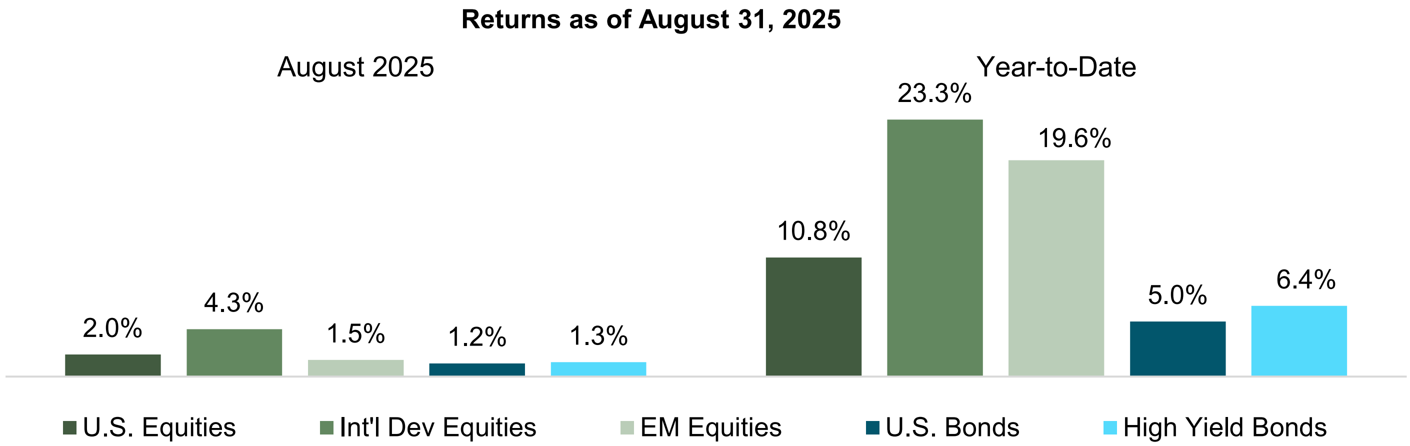
Semper Salutaris
Disciplined Financial Wellness

Monthly Market Review

August 2025 Market Review



Source: FactSet

A slowing job market shifted the Federal Reserve's stance to potentially start cutting interest rates in September. The possibility of lower borrowing costs sent stocks and bonds higher. A globally diversified moderate risk 60/40 stock, bond portfolio gained 2.1% in August, and sits on a stellar 11.7% return for the year.

In the U.S., the S&P 500 index gained 2.0% in August on strong earnings. For Q2'25, the year-over-year earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 is 11.9%, which would be the third consecutive quarter of double-digit earnings growth for the index.

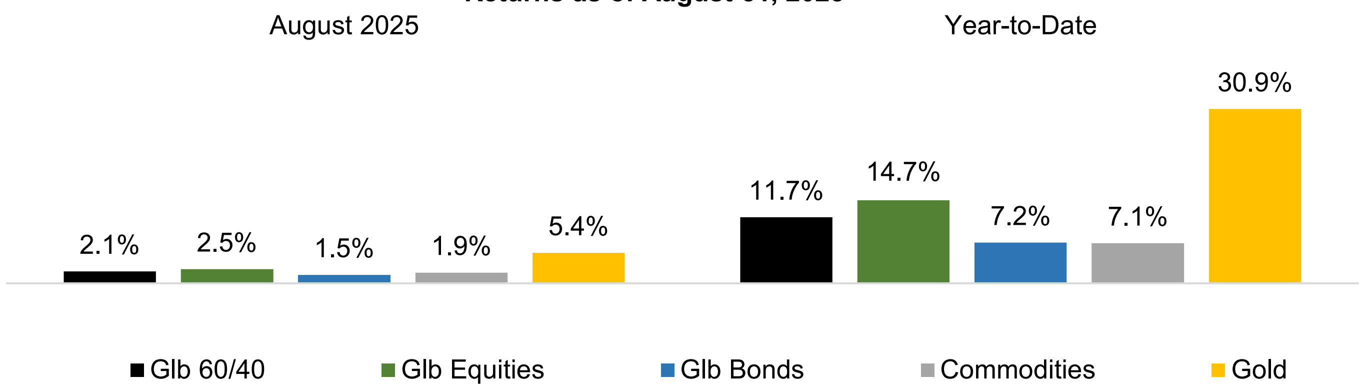
Within the U.S. equity markets, new winners emerged as investors' lofty expectations on AI investments were not quite met. The unloved part of the market, such as small-cap stocks and value-oriented companies, outperformed their large-cap and tech-heavy growth counterparts in August, driven also by rising expectations for interest rate cuts.

