The return of growth



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Anthony Bolton September 2009

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Stock Market Outlook



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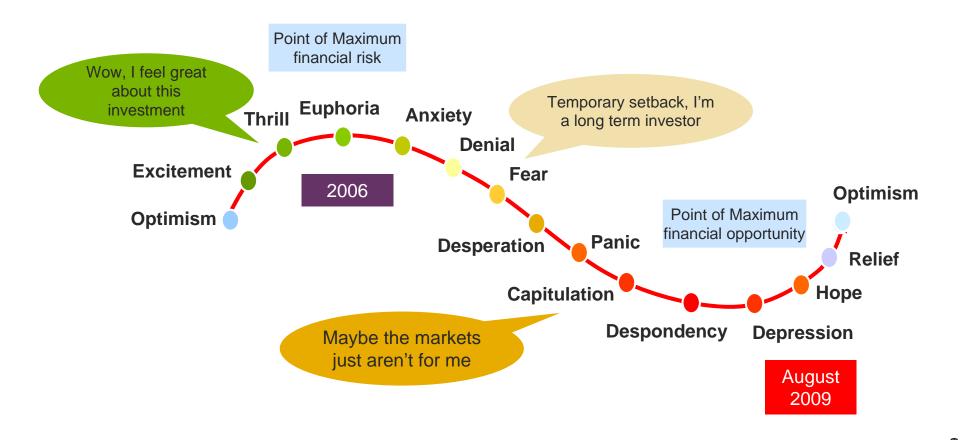
- Three things I focus on, particularly at turning points:
- 1. Historical cycles
- 2. Sentiment
- 3. Valuations
- One thing I don't focus on:
- 1. Economic outlook (Unprecedented financial crisis, matched by unprecedented Government action)



Sentiment is now improving from the lows



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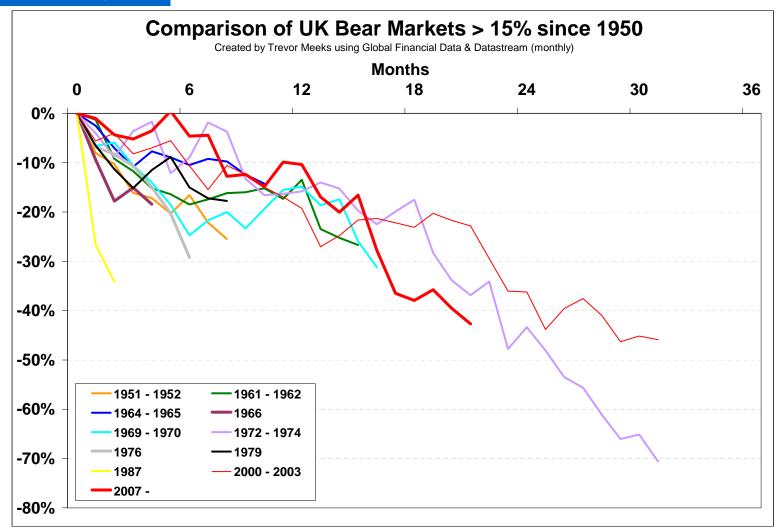


Source Westcore Funds / Denver Investment Advisors LLC, 1998



UK Bear markets – a historical view

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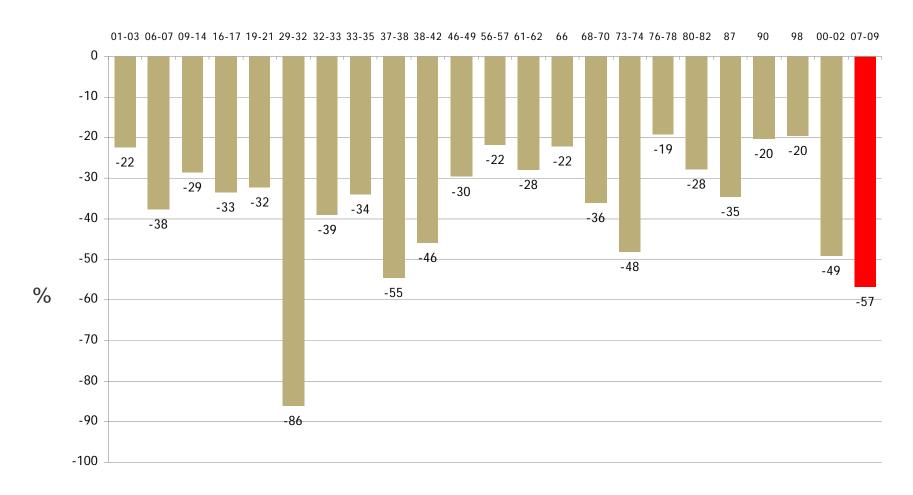
Source: Datastream, as at 27/02/2009



