## **Quarterly Investment Update - April 2025**



HW Hewett Wealth

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## **Market Performance Review**

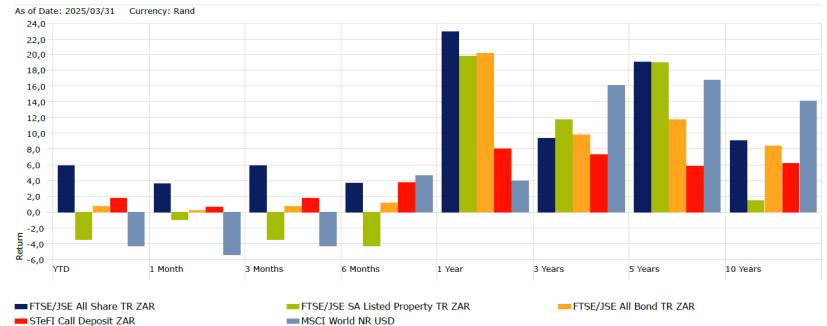
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## LOCAL MARKET PERFORMANCE (2025/03/31)

#### **Calendar Year Returns**

Data Point: Return								
	YTD	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
FTSE/JSE All Share TR ZAR	5,94	3,55	5,94	3,68	22,95	9,41	19,06	9,04
FTSE/JSE SA Listed Property TR ZAR	-3,51	-0,90	-3,51	-4,31	19,83	11,74	18,97	1,44
FTSE/JSE All Bond TR ZAR	0,70	0,19	0,70	1,13	20,16	9,83	11,73	8,41
STeFI Call Deposit ZAR	1,82	0,61	1,82	3,80	7,98	7,26	5,83	6,20
MSCI World NR ZAR	-4,28	-5,38	-4,28	4,65	3,96	16,15	16,81	14,16

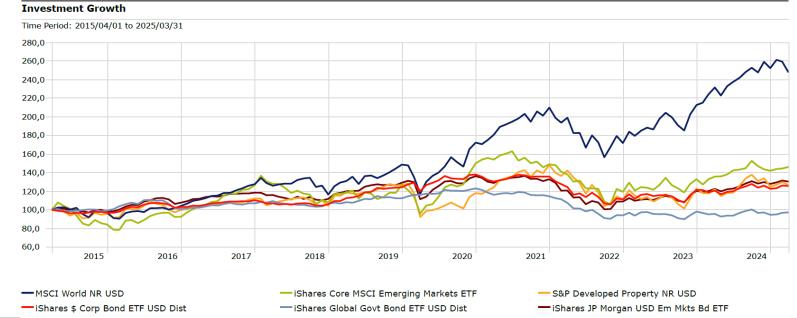
#### South African Market Returns (ZAR)



### **GLOBAL MARKET PERFORMANCE (2025/03/31)**

#### **International Market Returns**

Data Point: Return								
	YTD	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
MSCI World NR USD	-1,79	-4,45	-1,79	-1,95	7,04	7,58	16,13	9,50
iShares Core MSCI Emerging Markets ETF	2,85	1,16	2,85	-4,31	7,61	1,89	8,78	3,86
S&P Developed Property NR USD	1,52	-2,31	1,52	-7,97	3,95	-3,78	6,57	2,39
iShares \$ Corp Bond ETF USD Dist	2,43	-0,39	2,43	-1,69	4,14	0,31	0,90	2,30
iShares Global Govt Bond ETF USD Dist	2,78	0,55	2,78	-3,05	1,78	-3,25	-3,47	-0,28
iShares JP Morgan USD Em Mkts Bd ETF	2,00	-0,81	2,00	-0,29	6,39	2,60	3,19	2,68
USTREAS T-Bill Auction Ave 3 Mon	1,09	0,36	1,09	2,25	4,99	4,61	2,79	1,97



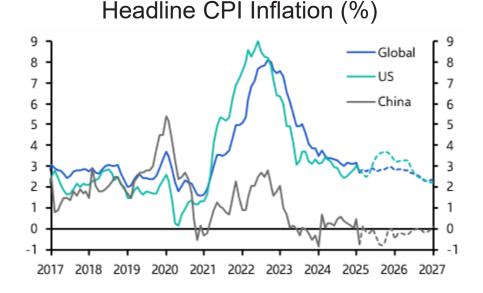


# Market Outlook

## **RATE CUTS**

Meanwhile, the global trend of disinflation will be less broad this year. A 10%-pt hike in the average US tariff rate will boost inflation there by a little under 1%-pt, though this price level change should drop out of the year-on-year comparison in 2026. Further falls in headline inflation in the euro-zone and Japan are likely to be matched by slight increases in inflation in many EMs outside Asia. China will remain the global outlier, with excess capacity keeping inflation stuck just below zero.

Slower disinflation and upside risks from tariff escalation and higher defence spending will mean that central banks tread carefully. Most will continue cutting rates, but the depth of the rate cuts will be reduced compared to 2024. In fact, the Fed will refrain from cuts until price pressures subside in 2026. And sustained 2% core inflation will give the Bank of Japan the green light to continue hiking.



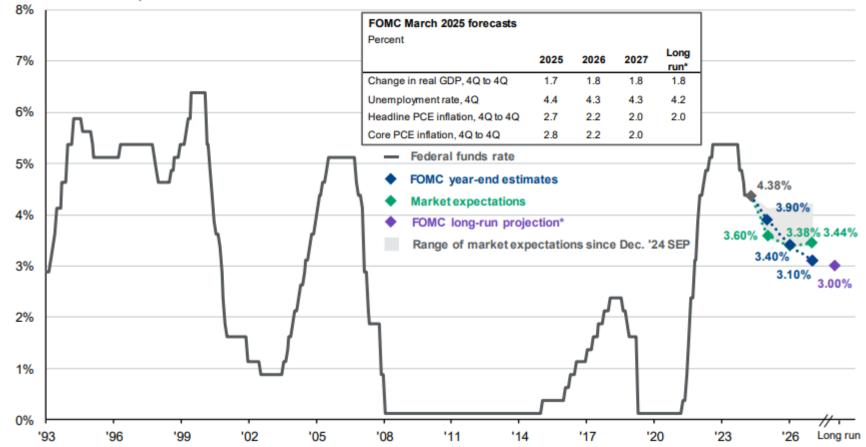
Policy Interest Rates (%)



## **RATE CUTS**

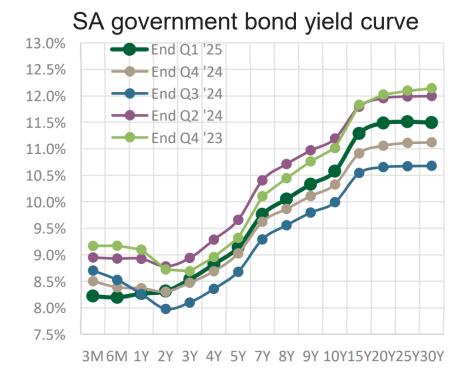
#### Federal funds rate expectations

FOMC and market expectations for the federal funds rate



### **SOUTH AFRICA BONDS**

SA bonds returned +0.7% this quarter, lagging SA cash at +1.8% amid geopolitical volatility. The SA 10-year bond yield closed at 10.6%, offering a strong real return versus 3.2% inflation.Cash remains attractive, with 12-month NCDs yielding 8.1%—a 4.9% real return. We continue to favour cash and money markets while maintaining some long-duration exposure.SA bonds appear fairly valued, but political risks (e.g., potential GNU instability) could push yields higher. Yield curve shifts reflect rising long-end yields on budget concerns and falling short-end rates after the repo cut.



US & SA 10-year government bond yields

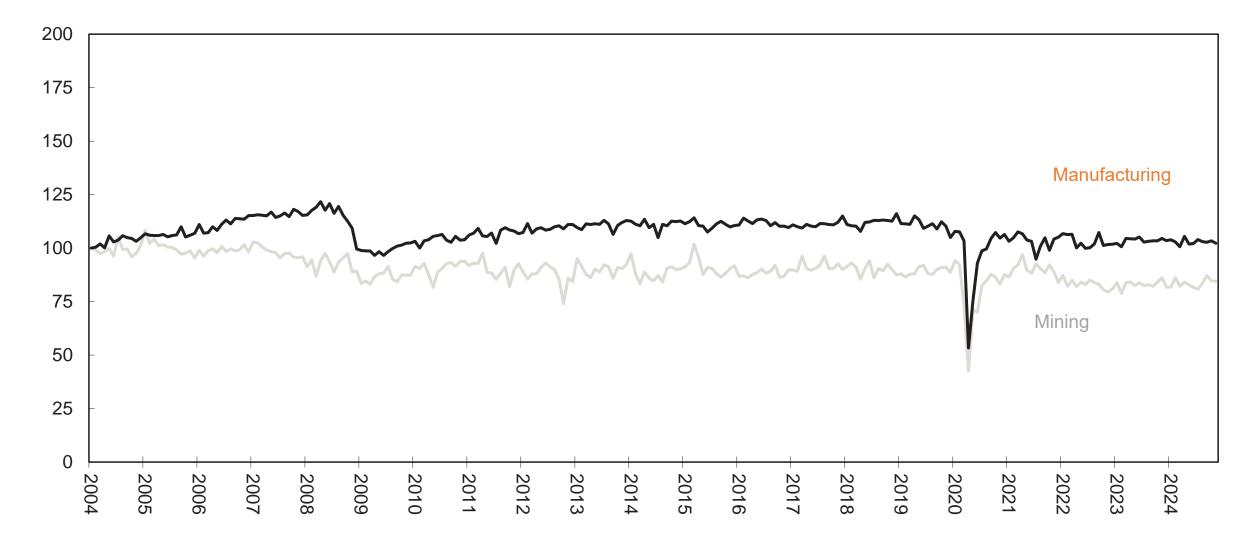


### SOUTH AFRICA EQUITY

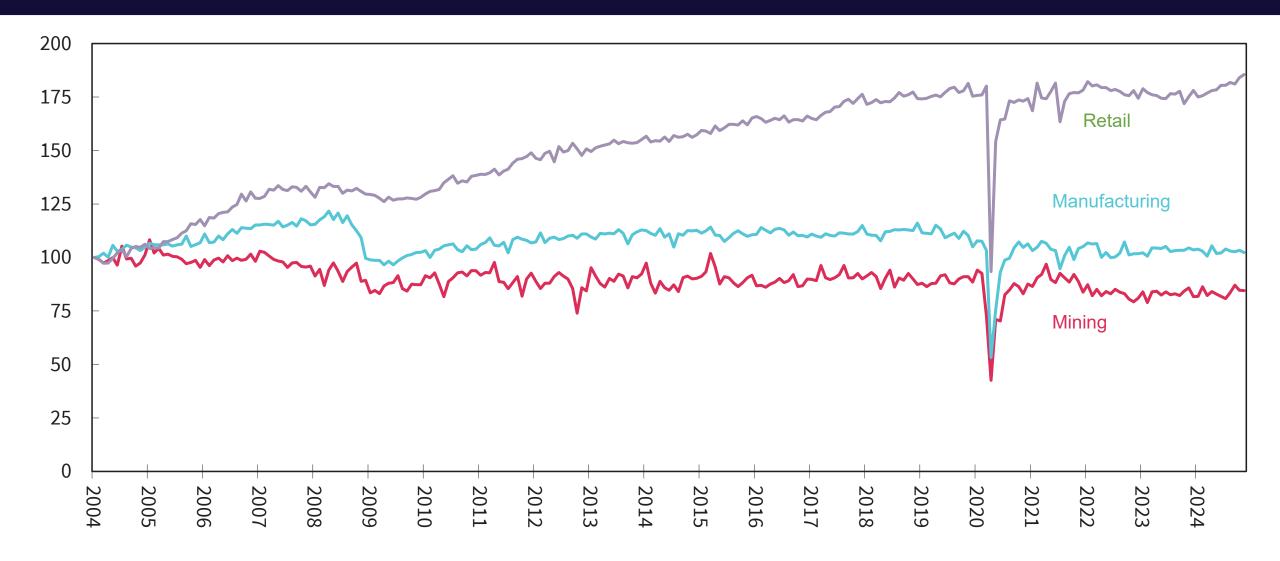
While mid- and small-cap SA stocks rallied last year, large caps have led in 2025, returning +8.5% vs. -7.1% for small caps and +0.1% for mid-caps. The JSE All Share Index returned 5.9% for the quarter, driven largely by precious metals miners—especially gold stocks—boosted by higher gold prices. Excluding this sector, the broader market delivered negative returns. Global assets within domestic portfolios have detracted year-to-date amid US tariff-driven selloffs. Three key risks to SA equity outlook: 1) rising geopolitical tensions, 2) Trump-era policy volatility and SA-US trade strain, and 3) domestic coalition instability. The latter two materialised recently, weighing on equity performance. Despite global growth concerns, SA companies remain resilient—supported by strong balance sheets, experienced management, low valuations, and solid cash returns to shareholders.



