

# The Market Place

- Global equities rose 1.0%
- The IMF revised their growth forecast, anticipating the global economy expanding by 3.1% in 2024, up by one-fifth from their October forecast
- Brent crude fell 7.4% last week to \$77.3 per barrel
- Gold rose 1.1% to \$2,039.8 per ounce

## US

US equities rose 1.4%

The US Treasury lowered the Jan-Mar borrowing estimate from \$816bn to \$760bn, indicating an improved budget deficit path

Consumer confidence reached a two-year high, rising to 114.8 in January

Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) data showed unexpected job openings growth (9.026m in December vs 8.75m expected), and ADP's private payrolls increased by 107k (vs 150k expected)

The ISM manufacturing print rose to a 15-month high of 49.1 (vs 47.2 expected)

Nonfarm productivity exceeded expectations in Q4 at an annualised rate of 3.2%

Weekly initial jobless claims for the week ending January 27th rose to 224k vs 212k expected

Strong payrolls report for January showed significant beats in headline (353k vs 185k expected) and private (317k vs 170k) numbers

## Europe

European equities rose 0.1%

European Q4 GDP showed zero growth, which meant that the Euro Area avoided a technical recession

Spanish CPI unexpectedly rose 3.5% in January (vs 3.0% expected)

Euro Area flash CPI remained slightly higher than expected (2.8% vs 2.7%)

The unemployment rate in the Euro Area held steady at 6.4% in December

## UK

UK equities fell 0.1%

UK mortgage approvals reached a six-month high of 50.5k in December

The Bank of England left interest rates unchanged, as expected

## Asia / ROW

Global emerging market equities rose 0.3%

Japanese equities rose 1.7% last week, while Chinese equities fell 3.9%

Japan's jobless rate unexpectedly dropped to 2.4% in December from 2.5%

China's benchmark 10-year yield dropped to 2.47%, its lowest in over two decades, on rising expectations of additional monetary easing

Japan's retail sales unexpectedly contracted 2.9% month-on-month in December (vs +0.2% expected)

China's official 2024 PMI data showed manufacturing activity shrinking for the fourth consecutive month in January

The Caixin manufacturing PMI in China remained at 50.8 in January



# Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 2 Feb 2024	Month to date	YTD 2024	12 Months
<b>Developed Market Equities</b>					
United States	USD	1.4%	2.3%	4.0%	20.0%
United Kingdom	GBP	-0.1%	-0.1%	-1.3%	1.7%
Continental Europe	EUR	0.1%	-0.4%	1.6%	9.3%
Japan	JPY	1.7%	-0.4%	7.3%	32.5%
Asia Pacific (ex Japan)	USD	0.5%	1.0%	-3.8%	-6.3%
Australia	AUD	1.9%	0.2%	1.4%	6.8%
Global	USD	1.0%	1.3%	2.5%	15.9%
<b>Emerging markets equities</b>					
Emerging Europe	USD	3.6%	1.7%	4.0%	29.9%
Emerging Asia	USD	0.6%	1.6%	-3.7%	-6.0%
Emerging Latin America	USD	-0.7%	0.0%	-4.8%	15.9%
BRICs	USD	-1.2%	0.3%	-5.4%	-10.4%
China	USD	-3.9%	0.1%	-10.5%	-29.9%
MENA countries	USD	-1.8%	0.5%	0.6%	5.8%
South Africa	USD	-1.6%	-1.4%	-7.0%	-13.1%
India	USD	2.5%	0.6%	0.9%	24.0%
Global emerging markets	USD	0.3%	1.3%	-3.4%	-3.0%
<b>Bonds</b>					
US Treasuries	USD	0.7%	-0.3%	-0.6%	0.5%
US Treasuries (inflation protected)	USD	0.2%	-0.8%	-0.6%	0.6%
US Corporate (investment grade)	USD	0.5%	-0.4%	-0.3%	3.1%
US High Yield	USD	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.4%
UK Gilts	GBP	0.5%	-0.9%	-3.2%	-4.4%
UK Corporate (investment grade)	GBP	0.6%	-0.6%	-1.6%	1.6%
Euro Government Bonds	EUR	0.3%	-0.6%	-1.0%	1.5%
Euro Corporate (investment grade)	EUR	0.2%	-0.5%	-0.4%	4.0%
Euro High Yield	EUR	0.0%	-0.1%	0.8%	8.2%
Japanese Government	JPY	0.5%	0.6%	-0.2%	0.0%
Australian Government	AUD	1.5%	0.2%	0.3%	1.7%
Global Government Bonds	USD	0.4%	-0.7%	-2.4%	-2.5%
Global Bonds	USD	0.3%	-0.7%	-1.8%	-0.3%
Global Convertible Bonds	USD	0.0%	0.1%	-2.0%	-0.3%
Emerging Market Bonds	USD	0.8%	0.0%	-1.3%	2.6%



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Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 2 Feb 2024	Month to date	YTD 2024	12 Months
<b>Property</b>					
US Property Securities	USD	-0.6%	0.6%	-3.6%	-4.8%
Australian Property Securities	AUD	6.1%	1.7%	3.0%	4.9%
Asia Property Securities	USD	-0.5%	-1.1%	-6.7%	-13.6%
Global Property Securities	USD	-0.4%	-0.3%	-4.1%	-4.9%
<b>Currencies</b>					
Euro	USD	-0.7%	-0.6%	-2.5%	-1.1%
UK Pound Sterling	USD	-0.7%	-0.8%	-1.1%	3.1%
Japanese Yen	USD	-0.4%	-1.5%	-5.2%	-13.5%
Australian Dollar	USD	-1.1%	-1.3%	-4.8%	-8.1%
South African Rand	USD	-0.8%	-1.4%	-3.5%	-9.7%
Swiss Franc	USD	-0.4%	-0.9%	-3.3%	5.3%
Chinese Yuan	USD	-0.2%	-0.3%	-1.3%	-6.4%
<b>Commodities &amp; Alternatives</b>					
Commodities	USD	-2.8%	-2.0%	-0.5%	-3.3%
Agricultural Commodities	USD	0.2%	-0.3%	1.1%	-0.4%
Oil	USD	-7.4%	-5.4%	0.4%	-5.9%
Gold	USD	1.1%	-0.5%	-1.1%	6.7%

# Global Matters Weekly

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