3Q 2022 EQUITY MODEL ALLOCATIONS

MODEL OVERVIEW

The First Trust Strategic Focus Model Portfolios consist of ETFs and are created by the First Trust Advisors Model Investment Committee. These models are designed to provide financial professionals with core equity foundations to build scalable asset allocation solutions for their clients.

ASSET ALLOCATION VIEWS AND RATIONALE

Macro Positioning	Favor U.S. Equity Outlook	While we acknowledge the risks of persistent inflation and tightening Federal Reserve policy, we believe the U.S. economy will continue to grow in the second half of 2022, driven by resilient consumer spending, particularly on services, and strong industrial activity. While inflation takes a toll, we expect cash-rich consumer balance sheets, low household debt-to-income ratios, and a tight labor market to give consumers the capacity to withstand higher prices, while a return of demand for consumer services is a tailwind to growth. We expect industrial activity to remain robust as inventories need to increase to meet strong end-market demand, and businesses are motivated to increase capital expenditures to both improve labor marker productivity and enhance the reliability of supply chains. We believe asset-heavy cyclical industries may especially benefit from resilient economic growth, given the accretive profit margin impact of both strong pricing power and increasing capacity utilization. While we see U.S. market valuation as attractive, in the near term, we expect continued positive earnings growth overall in the U.S. market. Over the long run, we see the high level of innovation and labor market flexibility inherent in the U.S. system provides the U.S. with inherent secular advantages.
Style Positioning	Favor Value over Growth and Increase Quality Exposure	We are resisting the temptation to increase exposure to growth equities this quarter after the recent downturn, as, in our view, growth equities continue to be priced at too high a premium to value given the current rising interest rate environment. Consequently, we are maintaining our value emphasis this quarter. We do see the potential for a cyclical recovery in value-oriented sectors and industries, such as financial services and the industrial sector, as we believe the economy will avoid recession in 2022. Additionally, we believe an increasing emphasis on quality is prudent, given investor impatience with "show me" stories, while the equity market correction has made sought-after quality names more affordable. On a size basis, both small and mid-cap equities look attractively valued relative to large-cap equities. That said, we emphasize mid-cap equities over small-cap equities to lower the overall risk of the models.
Sector Positioning	Favor Healthcare, Industrials, Financials, and Energy vs. Other Sectors	We believe industrial sector stocks are poised to benefit from strong domestic manufacturing activity, robust corporate capital investment, and improved pricing power in an inflationary, tight inventory environment. We also favor banking stocks within the financial sector, which not only offer attractive valuation, but also benefit from higher interest rates, as well as the potential for bad debt reserve releases and improved loan growth during a period of growth in credit utilization. In addition to the above sectors, we are emphasizing energy sector names, which should continue to benefit from tight oil inventories amid a strengthening demand environment, as recent years of underinvestment on the part of U.S. producers makes rapid supply recovery difficult. Sanctions on the Russian oil industry further limit supply. We see opportunity in healthcare equities, not only due to the attractive valuation of the sector, but also the potential for the return of deferred elective healthcare services post-COVID and reduced regulatory risk due to political gridlock in Washington. We are adding exposure to the sector. We are not currently emphasizing the information technology sector overall, and especially favor less exposure to high valuation software industry names within the sector, as we see risk of further multiple compression. We are less positive towards internet equities than previously due to high valuation, and a less favorable outlook for digital ad spending. In the Domestic Equity Model, we also maintain a position in an ETF that invests in companies that may stand to benefit from the 5G telecommunications upgrade cycle.
International Positioning	Remain Underweight International Equities vs. U.S. Equities	We are less positive towards international equities than before the war in Ukraine began. While we believe that valuation levels in European markets are quite attractive, we believe that the inflationary impact of rising commodity prices, and the supply chain disruption of Russia's war on Ukraine will continue to weigh on the real incomes of consumers, and negatively impact business sentiment, posing downside risk to growth. Meanwhile, we are more positive towards countries and regions that benefit from rising commodity prices, such as Australia, Canada and Latin America, which is reflected in our International Equity Model holdings. We retain some caution towards Chinese equities for now, amid moderate growth, slowing fixed asset investment, and increased regulatory scrutiny of corporate business practices.

