Αύγουστος 2026

Global Macro Trends

Η συνέχιση της εμπόλεμης κατάστασης στον Περσικό Κόλπο αυξάνει τον κίνδυνο ενός δύσκολου ενεργειακά χειμώνα

Piraeus

Economic Research & Investment Strategy
Global Economics & ESG Research

Διεθνείς Μακροοικονομικές Τάσεις

- Εύθραυστη παραμένει η κατάσταση για την παγκόσμια οικονομία καθώς οι εξελίξεις στον πόλεμο στον Περσικό Κόλπο και ιδιαίτερα στα Στενά του Ορμούζ μπορούν ανά πάσα στιγμή να τη μεταβάλλουν, ωθώντας ανοδικά ή πτωτικά τις τιμές των ενεργειακών προϊόντων και αυξομειώνοντας ανάλογα την ανησυχία για την επάρκεια των αποθεμάτων τους. Ωστόσο, η απόφαση των ΗΠΑ να επιχειρήσουν μέσω ενός ισχυρού οικονομικού αποκλεισμού του Ιράν να επιτύχουν τους αντικειμενικούς στόχους τους συνιστά ενθαρρυντική εξέλιξη καθώς απομακρύνεται, προς το παρόν, το ενδεχόμενο περαιτέρω κλιμάκωσης των στρατιωτικών επιχειρήσεων. Βεβαίως, η αποτελεσματικότητα αυτής της στρατηγικής θα κριθεί από τον βαθμό συμμόρφωσης των βασικών εμπορικών εταίρων του Ιράν, μεταξύ των οποίων συγκαταλέγεται και η Κίνα και τη δυνατότητα επιβολής κυρώσεων από πλευράς ΗΠΑ στην αντίθετη περίπτωση. Παράλληλα, ο πόλεμος στην Ουκρανία συνεχίζεται (με την επέκταση των πολεμικών ενεργειών και στην περιοχή της Κασπίας), ενώ αβεβαιότητα δημιουργεί και η έντονη αντιπαράθεση στον τομέα του εμπορίου μεταξύ ΗΠΑ και Καναδά προκαλώντας ανησυχίες για το μέλλον της ισχύουσας εμπορικής συμφωνίας ΗΠΑ-Μεξικού- Καναδά (USMCA).

- Στις ΗΠΑ, ο ρυθμός ανάπτυξης κατά το Β΄ Τρίμηνο επιβραδύνθηκε στο 1,5% σε τριμηνιαία ετησιοποιημένη βάση (από 2,1% το Α΄ Τρίμηνο), στηριζόμενος κυρίως στην αύξηση της ιδιωτικής κατανάλωσης. Στην αγορά εργασίας οι συνθήκες παραμένουν σχετικά καλές, με τη ζήτηση και την προσφορά εργασίας να βρίσκονται γενικά σε ισορροπία. Ο πληθωρισμός, όμως, παραμένει συγκριτικά υψηλός, παρότι έχει επιστρέψει στο επίπεδο του Μαρτίου, που σε συνδυασμό με την αύξηση του ομοσπονδιακού χρέους καθιστά δυσκολότερη την άσκηση της νομισματικής πολιτικής από τη Fed. Θετικά, επίσης, συνεχίζουν να επιδρούν οι αυξημένες εταιρικές επενδύσεις, ιδίως στην τεχνολογία που σχετίζεται με την τεχνητή νοημοσύνη.

- Στην Ευρωζώνη, η οικονομική δραστηριότητα κατά το Β΄ Τρίμηνο ενισχύθηκε 0,4% σε τριμηνιαία βάση, εκπλήσσοντας θετικά. Παράλληλα, διατηρούνται οι ευνοϊκές συνθήκες στην αγορά εργασίας, ενώ και η αύξηση του πληθωρισμού λόγω των υψηλότερων τιμών της ενέργειας παραμένει χαμηλότερη συγκριτικά με ανάλογες περιπτώσεις στο παρελθόν. Σύμφωνα με τα πιο πρόσφατα στοιχεία που αφορούν τον Ιούλιο, ο γενικός πληθωρισμός διαμορφώθηκε στο 2,9% και ο δομικός στο 2,5%. Ωστόσο, η ανησυχία για την εξέλιξη των τιμών κατά το επόμενο διάστημα παραμένει, ιδίως εάν συνυπολογιστούν η σχετικά υψηλή εξάρτηση της Ε.Ε. από τις εισαγωγές ενεργειακών προϊόντων και το ιδιαίτερα χαμηλό ποσοστό πλήρωσης των αποθηκών φυσικού αερίου. Από την άλλη, θετικά συνεχίζουν να επιδρούν στην ανάπτυξη οι δαπάνες σε άμυνα και υποδομές, καθώς και οι επενδύσεις στην υψηλή τεχνολογία.

- Στην Κίνα, τα τελευταία στοιχεία και οι πρόδρομοι δείκτες καταδεικνύουν ότι ο ηπιότερος ρυθμός ανάπτυξης που καταγράφηκε κατά το Β΄ Τρίμηνο (4,3% έναντι 5,0% το Α΄ Τρίμηνο) διατηρείται. Τον βασικό προσδιοριστικό παράγοντα της ανάπτυξης εξακολουθούν να αποτελούν οι ιδιαίτερα αυξημένες εξαγωγές. Αντίθετα, η ώθηση από την εσωτερική αγορά παραμένει συγκρατημένη. Χαρακτηριστική είναι η εξέλιξη τον Ιούλιο τόσο του ετήσιου ρυθμού αύξησης των λιανικών πωλήσεων που διαμορφώθηκε στο 0,6%, όσο και του πληθωρισμού που περιορίστηκε στο 0,5% (από 1% τον Ιούνιο). Ταυτόχρονα, τα χρόνια προβλήματα στην αγορά ακινήτων συνεχίζουν να επιδρούν αρνητικά στην ανάπτυξη.

Global Macro Trends

- Global economy remains fragile, as the delicate balance in the Persian Gulf war—particularly in the Strait of Hormuz—could shift at any moment, pushing energy prices up or down and respectively increasing or easing concerns regarding the adequacy of the energy reserves. However, the strict economic blockade imposed by the USA on Iran is an encouraging development, as it currently removes the prospect of further escalation in military operations. Of course, the effectiveness of this strategy will depend on the degree of compliance from Iran's key trading partners—China among them—and on the US's ability to impose sanctions. At the same time, the war in Ukraine continues (with hostilities now extending into the Caspian region), while intense trade friction between the US and Canada is raising concerns regarding the future of the current US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

- In the US, growth in Q2 slowed down to 1.5% on a quarterly annualized basis (from 2.1% in Q1), supported mainly by higher private consumption. Labour market conditions remain relatively favourable, with labour supply and demand broadly in balance. Inflation, however, remains relatively high, although it has returned to its March level, which—combined with rising federal debt—makes it more challenging for the Fed to conduct monetary policy. Increased corporate investment, especially in AI-related technology, also continues to have a positive effect.

- In the Eurozone, economic activity in Q2 rose by 0.4% quarter-on-quarter, which was a positive surprise. Favorable labour market conditions persist, while the rise in inflation due to higher energy prices remains lower compared to similar past events. According to the most recent data, for July, headline inflation stood at 2.9% and core inflation at 2.5%. Nevertheless, concern about price developments in the coming period persists, especially considering the EU's relatively high dependence on energy imports and the particularly low fill rate of natural gas storage. On the other hand, defense and infrastructure spending, along with investment in high technology, continue to support growth.

- In China, the latest data and leading indicators signal that the moderate growth rate recorded in Q2 (4.3% versus 5.0% in Q1) continues. Strongly increased exports remain the main growth driver, while any momentum coming from the domestic economy is subdued. More so in July's data, the annual growth rate of retail sales stood at 0.6% and inflation eased to 0.5% (from 1% in June). At the same time, ongoing challenges in the real estate market continue to weigh negatively on growth.

Main Macroeconomic Indicators – Market Consensus

US											
	Actual				Estimates				% Y/Y avg		
	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	2026 Q3	2026 Q4	2027 Q1	2027 Q2	2025	2026	2027
Real GDP Q/Q % SAAR	4.4	0.5	2.1	1.5	2.4	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1
Headline PCE PI % Y/Y	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.0	2.2	2.6	3.5	2.4
Core PCE % Y/Y	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.8	3.2	2.5
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3
Fed Policy Rate (Upper Bound)	4.25	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.77	3.78	3.74	3.64	3.75	3.78	3.54

EA											
	Actual				Estimates				% Y/Y avg		
	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	2026 Q3	2026 Q4	2027 Q1	2027 Q2	2025	2026	2027
Real GDP Q/Q %	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	1.2	0.8	1.2
CPI % Y/Y	2.1	2.1	2.1	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.2	2.1	2.8	2.2
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2
ECB Policy Rate	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.25	2.44	2.43	2.43	2.36	2.00	2.43	2.26

	Emerging Markets		**Brazil**			**China**		**India**		
	Real GDP	Inflation	Real GDP	Inflation	Key Rate	Real GDP	Inflation	Real GDP	Inflation	Key Rate
2023	4.5	5.7	3.3	4.6	11.75	5.4	0.2	9.2	5.7	6.50
2024	4.6	6.7	3.4	4.4	12.25	5.0	0.2	7.2	5.0	6.50
2025	4.6	3.1	2.3	5.0	15.00	5.0	0.1	7.1	2.2	5.25
2026f	3.7	3.4	2.0	4.7	13.75	4.6	1.0	7.5	2.0	5.41
2027f	4.3	3.1	1.8	4.2	12.00	4.5	1.1	6.7	4.9	5.58

Market Consensus 27.08.2026

Bird's Eye View

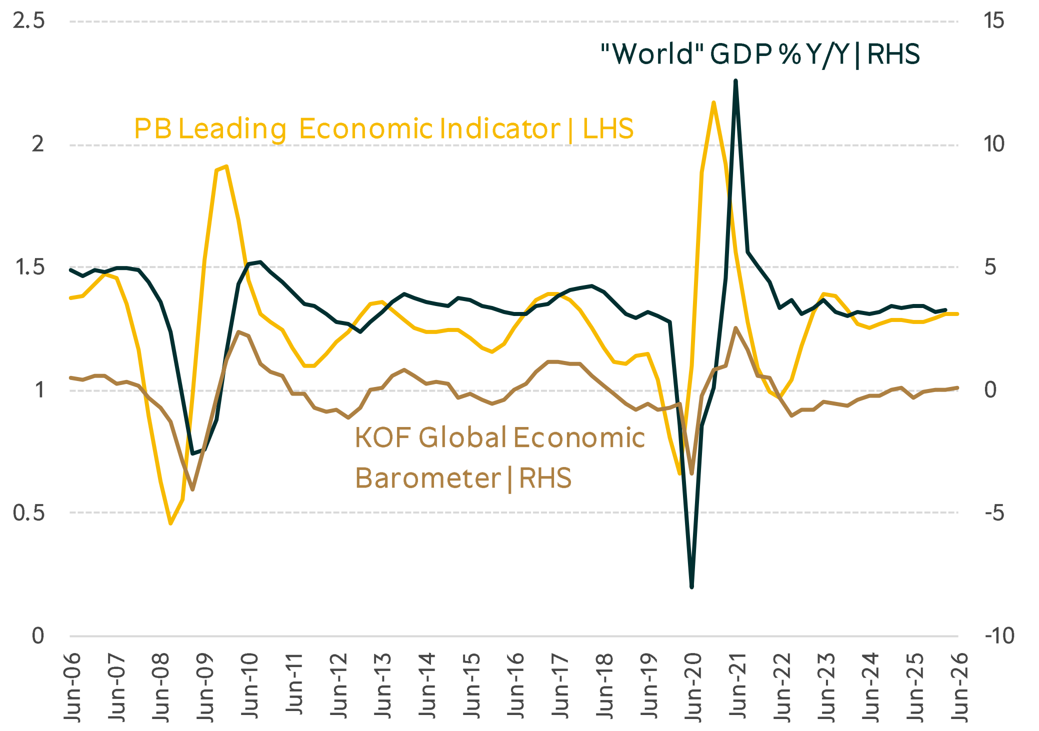
US Economy

EA Economy

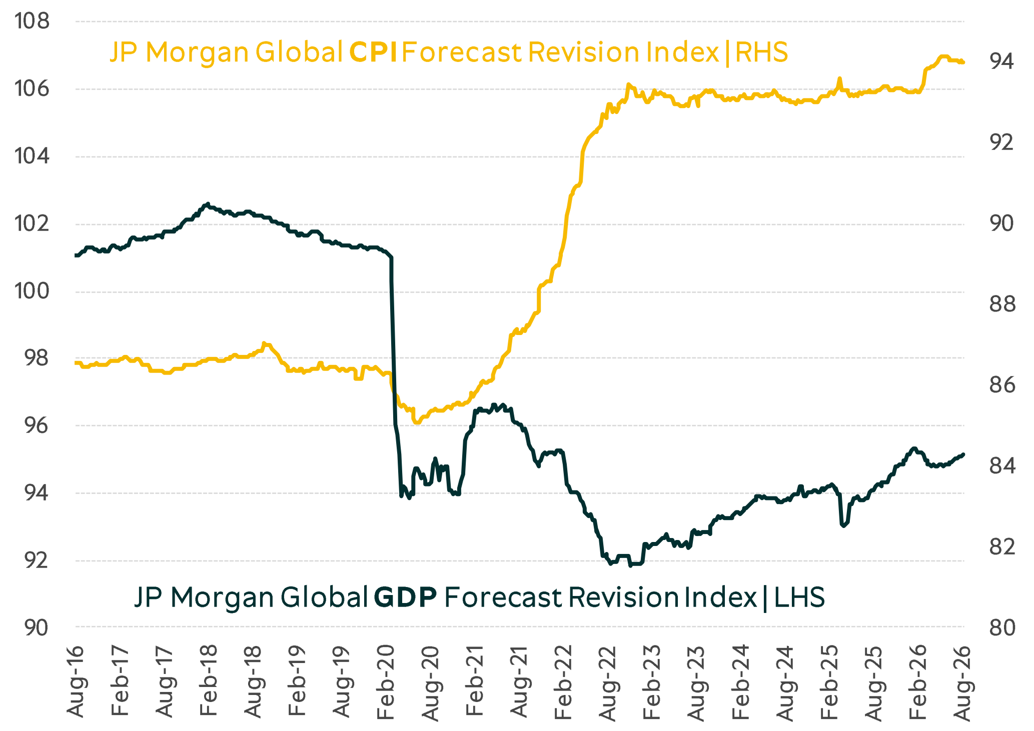
China Economy

The Global Bird's-Eye View | Global GDP growth has remained resilient, with our leading indicator signaling a modest acceleration; however, this momentum is likely to fade if geopolitical tensions persist.

Piraeus Bank "World" Leading Economic Indicator & Economic Growth

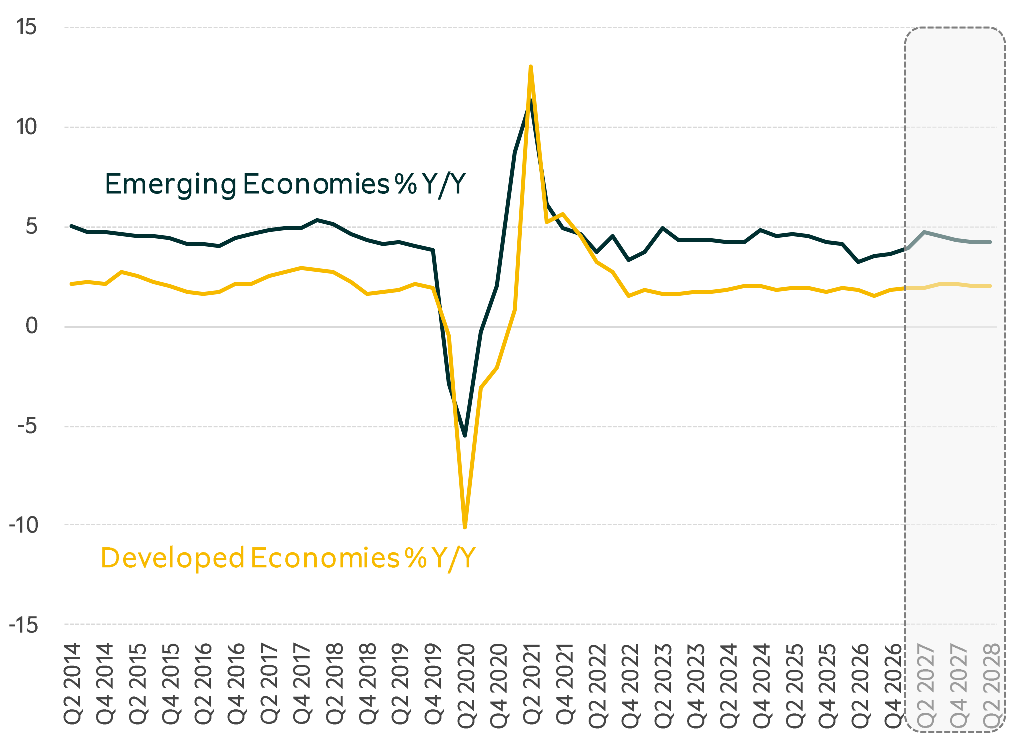


JP Morgan Global Forecast Revision Indices

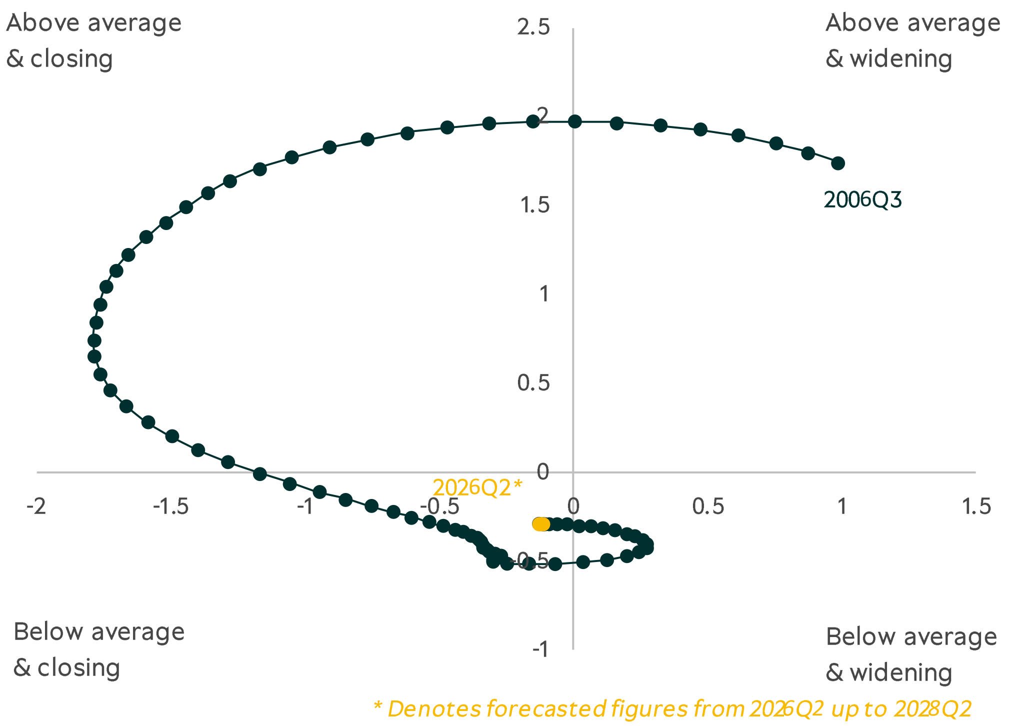


The Global Bird's-Eye View | The growth differential between emerging markets and developed markets is expected to remain at below average levels for 2026/28.

Real GDP Growth



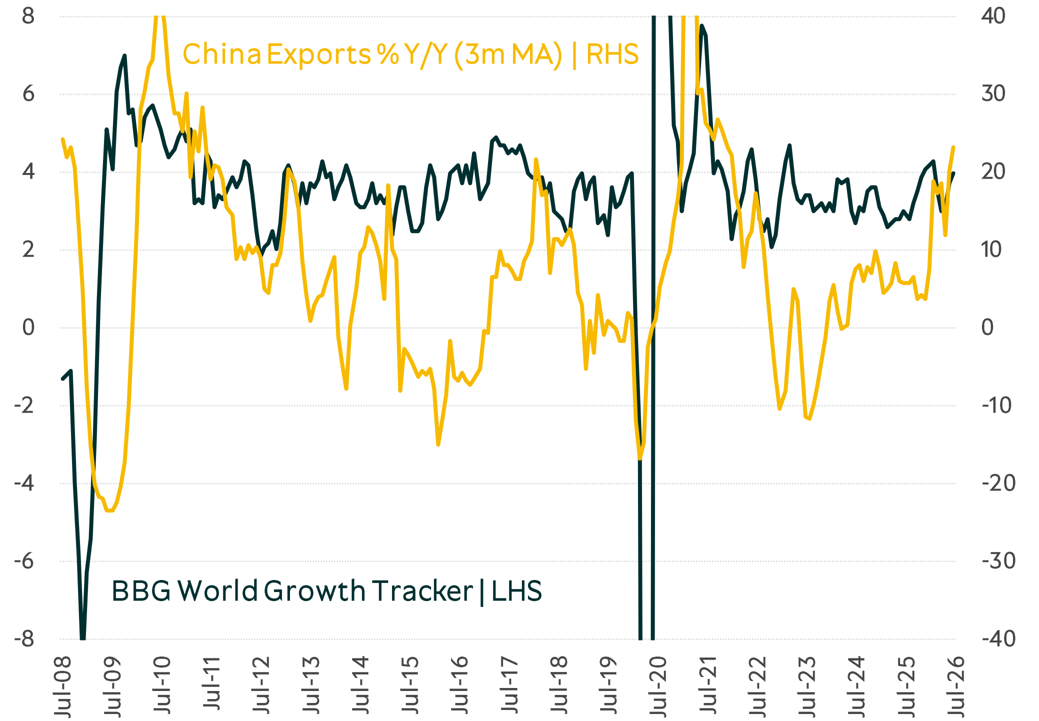
EM – DM Growth Differential



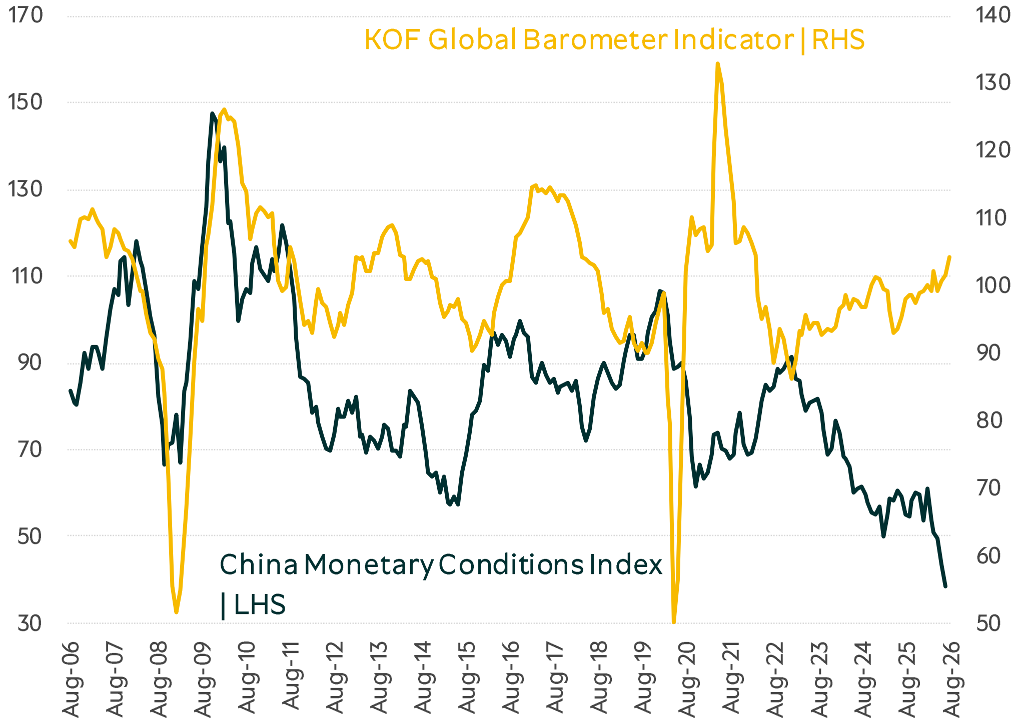
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Global Economic Activity | China's export momentum continued in July after a record 27% in increase in June due to the global AI boom, while monetary conditions eased further in July registering a historical low.

BBG World Growth Tracker & China Exports



KOF Global Barometer Indicator & China Monetary Conditions



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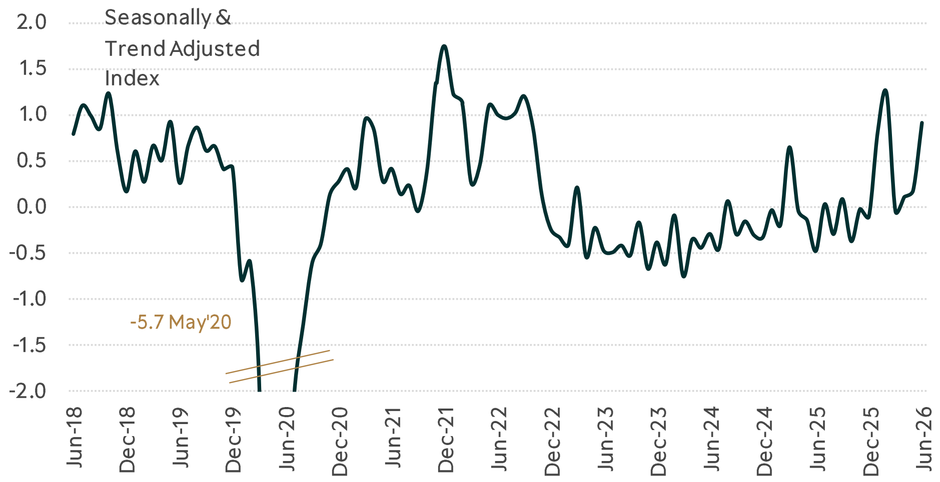
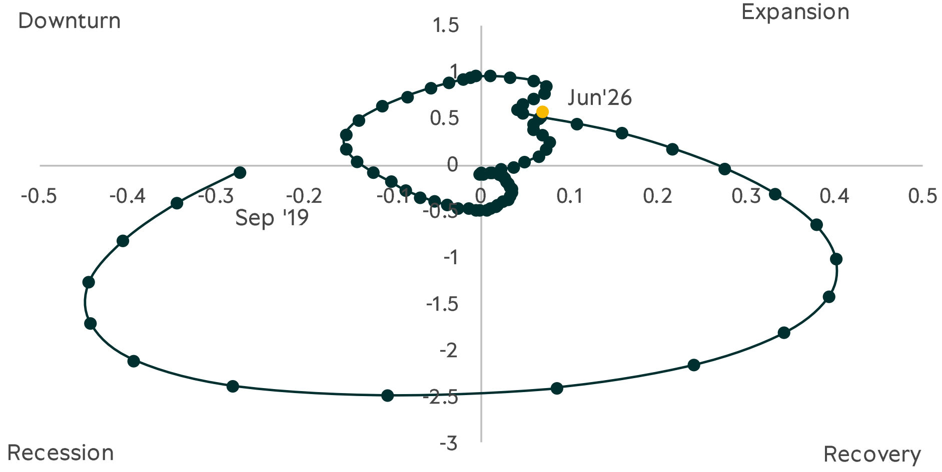
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Global Trade | World trade increased in June, due to front-loading concentrated in Asian tech- and semiconductor exports.

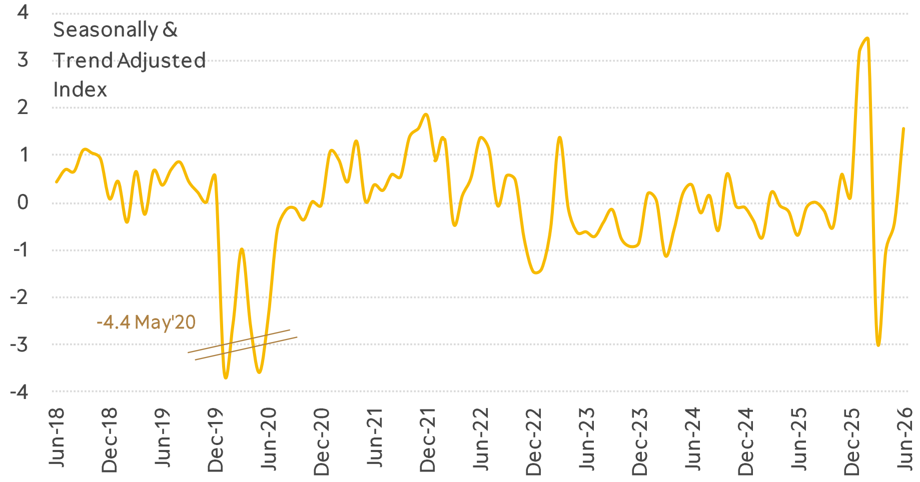
World Trade



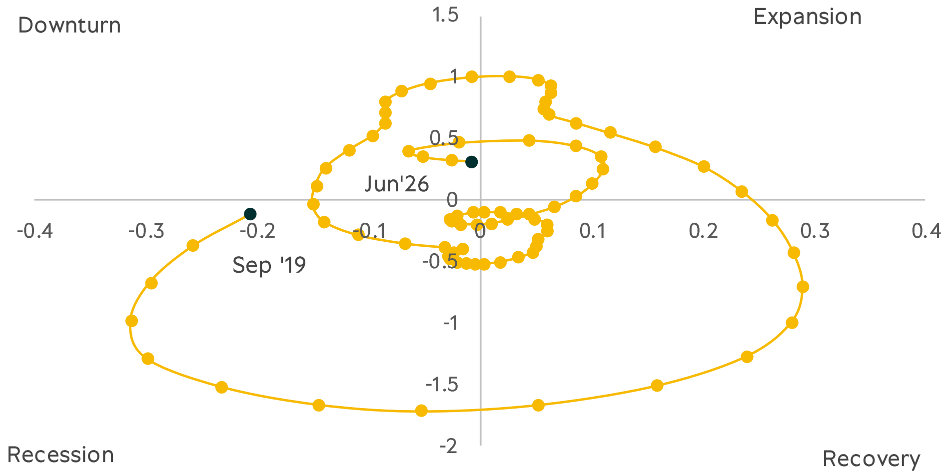
World Trade Tracer



World Exports | EM



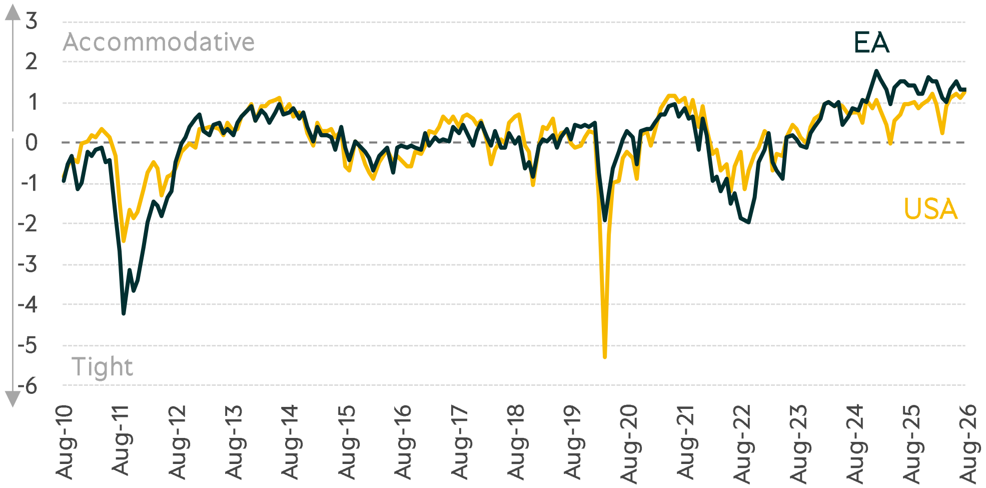
World Exports Tracer | EM



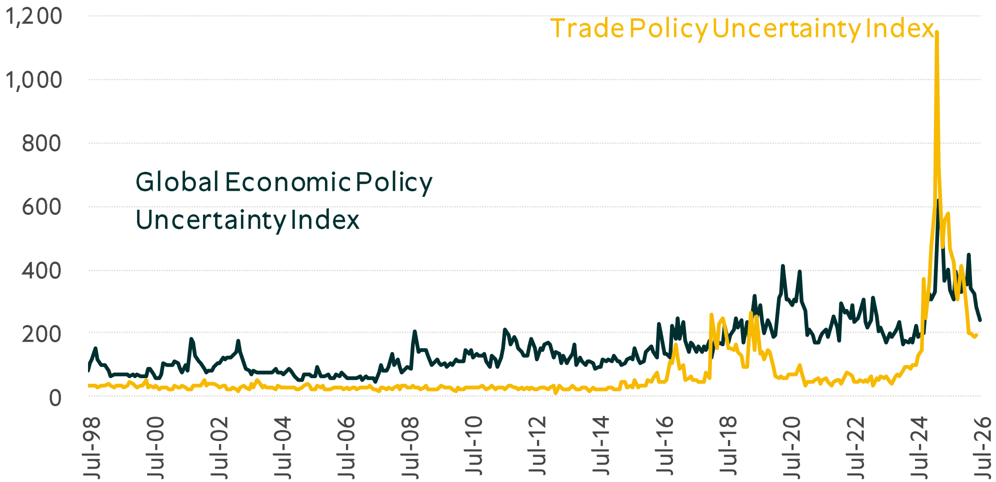
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Global Trends | NY Fed Global Supply Chain Pressure index eased further in July, while the Baltic Dry Index rose.

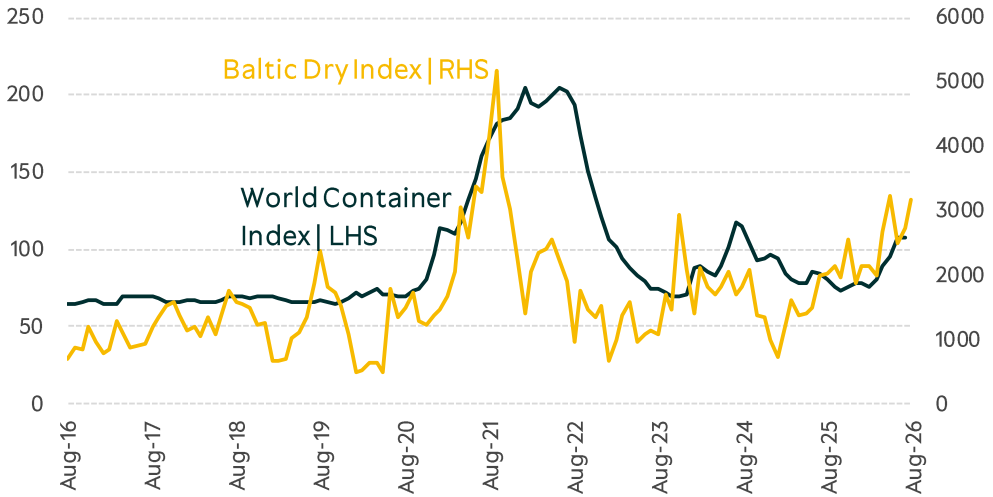
Bloomberg Financial Conditions Indices



Global Economic & Trade Policy Uncertainty (Caldara & Iacoviello)



World Container and Baltic Dry Indices



Global Supply Chain Pressure (NY Fed)

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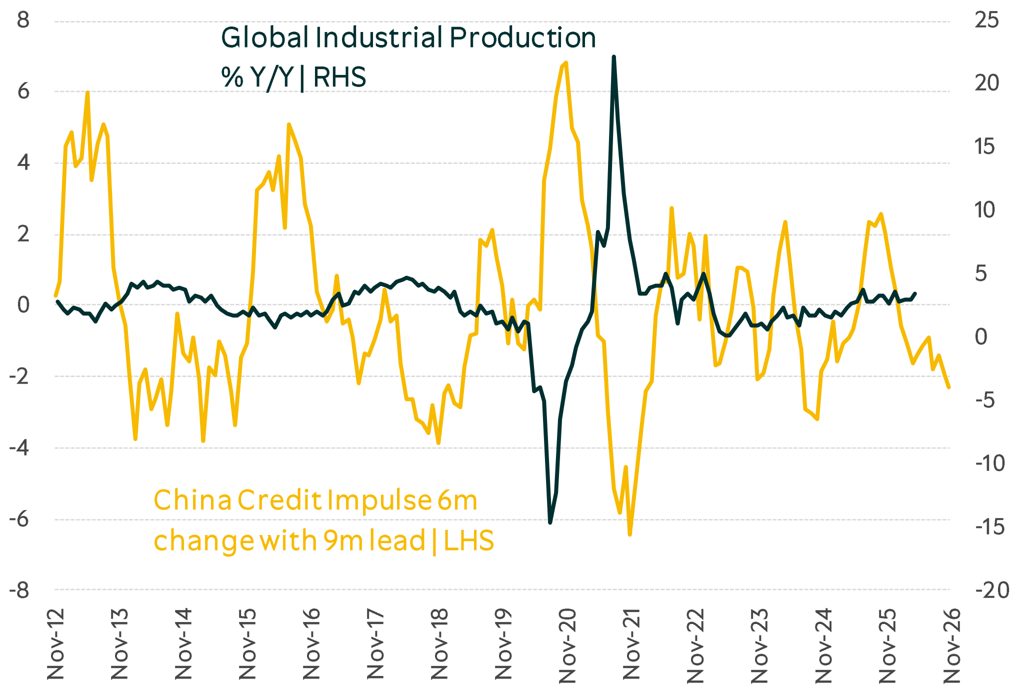
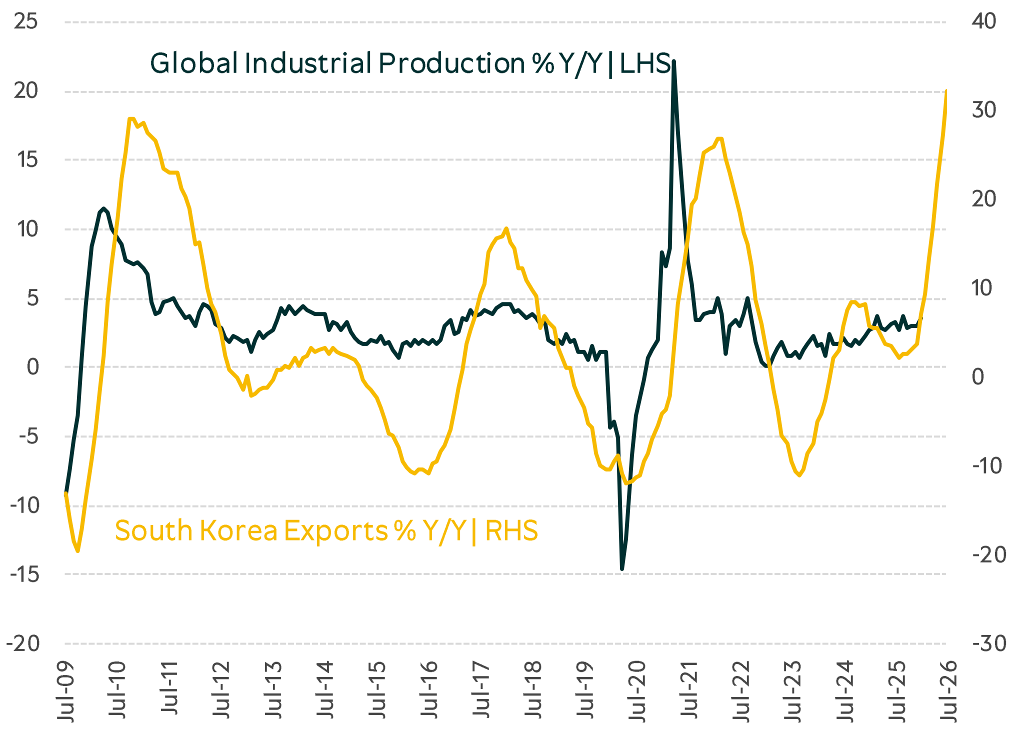
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Global Trends | South Korea had another blockbuster export month in July due to a concentrated but extremely powerful set of drivers, dominated by semiconductors and AI-related demand.

China Credit Impulse (9m lead) & Global industrial production



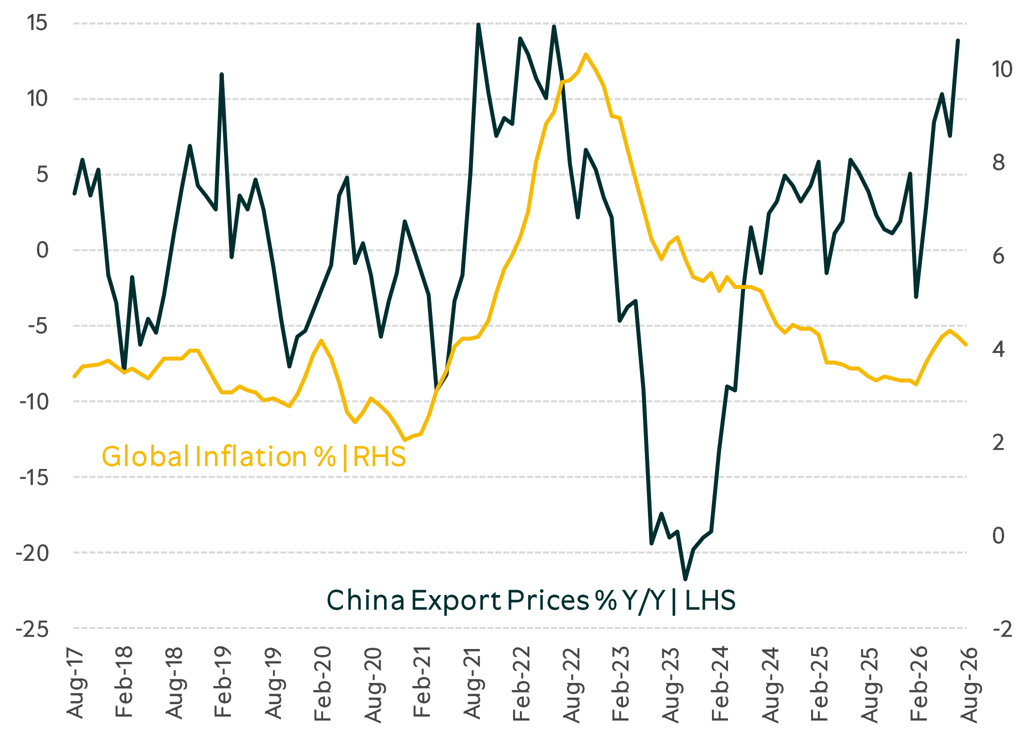
South Korean Exports & Global Industrial Production



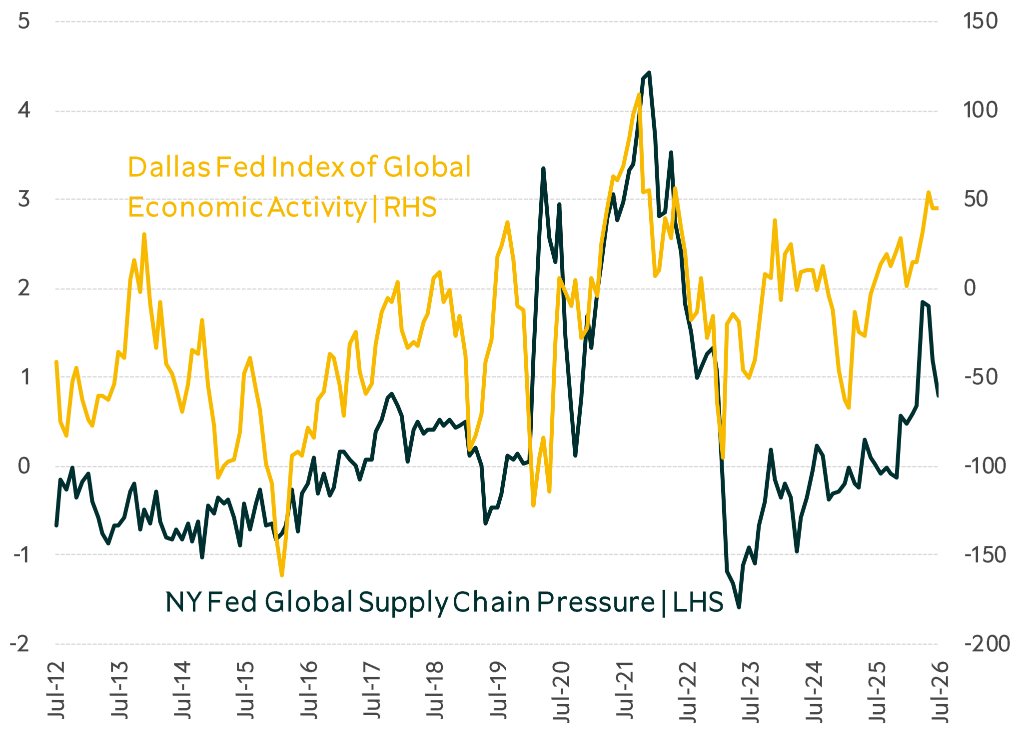
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Global Trends | Global inflation eased in July, while China's export prices in August spiked.

