
September 17, 2021

Commentary

Weekly Economic Perspectives

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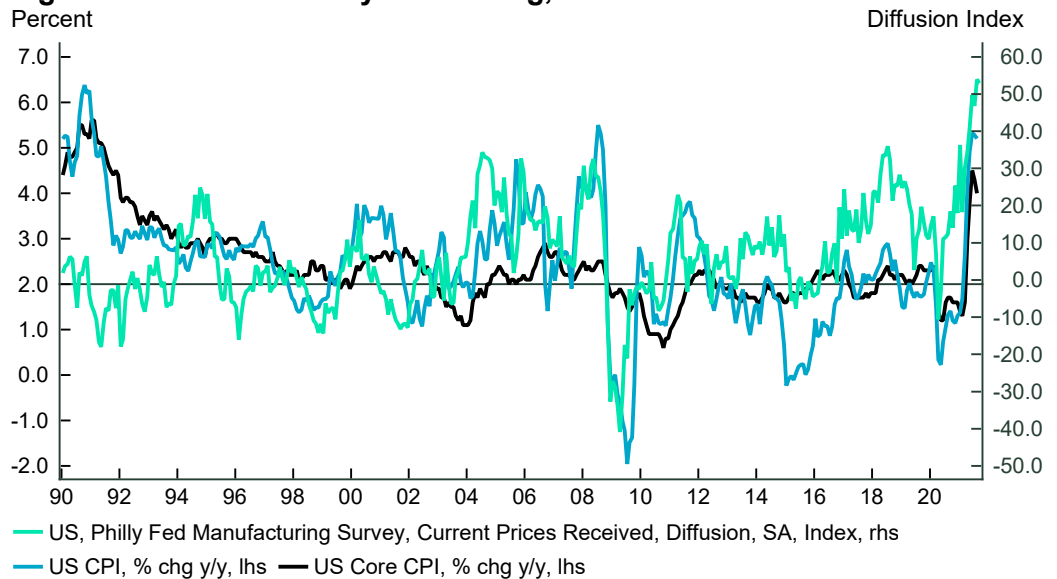
The Economy

Some positive macro data surprises this week, but markets pull back.

US

The latest data brought additional evidence that US **consumer price inflation** might be peaking. The headline inflation rate eased a tenth to 5.3% y/y in August, while the core rate (excluding food and energy) eased three tenths to 4.0% y/y. These moves will surely fuel at least some claims that the transient nature of the current inflation episode has been already demonstrated...but do not count us among those making such claims. We see inflation peaking as somewhat separate from the transient discussion. The former is very much a cyclical question, and there never was any doubt that a peak would occur, the only question being how soon and how high. But the transient debate has much more to do with structural dynamics, the inflation “process” itself, and with the trend in inflation will prove to be once all the current Covid and supply-chain disruptions are worked through. Will there be a permanent shift in equilibrium wage inflation, in business and consumer inflation expectations, and in pricing power? Nobody can answer that yet, so be prepared to see the inflation debate continue well into 2022. And a plethora of survey measures suggest that considerable pipeline inflationary pressures remain (see below).

Figure 1: US Inflation May Be Peaking, But Pressures Still Intense



Sources: SSGA Economics, BLS

That said, there is evidence that inflationary pressures are easing in parts of the economy—used car prices, for instance, declined slightly in August, following huge gains over the last several months. There was also some evidence that the Delta variant impacted pricing in travel and hospitality as airfare and hotel rates declines. But, new car prices rose, and the airfare decline might once again reverse once the Delta wave retreats. Notably, recreation prices rose a healthy 0.5%, apparel prices rose 0.4%, and owner equivalent rent (OER) was up 0.3%. We are very closely

focused on the latter as a likely driver of 2022 inflation since the double digit surge in house prices this year should also push rent inflation up with a lag.

