Monthly Market Roundup
covering December 2024

This marketing communication is for Professional Clients, Financial Advisers, Qualified Clients/Sophisticated Investors (as defined in the important information at the end).

Overview

- Revised data shows UK economy failed to grow in the third quarter of the year.
- US economy added 227,000 new jobs, although the unemployment rate edged up slightly.
- Emerging market equities gained, led by Asia Pacific while Middle East and emerging Europe also advanced.

In December, European equities fell as losses in healthcare and utilities offset gains in technology, while the ECB signalled a shorter period of restrictive policy. UK markets declined due to disappointing data, rising inflation, and stagnant growth. US equities ended negatively despite Federal Reserve rate cuts, with inflation remaining elevated. Asia Pacific equities slipped due to political turmoil, but emerging markets gained, driven by strong performances in Asia and the Middle East.

Europe

European equities fell in December, ending a year with modest returns. Novo-Nordisk's sharp decline due to weaker obesity drug data led the market lower. Healthcare, real estate, communication services, and utilities were weak, while technology and consumer discretionary sectors gained.

The European Central Bank (ECB) cut its deposit rate by 25 basis points (bps), signalling less concern about inflation and a shorter period of restrictive policy. Growth forecasts for 2025 were lowered to 1.1%. Germany faces structural challenges, while Spain shows strong growth potential. The German Ifo Business Climate Index fell, and a snap election was called after the coalition collapsed.

The UK

The UK equity market closed lower in December due to disappointing data and the Bank of England (BoE) indicating fewer interest rate cuts next year.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported UK inflation rose to 2.6% in November, driven by higher fuel and clothing prices. The BoE kept interest rates at 4.75%, signalling that stubborn inflation will delay rate cuts. UK economic growth fell by 0.1% in October, with stagnant services and falling production output.

The US

US stocks ended 2024 negatively, with the S&P 500 and Russell 2000 down, while the NASDAQ Composite gained slightly. The Federal Reserve (Fed) reduced interest rates by 25bps to 4.5% in December but signalled fewer cuts in 2025 due to persistent inflation. US consumer price index (CPI) rose to 2.7%, and core CPI remained at 3.3%. The US economy added 227,000 jobs in November, and gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 3.1% in Q3. The Composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) was 54.9.

Asia

Asia Pacific equity markets fell in December. South Korea's market was hurt by political turmoil, while Australian equities fell due to concerns over slower US Federal Reserve rate cuts. Taiwan advanced on AI-related stocks, and Chinese stocks rose on expected stimulus measures. Chinese markets gained on anticipated public spending in 2025. Taiwan's central bank raised its growth forecast but kept the benchmark rate at 2%. South Korean markets slipped due to political turmoil.

Indian equities declined, and Japan's markets rose with a weaker yen. The **Australian** equity market slipped in response to the US Fed's recent signals of fewer anticipated rate cuts in 2025.

Emerging markets

Emerging market equities gained, led by Asia Pacific, while the Middle East and emerging Europe also advanced. Brazil's equities declined as Banco Central do Brasil raised the Selic rate by 100bps to 12.25%. Türkiye performed well in 2024, cutting its policy rate to 47.5%. The Middle East saw strong performance due to robust earnings and oil price recovery. Poland experienced a modest decline, while Hungary and Czech equities faced economic challenges.

Fixed income

The Fed lowered interest rates by 0.25% in December, totalling a 1.0% cut since September. The ECB also reduced borrowing costs by 0.25% (from 3.25%). US treasuries returned -1.69% in December, German bunds -1.61%, and UK gilts -2.55%. The US economy grew at 3.1% in the third quarter. The Bank of England held rates at 4.75%. Corporate bond markets were mixed, with US investment grade bonds returning -1.78%.

Europe

- European equity markets lower in December
- European Central Bank cuts interest rates again
- Snap election to come in Germany

European equities gave up ground in December rounding off a year with modest returns. Europe's largest stock Novo-Nordisk suffered a sharp fall towards the end of the month on the back of weaker than anticipated data relating to its obesity drug, leading the overall market lower. Besides healthcare, real estate, communication services and utilities were among weaker sectors while technology and consumer discretionary areas were in positive territory for the month.

