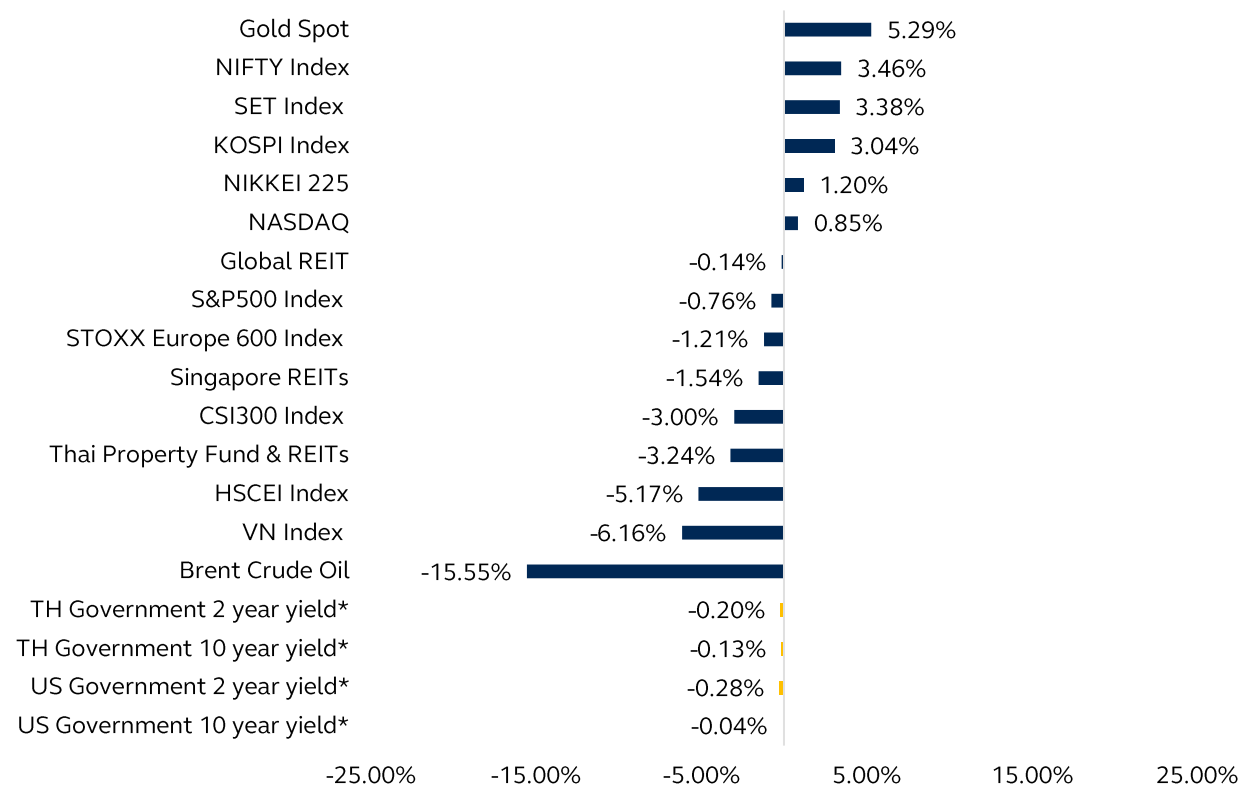
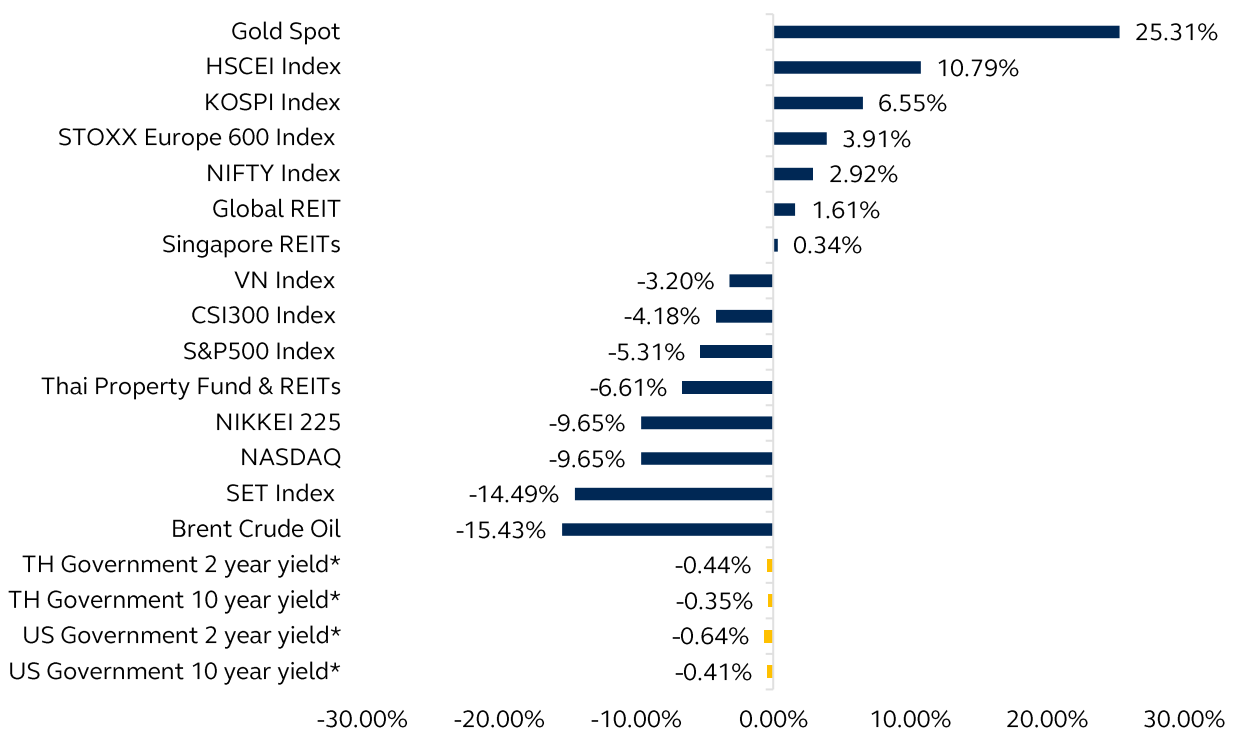