Retail sales accelerated unexpectedly in August for the best performance in several months. Perhaps the biggest message from this positive surprise is to remind us that much of the recent data disappointments we've seen in the US over the last several weeks shouldn't be extrapolated too much. There remains a sizable amount of pipeline demand in the system whose materialization is currently being delayed by supply chain constraints and the spread of the Delta variant. But neither of these forces will linger indefinitely... In the event, total sales rose 0.7% in August, with control sales (ex food services, building materials, autos dealers and gas stations) jumping 2.5%. The composition clearly exhibited some Delta variant impact as food and beverages increased 1.8% but sales at restaurants and bars were flat; online sales jumped 5.3% but sporting goods declined 2.7%. Furniture sales improved materially, while, unsurprisingly, motor vehicle and parts fell 3.6%. The latter is clearly impacted by lack of inventories.

Small business sentiment rose only modestly in August but this nonetheless bested expectations for a slight decline. However, there were lots of contradictions in the NFIB report and the overall tone was more reminiscent of weariness than enthusiasm. For instance, the assessment of general business conditions worsened, and fewer respondents said now is a good time to expand. Sales and profits deteriorated, as did hiring. The share of respondents saying they have open positions unable to fill touched yet another record high. Unsurprisingly, the compensation metric rose (also to a record) and compensation plans barely budged from a record. Hiring plans increased, as did capex plans. The price metric increased to another cycle high and the highest since 1980, and price plans held steady at an elevated level. All this seems to suggest that businesses have a really hard time keeping up with demand, are facing higher input and labor costs, have started to pass them along, and plan to continue doing so. Inflation may be peaking, but it may still not be as transient as the Fed hopes.

Industrial production increased a modest 0.4% in August, with manufacturing up 0.2%. Mining contracted for the first time in four months—likely a weather impact—while utilities jumped after a sizable contraction the month before. It is too soon to conclude that the supply chain problems that have plagued manufacturing for months are finally subsiding, but the **Empire manufacturing index** offered some encouraging news so we are hopeful that industrial sector momentum can reaccelerate later this year. Indeed, the Empire index handily beat expectations with a near doubling to 34.2 in September, the second highest level since 2004 (the highest was in July). The details were very strong: new orders more than doubled to a Covid-era high and highest since 2004, and employment and the average workweek surged. Priced paid eased slightly but remain at very high levels historically, while prices received increased further to a record high. Once again, inflation might be peaking, but is not going away any time soon.

The **Philly Fed manufacturing index** also surprised positively, although the details were not very compelling. The headline surged 11.3 points to 30.7 in September, fully retracing the losses of the prior two months. Shipments contributed disproportionately to the improvement, soaring 11.0 points to the highest level since last October and offsetting the deterioration in new orders and employment. Inventories improved

sharply following the sizable declines of the prior two months. It is unclear how much of this is intentional (i.e., easing of input shortages) and how much is involuntary (i.e., accumulation of intermediate products awaiting key components). Both price metrics moderated slightly but remain extremely high historically.

Canada

Canada's inflation surprised on the upside in August, accelerating 0.2% m/m. In annual terms, **CPI** was higher by 4.1% y/y, the fifth month that it has stayed above the target range. Gasoline prices, which rose 32.5% y/y were the largest contributor to the increase, but by no means the only one. CPI excluding gasoline was up 3.2%. Underlying inflation was driven by durable goods (+5.7%), passenger vehicles (+7.2%), furniture (+8.7%) and household appliances (+5.3%). In addition, prices for services (+2.7%) accelerated for the fifth month as well, reflecting the reopening of the economy and the easing on mobility restrictions. The average of core inflation edged higher—both the common component and weighted median were up one tenth to 1.8% and 2.6% respectively, while the trimmed mean inflation increased by two tenths to 3.3%. This bout of inflation is likely to be temporary, with the BoC is likely to keep reducing its bond purchases.

The 3.6% increase in June **manufacturing sales** was followed by a drop of 1.5% in July, below expectations. Losses were led by the wood product (-21.8%), aerospace product and parts (-19.0%), miscellaneous (-12.1%) and petroleum and coal product (-2.3%) industries. The declines were partially offset by higher sales in motor vehicles (+13.5%) and primary metal (+3.9%) industries. The capacity utilization rate (not seasonally adjusted) for the total manufacturing sector fell to 76.7% from 79.3% in June. Low capacity utilization implies that there is upside potential for manufacturing once supply normalizes.

