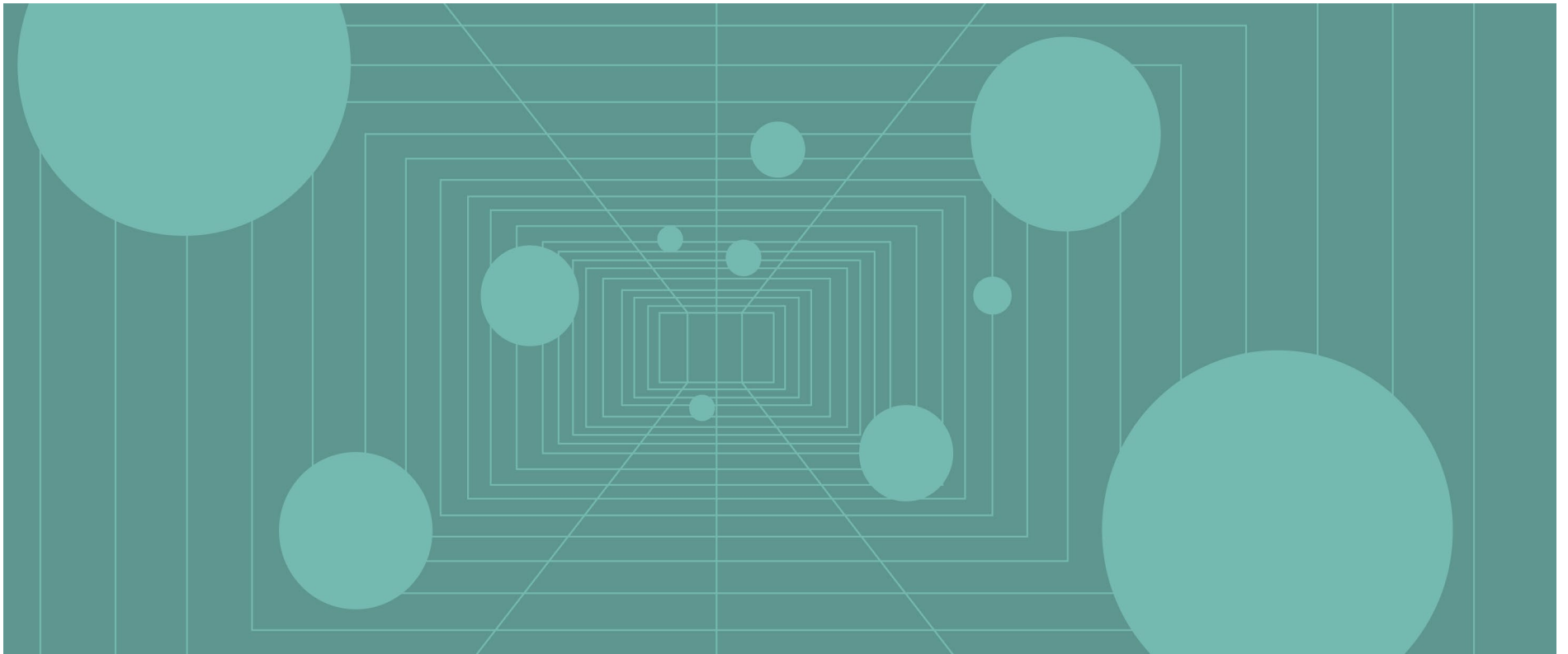


TACTICAL CA HOUSE VIEWS



Tactical CA House Views as of June 30, 2025

Our house views are aimed at generating value add over a three-year horizon. Differences in risk tolerance, time horizon, liquidity needs, currency exposure, and tax implications, as well as the potential for overlap with existing portfolio exposures, mean these views may not be suitable for all portfolios. Tactical positions should be sized modestly.

