#### FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS

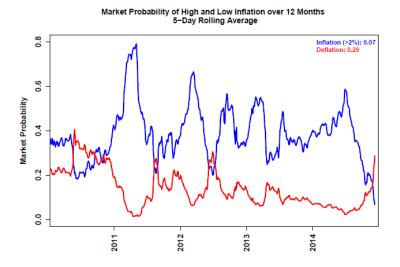
BANKING AND POLICY STUDIES

### **Minneapolis Options Report – December 10<sup>th</sup>**

Oil uncertainty, a stronger dollar, and lower inflation expectations continue to be the most significant trends. The probability of deflation has increased in the short run and longer run market-based probability densities (MPD) have shifted lower. Crude oil market probabilities remained skewed towards lower prices indicating more weight on larger declines.

#### **Inflation**

The median of market-derived inflation probabilities based on inflation caps and floors with 1, 2, and 5 years to expiry fell significantly. The market probability for inflation below 1 percent for the next year is now 72 percent, the highest level in roughly five years of data. Similar trends are present for longer-term inflation horizons and the probability of deflation has become meaningful.



#### Interest rates

Volumes of options on Treasury futures were near recent averages. Market probability density skews continue their upward trends for long-term rates. In particular, market probabilities continue to suggest near-term downward pressure on ten-year rates.

Uncertainty around three-month LIBOR rates over the next 5 years as measured by MPD standard deviation continues to drop. The median of the MPD derived from caps and floors on the 3 month LIBOR in five years is also lower. Over the past year the expectations for short-term LIBOR levels over 3 and 5 year time horizons have converged and now differ by only 20 basis points. This means after initial increases expected over the next three years, market's median expectation is flat. Medium run expectations for LIBOR have fallen moderately over the last 18 months.

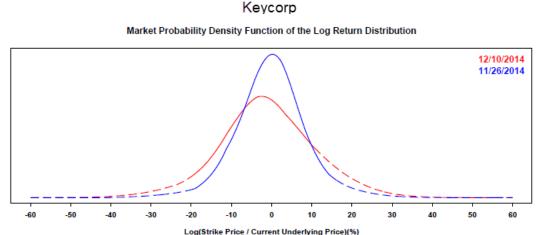
#### Banks and Insurance Companies

Bank equity returns generally increased since the last report. The standard deviations of market probability densities increased by 120 basis points at the average bank which was similar to the change recorded S&P 500 MPD standard deviation. It is typical to see price increases accompanied by lower MPD standard deviations, but the opposite is true in the banking sector in this report. The higher

uncertainty could be attributed to falling prices in broader equity over the last two weeks, which increased price uncertainty for bank equity. Insurance company equity prices were mixed following earlier increases. Trading volumes of options on bank equity were light and volumes of insurance options were average.

#### Additional Details:

- Morgan Stanley equity prices increased 6.5 percent in last two weeks. The standard deviation of the MPD increased 230 basis points, more than peers, and the density is now skewed less negative.
- Keycorp was an outlier among domestic banks after selecting a new bank president. The bank equity price decreased by -1 percent. The MPD standard deviation widened by more than 3 percentage points and the skew decreased. Options volume was high relative to recent weeks.



• Met ife equity options traded at the highest volume in recent weeks. The stock price declined -1.6 percent over two weeks and the standard deviation of the MPD increased a percentage point. The majority of volume traded slightly above spot.



#### Other commodity markets

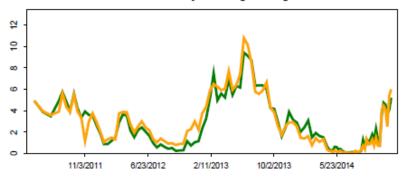
Oil prices have fallen further and the dollar strengthened broadly since the last report. Options markets indicate very high uncertainty in expected oil prices. The standard deviations of MPDs for commodities were generally higher.

