

Performance Insights

MONTHLY REPORT | JANUARY 2025

Asset returns diverge in Q4 amid rising long yields and a strengthening US dollar

Q4's US equity outperformance, US dollar appreciation and rising long yields were the key trends that also influenced asset performance over 2024.

Global Asset Classes - US election, central bank caution are major drivers

The incoming US administration's anticipated policies, sticky inflation and diverging economic outlooks influenced asset class returns. US equities sustained their outperformance while cyclicals led industry contributions. As central banks became more cautious about their rate-cutting cycles, long yields rose, challenging ratesensitive sectors. The USD strengthened broadly impacting unhedged returns.

Global Equities - US on top over Q4 and 12M

The US outperformed FTSE All-World, while Japan, the Emerging index, FTSE 100, FTSE 250, Europe and Asia Pacific lagged in Q4.

Industry returns - Financials on top

On average, Financials led industry returns, followed by cyclicals such as Technology and Discretionary. Basic Materials and Real Estate lagged the most.

Alternative Indices - REITs and Core Infrastructure underperform

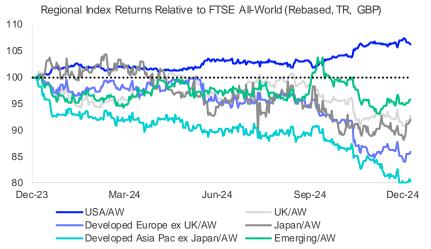
REITs and Core Infrastructure indices underperformed their respective benchmarks both over 3M and 12M, with major yield increases in Q4. FTSE4Good and Environmental Opportunities indices posted mixed results for the quarter.

Factor performance - Momentum outperforms, Size pulls back

Momentum held its broad outperformance in Q4 and over 12M. After leading in several markets during Q3, (Small) Size lagged in 5 of 6 regions for Q4.

Foreign exchange - USD surges, FX performance vs GBP mixed

The USD appreciated versus major global currencies in Q4 and over 12M. FX performance versus the British pound over Q4 was mixed.



GBP EDITION

CONTENTS

Macro and Market Overview	2
Asset Class Returns	3
Global Equity Markets	4
Industry/Sector Contributions	5-7
Alternative Indices	8
Regional Factor Indicators	9
Foreign Exchange	10
Asset Class Risk/Return	11
Asset Class Correlations	12
Appendix	13

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-0.2%

FTSE 100 (TR) Q4 2024

-1.4%

FTSE 250 (TR) Q4 2024

+3.9%

Move in Oil Price (Brent, USD) Q4 2024

+56 bps

Move in 10-year UK Gilt Yield Q4 2024

Q4 2024

+10.1% FTSE UK

Q4 2024

-12.6% FTSE UK Technology (TR) Real Estate (TR)

Source: FTSE Russell and LSEG. Data as of December 31, 2024. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Please see the end for important legal disclosures

Macro and Market Overview — Q4 2024

In Q4, global asset class performance diverged between regions, industries, size segments and credit sectors. It was influenced by the anticipated impact of the incoming US administration's policies, sticky inflation in many markets amid a backdrop of diverging economic outlooks and political uncertainty in some (Germany, France and Japan). This led to greater caution in central bank action.

The US outpaced the UK, Germany, Canada and Japan in terms of Q3 GDP growth. December PMI data was consistent with this divergence. For Q3, the Eurozone's GDP growth was helped by growth in its peripheral economies. China's near term growth outlook was supported by a substantial stimulus package announced toward year-end.

While lower energy prices helped temper November's headline inflation, there was a general uptick in inflation in the US, UK, Eurozone and Japan, and core inflation was still above their respective targets. In Canada, headline CPI was at the midpoint of the target range, and in China, which has been combatting deflationary pressures, CPI inflation was positive providing relief to policymakers.

Central bank monetary policy action reflected this

The UK underperformed the All-World ex UK index in Q4 widening the performance gap over 12M.

diverging growth and inflation picture. The US Fed instituted two 25 bps cuts while paring back its guidance for 2025 to two cuts from four, which pushed US yields and the dollar higher. The BoE cut its policy rate once and then held steady in December on sticky services inflation, despite growing growth concerns. The ECB cut twice, weighing growth concerns against an uptick in inflation.

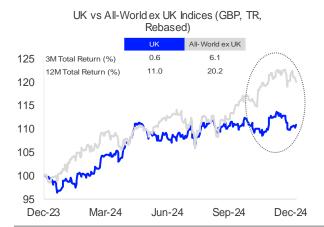
The BoJ held its policy rate steady over Q4. And although the PBoC maintained its key repo rate, it changed its longstanding "prudent" monetary stance to "moderately loose," sparking expectations of further easing.

