

Bridge Markets

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FOREX MARKET

US Dollar Index Rallies : 'Trump Trade' and Fed's Inflation Focus

The US Dollar Index (DXY) started 2024 with a choppy ascent but saw a sharp pullback to the 100.00 level by September. A turning point came with the rise of the "Trump trade," as investor confidence grew in Donald Trump's chances of defeating Kamala Harris in the November election. This expectation fueled a dollar rally in October, pushing the DXY past 108.00 after the election and signaling a potential "Red Sweep." The rally aligned with rising 10-year Treasury yields, which peaked at 4.50% before correcting. Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve projected stronger GDP growth but faced persistent inflation, prompting Jerome Powell to emphasize patience and a focus on price stability before rate cuts.

Diverging Inflation and Political Shifts Impact GBP/USD


In 2024, disinflation trends diverged between the US and UK. The UK saw CPI inflation ease to 2.6% in November, supported by a drop in services inflation, which allowed the BoE to adopt a dovish stance and cut rates to 4.75%. Conversely, the US struggled with inflationary pressures, as CPI rebounded to 2.7% and core PCE inflation stayed elevated at 2.8%, leading the Fed to reduce rates cautiously to a target range of 4.25%-4.50%. Political shifts, including Labour's UK election win and Donald Trump's US presidential victory, impacted GBP/USD dynamics. While Labour's win briefly lifted the pound, the "Trump trade" and expectations of inflationary US policies pressured GBP/USD to a six-month low, with future movements likely shaped by geopolitical risks and diverging monetary strategies.



Rate Cut Expectations Drive Bond Market Volatility in 2024

Global bond funds saw unprecedented inflows exceeding \$600 billion this year, as investors anticipated easier monetary policies amid slowing inflation and economic growth. Despite this optimism, bond markets experienced volatility, rallying mid-year but ending with a 1.7% decline in the Bloomberg global aggregate bond index due to concerns over slower-than-expected rate cuts. Persistent inflation and the Federal Reserve's measured easing contributed to this uncertainty, prompting a significant \$6 billion outflow from bond funds in December. While sovereign bonds faced challenges, corporate credit markets thrived with narrowing spreads and robust issuance, as investors, seeking stability amid expensive equity markets, shifted toward fixed-income products.

• Commodities



• EU Gas Storage Dwindles at Fastest Pace Since 2021 Energy Crisis

The EU is depleting its gas storage facilities at the fastest rate since the 2021 energy crisis, driven by colder weather, rising demand, and reduced liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports. From late September to mid-December, storage levels dropped by 19%, a much larger decline than in recent years, partly due to increased competition from Asian buyers for LNG and a stronger winter heating demand. While gas prices are significantly lower than in 2022, the rapid depletion of reserves raises concerns about the cost and difficulty of refilling storage in the future, with traders pricing summer deliveries higher than winter. Geopolitical tensions and the expiration of the Russian gas transit deal further complicate Europe's energy situation.



Gold in 2025: Bearish or Bullish?

A steeper-than-expected drop in U.S. crude stockpiles and confidence about 2024 demand propelled oil prices to rise more than 1% this week. Increased refinery operations and holiday fuel demand helped WTI hit \$70.60 while Brent crude finished at \$74.17 per barrel. Expectations for increased oil consumption were supported by China's economic optimism, which included updated growth projections and planned stimulus measures. Although Middle East wars are anticipated to have little immediate impact, geopolitical variables including Baltic Sea tensions and possible penalties under the Trump administration increased market volatility.



Oil Prices Climb on US Inventory Drop and Demand Optimism

Oil prices rose over 1% this week, driven by a sharper-than-expected decline in U.S. crude inventories and optimism about 2024 demand. Brent crude settled at \$74.17 per barrel, while WTI reached \$70.60, supported by increased refinery activity and holiday fuel demand. Economic optimism from China, including revised growth forecasts and planned stimulus measures, bolstered expectations for higher oil consumption. Geopolitical factors, such as tensions in the Baltic Sea and potential sanctions under the Trump administration, added to market volatility, although Middle East conflicts are expected to have limited short-term impact.

