Capital Markets Outlook & Risk Metrics

As of March 31, 2020

Capital Markets Outlook

Takeaways

- March completed what will be remembered as a historic quarter. With a high degree of volatility, risk-oriented markets experienced considerable drawdowns as well as material rebounds toward the end of the month. In aggregate, however, most global equity markets produced returns in the -10% to -25% range over the month and in the -20% to -35% range for the quarter. In general, the US outperformed non-US, growth outperformed value, and large outperformed small.
- With interest rates declining further, US Treasury securities were the sole area of positive returns for the month (excluding certain dynamic trading strategies). The Long US Treasury bond index produced a monthly return of roughly 6% that resulted in a quarterly return of nearly 21%.
- The aggregate impacts to global GDP due to the COVID-19 pandemic are still unknown but are expected to be material. Macroeconomic data such as unemployment claims and manufacturing results have begun to illustrate the likely trajectory of GDP over the near term.
- Although the US yield curve technically steepened in March, this was driven by the short-end of the curve as the Federal Reserve effectively cut rates to zero. As of the end of March, short-term yields (1- to 3-months) were approximately 0.05-0.10%, with long-term yields (20- to 30-years) around 1.15-1.35%.
- Monetary and fiscal policies across the globe have shifted to become extremely accommodative. From indications of unlimited quantitative easing to massive fiscal stimulus, global authorities are unrolling historic policies to combat the pandemic from an economic standpoint.

Capital Markets Outlook

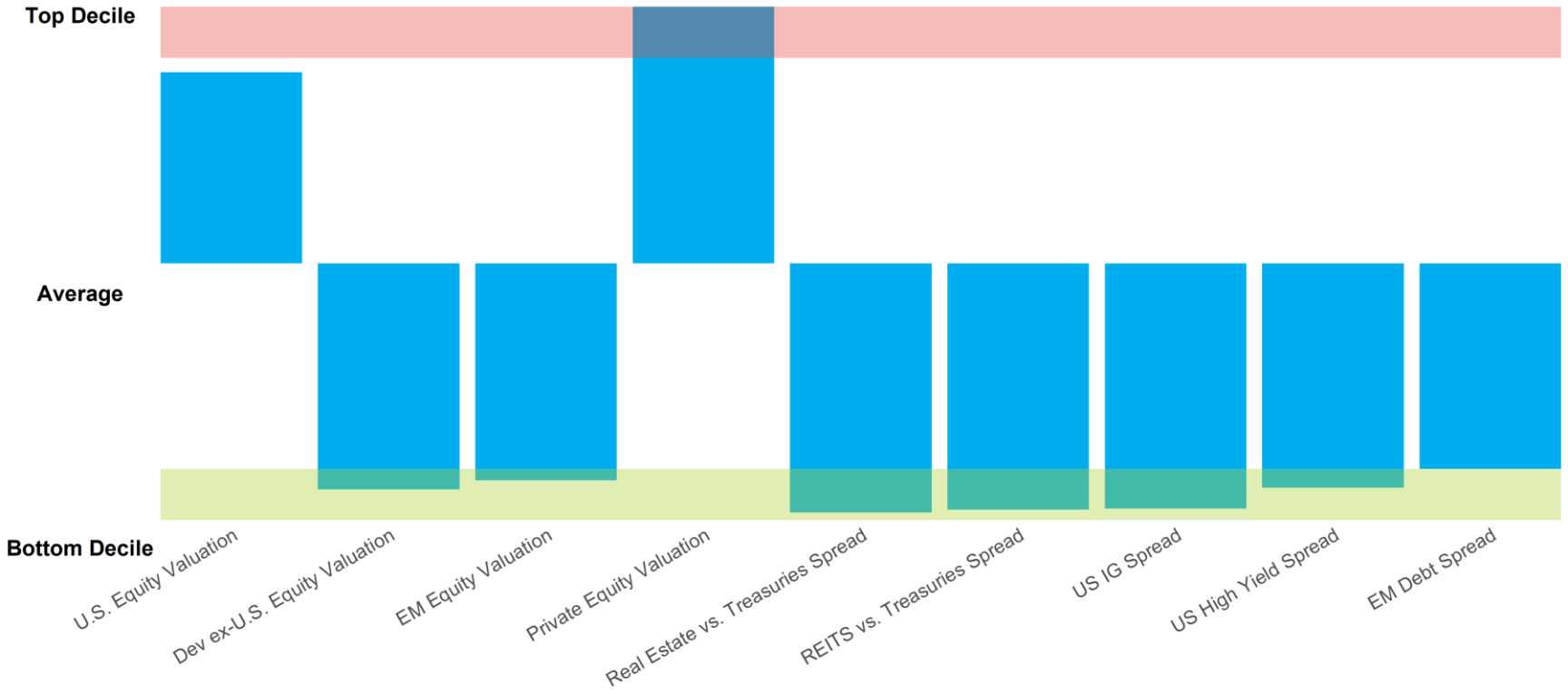
Takeaways

- Implied equity market volatility[1] began the month around 40, but spent the majority of the month at levels (e.g., 65-85) that were only previously experienced during the Great Financial Crisis. Likewise, our Systemic Risk measure reached its highest level since October 2008.
- Even with the drawdown, US equity markets remain modestly expensive whereas non-US equity markets are now even cheaper relative to their histories. US credit and emerging markets debt spreads are also attractive from a historical valuation perspective.
- Relative to their counterparts (growth and large cap), value and small cap equities continue to remain attractive from a valuation perspective.
- The Market Sentiment Indicator[2] flipped to red (i.e., negative) at month-end.

[1] As measured by VIX Index.

[2] See Appendix for the rationale for selection and calculation methodology used for the risk metrics.

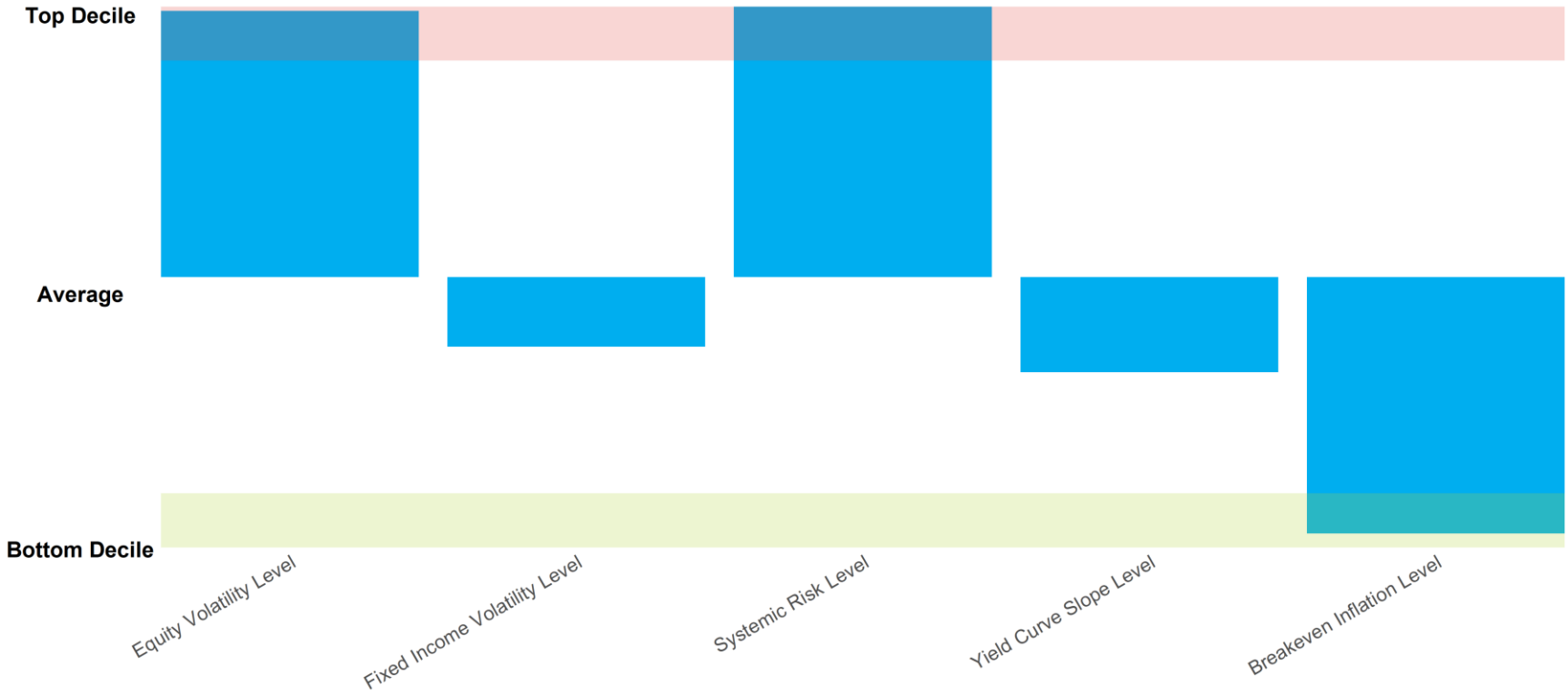
Risk Overview/Dashboard (1)
(As of March 31, 2020)[1]



- Dashboard (1) summarizes the current state of the different valuation metrics per asset class relative to their own history.

[1] With the exception of Private Equity Valuation, that is YTD as of December 31, 2019.

