

CAPITAL MARKETS PERSPECTIVES

FOURTH QUARTER 2014

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ANGELO, GORDON & CO. is a privately held investment management firm that was founded in 1988 to focus on alternative money management activities and currently has assets under management of \$27 billion. The firm's investment philosophy combines fundamental in-depth research and a conservative valuation approach with a diversification strategy designed to reduce downside risk and protect principal.

Investment disciplines encompass four principal business lines: (i) credit; (ii) real estate; (iii) private equity and (iv) multi-strategy. Funds are managed in single-strategy vehicles or multi-strategy vehicles. A great deal of synergy exists among the investment teams and their ability to work together has proven to be a key element in the firm's success.



PORTFOLIO MANAGERS' CORNER



TODD DITTMANN Portfolio Manager Energy Direct Lending

Crude oil prices closed at \$47 per barrel by the second week of January 2015, dropping more than \$26 since the November OPEC meeting and plummeting to the lowest level in five years. This is the ninth time crude oil has fallen more than 30% since the WTI NYMEX contract started trading in 1983 and it is the third longest decline of the nine. Natural gas prices are also down significantly, falling 25% since Thanksgiving. Nevertheless, U.S. shale production continues to increase, while the Saudis are serious about maintaining market share and Libyan production remains stable. On the demand side, Chinese demand is weak, the dollar is strong, and emerging market currencies are struggling. Since June of last year, the International Energy Agency has cut its oil demand forecast five times.

The industry response has already been significant. Cuts to 2015 drilling budgets have been material, with higher cost and more levered producers – the smaller companies and MLPs -- slashing budgets by a greater degree than the larger and better capitalized producers (*See Chart*). Over 40 companies have announced their capital budgets since early December, with average year over year spending reductions

exceeding 30%. U.S. land rig activity for both horizontal and vertical rigs continues to fall across most basins. While there is debate over the timing of U.S. production declines, most analysts predict the inflection point to be at or after mid-year 2015.

Regarding the energy capital markets, energy stocks flipped from being the best performing sector to the worst. Energy bonds also traded off materially during the quarter, as noted by Bruce Martin below. Both equity and bond prices were highly correlated with oil prices on the way down. We expect such correlations will hold if and when oil prices recover, with bonds offering a superior and more defensive means of playing that recovery. Bank revolving credit availability is already under pressure across the sector, and we believe the biggest cuts are yet to come. If banks reduce lending price decks in a manner similar to 2008-2009 both existing and new borrowers will be forced to explore alternative senior secured debt arrangements (*See Chart*). We have already seen some senior secured refinancing opportunities created by reductions in bank borrowing bases, and expect to see more. In assessing these opportunities, we are highly focused on cost structures, decline curves, maintenance capex, hedging, leverage and liquidity. This ongoing withdrawal of capital from the sector should greatly increase the opportunity set of financing opportunities, large and small, originated and sourced in the secondary market, for healthy companies, acquisitions, and distressed companies.



BRUCE MARTIN Portfolio Manager Non-Investment Grade Corporate Credit

The non-investment grade corporate credit markets hit an oil slick in the fourth quarter of 2014. Energy related credits were the largest sector of the high yield market at the beginning of the fourth quarter comprising roughly 20% of the market. In the leveraged loan universe, energy names comprised roughly 4% of the index. Combined, energy related credits represent over \$230 billion of outstanding debt spread across more than 430 distinct issues. As the price of a barrel of oil plummeted 42% during the quarter from \$91 to \$53 (\$47 as of this writing), the price of energy sector high yield bonds and loans plummeted as well. The JP Morgan High Yield Index fell 157 bps during the fourth quarter including an inexplicable 200+ bp rally in the third week of December, resulting in a full year total return of 2.17% (*See Chart*). Energy names lost 6% - 7% in December, with some energy bonds down in excess of 40%. The JP Morgan Leveraged Loan Index had negative returns of 98 bps in December but managed to end the year up 2.05%. The price moves in the fourth quarter for the high yield and leveraged loan markets were driven by a combination of fear of the energy sector specifically and forced selling of non-energy credits due to a continuation of very heavy mutual fund outflows. The leveraged loan market experienced over \$7 billion of outflows in December, and the \$1.8 billion of outflows in the second week of December.

was the largest single week redemption since the Greece default scare of August 2011. Open-end leveraged loan mutual funds experienced 24 straight weeks of outflows and had outflows for 35 out of the last 37 weeks in 2014 totaling \$22 billion over that span (*See Chart*). High yield bond mutual funds experienced \$8.2 billion of outflows during the month of December, greater than 35% of the full year total outflow of \$22 billion. At the end of December the JP Morgan High Yield Bond and Leveraged Loan indices yielded 7.1% and 6.2%, respectively (*See Chart*).

Looking ahead, it feels as if the health of the high yield bond market in 2015 will be driven by the price of oil. Given the noted absence of forecasters who predicted the precipitous 50% price drop, the market has a low level of confidence in oil price predictions. As such, the high yield market is filled with uncertainty heading into 2015. Additional uncertainties facing the markets include how the debt and economies of oil dependent countries such as Russia and Venezuela could impact the broader markets, as well as the risk that the severe drop in commodity prices experienced in 2014 could be a harbinger of slower global growth in general, and therefore low energy prices for a longer period of time.



PORTFOLIO MANAGERS' CORNER (continued)



THOMAS FULLER Portfolio Manager Distressed Debt

While leveraged loan and high yield default rates remained low during the fourth quarter, episodic credit market volatility returned towards the end of year. Although overall spread widening led to sagging primary issuance and a downward gap in prices, it is premature to know if the recent sector-specific price correction in energy will catalyze an actionable distressed opportunity set. Accelerating retail outflows exacerbated waning demand which affected both refinancing and dividend-related issuance in particular. Unsteady primary pricing has yet to fully affect the secondary credit market, with bonds and loans still generally priced off the creditworthiness of underlying issuers. In Europe, regulatory and economic pressure on Eurozone banks to shrink their balance sheets increased. Consequently, actual non-core asset sales surpassed expectations for 2014 and are likely to continue apace in 2015 (*See Chart*).



ARTHUR PEPONIS Portfolio Manager Private Equity

The private equity market ended 2014 on a strong note. Deal volume was the highest since 2007, although it was still less than 50% of volume achieved in that year. "Dry powder" increased over 10% in 2014 from 2013 levels. Further, despite increasing regulatory scrutiny, lenders still maintained an aggressive posture toward the amount and terms that they were offering private equity sponsored deals. The leverage in 2014 as a multiple of EBITDA reached 5.8x which was the highest level since 2007 (*See Chart*). In addition, issuer friendly terms such as "covenant-lite" represented an all-time record of 66% of new issuance in 2014 versus a prior record of 50% in 2013. Finally, purchase price as a multiple of last twelve month ("LTM") EBITDA reached an all-time high of 9.8x in 2014 eclipsing 2007's level of 9.7x (*See Chart*). 2014 was also a robust year for sponsor exits. Both in terms of dollar volume and number of exits, 2014 was a record year for the monetization of sponsor assets. Despite the recent volatility in the credit and equity markets, attractive alternatives remain for sponsors to monetize quality assets in a mix of IPOs and sales. As we look to the early part of 2015, we anticipate a continued strong M&A pipeline as private equity funds and corporations seek to

shed assets. We believe that 2015 acquisition multiples will, in part, be determined by lenders' level of aggressiveness in the face of increasing regulatory pressure to limit the number of highly levered transactions banks underwrite and maintain on their books.



DAVID KAMIN Portfolio Manager Merger Arbitrage

While 2014 was the most active year for mergers and acquisitions since 2007, the fourth quarter was turbulent (*See Chart*). On the first day of the quarter, the very popular event-driven trade of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac both tumbled approximately 40% as a U.S. District Court dismissed all of the investor suits against the U.S. Government causing collateral damage in merger arbitrage spreads. Just two weeks later, in response to unilateral Treasury actions to reduce the economic incentives for inversion deals, the pain was compounded when AbbVie terminated its deal with Shire Plc. While the average annualized spread in our deal universe began and ended the quarter at approximately 8%, the early quarter events provided an attractive opportunity as spreads widened to an average of approximately 12.5% which prompted money to flow into the strategy. Activists remained busy during the quarter, successfully pushing companies to sell themselves – i.e. Allergan Inc. and Riverbed Technology – and winning board seats on others. LBO activity saw an uptick led by BC Partners' acquisition of PetSmart Inc. The busiest industry of the year was oil and gas and we saw continued activity in the space with Halliburton agreeing to acquire Baker Hughes and

Respol SA buying Talisman Energy. We would not be surprised if this industry sees further consolidation in 2015 with oil at these levels; however, it is more likely a 2H15 event. There will be attractive assets at depressed levels for the integrated companies and "distressed" companies could be forced to merge or be acquired as a reduction in capital expenditures alone might not rescue them.



GARY WOLF Portfolio Manager Convertible Arbitrage

Directional convertible bond strategies recovered from the more difficult third quarter, with the BAML Global 300 Convertible Index returning 2.56% (in local currency terms) during the final three months of the year, taking the annual return to 7.27%. This was largely driven by equity market strength and helped by an overall supportive credit and rate environment. However, a number of factors, including several name-specific events and the significant underperformance of the lower grade market segment, particularly across the energy sector, weighed on hedged convertible strategies during the period (*See Chart*). The BAML All US Hedge Index, as an indicator for convertible arbitrage returns, declined 0.98% in the fourth quarter, reducing the annual return to just 0.82%. Global new issuance grew to \$16.4 billion in Q4 (\$8.1 billion US, \$4.6 billion Europe, \$2.7 billion Japan), according to UBS data. The 2014 deal total reached \$97.8 billion, slightly topping the previous year's level and continuing the overall rebound in the primary market. New issuance is expected to stay robust in 2015 as investor demand for new bonds remains high and issuers can achieve reasonable valuations while credit spreads are still tight and equities are close to recent highs. General

refinancing needs, as well as funding for M&A and share buybacks continue to be relevant drivers for issuance. As outright returns have been strong, often outperforming comparable equities, the asset class should see further inflows of outright capital. This should drive valuations of investment grade and balanced convertibles higher, especially the constituents of the major benchmark indices. Competitive pressures may continue to ease in the convertible arbitrage segment of the market as underperforming participants are forced to reduce their exposure to the strategy, leaving what we see as an attractive overall opportunity set to fewer investors.



