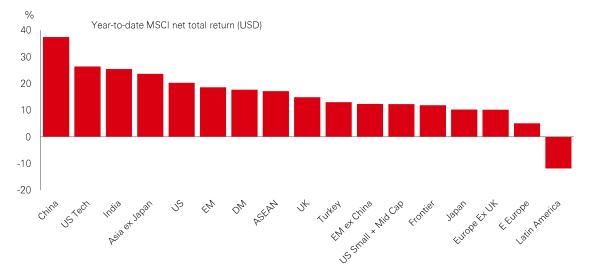


Investment Weekly

4 October 2024 For Professional Clients only.

Chart of the week - Emerging markets are back



There were some remarkable twists and turns in the macro and market environment in Q3, and one of the biggest was the recent Politburo-endorsed package of support in China. That sparked a stunning rally in the country's stocks, which reversed China's laggard status this year, and put the **overall performance of emerging market stocks at +19% year-to-date, slightly ahead of developed markets**.

Policy was a major focus during the quarter, with the Fed finally joining the global easing cycle with a 50bp rate cut. The backdrop to that move – one that aligns with our own base case – is that the economy remains on course for a soft landing. Despite some bumps, inflation continued its retreat, but growth also cooled, with mixed employment data causing volatility at times, particularly in early August.

In markets, **a 'great rotation' in leadership was a strong theme**. In developed markets, the 'Magnificent 7' were robust – rising around 4%, but there were more signs of a broadening out of returns and profit growth expectations across sectors and markets. Japan, Europe, and UK indices largely outperformed the US. And in the US itself, the small-cap Russell 2000 beat the S&P 500. Meanwhile, emerging market regions accelerated on a weakening US dollar and anticipation of rate cuts, with Asian regions setting the pace (see Market Spotlight), but Latam markets continued to lag. Across other asset classes, high quality fixed income performed as the global easing cycle progressed.

Market Spotlight

Emerging Asian assets lead in Q3

Stocks in China and Hong Kong set the pace in Q3 – with a remarkable rally late in the quarter delivering gains of 23% and 24% respectively for MSCI indices. But even before that, weakness in the US dollar as Fed policy easing got started (and rate expectations were repriced) sparked a pick-up in the performance of EM Asian markets. ASEAN was notable, with the region's MSCI index up 19% in Q3. That was driven by a rebound in foreign inflows in response to the favourable FX environment, regional monetary easing, and a resilient macro backdrop. Thailand, the Philippines, and Malaysia led the gains. **Year-to-date, China, India, and Asia (ex-Japan) now lead global performance**.

EM Asian credits were also strong during the quarter, with Asia high yield a leading performer globally. In part, that was driven by well-performing names in markets like India and Indonesia. And from here, our credit specialists believe the default outlook is favourable with good funding access, strong balance sheets and a resilient macro backdrop for a vast majority of Asian companies.

Chinese Stocks → How policy stimulus propelled Chinese markets

Rates Outlook →

Is Brazil's recent rate hike a warning for the Fed?

European Stocks →

Exploring the earnings outlook for European stocks

Read our latest views: <u>China Insights –</u> <u>economy in transition</u>

The value of investments and any income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Past performance does not predict future returns. **Investments in emerging markets are by their nature higher risk and potentially more volatile than those inherent in some established markets.**

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China's breathtaking rally

Recent stimulus announcements have sparked a dramatic recovery in China's stock market – making it the top performing global market this year... and perhaps the strongest example yet of the great rotations we've seen in markets in 2024.

The gains are impressive. But the starting point was one of serial underperformance, connected to concerns about nominal growth. On valuation measures like 'earnings yield' there had been a large 'China discount', which gave stocks room to move sharply on better-thanexpected news. It meant the stimulus was 'doubly good' for the market because investor sentiment had been so bad.

After a rally of historic proportions, some short-term caution is probably warranted. But the comprehensive liquidity measures mean that the 'policy put' is back. We think further fiscal and credit stimulus will be crucial to make the market recovery sustainable. But China policy stimulus, combined with Fed jumbo cuts, improve the odds that the global economy will stick the soft landing. And if so, we expect the 'broadening out' theme to continue in markets.

