# Degussa Market Report

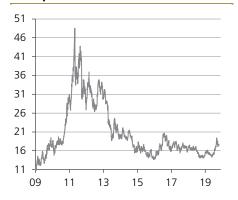
# 24 October 2019

**Economics** · Finance · Precious Metals

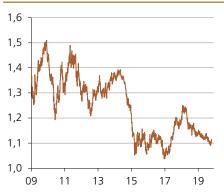
# USD per ounce of gold



# USD per ounce of silver



# **EURUSD**



Source: Thomson Financial; graphs by Degussa.

Precious metals prices						
	Actual	Change	e against (in p	ercent):		
	(spot)	2 W	3 M	12 M		
I. In US-do	I. In US-dollar					
Gold	1.492.6	-0.8	7.8	22.9		
Silver	17.5	0.0	15.9	23.4		
Platinum	914.4	4.3	10.2	9.4		
Palladium	1.742.7	4.6	12.6	61.6		
II. In euro	II. In euro					
Gold	1.341.6	-2.1	9.4	25.0		
Silver	15.8	-1.3	17.7	25.4		
Platinum	821.9	3.1	11.8	11.1		
Palladium	1.566.0	3.2	14.2	64.0		
III. Gold pr	III. Gold price in other currencies					
JPY	162.159.0	0.8	8.1	18.3		
CNY	10.541.6	-2.0	11.2	24.5		
GBP	1.157.2	-5.1	5.7	21.7		
INR	105.558.9	1.9	10.7	17.6		
RUB	95.403.0	-1.9	9.4	19.3		

Source: Thomson Financial; calculations by Degussa.

# OUR TOP ISSUE



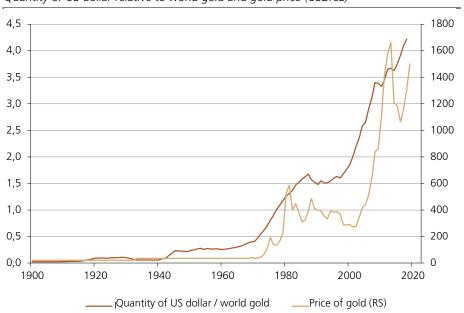
This is a short summary of our fortnightly **Degussa Marktreport**.

# THE INFLATONARY SUPPLY OF UNBACKED US DOLLARS AND THE PRICE OF GOLD

Let us talk about the relation between the US dollar price of gold and the quantity of US dollar. In fact, one would think that it is, economically speaking, a rather straightforward relationship: All you need is to compare the supply of physical gold and the quantity of US dollar. If the increase in the quantity of US dollar exceeds the increase in the supply of gold, one would expect gold to become more expensive in US dollar terms (other things being equal); and if the increase in the supply of gold exceeds the increase in the quantity of US dollar, the gold price in US dollar terms should go down.

# 1 Generous US dollar supply drives gold price up

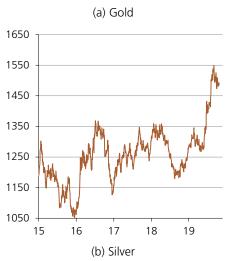
Quantity of US dollar relative to world gold and gold price (USD/oz)

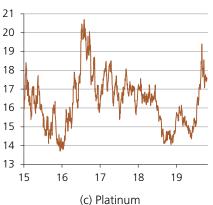


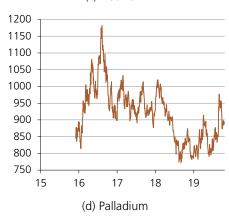
Source: USGS, Federal Reserve of St. Louis; calculations Degussa. Series are indexed (1900 = 100).

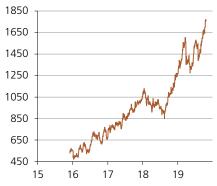
In the period from 1900 to 2018, the increase in the quantity of US dollar was around 6.4 per cent per year on average (compound rate), while the increase in the physical supply of gold was just 1.8. This would suggest that, over time, the price of gold in US dollar terms has traded upwards. And indeed it has, as the chart above shows. Most notably, the price of gold has been (more or less) traded upwards since the early 1970s; before that the price of gold had been

# Precious metal prices (USD/oz) in the last 4 years









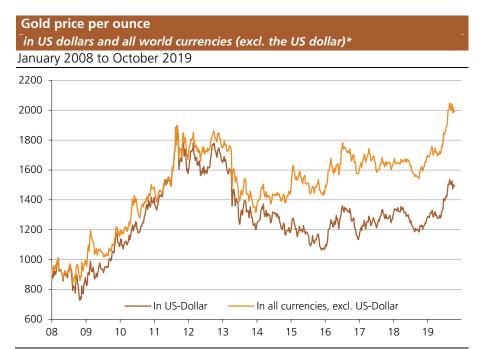
Source: Thomson Financial; graphs by Degussa.

fixed vis-à-vis the US dollar (in other words: US dollar had been an equivalent to a fixed weight of physical gold).

