Capital Markets Strategy
Essential inCights for the C-Suite

Chart of the Day

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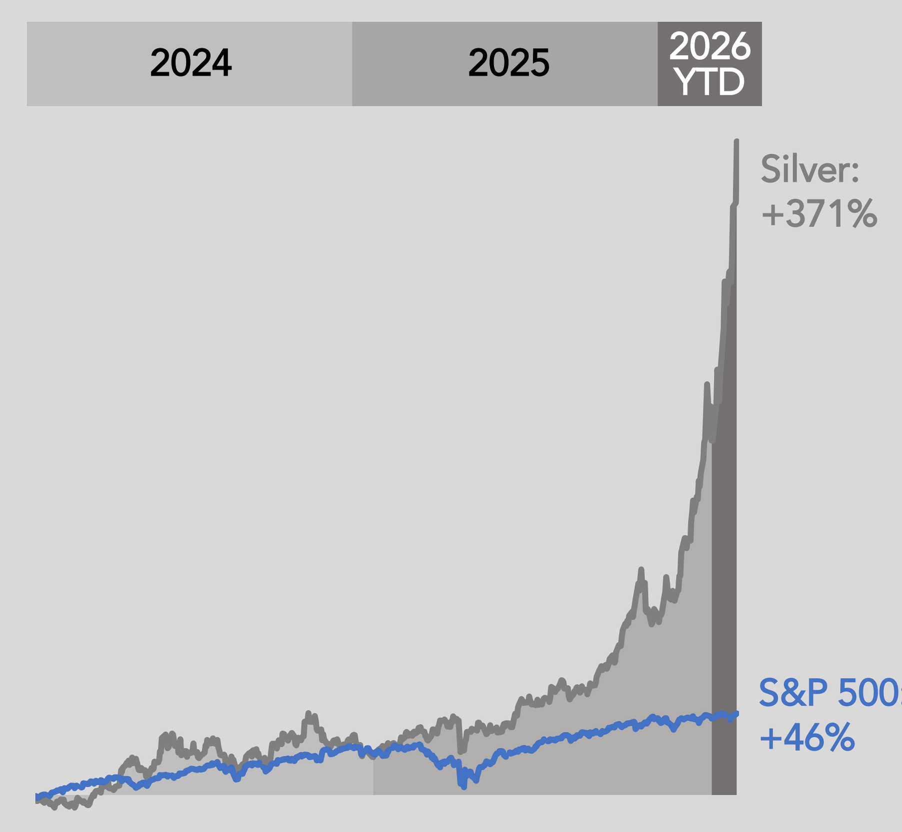
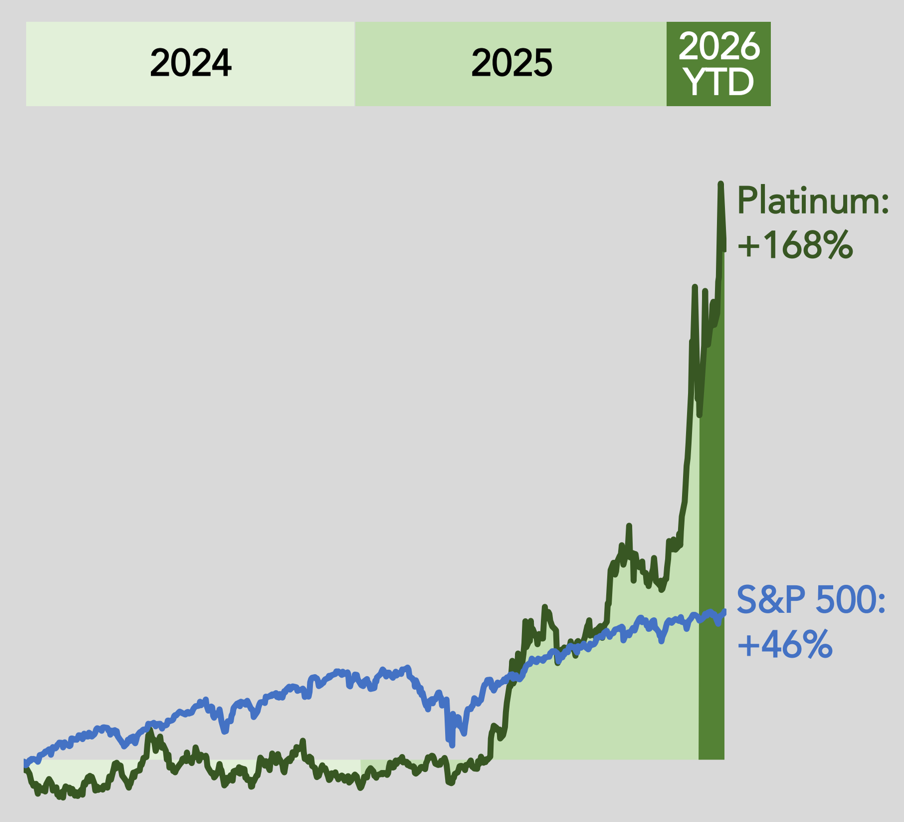
Synchronized, Parabolic Growth for the "Core Four"