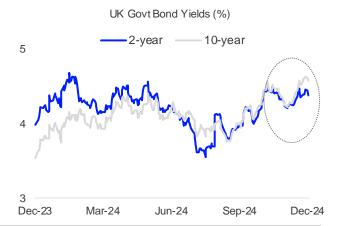
10-year yields ended Q4 higher in the US (78 bps), Canada (28 bps), the UK (56 bps), Germany (23 bps) and Japan (23 bps). In China, they declined by 48 bps.

Global equity performance diverged in this context and was carried by a narrow rally in terms of industries. Bond performance reflected the back-up in yields. And the strength of the US dollar significantly impacted unhedged returns.

Looking forward, global assets will likely need to digest higher uncertainty in both the trajectory of monetary policy as well as the political landscape in key economies.

In Q4, UK 2-yr & 10-yr yields rose by 39 & 56 bps, respectively, despite a 25 bps BoE policy rate cut.





Key Macro Indicators

	GDF	P (%)	Compo	Composite PMI		CPI (%)		CPI Core (%)		Unemployment (%)		Policy Rate (%)		ield (%)
	QoQ	Poll			Yo	YoY		YoY						
period	24Q3	2025	Dec	Nov	Nov	Nov Oct		Oct	Nov	Oct	Dec	Chng	Dec	Nov
US	3.1	2.1	56.6	54.9	2.7	2.6	3.3	3.3	4.2	4.1	4.50	-0.25	4.58	4.19
Canada	1.0	1.8		52.0	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.6	6.8	6.5	3.25	-0.50	3.24	3.09
UK	0.1	1.4	50.5	50.5	2.6	2.3	3.6	3.3	4.6	4.6	4.75		4.57	4.25
Germany	0.4	0.8	47.8	47.2	2.2	2.0	3.0	2.9	6.1	6.1			2.36	2.09
Eurozone	1.7	1.0	49.5	48.3	2.2	2.0	2.7	2.7		6.3	3.00	-0.25		
Japan	1.2	1.0	49.5	49.0	2.9	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.5	2.5	0.25		1.08	1.05
China	5.2	4.5		52.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	-0.1	5.1	5.2	1.50		1.68	2.05

Important notes: GDP: QoQ GDP growth rates are annualized. Japan's poll GDP growth is for FY 2025 ending March 2026. Composite PMI: December PMI are flash composite PMI, except for Japan which is flash manufacturing PMI. November PMI are final composite PMI, except for Canada and Japan which are final manufacturing PMI.

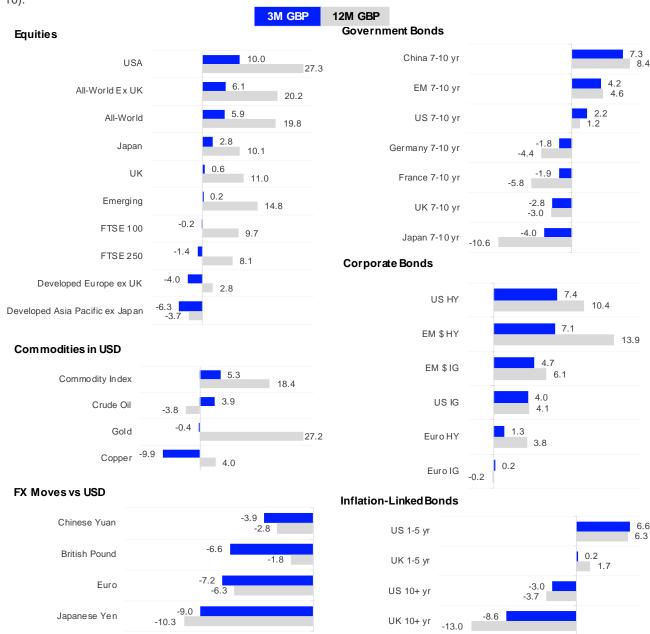
Asset Class Returns – 3M & 12M (GBP, TR %)

In Q4 2024, global equities posted mixed results. The US outperformed FTSE All-World, while Japan, the Emerging index, FTSE 100, FTSE 250, Europe and Asia Pacific lagged. Japanese equities experienced tailwinds from a weaker yen. And in Europe, economic concerns and geopolitical uncertainty weighed on equity performance. China's late-quarter stimulus announcement was supportive of Chinese equities. But for Q4, equities in Brazil and India posted notable losses dragging the Emerging index. For 2024, US equities dominated, followed by Japan (page 4).

Bond performance was mixed in Q4 with long yields rising in many major markets; China was a notable exception. Within the 7-10 year government bond sector, Chinese and EM bonds outperformed peers, and were followed by those of the US, Germany, France, the UK and Japan. Within the corporate sector, high yield (HY) outperformed investment grade (IG) broadly, with US HY leading its EM and Euro counterparts. Short-dated (1-5 yr) US and UK inflation-linked bonds (ILBs) outperformed their long-dated (10+ yr) counterparts.

