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BlackRock

U.S. LDI Pension MarketWatch

February 2025





February 2025 Highlights

01

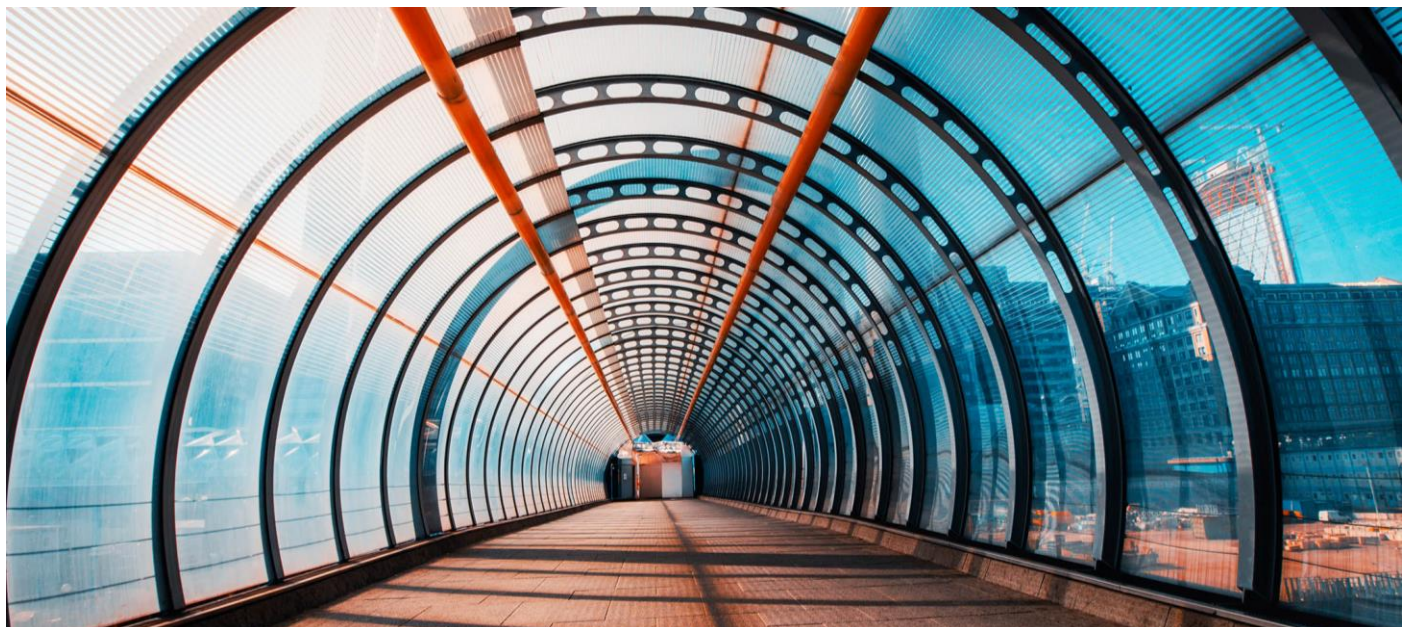
Our funded status estimate (total assets / liability present value) was close to unchanged in February, leaving our estimated average to 108%.*

02

Treasury yields decreased across the curve in February, with the 5yr, 10yr, and 30yr Treasury rates decreasing by 33 basis points (bps), 36bps, and 31bps, respectively.**

03

Equity market returns were mixed in February with US and Global Equity down by 1.6% and 0.6% respectively, and International Equity up by 1.8%.***



Past performance does not guarantee future returns.

