



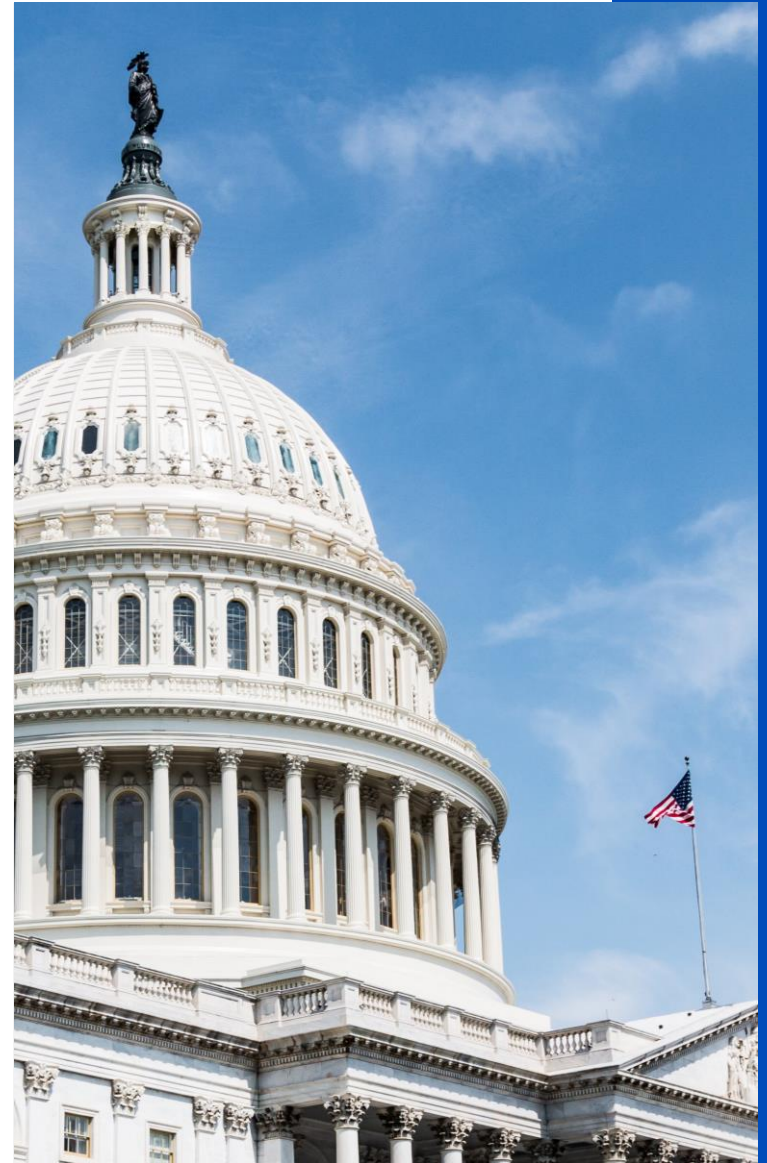
Pickering Energy Partners

We're inside energy.

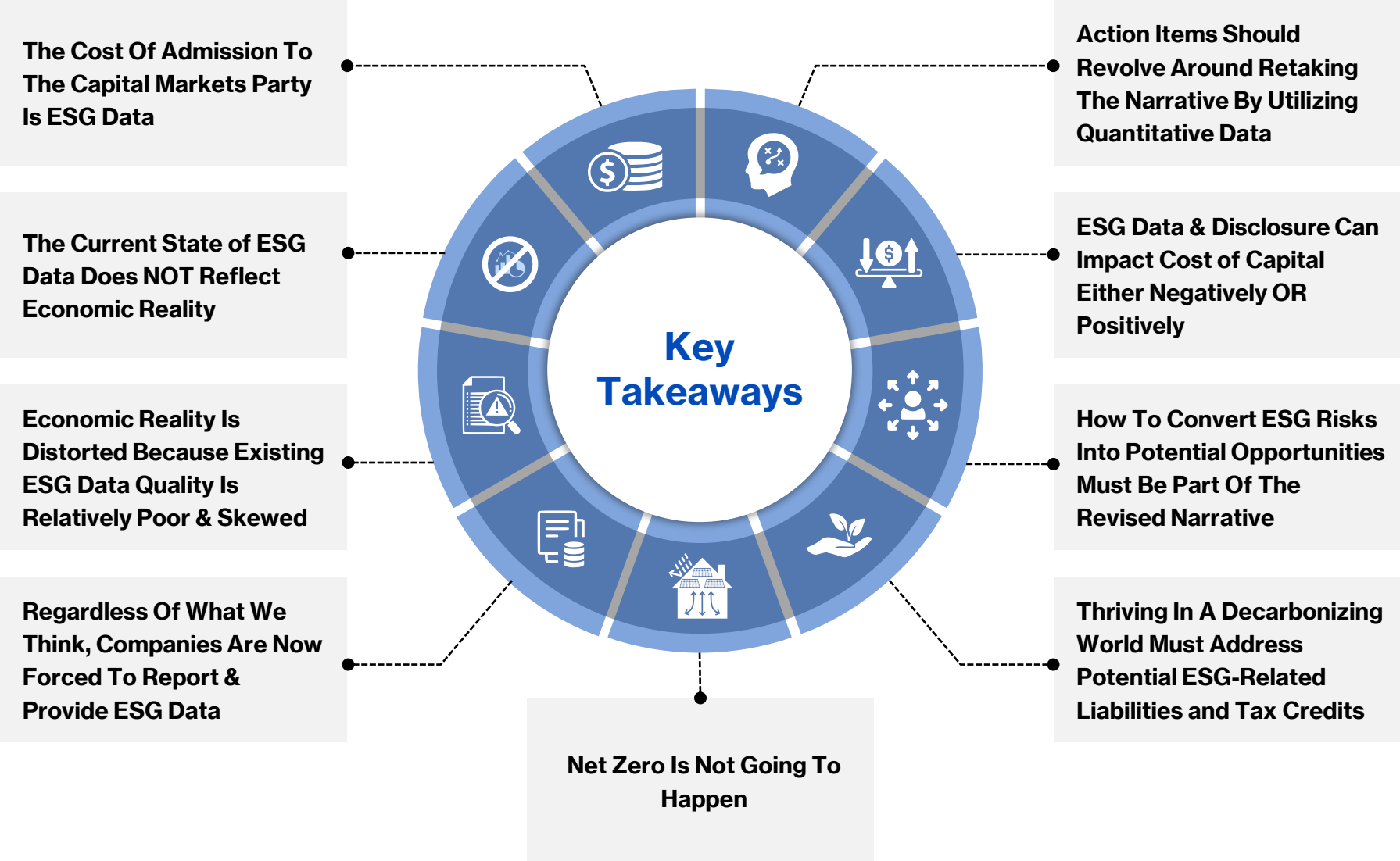
How The Energy Space Can Thrive
in a Post-ESG World

Dan Romito, Consulting Partner

March 2023



Executive Summary / Key Takeaways



The Cost Of Admission To The Capital Markets Party Is ESG Data



Volume, Variety, Veracity and Velocity

Every minute



357
computers sold



2833
smart phones sold



63
websites hacked

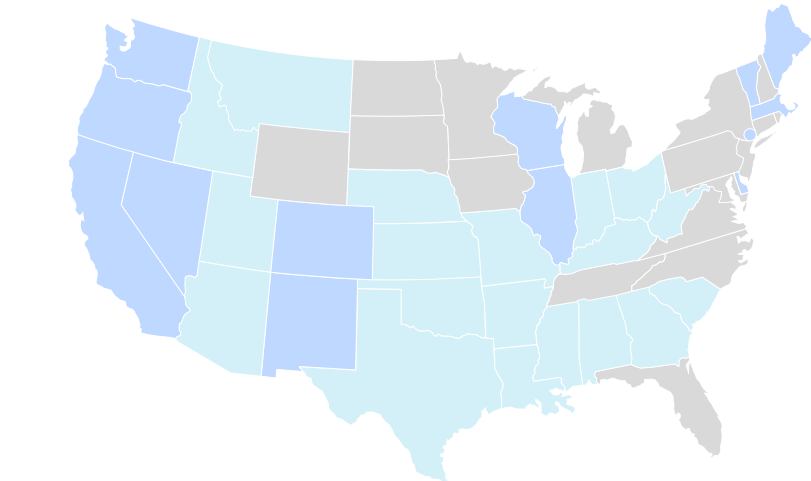
2.5 quintillion bytes of data is created daily

NYSE captures 1 terabyte of information per day

Critical To Separate Demand For Data From Anti-ESG Sentiment

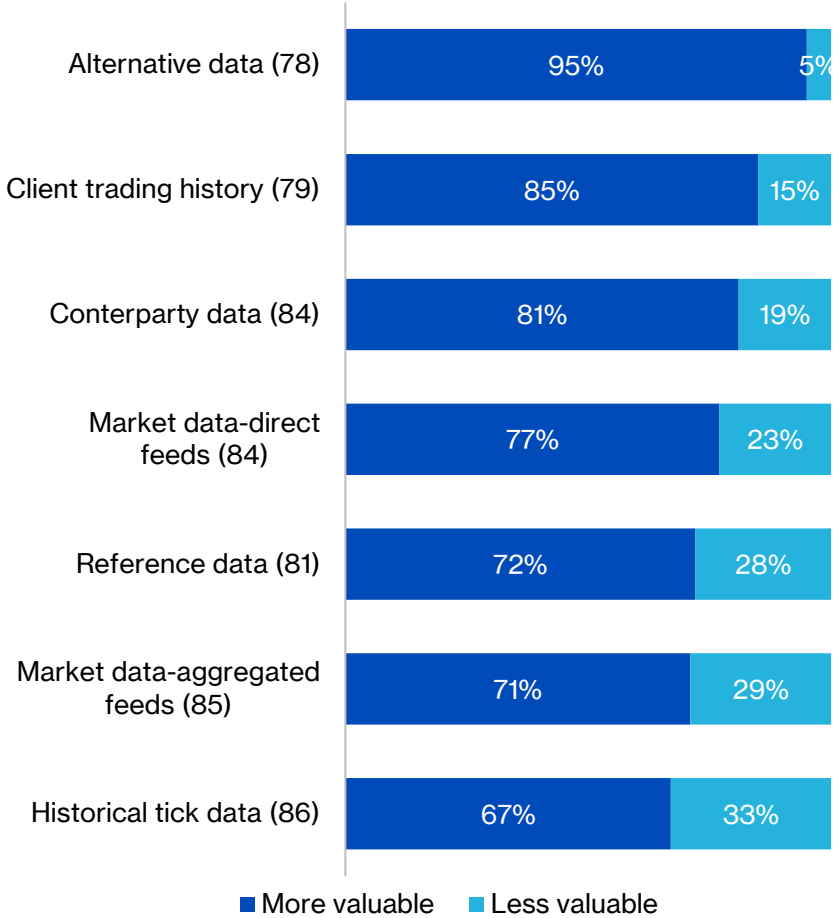


State Leaders Takes Sides on ESG



■ States Treasurer Signed Pro-ESG Letter¹
 ■ State AG Signed Anti-ESG Letter

Anticipated Value of Data Types to the Trading Process in Next 3-5 Years



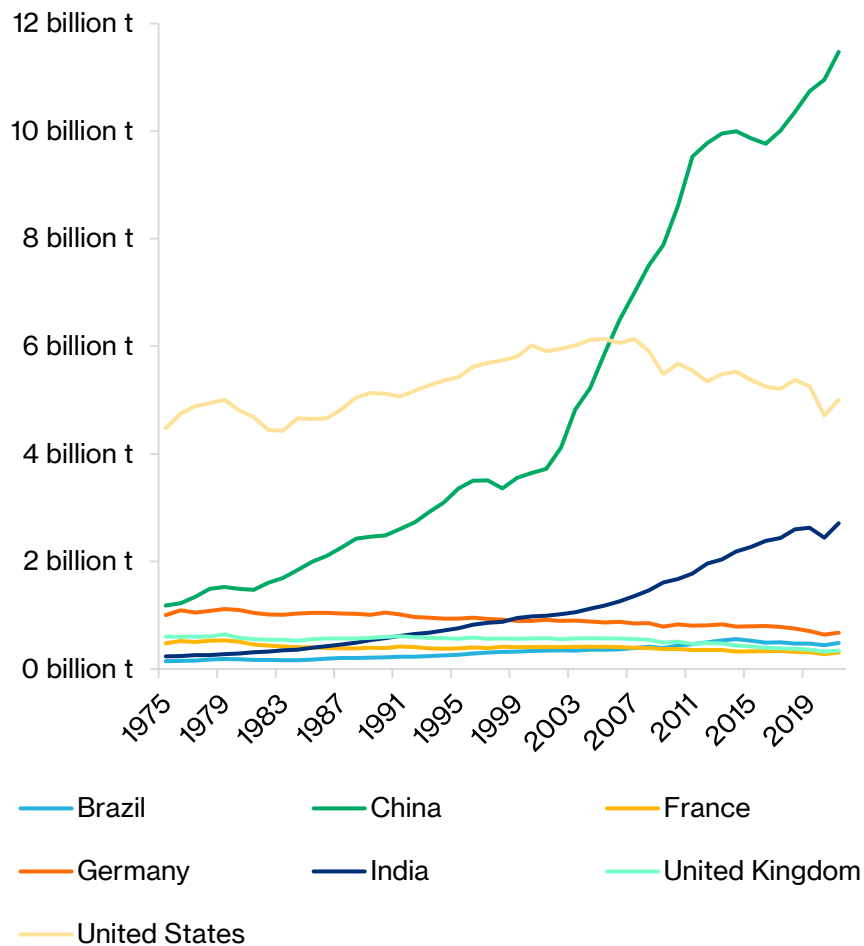
The Current State of the ESG State:

What Does Economic Reality Actually Reflect?

The Trending Emissions Profile For The United States Is Impressive

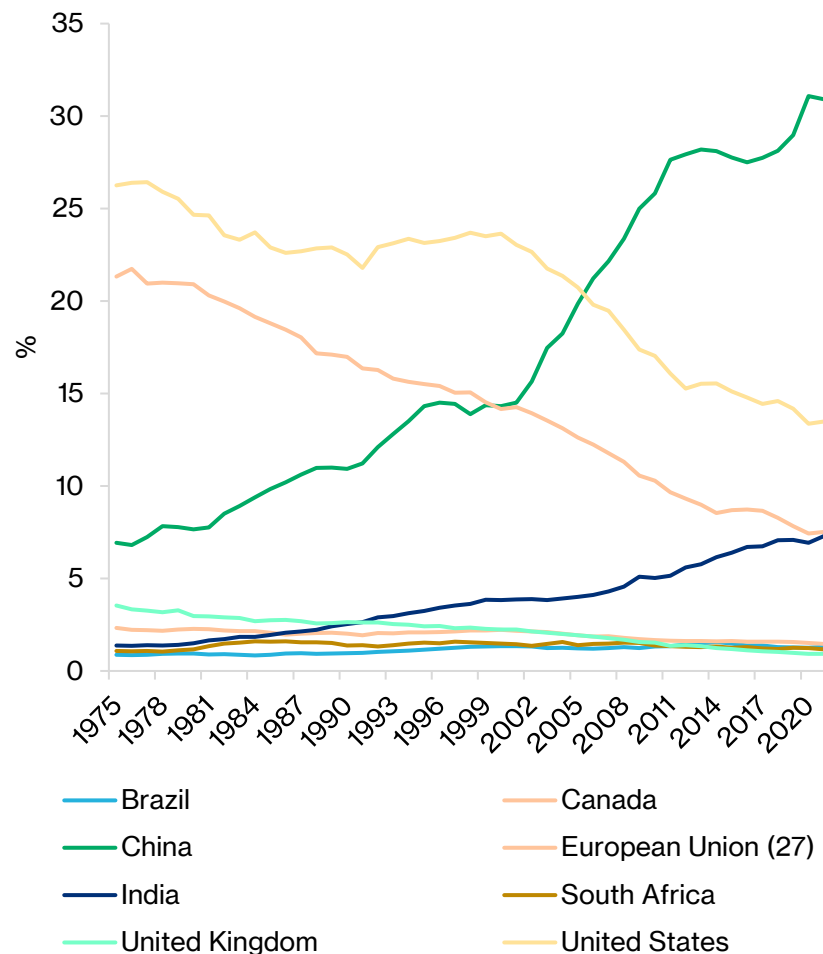
Annual CO₂ emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from fossil fuel and industry. Land use change is not included.



