8 October 2026

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Japanese Investor Flows
August 2026

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Japanese investors cut sovereign bond holdings as Bund and Treasury selling outweighs OAT buying

The Bank of Japan (BoJ) and Ministry of Finance's (MoF) Balance of Payments statistics released monthly data for **August 2026** on the net purchase of selected sovereign markets. We focus on the US, Canada, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden and Denmark.

The data for **August 2026** shows the following**:**

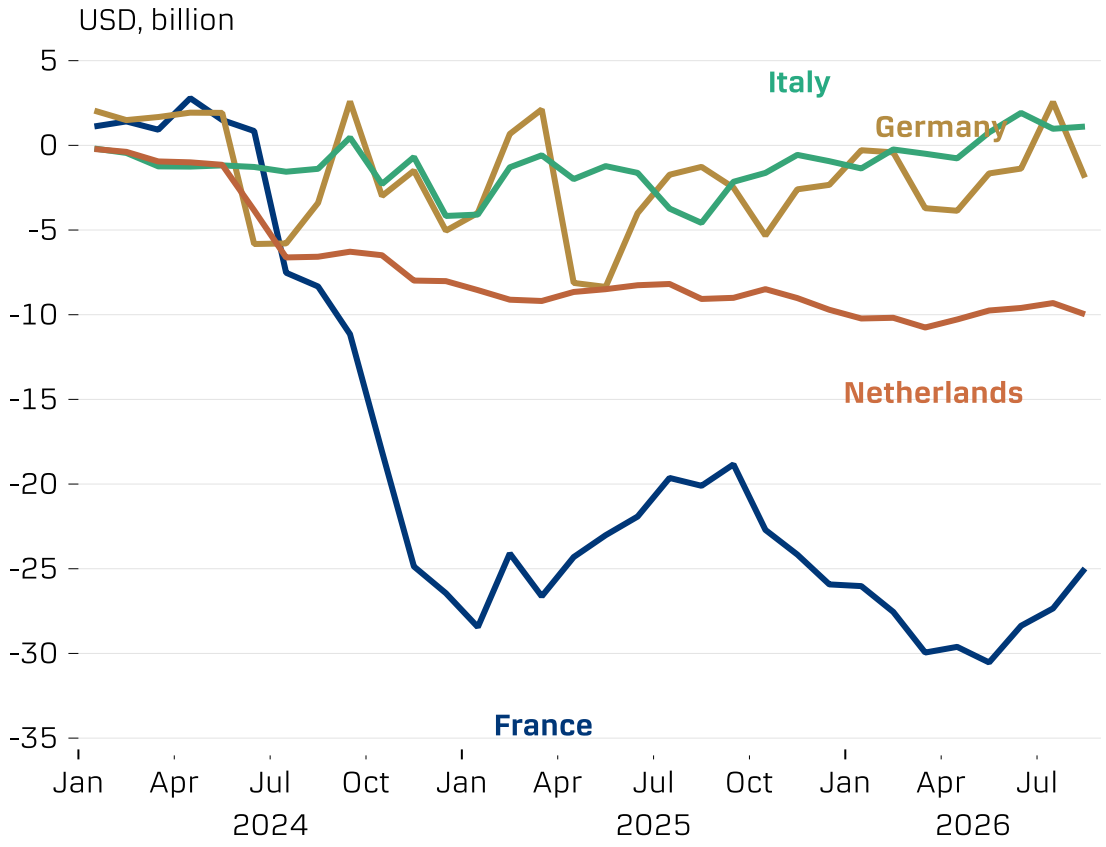
- Japanese investors reduced their overall sovereign bond holdings by USD5.2bn in August, cutting exposure across both Europe and the US, apart from France, where they increased their holdings. Net selling was led by Bunds at USD4.5bn and US Treasuries at USD3.2bn, while previous months' demand for OATs continued, with net buying of USD2.4bn.
- In the Danish bond market, Japanese investors were broadly unchanged in August, with overall holdings of Danish bonds declining by USD18m. They bought USD38m in DGBs, while holdings of Danish callable mortgage debt declined by USD56m.
- Japanese investors also reduced holdings across the other Scandinavian bond markets, with net selling of USD101m in Norwegian bonds and USD58m in Swedish bonds, while SGB holdings were unchanged.
- Weekly flow data from the Bank of Japan (BoJ) indicates that Japanese investors remained net sellers of overseas debt in September, with net selling totalling approximately USD6.2bn (page 13).

Note. The charts below show accumulated net purchases since 2008. Hence, we see the flow, but we do not know the stock, as we do not know the initial holdings back in 2008.

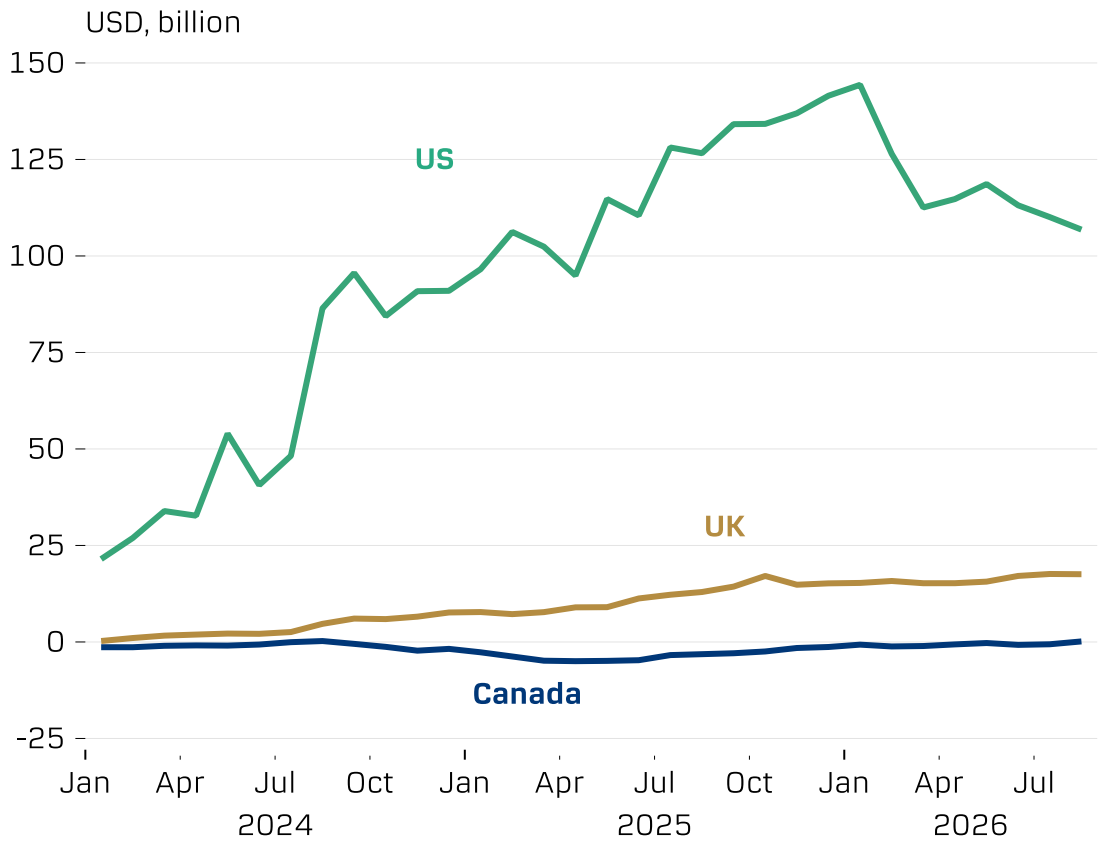
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors reduced sovereign bond exposure to the US and Germany but increased holdings in France

Japan, EU sovereign bond holdings, acc.