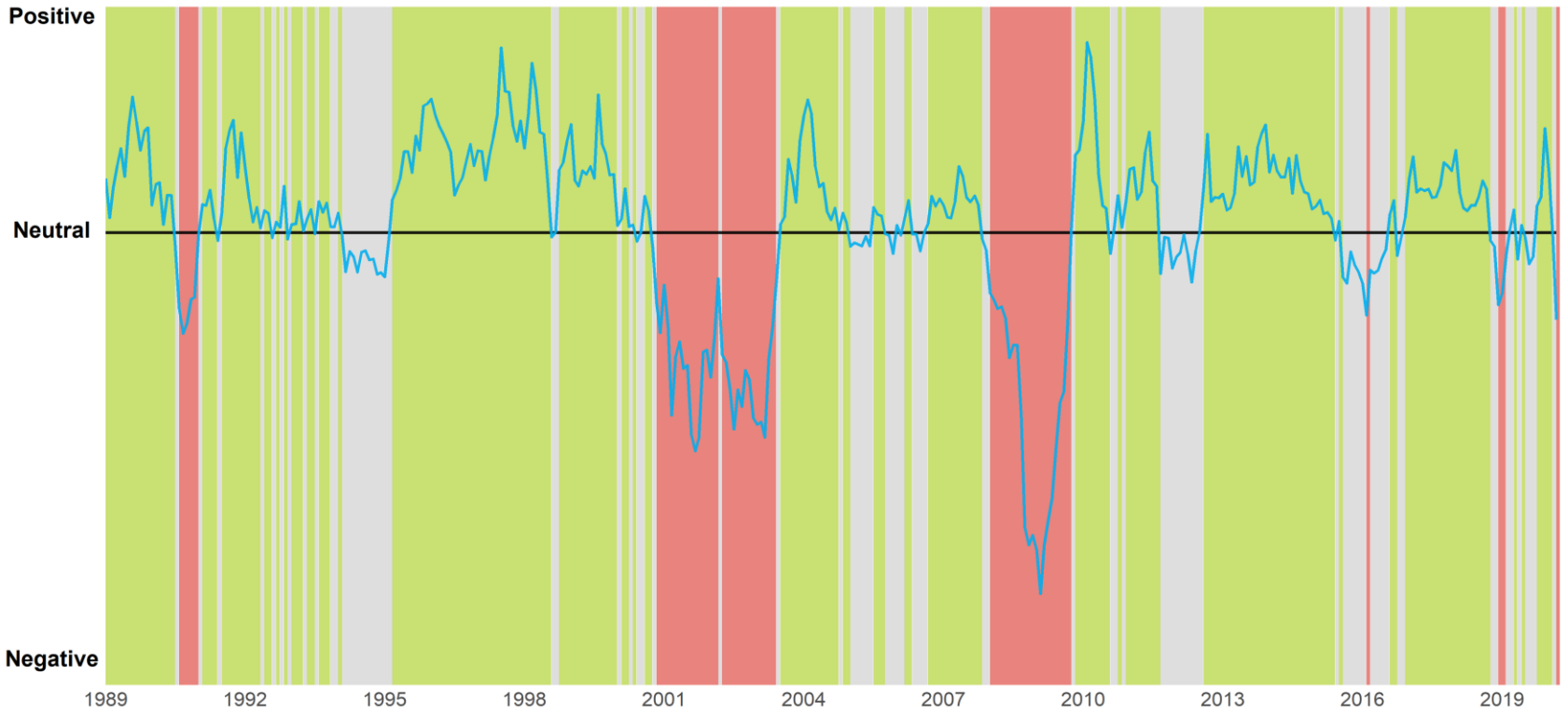
Risk Overview/Dashboard (2)
(As of March 31, 2020)



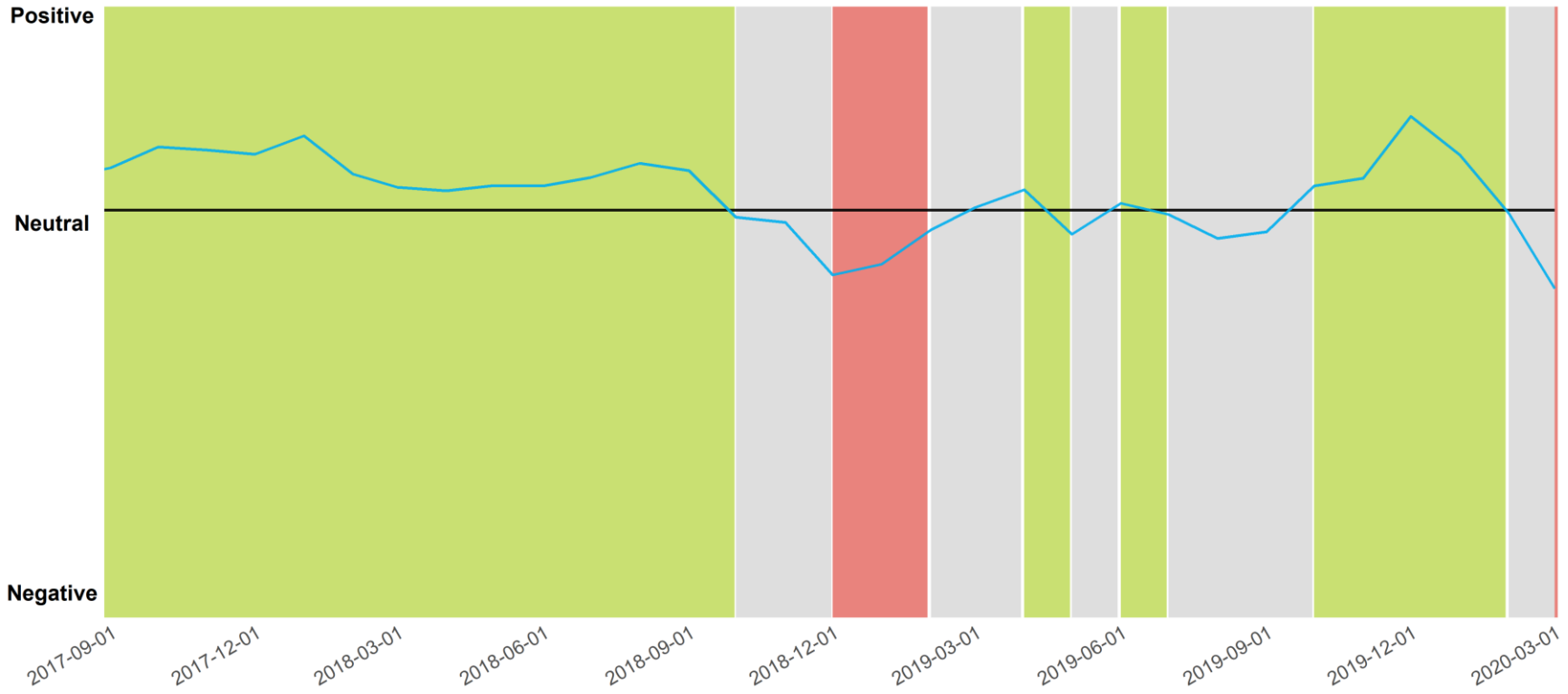
- Dashboard (2) shows how the current level of each indicator compares to its respective history.

Market Sentiment Indicator (All History)

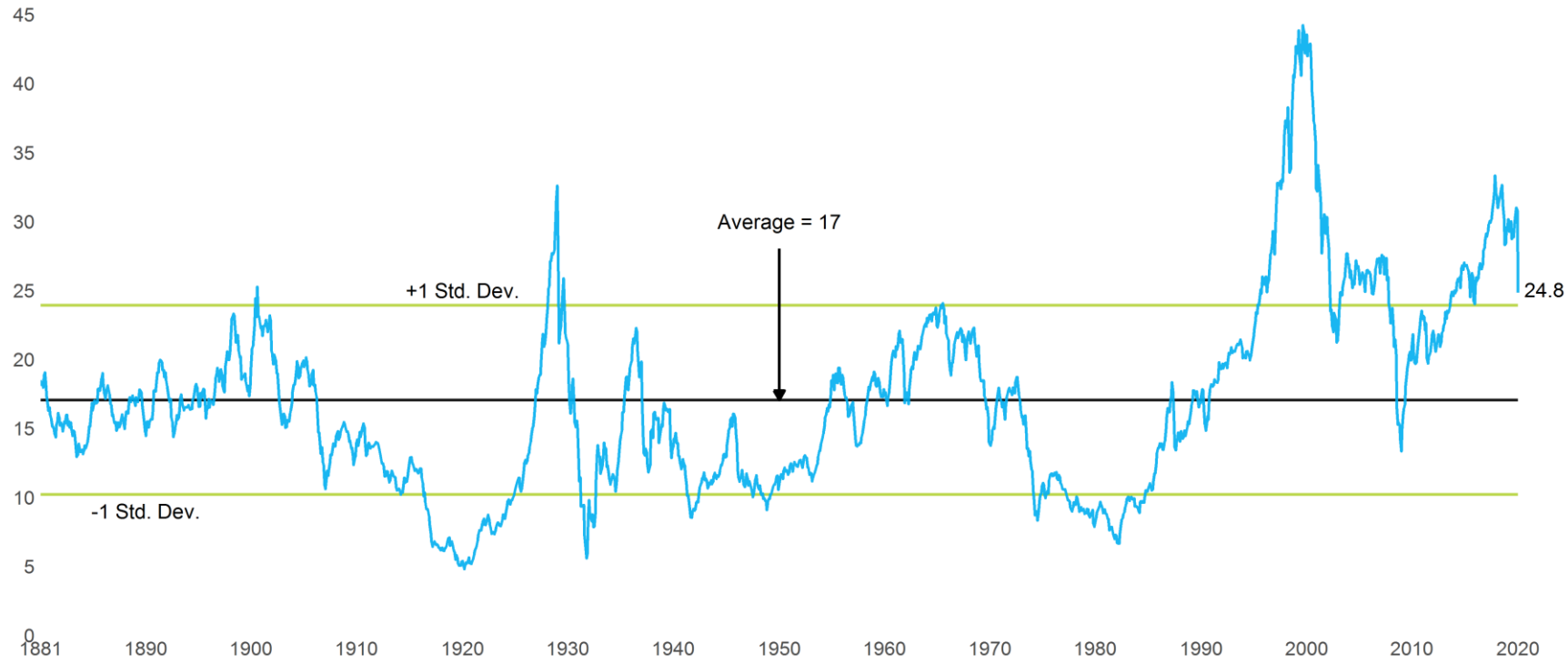
(As of March 31, 2020)



Market Sentiment Indicator (Last Three Years)
(As of March 31, 2020)



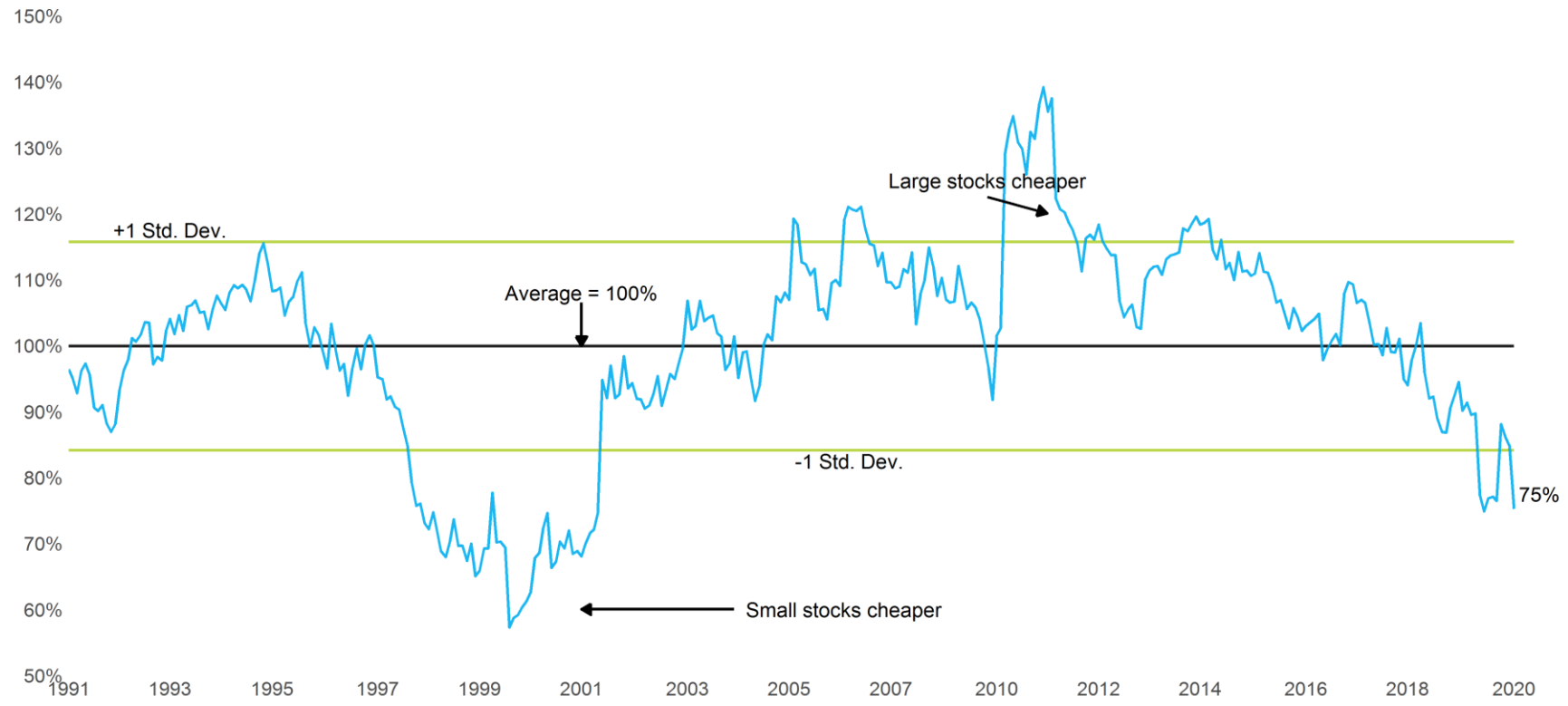
US Equity Cyclically Adjusted P/E[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for US equities. A higher (lower) figure indicates more expensive (cheaper) valuation relative to history.

