

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Is The Global Investment Boom Turning to Bust](#)

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Summary: In 2021 and 2022 firms in the S&P 500 index of large American firms spent \$2.5trn, equivalent to 5% of the country's GDP, on capex and R&D, a real-terms rise of around a fifth compared with 2018-19. An American capex "tracker" produced by Goldman Sachs, a bank, offers a picture of businesses' outlays, as well as hinting at future intentions. It is currently registering close to zero growth, year on year. A global tracker produced by JPMorgan Chase, another bank, also points to a sharp deceleration. The Economist analysed capital-spending data from 33 OECD countries. In the fourth quarter of last year capex fell by 1% from the previous quarter. Our analysis of the plans of around 700 big, listed American and European firms suggests real-terms spending will fall by 1% in 2023.

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