



# Insights

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

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### [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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##### **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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By: [Emily Wagner, Alysia Rodgers](#) |

January 17, 2024

[New York - The issue of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly referred to as "forever chemicals," is rapidly evolving, and requires a nuanced approach to evaluate risk to issuers, especially as KPIs specific to PFAS are lacking \(see our \[previous post\]\(#\) for more details\). At Calvert, our research process allows us to apply a discount to reflect both the materiality on stakeholders \(from investors, employees and customers to local communities\) and the impact to an issuer's enterprise value \(equity, holders, debt holders, bankruptcy\). This also considers company actions/response to a controversy.](#)

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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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By: *Emily Wagner* | & *Alysia Rodgers* | *January 17, 2024*

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### [Financial Materiality of PFAS Is Rising](#)

*By: Emily Wagner | & Kara Huang | September 7, 2023*

**New York** - At Calvert, one ESG issue we examine that is material to a wide range of companies is the use of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). These are a group of widely used chemicals valued for their versatility in repelling or resisting grease, oil, water and heat. Because they do not break down over time, they are commonly referred to as "Forever Chemicals" and are now widely used in applications like firefighting foams, water-resistant fabric and textiles, non-stick cookware and personal care products. Due to this ubiquitous use, PFAS chemicals can be found in water, air, fish and soil across the globe and have been found in blood levels of people and animals.

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Publication details: Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:46 AM

Page ID: 24068 - <https://www.eatonvance.fi/viewpoints.php>