

* HYD is a hypothetical model based on backtested results. See p. 78 for full explanation.


## Staying on Track

The area shaded light green in the chart below traces the hypothetical fate of a dollar invested in the S\&P 500 between January 2008 and June 2011. This period spans the stock market's historic collapse, precipitated by the subprime mortgage crisis, and its subsequent rebound. A disciplined "all equity" investor would not have lost any of his original investment despite a harrowing three and a half years of turbulence. The dollar invested at the start, measured on the vertical axis on the right, would have recovered its value, at least in nominal terms.

Many investors lacked this discipline, and they paid a steep price. We have superimposed on this chart a dark green line that traces the cumulative net cash flow ${ }^{1}$ into (or more accurately, out of) U.S. domiciled equity mutual funds during the same period. When the market collapsed fearful investors fled in droves and did not return, only to miss a vigorous recovery.

To remain disciplined, an investor must be sufficiently confident in his knowledge of capital markets to adhere to a rational strategy. That knowledge should be rooted in wellgrounded empirical research. That's where we come in.
(continued next page)


[^0]The Investment Guide provides specific portfolio recommendations every quarter (see page 75), and each monthly issue is dedicated to explaining our research to provide the confidence necessary to help you stay the course.

Consistent with the need for discipline, our recommended allocations rarely change. But beneath this staid appearance lies a research process that is vigilant and rigorous. We work closely with AIER staff to question our conclusions constantly. We stand ready to replace or modify them when warranted by a sufficient body of historical evidence.

Our embrace of modern portfolio theory is not sacrosanct. Over the past
several months we have re-examined our strategies with regard to dividend paying stocks, gold, and silver. We have revisited the relationship between markets and macroeconomic growth, and between the market's relative valuation and risk. We push the boundaries of financial theory to address ideas rarely pursued by other money managers. The most recent issue of Research Reports ${ }^{2}$, for example, highlights the potential use of chaos theory as applied to financial markets.

We also make considerable effort to review alternative investment vehicles and indexing methodologies. This ensures you will be using the most cost-effective and best-diversified funds available. These incremental savings may
appear small on the surface but are in fact substantial when compounded over time.

Though it may lack the glamour of forecasting markets or attempting to pick winning stocks on a daily basis our research process and investment strategy are founded upon and have withstood the test of time. While our recommendations of diversified, disciplined and low-cost portfolios remain unchanged, we will continue to research, test and explore any and all alternatives that may ultimately prove to deliver the best results to our readers and clients. We thank you for joining us on this journey.

1 Net cash flow is the difference between redemptions and purchases of shares in a mutual fund. A net cash outflow occurs when redemptions exceed purchases. Equity fund flows were cumulatively negative over the period. Investors were redeeming more shares than they were buying, and on a net basis, capital was leaving mutual funds.
2 Steven R. Cunningham, PhD. AIER "Random Walks, Chaos, and Volatility" Research Reports, Vol. LXXVIII, No. 18, October 17, 2011, p. 1

## QUARTERLY REVIEW OF INVESTMENT POLICY

The third quarter erased many of the gains generated in capital markets during the first half of the year. U.S. stocks declined, mostly in reaction to data suggesting a slowdown in the pace of economic growth. Foreign markets provided no refuge. Sovereign debt concerns in Greece had sent developed market indexes sharply lower by quarterend, though more favorable news during the closing days provided a modest rebound. Emerging markets were not spared. Foreign currencies weakened against the dollar as markets apparently concluded that problems in America were on balance not as bad as they were elsewhere.

Bonds provided positive returns as interest rates fell across the board (bond prices move inversely with current interest rates). Bonds, including U.S.

Treasuries, proved appealing (yet again) to investors seeking safety, despite no reprieve in mounting U.S. debt.

Gold was once again our top performing asset class, and proved its worth as an asset whose price is not strongly correlated to our other recommended asset classes. The gold price closed the quarter with a 7.6 percent gain but was as volatile as ever. The price had surged by 26 percent by early September before falling by over 18 percent over the final three weeks.

We have made no changes to our recommended allocations, found in the AIS Model Portfolios table.

## Cash and Equivalent Assets ${ }^{1}$

The Fed's Open Market Committee maintained its target range for the federal funds rate between zero and 0.25
percent and restated its commitment to that range through mid-2013. Little relief appears in sight for investors who rely on income from short-term obligations. Signs of price inflation emerged during the quarter; core inflation is nearing the upper limit of the Federal Reserve's two percent target.

## Fixed Income

Most fixed income securities provided strong returns during the quarter. Bond prices were boosted as investors sought the liquidity and perceived safety of bonds. U.S. Treasuries surged 6.5 percent despite Standard and Poor's much publicized downgrading of U.S. sovereign debt. The accompanying yield curve chart shows that rates decreased for bonds of all maturities during the three months and are well

## Timeline of Events: Third Quarter in Review



[^1]below prevailing rates one year ago. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS) provided a 4.5 percent return.

The yield spread on corporate bonds (relative to comparable Treasury bonds) widened by 0.85 percent to 2.38 percent during the third quarter as investors showed a preference for U.S. Treasury obligations, despite strong corporate profitability and solid balance sheets. Corporate bonds registered a positive three percent return.

Municipal bonds provided a 3.8 percent return for the quarter, but their yield spread versus U.S. Treasuries widened. State and local revenues remain below their pre-crisis levels, but municipal downgrades have declined during 2011 versus the two prior years and were confined to very speculative issues. Diversification remains important.

The Fed announced Operation Twist through which it will purchase long term bonds, in an effort to reduce longterm rates, while pushing rates higher on the short end by selling shorter term securities.