Annual share of global CO₂ emissions

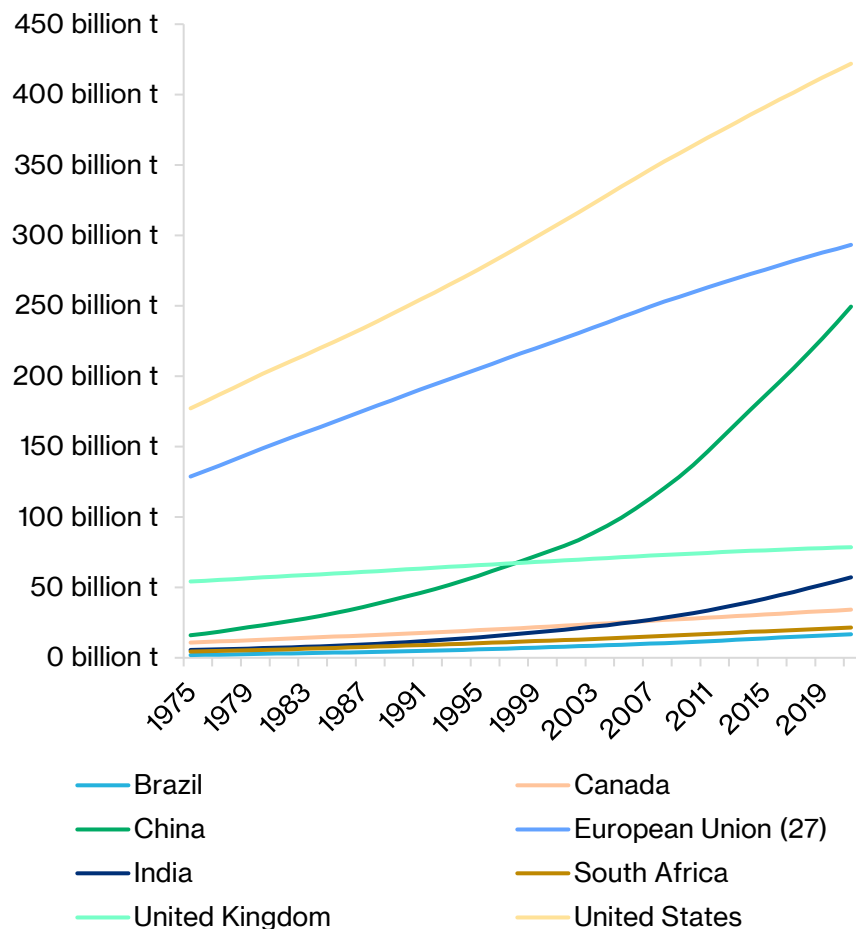
Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from fossil fuels and industry. Land use change is not included.



Exponential (China) vs. Linear (U.S.) Cumulative Carbon Emissions Profile

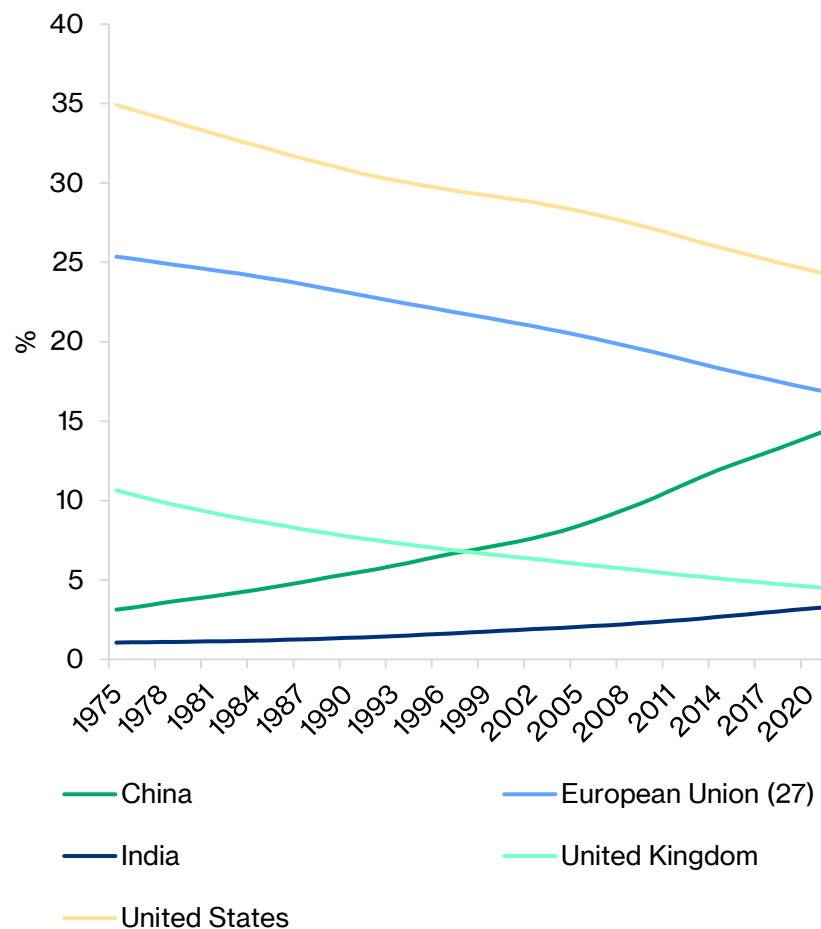
Cumulative CO₂ emissions

Cumulative emissions are the running sum of CO₂ emissions produced from fossil fuels and industry since 1750. Land use change is not included.



Share of global cumulative CO₂ emissions

Cumulative emissions are calculated as the sum of annual emissions from 1750 to a given year. This measures fossil fuel and industry emissions. Land use change is not included.



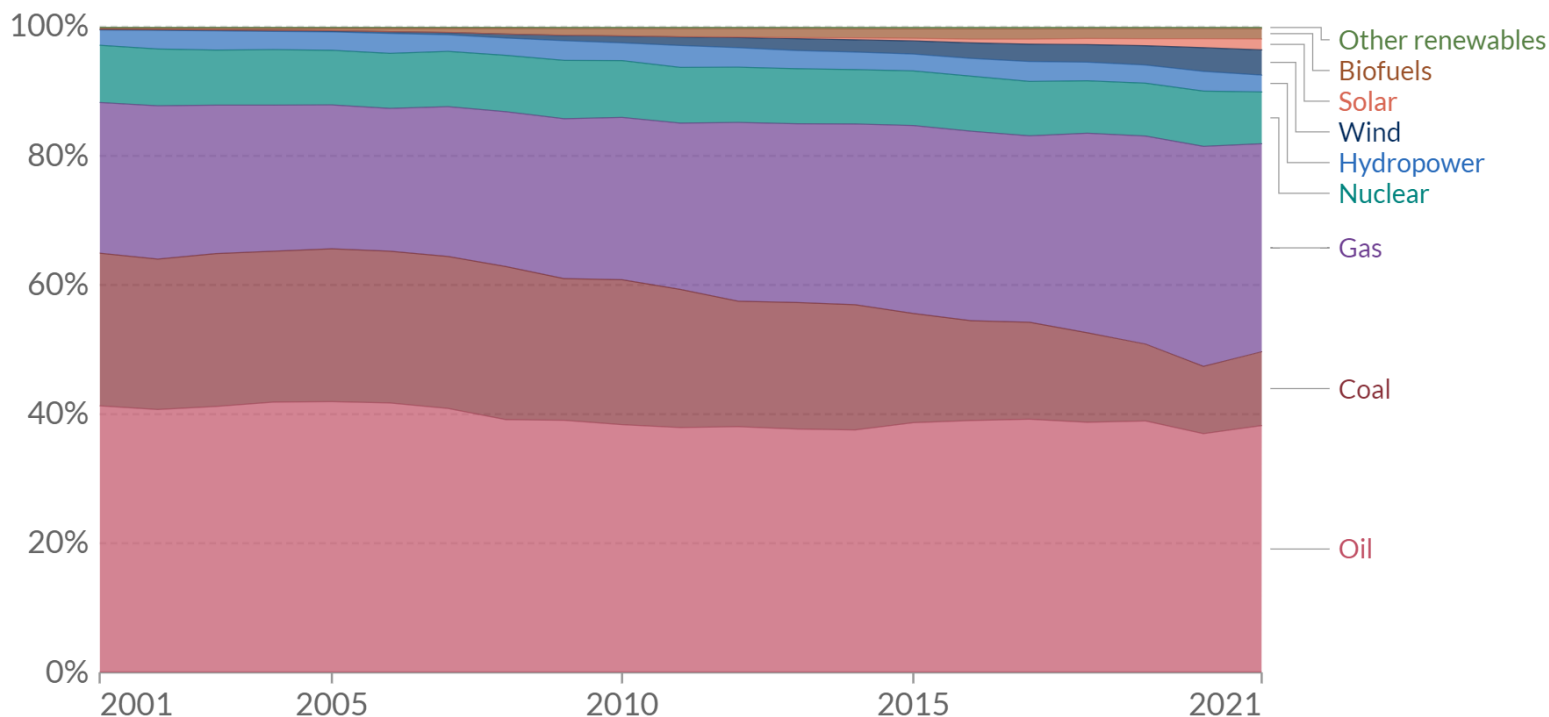
The U.S. Energy Mix is ~82% Oil, Gas & Coal...

Energy consumption by source, United States

Primary energy consumption is measured in terawatt-hours (TWh). Here an inefficiency factor (the 'substitution' method) has been applied for fossil fuels, meaning the shares by each energy source give a better approximation of final energy consumption.



[↔ Change country](#) Relative



Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy
Note: 'Other renewables' includes geothermal, biomass and waste energy.

OurWorldInData.org/energy • CC BY

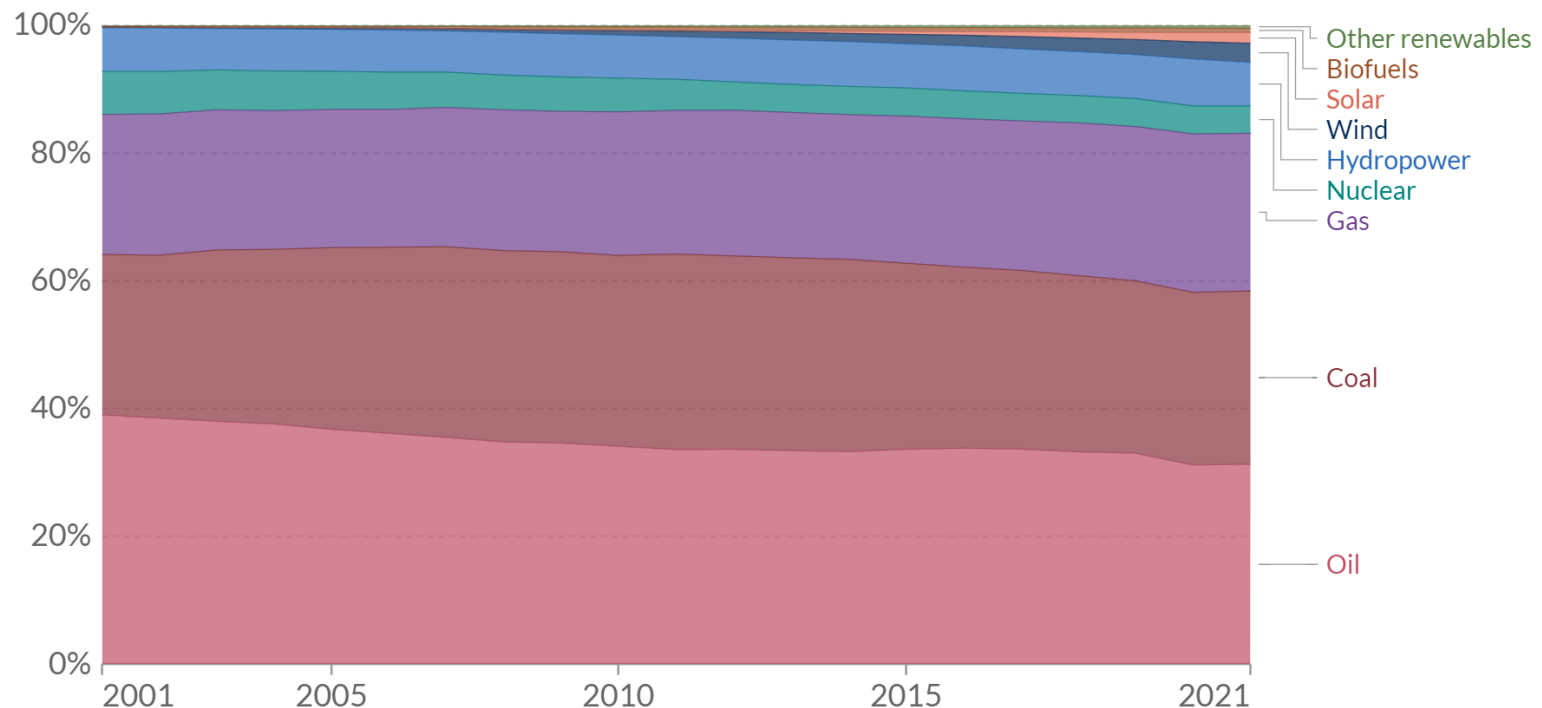
The World's Energy Mix Is ~85% Oil, Gas & Coal...

Energy consumption by source, World



Primary energy consumption is measured in terawatt-hours (TWh). Here an inefficiency factor (the 'substitution' method) has been applied for fossil fuels, meaning the shares by each energy source give a better approximation of final energy consumption.

[↔ Change country](#) Relative

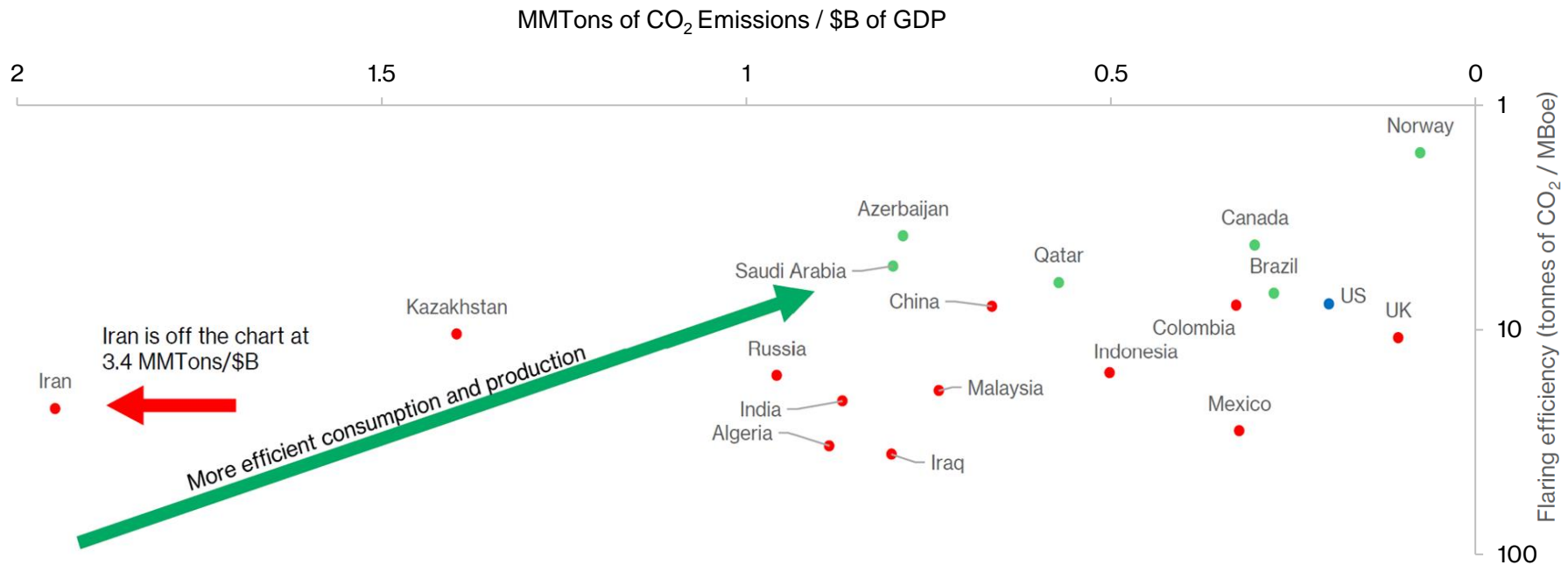


Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy
Note: 'Other renewables' includes geothermal, biomass and waste energy.

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So...Shouldn't The U.S., UK & Norway Run Point On Production?

