



State of Vermont Deferred Compensation Plan 940050

Plan Summary

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Vice President and Managing Director

As of: **September 30, 2019**

*Report contains information up
through the last business day of
the period end.*

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Section I: Plan Summary

Plan Summary and Benchmark Trends

Plan Demographics Summary

	1/1/2018- 9/30/2018	1/1/2019- 9/30/2019
Total Participants*	7,428	7,678
Active Participants	5,535	5,624
Terminated Participants	1,881	2,041
Suspended Participants	5	2
Multiple Status Participants***	7	11
Average Participant Balance	\$67,016	\$66,121
Average Account Balance for Active Participants	\$56,587	\$54,534
Median Participant Balance	\$25,771	\$24,603
Median Participant Balance for Active Participants	\$21,110	\$19,976
Participants Age 50 and Over	4,360	4,471
Total Assets for Participants Age 50 and Over	\$413,837,303	\$423,448,618
Total (Contributions + Rollovers In)	\$15,550,406	\$23,043,618
Employee Contributions	\$14,689,224	\$17,822,603
Rollovers In	\$861,182	\$5,221,015
Total Distributions	(\$21,925,058)	(\$27,996,678)
Percentage of Assets Distributed	4.4%	5.5%
Market Value Gain / Loss****	\$7,235,835	\$20,051,781
Total Participant Balances	\$497,798,091	\$507,675,796

*Participant(s) with an account balance greater than \$0.

*** Participant(s) with an account balance greater than \$0 in more than one participant status category (e.g. Active status in one subplan but Terminated status in another subplan).

****This is not the equivalent of a plan level return on investment due to the timing of additions, distributions and underlying investment performance.

Rollovers In is the total dollars credited to participant accounts within the period defined that originated in other qualified retirement plan accounts.

Plan Features

GoalMaker	9/30/2018	9/30/2019
Plan Assets for Participants in GoalMaker	\$26,837,624	\$48,423,804
% of Plan Assets for GoalMaker Participants	5.4%	9.5%
# of Participants in GoalMaker	881	1,513
Participation Rate in GoalMaker	11.9%	19.7%
Prudential % of Participants in GoalMaker - As of 12/31/2018	50.8%	

Roth	9/30/2018	9/30/2019
Roth Assets	\$9,947,670	\$12,800,752
# of Participants in Roth	1,216	1,419
Participation Rate in Roth	16.4%	18.5%
Prudential % of Participants in Roth - As of 12/31/2018	12.5%	

Stable Value	9/30/2018	9/30/2019
Participation Rate in Stable Value	61.2%	60.6%
% of Plan Assets in Stable Value	19.5%	20.3%
Prudential % of Plan Assets in Stable Value - As of 12/31/2018	25.8%	

Transaction Summary

Transactions	1/1/2018 - 9/30/2018	1/1/2019 - 9/30/2019
Total Enrollees*	525	482
Number of Participants with Transfers	1,372	1,742
Distributions	2,184	2,578

*Number of participants that were enrolled into the plan within the reporting period. This can include those individuals who self enrolled or auto enrolled, if applicable on the plan. Rehires may not be included if their original enrollment date falls outside the reporting period.

Participant Activity

Call Center	1/1/2018 - 9/30/2018	1/1/2019 - 9/30/2019
Total Call Volume	3,893	2,133

Enrollment by Age Group

	1/1/2019-9/30/2019						Grand Total
	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Total	37	161	112	92	68	12	482

Benchmark Trends – Plan Features

<u>Plan Features</u>	<u>Your Plan</u>	<u>Prudential Book of Business</u>	<u>Industry Average*</u>	<u>Plan Sponsor Survey 2018**</u>	<u>Plan Sponsor Survey 2019***</u>
Auto Enrollment (Administered Through Prudential)	No	52.4%	34.4%	41.3%	46.3%
Auto Enrollment Default Rate	NA	3% (46.3% of Plans)	29.6%	40.7%	38.9%
Contribution Accelerator (Administered Through Prudential)	No	49.6%	23.4%	33.6%	37.8%
GoalMaker®	Yes	69.5%	NA	NA	NA
Investment Options	24.0	13.3	26.3	22.8	24.9
IncomeFlex®	No	25.2%	19.8%	7.1%	9.9%
Loans	No	63.5%	78.1%	79.3%	91.6%
Plan Allows Roth	Yes	31.0%	56.0%	68.5%	71.8%
Plan Allows Catch-Up Contributions (Administered Through Prudential)	Yes	48.1%	NA	NA	NA

This information should not be considered an offer or solicitation of securities, insurance products or services. No offer is intended nor should this material be construed as an offer of any product.

The information is being presented by us solely in our role as the plan's service provider and/or record keeper.

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Prudential's Book of Business averages are as of 12/31/2018

External Benchmark Source: **PLANSPONSOR Defined Contribution Annual Survey**

*Annual Survey, 2019 (Industry Specific Results) – Government County

**2018 Annual Survey, 2018 (Overall)

***2019 Annual Survey, 2019 (Overall)

Benchmark Trends – Participant Behavior

<u>Plan Features</u>	<u>Your Plan</u>	<u>Prudential Book of Business</u>	<u>Industry Average*</u>	<u>Plan Sponsor Survey 2018**</u>	<u>Plan Sponsor Survey 2019***</u>
Participation Rate	82.6%	71.0%	66.7%	79.3%	79.2%
Average Contribution Rate (%)	NA	7.4%	6.7%	6.6%	6.8%
Average Account Balance	\$66,121	\$64,203	\$73,643	\$97,903	\$102,586
Median Account Balance	\$24,603	\$64,672	\$53,025	\$75,000	\$77,204
% of Plan Assets in Stable Value	20.3%	25.8%	NA	NA	NA
% of Plan Assets in Day One Funds	NA	0.8%	NA	NA	NA
Average # of Funds Held	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.7	5.5
% of 55+ Participants Utilizing IncomeFlex®	N/A	9.2%	NA	NA	NA
% of Participants Utilizing GoalMaker®	19.7%	50.8%	NA	NA	NA
% of Participants have Outstanding Active Loans	N/A	14.2%	15.4%	13.0%	13.5%
Average Loan Balance	N/A	\$7,665	\$9,101	\$10,189	\$10,257

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External Benchmark Source: **PLANSPONSOR Defined Contribution Annual Survey**

*Annual Survey, 2019 (Industry Specific Results) – Government County

**2018 Annual Survey, 2018 (Overall)

***2019 Annual Survey, 2019 (Overall)

Asset Allocation/Net Activity By Age

January 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019

	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Total Participant Balances	\$223,336	\$8,620,720	\$35,071,883	\$100,261,250	\$176,965,107	\$186,533,499	\$507,675,797
% Assets	0.0%	1.7%	6.9%	19.7%	34.9%	36.7%	100.0%
Contributions	\$124,386	\$1,628,028	\$2,769,678	\$5,201,813	\$6,544,405	\$1,554,292	\$17,822,603
Rollovers In*	\$1,735	\$237,989	\$553,453	\$1,852,336	\$1,533,127	\$1,042,375	\$5,221,015
Total (Contributions + Rollovers In)	\$126,120	\$1,866,017	\$3,323,131	\$7,054,149	\$8,077,532	\$2,596,667	\$23,043,618
Cash Distributions	(\$4,835)	(\$56,764)	(\$352,621)	(\$1,339,205)	(\$2,401,259)	(\$4,390,512)	(\$8,545,196)
Rollovers Out	(\$5,339)	(\$85,805)	(\$282,807)	(\$1,578,003)	(\$6,661,356)	(\$10,838,173)	(\$19,451,483)
Total (Cash Distributions + Rollovers Out)	(\$10,174)	(\$142,569)	(\$635,428)	(\$2,917,208)	(\$9,062,615)	(\$15,228,684)	(\$27,996,678)
Net Activity	\$115,947	\$1,723,448	\$2,687,704	\$4,136,941	(\$985,083)	(\$12,632,017)	(\$4,953,060)
Total Participants**	79	929	1,326	1,864	2,028	1,456	7,682
Average Account Balance	\$2,827	\$9,280	\$26,449	\$53,788	\$87,261	\$128,114	\$66,086
<i>Prudential Avg. Account Balance as of 12/31/2018</i>	\$2,900	\$13,375	\$39,050	\$76,411	\$106,786	\$113,266	\$64,203
Median Account Balance	\$1,278	\$4,341	\$13,442	\$25,847	\$43,396	\$65,816	\$24,603
<i>Prudential Median Account Balance as of 12/31/2018</i>	\$3,965	\$10,522	\$26,803	\$47,337	\$71,696	\$108,734	\$64,761

*Rollovers In is the total dollars credited to participant accounts within the period defined that originated in other qualified retirement plan accounts.

**Total column for participant count is a sum of participants across each age group. Eg. If a participant has both a main account and beneficiary account within different age groups (decedent's date of birth), that participant will be counted twice.

