

# Global Financial Markets in 2026: Inflation, AI, and Geopolitical Shifts Shape T

Global Finance · Answer Key · 18 Questions

---

**1. According to J.P. Morgan Global Research, what is the projected global core inflation rate for 2026?**

- A) 2.8%**
- B) 3.2%
- C) 2.4%
- D) 1.9%

**2. What is the aggregate projected economic growth for Emerging Markets (EMs) in 2026, according to Lazard Asset Management?**

- A) Near 4%**
- B) Around 5%
- C) Just over 3%
- D) Approximately 6%

**3. Morgan Stanley's Global Investment Committee projects that the U.S. equity bull market will continue into its fourth year in 2026, with a target for the S&P 500 Index of approximately:**

- A) 7,500**
- B) 6,000
- C) 8,500
- D) 7,000

**4. Which sector is identified as a dominant narrative driving investor optimism and growth in 2026, according to Morgan Stanley?**

- A) Artificial Intelligence (AI) related capital expenditures**
- B) Renewable Energy Infrastructure
- C) Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals
- D) Global Tourism and Hospitality

**5. J.P. Morgan Global Research forecasts double-digit gains for global equities in 2026. What is a key factor supporting this bullish outlook?**

- A) Robust earnings growth, lower rates, and the rise of AI**
- B) A decrease in global trade due to protectionism
- C) A significant slowdown in emerging market economies
- D) Increased geopolitical instability leading to market caution

**6. According to Mercer's outlook, what is a significant driver for U.S. economic growth in 2026?**

**A) AI-driven investment approaching USD 500 billion**

- B) A sharp decline in consumer spending
- C) A contraction in the manufacturing sector
- D) Reduced government stimulus measures

**7. What trend is expected to make cryptocurrencies transition from a speculative boom to structural growth in 2026, according to Keyrock market analysis?**

**A) Increased focus on tokenization and AI integration**

- B) A significant decrease in regulatory oversight
- C) A widespread shift away from decentralized finance (DeFi)
- D) Reduced institutional investment in blockchain technology

**8. Which region is expected to see inflation hold near 2% in 2026, benefiting from fading energy price impacts and moderated wage growth, according to Mercer's economic outlook?**

**A) Euro area**

- B) United States
- C) United Kingdom
- D) Japan

**9. The IMF projects that global headline inflation will rise modestly in 2026 before resuming its decline in 2027. This trend is expected to be particularly pronounced in:**

**A) Emerging market and developing economies**

- B) High-income developed economies
- C) Resource-rich Scandinavian countries
- D) Island nations in the Pacific

**10. According to Goldman Sachs Research, what is the forecast for global real GDP growth in 2026?**

**A) 2.8%**

- B) 2.5%
- C) 2.2%
- D) 3.0%

**11. Which commodity is projected to swing into a deficit in 2026 due to increased demand from data centers and electric vehicles, according to BloombergNEF?**

**A) Copper**

- B) Oil
- C) Natural Gas
- D) Gold

**12. What is the projected average price for Brent crude oil in 2026, according to S&P Global Ratings' baseline scenario?**

- A) \$80 per barrel**
- B) \$65 per barrel
- C) \$70 per barrel
- D) \$90 per barrel

**13. The Conference Board's Leading Economic Index (LEI) for the US saw a slight decrease in January 2026. What was the primary reason cited for this softening?**

- A) Retreating consumer expectations and softening building permits**
- B) A surge in manufacturing output
- C) Increased business investment
- D) Strong performance in the housing market

**14. In 2026, which of these countries is India's economy expected to grow at a significant rate, with real GDP growth projected at 6.2%?**

- A) India**
- B) China
- C) Brazil
- D) Russia

**15. What is a key theme that Coinbase Institutional Market Intelligence is focusing on for crypto markets in 2026?**

- A) Clearer regulation and accelerating institutional integration**
- B) A complete ban on cryptocurrency trading
- C) A significant decrease in stablecoin usage
- D) The complete absence of technological innovation

**16. According to World Bank projections, global commodity prices are forecast to fall to their lowest level in six years in 2026, marking the fourth consecutive year of decline. What is a primary driver for this projected drop?**

- A) Weak global economic growth**
- B) A surge in industrial demand
- C) Increased commodity production costs
- D) Strong geopolitical stability

**17. Which sector is expected to lead stock market gains in early 2026, with technology names faltering, according to Morningstar?**

- A) Industrial, consumer defensive, and energy stocks**
- B) Technology and communication services stocks
- C) Financials and real estate stocks
- D) Healthcare and biotechnology stocks

**18. The European Central Bank (ECB) Governing Council's March 2026 projections indicated a headline inflation average of what for 2026?**

**A) 2.6%**

B) 2.0%

C) 2.3%

D) 2.1%