#### Additional Details:

• The dollar strengthened against the euro, pound and yen since our last report. The standard deviation of the dollar-yen MPD increased to more than 6 percent. The probability of a future large decline in the dollar-yen exchange rate also climbed to 6 percent. This indicates greater uncertainty about the exchange rate and higher tail risk of a weaker yen.

### Dollar-Yen Exchange Rate Futures

Probability of a Large Change

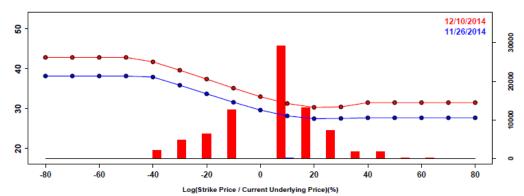


Decrease <= -10% [stronger \$] Increase >= 10% [weaker \$]

- West Texas Intermediate crude oil prices have continued to fall since our last report and are now
  down more than 40 percent since June. The standard deviation of the MPD has risen steadily
  over this period and is now approaching 24 percent—the highest level in the metric since June
  2012.
- Volumes were at the 84 percentile in four years of history and significantly higher than recent weeks. Trading was heavy across strike space, with notable trading volumes 20 percent above and below spot.

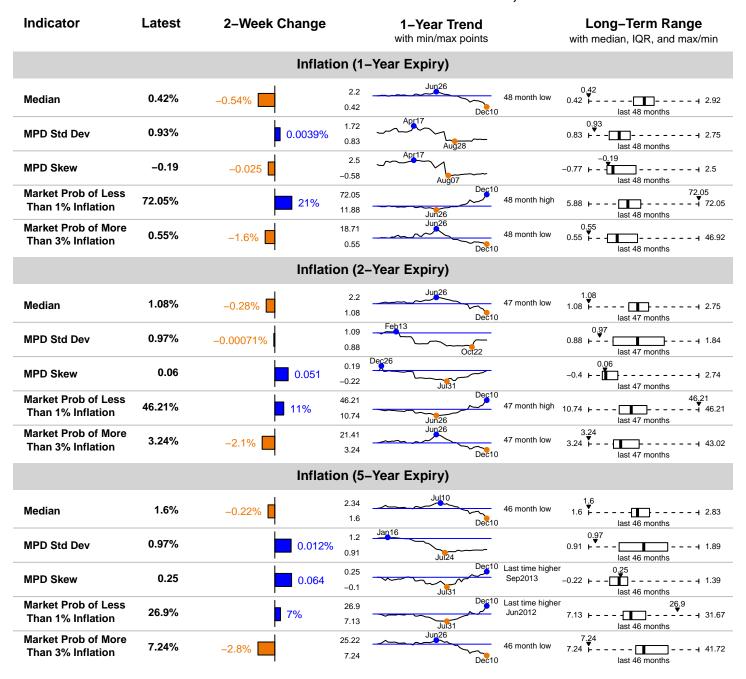
Crude Oil Futures (WTI)

Implied Volatilities (lines.-left axis) and Volume (bars.-right axis)



