

CREDITSIGHTSAPAC OUTLOOK CONFERENCE Rates, (Election) Results and Resilience

October 1st, 2024



Global Credit Strategy Outlook

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a FitchSolutions Company

9:10 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

- **Risk On.** A reach for risk has driven performance YTD, with Equities, EM sovereigns, HY and Leveraged Loans posting the strongest total returns.
- Equity Streak Alive. Equities have now posted double-digit returns in 5 of the last 6 years.
- Fixed Beating/Matching Floating. HY has now outperformed Loans YTD with IG closing ground quickly.
- **Cash Drag.** Cash remains a drag in portfolios and will become even less attractive as the Fed continues to cut rates.

Annual Total Return Ranking Across US Markets

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
US HY Corp 15.2%	Munis 11.2%	EM Sov 18.3%	S&P500 32.4%	S&P500 13.7%	Munis 3.6%	US HY Corp 17.5%	S&P500 21.8%	USD Cash 1.8%	S&P500 31.5%	S&P500 18.4%	S&P500 28.7%	USD Cash 1.5%	S&P500 26.3%	S&P500 21.7%
S&P500 15.1%	US Gov't 9.8%	S&P500 16.0%	US HY Corp 7.4%	Munis 9.8%	Mtges 1.5%	S&P500 12.0%	EM Sov 10.0%	Munis 1.0%	US HY Corp 14.4%	US IG Corp 9.8%	US Lev Loans 5.4%	US Lev Loans -0.8%	US Lev Loans 13.7%	EM Sov 9.1%
EM Sov 12.5%	EM Sov 8.2%	US HY Corp 15.6%	US Lev Loans 5.4%	US IG Corp 7.5%	S&P500 1.4%	US Lev Loans 10.3%	US HY Corp 7.5%	Mtges 1.0%	EM Sov 14.3%	US Gov't 8.2%	US HY Corp 5.4%	Munis -9.0%	US HY Corp 13.5%	US HY Corp 7.8%
US Lev Loans 10.4%	US IG Corp 7.5%	US IG Corp 10.4%	USD Cash 0.0%	EM Sov 7.3%	US Gov't 0.8%	EM Sov 9.5%	US IG Corp 6.5%	US Gov't 0.8%	US IG Corp 14.2%	US HY Corp 6.2%	Munis 1.8%	US HY Corp -11.2%	EM Sov 12.6%	US Lev Loans 6.6%
US IG Corp 9.5%	Mtges 6.1%	US Lev Loans 9.8%	Mtges -1.4%	Mtges 6.1%	EM Sov 0.6%	US IG Corp 6.0%	Munis 5.4%	US Lev Loans 0.6%	US Lev Loans 8.7%	Munis 5.3%	USD Cash 0.0%	Mtges -11.9%	US IG Corp 8.4%	US IG Corp 5.7%
US Gov't 5.9%	US HY Corp 4.4%	Munis 7.3%	US IG Corp -1.5%	US Gov't 6.0%	US Lev Loans 0.1%	Mtges 1.7%	US Lev Loans 4.3%	US IG Corp -2.2%	Munis 7.7%	EM Sov 4.8%	US IG Corp -1.0%	US Gov't -12.9%	Munis 6.5%	Mtges 4.7%
Mtges 5.7%	S&P500 2.1%	Mtges 2.6%	Munis -2.9%	US HY Corp 2.5%	USD Cash 0.0%	US Gov't 1.1%	Mtges 2.4%	US HY Corp -2.3%	US Gov't 7.0%	Mtges 4.1%	Mtges -1.2%	US IG Corp -15.4%	USD Cash 5.1%	USD Cash 4.0%
Munis 2.3%	US Lev Loans 1.5%	US Gov't 2.2%	US Gov't -3.3%	US Lev Loans 1.8%	US IG Corp -0.6%	Munis 0.4%	US Gov't 2.4%	S&P500 -4.4%	Mtges 6.5%	US Lev Loans 3.5%	US Gov't -2.4%	S&P500 -18.1%	Mtges 5.0%	US Gov't 3.9%
USD Cash 0.1%	USD Cash 0.1%	USD Cash 0.1%	EM Sov -5.8%	USD Cash 0.0%	US HY Corp -4.6%	USD Cash 0.2%	USD Cash 0.8%	EM Sov -4.6%	USD Cash 2.2%	USD Cash 0.5%	EM Sov -2.6%	EM Sov -18.3%	US Gov't 3.9%	Munis 2.5%



Source: CreditSights, FactSet, ICE Data Indices, Bloomberg, L.P.