#### SA MINING AND MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION INDEX

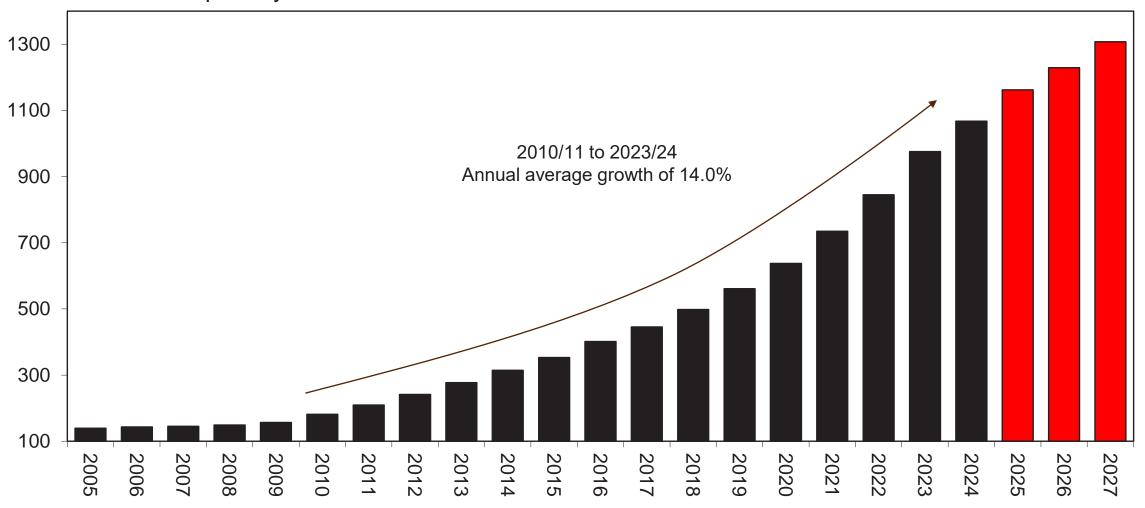


#### SA MINING, MANUFACTURING AND RETAIL ACTIVITY

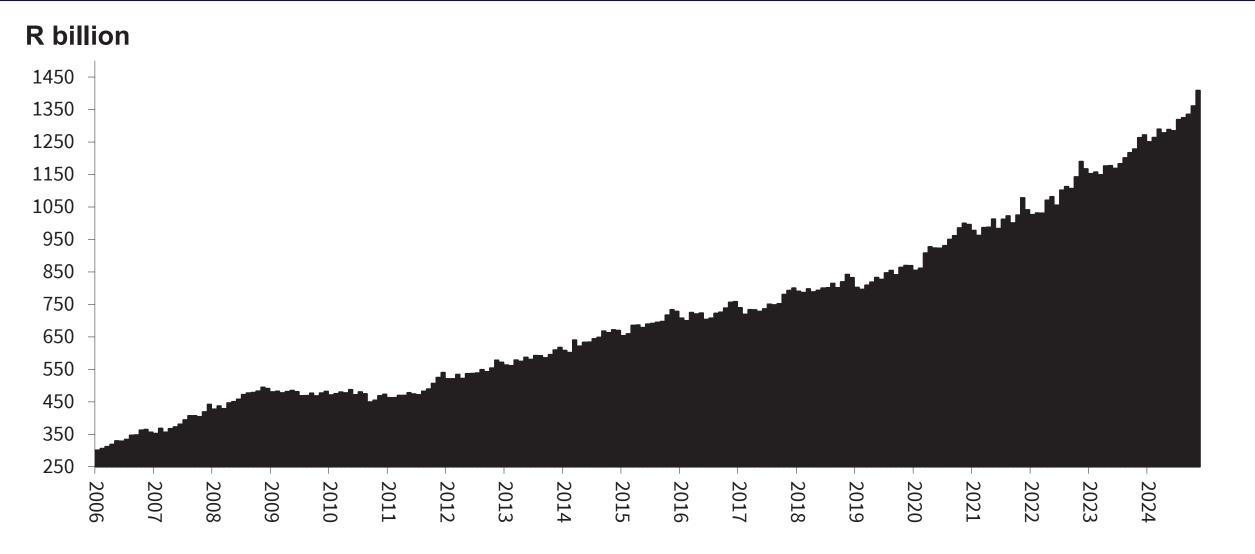


#### DAILY INTEREST COST OF SA GOVERNMENT DEBT

Rand million per day

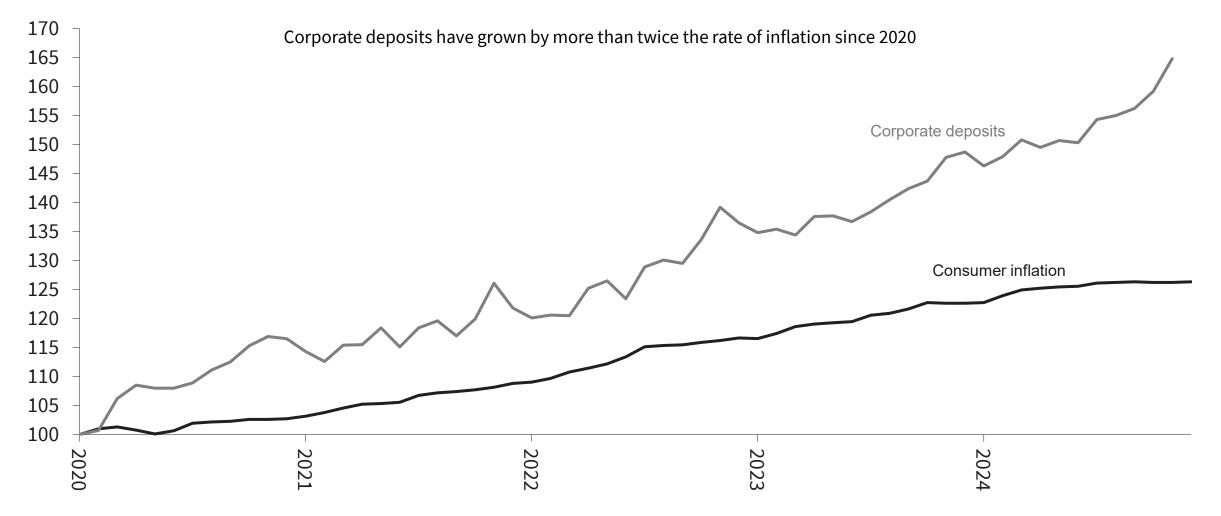


### SOUTH AFRICA CORPORATE (NON-FINANCIAL) DEPOSITS

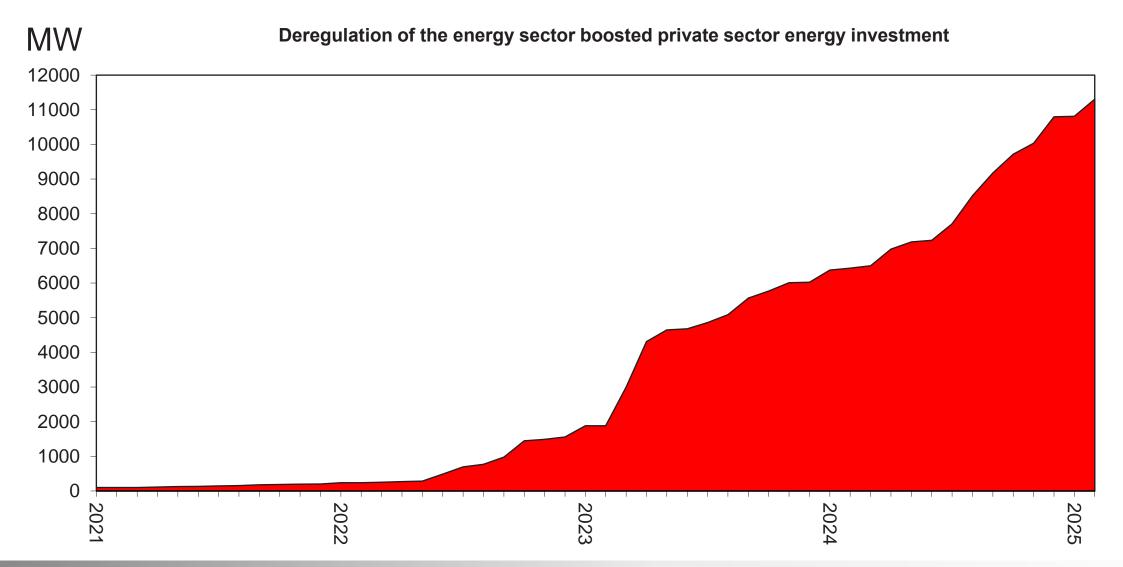


# SOUTH AFRICA CORPORATE DEPOSIT (NON-FINANCIAL) VS INFLATION

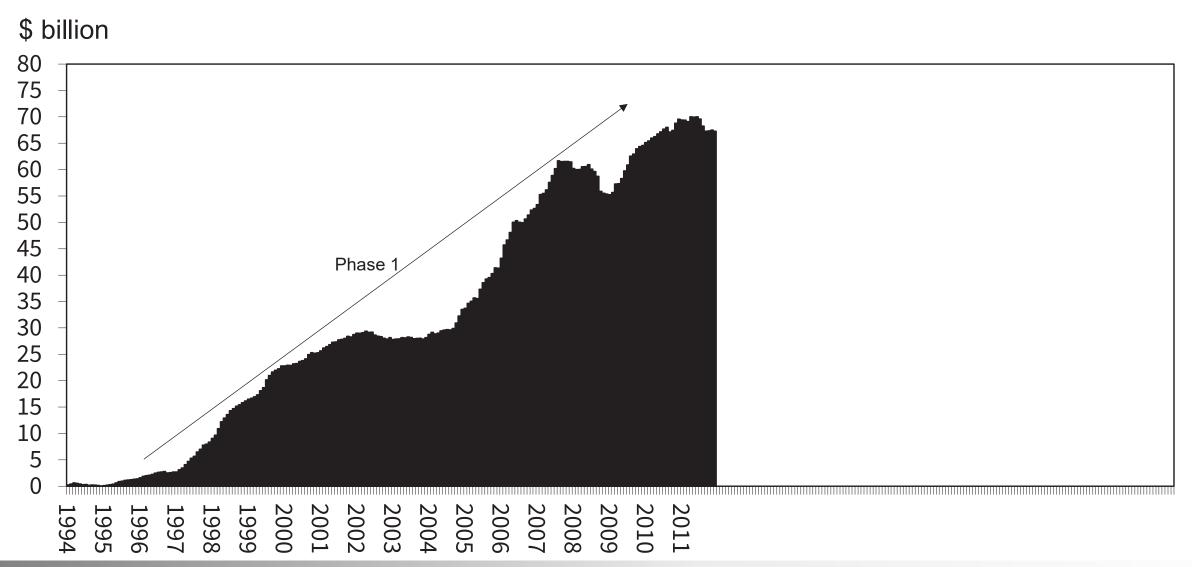
Index, Jan 2020 = 100



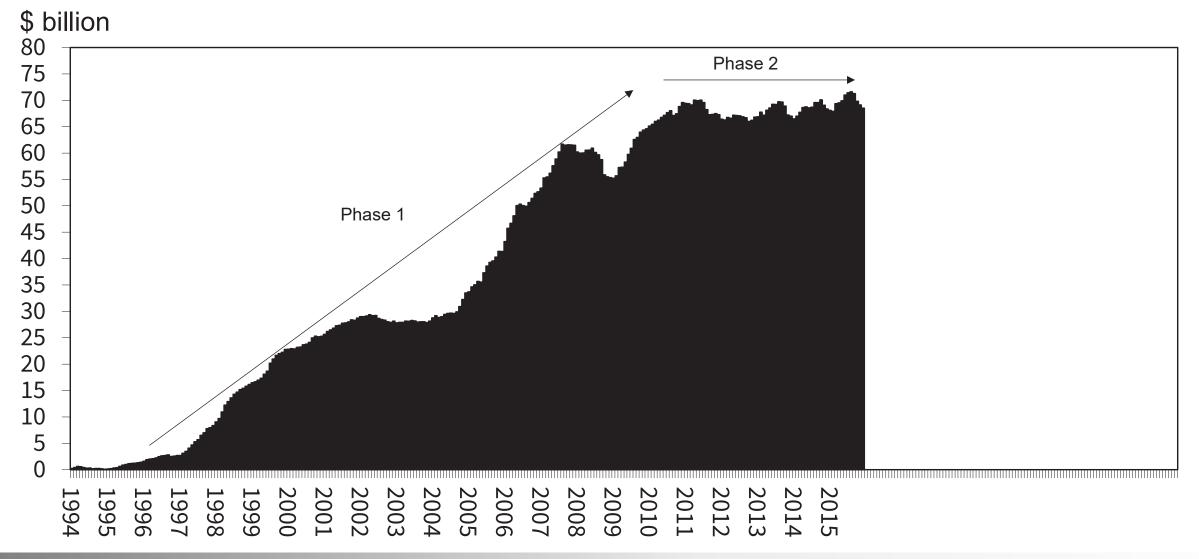
# SA PRIVATE SECTOR ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION (MOSTLY SOLAR ENERGY)



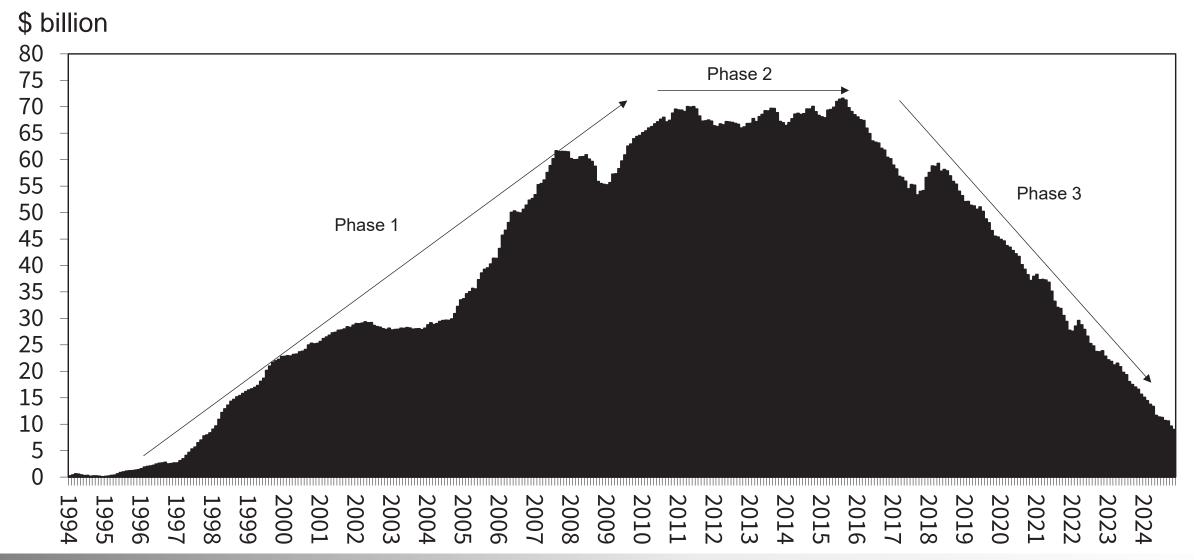
#### **NET CUMULATIVE FOREIGN BUYING OF SA EQUITIES**



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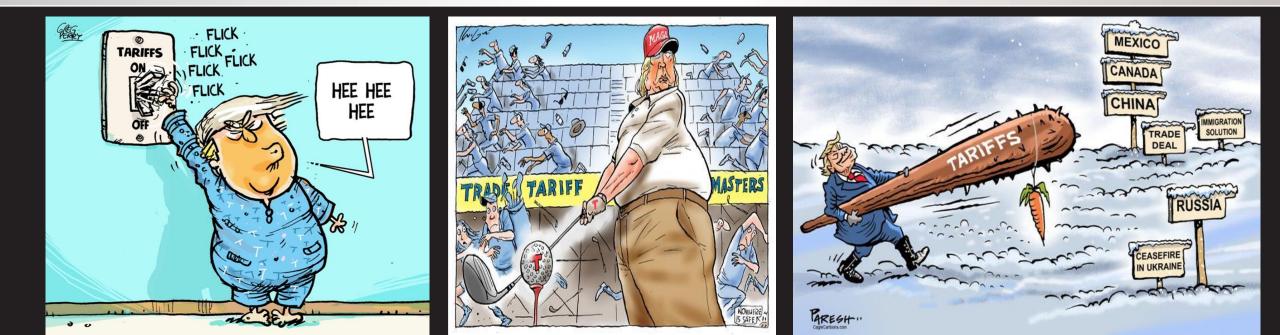


#### **NET CUMULATIVE FOREIGN BUYING OF SA EQUITIES**





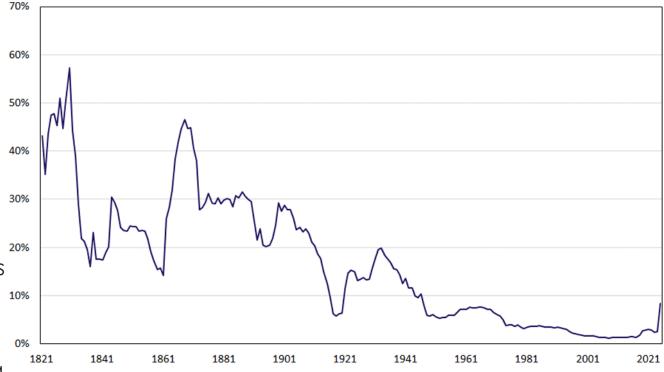
## **TRUMP TARIFFS**



## **A BIT OF HISTORY ON TARIFFS**

Historically, the U.S. relied heavily on tariffs — often exceeding 30 percent — as its primary source of federal revenue from the nation's founding until the introduction of income taxes in 1913. During this early period, these high tariffs also served to protect emerging industries through a strategy called import substitution. After World War II, international trade agreements like the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade significantly reduced tariffs globally from an average of around 20 percent in 1947 to below 5 percent following the Uruguay Round in 1994. The globalization movement of the 1980s and 1990s further accelerated tariff reductions, culminating in the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1995. Since then, tariffs among WTO member countries have generally remained around 2.5 percent, reinforcing greater global economic interconnectedness.

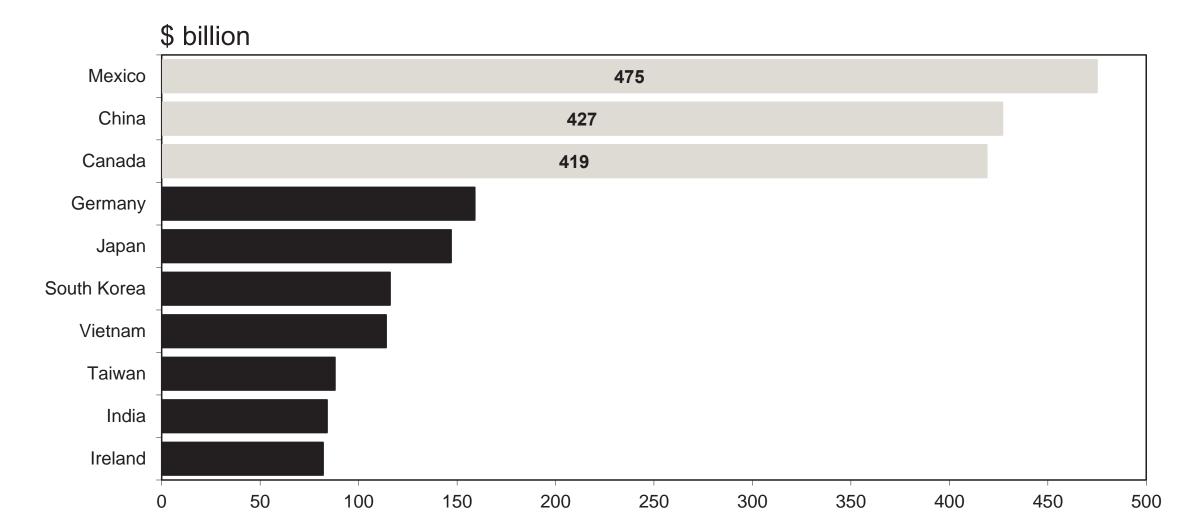
#### Figure 2: Historical Tariff Rates



Notes: This figure uses data made publicly available for download from the Tax Foundation. Shown are the average tariff rates for the period 1890-2023, the projected rate for 2024 and the estimated rate for 2025 under currently imposed tariffs. Tariff revenue estimate uses and elasticity of -0.997 and a noncompliance rate of 8 percent.

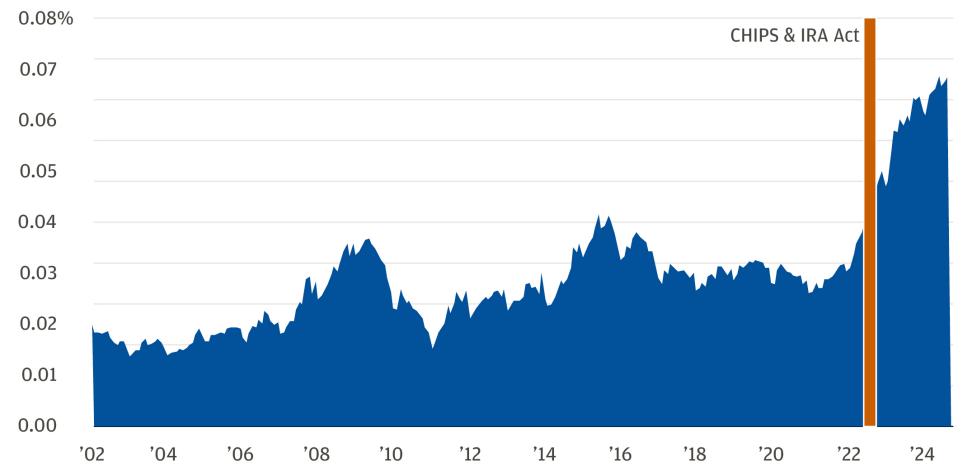
Sources: Census Bureau's *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970, Part II*;, US Trade Commission, "U.S. imports for consumption, duties collected, and ratio of duties to values, 1891-2023, (Table 1); and Tax Foundation calculations via the March 25, 2025 article "Trump Tariffs: Tracking the Economic Impact of the Trump Trade War."

