

# ALTLOOK: Valuation Quarterly Update—June 2024

June 6, 2024

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# Today's Agenda

- 1. New Regulation
- 2. Macro-economic Update
- 3. Valuation Hot Topics/Questions

# **Speaker's Introduction**

#### Jenetta Mason



**Managing Director** 

**Portfolio Valuation** 

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Jenetta Mason is a managing director in the Chicago office and is part of the Portfolio Valuation group within Valuation Advisory Services practice. She specializes in the valuation of illiquid interests, investments and portfolios for private equity funds and hedge funds. Jenetta has performed valuations for global publicly traded and privately held clients across various industries, including consumer and industrial products, technology, healthcare, retail and many others.

Additionally, Jenetta has extensive experience encompassing the valuation of intangible assets, business interests, capital stock, partnership interests, and financial assets in connection with business combination decision support, financial reporting, corporate and estate tax planning and compliance, and dispute analysis.

Prior to joining Kroll, Jenetta was a director in the Valuation Services group at Grant Thornton LLP and was also part of the firm's subsidiary Grant Thornton Financial Advisors LLC, which is in the business of providing fairness opinion services.

Jenetta received her Bachelor of Science in accounting from Miami University.

#### Lea Carty



**Managing Director** 

#### **Private Capital Markets**

Kroll New York +1 212 833 3432 Lea.Carty@kroll.com Lea Carty joined the newly formed Kroll Digital Services in 2022, to focus on the development and commercialization of company credit-related data and analytics.

Prior to Kroll, Lea led the Investment Solutions Group at the London Stock Exchange Group, the credit decision support effort at ZAIS Group LLC, a specialist corporate credit hedge fund and CLO manager, and the Buyside Solutions Group of Bloomberg LP. While at Bloomberg, he also served as an executive director of Bloomberg Index Services, Ltd.

Prior to Bloomberg, Lea was a Managing Director in Lehman Brothers' Research department, focused on portfolio and index analytics capabilities. Before Lehman, Lea was a Managing Director with Moody's Investors Service where he led the quantitative bond default research effort and took a leading London-based role in the establishment of a new business unit – Moody's Risk Management Services (later Moody's KMV), which served as the analytic nucleus of what is now Moody's Analytics.

Before Moody's, Lea held positions with Bear Stearns, NY and Thomson-CGR, Paris and is currently a nonexecutive director of Credit Research Data Ltd in London. He holds degrees in French, Mathematics and Economics and has published research in the areas of credit risk, economic history, and credit market structure, in academic journals, professional journals, and books.

#### **David Larsen**



**Managing Director** 

#### Alternative Asset Advisory

Kroll Seattle +1 415 693 5300 David.Larsen@kroll.com David Larsen is a managing director in the Alternative Asset Advisory practice, based in Seattle, Washington. He has more than 40 years of transaction and accounting experience. He specializes in fair value accounting, specifically for valuation, accounting and regulatory issues faced by alternative asset managers and investors.

David advises leading private equity managers and institutional investors and has advised numerous strategic and private equity acquirers in all areas of mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures, divestitures and valuation-related matters.

Prior to joining Kroll (formerly Duff & Phelps), David was a Partner in KPMG's Transaction Services practice, where he was the segment leader of KPMG's U.S. Institutional Investor practice. He served for 13 years in KPMG's Seattle, Düsseldorf and Prague audit practices before moving full time to advisory work.

David advises leading private equity managers and institutional investors and has advised numerous strategic and private equity acquirers in all areas of mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures, divestitures and valuation-related matters. He provides valuation policy and process assistance to a number of the world's largest institutional limited partner investors and some of the world's largest alternative investment managers.

David is a member of the International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC) Standards Review Board, an advisor to and has served as Vice Chair of the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuations Board (IPEV), which in 2022 updated its International Private Equity Valuation Guidelines, and serves as a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) PE/VC Practice Guide Task Force. David's past professional affiliation and advisory experience includes serving as a special advisor to the Institutional Limited Partners Association; board member, project manager and technical advisor to the Private Equity Industry Guidelines Group and was instrumental in developing and drafting the Private Equity Industry Guidelines; member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Valuation Resource Group responsible for providing the board with input on potential clarifying guidance on issues relating to the application of the principles of FASB ASC Topic 820, Fair Value Measurements; and a member of the AICPA Net Asset Value Task Force.

