It's Not Even Close!



% Change in Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

View from the Observation Deck

- 1. Like it or not, we now live in a globalized marketplace, and the pace of GDP growth is clearly more robust in the emerging market/developing nations (see chart).
- 2. Advanced economies, also referred to as developed nations, include the U.S., Euro Area, Japan and others.
- 3. From 2004-2011, the average GDP growth rate for emerging market/developing nations was 6.8%, compared to 1.6% for developed nations. That is a 4.25-to-1 advantage.
- 4. From 1994-2003, the average GDP growth rate for emerging market/developing nations was 4.4%, compared to 2.8% for developed nations. Only a 1.57-to-1 advantage.
- 5. In 2013, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates that emerging market/developing nations will enjoy a 3.73to-1 advantage.
- 6. The IMF also estimates that emerging market/developing nations will account for 50% of global GDP for the first time ever in 2013.
- 7. The old philosophy of U.S. investors allocating a 5% or 10% weighting to foreign stocks in an attempt to boost returns and temper risk is no longer adequate, in our opinion.
- 8. We believe investors should consider allocating more capital to foreign markets, including emerging markets equities.
- 9. From 2004-2011 (see point #3), the MSCI Emerging Markets Index posted an annualized gain of 12.1% (USD), compared to 3.6% for the S&P 500, according to Bloomberg.

This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. The S&P 500 is a capitalization-weighted index comprised of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance.