Europe Economic Research 24 September 2024



Euro wrap-up

Overview

- Bunds made gains as the ifo survey signalled an increasing likelihood that
 the German economy contracted in Q3, with current conditions judged to be
 the worst in more than four years.
- Gilts made modest losses on a quiet day for UK economic news.
- The coming two days will bring results of German, French and Italian consumer surveys, an Italian business survey and ECB monetary figures.

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Daily bond market movements						
Bond	Yield	Change				
BKO 2.7 09/26	2.087	-0.056				
OBL 21/2 10/29	1.958	-0.038				
DBR 2.6 08/34	2.140	-0.014				
UKT 41/8 01/27	3.908	+0.000				
UKT 41/8 07/29	3.764	+0.016				
UKT 41/4 07/34	3.935	+0.013				

*Change from close as at 4:30pm BST. Source: Bloomberg

Euro area

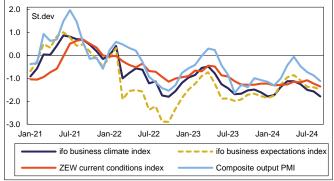
Surveys suggest that Germany's economy slipped into recession over the summer

Germany's post-pandemic recovery has disappointed, with economic output in Q2 just 0.2% above the pre-pandemic level, by far the worst performance of all the larger member states. The lack of momentum in part reflects the impact of restrictive monetary policy on borrowing, which curtailed investment, particularly in construction. But German manufacturing has also been in a trend decline since 2018 as firms struggled to maintain market share amid more intense competition from abroad and a domestic energy crisis. And while services has provided some offset over the past year, recent indicators – including yesterday's flash PMIs and today's ifo business survey – point to a broad-based deterioration at the end of Q3. Certainly, the drop in the ifo survey's current business conditions index was most striking in September, declining for a third consecutive month and by 2.0pts – the most in thirteen months – to 84.4, the lowest since the first Covid-19 wave and the global financial crisis before that. Moreover, firms' expectations for the coming six months were the weakest for seven months. Overall, the headline ifo business climate index (85.4) was the weakest since July 2020, down around 3% in Q3 and a hefty 11% below the long-run average.

A marked broad-based worsening in current conditions

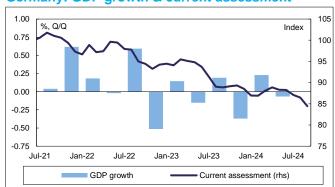
Consistent with the PMIs, manufacturers judged the current business situation to be the worst in about four years, with firms citing an increasing lack of orders. The ifo flagged broad-based weakness across the core industries, including the autos, machinery, electrical equipment and chemicals subsectors. And with expectations for the coming six months having worsened, there is a non-negligible risk that industrial production will remain a drag on GDP growth into 2025. Today's survey also signalled a notable deterioration in services sentiment, with firms in the sector notably less satisfied about the current situation – indeed, the respective index fell to the lowest since February 2021. Admittedly, given an improvement in sentiment in hospitality and tourism-related subsectors, firms were somewhat less concerned about the near-term outlook, Meanwhile, retailers were more downbeat about current conditions as consumer purse strings remained tight, while construction firms considered conditions to remain challenging. Overall, the latest surveys suggest that risks to the near-term outlook remain firmly skewed to the downside, with the likelihood that Germany's economy slipped into recession over the summer having increased. And with signs that recovery momentum in the euro area's largest member state will remain lacklustre into 2025 too, the latest dataflow bolsters the case for a further ECB rate cut sooner rather than later.

Germany: Selected survey indices



Source: Macrobond, S&P Global and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Germany: GDP growth & current assessment



Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.



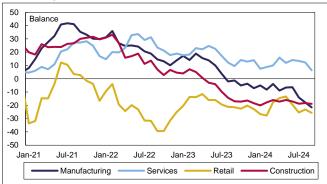
The coming two days in the euro area

Sentiment surveys will continue to dominate the dataflow over coming days. After the flash Commission estimate of euro area consumer confidence rose in September to the highest level since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in spring 2022, the German GfK, French INSEE and Italian ISTAT consumer confidence indices will provide more colour. But while income expectations are likely to improve further, the detail is also likely to suggest that consumers remain reluctant to spend on bigticket items, preferring instead to maintain precautionary savings. The ISTAT survey will also bring an update on business conditions at the end of Q3, while ECB monetary figures for August might well report a modest increase in lending following the recent easing in borrowing costs, albeit growth will remain very subdued by historical standards. Separately, ECB President Lagarde and hawkish Executive Board member Schnabel will speak at various events on Thursday.

