Economic & Financial Outlook.

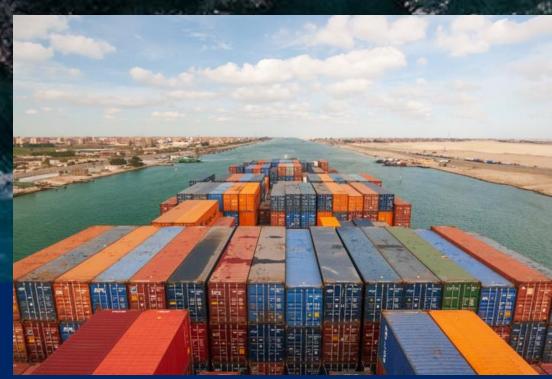
Anton Brender & Florence Pisani



Marketing communication for Professional & Qualified Investors



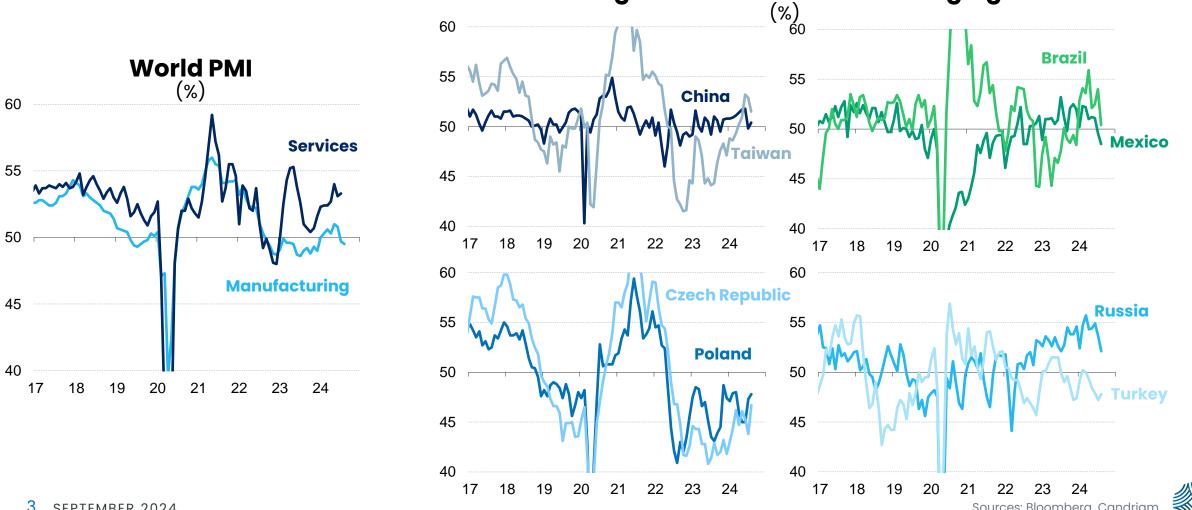




Global economy A manufacturing soft patch.



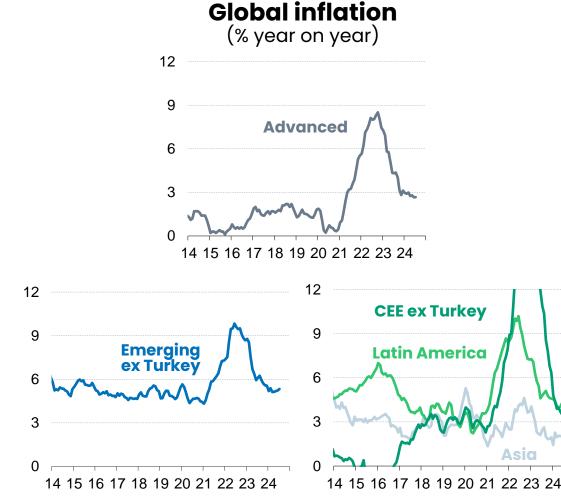
While activity in the services sector has been resilient, it weakened in the manufacturing sector

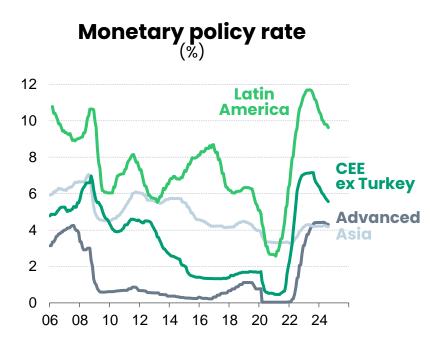


Manufacturing PMI indices in some emerging countries

Sources: Bloomberg, Candrian

Disinflation has moved forward, allowing many central banks to start easing

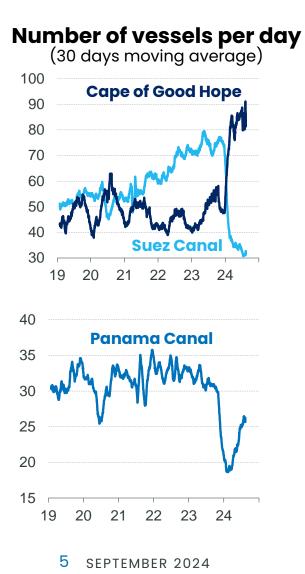


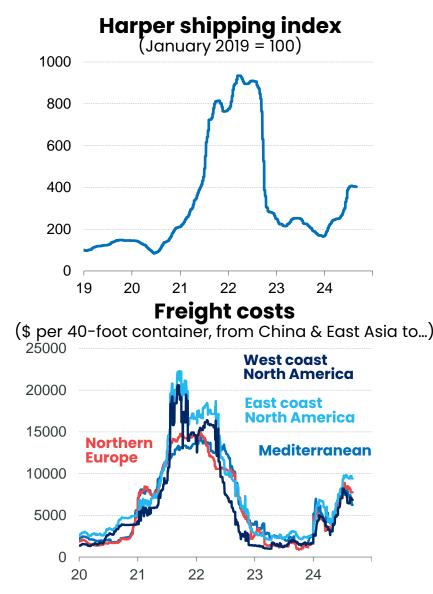


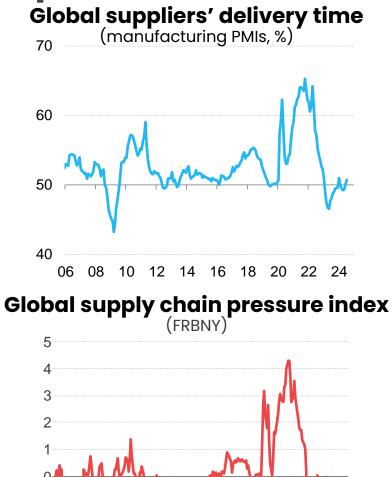
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

4 SEPTEMBER 2024

Freight costs have continued to rise, but there has been no supply chain disruptions so far







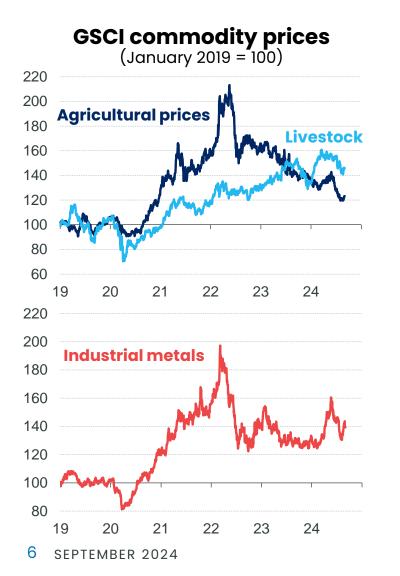
12 14 16 18 20 22 24

Sources: JP Morgan, IMF, Freightos, Candriam

-2 06

08 10

Most commodity prices are stable or have moved down recently





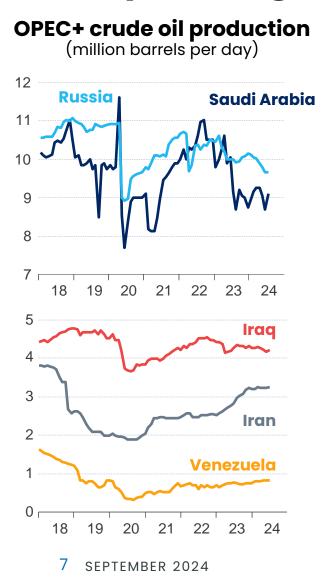


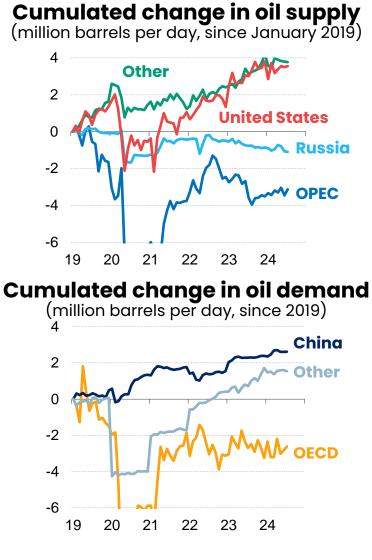
Natural gas price (January 2019 = 100, in local currency)

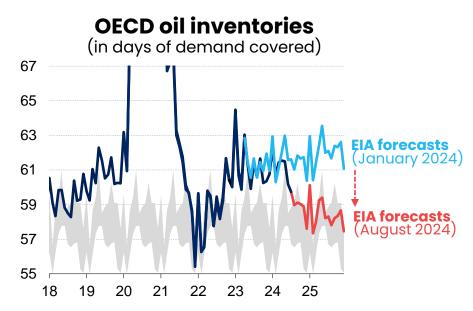


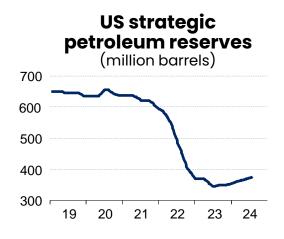
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

Oil prices have stabilized around \$80 per barrel, despite a tightening oil market









Sources: LSEG Datastream, EIA, Candriam



Disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz could of course push oil prices higher



Oil exports via Strait of Hormuz by producer (thousand barrels per day)

	Crude	Products	Total
UAE	2,001	952	2,953
Saudi Arabia	5,860	466	6,326
Kuwait	1,638	807	2,446
Iran	1,366	226	1,591
Qatar	795	375	1,170
Iraq	3,489	458	3,947
Bahrain	0	286	286
Oman	0	0	0
Strait of Hormuz	15,149	3,569	18,718











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Real GDP slowed significantly in Q2 2024



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Services activity is now well below its past trend

GDP by industry

(2019 Q4 = 100, volume)

Selected services sectors



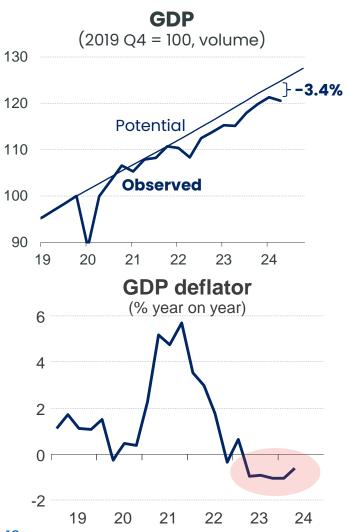
SEPTEMBER 2024

11

Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam



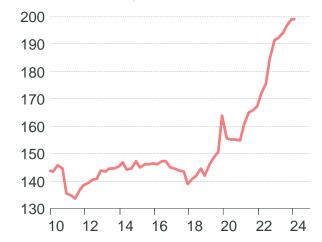
Deflationary forces are still weighing on activity

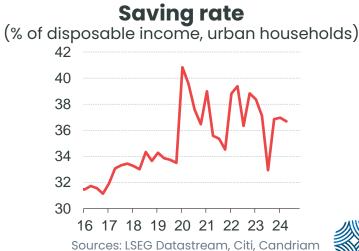




Households' deposits

(% of disposable income)

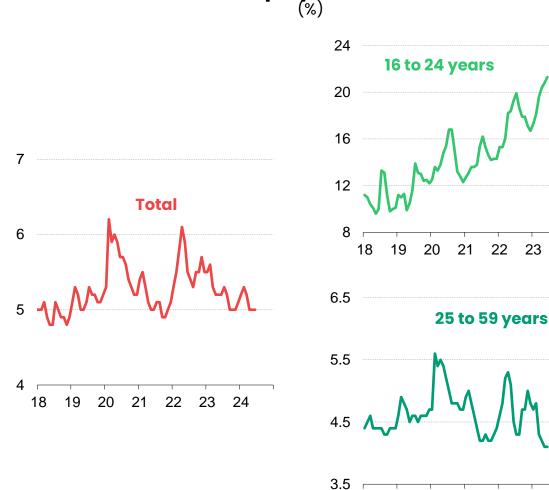






12 SEPTEMBER 2024

Youth unemployment is elevated, and consumer confidence remains depressed



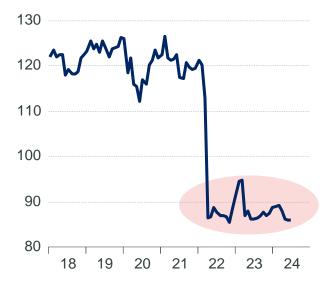
Unemployment rate

18 19 20 21 22 23 24

23

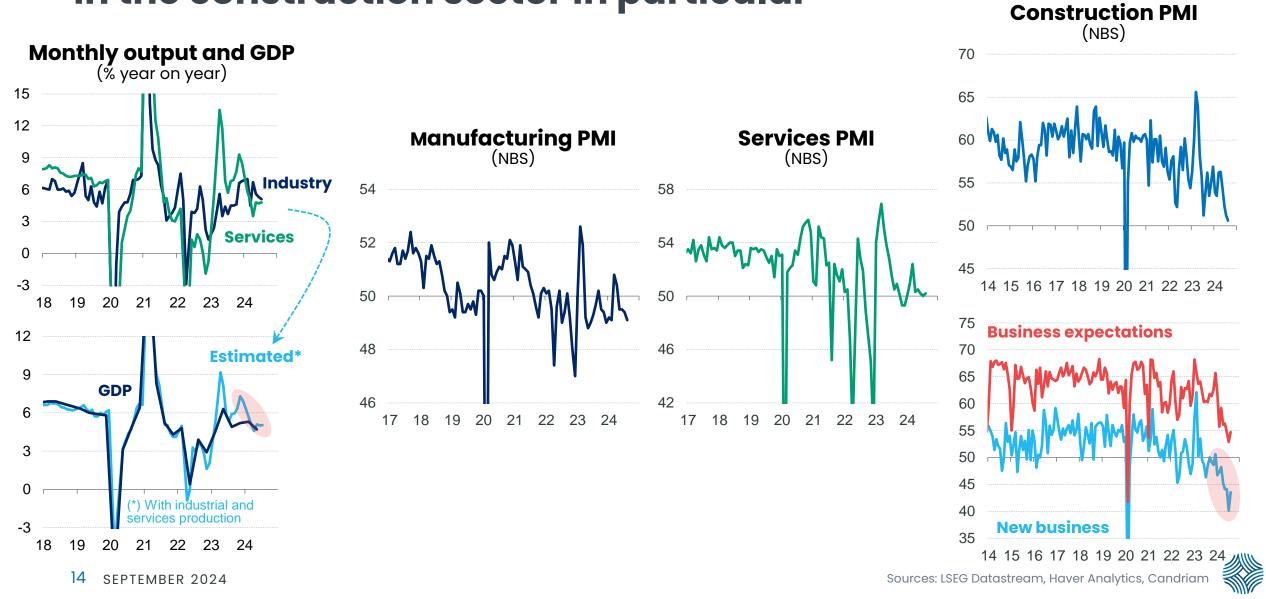
24

Consumer confidence

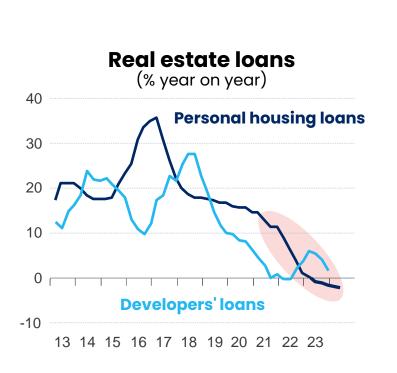


Sources: LSEG Datastream, Bloomberg, Candrian

Monthly indicators point to a weak start of Q3, in the construction sector in particular

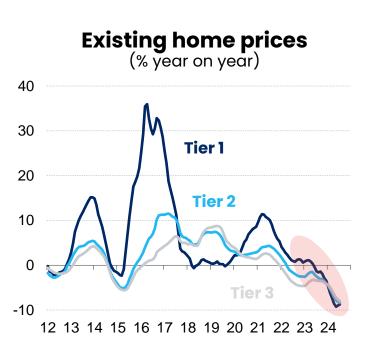


Real estate investment is the main drag on activity



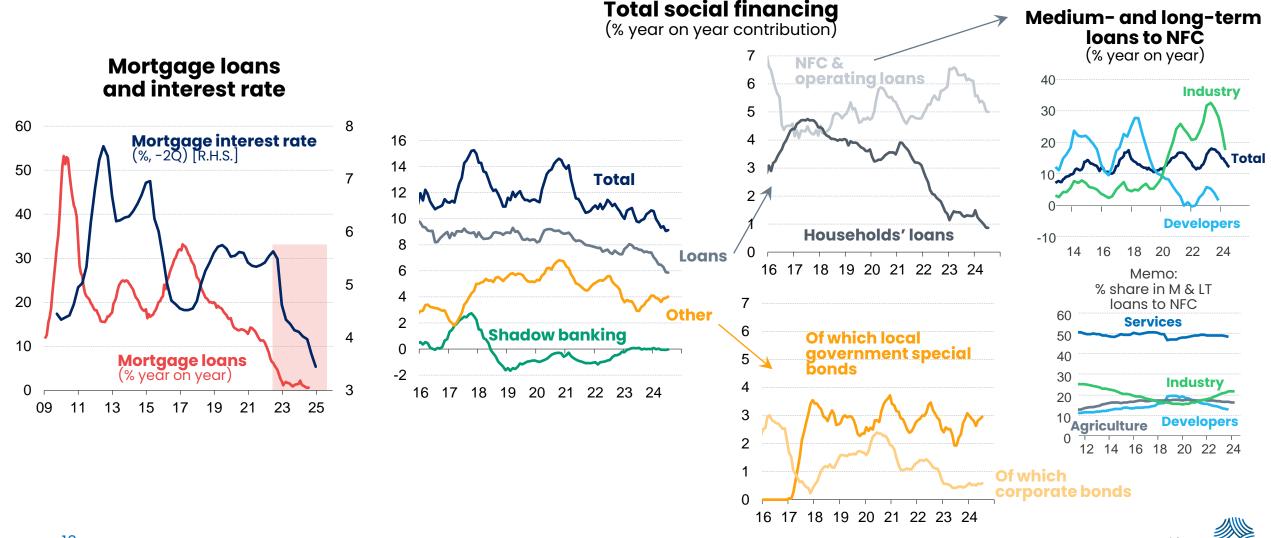


Residential building started and sold



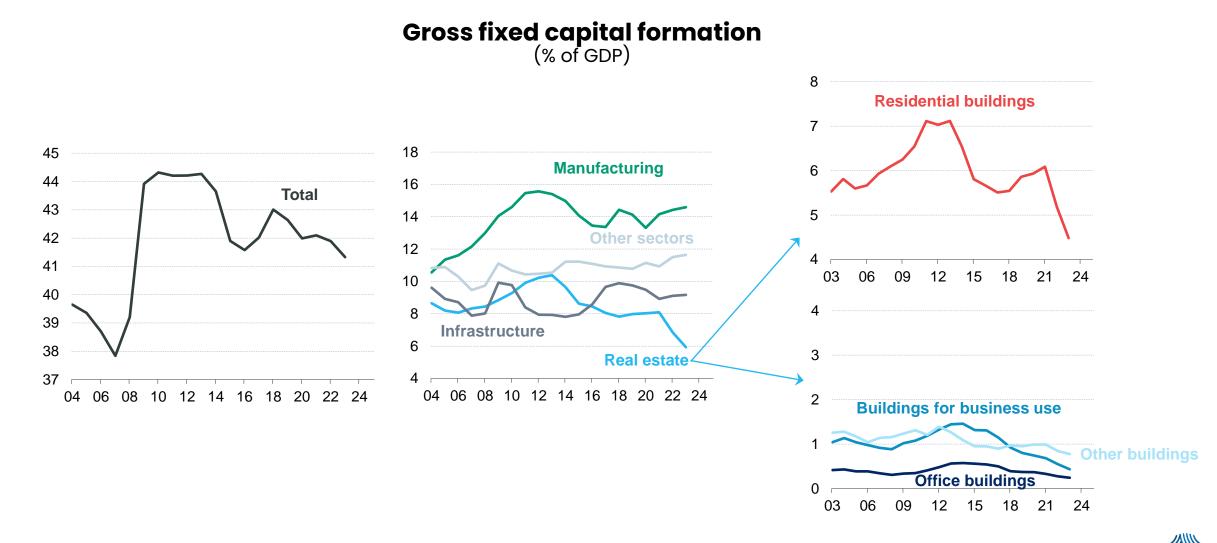


Monetary policy has stopped having traction on mortgage borrowing



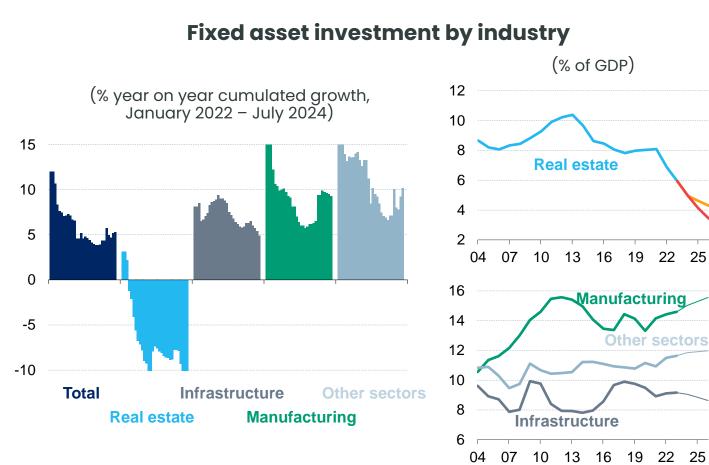
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

