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How To Find Return In A Stagnant World

Garry EvansManaging Editor

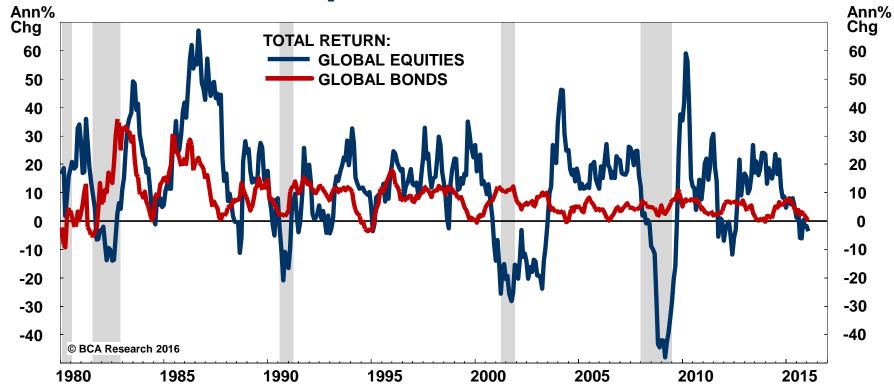


Summary

- 1. Outlook for the global economy and investment asset over the next 12 months
 - > Weak growth, but no recession. Poor returns from most asset classes.
- 2. Put that view in a longer term context
 - > Zero (even negative) interest rates, Fed raising rates only after six years of expansion.
- 3. How to make money (or at least avoid losing money)
 - > Be cautious. But there is risk in not taking risk



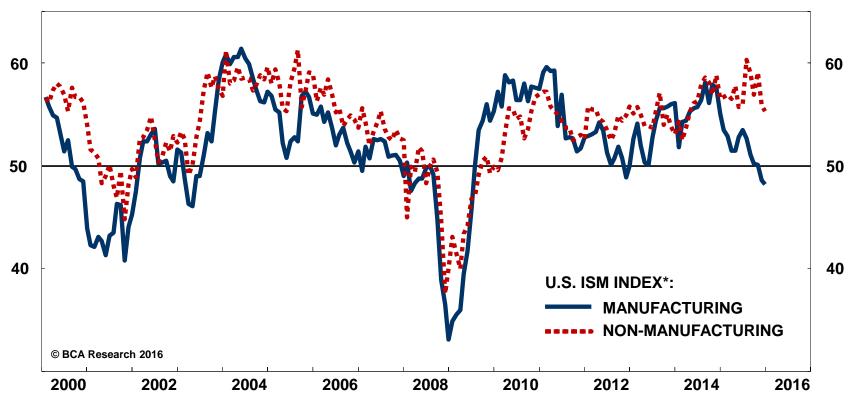
Low Returns Everywhere



- * SOURCE: MSCI INC (SEE COPYRIGHT DECLARATION).
- ** SOURCE: BARCLAYS.
 SHADING DENOTES NBER DESIGNATED RECESSIONS.



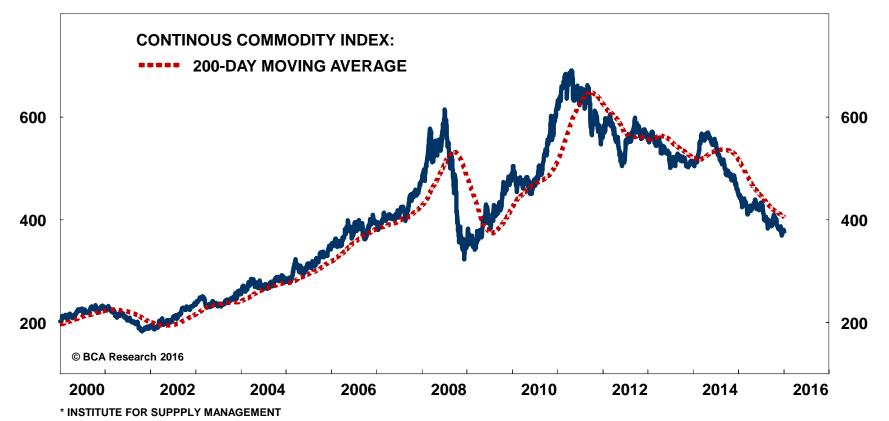
Manufacturing Versus Services



^{*} INSTITUTE FOR SUPPLY MANAGEMENT.