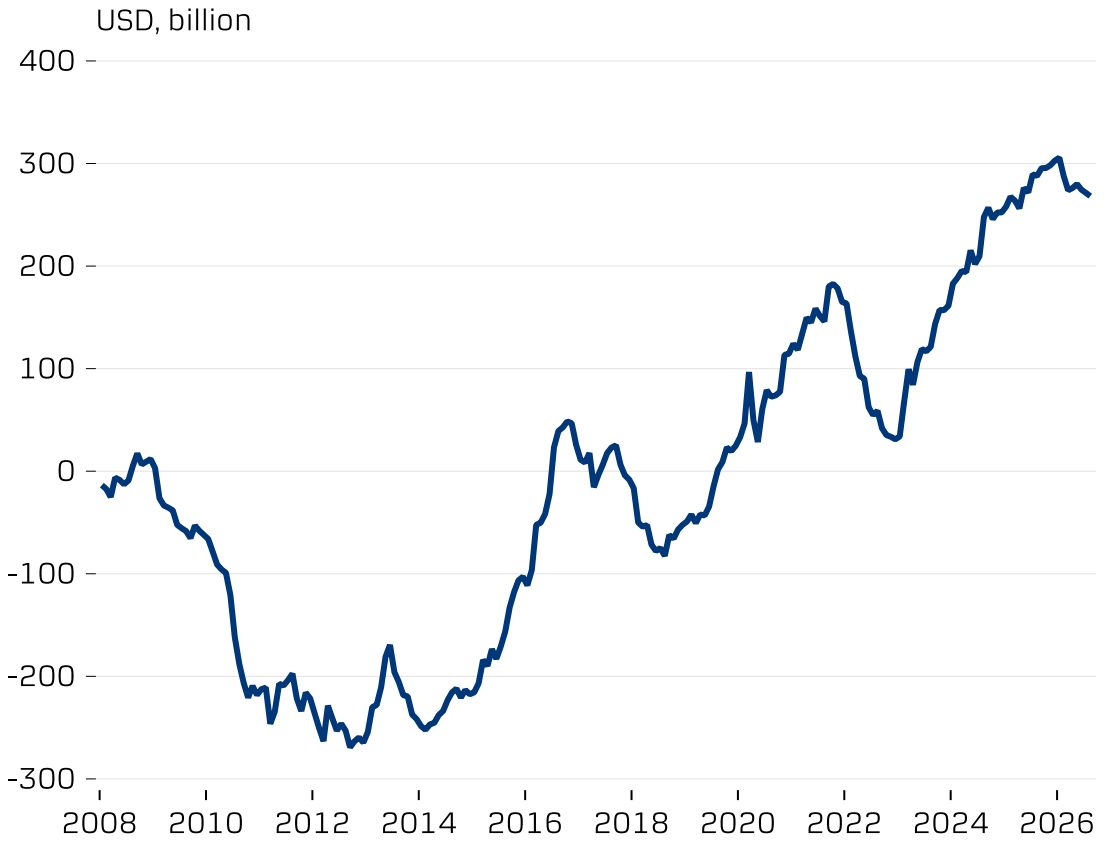
Japan, other sovereign bond holdings, acc.



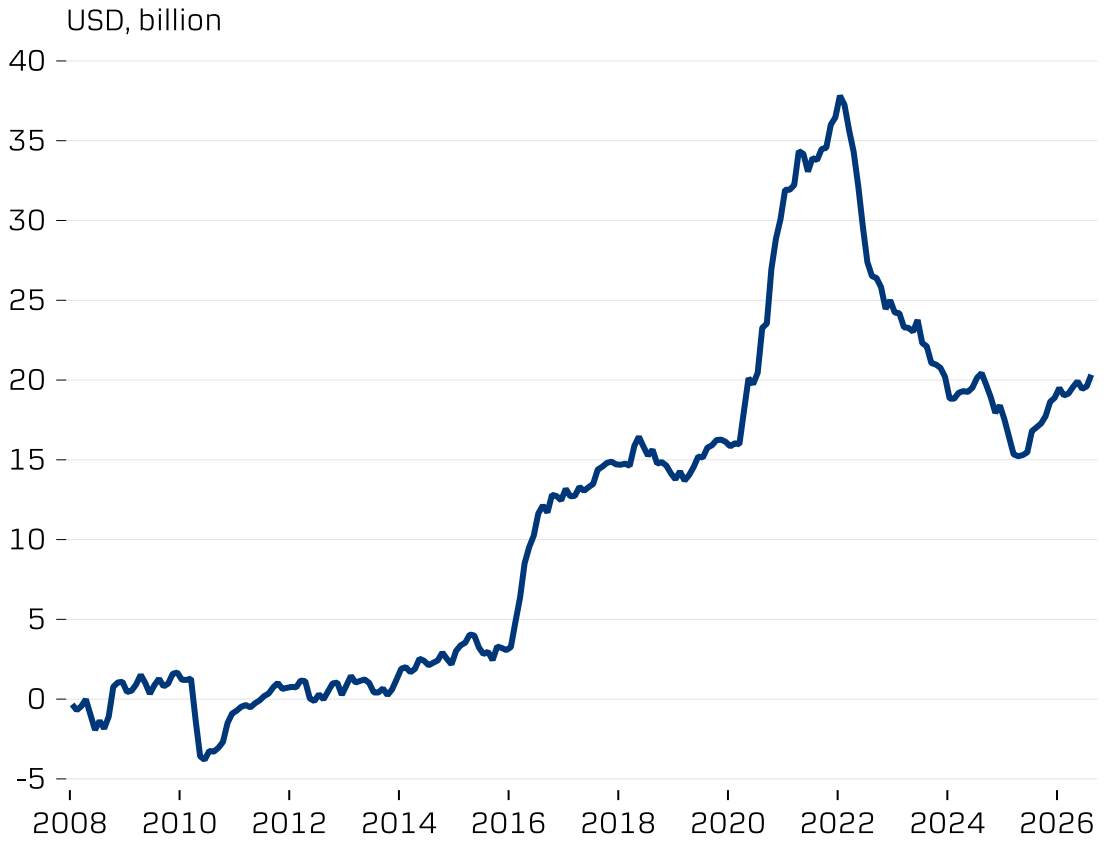
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors sold US Treasuries for the third consecutive month in August, with net sales of USD3.2bn, while adding USD0.7bn in Canadian govt. bonds

Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases USA, acc.



Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases Canada, acc.



Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors increased holdings of OATs for the third month in a row, adding USD2.4bn, while recording the largest net selling of Bunds in 2026 at USD4.5bn

Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases France, acc.



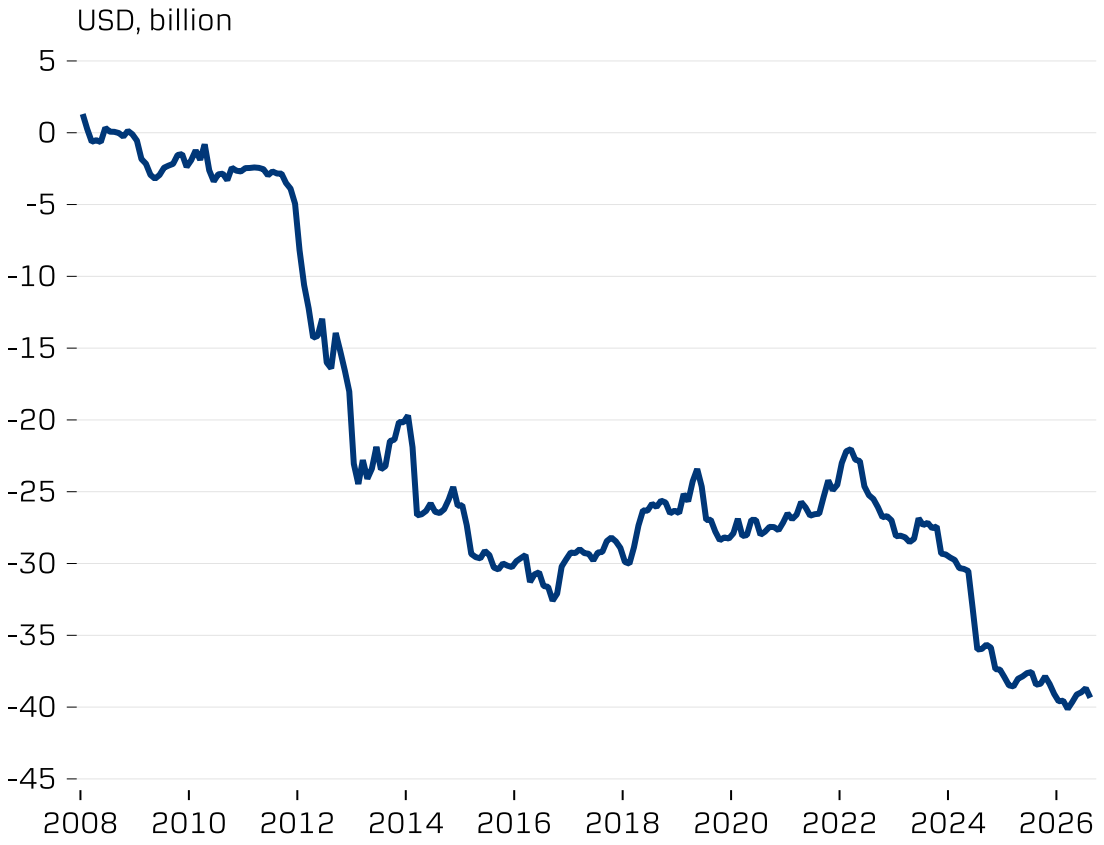
Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases Germany, acc.



