

Introducing ESG Relevance Scores

- Introduced in early 2019
- Observational look at how much an ESG element affects a rating
- Relevance Scale of '1-5'
- ESG score impact is heavily skewed to negative typically reflecting risks rather than opportunities
- ESG risks are rarely a key driver
 - Only less than 3% of assess issuers have a Relevance Score of 5
- ESG score commonly have some level of influence on the rating decision
 - 22% of issuers have a Relevance Score of 4

Relevance Score Scale

Relevance Scores of '1'-'2' indicate no impact on the credit rating, either of irrelevance to the sector or to the entity within the sector

Relevance Scores 3
Indicate a minimal risk impact with no or low credit impact

Relevance Scores of 4 or 5
Indicate that the ESG risk is either an imerging risk or contributing factor to the rating

Relevance Score of 5
A risk which by itself has actually driven a rating change

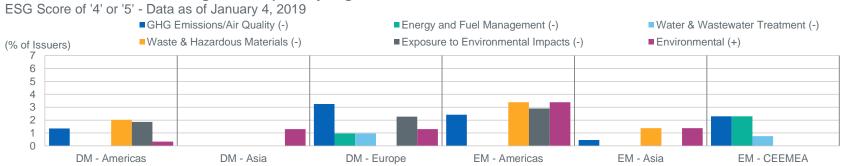
Environmental

Environmental Elements Driving Issuer Impact, By Sector



(-) Signifies negative influence on credit risk. (+) Signifies positive influence on credit risk

Environmental Elements Driving Issuer Impact, By Region



Source: Fitch Ratings

(-) Signifies negative influence on credit risk. (+) Signifies positive influence on credit risk

Environmental

- Environmental more relevant for ratings in industrials and transportation, utilities and natural resources sectors.
- Emissions-related more than half of credit-related environmental elements are related to carbon and greenhouse gas emissions, common for industrial and transportation
- Operational even-risk related more common for natural resources (e.g. oil spills)
- Some are regional-specific (e.g. UK water utilities)

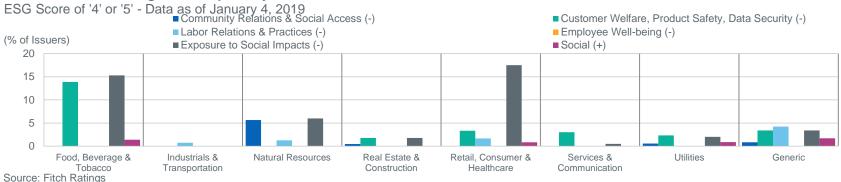
Positive impacts are rare

 (e.g. due to sale of excess energy

 from cogeneration for pulp&paper and forest products companies)

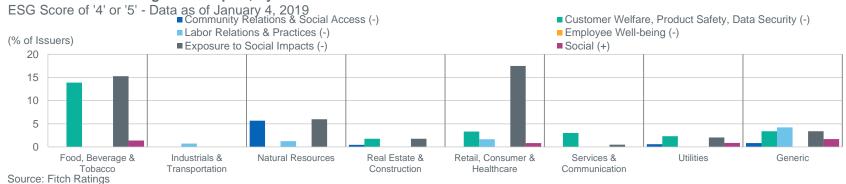
Social

Social Elements Driving Issuer Impact, By Sector



(-) Signifies negative influence on credit risk. (+) Signifies positive influence on credit risk

Social Elements Driving Issuer Impact, By Sector



(-) Signifies negative influence on credit risk. (+) Signifies positive influence on credit risk

Social

- Social risks are relevant for a larger percentage of non-financial corporates than environmental
- Food, tobacco and beverages are sensitive to health-related shifts in consumption regulation
- Healthcare and pharmaceuticals face social and political pressure and contain healthcare costs

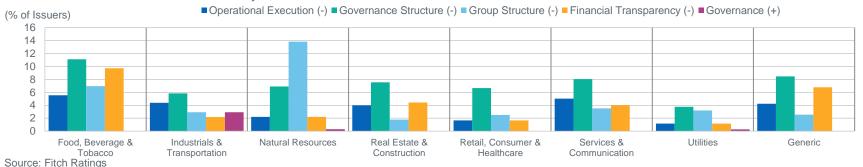
Natural resources

- Social risks triggered by social resistance or community-related issues (e.g. social protests against large-scale projects, construction of pipelines and mines)
- Social pressures may also materialize through pricing, e.g. EM markets energy companies in the Americas

Governance

Governance Elements Driving Issuer Impact, By Sector

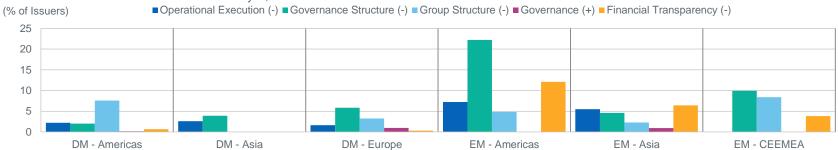
ESG Score of '4' or '5' - Data as of January 4, 2019



(-) Signifies negative influence on credit risk. (+) Signifies positive influence on credit risk

Governance Elements Driving Issuer Impact, By Region

ESG Score of '4' or '5' - Data as of January 4, 2019



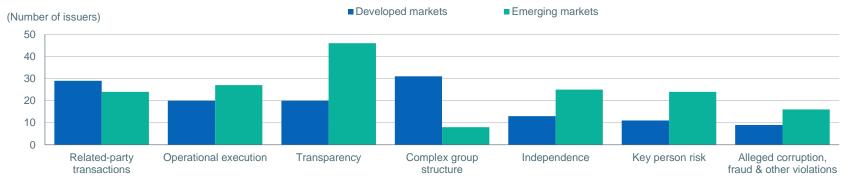
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EM/DM Regional Differences

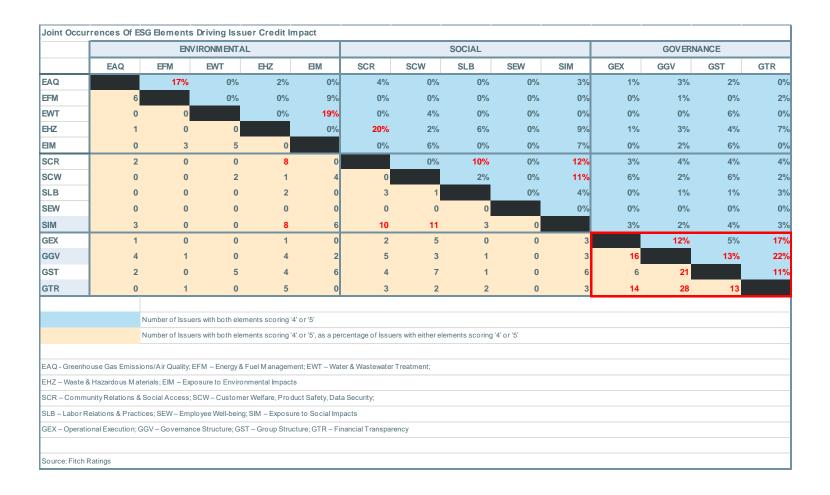
Governance risks are more relevant in emerging markets

Most Common Governance Issues



Source: Fitch Ratings

Governance Elements More Likely Jointly Relevant



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