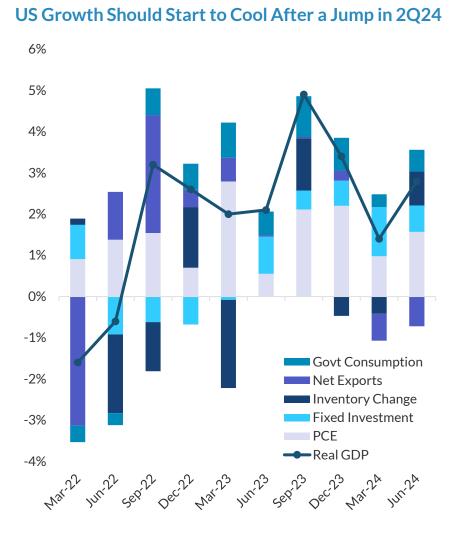
- Goldilocks Risk Backdrop. Equities and HY Credit have outperformed for a second straight year on account of less restrictive policy rates and better-than-feared earnings/economic growth.
- Credit Risk Over Duration Risk. Narrowing spreads have buoyed up total returns for corporates despite rising long-term yields in European and UK government bond markets.
- Cash Outperforming Sovereigns. Ultra short-duration fixed income benefited from higher-for-longer cash yields, especially in 1H24, whereas duration has lagged on robust net supply of gov't debt.