International developed markets delivered strong returns, helped by Japan and Europe as trade deals got done. Emerging market stocks also gained as China extended its trade truce until November.

Bond prices, which move in the opposite direction of interest rates, rose on hopes of upcoming interest rate cuts. Lower-quality bonds continue to perform better, highlighting the strength of the economy to date.

Lastly, across other asset classes, gold hit a new high as the dollar continued to fall and hope for interest rate cuts rose.

Returns as of August 31, 2025



Source: FactSet

INDEX DEFINITIONS

Asset Class	Index	Definition
Commodities	Bloomberg Commodity	Measures the performance of a broadly diversified exposure to physical commodities via futures contracts.
Emerging Markets Bonds	Bloomberg Emerging Markets USD Aggregate	Measures the performance of hard-currency emerging markets debt, including fixed and floating-rate USD-denominated debt issued from sovereign, quasi-sovereign, and corporate emerging markets debt.
Emerging Markets (EM) Equity	MSCI Emerging Markets	Measures the equity market performance of countries considered to represent emerging markets.
Global 60/40 Index Blend	60% MSCI ACWI, 40% Bloomberg Global Aggregate	Measures the performance of a blend of global equities and global bond indexes used as a benchmark for balanced portfolios.
Global Equity	MSCI ACWI	Measures large- and mid-cap equity performance of developed and emerging markets. Represents approximately 85% of the global equity investment universe.
Global Bonds	Bloomberg Global Aggregate	Measures the performance of global, investment-grade debt from 24 local currency markets. This benchmark includes Treasury, government-related, corporate, and securitized fixed-rate bonds from both developed and emerging markets issuers.
Gold	Bloomberg Gold – Total Return	Measures the performance of futures contracts on gold and is quoted in USD.
International Bonds	Bloomberg Global Aggregate ex-USD	Measures the performance of investment-grade debt from 24 local currency markets. This multi-currency index includes Treasury, government-related, corporate, and securitized fixed-rate bonds from both developed and emerging markets issuers. It excludes bonds issued in USD.
International Developed Equity	MSCI EAFE	Measures the equity performance of countries considered to represent developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada.
Sector - Materials	S&P 500 Sector Materials	Measures the performance of companies involved in industries such as: chemicals, construction materials, containers and packaging, metals and mining, and paper and forest products.

U.S. Bonds	Bloomberg US Aggregate	Measures the performance of USD-denominated, investment-grade, fixed-rate taxable bond market of SEC-registered securities. The index includes Treasury bonds, Government-related Corporate, MBS (agency fixed-rate and hybrid ARM pass-throughs), ABS, and CMBS sectors.
U.S. Equity	S&P 500	Measures the performance of 500 leading companies in the U.S. Constituents generally have a market cap above $5 billion and represent approximately 80% of the investable market.
U.S. REIT	S&P Composite 1500 Real Estate	Measures the performance of publicly traded U.S. real estate securities, such as real estate investment trusts (REITs) and real estate operating companies.

AssetMark, Inc.

1655 Grant Street
10th Floor
Concord, CA 94520-2445
800-664-5345

Important Information

This is for informational purposes only, is not a solicitation, and should not be considered investment, legal or tax advice. The information has been drawn from sources believed to be reliable, but its accuracy is not guaranteed and is subject to change. Investors seeking more information should contact their financial advisor. Financial advisors may seek more information by contacting AssetMark at 800-664-5345.

Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Asset allocation cannot eliminate the risk of fluctuating prices and uncertain returns. There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will outperform a non-diversified portfolio. No investment strategy, such as asset allocation, can guarantee a profit or protect against loss. Actual client results will vary based on investment selection, timing, market conditions, and tax situation.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Indexes are unmanaged, do not incur management fees, costs, and expenses, and cannot be invested in directly. Index performance assumes the reinvestment of dividends.

Investments in equities, bonds, options, and other securities, whether held individually or through mutual funds and exchange-traded funds, can decline significantly in response to adverse market conditions, company-specific events, changes in exchange rates, and domestic, international, economic, and political developments.

Bloomberg® and the referenced Bloomberg Index are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively, “Bloomberg”) and are used under license. Bloomberg does not approve or endorse this material nor guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein. Bloomberg and AssetMark, Inc. are separate and unaffiliated companies.

AssetMark, Inc. is an investment adviser registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. AssetMark and third-party strategists and service providers are separate and unaffiliated companies. Each party is responsible for their own content and services.

8348937.1 | 09/2025 | EXP 09/2027