Wealth Management Perspectives
The 2020 Elections

As of June 5, 2020

• While the spotlight will be focused on the presidential race in 2020, it’s important to remember that a number of Senate and House races will be contested as well. In a reverse from the 2018 mid-term elections, nearly twice as many Republican incumbent Senate seats are being contested as Democratic-held seats. This creates a greater competitive scenario among the two parties.

• In past election years, the S&P 500 has averaged 7% price returns with the market typically rallying post election day. Historically, volatility has been higher during primary season earlier in the year as opposed to the period around the election itself.

• Our view is that the business cycle has more of an impact on stock market returns than simply which party is in power. Fundamentals such as corporate earnings have been a much more powerful driver of equity returns than politics. While presidents are able to influence government spending and public policy, it is also important to remember that given division of government, what can be done by any one branch of government is limited.

• Regardless of the election outcome, it appears that the trend of deficit spending will continue. We continue to see this as having secular implications, and widening deficits could put pressure on the US dollar, interest rates, and inflation.

• The election season will be long and likely quite contentious. Investors should remain focused on the fundamentals and the business cycle.

Source: Morgan Stanley Wealth Management GIC
Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Estimates of future performance are based on assumptions that may not be realized. This material is not a solicitation of any offer to buy or sell any security or other financial instrument or to participate in any trading strategy. Please refer to important information, disclosures and qualifications at the end of this material.
More Than Just the White House Is at Stake

With Republicans defending 24 seats, the Republicans are at a numerical disadvantage in defending the Senate. The House, on the other hand, looks to be up for grabs.

Party Seats Up for Vote in 2020 Across Senate, House, Governor Seats and State Legislatures
As of May 31, 2020

**Senate**
- 20 Seats up, 10 at Risk
- 11 Seats up, 4 at Risk

**House**
- 225 Seats up, 32 at Risk
- 223 Seats up, 42 at Risk

**Governors**
- 7 Seats up, 4 at Risk
- 3 Seats up, 1 at Risk

**State Legislatures**
- 26 Seats up, 2 at Risk
- 16 Seats up, 3 at Risk

Source: Cook Political Report, 270toWin.com, National Conference of State Legislatures
Election Year Returns Have Averaged 7% With Gains Concentrated in April and December

S&P 500 Price Returns During Election Years
December 31, 1928 – December 31, 2016

S&P 500 Price Change by Month During Election Years

In election years, April and December had the highest average returns.

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management GIC

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Historically, Primary Seasons Have Been Detrimental for Excess Market Volatility and Returns

S&P 500 Monthly Excess Volatility During Election Years
1928 to 2019, excluding 2008

Volatility in election years has been most prominent during primary season...

S&P 500 Monthly Average Excess Returns During Election Years
1928 to 2019, excluding 2008

...as the excess returns have been higher post primary season.

Source: Bloomberg, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management GIC
Notes: Excess returns in the average of each month’s return in election years minus nonelection years excluding 2008.
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S&P 500 Has Run Up After Candidates Were Chosen Midsummer

S&P 500 During Election Years Vs Non Election Years
As of May 31, 2020

Source: Gallup, OppenheimerFunds, Bloomberg, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management GIC
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Approval Ratings and the Market Have Had Little Correlation

Presidential Approval Rating vs. S&P 500 Performance
As of December 31, 2019

Source: Gallup, OppenheimerFunds, Bloomberg, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management GIC
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Business Cycles Mattered More than the Party in the Oval Office

Morgan Stanley Cycle Indicator, S&P 500 Annual Price Returns
As of December 31, 2019

Larger returns have been associated more with recoveries and expansions than they have been to which party controls the presidency, while lower returns have been associated more with downturns and repairs.

Average Monthly S&P 500 Price Return During Different Business Cycles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Downturn</th>
<th>Repair</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
<th>Expansion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>-0.32%</td>
<td>0.42%</td>
<td>1.16%</td>
<td>0.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>-0.41%</td>
<td>0.26%</td>
<td>1.44%</td>
<td>0.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>-0.13%</td>
<td>1.42%</td>
<td>0.89%</td>
<td>1.06%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bloomberg, Morgan Stanley & Co. Research, NBER, Bloomberg, Haver Analytics. The Morgan Stanley Cycle Indicators measure the deviation from historical norms for macro factors including employment, credit conditions, corporate behavior and the yield curve. The repair phase occurs due to the lag time between when these factors are beginning to improve and when they turn positive.