Oil gained over the quarter but was still down over 12M. For Q4, the broad commodity index posted gains, while copper posted steep losses. Gold pulled back slightly during Q4 but outperformed most global equities over 12M.

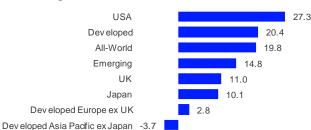
The USD strengthened broadly over Q4 and 12M. FX performance versus the British pound was mixed over Q4, although the pound strengthened versus most currencies over 12M, with the notable exception of the US dollar (page 10).



Global Equity Market Returns – 3M & 12M (GBP, TR %)

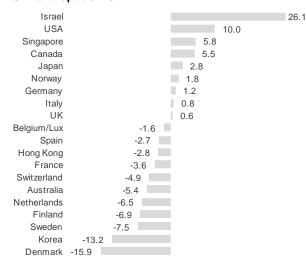
-6.3

FTSE Regions 12M GBP

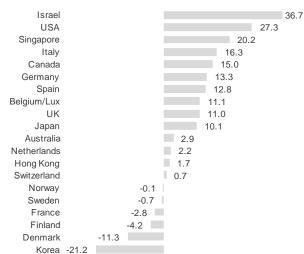


FTSE Developed 3M GBP

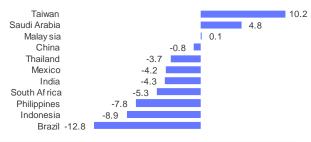
Dev eloped Asia Pacific ex Japan



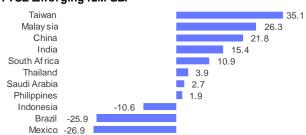
FTSE Developed 12M GBP



FTSE Emerging 3M GBP

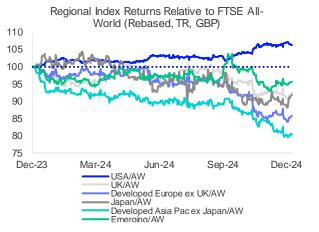


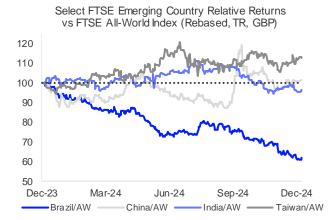
FTSE Emerging 12M GBP



Over 12M, the US beat the FTSE All-World index, while Asia Pacific lagged the global index the most.

Over 12M, Taiwan outperformed the global index, India & China slightly underperformed, while Brazil lagged the most.





Regional Industry-Weighted Contributions to Returns – 3M (GBP, TR %)

Industry contributions were mostly negative in Q4 with a few regional industries contributing notably to index returns.

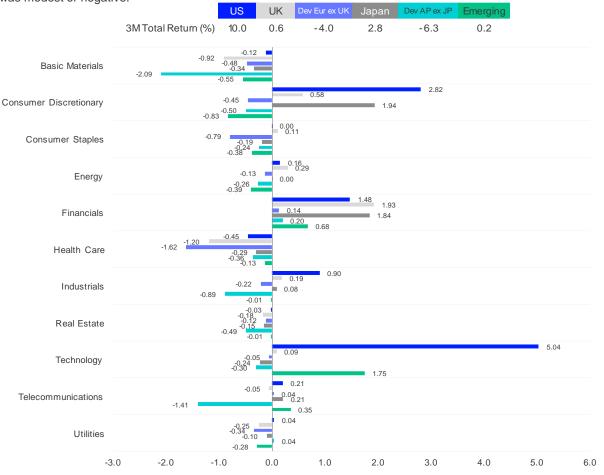
Financials contributed positively on the back of strong Q3 earnings.

US and Emerging Tech contributed notably to their respective index returns. Tech's contribution elsewhere was modest or negative.

Discretionary's contribution in the US and Japan also stood out, while Emerging Discretionary detracted notably.

Most defensive industries, such as Health Care, Staples and Utilities detracted from index performance, as did Real Estate in the context of rising yields.

However, Basic Materials was one of the worst detractors across most regions.



On average, Financials topped industry performance in Q4. Basic Materials and Real Estate lagged the most.

Tech is the largest in the US & Emerging; Financials in the UK, Europe & Asia Pacific; Industrials in Japan.

