

Commodity Monthly Monitor

Commodities' geopolitical hedging credentials rise to the fore in 2024

12 December 2023 — 12 January 2024



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Authors



Nitesh Shah

Head of Commodities & Macroeconomic Research, Europe



Aneeka Gupta

Director, Macroeconomic Research



Mobeen Tahir

Director, Macroeconomic Research & Tactical Solutions

Summary

2023 was a challenging year for commodity markets, following two strong years of performance in 2021 and 2022. However, 2024 is shaping up to be a rewarding year for commodities amidst a backdrop of rising geopolitical risks, fading monetary policy drag, push towards decarbonisation and a higher likelihood of a soft landing for the US economy. This was evident from the stronger performance across the commodity subsectors — energy (up 9.8%), precious metals (up 3%) and industrial metals (up 1.6%), except for agriculture (-5.7%) over the prior month.

Energy is dominating the commodity complex on account of its well-known geopolitical hedging credentials. War risk premiums remain firmly in place as tensions in the Middle East continue to escalate. The attacks by the Houthi rebels on freighters in the Red Sea have backfired, evident from the air strikes being carried out on Houthi bases in Yemen by the US and Great Britain. The Houthi's retaliated with further attacks on merchant ships in the Red Sea. The threat of closures and disruptions to energy flows calls for a higher risk premium on the oil price, which should help offset sluggish demand for oil.

Gold has also been rising in the wake of fears of an escalation of the Middle East conflict as demand for safe havens rise. In fact, gold significantly outperformed US Government Bonds (up 4.0% over the same period, based on the Bloomberg US Treasury Index). More importantly, as the timing of rate cut expectations for the major developed central banks comes into focus in 2024, gold is likely to gain support. Higher rates are typically negative for non-interest-bearing assets and thus the starting point of the rate cuts will matter for gold's outlook. Our expectation for a softer US dollar alongside weaker US yields in 2024 paves the way for a structural bullish call on gold.

Commodity markets have also been hoping for a revival in the Chinese economy in 2024 as it accounts for a large proportion of demand growth. Unfortunately, the macro-economic data remains mixed. The property sector has yet to show a meaningful recovery. Annual growth for 2023 came in at 5.2%,

which was signalled by Prime Minter Li Qiang in Davos. Annual growth of retail sales at 7.4%yoy slowed in December. In contrast, industrial production and fixed investment did better than expected. The targeted piece meal stimulus measures in 2023 have failed to revive the economy. The tug of war between weak activity, demand and sentiment has not changed but we are seeing emerging signs of more policy easing. 2024 is likely to see more fiscal and property sector support with monetary policy easing playing a supportive role, however we continue to rule out any mega-stimulus. Industrial metals remain well-positioned to benefit from a more supportive monetary policy backdrop this year alongside targeted stimulus from China.

Energy transition and infrastructure spending were key themes that emerged at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in December 2023. In a demonstration of global cooperation, negotiators from nearly 200 countries for the first time recognised the need to transition away from fossil fuels. COP28 also saw a commitment towards tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030. We expect these initiatives to bolster demand for energy transition metals into 2024 and beyond.

The impact of El Niño, which took hold midway through 2023, had a positive price impact on soft commodities — namely cocoa, sugar, and coffee. The US National Oceania Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology both expect the current El Niño conditions to remain present until the Northern Hemisphere spring 2024. Grains prices are likely to remain under pressure in H1 2024, owing to abundant supply.

All data, unless otherwise stated, is sourced from Bloomberg, data to Friday 12 January 2024.

Performance

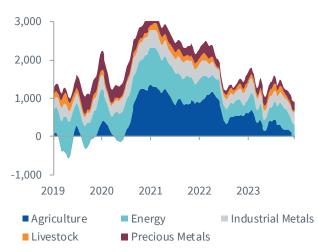
Performance*	- 1 Mth	- 6 Mth	- 12 Mth
All Commodities	2.1%	-2.6%	-7.0%
Energy	9.8%	-1.3%	-13.0%
Industrial Metals	1.6%	-3.9%	-16.5%
Precious Metals	3.0%	2.4%	5.0%
Agriculture	-5.7%	-6.2%	-5.5%
MSCI World	3.3%	6.1%	16.3%
US Aggregate Bond	2.3%	3.0%	2.1%

^{*}Bloomberg TR Indexes for basket returns, data to Friday 12 January 2024. Source: WisdomTree, Bloomberg.

Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.

CFTC Net Speculative Positioning

(in '000 contracts)



Source: WisdomTree, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), Bloomberg. Performance commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance,** and any investments may go down in value.

- + Gold reached a new high in late December 2023. As rate cuts set in, the metal is likely to reach even higher levels, but for now some of the gains have been given back as the markets figure assess each economic data release for clues on when the central banks will start their easing journey.
- + Industrial metals demonstrating how their fate is tied to the monetary policy outlook. Industrial metals were in reactive mode over the last month with much of the gains made in the first half of the period returned in the second. The sector appears cautiously optimistic for a more favourable monetary policy backdrop this year.
- El Niño is likely to have a divergent impact on agricultural commodities. The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) monthly report, alongside their quarterly grains report, have set a weaker tone for the grains market in 2024. Soft commodities led by coffee, sugar, and cocoa, shed some of the El Niño related gains from 2023. The US NOAA and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology both expect the current El Niño conditions to remain present until the Northern Hemisphere spring 2024. This is likely to increase supply of certain agricultural commodities such as corn and soybeans but shrink the supply of others, such as rice and robusta coffee.
- + Energy contributed the most to the positive start for the year for the commodity complex. A cold snap took natural gas prices higher by 43% from a very low base. Sustaining these gains may prove difficult if the weather fails to remain as cold. Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East have raised fears of oil export flow disruptions, driving a premium into oil again.

Commodity Monthly Matrix¹

Commodity	Current Price ²	Returns (-1 Mth)	Price vs 200 days MA	Inventories ³ (- 3 Mths)	Positioning ⁴ (- 1 Mth)	Roll Yield ⁵	12 Jan Score	17 Nov Score
WTI Oil	72.7	5.9%	-6.4%	1.9%	1.5%	-0.2%	0	(1)
Brent Oil	78.3	6.9%	-4.4%	-3.7%	114%	0.4%	3	2
Natural Gas	3.31	43.4%	24.4%	-5.5%	43%	26.6%	3	(4)
Gasoline	2.12	7.1%	-14.5%	8.6%	8%	-1.1%	(4)	0
ULS Diesel	2.67	6.5%	-3.5%	15.8%	22%	2.1%	0	(2)
Carbon	63.6	-6.8%	-22.2%	-	-	-0.3%	(1)	(1)
Wheat	5.96	-1.8%	-3.1%	0.5%	17%	-2.3%	(2)	(1)
Corn	4.47	-3.4%	-15.1%	0.4%	-59%	-2.6%	(4)	(3)
Soybeans	12.1	-8.9%	-12.3%	0.1%	-259%	-1.5%	(3)	0
Sugar	0.22	-4.3%	-13.6%	0.7%	-43%	2.5%	(1)	0
Cotton	0.81	0.3%	-1.8%	3.5%	-45%	-1.2%	(4)	(2)
Coffee	1.80	-5.8%	4.3%	-16.7%	28%	1.5%	3	4
Soybean Oil	0.48	-5.2%	-15.6%	2.1%	-270%	-1.0%	(3)	1
Cocoa	4,323	-1.2%	21.2%	-	-10%	1.0%	(1)	0
Aluminium	2,172	4.5%	-1.7%	15.0%	25%	-1.2%	(2)	(1)
Copper(COMEX)	3.74	-1.2%	-0.9%	-19.2%	-239%	0.0%	2	1
Copper(LME)	8,243	-0.3%	-1.2%	-14.0%	18%	-0.5%	0	(2)
Zinc	2,493	2.7%	0.2%	98.1%	31%	-0.9%	(1)	4
Nickel	16,096	-1.3%	-18.6%	60.8%	-13%	-0.6%	(4)	(2)
Lead	2,065	3.1%	-2.9%	11.4%	-12%	-0.8%	(1)	4
Tin	24,362	-0.1%	-5.3%	-8.3%	7%	-0.5%	0	(1)
Gold	2,047	3.5%	4.3%	-	1%	-0.2%	(1)	(1)
Silver	23.2	1.9%	-2.0%	-	-10%	-0.2%	(4)	(1)
Platinum	910	-1.9%	-4.9%	-	170%	-0.3%	0	(3)
Palladium	972	0.0%	-21.7%	-	11%	-0.6%	0	0
Live Cattle	1.71	2.2%	-2.7%	-	-29%	-1.6%	(3)	(3)
Lean Hogs	0.72	6.0%	-11.3%	-	164%	-8.6%	0	0
Feeder Cattle	2.27	3.3%	-2.8%	_	-7%	-0.5%	0	0

The score matrix is designed to highlight significant changes in key variables but should not be viewed as predictor of performance. Sources: Bloomberg, WisdomTree.

