STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS

Weekly Economic Perspectives
April 17, 2020

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STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS

April 17, 2020
Commentary

Weekly Economic Perspectives

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Spotlight on Next Week
Durable goods orders set to collapse in the US. Retail sales poised for steep decline in the UK. Service activity set for further declines in the eurozone.

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The Economy

The well anticipated onslaught of horrid economic releases is now here. One could simply say the data are all terrible, period. Or one could say that they are indeed terrible and that this will create a lot more urgency to figure out a way to reopen the economy while also doing as good a job as possible at controlling the outbreak. We lean towards the latter interpretation.

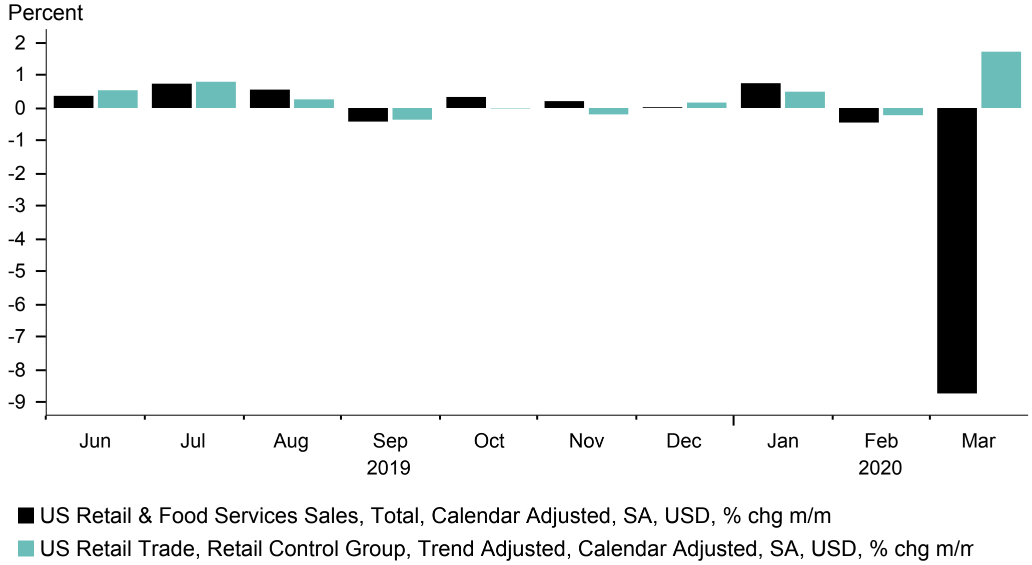
US

Industrial production contracted 5.4% in March, the biggest monthly decline since 1946. Manufacturing was down 6.3% with broad losses that included a 28% decline in motor vehicle output. Utilities were down 4.0% and mining was down 2.0%, leaving overall industrial production down 5.5% y/y. Terrible as that sounds, April is likely going to be worse. Not only have lockdowns broadened within the US itself but also globally, so that manufacturing operations that may have temporarily relied on stocked parts may have been forced to shut down due to supply chain disruptions. Admittedly, Chinese manufacturing activity started to come back in March, but unfortunately that happened just as the rest of the world was shutting down. In fact, the two regional Fed manufacturing surveys released so far (see below) imply the news in April could be much worse. On the brighter side, May could bring about a notable improvement as steps are taken towards reopening.

Speaking of the **Fed manufacturing surveys**, there is little to no historical equivalent to what transpired in April. The Empire State index collapsed 56.7 points to an unprecedented -78.2, while the Philly Fed Survey lost 43.9 points, to -56.6. To put this into context, the Empire index had bottomed at -34.3 in February 2009 and the Philly Fed Index bottomed at -40.9 in November 2008. Admittedly, the Philly Fed had recorded marginally worse readings in its long history, but you need to go back all the way to 1980 and 1974 to find them. What was true of the headlines was also true of many of the components as new orders, shipments and employment all experienced record monthly declines.

