

Global Fund Manager Survey

Bull Charge

BofA October Global Fund Manager Survey

Bottom Line: the biggest jump in investor optimism since Jun'20 on Fed cuts, China stimulus, soft landing (Chart 2); allocation to stocks surges and to bonds sinks, as FMS cash level falls to 3.9% from 4.2% (triggering ACWI "sell signal"); froth on the rise but BofA Bull & Bear Indicator up to 7.1, not yet the big "sell signal" level of 8.0.

Macro: the biggest jump in global growth expectations since May'20 (net -42% to -10%) driven by US & China; 76% of investors say "soft landing," 14% "no landing," 8% "hard landing"; 160bps of Fed cuts forecast next 12 months, 85% expect steeper yield curve.

AA: the biggest jump in global equity allocation since Jun'20 (net 31% OW) vs. record drop in bond allocation (11% OW to 15% UW); investors say "biggest winners" from China stimulus: EM stocks & commodities, "biggest losers": govt bonds & Japan stocks; big Oct rotation into EM stocks and discretionary/industrials, out of staples/utilities.

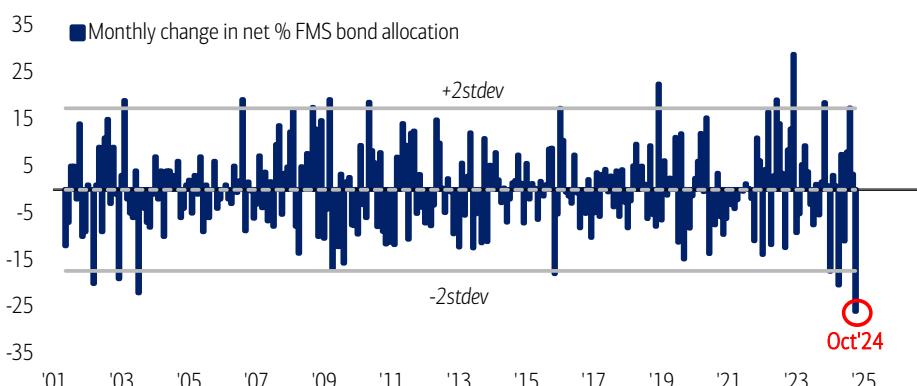
Risks & Crowds: top 3 "tail risks" geopolitics 33%, inflation 26%, US recession 19%; most "crowded trades" long Magnificent 7 43%, long gold 17%, long China stocks 14%.

US Election: investors say election most likely to impact trade policy (47%), then geopolitics (15%) & taxation (11%); 1/3 investors set to increase hedging pre-election; investors say election "sweep" = higher bond yields, lower S&P 500, higher US dollar.

Contrarian Trades: "no landing" ...long Europe vs US, long materials vs healthcare; "hard landing" ...long yield curve flatteners, long bonds vs stocks, long staples vs industrials.

Chart 1: October FMS shows record monthly reduction in bond allocation

Monthly change in net % FMS bond allocation



BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Trading ideas and investment strategies discussed herein may give rise to significant risk and are not suitable for all investors. Investors should have experience in relevant markets and the financial resources to absorb any losses arising from applying these ideas or strategies.

>> Employed by a non-US affiliate of BofAS and is not registered/qualified as a research analyst under the FINRA rules.

Refer to "Other Important Disclosures" for information on certain BofA Securities entities that take responsibility for the information herein in particular jurisdictions.

BofA Securities does and seeks to do business with issuers covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision.

Refer to important disclosures on page 25 to 27.

12750448

Timestamp: 15 October 2024 12:30AM EDT

15 October 2024 Corrected

Investment Strategy
Global

BofA

Data
Analytics



Michael Hartnett
Investment Strategist
BofAS
+1 646 855 1508
michael.hartnett@bofa.com

Elias Galou >>
Investment Strategist
BofASE (France)
+33 1 8770 0087
elyas.galou@bofa.com

Anya Shelekhin
Investment Strategist
BofAS
+1 646 855 3753
anya.shelekhin@bofa.com

Myung-Jee Jung
Investment Strategist
BofAS
+1 646 855 0389
myung-jee.jung@bofa.com

Notes to Readers

Source for all tables and charts:
BofA Fund Manager Survey,
DataStream

Survey period 4th to 10th Oct 2024

231 panellists with \$574bn AUM participated in the October survey.
195 participants with \$503bn AUM responded to the Global FMS questions and 128 participants with \$273bn AUM responded to the Regional FMS questions.

How to join the FMS panel

Investors/clients are encouraged to sign up to participate in the Survey. This can be done by contacting [Michael Hartnett](#) or your BofA sales representative.

Participants in the survey will continue to receive the full set of monthly results but only for the relevant month in which they participate.

OW: overweight; UW: underweight

AA: asset allocation

Charts of the Month

Chart 2: BofA Global FMS sentiment sees biggest monthly improvement since Jun'20

Percentile rank of FMS growth expectations, cash level, and equity allocation



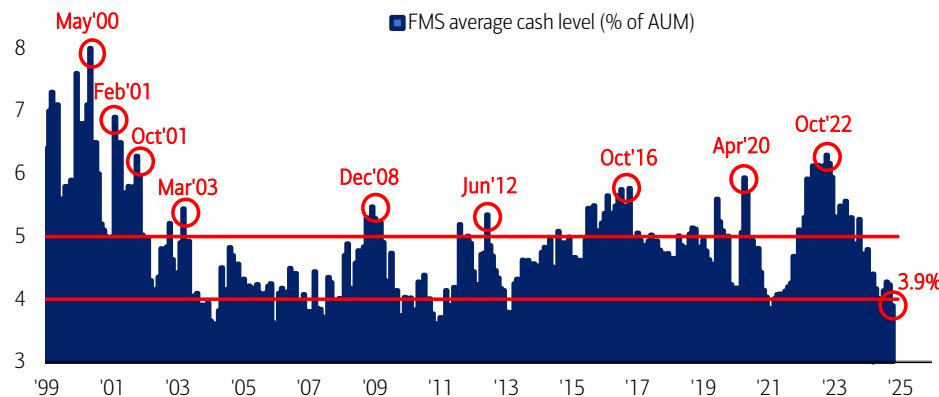
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Our broadest measure of FMS sentiment, based on cash levels, equity allocation, and economic growth expectations, rose from 3.8 to 5.6, its largest monthly rise since Jun'20.

Chart 3: FMS cash level down from 4.2% to 3.9%...triggers "sell" signal

BofA Global FMS average cash level (% of AUM)



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Cash level in the FMS fell from 4.2% to 3.9%, lowest level since Feb'21.

As FMS cash level dropped below 4.0%, the BofA Global FMS Cash Rule triggered its first contrarian "sell" signal since Jun'24.

Since 2011, there have been 11 prior "sell" signals which saw global equity (ACWI) returns of -2.5% in the 1 month after and -0.8% in the 3 months after the "sell" signal was triggered (see [Rules & Tools](#)).

Chart 4: Global growth expectations rise at fastest pace since May'20

Monthly change in net % FMS expecting a stronger global economy next 12 months



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

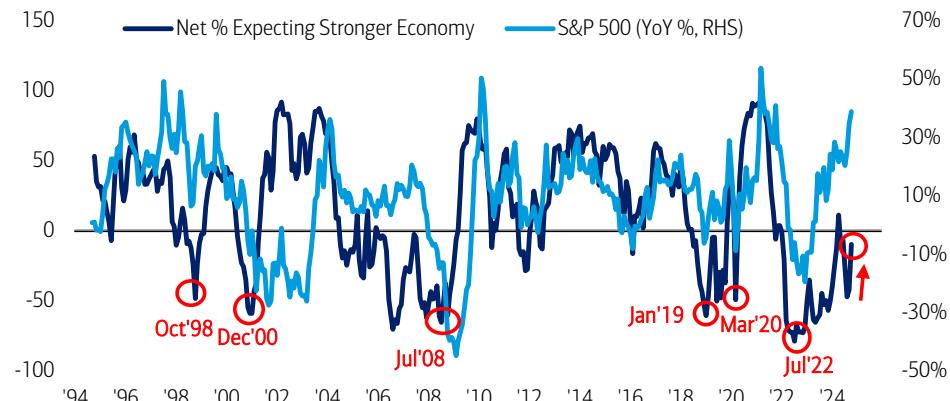
BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Global growth expectations rose from -47% to -10%...the 5th largest jump since 1994 (after Jan'02, Nov'19, Apr'20, May'20) on the back of 50bps Fed cut, +250k payroll print, and China stimulus (equivalent to 3% of GDP).



Chart 5: Asset prices driving economic growth expectations higher

Net % FMS expecting global economy to get stronger next 12 months vs S&P 500 YoY% change

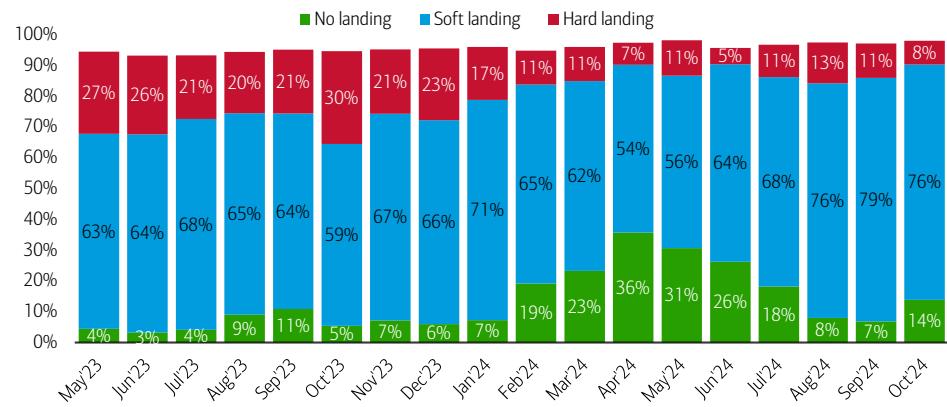


Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Bloomberg

Asset prices are driving economic growth expectations higher.

Chart 6: 76% say "soft landing," 14% "no landing," 8% "hard landing"

What is the most likely outcome for the global economy in the next 12 months?



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

On landings...FMS investor probability of a "soft landing" is 76%, while "no landing" is now the main alternative scenario at 14% (up from 7%), followed by "hard landing" at 8% (down to a 4-month low).

Chart 7: FMS conviction in steeper yield curve for 2025 remains strong

% FMS investors expecting steeper yield curve in the next 12 months

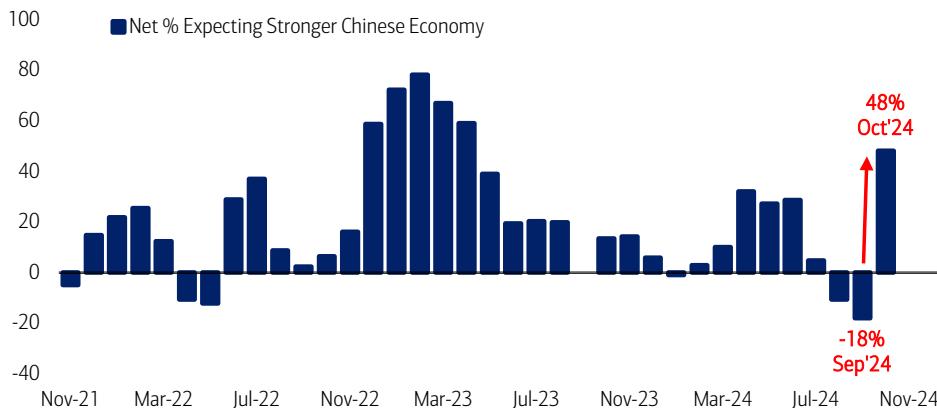


Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

85% of FMS investors expect yield curves to steepen in '25, near the record of 90% reached in the September survey.

Chart 8: China growth expectations surge to most optimistic since Apr'23

Net % FMS expecting stronger Chinese economy over the next 12 months



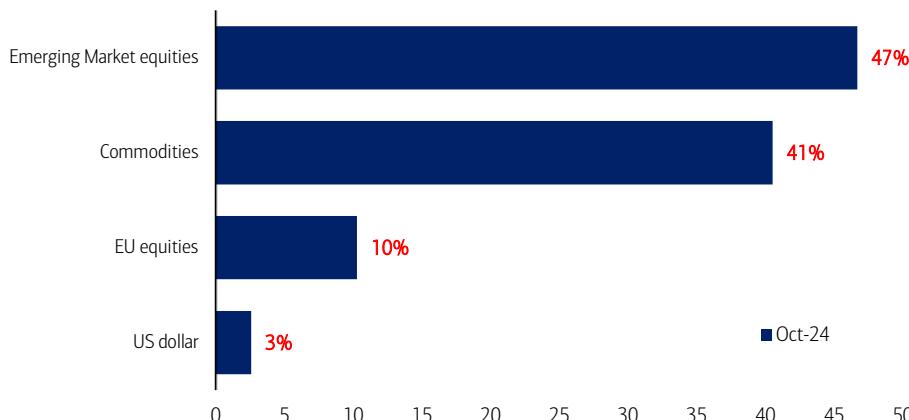
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

China's stimulus announcement caused investors to raise their outlook on Chinese growth to net 48% expecting a stronger economy (the most optimistic level since Apr'23).

