Global Markets Monitor

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024 LEAD EDITOR: ESTI KEMP

- US investment grade bonds have become increasingly attractive for foreigners (link)
- US money market funds saw \$160bn in outflows during Tax Week (link)
- Swiss National Bank raises minimum reserve requirements (link)
- Pound weakens to level last seen in November 2023 (link)
- EM equity funds experienced the largest weekly outflow in 2024 (link)
- Peruvian sol and Chilean peso supported by the copper rally (link)

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Market Sentiment improves ahead of earnings reports

Market sentiment has recovered somewhat as the focus shifted from tensions in the Middle East to a slew of company earnings set to be released this week. The lack of further escalation over the weekend in tensions between Iran and Israel has seemingly helped ease market-perceived geopolitical risk, and the VIX volatility index has eased somewhat after reaching on Friday its highest weekly close since October 2023. Oil and gold prices were also lower this morning. Equity markets were mostly trading in the green, with US equity futures up around 0.6% this morning after the S&P 500 last week saw its worst weekly performance since the US regional banking stress in March 2023. The focus is on earnings reports, with a significant number of companies set to report this week, including four of the "magnificent 7" tech stocks. Contacts noted that the picture for markets remains complicated, however, amid remaining uncertainty about the Middle East, and markets reassessing expectations for central bank rate cuts. In the UK, the pound reached its weakest level since last November as markets again priced in more BoE rate cuts in 2024, while the euro was also slightly weaker against the dollar this morning. Elsewhere, while most EM currencies have weakened to the dollar, the Peruvian sol and Chilean peso have seen some support from higher copper prices.

Key Global Financial Indicators

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Last updated:	Leve	1	С								
4/22/24 12:56 PM	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD				
Equities				9	%		%				
S&P 500		4967	-0.9	-3	-5	20	4				
Eurostoxx 50		4931	0.3	-1	-2	12	9				
Nikkei 225	, manual	37439	1.0	-5	-8	31	12				
MSCI EM	modelly	40	-0.4	-2	-3	2	-1				
Yields and Spreads				b	ps						
US 10y Yield	and the same	4.66	3.7	6	46	109	78				
Germany 10y Yield	my	2.54	4.1	10	22	6	52				
EMBIG Sovereign Spread	manufacture of the same of the	342	1	5	-14	-143	-41				
FX / Commodities / Volatility				9	%						
EM FX vs. USD, (+) = appreciation	and the same	46.1	-0.1	0	-1	-9	-4				
Dollar index, (+) = \$ appreciation	Jana Jana	106.3	0.1	0	2	4	5				
Brent Crude Oil (\$/barrel)	mark hammer	86.6	-0.8	-4	1	6	12				
VIX Index (%, change in pp)	Municipal ment	18.2	-0.5	-1	5	1	6				

Colors denote tightening/easing financial conditions for observations greater than ±1.5 standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

In the week ahead, markets are focused on US GDP and PCE releases. Investor's will be awaiting a data-heavy end of the week, to add further insight to the debate on the start of monetary policy easing. Annualized q/q GDP growth for 1Q24 is expected to remain strong at 2.5%, but somewhat softer than the prior quarter at 3.4%. On the other hand, consensus forecasts core PCE index to accelerate to 3.4% from 2.0%. No big changes are expected for initial jobless claims on Thursday (cons. 215k, prior 212k) or Friday's PCE deflator (cons. 0.3% m/m vs prior 0.3% m/m). In addition, almost \$200 billion of 2-, 5-, 7-year Treasuries to be auctioned throughout the week will give an indication of investor appetite for US government bonds at current yields.

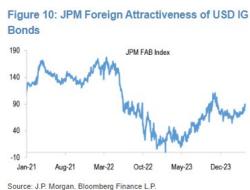
Mature Markets

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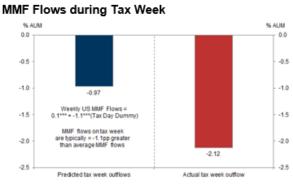
United States

US investment grade bonds have become increasingly attractive for foreigners. JPMorgan's foreign attractiveness index has increased to a five-month high on the back of higher yields and cumulatively lower hedging costs over the period. Overnight buying on TRACE, which is a proxy for foreign activity, averaged \$390 million a day last week, the sixth highest on record and over 60% higher than the year-to-date average. Investors continue to see current rates as an attractive entry point, limiting spread volatility—which hovers around 100bps, well below the 140bps seen during the yield peak in October.





