

First Trust Capital Strength Barclays 5% Index

2022 Q3 Update

Bloomberg Ticker: **BXFTCS5E**

SM

Performance - Overall

The table below shows Capital Strength is down -11.90% YTD through the end of September. As a frame of reference, in the same time period the S&P 500 is down -24.77%, the Bloomberg Aggregate Bond index is down -14.61%, and a classic 60% S&P / 40% Agg blended portfolio is down -20.71%

Attribution Period	BXFTCS5E	Capital Strength Equity	2Y Treasury	5Y Treasury	10Y Treasury	30Y Treasury
Q1 2022	-5.36%	-2.64%	-0.32%	-0.62%	-0.73%	-0.97%
Q2 2022	-3.73%	-1.88%	-0.09%	-0.27%	-0.47%	-0.95%
Q3 2022	-3.29%	-1.00%	-0.23%	-0.46%	-0.61%	-0.94%
YTD	-11.90%	-5.33%	-0.61%	-1.29%	-1.73%	-2.72%

Performance – Equity sleeve

For Q3, the quality comparison between the Capital Strength equity index and the S&P 500 index as of 7/14/2022 highlights our index's relative financial strength:

- o The average Cash & short term investments for the Capital Strength index was \$3.3 billion vs. \$1.6 billion for the S&P 500
- o The average debt to market cap ratio for the Capital Strength index was 14.4% vs 22.8% for the S&P 500
- o The average ROE for the holdings in the Capital Strength Index was 26.5% vs. 17.4% for the S&P 500

What helped the index outperform the S&P:

- o Having no holdings in Utilities during the quarter
- o Having a massive underweight in technology (4.0% Cap Strength vs. 26.4% S&P) during the quarter

What hurt the index's performance:

- o Having an underweight in Consumer Discretionary (4.0% Cap Strength vs. 11.7% S&P)
- o A slight overweight in Financials. Nearly half of the underperformance in the sector came due to Cincinnati Financial Corp (CINF)
- o An overweight in industrials contributed to 40bps of underperformance of the index vs. S&P

Past and/or simulated past performance are not reliable indicators of future performance.

Source: Barclays, Bloomberg. Simulated period: Index Base Date is 31st Oct 2008, Index is Live Date is 25th March 2020. See information on the performance data in the Index Performance Disclaimer at end for further information.

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indices.Barclays/capstrength5