Green = returns positive, inventories falling, positioning rising, roll yield positive.

Red = the opposite. Black = neutral.

Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.

¹ Detailed explanation of the matrix calculations can be found at the end of this report.

² All prices are futures prices to Friday 12 January 2024. Broad sector returns based on Bloomberg Commodity Index family.

³ % change in inventory over the past three months except for sugar and coffee which are based on past six months as data is updated bi-annually by USDA.

⁴ CFTC futures and LME COTR net positioning as of January 9 2024, % change from previous month.

⁵ Calculated as % difference between front month and second month futures prices on report date. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

Sector Overview

Agriculture

- Lean hogs were among the best performing agricultural commodity, up 6%. Following the release of the Hogs and Pigs report in December, the expectation was for supplies on the ground to be higher, resulting in weaker prices. However, some of these concerns have receded in the short term, given the sharp decline in supply. Hog slaughter over the last three weeks averaged near 2.3m head/week, about 300k head/week less than prior to the holidays. Bitter cold tends to slow hog weight gains, while hazardous conditions have disrupted movement of livestock, stranded meatpacking workers and shuttered processing plants. The shortfall in supply has resulted in tight supply underpinning strength in lean hog prices
- + Grains prices were under pressure over the prior month. In the case of corn, USDA revised its 2023/24 US corn production estimates higher by 108mn bushels to a record 15.34bn bushels owing to rising yields. This is expected to lead to ending stocks at 2.2bn bushels, up 31mn bushels from prior estimates. For the global balance, 2023/24 ending stock projections were revised higher to 325.2mt, owing to larger supplies. A similar situation is expected on the global soybean market, as USDA raised its 2023/24 US production estimate from 4,129mn bushels to 4,165mn bushels on the back of stronger yields. In the USDA's quarterly grains stocks report, US corn (at 12.2bn bushels) and soybean stocks (at 2.97bn bushels) stood above market expectations as of 1 December 2023.
- Wheat prices were also under pressure as USDA raised its 2023/24 ending stock estimates from 258.2mt to 260mt, owing to higher stocks at the start of the year. US wheat prices have also been under pressure, owing to the recent strengthening of the US dollar rendering it less competitive on the global wheat market. Owing to the competitive pricing, Russian wheat is likely to be preferred in the upcoming tenders. More so, the ongoing shelling of Ukrainian port facilities by Russia has so far only led to a slight decline in wheat exports from Ukraine. The market appears to be discounting heavy rain and flooding in parts of Germany and France. There is a risk that plants will end their winter dormancy early and start growing due to the rainfall and recent mild temperatures. This also raises the risk of frost damage to the plants in the event of a possible cold snap and without a protective snow cover. Given the lingering supply risks that the market is discounting, wheat prices could rise.

- + Sugar prices are trading 16% below the 12-year high obtained in October 2023. The data on sugar production in Brazil, which confirms a continued high level of processing in the world's largest sugar producer and exporter is adding downside pressure on sugar prices. According to the industry association Unica, sugar production in the most important growing region Centre-South (CS) was 236 thousand tonnes in the second half of December, almost 36% higher than in the prior year. This is partly due to the fact that 80 more sugar cane was crushed during the reporting period. Since the start of the season in April 2023, production in CS stands at 42mn tonnes, marking an increase of more than 25% versus the prior year.
- + Cocoa fell 1.2% over the prior month following prospects for better weather conditions for Africa. Rainfall in recent days in the Ivory coast has helped plants to flower and improve conditions of the cocoa trees that have suffered from the harmattan season (which lasts from the end of November until mid-March).

Agriculture — January Returns*



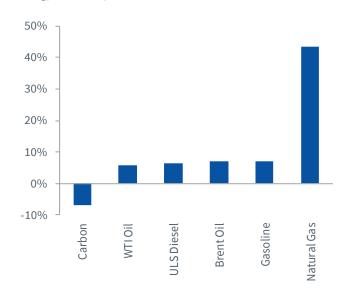
Source: *Bloomberg*. *November returns refer to returns from 12 Dec 2023 to 12 Jan 2024. Performance commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.

Energy

- Front month natural gas prices have rallied 43% in the past month, to 12 January 2024, on the back of a cold-weather snap in the US. However, that rally only took prices back to October 2023 levels, after sharp drops in November 2023. Although parts of the US are still experiencing record-breaking cold weather, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's forecast for the coming 6-10 days (published on 17 January 2024) points to almost all regions of the US having more than a 30% chance of above-average temperatures (and no regions with a 30% chance of below-average temperatures).
- + Oil prices traded higher over the past month, but there has been a volatile path. Both WTI and Brent hit a 'death cross' in technical parlance in mid-December meaning that the 50 dma fell below the 200 dma. While the term sounds ominous, very often death crosses marks a bottom, and indeed oil prices are up year-to-date, up to 18 January 2024.
- While the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Energy Information Administration (EIA) have been revising downward their 2024 oil demand forecasts for several months, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has kept its forecasts at a rather optimistic levels in its January 2024 monthly update. OPEC is expecting approximately double the oil demand growth than the IEA is forecast this year. Earlier this month, Saudi Arabia, the largest and most influential OPEC member, cut its selling prices across most regions for February. Markets interpreted this as Saudi conceding that oil demand is indeed soft, and the price of Brent crude oil fell 4.5% between the open and late afternoon on Monday 8 January. However, oil prices did not remain at those lows for long as tensions in the Red Sea led to worries about global oil supply disruptions.
- + US and UK airstrikes on Houthi targets in Yemen, in response to attacks on tankers in the Red Sea by the Iranbacked group, have raised concerns that an escalation of the conflict could further disrupt the flow of oil via key trade chokepoints. The Bab-el-Mandeb Strait and Suez Canal located at the Red Sea account for over 15 million barrels per day of oil transit. Further, Iran's seizure of a tanker moving oil from Iraq to Turkey in retaliation for seizure of the same tanker last year by the US, as part of its Iran sanctions enforcement is raising concerns that Iran could escalate the sabre rattling.

- + Worries that the Strait of Hormuz the world's largest choke point, located near Iran and Oman could also see disruptions is making markets even more nervous. Iran's attack on Pakistan in the same week and Pakistan's counter-attack compounds geopolitical worries. While oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) production have not been impacted, a rising number of ship owners are diverting cargoes away from the Red Sea.
- Carbon was the outlier in the energy complex, being the only futures to have declined. European Union industrial activity has been slowing for the past year. Industrial production data has trended down; there has not been a manufacturing PMI reading above 50 since June 2022; GDP across the union was flat in Q3 2023 and likely to be negative in Q4 2023, when the preliminary data is out later this month. Because of less economic activity, green-house gas producing activity also slowed. That reduces the need for European Union Allowances (EUAs) by compliant entities and hence its price decline over the past ten months. In addition, to fund the European Commission's RePowerEU Plan, allowances auctions were front-loaded at the end of 2023. However, there are no net new allowances issued for that purpose across the current phase (that lasts to 2030) and hence auctions towards the end of the current phase will be commensurately smaller.

Energy — January Returns*



Source: *Bloomberg*. *November returns refer to returns from 12 Dec 2023 to 12 Jan 2024. Performance commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. Historical performance is not an indication of future **performance**, and any investments may go down in value.

