BLACKROCK GLOBAL ETP LANDSCAPE

MONTHLY SNAPSHOT | MAY 2015

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Summary

BlackRock ETP Research

A cross-regional team analyzing global markets to deliver insights on the intersection of investment trends and ETP flows

For inquiries, please email ETPresearch@BlackRock.com

GLOBAL ETP FLOWS IN MAY REFLECT DURABLE DEMAND FOR NON-U.S. EQUITIES DESPITE BROADER SLOWDOWN IN ACTIVITY

- ▶ Global ETPs gathered \$18.3bn, though excluding non-U.S. equities flows were largely flat
- ▶ Japan and EAFE exposures led non-U.S. developed markets equities with \$5.8bn and \$4.2bn, respectively, and each category has been steady all year bringing in over \$20bn to eclipse its full-year 2014 total
- ▶ Broad EM equity inflows persisted for a second straight month, with \$1.6bn lifting year-to-date flows into positive territory
- ▶ Currency-hedged equity ETP flows of \$3.4bn were the lowest since October, but accelerated again late in the month across EAFE, Europe and Japan funds
- ▶ Pan-European funds brought in \$1.6bn, a six-month low, as investor sentiment moderated along with the regional economic outlook after a strong Q1

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Global ETP Highlights

Global ETP flows of \$18.3bn were concentrated in EAFE and Japan funds. Europe and U.S. flows were modest as mixed economic data for both regions has led to uncertainty over growth prospects. Still, 2015 asset gathering remains ahead of the record year-to-date pace set in 2013 and nearly matched last year on the way to a new full-year high.

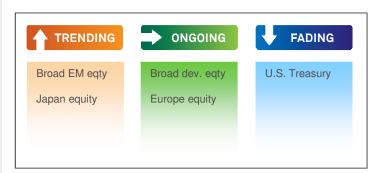
Broad developed markets equities gathered \$6.4bn as demand remains robust for non-U.S. exposures. EAFE ETPs accounted for \$4.2bn (see spotlight below), with an additional \$2.1bn going to global funds. These categories have quickly accumulated \$35.8bn year-to-date and are set exceed the average of \$45bn over the past two years.

Japan equities maintained momentum with \$5.8bn as the Nikkei 225 Index reached its highest level since 2000². Flows were driven by strength in corporate earnings. Locally-domiciled funds led, though asset gathering has also picked up for U.S.- and Europe-listed funds.

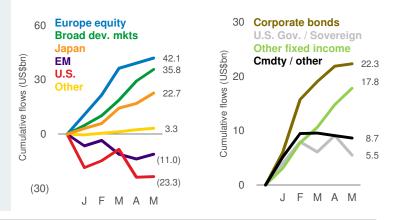
Currency-hedged equities brought in \$3.4bn, slowed early in the month by a stretch of U.S. dollar weakening that began in April. Flows have proven responsive to currency movements, and resumed toward the end of May across EAFE, Europe and Japan funds as the dollar exhibited renewed strength.

Broad EM equities gathered \$1.6bn, and flows have now trended higher during consecutive months for the first time since August. Improving returns, accommodative Chinese government policies and the pause in dollar appreciation have helped turn flows around.

KEY INVESTMENT THEMES / ETP FLOW TRENDS



GLOBAL ETP FLOWS BY ASSET CLASS & EXPOSURE¹ 2015 YTD flows: \$123.8bn

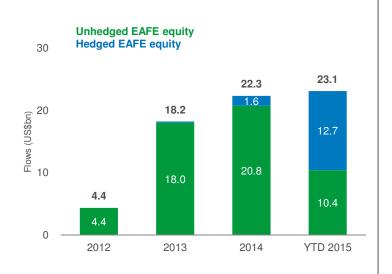


SPOTLIGHT ON EAFE EQUITY ETPs

With flows of \$4.2bn in May, EAFE equity funds have now seen steady asset gathering each month for the past two years. The trend has accelerated this year with the MSCI EAFE index up 7.0% (USD) and 12.2% (local currency)³ year-to-date, well above the 2.4% return for the S&P 500⁴. Three factors are contributing to the heightened flows:

- Investors have been increasingly shifting their exposure to broad-based non-U.S. developed markets equity due to attractive valuations relative to the U.S., where momentum has slowed after strong returns for a number of years
- Japan and Europe are benefitting from unprecedented central bank stimulus, and EAFE funds, heavily weighted to these markets, are ideal for investing in both
- 3) Currency-hedged EAFE ETPs have become more popular as a way for U.S.-based investors to take advantage of opportunities abroad while protecting against U.S. dollar strength versus the euro and yen

EAFE EQUITY ETP FLOWS



Global ETP Highlights (cont'd)

China equity flows of \$1.3bn were split between H-shares, which gathered \$1.5bn, and mainland-listed A-shares funds, which saw modest outflows and have now seen redemptions of (\$20bn) for the year. However, A-shares recovered sharply toward the end of the month. India funds collected \$0.7bn and lead all EM countries year-to-date with \$3.6bn.