The chart depicts the ratio between (i) the quantity of US dollar and the world's physical gold stock and (ii) the US dollar price of gold. As the chart indicates, the two series had a positive correlation since the early 1970s. In other words: The higher the quantity of US dollar relative to physical gold was, the higher was the gold price in US dollar terms. As noted earlier, this is precisely what one would expect. Moreover, it suggests that gold has remained closely associated with what is going on with the US dollar. Or, to be more precise: Investors continue to consider gold, even well after its "official demonetisation", as a form of money or at least as a reliable store of value.

If the relationship between the quantity of US dollar and the supply of physical gold as depicted in the chart continues, there is a good chance for a further rise in the price of gold. For US monetary policy is clearly geared towards expanding the money stock further in the years to come. And the same can be expected in other currency areas around the world. This is because monetary policymakers follow the very idea that by increasing the quantity of money production and employment will be supported and economic and financial crises will be averted; and that for this end market interest rates have to be suppressed to the lowest levels possible.

However, sound economics would inform us that central banks' inflationary policies – and, no doubt, the expansion of the quantity of money is inflationary – do great harm to the economy and the purchasing power of money in particular. As long as central banks continue with their inflationary scheme, the savvy investor has good reason to consider keeping gold as part of his/her liquid means because the purchasing power of gold cannot be debased by central banks printing up ever greater amounts of currency. And unlike bank deposits, gold does not carry a payment default risk. At current prices, we believe gold offers an attractive risk-reward profile, meaning a significant upward price potential that comes with a limited downside price risk.



Source: Bloomberg; calculations Degussa. \*Calculated from the gold price (USD/oz) and the nominal trade weighted exchange rate of the US dollar. The timeline was indexed at 5 September 2011 with a value of 1.900.

# Precious metals prices

# In US-dollar per ounce

	Go	old	Silver		Platinum		Palladium	
I. Actual	1492.9		17.5		915.0		1743.5	
II. Gliding averages								
5 days	148	37.5	17.5		888.4		1762.6	
10 days	148	39.2	17.6		889.3		1733.2	
20 days	1494.5		17.6		894.7		1696.9	
50 days	1507.7		17.8		904.7		1601.5	
100 days	1457.8		16.8		868.6		1546.4	
200 days	1377.5		16.0		854.1		1478.7	
III. Estimate for end 2020	1690		22.9		930		1570	
Bandwidths	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
	1440	1840	16	26	780	990	1380	1650
(1)	-4	23	-7	50	-15	8	-21	-5
IV. Annual averages			ĺ					
2016	1242		17.0		985		617	
2017	1253		17.1		947		857	
2018	1268 15.8		880		1019			

In euro	per	ounce
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In euro per ounce								
	Go	ld	Sil	ver	Plati	num	Palla	dium
					•		•	
I. Actual	134	2.0	15	5.8	82:	2.5	156	57.2
,			ı		1		ı	'
II. Gliding averages								
5 days	133	8.1	15	5.8	799	9.2	158	85.6
. 10 days	134	5.6	15	5.9	803	3.5	156	55.9
20 days	135	7.4	16	5.0	812	2.6	154	1.0
50 days	136	6.1	16	16.1		9.8	1451.3	
100 days	130	9.5	15.1		780.3		1389.1	
200 days	1229.9		14.3		762.5		1320.0	
,					,		,	ŗ
III. Estimate for end 2020	15	80	2	22	87	70	14	70
Bandwidths	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
	1350.0	1730.0	15.3	24.8	730.0	930.0	1290.0	1550.0
(1)	1	29	-3	57	-11	13	-18	-1
<u> </u>	· ·			•				
IV. Annual averages								
2016	11	20	1	5	88	38	55	57
2017	11	16	1	5	84	14	76	50
2018	10	72	1	3	74	13	86	53
			,		•		•	,

Source: Thomson Financial; own calculations and estimates. Numbers are rounded.

