

Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund

# Core Fund

JASON CLICK, CFP<sup>®</sup>, PRESIDENT JASON HEADINGS, CMT, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT JASON SZABO, CFA, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FIXED INCOME

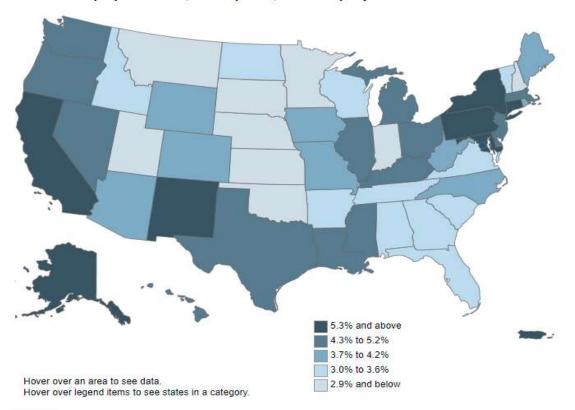
## 2021 Headlines

- Economic data remained volatile
- Supply chain disruptions
- Federal Reserve announces tapering
- Powell to remain Chairman
- Powell to retire the "transitory inflation"
- New COVID variants
- S&P 500 up 26.89%



### MIXED EMPLOYMENT DATA PERSISTS Unemployment Rate vs. Total Payrolls

State unemployment rates, January 2022, seasonally adjusted



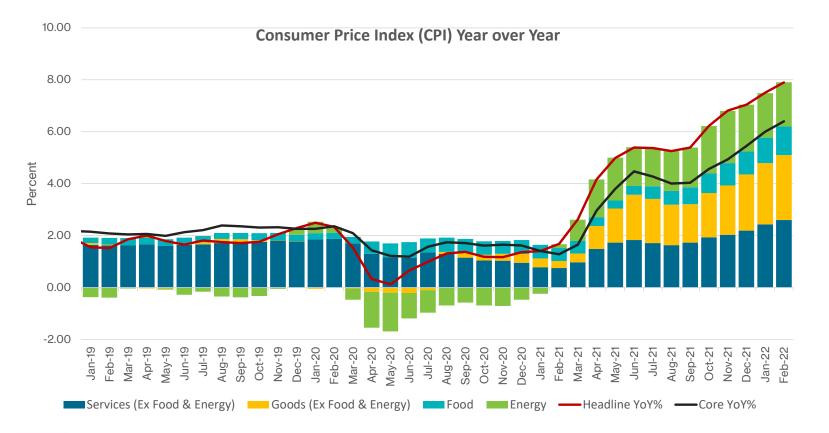
Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics;

- February unemployment rate stands at 3.8%, in line with the Fed's target for "full employment."
- Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 678,000 in February, compared to a median forecast of 400,000.
- Nonfarm employment still down over 2.1 million from its pre-pandemic level in February 2020
- Labor participation rate improved slightly to 62.3%, while average hourly earnings are up 5.1% annually.

3

#### **INFLATION NOT ABATING** FED Chair Retires use of Transitory

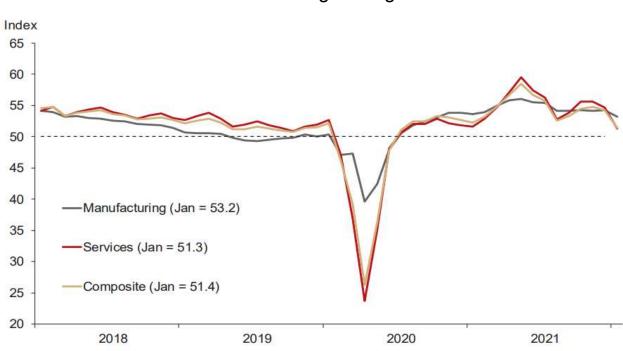


- January PCE inflation measure registered 6.1% increase year over year, 5.2% excluding volatile food and energy
- Increased prices on durable goods have far exceeded increased prices on services
- Fed view shifts to persistent inflation from transitory

4



#### **ECONOMIC EXPANSION** FED Chair Retires use of Transitory



**Global Purchasing Managers Index** 

- Quick rebound in economic growth in 2020
- Explosive growth in 2021
- Signs of a slowing as we enter 2022

NOTE: This index measures purchasing managers' perspectives of current business conditions. An index value greater than 50 indicates economic expansion from the previous month, while a value below 50 indicates contraction.





Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund

# Looking Forward

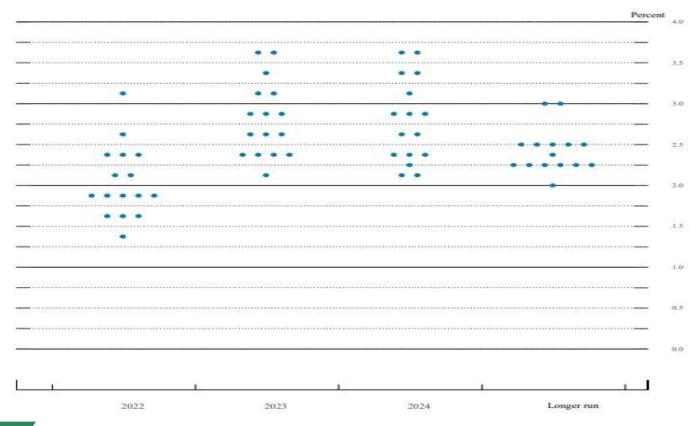
## 2022 risks

- Further War Escalation
- Commodity Price Inflation
- European Recession
- Fiscal Cliff
- FED Slows Down Pace of Rate Increases
- China Zero Covid Strategy Major Manufacturing Cities Under Lockdown Again
- New Covid Variants or Fall/Winter Seasonal Outbreaks

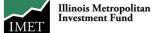


## Federal Reserve Outlook

MONETARY POLICY ON THE PATH TO NORMALIZATION

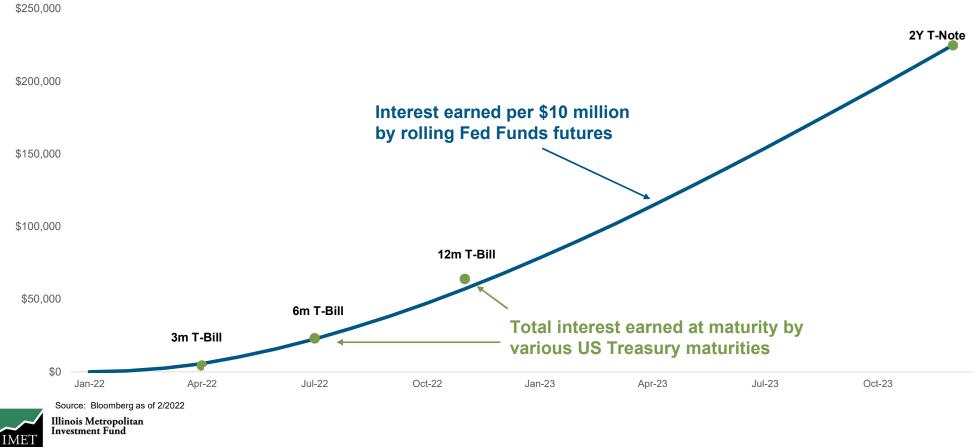


- Effective 3/16/2022, the FOMC raised short-term rates by 0.25% to a range of 0.25%-0.50% citing elevated inflation and strong job gains
- Current geopolitical events are expected to weigh on economic activity and increase inflation pressures
- Disparity amongst officials highlights uncertainty surrounding pace of future rate hikes
- Committee expects to begin reducing its \$9 trillion balance sheet at a "coming meeting"

