



2021 Annual Outlook

New Economic Cycle, New Opportunities

Asia Pacific Wealth Management – January 2021



Disclaimer

“Citi analysts” refer to investment professionals within Citi Research (“CR”), Citi Global Markets Inc. (“CGMI”), Citi Private Bank (“CPB”) and voting members of the Citi Global Investment Committee. Citibank N.A. and its affiliates / subsidiaries provide no independent research or analysis in the substance or preparation of this document.

The information in this document has been obtained from reports issued by CGMI and CPB. Such information is based on sources CGMI and CPB believe to be reliable. CGMI and CPB, however, do not guarantee its accuracy and it may be incomplete or condensed. All opinions and estimates constitute CGMI and CPB's judgment as of the date of the report and are subject to change without notice. This document is for general information purposes only and is not intended as a recommendation or an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security or currency. No part of this document may be reproduced in any manner without the written consent of Citibank N.A. Information in this document has been prepared without taking account of the objectives, financial situation, or needs of any particular investor. Any person considering an investment should consider the appropriateness of the investment having regard to their objectives, financial situation, or needs, and should seek independent advice on the suitability or otherwise of a particular investment. Investments are not deposits, are not obligations of, or guaranteed or insured by Citibank N.A., Citigroup Inc., or any of their affiliates or subsidiaries, or by any local government or insurance agency, and are subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. Investors investing in funds denominated in non-local currency should be aware of the risk of exchange rate fluctuations that may cause a loss of principal. Past performance is not indicative of future performance, prices can go up or down. Investment products are not available to US persons. Investors should be aware that it is his/her responsibility to seek legal and/or tax advice regarding the legal and tax consequences of his/her investment transactions. If an investor changes residence, citizenship, nationality, or place of work, it is his/her responsibility to understand how his/her investment transactions are affected by such change and comply with all applicable laws and regulations as and when such becomes applicable. Citibank does not provide legal and/or tax advice and is not responsible for advising an investor on the laws pertaining to his/her transaction.

Citi Research (CR) is a division of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (the “Firm”), which does and seeks to do business with companies covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the Firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision. For more information, please refer to https://www.citivelocity.com/cvr/eppublic/citi_research_disclosures.

Any person considering an investment should seek independent advice on the suitability or otherwise of the particular investment. Investment products are not deposits and are not obligations of, not guaranteed by, and not insured by, Citibank Berhad, Citibank N.A., Citigroup Inc. or any of their affiliates or subsidiaries, or by any government or insurance agency. Investment products are subject to investment risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. These are provided for general information only and are not intended as a recommendation or an offer or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security or currency or other investment products. Citibank Berhad does not represent the information herein as accurate, true or complete, makes no warranty express or implied regarding it and no liability whatsoever will be accepted by Citibank Berhad, whether in contract, tort or otherwise, for the accuracy or completeness of such information including any error of fact or omission herein which may lead to any direct or consequential loss, damages, costs or expenses arising from any reliance upon or use of the information in the material. The contents of these materials have not been reviewed by the Securities Commission Malaysia.