Annual Total Return Ranking - European and UK Markets

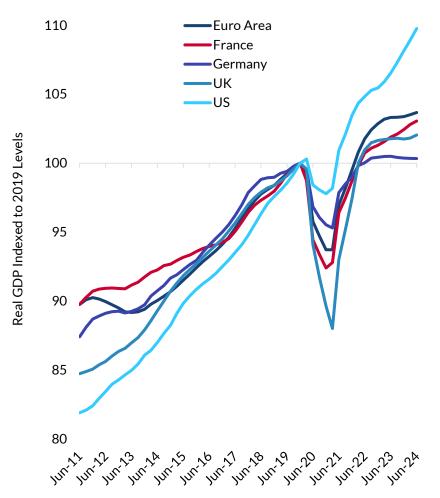
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Sterling HY Corp 21.2%	UK Gilts 16.9%	Sterling HY Corp 37.1%	STOXX Euro 600 21.5%	UK Gilts 14.7%	STOXX Euro 600 10.2%	FTSE 100 19.1%	FTSE 100 11.9%	German Bunds 2.4%		Sterling IG Corp 9.3%		FTSE 100 4.7%	STOXX Euro 600 16.5%	STOXX Euro 600 12.9%
Euro HY Corp 14.3%	German Bunds 9.7%	Euro HY Corp 27.2%	FTSE 100 18.7%	Sterling IG Corp 12.6%	Sterling HY Corp 5.4%	Sterling IG Corp 11.9%	STOXX Euro 600 11.2%	UK Gilts 0.5%	FTSE 100 17.3%	UK Gilts 8.8%	FTSE 100 18.4%	EUR Cash -0.4%	Sterling HY Corp 15.8%	FTSE 100 10.5%
STOXX Euro 600 12.7%	Sterling IG Corp 5.9%	STOXX Euro 600 19.0%	Sterling HY Corp 11.8%	German Bunds 10.4%	Euro HY Corp 0.8%	UK Gilts 10.6%	Sterling HY Corp 7.8%	EUR Cash -0.7%	Sterling HY Corp 13.4%	Sterling HY Corp 4.6%	Sterling HY Corp 3.8%	STOXX Euro 600 -10.1%	Euro HY Corp 12.0%	Sterling HY Corp 8.7%
FTSE 100 12.6%	Euro IG Corp 2.0%	Sterling IG Corp 15.8%	Euro HY Corp 10.1%	Euro IG Corp 8.3%	Sterling IG Corp 0.5%	Sterling HY Corp 10.5%	Euro HY Corp 6.7%	Euro IG Corp -1.1%	Sterling IG Corp 11.4%	German Bunds 3.0%	Euro HY Corp 3.3%	Sterling HY Corp -11.0%	Sterling IG Corp 9.8%	Euro HY Corp 6.6%
Sterling IG Corp 8.8%	EUR Cash 0.9%	Euro IG Corp 13.0%	Euro IG Corp 2.4%	STOXX Euro 600 7.8%	UK Gilts 0.5%	Euro HY Corp 9.1%	Sterling IG Corp 5.1%	Sterling HY Corp -1.6%	Euro HY Corp 11.3%	Euro HY Corp 2.8%	EUR Cash -0.7%	Euro HY Corp -11.5%	Euro IG Corp 8.0%	Euro IG Corp 3.6%
UK Gilts 7.6%	FTSE 100 -2.2%	FTSE 100 10.0%	Sterling IG Corp 1.8%	Sterling HY Corp 5.6%	German Bunds 0.3%	Euro IG Corp 4.8%	Euro IG Corp 2.4%	Sterling IG Corp -2.3%	UK Gilts 7.3%	Euro IG Corp 2.6%	Euro IG Corp -1.0%	Euro IG Corp -13.9%	FTSE 100 7.9%	EUR Cash 2.8%
German Bunds 6.2%	Euro HY Corp -2.5%	German Bunds 4.5%	EUR Cash 0.0%	Euro HY Corp 5.5%	EUR Cash -0.2%	German Bunds 4.1%	UK Gilts 1.9%	Euro HY Corp -3.6%	Euro IG Corp 6.3%	EUR Cash -0.6%	German Bunds -2.6%	German Bunds -17.6%	German Bunds 5.1%	Sterling IG Corp 2.4%
Euro IG Corp 4.8%	Sterling HY Corp -3.0%	UK Gilts 2.8%	German Bunds -2.3%	FTSE 100 0.7%	Euro IG Corp -0.4%	STOXX Euro 600 2.4%	EUR Cash -0.8%	FTSE 100 -8.7%	German Bunds 3.1%	STOXX Euro 600 -1.5%	Sterling IG Corp -3.3%	Sterling IG Corp -19.9%	UK Gilts 3.7%	German Bunds 0.8%
EUR Cash 0.4%	STOXX Euro 600 -8.5%	EUR Cash 0.1%	UK Gilts -4.3%	EUR Cash 0.1%	FTSE 100 -1.3%	EUR Cash -0.5%	German Bunds -1.4%	STOXX Euro 600 -10.2%	EUR Cash -0.5%	FTSE 100 -11.5%	UK Gilts -5.3%	UK Gilts -25.1%	EUR Cash 2.9%	UK Gilts -0.6%