PORTFOLIO MANAGERS' CORNER (continued)



JONATHAN LIEBERMAN Portfolio Manager Residential and Consumer Debt (RMBS/ABS)

RMBS and ABS markets during the fourth quarter experienced modest softness for first time since the summer of 2013. Credit, Agency, and ABS experienced modest spread widening as securities prices dipped in response to volatility and weakness in other capital markets. The sharp decline in oil prices, unanticipated lower interest rates, and losses in other markets such as Fannie and Freddie equity securities spilled over into the structured credit markets. Interest rates declined in response to modest U.S. economic activity, geopolitical concerns, and declining worldwide interest rates. Trading volumes slowed materially in October and November before rebounding in December. Negative net issuance for RMBS and ABS continues to be supportive for RMBS. We have seen an acceleration in mortgage refinance activity in early January which is supportive for housing and non-agency MBS. With respect to borrower performance, the trend of improving consumer and mortgage credit quality continued to hold (*See Chart*). Home sale volume remained below historical averages but appeared to be settling into a new normalized level reflective of slow U.S. economic growth.



ANDREW SOLOMON Portfolio Manager Real Estate Debt (CMBS)

Despite broader market turmoil during the last quarter of 2014, volatility in the CMBS market declined after having picked up in the third quarter. The more credit-sensitive parts of the CMBS market were down a couple of percentage points in early October, but tended to retrace much of that decline by year end. The lower-yielding portions of the market followed a similar, but less pronounced trend. One small area that showed significant weakness was the floating rate CMBS market. After several years of low new issue volume, a significant number of floating rate deals came to market in 2014. The unexpected supply was poorly absorbed, and shifted pricing power to buyers. New transaction issuance volume increased for the fifth consecutive year with 2014 the fourth most active year for issuance in the history of this asset class (*See Chart*). This new issuance volume was nearly identical to the amount of legacy CMBS loans that were either repaid or liquidated, thereby resulting in nearly flat net supply for the year. We expect this robust issuance trend to continue and in late 2015 it is likely that the overall size of postcrisis issued deals ("CMBS 2.0") will exceed the size of the pre-crisis ("Legacy") market for the first time.

Despite the fact that commercial real estate prices nationwide are at an all-time high and fundamentals generally appear favorable, we do find some causes for concern. Within the legacy space, as the market continues to shrink we believe legacy trading volumes and liquidity will decline. This could result in great bouts of technically-driven volatility. We are also monitoring how realized losses continue to work their way up higher in the capital structures of legacy deals. By October 2014, forty-nine individual transactions had experienced losses on bonds originally rated single A or higher (*See Chart*). We expect this number will grow over the next few years, in large part due to the profile of the loans maturing in 2015, 2016 and 2017. These upcoming maturities may prove more difficult to refinance than those loans that have matured over the last few years. This could create a great opportunity to provide commercial property owners with short-term, higher-yielding loans, but will most likely have a negative impact on the performance of Legacy CMBS pools.

The trend of more aggressive underwriting for 2.0 deals continued in 2014 and we expect it to further accelerate in 2015. The influence of traditional "credit standard" enforcers such as the rating agencies and first-loss buyers has been watered down by the sheer number of institutions now active in these portions of the market. Over time, these weaker quality loans will result in unexpected losses in these new deals. With most of these bonds originally issued with average lives of 10 years, the prospects for a significant price correction in times of distress appear good



GORDON J.WHITING Portfolio Manager Net Lease Real Estate

Activity in the net lease market remained robust during the fourth quarter. Despite the interest rate volatility, pricing in the net lease market continued to strengthen throughout the period as demand remained strong. Cap rates for industrial properties with below investment-grade tenants are now in the mid-6% to low-8% range depending on real estate quality and lease term *(See Chart)*. The acquisition landscape has become more competitive due to the growth in the non-traded REIT space as well as in the public REIT market. Deal supply has also been healthy as pricing has improved. Additionally, supply has increased in part due to activist investors who have become more vocal about unlocking the capital tied up in corporate-owned real estate. The lending environment continued to be very attractive during the quarter as CMBS issuance remained steady. Lenders priced loans at narrower spreads to U.S. Treasury yields and routinely offered two- to five-year interest-only periods on our typical ten-year loan quotes.



PORTFOLIO MANAGERS' CORNER (continued)



ADAM SCHWARTZ Portfolio Manager Head of U.S. and Europe Real Estate

Total transaction volume as of November 2014 exceeded the full year 2013 volume with December activity still pending. Given the strong velocity of the market, we expect that December will add significantly to the tally. While portfolio and REIT M&A activity is down versus the peak pace of 2007, individual property transactions appear to be nearing highs. For the year, prices grew by 10% according to the Green Street Index (tracks REIT holdings, a good proxy for core) while Moody's/CPPI's broader all-property index increased approximately 15% and the publicly REIT index was up 32% (*See Chart*). All indices were boosted by strong capital flows and a 10-year Treasury that fell from approximately 3% to 2.2% over the course of 2014 and stand at 1.8% as of this writing. Cap rates are near or below their levels seen in the last peak, although, interest rates are significantly lower today as well. Over the course of December, cap rates fell by approximately 21 bps and BBB bond yields increased by 7 bps resulting in the cap rate/BBB bond spread falling from 169 to 141 and moving below the long term average of 150 bps.

Debt capital continues to increase in origination capacity. The year saw CMBS issuance just slightly ahead of last year's amount, decreased origination by Freddie and Fannie, but increasing activity from banks and insurance companies more than filing the gap. While underwriting standards remain largely in check, we will watch for signs of erosion in 2015. The distribution of prices between the best properties and markets and the worst continues to widen as investors continue to chase the best assets and shun the worst. For the top 10% of properties, cap rates are typically 200 bps or more below the mean (*See Chart*). While pricing and cap rate indicators signal a reminder of the froth at the last peak, the speculation, underwriting exuberance, and excessive leverage is not as evident in today's marketplace. Operating fundamentals are improving materially and look sound for the upcoming years with the strengthening economy driven by long-awaited healthy and continuing job growth. New supply is increasing but remains below long term averages with the exception of apartments which are now approximately 15-20% above their 30 year average of 290k units per annum. We have not yet seen any impact from decreasing oil prices but we are cautious on those markets most exposed to energy and expect that dislocations in those markets may trigger deal flow.

In Europe, 2014 ended with over €100 billion of loan assets sold, nearly twice the pace of 2013. The 2014 figure is on top of €46 billion in 2012 and €64 billion 2013. This is a significant amount of transaction volume in any market environment but for Europe it remains a drop in the €2.4 trillion bucket of unwanted and non-performing assets. This deleveraging is being driven by a combination of bank profits allowing for increased capacity to make write-downs, increased regulatory pressures to force Eurozone banks to sell legacy assets, and continuing underperformance within collateral which forces banks to dispose of assets before they become real-estate owned or "REO." The Asset Quality Review, completed in the fourth quarter of 2014, will continue to be a driver of disposals as the market digests the information available on the state of banks' balance sheets. For all of these reasons we expect the process of selling distressed assets in Europe to continue for a number of years. We expect that political instability will play out in 2015 and even if results of upcoming elections are politically benign, the noise of these events (ex. Greek bonds moving from sub 5% in 2Q 2014 to just under 15%) may highlight to the world that Europe is still in a difficult position, weighed down by high debt and weak growth. ECB monetary expansion is still not articulated but is widely expected; with rates already at near zero it will be interesting to see what impact this has.



WILSON LEUNG Portfolio Manager Asia Real Estate

The vacancy rate in the Tokyo office sector continued to improve to 5.7%. Rents rose 1.0% in the first nine month of 2014 – the first increase since the period before the global financial crisis in 2008 (*See Chart*). Japanese REITs continue to enjoy strong share price performance which has driven down dividend yield – allowing them to buy core stabilized assets at lower implied cap rates (yields) which are still accretive to the REIT. In addition, with the Japanese Yen continuing to devalue, core properties in Central Tokyo are now more attractive to foreign core buyers. This increase in liquidity is positive for investors who are looking to buy underperforming assets, stabilize them, and sell them to these aggressive buyers. That said, the Japanese real estate market is still in an early recovery stage as office asset values remain to be 25% to 30% below 2007 peak levels and real estate fundamentals have only just begun to improve. We believe that there is significant opportunity to buy transitional assets that need capital improvement, a new leasing program, or professional asset management.

In Korea, while the Seoul office market vacancy rate remained high by historic standards, we continued to see improvement with vacancy falling below 10% – the first time in over two years (*See Chart*). Distress in the office sector is an opportunity although we expect further improvements in market fundamentals given the limited new supply that will be delivered in 2015 and 2016. The spread between cap rates and borrowing costs widened to 245 bps with 5-Year Korean Treasury Bonds falling to 2.8%. This will continue encourage buyers with strong interest in core Korean real estate assets.

