Daily Treasury Outlook

1 September 2020



Highlights

Global: Global risk appetite may start September on a slightly more cautious note. The S&P500 slipped 0.2% overnight as Microsoft and Walmart declined on concern that the Tik Tok deal could be scuppered by China, but still capped its best August in 34 years with a 7% gain. Nasdaq powered to a fresh high on the back of Apple. VIX rose to 26.41. UST bonds whipsawed despite the month-end extensions, but still ended near session lows with the yield curve bull-flattening and the 10-year yield at 0.71%. The 3-month LIBOR eased to 0.2409%. China's official manufacturing PMI slipped from 51.1 to 51 in August, but the services PMI improved from 54.2 to 55.2. India reported a record 23.9% yoy contraction in 2Q.

Market watch: Asian markets may range trade or even succumb to some consolidation today after the month-end and amid mixed overnight cues from Wall Street. Key event to watch is the RBA policy decision which is likely to be unchanged at 0.25% for both the cash rate target and the 3-year yield target. Today's economic data calendar also comprises of the slew of manufacturing PMIs from Europe and Asia including China's Caixin, Indonesia's August CPI, Hong Kong's July retail sales, Eurozone's August CPI and July unemployment rate, and US' manufacturing ISM.

EU: ECB's Schnabel said "if you look at incoming data, by and large they support the baseline" and there is no need to add to stimulus again. In addition, whilst there is a certain resurgence of infections, but at the moment it looks unlikely that we are going to see a full lockdown again.

SG: July bank loans growth contracted for the second straight month by 0.3% yoy, following a -1.0% yoy print in June. This is the first back-to-back contraction since the last contraction streak ended in September 2016, due to the drag from consumer loans which fell 3.1% yoy due mainly to the housing loans weakness (-1.4% yoy), whereas business loans actually accelerated to 1.5% yoy, aided by business services, building & construction, transport, storage & communications, and financial institutions. Total bank loans also shrunk sequentially for the 5th consecutive month by 0.2% mom, as business loans fell 0.3% mom whilst consumer loans was flat compared to June 2020. With the likely softening of the domestic labour market and mixed consumer sentiments, bank loans could contract by around 1.0% yoy in 3Q20. Total bank loans had expanded 1.4% in the first seven months of 2020, but is likely to contract for the remainder of the year amid the muted economic conditions and could potentially see full-year 2020 bank loans growth barely in positive territory at 0.2% yoy. Meanwhile, MP Patrick Tay has suggested sectorspecific EP salaries for the IT and professional services. Some 70% of businesses see prevailing business conditions persisting for the next 12 months, according to a SBF survey.

Key Market Movements					
Equity	Value	% chg			
S&P 500	3500.3	-0.2%			
DJIA	28430	-0.8%			
Nikkei 225	23140	1.1%			
SH Comp	3395.7	-0.2%			
STI	2532.5	-0.3%			
Hang Seng	25177	-1.0%			
KLCI	1525.2	0.0%			
	Value	% chg			
DXY	92.144	-0.2%			
USDJPY	105.91	0.5%			
EURUSD	1.1936	0.3%			
GBPUSD	1.3370	0.1%			
USDIDR	14563	-0.5%			
USDSGD	1.3603	0.2%			
SGDMYR	3.0608	-0.2%			
	Value	chg (bp)			
3M UST	0.09	-0.25			
10Y UST	0.70	-1.63			
1Y SGS	0.30	0.00			
10Y SGS	1.01	-0.52			
3M LIBOR	0.24	-0.51			
3M SIBOR	0.41	0.00			
3M SOR	0.19	0.00			
	Value	% chg			
Brent	45.28	-1.2%			
WTI	42.61	-0.8%			
Gold	1968	0.2%			
Silver	28.14	2.3%			
Palladium	2246	1.7%			
Copper	6667	0.0%			
BCOM	73.32	0.2%			

Source: Bloomberg

Daily Treasury Outlook

1 September 2020



Major Markets

US: Fed's Clarida said capping Treasury yields could be "an option that the committee could reassess" at some point, but again bluntly rejected negative rates. Meanwhile, Bostic said it was a "bit premature" to detail how to achieve its new policy framework. Despite closing 0.22% lower, the S&P 500 index recorded its biggest August gain since 1986. The Nasdaq 100 composite index notched a 0.68% gain. US equities continue to be driven up by tech stocks. Looking ahead, we expect market to retain its bullish tilt.