Brazil - a warning for the Fed?

Back in March 2021, Banco Central do Brasil (BCB) became one of the first major central banks to start hiking rates in response to the pandemic surge in inflation. As a global leader in the policy cycle, could September's BCB rate hike be a cautionary tale for the Fed, just as it kicks off its easing cycle?

Brazil's recent switch to policy tightening came a year after the country's leadership launched a public spending spree that fuelled domestic demand. Tight labour markets, a pick-up in wage growth, and a weaker Brazilian real have since proved inflationary.

For some onlookers, there are similar risks lurking in the US. November's US presidential election could result in a sizeable fiscal boost and shift tariff rates higher, while the US dollar remains on a weakening trend.

We think the comparison is off the mark. The fiscal boost wouldn't come until 2026, and the labour market and wider economy is cooling. But the potential shift in policies could mean a **higher-than-expected endpoint for rates in this policy easing cycle**, with consequences for longer-term investors.

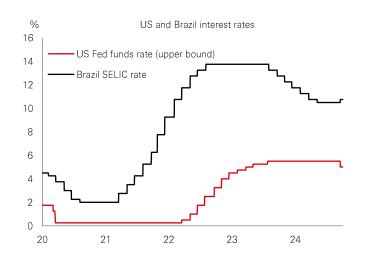
Conflicting signals for European profits

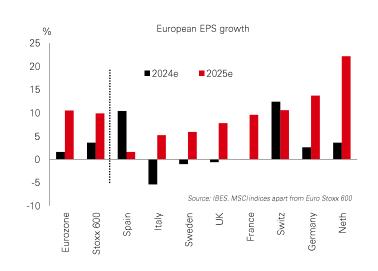
European stocks outperformed their US peers in Q3, helped by the 'broadening out' trade and their strong exposure to China, with investors seeking value outside the US. However, there is an intriguing disconnect between country-level macro data and profit growth expectations.

On the macro front, Europe is expected to grow in 2025, but recent activity data for Germany and France has been weak, with manufacturing PMIs well below 50. Germany's auto sector is struggling in particular. By contrast, the same industrial confidence surveys in Spain have been more positive. Meanwhile, the big drivers of wider European profit growth – which is expected to jump from 2-3% this year to around 10% in 2025e – are pencilled in as Germany and France. Both are forecast to move from low single digits in 2024e to 10-13% next year. But Spanish EPS growth is set to fall.

This apparent contradiction in the macro outlook and expected earnings growth implies scope for surprises. For now, we still like European equities given their discount to long run valuations, but we're watching the composition of profit growth closely.





