

The Point for North America

Monday, 17 March 2025

Top Call | Other Morning Call Highlights | Company | Industry | Economics & Strategy | Fixed Income & FX | Key Rating and Target Price Changes

Top Call

US Equity Strategy - Shifting Sands V.2

Our broader US equity narrative headed into '25 remains mostly intact. However, there are several twists and turns that need to be considered as the policy and macro backdrop continues to evolve. We continue to view 5,500 as a level that sets up for a good risk reward between our bear and base cases. Shifting sands relate to increased recession concerns but offset by an improved valuation circumstance for the meg cap growth cohort.

Scott T Chronert | Drew Pettit | Patrick Galvin, CFA





Cooper Companies Inc (COO.O) - On the Road with COO Management

We had Dan McBride, EVP and COO from CooperCompanies on the road in London, in a timely set of meetings post 1QFY25 results. It is fair to say the FY1Q disappointed (link), with CVI sales increasing ~6.3% y/y, the lowest growth rate since the 1QFY21 as we exited the pandemic. The culprit was associated with MyDay supply constraints and softer sales in China, both of which are within management's control to remedy (and which are expected to improve throughout the remainder of the year). This said, we are lowering our 2QFY25 revenue to reflect a more gated recovery, without change to our 2QFY25 EPS, or FY revenue or EPS. To us, the contact lens market remains strong and while the last two CVI quarters have fallen below historical growth trends, we do not see a change in market fundamentals, including patient demand. We reiterate our Buy on COO.

Joanne Wuensch

Must Read

Multi-Asset - North America Road Ahead 2025

See Appendix A-1 for Analyst Certification, Important Disclosures and Research Analyst Affiliations.

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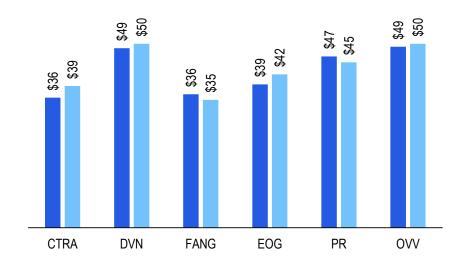
Other Morning Call Highlights

US Oil & Gas Exploration and Production - How Break-Evens Change Post Year-End Updates; Model Updates

Corporate break-evens encapsulate both operational and capital efficiency into a single figure. As a result, the change in break-evens reveals the relative pace of efficiency improvement across the E&Ps, with 4Q updates providing important insights. PR's break-even has improved, down by ~\$2 given longer laterals and continued efficiency improvements. FANG's break-even dropped by ~\$1 to a peer-low \$35 given the improvement and greater gas volumes (less oil CF dependent). EOG's break-even has crept up to ~\$42/bbl (from ~\$39/bb) as gas production growth guidance is lower than our previous expectations and realizations are forecast to be less robust (oil differentials going down). CTRA's break-even goes up to ~\$39/bbl after its Permian acquisitions as its production profile becomes more oil-levered. DVN's break-even increases slightly by ~\$1 to \$50/bbl as we refine our model.

Scott Gruber

"Oily" E&P break-evens (@ consistent \$2.75/mcf HH)



US Oil & Gas Equipment and Services - What are OFS Stocks Discounting?

A common question recently has been – what are OFS stocks discounting? Determining this is more art than science (especially versus E&Ps, detailed here). We utilize a blend of 'normal' EV/EBITDA multiples and FCF yields to estimate the magnitude of EBITDA reduction that the larger OFS stocks appear to be discounting. We estimate the stocks are discounting a ~20% drop in EBITDA, led by HAL (-30%) and WFRD (-23%) with SLB and NOV both ~20%. We think this corresponds with a 75-100 U.S. rig count reduction (13-17% drop), a high-single-digit decline in International revenues and healthy decrementals. This would broadly correspond with \$58/\$55 Brent/WTI prices. While there's risk of a spending slowdown, we don't think these conditions will sustain into perpetuity and thus the group presents good value. We think SLB, BKR and FTI more easily attract longer term investment while HAL and WFRD likely present higher beta toward industry sentiment.

Scott Gruber

US Exploration & Production and Oil Services - Oil Price to Rig Count to Shale Production In a Single Chart

Continued concerns toward the economy, OPEC's stated intent to unwind production cuts and more recently, potential steps toward a ceasefire in Ukraine have all weighed on Energy equities. One question we've received is - how would

U.S. drilling activity respond to lower prices? In figure 1, we show a rough estimate for how incrementally lower oil prices could impact U.S. oil rig count and shale production. The conclusion is that at ~\$70 WTI, oil production likely grows by ~100kbpd (ex NGLs) but at ~\$65, rig count is likely down ~25 with production flattish. A drop into the upper \$50s likely results in a bigger psychological impact with the rig count potentially falling ~75 and production down >300kbpd. Notably oil-levered E&Ps appear to be discounting ~\$60 WTI with the equities taking a more cautious view than the commodity at present, but closer to the forward curve in Dec. 2026.

