

Follow The Flow

Bonds > equities

Credit Analysis

Inflows into fixed income funds accelerate

Lower "risk-free" rates, a relatively subdued rates vol (vs. recent history) and positive total returns have been a tailwind for credit. While the high-grade flow trend slowed wo-w, there is a strong trend in the high-yield space, with flows at a 110-week high. Amid macro headwinds, fixed income funds have seen strong inflows so far this year vis-à-vis equity focused funds.

Over the past week...

High grade funds recorded an inflow last week, for the third week in a row. On the duration front, outflows were recorded across short-term and long-term IG funds, while mid-term funds recorded inflows.

High-yield funds recorded a significant inflow last week, the largest inflow since March 2021. We note a substantial part of these inflows came from a single fund. However, HY ETF funds saw an outflow last week, the first outflow in five weeks. Looking into the domicile breakdown of HY funds (Chart 12), Euro and Globally-focused funds (in particular) recorded inflows last week, while US-focused funds recorded a small outflow.

Exhibit 1: Bonds over stocks

Stronger flow trends in fixed income funds vs. equity funds (\$bn, cumulative weekly flows)



Source: EPFR Global

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Government bond funds recorded yet another inflow last week, the 10th in a row. **Money market** funds recorded a notable inflow last week, the first inflow in 3 weeks. **Global EM debt** funds saw an inflow last week. Overall, **fixed income** funds recorded an inflow last week, for the 3rd week in a row and largest inflow in 13 weeks.

Equity funds suffered an outflow last week, the 8th in a row. **Commodity** funds recorded a marginal outflow, the second week of outflows in a row.

05 May 2023

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Table 1: Weekly and YTD <u>European</u> retail flows

Weekly fund flows data across assets

	This	1 Wk		YTD
Sector	Week	(%)	YTD	(%)
HY	\$1,467	0.6%	\$625	0.2%
HY (ETFs)	(\$33)	(0.1%)	\$1,529	6.3%
IG	\$2,031	0.1%	\$35,027	2.3%
in euros	\$1,396	0.2%	\$14,517	1.9%
in sterling	(\$212)	(0.1%)	\$4,755	2.2%
in usd	\$144	0.0%	\$6,119	2.1%
IG (ETFs)	(\$60)	(0.0%)	\$11,630	7.7%
Loan	(\$175)	(1.1%)	(\$1,730)	(10.3%)
Govies	\$1,760	0.4%	\$16,215	3.5%
Fixed Income	\$4,585	0.2%	\$46,681	1.8%
MM	\$15,597	1.0%	\$70,978	4.6%
Equities	(\$2,340)	(0.2%)	(\$7,281)	(0.5%)
Equities (ETFs)	(\$523)	(0.2%)	\$14,231	4.6%
Commodities	(\$14)	(0.0%)	\$1,072	0.8%
Global EM debt	\$128	0.0%	(\$3,157)	(0.7%)

Source: EPFR Global

In \$mn; week ending 3d of May. Data refers to European domiciled funds, except for EM debt funds that refer to global. Some IG funds can also allocate to government bonds. Note that IG funds are also split into other currencies away from Euro, USD and GBP.

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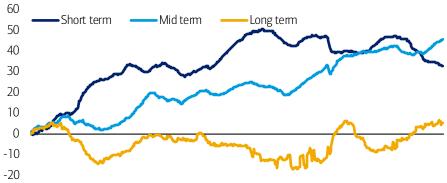
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Flow chart book

Chart 1: IG flows by maturity - Cumulative weekly flows (% of AUM)

Mid-term IG funds have fared better than short- and long-term funds



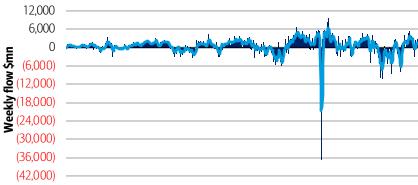
Jan-12 Dec-12 Dec-13 Nov-14Nov-15 Oct-16 Oct-17 Sep-18 Sep-19 Aug-20 Aug-21 Jul-22

Source: EPFR Global. Maturity segments: short-term funds: up to 4yr; mid-term funds: 4-6yr; long-term funds: 6yr +

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Chart 2: High-grade weekly inflows/outflows

Last week's 4wk average has been \$1.4bn; Blue line is 4wk average



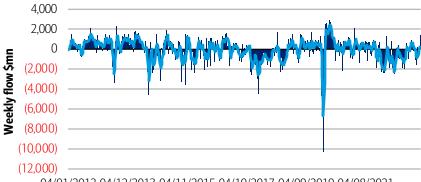
04/01/2012 04/12/2013 04/11/2015 04/10/2017 04/09/2019 04/08/2021