Industrial Metals

- + Industrial metals were up 1.6% between 12 December 2023 and 12 January 2024. But although the sector ended this period up slightly, it turned out to be a tale of two halves. In December, industrial metals gained some positive momentum when US inflation fell to 3.1% and dovish comments from the US Federal Reserve (Fed) led markets to begin expecting several interest rate cuts in 2024. Risk assets received a boost and so did industrial metals.
- + However, some of this positive momentum dissipated when markets read minutes from the most recent Fed meeting perceiving them to be less dovish than initially anticipated. Furthermore, US inflation has edged back up in December, to 3.4%.
- + In the meantime, data from China has been steady, though not stellar enough to inject fresh energy into the sector. China's Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) remained in expansionary territory in December but remains close to the borderline, keeping market expectations regarding the Chinese economy in check.
- There were some brighter spots within the basket over the period. Aluminium was up 4.5%, complemented by a healthy 25% increase in net speculative positioning. Similarly, zinc was up 2.7%, supported by a 31% increase in net speculative positioning. A series of disruptions in the supply chain, particularly in bauxite and alumina production, has led to increased volatility in aluminium prices. Factors such as mining restrictions in key regions of China, concerns about bauxite shipments from Guinea following an explosion, and pollution-related production cuts have tightened the domestic bauxite market. This, along with higher freight costs, has contributed to a moderate increase in import bauxite prices. Additionally, the surge in alumina prices, driven by a shortage of bauxite and environmental cuts in major production regions of Northern China, has further impacted the aluminium market.
- + Looking ahead, we think industrial metals remain well-positioned to benefit from a more supportive monetary policy backdrop this year and ongoing piecemeal stimulus from China. Price behaviour over the last couple of months suggests that markets are cautiously optimistic.

Industrial Metals — January Returns*



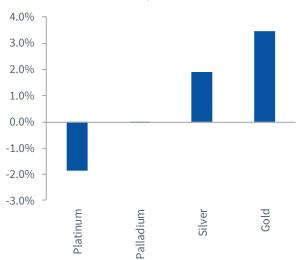
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Precious Metals

- + Precious metals staged a late-December 2023 rally, led by gold. However, only gold and silver maintained a gain over the trailing month to 12 January as platinum and palladium prices fell.
- Here Gold reached a new high of \$2078/oz on the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) afternoon fixing on 28 December 2023 and in terms of intra-day prices reached an even higher \$2,135/oz on 4 December 2023. Spot gold prices closed the year up 14.6% (LBMA afternoon fixing, 29 December 2022 29 December 2023). While reaching a nominal high, in real terms (netting off inflation) gold is still 15% below the August 2020 level that marked the previous nominal high. Gold significantly outperformed US Government Bonds (up 4.0% over the same period, based on the Bloomberg US Treasury Index). In contrast to 2022, bond and US Dollar headwinds eased toward the end of 2023, allowing the metal to gain.
- A key driver behind gold's performance in the second half of December 2023 was the market's growing optimism for a Fed rate cut as early as March 2024. The Fed's new dot plot issued after its December 2023 meeting showed the median Fed funds target rate at 4.6% by end-2024, compared to 5.1% in its September projection. However, in early January 2024, Fed meeting minutes did not indicate that central bank is in a great hurry. While Consumer Price Index (CPI) and labour data prints surprised to the upside, Producer Price Index (PPI) surprised to the downside, swaying market expectations on whether we will indeed get a rate cut in Q1 2024. While gold has fallen from the all-time high, it is on course to regain once rate cuts commence.
- + While silver has ridden on gold's coattails in the past, it has failed to keep up with its sister metal. Very often in gold rallies, silver moves more with many investors treating silver as a leveraged play on gold. However, silver lacks the same geopolitical hedge qualities as gold, possibly accounting for why it has been slower this time. The gold to silver ratio now stands at 88, the highest since March 2023.

- + Palladium gave back all of its December 2023 rally very quickly and is trading close to 2018 lows. Palladium net speculative shorts hit record levels in October 2023 and the precious metal rally of late December provided a ripe environment for a short-covering rally in palladium. However, those gains have not stuck.
- + Platinum is trading close to 20% off its April 2023 high. That's despite the physical market looking relatively tight. According to Metals Focus, platinum had a record deficit of 1024koz in 2023. Price weakness may reflect the shortfall narrowing this year (681koz expected by Metals Focus). New capacity additions in 2023 and weaker glass and chemical demand will likely ease the market.

Precious Metals — January Returns*



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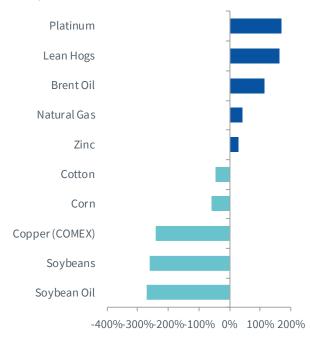
Technical Overview

as of 12 January 2024

Positioning

- + Net speculative positioning in lean hogs moved from being net short 6739 contracts to net long 4281 contracts, marking an improvement in sentiment. The weaker supply situation continues to dominate sentiment.
- + Net speculative positioning in soybean and soybean oil fell sharply owing to a build-up of short positions by 54% and 35% respectively. This was largely due to a lower-than-expected downward revision of the Brazilian soybean crop by USDA.
- + Net speculative positioning in corn dipped 58.6%, owing to a 17% build up in short positions. Sentiment weakened on the back of the record-high US corn crop harvested in the fall.
- + Speculative positioning in platinum futures moved higher in January 2024, moving past the five-year average, after being net short in November and depressed in early December 2023. It appears that the metal went through a short-covering rally, as the precious metal space lifted.
- + Zinc saw a 30.8% increase in its net speculative positioning over the month.
- + Net shorts in natural gas futures have almost halved since end-November 2023 levels. The cold snap and 43% price rally in the past month has no doubt helped accelerate the short-covering in the past week.
- + Money market positioning in Brent futures fell to the lowest levels since December 2022 in December 2023, which was over one standard deviation below the five-year average. By mid-January 2024, positioning recovered by 114% to a level close to (but slightly below) the five-year average.

Top five/bottom five change in CFTC net positions (over past month)*



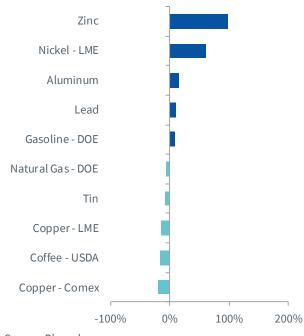
Source: Bloomberg

*CFTC futures net positioning as at report date, percent change from previous month. Commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Inventories

- + Zinc inventories have increased 98.1% over the past three months while nickel inventories increased 60.8%.
- + Aluminium and lead inventories also showed slight increases of 15% and 11.4%, respectively, over the past three months.
- + In contrast, tin and copper inventories saw slight decreases over the past three months. Tin inventories were down 8.3% while copper's LME and Comex inventories were down 14% and 19.2%, respectively.
- + Gasoline inventories rose 8.6% over the past three months, in line with seasonal trends.
- + Natural gas inventories, while falling 5.5% over the past three months are at their highest levels for January since 2016.

Top five/bottom five change in inventories (over past three months)*



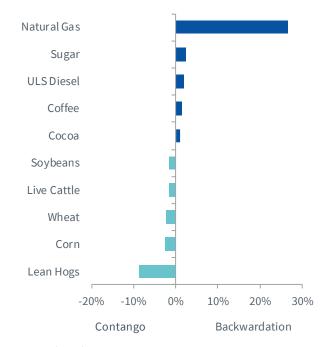
Source: Bloomberg

*Percent change in inventory based on three-month change (in %). Commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Curve dynamics

- + Backwardation at the short end of the sugar futures curve, gave rise to a 2.5% positive roll yield (versus 3.9% last month). Lower prices for contracts at longer maturities indicate that investor's view tightness in sugar supply to be temporary.
- + The front end of the coffee futures curve remains in backwardation yielding a lower positive roll yield of 1.5%, versus 3.2% last month. Global coffee ending inventories are expected to tighten to a 12-year low of 26.5mn bags as global consumption is forecasted at a record 169.5mn bags, according to USDA.
- + The front end of the cocoa futures curve has reduced, now providing investors a 1% roll yield compared to 3.3% last month, owing to a less tight supply outlook.
- + Contango in the soybean futures curve steepened a bit to provide a negative roll yield of 1.5% versus 1.4% last month.
- + The front end of the corn and wheat futures curve flattened over the last month, albeit still in contango, moving from a negative roll yield of 4.7% and 3% to 2.6% and 2.3% respectively.
- + Lean Hogs futures have the steepest contango, providing a negative roll yield of 8.6% driven by an anticipation of seasonal tight supplies.
- + After the sharp rise in the front-month natural gas contract following the cold snap, the front month implied roll yield has increased to a positive 26.6%. That is a substantial rise from three months ago when the curve was in contango.