Scott Gruber | Paul Diamond

How a Drop in Oil Price Could Impact US Oil Rig Count & Production



Trade Desk Inc (TTD.O) - Takeaways from CTV Connect Conference: Incrementally Negative, but Still Buy Rated on Competition and Industry Trends

We attended the CTV Connect conference and offer key takeaways for TTD and broader CTV. We came away from the conference incrementally negative on some key factors for TTD's path to billings recovery and mid-20% revenue growth, most notably that the DSP (and SSP) competitive environment is getting more challenging and that the shift of ad dollars from Linear TV to biddable programmatic CTV has some hurdles to work through, with Linear and direct buying of CTV still a key component of many advertiser/agency plans. We also heard some concerns around the Kokai platform roll out and OpenPath transparency. But we also believe investor sentiment has shifted too negative, that TTD remains a strong competitor in CTV, and that the broader CTV shift will still play in favor of relative strong growth for TTD, even with a more competitive backdrop. We lower our target multiple, but maintain our Buy rating.

Ygal Arounian

The Trade Desk Estimates Summary

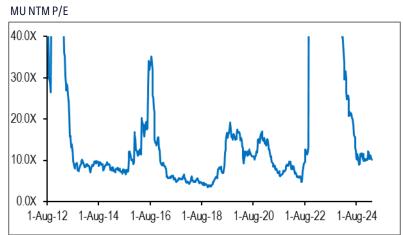
		1Q25E		202	5E	20)26E	
(\$ in millions, except per share amounts)	Citi Estimates	Consensus Estimates	Guidance Mid-Pt.	Citi Estimates	Consensus Estimates	Citi Estimates	Consensus Estimates	
Financial Metrics:								
Revenue	575.9	576.1	575.0	2,878.6	2,884.1	3,425.1	3,462.7	
Y/Y growth	17.2%	17.3%	17.0%	17.7%	18.0%	19.0%	20.1%	
GAAP Gross Profit	446.0	443.6		2,316.6	2,313.2	2,773.8	2,783.3	
Y/Y growth	15.1%	14.4%		17.4%	17.3%	19.7%	20.3%	
% Margin	77.4%	77.0%		80.5%	80.2%	81.0%	80.4%	
Adj. EBITDA	145.3	149.0	145.0	1,115.9	1,125.1	1,355.5	1,401.1	
Y/Y growth	-10.2%	-7.9%	-10.3%	10.4%	11.3%	21.5%	24.5%	
% Margin	25.2%	25.9%	25.2%	38.8%	39.0%	39.6%	40.5%	
GAAP EPS, diluted	\$0.00	\$0.04		\$0.82	\$0.88	\$1.12	\$1.20	
Y/Y growth	-97.4%	-37.1%		5.1%	12.4%	36.3%	36.7%	
FCF	174.0	180.7		851.6	776.8	1,012.1	978.8	
Y/Y growth	-1.3%	2.5%		34.7%	22.8%	18.8%	26.0%	
% Margin	30.2%	31.4%		29.6%	26.9%	29.5%	28.3%	
Operating Metrics								
Gross Billings	2,781.9	2,975.3		13,904.6	14,488.4	16,546.5	17,529.2	
Y/Y growth	17.8%	26.0%		18.3%	23.3%	19.0%	21.0%	
Take Rate	20.7%	19.4%		20.7%	19.9%	20.7%	19.8%	

Company

Micron Technology Inc (MU.O) - Earnings Preview - Expect Decent Results But Below Consensus Guide. But Upturn Is Still Intact and Upside is Coming. Reit Buy

Micron will report F2Q25 results on March 20 after market close. We expect the company to post decent results but guide below Consensus driven by worse consumer mix and NAND (26% of F1Q25 sales) underutilization charges. However, mainstream DDR5 spot pricing is inflecting up as pricing is up nearly 8% YTD, the largest increase since 1Q24 and we believe this supports our belief that DRAM pricing should improve beginning in 2Q25. We remain optimistic on Micron given their AI HBM opportunity and bullish on the DRAM recovery given supply/demand dynamics for C25, and our F26 EPS estimate is 39% above Consensus. We reiterate our Buy rating and maintain our price target of \$150 on Micron.

Christopher Danely



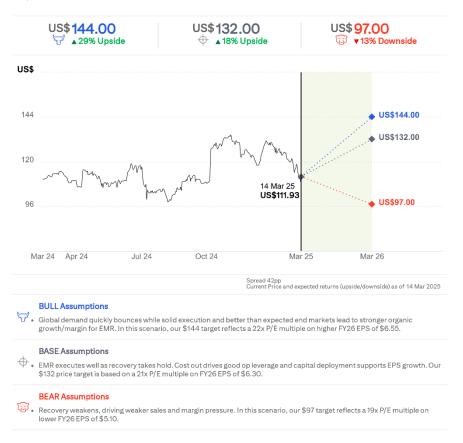
Emerson Electric Co. (EMR.N) - Favorable L-T Trends Intact; Resuming Coverage with a Buy

We're renewed our rating after a period of Rating Suspended on EMR with a Buy rating and a \$132 target price given what we view as a favorable position in markets with still positive underlying long-term fundamentals (despite increased near-term uncertainty) coupled with a strong track record of operational execution that we think should drive outsized financial returns over time. In the near-term, we wouldn't be surprised if sluggishness in EMR's discrete automation end

markets were somewhat more persistent vs. prior expectations, but relative strength in hybrid and process automation end markets remains encouraging. Continued global investment in end markets such as Power and Energy, in which we view EMR as being competitively advantaged, we think should remain tailwinds for the company and, with Aspen Technologies now fully consolidated, we see incrementally more focused execution of EMR's software strategy could as a potential L-T tailwind to growth and profitability.

Andrew Kaplowitz

Bull/Bear: Emerson Electric Co.



