S&P Dow Jones Indices

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Is It Time to Refocus on Fixed Income?

Sean Clark, CFA

EVP, Chief Investment Officer
Clark Capital

As Clark Capital's Chief Investment Officer, Sean oversees all of the firm's investment activities and heads the firm's Investment Team. Sean joined the firm in 1993 and is responsible for asset allocation and investment selection for Navigator® Investment Solutions as well as directing ongoing market research and contributing to the development of proprietary products. Sean is a member of the Clark Capital Investment Team and the Executive Team. He graduated from the University of Delaware, earning a B.S. and an M.A. in Economics. Sean holds the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation and is a member of the CFA Institute (formerly AIMR) and the Financial Analysts of Philadelphia, Inc.

Frans Scheepers, CFA

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Frans Scheepers is Global Head of Fixed Income Products at S&P Dow Jones Indices (S&P DJI). With over 15 years of fixed income experience, Frans leads S&P DJI's global fixed income indices, including the industry-leading iBoxx bond and loan indices, CDX and iTraxx credit default swap indices, and S&P Bond and Municipal Bond Indices.

Prior to his current position, Frans served in several key roles within IHS Markit's Index and Pricing businesses, including leading IHS Markit's U.S. Index Products and Tradable Index Products globally. Previously Frans worked at fixed income hedge fund Cambridge Place Investment Management and in FTSE Russel's index research department, focused on index design.

Frans is a CFA charterholder and a member of the CFA Society New York and the CFA Institute. He holds an honors bachelor's degree in financial economics from Stellenbosch University.

Karen Veraa, CFA
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Karen Veraa is the Head of iShares US Fixed Income Strategy within BlackRock's Indexed Fixed Income & LDI organization. She is a subject matter expert on fixed income ETFs and leads the commercialization efforts with the US Wealth Advisory segment. As part of her role, she writes content on fixed income markets and ETFs. She has been interviewed on CNBC, Bloomberg TV and BNN. Ms. Veraa is a contributor the BlackRock Blog. She works with the iShares Product Innovation team on new fixed income ETF launches.

Prior to joining BlackRock, she was an investment research analyst at Laird Norton Wealth Management, providing investment solutions for high net worth clients. Ms. Veraa began her career as short-term funding trader in the treasury department of Washington Mutual Bank.

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