

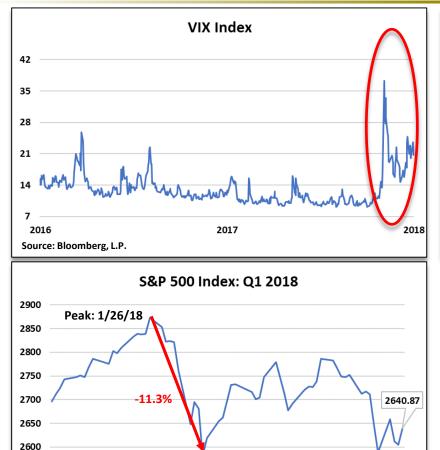
# Q2 2018 LOOK AHEAD

#### Disclaimer

Certain information in this presentation constitutes forward-looking statements. Due to various risks, uncertainties, and assumptions made in our analysis, actual events or results or actual performance of the markets covered by this presentation may differ materially from those described. The information herein reflects our current views only, is subject to change, and is not intended to be promissory or relied upon by the reader. There can be no certainty that events will turn out as presented. Data are from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.



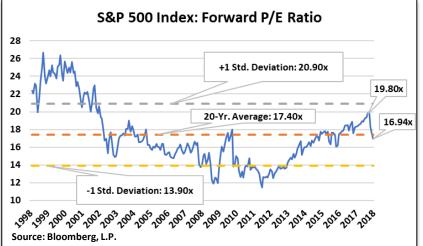
# Valuations & Volatility



Trough: 2/8/18

Mar-18

Feb-18



- □ For the first time in over two years, the VIX Index eclipsed 35, sending the market into a long overdue correction.
- □ The S&P 500 pulled back 11.3% from its all-time highs during Q1 2018, marking the first time the market has seen a correction of 10% or more in over 689 days.
- □ The pullback created a healthy reset for valuations, as the Forward P/E Ratio retreated from elevated levels back below its 20-year average.

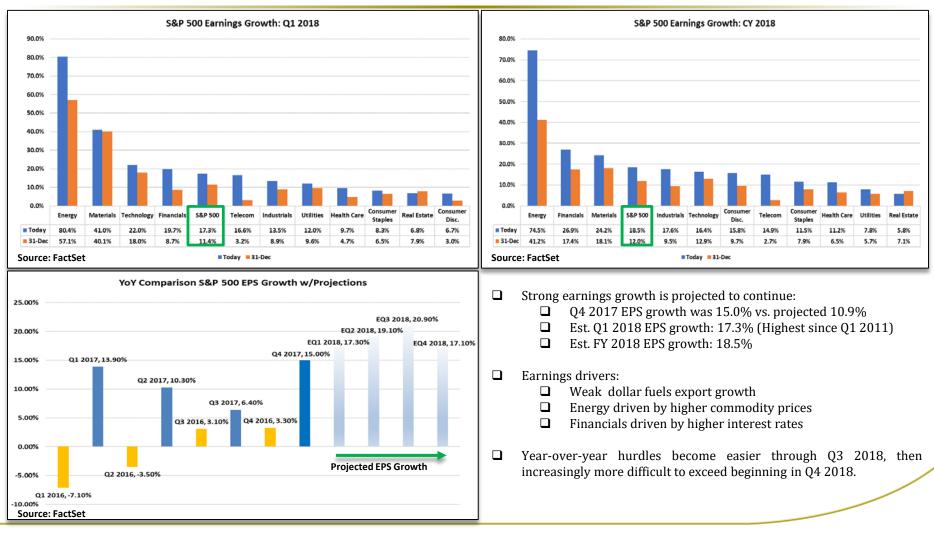


Data Source: Bloomberg, L.P., Phillips & Co.

Source: Bloomberg, L.P.