MODEL VIEW IMPLEMENTATION

All Equity Model	Within domestic core, we continue to maintain a significant weighting to the First Trust Large Cap Value AlphaDEX® Fund, to emphasize value and cyclical sectors, such as financials and industrials. In the satellite portion of the model, we are eliminating our position in the First Trust Consumer Discretionary AlphaDEX® Fund, while increasing weighting to the First Trust Health Care AlphaDEX® Fund. We believe the attractive valuation of the healthcare sector, as well as the potential for less economically sensitive growth offers a favorable risk vs. reward profile. We are also trimming our position in the First Trust Dow Jones Internet Index Fund to reduce exposure to higher multiple growth names, and due to a less favorable outlook for digital ad spending. While we remain underweight the information technology sector, this quarter we are adding to our position in the First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund to focus on quality within the sector. We are maintaining our overall underweight exposure to international equities within the model this quarter.
Domestic Equity Model	As in the All Equity model, we continue to maintain a significant weighting to the First Trust Large Cap Value AlphaDEX® Fund, to emphasize value and cyclical sectors, such as financials and industrials. In the satellite portion of the model, we are eliminating our position in the First Trust Consumer Discretionary AlphaDEX® Fund, while increasing weighting to the First Trust Health Care AlphaDEX® Fund. We believe the attractive valuation of the healthcare sector, as well as the potential for less economically sensitive growth offers a favorable risk vs. reward profile. We are also trimming our position in the First Trust Dow Jones Internet Index Fund to reduce exposure to higher multiple growth names, and due to a less favorable outlook for digital ad spending. While we remain underweight the information technology sector, this quarter we are adding to our position in the First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund to focus on quality within the sector. In addition to the domestic satellite positions held by the All Equity Model, the Domestic Equity Model maintains a satellite position in the in the First Trust Indxx NextG ETF, an ETF that invests in companies that may stand to benefit from the 5G telecommunications upgrade cycle.
International Equity Model	In the International Equity Model, we modestly increase our weighting in United Kingdom equities relative to Eurozone equities by eliminating our position in the First Trust Eurozone AlphaDEX® Fund in favor of additional weighting in the First Trust Europe AlphaDEX® Fund, which includes positions in the U.K. In the satellite portion of the model, we maintain weighting in the First Trust Latin America AlphaDEX® Fund, as we believe the region is well positioned to benefit from rising inflation and the potential for strong exports to the U.S. We also hold separate positions in ETFs focusing on Australian and Canadian equities, whose economies are poised to benefit from strong commodity exports.
Defensive Equity Model	Currently, the Defensive Equity Model holds significant weighting in the First Trust Long/Short Equity ETF to lower the overall long equity exposure of the model. The model also holds ETFs emphasizing dividend-paying equities, including the First Trust Value Line® Dividend Index Fund. Additionally, the model features the FT Cboe Vest Fund of Buffer ETFs, which invests in a portfolio of ETFs that provide investors with equity exposure, while seeking to reduce downside equity risk. This quarter, the model adopted a slightly more defensive posture by increasing its weighting in the First Trust Horizon Managed Volatility Domestic ETF, which attempts to identify stocks that may exhibit low future volatility.
Equity Income Model	This quarter, we are reducing our position in the First Trust Rising Dividend Achievers ETF modestly in favor of more weighting in the First Trust Morningstar Dividend Leaders Index Fund to seek to benefit from a higher yield, and to potentially increase quality exposure. We believe dividend payers within the information technology sector should continue to benefit from recovering economic growth and robust IT spending and maintain our position in the First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund. In our view, energy infrastructure investments offer strong income potential, with less exposure to commodity prices than oil and gas exploration and production firms. Consequently, the Equity Income Model maintains a position in the First Trust North America Energy Infrastructure Fund.

ALL EQUITY MODEL

FUND	TICKER	CURRENT WEIGHT*	PREVIOUS WEIGHT*	CHANGE
DOMESTIC CORE				
First Trust Large Cap Value AlphaDEX® Fund	FTA	14.5%	14.5%	–
First Trust Large Cap Growth AlphaDEX® Fund	FTC	10.0%	10.0%	–
First Trust Capital Strength ETF	FTCS	7.0%	7.0%	–
First Trust Mid Cap Core AlphaDEX® Fund	FNX	6.0%	6.0%	–
First Trust Rising Dividend Achievers ETF	RDVY	4.0%	4.0%	–
First Trust Value Line® Dividend Index Fund	FVD	3.0%	3.0%	–
First Trust NASDAQ-100 Equal Weighted Index Fund	QQEW	3.0%	3.0%	–
INTERNATIONAL CORE				
First Trust Developed Markets ex-US AlphaDEX® Fund	FDT	13.0%	13.0%	–
First Trust Europe AlphaDEX® Fund	FEP	6.5%	6.5%	–
First Trust Emerging Markets AlphaDEX® Fund	FEM	5.0%	5.0%	–
DOMESTIC SATELLITE				
First Trust Health Care AlphaDEX® Fund	FXH	8.0%	5.0%	+3.0%
First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund	TDIV	6.0%	3.0%	+3.0%
First Trust Industrials/Producer Durables AlphaDEX® Fund	FXR	5.0%	5.0%	–
First Trust Dow Jones Internet Index Fund	FDN	3.0%	6.0%	-3.0%
First Trust Nasdaq Bank ETF	FTXO	3.0%	3.0%	–
First Trust Energy AlphaDEX® Fund	FXN	3.0%	3.0%	–
First Trust Consumer Discretionary AlphaDEX® Fund	FXD	–	3.0%	-3.0%

