Economic Brief: Shadow of Doubt

Not all pauses are created equal. Jon Manchester, CFA, CFP® (Senior Vice President, Chief Strategist, Wealth Management, and Portfolio Manager, Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing), shares how this one mattered.

There is power in the pause. Take a breath, stop to think, sleep on it. In this rapid reaction, first to land the 'digital' punch world, we could probably all benefit from a hesitation move. This is well understood in the field of psychology, where the late Austrian psychologist Viktor Frankl is credited with saying "Between stimulus and response, there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom." That power is also appreciated by the financial markets, particularly when the pause removes—at least temporarily—a perceived impediment. A mere week after announcing sweeping "Liberation Day" tariffs in early April, President Trump largely shelved the plan for 90 days. He explained that people "were getting a little bit yippy, a little bit afraid." The remark, in keeping with the President's signature off-the-cuff style, lent support to the idea of a "Trump put;" broadly meaning that the President uses the markets as a barometer for his policies and then adjusts accordingly. Equity investors clearly had a case of the yips: the Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 Index traded down more than 15% in response to the trade war escalation. The bond market trembled as well. The 10-year U.S. Treasury Note yield jumped roughly 30 basis points higher in a matter of days and reportedly caused Trump's inner circle to fear sparking a financial crisis.

Wall Street does enjoy a good "kick the can down the road" party, whether it is yet another increase to the debt ceiling or an injunction delaying new regulations. This time was no different. In fact, Strategas Research

Partners noted it took just 55 days for the S&P 500 to return to a new high—the fastest recovery following a 15% drawdown in history. The dizzying ascent, which resulted in the S&P 500's best quarter since December 2023. has left some market participants puzzling over the dichotomy between what they feel and what stock prices show. Amidst the noise of an unresolved trade war, Middle East hostilities, floundering consumer confidence numbers and other

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disconcerting data, it is not particularly surprising that there is a degree of cognitive dissonance involved here. This mental discomfort is actually a fairly routine aspect of investing. There is always a laundry list of doubts casting a shadow over the markets, the so-called wall of worry. The dissonance is only exacerbated by inherent contradictions in the financial markets. For example, the bad news is good news phenomenon. In recent years, weak economic data (seemingly bad) has cheered

investors conditioned for the sugar high of easier monetary policy or fiscal policy support. It creates confusion around exactly what we are rooting for as investors and an incongruous feeling as equities trade higher on disappointing news.

Not all pauses are embraced equally, however. In another high-profile pause, the Federal Reserve (the "Fed") has been in wait-and-see mode. After cutting the target Fed Funds rate from 5.5% to 4.5% in late 2024, the Fed has held steady at four subsequent meetings, citing "somewhat elevated" inflation. This pause has greatly displeased President Trump, to say the least, who wants to see an aggressive rate cutting approach by the Fed, posthaste. Current Fed Chair Jerome Powell—who Trump appointed in 2018—wisely avoids comment on government policy, but the reality is the administration's tariffs are clouding the inflation outlook, forestalling what otherwise might be easier monetary policy. This has the potential to create another shadow—in this case, a shadow Fed Chair. Powell's term as Chair is slated to end in May 2026, but Trump is threatening to name a replacement soon, creating an extended lame duck situation. According to CNN, announcing a successor this far in advance "would be an unprecedented development in the central bank's 111-year history." This may end up being simply a further attempt by Trump to jawbone monetary policy, but it certainly has the potential to further muddy the waters at a time where uncertainty is already running high.