● CRYPTO MARKET

● Beyond Gold and Fiat: Bitcoin's Emergence as a National Reserve Asset

Amid inflation, sanctions, and the pursuit of financial sovereignty, nations are reevaluating traditional reserve assets like gold and fiat currencies, with Bitcoin emerging as a viable alternative. Its decentralized and resilient nature offers protection against inflation, sanctions, and third-party control, making it attractive for countries like El Salvador and Brazil, which have begun incorporating Bitcoin into their economic strategies. Advocates argue Bitcoin could surpass gold as a store of value within a decade due to its transparency, self-custody capabilities, and independence from geopolitical constraints. Strategic adoption of Bitcoin into national reserves requires robust legal, security, and transparency frameworks to mitigate volatility and build confidence. Beyond reserves, blockchain technology promises to revolutionize governance and asset management, signaling a shift toward financial sovereignty and innovation in response to the economic challenges of the 21st century.

ReFi, CBDCs, and deAI: Shaping Crypto's Future in 2025

The cryptocurrency industry is set for transformative growth in 2025, driven by global trends in sustainability, innovation, and regulation. Regenerative Finance (ReFi) aims to integrate blockchain with ecological restoration, aligning the industry with sustainability goals. Blockchain-based dispute resolution is emerging to streamline conflict management through smart contracts and on-chain governance. Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) are poised to modernize global finance by enhancing inclusion and reducing banking costs, though privacy concerns persist. Decentralized Identity (DID) solutions promise secure, user-controlled digital identity management, while Decentralized Artificial Intelligence (deAI) offers privacy-focused AI tools through distributed networks. These trends position crypto as a cornerstone of global finance, technology, and equity, signaling its evolution beyond speculative trading.



How AI Agents are Disrupting Crypto and Where They're Headed in 2025

In 2024, the intersection of artificial intelligence and crypto has been marked by the rise of AI agents—autonomous, learning-driven programs that dynamically perform tasks. These agents are reshaping finance, gaming, and decentralized platforms, with projects like Virtuals and frameworks such as ELIZA enabling their development. Notable applications include driving memecoins like \$GOAT and innovative ventures such as Terminal of Truths (ToT), the first AI key opinion leader in crypto. The permissionless nature of blockchain supports AI agents by enabling autonomous transactions and fostering rapid innovation. With over 11,000 agents launched this year, platforms like pump.fun and Top Hat are democratizing access to AI agent creation. Looking to 2025, these agents are set to dominate crypto's financial landscape, automate in-game economies, and facilitate dynamic human-agent interactions, signaling a transformative phase for AI and blockchain convergence.



Technology Bridges the Credit Gap in Emerging Economies

James Downer's Guajira Bikes is revolutionizing financial inclusion for Latin America's informal economy by offering e-bikes with remote disabling features, enabling Venezuelan migrants and gig workers to access income opportunities without traditional credit histories. Inspired by PayJoy's fintech model, which uses phone-locking mechanisms as collateral, this innovative approach has already helped over 13 million people across Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia access credit. Studies reveal these financing methods boost customer income, empower women entrepreneurs, and support informal workers by facilitating access to mobile banking, digital services, and gig jobs. As technology-driven lending expands to appliances and productive assets, companies like PayJoy are bridging gaps in emerging markets, paving the way for broader financial inclusion and economic growth.

Our platform

- **1. Co-Founding Programs**

Shape the future of finance by joining our Co-Founding Programs. We're looking for visionary partners who are ready to bring innovative ideas to life. As a co-founder, you'll collaborate closely with us, sharing in both the challenges and rewards of building something great. Whether you have a groundbreaking concept or are looking for a strategic partner, our Co-Founding Programs offer the support and resources you need to succeed. Let's create something extraordinary together!



- **2. As a Signal Provider**

Turn your trading expertise into profit by becoming a Signal Provider with us. Share your trading signals with a broad audience, gain visibility, and earn competitive rewards. Whether you focus on forex, stocks, or crypto, our platform offers the perfect environment to showcase your skills. Join our Signal Provider program today and start making an impact!



- **3. Platform Joint Venture**

Take your business to the next level by partnering with us through a Platform Joint Venture. Whether you're developing financial technology or a new market solution, our platform provides the resources and network needed for growth. Together, we'll create innovative products and expand your reach in the financial world. Let's collaborate on a joint venture today!