Housing starts fell 0.7% in August. Urban starts were down 4.7%—with multiple urban starts decreasing by 5.7% while single-detached urban starts fell 2.0%.

Existing home sales retreated slightly, by 0.5% m/m in August. The number of newly listed properties were higher by 1.2%, the increased supply causing the national sales-to-new listings ratio to ease to 72.4%. The level of inventory also improved to 2.2 months, indicating that the supply demand imbalance is normalizing. Prices were still higher though, with the Aggregate Composite MLS Home Price index rising 0.9%.

UK

The UK labor market continued to recover but at a moderate pace. The **unemployment rate** eased a tenth to 4.6% in the three months to July as expected. Between June and August, the estimated number of vacancies rose to over 1 million, the highest level since the records began, with all industries growing on the quarter. Job vacancies are a quarter of a million above the Jan-March 2020 level, with the largest increase in accommodation and food services (+57,600). This bodes well for future employment gains. Following a surge in June, earnings growth slightly eased in July but remained above expectations. Total wages (including bonuses) increased by 8.3% y/y in the three months to July; excluding bonuses, wages rose 6.8% y/y, the second highest since March 2001. The acceleration partly reflects base effects and compositional changes, but, just like in the US, it is possible that something more

might be at play. Time will tell...Looking ahead, the main uncertainty is the fallout from the expiry of government’s job retention in September which currently supports 1.6 million workers, against labor shortages and high level of vacancies across many industries.

UK **inflation** soared in August. The headline CPI inflation rate accelerated 1.1 ppt to 3.2%, while the core rate accelerated 1.4 pts to 3.2% y/y. The ONS (UK statistics agency) said the surge mostly reflected base effects around last year’s Eat Out to Help Out scheme and VAT reductions. Indeed, restaurants and hotels, recreation and culture, and food and non-alcoholic beverages were the main contributors to the monthly increase in August. Services inflation accelerated 1.4 pts to 3.0% y/y. Goods inflation accelerated 0.9 pts to 3.3% y/y. While distortions in the data are likely substantial, it remains unclear how quickly they can dissipate.

Figure 2: UK Inflation Surges



Sources: Macrobond, SSGA Economics, ONS

Retail sales unexpectedly fell 0.9% m/m in August, confounding expectations for a gain. This is now the four consecutive declines in sales since the peak in April shortly after restrictions on shops were lifted. With exception of textile, clothing and footwear stores (+0.7%) and automotive fuel (+1.5%), all other categories experienced declines. This reflected ongoing supply chain disruptions but also the switch into services spending during summer as the economies re-opened. Although retail sales are now above pre-Covid levels, these factors are likely to continue to constrain sales growth in the coming months.

expected. In fact, it marked the largest monthly improvement since last November and left output 7.7% higher than a year earlier. A good signal for Q3 GDP.

Japan

Core machinery orders (private sector orders other than for ships and electricity generating equipment) surprised on the downside in July, rising just 0.9%, compared to expectations of a 2.5% increase. Core orders from the non-manufacturing sectors dropped 9.5%, especially for wholesale & retail, transportation & postal activities, and construction sectors. The Cabinet Office maintained its assessment at “showing signs of recovery”. Among the positives, foreign orders—a leading indicator of capital goods exports—were up sharply by 24.1%.