Market Outlook

1-month past performance (April)



Year-to-date performance (Jan-Apr)



*Information illustrated percentage of bond yield change not return.
Source : Bloomberg, data as of 30 APR 2025

Global equity markets faced volatility throughout April after U.S. announced a new round of reciprocal tariffs targeting countries with large trade surpluses. Markets later rebounded toward the end of the month as the U.S. government decided to delay the enforcement of these tariffs for 90 days for all nations except China. Negotiations to resolve global trade tensions are expected to continue, with positive signs emerging in U.S. trade talks with India, South Korea, and Japan.

Fixed Income: U.S. and Thai Bond yields saw slight adjustments in April. Investors are closely monitoring the progress of trade negotiations between the U.S. and its trade partners. The Monetary Policy Committee's decision to cut interest rates to 1.75%, citing the Thai economy's downward trend. Principal Asset Management maintains a neutral outlook on fixed income.

Global Equity: Principal Asset Management holds a neutral outlook on global equities. U.S. stock market remained volatile, with the S&P 500 down 0.76% while the Nasdaq gained a modest 0.85%. Early in the month, U.S. stock markets saw significant declines due to tariff hikes and the subsequent postponement of tariffs as mentioned earlier.

European stock market STOXX 600 experienced volatility throughout the month, declining by 1.21%, but began to recover similarly to U.S. markets following the temporary suspension of Trump's trade policies.

Japan's NIKKEI 225 index increased by 1.20% amid expectations of progress in tariff negotiations between Japan and the U.S. Bank of Japan (BOJ) maintained interest rates at 0.5% and signaled caution in raising rates further.

Although stock markets have shown some recovery, the uncertainty of Donald Trump's policies, particularly with China, remains.

India equity: India's NIFTY 50 index rose by 3.46%, supported by strong foreign portfolio investment (FPI) inflows and the likelihood of a trade agreement between India and the U.S. reaching a conclusion soon. However, valuations are becoming high, Principal Asset Management maintains a neutral outlook on Indian equity.

Thai equity: Thai stock market experienced volatility in April, declining in line with global markets and recovering following the U.S. announcement of a temporary tariff suspension. The progress of trade negotiations between U.S. and Thailand remains unclear, limiting the market's recovery potential. Principal Asset Management maintains a neutral outlook on Thai equity,

Vietnam equity: Vietnamese stock market declined by 6.16% in April amid concerns over potential additional U.S. tariffs of 46% on Vietnamese imports. However, Vietnamese government has engaged in negotiations with the U.S. to address tariff policies. In short-term investments remain volatile amid trade conflict uncertainties but believes in long-term growth potential due to its strong economic fundamentals.

Property Funds/REITs: Global real estate investment trusts (REITs) prices declined by 0.14% amid volatility and uncertainty from Trump's tax policies, which have pressured global economic activities. However, Central banks appear to be easing. Principal Asset Management maintains a neutral outlook on REITs.

Gold: Gold prices rose sharply by 5.29% in April, supported by uncertainty regarding Trump's import tariff increases and retaliation from other countries. Principal Asset Management maintains a neutral outlook on gold, as short-term gold prices may stabilize if trade tensions between the U.S. and its trading partners ease.

Asset Allocation Outlook

	UW	Slightly UW	Neutral	Slightly OW	OW
Cash		→			
Fixed Income					
• Global					
• Thai					
Equity					
• Global					
• Thai					
• India					
• Vietnam			←		
Property Funds/REITs					
Gold					

Viewpoints reflect a 12-month horizon

→ indicates a change in preference from the previous month (light blue) to the current month (dark blue)

Description of Asset Allocation Outlook table

- OW or Overweight : Allocate asset more than its benchmark
- Slightly OW or Slightly Overweight : Allocate asset slightly more than its benchmark
- Neutral : Allocate asset equal to its benchmark
- Slightly UW or Slightly Underweight : Allocate asset slightly less than its benchmark
- UW or Underweight : Allocate asset less than its benchmark

Caution: Principal Asset Allocation Plan is a service providing advice on allocating investment portfolios by diversifying investment into various financial assets according to investor’s investment risk tolerance. Advisement is considered on market conditions to create or adjust balance portfolio, which will be monthly evaluated and adjusted investment mix or portfolio to ensure that the portfolio is well-diversified and consistent with investment outlooks. Due to market price changing from market conditions, the proportion of each asset may deviate from appropriate allocation. This may cause the portfolio to be at higher or lower risk than it should be. Principal Asset Allocation Plan is only advice from Principal Asset Management and investors may not receive return as expected. Investors should make sure that understand about basic investment allocation, recommended by SEC. / Investors should understand product characteristics (mutual funds), conditions of return and risk before making an investment decision.

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