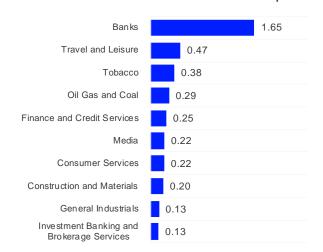
	3M Regional Industry Returns (TR, GBP)												
	US	UK	Dev Eur ex UK	Japan	Dev AP ex JP	Emerging							
Basic Materials	- 7.7	-12.3	-11.2	- 6.8	-19.2	- 9.5							
Cons. Disc.	20.3	5.0	- 3.8	9.1	- 5.4	- 6.7							
Cons. Staples	0.0	0.7	-11.0	- 3.1	- 7.1	- 7.1							
Energy	4.6	2.8	- 3.9	0.3	- 8.9	- 6.7							
Financials	14.1	10.1	0.7	14.4	0.6	3.0							
Health Care	- 4.0	- 9.0	- 9.6	- 3.9	- 5.1	- 3.7							
Industrials	7.7	1.3	- 1.1	0.3	- 8.2	- 0.2							
Real Estate	- 1.1	-12.6	-10.4	- 4.4	- 6.9	- 0.3							
Technology	13.9	10.1	- 0.5	- 2.2	- 5.0	6.7							
Telecoms	9.8	- 4.2	1.2	5.6	-14.9	9.0							
Utilities	1.6	- 5.8	- 8.3	- 7.4	1.5	- 7.3							

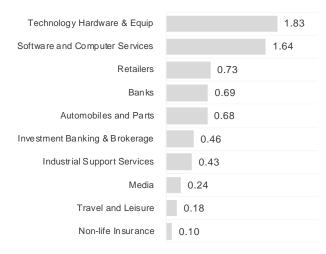
	Re	egional	Industry	/ Expos	ures (%	o)
	US	UK	Dev Eur ex UK	Japan	Dev AP ex JP	Emerging
Basic Materials	1.3	6.5	4.0	4.5	9.4	5.2
Cons. Disc.	15.2	12.3	12.1	22.4	9.2	11.6
Cons. Staples	4.1	15.7	6.7	5.7	3.3	5.0
Energy	3.2	10.3	3.4	0.8	2.8	5.6
Financials	10.8	20.8	20.0	14.2	32.3	23.2
Health Care	9.8	12.1	15.9	7.1	7.0	3.5
Industrials	11.4	14.8	19.4	26.3	10.8	8.1
Real Estate	2.2	1.2	1.1	3.2	7.1	2.2
Technology	37.4	0.9	10.4	10.5	6.2	27.8
Telecoms	2.1	1.2	3.2	4.0	8.6	4.3
Utilities	2.5	4.0	3.8	1.3	3.3	3.5

FTSE UK vs AW ex UK: Sector-Weighted Return Contributions – 3M (GBP, TR %)

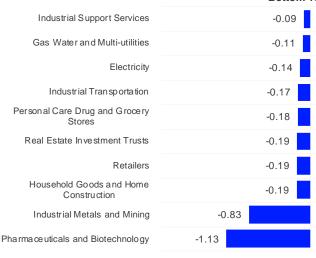


Top 10 Contributors





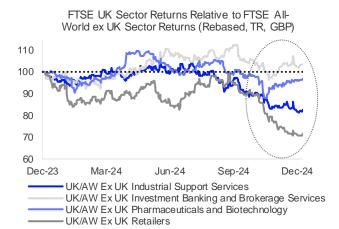
Bottom 10 Contributors

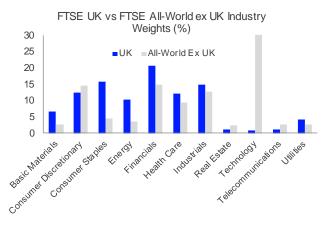




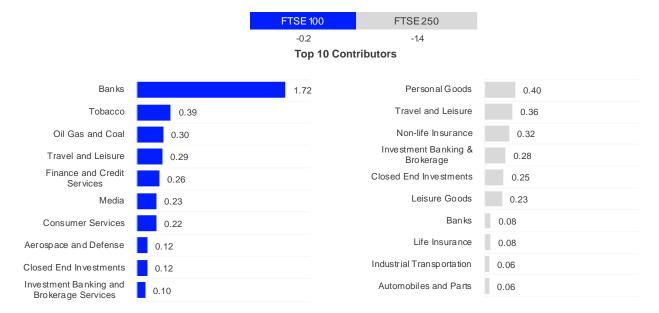
The UK underperformed AW ex UK in Q4, lagging in sectors like retailers and industrial support services, among others.

The FTSE UK is tilted more to staples, energy & materials than its peers, and far less to technology.