Macro Calls for '25: Uneven Economic Growth Trends

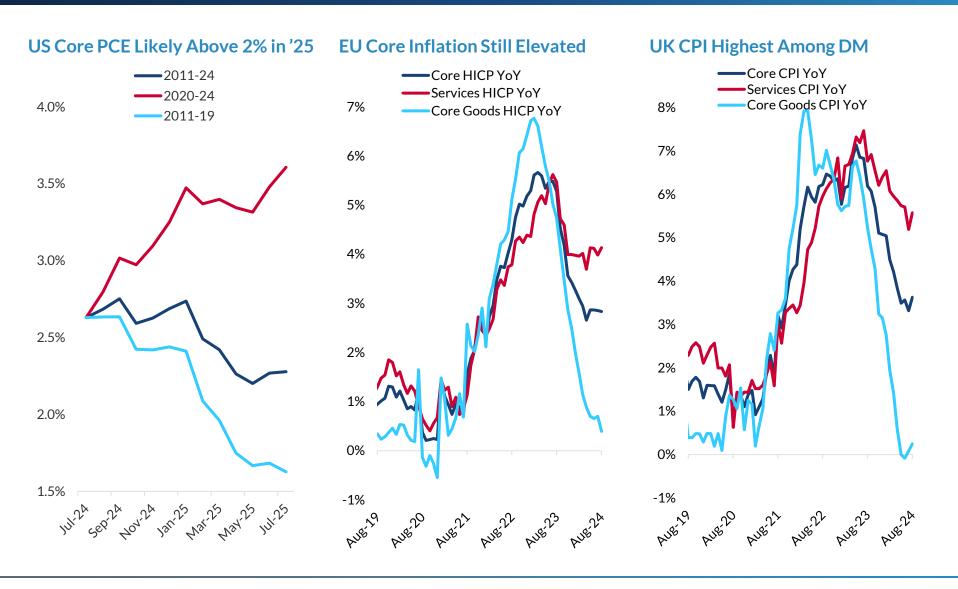


Europe and UK Growth Has Lagged the US Recovery





Macro Calls for '25: Reinflation Risks Underappreciated

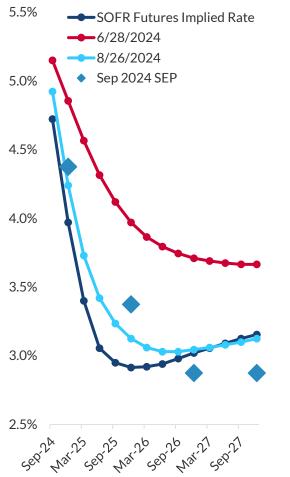


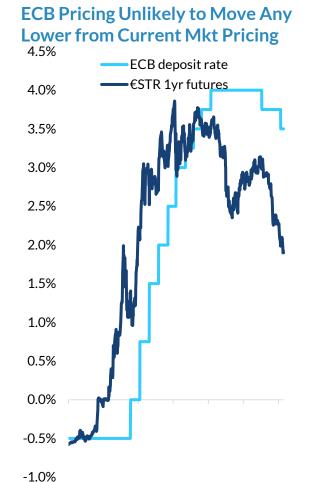


Macro Calls for '25: Market Prices Too Much Central Bank Easing

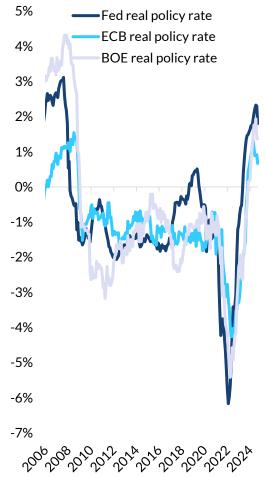
Sep.27

Fed Mkt Pricing More Aggressive Than SEP and Our Base Case