Since 2024, the **"core four" precious metals - silver, gold, platinum and palladium** - have delivered one of the strongest multi-year runs on record. The powerful and highly correlated move higher has been driven by a tectonic shift in the global macro backdrop, heightened US policy risk (tariffs, foreign policy, Fed independence), **fiat credibility concerns and higher global structural demand** from central banks, retail and institutional investors. This, in turn, has created a **"strategic premium"** for the core four precious metals, as evidenced by their **synchronized, parabolic asset appreciation over the last two years.**

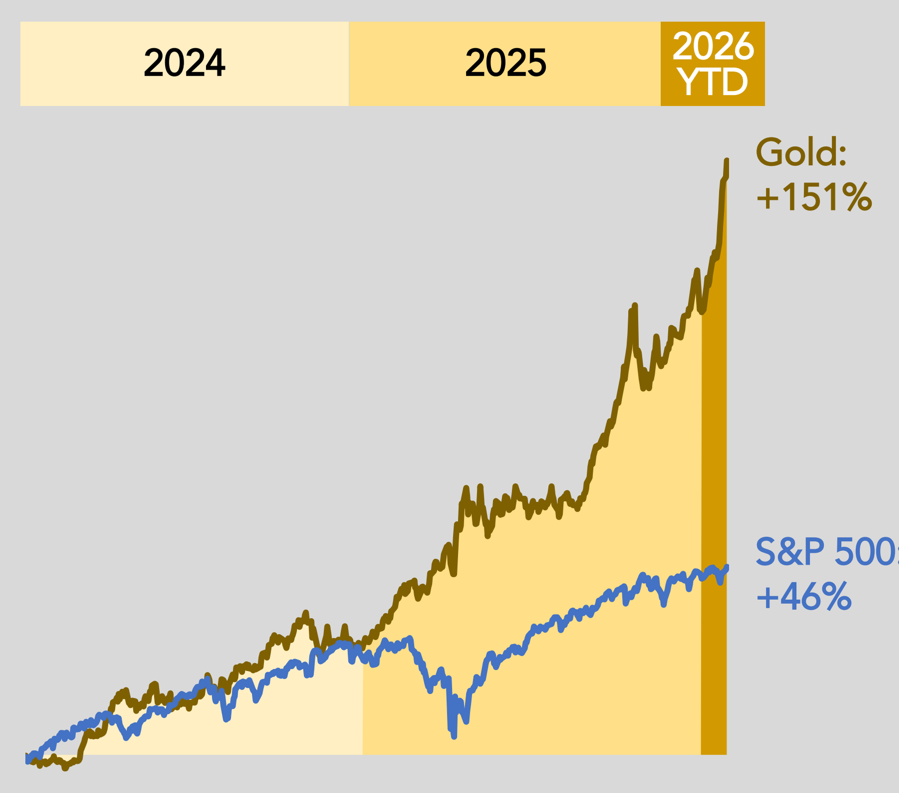
Silver since Jan 1, 2024