In China's housing market, the sustained decline in sales volume continued into the third quarter with sales volumes falling 10.3% in the first nine months of 2014. Sales pricing, however, began to show some resilience with prices rising 0.5% as of the third quarter of 2014. This may be an early sign that developers are becoming more confident as the government implements its program of credit and home purchase policy loosening aimed at supporting the real estate market. We expect that these policy changes should have a more significant positive impact on the market over the next 12 to 24 months.

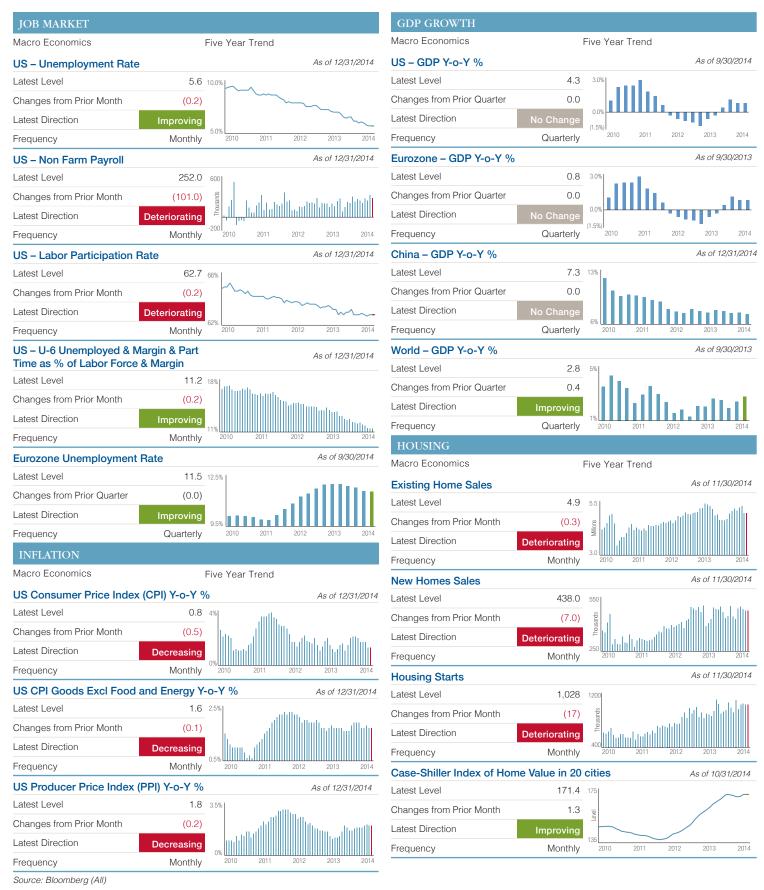




ECONOMIC DASHBOARD

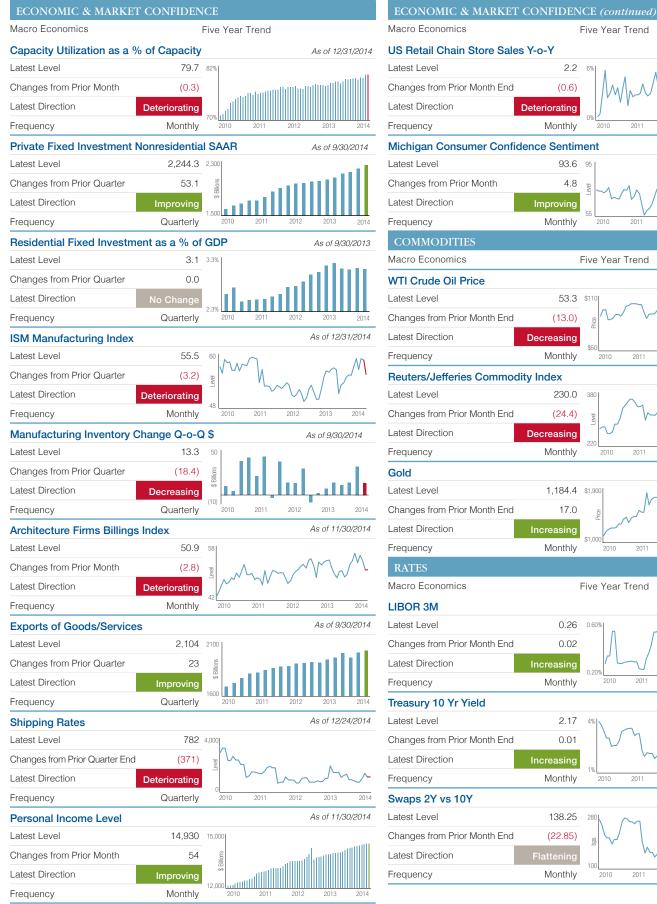
MARKET INDICES

Fourth Quarter 2014



"Latest Direction" is from the last "Frequency" measurement

ECONOMIC DASHBOARD (continued)



As of 12/31/2014 US Retail Chain Store Sales Y-o-Y 22 6% (0.6)Deteriorating Monthly 2012 Michigan Consumer Confidence Sentiment As of 12/31/2014 93.6 4.8 Improving Monthly 2013 2013 2014 Five Year Trend As of 12/31/2014 53.3 \$110 (13.0) Decreasing Monthly 2011 2012 2013 2014 As of 12/31/2014 **Reuters/Jefferies Commodity Index** 230.0 380 (24.4)Decreasing Monthly 2011 2010 2013 2014 As of 12/31/2014 1,184.4 \$1,900 17.0 Increasing Monthly 201 2012 Five Year Trend As of 12/31/2014 0.26 0.60% 0.02 Increasing Monthly 201 2012 As of 12/31/2014 2.17 4% 0.01 Increasing Monthly 2011 2012 2013 As of 12/31/2014 138 25 28

(22.85)

Monthly

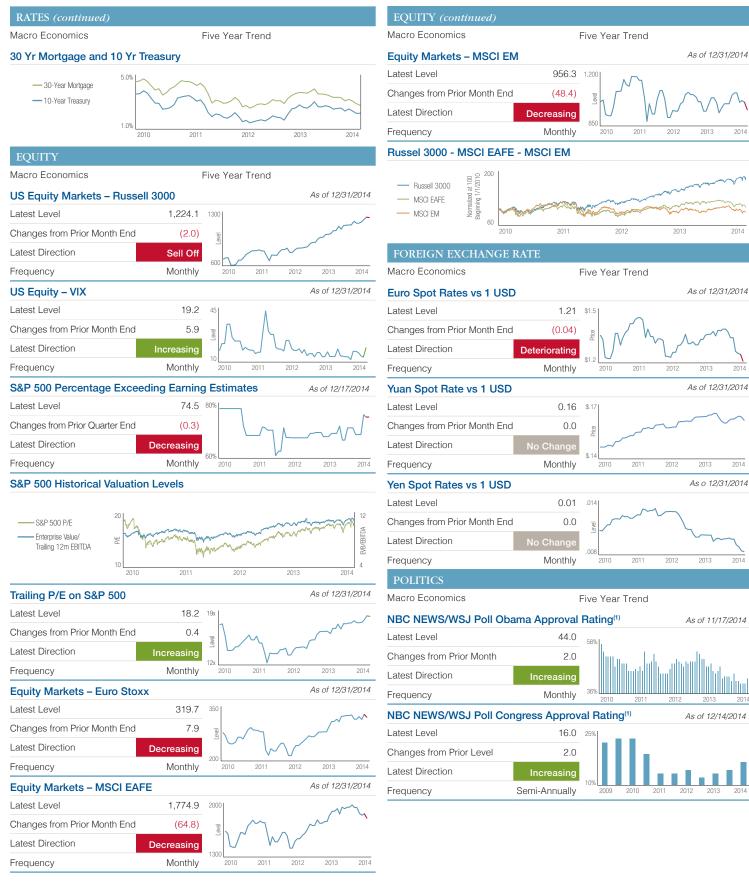
Five Year Trend

"Latest Direction" is from the last "Frequency" measurement

2014

2013

ECONOMIC DASHBOARD (continued)



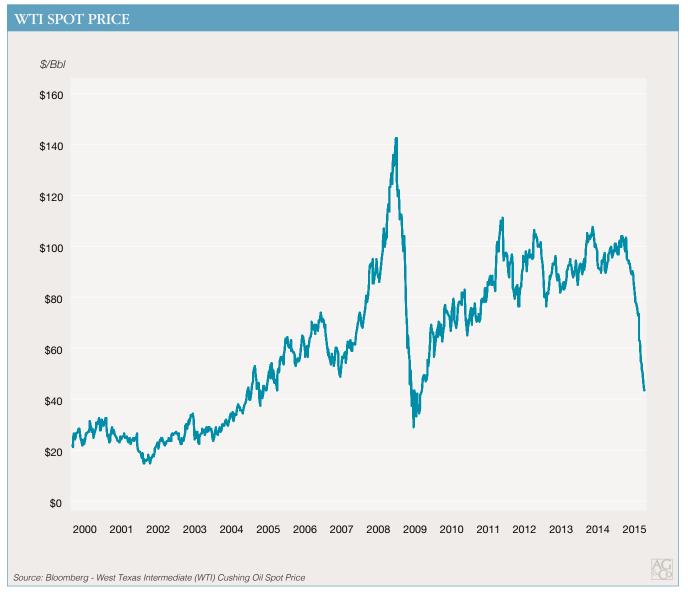
Source: Bloomberg (Except where noted)

(1) NBC News/Wall Street Journal Survey

"Latest Direction" is from the last "Frequency" measurement



CHART OF THE QUARTER

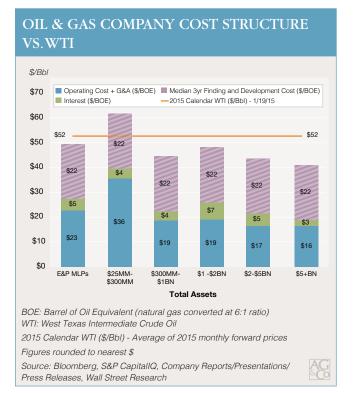


WTI crude closed the year at \$53, down over 50% from its July 2014 high and approached \$46 by the second week of January. The decline in oil prices accelerated substantially after OPEC's Thanksgiving announcement affirming the status quo in production levels.