DOMESTIC EQUITY MODEL

FUND	TICKER	CURRENT WEIGHT*	PREVIOUS WEIGHT*	CHANGE
DOMESTIC CORE				
First Trust Large Cap Value AlphaDEX® Fund	FTA	20.5%	20.5%	–
First Trust Large Cap Growth AlphaDEX® Fund	FTC	14.0%	14.0%	–
First Trust Capital Strength ETF	FTCS	8.0%	8.0%	–
First Trust Mid Cap Core AlphaDEX® Fund	FNX	7.0%	7.0%	–
First Trust Rising Dividend Achievers ETF	RDVY	6.0%	6.0%	–
First Trust Value Line® Dividend Index Fund	FVD	4.5%	4.5%	–
First Trust NASDAQ-100 Equal Weighted Index Fund	QQEW	3.0%	3.0%	–
DOMESTIC SATELLITE				
First Trust Health Care AlphaDEX® Fund	FXH	9.5%	6.5%	+3.0%
First Trust Industrials/Producer Durables AlphaDEX® Fund	FXR	7.0%	7.0%	–
First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund	TDIV	6.0%	3.0%	+3.0%
First Trust Nasdaq Bank ETF	FTXO	5.0%	5.0%	–
First Trust Indxx NextG ETF	NXTG	4.0%	4.0%	–
First Trust Energy AlphaDEX® Fund	FXN	3.0%	3.0%	–
First Trust Dow Jones Internet Index Fund	FDN	2.5%	5.5%	-3.0%
First Trust Consumer Discretionary AlphaDEX® Fund	FXD	–	3.0%	-3.0%

*Current weight as of 6/30/22. Previous weight as of 3/31/22.

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MODEL

FUND	TICKER	CURRENT WEIGHT*	PREVIOUS WEIGHT*	CHANGE
INTERNATIONAL CORE				
First Trust Europe AlphaDEX® Fund	FEP	24.0%	20.0%	+4.0%
First Trust Developed Markets ex-US AlphaDEX® Fund	FDT	15.0%	15.0%	–
First Trust Japan AlphaDEX® Fund	FJP	13.0%	13.0%	–
First Trust Emerging Markets AlphaDEX® Fund	FEM	12.0%	12.0%	–
First Trust RiverFront Dynamic Emerging Markets ETF	RFEM	12.0%	12.0%	–
First Trust Eurozone AlphaDEX® ETF	FEUZ	–	4.0%	-4.0%
INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE				
First Trust United Kingdom AlphaDEX® Fund	FKU	8.0%	8.0%	–
First Trust Latin America AlphaDEX® Fund	FLN	5.0%	5.0%	–
iShares MSCI Canada ETF	EWC	5.0%	5.0%	–
First Trust Germany AlphaDEX® Fund	FGM	3.0%	3.0%	–
iShares MSCI Australia ETF	EWA	3.0%	3.0%	–

DEFENSIVE EQUITY MODEL

FUND	TICKER	CURRENT WEIGHT*	PREVIOUS WEIGHT*	CHANGE
EQUITY ALLOCATION				
First Trust Long/Short Equity ETF	FTLS	25.0%	25.0%	–
First Trust Horizon Managed Volatility Domestic ETF	HUSV	25.0%	20.0%	+5.0%
First Trust Value Line® Dividend Index Fund	FVD	20.0%	20.0%	–
FT Cboe Vest Fund of Buffer ETFs	BUFR	15.0%	15.0%	–
First Trust Capital Strength ETF	FTCS	5.0%	10.0%	-5.0%
First Trust Consumer Staples AlphaDEX® Fund	FXG	5.0%	5.0%	–
First Trust Utilities AlphaDEX® Fund	FXU	5.0%	5.0%	–

EQUITY INCOME MODEL

FUND	TICKER	CURRENT WEIGHT*	PREVIOUS WEIGHT*	CHANGE
DOMESTIC CORE				
First Trust Value Line® Dividend Index Fund	FVD	25.0%	25.0%	–
First Trust Morningstar Dividend Leaders Index Fund	FDL	23.0%	18.0%	+5.0%
First Trust Rising Dividend Achievers ETF	RDVY	10.0%	15.0%	-5.0%
FT Cboe Vest S&P 500® Dividend Aristocrats Target Income ETF®	KNG	5.0%	5.0%	–
First Trust SMID Cap Rising Dividend Achievers ETF	SDVY	5.0%	5.0%	–
INTERNATIONAL CORE				
First Trust Dow Jones Global Select Dividend Index Fund	FGD	10.0%	10.0%	–
First Trust STOXX® European Select Dividend Index Fund	FDD	7.0%	7.0%	–
DOMESTIC SATELLITE				
First Trust North American Energy Infrastructure Fund	EMLP	8.0%	8.0%	–
First Trust NASDAQ Technology Dividend Index Fund	TDIV	7.0%	7.0%	–

*Current weight as of 6/30/22. Previous weight as of 3/31/22.

