

# WEEKLY MARKET COMMENTARY

September 15, 2025

## WEEK IN REVIEW

Economic data released this past week suggests a mixed but slightly cooling inflationary environment. The Core Consumer Price Index (CPI) for August rose 0.3% month-over-month, with CPI increasing 0.4%, bringing the year-over-year CPI to 2.9%, a slight uptick from July's 2.7%. This increase implies elevated but relatively stable inflation, suggesting underlying price pressures are still present but not accelerating. The Producer Price Index (PPI) surprised markets after a 0.9% increase in July, with a 0.1% decline in August, marking the second instance of deflation in wholesale prices this year. With wholesale inflation easing, this can be a signal for less pricing pressure in the supply chain.

Labor market data showed signs of softening. Initial jobless claims rose to 263,000, the highest level in nearly four years. This uptick may reflect a weakening labor market, with companies taking a cautious hiring approach amid economic uncertainty.

Overall, the data suggests the economy is entering a more balanced phase. Inflation appears to be stabilizing, with price pressures no longer accelerating, while signs of labor market softening are beginning to emerge. This combination points to a shift in momentum, where growth is steady, but risks are rising. It may prompt the Federal Reserve to take a more cautious approach, weighing inflation control against the need to support a cooling economy.

## ECONOMIC AND CAPITAL MARKETS DASHBOARD

Broad Market Indices	1-week	1-month	3-month	YTD
<b>Stock Market (Total Return)</b>				
S&P 500	1.60%	2.30%	9.27%	12.98%
Dow Jones 30	0.97%	3.36%	7.14%	9.07%
NASDAQ	2.05%	2.20%	12.78%	15.20%
Russell 1000 Growth	2.48%	2.22%	12.20%	15.03%
Russell 1000 Value	0.51%	2.68%	6.16%	10.58%
Russell 2000	0.27%	5.15%	12.39%	8.50%
Wilshire 5000	1.48%	2.60%	9.52%	12.78%
MSCI EAFE Index	1.10%	1.83%	4.54%	13.45%
MSCI Emerging Market Index	3.56%	5.53%	11.91%	22.50%
VIX	-2.77%	0.20%	-18.09%	-14.93%
FTSE NAREIT All Equity REITs	0.38%	3.97%	1.62%	4.50%
S&P U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	0.36%	1.71%	3.06%	6.12%
<b>Interest Rates</b>	<b>9/12/2025</b>	<b>9/5/2025</b>	<b>8/29/2025</b>	<b>8/22/2025</b>
3-month T-bill Yield (%)	4.02	4.01	4.14	4.19
10-year Treasury Yield (%)	4.06	4.09	4.22	4.26
10Y-2Y Treasury Spread (%)	0.51	0.57	0.61	0.56
30-year Fixed Mortgage Rate (%)	--	6.58	6.62	6.65
<b>Commodities</b>				
WTI Crude (\$/bl)	62.36	62.22	64.36	64.08
Gold (\$/Troy Oz)	3,651.10	3,594.55	3,429.15	3,334.25
Bitcoin	116,168.30	110,621.22	108,316.43	116,833.61

Weekly Indicators	9/12/2025	9/5/2025	8/29/2025	8/22/2025
<b>Employment</b>				
Initial Unemployment Claims (000's)	-	263.00	236.00	229.00

Quarterly Data	6/30/2025	3/31/2025	12/31/2024	9/30/2024
<b>Output</b>				
Real GDP Growth (%q/q, saar)	3.30	-0.50	2.40	3.10
Private Consumption (%q/q, saar)	1.60	0.50	4.00	3.70