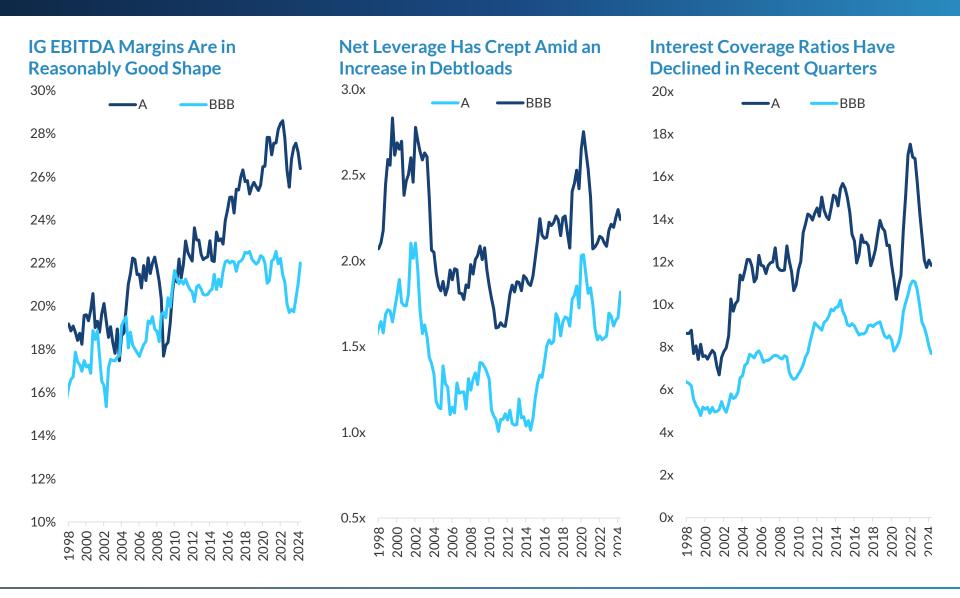


Real Policy Rates (nominal less core CPI) Remain Quite Restrictive



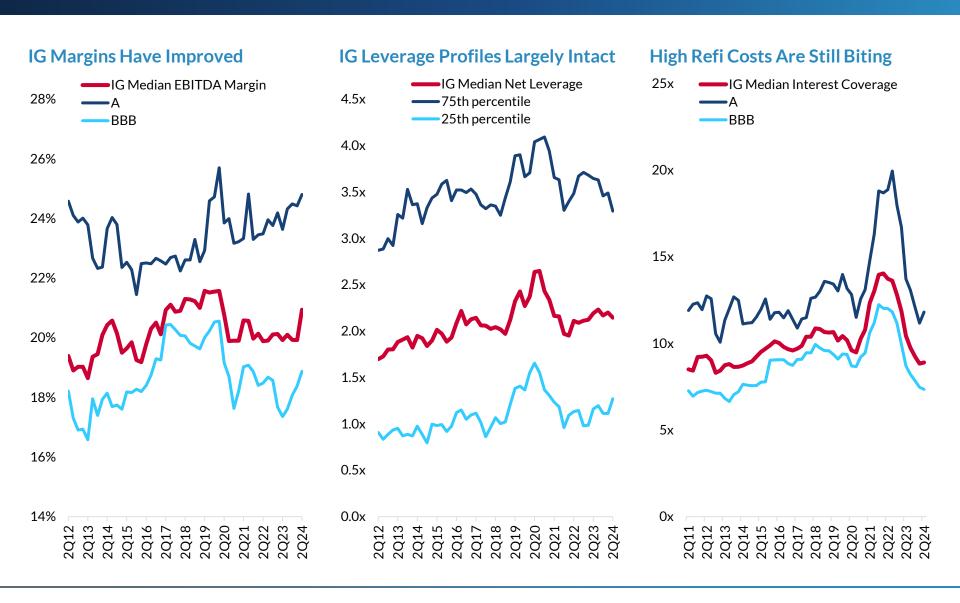


US IG Fundamentals: Shift from Preservation to Consolidation



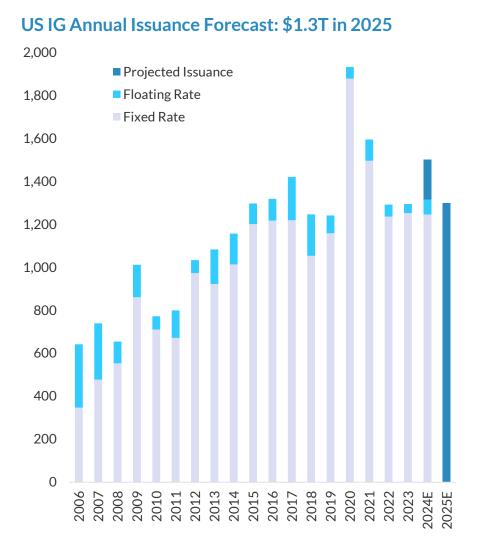


Euro IG Fundamentals: Stable Leverage Offset by High Interest Costs

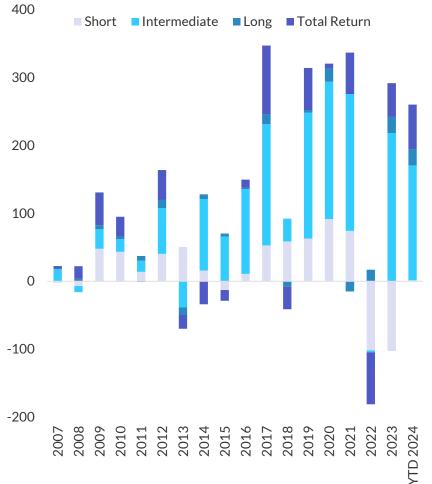


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US IG Technicals Poised for Strength Amid Fed Rate Cuts

