



Weekly market overview

Week ahead

- This week's macro calendar highlights central bank speeches, PMI surveys in the US, UK, and EU, alongside key US data releases including Q2 GDP and August core PCE inflation.
- The company earnings calendar is relatively quiet this week, with few major releases expected.

*For exact dates please check page 7 of the document

Commentary

Major US stock indexes hit record highs as the Fed cut rates for the first time in nine months. The Russell 2000 gained 2.16%, the Nasdaq 2.21%, the S&P 500 1.22%, and the Dow 1.05%. A call between Presidents Trump and Xi also boosted sentiment, with progress reported on TikTok ownership and trade talks. The Fed reduced its policy rate by 25 bps, citing labor market weakness, with projections signaling another 50 bps of cuts this year. Retail sales rose 0.6% in August, but housing data disappointed, as starts fell 8.5% and builder sentiment stayed weak, though outlook improved on lower mortgage rates. Treasury yields climbed after Powell's hawkish comments, hurting bond returns.

The STOXX Europe 600 rose 1.03% as expectations grew for US rate cuts, with Italy's FTSE MIB up 2.30%, France's CAC 40 up 1.96%, Germany's DAX up 0.43%, and the UK's FTSE 100 up 0.82%. The ECB held its deposit rate at 2%, raised growth and inflation forecasts, and signaled the rate-cut cycle may be ending, though analysts see a chance of another cut by March 2026. In Germany, exports fell 0.6% in July as US demand weakened, while industrial output rose 1.3%. UK GDP stalled in July after June's growth, dragged by weak manufacturing. In France, President Macron appointed Sebastien Lecornu as prime minister after Bayrou's government collapsed.

EQUITIES	Level	W/W % change	M/M % change	YTD % change
United States				
S&P 500	6,664	1.2	3.9	13.3
Nasdaq 100	24,626	2.2	5.3	17.2
Dow Jones 30	46,315	1.0	3.1	8.9
Russell 2000	2,449	2.2	7.6	9.8
Global				
S&P Europe	2,248	0.0	-0.4	9.0
S&P China	3,172	0.2	8.2	24.8
S&P Japan	2,935	-0.4	0.9	12.9
S&P Global	4,726	0.9	3.5	16.4

FIXED INCOME	Yield, %	1-week ago	1-month ago	31-Dec-2024
United States				
2y US Treasury	3.58	3.56	3.75	4.24
10y US Treasury	4.14	4.06	4.30	4.57
US IG Credit	4.78	4.77	4.97	5.31
US HY Credit	6.88	6.93	7.22	7.50
Europe				
2y German Bund	2.03	2.02	1.96	2.09
10y German Bund	2.75	2.71	2.75	2.36
Europe HY Credit	4.97	5.07	4.89	5.20

W/W performance of US stocks by style, %

Large-cap	Value	1.1	1.2	1.9
	Total	-0.4	0.4	1.7
	Growth	-0.1	2.2	1.0

Source: Bloomberg

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Alternative assets

Gold ended last week higher as markets priced in a 92% chance of another Fed rate cut in October. ADM Investor Services said Fed policy remains the main driver, alongside strong central bank demand. Fitch Ratings noted growing global protectionism after tariffs on US steel, with measures considered in India, Turkey, Brazil, and the EU, where a "melted and poured" rule could shift trade flows. London miners rallied as gold rose nearly 10% this month on rate-cut hopes and geopolitical uncertainty. Analysts cautioned, however, that gold futures face resistance near \$3,700/oz, suggesting consolidation. Separately, Pantoro Gold shares have tripled in 2025 on high prices, though Morgans set a "hold" rating, citing limited short-term upside. In energy markets, US natural gas futures started the week mixed after a strong inventory build. Winter contracts softened, with analysts saying abundant storage may cap prices below \$3 until October expiry.

Bitcoin faces bearish pressure after forming a Doji at long-term resistance near \$113K, with support at \$114.5K and \$107.3K. A strong dollar adds risk, as the DXY flashed a bullish reversal despite the Fed's recent 25-bp cut. Ether broke below a contracting range, targeting \$4,062-\$4,000 unless it reclaims \$4,458. XRP's outlook also darkened, with its weekly MACD turning bearish despite last week's ETF launch. Traders are cautious as Fed officials, including Chair Powell and Governor Miran, deliver speeches, while the upcoming US core PCE inflation report (expected 2.9% YoY for August) could further fuel volatility in crypto and broader markets.