We Now Return to Our Regularly Scheduled Programming

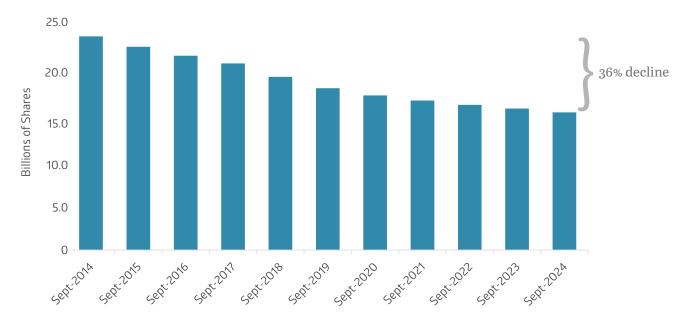
The 90-day pause on "reciprocal" tariffs allowed the markets to refocus on corporate earnings and guidance. A notable positive in this interim was reaffirmation around the equity market's dominant theme: artificial intelligence (AI). With doubts starting to creep in, the large-scale cloud service providers offered reassuring guidance in April regarding planned capital expenditures (capex) for 2025. Alphabet stuck with its \$75 billion bogey, saying it continues to have more customer demand for Cloud services than it has capacity. Meta Platforms raised its capex guidance range to \$64 to \$72 billion, up from \$60 to \$65 billion previously. Microsoft was rumored to have cancelled projects during the quarter, but its capex spending ran at a roughly \$67 billion annualized rate and the company said it expects to grow capex

Not all pauses are embraced equally, however.

in fiscal 2026. The sheer magnitude of these numbers is indicative of how these companies perceive the AI opportunity. In the lull following the storm of tariff-related headlines, the announcements provided a needed dose of confidence to equity markets and reinvigorated the AI trade. By the end of the second quarter, leading AI semiconductor companies ranked among the best performers for the three-month period, including Broadcom (+65%) and NVIDIA (+46%).

The resumption of tech leadership within the S&P 500— Semiconductors and Software were the top performing industry groups last quarter—lent an air of business as usual to the markets. It also took the large-cap index back up to an elevated valuation, trading at more than 22x estimated earnings for the next 12 months. As has been the case in recent years, however, the average stock is significantly cheaper. The S&P 500 Equal Weight Index finished June with a projected 17.8x forward price/earnings multiple. Over 200 stocks in the S&P 500 declined during the second quarter, reflecting a tougher environment for companies lacking real estate on the high-priced AI (or crypto) avenues. Nonetheless, corporate earnings reports overall helped to rally the markets. First quarter operating earnings per share rose 5.3% year-over-year for the S&P 500, led by the Communication Services, Healthcare, and Technology sectors. Standard & Poor's reports that 77% of S&P 500 companies posted higher-than-expected Q1 earnings, topping the average of roughly 73% over the trailing 13 years.

Profit growth continues to get a boost via significant share repurchases. In fact, the S&P 500 set a quarterly record for buybacks in Q1 at \$293 billion, up nearly 24% year-over-year. Share buybacks—which boost earnings per share growth by reducing shares outstanding—have not been slowed by the 1% excise tax on net buybacks, part of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. Apple led the way with \$26 billion of buybacks and amazingly holds 18 of the top 20 highest repurchase quarters. By using



Source: FactSet Fundamentals. Outstanding share balance reflects Apple's fiscal year-end, which falls on the last Saturday of each September.

some of its prodigious cash flows for buybacks—the iPhone maker generated nearly \$109 billion in free cash flow during fiscal 2024—Apple has been able reduce shares outstanding by nearly 36% over the past decade.

Favorable tax policies are likewise helping firms pad the bottom line. In 2024, the S&P 500 tax rate was a little above 19%, well below the 30% average rate since 1993. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 lowered the statutory corporate tax rate to 21% from 35% previously, boosting net margins and providing companies with added capital that they can use to repurchase shares, pay out dividends, or reinvest in the business. Meta Platforms, which earns significant revenues overseas, said it expects a 2025 tax rate in the 12% to 15% range—this after paying a 9% effective tax rate in the first quarter. Some of those tax savings likely went toward the \$13.4 billion of share buybacks Meta executed over the first few months of the year.