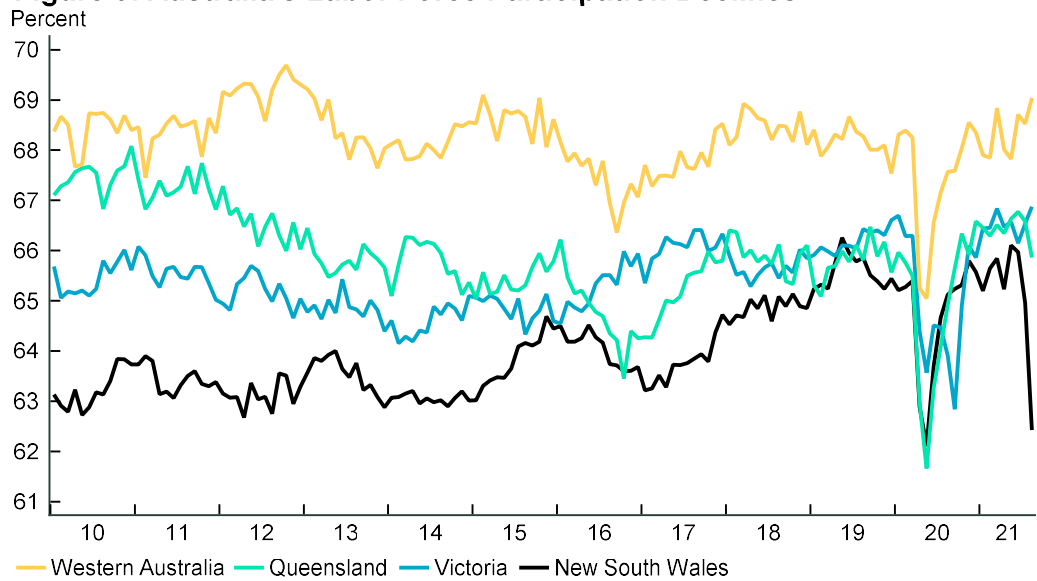
The **domestic corporate goods price index (CGPI)**—a measure of producer prices—was flat over August, having accelerated sharply in July. In annual terms, the index was up 5.5% y/y. Prices for petroleum & coal products, non-ferrous metals and chemicals & related products declined. Meanwhile materials prices increased, including iron & steel and plastic products. We expect further moderation in input prices as restrictions are lifted and global supply chains disruptions ease.

Japan's **tertiary industry index** fell 0.6% in July, missing forecasts. The decrease was led by healthcare and retail services, both of which fell 2.5%.

Australia

The labor market report for August was definitely worse than the 0.1 percentage points (ppts) decline in the **unemployment rate** might suggest (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Australia's Labor Force Participation Declines



The number of people employed plunged by 146,300, equally split between part-time and full-time workers. Employment dropped 172,900 in New South Wales, but

actually rose 29,100 in Victoria. The reason was that the lockdown in Greater Sydney and snap lockdowns in Queensland overlapped with the survey period, while Victoria's lockdown was only partially captured. On one hand, the report could have been much worse; but it also means that employment will remain subdued in September as well. The unemployment rate declined by one tenth to 4.5%, contrary to expectations—but only because people left the labor force. The aggregate participation rate plunged 0.8 ppts to 65.2%. The underemployment rate increased 1.-ppts to 9.3%.

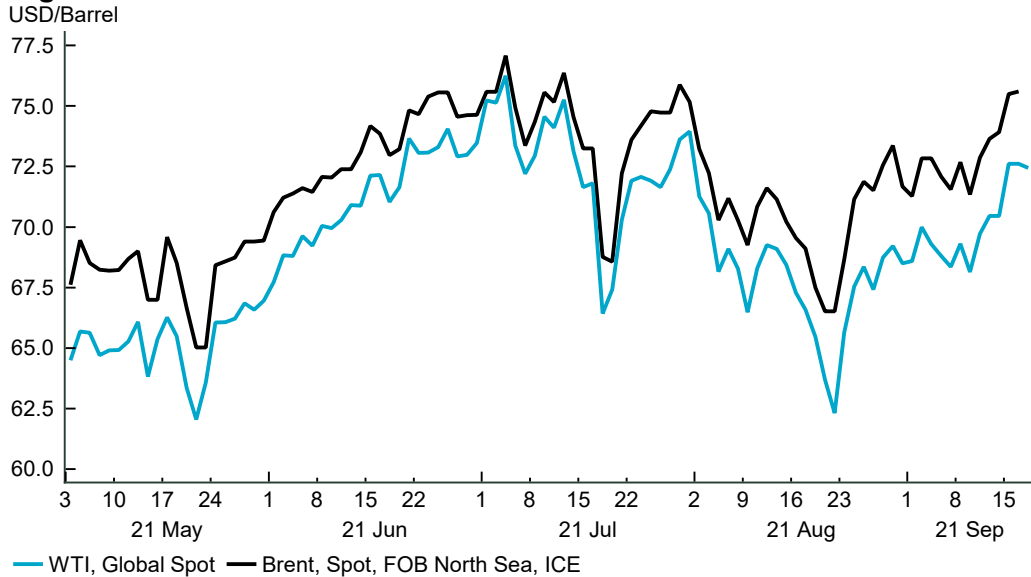
The **NAB business confidence** index picked up slightly, by 2 points to -5 in August. Business conditions rose to +14 from +10, above its long-run and pre-Covid level. Both the trading (up 7 points to +19) and profitability (up 10 points to +15) sub-indices rose, partially recouping last month's fall. The employment index fell 2pts to +9. Among the states, confidence fell in Victoria but rose in New South Wales which had seen a large hit last month.