Phillips 66 (PSX.N) - Not a Sprint, it's a Marathon; Taking a Closer Look at PSX Financials

PSX is facing an activist ahead of its Annual Meeting scheduled for May. Though it feels the same, the current situation is different from the one faced by MPC in 2019 when "upgrade" in executive management and sale of a large retail footprint were among the suggestions. While we agree to upside in PSX stock, we are unsure about outright sale of businesses is the best way forward. To find a middle path, we take a page from MPC's playbook and showcase that PSX can also create a stable and more transparent corporate structure without pursuing fire sale of assets. If there is a valuation disconnect, a future spin/sale is an option. That's said, improving refining appears to be the real value creation opportunity. Our deep dive into PSX's Opex indicates there is clear room for improvement.

Vikram Bagri

Hypothetical PSX Midstream (\$ in mm)

Midstream	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Adjusted EBITDA	3,334	3,413	3,615	3,700	3,787	3,875
Less: Interest Expense	(\$446)	(\$433)	(\$415)	(\$395)	(\$373)	(\$349)
Less: Maintenance Capex	(\$80)	(\$82)	(\$87)	(\$89)	(\$91)	(\$93)
Taxes and Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distributable Cash Flow	\$2,808	\$2,899	\$3,114	\$3,216	\$3,322	\$3,432
Growth Capex	\$895	\$893	\$888	\$886	\$884	\$882
Coverage Ratio	ψ033 1.7x	Ψ033 1.7x	1.7x	1.7x	Ψ00 - 7	1.7x
Dividend Paid	\$1.652	\$1.705	\$1,831	\$1.892	\$1.954	\$2.019
Dividend/sh	\$1.40	\$1,705 \$1.45	\$1,55	\$1.60	\$1.66	\$1.71
Yield	7.00%	7.23%	7.76%	8.02%	8.28%	8.56%
Net Debt/Adjusted EBITDA	3.0x	2.8x	2.6x	2.4x	2.2x	2.0x
Assumed Debt	\$9,913	\$9,613	\$9,219	\$8,781	\$8,297	\$7,766
Assumed Share Price	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Assumed Shares Outstanding	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180
Market Cap	\$23,596	\$23,596	\$23,596	\$23,596	\$23,596	\$23,596
Enterprise Value	\$33,509	\$33,208	\$32,815	\$32,377	\$31,893	\$31,361
Implied EV/EBITDA	10.1x	9.7x	9.1x	8.8x	8.4x	8.1x
PSX Ownership	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
PSX Ownership Value	\$18,877	\$18,877	\$18,877	\$18,877	\$18,877	\$18,877
PSX Dividend Per Year	\$1,321	\$1,364	\$1,465	\$1,513	\$1,563	\$1,615
Proceeds from IPO (Pre-Tax)	\$4,719					
Proceeds from IPO (Post-Tax)	\$3,889					

Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (ALNY.O) - Amvuttra FDA Approval for ATTR-CM Imminent

The FDA is likely to approve Amvuttra (vutrisiran) for its second treatment indication, ATTR-CM (already approved ATTR-PN), later this week on or before March 23, 2025 (FDA action or PDUFA date). On the approval, investors will conduct a detailed examination of the treatment label while also listening for management commentary regarding pricing in addition to offering more detail on its launch strategy. Overall, we expect Amvuttra will be approved with a broad usage label allowing for use in new to therapy patients as well as those on or post-ATTR stabilizer treatment. Next, we expect Amvuttra will be priced at a material premium to the stabilizers; although it will be below current pricing under its ATTR-PN only treatment label. Alnylam is set for a successful launch into this multibillion-dollar indication. The upcoming approval is a key positive catalyst for the stock, that sets the stage for further inflection in the stock.

David Lebowitz, CFA

Rubrik, Inc. (RBRK.N) - F4Q25 Review + Callback Color: This One's Definitely a Keeper

In one of the smoothest, highest-quality CY24 finishes across our coverage, RBRK hit multiple execution marks: accelerating revs growth (~44% YoY PF 1x/non-recurring), subs ARR growth (37% YoY PF transition; Cloud ARR still clocking-in ~70% YoY at ~\$900M scale; 53% NNARR YoY), and blowout OPM/Subs-ARR-CM/FCFM, with much of this momentum carried into the F1Q26/FY26E outlook generally above consensus, particularly on profit-based vectors. In a market backdrop finally "seeing-the-light" on the necessary fusion of modern data protection + cyber-resiliency, and increasingly GenAl data exposure risks, RBRK's pioneering message is delivering the goods, evidenced by accelerating \$100K Subs ARR and meaningful YoY step-up in \$1M ARR customers, both reinforcing RBRK's ongoing profitable-share gain potential in a staid market, even as competitors turn up noise/heat/defensive account control tactics. With Street-high CitiE topline tweaked, margins higher, and a conservative-looking -13% YoY NNARR set-up, the NTM beat-and-raise cadence keeps us constructive; reiterate Buy and \$85PT.

