

Equities and bonds rise as investors focus in on 'Powell Put' potential

Snapshot



World Equities
Corporate Bonds
Sovereign Bonds
Gold



Oil Copper

Week Ahead



US PPI and UK unemployment data are both released to the market.



The US and China inflation figures (CPI) go to print.



US retail sales data is released where a rise of 0.6% (MoM) is forecast.

Markets moved higher throughout the course of the week, as analysts cheered the concept of the 'Powell Put'. As data weakens, most notably the latest US employment figures, investors are betting that the Fed will step in to cut interest rates and once again ignite the roaring bull market. What action the Fed takes remains to be seen. As alluded to above, Non-Farm Payrolls disappointed for May with just 75,000 jobs added, far below the average expectation. Bond yields fell immediately as the threat that higher interest rates may pose to fixed income markets continues to dissipate. The ECB also look poised to act, with the reintroduction of asset purchasing becoming a live option. German Bund Yields fell even further as a result, falling below the 10 year Japanese equivalent. President Trump also announced a last minute reprieve for Mexico by postponing the threat of a blanket 5% tariff on all imports; as Mexico vowed to step up efforts to curb illegal migration to the US.

	1 Week Return 31.05.19 to 07.06.19		Year to Date Return 31.12.18 to 07.06.19	
	Local Currency	Euro	Local Currency	Euro
World	3.9%	2.2%	12.9%	13.8%
U.S.	4.4%	2.9%	14.9%	16.2%
Europe	2.4%	2.4%	12.2%	12.2%
Ireland	1.7%	1.7%	15.1%	15.1%
U.K.	2.4%	1.7%	8.5%	9.6%
Japan	1.3%	-0.1%	3.1%	5.8%
Hong Kong	1.1%	-0.5%	8.5%	9.6%
Corporate Bonds	0.7%	0.7%	4.2%	4.2%
Sovereign Bonds	1.8%	1.8%	7.4%	7.4%

Equities

- Global markets had a strong week, up nearly 4% in local terms, whilst a stronger euro reduced returns for Irish investors.
- The influential US market led the globe higher, up 4.4%, as all major markets enjoyed a positive week.

Fixed Income & FX

- The U.S. 10-year yield ticked lower again during the week, moving to 2.08% from 2.12%, having started the year at 2.68. The German equivalent moved to a record low of -0.26%.
- The Euro/US Dollar exchange rate moved higher to close at 1.13, whilst Euro/GBP was at 0.89.

Commodities

- Oil finished the week slightly higher at just below \$54 per barrel.
- Gold finished the week up at \$1,341 per troy ounce.
 Copper finished the week down at \$5,778 per tonne.

Source: MSCI. The MSCI information may only be used for your internal use, may not be reproduced or redisseminated in any form and may not be used as a basis for or a component of any financial instruments or products or indices. None of the MSCI information is intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such. Historical data and analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance analysis, forecast or prediction. The MSCI information is provided on an "as is" basis and the user of this information assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. MSCI, each of its affiliates and each other person involved in or related to compiling, computing or creating any MSCI expressly disclaims all warranties (including, without limitation, any warranties of originality, accuracy, completeness, timeliness, non-infringement, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose) with respect to this information. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall any MSCI Party have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, punitive, consequential (including, without limitation, lost profits) or any other damages. (www.msci.com)

Source ICE Data Indices, LLC ("ICE DATA"), is used with permission. ICE DATA, ITS AFFILIATES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE THIRD PARTY SUPPLIERS DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL WARRANTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS, EXPRESS AND/OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, INCLUDING THE INDICES, INDEX DATA AND ANY DATA INCLUDED IN, RELATED TO, OR DERIVED THEREFROM. NEITHER ICE DATA, ITS AFFILIATES NOR THEIR RESPECTIVE THIRD PARTY PROVIDERS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ANY DAMAGES OR LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE ADEQUACY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS OR COMPLETENESS OF THE INDICES OR THE INDEX DATA OR ANY COMPONENT THEREOF, AND THE INDICES AND HOLDES AND NOTES IS AT YOUR OWN RISK. ICE DATA, ITS AFFILIATES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE THIRD PARTY SUPPLIERS DO NOT SPONSOR, ENDORSE, OR RECOMMEND ZURICH LIFE ASSURANCE PLC, OR ANY OF ITS PRODUCTS OR SERVICES.

Warning: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.

Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.

Warning: Benefits may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.

Warning: If you invest in this product you may lose some or all of the money you invest.

Zurich Life Assurance plc

Zurich House, Frascati Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Telephone: 01 283 1301 Fax: 01 283 1578 Website: www.zurich.ie Zurich Life Assurance plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

