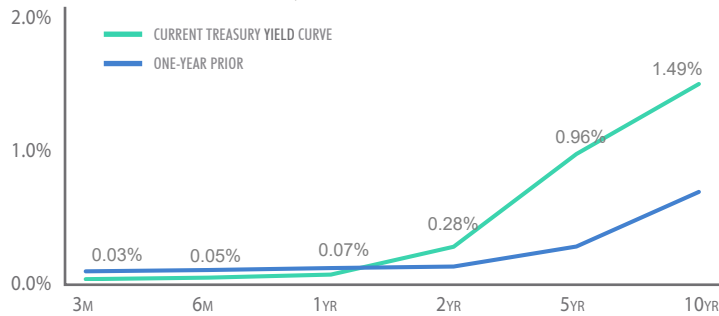


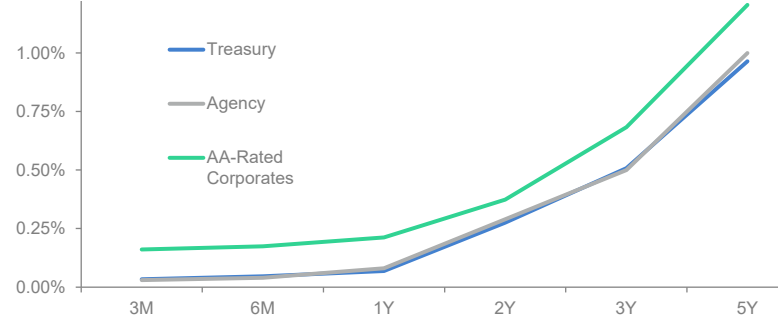


Historical Treasury Yield Curve



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 9/30/21

Market Yields



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 9/30/21

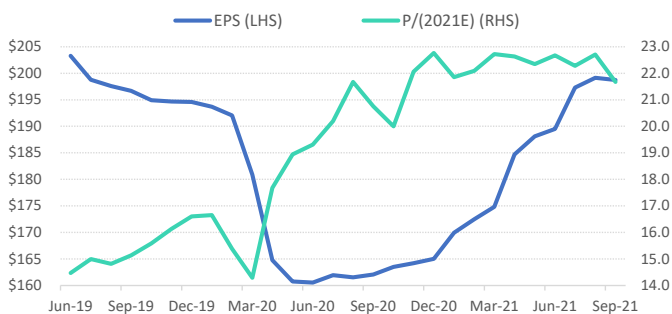
FEATURED MARKET DATA

Stock Valuations Level

U.S. equities fell in September with the S&P 500 index posting its first decline (-4.7%) since January (-1.0%). Factors that contributed to the weak performance included concerns around Fed tapering, the complex legislative environment, persistent supply constraints, rising energy costs and concerns about a potential default of Chinese property giant Evergrande. These dynamics also drove stagflation worries, a pickup in company profit warnings and concerns for weakness in third quarter earnings. That said, corporate earnings remain solid. According to FactSet, second quarter company earnings reported in July and August were mostly positive with the S&P 500 earnings up more than 90% year-over-year, near record levels. In terms of valuation, stocks on the S&P 500 index are now trading at a multiple of 22 times forward earnings, above the 20-year average of 16 times forward earnings.

Source: FactSet

Estimates for 2021 S&P 500 Earnings Over Time



Source: Bloomberg

U.S. Economic Indicators

Event	Event Date	Period	Survey	Actual	Prior / Revised (R)
Consumer Price Index (MoM)	09/14/21	AUG	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Consumer Price Index (YoY)	09/14/21	AUG	5.3%	5.3%	5.4%
Retail Sales Ex. Auto (MoM)	09/16/21	AUG	0.0%	2.0%	-1.4% (R)
Chicago Fed National Activity Index	09/23/21	AUG	0.50	0.29	0.75 (R)
Personal Income	10/01/21	AUG	0.2%	0.2%	1.1%
Personal Spending	10/01/21	AUG	0.7%	0.8%	0.3%
Core PCE (YoY)	10/01/21	AUG	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	10/08/21	SEP	500K	-	235K
Unemployment Rate	10/08/21	SEP	5.1%	-	5.2%

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. 9/30/21. Glossary terms on following page.

RECENT NEWS

Fed Turns Slightly Hawkish

If the Fed sounded less dovish at its June meeting, it is fair to call the tone in September slightly hawkish. The Fed all but confirmed its plans to begin tapering its balance sheet in November. In addition, the median forecast for the Fed Funds rate showed a possible rate hike in 2022 and a rate near 1.00% by the end of 2023. The September meeting provided the first look at 2024 projections and additional rate hikes were projected. The Fed also updated its projections for GDP growth, employment and inflation. In line with other economists' projections, the Fed sees lower growth in 2021 compared to its June forecast. More notably, the Fed raised inflation projections for 2021-2023 and expects inflation to remain above 2.0% through 2024.

Source: PMA Asset Management, www.federalreserve.gov

Contact

PAUL KRUSE

Senior Vice President, Managing Director
800.269.2363 | pkruise@pmanetwork.com

PMA Financial Network
6000 Grand Ave, Ste. 200
Des Moines, IA 50312

FEATURED ARTICLE

Tired of low rates? IPAIT is a safe solution for a complex financial environment.