Market Performance

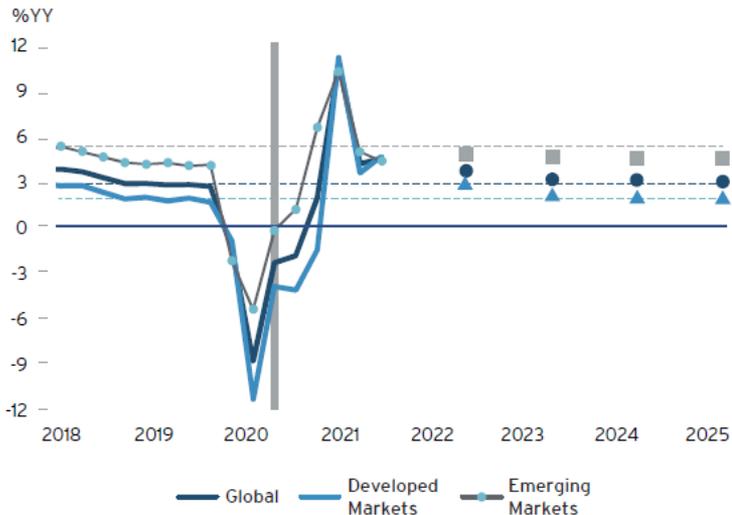
Market Performance										
Market Index	1Q19	2Q19	3Q19	4Q19	2019	1Q20	2Q20	3Q20	4Q20	2020
Global Equities	12.7%	4.2%	0.7%	8.7%	28.4%	-20.9%	19.6%	8.1%	14.1%	16.5%
US	13.6%	4.3%	1.7%	9.1%	31.5%	-19.6%	20.5%	8.9%	12.1%	18.4%
Europe	13.3%	3.4%	2.7%	6.2%	27.7%	-22.5%	13.9%	0.7%	10.9%	-1.4%
Asia	11.4%	-0.6%	-4.4%	11.6%	18.2%	-18.4%	16.7%	10.8%	18.5%	25.2%
Japan	6.8%	0.5%	3.0%	8.9%	20.7%	-19.3%	18.0%	4.8%	18.5%	18.2%
China H	12.4%	-2.1%	-5.0%	9.5%	14.5%	-14.1%	3.7%	-1.9%	14.3%	0.0%
China A	28.7%	-0.1%	0.8%	7.4%	39.2%	-10.0%	14.2%	11.2%	13.7%	29.9%
Emerging Markets	9.9%	0.7%	-4.2%	11.7%	18.6%	-23.6%	18.1%	9.7%	19.6%	18.5%
Global IG Bonds	2.3%	3.2%	0.8%	0.3%	6.8%	0.3%	3.3%	2.7%	2.9%	9.5%
Global HY Bonds	7.4%	2.2%	1.0%	2.8%	14.1%	-13.1%	9.5%	4.9%	6.4%	6.3%
EM Sovereigns	6.1%	4.4%	1.3%	2.2%	14.9%	-13.0%	12.0%	2.3%	5.8%	5.4%
Gold	0.8%	9.1%	4.5%	3.0%	18.3%	3.9%	12.9%	5.9%	0.7%	25.1%
Oil (Brent)	27.1%	-2.7%	-8.7%	8.6%	22.7%	-65.5%	81.0%	-0.5%	26.5%	-21.5%
Dollar Index	1.2%	-1.2%	3.4%	-3.0%	0.2%	2.8%	-1.7%	-3.6%	-4.2%	-6.7%

Source: Bloomberg. As of 31 December 2020.

Returns for Europe and Japan are in local currency.

The New Economic Cycle

GDP Growth Forecasts



- Citi analysts' forecasts:

Global	2020F	2021F
GDP Growth	-3.7%	5.0%
Inflation	1.9%	2.2%

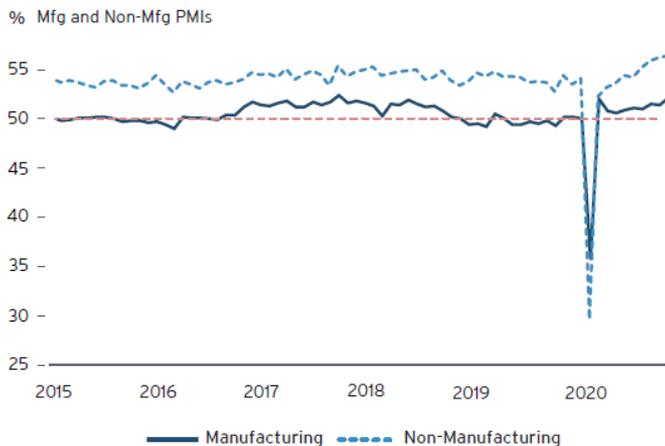
- Citi analysts expect that the new economic cycle that has already started could strengthen.
- Developed Market (DM) economies may grow 4.1% in 2021 while Emerging Market (EM) economies could rebound 6.2%.

Source: Citi Research. As of 7 December 2020.

Note: At market exchange rates. Dashed lines are respective long-term averages (2000-2019).