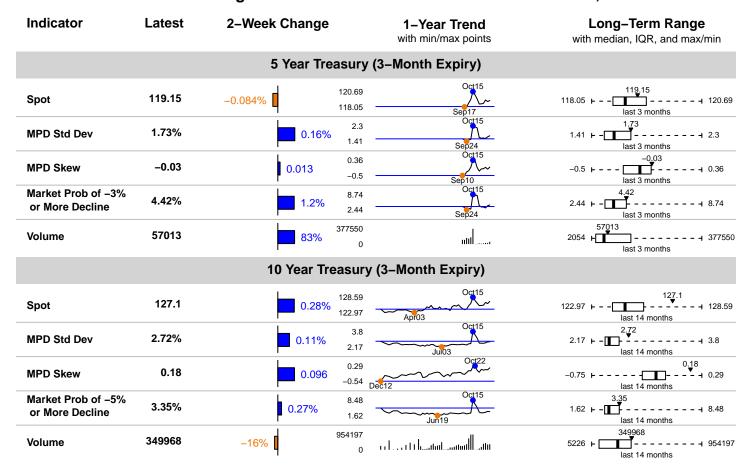
- The crude oil MPD skew is more negative and low relative to history. This is significant because a plunging price is often accompanied by a neutral skew. Market expectations continue to place weight on down side risk.
- The price of gold and silver increased by 2.7 and 3.5 percent over the last two weeks. The standard deviations of the MPDs fell slightly for gold but increased 80 basis points for silver. The market-based probability of future large price declines (more than 20 percent) was at typical levels: 6.2 percent for gold and 15 percent for silver.
- Agriculture prices were mixed. Soybean prices decreased 1.3 percent and wheat prices increased 2.8 percent. Crop prices remain at very low levels relative to the last 4 years. All agriculture commodity MPDs had minor increases in the standard deviation.
- Cattle futures fell almost 8% and its MPD standard deviation is up to 9.25%

#### Inflation MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014

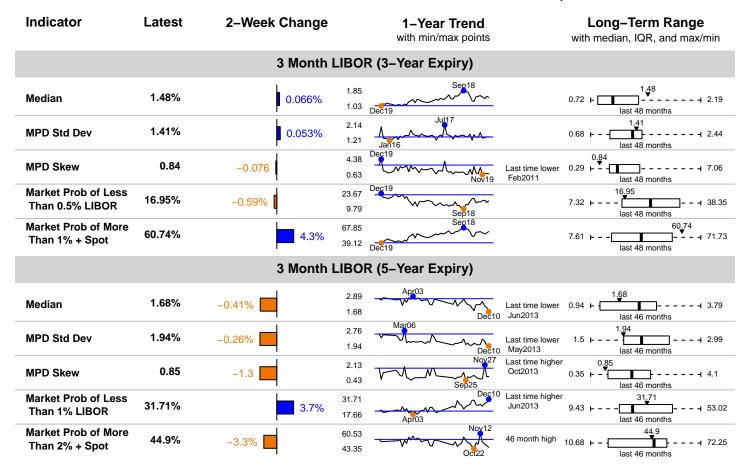


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### Medium-to-Long Bond Price MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014