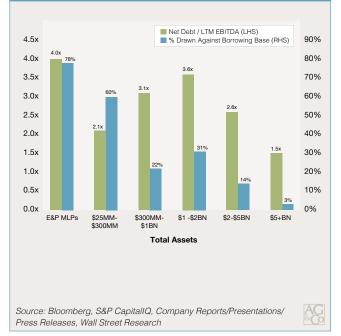




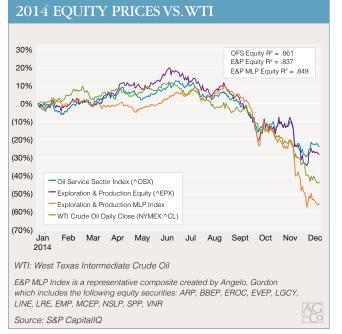
ENERGY DIRECT LENDING (Return to PM Corner)



OIL & GAS COMPANY DRAWN CREDIT LINES AND NET DEBT LEVELS



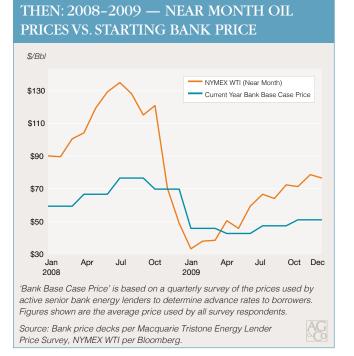
The opportunity set is complicated and diverse, requiring a deep understanding of core assets, cost structures, decline curves, leverage, liquidity and maintenance CAPEX requirements



ENERGY HIGH YIELD BONDS VS. WTI



The energy capital markets have been decimated by the collapse in oil prices, offering both risk and return to investors capable of sorting through the carnage



NOW: 2014–2015 — NEAR MONTH OIL PRICES VS. STARTING BANK PRICES



Source: Bank price decks per Macquarie Tristone Energy Lender Price Survey, NYMEX WTI per Bloomberg.

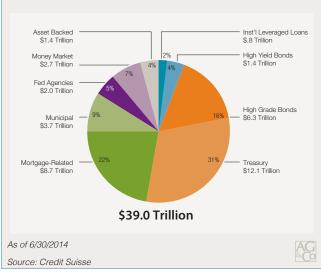
NOW: 4Q 2014 BANK BASE CASE PRICE VS. CURRENT OIL PRICE FUTURES



Source: Bank price decks per Macquarie Tristone Energy Lender Price Survey, NYMEX WTI per Bloomberg.

Energy banks re-determine borrower revolving credit availability semi-annually (generally April & October) and are in the process of reducing the price decks on which they lend. If 2008-2009 (top left) is any indication, substantial reductions in bank loan availability are yet to come (top right and bottom graphs). These reductions may precipitate a substantial need for additional capital amongst formerly bank-reliant oil & gas companies.

NON-INVESTMENT GRADE CORPORATE CREDIT

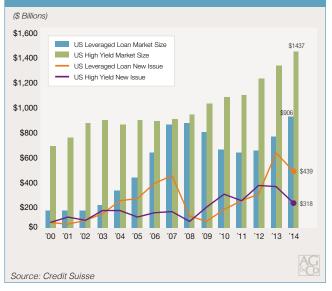


TOTAL SIZE OF THE FIXED INCOME MARKET

High yield bond and leveraged loan markets are ~\$2 trillion in size

LEVERAGED LOAN & HIGH YIELD BOND

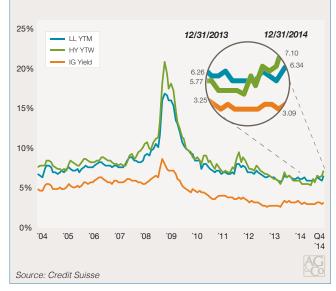
HIGH YIELD BOND & LEVERAGED LOAN MARKET SIZE AND NEW ISSUE VOLUME



High yield bond and leveraged loan markets continue to expand, albeit at a reduced rate. If current weaker credit markets persist, watch for new issue supply to slow further



INVESTMENT GRADE VS HIGH YIELD BOND VS LEVERAGED LOAN YIELDS



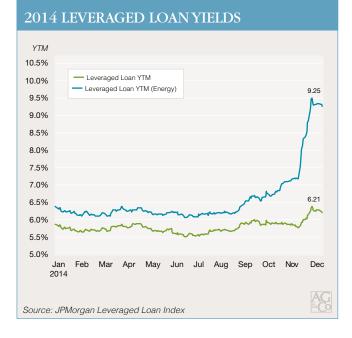
Non-investment grade corporate credit prices declined and yields rose significantly in Q4 due to energy related credits and heavy mutual fund outflows. Leveraged loans held up better than high yield bonds due to the fact that they are more senior in the capital structure and also have ~4% exposure to the energy sector versus ~20% for high yield.

NON-INVESTMENT GRADE CORPORATE CREDIT (continued) (Return to PM Corner)

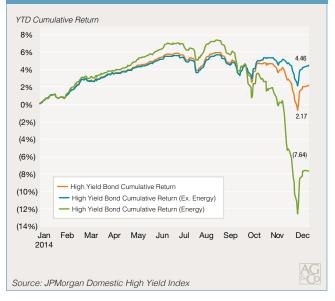
2014 HIGH YIELD BONDS YIELDS WITH AND WITHOUT ENERGY



Do the yields on high yield energy bonds/loans represent a buying opportunity or a place to avoid? (applies to charts above and below)



2014 HIGH YIELD BOND RETURNS WITH AND WITHOUT ENERGY

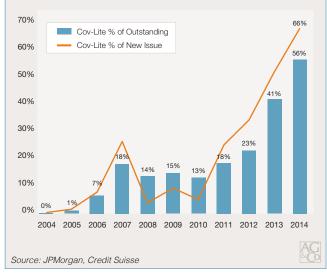


Funds with a higher than average exposure to energy suffered below average returns (applies to charts above and below)

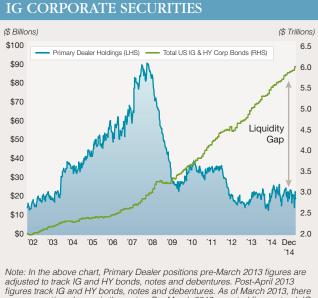


2014 LEVERAGED LOAN RETURNS WITH AND WITHOUT ENERGY

COV-LITE PERCENTAGE OF NEW ISSUE LOANS & PERCENTAGE OF OUTSTANDING LOANS



This trend has yet to top out



PRIMARY DEALER POSITIONS - HY AND

Note: In the above chart, Primary Dealer positions pre-March 2013 figures are adjusted to track IG and HY bonds, notes and debentures. Post-April 2013 figures track IG and HY bonds, notes and debentures. As of March 2013, there was a reporting change in the series. Pre-March 2013 reported figures track IG and HY bonds, notes and debentures, and include commercial paper. Adjusted numbers pre-March 2013 haircut the data by the same proportion as the jump in April 2013.

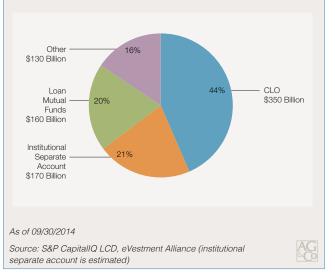
Source: Bloomberg, Morgan Stanley, Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Bank balance sheets, reduced by 80% from 2007 levels, in conjunction with the doubling in size of corporate securities, have led to decreasing liquidity and increasing price volatility

COV-LITE VS NON-COV-LITE LEVERAGED LOAN YIELD



The recent market move is not differentiating between deals with and without covenants

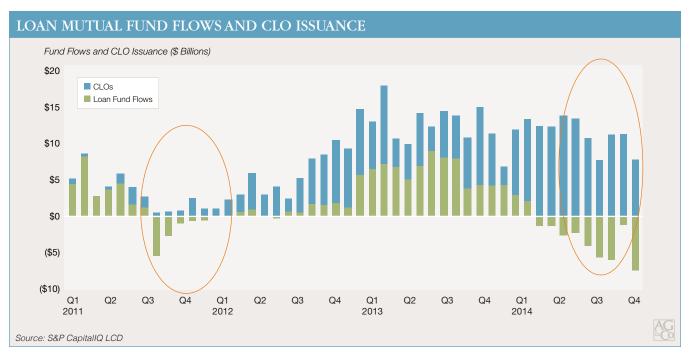


HOLDERS OF LEVERAGED LOANS

CLOs increased their holdings of loans, on a net basis, by approximately \$50B in 2013 and \$80B in 2014... But ~20% or \$160B of loans of loans are still held in mutual funds which have been experiencing heavy outflows



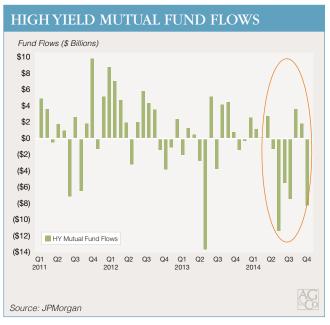
NON-INVESTMENT GRADE CORPORATE CREDIT (continued) (Return to PM Corner)



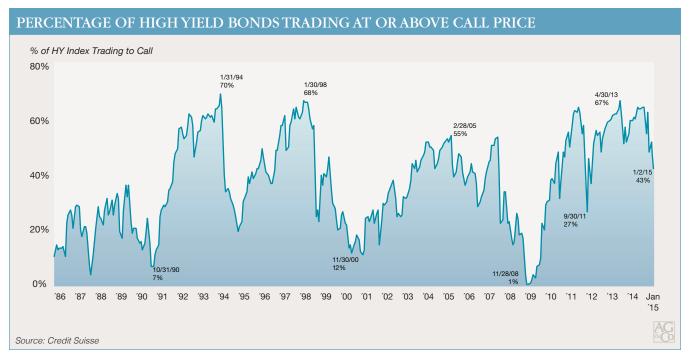
Record CLO issuance in 2014 of \$123B offset the estimated \$22B that exited the loan market via loan mutual funds. The CLO pipeline remains robust, but it is to be determined if demand for new CLO issuance will match up with supply...