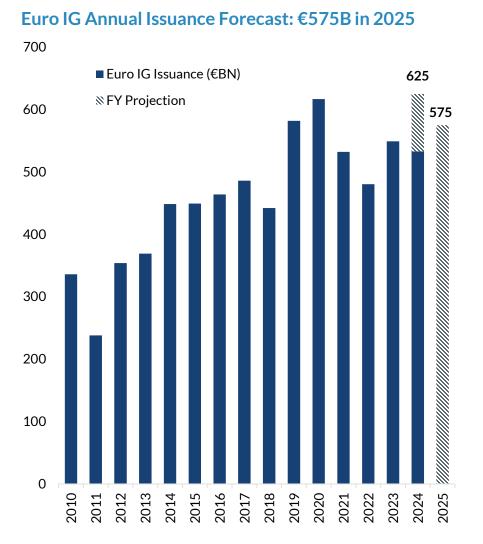


US IG Mutual Funds On Pace for Record Inflows in '24

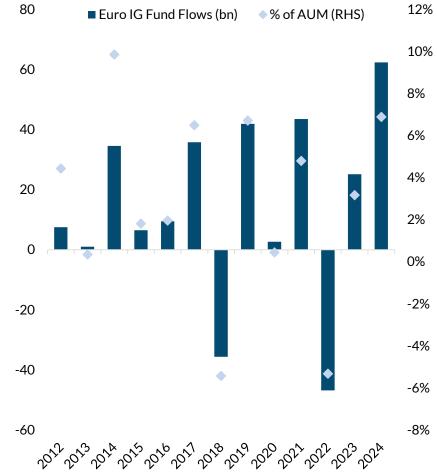




Euro IG Technicals: Supportive of Credit Risk Over Duration Risk



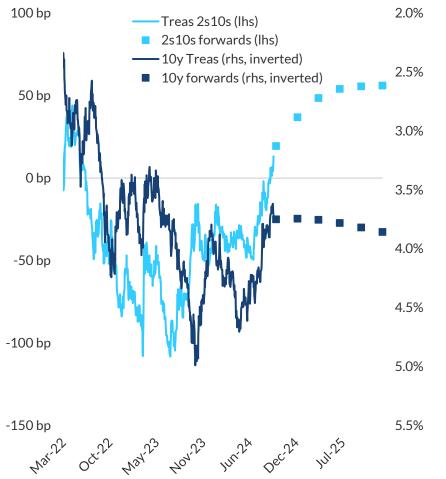
Record Demand YTD for Euro IG Mutual Funds



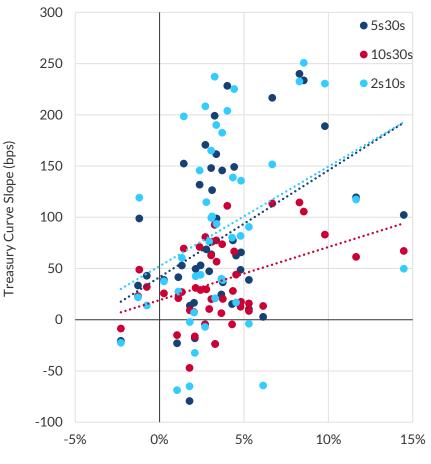


Macro Calls for '25: Risks Skewed Toward Higher UST Yields/Steeper Curve

Heavy UST Supply and Upside Risk to Inflation Expectations Could Push Long-Term Yields Higher



US Budget Deficits of 6%-7% Associated with Much Steeper Treasury Yield Curve



Budget Deficit (% of GDP)