China Export Prices & Global Inflation



Global Economic Activity vs Global Supply Pressure



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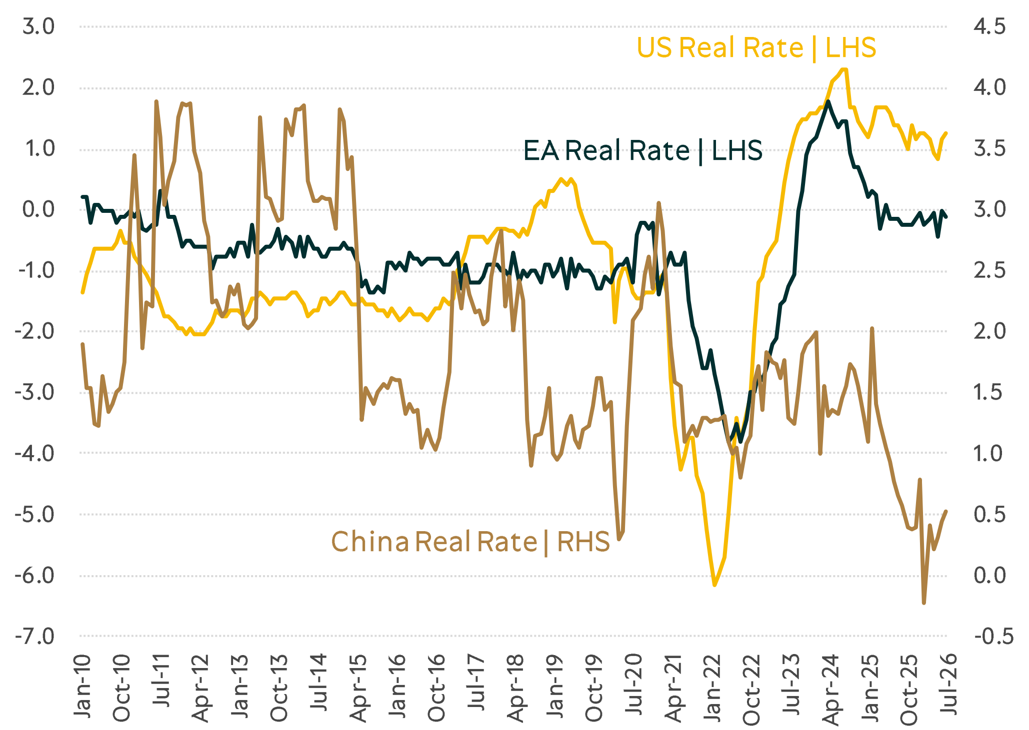
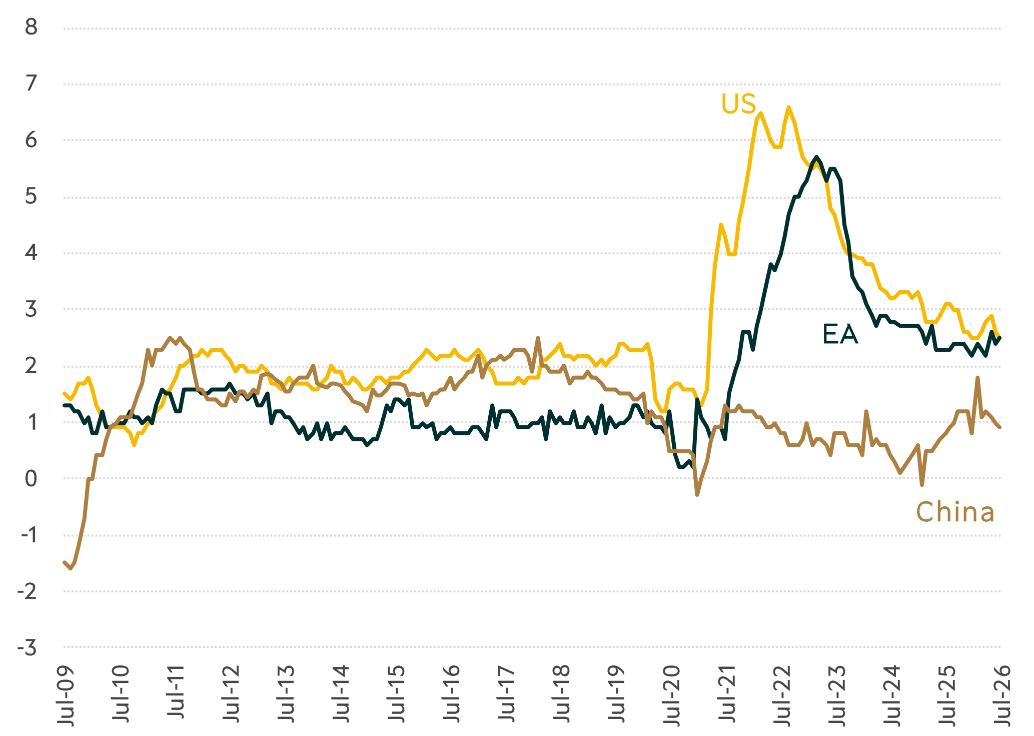
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Global Trends | US and China's real policy rate increased in July, while EA's real rate returned to negative figure.

Global Real Policy Rates US, EA, CN



US, EA, CN Core Inflation



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Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Bird’s Eye View

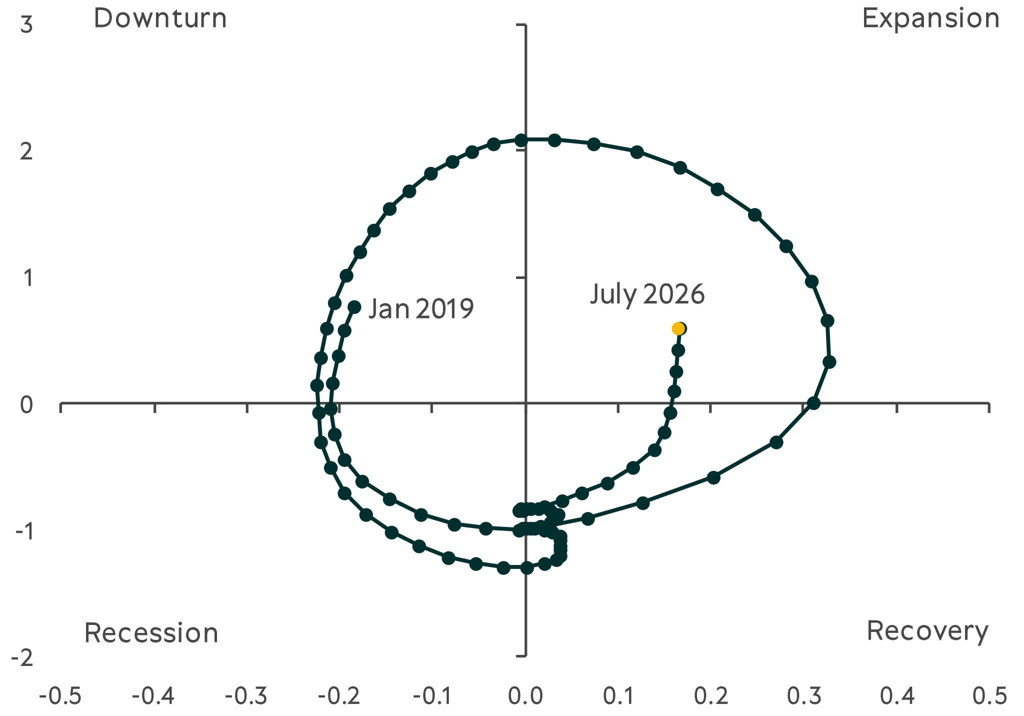
US Economy

EA Economy

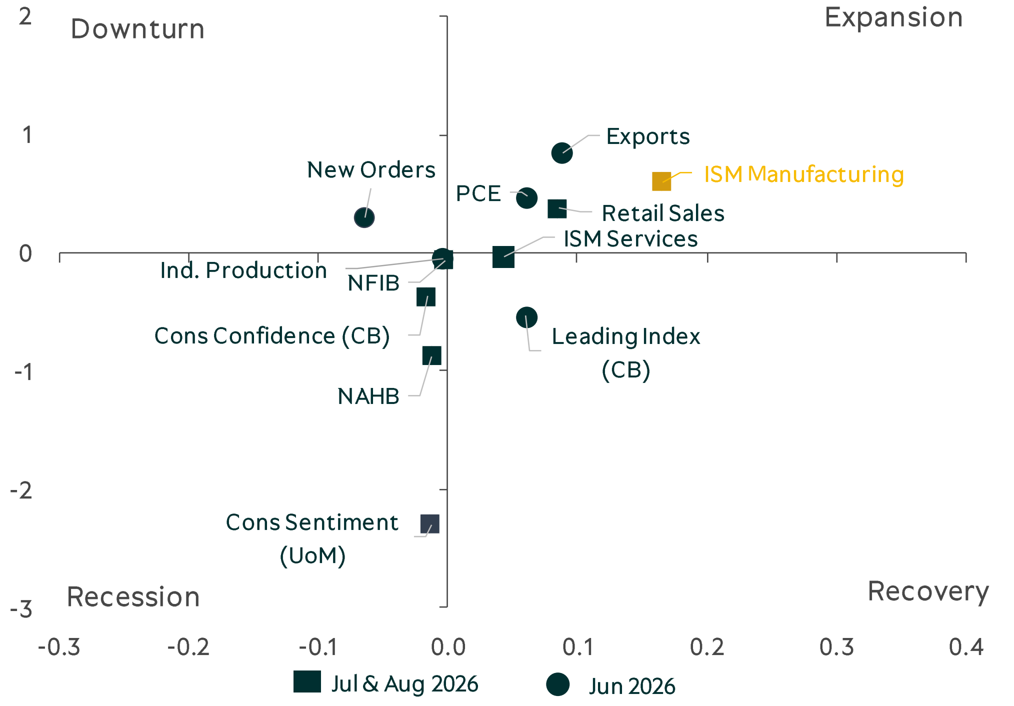
China Economy

US Business Cycle | ISM Manufacturing firmly in expansion territory.

US Business Cycle | Based on ISM Manufacturing Indicator

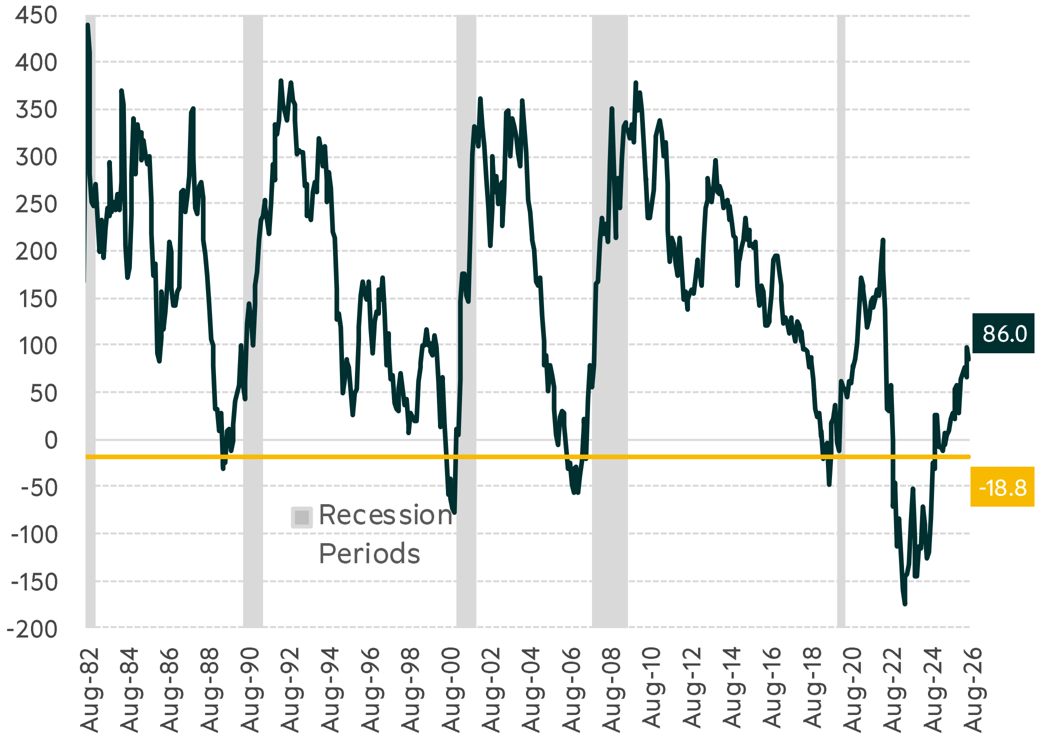


US Business Cycle | Based on Major US Economic Variables

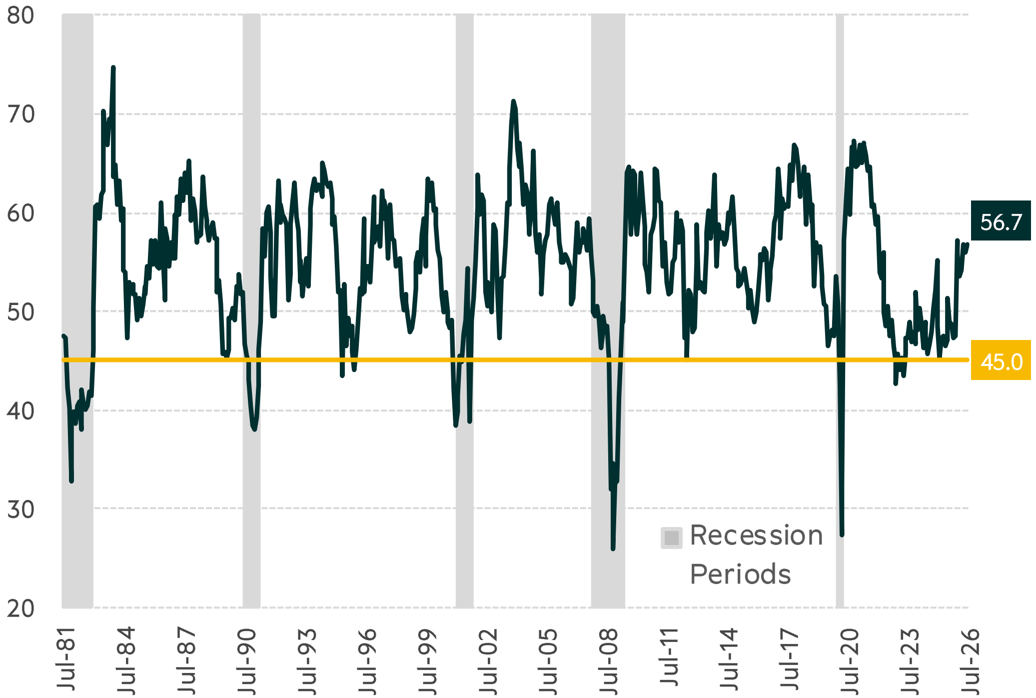


US Recession Indicators | The 10Y3M spread and the ISM Manufacturing New Order Index remain firmly above the threshold levels consistent with recession periods.

10Y and 3M US Treasury Yields Spread

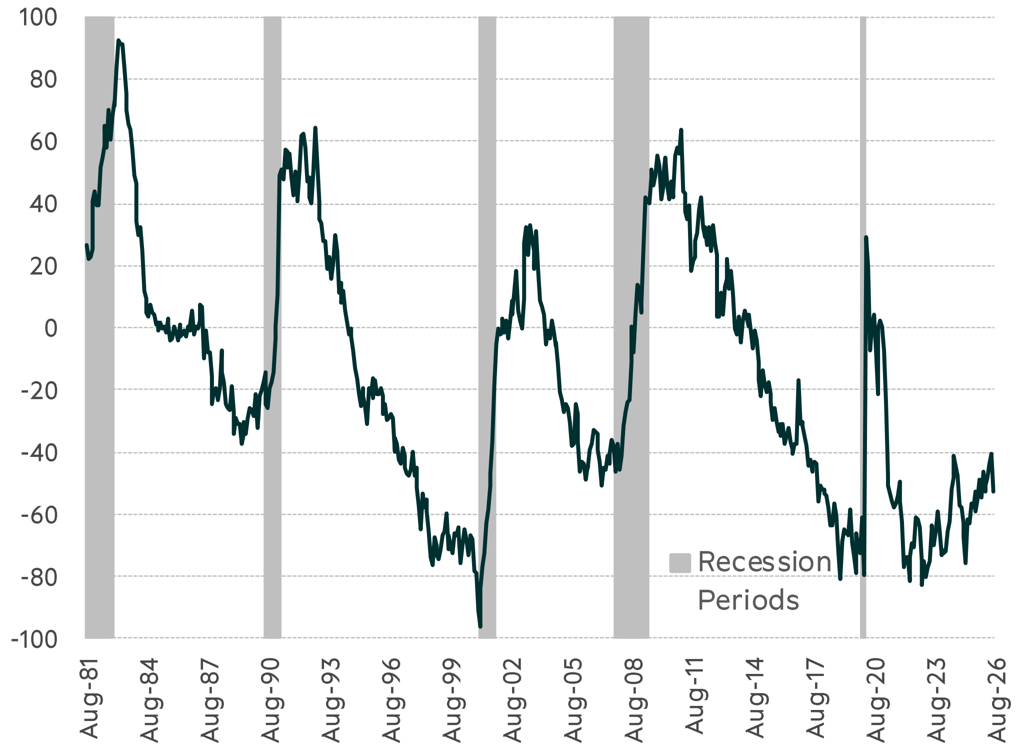


ISM Manufacturing New Order Index

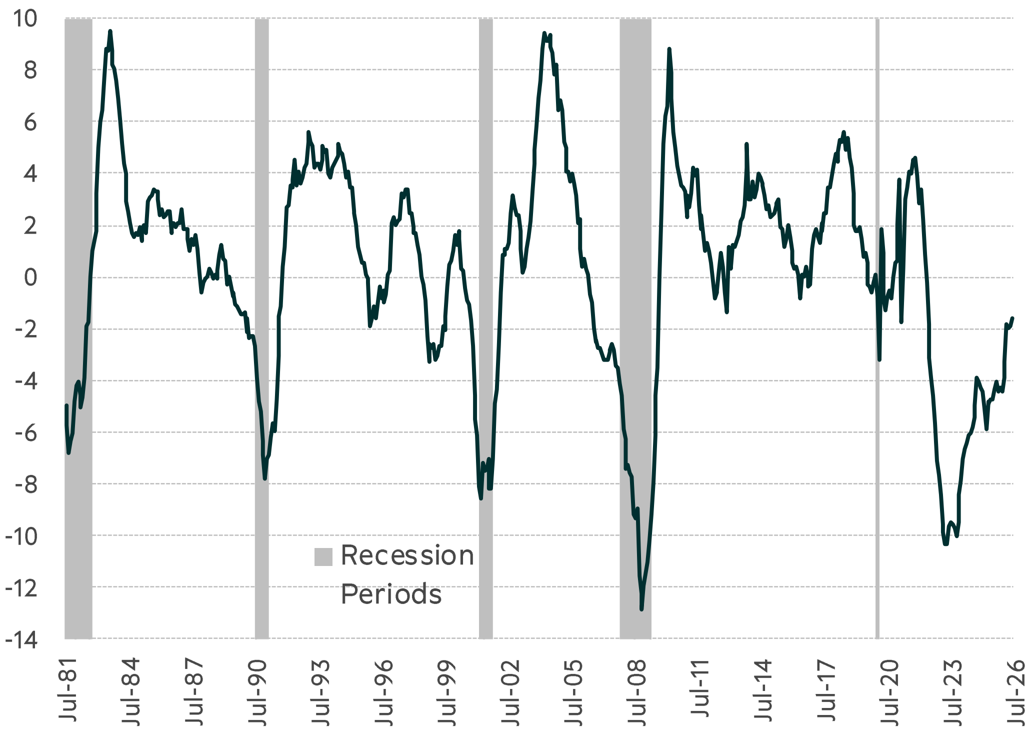


Conference Board Survey | Consumer confidence moderated further in August. The gap between the Leading and Coincident indicators narrowed slightly in July.

Difference between Consumer Expectations and Current Situation Indicators (Conference Board)



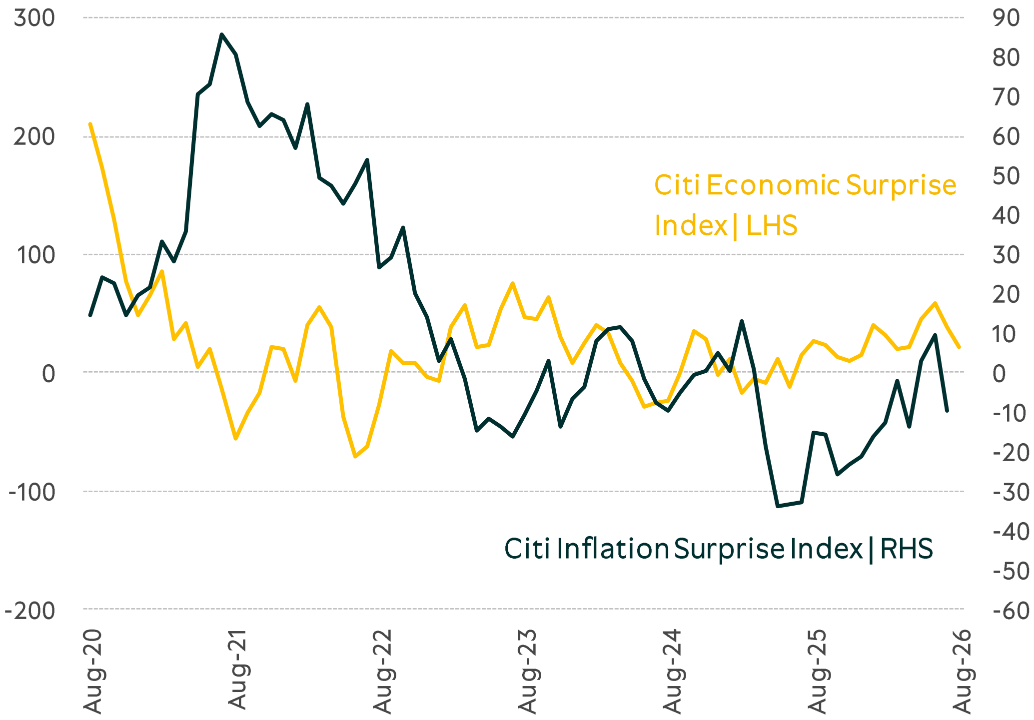
Difference between Leading & Coincident Indicators (Conference Board)



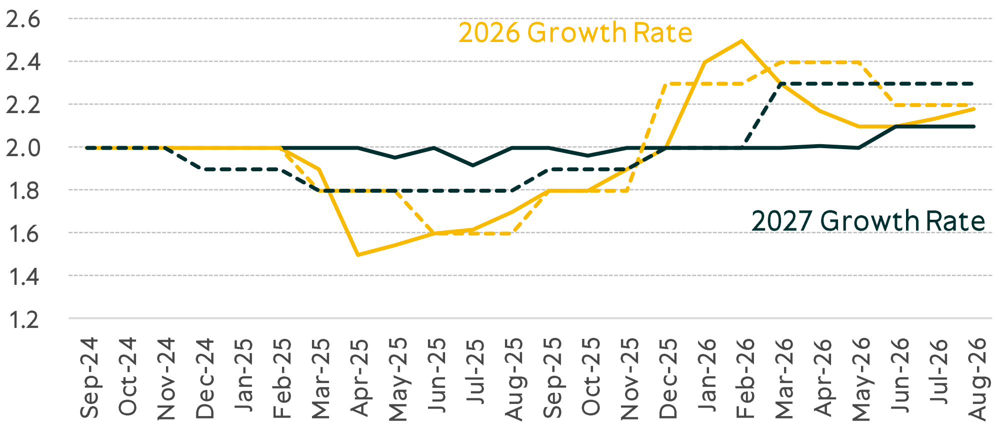
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Macro Expectations | Economic data continues to surprise to the upside (but less than before). Inflation surprises turned negative. 2026 Growth and inflation expectations broadly unchanged.

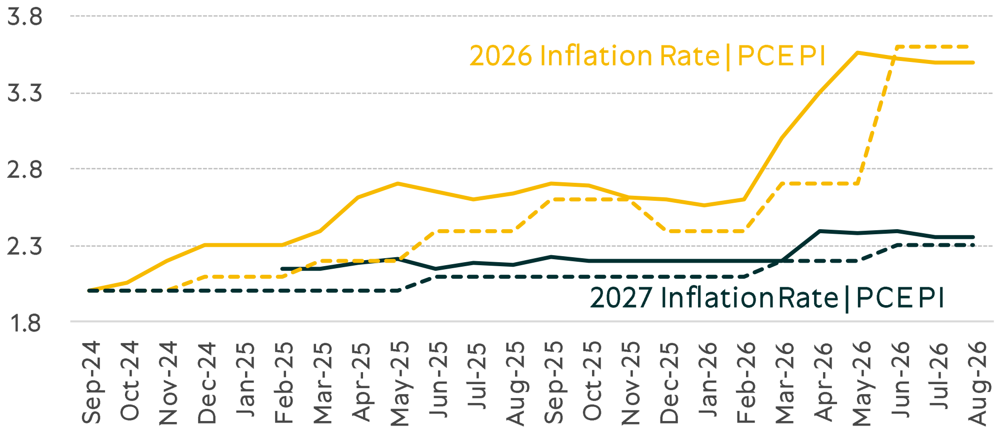
Economic & Inflation Surprises



Growth Rate Expectations*



Inflation Rate Expectations*



*Solid line: Consensus; Dotted line: Fed projections

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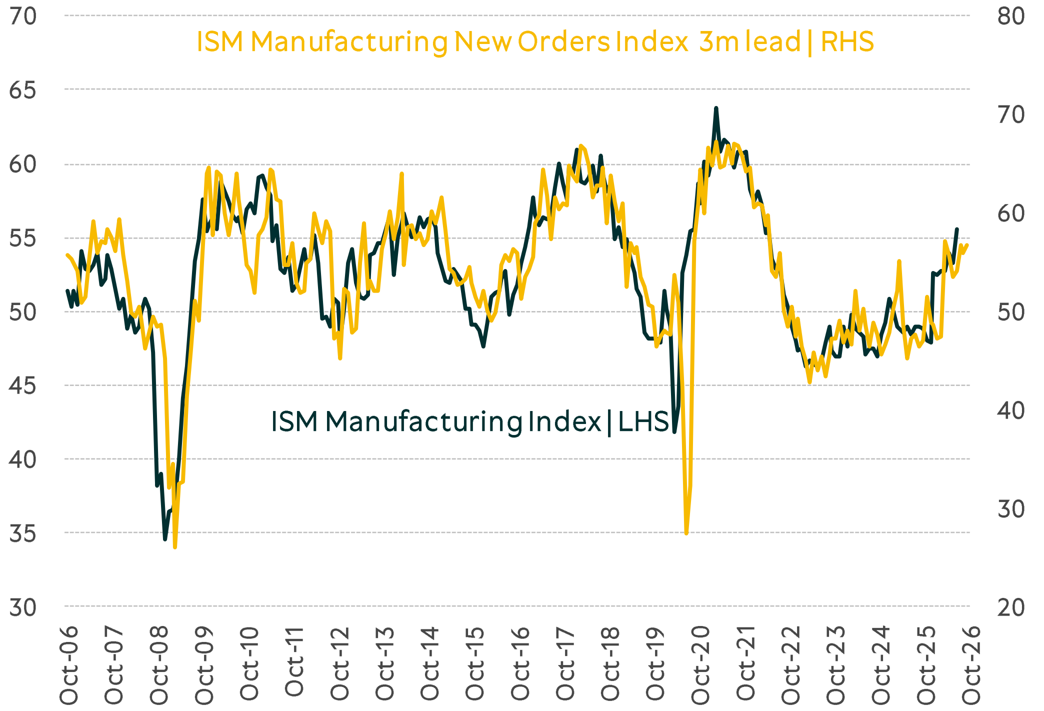
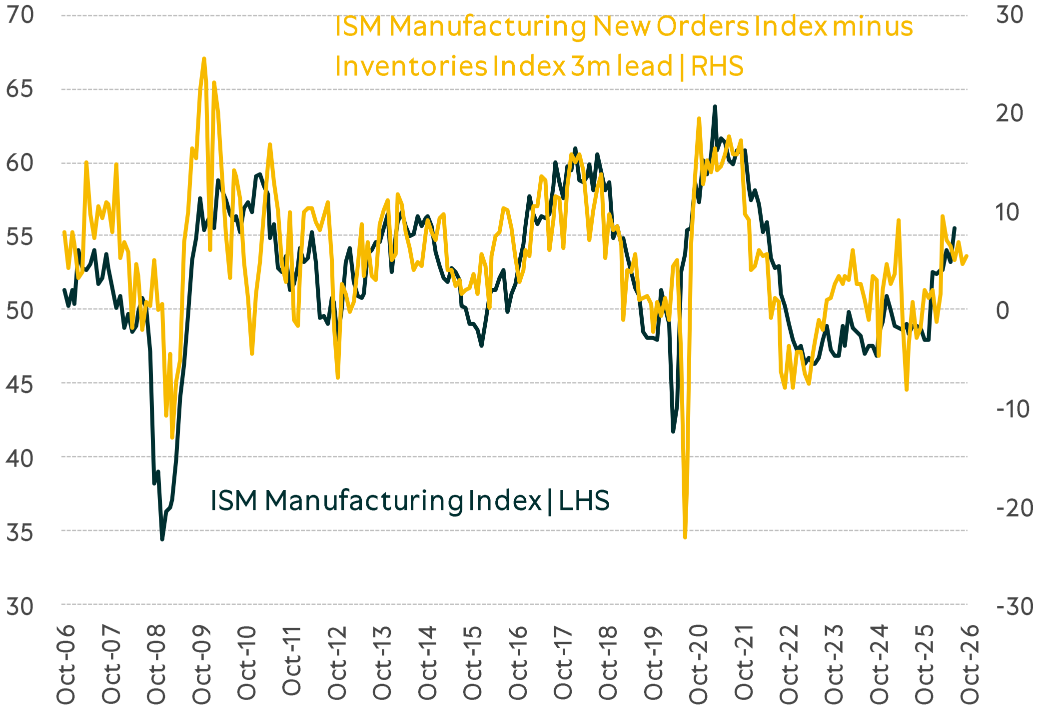
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Leading Indicators | US manufacturing momentum strengthened further in July. New orders (56.7) continue to outpace inventories (51.2).

ISM Manufacturing & New Orders Indices



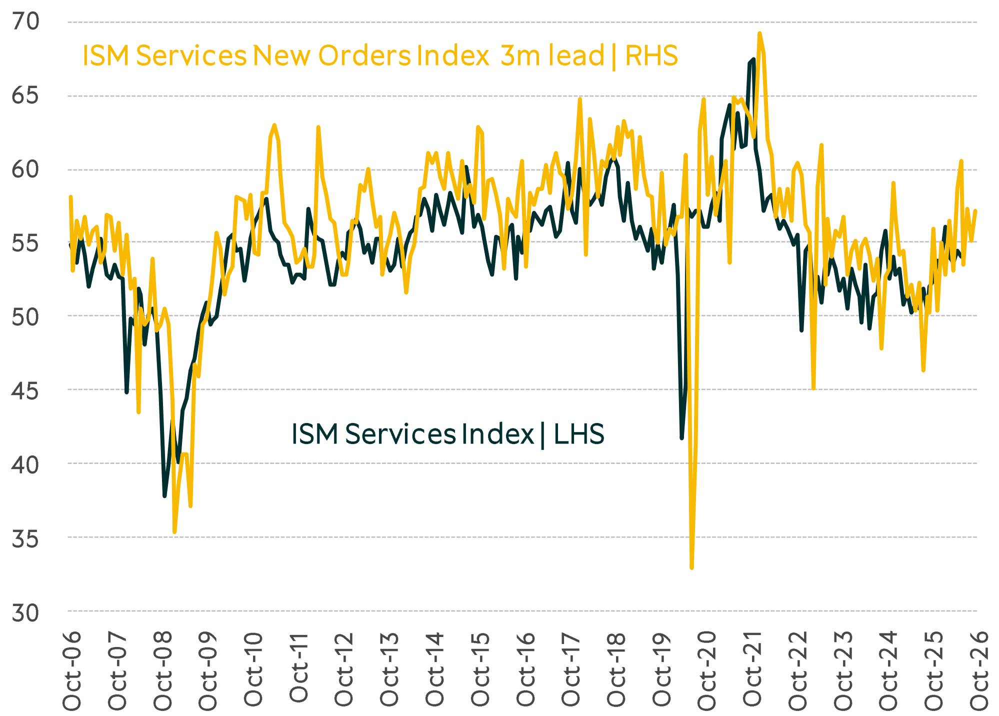
ISM Manufacturing & New Orders Index Minus Inventories Index



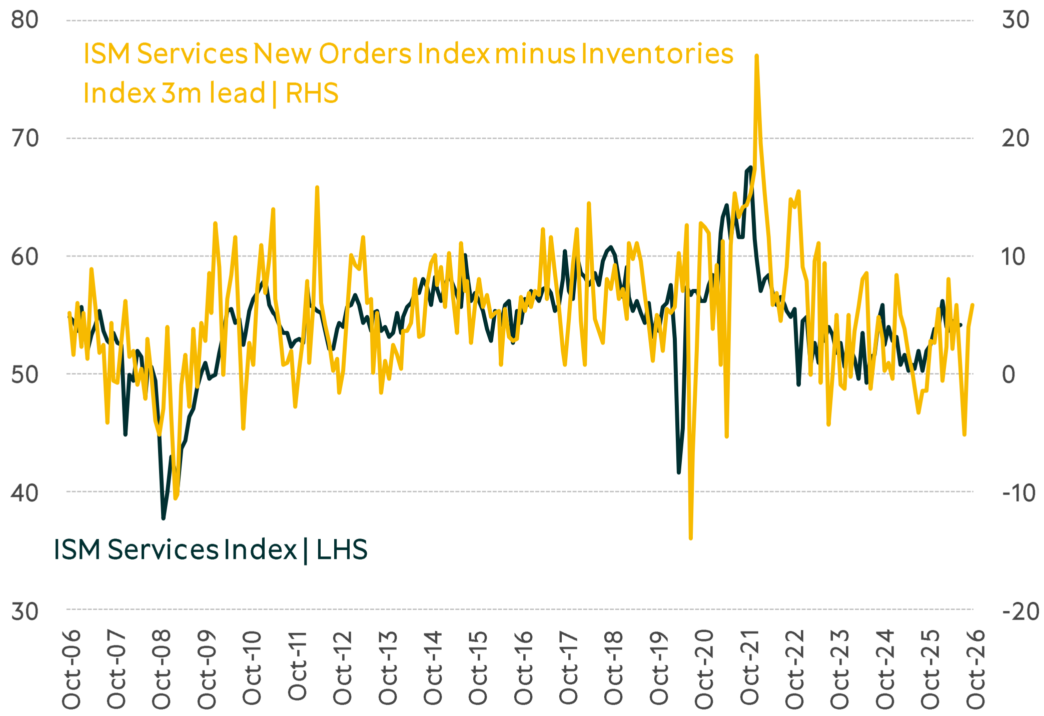
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Leading Indicators | ISM Services index edged up in July indicating continued resilience. Growth was supported by stronger business activity and new orders.

ISM Services & New Orders Indices



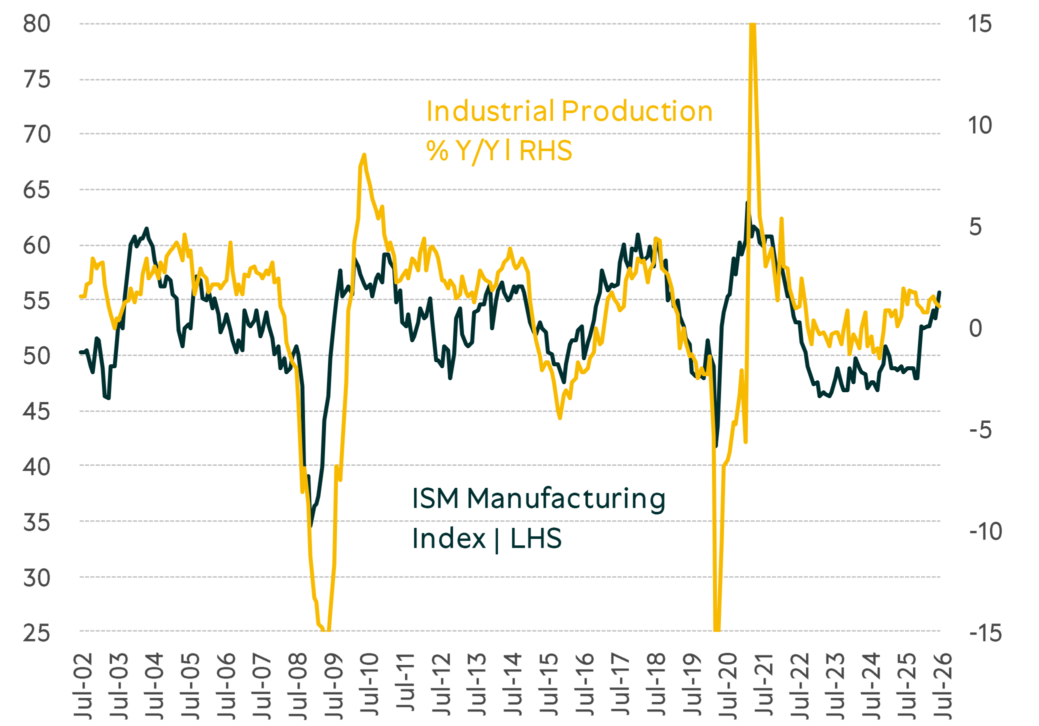
ISM Services & New Orders Index Minus Inventories Index



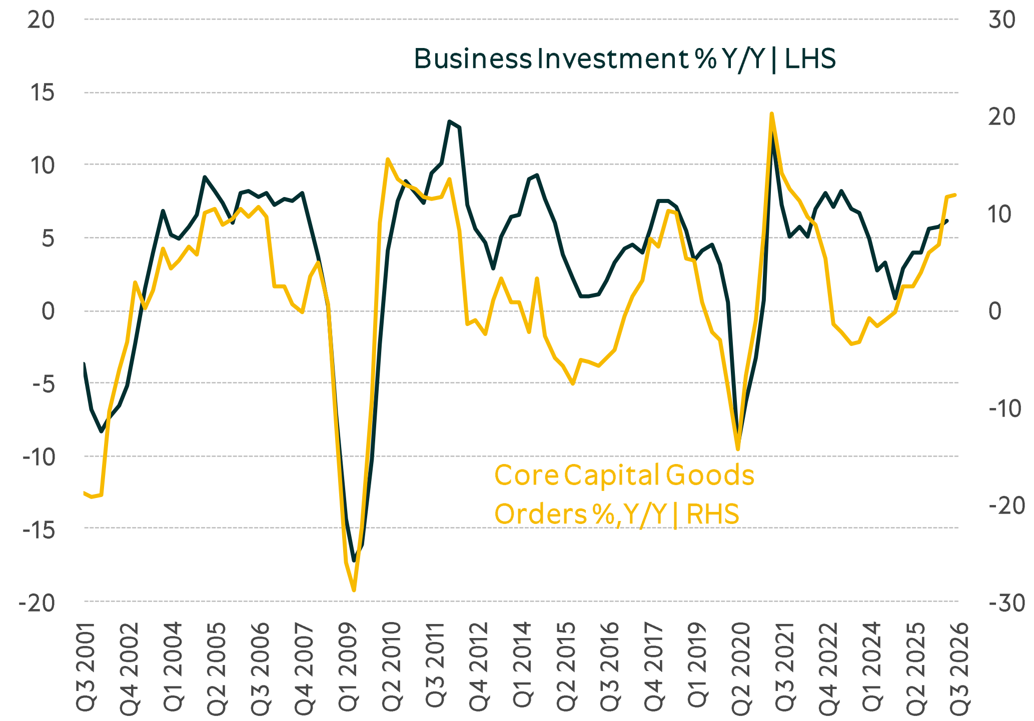
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US | Industrial Production increased by 0.2% in July (+1.1% yoy), with business investment picking up in Q2. Core Capital Goods Orders accelerated in Q2 2026.

Industrial Production & ISM Manufacturing



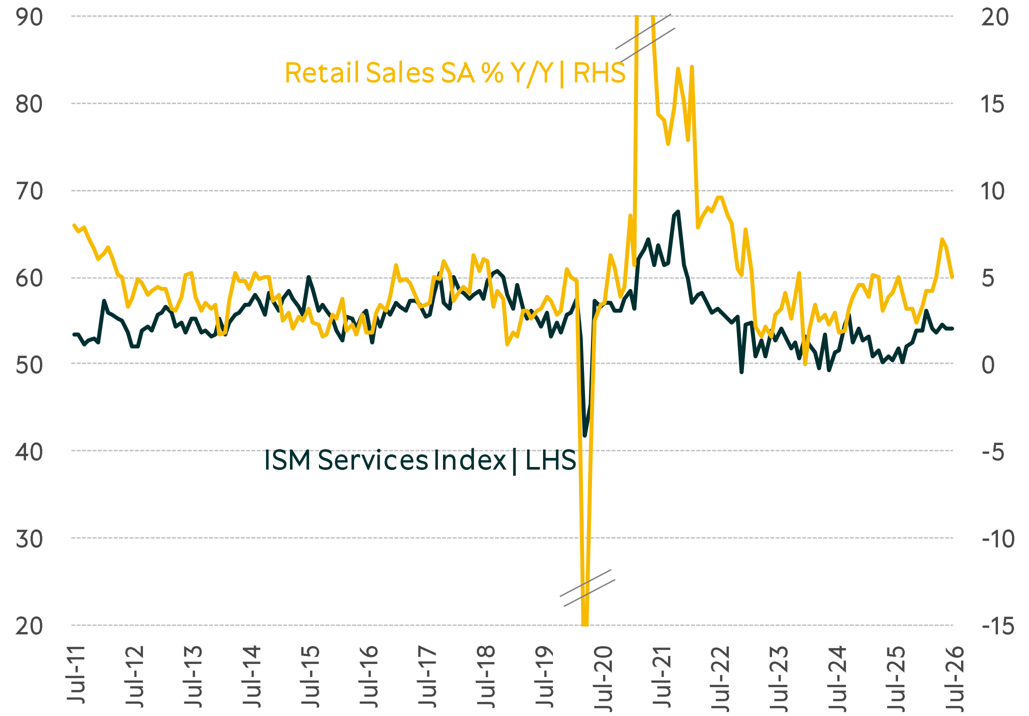
Core Capital Goods Orders & Business Investment



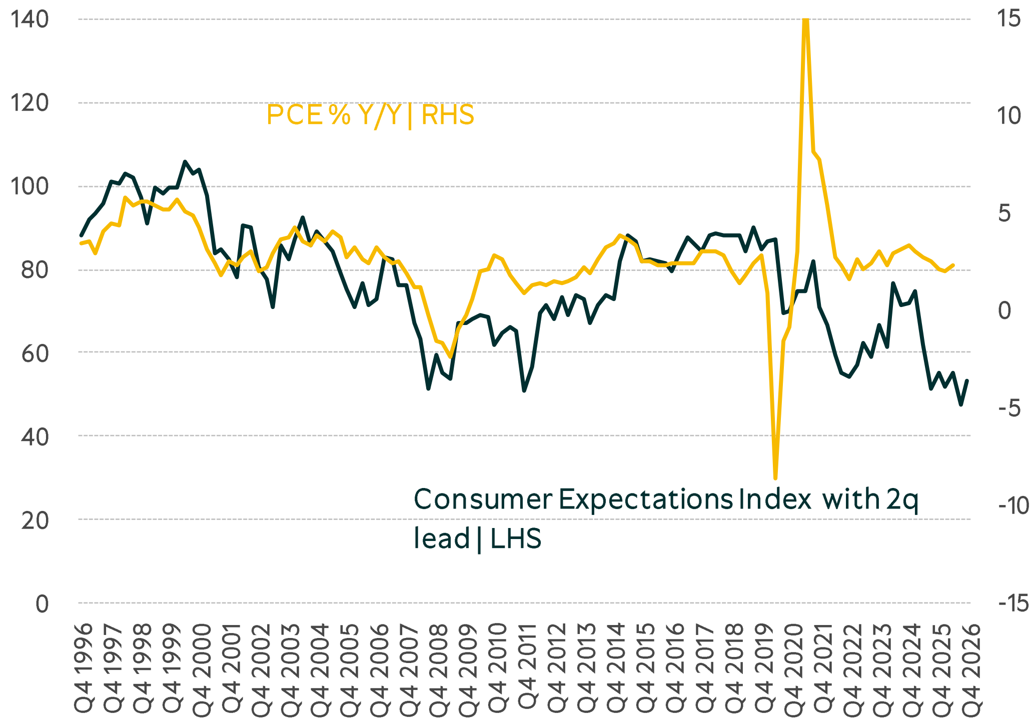
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US | Advance Retail Sales July retail sales disappointed declining 0.6% m/m but remained close to 5.0% y/y. University of Michigan consumer expectations fell in August ending 2 consecutive months of improvements.

Retail Sales & ISM Services

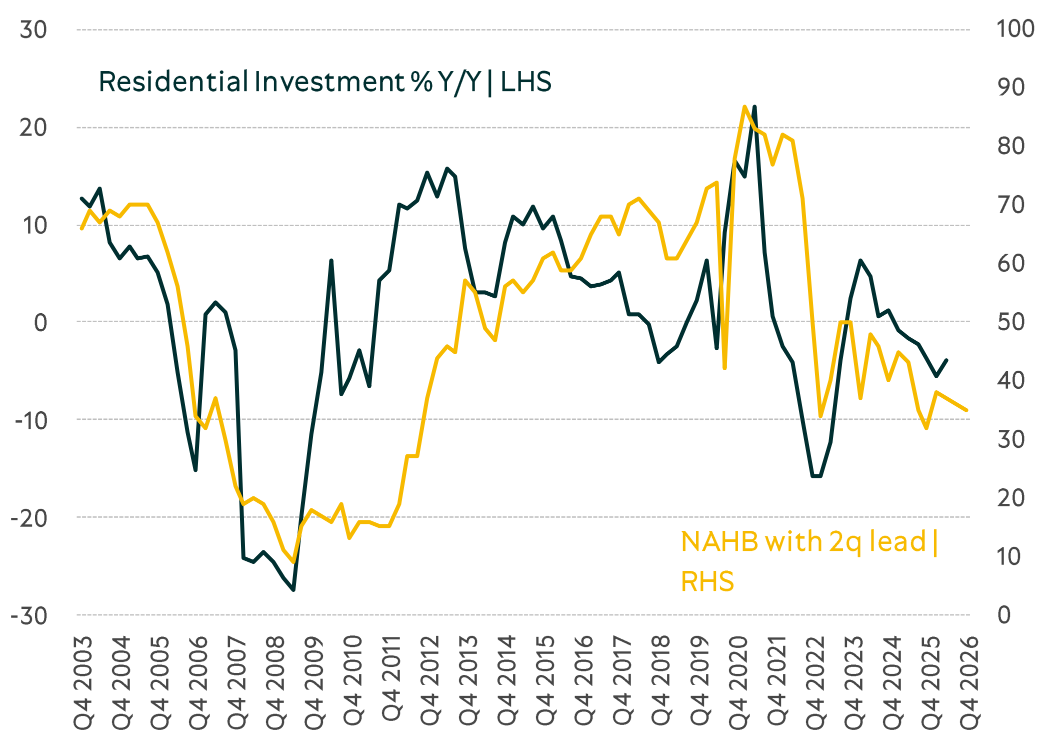


Personal Consumer Expenditure & University of Michigan Consumer Expectations Index

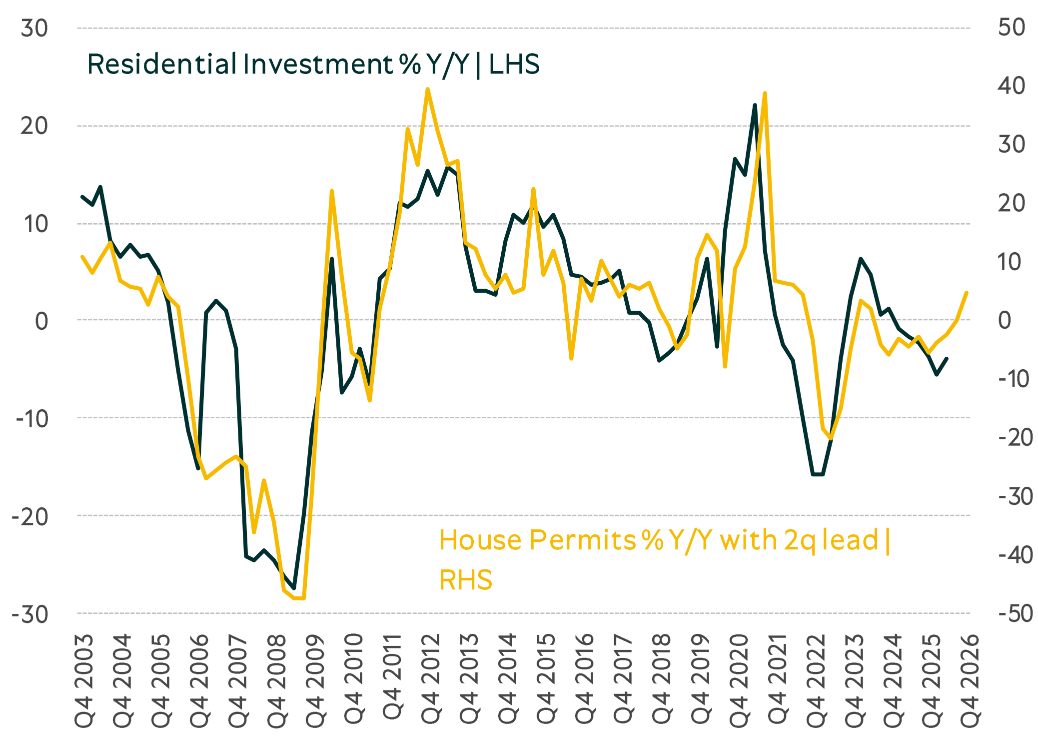


Housing Market | Residential investment rose in Q2 (still negative y/y), while House Permits turned positive y/y in Q3. Home builders' expectations rose slightly in August, but affordability concerns continued to weigh on buyers.