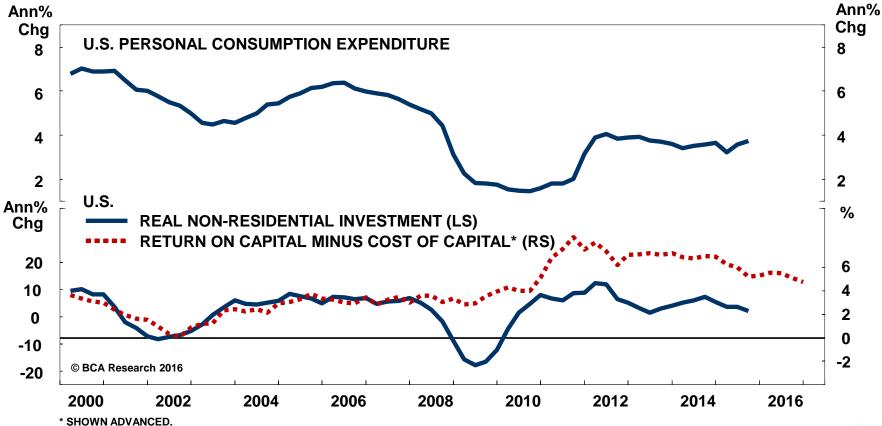
A Classic Hog Cycle





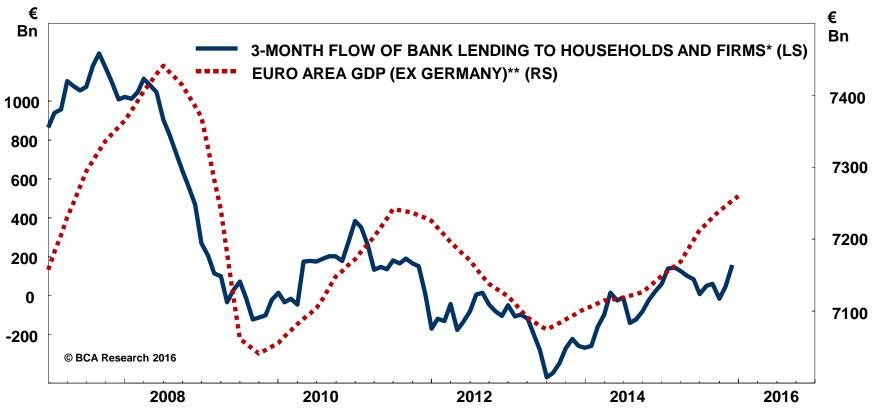
U.S.: Both Consumption & Capex Sluggish

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Europe: Better But Hardly Inspiring



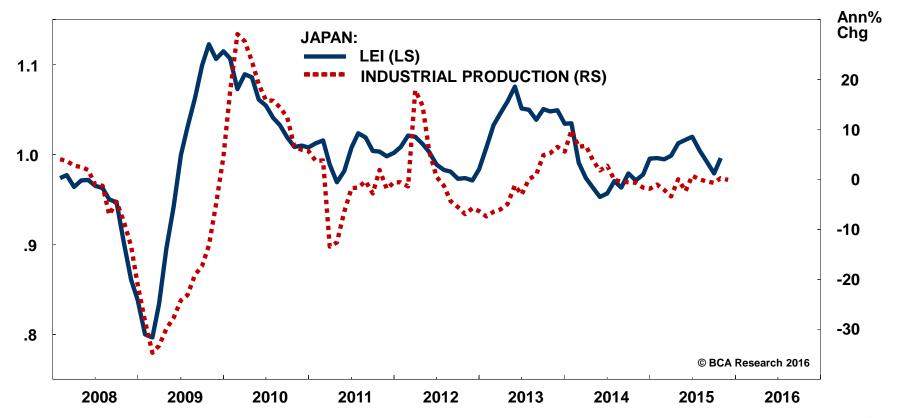
SOURCES: ECB, STATISTISCHES BUNDESAMT, EUROSTAT.