[1] US Equity Cyclically Adjusted P/E on S&P 500 Index. Source: Robert Shiller, Yale University, and Meketa Investment Group.

Small Cap P/E vs. Large Cap P/E[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart compares the relative attractiveness of small cap US equities vs. large cap US equities on a valuation basis. A higher (lower) figure indicates that large cap (small cap) is more attractive.

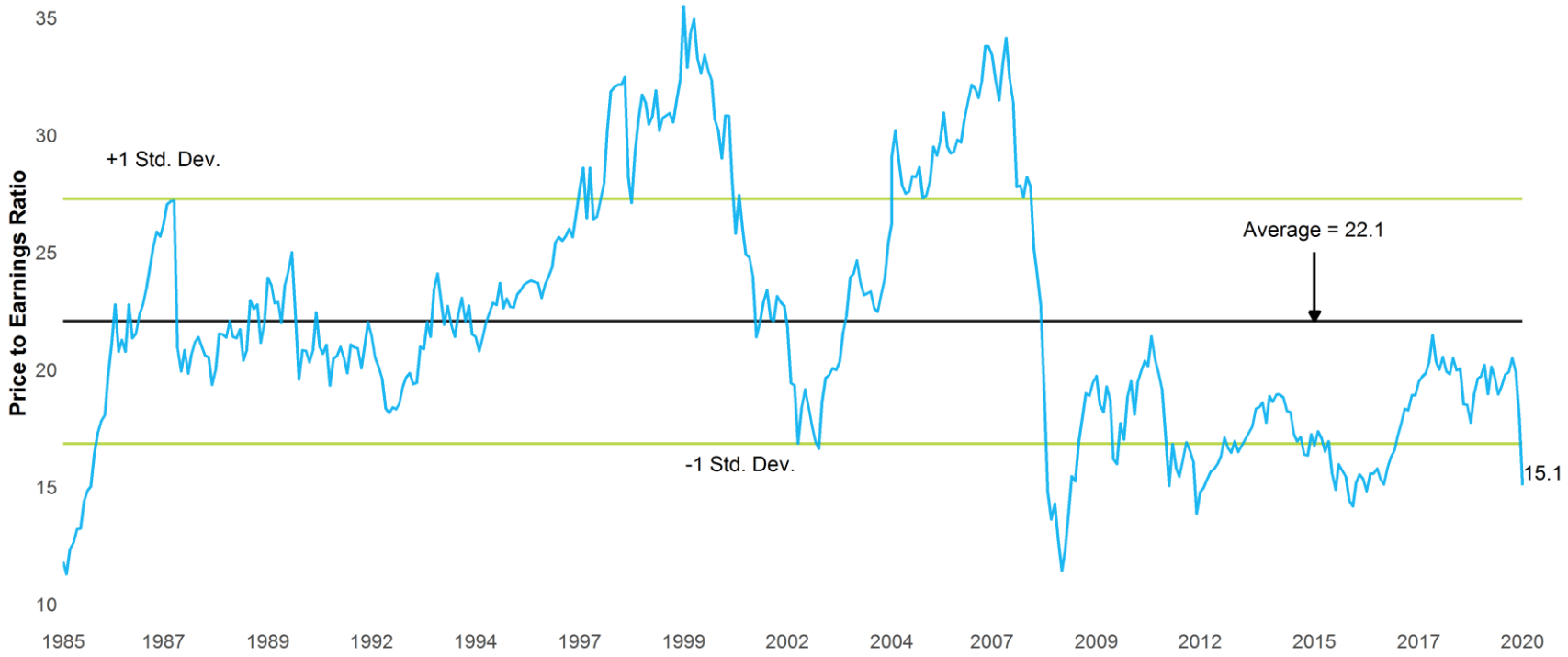
[1] Small Cap P/E (Russell 2000 Index) vs. Large Cap P/E (Russell 1000 Index) - Source: Russell Investments. Earnings figures represent 12-month "as reported" earnings.

Growth P/E vs. Value P/E[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)

- This chart compares the relative attractiveness of US growth equities vs. US value equities on a valuation basis. A higher (lower) figure indicates that value (growth) is more attractive.

[1] Growth P/E (Russell 3000 Growth Index) vs. Value (Russell 3000 Value Index) P/E - Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, and Meketa Investment Group. Earnings figures represent 12-month "as reported" earnings.

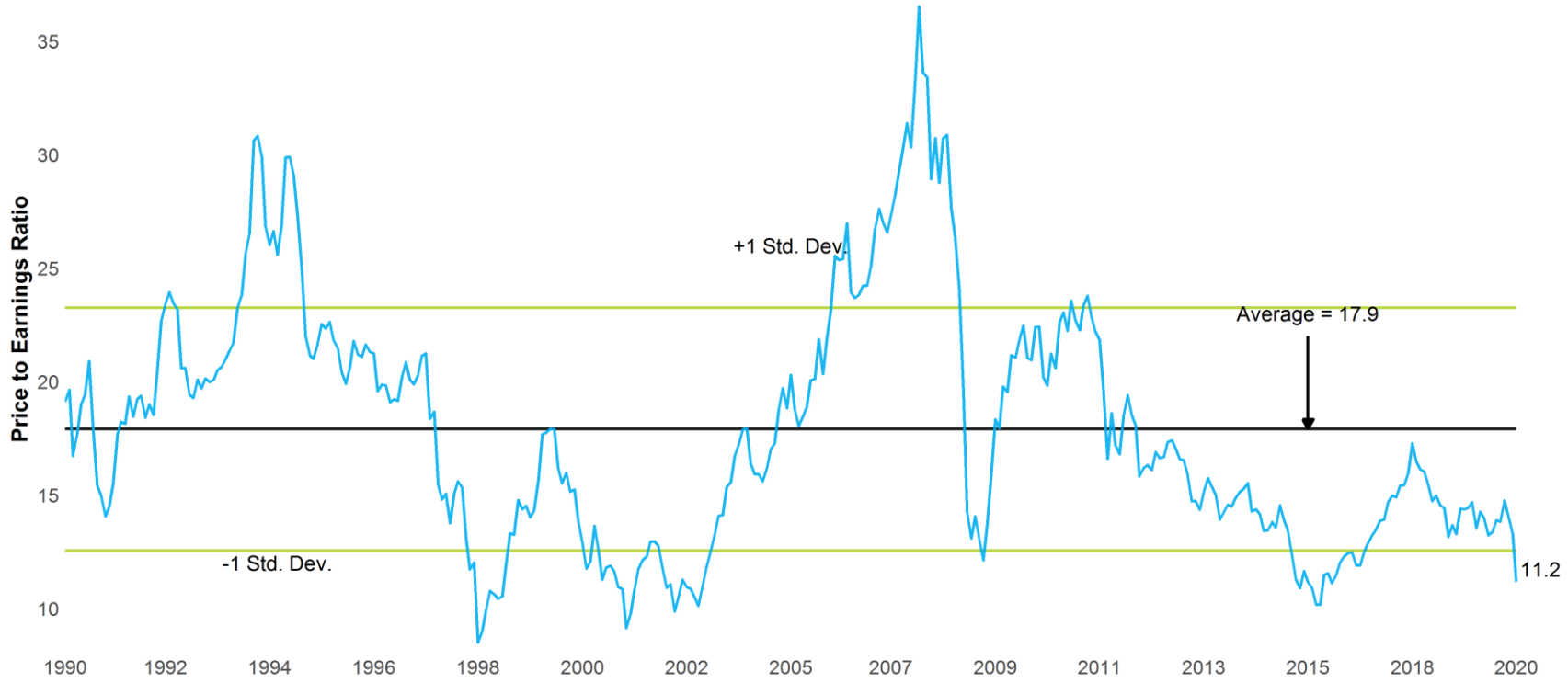
Developed International Equity Cyclically Adjusted P/E[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for developed international equities. A higher (lower) figure indicates more expensive (cheaper) valuation relative to history.

[1] Developed International Equity (MSCI EAFE ex Japan Index) Cyclically Adjusted P/E – Source: MSCI and Bloomberg. Earnings figures represent the average of monthly "as reported" earnings over the previous ten years.

