



18 July 2024

## Overview

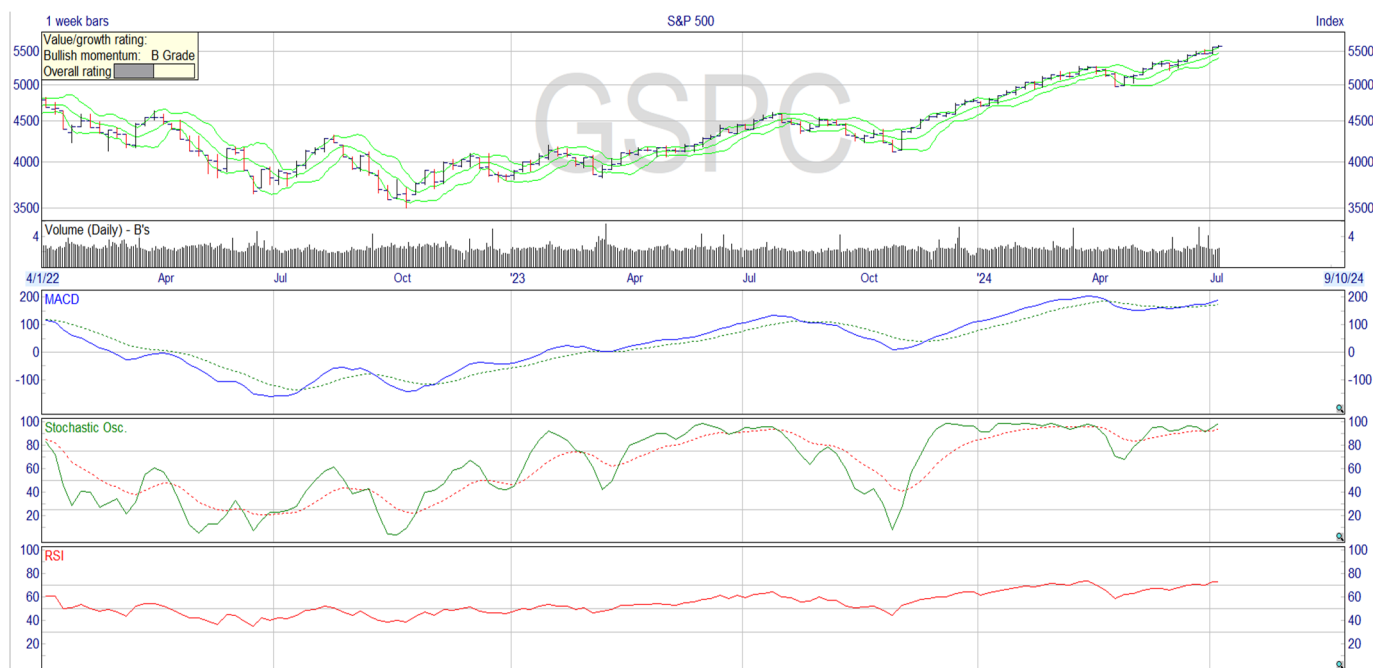
### S&P 500 | Technical Analysis: Bullish Momentum Persists

The S&P 500 chart indicates strong bullish momentum, characterized by a consistent upward trend since mid-2022.

The weekly bars reveal a steady increase in price, supported by a B-grade bullish momentum rating. The Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD) indicator shows a positive divergence, suggesting continued upward momentum.

The Stochastic Oscillator, oscillating near the overbought territory, indicates strong buying pressure, while the Relative Strength Index (RSI) remains in a healthy range, avoiding extreme levels.

These technical indicators collectively signal a robust market with sustained bullish sentiment. Investors should note this positive outlook while remaining vigilant for any signs of potential overextension. The overall rating remains favourable, reflecting confidence in the ongoing market rally and providing a constructive environment for growth-oriented investments.



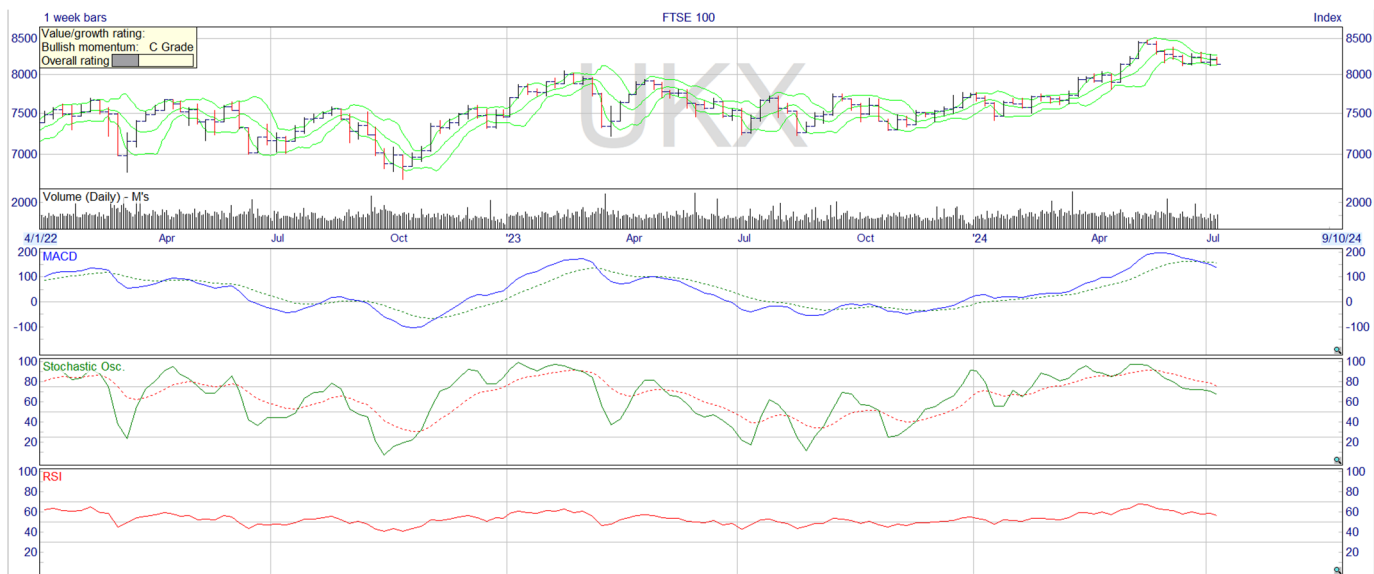
## FTSE | FTSE 100 Technical Analysis: A Mixed Outlook

The FTSE 100 chart shows a mixed outlook with cautious optimism. Over the past year, the index has demonstrated a generally upward trend, peaking around mid-2024.

However, recent weeks have seen some consolidation, reflected in the C-grade bullish momentum rating.

The Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD) indicates a flattening trend, suggesting a potential slowdown in momentum. The Stochastic Oscillator is oscillating around the mid-range, indicating indecision among investors, while the Relative Strength Index (RSI) remains neutral, avoiding extreme overbought or oversold conditions.

Overall, while the FTSE 100 maintains a positive trajectory, the technical indicators advise a cautious approach, highlighting the need for vigilant monitoring of potential shifts in market sentiment. Investors may consider waiting for clearer signals before making significant portfolio adjustments.



## NASDAQ 100 | Technical Analysis: Strong Bullish Momentum

The NASDAQ 100 chart highlights robust bullish momentum, reflected by the A-grade bullish momentum rating and consistent upward trend since mid-2022.