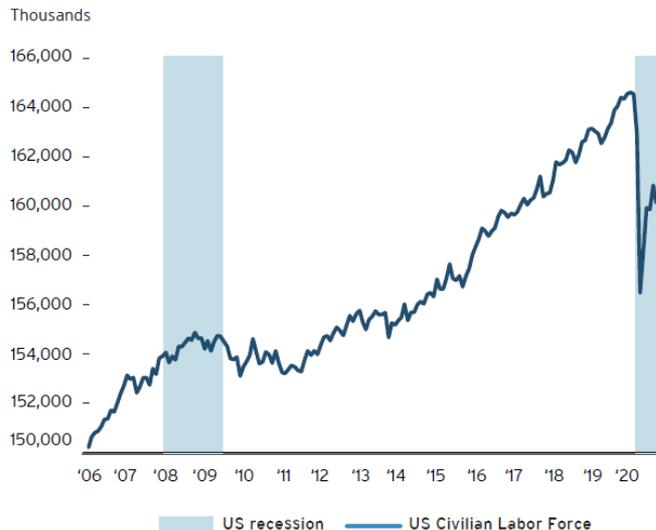
What Can Be Gained in a Post COVID-19 Economy?

China's Rebound in Manufacturing and Non-Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Indices



Source: Citi Research. As of 30 November 2020.

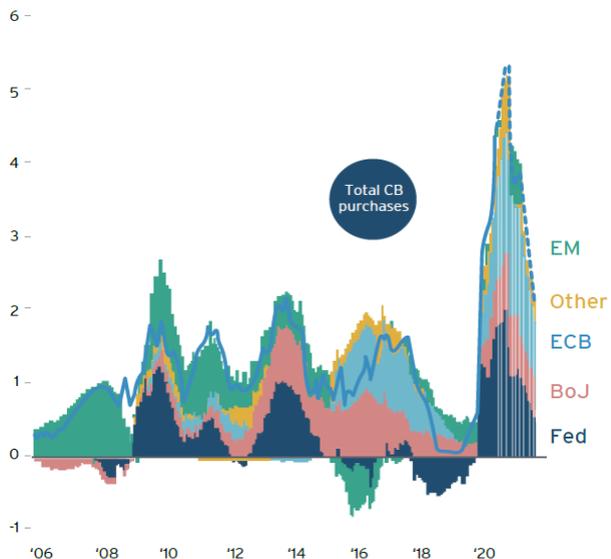
US Labor Force



Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 19 November 2020.

Central Banks and Stimulus

Global Central Bank Net Securities Purchases (\$tn),
Rolling 12 months

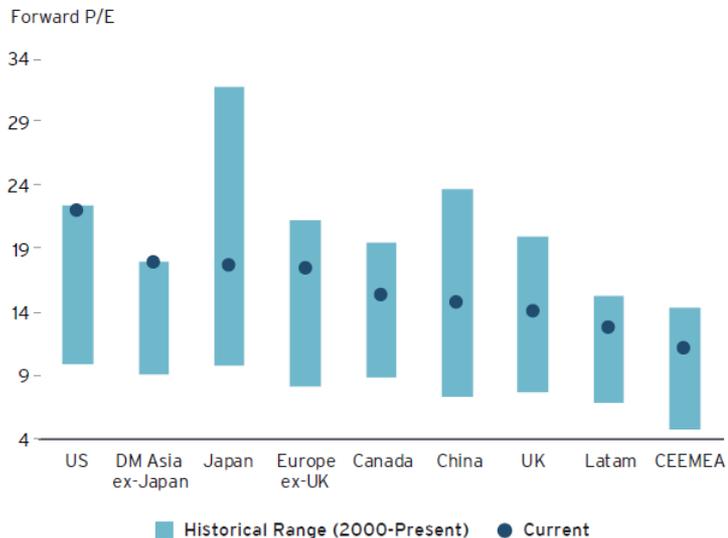


Source: Citi Research. As of 1 December 2020.

- Central bank support has been a crucial offset to the pandemic-induced economic challenges as well as financial markets.
- Many central banks quickly provided highly accommodative monetary policy.
- Global fiscal measures amount to around US\$12 trn, close to 12% of GDP, but remains necessary to promote a post-pandemic recovery.

Regional Markets Could Catch up to US and China

Regional Equity Valuations



Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 19 November 2020.