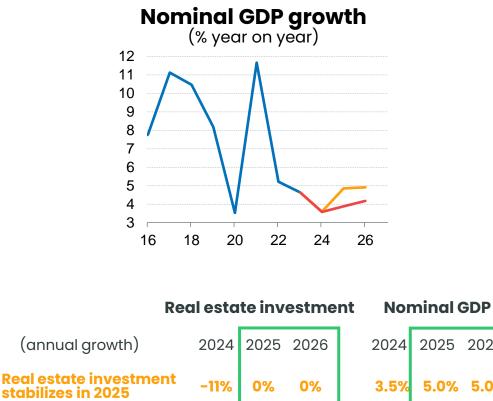
The real estate sector is the source of deflationary pressures that are proving hard to offset! (I)



The real estate sector is the source of deflationary pressures that are proving hard to offset! (II)

25





-11%

-11%

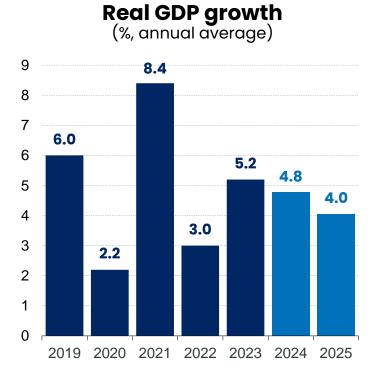
Real estate investment keeps on falling

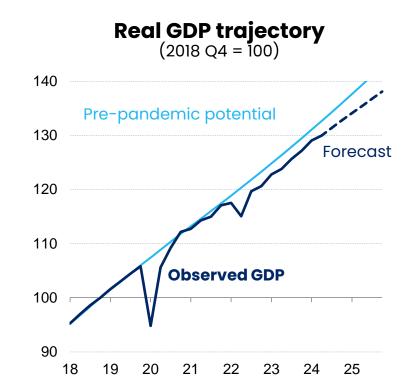




-11%

Against this background, growth is likely to remain subpar in 2025





Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

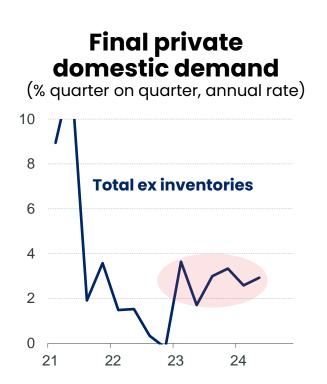


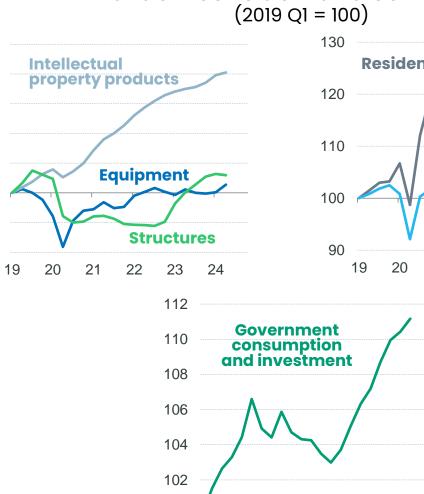
3 United States Rate cuts are coming...



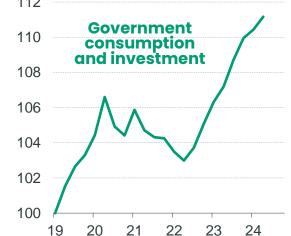
CANDRIAM DUTCH SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT CONFERENCE 2024

Since beginning of 2023, final domestic demand has kept growing at a solid pace





Residential investment Consumption



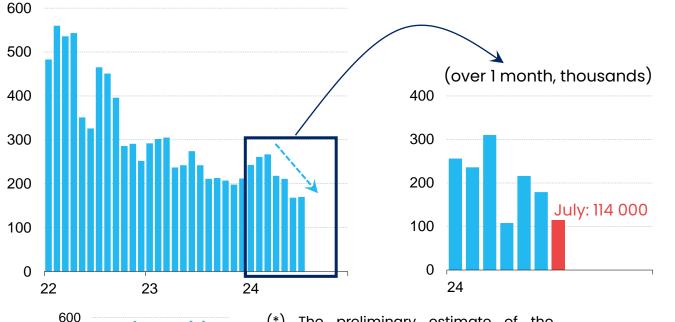
Final domestic demand components

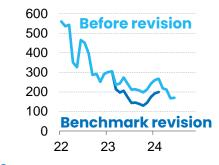
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candrian



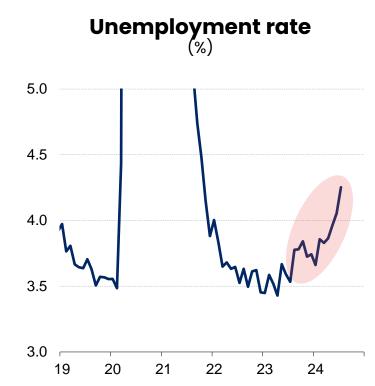
The July labor market report has however triggered fears of a looming recession

Change in employment* (over 3 months, monthly rate, thousands)

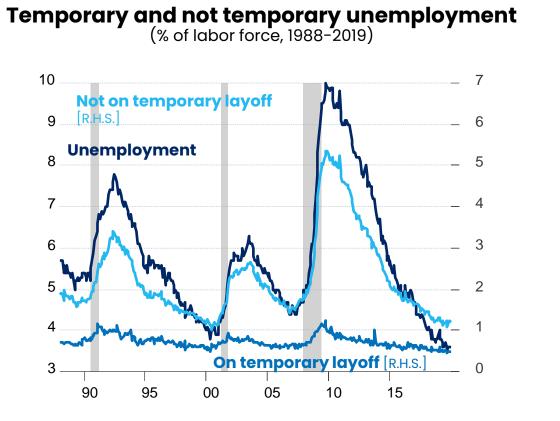




(*) The preliminary estimate of the benchmark revision indicates an adjustment to March 2024 total nonfarm employment of -818000 (-0.5%). The revision rests on data from the QCEW which is based on state unemployment insurance tax records. This means that these data likely do not pick up part of unauthorize migrant workers.



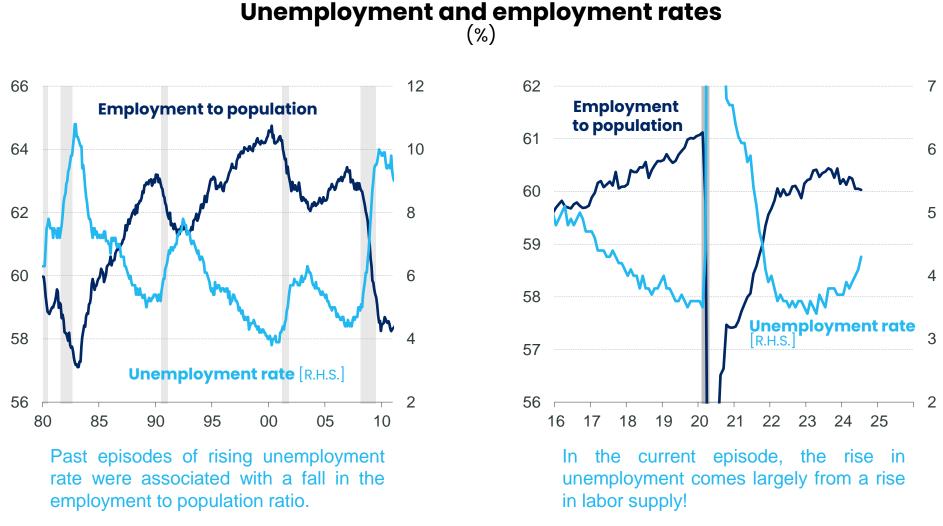
But recessions usually start with a pick-up in (non-temporary) layoffs!







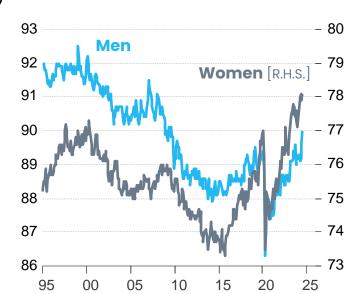
The recent increase in the unemployment rate overstates the deterioration of the labor market



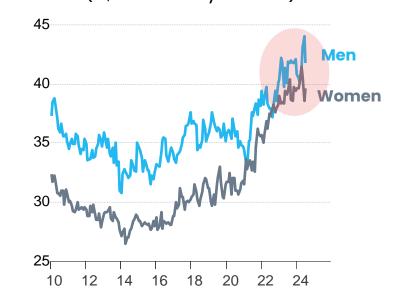
With participation rates already at record high levels...



Prime age participation rate



Disabled participation rate (%, 16- to 64-year-old)





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... job creations will have to decelerate to 120 000 per month to prevent the unemployment rate from falling

Total

0

21

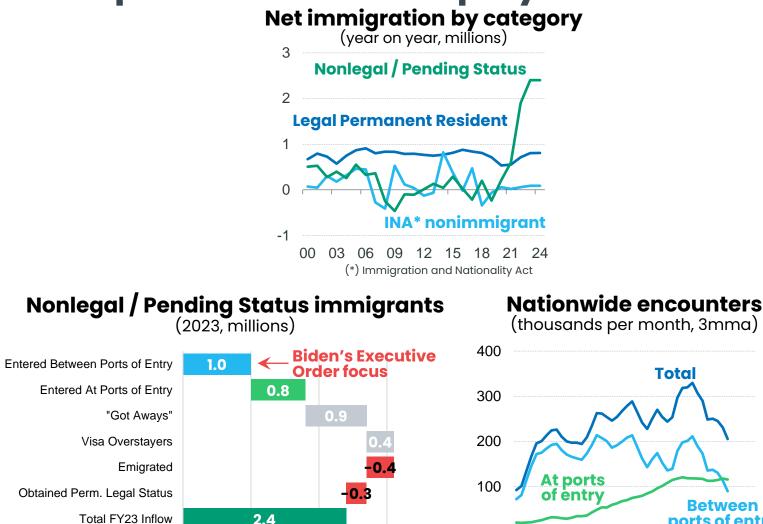
22

23

Between

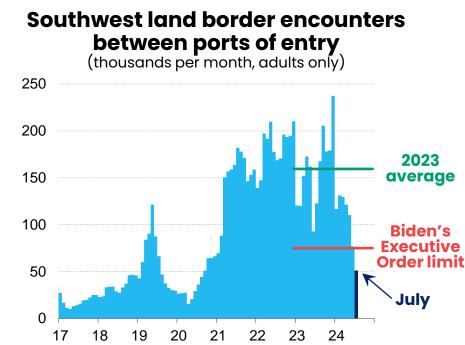
ports of entry

24



2

3

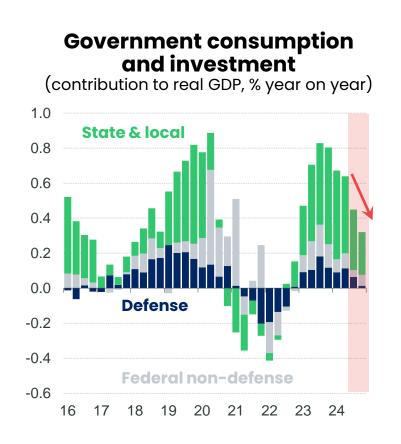


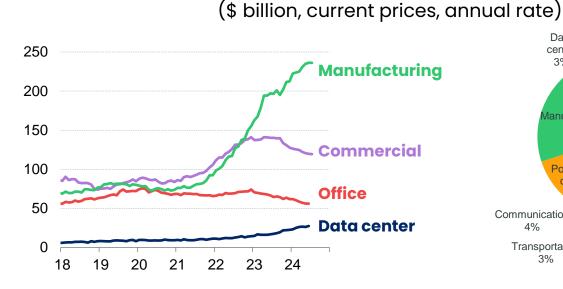
Biden's Executive Order could reduce working age population growth by 50 000 per month.

26

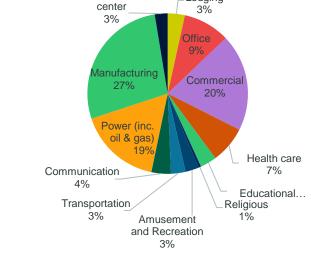


The fading of the support provided by government spending and firms' structures investment will help slow down growth





Private investment in non-residential structures

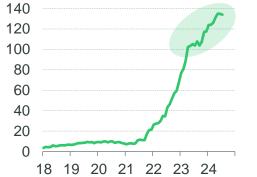


2023

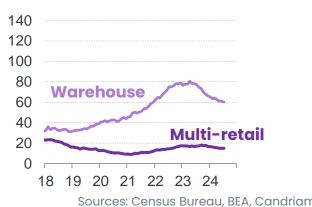
Lodaina

Data



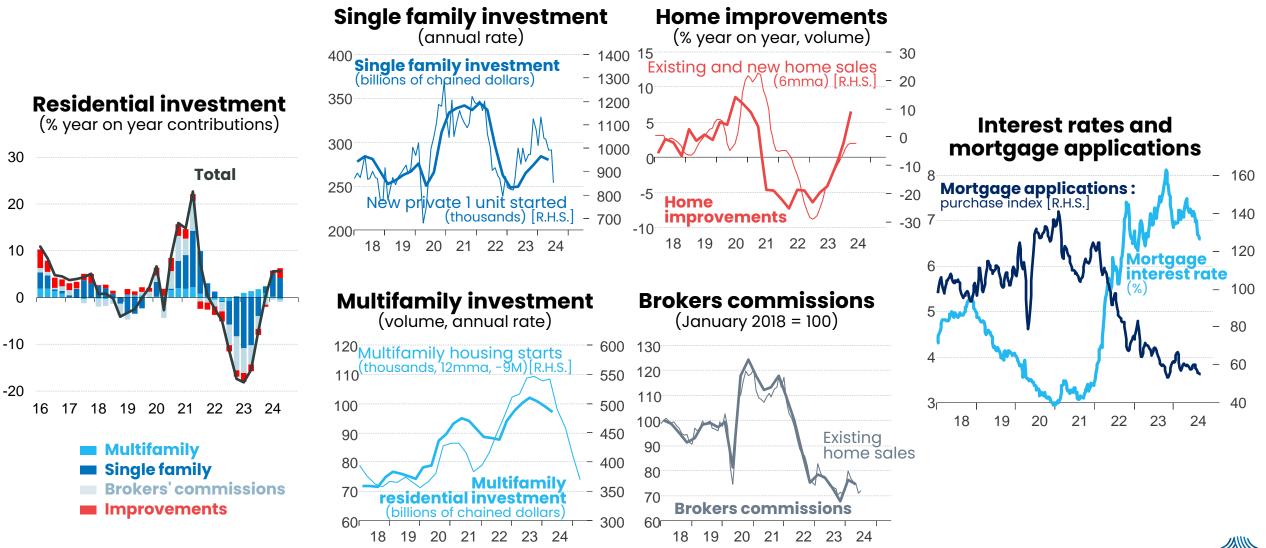


Commercial

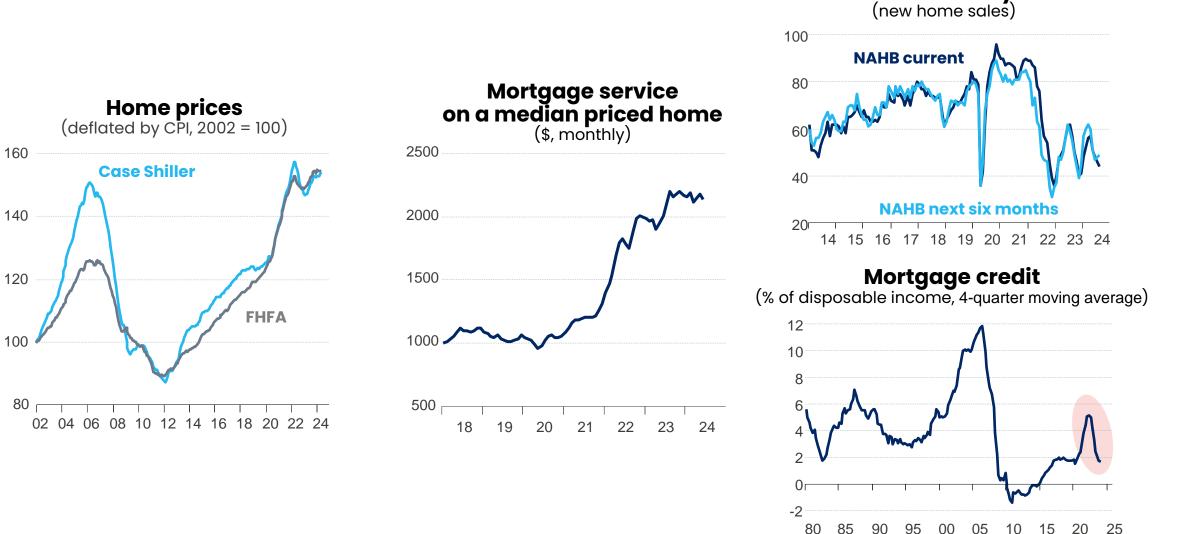




Despite falling mortgage rates, housing activity is unlikely to ramp up...



... as home affordability remains stretched

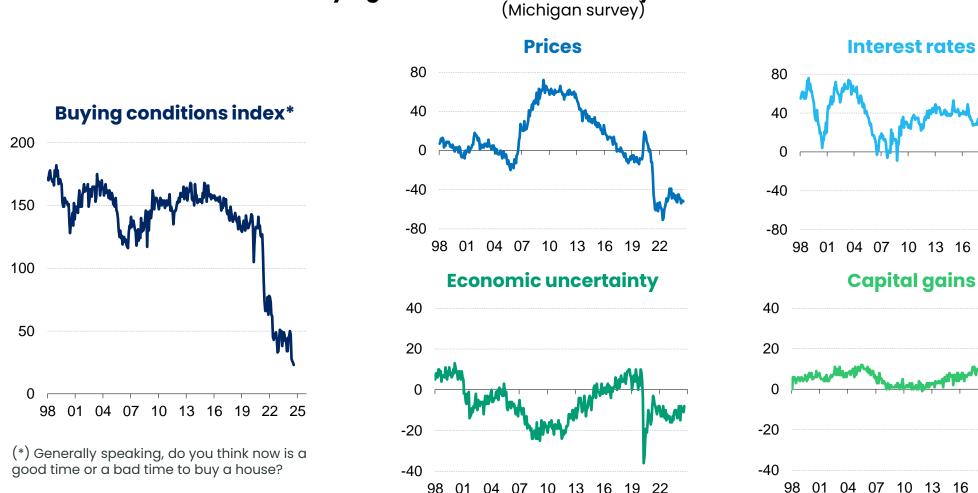


00 05 10 15 20 25 Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

NAHB survey

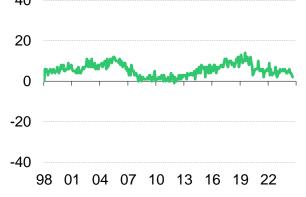
Memo. Households believe it's not a good time to buy a home!