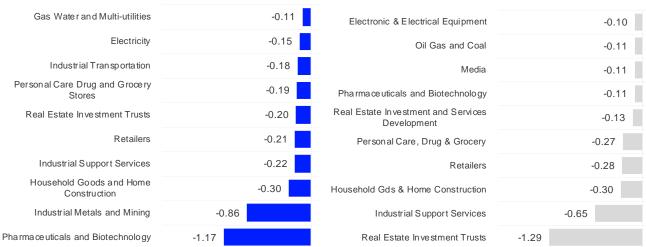




FTSE 100 vs 250: Sector-Weighted Return Contributions – 3M (GBP, TR %)

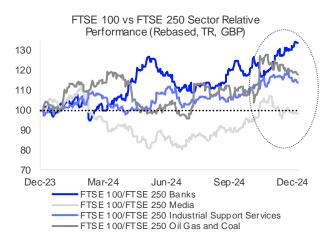


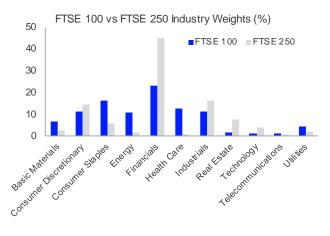
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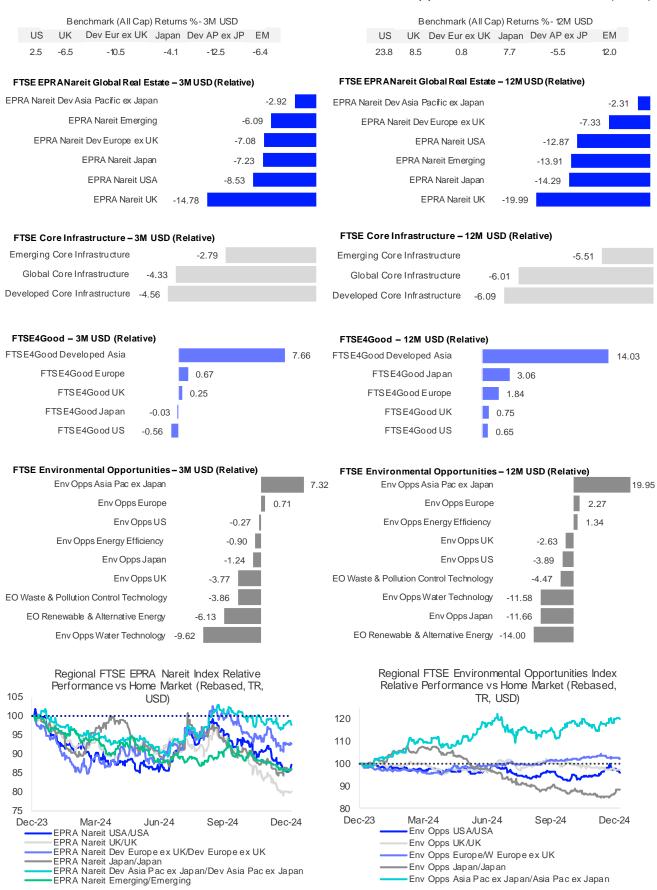
FTSE 100 beat FTSE 250 in Q4, leading in sectors like banks, media, industrial support services & oil, gas & coal.

FTSE 100 is more tilted to staples, energy & health care than FTSE 250, and less to financials, real estate & industrials.

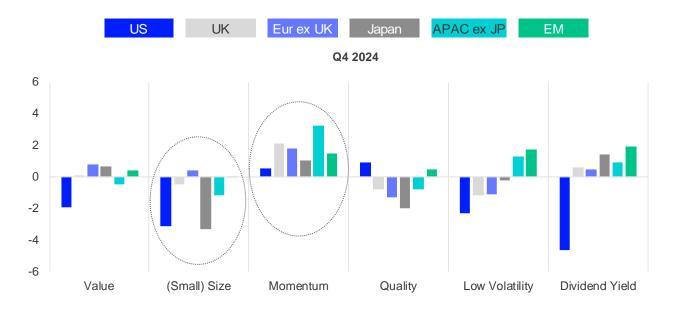


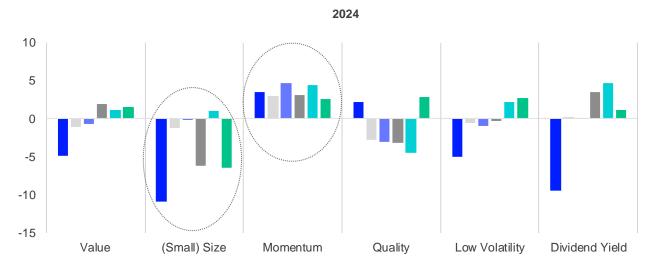


Alternative Indices – REITs, FTSE4Good, Environmental Opportunities, Infrastructure (USD)



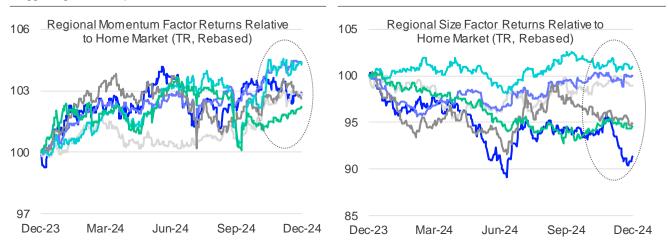
Regional Factor Indicator Relative Returns – 3M & 12M (Local Currency, TR %)





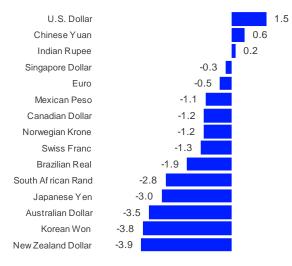
Momentum outperformed broadly in Q4 and over 12M, suggesting sustained performance trends in each market.