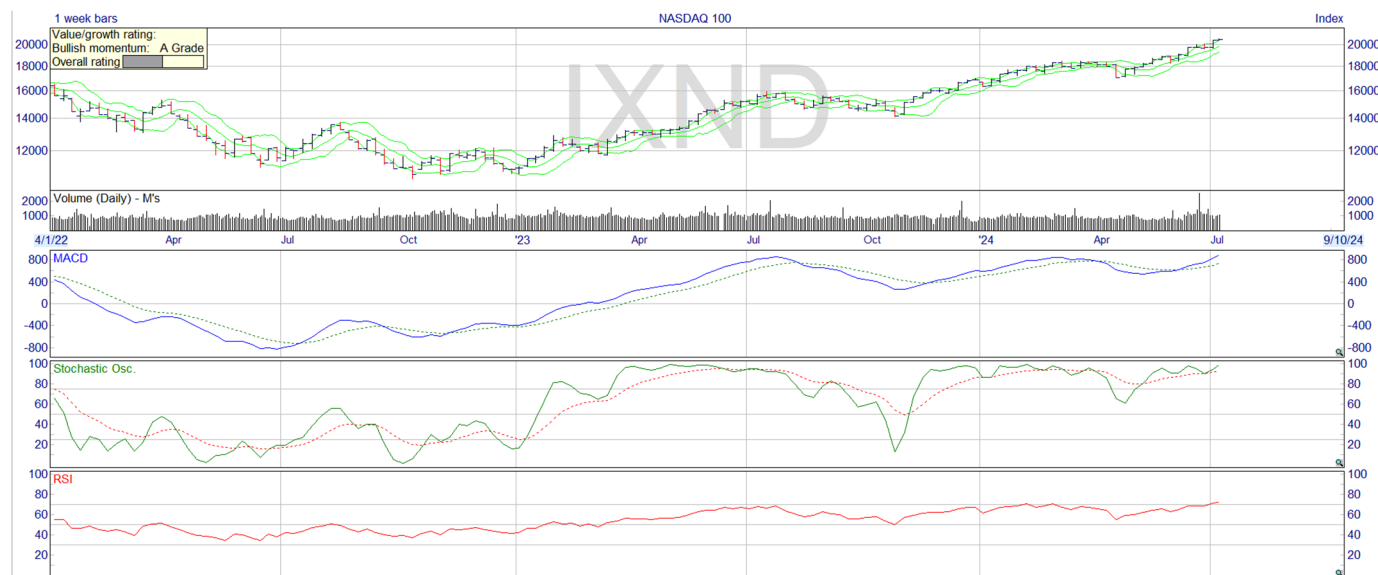
The index has shown a steady climb, reaching new highs into mid-2024.

The Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD) indicator demonstrates a strong upward trend, reinforcing positive market momentum.

The Stochastic Oscillator, oscillating near the overbought territory, indicates strong buying pressure, while the Relative Strength Index (RSI) remains elevated but not yet at extreme levels, suggesting sustained bullish sentiment. Volume data supports the ongoing rally with consistent trading activity.

Overall, the technical indicators suggest a healthy, upward trajectory for the NASDAQ 100, providing investors with confidence in the continued strength of the tech-heavy index.

As the market maintains its positive outlook, investors might consider this a favourable environment for growth-oriented investments, while also staying alert for any signs of overextension.



## Value Growth Insights | Top-Rated Stocks for Value and Growth

The table showcases a selection of companies with high Alpesh value/growth ratings, indicating their strong potential for long-term appreciation.

Each company is assigned a rating on value/growth, bullish momentum, and overall performance. Notable mentions include Archrock Inc (AROC) and Hess Midstream Partners LP (HESM), both earning a top-notch value/growth rating of 9 and displaying robust bullish momentum, marked with an 'A Grade' in bullish momentum.

Companies like Antero Midstream Corp (AM) and Atlas Energy Solutions Inc (AESI) also feature prominently with high ratings across all categories.

This comprehensive evaluation highlights firms that demonstrate compelling value, strong growth prospects, and positive market momentum, making them attractive candidates for investors seeking to enhance their portfolios with well-performing stocks. These ratings can serve as a valuable guide for making informed investment decisions in the current market landscape.

No.	Name	EPIC	Alpesh value/growth rating	Alpesh bullish momentum rating	Alpesh overall rating
1	Antero Midstream Corp	AM	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
2	Archrock Inc	AROC	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
3	Aris Water Solutions Inc	ARIS	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
4	Atlas Energy Solutions Inc	AESI	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
5	Bjorn Borg AB	BORGS	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
6	Brickability Group PLC	BRCK	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
7	Cairn Homes PLC	CRN	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
8	CANCOM SE	COKD	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
9	Capital & Regional PLC	CAL	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
10	Foresight Group Holdings Ltd	FSG	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
11	Gerresheimer AG	GXID	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
12	Gram Car Carriers ASA	GCCO	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
13	H Lundbeck A/S	HLUNAC	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
14	HeidelbergCement AG	HEID	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
15	Heijmans NV	HEIJMA	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
16	Hilton Food Group PLC	HFG	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
17	Inchcape PLC	INCH	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
18	Johnson Service Group PLC	JSG	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
19	Lagardere SA	MMBP	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
20	Laureate Education Inc	LAUR	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
21	Leifheit AG	LEID	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
22	Lottomatica Group Spa	LTMCM	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
23	NORBIT ASA	NORBTC	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
24	PayPoint PLC	PAY	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
25	Prevas AB	PREVBS	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
26	SPIE SA	SPIEP	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
27	TKH Group NV	TWEKAA	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
28	Vistry Group PLC	VTY	9	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
29	XPS Pensions Group PLC	XPS	9	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
30	Balfour Beatty PLC	BBY	8	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
31	Coca-Cola HBC AG	CCH	8	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
32	Endeavour Mining PLC	EDV	8	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>
33	Epic Suisse AG	EPICZ	8	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
34	Helios Underwriting PLC	HUW	8	B Grade	<div><div></div></div>
35	Hess Midstream Partners LP	HESM	8	A Grade	<div><div></div></div>