- **4. As a Manager**

Take the lead and drive success by joining our team as a Manager. We're looking for experienced professionals to oversee operations, guide teams, and execute high-impact strategies. As a Manager, you'll be instrumental in shaping our growth and ensuring smooth performance across projects. Ready to take on a leadership role? Apply now and make a difference!



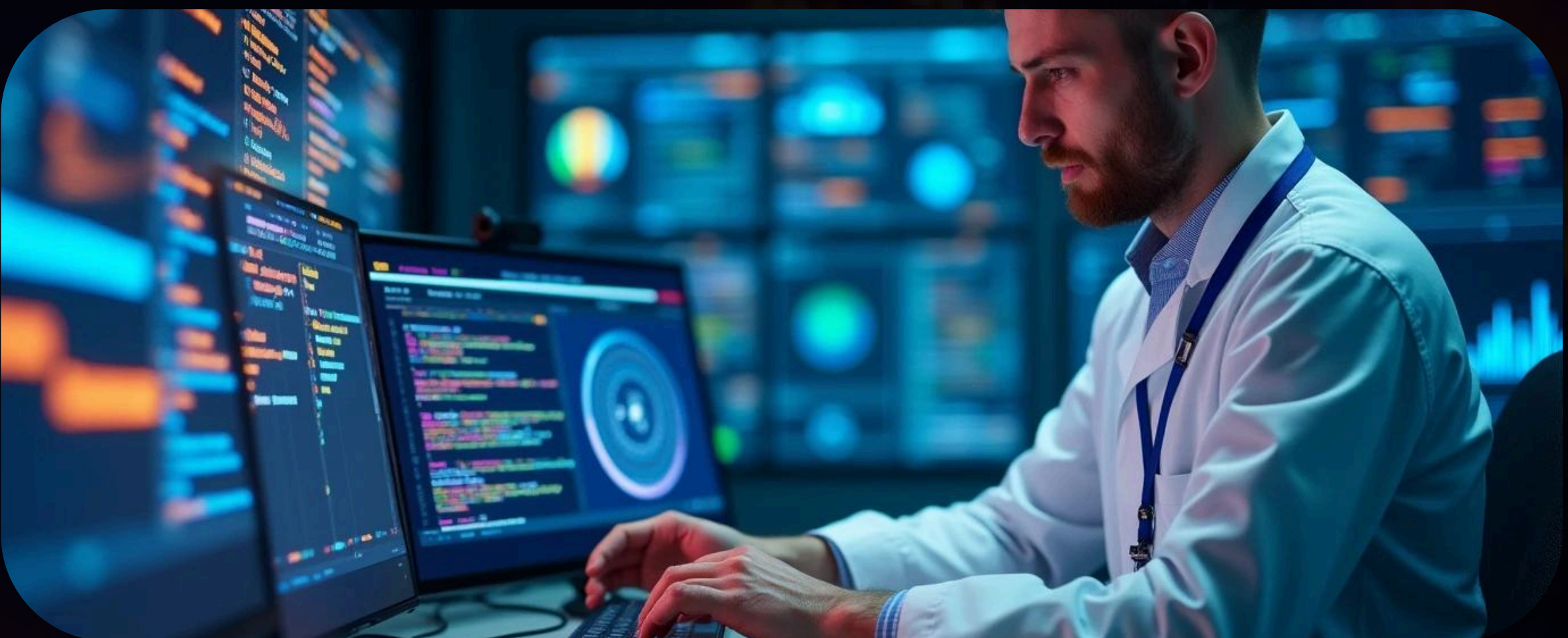
- **5. Investors Plan**

Achieve your financial goals with our Investors Plan. Tailored to your risk tolerance and objectives, this plan provides you with expert guidance and diversified investment opportunities. Whether you're a seasoned investor or just starting out, our Investors Plan helps you grow your wealth securely and strategically. Start planning your financial future today!



- **6. As an AI/Software Expert**

Are you a tech-savvy professional with expertise in AI and software development? Join us as an AI/Software Expert, where you'll work on groundbreaking projects that blend finance and technology. Bring your skills to the forefront, contribute to innovative solutions, and help revolutionize the trading industry. Apply now and be part of the future of finance!