^{*} ADJUSTED FOR SALES AND SECURITISATION.

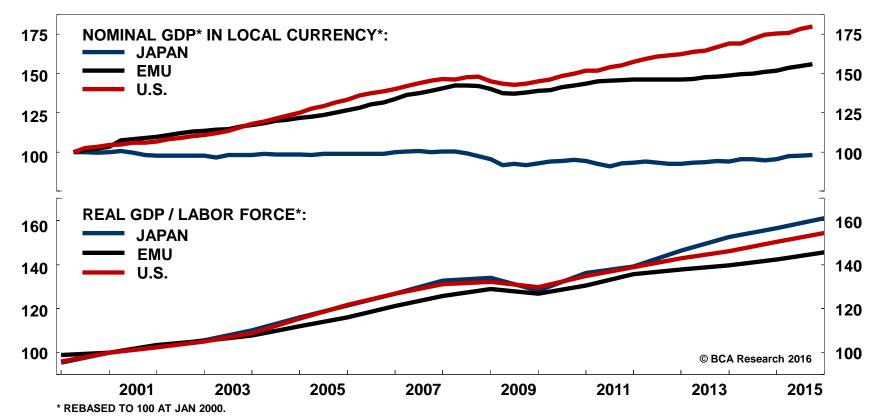
^{**} ANNUALISED RATE.

Japan: Is Abenomics Working?