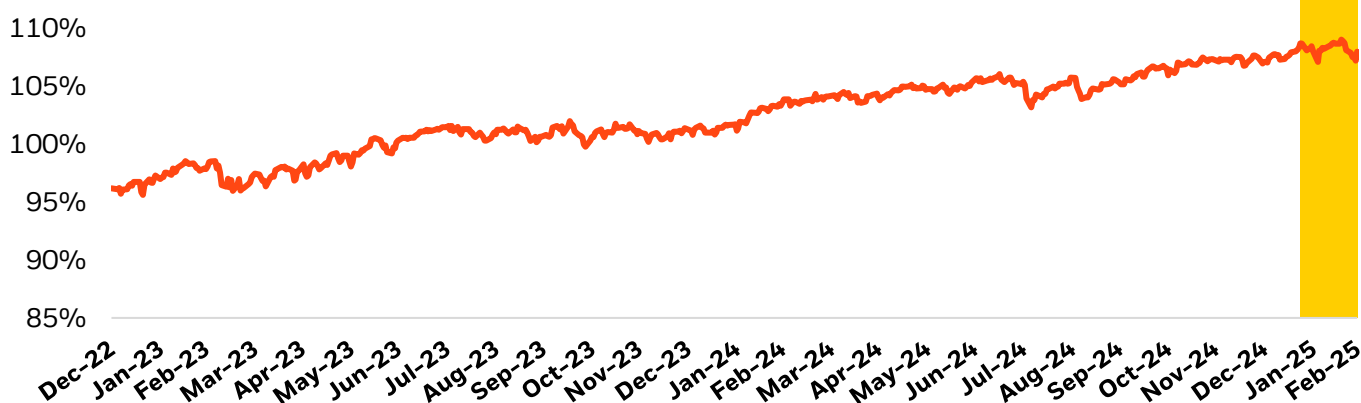
Source: *The asset class weights are based on 10-K data from the top 200 public corporate pension plans as of 12/31/2023. The data was sourced using Capital IQ and subsequently aggregated and categorized into asset classes by BlackRock. Using the 10-K asset and liability data sourced by Capital IQ, the funded ratio of the top 200 corporate pension plans was estimated to be 101.37% as of 12/31/2023. **ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch spot curves published as of 2/28/2025. ***As measured by MSCI Developed – US Gross TR Index, MSCI World Ex U.S. Index, and MSCI All Country World Net TR Index as of 2/28/2025. Index performance does not reflect the deduction of fees and expenses but does reflect the reinvestment of dividends, capital gains, and interest. Indices are unmanaged. One cannot directly invest in an index.

Pension Funding Update

In February 2025, BlackRock estimates the average funded status for the top 200 U.S. corporate pension plans* was:

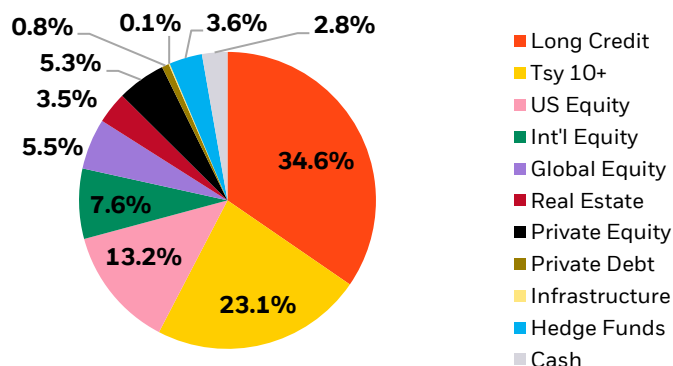
108.0% **-0.1% MTD*****
+0.9% YTD***

Highlighted portion denotes current month



Est. Return**	Feb '25	YTD
Assets	2.23%	3.97%
Fixed Income	4.14%	4.58%
Equity	-0.40%	3.27%
Alternatives/Cash	-0.29%	2.74%
Liabilities	2.27%	3.12%
Funded Status	-0.05%	0.87%