ALTERNATIVES	Level	W/W % change	M/M % change	YTD % change
Commodities				
Brent, US\$/barrel	66.2	-1.7	-2.8	-11.4
Natural gas, EUR/MWh	32.0	-1.1	-5.9	-23.0
Gold, US\$/oz	3,715.4	0.8	9.9	42.3
Silver, US\$/oz	43.8	1.5	12.1	49.7
Uranium, US\$/lbs	76.9	0.5	4.8	-3.2
Crypto				
Bitcoin, index	111,111	-0.7	-2.7	19.0
Ethereum, index	4,332	-6.2	23.4	30.0
REITs				
US REITs	1,311	-0.5	3.0	3.5
Europe REITs	1,590	-0.3	1.0	2.0

S&P 500 sector highlights

Amid prevailing uncertainty, analysts hold neutral outlooks across all sectors over the next twelve months.

Moderna, Inc. (MRNA), Caesars Entertainment, Inc. (CZR), and Bath & Body Works, Inc. (BBWI) are considered to show the best performance.

The worst performance is expected from Paramount Skydance Corporation (PSKY), Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. (WBD), and News Corporation (NWS).

*For detailed information on sectors please check page 8 of this document

S&P 500 sector review: last week performance

Sector	ETF Ticker	Price, \$	W/W, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12 month outlook
S&P 500	SPY	663.7	 1.0	13.2	481.8	664.9	Positive
Technology	XLK	278.9	 3.0	20.0	172.5	279.2	Neutral
Communications	XLC	119.4	 1.8	23.3	84.0	119.6	Neutra
Discretionary	XLV	241.4	 1.2	7.6	173.1	243.4	Neutral
Industrials	XLI	153.1	 1.0	16.2	112.8	155.2	Neutral
Financials	XLF	54.3	 0.8	12.2	42.2	54.5	Neutral
Energy	XLE	88.5	-0.1 	3.3	74.5	97.9	Neutra
Health Care	XLV	137.3	-0.6 	-0.2	127.4	156.0	Neutral
Utilities	XLU	85.0	-0.6 	12.2	71.0	87.7	Neutral
Materials	XLB	90.8	-0.9 	8.0	73.1	97.9	Neutral
Staples	XLP	79.4	-1.2 	1.0	75.6	84.4	Neutral
Real Estate	XLRE	41.9	-1.2 	2.9	35.8	45.5	Neutral

Source: Galt & Taggart Research, Bloomberg, Tipranks, Charles Schwab
 *Percentage price changes given in parentheses indicate w/w changes

Global equities

Last week's strongest performers in S&P 500

#	Ticker	Name	Price, \$	W/W, %	M/M, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12M price target, \$*	12M upside potential, %
1	INTC	Intel Corporation	29.6	22.8	16.9	47.5	17.7	32.4	24.9	-15.9
2	SNPS	Synopsys, Inc.	495.5	16.5	-19.1	2.1	365.7	651.7	569.2	14.9
3	CRWD	CrowdStrike Holdings, Inc.	502.6	15.2	20.1	46.9	272.7	518.0	486.0	-3.3
4	AMAT	Applied Materials	190.1	13.3	17.2	16.9	123.7	215.7	194.1	2.1
5	STX	Seagate Technology Holdings plc	221.2	12.9	40.1	156.3	63.2	221.7	184.8	-16.5

Last week's weakest performers in S&P 500

#	Ticker	Name	Price, \$	W/W, %	M/M, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12M price target, \$*	12M upside potential, %*
1	FDS	FactSet Research Systems Inc.	289.2	-20.1	-22.7	-39.8	288.8	499.9	346.4	19.8
2	DRI	Darden Restaurants, Inc.	184.7	-13.1	-11.1	-1.0	155.2	228.3	224.3	21.4
3	BLDR	Builders FirstSource, Inc.	124.2	-13.0	-10.1	-13.1	102.6	201.8	140.3	13.0
4	DXCM	DexCom, Inc.	67.5	-11.5	-16.6	-13.3	57.5	93.3	102.1	51.3

Last week's 10 most traded stocks globally

#	Ticker	Name	Price, \$	W/W, %	M/M, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12M price target, \$*	12M upside potential, %
1	INTC	Intel Corporation	29.6	22.8	16.9	47.5	17.7	32.4	24.9	-15.9
2	TSLA	Tesla, Inc.	426.1	7.6	29.4	5.5	212.1	488.5	334.2	-21.6
3	NVDA	NVIDIA	176.7	-0.6	0.6	31.6	86.6	184.5	211.9	20.0
4	AAPL	Apple Inc.	245.5	4.9	6.5	-2.0	169.2	260.1	242.3	-1.3
5	PFE	Pfizer Inc.	24.0	0.7	-5.1	-9.4	20.9	30.4	28.9	20.1
6	AMD	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.	157.4	-0.7	-5.5	30.3	76.5	186.7	185.8	18.0
7	AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	231.5	1.5	1.5	5.5	161.4	242.5	264.7	14.4
8	UBER	Uber Technologies	98.5	2.7	3.3	63.3	59.3	99.7	106.6	8.2
9	ORCL	Oracle Corporation	308.7	5.6	31.6	85.2	118.9	345.7	336.1	8.9
10	MU	Micron Technology, Inc.	162.7	3.5	33.3	93.4	61.5	170.5	162.1	-0.4