The second quarter marked the strongest growth in **residential property prices** on record, with the ABS house price index soaring 6.7%. Canberra and Sydney saw the largest appreciation in prices, just above 8.0%. On an annual basis, property prices rose 16.8% y/y, with major gains in Sydney and Melbourne. In the accompanying press release, the Australian Bureau of Statistics noted that “persistently low levels of stock on the market were being met with strong demand and properties transacting at an increasingly rapid rate”.

The Market This Week

Oil headed for a fourth weekly gain, the best run since early July, on hopes of a consumption recovery. Natural calamities has disrupted production in the US, drawing inventories down, and offsetting additional supply from OPEC+.

Figure 4: Another Good Week For Crude



Sources: Macrobond, SSGA Economics, ICE

Equities: A generally softer week for global equities.

Bonds: UK yields jump on inflation surprise.

Currencies: Dollar climbs after above consensus US retail sales.

Commodities: Oil gains on tighter market, but gold drops on higher inflation.

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Stock Markets					10 Year Bond Yields			Currencies		
Country	Exchange	Last	% Ch Week	% Ch YTD	Last	BP Ch Week	BP Ch YTD	Last	% Ch Week	% Ch YTD
US	S&P 500®	4432.99	-0.6%	18.0%	1.36	2	45	93.227	0.7%	3.7%
Canada	TSE 300	20490.36	-0.7%	17.5%	1.29	5	61	1.2769	0.6%	0.3%
UK	FTSE®	6963.64	-0.9%	7.8%	0.85	9	65	1.3731	-0.8%	0.4%
Germany	DAX	15490.17	-0.8%	12.9%	-0.28	5	29			
France	CAC-40	6570.19	-1.4%	18.4%	0.05	5	39	1.1726	-0.7%	-4.0%
Italy	FTSE® MIB	25709.56	0.1%	15.6%	0.72	2	18			
Japan	Nikkei 225	30500.05	0.4%	11.1%	0.05	1	3	109.97	0.0%	6.5%
Australia	ASX 200	7403.722	0.0%	12.4%	1.30	8	33	0.7264	-1.3%	-5.6%

Commodity Markets

Commodity	Unit	Source	Last Price	%Ch Week	%Ch YTD	%ChYr Ago
Oil (Brent)	US \$/Barrel	Bloomberg	74.78	2.7%	46.1%	75.8%
Gold	US \$/troy oz	Bloomberg	1752.9	-1.9%	-7.7%	-9.9%

Source: Bloomberg®

Week in Review (September 13–September 17)

