

Equities

NORTH AMERICA



In a nutshell

- Details in 1Q reveal a subdued economy and outlook with growing downside risks
- The BoC is on hold for the foreseeable future and the CAD is likely to weaken through end-17
- A defensive and foreign revenue stock strategy is likely to outperform
- Inventory building drove 90% of real GDP growth
- Residential investment grew at its fastest pace of 2009 and reached a new all-time high as a share of GDP
- Much of this came from ownership transfer costs, which is now even more stretched in Canada than it was in the US at its peak in 3Q05
- There is no evidence of a sound reorientation of growth
- Fixed business investment and nonenergy exports remain subdued

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Canada Strategy

Headline mirage and details of despair

- Consensus is likely to celebrate the headline strength in Canada's annualized 1Q growth (3.7%, cons. 4.2%, Macq. 3.3%). In contrast, we believe underlying details reveal a subdued economy and outlook with growing downside risks.

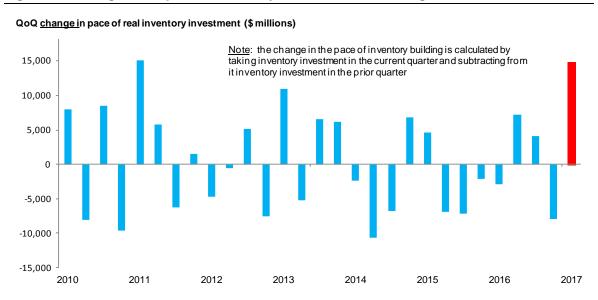
Inventories, housing, autos all headwinds moving forward

- Inventory building drives growth. Approximately 90% of the increase in real GDP in 1Q was driven by a change in the pace of inventory building. This added ~\$15 billion to real GDP growth, its largest contribution since 1Q11 (Fig 1). While a boost to growth in 1Q, this creates headwinds for growth in the quarters ahead.
- Residential investment reaches new all-time high. On the heels of strong housing related activity this rose to 7.9%, exceeding its long-run average by more than 2 percentage points for the first time (Fig 2). The annualized pace of increase was ~25% nominal and 15% real, both the strongest pace of increases since late 2009. The potential downside is significant. Headwinds are mounting for this area from i) the CMHC macroprudential measures announced in Oct-16 (that have typically impacted the market with a 6-9 month lag), ii) Ontario's rent control and foreign buyers tax (announced in April), and iii) a potential pullback in private lending that may spillover because of concerns on Home Capital Group.
- Ownership transfer costs moves parabolic. All components of residential investment activity (new construction, renovation, ownership transfer costs) showed strong gains, but by far and away the most significant contribution came from ownership transfer costs which soared at a growth of 50% annualized (nominal basis) and 25% annualized (real basis). This unbelievably strong gain has pushed this measure to ~1.8% of GDP (Fig 3), more than three standard deviations above its long-run average. This makes this measure even more stretched in Canada now than it was in the US at its peak in 3Q05 (Fig 4).
- Autos spending. Real consumer spending on autos grew at an annualized pace
 of close to 10%, 2.5X the pace of other spending categories. This has made autos
 even more stretched relative to GDP (Fig 5) and continues an unsustainable trend
 from the past five years (Fig 6).

Little to no evidence of a sound reorientation of growth

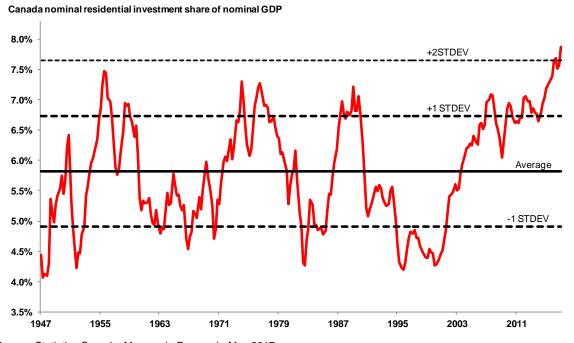
• There continues to be negligible evidence of a turnaround in both fixed business investment and exports. Business investment ticked higher, but is still well below levels of even in 3Q16 (Fig 7). As a share of GDP it reached a new multi-decade low (Fig 8). Non-energy export volumes have fallen over the past 12 months, sending a troubling signal (Fig 9). Indeed for 15+ years these have shown negligible growth and have been particularly weak excluding the services sector, which represents just 20% of the non-energy total (Fig 10).