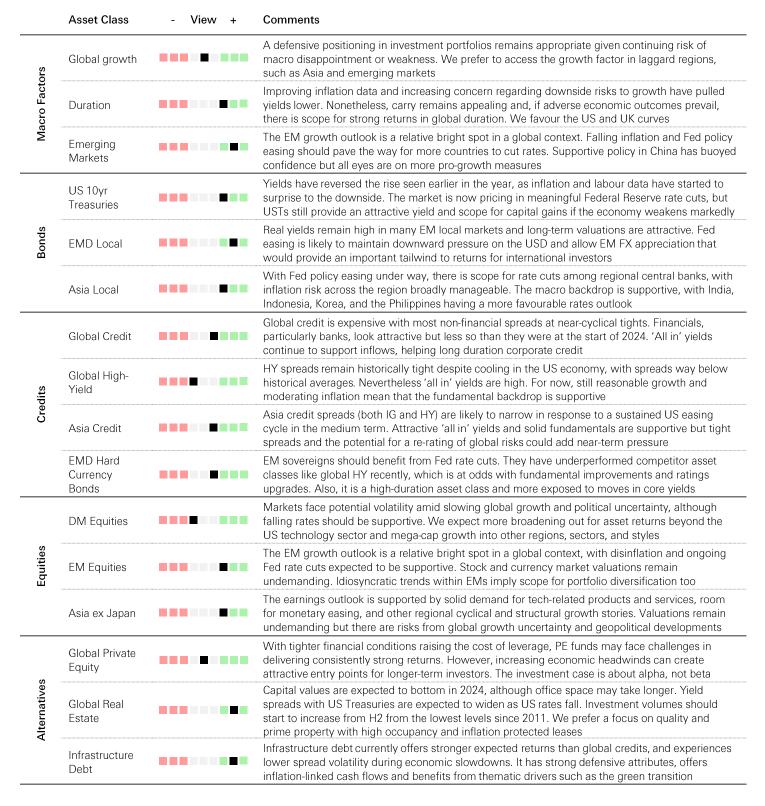


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Asset class views

Our baseline macro scenario is for a soft-ish landing, characterised by growth falling below trend and inflation returning to target. But the data flow is likely to remain bumpy and the outlook remains uncertain. Risk asset valuations are stretched in many areas. That means that any deterioration in corporate fundamentals could create market volatility. A defensive positioning in portfolios remains appropriate, which includes selective exposures to fixed income, risk assets, and private markets.

House view represents a 12-month investment view across major asset classes in our portfolios.



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This week

Date	Country	Indicator	Data as of	Actual	Prior	Comment
Mon. 30 September	CN	Official Manufacturing PMI	Sep	49.8	49.1	The official manufacturing PMI edged up but remained in contraction territory, highlighting the need for policy stimulus
	US	Fed Chair Powell Speech at NABE Annual Meeting				Powell reiterated the Fed's data dependence and noted he sees 25bp cuts at each of the two remaining meetings this year
Tue. 01 October	JP	Tankan Business Conditions Manufacturing Index	Q3	13.0	13.0	The BoJ's Tankan large manufacturers' business confidence measure was unchanged in Q3, price expectations were stable
	US	ISM Manufacturing Index	Sep	47.2	47.2	The ISM manufacturing index was unchanged with new orders and production improving while employment weakened
	US	JOLTS Job Openings	Aug	8.04mn	7.71mn	US job openings edged up after two straight monthly falls. Hiring declined from depressed levels but layoffs remained low
	BR	S&P Global Manufacturing PMI	Sep	53.2	50.4	Brazil's manufacturing PMI expanded further, driven by a renewed rise in production, stronger job creation, and higher sales growth
	EZ	HICP, Flash (yoy)	Sep	1.8%	2.2%	Headline inflation fell below 2% for the first time since 2021 on weaker energy prices. Core inflation edged down to 2.7%
Wed. 02 October	КО	S&P Global Manufacturing PMI	Sep	48.3	51.9	Korea's manufacturing PMI unexpectedly fell to a 15-month low, with a material decline in new orders raising concerns
	MX	S&P Global Manufacturing PMI	Sep	47.3	48.5	The contraction in Mexico's manufacturing PMI deepened, with sharply lower new orders prompting further labour shedding
	EZ	Unemployment Rate	Aug	6.4%	6.4%	The labour market has remained robust for many quarters now, despite signs of cooling in other areas of the economy
Thu. 03 October	US	ISM Services Index	Sep	54.9	51.5	Business activity and new orders jumped in September, but the employment index dropped into contraction territory
Fri. 04 October	US	Change in Non-Farm Payrolls	Sep	-	142k	US non-farm payrolls have trended lower recently, in line with other labour market indicators, such as job openings

CN - China, US - United States, JP - Japan, BR - Brazil, EZ - Eurozone, KO - South Korea, MX - Mexico