Foreign Exchange

For multinational firms with sprawling global supply chains, it was clearly a choppy first half of 2025. Some companies reacted to the policy uncertainty by throwing in the towel on providing earnings guidance,

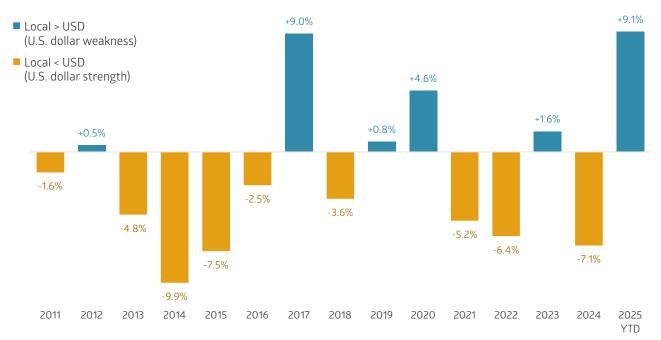
Favorable tax policies are likewise helping firms pad the bottom line.

acknowledging the folly of trying to provide accurate forecasts with so many unknowns. One silver lining for these firms may have emerged from the turbulence. The U.S. dollar declined nearly 11% versus a basket of major currencies over the first six months of the year, its worst start to a year since 1973. Although a weaker dollar does make imports more expensive, it also means that revenues earned abroad in foreign currencies translate into more dollars. This is not likely to be a major tailwind, but at the margin it can be additive.

Nike, which gets more than 50% of sales from abroad, reported a roughly one percentage point negative currency impact to reported revenue growth last quarter. It hedges some of its foreign currency exposure, but for a company squarely in the path of the tariffs storm, seeing foreign exchange turn positive might ease some pain.

Chart 2. Lost in Translation: Annual Difference Between Local and USD Returns on International Equities

Bars reflect how much the performance of the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index improved or declined when converted from local currency to U.S. dollars.



Source: MSCI, MSCI ACWI ex USA Index in local currency compared to U.S. dollars, 1/1/2011 through 6/30/2025.

Nike CFO Matt Friend noted on the company's fiscal Q4 earnings call that they have "consistently been a top payer of US duties, with an average duty rate on footwear imported into the United States in the mid-teens range." Friend added that Nike currently sources around 16% of imported footwear from China, but aims to reduce that to the high-single-digits by fiscal 2026, diversifying supply to other countries around the world.

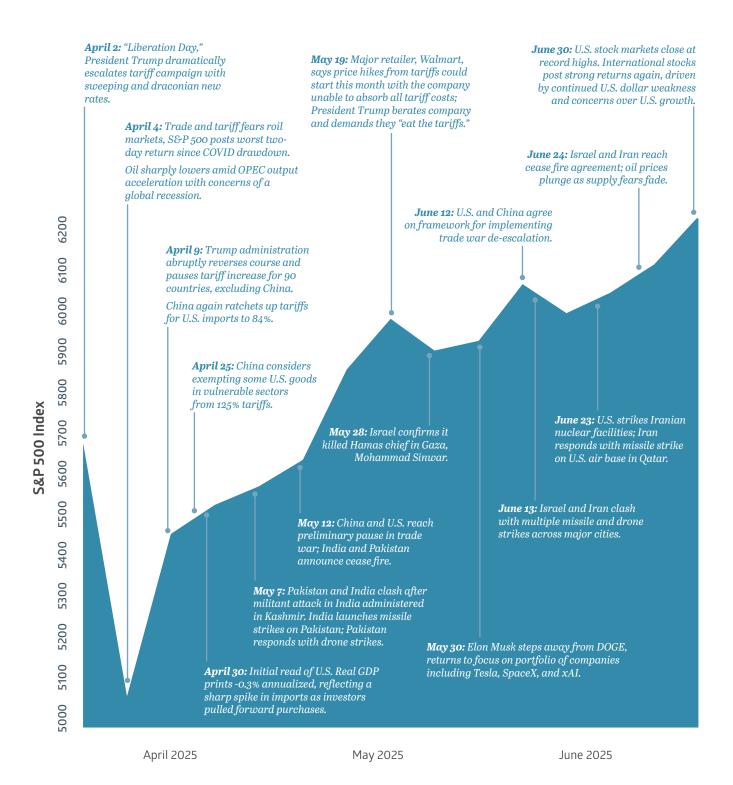
For U.S. investors, the weaker dollar has given foreign investments added allure. Through June, the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index returned a robust 8.8% in local currency terms but jumped to a 17.9% return when translated to dollars. After years of a strong dollar weighing on (unhedged) international equity returns for U.S. investors, the reversal has sharply amplified returns. Of course, the opposite is true for international investors putting assets into U.S. markets. Longer-term, we want to continue to attract capital to our shores.