Pan-European equity flows had been strong all year but slowed to \$1.6bn as economic data moderated and the euro fluctuated against the dollar. Flows were flat early in the month but rose on news the ECB may front load its bond purchases in anticipation of a slowdown in liquidity during the summer.

U.S. equities were modest at \$0.4bn, though this represented an improvement from heavy outflows in April. Economic news was mixed, pushing back expectations for the timing of the Fed's planned rate increase. Positive jobs figures and further mergers and acquisitions activity helped the S&P climb to new highs. However, GDP was revised down indicating the economy contracted in Q1 and growth may be more moderate this year.

Fixed income flows overall were flat and have been volatile with investors uncertain as to when rates may begin to move higher. Pockets of strength persist, including **U.S. investment-grade corporate** funds, which gathered \$0.9bn, and **EM debt**, which added \$0.5bn to bring year-to-date flows to \$3.2bn. But **U.S. Treasury** funds shed (\$2.8bn). Year-to-date fixed income flows remain ahead of the record pace established last year, driven by investment grade and high yield corporate bonds.

Commodities trended down for a third month. **Crude oil** saw additional redemptions of (\$0.4bn), likely due to profit taking by short-term investors, and **gold** funds shed (\$0.8bn).

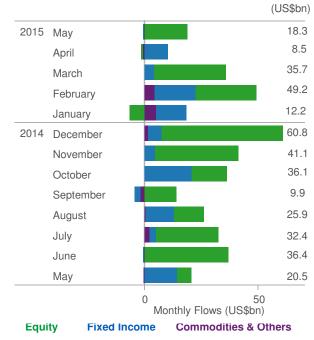
RESULTS AT A GLANCE¹

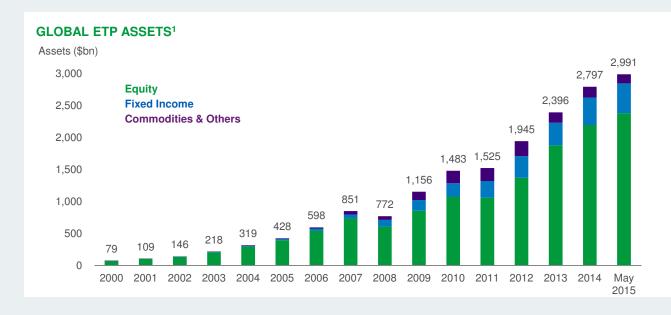
(US \$billions)

	May 2015	Dec 2014	May 2014
Monthly Flows	18.3	60.8	20.5
Assets	2,991	2,797	2,546
# of ETPs	5,595	5,431	5,181

GLOBAL 13-MONTH ROLLING FLOWS¹

2015 YTD flows: \$123.8bn vs. 2014 flows: \$329.6bn





Year-to-date Overview

GLOBAL ETP FLOWS BY EXPOSURE¹

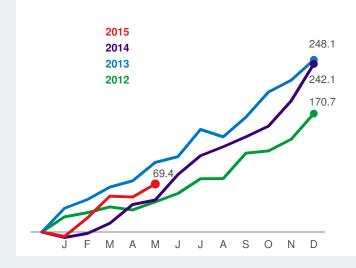
(US\$bn)		YTD 2015	YTD 2014	Annual 2014
Equity	Developed Markets Equity	80.5	53.5	243.9
	Emerging Markets Equity	(11.0)	(7.4)	(1.8)
	Total	69.4	46.1	242.1
Fixed Income	Government	5.5	14.1	19.5
	High Yield Corporate	8.4	4.1	4.0
	Investment Grade Corporate	14.0	9.4	22.4
	Others	17.8	13.0	39.0
	Total	45.7	40.7	84.9
Commodities & others	Total	8.7	0.2	2.6
Grand Total		123.8	87.0	329.6

CUMULATIVE ETP FLOWS¹



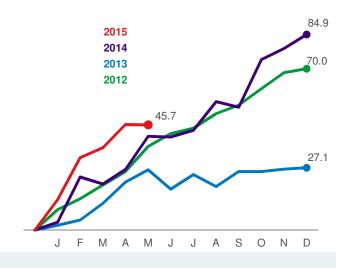
CUMULATIVE EQUITY ETP FLOWS¹

2015 YTD equity flows: \$69.4bn



CUMULATIVE FIXED INCOME ETP FLOWS¹

2015 YTD fixed income flows: \$45.7bn

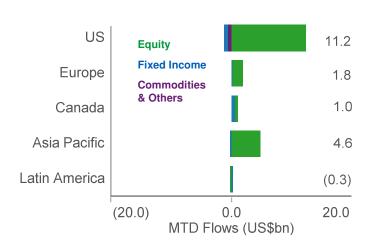


Flows By Listing Region

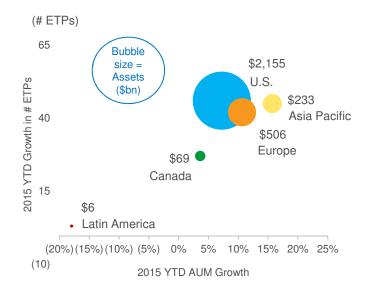
Highlights (US\$):1

- U.S.-listed ETPs led all regions in May with \$11.2bn, highlighted by global and pan-European equity funds
- ► Europe-listed ETP flows slowed to \$1.8bn, driven by German equities and broad emerging markets equities
- Canada-listed ETPs gathered \$1.0bn, focused in fixed income, extending their streak of inflows to sixteen consecutive months
- ► Asia Pacific-listed ETPs collected of \$4.6bn concentrated in Japan equities though partially offset by China outflows