US Bear Markets: Since 1900



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Source: ASR Ltd./Thomson Reuters Datastream April 2009



Bull market gains may be front-end loaded



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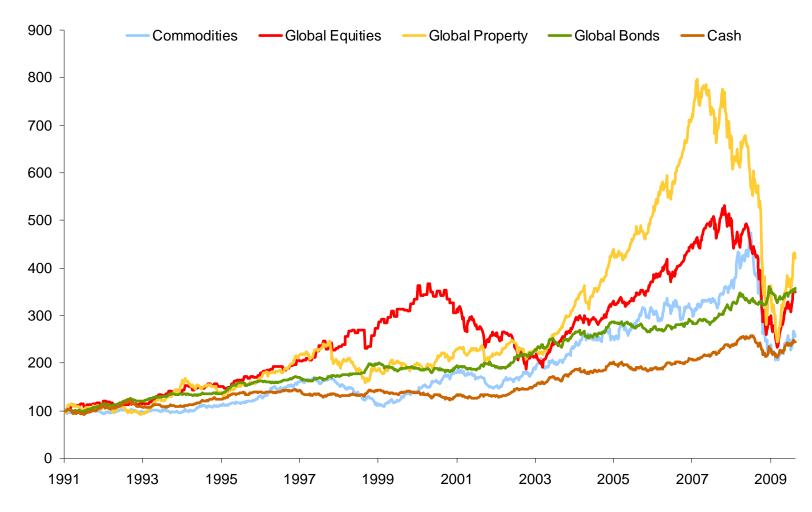




Asset class performance since 1991 Risk assets still attractive after the lost decade



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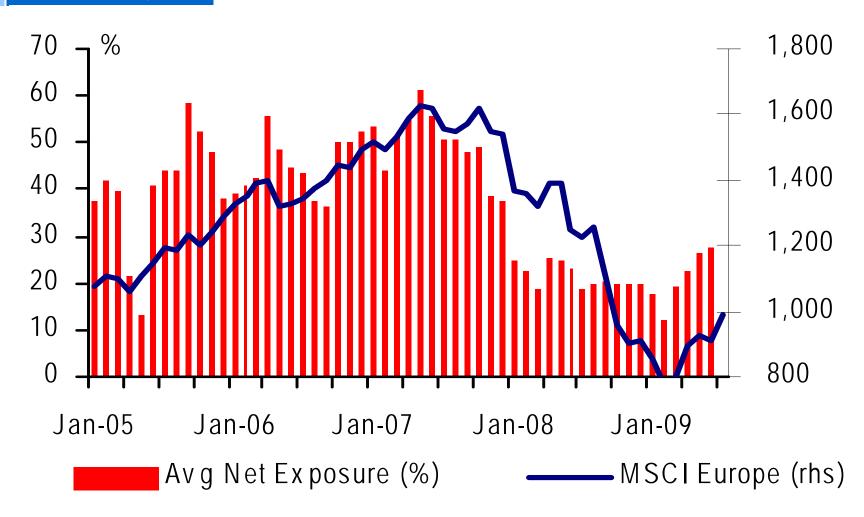
Source: Datastream as 19/08/2009



European Hedge Funds – Net Exposure



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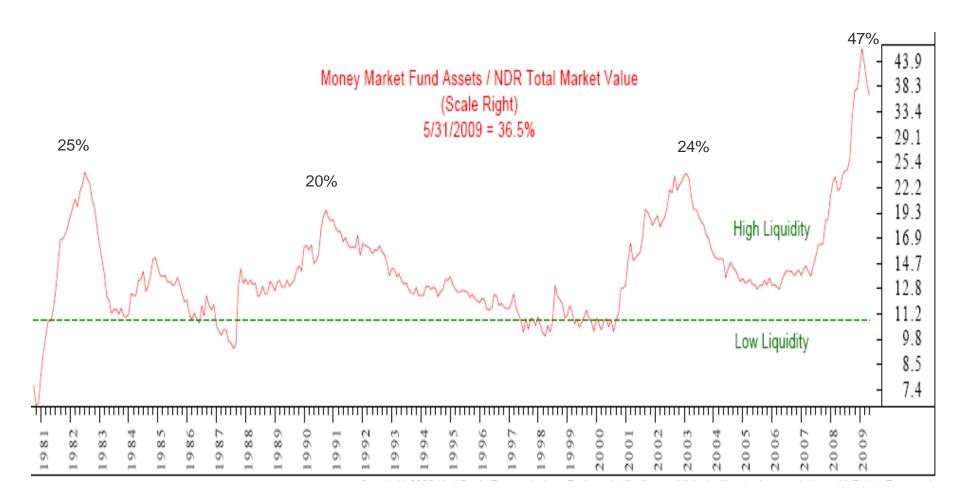
Source: UBS - Aug 2009