After outperforming in several markets in Q3, Size ended Q4 underperforming the benchmark in 5 of 6 regions.



Foreign Exchange Returns %

FX Moves vs GBP - 1M



FX Moves vs GBP - 3M



FX Moves vs GBP - YTD

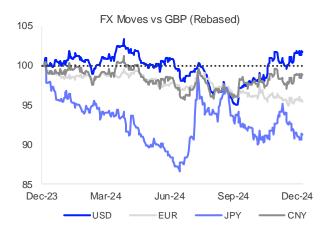


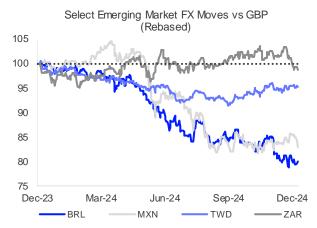
FX Moves vs GBP - 12M



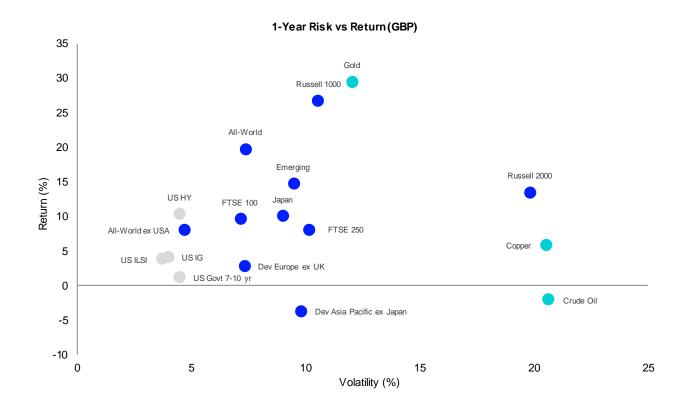
Over 12M, the euro, yen and yuan weakened against the GBP, while the US dollar strengthened.

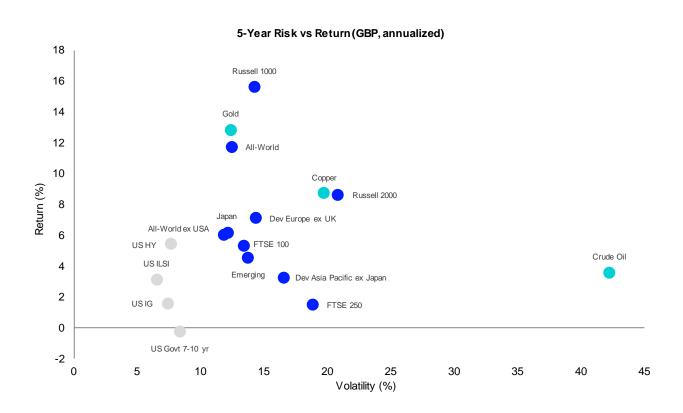
Over 12M, the real and peso weakened substantially vs the GBP, while the South African rand modestly underperformed $\,$





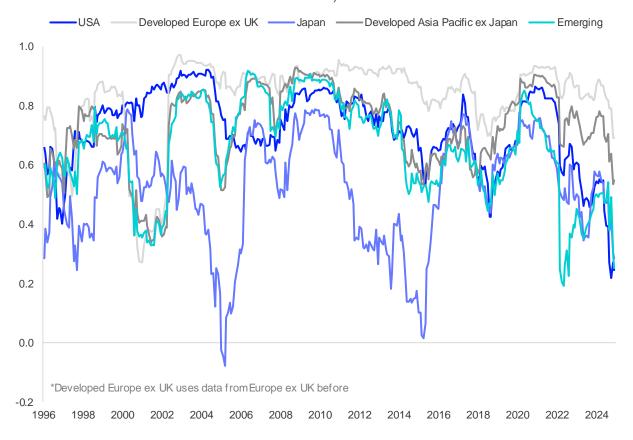
Asset Class Risk/Return – 1-Year and 5-Year (GBP)





Correlations

Regional Equity Market Correlations to the FTSE UK Index (GBP, Monthly Returns, Rolling 24M)



Three-Year Correlation Matrix (GBP)

