

Increase in expected buyers and sellers of investments

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Retail investor trading activity is set to be buoyant in the coming months as securities buying and selling increases.Â Rising share prices last November and December appear to have boosted investors'™ confidence in equity-based investments that had weakened in September. Overall 16% of adults expect to invest in equities or equity-based unit trusts, up from 13% last September and 12% in December 2004. At the same time the proportion of intending sellers of shares or unit trusts is higher (12%) than in December 2004.Â The proportion of adults investing in government or corporate bonds either directly or through unit trusts was down slightly at 8%.

Inflows into equity-based ISAs look set to grow in line with the rise in numbers of people expecting to contribute to an ISA and with improved stock market performance.

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