

Market Commentary

February 6, 2025

January Market Performance

Equity markets delivered positive returns in January, despite some volatility, as investors evaluated the incoming administration's economic agenda, the Federal Reserve's monetary policy outlook, and the latest advancements in AI technology. All three major U.S. indices ended the month in positive territory, with the S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average, and NASDAQ gaining 2.8%, 4.8%, and 1.7%, respectively. Overseas markets followed suit, with the MSCI ACWI ex U.S. advancing 4.0%.

Fixed income markets also posted positive returns in January, with Treasury yields remaining stable and credit spreads tightening. The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index gained 0.5% for the month, while high yield bonds and bank loans maintained their strong momentum from 2024, returning 1.4% and 0.7%, respectively.

US Trade Policy Update

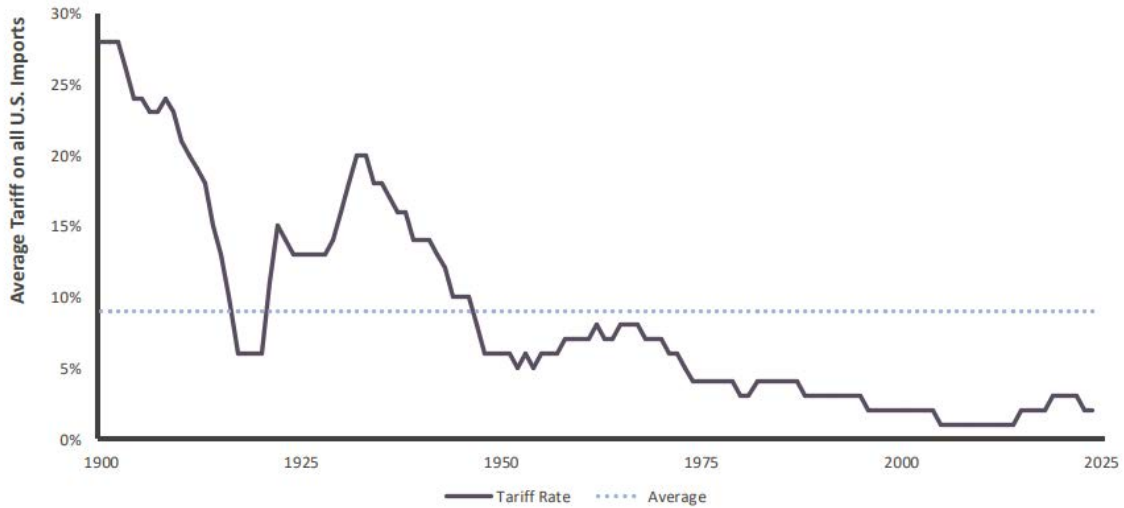
President Trump recently indicated an intent to implement 25% tariffs on Canadian and Mexican goods and 10% tariffs on Chinese goods and Canadian energy imports. Negotiations between the Trump administration and these trading partners are ongoing and the actual implementation of the announced tariffs remains fluid.

By raising tariffs, President Trump is aiming to achieve a combination of the following outcomes:

- Increased onshoring of manufacturing and other critical inputs to the U.S. economy
- Increased cooperation from other countries on issues unrelated to trade
- Increased revenue to pay for campaign fiscal promises in advance of negotiating a Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) extension

As illustrated in the chart on the following page, prior to the recent announcement, the average U.S. tariff was near a 100-year low.