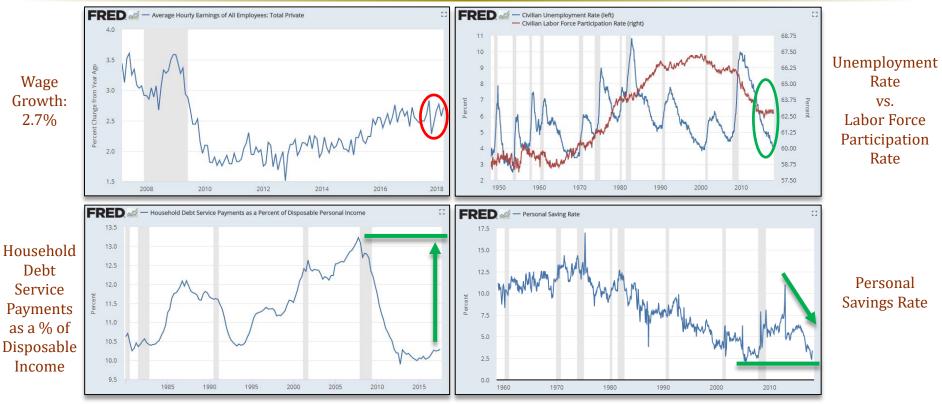
2550 Jan-18

### **Corporate Earnings**





## U.S. Consumer Strength

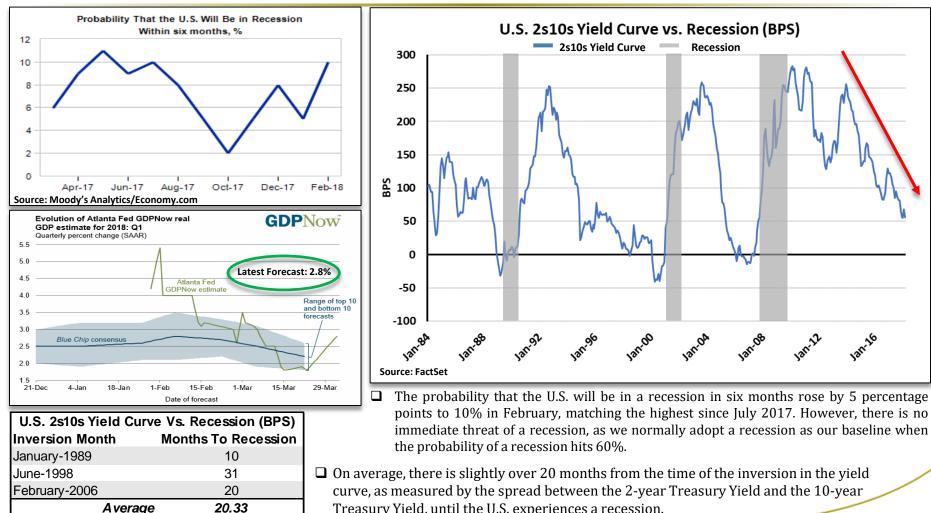


- Low unemployment matched by low labor force participation is likely impacting wage inflation or the lack thereof.
- A return to peak levels of debt service payments as a percent of disposable personal income could add as much as \$5.9 trillion in consumption over the next 10 years.
- Despite a slight uptick in the Personal Savings Rate, off of pre-recession lows of 1.9%, we can expect the U.S. consumer to maintain a muted level of savings.



Data Source: Economic Research Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; <u>https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CES0500000003</u>, <u>https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/UNRATE</u>, <u>https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/PSAVERT</u>, <u>http://phillipsandco.com/blog/questions-for-2018/</u> Data is from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.

