

Insights

In-depth perspectives from portfolio managers and industry experts on the issues that matter most to investors.

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INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL

Forward Thinking: How Global Inflationary Trends Fuel Opportunity for Investors

By: Forward Thinking | September 12, 2023

In this issue of Forward Thinking, we guide investors seeking to maximize the return potential amid shifting inflationary trends throughout the world, sharing our insights about how to increase their allocations to both global equities and fixed income.

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HIGH YIELD | NAVIGATING THE CURVE | OUTLOOK

2024 Outlook: High Yield Bonds

By: Stephen C. Concannon, CFA, Will

Reardon | December 6, 2023

Higher Volatility in 2024 May Present Attractive Entry Points for High Yield Bonds

KEY POINTS

- 1. As global central banks near the end of a historical cycle of tightening monetary policy, we believe a moderate recession is a more probable outcome in 2024.
- 2. Increasing dispersion in valuations across rating segments, sectors and individual issuers will continue to provide opportunity and the ability to capture attractive entry points.
- 3. We have maintained our cautious positioning and continue to prefer defensive sectors that trade wide of historical norms, such as health care, given the sector's historically defensive characteristics.

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RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Where's the Trickle

Down? Gender

Diversity in

Corporate Pipeline

Lags the Boardroom

By: <u>Yijia Chen, CFA</u> | March 15, 2024

As March is Women's History

Month, it's timely that we review
women's headway moving up the
corporate ranks and the progress
of gender diversity initiatives
worldwide.

EM EQUITIES

EMERGING MARKETS | <u>EQUITIES</u> | <u>HIGH CONVICTION ACTIVE</u>

Brazilian Economy
Boosted by
Reasonable
Government
Legislations and
Tight Monetary
Policy

By: Paul Psaila | February 5, 2024

KEY POINTS

- 1. A year into President Lula's term, the political and economic situation in Brazil is better than many had expected.
- 2. The economy will likely grow more than expected as interest rates continue to fall.
- 3. We believe Brazil remains
 cheap compared to other emerging
 markets with lower inflation and
 rates acting as a tailwind for
 growth.

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NAVIGATING THE CURVE

Making a Compelling Case for Core and Core Plus Strategies

By: Vishal Khanduja, CFA | & Brian S. Ellis, CFA | February 20, 2024

A decade of extremely low interest rates followed by the Federal Reserve's aggressive policy normalization created a challenging environment for bond investors over the last two years. We see the environment for fixed income improving greatly from here for these reasons:

KEY POINTS

- 1. Income: Starting yields are near post-financial crisis highs and have been a reliable indicator of future returns.
- 2. Total Return: The Fed has signaled a pivot from its restrictive stance, which has historically been a compelling time to increase duration in fixed income allocations.
- 3. Diversification: Correlations between bonds and risk assets should normalize as the Fed cuts interest rates.

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Vishal Khanduja, CFA Co-Head of Broad Markets Fixed Income



Brian S. Ellis, CFA Portfolio Manager **Broad Markets Fixed** Income

NAVIGATING THE CURVE | OUTLOOK

2024 Outlook: Multi-Sector Fixed Income, Return of the Core

By: Vishal Khanduja, CFA | & Brian S. Ellis, CFA | December 19, 2023

A Myriad of Macroeconomic Drivers Are in Play; However, We See a Stronger Backdrop for Fixed Income Markets in 2024

KEY POINTS

- 1. A decade of extremely low interest rates followed by the Federal Reserve's aggressive policy normalization created a challenging environment for bond investors over the last two years. The breakdown of the inverse correlation between long-term, risk-free rates and spread sectors has led investors to rethink their fixed income allocations.
- 2. We see a compelling backdrop for fixed income in 2024, where inflation continues to decelerate, and higher interest rates continue to slow growth and the Fed clearly pivots from their restrictive stance. Under that scenario, we believe fixed income will return to its traditional role of providing investors with income and portfolio diversification.
- 3. We believe the Fed has ended its aggressive hiking cycle and has recently indicated their intention to pivot in 2024. We think the pace of inflation and magnitude of economic growth will keep monetary policy variable, aiding active fixed income managers.

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