Residential Investment & NAHB Index

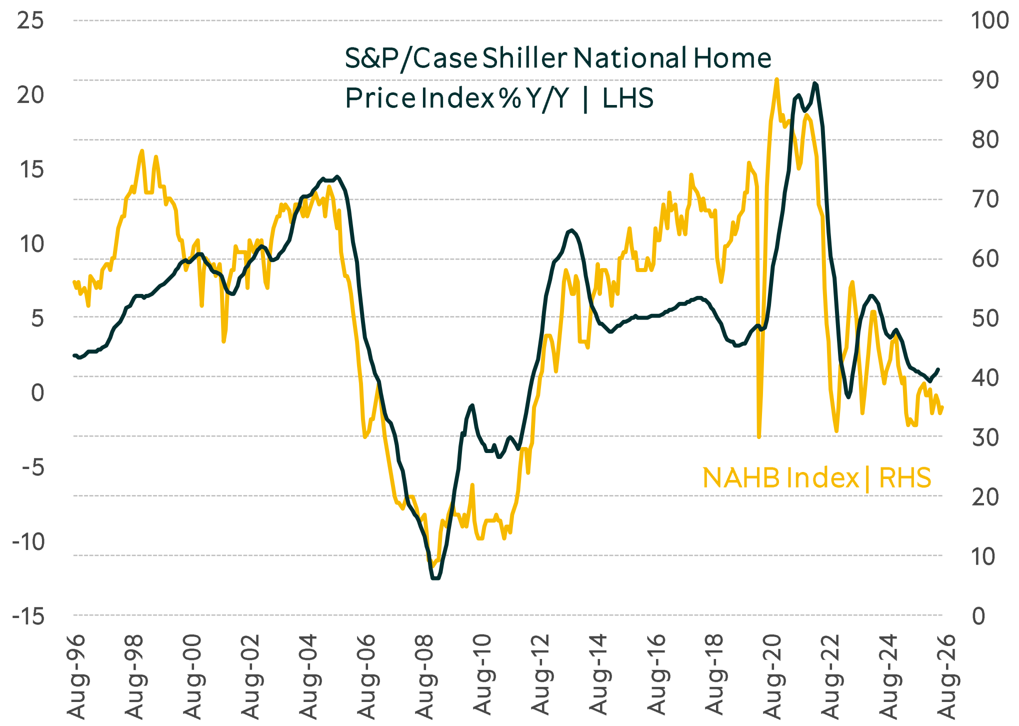


Residential Investment & House Permits

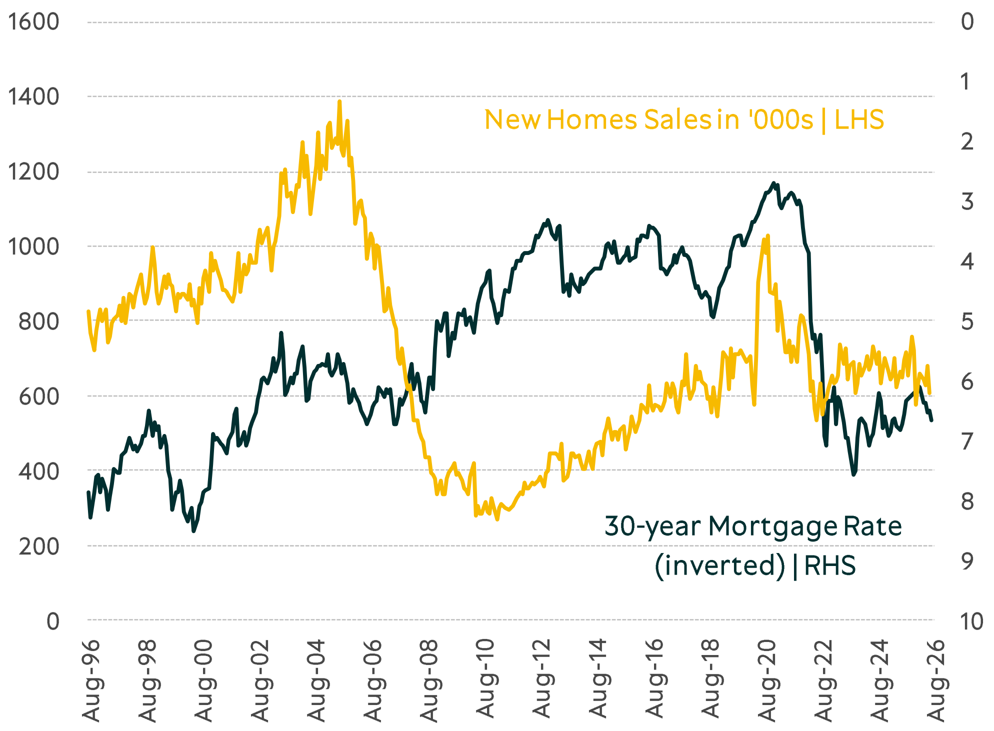


Housing Market | The S&P/Case Shiller National Home Price Index posted a modest 1.5% annual gain in June. New home sales fell significantly in July with 30-year mortgage rates rising to 6.7% in August.

NAHB Index & S&P/Case Shiller Home Price Index

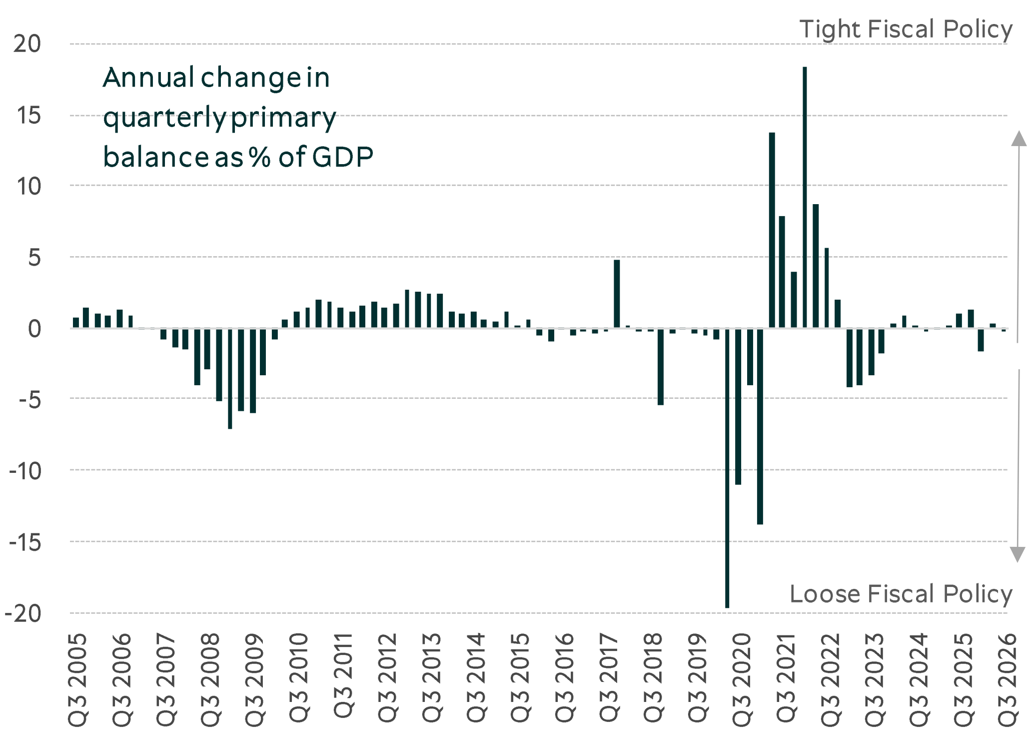


US new home sales and 30-year mortgage rates

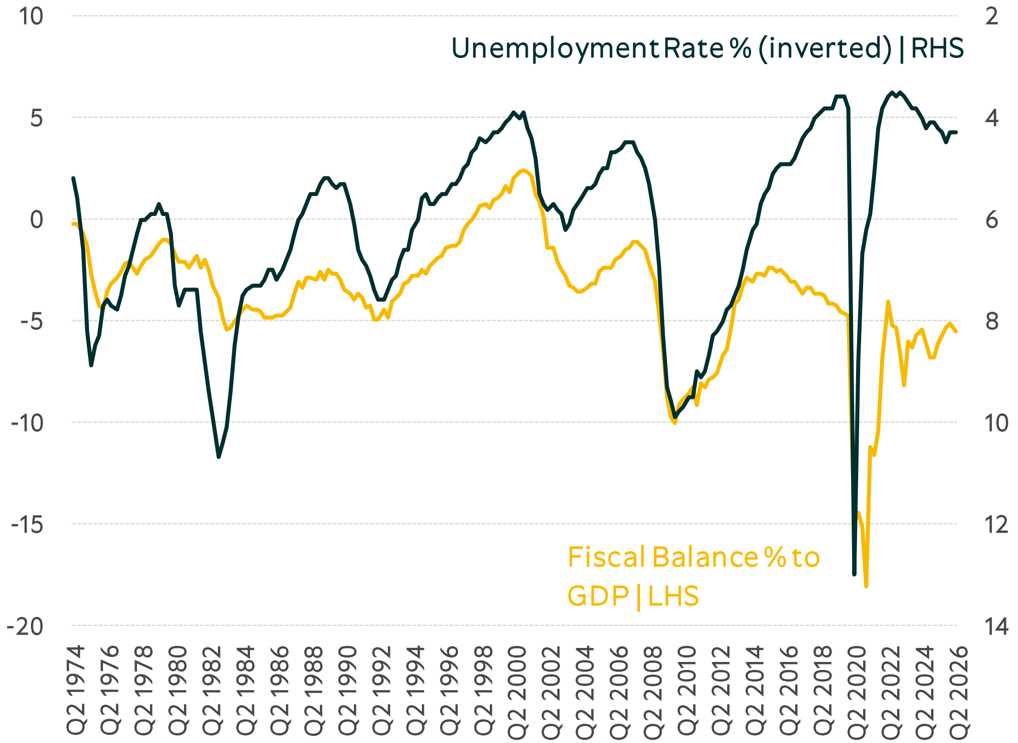


Fiscal Policy | Still too loose vs unemployment. There was a small improvement in the Fiscal Balance to GDP ratio in Q2 . Challenges ahead remain.

Fiscal Thrust

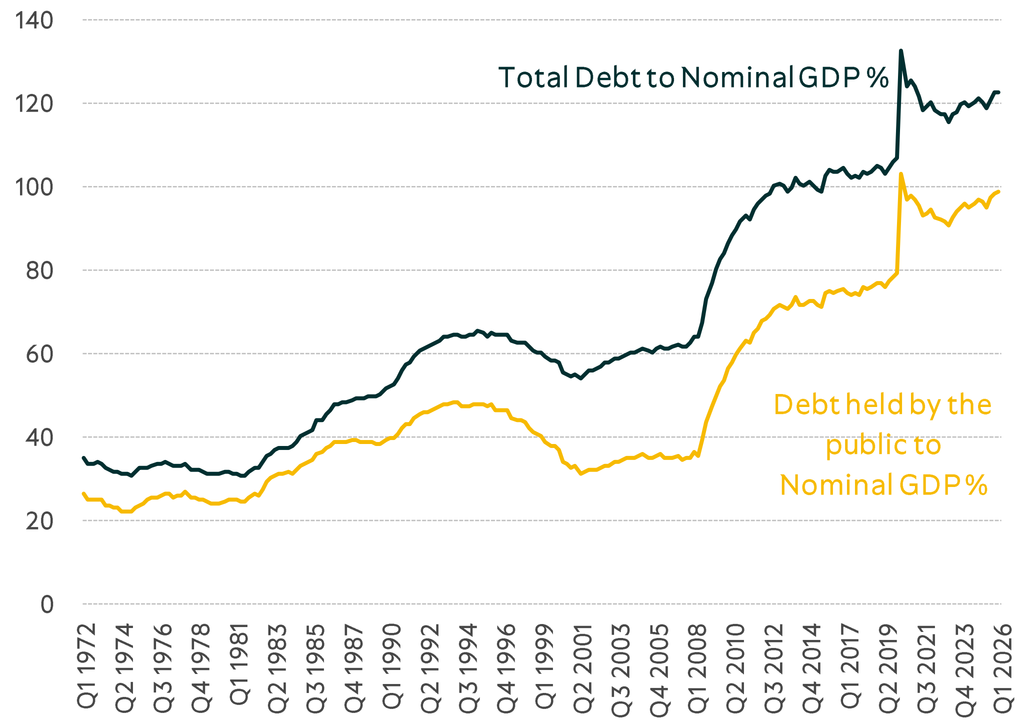


Fiscal Policy vs Unemployment

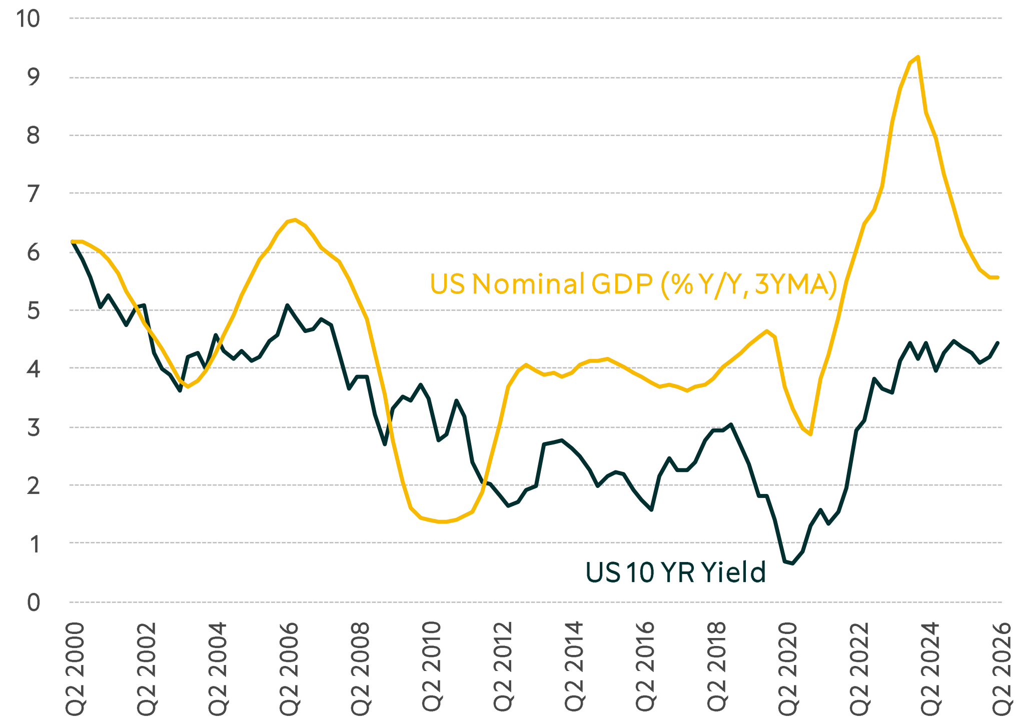


Fiscal Policy | No significant change in the Debt/Nominal GDP ratios in Q1 2026. The long-term trajectory remains concerning.

Debt / Nominal GDP

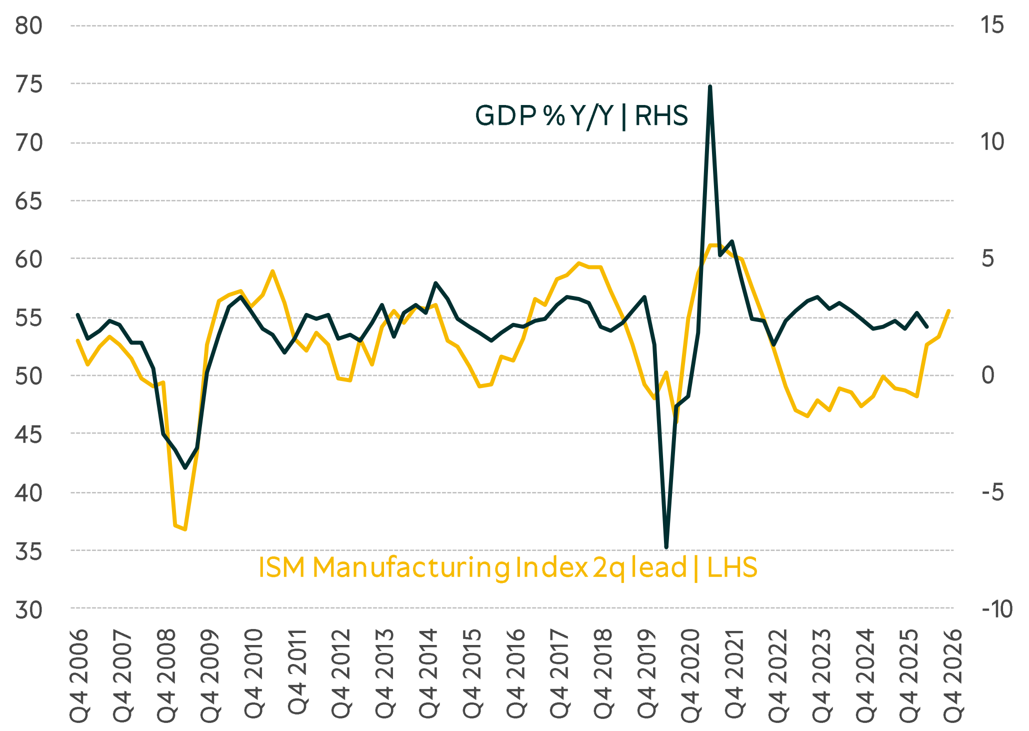


Fiscal Policy Sustainability

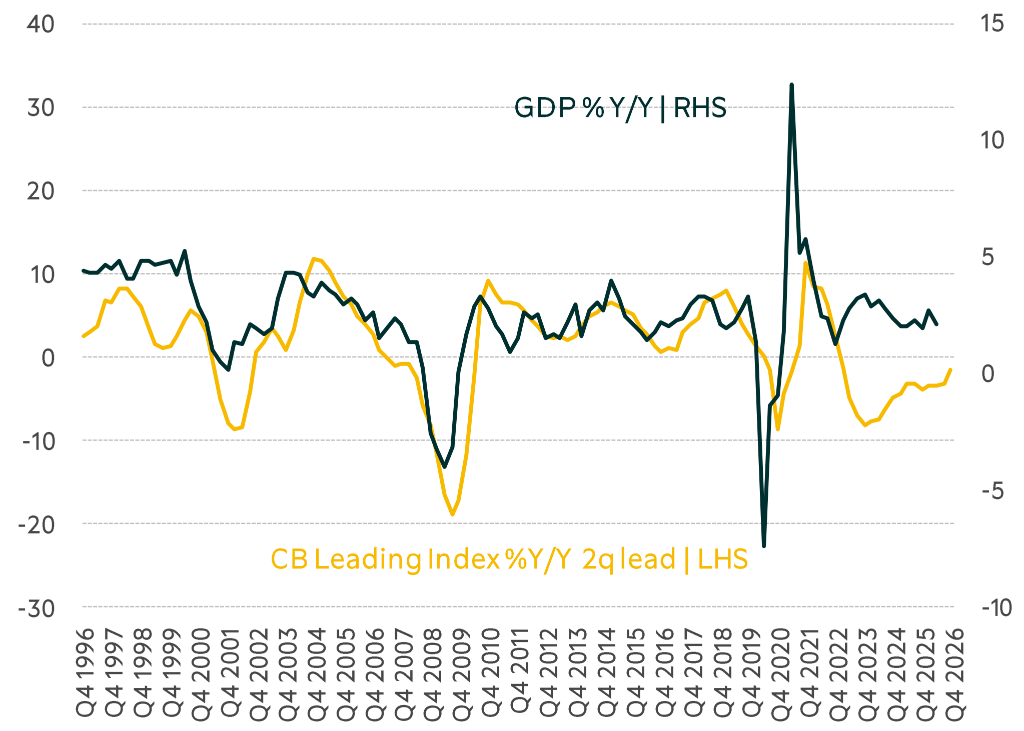


US GDP Outlook | Leading indicators point to resilient growth in real GDP.

GDP & ISM Manufacturing Indicator



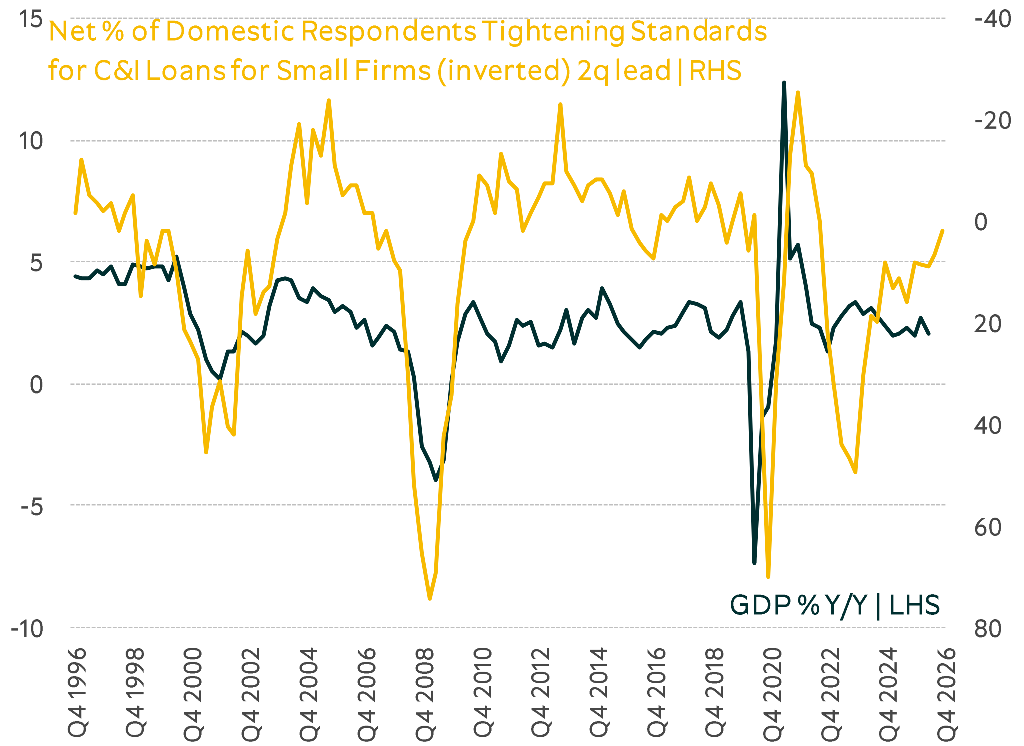
GDP & CB Leading Indicator



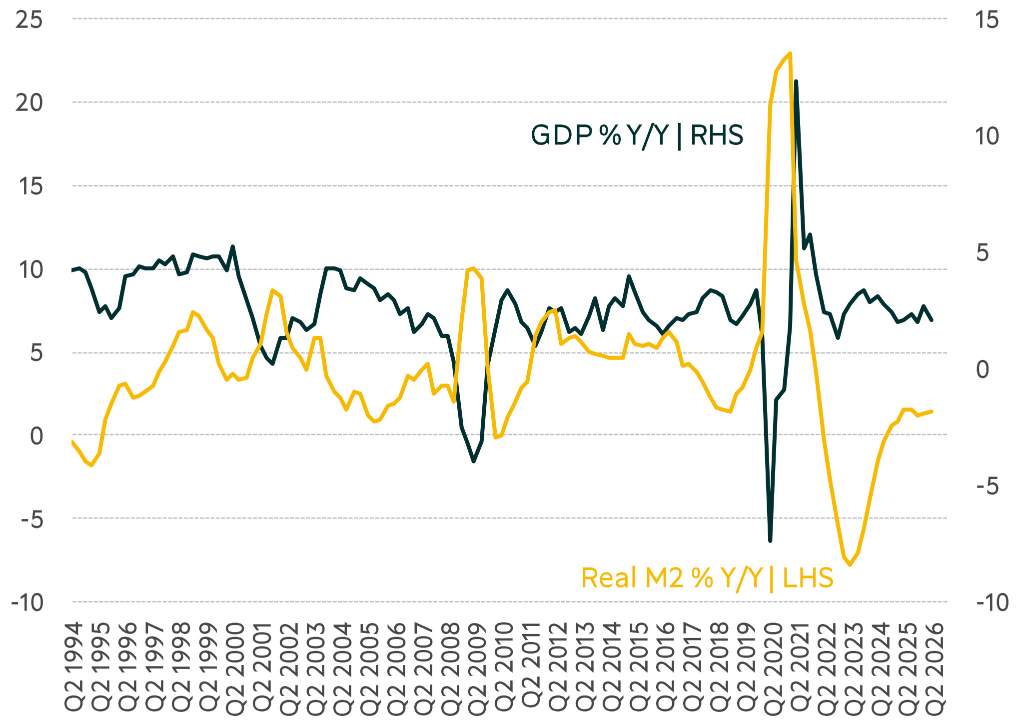
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US GDP Outlook | Only 2% of banks tightened lending to small businesses. Real M2 remains marginally supportive of growth.

Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey on Bank Lending Practices



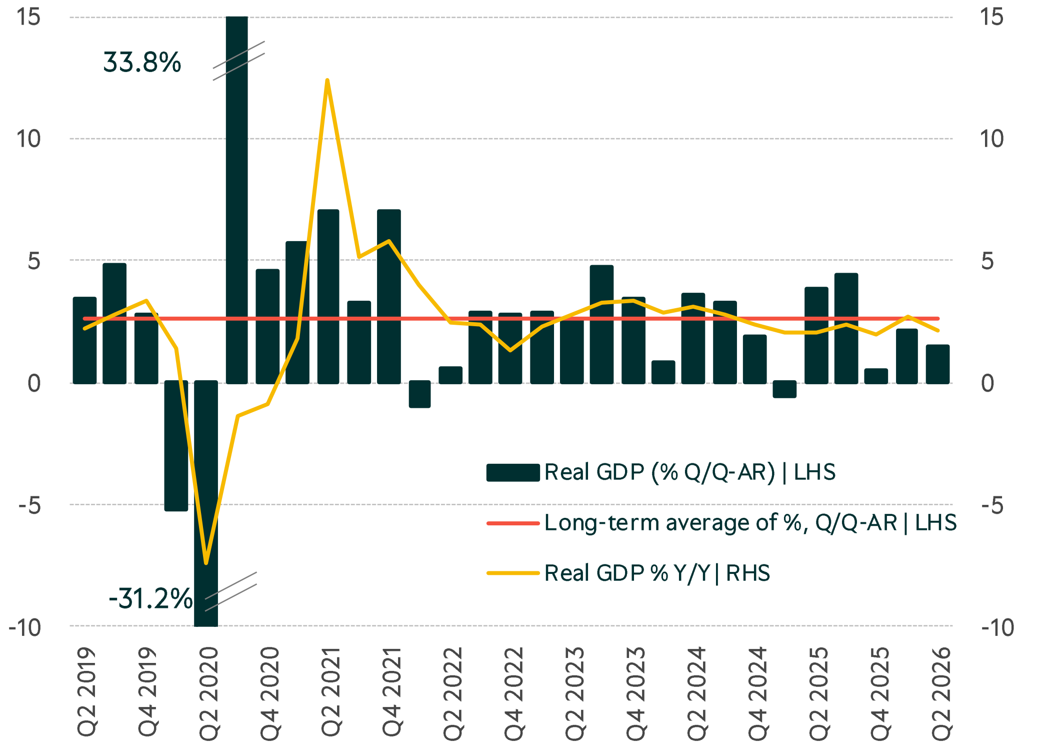
Real M2 growth vs GDP



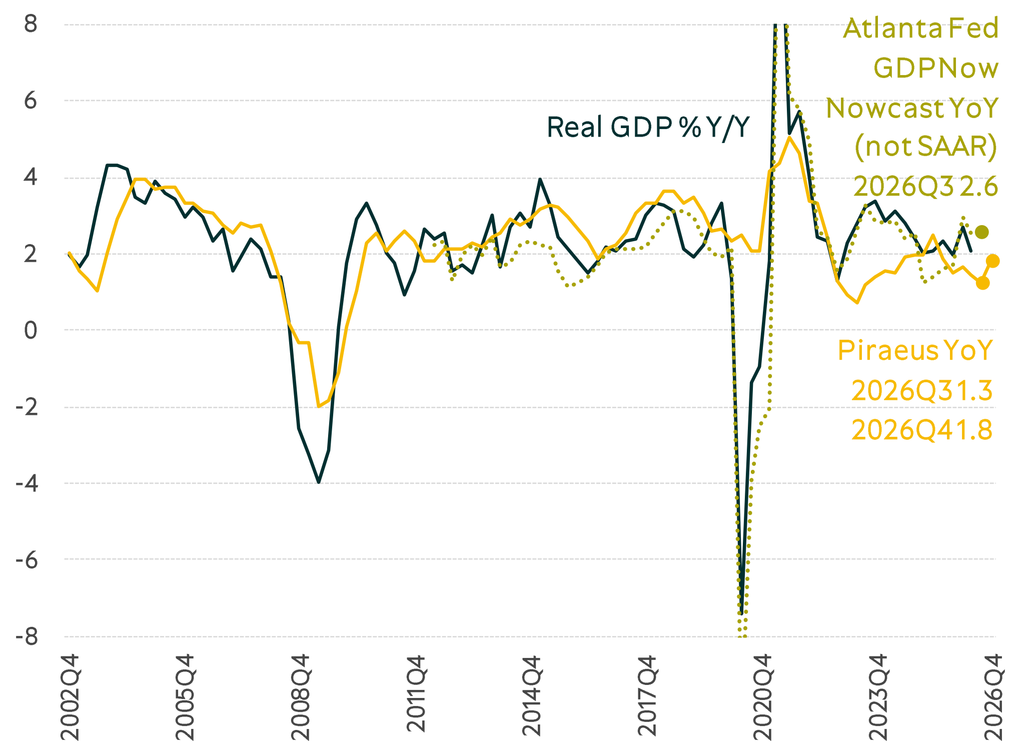
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US GDP Outlook | GDP growth slowed to 1.5% in Q2 2026 from 2.1% in Q1, primarily due to a larger drag from imports, a decline in government spending and lower private inventories.

Growth Rate Outlook

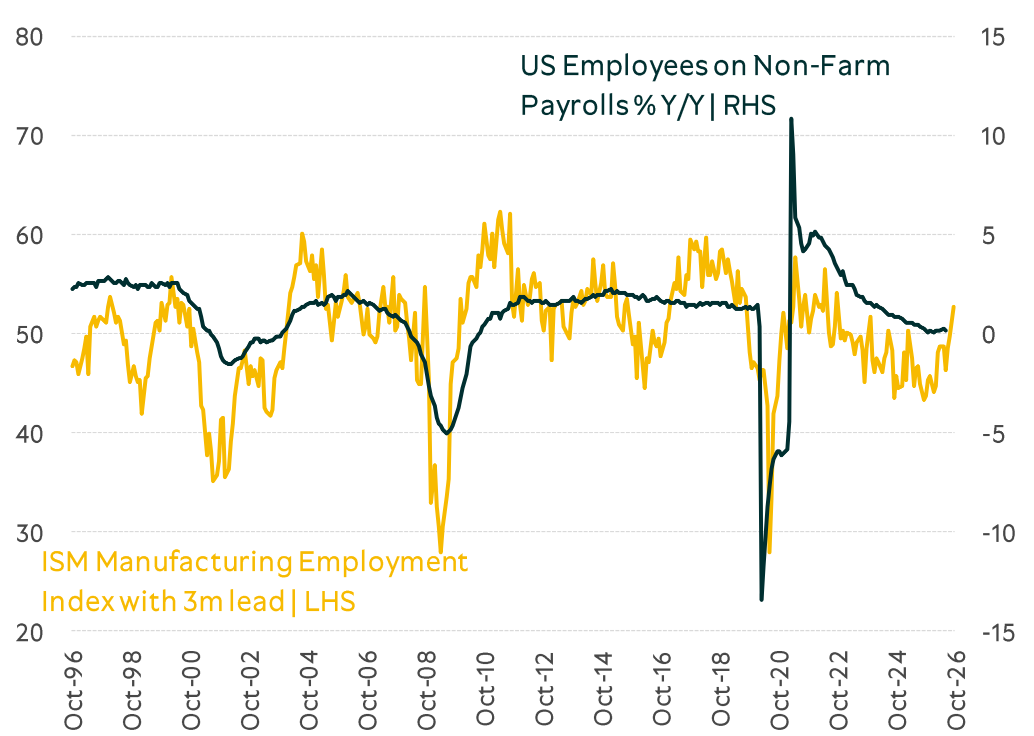


Growth Rate Estimate

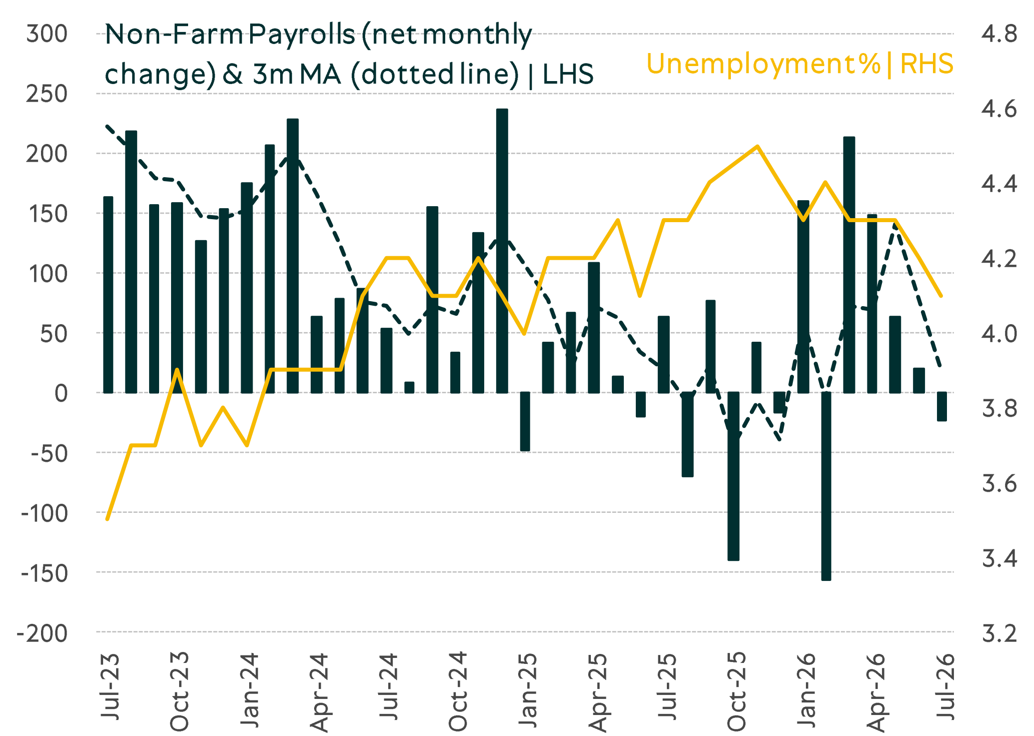


US Labour Market | The July Jobs report disappointed with payrolls falling by 23k. Net downward revisions of 103k to prior months brought the 3-month average to 20k although the Unemployment edged down to 4.1%.

Employment & Leading Manufacturing Indicator

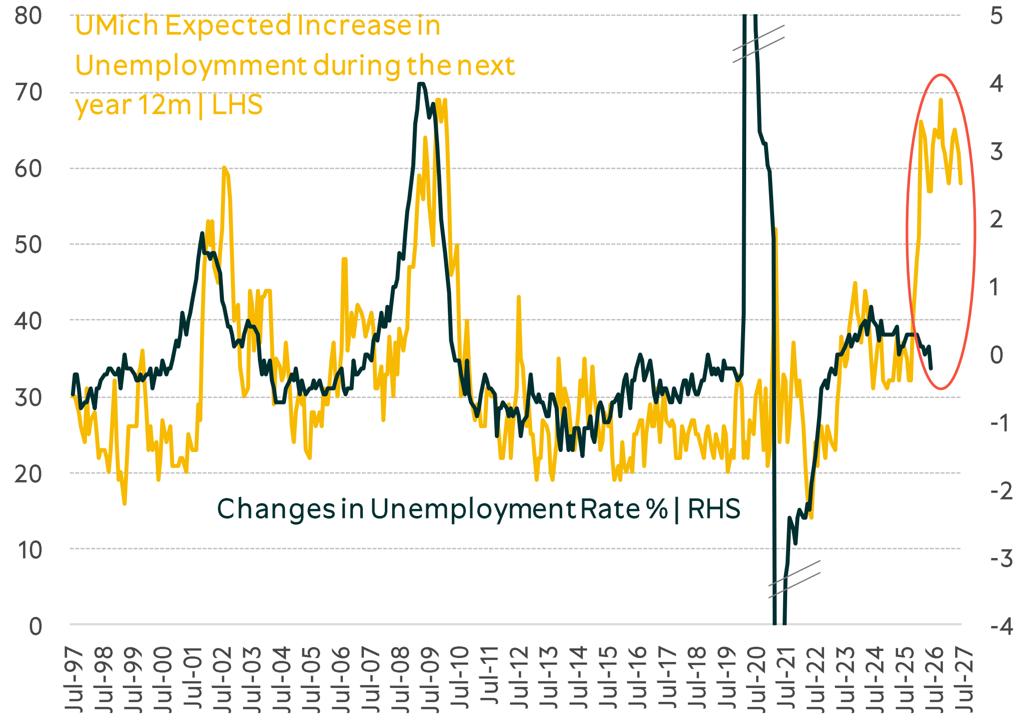


Nonfarm payrolls & Unemployment

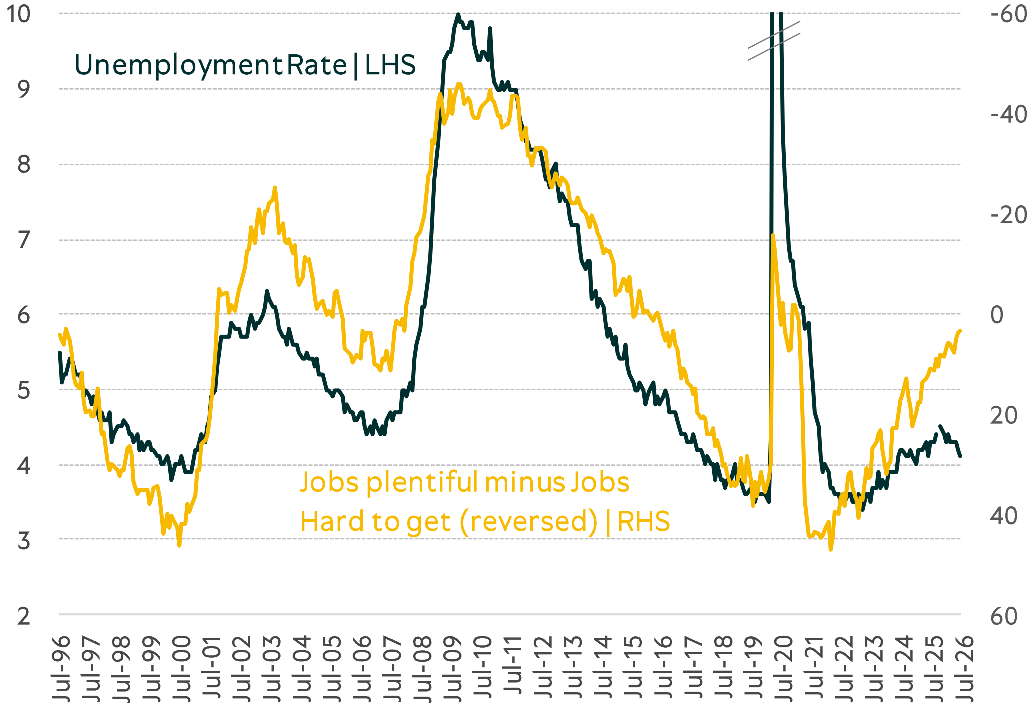


US Labour Market | Unemployment expectations improved in July and labour market perceptions improved slightly as the jobs "plentiful" minus "hard to get" differential widened to +3.1.

Unemployment Rate & expected increase in unemployment 1yr ahead (UMich)

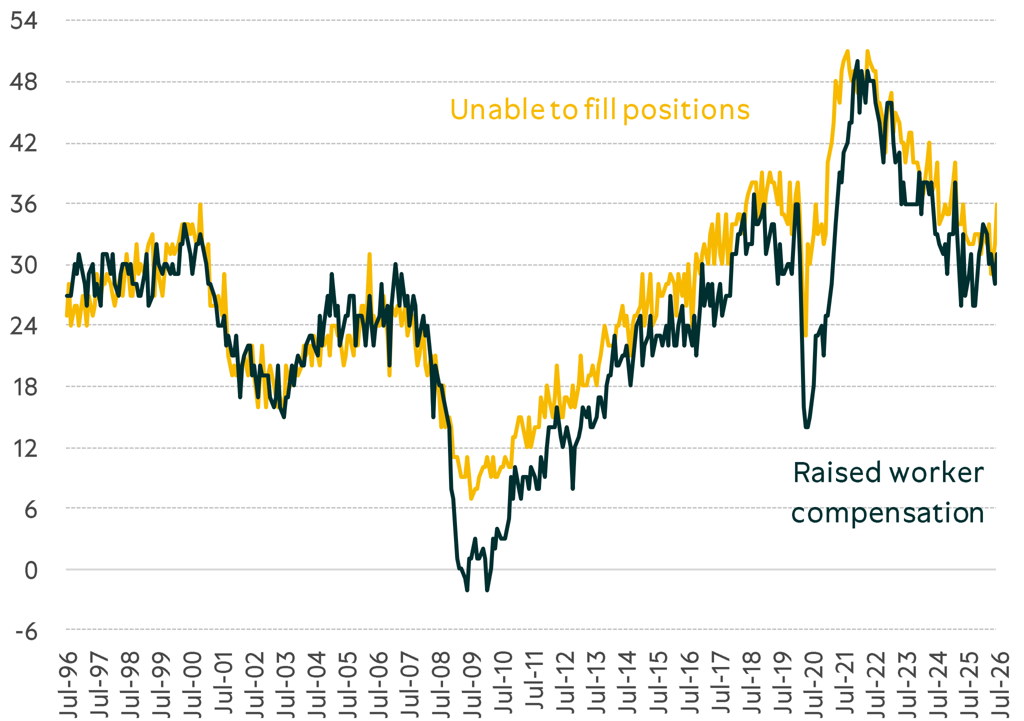


Conference Board Labor market differential & Unemployment rate

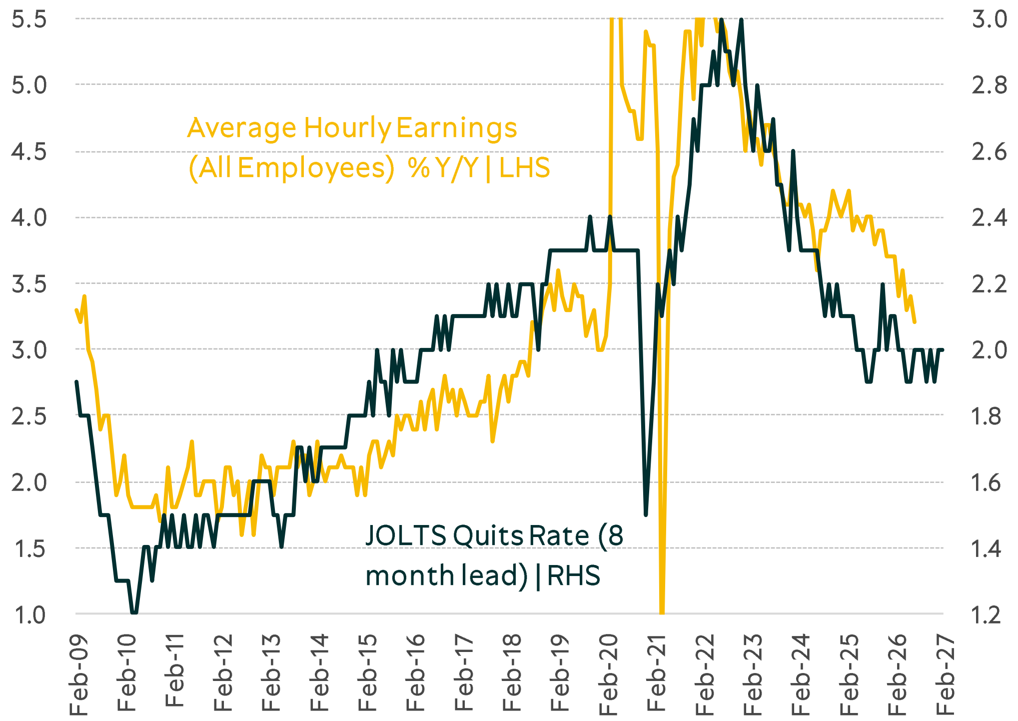


US Labour Market | NFIB's July survey showed a net 31% of firms raising compensation (up from 28%). The JOLTS Quits Rate rose to 2% in June, and Average Hourly Earnings fell to 3.2% in July.

