



UBS House View

Chief Investment Office WM

Treasurers Forum - the year ahead

November 2015

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Making sense of macro: conflicting forces at work

**Emerging (EM) vs.
Developed
Economy (DM)
Growth**

China slowdown dampens EM activity. Yet low interest rates, declining oil prices and investment revival supports DM.

**Supply vs. Demand
Dynamics**

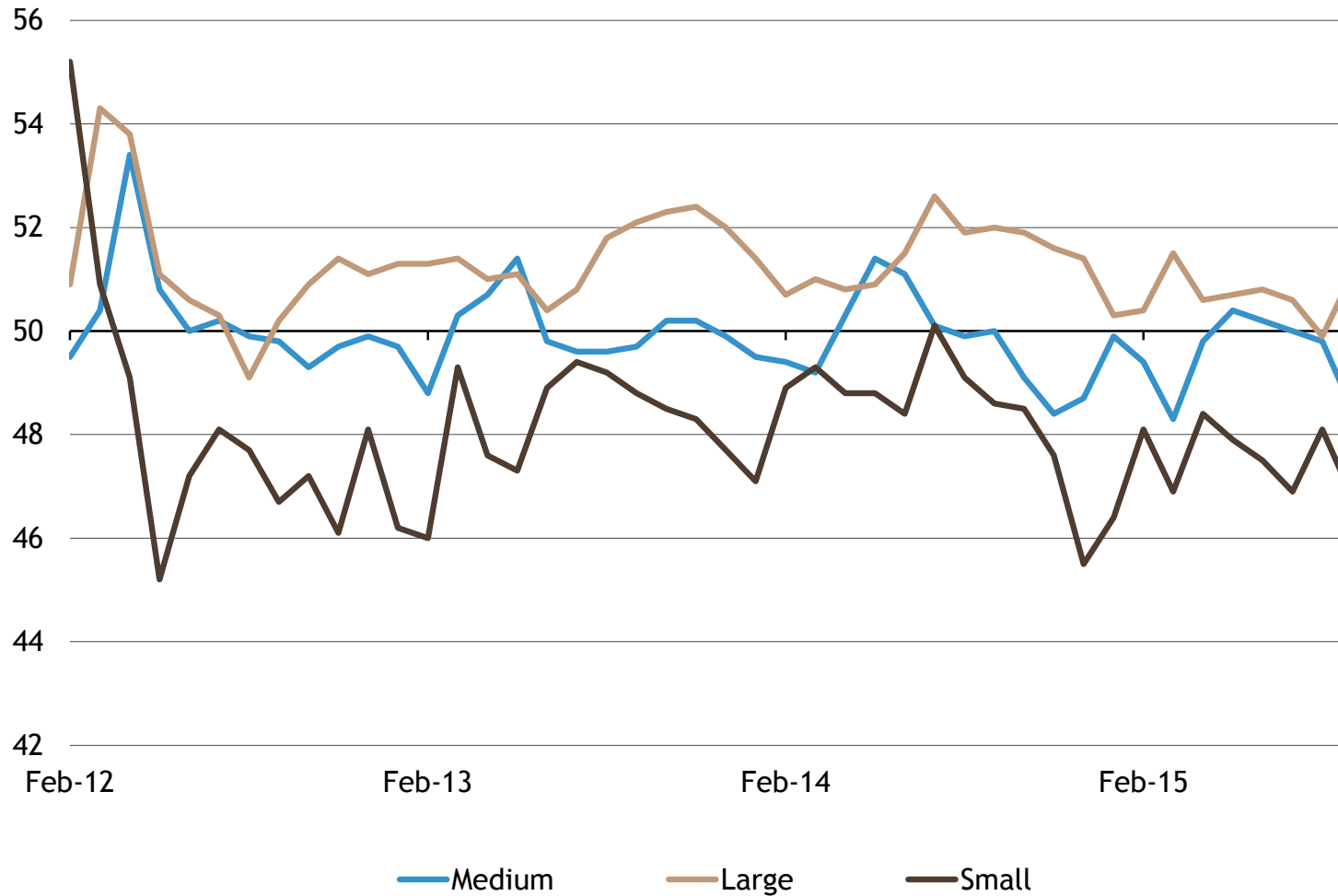
US and UK approaching full capacity – so greater reliance on productivity to drive growth. Meanwhile, EM supply side connected to failure of reform drive

**Disinflation vs.
Growth Resilience**

China shocks also a broader commodity shock-intensifying disinflation and challenging DM central banks where inflation already well below target

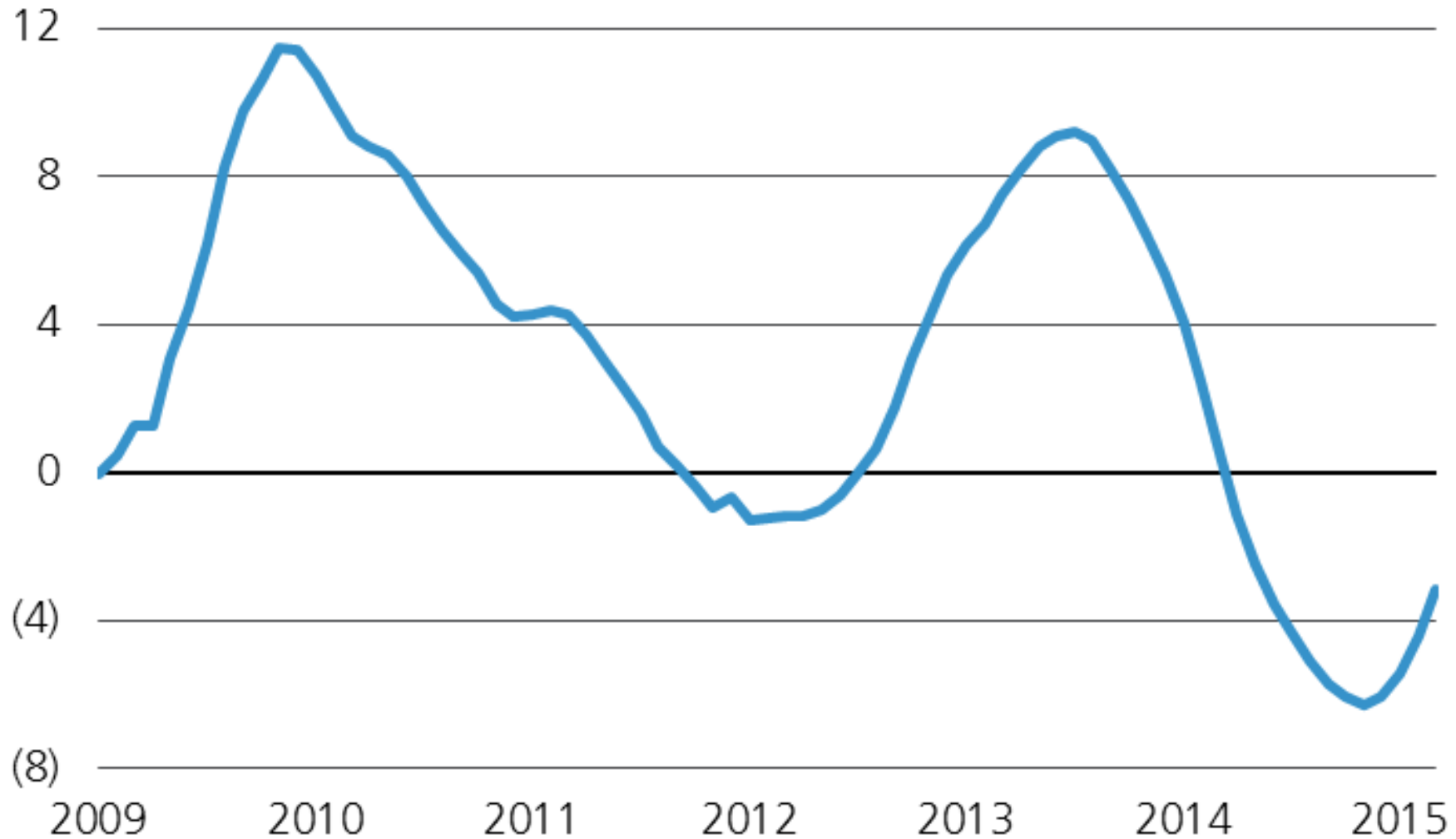
Large Chinese companies respond to stimulus

Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Indices



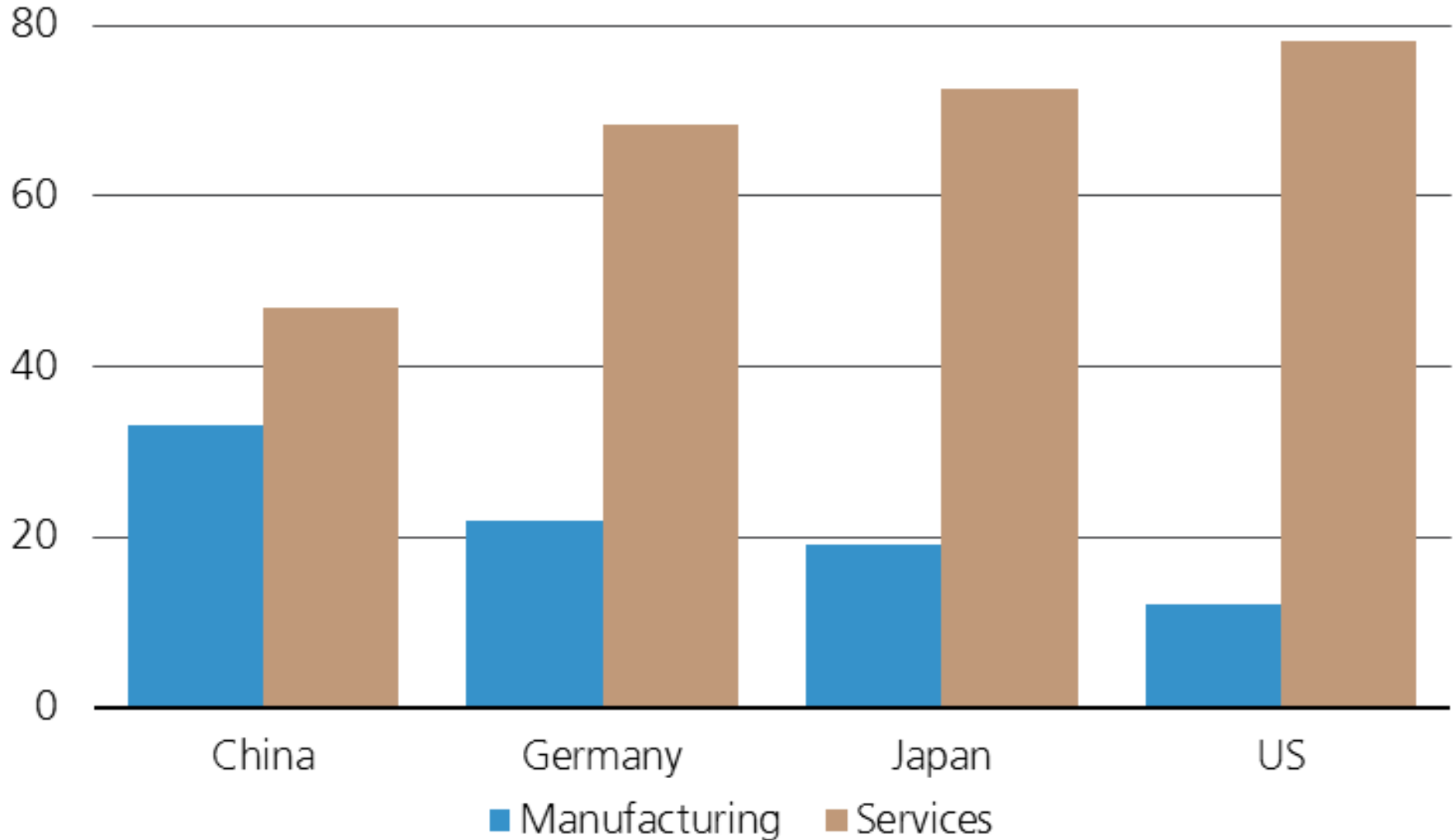
Turning housing prices will support the Chinese economy