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Chart 9: EM equities and commodities seen as biggest "winners" of China stimulus

Biggest "winner" from recent China stimulus announcements (outside of Chinese stocks)



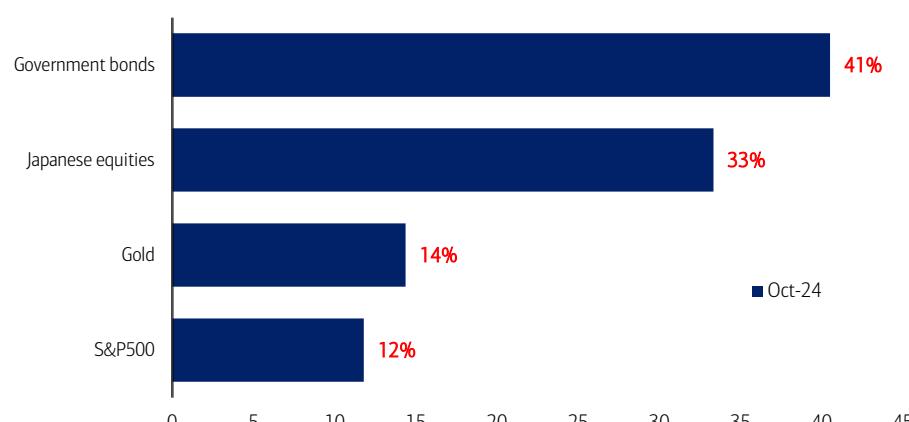
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Asked about the biggest "winner" from China stimulus announcements, FMS investors pointed to EM equities (47%) and commodities (41%).

Chart 10: Government bonds and Japanese stocks seen as biggest China stimulus "losers"

Biggest "loser" from recent China stimulus announcements



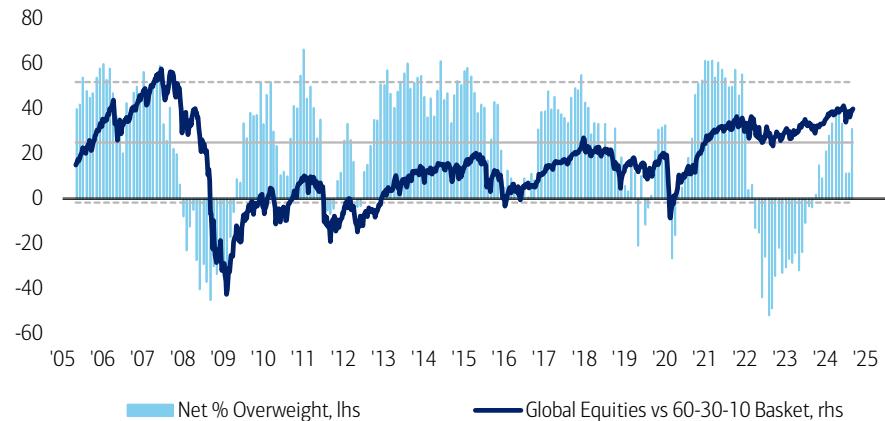
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Governments bonds (41%) and Japanese equities (33%) are seen as the biggest "losers" on the back of China stimulus announcements.

Chart 11: October FMS sees biggest monthly increase in equity allocation in 4 years

Net % FMS OW Equities



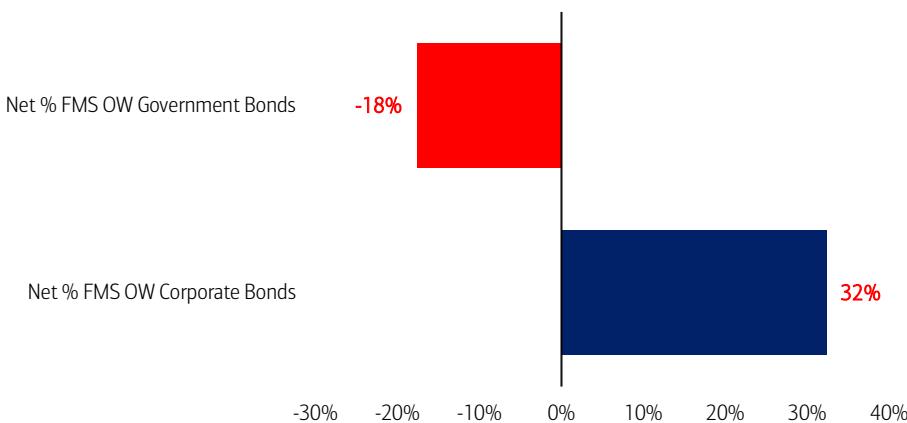
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

In October, FMS investors raised their equity allocation by the largest amount since Jun'20.

Net 31% of FMS investors are overweight equities, up from net 11% overweight last month.

Chart 12: FMS investors are OW corporate bonds and UW government bonds

Net % FMS OW government bonds and Net % FMS OW corporate bonds



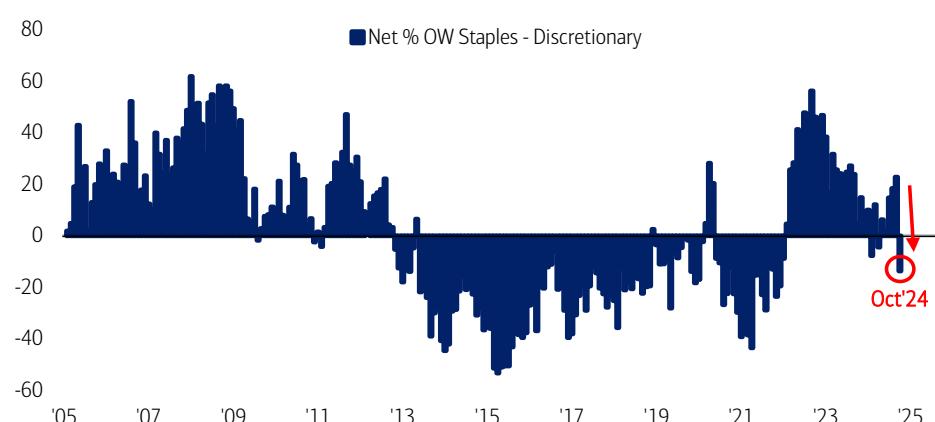
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Asked about positioning within their bond allocations, net 18% of FMS investors underweight government bonds and net 32% overweight corporate bonds.

Chart 13: Investors reduced exposure to defensives and rotated into cyclicals

Net % OW staples - net % OW consumer discretionary



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Within sectors, FMS investors cut exposure to defensives (e.g. staples, utilities) and rotated into cyclicals (e.g. discretionary, industrials, and energy).

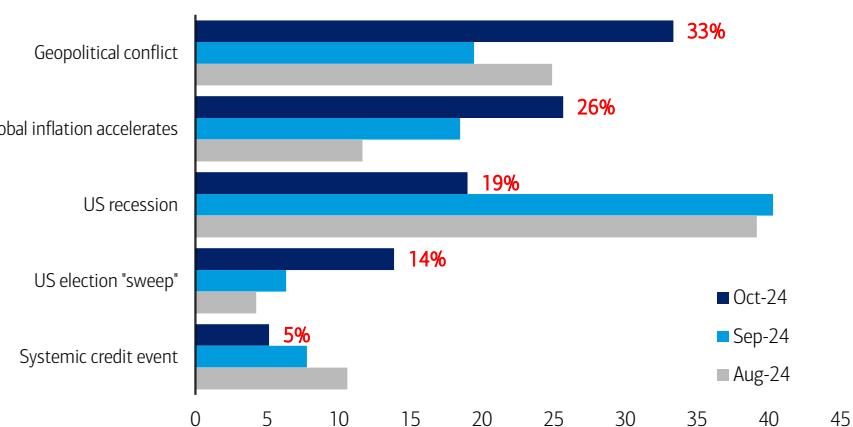
Allocation to staples fell at the fastest pace since '05, while allocation to consumer discretionary saw the biggest monthly increase on record since '05.

On a relative basis, investors are the most UW staples relative to consumer discretionary since Dec'21.



Chart 14: Geopolitical conflict is seen as the biggest 'tail risk'

What do you consider the biggest 'tail risk'



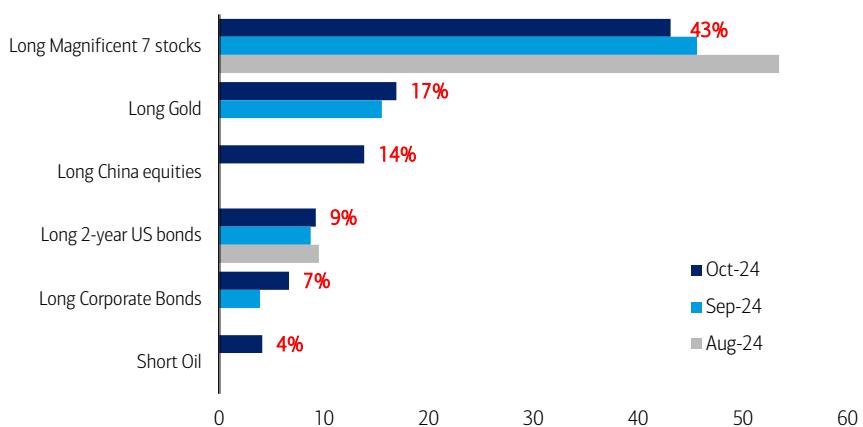
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

On tail risks...33% of FMS investors see geopolitical conflict as the #1 biggest 'tail risk'... up from 19% a month ago.

Concerns over accelerating inflation continued to rise from 18% to 26%, and concerns about US recession faded to 19% (from 40%, was the top risk in September).

Chart 15: "Long Magnificent 7" is still the most crowded trade

What do you think is currently the most crowded trade?



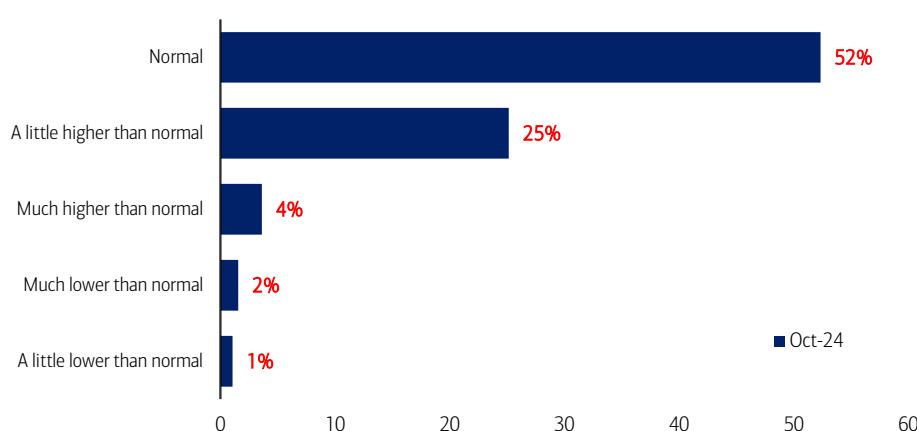
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

On crowded trades..."Long Magnificent 7" continues to hold the top spot for most crowded trade for the 19th consecutive month at 43% (down from the high of 71% in Jul'24).

17% of investors say "long gold" and 14% say "long China equities" are the most crowded trades.

Chart 16: 52% of FMS investors expect normal hedging activity ahead of the US election

Do to the US election, is your hedging activity in the next 4 weeks likely to be...?



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

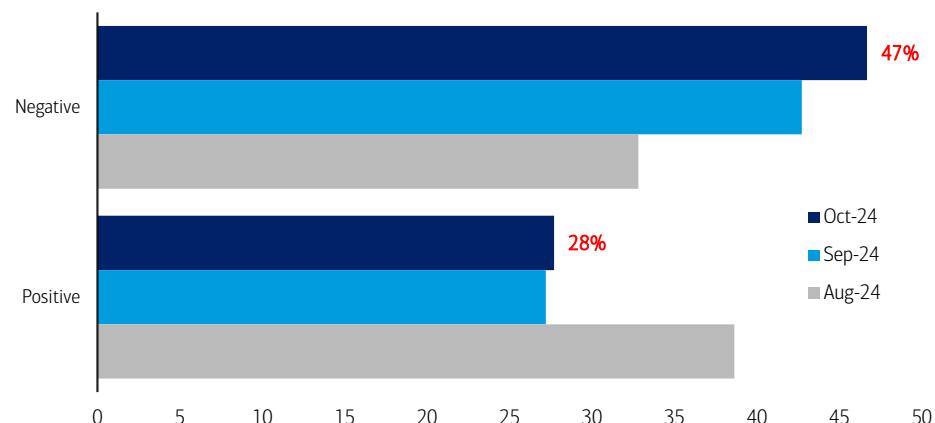
52% of FMS investors said they expect normal hedging activity in the weeks leading up to the US election in November.

25% said hedging activity is likely to be "a little higher than normal" in the lead-up to the election.



Chart 17: US election "sweep" seen as negative for stocks

What do you think the impact of a US election "sweep" would be on the S&P 500?

