

Calamos Alternatives Snapshot

December 20, 2021 (data as of December 17, 2021 unless indicated)

WEEKLY HEADLINES

Treasury Returns Trail CPI by Greatest Since the Early 1980s

Investors are experiencing the worst real returns—those adjusted for inflation—since the early 1980s. What’s more, the bond market is projecting that 10-year Treasury yields will remain below the inflation rate for the next decade.

“The persistently low level of long-term yields in the face of the steepest inflation in decades has been a major puzzle on Wall Street since it defies the textbook expectation that investors would demand higher payouts in return,” according to a [recent Bloomberg post](#).

In 1982, the last time year-on-year inflation surged as much as it did in November (6.8%), the 10-year yield neared 15%. It’s below 1.5% now.

The combination of low yields and high inflation this year is forcing bond buyers to look elsewhere for higher returns, reported the post, noting that Bloomberg’s US Treasury index has barely beaten consumer price increases even during periods of relatively tame inflation over the last decade.

Economic Releases vs. Consensus (week of 12/13)

Retail Sales: 0.3% vs. 0.8%

Fed Meeting: No Change; 0.25%

Building Permits: 1.712M vs. 1.663M

Housing Starts: 11.8%

Economic Releases this Week

Personal Income (12/23)

Personal Spending (12/23)

New Home Sales (12/23)

MORNINGSTAR WEEKLY EST. NET FLOWS (\$MIL)¹

	Last Week	2 Wks Ago	3 Wks Ago	4 Wks Ago	Weekly Streak	YTD Flows
Options Trading	259	409	345	138	62	13,791
Derivative Income	249	329	345	398	79	12,755
Multistrategy	196	55	(31)	103	2	4,611
Relative Value Arb	189	115	107	221	96	6,586
Nontraditional Bond	131	118	153	198	51	18,960
Infrastructure	91	61	(98)	168	2	5,015
Systematic Trend	64	(147)	36	23	1	932
Macro Trading	32	18	2	(6)	3	1,027
Equity Mkt Neutral	25	20	11	19	8	1,198
Event Driven	19	18	29	45	4	3,984
Convertibles	(26)	(571)	51	(117)	-2	884
Energy LPs	(28)	(57)	(164)	(38)	-4	(1,629)
Real Estate	(84)	(755)	(20)	768	-3	11,849
Long-Short Equity	(265)	7	38	32	-1	1,957
Commodities Broad	(579)	(427)	135	51	-2	10,535

BROAD INDEX PERFORMANCE¹

	1 week	MTD	QTD	YTD
S&P 500	-1.91	1.25	7.60	24.73
Russell 3000	-1.85	0.75	5.93	21.81
Russell 2000	-1.68	-1.07	-1.16	11.11
Russell 1000	-1.86	0.87	6.42	22.59
Russell Mid Cap	-1.60	0.47	2.74	18.32
MSCI EM	-1.75	0.45	-2.67	-3.64
MSCI ACWI	-1.53	1.19	3.85	15.79
MSCI World	-1.50	1.29	4.74	18.81
MSCI EAFE	-0.46	2.51	0.18	8.99
ICE BofA Global Cv Index	-1.13	-1.50	-2.49	0.92
ICE BofA All US Cv (VXA0)	-1.02	-1.73	-1.83	4.43
ICE BofA US HY Master II	0.06	1.14	-0.07	4.60
Bloomberg US Corporate	0.35	0.00	0.31	-0.97
Bloomberg US Govt/Credit	0.42	-0.04	0.47	-1.47
Bloomberg US Agg Bond	0.35	-0.04	0.23	-1.33

COMMODITIES²

	12.17.21	11.30.21	12.31.20	12.17.20
Gold	1808	1798	1891	1872
Oil	71.2	69.9	47.5	48.3
Gasoline	3.32	3.38	2.24	2.16
Bitcoin	46,240	56,879	29,027	22,830

MARKET PULSE¹

MONTH-TO-DATE			As of	YEAR-TO-DATE		
VALUE	CORE	GROWTH	12/17/2021	VALUE	CORE	GROWTH
3.22	0.87	-1.15	LARGE	21.52	22.59	23.52
2.40	0.47	-2.83	MID	23.66	18.32	9.16
0.39	-1.07	-2.48	SMALL	23.72	11.11	-0.16

Past performance is not indicative of future results. This material is provided for internal and educational purposes only and should not be construed as investment advice or an offer or solicitation to buy or sell securities. Source: ¹Morningstar (Net Flows as of previous Wed.), ²St. Louis Federal Reserve (FRED Database). FOR INVESTMENT PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

MORNINGSTAR ALTERNATIVE CATEGORIES¹

	1 week	MTD	QTD	YTD
Real Estate	0.49	3.93	9.14	32.43
Equity Market Neutral	0.27	1.93	2.94	5.84
Nontraditional Bond	-0.15	0.12	-0.61	1.10
Infrastructure	-0.17	2.56	3.64	11.17
Systematic Trend	-0.21	0.90	-1.12	4.48
Relative Value Arbitrage	-0.28	-0.20	0.02	2.59
Multistrategy	-0.35	0.74	0.44	5.66
Commodities Broad Basket	-0.58	1.74	-1.83	25.23
Event Driven	-0.62	-0.15	-0.50	3.35
Long-Short Equity	-0.78	1.17	2.57	10.26
Options Trading	-0.88	0.56	2.63	9.27
Macro Trading	-0.95	-0.14	-0.62	2.81
Derivative Income	-1.09	1.47	3.60	14.37
Convertibles	-1.26	-1.23	-1.22	2.48
Energy Limited Partnership	-2.12	-1.38	-2.37	30.89

