

Equity Strategy

The underperformance of Consumer Cyclical stocks can have legs; Implications of CESI moving negative

- The consensus view in the first half of the year has been to buy Cyclical sectors on PMI rebound, and also to favour consumer exposure on an improvement in real disposable incomes. While we have some sympathy with the view that European consumers could fare better this year than last, on falling inflation and on rate cuts, and clearly the Eurozone consumer wasn't maxed out, with still elevated net wealth position, we have argued through Q2 to play a barbell of Defensives together with Mining - see [report](#). Stylewise, we entered the year again **OW Growth vs Value**, same as last year, and keep that view, for now. Also, one should note the **terrible performance of small caps everywhere again this year** - behind by 15% in the US, 3% in Europe and 11% in Japan so far in 2024. Within this, we have very recently advised to finally turn more bullish on some **selected small caps, such as FTSE250 in the UK** - see [report](#), to take advantage of the heavy prior underperformance and political changes.
- **On the short side**, we have specifically **focused on Consumer Cyclical plays** - such as **Autos and Luxury**, and now the question is whether one should use the recent weakness in the space to add - top chart. We think that **there is likely further under**

Table Of Contents

The underperformance of Consumer Cyclical stocks can have legs; Implications of CESI moving negative	3
Equity Strategy Key Calls and Drivers	4
Top Picks	5
Equity Flows Snapshot.....	6
Technical Indicators.....	7
Performance	8
Earnings	9
Valuations.....	10
Economic, Interest Rate and Exchange Rate Outlook	12
Sector, Regional and Asset Class Allocations.....	13

The underperformance of Consumer Cyclical stocks can have legs; Implications of CESI moving negative

Figure 1: Global Composite PMI



Figure 5: MSCI US and European Growth vs Value performance



Source: Datastream

We entered this year again OW Growth vs Value style, same as in 2023, and note that Growth strongly outperformed in the US, and also in Europe.

Table 1: Key regions small vs large cap ytd performance

YTD performance		
MSCI US	Small Caps	0.8%
	Large Caps	15.7%
MSCI Eurozone	Small Caps	1.9%
	Large Caps	8

Figure 8: FTSE100 vs FTSE250 since Jan'21



Source: Datastream

For UK in particular, we reversed our long-lasting large cap preference last month, expecting UK election outcome to help small caps from here.

Figure 9: MSCI UK Small vs large cap performance around BoE first cut



The downshift in number of employees quitting in the US is consistent with slower pace of wage growth going forward.

Figure 14: US Manufacturing and Services ISM - Employment



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

Business surveys have also been pointing to a softening labour market. The employment component of ISM Manufacturing was holding up so far but weakened in the the month of June, and Services employment is downshifting.

Figure 15: Eurozone Manufacturing and Services PMI - employment



Figure 18: European Autos EPS/Sales



Source: Datastream

EBIT margins for the sector are still elevated in a historical context, and will be under pressure from a rollover in pricing and more Chinese competition. Inventory levels have normalized.

Figure 19: Car buying Incentives in China (%)



Table 3: Profit warnings so far

Company Name	Company Ticker	Commentary	Date	1Day Perf relative to market, %	Sector
YOUGOV PLC	YOU LN	YouGov shares plunge after polling and data analytics group warned that annual profits would fall short of forecasts	20 Jun	-47.2%	Communication Services
SIG PLC	SHI LN	SIG profit warns due to challenging market conditions	24 Jun	-5.8%	Industrials
AIRBUS SE	AIR FP	Airbus shares fall as plane maker cuts profit forecast as its supply chain disruptions worsened	25 Jun	-9.2%	Industrials
POOL CORP	POOL US	Pool shares slump after swimming pool supplies distributor slashes earnings forecast citing challenges in discretionary parts of its business amid cautious consumer spending	25 Jun	-8.4%	Consumer Discretionary
SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO	LUV US	Southwest Air cuts revenue outlook as CEO fends off activist	26 Jun	-0.4%	Industrials
WALGREENS BOOTS ALLIANCE INC	WBA US	Walgreens shares plunge on outlook cut and more stores clos			

Figure 25: MSCI Europe Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure relative performance



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

The hotels sector has underperformed the broader index by 7% year to date.