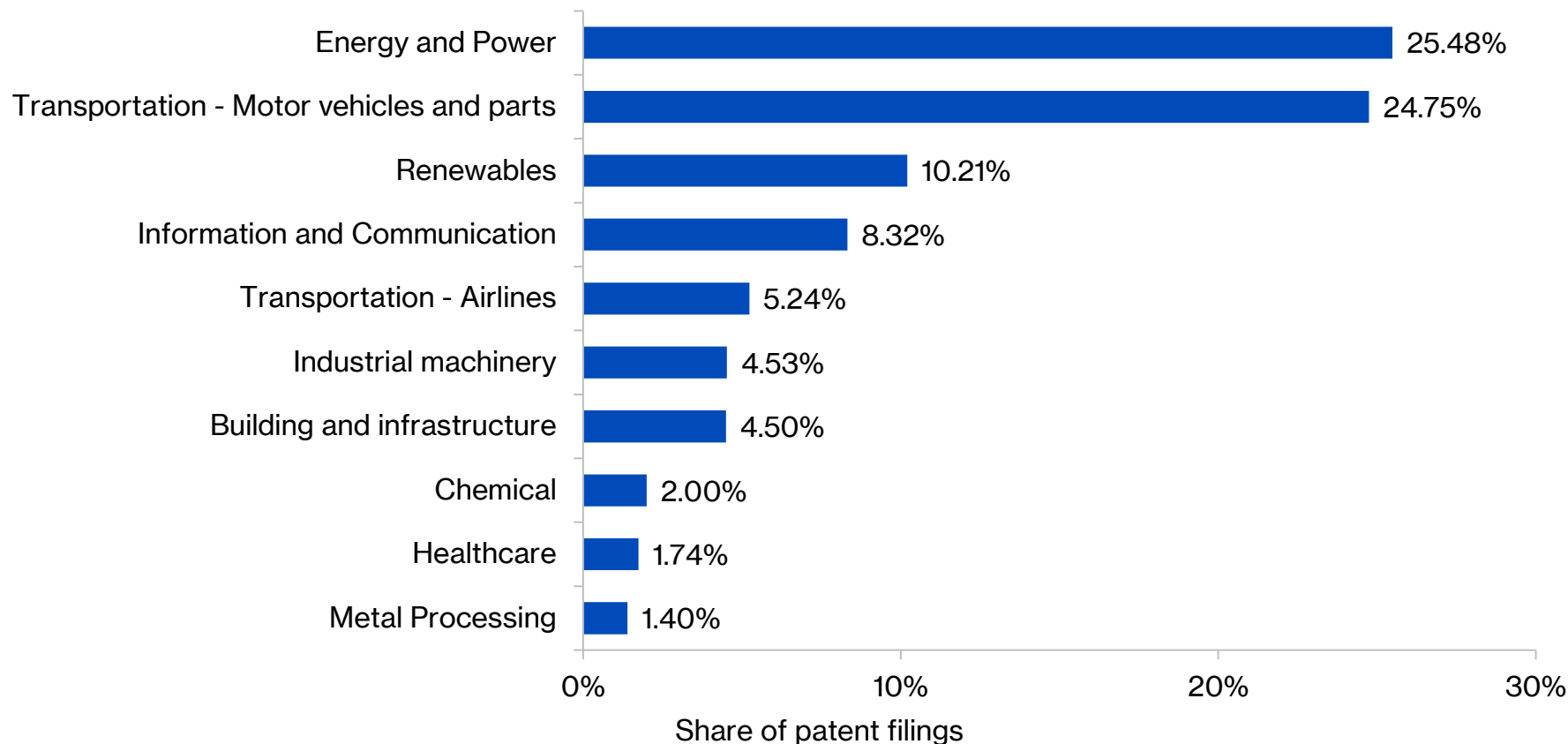
Emissions Relative to GDP vs. Flaring Efficiency



- **We have bellwether nations that should be imitated** – Norway leads the pack as the cleanest producer with the cleanest economy. Canada, Brazil, US, Qatar, Azerbaijan, and Saudi Arabia follow as relatively clean producers with cleaner economies
- **The energy transition can start by cleaning our current energy world** – There is significant progress that other countries can implement today that would dramatically improve the world's carbon footprint.
- Russia and Iran together make up 7% of the world's CO₂ emissions and **26% of the world's CO₂ from flaring**

BTW...Energy & Power Have Created More “Green” Than Renewables

Distribution of green patent filings worldwide as of 2020, by industry

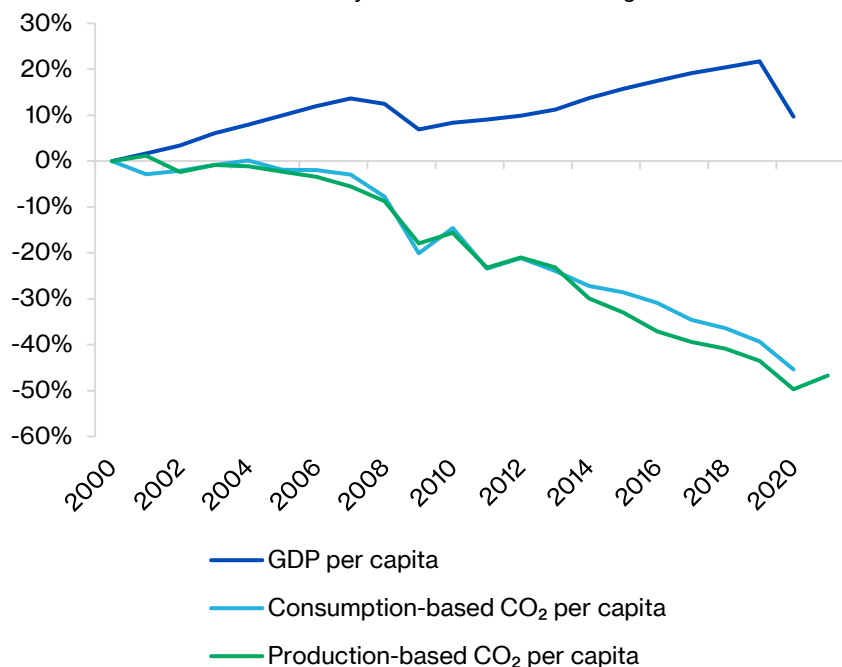


The energy space remains perhaps best positioned in terms of capitalization to execute the transition

The United States Has Also Figured Out How To Decouple

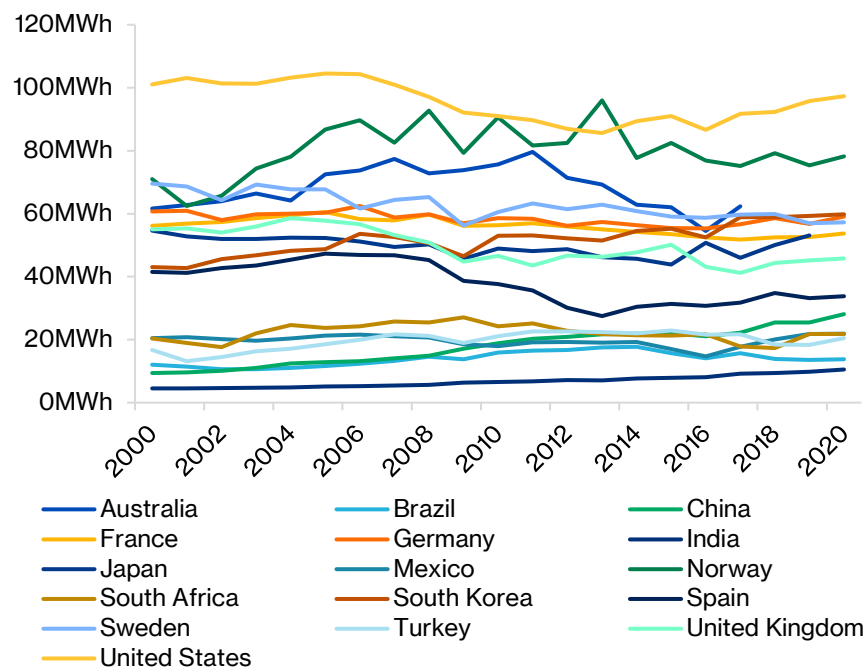
Change in per capita CO2 emissions and GDP, United States

Consumption-based emissions are national emissions that have been adjusted for trade. This measures fossil fuel and industry emissions. Land use change is not included.



Consumption-based (trade-adjusted) energy use per person

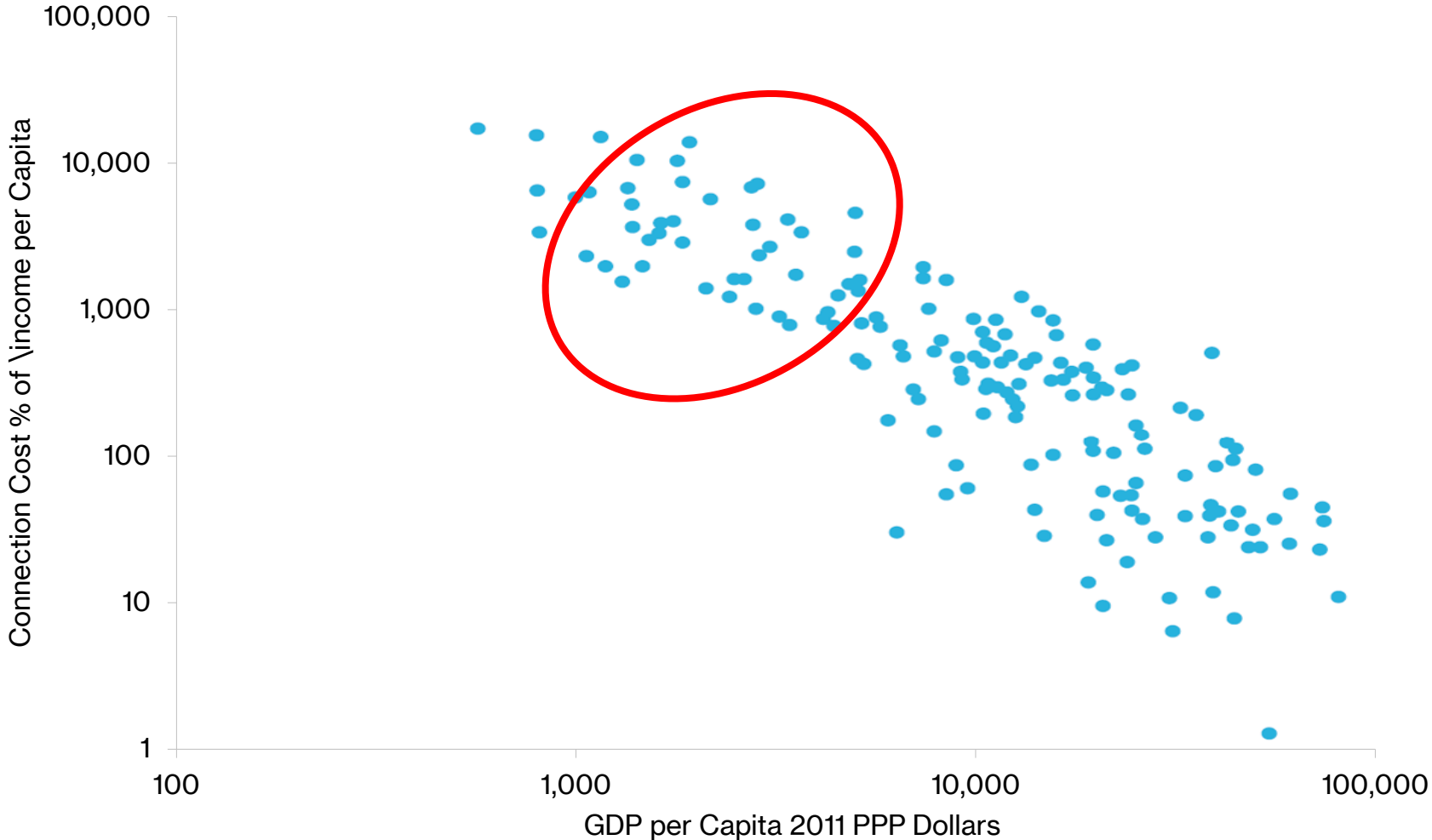
Consumption-based (trade-adjusted) energy use measures domestic energy used to produce exported goods, plus energy used to produce imported goods.



- If we look at changes in GDP since 2000, we see a **large drop in emissions alongside a rise in GDP**.
- It's only over the **last 20 years** that this decoupling has started to happen
- There are two key reasons why emissions have fallen in these countries.
 - The US has managed to decouple energy use and economic growth, i.e., GDP has increased while total energy use has remained flat, or even fallen
 - These countries are complementing fossil fuels with low-carbon energy

Energy Costs Decrease As GDP per Capita Increase

Relationship Between Energy Cost and Per Capita GDP⁽²⁾

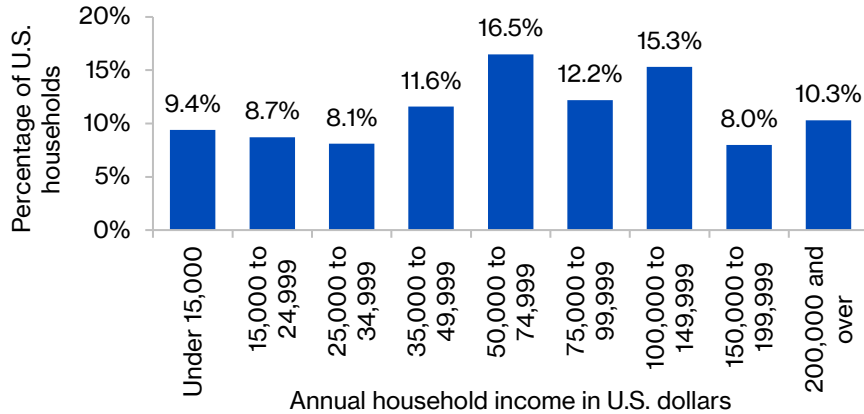


1. Source: *ibid*

2. Source: Stern, D.I, Burke, P.J, & Bruns, S.B. (2019). *The Impact of Electricity on Economic Development: A Macroeconomic Perspective*, UC Berkeley: Center for Effective, Global Action. Retrieved from <http://scholarship.org/uc/ite/7jb0015q>

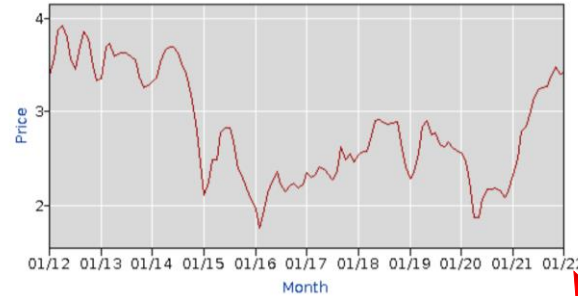
The Common Citizen Is Currently Plagued By Affordability Constraints...

Percentage distribution of household income in the U.S. in 2020



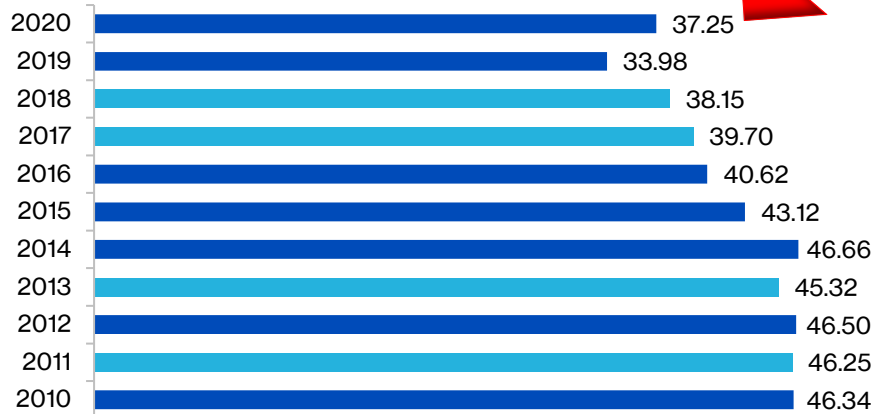
CPI Average Price Data, U.S. city average (AP)

Series Id: APU000074714
 Series Title: Gasoline, unleaded regular, per gallon/3.785 liters in U.S. city average, average price, not seasonally adjusted
 Area: U.S. city average
 Item: Gasoline, unleaded regular, per gallon/3.785 liters



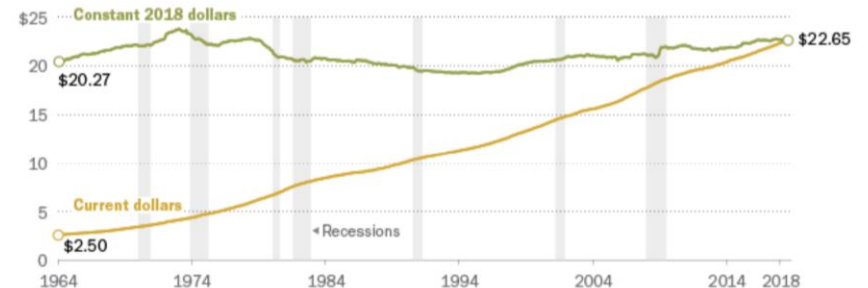
Number of people living below the poverty line in the United States from 1990 to 2020

(in millions)



