

Trade volume steady on US demand, front-loading on again?

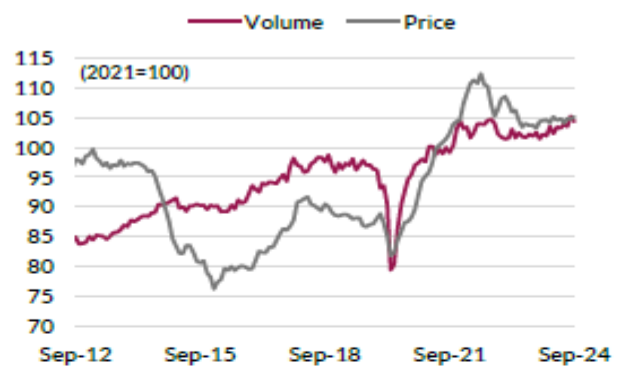
- Global goods trade grew 4% YoY in Sep-2024. Volumes (+3% YoY) continue to be above the 2017-19 trend. While prices grew +1% YoY, they are still 6% below peak, keeping the value of global trade 6% below its June 2022 peak too.
- In Sep, import volumes surged in the US (+10% YoY & 3m/3m) leading to deficit widening. While export volumes from China moderated (+4% YoY; 3m/3m -1%), those from Rest of Asia (+5% YoY) and LatAm (+6%) picked up.
- Nearer-term, rising shipping costs (container +14%; bulk Capesize +41% MoM in Nov) point to front-loading of shipments to the US resuming post-election; trade flows suggest China exports may be reaching US shores via Asia/LatAm.

Exhibit 1 - Nominal trade rose 4% YoY in Sep-24



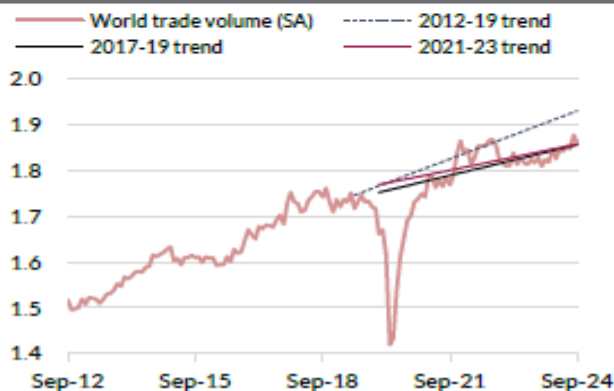
Source: CEIC, Axis Bank Research

Exhibit 2 - Volatility in trade continuing to be price-led



Source: CPB, Axis Bank Research

Exhibit 3 - Sep-24 was off the new high in Aug, but global trade volume remained above the 2017-19 trend



Source: CPB, CEIC, Axis Bank Research

Exhibit 4 - MoM growth in seasonally-adjusted nominal trade remains positive



Source: CEIC, Axis Bank Research

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