

22 September 2026

Global Markets Research

Daily Market Highlights

22 Sep: Markets await President Trump-Xi meeting

AI rally, falling oil prices & UST yields buoyed appetite for US stocks

DXY rebounded with two Fed Presidents signalling more rate hike(s)

Chicago's economy fell in August; Autumn rebound for UK home prices

- US stocks kicked off the week on an upbeat note, bolstered by a rally in AI stocks and amid falling oil prices and treasury yields. Nasdaq led gains with a 2.3% d/d jump, while Dow Jones and S&P 500 climbed 0.7% d/d and 1.5% d/d. The broader market was supported by the rally in tech stocks as early signs of success for Meta's AI agent sparked enthusiasm over the industry and after AMD hit the \$1tn market cap.
- Yesterday, AI was also a major focus of talks between American and Chinese officials ahead of President Trump-Xi meeting. One topic discussed was the notification mechanism for AI incidents with national security implications.
- Falling oil prices and treasury yields meanwhile, also added to the upbeat tone. The 2Y UST yield closed flattish at 4.75% (prior: +8bps), while the 10Y dropped 5bps to 4.95% (prior: +7bps). Crude oil prices extended their downward trend, falling sharply amid signs that Saudi Arabia was boosting exports via the Strait of Hormuz, and as Trump said that he was open to talking to Iran, offering fresh hopes for diplomatic progress for the Middle East war. The WTI fell 4.5% d/d to \$95.78/barrel, while Brent lost 3.4% d/d to \$100.34/barrel.
- Softer oil prices and optimism over the China-US meeting also boosted appetite for European equities. Stoxx Eur 600 rose 1.0% d/d. Banking sector was among the biggest gainers after Société Generale lifted its profitability goals. Like its US counterparts, European bond yields were broadly lower, with the 10Y sliding 1-9bps overnight (prior: +2 to +12bps). Japanese markets were closed, but Hang Seng and CSI 300 rose 1.2% d/d and 0.7% d/d.
- On the forex front, the DXY rebounded 0.2% d/d to 100.43 after Fed Presidents Goolsbee and Musalem both signalled that more hike(s) are on the way. Most G10 FX weakened against the greenback save for the CHF (0.2% d/d). EUR and GBP depreciated 0.2% d/d each to 1.1465 and 1.3367, JPY weakened 0.3% d/d to 157.36, while AUD closed just below its flatline at 0.7118 against USD.

Key Market Metrics

	Level	d/d (%)
Equities		
Dow Jones	52,048.83	0.71
S&P 500	7,764.70	1.49
NASDAQ	27,122.09	2.26
Stoxx Eur 600	641.93	1.02
FTSE 100	10,739.01	0.75
Nikkei 225	65,018.95	1.38
CSI 300	4,539.56	0.71
Hang Seng	25,042.71	1.18
Straits Times	5,675.23	0.34
KLCI 30	1,666.94	0.08
FX		
Dollar Index	100.43	0.21
EUR/USD	1.1465	-0.18
GBP/USD	1.3367	-0.21
USD/JPY	157.36	0.31
AUD/USD	0.7118	-0.04
USD/CNH	6.6929	-0.04
USD/MYR	4.0780	-0.12
USD/SGD	1.2759	-0.02
USD/KHR	4,054.20	0.05
USD/THB	33.28	-0.16
Commodities		
WTI (\$/bbl)	95.78	-4.51
Brent (\$/bbl)	100.34	-3.40
Gold (\$/oz)	4,350.20	-0.92
Copper (\$/MT)	14,661.00	0.96
Aluminum(\$/MT)	3,267.00	-0.65
CPO (RM/MT)	4,688.00	-0.21

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

*Dated as of 18 Sept for Nikkei 225

- Regional currencies closed mixed against the Dollar. KRW outshined its peers with a 0.9% d/d gain, while CNH held steady at 6.6929. SGD closed just above its flatline at 1.2759, while MYR appreciated 0.1% d/d to 4.0780.

