

GOAL POSITIONING

Tracking positioning in the Tech rally

- **Our sentiment and positioning indicator has stabilized around the 59th-ile, at elevated levels but below historical peaks.** It has been supported by a rising Risk Appetite Indicator (>1 for the last 3 weeks), lower volatility, higher call/put ratios and bullish positioning in equities from long-only investors (NAAIM is at the highest level in 2026) through both futures and flows. However, surveys have turned less optimistic and fixed income flows remain skewed to safety: YTD inflows in defensive fixed income are the highest (US government bonds, Asia IG, linkers – [Exhibit 8](#)), while they were weaker for the riskier HY bonds.
- **Re-risking has been unusually fast and narrow, with particular focus on global Tech stocks.** Global hedge funds' net leverage rose from below 70% to above 80% in less than two months – the strongest acceleration since 'Liberation Day' ([Exhibit 1](#)). Hedge funds have doubled down on the AI trade, lifting their net exposure to IT by +853 bp – the largest quarterly increase on record – while keeping gross leverage elevated ([Exhibit 61](#)). The Tech optimism also further boosted US equities, with both foreign and domestic flows in the region ([Exhibit 28](#)). Options positioning in US Tech and Semis has returned to the top percentile of the 5-year range

after a sharp rebound, with elevated spot/vol correlation ([Exhibit 2](#)).

- **Retail flows into Tech stocks have also picked up.** Retail participation and inflows into Tech-exposed segments such as Semiconductor stocks (constituents of the SOX) have surged to cycle highs ([Exhibit 3](#)). In Korea and Taiwan, domestic retail flows have similarly climbed to near historical highs, offsetting ongoing foreign outflows ([Exhibit 4](#)). Asset managers' Nasdaq futures net positioning is at highs, while leveraged funds remain short, likely due to more single stock exposure ([Exhibit 5](#)). Investors increasingly use leveraged instruments linked to the 'AI-trade' – assets in leveraged ETFs linked to AI and Tech themes have surged, with exposures in the US and Korea/Taiwan rising sharply – more than doubling in recent months ([Exhibit 6](#)).
- **Broad cross-asset signals are also shifting less defensive.** Risk-off skew has compressed across most asset classes ([Exhibit 57](#)), with some pockets of caution persisting in credit (e.g. HYG). Risk reversals point to a weakened impulse for USD upside versus the previous weeks, particularly versus selective G10 (e.g. NOK – [Exhibit 47](#)), and overall speculative positioning in the US

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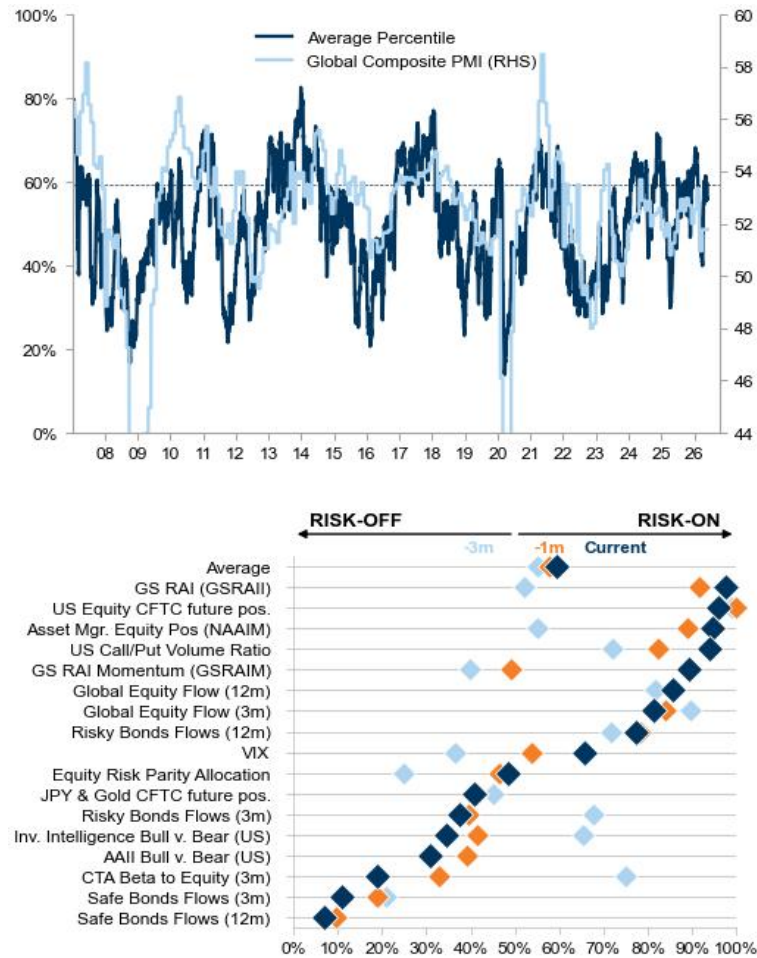
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Dollar is broadly neutral ([Exhibit 46](#)). Gold futures positioning continued to moderate ([Exhibit 44](#)), while it remains very elevated in other commodities, such as Copper ([Exhibit 50](#)).

Our positioning and sentiment indicator stabilized to the 59th-ile

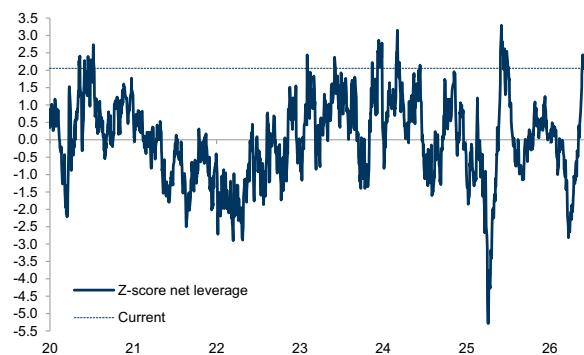


Source: Datastream, Haver Analytics, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

6 charts we are watching: Tracking positioning in the Tech rally

Exhibit 1: Net leverage increased with the fastest velocity since 'Liberation Day'

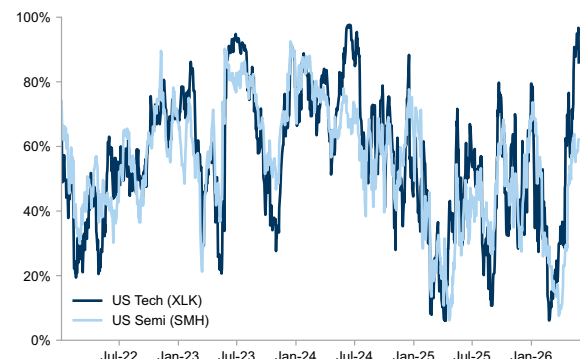
2y Z-score of chg. since April. Global hedge funds net leverage.



Source: Goldman Sachs FICC and Equities, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 2: Option positioning in US-Tech ETF is very bullish

5y percentile of option positioning* in US Tech and Semi.



*Average across call/put volume (2w), call skew (25d) and spot/vol correlation.

Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 3: Semiconductor stocks have been much in focus for retail investors

30d rolling net flows, daily data in \$bn, since 2019. Sum of the net notional (retail buy-sell) for the 30 constituents in the PHLX Semiconductor (SOX).



Source: Goldman Sachs FICC and Equities, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 4: Retail investors in South Korea counterbalanced foreign investors' outflows

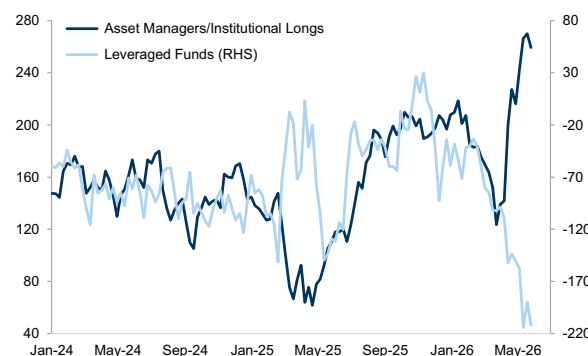
KOSPI ETF: 8w rolling (\$bn), domestic retail net purchases



Source: Haver Analytics, Korea Exchange, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 5: Positioning in Tech has diverged across long-only managers and leveraged funds

Net positioning in \$bn on CME Nasdaq 100 consolidated, weekly data, futures only.



Source: CFTC, Haver Analytics, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 6: Leveraged ETFs' assets more than doubled in the last two months

Total net assets, in \$bn



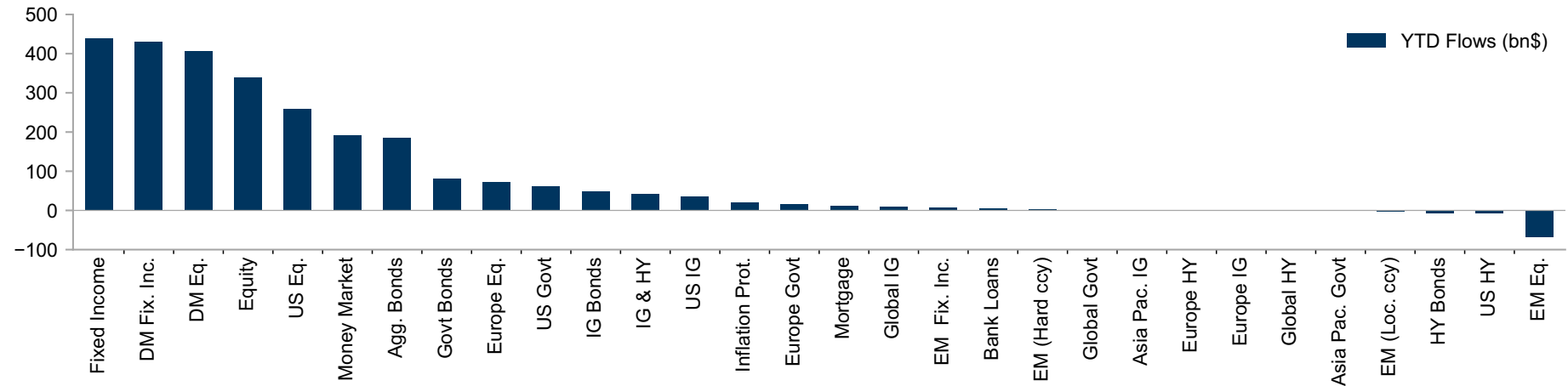
573 leveraged equity ETFs on US equities (AuM 174bn\$), 52 ETFs on South Korea (AuM 30bn\$) and 11 on Taiwan (AuM 7.7bn\$).

