Market View

Economics and Strategy



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The Twelve Seven Days Pre-Cashflow

By Warren Lovely

^a On the seventh day pre-cashflow, NBC reminded me... ^a

^a T-7) Sectors ad-justing ^a

We continue with 'The Twelve Days Pre-Cashflow'. Our immediately preceding stanza (delivered yesterday on what was T-8 weekdays to the start of December) was: <u>Buckets re-weighting</u>. That brings us to T-7 and with it a fresh verse: <u>Sectors ad-justing</u>.

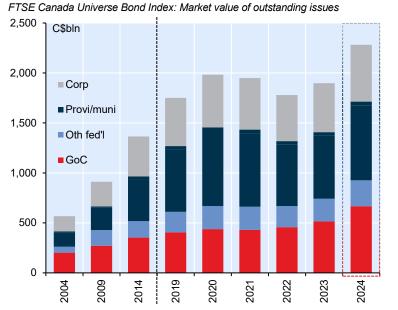
The unprecedented cashflows that will arrive this December reflect a larger pool of index-eligible securities, particularly when you control for BoC Quantitative Tightening (or the passive run-off of maturing bonds from the central bank's balance sheet). This QT process effectively puts more GoC bonds into the hands of end investors. In some respects, you can think of this as the delayed arrival and absorption of some of Ottawa's peak-COVID borrowing binge.

Beyond QT, ongoing federal deficits and non-budgetary cash needs (including for the partial consolidation of CMB supply among other things) further contribute to the growth in the federal debt stock.

Whatever the reason, as the available stock of GoC bonds has accumulated, the sovereign's relative weight in the domestic bond universe has increased. All else equal, that enhances the relative significance of prospective GoC bond roll/coupon effects for investors.

You can consider this a structural or broader strategic shift in the composition of Canada's domestic bond market. But as most surely appreciate, there are shorter-term and/or tactical considerations for December 2nd too.

Chart T-7(a): Larger index-eligible bond stock



As we explored yesterday, the rolling over of specific bonds from one bucket to another (i.e., 'Mid' to 'Short' and/or 'Long' to 'Mid') will drive notable adjustments in relative bucket and sector weightings.

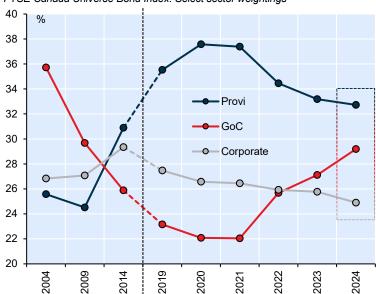
With five Dec-2034 federal, provincial and municipal government securities set to roll down on the 2nd, the share of the index in the 'Long' bucket will drop. For the 'Long' end, it's duration (way) up but weighting (notably) down.

From a sector perspective, the total public sector (or 'government') weight within the 'Long' sleeve of the index will drop on December 2nd, presumably to be rebuilt as fresh longer-dated government supply is brought to market. On the flip side, the corporate share of the 'Long' bucket—never particularly heavy—will edge up a bit on December 2nd. Aside: Based on current holdings, roughly one-quarter of index-eligible corporate debt resides in the 'Long' bucket. By comparison, the relative share of index-eligible provincial bonds classified as 'Long' is one-half.

Having spent time dissecting the nature and scope of looming index adjustments, it's appropriate to shift the focus to the traditional market reaction(s) to December cashflows/duration adjustments. Our earlier reporting outlined a variety of empirical findings, highlighting underlying tendencies in rates and credit markets alike. As something of a reminder, we'll quickly reiterate select findings starting tomorrow, or T-6, with: *Yields a-falling*.

Chart T-7(b): GoC's weight in index has moved up

FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index: Select sector weightings



Source: NBC, FTSE Russell | Note to both charts: Based on FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index composition as at 18-Oct each period



NBC's 'The Twelve Days Pre-Cashflow' (2024 edition)

T-12) Coupons a-clipping (released November 14th)

T-11) Cash con-centrating (released November 15th)

See link

T-10) Bonds a-rolling (released November 18th)

See link

<u>T-9) Indices ex-tending</u> (released November 19th)

T-8) Buckets re-weighting (released November 20th) See link

T-7) Sectors ad-justing (released November 21st)

New today

T-6) Yields a-falling (coming November 22nd)

T-5) Curves a-flattening (coming November 25th)

T-4) Diffs com-pressing (coming November 26th)

T-3) Spreads a-tightening (coming November 27th)

T-2) Issuers a-waiting (coming November 28th)

T-1) One golden rule (coming November 29th)

Other Dec-24 cashflow-related reports:

December cashflows come into view: Part A (released October 22nd)

December cashflows come into view: Part B (released October 28th)

December cashflows come into view: Part C (released November 4th)



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