#### **Risk of Recession**



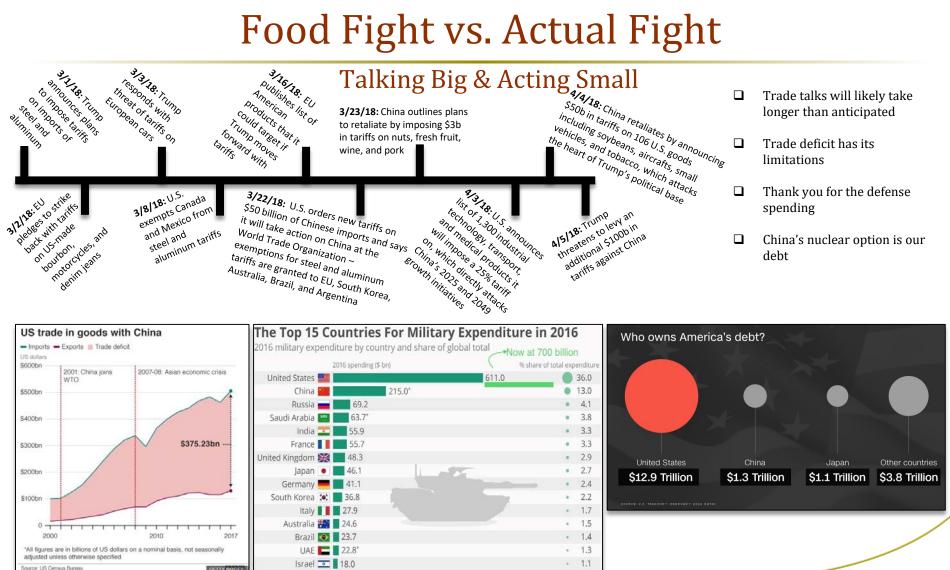
Treasury Yield, until the U.S. experiences a recession.

Data Source: Phillips & Co., https://www.frbatlanta.org/cger/research/gdpnow.aspx, https://www.economy.com/dismal/indicators/releases/usa recession/12C3D091-3CF4-405B-9B79-D74C9EC08396/United-States-Risk-of-Recession. Economic Research Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Data is from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.

Average



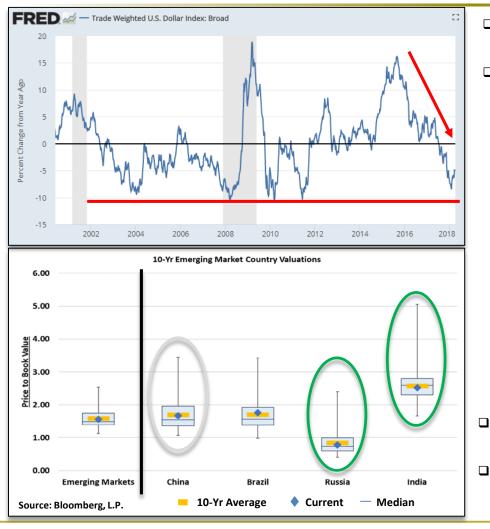
### Food Fight vs. Actual Fight



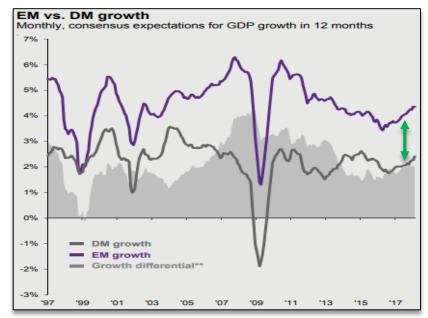
Data Source: https://www.cnbc.com/2018/04/04/the-full-list-of-us-products-that-china-is-planning-to-hit-with-tariffs.html, https://gz.com/1105337/chinas-19th-partycongress-your-five-minute-summary-of-xi-jinpings-three-hour-speech/, https://www.cnn.com/2018/03/22/politics/donald-trump-china-tariffs-trade-war/index.html, https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-china-trade/u-s-escalates-china-trade-showdown-with-tariffs-on-50-billion-in-imports-idUSKCN1HA209. https://nypost.com/2018/04/05/trump-wants-to-levy-additional-100b-in-tariffs-against-china/, http://phillipsandco.com/blog/talking-big-and-acting-small-we-hope/



# Emerging Markets (EM)



- □ Weakness in the U.S. dollar is likely to support continued growth in Emerging Market equities
- □ EM GDP growth is expected to maintain its upward trajectory, while keeping a healthy differential to Developed Market growth

