



Investor Newsletter

March 2017



WHAT'S TRENDING



Don't Be an April Fool—Required Minimum Distribution

Deadline is April 1

Did you turn age 70½ during 2016? If so, the IRS wants to remind you that in most cases you must start taking [required minimum distributions](#) from your IRAs and workplace retirement plans by Saturday, April 1, 2017.



Duration—What an Interest Rate Hike Could Do to Your Bond Portfolio

If you own bonds or have money in a bond fund, there is a number you should know. It is called [duration](#). Although stated in years, duration is not simply a measure of time. Instead, duration signals how much the price of your bond investment is likely to fluctuate when there is an up or down movement in interest rates. The higher the duration number, the more sensitive your bond investment will be to changes in interest rates.

Recent Alert

Updated: Duration—What an Interest Rate Hike Could Do to Your Bond Portfolio

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Our Story



Want to learn more about FINRA? Watch employees talk about who we are and what we do.

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Request for Comment: FINRA360 Engagement Initiative

FINRA issued a [Special Notice](#) seeking comment on how to enhance our engagement programs for our stakeholders, including regulated firms and the public. The Notice is part of an initiative called FINRA360, where we're conducting a comprehensive review of our operations and programs. The comment period expires **May 5, 2017**. You can also watch a new segment of the [A Few Minutes With FINRA](#) video series with Robert Cook, FINRA President and CEO, where he talks about the Special Notice.

 **PODCAST****Set a Timeframe for Your Financial Goals**

One of the key elements of any financial plan is to set appropriate and realistic timeframes for your investment goals. In this podcast, FINRA looks at how timeframes can help you prioritize and make the most of your investments throughout life.

[Listen](#) | 6 min. 25 sec.

 **INVESTOR ALERT****Binary Options Follow-Up Schemes: Don't Lose Money Twice**

Binary options trading can be risky. What's more, some scammers are targeting binary options customers with follow-up frauds, such as recovery scams and IRS impersonation scams. FINRA issued this [alert](#) to warn anyone involved in binary options trading—specifically through unregistered non-U.S. companies offering binary options trading platforms or services—to be on guard for potential follow-up frauds.

 **FINRA NEWS**


[3/21/17](#) FINRA Seeks Comment on Its Engagement Programs

[3/8/17](#) FINRA Proposes Streamlining Competency Exams

[3/1/17](#) 2017 FINRA Foundation Military Spouse Fellowship Application Now Open

[3/1/17](#) FINRA Bars Registered Representative for Unauthorized and Unsuitable Trading in Elderly Customer's Retirement Account

[2/27/17](#) FINRA's Academic Corporate Bond TRACE Data Product Goes Live

Helpful Tools [FINRA BrokerCheck](#) [529 College Savings Plan Expense Analyzer](#) [Retirement Calculator](#) [Fund Analyzer](#) [Investor](#) [Loan Calculator](#)



Risk Meter



Market Data
Center



Securities
Helpline for
Seniors



Scam Meter



Required
Minimum
Distribution
Calculator



The Alert
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