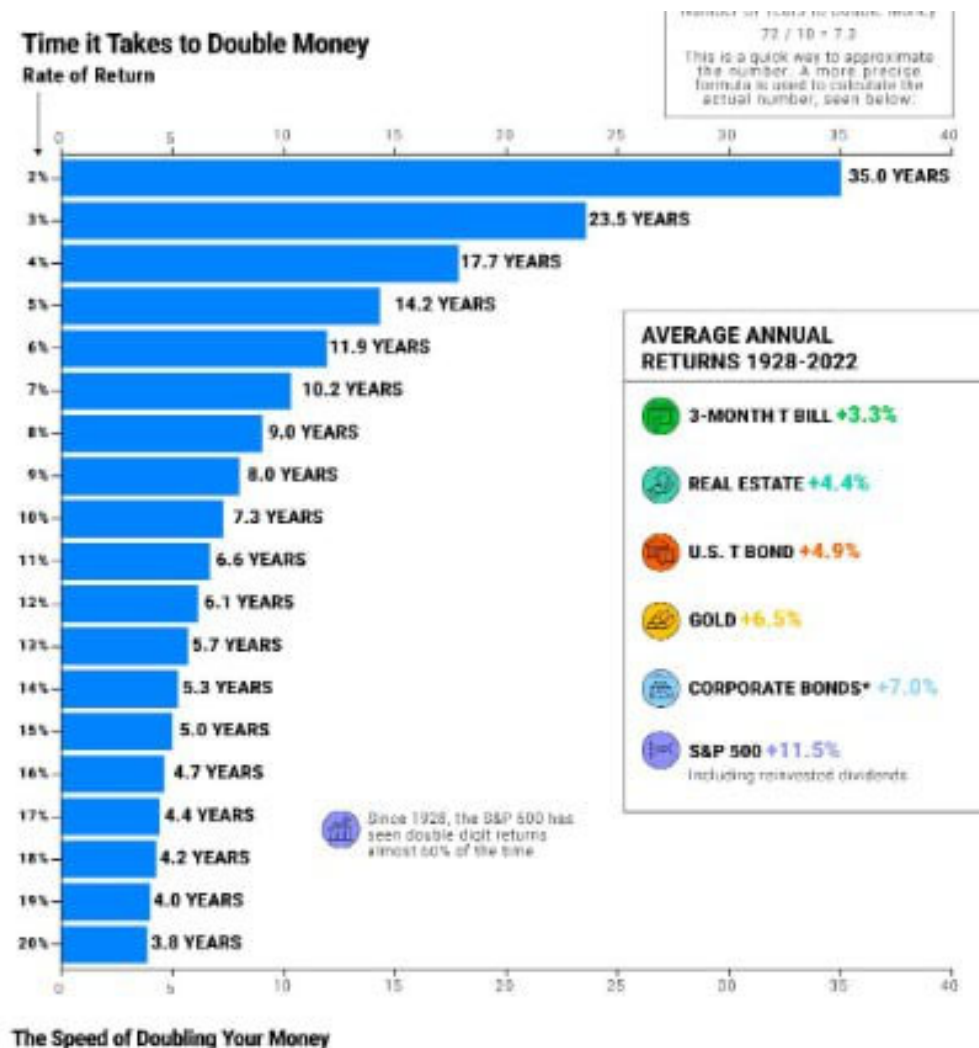
The chart below provides a clear illustration of the time required to double an investment based on varying rates of return.

It underscores the significance of compounding returns in wealth accumulation. For instance, with a modest 2% return, it takes 35 years to double an investment, whereas a robust 10% return achieves the same result in just 7.3 years.

Highlighting historical performance from 1928 to 2022, the chart notes that the S&P 500, with an average annual return of 11.5%, is a standout performer, doubling investments approximately every 6.5 years.

Comparatively, corporate bonds yield 7.0%, gold 6.5%, U.S. T bonds 4.9%, real estate 4.4%, and 3-month T bills 3.3%, each offering varying timelines for doubling investments.

This visualization emphasizes the critical role of higher returns in accelerating investment growth, making a compelling case for strategic asset allocation.



The table in Exhibit 8 reveals a critical insight into the performance of U.S. and International equity funds over the years, specifically highlighting the percentage of these funds underperforming their respective benchmarks.

From 2002 to 2023, it is evident that a significant proportion of domestic equity funds have struggled to outperform their benchmarks consistently.

For instance, large-cap growth funds saw underperformance rates as high as 94% in 2007 and 2008, although they drastically improved in 2023 with only 10% underperforming.

Similarly, mid-cap and small-cap funds also show varying degrees of underperformance, reflecting the challenges faced by active fund managers. The international equity funds follow a similar trend, with global funds and emerging markets funds frequently underperforming their benchmarks.

This data underscores the difficulty of achieving consistent outperformance and the importance for investors to consider these trends when making investment decisions, potentially favouring trusting yourself to invest.

**Exhibit 8: Percentage of U.S. Equity and International Funds Underperforming Benchmarks Each Year**

Fund Category	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Domestic Equity Funds (%)</b>																						
All Domestic Funds	58	48	51	42	68	49	65	41	48	85	65	43	87	74	61	63	69	70	57	80	50	75
All Large-Cap Funds	68	75	69	49	68	45	56	48	66	82	63	55	87	65	66	63	65	71	60	85	51	60
All Mid-Cap Funds	74	52	65	74	45	46	76	56	73	69	80	37	66	57	89	44	46	32	51	62	63	50
All Small-Cap Funds	68	35	84	61	63	46	83	31	54	86	66	68	72	72	86	48	69	39	46	71	57	48
All Multi-Cap Funds	54	49	49	37	69	46	70	39	60	84	65	47	82	70	75	57	67	69	56	80	51	72
Large-Cap Growth Funds	83	48	44	38	94	27	91	37	51	96	46	41	96	48	90	33	60	33	38	99	74	10
Large-Cap Core Funds	67	85	83	56	81	44	52	51	77	83	67	58	80	74	75	69	76	70	66	79	54	73
Large-Cap Value Funds	35	86	87	54	80	46	25	46	71	54	85	65	78	62	78	47	46	97	33	39	59	91
Mid-Cap Growth Funds	86	36	64	80	28	42	91	54	84	77	87	35	55	80	95	18	15	9	17	83	91	24
Mid-Cap Core Funds	70	55	57	66	32	61	60	71	87	66	79	43	59	68	91	62	62	41	80	45	54	12
Mid-Cap Value Funds	64	68	53	69	37	58	68	47	57	68	74	41	71	34	97	43	72	65	53	63	73	75
Small-Cap Growth Funds	97	27	95	78	51	41	95	31	62	94	63	55	64	88	96	15	62	14	14	87	80	55
Small-Cap Core Funds	67	35	80	58	56	56	82	33	59	86	69	78	67	78	90	59	88	41	62	61	40	52
Small-Cap Value Funds	30	48	72	45	71	39	72	25	42	82	62	79	94	45	89	74	83	80	44	51	41	37
Multi-Cap Growth Funds	62	34	51	18	73	30	88	42	46	95	52	39	87	66	85	46	66	45	47	93	56	42
Multi-Cap Core Funds	49	55	61	38	77	45	66	39	66	83	68	53	84	84	75	69	82	74	62	80	58	76
Multi-Cap Value Funds	61	57	79	72	84	58	48	36	68	67	73	48	67	56	71	50	75	92	50	51	58	91
Real Estate Funds	48	57	43	44	68	45	73	38	67	66	62	65	68	43	84	37	89	27	25	70	88	87
<b>International Equity Funds (%)</b>																						
Global Funds	58	59	59	50	75	54	62	52	44	72	62	48	77	58	80	50	71	57	54	84	69	74
International Funds	61	81	73	71	75	68	64	72	40	70	44	43	68	26	85	54	77	57	55	50	68	68
International Small-Cap Funds	68	56	56	60	65	37	53	49	45	60	25	48	69	49	72	44	91	61	52	31	60	54
Emerging Markets Funds	63	65	79	65	78	70	65	71	65	53	46	55	71	66	64	65	62	36	52	65	76	63

Sources: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, CRSP. Data as of Dec. 31, 2023. See reports 1a and 6a for the indices used as benchmarks for each category. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Table is provided for illustrative purposes.

Fund managers fail because 1. A lot of capital, so spray and pray into a lot of stocks 2. Can't hold cash in falls eg 2022. So, they lose in up years and down years. Exceptions like Warren Buffett concentrate their portfolios, and hold a LOT of cash esp. down years.

The table from The Wall Street Journal outlines the anticipated Federal Reserve rate cuts as of June 10, 2024, according to various financial institutions.