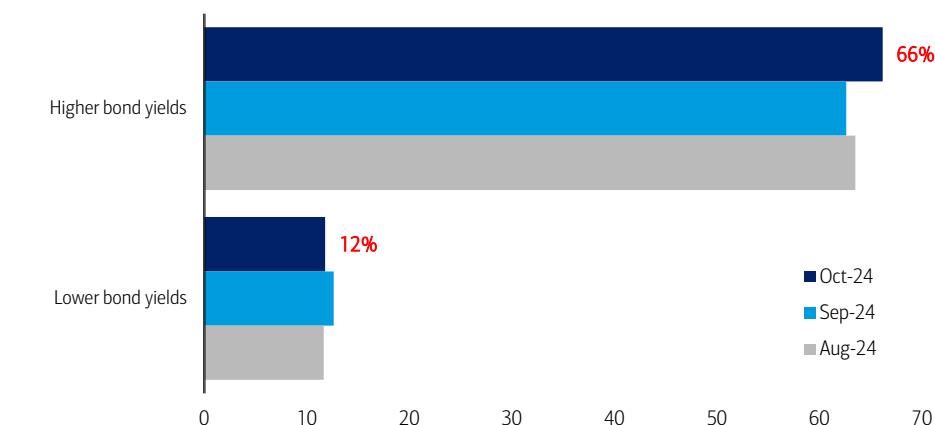


Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

Asked about the impact of a US election "sweep" i.e. same party winning White House and Congress...47% view the outcome as negative for the S&P 500 while 28% view it as positive for stocks.

Chart 18: FMS investors say US election "sweep" = higher bond yields

What do you think the impact of a US election "sweep" would be on bond yields?



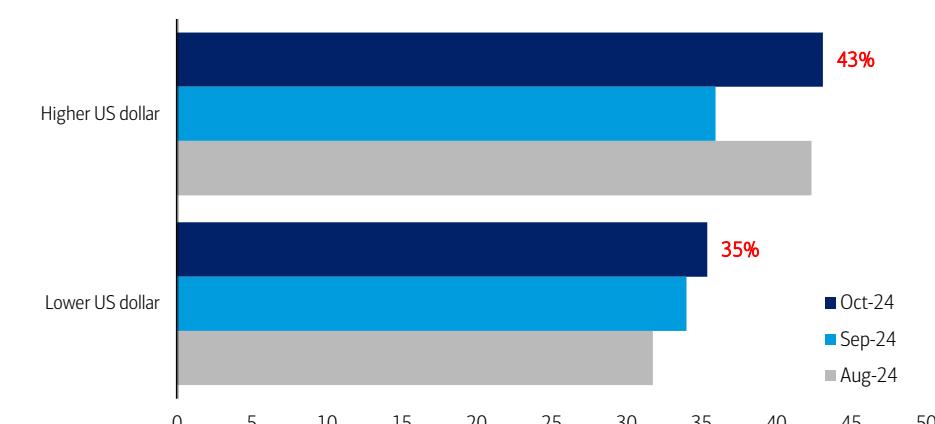
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

66% of investors think that a "sweep" outcome would result in higher bond yields, while just 12% expect lower bond yields.

Chart 19: FMS investors say US election "sweep" = stronger US dollar

What do you think the impact of a US election "sweep" would be on the US dollar?



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

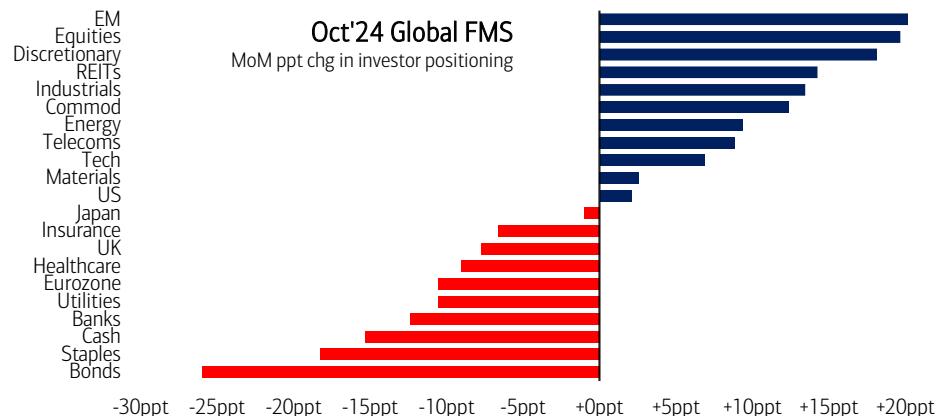
BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Investors are somewhat split on the impact of a "sweep" on the US dollar...43% expect a higher US dollar while 35% expect a lower US dollar.



Chart 20: October rotation out defensives & banks and into cyclicals & tech

Monthly change in FMS investor positioning



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

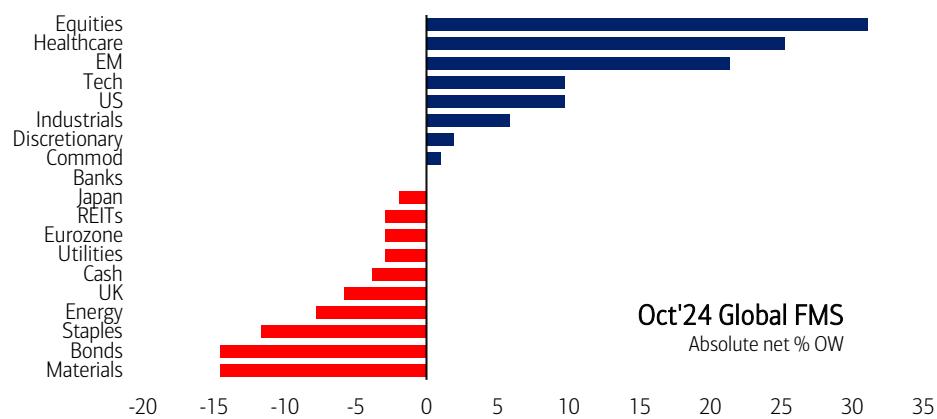
This chart shows October's monthly changes in FMS investor allocation.

Investors increased allocation to emerging markets, equities, cyclicals (discretionary, industrials, energy), and REITs...

...and reduced allocation to bonds, cash, and defensives (bonds, utilities).

Chart 21: FMS net OW stocks, healthcare & EM vs UW materials, bonds & staples

FMS absolute positioning (net % overweight)



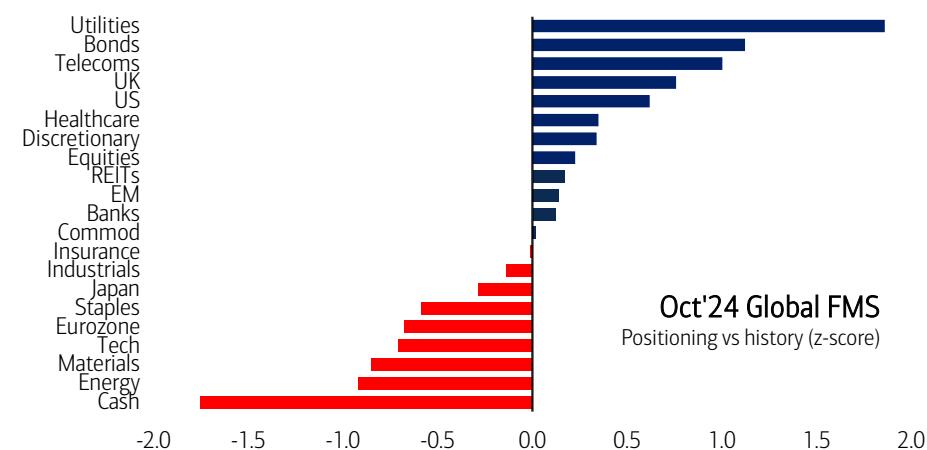
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

This chart shows absolute FMS investor positioning (net % overweight).

Investors are most overweight stocks, healthcare, and EM vs most underweight materials, bonds, and staples.

Chart 22: FMS OW utilities & bonds vs UW cash, resources & tech relative to history

FMS positioning vs history (z-score)



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

This chart shows FMS investor positioning relative to the average long-term positioning (past ~20 years).

Relative to history, investors are long utilities, bonds, telecoms, and UK & US stocks...

...and are underweight cash, resources (energy & materials), tech, and Eurozone.



Chart 23: Evolution of Global FMS “biggest tail risk”

History of Global FMS “biggest tail risk” answers



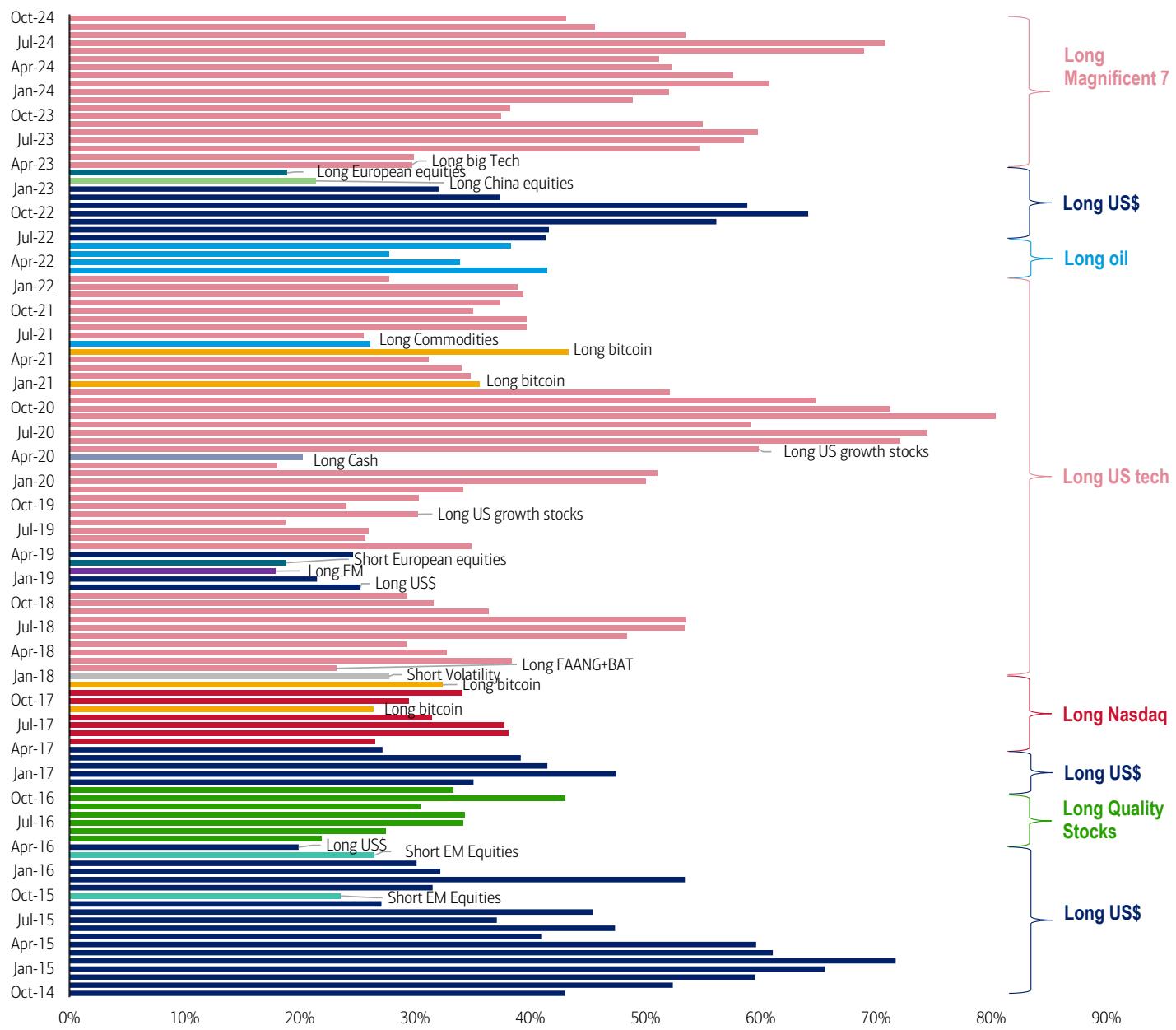
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

- This chart shows the full history of the biggest “tail risk” for markets from BofA’s monthly Global Fund Manager Survey.
- The dominant concerns of investors since 2011 have been Eurozone debt, Chinese growth, populism, quantitative tightening & trade wars, global coronavirus, inflation, & central bank rate hikes; now recession and geopolitics.
- Geopolitical conflict the top “tail risk” per 33% of FMS investors; #2 global inflation accelerates (26%), #3 US recession (19%).

Chart 24: Evolution of Global FMS “most crowded trade”

History of Global FMS “most crowded trade” answers



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

- This chart shows the full history of the most “crowded trade” according to BofA’s monthly Global Fund Manager Survey.
- The market leadership has been relatively narrow since 2013, shifting from high yielding debt; long US\$; long Quality; long Tech; long Emerging Markets; long US Treasuries, long US tech & growth stocks, long Bitcoin, long commodities, long tech, long commodities, long US dollar, and long Magnificent Seven.
- Long Magnificent 7 is considered the most crowded trade (per 43% of investors) followed by #2 long gold (17%), and #3 long China equities (14%).