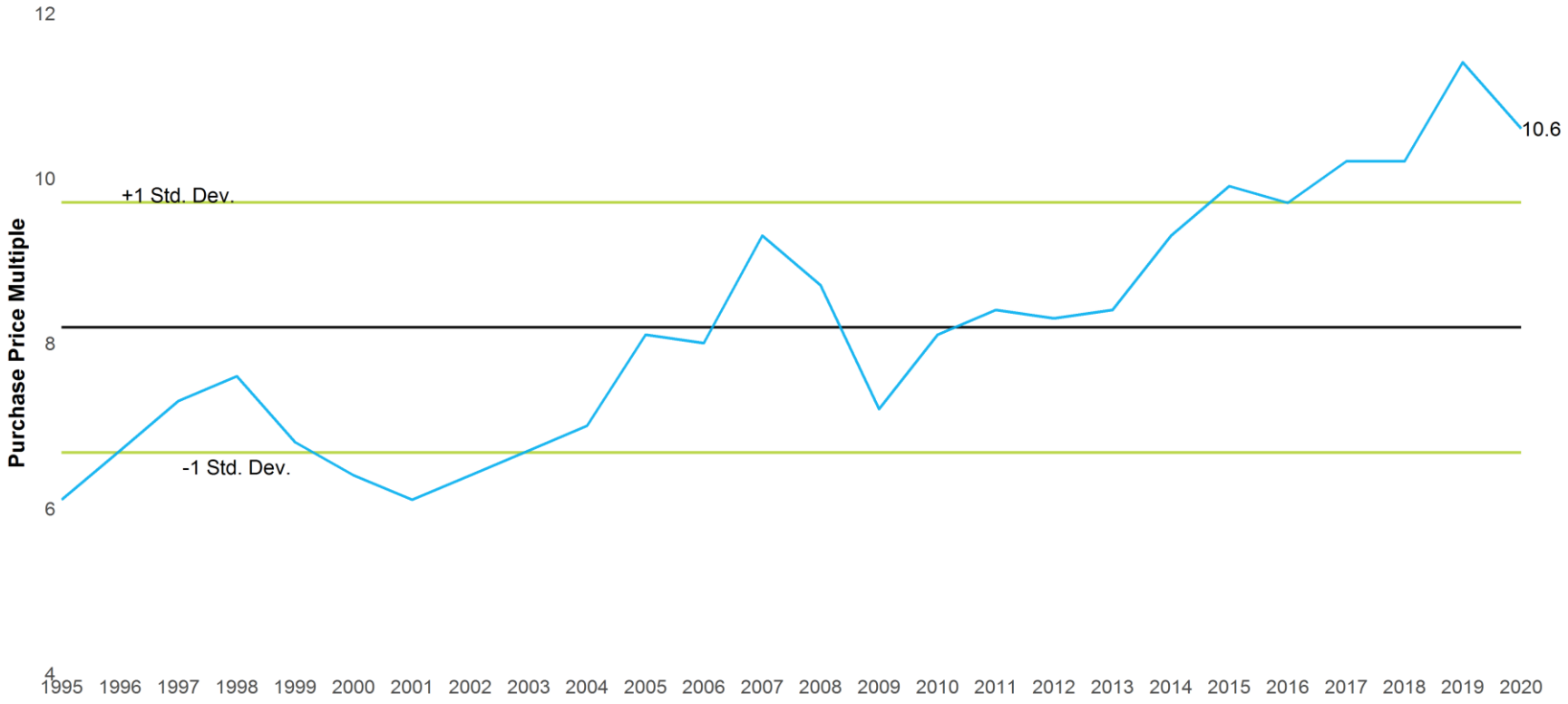
Emerging Market Equity Cyclically Adjusted P/E[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for emerging markets equities. A higher (lower) figure indicates more expensive (cheaper) valuation relative to history.

[1] Emerging Market Equity (MSCI Emerging Markets Index) Cyclically Adjusted P/E – Source: MSCI and Bloomberg. Earnings figures represent the average of monthly "as reported" earnings over the previous ten years.

Private Equity Multiples[1]
(As of February 29, 2020)[2]

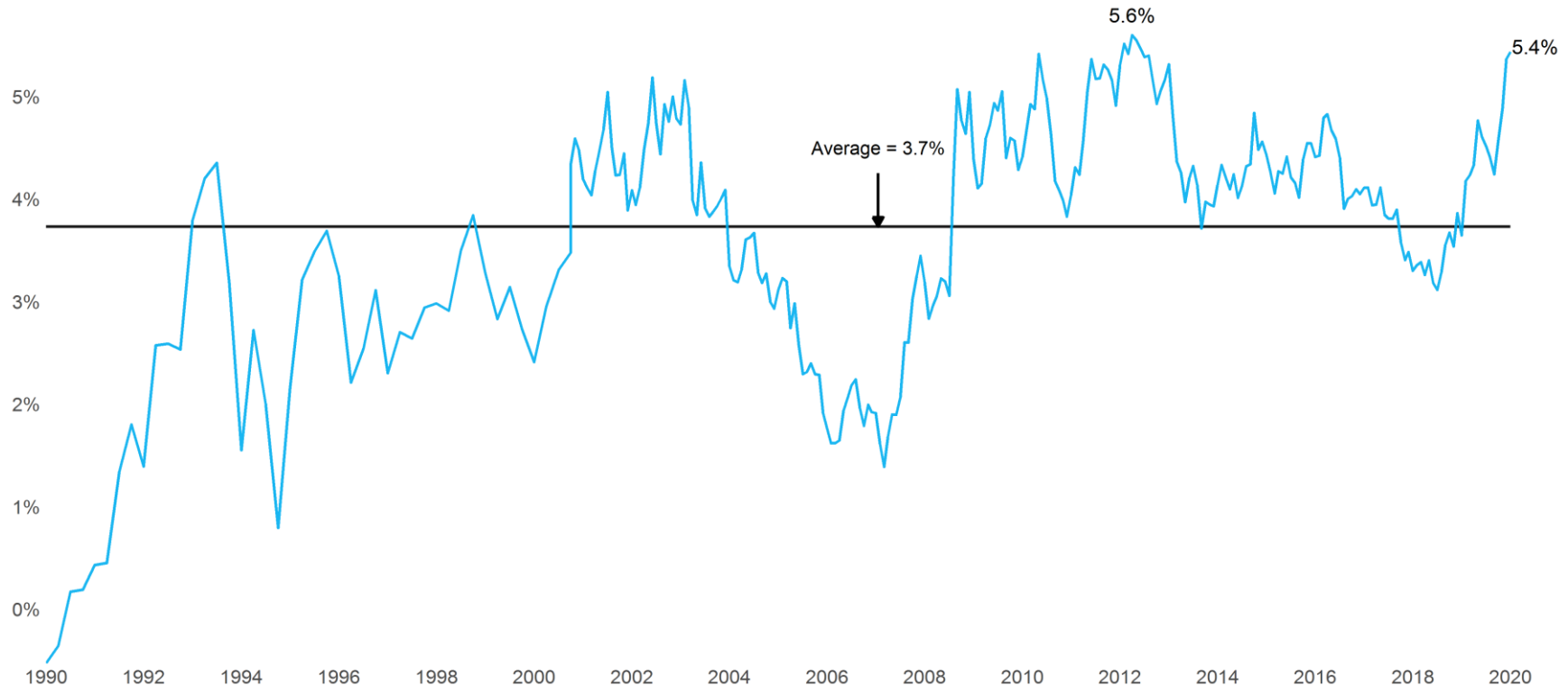


- This chart details one valuation metric for the private equity market. A higher (lower) figure indicates more expensive (cheaper) valuation relative to history.

[1] Private Equity Multiples – Source: S&P LCD Average EBITDA Multiples Paid in All LBOs.

[2] Annual figures, except for 2020 (YTD).

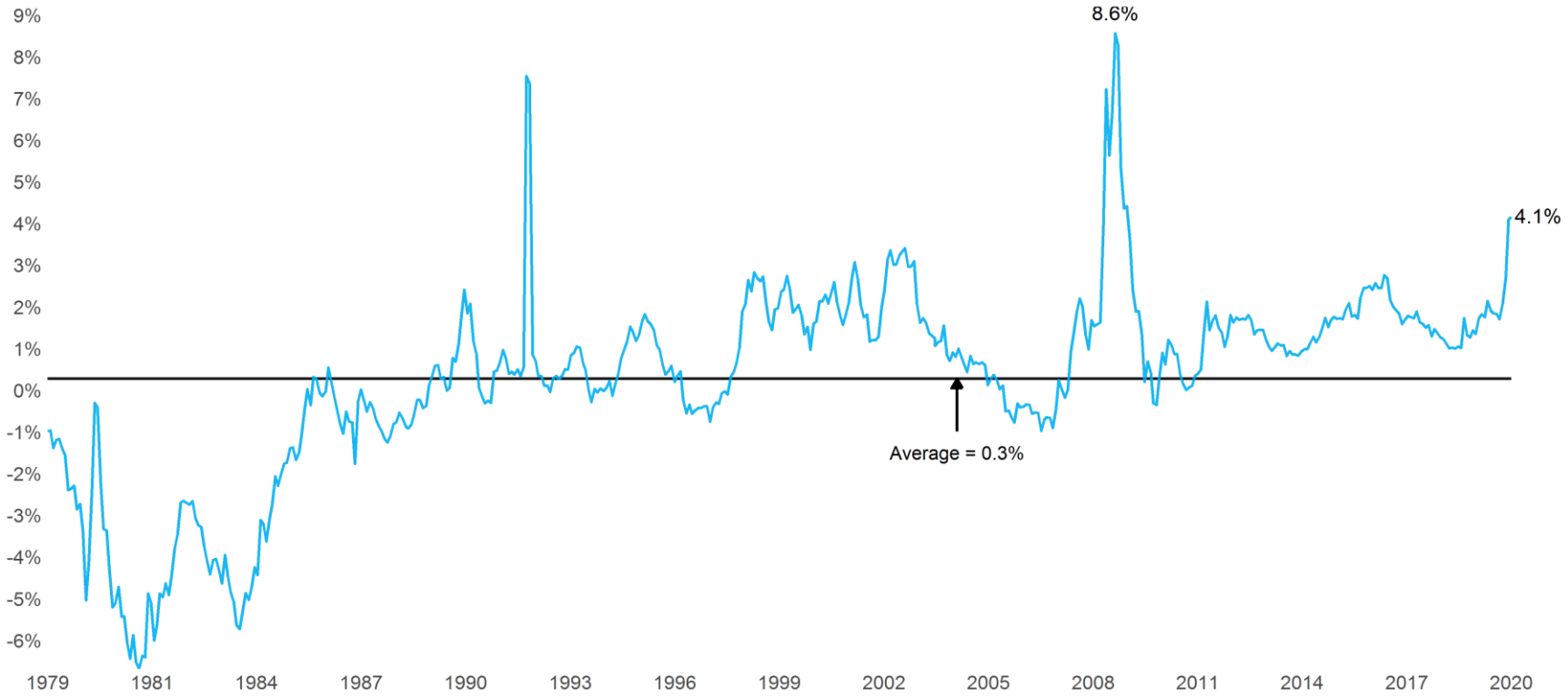
Core Real Estate Spread vs. Ten-Year Treasury[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for the private core real estate market. A higher (lower) figure indicates cheaper (more expensive) valuation.

[1] Core Real Estate Spread vs. Ten-Year Treasury – Source: Real Capital Analytics, US Treasury, Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Core Real Estate is proxied by weighted sector transaction based indices from Real Capital Analytics and Meketa Investment Group.