David received an M.S. in accounting from Brigham Young University's Marriott School and his B.S. in accounting from Brigham Young University.

#### **Peter Salvatori**



**Managing Director** 

**Portfolio Valuation** 

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Peter Salvatori is a managing director in the Miami office and is part of the Portfolio Valuation service line. Peter's expertise focuses on portfolio valuation, as well as transaction-related valuations. He has more than 19 years of financial and valuation experience.

Peter specializes in advising a wide range of alternative asset managers, including hedge funds, private equity funds, and business development companies on valuing their positions in loans, subordinated and mezzanine debt, convertible debt, and common and preferred equity. Peter also has extensive experience in executing valuations of businesses and their underlying securities for tax, financial reporting, and strategic planning purposes, as well as performing decision support analyses for transactions under consideration.

Prior to joining Kroll, Peter was a senior portfolio analyst at a hedge fund specializing in direct private investments. There, he was responsible for monitoring and valuing the firm's portfolio companies and their underlying securities across a broad range of industries including media and telecom, financials, real estate, and hotels and gaming.

Peter has a B.S. in finance from the University of Vermont. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), and is a member of the CFA Institute and CFA Society New York.

# **1. New Regulation**

### **Regulatory Environment**

- New/Amended SEC Private Fund Adviser Rules
  - Quarterly Fund Performance (IRR/MOIC) 45/90 days after quarter end (Effective March 2025)
  - Annual Audit (Effective March 2025)
  - Fairness opinion for adviser-led secondary transactions
    (Effective September 2024 or March 2025 (for less than \$ 1.5 Billion AUM)
- International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) IFRS S1 General Requirements, S2 – Climate-related Disclosures
- International Valuation Standards Newest version effective January 2025 (Are ESG Factors appropriately considered in Fair Value estimates?)

# 2. Macro-economic Update

### **Private Credit Market: Benchmarks**

Our market summary is derived from Kroll's performing private credit benchmarks. These are based on our experience valuing these assets over the last more than 15 years.

- These benchmarks are drawn from over 5,000 obligors of over 12,500 private credit instruments issued since 2004.
- These benchmarks cover the middle market for lending.
- While we continue to build out the dataset supporting these benchmarks, we are publishing a **beta release and preview** on the Kroll Valuation Platform.
- If you don't already have access to these benchmarks on the valuation portal, *please reach out to me* at the address at the end of this presentation.

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		Kroll	Benchmarks								
Dashboard											
🖫 Valuations	~	Kro	I provides authoritative and com	prehensive private credit benchma	rks, derived from Kroll's l	ong-standing, le	ading expert	ise in valuin	g these		
🖪 Kroll Benchmarks 📑	eta 🔨	inst	ruments. These benchmarks are	also integrated with our Leveraged	Loan Model in the Valua	tion Platform.				Contact Us	
Market Monitor		Wh	at can you learn from Kroll	Benchmark		7/31/2023	8/31/2023	9/30/2023	10/31/2023	3-mo. Change	
Market Trends		Ben	chmarks?	Sr Lending	~	11.52%	11.58%	11.59%	11.59%	0.07%	
New Issue Monitor		(s) New issue pricing, such as the	New issue pricing, such as the	Benchmark							
		yields on newly issued senior and	21. Lending	~	13.64%	13.49%	13.55%	13.98%	0.35%		
	ence	secured leveraged loans	Benchmark								
	ort	~	Valuations, such as how spreads	US Direct Lending	$\vee$	11.58%	11.59%	11.65%	11.69%	0.12%	
			in a market have moved for loans								
			like yours								
Documents	~	0	Portfolio monitoring and market			Yield-to-Maturity					
Documents	~		intelligence, such as how financial ratios evolved in the last year	15						$\sim$	/
Report Library			factos evolved in the last year	A.		$\sim$	~		Г	-	_
		Ξ	Client communications, such as	*	~~~~	-		~		P -	
🕼 Reporting	v		how your portfolio is structured relative to a broad cross-section of	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~							
	~		the market	2016	2018	20	120		2022		
Setup	v				Sr Lending -	21. Lending - US Dire	ect Lending				
& Administration	$\vee$										

### **Private Credit Market Trends**

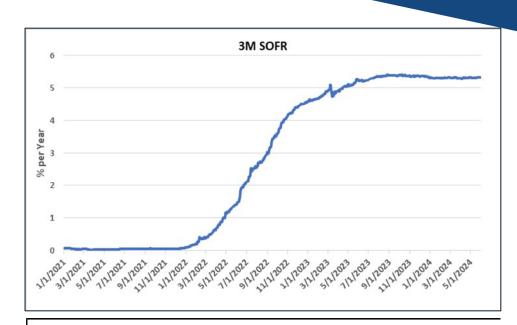
Since the Federal Reserve stopped raising rates in the middle of last year, benchmark interest rates have remained steady while spreads have tightened.