- US and China are the largest equity markets to have seen strong gains on tech-sector leadership in 2020.
- With a recovery from the pandemic, other regional markets are expected to catch up. EM equities could also benefit from depressed US interest rates and expected USD declines.
- Europe and South-East Asia could be major beneficiaries of a return to trade normalcy and their markets lag relative to China's.

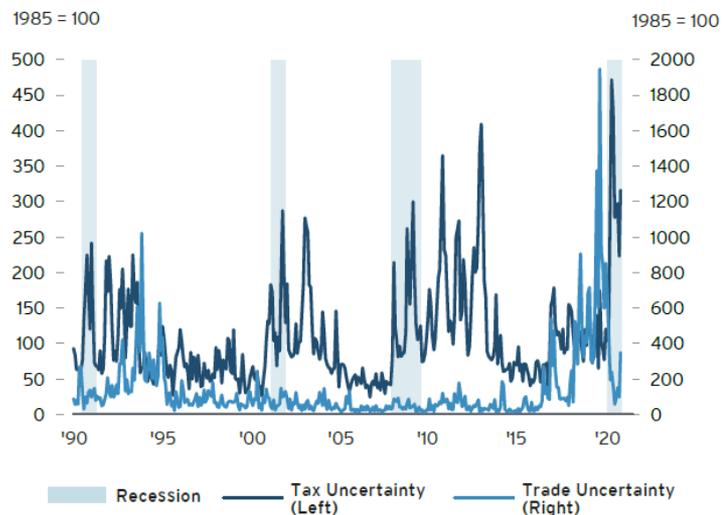
Political Tensions



Source: Citi Research and Citi Private Bank.

Trade Policy Fears Could Abate

US Policy Uncertainty Indices: Trade Policy vs Tax Policy



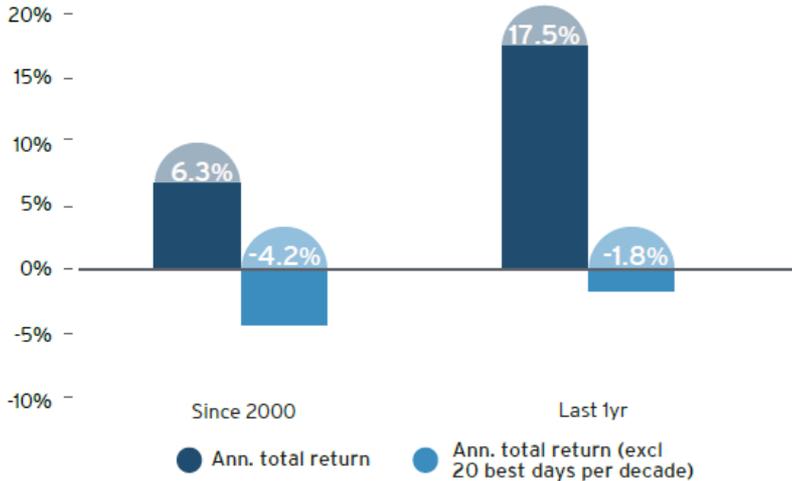
Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 19 November 2020.

- Under a Biden-administration, US foreign policy is likely to enter a more predictable phase without escalating tariff threats.
- However, domestic tax policy uncertainty may stay somewhat elevated.

Navigate Potential Volatilities and Avoid Market Timing

S&P 500 Total Return, Return Missing 20 Best Days Per Decade, Return Missing Best 2 Days of Past Year

Annualized Return



- Markets could remain volatile as optimism for 2021 could be tempered by realities such as the winter impact of COVID-19.
- Avoid timing the market – entry points are less important than being exposed to markets, especially at the beginning of a New Economic Cycle.

Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 25 October 2020.