## Real Estate ${ }^{2}$

Real Estate Investment Trusts were hit hard during the third quarter, losing 15.1 percent on a total return basis. This more than offset a gain of over 10
percent achieved through the first half; year-to-date REITs have fallen 6.1 percent. Yields rose from 3.4 percent to 4.1 percent as prices fell. Returns among subsector returns varied widely, ranging from -33.1 percent (lodging/resorts) to 10.4 percent (self-storage). Equity REITs provide an attractive dividend yield but can also provide strong capital appreciation. The long term total returns and volatility of REITs are comparable to those of common stocks, but REITs can enhance portfolio diversification because their returns are not strongly correlated with those of stocks.

REITs are a creature of the federal tax code. They avoid corporate income taxation entirely as long as 90 percent of their income is distributed to shareholders. For investors, however, this income is taxable as ordinary income so it is best to hold REITs in a tax-deferred account if possible.


## U.S. Equities ${ }^{3}$

The U.S. stock market generated a loss of -13.87 percent, the largest decline since the end of 2008. The quarter began poorly as weaker than expected economic data emerged. Volatility rose markedly as the European debt crisis grew deeper and the debt policy standoff dragged on in Congress.

Equities performed poorly across both the size (market capitalization) and distress (growth versus value) risk dimensions. Among large caps, value stocks returned - 16.20 percent versus -13.14 percent for growth shares. Small caps value stocks plummeted - 21.47 percent versus - 22.25 percent for small cap growth stocks.

Among industries, only utilities

# AIS Model Portfolios(1) For the Period Ending September 30, 2011 


registered positive returns. Other traditionally defensive sectors consumer staples, information technology, telecommunications and health care stocks - all lost ground but outperformed the overall market.

## International Equities ${ }^{4}$

Foreign stocks provided no refuge for U.S. investors during the third quarter. In both developed and emerging markets double digit losses in local currencies were magnified by a stronger dollar. Overall, non-U.S. stocks proved a -15.30 percent return in local currencies and a - 19.85 percent loss in dollars.

Foreign developed markets returned - 19.01 percent in dollars and - 15.70 percent in local currencies as Europe's fiscal and sovereign-debt crises intensified. Greece was by far the worst performer as that nation's austerity plans did little to reassure the market. Greece's difficulties were far reaching and dragged down European markets as Greece's creditors, especially French banks, suffered sharp losses. Japan fared best, where stocks returned -6.44 percent for the quarter.

Emerging markets, which are
highly sensitive to risk aversion among investors, suffered losses greater than those in the U.S. and developed markets. Overall returns for the quarter were - 22.5 percent in dollars and -14.9 percent in local currencies as the stronger dollar proved particularly damaging for U.S. investors.

Despite gloomy news in the U.S. the dollar strengthened against all major currencies except the yen, and also against most emerging market currencies, reducing the dollar value of foreign holdings of U.S. investors. The dollar especially benefited from a flight to safety and reduced liquidity in Europe. The dollar gained 5.8 percent against the euro, 16.5 percent against the Brazilian Real and 14.3 percent against the Russian ruble.

## Gold Related Assets

The third quarter brought further evidence that gold serves effectively as a refuge during times of financial distress. Gold was by far our best performing asset class, returning 7.61 percent. The gold price began the quarter at $\$ 1,483$ per ounce and rose to an all-time high of $\$ 1,895$ on September 5 before closing
the three months at $\$ 1,620$.
We have long recommended three ways in which investors can gain exposure to the gold price. Gold bullion coins allow immediate possession of gold. Our recommended coins can be found on page 79. Alternatively, investors can hold bullion-backed exchangetraded funds (ETFs) or our recommended gold mining shares. All of these are listed on page 80 .

In recent years the returns from our gold mining shares have lagged returns based on the gold price itself. The charts below depict the hypothetical growth of one dollar invested in our five mining shares (equal dollar weighted, rebalanced annually) compared with a dollar invested in gold itself (using the London PM fix as a proxy).

The two charts reveal that while over the long term gold mining shares have generated higher returns, in recent years the situation has been reversed. Historically, during shorter spans the "leadership" between mining shares and the gold price has alternated. The recent trend is a relatively short-term period during which many factors have been at play. The introduction of ETFs may have impacted the demand for mining


1 Sources for cash and equivalent and fixed income statistics: U.S. Treasury, U.S. Labor Department (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Fidelity Management and Research Company. Corporate (investment grade) bonds: Barclays Capital (BC) Credit Bond Index. Spread is index Option Adjusted Spread; Municipal bonds: BC Municipal Bond Index; TIPS: BC U.S. TIPS Index.
2 REIT data provided by National Association of Real Estate Trusts (NAREIT). (FTSE NAREIT All Equity REIT Index)
3 U.S. Market: S\&P 500 Index. Small caps: Russell 2000 Growth \& Russell 2000 Value Indices, Large caps: Russell 1000 Growth \& Russell 1000 Value Indices. Fidelity Management and Research Company.
4 Non-U.S. stocks: MSCI All Country World ex USA Index. Emerging markets: MSCI Emerging Markets Index. Developed markets MSCI EAFE Index. Currency data: Vanguard, Oanda.com. Japan: MSCI Japan Index

| Total Return (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 |  |  | 09 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2011 |  | Entire Period 4Q 2008- |
|  | 4 Q | 1Q | 2Q | $3 Q$ | 4 Q | 1Q | 2Q | $3 Q$ | $4 Q$ | 1Q | 2Q | $3 Q$ | 3Q 2011 |
| Barclay Capital 1-5 Yr. Govt./Credit | 3.60 | 0.53 | 1.46 | 2.14 | 0.42 | 1.20 | 1.78 | 1.66 | -0.60 | 0.27 | 1.49 | 0.91 | 11.82 |
| Vanguard REIT Index | -38.16 | -32.09 | 30.03 | 34.54 | 9.05 | 10.02 | -4.01 | 13.10 | 7.42 | 6.50 | 3.51 | -14.59 | 56.53 |
| Vanguard Value Index | -20.44 | -16.41 | 16.71 | 17.38 | 4.41 | 6.16 | -10.93 | 9.71 | 10.17 | 7.02 | -0.64 | -15.53 | 22.74 |
| High-Yield Dow 4/18 | -22.71 | -23.83 | 15.66 | 16.55 | 8.13 | 1.81 | -8.97 | 20.83 | 6.69 | 6.66 | 2.05 | -7.58 | 33.46 |
| Vanguard Small Cap Value Index | -25.57 | -18.14 | 23.83 | 23.89 | 3.79 | 10.15 | -10.15 | 10.68 | 13.95 | 6.88 | -1.87 | -20.67 | 35.37 |
| Vanguard Growth Index | -23.88 | -4.24 | 15.59 | 14.13 | 7.88 | 4.85 | -12.16 | 13.37 | 12.02 | 4.95 | 0.91 | -13.40 | 46.19 |
| Vanguard Developed Markets Index | -19.41 | -15.82 | 25.59 | 19.25 | 1.67 | 1.26 | -14.61 | 17.60 | 6.74 | 3.08 | 2.12 | -20.11 | 16.99 |
| Vanguard Emerging Markets Index | -27.82 | 0.07 | 34.14 | 21.15 | 8.26 | 2.47 | -9.12 | 18.74 | 7.49 | 1.78 | -0.97 | -23.97 | 60.35 |
| Gold (London PM Fix) | -1.67 | 5.38 | 1.96 | 6.55 | 9.21 | 2.57 | 11.52 | 5.06 | 7.54 | 2.38 | 4.62 | 7.61 | 86.25 |

shares. In addition the mining firms have at times aggressively hedged their gold production, effectively divorcing their share price changes from those of gold. Very recently these firms have abandoned this practice, and Newmont recently announced plans to link its dividend payout to the prevailing gold price.

We will continue to monitor these developments closely. At this time we continue to recommend all three methods for gaining exposure to the gold price. Each has advantages and disadvantages, which we have discussed at length, and should be assessed in light of each investor's preferences.

We offer two discretionary management services: Our Professional Asset Management (PAM) service covers all of our recommended assets and allows us to place trades in stocks, bonds, and mutual funds directly in our clients' accounts. (The accounts remain the property of our clients at all times-we are only authorized to trade on their behalf.) Our High-Yield Dow (HYD) service operates similarly, except it invests only in the highest-yielding Dow stocks, using the 4 -for- 18 model on a fully invested basis.

Investors interested in these lowcost services should contact us at 413-528-1216 or Fax 413-528-0103.

Online: www.americaninvestment.com

TAX SWAPPING TIME
As the year draws to a close, we remind investors that they can realize losses that can be used to offset taxable gains or possibly offset ordinary income. However, losses on the sale of securities are disallowed if "substantially identical" securities or options to purchase such securities are purchased within a 61-day window beginning 30 days before the date of the sale and ending 30 days after the sale. One could wait the required 30 days and then repurchase the same security that was sold, but markets can move a great deal in 30 days. Securities prices are inherently unpredictable, so this strategy risks selling the shares but repurchasing them only after a substantial increase in price.

There is a better approach. Investors can "swap" securities with tax losses for others that are similar but not considered to be substantially identical. The key is to identify securities whose price changes are highly correlated with those that are to be sold. By selling an asset and immediately purchasing its substitute (rather than waiting 30 days to purchase the same security), you can potentially generate a loss for tax purposes without ever changing your risk allocation because your portfolio's exposure to that asset class would be largely unaffected.

Despite the dramatic turnaround in the capital markets for the year to date,
investors may still have unrealized losses among our recommended investment vehicles that appear on page 80.

Above we list several additional ETFs that provide a suitable, low-cost means of capturing the returns of their respective asset classes. Before investing, you should consult a tax professional to ensure any that any substitute investment is not substantially identical to that being replaced.

In the accompanying table we summarize the current statutory rates investors will face when selling

| Asset Class | Investment Vehicle | Ticker |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Real Estate | iShares Cohen \& Steers Realty Majors | ICF |
|  | iShares Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate | IYR |
| U.S. Large Value | iShares Russell 1000 Value | IWD |
|  | iShares S\&P 500 Value | IVE |
| U.S. Small Value | iShares S\&P SmallCap 600 Value | IJS |
|  | iShares Russell 2000 Value | IWN |
| U.S. Large Growth | SPDR S\&P 500 Growth | SPGY |
|  | iShares S\&P 500 Growth | IVW |
| U.S. Marketwide | iShares Dow Jones U.S. Index | IYY |
|  | iShares Russell 3000 | IWV |
| Foreign-Developed Markets | iShares MSCI EAFE Index | EFA |
| Foreign Emerging Markets | iShares MSCI Emerging Markets Idx | EEM |

securities. While future tax rates are unknown, the outlook for the federal budget deficit makes higher rates a distinct possibility. For many investors it might pay to aggressively realize and "stockpile" any unrealized losses, utilizing this tax-swapping strategy whenever possible. Net capital losses (losses remaining after offsetting realized gains this year) of up to $\$ 3,000$ can be used to offset ordinary income, and amounts in excess of $\$ 3,000$ can be carried forward to offset gains in future years.

| Current Capital Gains Tax Rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| If Seller Had Owned <br> the Sold Asset for: | and: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $10 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $35 \%$ |
|  | then: |  |  | Marginal income tax rate in the year of the sale is: |  |  |  |