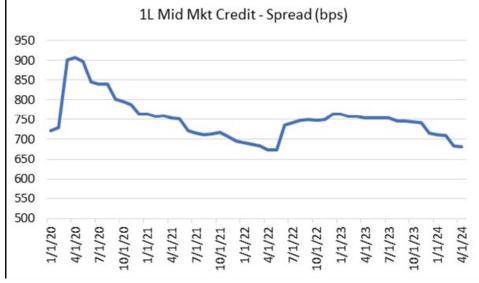
#### **Benchmark Interest Rates**

• Between July of 2023, and April of this year, 3-month SOFR has narrowed by only 3 basis points

#### First Lien Middle Market Loan Spreads

- Year-to-date, loan spreads have continued the trend lower that we highlighted last quarter
- Since July of 2023, the fair value-weighted average spread of loans in our 1L Middle Market Credit index has tightened by 71 bps to close April 2024 at 682 bps.
- These levels are close to both the pre- and post-covid lows in spreads for this benchmark.





### **Private Credit Market Trends and Valuations**

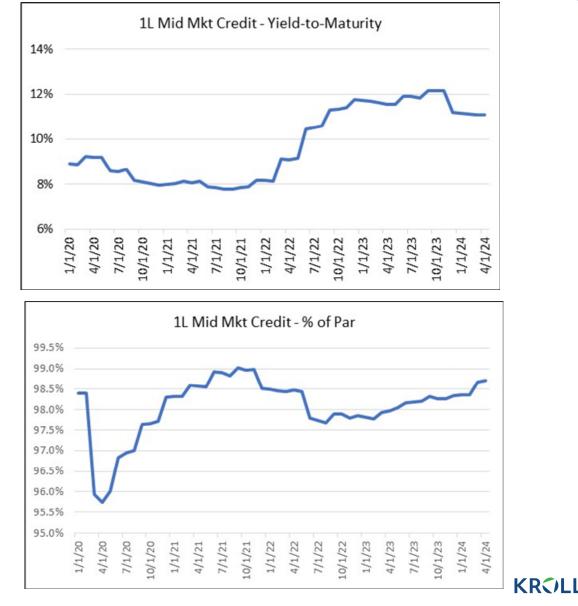
With benchmark rates holding steady and spreads tightening, loan yields have also come in, extending the rally in valuations.

#### Yields

- Between July of 2023, and April of this year, the fair valueweighted yield-to-maturity of the loans in our first lien middle market lending benchmark tightened by 83 bps to 11.08%.
- This also continues the trend we saw last quarter

#### **Fair Values**

- Tightening spreads and declining yields have supported a 53bps increase in the average %-f par for loans in this benchmark to 98.712%.
- This extends a rally started when the fed started raising rates in early 2022.

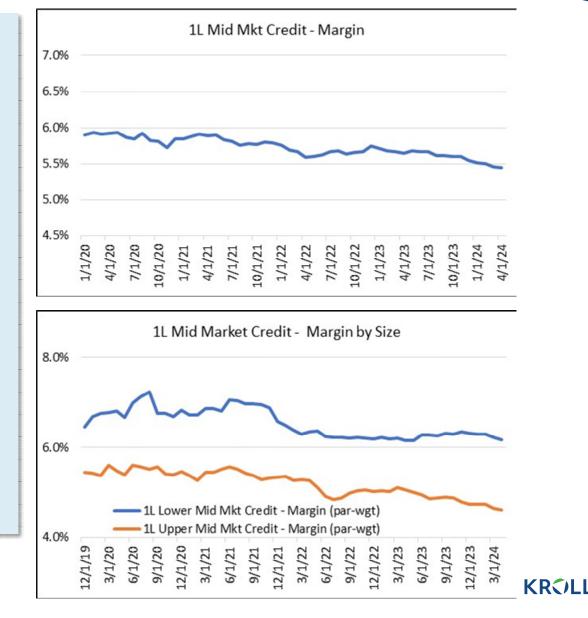


### **Private Credit: Spreads Driving Margin Compression**

The systematic spread tightening is driving down loan margins, particularly for larger borrowers

#### Margins

- When the Federal Reserve stopped its rate hike campaign last year, the par par-weighted average margin on first lien middle market loans resumed the downward trend it had started during covid, decreasing by another 25bps, to finish April at 5.45%.
- Since covid, margins have decreased by 50bps
- Margins by Obligor Size
- The decrease in margins has not been uniform with borrower size having a differential impact.
- Larger companies have seen their weighted average margin decline by 18% relative to their covid era level.
- Smaller companies, on the other hand, have seen a smaller, 5% decline over the same era.



### Private Credit: Larger Borrowers Benefitting Most From Margin Compression

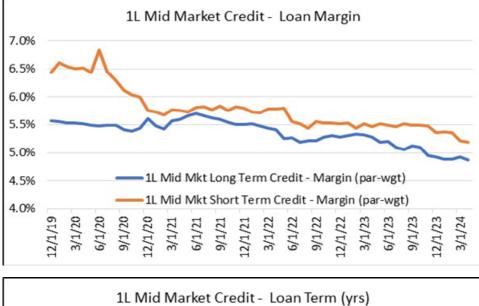
Longer maturities are also correlated with both lower margins and larger obligors. This makes the long-dated, larger obligor loan segment one to monitor for margin compression going forward.

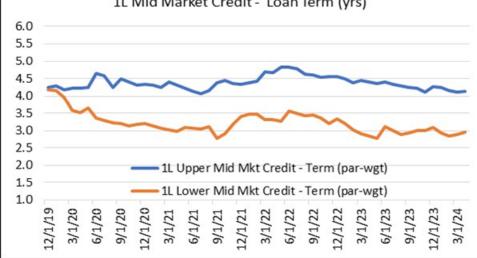
#### Margins by Term

• Loan margins are lower for longer dated obligations

#### Loan Term by Obligor Size

- Upper middle market borrowers are also able to borrow at longer maturities
- Larger borrowers benefit from both the size and term impacts on margins
- This is a sector to watch for further margin compression





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### **Highlights - Economies**

- > US
  - The April 2024 Consumer Price Index (CPI) report rose by a softer-than-expected 0.3% month-over-month (MoM) and 3.4% year-over-year (YOY).
    - Excluding food and energy, the key core inflation reading came in at 0.3% MoM and 3.6% YoY, both as forecast. The core 12-month inflation reading was the lowest since
      April 2021 while the monthly increase was the smallest since December.
    - Inflation eased as smaller gains in services (e.g., food services) costs offset the continued strong rises in rent and gasoline prices.
  - The Fed has been steadfast that they will need to see persistent, continued declines in inflation before initiating the first cut.
    - The beginning of the cut cycle continues to get pushed.
  - The number of job openings in the US shrank for the second month in a row, setting a new three-year low.
    - There were 8.059 million available jobs posted in April, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' latest Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey report released
      Tuesday, and below the downwardly revised 8.36 million seen a month before.
    - Consensus expectations were projecting 8.36 million.
  - Consensus GDP growth is approximately 2% for the next several quarters, supported by a continued rebound in the labor force.
    - Although Q1 2024 growth came in below expectations at 1.6%, the miss was driven by the volatile trade and inventories components.
- China
  - On May 14 the People's Bank of China Deputy Governor Tao Ling announced the central bank would provide 300 billion yuan (\$42.25 billion) to financial institutions to lend to local state-owned enterprises so they can buy unsold apartments that have already been built.
    - The real estate companies can then use funds earned from those sales to complete construction on other apartments.
- Europe
  - We are beginning (likely) to see a divergence in interest rate policy between the ECB and Fed.
    - Inflation in the euro area has followed a sustained disinflationary trend. May's headline CPI is anticipated to reach 2.6%, the eighth consecutive month below 3%.
    - The ECB is widely expected to initiate a quarter-percentage-point rate cut, bringing the main refinancing rate to 4.25% on Friday.

### **Public Equity Performance**

			5/31/2024							
Equity Indices		Country / Region	SPOT	1M ∆	PQ 🛆	6M 🛆	YTD $\Delta$	ΥοΥ Δ	5Y CAGR	10Y CAGR
World	MSCI ACWI Index	World	786	3.82%	0.25%	13.13%	8.05%	21.53%	9.80%	6.42%
	MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) Index	World	1,049	0.29%	0.55%	6.27%	2.46%	9.43%	1.00%	0.21%
	MSCI World Ex USA Index	World	2,371	3.29%	0.19%	10.73%	5.08%	15.35%	5.45%	1.90%
USA & Canada	S&P 500	United States	5,278	4.80%	0.44%	15.54%	10.64%	26.26%	13.91%	10.62%
	Dow Jones Industrial Average	United States	38,686	2.30%	-2.82%	7.61%	2.64%	17.56%	9.29%	8.75%
	NASDAQ Composite Index	United States	16,735	6.88%	2.17%	17.64%	11.48%	29.37%	17.56%	14.71%
	Russell 2000 Index	United States	2,070	4.87%	-2.56%	14.43%	2.12%	18.32%	7.15%	6.20%
	S&P/TSX Composite Index	Canada	22,269	2.55%	0.46%	10.05%	6.25%	13.78%	6.79%	4.31%
Latin America	S&P Latin American 40 Index (iShares)	Latin America	27	-1.27%	-4.84%	-3.15%	-6.90%	9.90%	-3.56%	-3.19%
	AMEX Mexico Index	Mexico	391	0.61%	2.81%	25.38%	13.24%	20.72%	16.82%	4.14%
Europe	FTSE 100 Index	United Kingdom	8,275	1.61%	4.06%	11.02%	7.01%	11.14%	2.93%	1.92%
-	FTSE/ATHEX Large Cap Index	Greece	3,454	-1.68%	0.98%	10.96%	10.60%	17.23%	10.29%	-3.53%
	Germany DAX Index (Performance)	Germany	18,498	3.16%	0.03%	14.08%	10.42%	18.09%	9.54%	6.40%
	Paris CAC 40 Index	France	7,993	0.10%	-2.59%	9.33%	5.96%	12.60%	8.95%	5.87%
	Madrid Ibex 35 Index	Spain	11,322	4.31%	2.23%	12.56%	12.08%	25.10%	4.69%	0.47%
	OMX Stockholm 30 Index	Sweden	2,604	1.87%	3.41%	16.65%	8.68%	16.52%	11.51%	6.39%
	Swiss SMI Index	Switzerland	12,001	6.57%	2.31%	10.56%	7.75%	6.98%	4.73%	3.30%
	Brussels BEL 20 Index	Belgium	3,918	0.90%	1.88%	11.02%	5.67%	10.78%	2.71%	2.18%
	Amsterdam AEX Index	Netherlands	904	2.82%	2.48%	18.11%	14.84%	20.66%	10.83%	8.30%
	Ireland ISEQ Overall Index	Ireland	9,940	0.23%	-0.17%	18.97%	13.47%	17.47%	10.33%	7.33%
Asia Pacific	BSE SENSEX Index	India	73,961	-0.70%	0.42%	10.41%	2.38%	18.11%	13.24%	11.81%
	Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index	China	3,087	-0.58%	1.50%	1.89%	3.76%	-3.67%	1.27%	4.23%
	Hang Seng Index	Hong Kong	18,080	1.78%	9.30%	6.08%	6.06%	-0.85%	-7.64%	-2.41%
	Taiwan TAIEX Index	Taiwan	21,174	3.81%	4.34%	21.45%	18.09%	27.72%	15.06%	8.84%
	Nikkei 225 Index	Japan	38,488	0.21%	-4.66%	14.93%	15.01%	24.61%	13.31%	10.15%
	South Korea Kospi Composite Index	South Korea	2,637	-2.06%	-4.01%	3.99%	-0.71%	2.30%	5.25%	2.83%
	S&P/ASX 200 Index	Australia	7,702	0.49%	-2.47%	8.67%	1.46%	8.61%	3.78%	3.44%
Industry Specific Indices	S&P 500 Energy (Sector)	United States	708	-0.97%	-1.83%	10.41%	10.62%	20.90%	10.38%	0.21%
	S&P 500 Industrials (Sector)	United States	1,043	1.44%	-2.23%	15.50%	8.10%	27.67%	11.51%	8.41%
	S&P 500 Materials (Sector)	United States	575	3.06%	-1.69%	11.23%	6.61%	22.13%	11.80%	6.41%
	S&P 500 Consumer Discretionary (Sector)	United States	1,424	0.19%	-4.17%	6.48%	0.38%	19.82%	10.13%	10.60%
	S&P 500 Consumer Staples (Sector)	United States	824	2.32%	1.23%	10.75%	8.12%	8.87%	7.66%	5.96%
	S&P 500 Health Care (Sector)	United States	1,671	2.23%	-3.08%	9.42%	5.06%	12.42%	10.66%	9.24%
	S&P 500 Financials (Sector)	United States	691	3.01%	-1.43%	16.16%	10.37%	31.24%	9.93%	8.71%
	S&P 500 Information Technology (Sector)	United States	3,972	9.95%	3.96%	21.36%	16.93%	37.15%	25.84%	20.44%
	S&P 500 Communication Services (Sector)	United States	296	6.57%	4.20%	26.18%	20.42%	40.62%	13.46%	6.33%
	S&P 500 Utilities (Sector)	United States	367	8.46%	10.19%	16.08%	14.15%	12.04%	4.57%	5.46%

### **Credit Market Performance – US**

			Observation		Percentage Change				
		Price / Rate	Date	$1M \Delta$	$PQ \Delta$	$6M \Delta$	YTD $\Delta$	ΥοΥ Δ	
Index	LCD Performing Loan Index Price (1)	97.44	5/31/2024	0.36%	0.23%	1.81%	0.86%	4.30%	
	Smi LPC 100 Price - US (2)	97.44	5/31/2024	0.19%	1.39%	2.48%	1.66%	5.98%	
SOFR	Three Month SOFR (3)	5.38%	5/31/2024	0.07%	0.64%	-0.53%	0.19%	2.14%	
Default Rates (1)	LTM \$ of Defaults / Total Loans Outstanding	1.08%	5/31/2024	-17.56%	-5.56%	-27.12%	-29.47%	-31.65%	
	LTM # of Defaults / Total Issuers	1.83%	5/31/2024	-8.22%	-3.63%	-5.60%	-10.75%	14.28%	
			Observation			nange in Spr			
		Current Spread	Date	$1M \Delta$	$PQ \Delta$	6M 🛆	$YTD \Delta$	YoY $\Delta$	
Loan Spreads by Credit Rating (1)	BBB Loans	1.97%	5/31/2024	-0.07%	-0.11%	-0.18%	-0.16%	-0.41%	
	BB Loans	2.95%	5/31/2024	-0.08%	-0.09%	-0.34%	-0.14%	-0.93%	
	BLoans	4.41%	5/31/2024	-0.13%	-0.10%	-0.80%	-0.30%	-1.88%	
	CCC Loans	12.28%	5/31/2024	-1.31%	-0.73%	-2.59%	-2.16%	-3.45%	
Loan Spreads by Seniority (1)	Overall Market Spreads - LSEG (2)	5.29%	5/31/2024	-0.13%	-0.06%	-0.78%	-0.46%	-1.38%	
	All Loan Spreads - LCD	4.51%	5/31/2024	-0.14%	-0.11%	-0.73%	-0.39%	-1.56%	
	First Lien Spreads - LCD	4.38%	5/31/2024	-0.12%	-0.09%	-0.70%	-0.36%	-1.49%	
	Second Lien Spreads - LCD	11.86%	5/31/2024	-1.54%	-1.60%	-1.84%	-1.03%	-2.96%	
Loan Spreads by Industry (2)	Aerospace and Defense	6.01%	5/31/2024	0.14%	0.29%	0.53%	0.42%	-1.18%	
	Automotive	5.53%	5/31/2024	-0.23%	-0.63%	-1.01%	-0.85%	-1.97%	
	Beverage and Food	4.99%	5/31/2024	-0.09%	0.01%	-0.86%	-0.92%	-2.10%	
	Chemicals and Plastic	6.16%	5/31/2024	-0.57%	0.29%	-0.23%	0.67%	0.00%	
	Construction	4.11%	5/31/2024	-0.01%	-0.18%	-0.52%	-0.20%	-1.70%	
	Financial Services	4.58%	5/31/2024	-0.31%	-0.17%	-0.45%	-0.33%	-1.21%	
	Healthcare	6.41%	5/31/2024	-0.47%	-0.39%	-0.67%	-0.53%	-2.16%	
	Hotel and Gaming	3.56%	5/31/2024	0.01%	-0.10%	-0.39%	-0.24%	-0.48%	
	Leisure	4.12%	5/31/2024	-0.40%	-0.41%	-1.58%	-1.40%	-1.54%	
	Manufacturing	5.38%	5/31/2024	-0.25%	-0.09%	-0.59%	-0.35%	-1.24%	
	Media	6.56%	5/31/2024	0.21%	1.83%	1.42%	1.81%	0.92%	
	Mining	4.97%	5/31/2024	0.07%	-0.15%	-0.31%	-0.45%	0.12%	
	Oil and Gas	3.68%	5/31/2024	-0.13%	-0.15%	-1.00%	-0.84%	-1.50%	
	Paper and Packaging	5.28%	5/31/2024	0.43%	-0.14%	-0.51%	-0.21%	-0.52%	
	REITS	7.56%	5/31/2024	0.03%	-0.02%	-0.71%	-0.32%	-1.86%	
	Restaurants	3.72%	5/31/2024	-0.55%	-0.31%	-0.74%	-0.52%	-1.51%	
	Retail	3.73%	5/31/2024	0.50%	0.94%	-0.96%	0.31%	-1.27%	
	Services	5.29%	5/31/2024	-0.05%	0.02%	-1.32%	-1.05%	-1.42%	
	Technology	5.08%	5/31/2024	-0.16%	-0.28%	-1.17%	-0.89%	-1.58%	
	Telecom	6.12%	5/31/2024	0.59%	-0.54%	-1.44%	-1.33%	-2.76%	
	Textiles and Apparel	6.93%	5/31/2024	0.79%	0.29%	-1.89%	0.78%	-1.79%	
	Transportation	3.94%	5/31/2024	-0.33%	-0.47%	-2.02%	-1.23%	-2.58%	
	Utilities	5.12%	5/31/2024	0.23%	0.14%	-0.38%	0.05%	-0.75%	

### Commodities

		Observation		P	ercent Chan	~	
	Price	Date	1M 🛆	PQ 🛆	6M 🛆	$YTD \Delta$	ΥοΥ Δ
Crude Oil							
WTI	76.99	5/31/2024	-6.03%	-6.59%	1.36%	7.17%	13.07%
Brent	81.11	5/31/2024	-6.05%	-6.77%	0.31%	5.28%	11.72%
Nasdaq Clean Edge Green Energy Index	491.38	5/31/2024	16.51%	8.46%	2.82%	-11.00%	-21.55%
S&P/TSX Renewable Energy and Clean Technology Index	118.76	5/31/2024	11.24%	3.77%	2.26%	-1.52%	-8.66%
Gold	2,345.80	5/31/2024	1.86%	4.80%	14.03%	13.23%	18.35%
Silver	30.44	5/31/2024	14.20%	22.17%	20.35%	26.38%	29.05%

### **Highlights – Key Asset Classes**

#### Private Capital Markets

- Spreads continued to show compression throughout 1H 2024.
  - High repricing activity, as well as significant competition from the BSL market.
  - Q1/2 2024 repricings have been as significant as -25 bps to -100 bps.
- LBO activity remains depressed
  - There is consensus that deal activity is expected to pick up as LPs look to recycle capital.
  - Multiples have held up, however that's against a low-volume backdrop and is likely biased high.
- Venture still remains challenged there needs to be a key pathway to profitability or exit.
- Real Estate
  - Shrinking demand continues to plague the U.S. office market so far in 2024, shooting vacancy up to a record 13.8% and bringing cumulative negative absorption to nearly 210 million SF since April 2020.
- > Oil
  - OPEC+ agreed at a meeting on Sunday to extend the total of 5.86 million barrels per day (bpd) of output reductions.
    - Within that broader figure the exporter group decided to extend 3.66 million bpd of cuts that were due to expire at the end of June 2024 until the end of 2025. Additional voluntary reductions of 2.2 million bpd by eight members, including leading exporters Saudi Arabia and Russia, were prolonged by three months to the end of September.
- Gold
  - ~\$2,350/ounce and ~\$71,000/coin, respectively. Both continue to grind higher.

### **Highlights – Valuation Implications**

#### Q2 themes

#### Valuation

- Public observation: growth highly concentrated in large businesses with tech focus.
- Private market translation: while valuations have 'held up' mark-ups may be hard to come by.