Buying conditions for houses by selected reasons



Interest rates

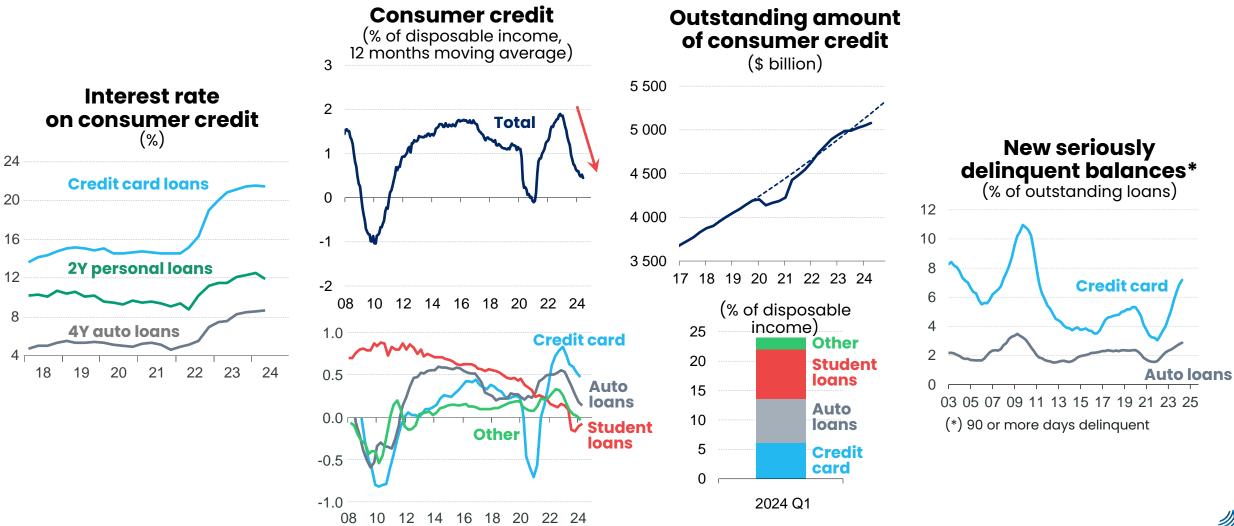






Sources: Bloomberg, Candria

High interest rates are clearly curbing consumer credit





Services consumption is now almost back on trend

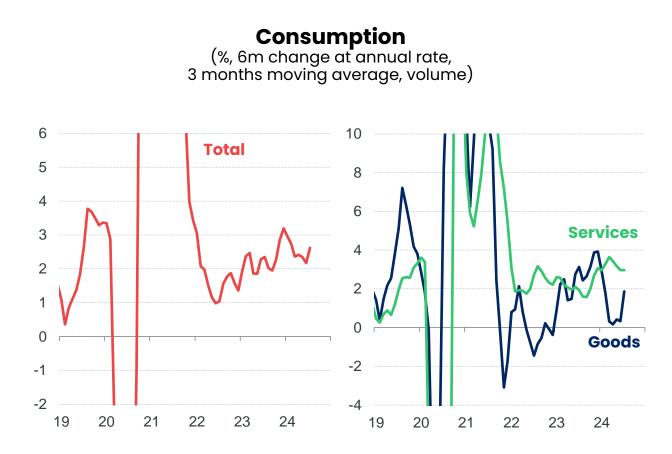
Household consumption

(December 2019 = 100, volume)







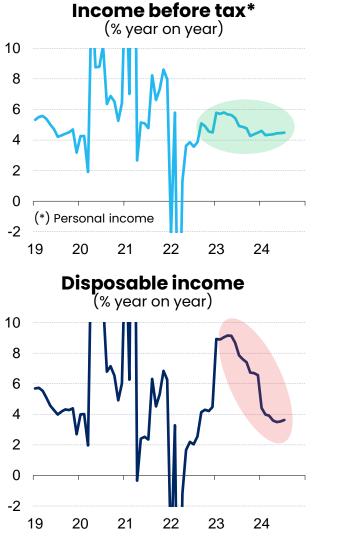


Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriar



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While before tax income growth has been remarkably stable, taxes on capital gains contributed to a slowdown in disposable income growth

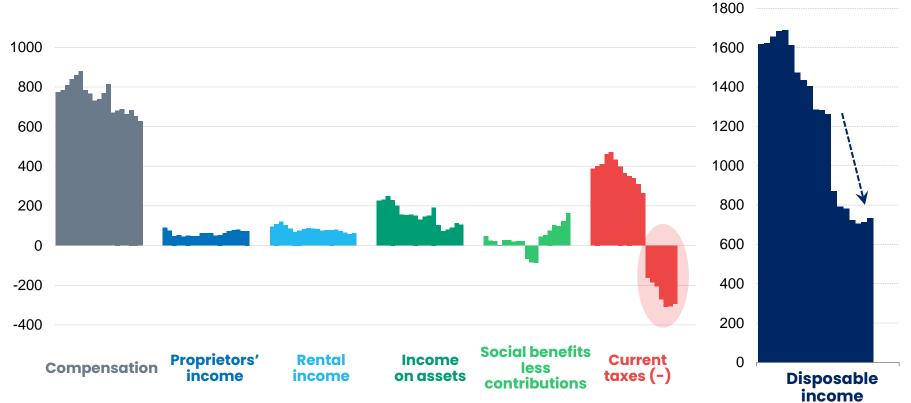


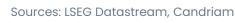
SEPTEMBER 2024

33

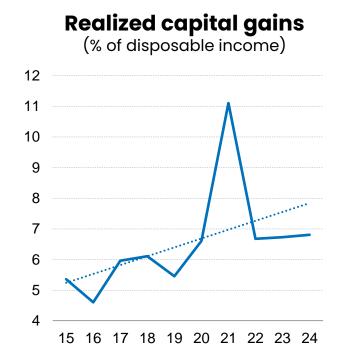
Contribution to disposable income

(\$ billion, change over 1 year, January 2023 to July 2024)



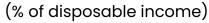


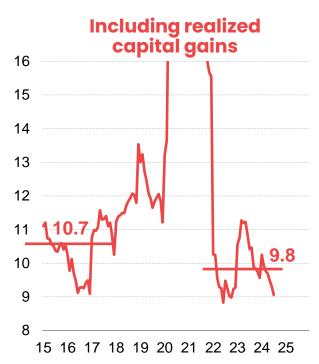
The low measured saving rate is largely due to the exclusion of realized capital gains from disposable income!





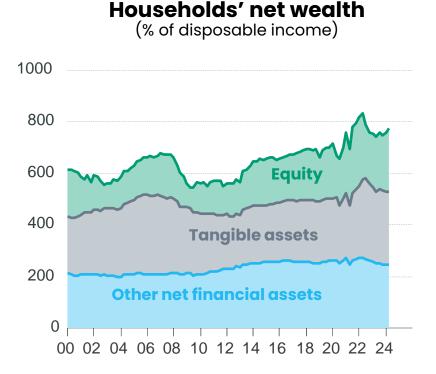




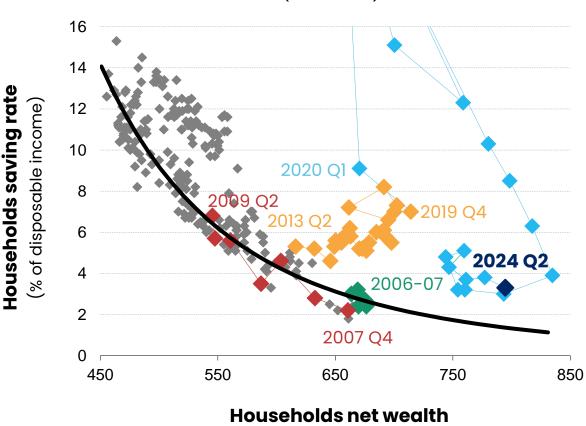


Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

Given the rise in wealth over the last couple of years, the saving rate is not that low



From 2019 Q4 to 2024 Q1, household net wealth has increased by close to 80 points of disposable income.



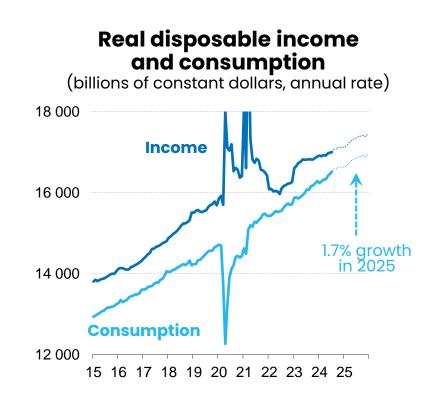
Households' net wealth and saving rate (1959-2024)

(% of disposable income)

With a stable saving rate, consumption should keep growing at a decent pace...



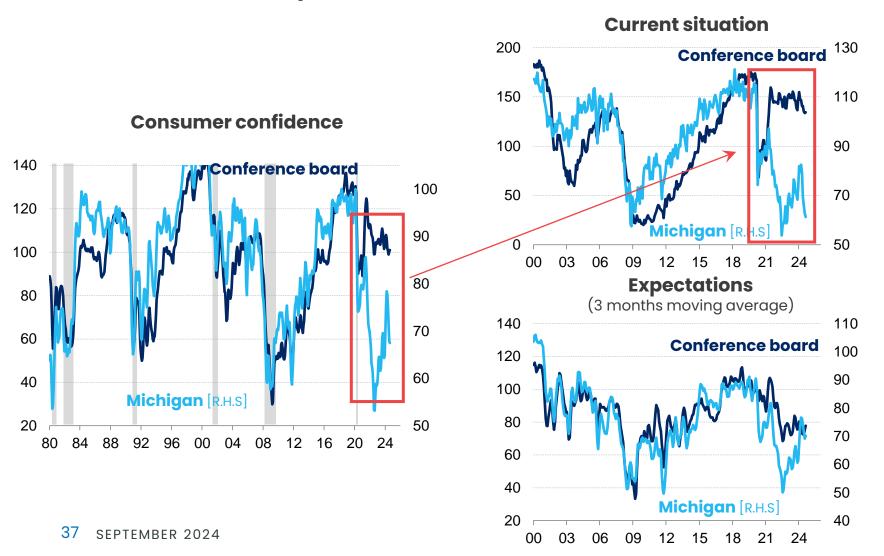




Sources: LSEG Datastream, BLS, Candriam

... but weakening consumer confidence calls for some caution!

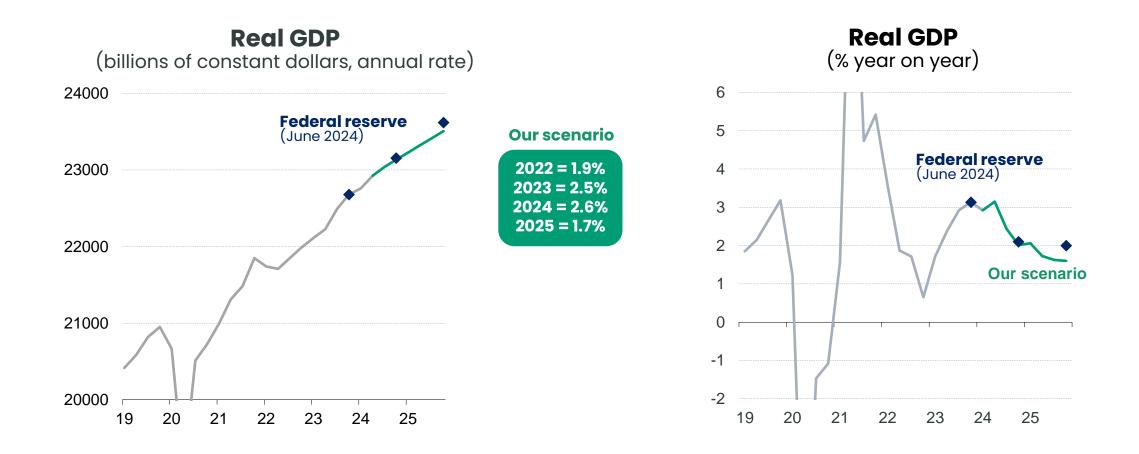
Two surveys of consumer confidence



Michigan survey



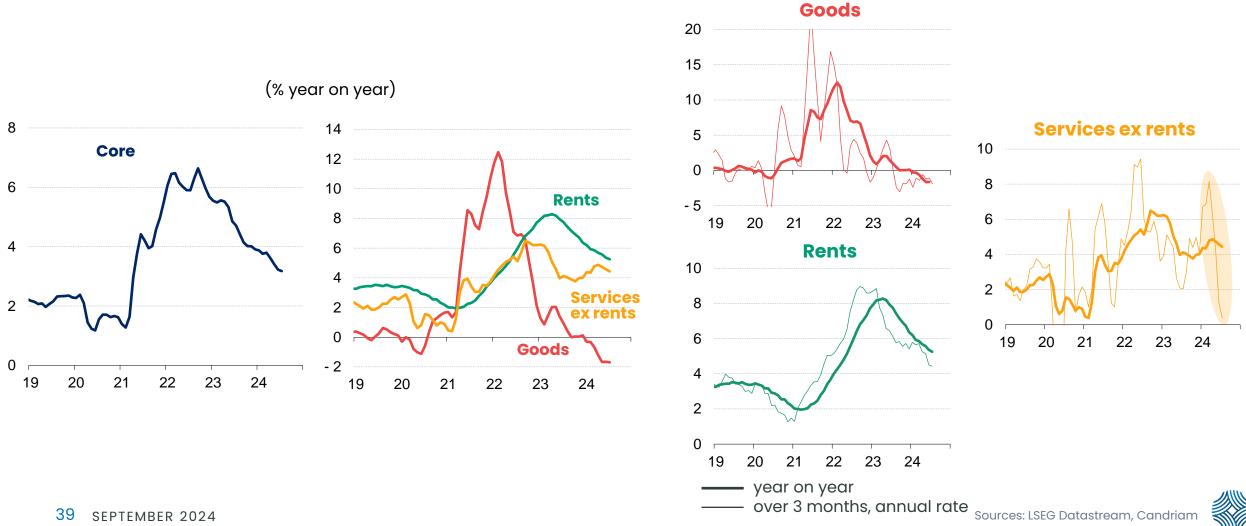
Barring a confidence shock, GDP should grow at 2.6% in 2024 before slowing down to 1.7% in 2025





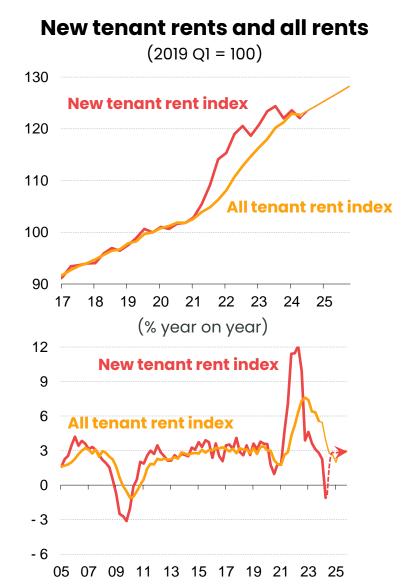
Despite some volatility, the disinflation process has been going on

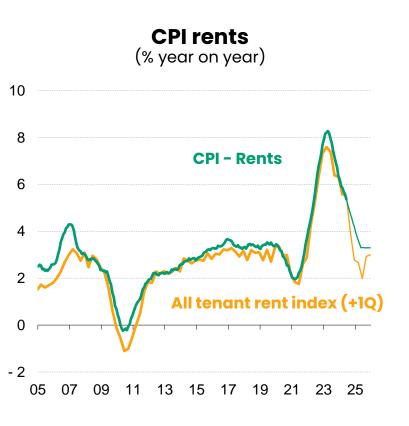
Core CPI inflation



Rents are on track to decelerate further



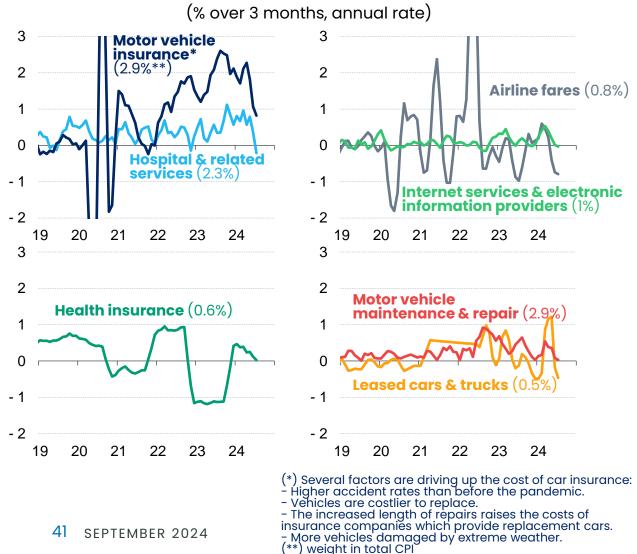




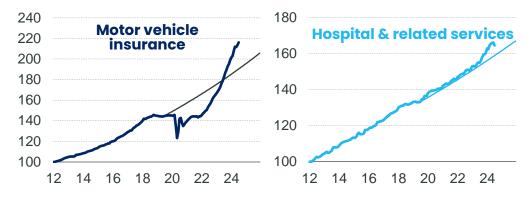
Sources: LSEG Datastream, BLS, Zillow, Apartment List, Candriam

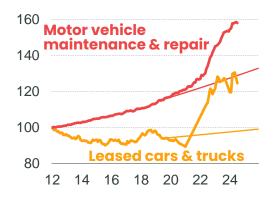
The recent catch up in some CPI services components seems to be coming to an end

Contribution to core services ex rent inflation





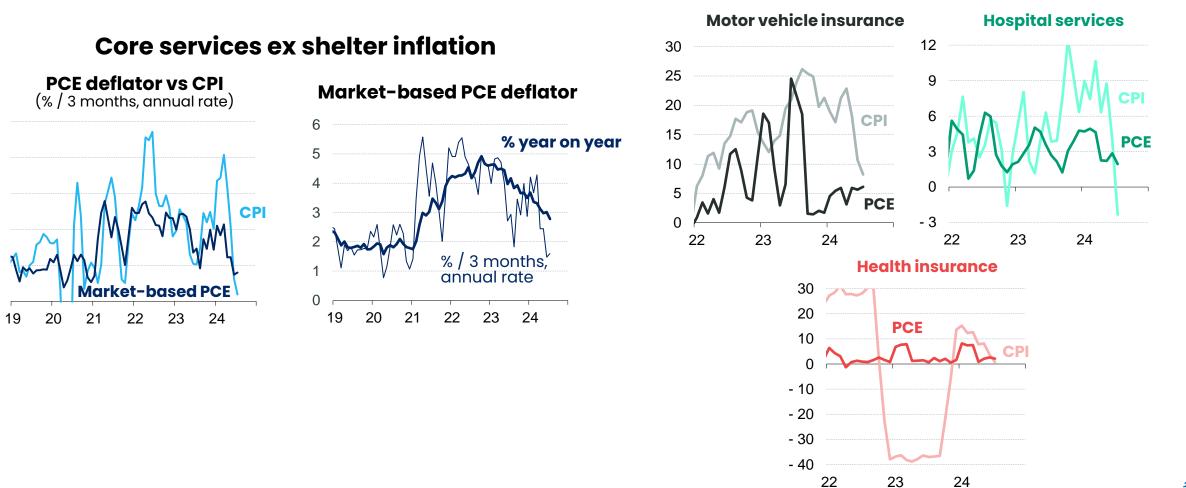




After some divergences, CPI measures are getting closer to PCE measures

CPI vs PCE deflator

(% year on year)



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10

8

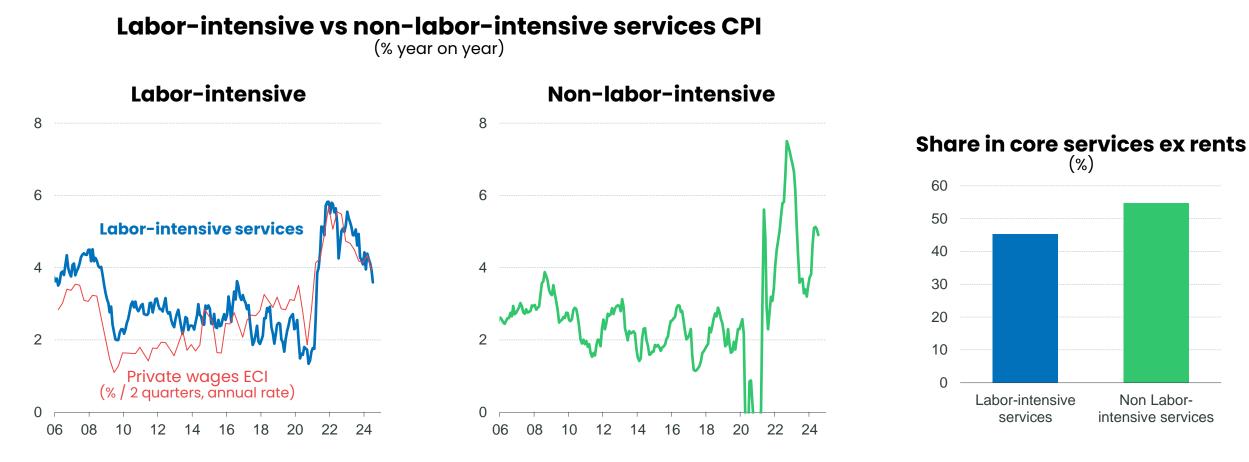
6

2

0

Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

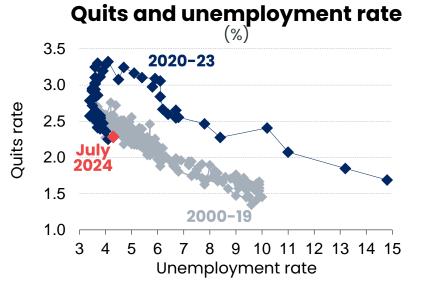
Inflation in labor intensive services is gradually falling back to pre-covid levels...



Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

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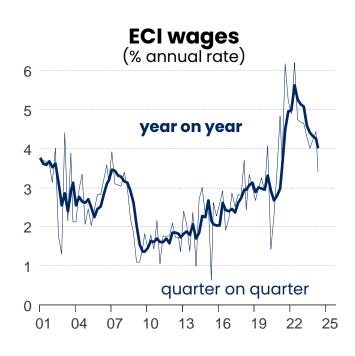
... as easing labor market tensions have allowed most wage growth measures to recede



Atlanta Fed wages and quits rate







Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candrian



The balance of risk should lead the Fed to start easing in September

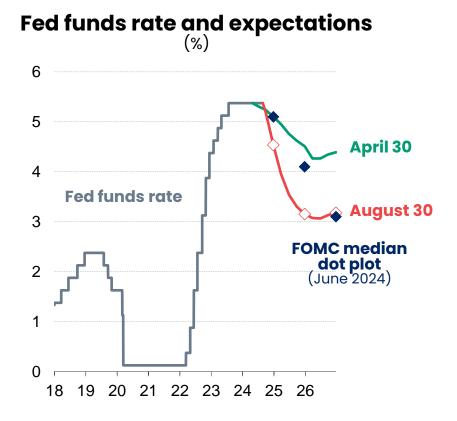
Chair Powell's Press Conference, July 2024

- "A reduction in our policy rate could be on the table as soon as our next meeting in September."
- "The downside risks to the employment mandate are real now."
- "You know, we're a nonpolitical agency."
- "Anything that we do before, during, or after the election will be based on the data, the outlook, and the balance of risks and not on anything else."
- "We would never try to make policy decisions based on the outcome of an election that hasn't happened yet."