Estimated pension asset allocation*



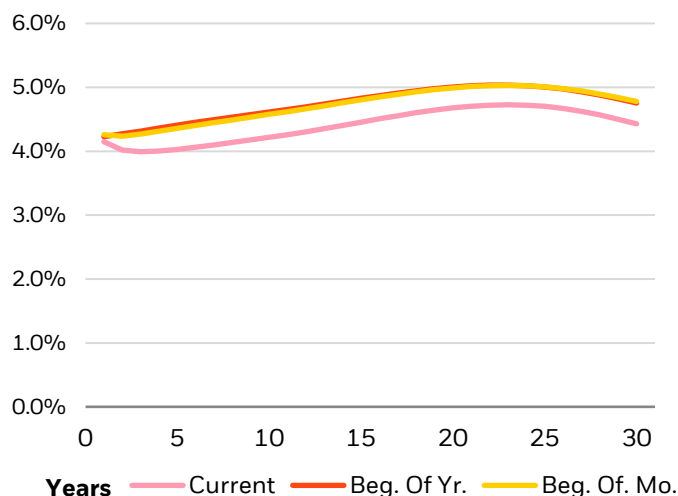
Highlights

- We estimate that the average funded status for a top 200 U.S. corporate pension plan is now 108.0%.*
- Funded status decreased 0.1% month over month (MoM) to 108.0%, reaching an estimated intra-month high of 108.9% in February.**
- Returns across asset classes were mixed in February, with Fixed Income being positive at 4.14%, and Equity and Alternatives/Cash decreasing by 0.40 and 0.29 respectively%.**

*The asset class weights are based on 10-K data from the top 200 public corporate pension plans as of 12/31/2023. The data was sourced using Capital IQ and subsequently aggregated and categorized into asset classes by BlackRock. Using the 10-K asset and liability data sourced by Capital IQ, the funded ratio of the top 200 corporate pension plans was estimated to be 101.37% as of 12/31/2023. Neither asset allocation nor diversification can guarantee profit or prevent loss. **All data as of market close at 2/28/2025. No allowance has been made for active management or costs. Asset returns are based on the historical levels of indices shown on Page 7. Returns are calculated by taking a weighted average of the asset allocation weights and the returns of the underlying indices listed on Page 7. **See Page 7.** Fixed Income = Long Credit and Tsy 10+; Equity = U.S. Equity, Int'l Equity, and Global Equity; Alts/Cash = Real Estate, Private Equity, Private Debt, Infrastructure, Hedge Funds, and Cash. Liability returns are based on the historical levels of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch Mature U.S. Pension Plan AAA-A Index. Asset and liability returns are rolled forward on a daily basis based on underlying returns to calculate an estimated funded status for the top 200 plans using the estimated pension asset allocation above. ***MTD and YTD changes are based on 12/31/2023 asset allocation weights rolled forward. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.** Indexes do not reflect the deduction of fees and expenses but do include the reinvestment of dividends, capital gains, and interest. Indexes are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

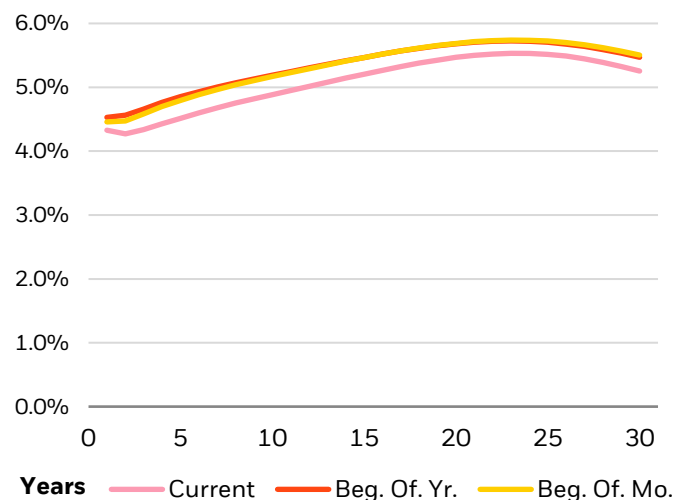
Treasury market and corporate yield curves

Treasury Yield Curves - Spot



Yields (%)	5 yr	10 yr	20 yr	30 yr
Beg. of Yr.	4.41	4.61	5.01	4.75
Beg. Of. Mo.	4.36	4.58	4.99	4.78
Current	4.03	4.22	4.68	4.43

ML AA Corporate Yield Curves



Yields (%)	5 yr	10 yr	20 yr	30 yr
Beg. of Yr.	4.85	5.19	5.68	5.47
Beg. Of. Mo.	4.79	5.17	5.69	5.51
Current	4.51	4.89	5.47	5.26

Data shown in the tables is a numerical representation of the yield curve charts and highlights the yield at a specific tenor of the yield curve. “Current” represents the yield curve as of 2/28/2025. “Beg. Of. Mo.” represents the yield curve as of 1/31/2025. “Beg. Of. Yr.” represents the yield curve as of 12/31/2024.