## Recommended HYD Portfolio

As of October 14, 2011

|  | Rank | Yield (\%) | Price (\$) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| AT\&T | 1 | 5.90 | 29.17 |
| Verizon | 2 | 5.36 | 37.33 |
| Merck | 3 | 4.61 | 32.98 |
| Pfizer | 4 | 4.20 | 19.04 |
| DuPont | 5 | 3.64 | 45.09 |
| Frontier Communications | N/A | N/A | 5.97 |
| Cash (6-mo. T-Bill) | -- | -- | -- |
| Totals | -- | -- | -- |


| --Percent of Portfolio-- |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Value (\%) | No. Shares (\%) |
| 24.62 | 23.54 |
| 26.51 | 19.80 |
| 21.02 | 17.77 |
| 25.14 | 36.82 |
| 2.56 | 1.58 |
| 0.11 | 0.49 |
| .05 | -- |
| 100.00 |  |

${ }^{* *}$ Currently indicated purchases approximately equal to indicated purchases 18 months ago. ${ }^{1}$ Because the percentage of each issue in the portfolio by value reflects the prices shown in the table, we are also showing the number of shares of each stock as a percentage of the total number of shares in the entire portfolio.
Subscribers can find a full description of the strategy and methodology in the "Subscribers Only" (Log in required) section of our website: www.americaninvestment.com.

The total returns presented in the table below represent changes in the value of a hypothetical HYD portfolio with a beginning date of January 1979 (the longest period for which data was available for the HYD model and relevant indexes) through September 30, 2011*.

|  | 1 mo | 1 yr. | $\underline{5 y r s}$. | $\frac{10 y r s}{}$ | $\underline{20} \mathrm{yrs}$. | Since $1 / 79$ | $\frac{\text { Std. Dev. }}{11.48}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| HYD Strategy | -1.83 | 7.33 | 0.53 | 6.06 | 11.89 | 15.02 |  |
| Russell 1000 Value Index | -7.56 | -1.89 | -3.53 | 3.35 | 8.48 | 15.52 | 18.02 |
| Dow | -5.91 | 3.83 | 1.37 | 4.67 | 9.15 | NA | NA |

*Data assume all purchases and sales at mid-month prices (+/-\$0.125 per share commissions), reinvestment of all dividends and interest, and no taxes. The 5-, 10- and 20-year total returns are annualized, as is the standard deviation of those returns since January 1979, where available. Model HYD calculations are based on hypothetical trades following a very exacting stock-selection strategy, and are gross of any management fees. They do not reflect returns on actual investments or previous recommendations of AIS. Past performance may differ from future results. Historical performance results for investment indexes and/or categories generally do not reflect the deduction of transaction and/or custodial charges or the deduction of an investment-management fee, the incurrence of which would have the effect of decreasing historical performance results.

In the table below we present additional hypothetical returns on the HYD model and benchmark indexes, but on a rolling return basis. For example, between January 1979 and September 2011 there were 382 1-year time spans (January 1979 - December 1979, February 1979 - January 1980, etc.). Of these, the lowest one year return for the S\&P 500 was -43.32 percent, while the highest was 61.01 percent.

| AVERAGE/BEST/ WORST -- HYPOTHETICAL ROLLING RETURNS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly: 01/1979-09/2011 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Annualized Average Rolling Return | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | 15 Years | 20 Years |  |
|  | S\&P 500 Index | $12.95 \%$ | $11.43 \%$ | $11.86 \%$ | $11.93 \%$ | $12.73 \%$ | $12.41 \%$ |
|  | Best Return (\%) | $61.01 \%$ | $33.41 \%$ | $29.72 \%$ | $19.49 \%$ | $19.69 \%$ | $18.26 \%$ |
|  | Worst Return (\%) | $-43.32 \%$ | $-16.09 \%$ | $-6.63 \%$ | $-3.43 \%$ | $5.00 \%$ | $7.10 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | AIS-HYD Strategy | $17.51 \%$ | $15.87 \%$ | $16.72 \%$ | $16.95 \%$ | $17.46 \%$ | $17.21 \%$ |
|  | Best Return (\%) | $68.77 \%$ | $43.49 \%$ | $38.48 \%$ | $26.90 \%$ | $25.34 \%$ | $21.74 \%$ |
|  | Worst Return (\%) | $-50.97 \%$ | $-15.45 \%$ | $-6.37 \%$ | $1.78 \%$ | $7.66 \%$ | $10.84 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Russell 1000 Value Index | $13.29 \%$ | $11.97 \%$ | $12.55 \%$ | $12.57 \%$ | $13.18 \%$ | $12.89 \%$ |
|  | Best Return (\%) | $61.07 \%$ | $32.39 \%$ | $30.09 \%$ | $19.13 \%$ | $19.66 \%$ | $17.52 \%$ |
|  | Worst Return (\%) | $-47.35 \%$ | $-17.31 \%$ | $-6.65 \%$ | $-1.23 \%$ | $5.58 \%$ | $7.37 \%$ |

RECENT MARKET STATISTICS

| Precious Metals \& Commodity |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Prices (\$) |  |  |
|  | $\mathbf{1 0 / 1 4 / 1 1}$ | Mo. Earlier | Yr. Earlier |
| Gold, London p.m. fixing | $\mathbf{1 6 7 8 . 0 0}$ | 1782.00 | 1388.75 |
| Silver, London Spot Price | $\mathbf{3 1 . 8 2}$ | 40.34 | 17.54 |
| Copper, COMEX Spot Price | $\mathbf{3 . 4 1}$ | 3.95 | 2.85 |
| Crude Oil, W. Texas Int. Spot | $\mathbf{8 6 . 7 9}$ | 89.39 | 77.57 |
| Dow Jones Spot Index | $\mathbf{4 4 1 . 9 9}$ | 465.92 | 341.35 |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity Index | $\mathbf{1 4 8 . 2 1}$ | 158.28 | 133.32 |
| Reuters-Jefferies CRB Index | $\mathbf{3 1 7 . 1 8}$ | 332.60 | 273.72 |