CN: Although China's August manufacturing PMI edged lower slightly to 51 from 51.1 in July due to moderation of production, the underlying breakdown is encouraging. The improvement of demand continued with new order rose for five consecutive months to 52 from 51.7. In addition, new export order also rose for four consecutive months to 49.1, highest in 2020. Meanwhile, employment index also improved marginally to 49.4 but still below the threshold line 50. Overall, we think China's August manufacturing PMI confirmed the recovery, although it is still an uneven recovery with smaller companies are still facing the stress. In addition, PBoC also said yesterday that it will promote DR rate, a repo rate from depository institutions, as interbank benchmark rate for its interest rate curve.

HK: Total loans and advances rose by 1.7% mom, led by the loans for use in HK (excluding trade finance) which grew by 2.6% mom or 8.7% yoy. That said, excluding IPO loans, total loans and advances would have increase only by 0.1% mom as local loan demand may have remained soft especially given the virus resurgence. On the other hand, total deposits grew by 6.3% yoy (the strongest since April 2018) or 2.7% mom in July. Excluding deposits growth driven by IPO activities, total deposits and HKD deposits would have grown by 1.5% and 1.8% on monthly basis respectively, which is still strong due to the strong equity inflows in July and the continuously upbeat investment sentiments. Moving ahead, another wave of hot IPOs is set to keep spurring loans and deposits growth. That said, as overall loan demand remains subdued and banks remain cautious, we expect total loans and advances (+7.4% yoy) to show single-digit growth this year. In contrast, total deposits especially HKD CASA deposits may continue to see relatively strong growth amid the upbeat sentiment and expected equity inflows on the back of global flushed liquidity.

SG: The STI declined 0.28% to close at 2532.51 yesterday and may consolidate today amid mixed cues from Wall Street. SGS bonds are also likely to range trade after the month end.

Malaysia: Malaysia celebrated its 63rd birthday yesterday but is back in action today. Earlier, PM Muhyiddin Yassin said in a televised speech that the country will extend pandemic measures to year-end. These include continued closure for nightclubs and theme parks, as well as a ban on foreign tourists.

Daily Treasury Outlook

1 September 2020



Indonesia: Indonesia's parliament is reportedly discussing changes to a law governing Bank Indonesia, which includes setting up of a new monetary board led by finance minister to help the central bank determine policy. The board further includes economic affairs minister, head of FSA and the governor and the senior deputy governor of BI. It is slated to meet twice a month or as needed, and is to "lead, coordinate and direct monetary policy in line with government's economic policies in general", according to Bloomberg.

Gold: Gold rose 0.2% yesterday, with its lowest intraday price of \$1954.39/oz trading above the \$1950 level for the first time in three weeks. We remain bullish on gold and expect prices to retest the \$2000 level in the near term.

Daily Treasury Outlook

1 September 2020



Bond Market Updates

Market Commentary: The SGD swap curve steepened yesterday, with the shorter and belly tenors trading 0-1bps lower while the belly and the 20-year traded 5bps higher. The Bloomberg Barclays Asia USD IG Bond Index average OAS remained mostly unchanged, while the Bloomberg Barclays Asia USD HY Bond Index average OAS tightened 8bps to 646bps. The HY-IG Index Spread tightened 8bps to 478bps. Flows in SGD corporates were heavy, with flows in UOBSP 4%-PERPs, HSBC 5%-PERPs, OLAMSP 4%'26s, UOBSP 3.58%-PERPs, UBS 4.85%-PERPs, SOCGEN 6.125%-PERPs, STANLN 5.375%-PERPs, STTGDC 3.13%'28s, CATHAY 3.375%'23s, CS 5.625%-PERPs and HSBC 4.7%-PERPs. 10Y UST Yields fell 3bps to 0.72% as the momentum from last week's selloff cooled down and investors were likely buying on dips.

New Issues: Nan Fung Treasury (III) Ltd. (Guarantor: Nan Fung International Holding Ltd) priced a USD500mn PerpNC3 at 5%, tightening from IPT of 5.4% area. ZhongAn Online P&C Insurance Co Ltd priced a USD300mn 5.5-year bond at T+325bps, tightening from IPT of T+345bps area. Modern Land (China) Co., Ltd. priced a USD50mn re-tap of its MOLAND 11.5%'22s at 12.375% and another USD50mn re-tap of its MOLAND 11.95%'24s at 12.85%. Ahli Bank Q.P.S.C. has mandated banks for its proposed USD bond offering.

