

Markets slightly lower as Trump tests positive

Snapshot



Corporate Bonds
Sovereign Bonds
Gold
Copper



World Equities
Oil

The week ahead







The latest U.S. non-farms payroll was released on Friday and showed that employers added a net 661,000 jobs in September. This is far above longer term averages but is less than half the number added in August, which again reveals the esoteric nature of data releases at this time. Under the surface, much of the slowing pace was attributed to seasonal government hiring, and the unemployment rates moved down to 7.9%. Whilst this is a headline positive figure it was more a result of less people looking for work, rather than as a result of more people finding work.

In other data, U.S. personal incomes declined in August, as the effect of lower unemployment benefits began to be felt. In a slight contradiction spending actually rose 1.0% in August and services PMI continued to expand. Chinese data once again pointed to a strong recovery in the world's second largest economy. Both manufacturing and services PMIs beat consensus estimates, with the services in particular noteworthy – rising to 55.9 vs a forecasted decline.

Within U.S. politics markets are continuing to closely watch developments regarding stimulus negotiations. On Thursday evening Democrats passed a \$2.2tn aid package in the House, although it is unlikely to make it through the Republican controlled Senate. Talks will continue, with both President Trump and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin making positive comments in recent days.

Closer to home, Brexit negotiations continued with Boris Johnson and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen holding talk on Saturday. With virus cases within both the EU & U.K. on the rise, softening the economic impact of Brexit takes on fresh impetus. President von der Leyen is also now self-isolating following a close contact last week.

Our regular market information continues on the next page.

		1 Week Return 28.09.20 to 05.10.20		Year to Date Return 01.01.20 to 05.10.20	
	Local Currency	Euro	Local Currency	Euro	
World	-0.2%	-0.8%	0.2%	-4.0%	
U.S.	0.0%	-0.5%	5.4%	0.8%	
Europe	-0.3%	-0.3%	-9.1%	-9.1%	
Ireland	-0.4%	-0.4%	-3.5%	-3.5%	
U.K.	-0.5%	-0.4%	-23.1%	-28.4%	
Japan	-3.0%	-3.6%	-6.3%	-7.7%	
Hong Kong	-0.3%	-0.8%	-11.4%	-14.8%	
Corporate Bonds	0.4%	0.4%	1.2%	1.2%	
Sovereign Bonds	0.3%	0.3%	5.8%	5.8%	

Equities

- Global markets were down last week by -0.8% in euro terms and down -0.2% in local terms.
- Year to date the U.K. market is down
 -28.4% in euro terms and -23.1% in local
 terms.
- The influential U.S. Market was down -0.5% in euro terms and 0.0% in local

Fixed Income & FX

- The U.S. 10-year yield finished at 0.70% last week. The German equivalent finished at -0.54%. The Irish 10 year bond yield finished at -0.18%.
- The Euro/U.S. Dollar exchange rate finished at 1.17, whilst Euro/GBP finished at 0.91.

Commodities

- Oil finished the week at \$38 per barrel.
- Gold finished the week at \$1,890 per troy ounce up 24.6% year to date in local terms and 19.1% year to date in Euro terms.
- Copper finished the week at \$6,547 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 INDEX DATA AND ALL COMPONENTS THEREOF ARE PROVIDED ON AN "AS IS" BASIS AND YOUR USE 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.