You should consider a fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses carefully before investing. Contact First Trust Portfolios L.P. at 1-800-621-1675 or visit www.ftportfolios.com to obtain a prospectus or summary prospectus which contains this and other information about a First Trust fund. The prospectus or summary prospectus should be read carefully before investing.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

You could lose money by investing in a fund. An investment in a fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed. There can be no assurance that a fund's objective(s) will be achieved. Investors buying or selling shares on the secondary market may incur customary brokerage commissions. Please refer to each fund's prospectus and SAI for additional details on a fund's risks. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Unlike mutual funds, shares of the fund may only be redeemed directly from a fund by authorized participants in very large creation/redemption units. If a fund's authorized participants are unable to proceed with creation/redemption orders and no other authorized participant is able to step forward to create or redeem, fund shares may trade at a premium or discount to a fund's net asset value and possibly face delisting and the bid/ask spread may widen.

There can be no assurance that an active trading market for fund shares will develop or be maintained.

Some Asian economies are highly dependent on trade with other countries and there is a high concentration of market capitalization and trading volume in a small number of Asian issuers as well as a high concentration of investors and financial intermediaries. Certain Asian countries experience expropriation and nationalization of assets, confiscatory taxation, currency manipulation, political instability, armed conflict and social instability as a result of religious, ethnic, socio-economic and/or political unrest. In particular, escalated tensions involving North Korea could have severe adverse effect on Asian economies. Recent developments between the U.S. and China have heightened concerns of increased tariffs and restrictions on trade.

Unlike mutual funds, shares of the fund may only be redeemed directly from a fund by authorized participants in very large creation/redemption units. If a fund's authorized participants are unable to proceed with creation/redemption orders and no other authorized participant is able to step forward to create or redeem, fund shares may trade at a premium or discount to a fund's net asset value and possibly face delisting and the bid/ask spread may widen.

Banks are especially subject to the adverse effects of economic recession, currency exchange rates, government regulation, decreases in the availability of capital, volatile interest rates, portfolio concentrations in geographic markets and in commercial and residential real estate loans, as well as competition from new entrants. In addition, banks are subject to extensive regulation at both the federal and state level, which may affect permissible activities, profitability and the amount of capital that they must maintain.

Brazil has experienced substantial economic instability resulting from, among other things, periods of very high inflation, persistent structural public sector deficits and significant devaluations of its currency leading to a high degree of price volatility in both the Brazilian equity and foreign currency markets. Brazilian companies may be adversely affected by high interest and unemployment rates, and are particularly sensitive to fluctuations in commodity prices.

A fund that invests in underlying ETFs that use FLEX Options to employ a "target outcome strategy" ("Underlying ETFs"), does not itself pursue a defined outcome strategy. The buffer is only provided by the Underlying ETFs and the fund itself does not provide any stated buffer against losses. There can be no guarantee that the Underlying ETFs will be successful in their strategy to buffer against losses. A fund may lose its entire investment in an Underlying ETF. To the extent a fund acquires shares of its Underlying ETFs in connection with creations and during reallocation, the fund typically will not acquire Underlying ETF shares on the first day of the target outcome period defined in the Underlying Fund's prospectus ("Target Outcome Period"). Likewise, to the extend a fund disposes of shares of an Underlying ETF in connection with redemptions and during reallocation, any such disposition typically will not incur on the last day of a Target Outcome Period.

The Canadian economy is heavily dependent on the demand for natural resources and agricultural products. Canada is a major producer of certain commodities and any conditions that affect the supply and demand of these products could have a negative impact on the Canadian market as a whole and any a fund that invests in the securities of Canadian issuers.

A new Underlying ETF cap is established at the beginning of each Target Outcome Period and is dependent on prevailing market conditions. As a result, a cap may rise or fall from one Target Outcome Period to the next and is unlikely to remain the same for consecutive Target Outcome Periods.

If the Underlying ETF's reference security or index experiences gains during a Target Outcome Period, an Underlying ETF will not participate in those gains beyond the cap. In the event a fund purchases shares of an Underlying ETF after the first day of a Target Outcome Period and the Underlying ETF has risen in value to a level near the cap, there may be little or no ability for the fund to experience an investment gain on its shares; however, the fund will remain vulnerable to downside risk.

A fund that effects all or a portion of its creations and redemptions for cash rather than in-kind may be less tax-efficient.

The Chinese central government has historically exercised substantial control over virtually every sector of the Chinese economy through administrative regulation and/or state ownership. Actions of the Chinese central and local government authorities continue to have a substantial effect on economic conditions in China. Export growth continues to be a major driver of China's rapid economic growth. Institution of tariffs or other trade barriers, or a downturn in any of the economies of China's key trading partners may have an adverse impact on the Chinese economy.

Communication services companies are subject to certain risks, which may include rapidly changing technologies, short product life cycles, fierce competition, aggressive pricing and reduced profit margins, loss of patent, copyright and trademark protections, cyclical market patterns, evolving industry standards, often unpredictable changes in consumer tastes and frequent new product introductions. Such companies are particularly vulnerable to domestic and international government regulation, rely heavily on intellectual property rights, and may be adversely affected by the loss or impairment of those rights.

