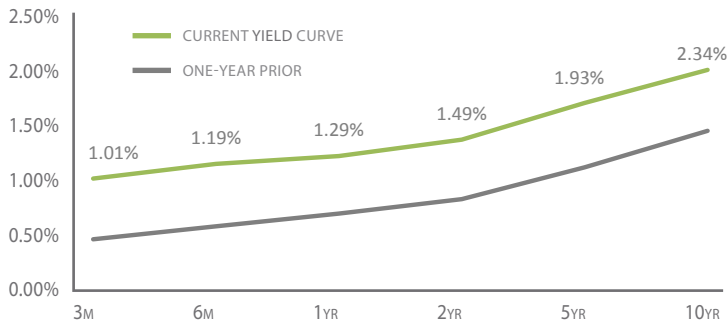
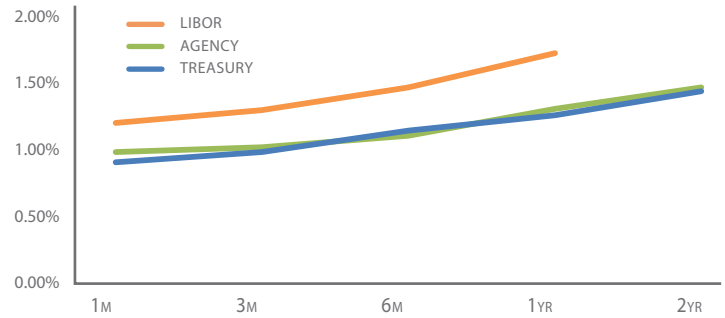


## Historical Yield Curve



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.10/2/17

## Indicative Rates



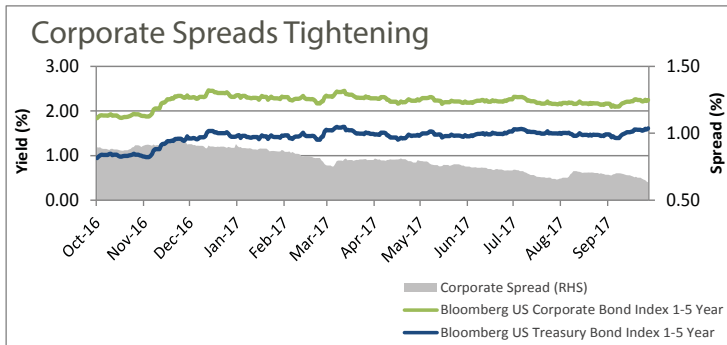
Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.10/2/17  
Rates do not reflect transaction fees.

## FEATURED ECONOMIC INDICATOR

### Corporate Spreads Tightening

Corporate spreads, or the difference in yields on a corporate bond and a Treasury bond with a similar maturity, have generally declined over the past year. In part, this reflects strong overall credit conditions as the default rate in the year ended in August fell to 2.9% according to Moody's Investors Services. However, tightening spreads pose risks for investors who increasingly believe corporate bond yields do not adequately compensate them for credit risk. According to a recent Bank of America Merrill Lynch survey, 81% of global fund managers said corporate bond markets are "overvalued."

Source: Wall Street Journal



Source: Bloomberg

## U.S. Economic Indicators

Event	Event Date	Period	Survey	Actual	Prior / Revised (R)
Consumer Price Index (YoY)	09/14/17	AUG	1.8%	1.9%	1.7%
Core CPI (YoY)	09/14/17	AUG	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Retail Sales Ex. Auto	09/15/17	AUG	0.5%	0.2%	0.4% (R)
Existing Home Sales	09/20/17	AUG	5.45m	5.35m	5.44m
New Home Sales	09/26/17	AUG	585K	560K	580K (R)
Consumer Confidence	09/26/17	SEP	120.0	119.8	120.4 (R)
ISM Manufacturing	10/02/17	SEP	58.1	60.8	58.8
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	10/06/17	SEP	80K	-	156K
Unemployment Rate	10/06/17	SEP	4.4%	-	4.4%

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.10/2/17

## RECENT NEWS

### Fed Plans to Shrink Balance Sheet

The Federal Reserve confirmed in September that it will begin shrinking its balance sheet in October. The Fed's balance sheet has grown substantially through a program known as Quantitative Easing, which was intended to help keep interest rates low. The balance sheet wind-down will begin by allowing \$10 billion of securities to mature every month without reinvesting the principal. The Fed's clearly articulated plan should provide a level of market stability, but the full market impact is unknown. Less buying by the Fed may push up long-term rates somewhat. This impact may be offset by investors who view the Fed's wind-down as slowing growth, reducing inflation expectations and ultimately placing downward pressure on long-term rates.

Source: Wall Street Journal, Prudent Man Advisors, Inc.

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