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Global Market Review

First Quarter 2021



Global Market Review

First Quarter 2021

This report features world capital market performance and a timeline of events for the past quarter and the last year. It begins with a global overview, then features the returns of stock and bond asset classes in the US and international markets.

The report also illustrates the impact of globally diversified portfolios and features a relevant quarterly topic.

Overview:

View from the Hill: From the Old Normal to the Next Normal

Market Summary—Quarterly & Long Term

World Stock Market Performance—Quarterly & Long Term

Impact of Diversification

US Stocks

International Developed Stocks

Emerging Markets Stocks

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Fixed Income

Global Fixed Income

Wealth Planning Stress Testing

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From the Old Normal to the Next Normal

PROFESSIONAL FINANCIAL Purposeful Wealth Management CLARITY. CONVICTION. CONFIDENCE.

First Quarter 2021

A year ago, at the end of March 2020, the S&P 500 was down nearly 20%¹ and the world was going into lockdown. Many experts and economists wrote about where we would be in a year. I don't remember anyone predicting that the S&P 500 Index would be up 56% only 12 months later or that the broad U.S stock market be up over 62%. But that's what happened.

I avoid making forecasts. Researchers examining how stock markets responded after past recessions have learned almost nothing useful. We should simply expect market downturns occurring once or twice a decade, while accepting the "old normal" that we can never know when that will be. Investors are paid for how willing they are to endure risk, not to avoid it.

What lessons can we take away that will better prepare us for the next time? People say, "It's different this time." They're right. It is different every time. Arbitrary politicized responses fearing a huge number of pandemic deaths led to a market crisis. My first crisis was in the 1970s: inflation, oil, and Vietnam. Then there was the savings and loan crisis, Black Monday, the Asian financial crisis, the dot-com bubble, 2008 financial panic, and lately the Christmas stock massacre. The list will be unending. Every market crisis has a different cause. Crises keep happening because events that trigger them aren't predictable. If market downturns were predictable, prices in financial markets would have already adjusted. That's the inherent nature of forward-looking price-setting in well-functioning capital marketplaces around the world.

Exhibit 1. Rise and Shine: Dimensional Funds vs. Benchmarks Cumulative Returns

Fund or Index	1/1/2020-3/31/2020	3/31/2020-3/31/2021	1/1/2020–3/31/2021
DFA US Core Equity 2 Portfolio Class I	-25.55%	71.75%	27.87%
Russell 3000 Index	-20.90%	62.53%	28.56%
S&P 500 Index	-19.60%	56.35%	25.71%
DFA US Small Cap Value Portfolio Class I	-39.02%	112.09%	29.33%
Russell 2000 Value Index	-35.66%	97.05%	26.78%

Performance data shown represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance shown. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. To obtain performance data current to the most recent month-end, visit us.dimensional.com.

No one can predict when the next "black swan" event will trigger a financial crisis. But you should thoughtfully structure your investment planning well in advance before they occur. The first principles of dealing with uncertainty in general and the uncertainty of stock and bond markets in particular is looking at the probability of various outcomes, and then deciding how much risk you want to accept. We can't control crises, but we *can* control how we should respond by thoughtful planning. You need a process to manage the next crisis well before it happens. This is the "next normal" for investors.

For clients who stayed with their plan and suffered the pain of severe market uncertainty, it's time to celebrate. Dimensional's US Core Equity 2 Portfolio, which holds a diversified mix of U.S. equities, Dimensional's largest core portfolio, returned nearly 72%, as **Exhibit 1** shows. Within the U.S. market, small cap value stocks² were among the hardest hit. Dimensional's concentrated US Small Cap Value Portfolio was down 39% in the first three months of 2020 but subsequently returned a showstopping 112% over the next 12 months. (The broader-based US Vector Equity Portfolio which many clients held with substantial small value stocks positions was up 84%.)