The success of consumer discretionary companies is tied closely to the performance of the overall U.S. and international economies, interest rates, competition, consumer confidence, disposable household income and consumer spending. Changes in demographics and consumer tastes can also affect the demand for consumer discretionary products.

Consumer staples companies provide products that are typically considered non-discretionary items based on consumer purchasing habits and their success is affected by a variety of factors, including government regulations, which may affect the permissibility of using various product components and production methods, new laws, regulations or litigation, marketing campaigns, competitive pricing, materials costs and consumer confidence.

A fund may be subject to the risk that a counterparty will not fulfill its obligations which may result in significant financial loss to a fund.

The writer of a covered call option foregoes any profit from increases in the market value of the underlying security covering the call option above the sum of the premium and the strike price of the call, but retains the risk of loss if the underlying security declines in value. The Fund will have no control over the exercise of the option by the option holder and may lose the benefit from any capital appreciation on the underlying security.

Changes in currency exchange rates and the relative value of non-US currencies may affect the value of a fund's investments and the value of a fund's shares.

A fund is susceptible to operational risks through breaches in cyber security. Such events could cause a fund to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or financial loss.

Depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and distributions may be subject to a fee. Holders may have limited voting rights, and investment restrictions in certain countries may adversely impact their value.

The use of derivatives instruments involves different and possibly greater risks than investing directly in securities including counterparty risk, valuation risk, volatility risk, and liquidity risk. Further, losses because of adverse movements in the price or value of the underlying asset, index or rate may be magnified by certain features of the derivatives.

Companies that issue dividend-paying securities are not required to continue to pay dividends on such securities. Therefore, there is a possibility that such companies could reduce or eliminate the payment of dividends in the future.

A fund's utilization of a dynamic currency hedging strategy may result in lower returns than an equivalent non-currency hedged investment when the component currencies are rising relative to the U.S. dollar. Although a fund will seek to minimize the impact of currency fluctuations on returns, the use of currency hedging will not necessarily eliminate exposure to all currency fluctuations.

Investments in emerging market securities are generally considered speculative and involve additional risks relating to political, economic and regulatory conditions.

Companies with exposure to emerging technologies may be exposed to risks that may not fully emerge until the technology is more widely used. Companies that initially develop or adopt a novel technology may not be able to capitalize on it and there is no assurance that a company will derive any significant revenue from it in the future. An emerging technology may constitute a small portion of a company's overall business and the success of a technology may not significantly affect the value of the equity securities issued by the company. In addition, a company's stock price may be overvalued by market participants that value the company's securities based upon expectations of a technology that are never realized.

Energy companies are subject to certain risks, including volatile fluctuations in price and supply of energy fuels, international politics, terrorist attacks, reduced demand, the success of exploration projects, natural disasters, clean-up and litigation costs relating to oil spills and environmental damage, and tax and other regulatory policies of various governments. Oil production and refining companies are subject to extensive federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations regarding air emissions and the disposal of hazardous materials and may be subject to tariffs. In addition, oil prices are generally subject to extreme volatility.

Energy infrastructure companies may be directly affected by energy commodity prices, especially those companies which own the underlying energy commodity. A decrease in the production or availability of commodities or a decrease in the volume of such commodities available for transportation, processing, storage or distribution may adversely impact the financial performance of energy infrastructure companies. In addition, energy infrastructure companies are subject to significant federal, state and local government regulation in virtually every aspect of their operations, which may negatively impact their financial performance.

Equity securities may decline significantly in price over short or extended periods of time, and such declines may occur in the equity market as a whole, or they may occur in only a particular country, company, industry or sector of the market.

A fund may invest in the shares of other ETFs, which involves additional expenses that would not be present in a direct investment in the underlying funds. In addition, a fund's investment performance and risks may be related to the investment performance and risks of the underlying funds.

Political or economic disruptions in European countries, even in countries in which a fund is not invested, may adversely affect security values and thus the fund's holdings. A significant number of countries in Europe are member states in the European Union, and the member states no longer control their own monetary policies. In these member states, the authority to direct monetary policies, including money supply and official interest rates for the Euro, is exercised by the European Central Bank. The implications of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union are difficult to gauge and cannot yet be fully known.

Financial services companies are subject to the adverse effects of economic recession, currency exchange rates, government regulation, decreases in the availability of capital, volatile interest rates, portfolio concentration in geographic markets, industries or products, and competition from new entrants in their fields of business.

The Underlying ETFs invest in FLEX Options. Trading FLEX Options involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities. An Underlying Fund may experience substantial downside from specific FLEX Option positions and certain FLEX Option positions may expire worthless. There can be no guarantee that a liquid secondary trading market will exist for the FLEX Options and FLEX options may be less liquid than exchange-traded options.

FLEX Options are subject to correlation risk and a FLEX Option's value may be highly volatile, and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. FLEX Options will be exercisable at the strike price only on their expiration date. Prior to the expiration date, the value of the FLEX Options will be determined based upon market quotations or other recognized pricing methods. In the absence of readily available market quotations for fund holdings, a fund's advisor may determine the fair value of the holding, which requires the advisor's judgement and is subject to the risk of mispricing or improper valuation.