## **US IMPORTS BY COUNTRY IN 2023**



### SPENDING ON U.S. MANUFACTURING PLANTS HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED SINCE 2019

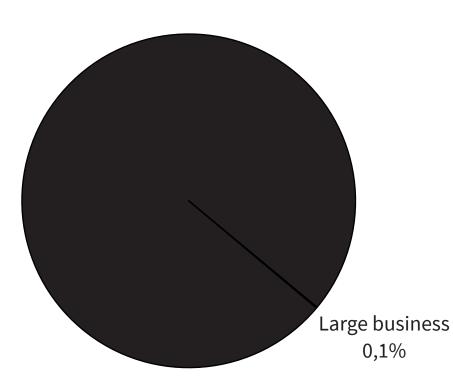
Construction spending on manufacturing, % of GDP

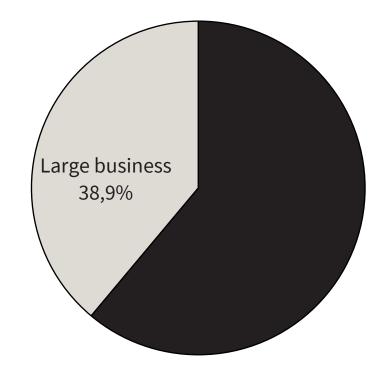


#### **BREAKDOWN OF US BUSINESS: SMALL VS LARGE BUSINESS**

Percent

Number of businesses 34.8 million small business vs 19 688 large businesses Job growth since 1995 Since 1995 small business has created 61.1% of US jobs

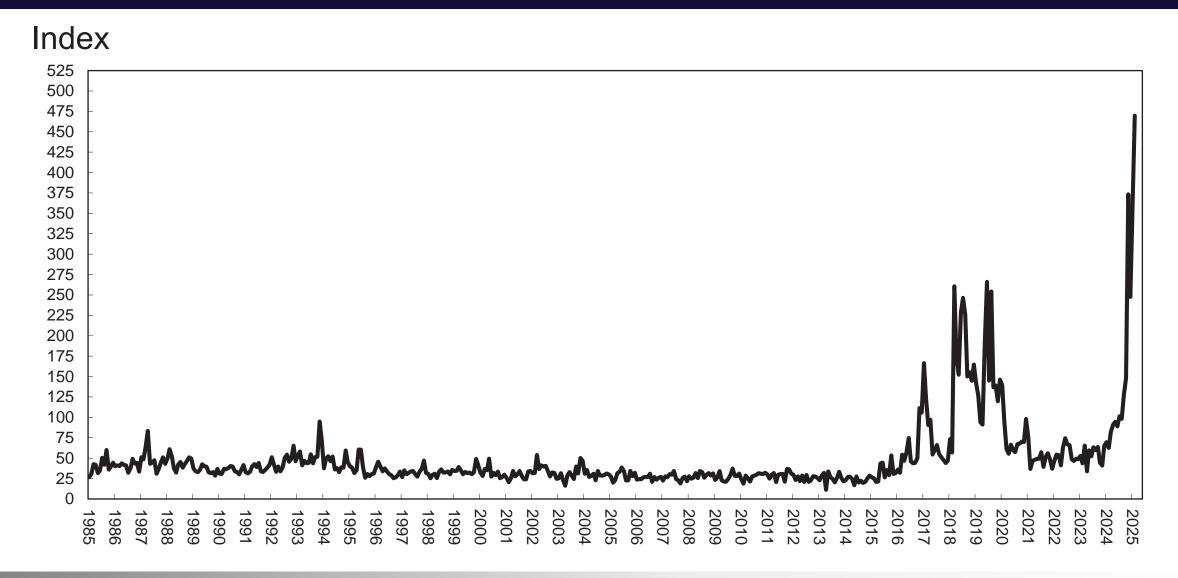




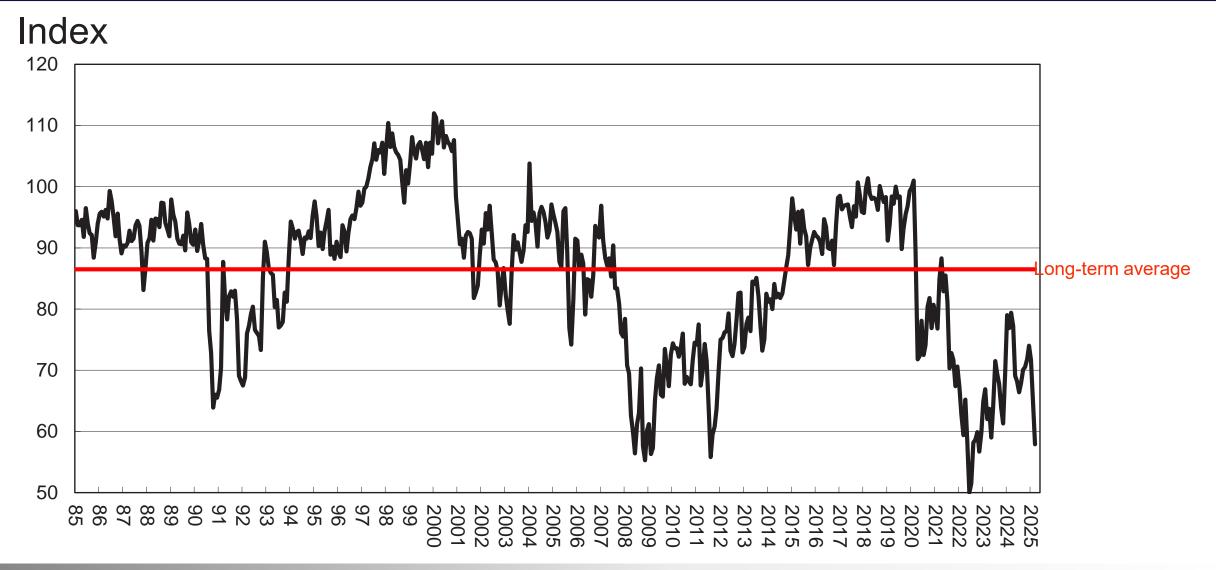
### US SMALL BUSINESS CONFIDENCE: BUSINESS CONDITIONS NEXT 6 MONTHS



### **US TRADE POLICY UNCERTAINTY (MONTHLY DATA)**

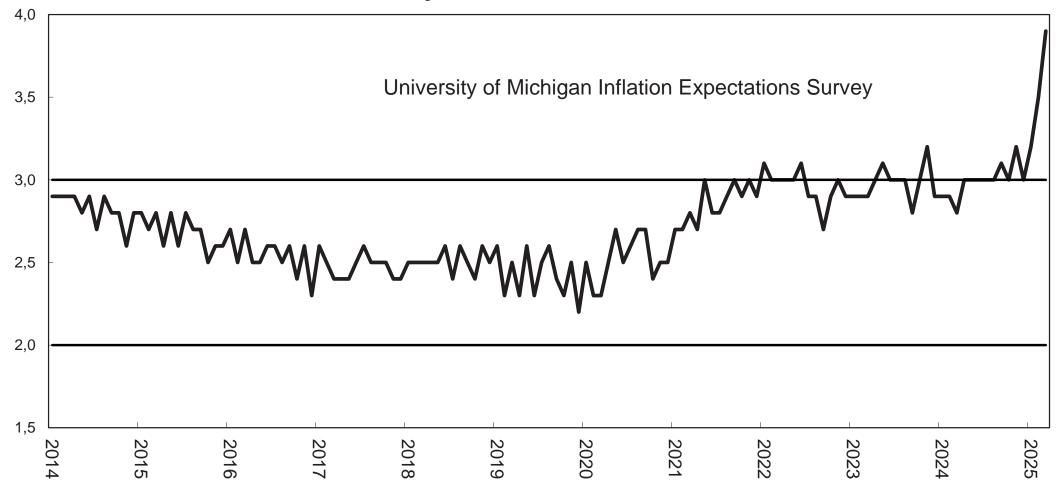


#### **US CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN)**



#### **US HOUSEHOLD INFLATION EXPECTATIONS IN 5 TO 10 YEARS**

#### Inflation rate in 5 to 10 years

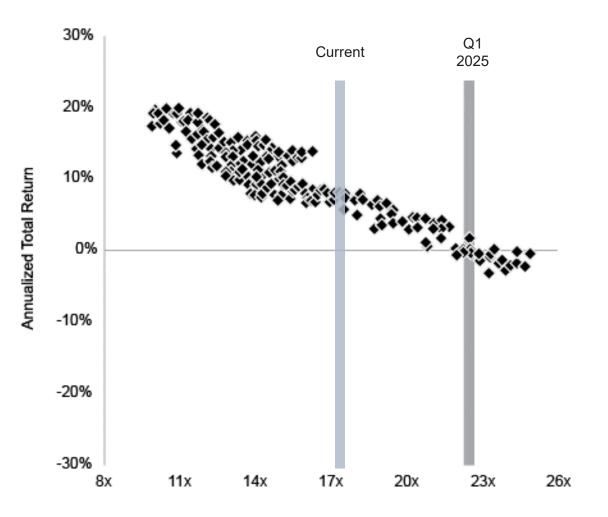


## **EXPECTED EQUITY RETURNS**

S&P FWD. P/E is elevated by historical standards.

History suggests the US Equity market will deliver low total returns over the next decade.

S&P 500 forward P/E ratios and subsequent 10-year returns



## **Asset Allocation**

## NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY WITH <u>A D</u>EFENSIVE TILT

Asset Classes	Tactical View Q1 2025	Tactical View Q2 2025
SA Income		
SA Equity		
SA Property		
SA Bonds		
DM Equity		
EM Equity		
Global Bonds		
Global Cash		
ZAR/USD		

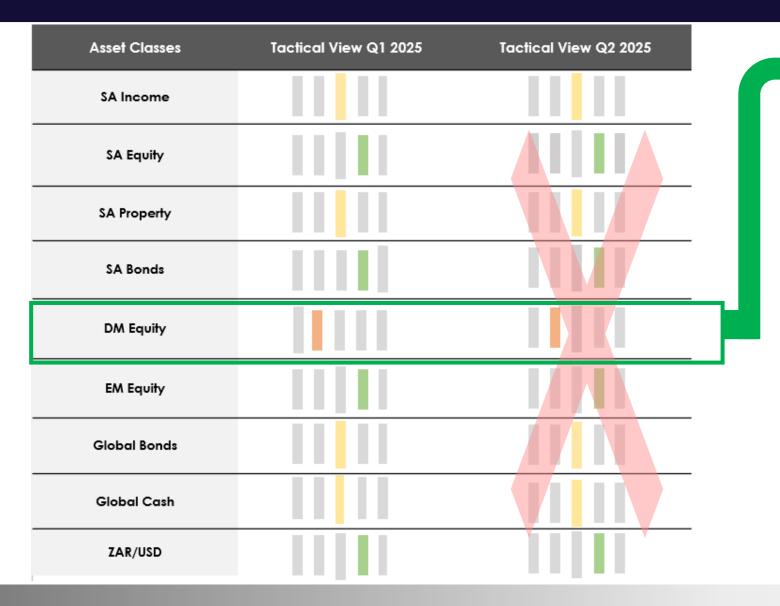


## NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY WITH A DEFENSIVE TILT

Asset Classes	Tactical View Q1 2025	Tactical View Q2 2025
SA Income		
SA Equity		
SA Property		
SA Bonds		
DM Equity		
EM Equity		
Global Bonds		
Global Cash		
ZAR/USD		



## NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY WITH A DEFENSIVE TILT



#### **Defensive Positioning**



Rafael Nadal (left) sent Roger Federer packing in their first career match.

On March 28, 2004, a 17-year-old Spaniard named Rafael Nadal introduced himself to the world by defeating No. 1 Roger Federer 6-3, 6-3 in the third round of the NASDAQ-100 Open. The surprising 70-minute victory for the 34th-ranked player in the world kick-started a 10-year rivalry that has spanned 33 meetings, including eight Grand Slam finals and perhaps the greatest match of all time, the 2008 Wimbledon final.

## NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY WITH A DEFENSIVE TILT

Asset Classes	Tactical View Q1 2025	Tactical View Q2 2025				
SA Income				Defer	nsive Positio	ning
SA Equity						
SA Property						
SA Bonds						
DM Equity						
EM Equity			Fund Allocation	Reweighted Allocation	Passive\Active	Fund Name
			- 16,50%	62,26%	62,26%	Satrix MSCI World Index
Global Bonds			5,00%	18,87%	37,74%	Fairtree Global Equity Prescient Feedr
Global Cash			5,00%	18,87%		BCI Ranmore Global Value Equity Fund
ZAR/USD			26,50%	100,00%	100,00%	

## **Solution Process**

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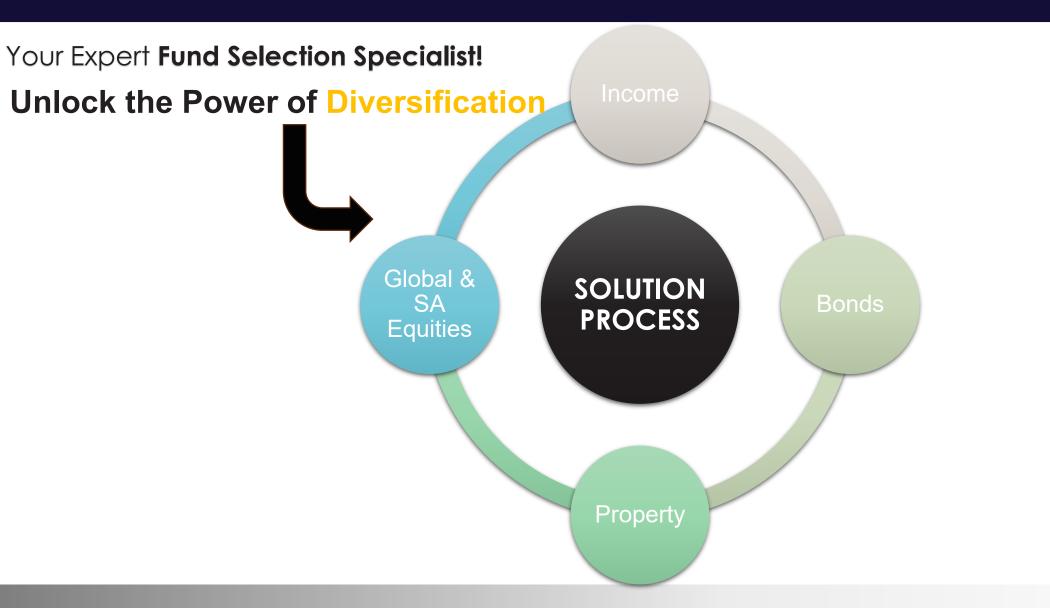
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## **SOLUTION PROCESS**



## **SOLUTION PROCESS**

Methodical Systematic Fund Selection Specialist

**Three Phase Process** 

Passive & Active Selection Blend

Global & SA Equities

## **PROCESS**

				0/0 0/11	Phase 1 A	noucl et					
Fund	2012/12/3	81 2013/12/31	2014/12/31	2015/12/31	2016/12/31	2017/12/31	2018/12/31	2019/12/31	2020/12/31	2021/09/30	Average
		-	47	7 40	8	12	1	2	6	6	5,
		1	29 56	5 29	50	7	12	4	1	3	5
		28	6 35	5 21	19	3	8	6	7	4	5
		29	9 7	2 2	1	11	3	8	14	11	9
		9	7 15	5 12	16	9	11	7	8	15	10
		7	3 13	3 3	10	5	9	16	11	12	10
		80 3	39 15	20	6	10	5	15	16	9	11
		-	-	35	58	15	21	3	12	10	12
		2	1 1	1	2	2	7	13	27	19	13
		-	-	60	55	24	26	14	3	2	13
		3 1	11 11	6	4	8	10	11	17	26	14
Fund 12			34	46	20	18	14	5	22	13	14

Rolling Returns (Descending Rank)