Source: EPFR, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Cross-Asset Global Fund Flows: YTD

Exhibit 7: Cross-asset YTD global fund flows (\$bn)

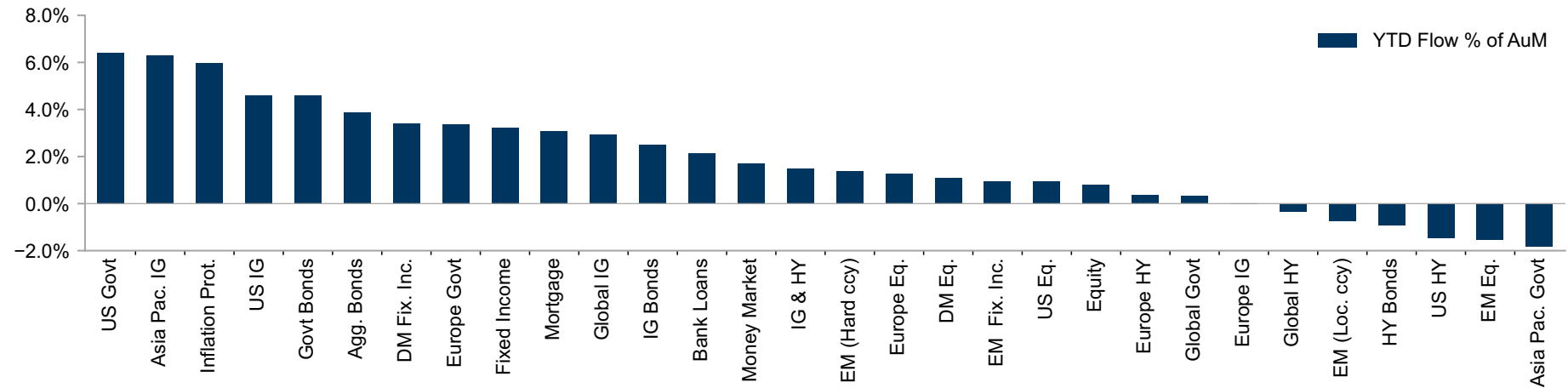
Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 8: Cross-asset YTD global fund flows as a percentage of AuM

Monthly flows. MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available

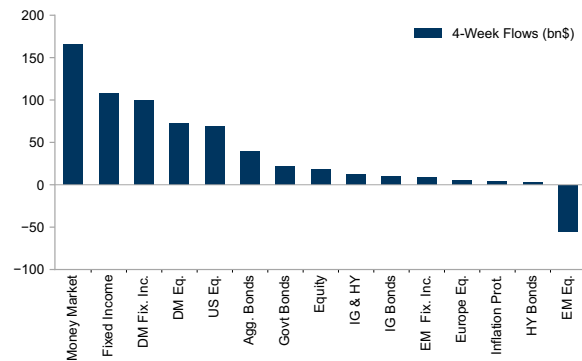


Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Cross-Asset Global Fund Flows: 4-week, 3-month, 12-month

Exhibit 9: 4-week cross-asset global fund flows (\$bn)

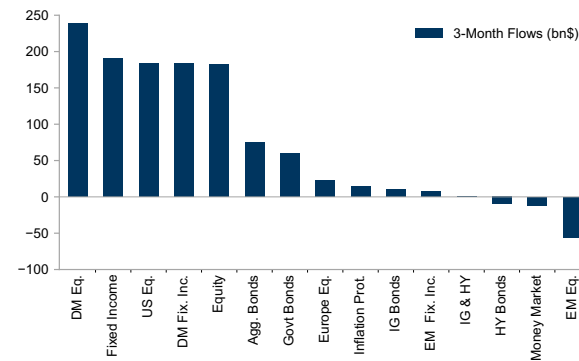
All funds reporting weekly



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 10: 3-month cross-asset global fund flows (\$bn)

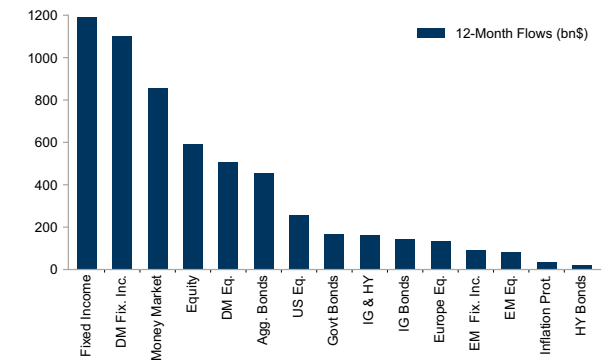
Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 11: 12-month cross-asset global fund flows (\$bn)

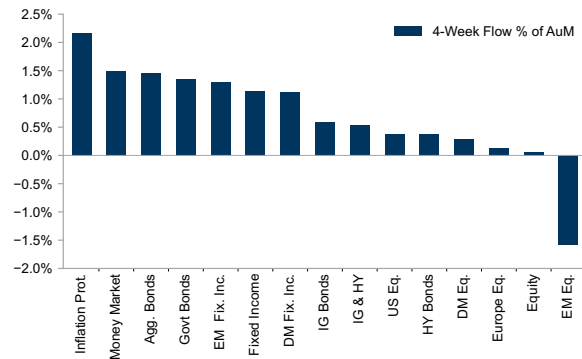
Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 12: 4-week cross-asset global fund flows as a percentage of AuM

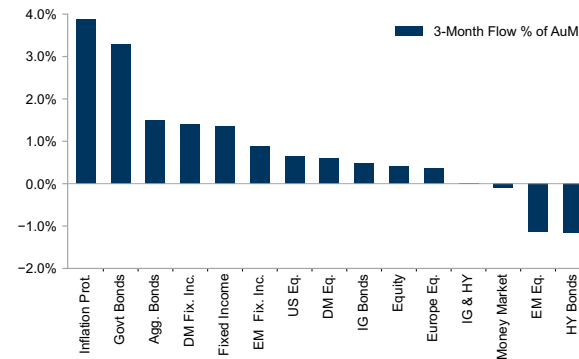
All funds reporting weekly



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 13: 3-month cross-asset global fund flows as a percentage of AuM

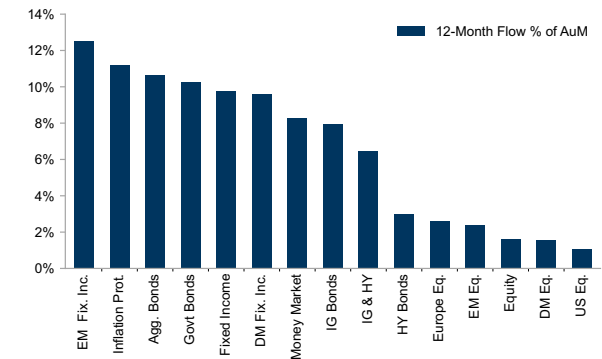
Monthly flows. MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 14: 12-month cross-asset global fund flows as a percentage of AuM

Monthly flows. MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available

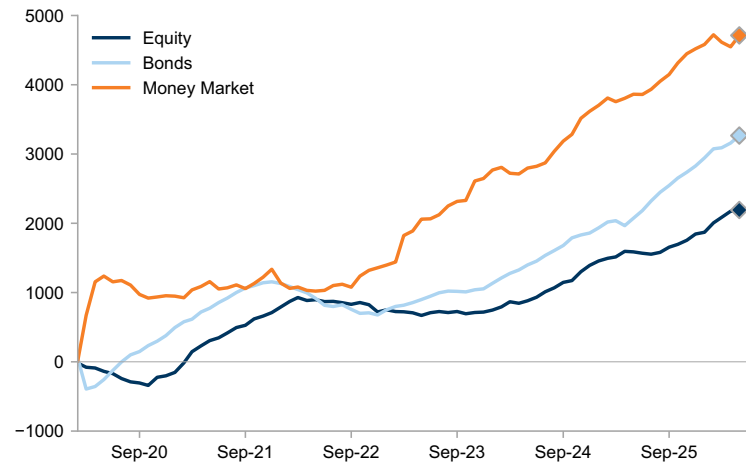


Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Cross-Asset Global Fund Flows: Cumulative & 1-month rolling by asset class and region

Exhibit 15: Cumulative global fund flows across assets

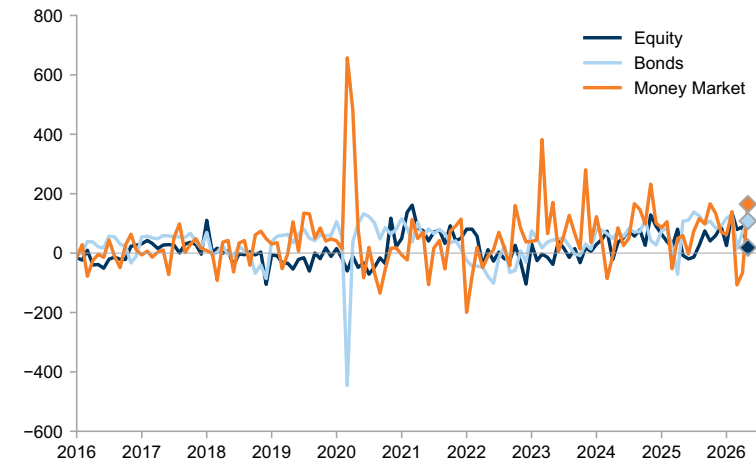
Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 16: 1-month global fund flows across assets