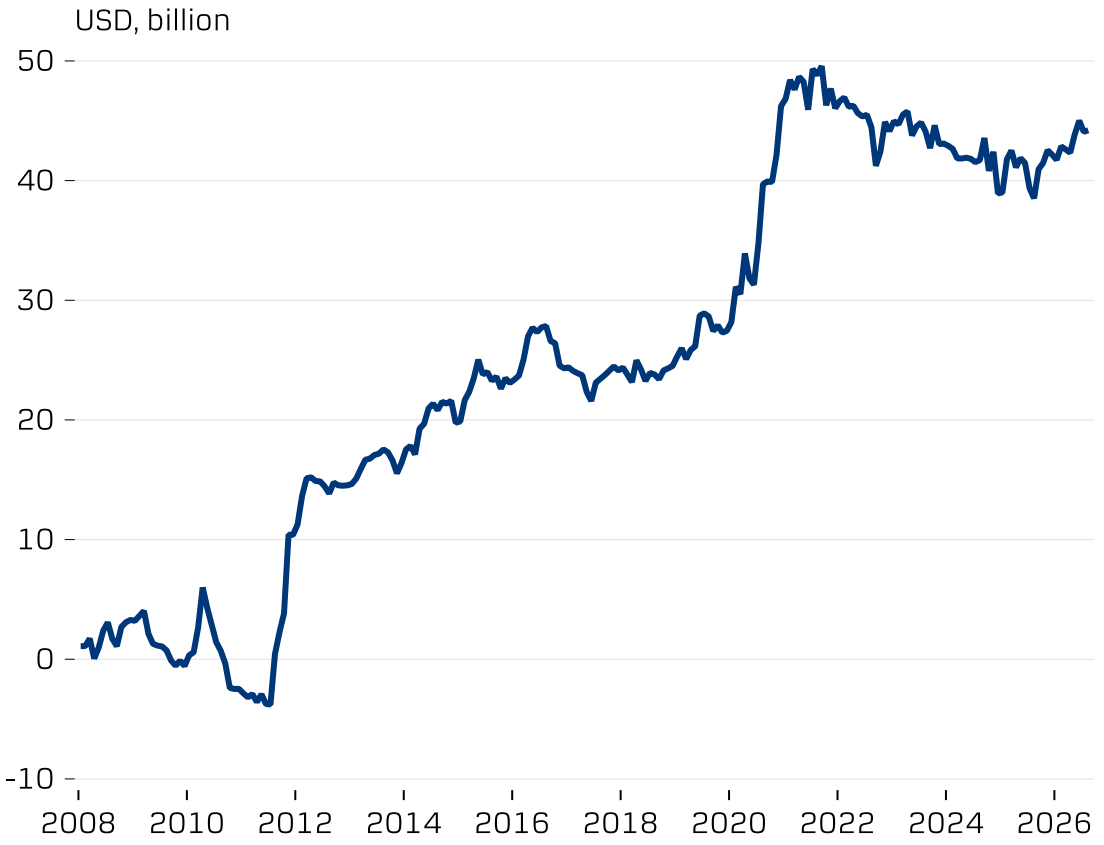
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors net sold USD0.7bn in Dutch govt. bonds in August, while buying a net USD0.1bn in BTPs

Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases Netherlands, acc.



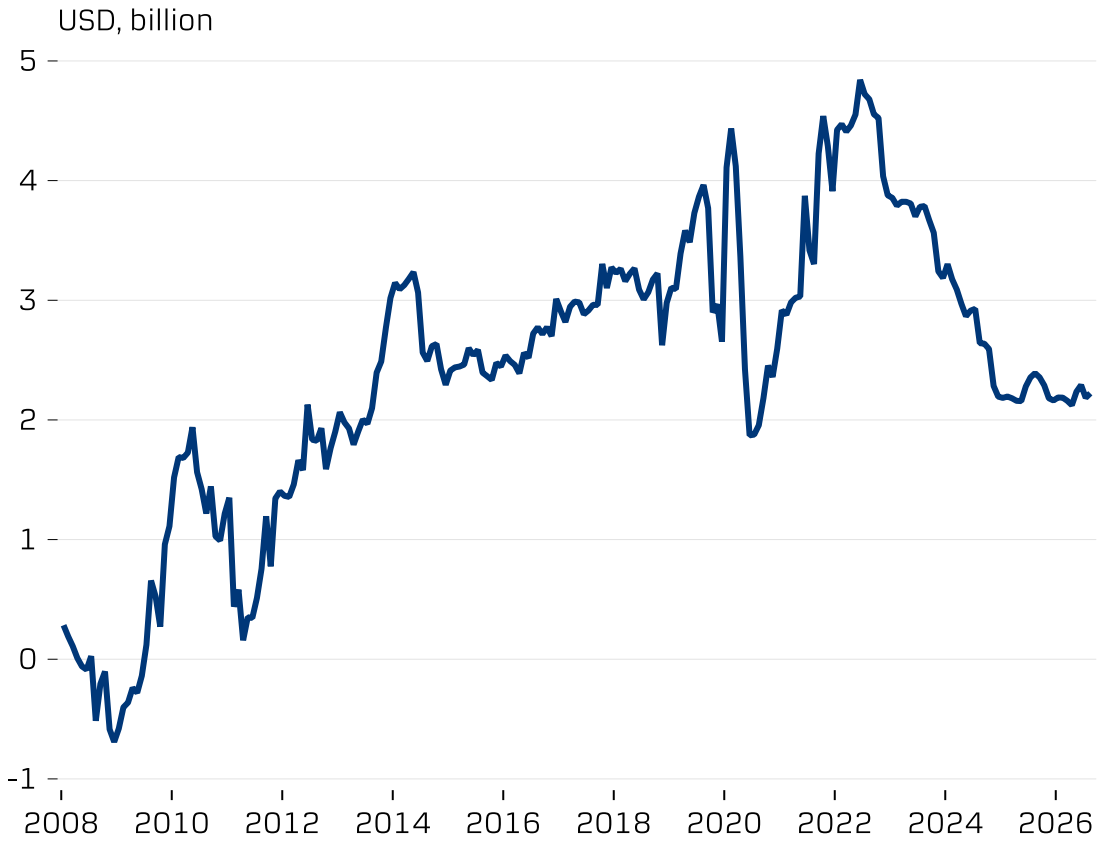
Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases Italy, acc.