Investment Themes

Themes

1. Renew Your Portfolio in the New Economic Cycle

2. Recycle: The Power of Investing with Purpose

3. Rebalance to Drive Yields

4. Position for Extended USD Weakness, Stronger RMB and Ultra-Low Yields Amidst a Positive Risk Backdrop

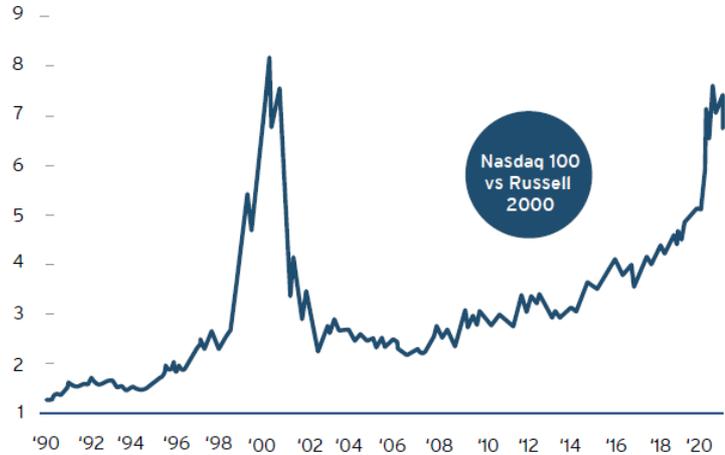
Strategies

- Short-term recovery plays: Global Small and Mid-Caps, Cyclical
 - Long-term “Unstoppable Trends”: Rise of Asia, Increasing Longevity, Digital Disruption
 - New Unstoppable Theme: New Energy
-
- ESG and Climate Change
-
- US High Yield and Emerging Market Debt
 - Dividend Yielding Equities
 - Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)
-
- Yield differentials may favor EUR, GBP, Gold
 - RMB proxies such as EUR, SGD, and Commodity FX (AUD, NZD) may benefit from China’s recovery

1. Renew Your Portfolio for the New Economic Cycle: Short-term Recovery – Global Small & Mid-Caps

US Large Cap Technology Relative to US Small and Mid-Caps

Relative Index Level



- The strongest outperformance of small and medium-sized companies typically occurs early in an economic recovery cycle.
- Around the globe, small- and mid-size companies are still generally undervalued.
- US small-cap sector has underperformed relative to the US large cap tech sector, but the gap is expected to close.

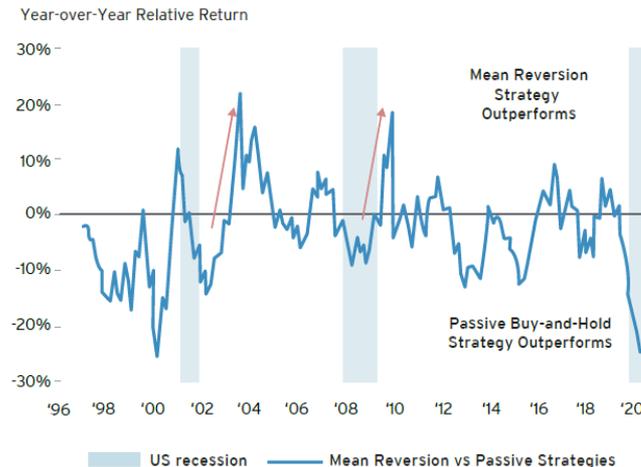
Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 20 November 2020.

1. Renew Your Portfolio for the New Economic Cycle: Short-term Recovery – Cyclical

US 'Stay at Home' vs 'Leave Your Home' Baskets and S&P 500



Mean Reversion Strategies Have Worked Around Cycle Transitions (“Buying Equities that Underperformed in the Prior Year”)