Monthly Indicators	8/29/2025	7/31/2025	6/30/2025	5/30/2025
<b>Consumption</b>				
Consumer Expenditures (%m/m, sa)	-	0.53	0.37	-0.02
Retail Sales (%m/m, sa)	-	0.66	0.95	-0.88
Personal Savings Rate (%)	-	4.40	4.40	4.50
<b>Labor</b>				
Civilian Unemployment Rate (%)	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.20
Nonfarm Employment (Chg, 000's)	22	79	-13	19
Real Average Hourly Earnings (%y/y)	0.99	1.15	1.28	1.53
JOLTS Job Openings (000's)	-	7181	7357	7712
<b>Inflation</b>				
Consumer Price Index (CPI) (%m/m, sa)	0.38	0.20	0.29	0.08
Core CPI (%m/m, sa)	0.35	0.32	0.23	0.13
Producer Price Index (PPI) (%m/m, sa)	-0.12	0.70	0.05	0.37
Core PPI (%m/m, sa)	0.32	0.39	0.21	0.25
Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) (%m/m, sa)	-	0.20	0.29	0.15
Core PCE (%m/m, sa)	-	0.27	0.26	0.20
<b>Output and Capacity</b>				
Industrial Production (%m/m, sa)	-	-0.12	0.35	0.08
Mfg New Orders (%m/m, sa)	-	-1.28	-4.83	8.25
Durable New Orders (%m/m, sa)	-	-2.76	-9.39	16.54
Durable Inventories (%m/m, sa)	-	0.34	0.24	0.18
<b>Survey Data and Composite Indicators</b>				
Consumer Confidence (CB, 1985=100)	97.40	98.70	95.20	98.40
ISM Manufacturing Report (%)	48.70	48.00	49.00	48.50
ISM Non-Manufacturing Report (%)	52.00	50.10	50.80	49.90
Leading Economic Index (%m/m)	-	-0.10	-0.30	0.00
<b>Housing and Construction</b>				
Building Permits (Mil. of Units, saar)	-	1.36	1.39	1.39
Housing Starts (Mil. of Units, saar)	-	1.43	1.36	1.28
New Home Sales (Mil. of Units, saar)	-	0.65	0.66	0.63

## **WEEK AHEAD**

This week's economic calendar showcases several high-impact U.S. releases that could help shape market sentiment and influence the Federal Reserve's policy outlook.

On Tuesday, the spotlight will be on retail sales, a key gauge of consumer spending. This report will help provide an idea of whether households are maintaining demand despite elevated prices and tighter financial conditions, giving insight into the resilience of the U.S. broader economy.

Wednesday brings the highly anticipated Federal Reserve interest rate decision, a crucial moment for markets. With inflation showing signs of stabilization and labor market data softening, investors will be watching intensely for any shift in stance or forward guidance. The Fed's decision will likely set the tone for monetary policy heading into the final quarter of 2025.

To wrap up the week, on Thursday, attention will fall on initial jobless claims, a timely indicator of labor market health. Recent increases in claims have raised some concerns about employment momentum, and this week's data will be closely watched for confirmation of a potential trend. A continued rise could signal growing caution among employers as well as adding weight to expectations for a more accommodative Fed stance.