While the European Central Bank (ECB) decision to cut its deposit rate by 25 basis points (bps) was widely expected, the accompanying statement suggested that policymakers are less concerned than previously about upside risks to inflation and that they don't expect to keep policy restrictive for much longer. The ECB said surveys indicated growth was slowing and that the recovery depended on consumers spending more and businesses increasing their investments. It cut its forecast for growth for the Eurozone economy in 2025 to 1.1%, from the 1.3% it had expected three months earlier. The ECB went on to say Germany, normally associated with being the powerhouse of Europe, is beset by a structural challenge. High energy prices, higher labour costs, a need to shoulder more of a defence burden, and complications in its reliance on exporting capital goods to China have undermined every pillar of its growth and export miracle. Furthermore, its totemic car industry now faces significant competition from Chinese advances in battery power. France has been more successful economically, but President Emmanuel Macron's reforms have split the French electorate into three difficult-to-reconcile blocs that have made the nation difficult to govern. Spain could be the fastest-growing advanced economy in the world, rivalling even the US, on the back of a tourism boom, ample access to workers and green investment. Finally, the ECB noted that the other crisis countries of the 2010s - Portugal, Ireland and Greece along with Spain - are now among the Eurozone's outperformers.

In other data released during December, the German Ifo Business Climate Index remained in recessionary territory. The fall from 85.6 in November to 84.7 in December left it even weaker than consensus forecast of 85.0 and way below its long run average of 95.9. Elsewhere, there was an increase in the Composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), from 48.3 in November to 49.5 in December, leaving it slightly above the consensus forecast of 48.2. The manufacturing sector remains under intense pressure, (dropping to a 12-month low), and despite the services sector holding up better, it is far from firing on all cylinders.

Late in December, Germany's president, Frank-Walter Steinmeier dissolved parliament and called a snap election on 23 February after Olaf Scholz's fractious three-way coalition collapsed three years into its mandate. The national vote will come seven months ahead of schedule amid a rocky stretch of unusual political turmoil for the EU's top economic power, with growth rates flatlining, industry in crisis and the far right on the rise. Steinmeier, as head of state, made the formal step to dissolve the Bundestag after Chancellor Scholz, deliberately lost a confidence vote in parliament on 16 December to trigger a general election.

UK

- Inflation increases again
- Bank of England (BoE) keeps interest rates unchanged.
- Revised data shows UK economy failed to grow in the third quarter of the year.

The UK equity market closed lower in December as disappointing data and the BoE indicating less interest rate cuts next year weighed on equity markets.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures showed that UK inflation rose in November, up from 2.3% to 2.6% which was in line with expectations. Higher fuel and clothing prices were the main drivers behind the increase. Services inflation remained stubbornly high at 5.0%, the same as October. Core inflation, which excludes energy and food prices, increased modestly from 3.3% to 3.5%.

Following the inflation news, the BoE kept interest rates unchanged at 4.75% as the BoE signalled that stubborn inflation would prevent them from cutting interest rates quickly. Financial markets are now expecting the BoE to make two 0.25% rate cuts next year compared to four the markets expected as recently as October.

UK economic growth unexpectedly fell October, shrinking by 0.1% for the second consecutive month. Revised data showed the UK economy failed to grow in the three months to September. The dominant services sector stagnated over the quarter, with production output falling 0.4% which offset a 0.7% increase in the construction sector. The BoE expects growth to be stagnant for the final quarter of this year, a downward revision from 0.3% growth.

UK wage growth accelerated for the first time in over a year, as unemployment remained unchanged at 4.3% but the number of job vacancies fell. ONS data showed average total pay grew at an annual rate of 5.2% (excluding bonuses) in the three months to October in comparison to a year ago. This puts further pressure on the BoE to slow down their interest rate cutting cycle in 2025.

Research group GfK's consumer confidence index — a measure of how the British public view their personal finances and broader economic prospects — rose modestly in December. Figures from the ONS showed British retail sales rebounded less than expected in November, rising 0.2%. This was below the 0.5% expected and followed a 0.7% contraction in October.

US

- US stocks lost ground in December with investor sentiment negatively impacted by the expectation of less interest rate cuts in 2025.
- The Federal Reserve (Fed) cut interest rates for the third consecutive time in 2024, this time by 25bps from 4.75% to 4.5%.
- US economy added 227,000 new jobs, although the unemployment rate edged up slightly.

US stocks finished 2024 negatively with the S&P500 and Russell 2000 losing ground whilst the NASDAQ Composite gained slightly. Markets had performed well in the first half of the month but were later impacted by the Fed cutting back expectations for interest rate cuts in 2025, largely due to inflation remaining stubborn. At a sector level, performance was broadly negative apart from communication services, consumer discretionary, and information technology which all gained.