Source: EPFR Global

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Chart 3: High-yield weekly inflows/outflows

Last week's 4wk average has been \$214mn; Blue line is 4wk average



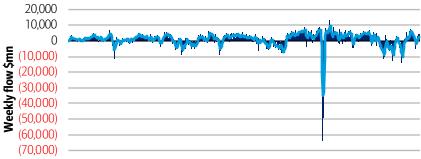
04/01/2012 04/12/2013 04/11/2015 04/10/2017 04/09/2019 04/08/2021

Source: EPFR Global



Chart 4: Fixed-income weekly inflows/outflows

Last week's 4wk average has been \$2.5bn; Blue line is 4wk average



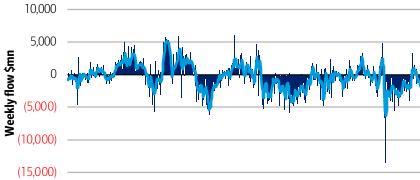
04/01/2012 04/12/2013 04/11/2015 04/10/2017 04/09/2019 04/08/2021

Source: EPFR Global

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Chart 5: Equity weekly inflows/outflows

Last week's 4wk average has been -\$1.9bn; Blue line is 4wk average

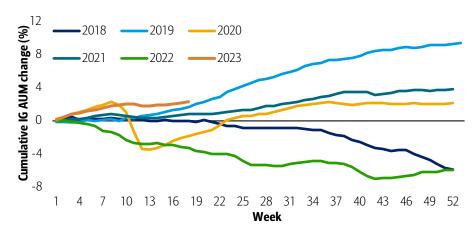


04/01/2012 04/12/2013 04/11/2015 04/10/2017 04/09/2019 04/08/2021

Source: EPFR Global

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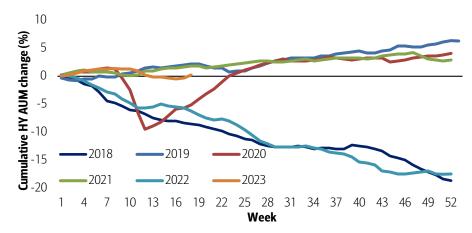
Chart 6: Cumulative AUM increase/decrease High-grade funds have seen inflows YTD of +2.3%



Source: EPFR Global

Chart 7: Cumulative AUM increase/decrease

High-yield funds have seen inflows YTD of +0.2%



Source: EPFR Global

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Chart 8: High-grade monthly inflows/outflows

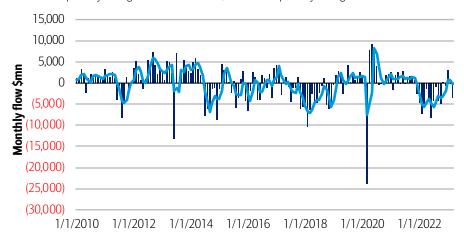
Last month's quarterly average has been +\$9.1bn; Blue line is quarterly average



Source: EPFR Global

Chart 9: High-yield monthly inflows/outflows

Last month's quarterly average has been -\$185mn; Blue line is quarterly average

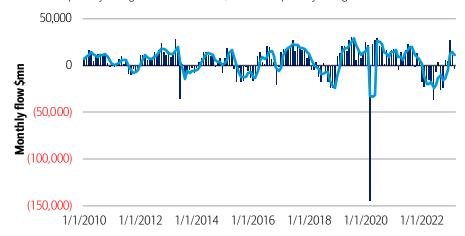


Source: EPFR Global

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Chart 10: Fixed income monthly inflows/outflows

Last month's quarterly average has been +\$11.6bn; Blue line is quarterly average



Source: EPFR Global



Chart 11: Equities monthly inflows/outflows

Last month's quarterly average has been +\$38.5mn; Blue line is quarterly average

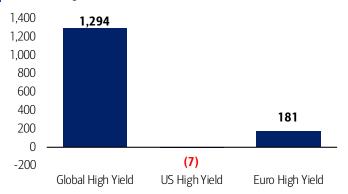


Source: EPFR Global

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Chart 12: European domiciled HY fund flows, <u>split by fund focus</u>

Global and Euro-focused funds recorded inflows last week, US-focused funds recorded a marginal outflow



Source: EPFR Global, BofA Global Research

We dassify the funds following their nomendature. "US High Yield" includes all "US" and "USD", "Euro High Yield" includes all "Europe", "Euro" and "Sterling".

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Chart 13: Europe domiciled HY credit fund flows by fund focus

Weekly cumulative fund flows (\$mn)



Source: EPFR Global, BofA Global Research. Cumulative since Jan 2018. We classify the funds following their nomendature. "US High Yield" includes all "US" and "USD", "Euro High Yield" includes all "Europe", "Euro" and "Sterling".

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