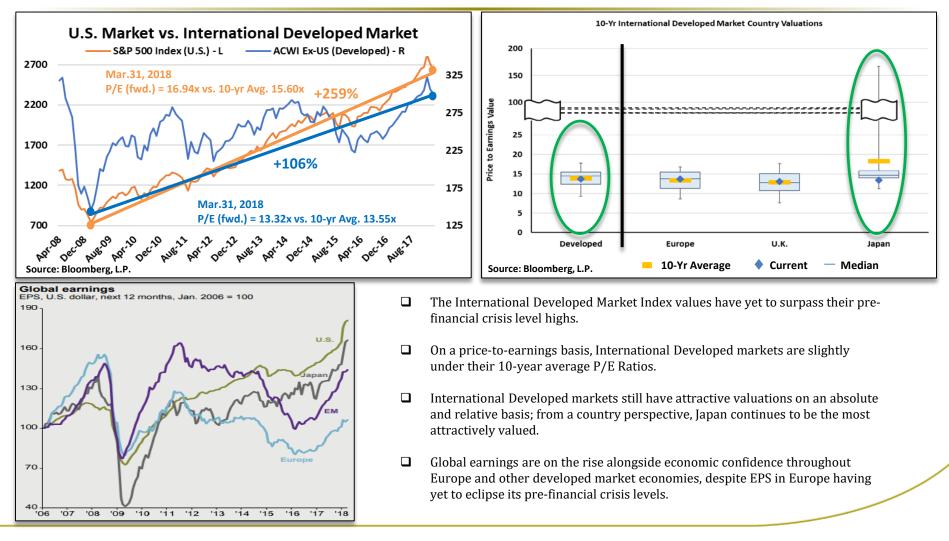


- □ Valuations within Emerging Markets are fairly valued; albeit, country specific valuations in Brazil look to be higher than average.
- India, Russia, and to some extent China, remain attractive areas to look for opportunity.

Data Source: Economic Research Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Bloomberg, L.P., https://am.jpmorgan.com/blob-gim/1383407651970/83456/MI-<u>GTM 2Q18%20(3).pdf?segment=AMERICAS US ADV&locale=en US, https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/DTWEXM</u> Data is from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.



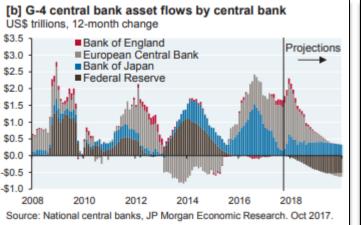
#### **International Developed Markets**

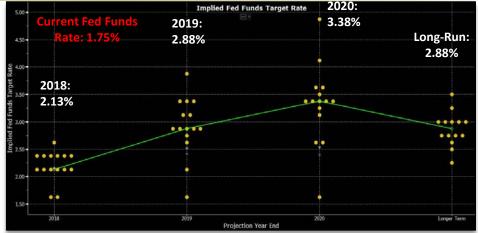


Data Source: Bloomberg, L.P., https://am.jpmorgan.com/blob-gim/1383407651970/83456/MI-GTM\_2018%20(3).pdf?segment=AMERICAS\_US\_ADV&locale=en\_US\_Data is from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.



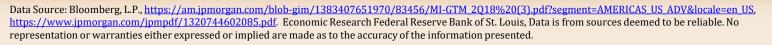
#### **Fixed Income**







- □ The Global Central Banks appear to be coordinated, bringing an end to Global QE by reversing central bank asset flows and moving toward policy normalization.
- □ The Fed is targeting 3 rate hikes in 2018, 3 hikes in 2019, and 4 hikes in 2020; the long-run projected Fed Funds Rate is estimated to be slightly below 3% at 2.88%.
- □ Inflation will be a key indicator of central bank follow-through.
- □ Investors' demand for yield has driven an increase in duration at the expense of high interest rate sensitivity.
- Keep in mind that changes in interest rates don't always correlate to changes in equity market returns.