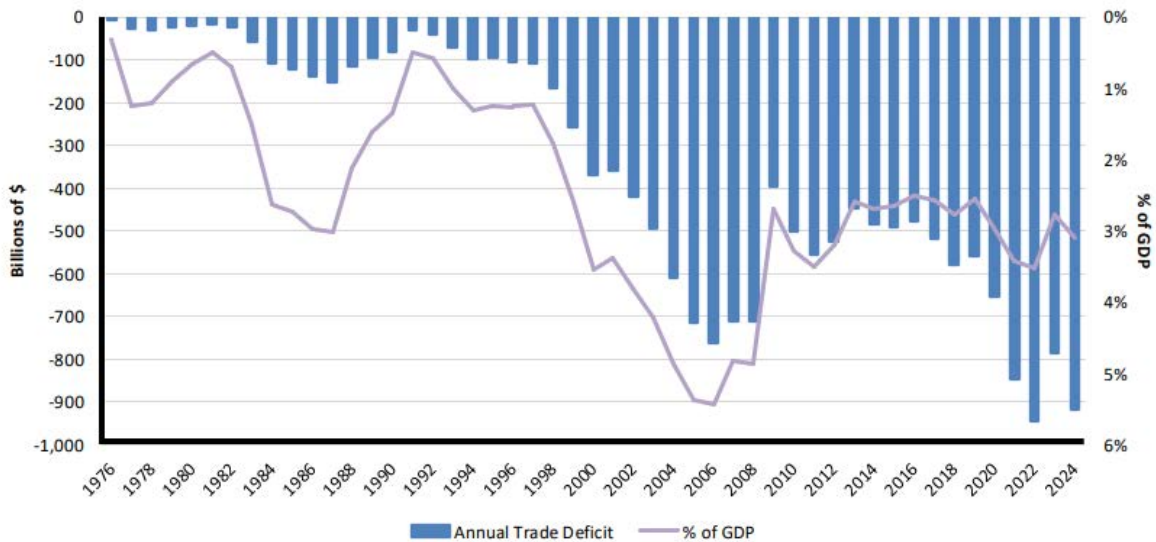
Historical U.S. Tariff Rate



Source: Tax Foundation as of December, 31 2024.

The United States trade deficit sits at an all-time high of nearly \$1 trillion, a stark contrast to levels before 2000. China, Mexico, Canada, and the European Union account for the largest deficits, drawing the greatest focus.

U.S. Trade Deficit



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The Operose team continues to monitor policy changes and their potential impact on financial markets and client portfolios. Please reach out to our team anytime with questions.

U.S. Equity Returns

	Jan	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
S&P 500	2.8%	2.8%	26.4%	11.9%
Russell 3000	3.2%	3.2%	26.3%	11.3%
NASDAQ	1.7%	1.7%	30.4%	12.2%
Dow Jones	4.8%	4.8%	18.9%	10.4%

Style Index Returns

	Month-to-Date			Year-to-Date		
	Value	Core	Growth	Value	Core	Growth
Large	4.6%	3.2%	2.0%	4.6%	3.2%	2.0%
Mid	3.5%	4.3%	6.4%	3.5%	4.3%	6.4%
Small	2.1%	2.6%	3.2%	2.1%	2.6%	3.2%

Non-U.S. Equity Returns

	Jan	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
ACWI	3.4%	3.4%	20.7%	8.4%
ACWI ex. US	4.0%	4.0%	10.9%	3.4%
EAFE Index	5.3%	5.3%	8.7%	5.1%
EAFE Local	4.8%	4.8%	13.7%	9.3%
EAFE Growth	5.4%	5.4%	6.3%	2.9%
EAFE Value	5.1%	5.1%	11.2%	7.3%
EAFE Small Cap	3.4%	3.4%	7.1%	0.4%
Emerging Markets	1.8%	1.8%	14.8%	-0.7%
EM Small Cap	-2.8%	-2.8%	3.7%	2.7%

Regional Returns

	Jan	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
Europe	6.9%	6.9%	9.0%	4.4%
Asia ex-Japan	0.7%	0.7%	19.3%	-0.3%
EM Latin America	9.5%	9.5%	-15.3%	2.8%
UK	5.2%	5.2%	14.7%	6.8%
Germany	9.4%	9.4%	21.7%	6.1%
France	8.1%	8.1%	2.2%	3.8%
Japan	1.6%	1.6%	5.1%	5.1%
China	0.9%	0.9%	34.8%	-4.9%
Brazil	12.4%	12.4%	-16.1%	1.9%
India	-3.6%	-3.6%	4.7%	6.5%

Real Estate Returns

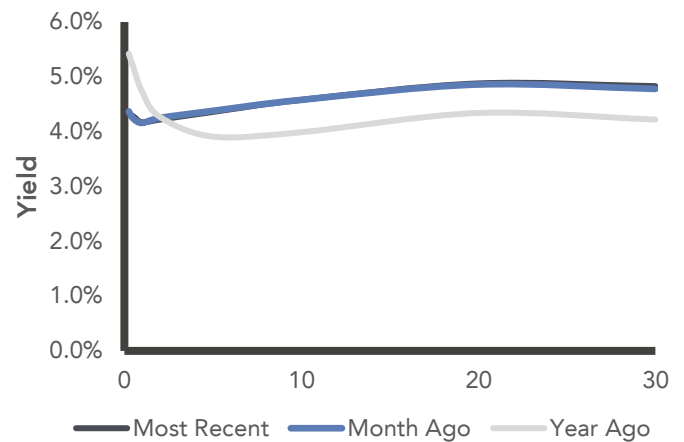
	Qtr	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
NCREIF NPI National*	0.9%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.8%
FTSE NAREIT	1.2%	1.2%	10.9%	-1.5%