US NFIB small business survey

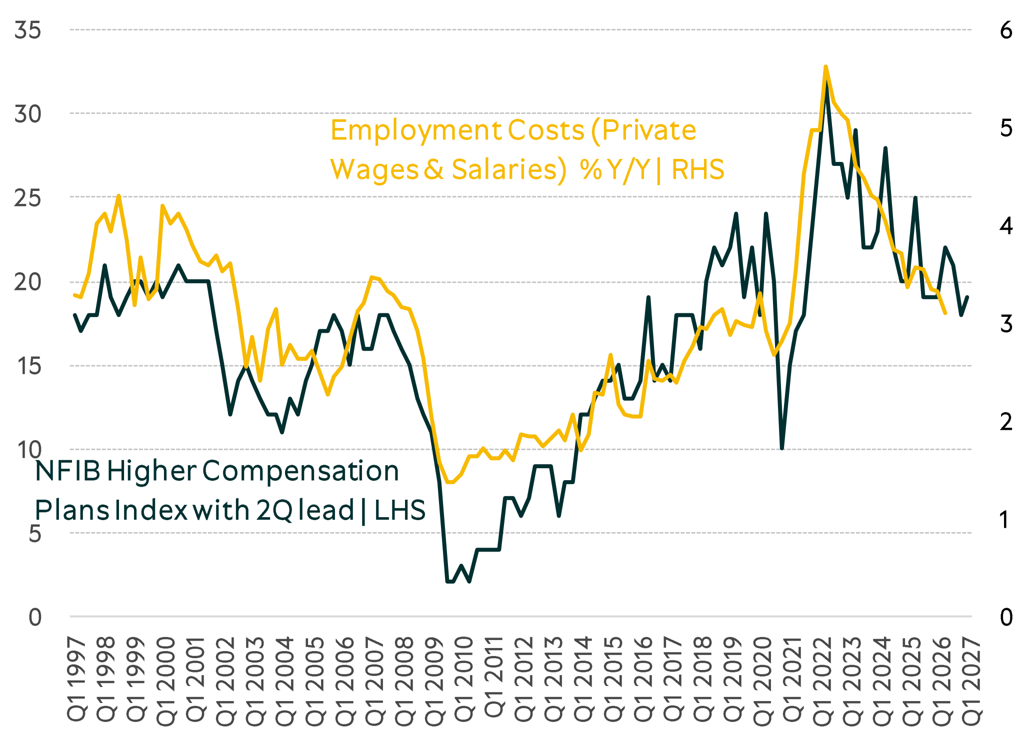


Wages & Quits Rate

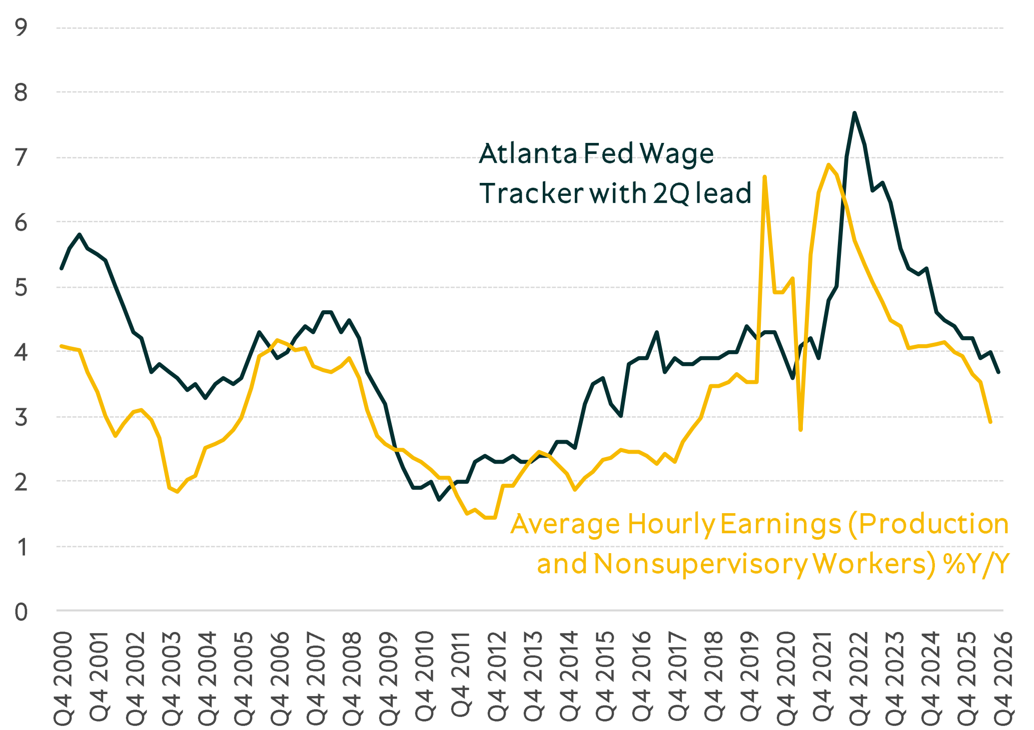


US Wage Tracker | Private employment costs, Average Hourly Earnings and Atlanta's Fed Wage Tracker are trending lower. Compensation plans rose marginally.

Employment Cost & Leading Indicator



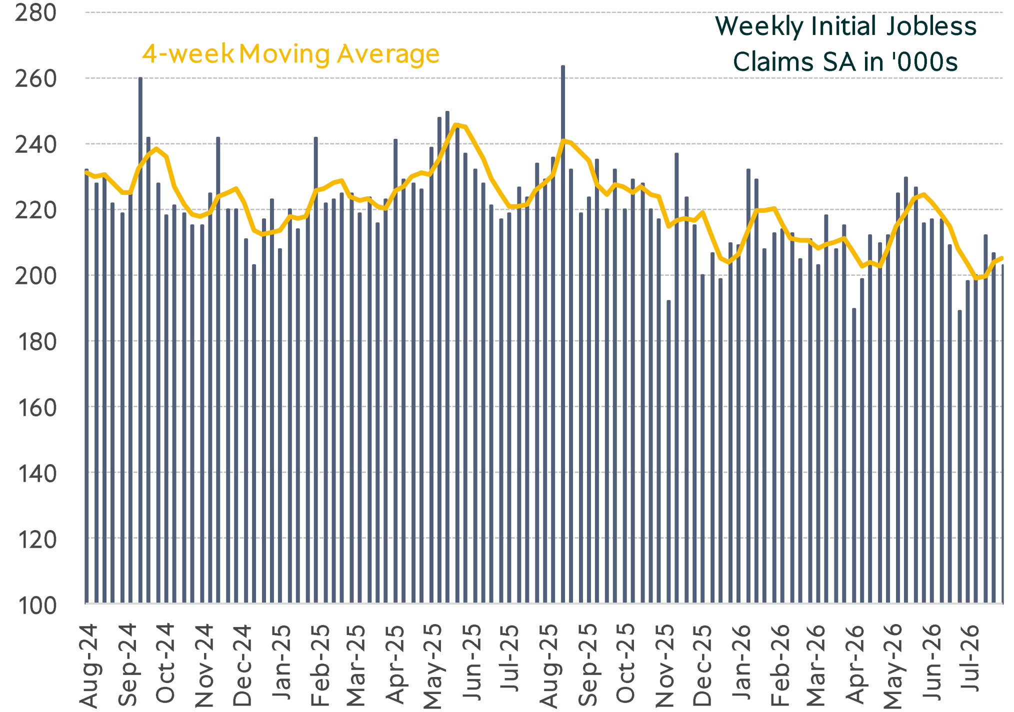
Wages & Leading Indicator



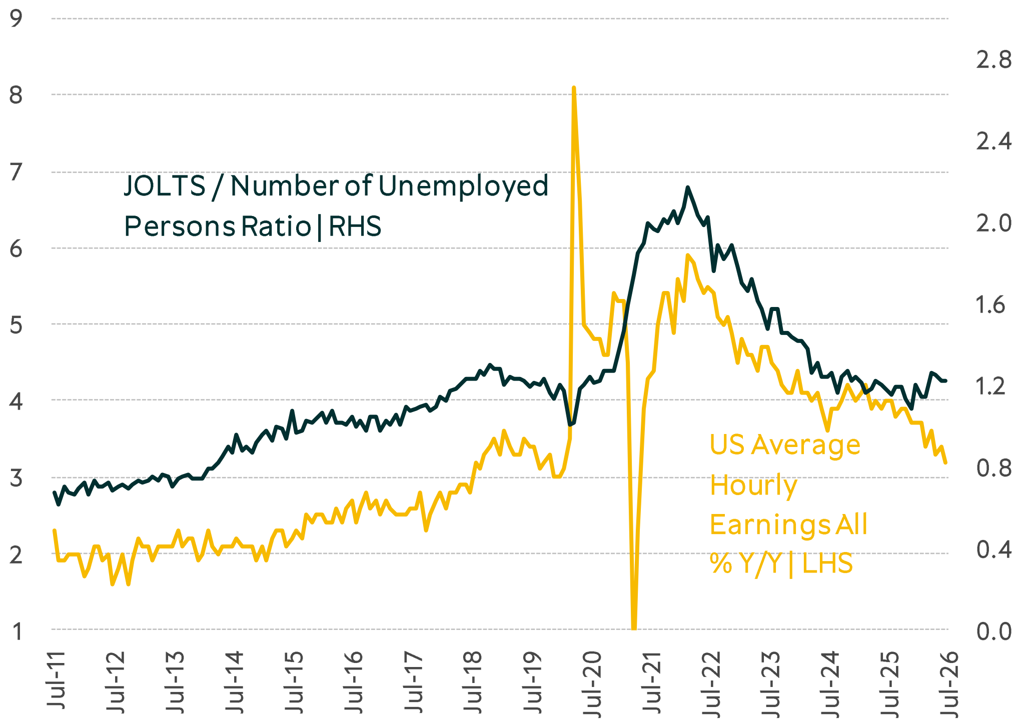
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Labour Market | Weekly Initial Jobless Claims at 203k in late August. With 1.2 job openings per unemployed, labour market tightness is close to pre-pandemic norms.

Weekly Initial Jobless Claims



Demand & Supply in Labour Market

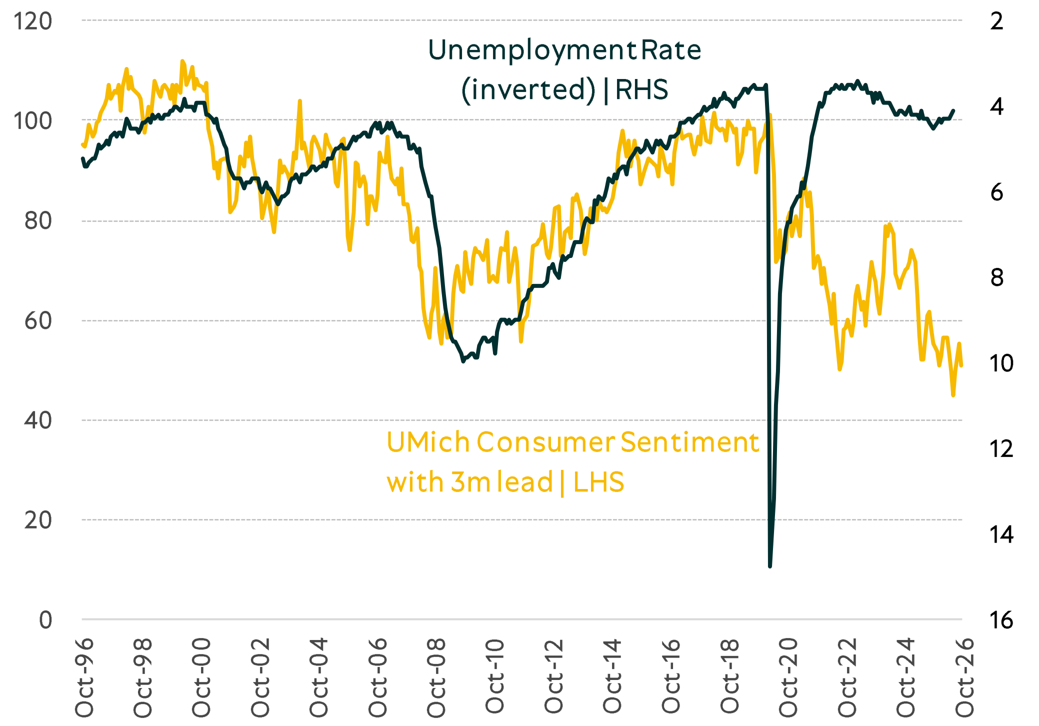


Piraeus

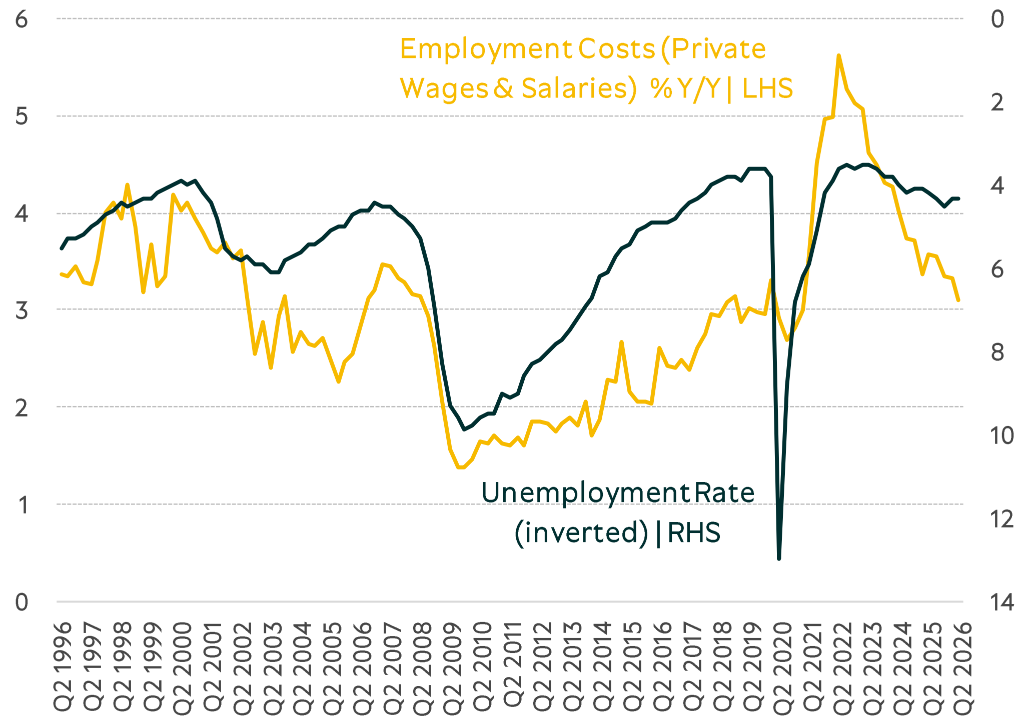
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Labour Market | Consumer sentiment fell in August; Q2 private wages & salaries point to easing wage growth.

Consumer Sentiment & Unemployment Rate



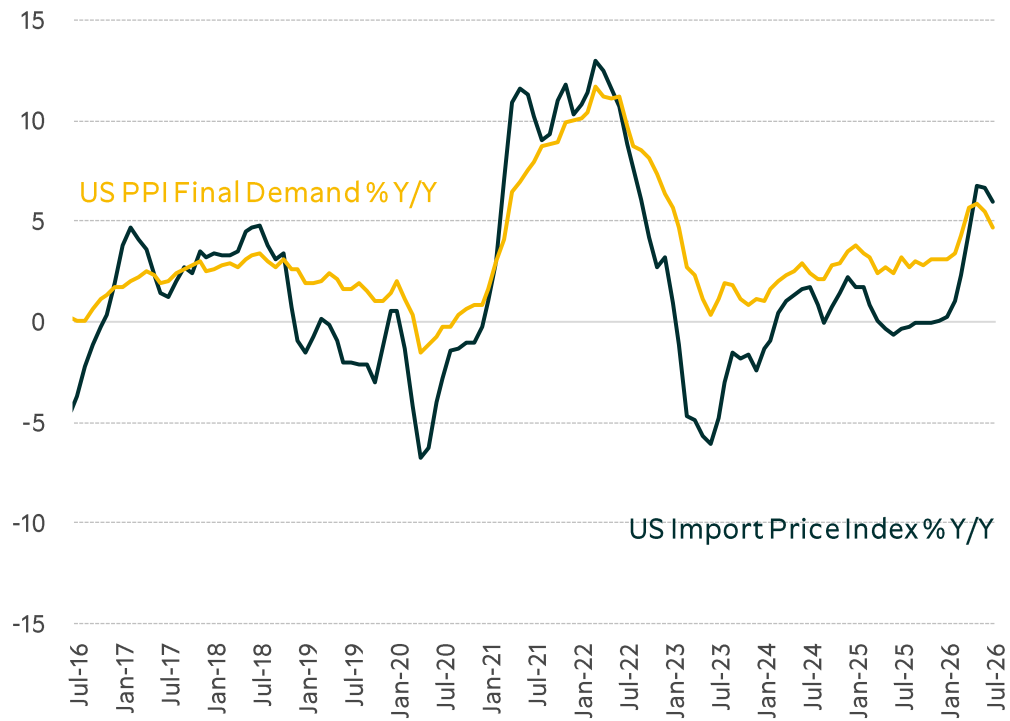
Compensation per Employee & Unemployment Rate



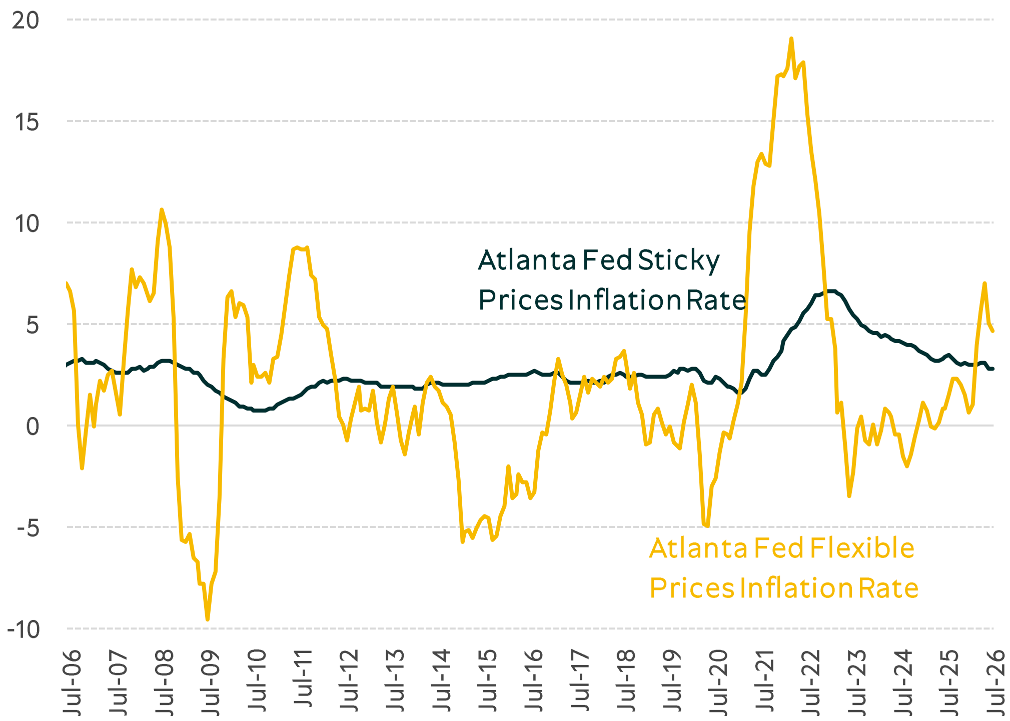
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Alternative Inflation Metrics | Flexible, sticky, producer and import prices all decelerated in July

Producers Price Index and Import prices

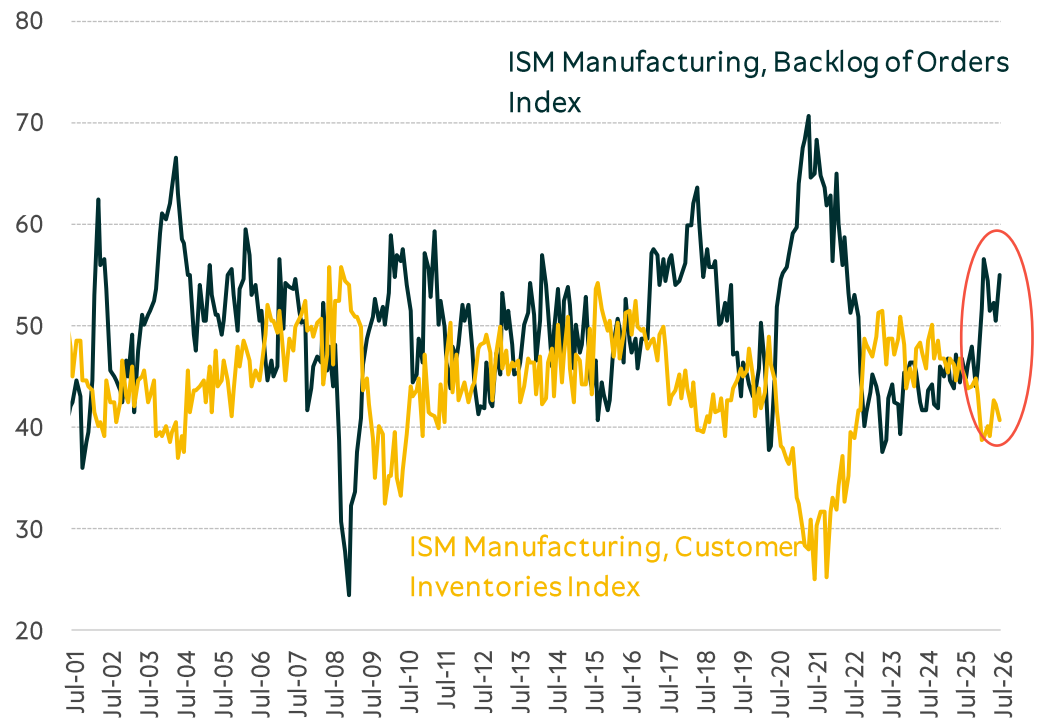


Sticky & Flexible Prices

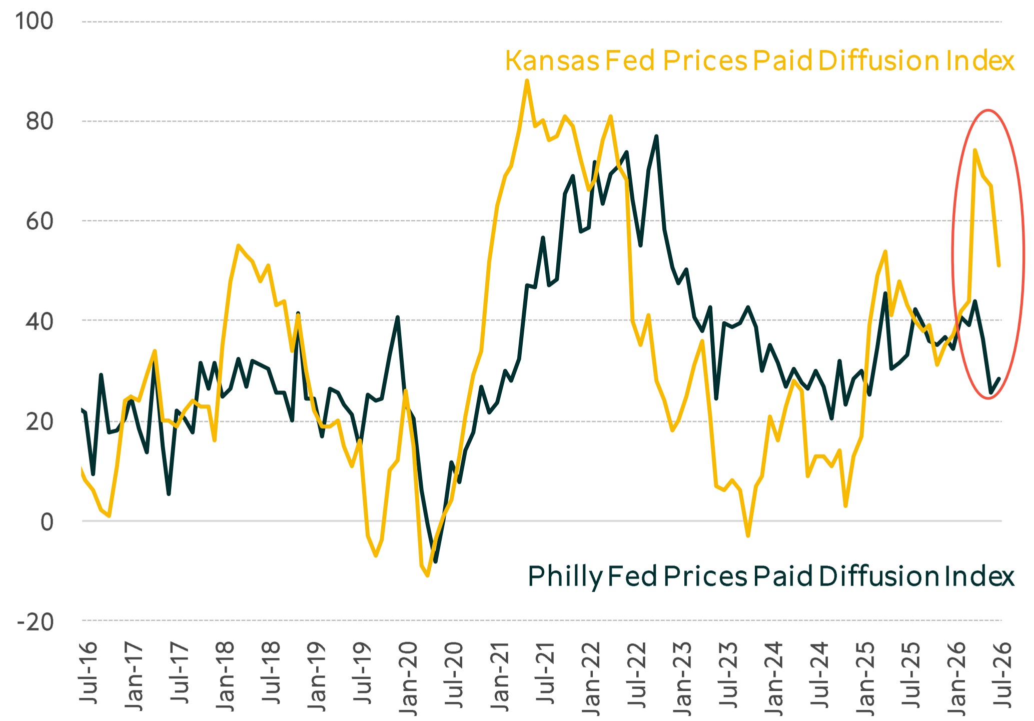


US Supply & Demand Gap | Mixed price pressures across regional Fed surveys and the ISM.

Backlog of Orders & Customer Inventories Relation

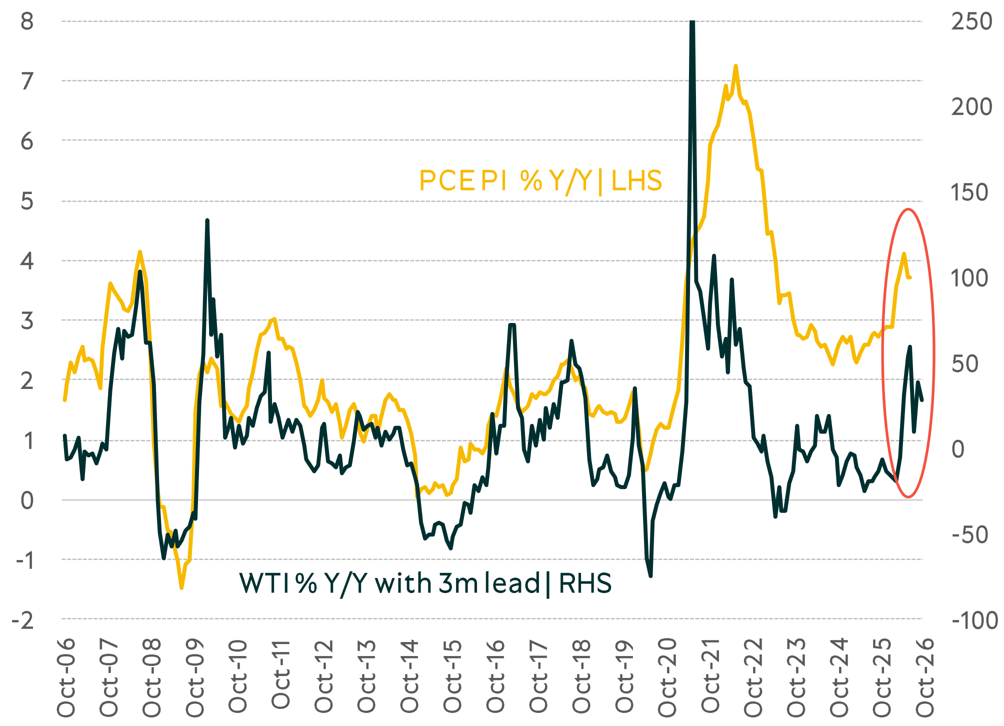


Leading Prices Indicators

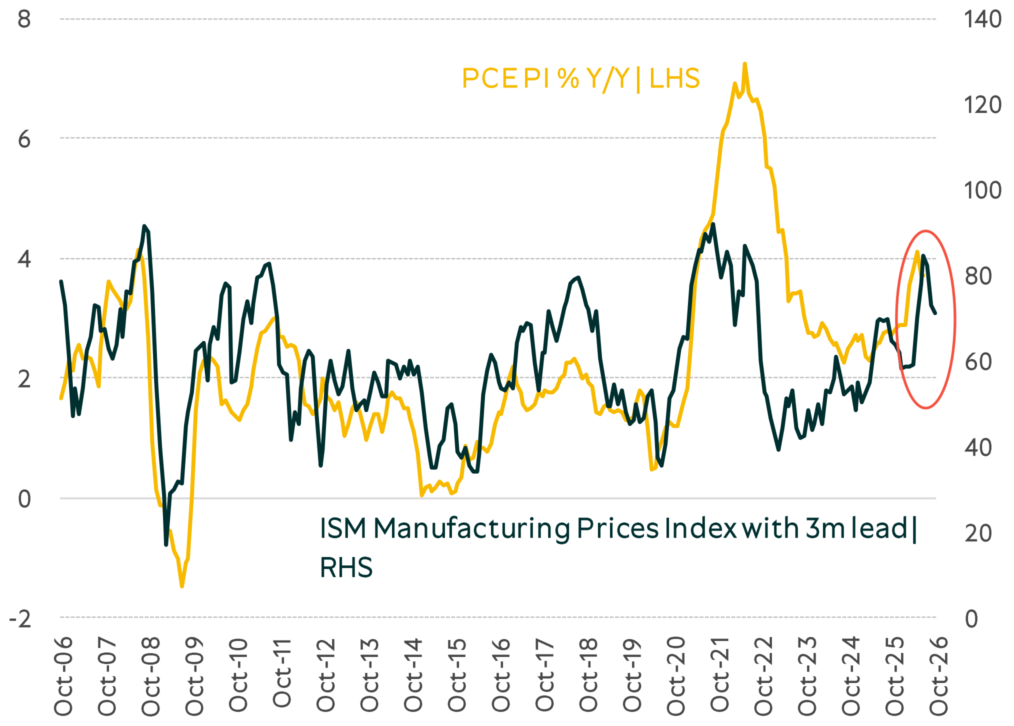


US Inflation & Energy Prices | Energy prices approx. +30% compared to last year. ISM Manufacturing Prices Paid Index dropped in July to 71.1 from 73.

Inflation Rates & Energy Prices



Inflation Rate & Leading Prices Indicator

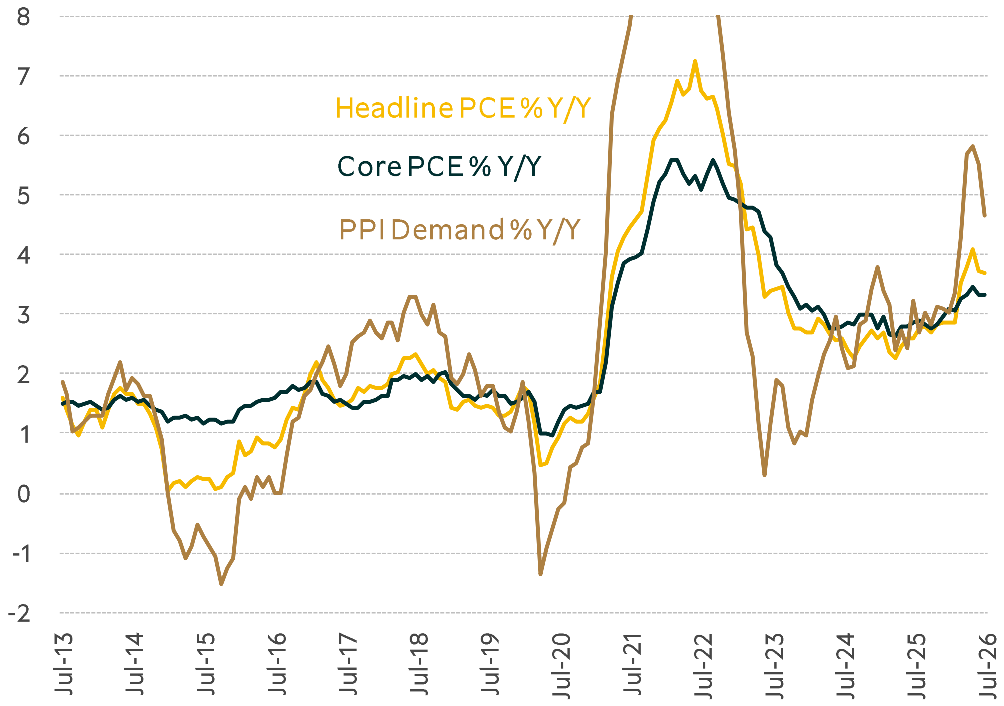


Piraeus

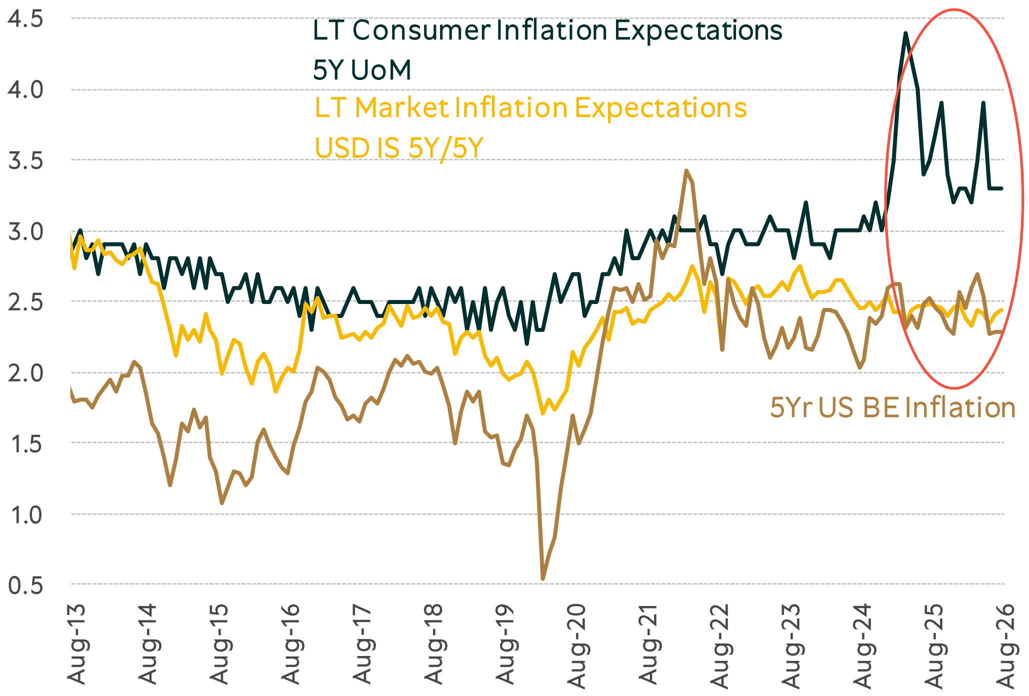
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Headline & Core Inflation | July data signaled falling price pressures for PPI and some stabilisation for PCE, with consumers' long-term inflation expectations still above market pricing (3.3% vs 2.4%).

Inflation Rates



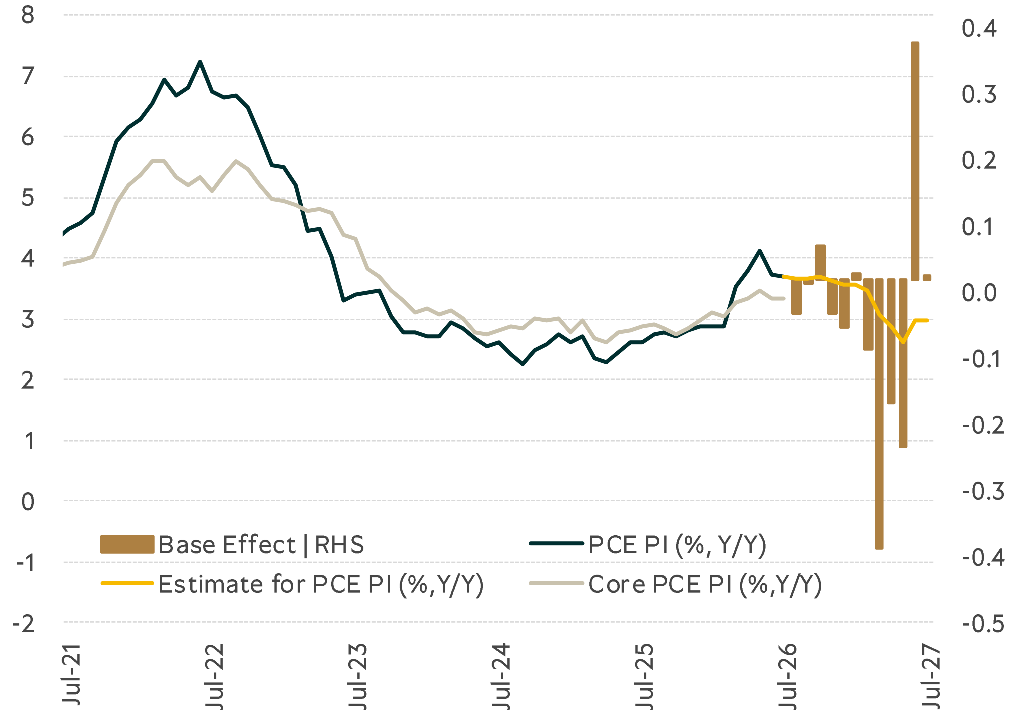
Long-Term Inflation Expectations



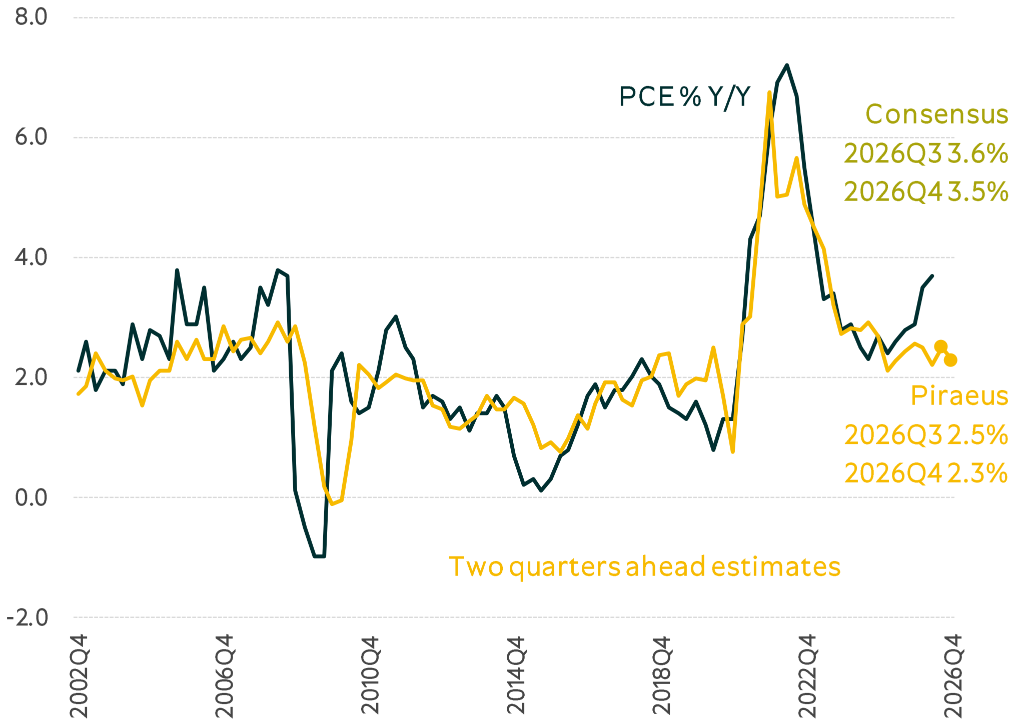
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Inflation Outlook | PCE inflation is set to remain elevated through 2026 per our statistical model, with base effects expected to drive it lower from Feb-27. The macro model has yet to capture the lagged impact of WTI.

Inflation Rate Forecast | Statistical Model

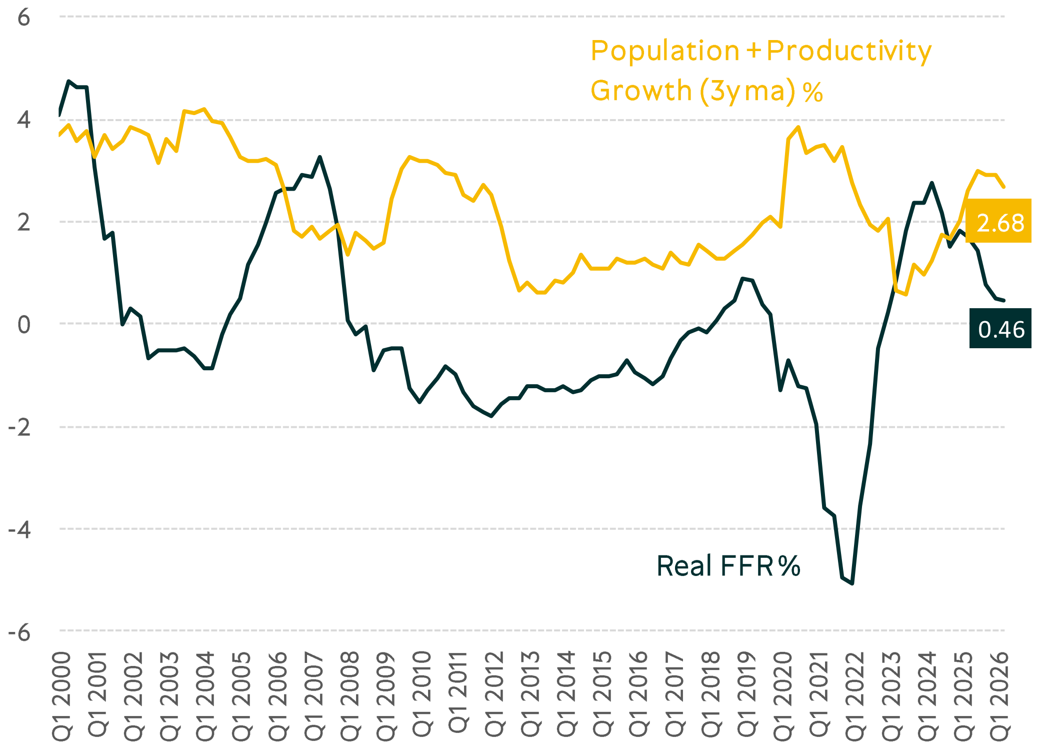


Inflation Rate Forecast | Macro Model

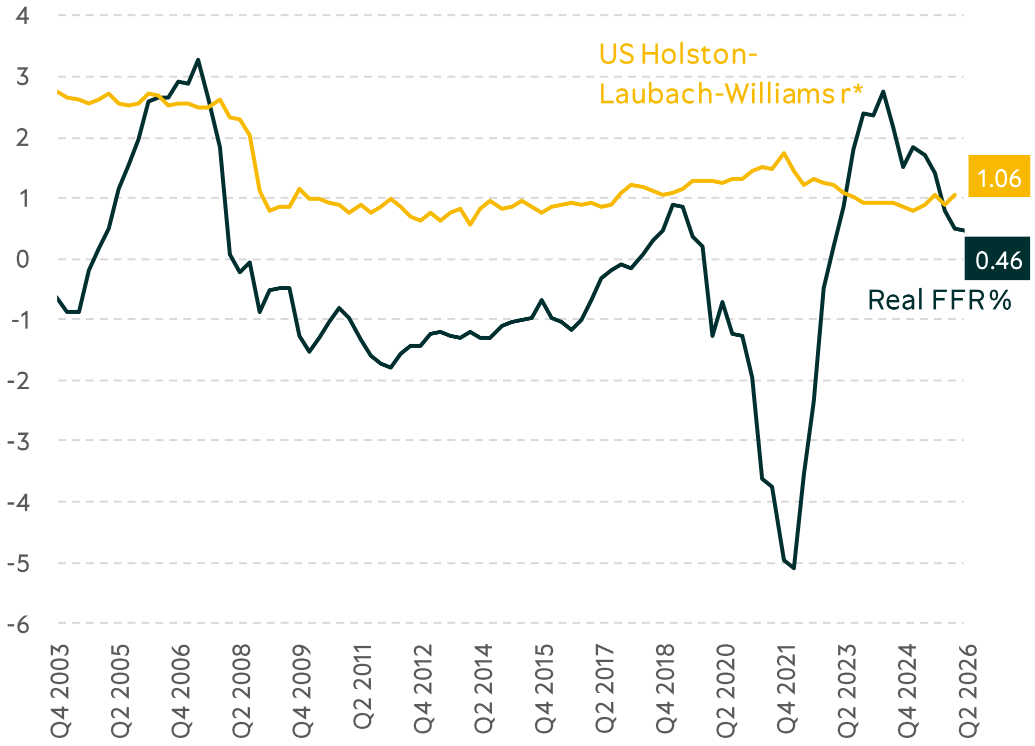


US Interest Rates | US productivity growth moderated from the exceptionally strong gains recorded in 2024-25 but rebounded modestly in Q2 2026; ex-post real policy rate is below the HLW estimate of neutral rate (r*).