US Election Outcomes & Market Implications

President	Congress	Probability ¹	Fiscal Implications ² 10-Years	Growth Implications ² 10-Years	Inflation Implications 2-Years	UST Yield Direction	UST Curve Implications	Credit Spread Direction
Time Horizo	n		TU-rears	TU-rears	z-rears		lection through YE 2	024
	Divided	40%	Increased deficit by \$1.2T	Declines by 1.3% by 2034	Neutral	Neutral	Steeper (bull)	Neutral
Harris Win	Republican	5%			Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral/Tighter
	Blue Sweep	10%			Higher	Higher	Steeper (bear)	Wider
	Divided	9%			Higher	Higher	Steeper (twist)	Neutral
Trump Win	Democratic	1%	deficit by \$5.8 I	Declines by 0.4% by 2034	Higher	Higher	Steeper (twist)	Neutral
	Red Sweep	35%			Higher	Higher	Steeper (bear)	Wider

Divided Government

- Highest probability outcome and currently market's base case.
- Best outcome for credit spreads given limited potential for sweeping policy change.
- Net neutral for inflation.

relative to current law.

- Less ability to pass incremental fiscal stimulus, which could prove challenging if economic fundamentals decelerate.
- Expect to see some compromise in TCJA provisions set to expire (extend personal income tax breaks, etc.).

Red Wave

- More likely of the two unified government scenarios given the mix of open senate seats.
- Modest widening pressure on credit spreads amid inflationary concerns and escalation of tariffs.
- Policy platform appears inherently inflationary given the mix of tariffs, tax breaks and limiting labor supply through tighter immigration proposals.
- Greatest potential to expand fiscal deficits, which could exert pressure on UST yields.
- Deregulation push could accelerate consolidation via M&A.

Blue Wave

- Less likely outcome, but more uncertain as campaign policy may prove more moderate than reality in a Blue sweep.
- Growth concerns are likely to push spreads wider across IG and HY.
- Policy proposals likely to weigh on GDP amid higher corporate/personal taxes and elevated regulatory environment.
- M&A remains subdued given greater antitrust scrutiny.

¹ From BMI's recent report US Election: Harris Likely To Win, But Risks To Core View Are Substantial.

² Uses 10-year horizon deficit and growth projections from the Penn Wharton Budget Model based on each Presidential candidate's policy proposals. Growth implications are



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US Election Scenario Trump Outcomes by Sector

Trump Tax & Tariff Policy Proposals: Impact Across Sectors

	Decrease Corp Tax Rate to 15%- 20%	End AMT for Large Corporates	Reinstate Corp. Provisions Incl. Bonus Dep./R&D Expensing	Exempt Social Security Benefits from Taxation	Make 2017 TCJA Personal Tax Cuts Permanent	Some Reversals of IRA Tax Scheme	Increased Tariffs (10%-20% all imports/60%+ for China)
Banking/Financial Services	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Negative
Insurance	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral
Automotive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Negative	Positive
Basic Industry	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Negative	Neutral
Capital Goods	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Negative	Positive
Consumer Goods	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Energy	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Negative
Healthcare	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Negative
Leisure	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Media	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Real Estate	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Negative	Negative
Retail	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Very Negative
Technology	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Negative
Telecommunications	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Transportation	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Utilities	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Negative	Negative



US Election Scenario Harris Outcomes by Sector

Harris Tax & Tariff Policy Proposals: Impact Across Sectors

	Increase Corp Tax Rate to 26%- 28%	Continued AMT for Large Corps.	Larger Deduction for Start Ups	Tax Credits for Housing Developers & Home Buyers	Increase Personal Tax Rates for Top Earners	Continuity of IRA Tax Scheme	Continuity of Current Tariffs
Banking/Financial Services	Negative	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Neutral
Insurance	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Automotive	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive
Basic Industry	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral
Capital Goods	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive
Consumer Goods	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Energy	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Healthcare	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Negative	Neutral
Leisure	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Media	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Real Estate	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral
Retail	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Technology	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Telecommunications	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Transportation	Negative	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
Utilities	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive



US Strategy: Market Weight US IG & HY, Underweight Leveraged Loans

US Credit Strategy YE2024 and Prelim. YE2025 Forecasts

		YE 2024 Base	2			
	YTD as of	CreditSights	Fed Path/	Red Wave/ Inflation	Blue Wave/	Hard
	Sept 26	View	Divided Govt.	Acceleration	Growth Scare	Landing
Probability Weighting			35%	30%	20%	15%
US Treasury Yields						
Fed Funds Target (Upper)	5.0%	4.5%	3.5%	4.5%	3.0%	2.0%
2-Yr UST	3.6%	3.5%	3.3%	4.5%	3.0%	1.8%
5-Yr UST	3.6%	3.8%	3.3%	4.8%	3.5%	2.3%
10-Yr UST	3.8%	3.8%	4.0%	5.0%	3.8%	2.5%
2-Yr/10-Yr UST Curve	17bp	25bp	75bp	50bp	75bp	75bp
US Investment Grade						
OAS	92bp	100bp	75bp	120bp	150bp	200bp
Excess Return ¹	1.8%	1.5%	2.6%	-0.4%	-2.5%	-5.9%
YTW	4.7%	4.8%	4.7%	6.1%	5.2%	4.4%
Total Return ¹	5.7%	6.7%	5.2%	-4.7%	1.8%	7.0%
US High Yield						
OAS	314bp	350bp	275bp	400bp	500bp	750bp
YTW	7.1%	7.6%	6.0%	8.5%	8.3%	9.5%
Total Return ¹	7.8%	7.7%	9.3%	2.9%	3.5%	0.3%
HY Defaults (TTM % Issuers)	2.4%	3.5%	1.5%	3.5%	4.0%	7.5%
US Leveraged Loans						
Bid Price	\$95.60	\$95.00	\$98.50	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$80.00
Effective Yield	8.4%	8.7%	7.4%	9.2%	7.5%	7.2%
Total Return ¹	6.5%	7.4%	12.0%	2.2%	0.8%	-12.1%
Loan Defaults (TTM % Issuers)*	5.6%	5.5%	2.5%	5.0%	5.0%	10.0%



Source: CreditSights, FactSet, ICE Data Indices, LLC, Dealogic, Bloomberg, L.P., Fitch Ratings

1 Excess and total return represents full year 2024 and 2025 forecast expectations.

*Uses Fitch Ratings Leveraged Loan Default Rate.

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European Strategy: Market Weight Euro IG & HY and Sterling IG

European Credit Strategy YE2024 and Prelim. YE2025 Forecasts

		YE 2024 Base	2025 Prelim Forecast Scenarios		
	YTD as of Sept 26	CreditSights View	No Landing	Soft Landing	Hard Landing
Probability Weighting			30%	55%	15%
Euro Investment Grade					
Spreads (OAS, bp)	116	120	90	130	190
Yields (YTW, %)	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.2
Excess Return (bp)	+208	+220	+250	+75	-175
Total Return (%)	+3.6	+3.8	+4.1	+3.3	+4.4
Euro High Yield					
Spreads (OAS, bp)	339	375	300	400	650
Yields (YTW, %)	5.8	6.4	5.7	6.6	8.4
Total Return (%)	+6.6	+7.0	+8.0	+6.0	+2.0
Default Rate (LTM % Issuers)	3.4	3.5	2.0	3.5	6.5
Sterling Investment Grade			_		
Spreads (OAS, bp)	116	110	100	125	175
Yields (YTW, %)	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.3	4.6
Excess Return (bp)	+192	+250	+175	+25	-250
Total Return (%)	+2.4	+4.5	+3.8	+3.5	+8.4
Policy Rates/Bond Yields			-		
ECB Deposit Facility (%)	3.50	3.25	2.50	2.00	1.50
Bund 2-Year Yield (%)	2.13	2.20	2.20	1.90	1.40
Bund 10-Year Yield (%)	2.18	2.30	2.60	2.40	1.30
BOE Bank Rate (%)	5.00	4.75	4.00	3.75	3.00
Gilt 2-Year Yield (%)	3.96	3.75	3.90	3.75	2.75
Gilt 10-Year Yield (%)	4.01	4.00	4.40	4.20	2.70



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