

Allianz US Equity Fund

Monthly commentary

- The Fund aims at long-term capital growth by investing in companies of the United States of America ("US") equity markets with a minimum market capitalization of US\$500 million.
- The Fund is exposed to significant risks of investment/general market, country and region, emerging market and company-specific.
- The Fund may invest in financial derivative instruments ("FDI") which may expose to higher leverage, counterparty, liquidity, valuation, volatility, market and over the counter transaction risks. The Fund's net derivative exposure may be up to 50% of the Fund's net asset value.
- This investment may involve risks that could result in loss of part or entire amount of investors' investment.
- In making investment decisions, investors should not rely solely on this material

Note: Dividend payments may, at the sole discretion of the Investment Manager, be made out of the Fund's capital or effectively out of the Fund's capital which represents a return or withdrawal of part of the amount investors originally invested and/or capital gains attributable to the original investment. This may result in an immediate decrease in the NAV per share and the capital of the Fund available for investment in the future and capital growth may be reduced, in particular for hedged share classes for which the distribution amount and NAV of any hedged share classes (HSC) may be adversely affected by differences in the interests rates of the reference currency of the HSC and the base currency of the Fund.

What Happened in April

The US equity market delivered mixed performance this month, with the S&P 500 declining by -0.68%, while the Nasdaq Composite rose by 0.85%. Trade tensions significantly impacted the market, especially after President Trump's announcement of new tariffs on April 2, which triggered the S&P 500's worst two-day performance since March 2020. China responded with retaliatory tariffs on US goods, which further exacerbated market concerns. Despite some positive signals hinting at a potential de-escalation, overall sentiment remained cautious.

Sector performance varied, with big technology companies reporting mixed results. Energy and healthcare sectors underperformed, while information technology and consumer staples sectors gained. General economic indicators reflected a mixed economic environment, with some positive signs in consumer spending and strong growth in US employment, but concerns in manufacturing and housing persisted.

Portfolio Review

For the month of April, the Strategy outperformed the benchmark, the S&P 500 Index (the Index), on a gross- and net-of-fees basis due to favorable stock selection. Stock selection within information technology, communication services, and industrials sectors contributed the most to performance. However, stock selection within financials, and utilities sectors detracted the most.

Outlook and Strategy

The US economy showed resilience amid market volatility, tariff uncertainty, and mixed corporate earnings. The labor market remained strong, with job cuts mostly avoided in the private sector while loss of government jobs did not significantly impact labor statistics. Consumer spending was sustained, helped by the solid labor market despite weakening sentiment. However, broader economic uncertainty and shifting investor sentiment pose notable risks. Despite reassurance that he does not intend to fire US Federal Reserve Chair Powell, President Trump continued to call for rate cuts. The market expects roughly 100 basis points of cuts this year. Tariff-related macro uncertainty dominated 1Q25 earnings calls. Companies reported various mitigation strategies, such as cost-cutting, price hikes, supply chain shifts, preordering, and hiring freezes. The combination of these factors suggests a cautious outlook for US equities, with potential volatility and mixed performance across sectors.

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Source: Bloomberg and Allianz Global Investors dated as of 30 April 2025 unless otherwise stated.

Allianz Global Investors and Voya Investment Management entered into a long-term strategic partnership on 25 July 2022, upon which the investment team transferred to Voya Investment Management. This did not materially change the composition of the team, the investment philosophy nor the investment process. Management Company: Allianz Global Investors GmbH. Delegated Manager: Voya Investment Management Co. LLC ("Voya IM").

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