The week ahead

Date	Country	Indicator	Data as of	Survey	Prior	Comment
Mon. 07 October	GE	Manufacturing Orders (mom)	Aug	-2.5%	2.9%	German manufacturing orders have been stuck in a rut post-Covid, with the latest business surveys remaining downbeat
Tue. 08 October	US	NFIB Index of Small Business Optimism	Sep	91.7	91.2	The NFIB business optimism remains below its long-term average with earnings under pressure
	GE	Industrial Production (mom)	Aug	0.7%	-2.4%	German industrial production has been volatile recently, with the auto sector a weak spot amid cyclical and structural challenges
Wed. 09 October	BR	CPI (yoy)	Sep	4.5%	4.2%	A tight labour market is exerting upward pressure on service sector inflation, the main driver of core inflation
	MX	Headline Inflation (yoy)	Sep	4.6%	5.0%	Core inflation has fallen steadily since late 2022, driven by goods sector disinflation. Service sector inflation remains sticky
	IN	RBI Repo Rate	Oct	6.50%	6.50%	No rate move is likely in October. With new members joining the MPC and inflation set to fall, the RBI should ease before end-24
	NZ	RBNZ Official Cash Rate	Oct	4.75%	5.25%	The RBNZ looks set to ease further in October, with downside growth risks pointing to a 50bp move
Thu. 10 October	US	CPI (yoy)	Sep	2.3%	2.5%	Goods disinflation has normalised. Service sector inflation should soften as wage growth and rents moderate
Fri. 11 October	КО	Bank of Korea Base Rate	Oct	3.25%	3.50%	The BoK is expected to start its easing cycle in October with a 25bp cut on expectations inflation will stay below 2% for a while
	US	PPI (mom)	Sep	0.1%	0.2%	Latest benign PPI data points to ongoing disinflation in the goods sector. Any spike in oil prices would pose an upside risk
	US	Univ. of Michigan Sentiment Index (Prelim)	Oct	70.5	70.1	Consumer confidence has edged up since July but remains low, especially consumers' assessment of current conditions
	IN	Industrial Production (yoy)	Aug	1.3%	4.8%	Industrial production should decelerate reflecting a base effect from unusual strength last August

GE - Germany, US - United States, BR - Brazil, MX - Mexico, IN - India, NZ - New Zealand, KO - South Korea

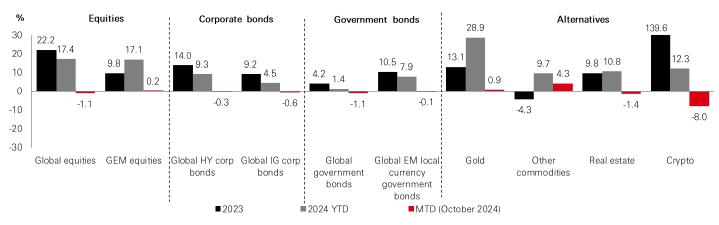
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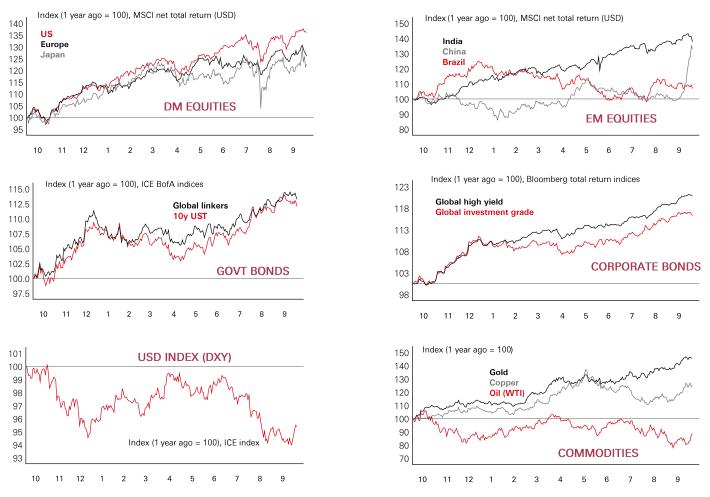


This week

Heightened geopolitical concerns weighed on risk markets, with oil prices climbing on rising supply worries. The US dollar DXY index was little changed. Core government bonds were mixed, with US Treasuries weakening on comments by Fed Chair Powell that there was no urgency to ease policy. Bunds rallied on dovish ECB comments. Global equities softened, with US stocks falling across the board, and the small-cap Russell 2000 faring worst. The Euro Stoxx 50 fell on growing concerns about the eurozone's economic outlook, while Japan's Nikkei 225 was little changed despite a weaker yen following comments by new LDP president Ishiba on monetary policy. In emerging markets, the Hang Seng rallied further, Korea's tech-driven Kospi index weakened, and India's Sensex index also lost ground in a holiday-shortened week. Copper and gold both consolidated following recent rallies.