China 70 cities newly built residential buildings prices, year-on-year in %



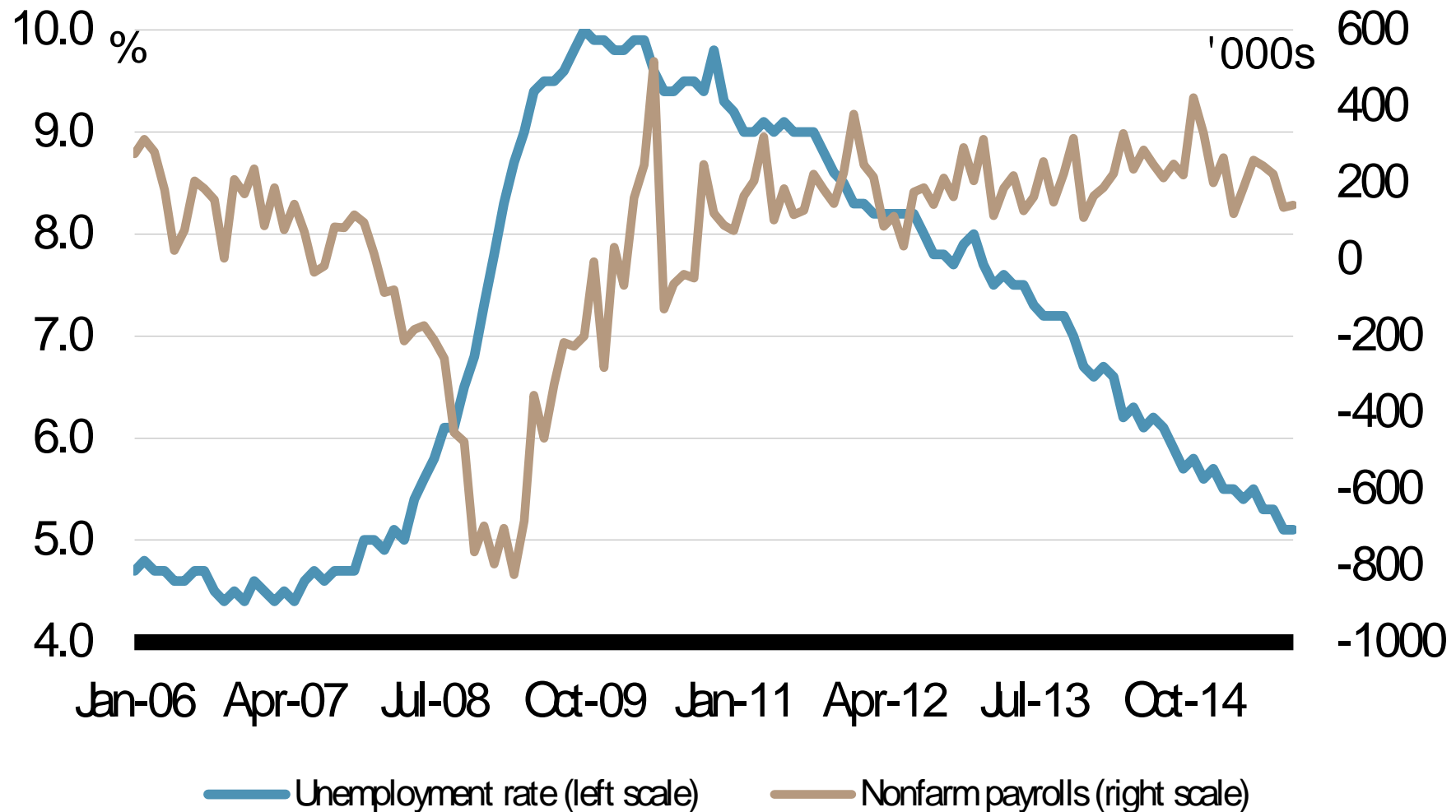
Services - not manufacturing - make up the lion's share of GDP...

Value added for sector as of % of GDP for 2013



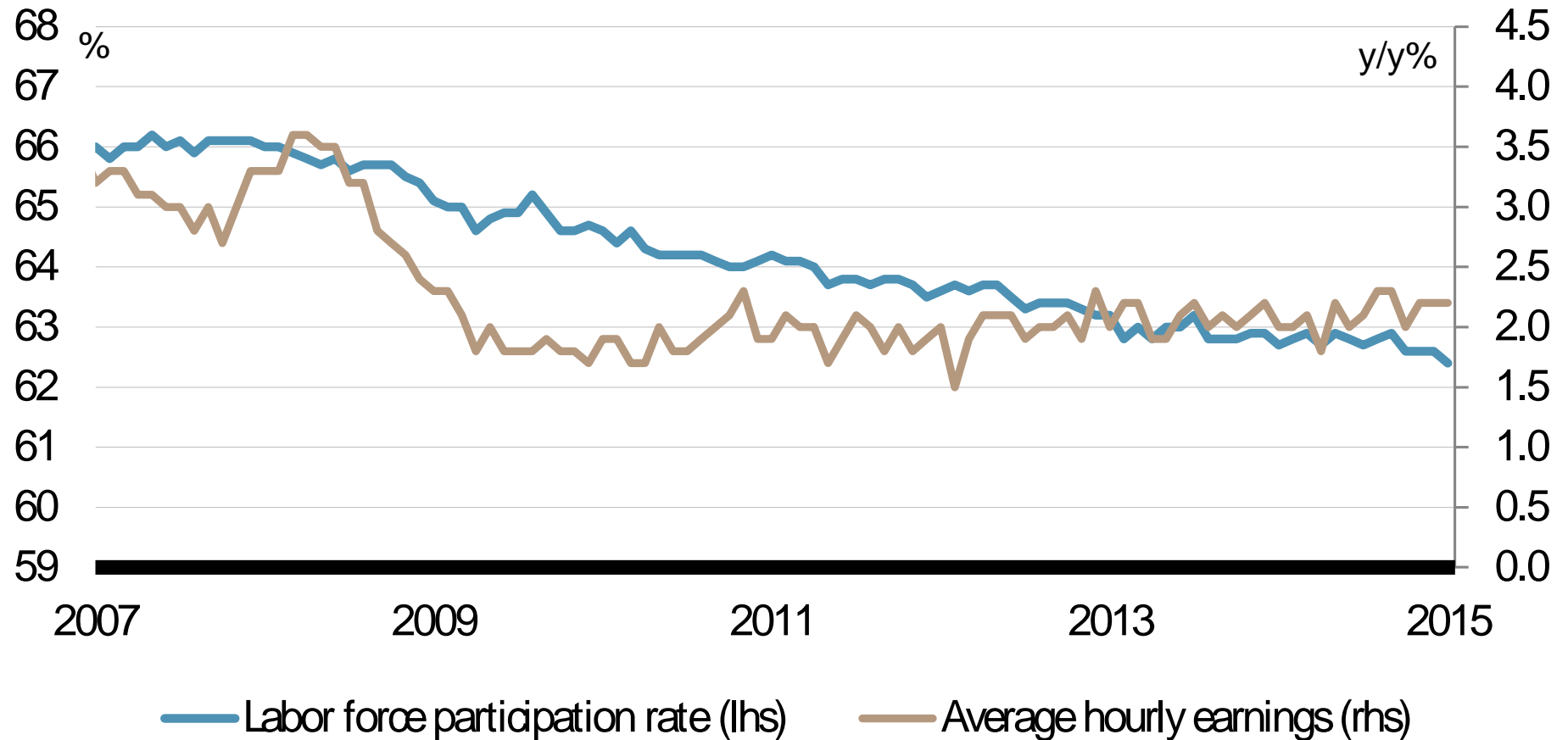
US: Nearing maximum employment....?