Retirement Readiness

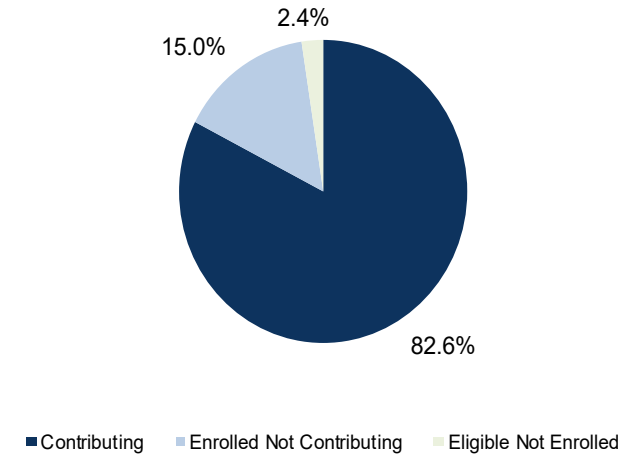
Participation Rate

	1/1/2018-9/30/2018	1/1/2019-9/30/2019
Total Eligible To Contribute Population	5,743	5,835
Contributing (A)	4,611	4,818
Enrolled Not Contributing (B)	968	876
Eligible Not Enrolled (C)	164	141

	1/1/2018-9/30/2018	1/1/2019-9/30/2019
Participation Rate *	80.3%	82.6%
<i>Prudential Book of Business 12/31/2018</i>	71.0%	
<i>Plan Sponsor Survey 2019 - National Average</i>	79.2%	

* Participation Rate is calculated by $A/(A+B+C)$

1/1/2019-9/30/2019



Definitions:

Contributing – Count of participants who are active/eligible and a contribution was received to an employee source (within the reporting period).

Enrolled Not Contributing – An individual who is enrolled in the plan, but did not have a contribution to an employee source (within the reporting period).

Eligible Not Enrolled – An individual who meets the requirements to join the plan, but has not enrolled in the plan (as of close of business on the last business day of the period).

Due to rounding, pie chart may not equal 100%

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Plan Activity

Contributions by Fund

INVESTMENT OPTIONS	1/1/2018 - 9/30/2018	%	1/1/2019 - 9/30/2019	%	Change	%
STATE OF VERMONT STABLE VALUE FUND	\$1,735,881	11.8%	\$2,222,390	12.5%	\$486,509	28.0%
VANGUARD INSTITUTIONAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$1,266,861	8.6%	\$1,472,638	8.3%	\$205,777	16.2%
VANGUARD DEVELOPED MARKETS INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$815,459	5.6%	\$1,380,489	7.8%	\$565,030	69.3%
AMERICAN FUNDS THE GROWTH FUND OF AMERICA CLASS R-6	\$1,025,693	7.0%	\$1,361,718	7.6%	\$336,025	32.8%
VANGUARD MID-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$1,126,946	7.7%	\$1,296,542	7.3%	\$169,596	15.0%
VANGUARD VALUE INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$946,883	6.5%	\$1,240,676	7.0%	\$293,793	31.0%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2030 FUND I CLASS	\$1,082,494	7.4%	\$1,217,191	6.8%	\$134,697	12.4%
VANGUARD TOTAL BOND MARKET INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$747,250	5.1%	\$1,146,447	6.4%	\$399,197	53.4%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2020 FUND I CLASS	\$1,133,436	7.7%	\$1,134,177	6.4%	\$741	0.1%
T. ROWE PRICE SMALL-CAP STOCK FUND I CLASS	\$831,828	5.7%	\$1,088,640	6.1%	\$256,813	30.9%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2040 FUND I CLASS	\$666,361	4.5%	\$819,397	4.6%	\$153,036	23.0%
DODGE & COX BALANCED FUND	\$553,251	3.8%	\$644,990	3.6%	\$91,739	16.6%
DODGE & COX INTERNATIONAL STOCK FUND	\$561,468	3.8%	\$493,403	2.8%	(\$68,064)	-12.1%
VANGUARD FTSE SOCIAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$385,096	2.6%	\$421,772	2.4%	\$36,676	9.5%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2050 FUND I CLASS	\$285,682	1.9%	\$373,241	2.1%	\$87,559	30.6%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT I 2010 FUND I CLASS	\$286,101	2.0%	\$346,139	1.9%	\$60,038	21.0%
LAZARD EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY PORTFOLIO INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$366,529	2.5%	\$298,815	1.7%	(\$67,715)	-18.5%
CALVERT BOND FUND CLASS I	\$217,910	1.5%	\$208,333	1.2%	(\$9,577)	-4.4%
PIMCO TOTAL RETURN ESG FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$198,402	1.4%	\$169,240	1.0%	(\$29,162)	-14.7%
FPA NEW INCOME FUND	\$141,784	1.0%	\$162,547	0.9%	\$20,763	14.6%
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BALANCED I FUND I CLASS	\$84,490	0.6%	\$123,712	0.7%	\$39,223	46.4%
PAX BALANCED FUND INDIVIDUAL INVESTOR CLASS	\$89,892	0.6%	\$118,525	0.7%	\$28,633	31.9%
PAX GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$107,696	0.7%	\$81,580	0.5%	(\$26,116)	-24.3%
T. ROWE PRICE BALANCED I CLASS	\$31,831	0.2%	\$0	0.0%	(\$31,831)	-100.0%
Total Assets Contributed	\$14,689,224	100.0%	\$17,822,603	100.0%	\$3,133,379	21.3%

Participant Distribution Statistics

Distribution Type	Amount of Withdrawals Taken				# of Withdrawals			
	1/1/2018 - 9/30/2018	1/1/2019 - 9/30/2019	Change	% Change	1/1/2018 - 9/30/2018	1/1/2019 - 9/30/2019	Change	% Change
Termination	\$17,920,020	\$22,593,025	\$4,673,005	26%	559	959	400	72%
Direct Transfer	\$652,576	\$1,366,152	\$713,576	109%	15	24	9	60%
Installment Payment	\$1,505,280	\$1,372,418	(\$132,861)	-9%	1,369	1,322	(47)	-3%
Death Distribution	\$1,090,059	\$1,438,262	\$348,202	32%	40	73	33	83%
Required Minimum Distribution	\$437,180	\$860,158	\$422,978	97%	89	173	84	94%
QDRO	\$254,773	\$191,984	(\$62,789)	-25%	10	6	(4)	-40%
In-Service Withdrawal	\$51,622	\$108,639	\$57,018	110%	7	12	5	71%
Hardship Withdrawal	\$11,771	\$66,022	\$54,251	461%	4	8	4	100%
Return of Excess Deferrals/Contributions	\$1,534	\$0	(\$1,534)	-100%	1	0	(1)	-100%
Gross Adjustment	\$243	\$18	(\$225)	-93%	90	1	(89)	-99%
Grand Total	\$21,925,058	\$27,996,678	\$6,071,620	28%	2,184	2,578	394	18%

1/1/2019 - 9/30/2019						
Distribution Sub-Type	Amount of Withdrawals Taken			# of Withdrawals		
	Age < 50	Age >= 50	Total	Age < 50	Age >= 50	Total
Rollover	\$1,216,718	\$18,234,764	\$19,451,483	38	132	170
Cash	\$864,088	\$7,681,107	\$8,545,196	64	2,344	2,408
Grand Total	\$2,080,807	\$25,915,872	\$27,996,678	102	2,476	2,578

Termination - A withdrawal that is taken when the participant is active and terminating from employment or is already in a 'Terminated' status.

Direct Transfer - Non-taxable transfer of participant assets from one type of tax-deferred retirement plan or account to another.

Installment Payment - An Installment distribution is a payment option that disburses funds over time (i.e. monthly, quarterly, yearly).

Death Distribution - Distribution taken by a beneficiary. This could include required minimum distributions, installment payments, etc.

Required Minimum Distribution - Minimum amounts that a participant must withdraw annually upon reaching a certain age or retirement. This would exclude any beneficiary or QDRO accounts.

QDRO - Distribution taken by the recipient of a QDRO. This could include required minimum distributions, installment payments, etc.

In-Service Withdrawal - A distribution that is taken while the participant is still active, before termination from employment.

Hardship Withdrawal - A distribution which is requested by a participant because of an immediate and heavy financial need that cannot be satisfied from other resources.

Return of Excess Deferrals/Contributions - Could include Actual Contribution Percentage (ACP), Actual Deferral Percentage (ADP), Excess Deferrals, Excess Annual Editions and/or Ineligible Contributions.

Gross Adjustment - The total of all adjustments made to an account or plan in absolute terms, regardless of whether or not the adjustments were positive or negative.