It shows a consensus among leading banks and financial analysts regarding upcoming rate adjustments. Institutions like Citigroup and Morgan Stanley expect significant cuts of 75 basis points (BPS) in September, while others like Goldman Sachs and TD Securities project cuts of 50 BPS in the same month.

Notably, MUFG forecasts an aggressive 100 BPS cut in July, reflecting a potential shift in monetary policy.

The projections suggest a cautious optimism among financial analysts, with most expecting initial cuts in the latter half of 2024, highlighting a critical pivot towards easing monetary conditions in response to prevailing economic dynamics. This consensus can serve as a key indicator for investors in strategizing their portfolios to align with anticipated market conditions.

#### Fed call as of 6/10/2024

	First cut	Cuts in 2024	Publish date
Bank of America	December	25 BPS	4/12/2024
Barclays	September	25 BPS	4/10/2024
BNPP	December	25 BPS	4/26/2024
Citigroup	September	75 BPS	6/7/2024
Deutsche Bank	December	25 BPS	4/11/2024
Evercore ISI	September	50 BPS	5/2/2024
Goldman Sachs	September	50 BPS	5/24/2024
HSBC	September	25 BPS	5/1/2024
Jefferies	2025	0 BPS	4/12/2024
JP Morgan	November	25 BPS	6/7/2024
Kalshi	September	25 BPS	6/7/2024
LH Meyer	December	25 BPS	4/25/2024
Mizuho	2025	0 BPS	12/5/2023
Morgan Stanley	September	75 BPS	5/7/2024
MUFG	July	100 BPS	6/3/2024
Nomura	September	50 BPS	5/22/2024
Oxford Economics	September	50 BPS	4/24/2024
RBC	December	25 BPS	4/10/2024
Societe Generale	2025	0 BPS	4/15/2024
TD Securities	September	50 BPS	4/10/2024
UBS	September	50 BPS	4/10/2024
Wells Fargo	September	50 BPS	4/11/2024

Source: The Wall Street Journal

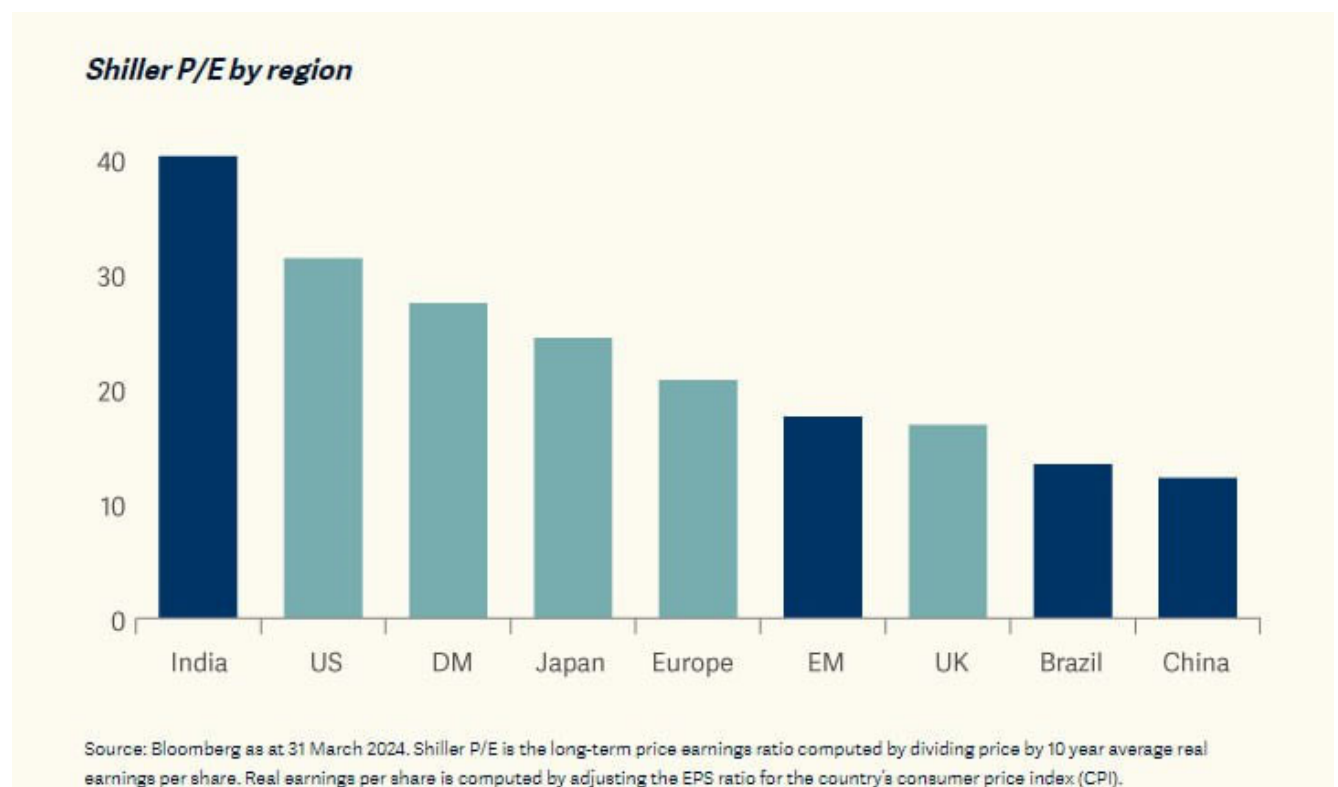
Haha. The experts! Can't agree on time or scale. All with the same qualifications. The moral of the story is don't gamble on news.

The Shiller P/E ratio chart by region, as of March 31, 2024, provides a comparative view of valuation metrics across global markets. India stands out with the highest Shiller P/E ratio at around 40, indicating a potentially overvalued market relative to its historical earnings.

The United States follows, with a **Shiller P/E ratio** nearing 30, suggesting that U.S. equities are also trading at high valuations. Developed Markets (DM) and Japan exhibit moderate P/E ratios, while Europe and Emerging Markets (EM) present more attractive valuations with lower ratios.

The UK, Brazil, and China showcase the lowest Shiller P/E ratios, implying these markets might offer more value-oriented investment opportunities. This data is crucial for investors assessing regional equity valuations, providing insight into where markets might be overvalued or undervalued based on long-term earnings trends.

As always, these metrics should be considered alongside other economic indicators and market conditions to make well-informed investment decisions.





The comparison chart highlights the interest rates offered by various brokers in both GBP and USD as of March 20, 2024. Interactive Brokers leads the field, offering an impressive 4.694% interest rate on GBP accounts and 4.830% on USD accounts.

This is significantly higher than the next best rates, with interactive investor providing 3.750% for both GBP and USD. Other brokers like Saxo, AJBell, and Hargreaves Lansdown offer lower rates, with some not offering any interest at all, such as Swissquote.

The rates emphasize the competitive advantage of Interactive Brokers, particularly for investors looking to maximize their cash holdings' interest earnings. This information is crucial for investors evaluating where to hold their cash balances, ensuring they benefit from the best possible returns on idle funds within their brokerage accounts.