US money market funds see \$160bn in outflows. Tax Day saw larger than usual outflows in money market funds (MMF), according to Goldman Sachs analysts. Money Markets saw a strong decline in assets last week, as US taxpayers appeared to have sold their positions to pay their part at the IRS. While correlation between US MMF flows and Tax Day seems to hold historically, this year's outflows of -2.2% is more than 1ppt below historical standards. Investors' decision to sell their MMF assets, instead of other financial assets, could hint at their views around portfolio allocation for the year as the S&P falls below 5,000 (+4.4% year-to-date) or -5.5% from recent peaks.



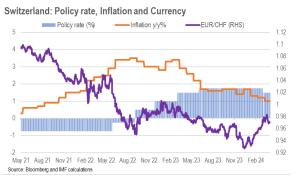
Source: Goldman Sachs

Euro Area

European equities were mostly trading in the green, with the STOXX 600 index up 0.4%, while euro area sovereign yields were edging higher (10y bund +5bps trading at around 2.54%). Contacts note that as regards bund yields, the Middle East safe-haven bids are declining, while there is uncertainty about how much interest rate expectations for the Fed and the ECB can diverge. The euro was little changed against the dollar (-0.1%) trading at around 1.0649. ING analysts note that easing concerns on Middle East tensions are likely a supportive factor for the euro, however it also lowest the probability that higher oil priced could see a delay in the start of the ECB rate cutting cycle. Analysts think the EUR/USD could remain in a holding pattern until key US data are released later this week. In the meantime, CFTC data shows that euro net long positions have decreased as short positions have increased, according to Rabobank analysts. The analysts highlight that in contrast to the Fed, the ECB has opened the door to rate cuts sooner rather than later. On Friday S&P kept Italy's BBB stable rating unchanged and upgraded the outlook on Greece's BBB- rating to positive. This morning the 10y Italian sovereign debt spread over bunds narrowed (-3bps to 140bps) and Greece's 10y spread was roughly 2bps narrower at 105bps. Markets are focused on France's upcoming rating reviews but some contact see downgrade risks as muted.

Switzerland

The Swiss National Bank is raising the minimum reserve ratio for banks to 4%, from 2.5%. The SNB this morning noted in a press release that it is increasing the minimum reserve requirement for domestic banks, a move that could see the country's lenders face a reduction in revenue of as much as 400mn Swiss francs (around \$440mn), according to Bloomberg, citing estimates for Raiffeisen economists. Bloomberg reports that UBS's shares fell by almost 2% this morning but retraced some losses in later trade.



The SNB also announced that it is changing how banks calculate their minimum reserve requirements. The SNB cut its key interest rate by 25bps to 1.5% in March and policy makers confirmed that today's decision on the minimum reserve requirement does not affect the monetary policy stance of the central bank.

United Kingdom

The pound weakened to the lowest level since November against the dollar as markets price in more BoE rate cuts in 2024. Last week the pound ended the week roughly 0.6% weaker against both the dollar and the euro respectively and is now roughly 2.9% weaker against the dollar (at 1.2362, its lowest level since November 2023) that at the start to the year, but still roughly 0.6% stronger against the euro (at 0.8617) than at the start of the year. Rabobank analysts note that CFTC data shows GBP net long positions plunging, as short positions increased, highlighting also that markets surveys indicate considerable optimism about a June BoE rate cut. Contacts note that the pound was also impacted on Friday by comments from BoE deputy Governor Ramsden, that suggested that there were indications of UK inflation converging to that of the euro area, and also noted that the BoE would be "responsive" as evidence on inflation is built up. Markets scaled up rate cut expectations for the BoE on Friday after earlier last week strong wages and inflation resulted in a hawkish repricing. Markets are now pricing in roughly 55bps of BoE rate cuts in 2024, compared to 43bps priced in last Thursday, with the first rate cut fully priced by August. Looking ahead this week, analysts are focused on UK PMI data, due tomorrow. The pound weakened further this morning (-0.4% to 1.23 against the dollar).