Participant Transaction Statistics

	10/1/2018 - 12/31/2018	1/1/2019 - 3/31/2019	4/1/2019 - 6/30/2019	7/1/2019 - 9/30/2019
Call Center				
Unique Callers	674	541	411	404
Total Call Volume	1,120	859	632	642

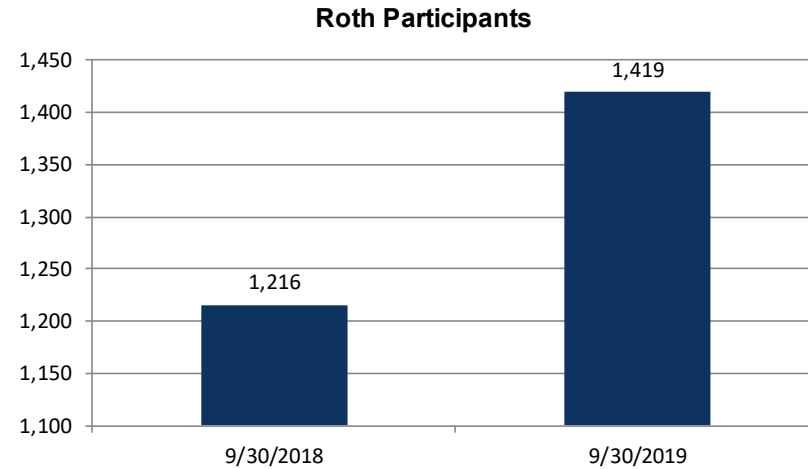
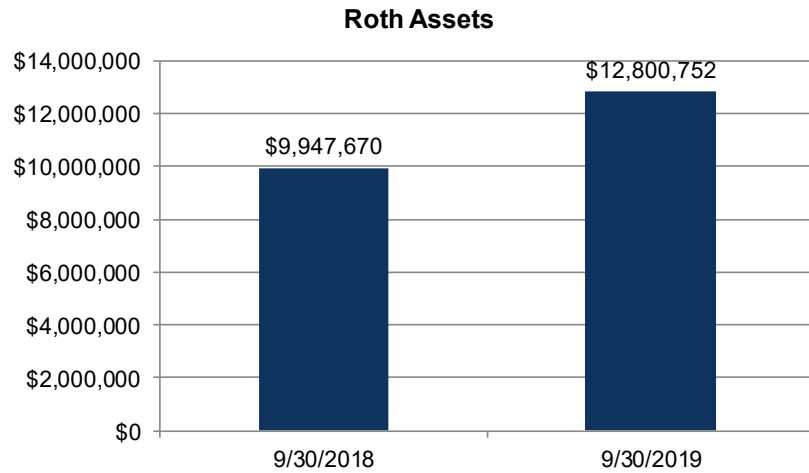
Call Center Reason Category	10/1/2018 - 12/31/2018	1/1/2019 - 3/31/2019	4/1/2019 - 6/30/2019	7/1/2019 - 9/30/2019
Account Explanations	210	195	150	134
Allocation Changes & Exchange	22	16	7	9
Contributions	19	19	22	20
Disbursements	591	410	329	344
Enrollments	1	3	1	3
Forms	3	0	3	4
Fund Information	8	21	9	7
Hardships	18	11	14	36
IFX	5	4	0	0
IVR or Web Assistance	170	50	17	21
Loans	1	6	2	4
Other	1	10	19	22
Payment Questions	0	0	0	0
Plan Explanations	22	18	18	13
Regen Reg Letter	0	0	0	0
Status of Research	13	7	3	1
Tax Information	0	45	7	1
Website Processing	36	44	31	23
Total	1,120	859	632	642

Definitions:

Unique Callers – The number of individuals that spoke to a Participant Service Center Representative during the reporting period (e.g., If the same individual called five times during the reporting period, they would only be counted once).

Total Call Volume – The number of calls to a Participant Service Center Representative during the reporting period (e.g., If the same individual called five times during the reporting period, they would be counted five times).

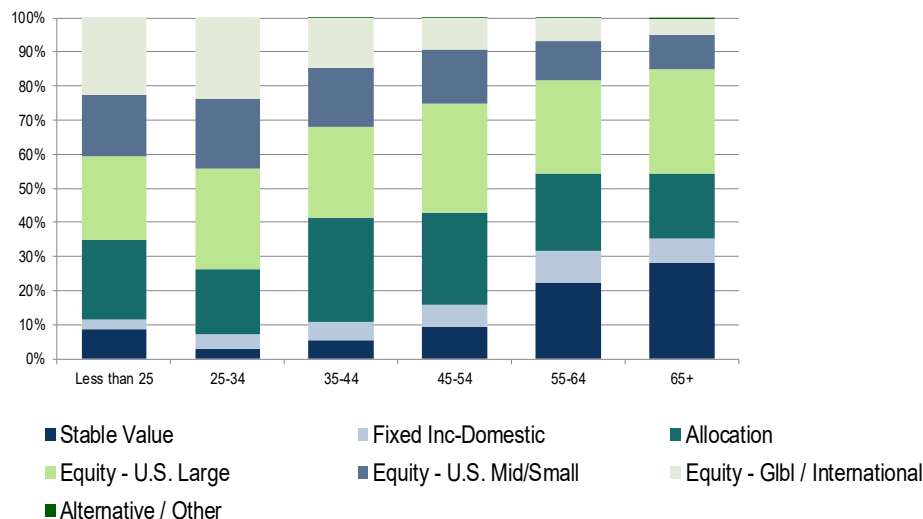
Roth Summary



	9/30/2018	9/30/2019
Roth Assets	\$9,947,670	\$12,800,752
# of Participants in Roth	1,216	1,419
Participation Rate in Roth	16.4%	18.5%
Prudential % of Participants in Roth - As of 12/31/2018	12.5%	

Investment Diversification

Assets by Asset Class and Age as of September 30, 2019



Asset Allocation

Asset Class	Your Plan Assets as of 9/30/2019	Your Plan % as of 9/30/2019
Stable Value	\$103,303,609	20.4%
Fixed Inc-Domestic	\$38,860,878	7.7%
Allocation	\$114,984,797	22.7%
Equity - U.S. Large	\$149,592,546	29.5%
Equity - U.S. Mid/Small	\$62,990,779	12.4%
Equity - Gbl / International	\$37,434,789	7.4%
Alternative / Other	\$508,399	0.1%
Total Participant Balances	\$507,675,796	100.0%

Fund Utilization By Age as of September 30, 2019

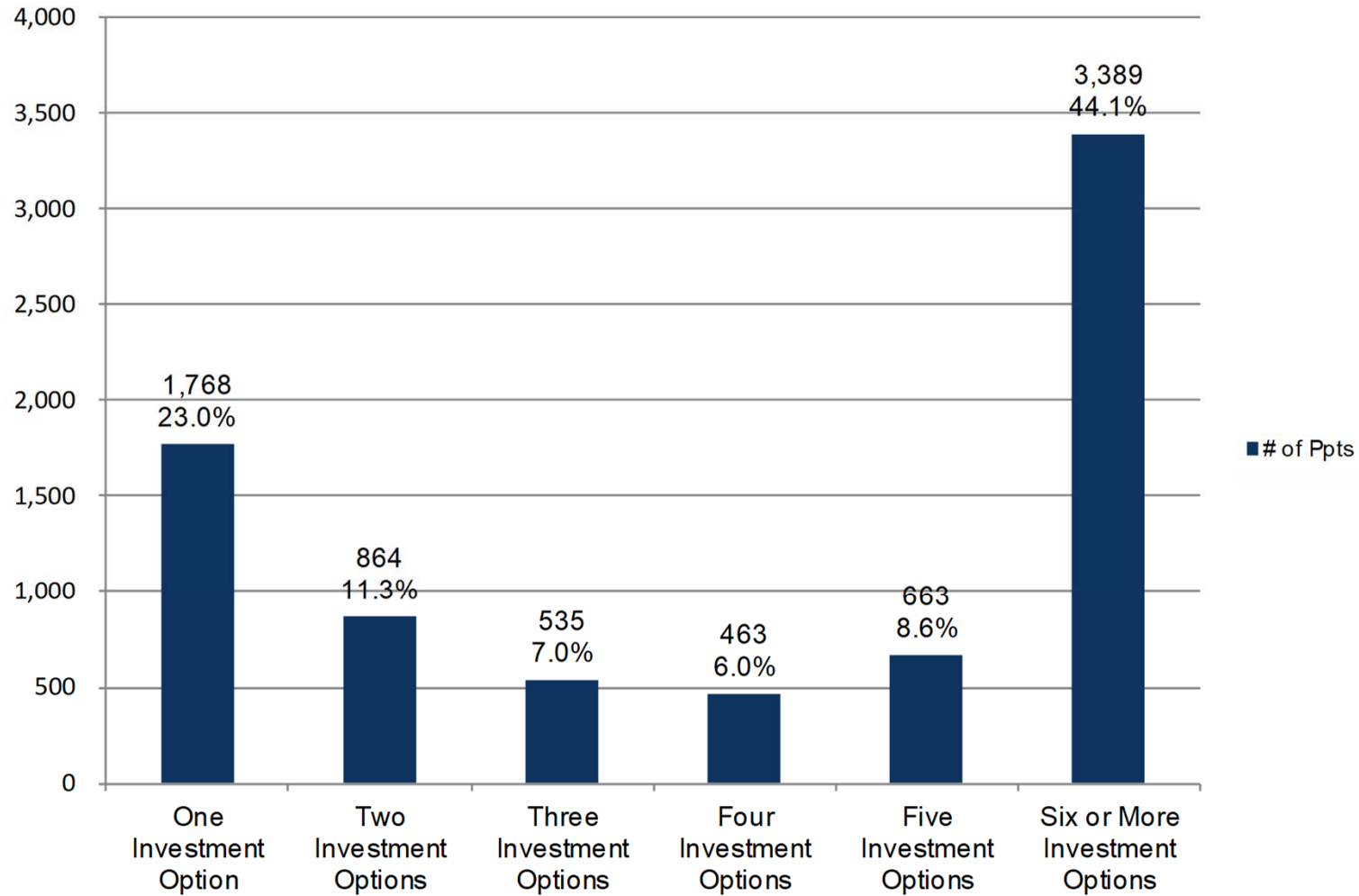
	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Participants Invested in Only One Fund	21	160	290	389	477	431	1,768
Average # of Funds per Participant	4.9	6.7	6.4	5.7	4.9	4.0	5.4
<i>Prudential Participants Avg. # of Funds per Participant as of 12/31/2018</i>	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.4	4.1	5.5
% of Plan Assets in Stable Value	8.5%	2.7%	5.3%	9.4%	22.3%	28.0%	20.3%
<i>Prudential % of Plan Assets in Stable Value as of 12/31/2018</i>	11.3%	10.1%	12.3%	17.5%	29.3%	47.1%	25.8%

