

February 2024

We are pleased to report that Zuma Wealth clients enjoyed gains to start the year, benefiting from constructive positioning in both the stock and bond markets. Stock exposure reflects benchmark exposure, as well as buffered holdings designed to provide downside protection and upside gains.



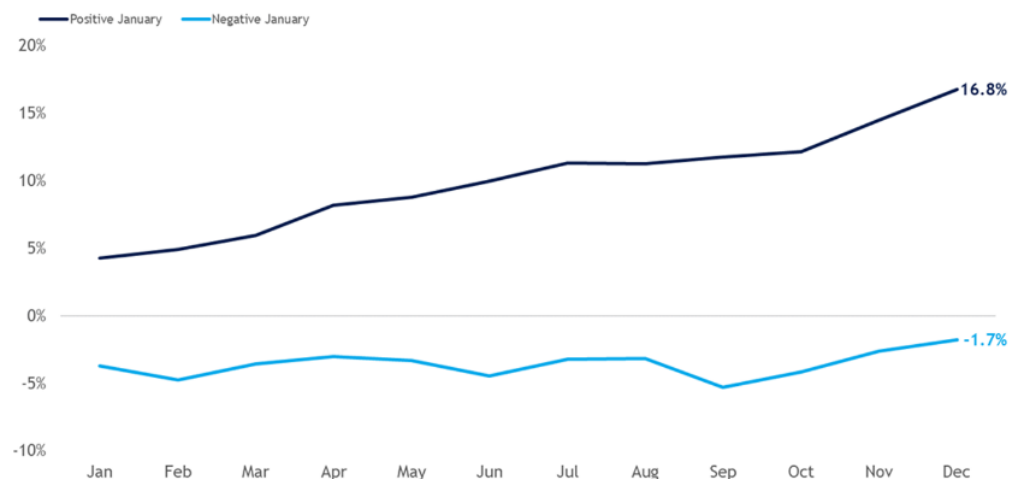
Maturing Treasury bonds are regularly rolled over to capitalize on the robust interest rate environment. Other bond asset classes are not utilized at this time.

We are confident in current allocations.

As Goes January, So Goes the Year? After a slow start to the year, the S&P 500 rallied to end the month with a gain. Historically, a positive January has been a bullish sign for stocks for the year. As the chart shows, since 1950, the S&P 500 has posted an average annual return of 16.8% during years after a positive January (delivering positive returns 89% of the time). This seasonal pattern is the source of a popular Wall Street maxim: 'As goes January, so goes this year.' When the S&P 500 traded lower in January, annual returns fell 1.7%, with only 50% of occurrences yielding positive results.

Turning to bonds, the Federal Open Market Committee voted in January to leave the Federal funds rate unchanged. Chairman Jay Powell emphasized a bias to reducing interest rates this year but emphasized caution over cutting prematurely.

A positive January has been a bullish signal for stocks.



Investment

Philosophy. We reiterate our shared goals of growing wealth and guarding the future. We do this by looking at risk and return both strategically and protectively. Strategically, through good offense, we combine different asset classes to create an allocation with great prospects for delivering the growth you seek while guarding against unnecessary risk. Protectively, through great defense, we incorporate data to flexibly respond to market information and to help guard against losses. Thank you for your commitment to Zuma Wealth.



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