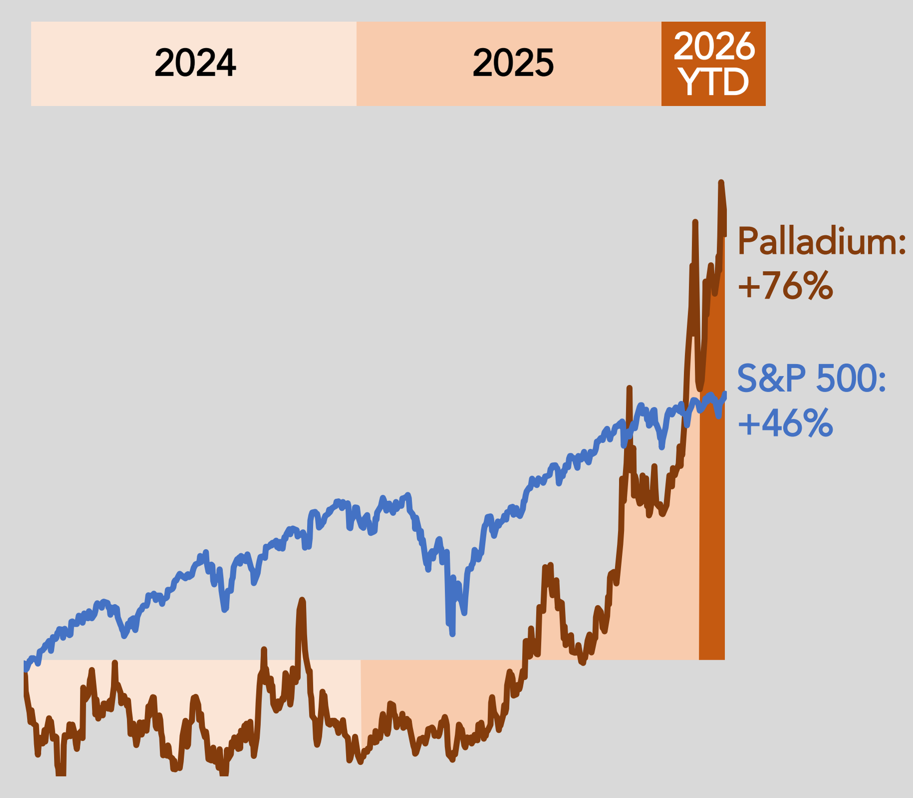
Platinum since Jan 1, 2024



Gold since Jan 1, 2024



Palladium since Jan 1, 2024

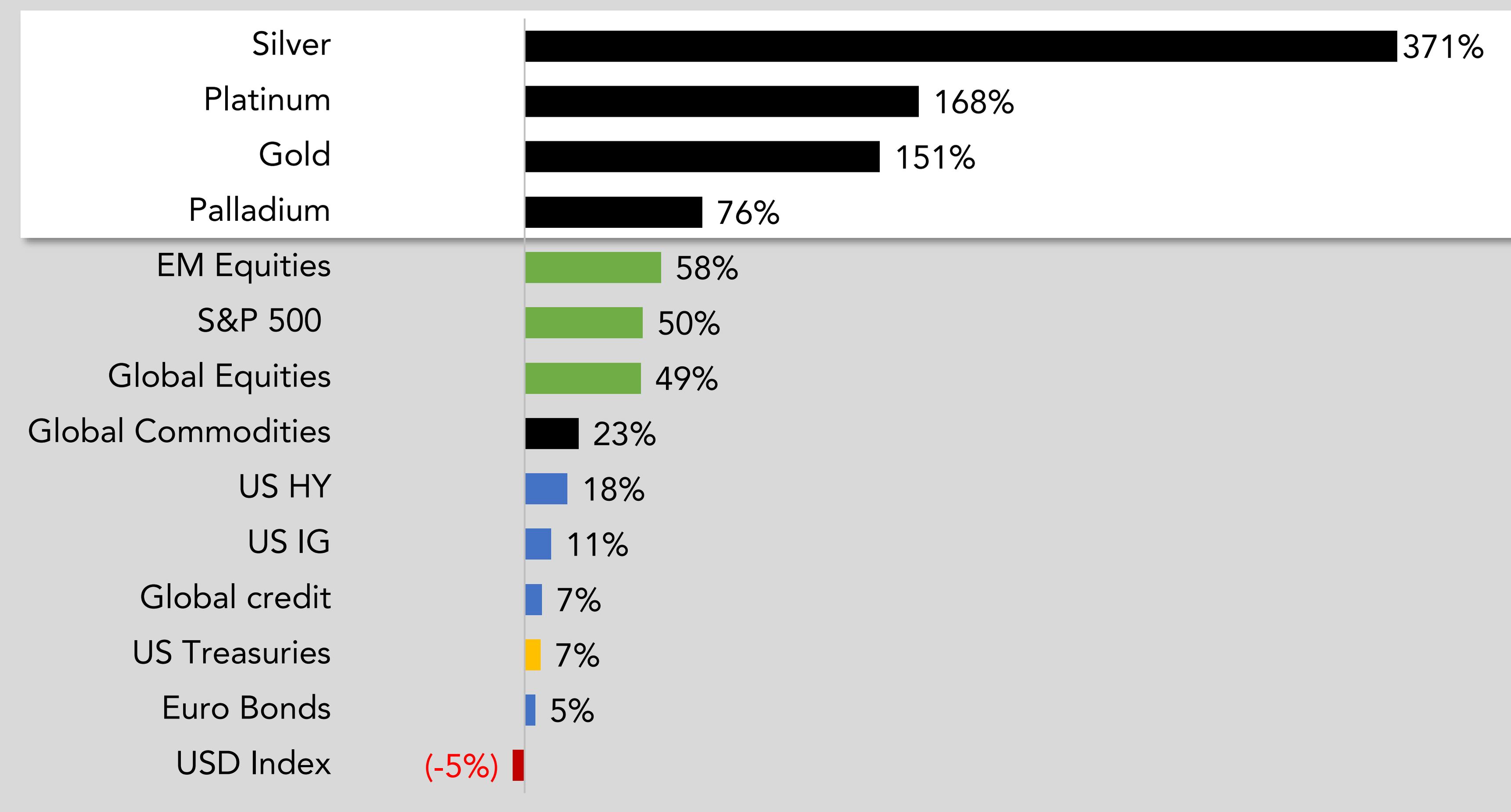


Source: (1-4) Bloomberg. Data as of January 27, 2026.

Precious Metals Outshine Global Asset Classes

For more than 5,000 years, gold has been a **store of value for individuals, with a safe haven appeal** for today's investor that is closely linked to **the depth and liquidity of the market.** The other core precious metals - silver, platinum and palladium - have also demonstrated **upside convexity compared to stocks and bonds since 2024**, as evidenced by their disproportionate gains in the current bull market regime vis-a-vis more linear historical trading patterns.