| Securities Markets |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\mathbf{1 0 / 1 4 / 1 1}$ | Mo. Earlier | Yr. Earlier |
| S \& P 500 Stock Composite | $\mathbf{1 , 2 2 4 . 5 8}$ | $1,209.11$ | $1,176.19$ |
| Dow Jones Industrial Average | $\mathbf{1 1 , 6 4 4 . 4 9}$ | $11,433.18$ | $11,062.78$ |
| Dow Jones Bond Average | $\mathbf{2 8 1 . 6 0}$ | 283.74 | 270.56 |
| Nasdaq Composite | $\mathbf{2 , 6 6 7 . 8 5}$ | $2,607.07$ | $2,468.77$ |
| Fanancial Times Gold Mines Index | $\mathbf{3 , 7 2 3 . 6 3}$ | $3,977.39$ | $3,809.81$ |
| FT EMEA (African) Gold Mines | $\mathbf{3 , 2 3 4 . 8 5}$ | $3,515.55$ | $3,427.49$ |
| FT Asia Pacific Gold Mines | $\mathbf{1 6 , 7 7 0 . 4 6}$ | $17,466.27$ | $19,180.54$ |
| FT Americas Gold Mines | $\mathbf{3 , 2 1 8 . 1 2}$ | $3,437.21$ | $3,198.10$ |


| U.S. Treasury bills - | 91 day | $\mathbf{0 . 0 2}$ | 0.01 | 0.14 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 182 day | $\mathbf{0 . 0 6}$ | 0.03 | 0.17 |
|  | 52 week | $\mathbf{0 . 1 0}$ | 0.09 | 0.21 |
| U.S. Treasury bonds - | 10 year | $\mathbf{2 . 2 6}$ | 2.09 | 2.59 |
| Corporates: |  |  |  |  |
| High Quality | 10+ year | $\mathbf{4 . 1 3}$ | 4.19 | 4.81 |
| Medium Quality - | 10+ year | $\mathbf{5 . 5 2}$ | 5.40 | 5.85 |
| Federal Reserve Discount Rate | $\mathbf{0 . 7 5}$ | 0.75 | 0.75 |  |
| New York Prime Rate |  | $\mathbf{3 . 2 5}$ | 3.25 | 3.25 |
| Euro Rates | month | $\mathbf{1 . 5 7}$ | 1.53 | 0.99 |
| Government bonds - | 10 year | $\mathbf{2 . 0 5}$ | 1.74 | 2.28 |
| Swiss Rates - | 3 month | $\mathbf{0 . 0 4}$ | 0.01 | 0.17 |
| Government bonds - | 10 year | $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 9 8}$ | 1.35 |

## Exchange Rates (\$)

British Pound
Canadian Dollar
Euro
Japanese Yen
South African Rand
Swiss Franc

| $\mathbf{1 . 5 8 0 8 0 0}$ | 1.580800 | 1.602700 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{0 . 9 8 5 4 2 0}$ | 1.013500 | 0.989315 |
| $\mathbf{1 . 3 8 6 1 0 0}$ | 1.385000 | 1.399800 |
| $\mathbf{0 . 0 1 2 9 3 0}$ | 0.013000 | 0.012297 |
| $\mathbf{0 . 1 2 7 8 0 0}$ | 0.135400 | 0.146789 |
| $\mathbf{1 . 1 1 9 3 2 0}$ | 1.148770 | 1.045806 |

Coin Prices (\$)

|  | 10/14/11 | Mo. Earlier | Yr. Earlier | Prem (\%) |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | :---: |
| American Eagle (1.00) | $\mathbf{1 , 7 0 2 . 6 8}$ | $1,877.88$ | $1,410.43$ | 1.47 |
| Austrian 100-Corona (0.9803) | $\mathbf{1 , 6 0 3 . 1 3}$ | $1,772.82$ | $1,331.32$ | -2.54 |
| British Sovereign (0.2354) | $\mathbf{4 0 1 . 5 0}$ | 442.90 | 335.20 | 1.65 |
| Canadian Maple Leaf (1.00) | $\mathbf{1 , 6 8 1 . 2 0}$ | $1,856.60$ | $1,409.10$ | 0.19 |
| Mexican 50-Peso (1.2057) | $\mathbf{1 , 9 7 5 . 3 0}$ | $2,184.30$ | $1,640.50$ | -2.37 |
| Mexican Ounce (1.00) | $\mathbf{1 , 6 5 8 . 8 0}$ | $1,832.30$ | $1,381.00$ | -1.14 |
| S. African Krugerrand (1.00) | $\mathbf{1 , 6 7 9 . 1 8}$ | $1,854.28$ | $1,402.57$ | 0.07 |
| U.S. Double Eagle-\$20 (0.9675) |  |  |  |  |
| St. Gaudens (MS-60) | $\mathbf{1 , 6 9 5 . 0 0}$ | $1,842.50$ | $1,490.00$ | 4.41 |
| Liberty (Type I-AU50) | $\mathbf{1 , 9 8 2 . 5 0}$ | $1,982.50$ | $1,600.00$ | 22.12 |
| Liberty (Type II-AU50) | $\mathbf{1 , 8 7 0 . 0 0}$ | $1,960.00$ | $1,505.00$ | 15.19 |
| Liberty (Type III-AU50) | $\mathbf{1 , 6 8 0 . 0 0}$ | $1,827.50$ | $1,470.00$ | 3.48 |
| U.S. Silver Coins (\$1,000 face | value, circulated) |  |  |  |
| 90\% Silver Circ. (715 oz.) | $\mathbf{2 2 , 7 3 7 . 5 0}$ | $28,725.00$ | $17,087.50$ | -0.62 |
| 40\% Silver Circ. (292 oz.) | $\mathbf{9 , 0 3 7 . 5 0}$ | $11,637.50$ | $6,900.00$ | -3.28 |
| Silver Dollars Circ. | $\mathbf{2 5 , 0 7 5 . 0 0}$ | $31,275.00$ | $17,950.00$ | 1.29 |

Note: Premium reflects percentage difference between coin price and value of metal in a coin, with gold at $\$ 1678$ per ounce and silver at $\$ 31.82$ per ounce. The weight in troy ounces of the precious metal in coins is indicated in parentheses.