The March **retail sales** report also established records, and in more ways than one (Figure 1, page 2). The 8.7% plunge in total sales was unprecedented and—frankly—surprisingly close to expectations given all the moving pieces. But equally unprecedented was the degree of divergence across individual categories, as well as that between the headline and the control group (which exclude food services, building materials, autos dealers and gas stations). The latter actually jumped 1.7%, against expectations of a 2.0% decline. Much of that reflected an unprecedented 25.6% surge in food and beverages sales. Stocking up on food clearly was the name of the game in March. Other categories that experienced some gains were general merchandise (+6.4%), health and personal care (+4.3%), online sales (+3.1%) and building materials (+1.3%). Now, for the bad news: clothing sales collapsed 50.5%; motor vehicles, furniture, and food/drink away from home each declined by about 26%, and gasoline sales declined 17.2%. There was more, but we do not have to enumerate each and every decline to convey a picture of an abrupt drop in sales.

Figure 1: Unprecedented Drop And Divergence In US Retail Sales

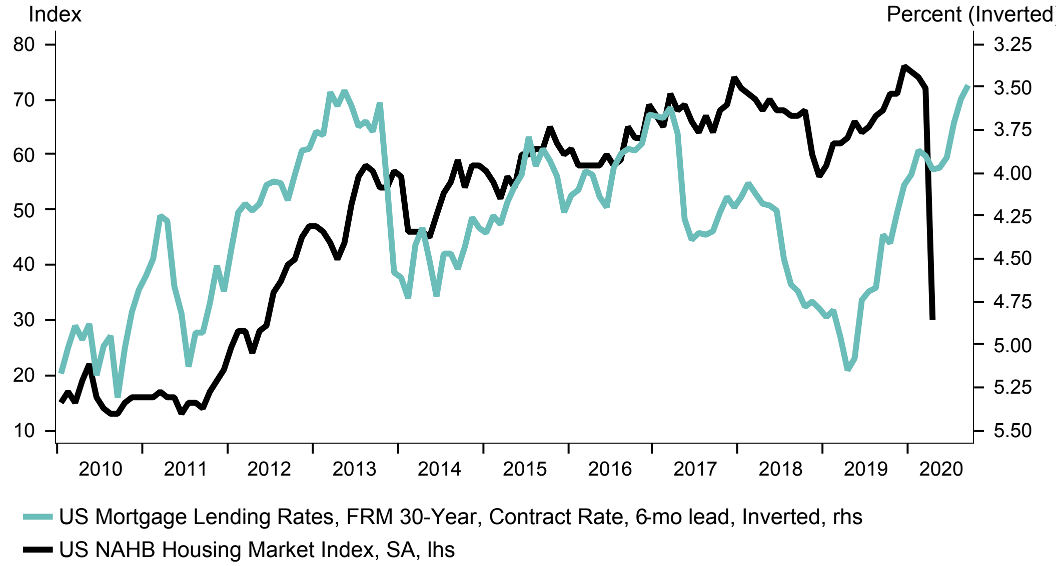


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

We were not really surprised by the overall sales decline—after all, by the second half of March a significant part of the country was under lockdown orders and many non-essential businesses had closed. But some of the details still look puzzling- especially the fact that clothing sales fell by half for the month as a whole. The increase in building materials sales likely reflects what was buoyant homebuilder sentiment in March, but not its April collapse, so we would expect this category to see a meaningful decline in April. Gasoline sales could have been worse—and they most likely will be in April. The same is probably true for motor vehicle sales. But one important difference between these categories is that while the lost gasoline sales in March-April will not be made up later in the year, at least some of the lost auto sales likely will be. We wouldn't expect that to happen in the next month or two, but we would be looking for evidence of some pent-up demand surfacing by June-July.

Last month, we warned against reading too much into the resilience in **homebuilder sentiment**. This month, we would probably advise against reading too much into its collapse. Yes, the decline in sentiment was worse than anticipated in April, but this disappointment means less today than in a normal environment because consensus forecasts lack their usual precision. And given the nearly nationwide lockdown orders in place over the last few weeks, it isn't really shocking that buyer traffic collapsed to the lowest since 2011. Overall sentiment also touched the lowest since June 2012, with the headline National Association of Homebuilders' (NAHB) index plunging 42 points to 30. It was at a two decade high and close to record highs as recently as two months ago. We feel that the details do not even matter all that much. Yes, they are telling us about what is happening now, but we are wary of assuming they are a good representation of what will be happening by July-August. The more important aspect of the current decline is not its intensity, but rather its duration. In the last housing cycle leading to the great recession, the NAHB index first declined to about 30 in the fall of 2006. It did not again exceed 40 until September 2012, essentially six years later. How long will it take this time around? Six weeks? Three months?