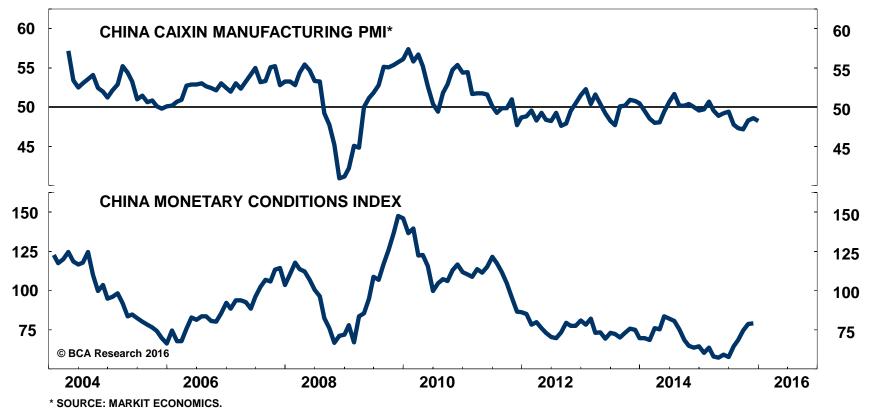


Japan Faces Huge Structural Headwinds



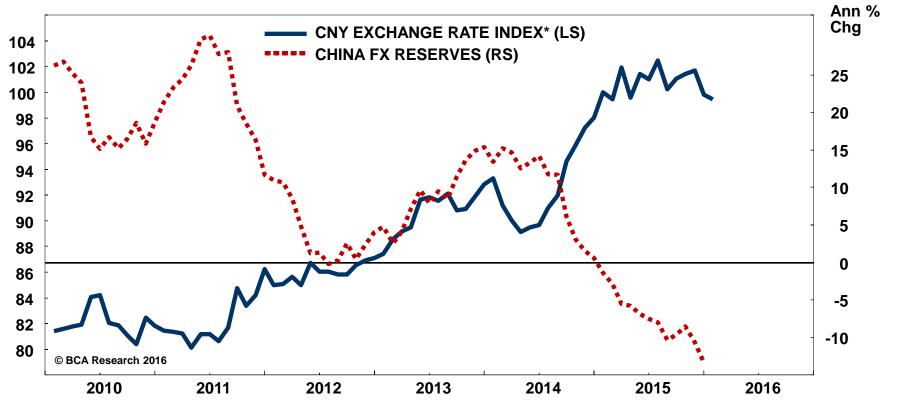


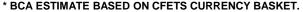
China Should Avoid A Hard Landing





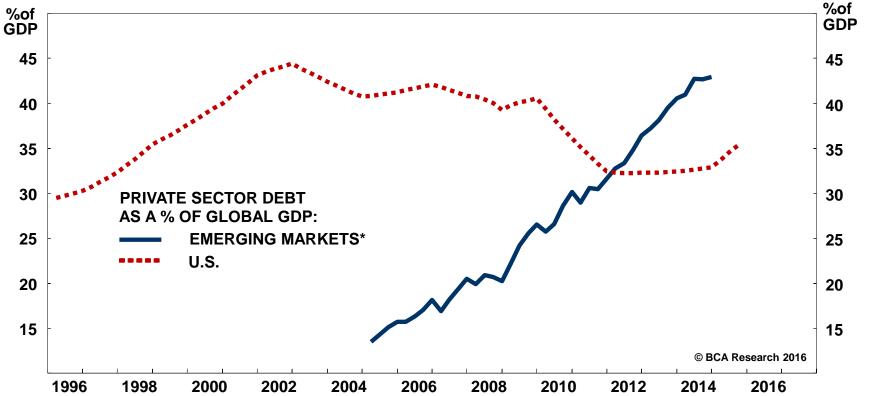
As Long As Currency Policy Doesn't Trip It Up







EM At The Start Of A Massive Deleveraging



*SOURCE: IMF AND BIS; CHINA PRIVATE SECTOR IS CALCULATED AS CUMULATIVE TOTAL SOCIAL FINANCING EXCLUDING EQUITY ISSUANCE BY NON-FINANCIAL CORPORATIONS PLUS NON-BANK INTERNATIONAL DEBT SECURITIES AND FOREIGN BANK CLAIMS ON NON-BANK CORPORATE SECTOR