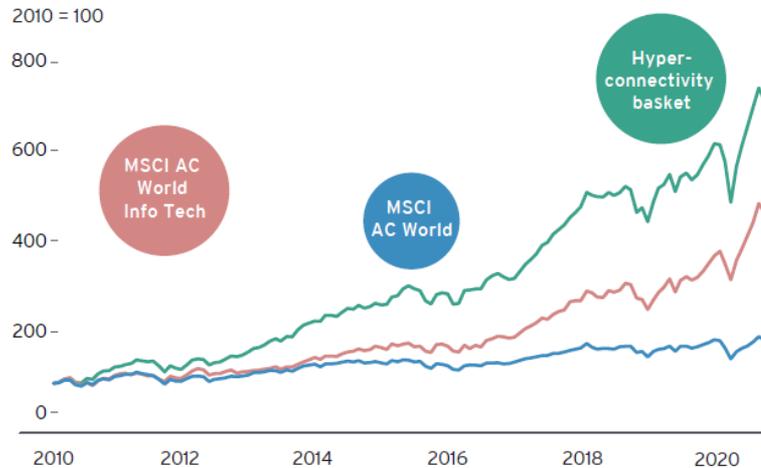


Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 20 November 2020. Note: ‘Stay at Home’ basket includes names identified to benefit from COVID-19 related disruptions and a shift to working from home. ‘Leave your Home’ basket includes Citi Research buy and neutral related US names in the following sub-industries: Banks, Industrial Conglomerate, Machinery, Oil Gas & Consumable Fuel, Textiles Apparel & Luxury Goods, Energy Equipment & Services, Hotels Restaurants & Leisure, Building Products, Retail REITs, Construction & Engineering, Leisure Products, Airlines, Multiline Retail.

1. Renew Your Portfolio for the New Economic Cycle: Term – Digital Disruption

Long-

Hyper-connectivity Has Outperformed



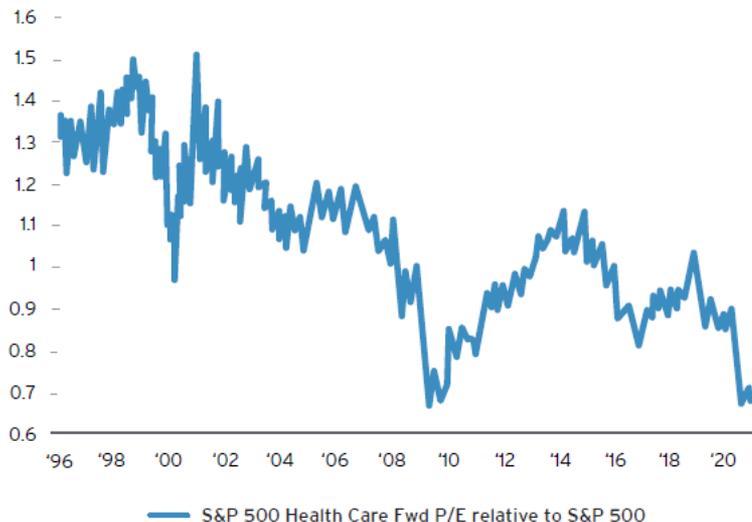
Source: Citi Private Bank. As of December 2020. Note: Hyper-connectivity basket leverages Citi Research Theme Machine and includes companies with high exposure to the following categories: mobile network transition, data storage, cloud computing, internet of things, e-commerce, artificial intelligence, fintech, cyber security, wearable tech, smart mobile devices demand, virtual reality, automation/robotics.

- Even though the pandemic is likely to see its end in 2021, a fundamental collapse is not expected in the technology sector.
- With the full-scale rollout of 5G wireless data networks in 2021, Citi analysts think the age of hyper-connectivity is upon us.
- Other sectors like cyber security, fintech, artificial intelligence, data storage and Internet of Things (IOT) are also preferred.

1. Renew Your Portfolio for the New Economic Cycle: Long-Term – Increasing Longevity

Healthcare's Forward Price-Earnings Ratio Stands at a Deep Discount to the Market

Relative Forward Price-to-Earnings

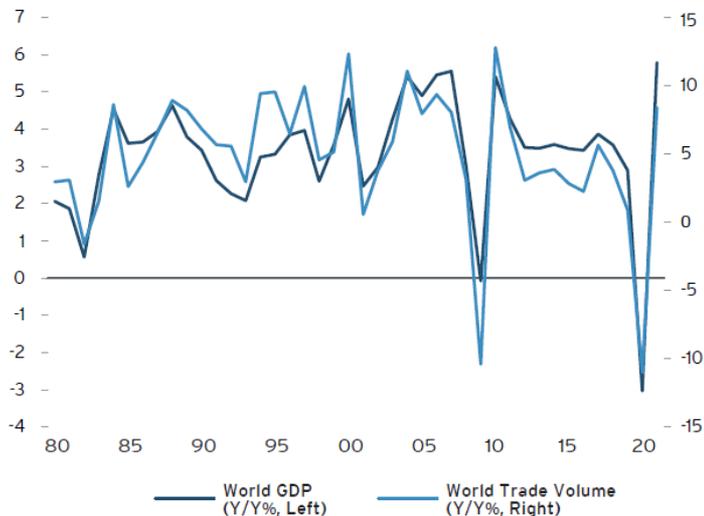


Source: Citi Private Bank. As of December 2020.