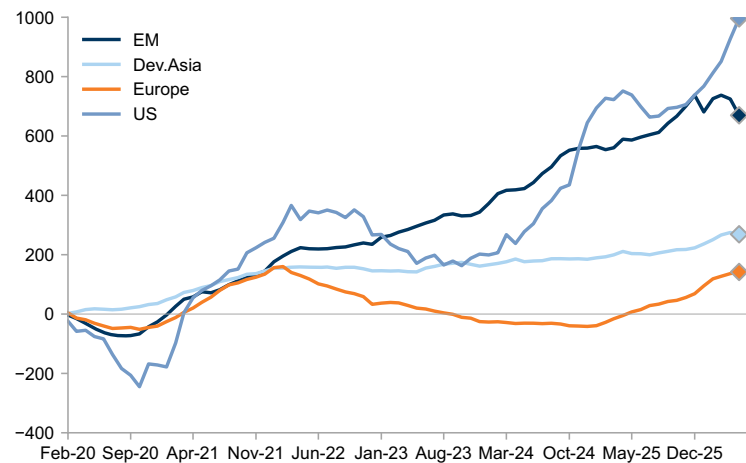
Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 17: Cumulative global equity fund flows across regions

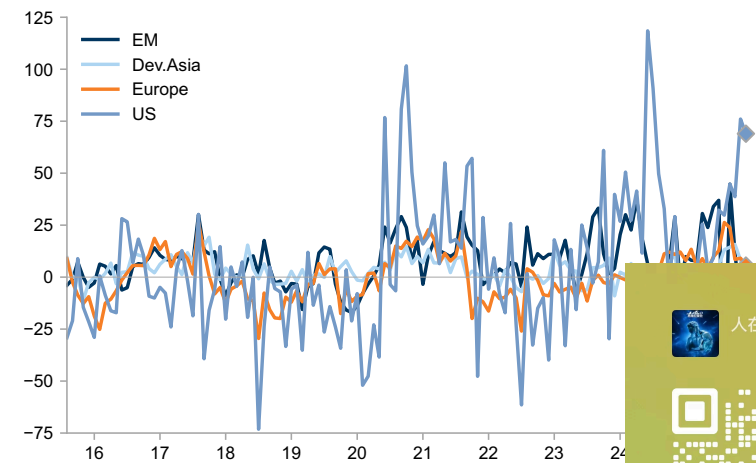
Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 18: 1-month global equity fund flows across regions

Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research



Cross-Asset Global Fund Flows: Risky vs. Safe Assets

Exhibit 19: Risky vs. safe assets: 1-month rolling globalund flows

Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available

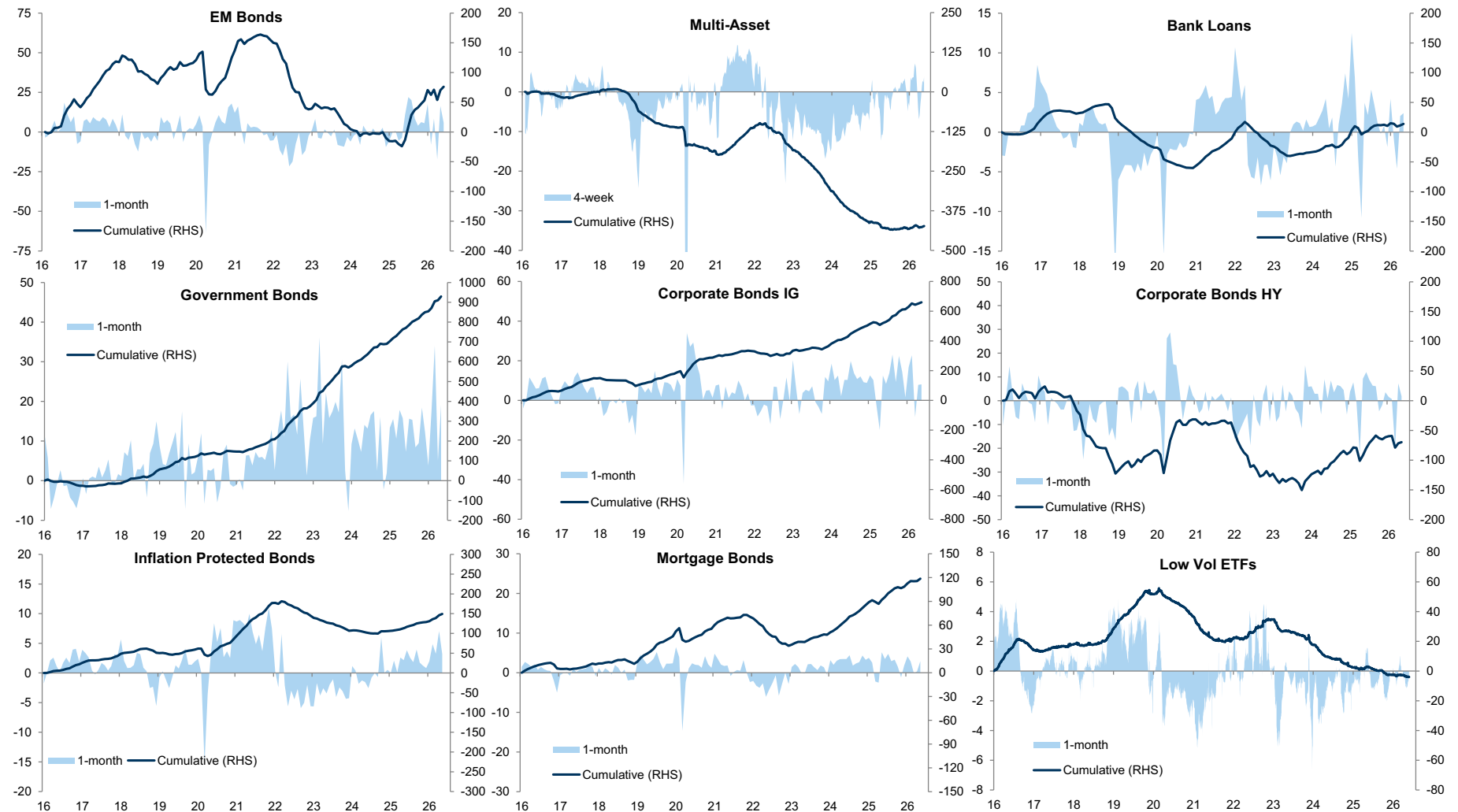
Exhibit 20: Risky vs. safe assets: 3-month rolling globalund flows

Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available

Cross-Asset Global Fund Flows: Cumulative & 1-month

Exhibit 23: Cumulative and 1-month rolling global fund flows (\$bn)

Monthly flows (\$bn). MTD sum of weekly flows when monthly not yet available. Weekly flows for Multi-Asset and Low Vol ETFs

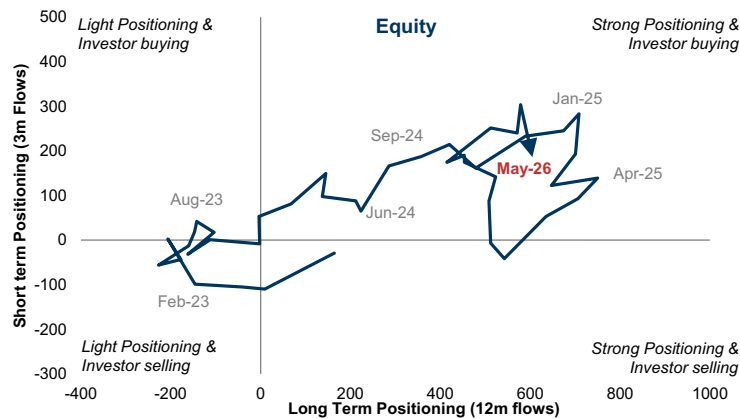


Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Cross-Asset Global Fund Flows: Fund Flows Cycle Across Assets

Exhibit 24: Equity: short- & long-term global fund flow cycle

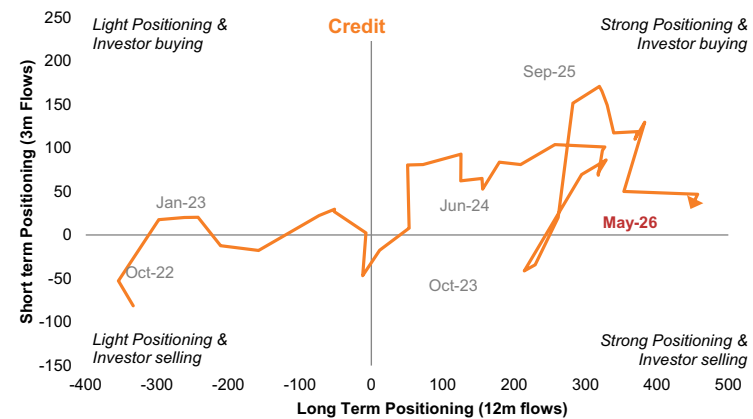
Monthly data until Apr-26, 4-week sum for May-26



Source: EPFR, Haver Analytics, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 25: Credit: short- & long-term global fund flow cycle