By: Paul Kruse, Senior Vice President – Director, Iowa PMA Financial Network, LLC

No one needs to be reminded that investment rates continue to be as low as we've seen in quite some time and based on what we're hearing from the Federal Reserve, rates aren't expected to improve until sometime in 2023. With the collection of property taxes, municipalities receiving ARPA Funds and Iowa school districts starting to receive State Aid again in September, we continue to see banks flush with cash.

Recently I've received a number of calls from IPAIT clients, stating that their bank has requested they move funds out of the bank due to an abundance of public funds. All of the clients had existing IPAIT accounts set up, although in a couple cases, we needed updated authorized personnel information. The key point here, is that they were already set up to invest.

In late 2019, back when COVID-19 wasn't a thing yet and face-to-face board meetings were normal, I had presented to a county solid waste district. After my presentation, was asked by the Board Chair, "is there any reason why we shouldn't pass the IPAIT resolution?" I responded that I couldn't think of any reason why they shouldn't pass the resolution but there were plenty of reasons why they should. Although there are in excess of 450 Iowa public bodies that have passed the resolution, I thought it might be a good time to dust off the reasons why it makes a lot sense to go ahead and get their Board or Council to pass it.

If your City, County, Municipal Utility or any 28E hasn't passed the resolution, here's a few reasons to think about why you should;

1. No cost;
2. Provides an investment option for liquid funds;
3. Can be a good barometer for rates in Iowa;
4. Get certificate of deposit rates from outside area banks;
5. An option for funds when local bank does not want public funds (property tax time);
6. Diversification;
7. Laddering of bond proceeds during construction phase;
8. Bank philosophies/ownership can change;
9. Ability to have unlimited accounts with daily access;
10. Online investment capabilities and reporting; and,
11. If utilized, benefits the sponsoring association.

The IPAIT fund has been around since 1987 and provides a soundly-managed, safe investment vehicle for Iowa's public entities designed to accrue benefits through aggregation of funds.

To Learn More: Visit our website at www.ipait.org

About the Author:

Paul Kruse began marketing the IPAIT program in 1992 and is available to meet with your board of supervisors to further explain the Fund. Paul joined PMA in 2011 and is responsible for marketing PMA Securities' Cash Flow Management programs throughout the state of Iowa. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Iowa State University and holds series 50, 52 and 63 securities licenses.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Fund closed to transactions and participant inquiries:

Thursday, November 11	Verternas Day
Thursday, November 25	Thanksgiving
Friday, December 24	Christmas-Observed

About IPAIT

Established in 1987, IPAIT offers a unique online proprietary reporting system with real-time account inquiry and transaction capabilities via the internet. Participants may invest, withdraw funds, check balances and transaction history, and make vendor payments through this system. There is no limit to the number of individual accounts, no minimum balance requirement, and no limit to the number of transactions per month.

Participants enjoy toll-free access to experienced administrators for personalized service regarding their IPAIT account. Contact IPAIT today to learn more about the additional benefits IPAIT offers.

Contact

PAUL KRUSE

Senior Vice President, Managing Director
800.269.2363 | pkruise@pmanetwork.com

PMA Financial Network
6000 Grand Ave, Ste. 200
Des Moines, IA 50312

IPAIT Sponsors



www.ipait.org | (800) 872-4024

This document was prepared by PMA Asset Management, LLC for participants of the fund and clients of the firm and its affiliated PMA entities, as defined below. It is being provided for informational and/or educational purposes only without regard to any particular user's investment objectives, financial situation or means. The content of this document is not to be construed as a recommendation, solicitation or offer to buy or sell any security, financial product or instrument, or to participate in any particular trading strategy in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation, or trading strategy would be illegal. Nor does it constitute any legal, tax, accounting or investment advice of services regarding the suitability or profitability of any security or investment. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other government agency. Although the Fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1.00/share, it is possible to lose money by investing in the Fund. Although the information contained in this document has been obtained from third-party sources believed to be reliable, PMA cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information. It is understood that PMA is not responsible for any errors or omissions in the content in this document and the information is being provided to you on an "as is" basis without warranties or representations of any kind.

Securities, public finance services and institutional brokerage services are offered through PMA Securities, LLC. PMA Securities, LLC is a broker-dealer and municipal advisor registered with the SEC and MSRB, and is a member of FINRA and SIPC. PMA Asset Management, LLC, an SEC registered investment adviser, provides investment advisory services to local government investment pools and separate accounts. All other products and services are provided by PMA Financial Network, LLC. PMA Financial Network, LLC, PMA Securities, LLC and PMA Asset Management, LLC (collectively "PMA") are under common ownership.

Securities and public finance services offered through PMA Securities, LLC are available in CA, CO, FL, IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, OK, PA, SD, TX and WI. This document is not an offer of services available in any state other than those listed above, has been prepared for informational and educational purposes and does not constitute a solicitation to purchase or sell securities, which may be done only after client suitability is reviewed and determined. All investments mentioned herein may have varying levels of risk, and may not be suitable for every investor. PMA and its employees do not offer tax or legal advice. Individuals and organizations should consult with their own tax and/or legal advisors before making any tax or legal related investment decisions. Additional information is available upon request. ©2021 PMA Asset Management, LLC