- Meeting healthcare needs of more elderly people may be a more pressing priority worldwide.
- As the population ages in the developed world, the spending habits of this cohort evolves, to the benefit of some companies, including healthcare.
- The healthcare sector is trading at more than a 20% discount to the broad US markets.

1. Renew Your Portfolio for the New Economic Cycle: Long-Term – Rise of Asia

World GDP Growth and Global Trade Volumes: International Monetary Fund (IMF) Estimates of 2020 and 2021



Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 19 November 2020.

- Asia is set to account for the vast majority of growth of the world's middle class by 2030 (around 1.5 bln people in total). It may likely add a hundred cities with a population above 1 mln.
- Asia is also home to the world's largest free trade area set up in November 2020 - the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

1. Renew Your Portfolio for the New Economic Cycle: Long-Term – New Energy

Outperformance of Alternative Energy



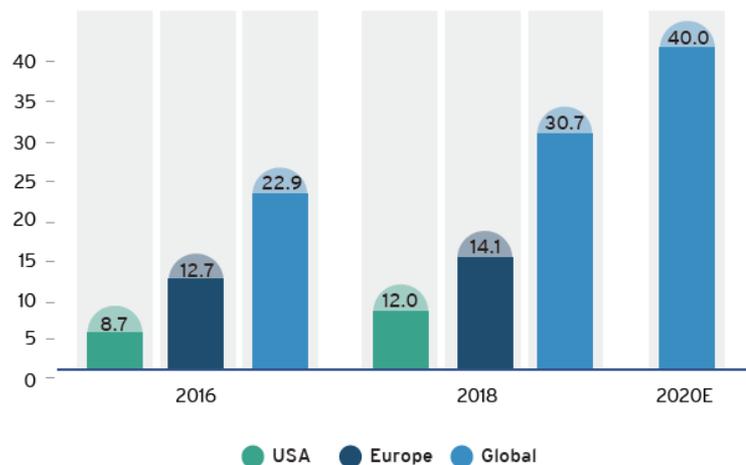
- In 2020, clean energy has become the cheapest new source of electricity in most of the world.
- The main winners from the transition to renewable energy sources are likely to be energy consumers, both households and companies.
- MSCI Global Alternative Energy Index has outperformed global equities in 2020 year-to-date.

Source: Citi Private Bank. As of December 2020.

2. Recycle: The Power of Investing with Purpose

Flows into Sustainable and Responsible Investment Strategies have Risen

US\$
(in trillion)

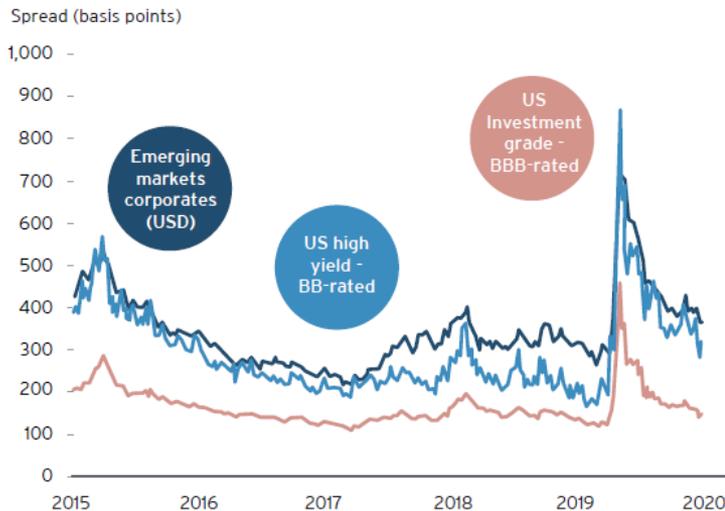


Source: Citi Research. As of 19 November 2020.

- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investment opportunities and capital flows to sustainable investing investment strategies, funds, bonds have sharply risen in 2020.
- Climate change presents immediate and material systemic risks to the financial, environmental and societal health of the economy.