Top five/bottom five roll yields (front to next month)*



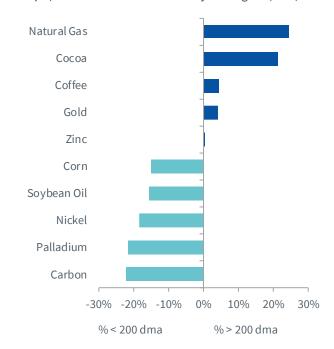
Source: Bloomberg

*Roll yields calculated as percent change between front month futures price and next month futures price on Jan 12, 2024. Commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Technicals

- + The late December metals rally was extremely fleeting for palladium. Palladium prices are still trading 22% below their 200-day moving average (dma) and it is down 45% over the year.
- + Cocoa is trading 21.2% above its 200-dma, we expect demand contraction and substitution effects should help moderate the structural deficit scenario, leading to further downside in prices after the elevated trading range in 2023.
- + Coffee is trading 4.3% above its 200-dma, we expect to see further upside in 2024 as global coffee inventories are expected to tighten.
- + Higher US corn stocks alongside weak export sales remain headwinds for corn, which is currently trading 15.1% below its 200-dma.
- + Zinc's 2.7% price gain last month has taken it 0.2% above its 200-dma.
- + Nickel finished the reporting period down 1.3% taking it 18.6% below its 200-dma.
- + Following the sharp rally in natural gas, the front month contract is trading 24.4% above its 200-dma.
- + European Union Carbon prices are trading 22.2% below their 200-dma as a slowing European economy takes its toll on industrial activity (and hence polluting activity).

Top 5/Bottom 5 Price Diff to 200 day moving av. (dma)*



Source: Bloomberg

*Percent difference between the front month futures price and its 200-day moving average on Jan 12 2024. Commentary refers to the data shown in the chart. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Summary Tables

Prices

	Current	Unit	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year
Energy						
WTI Oil	72.7	USD/bbl.	5.9%	-12.3%	-4.1%	-7.3%
Brent Oil	78.3	USD/bbl.	6.9%	-9.0%	-2.3%	-6.8%
Natural Gas	3.31	USD/MMBtu	43.4%	-0.9%	25.9%	-10.3%
Gasoline	2.12	USd/gal.	7.1%	-2.1%	-20.5%	-14.3%
ULS Diesel	2.67	USd/gal.	6.5%	-12.3%	2.7%	-17.1%
Carbon	63.6	EUR/MT	-6.8%	-25.0%	-24.6%	-17.9%
Agriculture						
Wheat	6.0	USd/bu.	-1.8%	4.3%	-4.1%	-19.8%
Corn	4.5	USd/bu.	-3.4%	-9.9%	-18.7%	-33.4%
Soybeans	12.1	USd/bu.	-8.9%	-6.5%	-19.0%	-21.2%
Sugar	0.22	USd/lb.	-4.3%	-18.0%	-9.6%	10.3%
Cotton	0.81	USd/lb.	0.3%	-4.3%	-1.5%	-0.9%
Coffee	1.80	USd/lb.	-5.8%	20.6%	13.4%	20.5%
Soybean Oil	0.48	USd/lb.	-5.2%	-12.3%	-30.5%	-24.5%
Cocoa	4,323	USD/MT	-1.2%	23.9%	31.0%	63.8%
Industrial Metals						
Aluminum	2,172	USD/MT	4.5%	0.0%	-1.2%	-13.7%
Copper	3.74	USd/lb.	-1.2%	4.1%	-2.7%	-10.7%
Copper (LME)	8,243	USD/MT	-0.3%	4.1%	-3.0%	-10.1%
Zinc	2,493	USD/MT	2.7%	2.8%	3.3%	-23.4%
Nickel	16,096	USD/MT	-1.3%	-12.9%	-25.1%	-40.0%
Lead	2,065	USD/MT	3.1%	-0.3%	-0.8%	-6.5%
Tin	24,362	USD/MT	-0.1%	-0.5%	-17.0%	-10.8%
Precious Metals						
Gold	2,047	USD/t oz.	3.5%	9.5%	4.6%	8.0%
Silver	23.2	USD/t oz.	1.9%	6.3%	-4.0%	-2.9%
Platinum	910	USD/t oz.	-1.9%	5.0%	-4.1%	-15.3%
Palladium	972	USD/t oz.	0.0%	-14.6%	-23.5%	-45.4%
Livestock						
Live Cattle	1.71	USd/lb.	2.2%	-7.6%	-3.1%	8.8%
Lean Hogs	0.72	USd/lb.	6.0%	-12.4%	-28.9%	-8.7%
Feeder Cattle	2.27	USd/lb.	3.3%	-10.1%	-8.1%	24.4%

Performance of front month futures from 12 Jan 23 (1 Year), 12 Jul 23 (6 Month), 12 Oct 23 (3 Month) and 12 Dec 23 (1 Month) to 12 Jan 24. Source: Bloomberg. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Roll Yields*

	Unit	Exchange	12-Jan	1 Week	1 Month	3 Month
Energy						
WTI Oil	USD/bbl.	NYMEX	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.3%	1.6%
Brent Oil	USD/bbl.	ICE	0.4%	0.3%	-0.4%	1.7%
Natural Gas	USD/MMBtu	NYMEX	26.6%	10.4%	3.2%	-9.7%
Gasoline	USd/gal.	NYMEX	-1.1%	-1.2%	-0.7%	0.5%
ULS Diesel	USd/gal.	NYMEX	2.1%	1.3%	1.1%	4.3%
Carbon	EUR/MT	ICE	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.5%	-0.3%
Agriculture						
Wheat	USd/bu.	СВОТ	-2.3%	-1.8%	-3.0%	-4.4%
Corn	USd/bu.	СВОТ	-2.6%	-2.6%	-4.7%	-3.0%
Soybeans	USd/bu.	СВОТ	-1.5%	-0.5%	-1.4%	-1.5%
Sugar	USd/lb.	NYBOT	2.5%	1.8%	3.9%	5.0%
Cotton	USd/lb.	NYBOT	-1.2%	-1.4%	-0.9%	-1.9%
Coffee	USd/lb.	NYBOT	1.5%	0.9%	3.2%	-0.2%
Soybean Oil	USd/lb.	СВОТ	-1.0%	-1.0%	-0.1%	1.8%
Cocoa	USD/MT	NYBOT	1.0%	0.8%	3.3%	-0.7%
Industrial Metals						
Aluminum	USD/MT	LME	-1.2%	-0.9%	-0.8%	-0.5%
Copper	USd/lb.	COMEX	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Copper (LME)	USD/MT	LME	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.5%
Zinc	USD/MT	LME	-0.9%	-0.7%	0.3%	-0.5%
Nickel	USD/MT	LME	-0.6%	-0.5%	-0.4%	-0.5%
Lead	USD/MT	LME	-0.8%	-0.9%	-0.8%	1.8%
Tin	USD/MT	LME	-0.5%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.4%
Precious Metals						
Gold	USD/t oz.	COMEX	-0.2%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.2%
Silver	USD/t oz.	COMEX	-0.2%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.3%
Platinum	USD/t oz.	NYMEX	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.3%
Palladium	USD/t oz.	NYMEX	-0.6%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.3%
Livestock						
Live Cattle	USd/lb.	CME	-1.6%	-1.6%	-0.5%	-0.9%
Lean Hogs	USd/lb.	CME	-8.6%	-8.3%	-0.6%	17.9%
Feeder Cattle	USd/lb.	CME	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.2%	-0.7%

^{*}Roll return non-annualised from front month futures into second month on the date shown. 12 Oct 23 (3 Month), 12 Dec 23 (1 Month), 05 Jan 24 (1 Week). Source: Bloomberg. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