The market for forward contracts is substantially unregulated and can experience lengthy periods of illiquidity, unusually high trading volume and other negative impacts, such as political intervention. Forward contracts can increase a fund's risk exposure to underlying references and their attendant risks, such as credit risk, currency risk, market risk, and interest rate risk, while also exposing a fund to counterparty risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk, among others.

Forward foreign currency exchange contracts involve certain risks, including the risk of failure of the counterparty to perform its obligations under the contract and the risk that the use of forward contracts may not serve as a complete hedge because of an imperfect correlation between movements in the prices of the contracts and the prices of the currencies hedged.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS CONTINUED

The French economy is dependent on the economies of certain key trading partners, including Germany and other Western European countries, and is dependent on exports from the agricultural sector. The French economy is susceptible to other risks relating to its membership in the EU, such as the recent sovereign debt crisis.

The risk of a position in a futures contract may be very large compared to the relatively low level of margin a fund is required to deposit and a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in immediate and substantial loss relative to the size of margin deposit.

The German economy is dependent on the economies of certain key trading partners, including the U.S., France, Italy and other European countries. Heavy regulation of labor and product markets in Germany may negatively impact growth or cause recession. Additionally, the European sovereign-debt crisis has resulted in a weakened Euro and has put into question the future financial prospects of Germany and the surrounding region. Secession movements, such as the Catalan movement in Spain, may have adverse effect on the German economy.

Stocks with growth characteristics tend to be more volatile than certain other stocks and their prices may fluctuate more dramatically than the overall stock market.

Health care companies may be affected by government regulations and government health care programs, increases or decreases in the cost of medical products and services and product liability claims, among other factors. Many health care companies are heavily dependent on patent protection, and the expiration of a company's patent may adversely affect that company's profitability. Health care companies are also subject to competitive forces that may result in price discounting, may be thinly capitalized and susceptible to product obsolescence.

An index fund will be concentrated in an industry or a group of industries to the extent that the index is so concentrated. A fund with significant exposure to a single asset class, or the securities of issuers within the same country, state, region, industry, or sector may have its value more affected by an adverse economic, business or political development than a broadly diversified fund.

A fund may be a constituent of one or more indices or models which could greatly affect a fund's trading activity, size and volatility.

There is no assurance that the index provider or its agents will compile or maintain the index accurately. Losses or costs associated with any index provider errors generally will be borne by a fund and its shareholders.

Industrials and producer durables companies are subject to certain risks, including the general state of the economy, intense competition, consolidation, domestic and international politics, excess capacity and consumer demand and spending trends. They may also be significantly affected by overall capital spending levels, economic cycles, technical obsolescence, delays in modernization, labor relations, and government regulations.

As inflation increases, the present value of a fund's assets and distributions may decline.

Information technology companies are subject to certain risks, including rapidly changing technologies, short product life cycles, fierce competition, aggressive pricing and reduced profit margins, loss of patent, copyright and trademark protections, cyclical market patterns, evolving industry standards and regulation and frequent new product introductions.

Many internet companies have incurred large losses since their inception and may continue to incur large losses in the hope of capturing market share and generating future revenues. Accordingly, many such companies expect to incur significant operating losses for the foreseeable future, and may never be profitable.

Because Japan's economy and equity market share a strong correlation with the U.S. markets, the Japanese economy may be affected by economic problems in the U.S. Japan also has a growing economic relationship with China and other Southeast Asian countries. Should political tension increase, it could adversely affect the economy and destabilize the region as a whole. Japan also remains heavily dependent on oil imports, and higher commodity prices could therefore have a negative impact on the economy. Japanese securities may also be subject to lack of liquidity, excessive taxation, government seizure of assets, different legal or accounting standards and less government supervision and regulation of exchanges than in the U.S. Furthermore, the natural disasters that have impacted Japan and the ongoing recovery efforts have had a negative effect on Japan's economy, and may continue to do so.

Large capitalization companies may grow at a slower rate than the overall market.

The economies of Latin American countries have in the past experienced considerable difficulties, including high inflation rates, high interest rates, high unemployment, government overspending and political instability. International economic conditions, particularly those in the United States, Europe and Asia, as well as world prices for oil and other commodities may also influence the development of Latin American economies. Many Latin American countries are highly reliant on the exportation of commodities and their economies may be significantly impacted by fluctuations in commodity prices and the global demand for certain commodities.

Leverage may result in losses that exceed the amount originally invested and may accelerate the rates of losses. Leverage tends to magnify, sometimes significantly, the effect of any increase or decrease in a fund's exposure to an asset or class of assets and may cause the value of a fund's shares to be volatile and sensitive to market swings.

Certain fund investments may be subject to restrictions on resale, trade over-the-counter or in limited volume, or lack an active trading market. Illiquid securities may trade at a discount and may be subject to wide fluctuations in market value.