Overweight	Underweight	Key details	
California Carbon Allowance Futures (S&P Carbon Credit CCA Index)	Global Equities (MSCI All Country World Index)	Recommended since	Oct 31, 2021
Developed Markets ex US Small-Cap Equities (MSCI World ex US Small Cap Index)	Developed Markets ex US Equities (MSCI World ex US Index)	Recommended since	Sep 30, 2023
US Small-Cap Equities (S&P 600 Small Cap Index)	US Equities (MSCI US Index)	Recommended since	Apr 30, 2022
Global ex US Equities (MSCI ACWI ex US Index)	US Equities (MSCI US Index)	Recommended since	May 31, 2025
Latin American Equities (MSCI Latin America Index)	EM Equities (MSCI Emerging Markets Index)	Recommended since	June 30, 2025
Unhedged World ex US Treasuries (FTSE WGBI ex US Index)	US Treasuries (Bloomberg US Treasury Index)	Recommended since	May 31, 2025

Recently Closed Position

Overweight	Underweight	Closed On
Developed Markets Value Equities (MSCI World Value Weighted Index)	Developed Markets Equities (MSCI World Index)	May 31, 2025



Overweight California Carbon Allowances vs Global Equities

Recommended Since October 31, 2021

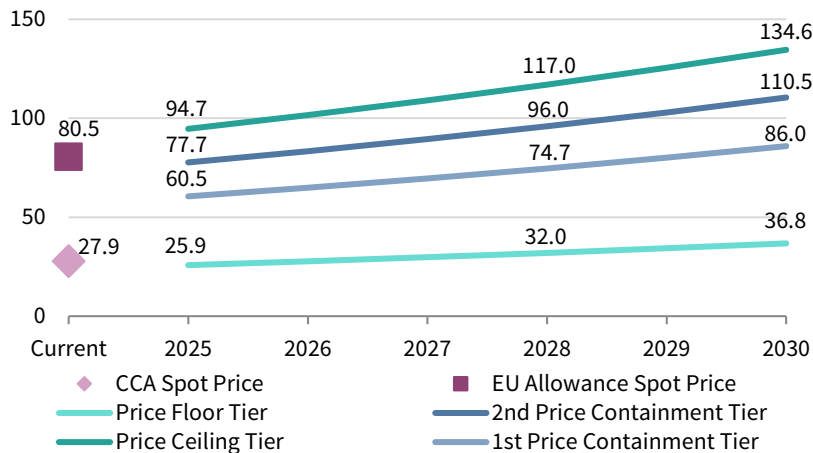
INVESTMENT THESIS: We believe California Carbon Allowances (CCAs) will outperform global equities, given our expectation that supply/demand fundamentals will drive CCA prices up to their first price containment tier. With CCAs priced near the program's floor, they offer highly asymmetric return potential. We prefer owning physical allowances over futures implementation. Regulated entities are allotted free allowances for a portion of their emissions and must purchase additional credits to satisfy remaining obligations.

- **KEY SUPPORT #1:** California projects that its cap-and-trade program will be needed to meet its emissions targets. Accordingly, the state must reduce CCA supply relative to demand. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has provided more clarity on anticipated changes to tighten supply of allowances. CCA supply is expected to be cut by 180M between 2026, and the program is expected to be extended beyond 2030 through 2045. These changes will increase expected CCA deficits, which in more mature carbon markets have typically led to price increases.

- **KEY SUPPORT #2:** We anticipate that relative to equities, CCAs offer less downside risk with significantly more upside potential. The program includes a floor indexed by inflation plus 5% that limits downside risk, while reductions in supply relative to demand increase upside in contrast to global equities.
- **KEY RISKS:** Regulatory changes present the biggest risk to CCAs, although the program is well established and provides significant revenue to the state of California. As such, implementation delays and poor communication by CARB related to adoption of increased program stringency measures has put downward pressure on CCA prices. A recent executive order issued by President Trump, also presents legal challenges for the CCA program. The program has survived previous legal tests and enjoys strong bipartisan support in California. CCAs can also experience short-term volatility related to technical issues in the options and futures markets. Finally, global equity performance may exceed our expectations. From an implementation perspective, rolling futures cost an estimated 3%–5% annually, while options for owning physical allowances are limited.