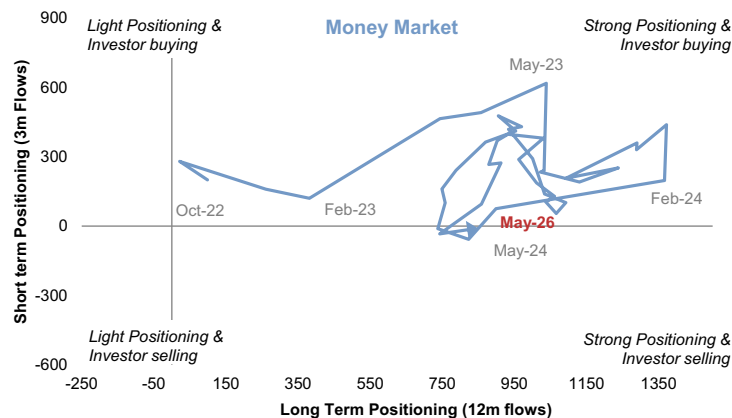
Monthly data until Apr-26, 4-week sum for May-26



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 26: Money market: short- & long-term global fund flow cycle

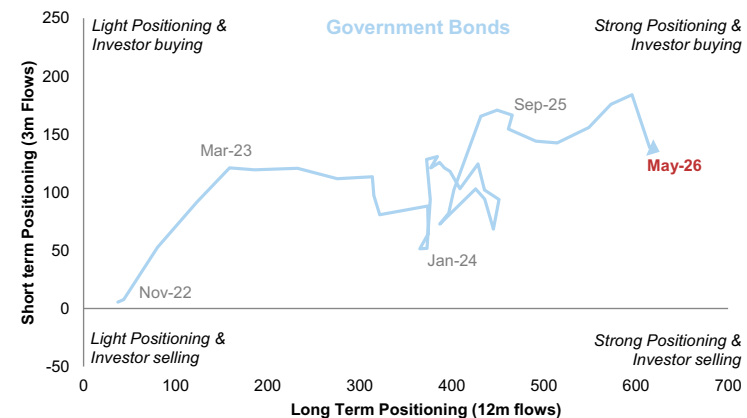
Monthly data until Apr-26, 4-week sum for May-26



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 27: Government bonds: short- & long-term global fund flow cycle

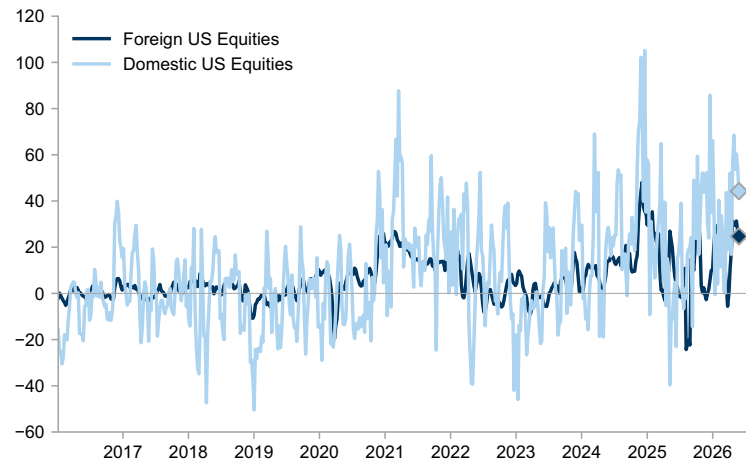
Monthly data until Apr-26, 4-week sum for May-26



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

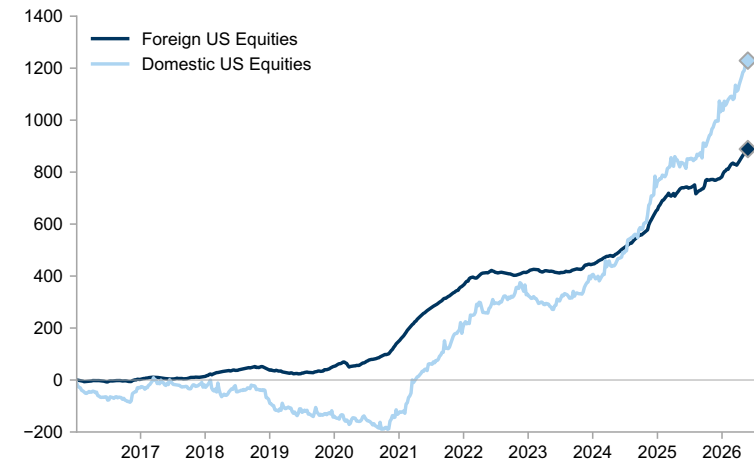
Equity Global Fund Flows: Foreign/Domestic Investor Flows

Exhibit 28: US equity foreign/domestic 4-week global fund flows



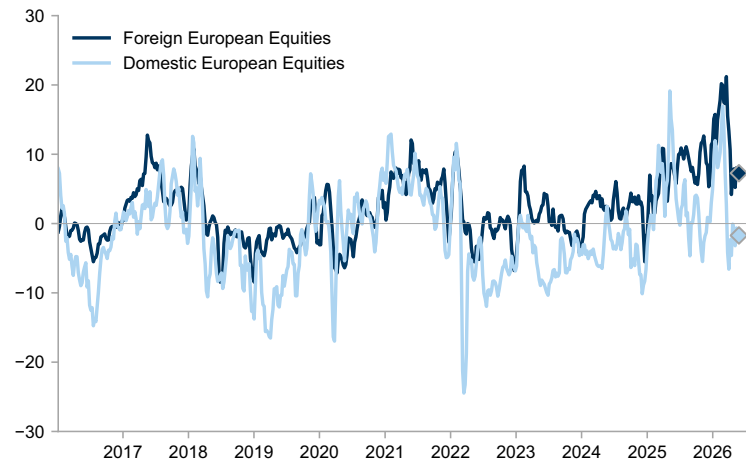
Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 29: US equity foreign/domestic cumulative fund flows



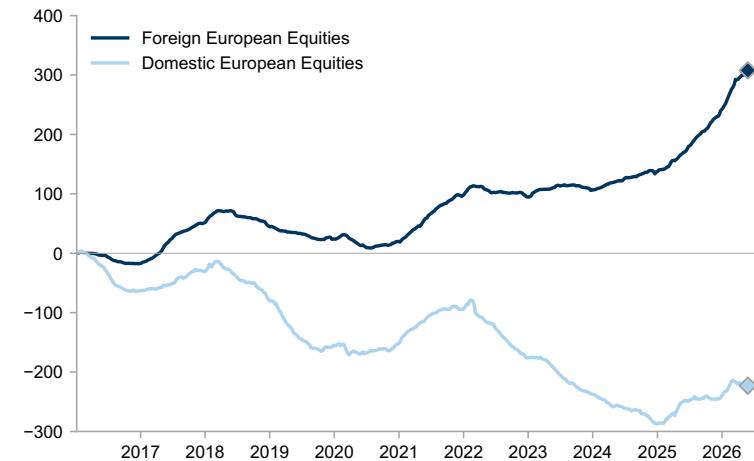
Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 30: European equity foreign/domestic 4-week global fund flows



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

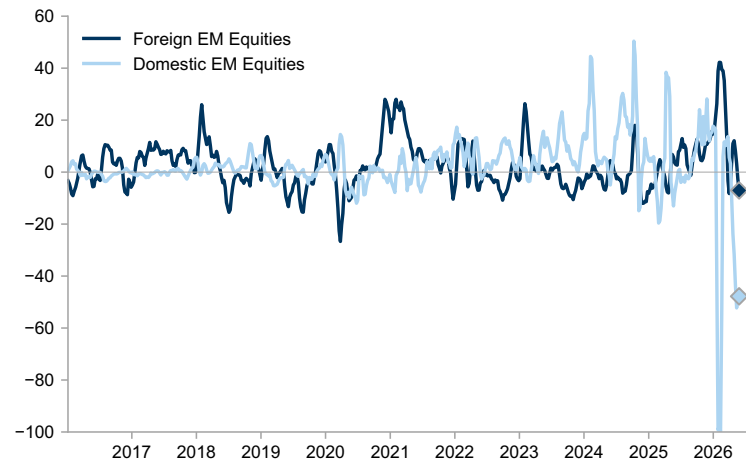
Exhibit 31: European equity foreign/domestic cumulative global fund flows



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

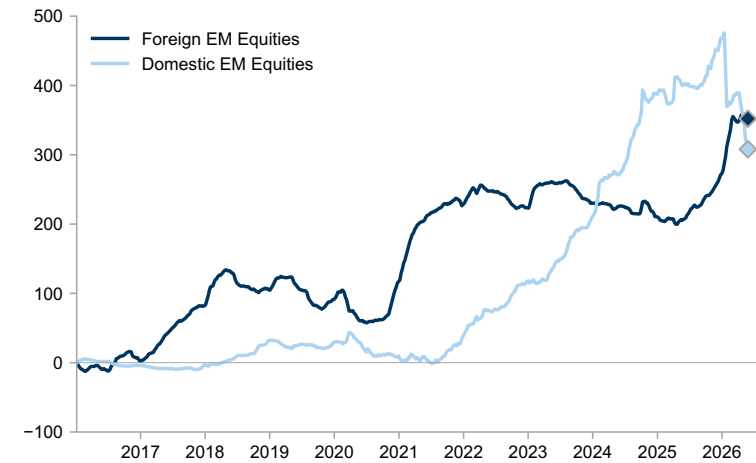
Equity Global Fund Flows: Foreign/Domestic Investor Flows