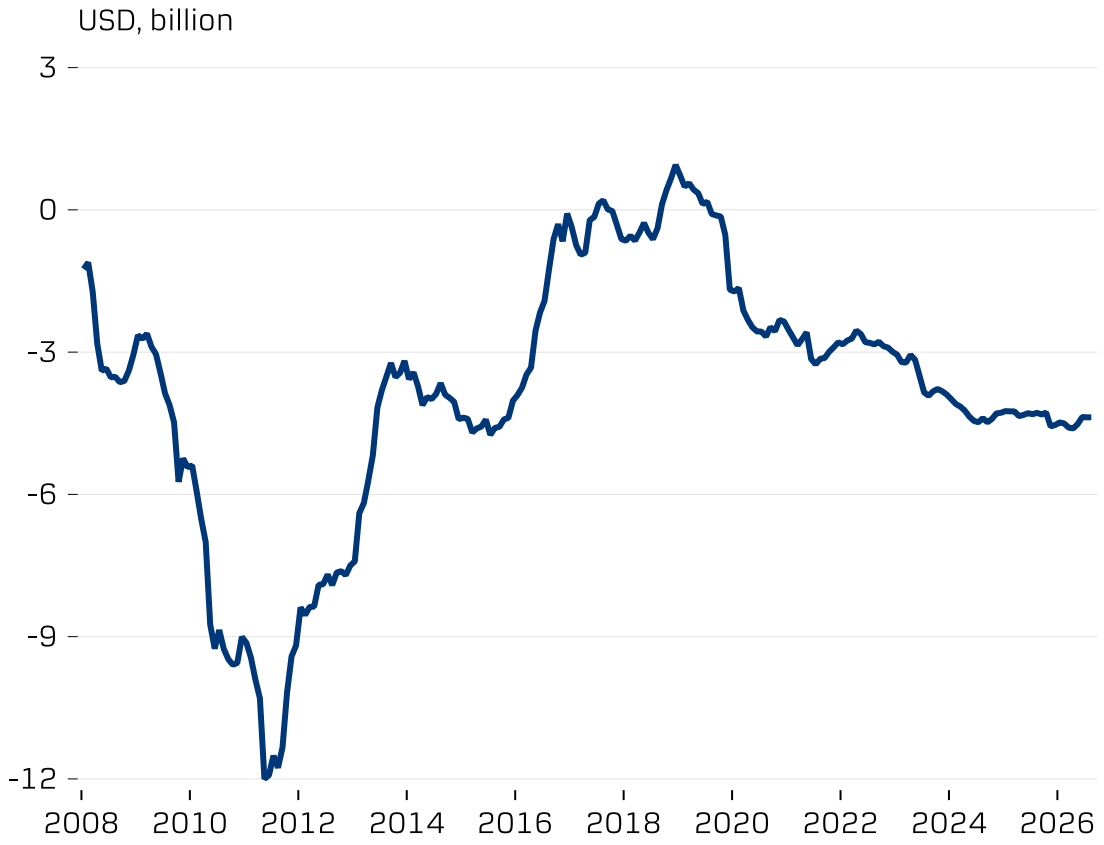
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors were broadly unchanged in Scandinavian sovereign bonds in August, with net buying of USD38m in DGBs and unchanged holdings in SGBs

Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases Denmark, acc.



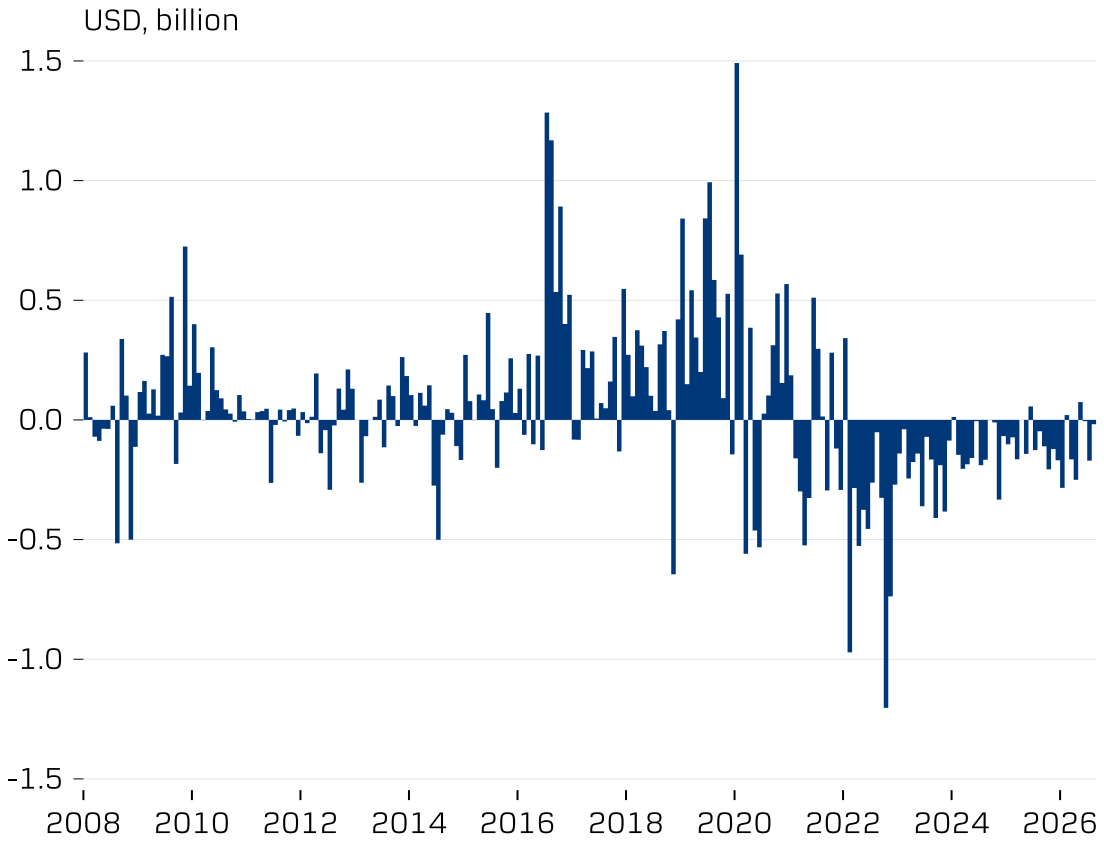
Japan, BoP net Sovereign bond purchases Sweden, acc.



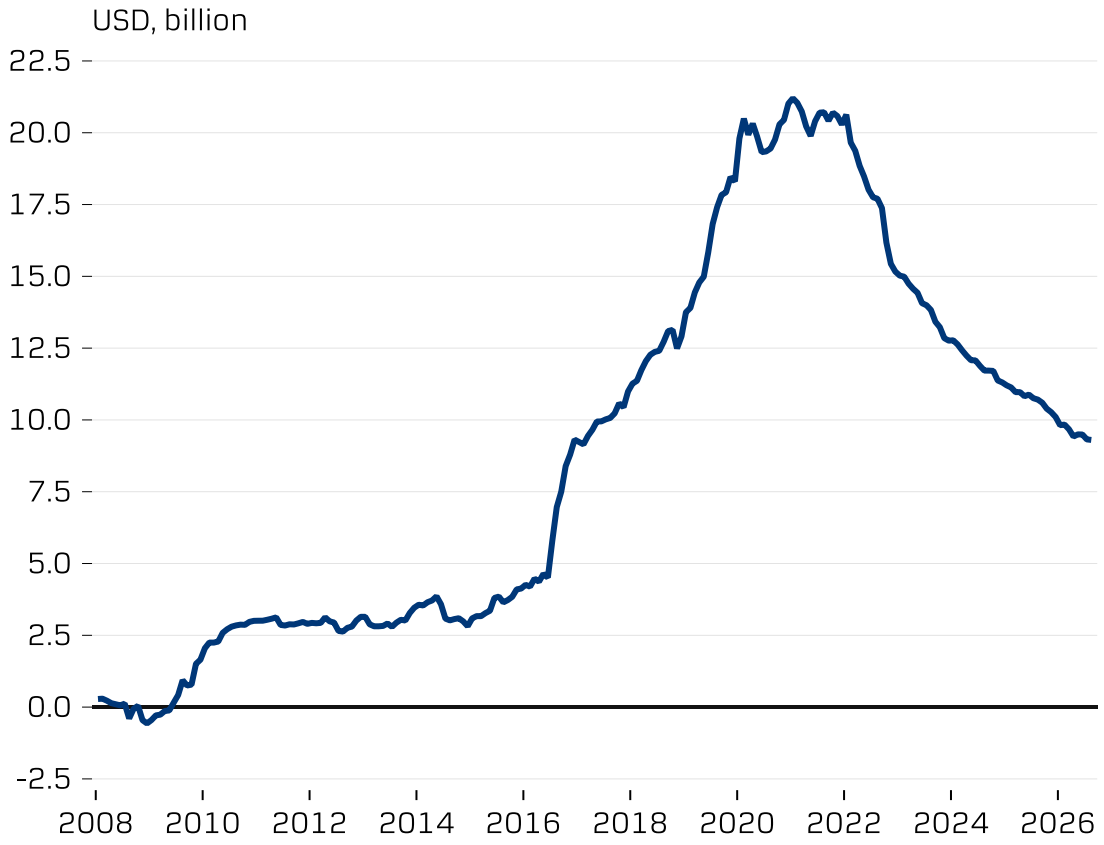
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Overall holdings of Danish bonds declined by USD18m in August, extending the downtrend seen in recent years