Figure 2: Will This Unusual Divergence Persist?



Sources: National Association of Home Builders, Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA)

Housing starts plunged a record 22.5% in March to 1,216,000 (annualized), the lowest level since July 2019. It is a testament to the prior strength in the housing market that even after such an unprecedented decline starts remained marginally above their year-earlier level! Single family starts declined 17.5% but were still 2.8% higher than a year ago. The more volatile multi-family starts plunged 31.7% m/m. Having soared 92.7% y/y as recently as January, they are now down 1.6% y/y/.

The retreat in **building permits** was less dramatic, but very meaningful nonetheless. Permits declined 6.8% in March following February's 6.3% decline and they, too, are now at the lowest levels since last July. As of March, permits were still 5.0% higher than a year earlier. As noted, our view of the current housing sector situation is that, in retrospect, the intensity of the decline will be of far lesser importance than its decline. Should lockdown orders begin to ease by mid-May, as we expect, it is quite possible that housing starts would reaccelerate again over the summer and that the improvement could last well into the cooler season.

An additional 5.3 million filed people filed for **unemployment benefits** during the week ending April 11, extending a spike that began in mid-March. Continuing claims touched almost 12.0 million during the week ended April 4. The next payroll report could show the unemployment rate approaching 20%.

The **index of leading economic indicators** plunged 6.7% in March, with unemployment claims contributing 5.5 percentage points (ppts) to that decline. The 0.8 ppt drag from stock prices almost didn't matter...Given the persistent increase in unemployment claims, and what is likely to be a far worse reading on the ISM new orders component in April, the leading index may experience an even larger decline in April. However, the index's predictive value could be considerably compromised given many of the newly unemployed could return to work soon.

To the extent that the latest **Fed Beige Book** reflected material and comments collected through April 6 and thus captures the economic hit associated with the lockdowns, it was worth a read. But we wouldn't go so far as to say it contained genuinely new information because most of the trends discussed were already well known. "Economic activity contracted sharply and abruptly across all regions in the United States as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hardest-hit industries—because of social distancing measures and mandated closures—were leisure and hospitality, and retail aside from essential goods." What we found more valuable were the bits about most business contacts expecting conditions to deteriorate in the next few months—this strikes us as a bit odd, although it is not entirely clear whether few refers to two moths or four…And the bit about no district reporting upward wage pressures was also notable, albeit not all that surprising given the circumstances.

Canada

The **Bank of Canada** maintained the overnight rate at 0.25% in its latest monetary policy meeting. The accompanying statement confirmed our own assessment of the economy:

"The Canadian economy was in a solid position ahead of the COVID-19 outbreak, but has since been hit by widespread shutdowns and lower oil prices. One early measure of the extent of the damage was an unprecedented drop in employment in March, with more than one million jobs lost across Canada. Many more workers reported shorter hours, and by early April some six million Canadians had applied for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

The outlook is too uncertain at this point to provide a complete forecast. However, Bank analysis of alternative scenarios suggests the level of real activity was down 1-3 percent in the first quarter of 2020, and will be 15-30 percent lower in the second quarter than in fourth-quarter 2019. CPI inflation is expected to be close to 0 percent in the second quarter of 2020. This is primarily due to the transitory effects of lower gasoline prices."

The Bank also announced fresh easing programs to ensure credit availability in the market. It announced a new Provincial Bond Purchase Program of up to C$50 billion to supplement its Provincial Money Market Purchase Program. And it launched a new Corporate Bond Purchase Program, through which the Bank will acquire up to C$10 billion in investment grade corporate bonds in the secondary market. Finally, the Bank further enhanced its term repo facility to permit funding for up to 24 months. Additional asset purchases and qualitative forward guidance remain a possibility as the focus eventually shifts to boosting the recovery through lower yields or spreads. The current stance is expected to continue with the appointment of a new Governor before the next scheduled meeting on June 3.