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S&P 500 Performance Has Been Driven by Fundamentals

S&P 500 EPS Growth vs. S&P 500 Performance
EPS Estimates as of May 31, 2020; S&P 500 Return as of March 31, 2020

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Regardless of Outcome, Both Parties Appear Pre-Disposed to Deficit Spending

Federal Government Receipts and Outlays as a % of GDP

As of December 31, 2018

Federal Deficits as a % of GDP Under Different Parties

As of December 31, 2018

Source: White House Office of Management and Budget, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management GIC

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The 2020 Elections: Bottom Line

As of June 5, 2020

**Portfolio Implications**

The 2020 elections are just months away. Individual candidates may espouse specific policies that have the potential for creating short-term volatility in specific sectors. Investors should keep in mind that the President inaugurated in 2021 will still require Congress to enact meaningful legislation to achieve their policy goals, so much of what is discussed on the campaign trail may not be realistically implemented depending on the make-up of Congress next year.

**What We Are Watching**

We’re watching key dates that will inform our understanding of who will be the Democratic nominee, and on what issues both parties will base their platforms:

- Further Primaries in June
- July 13-16, 2020: Democratic National Convention
- August 24-27, 2020: Republican National Convention
- November 3, 2020: General Presidential Election

Source: Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

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The Global Investment Committee is a group of seasoned investment professionals who meet regularly to discuss the global economy and markets. The committee determines the investment outlook that guides our advice to clients. They continually monitor developing economic and market conditions, review tactical outlooks and recommend model portfolio weightings, as well as produce a suite of strategy, analysis, commentary, portfolio positioning suggestions and other reports and broadcasts.

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Adverse Active AlphaSM 2.0 is a patented screening and scoring process designed to help identify high-quality equity and fixed income managers with characteristics that may lead to future outperformance relative to index and peers. While highly ranked managers performed well as a group in our Adverse Active Alpha model back tests, not all of the managers will outperform. Please note that this data may be derived from back-testing, which has the benefit of hindsight. In addition, highly ranked managers can have differing risk profiles that might not be appropriate for all investors. Our view is that Adverse Active Alpha is a good starting point and should be used in conjunction with other information. Morgan Stanley Wealth Management’s qualitative and quantitative investment manager due diligence process are equally important factors for investors when considering managers for use through an investment advisory program. Factors including, but not limited to, manager turnover and changes to investment process can partially or fully negate a positive Adverse Active Alpha ranking. Additionally, highly ranked managers can have differing risk profiles that might not be
appropriate for all investors.

The proprietary Value Score methodology considers an active investment strategies' value proposition relative to its costs. From a historical quantitative study of several quantitative markers, Value Score measures perceived forward-looking benefit and computes (1) “fair value” expense ratios for most traditional investment managers across 40 categories and (2) managers’ perceived “excess value” by comparing the fair value expense ratios to actual expense ratios. Managers are then ranked within each category by their excess value to assign a Value Score. Our analysis suggests that greater levels of excess value have historically corresponded to attractive subsequent performance.

For more information on the ranking models, please see Adverse Active AlphaSM 2.0: Scoring Active Managers According to Potential Alpha and Value Score: Scoring Fee Efficiency by Comparing Managers’ “Fair Value” and Actual Expense Ratios. The whitepapers are available from your Financial Advisor or Private Wealth Advisor. ADVERSE ACTIVE ALPHA is a registered service mark of Morgan Stanley and/or its affiliates. U.S. Pat. No. 8,756,098 applies to the Adverse Active Alpha system and/or methodology.

Additionally, highly ranked managers can have differing risk profiles that might not be appropriate for all investors. For more information on AAA, please see the Adverse Active Alpha Ranking Model and Selecting Managers with Adverse Active Alpha whitepapers. The whitepapers are available from your Financial Advisor or Private Wealth Advisor. ADVERSE ACTIVE ALPHA is a registered service mark of Morgan Stanley and/or its affiliates. U.S. Pat. No. 8,756,098 applies to the Adverse Active Alpha system and/or methodology.

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Morgan Stanley charges each fund family we offer a mutual fund support fee, also called a “revenue-sharing payment,” on client account holdings in fund families according to a tiered rate that increases along with the management fee of the fund so that lower management fee funds pay lower rates than those with higher management fees.

Consider Your Own Investment Needs: The model portfolios and strategies discussed in the material are formulated based on general client characteristics including risk tolerance. This material is not intended to be an analysis of whether particular investments or strategies are appropriate for you or a recommendation, or an offer to participate in any investment. Therefore, clients should not use this profile as the sole basis for investment decisions. They should consider all relevant information, including their existing portfolio, investment objectives, risk tolerance, liquidity needs and investment time horizon. Such a determination may lead to asset allocation results that are materially different from the asset allocation shown in this profile. Talk to your Financial Advisor about what would be an appropriate asset allocation for you, whether CGCM is an appropriate program for you.
Nontraditional investment options and strategies are often employed by a portfolio manager to further a fund’s investment objective and to help offset market risks. However, these features may serve as an alternative investing strategy compared with a traditional hedge fund pursuing the same strategy.