CFTC Net Positioning¹

	Current	5 Yr Average	1 Month	6 Month	1 Year
Energy					
WTI Oil	197,502	411,936	194,491	207,373	232,146
Brent Oil ²	208,748	230,239	97,690	233,029	157,112
Natural Gas	-65,438	-102,817	-113,987	-88,260	-175,785
Gasoline	72,259	61,236	67,046	53,479	57,630
ULS Diesel	32,281	9,574	26,455	28,115	16,218
Agriculture					
Wheat	-38,890	-6,574	-46,836	-42,198	-43,847
Corn	-189,481	153,828	-119,435	-7,690	208,397
Soybeans	-35,675	84,438	22,458	88,550	138,515
Sugar	40,209	129,361	71,032	155,714	189,179
Cotton	8,892	39,916	16,163	20,397	13,617
Coffee	47,417	16,260	36,972	-6,147	-26,086
Soybean Oil	-32,674	51,215	-8,836	50,350	58,030
Cocoa	57,695	25,824	64,090	75,595	14,867
Industrial Metals ³					
Copper (COMEX)	-13,020	4,328	-3,837	-11,336	11,115
Copper (LME)	63,666	44,885	54,126	57,030	44,723
Aluminum	136,615	160,804	109,572	134,536	174,888
Nickel	20,891	28,649	23,974	22,969	27,590
Zinc	39,150	48,504	29,941	26,522	37,940
Lead	57,736	53,147	65,411	54,120	59,214
Tin	9,048	8,157	8,470	9,591	8,105
Precious Metals					
Gold	191,141	208,990	188,911	168,621	172,607
Silver	22,921	31,500	25,454	17,795	30,632
Platinum	23,834	18,315	8,841	7,820	30,815
Palladium	-9,561	929	-10,715	-8,361	-2,482
Livestock					
Live Cattle	31,245	82,965	44,014	143,119	101,073
Lean Hogs	4,281	44,151	-6,739	31,560	20,027
Feeder Cattle	-6,919	2,662	-6,495	16,007	-984

 $^{^{\}rm 1}\,{\rm Net}$ positions in number contracts.

Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

² Brent 5-Yr average of net positions from January 2011 as positions were not reported by CFTC before then.

³ All Industrial metals positioning data (excluding copper) is sourced from LME COTR data in Bloomberg from 30 January 2018 (first available date) under post-MIFID rules. Source: Bloomberg.

Inventory Levels*

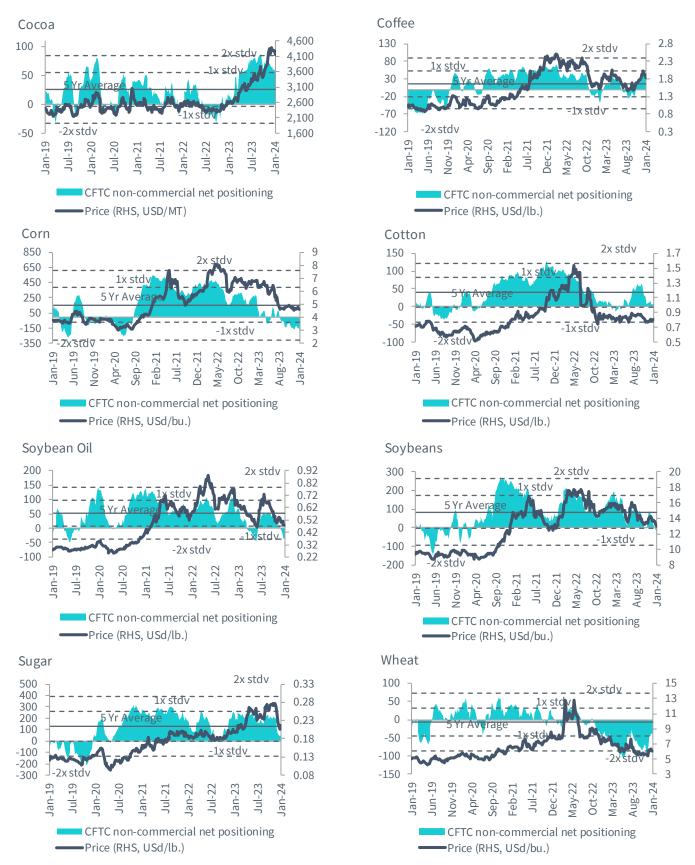
	Current	5 Yr Average	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month
Energy	•				
Oil - US	432,403	-1.5%	-2%	2%	-6%
Oil - OECD Europe**	330	-3%	-2.9%	-3.7%	-7%
Natural Gas - DOE	3,336	7.7%	-9%	-5%	14%
Gasoline - DOE	244,982	1%	9%	9%	12%
ULS Diesel - DOE	124,331	-2%	19%	16%	15%
Industrial Metals					
Aluminium	655,242	-49%	17%	15%	4%
Aluminium - LME	558,575	-44%	24%	14%	6%
Aluminium - SHFE	96,667	-67%	-14%	22%	-5%
Copper	218,478	-33%	-4%	-11%	31%
Copper - LME	155,825	2%	-14%	-14%	186%
Copper - SHFE	43,085	-65%	42%	10%	-42%
Copper - COMEX	19,568	-62%	15%	-19%	-49%
Nickel - LME	69,108	-50%	42%	61%	84%
Zinc	235,999	14%	0%	98%	90%
Zinc - LME	210,875	64%	-1%	142%	192%
Zinc - SHFE	25,124	-68%	4%	-22%	-52%
Lead	177,761	38%	-1%	11%	138%
Lead - LME	119,650	72%	-7%	36%	162%
Lead - SHFE	58,111	-2%	16%	-19%	100%
Tin	13,706	52%	5%	-8%	1%
Tin - LME	7,395	97%	-7%	-1%	72%
Tin - SHFE	6,311	20%	24%	-16%	-31%
Agriculture					
Wheat - USDA	260,030	-8.8%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%
Corn - USDA	300,560	-5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.8%
Soybeans - USDA	114,600	13%	0.3%	0.1%	-0.9%
Sugar - USDA	33,681	-33%	-	0.7%	0.7%
Cotton - USDA	84,380	4%	2.4%	3.5%	5.6%
Coffee - USDA	26,529	-23%	-16.7%	-16.7%	-16.7%
Soybean Oil - USDA	5,343	11%	-1%	2%	2%

Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

^{*}Current inventories relative 1, 3, 6 months ago. The column "5-yr average" is the current inventory level relative to 5 years average inventory. For energy, 5-yr average is the average of the same month as report month over the past 5 years. SHFE started reporting inventory data from April 2015. ** (OECD) inventory data reported with 3-month lag with current = October 2023. Source: Bloomberg.

CFTC Net Positioning

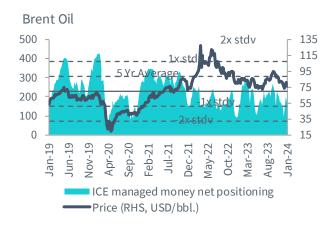
Agriculture

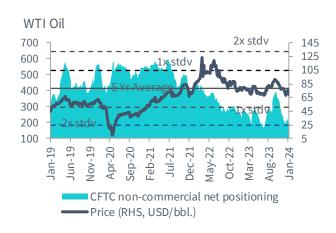


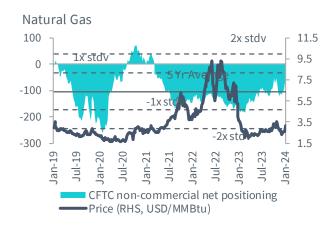
Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree.

