

08 February 2024

Monthly Market Insights, Review of January 2024

- US Equity markets continued to hold strong in January after a ripping December. SP500 and DJIA both up a little over 1%.
- ASX 200 resources index retreated 3.6% after a very strong end to the year gaining almost 10% in December.
- Interest rates held steady a gain. All eyes on the Fed and when they plan on cutting rates.
- Uranium continued it's climb reaching highs of \$106 USD/lbs.
- Inflation numbers in Australia continued to dedine at a faster-than-expected rate beating consensus. US Inflation moved up slightly to 3.4% from 3.1% with housing costs responsible for majority of the move.

Market Metrics for January vs YTD

1.6%	2.2%	1.2%	1.2%	-1.3%	-1.2%	1.2%	0.7%
S&P 500	s&p 500	DJIA	DJIA	FTSE 100	FTSE 100	ASX 200	ASX 200
(January)	(YTD)	(January)	(YTD)	(January)	(YTD)	(January)	(YTD)
3.6%	4.6%	-3.6%	-4.2%	-1.1%	-1.2%	4.7%	6.2%
S&P GSCI	s&p gsci	ASX200 Res	ASX200 Res	Gold (US\$)	Gold (US\$)	Crude/Brent	Crude/Brent
(January)	(YTD)	(January)	(YTD)	(January)	(YTD)	(January)	(YTD)

Source: Bloomberg, S&P Global Market Intelligence, Investing.com, Trading Economics, MarketWatch, NASDAQ, KME

Commodity Highlights

- Commodity prices rallied last month with the GSCI Commodity index up 4.5%. A cracking start to the year.
- January saw a nice bump in the copper price as worries of undersupply continue to grow. Nickel continued it's dedine.
- A better month for Oil this month saw Brent Crude rise almost 5%. Natural gas continued to retreat.
- Gold and silver both retreated in January. Gold still holding above \$2000 USD/oz
- Agricultural commodities performed well overall.



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Precious Metals – gold, silver, palladium, platinum

- Precious metals retreated in January as global sales weakened. Gold and silver back in step down 0.7 and 3.3% respectively.
- Banks and brokers expect weakness in precious metals until interest rates begin to drop.
- Platinum: -4.8%
- Paladium: -7.2%

Base Metals - copper, nickel, lead, zinc

- A mixed bag for base metals to kick off the year:
 - Copper: +0.59%
 - Nickel: -2.24%
 - Lead:+6.08%
 - Zinc: -4.82%
- Nickel continues to decline due to increased supply and weakening demand for EVs.
- Supply fears in the copper market continue to grow. Accentuated by First Quantum's Cobre Panama mines ordered closure in November last year.
- Public and private companies alike are retreating from Nickel production. Wyloo metals announced a temporary halt to operations at their West Australian Nickel mines. IGO flagged further reductions in staff and Nickel operations this year.

Bulks – iron ore

- Iron ore shed some of last year's gains in January down 3.6%.
- This follows the commodity gaining 30%+ in the back half of 2023.
- Analysts now calling for US\$150/tonne Iron Ore in the first half of 2024. Expecting China to step in with fiscal stimulus a mid a weaking e conomy and stock market rout.
- Simandou, the world's largest iron ore development is expected to begin construction this year.



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Energy - oil & gas

- Oil rose in January as tensions in the red sea stoked geopolitical issues.
- Gas declined in January as demand slowed.
- Non-OPEC countries continue to deliver larger than expected output, keeping the market well stocked.
- Supply out of US & Canada expected to reduce in the coming month as extreme cold weather events have hindered operations throughout.

Agriculture

- A volatile month for the Agriculture index, with majority of the constituents gaining.
- Sugar continued to be extremely volatile up almost 18% in January after dropping 20% in December.
- Cocoa rallied again up 15.47% for the month.
- Coffee increased another 3.55% in January.
- Soybeans continued its dedine, shedding a further 5%
- Climate change factors continue to catapult cocoa and sugar prices higher. Both gained more than 15% in January, after tremendous gains in 2023 I might add.



Source: Bloomberg, S&P Global Market Intelligence, Investing.com, Trading Economics, MarketWatch, NASDAQ, KME

25% 20% Relative Percentage Change (%) 15% 10% 5% 0% -5% -10% 21/01/2024 15/01/2024 22101/2024 27/01/2024 11/01/2024 2210212024 13/01/2024 14/01/2024 16/01/2024 20101/2024 26/01/2024 610112024 7101/2024 10/01/2024 25/01/2024 28/01/2024 30/01/2024 2/01/2024 3/01/2024 A1011202A 5101/2024 8/01/2024 9/01/2024 1710212024 18/01/2024 19/01/2024 23/01/2024 24/01/2024 29/01/2024 31/01/2024 S&P GSCI Live Cattle Total Return S&P GSCI Wheat (Kansas)Tot. Ret S&P GSCI Cotton Total Return S&P GSCI Corn Total Return S&P GSCI Soybeans Total Return S&P GSCI Cocoa Index Total Return S&P GSCI Sugar Total Return S&P GSCI Feeder Cattle Tot. Ret. S&P GSCI Lean Hogs Total Return S&P GSCI Coffee Total Return

Selected S&P GSCI agriculture product returns relative performance January 2024

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, Investing.com, Trading Economics, MarketWatch, NASDAQ, KME

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Contact Details

Nicholas Boyd-Mathews

F Fin Chartered MCSI MSAFAA Executive Director / Chief Investment Officer nicholas@eden-asset.com

Eden Asset Management Pty Ltd

Australian Financial Services Licence ("AFSL") No: 296466

Phone: +61 8 6391 0107 Office: Suite 2, 38 Colin Street, West Perth, WA 6005 Australia Web: eden-asset.com

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John Hannaford

BCom, CA, F Fin Executive Director john@eden-asset.com