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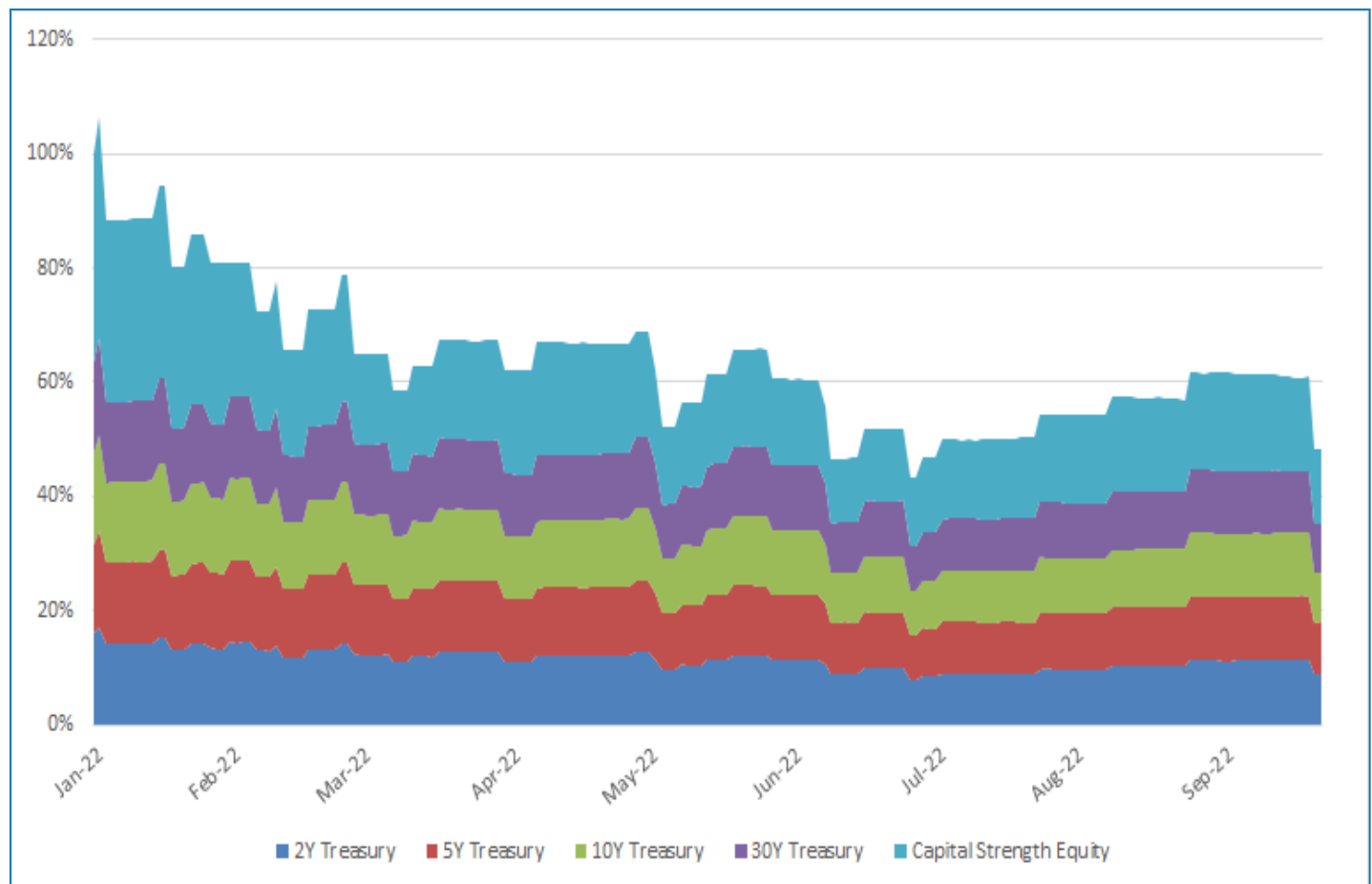
Asset Allocation

In terms of exposure/allocation to each of the componentsSM, the index finished the quarter with 13 cents on the dollar exposure to the First Trust Capital Strength equity index and 35 cents on the dollar exposure to US Treasuries, for a total exposure of 48% allocation to stocks and bonds:

Composition Update – September 30, 2022

Component	Exposure
Cap Strength Equities	12.9%
2y Treasury	9.0%
5y Treasury	8.9%
10y Treasury	8.8%
30y Treasury	8.5%
Total Index	48.2%

As you can see in the exposure graph below, both equity exposure and bond exposure has declined throughout the year as volatility has persisted (but this has helped the index avoid some of the worst drawdowns in both Stocks and Bonds):



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Past simulated index performance

Past simulated index performance refers to the period from the Index Base Date to the Index Live Date. This performance is hypothetical and back-tested using criteria applied retroactively. It benefits from hindsight and knowledge of factors that may have favorably affected the performance and cannot account for all financial risk that may affect the actual performance of the index. It is in Barclays' interest to demonstrate favorable simulated index performance. The actual performance of the index may vary significantly from the past simulated performance. Past simulated index performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Past index performance

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The Index may produce negative returns if the U.S. equity market and/or the U.S. Treasury market have negative performance.

The strategy reflected in the Index may be unsuccessful. The Capital Strength Excess Return Index investment methodology may not be successful in identifying stocks of companies with strong market positions, and the Equity Component may underperform broad equity market benchmarks. In addition, the allocation between stocks and Treasury futures reflected in the Index at any time may not be optimized and may underperform a different allocation between the two asset classes.

Because the Capital Strength Excess Return Index includes a limitation on the exposure to any given industry sector, the Index may limit exposure to stocks within a sector experiencing positive performance, which may result in the Index underperforming a similar strategy without this limitation. The Index includes deductions for a fee of 0.5% per year, plus an additional cost equal to either the 1-month US dollar LIBOR rate (before March 22, 2022) or SOFR plus 0.1145% (March 22, 2022 onwards) for the Equity Component, which may be increased or decreased in the aggregate by the mean variance optimization process and the volatility control mechanism. These deductions will reduce Index performance, and the Index will underperform similar portfolios from which these fees and costs are not deducted.

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