Population + Productivity growth (3y ma) &
US Real Fed Fund Rate

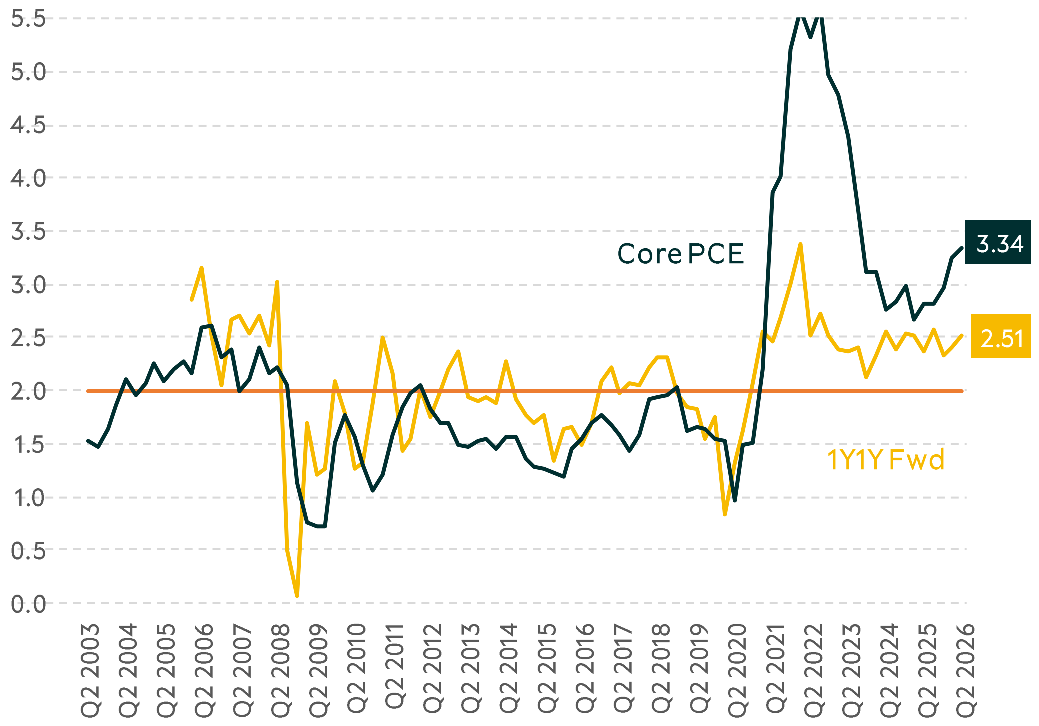


US Holson Laubach Williams r* &
US Real Policy Rate (Fed Fund Rate - Core PCE)

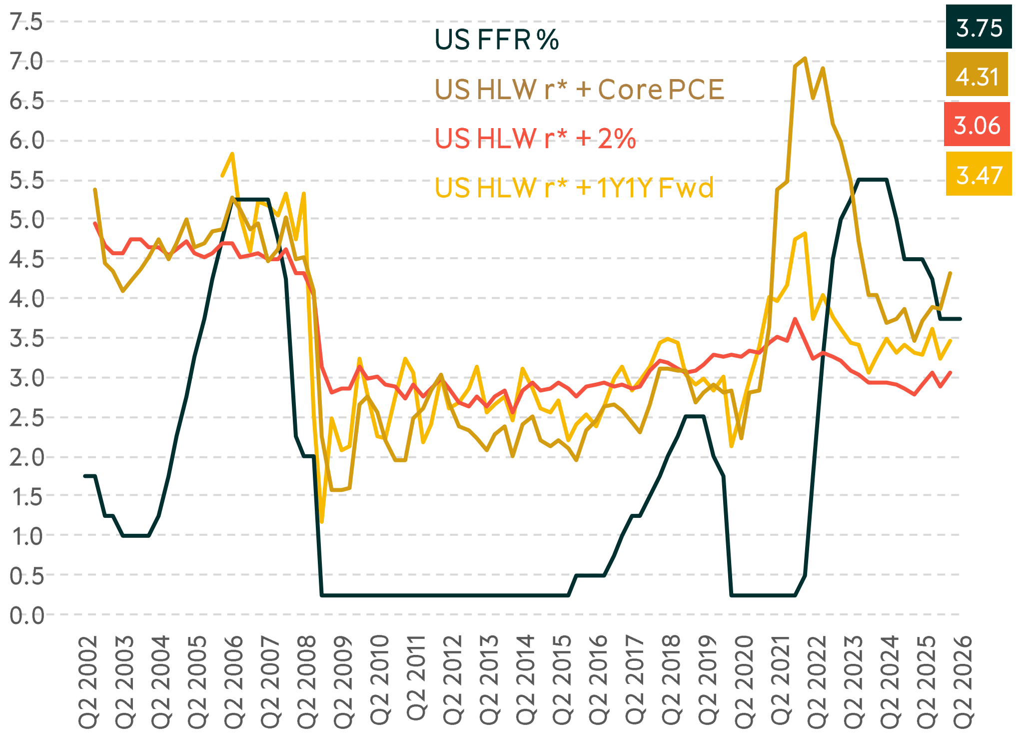


US Interest Rates | US Inflation expectation pick-up at the beginning of 2026; Fed Fund Rate & Adjusted HLW R*

US Inflation & Inflation Expectations one year ahead

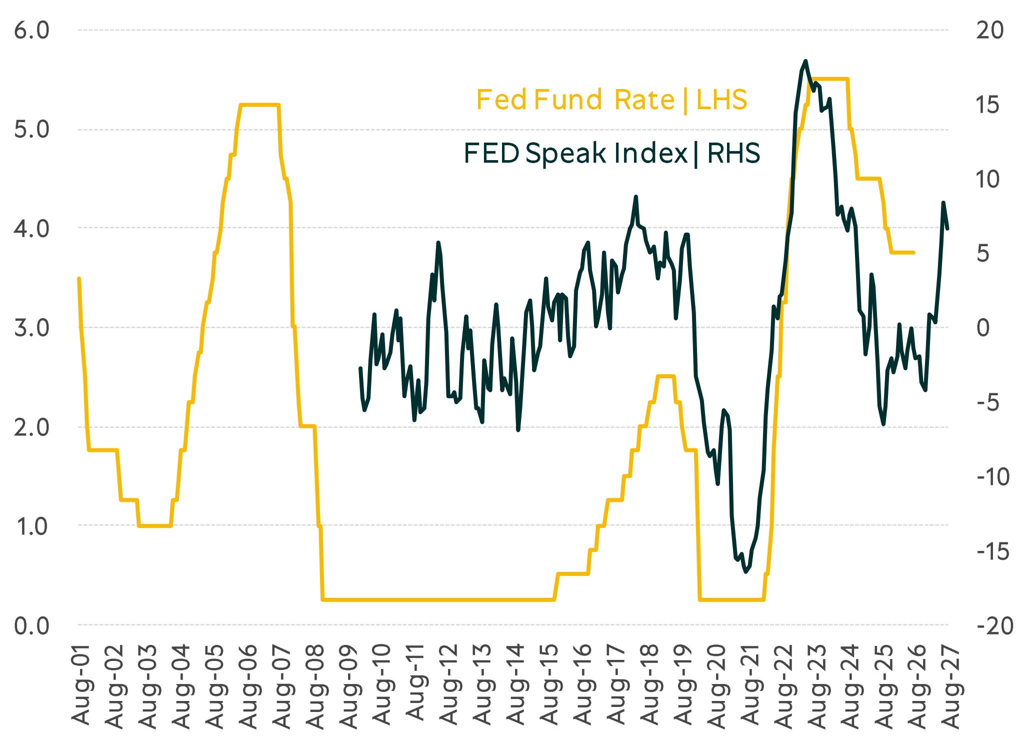


US FFR Rate & Nominal HLW R*

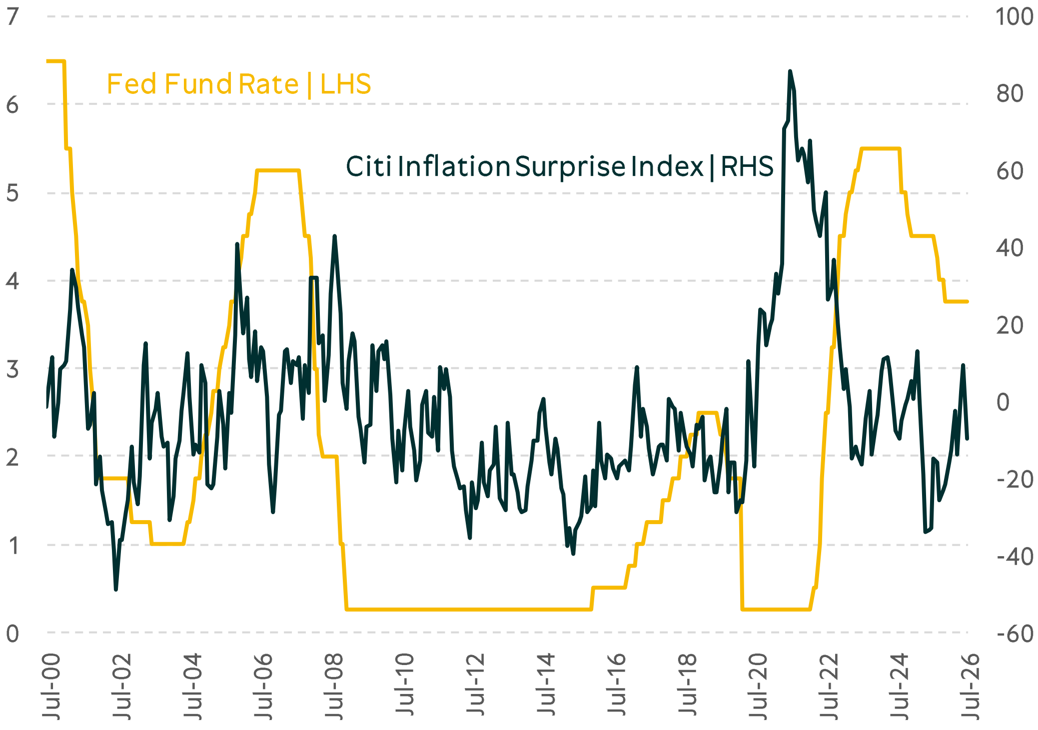


US Interest Rates | Fed Speak Index remains elevated; negative price surprises relative to market expectations.

Fed Speak Index & Fed Fund Rate



Inflation Surprises & Fed Fund Rate



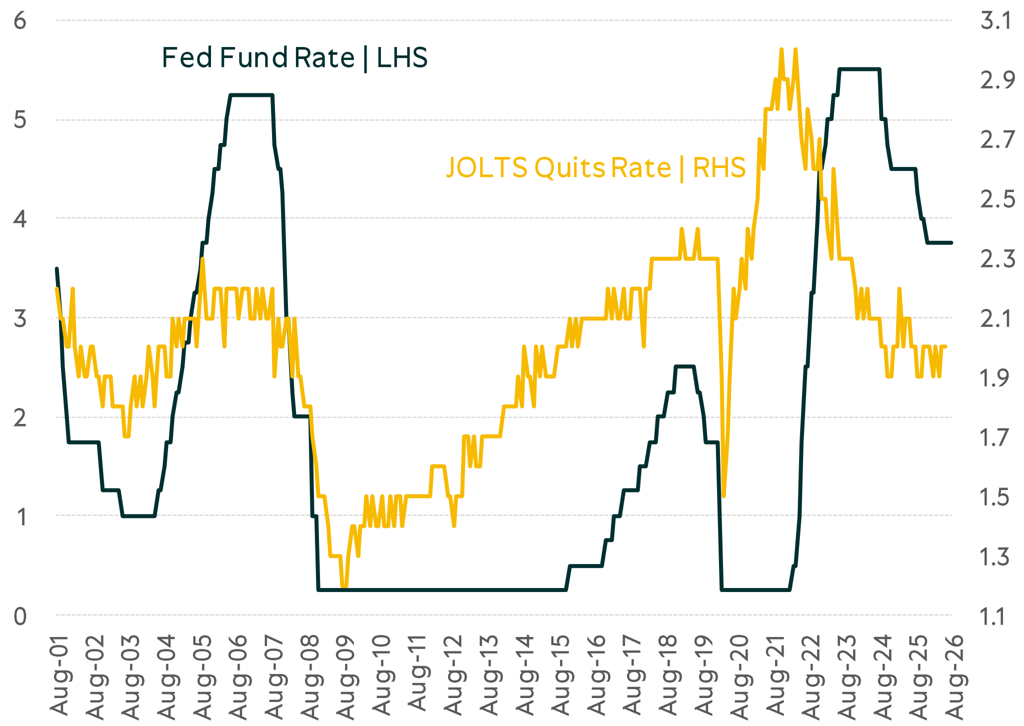
Positive index → Indicates a hawkish tone, meaning the central bank is leaning toward tightening monetary policy (raising interest rates, reducing liquidity).
Negative index → Indicates a dovish tone, meaning the central bank is inclined toward easing monetary policy (lowering rates, adding liquidity).

Positive index → Indicates that inflation has been higher than expected

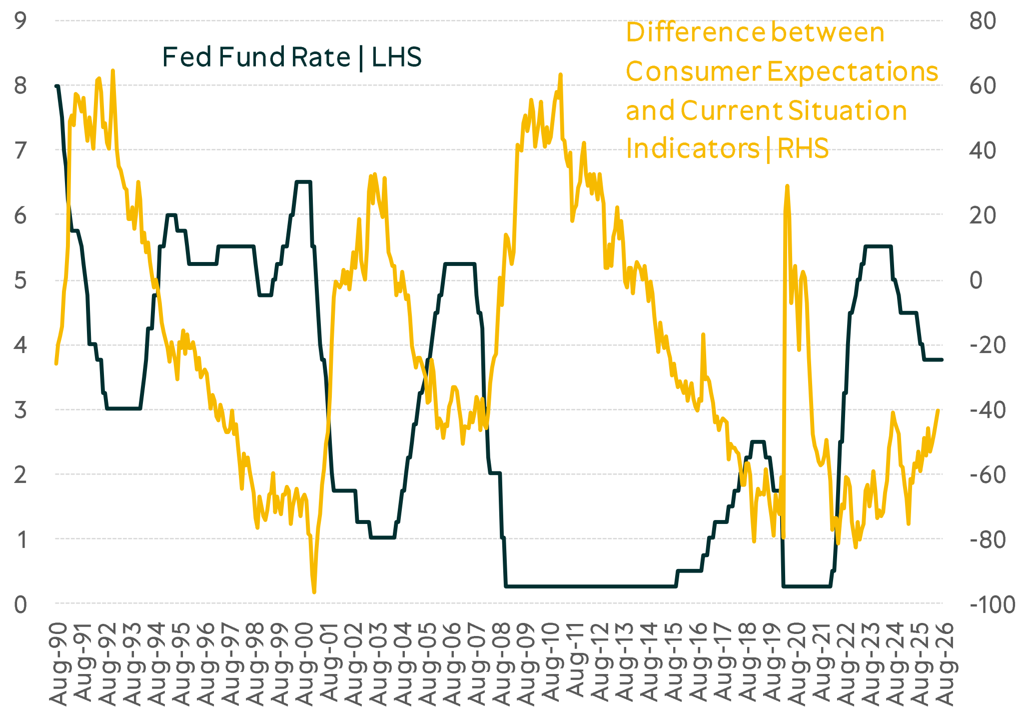
Negative index → Indicates that inflation has been lower than expected

US Interest Rates | JOLTS Quits Rate & Consumer Expectations point to lower Fed Fund Rate.

Fed Fund Rate & Quits Rate



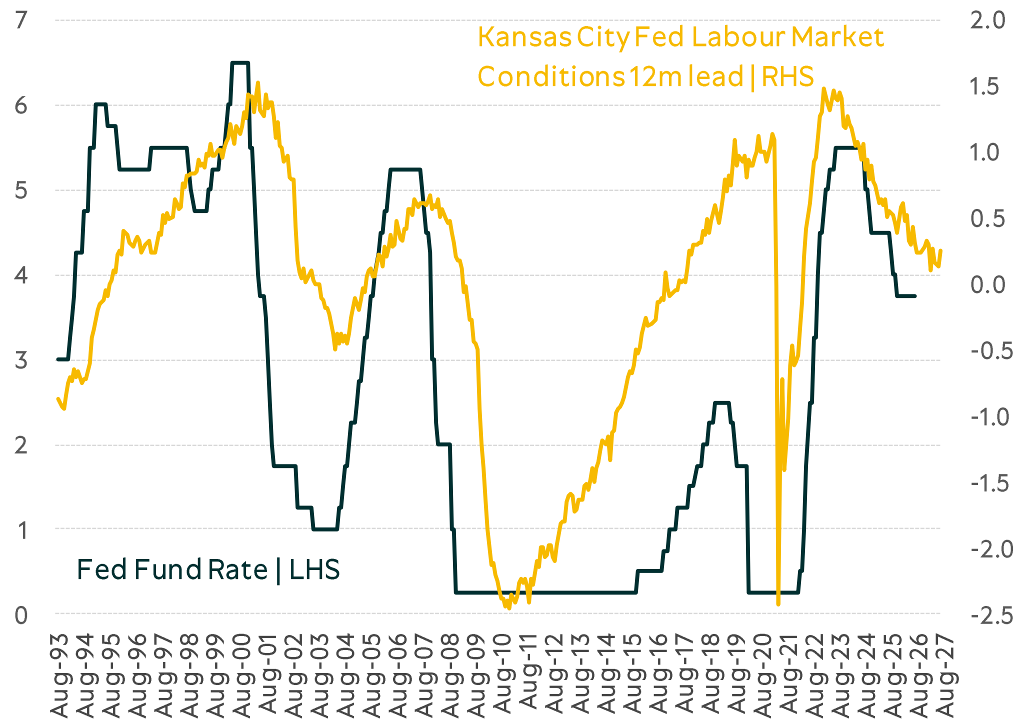
Fed Fund Rate & Difference between Consumer Expectations and Current Situation Indicators (Conference Board)



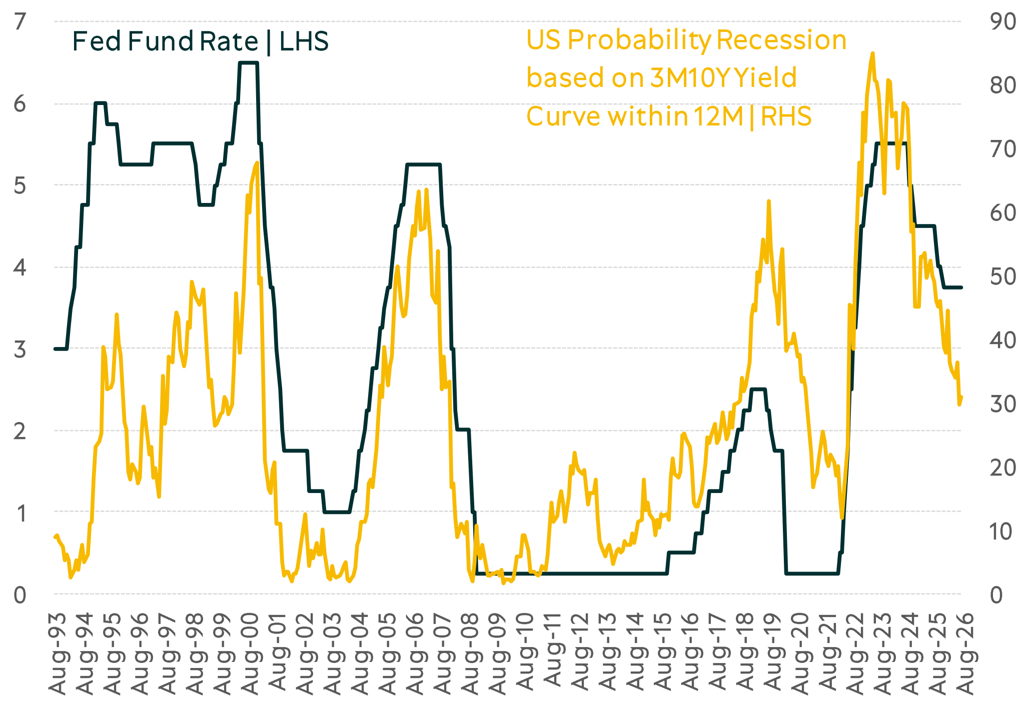
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Interest Rates | The Kansas Fed Labour Market Conditions Indicator increased in July and remains above its historical average. US Recession model-implied probability has remained near 30%.

Fed Fund Rate & Kansas City Fed Labour Market Conditions



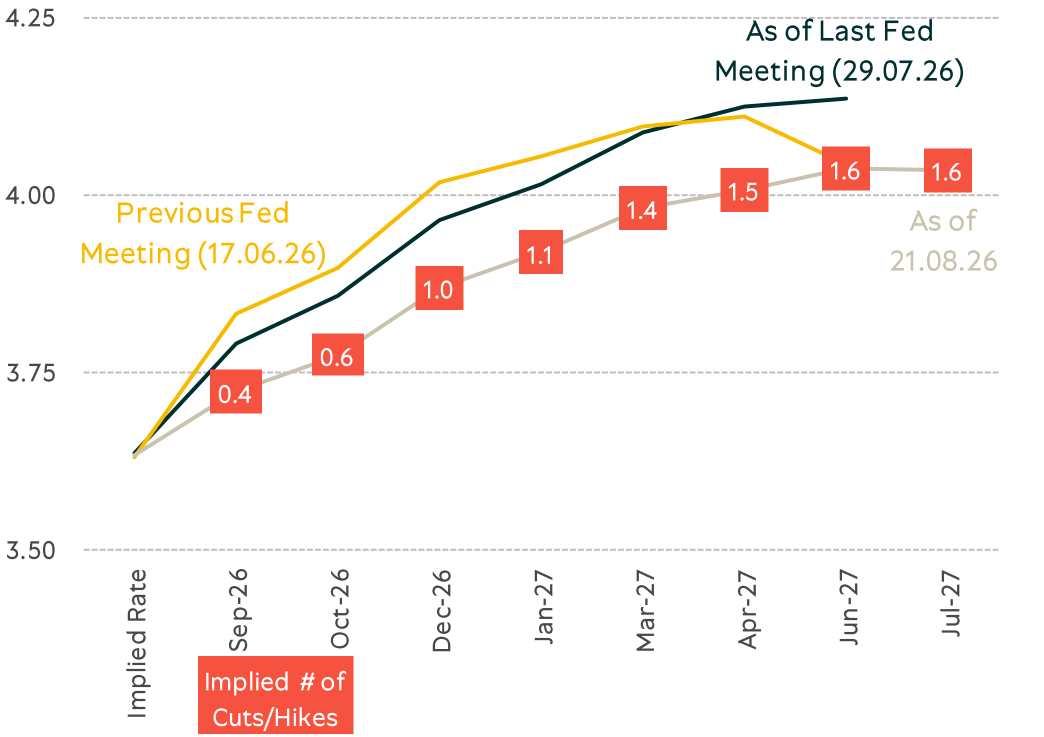
Fed Fund Rate & Probability Recession based on Yield Curve 3M10Y within 12M



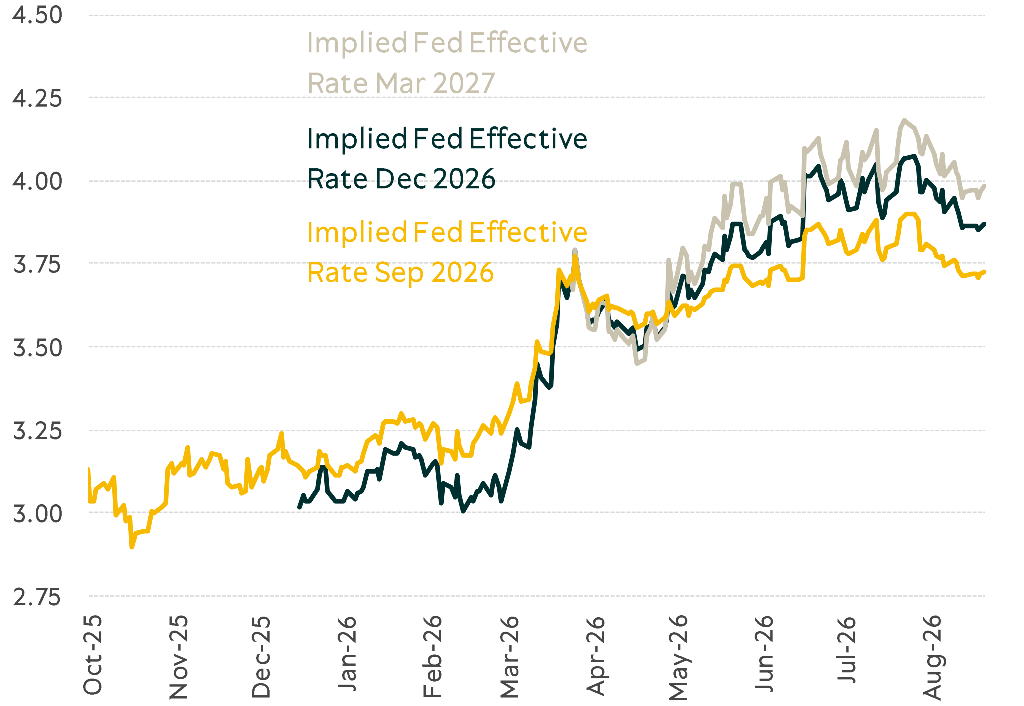
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Interest Rates | Markets price one hike in 2026.

Implied Overnight Rate based on Overnight Index Swaps



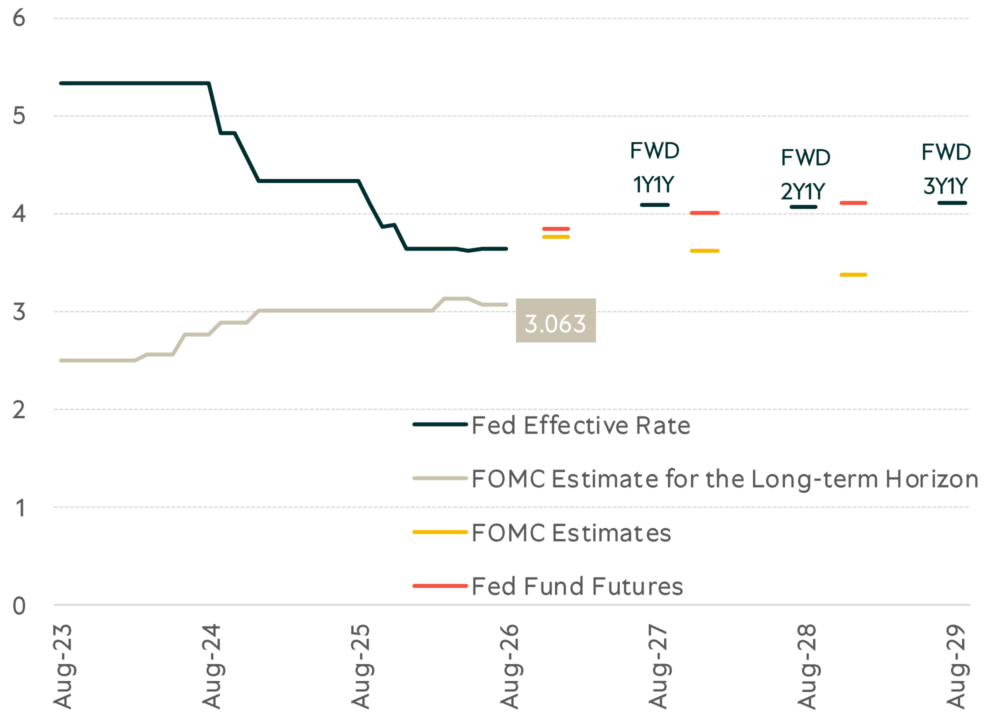
Interest Rates | Implied Fed Effective Rate



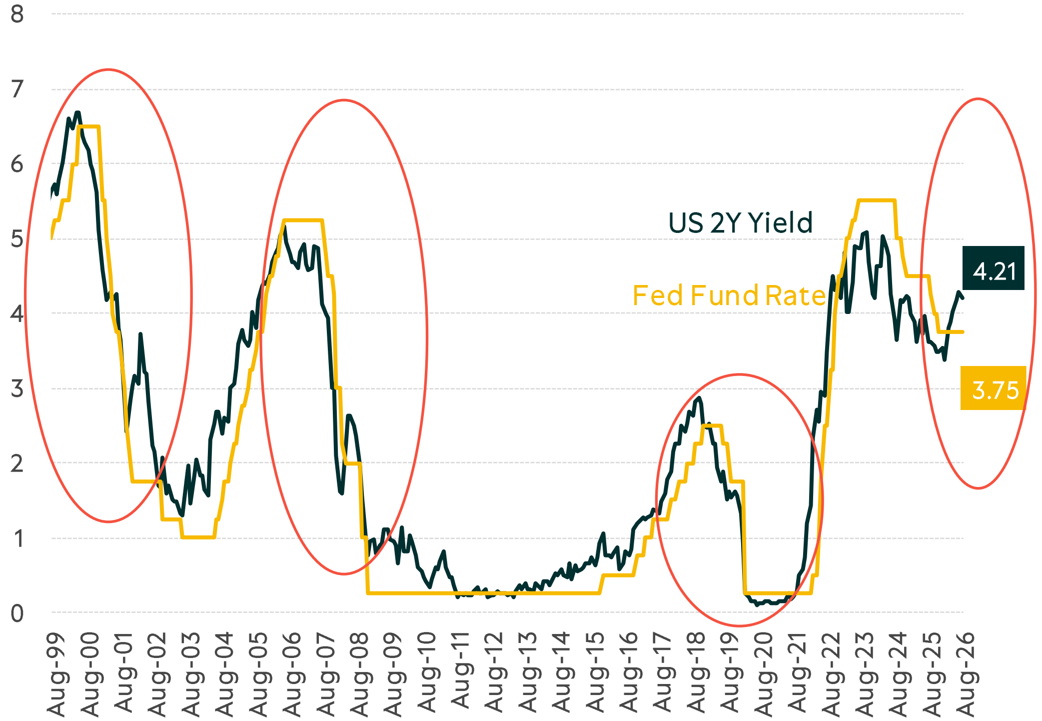
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

US Interest Rates | Forward rates remain above the FOMC's long-term target.

Interest Rates | Fed Effective Rate



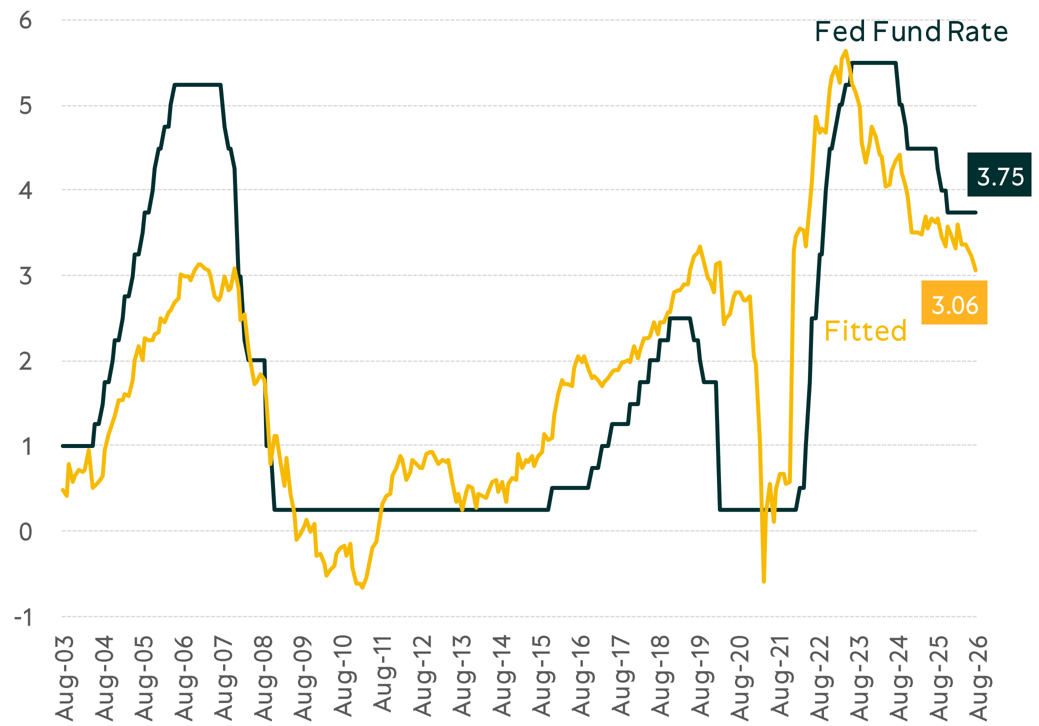
Fed Fund Rate & US Treasury Yield



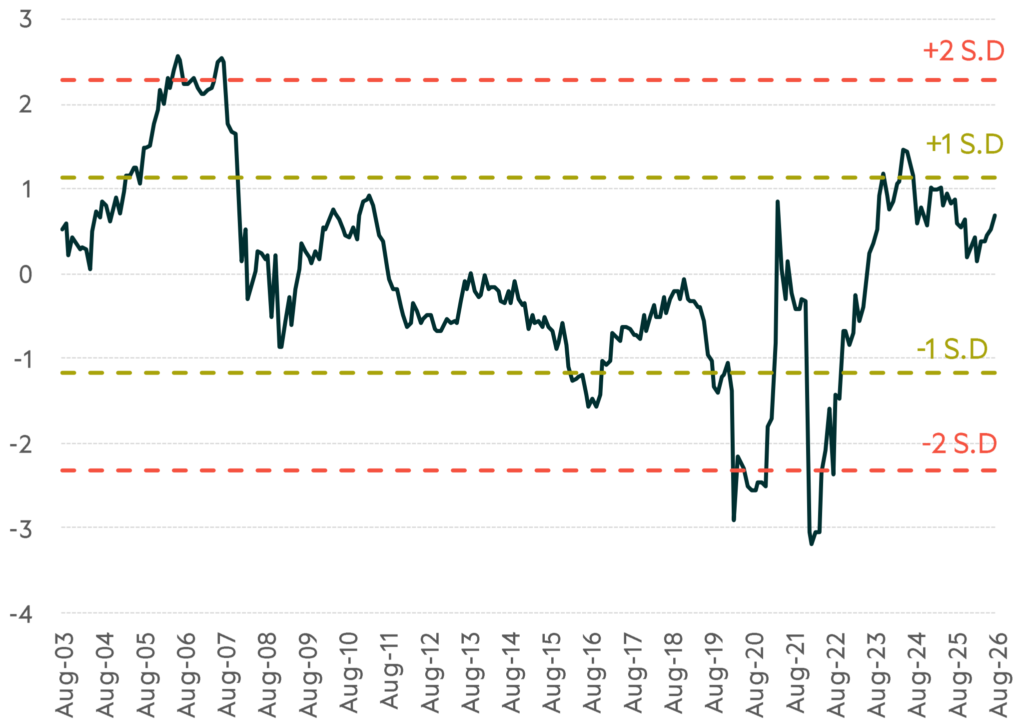
Note: Monthly data apart from the last observation which shows the latest available daily value

US Interest Rates | Taylor Rule Proxy Model & Fed Funds Rate

Fitted vs Actual



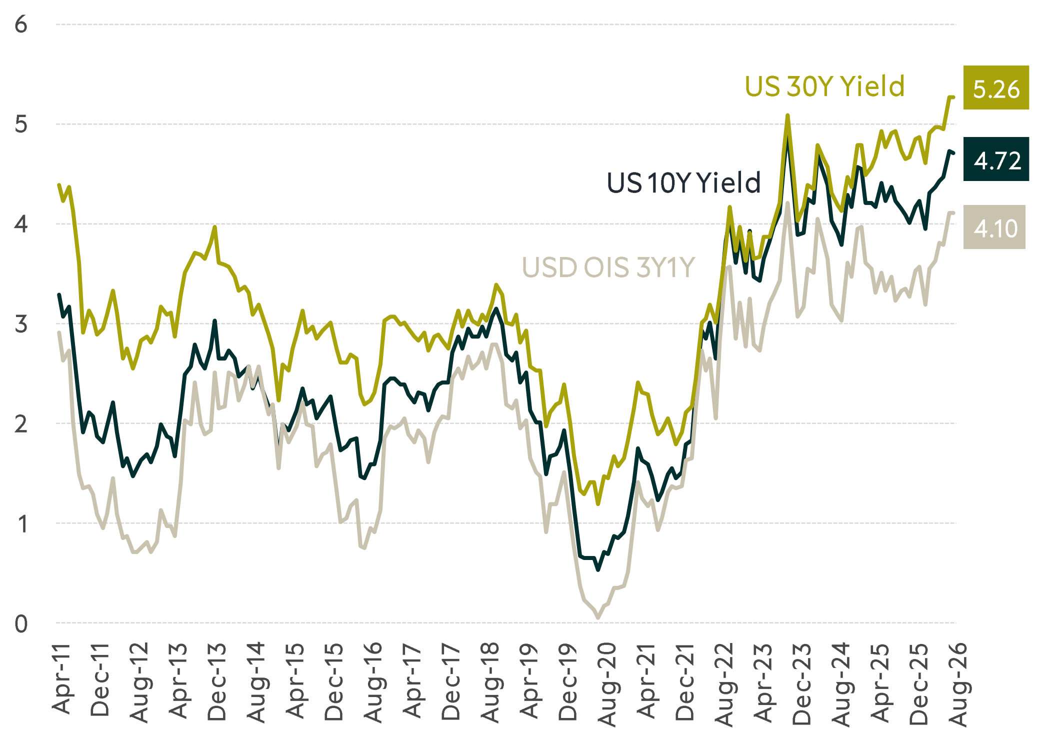
Residuals



Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

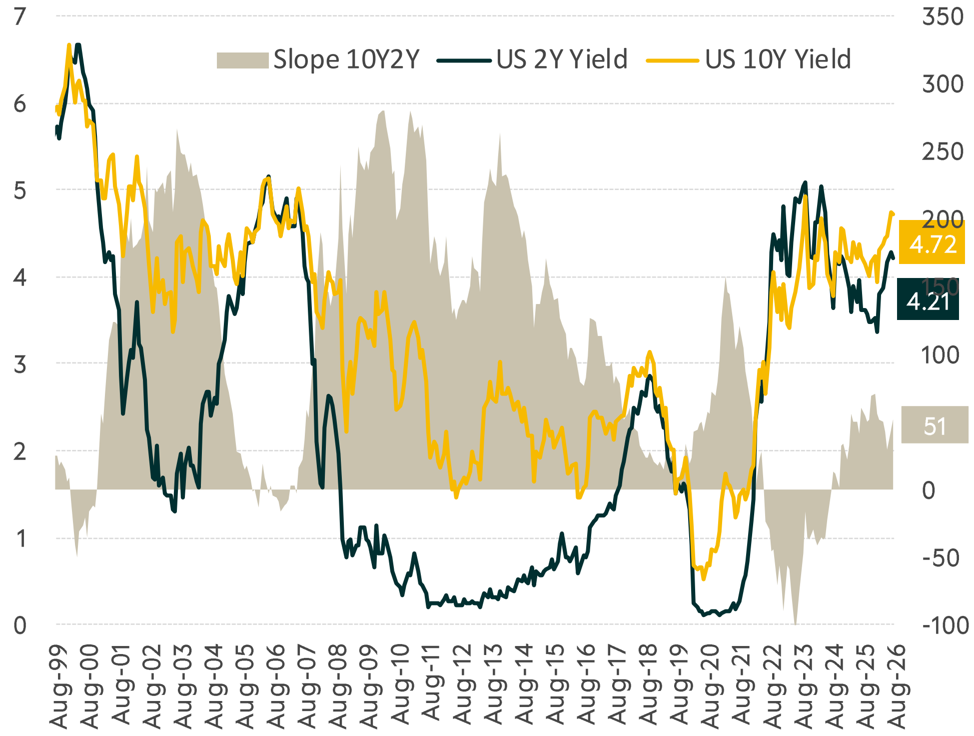
US | The Fed resumed cutting rates in 2025 by reducing its benchmark rates by 25 bps in September, October and December. Kept them on hold in 2026 so far.

US 10-Year, US 30-Year Yield & USD OIS 3Y1Y



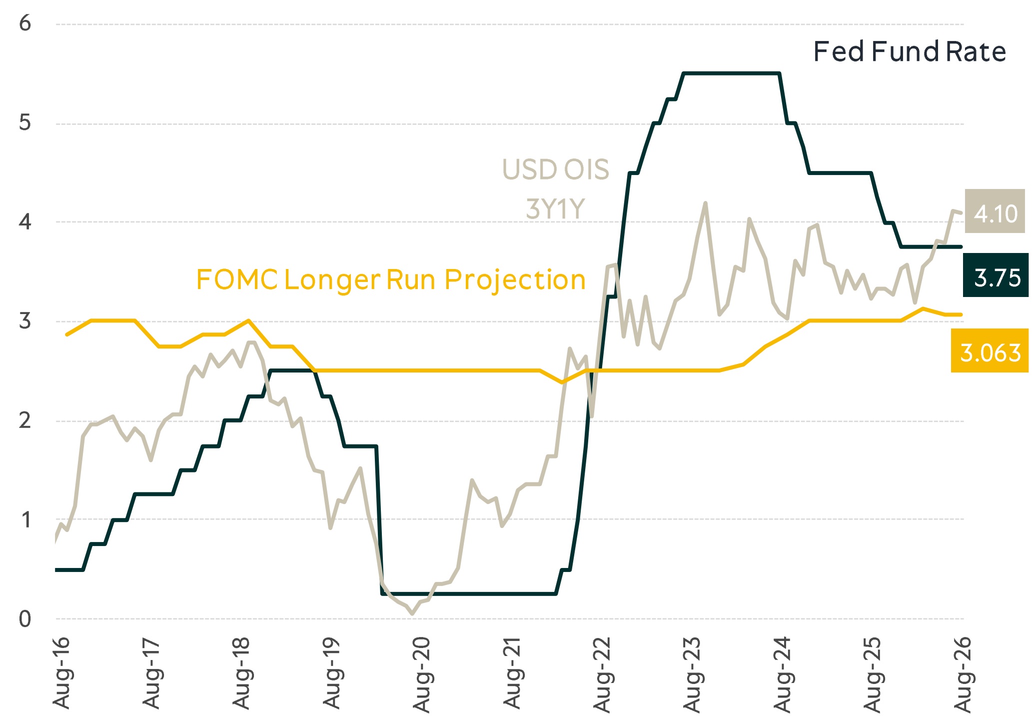
Note: Monthly data apart from the last observation which shows the latest available daily value

US Yield Curve



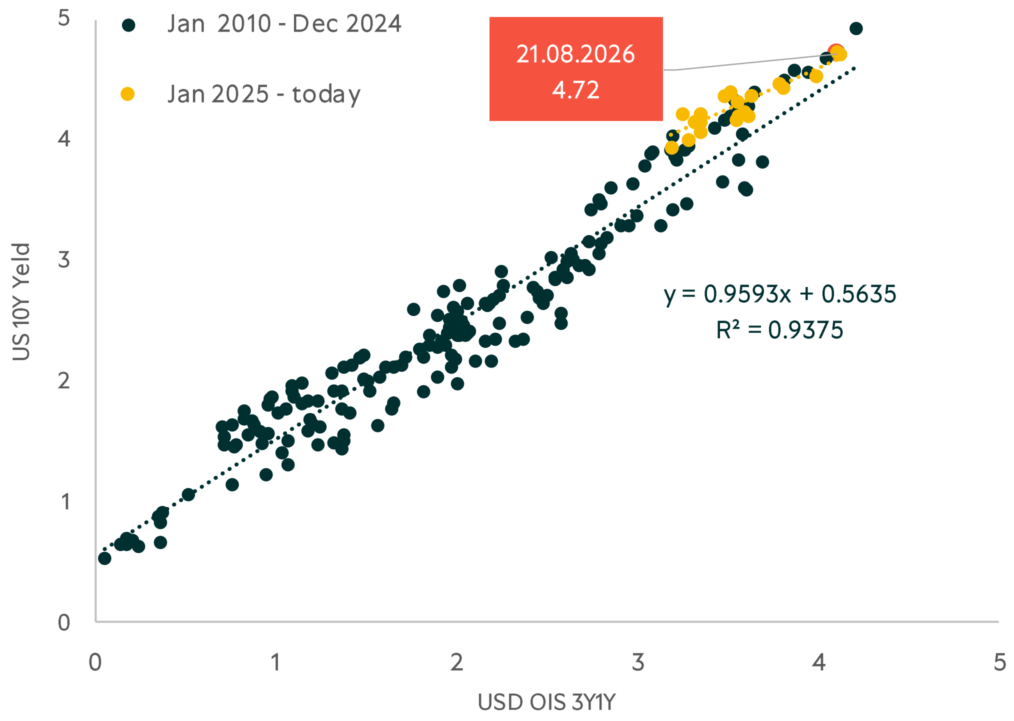
US Long-Term Rates | Short-term rates 4 years in the future above target (3.063%). 10- year rates above “fair” value given the current level of short-term rates (long history).

LT Interest Rate Expectations



Note: Monthly data apart from the last observation which shows the latest available daily value

US Yield vs Medium-Term Interest Rate Expectations



Bird’s Eye View

US Economy

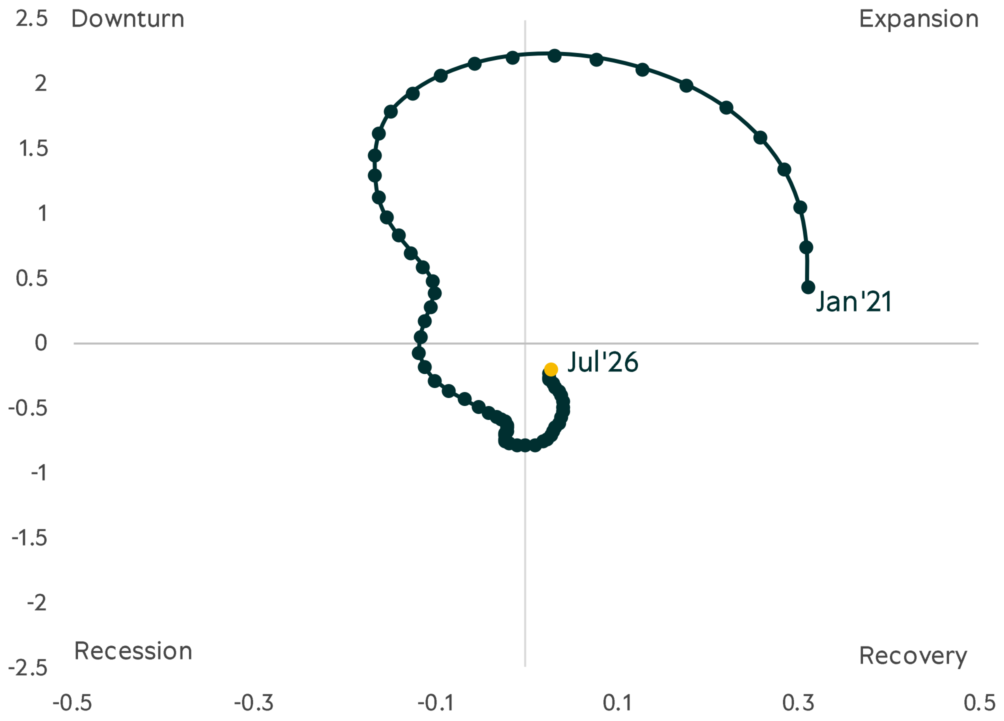
EA Economy

China Economy

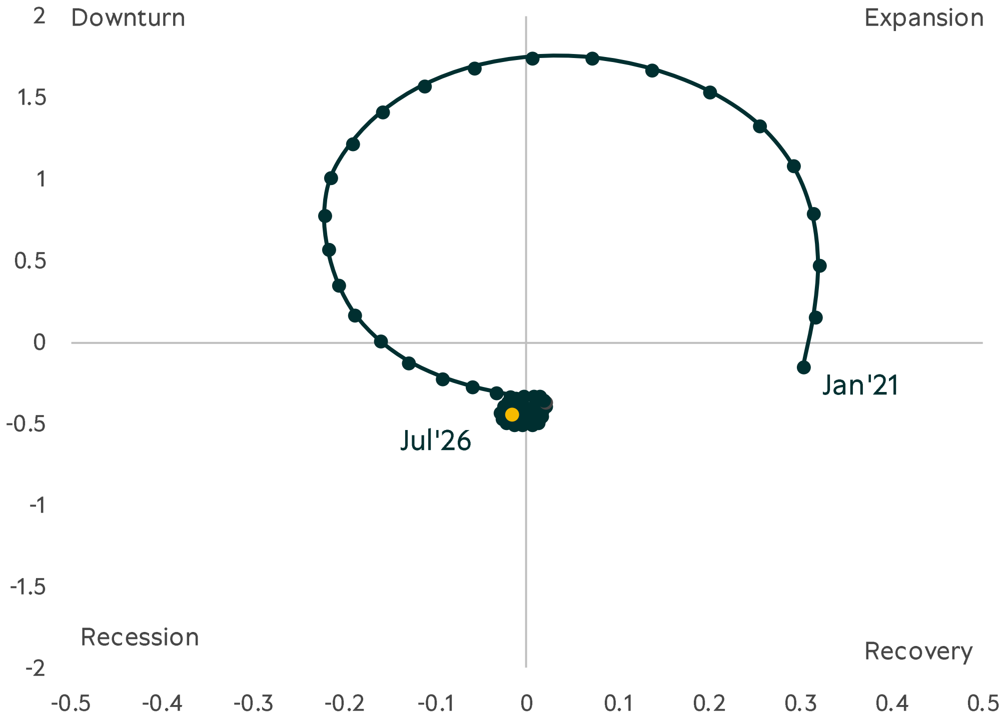
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Business Cycle Watch | In July, economic sentiment stayed in recession territory but moved closer to the axis, while manufacturing confidence remained in recovery.