## How Much Interest is Your Broker Paying You?

GBP Interest Rate Comparison

Broker	Interest Rate (GBP)
Interactive Brokers	4.694%*
interactive investor	3.750% <sup>1</sup>
Saxo	3.412% <sup>2</sup>
AJBell	3.150% <sup>3</sup>
Hargreaves Lansdown	2.900% <sup>4</sup>
Freetrade	1.000% <sup>5</sup>
Swissquote	0%
Degiro	n/a
IG	n/a

Rates as of March 20, 2024. Source: [home.saxo.com](https://home.saxo.com), [il.co.uk](https://il.co.uk), [ajbell.co.uk](https://ajbell.co.uk), [investcentre.co.uk](https://investcentre.co.uk), [hl.co.uk](https://hl.co.uk), [freetrade.io](https://freetrade.io), [en.swissquote.co.uk](https://en.swissquote.co.uk), [degiro.co.uk](https://degiro.co.uk), [ig.com/uk](https://ig.com/uk)  
\*Accounts with a Net Asset Value (NAV) of USD 100,000 (or equivalent) or more are paid interest at the full rate for which they are eligible. Accounts with NAV of less than USD 100,000 (or equivalent) receive interest at rates proportional to the size of the account. There will be no interest paid on the first GBP 8,000 of cash. Rates are subject to change.  
[1] Rate on cash between £100,000.01 and £1,000,000 in a Trading Account. [2] For cash balances as much as £2,000,000 in a Classic Account. [3] Rate on cash balance above £50,000. [4] Rate on cash above £100,000 in a Fund and Share Account. [5] AER on up to £1,000. Basic account.

USD Interest Rate Comparison

Broker	Interest Rate (USD)
Interactive Brokers	4.830%*
interactive investor	3.750% <sup>1</sup>
Saxo	3.537% <sup>2</sup>
Swissquote	0%
AJBell	n/a
Degiro	n/a
Freetrade	n/a <sup>3</sup>
Hargreaves Lansdown	n/a
IG	n/a

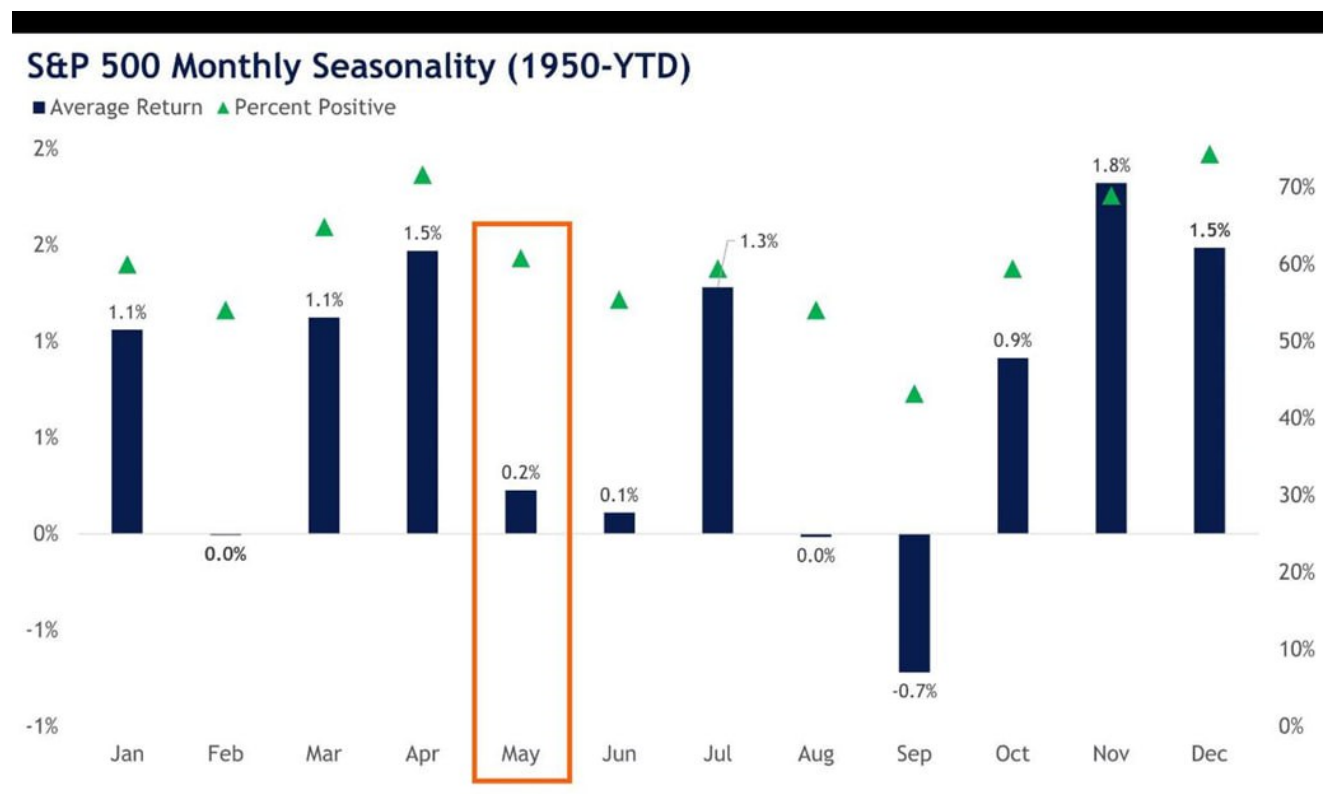
Rates as of March 20, 2024. Source: [il.co.uk](https://il.co.uk), [home.saxo.com](https://home.saxo.com), [en.swissquote.co.uk](https://en.swissquote.co.uk), [ajbell.co.uk](https://ajbell.co.uk), [investcentre.co.uk](https://investcentre.co.uk), [degiro.co.uk](https://degiro.co.uk), [freetrade.io](https://freetrade.io), [hl.co.uk](https://hl.co.uk), [ig.com/uk](https://ig.com/uk)  
\*Accounts with a Net Asset Value (NAV) of USD 100,000 (or equivalent) or more are paid interest at the full rate for which they are eligible. Accounts with NAV of less than USD 100,000 (or equivalent) receive interest at rates proportional to the size of the account. There will be no interest paid on the first USD 10,000 of cash. Rates are subject to change.  
[1] Rate on cash between \$100,000.01 and \$1,000,000 in a Trading Account. [2] For cash balances as much as \$2,000,000 in a Classic Account. [3] Basic investment account.

**The S&P 500 Monthly Seasonality chart**, spanning from 1950 to the present, reveals notable trends in average returns and the percentage of positive months throughout the year.

Historically, April and November have emerged as the strongest months, boasting average returns of 1.5% and 1.8% respectively, with a high percentage of positive performance. Conversely, May stands out with a relatively modest average return of 0.2%, despite a positive percentage, indicating a potential period of lower market momentum.

The summer months of June and August also show subdued returns, while September is marked by an average decline of 0.7%, highlighting it as the weakest month.

This seasonality data can provide valuable insights for investors in timing their market entries and exits, as well as in formulating strategies to maximize returns based on historical performance trends.



