# 2023 Mid-Year Outlook

**JUNE 2023** 



#### Author



ROBERT M. ALMEIDA, JR. Portfolio Manager and Global Investment Strategist

## **EQUITIES**

- Inflation cooling but fading pricing power and falling demand decelerates revenues.
- Rising wages and interest expenses keep costs elevated.
- Avoid companies with high fixed costs and undifferentiated products.
- Greater scarcity value rewards companies with durable cash flow streams.
- · Quality and cash flows eclipse macro and style factors.
- Prefer non-US over US given lower profit vulnerability and more attractive valuations.
- Favor small caps over large as small benefits from higher capital spending.



## **BONDS**

- With inflation falling, global central banks near the end of their tightening cycles.
- Elevated recession odds favor high-quality, long-duration fixed income.
- High credit quality and attractive valuation factors favor US municipals.
- Investment grade vulnerable amid recession risks and disappointing profits, but value in select credits.
- Rising US bankruptcies and financial stress increases high yield default risk; bank loans most vulnerable.



### 10 YEAR YIELD ESTIMATES\*

US Treasuries: 3.00% – 4.00%German bunds: 1.75% – 2.75%

Japanese government bonds: 0.50% – 1.00%

\*Estimates are based on the equity and bond markets described above. These estimates are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed.

# 2023 Mid-Year Outlook

**JUNE 2023** 



The views expressed are those of the author(s) and are subject to change at any time. These views are for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as a recommendation to purchase any security or as a solicitation or investment advice. No forecasts can be guaranteed.

Unless otherwise indicated, logos and product and service names are trademarks of MFS<sup>®</sup> and its affiliates and may be registered in certain countries.

Distributed by: U.S. - MFS Investment Management: Latin America - MFS Investment Management Canada Limited. No securities commission or similar regulatory authority in Canada has reviewed this communication.

Please note that in Europe and Asia Pacific, this document is intended for distribution to investment professionals and institutional clients only.

Note to UK and Switzerland readers: Issued in the UK and Switzerland by MFS International (U.K.) Limited ("MIL UK"), a private limited company registered in England and Wales with the company number 03062718, and authorised and regulated in the conduct of investment business by the UK Financial Conduct Authority. MIL UK, an indirect subsidiary of MFS®, has its registered office at One Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5ER. Note to Europe (ex UK and Switzerland) readers: Issued in Europe by MFS Investment Management (Lux) S.à.r.l. (MFS Lux) – authorized under Luxembourg law as a management company for Funds domiciled in Luxembourg and which both provide products and investment services to institutional investors and is registered office is at S.a.r.l. 4 Rue Albert Borschette, Luxembourg L-1246. Tel: 352 2826 12800. This material shall not be circulated or distributed to any person other than to professional investors (as permitted by local regulations) and should not be relied upon or distributed to persons where such reliance or distribution would be contrary to local regulation; Singapore - MFS International Singapore Pte. Ltd. (CRN201228809M); Australia/New Zealand - MFS International Australia Pty Ltd ("MFS Australia") holds an Australian financial services licence number 485343. MFS Australia is regulated by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.; Hong Kong - MFS International (Hong Kong) Limited ("MIL HK"), a private limited company licensed and regulated by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (the "SFC"). MIL HK is approved to engage in dealing in securities and asset management regulated activities and may provide certain investment services to "professional investors" as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance ("SFO"). For Professional Investors in China - MFS Financial Management Consulting (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. 2801-12, 28th Floor, 100 Century Avenue, Shanghai World Financial Center, Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone, 200120, China, a Chinese limited cinal linstruments Business

55127 1