MTD FLOWS BY LISTING REGION¹



ASSET GROWTH RATES AND # OF ETPs1



LISTING REGION VIEW¹

		Net Flows (\$bn)		% Asset		
By Listing Region	May 2015	YTD 2015	Assets (\$bn)	Market Share	Number of Products	
US	11.2	79.2	2,154.5	72.0	1,707	
Europe	1.8	38.4	506.4	16.9	2,299	
Canada	1.0	5.6	68.9	2.3	375	
Asia Pacific	4.6	1.4	233.4	7.8	787	
Latin America & Iberia	(0.3)	(1.0)	6.4	0.2	49	
Middle East and Africa	Not available	Not available	21.2	0.7	378	
Global ETP Total	18.3	123.8	2,990.8	100.0	5,595	

ETP Flows by Exposure

		MTD Flows (US\$bn)	YTD Flows (US\$bn)	Current AUM (US\$bn)	Fund Count
Equity	US	0.4	(23.3)	1,300.6	848
	Broad Developed Markets	6.4	35.8	296.1	573
	Europe	2.8	42.1	254.0	688
	Asia-Pacific	6.7	26.9	228.3	375
	Canada	(0.2)	(0.9)	29.6	99
	Developed Equity	16.2	80.5	2,108.6	2,583
	Single Country	1.1	(12.1)	146.3	676
	Broad	1.6	0.8	120.4	127
	Regional	0.0	0.3	6.7	69
	Emerging Markets Equity	2.7	(11.0)	273.5	872
	Equity Total	18.8	69.4	2,382.0	3,455
Fixed Income	Investment Grade Corp	1.2	14.0	110.6	177
	Broad	1.3	6.3	70.3	47
	HY Corp	(0.8)	8.4	53.6	65
	U.S. Government	(2.8)	1.5	46.3	82
	Sovereign	(0.8)	4.0	45.6	260
	Municipal	0.2	2.1	17.2	37
	Other Fixed Income	1.5	9.4	123.5	216
	Fixed Income Total	(0.1)	45.7	467.2	884
Commodities	Gold	(0.8)	0.9	61.6	128
	Energy	(0.5)	6.3	14.6	212
	Silver	(0.2)	(0.1)	9.2	69
	Agriculture	0.1	0.0	3.7	184
	Other Precious Metals	0.0	(0.2)	18.3	81
	Other Commodities	0.6	0.0	15.0	224
	Commodities Total	(0.7)	7.0	122.5	898
Asset Allocation		0.1	0.6	7.1	76
Alternatives		0.1	0.6	6.7	116
Currency		0.2	0.5	5.3	166
Grand Total		18.3	123.8	2,990.8	5,595

Endnotes

The ETP (or exchange traded product) category encompasses any portfolio exposure security that trades intra-day on an exchange. The data for this report are captured from a number of sources by BlackRock including provider websites, fund prospectuses, provider press releases, provider surveys, Bloomberg, the National Stock Exchange, Strategic Insight Simfund, Wind, and the Bank of Israel. All amounts are reported in US dollars. Flows are derived using daily net asset values and shares outstanding using the most recent data we can capture at month-end. For products with cross-listings, we attribute net flows and assets to the primary listings. For Middle East and Africa, net flows data is not available. Assets are derived using shares outstanding and prices at the end of each month (or the closest date available). Where price is not available, we use an approximation. For ETPs listed in Israel, product level detail is not available. Product level information is aggregated by provider, asset class, exposure, region listed and replication method to produce the various analyses in the report.

- 1. Data is as of May 28, 2015 for Europe and May 29, 2015 for the US, Canada, Latin America, Israel, and some Asia ETPs. Some Asia ETP data is as of April 30, 2015. Global ETP flows and assets are sourced using shares outstanding and net asset values from Bloomberg for the US, Canada, Europe, Latin America and some ETPs in Asia. Middle East ETP assets are sourced from the Bank of Israel. ETP flows and assets in China are sourced from Wind. Inflows for years prior to 2010 are sourced from Strategic Insights Simfund. Asset classifications are assigned by the BlackRock based on product definitions from provider websites and product prospectuses. Other static product information is obtained from provider websites, product prospectuses, provider press releases, and provider surveys. Market returns are sourced from Bloomberg.
- Source: Nikkei
 Source: MSCI
- 4. Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices

Index returns are for illustrative purposes only. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Indexes are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

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