Note: positioning in '000 contracts. Standard deviation based on 5-year average CFTC non-commercial net positioning. All commodity futures price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. CFTC futures and LME COTR net positioning as at Nov 14 2023. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

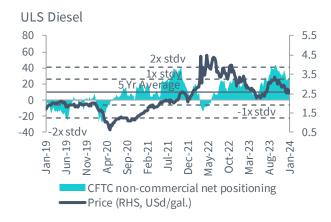
Energy







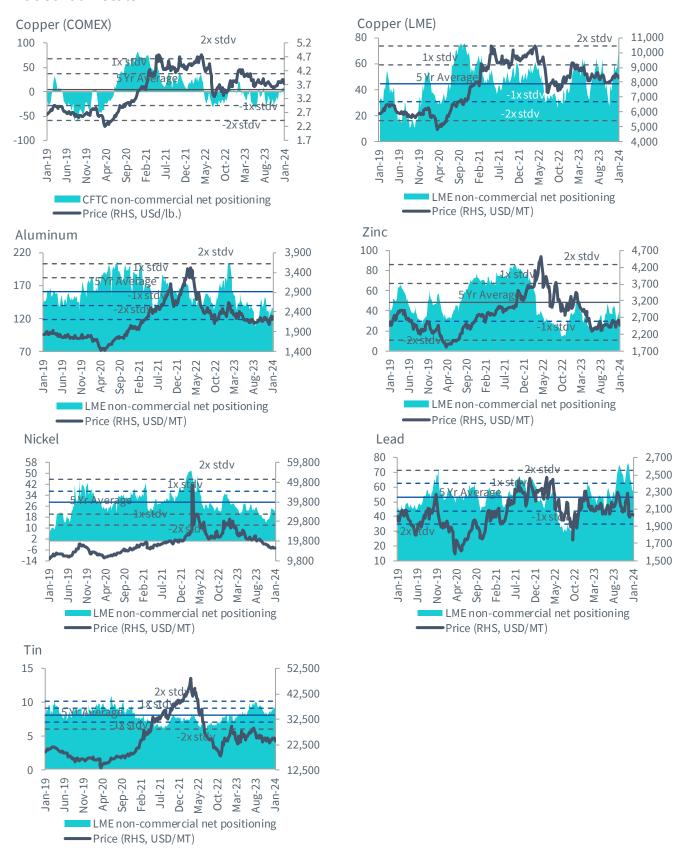




Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree.

Note: positioning in '000 contracts. Standard deviation based on 5-year average CFTC non-commercial net positioning. All commodity futures price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. *Brent average of net positions from January 2011 as positions were not reported by CFTC before then. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Industrial Metals

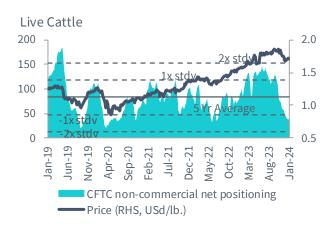


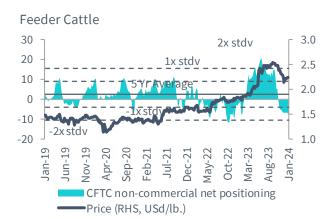
Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree.

Note: positioning in '000 contracts. Standard deviation based on 5-year average CFTC non-commercial net positioning. LME non-commercial net positions from 30 January 2018 post MIFID II data and respective graphs represent daily data. All commodity futures price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Livestock

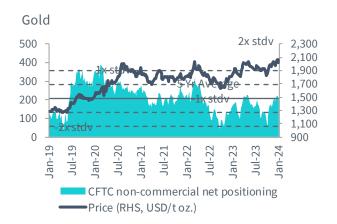


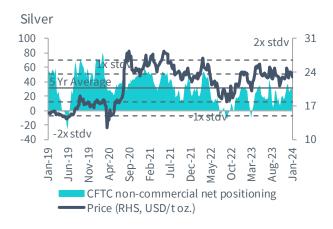


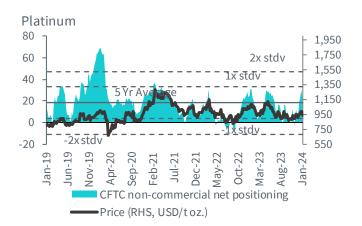


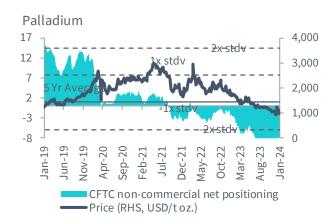
Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: positioning in '000 contracts. Standard deviation based on 5-year average CFTC non-commercial net positioning. respective graphs represent daily data. All commodity futures price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Precious Metals







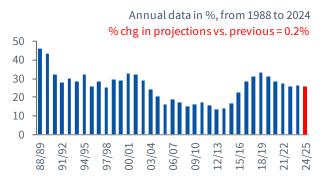


Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: positioning in '000 contracts. Standard deviation based on 5-year average CFTC non-commercial net positioning. respective graphs represent daily data. All commodity futures price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

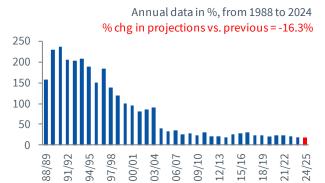
Inventories

Agriculture

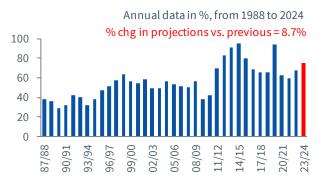




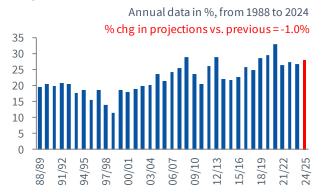
Coffee - Stock to Use



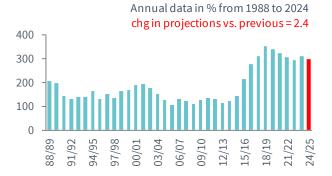
Cotton - Stock to Use



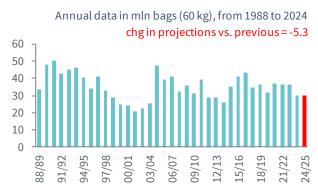
Soybeans - Stock to Use



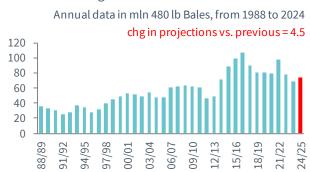
Corn - Ending Stocks



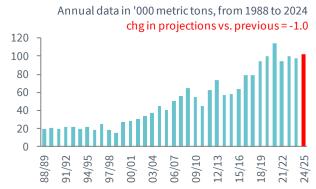
Coffee - Ending Stocks



Cotton - Ending Stocks



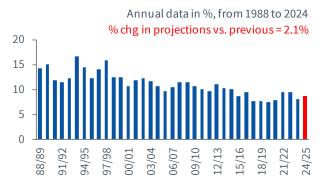
Soybeans - Ending Stocks



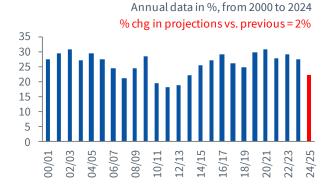
Source: USDA, Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: Ending stocks, inventories and stock to use data from the USDA are annual with monthly update of 2023/2024 estimates. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

Agriculture

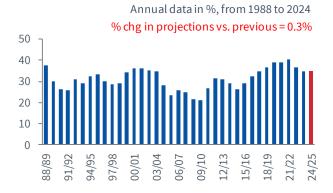
Soybean Oil - Stock to Use



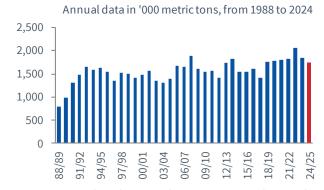
Sugar - Stock to Use



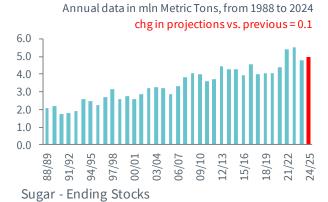
Wheat - Stock to Use



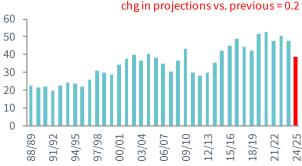
Cocoa - Inventory



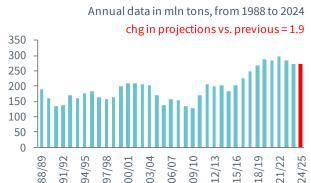
Soybean Oil - Ending Stocks



Annual data in mln Metric Tons, from 1988 to 2024



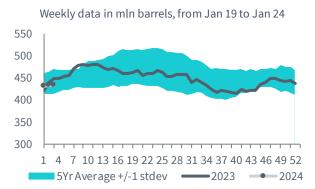
Wheat - Ending Stocks



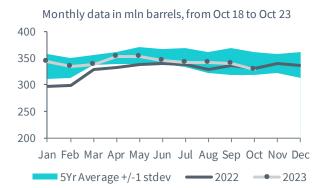
Source: USDA, Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: Ending stocks, inventories and stock to use data from the USDA are annual with monthly update of 2023/2024 estimates. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