*Price targets represent the average price forecasts made during past three months by the highest ranked analysts (primarily from Wall Street). A positive 12 month return target implies an overall "Buy" recommendation by analysts

*Upside potentials for stocks with negative short-term performance may be biased. This is because analysts may take time to reflect in their forecasts any unfavorable information regarding the stock.

Source: Bloomberg, Tipranks

Georgian corporate bonds

Issuer	Currency	Amount, mn	Coupon	Issue date	Maturity date	Ratings (Fitch/S&P/Moody/ Scope)	Mid price	Mid yield, %
USD								
Geo. Renewable Power Oper.	USD	80	7.00%	Oct-22	Oct-27	-/-/-	100.00	7.00%
Silk Real Estate	USD	20	9.00%	Apr-23	Apr-26	-/-/-	99.99	9.00%
Georgia Capital	USD	150	8.50%	Aug-23	Aug-28	-/BB-/-	101.08	8.13%
Silk Real Estate	USD	20	9.25%	Sep-23	Sep-26	-/-/-	100.91	8.63%
Geosteel	USD	5	8.50%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/-	99.63	8.75%
IG Development	USD	20	8.50%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/-	99.61	8.75%
Tegeta Motors	USD	5	8.50%	Jun-24	Jun-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	8.63%
Tegeta Motors	USD	3.3	8.50%	Jun-24	Jun-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	8.63%
IG Development	USD	19.5	8.50%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.63%
Tegeta Motors	USD	5	8.50%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MP Development	USD	5	8.75%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.75%
JSC BasisBank	USD	20	7.00%	Aug-24	Aug-27	-/-/-	n/a	7.00%
Georgia Real Estate	USD	25	8.50%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.50%
Chavchavadze 64B	USD	10	8.75%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.75%
Tegeta Motors	USD	5	8.25%	Dec-24	Dec-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MP Development	USD	17.7	8.50%	Apr-25	Apr-27	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	USD	10.0	8.00%	Apr-25	Apr-27	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	USD	10.0	8.00%	Apr-25	Apr-27	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Energy Development Georgia	USD	10.0	8.50%	Jun-25	Jun-27	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
ALMA	USD	30.0	8.50%	Jul-25	Jul-27	-/-/-	n/a	n/a

■ Galt & Taggart-led and/or co-managed deals
 Source: Bloomberg, Galt & Taggart

Georgian corporate bonds

Issuer	Currency	Amount, mn	Coupon	Issue date	Maturity date	Ratings (Fitch/S&P/Moody/S cope)	Mid price	Mid yield, %
EUR								
Tegeta Motors	EUR	4	7.00%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	99.63	7.25%
Tegeta Motors	EUR	7	6.75%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	100.37	6.15%
IG Development	EUR	5	7.00%	Jan-24	Jan-26	-/-/BB-	99.60	6.15%
Tegeta Motors	EUR	10	6.75%	May-24	May-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MP Development	EUR	3	7.75%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	7.75%
Chavchavadze 64B	EUR	3	7.75%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	7.75%
ALMA	EUR	8.5	7.25%	Jul-25	Jul-27	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
GEL								
Nikora	GEL	35	TIBR3M + 3.50%	Nov-22	Nov-25	-/-/BB-	100.00	11.58%
Tegeta Motors	GEL	150	TIBR3M + 3.50%	Dec-22	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MFO Rico Express	GEL	130	TIBR1D + 2.00%	Mar-23	Mar-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
TBC Leasing	GEL	100	TIBR3M + 3.00%	Mar-23	Mar-26	BB-/BB-	n/a	n/a
TBC Leasing	GEL	15	TIBR3M + 2.75%	Jun-23	Jun-26	BB-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	GEL	20	TIBR6M + 3.50%	Jun-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	GEL	20	14.5%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Cellfie	GEL	65	TIBR6M + 3.50%	Dec-23	Dec-26	-/-/BB-	100.00	12.33%
Tegeta Motors	GEL	10	13.50%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	GEL	15	13.50%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/BB-	100.00	13.50%
Nikora Trade	GEL	60	TIBR3M + 3.25%	Oct-24	Oct-29	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MFO MBC	GEL	30	TIBR3M + 4.25%	Dec-24	Dec-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MFO MBC	GEL	30	TIBR3M + 4.00%	Apr-25	Apr-27	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Nikora Trade	GEL	60	TIBR3M + 3.50%	Jul-25	Jul-30	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a