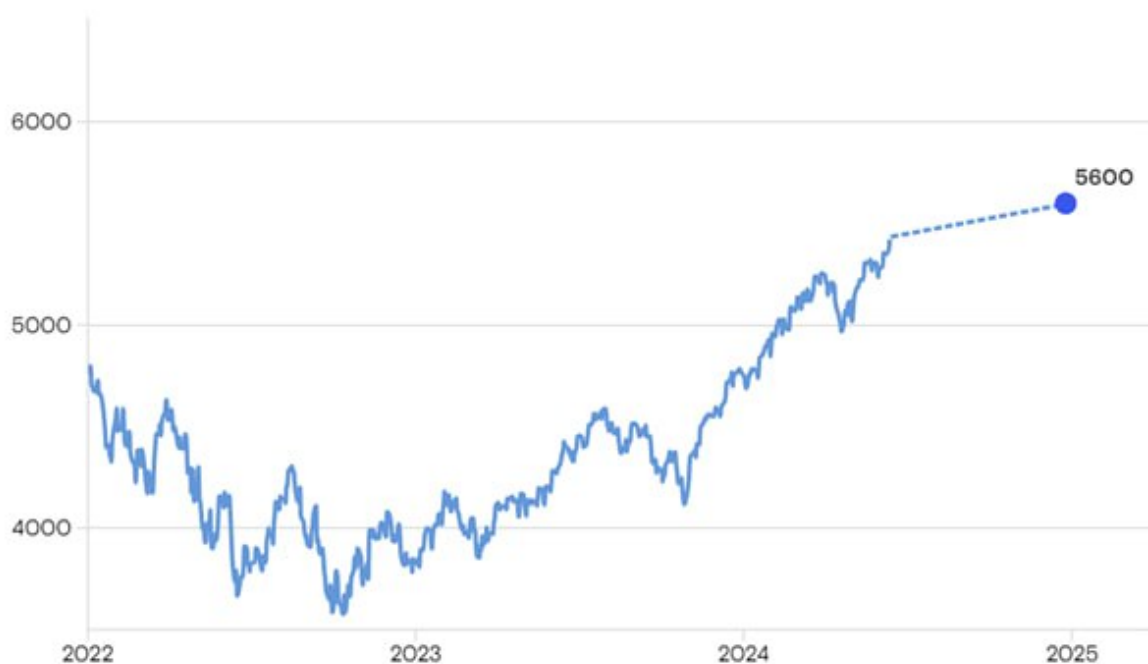
**Goldman Sachs Research's** forecast for the S&P 500 projects a steady upward trajectory, reaching 5600 by 2025 in their baseline scenario. The chart illustrates the market's recovery and growth from the lows experienced in 2022, highlighting a consistent upward trend throughout 2023 and 2024.

This optimistic outlook suggests confidence in the underlying economic fundamentals and corporate earnings growth driving the index higher. Investors can interpret this forecast as an indication of continued market resilience and potential opportunities for gains in the medium term.

However, as with all forecasts, it's important to consider potential risks and market volatilities that could impact actual outcomes. This projection can serve as a guiding benchmark for investment strategies focused on long-term growth within the equity markets.

### Goldman Sachs Research's forecast for the S&P 500

Baseline scenario



Source: Factset, Goldman Sachs Research  
Dashed line indicates Goldman Sachs Research's baseline forecast.

**Goldman  
Sachs**



**Hedge funds** are showing increased optimism towards the UK, driven by expectations of a more stable and centrist political landscape post-election. This sentiment is reflected in their growing bets for a stronger British pound, which has reached its highest level in nine months.

The anticipation of a calm and balanced political environment following the election is fuelling this bullish outlook, as investors believe it will foster economic stability and policy continuity. This positive shift could translate into attractive opportunities for investors seeking to capitalize on the potential appreciation of the pound and the overall growth prospects of the UK market in a post-election scenario.

## **Hedge Funds Bullish on the UK With Post-Election Calm in Sight**

By **Naomi Tajitsu**, June 25, 2024, 7:04 AM EDT

Hedge funds are increasingly optimistic about the UK, boosting bets for a stronger pound to the highest in nine months on hopes that the upcoming election will cement the country's shift to more stable, centrist policies.

**The 6th UK-India Awards**, held on June 27, 2024, in Windsor, celebrated the strengthening ties between the UK and India.

The event brought together prominent figures from both nations, including business leaders, diplomats, and celebrities, to honour outstanding contributions to UK-India relations.

The awards underscore the significant investment and economic opportunities emerging from this partnership, offering a promising outlook for investors looking to capitalize on the growing synergies between the UK and India. The event not only celebrated achievements but also set the stage for future cooperation and investment prospects.



More time with my wife....





**The latest data from the Federal Reserve**, highlighted by Yahoo Finance, shows that U.S. household wealth has reached an unprecedented \$160.8 trillion in the first quarter of 2024. This record-breaking figure reflects the cumulative net worth of American households, marking a significant increase from previous years.

The chart illustrates a steady upward trend in household wealth since 2013, with notable accelerations during periods of economic growth. This milestone underscores the resilience and growth of the U.S. economy, driven by rising asset values, including real estate and equities.

For investors, this surge in household wealth suggests a robust economic environment that could support continued consumer spending and investment opportunities. The increasing wealth levels highlight the importance of strategic financial planning and investment to capitalize on the positive economic momentum.



## U.S. Equity Market Reaches Nearly \$57 Trillion

The U.S. equity market has soared to an impressive valuation of almost \$57 trillion USD, as depicted in the latest chart showing the total market capitalization of U.S. exchanges. This remarkable growth trajectory, illustrated from 2015 to 2024, highlights the market's resilience and ability to rebound from downturns, including the significant dips observed in 2020 and 2022.

The sharp rise in market cap over recent years underscores the robust performance of U.S. equities, driven by strong corporate earnings, economic recovery, and investor confidence.

For investors, this trend signals a thriving equity market with abundant opportunities for growth and capital appreciation. It is a testament to the strength and dynamism of the U.S. economy, reinforcing the importance of maintaining a well-diversified portfolio that includes exposure to U.S. equities.

## The US Equity market is worth almost 57 Trillion USD



## Global and Regional Equity Valuations: Opportunities and Disparities

J.P. Morgan Asset Management's latest analysis on regional equity valuations highlights significant disparities across global markets as of June 30, 2024. The chart on the left shows global forward P/E ratios, with China having the highest valuation multiple at around 35x, followed by Emerging Markets (EM) and the US. The blue diamonds indicate current P/E ratios, while the green line shows the historical average since 1990.

Notably, all regions except the US are trading below their historical averages, suggesting potential undervaluation.

The right chart presents relative equity valuations, emphasizing the widening discount of non-US markets compared to the US. Since 2010, the discount for China, Europe ex-UK, and the UK has steadily increased, reaching significant levels of undervaluation. As of 2024, China's discount relative to the US is the most pronounced, exceeding 50%.

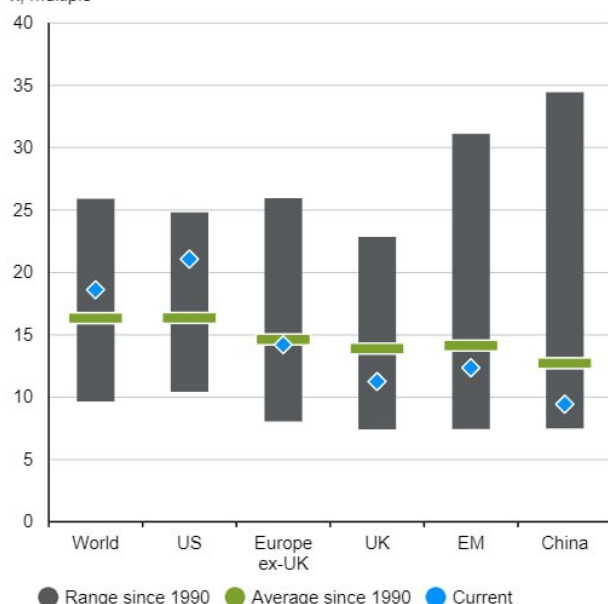
These metrics indicate potential investment opportunities in undervalued regions, offering attractive entry points for investors seeking diversification and long-term growth outside the US. Understanding these valuation dynamics is crucial for making informed investment decisions in a globally diversified portfolio.