Home sales dropped below the historical average in March, as lockdowns and social distancing forced both buyers and sellers off the market. **Existing home sales** dropped 14.3%, though actual sales (non-seasonally adjusted) were 7.8% higher than a year ago. Most of the metropolitan areas saw a decline in sales, including Toronto (-20.8%), Montreal (-13.3%), and Vancouver (-2.9%). Newly listed houses also declined by 12.5%, causing the sales-to-new listings ratio (a measure of market tightness) to lose 1.4 percentage points to 64.0%. Inventory rose to 4.3 months from the cyclical low of 3.5 months in February. The Aggregate Composite MLS Home Price index rose 0.8% for a tenth consecutive increase; it was up 6.9% y/y. March had gotten off to a strong start before activity started to fizzle during the second half of the month. Preliminary data collected for first week of April indicate that both sales and listings activities were less than half of normal.

Nominal **manufacturing sales** had already been on a downward trend of late, with sales contracting for five consecutive months. However, sales advanced by 0.5% m/m to C$56.2 billion in February, despite disruptions by rail blockades and supply chain disruptions caused by the early impact of Covid-19. Real sales however, fell 0.8%. An estimated 12% of respondents in manufacturing reported some loss in business due to rail blockades, while 9% of them acknowledged the impact of Covid. The loss in activity seems to be mainly due to delay in procurement of raw materials, indicating the early stages of the outbreak which affected Chinese production. The severity will obviously be higher in subsequent releases as we begin to see the full impact of social distancing measures. Increase in sales of motor vehicle (+13.3%) and motor vehicle parts (+2.6%) pulled transportation equipment sales (+4.0% to C$10.4 billion) higher, as more units were produced at assembly plants that had shutdowns in January. Inventory levels declined 1.0% to C$86.9 billion, depressing inventory-to-sales ratio from 1.57 in January to 1.55.

UK

There were no significant data releases for the UK this week.

Eurozone

It seems almost pointless to report the modest 0.1% decline in eurozone industrial production (excluding construction) in February, knowing that the March and April data are going to be incomparably worse. Still, it was a light data week and for the sake of breaking the monotony of the otherwise horrid releases we've been detailing this week, here we go. But make no mistake about it—this is far from a great print! Output was still down 1.9% y/y, having last posted a y/y gain in October 2018.

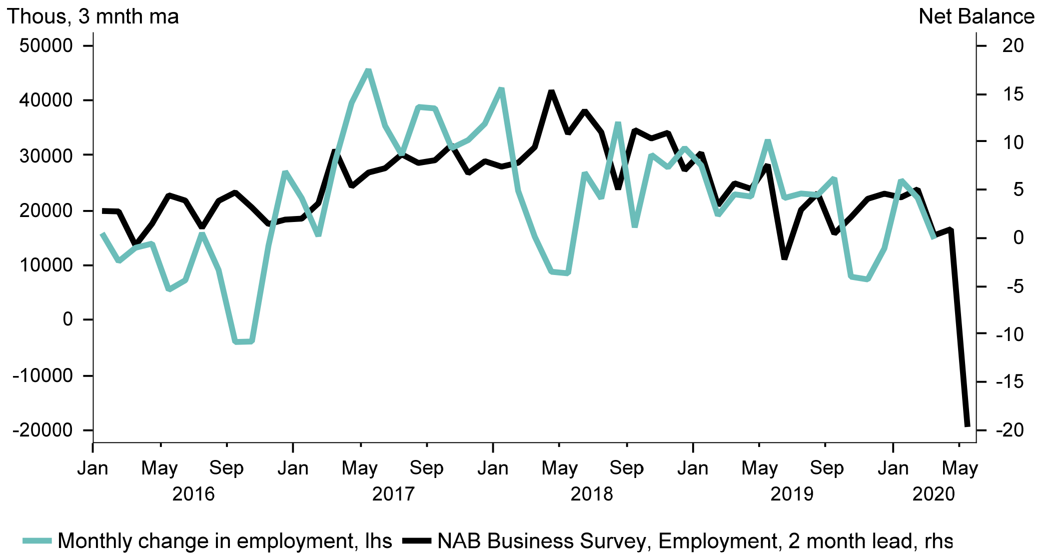
Japan

It is not entirely surprising that Japanese **industrial production** for February was revised down given the severe disruptions to regional supply chains during the month. Output is now estimated to have contracted by 0.3% compared to the 0.4% advance initially reported. Unfortunately, these numbers are likely to look wonderful in comparison to what will transpire in March…

Australia

The March labor report was not dramatic, yet. The **unemployment rate** increased just a tenth to 5.2%, while employment actually increased by 5,900 to 13 million, contrary to expectations. There was a decrease of 400 people in full-time employment and an increase of 6,400 people in part-time employment. Monthly hours worked recorded the largest increase in over a year, of 0.5%; while the participation rate stayed unchanged at 66.0%. The underemployment rate rose to 8.8%, with underutilization hitting 14% for the first time in almost two years. The survey covered the first two weeks of March, before the countrywide lockdown was imposed on March 23. The Australian Bureau of Statistics noted that there has been “some small early impact” from C OVID-19 but “any impact from the major COVID-19 related actions will be evident in the April data”. Leading indicators suggest so much.