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A majority of Alternative Investment managers reviewed and selected by GIMA pay or cause to be paid an ongoing fee for distribution from their management fees to Morgan Stanley Wealth Management in connection with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management clients that purchase an interest in an Alternative Investment and in some instances pay these fees on the investments held by advisory clients. Morgan Stanley Wealth Management rebates such fees that are received and attributable to an investment held by an advisory client and retains the fees paid in connection with
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It should be noted that the majority of hedge fund indexes are comprised of hedge fund manager returns. This is in contrast to traditional indexes, which are comprised of individual securities in the various market segments they represent and offer complete transparency as to membership and construction methodology. As such, some believe that hedge fund index returns have certain biases that are not present in traditional indexes. Some of these biases inflate index performance, while others may skew performance negatively. However, many studies indicate that overall hedge fund index performance has been biased to the upside. Some studies suggest performance has been inflated by up to 260 basis points or more annually depending on the types of biases included and the time period studied. Although there are numerous potential biases that could affect hedge fund returns, we identify some of the more common ones throughout this paper.

Self-selection bias results when certain manager returns are not included in the index returns and may result in performance being skewed up or down. Because hedge funds are private placements, hedge fund managers are able to decide which fund returns they want to report and are able to opt out of reporting to the various databases. Certain hedge fund managers may choose only to report returns for funds with strong returns and opt out of reporting returns for weak performers. Other hedge funds that close may decide to stop reporting in order to retain secrecy, which may cause a downward bias in returns.

Survivorship bias results when certain constituents are removed from an index. This often results from the closure of funds due to poor performance, “blow ups,” or other such events. As such, this bias typically results in performance being skewed higher. As noted, hedge fund index performance biases can result in positive or negative skew. However, it would appear that the skew is more often positive. While it is difficult to quantify the effects precisely, investors should be aware that idiosyncratic factors may be giving hedge fund index returns an artificial “lift” or upwards bias.

Hedge Funds of Funds and many funds of funds are private investment vehicles restricted to certain qualified private and institutional investors. They are often speculative and include a high degree of risk. Investors can lose all or a substantial amount of their investment. They may be highly illiquid, can engage in leverage and other speculative practices that may increase volatility and the risk of loss, and may be subject to large investment minimums and initial lockups. They involve complex tax structures, tax-inefficient investing and delays in distributing important tax information. Categorically, hedge funds and funds of funds have higher fees and expenses than traditional investments, and such fees and expenses can lower the returns achieved by investors. Funds of funds have an additional layer of fees over and above hedge fund fees that will offset returns. An investment in an exchange-traded fund involves risks similar to those of investing in a broadly based portfolio of equity securities traded on an exchange in the relevant securities market, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in stock and bond prices. An investment in a target date portfolio is subject to the risks attendant to the underlying funds in which it invests, in these portfolios the funds are the Consulting Group Capital Market funds. A target date portfolio is geared to investors who will retire and/or require income at an approximate year. The portfolio is managed to meet the investor’s goals by the pre-established year or “target date.” A target date portfolio will transition its invested assets from a more aggressive portfolio to a more conservative portfolio as the target date draws closer. An investment in the target date portfolio is not guaranteed at any time, including, before or after the target date is reached. Managed futures investments are speculative, involve a high degree of risk, do not protect against a loss in declining financial markets. There may be a potential tax implication with a rebalancing strategy.

Asset allocation and diversification do not assure a profit or protect against loss in declining financial markets. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Actual results may vary.

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For index, indicator and survey definitions referenced in this report please visit the following: https://www.morganstanley.com/wealth-investmentsolutions/wmir-defnitions

GLOBAL INVESTMENT COMMITTEE (GIC) ASSET ALLOCATION MODELS: The Asset Allocation Models are created by Morgan Stanley Wealth Management’s GIC.