Selected asset performance





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Source: HSBC Asset Management. Macrobond, Bloomberg. Data as at 11.00am UK time 04 October 2024. Note: Asset class performance is represented by different indices. Global Equities: MSCI ACWI Net Total Return USD Index. Gene Equities: MSCI Emerging Net Total Return USD Index. Corporate Bonds: Bloomberg Barclays Global HY Total Return Index value unhedged. Bloomberg Barclays Global IG Total Return Index unhedged. Government bonds: Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Treasuries Total Return Index. JP Morgan EMBI Global Total Return local currency. Commodities and real estate: Glod Spot \$/OZ/ Other commodities: S&P GSCI Total Return CME. Real Estate: FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Global Index TR USD. All the data above is in in USD, total return, month-to-date terms.



Equity Indices	Close	1-week Change (%)	1-month Change (%)	3-month Change (%)	1-year Change (%)	YTD Change (%)	52-week High	52-week Low	Fwd P/E (X)
World	01000	(70)	(/0)	(70)	(70)	(70)	riigii	Low	() ()
MSCI AC World Index (USD)	842	-1.2	3.3	3.3	30.3	15.9	856	628	19.6
North America									
US Dow Jones Industrial Average	42,012	-0.7	2.5	6.9	26.8	11.5	42,628	32,327	21.2
US S&P 500 Index	5,700	-0.7	3.3	2.9	33.7	19.5	5,767	4,104	23.6
US NASDAQ Composite Index	17,918	-1.1	4.9	-1.5	35.4	19.4	18,671	12,544	33.5
Canada S&P/TSX Composite Index	23,969	0.0	4.0	7.8	25.9	14.4	24,113	18,692	16.4
Europe									
MSCI AC Europe (USD)	573	-3.6	-0.5	1.3	22.6	7.4	595	459	14.6
Euro STOXX 50 Index	4,934	-2.6	1.8	-1.1	20.4	9.1	5,122	3,993	14.2
UK FTSE 100 Index	8,244	-0.9	-0.3	0.0	11.2	6.6	8,474	7,280	12.3
Germany DAX Index*	19,049	-2.2	2.5	3.2	26.2	13.7	19,492	14,630	14.2
France CAC-40 Index	7,511	-3.6	0.1	-2.4	7.3	-0.4	8,259	6,774	14.1
Spain IBEX 35 Index	11,630	-2.8	3.7	5.1	27.8	15.1	12,005	8,879	11.1
Italy FTSE MIB Index	33,415	-3.8	-0.8	-2.0	21.8	10.1	35,474	27,078	9.5
Asia Pacific									
MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan (USD)	623	0.5	10.9	8.1	30.0	17.8	632	469	15.6
Japan Nikkei-225 Stock Average	38,636	-3.0	4.3	-5.6	26.6	15.5	42,427	30,538	21.5
Australian Stock Exchange 200	8,150	-0.8	2.5	4.1	18.3	7.4	8,286	6,751	19.0
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	22,737	10.2	30.2	26.1	32.2	33.4	22,742	14,794	10.5
Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index	3,336	8.1	19.8	12.8	7.3	12.2	3,359	2,635	13.3
Hang Seng China Enterprises Index	8,157	11.7	33.0	26.0	38.7	41.4	8,162	4,943	10.0
Taiwan TAIEX Index	22,303	-2.3	5.7	-5.2	37.1	24.4	24,417	15,976	18.0
Korea KOSPI Index	2,570	-3.0	-0.4	-9.0	6.8	-3.2	2,896	2,274	10.0
India SENSEX 30 Index	81,688	-4.5	-0.8	2.0	25.2	13.1	85,978	63,093	23.4
Indonesia Jakarta Stock Price Index	7,496	-2.6	-2.3	3.8	8.9	3.1	7,911	6,640	14.3
Malaysia Kuala Lumpur Composite Index	1,630	-1.8	-2.4	0.8	15.1	12.1	1,685	1,415	15.1
Philippines Stock Exchange PSE Index	7,468	0.5	8.5	14.8	18.6	15.8	7,474	5,920	12.6
Singapore FTSE Straits Times Index	3,589	0.4	4.3	4.3	14.0	10.8	3,653	3,042	11.4
Thailand SET Index	1,444	-0.4	5.8	11.0	-0.5	2.0	1,472	1,273	16.0
Latam									
Argentina Merval Index	1,754,992	1.6	-2.3	8.8	195.6	88.8	1,856,002	557,095	7.3
Brazil Bovespa Index*	131,672	-0.8	-3.3	4.4	15.9	-1.9	137,469	111,599	8.9
Chile IPSA Index	6,390	-2.2	0.0	-2.2	12.1	3.1	6,838	5,363	10.8
Colombia COLCAP Index	1,303	-1.3	-2.5	-5.9	18.8	9.0	1,451	1,084	6.5
Mexico S&P/BMV IPC Index	51,675	-2.1	-0.3	-1.9	1.9	-10.0	59,021	47,765	11.9
EEMEA									
Saudi Arabia Tadawul Index	11,958	-3.4	-1.4	2.6	10.3	-0.1	12,883	10,262	N/A
South Africa JSE Index	86,319	-1.4	5.4	6.4	22.3	12.3	87,803	69,128	12.6
Turkey ISE 100 Index*	8,861	-9.4	-11.3	-18.5	6.3	18.6	11,252	7,203	4.8

