

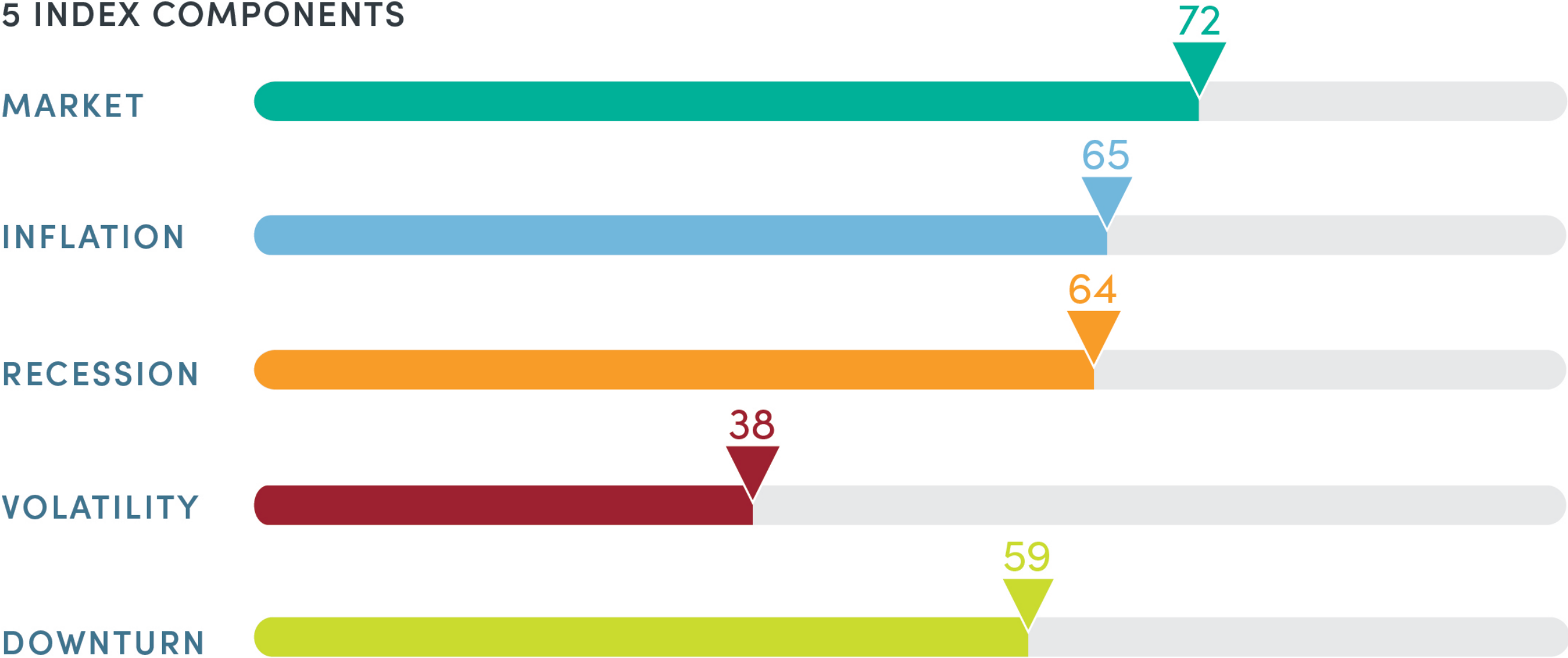
RIA Economic Outlook Index

What It Is: A predictive tool created to measure the expectations of Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs) for the upcoming year's economy and market movements.

How It Works: The index is based on responses to five critical questions related to key economic indicators such as the S&P 500 performance, inflation rates, recession probability, market volatility, and potential equity market downturns from over 100 RIAs around the country.



5 INDEX COMPONENTS



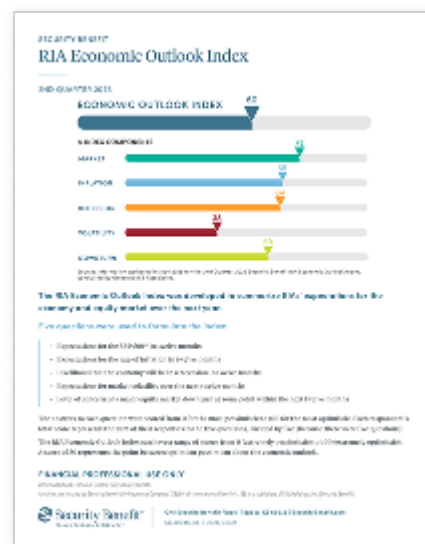
Source: Information gathered in May 2025 for the 2nd Quarter 2025 Security Benefit RIA Economic Outlook Index, conducted by Greenwald & Associates.

Key Insights

- **Index Score and Sentiment:** Advisor confidence is on the rise this quarter, with the overall index moving up to 60. Hybrid RIAs continue to lead in optimism with a score of 64, while pure RIAs follow at 56. The mood is improving, and most advisors seem to feel good about where things are headed, even if they're staying a little cautious.
- **Market Performance:** About 59% of RIAs expect the S&P 500 to grow between 6% and 9% over the next year. That's in line with last quarter, showing a steady belief that the market still has room to grow.
- **Inflation Expectations:** Expectations around inflation have shifted in a big way. 60% of advisors now think inflation will stay below 3% over the next year, which is a big jump from where things stood last quarter. It's a sign that more advisors believe inflation is settling down.
- **Recession Probability:** Concern about a potential recession is starting to come back. 45% of RIAs now say there's at least a moderate chance of a recession in the next year, which is up from 29% last quarter. Even with that shift, the overall outlook is still more positive than not.
- **Volatility and Downturn Concerns:** Just over half of RIAs, about 56%, expect market volatility to increase this year. That's actually a little lower than what we saw last quarter. Fewer advisors are worried about a major downturn too, with only 13% saying they're very or extremely concerned. Most are staying alert but not overly anxious.

Why It Matters:

- Strategic Planning: Offers an early signal of potential economic shifts, aiding in better strategic planning for RIAs and their clients.
- Advisor and Client Confidence: Reflects a collective stance of cautious optimism, providing reassurance in the face of potential market challenges.



Download a visual overview of the RIA Economic Outlook Index, which measures Registered Investment Advisors' (RIAs) economy and market trends expectations.

Download Data Visualization



Download the RIA Economic Outlook Overview, which provides insights into Registered Investment Advisors' (RIAs) expectations on key economic factors, including market performance, inflation, and recession risks for the upcoming year.

[Download the Outlook Overview](#)

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