■ Galt & Taggart-led and/or co-managed deals
 Source: Bloomberg, Galt & Taggart



Week ahead calendar

Macroeconomic releases			Company earnings		
Time (GMT +4)	Country	Event	Company	Ticker	Time
Monday 22 Sep	22:00	UK	BoE's Governor Bailey speech		
Tuesday 23 Sep	12:00	EU	AutoZone	AZO	Premarket
	12:30	UK	Micron	MU	After Market
	17:45	US	S&P Global Manufacturing PMI, Sep		
	20:35	US	Fed's Chair Powell speech		
Wednesday 24 Sep					
Thursday 25 Sep	16:30	US	Accenture	ACN	Premarket
			Costco	COST	After Market
Friday 26 Sep	16:30	US	Core Personal Consumption Expenditures, Aug		

1. Central bank interest rates have significant impact on equity valuations. Higher rates result in lower discounted values of future earnings, which naturally bring down the stock prices.
2. Inflation is currently a very closely watched macroeconomic statistic, as central banks respond to high inflation by raising interest rates. Generally, developed economies target a 2% annual inflation rate, which is less than current inflation levels in both the US and Eurozone.

Descriptions of key sectors

Communications	Includes companies that produce communication technologies and services. Major industries are internet content & information, telecom services, entertainment, electronic gaming & multimedia, advertising agencies, broadcasting, and publishing. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Alphabet, Meta Platforms, Netflix, T-Mobile, and Walt Disney.
Technology	Includes companies that produce technological goods or services. Major industries are software, semiconductors, consumer electronics, IT services, computer hardware, electronic components, and scientific & technical instruments. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Apple, Microsoft, NVIDIA, Cisco, and IBM.
Discretionary	Includes companies that produce non-essential or luxury goods and services (aka Consumer Discretionary or Consumer Cyclical). Major industries are general and internet retail, auto manufacturing & dealership, apparel, restaurants, travel services & resorts, and gambling. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Amazon, Tesla, Nike, Alibaba, and McDonald's.
Staples	Includes companies that produce goods essential to life (aka Consumer Staples or Consumer Defensive). Major industries are discount stores, household & personal products, beverages, tobacco, packaged foods, confectioneries, farm products, and grocery stores. Examples of leading companies in this smector are Walmart, Procter & Gamble, Coca-Cola, Philip Morris, and Costco.
Health Care	Includes companies that produce health-related products and services. Major industries are drug manufacturing, biotechnology, healthcare plans, medical devices, instruments & supplies, diagnostics & research, and medical care facilities. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Eli Lilly, UnitedHealth Group, Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca, and Pfizer.
Financials	Includes companies related to finance and investing. Major industries are banks, insurance, credit services, asset management, capital markets, and financial data & stock exchanges. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Berkshire Hathaway, Visa, JPMorgan, Bank of America, and Goldman Sachs.
Industrials	Includes companies that mainly produce capital goods for manufacturing and construction. Major industries are aerospace & defense, industrial machinery, railroads, farm & heavy construction machinery, freight & logistics, and building products & equipment. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Union Pacific, United Parcel Services, FedEx, General Electric, and Boeing.
Materials	Includes companies that produce raw materials mostly for manufacturing purposes. Major industries are chemicals, industrial metals & mining, precious metals & mining, building materials, agricultural inputs, paper & paper products, and lumber & wood products. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Linde, BHP Group, Rio Tinto, and Dow.
Energy	Includes companies relating to oil, gas, and consumable fuels. Major industries of the sector are oil & gas: exploration & production, midstream, equipment & services, refining & marketing, drilling, uranium, and thermal coal. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Shell, Occidental Petroleum, and BP.
Utilities	Includes companies that provide basic utilities, such as gas, water, and electricity. Major industries include regulated electric, renewables, regulated gas, regulated water, and independent power producers. Examples of leading companies in this sector are NextEra Energy, Southern Company, and Duke Energy.
Real Estate	Mainly includes Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). Major industries are REIT: specialty, industrial, residential, retail, healthcare facilities, diversified, office, mortgage, hotel & motel, and real estate services. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Prologis, American Tower, and Equinix.

Source: S&P Capital IQ, Corporate Finance Institute

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