BofA Global FMS Rules & Tools

The Global FMS Rules & Tools are designed to help investors determine risk appetite, rotation opportunities, and tactical entry points.

Table 1: BofA Global FMS Cash Rule and Bull & Bear Indicator

Current reading of BofA Global FMS Cash Rule and Bull & Bear Indicator

	Category	Current reading	Current signal
BofA Global FMS Cash Rule Buy global equities when cash at or above 5.0%; sell when cash at or below 4.0%	Contrarian	3.9%	Sell
BofA Bull & Bear Indicator Buy global equities when the indicator falls below 2.0; sell when it rises above 8.0	Contrarian	7.1	Neutral

Source: BofA Global Investment Strategy

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Disclaimer: The indicators identified as BofA Global FMS Cash Rule and BofA Bull & Bear Indicator above are intended to be indicative metrics only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. These indicators were not created to act as a benchmark.

For full details please see: Global Investment Strategy: [The BofA Global FMS Rules & Tools, 12 November 2020](#).

Investors on the Macro

Chart 25: Net % of FMS investors who see a stronger global economy in next 12 months

Net % of FMS investors expecting stronger economy



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

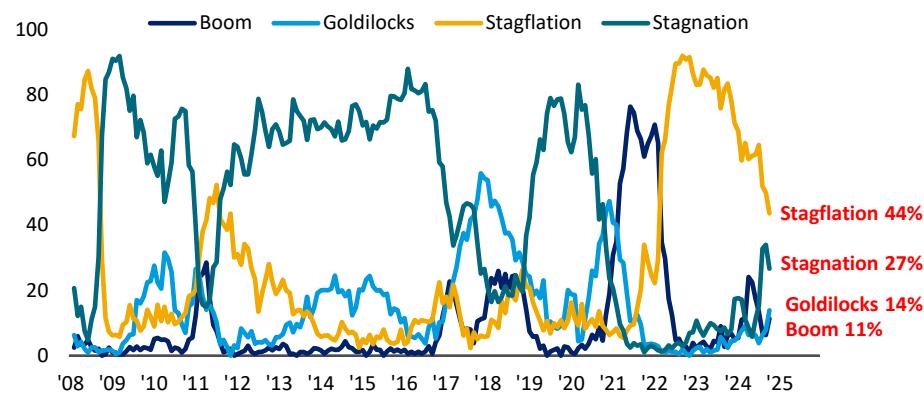
October FMS showed net 10% of investors expecting a weaker economy in the next 12 months.

Sentiment on the economy improved 32ppt MoM, the highest monthly jump since May'20.

The only other times global growth expectations have jumped >30ppt in a single month have been: May/Apr'20, Nov'19, May'09, Dec'01, and Oct'94.

Chart 26: How FMS investors would describe the global economy over the next 12 months

FMS expectations for the global economy over the next 12 months?



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey.

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

44% of FMS investors said they expect "stagflation" (below-trend growth & above-trend inflation), the lowest since Feb'22.

27% said "stagnation" (below-trend growth & below-trend inflation), -7ppt MoM.

14% said "goldilocks" (above-trend growth & below-trend inflation), up 6ppt MoM.

11% of investors said "boom" (above-trend growth & above-trend inflation), up 5ppt MoM.

Chart 27: Net % of FMS investors that think global CPI (in YoY terms) will be higher

Net % of FMS investors expecting higher inflation



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey.

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Net 44% expect global CPI to be lower in 12 months' time, down 23ppt MoM.



Investor Risk Appetite

Chart 28: Expectations for investment performance over the next 12 months

Over the next 12 months, net % FMS investors think...



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

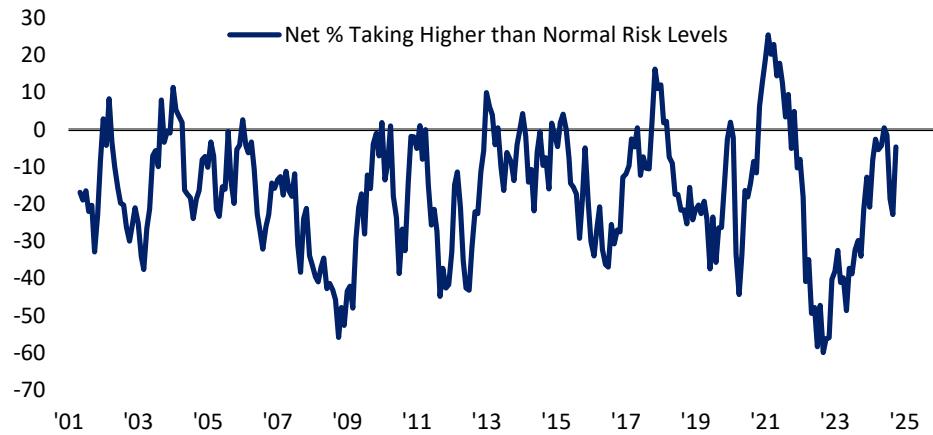
October FMS continues to show preference for quality...net 64% say high quality will outperform low quality earnings.

FMS investors now expect small caps to beat large caps (net 6%). There have been only 2 other months in the past 3 years when this has been the case: Mar'24 and Jan'24.

Net 3% of FMS investors expect high-grade to outperform high-yield bonds...vs net 29% a month ago (biggest MoM drop since Jun'20).

Chart 29: FMS investors taking higher than normal risk levels

What level of risk do you think you're currently taking relative to your benchmark?



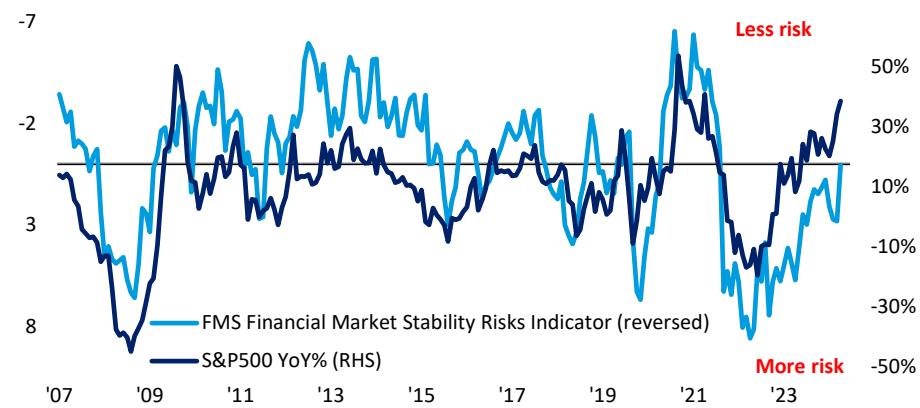
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

Net 5% of FMS investors said they were taking lower than normal risk levels, down 18ppt MoM (biggest monthly rise in risk tolerance since Nov'20).

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Chart 30: FMS Financial Market Stability Risks Indicator falls to 0.0.

FMS Financial Market Stability Risks Indicator vs S&P 500 YoY %



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Bloomberg

FMS Financial Market Stability Risks Indicator falls to 0.0 from 2.8.

The FMS Financial Market Stability Risks Indicator is intended to be an indicative metric only and may not be used for reference purposes or as a measure of performance for any financial instrument or contract, or otherwise relied upon by third parties for any other purpose, without the prior written consent of BofA Global Research. This indicator was not created to act as a benchmark.

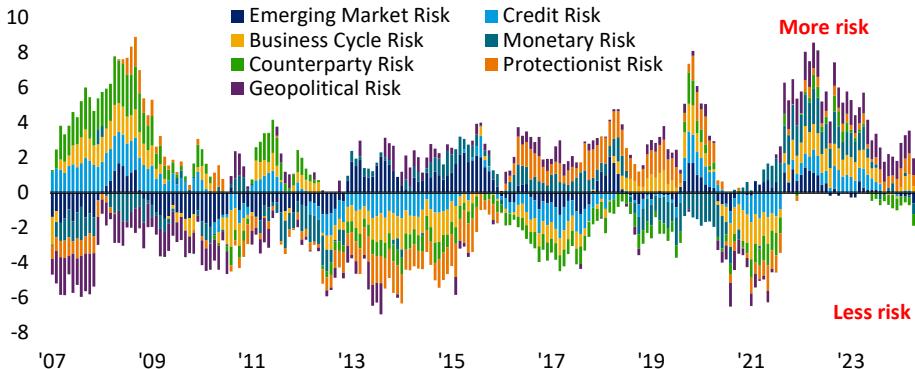
More info and methodology on the FMS Financial Market Stability Risks Indicator can be found in the [Nov'22 Global FMS](#).

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH



Chart 31: FMS rating of potential risks to Financial Market Stability

Components of the FMS Financial Market Stability Risks Indicator



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

The chart shows the individual z-scores of each response to how FMS investors rated potential risks to financial market stability since '07.

Monetary risk is 32% above normal, lowest since Feb'21.

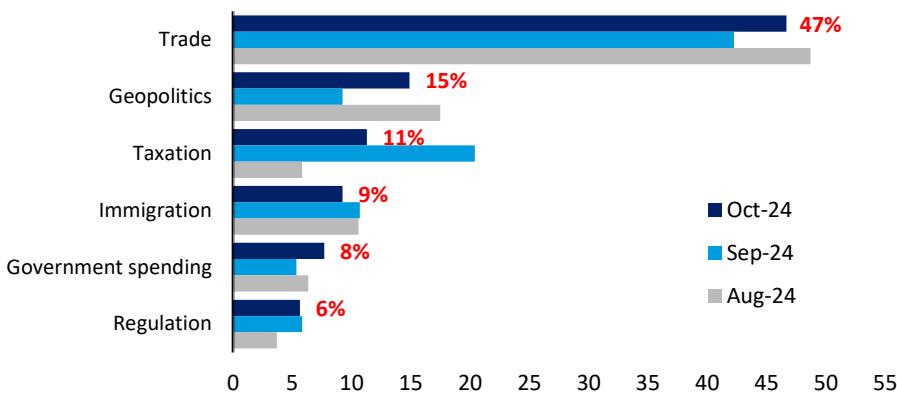
Business cycle risk is net 55% above normal, -14ppt MoM to a 3-month low.

Perception of geopolitical risk is net 78% above normal, while perception of protectionist risk is net 65% above normal.

Investors on the US election

Chart 32: 47% see trade as most likely policy area to be impacted by US election

Which of the following policy areas are likely to be impacted the most by the US election?



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Trade is seen as the most likely policy area to be impacted by the US election, per 47% of FMS investors.

This is followed by #2 geopolitics (15%) and #3 taxation (11%).



Investors on EPS & Leverage

Chart 33: Net % of FMS investors that think global corporate profit growth will improve

Net % of FMS investors saying global profits will improve



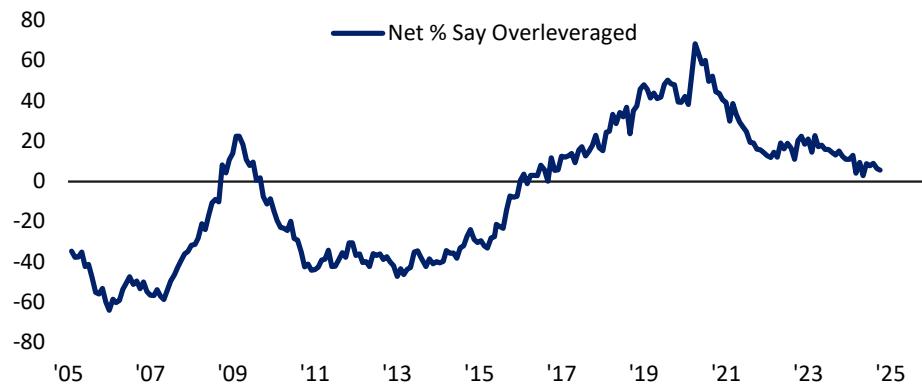
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Net 5% of FMS investors expect global profits to improve in the next 12 months, a 26ppt jump from last month. This is the biggest monthly increase since Jun'20.

Chart 34: Net % of FMS investors that think corporate balance sheets are overleveraged

Net% of FMS investors saying companies are overleveraged



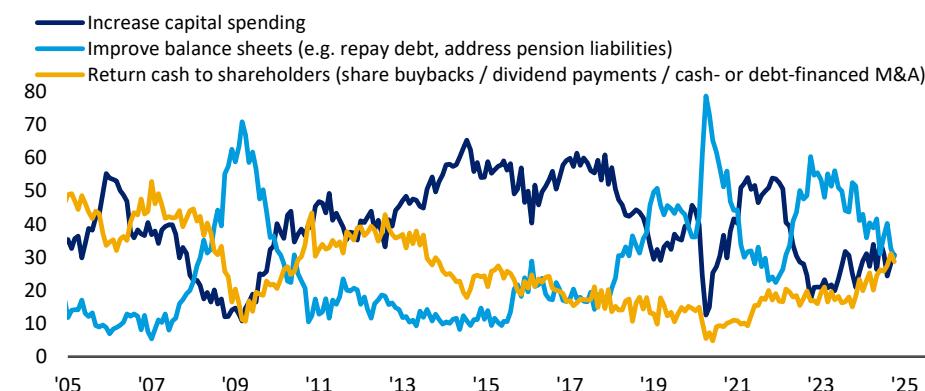
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Net 6% of FMS investors say companies are overleveraged (unchanged from last month).