Jackson Hole Economic Symposium, August 2024

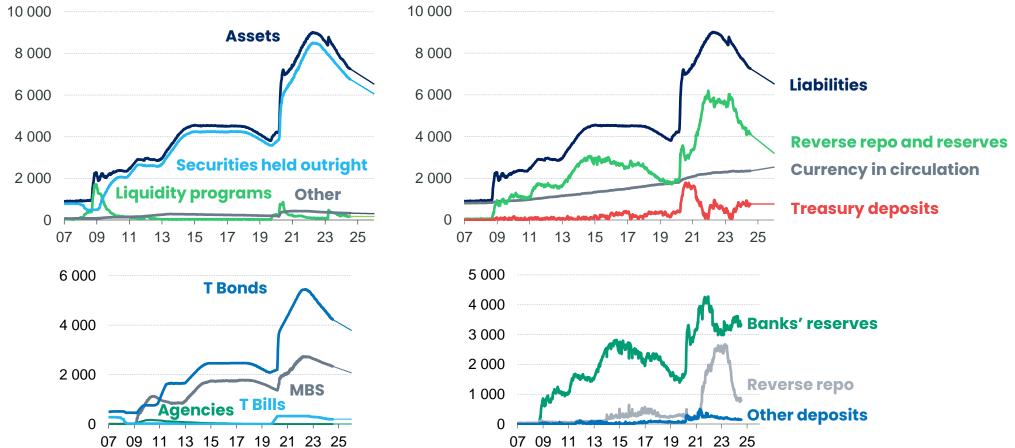
- "The time has come for policy to adjust."
- "We do not seek or welcome further cooling in labor market conditions."

Monetary developments in 2025 will largely depend on the path of the economy... and hence on the outcome of the coming elections!



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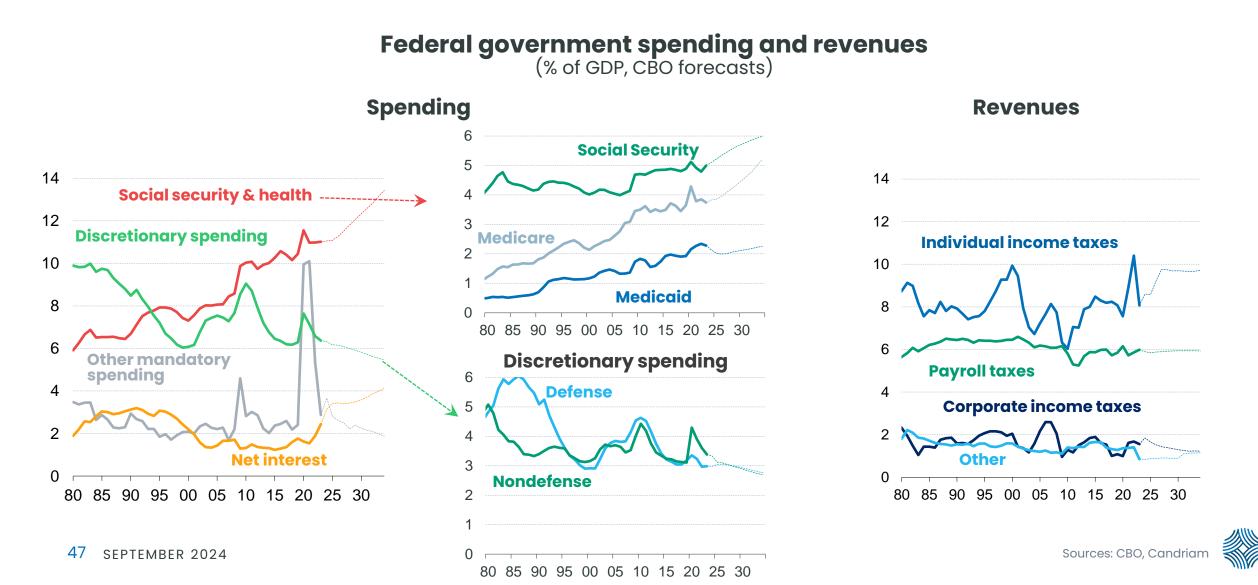
Memo. Federal Reserve balance sheet



(\$ billion)

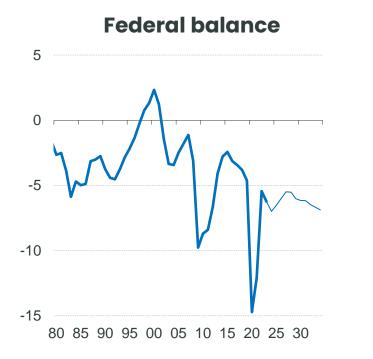


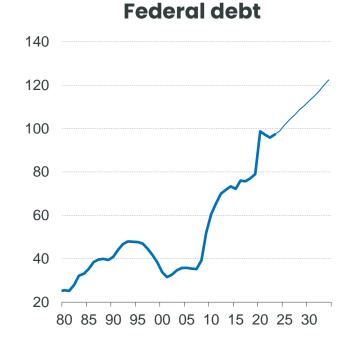
Memo. Federal government spending and revenues

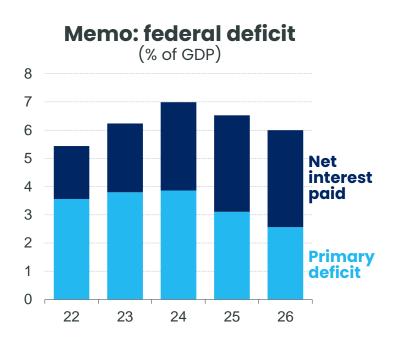


Memo. Federal government balance and debt

Federal government balance and debt (% of GDP, CBO June 2024 forecasts)









Memo. Bond market equilibrium

Net suppliers of debt securities Net buyers of debt securities (% of outstanding bond market, moving average over 4Q) (% of outstanding bond market, moving average over 4Q) Other financial institutions **Money market funds Depository institutions Depository institutions** 2 Alternative ex,MMF -2 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 6 **Mutual funds, insurance** Tax exempt 🎴 Agencies **Federal Reserve** & pension 2 **Treasuries** -2 -2 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 **Rest of the world Rest of the world** Nonfinancial sector **Corporate nonfinancial** 2 -2 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 00 02 04 06 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 49 SEPTEMBER 2024 Sources: Federal Reserve, Candriam

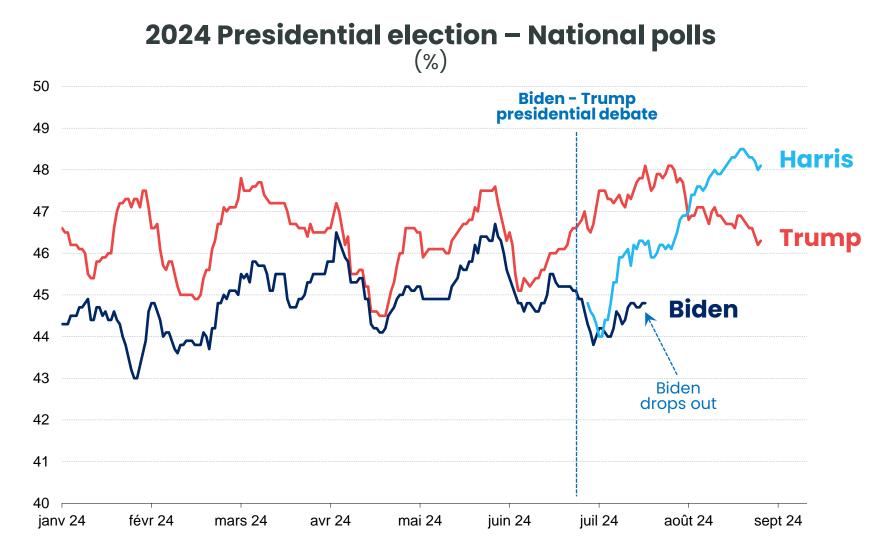


Focus Harris narrows gap against Trump...



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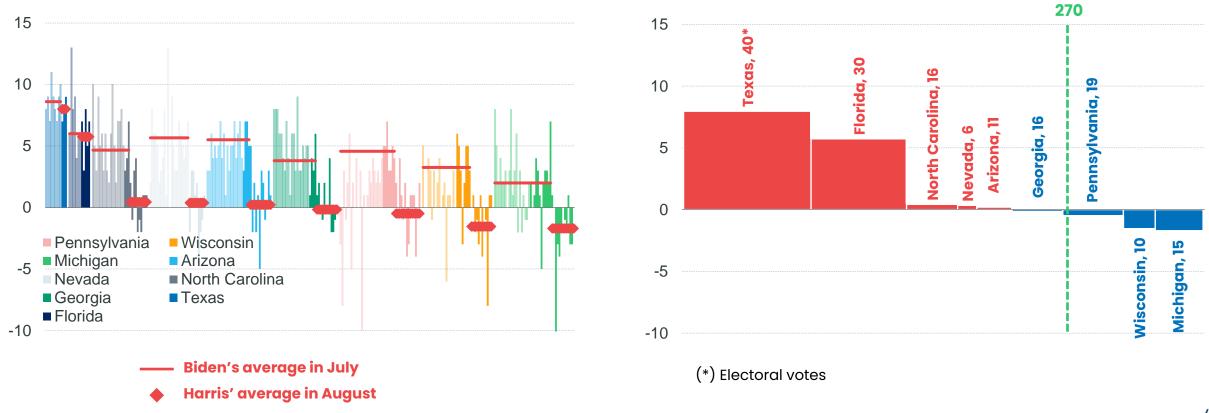
Since President Biden stepped aside, the race got tighter





K. Harris made significant progress in the swing States

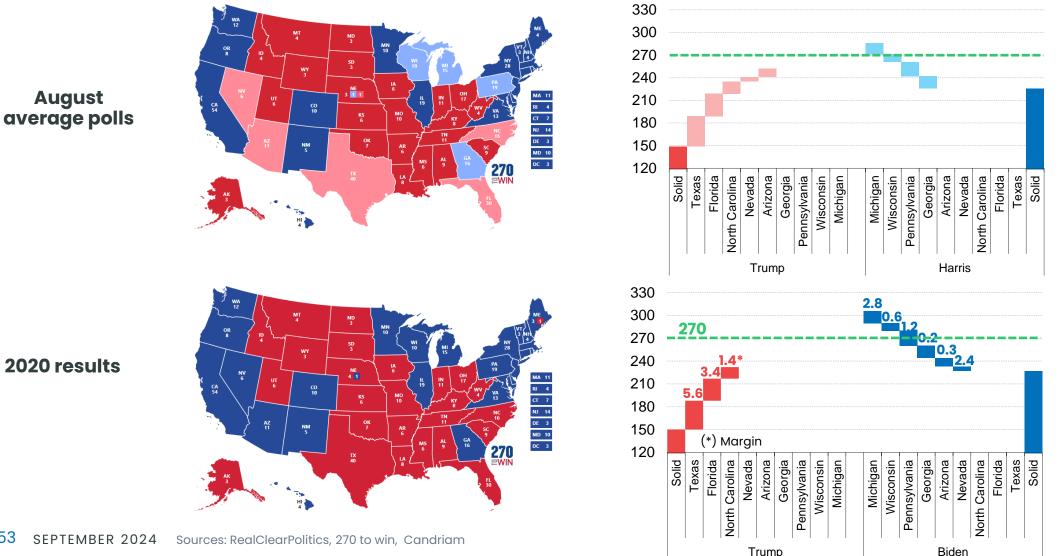
D. Trump's net percentage lead over Democrat candidates in swing States



(%, by polls since January 2024)

(%, average polls in August)

How the present polls' map compares with 2020 election results?



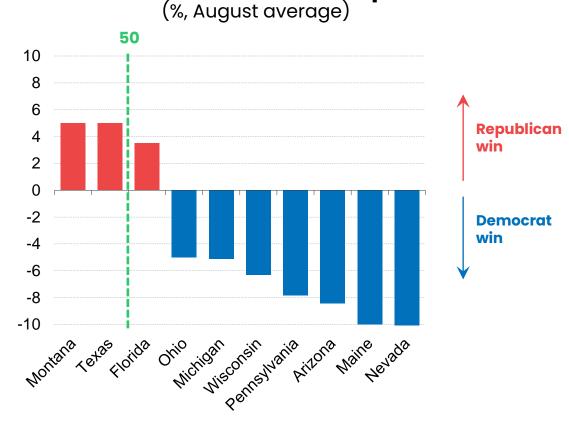
Electoral votes

Republicans are still likely to flip the Senate

Distribution of Senate seats* 60 50 _____ 9 Tossup 10 40 At stake 14 Solid 30 20 38 28 Not at stake 10 0 Republicans **Democrats &** independents

(*) West Virginia counted as a solid Republican state

Republicans net percentage lead over Democrats in the ten "tossup" States (%, August average)

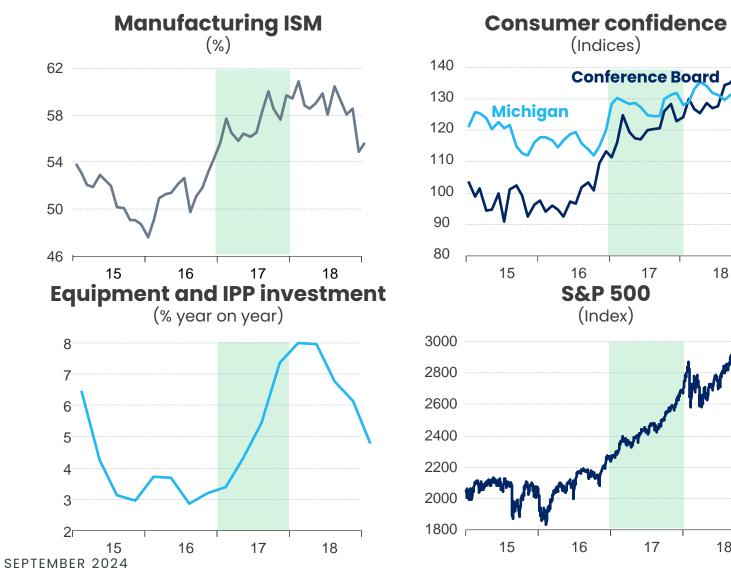


Focus What if Donald Trump were to be re-elected in November 2024?





Before looking at 2025, let's look back at what happened in 2017



56

100

95

- 90

- 85

- 80

75

18

18

17

17

Confidence jumped...

... and the stock market benefited from lower taxes corporate on profits!



Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candria

What is D. Trump proposing on trade?

Two opposite visions in the Mandate for Leadership 2025

Donald Trump's preferred path is clear "I'm a big believer in tariffs"

Kent Lassman argues that the best trade policy is a humble, limitedgovernment approach that would encourage free trade with all nations. Lassman believes that we should lower or repeal tariffs – including eliminating "the destructive Trump–Biden tariffs" – in order to make goods more affordable for Americans.

Peter Navarro disagrees with Kent Lassman almost across the board.

"Trade policy can and must play an essential role in an American manufacturing and defense industrial base renaissance".

China is viewed as an "economic aggressor" in the form of "tariffs, nontariff barriers, dumping, counterfeiting and piracy, and currency manipulation".

"Under Joe Biden, our trade deficits, also known as losses, have hit record highs. Since 2000, the U.S. has racked up \$17 trillion in cumulative trade deficits with the world. Only a fool or a fanatic would dismiss these facts as irrelevant.

These gigantic sums of exported wealth are being used to build up our enemies' military strength and transfer permanent ownership of American companies, intellectual property, real estate, and other assets to foreign nations. Foreigners now own \$16.75 trillion more of our economy than we own of theirs. Our country is being plundered.

The best way to stop this hemorrhaging of America's lifeblood is a simple but powerful tariff on most foreign products, like the kind that was the primary source of government revenue through most of American history, and which built this country into the manufacturing powerhouse of the world."

Donald Trump, "My Tariff Policies Were a Success", Wall Street Journal.

Higher tariffs

Impose tariffs of 60% on Chinese goods (or higher!*) as well as a blanket 10% tariff on all U.S. imports.

(*) **"Maybe it's going to be more than that"** D. Trump

"If Trump goes down the road of that tariff, there's a desire to convert that into a tax cut of some kind back in the American people similar to the oil income from the state of Alaska," Gingrich said (the state of Alaska cuts a check every year to its residents from its oil revenue).



How would higher tariffs affect the US economy?

Effects of tariffs on the economy

Negative impacts on output			Mitigating factors	Impact on GDP
Aggregate income channel	Confidence channel	Export Channel	Expenditure switching channel	CBO estimated that previously enacted substantially smaller tariffs
By increasing the price of consumer and capital goods, higher tariffs lower the purchasing	Businesses' uncertainty about future barriers to trade increases and so does the	Retaliatory tariffs by US trading partners reduce US exports	imported goods could induce consumers and firms to switch to	(2% of the value of goods and services purchased by US consumers) have reduced US output by 0.1 to 0.3%.
power of U.S. consumers and	perception of investment's risk.		domestically produced goods,	Recent studies
businesses.			increasing domestic demand and reducing imports.	10% universal + retaliation -2.1% (ECB) -1.1% (E. York, Tax Foundation) -1.0% (CRFB)
Higher inflation,	Businesses delay or	Less US exports	More fiscal receipts	
lower consumption and lower investment	forgo new investments (or make expensive changes to their supply chains). The cost of		The public deficit will be reduced*.	10% universal + 60% on China -1.5% (Capital economics) -1.4% (Institute Der Deutschen Wirtschaft)
58 SEPTEMBER 2024	capital may also increase.		(*) The CRFB estimates that the public debt will be reduced by 4 GDP points (over 2026-2035).	Sources: CBO, Tax foundation, ECB, IdDW

What is D. Trump proposing on economic policy?

More tax cuts

Extend the individual tax cuts set to expire on Dec. 31, 2025

Trump's advisers have pitched him on proposing a 15% corporate tax rate (down from 21%) and to reinstate immediate expensing for capital expenditures. The plan would be coupled with ending corporate tax deductions and other tax breaks, including the new clean energy credits in the Inflation Reduction Act.

"The idea I've been talking about with Trump is: Why don't we go to 15 percent corporate rate, get rid of the credits and deductions, and just make it 15 percent," Stephen Moore.

If the law's temporary individual income and estate tax cuts were to be made permanent, deficits would be larger than those in CBO's baseline, on net, by **\$2.5 trillion over 2024– 2033** (excluding debt-service costs. Most of the effects would occur after 2026)

Repeal of the IRA

Support repeal of massive spending bills like the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

Trump has talked about repealing the IRA, calling it the "biggest tax hike in history".

"This ridiculous Green New Deal crusade is causing car prices to skyrocket while setting the stage for the destruction of American auto production." D. Trump.

Repeal of Obamacare

Repeal "harmful health policies enacted under the Obama and Biden Administrations" (D. Trump.).



What is D. Trump proposing on immigration?

Trump's declarations are unambiguous...

Donald Trump is using the Eisenhowerera "Operation Wetback" as a blueprint for his vision, which he pledges will be "the largest domestic deportation operation in American history" to remove the estimated 10.5 million undocumented people in the United States — of whom two-thirds have lived in the country for more than a decade.

Trump is weighing repeating a 2016 ban barring travelers from seven Muslimmajority countries from entering the US, including Afghanistan and Gaza, and also those who express "communist" and "Marxist" views.

... but the macroeconomic consequences remain unaddressed

If immigration is just "stopped" in 2025:

The labor force increase would be 150 000 per month lower.

Barring a rebound in productivity, this would imply:

- either hardly any growth in employment over 2025, i.e. a much weaker economy;

- or an unemployment rate falling at 3.3% by end of 2025 (instead of 4.4%), forcing the Fed to tighten and trigger a recession!

Although deporting 10 million persons looks physically impossible*, any number would only aggravate tensions on the labor market.

(*) Although officials claimed the Eisenhower summer operation led to 1.3 million apprehensions, scholars including Lytle Hernández have challenged that figure — saying that those statistics include arrests from previous years. According to Lytle Hernández, the number of apprehensions for fiscal year 1955 was about 250,000.

The "Mandate for Leadership 2025" devotes many pages to the Fed as an institution... while D. Trump seems more focused on persons!

Forcing the Fed to change its policy...

Eliminate the "dual mandate"

Eliminate "full employment" from the Fed's mandate, requiring it to focus on price stability alone.

Curb the Fed's excessive last-resort lending practices

These practices are directly responsible for "too big to fail" and the institutionalization of moral hazard in our financial system.

Wind down the Federal Reserve's balance sheet

Limit future balance sheet expansions to U.S. Treasuries. The Federal Reserve should be prohibited from picking winners and losers among asset classes. Above all, this means limiting Federal Reserve interventions in the mortgage-backed securities market. It also means eliminating Fed interventions in corporate and municipal debt markets. Stop paying interest on excess reserves. ... or suppressing the Fed!