Ioling Window: 3 Years 1 Month shift Calculation Benchmark: Satrix Alsi Index A3

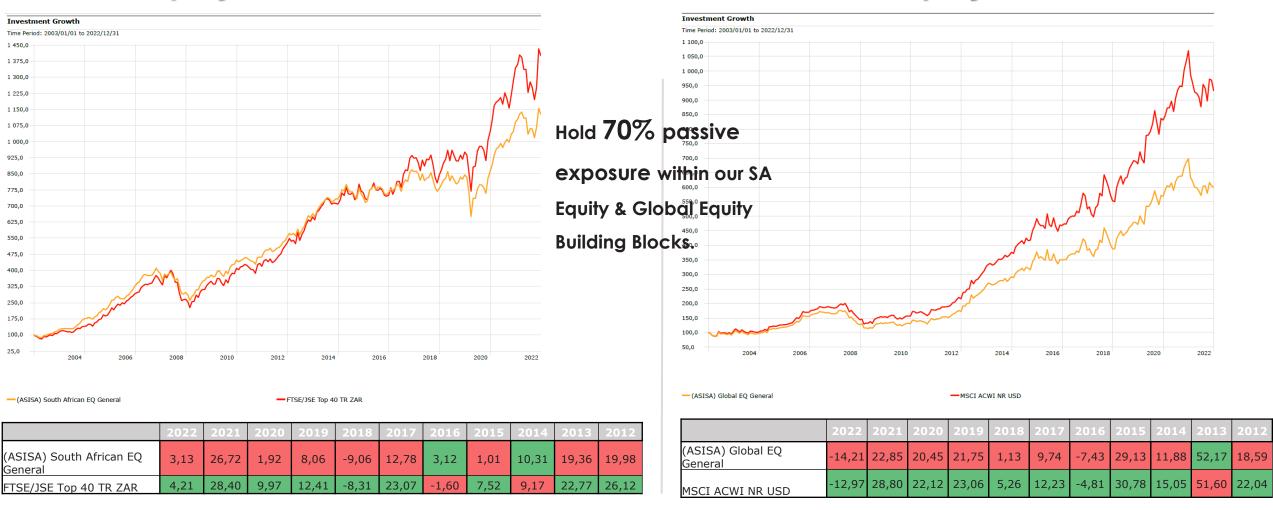




# **SOLUTION PROCESS**

## **SA Equity Passive Selection**

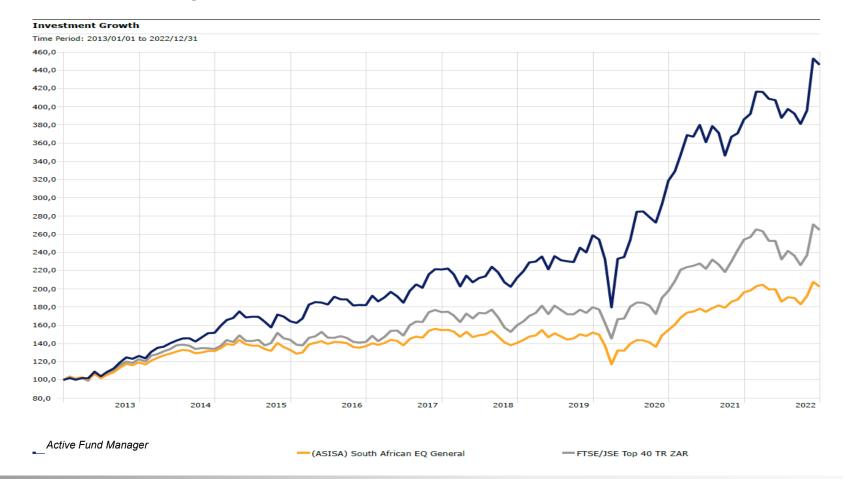
## **Global Equity Passive**

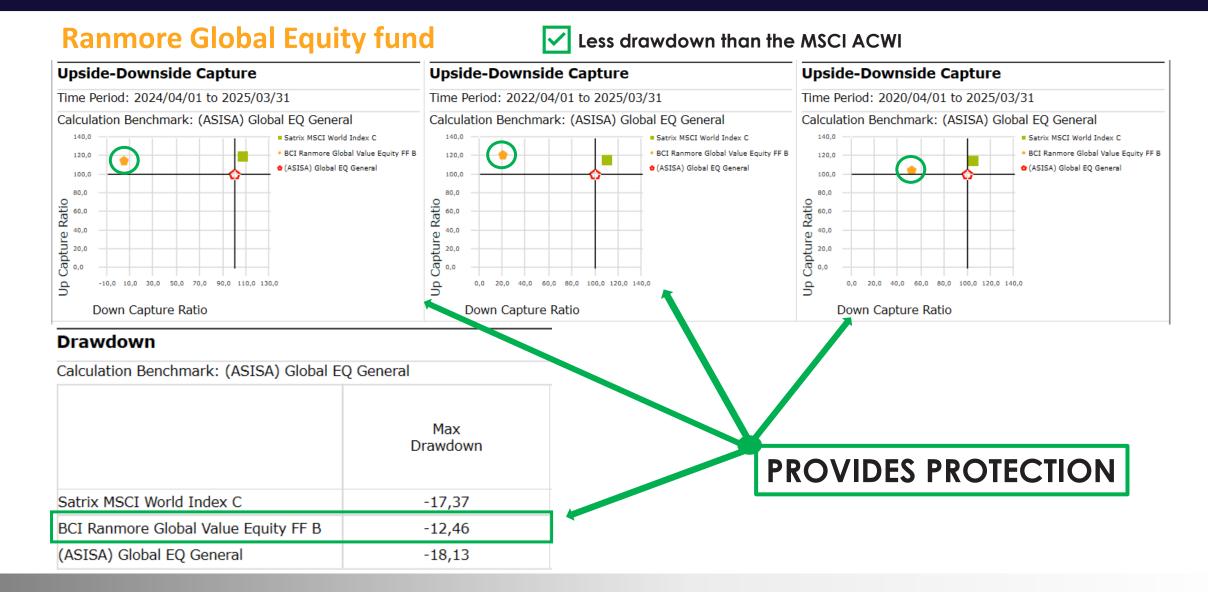


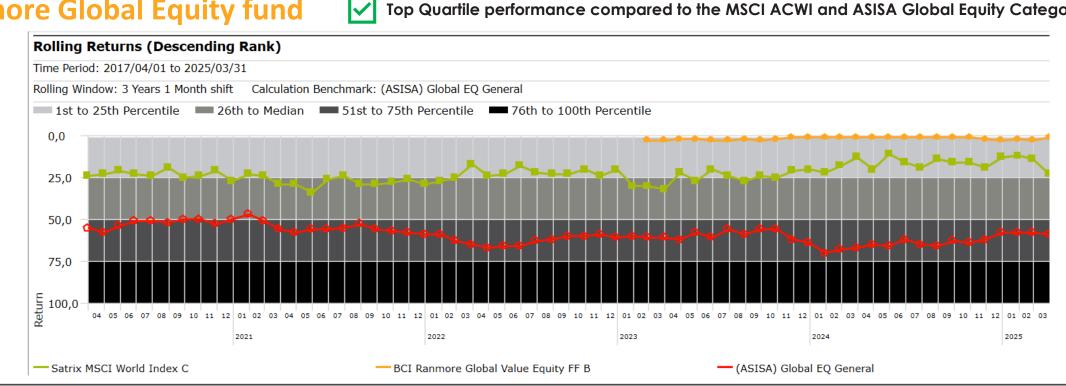
## **SOLUTION PROCESS**

## **SA Active Selection**

Why invest 30% in active managers when Passive funds perform better?







## **Ranmore Global Equity fund**

Top Quartile performance compared to the MSCI ACWI and ASISA Global Equity Category

#### **Calendar Year Returns**

Data Point: Return Calculation Benchmark: (ASISA) Global EQ General											
	YTD	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Satrix MSCI World Index C	-4,25	22,36	33,00	-12,74	32,13	20,71	23,85	5,06	10,49	-5,73	31,91
BCI Ranmore Global Value Equity FF B	9,38	15,39	39,39	8 <mark>,</mark> 94	33,89	_	_	_	_	_	_
(ASISA) Global EQ General	-2,61	15,96	27,64	-14,20	22,85	20,45	21,75	1,13	9,74	-7,43	29,13

## **Ranmore Global Equity fund**

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The same degree of risk compared to growth funds but provides higher returns

5 Years

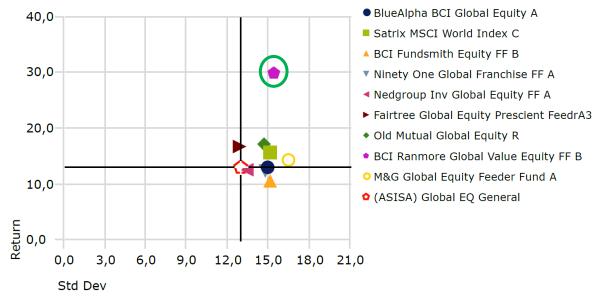
**Risk-Reward** 

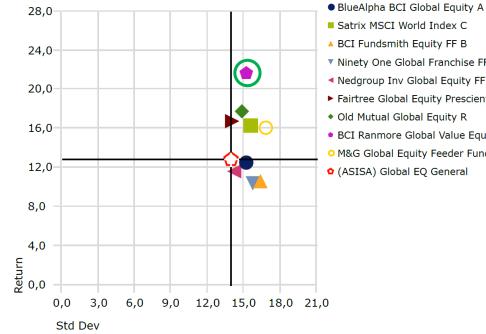
#### 3 Years

#### **Risk-Reward**

Time Period: 2022/04/01 to 2025/03/31

#### Calculation Benchmark: (ASISA) Global EQ General





Calculation Benchmark: (ASISA) Global EQ General

Satrix MSCI World Index C BCI Fundsmith Equity FF B Ninety One Global Franchise FF A Nedgroup Inv Global Equity FF A ► Fairtree Global Equity Prescient FeedrA3 Old Mutual Global Equity R • BCI Ranmore Global Value Equity FF B • M&G Global Equity Feeder Fund A (ASISA) Global EQ General

## **Ranmore Global Equity fund**

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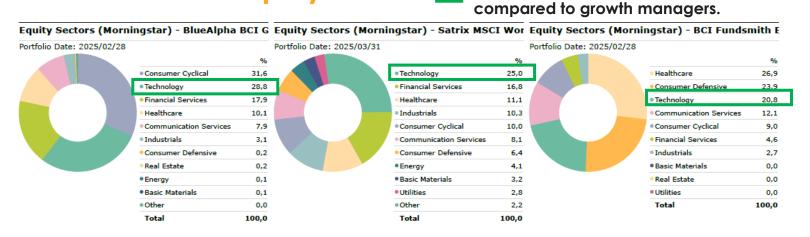
The Least Correlated to growth fund manages – Diversification Benefits

Correlation Matrix										
Time Period: 2022/04/01 to 2025/03/	31									
	BlueAlpha BCI Global Equity A	Satrix MSCI World Index C	BCI Fundsmith Equity FF B	Ninety One Global Franchise FF A	Nedgroup Inv Global Equity FF A	Fairtree Global Equity Prescient FeedrA3	Old Mutual Global Equity R	BCI Ranmore Global Value Equity FF B	M&G Global Equity Feeder Fund A	(ASISA) Global EQ General
BlueAlpha BCI Global Equity A	1,00									
Satrix MSCI World Index C	0,92	1,00								
BCI Fundsmith Equity FF B	0,86	0,86	1,00							
Ninety One Global Franchise FF A	0,89	0,91	0,87	1,00						
Nedgroup Inv Global Equity FF A	0,92	0,87	0,83	0,88	1,00					
Fairtree Global Equity Prescient Feedra	A3 0,87	0,86	0,76	0,83	0,84	1,00				
Old Mutual Global Equity R	0,95	0,95	0,81	0,91	0,89	0,88	1,00			
BCI Ranmore Global Value Equity FF B	0.71	0.74	0.57	0.72	0.72	0.82	0.77	1.00		
M&G Global Equity Feeder Fund A	0,95	0,93	0,80	0,88	0,89	0,87	0,96	0,73	1,00	
(ASISA) Global EQ General	0,95	0,96	0,86	0,93	0,91	0,94	0,96	0,79	0,95	1,00
1,00 to 0,80	0,80 to 0,60		<b>0,60</b> to	0,40		0,40 to 0,20	1	0,2	0 to 0,00	
0,00 to -0,20	-0,20 to -0,40		-0,40 to	-0,60	-	-0,60 to -0,8	30	-0,8	30 to -1,00	

Correl	lation	Matrix
COLLE	acion	MUUIA

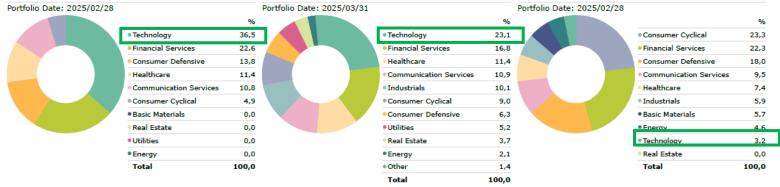
	BlueAlpha BCI Global Equity A	Satrix MSCI World Index C	BCI Fundsmith Equity FF B	Ninety One Global Franchise FF A	Nedgroup Inv Global Equity FF A	Fairtree Global Equity Prescient FeedrA3	Old Mutual Global Equity R	BCI Ranmore Global Value Equity FF B	M&G Global Equity Feeder Fund A	(ASISA) Global EQ General
BlueAlpha BCI Global Equity A	1,00									
Satrix MSCI World Index C	0,91	1,00								
BCI Fundsmith Equity FF B	0,89	0,90	1,00							
Ninety One Global Franchise FF A	0,91	0,92	0,91	1,00						
Nedgroup Inv Global Equity FF A	0,89	0,92	0,87	0,90	1,00					
airtree Global Equity Prescient FeedrA	3 0,89	0,90	0,84	0,89	0,89	1,00				
Old Mutual Global Equity R	0,94	0,95	0,86	0,92	0.91	0.93	1.00		_	
3CI Ranmore Global Value Equity FF B	0,66	0,68	0,54	0,67	0,68	0,77	0,72	1,00		
4&G Global Equity Feeder Fund A	0,91	0,91	0,83	0,88	0,88	0,87	0,94	0,64	1,00	
(ASISA) Global EQ General	0,93	0,97	0,89	0,93	0,93	0,96	0,96	0,72	0,94	1,00
1,00 to 0,80 0,00 to -0,20	0,80 to 0,60		0,60 to		-	0,40 to 0,20 -0,60 to -0,8			to 0,00 0 to -1,00	

The Least Technology exposure – Ranmore was less impacted by the technology stock pull back



Ranmore Global Equity fund 🦳 🗹

Equity Sectors (Morningstar) - Ninety One Glob Equity Sectors (Morningstar) - Old Mutual Glob; Equity Sectors (Morningstar) - BCI Ranmore Gl



# **Solution Returns**

(5.03)

(5.26)

6.23

(3.94)

(4.79)

6.32

4.52

3.65

(6.32)

## LOCAL PERFORMANCE

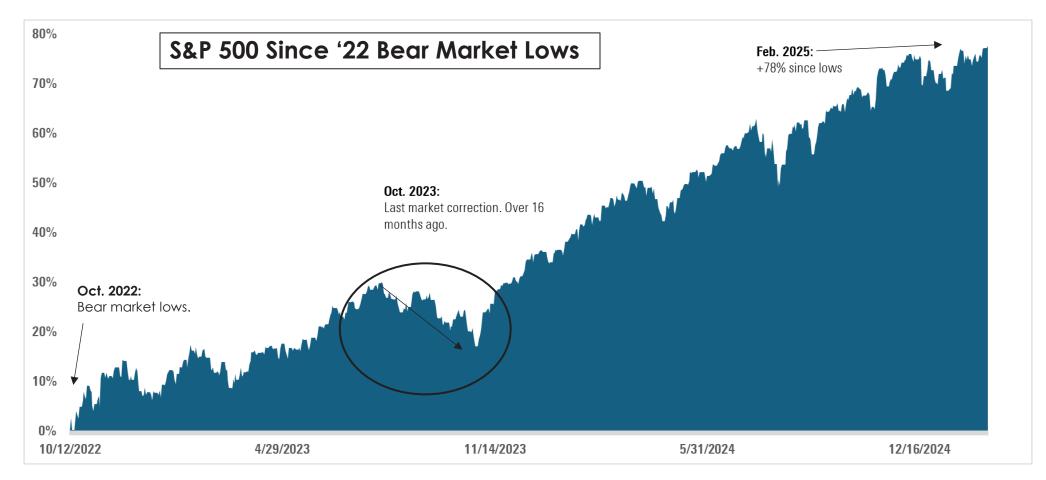
Performance - 2025/03/31	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
i <sup>2</sup> Income Solution	1,21%	2,92%	11,77%	9,47%	8,54%
(ASISA) South African MA Income	1,57%	3,12%	10,95%	8,52%	8,17%
i <sup>2</sup> Cautious Solution	1,37%	2,84%	12,77%	9,63%	12,35%
(ASISA) South African MA Low Equity	0,97%	2,66%	11,85%	8,79%	10,41%
i <sup>2</sup> Moderate Solution	2,25%	3,32%	16,35%	10,35%	15,30%
(ASISA) South African MA High Equity	0,68%	2,15%	12,38%	8,90%	13,38%
i <sup>2</sup> Growth Solution	3,86%	3,42%	19,58%	10,40%	19,46%
i <sup>2</sup> TFSA Solution	3,86%	3,42%	19,58%	10,57%	19,92%
(ASISA) South African EQ General	1,91%	0,83%	17,74%	7,09%	16,50%
i <sup>2</sup> Global Feeder Solution	-0,48%	4,58%	2,46%	10,43%	6,87%
(ASISA) Global MA High Equity	-1,89%	5,49%	3,65%	10,97%	9,15%

# Never Trade In Panic

A-

## **CORRECTIONS ARE NORMAL**

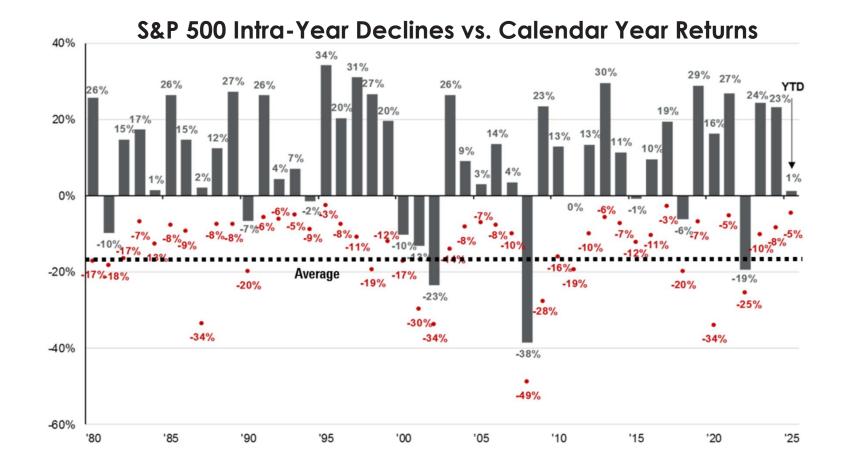
US stocks have gained nearly 80% since the October 2022 lows, and a true market correction hasn't occurred since October 2023—over 16 months ago.



# **CORRECTIONS ARE NORMAL**

A contrarian takeaway? This is normal—there will always be problems that pop up.

- In some ways, US equity investors have been spoiled in recent years.
- Market declines are inevitable, even if their timing and causes are unpredictable.
- Since 1980, the average intra-year decline has exceeded 14%. Despite these declines, history shows that the market finished positive in 34 of the past 45 years (76% of the time).
- Nobody can predict market corrections—at least not reliably but you can manage through them. Trying to anticipate every correction and sell ahead of it often leads to worse outcomes than simply staying the course.



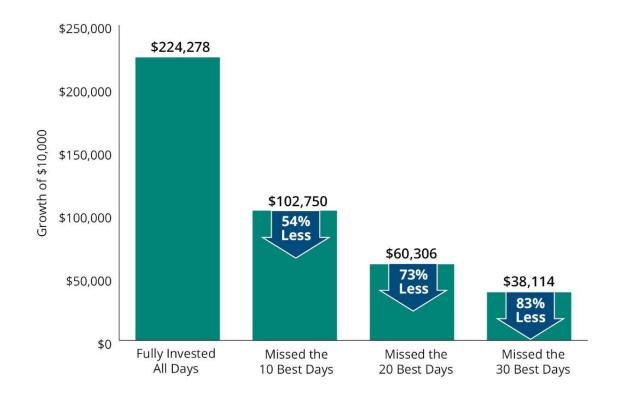
## TIMING THE MARKET IS IMPOSSIBLE

## Good Days Happen in Bad Markets S&P 500 Index Best Days: 1995–2024



During the Rest of a Bull Market

Missing the Market's Best Days Has Been Costly S&P 500 Index Average Annual Total Returns: 1995– 2024



## **MISSING THE 10-WORST DAYS**



# **Tax Efficiency - After Tax Returns Are Important**

## **CASH VS EQUITIES RETURNS**

## More Detailed Version (if you have multiple tax components):

If you want to split it (for example: interest, dividends, and capital gains taxed differently), you can use:

$$ext{After-Tax Return} = (R_i imes (1-T_i)) + (R_d imes (1-T_d)) + (R_{cg} imes (1-T_{cg}))$$

Where:

- R<sub>i</sub> = Portion of return from interest
- $T_i$  = Tax rate on interest
- $R_d$  = Portion of return from dividends
- $T_d$  = Tax rate on dividends
- R<sub>cg</sub> = Portion of return from capital gains
- T<sub>cg</sub> = Tax rate on capital gains

## **CASH VS EQUITIES RETURNS**

## More Detailed Version (if you have multiple tax components):

If you want to split it (for example: interest, dividends, and capital gains taxed differently), you can use:

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Where:

- R<sub>i</sub> = Portion of return from interest
- T<sub>i</sub> = Tax rate on interest
- $R_d$  = Portion of return from dividends
- $T_d$  = Tax rate on dividends
- R<sub>cg</sub> = Portion of return from capital gains

T<sub>cg</sub> = Tax rate on capital gains

# **CASH VS EQUITIES RETURNS**

Years	Investment In Income Product	Interest	Tax on Interest	After Tax return
0		7%	45%	
1	R 100 000,00	R 7 000,00	R 3 150,00	R 103 850,00
2	R 103 850,00	R 7 269,50	R 3 271,28	R 107 848,23
3	R 107 848,23	R 7 549,38	R 3 397,22	R 112 000,38
4	R 112 000,38	R 7840,03	R 3 528,01	R 116 312,40
5	R 116 312,40	R 8141,87	R 3 663,84	R 120 790,42
6	R 120 790,42	R 8 455,33	R 3 804,90	R 125 440,85
7	R 125 440,85	R 8780,86	R 3 951,39	R 130 270,33
8	R 130 270,33	R 9118,92	R 4 103,52	R 135 285,74
9	R 135 285,74	R 9 470,00	R 4 261,50	R 140 494,24
10	R 140 494,24	R 9834,60	R 4 425,57	R 145 903,26
	Annualized Return	3,85%		

### VS

Years	Investment In Equity Product	Growth	Tax on gain	After Tax return
0		4,69%	18%	
1	R 100 000,00	R 4695,12	R 845,12	R 103 850,00
2	R 103 850,00	R 4875,88	R 877,66	R 107 848,23
3	R 107 848,23	R 5063,61	R 911,45	R 112 000,38
4	R 112 000,38	R 5258,55	R 946,54	R 116 312,40
5	R 116 312,40	R 5461,01	R 982,98	R 120 790,42
6	R 120 790,42	R 5671,26	R 1 020,83	R 125 440,85
7	R 125 440,85	R 5889,60	R 1060,13	R 130 270,33
8	R 130 270,33	R 6116,35	R 1 100,94	R 135 285,74
9	R 135 285,74	R 6351,83	R 1 143,33	R 140 494,24
10	R 140 494,24	R 6596,38	R 1 187,35	R 145 903,26
	Annulized Return	3,85%		

# **CASH VS EQUITIES ROLLING RETURNS**



How many times does the equity indexes outperform cash in a rolling 1 Month period?