Sticking to long-term investing strategies in the face of extreme uncertainty in an unprecented situation wasn't easy for anyone. Last March stressed all of us. There was enormous social and media pressure to "do" something, and just make changes. Retired investors or near retirement wanted to cash out of declining equity holdings to reduce their uncertainty and fear. Many owned stocks or ETFs simply because that was their best alternative to holding banks CDs or government bonds paying trivial fixed income returns. But selling out of equity positions without a plan only increases uncertainty. Those investors are forced to make another difficult decision: choosing the best time to get back in. By delaying until things appear "safe," most of the greater returns they had earned or hoped to earn from equity investing for their income, had vanished.

From the Old Normal to the Next Normal



(continued from page 3)

While all investments have risk, many people who think they're "investing" are actually gambling. If you're trying to time short-term market movements or just pick stocks or ETFs and make bets, you're gambling. And gamblers should never forget: in the end, the house always wins.

Staying focused on a long-term strategy during challenging times like the past year was hard. Short periods like the horrible first quarter of 2020 did not signal the high returns of 2020. But last year was an important lesson after years of a gradually growing stock market: being a long-term investor is always hard. We didn't know what returns to expect after the first quarter of last year, but we knew we needed to maintain a consistent market exposure through our allocations to capture your share of market returns when they did show up. And clients who stuck with their strategy, got their full and fair share.

Our role as CFP® professionals—trusted fiduciaries who put your best interests first and foremost—is helping you understand your potential range of outcomes when developing, structuring, and managing a wealth strategy tailored to your unique values, goals, and risk preferences. You want to be realistically confident of a successful financial experience regardless how terrifying current media news events may appear. If you do not already know, our professional wealth management put a plan and a process in place to successfully deal with the challenges of the crisis you endured.

What is the Next Normal? For those reading this who are not clients of Professional Financial, it's expecting uncertainty in planning and committing to

Performance as of March 31, 2021

Exhibit 2.

a plan that addresses it as part of the wealth management process. It's positioning you to rise above the temptation to make reactive changes just because things get tough. It's understanding the difference between investing and gambling. And it's remembering how great it feels when your planning succeeds.

If you don't already have a plan that allows for inevitable crises among the range of possible outcomes, it may not be too late for better planning. This is not the last crisis you are likely to experience as an investor. If smart wealth planning leads to a New Normal, you also will be ready for the Next Normal.

- 1. S&P data © 2021 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index returns are not representative of actual portfolios and do not reflect costs and fees associated with an actual investment. Decrease of 19.6% was from Jan. 1, 2020–March 31, 2020. Increase of 56.35% was from March 31, 2020–March 31, 2021.
- 2. As defined by the Morningstar Small Cap Value Category.

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Annualized Returns (%)	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception	Inception Date
DFA US Core Equity 2 Portfolio Class I	71.75%	14.75%	15.37%	12.50%	9.65%	9/15/05
DFA US Small Cap Value Portfolio Class I	112.09%	9.91%	11.79%	9.62%	11.51%	3/2/93

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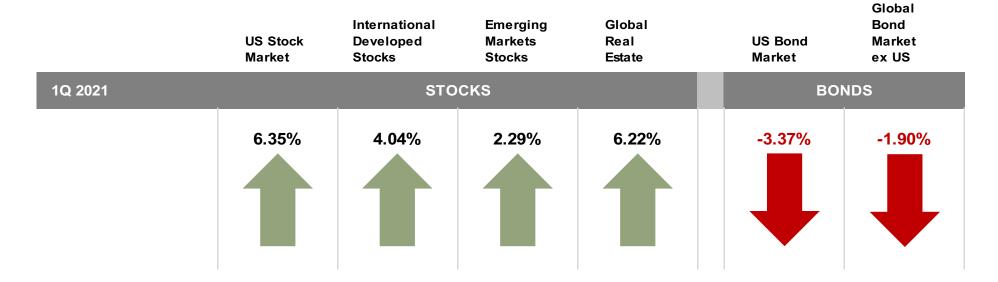
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Quarterly Market Summary