More controversial: Free Banking / Gold standard

P. Winfree* suggests that the next Administration should think about proposing legislation that would "effectively abolish" the Federal Reserve and replace it with "free banking," whereby "neither interest rates nor the supply of money" would be "controlled by government." Free banking would produce a "stable and sound" currency and a "strong" financial system, "while allowing lending to flourish." Alternatively, Winfree writes, the next Administration should "consider the feasibility of a return to the gold standard."

(*) Paul Winfree is one of the contributors to the "Mandate for Leadership 2025".

Trump said he would not reappoint Fed Chair Jerome Powell*, accusing Powell of considering rate cuts to give Democrats an advantage in the 2024 elections.

(*) Powell chairman's mandate comes to an end in May 2026.

Firing Powell as Chairman of the FOMC may prove difficult

Whatever happens at the Board of Governors, the FOMC would still elect its chair, and it could very well pick Board Governor Jerome Powell as FOMC Chair, meaning that it would still be Powell to stand at the lectern for press conferences as the face of the Fed.



What could happen if D. Trump does all of what he promised?

		Impact on US GDP	Impact on inflation
Tariffs	10% universal tariff + 60% on China		
Immigration	Zero net migration and deport 10 million undocumented migrants		
Tax cuts	Extend 2017 tax cuts, cut corporate tax rate to 15%, full investment expensing	1	
Repeal of the IRA	The negative impact is offset by a significant increase in drilling activity		
TOTAL			1

If D. Trump does (almost) all what he promised, (our so called "Hard Trump" scenario), inflation would be rising due to higher tariffs and a tighter labor market. To remain credible, the Fed would have no choice but to tighten monetary policy... despite faltering activity.



There is a lot of uncertainty on how far D. Trump can go on immigration

D. Trump is planning to finish the border wall. Closing the border in 2025 seems however difficult: first money will have to be appropriated by Congress and the construction will take more than a year given notably all administrative constraints (buying of land...)

A reminder of the 2017 promise

The President instructed US Customs and Border Protection to implement a "wall" at least 18 feet high (5.5 meters), aesthetically pleasing on the US side and capable of preventing both ladder and tunneling across it. The wall must be designed to prevent anyone from breaching it within 3 meters using a jackhammer, vehicle, blowtorch or any other means of drilling. The wall's foundation must be at least 1.82 m high to prevent tunnel construction. According to Democratic Senator Claire McCaskill, **this physical barrier will stretch for 2,940 km along the U.S.-***Mexico border, i.e. almost 2,000 km more than the current fence,* more or less completed since 2008.

D. Trump may try to offset the continuing inflow of migrants by some deportation, but here again the technical and social obstacles are likely to be significant.

S.-Mexico Border Wall System recently built and pre-existing barriers





There is also a lot of uncertainty on how far D. Trump can go on tariffs

For tariffs, what D. Trump is planning is not clear:

D. Trump has not explained whether he envisions the universal tariff as a new floor or an add-on to existing ones. For example, if an imported product was now taxed at 5 percent, would that rate rise to 10 percent or to 15 percent?

Nor has D. Trump said whether the new tariff would apply to imports from the nearly two dozen countries with which the US has free trade deals. They include Canada and Mexico, which together account for nearly a fifth of the overall U.S. trade deficit in goods, and with which D. Trump's administration renegotiated the nearly tariff-free trade deal that replaced NAFTA (the USMCA).

Has D. Trump the authority to implement new tariffs on "non free trade agreement" countries?

The Supreme Court may not go along with the president setting a new tariff rate on the pretext that all foreign trade is unfair. Placing a new 10 percent tariff against all products from all sources might even attract a judicial stay to prevent implementation as challenges are considered by the courts.

On the opposite, R. Lighthizer said that given the size of the U.S. trade deficit and its impact on the American economy, a president would have "clear authority" under two laws — the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and Section 338 of the Tariff Act of 1930 — to impose tariffs unilaterally. Still, he said, depending on political conditions, D. Trump might instead choose to ask Congress to enact new legislation so that a successor would not be able to easily revoke it. "He has the legal authority to do it and he's got two routes".

On China, the Supreme Court could find that it is the prerogative of the Congress to set tariffs at rates amounting to an embargo outside of war, assuming there were no grounds for invoking laws protecting national security.

In Mandate for leadership, Navarro targets only non-FTA countries

Trade Deficit Reductions for Target Countries

	SCENARIO ONE: PARTNER COUNTRIES MATCH U.S. TARIFF RATE		SCENARIO TWO: U.S. MATCHES PARTNER TARIFF RATES	
Country	Projected Change in Bilateral Trade Balance (\$ Billions)	Bilateral Deficit Reduction as Share of 2018 Bilateral Deficit	Projected Change in Bilateral Trade Balance (\$ Billions)	Bilateral Deficit Reduction as Share of 2018 Bilateral Deficit
India	5.0	24%	18.7	88%
Taiwan	1.0	6%	9.2	59%
Vietnam	0.7	2%	17.2	44%
Thailand	3.2	17%	6.4	34%
Communist China	18.5	4%	70.6	17%
European Union	8.0	5%	25.3	15%
Total	35.4	4%	45.6	5%



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The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) could be used as a powerful bargaining tool by the US

The USMCA review clause (article 34.7)

In summary, USMCA will terminate 16 years after the date of its entry into force (i.e., by 1 July 2036), unless each party confirms that it wishes to continue the agreement for a new 16-year term.

The parties are to confirm their ongoing support for USMCA at a "**joint review**". The first joint review will take place on July 1, 2026. Should the parties confirm that they want to continue, then the agreement will be extended for another 16 years.

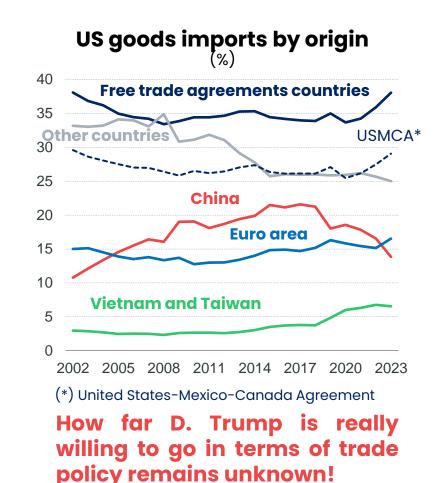
If the parties do not extend the agreement in 2026, then the Commission is to conduct a joint review each year until 2036. During these joint reviews, the parties can confirm their wish to extend the agreement for another 16 years. **Failure to extend the agreement will lead to USMCA termination on July 1, 2036.**

Article 34.6: Withdrawal

A Party may withdraw from this Agreement by providing written notice to the other Parties. A withdrawal shall take effect six months after a Party provides written notice. If a Party withdraws, this Agreement shall remain in force for the remaining Parties.

Withdrawal from the Treaty could be done by the President unilaterally. But this raises the question of the USCMA Implementation Act which can normally only be terminated by Congress. If the USCMA Implementation Act remains in effect, other provisions of federal law may grant the President authority to restrict trade with Canada or Mexico. But such actions would likely be subject to judicial review on various grounds.

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How would a "Hard Trump" scenario for 2025 look like, assuming the Republican party wins both the Senate and the House?

Effect on 2025 GDP

compared to our former main scenario

	Measures taken	GDP	Unemploymen	t rate	Inflation
Tariffs	10% on non-FTA countries, 60% on China and some non-tariffs measures on FTA countries, symmetric retaliation + uncertainty amplified by legal disputes and constitutional challenges	-1.5%	+1.0%	The reallocation of domestic resources induces a slowdown in productivity growth	+2.0%
Immigration	Net migrant inflows into the labor force = -50 000 / month		-1.0%	but curtailing immigration dampens the impact on the	+0.5% to 1.0%
Tax cuts	Full investment expensing & 15% corporate tax rate	+0.4%	-0.4%	unemployment rate.	
Repeal of the I	RA We assume the negative impact is offset by a significant increase in drilling activity	0.0%	0.0%		
Total		-1.1%	-0.4%		+2.5% to 3.0%

Inflation would be rising due to higher tariffs and a tighter labor market. Still the Fed, to remain credible, would have no choice but to tighten monetary policy... despite faltering activity.

Such a scenario would further aggravate the public debt trajectory

Impact on the 2026 public deficit (% of GDP, **Public deficit Public debt** compared with CBO baseline) (% of GDP) (% of GDP) 3 140 **Trump scenario** -0.7% Tariffs 120 0 100 2017 TCJA extension +0.9% CBO -3 baseline **CBO** baseline* 80 **Corporate tax cut** +0.3%-6 60 **Full expensing** +0.2%-9 40 Trump scenario Lower growth +0.6% -12 20 -15 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 70 75 80 85 90 95 00 05 10 15 20 25 30 +1.3% **Total**

(*) assuming tax cuts expiration at end of 2025



135

122

A "softer" D. Trump scenario could also unfold, with trade policy mainly used as a bargaining tool and moderate immigration control Effect on 2025 GDP

compared to our former main scenario

	Measures taken		Unemployment rate	Inflation
Tariffs	3% on non-FTA countries, 30% on China & symmetric retaliation + some uncertainty	-0.5%	+0.5% The impact o productivity is marginal	
Immigration	Net migrant inflows into the labor force = +50 000 / month		-0.3%	+0.2%
Tax cuts	Full investment expensing & 15% corporate tax rate	+0.4%	-0.4%	
Repeal of the IRA	We assume the negative impact is offset by a significant increase in drilling activity	0.0%	0.0%	
Total		-0.1%	-0.2%	+0.9%

In 2025, the economic trajectory is slightly less favorable than in our baseline (the Fed turns more cautious and makes fewer cuts).



K. Harris has endorsed the proposals outlined in the President's FY2025 Budget...

\$2.307 billion

Proposals in the President's FY 2025 Budget (cumulative for FY 2025 to 2034)

Education and Family Support	\$1,215 billion
Expand access and funding for pre-K and child care	\$600 billion
Establish national paid family and medical leave	\$325 billion
Offer free community college and increase Pell Grants and other higher	\$290 billion

Expansion of Health Care Programs	\$968 billion
Extend higher Affordable Care Act subsidies and expand to Medicaid	\$473 billion
Increase Indian Health Service funding	\$202 billion
Improve Medicaid home- and community-based services	\$151 billion
Increase behavioral health, mental health, and other public health funding	\$142 billion

Other Initiatives	\$541 billion
Support affordable housing	\$184 billion
Increase near-term discretionary spending levels*	\$170 billion
Enact other spending increases	\$187 billion
Tax Cuts, Tax Credits, and Tax Breaks	\$504 billion
Expand CTC through 2025 and make permanently fully refundable	\$315 billion
Expand EITC	\$163 billion
Enact or expand other tax cuts, tax credits, and tax breaks	\$25 billion

Spending Reductions	-\$921 billion
Slow future growth of discretionary spending	-\$511 billion
Reduce prescription drug and other health care costs	-\$241 billion
Extend the mandatory sequester for Medicare and other programs	-\$90 billion
Expand user fees and spectrum auctions and other spending changes	-\$79 billion

Corporate and Business Taxes	
ncrease corporate income tax rate from 21 percent to 28 percent	-\$1,425 billion
Reform international tax rules	-\$641 billion
ncrease corporate book minimum tax and stock buyback tax rates	-\$317 billion
Expand limit on deductibility of executive compensation	-\$272 billion
Enact other corporate tax increases	-\$144 billion
ligh-Income Taxes	-\$1,145 billion
Establish 25 percent billionaire tax on unrealized income	-\$503 billion
ncrease top individual income tax rate from 37 percent to 39.6 percent	-\$256 billion
Reform and Increase capital gains taxes	-\$289 billion
Fighten rules and close loopholes for estate and gift taxes	-\$97 billion
Additional Medicare Taxes and Net Investment Income Tax	-\$814 billion
ncrease NIIT and Medicare tax rate for taxpayers making over \$400,000	-\$412 billion
Apply NIIT to passthrough business income	-\$402 billion
Dther Taxes	-\$437 billion
Reduce the tax gap by extending IRS funding and other policy changes	-\$260 billion
Close various fossil fuel, digital currency, and other tax breaks and loopholes	-\$177 billion
Subtotal, Gross Savings	-\$5,195 billion

Net Interest Savings

-\$3,277 billion

-\$389 billion

"The budget irresponsibly punts on tax cut extensions and Social Security solvency by calling to extend expiring tax cuts for those earning below \$400,000 with offsets and extend Social Security solvency but failing to specify the policies to accomplish these goals or incorporate the cost of the extensions" - CRFB Mar. 11, 2024

Total, Policy Savings in the President's FY 2025 Budget



69 SEPTEMBER 2024 Source : CRFB

Subtotal, Net Costs

... while focusing on lowering costs for American families

Summary of the Fiscal Effects of the Harris Agenda to Lower Costs for American Families

(cumulative for FY 2025 to 2034)

Policy	Ten-Year Deficit Impact
Expand CTC to \$3,000 or \$3,600 for young children	\$1.1 trillion [*]
Further expand CTC to \$6,000 for newborns	\$100 billion
Extend the ACA premium tax credit expansion	\$400 billion
Expand the EITC for workers without child dependents	\$150 billion
Provide a \$25,000 first-time homebuyer credit for four years	\$100 billion [^]
Enact additional affordable housing policies for four years	\$100 billion
Lower prescription drug costs	-\$250 billion⁺
Total Impact of the Harris Agenda to Lower Costs for American Families	\$1.7 trillion
Memo: Impact of Agenda if housing policies are made permanent	\$2.0 trillion

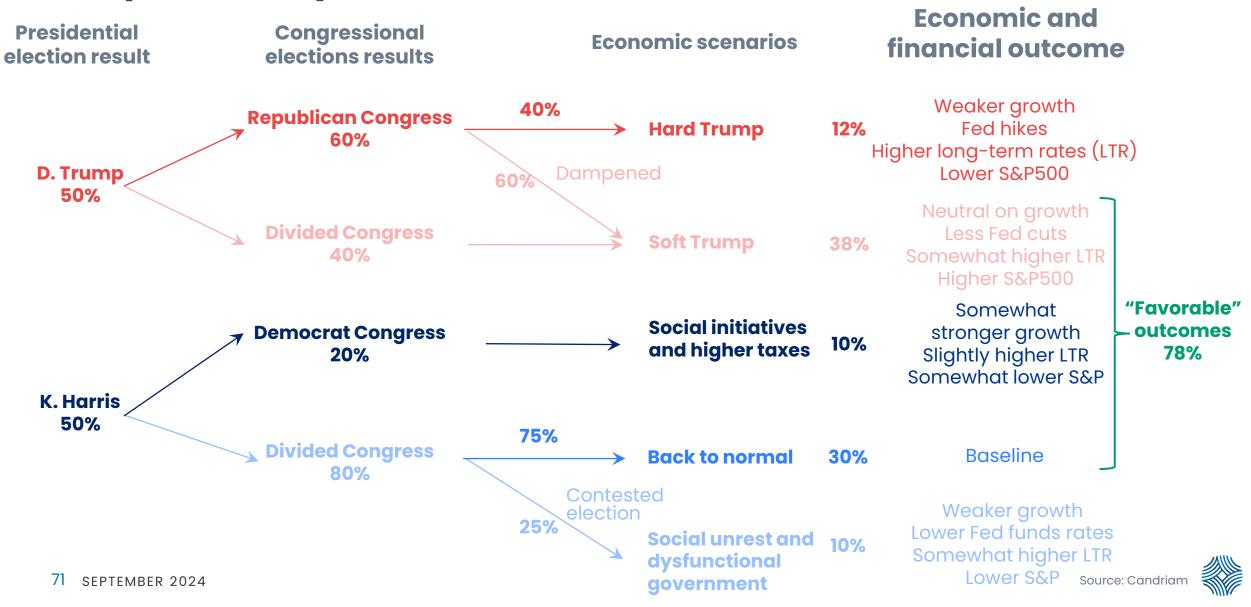
K. Harris has also proposed eliminating taxes on tips and raising the minimum wage, which would cost between \$100 and \$200 billion over a decade.

She has also said she will release plans supporting education, childcare, and long-term care, among other policies.

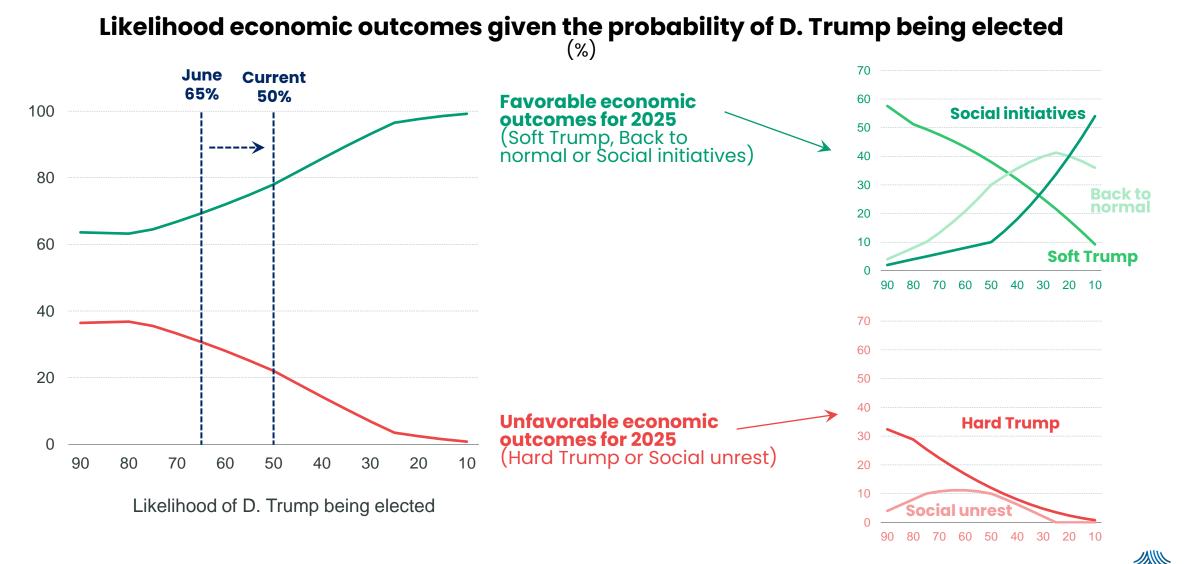
Harris would also seek to raise the corporate income tax rate to 28 percent, which would reduce the deficit by \$1 to \$1.4 trillion over a decade. More generally, she supports the \$5 trillion tax increases proposed by the Biden White House.



With J. Biden dropping out, the probability of a Democrat win has increased



"Unfavorable" outcomes do not seem the most likely



Source: Candriam



Euro area Cautious monetary policy easing...