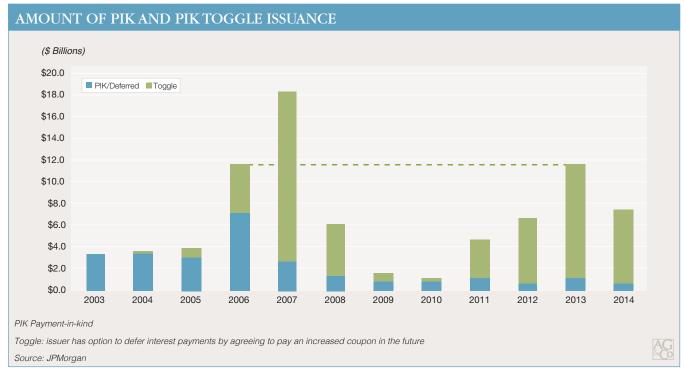
...as increasing CLO secondary spreads may lead investors to allocate towards the secondary market in lieu of the primary new issue CLO market



High yield bond mutual funds experienced heavy outflows of \$8B during the month of December, contributing to the 2014 total outflow of \$22B. 2014's high yield bond outflows were a record and represent 26% of the previous 5-year inflows from 2009-2013.



The recent sell-off reduced the percent of high yield bonds trading at or above their call price to a level last seen in late 2011, but they are still well above depths reached in '91, '94, 00'-01' and '09

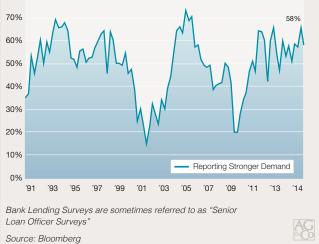


Aggressive capital structures may have peaked in 2013



Corporate balance sheets continue to strengthen. We anticipate increased energy related downgrades in 2015.

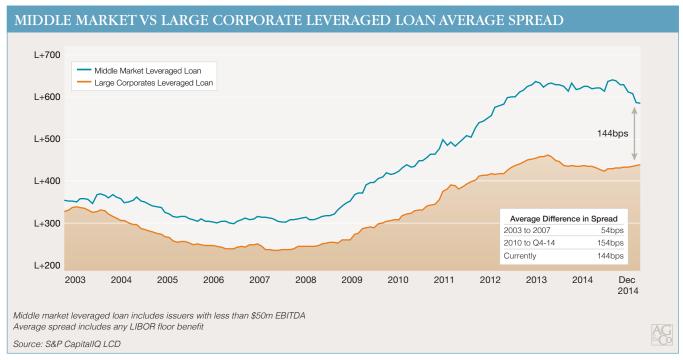




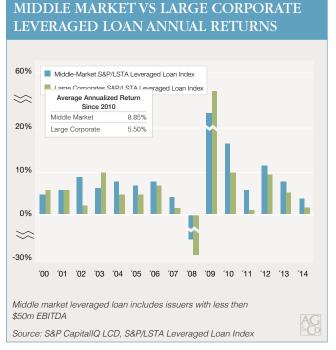
Credit demands expanding as economy grows



The market expects a more gradual increase in the Federal Funds rate than in past cycles. The uncertainties surrounding the energy market's impact on the economy could produce greater hesitation by the Fed to increase rates.

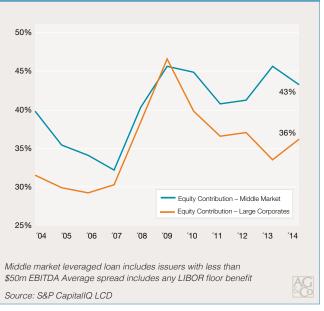


Middle market borrowers have historically had a higher funding cost than large corporate borrowers. The gap has tripled in the post-financial crisis era.



With the exception of 2008, middle market loans have had positive annual returns in each period

AVERAGE EQUITY CONTRIBUTION FOR LBO'S

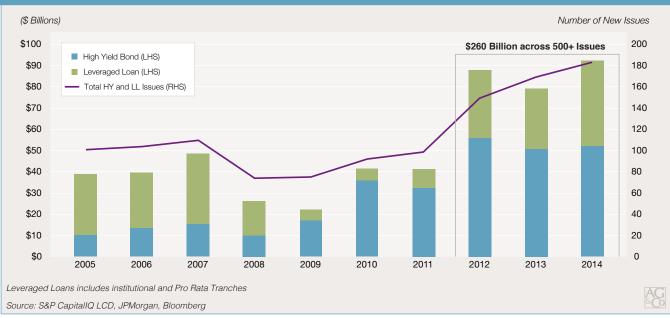


Middle market buyouts, on average, require larger sponsor equity contributions

DISTRESSED DEBT - US



The recent low default rate environment has led to a relatively moderate level of total distressed supply



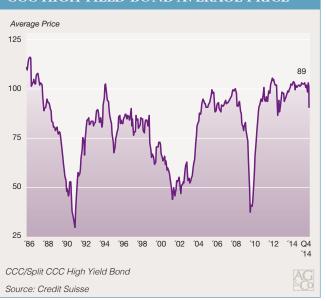
ENERGY HIGH YIELD BOND & LEVERAGED LOAN ANNUAL NEW ISSUANCE VOLUME

Distressed investors are currently focused on the ~\$135B of outstanding energy exploration and production high yield bonds and leveraged loans. As of early January 2015, ~\$43B was priced below \$0.80 and a total of ~\$63B was yielding 10%+. Other energy credits total an incremental ~\$100B notional amount.⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

(1) JPMorgan data (01/6/15) generally represents more widely followed issues. Per Bloomberg data, ~\$165B of energy exploration and production and an additional ~\$120B of energy oilfield services high yield bonds and loans are outstanding for a total of ~\$285B of "upstream" energy related credits.

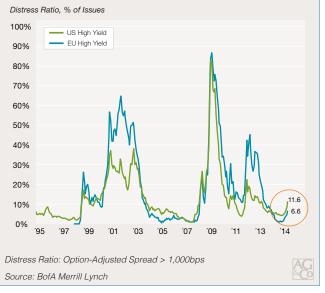
(2) YTW for high bonds & YTM for leveraged loans

AG &Co



CCC HIGH YIELD BOND AVERAGE PRICE

PERCENTAGE OF HIGH YIELD BONDS WITH SPREADS GREATER THAN 1,000BPS

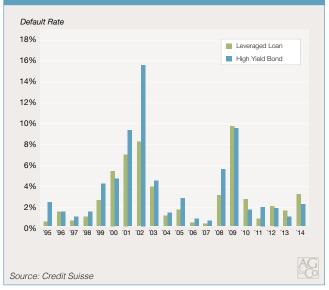


Since 2008, anemic rates have sustained a reach for yield regardless of credit quality. There has been a magnified negative impact on lower rated bonds caused, in part, by the Q4 collapse of energy credits.



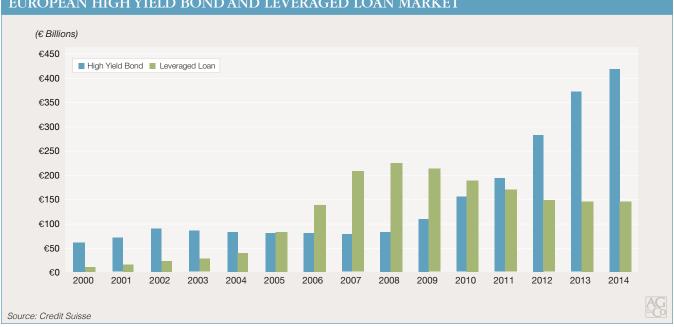
Aggressive underwriting activity over the last several years may be building a backlog

DEFAULT RATES – HIGH YIELD BOND & LEVERAGED LOAN



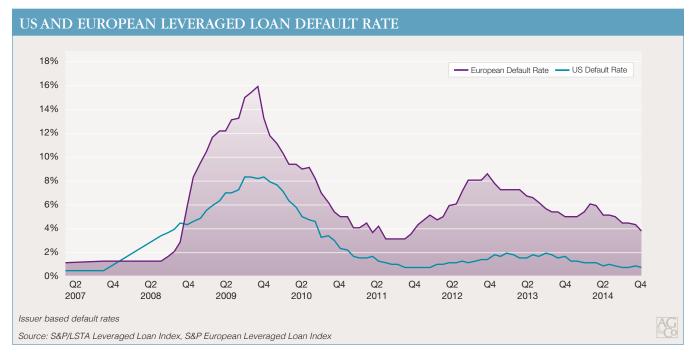
Largely due to TXU, the lagging default rate inched upwards in 2014. Excluding TXU, default rates remain near cyclical lows.