### Regional equity valuations

GTM UK 46

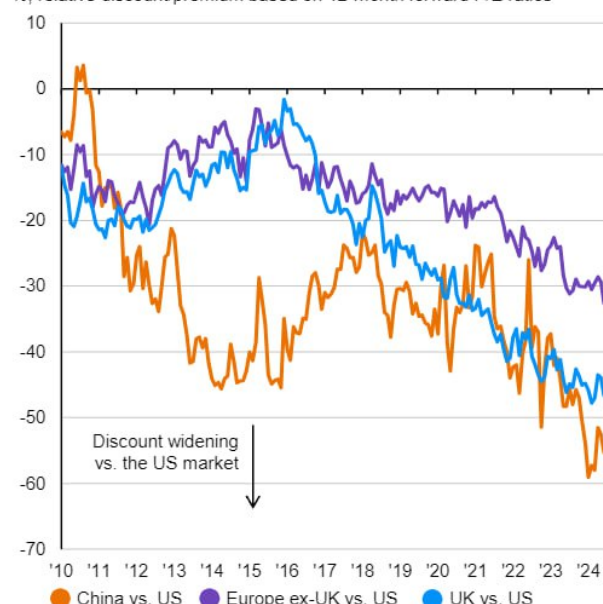
Global forward P/E ratios

x, multiple



Relative equity valuations

%, relative discount/premium based on 12-month forward P/E ratios



Source: (Left) FTSE, IBES, LSEG Datastream, MSCI, S&P Global, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. MSCI indices are used for World, Europe ex-UK, EM and China. UK is FTSE All-Share and US is S&P 500. Earnings data is based on 12-month forward estimates. (Right) FTSE, IBES, LSEG Datastream, MSCI, S&P Global, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. US: S&P 500; Europe ex-UK: MSCI Europe ex-UK; UK: FTSE All-Share; China: MSCI China. Valuation is price to 12-month forward earnings. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current and future results. *Guide to the Markets - UK*. Data as of 30 June 2024.

**J.P.Morgan**  
ASSET MANAGEMENT

## Positive First Half Performance: A Bullish Indicator for the S&P 500

Historical data on the S&P 500 reveals a compelling trend: when the index achieves a year-to-date return exceeding 10% in the first half of the year, it typically signals continued positive performance for the remainder of the year. The table highlights years from 1954 to 2024 where the S&P 500 surpassed this threshold. On average, the return for the second half of these years was 7.7%, with a median return of 9.8%. Impressively, 83% of these instances resulted in further gains. Notably, recent years such as 2023 saw a 15.9% return in the first half, followed by a 7.2% gain in the second half.

As of 2024, the S&P 500 has achieved a 15.3% return in the first half, suggesting a strong likelihood of continued positive performance based on historical patterns. For investors, this trend offers a valuable insight, reinforcing confidence in maintaining or increasing equity exposure in anticipation of favourable market conditions through year-end.

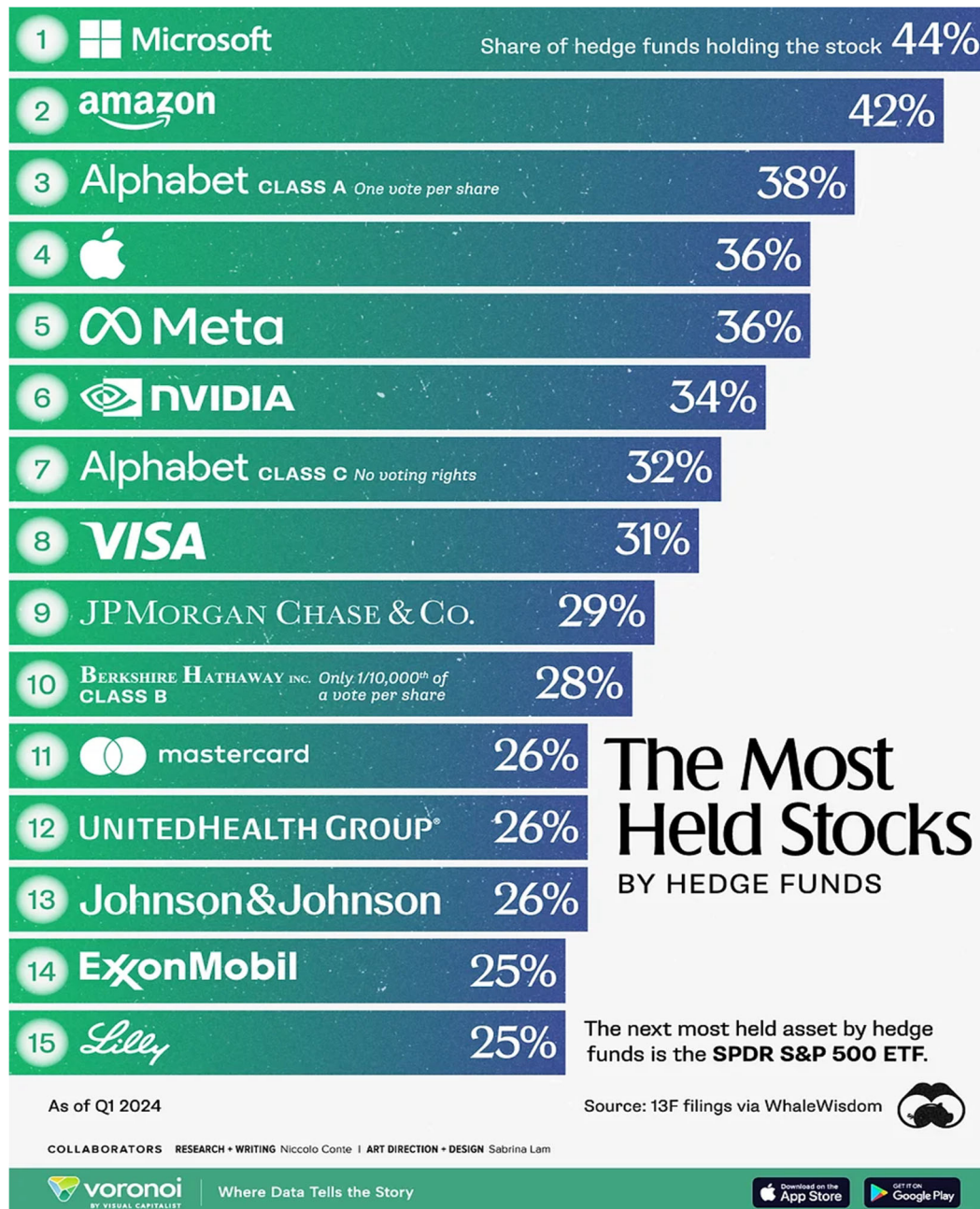
### S&P 500: first half > 10% is a good signal for the rest of the year

S&P 500 Returns			
	Year	YTD Return H1 > 10%	Return Rest of the year
1	1954	17.7%	23.2%
2	1955	14.0%	10.8%
3	1958	13.1%	22.0%
4	1961	11.2%	10.7%
5	1967	12.8%	6.4%
6	1975	38.8%	-5.3%
7	1976	15.6%	3.0%
8	1983	19.5%	-1.9%
9	1985	14.7%	10.1%
10	1986	18.7%	-3.5%
11	1987	25.5%	-18.7%
12	1988	10.7%	1.5%
13	1989	14.5%	11.1%
14	1991	12.4%	12.4%
15	1995	18.6%	13.1%
16	1997	19.5%	9.6%
17	1998	16.8%	8.4%
18	1999	11.7%	7.0%
19	2003	10.8%	14.1%
20	2013	12.6%	15.1%
21	2019	17.3%	9.8%
22	2021	14.4%	10.9%
23	2023	15.9%	7.2%
24	2024	15.3%	?
Average		7.7%	
Median		9.8%	
% Positive		83%	



## The Most Popular Stocks in Hedge Fund Portfolios: Insights from Alpesh Patel

In the dynamic world of hedge funds, knowing which stocks are favoured by top fund managers can provide valuable insights for individual investors. Drawing on the extensive experience of Alpesh Patel, a renowned hedge fund manager, we delve into the most popular stocks in hedge fund portfolios and what this means for your investment strategy.