Country	Release (Date, format)	Consensus	Actual	Last	Comments
Monday, September 13					
US	Budget Statement (Aug, \$ bil.)	-175.0	-170.6	-200.0	Still very wide.
JN	PPI (Aug, y/y)	5.6%	5.5%	5.6%	Flat, but still high.
Tuesday, September 14					
US	NFIB Small Business Optimism (Aug)	99.0	100.1	99.7	More contradictory details.
US	CPI (Aug, y/y)	5.3%	5.3%	5.4%	Core eased to 4.0% y/y.
CA	Manufacturing Sales (Jul, m/m)	-1.1%	-1.5%	2.1%	Higher sales of motor vehicles and parts.
UK	ILO Unemployment Rate (Jul)	4.6%	4.6%	4.7%	Improving.
UK	Average Weekly Earnings (Jul, 3m y/y)	8.2%	8.3%	8.8%	Base effects easing.
JN	Industrial Production (Jul, final, m/m)	-1.5%(p)	-1.5%	6.5%	Unchanged.
AU	House Price Index (Q2, q/q)	6.1%	6.7%	5.4%	Strong growth before the third wave.
AU	NAB Business Confidence (Aug)	na	-5	-7(↑)	Confidence improves in NSW despite lockdown.
Wednesday, September 15					
US	Empire Manufacturing (Sep)	17.9	34.3	18.3	Excellent!
US	Industrial Production (Aug, m/m)	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%(↓)	Good. September might be even better.
CA	CPI (Aug, y/y)	3.9%	4.1%	3.7%	Broad based gains in inflation.
CA	Existing Home Sales (Aug, m/m)	na	-0.5%	-3.5%	Supply demand imbalance easing.
UK	CPI (Aug, y/y)	2.9%	3.2%	2.0%	Core surged to 3.1% y/y.
EC	Industrial Production (Jul, m/m)	0.6%	1.5%	-0.1%(↑)	Excellent, though unsurprising.
JN	Core Machine Orders (Jul, m/m)	2.5%	0.9%	-1.5%	“Showing signs of recovery”.
JN	Tertiary Industry Index (Jul, m/m)	0.3%	-0.6%	2.2%(↓)	Lockdown effect.
Thursday, September 16					
US	Initial Jobless claims (Sep 11, thous)	322	332	312(↑)	Still oddly elevated.
US	Continuing claims (Sep 4, thous)	2740	2665	2852(↑)	Improving.
US	Retail Sales Advance (Aug, m/m)	-0.7%	0.7%	-1.8%(↓)	Very good, but Delta distortions evident.
US	Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook (Sep)	19.0	30.7	19.4	Details were a bit less compelling.
US	Business Inventories (Jul, m/m)	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%(↑)	Rebuilding, but supply chain issue slow process.
CA	Housing Starts (Aug, thous)	266.5	260.2	272.2	Starts ease.
JN	Trade Balance Adjusted (Aug, ¥ bil.)	108.7	-271.8	-5.9(↓)	Auto exports slow as supply disruptions hit.
AU	Unemployment Rate (Aug)	5.0%	4.5%	4.6%	Worse than this suggests!
Friday, September 17					
US	U. of Mich Cons Sentiment (Sep, prelim)	72.0	71.0	70.3	Not much of a rebound after last month's plunge.
UK	Retail Sales (Aug, m/m)	0.5%	-0.9%	-2.8%(↓)	Disappointing.
EC	CPI (Aug, final, y/y)	3.0%(p)	3.0%	2.2%	We already knew this.

Source: for data, Bloomberg®; for commentary, SSGA Economics.

Week Preview (September 20–September 24)