The Fed reduced interest rates by 25bps to 4.5% in December, marking the third consecutive cut for 2024. The decision by the Federal Open Market Committee was not unanimous with one Fed member dissenting – Cleveland Fed president Beth Hammack, who instead favoured holding rates steady. The major news, however, was that policymakers were now expecting less cuts for 2025 as the Fed attempts to fulfil its dual mandate of keeping inflation within the 2% target and keeping unemployment low.

Looking at data releases over the period, US consumer price index (CPI) rose in line with forecasts from 2.6% to 2.7%, while core CPI, which excludes food and energy remained at 3.3%. The Fed's preferred measure of inflation – the core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index came in below the 2.9% expectation, reported at 2.8%.

Figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that the US economy added just 227,000 new jobs in November, which was above the 202,000 forecast and showed a significant rebound from October's revised figure of 36,000. October's low figure was largely influenced by adverse weather conditions and the Boeing strikes. Less positively, US unemployment rose slightly for the first time since July from 4.1% to 4.2% in line with market expectations.

The final reading for US Gross Domestic Product (GPD) showed that the US economy grew by 3.1% in the third quarter, ahead of the 2.8% consensus and the previous quarter's figure of 3.0%. Personal spending over the quarter increased at its fastest pace since the first quarter of 2023.

The Composite PMI figure for November was 54.9, signalling an expansion in the US private sector. This reading was above October's figure of 54.1 but lower than the preliminary estimate of 55.3. Services PMI led the growth coming in at 56.1, while manufacturing fell behind, reported at 49.7. A PMI reading above 50 signals an expansion in the economy whereas a reading below 50 indicates a contraction.

Asia

- Asia Pacific equity markets closed 2024 with a modest negative return in December.
- China announced plans for increased public borrowing and spending in 2025.
- Korean markets saw volatility due to widespread protests following President Yoon's brief declaration of martial law.

Asia Pacific equity markets had a negative month in December. South Korea's market was hurt by political turmoil and protests, while Australian equities fell due to concerns over slower US Federal Reserve rate cuts. Taiwan advanced supported by AI-related stocks. Similarly, Chinese stocks rose on expected stimulus measures and better manufacturing data.

Chinese equity markets gained on expectations of increased public borrowing and spending in 2025, aimed at boosting consumption and growth ahead of new US tariffs. Exports rose, especially to the US and Southeast Asia, partly due to Chinese firms shipping goods early to avoid higher tariffs when President-elect Donald Trump takes office in January.

The **Taiwanese** equity market advanced, boosted by local companies like TSMC benefiting from increasing AI adoption. Taiwan's central bank raised their growth forecast, highlighting the island's technology strength but warned of potential risks for 2025. The central bank kept the benchmark rate at 2%, citing uncertainty around US trade policy and advising caution on the direction of global trade.

This month, **South Korean** equity markets slipped back upon facing significant political turmoil. Parliament voted to remove acting President Han Duck-Soo, just two weeks after impeaching President Yoon Suk Yeol for attempting to impose martial law. The political climate is now highly charged. Additionally, if next year's budget is delayed, the government might use a provisional budget, limiting spending authority and potentially affecting fiscal policy.

Indian equities declined after the US Fed guidance on rate cuts fell short of expectations. Worries over India's growth outlook have kept the rupee under pressure, alongside a well-supported dollar following Donald Trump's election victory. Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept its key repo rate at 6.5% maintaining a neutral stance amid slowing economic growth.

Japan's stock markets rose this month in local currency terms, helped by a weaker yen boosting export-heavy industries. The Bank of Japan (BoJ) remained cautious. Governor Kazuo Ueda suggested interest rates might rise if the economy improves, but the timing will depend on economic conditions. He stressed the need to balance supportive policy with keeping inflation within the 2% target.

The **Australian** equity market slipped in response to the US Fed's recent signals of fewer anticipated rate cuts in 2025. This shift in monetary policy has led to a depreciation of the Australian dollar, negatively affecting the commodity and banking sectors. Furthermore, expected inflation rose to 4.2% in December, introducing additional uncertainty to the Reserve Bank of Australia's rate cut timeline.

Emerging Markets

- Emerging market equities ended 2024 positively.
- Asia led the gains, with standout performances from Taiwan and China.
- Latin American equities declined, affected by the Banco Central do Brasil interest rate hike.

Emerging market equities gained, led by Asia Pacific while Middle East and emerging Europe also advanced. India gave up further ground while Latin American equities were weighed down by Brazil and the Banco Central do Brasil surprising the market by raising the Selic rate to control inflation.

