

## Glossary of Investment Terminology

**# Of Portfolios/Observations<sup>1</sup>** – The total number of data points that make up a specified universe

**Allocation Index<sup>3</sup>** - The allocation index measures the value added (or subtracted) to each portfolio by active management. It is calculated monthly: The portfolio asset allocation to each category from the prior month-end is multiplied by a specified market index.

**Asset Allocation Effect<sup>2</sup>** - Measures an investment manager's ability to effectively allocate their portfolio's assets to various sectors. The allocation effect determines whether the overweighting or underweighting of sectors relative to a benchmark contributes positively or negatively to the overall portfolio return. Positive allocation occurs when the portfolio is over weighted in a sector that outperforms the benchmark and underweighted in a sector that underperforms the benchmark. Negative allocation occurs when the portfolio is over weighted in a sector that underperforms the benchmark and under weighted in a sector that outperforms the benchmark.

**Agency Bonds (Agencies)<sup>3</sup>** - The full faith and credit of the United States government is normally not pledged to payment of principal and interest on the majority of government agencies issuing these bonds, with maturities of up to ten years. Their yields, therefore, are normally higher than government and their marketability is good, thereby qualifying them as a low risk-high liquidity type of investment. They are eligible as security for advances to the member banks by the Federal Reserve, which attests to their standing.

**Asset Backed Securities (ABS)<sup>3</sup>** - Bonds which are similar to mortgage-backed securities but are collateralized by assets other than mortgages; commonly backed by credit card receivables, auto loans, or other types of consumer financing.

**Attribution<sup>3</sup>** - Attribution is an analytical technique that allows us to evaluate the performance of the portfolio relative to the benchmark. A proper attribution tells us where value was added or subtracted as a result of the manager's decisions.

**Average Effective Maturity<sup>4</sup>** - For a single bond, it is a measure of maturity that takes into account the possibility that a bond might be called back to the issuer.

For a portfolio of bonds, average effective maturity is the weighted average of the maturities of the underlying bonds. The measure is computed by weighing each bond's maturity by its market value with respect to the portfolio and the likelihood of any of the bonds being called. In a pool of mortgages, this would also account for the likelihood of prepayments on the mortgages.

**Batting Average<sup>1</sup>** - A measurement representing an investment manager's ability to meet or beat an index.

*Formula: Divide the number of days (or months, quarters, etc.) in which the manager beats or matches the index by the total number of days (or months, quarters, etc.) in the period of question and multiply that factor by 100.*

**Brinson Fachler (BF) Attribution<sup>1</sup>** - The BF methodology is a highly accepted industry standard for calculating the allocation, selection, and interaction effects within a portfolio that collectively explains a portfolio's underlying performance. The main advantage of the BF methodology is that rather than using the overall return of the benchmark, it goes a level deeper than BHB and measures whether the benchmark sector, country, etc. outperformed/or underperformed the overall benchmark.

**Brinson Hood Beebower (BHB) Attribution<sup>1</sup>** - The BHB methodology shows that excess return must be equal to the sum of all other factors (i.e., allocation effect, selection effect, interaction effect, etc.). The advantage to using the BHB methodology is that it is a highly accepted industry standard for calculating the allocation, selection, and interaction effects within a portfolio that collectively explains a portfolio's underlying performance.

**Corporate Bond (Corp)<sup>4</sup>** - A debt security issued by a corporation and sold to investors. The backing for the bond is usually the payment ability of the company, which is typically money to be earned from future operations. In some cases, the company's physical assets may be used as collateral for bonds.

**Correlation<sup>1</sup>** - A range of statistical relationships between two or more random variables or observed data values. A correlation is a single number that describes the degree of relationship between variables.

Data Source: <sup>1</sup>InvestorForce, <sup>2</sup>Interaction Effect Performance Attribution, <sup>3</sup>NEPC, LLC, <sup>4</sup>Investopedia, <sup>5</sup>Hedgenco.net