- FTSE/JSE All Share TR ZAR = 81%
- MSCI ACWI NR ZAR = **71%**



# Fairtree Equity

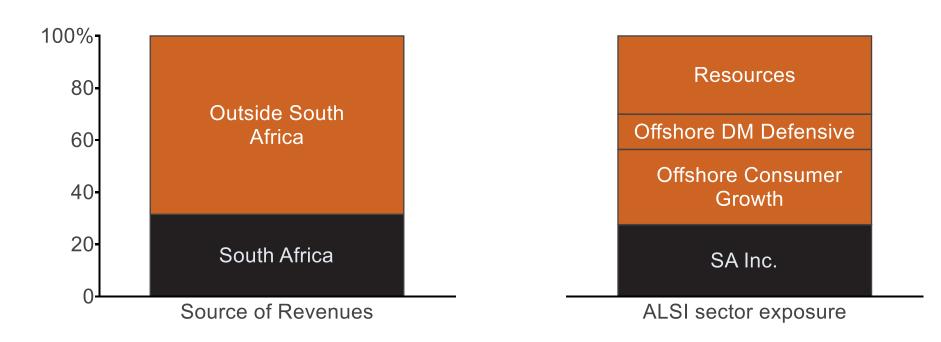
# **Independent Investment Solutions**

Portfolio Manager - Chantelle Baptiste Distribution – Nico van Heerden

22 April 2025

# SA Economy ≠ All Share Index

~70% of revenues generated outside South Africa



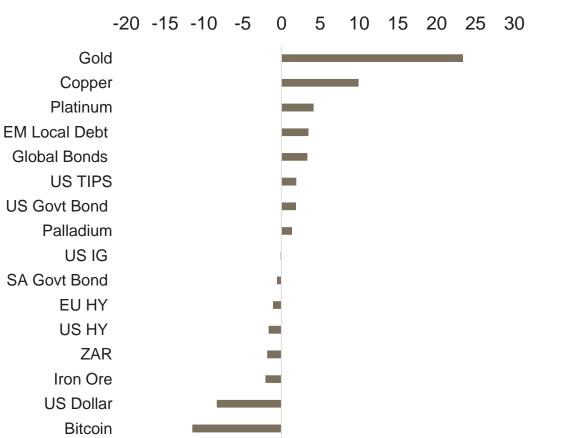


## **Market Movements**

## Performance across asset classes (%) - YTD

-30-25-20-15-10 -5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30



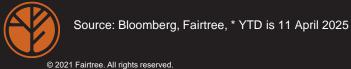


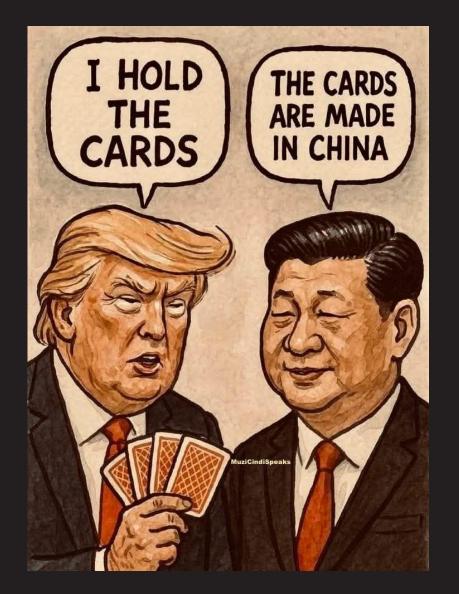
Oil

Source: Bloomberg, Fairtree, \* YTD is 11 April 2025

## **The World in Pictures**



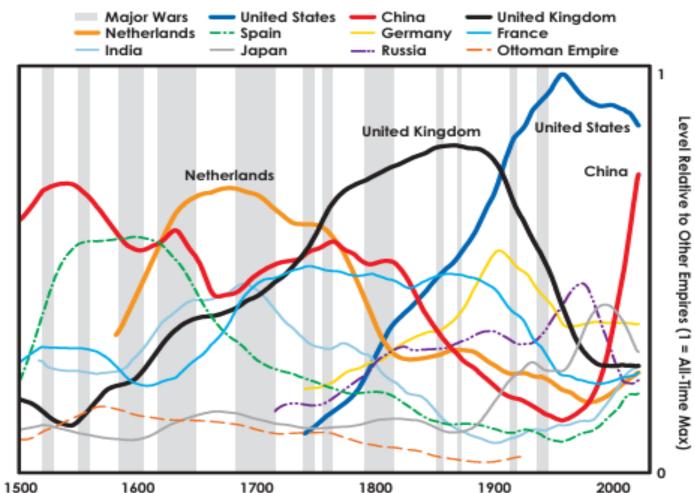






# **The Changing World Oder**

## We are in a global power shift, which may come with disruption







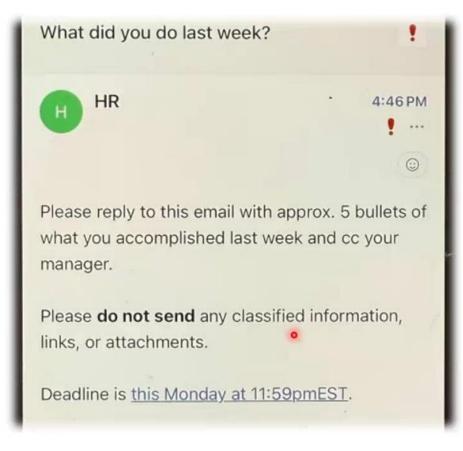
# "With great power comes great responsibility."

Spider-Man (2002)

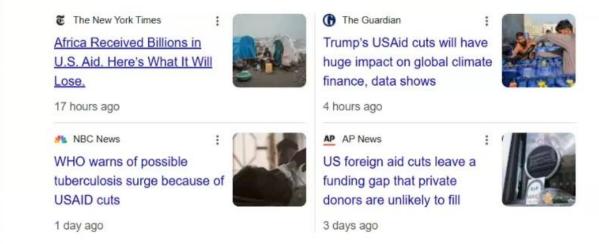


# **US DOGE Impact**

## Uncertainty will lead to global economic paralysis



Trump administration scraps over 80% of USAID programs, top diplomat Rubio says

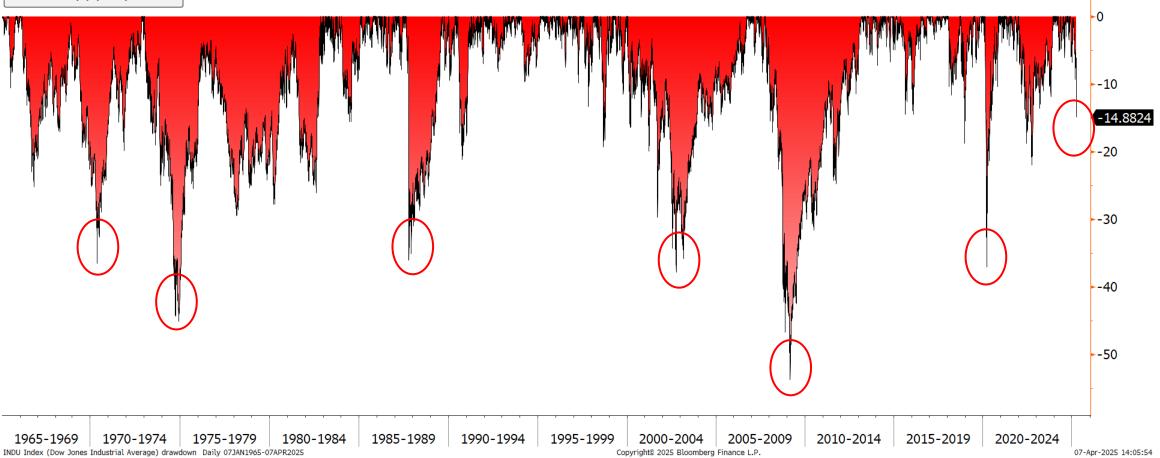




# One of the most severe drawdown in history

## US equity drawdown over last 60 years

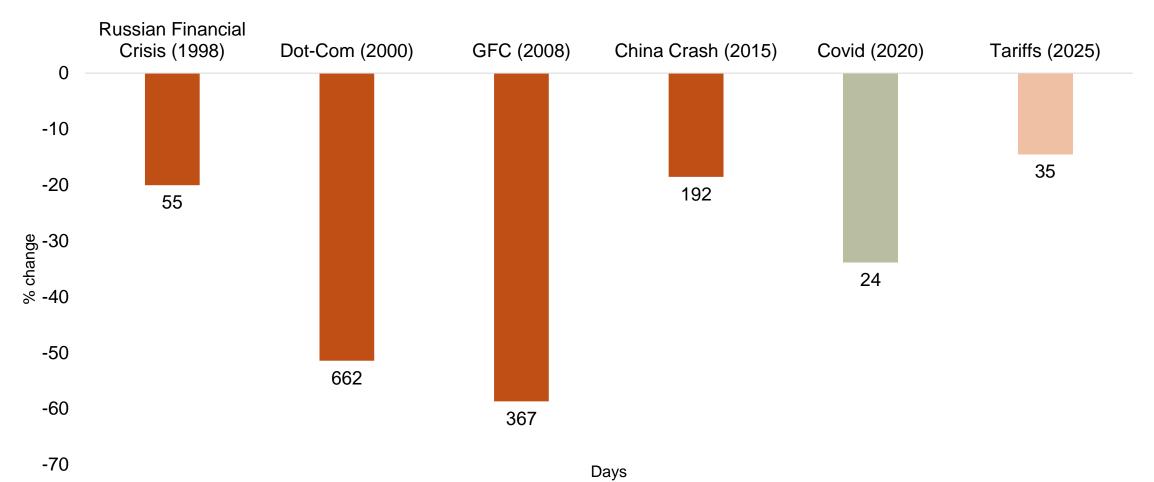
■ Drawdown (%) (INDU) -14.8824





# A Dip Or An Ursus Magnus?

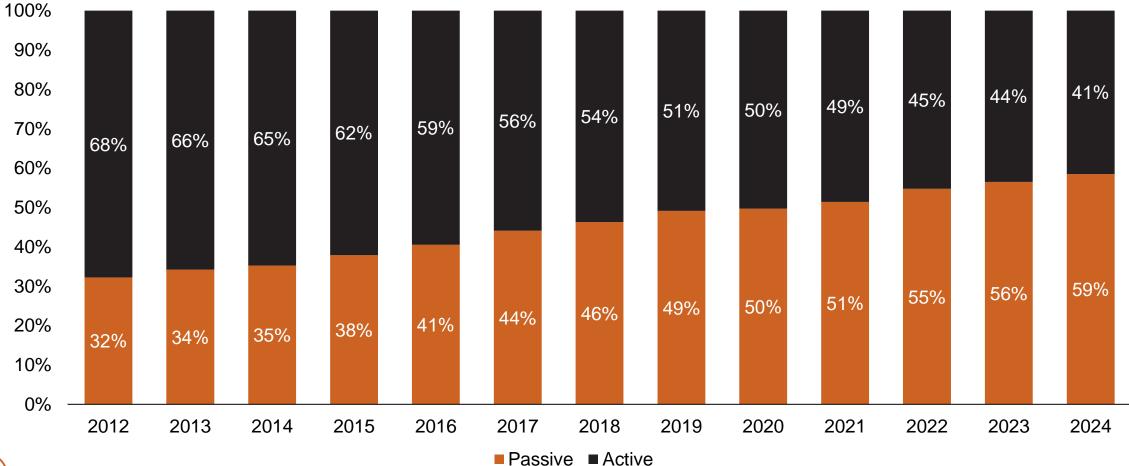
## The 2020 market drawdown has been the most rapid bear market in history





# **Impact of Passive Investments**

Passive investment flows have become increasingly influential in equity market performance

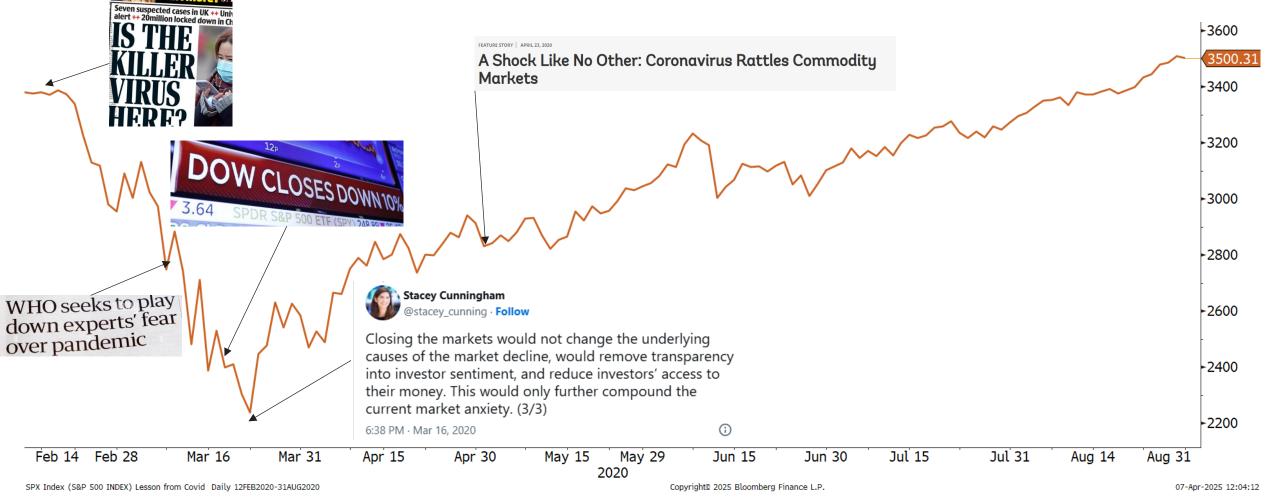


US Equity AUM Split



## **Lessons from the Covid Crisis**

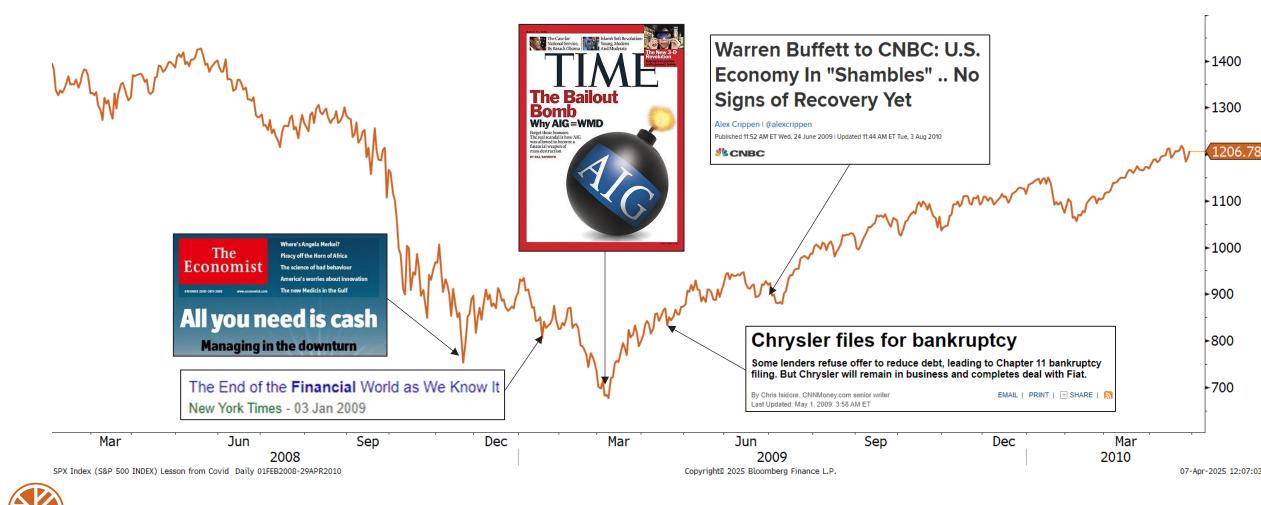
## News-flow and sentiment is often worst around the market bottom