Fatima Boolani

F4Q25 Results vs Consensus, CitiE, Guidance

\$ millions, except per share	Reported	Cons	ensus	Citi Es	timates	Guidance			
Item	Metrics	Metrics	Reported Δ	Metrics	Reported Δ		Metrics		Reported Δ
			\$/bps		\$/bps	Low	Mid	High	\$/bps
4QA FY2025									
Subs ARR Y/Y %	1,092.6 39.4%	1,059.5 35.1%	33.1 422bps	1,061.0 35.3%	31.6 403bps				
Cloud ARR Y/Y %	876.0 66.9%			835.2 59.1%	40.8 778bps				
Subscription Revs Y/Y %	243.7 53.6%			220.5 39.0%	23.2 1,460bps				
Total Revs Y/Y %	258.1 47.5%	233.1 33.2%	25.0 1,428bps	233.5 33.4%	24.6 1,404bps	231.5 32.3%	232.5 32.8%	233.5 33.4%	25.6 1,463bps
EBIT % Margin	(29.0) -11.2%	(65.5) -28.1%	36.4 1,684bps	(66.8) -28.6%	37.7 1,734bps				
ARR Contribution Margin	2%			-2%	424bps	-3.0%	-2.5%	-2.0%	468bps
EPS	(\$0.18)	(\$0.39)	\$0.21	(\$0.38)	\$0.20	(\$0.41)	(\$0.39)	(\$0.37)	\$0.21
CFO	83.6	18.7	64.8	22.1	61.5				
FCFE % Margin	75.2 29.1%	10.9 4.7%	64.3 2,446bps	14.1 6.0%	61.1 2,311bps				

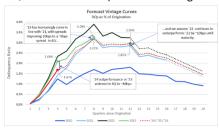
Ally Financial Inc (ALLY.N) - Model Update - Market Continues to Discount Strong Underlying Trends; Reit Buy

We are refreshing our ALLY model ahead of 1Q earnings, including updated mgmt. guidance from recent industry conference, which points to solid trends in retail auto losses, and using our vintage curve analysis, we expect '25 auto NCOs of ~212bps (vs guide of 200-225bps). We see NIM expansion through '25 and '26, ending 2026 at ~3.9% as ALLY continues to benefit from fixed rate asset and a remix out of mortgage loans and securities and into higher returning retail auto loans, as well as deposit repricing, where we expect betas will be ~65% particularly given expectations for balance sheet optimization vs growth. With the pending sale of the credit card book, organic growth, and optionality through CRT deals, we see ALLY achieving their 9.5-10% CET1 target (on pro-forma basis) in '26, and anticipate buybacks will resume next year. We continue to see upside to consensus numbers; reiterate Buy.

Keith Horowitz, CFA

The 2023 vintage delinquencies continue to improve, narrowing the spread to our benchmark '21 vintage in 4Q, and with the '24 vintage outperforming the improving '23 vintage, we see a path to ~190bps of NCOs in '26, near the 160-180bps normalized range.

Our med-term estimates are lower on revised NII outlook, though our '27 are improving on strong credit trends.





Academy Sports and Outdoors, Inc. (ASO.O) - Expect Slight 4Q Beat on Stronger Comps/Weaker GM and F25 Guidance Below Consensus

We expect a slight 4Q24 EPS beat (BMO 3/20) driven by stronger comps, partially offset by weaker GM. We anticipate mgmt will guide F25 adj EPS to \$5.50-6.50 (vs cons \$6.58) based on comps -LSD to +LSD (cons +0.8%). We expect more detail around the launch of new NKE product in April, which mgmt expects to move the needle on sales. We believe weaker near-term trends and macro/tariff uncertainty could push out any potential comp inflection to 2Q at the earliest (2Q is the easiest comparison given logistics issues LY) and investors would largely remain skeptical given macro uncertainty. However, shares trade at F25E P/E multiple of just 7.5x, suggesting a lot of pessimism is already priced-in. Any signs of comps improving

from its down MSD run-rate over last 3-yrs will be viewed positively. Despite our positive 12-month view and Buy rating, we see a balanced risk/reward into 4Q EPS.

Paul Lejuez, CFA, CPA

Citi vs Consensus

	40	Q24E	1	Q25E	F	24E	F	25E
	Citi Ests	Consensus						
Sales	\$1,700	\$1,674	\$1,375	\$1,412	\$5,957	\$5,933	\$6,184	\$6,255
% YoY	(5.3%)	(6.7%)	0.8%	3.5%	(3.3%)	(3.7%)	3.8%	5.0%
Comp	(2.5%)	(4.3%)	(3.0%)	(0.4%)	(4.9%)	(5.4%)	(0.6%)	0.8%
Gross profit	\$569	\$568	\$453	\$479	\$2,041	\$2,039	\$2,104	\$2,164
% margin	33.5%	33.9%	32.9%	33.9%	34.3%	34.4%	34.0%	34.6%
SG&A	\$392	\$393	\$361	\$362	\$1,459	\$1,463	\$1,540	\$1,547
% YoY	(0.7%)	(0.4%)	3.9%	4.3%	3.6%	3.9%	5.5%	6.0%
EBIT	\$177	\$172	\$92	\$113	\$582	\$577	\$564	\$615
% margin	10.4%	10.3%	6.7%	8.0%	9.8%	9.7%	9.1%	9.8%
EPS	\$1.86	\$1.84	\$0.92	\$1.17	\$5.94	\$5.91	\$6.00	\$6.58
% YoY	-15.7%	-16.6%	-14.3%	8.9%	-14.7%	-15.1%	0.9%	10.8%

Industry

Global FinTech and Payments - Travel Spend: Checking into QTD Travel Trends; V/MA Commentary; X-Border ex Intra-Europe Decelerates

