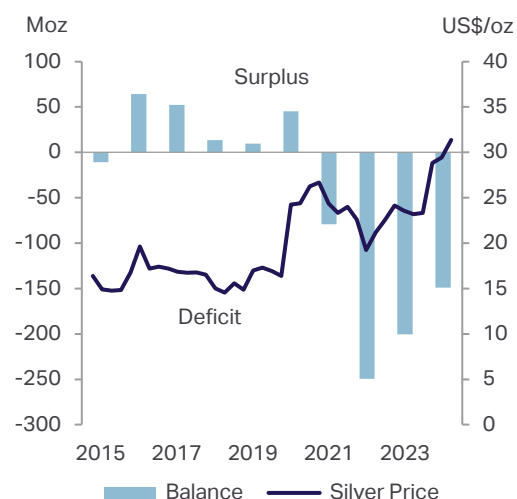


Market Balance



Source: Metals Focus, Bloomberg

strong supply-demand conditions over the past few years should be all the more reason for the metal to outperform gold.

Silver failed to do this in 2024 however, just as it had done during the previous year. The gold:silver ratio moved sideways over much of 2024, mostly fluctuating between 80:1 and 90:1. While gold has broken a series of all-time records and in late March trades around 60% above its 2011 high, silver remains nearly one-third short of its respective peak during that year. In our view, silver's "failure to launch" is mainly due to the macro and geopolitical drivers of the past couple of years being primarily supportive of gold's more widely accepted quasi-monetary properties. Related to this, some of the key market participants of the past two years, for example macro/generalist funds and sovereigns, are comfortable with the gold's market depth and tradition as a diversifier, but less so with silver's smaller size and industrial attributes. Its strong supply-demand conditions also have had as yet a limited impact on its price, due to still plentiful above-ground stocks of silver.

Silver Supply and Demand

Silver Supply and Demand											Year on Year	
Million ounces	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025F	2024	2025F
Supply												
Mine Production	900.1	863.9	850.8	837.4	783.8	830.8	839.4	812.7	819.7	835.0	1%	2%
Recycling	156.3	160.2	162.3	163.8	180.5	190.7	193.5	183.5	193.9	193.2	6%	-0.4%
Net Hedging Supply	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	na	na
Net Official Sector Sales	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	-9%	4%
Total Supply	1,057.4	1,025.1	1,014.3	1,016.2	974.0	1,023.1	1,034.6	997.8	1,015.1	1,030.6	2%	2%
Demand												
Industrial (total)	491.0	528.0	525.8	525.4	511.9	564.1	592.3	657.1	680.5	677.4	4%	-0.5%
Electrical & Electronics	309.0	339.1	330.4	326.6	321.4	350.7	370.7	444.4	460.5	465.6	4%	1%
...of which photovoltaics	81.6	99.3	87.0	74.9	82.8	88.9	118.1	192.7	197.6	195.7	3%	-1%
Brazing Alloys & Solders	49.1	50.9	52.0	52.4	47.5	50.5	49.2	50.2	51.6	52.9	3%	3%
Other Industrial	132.9	138.0	143.5	146.4	142.9	162.9	172.4	162.6	168.4	158.9	4%	-6%
Photography	34.7	32.4	31.4	30.7	26.9	27.7	27.7	27.3	25.5	24.2	-7%	-5%
Jewelry	189.1	196.2	203.2	201.6	150.9	182.0	234.5	203.1	208.7	196.2	3%	-6%
Silverware	53.5	59.4	67.1	61.3	31.2	40.7	73.5	55.1	54.2	46.0	-2%	-15%
Coin & Net Bar Demand	212.9	155.8	165.9	187.4	208.1	284.3	338.3	244.3	190.9	204.4	-22%	7%
Net Hedging Demand	12.0	1.1	7.4	0.0	0.0	3.5	17.9	11.5	4.3	0.0	-62%	na
Total Demand	993.3	972.9	1,000.8	1,006.4	929.0	1,102.4	1,284.2	1,198.5	1,164.1	1,148.3	-3%	-1%
Market Balance												
Market Balance	64.1	52.2	13.5	9.8	45.1	-79.3	-249.6	-200.6	-148.9	-117.6	-26%	-21%
Net Investment in ETPs	53.9	7.2	-21.4	83.3	331.1	64.9	-117.4	-37.6	61.6	70.0	na	14%
Market Balance less ETPs	10.2	45.1	34.9	-73.5	-286.1	-144.3	-132.2	-163.0	-210.5	-187.6	29%	-11%
Silver Price (US\$/oz, London price)	17.14	17.05	15.71	16.21	20.55	25.14	21.73	23.35	28.27	-	21%	na

Source: Metals Focus