Unemployment rate and nonfarm payrolls



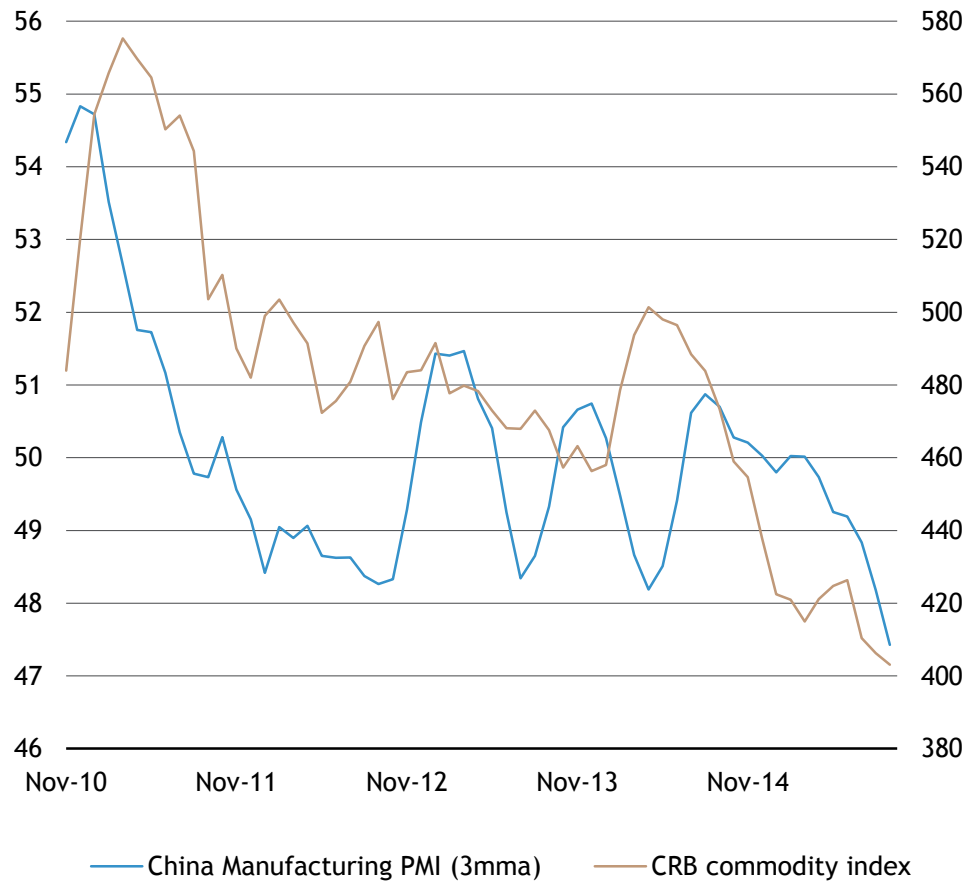
...but this doesn't look like a labor shortage