US Money Market Assets to Total Market Value



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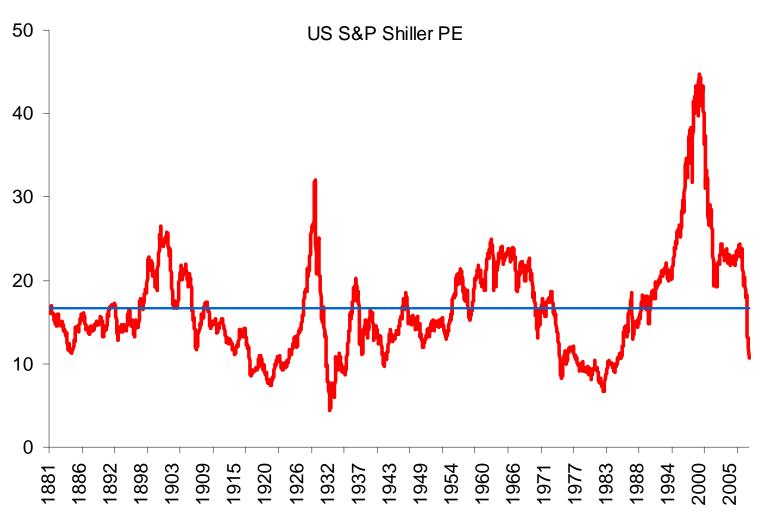
Source: Ned Davis Research May 2009



US Price Earnings multiple



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Source: Bloomberg, Stock Market Data Used in "Irrational Exuberance" Princeton University Press, 2000, 2005, updated, Morgan Stanley Research



Global Equity Price to Book Valuation



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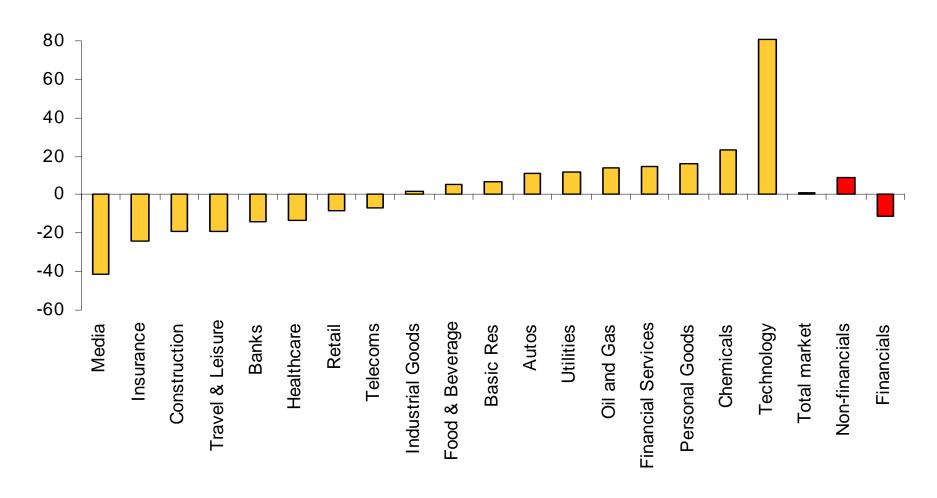
Source: Datastream, 19 August 2009



Price to book value versus the 1993 trough (Global)



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Source: Absolute Strategy Research August 2009



S&P Nominal Free Cash Flow Yields



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 $Source: Corporate\ Reports, Empirical\ Research\ Partners\ Analysis.$