DISTRESSED DEBT- EUROPE



EUROPEAN HIGH YIELD BOND AND LEVERAGED LOAN MARKET

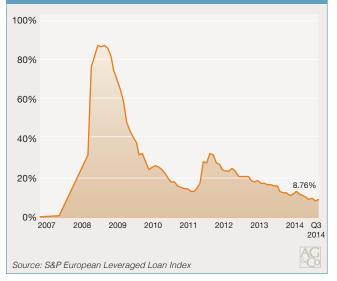
Post-crisis, constraints on traditional European bank lending led to substantial high yield issuance, which doubled in size



European defaults have outpaced those in the U.S. in recent years, creating a larger supply of potential distressed opportunities

DISTRESSED DEBT - EUROPE (continued) (Return to PM Corner)

PERCENTAGE OF EUROPEAN LEVERAGED LOANS TRADING BELOW 80 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR

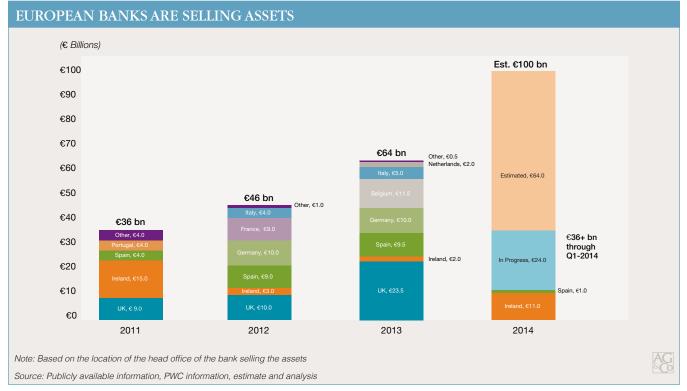


A significant amount of European leveraged loans remain at distressed levels

PERCENTAGE OF EUROPEAN LEVERAGED LOANS RATED CCC+ OR LOWER



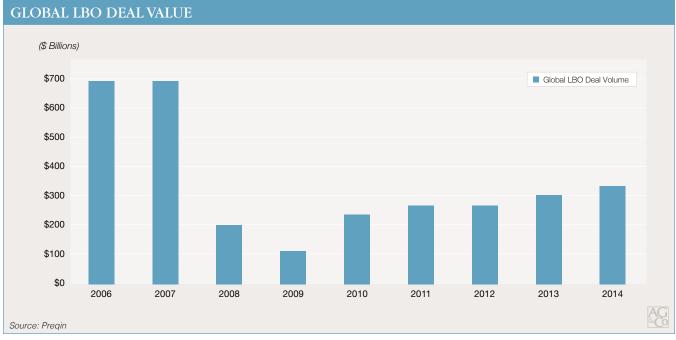
Since 2008, a larger portion of European leveraged loans are at sustained lower ratings and will likely need to be restructured



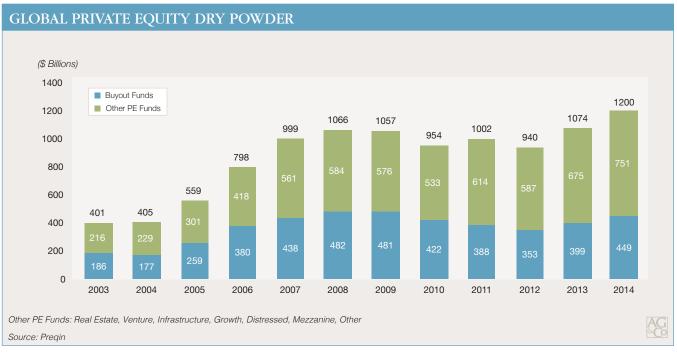
Regulatory and economic pressure on Eurozone banks to shrink balance sheets have caused non-core asset sales to surpass recent expectations



PRIVATE EQUITY



Global LBO volume in 2014 achieved the strongest year since 2007

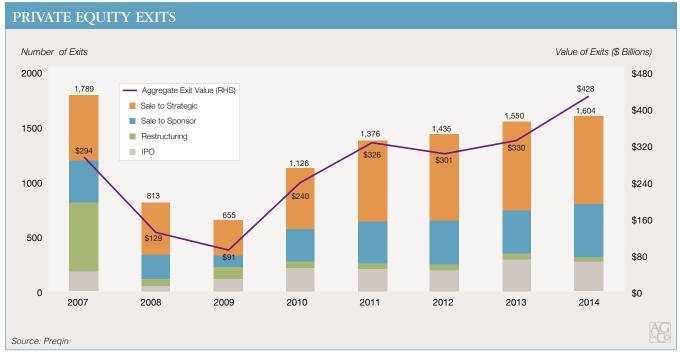


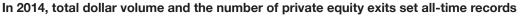
Buyout dry powder in 2014 increased by \$50B from the \$399B level in 2013



LBO CAPITALIZATION

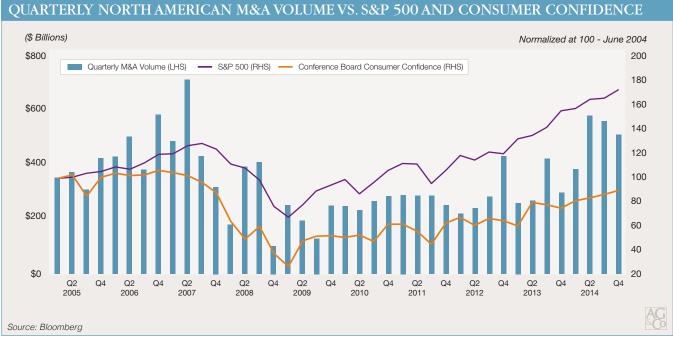
LBO multiples for 2014 eclipsed the record level set in 2007. Equity contribution as a percent of total capital remained consistent with prior years at 37%.





Aatching Money with Opportunity[™]

MERGER & CONVERTIBLE ARBITRAGE (Return to PM Corner)



2014 was a banner year for U.S. M&A, with announced deal value reaching a 14-year high



Convertible bond valuations remain attractive in a historic context. A pick-up in the volatility environment could lead the market significantly higher.

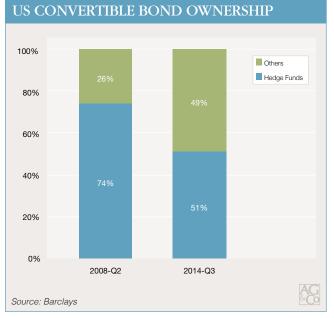
Matching Money with Opportunity

MERGER & CONVERTIBLE ARBITRAGE (continued) (Return to PM Corner)

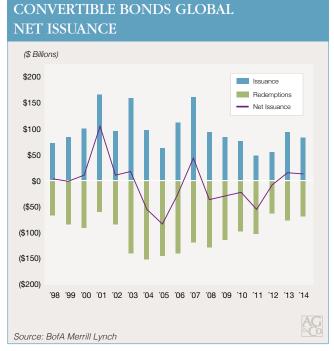


CONVERTIBLE BONDS ANNUAL GLOBAL

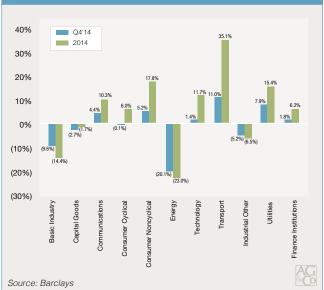
New issuance remained near the levels reached in 2013, confirming the recovery trend



...while hedge fund participation in the strategy remains well below peak levels, leaving an increasing opportunity set to fewer investors



The overall market is growing again after several years of net contraction, ...

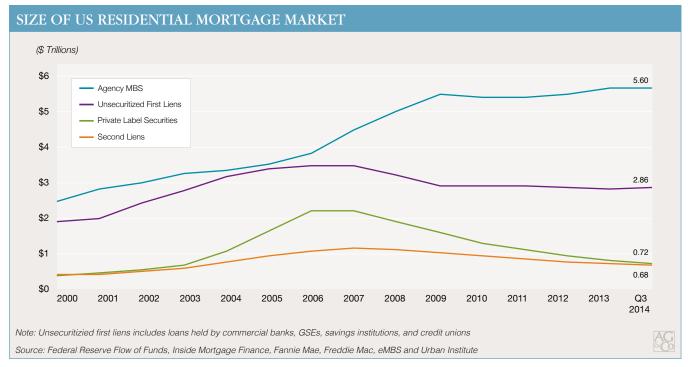


The energy sector significantly underperformed, especially in Q4

CONVERTIBLE BOND PERFORMANCE BY SECTOR

Matching Money with Opportunity

RESIDENTIAL AND CONSUMER DEBT (RMBS/ABS)



Although mortgage debt has decreased from 2007 the mortgage market remains vast, currently standing at \$9.9 trillion

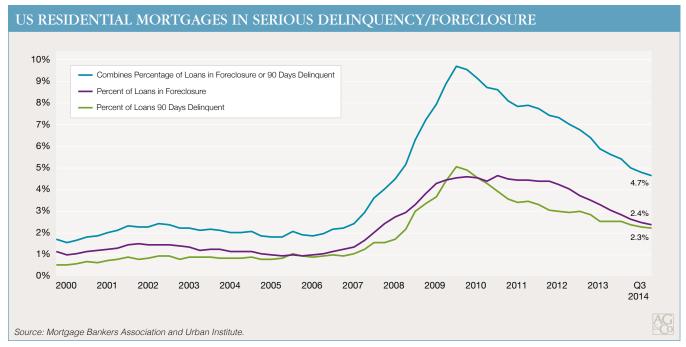




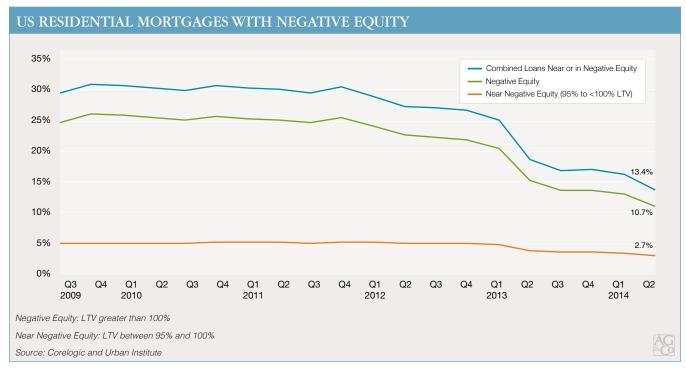
First lien originations in the first three quarters of 2014 slowed significantly from their 2013 pace, totaling \$850B. The share of bank portfolio and FHA/VA originations rose, while the GSE share dropped, reflecting the decline in refinancing activity. Private Label origination share remained stagnant at 1%.