Index Returns



Since Jan. 2001						
Avg. Quarterly Return	2.4%	1.6%	3.0%	2.5%	1.1%	1.1%
Best Quarter	22.0%	25.9%	34.7%	32.3%	4.6%	4.6%
	2020 Q2	2009 Q2	2009 Q2	2009 Q3	2001 Q3	2008 Q4
Worst Quarter	-22.8%	-23.3%	-27.6%	-36.1%	-3.4%	-2.7%
	2008 Q4	2020 Q1	2008 Q4	2008 Q4	2021 Q1	2015 Q2

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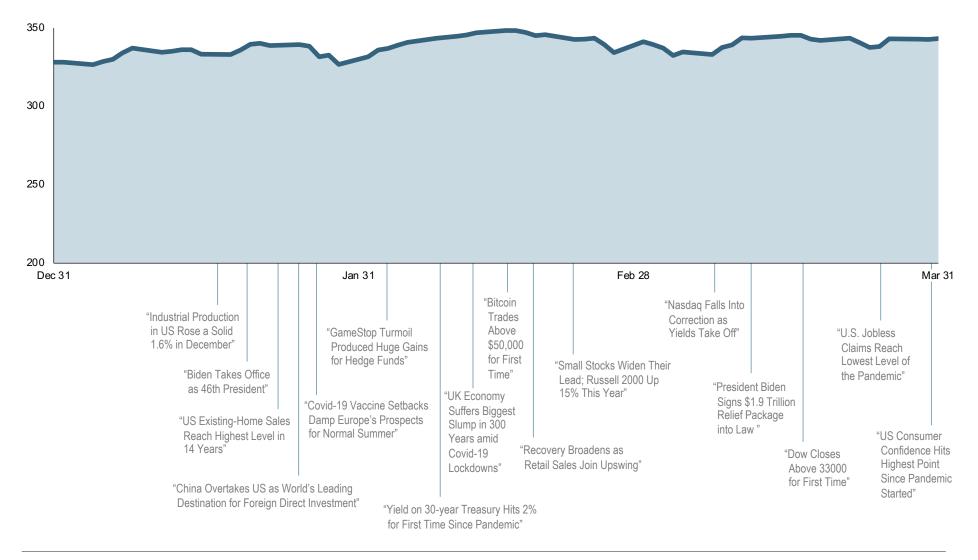
Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net div.]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net div.]), Global Real Estate (S&P Global REIT Index [net div.]), US Bond Market (Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond Market ex US (Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD Bond Index [hedged to USD]). S&P data © 2021 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 2021, all rights reserved. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg.



World Stock Market Performance

CLARITY. CONVICTION. CONFIDENCE.

MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from Q1 2021



These headlines are not offered to explain market returns. Instead, they serve as a reminder that investors should view daily events from a long-term perspective and avoid making investment decisions based solely on the news.



Long-Term Market Summary

Index Returns as of March 31, 2021

	US Stock Market	International Developed Stocks	Emerging Markets Stocks	Global Real Estate	US Bond Market	Global Bond Market ex US
1 Year		STO	СКЅ		ВО	NDS
	62.53%	45.86%	58.39%	36.05%	0.71%	1.45%
5 Years						
	16.64%	8.92%	12.07%	3.52%	3.10%	3.28%
10 Years						
	13.79%	5.21%	3.65%	6.23%	3.44%	4.22%