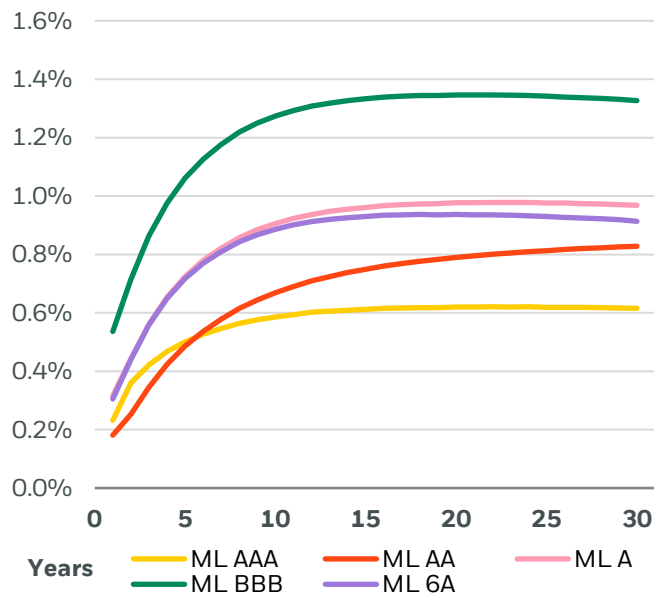
Highlights

- Rates fell across the curve in February, decreasing 33bps at the 5yr , 36bps at the 10yr, and 31bps at the 30yr point.*
- As a result of the larger move in front end of the curve, the 5s30s curve flattened by 2bps and 5s10s curve flattened by 3bps.**
- Corporate yields also saw marginal flattening. 5yr and 10yr corporate yields both decreased by 28bps. 30yr corporate yields decreased by 25bps, **

Source: *Bureau of Labor Statistics. **ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch spot curves published as of 2/28/2025. All yields are spot rates. All data as of market close at 2/28/2025. **Past performance does not guarantee future returns.** Indexes do not reflect the deduction of fees and expenses but do include the reinvestment of dividends, capital gains, and interest. Indexes are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

