

The Week Ahead

Group Economics | 13 September 2024

Key Macro Events 16 – 20 September 2024

- **United States** – Wednesday evening, we expect the FOMC to ease rates by 25 bps, with some upside risk to 50 bps, see [here](#) for details on our view. Markets will be looking for an update on the Fed's view on the labor market, as well as updates to the projections and the new dot plot. We expect the distribution to shift more dovish, back to a median of three cuts this year.

Before the meeting, on Tuesday, we get Retail sales, which may have decreased marginally following last months' sharp increase of 1.0%. Cars were a big contributor to the July figure, and data for August suggests they will put downward pressure now. Control group retail sales, which excludes car sales will likely stay relatively strong at 0.3%. Industrial production is likely to rebound from last month's strong decline, coming in at +0.2%.

- **Eurozone** – A number of ECB Governing Council members are scheduled to speak now that the blackout period is over, and markets will be watching closely for clues on the future path for rates. Consumer confidence (Friday) is expected to continue gradually recovering, helped by continued solid wage growth.
- **The Netherlands** – The unemployment rate is expected to edge up to 3.7% in August (3.6% in July) as the labour market remains tight but the peak is behind us. The normalisation in the number of bankruptcies will provide some relief, allowing labour dynamics to pick up a bit. Given strong labour demand and limited available labour supply the unemployment rate is expected to remain low in the coming years.
- **Asia** – China's August activity data (industrial production, retail sales, fixed investment) published on Saturday 14 September are generally expected to show a further slowdown in annual growth. On the monetary policy front, we foresee further mini policy rate cuts and RRR cuts going forward, but consensus expectation including ours is for the 1-year MLF rate (between 18 and 25 September) and the 1-year loan prime rate (Friday 20 September) to be kept on hold for now. Meanwhile in Japan, we concur with the consensus view that the BoJ will keep its target rate at 0.25% on Friday. Going forward, we expect further gradual rate hikes by the BoJ in 2024-25, with a 25bp hike scheduled for Q4-2024 – although the BoJ showed in July that it can sometimes move earlier than markets expect.
- **UK** – The Bank of England is expected to keep rates on hold after its first rate cut in August, and to keep its QT target at GBP100bn. Inflation, due ahead of the meeting, is likely to edge slightly higher, as lower energy prices are offset by firm core inflationary pressure.

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	Date	Time	Country	Market indicator	Period	Latest outcome	Expectation consensus	ABN AMRO	
	Saturday	14/09/2024	04:00:00	CN	Industrial production - % yoy	Aug	5.1	4.7	
	Saturday	14/09/2024	04:00:00	CN	Retail sales - % yoy	Aug	2.7	2.5	
	Saturday	14/09/2024	04:00:00	CN	Fixed investment - % yoy ytd	Aug	3.6	3.5	
	Monday	16/09/2024	11:00:00	EC	Trade balance external EU - EUR bn	Jul	17500.8		
	Monday	16/09/2024	14:30:00	US	Empire State PMI - Manuf. general business conditions - index	Sep	-4.7	-4.0	
	Monday	16/09/2024		EC	ECB's Panetta speaks in Rome				
	Tuesday	17/09/2024	11:00:00	DE	ZEW index (expectation economic growth)	Sep	19.2	21.0	20.0
	Tuesday	17/09/2024	14:30:00	US	Retail sales - % mom	Aug	1.0	-0.2	-0.1
	Tuesday	17/09/2024	14:30:00	US	Retail sales less food and services - % mom	Aug	0.3	0.3	0.3
	Tuesday	17/09/2024	15:15:00	US	Industrial production - % mom	Aug	-0.6	0.1	0.2
	Tuesday	17/09/2024	16:00:00	US	Business inventories - % mom	Jul	0.3	0.4	
	Tuesday	17/09/2024	16:00:00	US	NAHB home builders' confidence index	Sep	39.0	40.0	
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	01:50:00	JP	Machinery orders private sector - % mom	Jul	2.1	0.7	
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	01:50:00	JP	Merchandise trade exports - % yoy	Aug	10.2	10.6	
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	08:00:00	GB	CPI - % yoy	Aug	2.2	2.2	2.3
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	09:00:00	EC	ECB's Holzmann speaks at Vienna Conference				
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	09:15:00	EC	ECB's Vujcic speaks at Vienna Conference				
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	11:00:00	EC	Core inflation - % yoy	Aug F	2.8	2.8	2.8
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	14:30:00	US	Housing starts - % mom	Aug	-6.8	5.5	
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	20:00:00	US	FOMC Rate decision upper bound - %		5.50	5.25	5.25
	Wednesday	18/09/2024	00:00:00	CN	1-yr medium-term lending facility rate - %	18-Sep	2.30	2.30	2.30
	Thursday	19/09/2024	06:30:00	NL	Unemployment - %	Aug	3.6		3.7
	Thursday	19/09/2024	09:15:00	EC	ECB's Knot speaks				
	Thursday	19/09/2024	10:00:00	NO	Policy rate - %		4.50	4.50	4.50
	Thursday	19/09/2024	13:00:00	GB	Policy rate - %		5.00	4.94	5.00
	Thursday	19/09/2024	14:30:00	US	Philadelphia Fed - business confidence - index	Sep	-7.0	1.7	
	Thursday	19/09/2024	16:00:00	US	Existing home sales - % mom	Aug	1.3	-0.6	
	Friday	20/09/2024	01:01:00	GB	GfK Consumer confidence - index	Sep	-13.0		
	Friday	20/09/2024	01:30:00	JP	CPI - % yoy	Aug	2.8	3.0	
	Friday	20/09/2024	03:00:00	CN	1-year loan prime rate - %	20-Sep	3.35	3.35	3.35
	Friday	20/09/2024	06:30:00	NL	Consumer confidence - index	Sep	-24.00		
	Friday	20/09/2024	08:00:00	GB	Retail sales - % mom	Aug	0.5		
	Friday	20/09/2024	08:45:00	FR	Business confidence manuf. - index	Sep	98.8		
	Friday	20/09/2024	16:00:00	EC	Consumer confidence - index	Sep P	-13.5	-13.0	-13.0
	Friday	20/09/2024	17:00:00	EC	ECB's Lagarde delivers Michel Camdessus Central Bank Lecture				
	Friday	20/09/2024		JP	BoJ Target Rate	20-Sep	0.25	0.25	0.25

Source: Bloomberg, ABN AMRO Group Economics (we provide own forecasts only for selected key variables and events)

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