Japan, net purchases of DKK bonds



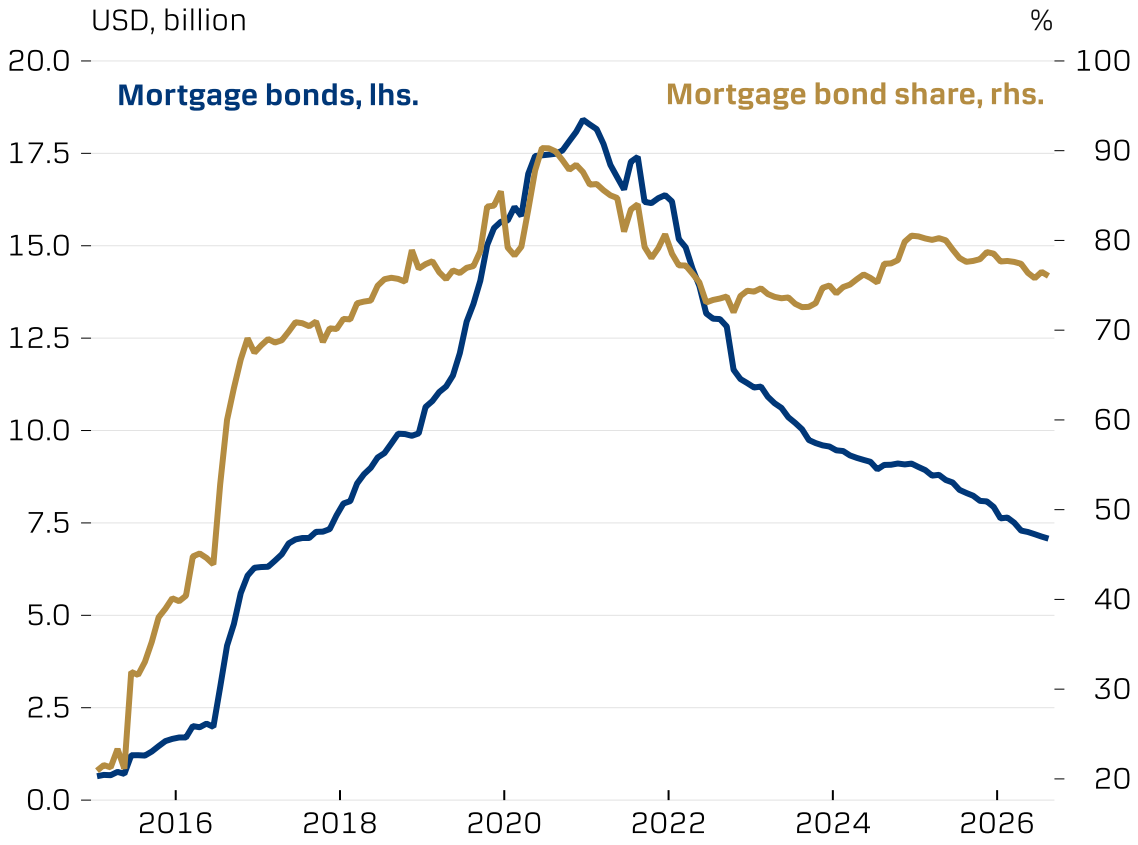
Japan, net purchases of DKK bonds, acc.



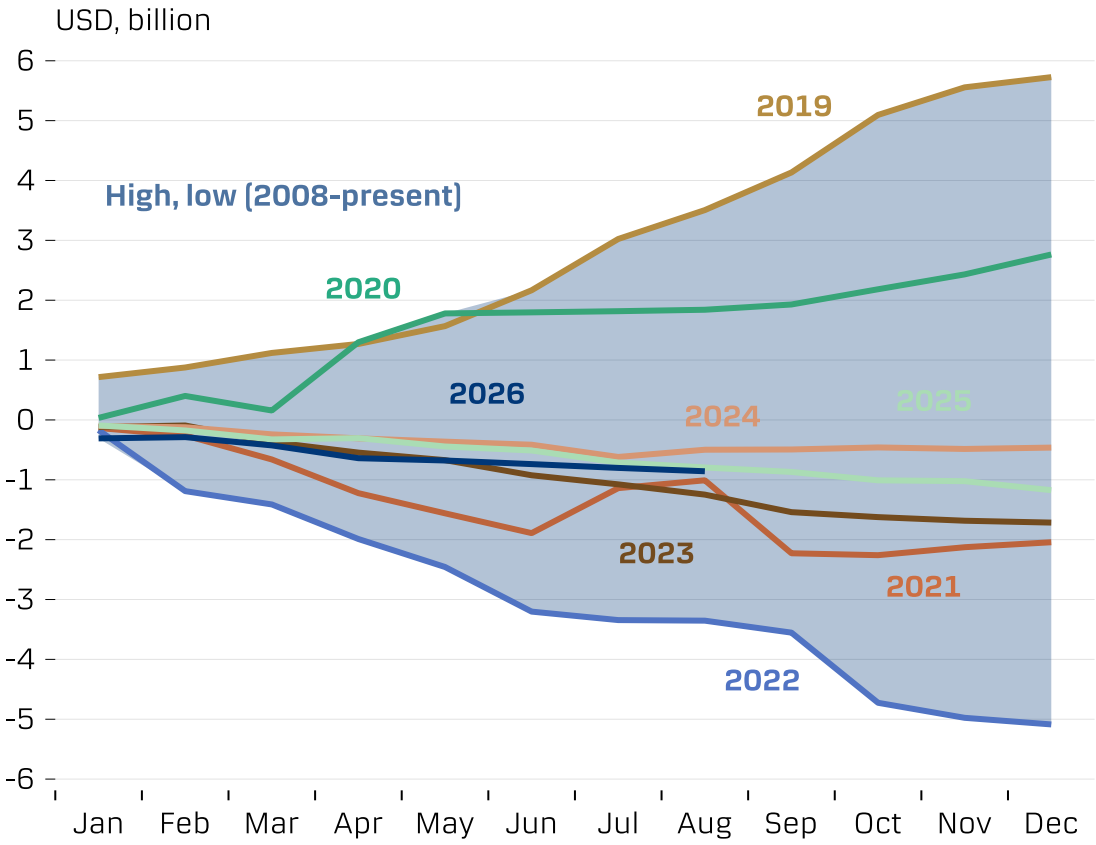
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors reduced holdings of Danish callable mortgage debt by USD56m in August

Japan, implicit net purchases of covered DKK bonds, acc.