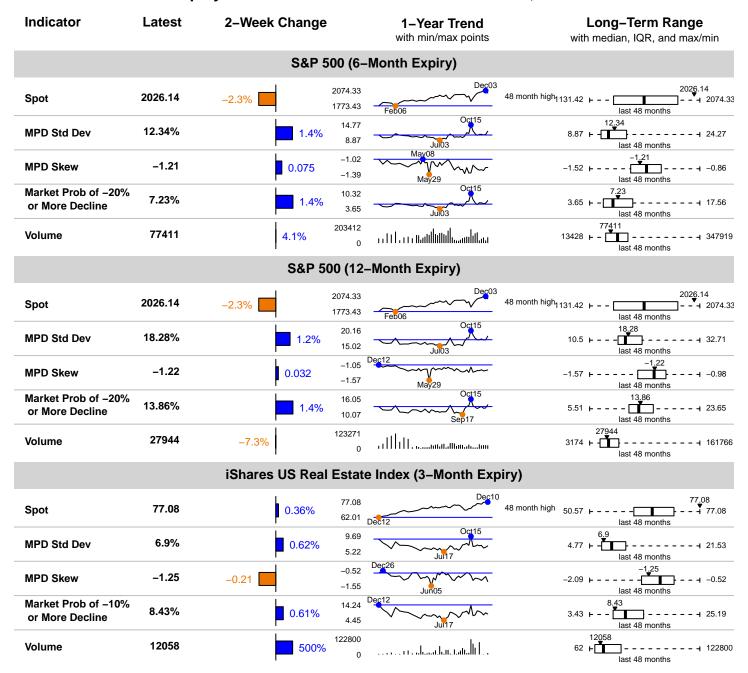


### Short Interest Rates MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014



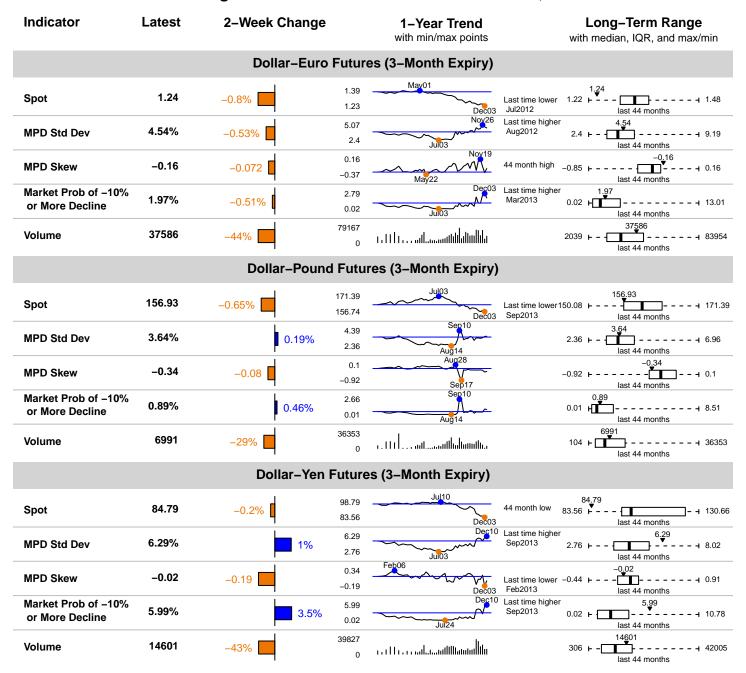
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#### Equity Index MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014



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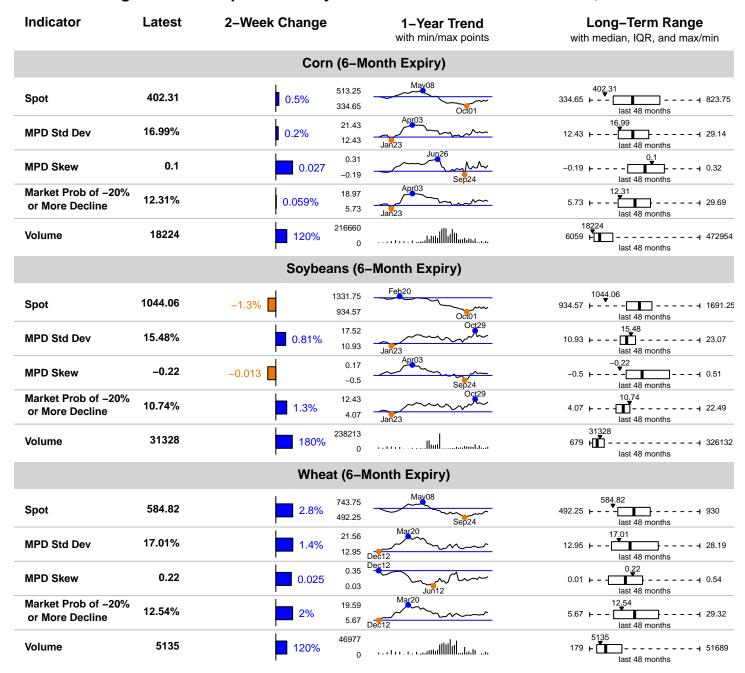
#### Exchange Rate MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014



