

Natixis Risk-Efficient Portfolios

Quarterly Update – 12/31/2023

Fourth Quarter 2023 Review

The final quarter of 2023 saw both equity and fixed income markets cap off a historically strong year. With the third quarter's drawdown in the rearview mirror, markets again focused on receding inflation, resilient economic growth and a US Federal Reserve that was declaring an end to rate hikes. In fact, the market is pricing in six rate cuts for 2024, with a 67% chance of the first cut occurring in March. Undoubtedly, some of these projected cuts reflect a possible recession scenario and if economic growth continues to defy expectations rates may again grind higher. With jobless claims at cycle lows and headline employment looking strong, economic momentum remains intact. If inflation continues to recede, then the market will continue to price in a soft landing scenario which should benefit both equities and fixed income.

- The S&P 500® was up in the fourth quarter, returning 11.69%. Small cap stocks (as measured by the Russell 2000 Index) were also strong, up 14.03%.
- Internationally, the MSCI EAFE Index and MSCI Emerging Markets Index returned 10.42% and 7.86% respectively.
- Interest rates declined during the quarter, with the 10-Year US Treasury yield down 70 basis points, from 4.57% to 3.87%.
- The Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index responded accordingly, returning 6.82% for the quarter, while the Bloomberg US Corporate Investment Grade Index returned 8.50%.
- Return-seeking fixed income held up relatively well, with the Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Index returning 7.16% for the quarter.
- Global fixed income rallied as the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index rose 8.10% for the quarter.
- In liquid alternatives, the Wilshire Liquid Alternatives Index was up 1.89%.

Performance Review

- For the fourth quarter of 2023 the Growth, Moderate, Conservative and Income portfolios outperformed their benchmarks.
- Asset allocation was a slight detractor while style and manager selection were contributors.
- The allocation to cash detracted slightly as both equities and fixed income rallied strongly.
- Style selection was a contributor, driven by an overweight to the growth style and long duration fixed income.
- Manager selection was a contributor, driven by Oakmark Fund, Vaughan Nelson Mid Cap Fund, WCM Focused International Growth and both Loomis Sayles fixed income funds.

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Trade Review

- The Conservative through Growth models performed two sets of trades in the quarter.
- On October 17 the models bought high beta equity and reduced investment grade fixed income.
- On November 28 the models sold infrastructure equity and reduced small cap equity. Proceeds were used to increase investment grade fixed income and broad large cap equity.

Current Positioning

- The models are underweight equity relative to the benchmark, with an overweight to domestic large cap and small cap equity. International developed equity and emerging markets equity are both underweight.
- In fixed income, the models are underweight US investment grade fixed income and overweight high yield. Within the US investment grade fixed income sleeve there are overweights to investment grade corporates and US Treasuries.
- The models are duration neutral to the benchmark at the portfolio level through high quality long duration exposure in the US investment grade fixed income sleeve.
- The models are positioned for the continued disinflation trend coupled with decelerating economic growth. While growth has remained resilient, deceleration should continue and could transform into a growth scare.
- The models are positioned for this possibility with a slight underweight to equity and by reducing cyclical equity exposure.
- In fixed income, an overweight to high yield acknowledges that company balance sheets are in good shape and many have extended maturities to 2025 and beyond.
- This combination creates an attractive carry environment where high yield default risk is low and bond yields remain high.

Natixis Risk-Efficient Portfolios – Composite Performance Overview

Average Annualized Total Returns†% (as of 12/31/2023)	QTR	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception*
Conservative Portfolio (Gross)	7.74	11.55	11.55	0.59	4.06	3.48	4.16
Conservative Portfolio (Net)	6.95	8.28	8.28	-2.38	0.99	0.42	1.09
Benchmark	7.51	10.90	10.90	0.52	5.67	4.57	5.27
Moderate Portfolio (Gross)	8.46	14.65	14.65	2.94	6.42	5.32	6.24
Moderate Portfolio (Net)	7.67	11.30	11.30	-0.10	3.29	2.21	3.11
Benchmark	8.23	13.71	13.71	2.08	7.66	5.76	6.91
Growth Portfolio (Gross)	8.84	16.03	16.03	3.72	7.88	6.25	7.41
Growth Portfolio (Net)	8.05	12.64	12.64	0.66	4.71	3.12	4.25
Benchmark	8.59	15.14	15.14	2.85	9.10	6.65	8.30
Income Portfolio (Gross)	7.83	11.46	11.46	2.74	5.56	--	4.82
Income Portfolio (Net)	7.04	8.19	8.19	-0.29	2.45	--	1.72
Benchmark	7.51	10.90	10.90	0.52	5.67	--	4.95

*Since inception performance for the Conservative, Moderate, and Growth composites is based on the portfolio's first full month of performance beginning 01/01/2012 and the inception date is 12/15/2011. The Income composite inception date is 11/01/2016.

*Since inception performance for the Conservative composite is based on the portfolio's first full month of performance beginning 01/01/2012 and the inception date is 12/15/2011.