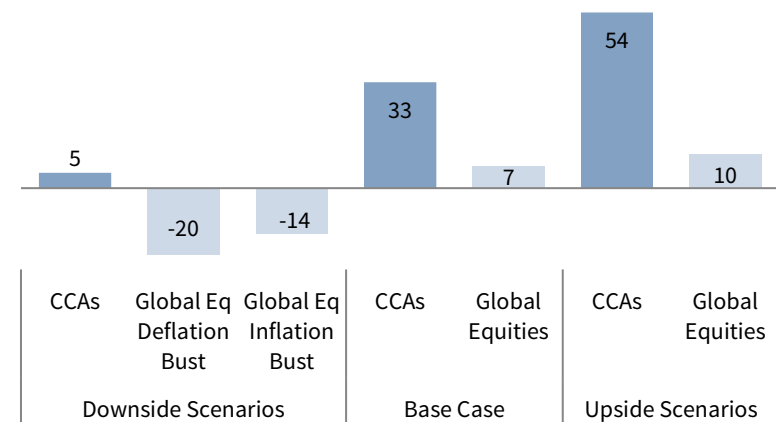
CCA PRICE COMPARED TO EU AND PRICE CONTAINMENT TIERS

As of June 30, 2025 • US Dollars



RETURN PROJECTION SCENARIOS: CCAs VS GLOBAL EQUITIES

As of June 30, 2025 • 3-Yr Annualized Average Compound Return (%)



Sources: Bloomberg L.P., MSCI Inc., and Thomson Reuters Datastream. MSCI data provided "as is" without any express or implied warranties.

Notes: For the left-hand side chart, spot prices are based on near month futures contract prices. Price tiers increase by 5% plus inflation per year, which is assumed to equal US TIPS 10-year breakeven inflation. Price containment tiers are thresholds at which additional allowances are made available as a hedge against higher costs. For the right-hand side chart, for CCAs, the downside scenario assumes prices move to the 2028 price floor; the base case assumes prices move to the 2026 1st price containment tier; and the upside scenario assumes prices move to the 2026 price ceiling. For global equities, the deflation bust downside scenario assumes that normalized P/E ratios decline by 50% and the nominal normalized earnings growth rate averages -2% year-over-year. The inflation bust downside scenario assumes the same P/E contraction with an average growth rate of 6%. The base case for global equities assumes today's normalized P/E is unchanged during the period and the growth rate reflects recent averages. The upside scenario assumes that normalized P/E increases by a decile (or to the all-time max if current P/E ratios are already above the 90th percentile) and an average growth rate of 6%.



Overweight Developed Markets ex US Small Caps vs Developed Markets ex US Equities

Recommended Since September 30, 2023

INVESTMENT THESIS: We expect developed markets (DM) ex US small-cap equities will outperform their mid-/large-cap counterparts, given their low relative valuations and favorable fundamental outlook. DM ex US small caps perform best during economic upswings and appear well-priced for a recessionary scenario. Small caps have outperformed mid/large caps since the end of February as their domestic orientation has been in favor amid concerns over US tariff policy.

- **KEY SUPPORT #1:** DM ex US small-cap equities trade at an 11% *discount* to their mid-/large-cap peers, according to our preferred normalized earnings multiple, compared to their typical 16% *premium*. Historically, small caps consistently outperformed mid/large caps over subsequent three-year periods when starting valuations traded at a discount. Small caps are adequately priced for an economic downturn scenario, which should limit downside risk and support outperformance on a subsequent economic rebound. While momentum has recently turned in favor of small caps, upside potential remains. Small caps still sit 4% below their all-time highs, whereas mid/large caps have already overtaken prior peaks.