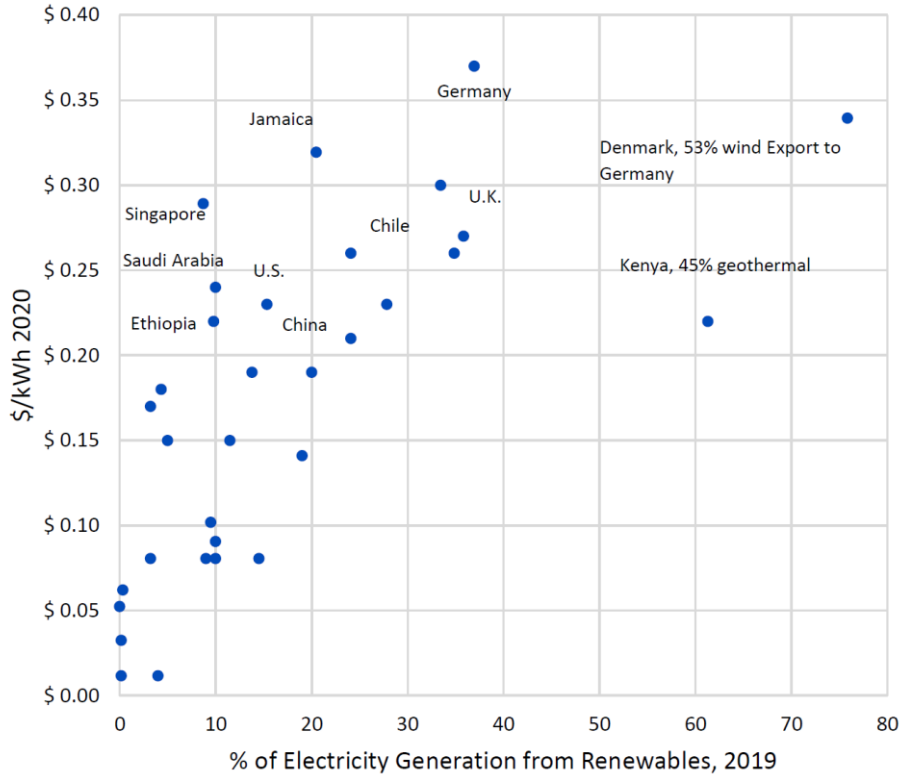
American's paychecks are bigger than 40 years ago, but their purchasing power has hardly budged

Average hourly wages in the U.S., seasonally adjusted

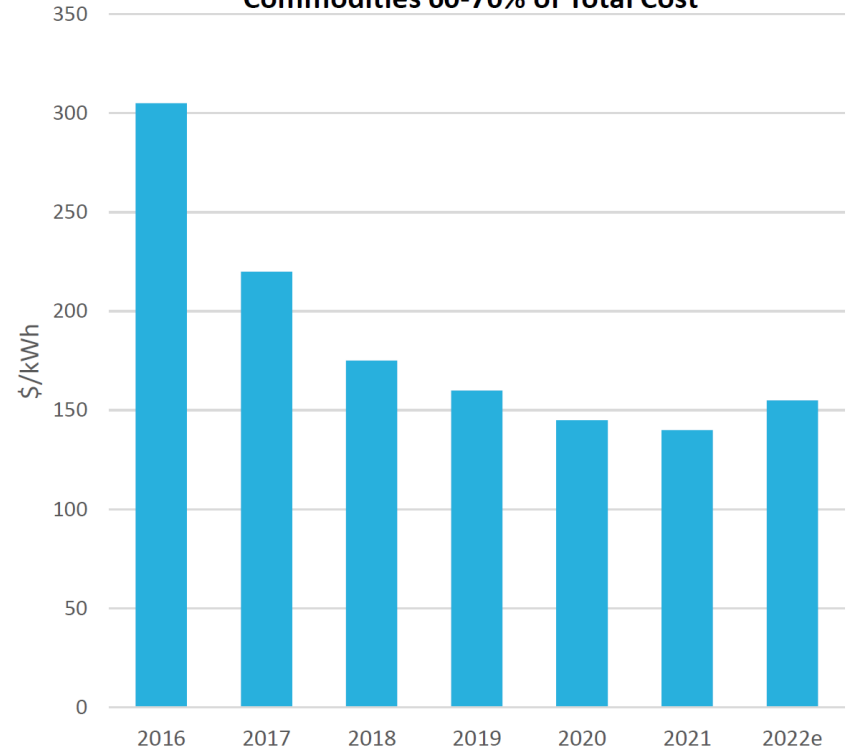


...And Inflation Is Endemic To The Energy Transition

Electricity Prices Correlated with Renewable Penetration



Battery Cost Inflation Driven by Raw Materials Commodities 60-70% of Total Cost

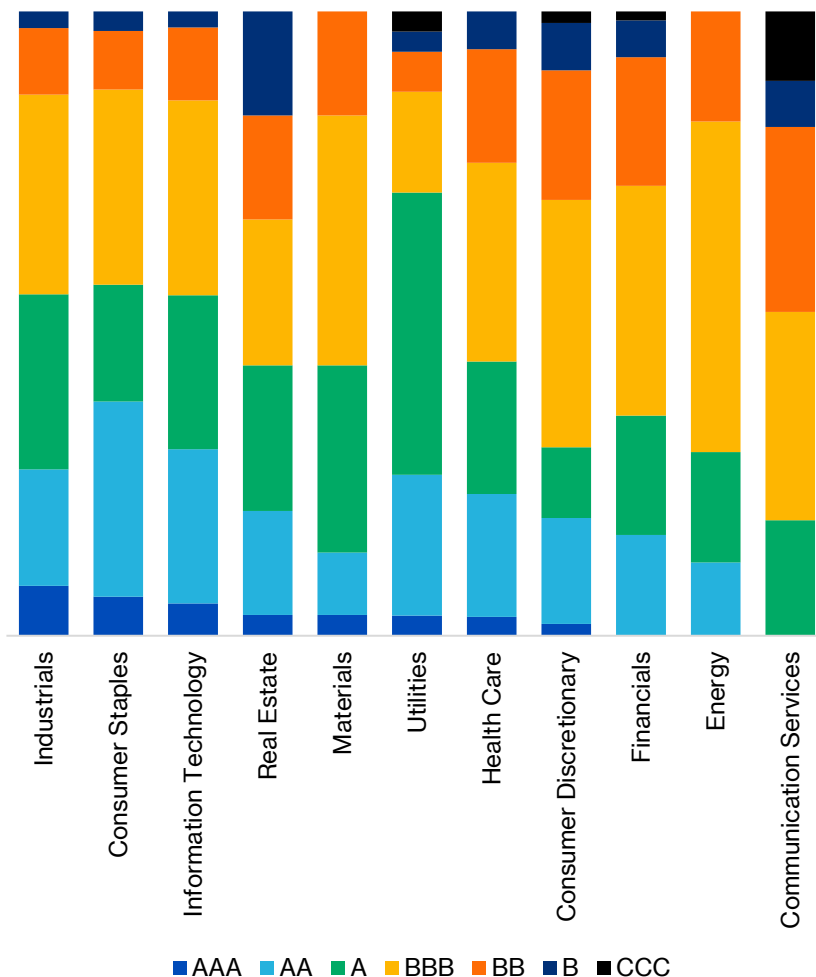


Why Isn't This Story Being Told?

ESG Data Is Littered With Inaccuracies

Scoring Weights & Methodologies Are Empirically Biased Against Energy

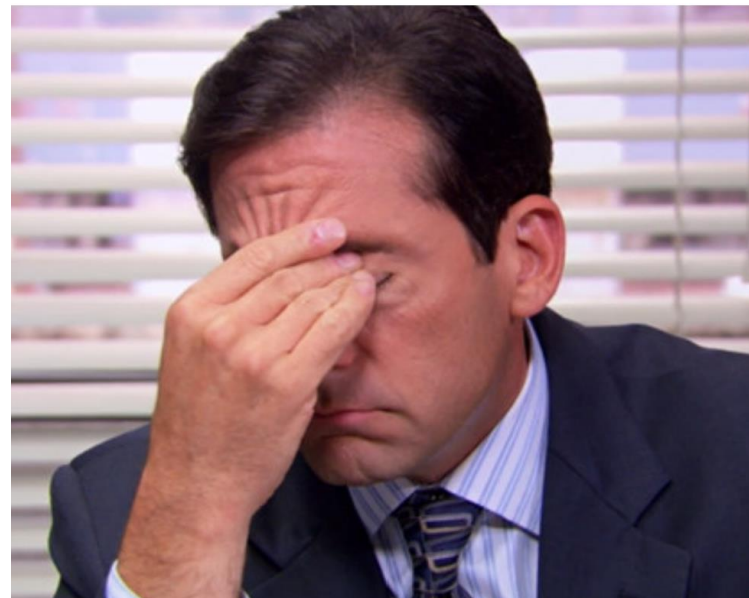
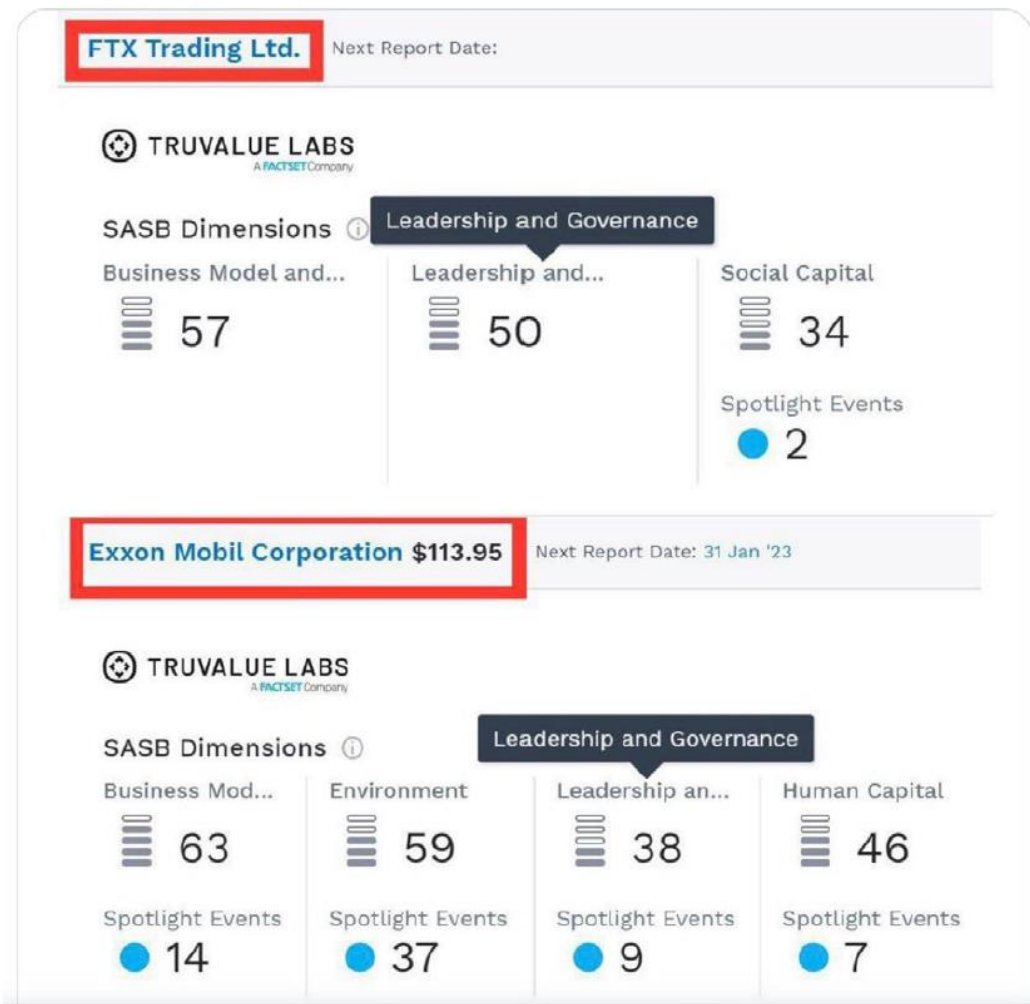
Energy Companies Tend To Have Lower MSCI Scores



Sector Comparison

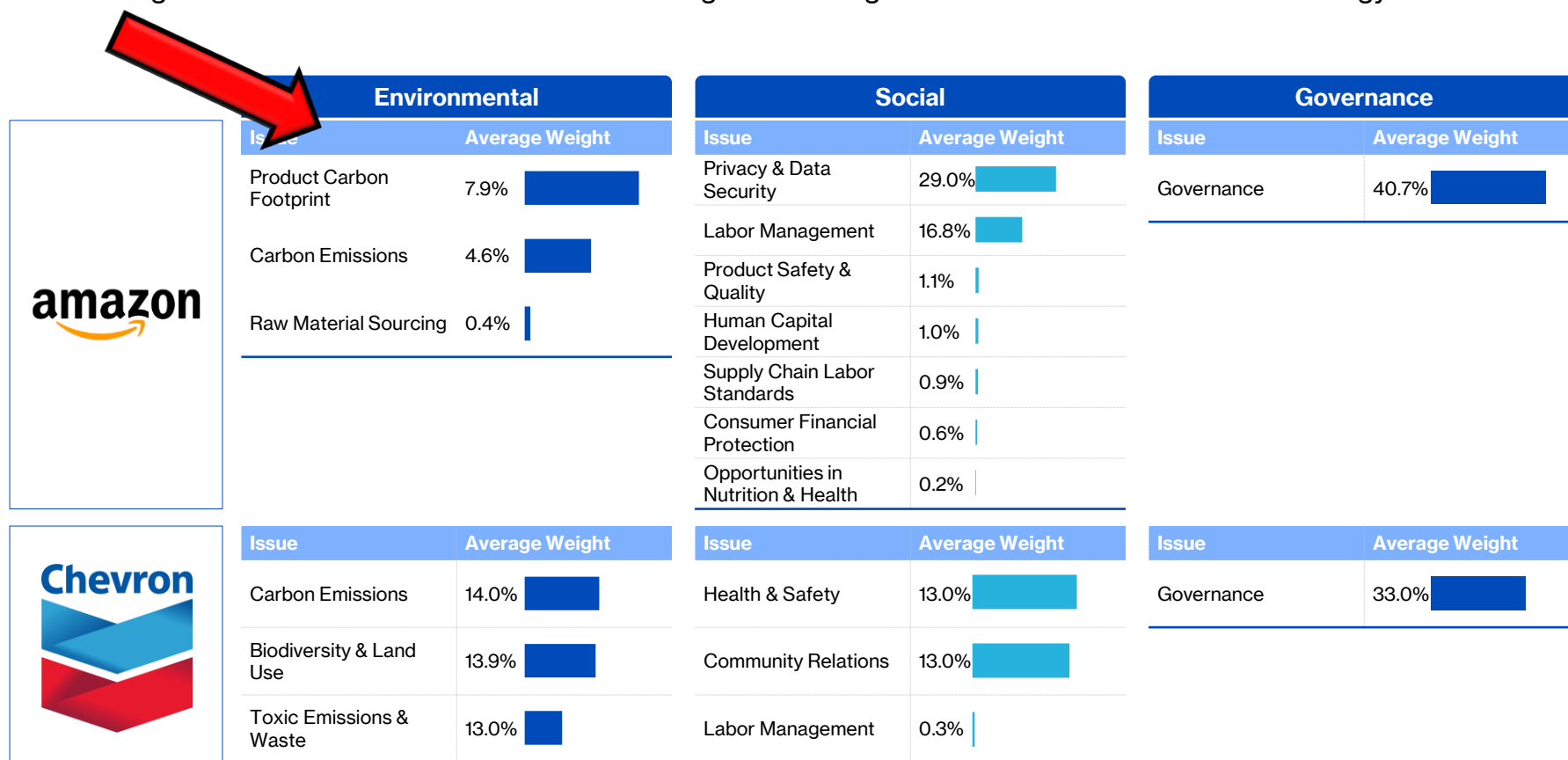
	Energy	Utilities	Industrials	Materials	Tech
Top 5 “E” Topics for Energy					
Carbon Emissions	18%	12%	5%	12%	2%
Biodiversity	13%	5%	1%	4%	0%
Toxic Emissions & Waste	10%	9%	6%	13%	0%
Opportunities in Clean Tech	2%	0%	10%	4%	12%
Water Stress	1%	10%	0%	11%	2%
Top 5 “S” Topics for Energy					
Health & Safety	13%	3%	10%	7%	0%
Community Relations	9%	1%	1%	3%	0%
Labour Management	1%	0%	15%	7%	5%
Human Capital Development	0%	12%	1%	0%	20%
Privacy & Data Security	0%	1%	2%	0%	10%
Weight of “G”					
Governance	34%	35%	46%	33%	40%