Figure 29: Key regions CESIs



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

Big picture, CESIs have turned negative in most key regions.

Table 4: MSCI Europe sectors relative performance when Euro Area CESI goes below 0 and stays negative for 2 months

Median		1m	3m	6
--------	--	----	----	---

Equity Strategy Key Calls and Drivers

SPW, an equal-weighted S&P500 index, has stalled since March, and is behind SPX so far this year by more than 10%. We think this is reflecting a changing Growth-Policy narrative vs early 2024. Entering this year, investor expectations were for a Goldilocks outcome – growth acceleration and at the same time quick Fed easing, starting already in March. The early Fed cuts and the consequent improving credit impulse didn't materialize, which should weigh on growth in 2H. US activity momentum is slowing, with CESI outright negative at present, putting EPS growth projections of as much as 15% acceleration between Q1 and Q4 of this year at risk. Instead of easing preemptively for market-friendly reasons, such as falling inflation, as was the view at the start of the year, the Fed could end up easing, but reactively, in a response to weakening growth. At the same time, there is no safety net any more, the market is positioned long, Vix is at lows, potentially underpricing risks and credit spreads are extremely tight – this is as good as it gets. Adding to the picture strengthening USD and elevated political uncertainty currently, we arrive at a problematic setup for the equity market during summer. In terms of positioning, we have entered this year again OW Growth vs Value style and Large vs Small caps, and we are keeping these for 2H in the US, not expecting much broadening. The recent relative dip due to French political uncertainty is likely to become a buying opportunity as we move through 2H, but we think the risk of further drawdowns is not finished, as the potential new French government will likely try to test the limits of what they can do. Cyclical were the best performing sectors in Q1, but struggled to out

Table 11: J.P. Morgan Equity Strategy — Key regional calls

Region	Recommendations	J.P. Morgan Views
EM	Neutral	China tactical positive call since Q1, but structural concerns remain
DM	Neutral	
US	Neutral	Expensive with earnings risk. but our ytd Growth style OW helps
Japan	Overweight	Large rate differential, TSE reforms, consumer reflation, but JPY needs to show stability
Eurozone	Neutral	Eurozone growth differential bottoming, cheap
UK	Overweight	Valuations still look very attractive, low beta with the highest regional dividend yield

Source: J.P. Morgan estimates.

Top Picks

Table 12: J.P. Morgan European Strategy: Top European picks

Name	Ticker	Sector	Rating	Price	Currency	Market Cap (€ Bn)	EPS Growth			Dividend Yield	12m Fwd P/E			Performance	
							23e	24e	25e		24e	Current	10Y Median	% Premium	-3m
ENI	ENI IM	Energy	OW	15	E										

Equity Flows Snapshot

Table 13: DM Equity Fund Flows Summary

	Regional equity fund flows									
	\$mn					% AUM				
	1w	1m	3m	ytd	12m	1w	1m	3m	ytd	12m
Europe ex UK	-109	-393	2,153	1,180	-6,860	0.0%	-0.1%	0.6%	0.4%	-2.

Technical Indicators

Figure 35: S&P500 RSI



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

Figure 36: EuroStoxx50 RSI



Performance

Table 14: Sector Index Performances — MSCI Europe

(%change)		Local currency		
Industry Group		4week	12m	YTD
Europe		(1.4)	11.5	8.4
Energy		4.1	14.2	6.3
Materials		(0.8)	11.3	3.5
	Chemicals	(1.2)	8.7	1.6
	Construction Materials	2.2	40.7	19.5
	Metals & Mining	(0.6)	4.7	1.1
Industrials		(2.2)	19.6	10.5
	Capital Goods	(2.9)	23.4	12.1
	Transport			

Earnings

Table 16: IBES Consensus EPS Sector Forecasts — MSCI Europe

	EPS Growth (%yoy)			
	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Europe	(3.8)	4.3	10.1	9.1
Energy	(31.6)	(3.7)	2.2	3.2
Materials	(39.0)	7.5	14.3	8.3
Chemicals	(39.0)	23.7	18.9	13.0
Construction Materials	12.2	14.3	9.5	8.7
Metals & Mining	(46.7)	(4.6)	10.4	3

Valuations

Table 18: IBES Consensus European Sector Valuations

	P/E			Dividend Yield			EV/EBITDA			Price to Book		
	2024e	2025e	2026e	2024e	2025e	2026e	2024e	2025e	2026e	2024e	2025e	2026e
Europe	14.4	13.1	12.0	3.3%	3.5%	3.8%	8.2	7.7	7.1	2.0	1.8	1.