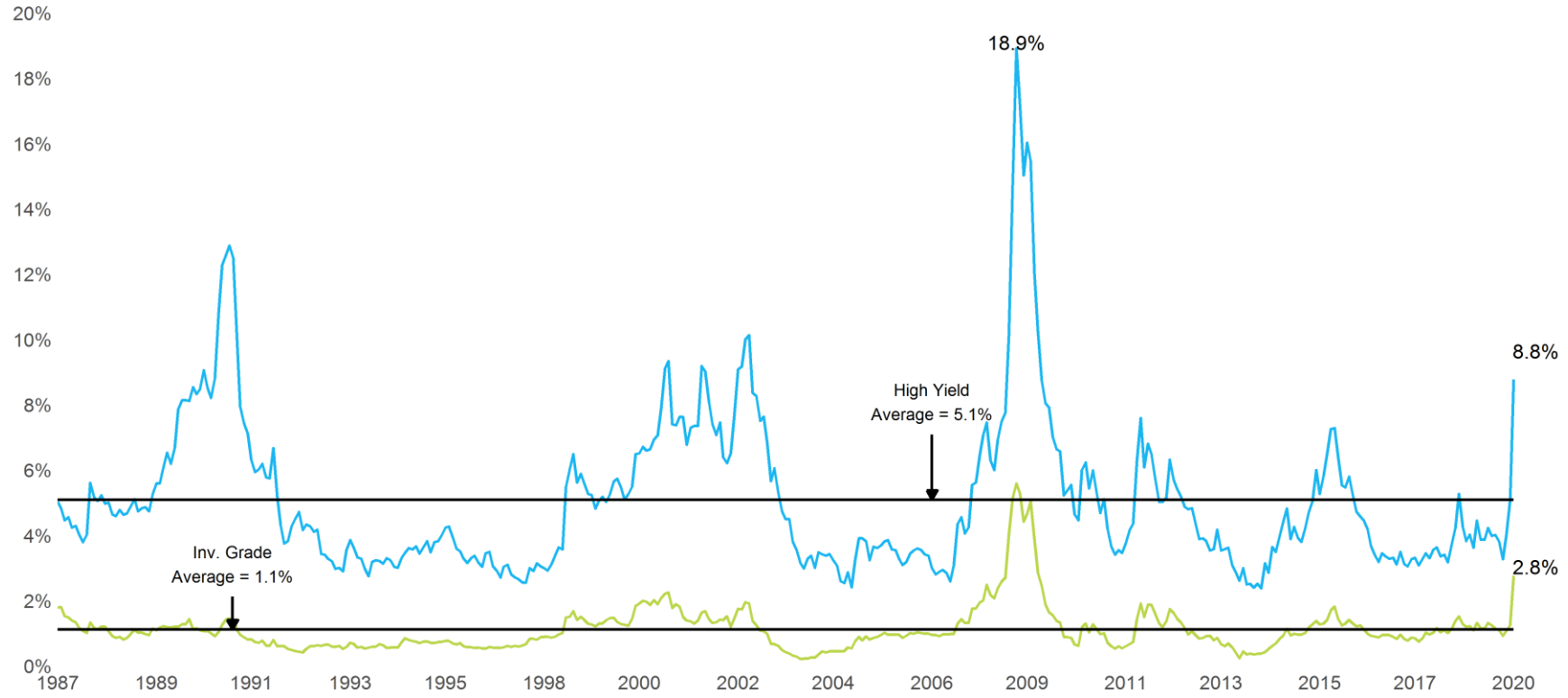
REITs Dividend Yield Spread vs. Ten-Year Treasury[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for the public REITs market. A higher (lower) figure indicates cheaper (more expensive) valuation.

[1] REITs Dividend Yield Spread vs. Ten-Year Treasury – Source: NAREIT, US Treasury. REITs are proxied by the yield for the NAREIT Equity index.

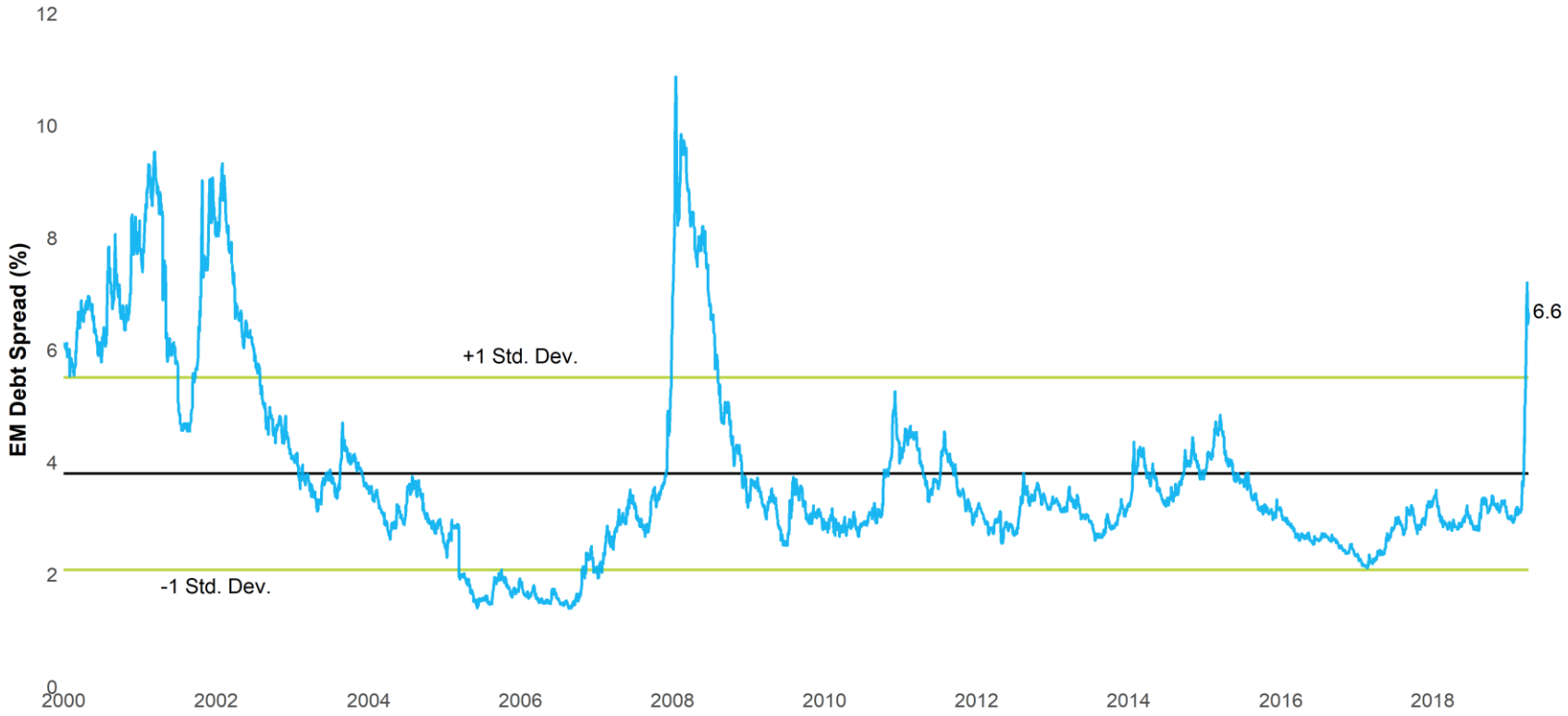
Credit Spreads[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for the US credit markets. A higher (lower) figure indicates cheaper (more expensive) valuation relative to history.

[1] Credit Spreads – Source: Barclays Capital. High Yield is proxied by the Barclays High Yield index and Investment Grade Corporates are proxied by the Barclays US Corporate Investment Grade index. Spread is calculated as the difference between the Yield to Worst of the respective index and the 10-Year US Treasury yield.

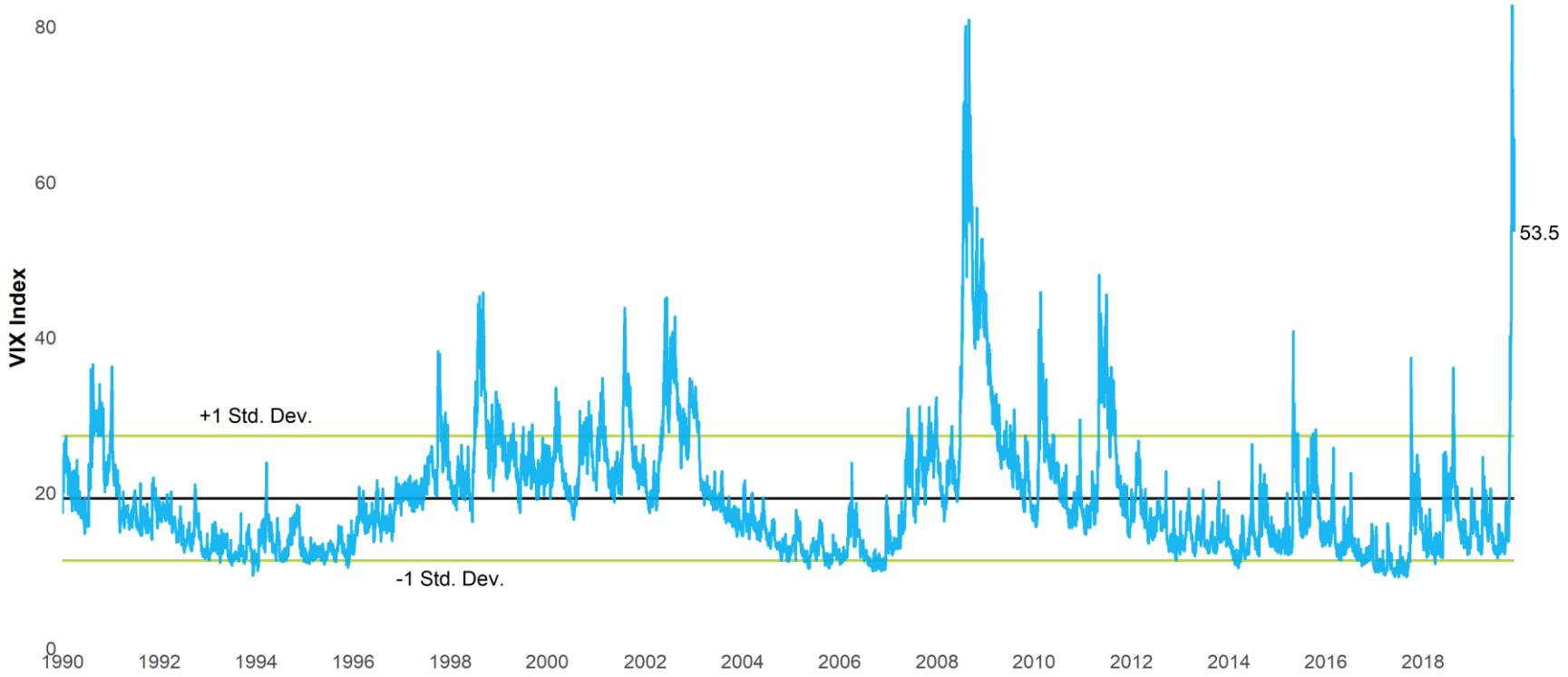
Emerging Market Debt Spreads[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details one valuation metric for the EM debt markets. A higher (lower) figure indicates cheaper (more expensive) valuation relative to history.

[1] EM Spreads – Source: Bloomberg. Option Adjusted Spread (OAS) for the Bloomberg Barclays EM USD Aggregate Index.