Chart 35: What would you most like to see companies do with cash flow?

What FMS investors would most like to see companies do with cash flow



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

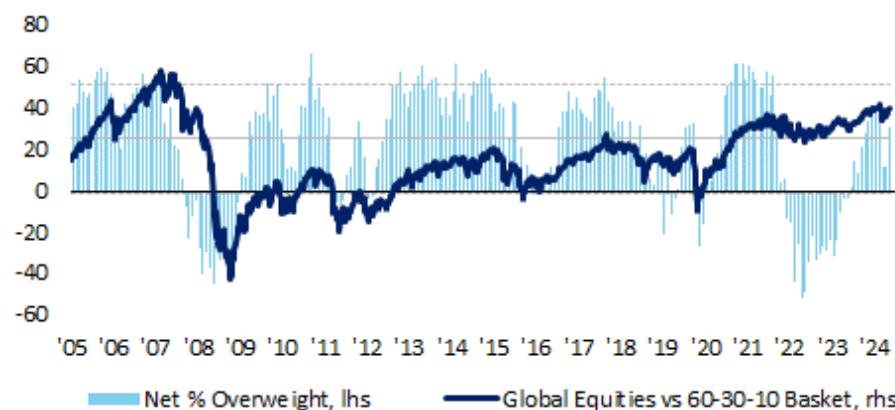
Asked what companies should do with cash flow...31% of FMS investors said to increase capital spending (up 3ppt MoM) over improve balance sheets (30%) or return cash to shareholders (29%).



FMS Asset Allocation

Chart 36: Net % AA Say they are overweight Equities

Net% of FMS investors overweight equities



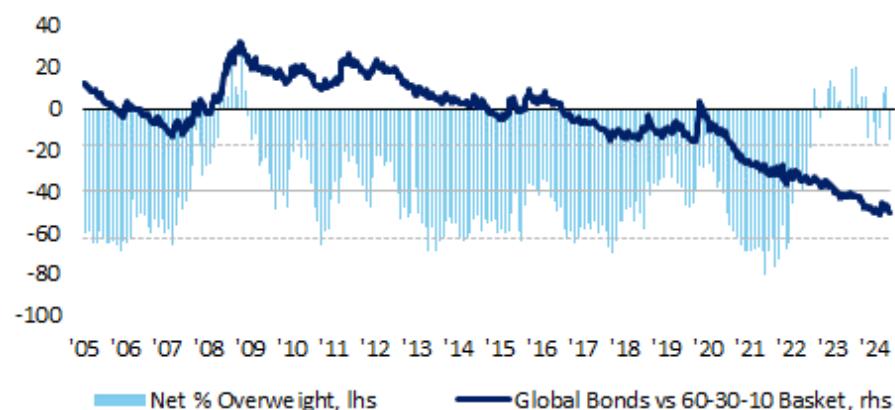
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

FMS equity allocation is net 31% overweight, up 20ppt MoM (biggest jump since Jun'20).

Current allocation is 0.2 stdev above its long-term average.

Chart 37: Net % AA Say they are overweight Bonds

Net% of FMS investors overweight bonds



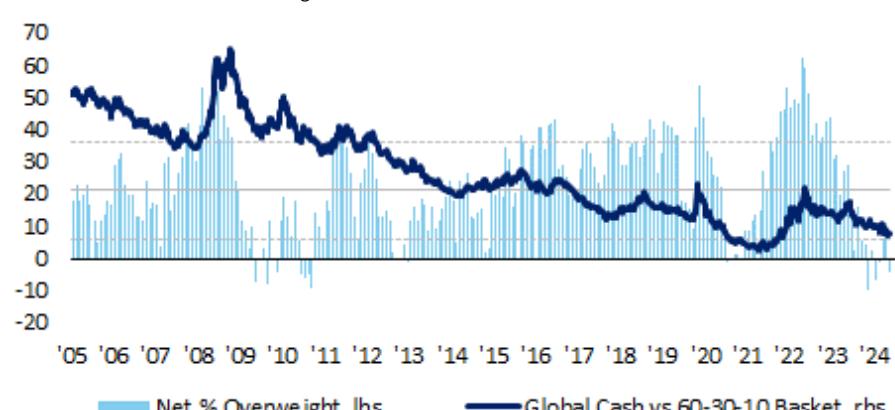
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

FMS bond allocation is net 15% underweight, collapsing 26ppt MoM...biggest monthly decline ever.

Current allocation is 1.1 stdev above its long-term average.

Chart 38: Net % AA Say they are overweight Cash

Net% of FMS investors overweight cash



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

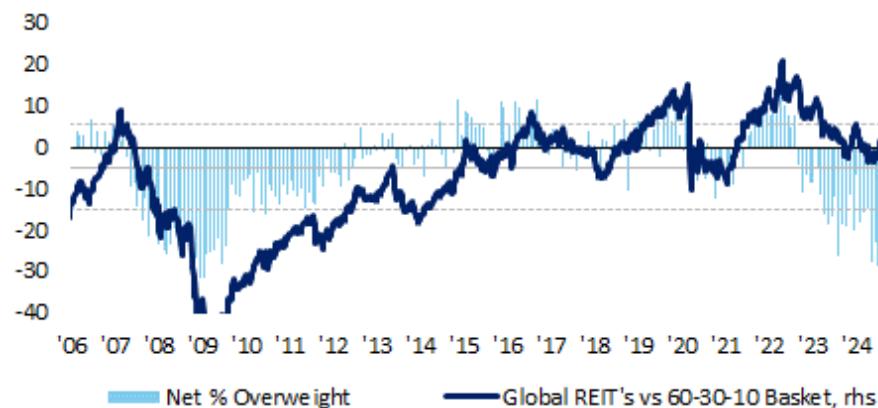
FMS cash allocation dropped 15ppt MoM to net 4% underweight (4-month low).

Current allocation is 1.8 stdev below its long-term average.



Chart 39: Net % AA Say they are overweight Real Estate

Net% of FMS investors overweight Real Estate



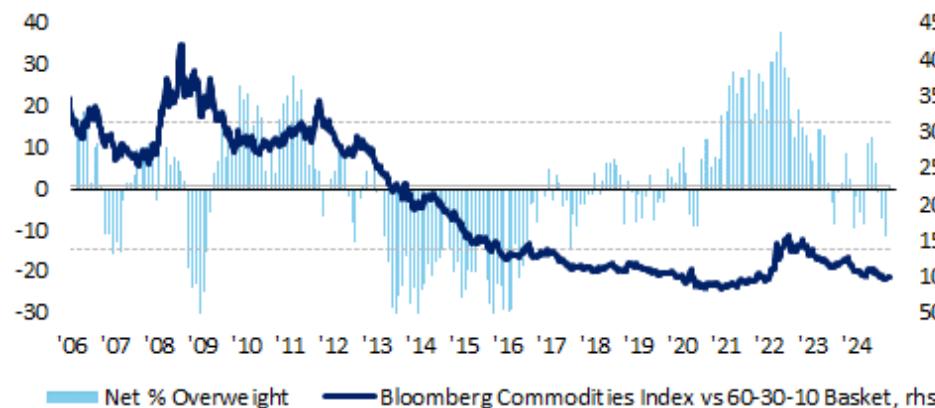
FMS real estate allocation jumped 14ppt MoM to net 3% underweight...highest allocation since Aug'22.

In the past 2 months, real estate allocation has spiked 25ppt...highest 2-month increase ever.

Current allocation is 0.2 stdev above its long term average.

Chart 40: Net % AA Say they are overweight Commodities

Net% of FMS investors overweight commodities

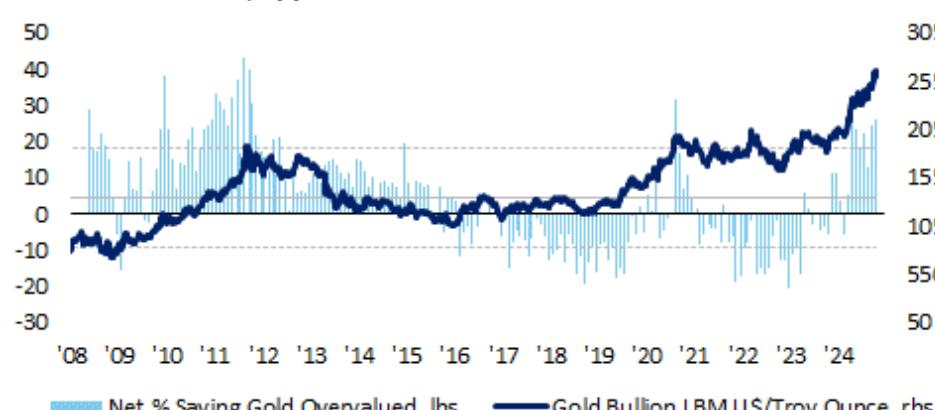


FMS commodities allocation jumped 12ppt MoM to net 1% overweight...a 4-month high.

Current allocation is in line with its long-term average.

Chart 41: Gold Valuation and Gold Price (\$/oz)

Net% of FMS investors saying gold overvalued



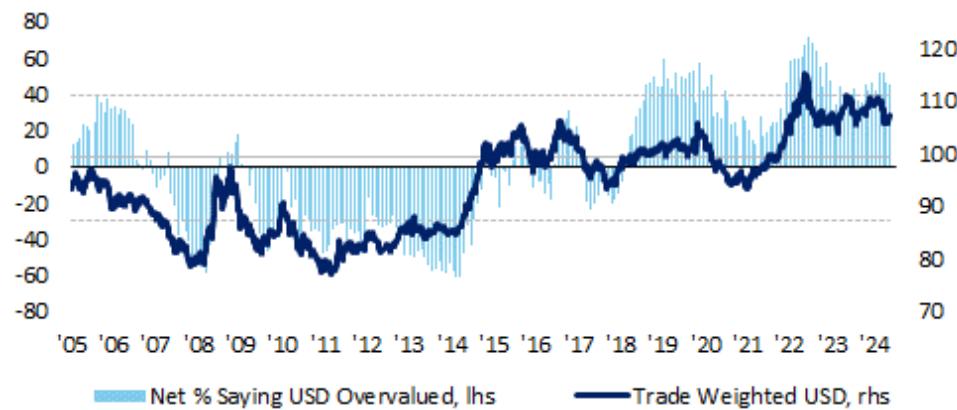
Net 26% of FMS investors say gold is overvalued, up 1ppt MoM to the highest level since Aug'20.



Currencies extremes

Chart 42: USD Valuation and Trade weighted index

Net% of FMS investors saying USD overvalued



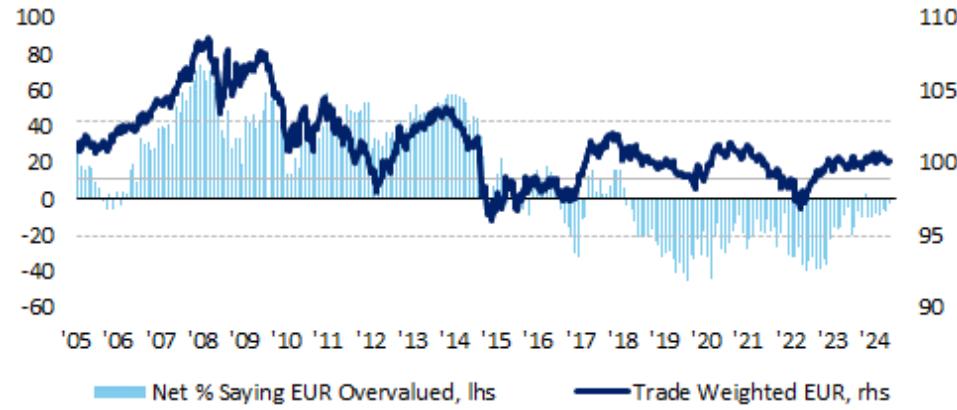
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Net 46% of FMS investors say US\$ is overvalued, down 1ppt MoM.

Current valuations are 1.2 stdev above the long-term average.

Chart 43: EUR valuation and Trade weighted index

Net% of FMS investors saying EUR overvalued



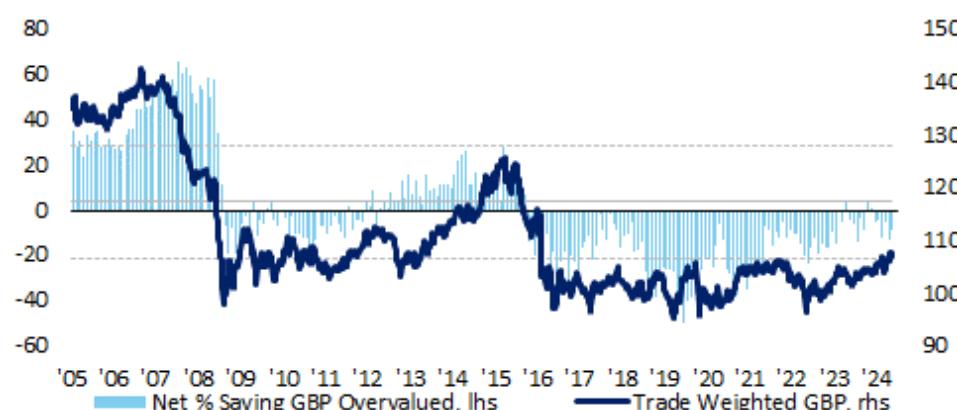
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Net 2% of FMS investors say EUR is undervalued, down 5ppt MoM.