Total returns since Jan 1, 2024

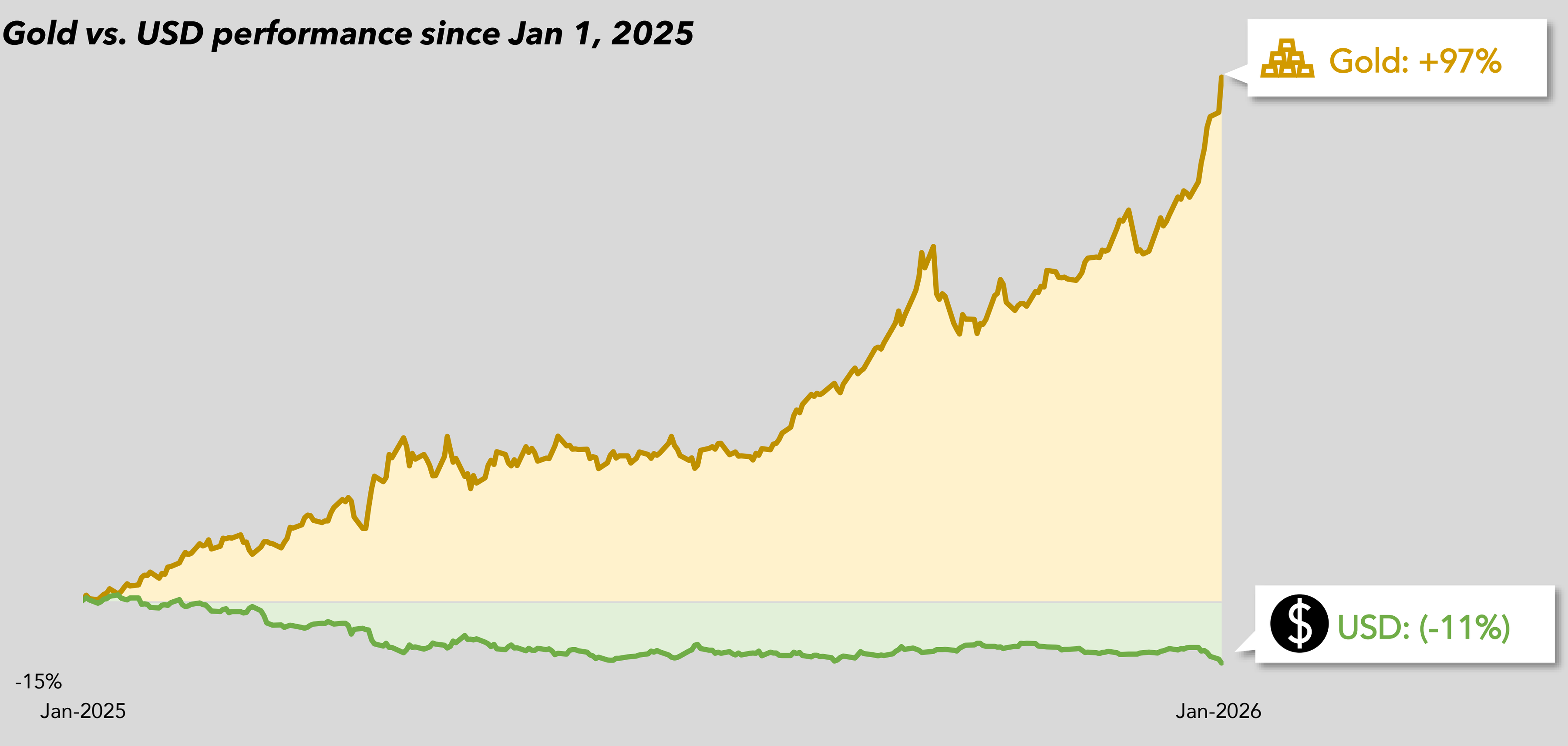


Source: Bloomberg. Data as of January 27, 2026.

De-Dollarization Through Gold Markets

During the heightened policy risk of 2025 (i.e., trade war), flows into gold ETFs reached $89 billion, **the highest annual inflow on record**. As US policy risk accelerated in the first few weeks of the year (tariff threats, Venezuela, Greenland, DOJ investigation of Chair Powell), gold has risen more than 20% in January 2026, **its strongest monthly performance in over 40 years.** De-dollarization linked to **fiat currency credibility concerns** has become a core macro theme since 2024, **an enduring mega-trend** we expect to continue in a gradual pace of multi-year diversification.