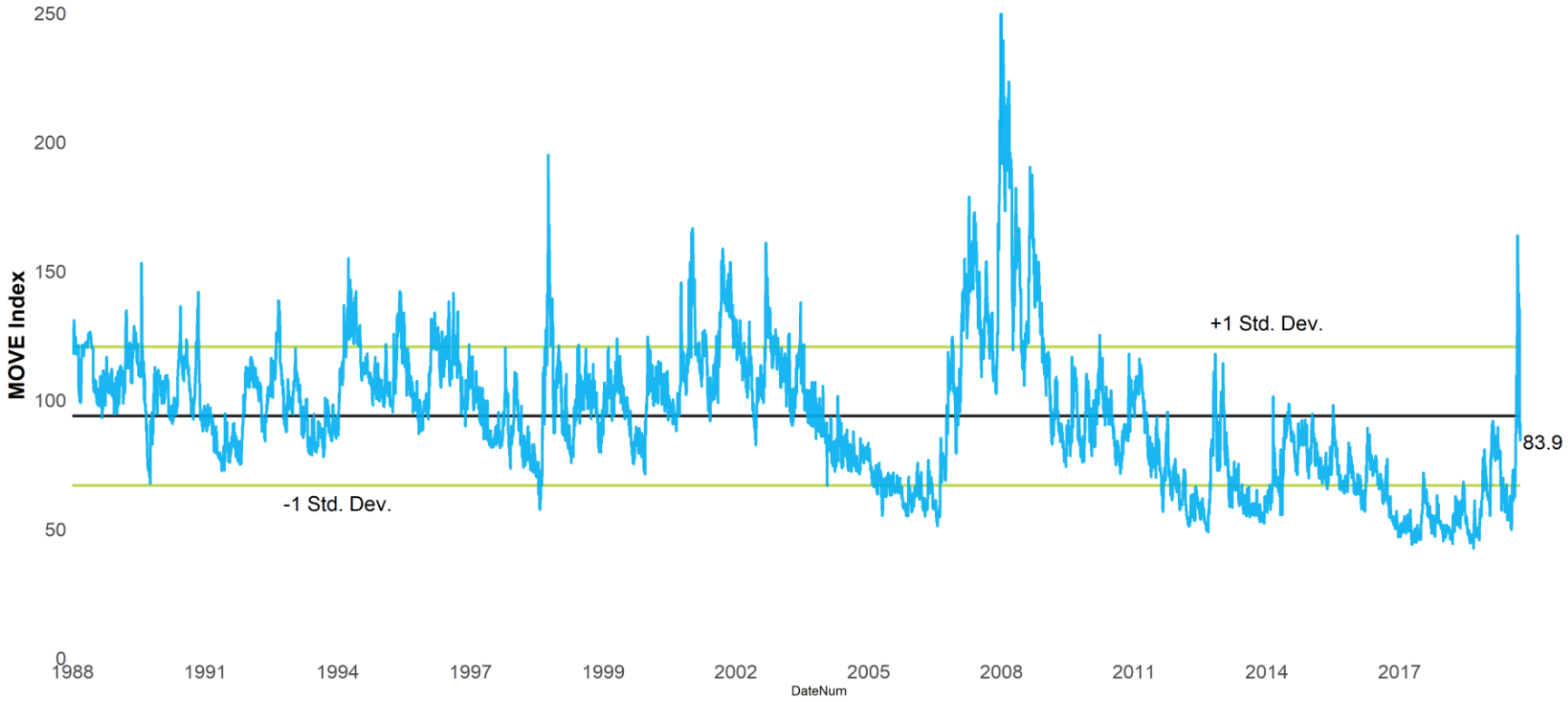
Equity Volatility[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details historical implied equity market volatility. This metric tends to increase during times of stress/fear and while declining during more benign periods.

[1] Equity Volatility – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Equity Volatility proxied by VIX Index, a Measure of implied option volatility for US equity markets.

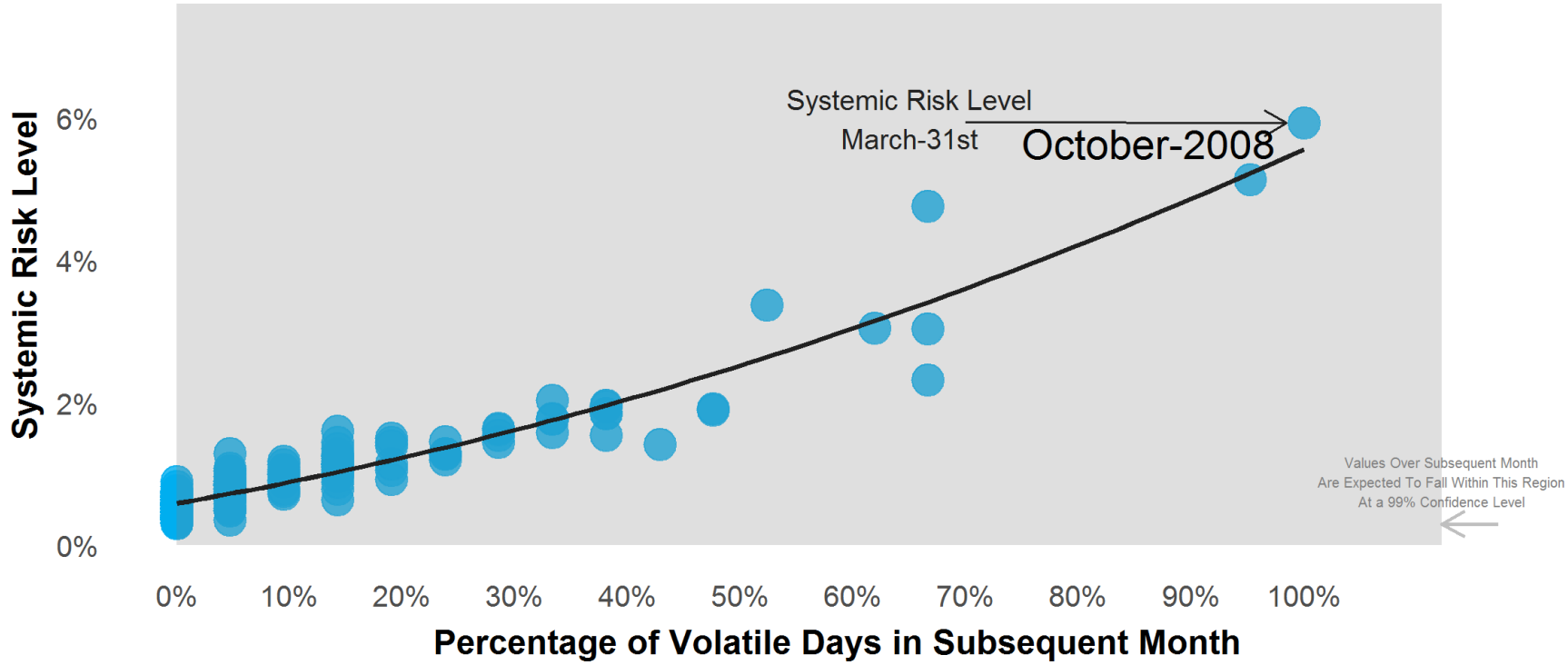
Fixed Income Volatility[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details historical implied fixed income market volatility. This metric tends to increase during times of stress/fear and while declining during more benign periods.

[1] Fixed Income Volatility – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Fixed Income Volatility proxied by MOVE Index, a Measure of implied option volatility for US Treasury markets.

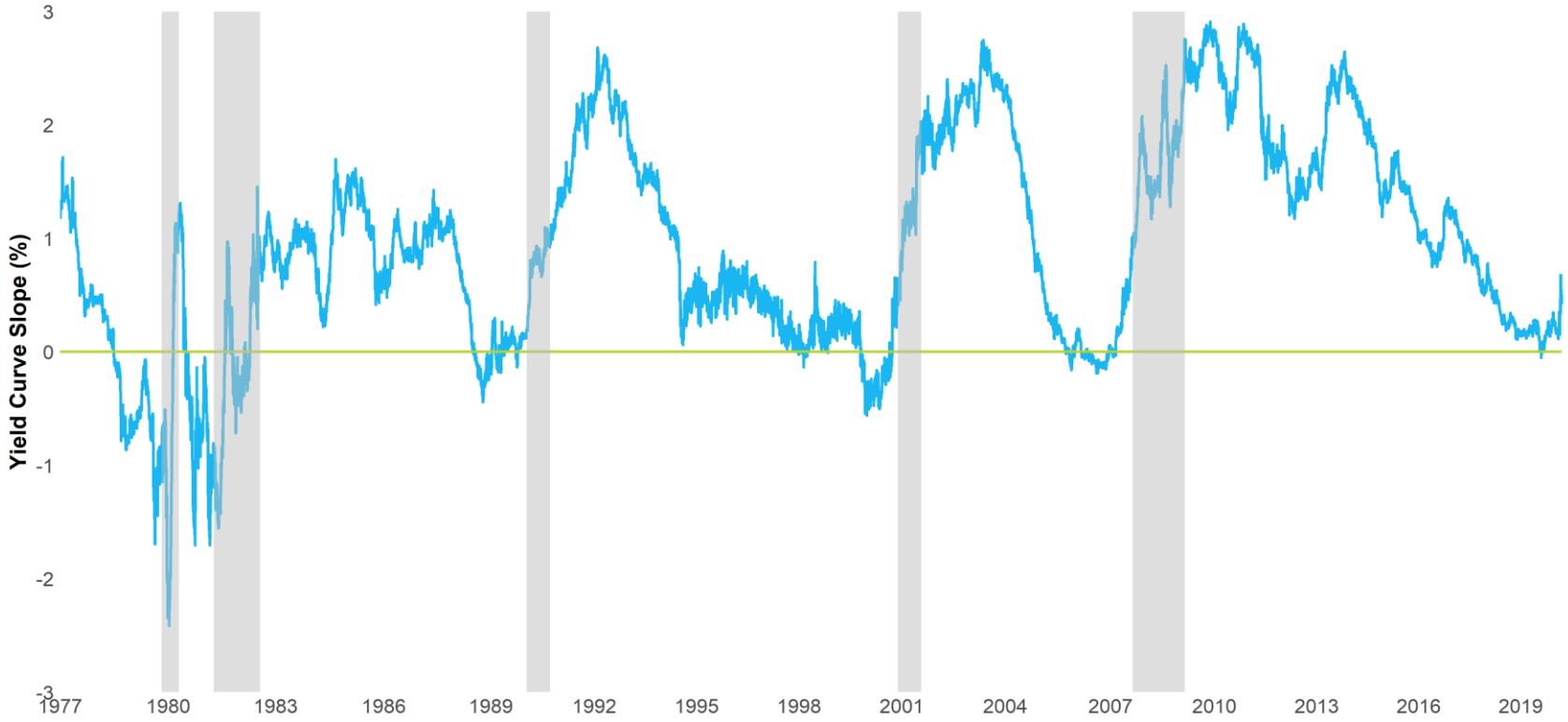
Systemic Risk and Volatile Market Days[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- Systemic Risk is a measure of 'System-wide' risk, which indicates herding type behavior.

[1] Source: Meketa Investment Group. Volatile days are defined as the top 10 percent of realized turbulence, which is a multivariate distance between asset returns.