# **Lessons from the 2008 Financial Crisis**

News-flow and sentiment is often worst around the market bottom



# Fed Policy Rate vs US 10yr Bond Yields

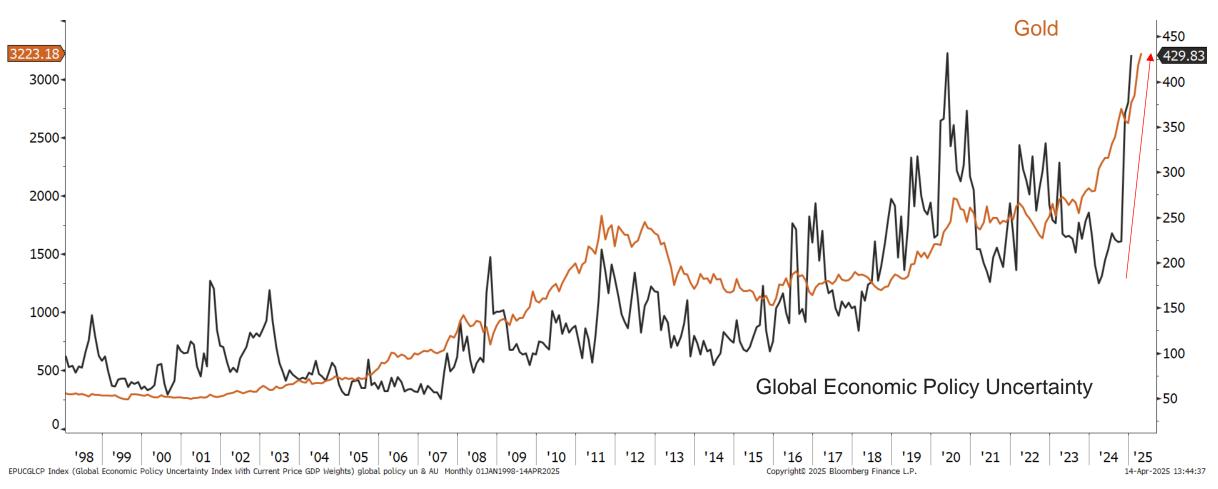
Bond yields rising while the Fed is cutting rates is unprecedented





# **Trade War = Higher Gold**

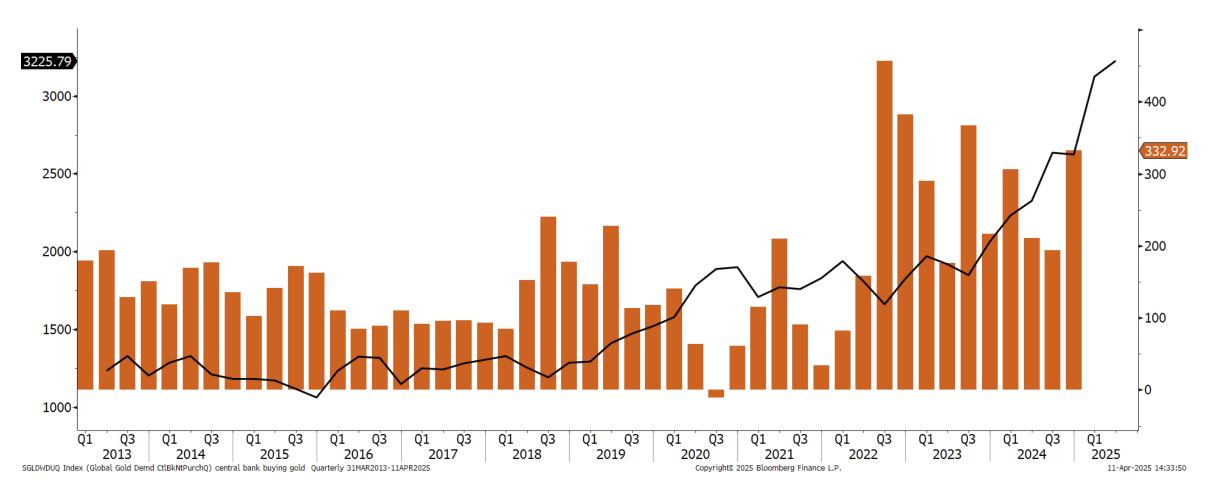
## Global Policy Uncertainty Index & Gold





# Central banks have increased their gold buying

## **Central Bank Net Gold Purchases**





# Where to hide?

Bitcoin's one yr volatility is 50%, which is more than double that of Gold's

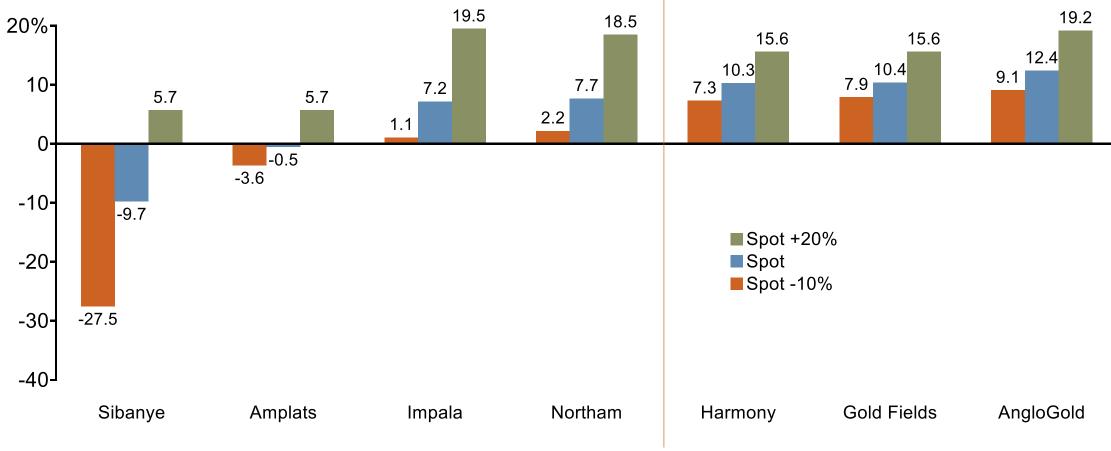




# **Precious Metal Miners FCF Yield %**

Gold Miners offer better risk/reward profile

#### Free Cashflow Yields

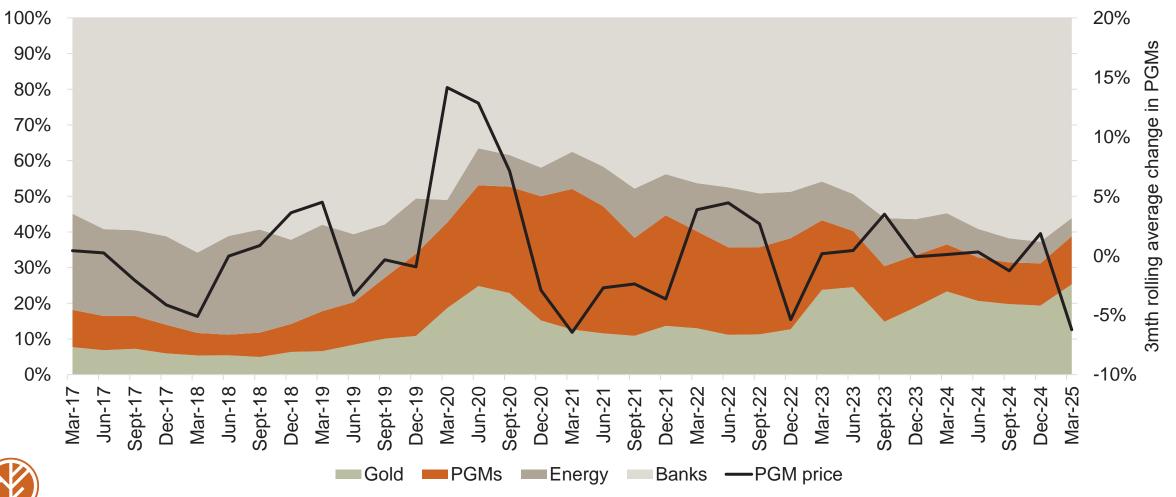


Source: Source: Bloomberg, Fairtree: 10 April 2025

### **Advantage of Active Management**

The cycle opportunities can be captured by active managers

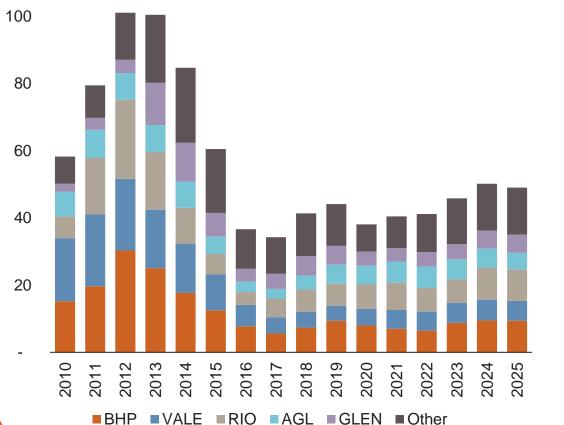
Benchmark Weighting Capped Swix



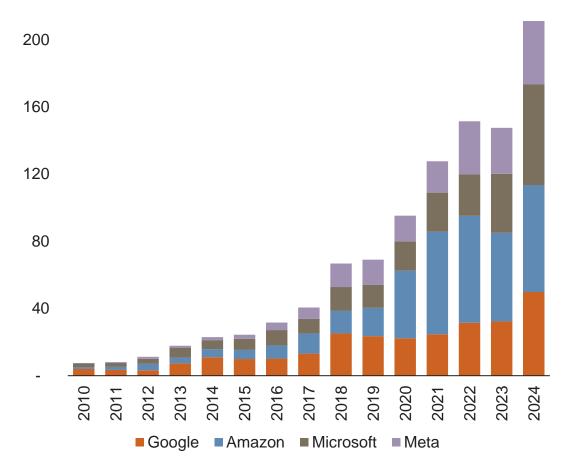
### **Growing Commodity Demand**

... will come up against significant supply constraints

Major Global Miner Capex US\$b [Real 2023]

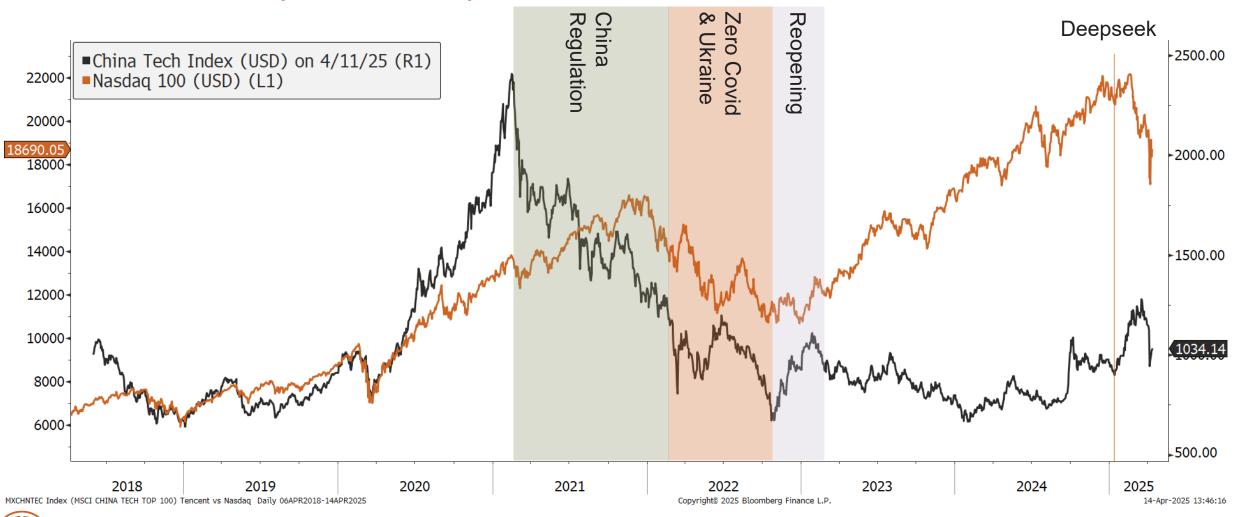


Big Tech. Company Capex US\$b



# **US vs China Tech**

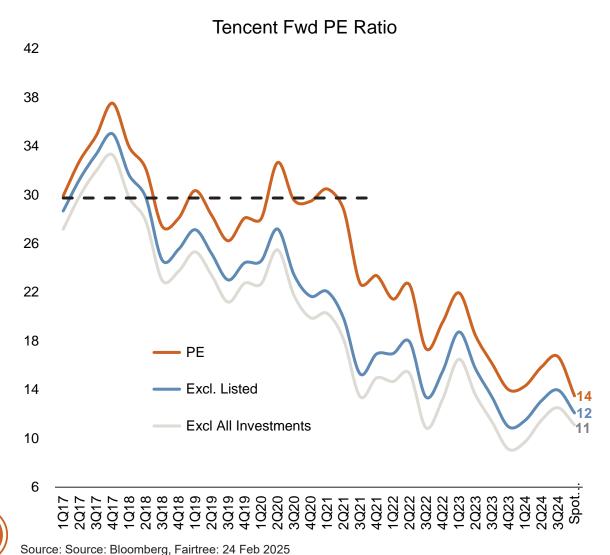
China tech recovery was underway, but the bifurcation remains wide

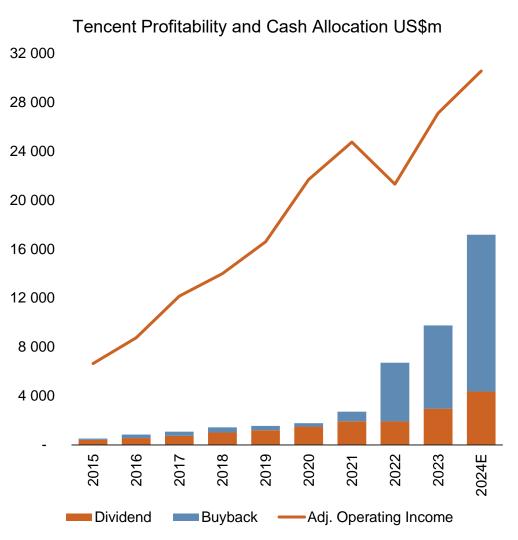


Source: Fairtree, Bloomberg

### **Tencent & Prosus**

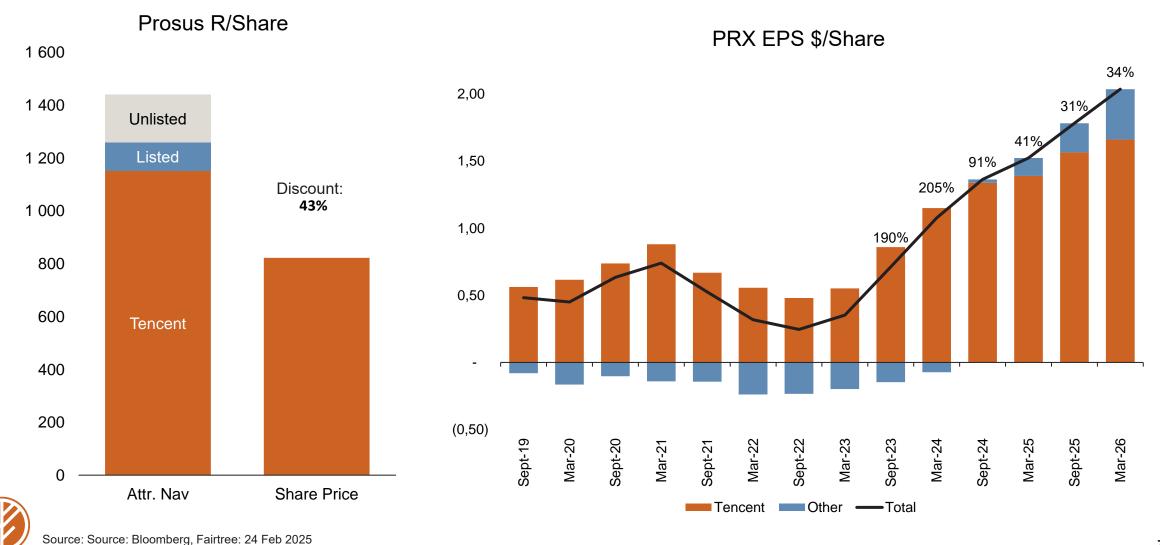
### Prosus remains an attractive way to get exposure to Tencent





### **Tencent & Prosus**

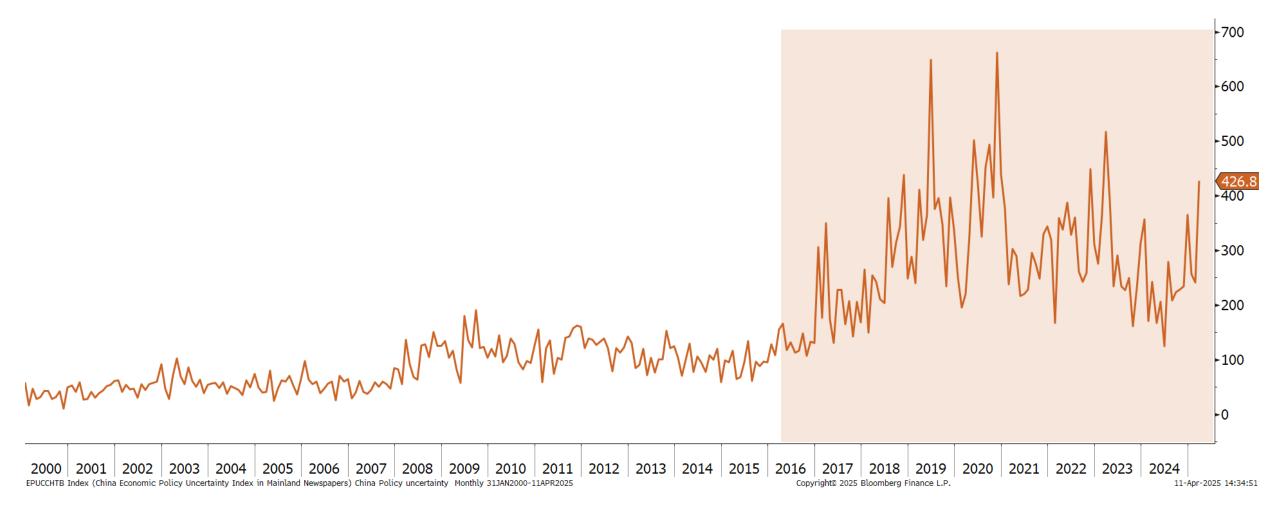
### Prosus remains an attractive way to get exposure to Tencent