Labor force participation rate and average hourly earnings



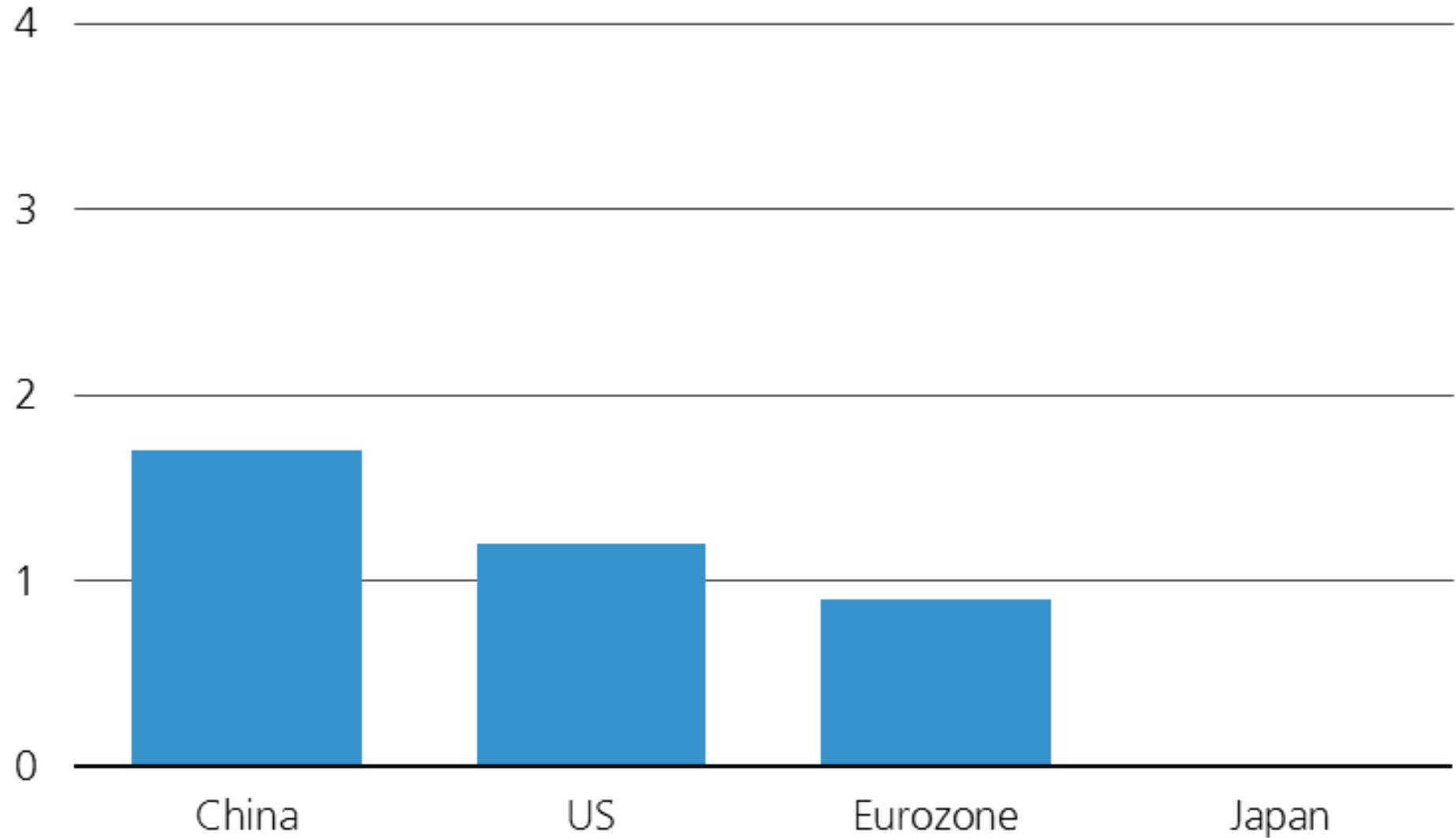
Commodity prices still driven by China

China Manuf. Purchasing Managers Index and Commodity Research Bureau Index



Consumer price inflation is nowhere near central banks' targets

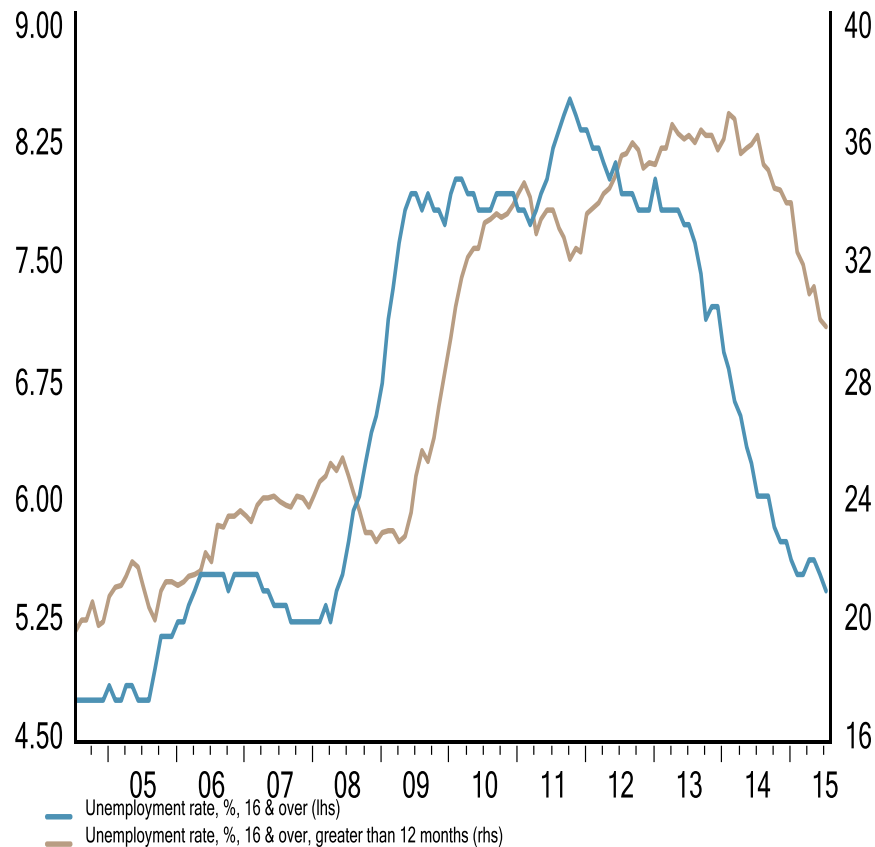
Core inflation, year-on-year in %



UK: much to be optimistic about-rate hike start in 2Q next year

Labour market continues to tighten...

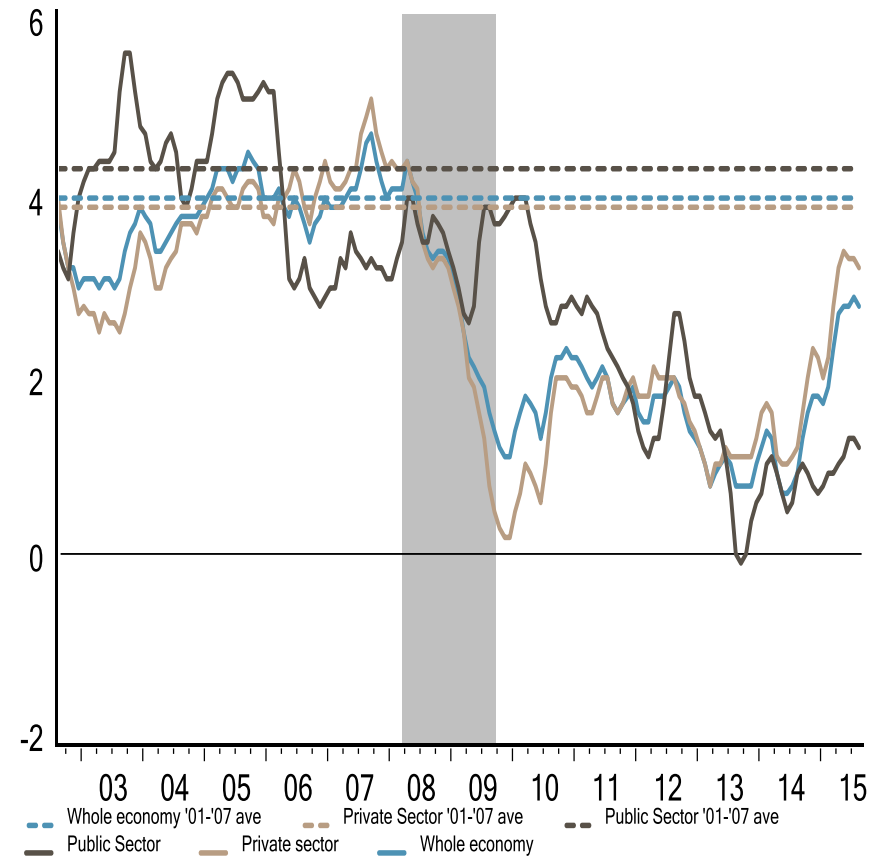
Unemployment rate, SA, %



Source: Haver Analytics, UBS as of 14 October 2015

...resulting in wage growth

Average weekly earnings, y/y, %



Source: Haver Analytics, UBS as of 14 October 2015

Three to watch: Chinese reserves, Fed policy and Euro earnings ..and reasons to be positive

There are **three** big questions related to recent weakness that we continue to watch closely.

1. China's capital account – Yuan depreciation as a threat to markets and flexibility
2. Fed policy – reducing the confusion and getting 'on-message'.
3. Corporate earnings – what is the size of the EM impact; how resilient are western companies

There are positive signs emerging:

There are signs of stability in China:

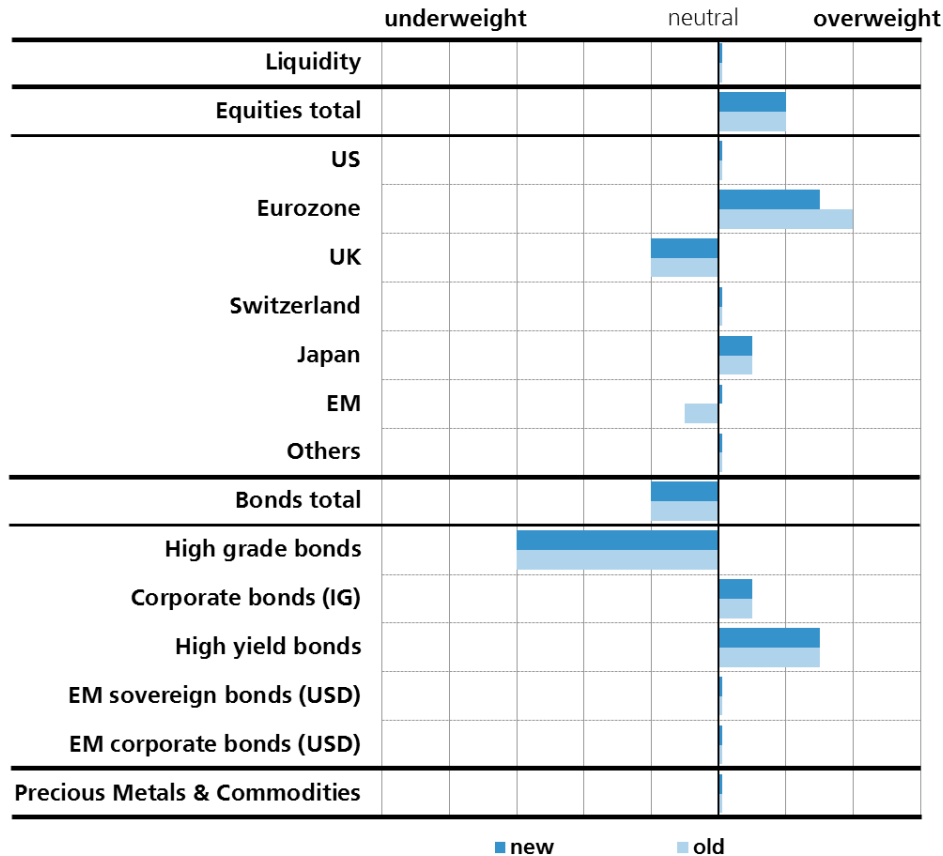
Western consumers are still spending.

Central banks remain willing and able to support growth and stabilize markets:

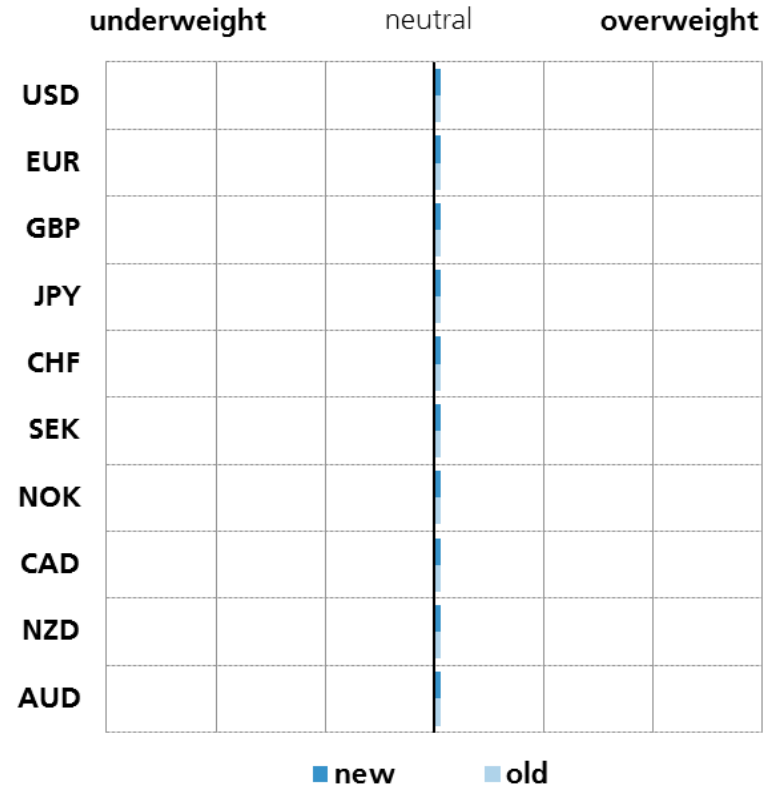
- CIO also expect a US rate hike in December with a signal of 'lower for longer'.
- The Bank of England is still expected to hike in 2Q 2016
- The ECB is expected to extend its EUR 60bn worth of monthly purchases by another 3-6 months while Bank of Japan continues its policy of ongoing and pre-committed asset purchases

Global tactical asset allocation

Tactical asset allocation deviations from benchmark*



Currency allocation



*Please note that the bar charts show total portfolio preferences and thus can be interpreted as the recommended deviation from the relevant portfolio benchmark for any given asset class and sub asset class.

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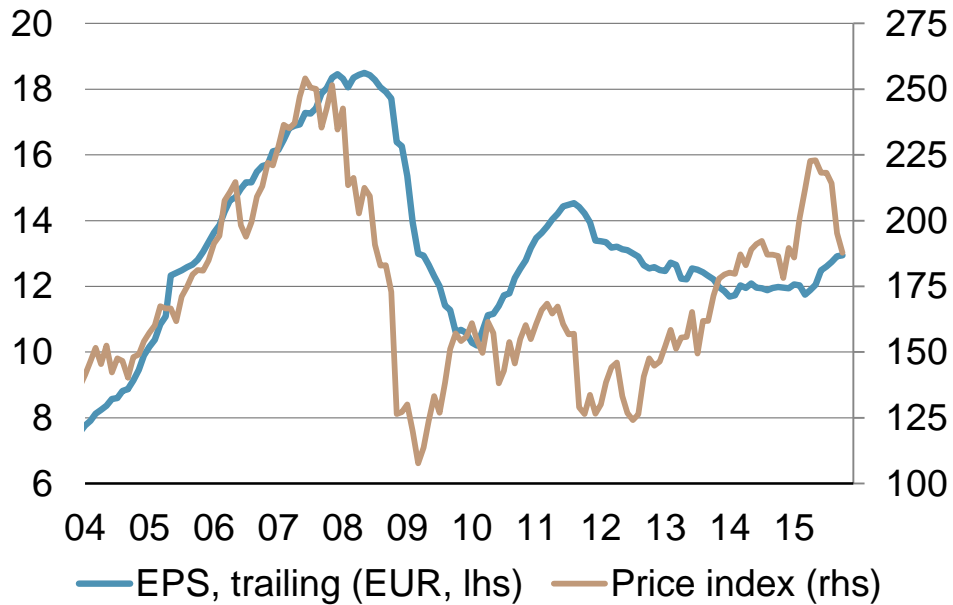
Lower returns and higher volatility