We perform a timely check into travel trends, given consumer spend uncertainty. Through March 9, 1QTD global flight growth (y/y) decelerated slightly from 4Q. Cross-border ex intra-Europe remains stable in the 8.5-9% range, though trends decelerated throughout the quarter from the ~9%-11% y/y range in January to ~6%-8% in February and March weeks. While Visa and Mastercard noted relatively stable spend trends overall through February (ex. Leap Year), we are watching the cross-border monthly exit rate for Jun-quarter/forward implications given deceleration and consumer/business uncertainty. U.S. domestic flight activity has shown modest improvement – from -1% y/y through the first week in February to ~1-2% thereafter. However, U.S. airlines have voiced trend uncertainty and the first week in March showed a deceleration. **Details Below & Inside.**

Andrew Schmidt

Retail Weekend Reading - The 10 Quotes that Stood Out from Citi's Global Consumer/Retail Conference

We hosted 24 companies from our combined retail universe (ANF, AAP, AS, AZO, BBY, BIRK, BJ, BURL, CRI, COLM, FND, HBI, LEVI, LOW, M, OXM, RL, TPR, TGT, TJX, TSCO, URBN, VVV, and WMT) at Citi's Global Consumer Conference in Miami (Aventura), Florida on March 9–11 and were able to sit in on many meetings. In this note, we highlight 10 of the most interesting/noteworthy quotes we heard from our meetings at the conference that have broader implications across the retail landscape. We include the quote below and provide more detail inside.

Paul Lejuez, CFA, CPA | Steven Zaccone, CFA

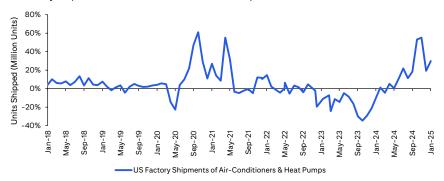
US Industrial Conglomerates - Jan '25 AHRI Data: Positive (But Nuanced) Across Resi Water Heaters, Commercial Water Heaters, and HVAC

Jan. '25 U.S. AHRI Data reveals positive (but nuanced) results across residential water heater shipments (+0.9% YoY), commercial water heater shipments (+5.0% YoY), and HVAC shipments (+29.9% YoY). Residential water heater YoY shipments continue to face pressure that we think reflects a challenging demand environment amid still elevated interest rates/weaker housing market activity. Total commercial water heaters YoY shipments improved, although Jan '25. AHRI data suggests mixed performance with commercial gas heater shipments down (-3.2% YoY) while commercial electric heaters grew (+10.0% YoY), which we think is driven by energy-efficiency trends. HVAC recorded solid YoY growth reflecting easy

comps (albeit off the easiest comp of the year with Jan '24 -21.3%) as well as likely still some pre-buy in resi-HVAC (+32.5% YoY); in commercial-HVAC, despite a tougher comp (Jan '25 -22.5% YoY vs. Jan '24 +20.8%), we think commercial-HVAC remains reasonably healthy with datacenter-related demand likely being a growing contributor.

Andrew Kaplowitz

U.S. Factory Shipments of Air-Conditioners & Heat Pumps (YoY%)

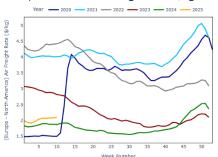


Global Shipping - Weekly Update - Divergence in Air Freight Rate

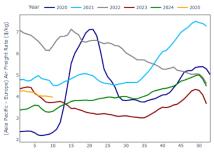
We update our weekly freight data tracker, which covers both sea and air freight. We see capacity growth of +19% YoY in April (vs +22% in March). Meanwhile, air freight rates growth is at +1.5% YoY in March (vs. +5% YoY in February).

Kaseedit Choonnawat | Chloe Fu

(Europe-N.America) Air Freight Rate (\$/kg)



(Asia-Europe) Air Freight Rate (\$/kg)



North America Chemicals - Examining Most/Least Crowded Stocks; Little Love for Petchems

Analysis from Citi's Quant Team suggests LIN, DD, and ECL are the most crowded names in NA chemicals, while APD, OLN, and CE are the least crowded. Over the last month, PPG, DD, and FMC have seen the largest increase in crowding score, while ALB, AXTA, and EMN have seen the largest decrease (Figure 1).

Patrick Cunningham

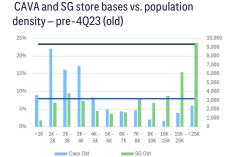
Citi NA Chemicals Long Crowding Composite