Country	Release (Date, format)	Consensus	Last	Comments
Monday, September 20				
US	NAHB Housing Market Index (Sep)	74	75	
CA	Teranet/National Bank HPI (Aug, y/y)	na	17.8%	
Tuesday, September 21				
US	Building Permits (Aug, thous)	1600	1630(↓)	
US	Housing Starts (Aug, thous)	1550	1534	
AU	RBA Minutes			
Wednesday, September 22				
US	FOMC Monetary Policy Decision	0.25%	0.25%	We should get more signals on tapering.
US	Existing Home Sales (Aug, m/m)	-1.5%	2.0%	
IT	Industrial Sales (Jul, m/m)	na	3.1%	
JN	BoJ Monetary Policy Decision	-0.10%	-0.10%	BoJ status quo despite changing political backdrop.
Thursday, September 23				
US	Initial Jobless claims (Sep 18, thous)	320	332	
US	Continuing claims (Sep 11, thous)	na	2665	
US	Leading Index (Aug, m/m)	0.5%	0.9%	
US	Kansas City Fed Manf. Activity (Sep)	na	29	
CA	Retail Sales (Jul, m/m)	-1.2%	4.2%	Potential for an upside surprise here.
UK	BoE Monetary Policy Decision	0.10%	0.10%	How hawkish?
UK	Manufacturing PMI (Sep, prelim)	na	60.3	
UK	Services PMI (Sep, prelim)	na	55	
EC	Manufacturing PMI (Sep, prelim)	60.3	61.4	
EC	Services PMI (Sep, prelim)	59	59	
GE	Manufacturing PMI (Sep, prelim)	61.5	62.6	
GE	Services PMI (Sep, prelim)	60.5	60.8	
FR	Manufacturing PMI (Sep, prelim)	na	57.5	
Friday, September 24				
US	New Home Sales (Aug, thous)	713	708	
UK	GfK Consumer Confidence (Sep)	na	-8	
GE	IFO Business Climate (Sep)	98.5	99.4	
IT	Consumer Confidence Index (Sep)	na	116.2	
JN	CPI (Aug, y/y)	-0.3%	-0.3%	Benign.
JN	Manufacturing PMI (Sep, prelim)	na	52.7	
JN	Services PMI (Sep, prelim)	na	42.9	

Source: for data, Bloomberg®; for commentary, SSGA Economics.

Economic Indicators

Central Bank Policy Targets

Region	Target	Year/Year % Change in Target				
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
US	Target: PCE price index 2.0% y/y	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.2	
Canada	Target: CPI 2.0% y/y, 1.0%-3.0% control range	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.7	4.1
UK	Target: CPI 2.0% y/y	1.5	2.1	2.5	2.0	3.2
Eurozone	Target: CPI below but close to 2.0% y/y	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.2	3.0
Japan	Target: CPI 2.0% y/y	-1.1	-0.8	-0.5	-0.3	
Australia	Target Range: CPI 2.0%-3.0% y/y	3.8	3.8	3.8		

Source: Macrobond

Key Interest Rates

	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21
US (top of target range)	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Canada (Overnight Rate)	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
UK (Bank Rate)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Eurozone (Refi)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Japan (OCR)	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02	-0.03	-0.05	-0.04	-0.04
Australia (OCR)	0.25	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10

Source: Macrobond

General Government Structural Balance as a % of Potential GDP

										Forecast	
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
US	-3.0	-2.6	-2.6	-3.7	-4.3	-5.4	-6.1	-11.7	-12.9	-6.8	
Canada	-1.5	-0.6	0.0	0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.3	-7.8	-6.7	-4.2	
UK	-4.2	-4.9	-4.4	-3.3	-2.5	-2.3	-2.3	0.5	-5.0	-4.8	
Eurozone	-1.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-4.0	-4.6	-2.6	
Germany	0.6	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	-2.6	-4.0	-0.3	
France	-2.9	-2.7	-2.3	-2.1	-2.1	-1.8	-2.0	-3.6	-5.2	-4.0	
Italy	-0.5	-1.0	-0.6	-1.3	-1.7	-1.9	-1.1	-5.1	-5.2	-4.1	
Japan	-7.4	-5.7	-4.4	-4.3	-3.5	-2.7	-2.6	-11.3	-8.5	-3.6	
Australia	-2.7	-2.7	-2.6	-2.3	-1.6	-1.2	-3.6	-9.1	-10.1	-6.9	

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook

Headline Consumer and Producer Price Inflation

	CPI Year/Year % Change						PPI Year/Year % Change				
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
US	4.2	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.3		6.5	6.6	7.3	7.8	8.3
Canada	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.7	4.1		14.7	17.2	17.2	15.4	
UK	1.5	2.1	2.5	2.0	3.2						
Eurozone	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.2	3.0		7.6	9.6	10.2	12.1	
Germany	2.0	2.5	2.3	3.8	3.9		5.2	7.2	8.5	10.4	
France	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.9		6.1	6.7	7.2	8.0	
Italy	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.9	2.0		6.8	8.1	9.1	10.4	
Japan	-1.1	-0.8	-0.5	-0.3			3.7	4.9	5.0	5.6	5.5
Australia	3.8	3.8	3.8				2.2	2.2	2.2		