Figure 3. Far More Pain Ahead For Australia's Labor Market



Sources: National Australia Bank, Australian Bureau of Statistics

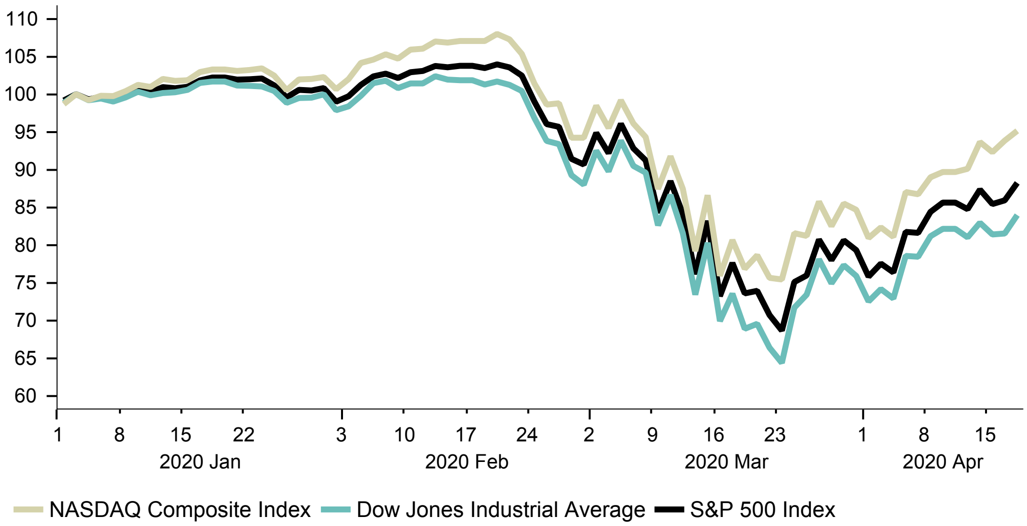
As expected, business confidence worsened considerably in Australia, reaching record lows. The **NAB Business confidence index** slumped 63 points to -66, while the business conditions index fell 21 points to -21. These were much worse than the previous record lows of -30 and -17 respectively, recorded in the after math of the GFC. Profitability was weakest at -27, followed by employment (-20) and trading (-19) conditions. Capacity utilization dropped to 75.0% from 81.2%. Unsurprisingly, recreation and services saw a massive drop of 53 points, given a total shutdown of the sector. This was followed by mining which fell by 39 points, while manufacturing fell 6 points, the third consecutive fall. The decline in forward orders and business conditions imply a large fall in GDP in the next 6 months. We will probably need to wait until some relaxation of lockdown measures before we see any improvement in sentiment.

The Market This Week

The rebound in US equities has been as swift and impressive as the downward plunge had been. Which has made many investors wonder whether equity markets are dismissing too much of the risks to the outlook…Technology has been a leader.

Figure 4: Are US Equity Markets Discounting Too Much Of The Risk?

Index, rebased to 1/2/2020=100



Sources: Bloomberg

Equities: A mixed week for equities, with big gains in US on reopening hopes.

Bonds: Bond yields narrow most everywhere, except in Italy.

Currencies: The euro languishes, the yen strengthens.

Commodities: Oil falls despite production cut agreement.