Performance data shown represents past performance and is not guarantee of, and not necessarily indicative of, future results. Returns annualized for periods greater than one year. All performance referenced is historical and is no guarantee of future results. The net performance is net of the expenses of underlying mutual fund and ETF holdings as well as a maximum annual advisory fee of 3% that is applied prorated at month end. The Gross performance is net of the expenses of underlying mutual fund and ETF holdings and does not include advisory, overlay, platform, brokerage, investment management fees, investment advisory fees, custody fees or deductions for income taxes. The composite performance results shown for each model represent the performance of one fully discretionary, unconstrained, proprietary separate account managed by Natixis Advisors, LLC in accordance with the model. This account originally funded the model portfolios and is being used to maintain the performance track record. Performance reflects the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. The returns shown include reinvestment of dividends, capital gains, income and/or earnings distributed from the underlying holdings.

Natixis established seed accounts and the accounts were charged commissions for certain trades, thus lowering portfolio returns compared to calculating performance based on an asset-based (bundled) fee that is charged for Risk-Efficient model portfolios which impacted the Growth and Moderate sleeves. The higher commission trading fees for seed accounts has been replaced with an asset-based (bundled) fee arrangement when calculating pure gross returns, and net-of-fee returns are reduced by the model bundled fee 3%.

† Performance for periods less than one year is cumulative, not annualized. Returns shown are considered to be preliminary and are subject to change.

Portfolio current weights and holdings are subject to change and are based off target allocations. The allocations are approximate and may not total 100 percent. For information on benchmark compositions please refer to the disclosure at the end of this presentation.

Investment returns shown represent composite portfolio performance and do not reflect the performance of any individual account. Individual client results may have differed dependent upon the timing of cash flows and account level investment restrictions

The returns for the portfolio were obtained during a period of fluctuating interest rates, bond prices, and stock prices, and should not be considered representative of the returns you could expect to realize from any future investment in the portfolio. The underlying holdings contained in, or the investment strategies followed with respect to the portfolio may have changed materially during the time period portrayed and may not relate to the type of securities or advisory services currently offered. As market conditions can fluctuate suddenly and frequently the portfolio holdings and investment mix may change which can result in an investor's performance deviating from the performance portrayed.

The portfolio's distribution yield is the weighted average distribution yield of the underlying funds. For monthly and quarterly paying funds, the calculation uses the most recently published distribution yield. For annual paying funds, distribution yield is calculated as the last distribution divided by NAV as of the most recent month-end.

Source: Natixis Investment Managers Solutions and FactSet.

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Additional Information

The analysis is based on the Natixis Risk-Efficient Model Portfolios. The holdings, characteristics and performance of your portfolio may be different from the holdings, characteristics and performance information presented in this report. As the portfolio is actively managed, its portfolio holdings are subject to change. At any date any particular account may include securities not held in the model portfolio. Significant dispersion may occur among the holdings and performance of the model portfolio managed by Natixis Advisors, LLC and the composite performance. The Risk-Efficient Portfolio's account performance is likely to differ from the performance shown for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to: the client's investment manager, and not Natixis Advisors, LLC, is responsible for implementing trades in Program accounts; differences in market conditions; client-imposed investment restrictions; the timing of client investments and withdrawals; fees payable by Risk-Efficient Portfolios accounts; and/or other factors.

This material is for informational purposes only. It does not provide individually tailored investment advice. It has been prepared without regard to the individual financial circumstances and objectives of a specific investor, and the strategies discussed herein are not appropriate for all investors. It is the responsibility of each Financial Advisor to make recommendations that they believe are in the best interest of each of their clients, based on his/her investment objectives, financial situation, risk tolerance and investment time horizon.

Benchmark Compositions: The Income and Conservative Benchmarks are composed of 34% MSCI ACWI Index / 51% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index / 15% Wilshire Liquid Index. The Moderate Benchmark is composed of 51% MSCI ACWI Index / 34% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index / 15% Wilshire Liquid Index. The Growth Benchmark is composed of 59.5% MSCI ACWI Index / 25.5% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index / 15% Wilshire Liquid Index.

Index returns are presented as a general indicator of market performance during the periods depicted. Index performance is not indicative of the performance of any investment and do not reflect fees, expenses, or sales charges. The index composition may not reflect the manner in which the portfolio is constructed and portfolio characteristics including volatility, risk and return features may deviate from those of the benchmark. The ability to select an index for comparison may make the results of the portfolio look comparatively more favorable than if another index had been selected. All indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly.