Table 19: IBES Consensus P/E and 12-Month Forward Dividend Yields — Country Forecasts

Country	Index	P/E				Dividend Yield
		12mth Fwd	2024E	2025E	2026E	12mth Fwd
Austria	ATX	8.1	8.2	7.9	7.4	5.8%
Denmark	Denmark KFX	27.3	29.8	25.3	21.7	1.5%
Finland	MSCI Finland	14.9	15.9	14.0	12.9	4.4%
France	CAC 40	12.6	13.2	12.1	11.2	3.5%
Germany	DAX	11.9	12.7	11.3		

Economic, Interest Rate and Exchange Rate Outlook

Table 20: Economic Outlook in Summary

	Real GDP % oya			Real GDP % over previous period, saar						Consumer prices % oya			
	2023E	2024E	2025E	4Q23	1Q24	2Q24E	3Q24E	4Q24E	1Q25E	4Q23	2Q24E	4Q24E	2Q25E
United States	2.5	2.3	1.7	3.4	1.4	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.2	3.3	3.0	2.4

Sector, Regional and Asset Class Allocations

Table 24: J.P. Morgan Equity Strategy — European Sector Allocation

		MSCI Europe Weights	Allocation	Deviation	Recommendation
Energy		5.6%	8.0%	2.4%	OW
Materials		7.0%	6.0%	-1.0%	N
	Chemicals				UW
	Construction Materials				N
	Metals & Mining				N
Industrials		15.8%	14.0%	-1.8%	N
	Capital Goods ex Aerospace & Defence				UW
	Aerospace & Defence				OW
	Transport				N
	Business Services			</	



Click [here](#) for our weekly podcast

Anamil Kochar (anamil.kochar@jpmchase.com) of J.P. Morgan India Private Limited is a co-author of this report.

Analyst Certification: The Research Analyst(s) denoted by an “AC” on the cover of this report certifies (or, where multiple Research Analysts are primarily responsible for this report, the Research Analyst denoted by an “AC” on the cover or within the document individually certifies, with respect to each security or issuer that the Research Analyst covers in this research) that: (1) all of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect the Research Analyst’s personal views about any and all of the subject securities or issuers; and (2) no part of any of the Research Analyst’s compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by the Research Analyst(s) in this report. For all Korea-based Research Analysts listed on the front cover, if applicable, they also certify, as per KOFIA requirements, that the Research Analyst’s analysis was made in good faith and that the views reflect the Research Analyst’s own opinion, without undue influence or intervention.

All authors named within this report are Research Analysts who produce independent research unless otherwise specified. In Europe, Sector Specialists (Sales and Trading) may be shown on this report as contacts but are not authors of the report or part of the Research Department.

Important Disclosures

Company-Specific Disclosures: Important disclosures, including price charts and credit opinion history tables, are available for compendium reports and all J.P. Morgan–covered

Other Disclosures

J.P. Morgan is a marketing name for investment banking businesses of JPMorgan Chase & Co. and its subsidiaries and affiliates worldwide.

UK MIFID FICC research unbundling exemption: UK clients should refer to [UK MIFID Research Unbundling exemption](#) for details of J.P. Morgan's implementation of the FICC research exemption and guidance on relevant FICC research categorisation.

All research material made available to clients are simultaneously available on our client website, J.P. Morgan Markets, unless specifically permitted by relevant laws. Not all research content is redistributed, e-mailed or made available to third-party aggregators. For all research material available on a particular stock, please contact your sales representative.