Utilization by Fund as of September 30, 2019

INVESTMENT OPTIONS	Balance	% Invested in Fund	# of Ppts	Ppts Using as Sole Investment
STATE OF VERMONT STABLE VALUE FUND	\$103,303,609	20.3%	4,653	531
VANGUARD INSTITUTIONAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$57,608,360	11.3%	2,676	90
AMERICAN FUNDS THE GROWTH FUND OF AMERICA CLASS R-6	\$39,285,258	7.7%	3,950	19
DODGE & COX BALANCED FUND	\$35,701,525	7.0%	1,104	53
VANGUARD VALUE INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$33,907,051	6.7%	3,871	9
T. ROWE PRICE SMALL-CAP STOCK FUND I CLASS	\$33,640,163	6.6%	3,984	6
VANGUARD MID-CAP INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$29,350,616	5.8%	3,932	12
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2020 FUND CLASS	\$29,091,469	5.7%	604	235
VANGUARD TOTAL BOND MARKET INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$20,812,423	4.1%	2,808	1
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2030 FUND CLASS	\$20,347,014	4.0%	598	240
VANGUARD FTSE SOCIAL INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$18,791,877	3.7%	652	25
VANGUARD DEVELOPED MARKETS INDEX FUND INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$16,805,124	3.3%	3,147	0
DODGE & COX INTERNATIONAL STOCK FUND	\$12,306,065	2.4%	1,969	4
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2040 FUND CLASS	\$11,737,740	2.3%	500	241
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2010 FUND CLASS	\$9,435,271	1.9%	272	102
PIMCO TOTAL RETURN ESG FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$6,637,769	1.3%	1,765	2
LAZARD EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY PORTFOLIO INSTITUTIONAL SHARES	\$6,462,676	1.3%	1,836	6
FPA NEW INCOME FUND	\$6,444,864	1.3%	364	6
CALVERT BOND FUND CLASS I	\$4,965,821	1.0%	1,490	2
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BALANCED FUND CLASS	\$4,207,092	0.8%	236	38
PAX BALANCED FUND INDIVIDUAL INVESTOR CLASS	\$2,363,610	0.5%	195	2
T. ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2050 FUND CLASS	\$2,101,076	0.4%	263	137
PAX GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS FUND INSTITUTIONAL CLASS	\$1,860,924	0.4%	594	3
SELF DIRECTED BROKERAGE ACCOUNT	\$508,399	0.1%	9	0
Total	\$507,675,796	100.0%		

The funds in **bold** type denote inclusion in the GoalMaker® product.

Investment Utilization as of September 30, 2019



Due to rounding, bar graph may not equal 100%

GoalMaker® Participation

as of 9/30/2019

	12/31/2018	3/31/2019	6/30/2019	9/30/2019
Plan Assets for Participants in GoalMaker	\$29,484,307	\$35,725,810	\$42,838,872	\$48,423,804
# of Participants in GoalMaker	1,030	1,218	1,405	1,513
Participation Rate in GoalMaker	13.8%	16.1%	18.4%	19.7%
% of Plan Assets for GoalMaker Participants	6.5%	7.3%	8.5%	9.5%

Prudential Book of Business For Plans Offering GoalMaker – As of 12/31/2018

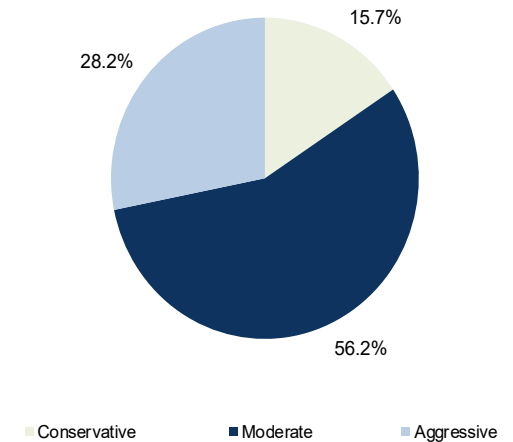
The participation rate in GoalMaker is 50.8%.

The percentage of plan assets for GoalMaker participants is 20.7%.

Participant Age Range	Conservative		Moderate		Aggressive		Total
	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	
Less than 25	1	0	15	0	24	1	41
25-34	17	0	155	6	176	5	359
35-44	21	0	162	6	130	4	323
45-54	44	0	228	7	111	3	393
55-64	59	12	196	12	45	6	330
65+	18	8	23	10	6	2	67
Total	160	20	779	41	492	21	1,513

Participant Age Range	Conservative		Moderate		Aggressive		Total
	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	Active/Suspended	Terminated	
Less than 25	\$2,401	\$0	\$54,650	\$0	\$50,724	\$825	\$108,599
25-34	\$55,140	\$0	\$1,041,229	\$11,581	\$1,254,322	\$97,012	\$2,459,284
35-44	\$221,146	\$0	\$2,795,385	\$74,329	\$3,097,339	\$4,978	\$6,193,177
45-54	\$1,385,910	\$0	\$6,739,752	\$164,067	\$3,690,556	\$274,957	\$12,255,243
55-64	\$2,855,901	\$1,431,222	\$10,376,999	\$1,040,260	\$2,332,780	\$1,649,327	\$19,686,488
65+	\$698,109	\$939,697	\$2,488,291	\$2,414,941	\$882,791	\$297,183	\$7,721,013
Total	\$5,218,606	\$2,370,919	\$23,496,306	\$3,705,178	\$11,308,512	\$2,324,283	\$48,423,804

Percentage of Assets by GoalMaker® Participation Portfolio - As of 9/30/2019



1.0 Years

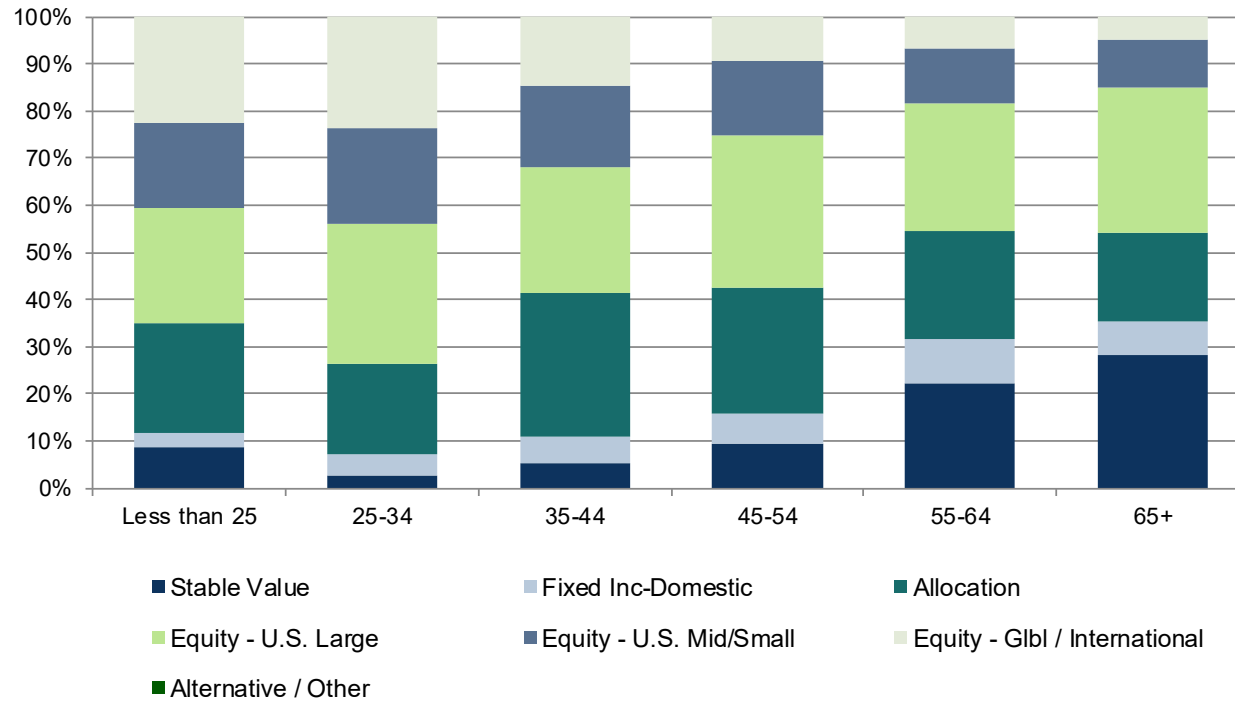
average length of time GoalMaker participants have been enrolled in GoalMaker

