# Leading **Indicators**



Key economic and financial metrics, updated weekly

30th April 2024

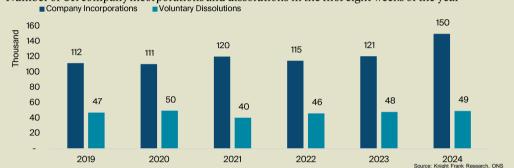
## Driving resilience: UK business and currency momentum

+24%

company incorporations has reached 150k in the first eight weeks of 2024, up +24% on the same period last year. This is the highest number of incorporations in the first eight weeks of the year since 2019 when records

#### UK company incorporations hit 150k in the first two months of the year, the strongest level since 2019

Number of UK company incorporations and dissolutions in the first eight weeks of the year



7.6%

Over the past six months. sterling has appreciated against multiple leading international currencies, including the Japanese yen (+7.6%) and the US dollar (+3.4%). Sterling is currently at \$1.25 against the dollar.

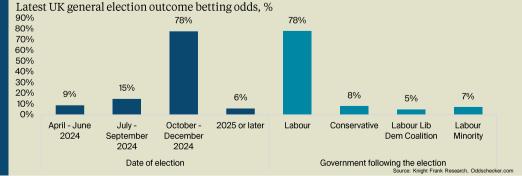
#### Sterling continues to strengthen against leading overseas currencies

Six-month currency return vs GBP, %



Betting odds suggest a 78% probability of the next UK general election occurring between October and December 2024. There is a 15% probability of the election occurring between July and September, up from 5% last month. The latest odds also suggest a 78% probability of a Labour government postelection.

#### As the country goes to the polls for local elections on Thursday, latest odds suggest a 78% chance of a general election between October & December this year





## **Equities**

#### **Equity markets** Price return index, Jan 2020 = 100, US\$ — FTSE 250 — S&P 500 — STOXX 600 — Hang Seng 150 130 110 90 70 50 Jan Jul Jul Jan Jul Jul Jan

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

2024

2023

Index	Last	Percentage change since				
Original value ar	nd base	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20	
DAX 30	7,601	0.8	2.2	-3.5	14.8	
FTSE 250	25,213	3.0	4.6	0.4	-13.0	
Hang Seng	2,267	2.7	9.5	7.3	-37.3	
IBEX 35	11,899	1.2	4.0	-0.5	11.0	
MIB	36,763	1.1	1.6	<del>-</del> 2.0	39.6	
S&P 500	5,116	1.3	3.0	-2.6	58.4	
STOXX 600	545	1.3	2.3	-1.6	16.8	
TOPIX	18	2.5	1.8	-3.6	10.9	

2022

2021

#### **Equity regional sectors** Price return index percentage change since Jan 2020 Europe **Emerging Markets** 125 100 75 50 25 0 -25 -50 -75 Tech **Financials** Industrials Real Estate

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

	Percen	Percentage change since .				
	US	Europe	World			
Tech	107.0%	55.6%	50.8%			
Financials	29.3%	22.9%	-5.3%			
Industrials	54.9%	35.7%	0.3%			
Real Estate	-11.4%	-54.2%	-59.0%			

#### **REITs by region**

2020

EPRA/NAREIT total return index, Jan 2020 = 100, US\$



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

Index, total retu	ırn Last	Pe	ercentage	change s	since
Original value and base		1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
US	2,468	1.1	2.4	-5.6	3.3
Europe	2,076	2.7	3.6	-0.7	-27.2
World	3,020	1.0	2.4	-5.1	-6.0
Asia Pacific	3,067	0.1	2.0	-3.9	-21.9

#### **UK REITs by sector**

UK EPRA gross total return index, Jan 2020 = 100, GBP£

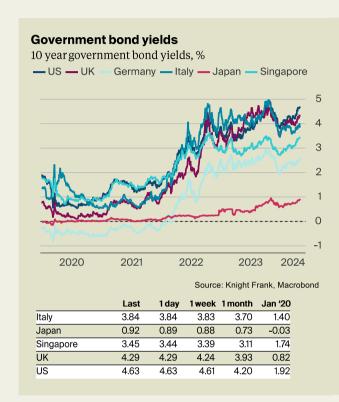


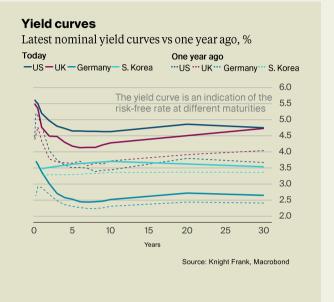
Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

Index, total return	n Last	Percentage change since				
Original value and b	ase	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20	
All REITs	803	2.0	2.3	<del>-</del> 2.4	-21.5	
Office	1,555	3.9	4.0	-0.5	-47.5	
Industrial	1,322	1.8	1.7	<del>-</del> 4.6	6.6	
Retail	56	2.2	2.8	-4.8	-84.6	
Healthcare	1,675	2.0	1.3	<b>-</b> 2.1	-26.1	
Residential	1,202	1.8	1.9	-1.1	-21.3	
FTSE 250	17,496	2.5	3.7	1.5	2.7	



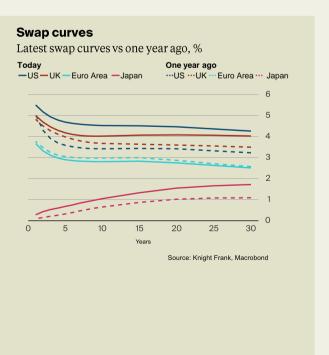
## **Bonds & Rates**





#### Interest rate swaps 5 year swap rates, % — US — UK — Eurozone — Japan 6 3 2 Jan Jul Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

		Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond			
	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
Eurozone	2.90	2.94	2.88	2.67	-0.13
Japan	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.57	0.03
Singapore	3.66	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.50
UK	4.42	4.45	4.31	4.06	0.88
US	4.69	4.72	4.66	4.25	1.70

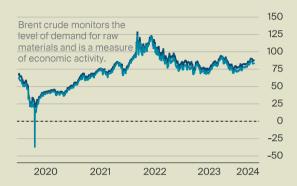




# **Commodities & Volatility**

### **Energy** Oil spot prices, \$ per barrel

- Brent Crude - West Texas Intermediate (WTI)



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
Brent, \$ per barrel	87.3	88.1	86.4	86.8	66.0
WTI, \$ per barrel	82.6	83.9	82.9	83.2	61.1

#### **Baltic dry index**

Baltic Exchange, Shipping Dry index (BDI), US\$

Baltic dry index



		Source: Knight Frank, Macrobon				
	Last	Percentage change since				
		1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20	
Baltic Dry	1684	-3.38	-10.5	<del>-</del> 7.52	54.5	

#### **Volatility index**

Near term stock price volatility indicator

— CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) --- Long term average



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

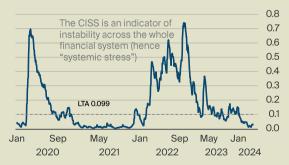
	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
CBOE VIX	14.7	14.7	15.7	13.0	13.8
Euro Stoxx 50 VIX	15.1	15.1	15.8	13.4	14.0
Nikkei VIX	20.5	20.8	20.7	18.6	14.8
KOSPI VIX	18.1	18.1	18.9	16.8	14.7

#### Systemic stress

Measures FX, money, sovereign and bond yield volatility

- New ECB Composite Indicator of Systemic Stress (CISS)

--- Long term average



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

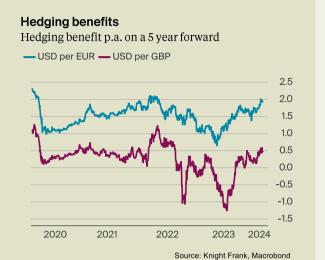
	Last	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
Systemic stress composite	0.065	0.064	0.057	0.023
Equity markets stress sub index	0.027	0.030	0.031	0.009
Bond markets stress sub index	0.043	0.047	0.039	0.02
FX markets stress sub index	0.012	0.018	0.010	0.004



# **Currencies & Monetary Policy**



	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
EUR per GBP	1.171	1.167	1.158	1.169	1.177
KOR per GBP	1,726	1,715	1,700	1,704	1,525
USD per GBP	1.255	1.246	1.233	1.263	1.321
USD per EUR	1.069	1.069	1.066	1.079	1.123



	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
USD to EUR	1.95	1.96	1.98	1.75	2.32
USD to GBP	0.46	0.47	0.60	0.37	1.12

#### Inflation and monetary policy

#### Inflation rate (%)

	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan
Australia <sup>1</sup>	n/a	3.6	3.6	3.6
Canada	n/a	2.9	2.8	2.9
China	n/a	0.0	0.7	-0.8
Euro Area	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.8
France	2.2	2.3	3.0	3.1
Germany	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.9
India	n/a	4.9	5.1	5.1
Italy	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.8
Japan	n/a	2.7	2.8	2.2
Saudi Arabia	n/a	1.6	1.8	1.6
South Korea	n/a	3.1	3.1	2.8
Spain	n/a	3.2	2.8	3.4
Sweden	n/a	4.1	4.5	5.4
UK	n/a	3.2	3.4	4.0
US	n/a	3.5	3.2	3.1

#### 1. Australia Inflation rate is only available on a quarterly basis.

#### Interest rates (%)

Last	Jan '23
4.35	3.10
5.00	4.25
4.35	4.35
4.50	2.50
4.50	2.50
4.50	2.50
6.50	6.25
4.50	2.50
0.10	-0.10
6.00	5.00
3.50	3.25
4.50	2.50
4.00	2.50
5.25	3.50
5.50	4.50

#### Asset purchasing

Latest (\$) 1m change (%)	
-6.3	
-2.1	
-1.5	
-3.2	
-3.7	
-0.6	
8.3	
-6.1	
-1.8	
-2.2	
0.5	
-1.8	
1.9	
-0.5	
-1.3	

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond





The London series – The key drivers of London's occupational market

As the noise from the great global workplace experiment gives way to stronger signals, occupier requirements are changing not evaporating. We have identified three key aspects of the occupier mindset that are combining with three dominant deal drivers to shape occupier activity in London.

#### View Report



#### Future Gazing - Logistics for modern living

Our 2024 Future Gazing report explores the lifestyle, demographic and consumer trends that shape our relationship with industrial and logistics property. Our research anticipates that an additional 111.6m sq ft of industrial and logistics space is required to support the growth of retail, manufacturing and service sectors over the next five years.

#### View Report

#### Recent research



Life Sciences & Innovation Insight – Q4 2023

Record company incorporations, highest ever quarterly life sciences real estate investment and UK Government proposes road to "science superpower".



UK Real Estate Navigator - Q4 23

The latest Real Estate Navigator analyses the Q4 2023 occupier and investment performance of the UK commercial real estate sectors. We like questions, if you've got one about our research, or would like some property advice, we would like to hear from you



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