*Indices expressed as total returns. All others are price returns.

Equity Indices - Total Return	1-week Change (%)	1-month Change (%)	3-month Change (%)	YTD Change (%)	1-year Change (%)	3-year Change (%)	5-year Change (%)
Global equities	-1.2	3.5	3.7	17.4	32.4	25.6	77.7
US equities	-0.7	3.5	3.3	20.0	35.1	34.3	104.1
Europe equities	-3.6	-0.4	1.7	9.9	26.0	15.7	49.1
Asia Pacific ex Japan equities	0.5	11.1	8.9	20.4	33.3	7.2	41.5
Japan equities	-4.9	0.7	1.2	11.3	25.7	9.7	39.7
Latam equities	-2.1	-0.5	0.1	-13.5	7.3	22.4	8.4
Emerging Markets equities	-0.1	9.5	7.0	17.1	29.7	2.8	33.0

All total returns quoted in USD terms and subject to one-day lag. Data sourced from MSCI AC World Total Return Index, MSCI USA Total Return Index, MSCI AC Europe Total Return Index, MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan Total Return Index, MSCI Japan Total Return Index, MSCI Emerging Latin America Total Return Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets Total Return Index Total return includes income from dividends and interest as well as appreciation or depreciation in the price of an asset over the given period.

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Bond indices - Total Return	Close	1-week Change (%)	1-month Change (%)	3-month Change (%)	1-year Change (%)	YTD Change (%)
BarCap GlobalAgg (Hedged in USD)	585	-0.2	0.4	4.0	11.3	4.2
JPM EMBI Global	916.0	0.0	1.7	5.9	20.1	7.9
BarCap US Corporate Index (USD)	3384.4	-0.4	0.6	5.1	15.2	5.1
BarCap Euro Corporate Index (Eur)	256.0	0.2	1.1	3.3	10.3	3.9
BarCap Global High Yield (Hedged in USD)	620.4	0.1	1.8	5.4	19.6	9.6
Markit iBoxx Asia ex-Japan Bond Index (USD)	227.7	-0.1	0.8	3.9	13.1	6.5
Markit iBoxx Asia ex-Japan High-Yield Bond Index (USD)	262	0.5	2.3	3.9	22.5	14.2

Total return includes income from dividends and interest as well as appreciation or depreciation in the price of an asset over the given period.