CFNAI suggests that economic growth decreased in the Chicago region

- Matching expectations, the Chicago Fed National Activity index fell 0.04% in August from +0.08 in July. Contributing the downtick were production-related (-0.07 vs flat) and sales, orders & inventories (flat vs +0.15) sub-indicators, which more than offset upticks for employment (+0.01 vs -0.01) and personal consumption & housing (+0.01 vs -0.06). The downtick suggests that economic growth fell for the region in August.

Autumn rebound for UK home prices

- According to Rightmove, prices for property put up for sale rose for the first time since May, rebounding 0.7% m/m in September from -2.0% m/m previously. While September's above-average price rise is a welcome sign of confidence after a particularly subdued summer, the uptick should only be viewed as a modest recovery for the sector and prices remained lower compared to the last corresponding month.

House View and Forecasts

FX	This Week	3Q-26	4Q-26	1Q-27	2Q-27
DXY	99-101	102.28	100.86	99.42	98.07
EUR/USD	1.14-1.16	1.13	1.14	1.16	1.18
GBP/USD	1.32-1.35	1.29	1.30	1.32	1.33
USD/CHF	0.81-0.84	0.81	0.81	0.80	0.79
USD/JPY	154-159	162	159	155	153
AUD/USD	0.70-0.72	0.68	0.70	0.71	0.72
NZD/USD	0.56-0.59	0.56	0.56	0.57	0.57
USD/CNY	6.68-6.72	6.85	6.78	6.72	6.65
USD/MYR	4.06-4.11	4.15	4.11	4.07	4.03
USD/SGD	1.27-1.29	1.31	1.30	1.28	1.27
USD/THB	32.90-34.00	32.50	32.30	32.0	32.0

FX	Last close	3Q-26	4Q-26	1Q-27	2Q-27
EUR/MYR	4.6813	4.68	4.71	4.73	4.75
GBP/MYR	5.4579	5.37	5.36	5.36	5.36
AUD/MYR	2.9068	2.83	2.86	2.87	2.89
CNY/MYR	0.6091	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61
SGD/MYR	3.1968	3.18	3.17	3.17	3.17

Rates, %	Current	3Q26	4Q26	1Q27	2Q27
Fed	3.75-4.00	3.75-4.00	4.00-4.25	4.00-4.25	4.00-4.25
ECB	2.50	2.50	2.75	2.75	2.75
BOE	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75

SNB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOJ	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.50	1.50
RBA	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35
RBNZ	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
BNM	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00

Source: HLBB Global Markets Research

Up Next

Date	Events	
22-Sep	US Philadelphia Fed Non-Manufacturing Activity (Sep)	-10.6
	EC Consumer Confidence (Sep P)	-15.5
	US Richmond Fed Manufact. Index (Sep)	4
	US Richmond Fed Business Conditions (Sep)	-12
23-Sep	AU S&P Global Australia PMI Mfg (Sep P)	52
	AU S&P Global Australia PMI Services (Sep P)	53.2
	SI CPI YoY (Aug)	2.20%
	SI CPI Core YoY (Aug)	2.00%
	MA Foreign Reserves	\$132.0b
	EC S&P Global Eurozone Manufacturing PMI (Sep P)	52.7
	EC S&P Global Eurozone Services PMI (Sep P)	51.6
	HK CPI Composite YoY (Aug)	1.70%
	UK S&P Global UK Manufacturing PMI (Sep P)	51.7
	UK S&P Global UK Services PMI (Sep P)	52.5
	US MBA Mortgage Applications (18-Sep)	-4.1%
	US S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI (Sep P)	53.9
	US S&P Global US Services PMI (Sep P)	56.5

Source: Bloomberg

Hong Leong Bank Berhad

Fixed Income & Economic Research,
Global Markets
Level 8, Hong Leong Tower
6, Jalan Damanela
Bukit Damansara
50490 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 603-2081 1221
Fax: 603-2081 8936

HLMarkets@hlbb.hongleong.com.my

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