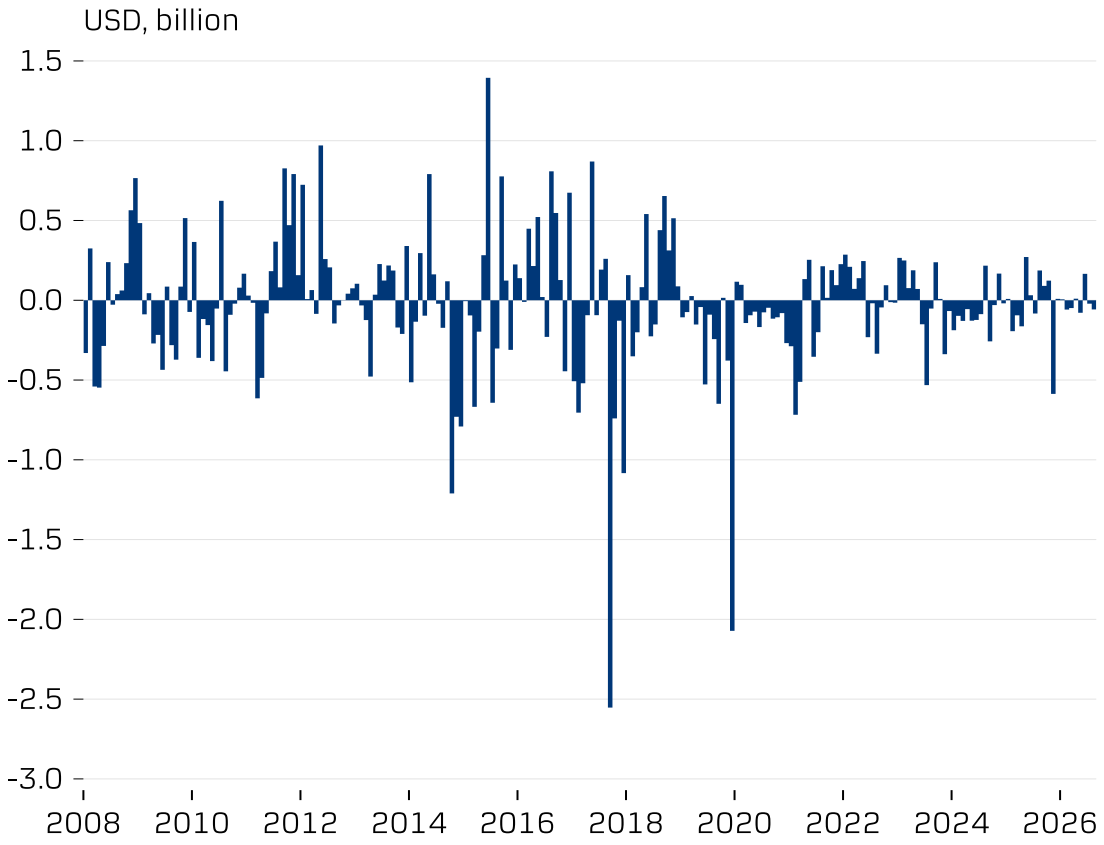
Japan, purchases of covered DKK bonds by year, acc.



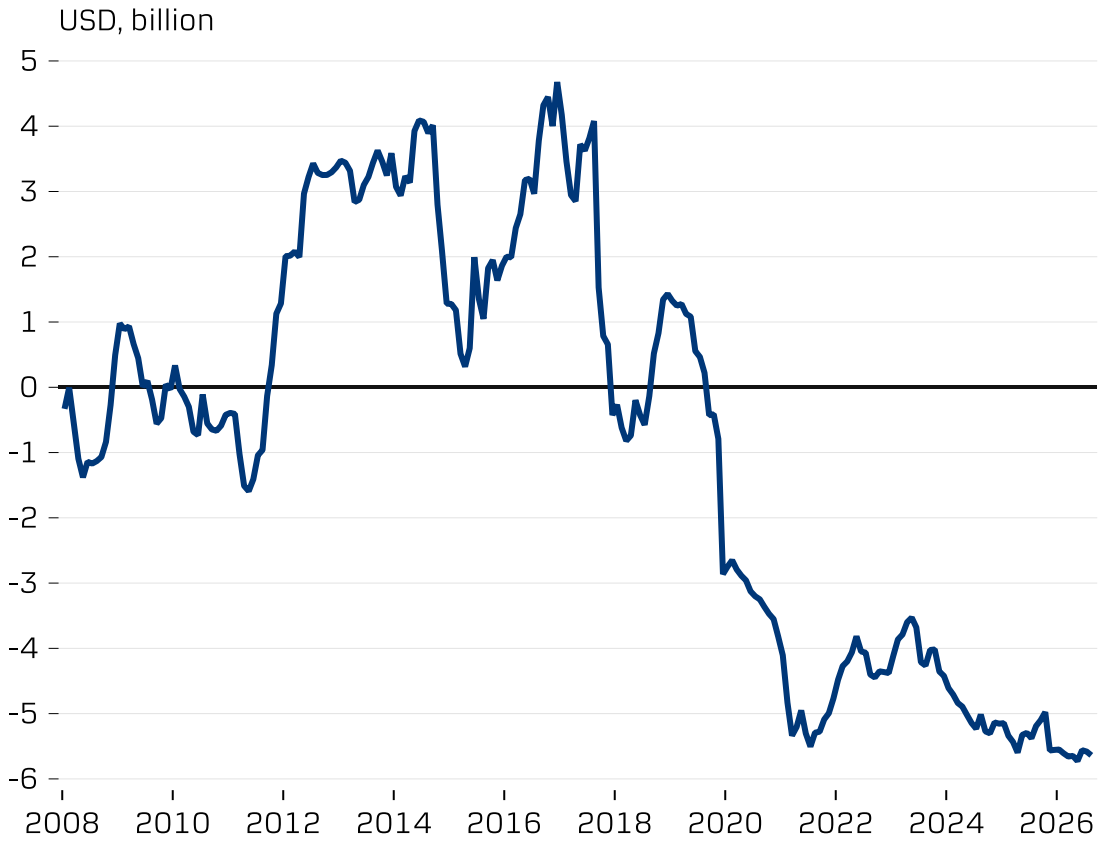
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors continued net selling of Swedish bonds in August, reducing total holdings by USD58m

Japan, net purchases of SEK bonds



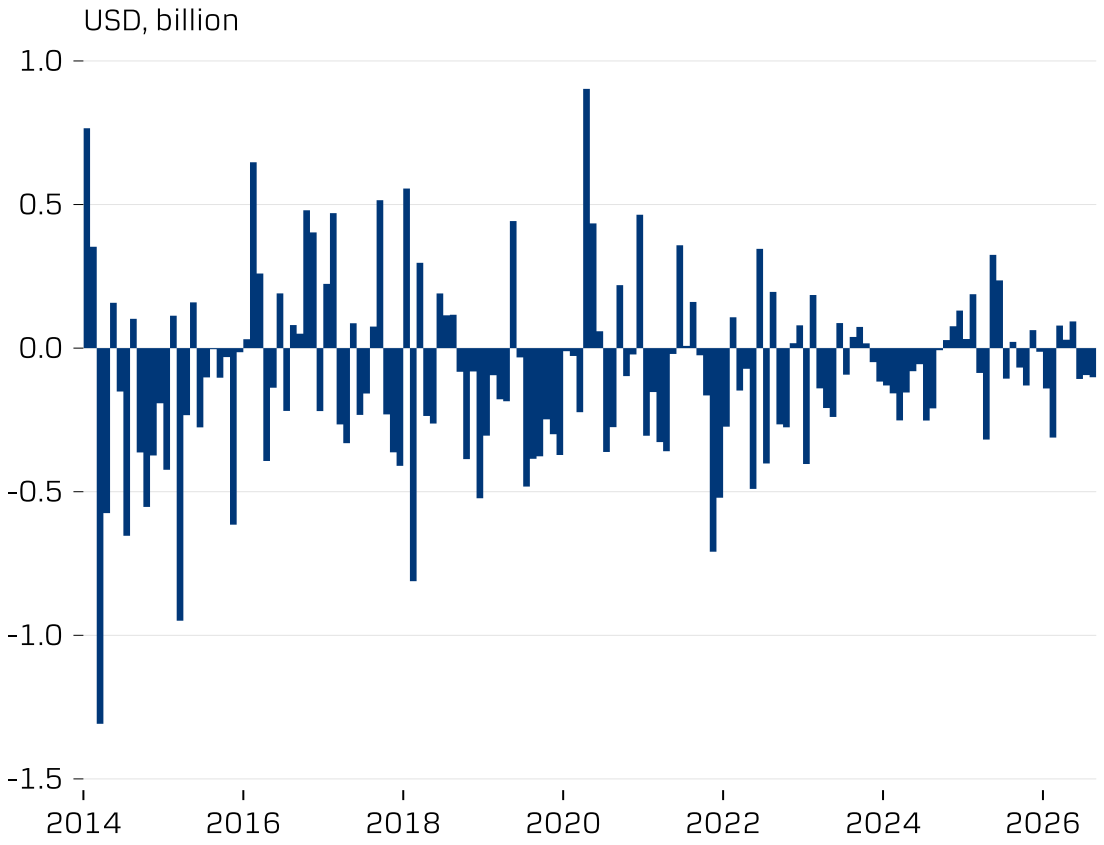
Japan, net purchases of SEK bonds, acc.