Fig 1 The change in the pace of inventory investment was the highest since 2Q11



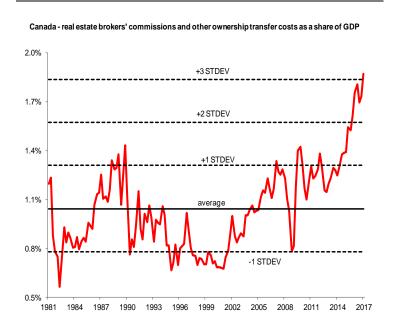
Source: Statistics Canada, Macquarie Research, May 2017

Fig 2 Residential investment as a share of GDP reached a new all-time high



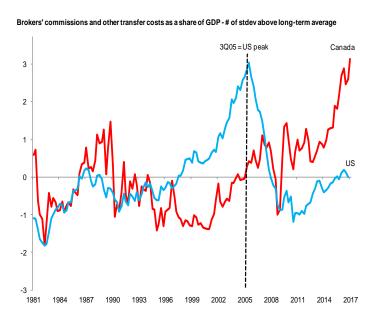
Source: Statistics Canada, Macquarie Research, May 2017

Fig 3 Ownership transfer costs reveal just how stretched Canadian housing has become ...



Source: Statistics Canada, Macquarie Research, May 2017

Fig 4 ... even moreso than it was in the US at the peak in late 2005



Source: Statistics Canada, Macquarie Research, May 2017

Fig 5 Autos spending is also stretched, creating further downside risks to growth

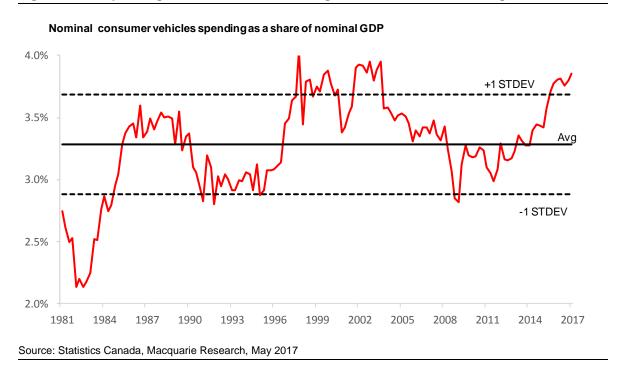


Fig 6 Autos spending has soared relative to other spending for the past five years

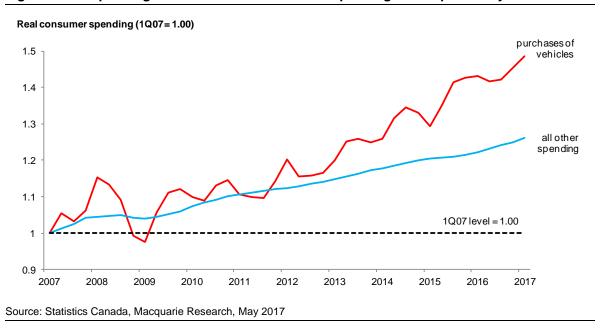


Fig 7 Fixed business investment modestly improved, but remains subdued

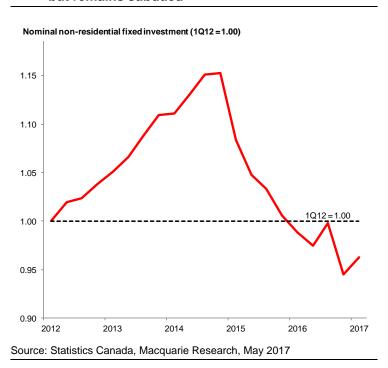
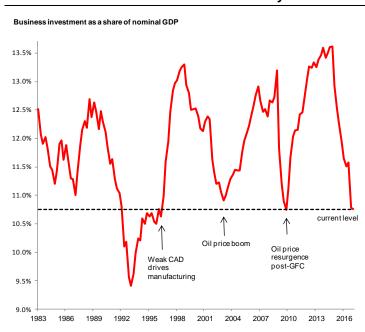


Fig 8 ...as a share of GDP business investment is at multi-decade lows but with no catalyst ahead