Energy

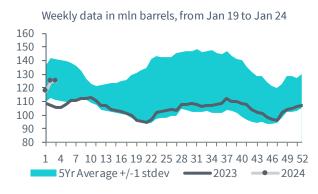
US Oil Inventory



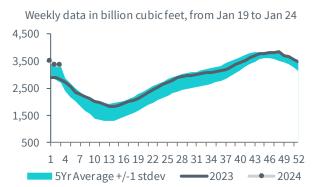
OECD Europe Oil Industry Inventory



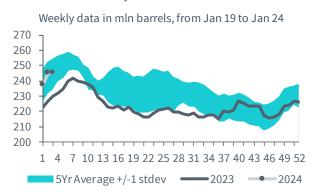
ULS Diesel Inventory



Natural Gas Inventory

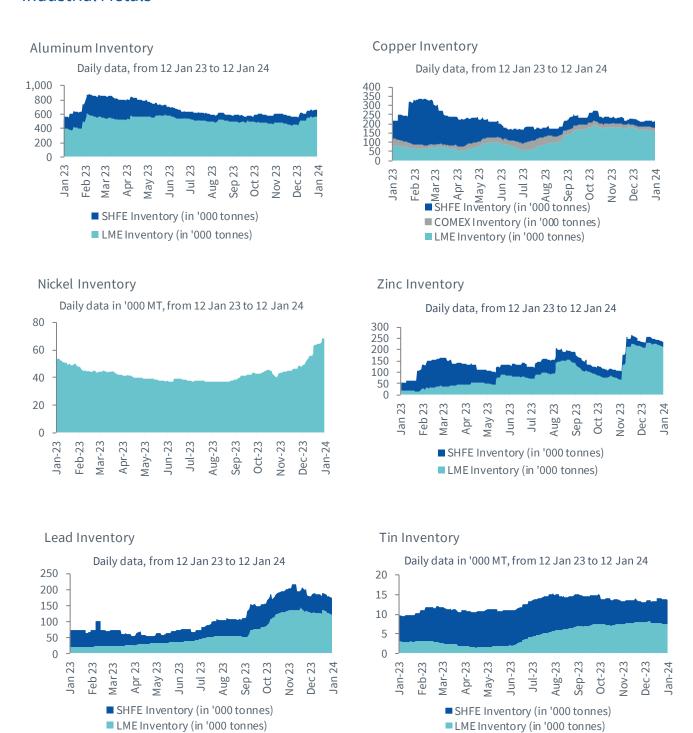


Gasoline Inventory



Source: Source: IEA / DOE, Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: "Oil - OECD Inventory" represents OECD industry stocks and is reported with a 3-month lag. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

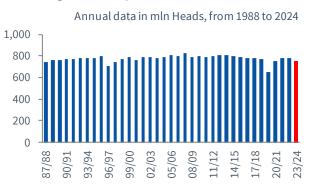
Industrial Metals



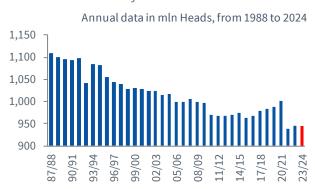
Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

Livestock

Lean Hogs Inventory



Live Cattle Inventory



Source: USDA, Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: Ending stocks, inventories and stock to use data from the USDA are annual with monthly update of 2023/2024 estimates. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

Moving Average and Volumes

Agriculture

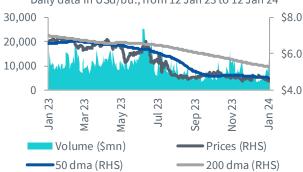
Cocoa Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/MT, from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



Corn Front Month Futures Price





Soybean Oil Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USd/lb., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



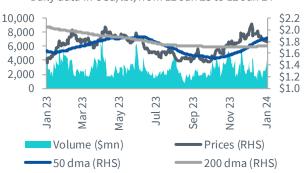
Sugar Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USd/lb., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



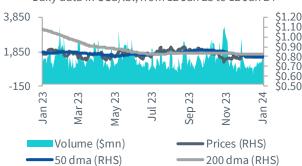
Coffee Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USd/lb., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



Cotton Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USd/lb., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



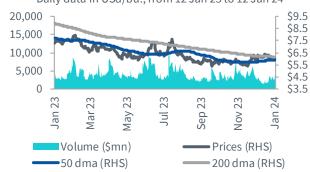
Soybeans Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USd/bu., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



Wheat Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USd/bu., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24

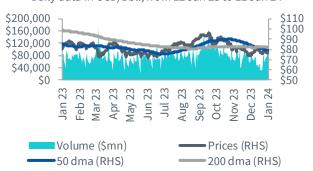


Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: all commodity futures trading volume and price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

Energy

Brent Oil Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/bbl., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



WTI Oil Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/bbl., from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



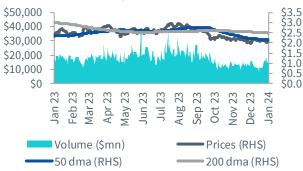
Natural Gas Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/MMBtu, from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



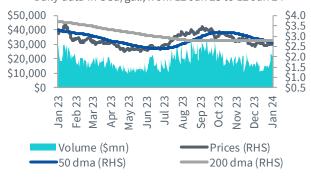
Gasoline Front Month Futures Price





ULS Diesel Front Month Futures Price

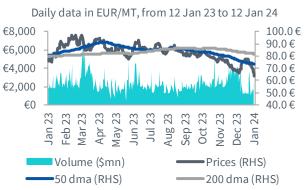




Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: all commodity futures trading volume and price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.

Carbon

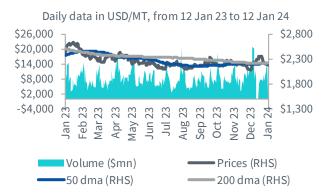
Carbon Front Month Futures Price



Source: Bloomberg, WisdomTree. Note: all commodity futures trading volume and price data is denominated in USD unless otherwise indicated. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance and any investments may go down in value.**

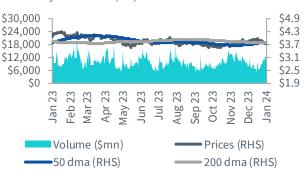
Industrial Metals

Aluminum Front Month Futures Price



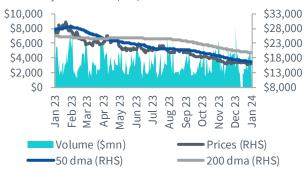
Copper (COMEX) Front Month Futures Price





Nickel Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/MT, from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24



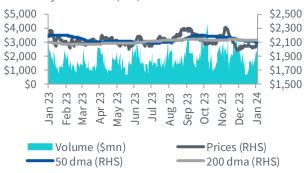
Zinc Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/MT, from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24

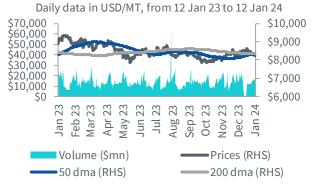


Lead Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/MT, from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24

