

Daily 16 September 2020

Daily Outlook

US industrial production in August was softer than expected, rising just 0.4% m/m compared with a 3.5% m/m rise in July, as Hurricane Laura affected mining production and utilities output declined as well. Manufacturing output rose 1.0% m/m but remains more than 7% below pre-pandemic levels. Separately, the WTO ruled that the US's imposition of trade tariffs on a wide range of Chinese imports in 2018 broke international rules. The US can appeal the decision, so the ruling is unlikely to change the status quo. The US has removed the 10% tariff on aluminium imports from Canada, which had been imposed last month.

The German ZEW investor survey showed an improvement in both the current situation assessment and investor expectations in September. Both components came in higher than forecast at -66.2 and 77.4 respectively, although increased uncertainty around Brexit could weigh on sentiment in the coming months.

In the UK, the ILO unemployment rate rose to 4.1% in the three months to July from 3.9% in June. Unemployment is likely to continue rising in the coming months as the furlough scheme expires in October and a number of high profile companies have announced significant job cuts, including British Airways, Emirates Airlines (UK staff), Virgin Atlantic, London City Airport and food chain Pret a Manger.

The focus today will be on the Federal Reserve, where the market is expecting more detail on the Fed's shift to an average inflation target, and the implications this would have for monetary policy. August retail sales data are also due to be released, which will indicate how consumption has fared following the expiration of federal unemployment benefits at the end of July.

German ZEW investor survey improves in September 150 current situation expectations 100 50 0 -50 -100 -150 Sep-14 Sep-15 Sep-16 Sep-17 Sep-18 Sep-19 Sep-20

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research

Today's Economic Data and Events								
	Time	Cons.		Time	Cons.			
UK CPI m/m	10:00	-0.6%	US retail sales m/m	16:30	1.0%			
FOMC rate decision	22:00	0- 0.25%						

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research.



Fixed Income

The curve steepened as US treasury yields gained at the long-end yesterday, with the 10-year up one basis point and the 30-year gaining two, as risk-on sentiment returned and equity markets gained. All eyes will be on the outcome of the FOMC meeting later today, and any clarification on the new average inflation targeting regime. In any case, there is very little likelihood of any hike to the benchmark interest rate within at least the next two years.

FX

Despite falling to a near two-week low, the USD reversed these losses and was little changed around the 93 handle this morning. The JPY declined by -0.41% and currently trades at 105.30, just below the 38.2% one-year Fibonacci retracement of 105.41. This marks its lowest point in two weeks.

GBP was once again amongst the biggest movers of the day, finally consolidating modest gains this morning after failing to secure a major headwind in any direction on Wednesday. Sterling rallied by 0.47% and trades at 1.2905. The same can be said for both the AUD and the NZD, recording modest gains to reach 0.7318 and 0.6730 respectively. The EUR reached a daily high of 1.19 but faltered in the evening off the back of the dollar's recovery, earning minor losses to hover around the 1.1850 area.

Equities

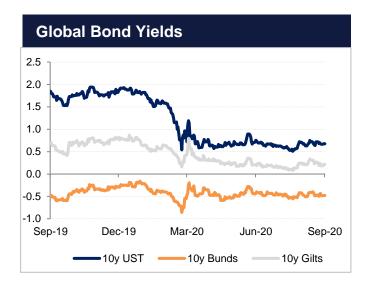
Despite threats to the tech sector about antitrust investigations, it helped drive a recovery in US equities yesterday, with the NASDAQ in particular enjoying strong gains. The tech-heavy index gained 1.2%, while the Dow Jones and the S&P 500 added 0.1% and 0.5% respectively. Asian stocks were broadly positive, with the Shanghai Composite adding 0.5% yesterday, bolstered by the first positive retail sales data this year. Within the region, the DFM gained 0.5% while the Tadawul closed up 0.8% on the day.

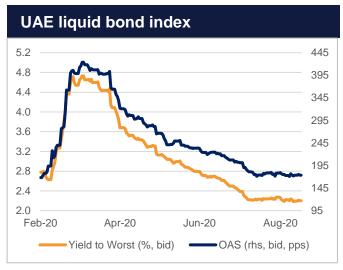
Commodities

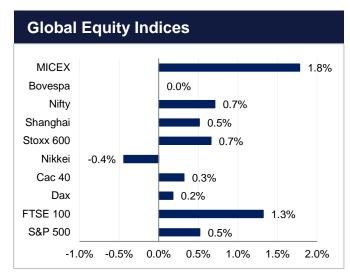
Oil prices staged a modest recovery yesterday, as Brent futures closed back above USD 40/b at USD 40.53/b, a gain of 2.3%. WTI meanwhile gained 2.7% to close at USD 38.28. Both benchmarks continue to rise in early morning trading. Oil markets managed to shrug off a pessimistic report from the IEA which adjusted its forecast for the decline in oil demand this year up from 8.1mn b/d to 8.4mn b/d, (which itself followed the demand forecast downgrade by OPEC reported yesterday), thanks to a surprise drop in inventories reported by the API. Stockpiles of crude in the US reportedly fell by 9.5mn bbl last week.