Emerging Markets

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EMEA equities were higher today as markets repriced geopolitical risk, while currencies were mixed. In CEE equities outperformed in Poland (+1.2%) and in Hungary (+0.7%), where consensus expects the central bank to cut its policy rate by 50bps to 7.75% at its MPC meeting tomorrow. CEE currencies were stable against the euro, save for the Polish zloty, which was down (-0.3%) to trade to 395.02/€, after today's data showed a drop of producer prices in March (-9.6%y/y) larger than expected (-9.5%). In South Africa stocks were in positive territory (+0.5%) and the rand was marginally stronger against the dollar (+01%), trading at 19.07/\$. In Türkiye equities performed well (+0.8%) while the lira lost (-0.2%) against the dollar, trading at 32.58/\$, ahead of the central expected to keep the policy rate unchanged at 50% at its next MPC meeting on April 25. Asian equities mostly gained while currencies were mostly weaker. Equities outperformed in Korea (+1.5%), Thailand (+1.3%) and Vietnam (+1.3) while currencies were mostly trading weaker against the dollar. Long-end government bond yields were mixed. Latin American currencies mostly appreciated against the dollar and equities rallied to end of last week. The Peruvian sol (+1.3%) led the currency advance, followed by Chile (+1.1%), Brazil (+0.9%), and Colombia (+0.7%) while the Mexican peso (-0.2%) underperformed. Equities gained in Argentina (+1.4%), Colombia (+0.8%), Brazil (+0.8%), and Mexico (+0.2%), but notably declined in Chile (-1.32%).

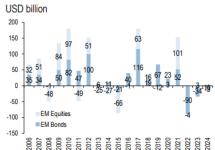
EM Fund Flows

EM equity funds experienced the largest weekly outflow in 2024 last week. EM equity funds saw outflows of -\$3.1bn (from -\$821mn), driven by both ETF (-\$1.1bn) and non-ETF (-\$2.1bn) funds. All regions saw outflows led by Asia ex-Japan (-\$453mn), followed by Latam (-\$263mn) and EMEA (-\$5mn). Bond flows (-\$360mn) turned negative after two consecutive positive weeks, driven by hard (-\$145mn) and local currency (-\$215mn) funds. Year-to-date bond and equity fund flows fell to -\$9.8bn and -\$3.1bn, respectively.

Figure 1: Weekly cross-asset flows



Figure 2: EM bond and equity fund flows



*High-frequency non-resident EM portfolio flow data where available. ^Local ccy split is retail only. Source for all charts and data in this report: J.P. Morgan, EPFR Global, Bloomberg Finance L.P.

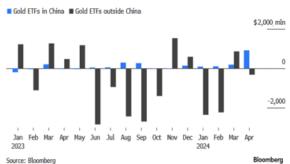
China

Chinese demand for gold rises as investors look to diversify holdings with commodities. Chinese retail buyers, fund managers, futures traders, and the central bank have all been turning to gold, contributing to a worldwide boom—with gold presently trading at \$2,392 an ounce—motivated by flight-to-safety amid increasing geopolitical tensions. Last year, Chinese demand for gold jewelry increased by 10% while investments in bars and coins increased 28%. According to analysts, Chinese demand for commodities is expected to increase further given the country's limited investment options, its property sector crisis, and the need to hedge against currency depreciation. China is the world's largest gold miner; even so, last year it imported over 2,800 tons, which is about a third of the Fed's reserves. The People's Bank of China (PBoC) has also been purchasing gold for 17 months in a row now, its longest ever buying-spree. According to Bloomberg Intelligence, since June, money has also poured into gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) in mainland China—\$1.3 billion so far this year—almost every month. This stands in contrast with the \$4 billion outflows from gold funds overseas.

PBoC largest buyer among central banks

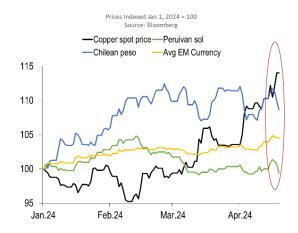
Gold ETFs inflows vs outflows





Copper

The recent copper rally boosted the Peruvian sol and Chilean peso. The price of copper has increased almost 20% since its 2024 low on February 9. Bloomberg analysts note that copper is a main export for Peru and Chile, illustrating the copper rally's support for the currencies. The sol appreciated 1.3% Friday and is currently the only EM currency year-to-date to appreciate against the dollar (+0.6%). Despite underperformance of the Chilean peso this year, the sharp spike in copper over the past week (+3.4%) propelled the currency almost 1.5% higher, while most EM currencies continue to depreciate against the dollar.