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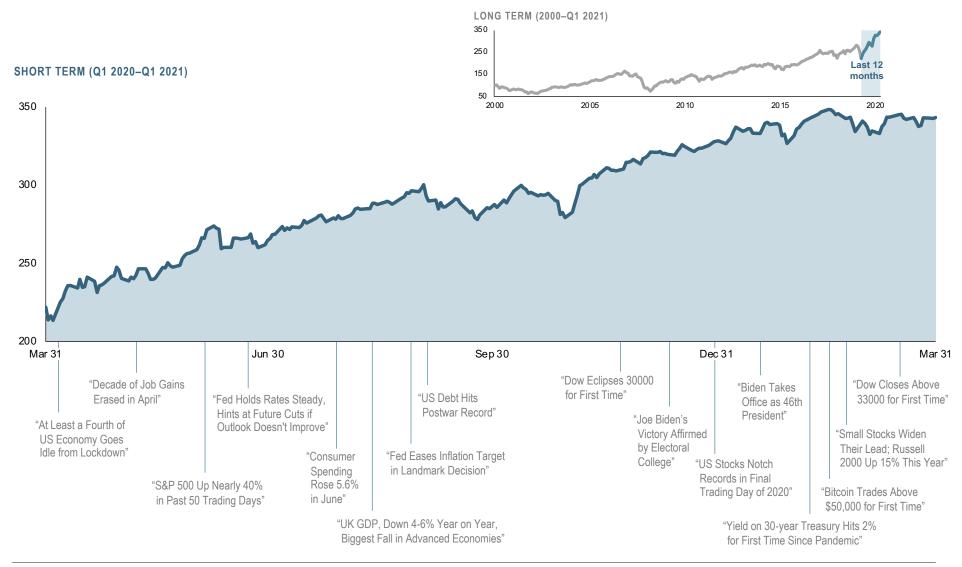
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World Stock Market Performance

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MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from past 12 months



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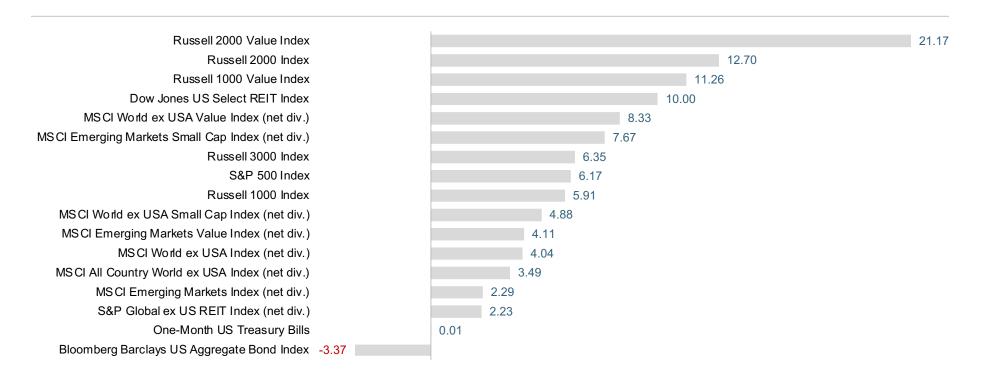
World Asset Classes

First Quarter 2021 Index Returns (%)

Equity markets around the globe posted positive returns in the first quarter. Looking at broad market indices, US and non-US developed markets outperformed emerging markets.

Value outperformed growth across regions. Small caps outperformed large caps across regions as well.

REIT indices outperformed equity market indices in the US and underperformed in non-US developed markets.





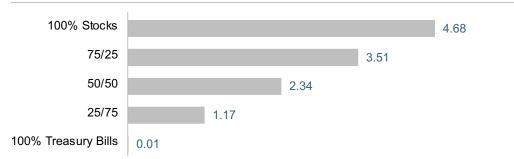
Impact of Diversification

First Quarter 2021

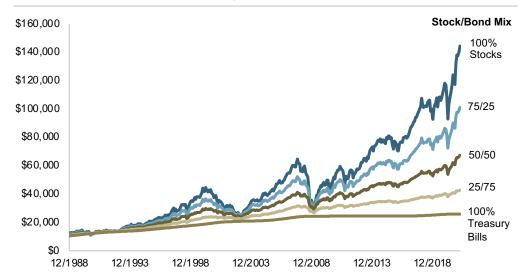
These portfolios illustrate the performance of different global stock/bond mixes and highlight the benefits of diversification. Mixes with larger allocations to stocks are considered riskier but have higher expected returns over time.