rotal return includes income in				·					1-week
Currencies (vs USD)	Latest	1-week Ago	1-month Ago	3-months Ago	1-year Ago	Year End 2023	52-week High	52-week Low	Change (%)
Developed markets		Ŭ	Ŭ	0					
EUR/USD	1.10	1.12	1.11	1.08	1.05	1.10	1.12	1.05	-1.2
GBP/USD	1.32	1.34	1.31	1.28	1.21	1.27	1.34	1.21	-1.6
CHF/USD	1.17	1.19	1.18	1.11	1.09	1.19	1.20	1.08	-1.3
CAD	1.36	1.35	1.35	1.36	1.37	1.32	1.39	1.32	-0.3
JPY	146	142	144	161	149	141	162	140	-3.0
AUD/USD	0.68	0.69	0.67	0.67	0.63	0.68	0.69	0.63	-0.9
NZD/USD	0.62	0.63	0.62	0.61	0.59	0.63	0.64	0.58	-2.3
Asia									
HKD	7.76	7.77	7.80	7.81	7.83	7.81	7.84	7.76	0.1
CNY	7.02	7.01	7.11	7.27	7.30	7.10	7.32	7.00	-0.1
INR	84.0	83.7	84.0	83.5	83.2	83.2	84.0	82.6	-0.3
MYR	4.22	4.13	4.35	4.71	4.73	4.59	4.81	4.09	-2.3
KRW	1339	1310	1335	1381	1364	1291	1400	1283	-2.3
TWD	32.0	31.6	32.2	32.5	32.4	30.6	32.9	30.5	-1.4
Latam									
BRL	5.48	5.43	5.64	5.49	5.16	4.85	5.86	4.80	-0.8
COP	4188	4178	4173	4091	4269	3875	4427	3739	-0.2
MXN	19.3	19.7	19.9	18.1	18.0	17.0	20.2	16.3	2.1
ARS	972	966	953	914	350	808	972	350	-0.5
EEMEA									
RUB	95.2	93.3	87.5	89.0	100.0	89.5	102.4	82.7	-2.0
ZAR	17.5	17.1	17.9	18.3	19.3	18.4	19.6	17.0	-2.0
TRY	34.3	34.2	34.0	32.6	27.6	29.5	34.5	27.6	-0.2

Bonds	Close	1-week Ago	1-month Ago	3-months Ago	1-year Ago	Year End 2023	1-week basis point change*
US Treasury yields (%)							
3-Month	4.57	4.60	5.08	5.38	5.50	5.33	-3
2-Year	3.72	3.56	3.75	4.71	5.05	4.25	16
5-Year	3.65	3.51	3.55	4.32	4.72	3.85	14
10-Year	3.86	3.75	3.76	4.36	4.73	3.88	11
30-Year	4.19	4.10	4.06	4.53	4.86	4.03	9
10-year bond yields (%)							
Japan	0.88	0.85	0.88	1.08	0.80	0.61	3
UK	4.07	3.98	3.93	4.20	4.58	3.53	9
Germany	2.19	2.13	2.22	2.61	2.92	2.02	6
France	2.97	2.92	2.93	3.28	3.48	2.56	5
Italy	3.50	3.45	3.66	4.00	4.86	3.69	6
Spain	2.95	2.92	3.04	3.39	4.01	2.98	3
China	2.21	2.18	2.13	2.25	2.68	2.56	3
Australia	4.07	3.96	3.95	4.41	4.66	3.96	12
Canada	3.12	2.96	2.99	3.61	4.15	3.11	16

*Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

Commodities		1-week Change (%)	1-month Change (%)	3-month Change (%)	1-year Change (%)	YTD Change (%)	52-week High	52-week Low
Gold	2,659	0.0	6.5	12.8	46.0	28.9	2,686	1,811
Brent Oil	78.8	10.1	9.0	-7.5	0.7	5.0	87	68
WTI Crude Oil	74.8	9.8	9.2	-8.0	0.8	5.9	83	65
R/J CRB Futures Index	291.2	1.8	7.7	-1.0	5.7	10.4	300	258
LME Copper	9,927	-0.6	10.8	0.4	24.9	16.0	11,105	7,856

Past performance does not predict future returns. This information shouldn't be considered as a recommendation to buy or sell specific sector/stocks mentioned. Source: HSBC Asset Management. Bloomberg. Data as at 11.00am UK time 04 October 2024.

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