Poland

The Polish zloty weakens slightly against the euro this morning after today's data following marginally weaker-than-expected producer prices. The polish zloty weakened by -0.3% to around 395.02/€, after PPI data came in at 9.6%y/y in March (versus expected -9.5% from -10%y/y). Data also showed Polish average monthly wages rising by 12%y/y, slightly below expectations (12.1%) and less than in February (+12.9%), suggesting that although labor demand is gradually deteriorating companies keep facing decreasing margins. At an interview with Bloomberg, MPC member Henryk Wnorowski, stated on April 17 that "We still have to watch the situation for a while" to see if inflation stays low but hinted as the possibility of rate cuts later this year.



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Global Financial Indicators

	Level						
4/22/24 12:57 PM	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
Equities					%		%
United States		4967	-0.9	-3	-5	20	4
Europe		4932	0.3	-1	-2	12	9
Japan		37439	1.0	-5	-8	31	12
China	~~~~	3531	-0.3	-1	0	-12	3
Asia Ex Japan	manymore	65	-0.7	-2	-3	-2	-2
Emerging Markets	markey	40	-0.4	-2	-3	2	-1
Interest Rates				basis	points		
US 10y Yield	and the same	4.66	3.7	6	46	109	78
Germany 10y Yield	my	2.54	4.0	10	22	6	52
Japan 10y Yield	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	0.89	3.9	3	15	42	28
UK 10y Yield	mym	4.25	2.0	1	32	49	71
Credit Spreads				basis	points		
US Investment Grade	Manage The same of	124	0.0	3	3	-34	-10
US High Yield	and a second	368	-1.8	13	20	-99	-17
Exchange Rates					%		
USD/Majors	~~~~~~	106.26	0.1	0	2	4	5
EUR/USD	money	1.06	-0.2	0	-2	-4	-4
USD/JPY	and and a	154.8	0.1	0	2	15	10
EM/USD	www.	46.1	-0.1	0	-1	-9	-4
Commodities					%		
Brent Crude Oil (\$/barrel)	mark water	86.6	-0.8	-4	2	12	13
Industrials Metals (index)	many.	158	-0.4	4	13	1	11
Agriculture (index)	whomas	59	0.1	0	-1	-13	-5
Implied Volatility							
VIX Index (%, change in pp)	Mundham	18.2	-0.5	-1.0	5.2	1.5	5.8
Global FX Volatility	annual many	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	-1.7	-0.7
EA Sovereign Spreads					vs. German	y (bps)	
Greece	hammen	106	-1.6	-3	1	-78	2
Italy	- management	138	-5.1	-6	6	-49	-29
Portugal	Jummy Lyn	63	-3.4	-6	-4	-19	0
Spain	many	78	-3.3	-6	-6	-26	-19

Colors denote tightening/easing financial conditions for observations greater than ±1.5 standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

