



CIO OFFICE MORNING MARKET WRAP

9 September 2025

One has started on a similar note. The baton has been passed onto France, where French PM Bayrou had to step down on Monday following a no-confidence vote. He called for unpopular reforms as France is “drowning in a tide of debt”, and he failed. Before him Chancellor of the Exchequer Reeves failed as well a few months ago, when she tried to tackle UK’s soaring debt proposing cuts to public services. And PM Ishiba stepped down yesterday on electoral losses, possibly opening the way to a new leader going easier on stimulus. The common denominator to the three countries: heightened uncertainty about future fiscal policy and weak governments. It may not be by chance that gold is again racing to new all-time highs: the currencies against which we gauge its value are being debased by soaring debt levels currently going unchecked. Bond vigilantes will have to enforce discipline on governments eventually via a sovereign crisis, that speaks for way more upside for gold. Also, the outlook for Fed’s cuts is favourable for the yellow metal, although JPMorgan promptly warned that renewed easing at the Sept. 17 meeting could turn into a ‘sell the news’ event for equities. The negative September seasonality and tariffs pass-through to the economy played a major role in that call. And the New York Fed inflation survey pointed to rising price pressures one year out, from the previous month’s 3.09% to 3.2% in August. It must have not pleased President Trump either that the probability of finding a new job fell to the lowest level since the series started in 2013. The perception of financial conditions amongst households also worsened versus a year ago, echoing deteriorating trends in the labor market. The Washington administration will have work to do for Republicans to stand a fair chance at the midterm elections late next year. On a more positive note, China registered one new record trade surplus in the month of August despite slumping exports to the United States, with shipments to other markets like South East Asia, the euro area, and Africa partially filling the gap. Domestic demand remained weak, that once more reinforced expectations of new stimulus policies from Beijing boosting consumption and offsetting softer exports.

Stocks yielded modest gains on Monday, as a rally in tech offset declines in some other industries. The Nasdaq (+0.45%) outperformed the S&P 500 (+0.2%), while small (+0.2%) and mid caps (-0.01%) ended mixed. Sector-wise rates-sensitive IT stocks (+0.6%) and consumer discretionaries (+0.5%) topped returns, whereas utilities (-1.1%) lagged, that suggests investors are betting rate cuts will continue support the rally. Amazon (+1.5%) and Nvidia (+0.8%) led IT megacaps higher. Strategists at Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley, holding different views than JPMorgan, see rate cuts driving more price gains. And the performance of EM stocks (+0.8%) and FX (+0.3) also pointed to an accommodative Fed, with EM countries and companies time rushing to sell bonds at the fastest clip in a decade, taking advantage of the high risk appetite for regional assets. The US dollar (-0.3%) closed at the lows of the session, gold (+1.4%) continued to rally, while Brent crude (+0.8%) rebounded from a two-month low.

Markets this morning:

Asian stocks climbed for a fourth day this morning on Wall Street’s upbeat mood with investors looking forward to Fed’s easing. The MSCI Asia Pacific gauge reached its highest level since February, as Taiwan Semiconductors and Alibaba contributed most to the gains. Shares in Japan, Korea, and Hong Kong also rose. The Nikkei recorded a new all-time high following PM Ishiba’s decision to step down that stoked expectations of more stimulus under a new leader. The dollar fell and gold climbed to a record high.

Upcoming key events/data:

Highlights for the day will be the small-business sentiment survey and the BLS revision of previous payrolls data through March 2025. The review could show that labor market conditions have actually been tepid for a long time, in turn setting the stage for a rate cut.

Have a great day.

Chief Investment Office
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