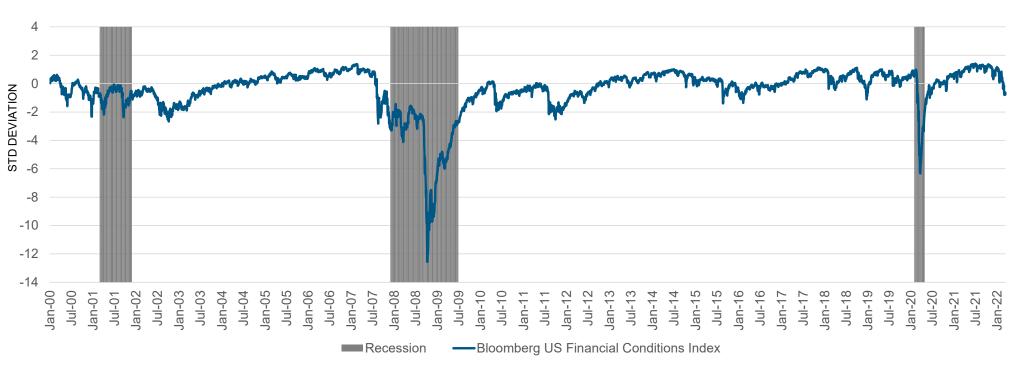


Source: Federal Reserve Press Release and Summary of Economic Projections as of 3/16/2021

## What's priced in now? TREASURIES FULLY PRICING IN 7 RATE HIKES



### What's priced in now? TIGHTER U.S. FINANCIAL CONDITIONS



The Bloomberg U.S. Financial Conditions Index Tracks the overall level of financial stress in the U.S. money, bond, and equity markets to help assess the availability and cost of credit. A positive value indicates accommodative financial conditions, awhile a negative value indicates tighter financial conditions.