MSCI AC World index, trailing returns and volatility

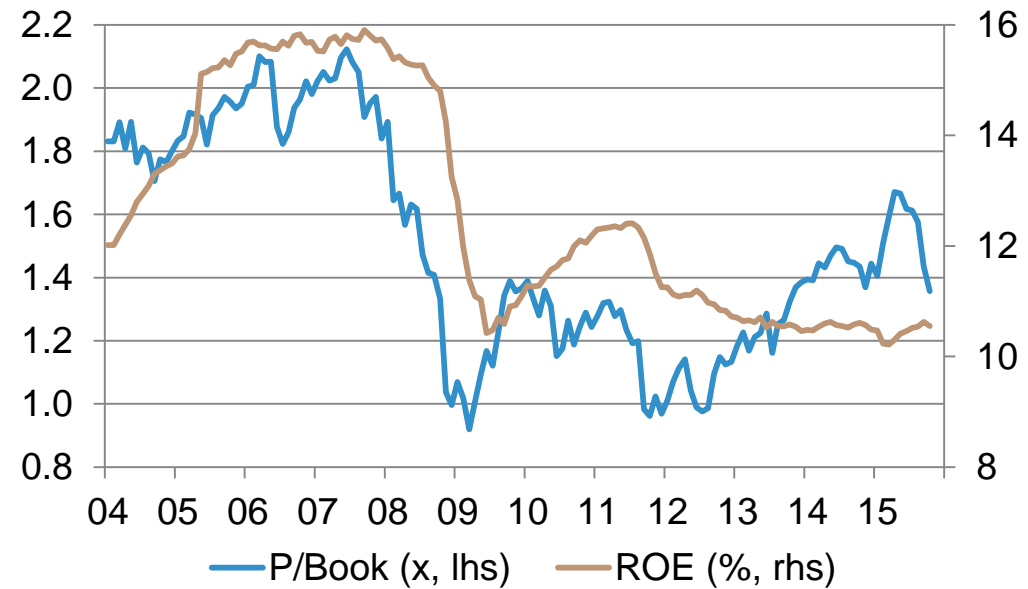


Euro equities - 'back in line'

MSCI EMU – Price and EPS*



MSCI EMU – valuation and profitability



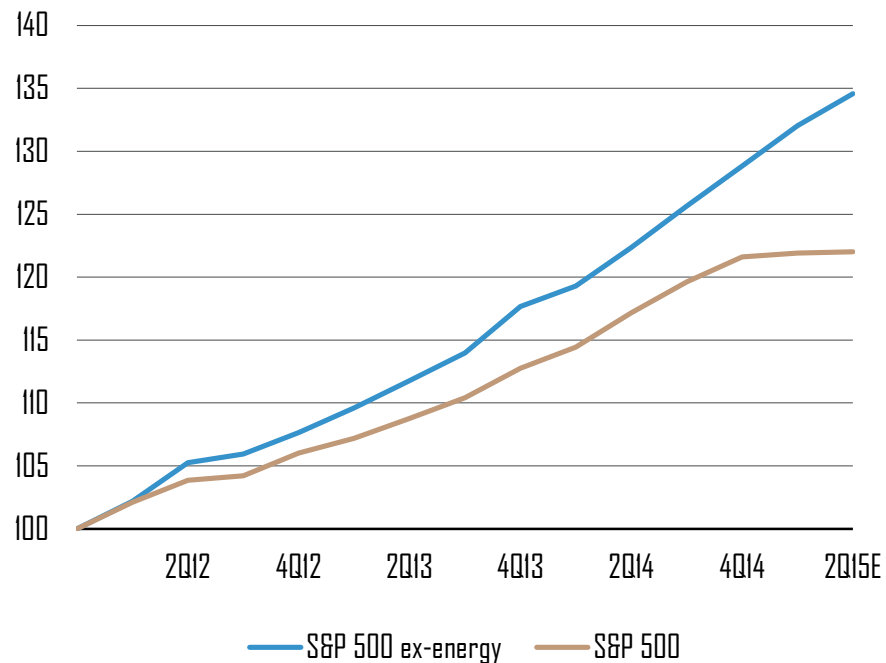
* Trailing.