Gold vs. USD performance since Jan 1, 2025

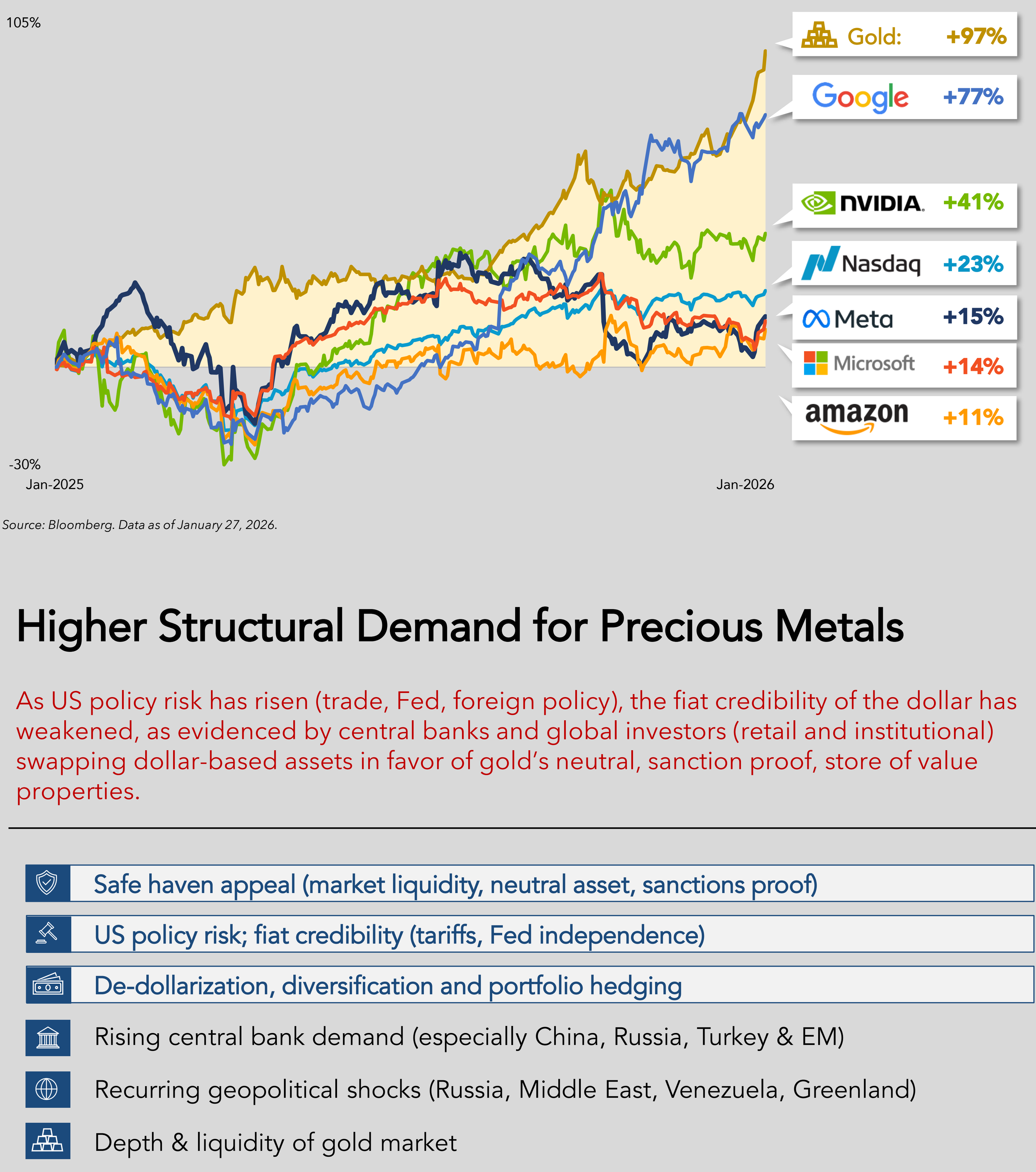


Source: Bloomberg. Data as of January 27, 2026.

Gold Outperforming High Growth Tech & AI

While 13 months may be a narrow trading window for analysis, global investors have nonetheless assigned a "strategic premium" to gold since January 2025 that has been as much as 3-4x higher than high growth US tech and AI stocks. From a valuation perspective, the starting point matters as NASDAQ and AI growth stocks entered 2025 with forward P/E multiples well above historic averages. While tech stocks enjoy lower discount rates than other industry sectors, gold is not valued on a discounted cash flow basis, nor does it have multiple expansion linked to earnings growth. Adding to its risk-adjusted appeal, gold's volatility during this period of extraordinary outperformance has also been markedly below that of single-name AI equities.

US equities and gold performance, since Jan 1, 2025



Source: Bloomberg. Data as of January 27, 2026.

Higher Structural Demand for Precious Metals

As US policy risk has risen (trade, Fed, foreign policy), the fiat credibility of the dollar has weakened, as evidenced by central banks and global investors (retail and institutional) swapping dollar-based assets in favor of gold's neutral, sanction proof, store of value properties.

- Safe haven appeal (market liquidity, neutral asset, sanctions proof)
- US policy risk; fiat credibility (tariffs, Fed independence)
- De-dollarization, diversification and portfolio hedging
- Rising central bank demand (especially China, Russia, Turkey & EM)
- Recurring geopolitical shocks (Russia, Middle East, Venezuela, Greenland)
- Depth & liquidity of gold market
- Fiscal policy, debt & deficit concerns; "sticky" inflation
- USD weakness strengthens non-US purchasing power
- Japanese Gov Bond (JGB) market volatility
- Tight supply; under-investment; speculative positioning
- Industrial demand & AI infrastructure expansion

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"Macro stability isn't everything, but without it, you have nothing."