HYPOTHETICAL MODEL PERFORMANCE (GROSS): Hypothetical model performance results do not reflect the investment or performance of an actual portfolio following a GIC Strategy, but simply reflect actual historical performance of selected indices on a real-time basis over the specified period of time representing the GIC’s strategic and tactical allocations as of the date of this report. The past performance shown here is simulated performance based on benchmark indices, not investment results from an actual portfolio or actual trading. There can be large differences between hypothetical and actual performance results achieved by a particular asset allocation or trading strategy. Hypothetical performance results do not represent actual trading and are generally designed with the benefit of hindsight. Actual performance results of accounts vary due to, for example, market factors (such as liquidity) and client-specific factors (such as investment vehicle selection, timing of contributions and withdrawals, restrictions and rebalancing schedules). Clients would not necessarily have obtained the performance results shown here if they had invested in accordance with any GIC Asset Allocation Model for the periods indicated. Despite the limitations of hypothetical performance, these hypothetical performance results allow clients and Financial Advisors to obtain a sense of the risk/return trade-off of different asset allocation constructs. The hypothetical performance results in this report are calculated using the returns of benchmark indices for the asset classes, and not the returns of securities, fund or other investment products. Models may contain allocations to Hedge Funds, Private Equity and Private Real Estate. The benchmark indices for these asset classes are not issued on a daily basis. When calculating model performance on a day for which no benchmark index data is issued, we have assumed straight line growth between the index levels issued before and after that date.

FEES REDUCE THE PERFORMANCE OF ACTUAL ACCOUNTS: None of the fees or other expenses (e.g. commissions, mark-ups, mark-downs, fees) associated with actual trading or accounts are reflected in the GIC Asset Allocation Models. The GIC Asset Allocation Models and any model performance included in this presentation are intended as educational materials. Were a client to use these models in connection with investing, any investment decisions made would be subject to transaction and other costs which, when compounded over a period of years, would decrease returns. Information regarding Morgan Stanley’s standard advisory fees is available in the Form ADV Part 2, which is available at www.morganstanley.com/adv. The following hypothetical illustrates the compound effect fees have on investment returns: For example, if a portfolio’s annual rate of return is 15% for 5 years and the account pays 50 basis points in fees per annum, the gross cumulative five-year return would be 101.1% and the five-year return net of fees would be 96.8%. Fees and/or expenses would apply to clients who invest in investments in an account based on these asset allocations, and would reduce clients’ returns. The impact of fees and/or expenses can be material.

Variable annuities are long-term investments designed for retirement purposes and may be subject to market fluctuations, investment risk, and possible loss of principal. All guarantees, including optional benefits, are based on the financial strength and claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company and do not apply to the underlying investment options. Optional riders may not be able to be purchased in combination and are available at an additional cost. Some optional riders must be elected at time of purchase. Optional riders may be subject to specific limitations, restrictions, holding periods, costs, and expenses as specified by the insurance company in the annuity contract. If you are investing in a variable annuity through a tax-advantaged retirement plan such as an IRA, you will get no additional tax advantage from the variable annuity. Under these circumstances, you should only consider buying a variable annuity because of its other features, such as lifetime income payments and death benefits protection. Taxable distributions (and certain deemed distributions) are subject to ordinary income tax and, if taken prior to age 59½, may be subject to a 10% federal income tax penalty. Early withdrawals will reduce the death benefit and cash surrender value.

Equity securities may fluctuate in response to news on companies, industries, market conditions and general economic environment. Ultrashort-term fixed income asset class is comprised of fixed...
income securities with high quality, very short maturities. They are therefore subject to the risks associated with debt securities such as credit and interest rate risk.

**Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs)** are limited partnerships or limited liability companies that are taxed as partnerships and whose interests (limited partnership units or limited liability company units) are traded on securities exchanges like shares of common stock. Currently, most MLPs operate in the energy, natural resources or real estate sectors. Investments in MLP interests are subject to the risks generally applicable to companies in the energy and natural resources sectors, including commodity pricing risk, supply and demand risk, depletion risk and exploration risk. Individual MLPs are publicly traded partnerships that have unique risks related to their structure. These include, but are not limited to, their reliance on the capital markets to fund growth, adverse ruling on the current tax treatment of distributions (typically mostly tax deferred), and commodity volume risk. The potential tax benefits from investing in MLPs depend on their being treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes and, if the MLP is deemed to be a corporation, then its income would be subject to federal taxation at the entity level, reducing the amount of cash available for distribution to the fund which could result in a reduction of the fund’s value. MLPs carry interest rate risk and may underperform in a rising interest rate environment. MLP funds accrue deferred income taxes for future tax liabilities associated with the portion of MLP distributions considered to be a tax-deferred return of capital and for any net operating gains as well as capital appreciation of its investments; this deferred tax liability is reflected in the daily NAV, and, as a result, the MLP fund’s after-tax performance could differ significantly from the underlying assets even if the pre-tax performance is closely tracked.