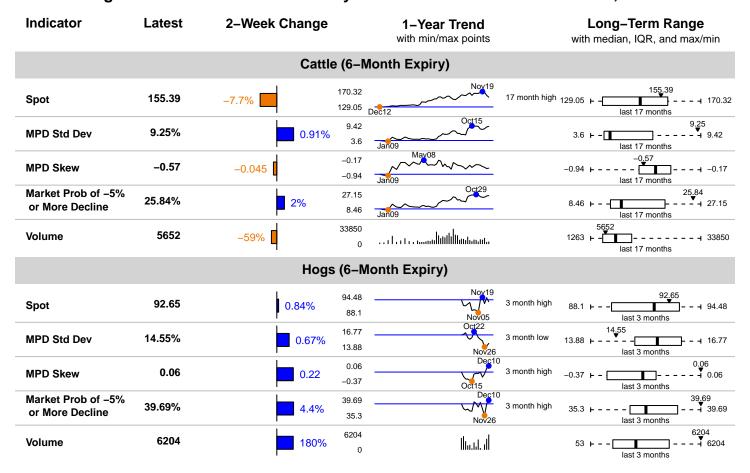
#### Metal and Energy Commodity MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014

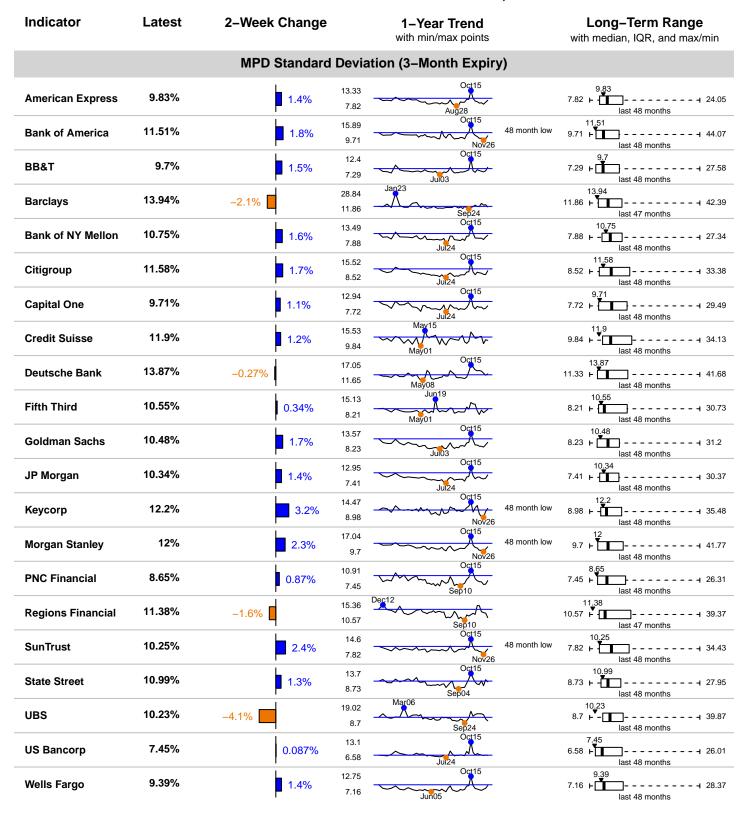


#### Agricultural Crop Commodity MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014



## Agricultural Livestock Commodity MPD Statistics as of December 10, 2014

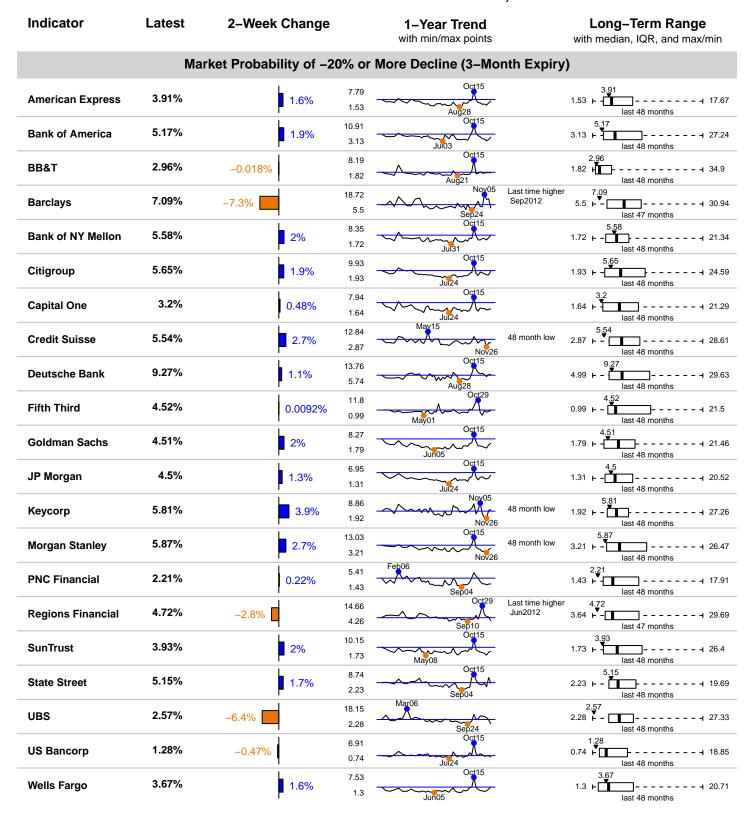




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Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change		1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min			
MPD Skew (3-Month Expiry)								
American Express	-0.48	0.15	-0.21 -0.74	Jul31 Oct15	-0.48 -1.32			
Bank of America	-0.39	0.1	-0.02 -0.7	Jul10 Oct 15	-1.17 +			
BB&T	-0.22	1.1	-0.22 -1.3	Nov26	Last time higher -0,22 Oct2012 -1.54			
Barclays	-1.23	-0.62	1.94 –1.23	Jan 23 Nov 26 Aug 07				
Bank of NY Mellon	-0.64	0.12	0.14 -1.09	Jul 10	-0.64 -1.56 + 0.14 last 48 months			
Citigroup	-0.64	0.054	-0.23 -0.89	Jan23 Oct15	-0.64 -1.23 + 1.23   1.32   last 48 months			
Capital One	-0.56	0.23	-0.24 -0.89	Aug07 Oct22 Sep10	-0.56 -1.38			