High Ranking =	Higher Crowding	Growth	Expensive	Lower Short Interest	Positive Sentiment	Higher Macro		
	0.0							
				Hist. Relative			Previous	M/M
	Crowding		Hist. Relative	Short	Sentiment	Macro Risk	Crowding	Crowding
Company	Composite	Quant Factor	Valuation	Interest	Rank	Contribution	Composite	Change
Linde	95.6%	35.9%	72.5%	94.3%	67.1%	88.9%	90.2%	5.4%
DuPont de Nemours	92.5%	35.2%	44.7%	89.9%	92.0%	82.0%	76.9%	15.6%
Ecolab Inc	92.0%	46.4%	53.4%	89.4%	78.3%	74.2%	78.9%	13.1%
Sherwin-Williams	61.0%	65.7%	56.4%	6.1%	52.8%	87.9%	77.2%	-16.3%
Westlake Chemical	59.5%	22.1%	59.2%	60.1%	31.5%	93.2%	72.4%	-12.9%
International Flavors & Fragrances	53.5%	4.8%	35.3%	92.8%	75.0%	48.1%	42.5%	11.0%
Huntsman Corp	52.9%	13.9%	49.8%	84.9%	17.7%	88.7%	52.9%	-0.1%
Axalta Coating Systems	45.6%	62.8%	20.9%	27.2%	37.7%	95.5%	67.8%	-22.2%
Corteva	42.4%	42.3%	61.3%	6.9%	74.2%	54.4%	45.2%	-2.7%
H.B. Fuller	36.5%	44.7%	17.0%	59.0%	15.8%	91.1%	25.2%	11.3%
Dow Inc	32.4%	6.9%	41.6%	21.5%	57.0%	92.8%	19.2%	13.2%
PPG Industries	30.9%	24.8%	17.1%	51.8%	27.7%	95.7%	10.2%	20.7%
Eastman Chemical	19.3%	30.6%	38.7%	7.6%	18.7%	98.0%	39.2%	-19.9%
Ecovyst	17.5%	40.3%	24.5%	4.9%	69.8%	50.3%	8.2%	9.3%
FMC	14.9%	24.6%	6.6%	51.7%	56.2%	44.1%	0.6%	14.3%
Albemarle Corp	7.5%	12.8%	38.8%	24.6%	6.6%	74.5%	42.5%	-35.1%
Celanese Corp	6.4%	16.5%	14.1%	32.6%	9.2%	79.2%	9.9%	-3.5%
Olin	6.1%	19.4%	37.4%	21.6%	13.6%	56.3%	24.7%	-18.6%
Air Products & Chemicals	3.3%	21.5%	36.7%	0.1%	23.9%	47.9%	13.6%	-10.4%

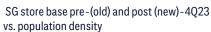
US Restaurants - Setting the Table for the Week: Store Footprints and Traffic - SG and CAVA

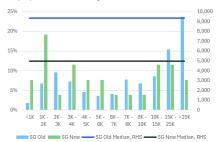
It was a volatile week for restaurant stocks as investors grew more worried about the health of the US consumer. The tone from companies at Citi's Annual Global Consumer Conference this past week did not match this concern, in our view. Below, we dig into a discussion topic (traffic growth vs. store footprints) for 2 companies that were in attendance (SG and CAVA).

Jon Tower, CFA | Karen Holthouse, CFA | Gautam Nanda



Cava Old Median, RHS - SG Old Median, RHS





Economics & Strategy

PULSE Monitor - Revisions Sour

Revisions are breaking down, worse than seasonal trends. However, because of index composition and the magnitude of revisions, we still have not seen full-year 2025 estimates move lower. But we are starting to see the first instances of analysts cutting numbers on tariff impacts. Anecdotally, we are seeing analysts in certain stocks, particularly consumer, moving estimates lower within the guidance ranges announced by corporates during the most recent reporting period. Still, we feel that tariff impacts are not well reflected in guidance (outside of some cautiousness despite strong Q4 results) or consensus estimates. Therefore, we may see a wave of negative pre-announcements over the next three weeks, particularly for companies with China COGS exposure given roughly half the quarter was exposed to increased tariffs.

Scott T Chronert | Drew Pettit | Patrick Galvin, CFA

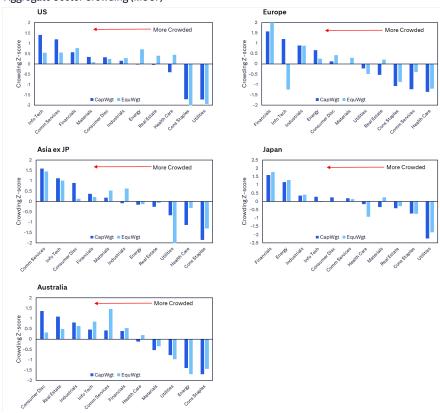
Measuring the Crowded Trade in Global Equities - Sector crowding mostly steady despite volatility

Overall sector crowding trends across regions held steady so far since last month, despite the volatility and large index level declines. The crowding trend remains

delineated between Cyclicals on one end (crowded) and Defensive on the other. However, some shifting is more noticeable among sectors in Europe where the equity markets are now outperforming the US (YTD), particularly in Financials which has become the most crowded sector there. Defensive Utilities and Consumer Staples are no longer extremely under-crowded in Europe, while Real Estate has seen its crowding increase.

Richard W Schlatter | Hong Li | Anju Bhandari | Chris Montagu | Chris Ma

Aggregate Sector Crowding (MSCI)

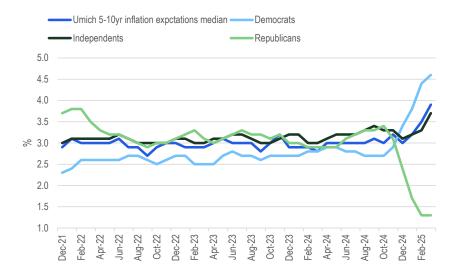


US Economics - UMich inflation expectations jump higher again

University of Michigan consumer sentiment index fell more than expected again in March to 57.9 from 64.7. Most of the decline was driven by the expectations index. Inflation expectations jumped substantially higher again this month with 1y inflation expectations increasing to 4.9% from 4.3% and 5-10y inflation expectations increasing to 3.9% from 3.5%. While there are some reasons to take these readings with a grain of salt, this could still be an uncomfortable reading for at least some Fed officials. We think most Fed officials will not necessarily be too concerned by U Mich longer-term inflation expectations as some consumer inflation expectations measures like the NY Fed ones have been well behaved and market-based measures have also not picked up.