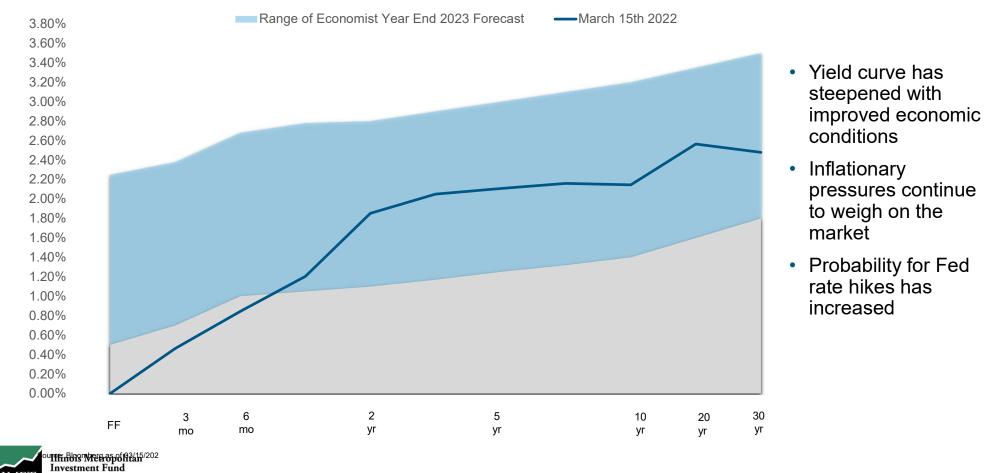


Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund

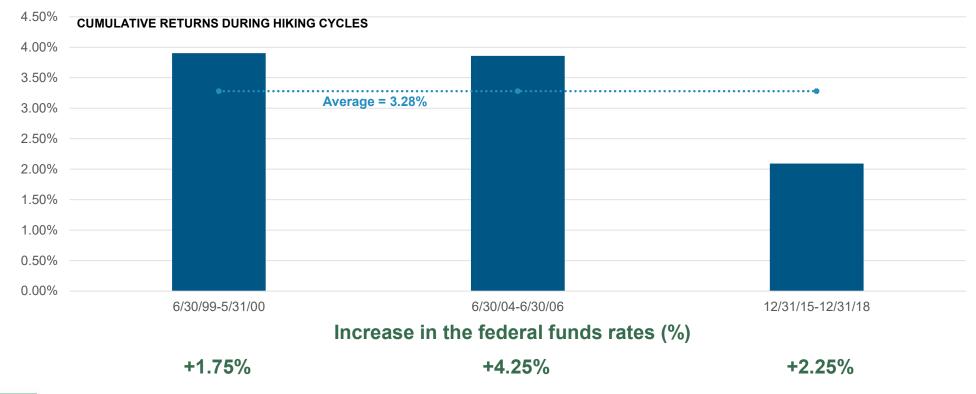
Source: Bloomberg 3/17/2022

## **U.S. Treasury Yield Curves**

IMET



## Do fed rate hikes always mean disaster for bonds? THAT'S NOT WHAT HISTORY SHOWS

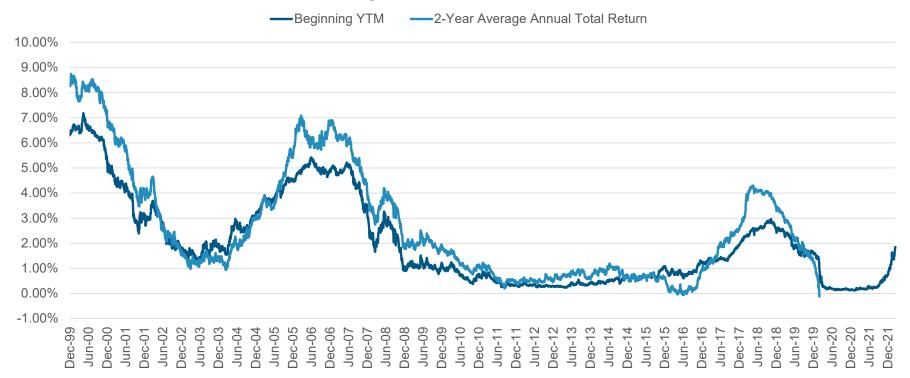


■ IMET CORE FUND



## **Expected future returns increase as yield rise** STARTING YIELD AND SUBSEQUENT 2-YEAR AVERAGE ANNUAL RETURN

Bloomberg Government 1-3 Year Index





Investment Fund

Source: Bloomberg Index Family

## **Current Portfolio**

#### IMET CORE FUND AS OF 02/28/2022

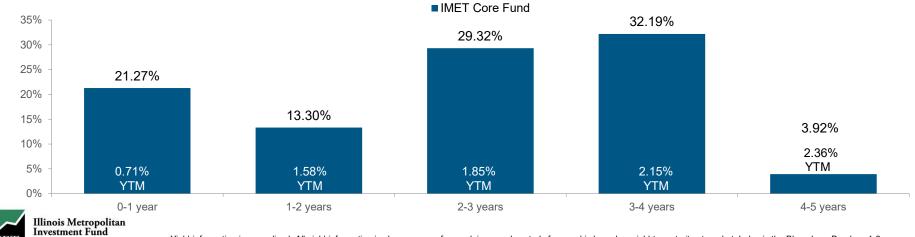
#### **Asset Allocation**

Cash	2.45%
Commercial Paper	14.92%
US Agencies	76.22%
Treasuries	6.40%
Total Portfolio	100.00%

#### **Portfolio Statistics**

Weighted Average Life	2.37
Effective Duration	2.11
WAY at Market Value	1.72%
Net Asset Value Per Share	20.461

#### **Expected Maturity Distribution**



IMET II

Yield information is annualized. All yield information is shown gross of any advisory and custody fees and is based on yield to maturity at market. Index is the Bloomberg Barclays 1-3 year Government Total Return Index. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.



#### DISCLOSURE

Meeder Public Funds, Inc. is a registered investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Registration with the SEC does not imply a certain level of skill or training. The opinions expressed in this presentation are those of Meeder Public Funds, Inc. The material presented has been derived from sources considered to be reliable, but the accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed.

Past performance does not guarantee future results. Opinions and forecasts are all subject to change at any time, based on market and other conditions, and should not be construed as a recommendation of any specific security. Investing in securities involves inherent risks, including the risk that you can lose the value of your investment. Any forecast, projection, or prediction of the market, the economy, economic trends, and fixed-income markets are based upon current opinion as of the date of issue and are also subject to change. Opinions and data presented are not necessarily indicative of future events or expected performance. Meeder Public Funds, Inc. cannot and does not claim to be able to accurately predict the future investment performance of any individual security or of any asset class. There is no assurance that the investment process will consistently lead to successful results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate, thus an investor's shares, or units, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost.