

BROAD COMMODITY INDEX

COMMENTARY + STRATEGY FACTS

MAY 2019



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CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

(SINCE JANUARY 2007*)



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5 Star 5 Year Morningstar Rating for Direxion Indexed Commodity Strategy Fund, which tracks ABCERI

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SUMMARY

Commodities didn't avoid the global risk-off downdraft in many asset classes with corrections led by energy markets and followed by industrial metals and soft commodities. The energy weighted GSCI fell 8.40% while the more diverse Bloomberg Commodity index was muted at -3.56%.

After the redeeming rally from January 1 to April 30, May immediately brought a sharp reversal right from near the October highs. The S&P lost 6.58%, Nasdaq 7.93% while the MSCI World fell 6.08%. The resource tilted Canadian TSX/S&P60 was off 3.28% while the Energy sub-index fell a whopping 11.72%.

With both US and Canadian central banks holding rates steady at policy meetings this month, bond futures jumped back on existing trends higher after correcting in April. Inflationary concerns expressed last month were muted given the sharp sell-off in oil an important driver. The US dollar continued to show strength vis-à-vis most global currencies.

RESULTS

The Auspice Broad Commodity program corrected 6.28% in May. This lags the year-to-date bounce back of the long-only benchmarks while similar over the last six months (see Historical Growth chart) and protecting the sharp December correction.

The ABCERI long-term results (12 year) and annualized returns (since 2007) are the only positive results amongst comparables and in line with equity benchmarks long term (Table 1).

OUTLOOK

Per our comments last month, we continue to believe equity risk is high despite the sell-off witnessed in May. While commodities did not provide the diversification for the month, we remind investors that this negative correlation shouldn't be expected on any one-month or short-term period. As shifts in market sentiment occur, we often see asset classes correlate even though this may by spurious. Commodities remain one of the asset classes that are a proven diversifier long-term. We remain optimistic about commodities for many reasons. Historically these environments surface at the end of strong economic cycles as equities correct and inflationary concerns arise.

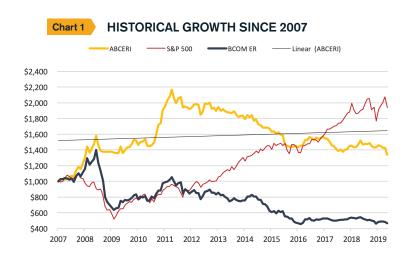
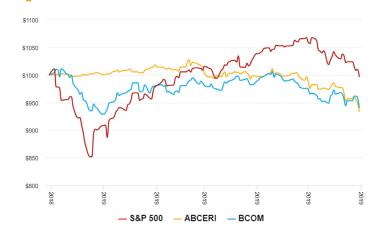


Table 1 ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE

	ABCERI	BCOM ER	S&P GSCI ER	S&P 500
1 Month	-6.28%	-3.56%	-8.40%	-6.58%
2019 YTD	-6.71%	1.29%	7.44%	9.78%
1 yr (Jun 18)	-11.90%	-14.34%	-16.04%	1.73%
3 yr (Jun 16)	-12.30%	-8.95%	-3.71%	31.24%
5 yr (Jun 14)	-24.57%	-41.94%	-54.20%	43.07%
10 yr (Jun 09)	-7.27%	-37.80%	-46.14%	199.42%
12 yr (Jun 07)	30.36%	-55.01%	-62.32%	79.80%
Annualized (Jan 07)				
Return	2.36%	-5.96%	-7.48%	5.49%
Std Deviation	10.52%	16.48%	22.21%	14.77%
Sharpe Ratio	0.29	-0.27	-0.21	0.48
MAR Ratio	0.06	-0.09	-0.09	0.10
Worst Drawdown	-38.34%	-67.41%	-81.12%	-52.56%

HISTORICAL GROWTH OF A \$1,000 INVESTMENT





ATTRIBUTIONS AND TRADES

The portfolio exited both Silver and Sugar in May as these markets failed to continue with upward momentum. At the same time, the Grains sub-sector rallied and we added Corn. The portfolio is now long 6 of 12 commodity components (or 50%) and includes all 3 sectors, Energies, Ags and Metals (see Chart 3). This still allows for significant growth of position if the tactical opportunity develops.

The bulk of the portfolio loss was from the Energy sector as the swift and deep retracement witnessed WTI pull back over 16%. See Chart 2.

Other sectors did not provide an equal offset despite a Gold rally and adding Corn for a gain in Ags.

SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

ENERGY

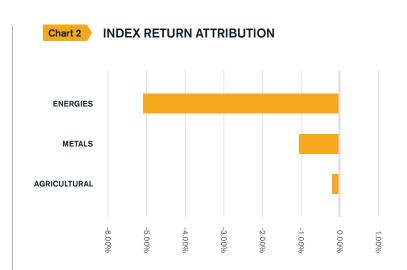
After a shift towards the Petroleum energy markets in April, the timing proved poor and the sector corrected sharply. Note that the trend remains up and the portfolio remains long.

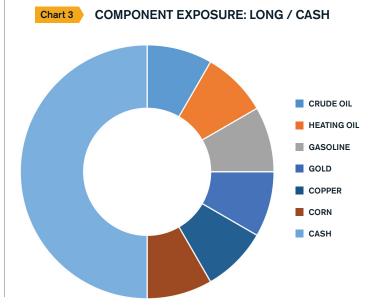
METALS

Not only did base and precious metals markets perform uniquely, within precious Metals Gold and Silver behaved quite differently. Weakness in Silver persisted and we exited the exposure while Gold performed and moved higher. Copper continued to sell-off yet remains long and will be a market to watch closely.

AGRICULTURE

Ags also bifurcated with Grains reversing course and rallying sharply triggering a long weighting in Corn. On the other hand, weakness in Soft commodity markets were led by Sugar which was exited to be on the sidelines alongside Cotton.







WHY AUSPICE INDICES

The Auspice Indices are designed to meet the needs of investors that are looking to participate in liquid alternatives through a disciplined approach without sacrificing performance, diversification, and transparency. We believe Auspice Indices encompass everything from alpha to beta, across a return continuum. The indices blend elements of active management and indexing into a transparent, published, single strategy rules-based approach.

STRATEGY DESCRIPTION

The Auspice Broad Commodity Index aims to capture upward trends in the commodity markets while minimizing risk during downtrends.

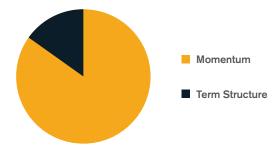
The index is tactical long strategy that focuses on Momentum and Term Structure to track either long or flat positions in a diversified portfolio of commodity futures which cover the energy, metal, and agricultural sectors. The index incorporates dynamic risk management and contract rolling methods. The index is available in total return (collateralized) and excess return (non-collateralized) versions.

THE MAIN POINTS OF DIFFERENTIATION INCLUDE:

Auspice Broad Commodity combines tactical commodity exposure with capital preservation. We believe that traditional passive long-only commodity indices do not provide investors with an optimal long term investment solution.

- Seeks to capture upward trends in the commodity markets while minimizing risk during downtrends
- Tactical exposure to a diversified basket of commodities that can individually position long or flat (no position)
- Rules-based quantitative methodology combined with dynamic risk management and contract roll optimization to deliver superior returns

RETURN DRIVERS



AUSPICE BROAD COMMODITY INDEX

Long / Flat Approach

Positions can be changed on an intra-month bases

Accounts for Short-term Price Trends

Practices a Smart Roll-Yield to minimize impact of contango and backwardation

Broadly diversified (when exposed) and less concentrated in any one commodity sector