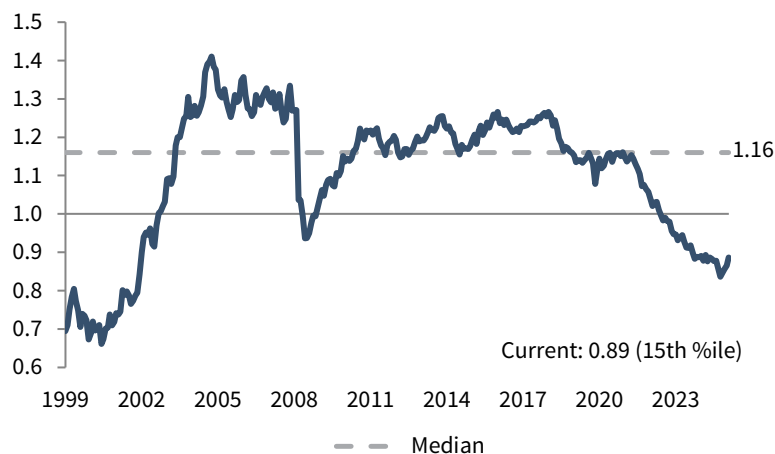
- **KEY SUPPORT #2:** The fundamental outlook stands at odds with prevailing valuations. While US tariff policy has added a degree of uncertainty to the outlook, non-US economic growth is expected to rebound in the next several years after slowing in 2024, which should support small cap performance. On earnings, analysts expect EPS growth of 13% in the next 12 months, compared to 6% for the mid- and large-cap universe. The expected earnings outperformance is broadly based across geographies and sectors.

- **KEY RISKS:** Global economic uncertainty and GDP growth downgrades would likely weigh on small caps as they are cyclically oriented and have higher leverage, lower profitability, and are prone to larger drawdowns than mid-/large-cap peers. Small caps lagged during the August 2024 global equity sell-off, which was exacerbated by an unwind of short Japanese yen positioning. However, yen appreciation has typically been a headwind to mid-/large caps, supporting the trade's performance. Further Bank of Japan policy normalization would likely support the yen.

RELATIVE NORMALIZED VALUATIONS:

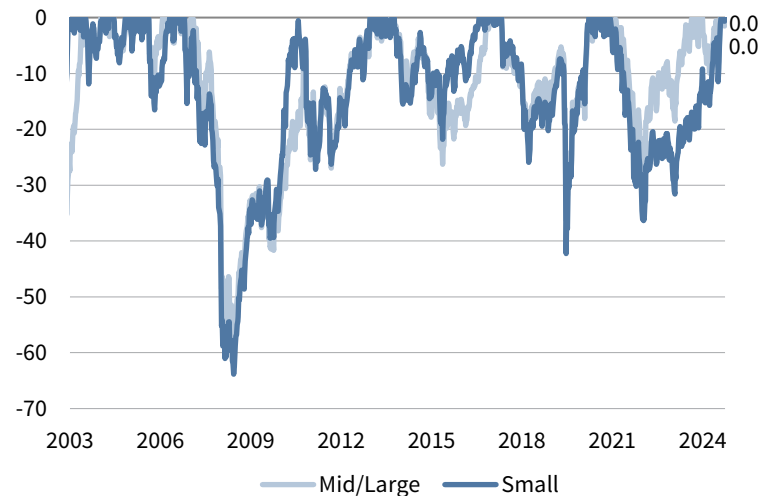
DM EX US SC VS LARGE/MID CAP

May 31, 1999 – June 30, 2025



DRAWDOWN FROM ROLLING 3-YR HIGH: DM EX US EQUITY

January 1, 1993 – June 30, 2025 • US Dollars • Percent (%)





Overweight US Small-Cap Equities vs US Equities

Recommended Since April 30, 2022

INVESTMENT THESIS: We expect small-cap equities will outperform their mid- to large-cap counterparts in the United States given their historically large valuation discount. Profit growth has disappointed in recent years and hurt performance, yet this sets the stage for a strong expected rebound when the cycle turns. Downside risk exists for small-cap equities should growth slow due to tariffs. However, there could also be more upside for small companies from expected Fed cuts and for small-cap sectors like industrials if efforts to boost US manufacturing bear fruit.

■ **KEY SUPPORT #1:** US small-cap valuations are steeply discounted relative to US mid- to large-cap equities. The S&P 600® Index trades at a 52% discount to the MSCI US Index's 23.8x normalized price-to-cash earnings multiple, a historical low dating back to 2004. Large-cap stocks also trade at higher forward price-to-earnings ratios than small caps. The 22.6x MSCI US Index forward P/E is 45% higher than that for small-cap stocks, whereas historically large caps have traded at a 10% discount.