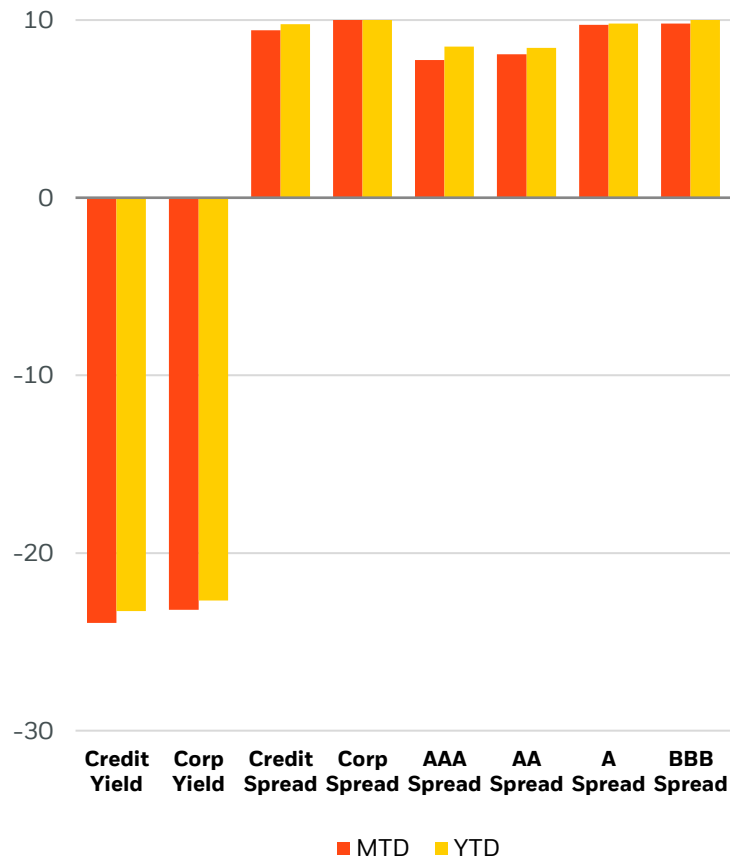
Credit market

Credit spread curves



Term Yr	ML AAA	ML AA	ML A	ML BBB	ML 6A
5	0.50%	0.49%	0.72%	1.06%	0.72%
10	0.59%	0.67%	0.91%	1.27%	0.89%
20	0.62%	0.79%	0.98%	1.35%	0.94%
30	0.62%	0.83%	0.97%	1.33%	0.91%

Change of 10+yr bond index maturities (in bps)



Data shown in table is a numerical representation of the credit spread curves chart.* The table highlights the yield of a particular spread curve at a specific tenor.*

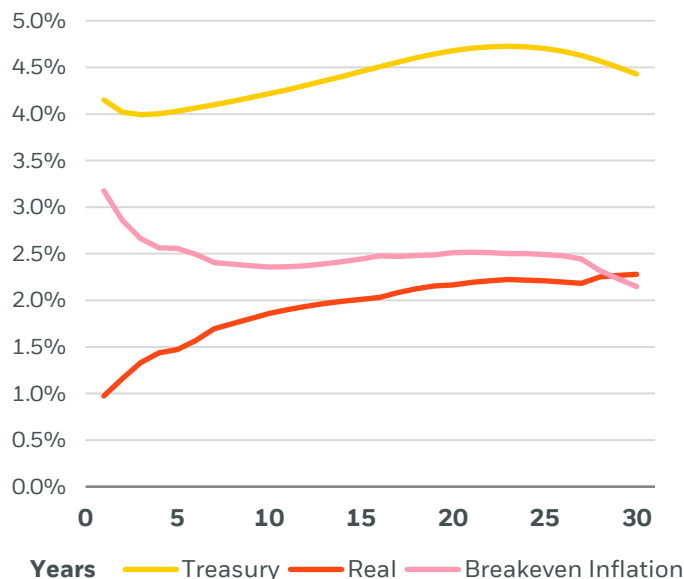
Highlights

- Corporate yields moved lower over the month, driven by lower rates.
- Looking across investment grade credit qualities, AAAs and AAs widened by 8bps each, and As and BBB widened by 10bps each month over month.

