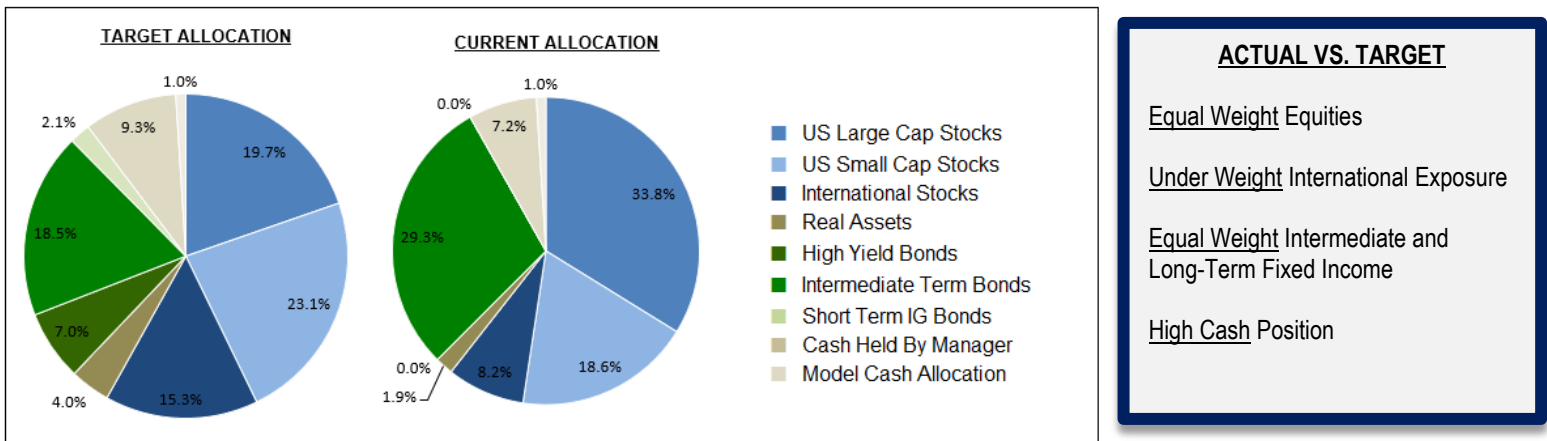


*General overall portfolio comments refer to the Moderate Growth allocations used in both the Pooled Fund Program and the Unified Managed Account Program. These general comments will be referred to as “Moderate Growth” throughout. Specific references to performance, current allocation, or comparison 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[†], 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).

[†] as of 10/31/2021, the 10-year volatility (standard deviation) of Model 5 is 8.1%, versus 13.0% 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 October, Model 5 (net of fees and expenses) outperformed compared to the Global 60/40 Index, underperformed compared to the U.S. 60/40 Index, and outperformed compared to the S&P Moderate Growth which posted the following returns:

PERFORMANCE	OCT	COMMENTS
Global 60/40 Benchmark Index ⁽²⁾	2.82%	Equity markets rebounded strongly for the month after a tough September. The S&P 500 gained 7.0%, outpacing Global stocks. Both Global and Domestic bonds were modestly negative during the month.
U.S. 60/40 Benchmark Index ⁽³⁾	4.19%	
S&P Moderate Growth Index ⁽⁴⁾	2.54%	

- (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 6. 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	OCT	MULTIPLE	COMMENTS
U.S. Equities ⁽⁵⁾	6.76%	29.1X	The broader market was strongly positive during the month, with large caps leading the way.
International Developed ⁽⁶⁾	2.47%	18.6X	International developed equities were positive during the month, although the move higher was muted compared to domestic equities.
Emerging Markets ⁽⁷⁾	1.00%	14.8X	Emerging markets were positive during the month.