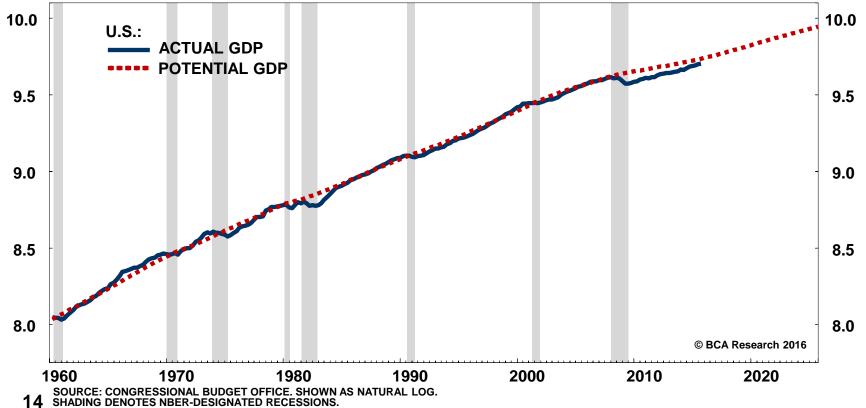


No Sign Of Recession Yet



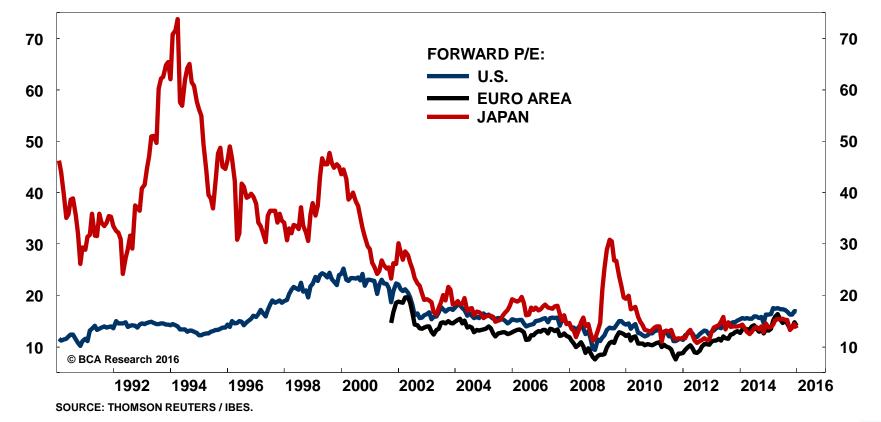


What Roadmap To Use



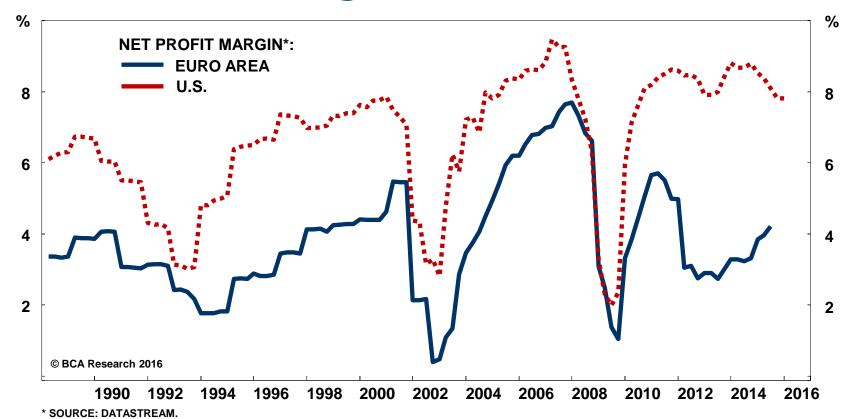


Equities Are Not Cheap



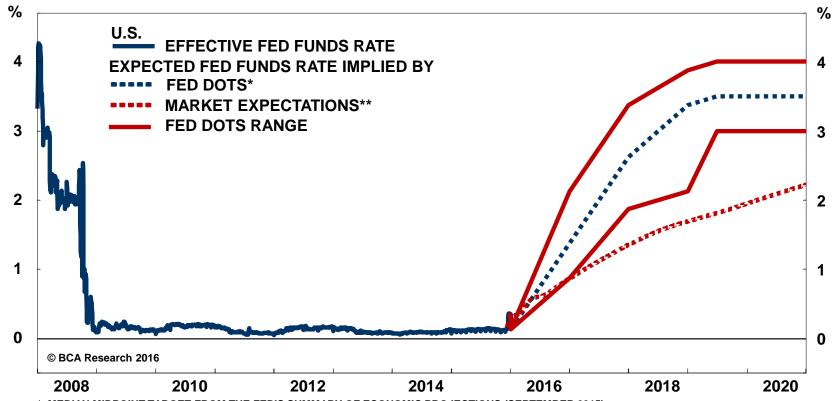


And U.S. Profit Margins Have Peaked





Trajectory Of Fed Price Hikes

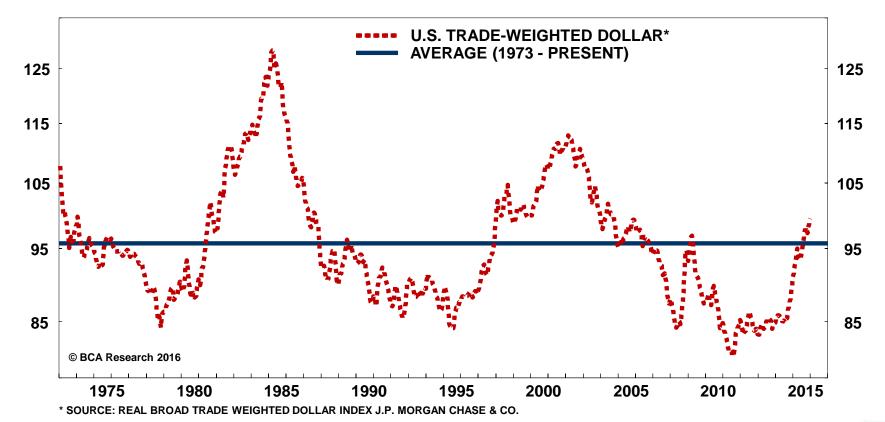


^{*} MEDIAN MIDPOINT TARGET FROM THE FED'S SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS (SEPTEMBER 2015).