EA Business Cycle | Based on Manufacturing Confidence Indicator

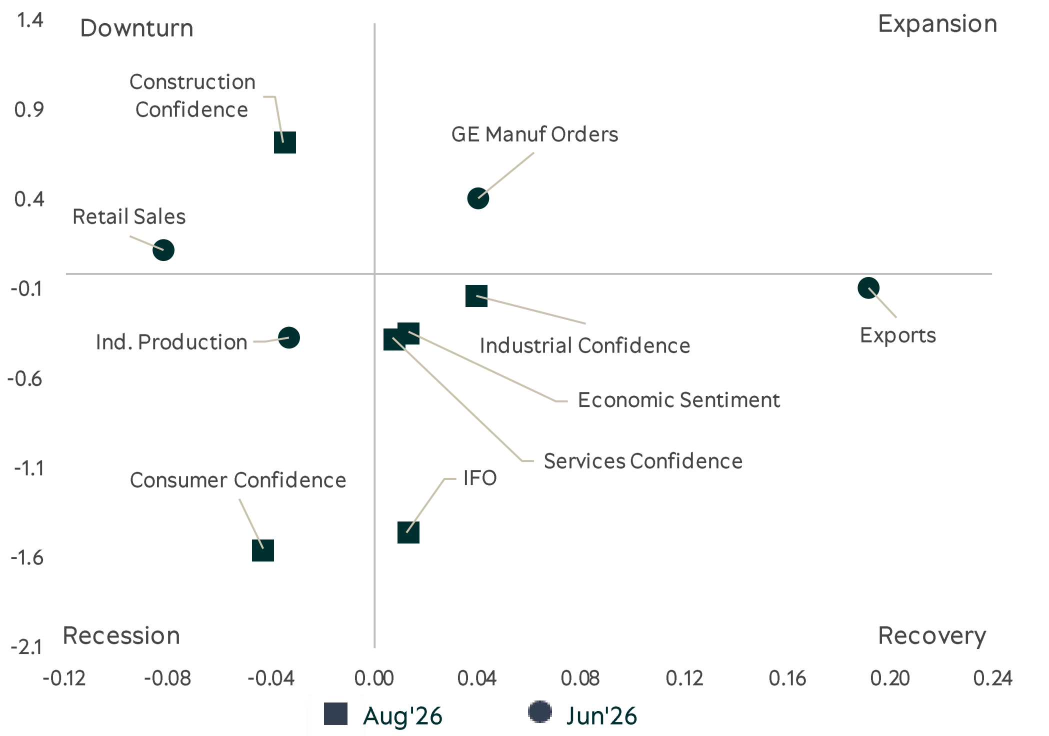


EA Business Cycle | Based on Economic Sentiment Indicator

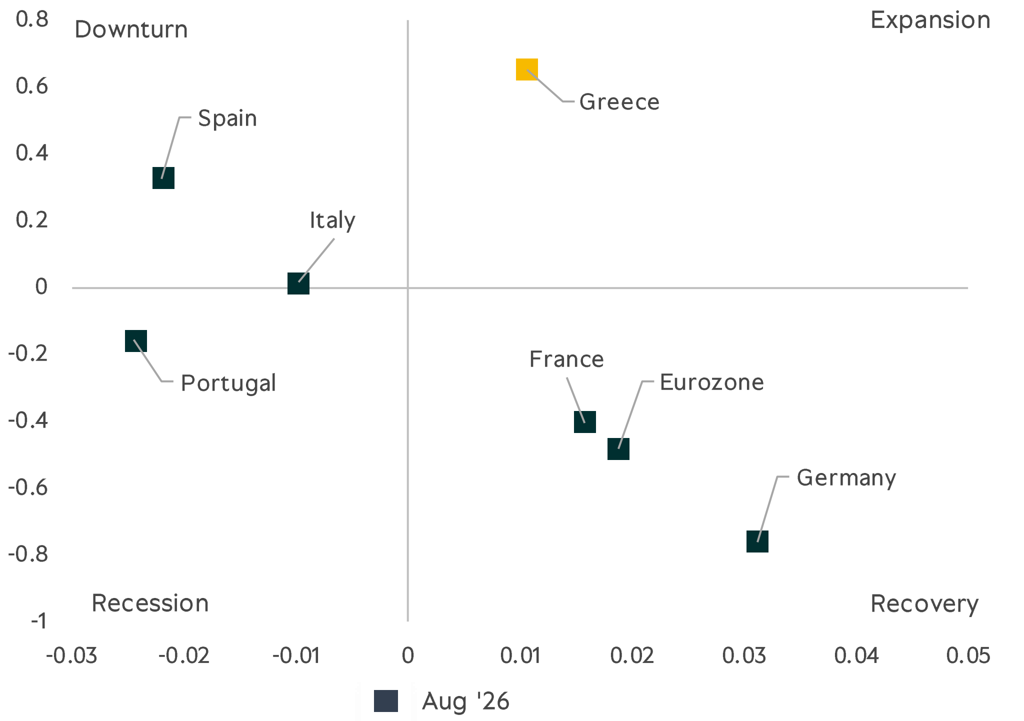


EA Business Cycle | Most key economic indicators now signal a recovery phase. The ESI rose in August in the euro area, France, Germany, Italy. Greece remains in Expansion despite a small decline.

EA Business Cycle | Based on Major EA Economic Variables

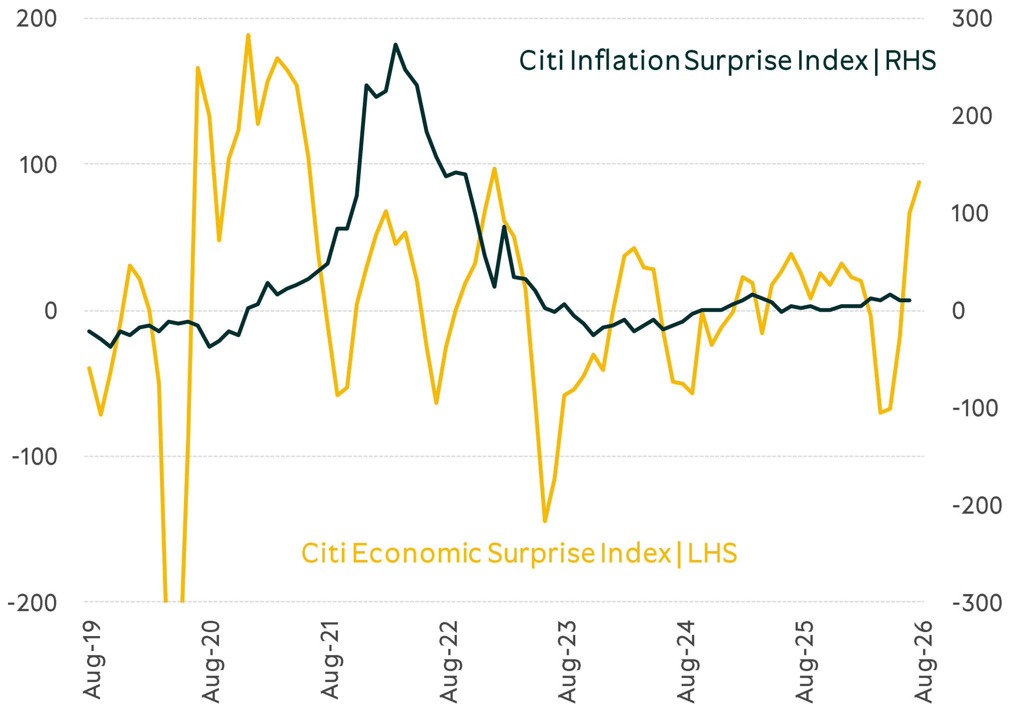


Business Cycle of EA Members | Based on Economic Sentiment Indicator

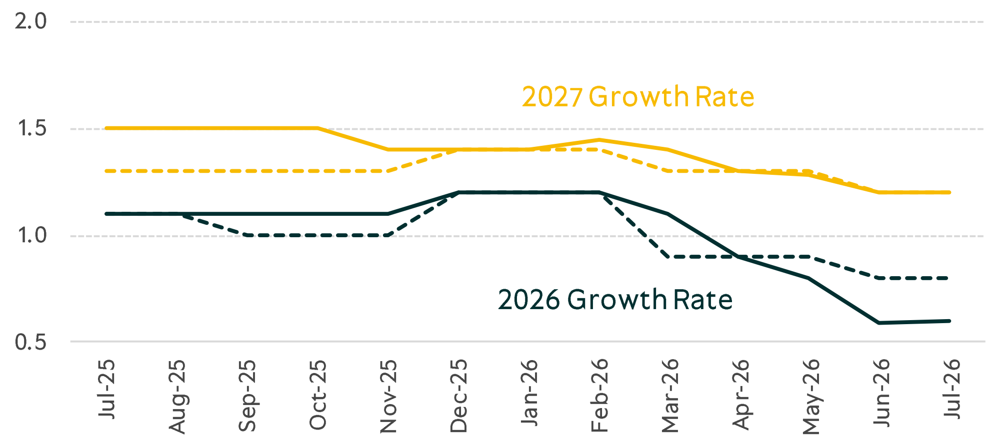


EA Macro Expectations | In August, economic surprises improved further and turned positive. Consensus growth and price expectations for 2026 and 2027 were little changed.

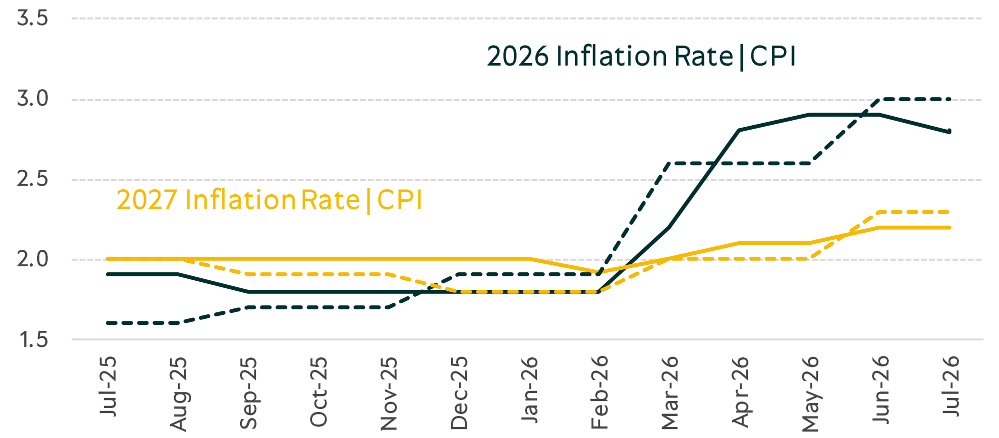
Economic & Inflation Surprises



Growth Rate Expectations*



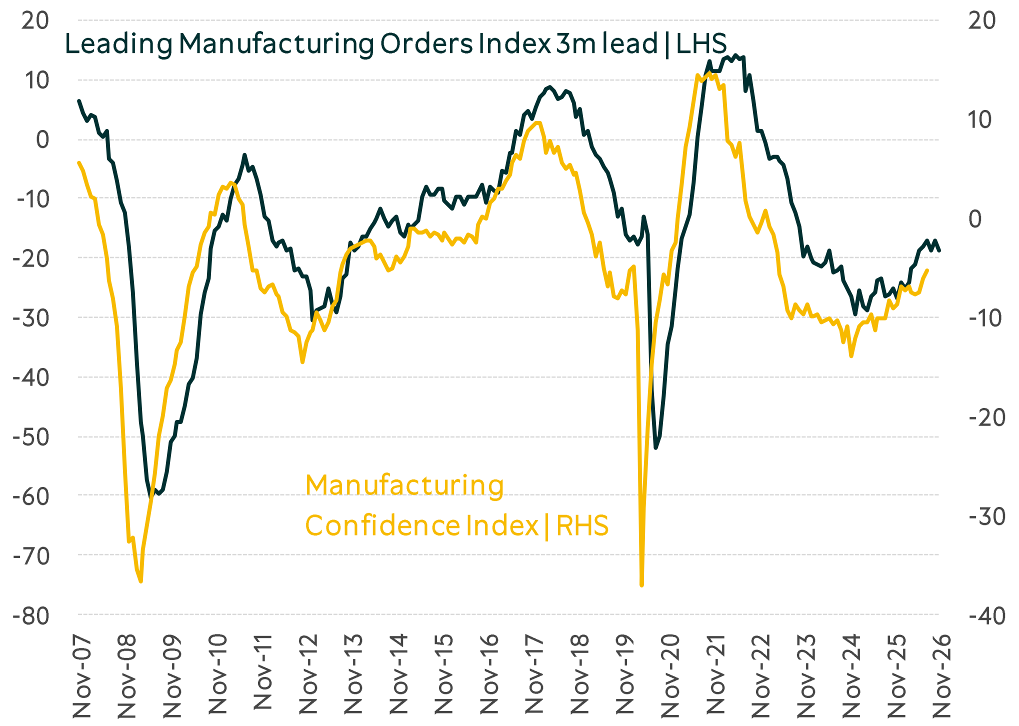
Inflation Rate Expectations*



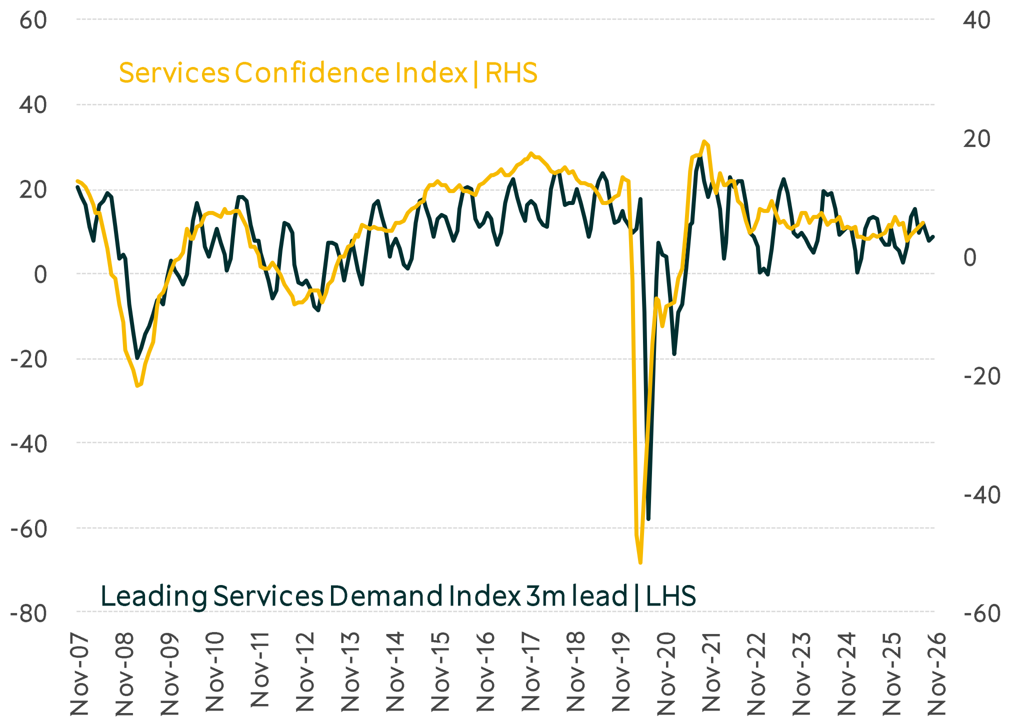
*Solid line: Consensus; Dotted line: ECB projections

EA Leading Indicators | Manufacturing and services confidence improved marginally in August.

Manufacturing Confidence Index & Leading Manufacturing Orders

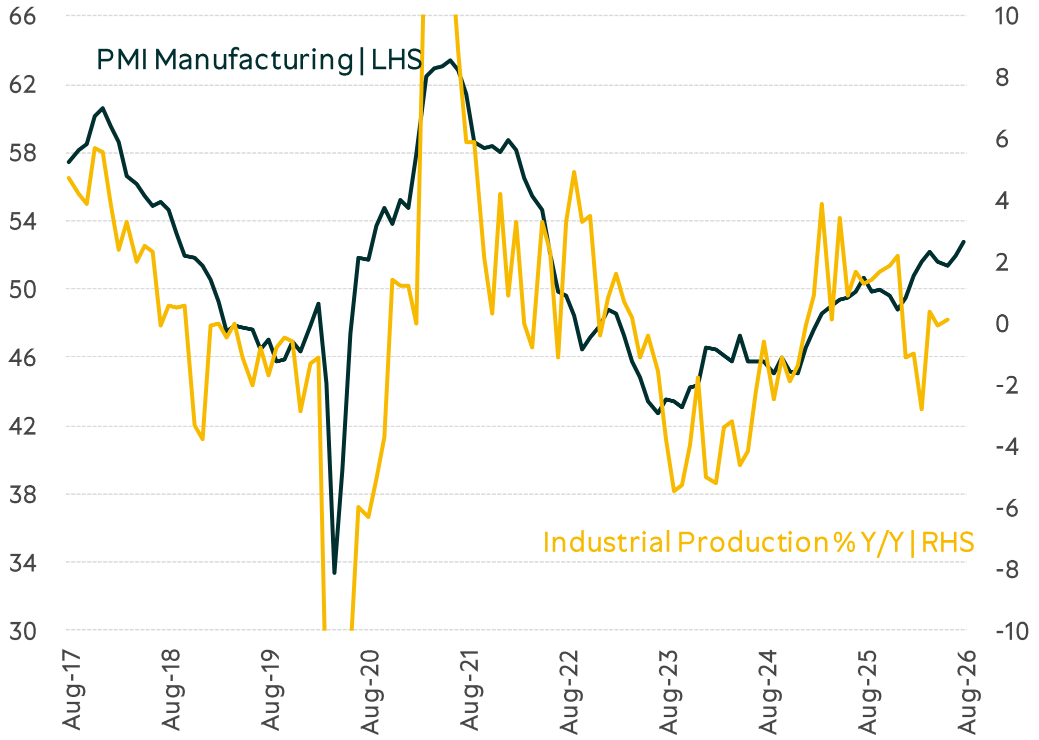


Services Confidence Index & Leading Services Demand Index

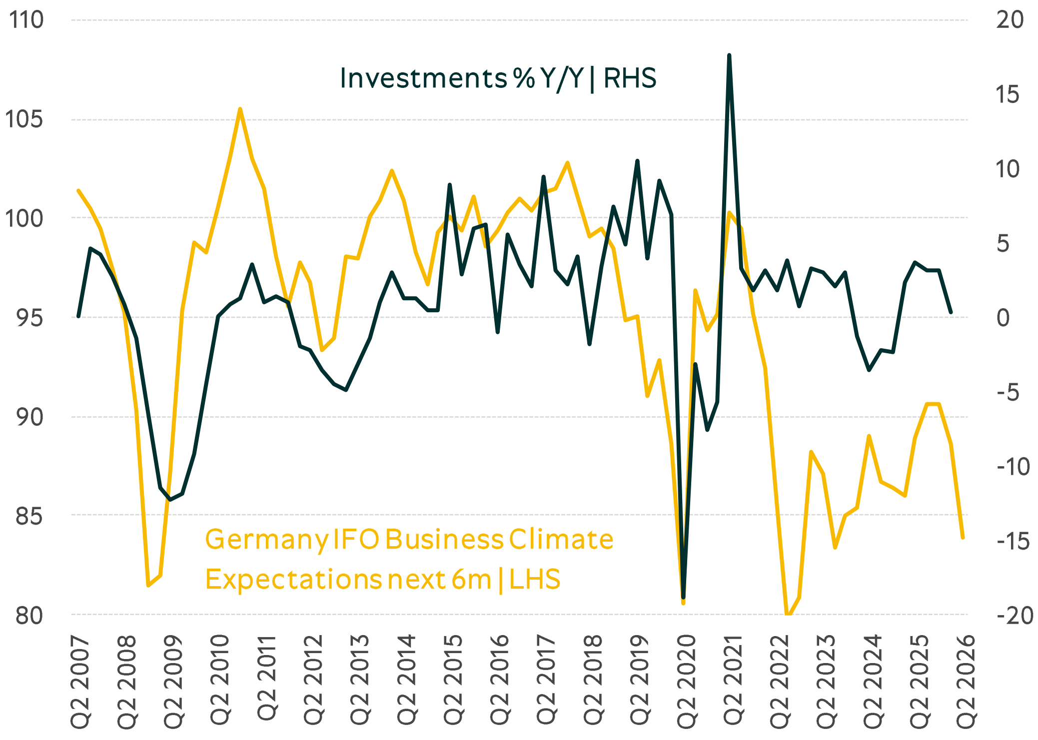


EA Business Conditions | In August, the Manufacturing PMI improved to 52.8 (flash) from 51.9 in July registering its highest level since June 2022.

Industrial Production & PMI Manufacturing

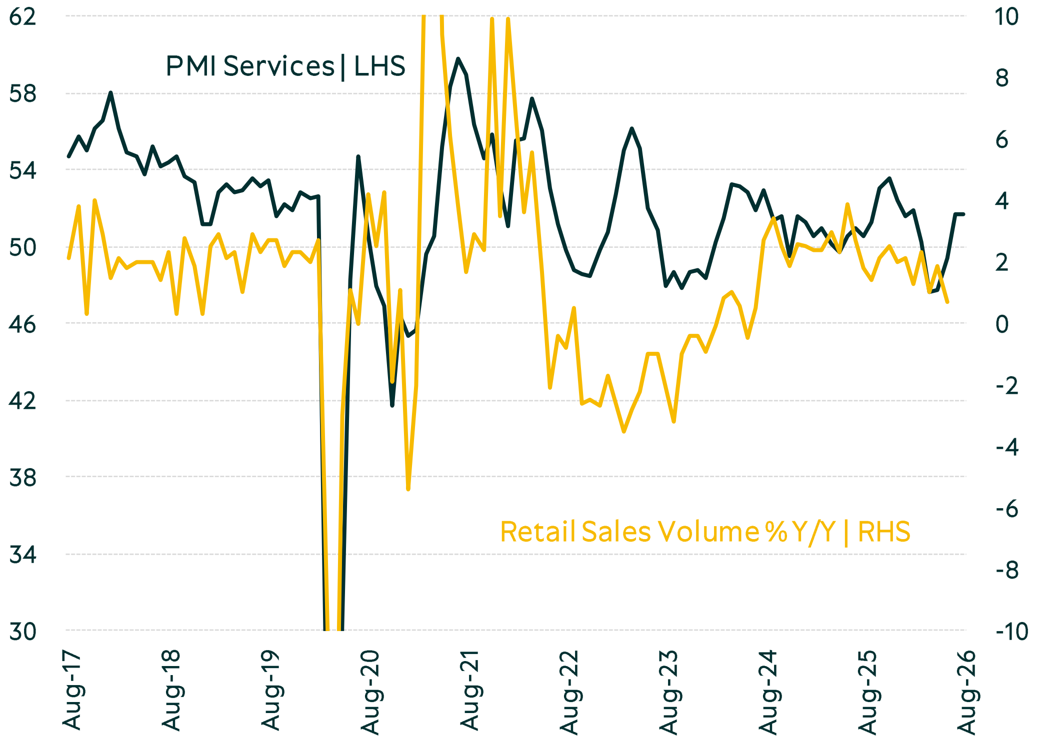


IFO Expectations & Business Investment

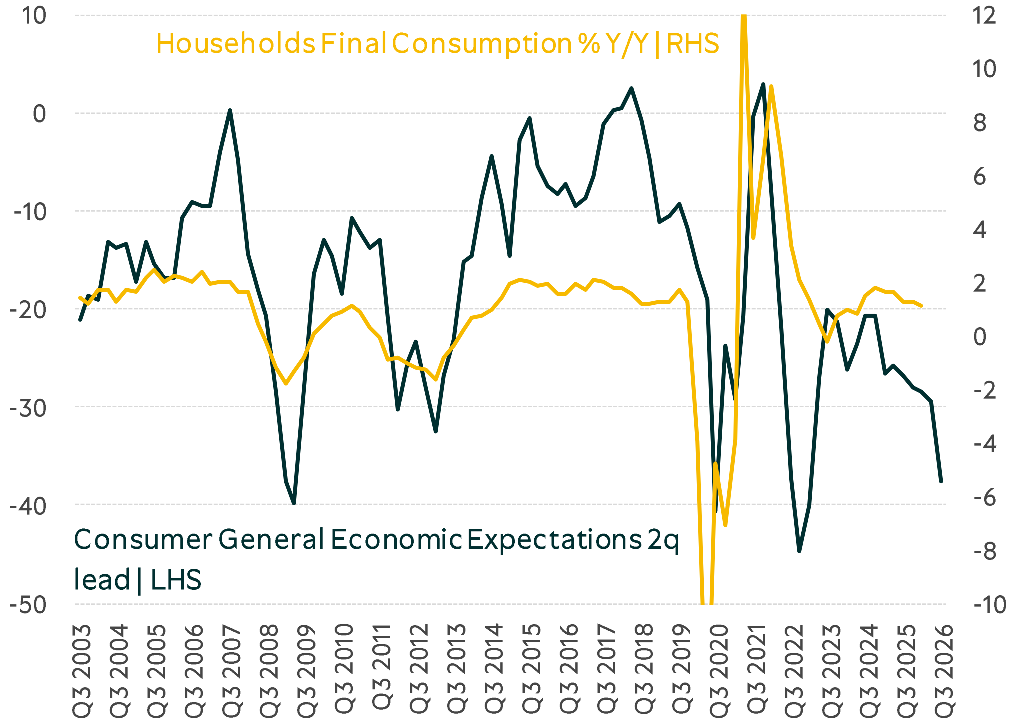


EA Business Conditions | The Services PMI remained stable at 51.7 in August, unchanged from July and above the 50 threshold since March, though retail sales continue to trend lower.

Retail Sales Volume & PMI Services



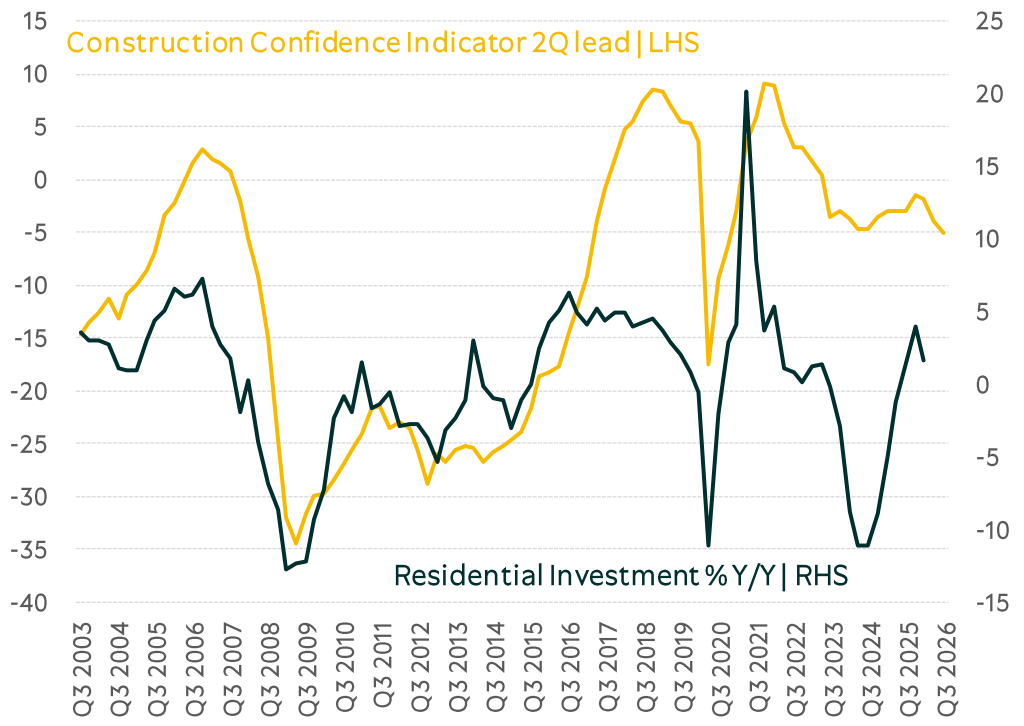
Final Consumption & Consumer Expectations Index



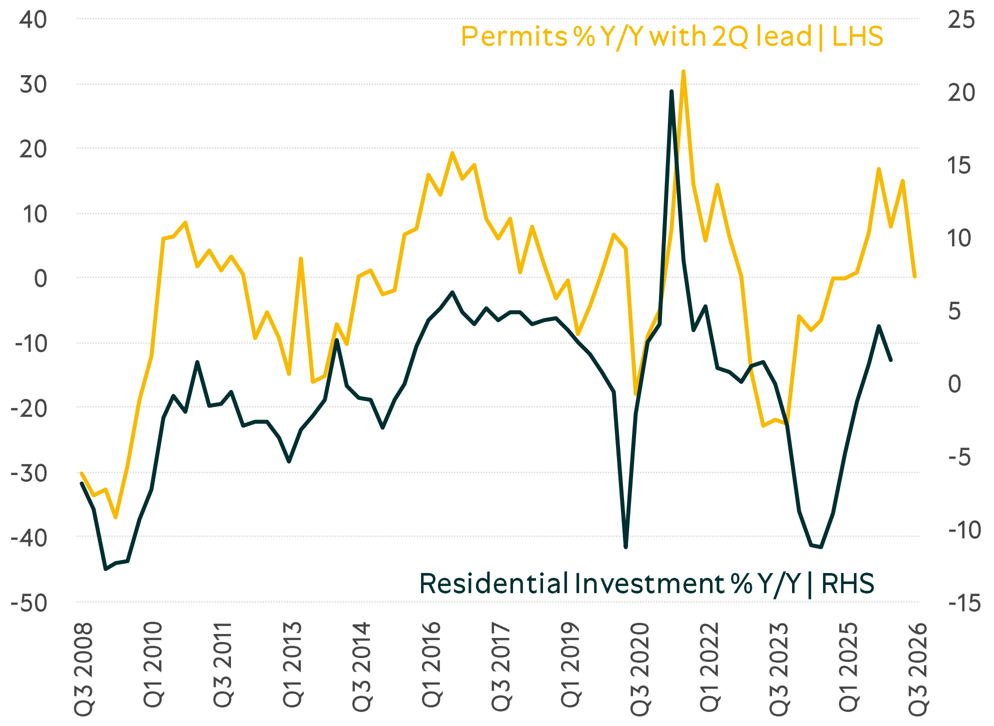
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Construction | Resilience in the residential sector persists, though the first signs of a slowdown are now visible, especially in permits.

Residential Investment & Construction Confidence



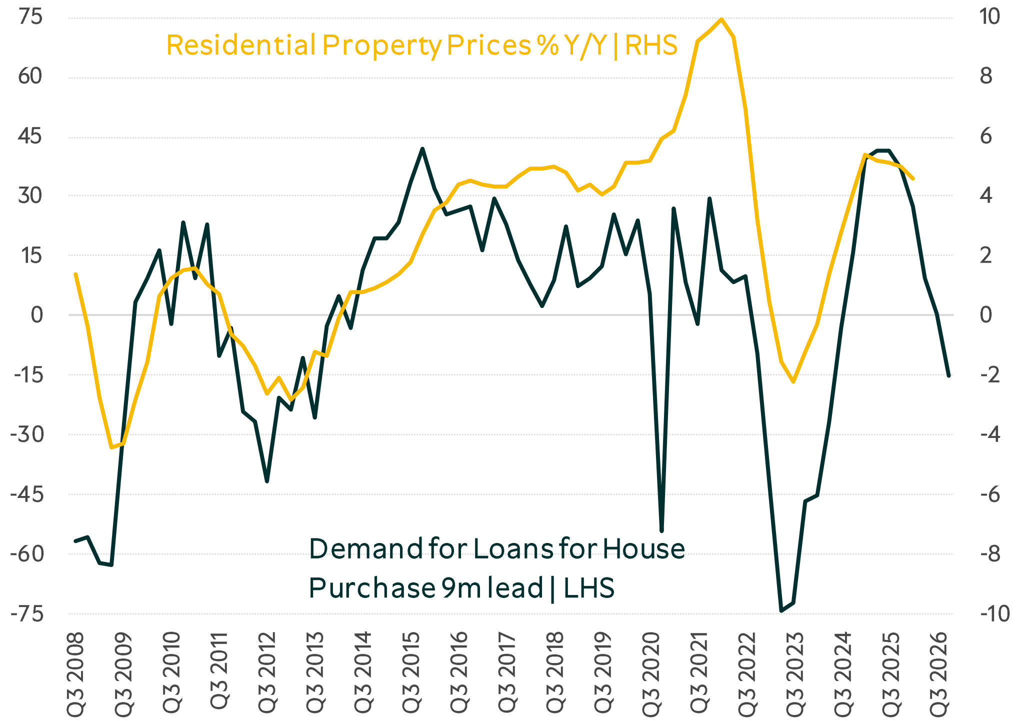
Residential Investment & House Permits



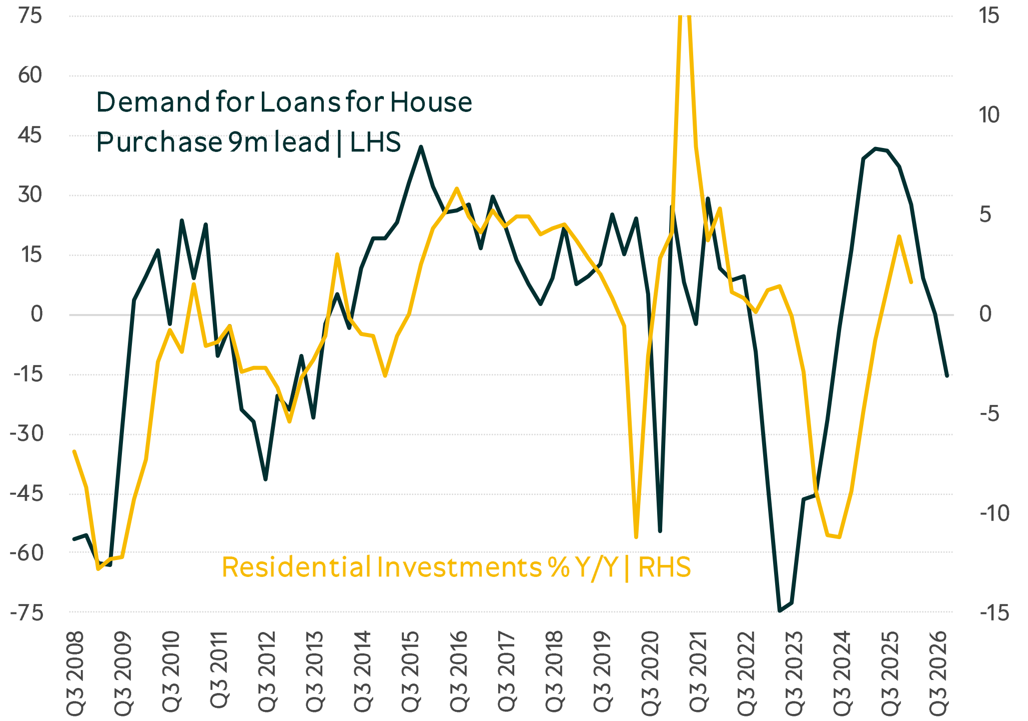
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Construction | A stabilisation in residential investments is projected over the next few months, as demand for mortgages decreases further in Q3 2026.

Residential Property Prices & Demand for loans (9m lead)

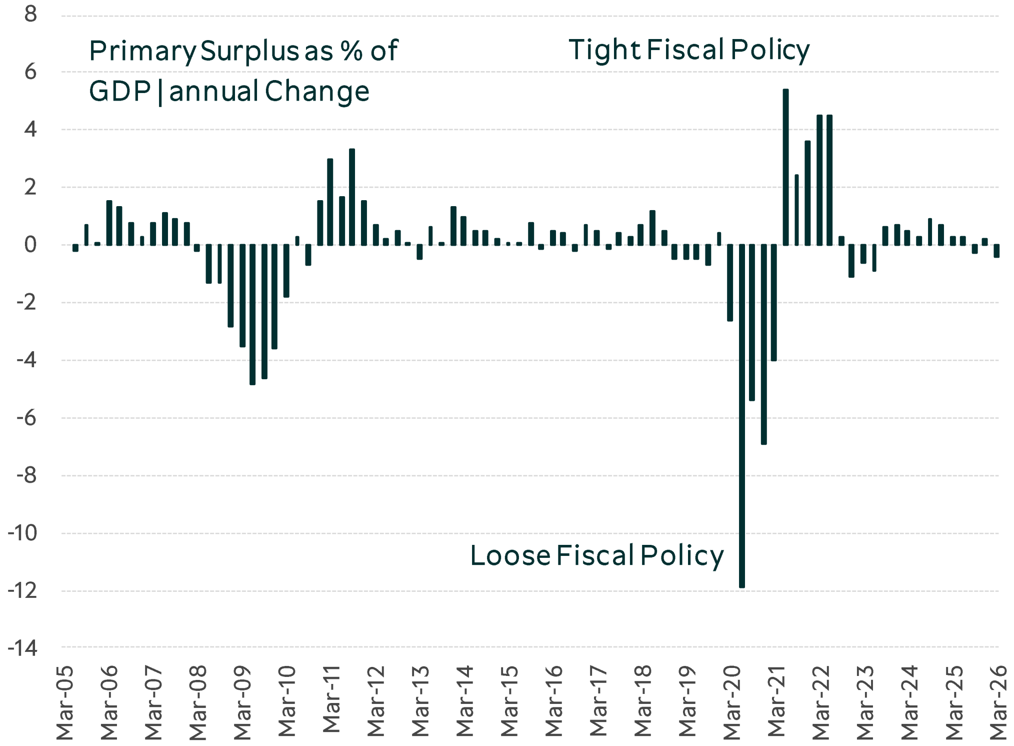


Residential Investments & Demand for loans (9m lead)

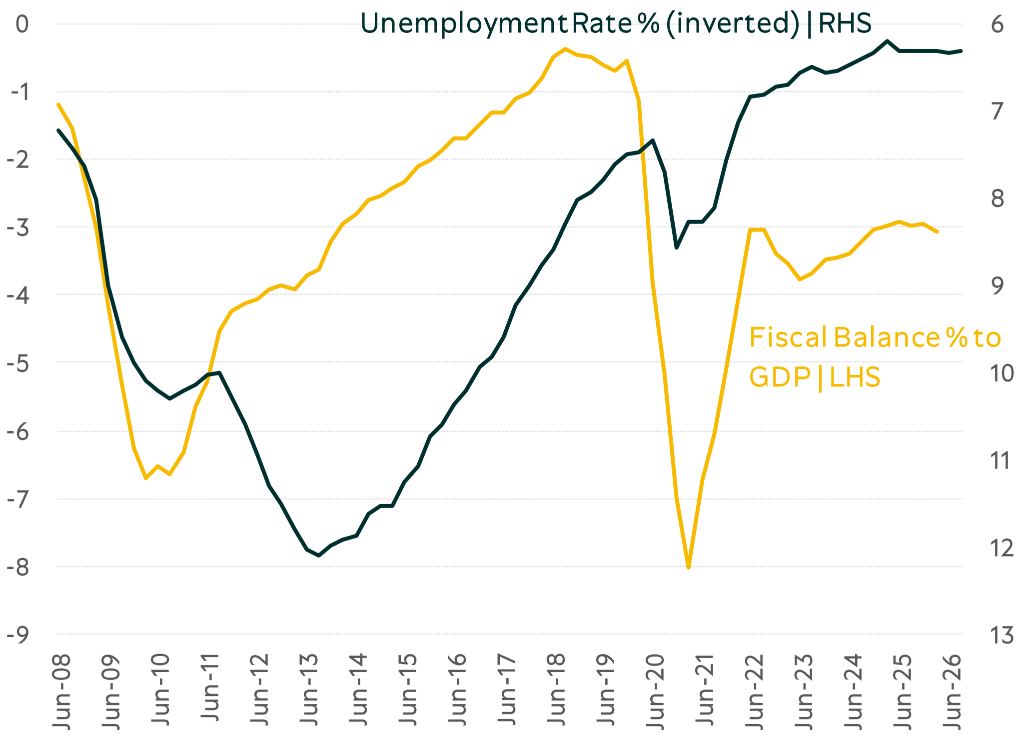


EA Fiscal Policy | The fiscal deficit has moderated, with the unemployment rate remaining at historic lows.

Fiscal Thrust

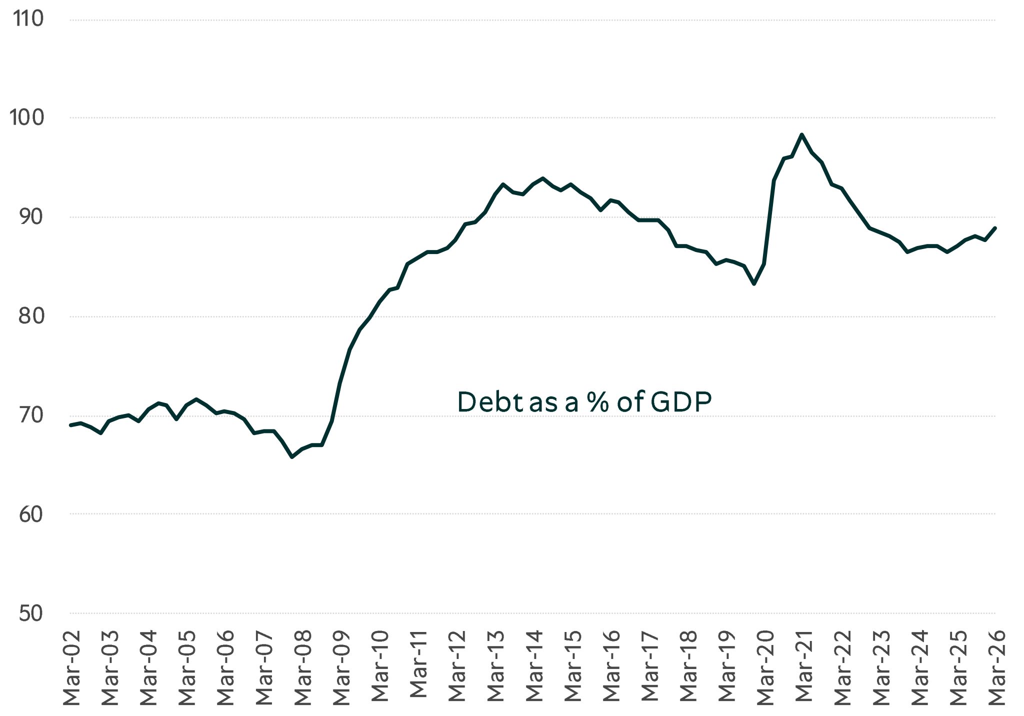


Fiscal Policy & Unemployment Rate

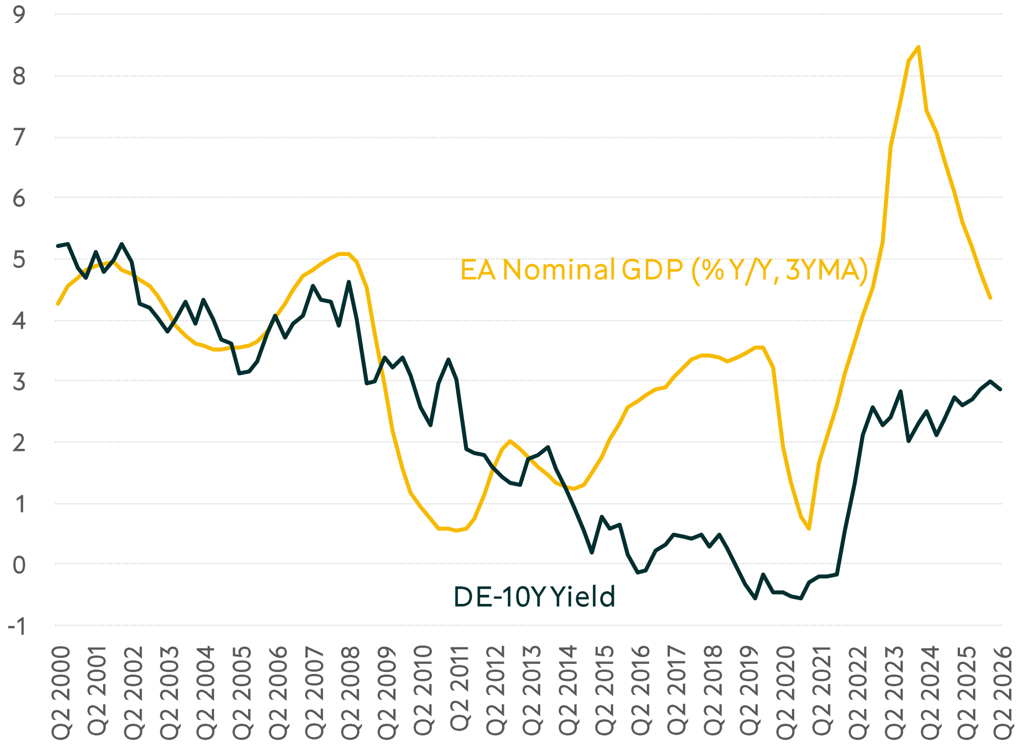


EA Fiscal Policy | Debt levels have moderated after the pandemic but are on an upward trend.

Debt / GDP

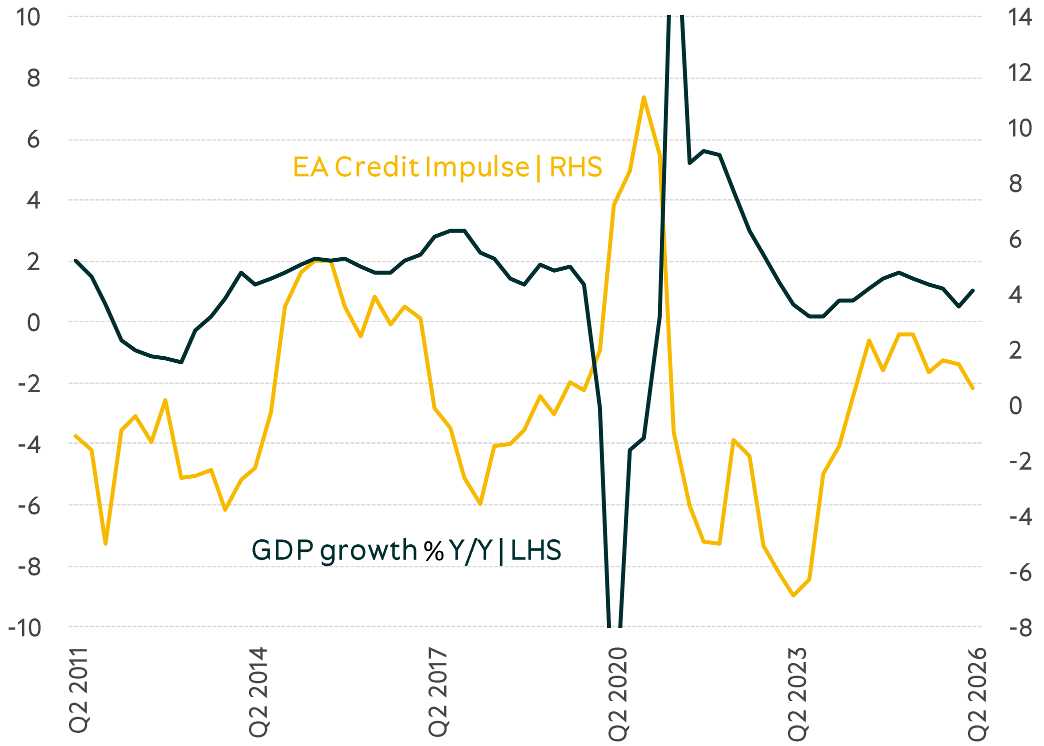


Fiscal Policy Sustainability

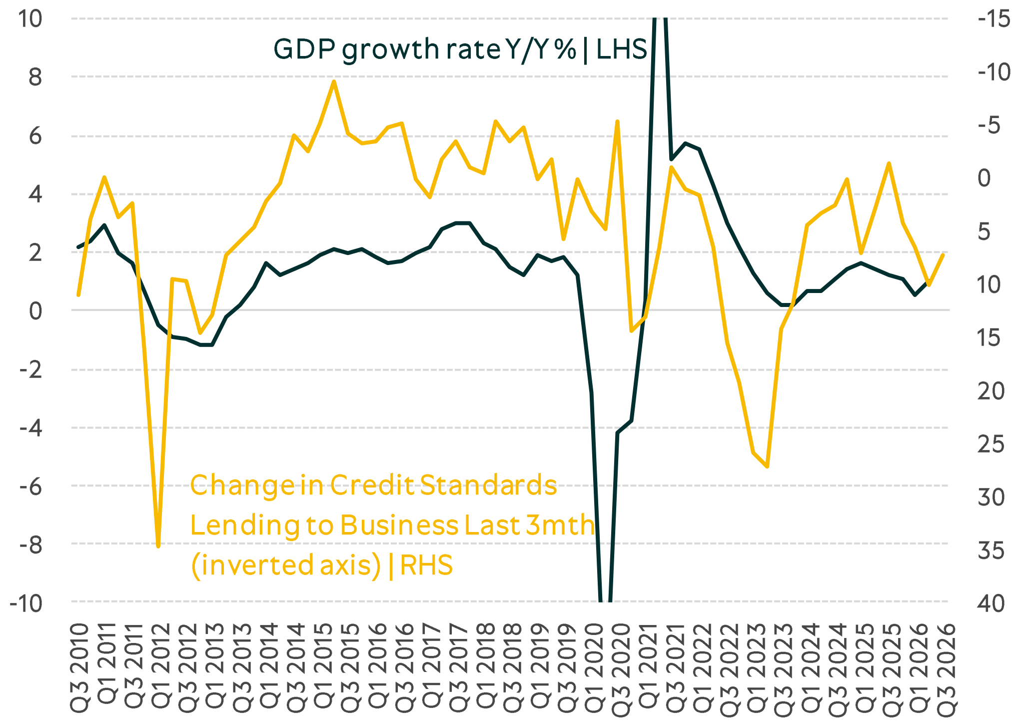


EA GDP Outlook | Credit impulse tightened further in Q2 2026, while credit standards for lending to businesses worsened in Q3 2026, driven by ongoing geopolitical pressures and energy market related risks.

EA Credit Impulse & GDP growth rate



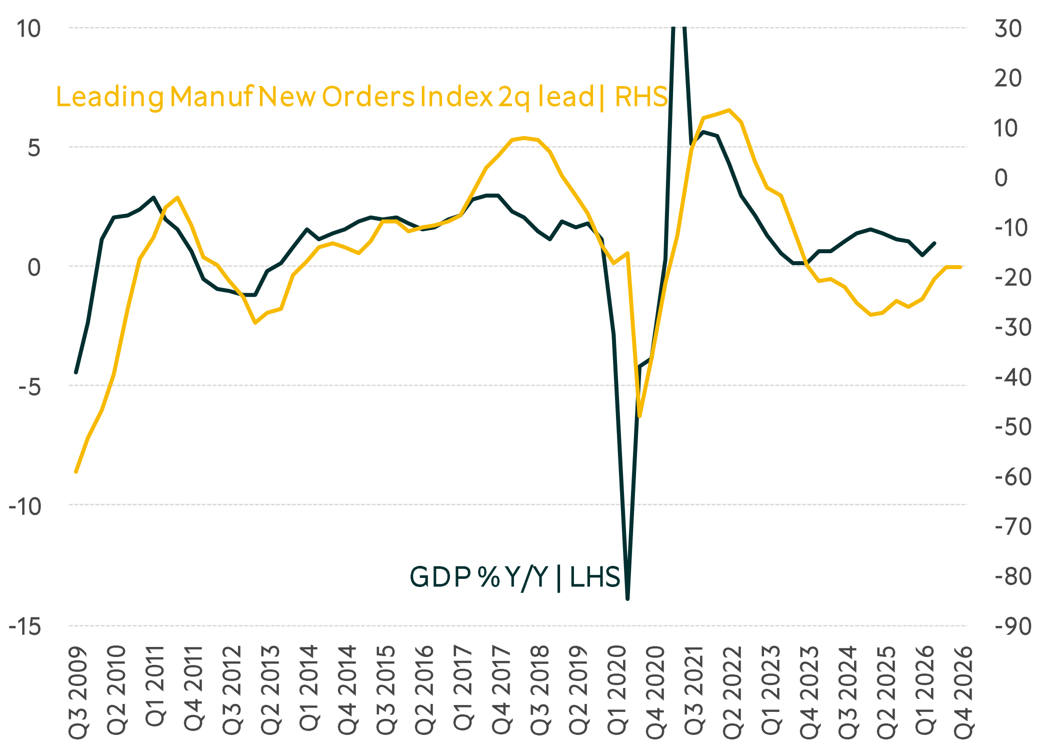
GDP & Bank Lending Standards



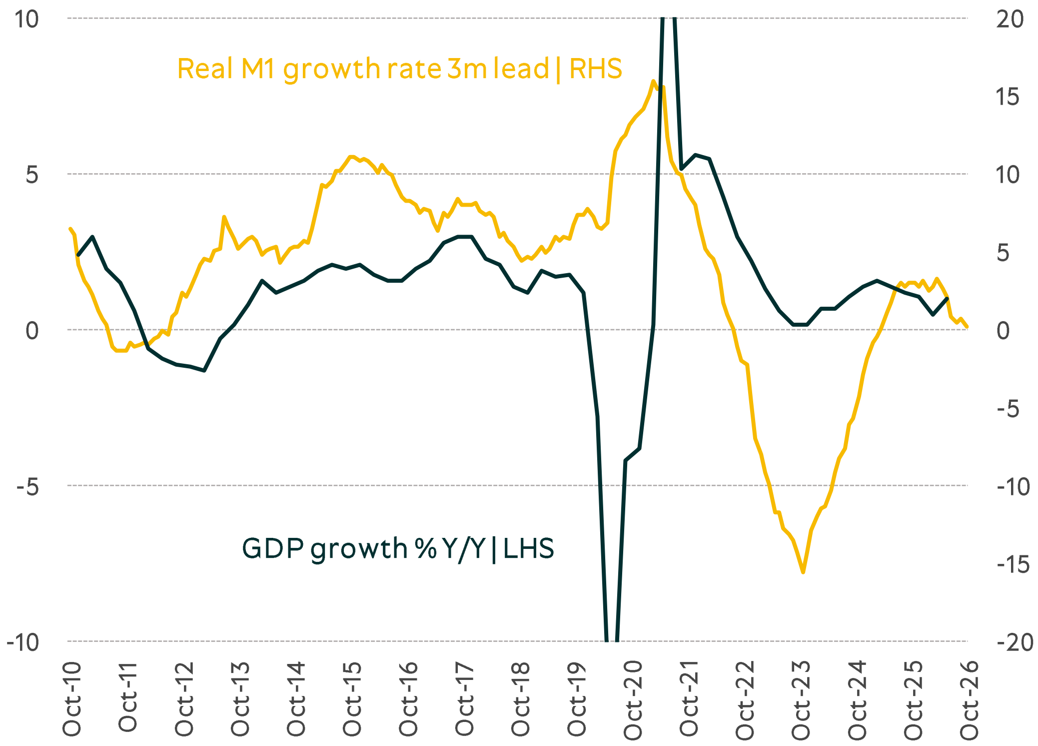
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA | The contraction in manufacturing new orders improved marginally in Q3 2026, whereas the unchanged real M1 points to lower levels and signals slightly tighter liquidity conditions.

GDP & New Orders Indices

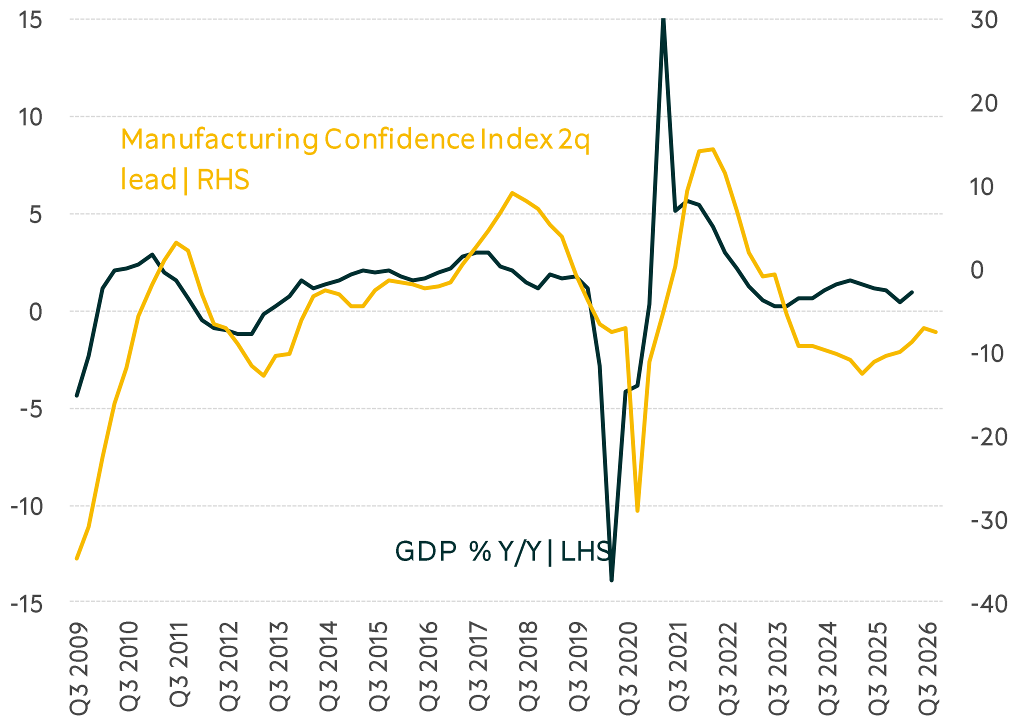


GDP & Real M1 growth rate

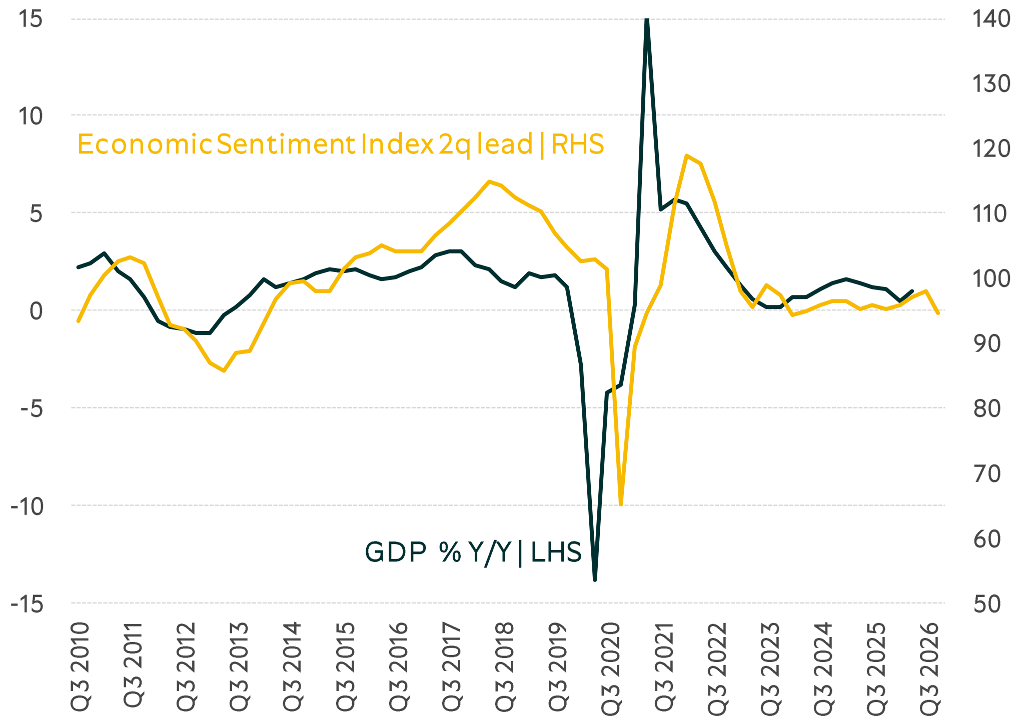


EA GDP Outlook | Economic and manufacturing sentiment moderated in Q2. July and August point to improvement in Q3.

GDP & Manufacturing Confidence Index

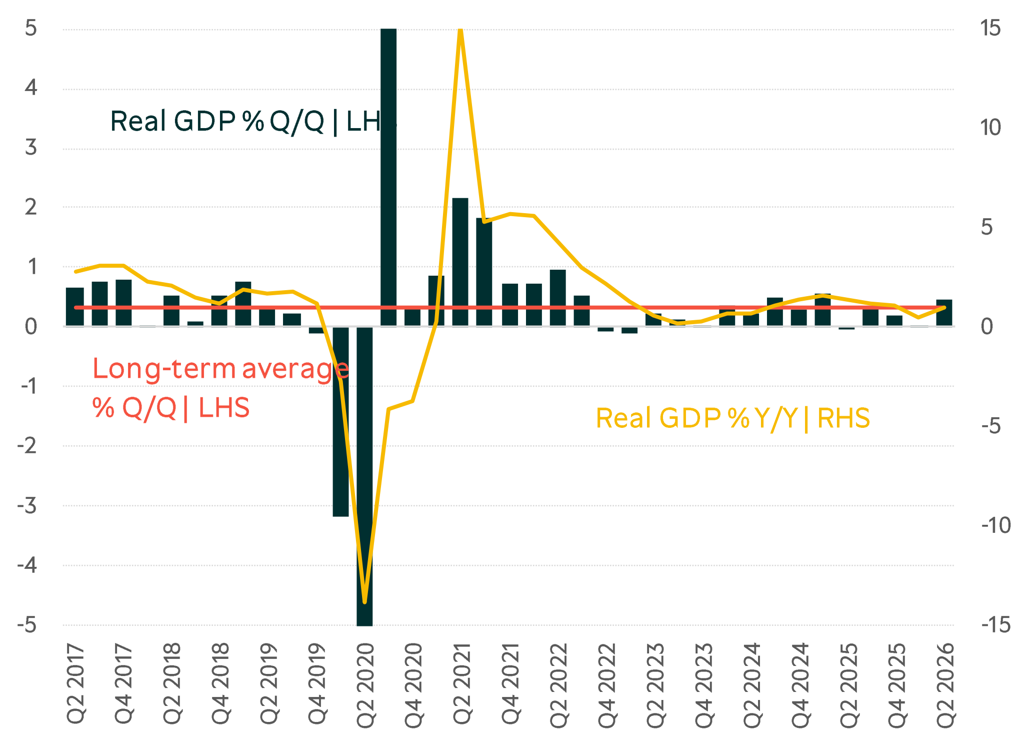


GDP & Economic Sentiment Index

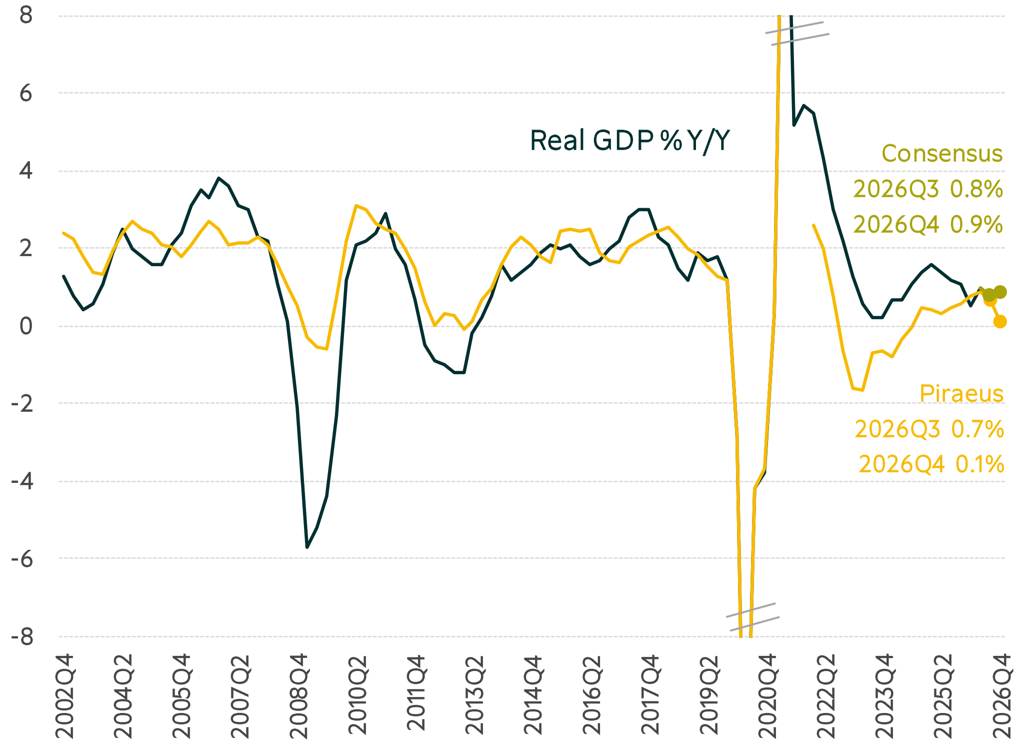


EA GDP Outlook | Real GDP in Q2 increased a solid rate by 1.0% YoY according to the 1st estimate from 0.5% in Q1, while on a quarterly basis economic activity increased by 0.4%.

Growth Rate Outlook



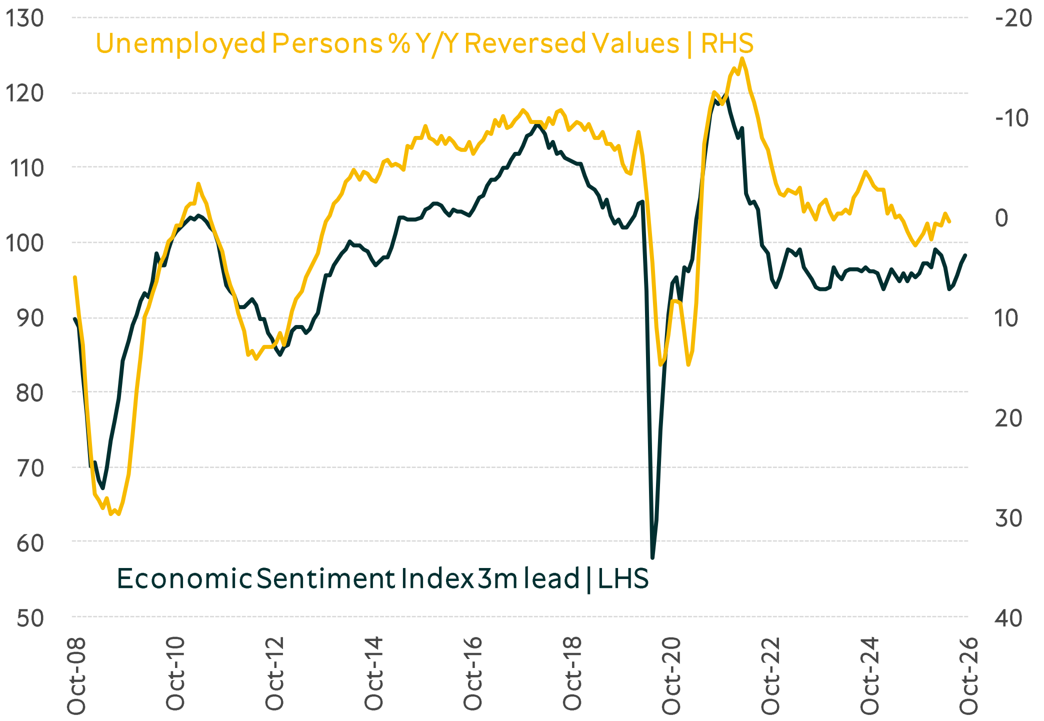
Growth Rate Estimate



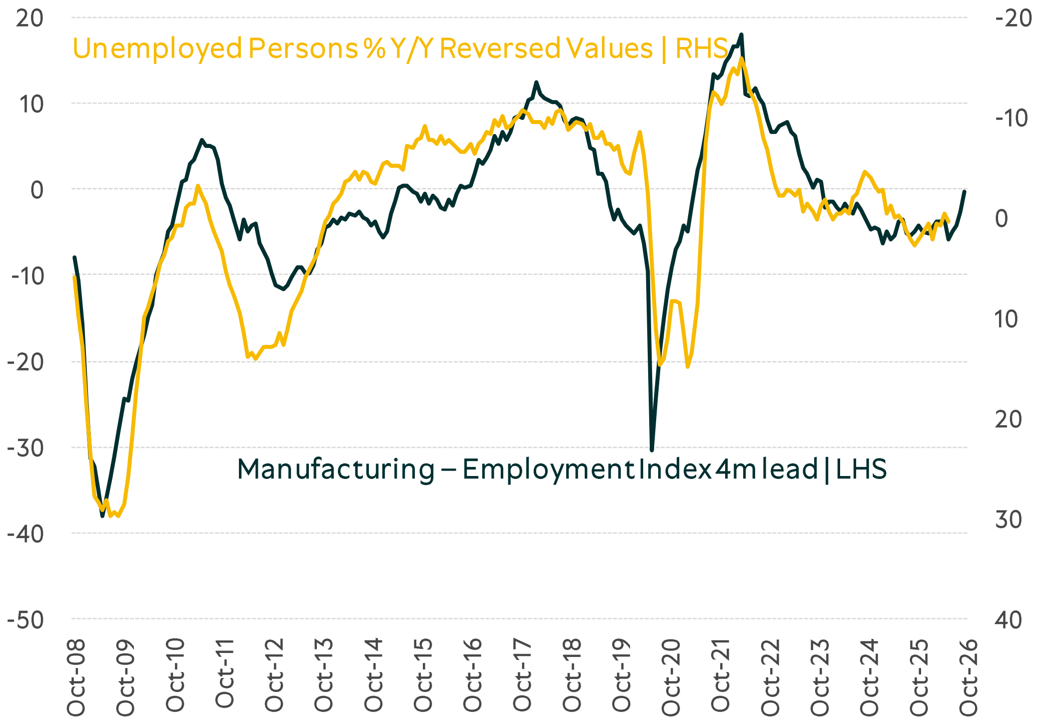
Note: Covid-19 period (Q4 2019 - Q2 2021) is excluded from the estimation

EA Labour Market | Number of unemployed persons increased in June, while sentiment and manufacturing indicators remain volatile in the euro area.

Unemployment & Leading Sentiment Index



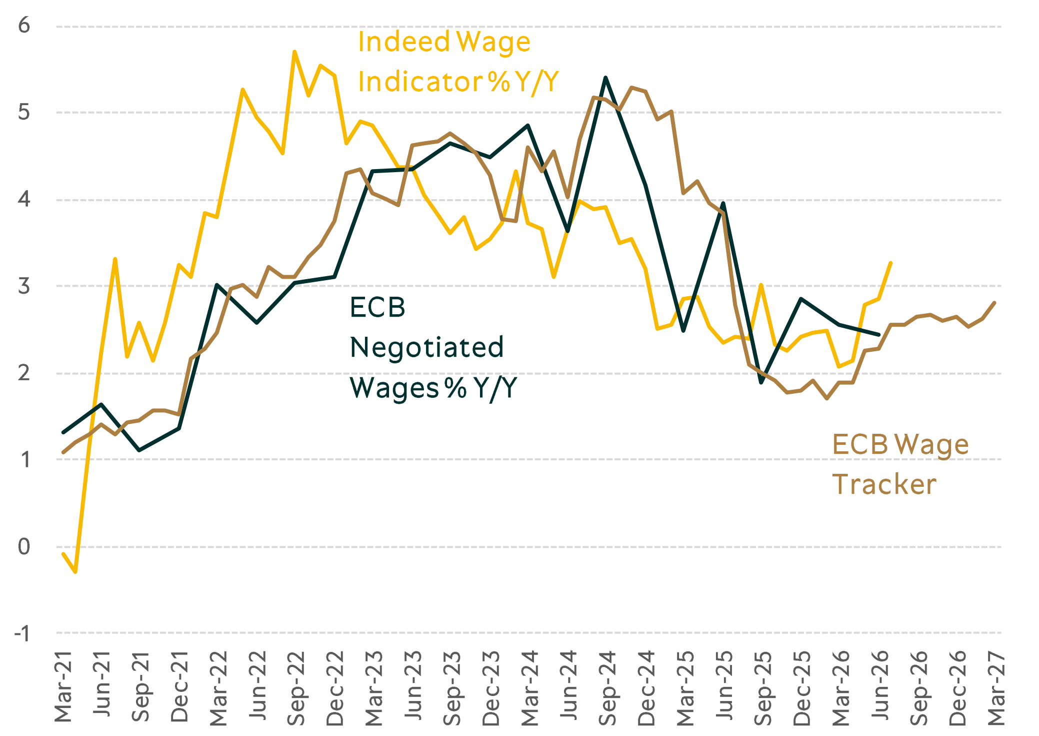
Unemployment & Leading Manufacturing Index



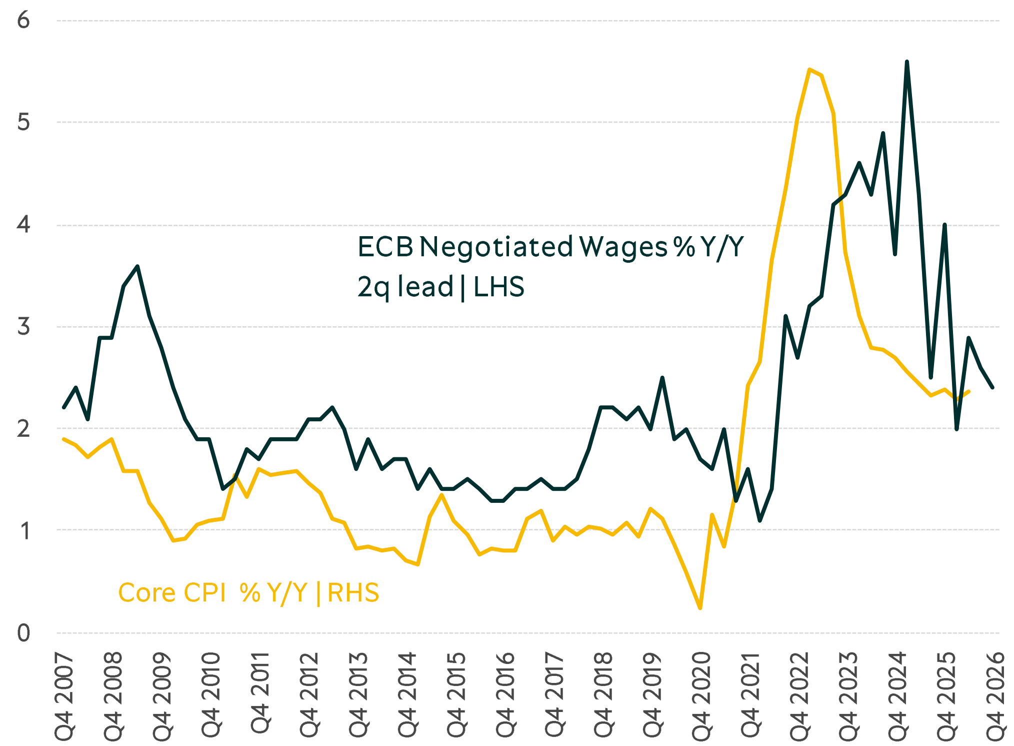
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Wage Tracker | Indeed wage indicator recorded a 20-month high in July at 3.3%. The ECB's Wage Tracker indicates wage growth increase up to Q1 2027, though negotiated wages growth moderated in Q2 2026.

EA Wage Indicators



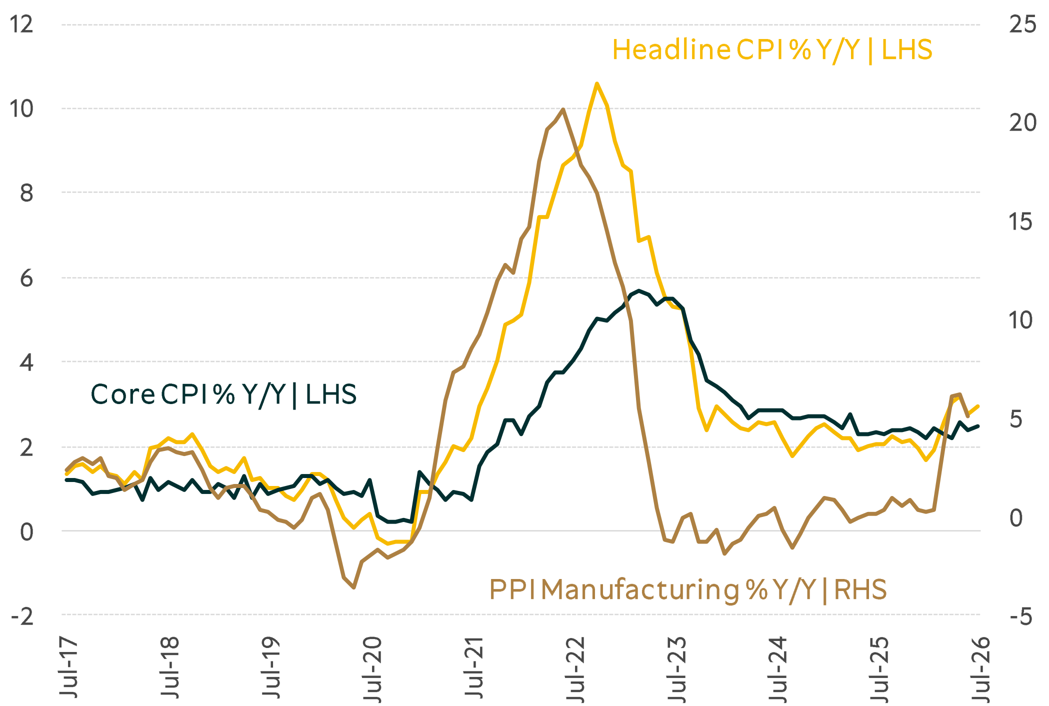
Core Inflation & Wages



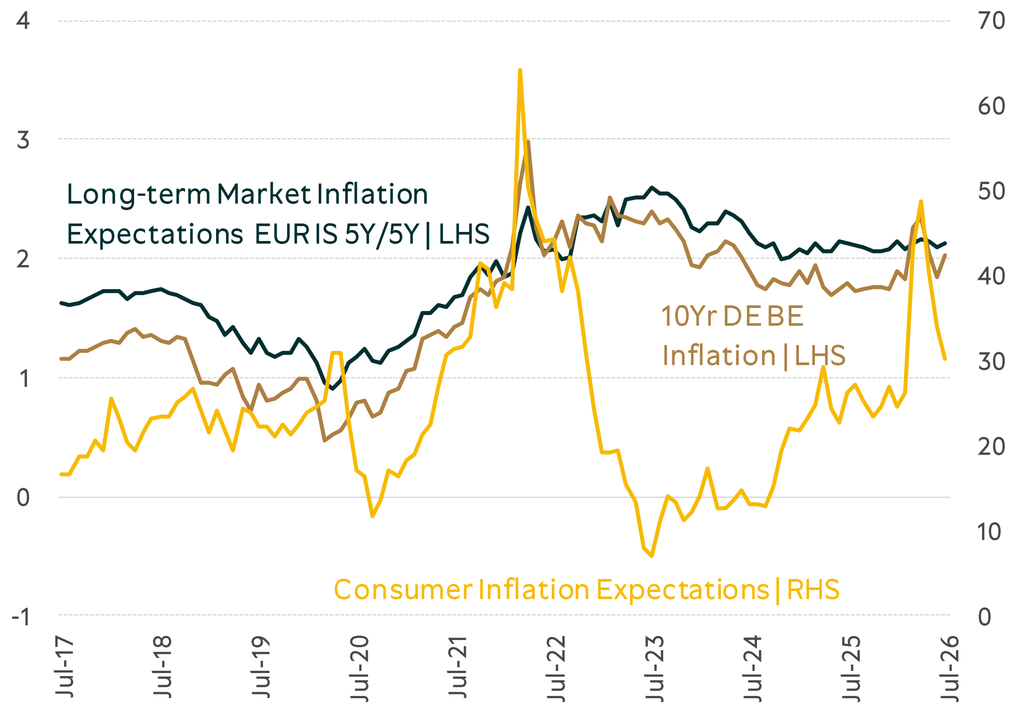
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Inflation Pressures | Headline CPI accelerated to 2.9% in July from 2.8% in June, as did Core CPI to 2.5% from 2.4%. Consumer inflation expectations deteriorated further in July.

Inflation Rate

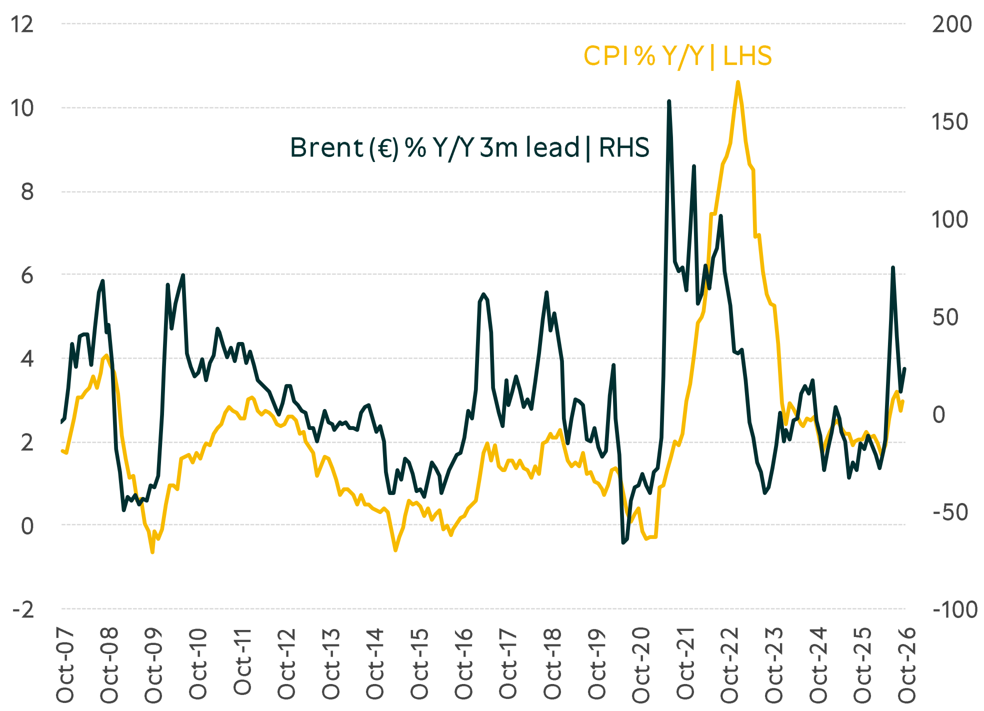


Long-term Inflation Expectations

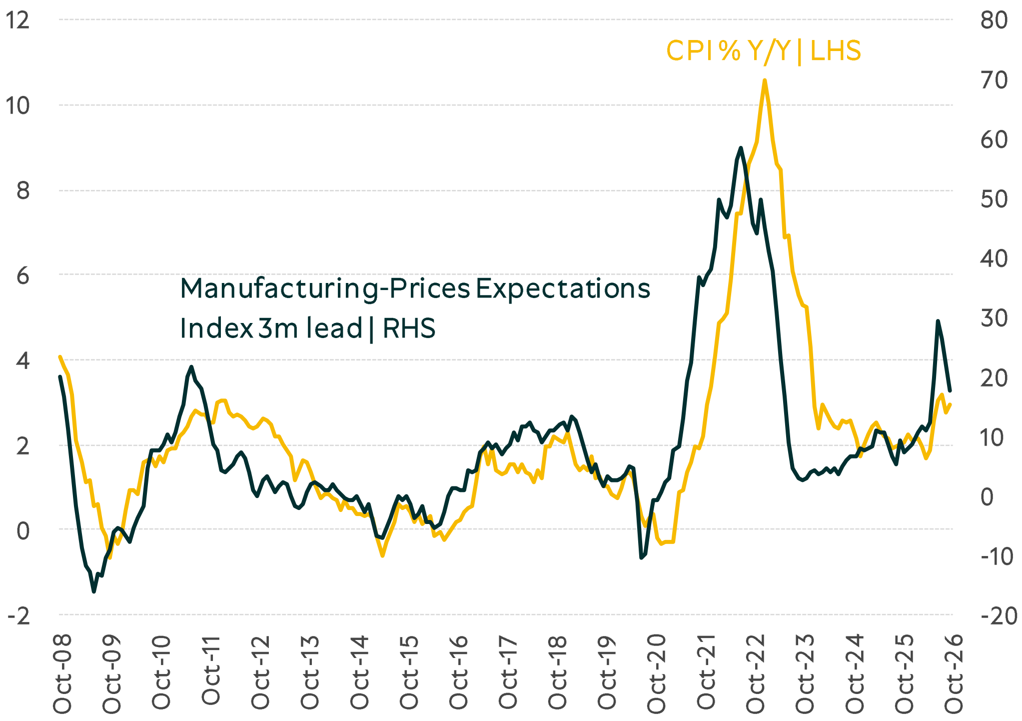


EA Inflation & Energy Prices | Brent's sharp jump keeps oil prices biased to the upside amid geopolitical tensions.

Inflation Rate & Oil Prices

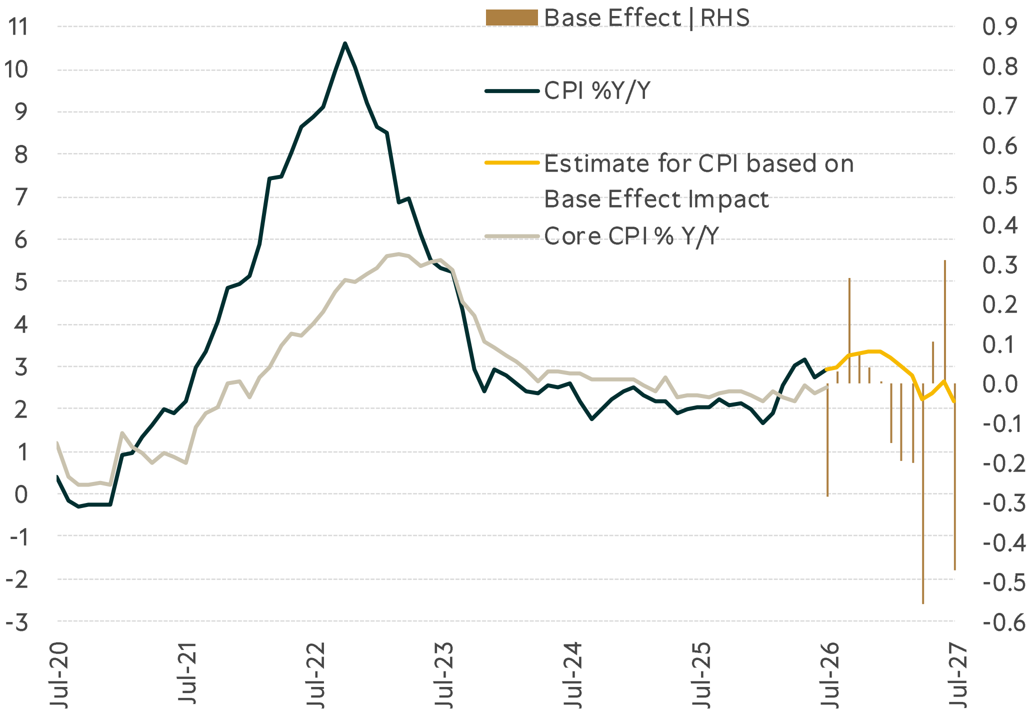


Inflation Rate & Leading Manufacturing Prices Index

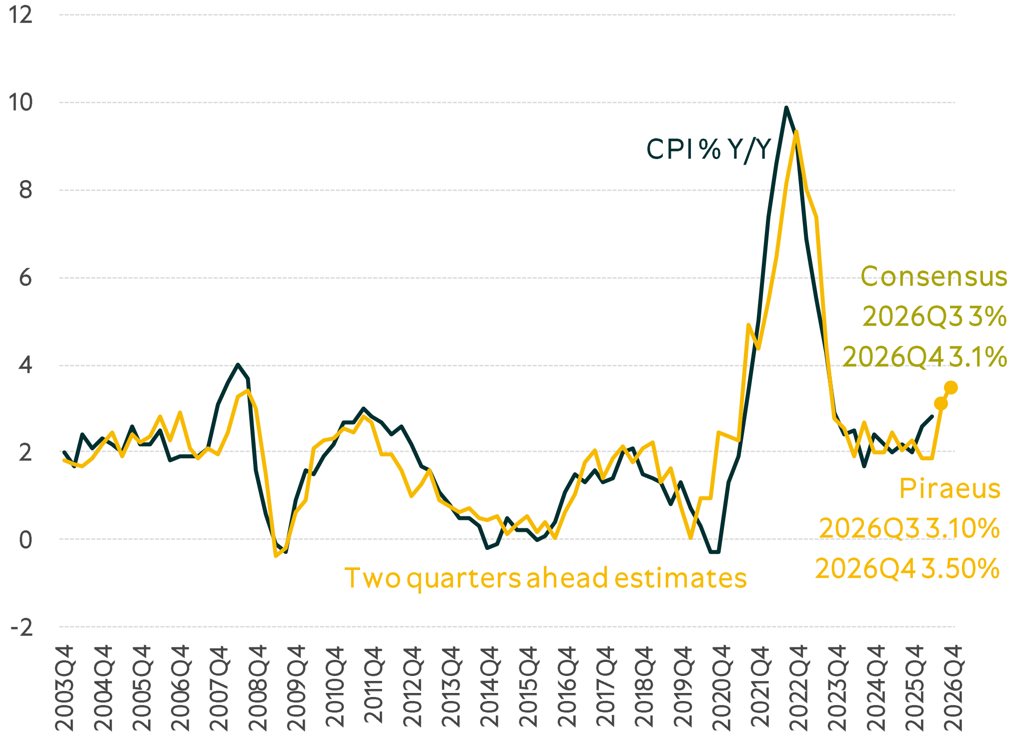


EA Inflation Outlook | The 2% target is expected to be missed for the year according to our statistical model. The Macro model that includes the price of Brent points to higher inflation ahead.