Current valuations are 0.4 stdev below the long-term average.

Chart 44: GBP valuation and Trade weighted index

Net % of FMS investors saying GBP overvalued



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Net 9% of FMS investors think GBP is undervalued, down 5ppt MoM.

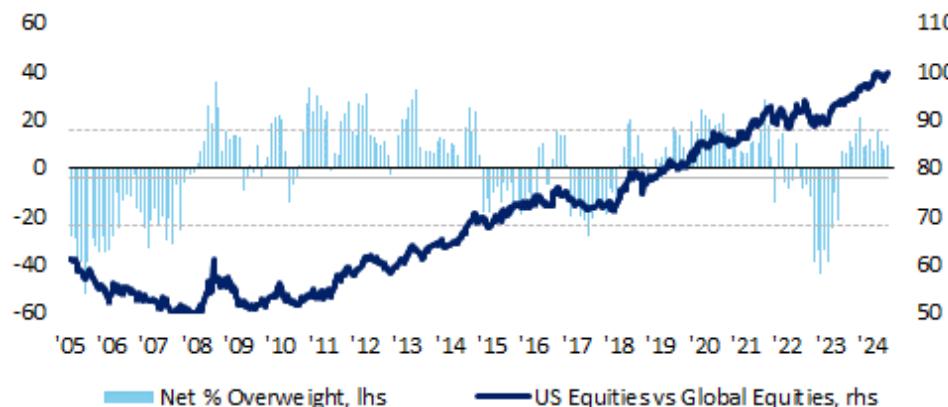
Current valuations are 0.5 stdev below the long-term average.



Investor Regional Equity Allocation

Chart 45: Net % AA Say they are overweight US Equities

Net% of FMS investors overweight US equities

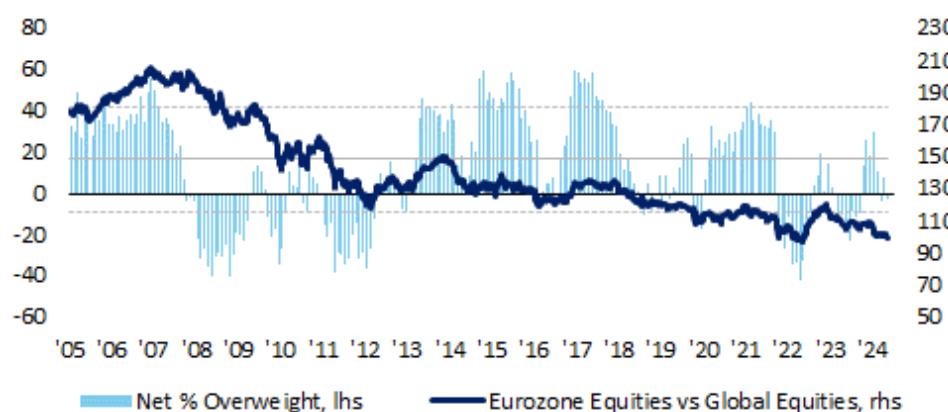


Allocation to US equities rose 2ppt MoM to net 10% overweight.

Current allocation is 0.6 stdev above its long-term average.

Chart 46: Net % AA Say they are overweight Eurozone Equities

Net% of FMS investors overweight EU equities

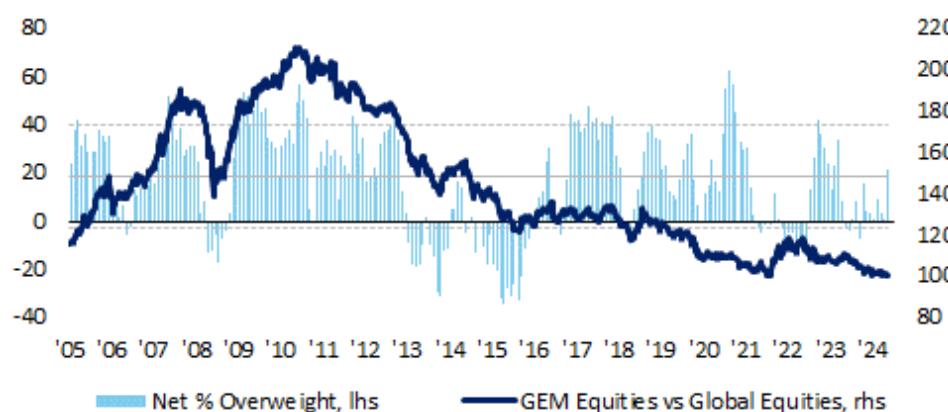


Allocation to Eurozone equities fell 11ppt MoM to net 3% underweight.

Current allocation is 0.7 stdev below its long-term average.

Chart 47: Net % AA Say they are overweight GEM Equities

Net% of FMS investors overweight EM equities



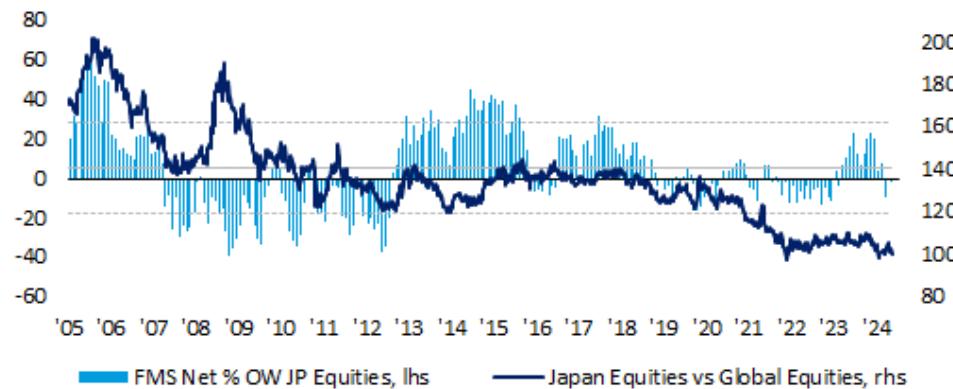
Allocation to EM equities spiked 20ppt to net 21% overweight, highest since Aug'23.

Current allocation is 0.1 stdev above its long-term average.



Chart 48: Net % AA Say they are overweight Japanese Equities

Net% of FMS investors overweight Japanese equities



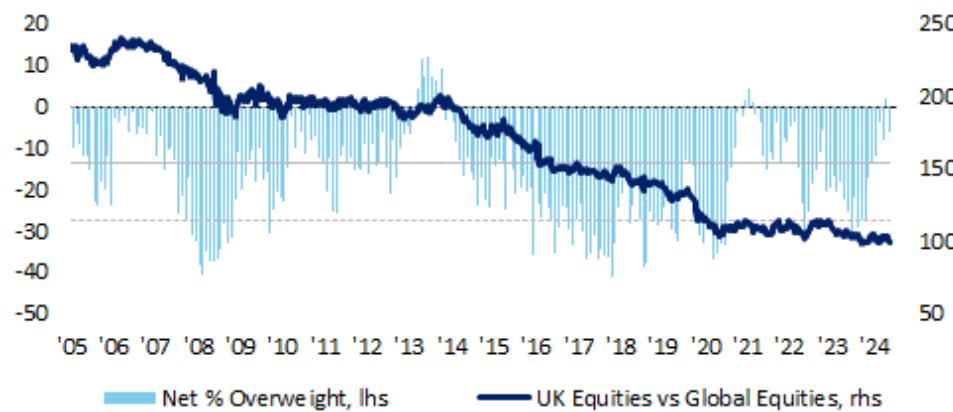
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to Japanese equities was down 1ppt MoM to net 2% underweight.

Current allocation is 0.3 stdev below its long-term average.

Chart 49: Net % AA Say they are overweight UK Equities

Net% of FMS investors overweight UK equities



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to UK equities fell 8ppt MoM to net 6% underweight.

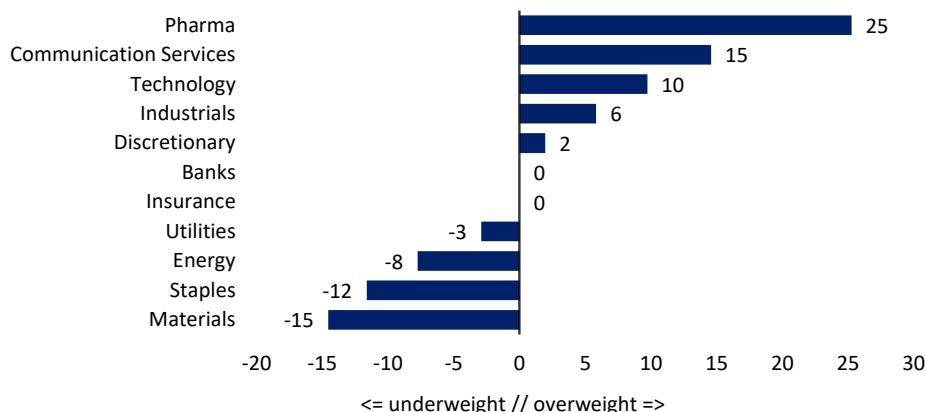
Current allocation is 0.8 stdev above its long-term average.



Investor Sector Allocation

Chart 50: Global Sector Sentiment

Net % overweight (% saying overweight - % saying underweight)



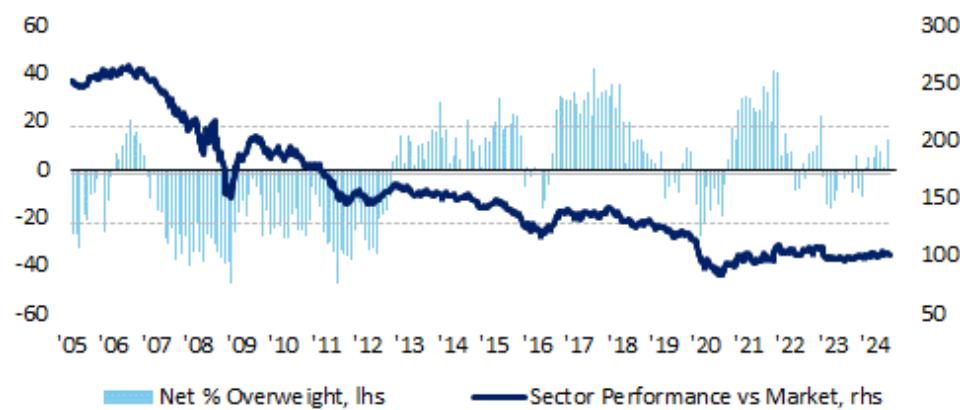
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

October saw FMS investors increasing allocation to discretionary, industrials, and energy, and reducing allocation to staples, banks, and utilities.

FMS investors are the most (net) overweight healthcare, telecom, and tech, and the most (net) underweight materials, staples, and energy.

Chart 51: Global Banks

Net % of FMS investors overweight banks



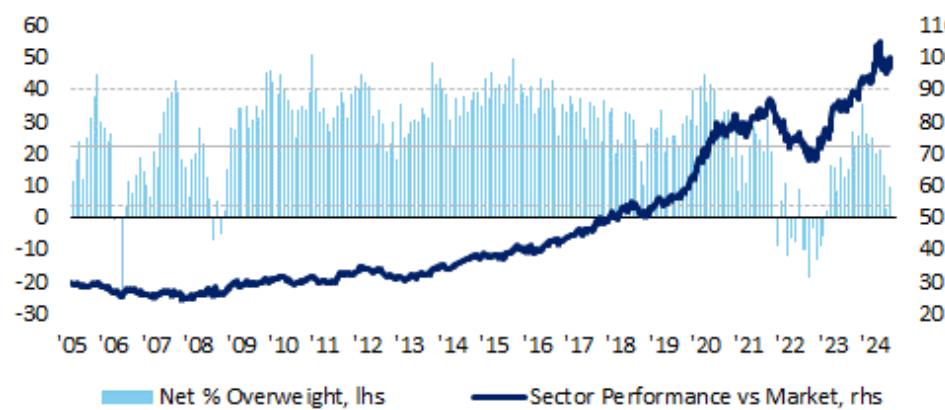
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to banks fell 12ppt MoM to neutral weight (lowest since Feb'24).

Current reading is 0.1 stdev above its long-term average.