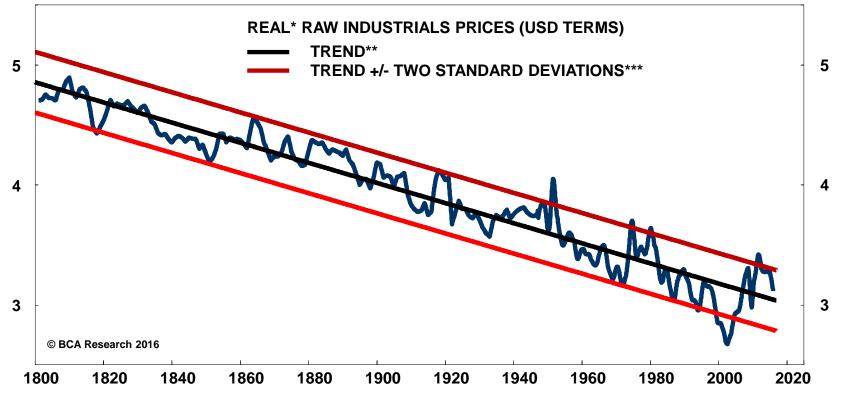
^{**} AS DISCOUNTED IN THE OIS CURVE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2016.

Dollar Usually Moves In Long Waves





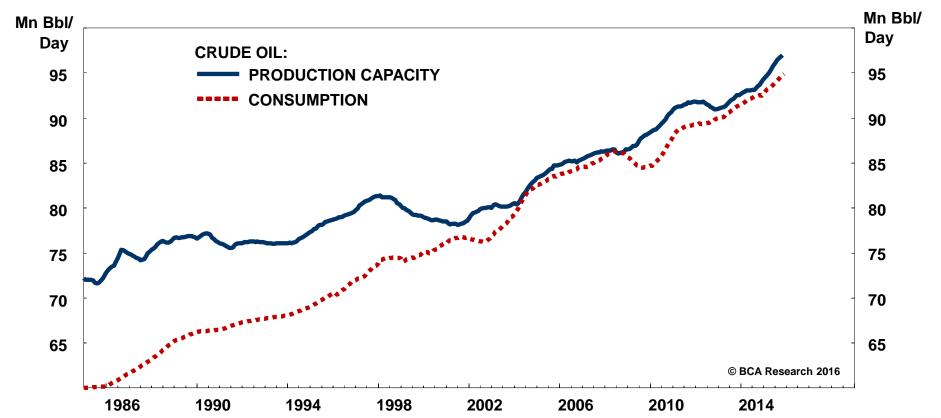
So Do Commodities



- * ADJUSTED BY U.S. GDP DEFLATOR.
- ** TIME TREND FROM 1800 TO 2008.
- *** DEVIATION FROM 25-YEAR TREND



But Oil May Rebalance By Mid-2016





Avoid The Emerging Markets Trap



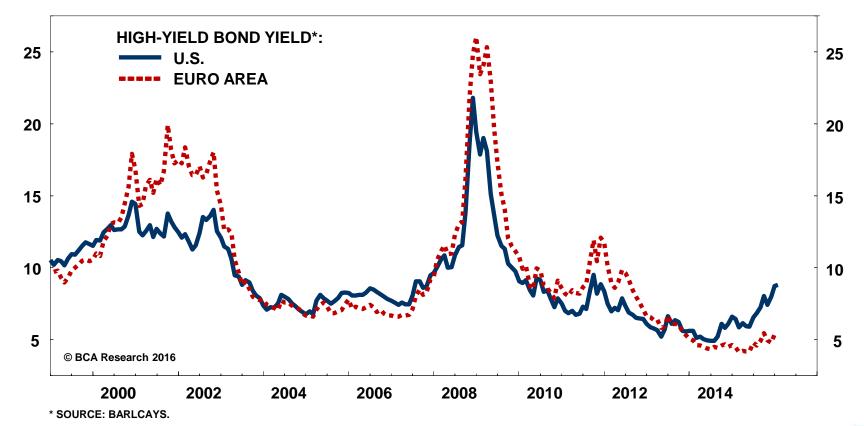
* INCLUDES 50 INDUSTRY GROUPS. SOURCE: MSCI Inc. (SEE COPYRIGHT DECLARATION).



* MARKET CAP-WEIGHTED AGGREAGATE OF INDONESIA, THAILAND, CHINA, MALAYASIA, TURKEY, RUSSIA AND BRAZIL.