#### Rates

- Public observation: higher for longer is here to stay.
- Private market translation #1: long duration assets such as growth equity and venture capital may continue to be challenged. On the credit side, any fixed income instrument may also continue to see pressure.
- Private market translation #2: for those portfolio companies that have locked in low rates (fixed pay or via swap), there can be meaningful benefits that should accrue to shareholders.
- Private market translation #3: in the LBO market, where deals are getting done, larger equity checks are getting cut.
  - Keeping multiples in check.
- Private market translation #4: for '20 and '21 deals, maturities will be fast approaching. Businesses and sponsors who have been 'waiting it out' may need to pursue more creative transaction structures.
  - This should start to be considered in valuation models.

#### Credit

- Majority of defaults are now occurring before the actual maturity date.
  - High real yields that erode interest servicing capacity will be the greater driver of current default cycle.
  - Reduced "optionality" relative to past downturns.
  - Now a recovery measurement (vs yield in the past).

# **3. Valuation Hot Topics/Questions**

### Valuation Hot Topics

What Questions are LPs/Regulators/Auditors Asking or expected to Ask?

- Are Credit Investments being valued properly?
- What weight should secondary transactions be given when valuing fund interests?
- How do ESG/Sustainability factors impact Fair Value?
- Valuation Process vs Valuation Conclusion?
- Other

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# **Questions**?

# **Thank You!**

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#### NEW FIRM, EXPANDING CAPABILITIES 2005-2020

- Started as valuation and corporate finance advisor
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- Acquired 30+ businesses, including Kroll

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- Duff & Phelps rebrands as Kroll and completes brand unification
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- Acquired Crisp and Resolver risk companies
- Acquires AVC Ltd. to create dedicated energy team within FAAS practice

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Excellence is a mindset – we do challenging work and pursue extraordinary results. We relentlessly focus on excellence – for our clients and colleagues.

#### Ambition

We are energized to learn, to teach, to grow. We constantly seek to do better – comfort and excellence rarely co-exist.

#### Courage

We make bold decisions, not just the easy ones. We find, reveal and tell the truth. Integrity is the foundation of everything we do.

#### Inclusion

We embrace and cultivate diversity – we respect, include and value one another. We support and care about the communities where we live and work.

#### Innovation

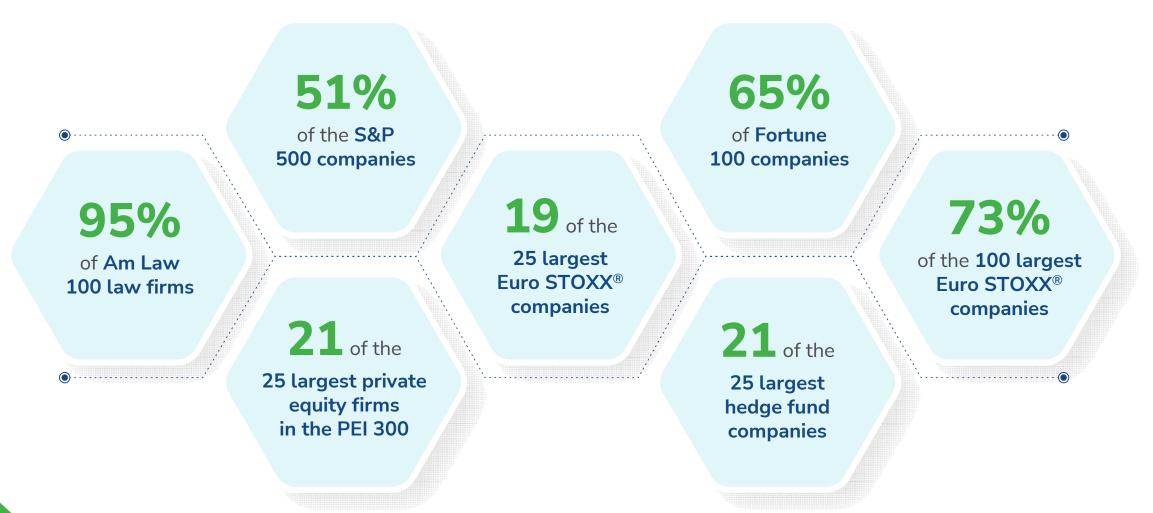
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