Brazilian equities declined as Banco Central do Brasil raised the Selic rate by 100 basis points to 12.25% due to challenging global conditions and rising inflation expectations. The decision reflected strong domestic economic indicators and the need for tighter monetary policy. More rate hikes are expected if inflation continues to rise. There is concern that these aggressive rate hikes could lead to higher deficits and debt, pressuring the currency and requiring even higher rates.

Despite delivering a slight negative return in December, **Türkiye** stands out as one of the top-performing markets globally in 2024. This performance is bolstered by increasing confidence in the country's return to traditional monetary policy, which is effectively addressing high inflation. The central bank's decision to cut the policy rate from 50.0% to 47.5% - its first reduction since early 2023 - reflects evidence of easing inflationary pressures. Consequently, the annual inflation rate has significantly declined from a peak of approximately 85% to 47%.

The **Middle East** region has shown strong performance this month, underpinned by robust earnings and a recovery in oil prices. The outlook remains favourable, supported by stable pegged currencies and minimal exposure to US tariffs. Notably, substantial investments from regional governments, particularly in Saudi Arabia and the UAE, aimed at economic diversification and reforms, are anticipated to boost earnings in key sectors such as real estate, infrastructure, and banking.

In **Eastern Europe**, Poland experienced a modest decline over the past month. The region's markets benefit from reduced exposure to US tariff risks, though they remain susceptible to economic fragility within the euro area. Regional central banks are anticipated to uphold a dovish monetary policy, perpetuating the current easing cycle. On the other hand, Hungary and Czech equities are contending with a more daunting economic and earnings landscape.

Fixed Income

- After cutting US interest rates by 0.25% the Federal Reserve signals that future reductions would follow a slower and more gradual pace.
- The European Central Bank also lowers its key interest rate by 0.25%, while revising down its growth forecast.
- Government bonds lose ground as yields on long-term US treasuries and UK gilts close the year significantly higher.

The US Federal Reserve lowered interest rates by 0.25% in December, taking the cumulative cuts since September to 1.0%. While the easing bias remains, the Fed indicated a slower and more gradual series of interest rate cuts in the future. The European Central Bank also reduced the cost of borrowing by 0.25% (from 3.25%), leaving the door open for further reductions in 2025. In a more aggressive move, the Swiss National Bank halved its main policy rate to 0.5%.

Given the unexpected hawkish changes to the Fed's dot plot - median projection is now for just 0.5% cuts in interest rates for 2025, versus the 1.0% expected that was in the previous update in September - US treasuries ended the year on a weak note, returning -1.69% in December. The negative tone extended to Europe with German bunds declining 1.61% and UK gilts down 2.55%. (All returns in local currency, ICE BofA data).

While the Fed remain confident that price pressures would continue to ease - the PCE price index rose to 2.4% on an annual basis in November versus 2.5% expectations - Chair Jerome Powell said that the decision to lower the policy rate to the 4.25%-4.50% range was a "closer call" than implied by financial markets. Driven by stronger consumer spending on services, the US economy grew at a faster 3.1% annualised pace in the third quarter, a notable upgrade from the prior estimate of 2.8%.

By contrast, economic growth in Europe appears to be stalling with the ECB warning that it will be weaker than previously forecast. With the threat of a global trade war creating fresh uncertainty, the ECB expects the eurozone economy to grow by 1.1% in 2025 versus the 1.3% estimate made in September. Growth forecasts for 2026 and 2027 were also lowered.

While the BoE voted 6-3 (versus 8-1 expected) to hold interest rates at 4.75%, fears that restrictive monetary policy could derail the economic recovery increased following the release of downbeat data. UK output shrunk for the second consecutive month (September and October) while business surveys point to weaker confidence. With wage growth remaining strong – average weekly earnings were up by 5.2% versus 4.6% expectations in the three months to October – the BoE faces persistent price pressures and a stagnating economy. The yield on the 30-year gilt rose to 5.18%, its highest level since 2002.

It was a mixed month for corporate bond markets with investment grade securities, which are more sensitive to changes in interest rate expectations, losing ground whereas high yield bonds in Europe (but not the US) finished the year on a winning note. US IG bonds were the weakest performers, returning -1.78%. By comparison, sterling and euro IG bonds returned -0.64% and -0.43% respectively. Spreads continued to tighten, moving from 83bps to 82bps, 103bps to 91bps and 107bps to 101bps for dollar, sterling and euro-denominated IG bonds respectively.

