

MONDAY MORNING RECAP - February 10, 2025

Last Week

Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA)	44,303.40	-241.26	-0.54%
S&P 500 Index	6,025.99	-14.54	-0.24%
NASDAQ Composite Index	19,523.40	-104.04	-0.53%
U.S. 10 yr. Treasury Note Yield	4.49%	-9 Basis Points	
Gold (\$ per troy oz.)	\$2,867.30	+\$54.80	+1.95%
WTI Oil (\$ per barrel)	\$71.00	-\$1.53	-2.11%

Market Summary

GLOBAL EQUITIES: US equities fell last week, recovering slightly after a difficult start on Monday on the back of increased concerns over tariffs. The S&P 500 ultimately ended the week down -0.24%, as investors digested a glut of corporate earnings reports throughout the week. In Europe, the STOXX 600 hit a record high on the back of strong corporate results and hopes for peace in Ukraine, ending the week 0.60% higher. Chinese equities also made gains despite US tariffs on Chinese imports, with the Hang Seng up by 4.49%.

COMMODITIES: Oil prices fell for the third week in a row on the back of President Trump's pledge to increase production and higher-than-expected US stockpiles. WTI and Brent Crude ended the week at \$71.00 and \$74.66/bbl, respectively, despite concerns about the impact of tariffs on the global economy. Meanwhile, gold prices reached new record highs due to safe-haven demand, ending the week at \$2867.30/troy oz.

FIXED INCOME: US Treasury yields were down last week after the US government said that it would not increase debt issuance and the Fed's vice chair suggested that the central bank should be careful how it adjusts interest rates in an uncertain policy environment. The 2-Year and 10-Year US Treasury yields ended the week at 4.28% and 4.49%, respectively. In Europe, the 10-Year German bund yield also fell despite a higher-than-expected Euro area inflation reading, ending the week at 2.37%.

FX: The US dollar weakened against a basket of currencies despite unemployment for January falling from the month prior. Ultimately, the US dollar index ended the week down -0.02%. Across the pond, the pound sterling and euro appreciated and depreciated to \$1.24 and \$1.03, respectively, with the latter depreciating on the back of above-consensus inflation in the Euro area.

Economic Summary

LABOR: Labor data came in mixed last week as job openings fell by more than consensus expected, alongside a falling unemployment rate. JOLTS job openings fell to 7.600M in December, the second-lowest level since January 2021 and below consensus expectations for 8.010M. Nonfarm payrolls rose by 143K, below consensus expectations of 169K. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate fell by more than expected to 4.0% in January from 4.1% the month prior, calling into question the strength of the US job market, which has implications for both consumer spending and forward monetary policy.

ACTIVITY: The US Manufacturing PMI rose from 49.4 in December to 51.2 in January, the first time it has been in expansionary territory in seven months and higher than consensus expectations of 50.1. Meanwhile, the US Services PMI came in at 52.9, its lowest reading since April. Elsewhere, activity data in China slowed from December levels, as January headline Caixin services and manufacturing PMIs decreased to 51.0 and 50.1, respectively.

GEOPOLITICS: President Trump delayed tariffs on Canada and Mexico until March 4. A 10% tariff on imports from China took effect on February 4.

POLICY: The Bank of England cut rates by 25 bp to 4.50%, with two of the nine Monetary Policy Committee members voting for a 50 bp cut. In the Euro area, preliminary headline and core CPI were 2.5% and 2.7% year-over-year respectively in January, both modestly higher than expected, but the ECB is still expected to cut rates again in March.



Key Economic Releases

Monday, February 10:

No economic releases

Tuesday, February 11:

Fed Chair Powell Testifies

Wednesday, February 12:

US Core CPI (MoM) (Cons: 0.3%, Prior: 0.2%)

US CPI (MoM) (Cons: 0.3%, Prior: 0.4%)

Thursday, February 13:

US PPI (MoM) (Prior: 0.2%)

UK GDP (YoY) (Prior: 0.9%)

Friday, February 14:

US Core Retail Sales (MoM) (Prior: 0.4%)

US Retail Sales (MoM) (Prior: 0.4%)

Source: Goldman Sachs Asset Management: "Market Monitor", 2/7/2025

"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. "Oz" refers to ounce. "Fed" refers to the Federal Reserve. "JOLTS" refers to Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey. "PMI" refers to Purchasing Managers' Index. "EU" refers to European Union. "CPI" refers to Consumer Price Index. "Core CPI" refers to Consumer Price Index excluding food and energy.

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.