## DISCLOSURES AND DEFINITIONS

### Economic Indicators:

1. CPI: Consumer Price Index measures the average change in prices paid by consumers for goods and services over time. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
2. Core CPI: Core Consumer Price Index excludes food and energy prices to provide a clearer picture of long-term inflation trends. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
3. PPI: Producer Price Index measures the average change in selling prices received by domestic producers for their output. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
4. Core PPI: Core Producer Price Index excludes food and energy prices to provide a clearer picture of long-term inflation trends. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
5. PCE: Personal Consumption Expenditures measure the average change in prices paid by consumers for goods and services. Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.
6. Core PCE: Core Personal Consumption Expenditures exclude food and energy prices to provide a clearer picture of long-term inflation trends. Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis.
7. Industrial Production: Measures the output of the industrial sector, including manufacturing, mining, and utilities. Source: Federal Reserve.
8. Mfg New Orders: Measures the value of new orders placed with manufacturers for durable and non-durable goods. Source: Census Bureau.
9. Durable New Orders: Measures the value of new orders placed with manufacturers of durable goods. Source: Census Bureau.
10. Durable Inventories: Measures the value of inventories held by manufacturers for durable goods. Source: Census Bureau.
11. Consumer Confidence (CB, 1985=100): Measures the degree of optimism that consumers feel about the overall state of the economy and their personal financial situation. Source: Conference Board.
12. ISM Manufacturing Report: Measures the economic health of the manufacturing sector based on surveys of purchasing managers. Source: Institute for Supply Management.
13. ISM Non-Manufacturing Report: Measures the economic health of the non-manufacturing sector based on surveys of purchasing managers. Source: Institute for Supply Management.
14. Leading Economic Index: Measures overall economic activity and predicts future economic trends. Source: Conference Board.
15. Building Permits (Mil. of Units, saar): Measures the number of new residential building permits issued. Source: Census Bureau.
16. Housing Starts (Mil. of Units, saar): Measures the number of new residential construction projects that have begun. Source: Census Bureau.
17. New Home Sales (Mil. of Units, saar): Measures the number of newly constructed homes sold. Source: Census Bureau.
18. SA: Seasonally adjusted.
19. SAAR: Seasonally adjusted annual rate.

### Market Indices & Indicators:

1. S&P 500: A market-capitalization-weighted index of 500 leading publicly traded companies in the U.S., widely regarded as one of the best gauges of large U.S. stocks and the stock market overall.
2. Dow Jones 30: Also known as the Dow Jones Industrial Average, it tracks the share price performance of 30 large, publicly traded U.S. companies, serving as a barometer of the stock market and economy.
3. NASDAQ: The world's first electronic stock exchange, primarily listing technology giants and operating 29 markets globally.
4. Russell 1000 Growth: Measures the performance of large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe, including companies with higher price-to-book ratios and growth metrics.
5. Russell 1000 Value: Measures the performance of large-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe, including companies with lower price-to-book ratios and growth metrics.
6. Russell 2000: A market index composed of 2,000 small-cap companies, widely used as a benchmark for small-cap mutual funds.
7. Wilshire 5000: A market-capitalization-weighted index capturing the performance of all American stocks actively traded in the U.S., representing the broadest measure of the U.S. stock market.
8. MSCI EAFE Index: An equity index capturing large and mid-cap representation across developed markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada.
9. MSCI Emerging Market Index: Captures large and mid-cap representation across emerging markets countries, covering approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.
10. VIX: The CBOE Volatility Index measures the market's expectations for volatility over the coming 30 days,

often referred to as the «fear gauge.»

11. FTSE NAREIT All Equity REITs: Measures the performance of all publicly traded equity real estate investment trusts (REITs) listed in the U.S., excluding mortgage REITs.
12. S&P U.S. Aggregate Bond Index: Represents the performance of the U.S. investment-grade bond market, including government, corporate, mortgage-backed, and asset-backed securities.
13. 3-Month T-bill Yield (%): The yield on U.S. Treasury bills with a maturity of three months, reflecting short-term interest rates.
14. 10-Year Treasury Yield (%): The yield on U.S. Treasury bonds with a maturity of ten years, reflecting long-term interest rates.
15. 10Y-2Y Treasury Spread (%): The difference between the yields on 10-year and 2-year U.S. Treasury bonds, often used as an indicator of economic expectations.
16. WTI Crude (\$/bl): The price per barrel of West Texas Intermediate crude oil, a benchmark for U.S. oil prices.
17. Gold (\$/Troy Oz): The price per troy ounce of gold, a standard measure for gold prices.
18. Bitcoin: A decentralized digital currency without a central bank or single administrator, which can be sent from user to user on the peer-to-peer bitcoin network.

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The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is a price-weighted index composed of 30 widely traded blue-chip U.S. common stocks. The S&P 500 is a market-cap weighted index composed of the common stocks of 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The NASDAQ Composite Index is a market-value weighted index of all common stocks listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange.

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