RESIDENTIAL AND CONSUMER DEBT (RMBS/ABS) (continued) (Return to PM Corner)



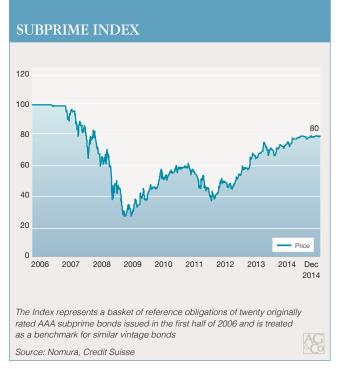
Serious delinquencies and foreclosures continue to decline with the housing recovery. Loans 90 days delinquent or in foreclosure totaled 4.7% in Q3, down 1% from the same quarter a year earlier.



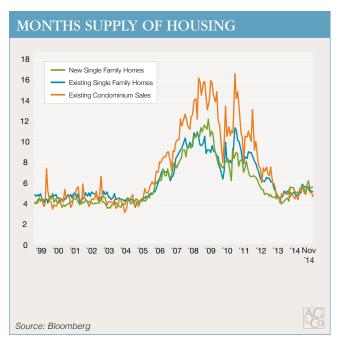
The recovery in the housing market continues to help underwater homeowners. With housing prices appreciating through the first half of 2014, residential properties with negative equity (LTV greater than 100) dropped to 10.7%. An additional 2.7% of residential properties had an LTV of between 95% and 100%.

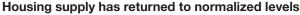


RESIDENTIAL AND CONSUMER DEBT (RMBS/ABS) (continued)

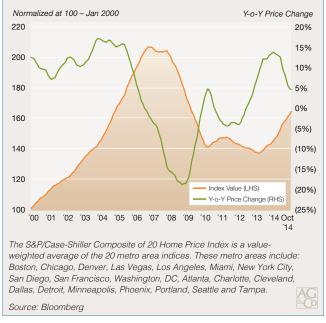


Index trading remains light and prices have flattened out after reaching a six year high

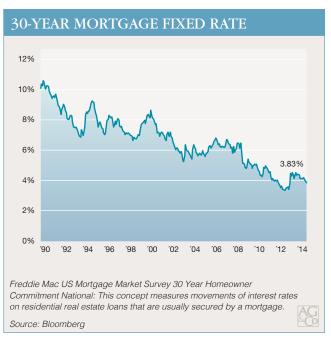




S&P/CASE-SHILLER COMPOSITE – 20 HOME PRICE INDEX



After a strong climb, home price appreciation has stabilized at a more moderate pace



30-year mortgage rates declined in Q4, ending the year substantially below the year's high of 4.53%

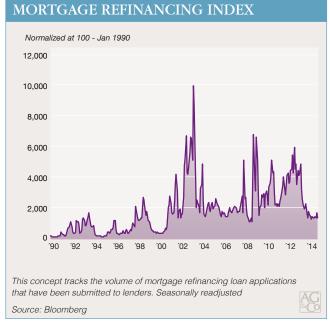
RESIDENTIAL AND CONSUMER DEBT (RMBS/ABS) (continued)



Mortgage applications continue to be hampered by stringent underwriting standards



After an initial rise, housing's contribution to GDP has stalled



Stringent underwriting standards have muted re-financings despite historically low rates

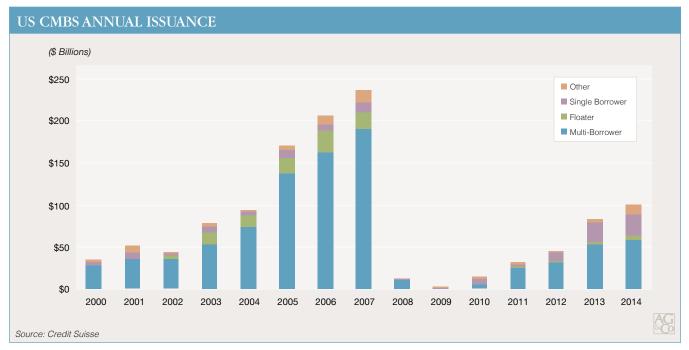


Mortgage payments are at a historically low percentage of income

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE DEBT (CMBS) (Return to PM Corner)



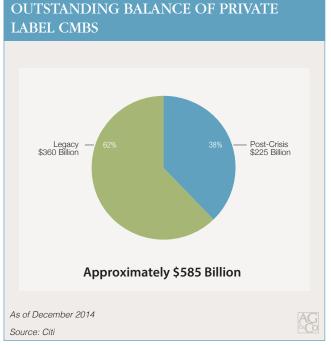
Spreads on senior AAA bonds have returned to pre-crisis levels while AJ spreads have remained elevated



2014 CMBS issuance was the fourth highest on record. The growing new issue market is beginning to offer some interesting investment opportunities.



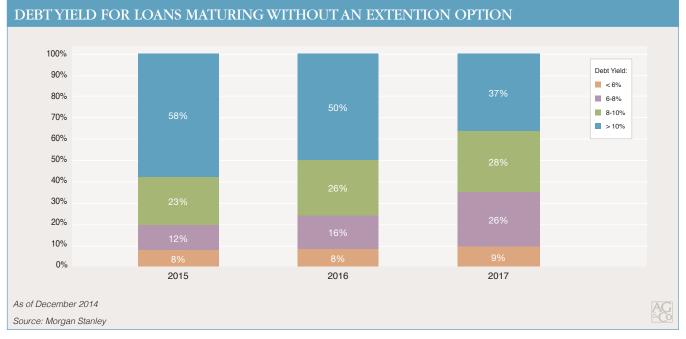
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE DEBT (CMBS) (continued)



In 2015, the composition of the CMBS market will shift as post-crisis issuance will overtake the legacy market as a percent of CMBS outstanding



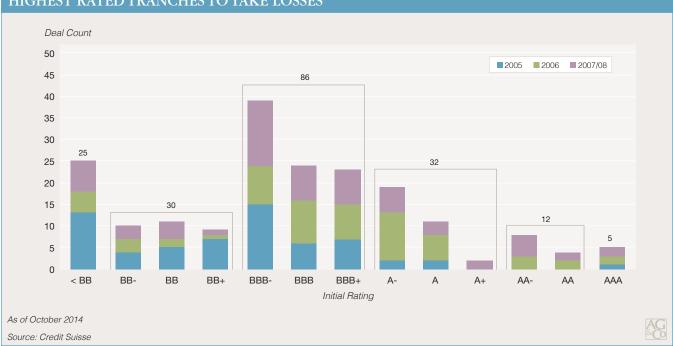
Loan maturities will pick up substantially in 2015 and may remain elevated for several years as loans originated during 2005-2007 mature



Debt yield represents the ratio of a property's net operating income to outstanding loan size. Loans with lower debt yields may face greater challenges refinancing than loans with higher debt yields.

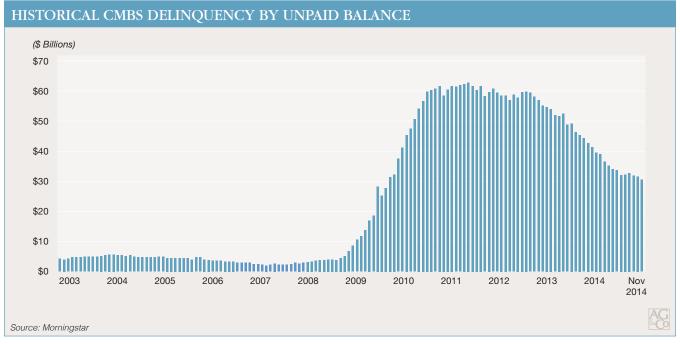


COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE DEBT (CMBS) (continued) (Return to PM Corner)



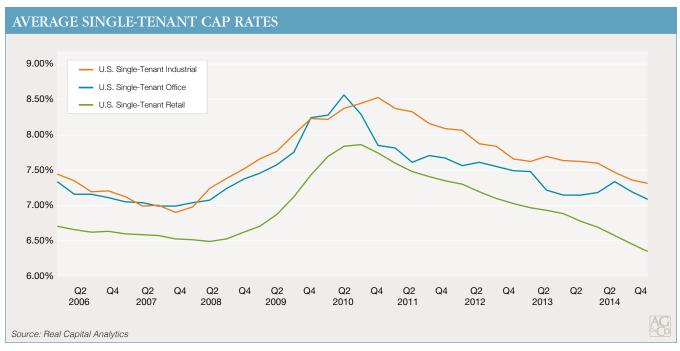
HIGHEST RATED TRANCHES TO TAKE LOSSES

Losses continue to move higher in the capital stack. In-depth credit work remains critical. Forty-nine deals have now experienced losses to bond classes originally rated A or higher.



