

## Market Update



Benchmark	December Returns	2020 Total Performance
S&P500 Index	3.84%	18.40%
Nasdaq Composite Index	5.71%	44.92%
Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	0.14%	7.51%
Russell 2000 Index	8.65%	19.96%
MSCI EAFE Index	2.48%	1.28%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	6.11%	19.50%

- 2020 has come to an end, and we wish everyone a happy and healthy new year
- December ended the year with positive returns across most major indexes, while most major indexes ended the full year in positive territory
- Covid-19 has played a major role in almost every facet of daily life, but as we begin to distribute the vaccine there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel and could help propel markets in 2021
- A second round of stimulus was never passed, and the impasse in Congress continues
- Results of the Georgia Senate race on January 5<sup>th</sup> will help determine the effectiveness of the incoming administration and how much change can be enacted
- Van Leeuwen & Company remains focused on the economic fundamentals to drive returns in the market and continues to focus on high quality companies with a history of weathering different economic cycles

## VLC in the News

- Ken in the Media:
  - Ken shares his 2021 Industry Outlook in his newest WealthManagement.com article 'Adapting to the Pandemic Has Made Us More Effective.'
  - Ken discusses how some broad-based ESG funds may not be as green as the investor thinks in Debbie Carlson's recent MarketWatch article
  - Ken appeared on Yahoo Finance to discuss his insights on the rotation we are currently seeing from stay-at-home stocks to "Story Stocks", and his thoughts surrounding a vaccine's impact on markets
- Jason in the Media:
  - Jason discusses, with Chris Carosa of Forbes, one key decision for employees, and that's whether to contribute to their retirement plans with their bonus payout as well as discussing year-end planning tips, like checking beneficiaries on retirement accounts
- Jeff in the Media:
  - Jeff spoke with Daisy Maxey of Barron's about how beginners can start investing with just \$100 by using fractional shares to diversify

*The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. All performance referenced is historical and is no guarantee of future results. All indices are unmanaged and may not be invested into directly. The economic forecasts set forth in this material may not develop as predicted.*

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