	FTSE 100	FTSE 250	USA	Dev Europe ex UK	Japan	Dev Asia Pacific ex Japan	Emerging	All-World	UK Govt 7-10 yr	UK IG	UK HY	UK ILSI	Crude Oil	Copper	Gold
FTSE 100		0.83	0.43		0.49	0.67	0.38	0.59	0.57	0.65	0.64	0.48	0.06	0.15	-0.12
FTSE 250	0.83		0.59	0.84	0.65	0.69	0.32	0.71	0.72	0.83	0.79	0.59	-0.22	-0.01	-0.14
USA	0.43	0.59		0.64	0.68	0.62	0.25	0.96	0.56	0.64	0.64	0.58	-0.12	-0.18	-0.19
Dev Europe ex UK		0.84	0.64		0.66	0.72	0.37	0.78	0.63			0.62	-0.28	0.06	-0.13
Japan	0.49	0.65	0.68	0.66		0.67	0.45		0.51	0.61	0.68	0.55	-0.17	-0.08	-0.05
Dev Asia Pacific ex Japan	0.67	0.69	0.62	0.72	0.67		0.68		0.57	0.63	0.64	0.60	-0.17	0.24	0.10
Emerging	0.38	0.32	0.25	0.37	0.45	0.68	-	0.44	0.22	0.30	0.41	0.40	-0.17	0.37	0.23
All-World	0.59	0.71	0.96	0.78			0.44	-	0.62	0.72		0.65	-0.16	-0.06	-0.13
UK Govt 7-10 yr	0.57	0.72	0.56	0.63	0.51	0.57	0.22	0.62		0.94	0.69		-0.11	-0.19	-0.02
UK IG	0.65	0.83	0.64	0.77	0.61	0.63	0.30	0.72	0.94		0.84	0.73	-0.17	-0.11	-0.04
UK HY	0.64	0.79	0.64		0.68	0.64	0.41		0.69	0.84	-	0.57	-0.16	0.07	-0.11
UK ILSI	0.48	0.59	0.58	0.62	0.55	0.60	0.40	0.65	0.74	0.73	0.57	-	-0.34	-0.04	0.18
Crude Oil	0.06	-0.22	-0.12	-0.28	-0.17	-0.17	-0.17	-0.16	-0.11	-0.17	-0.16	-0.34		0.07	-0.13
Copper	0.15	-0.01	-0.18	0.06	-0.08	0.24	0.37	-0.06	-0.19	-0.11	0.07	-0.04	0.07	-	0.38
Gold	-0.12	-0.14	-0.19	-0.13	-0.05	0.10	0.23	-0.13	-0.02	-0.04	-0.11	0.18	-0.13	0.38	-

Appendix

	Wgt (%) I	Mkt Cap		1	M			3	M		12M				
	((USD bn)	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	
All-World	100.0	78,185	-1.5	-2.3	-0.8	-0.3	1.3	-1.1	5.9	6.6	20.6	17.7	19.8	25.6	
Developed	90.2	70,558	-1.8	-2.6	-1.1	-0.6	1.9	-0.5	6.6	7.3	20.9	18.2	20.4	26.1	
USA	64.8	50,654	-2.5	-2.5	-1.1	-0.6	2.7	2.7	10.0	10.7	25.1	25.1	27.3	33.5	
Developed Europe ex UK	10.3	8,051	-0.2	-2.3	-0.8	-0.3	-3.4	-10.4	-4.0	-3.4	8.2	1.0	2.8	7.8	
Emerging	9.8	7,627	1.4	0.5	2.0	2.6	-3.8	-6.5	0.2	0.8	17.4	12.8	14.8	20.3	
Japan	5.7	4,484	4.1	-0.5	1.0	1.5	5.4	-4.1	2.8	3.4	20.6	8.2	10.1	15.4	
Developed Asia Pacific ex Japan	3.5	2,738	-2.1	-6.0	-4.6	-4.2	-3.8	-12.5	-6.3	-5.7	3.4	-5.4	-3.7	0.9	
UK	3.4	2,630	-1.5	-2.9	-1.5	-1.0	0.6	-6.1	0.6	1.2	11.0	9.0	11.0	16.3	

Developed - Top 20 by % weight (TR)