## Top Stocks in Hedge Fund Portfolios

According to recent data, the most popular stocks in hedge fund portfolios include industry giants such as Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, and Apple. These companies are not just leading the market but are also preferred by hedge fund managers for their growth potential and stability.

1. **Microsoft (MSFT):** Microsoft stands as the most popular company, held by 44% of hedge funds. Its strong performance in AI and cloud services has made it a favourite among investors, with shares up over 20% in 2024 ([Visual Capitalist](#)) ([Talk Markets](#)) .
2. **Amazon (AMZN):** Amazon continues to be a top pick with 42% of hedge funds holding the stock. Its dominance in e-commerce and cloud computing, combined with its innovative business strategies, ensure its place in many portfolios ([Talk Markets](#)) .
3. **Alphabet (GOOGL):** Alphabet, the parent company of Google, is held by 38% of hedge funds. Its leadership in digital advertising and AI technologies makes it a valuable asset for long-term growth ([Visual Capitalist](#)) .
4. **Apple (AAPL):** With 36% of hedge funds investing in Apple, this tech giant remains a solid choice. The company's continuous innovation, particularly in AI enhancements for its products, keeps it at the forefront of the industry ([Talk Markets](#)) .
5. **Meta (META):** Meta, formerly Facebook, is held by 36% of hedge funds. Despite challenges, its focus on the metaverse and social media innovation ensures its popularity among investors ([Visual Capitalist](#)) .

Here are the most commonly held stocks in hedge fund portfolios as of the first quarter of 2024:

Rank	Company	Share of Hedge Funds Holding the Stock	Number of Hedge Funds Holding the Stock
1	Microsoft	44%	874
2	Amazon	42%	835
3	Alphabet Class A	38%	745
4	Apple	36%	714
5	Meta	36%	710
6	Nvidia	34%	675
7	Alphabet Class C	32%	631
8	Visa	31%	617
9	JPMorgan Chase & Co	29%	570
10	Berkshire Hathaway Class B	28%	564
11	Mastercard	26%	521
12	UnitedHealth Group	26%	518
13	Johnson & Johnson	26%	517
14	ExxonMobil Corp	25%	499
15	Eli Lilly & Co.	25%	498

## Why These Stocks?

With my decades of experience in hedge fund management, the importance of understanding market trends and company fundamentals are key. The popularity of these stocks among hedge funds is driven by several factors:

- **Innovation:** Companies like Microsoft and Alphabet are at the forefront of technological advancements, making them attractive for long-term investments.
- **Market Position:** The strong market positions of Amazon and Apple provide stability and growth potential, essential for any robust investment portfolio.
- **AI and Technology:** The increasing focus on AI and digital technologies is a significant driver behind the popularity of these stocks. Hedge funds are strategically increasing their exposure to companies that lead in these areas ([Visual Capitalist](#)) ([Talk Markets](#)) .





## Strategic Portfolio Alignment

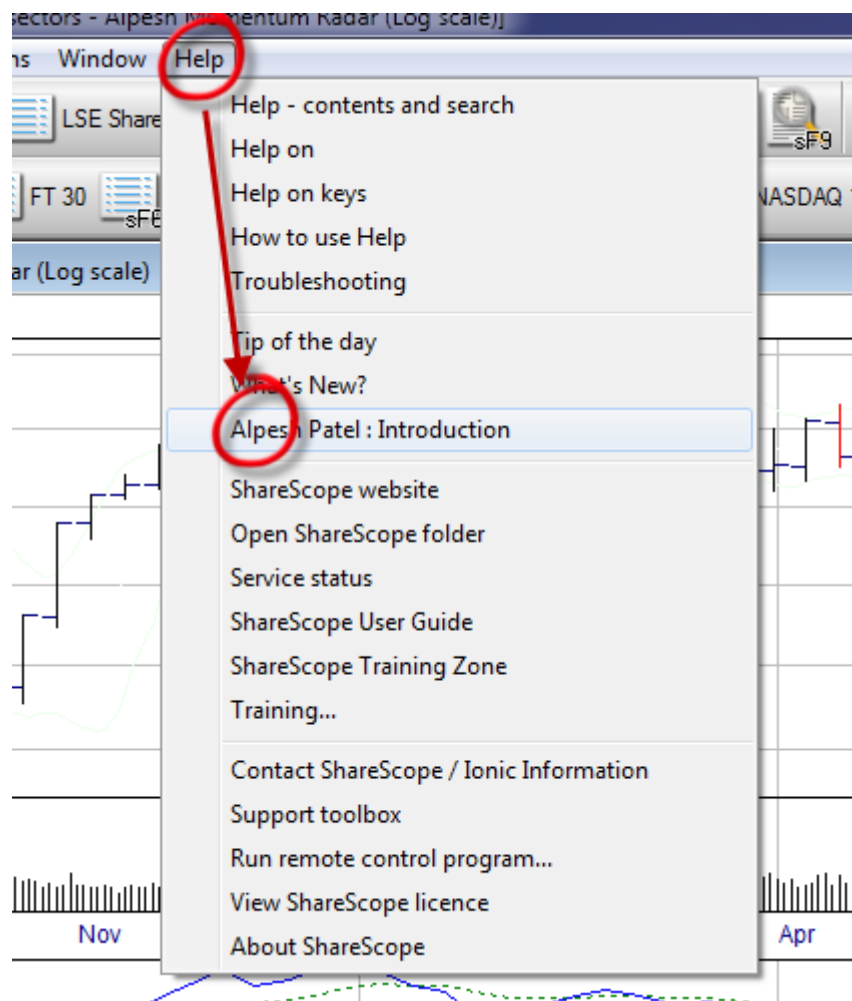
If you're looking to enhance your investment strategy, aligning your portfolio with the preferences of hedge fund managers can be a smart move. These professionals have access to vast resources and insights, and their stock choices are often based on comprehensive analyses. By including stocks like Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, and Apple, you can leverage the growth potential and stability that these companies offer.

## Navigating Your Investment Journey

At [www.campaignforamillion.com](http://www.campaignforamillion.com), we provide strategic investment advice to help you reach your financial goals. By following the trends set by hedge fund managers and leveraging insights from experts like Alpesh Patel, you can make informed decisions to maximise your returns. Investing wisely means staying ahead of market trends and making informed choices. Visit [www.campaignforamillion.com](http://www.campaignforamillion.com) to learn more about how you can capitalise on these insights for a prosperous financial future.

**Data Source: Visual Capitalist, TalkMarkets**

## Help Page



## Personal



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