Definitions: The **MSCI All Country World Index** ("MSCI ACWI") is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to provide a broad measure of equity-market performance throughout the world. The MSCI ACWI is comprised of stocks from 23 developed countries and 24 emerging markets. The **Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index** is a broad-based index that covers the U.S.-dollar-denominated, investment-grade, fixed-rate, taxable bond market of SEC-registered securities. The index includes bonds from the Treasury, government-related, corporate, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, and collateralized mortgage-backed securities sectors. The **Wilshire Liquid Alternative IndexSM** measures the collective performance of the five Wilshire Liquid Alternative strategies that make up the Wilshire Liquid Alternative Universe. The Wilshire Liquid Alternative Index (WLIQA) is designed to provide a broad measure of the liquid alternative market by combining the performance of the Wilshire Liquid Alternative Equity Hedge IndexSM (WLIQAEH), Wilshire Liquid Alternative Global Macro IndexSM (WLIQAGM), Wilshire Liquid Alternative Relative Value IndexSM (WLIQARV), Wilshire Liquid Alternative Multi-Strategy IndexSM (WLIQAMS), and Wilshire Liquid Alternative Event Driven IndexSM (WLIQAED). The **FTSE 3-Month Treasury Bill Index** performance is an average of the last 3-Month Treasury Bill issues. 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bills are guaranteed by the U.S. government and provide a fixed rate of return when held to maturity. The **Russell 3000[®] Index** measures the performance of the largest 3000 U.S. companies representing approximately 98% of the investable U.S. equity market. The Russell 3000[®] Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive, unbiased, and stable barometer of the broad market and is completely reconstituted annually to ensure new and growing equities are reflected. You may not invest directly in an index.

Additional Information

RISKS:

All securities are subject to risk, including possible loss of principal. Please read the risks associated with each investment prior to investing. Detailed discussions of each investment's risks are included in the prospectus offering or offering document, which can be obtained from the fund family's website. There is no assurance that any investment will meet its performance objectives or that losses will be avoided. Asset allocation strategies do not guarantee a profit or protect against a loss. There is no guarantee that an underlying fund will distribute dividends.

The investments highlighted in this document may be subject to certain additional risks, including but not limited to: **Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs)** trade like stocks, are subject to investment risk, and will fluctuate in market value. Unlike mutual funds, ETF shares are not individually redeemable directly with the Fund, and are bought and sold on the secondary market at market price, which may be higher or lower than the ETF's net asset value (NAV). Transactions in shares of ETFs will result in brokerage commissions, which will reduce returns. **Equity securities** are volatile and can decline significantly in response to broad market and economic conditions. **Leverage** can increase market exposure and magnify investment risk. **Futures and forward contracts**, like other derivatives, can involve a high degree of risk and may result in unlimited losses. Because they depend on the performance of an underlying asset, they can be highly volatile and are subject to market, credit, and counterparty risks. **Short exposures** using derivatives may present various risks. If the value of the asset, asset class or index on which the portfolio holds short investment exposure increases, the portfolio will incur a loss. **Foreign and emerging market securities** may be subject to higher volatility than US securities, due to varying degrees of regulation and limited liquidity. These risks are magnified in emerging markets. **Commodity-related investments**, including derivatives, may be affected by a number of factors including commodity prices, world events, import controls, and economic conditions and therefore may involve substantial risk of loss. **Currency exchange rates** between the US dollar and foreign currencies may cause the value of the portfolio's investments to decline. **Interest rate risk** is a major risk to all bondholders. As rates rise, existing bonds that offer a lower rate of return decline in value because newly issued bonds that pay higher rates are more attractive to investors. **Concentrated investments** in a particular region, sector, or industry may be more vulnerable to adverse changes in that industry or the market as a whole. **Investments in small and midsize companies** can be more volatile than those of larger companies. **Value investing** carries the risk that a security can continue to be undervalued by the market for long periods of time. **Growth stocks** may be more sensitive to market conditions than other equities as their prices strongly reflect future expectations. **Fixed income securities** may carry one or more of the following risks: credit, interest rate (as interest rates rise bond prices usually fall), inflation and liquidity. **Mortgage-related and asset-backed securities** are subject to the risks of the mortgages and assets underlying the securities. Other related risks include prepayment risk, potentially resulting in the reinvestment of the prepaid amounts into securities with lower yields. **Below investment grade fixed income securities** may be subject to greater risks (including the risk of default) than other fixed income securities. **Inflation protected securities** move with the rate of inflation and carry the risk that in deflationary conditions (when inflation is negative) the value of the bond may decrease. **Floating rate loans** are often lower-quality debt securities and may involve greater risk of price changes and greater risk of default on interest and principal payments. **Options** may be used for hedging purposes, but also entail risks related to liquidity, market conditions and credit that may increase volatility.

Natixis Advisors, LLC ("Natixis Advisors") will act as investment adviser for the Risk-Efficient Portfolios. The Portfolios' marketing and sales support agent is Natixis Advisors and the distributor of the underlying affiliated fund components of the Portfolio is Natixis Distribution. Natixis Advisors and Natixis Distribution are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Natixis Investment Managers, LLC.

Natixis Advisors provides discretionary advisory services through its division Natixis Investment Managers Solutions. Discretionary advisory services are generally provided with the assistance of model portfolio providers, some of which are affiliates of Natixis Investment Managers.

Natixis Distribution is a marketing agent for the Oakmark Funds, a limited purpose broker-dealer and the distributor of various registered investment companies for which advisory services are provided by affiliates of Natixis Investment Managers.

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