Emerging Market Financial Indicators

Last updated:	d: Exchange Rates							Local Currency Bond Yields (GBI EM)							
4/22/2024	Leve	I		Change (in %)				Leve	Change (in basis points)						
12:59 PM	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	
		vs. USD	(-	+) = EM a	ppreciatio	n			% p.a.						
China	~~~~	7.24	-0.1	-0.1	0	-5	-2	Married Marrie	2.3	1.0	-4	-8	-84	-23	
Indonesia	the state of the s	16235	0.1	-2.4	-3	-9	-5	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	7.1	1.9	41	40	39	58	
India	Morning	83	0.1	0.1	0	-2	0	and the same	7.5	3.0	13	31	20.8	33	
Philippines	way many way?	58	0.2	-1.3	-2	-3	-4	V-low-	5.6	0.0	15	20	-34	1	
Thailand	~~~~~~	37	-0.4	-1.1	-2	-7	-8	~~~	2.9	2.5	-1	36	34	20	
Malaysia	Jahran Maryan	4.78	0.1	0.1	-1	-7	-4	www	4.0	-0.9	4	10	11	22	
Argentina		871	-0.2	-0.5	-2	-75	-7	~~~~~	44.5	57.2	-132	-1263	-4466	-4190	
Brazil	morrowant	5.20	0.9	-1.6	-3	-2	-7	Market 1	11.6	5.9	-11	56	-106	122	
Chile		955	1.1	1.5	1	-17	-8	~~~~~	5.4	0.0	-2	25	16	47	
Colombia	mon man	3910	0.7	-1.2	-1	16	-1	man and a second	8.5	-27.0	-9	68	-46	84	
Mexico	mormon	17.09	0.0	-2.2	-2	5	-1	~~~	9.3	-1.5	-20	60	88	85	
Peru	month	3.7	1.3	0.6	0	3	1	man Man Mar	7.5	-7.0	5	56	4	84	
Uruguay	when	39	0.1	0.7	0	1	1	my way	9.0	3.4	7	0	-128	-54	
Hungary	1 Mymphyman	371	-0.2	0.0	-1	-8	-6	What was	7.0	-4.0	6	69	-78	126	
Poland	- Andrews	4.06	-0.4	-0.2	-2	3	-3	My My My mot	5.4	-3.5	-3	34	-13	95	
Romania	Market Commencer	4.7	-0.2	0.1	-2	-5	-4	marra	6.5	1.3	8	5	-77	33	
Russia	- man	93.4	-0.3	0.1	-1	-13	-4								
South Africa	in mount	19.1	-0.1	-0.7	0	-5	-4	Mundamor	10.2	-0.5	2	54	73	106	
Türkiye		32.54	0.0	-0.3	-2	-40	-9	www.	28.6	21.0	141	228	1644	186	
US (DXY; 5y UST)	~~~~~~~	106	0.1	0.1	2	4	5	and when the same	4.70	2.6	8	51	103	85	

	Equity Markets							Bond Spreads on USD Debt (EMBIG)						
	Level		Change (in %)				Level		Change (in basis points)					
	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	Last 12m	Latest	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	
								basis poi	nts					
China	amana and a second	3531	-0.3	-1	0	-12	3	and many many many many	143	-1	-6	-51	-15	
Indonesia	many man	7074	-0.2	-3	-4	4	-3	Market	97	1	-6	-52	1	
India		73649	0.8	-1	1	23	2	Jumany	103	0	-5	-54	-13	
Philippines	James James James	6444	0.0	-2	-6	-1	0	property through popular property	83	1	-6	-41	3	
Thailand	why	1350	1.3	-4	-2	-13	-5	·	0	0	0	0	0	
Malaysia		1560	0.8	1	1	10	7	and the same of th	84	5	-2	-17	-1	
Argentina		1189210	1.4	-4	-3	309	28	man My man	1219	-118	-314	-1456	-694	
Brazil	Jumanum	125124	0.7	-1	-1	20	-7	Maymonder	217	6	3	-53	2	
Chile	and the same	6365	0.0	-2	-2	22	3	May Make My	116	3	-10	-25	-9	
Colombia	man	1332	0.8	-3	0	10	11	Mary Mary	306	19	10	-95	35	
Mexico	~~~~	55863	0.2	-1	-1	3	-3	mannen	319	3	-6	-72	-15	
Peru		27599	-0.3	0	-7	24	6	man way was	146	6	4	-41	2	
Hungary		65529	0.7	-3	0	49	8	Market Market Market	150	7	-4	-82	1	
Poland		84125	1.1	1	4	35	7	manufacture.	92	5	-6	11	-5	
Romania		16901	0.4	0	1	36	10	many may make the	182	6	-5	-74	-18	
South Africa	and when when	73857	0.7	-1	1	-5	-4	Mummum	346	-3	-5	-72	38	
Türkiye	~~~~~	9727	0.3	0	7	94	30	Manner of the same	285	-5	-42	-218	-29	
EM total	man man man	40	0.8	-2	-3	2	-1	mannen	288	0	-20	-132	-58	

Colors denote tightening/easing financial conditions for observations greater than ±1.5 standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

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