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## **Chinese Policy uncertainty**

Xi Jinping's policy direction appears to be clearer

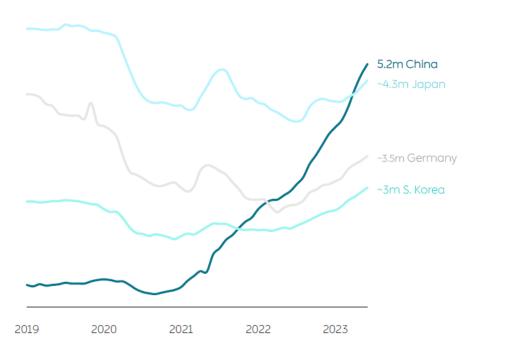


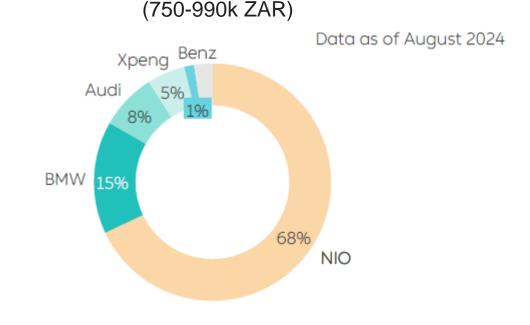


### **China Becomes Global No.1 Auto Exporter**

Chinese Auto Presence in the Global Market

Monthly car exports, 12mth moving average



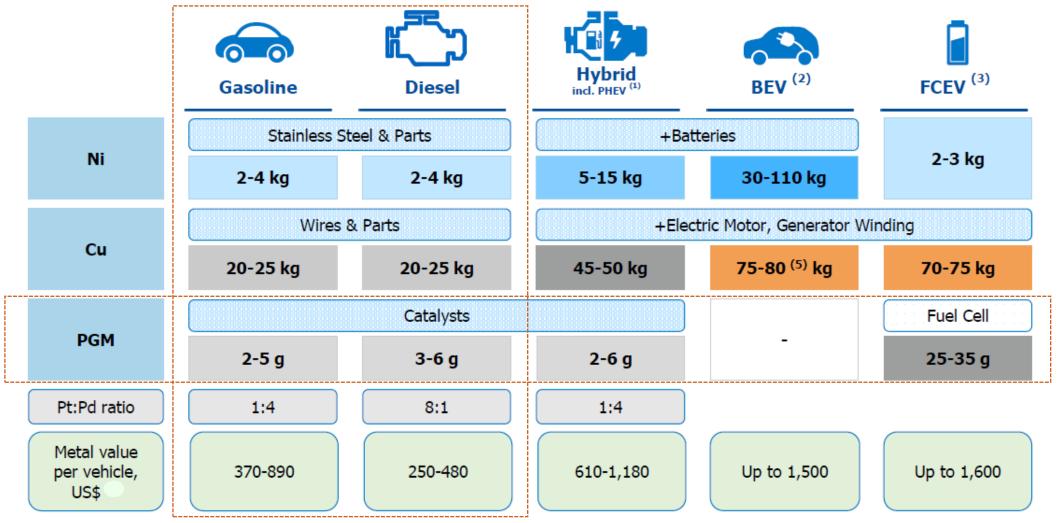


NIO's Market Share in Premium BEV 300-400k RMB



### Metal Basket Content by Light Vehicle Type

We need more, not less, green metals



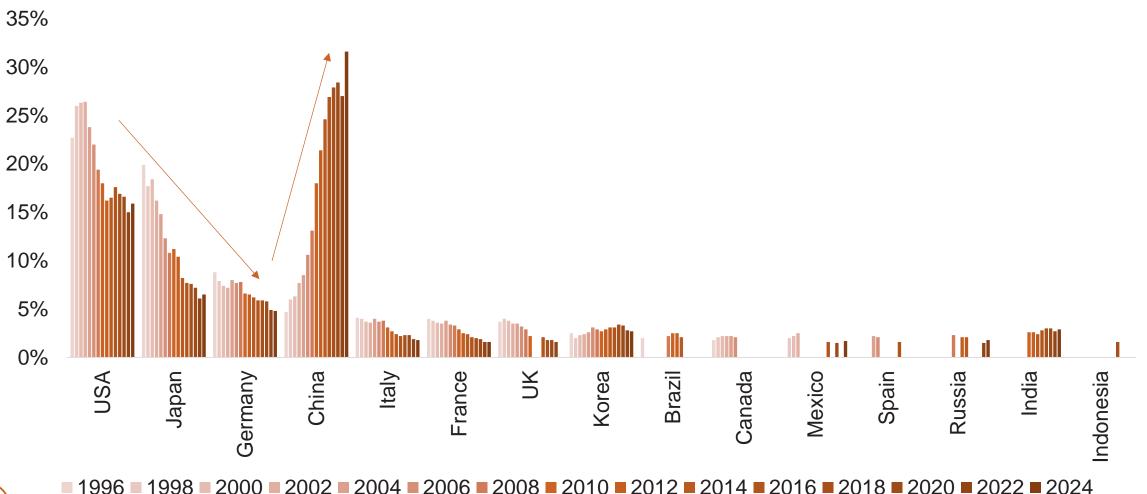
Sources: Company estimates, LMC Automotive, Bloomberg

Notes: 1. Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, 2. Battery electric vehicles, 3. Fuel cell electric vehicles

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# Share of World Manufacturing Output

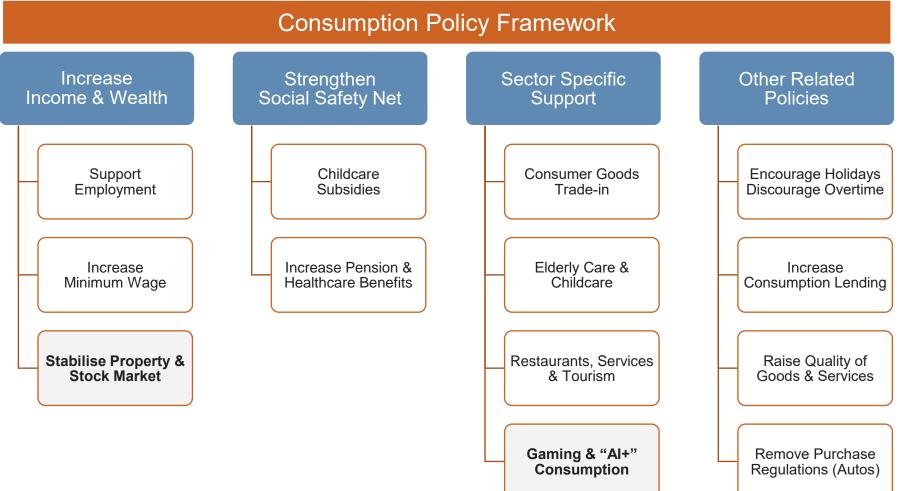
G7 contribution to share has reduced significantly





### **China Policy Tilt**

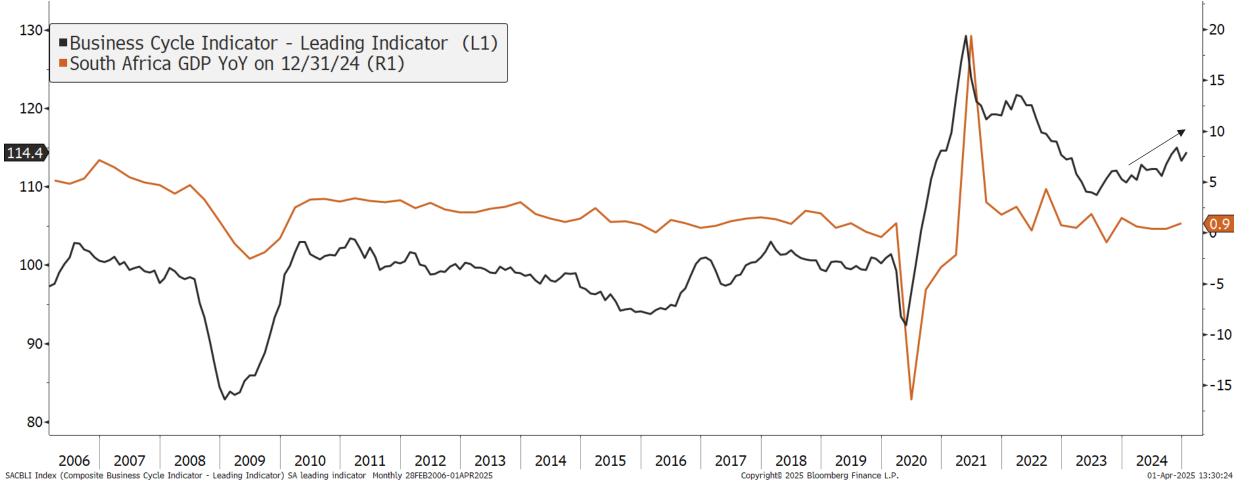
China's State Council "special action plan" to boost domestic consumption





### **SA Leading Indicators**

Leading business cycle indicator continued to rise, led by new passenger vehicles





# **SA Infrastructure Reform: 1. Electricity**

Eskom has not implemented loadshedding for 9 months

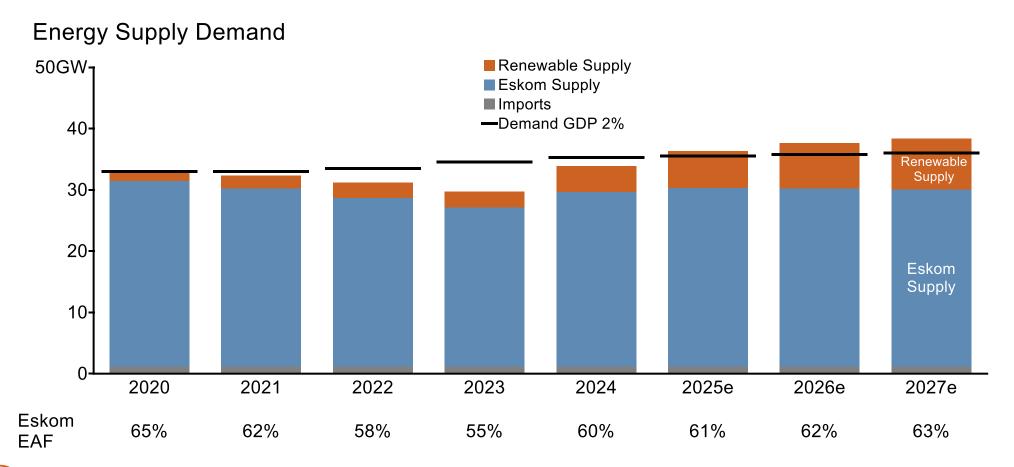
78.5 80%<sub>Т</sub> 76.1 72.7 Target 70-67.0 64.7 63.2 61.8 60-58.0 54.7 50-40 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 YTD

Eskom EAF%



# **SA Energy Supply Growth**

The private sector will add significantly to supply, with moderate Eskom operational improvement





### **Energy Constraints to SA Growth**

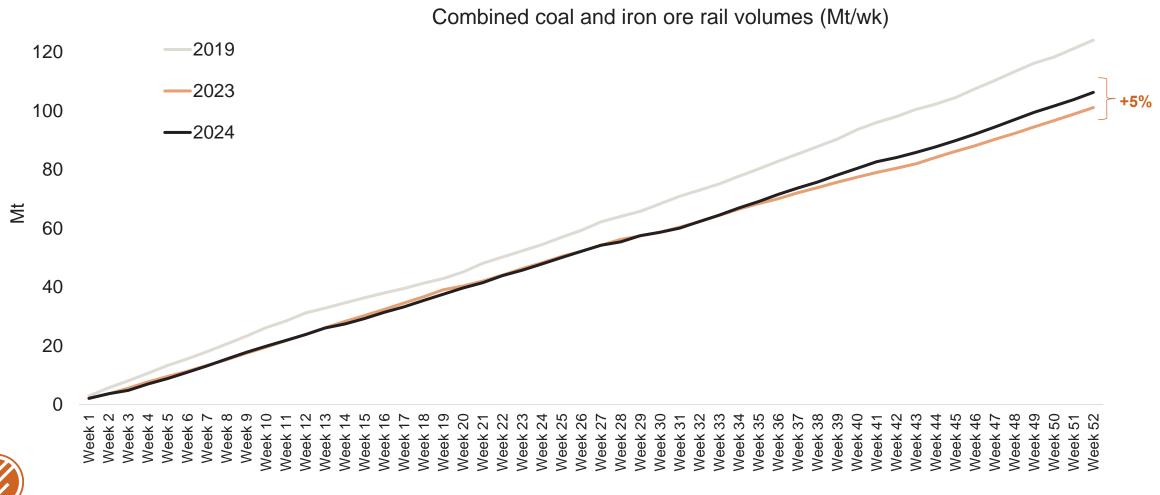
Blue sky 5% GDP growth is attainable if Eskom EAF improve to 66%

Historic Eskom EAF Required Eskom EAF vs GDP Growth Eskom EAF @ 5% GDP 75%<sub>1</sub> 75%<sub>1</sub> Eskom EAF @ 3.5% GDP Eskom EAF @ 2% GDP 66 65 65-65-63 62 62 62 61 61 60 60 59 5% GDP 58 58 3.5% GDP 2% GDP 55 55-55-Eskom EAF @ 0 0 Eskom EAF EAF 45-45-Eskom I 35 35-2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025e 2026e 2027e



### **SA Infrastructure Reform: 2. Transnet**

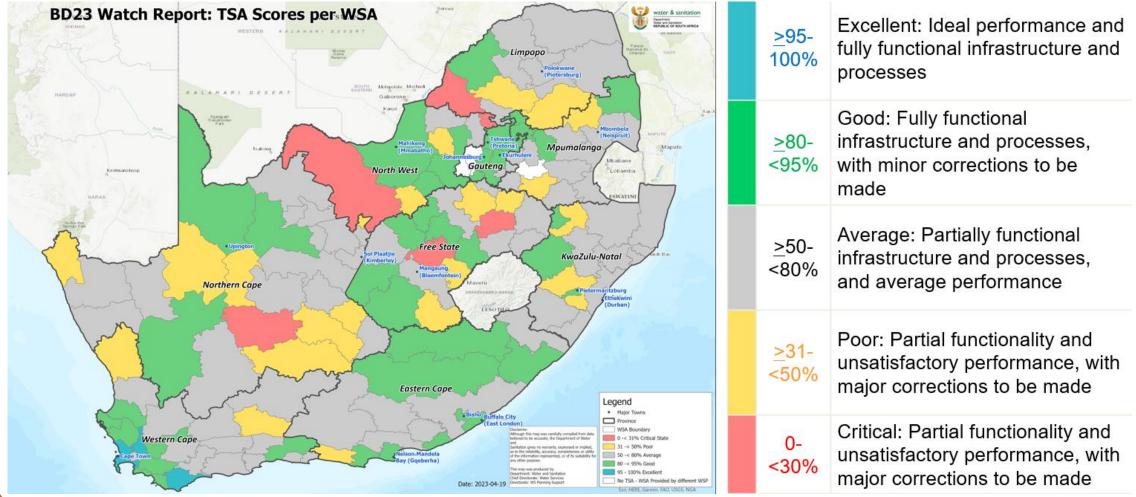
The private sector will add significantly to supply, with moderate Eskom operational improvement



Source Eskom, Fairtree

### **SA Infrastructure Reform: 3. Water**

### Drinking water infrastructure condition status is poor across NW, N Cape, FS and Limpopo

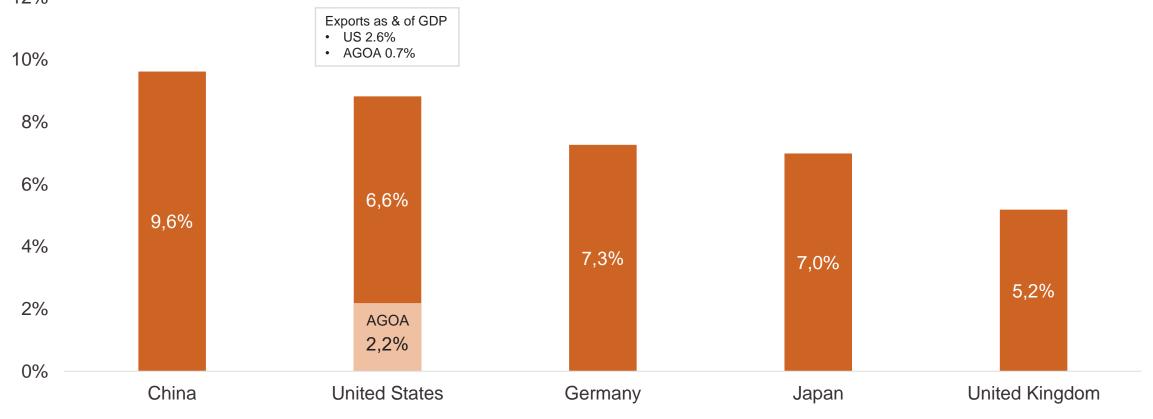




### **Trump 2.0**

### The US is a key trading partner of South Africa

South Africa main exports partners (% of total exports) 12%



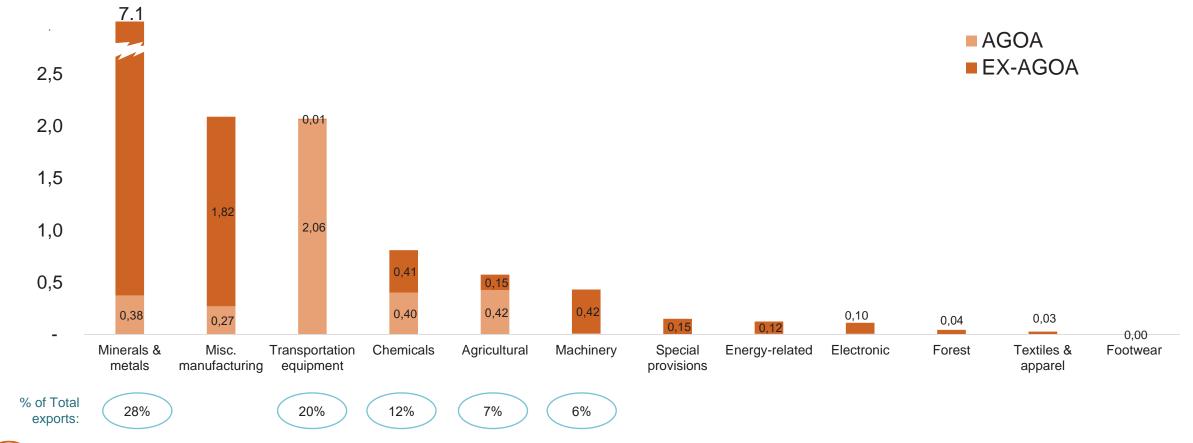


Source: World Integrated Trade Solutions, US Department of commerce, Fairtree.