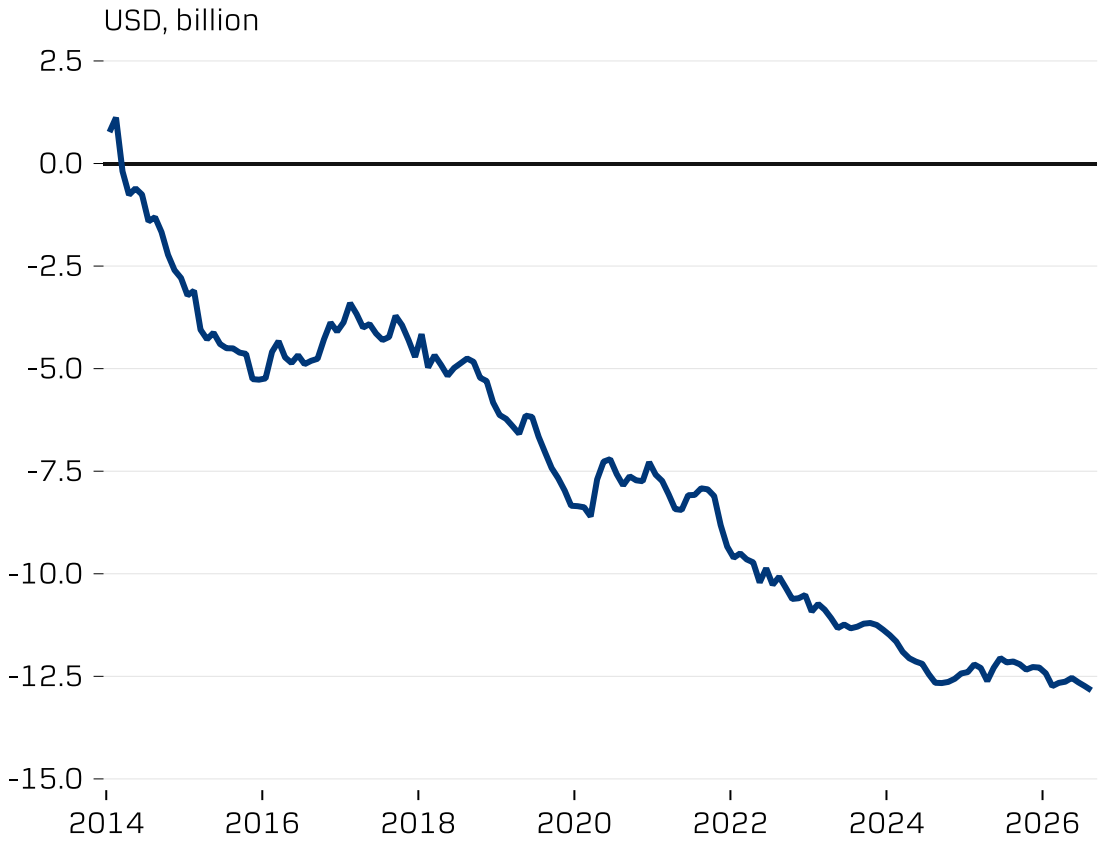
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors were net sellers of USD101m in August

Japan, net purchases of NOK bonds



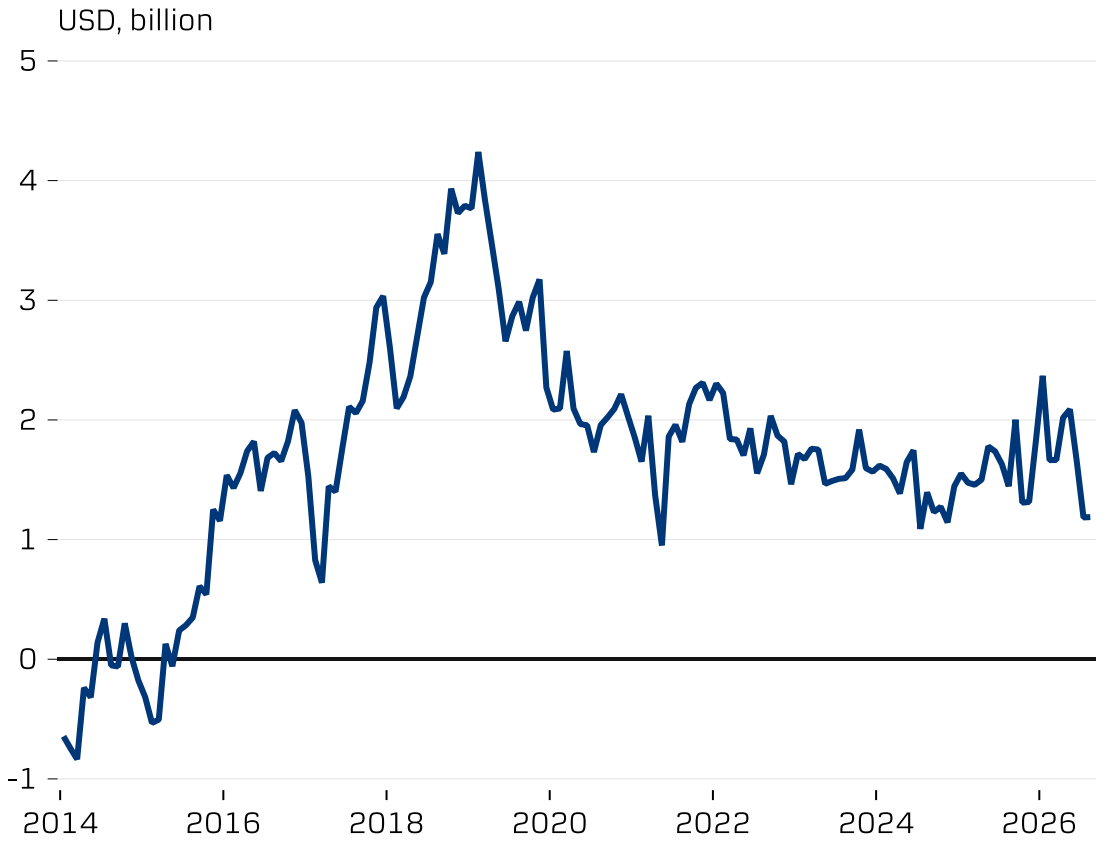
Japan, net purchases of NOK bonds, acc.



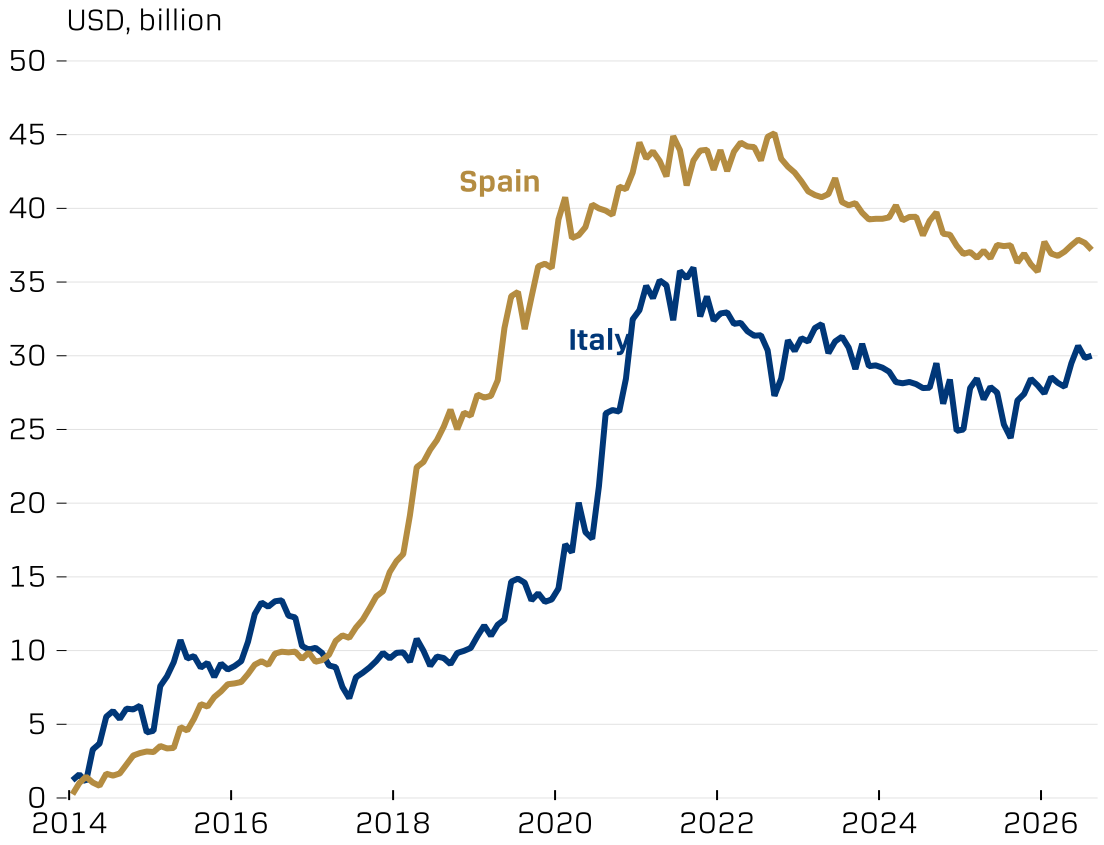
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Japanese investors were unchanged in Finnish bonds, sold USD0.5bn in Spanish long-term debt and bought USD0.2bn in Italian long-term debt in August