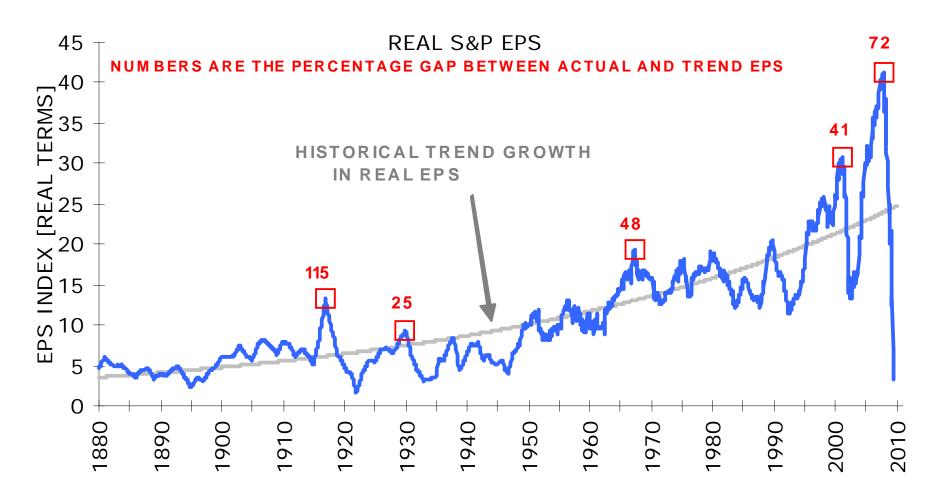


¹ Capitalization-weighted data.

Some of the cyclical sectors drove earnings way above trend – but are now well below trend



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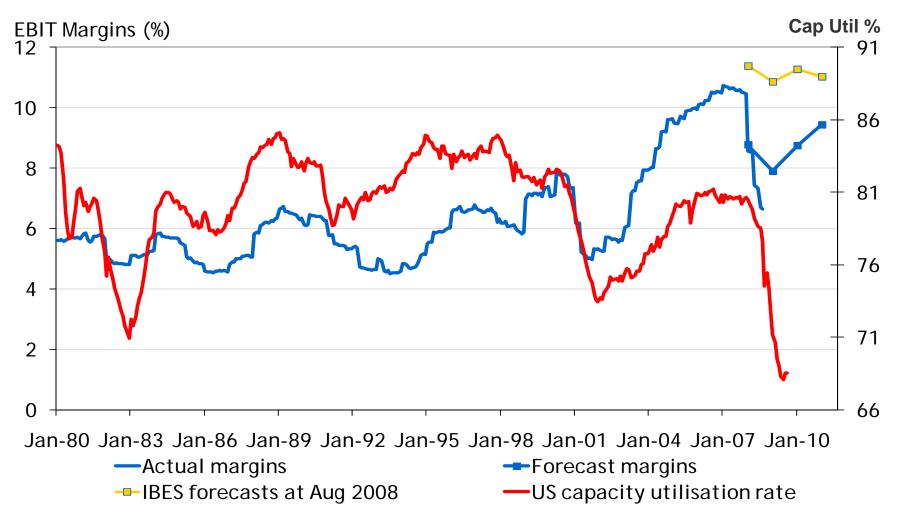
Source: Morgan Stanley Aug 2009



World industrial margins vs US Capacity utilisation



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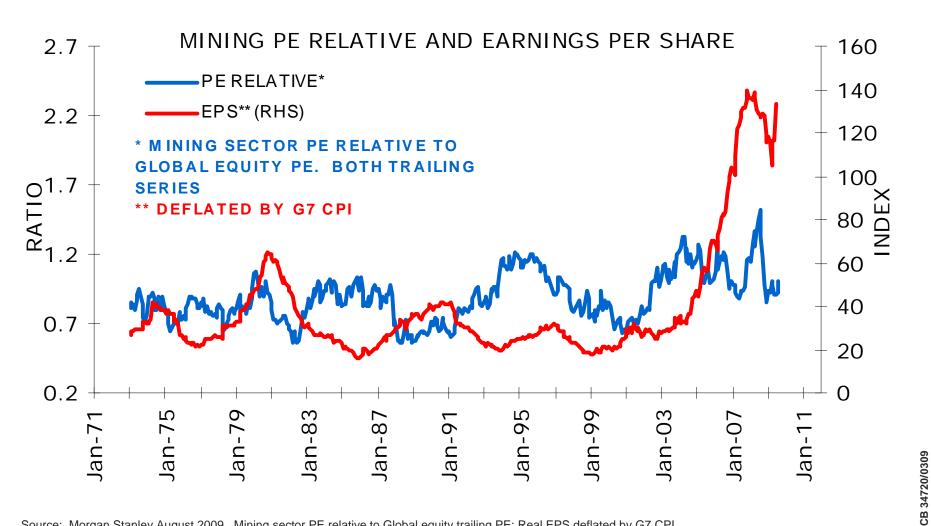