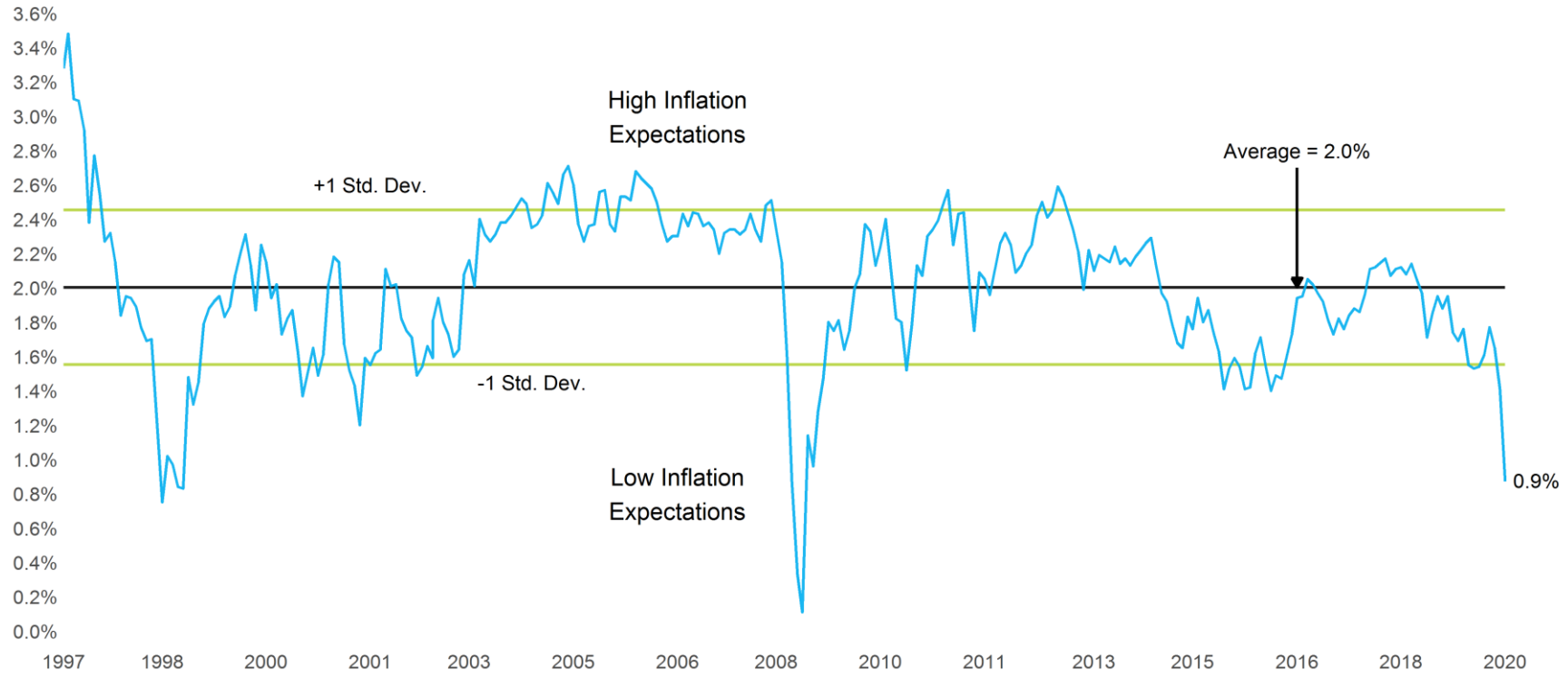
Yield Curve Slope (Ten Minus Two)[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details the historical difference in yields between ten-year and two-year US Treasury bonds/notes. A higher (lower) figure indicates a steeper (flatter) yield curve slope.

[1] Yield Curve Slope (Ten Minus Two) – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Yield curve slope is calculated as the difference between the 10-Year US Treasury Yield and 2-Year US Treasury Yield.

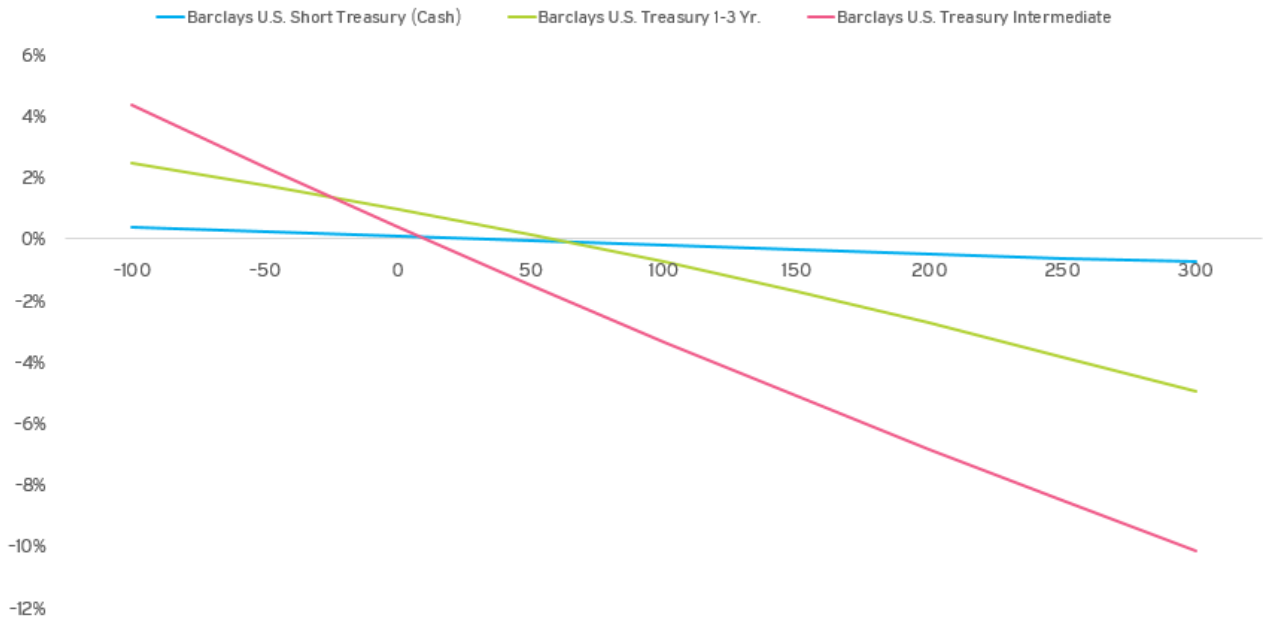
Ten-Year Breakeven Inflation[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



- This chart details the difference between nominal and inflation-adjusted US Treasury bonds. A higher (lower) figure indicates higher (lower) inflation expectations.

[1] Ten-Year Breakeven Inflation – Source: US Treasury and Federal Reserve. Inflation is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U NSA).

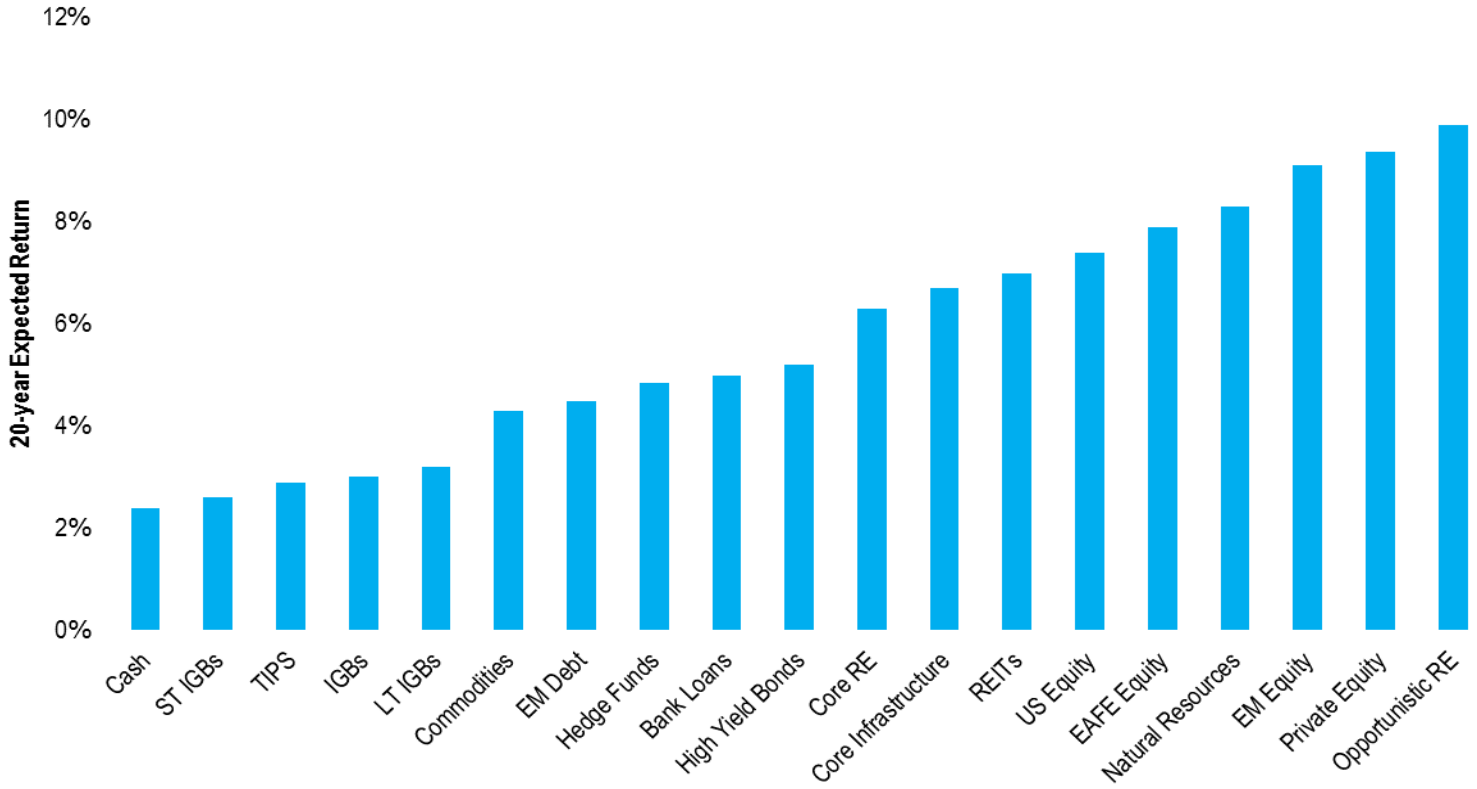
Total Return Given Changes in Interest Rates (bps)[1]
(As of March 31, 2020)



	Total Return for Given Changes in Interest Rates (bps)									Statistics	
	-100	-50	0	50	100	150	200	250	300	Duration	YTW
Barclays US Short Treasury (Cash)	0.35%	0.21%	0.07%	-0.07%	-0.21%	-0.35%	-0.49%	-0.63%	-0.76%	0.28	0.07%
Barclays US Treasury 1-3 Yr.	2.46%	1.74%	0.97%	0.13%	-0.76%	-1.72%	-2.75%	-3.83%	-4.98%	1.61	0.97%
Barclays US Treasury Intermediate	4.33%	2.33%	0.38%	-1.51%	-3.35%	-5.13%	-6.86%	-8.54%	-10.15%	3.84	0.38%
Barclays US Treasury Long	22.74%	11.46%	1.31%	-7.70%	-15.58%	-22.33%	-27.95%	-32.43%	-35.78%	19.16	1.31%

[1] Data represents the expected total return from a given change in interest rates (shown in basis points) over a 12-month period assuming a parallel shift in rates. Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group.