BOND RATES²

	12.17.21	11.30.21	12.31.20	12.17.20
Effective Fed Funds Rate	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09
2-Year Treasury	0.64	0.52	0.12	0.13
10-Year Treasury	1.44	1.43	0.93	0.94
ICE BofA US Corp. AAA	2.03	2.00	1.56	1.60

INFLATION (CORE CPI, YEAR OVER YEAR) VS. 10-YEAR TREASURY YIELD

1971-2021



Source: Bespoke Investment Group

Definitions and Disclosures

The **Nontraditional Bond** category contains funds that pursue strategies divergent in one or more ways from conventional practice in the broader bond-fund universe. **Multistrategy** portfolios offer investors exposure to two or more alternative investment strategies, as defined by Morningstar's alternative category classifications, through either a single-manager or multi-manager approach. **Macro Trading** strategies, using either systematic or discretionary methods, look for investment opportunities by studying such factors as the global economy, government policies, interest rates, inflation, and market trends. **Systematic Trend** funds primarily trade liquid global futures, options, swaps, and foreign exchange contracts, both listed and over-the-counter. **Commodities Broad-basket portfolios** can invest in a diversified basket of commodity goods including but not limited to grains, minerals, metals, livestock, cotton, oils, sugar, coffee, and cocoa. **Commodities Precious Metals** can invest in precious metals such as gold, silver, platinum, and palladium. **Energy Limited Partnership** strategies invest a significant amount of their portfolio in energy master limited partnerships, also known as MLPs. **Relative Value Arbitrage** strategies seek out pricing discrepancies between pairs or combinations of securities regardless of asset class. **Equity Market Neutral** strategies attempt to profit from long and short stock selection decisions while minimizing systematic risk created by exposure to factors such as overall equity market beta, sectors, market-cap ranges, investment styles, or countries. **Event-driven** strategies attempt to profit when security prices change in response to certain corporate actions, such as bankruptcies, mergers and acquisitions, emergence from bankruptcy, shifts in corporate strategy, and other atypical events. **Real Estate** portfolios invest primarily in real estate investment trusts of various types. REITs are companies that develop and manage real estate properties. **Convertible-bond portfolios** are designed to offer some of the capital-appreciation potential of stock portfolios while also supplying some of the safety and yield of bond portfolios. **Options trading** strategies use a variety of options trades, including put writing, options spreads, options-based hedged equity, and collar strategies, among others. **Derivative Income** strategies primarily use an options overlay to generate income while maintaining significant exposure to equity market risk. **Long-Short Equity** funds hold sizeable stakes in both long and short positions in equities, exchange traded funds, and related derivatives. **Infrastructure equity funds** invest more than 60% of their assets in stocks of companies engaged in infrastructure activities. Industries considered to be part of the infrastructure sector include: oil & gas midstream; waste management; airports; integrated shipping; railroads; shipping & ports; trucking; engineering & construction; infrastructure operations; and the utilities sector.

The **S&P 500 Index** is considered generally representative of the US equity market. The **MSCI World Index** is considered generally representative of the market for developed market equities. The **MSCI Emerging Markets Index** is a free float adjusted market capitalization index cited as a measure of the performance of emerging market equities. The **MSCI ACWI Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. The **MSCI EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia, Far East)** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the US & Canada. The **Russell 3000 Index** measures the performance of 3,000 publicly held US companies based on total market capitalization, which represents approximately 98% of the investable US equity market. The **Russell 2000 Index** measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the US equity universe and includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The **Russell 1000 Index** measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the US equity universe and includes approximately 1000 of the largest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The **Russell Midcap Index** measures the performance of the mid-cap segment of the US equity universe and includes approximately 800 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The **ICE BofA US High Yield Master II Index** tracks the performance of US dollar denominated below investment grade rated corporate debt publicly issued in the US domestic market. The **Bloomberg Capital US Aggregate Bond Index** covers the US-denominated, investment-grade, fixed-rate, taxable bond market of SEC registered securities. The **Bloomberg US Government/Credit Index** is comprised of long-term government and investment-grade corporate debt securities and is generally considered representative of the performance of the broad US bond market. The **Bloomberg US Corporate Bond Index** measures the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. The **ICE BofA Global 300 Cv Index (VG00)** is a \$US/Local-denominated unmanaged index generally indicative of the overall global convertible market. The **ICE BofA All US Convertibles Index (VXA0)** is comprised of approximately 700 issues of only convertible bonds and preferreds of all qualities. Source ICE Data Indices, LLC, used with permission. ICE permits use of the ICE BofA Indices and related data on an 'as is' basis, makes no warranties regarding same, does not guarantee the suitability, quality, accuracy, timeliness, and/or completeness of the ICE BofA Indices or data included in, related to, or derived therefrom, assumes no liability in connection with the use of the foregoing and does not sponsor, endorse or recommend Calamos Advisors LLC or any of its products or services.

Oil - West Texas Intermediate (WTI - Cushing): A crude stream produced in Texas and southern Oklahoma which serves as a reference or "marker" for pricing a number of other crude streams and which is traded in the domestic spot market at Cushing, Oklahoma. **Gasoline:** Weighted average based on sampling of approximately 900 retail outlets, 8:00AM Monday. The price represents self-service unless only full-service is available and includes all taxes. **Gold - Gold Fixings Price:** The Fixings are an open process at which market participants can transact business on the basis of a single quoted price. Orders can be changed throughout the proceedings as the price is moved higher and lower until such time as buyers' and sellers' orders are satisfied and the price is said to be 'fixed'. Orders executed at the fixings are conducted as principal-to-principal transactions between the client and the dealer through whom the order is placed.

SUBSCRIBE

to receive the
**Weekly Alternatives
Snapshot**