Gisela Young | Andrew Hollenhorst | Veronica Clark

There is political divide in inflation expectations



US Economics - FOMC Preview - Risks skew dovish

Fed officials are likely to take a modest dovish step on March 19th with the median "dot" shifting down to show 75bp rather than 50bp of total rate cuts in 2025 in our base case. Stubborn inflation in January and February and the rise in inflation expectations limits the extent of the dovish move and rates will likely stay on-hold at this meeting. But by the May FOMC meeting officials will likely conclude that downside growth risks predominate and begin a new series of rate cuts.

Andrew Hollenhorst | Veronica Clark

Citi Expectations for March Summary of Economic Projections

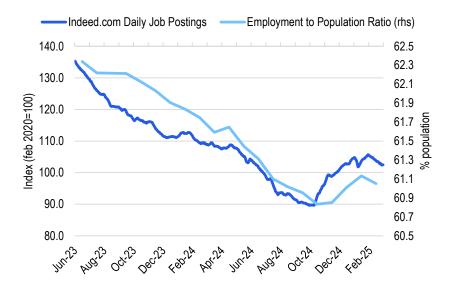
		2025	2026	2027	LR
Real GDP	Mar	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.8
	Dec	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8
Unemployment rate	Mar	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
	Dec	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
PCE inflation	Mar	2.6	2.2	2.0	2.0
	Dec	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.0
Core PCE inflation	Mar	2.6	2.2	2.0	2.0
	Dec	2.5	2.2	2.0	
Federal funds rate	Mar	3.6	3.1	3.1	3.0
	Dec	3.9	3.4	3.1	3.0

Canada Economics Weekly - Tariffs are dovish for the BoC

The BoC lowered its policy rate again this week, reacting to the start of tariffs on some Canadian exports last week and the substantial uncertainty around tariffs causing businesses and households to cut back on spending plans. Governor Macklem again highlighted that policy must weigh the upside risks to inflation from tariff developments with the downside risks from softer growth. Many would interpret this as a relatively hawkish stance from the BoC. But the fact that a rate cut would likely not have occurred this week if not for tariffs should tell markets that tariffs are a near-term dovish development for the BoC. We continue to expect 25bp cuts at the next three meetings to 2%. While we are less certain around the exact meeting-by-meeting path, we are more confident that the destination for policy rates this year is a bit below neutral, if not lower.

Veronica Clark | Gisela Young

High frequency data could be an early signal of any labor market weakening



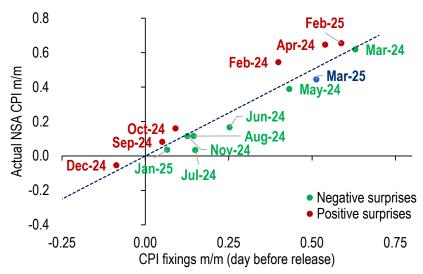
Fixed Income & FX

US Rates Weekly - Bearish risks rising

We expect yields to move higher in the medium term as inflation concerns persist. The risk of foreign sales of US assets as a response to tariffs and changes in geopolitical alliances is also worth bearing in mind.

Jabaz Mathai | Jason Williams | Mike Chang | Raghav Datla | Alejandra Vazquez Plata

CPI came in lower than fixings market pricing (see Mar-25 below); however, y/y core services ex shelter is still inflating at 3.75%.



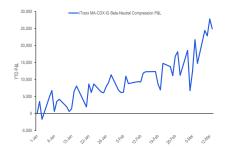
Global Credit Derivatives Strategy - Braver, Newer World

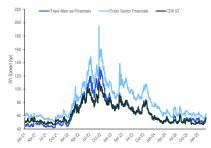
European risk assets continue their impressive run of outperformance vs their US counterparts. iTraxx Main can see further upside from broad sector compression vs CDX IG. We entered 2025 preferring Main to IG due to diverging monetary policy. Today, however, we see renewed animal spirits in Europe and a faltering US as reasons to prefer Main even if relative monetary policy trends fail to deliver what we expected.