■ **KEY SUPPORT #2:** The S&P 600® Index represents a higher quality subset of smaller businesses that should weather an economic slowdown better than less profitable peers. These companies may also benefit from some of President Trump's initiatives, such as deregulation and tax cuts. Tariffs create concerns around margins for small-cap companies in sectors like consumer discretionary, but domestically centered companies in other sectors like financials may be more insulated. Some sectors (e.g., industrials) may benefit if demand rises for domestically produced goods.

■ **KEY RISKS:** Small-cap companies have lower margins, higher debt levels, and tend to be more cyclical than larger-cap stocks, making them more vulnerable to an economic slowdown. Ongoing demand for mega-cap tech stocks could weigh on relative small-cap performance. Recession concerns around tariff policy could also see a flight to higher quality, defensive large-cap stocks at the expense of small-cap peers, perpetuating the current valuation discount.

5-YR EXCESS RETURN S&P 600® VS MSCI USA

December 31, 2003 – June 30, 2025 • Rolling 5-Yr Relative AACR (%)



RELATIVE NORMALIZED P/E RATIO: S&P 600® VS MSCI USA

December 31, 2003 – June 30, 2025





Overweight Global ex US Equities vs US Equities

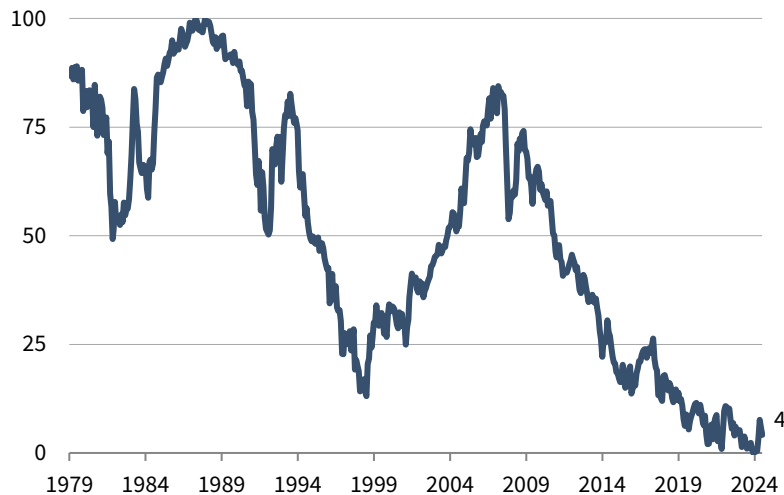
Recommended Since May 31, 2025

INVESTMENT THESIS: We expect global ex US equities will outperform US equities as economic growth in the United States slows relative to elsewhere and the US dollar weakens. Relative valuations for global ex US equities remain very low, while relative momentum is not yet stretched compared to past episodes of USD weakness, thus allowing for higher upside potential.

- **KEY SUPPORT #1:** Global ex US equities have historically outperformed US equities in weak dollar cycles as non-US currencies rallied against the dollar. While they have lagged US equities for most of the past decade amid continued US dollar strength, they are also starting to outperform in 2025 as the dollar has weakened. We expect the dollar should continue to weaken over our tactical horizon as US tariffs and higher-for-longer US interest rates result in US economic growth slowing relative to elsewhere. US policy uncertainty may also continue to weigh on the demand for US assets and place downward pressure on the dollar.
- **KEY SUPPORT #2:** Valuations for both US equities and the US dollar have run up and remain near all-time highs. In contrast, relative valuations for global ex US equities and currencies remain low, which should help to mitigate some downside risks. Relative equity and currency momentum also has more room to run as demonstrated by past weak dollar cycles, such as between 1971–78, 1985–95, and 2002–11, implying further upside potential remains.
- **KEY RISKS:** US tariffs and increased policy uncertainty may weigh on the growth of non-US economies, although continued monetary and fiscal policy easing should help to provide some support. Global ex-US equities are also underweight technology, which drove recent US equity outperformance amid stronger earnings growth. Nevertheless, elevated equity valuations for these sectors imply they are more vulnerable to downside shocks, particularly in the face of slowing global growth.