The markets, as with life, never stop moving. Still, there are moments of pause, and therein lies the power. Famed economist John Kenneth Galbraith once said.

"Faced with the choice between changing one's mind and proving there is no need to do so, almost everybody gets busy on the proof." There is power in choosing our response. Wait for it....

Q2 2025 World Events

WITH THE S&P 500 INDEX AS THE BACKDROP



GRATs: An Unexpected Bridge to Philanthropy

Our Director of Estate Strategy, Dave Jones, JD, LLM, CFP®, shares how a Grantor Retained Annuity Trust (GRAT) can offer peace of mind for family priorities, and open the door to charitable giving.

When most people hear about GRATs, they often picture billionaires using clever legal structures to dodge estate taxes. Headlines tend to frame them as loopholes for the ultra-wealthy. And yes, GRATs are best suited to individuals with substantial wealth and highly appreciating assets. But that view misses a more human, and far more common, story.

In thoughtful wealth planning, GRATs often serve a deeper purpose. They're not just tax tools. They're emotional bridges. For many clients, GRATs help meet near-term family priorities, ease internal concerns, and unlock a broader vision—one that may include charitable giving.

Meeting Family Needs First: The Quiet Prerequisite to Charitable Giving

Even among those with the means and potential to be transformative givers, philanthropy isn't always the first thing on their minds. It's not a lack of generosity. Their focus is elsewhere: on family.

There's a quiet, internal preoccupation with unresolved family needs:

- Have I provided enough for my children's long-term security and opportunities?
- Should I make a gift now to support my sibling if they ever face unexpected needs?
- Should I set aside resources to support my grandchildren's future before committing to a significant charitable gift?

These are not fleeting concerns. They carry real emotional weight that can keep clients anchored in the present. Even when there's a genuine desire to give back, that intention often sits on the sidelines until family support feels complete.

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In many cases, clients aren't actively weighing charitable plans against family obligations. Philanthropy just doesn't fully enter the picture until they feel settled, both financially and emotionally, about what they're doing for loved ones. GRATs can be a surprisingly effective way to address this internal tension.

GRATs in Action: Meeting Family Needs Without Sacrificing Flexibility

A GRAT allows a person to transfer appreciating assets into a trust, retain annuity payments over a set term, and pass the remaining appreciation to beneficiaries—often family members—with minimal or no tax consequences.

GRATs work especially well for individuals with taxable estates and concentrated positions in high-growth assets, such as closely held business interests or technology stocks. These assets are ideal because even modest growth above the IRS's assumed interest rate (the Section 7520 rate) can result in meaningful transfers outside the taxable estate.

The benefit? Clients can in many cases provide significant support for family in the near-term without needing

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How GRATs Can Support Family and Philanthropy

Samantha's story presents a hypothetical situation based on common planning scenarios; for illustrative purposes only.

Consider Samantha, a successful tech entrepreneur who built significant wealth through her company's growth and early investments in the innovation economy. She has three adult children, two brothers, and several nieces and nephews pursuing college and professional educations. She also wanted to support first-generation college students and fund early-stage cancer research.

In many families, loved ones have different levels of comfort with giving. GRATs can help align those perspectives by addressing near-term family needs and making room for future generosity.

Despite her financial capacity, Samantha hesitated. She wanted to give roughly \$5 million to each of her children, \$3 million to each of her brothers, and \$2 million to nieces and nephews—a total of \$23 million in near-term support that would give her peace of mind. Even with the higher lifetime exemption of \$15 million

starting in 2026, making all of these gifts outright would trigger significant gift tax liabilities.

Working with her advisors, Samantha established a series of short-term rolling GRATs, funded with a concentrated position in a fast-growing tech stock. The GRAT structure allowed the assets' appreciation to pass efficiently to her family with minimal tax exposure, preserving her broader financial plan.

Once her family support strategy was in place and successful, Samantha felt an emotional shift. She moved forward with a \$10 million scholarship endowment and helped launch a cancer research institute—initiatives she had long intended to pursue but had put on hold.