Chart 52: Global Technology

Net % of FMS investors overweight technology



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

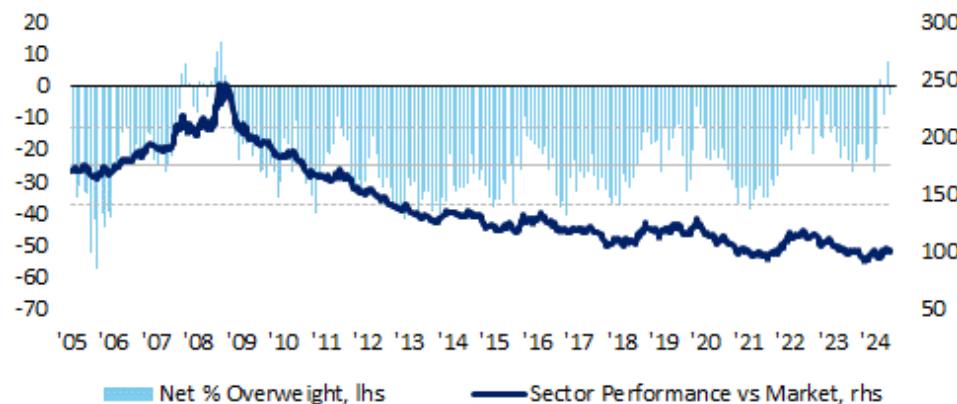
Allocation to technology rose 7ppt MoM to net 10% overweight.

Current reading is 0.7 stdev below its long-term average.



Chart 53: Global Utilities

Net % of FMS investors overweight utilities



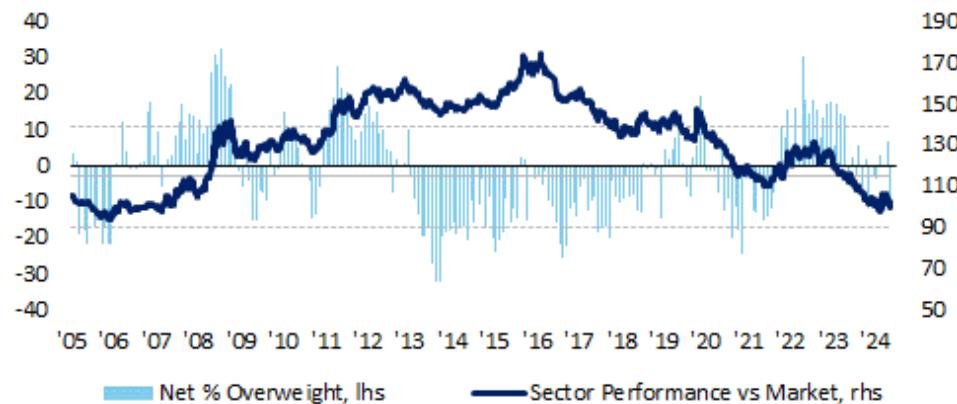
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to utilities fell 11ppt MoM to net 3% underweight.

Current reading is 1.9 stdev above its long-term average.

Chart 54: Global Consumer Staples

Net % of FMS investors overweight consumer staples



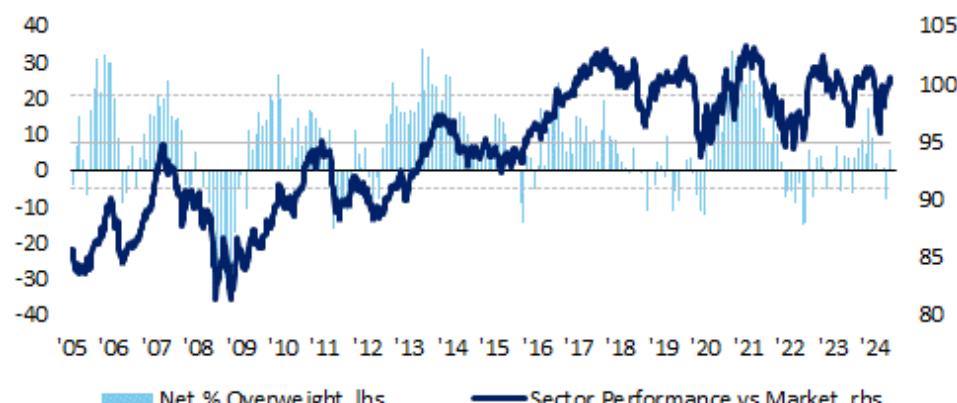
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to staples collapsed 19ppt MoM to net 12% underweight.

Current reading is 0.6 stdev below its long-term average.

Chart 55: Global Industrials

Net % of FMS investors overweight industrials



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

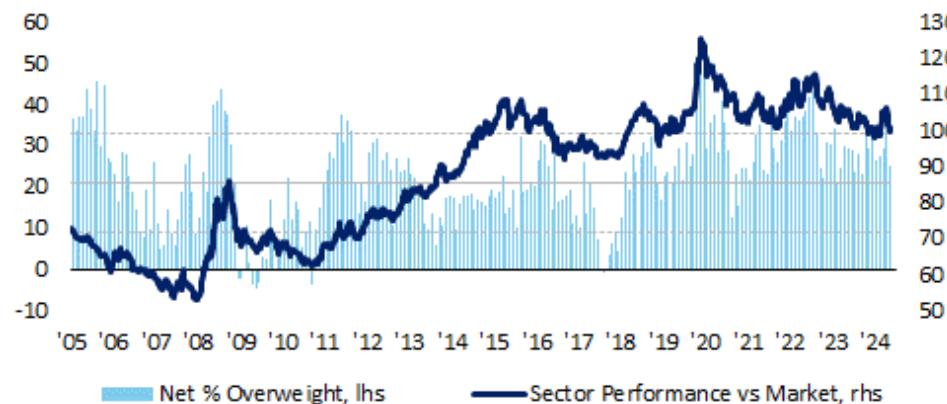
Allocation to industrials increased 14ppt MoM to net 6% overweight (5-month high).

Current reading is 0.1 stdev below its long-term average.



Chart 56: Global Healthcare

Net% of FMS investors overweight healthcare



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

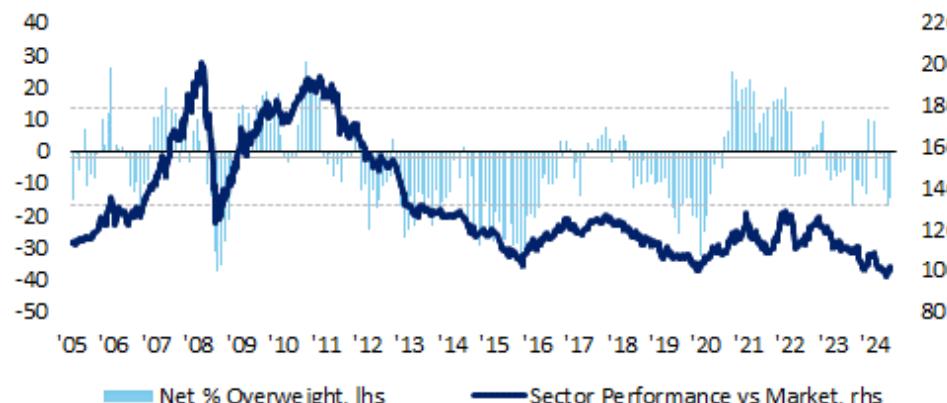
Allocation to healthcare fell 9ppt MoM to net 25% overweight.

FMS investors have been overweight healthcare since Jan'18.

Current reading is 0.3 stdev above its long-term average.

Chart 57: Global Materials

Net% of FMS investors overweight materials



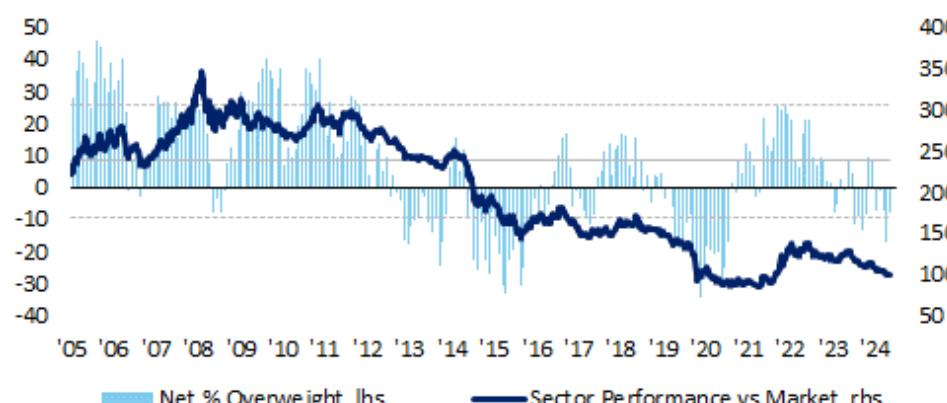
Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to materials was up 2ppt MoM to net 15% overweight.

Current reading is 0.9 stdev below its long-term average.

Chart 58: Global Energy

Net% of FMS investors overweight energy



Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey, Datastream

Allocation to energy increased 9ppt MoM to net 8% overweight.

Current reading is 0.9 stdev below its long-term average.



Global survey demographics data

Table 2: Position / Institution / Approach to Global Equity Strategy

Position / Institution / Approach to Global Equity Strategy

	Oct-24	Sep-24	Aug-24
Structure of the panel - by position			
Chief Investment Officer	34	36	32
Asset Allocator / Strategist / Economist	61	64	58
Portfolio Manager	91	93	88
Other	9	13	11
Structure of the Panel - by expertise			
Global Specialists Only	103	105	98
Regional Specialists with a Global View	92	101	91
Total # of Respondents to Global Questions	195	206	189

Which of the Following Best Describes the Type of Money You are Running?

Institutional funds (e.g. pension funds / insurance companies)	52	58	57
Hedge funds / proprietary trading desks	24	26	21
Mutual funds / unit trusts / investment trusts	90	91	78
None of the above	29	31	33

What Do You Estimate to be the Total Current Value of Assets Under Your Direct Control?

Up to \$250mn	36	32	34
Around \$500mn	23	25	24
Around \$1bn	32	27	27
Around \$2.5bn	26	31	24
Around \$5bn	15	21	14
Around \$7.5bn	8	7	8
Around \$10bn or more	25	31	27
No funds under my direct control	30	32	31
Total (USD bn)	503	593	508

What best describes your investment time horizon at this moment?

3 months or less	72	66	65
6 months	44	52	49
9 months	13	16	14
12 months or more	64	69	58
Weighted average	7.1	7.3	7.0
Don't know	2	3	3

Source: BofA Global Fund Manager Survey

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH



Disclosures

Important Disclosures

FUNDAMENTAL EQUITY OPINION KEY: Opinions include a Volatility Risk Rating, an Investment Rating and an Income Rating. VOLATILITY RISK RATINGS, indicators of potential price fluctuation, are: A - Low, B - Medium and C - High. INVESTMENT RATINGS reflect the analyst's assessment of both a stock's absolute total return potential as well as its attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster (defined below). Our investment ratings are: 1 - Buy stocks are expected to have a total return of at least 10% and are the most attractive stocks in the coverage cluster; 2 - Neutral stocks are expected to remain flat or increase in value and are less attractive than Buy rated stocks and 3 - Underperform stocks are the least attractive stocks in a coverage cluster. An investment rating of 6 (No Rating) indicates that a stock is no longer trading on the basis of fundamentals. Analysts assign investment ratings considering, among other things, the 0-12 month total return expectation for a stock and the firm's guidelines for ratings dispersions (shown in the table below). The current price objective for a stock should be referenced to better understand the total return expectation at any given time. The price objective reflects the analyst's view of the potential price appreciation (depreciation).

Investment rating	Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating)	Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster ^{R1}
Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

^{R1}Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Global Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

INCOME RATINGS, indicators of potential cash dividends, are: 7 - same/higher (dividend considered to be secure), 8 - same/lower (dividend not considered to be secure) and 9 - pays no cash dividend. *Coverage Cluster* is comprised of stocks covered by a single analyst or two or more analysts sharing a common industry, sector, region or other classification(s). A stock's coverage cluster is included in the most recent BofA Global Research report referencing the stock.

Due to the nature of strategic analysis, the issuers or securities recommended or discussed in this report are not continuously followed. Accordingly, investors must regard this report as providing stand-alone analysis and should not expect continuing analysis or additional reports relating to such issuers and/or securities. BofA Global Research personnel (including the analyst(s) responsible for this report) receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of Bank of America Corporation, including profits derived from investment banking. The analyst(s) responsible for this report may also receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of the Bank's sales and trading businesses relating to the class of securities or financial instruments for which such analyst is responsible.

Other Important Disclosures

Prices are indicative and for information purposes only. Except as otherwise stated in the report, for any recommendation in relation to an equity security, the price referenced is the publicly traded price of the security as of close of business on the day prior to the date of the report or, if the report is published during intraday trading, the price referenced is indicative of the traded price as of the date and time of the report and in relation to a debt security (including equity preferred and CDS), prices are indicative as of the date and time of the report and are from various sources including BofA Securities trading desks.

The date and time of completion of the production of any recommendation in this report shall be the date and time of dissemination of this report as recorded in the report timestamp.

This report may refer to fixed income securities or other financial instruments that may not be offered or sold in one or more states or jurisdictions, or to certain categories of investors, including retail investors. Readers of this report are advised that any discussion, recommendation or other mention of such instruments is not a solicitation or offer to transact in such instruments. Investors should contact their BofA Securities representative or Merrill Global Wealth Management financial advisor for information relating to such instruments.

Recipients who are not institutional investors or market professionals should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor before considering information in this report in connection with any investment decision, or for a necessary explanation of its contents.