Credit Suisse	0.04	0.37	0.72 -2	Apr24 Jup26	0.04 -2.07     0.72 last 48 months			
Deutsche Bank	0.31	0.43	0.35 -0.95	May01 May01	0.31 -1.31 + 0.35 last 48 months			
Fifth Third	-1.24	-0.097	0.3 –1.49	Jun05	-1,24 48 month low -1.49 + 0.3 last 48 months			
Goldman Sachs	-0.64	-0.067	-0.36 -0.97	Oct15  Jul17	-0.64 -1.38			
JP Morgan	-0.86	-0.083	-0.33 -0.86	May 15				
Keycorp	-0.04	-0.063	0.28 -1.36	Sep10	-0.04 -2.24			
Morgan Stanley	-0.48	0.2	-0.26 -0.87	Aug07 Octo8	-0.48 -1.2			
PNC Financial	-0.48	0.27	-0.39 -1.29	Sep04 Sep10	-0.48 -1.51 + 1.51 1.007 last 48 months			
Regions Financial	-0.9	0.25	0.68 -1.15	Oct15 Nov12	Last time lower -1.94 + 1.94 1.94 1.94 0.68 May 2013			
SunTrust	-0.8	1.0.035	-0.34 -1.05	Juj31 Nov19	Last time lower -1.16 + 1.16			
State Street	-0.91	-0.31 ▮	-0.13 -1.18	Aug14  Dec03	-0.91 Last time lower -1.28 + 1.28 last 48 months			
UBS	0.84	2.6	0.84 -1.72	Dec10 Nov26	Last time higher  Oct2012  −3.36   − − − − − − − − − − − − 0.97  last 48 months			
US Bancorp	-0.67	0.22	-0.31 -1.3	Jul31 May15	-0.67 -1.45 +			
Wells Fargo	-0.78	0.0036	-0.42 -1.19	Dec 26 Oct 29	-1.73 <b>⊢ 1.</b> - <b>1.</b> -			