The GRATs didn't change her values. They simply gave her the peace of mind to act on them.

to sell assets or tie up large amounts of cash. With that foundation in place, space can open up for longer-term goals and values-driven planning.

The Real Role of GRATs in Philanthropy

Despite their reputation as technical estate planning vehicles, GRATs can play a more personal role:

- They remove emotional barriers that quietly delay charitable giving
- They allow clients to support family without disrupting broader financial plans
- They provide structure and tax-efficiency, which in turn brings clarity and confidence

They aren't the only option. Some clients choose to integrate other strategies to achieve their family and charitable goals. But in the right situations, GRATs can do more than simply transfer wealth or minimize taxes. They help clients move from uncertainty to purposeful action.

Planning With Purpose

GRATs aren't magic. They must be carefully designed to comply with IRS rules and depend on performance of underlying assets. But when aligned with broader goals, they become more than just technical tools. They become bridges between questions and clarity, between responsibility and impact.

For many families, generosity begins with a simple question: have I done enough for the people I love?

In the hands of thoughtful clients and advisors, GRATs help answer that question. Once in place and successful, clients may find they're ready to move beyond family giving.

And that's what makes GRATs not just a tax strategy, but a meaningful bridge between stewardship and lasting impact.

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Spotlight: A Closer Look at the One Big Beautiful Bill

Understanding the newest wave of tax reform—and how it might affect you.

On July 4, President Trump signed the "One Big Beautiful Bill" Act into law, marking the most sweeping tax changes since the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). The law introduces a mix of permanent extensions, temporary enhancements, and entirely new programs.

To help make sense of what's changed, we've grouped the key provisions by topic—covering individual income tax, estate planning, charitable giving, business ownership, and new savings programs for children—so you can more easily see what may apply to your financial picture.

Summary of Major Tax Reforms

Individual Income Tax

Many of the temporary provisions from the 2017 tax law are now permanent, including current tax brackets and the expanded standard deduction. These changes are expected to benefit a broad range of taxpayers, especially retirees.

- The TCJA's income tax brackets are now permanent; the top rate remains 37%.
- Standard deduction made permanent at \$15,750 (Single) and \$31,500 (Married Filing Jointly, "MFJ").
- An extra \$6,000 deduction is available for seniors; however, the provisions expire in 2028 unless extended.
- Approximately 90% of seniors are projected to avoid federal income tax on Social Security, though the benefits themselves remain taxable.

Estate Planning

The law locks in historically high estate tax exemptions, which may help high-net-worth families plan with more confidence.

- The estate tax exemption will reach \$15 million per person in 2026, and is now permanent.
- Spousal portability remains, allowing a surviving spouse to inherit unused exemption amounts.

Did You Know?

90% of seniors are projected to avoid federal tax on Social Security income under this law.

The average page count of major U.S. tax bills is over 1,000 pages—this one came in at 870.

The top marginal tax rate of 37% is now permanent for the first time since 2017.

Tips & Overtime Income

For some workers, the bill provides a new income tax exemption for tips and overtime pay, subject to income thresholds.

- Up to \$25,000 in tip and overtime income is exempt from federal income tax.
- Still subject to employment tax and reporting requirements.
- · This benefit expires in 2028.

State and Local Tax (SALT) Deduction

After years of debate, the SALT deduction cap has been lifted, at least for now, for many taxpayers.

- The SALT deduction cap increases to \$40,000 for AGIs under \$500,000.
- It phases down to \$10,000 for AGIs over \$600,000.
- Applies equally to all filing statuses (marriage penalty).
- · Scheduled to revert in 2030.

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Charitable Giving

The law offers expanded incentives for charitable giving, including some new options for non-itemizers.

- Non-itemizers can now deduct up to \$2,000 (MFJ) or \$1,000 (Single) in charitable donations.
- Itemizers face a new 0.5% AGI floor for deductibility (similar to medical expense deductibility).
- The 60% AGI limit on cash donations to public charities is now permanent.

Business Owners

Business owners will benefit from the return of full bonus depreciation and continued access to state tax deduction strategies at the entity level.