A portfolio comprised of low volatility stocks may not produce investment exposure that has lower variability to changes in such stocks' price levels. Low volatility stocks are likely to underperform the broader market during periods of rapidly rising stock prices.

The portfolio managers of an actively managed portfolio will apply investment techniques and risk analyses that may not have the desired result.

Market risk is the risk that a particular security, or shares of a fund in general may fall in value. Securities are subject to market fluctuations caused by such factors as general economic conditions, political events, regulatory or market developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in securities prices. Shares of a fund could decline in value or underperform other investments as a result. In addition, local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, spread of infectious disease or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have significant negative impact on a fund. In February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine which has caused and could continue to cause significant market disruptions and volatility within the markets in Russia, Europe, and the United States. The hostilities and sanctions resulting from those hostilities could have a significant impact on certain fund investments as well as fund performance. The COVID-19 global pandemic has caused and may continue to cause significant volatility and declines in global financial markets. While the U.S. has resumed "reasonably" normal business activity, many countries continue to impose lockdown measures. Additionally, there is no guarantee that vaccines will be effective against emerging variants of the disease.

There can be no assurance that the securities held by a fund will stay within a fund's intended market capitalization range.

A fund faces numerous market trading risks, including the potential lack of an active market for fund shares due to a limited number of market makers. Decisions by market makers or authorized participants to reduce their role or step away in times of market stress could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying values of a fund's portfolio securities and a fund's market price.

Materials and processing companies are subject to certain risks, including the general state of the economy, consolidation, domestic and international politics and excess capacity. Materials companies may also be significantly affected by volatility of commodity prices, import controls, worldwide competition, liability for environmental damage, depletion of resources and mandated expenditures for safety and pollution control devices.

The Mexican economy is dependent on external trade with other economies, specifically the U.S. and certain Latin American countries. Mexico is an emerging market and demonstrates significantly higher volatility from time to time. Historically, Mexico has experienced substantial economic instability resulting from, among other things, periods of very high inflation, high interest rates, economic volatility, high unemployment rates and significant devaluations of the Mexican currency, as well as destabilizing events caused by local insurrections, social upheavals, natural events such as earthquakes and hurricanes, drug related violence and public health crisis.

Master limited partnerships ("MLPs") are subject to certain risks, including price and supply fluctuations caused by international politics, energy conservation, taxes, price controls, and other regulatory policies of various governments. In addition, there is the risk that MLPs could be taxed as corporations, resulting in decreased returns from such MLPs.

The benefit a fund derives from its investment in MLPs is largely dependent on their being treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. A change in current tax law or a change in the underlying business mix of a given MLP could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for income tax purposes which would result in the MLP being required to pay income tax at the applicable corporate tax rate.

The utilization of quantitative models entails the risks that a model may be limited or incorrect, the data on which a model relies may be incorrect or incomplete and the portfolio managers may not be successful in selecting companies for investment or determining the weighting of particular stocks in a fund's portfolio. Any of these factors could cause a fund to underperform funds that do not rely on models.

An index fund's return may not match the return of the index for a number of reasons including operating expenses, costs of buying and selling securities to reflect changes in the index, and the fact that a fund's portfolio holdings may not exactly replicate the index.

A fund classified as "non-diversified" may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a limited number of issuers. As a result, a fund may be more susceptible to a single adverse economic or regulatory occurrence affecting one or more of these issuers, experience increased volatility and be highly concentrated in certain issuers.

Securities of non-U.S. issuers are subject to additional risks, including currency fluctuations, political risks, withholding, lack of liquidity, lack of adequate financial information, and exchange control restrictions impacting non-U.S. issuers.

A fund and a fund's advisor may seek to reduce various operational risks through controls and procedures, but it is not possible to completely protect against such risks. The fund also relies on third parties for a range of services, including custody, and any delay or failure related to those services may affect the fund's ability to meet its objective.

The prices of options are volatile and the effective use of options depends on a fund's ability to terminate option positions at times deemed desirable to do so. There is no assurance that a fund will be able to effect closing transactions at any particular time or at an acceptable price.

Because OTC derivatives do not trade on an exchange, the parties to an OTC derivative face heightened levels of counterparty risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk.

A fund that invests in securities included in or representative of an index will hold those securities regardless of investment merit and the fund generally will not take defensive positions in declining markets.

High portfolio turnover may result in higher levels of transaction costs and may generate greater tax liabilities for shareholders.

Preferred securities combine some of the characteristics of both common stocks and bonds. Preferred stocks are typically subordinated to other debt instruments in terms of priority to corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater credit risk than those debt instruments.

The market price of a fund's shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in the fund's net asset value ("NAV") as well as the relative supply of and demand for shares on the exchange, and a fund's investment advisor cannot predict whether shares will trade below, at or above their NAV.

Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs") are subject to risks the risks of investing in real estate, including, but not limited to, changes in the real estate market, vacancy rates and competition, volatile interest rates and economic recession. Increases in interest rates typically lower the present value of a REIT's future earnings stream and may make financing property purchases and improvements more costly. The value of a fund will generally decline when investors in REIT stocks anticipate or experience rising interest rates.