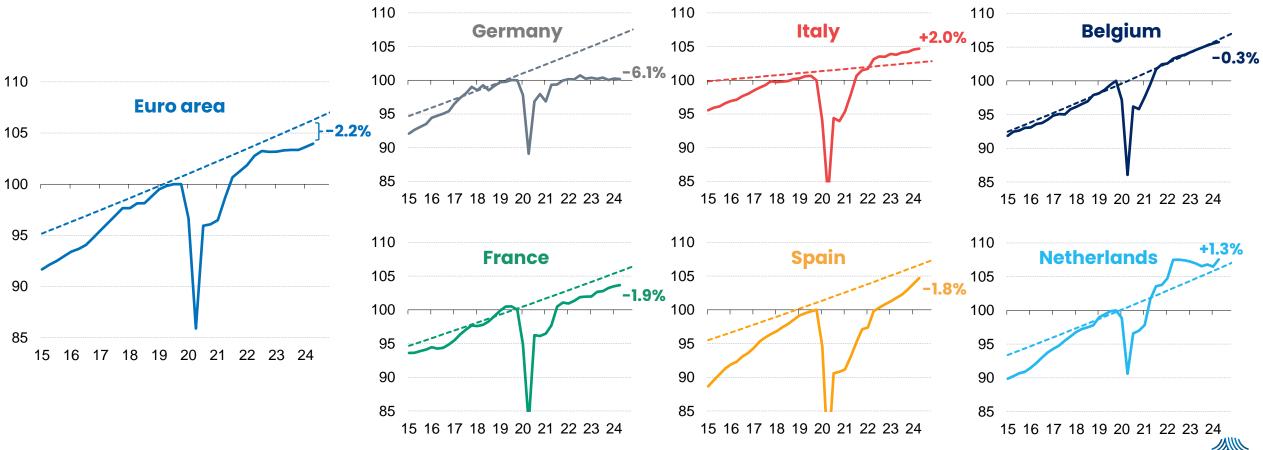


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CANDRIAM DUTCH SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT CONFERENCE 2024

Euro area activity remains well below trend... mainly because German GDP is stuck at its pre-covid level

Real GDP (compared to 2004-2019 trend, 2019 Q4 = 100)



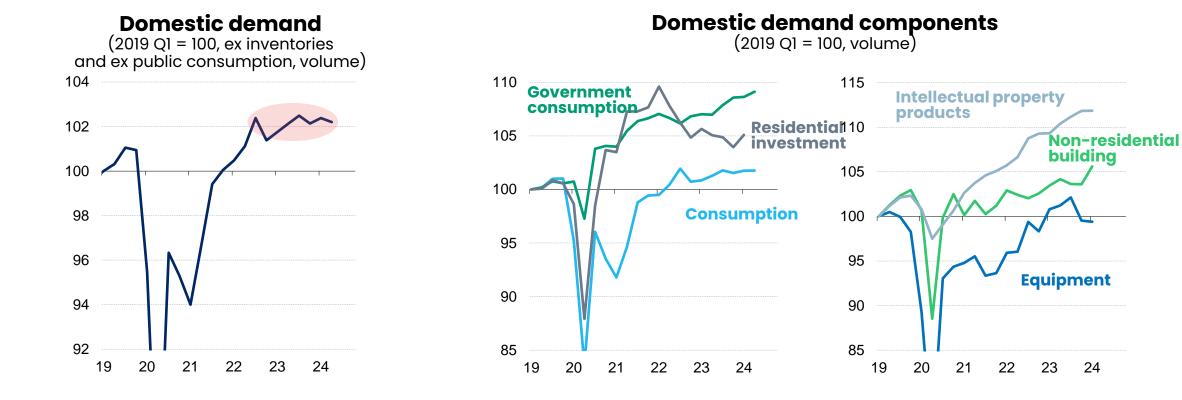
74 SEPTEMBER 2024

Sources : LSEG Datastream, Candria



Domestic demand remains sluggish

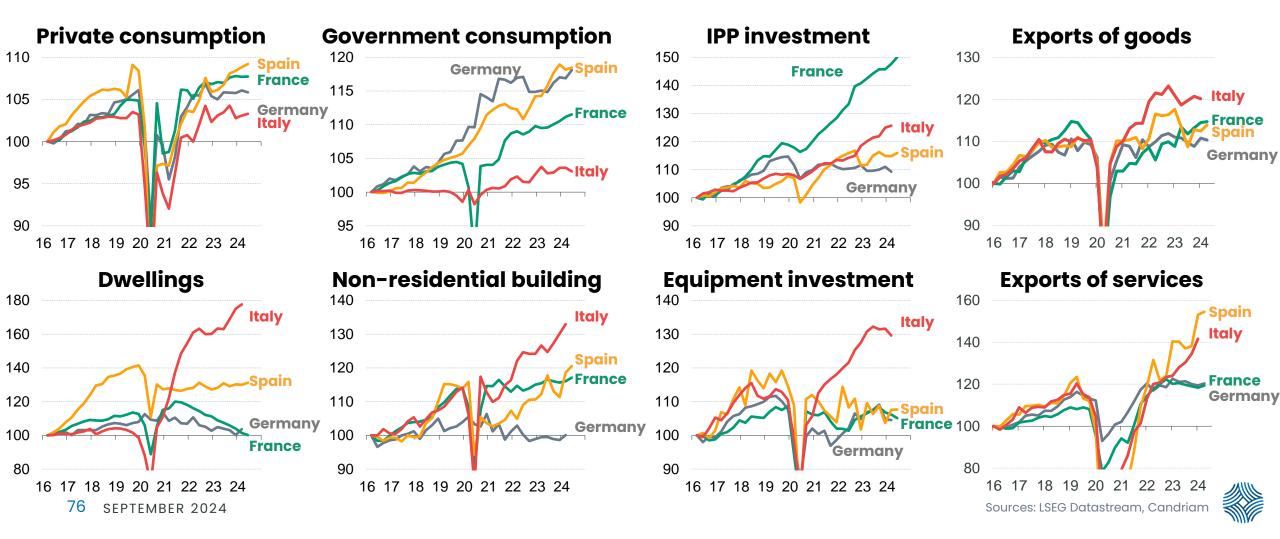
Domestic demand in the 4 largest euro area countries



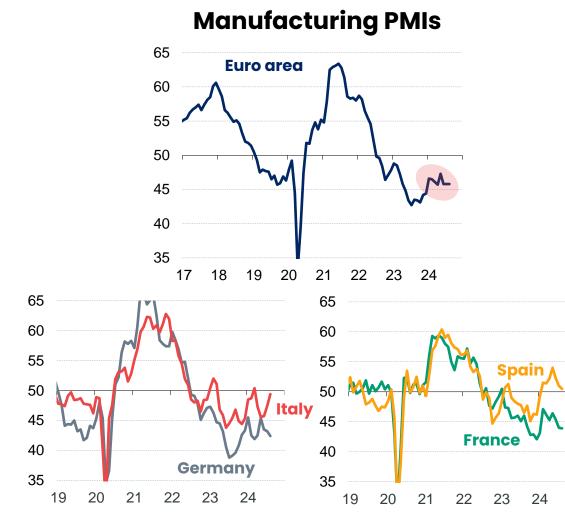
75 SEPTEMBER 2024

Memo. Demand components by country

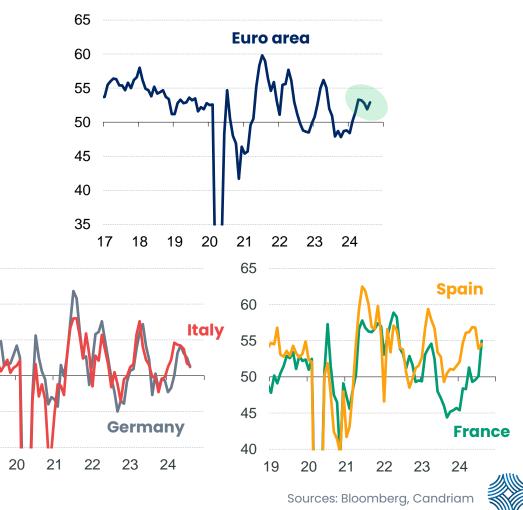
(2016 Q1 = 100, volume)



Despite ups and downs, PMI surveys are pointing to ongoing moderate growth



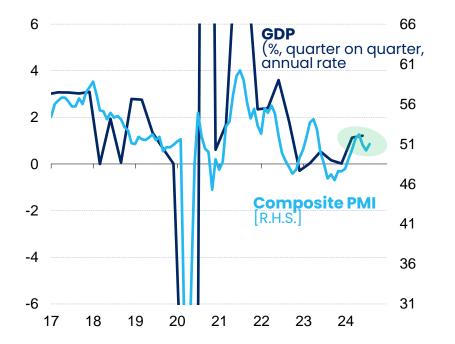




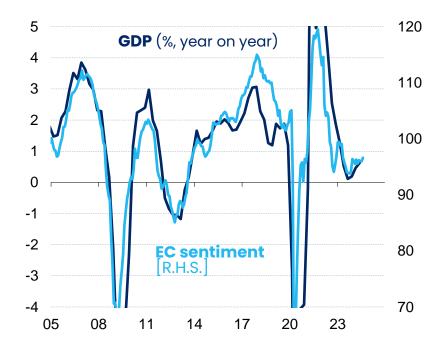
77 SEPTEMBER 2024

The EC economic sentiment is going in the same direction

Composite PMIs and GDP growth



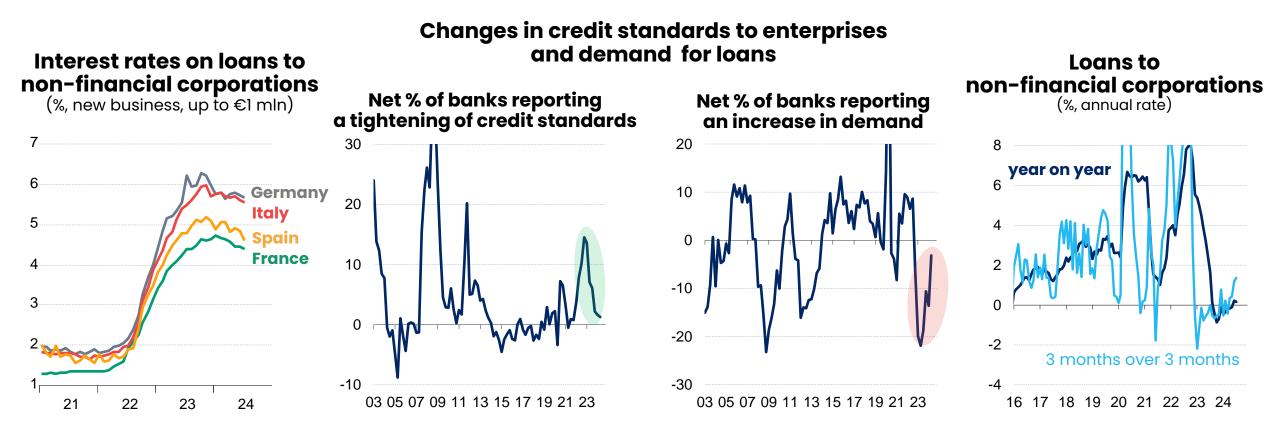
EC sentiment and GDP growth





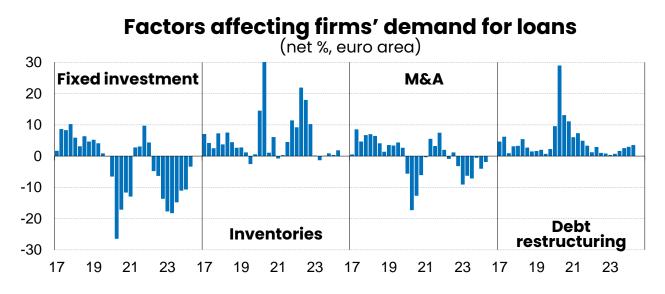


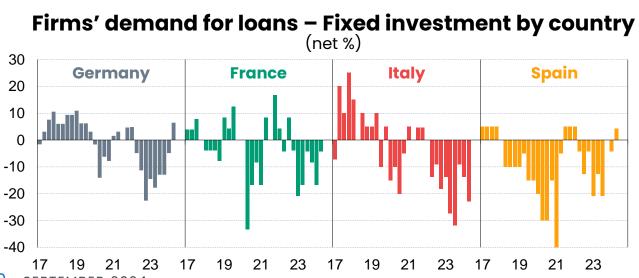
Credit conditions for firms have stopped tightening, but loan demand remains subdued...





... especially for fixed investment





Equipment and IPP investment versus perceived demand in the euro area 10 Equipment and IPP investment 20 % year on year 5 10 0 0 Perceived demand R.H.S. -10 -5 -20 -10 -30 09 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 07

Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

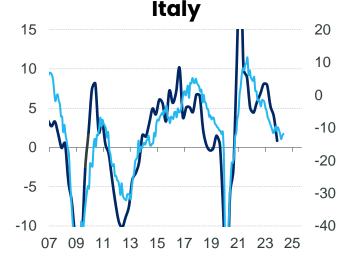


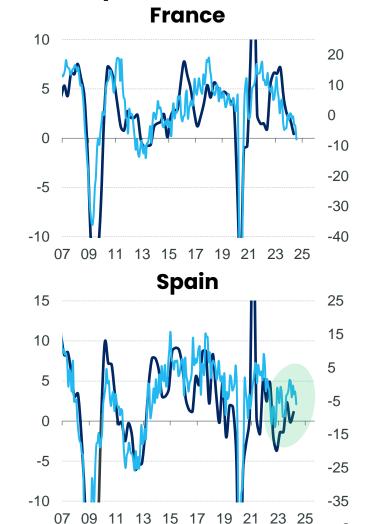
80 SEPTEMBER 2024

For the time being, perceived demand is pointing to business investment growing only in Spain

Equipment and IPP investment versus perceived demand







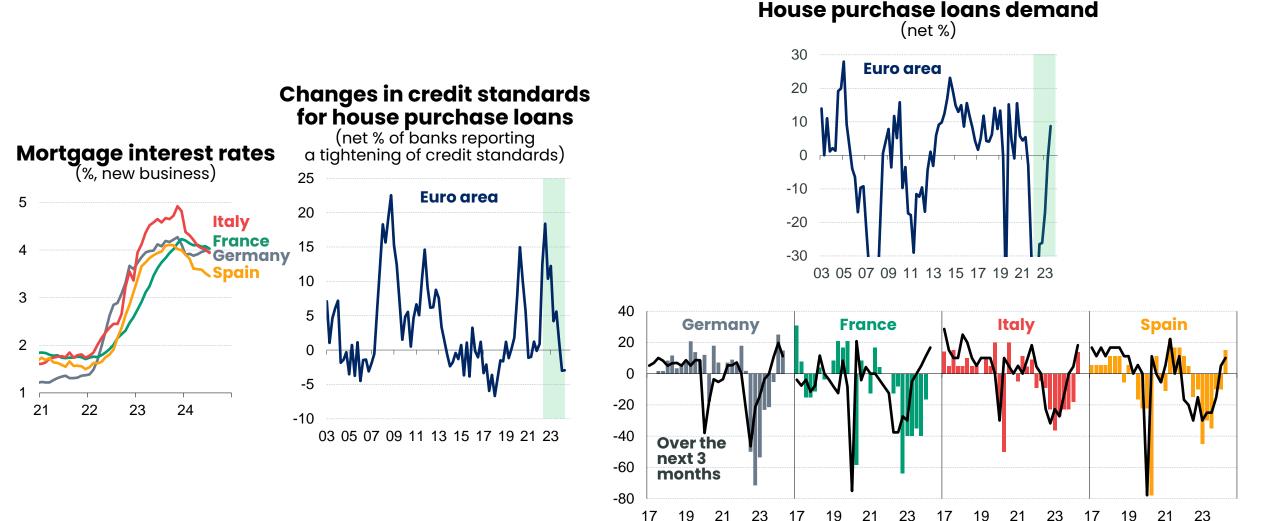
Equipment and IPP investment (% year on year)

Perceived demand [R.H.S.]

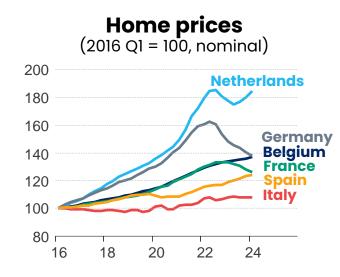
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

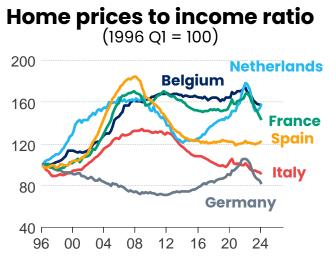


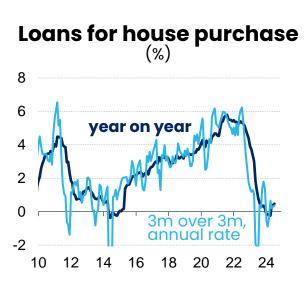
Credit conditions for mortgage loans to households have started to improve and loan demand seems to be picking up...

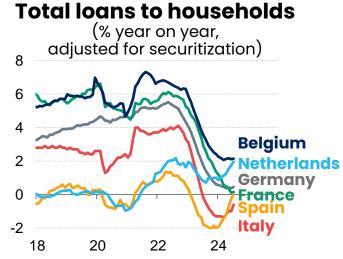


... but impaired affordability should prevent a strong rebound in residential investment









10

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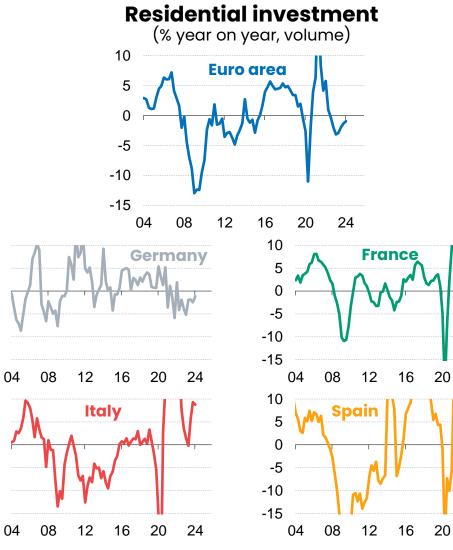
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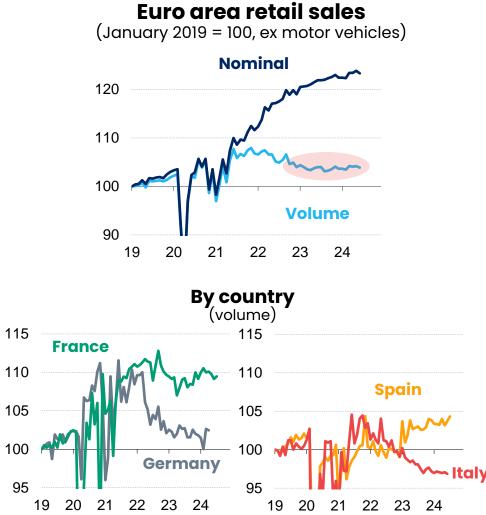
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24

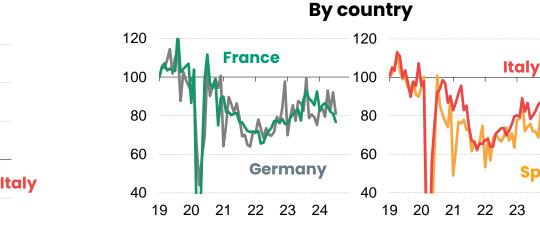
So far, consumption has progressed timidly!



New car registrations

(January 2019 = 100)

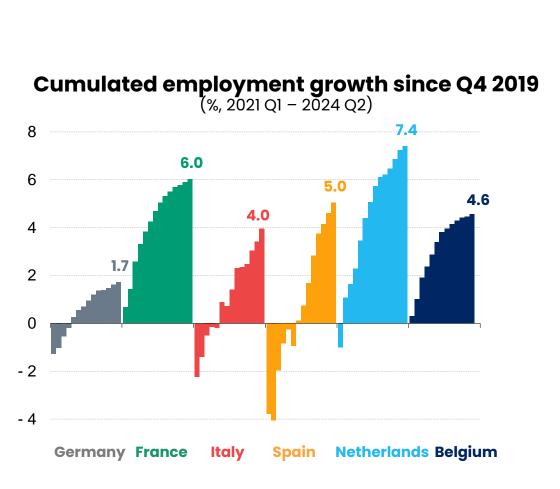


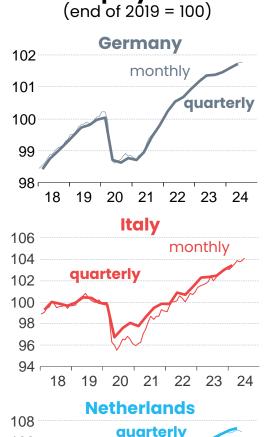


Spain

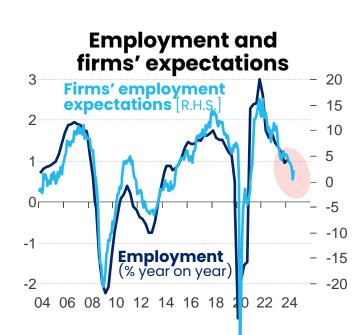
24

Employment is gradually levelling off

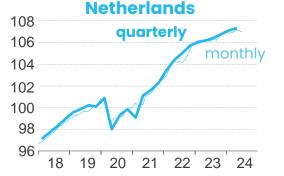




Employment

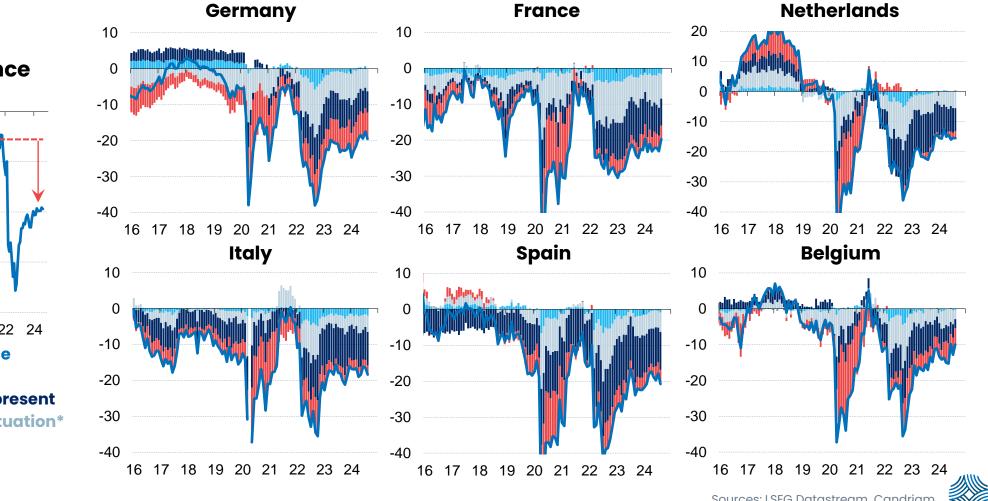


Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam



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Consumer confidence is only halfway back to its pre-covid level



Consumer confidence by country

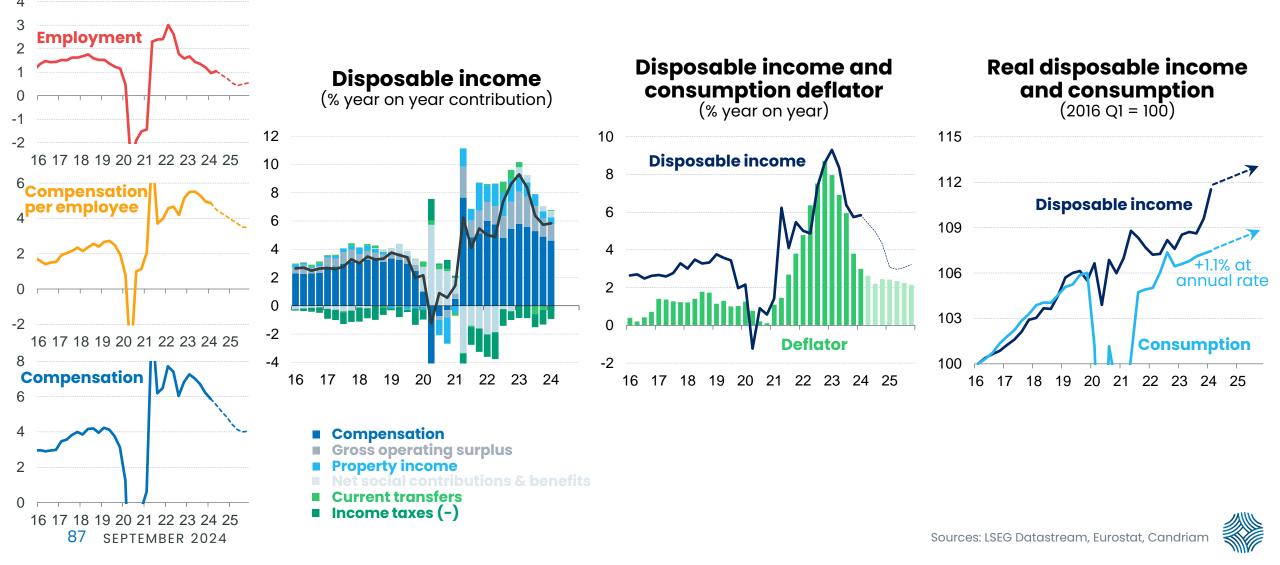
Consumer confidence in the Euro area 0 -10 -20 -30 -40 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 06 08 **Consumer confidence Unemployment*** Major purchases at present **General economic situation* Financial situation***

(*) Next 12 months

Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriar

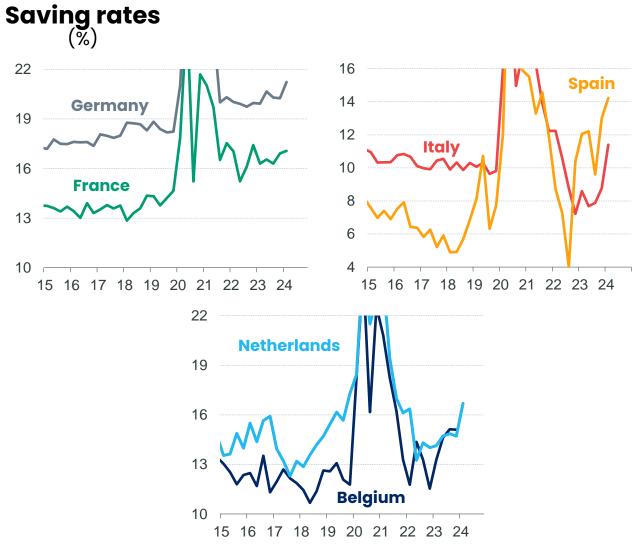
Still, *real* disposable income growth should now allow consumption to grow moderately...