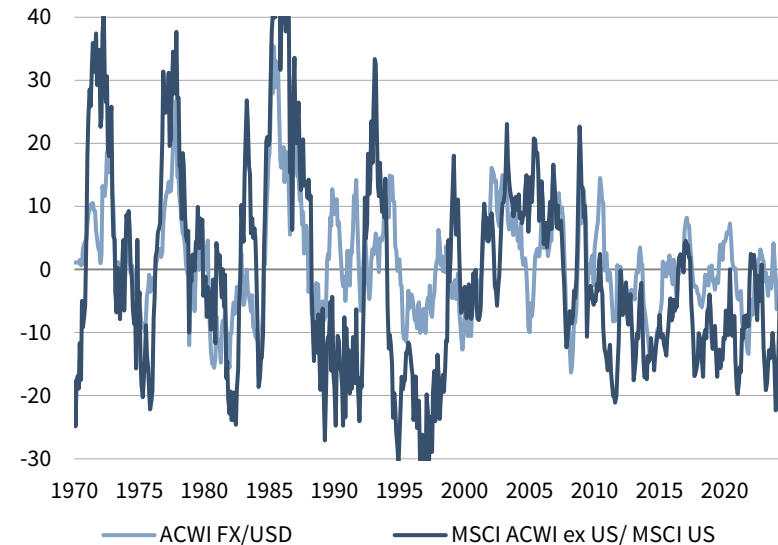
RELATIVE CAPCE: MSCI ACWI EX US / MSCI US

December 31, 1979 – June 30, 2025 • Percentile (%)



RELATIVE 12-MONTH MOMENTUM

December 31, 1970 – June 30, 2025 • Percent (%)





Overweight Unhedged World ex US Treasuries vs US Treasuries

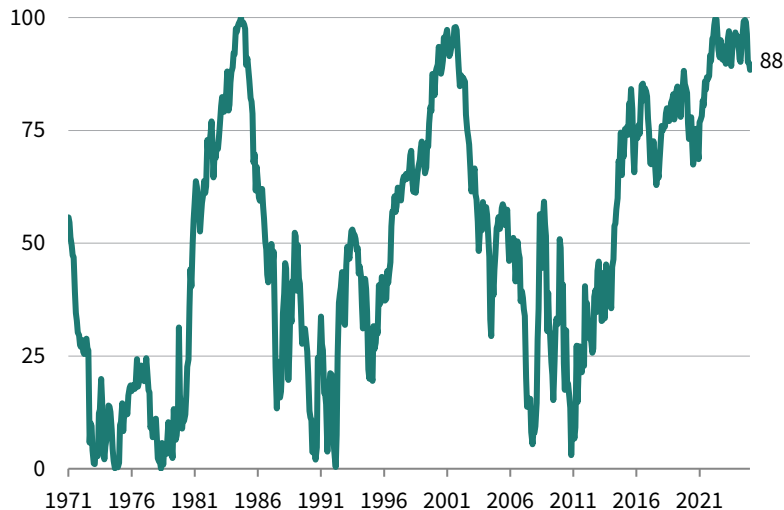
Recommended Since May 31, 2025

INVESTMENT THESIS: Unhedged global ex US Treasuries outperform US Treasuries when the dollar falls. In our view, the USD is expensive and likely to weaken over the next one to three years as the growth and interest rate edge of the US should moderate. Foreign hedging and demand for US assets may also wane given elevated US exposures, expensive US equity valuations, and recent US policies. This trade reflects our negative view on the USD and not the underlying bonds. This position is specifically intended as a way for US-based investors to underweight the USD.