FTX Trading Had A Higher Governance Score Than Exxon Mobil



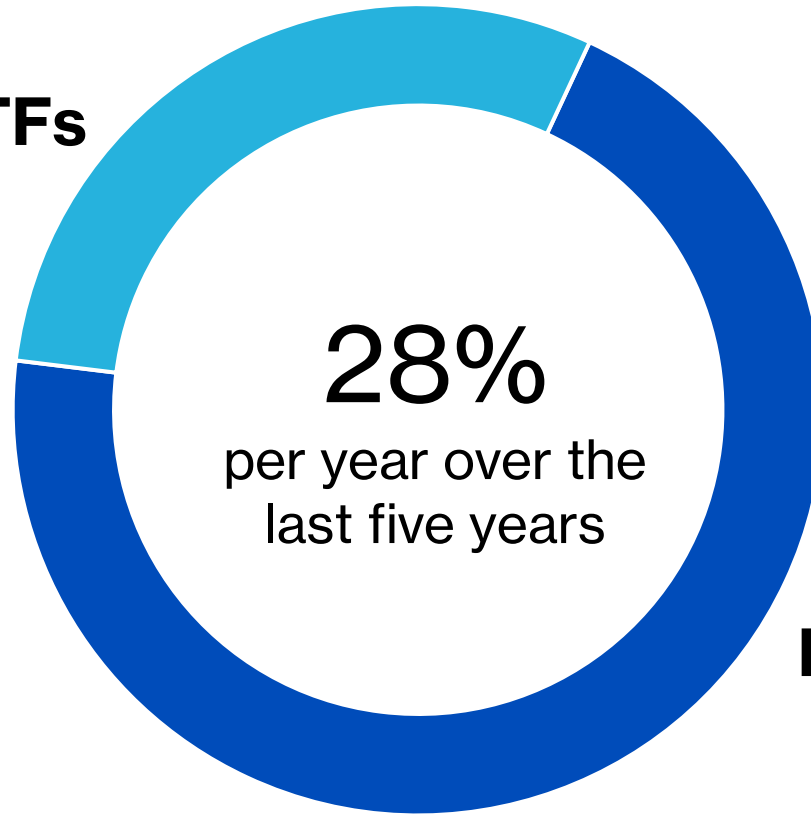
Proactive Engagement Is Required To Establish Economic Reality

- Where companies do not disclose ESG data, third-party aggregators, raters and detractors typically fill in the blanks
- Top-down guidelines tend to neglect individual bottom-up differentiation
- Resulting adversities derived from inaccurate rating methodologies are more substantial for the Energy sector



The Extensive Influence Of ESG Data Determines Portfolio Eligibility

30%
Indices / ETFs

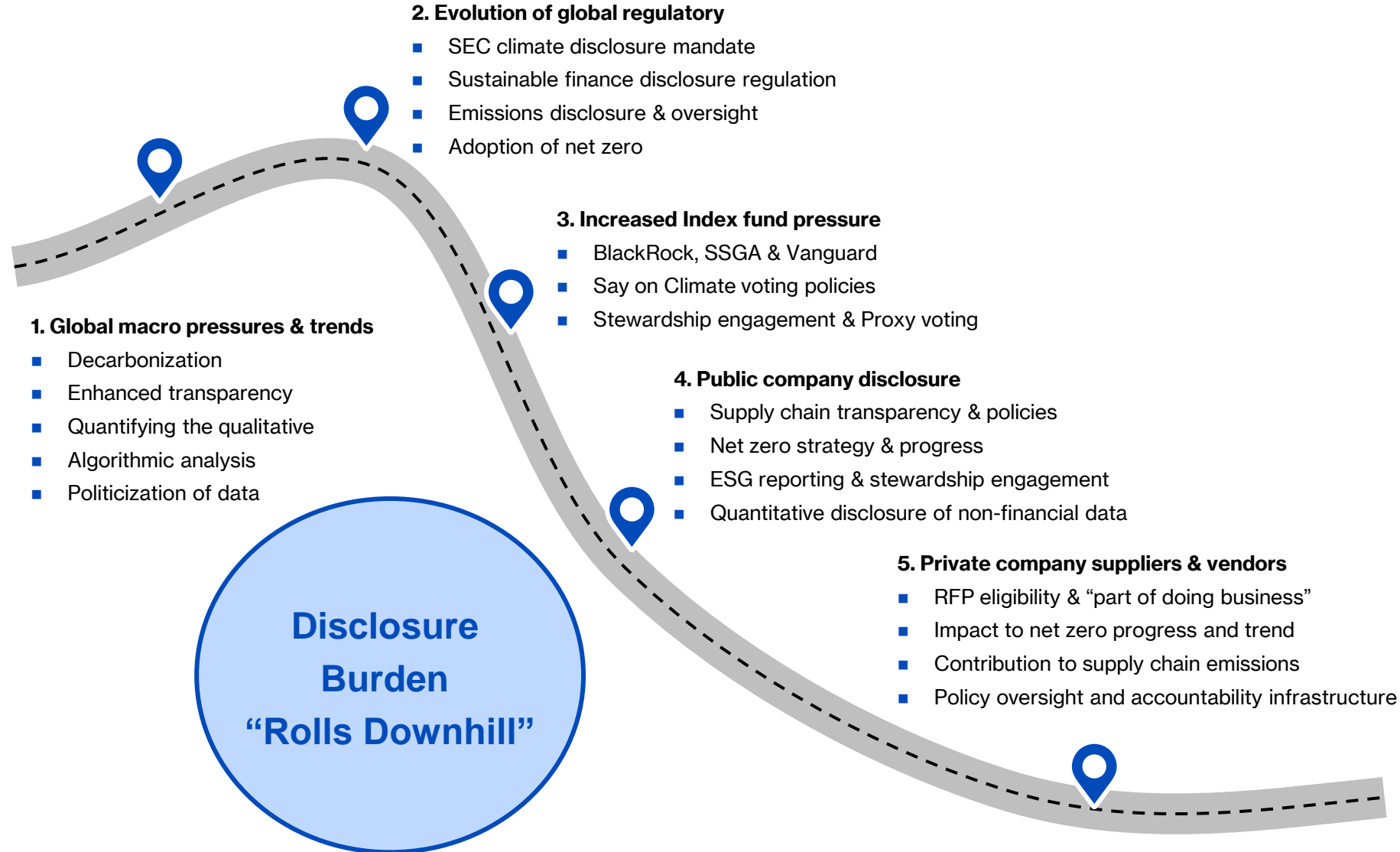


70%
ESG ratings

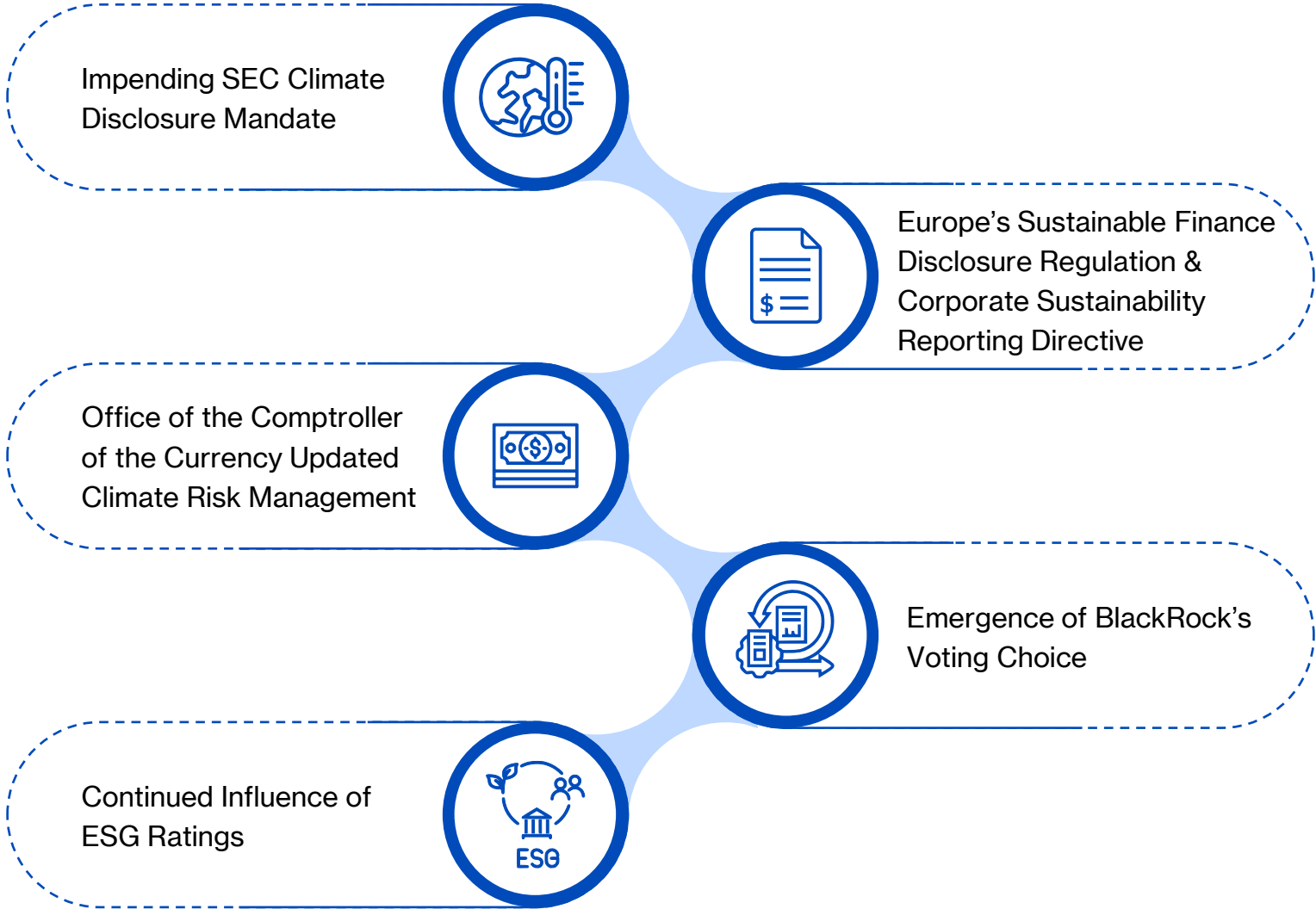
ESG market growth:
28% per year over the last five years

**Regardless If You Like It Or Not, You Are Now Forced
To Tell The Story**

Macro ESG Trends Disproportionately Impacts Smaller Companies



Regulatory & Investor Mandates Focused On Quantitative Disclosure



PEP Execution Aligns ESG Disclosure With Investor Expectations

Recent voting trends center on climate-related disclosure and evaluation

BlackRock Trend:

BlackRock

- Voted against 255 directors in the period ended June 30, 2021, up from 55 in 2020
- **Failed to support the management of 319 companies for climate-related reasons** in 2021, compared with 53 in 2020
- Began expanding the opportunity for certain clients to directly participate in proxy voting decisions in October 2021
- ~25% of BlackRock assets under management with respect to corporate and sovereign issuers are invested for clients in issuers with science-based targets or equivalent
 - Goal is 75% by 2030

State Street Trend:



- Announced in 2021 they will launch a targeted engagement campaign with the most significant emitters in their portfolio to **encourage disclosure aligned with our expectations for climate transition plans**, which covers 10 areas including decarbonization strategy, capital allocation, climate governance, and climate policy
- **Beginning 2023, SSGA will “hold companies and directors accountable** for failing to meet these expectations.”
- Capital allocation alignment:
 - Integration of climate considerations
 - Capital expenditure on low carbon strategies
 - Carbon pricing
 - Investments in decarbonization

Vanguard Trend:

Vanguard

- “We use engagements to better understand **public company boards’ oversight of climate risks and opportunities**, their climate mitigation plans, and whether their disclosures are effective, comprehensive, and provide shareholders with decision-useful information, including progress on the goals companies have set”
- Adopting the “Say on Climate” Approach
 - **Annual disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions & progress on goals**
 - Disclosure of the company’s strategic plan for reducing future emissions and managing climate-related risks
 - The right for shareholders to cast recurring votes on the company’s climate plan or report

BlackRock Has Made Stakeholder Engagement Much More Difficult

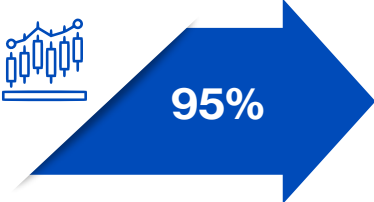
BlackRock Voting Choice Represents A Deep Stakeholder Roster



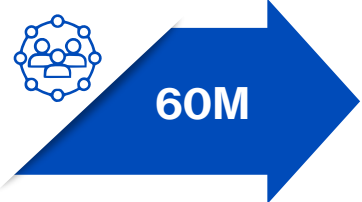
global funds



of index equity assets



of institutional index equity



people participating in retirement accounts

BlackRock Clients Now Possess Four Potential Voting Options



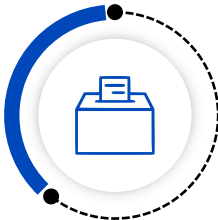
Clients can exercise total control over voting



Clients can choose to leave all other voting decisions to the manager's discretion



Clients can choose from a slate of third-party policies



Clients can rely on BlackRock's judgment to vote

Proxy Voting Increasingly Influenced By Access & Quality Of ESG Data

Changes from 2022

ISS

- Companies in the **Climate 100+ Focus Group** (“high emitting companies”) must adequately disclose climate risks (**TCFD recommended**) and have reduction targets covering 95% of its Scope 1 and 2 emissions
- Board Gender Diversity now applies to **all U.S. companies** and requires at least one woman
- Exculpation Provisions will be voted on a case-by-case basis
- Transparency on Political Spending and Lobbying Congruency will be voted on a case-by-case basis

Glass Lewis

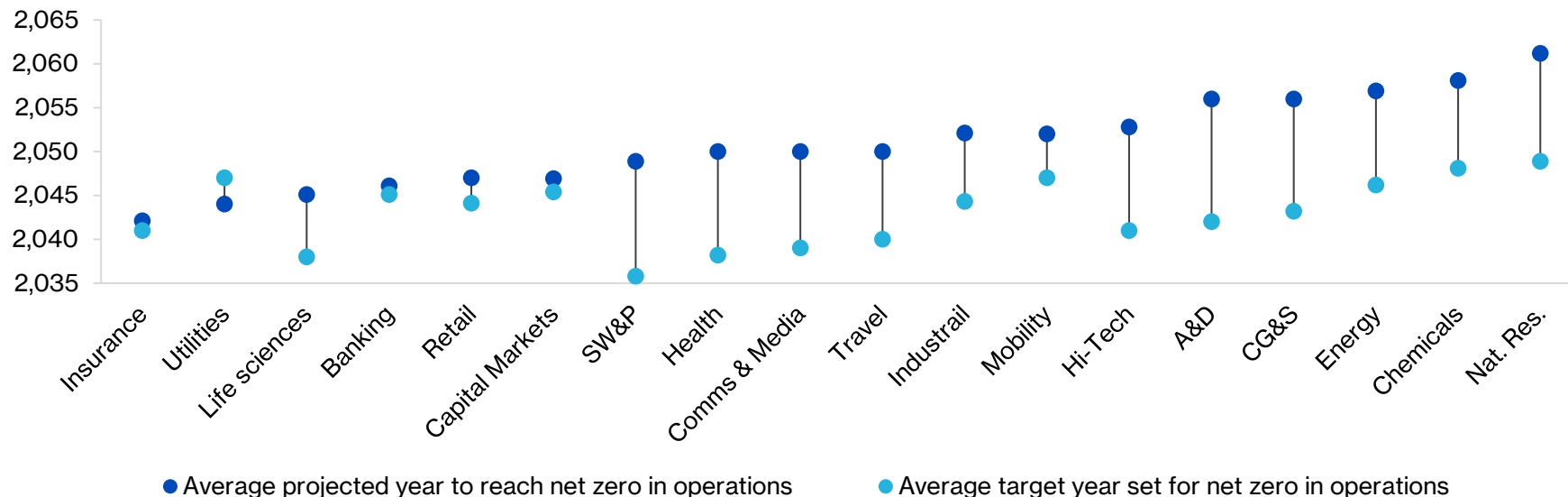
- Companies in the **Climate 100+ should provide thorough climate risk disclosures** (TCFD recommended) and boards should have oversight
- Board Gender Diversity is now 30% within the Russell 3000 index and a minimum of one otherwise
- Minimum of one director from an underrepresented community on the board at companies within the Russell 1000 index
- Board Oversight of E & S Issues must be explicitly disclosed if in Russell 1000 index and tracking of E & S issues will apply to all companies in the Russell 3000 index
- Will generally recommend voting against exculpation proposals eliminating monetary liability for breaches of the duty of care for certain corporate officers
- Closely watching Cybersecurity

The Pursuit of Net Zero Is More Important Than Achieving Net Zero

Net Zero Achievement (Broadly Speaking) Is Not Likely To Happen

Net zero by industry

Emissions scope 1&2; consensus pathway scenario for average company projected year of achievement



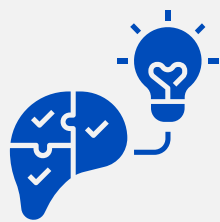
More than 90 percent of large companies that have stated commitments to reaching net-zero emissions will miss such goals at their current pace, according to a new report.

News • Carbon & Climate

Nearly all companies will miss net-zero targets by 2030, unless emissions reduction rates double: report

Accelerating energy price hikes and supply insecurity are pushing carbon commitments out of reach, even as more companies are setting decarbonisation goals, data shows.