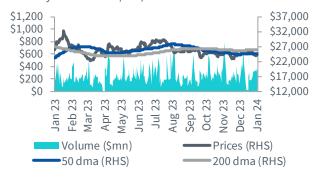


Copper (LME) Front Month Futures Price



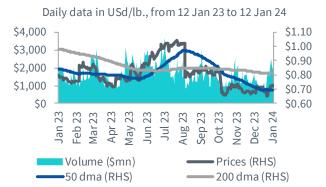
Tin Front Month Futures Price

Daily data in USD/MT, from 12 Jan 23 to 12 Jan 24

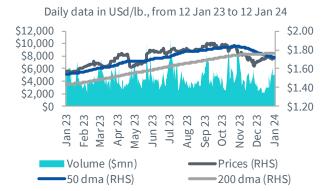


Livestock

Lean Hogs Front Month Futures Price



Live Cattle Front Month Futures Price



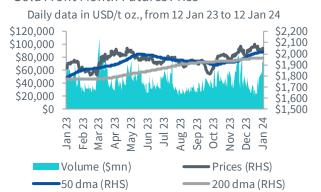
Feeder Cattle Front Month Futures Price



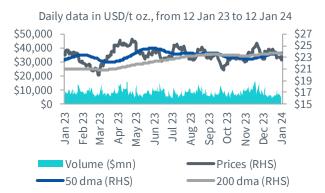


Precious Metal

Gold Front Month Futures Price



Silver Front Month Futures Price

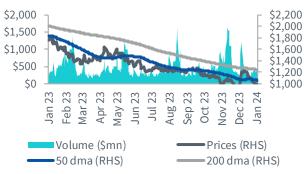


Platinum Front Month Futures Price



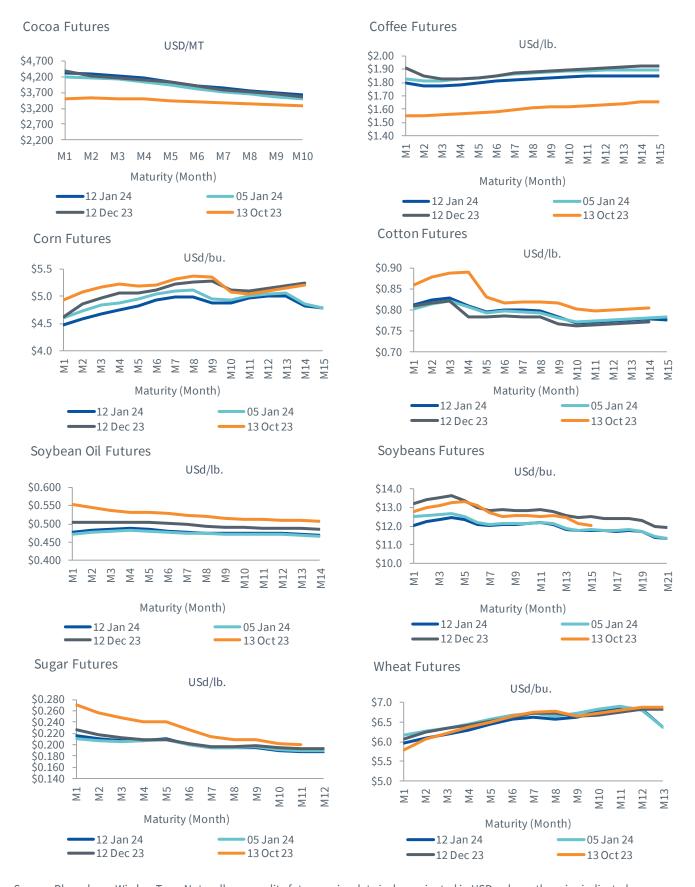
Palladium Front Month Futures Price



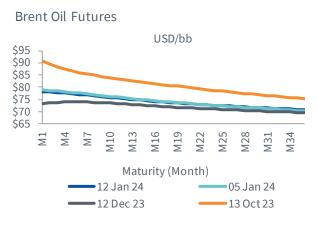


Future Curves

Agriculture



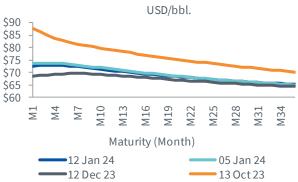
Energy



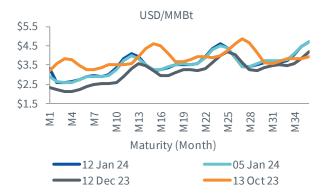


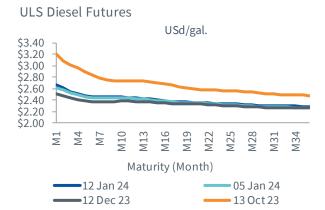


WTI Oil Futures

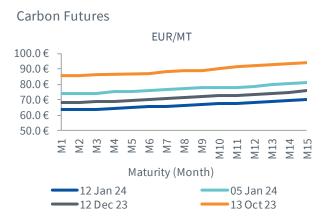


Natural Gas Futures





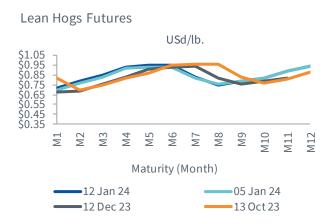
Carbon

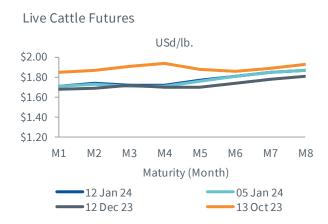


Industrial Metals

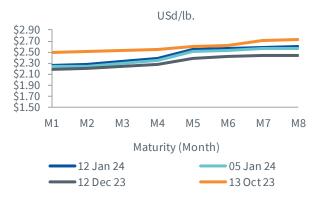


Livestock

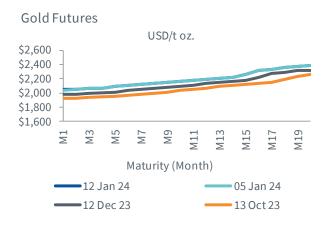


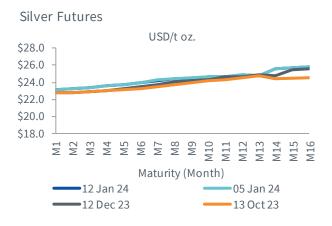


Feeder Cattle Futures

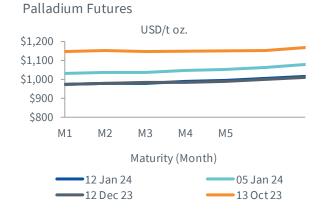


Precious Metals









Commodity Monthly Matrix Explained

Score based on unweighted sum of four fundamental/technical measures detailed below with each measure awarded a possible score of -1, 0, or 1 depending on whether variable is viewed as fundamentally negative, neutral or positive. Score ranging from -4 to +4. For commodities where data is not available or not relevant, scores are calculated on remaining variables and adjusted to the -4 to +4 scale. The score matrix is designed to highlight significant changes in key variables but should not be viewed as predictor of performance.

The four fundamental/technical measures are as follow:

- + Price vs. 200 days moving average: 1 when price is above 200dma and return is positive, -1 when price is below 200dma and return is negative, 0 otherwise.
- + % change in net positioning over the past month: 1 when % change is positive, -1 when % change is negative, 0 when no change.
- + % change in inventory level over the past 3 months: 1 when % is negative, -1 when % is positive, 0 when no change.
- + Roll yield between the front and second month futures contracts: 1 when in backwardation, -1 when in contango, 0 when no change.

Calendar

WisdomTree - Recent Blogs					
18-Jan-24	Pierre Debru	Looking back at Equity Factors in Q4 2023 with WisdomTree			
17-Jan-24	Mobeen Tahir	Battery Solutions: an exciting theme for your 2024 portfolio			
16-Jan-24	Pierre Debru	What worked in 2023 and what could work in 2024?			
12-Jan-24	Nitesh Shah	What's Hot: A volatile week in oil as security-driven supply concerns counter demand concerns			
12-Jan-24	Benjamin Dean	Spot Bitcoin ETFs arrive in the US: What does it mean for investors and the crypto market?			
10-Jan-24	Mobeen Tahir	Why expertise matters for thematic ETFs			
08-Jan-24	Mobeen Tahir	Five cutting-edge innovations redefining battery technology			
08-Jan-24	Benjamin Dean	A possible Bitcoin spot ETF in the US?			
03-Jan-24	Nitesh Shah	Commodities: an immaculate asset for an immaculate disinflation?			
03-Jan-24	Mobeen Tahir	What's Hot: Metals – Starting 2024 on a high?			
27-Dec-23	Chris Gannatti	Behind the Markets: Looking at new economy real estate in December 2023			
18-Dec-23	Chris Gannatti	Behind the Markets: Placing 'China risk' into perspective			
13-Dec-23	Chris Gannatti	Is it Time for Biotech?			

WisdomTree - Past Issues of Commodity Monthly Monitor					
Oct-Nov 2023	Research Team	Start of the dollar bear trend provides tailwind for commodities			
Sep-Oct 2023	Research Team	Gold and oil take centre stage as geopolitics rise to the fore			
Aug-Sep 2023	Research Team	Commodities bounce back despite the higher for longer narrative			
Jul-Aug 2023	Research Team	Commodities a mixed bag as Chinese data weighs on sentiment			
Jun-Jul 2023	Research Team	Commodities past peak bearishness			
The wasses have an few welferd investors and					

The research notes are for qualified investors only.

Key Reports			
Current	Next release		
12-Jan-24	08-Feb-24	USDA	World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates
04-Jan-24	06-Feb-24	EIA	Short-Term Energy Outlook
17-Jan-24	13-Feb-24	OPEC	OPEC Oil Market Report
18-Jan-24	15-Feb-24	IEA	IEA Oil Market Report

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