**Investing in commodities** entails significant risks. Commodity prices may be affected by a variety of factors at any time, including but not limited to, (i) changes in supply and demand relationships, (ii) governmental programs and policies, (iii) national and international political and economic events, war and terrorist events, (iv) changes in interest and exchange rates, (v) trading activities in commodities and related contracts, (vi) pestilence, technological change and weather, and (vii) the price volatility of a commodity. In addition, the commodities markets are subject to temporary distortions or other disruptions due to various factors, including lack of liquidity, participation of speculators and government intervention. **Physical precious metals** are non-regulated products. Precious metals are speculative investments, which may experience short-term and long-term price volatility. The value of precious metals investments may fluctuate and may appreciate or decline, depending on market conditions. Unlike bonds and stocks, precious metals do not make interest or dividend payments. Therefore, precious metals may not be appropriate for investors who require current income. Precious metals are commodities that should be safely stored, which may impose additional costs on the investor.

**REITs** investing risks are similar to those associated with direct investments in real estate: property value fluctuations, lack of liquidity, limited diversification and sensitivity to economic factors such as interest rate changes and market recessions. Risks of **private real estate** include: illiquidity; a long-term investment horizon with a limited or nonexistent secondary market; lack of transparency; volatility (risk of loss); and leverage. Principal is returned on a monthly basis over the life of a **mortgage-backed security**. Principal prepayment can significantly affect the monthly income stream and the maturity of any type of MBS, including standard MBS, CMOs and Lottery Bonds. **Asset-backed securities** generally decrease in value as a result of interest rate increases, but may benefit less than other fixed-income securities from declining interest rates, principally because of prepayments.

**Yields** are subject to change with economic conditions. Yield is only one factor that should be considered when making an investment decision. **Credit ratings** are subject to change. **Duration**, the most commonly used measure of bond risk, quantifies the effect of changes in interest rates on the price of a bond or bond portfolio. The longer the duration, the more sensitive the bond or portfolio would be to changes in interest rates. The majority of $25 and $1,000 par **preferred securities** are “callable” meaning that the issuer may retire the securities at specific prices and dates prior to maturity. Interest/dividend payments on certain preferred issues may be deferred by the issuer for periods of up to 5 to 10 years, depending on the particular issue. The investor would still have income tax liability even though payments would not have been received. Price quoted is per $25 or $1,000 share, unless otherwise specified. Current yield is calculated by multiplying the coupon by par value divided by the market price. The initial interest rate on a **floating-rate security** may be lower than that of a fixed-rate security of the same maturity because investors expect to receive additional income due to future increases in the floating security’s underlying reference rate. The reference rate could be an index or an interest rate. However, there can be no assurance that the reference rate will increase. Some floating-rate securities may be subject to call risk. The market value of **convertible bonds** and the underlying common stock(s) will fluctuate and after purchase may be worth more or less than original cost. If sold prior to maturity, investors may receive more or less than their original purchase price or maturity value, depending on market conditions. Callable bonds may be redeemed by the issuer prior to maturity. Additional call features may exist that could affect yield. Some $25 or $1,000 par **preferred securities** are QDI (Qualified Dividend Income) eligible. Information on QDI eligibility is obtained from third party sources. The dividend income on QDI eligible preferreds qualifies for a reduced tax rate. Many traditional ‘dividend paying’ perpetual preferred securities (traditional preferreds with no maturity date) are QDI eligible. In order to qualify for the preferential tax treatment all qualifying preferred securities must be held by investors for a minimum period – 91 days during a 180 day window period, beginning 90 days before the ex-dividend date.

Companies paying **dividends** can reduce or cut payouts at any time.

**Nondiversification:** For a portfolio that holds a concentrated or limited number of securities, a decline in the value of these investments would cause the portfolio's overall value to decline to a greater degree than a less concentrated portfolio. The **indices selected by Morgan Stanley Wealth Management** to measure performance are representative of broad asset classes. Morgan Stanley Wealth
Management retains the right to change representative indices at any time. Because of their narrow focus, sector investments tend to be more volatile than investments that diversify across many sectors and companies.

**Growth investing** does not guarantee a profit or eliminate risk. The stocks of these companies can have relatively high valuations. Because of these high valuations, an investment in a growth stock can be more risky than an investment in a company with more modest growth expectations. **Value investing** does not guarantee a profit or eliminate risk. Not all companies whose stocks are considered to be value stocks are able to turn their business around or successfully employ corrective strategies which would result in stock prices that do not rise as initially expected.

Any type of **continuous or periodic investment plan** does not assure a profit and does not protect against loss in declining markets. Since such a plan involves continuous investment in securities regardless of fluctuating price levels of such securities, the investor should consider his financial ability to continue his purchases through periods of low price levels.

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