	Wgt (%)		1	M			3	M		12M				
		(USD bn)	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR
Developed	100.0	70,558	-1.8	-2.6	-1.1	-0.6	1.9	-0.5	6.6	7.3	20.9	18.2	20.4	26.1
USA	71.8	50,654	-2.5	-2.5	-1.1	-0.6	2.7	2.7	10.0	10.7	25.1	25.1	27.3	33.5
Japan	6.4	4,484	4.1	-0.5	1.0	1.5	5.4	-4.1	2.8	3.4	20.6	8.2	10.1	15.4
UK	3.7	2,630	-1.5	-2.9	-1.5	-1.0	0.6	-6.1	0.6	1.2	11.0	9.0	11.0	16.3
Canada	2.6	1,861	-3.3	-5.8	-4.4	-3.9	4.9	-1.5	5.5	6.2	23.3	13.0	15.0	20.6
France	2.5	1,738	2.2	0.2	1.7	2.2	-3.0	-10.0	-3.6	-3.0	1.9	-4.5	-2.8	1.9
Switzerland	2.2	1,556	-1.2	-4.0	-2.6	-2.1	-4.6	-11.2	-4.9	-4.3	6.5	-1.1	0.7	5.6
Germany	2.1	1,500	1.0	-1.0	0.5	1.0	1.8	-5.5	1.2	1.8	18.7	11.3	13.3	18.7
Australia	1.9	1,328	-3.2	-8.0	-6.6	-6.1	-1.1	-11.7	-5.4	-4.8	11.4	1.1	2.9	7.9
Netherlands	1.0	727	1.5	-0.5	1.0	1.5	-5.9	-12.7	-6.5	-5.9	7.1	0.4	2.2	7.1
Korea	1.0	721	-2.3	-7.4	-6.0	-5.6	-8.8	-19.0	-13.2	-12.7	-11.5	-22.6	-21.2	-17.4
Sweden	0.8	534	-1.5	-2.7	-1.3	-0.8	-5.9	-13.7	-7.5	-6.9	7.0	-2.4	-0.7	4.1
Italy	0.7	494	2.2	0.2	1.7	2.2	1.4	-5.9	0.8	1.4	21.9	14.3	16.3	21.9
Spain	0.6	458	-0.1	-2.0	-0.6	-0.1	-2.1	-9.1	-2.7	-2.1	18.3	10.9	12.8	18.3
Denmark	0.6	451	-11.8	-13.6	-12.3	-11.8	-15.4	-21.5	-15.9	-15.4	-7.0	-12.8	-11.3	-7.0
Hong Kong	0.5	381	0.0	0.2	1.7	2.2	-9.3	-9.3	-2.8	-2.2	-0.6	-0.1	1.7	6.6
Singapore	0.4	254	1.1	-0.6	0.9	1.4	5.1	-1.2	5.8	6.5	22.2	18.1	20.2	26.0
Belgium/Lux	0.2	166	0.3	-1.6	-0.2	0.3	-1.0	-8.1	-1.6	-1.0	16.5	9.2	11.1	16.5
Finland	0.2	160	-0.3	-2.2	-0.8	-0.3	-6.3	-13.1	-6.9	-6.3	0.4	-5.8	-4.2	0.4
Israel	0.2	139	9.3	9.0	10.6	11.2	15.4	17.8	26.1	26.9	35.9	34.3	36.7	43.3
Norway	0.1	102	-2.7	-5.3	-3.9	-3.4	2.5	-4.9	1.8	2.5	9.8	-1.9	-0.1	4.7

Emerging - Top 10 by % weight (TR)

	Wgt (%) N	Wgt (%) Mkt Cap			M			3	M		12M				
	(USD bn)	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	LOCAL	USD	GBP	EUR	
Emerging	100.0	7,627	1.4	0.5	2.0	2.6	-3.8	-6.5	0.2	0.8	17.4	12.8	14.8	20.3	
China	30.8	2,349	2.1	2.3	3.8	4.4	-7.4	-7.4	-0.8	-0.2	19.0	19.7	21.8	27.7	
India	22.1	1,689	-1.6	-2.9	-1.5	-1.0	-8.7	-10.7	-4.3	-3.7	16.6	13.3	15.4	20.9	
Taiwan	20.3	1,549	5.1	4.1	5.7	6.2	6.6	2.9	10.2	10.9	41.8	32.8	35.1	41.6	
Saudi Arabia	4.6	350	3.0	3.0	4.5	5.0	-1.9	-2.1	4.8	5.5	1.1	0.9	2.7	7.7	
Brazil	4.0	308	-4.0	-7.2	-5.8	-5.3	-7.6	-18.5	-12.8	-12.2	-7.4	-27.2	-25.9	-22.4	
South Africa	3.2	241	-1.1	-5.4	-4.0	-3.5	-3.1	-11.5	-5.3	-4.7	12.4	8.9	10.9	16.2	
Mexico	2.0	155	-0.5	-3.0	-1.6	-1.1	-5.1	-10.6	-4.2	-3.6	-11.9	-28.2	-26.9	-23.4	
Malaysia	2.0	149	3.6	3.0	4.5	5.1	1.3	-6.5	0.1	0.7	20.7	24.0	26.3	32.3	
Thailand	2.0	149	-1.9	-1.3	0.2	0.7	-4.7	-10.0	-3.7	-3.0	2.0	2.1	3.9	8.9	
UAE	1.9	143	7.4	7.4	9.0	9.6	8.4	8.4	16.1	16.9	14.0	14.0	16.1	21.6	



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