3. Rebalance to Drive Yields: US High Yield (HY) and Emerging Market (EM) Debt

USD EM Corporate Spreads Offer Value Over US Credit



Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 20 November 2020.

- With structurally low interest rates, many fixed income investments could see diminished returns.
- Selective US HY bonds and EM Debt offer relative value. They could also be supported by recovery from the COVID-19 shock.
- Within HY, Citi analysts favor the “Fallen Angels”, or Investment Grade issuers that have been downgraded into HY.

3. Rebalance to Drive Yields: Dividend Yielding Equities

Global Bond Yield vs MSCI World Equity High Dividend Yield



Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 19 November 2020.

- The global aggregate bond yield has fallen to just over 1%.
- Equities are now the higher income generating asset with a dividend yield twice the global aggregate bond yield.
- Citi analysts prefer companies that have strong earnings prospects and a history of maintaining dividend payments.

3. Rebalance to Drive Yields: Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

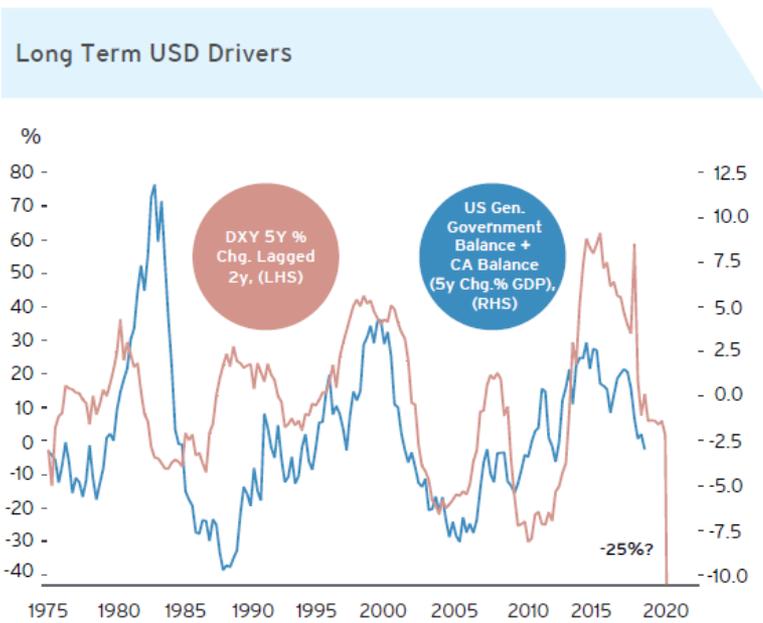
Performance of Equity REITs

Sub-Industry	Weight	Fwd Div. Yield	YTD Return	Return Since Jul. 1
Specialized REITs	25%	3.2%	18%	13%
Residential REITs	18%	3.1%	(7%)	12%
Industry REITs	14%	2.4%	18%	14%
Retail REITs	12%	5.1%	(24%)	14%
Health Care REITs	12%	4.6%	(9%)	22%
Office REITs	10%	3.8%	(17%)	8%
Diversified REITs	5%	4.4%	(12%)	19%
Hotel & Resorts REITs	4%	0.8%	(30%)	41%
S&P US REIT Index		3.5%	-7.4%	13.3%

- REITs can offer diversified exposure to income-oriented assets.
- As the economy's landlord, the real estate sector is likely to continue to recovery alongside the global economy, while maintaining above-market dividends along the way.

Source: Citi Private Bank. As of 19 November 2020.

4. Position for Extended USD Weakness, Strong RMB and Ultra-Low Yields Amidst a Positive Risk Backdrop



Source: Citi Research. As of 12 November 2020.

- Improving COVID-19 news and fading US election risk suggest a more positive risk backdrop for risk assets and FX in 2021.
- Adding to the bearish USD outlook is the Federal Reserve’s ultra-dovish stance.
- China’s growth recovery could contribute to the recovery in risk assets and FX via a stronger CNY.



Key Takeaways

Renew your Portfolio in the New Economic Cycle

Recycle: The Power of Investing with Purpose

Rebalance to Drive Yields

Position for Extended USD Weakness, a Stronger RMB and Ultra-Low Yields amidst a Positive Risk Backdrop