(% year on year)



... even without the saving rate falling back to more usual levels



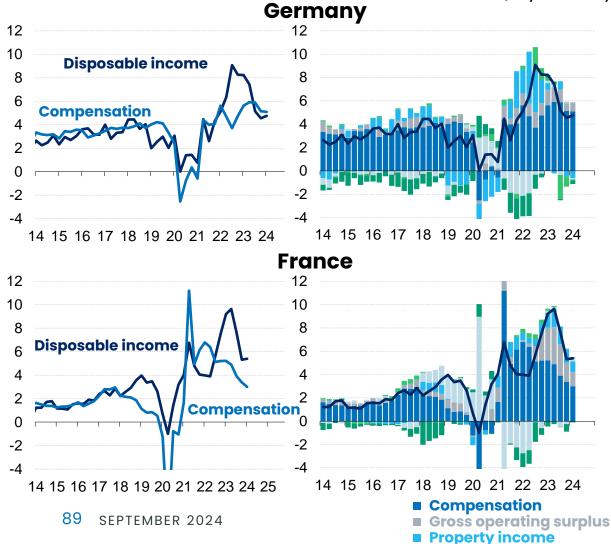


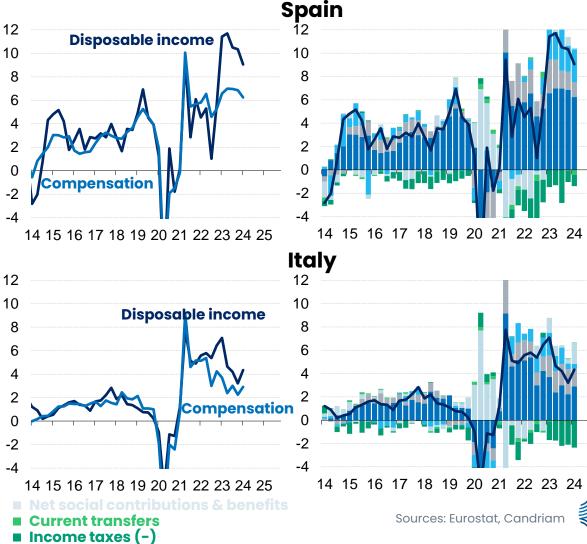
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

Memo. Disposable income by country (I)

Disposable income

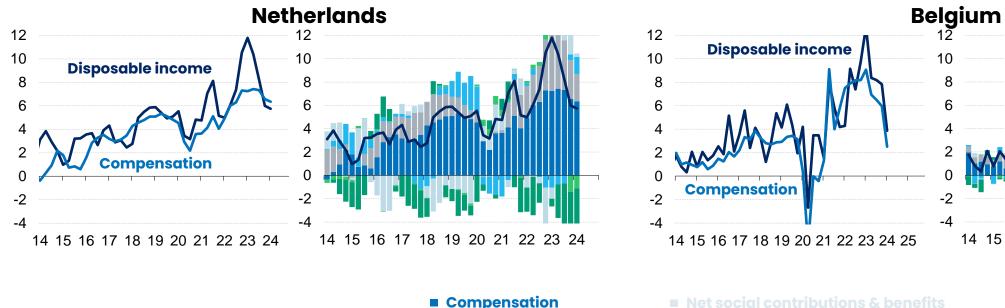
(% year on year contribution)



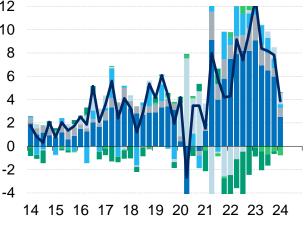


Memo. Disposable income by country (II)

Disposable income (% year on year contribution)

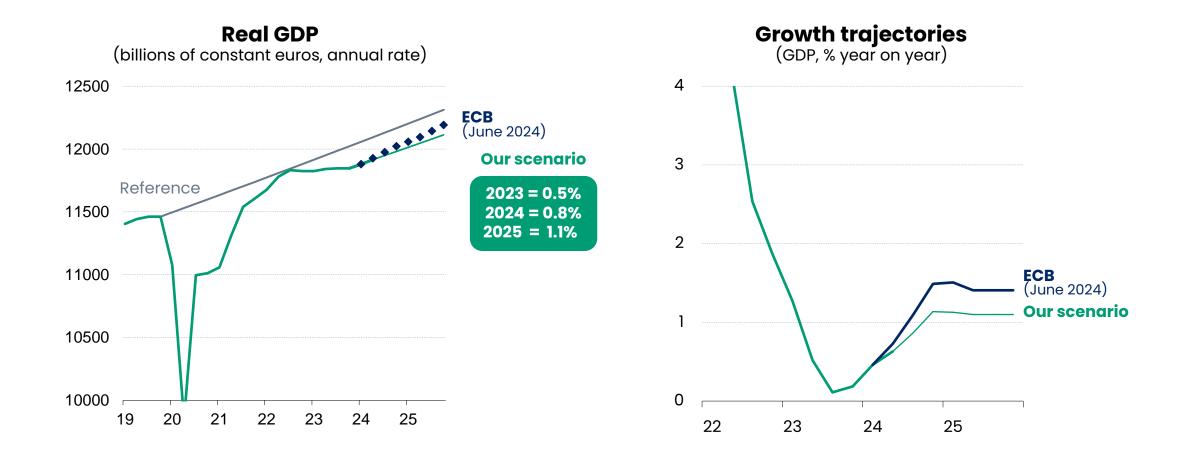


- Gross operating surplus Property income
- Current transfers
- Income taxes (-)

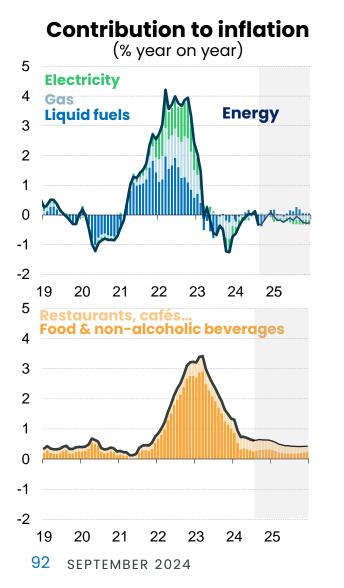


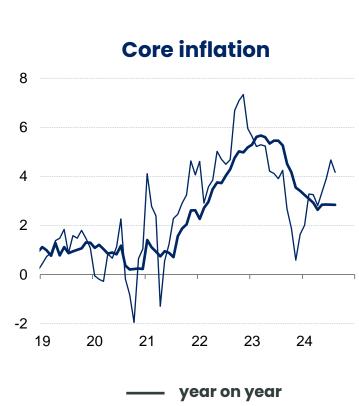


All in all, Euro area growth should remain around 1% in 2025

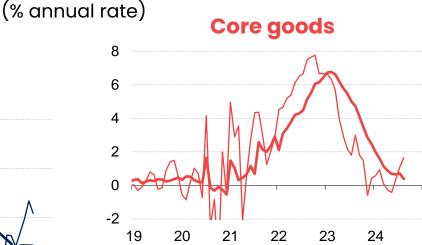


The problem for the ECB is that core services inflation is still too high...









Core CPI inflation





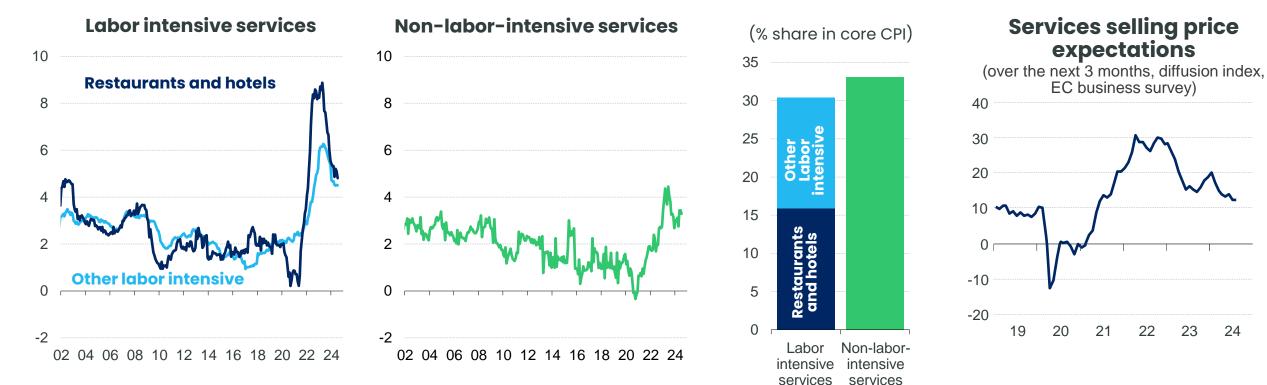


Sources: LSEG Datastream, Eurostat, Candriar

... especially in labor-intensive services

Core services CPI

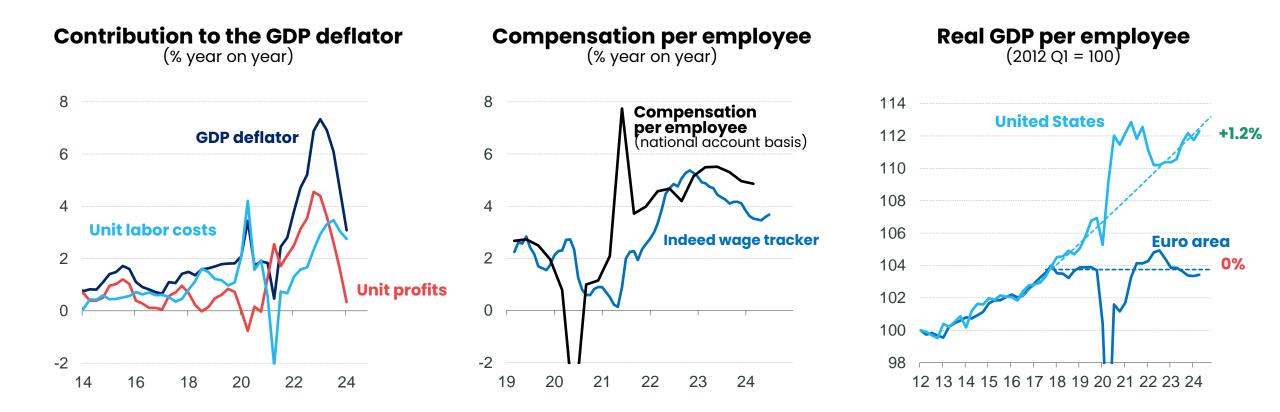
(% year on year)



23

24

As emphasized by C. Lagarde, wages, profits and productivity could all contribute to lower domestic price pressures



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Given the resilience in wage increases...

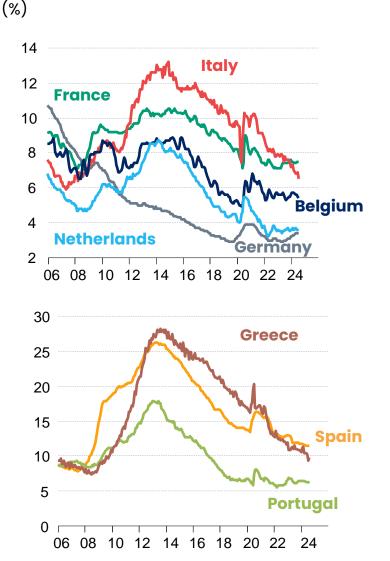


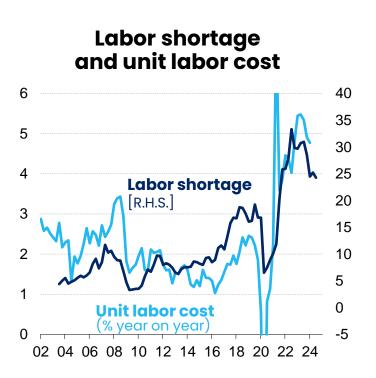
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

... and the tightness in the labor market...

Unemployment rate in the euro area



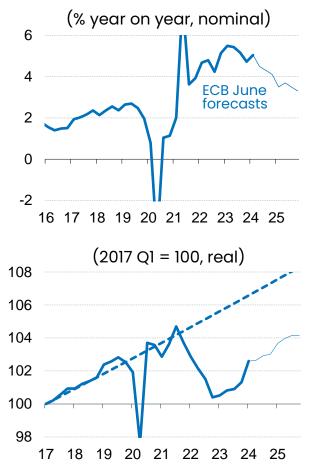


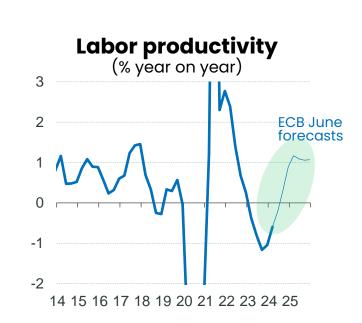


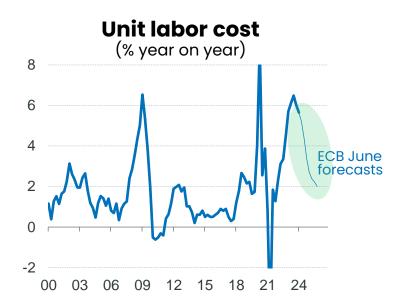
Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam

... the ECB is clearly betting on a rise in productivity driven by accelerating growth!

Compensation per employee



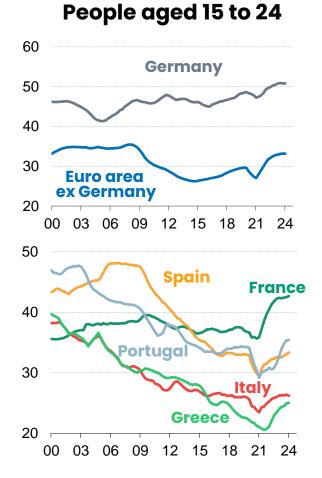




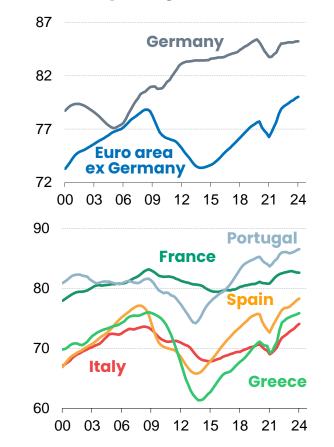


Memo. Employment rates in most euro countries are catching up with the elevated German levels

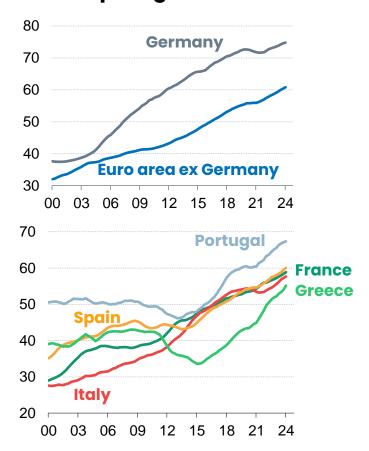
Employment rates (%, smoothed over 4 quarters)



People aged 25 to 54



People aged 54 to 65



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However, the eurozone is highly open to trade and vulnerable to a slowdown in global growth...

0

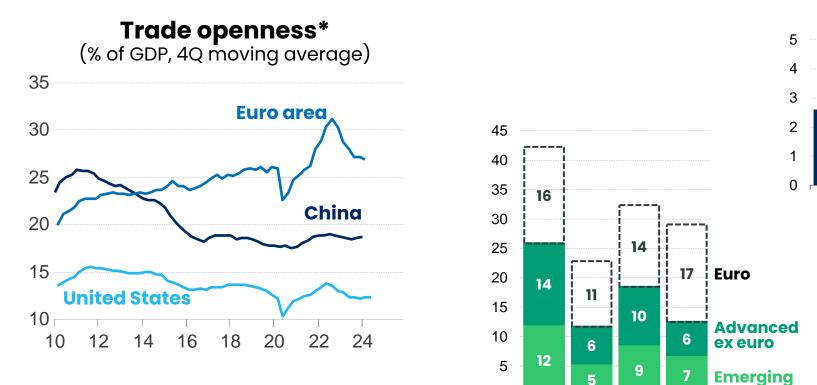
DE

FR

IT

ES

Euro area countries exports of goods by region



(% of GDP, 2023)

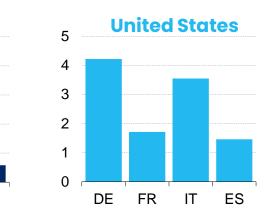
DE

FR

IT

ES

China



Other countries Other countries Other emerging DE FR IT ES

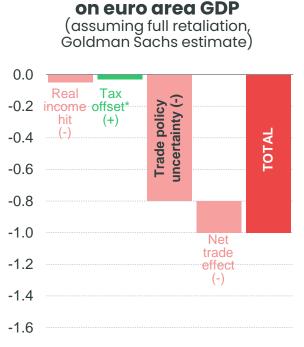
Measured as the half sum

of exports and imports to GDP



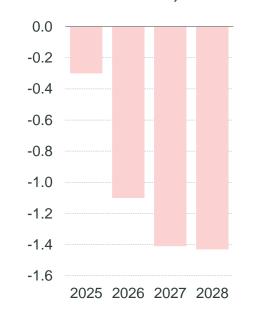
... which could be triggered by a "Hard Trump" scenario

Some estimate of the impact of a trade war with the US



Impact of US 10% tariff

Impact of US tariff increases on German GDP (deviation from baseline, IW estimate)

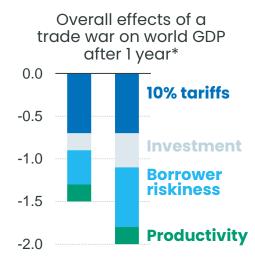


(*) Tariff revenue is fully recycled into tax cuts.

Assuming US levies a 10 per cent tariff on all trading partners' imports (except China) and a 60 per cent tariff on US imports from China, which equals a tariff increase of 40 percentage points. China retaliates by increasing its tariff on US imports by 40 percentage points.

Impact of 1% lower world growth using our macro model

	Euro area	DE	FR	IT	ES
China	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0
RoW	-0.6	-0.8	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4
Total	-0.7	-0.9	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4



(*) Costs and consequences of a trade war: a structural analysis, Bank of France

1% lower world growth would weaken growth in the euro area by 0.7%.

