NEXADVISORS

NEX NEWS

Keen monthly insights on both the economy and the markets

THE ECONOMY

The debate continues to rage as to whether (or not) the US economy is teetering on the precipice of a recession. While it may ultimately slip into one – it hasn't yet. This has been extremely frustrating to economists, as it appears their favorite tools are not working.

A painfully clear example being with the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, which peaked Dec'21. Despite the 2-plus year decline in the LEI, the Index of *Coincident* Indicators has remained firm. While good news for all of us in the US, clearly <u>not</u> what economist expected.

Another vivid example is with the US yield curve, which has been inverted since Nov'22. Per Piper Sandler, a yield curve inversion has led every recession in the US since 1968 by 5-22 months. Meaning, either a recession is truly imminent – or this tried & true tool is no longer as reliable.

THE MARKETS

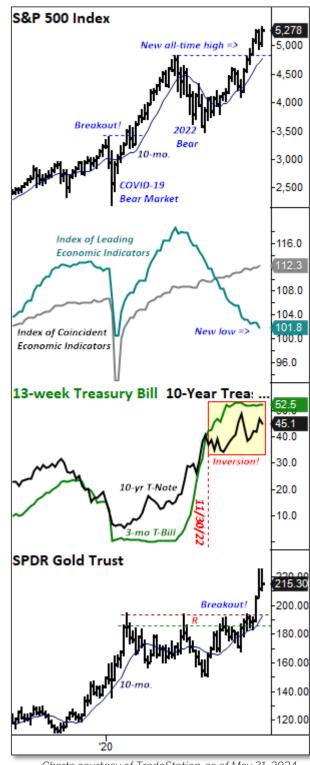
Despite the uncertainty above, the S&P 500 moved higher in May. We continue to believe stocks are in a bull market and will most likely see further gains from here.

Markets don't move in straight lines however, meaning they may well see a correction along the way. Should one develop, the Jan'22 highs in the S&P at 4,800 should serve as support. Failing to hold would be a major signal.

Finally, speaking of consolidation, gold has been moving sideways since scoring an all-time high in mid-April. Like the 4,800 level on the S&P, any pullback to the 190-200 area on GLD would likely be strong support. And also like the S&P, an important development if not!

Mike Hurley, CMT Chief Investment Officer





Charts courtesy of TradeStation, as of May 31, 2024

300 Crescent Ct., Suite 700 Dallas, Texas 75201 214-550-8350 <u>info@nexadvisors.com</u>

TRADITIONAL STRATEGIES

We start our process with traditional, modern portfolio theory models, then adjust them based on our outlook. Specifically, we seek to:

- 1) Maintain higher cash levels when we're expecting a cyclical downturn, or 'bear' market
- 2) Add gold to portfolios during periods of inflation
- 3) Tilt fixed income positions based on credit conditions and the trends in interest rates

We offer Conservative, Moderate and Aggressive models, which use stock/bond ratios of 40/60, 60/40 & 80/20, as their starting points, respectively.

ADAPTIVE STRATEGY

Our 'adaptive' model breaks from modern portfolio theory, based on the observation that markets typically become highly correlated when under stress.

This strategy applies momentum and risk parity to a universe of 10 ETFs, selecting a portfolio of 5. The portfolio is rebalanced monthly using the 60-day volatility to weight the top 5 ETFs. The goal being, to provide stock like returns with lower volatility.

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NexAdvisors is a privately owned, independent wealth manager located in Dallas, Texas, comprised of professionals with over 100 years of combined experience in the industry. We provide both traditional investment strategies along with forward-thinking approaches to help our clients meet their goals. Please visit <u>www.nexadvisors.com</u> or call us at 214-550-8350 to learn more.

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