- 100% bonus depreciation reinstated for assets placed in service after January 2025.
- Deductibility of state and local taxes via elective pass-through entity tax (PTET) regimes is preserved.
- 20% Section 199A deduction for Qualified Business Income made permanent.

"Trump Accounts" for Children

A new savings program aims to help families invest early in their children's future.

- Children born between 2025–2028 receive a \$1,000 federally funded account from the IRS.
- Parents may contribute up to \$5,000/year; employers up to \$2,500 (no deductions for either).
- Funds must be invested in approved U.S. mutual funds or ETFs.
- Distributions are generally prohibited before age 18 and fully taxable when withdrawn.

What This Could Mean for You

These reforms could create meaningful planning opportunities, especially for retirees, business owners, and high-income earners. But benefits vary based on your

WHEN THE NEW TAX PROVISIONS SUNSET

JONSET				
Provision	Status	Notes		
Tip & Overtime Exemption	O Temporary	Ends 2028		
SALT Cap Increase	O Temporary	Ends 2030		
Trump Accounts for Children	O Temporary	Births 2025- 2028		
Standard Deduction (Seniors)	O Temporary	Ends 2028		
Estate Tax Exemption (\$15M)	☑ Permanent	-		
TCJA Brackets	☑ Permanent	-		
60% AGI Charitable Giving Limit	☑ Permanent	-		

unique circumstances, and some provisions will expire unless extended.

Whether or not action is needed now, understanding how the law intersects with your financial plan can help position you more effectively for the future.

Want to Talk It Through?

If you'd like help assessing how these changes could affect your financial picture, reach out to your Bailard team or email tax@bailard.com. We're happy to start the conversation and explore what's possible.

What Matters Most Hasn't Changed

By Dave Harrison Smith, CFA, Chief Investment Officer

Editor's Note: We're proud to share this piece from Dave, who took the reins as Bailard's Chief Investment Officer (CIO) on July 1, succeeding Eric Leve, CFA. With cleareyed perspective and deep respect for what endures, he reflects on what this role means to him and how he plans to build on the firm's strong foundation.

When I joined Bailard in 2009 as a Client Associate, I didn't fully know what path I was setting out on. But I knew I had landed somewhere special. The role gave me a front-row seat at the intersection of research and relationships. I wasn't just learning how the investment market works, I was learning how to make it work for real people. I was immediately drawn to Bailard's entrepreneurial spirit and culture of shared ideas.

Over time, I gravitated toward technology investing. The pace of change and complexity captivated me, and I enjoyed the intellectual challenge of separating hype from substance. I've spent most of the last decade immersed in tech: first as an analyst, then a co-portfolio manager, and ultimately leading our tech strategies.

In 2021, I was promoted to Executive Vice President and began working more closely with Eric Leve, our longtime CIO. That shift didn't take me away from research, which I still love. Instead, it gave me a broader view of our investment platform. Eric's mentorship during this time was invaluable. As I move into the CIO role, I do so with deep appreciation for Bailard's enduring approach and a clear understanding of what remains essential to our philosophy.

Eric has dedicated 38 years to Bailard, helping shape how we invest and playing a meaningful role in many careers. While he's stepping back from firmwide leadership, he continues to co-manage our international portfolios. It's a well-earned change in his career, one that reflects not just personal longevity, but the strength and depth of the firm. As our CEO, Sonya Mughal, has shared, "Careers like Eric's don't happen by chance.

They reflect the kind of culture we've built at Bailard, one rooted in shared purpose where people grow and stay for all the right reasons." Many colleagues have dedicated their professional lives here, serving clients across decades and market cycles. That kind of continuity matters.

Transitions like this are meaningful, but they don't require a shift in philosophy. Bailard has long invested with patience, rigor, and purpose—and that won't change. We'll still rely on deep research and shared insight, guided by the trust clients place in us. We'll be opportunistic when it makes sense and patient when it doesn't.

In this new role, I bring energy and focus, with a commitment to exploring new ideas, embracing innovation, and helping ensure client portfolios are positioned for both today and tomorrow. We have a strong team in place. My job is to support them, challenge them, and help them thrive.