*Returns as of December 31, 2024

Fixed Income Returns

	Jan	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
Aggregate	0.5%	0.5%	2.1%	-1.5%
Universal	0.6%	0.6%	2.9%	-1.0%
Government	0.5%	0.5%	1.4%	-2.0%
Treasury	0.5%	0.5%	1.4%	-2.1%
Int. Gov/Credit	0.6%	0.6%	3.4%	0.5%
Long Gov/Credit	0.4%	0.4%	-2.3%	-7.5%
TIPS	1.3%	1.3%	3.0%	-1.2%
Municipal 5 Year	0.6%	0.6%	2.1%	1.0%
High Yield	1.4%	1.4%	9.7%	4.3%
Bank Loans	0.7%	0.7%	9.0%	7.0%

Yield Curve



Hedge Fund Returns

	Jan	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
HFRX Equal Wtd.	1.1%	1.1%	5.7%	2.3%
HFRX Hedged Equity	2.1%	2.1%	9.4%	5.2%
HFRX Event Driven	0.7%	0.7%	4.7%	-0.6%
HFRX Relative Value	0.9%	0.9%	5.8%	1.2%
CBOE PutWrite	2.0%	2.0%	18.5%	9.1%

Commodity Returns

	Jan	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr
GSCI Total	3.3%	3.3%	8.0%	6.8%
Precious Metals	7.6%	7.6%	36.5%	14.8%
Livestock	4.9%	4.9%	16.0%	8.9%
Industrial Metals	1.4%	1.4%	7.0%	-3.3%
Energy	1.8%	1.8%	0.2%	-3.4%
Agriculture	4.8%	4.8%	1.8%	1.7%
WTI Crude Oil	2.2%	2.2%	9.5%	6.5%
Gold	6.7%	6.7%	36.0%	15.5%

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Asset Class Returns			
Category	Index	Category	Index
U.S. Equity		Fixed Income	
S&P 500	S&P 500 Index	Aggregate	Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index
Russell 3000	Russell 3000 Index	Universal	Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index
NASDAQ	NASDAQ Composite	Government	Bloomberg U.S. Government Index
Dow Jones	DJ U.S. Composite, Float Adjusted	Treasury	Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Index
Non-U.S. Equity		Int. Gov/Credit	Bloomberg U.S. Interm Gov/ Credit Index
		Long Gov/Credit	Bloomberg U.S. Long Gov/Credit Index
ACWI	MSCI ACWI	TIPS	Bloomberg U.S. TIPS Index
ACWI ex. US	MSCI ACWI ex. US	Municipal	Bloomberg U.S. Municipal 5-YR Index
EAFE Index	MSCI EAFE Index	High Yield	Bloomberg U.S. High Yield Index
EAFE Local	MSCI EAFE Local	Bank Loans	Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index
EAFE Growth	MSCI EAFE Growth		
EAFE Value	MSCI EAFE Value		
EAFE Small Cap	MSCI EAFE Small Cap		
Emerging Markets (EM)	MSCI Emerging Markets	Hedge Fund	
EM Small Cap	MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap	HFRX Equal Weighted	HFRX Equal Weighted Strategies Index
Regional		HFRX Hedged Equity	HFRX Equity Hedge Index
Europe	MSCI AC Europe	HFRX Event Driven	HFRX Event Driven Index
Asia ex-Japan	MSCI AC Asia ex-Japan	HFRX Macro	HFRX Macro CTA Index
EM Latin America	MSCI EM Latin America	HFRX Relative Value	HFRX Relative Value Arbitrage Index
U.K.	MSCI U.K.	CBOE PutWrite	CBOE S&P 500 PutWrite Index (Defensive Equity)
Germany	MSCI Germany	Commodity	
France	MSCI France	GSCI Total	S&P GSCI
Japan	MSCI Japan	Precious Metals	Bloomberg Sub Precious Metals
China	MSCI China	Livestock	Bloomberg Sub Livestock
Brazil	MSCI Brazil	Industrial Metals	Bloomberg Sub Industrial Metals
India	MSCI India	Energy	Bloomberg Sub Energy
Real Estate		Agriculture	Bloomberg Sub Agriculture
NCREIF NPI National	NCREIF Property Index	WTI Crude Oil	Bloomberg Sub WTI Brent Crude
FTSE NAREIT	FTSE NAREIT All Reits Total Return Index	Gold	Bloomberg Sub Gold

Style Box Returns	
Category	Index
Large Value	Russell 1000® Value Index
Large Core	Russell 1000® Index
Large Growth	Russell 1000® Growth Index
Mid Value	Russell Midcap® Value Index
Mid Core	Russell Midcap® Index
Mid Growth	Russell Midcap® Growth Index
Small Value	Russell 2000® Value Index
Small Core	Russell 2000® Index
Small Growth	Russell 2000® Growth Index