#### Mean Reversion Dashboard

#### Style Current P/E as a % of 15-Yr Avg. P/E

	Value	Blend	Growth			
Large	107.3%	112.5%	116.2%			
Mid	103.6%	105.4%	109.3%			
Small	101.0%	110.9%	121.3%			

#### Regional Fwd P/E as a % of 10-Yr Avg. Fwd P/E



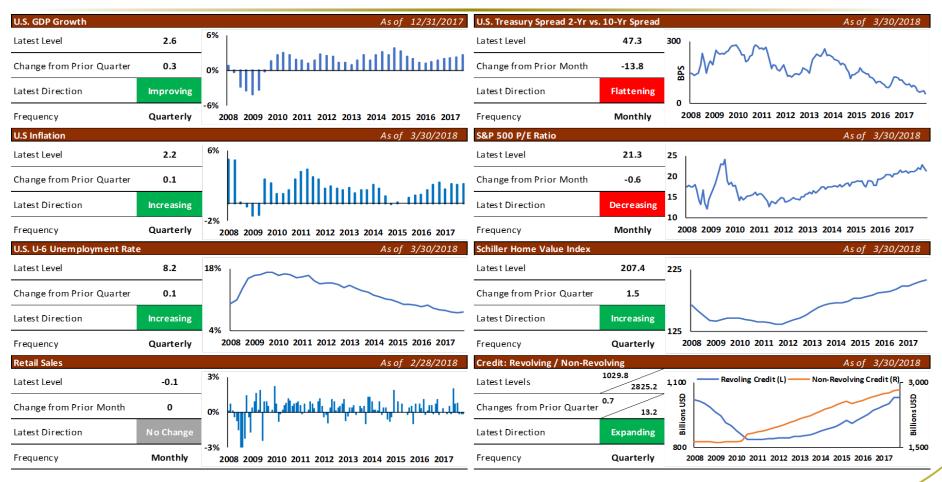
#### Sector Fwd P/E as a % of 20-Yr Avg. P/E

Financials	Technology	Health Care	Industrials	Energy	Cons. Discr.	Cons. Staples	Telecom	Utilities	Real Estate	Materials
101.6%	85.6%	87.9%	103.7%	111.4%	109.4%	101.2%	64.0%	114.1%	111.2%	113.6%

Data Source: Bloomberg LP; JP Morgan Asset Management - https://am.jpmorgan.com/blob-gim/1383407651970/83456/MI-<u>GTM 2Q18%20(3).pdf?segment=AMERICAS US ADV&locale=en US</u>. Data is from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.



#### **Economic Dashboard**



Data Source: Bloomberg LP. Data is from sources deemed to be reliable. No representation or warranties either expressed or implied are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.



# **Our View and Recommendations**

#### **Our View**

- Valuations and volatility in equity markets are likely to return to normal levels.
- Technology stocks, specifically F.A.N.G stocks, may continue to drag on broader U.S. equity valuations as they make up just over 21% of the S&P 500's market cap weighting.
- □ Strong fundamentals remain in place, as evidenced by global earnings growth and strong consumer sentiment.
- □ International Developed and Emerging Markets continue to offer the best valuations, albeit pockets of higher country specific valuations.
- □ The official end of QE and global central bank coordination of policy rate normalization is likely to continue flattening the yield curve.
- **Q** Risks of recession are likely pushed out beyond 2018 and into 2019.
- □ Demand for yield is driving a longer duration, which is leading to excessive interest rate risk for many investors.
- □ Trade war fears persist, but will likely dissipate if China realizes that selling U.S. Treasuries into the open market as retaliation will further damage the Communist Party's initiatives to turn China into a fully developed nation.

#### Recommendations

- □ Continue U.S. portfolio weightings to policy targets +/- 2%.
- □ Maintain reduced exposure to Technology.
- □ Increase exposure to Energy and Financials.
- □ Increase Emerging Markets exposure up to +3% of policy targets.
- Overweight policy weightings in Developed Markets.
- □ Continue to moderate durations around 5 years as Fed action will likely impact short-term rates and the flight to safety will likely impact long-term rates.
- □ Use frequent market dips during times of elevated volatility to deploy excess cash across policy targets.
- □ Look for opportunity in noncorrelated assets to help mitigate risk in the overall portfolio.



Data Source: Phillips & Co.



tphillips@phillipsandco.com