Long-Term Outlook – 20-Year Annualized Expected Returns[1]



- This chart details Meketa's long-term forward-looking expectations for total returns across asset classes.

[1] Source: Meketa Investment Group's 2020 Annual Asset Study.

Appendix

Data Sources and Explanations[1]

- US Equity Cyclically Adjusted P/E on S&P 500 Index – Source: Robert Shiller and Yale University.
- Small Cap P/E (Russell 2000 Index) vs. Large Cap P/E (Russell 1000 Index) - Source: Russell Investments. Earnings figures represent 12-month "as reported" earnings.
- Growth P/E (Russell 3000 Growth Index) vs. Value (Russell 3000 Value Index) P/E - Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, and Meketa Investment Group. Earnings figures represent 12-month "as reported" earnings.
- Developed International Equity (MSCI EAFE ex Japan Index) Cyclically Adjusted P/E – Source: MSCI and Bloomberg. Earnings figures represent the average of monthly "as reported" earnings over the previous ten years.
- Emerging Market Equity (MSCI Emerging Markets Index) Cyclically Adjusted P/E – Source: MSCI and Bloomberg. Earnings figures represent the average of monthly "as reported" earnings over the previous ten years
- Private Equity Multiples – Source: S&P LCD Average EBITDA Multiples Paid in All LBOs
- Core Real Estate Spread vs. Ten-Year Treasury – Source: Real Capital Analytics, US Treasury, Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Core Real Estate is proxied by weighted sector transaction based indices from Real Capital Analytics and Meketa Investment Group.

[1] All Data as of March 31, 2020 unless otherwise noted.

Appendix

Data Sources and Explanations[1]

- REITs Dividend Yield Spread vs. Ten-Year Treasury – Source: NAREIT, US Treasury. REITs are proxied by the yield for the NAREIT Equity index.
- Credit Spreads – Source: Barclays Capital. High Yield is proxied by the Barclays High Yield index and Investment Grade Corporates are proxied by the Barclays US Corporate Investment Grade index.
  - Spread is calculated as the difference between the Yield to Worst of the respective index and the 10-Year Treasury Yield.
- EM Debt Spreads – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Option Adjusted Spread (OAS) for the Bloomberg Barclays EM USD Aggregate Index.
- Equity Volatility – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Equity Volatility proxied by VIX Index, a Measure of implied option volatility for US equity markets.
- Fixed Income Volatility – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Equity Volatility proxied by MOVE Index, a Measure of implied option volatility for US Treasury markets.
- Systemic Risk and Volatile Market Days – Source: Meketa Investment Group. Volatile days are defined as the top 10 percent of realized turbulence, which is a multivariate distance between asset returns.

[1] All Data as of March 31, 2020 unless otherwise noted.

Appendix

Data Sources and Explanations[1]

- Systemic Risk, which measures risk across markets, is important because the more contagion of risk that exists between assets, the more likely it is that markets will experience volatile periods.
- Yield Curve Slope (Ten Minus Two) – Source: Bloomberg, and Meketa Investment Group. Yield curve slope is calculated as the difference between the 10-Year US Treasury Yield and 2-Year US Treasury Yield.
- Ten-Year Breakeven Inflation – Source: US Treasury and Federal Reserve. Inflation is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U NSA).

[1] All Data as of March 31, 2020 unless otherwise noted.

Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator

Explanation, Construction and Q&A

Meketa has created the MIG Market Sentiment Indicator (MIG-MSI) to complement our valuation-focused Risk Metrics. This measure of sentiment is meant to capture significant and persistent shifts in long-lived market trends of economic growth risk, either towards a risk-seeking trend or a risk-aversion trend.

This appendix explores:

- What is the Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator?
- How do I read the indicator graph?
- How is the Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator constructed?
- What do changes in the indicator mean?

Meketa has created a market sentiment indicator for monthly publication (the MIG-MSI – see below) to complement Meketa's Risk Metrics.

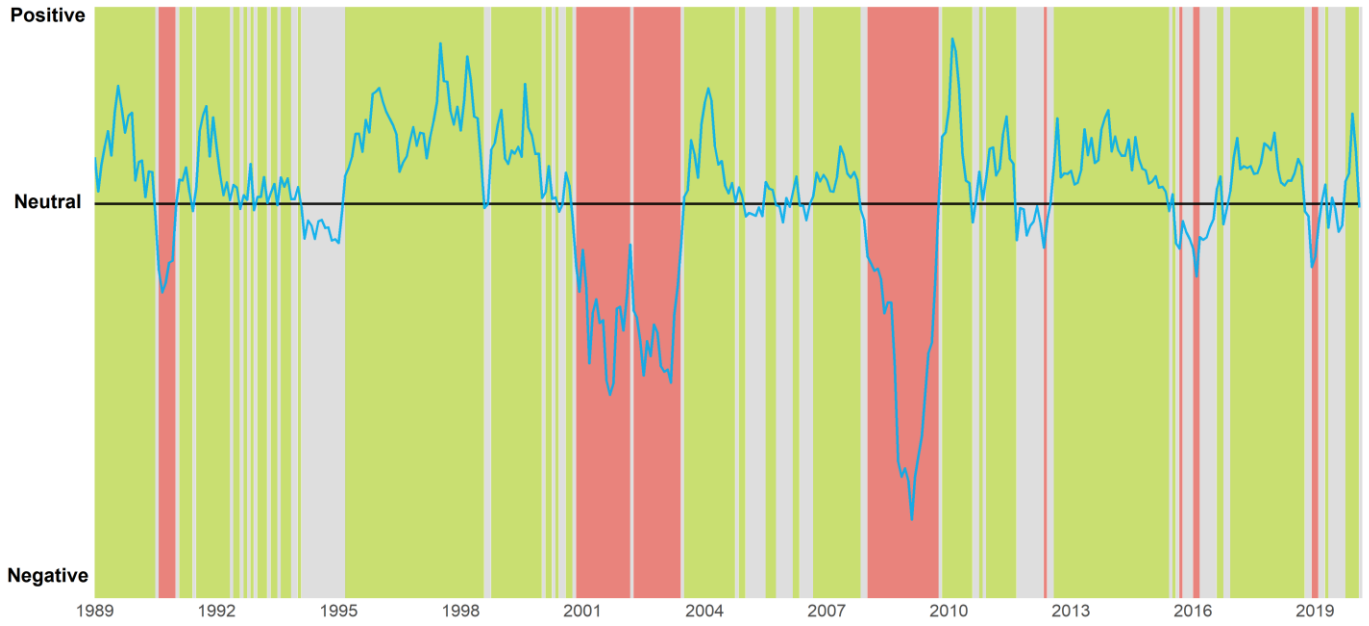
- Meketa's Risk Metrics, which rely significantly on standard market measures of relative valuation, often provide valid early signals of increasing long-term risk levels in the global investment markets. However, as is the case with numerous valuation measures, the Risk Metrics may convey such risk concerns long before a market corrections take place. The MIG-MSI helps to address this early-warning bias by measuring whether the markets are beginning to acknowledge key Risk Metrics trends, and / or indicating non-valuation based concerns. Once the MIG-MSI indicates that the market sentiment has shifted, it is our belief that investors should consider significant action, particularly if confirmed by the Risk Metrics. Importantly, Meketa believes the Risk Metrics and MIG-MSI should always be used in conjunction with one another and never in isolation. The questions and answers below highlight and discuss the basic underpinnings of the Meketa MIG-MSI:

What is the Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator (MIG-MSI)?

- The MIG-MSI is a measure meant to gauge the market's sentiment regarding economic growth risk. Growth risk cuts across most financial assets, and is the largest risk exposure that most portfolios bear. The MIG-MSI takes into account the momentum (trend over time, positive or negative) of the economic growth risk exposure of publicly traded stocks and bonds, as a signal of the future direction of growth risk returns; either positive (risk seeking market sentiment), or negative (risk averse market sentiment).

How do I read the Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator graph?

- Simply put, the MIG-MSI is a color-coded indicator that signals the market's sentiment regarding economic growth risk. It is read left to right chronologically. A green indicator on the MIG-MSI indicates that the market's sentiment towards growth risk is positive. A gray indicator indicates that the market's sentiment towards growth risk is neutral or inconclusive. A red indicator indicates that the market's sentiment towards growth risk is negative. The black line on the graph is the level of the MIG-MSI. The degree of the signal above or below the neutral reading is an indication the signal's current strength.
- Momentum as we are defining it is the use of the past behavior of a series as a predictor of its future behavior.



How is the Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator (MIG-MSI) Constructed?

- The MIG-MSI is constructed from two sub-elements representing investor sentiment in stocks and bonds:
  - Stock return momentum: Return momentum for the S&P 500 Equity Index (trailing 12-months)
  - Bond yield spread momentum: Momentum of bond yield spreads (excess of the measured bond yield over the identical duration US Treasury bond yield) for corporate bonds (trailing 12-months) for both investment grade bonds (75% weight) and high yield bonds (25% weight).
  - Both measures are converted to Z-scores and then combined to get an "apples to apples" comparison without the need of re-scaling.
- The black line reading on the graph is calculated as the average of the stock return momentum measure and the bonds spread momentum measure.[1] The color reading on the graph is determined as follows:
  - If both stock return momentum and bond spread momentum are positive = GREEN (positive)
  - If one of the momentum indicators is positive, and the other negative = GRAY (inconclusive)
  - If both stock return momentum and bond spread momentum are negative = RED (negative)

[1] Momentum as we are defining it is the use of the past behavior of a series as a predictor of its future behavior.
"Time Series Momentum" Moskowitz, Ooi, Pedersen, August 2010. *http://pages.stern.nyu.edu/~lpederse/papers/TimeSeriesMomentum.pdf*

What does the Meketa Market Sentiment Indicator (MIG-MSI) mean? Why might it be useful?

- There is strong evidence that time series momentum is significant and persistent. In particular, across an extensive array of asset classes, the sign of the trailing 12-month return (positive or negative) is indicative of future returns (positive or negative) over the next 12-month period. The MIG-MSI is constructed to measure this momentum in stocks and corporate bond spreads. A reading of green or red is agreement of both the equity and bond measures, indicating that it is likely that this trend (positive or negative) will continue over the next 12 months. When the measures disagree, the indicator turns gray. A gray reading does not necessarily mean a new trend is occurring, as the indicator may move back to green, or into the red from there. The level of the reading (black line) and the number of months at the red or green reading, gives the user additional information on which to form an opinion, and potentially take action.

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