- (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	OCT	SPREAD OVER UST 10 YEAR	COMMENTS
U.S. Treasuries (Medium Duration) ⁽⁸⁾	-0.44%	-	10-year yields rose during the month.
U.S. Treasuries (Longer Duration) ⁽⁹⁾	2.34%	0.46%	Long-term yields fell during the month, with the curve flattening ahead of the Feds comments regarding tapering.
Global Fixed Income ⁽¹⁰⁾	-0.24%	-0.29%	Global bonds fell during the month.
Emerging Fixed Income ⁽¹¹⁾	-0.17%	2.46%	Emerging markets fell during the month.
High Yield ⁽¹²⁾	-0.17%	2.69%	High Yield was largely unchanged during the month, signaling that credit is not at the heart of market volatility.

(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	OCT	TREND	COMMENTS
Energy ⁽¹³⁾	7.95%	UP	Oil was strongly up and is now in its largest uptrend in years.
Real Estate ⁽¹⁴⁾	7.11%	-	Real estate shrugged off a tough September and rose sharply during the month.
Industrial Metals ⁽¹⁵⁾	3.66%	-	Industrial metals rallied during the month.
Gold ⁽¹⁶⁾	1.48%	-	Gold remains depressed but managed a nominal gain during the month.

(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

Markets were strongly positive this month, and now all the attention will turn to the Fed's upcoming comments on November 3, 2021 about their plans to begin tapering asset purchases.

Ahead of the Fed comments, the long end of the Treasury curve dove and the curve began to flatten. This could be a tell about the market's expectations regarding the Fed's plans as we move forward into 2022. We believe Guggenheim summarized this move the best.

"An inversion of the long end of the curve is counterintuitive given the Fed's looming tapering announcement, but the flat forward curve—measured by the three-year forward 3-month/10-year swap curve—indicates that the market is likely looking ahead to the economic impact of the hiking cycle to follow. We expect the Federal Open Market Committee to announce the tapering of quantitative easing at its Nov. 3 meeting, with purchases likely to end in mid-June 2022. We have also moved forward our expectation that Fed funds rate hikes will begin in the fourth quarter of 2022. A rapidly tightening labor market and a persistent overshoot of the inflation target may justify raising the fed funds target to a terminal range of 2.00–2.25 percent.

History shows that an inverted 20s/30s curve on its own does not necessarily predict a recession, but the flat forward curve has been a stronger indicator. The three-year forward 3-month/10-year swap curve stands at just 26 basis points and based on data from the last three business cycles, that level has historically preceded recessions by an average of 28 months." --Guggenheim Macro Alert, 11/1/2021

We have often mentioned that we expect the Fed to taper and that they may even begin to cautiously raise rates late in 2022, but the rate hike cycle would be short and muted. The market moves ahead of these comments seemingly to confirm this view. Last week, at PIMCO's virtual Secular Summit, former Fed Chair Ben Bernanke stated that he believes the Fed will make their first cautious/probing rate hike in the 1Q of 2023. While many market participants think it will be earlier, the market action seems to hypothesize that any rate hike will be met with market resistance and will likely give the Fed a pause.

We continue to hold our view that interest rates will remain very low for much longer than many anticipate, and that the 10-Year yield will continue to make lower highs and lower lows as it continues its downward trend that will likely only be broken once a concerted effort to mitigate U.S. debt dynamics is undertaken.

Further Reading

- 1) **The Fed Lays Out Plans to Start Tapering This Month, Barrons, November 3, 2021**

<https://www.barrons.com/articles/is-inflation-here-to-stay-fed-today-51635925833?mod=hpsubnav>

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.

Asset allocation and diversification do not assure or guarantee better performance and cannot eliminate the risk of investment losses. All investments and strategies have the potential for profit or loss. Different types of investments involve higher and lower levels of risk. Historical performance returns for investment indexes and/or categories, usually do not deduct transaction and/or custodial charges or an advisory fee, which would decrease historical performance results. There are no assurances that a portfolio will match or exceed any specific benchmark.

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.