Rebalanced monthly based on volatility of each underlying commodity

LONG-ONLY COMMODITY INDICES

Long-Only Approach

Positions are always 100% long

Doesn't take into account downward price trends

Contracts typically roll into next contract month

Poorly diversified amongst single sectors

Most rebalance annually based on predetermined weightings for commodity sector

OTHER DETAILS

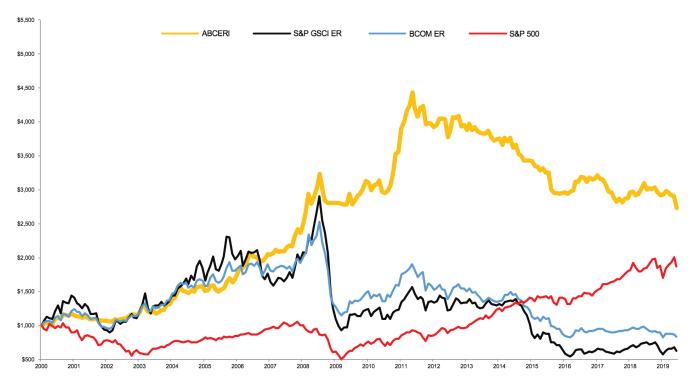
Calculated and published by NYSE since 2010. Tickers: Bloomberg ABCERI, Reuters ABCERI

PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

Licensing and/or sub-advisory of the strategy
Bespoke product design
ETFs: through partner firms
40 Act Mutual Funds: US investors through partner firms
Separately Managed Accounts



COMPARATIVE BROAD COMMODITY INDEX PERFORMANCE



MONTHLY PERFORMANCE TABLE*

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	RETURN
2019	1.74%	-0.55%	-1.44%	-0.18%	-6.28%								-6.71%
2018	0.58%	-1.63%	0.40%	2.80%	2.68%	-3.16%	0.60%	-0.20%	0.72%	-2.60%	-1.09%	0.10%	-0.98%
2017	-1.59%	-0.44%	-2.38%	-3.08%	-0.56%	-2.35%	-2.06%	1.31%	-1.82%	1.74%	0.43%	2.78%	-7.92%
2016	-0.69%	1.01%	0.92%	4.00%	0.00%	2.64%	-0.61%	-1.75%	1.94%	-1.15%	0.49%	1.59%	8.55%
2015	-2.13%	-0.18%	-1.64%	0.99%	-1.78%	-0.08%	-7.77%	-1.59%	-0.27%	-0.01%	0.13%	0.29%	-13.45%
2014	-2.41%	2.68%	-1.23%	1.27%	-3.79%	1.03%	-3.57%	-0.96%	-1.64%	0.00%	0.00%	-0.54%	-8.97%
2013	2.45%	-2.32%	0.87%	-1.42%	-0.55%	-0.27%	-0.11%	1.03%	-2.26%	-1.57%	0.55%	0.39%	-3.27%
2012	0.90%	2.28%	0.09%	-0.38%	-6.43%	2.24%	5.41%	-0.37%	0.82%	-3.79%	0.64%	-1.92%	-1.02%
2011	2.44%	4.23%	-1.96%	4.32%	-5.11%	-2.84%	2.88%	0.73%	-6.28%	0.59%	-0.46%	-1.25%	0.54%
2010	-3.81%	2.61%	0.53%	1.87%	-5.57%	-0.40%	1.03%	2.64%	6.99%	7.35%	1.02%	9.66%	25.43%
2009	0.00%	-0.66%	-0.24%	0.01%	5.78%	-5.49%	2.20%	2.80%	0.39%	2.52%	4.00%	-0.66%	10.69%
2008	5.89%	10.60%	-5.20%	3.98%	4.05%	6.96%	-7.48%	-4.78%	-1.31%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.71%
2007	0.90%	2.39%	-1.25%	0.33%	0.13%	2.44%	1.74%	-0.83%	7.48%	4.05%	-2.42%	6.42%	23.04%
2006	5.59%	-0.45%	2.39%	6.87%	1.40%	-2.41%	0.07%	-2.92%	-0.44%	2.39%	2.74%	-0.23%	15.54%
2005	0.40%	4.37%	0.75%	-3.87%	-2.18%	2.07%	1.75%	5.95%	3.24%	-4.19%	2.93%	5.32%	17.16%
2004	2.18%	6.32%	3.54%	-3.42%	-0.70%	-1.49%	3.30%	-1.53%	3.98%	0.57%	0.77%	-4.43%	8.87%
2003	6.32%	2.27%	-7.68%	-1.86%	2.82%	-2.92%	1.80%	2.04%	0.32%	6.34%	0.16%	5.95%	15.63%
2002	-0.62%	-0.17%	2.53%	-0.50%	0.61%	1.42%	-0.78%	3.42%	2.43%	-0.20%	-1.02%	4.31%	11.85%
2001	-1.78%	-0.07%	-1.33%	2.07%	-2.34%	2.22%	0.48%	0.77%	-1.53%	-1.11%	-0.33%	0.21%	-7.04%
2000	2.41%	1.08%	-0.62%	-1.93%	8.62%	1.29%	-0.71%	5.78%	-0.97%	-0.86%	2.49%	-1.77%	15.24%