19.7%

GoalMaker participation rate for those who actively elected GoalMaker

Due to rounding, pie chart may not equal 100%

Asset Allocation by Age Group



As of September 30, 2019

Asset Class	Less than 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
Stable Value	\$18,919	\$234,761	\$1,858,534	\$9,431,252	\$39,490,651	\$52,269,491	\$103,303,609
Fixed Inc-Domestic	\$6,945	\$385,660	\$1,927,285	\$6,473,446	\$16,697,085	\$13,370,458	\$38,860,878
Allocation	\$52,258	\$1,650,900	\$10,705,690	\$26,858,772	\$40,054,149	\$35,663,028	\$114,984,797
Equity - U.S. Large	\$54,598	\$2,549,329	\$9,318,975	\$32,171,599	\$48,452,865	\$57,045,179	\$149,592,546
Equity - U.S. Mid/Small	\$40,151	\$1,767,955	\$6,140,895	\$15,963,194	\$20,190,501	\$18,888,082	\$62,990,779
Equity - Gbl / International	\$50,466	\$2,032,115	\$5,106,534	\$9,276,187	\$12,015,925	\$8,953,562	\$37,434,789
Alternative / Other	\$0	\$0	\$13,969	\$86,800	\$63,931	\$343,699	\$508,399
Total Assets	\$223,336	\$8,620,720	\$35,071,883	\$100,261,250	\$176,965,107	\$186,533,499	\$507,675,796
% of Assets	0.0%	1.7%	6.9%	19.7%	34.9%	36.7%	100.0%
Total Participants	79	929	1,326	1,864	2,028	1,456	7,682
Avg Account Balance	\$2,827	\$9,280	\$26,449	\$53,788	\$87,261	\$128,114	\$66,086

Rep Stats

	10/1/2018-12/31/2018	1/1/2019-3/31/2019	4/1/2019-6/30/2019	7/1/2019-9/30/2019	Total
Group Presentations	12	17	16	14	59
Individual Participant Meetings	306	585	694	351	1,936
New Enrollments as a result of Group/Individual Meeting*	76	109	119	90	394
GoalMaker as a result of Group/Individual Meeting*	108	132	215	115	570
Contribution Rate Increases	101	188	173	109	571
Number of Rollovers	18	15	37	37	107
Rollover Dollars	\$661,534	\$792,431	\$1,990,726	\$1,320,547	4,765,238

**State of Vermont ICMA-RC Stable Income fund Performance Reporting
As of 9/30/2019**

	9/30/2019 Performance	Benchmark: ICE BofAML US 3M T- Bill
1 MONTH	0.21%	0.17%
3 MONTH	0.66%	0.56%
YTD	1.95%	1.81%
1 YEAR	2.59%	2.39%
3 YEAR	2.40%	1.54%
5 YEAR	2.31%	0.98%
Since Inception	2.51%	N/A

*returns for periods greater than one year are annualized.

Market to Book Value ratio – 101.41%

Assets and contributions reflect actual participant account balances and do not include outstanding loan balances, forfeitures, and / or expense account assets.

Customer should promptly report any inaccuracy or discrepancy to the brokerage firm(s).

All oral communications should be re-confirmed in writing to protect the customer's legal rights, including rights under the Securities Investor Protection act (SIPA).

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Section II: Economic Outlook



THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: GROWTH CONTINUES TO WEAKEN

by **Robert F. DeLucia, CFA**
 Consulting Economist

Summary and Major Conclusions:

The outlook for global economic growth is the primary determinant of the direction of world financial markets. The outcome is likely to be binary: Either a synchronized recovery in the world economy will spark a rebound in global equities and interest rates and a decline in the dollar; or continued economic stagnation will result in weakness in equity markets, sustained low levels in world interest rates, and continued dollar strength. A durable recovery in the global economy should also trigger a shift in equity market leadership from the US to the rest of the world.

- The future direction of the global equity, fixed-income, and currency markets is predicated upon the outlook for growth in the world economy. The major countries of the world remain in a synchronized economic slowdown, as GDP growth continues to downshift in all regions.
- Although economic growth has not collapsed, there are no credible signs of a cyclical bottom. Economic conditions worldwide are bifurcated, with growth in consumer spending, services, and employment offset by weakness in manufacturing and export trade.
- World GDP growth peaked in the first half of 2018 at an annual rate of nearly 4%, but has been in a steadily decelerating trend over the past 18 months. Third quarter GDP rose at an estimated rate of 3% and could slow to 2.5% over the next two quarters.
- Deflationary pressures are becoming more widespread, inducing world central banks to introduce extremely expansionary monetary stimulus. Continued weakness in demand could also result in fiscal policy initiatives to boost aggregate spending.
- There are several major contributors to the steady deterioration of economic conditions worldwide, including the ongoing trade war between China and the US; continued uncertainty surrounding Brexit and other geopolitical risks; and the lagged effects of previous monetary and fiscal tightening in China.
- The common denominator of these factors is business confidence. Heightened uncertainty regarding economic policy, domestic politics, and geopolitics has culminated in widespread retrenchment in capital formation and hiring on the part of business firms.
- A vicious inventory cycle worldwide has exerted enormous pressure on the global manufacturing economy. Export-oriented economies such as those of Germany, Japan, China, and South Korea have suffered disproportionately. The world auto sector is at the epicenter of the inventory drawdown.
- Following another two quarters of weakness, world GDP is likely to accelerate during 2020, rising at a 3.3% annual rate. This momentum should culminate in a further pick-up in growth to 3.5% in 2021.
- Deceleration in China's GDP over the past 18 months has not yet reached bottom. It seems plausible to assume that ongoing economic weakness will increase pressure on policymakers to deliver greater monetary and fiscal stimulus.

- China is the main engine of growth for the world economy. A more vibrant Chinese economy will have a powerful domino effect on the world manufacturing economy, providing stimulus for consumption, employment, and capital investment worldwide.
- Fears of a hard landing in China are unwarranted. Consumer spending, services, and real estate investment are all expanding at a rate well in excess of 5%, more than offsetting weakness in manufacturing, fixed-asset investment, and exports.
- A downturn in the global economy is unlikely to push the US into recession. Historically, the US economy has led the rest of the world; global recessions have always originated in America and spread to the world economy, not vice versa.
- The US also enjoys numerous structural advantages over most other countries, including a smooth-functioning, market-based economy; a healthy and resilient private sector; fewer government regulations; consistent capital inflows; an extremely sound banking system; and more favorable demographics.
- The US dollar (USD) appears to be in a long-term peaking process and could face significant downside over the next several years. Sustained depreciation of the USD would be an enormous positive force for the world economy and US corporate earnings.
- The outlook for global growth is the primary determinant of the direction of world financial markets. A synchronized world economic recovery would be the catalyst for a rebound in global equities and interest rates, and a decline in the US dollar.
- A sustained recovery in the global economy should trigger a shift in equity market leadership from the US to the rest of the world. Europe, Japan, and emerging Asia are highly leveraged to the global economy, and also offer far greater value relative to the US.

The future direction of the global equity, fixed-income, and currency markets is predicated upon the outlook for growth in the world economy. The major economies of the world remain in a synchronized slowdown, as GDP growth continues to downshift in all regions. This week's *Economic Perspective* provides an update on economic and policy trends within the world economy, along with implications for global financial markets.

HOW WOULD YOU BEST CHARACTERIZE WORLD ECONOMIC CONDITIONS?

I would characterize the world economy as follows: (1) World economic growth continues to weaken, with no signs of a cyclical bottom; (2) Economic conditions worldwide are bifurcated, with growth in consumer spending, services, and employment offset by profound weakness in manufacturing and export trade; (3) Deflationary pressures are becoming more widespread; and (4) Monetary conditions are extremely accommodative in most countries.

COULD YOU QUANTIFY THE MAGNITUDE OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN?