The spread for European currency (€/£) high yield bonds also narrowed, moving from 335bps to 316bps but widened for US HY - 274bps to 292bps. In terms of market performance, €/£ HY bonds gained 0.64% whereas dollar ones returned -0.43%

Government Bonds

Yield to maturity[1] (%)

	Current	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
US Treasuries 2 year	4.24	4.15	3.64	4.75	4.25
US Treasuries 10 year	4.57	4.17	3.78	4.40	3.88
US Treasuries 30 year	4.78	4.36	4.12	4.56	4.03
UK Gilts 2 year	4.39	4.23	3.98	4.22	3.98
UK Gilts 10 year	4.57	4.24	4.00	4.17	3.54
UK Gilts 30 year	5.13	4.75	4.58	4.66	4.14
German Bund 2 year	2.08	1.95	2.07	2.83	2.40
German Bund 10 year	2.37	2.09	2.12	2.50	2.02
German Bund 30 year	2.60	2.33	2.46	2.69	2.26

Source: Bloomberg LP, ICE BofA (local currency returns, unless stated). Data as at 31 December 2024. The yield is not guaranteed and may do down as well as up.

Corporate Bonds

Yield to maturity[1] (%)/Spread[2] (bps)

	Current		1 month		3 months		6 months		12 months	
£ AAA Investment Grade Corporate	4.90	39	4.72	46	4.59	56	4.87	56	4.29	56
£ AA	4.98	45	4.84	59	4.71	68	5.00	67	4.43	71
£ A	5.37	77	5.22	87	5.10	97	5.37	97	4.93	110
£ BBB	5.86	112	5.73	128	5.64	143	5.93	145	5.55	167
£ High Yield	8.27	364	8.17	373	8.32	412	8.98	449	9.13	526
£ BB	7.10	240	6.99	249	6.82	252	7.28	272	7.40	342
€ AAA Investment Grade Corporate	2.82	60	2.66	65	2.76	71	3.27	73	2.76	70
€ AA	2.82	65	2.74	75	2.85	80	3.44	83	3.10	95
€ A	3.16	92	3.04	98	3.19	106	3.75	106	3.45	120
€ BBB	3.43	114	3.32	121	3.49	133	4.08	135	3.85	158
€ High Yield	5.87	311	5.88	331	6.01	342	6.68	353	6.51	396
€ BB	4.71	205	4.72	226	4.83	234	5.36	229	5.50	288
European High Yield (inc € + £)	6.11	316	6.11	335	6.25	350	6.93	363	6.80	411

Source: Bloomberg LP, ICE BofA. Data as at 31 December 2024. The yield is not guaranteed and may go down as well as up.

1 Yield to maturity – is the total return anticipated on a bond if the bond is held until it matures.

2 Credit spread – difference in yields offered by corporate bonds over government bonds, that have similar maturity but different credit quality.