Short selling creates special risks which could result in increased gains or losses and volatility of returns. Because losses on short sales arise from increases in the value of the security sold short, such losses are theoretically unlimited.

A fund with significant exposure to a single asset class, country, region, industry, or sector may be more affected by an adverse economic or political development than a broadly diversified fund.

A fund may have temporary larger exposures to certain Underlying ETFs and under such circumstances, a fund's return would be more greatly influenced by the returns of the Underlying ETFs with the larger exposures.

Securities of small- and mid-capitalization companies may experience greater price volatility and be less liquid than larger, more established companies.

The South Korean economy could be severely adversely affected by the political tensions with North Korea. The South Korean economy is heavily reliant on trading exports, especially to other Asian countries and the U.S. In addition, South Korea's economic growth potential has recently been in decline because of rapidly aging population and structural problems, among other factors. Historically, South Korea has been prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis.

If a fund's Underlying ETF holds FLEX Options that reference SPY, the fund is subject to certain of the risks of owning shares of an ETF as well as the risks of the types of instruments in which SPY invests.

If a fund's Underlying ETF holds FLEX Options that reference SPY, each Underlying ETF has exposure to the equity securities markets. Equity securities may decline significantly in price over short or extended periods of time, and such declines may occur in the equity market as a whole, or they may occur in only a particular country, company, industry or sector of the market.

Swap agreements may involve greater risks than direct investment in securities and could result in losses if the underlying reference or asset does not perform as anticipated. In addition, many swaps trade over-the-counter and may be considered illiquid.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS CONTINUED

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An Underlying ETF's investment strategy is designed to deliver returns if shares are bought on the first day that the Underlying ETF enters into the FLEX Options and are held until the FLEX options expire at the end of the Target Outcome Period subject to the cap.

If a fund does not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year and certain relief provisions were not available, a fund's taxable income would be subject to tax at the fund level and to a further tax at the shareholder level when such income is distributed. Further, there may be other tax implications to a fund based on the type of investments in a fund.

Trading on an exchange may be halted due to market conditions or other reasons. There can be no assurance that a fund's requirements to maintain the exchange listing will continue to be met or be unchanged.

A fund that invests in Underlying ETFs may provide returns that are lower than the returns that an investor could achieve by investing in one or more Underlying ETFs alone and the fund bears its proportionate share of each ETF's expenses, subjecting fund shareholders to duplicative expenses. A fund of Underlying ETFs does not itself pursue a defined outcome strategy and does not provide any buffer against Underlying ETF losses.

Investments in issuers located in the United Kingdom may subject a fund to regulatory, political, currency, security and economic risk specific to the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom has one of the largest economies in Europe and is heavily dependent on trade with the European Union ("EU"), and to a lesser extent the United States and China. The United Kingdom vote to leave the European Union and other recent rapid political and social change throughout Europe make the extent and nature of future economic development in Europe and the effect on securities issued by European issuers difficult to predict.

Utilities companies are subject to imposition of rate caps, increased competition, difficulty in obtaining an adequate return on invested capital or in financing large construction projects, limitations on operations and increased costs attributable to environmental considerations and the capital market's ability to absorb utility debt. Utilities companies may also be affected by taxes, government regulation, international politics, price and supply fluctuations, volatile interest rates and energy conservation.

A fund may hold securities or other assets that may be valued on the basis of factors other than market quotations. This may occur because the asset or security does not trade on a centralized exchange, or in times of market turmoil or reduced liquidity. Portfolio holdings that are valued using techniques other than market quotations, including "fair valued" assets or securities, may be subject to greater fluctuation in their valuations from one day to the next than if market quotations were used. There is no assurance that a fund could sell or close out a portfolio position for the value established for it at any time.

Value characteristics of a stock may not be fully recognized for a long time or a stock judged to be undervalued may actually be appropriately priced at a low level.

In China, direct ownership of companies in certain sectors by foreign individuals and entities is prohibited. In order to allow for foreign investment in these businesses, many Chinese companies have created variable interest entities ("VIEs") structures to enable indirect foreign ownership. VIEs are not formally recognized under Chinese law. Intervention by the Chinese government with respect to VIEs could significantly affect the Chinese company's performance and the enforceability of the VIE's contractual arrangements that establish the links between the Chinese company and the shell company in which the Fund invests. VIEs are also subject to the investment risks associated with the underlying Chinese issuer or operating company. Chinese companies are not subject to the same degree of regulatory requirements or accounting standards and oversight as companies in more developed countries. As a result, information about the Chinese securities and VIEs in which the Fund invests may be less reliable and incomplete.

A fund may invest in securities that exhibit more volatility than the market as a whole.

First Trust Advisors L.P. is the adviser to the First Trust funds. First Trust Advisors L.P. is an affiliate of First Trust Portfolios L.P., the funds' distributor.

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