



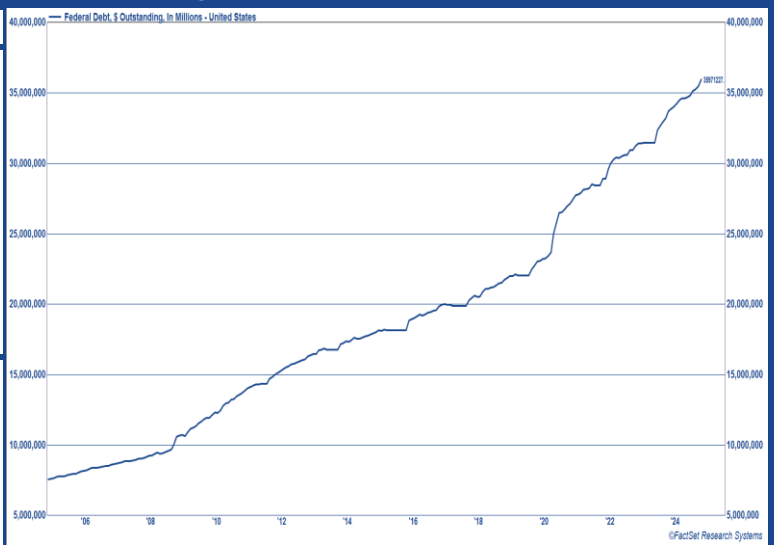
Economic & Market Commentary

According to the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, outstanding U.S. national debt breached the \$36 trillion mark last week. The graph below illustrates where U.S. outstanding debt was at the end of October which was just shy of \$36 trillion. For fiscal year 2024, the U.S. Government ran a deficit of \$1.83 trillion with \$4.92 trillion of receipts and \$6.75 trillion of outlays of which included a gross interest outlay of \$1.13 trillion. The interest outlay surpassed national defense spending of \$874 billion making it the third largest outlay trailing only Social Security and Medicare/Medicaid spending. Since the 2008 Financial Crisis, deficit spending has skyrocketed. While deficit spending and rising debt concerns have been talked about for decades, it is now getting much greater scrutiny domestically and globally. It is important to understand that this election presents a window of opportunity to get spending under control and right the fiscal ship through the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). The upside is for DOGE to have a proactive approach and rein in spending in an analytical and strategic manner over a period of time. The alternative would be a reactionary approach where at some point capital markets force our hand, whereby the dollar would be crushed, inflation would skyrocket, broad-based austerity measures would have to be implemented, and our standard of living would plummet over a short period of time. One doesn't have look too far back to see how fickle and quickly perceptions can change and impact a firm or country. Remember Lehman Brothers and Greece? What took decades to develop can unfold quickly which is why we should seize this opportunity. History has repeatedly shown once great debtor nations fall on the weight and burden of credit and the great USA will be no different. Yes, it will be disruptive and unsettling in the short run, but extremely beneficial in the long-run for the nation and the next generation.

Index Total Returns - November 22, 2024

	1-Wk	YTD	1-Yr
NASDAQ	1.77	27.41	34.18
S&P 500	1.72	26.70	32.85
S&P 400	4.21	21.74	33.17
Russell 2000	4.49	20.15	35.93
Dow Jones	2.03	19.49	27.97
MSCI-Emerging	0.23	8.50	13.17
MSCI-Developed	0.00	4.32	11.12
Barclay's U.S. Bond Index			
High Yield	0.28	8.18	13.31
Int. Gov. Credit	0.07	2.76	5.78
Aggregate	0.19	1.52	6.22
5-year Muni	0.11	1.58	4.19
Municipal	0.24	1.69	5.74

U.S. Outstanding Debt



U.S. Treasury Yields

Treasury Yields	Latest Close	Week Ago	1-Year Ago
U.S. 1-Yr	4.40	4.33	5.25
U.S. 2-Yr	4.38	4.31	4.89
U.S. 3-Yr	4.32	4.28	4.60
U.S. 5-Yr	4.31	4.31	4.43
U.S. 10-Yr	4.42	4.44	4.41
U.S. 30-Yr	4.60	4.61	4.54

S&P 500 Sector Total Returns - November 22, 2024

Sector	1-Wk	YTD	1-Yr
Info Tech	1.60	34.71	39.67
Comm. Services	-0.30	32.82	35.16
Financials	1.70	36.54	46.45
Utilities	2.74	31.76	34.82
Industrials	2.51	26.47	36.59
Con. Discretion	1.58	24.17	32.32
Consumer Staples	3.15	19.00	23.08
Energy	2.55	19.17	19.03
Real Estate	2.61	12.90	26.26
Materials	2.97	11.12	18.49
Health Care	1.65	7.07	12.39

Municipal Yields - Bloomberg/Barclays Index

Issue Type	Latest Close	Week Ago	1-Year Ago
U.S. AAA	3.41	3.44	3.59
U.S. AA	3.44	3.46	3.65
U.S. A	3.81	3.83	4.19
U.S. Baa	4.26	4.29	4.76
U.S. Municipal	3.56	3.59	3.83
Michigan	3.73	3.74	3.97

Index Characteristics	P/E	P/E NTM	Dividend Yield
S&P 500 - Large Cap	22.16	18.42	1.20
S&P 400 - Mid Cap	17.11	15.97	1.28
S&P 600 - Small Cap	16.99	15.50	1.47