Global currency movements – figures to 31 December 2024

		Change Over:																
	Current value	1 Month (%)	3 Months (%)	6 Months (%)	YTD (%)	2024 (%)	2023 (%)	2022 (%)	2021 (%)	2020 (%)	2019 (%)	2018 (%)	2017 (%)	2016 (%)	2015 (%)	2014 (%)	2013 (%)	2012 (%)
Euro/US Dollar	1.04	-2.1	-7.0	-3.4	-6.2	-6.2	3.1	-5.8	-6.9	8.9	-2.2	-4.5	14.1	-3.2	-10.2	-10.2	-12.0	1.8
Euro/GB Sterling	0.83	-0.4	-0.6	-2.3	-4.6	-4.6	-2.1	5.2	-5.9	5.7	-5.9	1.2	4.1	15.8	-5.1	-5.1	-6.5	-2.6
Euro/Swiss Franc	0.94	0.9	-0.2	-2.4	1.2	1.2	-6.1	-4.6	-4.0	-0.4	-3.5	-3.8	9.2	-1.5	-9.5	-9.5	-2.0	-0.7
Euro/Swedish Krona	11.46	-0.6	1.3	0.9	2.9	2.9	-0.2	8.4	2.4	-4.3	3.4	3.2	2.7	4.4	-2.9	-2.9	6.7	-3.8
Euro/Norwegian Krone	11.79	0.9	0.3	3.0	5.0	5.0	6.9	4.7	-4.4	6.5	-0.6	0.6	8.3	-5.4	6.6	6.6	8.1	-5.2
Euro/Danish Krone	7.46	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	-0.4	0.2	0.2	-0.2	0.4
Euro/Polish Zloty	4.28	-0.5	-0.1	-0.8	-1.5	-1.5	-7.3	2.1	0.6	7.2	-0.8	2.7	-5.1	3.4	-0.6	-0.6	3.2	-8.7
Euro/Hungarian Forint	411.73	-0.2	3.7	4.2	7.4	7.4	-4.1	8.2	1.8	9.5	3.1	3.3	0.4	-1.9	-0.4	-0.4	6.5	-7.5
US Dollar/Yen	157.20	5.0	9.4	-2.3	11.5	11.5	7.6	13.9	11.5	-4.9	-1.0	-2.7	-3.7	-2.7	0.4	0.4	13.7	12.8
US Dollar/Canadian Dollar	1.44	2.7	6.4	5.2	8.6	8.6	-2.3	7.3	-0.7	-2.0	-4.7	8.5	-6.5	-2.9	19.1	19.1	9.4	-2.9
US Dollar/South African Rand	18.84	4.4	9.1	3.6	2.6	2.6	7.8	6.9	8.5	5.0	-2.4	15.9	-9.9	-11.2	33.7	33.7	10.3	4.7
US Dollar/Brazilian Real	6.18	3.5	13.4	10.4	27.2	27.2	-8.0	-5.3	7.3	29.0	4.0	17.1	1.8	-18.0	49.1	49.1	12.7	9.5
US Dollar/South Korean Won	1471.95	5.4	12.0	6.9	14.3	14.3	1.8	6.4	9.4	-6.0	3.6	4.2	-11.4	3.0	6.7	6.7	4.1	-7.1
US Dollar/Taiwan Dollar	32.79	1.0	3.6	1.1	6.8	6.8	0.0	11.0	-2.2	-5.8	-2.2	3.1	-7.6	-2.1	4.0	4.0	6.1	-3.9
US Dollar/Thai Baht	34.10	-0.6	6.0	-7.1	-0.1	-0.1	-1.3	3.6	11.5	-0.1	-7.9	-0.1	-9.0	-0.8	9.7	9.7	0.1	-3.1
US Dollar/Singapore Dollar	1.37	2.0	6.3	0.7	3.4	3.4	-1.4	-0.7	2.0	-1.8	-1.2	2.0	-7.7	2.0	7.0	7.0	4.9	-5.8
US Dollar/GB Sterling	0.80	1.7	6.9	1.0	1.7	1.7	-5.1	12.0	1.0	-3.0	-3.8	5.9	-8.6	19.4	5.7	5.7	6.3	-4.4
GB Sterling/South African Rand	23.57	2.4	2.0	2.4	1.2	1.2	13.1	-4.6	7.4	8.2	1.3	9.6	-1.3	-25.7	26.5	26.5	3.7	9.3
Australian Dollar/US Dollar	0.62	-5.0	-10.5	-7.2	-9.2	-9.2	0.0	-6.2	-5.6	9.6	-0.4	-9.7	8.3	-1.1	-10.9	-10.9	-8.3	1.8
New Zealand Dollar/US Dollar	0.56	-5.4	-11.9	-8.2	-11.5	-11.5	-0.5	-7.0	-5.0	6.6	0.3	-5.3	2.4	1.5	-12.4	-12.4	-5.1	6.6

Source: Bloomberg, all figures subject to rounding.

An investment cannot be made into an index directly. The performance data shown relates to a past period. Past performance does not predict future returns.

Global equity and commodity index performance – figures to 31 December 2024 (%)