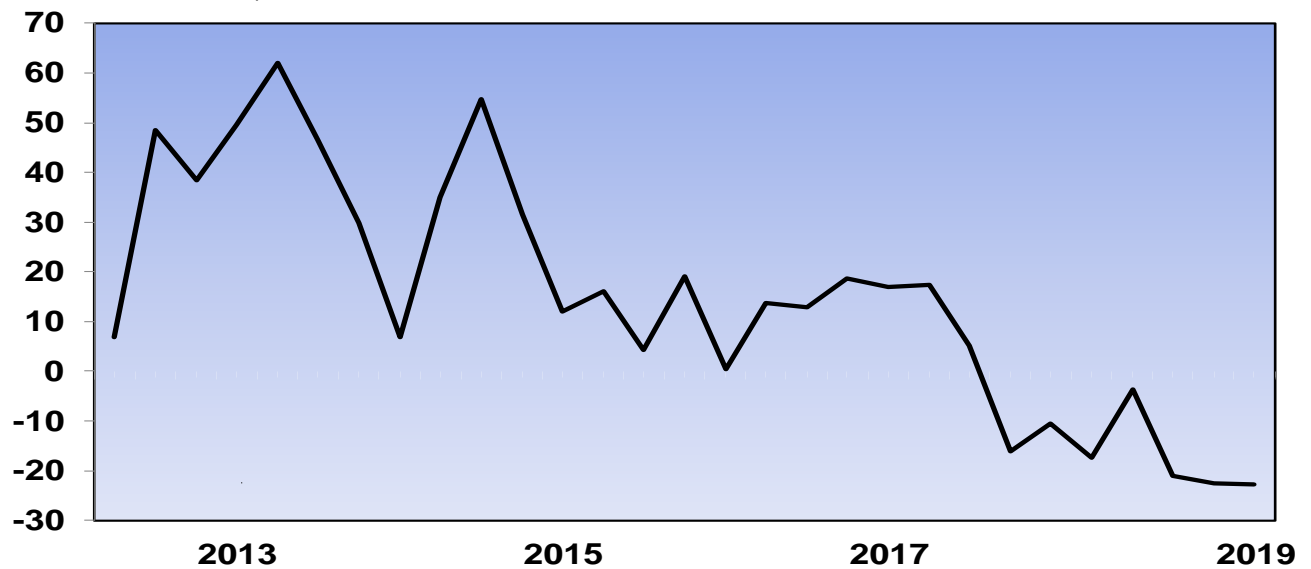
World GDP growth peaked in the first half of 2018 at an annual rate of nearly 4%, but has been in a steadily decelerating trend over the past 18 months. Third quarter GDP rose at an estimated annual rate of 3% and could slow to 2.5% over the next two quarters, which would be the slowest pace in several years. On a yearly basis, GDP growth peaked in 2017 at 3.8%, and has slowed to only 3% this year. Weakness is evident in all corners of the world, most notably among leading export-oriented economies in both developed and developing countries.

WHAT ARE THE KEY FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUSTAINED SLOWDOWN IN GROWTH?

There are several major contributors to the steady deterioration in economic conditions worldwide:

1. The ongoing *trade war* between China and the US has severely disrupted supply chains and triggered a major contraction in both the export trade and manufacturing sectors.
2. There is enormous uncertainty surrounding *Brexit* — the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union (EU). Business and consumer confidence in Europe and the UK have plummeted since the July 2016 referendum, triggering weakness in capital formation and job creation in the region.
3. The lagged effects of *monetary and fiscal tightening in China* during 2017, a result of policymaker efforts to control excessive internal debt levels, remain a drag on growth. The government has eased credit policy somewhat but not enough to offset the previous period of draconian fiscal and monetary restraint.
4. The thrust of *US fiscal policy* has also contributed to global economic weakness, with a typical time lag. The Trump tax cuts that took effect in 2018 have gradually faded over the course of 2019. Similar to China, the US is a major engine of world economic growth.
5. A *vicious inventory cycle* worldwide has exerted enormous pressure on the global manufacturing economy. Export-oriented economies such as those of Germany, Japan, China, and South Korea have suffered disproportionately. The *world auto sector* has been the epicenter of the inventory drawdown, with China, Japan, and especially Germany being the main casualties.
6. A rise in *geopolitical risk* has undermined business confidence, and therefore plans for long-term investment in plant and equipment.

Chart 1: World Business Confidence Remains Depressed
The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment
Source: Centre for European Economic Research



The common denominator of these six factors is **business confidence**. Heightened uncertainty regarding economic policy, domestic politics, and geopolitics has resulted in widespread retrenchment by business firms in capital formation and hiring (see chart 1).

HOW DO EACH OF THESE UNKNOWN VARIABLES FACTOR INTO YOUR FORECAST?

Although a so-called grand bargain is unlikely, I continue to expect a significant truce between China and the US well in advance of the 2020 election. My assumptions regarding the outcome of the trade war with China have been overly optimistic. Instead of an interim truce as I was expecting, the trade war has escalated over the course of 2019, with leaders in both China and the US adopting an increasingly recalcitrant posture.

The logic for an eventual truce remains intact — improved economic, social, and political stability within both countries — but the timing remains highly uncertain. It seems plausible to assume that the key issue for President Trump is the 2020 election, suggesting a strong incentive on his part to stabilize trade conditions necessary to boost GDP growth, employment, and the stock market.

Continuation of the status quo — or worse, an escalation in trade restrictions — would be consistent with continued weakness in the US economy and ongoing volatility in equity markets. Conversely, an agreement to roll back tariffs would spark a rise in stock prices and an increase in capital spending budgets. Although far from assured, the latter outcome seems most likely, but the timing remains highly uncertain.

DOES THE OCTOBER 11 PARTIAL AGREEMENT WITH CHINA ALTER THE OUTLOOK?

No, I have been anticipating some partial agreement between the two parties for months; last week's meeting at the White House was only a small step forward and far from the breakthrough needed to lift business and investor confidence, and therefore risk-taking. Even without an escalation in tariffs, the current gridlock remains a serious headwind to world trade and to a resumption of healthy economic growth. As a reminder, the status of the December 15 tariffs on US imports of Chinese consumer goods remains uncertain and is another wild card in the outlook.

WHAT ARE YOUR ASSUMPTIONS REGARDING BREXIT?

Most recent developments have been encouraging, following more than three years of political turmoil and uncertainty surrounding the UK's exit from the European Union (EU). Unexpectedly, the UK government and the EU appear to be on the verge of a potential deal that would avoid a dreaded "hard" (no-deal) Brexit.

The situation remains highly fluid and could take a number of turns, but the odds of passing a constructive deal between the UK and the EU have increased significantly. The UK will likely ask for an extension of the October 31 deadline, suggesting that a speedy resolution of the issue is not likely. Although the timing and precise terms are unclear, ultimate passage of a deal should boost business and investor confidence enormously.

HOW LONG WILL CHINA REFRAIN FROM MORE AGGRESSIVE MONETARY AND FISCAL STIMULUS?

China has refrained from aggressive monetary and fiscal stimulus because of policymaker fears regarding the massive debt overhang and vulnerability of the banking system. The ratio of debt to GDP has risen sharply in recent years to an all-time high. Moreover, nonperforming loans in the banking system are at dangerous levels, raising fears of a credit crisis or banking sector collapse (see chart 2).

The Chinese economy remains weak and the deceleration in GDP over the past 18 months has not yet bottomed. Under these circumstances, it seems likely that ongoing economic weakness will intensify pressure on policymakers to deliver greater monetary and fiscal stimulus to stabilize China's economy. A sustained rebound in Chinese domestic demand is crucial for a recovery in the world economy.

Chart 2: China Debt Surges to Record Share of GDP
Total China Debt, Percent of GDP
Source: Bloomberg Economics