Any long form nomenclature for references to China; Hong Kong; Taiwan; and Macau within this research material are Mainland China; Hong Kong SAR (China); Taiwan (China); and Macau SAR (China).

J.P. Morgan Research may, from time to time, write on issuers or securities targeted by economic or financial

etc. Research issued by JPMSAL has been prepared in accordance with J.P. Morgan Australia's Research Independence Policy which can be found at the following link: [J.P. Morgan Australia - Research Independence Policy](#). **Brazil:** Banco J.P. Morgan S.A. is regulated by the Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (CVM) and by the Central Bank of Brazil. Ombudsman J.P. Morgan: 0800-7700847 / 0800-7700810 (For Hearing Impaired) / ouvidoria.jp.morgan@jpmorgan.com. **Canada:** J.P. Morgan Securities Canada Inc. is a registered investment dealer, regulated by the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization and the Ontario Securities Commission and is the participating member on Canadian exchanges. This material is distributed in Canada by or on behalf of J.P. Morgan Securities Canada Inc. **Chile:** Inversiones J.P. Morgan Limitada is an unregulated entity incorporated in Chile. **China:** J.P. Morgan Securities (China) Company Limited has been approved by CSRC to conduct the securities investment consultancy business. **Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC):** JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Dubai Branch is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA) and its registered address is Dubai International Financial Centre - The Gate, West Wing, Level 3 and 9 PO Box 506551, Dubai, UAE. This material has been distributed by JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., Dubai Branch to persons regarded as professional clients or market counterparties as defined under the DFSA rules. **European Economic Area**

(Taiwan) Limited is a participant of the Taiwan Stock Exchange (company-type) and regulated by the Taiwan Securities and Futures Bureau. Material relating to equity securities is issued and distributed in Taiwan by J.P. Morgan Securities (Taiwan) Limited, subject to the license scope and the applicable laws and the regulations in Taiwan. According to Paragraph 2, Article 7-1 of Operational Regulations Governing Securities Firms Recommending Trades in Securities to Customers (as amended or supplemented) and/or other applicable laws or regulations, please note that the recipient of this material is not permitted to engage in any activities in connection with the material that may give rise to conflicts of interests, unless otherwise disclosed in the "Important Disclosures" in this material. **Thailand:** This material is issued and distributed in Thailand by JPMorgan Securities (Thailand) Ltd., which is a member of the Stock Exchange of Thailand and is regulated by the Ministry of Finance and the Securities and Exchange Commission, and its registered address is 3rd Floor, 20 North Sathorn Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500. **UK:** Unless specified to the contrary, research is distributed in the UK by J.P. Morgan Securities plc ("JPMS plc") which is a member of the London Stock Exchange and is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. JPMS plc is registered in England & Wales No. 2711006, Registered Office 25 Bank Street, London, E14 5JP. This material is directed in the UK only to: (a) persons having professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) (Order) 2005 ("the FPO"); (b) persons outlined

subject to electronic monitoring: <https://www.jpmorgan.com/disclosures/email>

MSCI: Certain information herein ("Information") is reproduced by permission of MSCI Inc., its affiliates and information providers ("MSCI") ©2024. No reproduction or dissemination of the Information is permitted without an appropriate license. MSCI MAKES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES (INCLUDING MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS) AS TO THE INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMS ALL LIABILITY TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW. No Information constitutes investment advice, except for any applicable Information from MSCI ESG Research. Subject also to [msci.com/disclaimer](https://www.msci.com/disclaimer)

Sustainalytics: Certain information, data, analyses and opinions contained herein are reproduced by permission of Sustainalytics and: (1) includes the proprietary information of Sustainalytics; (2) may not be copied or redistributed except as specifically authorized; (3) do not constitute investment advice nor an endorsement of any product or project; (4) are provided solely for informational purposes; and (5) are not warranted to be complete, accurate or timely. Sustainalytics is not responsible for any trading decisions, damages or other losses related to it or its use. The use of the data is subject to conditions available at <https://www.sustainalytics.com/legal-disclaimers>. ©2024 Sustainalytics. All Rights Reserved.

"Other Disclosures" last revised July 06, 2024.

Copyright 2024 JPMorgan Chase &