	1 month	3 months	6 months	YTD	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Global US & Canada															
MSCI World (US$)	-2.6	-0.1	6.4	19.2	19.2	24.4	-17.7	22.4	16.5	28.4	-8.2	23.1	8.2	-0.3	5.6
MSCI World Value (US$)	-5.7	-4.1	5.3	12.3	12.3	12.4	-5.8	22.8	-0.3	22.8	-10.1	18.0	13.3	-4.0	4.5
MSCI World Growth (US$)	0.4	3.8	7.5	26.2	26.2	37.3	-29.0	21.4	34.2	34.2	-6.4	28.5	3.2	3.5	6.6
MSCI World Small Cap (US$)	-5.9	-2.5	6.8	8.6	8.6	16.4	-18.4	16.2	16.5	26.8	-13.5	23.2	13.2	0.8	2.3
MSCI Emerging Markets (US$)	-0.1	-7.9	0.3	8.0	8.0	10.2	-19.8	-2.3	18.8	18.8	-14.3	37.8	11.8	-14.6	-2.0
FTSE World (US$)	-2.5	-0.6	5.7	17.9	17.9	24.2	-17.5	21.0	16.4	27.8	-8.7	24.1	8.7	-1.4	4.8
Dow Jones Industrials	-5.1	0.9	9.7	15.0	15.0	16.2	-6.9	20.9	9.7	25.3	-3.5	28.1	16.4	0.2	10.0
S&P 500	-2.4	2.4	8.4	25.0	25.0	26.3	-18.1	28.7	18.4	31.5	-4.4	21.8	11.9	1.4	13.7
NASDAQ	0.6	6.4	9.3	29.6	29.6	44.7	-32.5	22.2	45.0	36.7	-2.8	29.7	9.0	7.1	14.8
Russell 2000	-8.3	0.3	9.6	11.5	11.5	16.9	-20.5	14.8	19.9	25.5	-11.0	14.6	21.3	-4.4	4.9
S&P/ TSX Composite	-3.3	3.8	14.7	21.7	21.7	11.8	-5.8	25.2	5.6	22.9	-8.9	9.1	21.1	-8.3	10.5
Europe & Africa															
FTSE World Europe ex-UK €	-0.2	-3.3	-1.3	8.0	8.0	18.4	-11.9	25.1	2.9	27.6	-10.5	12.9	3.2	10.7	7.2
MSCI Europe	-0.5	-2.7	-0.3	9.2	9.2	16.5	-9.0	25.8	-2.8	26.8	-10.1	10.8	3.2	8.8	7.5
CAC 40	2.1	-3.2	-0.9	0.9	0.9	20.1	-6.7	31.9	-5.0	30.5	-8.1	12.5	8.8	11.9	2.5
DAX	1.4	3.0	9.2	18.8	18.8	20.3	-12.3	15.8	3.5	25.5	-18.3	12.5	6.9	9.6	2.7
Ibex 35	-0.2	-1.3	8.1	20.0	20.0	28.1	-2.0	10.5	-12.7	16.5	-11.5	11.3	2.5	-3.7	8.5
FTSEMIB	2.3	1.4	4.9	18.9	18.9	34.3	-9.4	26.8	-3.3	33.8	-13.6	16.9	-6.5	15.8	3.0
Swiss Market Index (capital returns)	-1.4	-4.7	-3.3	7.5	7.5	3.8	-16.7	20.3	0.8	26.0	-10.2	14.1	-6.8	-1.8	9.5
Amsterdam Exchanges	-0.4	-3.1	-3.9	14.6	14.6	17.2	-11.4	30.5	5.5	28.5	-7.4	16.5	13.6	7.3	8.7
MSCI EM Europe, Middle East and Africa (US$)	3.1	-1.2	2.9	5.3	5.3	10.5	-35.3	24.1	-7.3	19.9	-7.4	16.5	22.8	-14.5	-28.2
FTSE/JSE Africa All-Share (SA)	-0.3	-2.1	7.3	13.5	13.5	9.3	4.0	29.3	7.1	12.1	-8.4	21.0	2.8	5.3	10.9
UK															
FTSE All-Share	-1.2	-0.4	1.9	9.4	9.4	7.7	0.2	18.3	-9.7	19.1	-9.5	13.1	16.8	0.9	1.2
FTSE 100	-1.3	-0.2	1.6	9.6	9.6	7.7	4.6	18.4	-11.4	17.2	-8.8	12.0	19.2	-1.4	0.7
FTSE 250	-0.6	-1.4	3.2	8.1	8.1	8.0	-17.4	16.9	-4.6	28.9	-13.3	17.8	6.7	11.2	3.7
FTSE Small Cap ex Investment Trusts	0.6	-1.0	5.2	13.8	13.8	10.4	-17.3	31.3	1.7	17.7	-13.8	15.6	12.5	13.0	-2.7
FTSE TechMARK 100	-1.1	-4.9	-5.2	-0.5	-0.5	6.1	-7.5	13.6	7.3	39.2	-4.9	9.8	10.0	16.6	12.3
Asia Pacific & Japan															
Hong Kong Hang Seng	3.3	-4.9	15.7	22.9	22.9	-10.5	-12.6	-11.8	-0.2	13.0	-10.6	41.3	4.3	-3.9	5.3
China SE Shanghai Composite (capital returns)	0.9	0.7	15.1	16.2	16.2	-1.0	-12.8	7.0	16.5	25.3	-22.7	8.8	-10.5	11.2	58.0