## THE DOW JONES INDUSTRIALS RANKED BY YIELD*

|  | Ticker <br> Symbol | Market Prices (\$) |  |  | 12-Month (\$) |  | Latest Dividend Record |  |  | Indicated |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Annu | Yield $t$ |  |  |  |
|  |  | 10/14/11 | 9/15/11 | 10/15/10 |  |  | High | Low | Amount (\$) | Date | Paid | Dividen | \$) (\%) |
| AT\&T | T | 29.17 | 28.54 | 28.33 | 31.94 | 27.20 | 0.430 | 10/10/11 | 11/1/11 | 1.720 | 5.90 |
| Verizon | VZ | 37.33 | 36.19 | 32.43 | 38.95 | 31.60 | 0.500 | 10/07/11 | 11/1/11 | 2.000 | 5.36 |
| Merck | MRK | 32.98 | 32.49 | 36.95 | 37.68 | 29.47 | 0.380 | 9/15/11 | 10/7/11 | 1.520 | 4.61 |
| Pfizer | PFE | 19.04 | 18.49 | 17.75 | 21.45 | 16.25 | 0.200 | 8/05/11 | 9/6/11 | 0.800 | 4.20 |
| Dupont | DD | 45.09 | 46.48 | 46.67 | 57.00 | 37.10 L | 0.410 | 8/15/11 | 9/12/11 | 1.640 | 3.64 |
| General Electric | GE | 16.60 | 16.08 | 16.30 | 21.65 | 14.02 L | 0.150 | 9/15/11 | 10/25/11 | 0.600 | 3.61 |
| Intel Corp | INTC | 23.50 | 21.54 | 19.32 | 23.96 | 18.90 | 0.210 | 11/07/11 | 12/1/11 | 0.840 | 3.57 |
| Johnson \& Johnson | JNJ | 64.72 | 64.40 | 63.57 | 68.05 | 57.50 | 0.570 | 8/30/11 | 9/13/11 | 2.280 | 3.52 |
| Kraft | KFT | 35.23 | 34.95 | 31.65 | 36.30 | 29.80 | 0.290 | 9/30/11 | 10/14/11 | 1.160 | 3.29 |
| Procter and Gamble | PG | 64.89 | 62.78 | 62.76 | 67.72 | 57.56 | 0.525 | 10/21/11 | 11/15/11 | 2.100 | 3.24 |
| Travelers | TRV | 51.27 | 49.84 | 53.63 | 64.17 | 45.97 L | 0.410 | 9/09/11 | 9/30/11 | 1.640 | 3.20 |
| J P Morgan | JPM | 31.89 | 33.81 | 37.06 | 48.36 | 27.85 L | 0.250 | 10/06/11 | 10/31/11 | 1.000 | 3.14 |
| McDonald's | MCD | 89.94 | 88.07 | 77.48 | 91.22 | 72.14 | 0.700 | 12/01/11 | 12/15/11 | 2.800 | 3.11 |
| Chevron | CVX | 100.47 | 99.26 | 83.61 | 109.94 | 80.41 | 0.780 | 8/19/11 | 9/12/11 | 3.120 | 3.11 |
| Microsoft Corp. | MSFT | 27.27 | 26.99 | 25.54 | 29.46 | 23.65 | 0.200 | 11/17/11 | 12/8/11 | 0.800 | 2.93 |
| Home Depot, Inc. | HD | 35.05 | 34.28 | 30.70 | 39.38 | 28.13 | 0.250 | 9/01/11 | 9/15/11 | 1.000 | 2.85 |
| 3M Company | MMM | 78.89 | 80.63 | 89.14 | 98.19 | 68.63 L | 0.550 | 8/19/11 | 9/12/11 | 2.200 | 2.79 |
| Coca-Cola | KO | 67.85 | 71.02 | 59.94 | 71.77 | 59.80 | 0.470 | 9/15/11 | 10/1/11 | 1.880 | 2.77 |
| Wal-Mart Stores | WMT | 55.46 | 52.51 | 53.35 | 57.90 | 48.31 | 0.365 | 3/11/11 | 4/4/11 | 1.460 | 2.63 |
| Boeing | BA | 63.89 | 64.32 | 70.11 | 80.65 | 56.01 | 0.420 | 8/12/11 | 9/2/11 | 1.680 | 2.63 |
| United Tech. | UTX | 74.64 | 75.61 | 74.10 | 91.83 | 66.87 L | 0.480 | 11/18/11 | 12/10/11 | 1.920 | 2.57 |
| Exxon Mobil | XOM | 78.11 | 74.01 | 65.19 | 88.23 | 64.59 | 0.470 | 8/12/11 | 9/9/11 | 1.880 | 2.41 |
| Caterpillar | CAT | 84.09 | 86.60 | 79.75 | 116.55 | 67.54 L | 0.460 | 10/24/11 | 11/19/11 | 1.840 | 2.19 |
| Hewlett-Packard | HPQ | 26.11 | 23.27 | 42.82 | 49.39 | 21.50 L | 0.120 | 9/14/11 | 10/5/11 | 0.480 | 1.84 |
| IBM | IBM | 190.53 | 170.09 | 141.06 | 190.53 H | 136.70 | 0.750 | 8/10/11 | 9/10/11 | 3.000 | 1.57 |
| American Express | AXP | 46.10 | 49.36 | 39.09 | 53.80 | 38.75 | 0.180 | 10/07/11 | 11/10/11 | 0.720 | 1.56 |
| Cisco | CSCO | 17.55 | 16.67 | 23.36 | 24.60 | 13.30 | 0.060 | 10/06/11 | 10/26/11 | 0.240 | 1.37 |
| Alcoa | AA | 10.14 | 11.98 | 13.13 | 18.47 | 8.45 L | 0.030 | 11/04/11 | 11/25/11 | 0.120 | 1.18 |
| Walt Disney | DIS | 34.47 | 32.94 | 34.88 | 44.34 | 28.19 L | 0.400 | 12/13/10 | 1/18/11 | 0.400 | 1.16 |
| Bank of America | BAC | 6.19 | 7.33 | 11.98 | 15.31 | 5.13 L | 0.010 | 9/02/11 | 9/23/11 | 0.040 | 0.65 |

