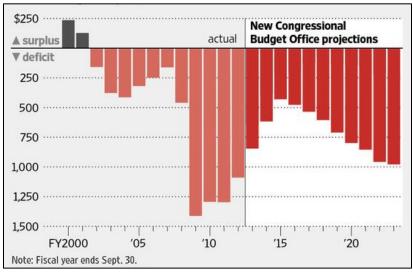
# Market Recap

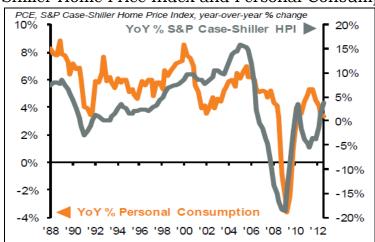
### Federal Budget Surplus/Deficit (in \$billions)



Source: White House Office of Management and Budget; Congressional

Budget Office: WSJ

#### Case-Shiller Home Price Index and Personal Consumption



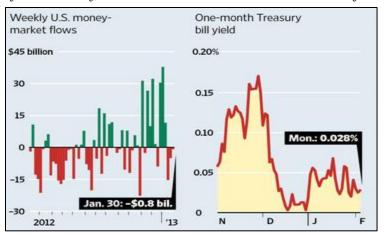
Source: S&P Case-Shiller; J.P. Morgan

Recently-released reports from the Congressional Budget Office project a slight reduction in the Federal deficit for the next few vears. The improvement is attributed to a slowly-improving economy and the recentlyenacted tax increases. However, it will take another \$2 trillion in belt-tightening over the next decade to begin to move the Federal debt closer to historic levels. Projections are that, if Congress leaves current laws unchanged, total debt will represent 77% of GDP by 2023, and it will be higher if across-the-board spending cuts are diluted or various expiring tax breaks extended. The updated CBO projections underscore not only the critical importance of the upcoming deficit negotiations and the pending sequestration but also the gravity of the nation's fiscal woes. The budget debate now centers on what do about \$85 billion in across-the-board spending cuts set for March 1 and how best to reduce deficits while accelerating the economic recovery.

Recent negative economic data and forthcoming fiscal tightening has weighed on consumer sentiment. Real GDP reportedly fell 0.1% in the fourth quarter of 2012, and unemployment moved slightly higher to 7.9% in December. Despite the gloomy data, the housing market continues to show signs of growth. An improving housing market can have a profound impact on consumer spending. Despite the housing collapse, home equity remains the largest asset for Americans. Rising home prices tend to make people feel wealthier, which in turn can drive an increase in consumption. Given that consumer spending is the largest component of GDP, this could be just the tailwind the economy needs to stay on its course during a potentially volatile first half of the year.

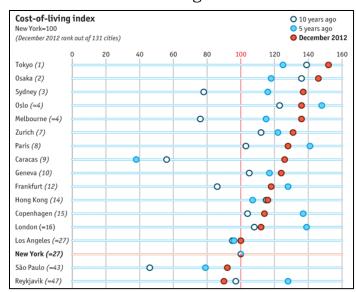
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Weekly U.S. Money-Market Flows and One-month Treasury Yield



Source: Investment Company Institute; Factset; WSJ

#### Cost of Living Index



Source: Economist Intelligence Unit

Investors continue to hold unprecedented levels of assets in money market funds. Investors plowed \$149 billion into money market funds between the start of November and the end of January, bringing total assets in money market funds to \$2.695 trillion. The funds have received billions of dollars that until recently were stashed in bank depository accounts held by businesses, municipalities, and charitable organizations. Those accounts had been guaranteed by the federal government, but the guarantees expired in December 2012 for balances over \$250,000. Barclays estimates that a total of \$250 billion will move to money market funds, considered by many to be the next-safest investment option. The flood of money is prompting money market funds, which typically buy short-term, highly-rated debt, to seek higher returns in investments that typically are considered too risky for many funds. Money market funds seek to keep their value stable at \$1 a share, which typically precludes owning all but the least-volatile debt.

According to the latest cost of living index, Tokyo has reclaimed its place as the world's most expensive city in which to live. Tokyo has ranked first 14 times out of the last 20 years; only Zurich, Paris and Oslo have also placed first during the same period. The index is a weighted average of the prices of 160 products and services, with New York's figure set to 100 to provide a base for comparisons. New York itself has become more expensive; it now ranks 27th out of 131 cities (up 19 places from a year ago). Geneva and Zurich have seen the biggest declines in the last year, as Switzerland made efforts to weaken its currency. Over the last decade, the cost of living has fallen most in Detroit and Panama City, and increased most in Caracas and São Paulo.

**Contact:** If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at 703.992.6164. For more information about Harbour Capital Advisors, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.harbourcapitaladvisors.com">www.harbourcapitaladvisors.com</a>.

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