

MONDAY MORNING RECAP - September 9, 2024

Last Week

Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA)	40,345.41	-1,217.67	-2.93%
S&P 500 Index	5,408.42	-239.98	-4.25%
NASDAQ Composite Index	16,690.83	-1,022.79	-5.77%
U.S. 10 yr. Treasury Note Yield	3.72%	-19 Basis Points	
Gold (\$ per troy oz.)	\$2,493.50	-\$0.30	-0.01%
WTI Oil (\$ per barrel)	\$67.67	-\$5.88	-7.99%

Market Summary

GLOBAL EQUITIES: US equities had their worst week since March 2023 as weak jobs data added concerns around the strength of the US economy. The S&P 500 ultimately ended the week -4.25% lower, despite the US unemployment rate falling in line with consensus expectations in August. Outside of the US, both the STOXX 600 and the TOPIX fell – 3.51% and –4.25%, respectively, with the latter moving on the back of continued wage pressures re-enforcing the possibility of additional BOJ rate hikes later this year.

COMMODITIES: Oil prices fell sharply last week as weak manufacturing data helped to support less restrictive monetary policy ahead. Ultimately, WTI and Brent crude finished the week lower at \$67.67 and \$71.06/bbl, respectively, after an OPEC+ decision to delay production hikes failed to alleviate concerns of a potential supply/ demand imbalance. Meanwhile, the price of gold remained relatively flat last week before ultimately ending the week at \$2493.50/troy oz.

FIXED INCOME: Global bond yields fell sharply last week behind mixed US labor market data and signs of a slower-than-expected economic recovery in the Euro Area. In the US, The 2-Year and 10-Year US Treasury yields closed the week lower at 3.65% and 3.72%, respectively, as the 2s10s yield spread un-inverted for the first time in 26 months. Across the pond, the 10-Year German Bund yield decreased to 2.17% following a downward revision to Euro Area services activity.

FX: The US dollar weakened against a basket of currencies last week behind job openings declining well below consensus expectation in August. Ultimately, the US dollar index fell by -0.48%. In Japan, the yen strengthened against the dollar, ultimately ending the week at ¥142.36 on the back of falling yields in the US and Euro Area.

Managing Your Investments, Protecting Your Future



Economic Summary

LABOR: In the US, nonfarm payrolls rose 142k in August, below consensus expectations, in a widely anticipated release given the prior months' weaker print. At the same time, the US unemployment rate fell 3bp to 4.22%, reflecting a –11bp contribution from a decline in temporary layoffs and a 4bp contribution from unemployed new entrants into the labor force. Average hourly earnings increased by 0.4% month-over-month in August, above consensus expectations, while the year-over-year rate increased by 0.2pp to 3.8%. Additionally, job openings decreased by 237k to 7,673k in August, well below consensus expectations. Finally, private sector employment increased by 99k in August, also below consensus expectations.

ACTIVITY: US services activity improved in August as the ISM services index edged up by 0.1pt to 51.5, roughly in line with consensus expectations. Conversely, both manufacturing and ISM manufacturing PMIs printed below consensus expectations and in contractionary territory in August, at 47.9 and 47.2, respectively. The composition of the former showed some improvement in employment, but a further decline in new orders and rise in inventory, suggesting that factory activity may remain subdued. In the Euro area, final PMI readings for August were revised down, suggesting the economic recovery might be slower than expected. The downward revisions were driven by the services sector which PMI is now reported at 52.9, 0.4pt lower than the flash estimate.

INFLATION: In Japan, nominal cash wage growth decelerated to 3.6% year-overyear in July, beating consensus expectations by 0.7pp. Continued wage pressures may lead the Bank of Japan to tighten monetary policy further in the quarters ahead.

Managing Your Investments, Protecting Your Future



Key Economic Releases

Monday, September 9:

No economic releases

Tuesday, September 10: No economic releases

Wednesday, September 11: US CPI YoY (Cons: 2.6%, Prior: 2.9%) UK GDP MoM (Cons: -, Prior: 0.0%) Thursday, September 12: ECB Rate Decision US Initial Jobless Claims (Cons: -, Prior: 227K) US PPI MoM (Cons: 0.02%, Prior: 0.01%)

Friday, September 13: No economic releases

Source: Goldman Sachs Asset Management: "Market Monitor", 9/6/2024

"BoJ" refers to Bank of Japan. "WTI" refers to West Texas Intermediate crude oil, a common US benchmark for oil prices. "Brent" refers to a global benchmark for oil prices worldwide. "Bbl" refers to barrel. "OPEC" refers to Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. "Oz" refers to ounce. "bp" refers to basis point. "FOMC" refers to Federal Open Market Committee. "pt" refers to point. "ISM" refers to Institute of Supply Management. "PMI" refers to Purchasing Managers' Index. "pp" refers to percentage point.

Disclosure Statement

Benefit Financial Services Group is a Registered Investment Advisor.

This publication is only intended for clients and interested investors residing in jurisdictions in which the Adviser is qualified to provide investment advisory services. This material is provided for informational purposes only and does not in any sense constitute a solicitation or offer for the purchase or sale of securities. Furthermore, the opinions expressed do not constitute investment advice and views expressed solely reflect those of the Adviser. The Adviser does not attempt to furnish personalized investment advice or services through this publication. Any subsequent, direct communication with a prospective client will be conducted by the Adviser's investment advisory representatives. Some of the information given in this publication has been produced by unaffiliated third parties and, while it is deemed reliable, the Adviser does not guarantee its timeliness, sequence, accuracy, adequacy, or completeness and makes no warranties with respect to results to be obtained from its use. Permission to reprint or distribute any content from this publication requires the written approval of the Adviser.

Information discussed in this report contains forward or backward-looking statements relating to anticipated financial performance, business prospects, returns, market forces, new services, technological developments, and other matters. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a safe harbor for forward-looking statements. In order to comply with the terms of the safe harbor, Adviser notes that a variety of factors could cause actual results and experience to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in these forward or backward-looking statements. Please remember that past performance may not be indicative of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment.

Managing Your Investments, Protecting Your Future