advice. This does not take into account a particular investor's financial objectives or risk tolerances. Any specific mention of securities is for informational purposes only and is not intended as a recommendation or solicitation to purchase.*

*CWA Model 5 Moderate Growth Pooled Fund Program: The target allocation and portfolio data used throughout this presentation is for the CWA Model 5 recommended for participants in the Pooled Fund Program. This Model is the most common recommendation and is used here to illustrate the CWA methodology. Other CWA Recommended Investment Program models will vary in asset allocation and underlying manager and/or security selection. Clients should discuss these models and programs with their planner prior to selection.*

*\*\*The CAPE ratio is a valuation measure that uses real earnings per share (EPS) over a 10-year period to smooth out fluctuations in corporate profits that occur over different periods of a business cycle. The ratio is generally applied to broad equity indices to assess whether the market is undervalued or overvalued. While the CAPE ratio is a popular and widely-followed measure, several leading industry practitioners have called into question its utility as a predictor of future stock market returns. The CAPE ratio, an acronym for Cyclically Adjusted P/E (i.e. Price-Earnings) ratio, was popularized by Yale University professor Robert Shiller. It is also known as the Shiller P/E ratio.*

*+Statements relating to Value outperforming Growth are based upon the data of the Fama-French 3-Factor Model. A pioneering study by renowned academics, Eugene Fama and Ken French, suggesting that three risk factors: market (beta), size (market capitalization) and price (book/market value) dimensions explain 96% of historical equity performance.*

**Model Performance Disclosure: Model performance is NOT an indicator of future or actual results. Performance does not represent the returns that any individual investor actually received. Cain Watters Investors may incur a loss.** Cain Watters Models contain allocations to several different common pooled trust funds. Each individual pooled trust fund has a defined investment strategy; usually designed around a specific asset class. Investment managers and their respective strategies are chosen to meet each of the pooled funds' objectives. Investors in the models pay a monthly asset based trust fee, based on their average investment balance during the month. Model performance is calculated using the reported net asset value of each individual pooled fund. Performance for the individual funds is then weighted according to the model target allocation. Model performance includes the reinvestment of dividends and interest. The annual trust fee of 0.65% is subtracted from gross returns on a pro-rated basis of 0.0541% per month; and includes trust fees and investment advisory fees. For time periods prior to July 1, 2016 an annual trust fee of 1.05% or 0.0875% per month was used. Model performance has inherent limitations in that it does not reflect the effects of significant cash flows, or take into account actual client asset allocation that may differ materially from the target allocation due to rebalancing policies and changes in market values. This model performance information is provided for illustrative purposes only. Cain Watters Model investors may experience materially different returns.

*Use of Comparison Benchmark or Index: Indexes cannot be invested in directly. Index performance and statistics are provided for illustrative or comparison purposes and are chosen as commonly accepted representations of the performance of a particular segment of the market.*