Exhibit 32: EM equity foreign/domestic 4-week global fund flows



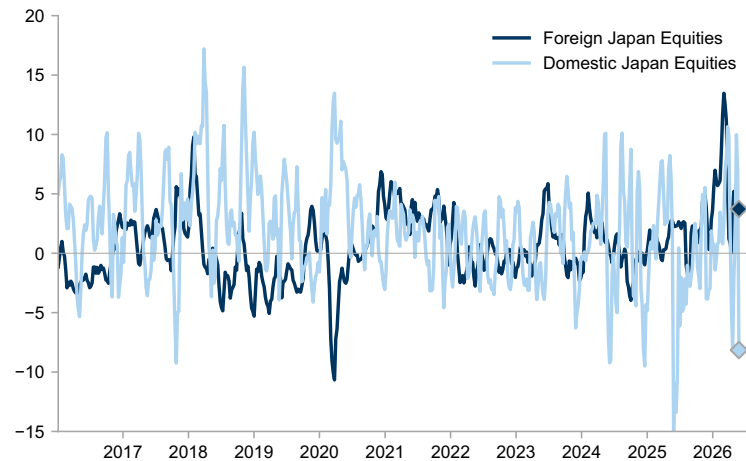
Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 33: EM equity foreign/domestic cumulative global fund flows



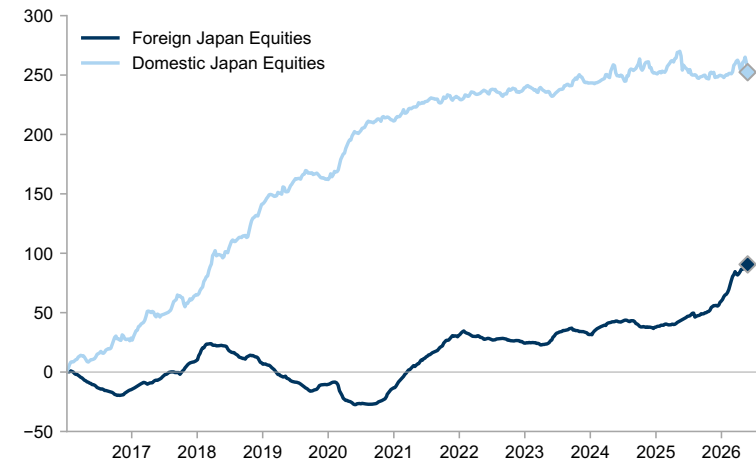
Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 34: Japan equity foreign/domestic 4-week global fund flows



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 35: Japan equity foreign/domestic cumulative global fund flows

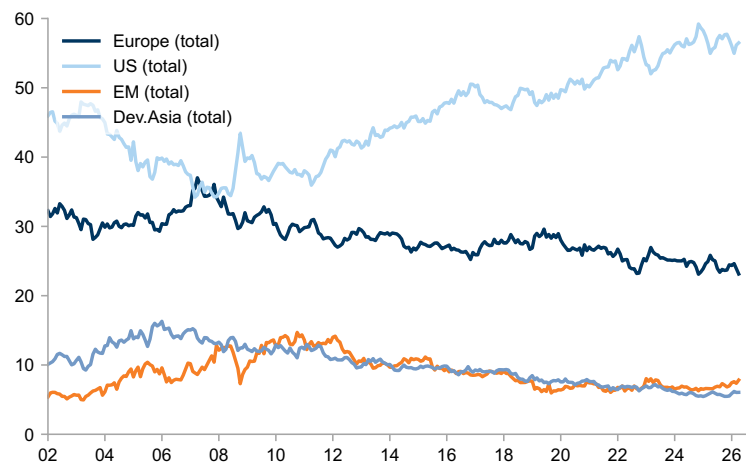


Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Global Equity & Bonds Mutual Funds Allocation

Exhibit 36: Global equity mutual funds' regional allocation

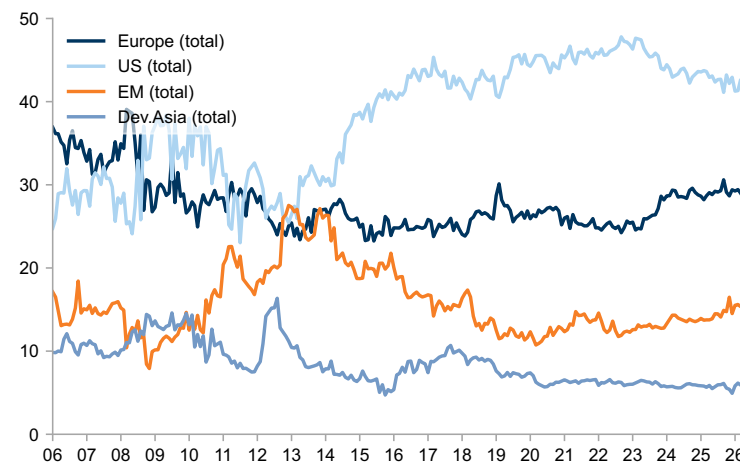
As of April 2026



Source: EPFR, Haver Analytics, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 37: Global bonds mutual funds' regional allocation

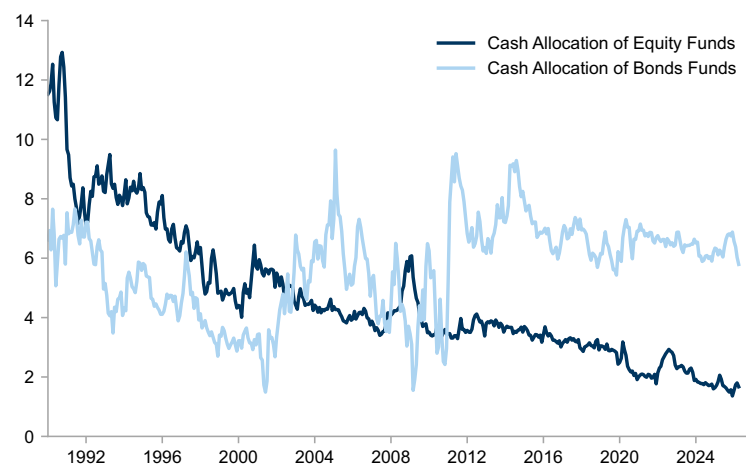
As of April 2026



Source: EPFR, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 38: Cash allocation of equity and bond funds

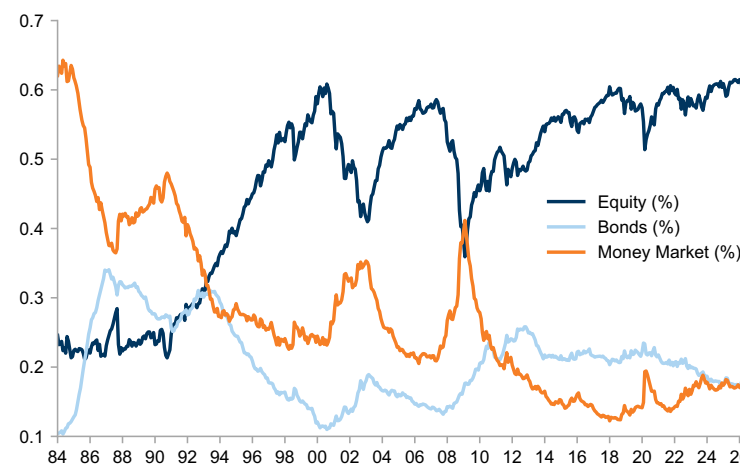
US domiciled funds (as of April 26)



Source: ICI, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 39: US mutual funds & ETFs - AUM breakdown into equity, bonds and money market

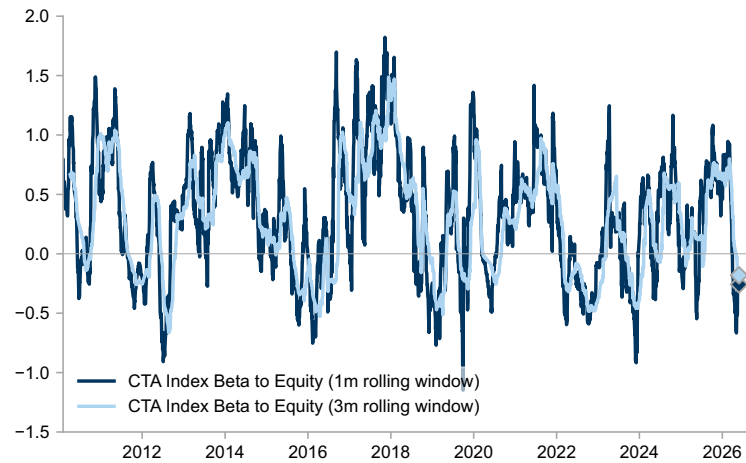
US domiciled mutual funds (as of April 26)



Source: ICI, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

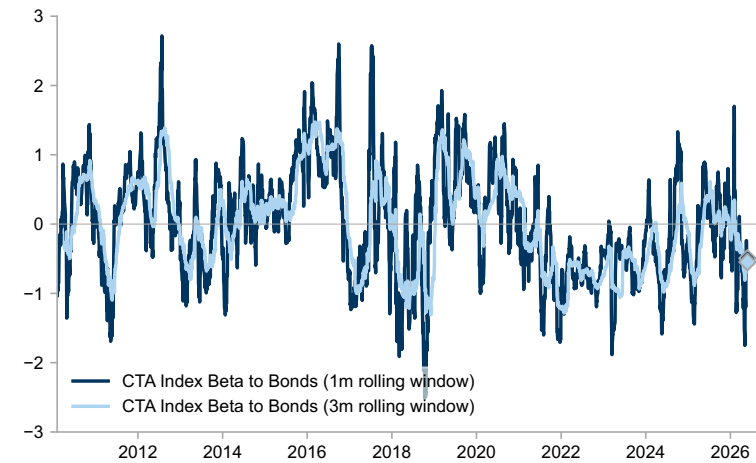
CTAs: Performance Sensitivities

Exhibit 40: Global CTAs performance beta to equity



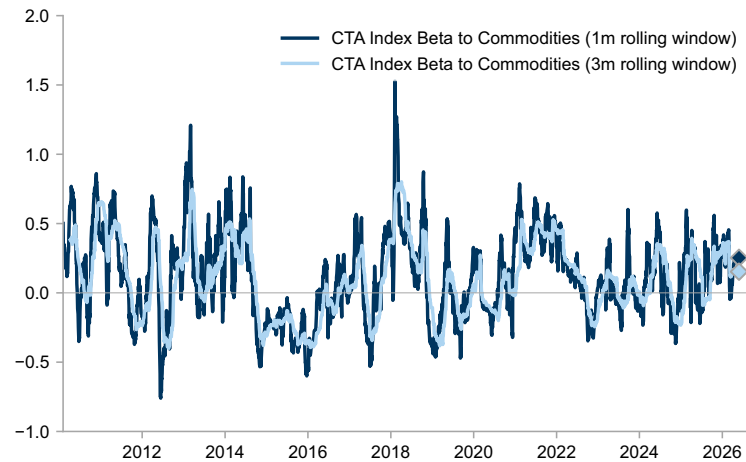
Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 41: Global CTAs performance beta to US 10y bonds