Net Zero Difficulties Will Promote The Emergence Of The Offset Market



Net zero targets
skepticism

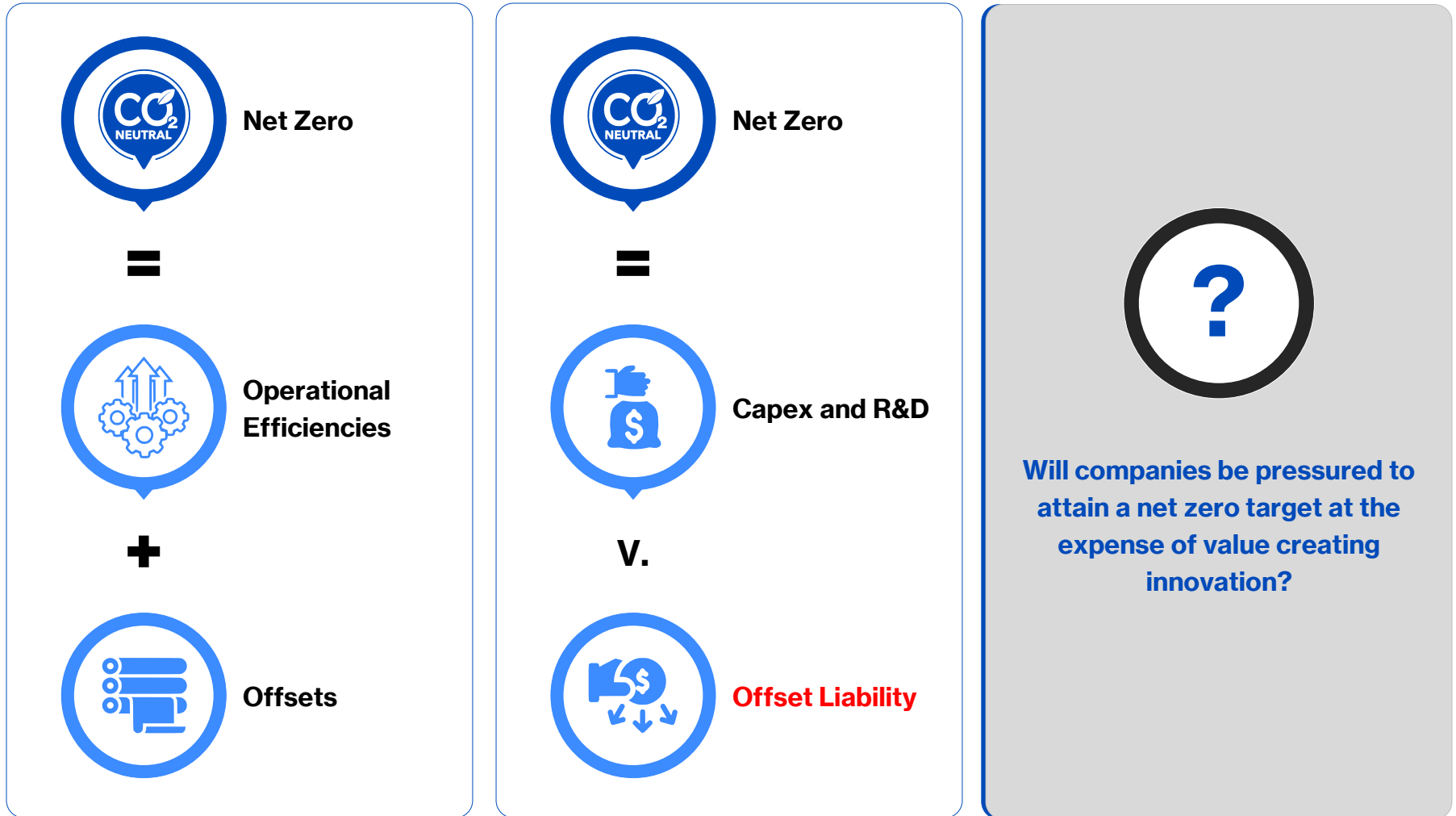


Risks of the offset
market

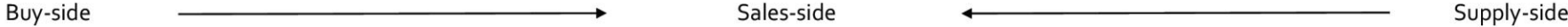





Supply
economics

The Pursuit Of Net Zero + Capital Discipline > Achieving Net Zero



The Voluntary Carbon Market Remains "The Wild West"

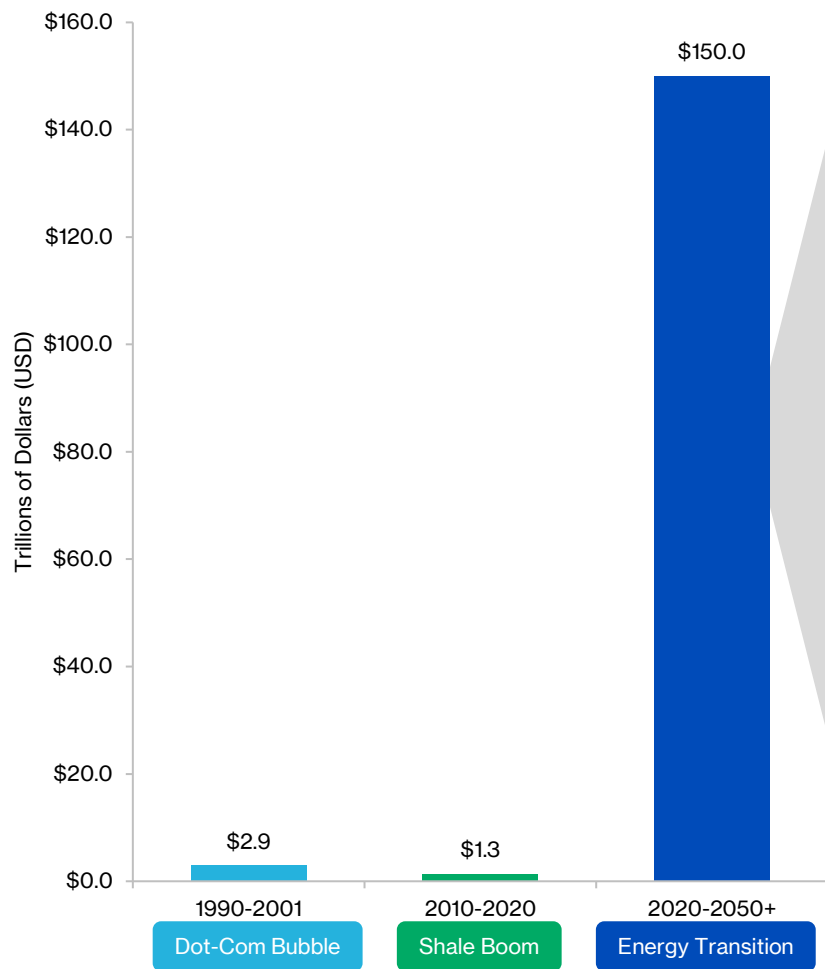


<p>Corporates: Buy and retire credits to achieve climate commitments, e.g., net-zero pledges</p> 	<p>Brokers: Procure and transfer or retire credits from a trader on behalf of a client. Charge a commission and do not necessarily take credit ownership</p> 	<p>Exchanges: Provide trading infrastructure</p> 	<p>Traders: Buy large credit batches from suppliers and sell them in bundled portfolios, usually for a commission</p> 	<p>Direct Sales: Host and sell credits without an intermediary</p> 	<p>Project Proponents: Own and operate an emissions avoidance, reduction, or removal project</p> 
<p>Governmental Institutions and NGOs:</p> 	<p>Marketplaces and API Providers: Enable credit transactions by hosting a marketplace and/or API services to directly bridge end-buyers to registered credits</p> 	<p>Meta-Registries: Integrate multiple registry systems and display credits through a decentralized and shared metadata layer</p> 	<p>Standards and Registries: Provide a set of independent methodologies to certify projects and issue credits, which are hosted and/or displayed in a registry</p> 	<p>Project Developers and Aggregators: Have the legal right to carry out an owner's project and claim carbon credits</p> 	
<p>Decarbonization Platforms: Offer offsetting in addition to their core business, e.g., carbon accounting or green fintech</p> 	<p>Advance Market Commitments: Enter or offer pre-purchase/offtake agreements to mobilize capital toward projects at pre-credit stage</p> 	<p>Tokenized Credits: An entire ecosystem for credits moved onto the blockchain has arisen</p> 	<p>Governance and Accreditation: Provide guidance through principle frameworks and endorse compliant Standards or corporates with quality labels</p> 	<p>Financing and Advisory: Deploy resources to projects; at times with brokering and development arms</p> 	
<p>Individuals and Subscription-Based Mobile Offsetting:</p> 	<p>Insurance: Insure projects, credits, or buyers against key risks, either as a broker or insurer</p> 	<p>Market Research and Data Platforms: Gather, analyze, interpret, and publish data on the VCM</p> 	<p>Third-Party Auditors (also known as VVBs): Independently verify a project's climate impact against a Standard's methodology</p> 	<p>Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV): Collect emissions monitoring data for project developers such as through remote sensing, satellite imagery, and machine learning</p> 	

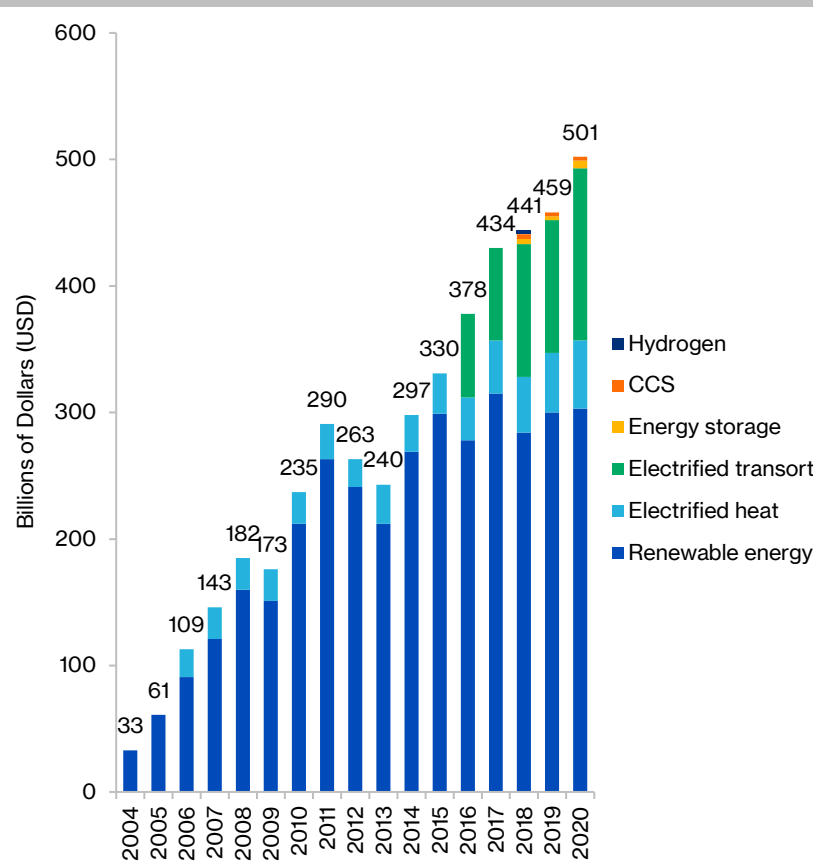
How To Address & Thrive Within The ESG Landscape

The Energy Transition Will Require 50x The Capital Of The Dot-Com Era

The Energy Transition in Context



\$150 Trillion is a 10x increase in global investment from 2020 every year for the next three decades.



Three Distinct Categories Are Beginning To Explicitly Define Fund Flows

Article 6

Article 6 **covers funds which do not integrate any kind of sustainability into the investment process** and could include stocks currently excluded by ESG funds such as tobacco companies or thermal coal producers.

Article 8

An Article 8 Fund under SFDR is defined as “a Fund which promotes, among other characteristics, environmental or social characteristics, or a combination of those characteristics, provided that the companies in which the investments are made follow good governance practices.”

Article 9

An Article 9 Fund under SFDR is defined as “**a Fund that has sustainable investment as its objective or a reduction in carbon emissions as its objective.**”
There are a number of different requirements for Funds that promote a sustainable investment objective.

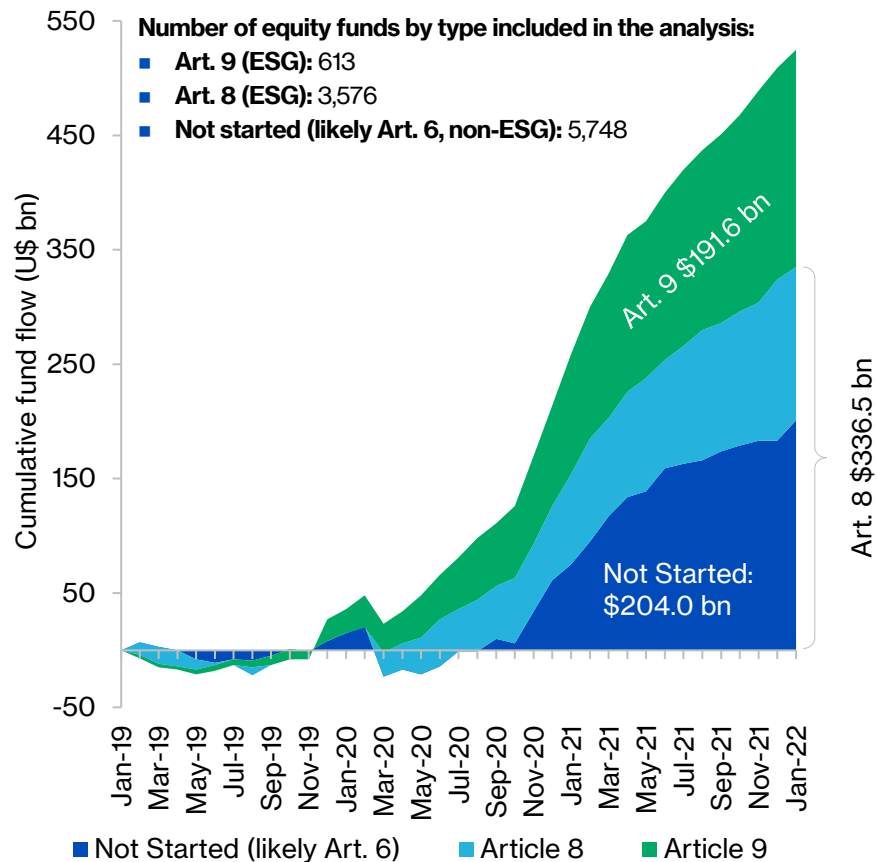
Level of details in disclosure



SFDR Article 8 Funds Increasingly Dominating European Fund Flows

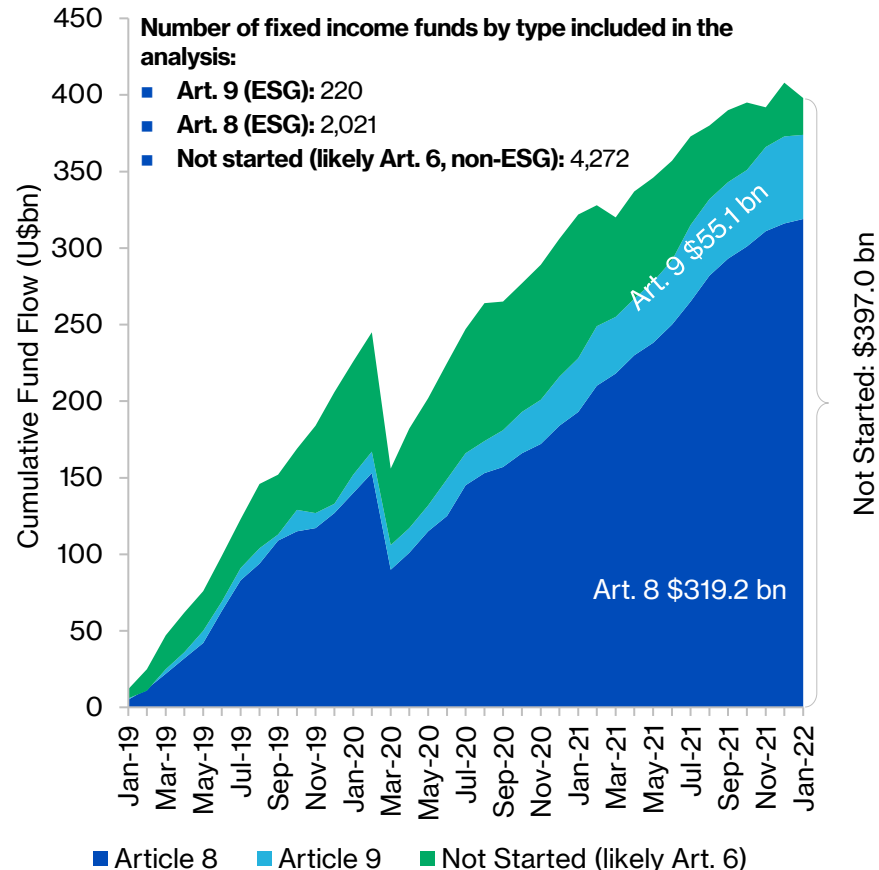
Cumulative fund flow of Article 8 & 9 Equity funds have outgrown non-ESG counterparts by >2x