[^2]|  | Security $\quad$ Avg. Market Cap. / Descriptive Quarterly Statistics, as of 9/30/11 <br> Ratios <br> No. of  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Annualized Returns $^{8}(\%)$, as of $9 / 30 / 11$After Tax* |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 12 \mathrm{Mo} \\ \text { Yield (\%) } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Short/Intermediate Fixed Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index | BSV'/VBISX | 2.70 Yrs. | 1316 |  | 0.22 | 2.13 | 60 | -- | 1.89 | 1.91 | 4.84 | 4.88 | 1.14 | 3.92 | 3.70 |
| iShares Barclays 1-3 Yr. Credit Bond | CSJ ${ }^{1}$ | 1.90 Yrs. | 707 |  | 0.20 | 1.48 | 12 | -- | 2.06 | 1.14 | 5.52 | -- | 0.41 | 4.40 | -- |
| iShares Barclays 1-3 Year Treasury | SHY ${ }^{1}$ | 1.82 Yrs. | 42 |  | 0.15 | 1.53 | 85 | -- | 0.91 | 1.08 | 2.25 | 3.73 | 0.76 | 1.64 | 2.80 |
| Vanguard Limited-Term Tax-Exempt | VMLTX | 2.80 Yrs. | 1499 |  | 0.20 | 2.00 | 14 | -- | 2.23 | 1.36 | 5.92 | 4.45 | 0.26 | 4.57 | 2.96 |
| SPDR Short-Term Municipal Bond | SHM ${ }^{1}$ | 3.08 Yrs. | 356 |  | . 20 | 1.77 | 25 | -- | 1.32 | 2.12 | 4.18 | -- | 1.54 | 3.85 | -- |
| Inflation-Protected Fixed Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| iShares Barclays TIPS Bond | TIP ${ }^{1}$ | 9.36 Yrs. | 33 |  | 0.20 | 0.93 | 13 | -- | 4.24 | 9.74 | 7.98 | 6.96 | 8.07 | 6.68 | 5.42 |
| Vanguard Inflation-Protected Securities | VIPSX | 9.50 Yrs. | 32 |  | 0.22 | 0.90 | 29 | -- | 3.77 | 9.59 | 7.67 | 6.79 | 8.09 | 6.81 | 5.53 |
| Real Estate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vanguard REIT Index | $\mathrm{VNQ}^{1 /} \mathrm{VGSIX}{ }^{2}$ | $\mathrm{X}^{2} \quad 6.46$ B | 108 |  | 0.26 | 0.18 | 12 | 2.3 | 3.77 | 1.14 | -1.08 | -2.13 | -0.08 | -2.44 | -3.38 |
| SPDR Dow Jones REIT | RWR ${ }^{1}$ | 6.92 B | 82 |  | 0.26 | 0.15 | 10 | 1.9 | 3.45 | 1.68 | -2.09 | -3.18 | 0.57 | -3.43 | -4.43 |
| U.S. Large Cap Value |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vanguard Value Index | VTV'/VIVAX | 45.66 B | 415 |  | . 26 | 0.07 | 27 | 1.6 | 2.69 | -1.05 | -0.79 | -3.24 | -1.41 | -1.20 | -3.64 |
| iShares Russell 1000 Value Index | IWD ${ }^{1}$ | 31.19 B | 655 |  | 0.20 | 0.04 | 24 | 1.2 | 2.42 | -2.05 | -1.61 | -3.62 | -2.67 | -2.08 | -4.04 |
| U.S. Small Cap Value |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| iShares Russell Microcap Index | IWC ${ }^{1}$ | 0.21 B | 1410 |  | 0.60 | 0.04 | 35 | 1.1 | 1.31 | -5.26 | -2.90 | -5.03 | -5.55 | -3.10 | -5.20 |
| Vanguard Small-Cap Value Index | VBR'/VISVX | 1.49 B | 1024 |  | 0. 26 | 0.15 | 25 | 1.5 | 2.15 | -5.19 | 0.25 | -1.49 | -5.53 | -0.20 | -1.92 |
| U.S. Large Cap Growth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| iShares Russell 1000 Growth Index | IWF' | 36.28 B | 590 |  | . 20 | 0.30 | 24 | 3.4 | 1.47 | 3.58 | 4.52 | 1.46 | 3.18 | 4.22 | 1.22 |
| Vanguard Growth Index | VUG ${ }^{1 / V I G R X ~}$ | X 36.19 B | 431 |  | . 26 | 0.27 | 26 | 3.5 | 1.15 | 2.74 | 3.63 | 1.45 | 2.58 | 3.45 | 1.29 |
| U.S. Marketwide |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vanguard Total Stock Market Index | VTI'VTSMX | 27.07 B | 3350 |  | 0.17 | 0.18 | 5 | 2.2 | 1.98 | 0.59 | 1.61 | -0.71 | 0.32 | 1.30 | -0.99 |
| Fidelity Spartan Total Market Index | FSTMX ${ }^{3}$ | 26.14 B | 3203 |  | . 10 | 0.17 | 4 | 1.9 | 1.85 | 0.59 | 1.55 | -0.70 | 0.33 | 1.22 | -1.01 |
| Foreign- Developed Markets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| iShares MSCI Growth Index | EFG ${ }^{1}$ | 27.38 B | 551 |  | 0.40 | 0.05 | 27 | 1.8 | 2.41 | -8.96 | -0.72 | -2.27 | -9.42 | -0.99 | -2.47 |
| iShares MSCI Value Index | EFV' | 31.57 B | 523 |  | 0.40 | 0.03 | 29 | 1.0 | 4.52 | -10.07 | -1.80 | -4.88 | -10.89 | -2.26 | -5.32 |