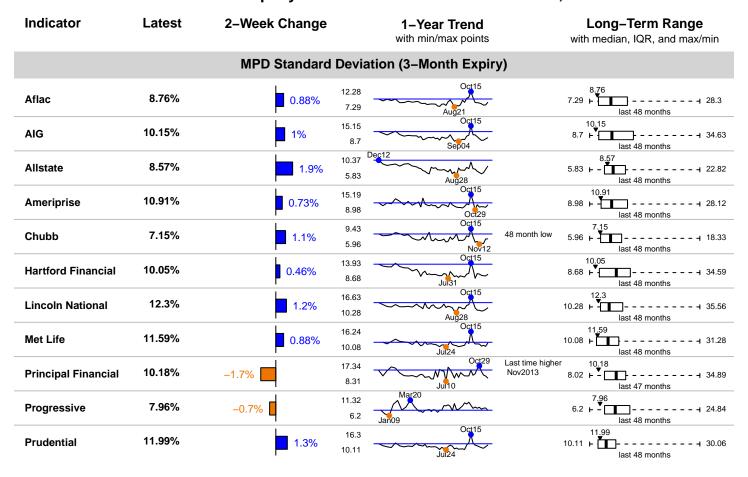
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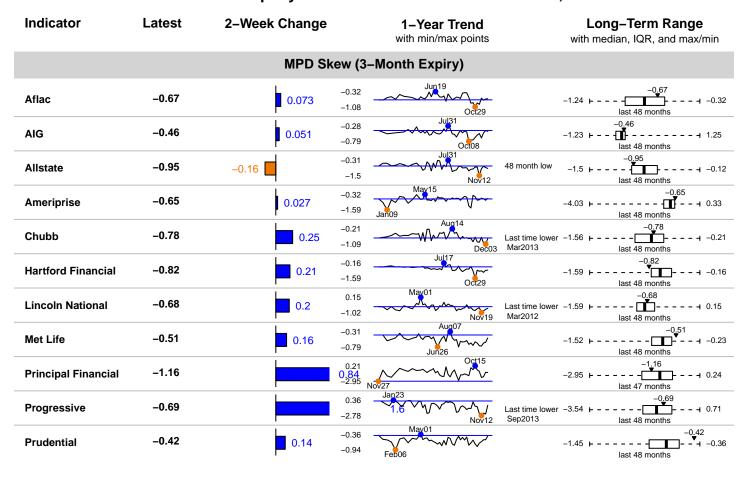
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Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change		1–Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min				
Volume (3–Month Expiry)									
American Express	1066	<b>−87%</b>	10151 0	rritrir. haldhaaaldddddlala	1066 623 F - Iast 48 months				
Bank of America	53472	63%	132589 0	rati ta la subutud aatilulutaa	53472 7419 ► 1 → 363160 last 48 months				
BB&T	848	140%	6490 0	dddii i ddaaamililaatalii.ab	848 190 + 6903 last 48 months				
Barclays	13	<del>-96</del> % [	11011 0		13 13				
Bank of NY Mellon	1086	19%	15678 0		1086 59 <b>- 1</b> 17091 last 48 months				
Citigroup	42897	72%	78527 0	rri H. 11 chilandəlidəadbədd	42897 1104 <b>⊢∏</b> – – – – – – – 1 284278 last 48 months				
Capital One	1862	360%	9311 0		1862 164 <b>- 1</b> 164 - 18646 last 48 months				
Credit Suisse	654	-38%	4011 0	ralla erralmatasatta.laa. ta	654 0   10 14201 last 48 months				
Deutsche Bank	1269	<b>-77%</b>	25112 0		1269 62 + 1 1 29575 last 48 months				
Fifth Third	1376	88%	15351 0	lt.daalaamatamada	1376 28 <b>- H</b> II 1 19324 last 48 months				
Goldman Sachs	5919	-0.75%	21840 0	cretit . dhuthaanaadabtaa	5919 296 ⊢ - ☐				
JP Morgan	14091	180%	52517 0	. 111 - 11 hatumahlaaaalha	14091 943   119246 last 48 months				
Keycorp	1952	810%	3014 0	المماليسمانية ماليسمالية	1952 44 <b>1</b> 76270 last 48 months				
Morgan Stanley	2978	-64%	48955 0	e e l'erre donctenationautilithe.	2978 327 + 1 + 84281 last 48 months				
PNC Financial	879	47%	4810 0	Halatatahan kansusa	879 83 <b>⊢                                   </b>				
Regions Financial	850	150%	4635 0	. data . datilika aatikalisa	850 20 +				
SunTrust	474	-50%	4232 0	r e l e c e e mahanadiahalidhia.	474 61 FIII 1 13788 last 48 months				
State Street	90	<b>-57%</b>	5339 0	1 c t . 1 . 1 t	90 42 +				
UBS	104	<b>-73%</b>	2766 0		104 6 HTD + 6502 last 48 months				
US Bancorp	3532	110%	5746 0	t 11. t r. t r lakalataldaaattud	3532 172 <b>⊢</b>				
Wells Fargo	4307	-68%	62697 0	t maharana antu lihin	4307 950 FIII 1 167820 last 48 months				