### **Exports to US by sector**

### US exports under AGOA vs outside AGOA

SA exports to US by sector – 2023 (\$bn)



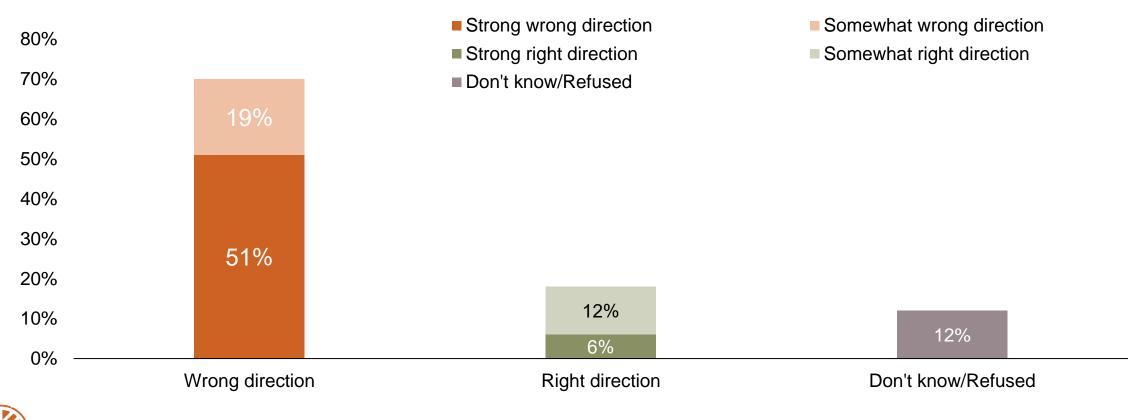


Source: US Department of Commerce, Fairtree.

# 70% believe SA is going in the wrong direction

#### **Brenthurst Survey**

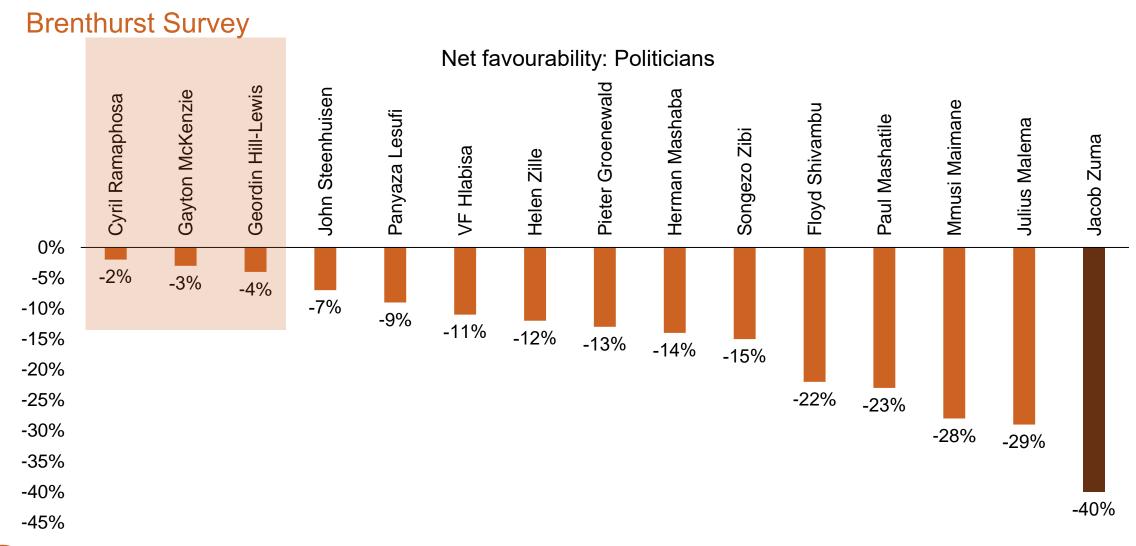
# In general, are things in South Africa going in the right direction or in the wrong direction?



Source: Nationally Representative Survey of South African Voter Opinion April 2025, Brenthurst Foundation

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# No SA politician has a positive net favourability





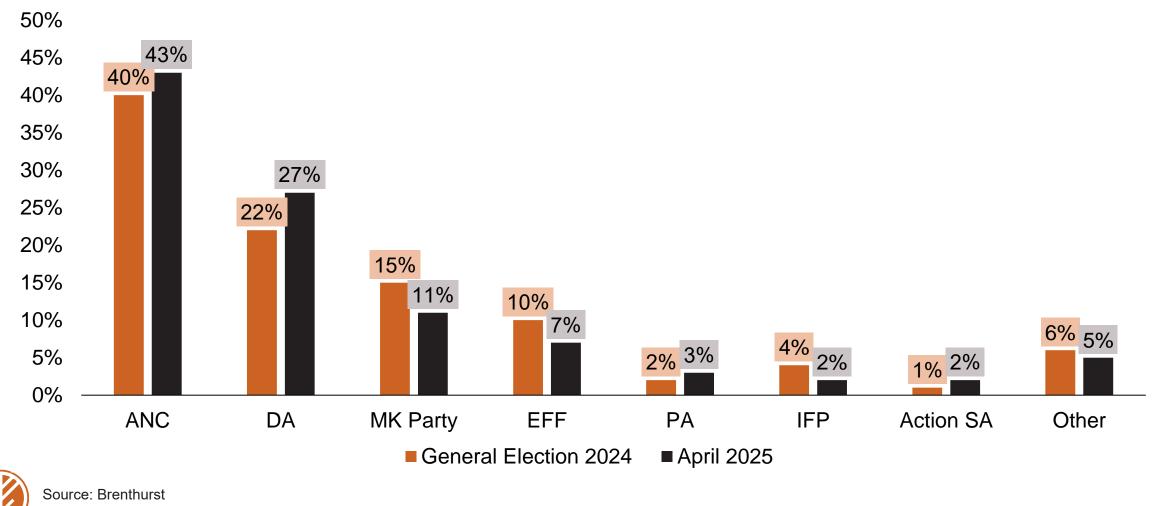
Source: Nationally Representative Survey of South African Voter Opinion April 2025, Brenthurst Foundation

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# ANC wins 43% (up 3% from 2024); DA wins 27% (up 5%)

### **Brenthurst Survey**

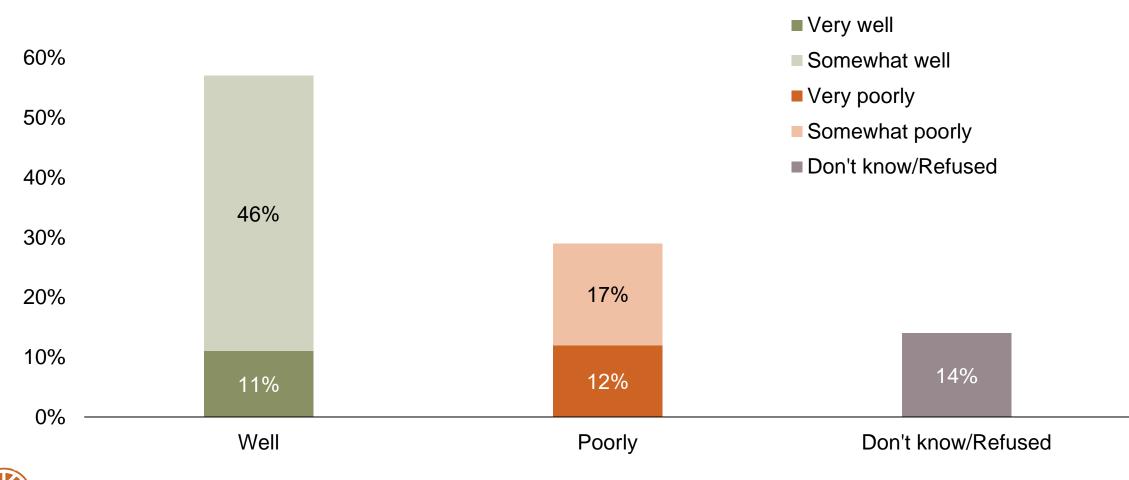
If an election was held today, which party would you vote for?



# 57% of voters believe the GNU is performing well

#### **Brenthurst Survey**

How would you say the GNU is currently performing?

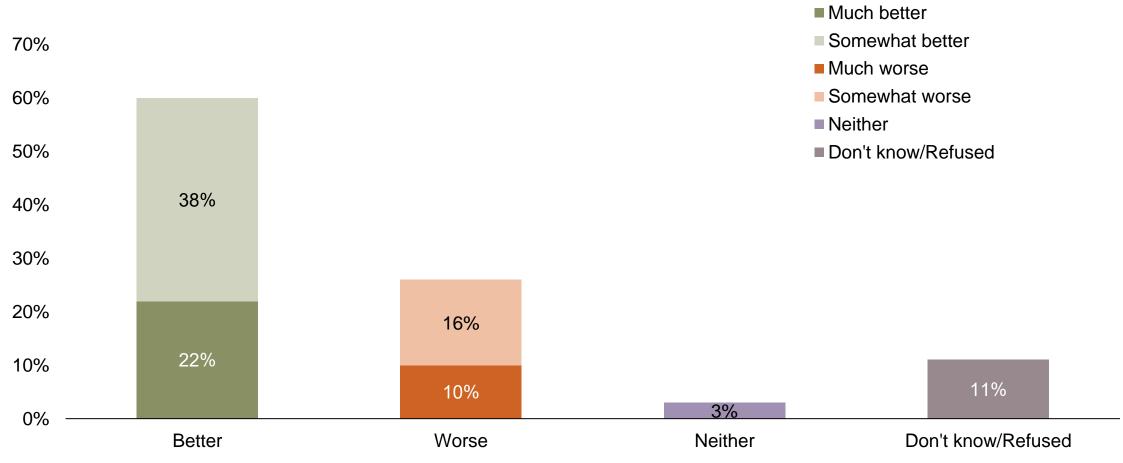


Source: Nationally Representative Survey of South African Voter Opinion April 2025, Brenthurst Foundation

## 60% of voters believe the GNU is better than the ANC

#### **Brenthurst Survey**

Do you think the GNU is performing better or worse than the last ANC government?



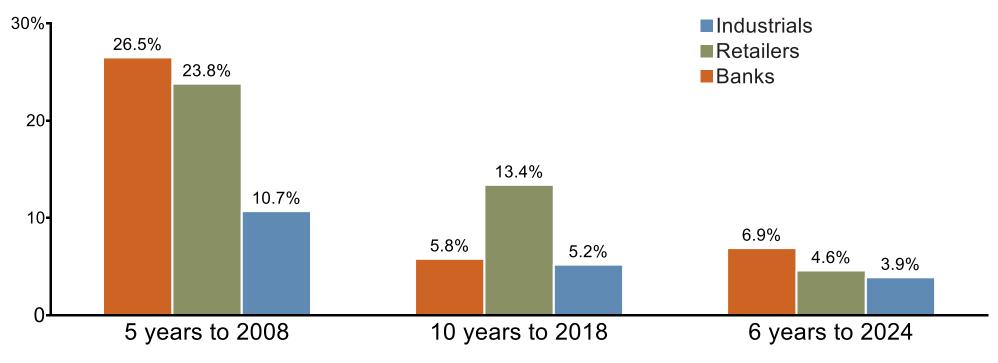


Source: Nationally Representative Survey of South African Voter Opinion April 2025, Brenthurst Foundation

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### **SA Inc. Earnings Growth**

Domestic Earnings Growth is highly correlated to SA GDP



### Annualised Earnings Growth

SA GDP Growth pa 4.5%

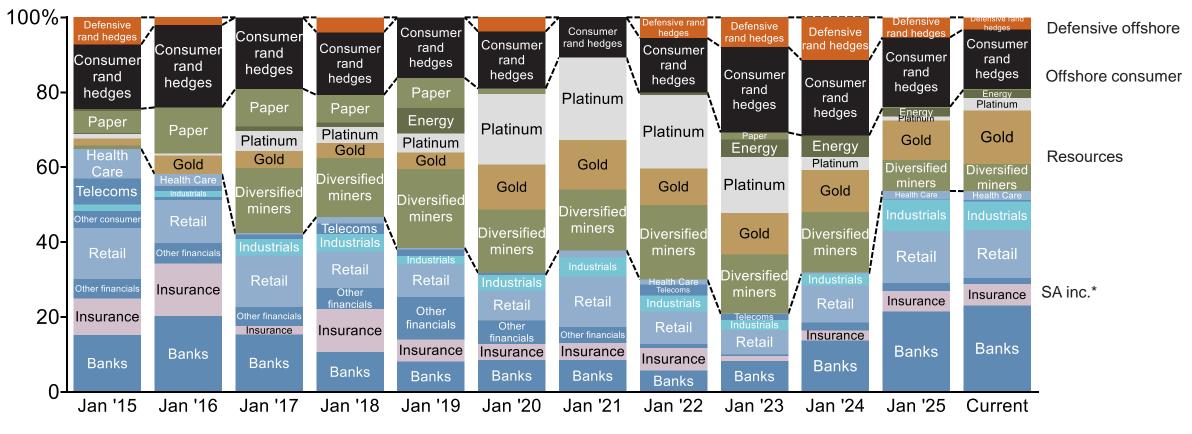
1.6%

Source: Bloomberg, Fairtree

# **Current Fund Positioning**

The ability to be flexible is key to adapt to prevailing economic conditions

### Detailed Fund Composition





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A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions, as well as a detailed description on how performance fees are calculated and applied, is available on request from the manager of each portfolio ("the Manager"), being either Sanne Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd, Realfin Collective Investment Schemes (RF) (Pty) Ltd, Prescient Management Company (RF) (Pty) Ltd, Boutique Collective Investments (RF) (Pty) Ltd or Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd all being registered and approved under relevant legislation.

Additional information, including key investor information documents, minimum disclosure documents as well as other information relating to the portfolio is available, free of charge, on request from the Manager. The Manager retains full legal responsibility for the portfolios.

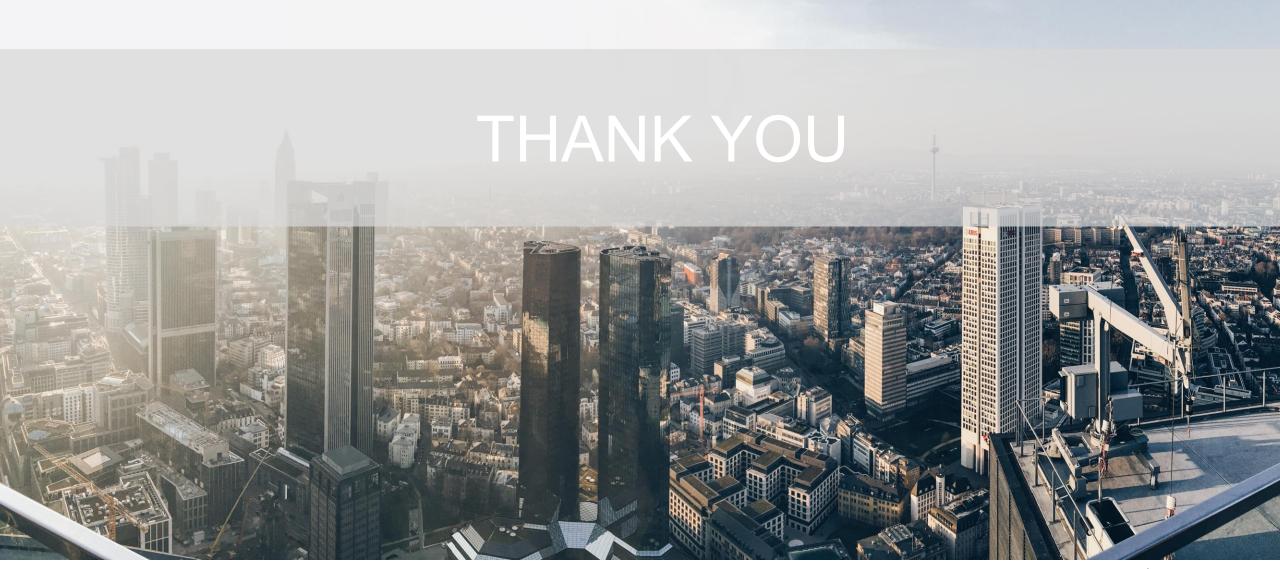
The approved manager of the portfolios registered in Ireland under Prescient Global Funds PLC is Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Limited. Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Limited is authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. These portfolios have been approved as a foreign collective investment schemes under section 65 of CISCA.

Collective Investment Schemes are generally medium to long-term investments. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance and the value of participatory interests may go down as well as up. Collective Investment Schemes are traded at ruling prices and may engage in scrip lending and borrowing.

Collective Investment Schemes may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate. The Manager does not provide any guarantee with respect to the capital or the return of the portfolio. Excessive withdrawals from the portfolio may place the portfolio under liquidity pressure and in such circumstances, a process of ring-fencing of withdrawal instructions and managed pay-outs over time may be followed. Commission and incentives may be paid, and if so, are included in the overall costs. Investors should note that the value of an investment is dependent on numerous factors which may include, but are not limited to, share price fluctuations, interest and exchange rates and other economic factors. Performance is further affected by uncertainties such as changes in government policy, taxation and other legal or regulatory developments.

The performance of a portfolio is dependent on making correct assessments of the price movements of securities and other investment instruments. Financial markets have historically exhibited high levels of volatility and negative movements that have affected the price of all assets within a specific class and accordingly, a portfolio's investments will be subject to market risk. Through financial gearing via the long/short process, the portfolio may be leveraged. This will mean enhanced positive gains but conversely may mean magnified losses. No taxation has been deducted in the computation of returns. The taxation treatment of returns is the investor's responsibility. All returns are disclosed net of performance fees







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