- **7. As a Strategist**

Share your market expertise by joining us as a Strategist. We're seeking professionals who can develop and implement high-performing trading strategies. As a Strategist, you'll collaborate with our team to optimize trading performance and contribute to client success. If you're passionate about finance and strategy, we want you on our team!



- **8. Organizational Deals**

Leverage exclusive opportunities with our Organizational Deals, designed for institutions and large businesses. We offer tailored financial solutions, including investment packages and trading strategies that cater specifically to your organizational needs. Partner with us to boost your company's financial performance and reach new heights. Explore our Organizational Deals today!



Fuel your passion, ignite your purpose—join us now!

Trusted Platform



MetaTrader 5

- **1. MetaTrader**

MetaTrader, developed by MetaQuotes, is a leading trading platform offering real-time access to Forex, commodities, and other markets. Known for its user-friendly interface and robust tools, it supports both manual and automated trading through Expert Advisors, catering to traders of all experience levels.

TradingView

- **2. TradingView**

TradingView is a powerful charting platform and social network for traders, providing real-time data, advanced charting tools, and a collaborative environment. Its intuitive interface and ability to integrate with brokers make it a favorite among both retail and professional traders.



cTRADER
TRADERS FIRST

- **3. cTrader**

cTrader is a professional trading platform known for its fast execution speeds and advanced charting tools. Designed for both novice and experienced traders, it supports automated trading through cAlgo and offers transparency with Level II pricing and market depth views

The logo for Axi, featuring the word "axi" in a bold, lowercase, red sans-serif font.

- **4. Axi Financial Services**

Axi, formerly AxiTrader, is a global Forex and CFD broker offering competitive spreads and fast execution. With access to over 140 trading instruments and a focus on customer support and education, Axi caters to traders of all levels through its reliable MetaTrader 4 platform.

The logo for Pepperstone, featuring a blue shield-like shape with a white letter 'P' inside, followed by the word "pepperstone" in a bold, lowercase, black sans-serif font.

- **5. Pepperstone**

Pepperstone is a leading online broker known for its low-cost trading, fast execution, and access to a wide range of markets, including Forex, indices, and commodities. Supporting MetaTrader and cTrader, Pepperstone offers a robust trading experience for both retail and institutional clients.

The logo for Robinhood, featuring the word "Robinhood" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by a black silhouette of a quill pen.

- **6. Robinhood Broker**

Robinhood is a commission-free trading platform that democratizes finance, making investing accessible to everyone. With a user-friendly app, Robinhood offers trading in stocks, ETFs, options, and cryptocurrencies, attracting millions of users with its no-fee structure.

MultiBank Group

EST. 2005

- **7. MultiBank Group**

MultiBank Group is a major financial derivatives provider offering trading in Forex, metals, shares, and cryptocurrencies. Known for its competitive pricing and regulatory oversight, MultiBank provides a secure trading environment with advanced platforms like MetaTrader 4 and 5.

IG

- **8. IG Broker**

IG is a global leader in online trading, offering access to over 17,000 markets, including Forex, indices, and commodities. With innovative trading platforms, comprehensive educational resources, and strong regulatory backing, IG caters to both retail and institutional traders.

FOREX.com

- **9. Forex.com Broker**

Forex.com, part of GAIN Capital, is a top Forex and CFD broker providing access to a wide range of markets with competitive spreads. It offers advanced trading platforms like WebTrader and MetaTrader, supported by comprehensive educational tools and dedicated customer service.



- **10. FXCM Broker**

FXCM is a trusted online Forex and CFD trading platform known for its transparency and innovation. Offering multiple platforms like Trading Station and MetaTrader, FXCM provides access to various markets, fast execution, and extensive educational resources for traders.



- **11. XM Global**

XM Global is a reputable Forex and CFD broker offering access to a broad range of trading instruments. Known for competitive spreads and a no-requote policy, XM supports MetaTrader 4 and 5 platforms and provides extensive educational resources and customer support.



- **12. FP Markets Broker**

FP Markets is an established Forex and CFD broker providing access to over 10,000 instruments. With competitive pricing, fast execution, and support for MetaTrader 4, 5, and IRESS platforms, FP Markets caters to both retail and institutional traders worldwide.



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