ASSET ALLOCATION

IPE EXPECTATIONS INDICATOR

▲ **Rise** ↑ Positive shift (from last month)

■ Stable - No view

▼ Fall ↓ Negative shift (from last month)

IPE polled 86 asset managers this month on their six to 12-month views on regional equities, global bonds and currency pairs as shown below.

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6 predicting rise (previous month)	57 (55		56 (65)	44 (59)								
6 predicting stability (previous month	1			++ (J7)	40 (37)	18 (13)	6 (5)	5 (9)	8 (8)	29 (27)	26 (29)	28 (26)

ASSET ALLOCATION

IPE EXPECTATIONS INDICATOR

Overview

Last month we noted the how recent small moves in expectations evoked a similar feeling to the subtle change of the seasons, albeit somewhat less calming. If that is how the last few months of expectations have felt, this month we were hit with the first wave of back-to-school commercials indicating it's time to start thinking differently. While change is definitely in the air, yesterday still feels just like today for many indicators, such as US equities and most currencies.

Bonds

Cumulative expectations for bond prices to rise did not change meaningfully but there were indications that expectations for dollar bonds were shifting. That shift became more pronounced in the most recent survey period. Since the beginning of 2018, positive expectations for dollar bonds have now doubled – from 9 to 18% expecting price gains – and three-quarters of that change has taken place in the most recent survey period. Along with this positive shift, there was also a meaningful shift among those predicting dollar bond prices to fall.

Equities

It was a month of major shifts for all regions other than the US. Sentiment fell by nine percentage points for euro-zone equities, with all of that shift coming from those previously expecting stability. Euro-zone equities have led the pack since the beginning of the year in terms of positive expectations but this has now fallen by 30 points. For Japan, the move was

similar, and for Asia they fell by 15 percentage points. Trade tariffs and the end of QE seem not to be a good combination for sentiment. There was little change in sentiment for US equities. Expectations for them to rise increased slightly, but that was about all

Currencies

Interestingly, despite the significant moves in other asset classes, there were few meaningful shifts in sentiment among currencies. Yes, there was a slight increase in cumulative

expectations for dollar strength, but by the smallest of amounts. Against the euro, there was no change in those expecting it to weaken, only a slight decline in those expecting stability. Only against the sterling was there a meaningful move, and that was the shift away from stability to a rise of those expecting the dollar to decline.

PETER LAURELLI, VICE-PRESIDENT, GLOBAL HEAD OF RESEARCH, EVESTMENT

KEY FOR EXPECTATIONS GRAPHS

% of managers expecting rise

% of managers expecting stability

% of managers expecting fall

Each month, IPE polls asset managers on their six to 12-month views on regional equities, global bonds and currency pairs as shown below.