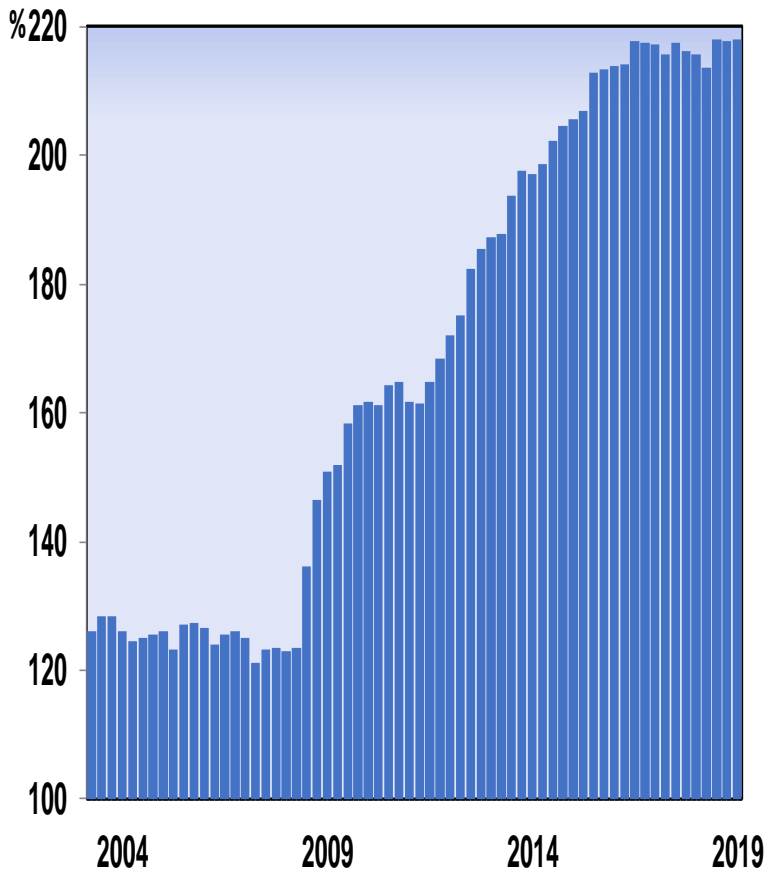
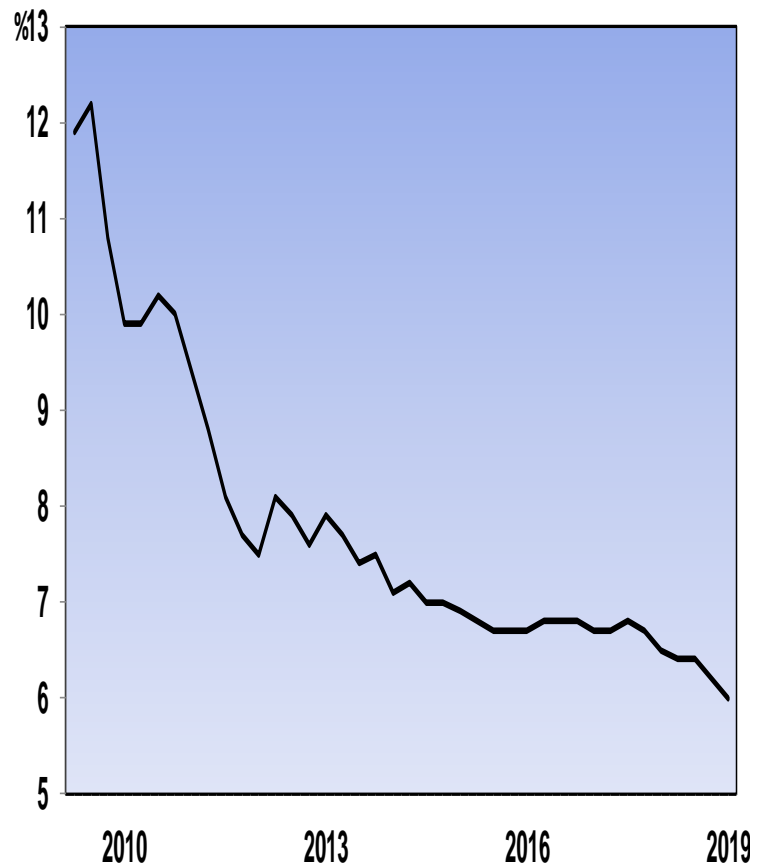


Chart 3: Slowest Economic Growth in China in Nearly Three Decades
China GDP Growth, Adjusted for Inflation, Annual Rate
Source: China National Bureau of Statistics

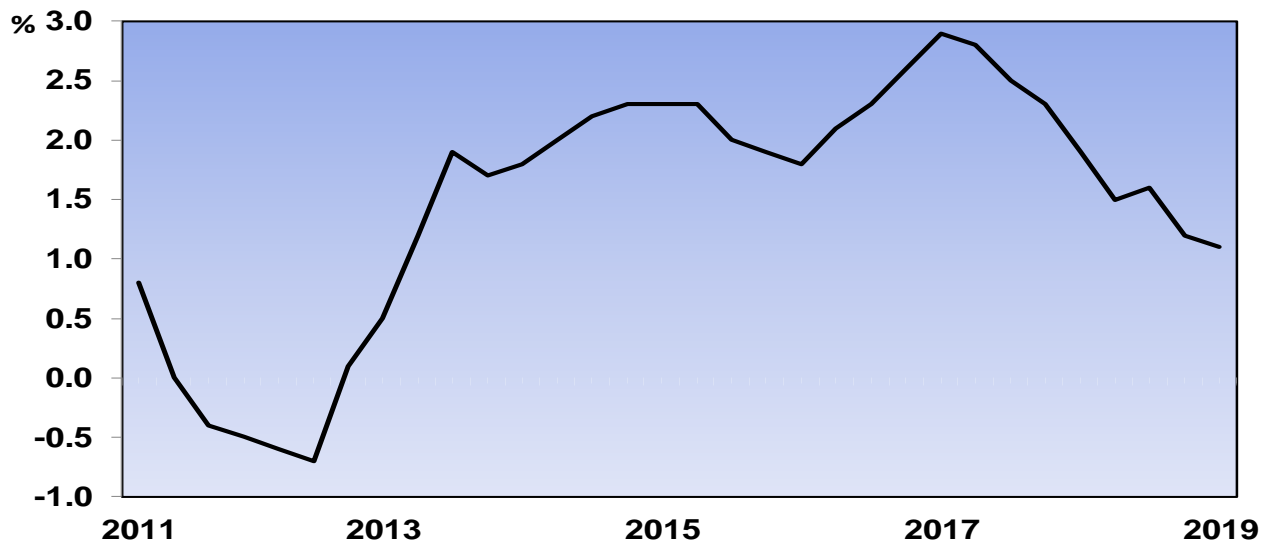


China is the main engine of growth for the world economy, accounting for one-third of global GDP growth annually. As such, a strengthening of its economy would culminate in a powerful **domino effect** on the world economy, initially boosting world manufacturing activity, which would then provide stimulus for consumption, employment, services, and capital investment worldwide.

HOW LIKELY IS AN OUTRIGHT RECESSION IN CHINA?

Although China's economy has weakened considerably over the past 18 months, a hard landing appears unlikely at this time. GDP growth is likely to fall below 6% in coming quarters — the slowest rate in nearly three decades — but economic growth should stabilize within a range of 5% to 6%. Consumer spending, services, and real estate investment are all expanding at a rate in excess of 5%, more than offsetting weakness in manufacturing, fixed-asset investment, and exports. Assuming at least a partial end to the trade war, growth should accelerate modestly in 2020 and 2021, back to a cyclical peak of 6.5% (see chart 3).

Chart 4: Continued Slowing in Eurozone Economic Growth
Eurozone GDP, Adjusted for Inflation, Annual Rate
Source: Eurostat



IS THE EUROZONE ECONOMY CAPABLE OF EXPANDING AT A FASTER PACE?

Investors should not expect a robust economic recovery in Europe, but economic conditions should stabilize around yearend and gradually improve during 2020. Financial conditions are steadily improving, courtesy of exceptional monetary ease by the European Central Bank (ECB). Domestic demand and employment have been resilient in the face of a recession in manufacturing and slump in export trade.

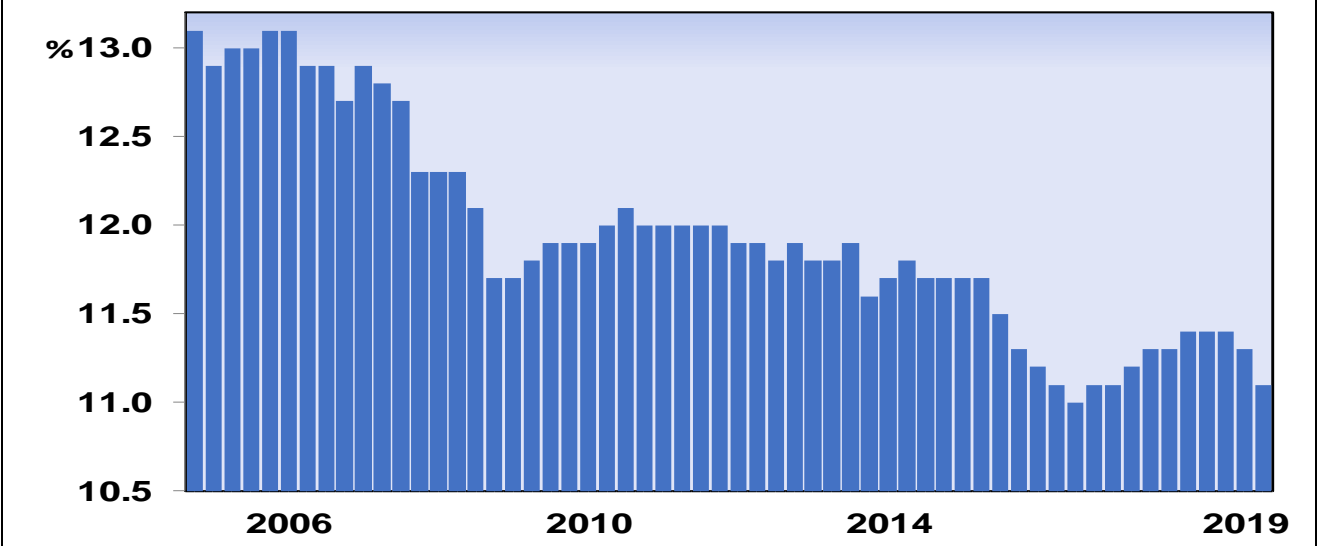
With business inventories in liquidation, stronger domestic demand in China and the US should support eurozone manufacturing and trade. Continued progress in Brexit negotiations should also support growth by lifting business confidence. Compared with only 1% this year, GDP growth could accelerate to 1.5% in both 2020 and 2021 (see chart 4).