- **KEY SUPPORT #1:** The USD is expensive. Early this year, its trade-weighted real effective exchange hit its fourth highest level since 1971, and it remains elevated. When starting valuations are this elevated, it typically leads to a multi-year decline in the USD. This tends to support unhedged global ex US Treasuries relative to US Treasuries. Historically, when USD valuations hit the 90th percentile, subsequent rolling three-year annualized returns for this position have ranged from -1.8% to 19.1%, averaging 9.1%.

USD BASKET TRADE-WEIGHTED REAL EXCHANGE RATE

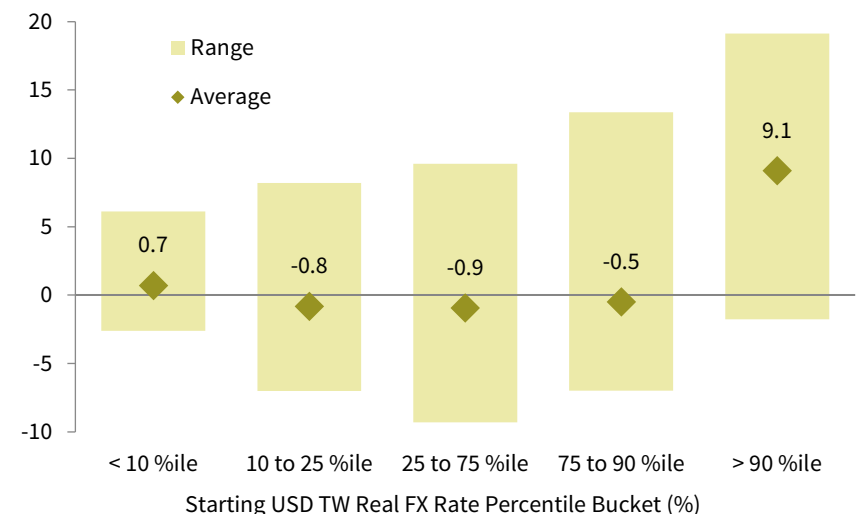
June 30, 1971 – June 30, 2025 • Percentile (%)



- **KEY SUPPORT #2:** We expect USD weakness as secular US advantages fade. The USD's recent strength reflected robust US growth and higher interest rates, but these advantages are set to fade. A more balanced US economy, increased fiscal support in Europe and China, and higher US tariffs—likely to impact the US the most—should help narrow the growth differential between the United States and the rest of the world. This could prompt the Federal Reserve to accelerate rate cuts, while other major central banks near the end of their easing cycles. Foreign investors may also reduce exposure to US assets, which has risen with US equity outperformance, amid growing policy and growth risks.
- **KEY RISKS:** This trade faces two-way risks. Trade tensions could ease, allowing the US to maintain its growth advantage and attract more capital. Conversely, a tit-for-tat global trade war could trigger broader weakness and a flight to safety. Both scenarios may support the USD, illustrating the “dollar smile.” Additionally, implementing this trade incurs a cost, as US Treasuries currently yield 141 basis points more than unhedged global ex US Treasuries.

RELATIVE UNHEDGED WORLD ex US VS US TREASURY BOND RETURNS

January 31, 1985 – June 30, 2025 • 3-Yr Annualized Return (%)





Overweight Latin American Equities vs Emerging Markets Equities

Recommended Since June 30, 2025

INVESTMENT THESIS: We expect Latin American (LatAm) equities will outperform emerging markets (EM) equities in an environment characterized by disruptive shifts in US trade policy. LatAm valuation levels are deeply discounted, performance momentum has rebounded, and the impact of tariffs is likely to be limited compared to major EM peers in Asia. Recent US tariff proposals on Brazilian imports have introduced headline risk, but their impact will be mitigated given that direct trade exposures are modest.