| Vanguard Europe Pacific Index | VEA ${ }^{1}$ VTMGX | $\mathrm{X}^{4} \quad 32.12$ B | 924 |  | 0.18 | 0.06 | 6 | 1.4 | 2.90 | -10.17 | -1.79 | -3.41 | -10.38 | -2.03 | -3.64 |
| Vanguard Developed Markets Index | VDMIX ${ }^{5}$ | 32.29 B | 963 |  | 0.22 | 0.06 | 13 | 1.4 | 3.32 | -10.23 | -1.94 | -3.55 | -10.66 | -2.50 | -4.08 |
| SPDR S\&P International Small Cap | GWX ${ }^{1}$ | 0.86 B | 737 |  | . 60 | 0.25 | 17 | 0.9 | 2.44 | -5.72 | 5.12 | -- | -6.16 | 4.73 | -- |
| Foreign- Emerging Markets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vanguard Emerging Market Index | $\mathrm{VWO}^{1 /}$ VEIEX ${ }^{6}$ | $\mathrm{X}^{6} \quad 19.35$ B | 901 |  | 0.35 | 0.31 | 12 | 2.0 | 1.87 | -17.63 | 4.98 | 4.25 | -18.44 | 4.33 | 3.75 |
| Gold-Related Funds |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| iShares COMEX Gold Trust | $\mathrm{IAU}^{\prime}$ | -- |  |  | 0.25 | 1.03 | 0 | -- | 0.00 | 23.61 | 22.43 | 21.60 | 23.61 | 22.43 | 21.60 |
| SPDR Gold Shares | GLD ${ }^{1}$ | -- |  |  | 0.40 | 1.03 | 0.00 | -- | 0.00 | 23.46 | 21.87 | 21.53 | 23.46 | 21.87 | 21.53 |
|  | Recommended Gold-Mining Companies (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Data provided by the funds and Morningstar. ${ }^{1}$ Ex change Traded Fund, traded on NYSE. ${ }^{2} 1 \%$ fee for redemption in 1 yr . ${ }^{3} 0.5 \%$ fee for redemption in 90 days. ${ }^{4} 1 \%$ fee for redemption in 5 yrs. ${ }^{5} 2 \%$ fee for redemption in 60 days. ${ }^{6} 0.5 \%$ fee for purchase and $0.25 \%$ fee for |  |  |  |  |
|  | Ticker | Month | Year | --- 52-Week --- |  |  | Dividends Paid |  | Payment Schedule | Yield (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Symbol 1 | 10/14/11 Earlier | Earlier | High | Low |  | Last 12 Months |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Anglogold Ltd., ADR | AU | $42.49 \quad 46.22$ | 47.29 | 52.86 | 38.97 |  | 0.2334 |  | Schedule Semiannual | (\%) 0.5493 | in 60 days. ${ }^{6} 0.5 \%$ fee for purchase and $0.25 \%$ fee for redemption. 'For Vanguard funds, Expense Ratios shown |  |  |  |  |
| Barrick Gold Corp. $\dagger$ | ABX | 48.2452 .87 | 47.99 | 55.95 | 42.50 |  | 0.4080 |  | Semiannual | 0.8458 | are for Mutual Funds. ETFs have lower expenses. ${ }^{8}$ For |  |  |  |  |
| Gold Fields Ltd. | GFI | 15.5916 .84 | 15.77 | 18.70 | 13.62 |  | 0.2381 |  | Semiannual |  | Vanguard Funds, returns shown are for Mutual Funds; ETFs' returns may deviate *Pre-liquidation. Calculated |  |  |  |  |
| Goldcorp, Inc. + | GG | 48.38 50.59 | 44.45 | 56.31 | 39.04 |  | 0.3332 |  | Monthly | 0.6887 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newmont Mining | NEM | $66.86 \quad 64.29$ | 61.88 | 71.25 | 50.05 |  | 0.8000 |  | Quarterly | 1.1965 | using the highest individual federal income tax rates in effect at the time of each distribution and do not reflect |  |  |  |  |
| The information herein is derived from generally reliable sources, but cannot be guaranteed. American Investment Services, the American Institute for Economic Research, and the officers, employees, or other persons affiliated with either organization may from time to time have positions in the investments referred to herein. <br> the impact of state and local situations. + Dividend shown is withholding. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


[^0]:    American Investment Services, Inc. is wholly owned by the American Institute for Economic Research.

[^1]:    July 1, 2011

[^2]:    * See the Recommended HYD Portfolio table on page 78 for current recommendations. $\dagger$ Based on indicated dividends and market price as of 10/14/11.

    Extra dividends are not included in annual yields. H New 52-week high. L New 52-week low. (s) All data adjusted for splits and spin-offs. 12-month data begins 10/16/10.