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Stock Markets					10 Year Bond Yields			Currencies		
Country	Exchange	Last	%Ch Week	%Ch YTD	Last	BP Ch Week	BP Ch YTD	Last	%Ch Week	%Ch YTD
US	S&P 500®	2874.56	3.0%	-11.0%	0.65	-7	-127	99.763	0.2%	3.5%
Canada	TSE 300	14359.88	1.4%	-15.8%	0.65	-12	-106	1.4014	0.3%	7.9%
UK	FTSE®	5786.96	-1.0%	-23.3%	0.30	0	-52	1.2493	0.3%	-5.8%
Germany	DAX	10625.78	0.6%	-19.8%	-0.47	-13	-29			
France	CAC-40	4499.01	-0.2%	-24.7%	0.03	-8	-9	1.0873	-0.5%	-3.0%
Italy	FTSE® MIB	17055.47	-3.2%	-27.4%	1.79	20	38			
Japan	Nikkei 225	19897.26	2.9%	-15.9%	0.03	1	4	107.6	-0.8%	-0.9%
Australia	ASX 200	5487.541	1.9%	-17.9%	0.86	-5	-51	0.637	0.5%	-9.3%

Commodity Markets						
Commodity	Unit	Source	Last Price	%Ch Week	%Ch YTD	%Ch Yr Ago
Oil (Brent)	US $/Barrel	Bloomberg	24.11	-9.3%	-63.7%	-66.1%
Gold	US $/troy oz	Bloomberg	1685.05	0.1%	11.1%	32.3%

Source: Bloomberg®

Week in Review (April 13–April 17)

Country	Release (Date, format)	Consensus	Actual	Last	Comments
Monday, April 13					
	No Major Releases				
Tuesday, April 14					
US	Import Price Index (Mar, y/y)	-5.0%	-4.1%	-1.3%(↑r)	Lowest in four years on oil price declines.
AU	NAB Business Confidence (Mar)		-66	-2(↑r)	At record lows.
Wednesday, April 15					
US	Fed Beige Book				Sharp and abrupt contraction across districts.
US	Retail Sales Advance (mar, m/m)	-8.0%	-8.7%	-0.5%	Record decline, but core sales increased 1.7%.
US	Empire Manufacturing (Apr)	-35	-78.2	-21.5	New orders & shipments decline at record pace.
US	Industrial Production (Mar, m/m)	-4.0%	-5.4%	0.5%(↓r)	Auto production collapsed 28%.
US	NAHB Housing Market Index (Apr)	55	30	72	Duration of decline most important to watch.
US	Business Inventories (Feb, m/m)	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.3%(↓r)	This drag on GDP to be partly offset by trade.
CA	BoC Monetary Policy Decision	0.25%	0.25%	0.25%	The BoC starts buying provincial and IG bonds.
CA	Existing Home Sales (Mar, m/m)	-10.0%	-14.3%	5.9%	April will be much worse.
Thursday, April 16					
US	Initial Jobless claims (Apr 11, thous)	5500	5245	6615(↑r)	Another massive rise, but less than expected.
US	Building Permits (Mar, thous)	1296	1353	1452(↓r)	Better measure of confidence than starts.
US	Housing Starts (Mar, thous)	1300	1216	1564(↓r)	Loss in activity due to lockdown; 8 month low.
US	Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook (Apr)	-32	-56.6	-12.7	Continued weakening in April.
CA	Manufacturing Sales (Feb, m/m)	0.1%	0.5%	-0.7%(↓r)	Up despite supply disruptions.
EC	Industrial Production (Feb, m/m)	-0.1%	-0.1%	2.3%	Surprisingly small hit.
AU	Unemployment Rate (Mar)	5.4%	5.2%	5.1%	Still partial impact of disruptions.
Friday, April 17					
US	Leading Index(Mar, m/m)	-7.2%	-6.7%	-0.2%(↓r)	Largely reflecting unemployment claims surge.
JN	Industrial Production (Feb, final, m/m)	0.4%(p)	-0.3%	1.0%	Shipments revised downward due to disruptions.
JN	Tertiary Industry Index (Feb, m/m)	-0.5%	-0.5%	0.3%(↓r)	Accommodation & recreation services worst hit.

Source: for data, Bloomberg®; for commentary, SSGA Economics.

