

RIA Economic Outlook Index

What It Is: A predictive tool created to measure the expectations of Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs) for the upcoming year's economy and market movements.

How It Works: The index is based on responses to five critical questions related to key economic indicators such as the S&P 500 performance, inflation rates, recession probability, market volatility, and potential equity market downturns from over 100 RIAs around the country.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK INDEX

53

5 INDEX COMPONENTS

MARKET

63

INFLATION

61

RECESSION

58

VOLATILITY

34

DOWNTURN

53

Source: Information gathered in August 2024 for the 3rd Quarter 2024 Security Benefit RIA Economic Outlook Index, conducted by Greenwald & Associates.

Key Insights from the Index: 3rd Quarter Update

- **Overall Sentiment:** The overall sentiment has decreased slightly to 53, reflecting continued cautious optimism among RIAs for the next 12 months, though with a more conservative outlook compared to previous quarters.
- **Market Performance:** The overall sentiment has decreased slightly to 53, reflecting continued cautious optimism among RIAs for the next 12 months, though with a more conservative outlook compared to previous quarters.
- **Inflation Expectations:** Inflation expectations remain stable, with nearly 90% of RIAs predicting inflation will fall between 2% and 3.9%. This confidence in manageable inflation levels has stayed consistent across quarters.
- **Recession Probability:** Recession concerns have grown, with nearly 1 in 5 RIAs (17%) believing a recession is almost certain or highly likely. However, 48% still feel optimistic about the economic path forward, seeing a low likelihood of recession.
- **Concerns on Volatility:** 57% of RIAs now expect higher stock market volatility compared to 2023, up from 47% in the second quarter. Despite this, many RIAs remain confident in their ability to mitigate risks and maintain strategic positioning.

Why It Matters:

- **Strategic Planning:** Offers an early signal of potential economic shifts, aiding in better strategic planning for RIAs and their clients.
- **Advisor and Client Confidence:** Reflects a collective stance of cautious optimism, providing reassurance in the face of potential market challenges.



Download a visual overview of the RIA Economic Outlook Index, which measures Registered Investment Advisors' (RIAs) economy and market trends expectations.

[Download Data Visualization](#)



Download the RIA Economic Outlook Overview, which provides insights into Registered Investment Advisors' (RIAs) expectations on key economic factors, including market performance, inflation, and recession risks for the upcoming year.

[Download the Outlook Overview](#)

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