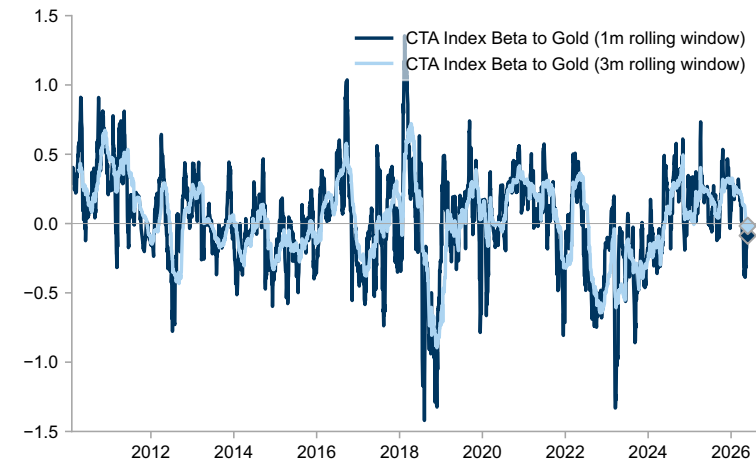
Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 42: Global CTAs performance beta to S&P GSCI



Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

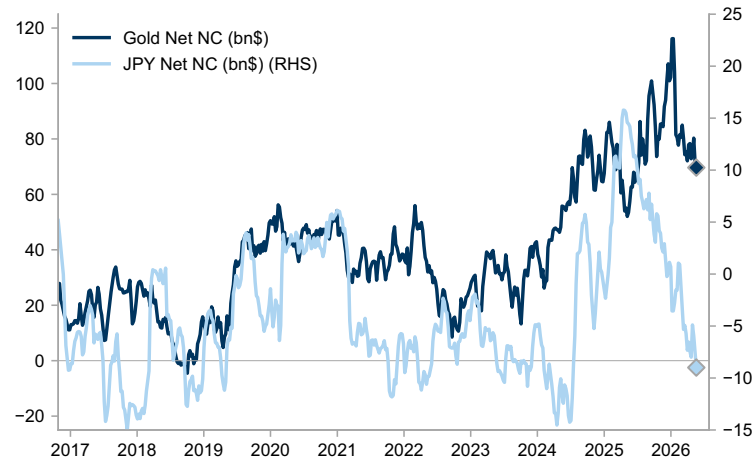
Exhibit 43: Global CTAs performance beta to Gold



Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

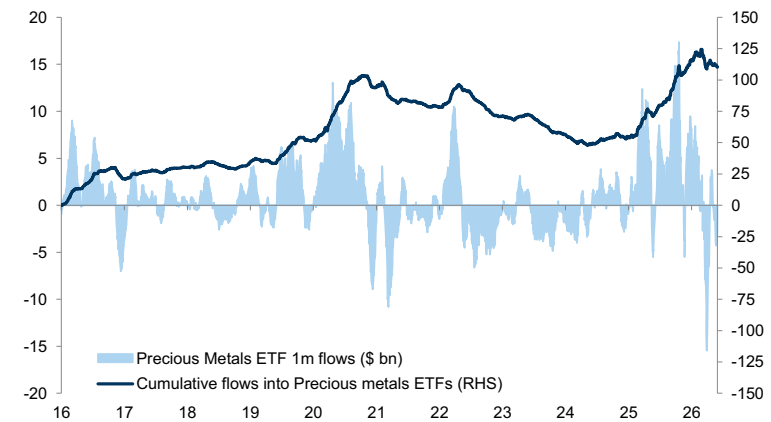
Gold, JPY and the Dollar

Exhibit 44: Gold and USD/JPY net non-commercial future positions



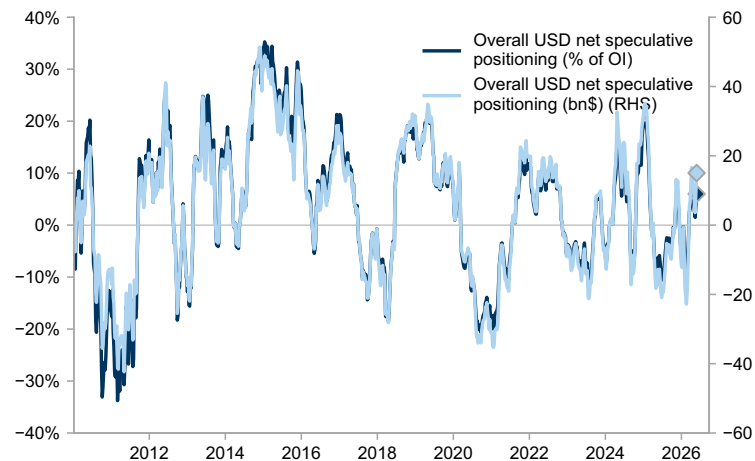
Source: CFTC, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 45: Precious metal ETFs global flows



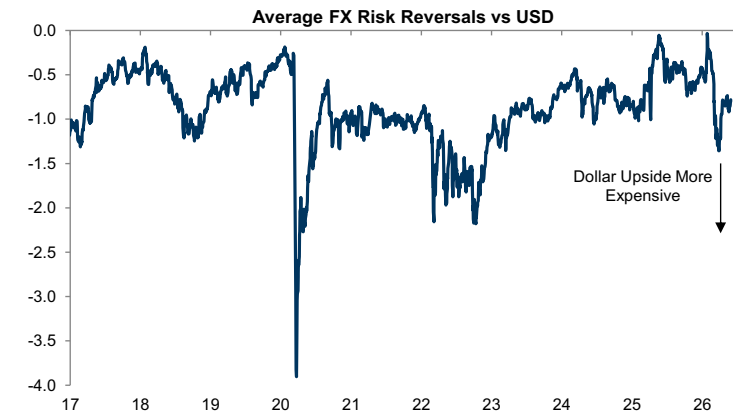
Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 46: Net non-commercial future positions in USD vs. other FX
FX included: EUR, JPY, GBP, AUD, NZD, CAD, CHF, MXN, BRL, RUB



Source: CFTC, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 47: Average FX risk reversal vs. USD
3m 25-delta FX risk reversal vs. USD



Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

CFTC Cross-Asset Positioning

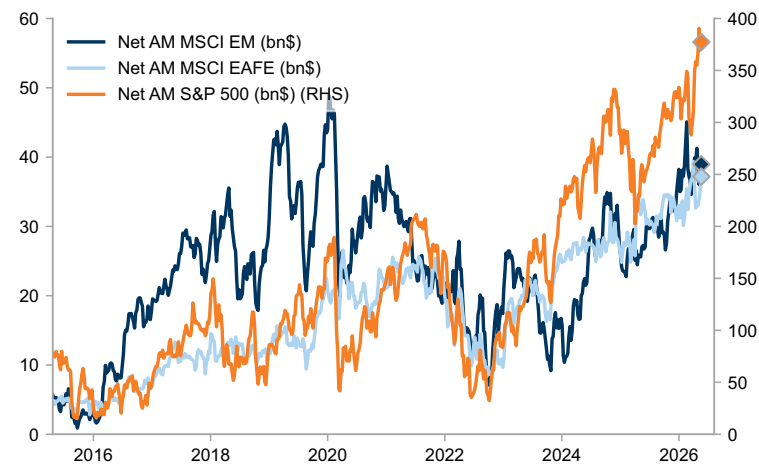
Exhibit 48: Cross-asset CFTC positioning indicators

Asset	Positioning vs last 5y		Net Future Pos. (% of Open Int.)	Net Future Pos. (\$ bn)	Open Int. (\$ bn)
	Short (Min)	Long (Max)			
US Equity			42%	430	1019
S&P 500			47%	378	799
Nasdaq 100			26%	52	198
Copper			27%	11	41
EAFE Mini			50%	37	74
EM Mini			39%	39	101
USD			6%	16	250
Gold			44%	70	159
VIX			-13%	-1	7
Nikkei			19%	1	7
EUR			4%	4	120
WTI			8%	16	196
US 10-year			-13%	-79	625
US 2-year			-25%	-251	992
US Bond			-20%	-462	2302
JPY			-27%	-9	34
CHF			-33%	-6	17
GBP			-22%	-5	24