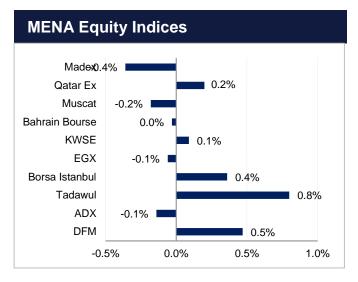


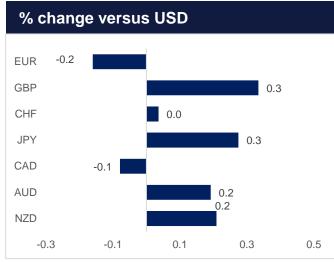
Markets in Charts

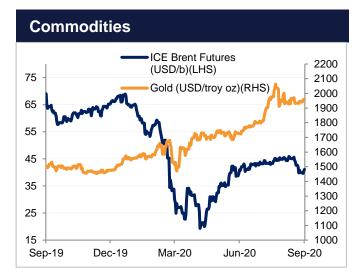












Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Currencies										
	Close	%1D chg	1 yr fwd		Close	%1D chg		Close	%1D chg	
EURUSD	1.1847	-0.16	1.1947	USDTRY	7.4919	+0.05	EURAED	4.3512	-0.17	
GBPUSD	1.2889	+0.33	1.2918	USDEGP	#N/A N/A		GBPAED	4.7341	+0.34	
USDJPY	105.44	-0.27	104.83	USDSAR	3.7510		JPYAED	0.0348	+0.28	
USDCAD	1.3186	+0.08	1.3181	USDQAR	3.6800	+1.05	CADAED	2.7855	-0.08	
AUDUSD	0.7302	+0.19	0.7307	USDKWD	0.3056	-0.07	AUDAED	2.6819	+0.18	
USDCHF	0.9081	-0.03	0.8981	USDBHD	0.3771		CHFAED	4.0446	+0.03	
EURGBP	0.9191	-0.48	0.9248	USDOMR	0.3850		TRYAED	0.4900	-0.10	
USDAED	3.6730		3.6765	USDINR	73.6450	+0.22	INRAED	0.0552	+10.40	

Rates							
Interbank	1 mo	3mo	6 mo	1 yr	Swaps	Close	1D chg (bps)
EIBOR	0.2522	0.4528	0.6438	0.8278	USD 2 yr	0.222	+0
USD LIBOR	0.1521	0.2373	0.2745	0.4026	USD 5 yr	0.333	+1
GBP LIBOR	0.0493	0.0596	0.0801	0.1603	USD 10 yr	0.688	+1
JPY LIBOR	-0.1242	-0.0977	-0.0565	0.0827	EUR 2 yr	-0.472	+0
CHF LIBOR	-0.7940	-0.7420	-0.7024	-0.5610	EUR 5 yr	-0.414	+0
					EUR 10 yr	-0.212	-0

Commodities & Fixed Income									
Commodities	Close	%1D chg	Bonds/Sukuk	YTM	1D chg (bps)	CDS	Close	1D chg (bps)	
Gold	1954.15	-0.14	ADGB 2.50 25	1.09	-1	Abu Dhabi	42	-1	
Silver	27.14	+0.05	DUGB 3.89 25	2.46		Bahrain	311	+2	
Oil (WTI)	38.28	+2.74	QATAR 3.4 25	1.23	-1	Dubai	140	-3	
Aluminium	1750.25	-0.65	US Tsy 2 yr	0.14	+0	Oman	433	+8	
Copper	6777.75	-0.54	US Tsy 10 yr	0.68	+1	Qatar	42	-1	
						Saudi Arabia	80	-3	

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



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Emirates NBD Research & Treasury Contact List

Emirates NBD Head Office 12thFloor Baniyas Road, Deira P.OBox777 Dubai

Aazar Ali Khwaja

Senior Executive Vice President Global Markets & Treasury +971 4 609 3000 aazark@emiratersnbd.com Khatija Haque

Head of Research & Chief Economist +9714 230 7803 khatijah@emiratesnbd.com

Research

Edward Bell

Senior Director, Market Economics +9714 230 7701 edwardpb@emiratesnbd.com Shady Shaher Elborno

Head of Macro Strategy +9714 609 3015 shadyb@emiratesnbd.com **Daniel Richards**

MENA Economist +9714 609 3032 danielricha@emiratesnbd.com

Jamal Mattar

Research Analyst +9714 444 3607 jamaly@emiratesnbd.com

Sales & Structuring

Group Head - Treasury Sales

Tariq Chaudhary +971 4 230 7777 tariqmc@emiratesnbd.com

London Sales

Carlo de Vos +44 (0) 207 838 2279 devosc@emiratesnbd.com Saudi Arabia Sales

Abdulazeez Adm AlSomali +966 11 282 5623 abdulazeezso@emiratesnbd.com

Egypt Sales

Ahmad Okasha +202 2726 5934 aokasha@emiratesnbd.com **Singapore Sales**

Shivakumar Srinivasan +65 6578 5620 shivakumars@emiratesnbd.com

India Sales

Ashish Pahuja +91 22 6813 6202 ashishpa@emiratesnbd.com

Emirates NBD Capital

Hitesh Asarpota

Head of Debt Capital Markets. +971 50 4529515 asarpotah@emiratesnbd.com

Investor Relations

Patrick Clerkin +9714 230 7805

patricke@emiratesnbd.com

Group Corporate Affairs

Ibrahim Sowaidan +9714 609 4113

ibrahims@emiratesnbd.com

Claire Andrea +9714 609 4143 clairea@emiratesnbd.com