Delinquency rates are declining as problem loans are being resolved

NET LEASE REAL ESTATE (Return to PM Corner)



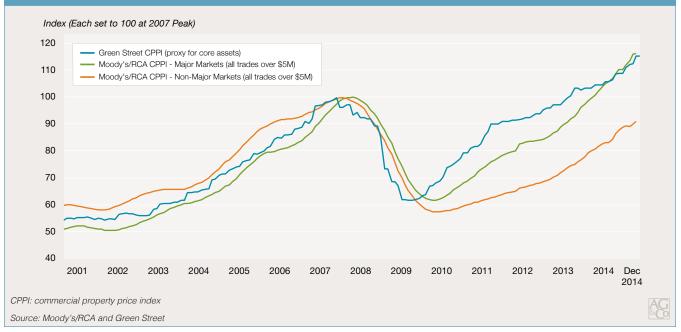
Pricing continues to strengthen



Transaction volume decreased slightly

UNITED STATES REAL ESTATE (Return to PM Corner)

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE PRICE INDICES

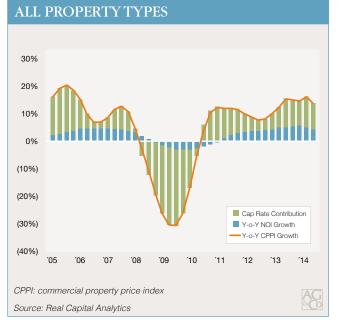


Prices continue their upward trajectory and now exceed prior peaks in major markets and core product...



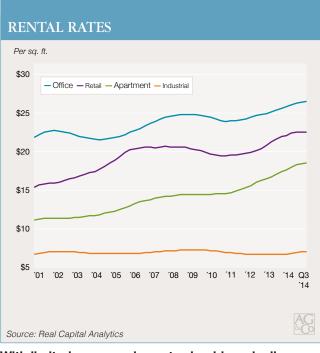
...with considerable assistance from further tightening of cap rates...

UNITED STATES REAL ESTATE (continued) (Return to PM Corner)



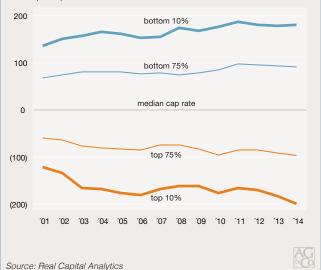
COMPOSITION OF CPPI GROWTH ACROSS

...and improving net income

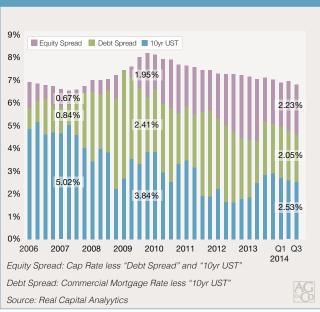


With limited new supply, rents should gradually accelerate





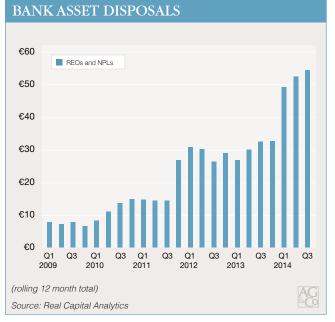
Prices for the best assets continue to see the greatest appreciation



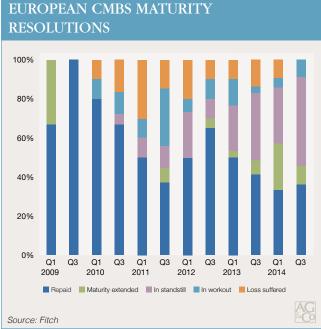
Equity and debt spreads remain attractive relative to the last peak

CAP RATES AND INTEREST RATES ACROSS ALL PROPERTY TYPES

EUROPE REAL ESTATE

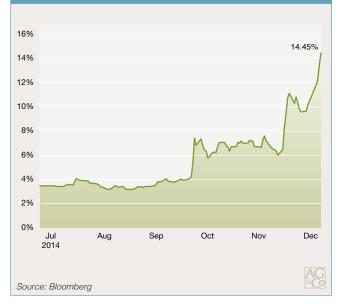


Bank sales are accelerating year over year.



Recent maturities seeing fewer repayments

GREECE GOVERNMENT BOND 3-YR YIELD



Political instability can quickly unsettle markets

YIELD GAP IN THE UK: PRIME VERSUS

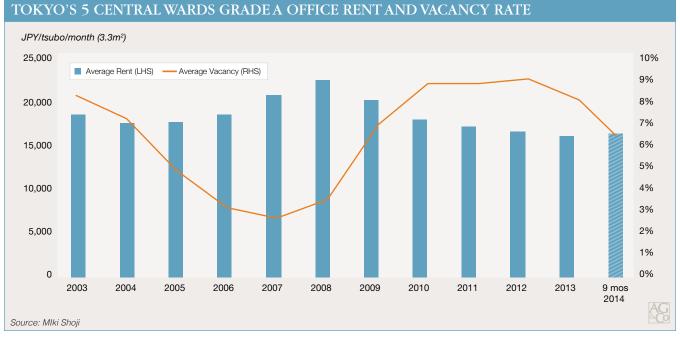


Gap decreasing but still as wide as in 2009 and very attractive

Source: CBRE Source: CBRE Gap decreasing but still attractive

ASIA REAL ESTATE (Return to PM Corner)

JAPAN



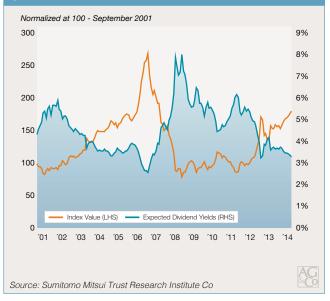
Tokyo's office market is in the early stages of a recovery as the vacancy rate continues to decline



CAP RATES OF GRADE A OFFICE BUILDINGS VS BORROWING COSTS

Despite lower cap rates, the spread of over 300 bps continues to be attractive to core investors

JAPANESE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (J-REIT) INDEX AND DIVIDEND YIELD



Strong J-REIT index performance over the past two years has driven down dividend yields (and thereby implied cap rates)

ASIA REAL ESTATE (continued) (Return to PM Corner)

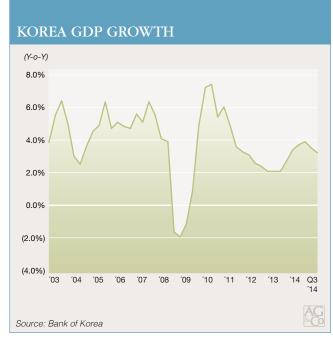
KOREA



Office sales declined in the third quarter from the previous years. Overall sales pace expected to fall short of 2012 and 2013.



Seoul office market is recovering with net absorption bringing down vacancy to below 10%



South Korea GDP growth weakened to 3.2% in Q3 '14

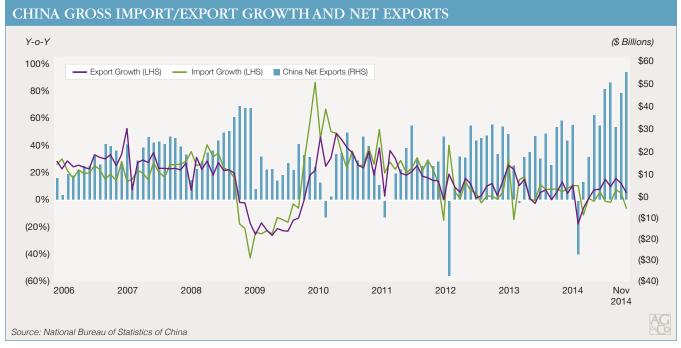


Spreads begin to widen as Korean Treasury yields decline

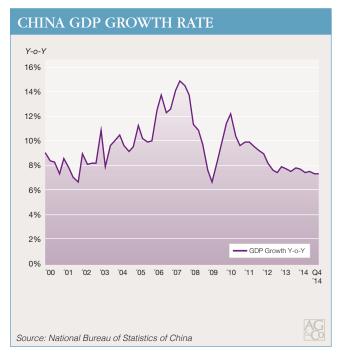
PRIME OFFICE CAP RATE & SPREAD OVER 5-YEAR TREASURY YIELD

ASIA REAL ESTATE (continued)

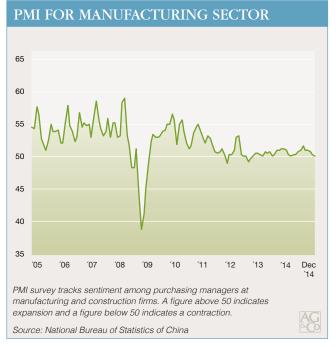
CHINA



Import growth fell into negative territory while export growth stayed in positive territory







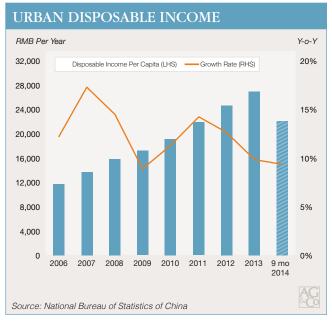
PMI continued to be marginally positive

ASIA REAL ESTATE (continued)

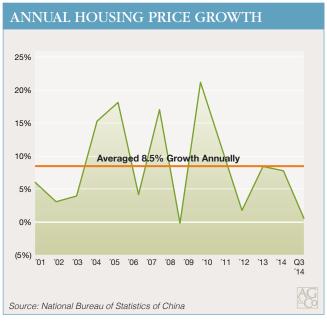


NATIONAL PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL SUPPLY AND SALES

Residential demand is keeping pace with supply although residential sales volumes fell by 10.3% in the first nine months of 2014



Urban disposable income growth is creating an emerging, wealthy middle class seeking to become homeowners



Housing prices began to recover in Q3 posting a 0.5% increase Y-o-Y versus a Q2 price decline of 1% Y-o-Y

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