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COMPARABLE INDICES

*Returns for **Auspice Broad Commodity Excess Return Index (ABCERI)** represent returns calculated and published by the NYSE. The index does not have commissions, management/incentive fees, or operating expenses.

The Bloomberg Commodity (Excess Return) Index (**BCOM ER**), is a broadly diversified index that allows investors to track 19 commodity futures through a single, simple measure.

The **S&P/TSX 60 Index** is designed to represent leading companies in leading industries. Its 60 stocks make it ideal for coverage of companies with large market capitalizations and a cost-efficient way to achieve Canadian equity exposure. Price Return data is used (not including dividends).

The **S&P 500** is an index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factors. The S&P 500 is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe. Price Return data is used (not including dividends).

The **(MSCI) World Index**, Morgan Stanley Capital International, is designed to measure equity market performance large and mid-cap equity performance across 23 developed markets countries, covering approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each. This index offers a broad global equity benchmark, without emerging markets exposure.

Excess Return (ER) Indexes do not include collateral return.

The S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Excess Return Index (**S&P GSCI ER**), is a composite index of commodity sector returns representing an unleveraged, long-only investment in commodity futures that is broadly diversified across the spectrum of commodities.

The **SG CTA Index** provides the market with a reliable daily performance benchmark of major commodity trading advisors (CTAs). The SG CTA Index calculates the daily rate of return for a pool of CTAs selected from the larger managers that are open to new investment.

The **Barclay BTOP50 CTA Index** seeks to replicate the overall composition of the managed futures industry with regard to trading style and overall market exposure. The BTOP50 employs a top-down approach in selecting its constituents. The largest investable trading advisor programs, as measured by assets under management, are selected for inclusion in the BTOP50.

The CTA indexes do not encompass the whole universe of CTAs. The CTAs that comprise the indices have submitted their information voluntarily and the performance has not been verified by the index publisher.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

The Equity benchmarks used in this material are intended to reflect the general equity market performance. They are shown to illustrate the non-correlated attributes versus other assets. Adding non-correlated assets within a portfolio has the potential to reduce portfolio volatility and drawdowns.

The performance of Auspice Broad Commodity Index prior to 9/30/2010 is simulated and hypothetical as published by the NYSE. All performance data for all indices assumes the reinvestment of all distributions. To the extent information for the index for the period prior to its initial calculation date is made available, any such information will be simulated (i.e., calculations of how the index might have performed during that time period if the index had existed). Any comparisons, assertions and conclusions regarding the performance of the index during the time period prior to the initial calculation date will be based on back-testing.

These results are based on simulated or hypothetical performance results that have certain inherent limitations. Unlike the results shown in an actual performance record, these results do not represent actual trading. Also, because these trades have not actually been executed, these results may have under-or over-compensated for the impact, if any, of certain market factors, such as lack of liquidity. Simulated or hypothetical trading programs in general are also subject to the fact that they are designed with the benefit of hindsight. No representation is being made that any account will or is likely to achieve profits or losses similar to these being shown. The index does not have commissions, management/incentive fees, or operating expenses.

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