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RO/RO trends to follow global breadth improvement?

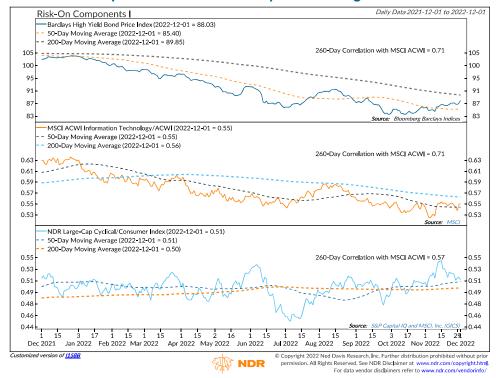
Key Takeaways

- Most risk-on proxies are above their 50-day smoothings but not above their 200-day.
- The 50-day diffusion index is positive, but not the 200-day.
- Most stocks and markets are above their 50-day and 200-day smoothings.

While trend analysis is based on the concept that the trend is your friend, the trend assessment doesn't have to be limited to the index in question. The trend conditions of different but positively correlating markets, ratios or relative strength lines can be used as indicators, as can the trend status of inverse correlators.

With that in mind, we monitor the indicators in our Risk-On/Risk-Off report, which includes six positively correlating risk-on components and six inversely correlated risk-off proxies. Confirmation of an uptrend is provided when risk-on indices are at least as strong as the benchmark while the risk-off indices are weakening.

Most risk-on proxies above 50-day smoothings



Watching risk-on proxy trends

Now that the S&P 500 and broader All Country World Index have both crossed above their 50-day and 200-day moving averages, we can look to see how many of the risk-on proxies have followed suit. Most are now above their 50-day smoothings but not their 200-day averages.

As shown above, the 50-day moving averages have been crossed by the Barclays High Yield Bond Price Index (top clip), the relative strength of the ACWI Technology sector (middle clip), and the Large-Cap Cyclical/Consumer Ratio (bottom clip).

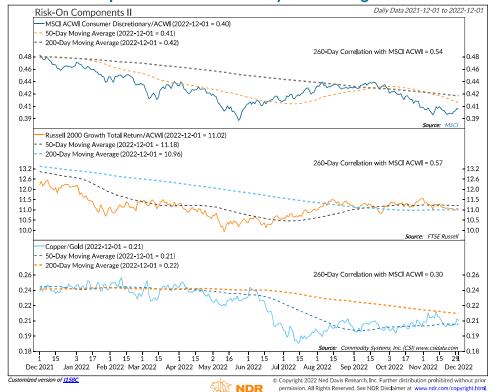
But only the latter is above its 200-day smoothing.

Featuring the other three risk-on proxies, the chart at the top of Page 2 shows that the relative strength line of the ACWI Consumer Discretionary sector is below both its 50-day and 200-day moving averages (top clip), while the Russell 2000 Growth Index's relative strength is below its 50-day moving average but above its 200-day smoothing (middle clip). The copper/gold ratio is above its 50-day smoothing but below its 200-day smoothing (bottom clip).

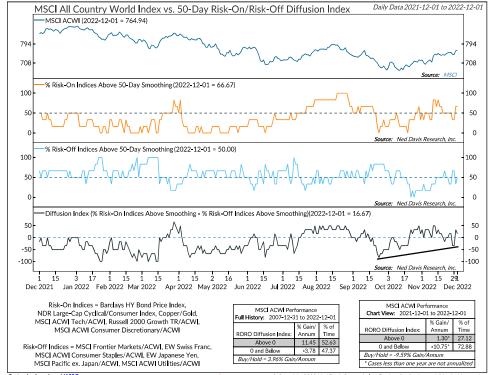
Among the inversely correlating risk-off proxies, the Pacific ex. Japan relative strength line and equal-weighted Swiss franc are still providing a risk-off message in holding above their 50-day and 200-day moving averages, while the equal-weighted Japanese yen is above its 50-day but below its 200-day.

The ACWI Consumer Staples sector's relative strength line is <u>below</u> the 50-day but above the 200-day. And the relative strength lines of Frontier Markets and the ACWI Utilities sector are below both of their smoothings.

Most risk-on proxies below 200-day smoothings



Positive 50-Day RO/RO Diffusion Index



Watching diffusion indices

To sort this out, we can turn to our Risk-On/Risk-Off Diffusion Indices, which compare the percentages of risk-on and risk-off indices above their smoothings.

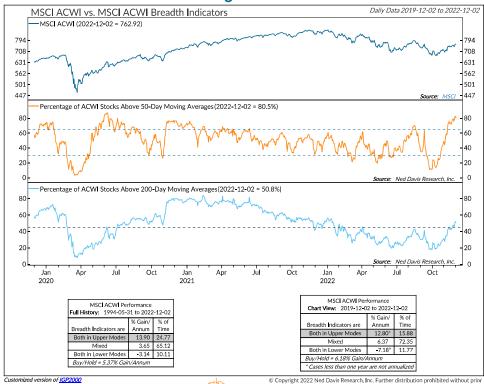
The chart at left shows that the 50-day index is now positive and in a mode in which the ACWI has risen at a double-digit pace since 2007. But the 200-day index is not confirming, instead remaining in its neutral mode.

Strengthening global breadth

As shown at right, a more bullish picture is already provided by the percentage of ACWI stocks above their 200-day smoothings (bottom clip), which has now followed the percentage of stocks above their 50-day smoothings (middle clip) in rising above 50%.

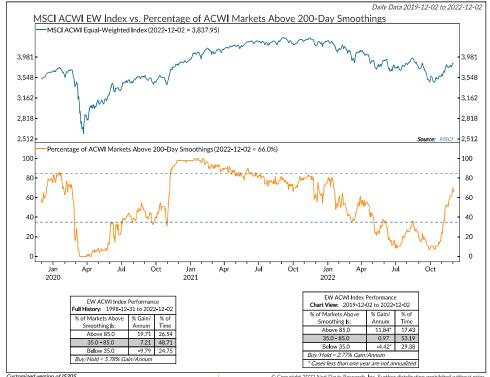
When both percentages have been in their upper modes at the same time, the ACWI has risen at a double-digit pace since 1994 and over the three-year period shown in the chart.

Most stocks above smoothings



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Most markets above smoothings



The percentage of markets above their 200-day smoothings has also followed the <u>50-day indicator</u> in exceeding 50%. If it reaches 85% in the chart at left, the indicator will turn green in our <u>Rally Watch</u> report.

Across global market indices and component stocks, the breadth improvement has been decisive. If that could also be said about the trends of the risk-on and risk-off proxies, it would provide strong support for the case that a new bull market has gotten underway.

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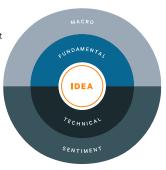
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