Peter Hill, who served as both CIO and later CEO of Bailard, was known for saying, "Always hire someone smarter than yourself." It's a philosophy I've carried with me, and one that feels especially true when I look around the table. Working with such capable and focused colleagues raises the standard in the best possible way. It's what keeps this job both humbling and rewarding.

This transition isn't about change for its own sake. It's about building steadily on what works, with both continuity and care, all in the same spirit that has long defined our work. I'm grateful for the foundation that's been laid, and for the chance to carry forward what matters most.

Thank you for your continued trust in Bailard. I'm honored to serve you in this role.

Market Performance As of June 30, 2025

U.S. Interest Rates	9/30/2024	12/31/2024	3/31/2025	6/30/2025
Cash Equivalents				
90-Day Treasury Bills	4.59%	4.32%	4.20%	4.29%
Federal Funds Target	5.00%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%
Bank Prime Rate	8.00%	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%
Money Market Funds	4.88%	4.37%	4.24%	4.24%
Bonds				
10-Year U.S. Treasury	3.78%	4.57%	4.17%	4.23%
10-Year AA Municipal	2.77%	2.95%	3.37%	3.40%
U.S. Bond Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025	QUARTER	SIX MONTHS	YEAR TO DATE	ONE YEAR
U.S. Bonds	0.050/	2.700/	2.700/	F 200/
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Treasury Index	0.85%	3.79%	3.79%	5.30%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate Index	1.82%	4.17% 4.02%	4.17%	6.91%
		/1 (1) 2%	4.02%	6.08%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index Bloomberg Barclays U.S. 1-15 Municipal Blend Index	1.21% 0.70%	1.09%	1.09%	2.63%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. 1-15 Municipal Blend Index	0.70%	1.09%	1.09%	2.63%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. 1-15 Municipal Blend Index Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025				2.63%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. 1-15 Municipal Blend Index	0.70%	1.09%	1.09%	2.63% ONE YEAR
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. 1-15 Municipal Blend Index Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks	0.70%	1.09%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14%
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. 1-15 Municipal Blend Index Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500	0.70% QUARTER 10.94%	1.09% SIX MONTHS	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54%
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73%
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48%	
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97% 17.84%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73% 17.22%
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97% 17.84%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73% 17.22% 13.70%
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97% 17.84% 3.79%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73% 17.22%
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index International Stocks MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East), net dividends MSCI Emerging Markets, net dividends	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97% 17.84% 3.79%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73% 17.22% 13.70%
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index International Stocks MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East), net dividends	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97% 17.84% 3.79% 11.78% 11.99%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00% 19.45% 15.27%	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00% 19.45% 15.27%	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73% 17.22% 13.70% 17.73% 15.29% ONE YEAR
Global Stock Market Total Returns (US\$) through 6/30/2025 U.S. Stocks S&P 500 Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East), net dividends MSCI Emerging Markets, net dividends Alternatives (US\$) through 6/30/2025	0.70% QUARTER 10.94% 4.97% 11.97% 17.84% 3.79% 11.78% 11.99%	1.09% SIX MONTHS 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00% 19.45% 15.27% SIX MONTHS	1.09% YEAR TO DATE 6.20% -3.16% -0.48% 6.09% 6.00% 19.45% 15.27% YEAR TO DATE	2.63% ONE YEAR 15.14% 5.54% 9.73% 17.22% 13.70% 17.73% 15.29%

 * Q2 2025 data not yet released, and assumed to be same as the Q1 2025 return.

Sources: FactSet, the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries, ICE. **Past performance is no indication of future results.** All investments have the risk of loss.

ABOUT THE 9:05

Since 1978, we've held a weekly company-wide meeting during which we talk about the prior week's activities and those anticipated in the week to come. We refer to this meeting, which begins just after nine each Monday morning, as "the 9:05." Just as the 9:05 enables us to share our knowledge and insights with each other, this newsletter provides us with a valuable means of communicating with our clients. Hence its title: the 9:05.

Disclosures

The information in this publication is based primarily on data available as of June 30, 2025 and has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but its accuracy, completeness, and interpretation are not guaranteed. We do not think it should necessarily be relied on as a sole source of information and opinion.

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