Week Preview (April 20–April 24)

Country	Release (Date, format)	Consensus	Last	Comments
Monday, April 20				
CA	Teranet/National Bank HPI (Mar, y/y)		2.9%	
JN	Trade Balance Adjusted (Mar, ¥ bil.)	-88.5	498.3	Evolution of exports is something to watch out for.
Tuesday, April 21				
US	Existing Home Sales (Mar, m/m)	-6.9%	6.5%	April will be far worse.
CA	Retail Sales (Feb, m/m)		0.4%	Likely to show only early impact of Covid-19.
UK	ILO Unemployment Rate (Feb)	3.9%	3.9%	Won’t stay here much longer…
UK	Average Weekly Earnings (Feb, 3m y/y)	3.0%	3.1%	
GE	ZEW Investor Expectations (Apr)	-42.0	-49.5	May be worse than consensus expects.
Wednesday, April 22				
US	FHFA House Price Index (Feb, m/m)	0.4%	0.3%	
CA	CPI (Mar, y/y)		2.2%	Low on oil prices.
UK	CPI (Mar, y/y)	1.6%	1.7%	
UK	PPI Output (Mar, y/y)	0.2%	0.4%	
FR	Business Confidence (Apr)		95	
IT	Industrial Orders (Feb, m/m)		1.2%	
Thursday, April 23				
US	Initial Jobless claims (Apr 18, thous)	4500	5245	
US	New Home Sales (Mar, thous)	650	765	
US	Kansas City Fed Manf. Activity (Apr)		-17	
UK	Retail Sales (Mar, m/m)	-3.5%	-0.3%	Could be worse!
UK	Manufacturing PMI (Apr, prelim)	45	47.8	
UK	Services PMI (Apr, prelim)	30	34.5	We anticipate a worse decline.
EC	Manufacturing PMI (Apr, prelim)	40	44.5	
EC	Services PMI (Apr, prelim)	25	26.4	We anticipate a worse decline.
GE	GfK Consumer Confidence (May)	-2.3	2.7	
GE	Manufacturing PMI (Apr, prelim)	39	45.4	
GE	Services PMI (Apr, prelim)	30	31.7	
FR	Manufacturing PMI (Apr, prelim)		43.2	
JN	Manufacturing PMI (Apr, prelim)		44.8	Another drop expected, hopefully gets better from here.
JN	Services PMI (Apr, prelim)		33.8	Another drop expected, hopefully gets better from here.
JN	Leading Index (Feb, final)	92.1(p)	90.5	
Friday, April 24				
US	Durable Goods Orders (Mar, prelim, m/m)	-11.1%	1.2%	
US	U of Mich Cons Sentiment (Apr, final)	67.9	89.1	
UK	GfK Consumer Confidence (Apr, prelim)	-40	-34	May be worse still.
GE	IFO Business Climate (Apr)	80	86.1	May be worse than consensus expects.
JN	CPI (Mar, y/y)	0.4%	0.4%	We expect CPI to slow.
JN	All Industry Activity Index (Feb, m/m)	-0.5%	0.8%	

Source: for data, Bloomberg®; for commentary, SSGA Economics.

Economic Indicators

Central Bank Policy Targets

Region	Target	Year/Year %Change in Target				
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
US	Target: PCE price index 2.0% y/y	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.8	
Canada	Target: CPI 2.0% y/y, 1.0%-3.0% control range	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.2	
UK	Target: CPI 2.0% y/y	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.7	
Eurozone	Target: CPI below but close to 2.0% y/y	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.7
Japan	Target: CPI 2.0% y/y	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4	
Australia	Target Range: CPI 2.0%-3.0% y/y	1.8	1.8			

Source: Macrobond

Key Interest Rates

	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	#####	Feb-20	Mar-20
US (top of target range)	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.25	2.00	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	0.25
Canada (Overnight Rate)	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	0.25
UK (Bank Rate)	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.10
Eurozone (Refi)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Japan (OCR)	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07	-0.06	-0.06	-0.03	-0.03	-0.07	-0.04	-0.03	-0.07
Australia (OCR)	1.50	1.28	1.02	1.00	1.00	0.76	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.43

Source: Macrobond

General Government Structural Balance as a % of Potential GDP

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Forecast 2019	Forecast 2020
US	-8.2	-6.4	-4.5	-3.8	-3.6	-4.4	-4.8	-6.0	-6.3	-6.3
Canada	-3.1	-2.1	-1.1	0.1	0.8	0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.5	-0.8
UK	-5.9	-6.0	-4.0	-4.7	-4.1	-2.9	-2.0	-1.5	-1.3	-1.4
Eurozone	-3.9	-2.1	-1.2	-0.9	-0.8	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6	-0.7	-0.9
Germany	-1.4	0.0	0.6	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.4	0.9	1.0
France	-5.0	-4.4	-3.4	-3.3	-3.0	-2.8	-2.6	-2.5	-2.4	-2.5
Italy	-4.1	-1.5	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7	-1.4	-1.7	-1.8	-1.5	-2.1
Japan	-8.0	-7.6	-7.5	-5.5	-4.3	-4.1	-3.4	-3.1	-2.9	-2.1
Australia	-4.3	-3.3	-2.6	-2.6	-2.4	-2.2	-1.5	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook

Headline Consumer and Producer Price Inflation

	CPI Year/Year %Change						PPI Year/Year %Change				
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
US	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.3	1.5		1.0	1.3	2.1	1.3	0.7
Canada	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.2			-0.6	0.5	0.5	-0.3	
UK	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.7			0.5	0.8	1.0	0.4	
Eurozone	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.7		-1.4	-0.6	-0.7	-1.3	
Germany	1.1	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.4		-0.7	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	
France	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.7		-0.3	0.7	0.2	-0.4	
Italy	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1		-2.6	-2.1	-2.3	-2.6	
Japan	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4			0.2	0.9	1.5	0.8	-0.4
Australia	1.8	1.8					1.4	1.4			

Source: Macrobond

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Real GDP Growth (Q/Q Seasonally Adjusted)

	Quarter/Quarter %Change						Year/Year %Change				
	Q4-18	Q1-19	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19		Q4-18	Q1-19	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19
US	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5		2.5	2.7	2.3	2.1	2.3
Canada	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.3	0.1		1.8	1.5	2.0	1.6	1.5
UK	0.2	0.7	-0.2	0.5	0.0		1.4	2.0	1.3	1.3	1.1
Eurozone	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1		1.2	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.0
Germany	0.2	0.5	-0.2	0.2	0.0		0.6	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.5
France	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	-0.1		1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	0.9
Italy	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.3		0.0	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.1
Japan	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.0	-1.8		-0.2	0.8	0.9	1.7	-0.7
Australia	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5		2.2	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.2

Source: Macrobond

Industrial Production Index (M/M Seasonally Adjusted)

	Month/Month %Change						Year/Year %Change				
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
US	0.9	-0.4	-0.5	0.5	-5.4		-0.4	-0.8	-0.9	0.0	-5.5
Canada	-0.2	0.0	0.2				-1.5	-1.3	-0.5		
UK	-1.1	-0.2	0.3	0.1			-2.5	-2.2	-2.7	-2.8	
Germany	1.3	-2.2	3.2	0.3			-2.5	-5.2	-0.9	-1.2	
France	-0.2	-2.4	1.1	0.9			0.5	-2.9	-2.8	-1.4	
Italy	0.2	-2.7	3.6	-1.2			-0.2	-3.3	-0.6	-2.5	
Japan	-0.6	0.2	1.9	-0.3			-6.6	-6.5	-2.4	-3.7	

Source: Macrobond

Unemployment Rate (Seasonally Adjusted)

	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	#####	Feb-20	Mar-20
US	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	4.4
Canada	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.6	7.8
UK	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9			
Eurozone	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.3	
Germany	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
France	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	
Italy	10.0	9.8	9.9	9.6	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.7	
Japan	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.4	
Australia	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.2

Source: Macrobond

Current Account Balance as a % of GDP (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Q1-17	Q2-17	Q3-17	Q4-17	Q1-18	Q2-18	Q3-18	Q4-18	Q1-19	Q2-19	Q3-19
US	-2.2	-2.5	-2.0	-2.3	-2.3	-2.1	-2.4	-2.8	-2.6	-2.4	
Canada	-2.2	-2.7	-3.4	-3.0	-2.8	-2.6	-1.8	-2.8	-3.0	-1.2	-1.7
UK	-3.2	-4.0	-3.4	-3.3	-3.4	-4.4	-4.3	-5.1	-6.0	-4.6	
Eurozone	3.1	1.9	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.6	2.6	2.8	3.1	2.4	
Germany	8.3	7.0	8.6	8.6	8.5	7.6	6.5	7.4	7.8	7.6	8.1
France	-1.3	-0.7	-0.7	-0.3	-0.3	-1.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.8	-0.8	-1.0
Japan	4.3	3.7	4.6	4.2	3.6	4.0	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.5
Australia	-1.5	-2.5	-2.8	-3.5	-2.2	-2.7	-2.2	-1.4	-0.2	1.2	

Source: Macrobond

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