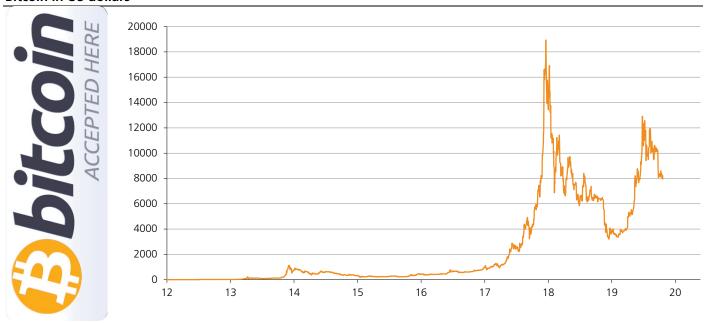
 $<sup>^{\</sup>left( 1\right) }$  Estimated return against actual price in percent.

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# Bitcoin, performance of various asset classes

# **Bitcoin in US dollars**

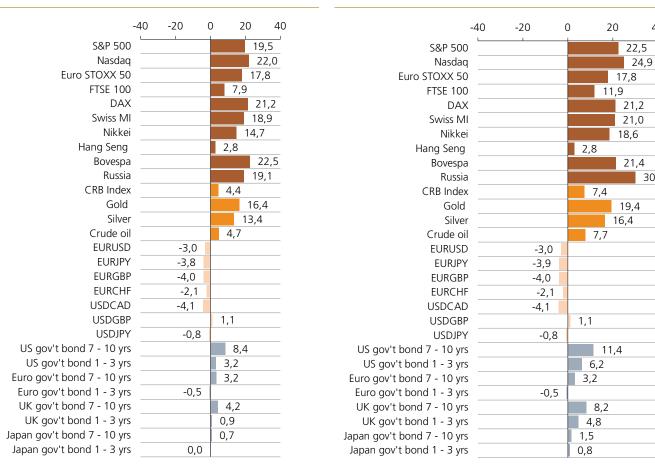


Source: Thomson Financial; graph by Degussa.

# Performance of stocks, commodities, FX and bonds

(a) In national currencies

(b) In euro



Source: Thomson Financial; calculations by Degussa.



Articles in earlier issues of the Degussa Market Report

Issue	Content
24 October 2019	The Inflationary Supply Of Unbacked US Dollars And The Price Of Gold
10 October 2019	Let's Get Physical With Gold And Silver
26 September 2019	The US Dollar Beast
12 September 2019	The Inflationary Tide That Lifts all Boats but One
29 August 2019	The Disaster of Negative Interest Rate Policy
15 August 2019	The Gold Bull Market Is Back
1 August 2019	Gold And Silver Prices – Get Going!
19 July 2019	Facebook's Fake Money
4 July 2019	It Looks Like A Gold Bull Market, It Feels Like A Gold Bull Market – Maybe It Is A Gold Bull Market?
19 June 2019	Good Money, Bad Money—And How Bitcoin Fits In
6 June 2019	Gold Outshines The US Dollar
23 May 2019	The Boom That Will Have It Coming
9 May 2019	The Crusade Against Risk
25 April 2019	A Sound Investment Rationale for Gold
11 April 2019	Be Prepared For All Possibilities. The Case For Gold
28 March 2019	Sword of Damocles Over Asset Prices
14 March 2019	The Big Central Banks Increase the Case for Gold
28 February 2019	The Fed Takes Full Control of the Bond Market – And Raises The Value of Gold
14 February 2019	Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Karl Marx and Central Banking (*But Were Afraid To Ask)
1 February 2019	Pay Attention, Gold Investor: 'This Time is not Different'
17 January 2019	US Interest Rate Down, Price of Gold up
20 December 2018	Gold Money in a Digitalised World Economy
10 December 2018	The Fed Supports Gold
23 November 2018	The Fed Is Not Our Saviour
9 November 2018	The Missing Fear – And The Case For Gold
26 October 2018	President Trump is right: The Fed Is A Big Problem
12 October 2018	Here Goes The Punch Bowl
28 September 218	The Fed's Blind Flight
14 September 2018	How Fed Policy Relates to the Price of Gold
31 August 2018	Central Banks Enrich a Select Few at the Expense of Many
17 August 2018	The US dollar And Gold – Is this Time Different?
20 July 2018	Not All Is Well In Financial Markets
22 June 2018	Euro-Banks In Trouble. A Case for Gold
8 June 2018	Demand for Gold ETFs up Despite Higher Interest Rates
25 May 2018	Mind The Interest Rate
11 May 2018	Mr Buffett on Gold – Viewed Differently
27 April 2018	Moving Towards Higher Gold Prices
13 April 2018	The Risk of a Currency Crisis
29 March 2018	Walking the Tightrope

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6 24 October 2019

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