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Period Returns (%		* A	nnualized			
Asset Class	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yrs*	5 Yrs*	10 Yrs*	10-Year STDEV ¹
100% Stocks	4.7	55.3	12.7	13.8	9.7	14.1
75/25	3.5	39.6	10.1	10.7	7.6	10.6
50/50	2.3	25.3	7.3	7.6	5.3	7.0
25/75	1.2	12.1	4.4	4.3	3.0	3.5
100% Treasury Bills	0.0	0.1	1.4	1.1	0.6	0.2

Ranked Returns (%)



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 2021, all rights reserved. Treasury bills © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation YearbookTM, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefield).



US Stocks

First Quarter 2021 Index Returns

The US equity market posted positive returns for the quarter and outperformed non-US developed markets and emerging markets.

Value outperformed growth across large and small cap stocks.

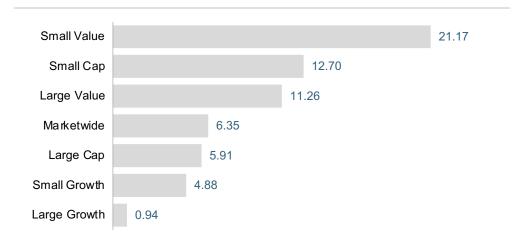
Small caps outperformed large caps.

REIT indices outperformed equity market indices.

World Market Capitalization—US



Ranked Returns (%)



Period Returns (%)				* Annualized
Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Small Value	21.2	97.1	11.6	13.6	10.1
Small Cap	12.7	94.9	14.8	16.4	11.7
Large Value	11.3	56.1	11.0	11.7	11.0
Marketwide	6.4	62.5	17.1	16.6	13.8
Large Cap	5.9	60.6	17.3	16.7	14.0
Small Growth	4.9	90.2	17.2	18.6	13.0
Large Growth	0.9	62.7	22.8	21.1	16.6

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Market segment (index representation) as follows: Marketwide (Russell 3000 Index), Large Cap (Russell 1000 Index), Large Cap Value (Russell 1000 Value Index), Large Cap Growth (Russell 1000 Growth Index), Small Cap (Russell 2000 Index), Small Cap Value (Russell 2000 Value Index), and Small Cap Growth (Russell 2000 Growth Index). World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. Russell 3000 Index is used as the proxy for the US market. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index used as proxy for the US REIT market. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2021, all rights reserved.



* Annualized

International Developed Stocks

First Quarter 2021 Index Returns

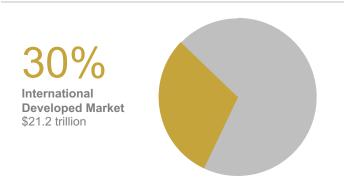
Developed markets outside the US posted positive returns for the quarter, underperforming US equities but outperforming emerging markets.

Value outperformed growth.

Small caps outperformed large caps.



World Market Capitalization—International Developed



Period Returns (%)

	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Value	8.3	47.2	2.3	6.8	3.5
Small Cap	4.9	65.2	6.9	10.6	7.1
Large Cap	4.0	45.9	6.3	8.9	5.2
Growth	-0.4	43.6	10.0	10.7	6.7

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Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI World ex USA Index), Small Cap (MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI World ex USA Value Index), and Growth (MSCI World ex USA Growth Index). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. MSCI World ex USA IMI Index is used as the proxy for the International Developed market. MSCI data © MSCI 2021, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.



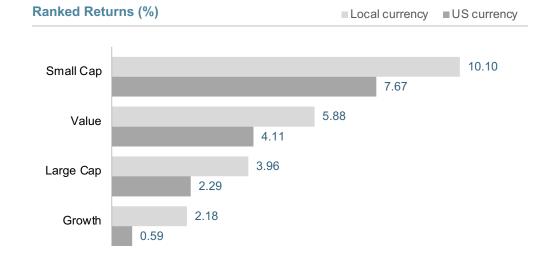
Emerging Markets Stocks

First Quarter 2021 Index Returns

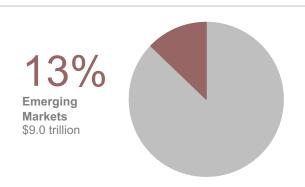
Emerging markets posted positive returns for the quarter, underperforming the US and developed ex US equity markets.