Singapore Times	1.3	6.4	16.9	23.5	23.5	4.7	8.4	13.6	-8.1	9.4	-6.5	22.0	3.8	-11.3	9.6
Taiwan Weighted (capital returns)	3.6	3.8	1.7	31.7	31.7	31.3	-18.8	26.9	27.0	28.8	-5.0	19.4	15.5	-6.9	11.2
Korean Composite (capital returns)	-2.2	-7.4	-14.0	-8.4	-8.4	20.5	-23.2	5.6	33.8	10.0	-15.4	23.9	5.2	4.1	-3.5
Jakarta Composite (capital returns)	-0.5	-6.0	0.2	1.3	1.3	6.2	4.1	10.1	-5.1	1.7	-2.5	20.0	15.3	-12.1	22.3
Philippines Composite (capital returns)	-1.3	-10.2	1.8	4.1	4.1	-1.8	-7.8	-0.2	-8.6	4.7	-12.8	25.1	-1.6	-3.9	22.8
Thai Stock Exchange	-1.8	-3.1	8.9	2.3	2.3	-12.7	3.5	17.7	-5.3	4.3	-8.1	17.3	23.9	-11.2	19.1
Mumbai Sensex 30	-2.1	-7.1	-0.7	9.6	9.6	20.3	5.8	23.2	17.2	15.7	7.2	29.6	3.5	-3.7	32.0
Hang Seng China Enterprises index	5.0	-2.9	18.0	31.4	31.4	-10.7	-15.6	-21.2	0.0	14.5	-10.0	29.6	1.4	-16.9	15.5
ASX 200	-3.2	-0.8	6.9	12.7	12.7	14.0	0.5	18.7	2.3	25.0	-1.5	13.4	13.4	4.2	7.1
Topix	4.0	5.4	0.2	20.4	20.4	28.3	-2.5	12.8	7.4	18.1	-16.0	22.2	0.3	12.1	10.3
Nikkei 225 (capital returns)	4.4	5.2	0.8	21.3	21.3	28.2	-9.4	4.9	16.0	18.2	-12.1	19.1	0.4	9.1	7.1
MSCI Asia Pac ex Japan (US$)	-1.1	-8.0	1.9	10.8	10.8	7.9	-17.0	-2.5	23.1	19.8	-13.5	37.8	7.4	-8.8	3.5
Latin America															
MSCI EM Latin America (US$)	-6.0	-15.7	-12.5	-26.0	-26.0	33.6	9.6	-7.7	-13.6	17.8	-6.2	24.2	31.4	-30.9	-12.1
MSCI Mexico (US$)	-2.8	-10.5	-13.5	-26.9	-26.9	41.5	-1.6	22.9	-1.7	11.6	-15.4	16.2	-9.1	-14.4	-9.3
MSCI Brazil (US$)	-8.1	-19.3	-13.4	-29.5	-29.5	33.4	14.6	-17.1	-18.9	26.7	-0.1	24.5	66.7	-41.2	-13.8
MSCI Argentina (US$)	5.1	54.2	79.1	117.9	117.9	66.7	35.8	20.9	12.3	-20.7	-50.8	73.6	5.1	-0.4	19.2
MSCI Chile (US$)	0.1	-6.7	-1.7	-6.1	-6.1	6.4	23.3	-14.7	-4.2	-16.2	-18.9	43.6	16.8	-16.8	-12.2
Commodities															
Oil - Brent Crude Spot (US$/BBL)	-0.2	1.7	-14.5	-4.5	-4.5	-4.6	5.5	49.2	-25.0	35.5	-23.7	20.9	44.8	-31.4	-47.8
Oil - West Texas Intermediate (US$/BBL)	4.4	5.2	-12.0	0.1	0.1	-10.7	4.2	58.7	-20.5	34.5	-24.8	16.3	45.0	-30.5	-45.9
Reuters CRB index	3.8	5.3	4.7	18.4	18.4	0.0	22.0	38.5	-9.3	11.8	-10.7	1.7	9.7	-23.4	-17.9
Gold Bullion LBM (US$/Troy Ounce)	-8.8	-13.6	-0.1	9.1	10.8	4.0	-8.8	-8.1	34.9	51.3	-17.1	8.1	74.1	-34.1	-0.2
Baltic Dry index	-26.4	-52.2	-51.4	-52.4	-52.4	38.2	-31.7	62.3	25.3	-14.2	-7.0	42.1	101.0	-38.9	-65.7

Source: Blomberg, total returns in local currency unless otherwise stated.

An investment cannot be made into an index directly. The performance data shown relates to a past period. Past performance does not predict future returns.

Investment risks

The value of investments and any income will fluctuate (this may partly be the result of exchange rate fluctuations) and investors may not get back the full amount invested.

Important information

View and opinions are based on current market conditions and are subject to change.

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