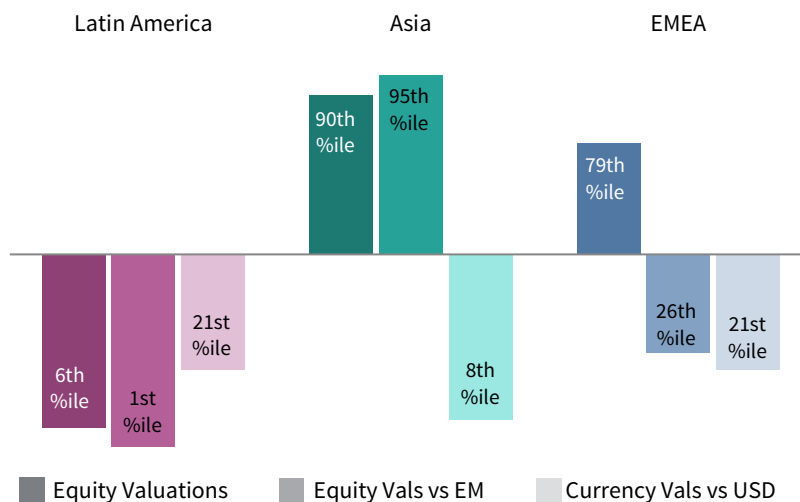
- **KEY SUPPORT #1:** LatAm equities trade at a 50% discount to broader EM stocks, which is among the cheapest levels on record and driven, in part, by rich valuations for their Asian peers. Starting relative valuations for this pair have shown a meaningful relationship with subsequent performance over tactical time horizons. Momentum has rebounded, recovering from oversold conditions in 2024. However, prior cycles and current momentum metrics suggests potential for further upside. This combination of cheap valuations and budding momentum will continue to support performance.

- **KEY SUPPORT #2:** LatAm should be relatively insulated from US policy uncertainty. Economies in the region tend to run trade deficits or modest surpluses with the United States, in contrast to the export-heavy Asia region. This suggests elevated downside risk to EPS growth for the latter as tariffs lead to slower growth and reduced trade volumes. Global investors tend to be underweight the LatAm region, which is an attractive destination for global capital flows given their low equity and currency valuations. Potential for higher commodity prices owing to escalating geopolitical tensions, a softer US dollar, and structural trends (e.g., energy transition) would support LatAm performance.

- **KEY RISKS:** Political and fiscal risks are top of mind. Further US tariff escalation could weigh on investor sentiment towards the region. Major elections will be held across LatAm in the coming years, with spending likely to increase in the lead up amid already wide current account and fiscal deficits. Interest rates are elevated, which may restrict economic activity in the near term. LatAm is also underweight technology sectors, which could return to favor.

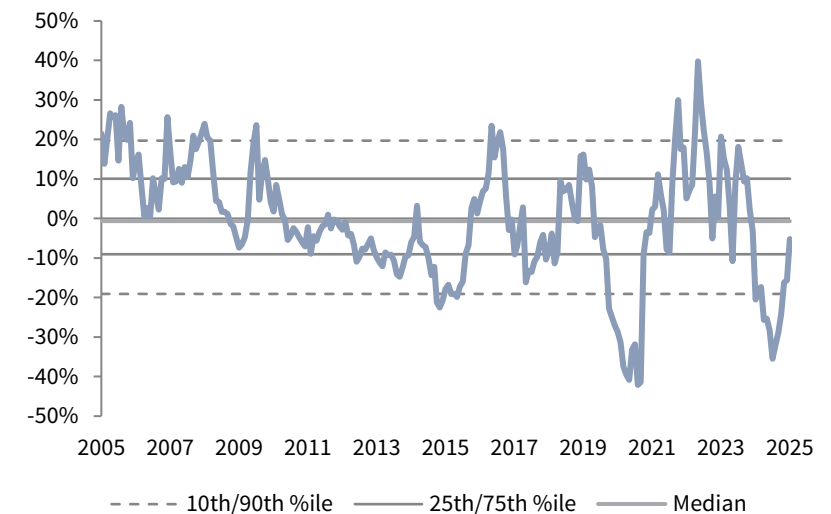
EQUITY AND CURRENCY VALUATIONS OF MAJOR EM REGIONS

As of June 30, 2025 • Current Percentile Relative to Trailing 20-Yr History



12-MONTH RELATIVE PRICE MOMENTUM: LATAM VS EM

June 30, 2005 – June 30, 2025 • Percent (%)





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