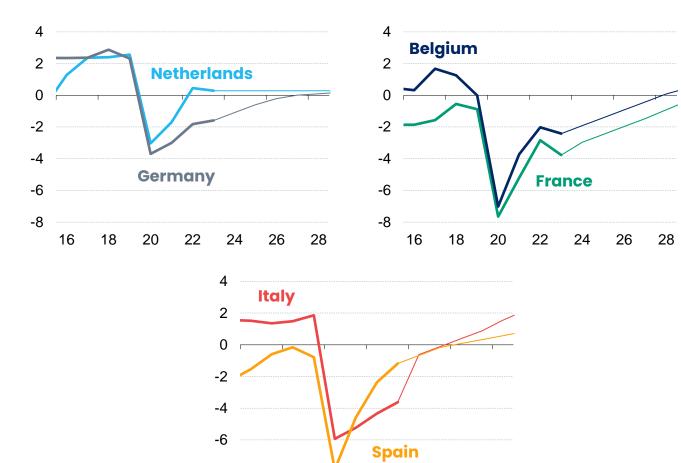
This would likely push the euro area in recession territory.

The ECB would cut rates more than in our baseline and the euro would weaken against the dollar.



The implementation of the new fiscal rules is another downside risk to euro area growth...

Primary balance (% of GDP)



101

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16

18

20

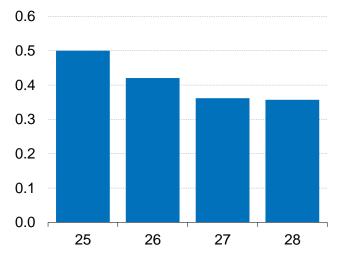
22

24

26

28

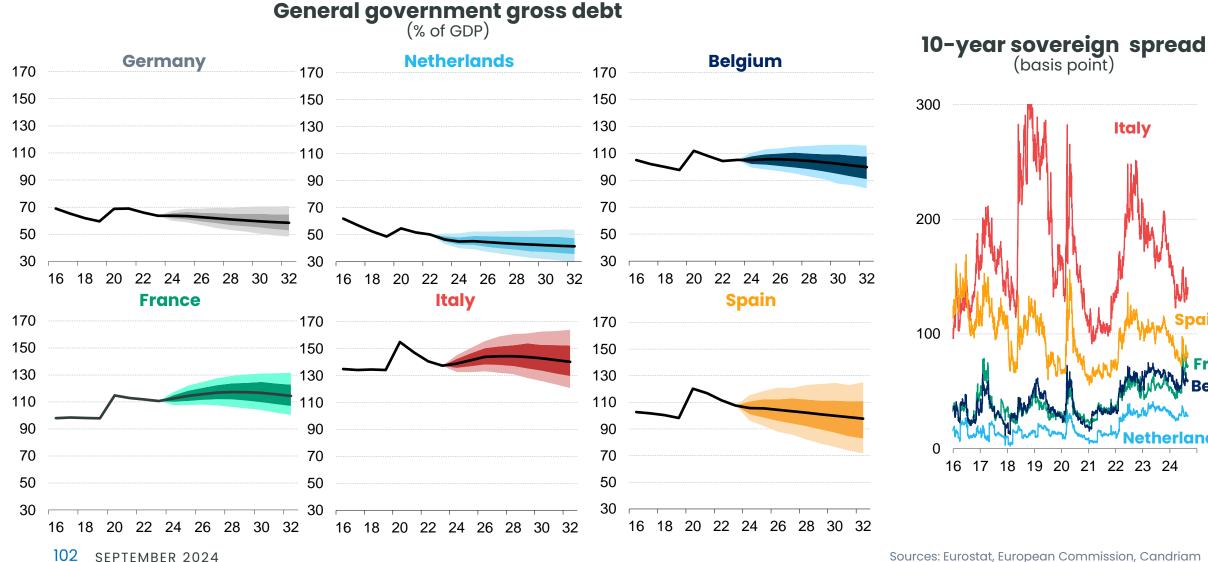
Euro area* fiscal rebalancing effort (% of GDP)



(*) Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Belgium



... especially if markets consider some countries under excessive deficit procedures as unable to comply!





20 21

22 23 24

(basis point)

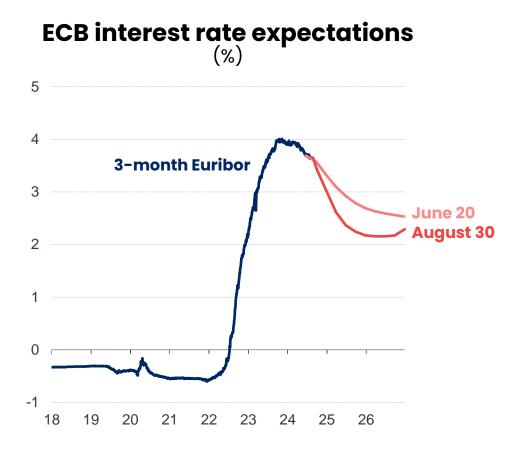
Italy

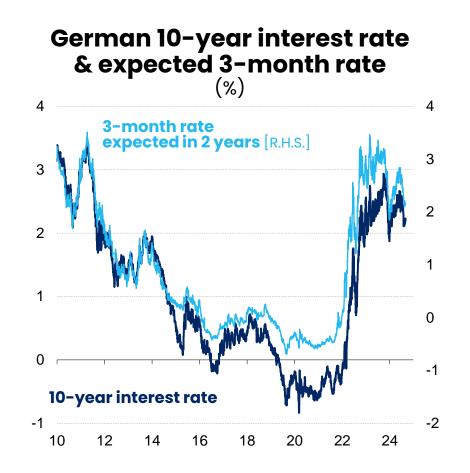
bain

France

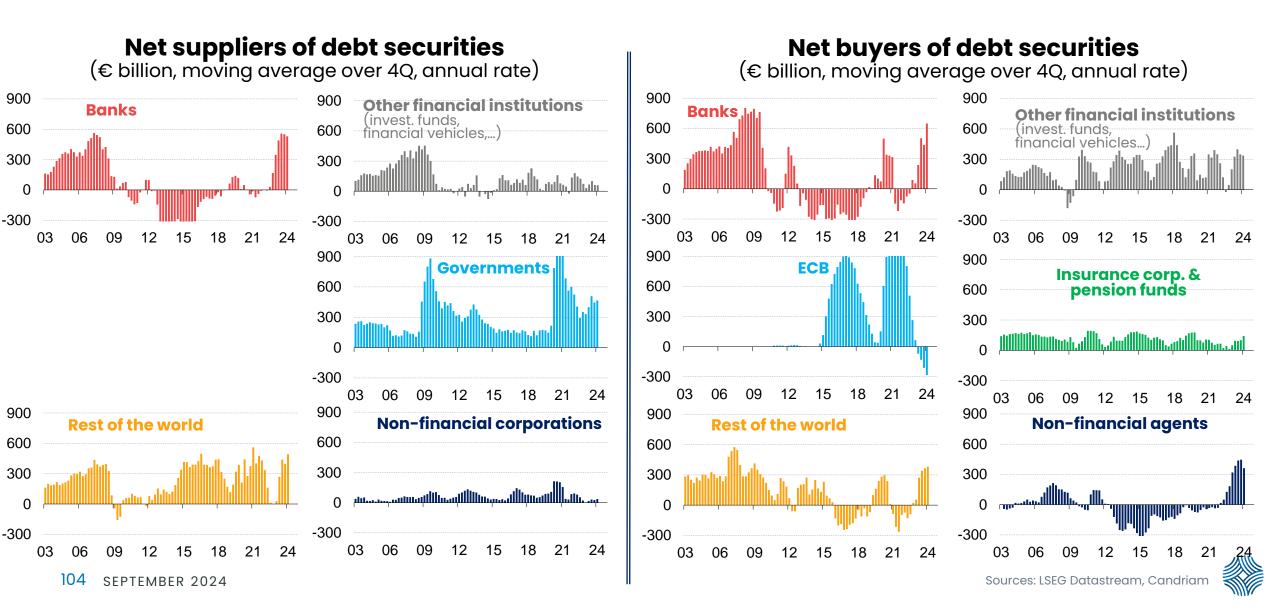
Belgium

Upside risks to inflation and downside risks to growth will force the ECB to be data-dependent and event-driven





Memo. Bond market equilibrium





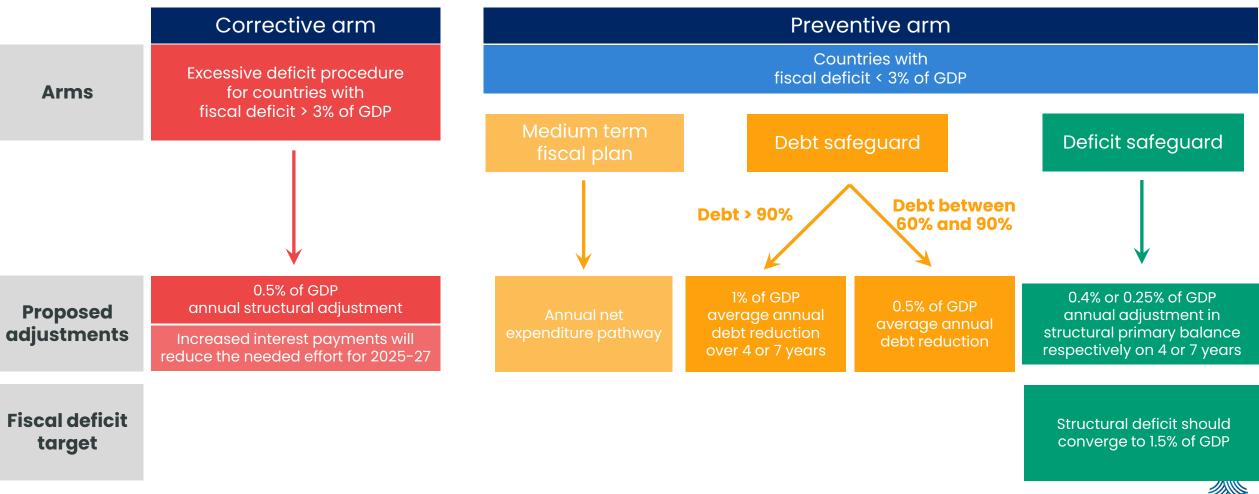
Focus The new fiscal rules



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New fiscal rules are now in place

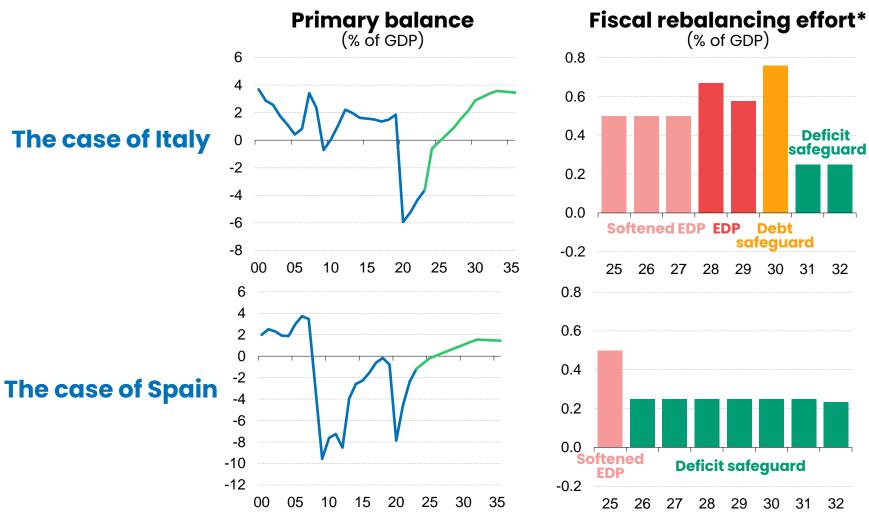
The new EU fiscal rules

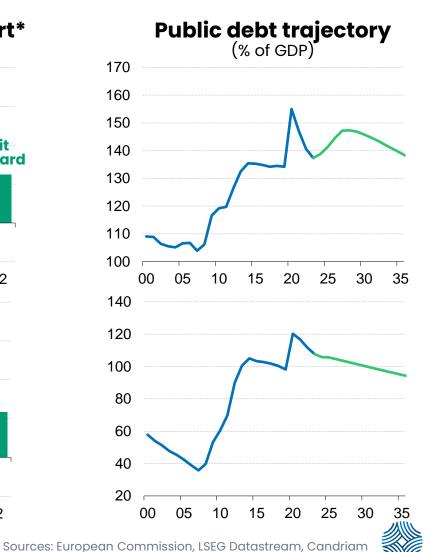




The new rules remain complex

What if the new fiscal rules are implemented?





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(*) Change in primary balance

30

31

32

Deficit

safeguard

Debt

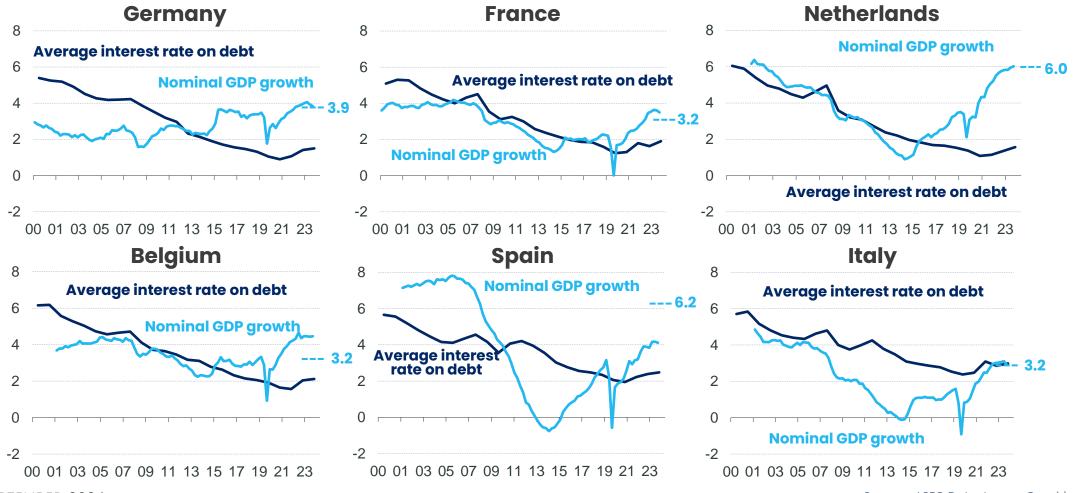
30

31

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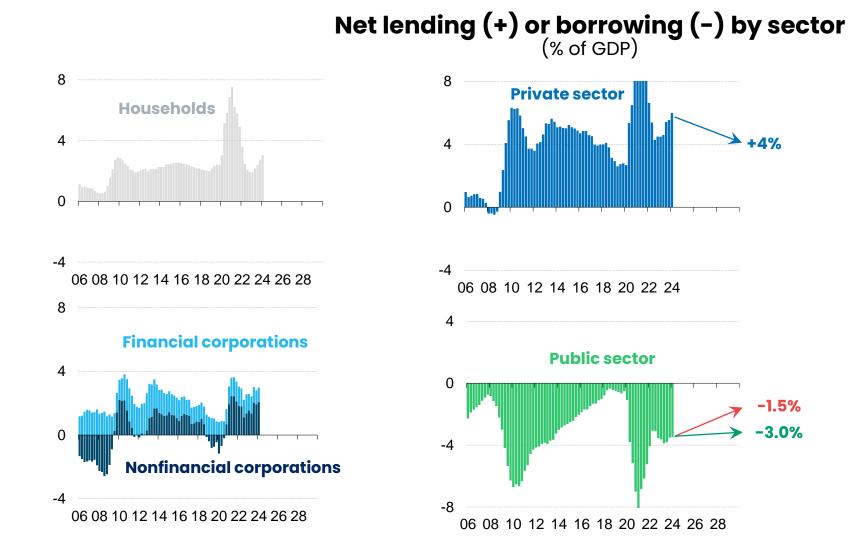
Memo. Interest rates and nominal growth

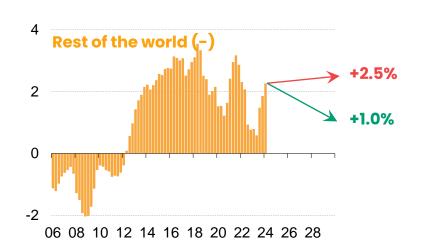
Average nominal GDP growth over 7 years and interest rate on government debt (%)



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Targeting a 1.5% of GDP government deficit in the medium term may not be the best way to use our private financial saving!



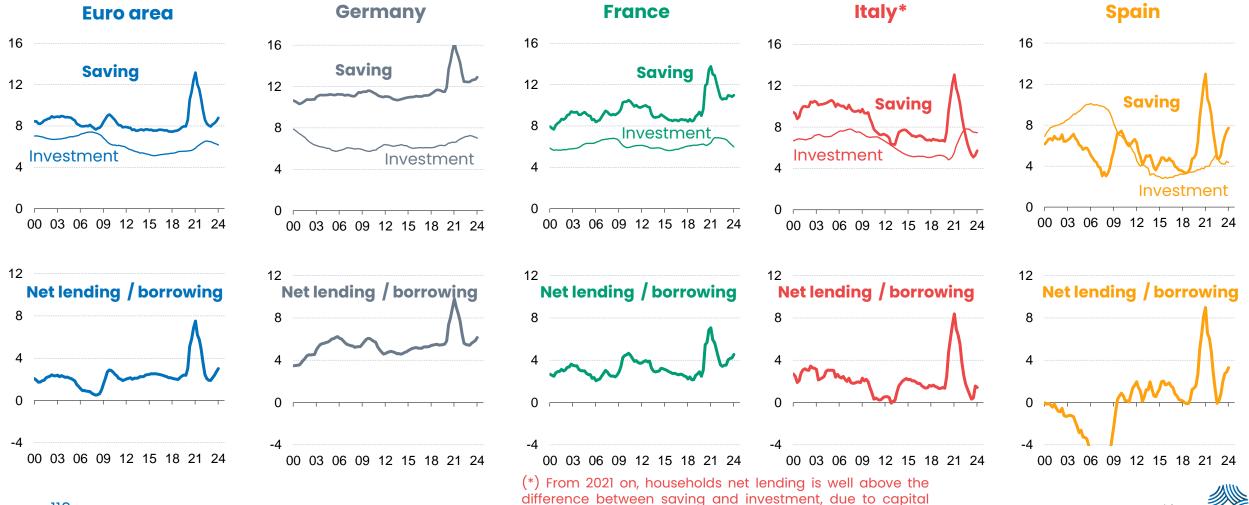


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Memo. Households' financing capacity

Households net lending (+) or borrowing (-)

(% of GDP)



transfers (investment grants) received from the government.

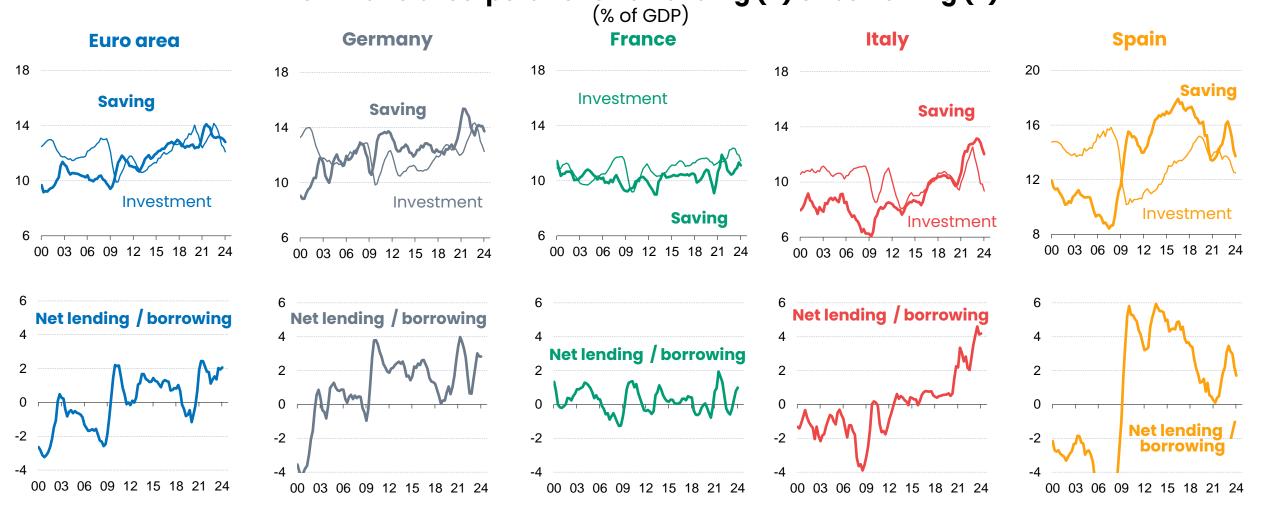
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Sources: LSEG Datastream, Candriam



Memo. Non-financial firms financing capacity

Nonfinancial corporations net lending (+) or borrowing (-)

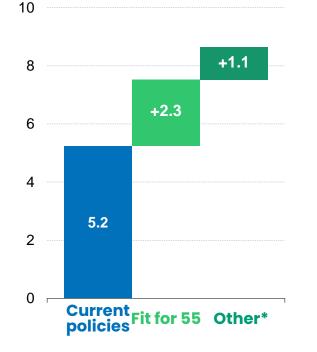


Especially when ambitious EU climate objectives would require 1.5 GDP points of additional public investment over 2021-30!

Investments needed over 2021-30 for EU's green transition

(% of GDP)

8



(*) Environmental protection, resource management, circular economy and REPowerEU

The European Commission estimated that the green transition will cost around €620 billion annually over 2021-30, including:

- €450 billion to reach Fit for 55 objectives
- €150 billion for wider environmental objectives



Assuming the public sector funds 40% of additional investments needed for EU's green transition, annual public expenditures would have to increase by 1.5% of GDP over 2021-30.



Investing fortomorrow.*

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