Source: CFTC, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

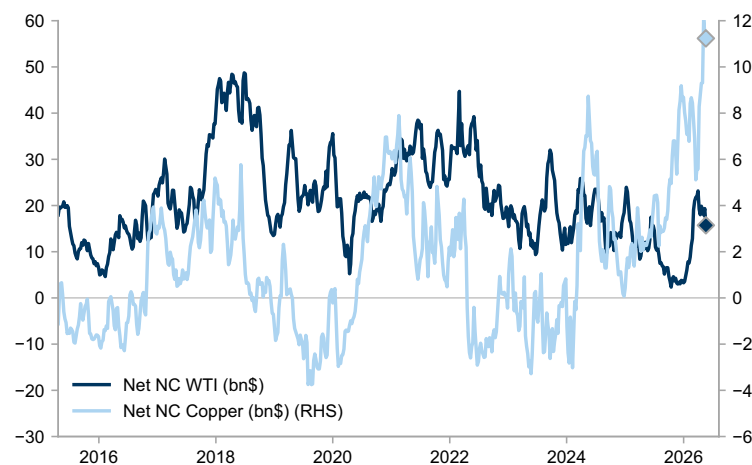
Exhibit 49: Equity future asset managers' positions

Asset manager net positioning in \$bn



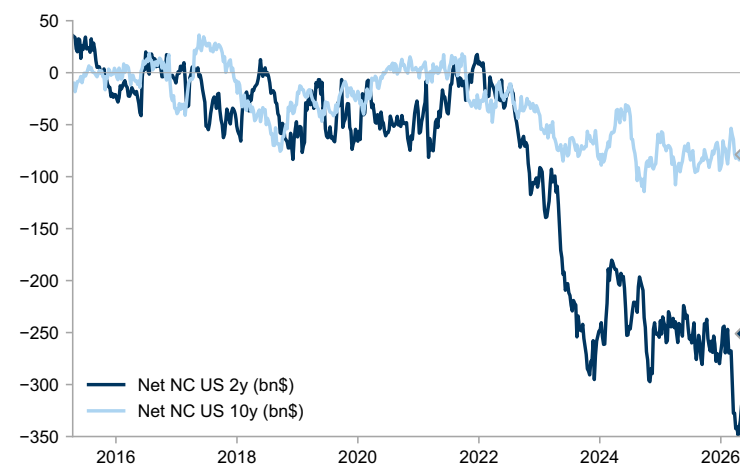
Source: CFTC, Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 50: Commodity net non-commercial future positions



Source: CFTC, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 51: US bond net non-commercial future positions

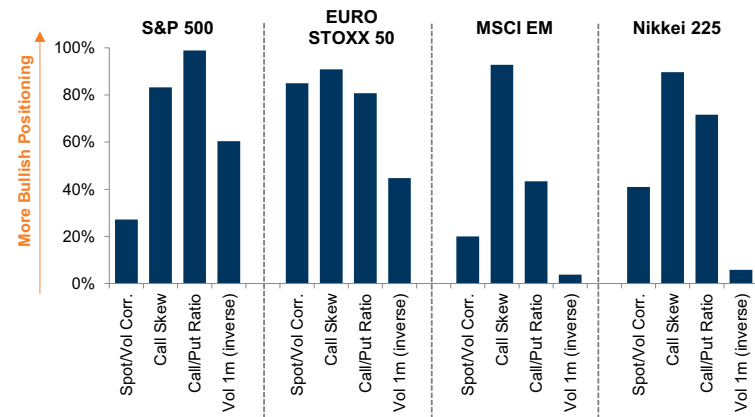


Source: CFTC, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Equity Options Positioning Indicators

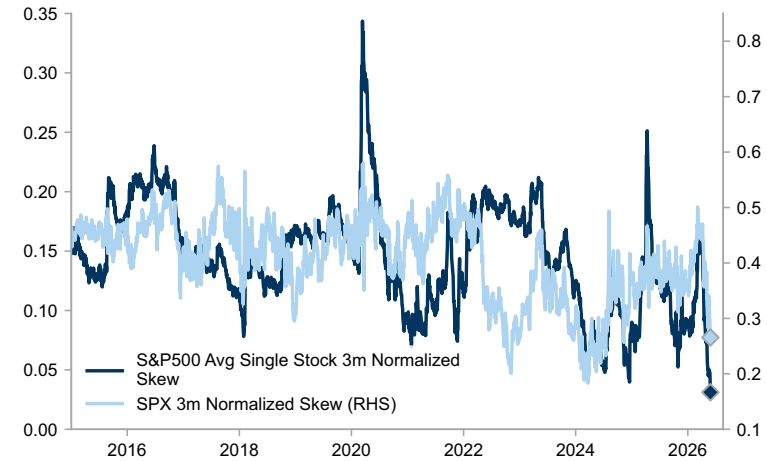
Exhibit 52: Option positioning indicators

Percentile since 2015



Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

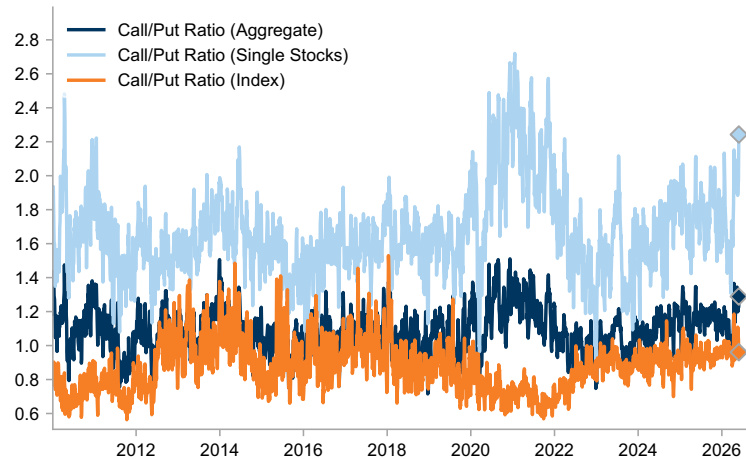
Exhibit 53: Single stock and S&P 500 skew



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 54: US equity call/put volumes ratio

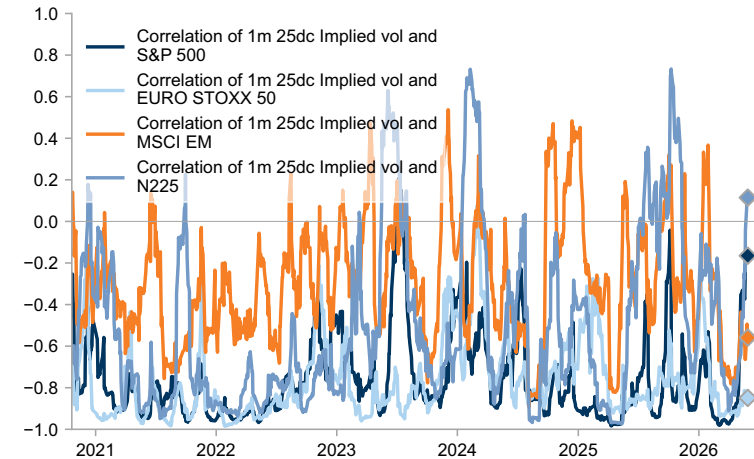
CBOE Index



Source: Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 55: Spot/vol correlation across indices

1m rolling correlation of daily change/return

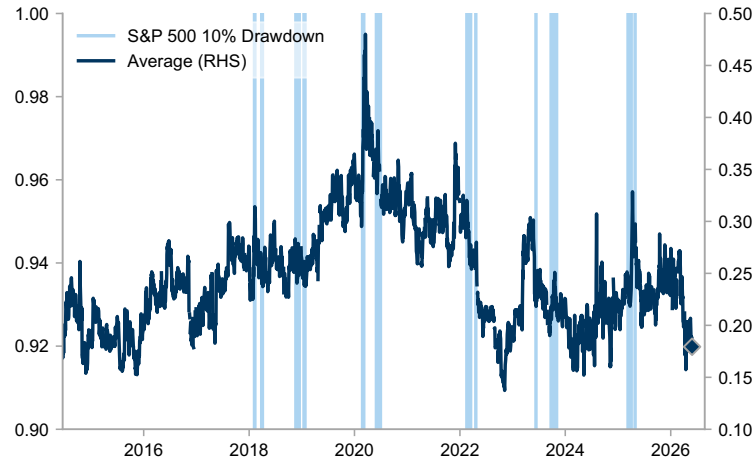


Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Cross-Asset Skew Monitor

Exhibit 56: Average cross-asset skew

3m 25d normalised skew across assets

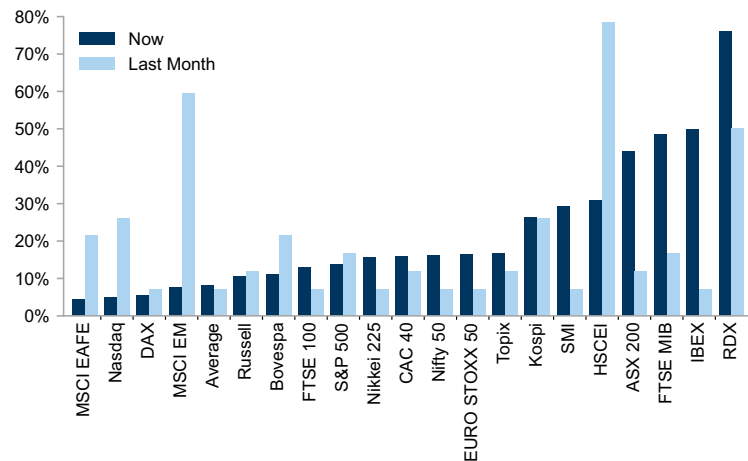


Assets: S&P 500, EURO STOXX 50, US Credit HY (HYG), WTI, Gold, JPY vs USD

Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 58: Put skew across equity indices