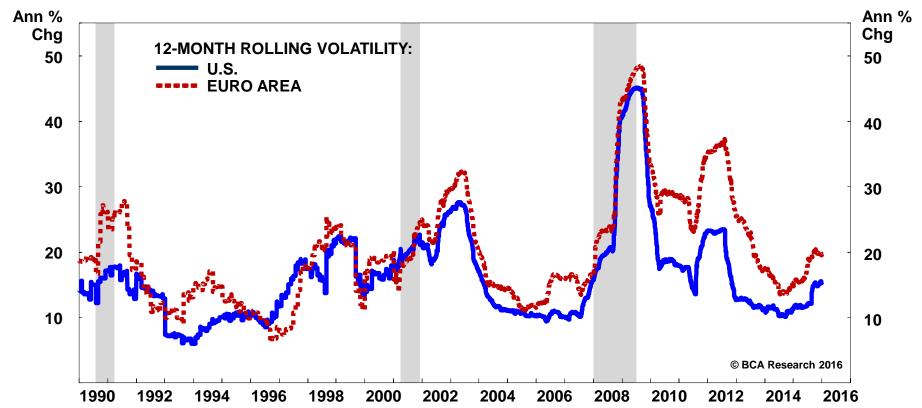


U.S. Junks Bonds Offer Best Risk/Reward



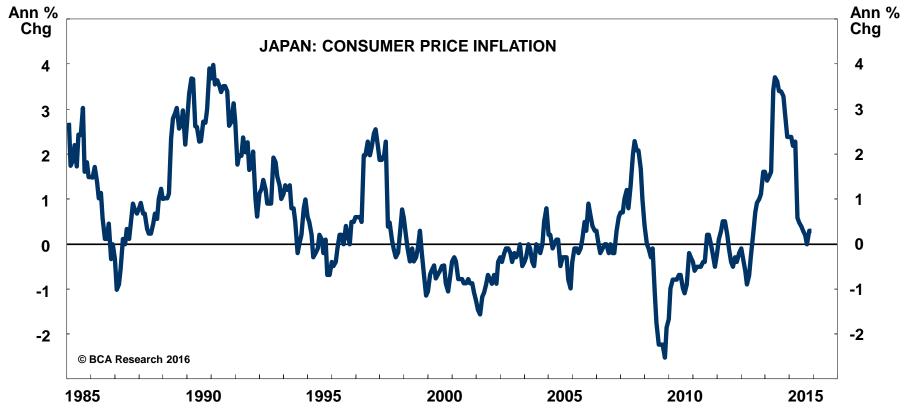


U.S. Equities Safer Than European Ones





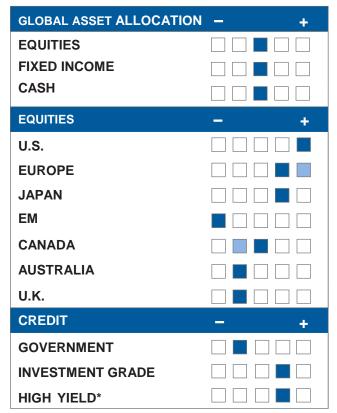
Japan As a Trade

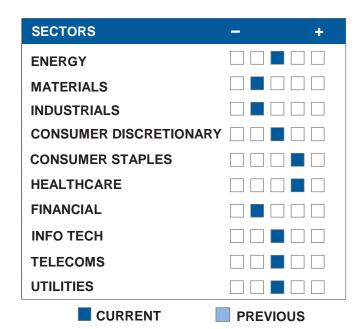




BCA Recommended Asset Allocation

Recommended Allocation





^{*} WE RAISED TO OVERWEIGHT IN OUR SPECIAL REPORT DATED DECEMBER 11, 2015, ENTITLED "HIGH-YIELD BONDS: LOW VOLATILITY EQUITIES?" AVAILABLE AT GAA.BCARESEARCH.COM.



Conclusion

- Cash yields zero, government bonds 1%, and equities are expensive.
- > In this world, be nimble to make a positive return.
- > But there is risk in not taking any risk too.
- The global economic expansion is likely to continue for a couple of more years.
- ...unless the Fed has made a mistake.
- But the next global recession, when it comes, could be a nasty one.