Source: ASR, Thomson Reuters Datastream August 2009



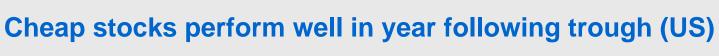
Mining - peak P/E on peak earnings

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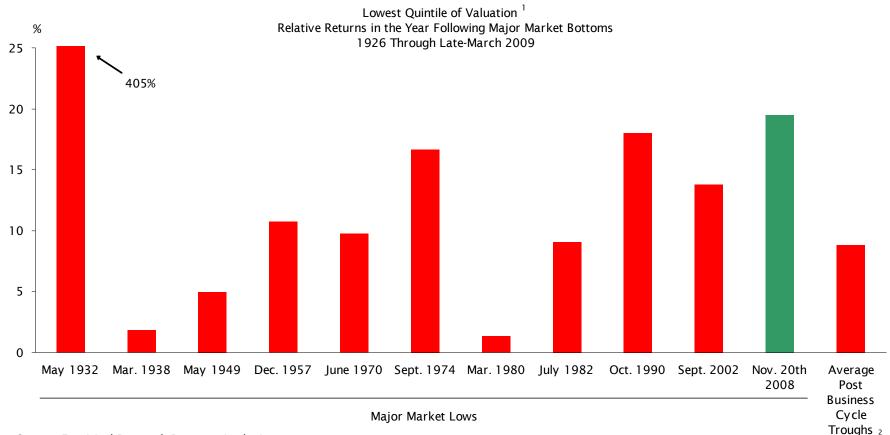
Source: Morgan Stanley August 2009. Mining sector PE relative to Global equity trailing PE; Real EPS deflated by G7 CPI







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Source: Empirical Research Partners Analysis.



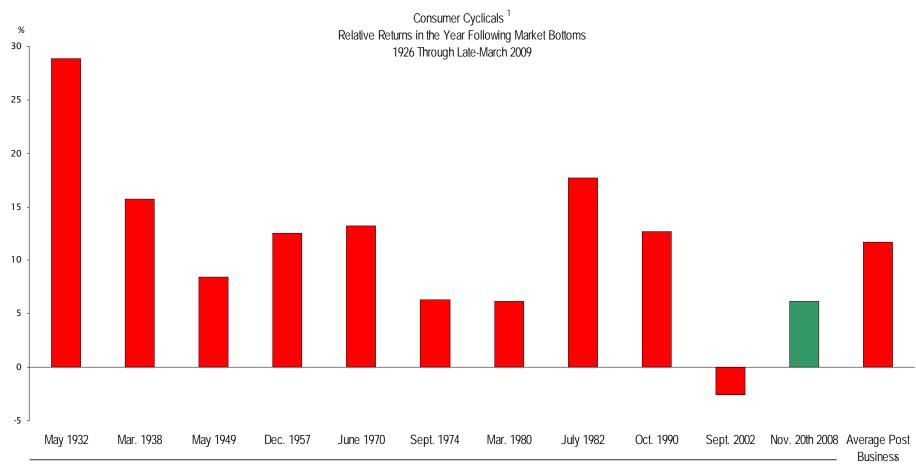
¹ Large-capitalization stocks; equally-weighted data based on a multivariate framework. Lowest quintile of price-to-book pre-1950.

² Average of 14 cycles.

Consumer cyclicals do well in the recovery (US)



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Source: Empirical Research Partners Analysis.

Major Market Lows Cycle Troughs

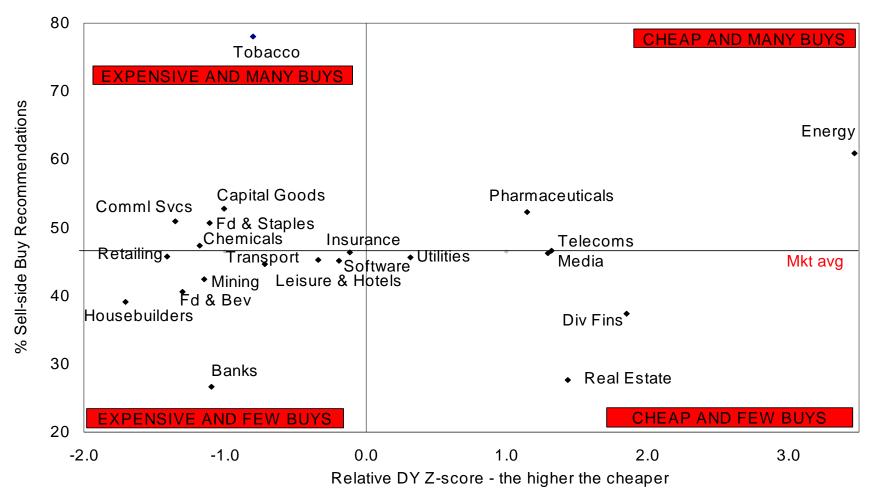


¹ Largest 1,500 stocks, capitalization-weighted data.