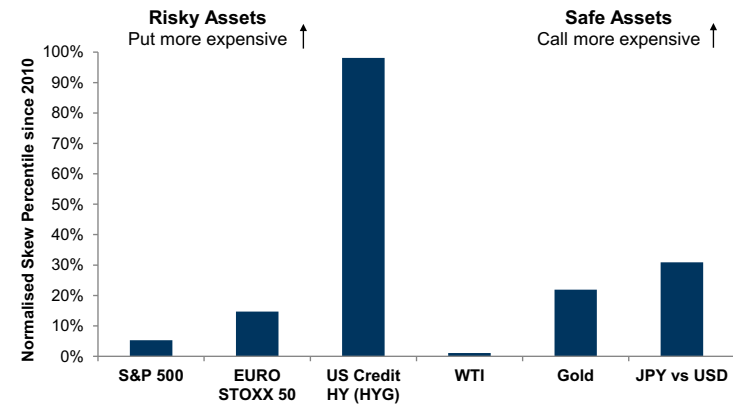
3m 25-delta normalised skew (last 10y percentile)



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 57: Percentile of skew across assets

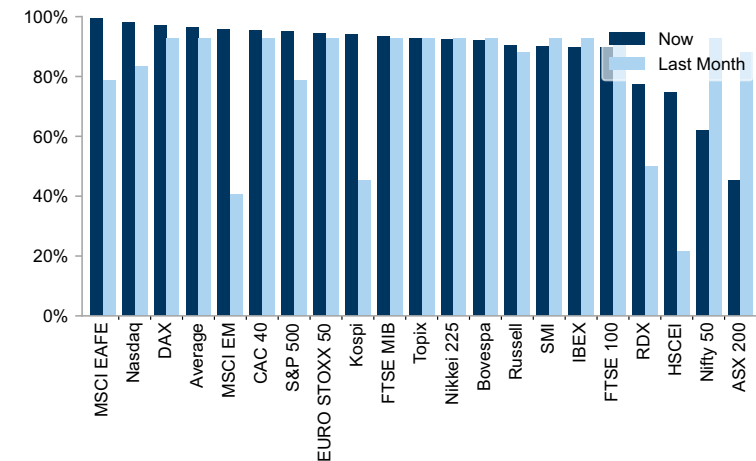
Percentile since 2010. 3m 25-delta normalised skew



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 59: Call skew across equity indices

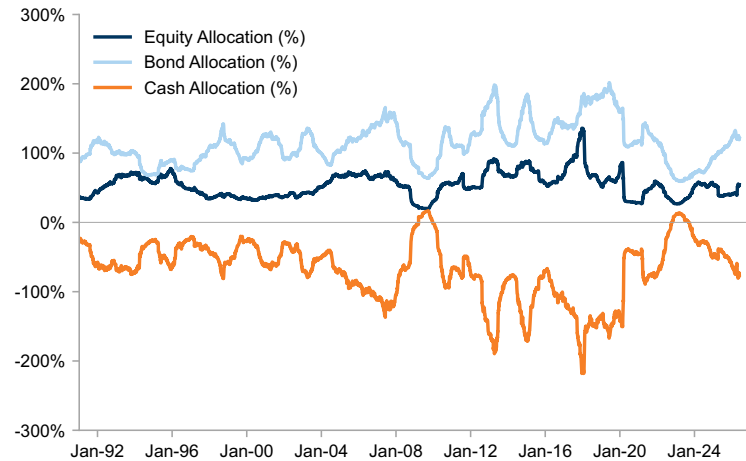
3m 25-delta normalised skew (last 10y percentile)



Risk Parity, Hedge Fund Leverage and Surveys

Exhibit 60: US risk parity allocation

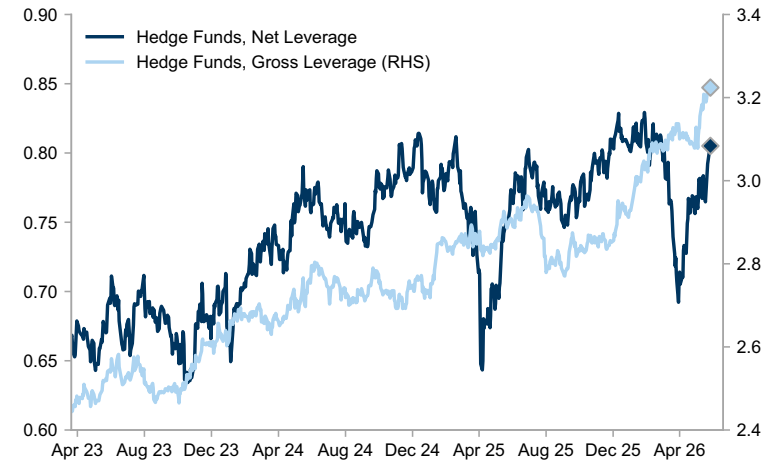
US risk parity strategy allocation based on: vol target at 10%, volatility lookback period 1y, using leverage, assets: S&P 500 and US 10y bonds



Source: Haver, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

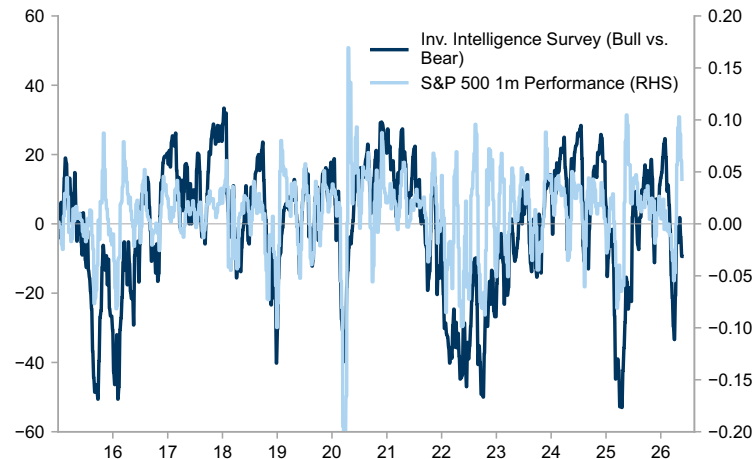
Exhibit 61: Hedge fund net and gross leverage (ex. options)

Aggregated data from Goldman Sachs Prime Services, should not be relied upon as a comprehensive view of the market.



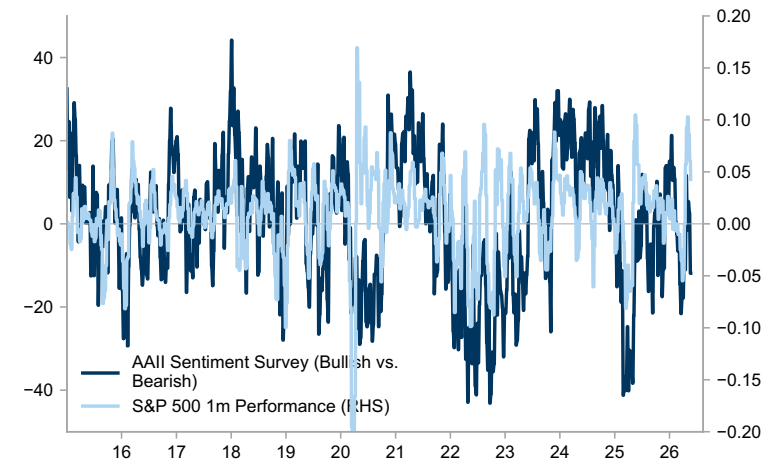
Source: Goldman Sachs Prime Services

Exhibit 62: Investor Intelligence Survey Indicator



Source: Datastream, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Exhibit 63: American Association of Individual Investors



Source: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

Appendix

Investors Intelligence Survey: Created in 1963. The survey is carried out by the investment services provider Investors Intelligence and covers the market views of 130 independent newsletters (brokerage house letters excluded), most of which are published weekly. The list of advisers is reviewed thanks to Barron's or web searches. The survey reports the findings as the percentage of advisers who are bullish/ bearish/ expect a correction, and is based on the question "are you telling their readers to buy or sell?" The survey is released each Wednesday morning, with most of the opinions written prior to the previous Friday's market close.

AAll Sentiment Survey: Sentiment of individual investors (bullish or bearish) towards the stock market over the next 6 months. The data are weekly since 1987 and are collected by the AAll (The American Association of Individual Investors) via a survey of a subset of their members. Response rates vary, but on average they obtained 315 responses each week from the start of 2013, for example, with the weekly period defined as from Thursday to Wednesday. During this window, AAll members participate by visiting the Sentiment Survey page on AAll.com and voting. The survey is open to all members, although a weekly email is sent to a rotating group of members reminding them to participate. Results are published online early each Thursday morning. Prior to the year 2000, members responded by physically mailing a postcard back to the AAll offices. The typical AAll member is a male in his mid-60s with a bachelor's or graduate degree. AAll members tend to be affluent with a median portfolio size in excess of \$1 million. The typical member self-describes as having a moderate level of investment knowledge and engaging primarily in fundamental analysis. AAll has in excess of 160,000 members and, simply due to the sheer size of membership, there are wide variances in wealth, investment knowledge and investing styles.

CBOE Put/Call Ratio: Calculated as the ratio of put options volume traded relative to the call options volume traded as reported at the end of each day. It is compiled at a daily frequency and comprises single stock and index options. It excludes exchange-traded products.

CFTC Future data: CFTC reports are published on Friday each week, reflecting current positioning as of the close on the previous Tuesday for markets in which 20 or more traders hold positions equal to or above the reporting levels established by the CFTC.

EPFR Fund Flows Data: Fund flows data track more than \$25trn AuM of global mutual funds and ETFs. We collect data with a weekly frequency, and they reflect fund flows as of Wednesday's close.

Disclosure Appendix

Reg AC

We, Christian Mueller-Glissmann, CFA, Alessandro Giglio, Andrea Ferrario, Giovanni Ferrannini and Peter Oppenheimer, hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect our personal views, which have not been influenced by considerations of the firm's business or client relationships.

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