Source: Statistics Canada, Macquarie Research, May 2017

Fig 9 Non-energy export volumes continue to send a troubling message

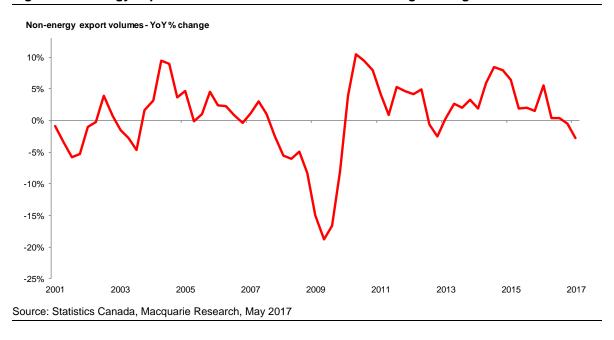
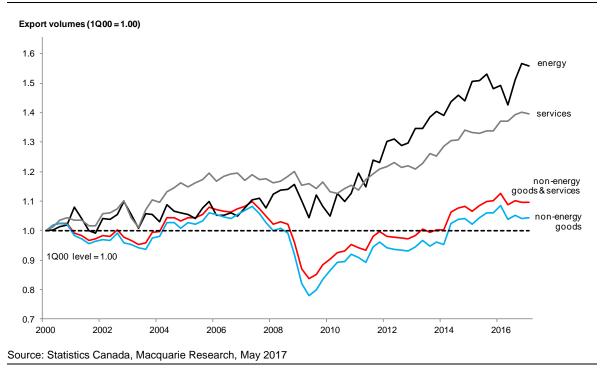


Fig 10 Export volumes remain subdued outside of energy and services



Important disclosures:

Recommendation definitions

Macquarie - Australia/New Zealand

Outperform – return >3% in excess of benchmark return Neutral - return within 3% of benchmark return Underperform – return >3% below benchmark return

Benchmark return is determined by long term nominal GDP growth plus 12 month forward market dividend yield

Macquarie - Asia/Europe

Outperform - expected return >+10% Neutral – expected return from -10% to +10% Underperform – expected return <-10%

Macquarie - South Africa

Outperform - expected return >+10% Neutral – expected return from -10% to +10% Underperform – expected return <-10%

Macquarie - Canada

Outperform – return >5% in excess of benchmark return Neutral - return within 5% of benchmark return Underperform – return >5% below benchmark return

Macquarie - USA

Outperform (Buy) - return >5% in excess of Russell 3000 index return

Neutral (Hold) - return within 5% of Russell 3000 index

Underperform (Sell)- return >5% below Russell 3000 index return

Volatility index definition*

This is calculated from the volatility of historical price movements

Very high-highest risk - Stock should be expected to move up or down 60-100% in a year - investors should be aware this stock is highly speculative.

High – stock should be expected to move up or down at least 40-60% in a year - investors should be aware this stock could be speculative.

Medium - stock should be expected to move up or down at least 30-40% in a year.

Low-medium - stock should be expected to move up or down at least 25-30% in a year.

Low - stock should be expected to move up or down at least 15-25% in a year.

* Applicable to Asia/Australian/NZ/Canada stocks

Recommendations - 12 months

Note: Quant recommendations may differ from Fundamental Analyst recommendations

Financial definitions

All "Adjusted" data items have had the following adjustments made:

Added back: goodwill amortisation, provision for catastrophe reserves, IFRS derivatives & hedging, IFRS impairments & IFRS interest expense Excluded: non recurring items, asset revals, property

revals, appraisal value uplift, preference dividends & minority interests

EPS = adjusted net profit / efpowa*

ROA = adjusted ebit / average total assets

ROA Banks/Insurance = adjusted net profit /average total assets

ROE = adjusted net profit / average shareholders funds **Gross cashflow** = adjusted net profit + depreciation *equivalent fully paid ordinary weighted average number

All Reported numbers for Australian/NZ listed stocks are modelled under IFRS (International Financial Reporting

Recommendation proportions - For quarter ending 31 March 2017

	AU/NZ	Asia	RSA	USA	CA	EUR	
Outperform	47.26%	55.50%	38.46%	45.47%	59.09%	48.21%	(for global coverage by Macquarie, 8.20% of stocks followed are investment banking clients)
Neutral	38.01%	29.31%	42.86%	48.77%	37.88%	36.79%	(for global coverage by Macquarie, 8.25% of stocks followed are investment banking clients)
Underperform	14.73%	15.19%	18.68%	5.76%	3.03%	15.00%	(for global coverage by Macquarie, 8.00% of stocks followed are investment banking clients)

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