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Av erage of 14 cycles. Consumer cyclicals outperformed in 12 of them.

Cheap and unloved sectors – financials and TMT

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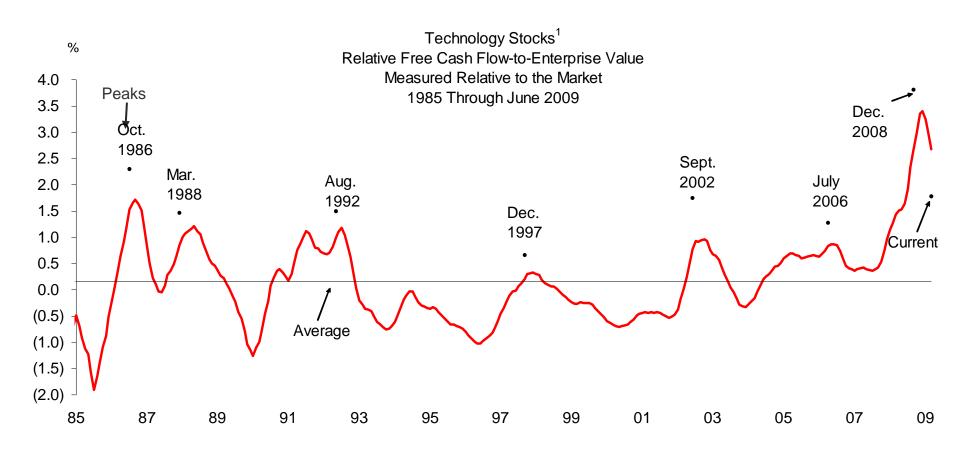
Source: Morgan Stanley Aug 2009 UK







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 $Source: Corporate\ Reports,\ Empirical\ Research\ Partners\ Analysis.$

Source: Empirical Research -June 2009



¹ Largest 1,500 stocks, capitalization- weighted data smoothed on a six- month basis.

Key risks



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- Leverage overhang
- **Higher interest rates**
- **Return of inflation**
- Regulation

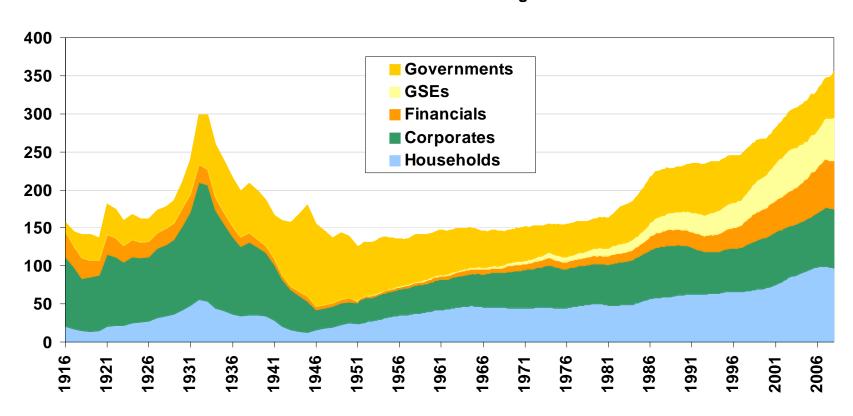


US system leverage



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US Credit Market Debt Outstanding To GDP %



Source: Federal Reserve, BEA, Haver, Morgan Stanley Research



Summary



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Where I would overweight

Technology

Consumer cyclicals

Value Stocks

Financials

Where I am cautious

Commodities

Industrial cyclicals

Shift from cyclicals to growth stocks over medium term



Summary



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- Bull market rally may be front-end loaded
- Valuations still attractive versus previous troughs
- Growth rates will differ markedly between sectors and regions
- True quality organic growth will be rewarded
- Never forget the stock market is an excellent discounting mechanism and is already reflecting an improvement



Compliance information



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