COULD AN OUTRIGHT RECESSION IN THE WORLD ECONOMY TRIGGER A RECESSION IN THE US?

A downturn in the global economy is unlikely to push the US economy into recession. *Historically, the US economy has led the rest of the world; global recessions have always originated in America and spread to the world economy, not vice versa.* There are at least three reasons why a world recession would not culminate in a US recession:

1. **Export Trade:** The US economy is also far less dependent upon exports when compared with other major economies. Because the current slowdown is heavily influenced by weakness in world trade, the *strong domestic orientation* of the US has sheltered GDP.

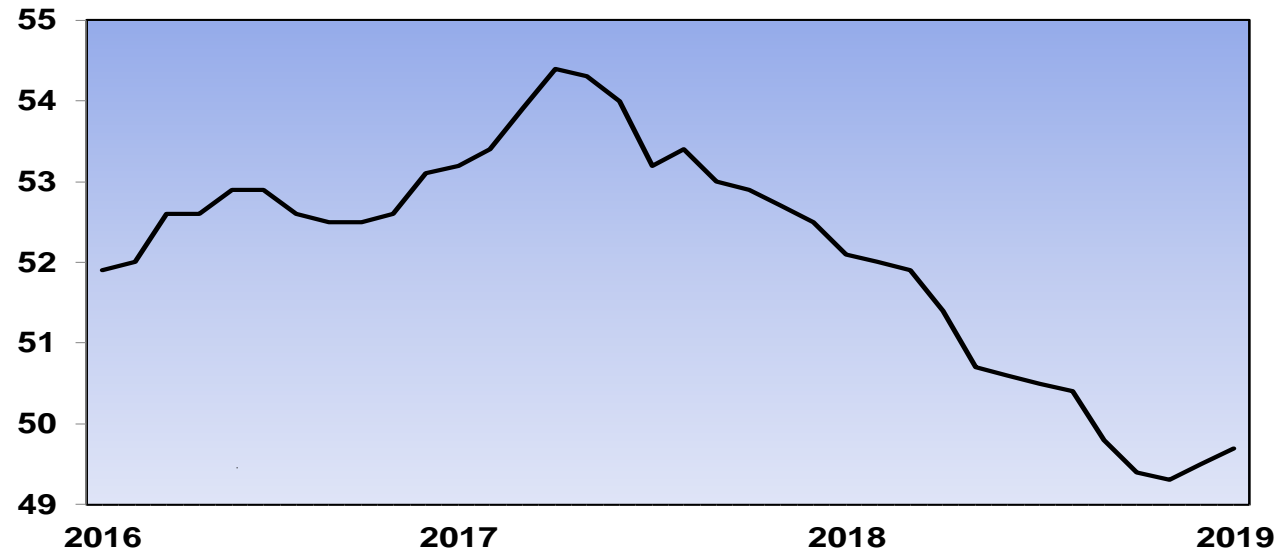
Chart 5: Manufacturing Comprises Only 11% of US Economy
US Manufacturing Output, Percent of Total US GDP
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis



2. **Services Versus Manufacturing:** In contrast to virtually all major economies, the US economy has a low exposure to manufacturing and a *very high exposure to services*. Compared with 80% for services, manufacturing comprises only 11% of US GDP. Spending on services is relatively stable and seldom contracts (see chart 5).
3. **Export Trade:** The US economy is also far less dependent upon exports when compared with other major economies. Because the current slowdown is heavily influenced by weakness in world trade, the *strong domestic orientation* of the US has sheltered GDP.
4. **Structural Advantages:** The US also enjoys numerous structural advantages over most other countries, including a smooth-functioning, market-based economy; a healthy and resilient private sector; fewer government regulations; an extremely sound banking system; steady inflows of international capital; and more favorable demographics. The US economy is also far more diversified than other major economies.

Consequently, with current GDP growth of 2%, the US economy is expanding at close to potential. *By comparison, GDP growth in most major economies has declined to rates that are below potential.* While manufacturing and trade weakness in the global economy could eventually contaminate the US economy to an increasing degree, the probability of an outright recession is less than 50%.

Chart 6: World Manufacturing Slump in a Bottoming Process
Index of World Manufacturing
Source: JP Morgan



WHAT IS YOUR FORECAST FOR THE WORLD ECONOMY?

World GDP is on track to expand by less than 3% this year, down from 3.5% in 2018 and a peak growth rate of 3.8% in 2017. Eurozone GDP could expand by 1.2%, down from a peak growth rate of 2.8% in 2017, while China's GDP has slowed from nearly 7% in 2017 and 6.5% in 2018 to 6% or less this year. *I continue to assume that world economic growth will accelerate in 2020 following another two quarters of weakness, with GDP rising at a 3.3% annual rate.* A further pick-up in growth to 3.5% in 2021 is possible. There are preliminary signs of a cyclical bottom in global manufacturing (see chart 6).

WHAT ARE YOUR ASSUMPTIONS PERTAINING TO FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS?

Leadership within foreign exchange markets is likely to change significantly over the next two years, based upon the following fundamental considerations:

- The US dollar (USD) has risen by nearly 15% over the past 18 months and is at a multi-year high. The USD is a classic *countercyclical currency*, appreciating during periods of economic weakness and financial stress, and declining during periods of economic strength.
- The USD is significantly *overbought and overvalued*, as global investors seek the safety of high-quality investments in the US.

- As the anti-dollar currency, the euro exhibits a strong *negative correlation* with the USD. The euro is undervalued by more than 15% on a purchasing-power-parity (PPP) basis, and appears attractive for patient investors.
- The pound (GBP) has declined by 28% since 2014 and is also undervalued against the USD. Assuming a reversal of the Brexit referendum, the GBP offers significant appreciation potential over a two-year period.
- Developing economy currencies are undervalued versus the USD and would benefit significantly from a world economic recovery.

Pulling it all together, the USD appears to be in a long-term peaking process and could face significant downside over the next several years. Sustained depreciation of the USD would be an enormous positive force for the world economy and US corporate earnings. A weak dollar is consistent with improving global liquidity and an expanding global economy, which in a **virtuous cycle**, would exert further downward pressure on the dollar, providing stimulus for global growth.

WHAT ARE THE KEY INVESTMENT IMPLICATIONS?

The outlook for global economic growth is the primary determinant of the direction of world financial markets. The outcome is likely to be **binary**: A synchronized recovery in the world economy would be the catalyst for a rebound in global equities and interest rates, and a decline in the US dollar. Conversely, continued economic stagnation would result in weakness in equity markets, sustained low levels in world interest rates, and continued strength in the US dollar.

A sustained recovery in the global economy should trigger a shift in equity market leadership from the US to the rest of the world. While US stocks are viewed as safer and more defensive, European, Japanese, and emerging Asian equities are more cyclically oriented, and more tightly correlated to global economic trends. Each of these markets also offers far greater value relative to that of the US. I expect non-US equities to begin to outperform the domestic equity market as evidence of a world economic revival becomes more apparent and widespread.



Robert F. DeLucia, CFA, was formerly Senior Economist and Portfolio Manager for Prudential Retirement. Prior to that role, he spent 25 years at CIGNA Investment Management, most recently serving as Chief Economist and Senior Portfolio Manager. He currently serves as the Consulting Economist for Prudential Retirement. Bob has 45 years of investment experience.

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CBOE Volatility Index: An index of implied equity market volatility, reflecting the market estimate of future volatility for the S&P 500 Stock Index over the next 30 days, using options.

MSCI Emerging Market Index: An index of equity market performance for developing markets, primarily in Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe. The index tracks both large-cap and small-cap stocks and is weighted by market capitalization.

MSCI World Ex US Index: Measures the performance of the large and mid cap segments of world, excluding US equity securities. It is free float-adjusted market-capitalization weighted.

Russell 2000 Small-Cap Index: Is an index measuring the performance of approximately 2,000 small-cap companies within the United States.

S&P 500® Index: Measures the performance of 500 widely held stocks in US equity market. Standard and Poor's chooses member companies for the index based on market size, liquidity and industry group representation. Included are the stocks of industrial, financial, utility, and transportation companies. Since mid 1989, this composition has been more flexible and the number of issues in each sector has varied. It is market capitalization-weighted.

State Street Investor Confidence Index: measures investor confidence or risk appetite quantitatively by compiling actual buying and selling patterns of institutional investors.

US Trade-Weighted Dollar Index: An index that measures the value of the US dollar in relationship with other currencies, statistically weighted on the basis of importance to the US as trading partners.

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