Japan, net purchases of Finnish bonds, acc.



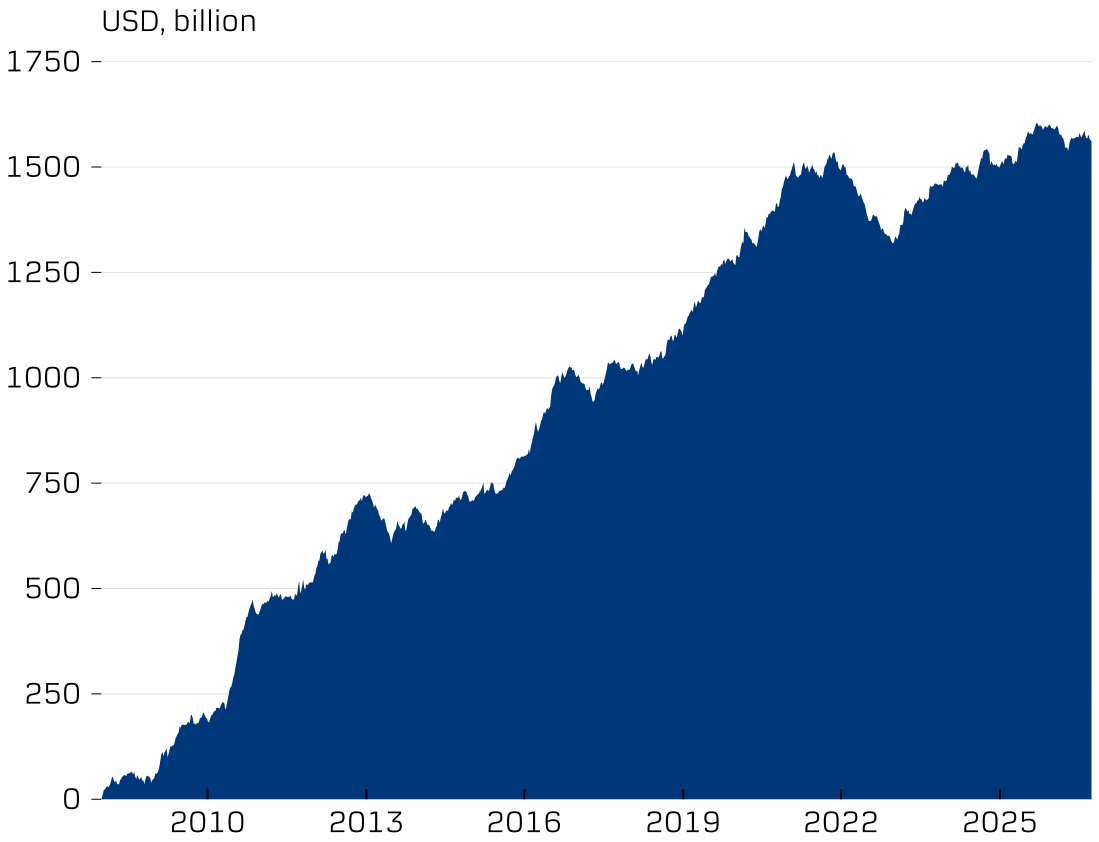
Japan, net purchases of Italian and Spanish LT debt securities



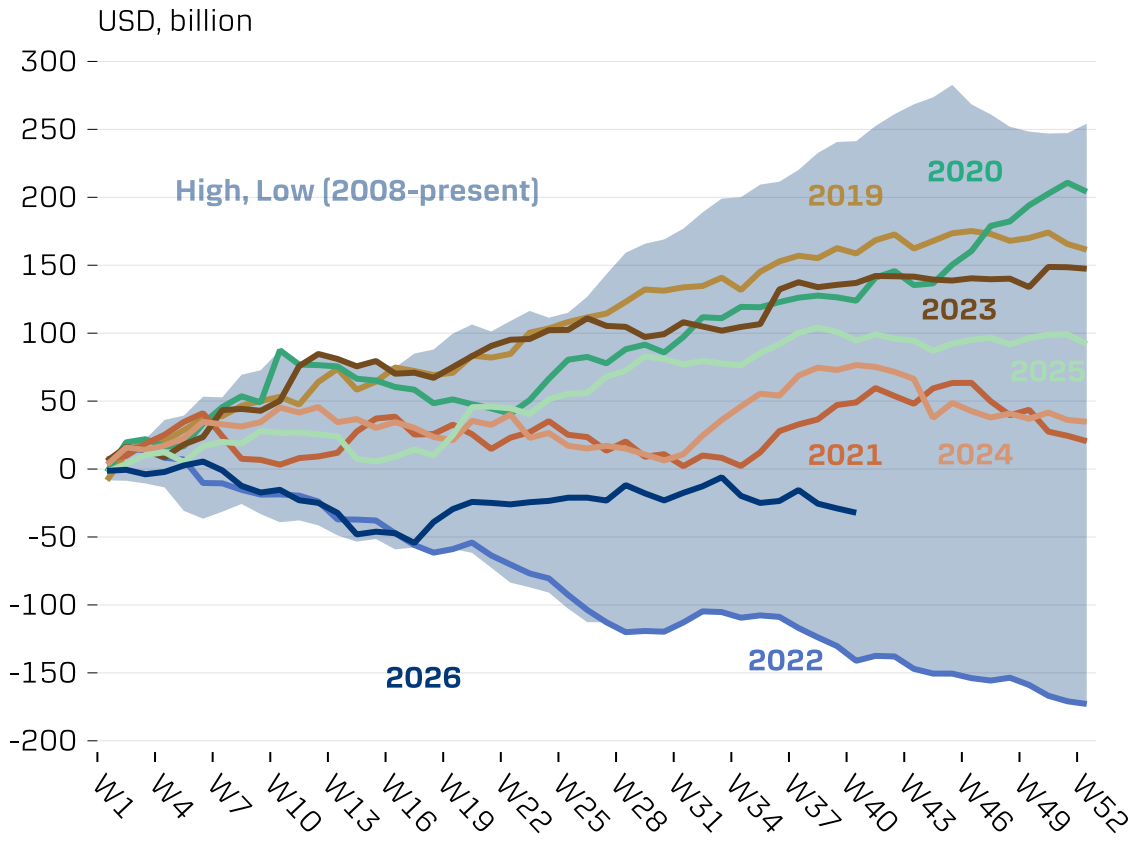
Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

Weekly flow data from BoJ indicates that Japanese investors remained net sellers of overseas debt in September, with net selling of around USD6.2bn

Japan, investments in overseas debt securities, acc.



Historic annual progression



Source. Japan Ministry of Finance, Bank of Japan, Danske Bank

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