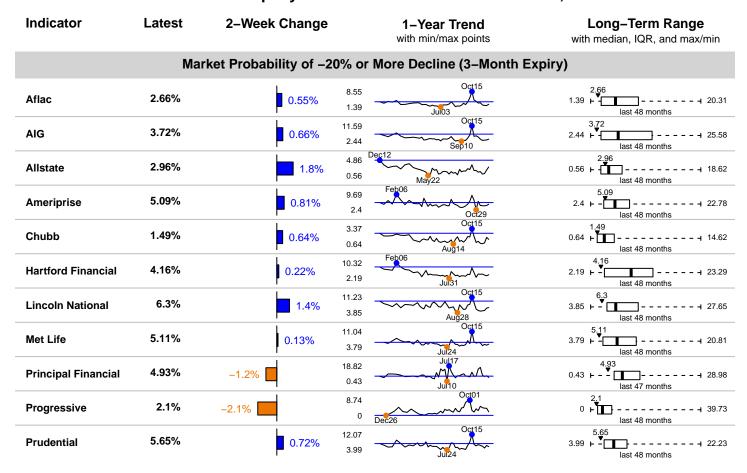
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Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change		<b>1–Year Trend</b> with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min			
Volume (3–Month Expiry)								
Aflac	554	-69%	13324 0	.1111.11. mannostatalalismata.	554 405 22718 last 48 months			
AIG	9054	110%	38744 0	r T. Hr. alluttaradiani.ada	9054 432 <b>+ 1</b> 1 103998 last 48 months			
Allstate	185	<b>-90%</b>	5708 0	erett l tremalmanismississistatis	185 76 1			
Ameriprise	137	170%	1114 0	1.11.1	137 5 <b>- 1114</b> last 48 months			
Chubb	11	<b>-96%</b>	2541 0		11 11 <b>11</b>			
Hartford Financial	463	29%	13441 0		463 65 <b>H∏</b> 37285 last 48 months			
Lincoln National	125	<b>-75%</b>	8403 0		125 51 HIII 1 10682 last 48 months			
Met Life	13379	840%	14685 0	1111-1	13379 319 <b>11</b> 1 161416 last 48 months			
Principal Financial	165	59%	310 0	la a dili a dilinaa ahalaahad	165 2 ∰ 3846 last 47 months			
Progressive	131	-46%	474 0	1.111.1	131 0 <b>1</b> 4 4283 last 48 months			
Prudential	1693	-52%	13225 0		1693 222 + 1 1 13225 last 48 months			

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