Value outperformed growth.

Small caps outperformed large caps.



World Market Capitalization—Emerging Markets



Period Returns (%)

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Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Small Cap	7.7	87.1	5.2	9.6	3.3
Value	4.1	52.5	2.6	8.4	1.0
Large Cap	2.3	58.4	6.5	12.1	3.7
Growth	0.6	63.8	10.1	15.5	6.2

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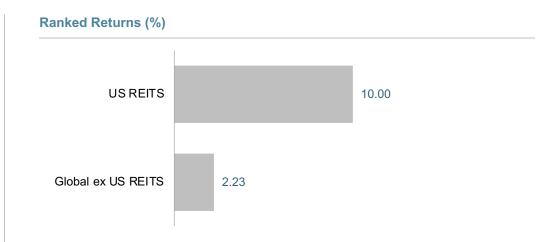
Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI Emerging Markets Index), Small Cap (MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index), and Growth (MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Index). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index used as the proxy for the emerging market portion of the market. MSCI data © MSCI 2021, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.



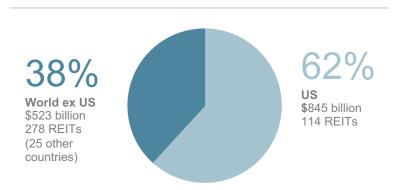
Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

First Quarter 2021 Index Returns

US real estate investment trusts outperformed non-US REITs during the quarter.



Total Value of REIT Stocks



Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
US REITS	10.0	36.7	7.6	3.9	7.9
Global ex US REIT	2.2	36.2	2.1	2.9	4.7

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Number of REIT stocks and total value based on the two indices. All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. Total value of REIT stocks represented by Dow Jones US Select REIT Index and the S&P Global ex US REIT Index. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index used as proxy for the US market, and S&P Global ex US REIT Index used as proxy for the World ex US market. Dow Jones and S&P data © 2021 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved.



Fixed Income

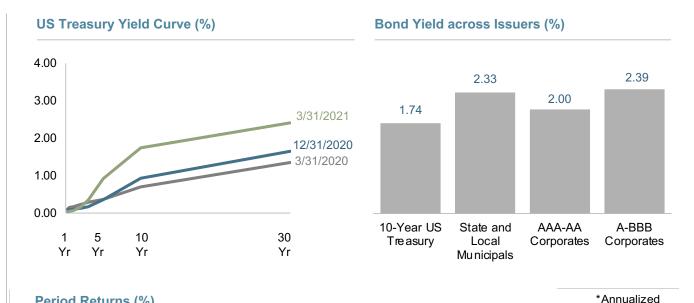
First Quarter 2021 Index Returns

Interest rates generally increased in the US Treasury fixed income market during the first quarter. The yield on the 5-Year US Treasury note rose 56 basis points (bps), ending at 0.95%. The yield on the 10-Year T-note increased 81 bps to 1.74%. The 30-Year Treasury bond yield increased 75 bps to 2.39%.

On the short end of the curve, the 1-Month US Treasury bill yield decreased 3 bps to 0.05%, and the 1-Year T-bill yield fell 5 bps to 0.08%. The yield on the 2-Year US Treasury note climbed 6 bps to end at 0.15%.

In terms of total returns, short-term corporate bonds declined 0.59%. Intermediate-term corporate bonds declined 2.19%.

The total return for short-term municipal bonds was flat, while intermediate-term municipal bonds lost 0.52%. Revenue bonds outperformed general obligation bonds.



1 chod Retains (70)					
Asset Class	QTR	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Bloomberg Barclays US High Yield Corporate Bond Index	0.9	23.7	6.8	8.1	6.5
ICE BofA 1-Year US Treasury Note Index	0.1	0.2	2.1	1.5	0.9
ICE BofA US 3-Month Treasury Bill Index	0.0	0.1	1.5	1.2	0.6
Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond Index	-0.4	5.5	4.9	3.5	4.5
FTSE World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years (hedged to USD)	-0.4	0.6	2.9	2.1	2.0
Bloomberg Barclays US TIPS Index	-1.5	7.5	5.7	3.9	3.4
FTSE World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years	-2.4	3.2	1.3	1.4	0.1
Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index	-3.4	0.7	4.7	3.1	3.4
Bloomberg Barclays US Government Bond Index Long	-13.4	-15.6	5.8	3.2	6.3

One basis point (bps) equals 0.01%. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Yield curve data from Federal Reserve. State and local bonds are from the S&P National AMT-Free Municipal Bond Index. AAA-AA Corporates represent the Bank of America Merrill Lynch US Corporates, AA-AAA rated. A-BBB Corporates represent the ICE BofA Corporates, BBB-A rated. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg. US long-term bonds, bills, inflation, and fixed income factor data © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (SBBI) Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefield). FTSE fixed income indices © 2021 FTSE Fixed Income LLC, all rights reserved. ICE BofA index data © 2021 ICE Data Indices, LLC. S&P data © 2021 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved.



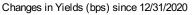
Global Fixed Income

First Quarter 2021 Yield Curves

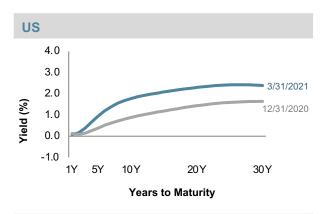
Government bond yields generally increased in the global developed markets for the quarter.

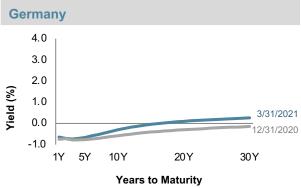
Longer-term bonds generally underperformed shorter-term bonds in developed markets.

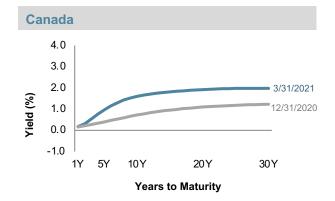
Short- and intermediate-term nominal interest rates were negative in Japan and Germany.

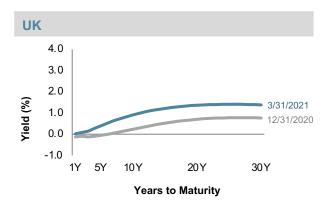


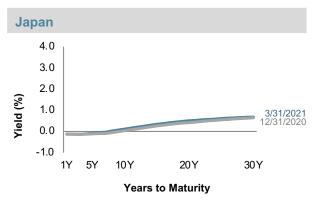
	1Y	5Y	10Y	20Y	30Y
US	(4.7)	56.1	89.6	86.0	74.9
UK	13.9	46.2	67.6	66.5	62.2
Germany	10.6	10.6	27.5	39.7	40.4
Japan	(1.0)	2.5	7.6	7.8	2.7
Canada	1.7	57.8	88.3	82.3	74.7
Australia	2.9	43.2	76.9	79.5	73.2















Wealth Planning Stress Test

In these uncertain times, you may know a friend, family member or colleague who may have a difficult situation, or who wonders whether they are getting the right advice, or simply needs sound professional advice but doesn't get it. That's not uncommon. Studies suggest that over 80 percent of "middle-class millionaires" would value a second opinion for planning.*

In order to help those you care about achieve their goals and dreams, we provide a complimentary **Wealth Planning Second Opinion** for those people. We're pleased to offer your friends, family and colleagues the same guidance and expertise that you've experienced as a valued client of Professional Financial.