Philip Dobrinov

iTraxx Main Continues Impressive Run vs CDX IG

Continued Compression Coming from More than Wider Financials





Date	Time	Report	Citi	Median	High	Low	Prior
3/17/2025	8:30	Empire Manufacturing (Mar)		-2	5	-8	5.7
		Retail Sales Advance MoM (Feb)	0.7%	0.7%	1.0%	0.3%	-0.9%
		Retail Sales Ex Auto MoM (Feb)	0.5%	0.4%	0.9%	0.0%	-0.4%
		Retail Sales Ex Auto and Gas (Feb)	0.7%	0.5%	1.0%	-0.1%	-0.5%
		Retail Sales Control Group (Feb)	0.9%	0.3%	0.9%	-0.5%	-0.8%
	10:00	Business Inventories (Jan)		0.30%	0.70%	0.10%	-0.20%
		NAHB Housing Market Index (Mar)		42	44	40	42
3/18/2025	8:30	Housing Starts (Feb)	1417k	1375k	1415k	1300k	1366k
		Housing Starts MoM (Feb)	3.7%	0.7%	3.6%	-4.8%	-9.8%
		Building Permits (Feb P)	1458k	1450k	1483k	1390k	1473k
		Building Permits MoM (Feb P)	-1.0%	-1.6%	0.7%	-5.6%	-0.6%
		Import Price Index MoM (Feb)		-0.10%	0.10%	-0.30%	0.30%
		Import Price Index ex Petroleum MoM (Feb)		0.10%	0.20%	0.00%	0.10%
		Import Price Index YoY (Feb)					1.90%
		Export Price Index MoM (Feb)		-0.30%	1.30%	-0.70%	1.30%
		Export Price Index YoY (Feb)					2.70%
		New York Fed Services Business Activity (Mar)					-10.5
	9:15	Industrial Production MoM (Feb)	0.0%	0.20%	0.50%	-0.30%	0.50%
		Capacity Utilization (Feb)	77.8%	77.8%	78.0%	77.4%	77.8%
		Manufacturing (SIC) Production (Feb)	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	-0.1%
3/19/2025	7:00	MBA Mortgage Applications (14-Mar)					11.20%
	14:00	FOMC Rate Decision (Upper Bound) (19-Mar)	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%
		FOMC Rate Decision (Lower Bound) (19-Mar)	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%
		Fed Interest on Reserve Balances Rate (20-Mar)					4.40%
		FOMC Median Rate Forecast: Current Yr (19-Mar)					4.38%
		FOMC Median Rate Forecast: Next Yr (19-Mar)					3.88%
		FOMC Median Rate Forecast: +2 Yrs (19-Mar)					3.38%
		FOMC Median Rate Forecast: Long-Run (19-Mar)					3.00%
	16:00	Net Long-term TIC Flows (Jan)					\$72.0b
		Total Net TIC Flows (Jan)					\$87.1b
3/20/2025	8:30	Current Account Balance (4Q)		-\$334.0b	-\$301.3b	-\$340.0b	-\$310.9b
		Initial Jobless Claims (15-Mar)	222k	225k	230k	219k	220k
		Continuing Claims (8-Mar)	1888k				1870k
		Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook (Mar)		8	24	-5	18.1
	10:00	Leading Index (Feb)		-0.30%	-0.10%	-0.40%	-0.30%
		Existing Home Sales (Feb)	4.1m	3.94m	4.10m	3.88m	4.08m
		Existing Home Sales MoM (Feb)	0.5%	-3.4%	0.5%	-4.9%	-4.9%
Events							
3/08/2025-	3/20/2025	Fed's External Communications Blackout					
3/19/2025	14:00	FOMC Rate Decision (Upper Bound)					
3/19/2025	14:00	FOMC Rate Decision (Lower Bound)					
3/21/2025	9:05	Fed's Williams Speaks in Bahamas					
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Key Rating and Target Price Changes

		Closing		Rating		Targ	get Pric	е		
Company	Ссу	Price	New	Prior	Chg	New	Prior	Chg	g Analyst	Report
Agco Corporation (AGCO.N)	US\$	93.84	nc	Neutral		98.00	95.00		Kyle Menges	Report
APA Corp (APA.O)	US\$	19.61	nc	Neutral		20.00	24.00	•	Scott Gruber	Report
Academy Sports and Outdoors, Inc. (ASO.0)	US\$	45.10	nc	Buy		60.00	65.00	•	Paul Lejuez, CFA, CPA	Report
Crown Castle Inc (CCI.N)	US\$	103.22	nc	Buy		108.00	106.00	A	Michael Rollins, CFA	Report
Cushman & Wakefield (CWK.N)	US\$	10.69	nc	Neutral		12.00	16.00	•	Nick Joseph	Report
Devon Energy Corp (DVN.N)	US\$	34.55	nc	Buy		46.00	48.00	•	Scott Gruber	Report
Emerson Electric Co. (EMR.N)	US\$	111.93	Buy	Rating Suspended		132.00	na		Andrew Kaplowitz	Report
EOG Resources Inc (EOG.N)	US\$	123.92	nc	Neutral		125.00	134.00	•	Scott Gruber	Report
EQT Corporation (EQT.N)	US\$	50.72	nc	Buy		60.00	51.00		Scott Gruber	Report
Diamondback Energy, Inc. (FANG.O)	US\$	150.20	nc	Neutral		157.00	195.00	•	Scott Gruber	Report
Host Hotels & Resorts (HST.O)	US\$	14.91	nc	Buy		19.00	21.00	•	Nick Joseph	Report
Kimco Realty Corp (KIM.N)	US\$	20.58	nc	Neutral		21.00	27.00	•	Nick Joseph	Report
Kohl's (KSS.N)	US\$	8.06	nc	Neutral		8.00	11.00	•	Paul Lejuez, CFA, CPA	Report
Occidental Petroleum Corp (OXY.N)	US\$	46.53	nc	Neutral		51.00	56.00	•	Scott Gruber	Report
Terex Corporation (TEX.N)	US\$	40.31	nc	Neutral		45.00	48.00	•	Kyle Menges	Report
Trivago NV (TRVG.O)	US\$	4.12	nc	Neutral		4.50	2.60	A	Ronald Josey	Report
Ulta Beauty Inc. (ULTA.O)	US\$	357.48	nc	Neutral		365.00	405.00	•	Kelly Crago, CFA	Report

nc = no change H = High Risk

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Source: Citi Research

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Appendix A-1

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	12 Mc	onth Rating	5	Catalyst Watch		
Data current as of 01 Jan 2025	Buy	Hold	Sell	Buy	Hold	Sell
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% of companies in each rating category that are investment banking clients	43%	44%	35%	47%	40%	42%

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