Source: Macrobond

Economic Indicators

Real GDP Growth (Q/Q Seasonally Adjusted)

	Quarter/Quarter % Change					Year/Year % Change				
	Q2-20	Q3-20	Q4-20	Q1-21	Q2-21	Q2-20	Q3-20	Q4-20	Q1-21	Q2-21
US	-8.9	7.5	1.1	1.5	1.6	-9.1	-2.9	-2.3	0.5	12.2
Canada	-11.3	9.1	2.2	1.4	-0.3	-12.6	-5.1	-3.1	0.3	12.7
UK	-19.5	16.9	1.3	-1.6	4.8	-21.4	-8.5	-7.3	-6.1	22.2
Eurozone	-11.7	12.6	-0.4	-0.3	2.2	-14.5	-4.0	-4.4	-1.2	14.3
Germany	-10.0	9.0	0.7	-2.0	1.6	-11.3	-3.7	-2.9	-3.1	9.4
France	-13.5	18.6	-1.1	0.0	1.1	-18.6	-3.6	-4.3	1.5	18.7
Italy	-13.1	16.0	-1.8	0.2	2.7	-18.2	-5.2	-6.5	-0.7	17.3
Japan	-7.9	5.4	2.8	-1.1	0.5	-10.1	-5.4	-0.8	-1.3	7.7
Australia	-7.0	3.6	3.2	1.9	0.7	-6.2	-3.6	-0.9	1.3	9.6

Source: Macrobond

Industrial Production Index (M/M Seasonally Adjusted)

	Month/Month % Change					Year/Year % Change				
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
US	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.4	17.8	16.3	10.1	6.6	5.9
Canada	-0.8	-0.5	1.9			17.7	12.3	9.2		
UK	-0.8	0.6	-0.7	1.2		27.5	20.7	8.4	3.8	
Germany	-0.3	-0.8	-1.0	1.0		27.7	16.6	5.4	5.7	
France	0.0	-0.3	0.6	0.3		44.0	20.5	7.3	4.0	
Italy	1.8	-1.6	1.1	0.8		78.3	21.4	13.8	6.9	
Japan	2.9	-6.5	6.5	-1.5		15.9	21.1	23.0	13.3	

Source: Macrobond

Unemployment Rate (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21
US	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.0	6.1	5.8	5.9	5.4	5.2
Canada	9.0	8.6	8.8	9.4	8.2	7.5	8.1	8.2	7.8	7.5	7.1
UK	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6		
Eurozone	8.4	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.6	
Germany	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.5
France	8.3	8.0	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.0	7.9	
Italy	10.1	9.6	9.8	10.2	10.1	10.0	10.2	9.9	9.4	9.3	
Japan	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.8	
Australia	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.4	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.5

Source: Macrobond

Current Account Balance as a % of GDP (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Q4-18	Q1-19	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19	Q1-20	Q2-20	Q3-20	Q4-20	Q1-21	Q2-21
US	-2.5	-2.4	-2.3	-2.2	-1.9	-2.1	-3.2	-3.3	-3.3	-3.6	
Canada	-2.8	-3.0	-1.7	-2.0	-1.6	-3.0	-1.6	-1.8	-0.9	0.3	0.6
UK	-4.7	-6.3	-3.2	-3.2	0.3	-3.5	-3.0	-2.6	-4.8	-2.4	
Eurozone	2.5	3.4	1.5	2.9	2.5	2.1	1.1	2.5	3.2	3.8	2.1
Germany	7.1	8.0	7.4	7.8	7.3	6.9	5.1	7.3	7.8	8.1	6.8
France	-0.8	0.3	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-1.3	-3.6	-2.0	-0.9	-1.1	-1.0
Japan	4.3	3.7	4.6	4.2	3.6	4.0	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.5
Australia	-1.5	-2.5	-2.8	-3.5	-2.2	-2.7	-2.2	-1.4	-0.2	1.2	

Source: Macrobond

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