Paul Byron Hill, MBA, MFP, MSFS, ChFC®, RICP®, CFP® is a nationally recognized Wealth Management Certified Professional™ and Certified Financial Planner™ professional, written about in *Fortune, Forbes, Bloomberg Businessweek,* and *Money*. As co-author of *Retire Abundantly*, Paul was interviewed by James Malinchak, of ABC-TV's hit series, *Secret Millionaire*. Reuters AdvisePoint recognized Mr. Hill as one of 500 "Top Advisers" in the U.S. and has featured him on their website.

Paul founded Professional Financial Strategies, Inc. as one of the first fiduciary advisory firms in 1993 that now specializes in retirement and wealth planning for affluent and aspiring families. Paul is a personal chief financial officer who acts in the best interest of clients. He brings together a distinctive management process and a network of specialists for making informed decisions for scientifically-structured investing, secure income, mitigating taxes, protecting assets, and preserving wealth for family and purposeful causes.

Mr. Hill received a BA with distinction from the University of Rochester and later an MBA in finance from its Simon School of Business. He earned an MS in financial services from The American College along with his Chartered Financial Consultant and Retirement Income Certified Professional designations, and then received an MS in financial planning from the College for Financial Planning (now at the University of Phoenix). The College for Financial Planning appointed him as adjunct faculty, and he has taught at St. John Fisher College. Who's Who presented Paul with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018 and featured him with other recipients in *The Wall Street Journal* and other publications.

THE PROFESSIONAL WEALTH MANAGEMENT PROCESS Phase 1 Phase 2 Phase 3 Phase 4 Phase 5 Periodic **Financial** Retirement Strategy Investment Advanced Wealth **Envisionment** Stress Testing Commitment Planning Planning **Progress** Session Sessions Sessions Sessions Sessions Session

^{*}Source: Russ Alan Prince and David A. Geracioti, Cultivating the Middle-Class Millionaire, 2005.



Wealth Planning Stress Test

Working with experts who defined the professional wealth management process

Ask ten investors to define wealth management. Rather, ask ten financial advisors you meet to do so. You'll probably get ten different answers, and most replies will focus on investing or only products. As a client of Professional Financial, however, you benefit from a team of CFPs® with a network of experts sharing a distinctive vision of integrative wealth management.

Our professional planning process

At Professional Financial we approach each engagement with a time-tested, collaborative process. We'll have an open conversation so we can learn about your values, goals and dreams. This proven process enables us to expertly tailor an individual plan that works toward your wealth and legacy goals. As a valued client, you'll recognize each of the six steps above. In our **Wealth Planning Second Opinion**, we offer a portion of our consultative service, complimentary, to your friends, family and colleagues.

What to expect from wealth planning second opinion

We will meet with your friends and family in a conversation to explore their concerns and opportunities to see if we can help. If there is a fit and a benefit, we will invite them back for a follow up conversation. We may confirm whether they are on the right track with their existing financial advisors. Or if we are not the right fit, we will suggest another qualified professional firm that may be more appropriate. Either way, they will receive constructive advice and recommendations regarding their planning situation—easily a value of \$5,000 or more.

STRESS TESTING CONVERSATION

Phase 1 Phase 2

Financial Envisionment Session Retirement Stress Testing Session

PURPOSEFUL WEALTH MANAGEMENT

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

- Strategic planning
- Goal monitoring
- Performance evaluation
- Risk evaluation
- Portfolio structuring
- Manager due diligence

WEALTH PLANNING

 Wealth enhancement, including tax minimization and liability restructuring

- Asset Protection
- Security of Heirs' Lifestyle
- Legacy Planning
- Charitable Impact

RELATIONSHIP CONSULTATIONS

- Regularly scheduled calls, emails, reviews and in-person meetings
- Professional network, including accounting, tax, legal, insurance, actuarial and benefits experts



Let us help those you care about. Contact us today.

Paul Byron Hill, MBA, MFP, MSFS, ChFC®, RICP® CEO | Certified Financial Planner™
Wealth Management Certified Professional™

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