

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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[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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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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[Postcard from Ghana: The Cocoa Supply Chain Risk for Multinational Chocolate Producers](#)

By: *Jennifer Byron, CFA* | & *Christopher M. Dyer, CFA* | February 2, 2024

KEY POINTS

1. We believe cocoa farmers must earn a living income to end child labor and deforestation.
2. Cocoa farmers are up against formidable forces along the supply chain and have little or no bargaining power on price.

3. Profit margins could be impacted if the price of cocoa soars, as farmers opt out for other sources of income.

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[When Focusing on Sustainable Business Models, Consumer Stocks Have Potential](#)

By: *Jennifer Byron, CFA* | *September 22, 2023*

KEY POINTS

1. Consumers overall remain resilient, but pockets of weakness are apparent.
2. Inflation is easing but not yet deflationary, as labor costs remain a headwind.
3. Renewed focus on innovation and investment behind brands is welcome.
4. Greater resilience is seen from companies with sustainable business models.

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