Officers of BofAS or one or more of its affiliates (other than research analysts) may have a financial interest in securities of the issuer(s) or in related investments.

Refer to [BofA Global Research policies relating to conflicts of interest](#).

"BofA Securities" includes BofA Securities, Inc. ("BofAS") and its affiliates. Investors should contact their BofA Securities representative or Merrill Global Wealth Management financial advisor if they have questions concerning this report or concerning the appropriateness of any investment idea described herein for such investor. "BofA Securities" is a global brand for BofA Global Research.

Information relating to Non-US affiliates of BofA Securities and Distribution of Affiliate Research Reports:

BofAS and/or Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") may in the future distribute, information of the following non-US affiliates in the US (short name: legal name, regulator): Merrill Lynch (South Africa): Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Ltd., regulated by The Financial Service Board; MLI (UK): Merrill Lynch International, regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA); BofASE (France): BofA Securities Europe SA is authorized by the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF). BofA Securities Europe SA ("BofASE") with registered address at 51, rue La Boétie, 75008 Paris is registered under no 842 602 690 RCS Paris. In accordance with the provisions of French Code Monétaire et Financier (Monetary and Financial Code), BofASE is an établissement de crédit et d'investissement (credit and investment institution) that is authorised and supervised by the European Central Bank and the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers. BofASE's share capital can be found at [www.bofaml.com/BofASEDisclaimer](#); BofA Europe (Milan): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Milan Branch, regulated by the Bank of Italy, the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Central Bank of Ireland (CBI); BofA Europe (Frankfurt): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Frankfurt Branch regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI; BofA Europe (Madrid): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Sucursal en España, regulated by the Bank of Spain, the ECB and the CBI; Merrill Lynch (Australia): Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited, regulated by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission; Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong): Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited, regulated by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSFC); Merrill Lynch (Singapore): Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd, regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS); Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch Canada Inc, regulated by the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization; Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Lynch Mexico, SA de CV, Casa de Bolsa, regulated by the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores; BofAS Japan: BofA Securities Japan Co., Ltd., regulated by the Financial Services Agency; Merrill Lynch (Seoul): Merrill Lynch International, LLC Seoul Branch, regulated by the Financial Supervisory Service; Merrill Lynch (Taiwan): Merrill Lynch Securities (Taiwan) Ltd., regulated by the Securities and Futures Bureau; BofAS India: BofA Securities India Limited, regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); Merrill Lynch (Israel): Merrill Lynch Israel Limited, regulated by Israel Securities Authority; Merrill Lynch (DIFC): Merrill Lynch International (DIFC Branch), regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA); Merrill Lynch (Brazil): Merrill Lynch S.A. Corretora de Títulos e Valores Mobiliários, regulated by Comissão de Valores Mobiliários; Merrill Lynch KSA Company: Merrill Lynch Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Company, regulated by the Capital Market Authority. This information: has been approved for publication and is distributed in the United Kingdom (UK) to professional clients and eligible counterparties (as each is defined in the rules of the FCA and the PRA) by MLI (UK), which is authorized by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA - details about the extent of our regulation by the FCA and PRA are available from us on request; has been approved for publication and is distributed in the European Economic Area (EEA) by BofASE (France), which is authorized by the ACPR and regulated by the ACPR and the AMF; has been considered and distributed in Japan by BofAS Japan, a registered securities dealer under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act in Japan, or its permitted affiliates; is issued and distributed in Hong Kong by Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) which is regulated by HKSFC; is issued and distributed in Taiwan by Merrill Lynch (Taiwan); is issued and distributed in India by BofAS



India; and is issued and distributed in Singapore to institutional investors and/or accredited investors (each as defined under the Financial Advisers Regulations) by Merrill Lynch (Singapore) (Company Registration No 198602883D). Merrill Lynch (Singapore) is regulated by MAS. Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited (ABN 65 006 276 795), AFS License 235132 (MLEA) distributes this information in Australia only to 'Wholesale' clients as defined by s.761G of the Corporations Act 2001. With the exception of Bank of America N.A., Australia Branch, neither MLEA nor any of its affiliates involved in preparing this information is an Authorised Deposit-Taking Institution under the Banking Act 1959 nor regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. No approval is required for publication or distribution of this information in Brazil and its local distribution is by Merrill Lynch (Brazil) in accordance with applicable regulations. Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is authorized and regulated by the DFSA. Information prepared and issued by Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is done so in accordance with the requirements of the DFSA conduct of business rules. BofA Europe (Frankfurt) distributes this information in Germany and is regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI. BofA Securities entities, including BofA Europe and BofASE (France), may outsource/delegate the marketing and/or provision of certain research services or aspects of research services to other branches or members of the BofA Securities group. You may be contacted by a different BofA Securities entity acting for and on behalf of your service provider where permitted by applicable law. This does not change your service provider. Please refer to the [Electronic Communications Disclaimers](#) for further information.

This information has been prepared and issued by BofAS and/or one or more of its non-US affiliates. The author(s) of this information may not be licensed to carry on regulated activities in your jurisdiction and, if not licensed, do not hold themselves out as being able to do so. BofAS and/or MLPF&S is the distributor of this information in the US and accepts full responsibility for information distributed to BofAS and/or MLPF&S clients in the US by its non-US affiliates. Any US person receiving this information and wishing to effect any transaction in any security discussed herein should do so through BofAS and/or MLPF&S and not such foreign affiliates. Hong Kong recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited in respect of any matters relating to dealing in securities or provision of specific advice on securities or any other matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. Singapore recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. For clients that are not accredited investors, expert investors or institutional investors Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd accepts full responsibility for the contents of this information distributed to such clients in Singapore.

General Investment Related Disclosures:

Taiwan Readers: Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes an offer or a solicitation of an offer to transact in any securities or other financial instrument. No part of this report may be used or reproduced or quoted in any manner whatsoever in Taiwan by the press or any other person without the express written consent of BofA Securities. This document provides general information only, and has been prepared for, and is intended for general distribution to, BofA Securities clients. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities or other financial instrument or any derivative related to such securities or instruments (e.g., options, futures, warrants, and contracts for differences). This document is not intended to provide personal investment advice and it does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of, and is not directed to, any specific person(s). This document and its content do not constitute, and should not be considered to constitute, investment advice for purposes of ERISA, the US tax code, the Investment Advisers Act or otherwise. Investors should seek financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in financial instruments and implementing investment strategies discussed or recommended in this document and should understand that statements regarding future prospects may not be realized. Any decision to purchase or subscribe for securities in any offering must be based solely on existing public information on such security or the information in the prospectus or other offering document issued in connection with such offering, and not on this document.

Securities and other financial instruments referred to herein, or recommended, offered or sold by BofA Securities, are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and are not deposits or other obligations of any insured depository institution (including, Bank of America, N.A.). Investments in general and, derivatives, in particular, involve numerous risks, including, among others, market risk, counterparty default risk and liquidity risk. No security, financial instrument or derivative is suitable for all investors. Digital assets are extremely speculative, volatile and are largely unregulated. In some cases, securities and other financial instruments may be difficult to value or sell and reliable information about the value or risks related to the security or financial instrument may be difficult to obtain. Investors should note that income from such securities and other financial instruments, if any, may fluctuate and that price or value of such securities and instruments may rise or fall and, in some cases, investors may lose their entire principal investment. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Levels and basis for taxation may change.

This report may contain a short-term trading idea or recommendation, which highlights a specific near-term catalyst or event impacting the issuer or the market that is anticipated to have a short-term price impact on the equity securities of the issuer. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations are different from and do not affect a stock's fundamental equity rating, which reflects both a longer term total return expectation and attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations may be more or less positive than a stock's fundamental equity rating.

BofA Securities is aware that the implementation of the ideas expressed in this report may depend upon an investor's ability to "short" securities or other financial instruments and that such action may be limited by regulations prohibiting or restricting "shortselling" in many jurisdictions. Investors are urged to seek advice regarding the applicability of such regulations prior to executing any short idea contained in this report.

Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or financial instrument mentioned herein. Investors in such securities and instruments, including ADRs, effectively assume currency risk.

BofAS or one of its affiliates is a regular issuer of traded financial instruments linked to securities that may have been recommended in this report. BofAS or one of its affiliates may, at any time, hold a trading position (long or short) in the securities and financial instruments discussed in this report.

BofA Securities, through business units other than BofA Global Research, may have issued and may in the future issue trading ideas or recommendations that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented herein. Such ideas or recommendations may reflect different time frames, assumptions, views and analytical methods of the persons who prepared them, and BofA Securities is under no obligation to ensure that such other trading ideas or recommendations are brought to the attention of any recipient of this information.

In the event that the recipient received this information pursuant to a contract between the recipient and BofAS for the provision of research services for a separate fee, and in connection therewith BofAS may be deemed to be acting as an investment adviser, such status relates, if at all, solely to the person with whom BofAS has contracted directly and does not extend beyond the delivery of this report (unless otherwise agreed specifically in writing by BofAS). If such recipient uses the services of BofAS in connection with the sale or purchase of a security referred to herein, BofAS may act as principal for its own account or as agent for another person. BofAS is and continues to act solely as a broker-dealer in connection with the execution of any transactions, including transactions in any securities referred to herein.

Copyright and General Information:

Copyright 2024 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved. iQdatabase® is a registered service mark of Bank of America Corporation. This information is prepared for the use of BofA Securities clients and may not be redistributed, retransmitted or disclosed, in whole or in part, or in any form or manner, without the express written consent of BofA Securities. BofA Global Research information is distributed simultaneously to internal and client websites and other portals by BofA Securities and is not publicly-available material. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt and review of this information constitutes your agreement not to redistribute, retransmit, or disclose to others the contents, opinions, conclusion, or information contained herein (including any investment recommendations, estimates or price targets) without first obtaining express permission from an authorized officer of BofA Securities.

Materials prepared by BofA Global Research personnel are based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material have not been reviewed by, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities, including investment banking personnel. BofA Securities has established information barriers between BofA Global Research and certain business groups. As a result, BofA Securities does not disclose certain client relationships with, or compensation received from, such issuers. To the extent that this material discusses any legal proceeding or issues, it has not been prepared as nor is it intended to express any legal conclusion, opinion or advice. Investors should consult their own legal advisers as to issues of law relating to the subject matter of this material. BofA Global Research personnel's knowledge of legal proceedings in which any BofA Securities entity and/or its directors, officers and employees may be plaintiffs, defendants, co-defendants or co-plaintiffs with or involving issuers mentioned in this material is based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material that relate to any such proceedings have not been reviewed by, discussed with, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities in connection with the legal proceedings or matters relevant to such proceedings.

This information has been prepared independently of any issuer of securities mentioned herein and not in connection with any proposed offering of securities or as agent of any issuer of any securities. None of BofAS any of its affiliates or their research analysts has any authority whatsoever to make any representation or warranty on behalf of the issuer(s). BofA Global Research policy prohibits research personnel from disclosing a recommendation, investment rating, or investment thesis for review by an issuer prior to the publication of a research report containing such rating, recommendation or investment thesis.

Any information relating to sustainability in this material is limited as discussed herein and is not intended to provide a comprehensive view on any sustainability claim with respect to any issuer or security.

Any information relating to the tax status of financial instruments discussed herein is not intended to provide tax advice or to be used by anyone to provide tax advice. Investors are urged to seek tax advice based on their particular circumstances from an independent tax professional.



The information herein (other than disclosure information relating to BofA Securities and its affiliates) was obtained from various sources and we do not guarantee its accuracy. This information may contain links to third-party websites. BofA Securities is not responsible for the content of any third-party website or any linked content contained in a third-party website. Content contained on such third-party websites is not part of this information and is not incorporated by reference. The inclusion of a link does not imply any endorsement by or any affiliation with BofA Securities. Access to any third-party website is at your own risk, and you should always review the terms and privacy policies at third-party websites before submitting any personal information to them. BofA Securities is not responsible for such terms and privacy policies and expressly disclaims any liability for them.

All opinions, projections and estimates constitute the judgment of the author as of the date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Prices also are subject to change without notice. BofA Securities is under no obligation to update this information and BofA Securities ability to publish information on the subject issuer(s) in the future is subject to applicable quiet periods. You should therefore assume that BofA Securities will not update any fact, circumstance or opinion contained herein.

Certain outstanding reports or investment opinions relating to securities, financial instruments and/or issuers may no longer be current. Always refer to the most recent research report relating to an issuer prior to making an investment decision.

In some cases, an issuer may be classified as Restricted or may be Under Review or Extended Review. In each case, investors should consider any investment opinion relating to such issuer (or its security and/or financial instruments) to be suspended or withdrawn and should not rely on the analyses and investment opinion(s) pertaining to such issuer (or its securities and/or financial instruments) nor should the analyses or opinion(s) be considered a solicitation of any kind. Sales persons and financial advisors affiliated with BofAS or any of its affiliates may not solicit purchases of securities or financial instruments that are Restricted or Under Review and may only solicit securities under Extended Review in accordance with firm policies.

Neither BofA Securities nor any officer or employee of BofA Securities accepts any liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect or consequential damages or losses arising from any use of this information.