Daily Treasury Outlook

1 September 2020



	Day Close	% Change		Day Clos	se % Change	Index	Value	Net change
DXY	92.144	-0.25%	USD-SGD	1.3603	_	DJIA	28,430.05	-223.8
USD-JPY	105.910	0.51%	EUR-SGD	1.6237		S&P	3,500.31	-7.7(
EUR-USD	1.194	0.28%	JPY-SGD	1.2844		Nasdaq	11,775.46	79.83
AUD-USD	0.738	0.28%	GBP-SGD	1.8186		Nikkei 225	23,139.76	257.11
GBP-USD	1.337	0.13%	AUD-SGD	1.0033		STI	2,532.51	-7.12
USD-MYR	4.164	-0.20%	NZD-SGD	0.9159		KLCI	1,525.21	-29.57
USD-CNY	6.849	-0.25%	CHF-SGD	1.5051		JCI	5,238.49	-108.17
USD-IDR	14563	-0.47%	SGD-MYR	3.0608		Baltic Dry	1,488.00	-16.00
USD-VND	23166	0.00%	SGD-CNY	5.0345		VIX	26.41	3.4
Interbank Offer Rate	es (%)					Government B	ond Yields (%)	
Tenor	EURIBOR	Change	Tenor	USD Libor	Change	Tenor	SGS (chg)	UST (chg
1M	-0.5230	-0.52%	O/N	0.0809		2Y	0.24 (-0.05)	0.13(
2M	-0.3360	-0.34%	1M	0.1568	0.16%	5Y	0.54 (-0.03)	0.27(
3M	-0.4770	-0.48%	2M	0.1856	0.19%	10Y	1.01 (-0.01)	0.71 (-0.02
6M	-0.4440	-0.44%	3M	0.2409	0.25%	15Y	1.32 (+0.01)	_
9M	-0.1940	-0.20%	6M	0.3099	0.31%	20Y	1.41 (+0.04)	-
12M	-0.3690	-0.36%	12M	0.4453	0.44%	30Y	1.26 (+0.01)	1.48 (-0.03
Fed Rate Hike Probability				Financial Spread (bps)				
Meeting	# of Hikes/Cuts	% Hike/Cut	Impli	ed Rate Change	Implied Rate		Value	Change
09/16/2020	-0.084	-8.4		0.072	0.072	EURIBOR-OIS	-0.80	(
11/05/2020	-0.084	0		0.072	0.072	TED	35.36	-
12/16/2020	-0.134	-4.9		0.06	0.06			
01/27/2021	-0.164	-3.1		0.052	0.052	Secured Overr	Secured Overnight Fin. Rate	
03/17/2021	-0.196	-3.1		0.045	0.045	SOFR	0.07	
Commodities Futu Energy	ires	E ·	tures	% chg	Soft Commodities		Futures	% ch
				_				
WTI (per barrel)		42.61		-0.84%	Corn (per bushel)		3.485	0.79
Brent (per barrel)		45.28		0.51% Soybean (per bushel)			9.513	0.19
Heating Oil (per gallon)		119.61		-1.65% Wheat (per bushel)			5.443	0.99
Gasoline (per gallon)		127.61		-3.00%	Crude Palm Oil (MYR/MT))	28.450	2.2%
Natural Gas (per MMBtu)		2.63		-1.02% Rubber (JPY/KG)			1.996	6.79
Base Metals		Futures		% chg Precious Metals			Futures	% ch
Copper (per mt)			0.69%	Gold (per oz)			0.29	
		15367.00		1.16% Gold (per oz)			28.1	2.39
Nickel (per mt)								

Economic Calendar

Date Time		Event		Survey	Actual	Prior	Revised
09/01/2020 12:30	AU	RBA Cash Rate Target	Sep-01	0.25%		0.25%	
09/01/2020 07:30	JN	Jobless Rate	Jul	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	
09/01/2020 15:50	FR	Markit France Manufacturing PMI	Aug F	49		49	
09/01/2020 16:30	HK	Retail Sales Value YoY	Jul	-27.4%		-24.8%	
09/01/2020 22:00	US	ISM Manufacturing	Aug	54.7		54.2	
09/01/2020 08:00	SK	Exports YoY	Aug	-10.3%	-0.1	-7.0%	-7.10%
09/01/2020 09:45	CH	Caixin China PMI Mfg	Aug	52.5		52.8	
09/01/2020 09:30	AU	Building Approvals MoM	Jul	-2.0%		-4.9%	
09/01/2020 07:00	SK	GDP YoY	2Q F	-2.9%	-2.7%	-2.9%	
09/01/2020 15:55	GE	Markit/BME Germany Manufacturing PMI	Aug F	53.0		53.0	
09/01/2020 08:30	VN	Markit Vietnam PMI Mfg	Aug			47.6	
09/01/2020 16:00	EC	Markit Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	Aug F	51.7		51.7	
09/01/2020 08:30	ID	Markit Indonesia PMI Mfg	Aug			46.9	
09/01/2020 08:30	SK	Markit South Korea PMI Mfg	Aug			46.9	
09/01/2020 16:30	UK	Markit UK PMI Manufacturing SA	Aug F	55.3		55.3	

Source:Bloomberg

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