Source: UBS CIO WM, Datastream

US earnings cycle (ex-energy) still intact

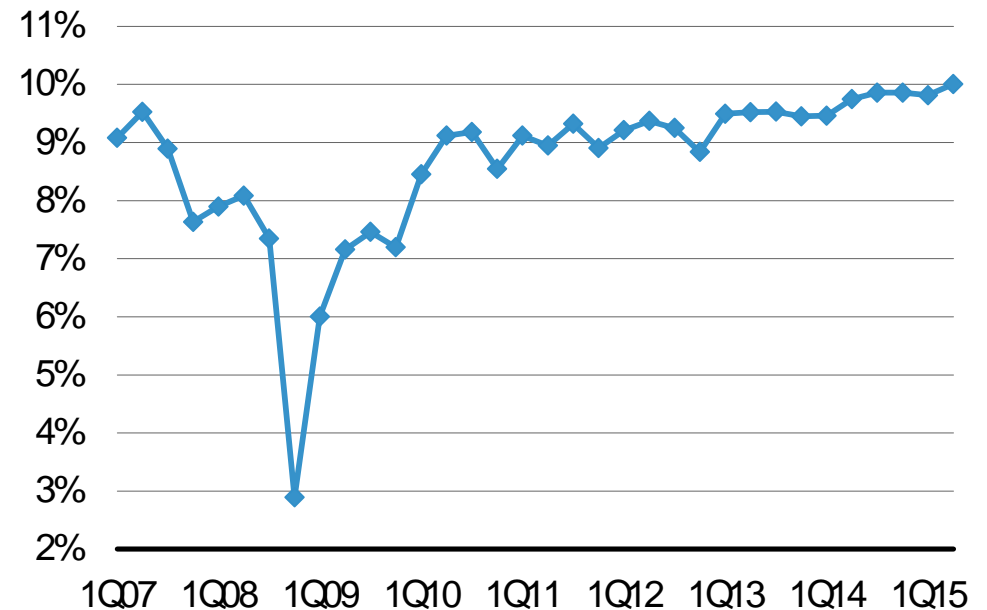
No weakness in S&P 500 ex-energy

EPS indexed to 2012/Q1 = 100



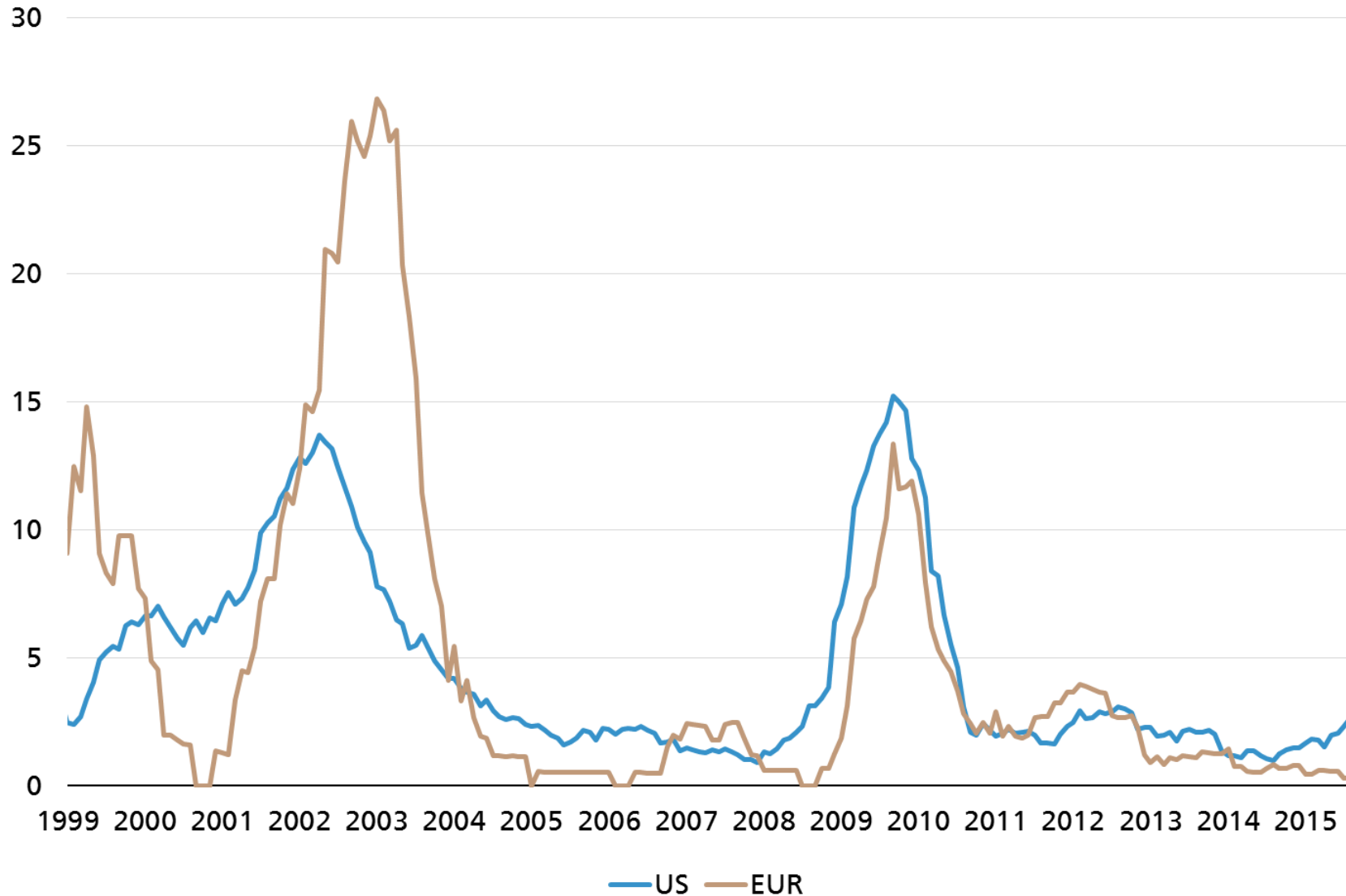
Ex-energy, net margins continue to climb

S&P 500 ex-energy net margins, quarterly



High Yield : US vs. Euro default rates start to diverge

12-month trailing default rates in %



Source: BoAML, UBS CIO WM, as of September 2015

'higher volatility and more modest returns are here to stay'

(Monthly Letter, October 22 2015)

- We expect the growth/inflation mix in the major developed markets to provide a favourable backdrop for **risk assets**
- Low **inflation** readings will allow the central banks in the major developed markets to maintain very easy liquidity conditions over our forecast horizon.
- We **overweight Eurozone equities** as we expect the ECB to maintain its pace of quantitative easing (QE) despite the economic recovery. The strong commitment by the ECB to lift inflation over the medium term is causing a mix of favorable macro factors for Eurozone equities as well as credit instruments.
- We **overweight Japan equities**, as companies continue to show strong earnings growth in comparison with those based in other regions.
- We **underweight UK equities** due to a relatively weak earnings outlook.
- We prefer developed market corporate bonds over high-grade (HG) ones. We **overweight European high yield bonds** (HY), which offer an attractive yield pickup over HG ones.
- We are neutral emerging market bonds, where fundamentals look weaker than in the developed world.

Cross-asset preferences

Equities

Bonds

Foreign exchange

Hedge Funds & Private Markets

Precious Metals & Commodities

Most preferred

- Eurozone (↘)
- Japan
- US share buybacks and dividends
- Eurozone "value" stocks
- Japanese share buybacks
- Water-linked investments

- Global investment grade
- European high yield
- Corporate hybrids
- Rising stars
- European leveraged loans

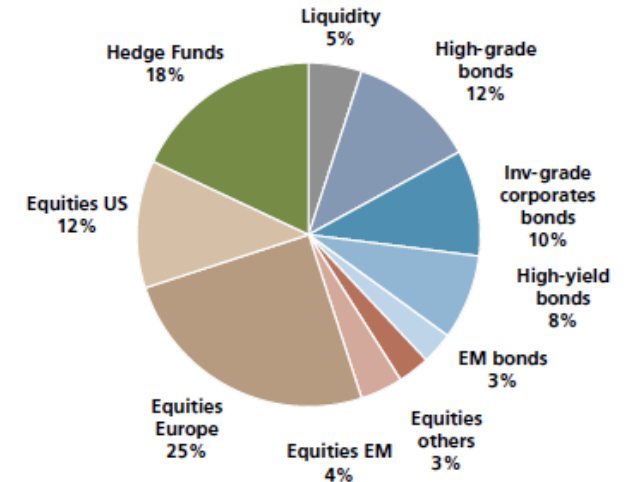
- Hedge funds: Favoring equity hedge

Least preferred

- UK

- Developed market high grade bonds

Global model portfolio (EUR)



as of 22 October 2015

Note: Portfolio weightings are for a EUR model portfolio, with a balanced risk profile (including TAA). We expect a balanced portfolio (excluding TAA) to have an average total return of 4.3% p.a. and volatility of 7.9% p.a. over the next five years.

↗ Recent upgrades

↘ Recent downgrades

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