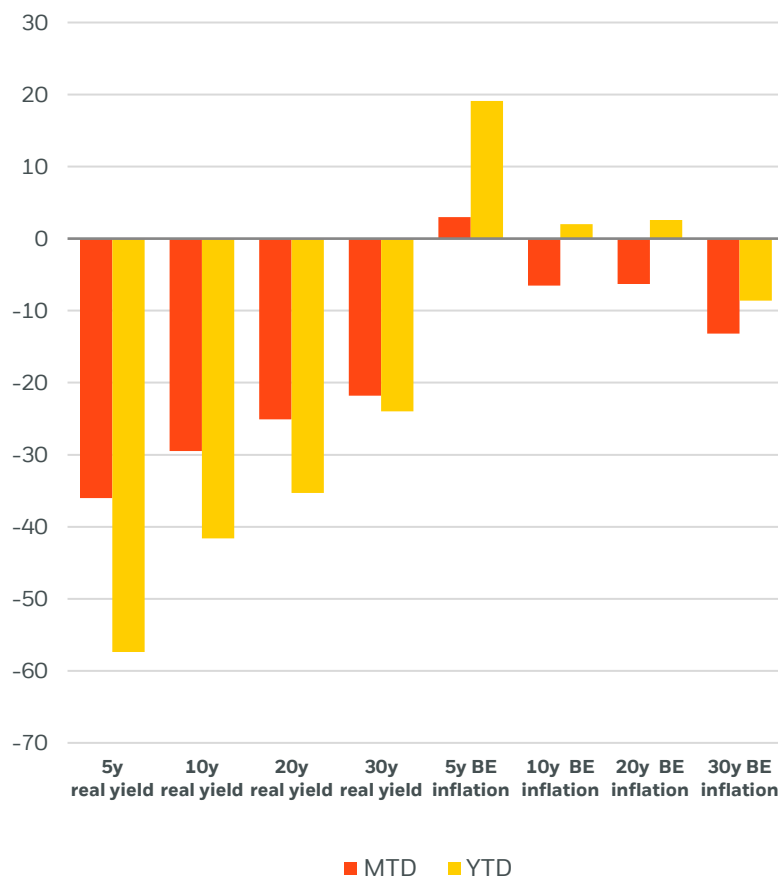
Source: *ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch yield curves; Barclays 10+ year bond maturity indices. All data as of market close at 2/28/2025. **Past performance does not guarantee future returns.** Indices are unmanaged. One cannot directly invest in an index. Credit ratings as determined by ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch indices, which use simple averages of ratings from Moody's S&P and Fitch. AAA, AA, A and BBB represent different credit qualities within the investment grade corporate universe. 6A represents the weighted average of credit ratings above BBB rating.

Inflation and breakevens

Real Yields



Periodic Change (in bps)



Term Yr	Treasury Yield (%)	Real Yield (%)	BE Inflation (%)
5	4.03	1.47	2.56
10	4.22	1.86	2.36
20	4.68	2.17	2.51
30	4.43	2.28	2.15

Table is a numerical representation of the chart above, which highlights the Treasury yield, breakeven inflation level and real yield at a specific term.**

Highlights

- Core Consumer Price Index (“CPI”) rose 0.45% MoM for January (released February 14, 2025), for the fifth consecutive month. The headline CPI figure came in at 0.4% MoM.*
- Breakeven inflation levels ticked slightly higher in February at the 5yr, with the breakeven level up by 3bps. However, breakeven inflation was lower at the 30yr, with the breakeven level down 9bps.**
- Real yields, the interest rate adjusted to remove the effects of inflation, decreased across the curve with the 5yr and 30yr real yields down by 36bps and 22bps, respectively.**

Source: *Bureau of Labor Statistics. **ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch. All yields are spot rates. All data as of market close at 2/28/2025. **Past Performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.** BE = breakeven.

Assumptions for Pension Funding Update

Asset allocation mapping for funding ratio calculation on Page 3

Type	Asset Class	Index Assumption	Weight
Fixed Income	Long Credit	BBG U.S. Long Credit Index	34.6%
	Tsy 10+	BBG Treasury 10+ Yr Index	23.1%
Equity	U.S. Equity	MSCI Developed – U.S. Gross TR Index	13.2%
	Int'l Equity	MSCI World Ex U.S. Index	7.6%
	Global Equity	MSCI All Country World Net TR Index	5.5%
Alts/Cash	Real Estate	Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate Index	3.5%
	Private Equity	S&P Listed Private Equity Index	5.3%
	Private Debt	BBG Private Debt 10+ Years Custom Index	0.8%
	Infrastructure	Dow Jones Brookfield Global Infrastructure Index	0.1%
	Hedge Funds	HFRX Global Hedge Fund Index	3.6%
	Cash	BBG T-Bill 1-3 Month Index	2.8%
		Liability	N/A

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No allowance has been made for active management or costs. Asset returns are based on the historical levels of the indices shown on Page 3. Liability returns are based on the historical levels of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch Mature U.S. Pension Plan AAA-A Index. Asset and liability returns are rolled forward on a daily basis based on underlying returns to calculate an estimated funded status for the top 200 plans using the estimated pension asset allocation above. **Past performance does not guarantee future returns.** An index is unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index. Neither asset allocation nor diversification can guarantee profit or prevent loss.

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