Cumulative fund flow of European Equity funds by type (U\$ bn), Jan 2019 – Jan 2022



Article 8 & 9 Fixed Income cumulative flows have grown since '19, albeit to a lesser degree than non-ESG peers

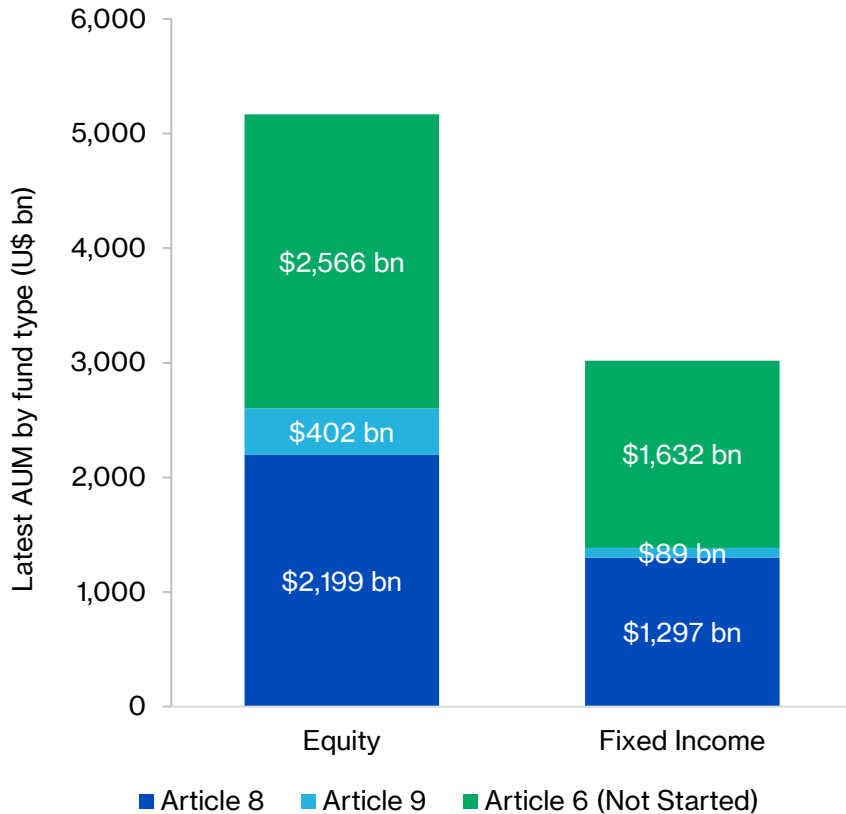
Cumulative fund flow of European Income funds by type (U\$ bn), Jan 2019 – Jan 2022



Article 8 “Mentalities” Are Trickling Into US Capital Flows

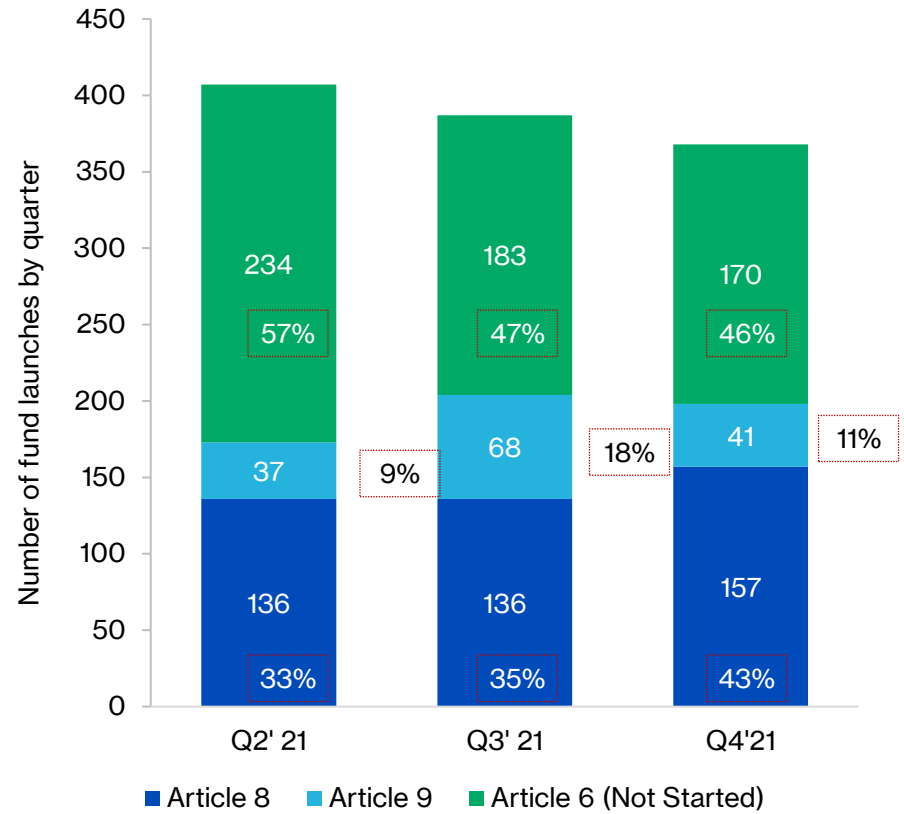
Article 8 & 9 funds account for ~\$4tn USD...

Breakdown of AUM in the EU, Jan 2022



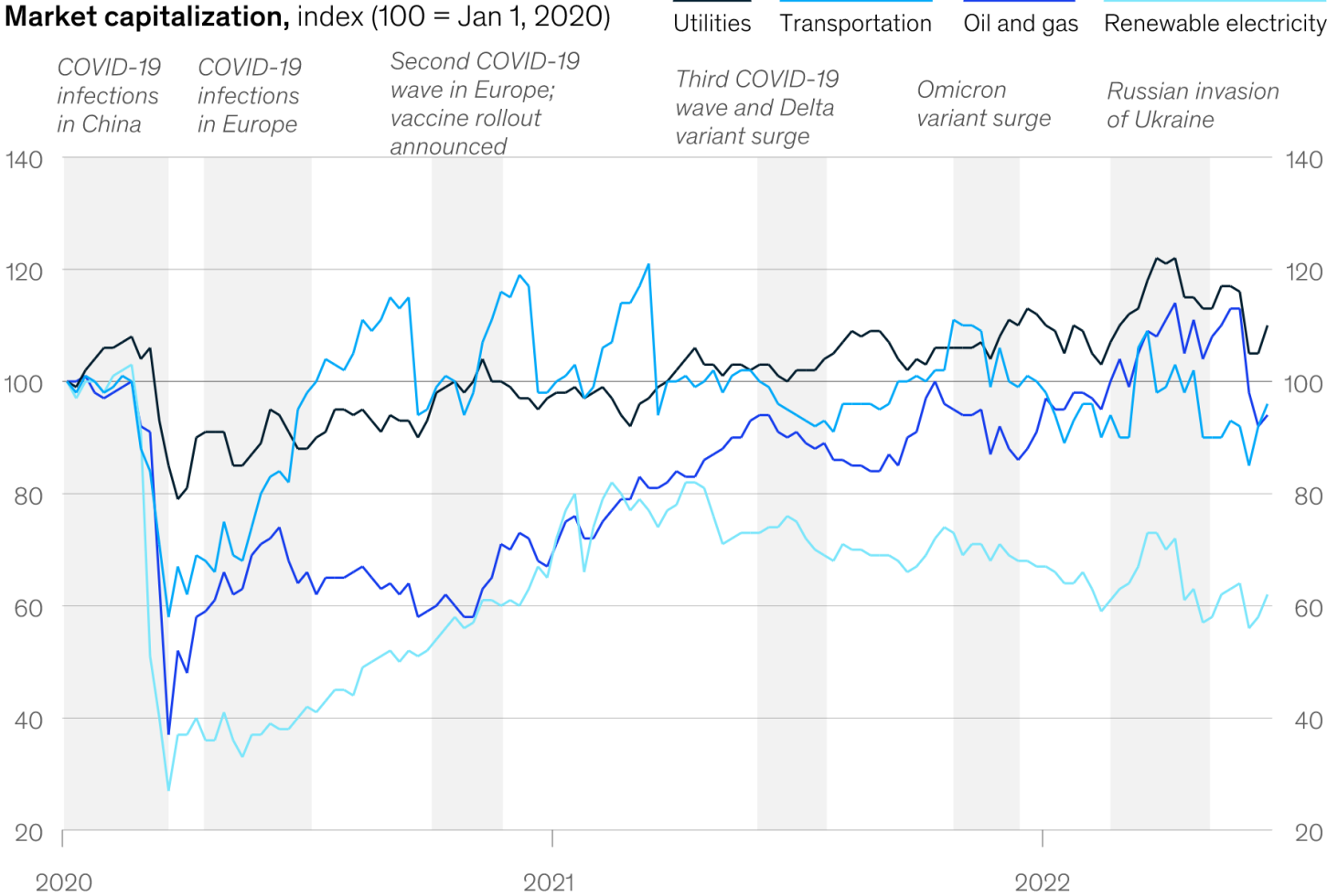
...and are taking up a growing portion of new fund launches

Breakdown of new fund launches in the EU, Q2' 21 – Q4' 21



As a % of total number of new funds in the quarter

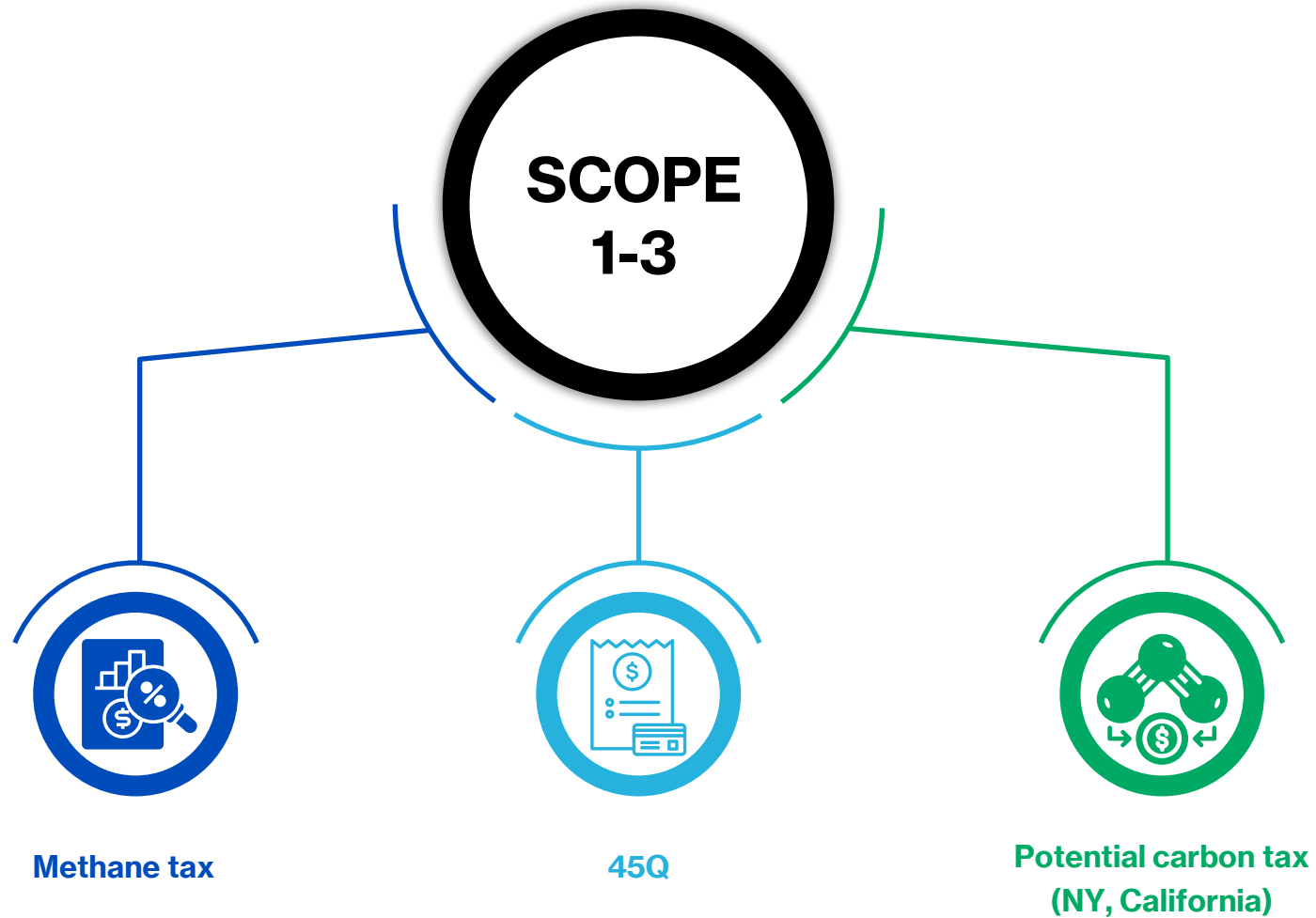
Oil & Gas Valuation Has Remained Stable Over The Last 3 Years



Note: As of July 1, 2022; predefined S&P sector indexes.
 Source: Preqin analysis of infrastructure funds expectations

Turning ESG Risks Into Opportunities

ESG Data & Reporting Will Now Impact Financial Liabilities



The Attempt To Implement A Carbon Tax Is Inevitable

➤ The current SEC Climate Disclosure Mandate is anticipated to pass before the end of 1Q23

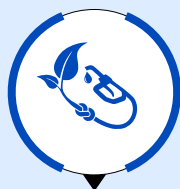
➤ Large filers mandated to report Scope 3



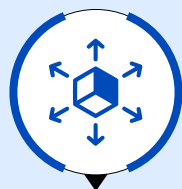
purchased goods and services



capital goods



fuel- and energy-related activities



transportation and distribution



waste generated in operations



business travel



employee commuting



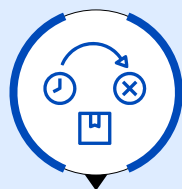
leased assets



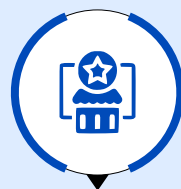
processing of sold products



use of sold products



end of life treatment of sold products



franchises

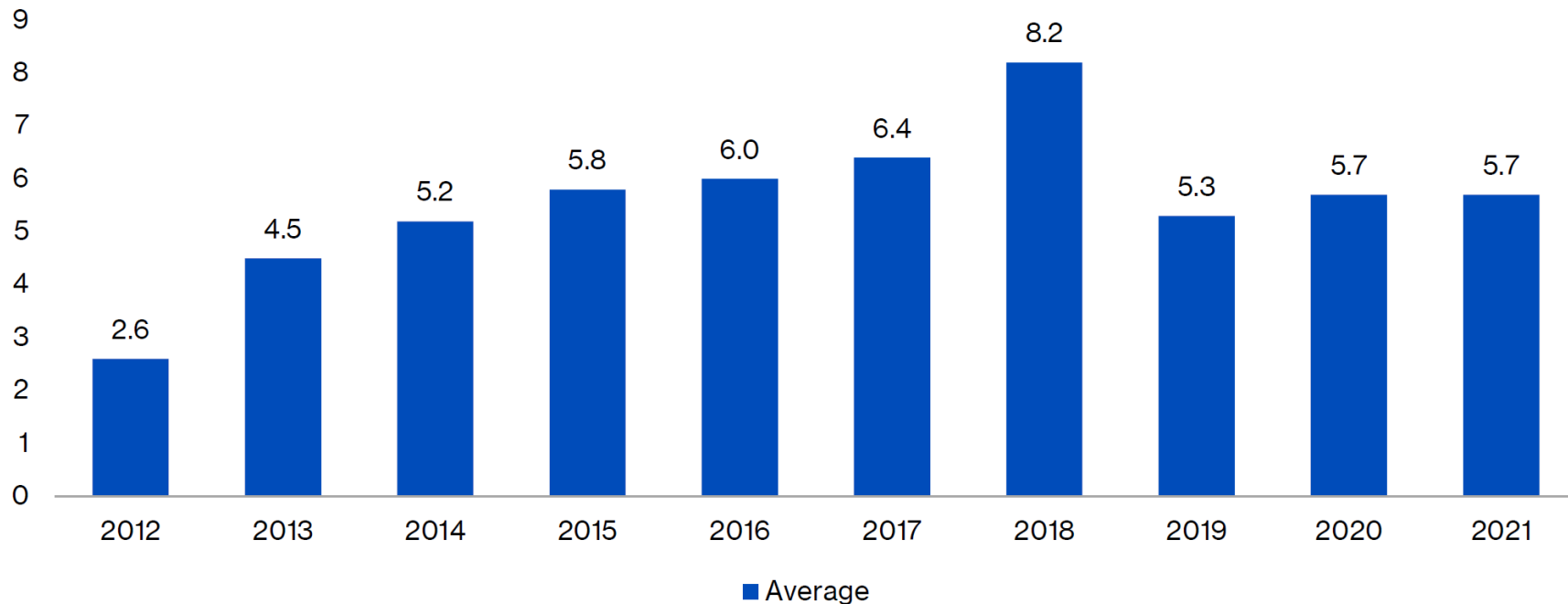


Investments

➤ Public companies will be forced to utilize their private partners to aggregate emissions data

Current Scope 3 Reporting Is Misleading, Inconsistent & Flawed

Average Number of Scope 3 Category Reported



Inflation Reduction Act Methane Tax Increases 66% By 2026

- » Each facility > 25,000 metric tons CO₂e per year (EPA Subpart W & MM)
 - \$900 / metric ton of methane in 2024
 - \$1,200 / metric ton of methane in 2025
 - \$1,500 / metric ton of methane in 2026+
- » Measurement
 - Currently reported using inventories and **emissions factors**
 - 2024 EPA will require methane emissions (and calculation of methane tax) are based on empirical data
- » Impacts ~8,000 petroleum and natural gas facilities

Facility Designations	Waste Emissions Thresholds
Offshore/Onshore natural gas production	0.2% of natural gas sent to sale
Offshore/Onshore petroleum production facilities	10 metric tons of methane per million barrels of oil
Non-production facilities (i.e., gathering, processing, boosting and LNG facilities)	0.05% of natural gas sent for sale from or through the facility
Natural gas pipelines, compression, transmission, and storage	0.11% of natural gas sent for sale from or through the facility

The Clean Air Act Requires EPA To Set Air Quality Standards



EPA has set national air quality standards (NAAQS) for six common air pollutants (i.e., “criteria pollutants”):

- 1 Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- 2 Ozone (O₃)
- 3 Sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
- 4 Particulate matter (PM)
- 5 Carbon monoxide (CO)
- 6 Lead (Pb)

Investor frameworks increasingly requesting at least NO_x, SO_x, VOCs

Site Level “Bottom-Up” Reporting Is Probably Around The Corner

■ EU to Impose Carbon Border Tax on Imported Products

- In December 2022, the European Council and Parliament reached a provisional agreement on a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) that will impose a tax on products imported into the EU, beginning with certain “high-carbon” products.
- The CBAM will require reporting-only beginning in October 2023, and will focus on the following industry sectors: iron and steel, cement, fertilizers, aluminum, electricity, and hydrogen.
- It will also cover certain precursors and downstream products related to those industries.
- The reporting period will extend for three years, until 2026, after which the CBAM will be applied to goods in the initial sectors.
- The agreement also sets a goal of applying the CBAM to all goods covered by the ETS by 2030.


■ Emergence of Oil & Gas Methane Partnership 2.0 (OGMP 2.0)


- OGMP is a comprehensive, measurement-based reporting framework for oil and gas
- Member companies report on all material sources of methane from both operated and non-operated assets across all segments of the value chain
- Companies commit to achieving Gold Standard reporting within three years for operated assets and five years for non-operated assets


The Oil & Gas Methane Partnership 2.0 (OGMP 2.0)


Reporting requirements		
Level 1	Venture or Asset Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single, consolidated emission reported number • Based on generic emissions factors
Level 2	Emissions Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emissions reported based on IOGP and Marcogas defined emissions categories • Based on generic emissions factors
Level 3	Generic Emission Source Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emissions reported by detailed source type • Based on generic emissions factors
Level 4	Company-Specific Emissions Source Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emissions reported by detailed source type using company-specific emissions and activity factors • Based on direct measurement methodologies
Level 5	Site Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emissions reported by detailed source type using company-specific emissions and activity factors • “Bottom-up” source-level reporting is reconciled with “top-down” site level emissions measurements • Based on direct measurement methodologies


The “IRA” Expands The 45Q Tax Credit

- 





First introduced in 2008, Section 45Q of the United States Internal Revenue Code provides a tax credit for CO₂ storage.
- 

The policy is intended to incentivize deployment of carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), and a variety of project types are eligible
- 

The 2022 changes to 45Q provide up to USD 85 per tonne of CO₂ permanently stored and USD 60 per tonne of CO₂ used for enhanced oil recovery (EOR) or other industrial uses of CO₂, provided emissions reductions can be clearly demonstrated.
- 

The credit amount significantly increases for direct air capture (DAC) projects to USD 180 per tonne of CO₂ permanently stored and USD 130 per tonne for used CO₂.
- 

In addition, the 2022 changes reduce the capacity requirements for eligible projects:

 -  18,750 tonnes per year for power plants (provided at least 75% of the CO₂ is captured)
 -  12,000 tonnes per year for other facilities
 -  1,000 tonnes per year for DAC facilities.
- 

Finally, the 2022 changes include a seven-year extension to qualify for the tax credit, meaning that projects have until January 2033 to begin construction.

Carbon Taxes Likely To Be Implemented At The State Level

25 states that are promising or may have potential for carbon taxes

	Promising	Potential
No legal or ideological constraints	CT, DC, HI, IL, MD, MA, NY, WA	DE, FL, NM, RI, VT, VA
Promising/Potential but with legal constraints	CA, NY, NJ, OR	CO, MI, NH
Promising / potential but with ideological constraints	NC, SC	AR, WI

The other 26 states display a lower likelihood of passing a carbon tax

ESG Increasingly Impacting Cost of Capital

Participation Is Not Possible Without Trending Data



Opportunities
for climate tax credits



Opportunities
for the IRA



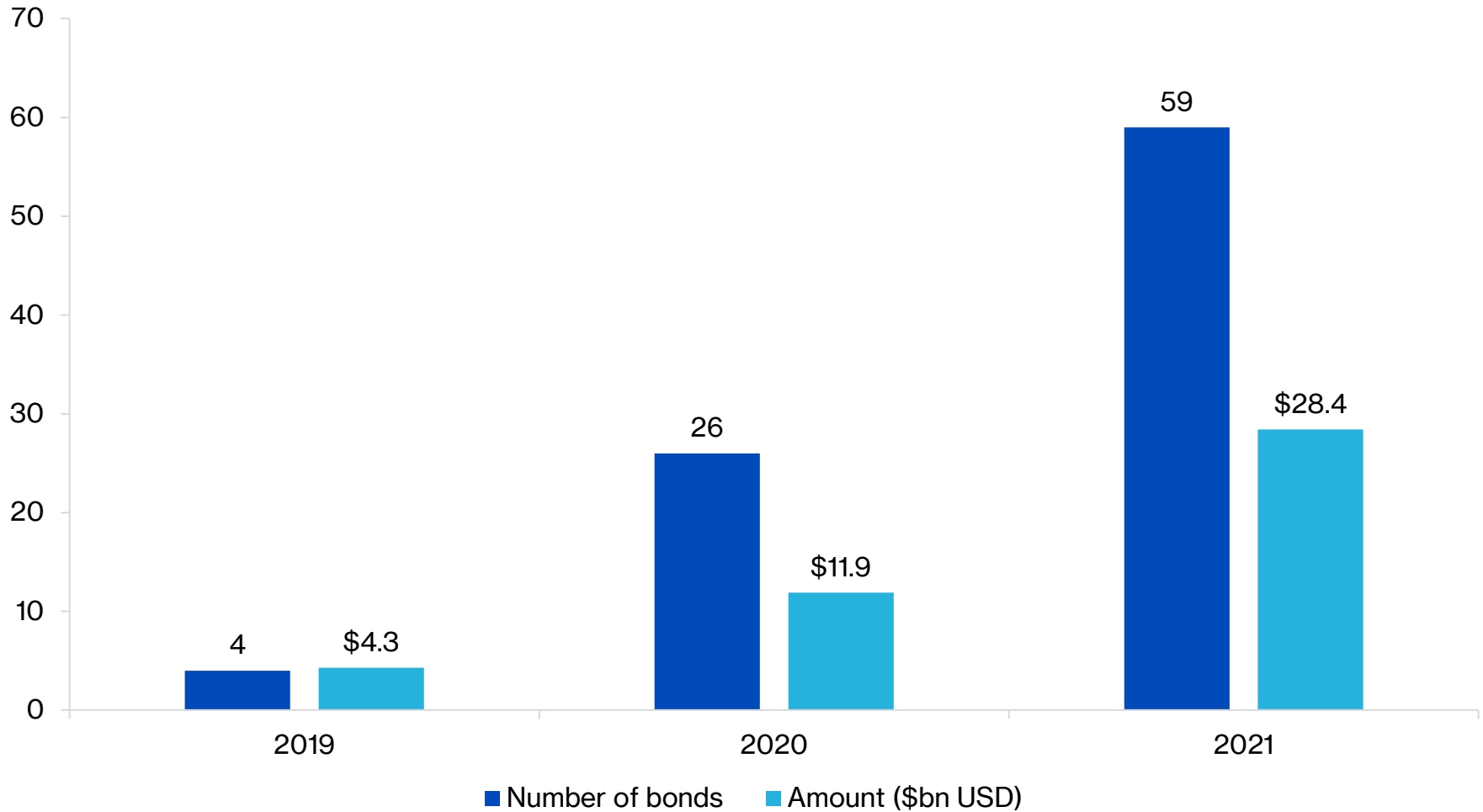
Potential for extreme
financial liabilities



Emergence of
sustainability-linked
financing

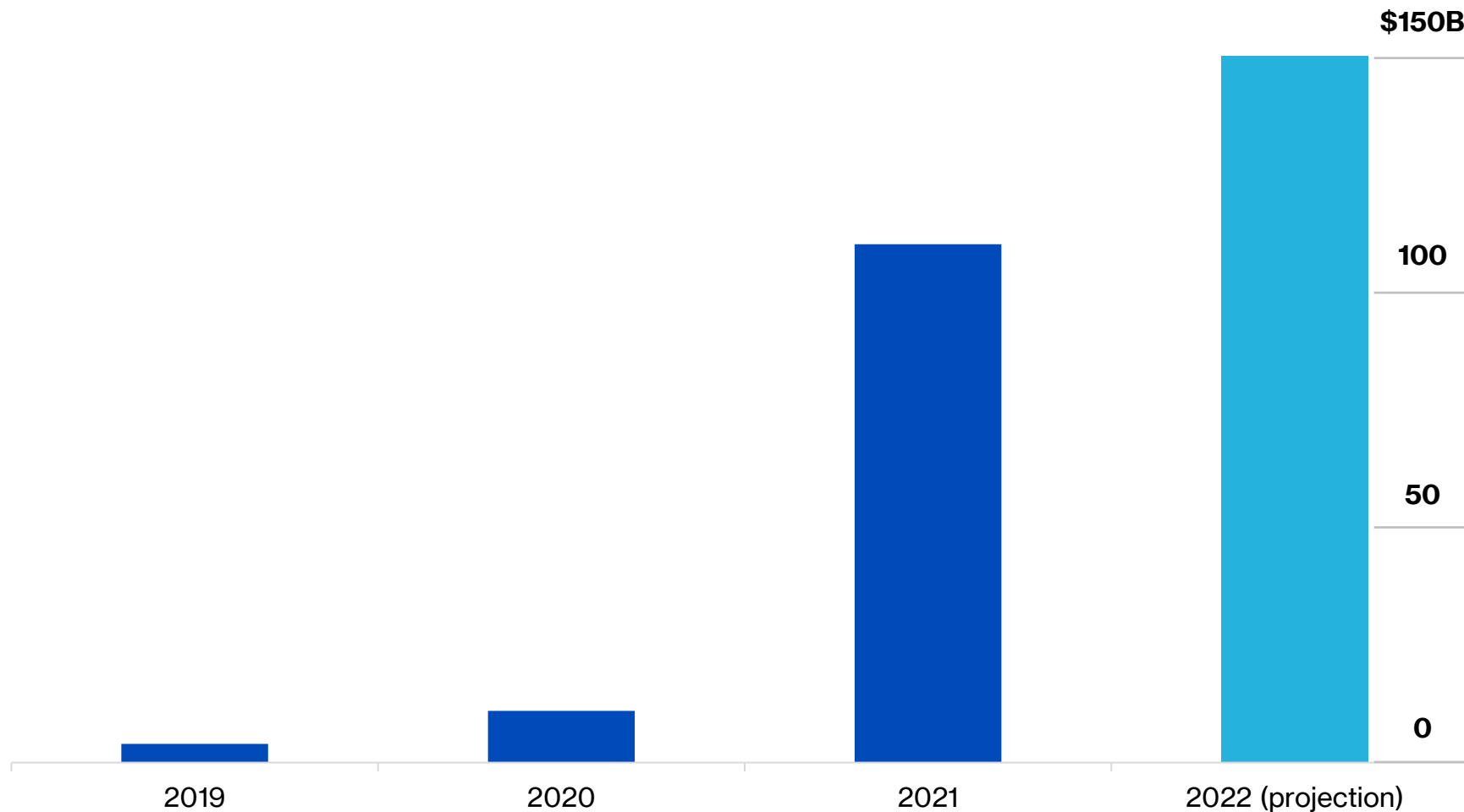
The Issuance Of “SLB’s” Has Exploded

Sustainability-linked bonds globally



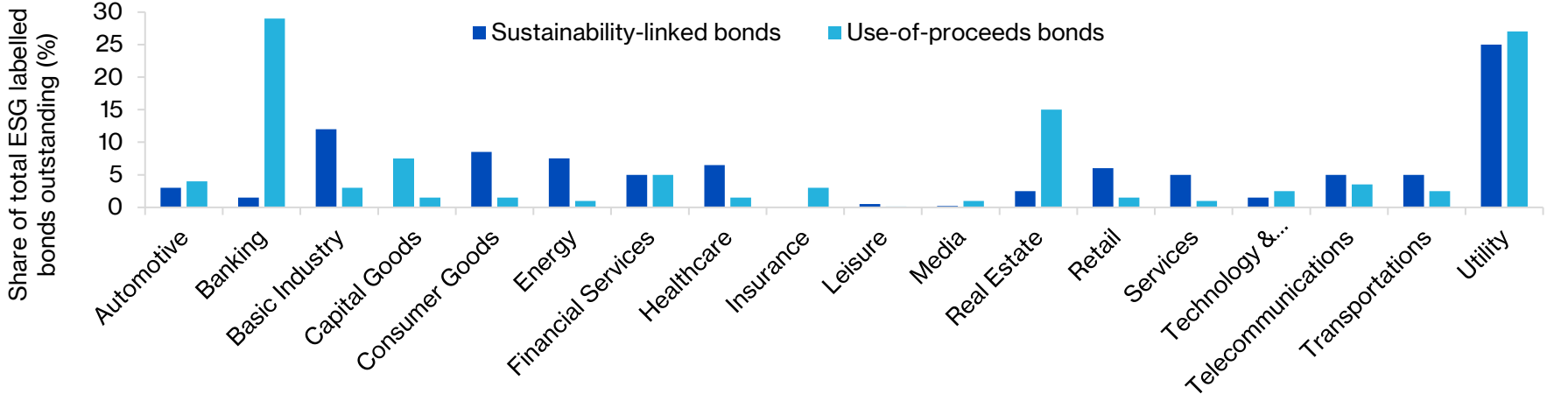
Global Issuance Of Sustainability Linked Bonds Not Anticipated To Slow

Global sales of sustainability-linked bonds seen hitting new record



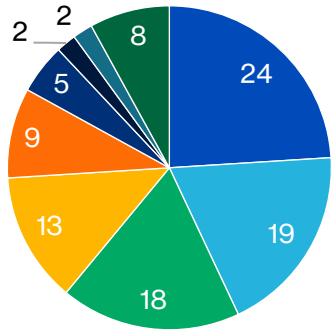
Most Industries Currently Not Taking Advantage Of SLBs

Industries' share of total sustainable bonds outstanding, by instrument

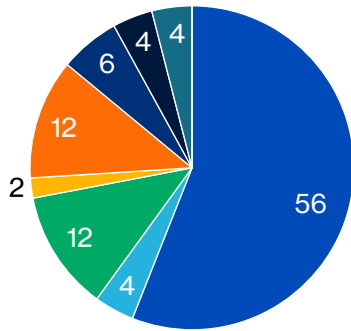


Issuance by nonfinancial corporate sector, 2020 (%)

Sustainability-linked bonds



Green bonds



■ Utilities ■ Materials ■ Industrials ■ Consumer staples ■ Consumer discretionary ■ Communications ■ Energy ■ Technology ■ Healthcare

Action Items:
Highlighting Critical Strategic Considerations

Playing Offense Is Going To Be The Best Defense!



The world needs oil and gas for the foreseeable future – empirical evidence indicates the U.S. is one of the most efficient and safest producers, but that data point is commonly not part of the conventional narrative



Existing data sets do not reflect economic reality and the only way to remedy this is to proactively message, report and showcase quantitative trends for material non-fundamental data points



Maintaining high degrees of capital discipline should coincide with how ESG-related financial considerations impact capital deployment & strategy

- Tax credits
- Addressing and minimizing future potential liabilities
- Optimizing cost of capital