The coming two days in the UK

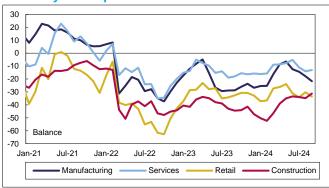
While there are no top-tier UK economic data due over the coming two days, BoE external MPC member Greene is due tomorrow to give a speech about consumption.

Germany: ifo current assessment indices



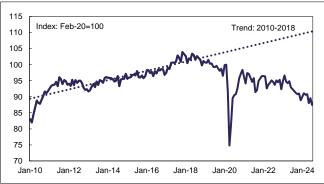
Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Germany: ifo expectations indices



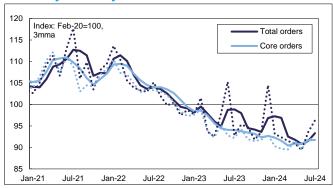
Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Germany: Industrial output



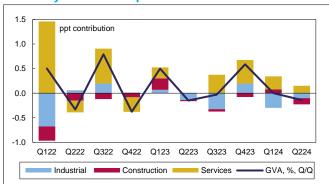
Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Germany: Factory orders*



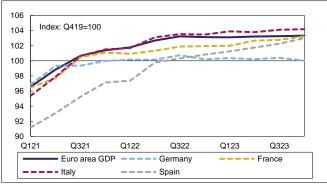
*Dotted lines represent unsmoothed data. Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Germany: GVA & output contributions



Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Euro area member states: GDP levels



Source: Macrobond and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.



European calendar

Today's	result	ds					
Economic	c data						
Country		Release	Period	Actual	Market consensus/ <u>Daiwa forecast</u>	Previous	Revised
Germany		Ifo business climate indicator	Sep	85.4	86.0	86.6	-
		Ifo current assessment (expectations) indicator	Sep	84.4 (86.3)	86.0 (86.4)	86.5 (86.8)	86.4 (-)
Auctions							
Country		Auction					
Germany		sold €3.71bn of 2.7% 2026 bonds at an average yield of 2.14%					
UK	\geq	sold £1.5bn of 0.75% 2033 inflation-linked bonds at an average yield of 0.486%					

Source: Bloomberg and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Tomorro	w's rel	eases				
Economic	data					
Country		BST	Release	Period	Market consensus/ <u>Daiwa forecast</u>	Previous
France		07.45	INSEE consumer confidence indicator	Sep	92	92
Spain	(E)	08.00	PPI Y/Y%	Aug	-	-1.4
Auctions	and eve	ents				
Germany		10.30	Auction: to sell €3bn of 2.4% 2030 bonds			
Italy		10.00	Auction: to sell up to €2.75bn of 3.1% 2026 bonds			
		10.00	Auction: to sell up to €1.25bn of 1.5% 2029 inflation-linked bonds			
		10.00	Auction: to sell up to €1.25bn of 2.4% 2039 inflation-linked bonds			
UK	$\geq <$	09.00	BoE's Greene to give a speech on consumption in Newcastle			
	\geq	10.00	Auction: to sell £3.75bn of 4% 2031 bonds			

Source: Bloomberg and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

Thursday's releases					
Economic data					
Country	BST	Release	Period	Market consensus/ <u>Daiwa forecast</u>	Previous
Euro area 🌕	09.00	M3 money supply Y/Y%	Aug	2.5	2.3
Germany	07.00	GfK consumer confidence indicator	Oct	-22.5	-22.0
Italy 📕	09.00	ISTAT consumer confidence indicator	Sep	97.0	96.1
	09.00	ISTAT business (manufacturing) confidence indicator	Sep	- (87.2)	94.7 (87.1)
Spain	08.00	Retail sales Y/Y%	Aug	1.4	1.0
Auctions and ev	ents/				
Euro area 💮	09.00	ECB to publish Economic Bulletin			
<00	17.00	ECB's Schnabel scheduled to speak at an event in Stuttgart			

Source: Bloomberg and Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd.

The next edition of the Euro wrap-up will be published on 26 September 2024

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