Inflation Rate Forecast | Statistical Model



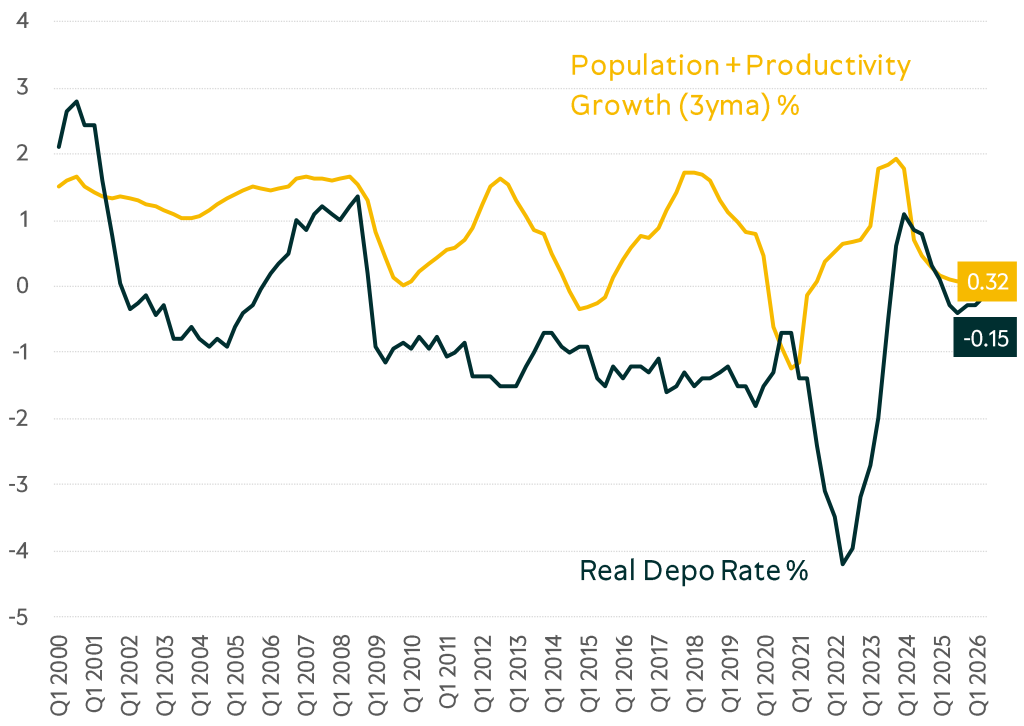
Inflation Rate Forecast | Macro Model



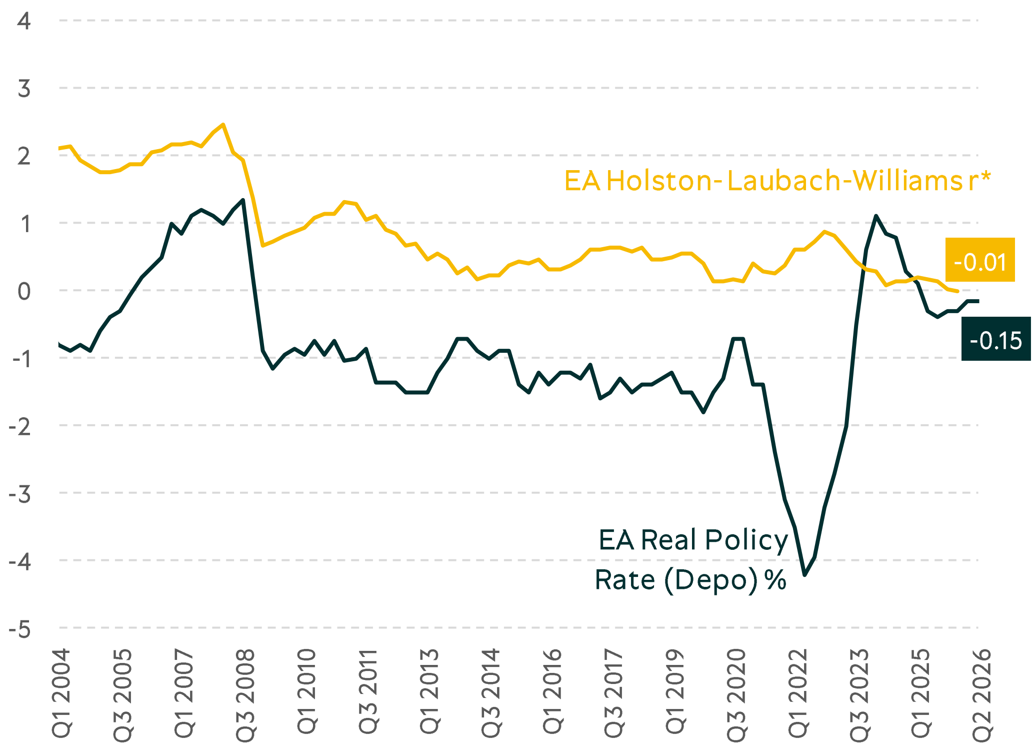
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Interest Rates | EA population and productivity growth near zero; real policy rate below HLW neutral rate (r*)

Population + Productivity growth (3y ma) &
EA Real Policy Rate (Depo - Core HICP)



EA Holson Laubach Williams r* &
EA Real Policy Rate (Depo - Core HICP)

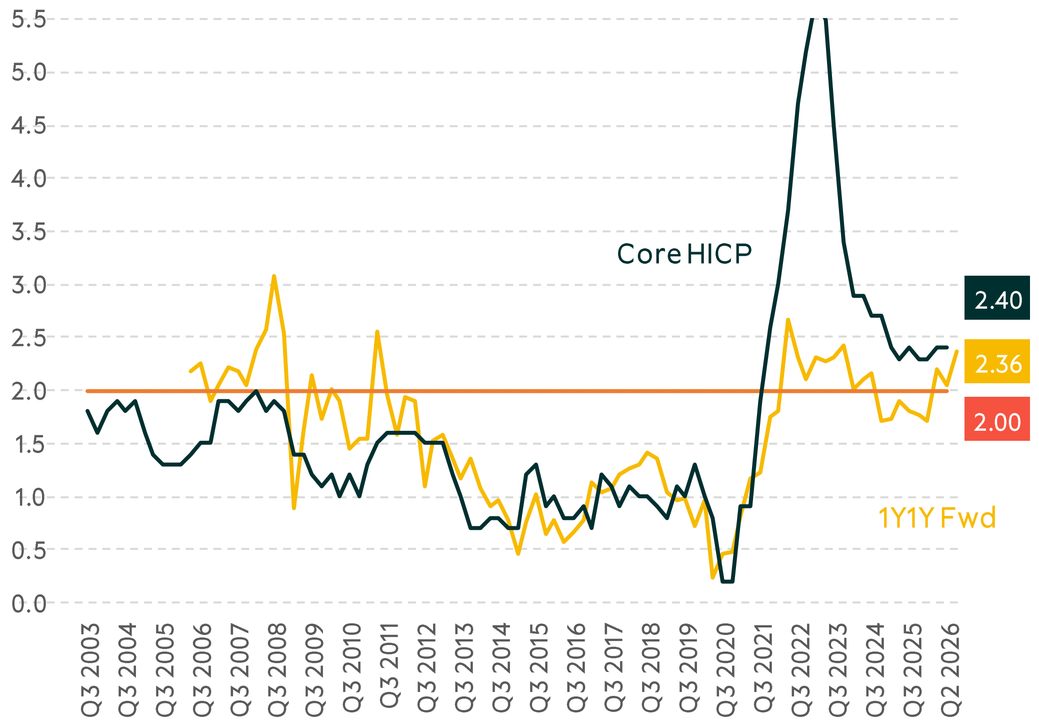


Piraeus

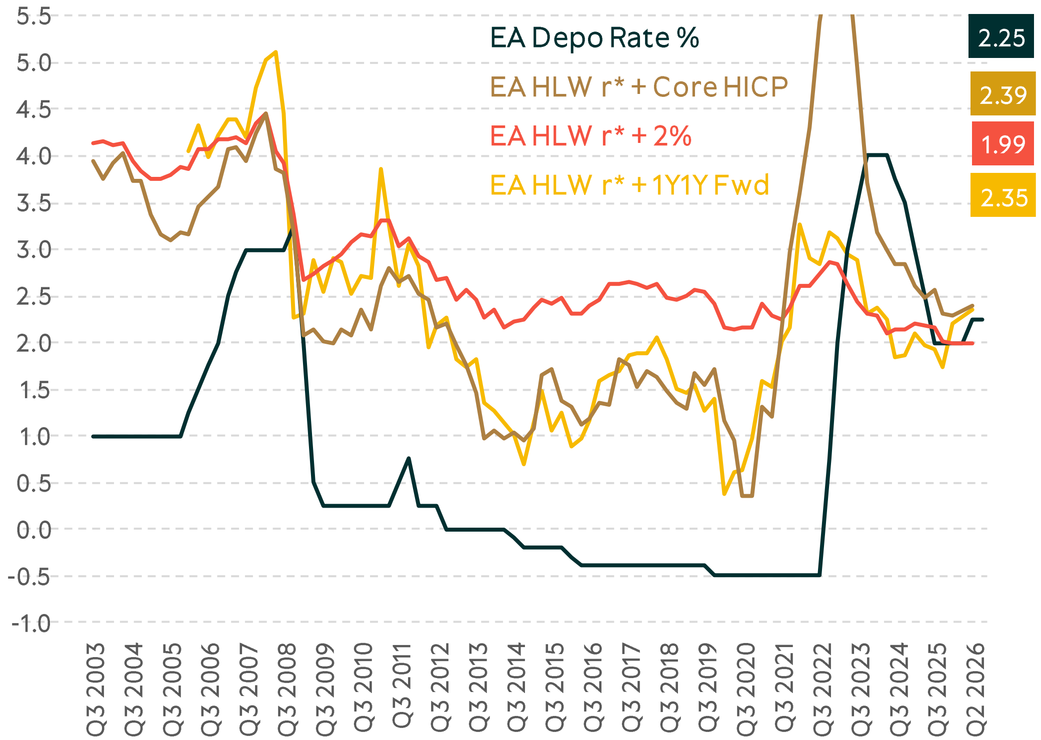
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Interest Rates | EA Inflation expectations one year ahead still rising; Depo Rate & Adjusted HLW r*

EA Inflation & Inflation Expectations one year ahead

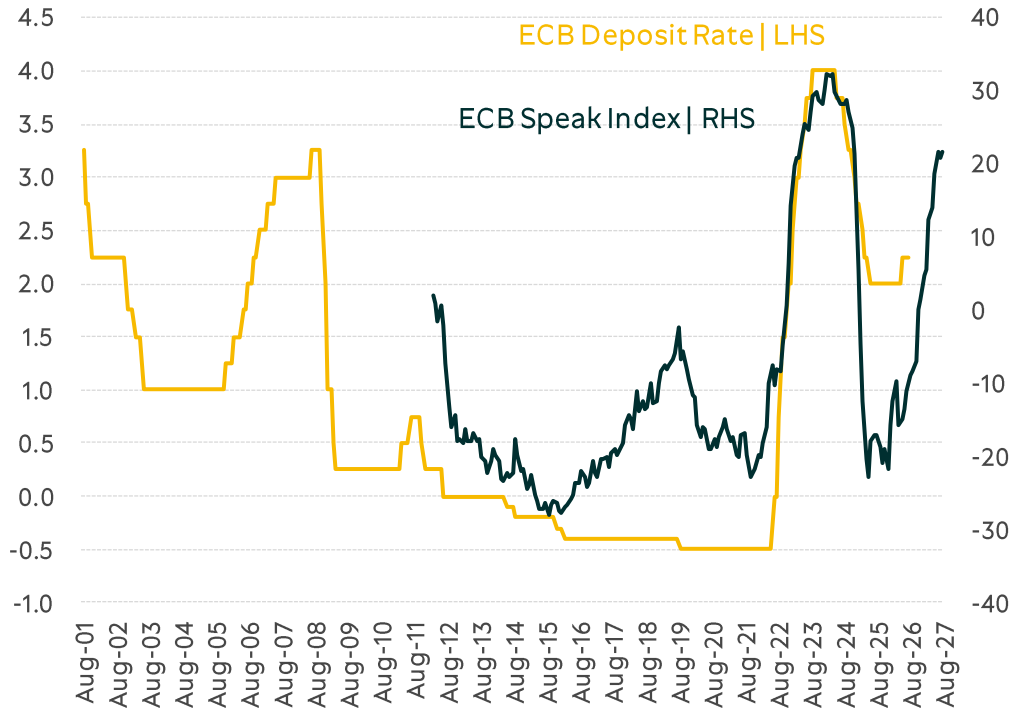


EA Depo & Nominal HLW r*

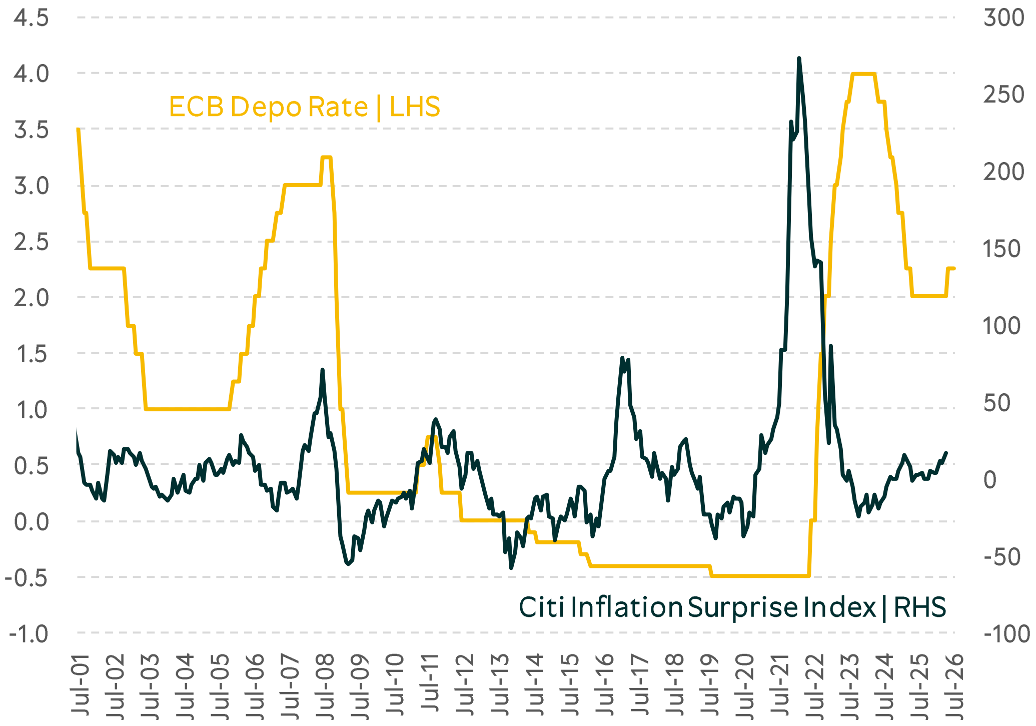


EA Interest Rates | ECB Speak Index is trending up; Inflation surprises are close to zero.

ECB Speak Index & ECB Deposit Rate



Inflation Surprises & ECB Deposit Rate



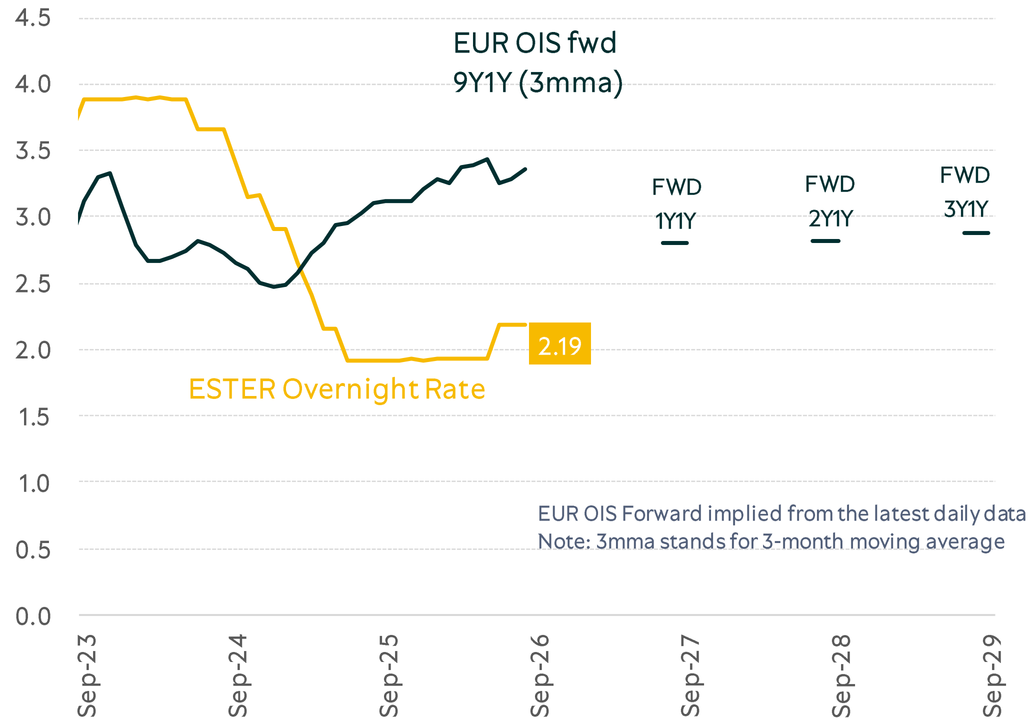
Positive index → Indicates a hawkish tone, meaning the central bank is leaning toward tightening monetary policy (raising interest rates, reducing liquidity).
Negative index → Indicates a dovish tone, meaning the central bank is inclined toward easing monetary policy (lowering rates, adding liquidity).

Positive index → Indicates that inflation has been higher than expected

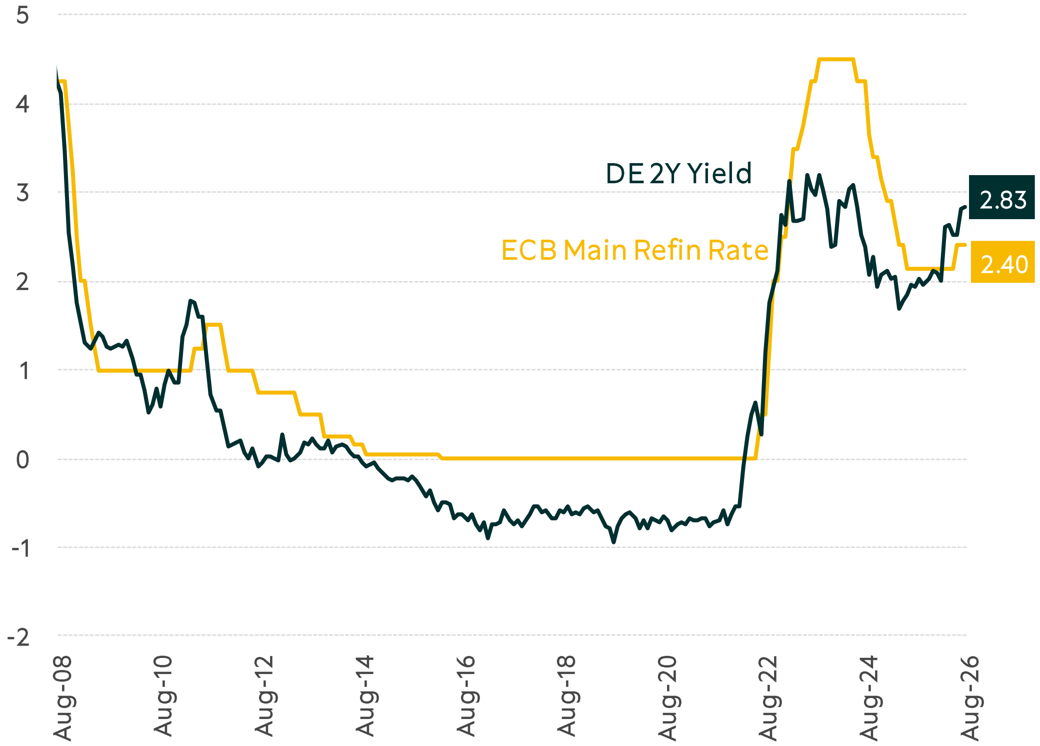
Negative index → Indicates that inflation has been lower than expected

EA Short-Term Rates | Forward rates suggest higher levels of interest rates.

Interest rates | Market Expectations

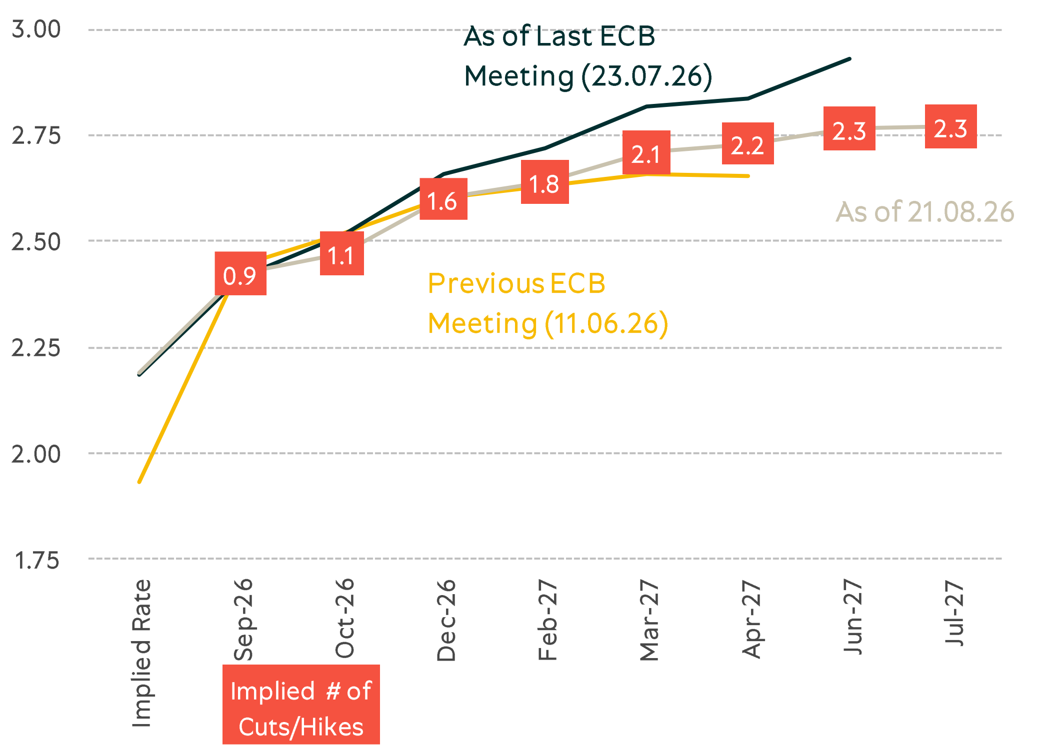


ECB Policy Rate vs German 2Yr Yield

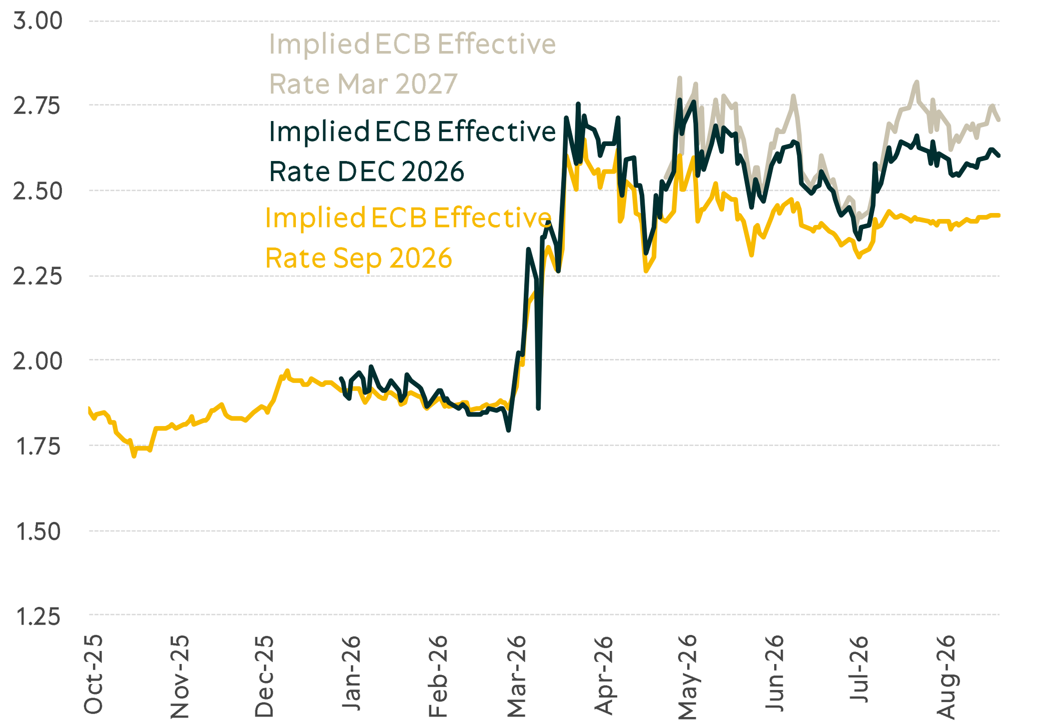


EA Short-Term Rates | 1.6 hikes are anticipated by the markets by the end of 2026.

Implied Overnight Rate based on Overnight Index Swaps



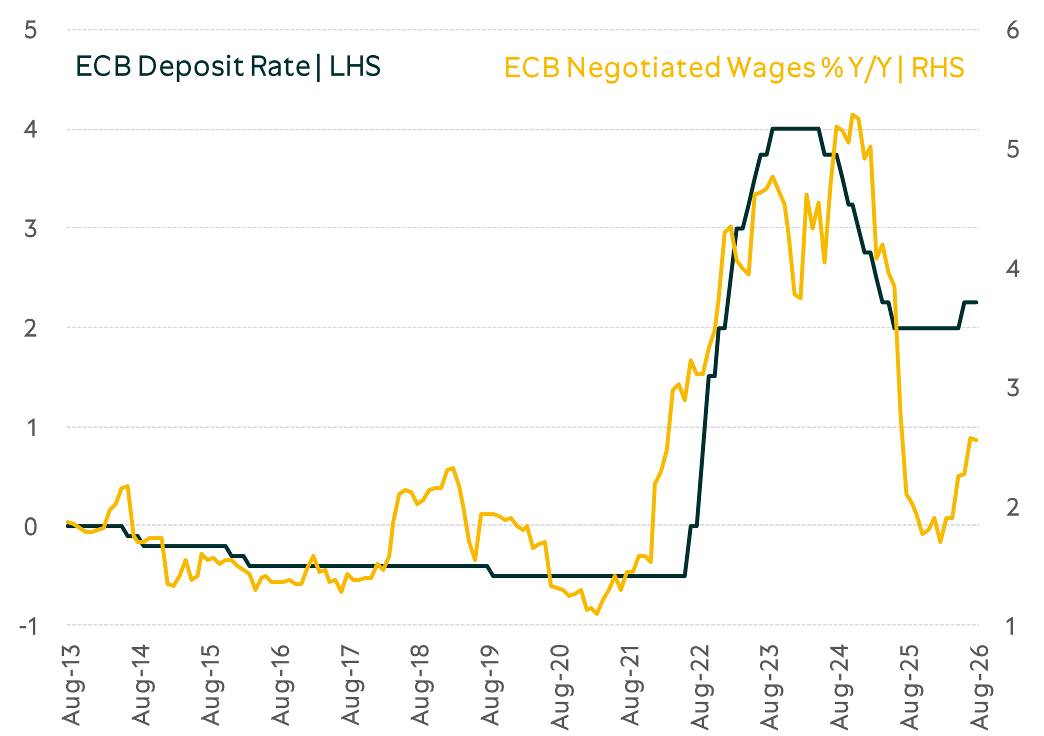
Interest Rates | Implied ECB Effective Rate



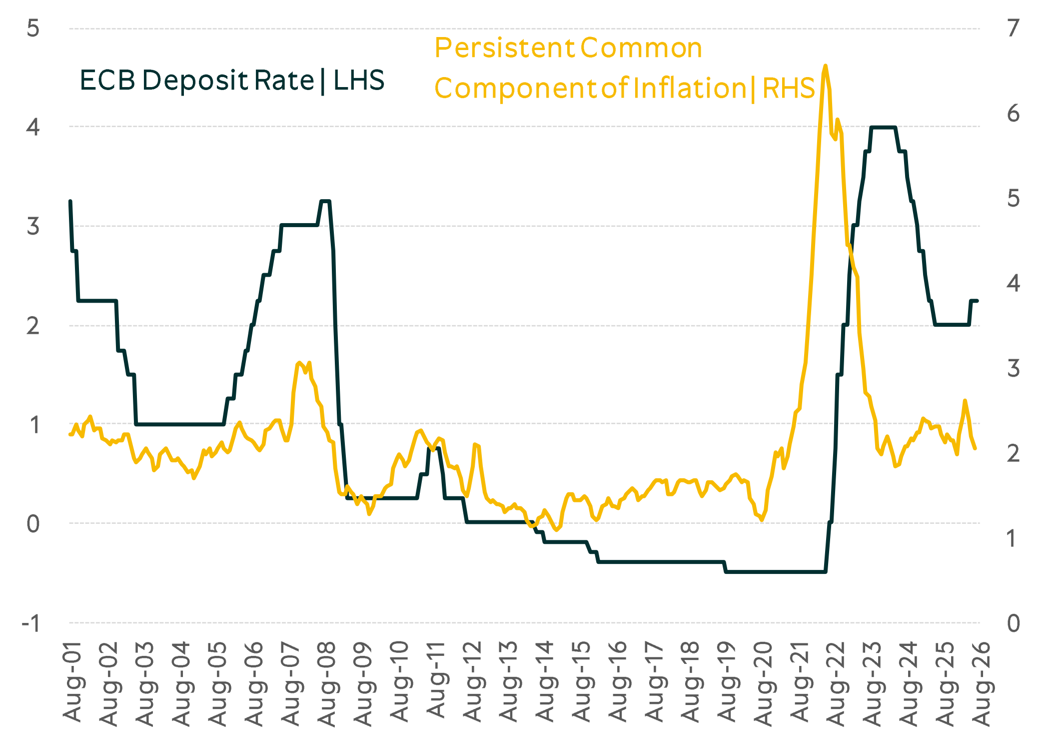
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Interest Rates | Policy Rate vs Fundamental Drivers: Wages and Persistent Inflation below ECB's rate

ECB Depo Rate & Negotiated Wages



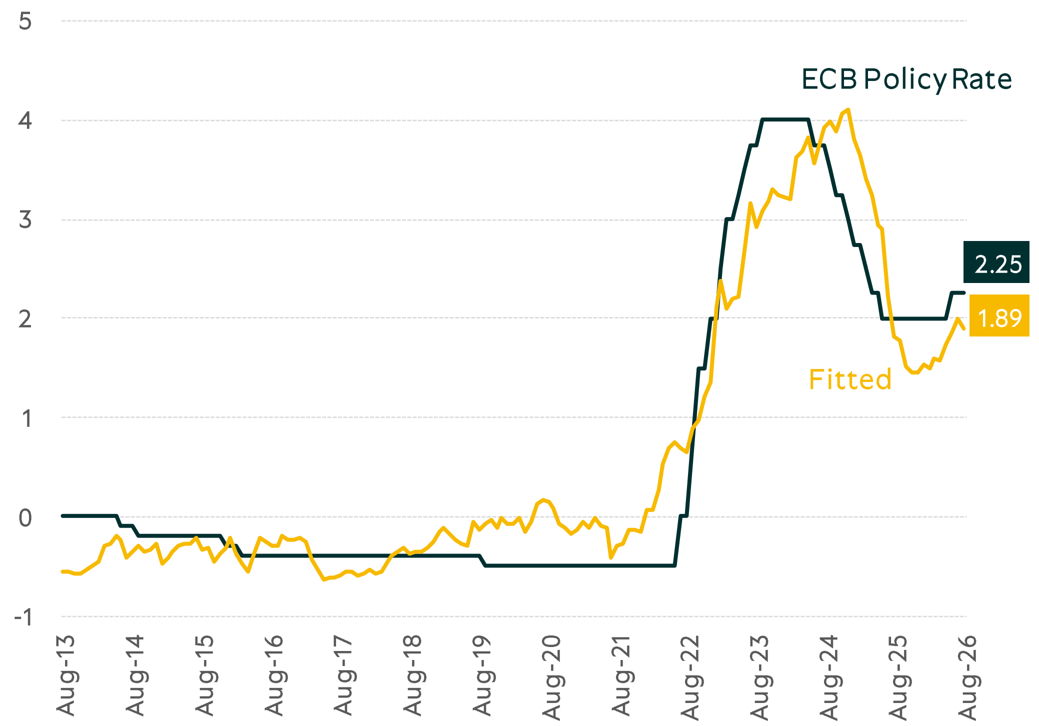
ECB Depo Rate & Persistent Common Component of Inflation



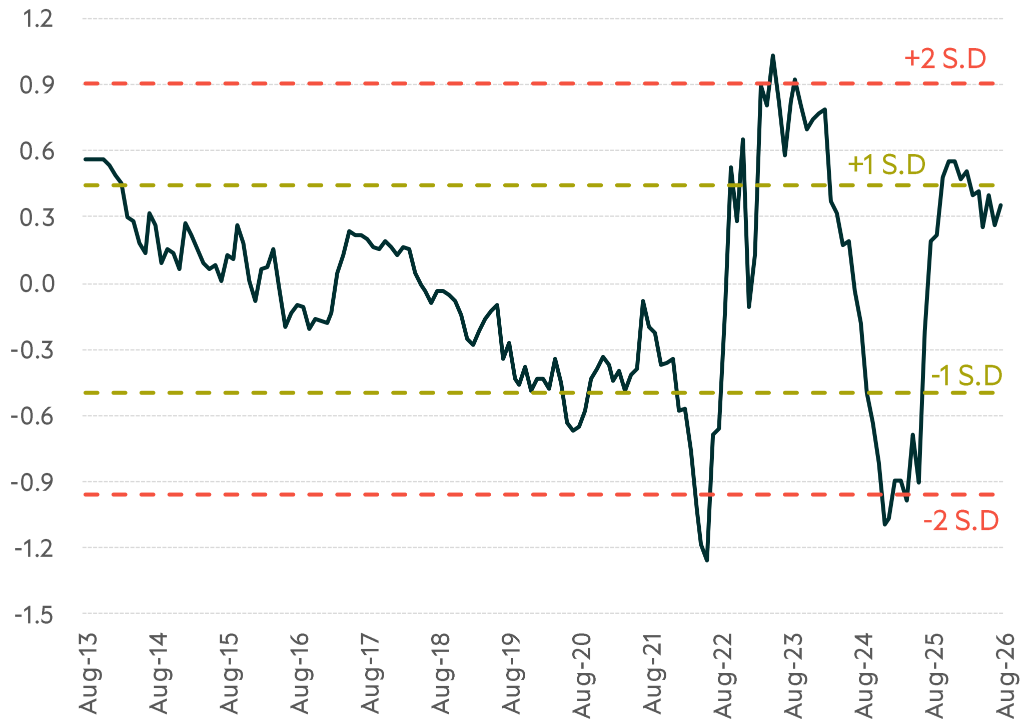
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Interest Rates | Taylor Rule Proxy Model & ECB Rate

Fitted vs Actual



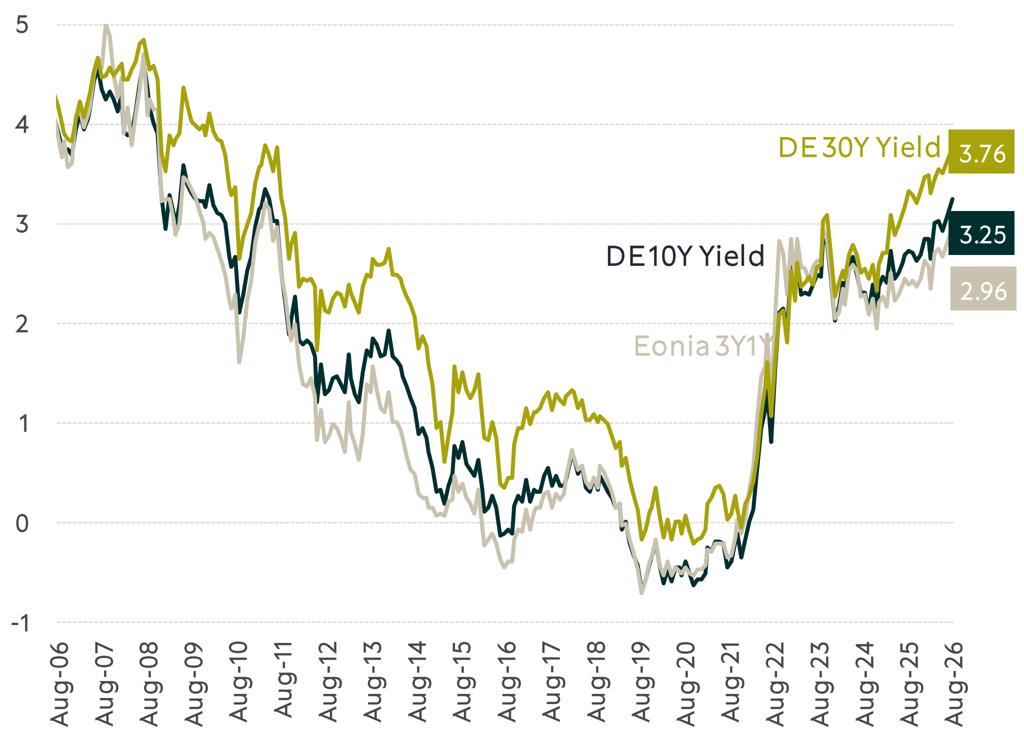
Residuals



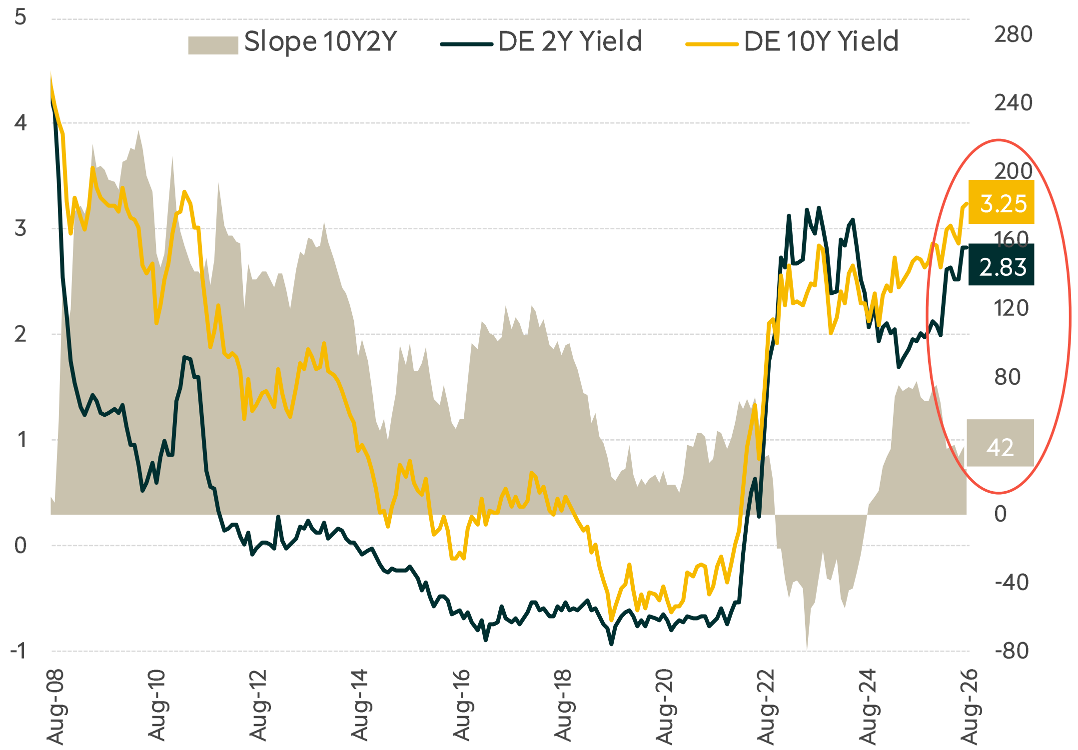
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

EA Rates | In June, the ECB raised interest rates for the first time in nearly three years by 25 bps, due to intensifying inflationary pressures but kept them unchanged in July adopting a wait-and-see stance amide energy-price volatility.

DE 10Y, DE 30Y Yields & Eonia 3Y1Y

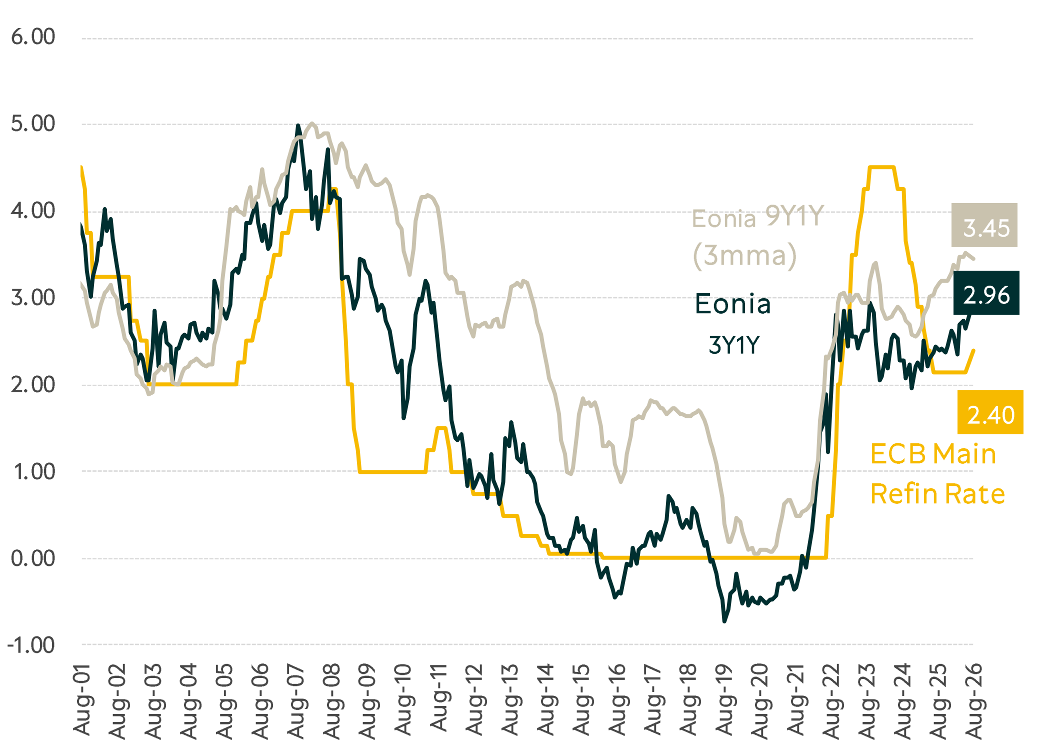


German Yield Curve

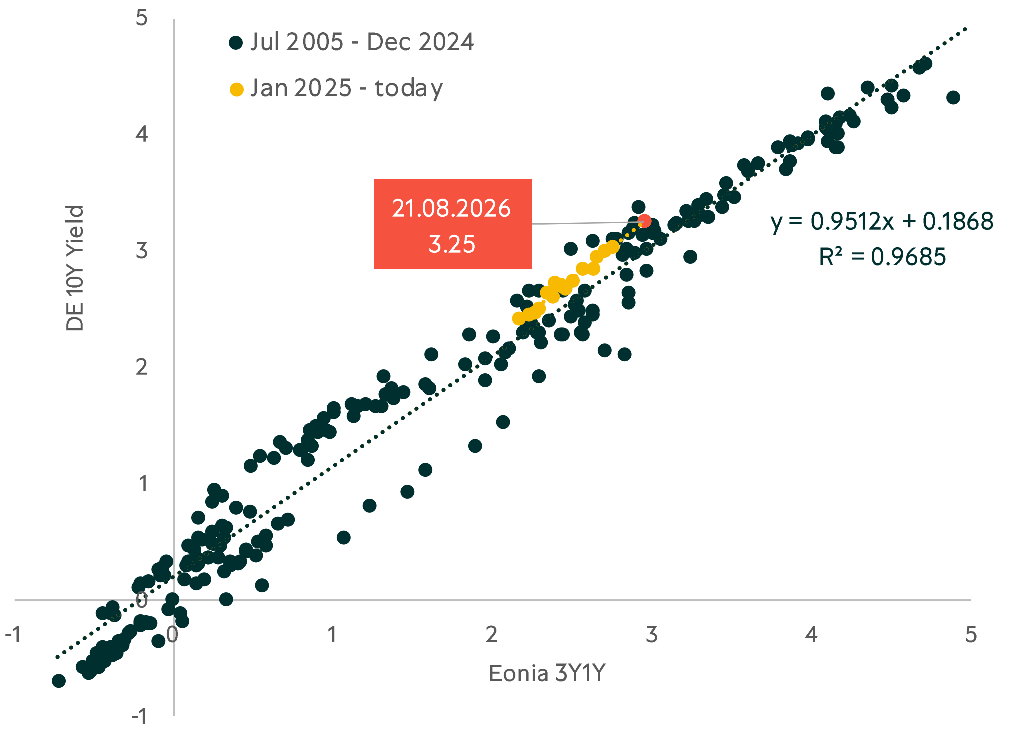


EA Long-Term Rates | Given the current level of short-term rates, long-term bonds are near "fair value".

Long-term Interest Rate Expectations



DE Yield vs Medium-term Interest Rate Expectations



Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Bird’s Eye View

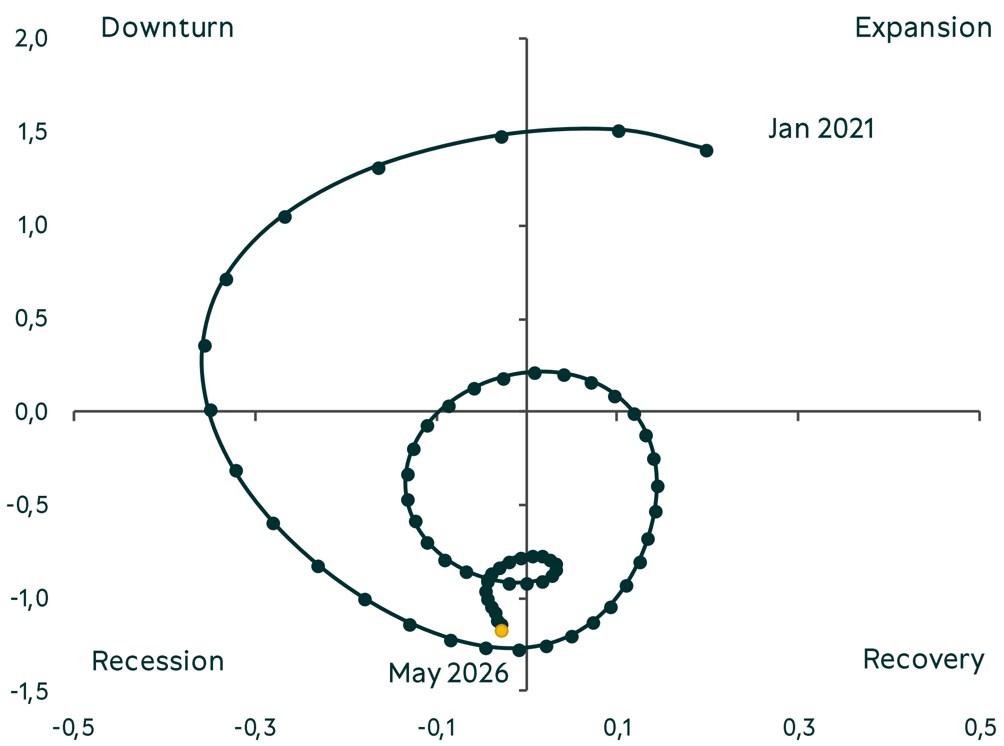
US Economy

EA Economy

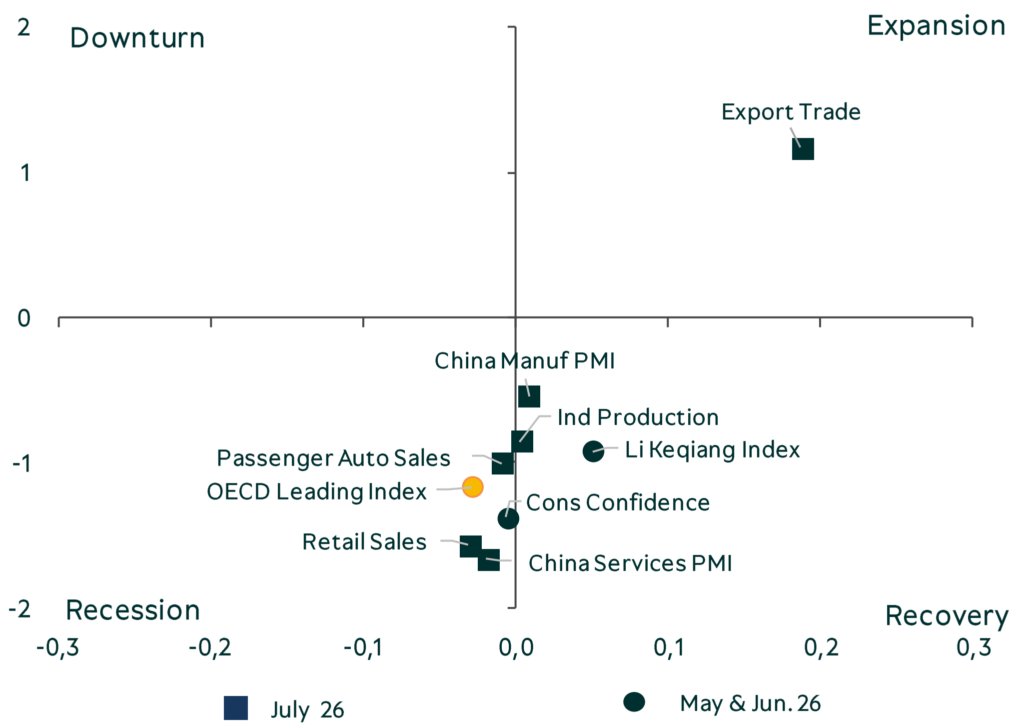
China Economy

Chinese Business Cycle | The majority of economic variables now sit between the recession and recovery phases.

CN Business Cycle | Based on China OECD Leading Indicator

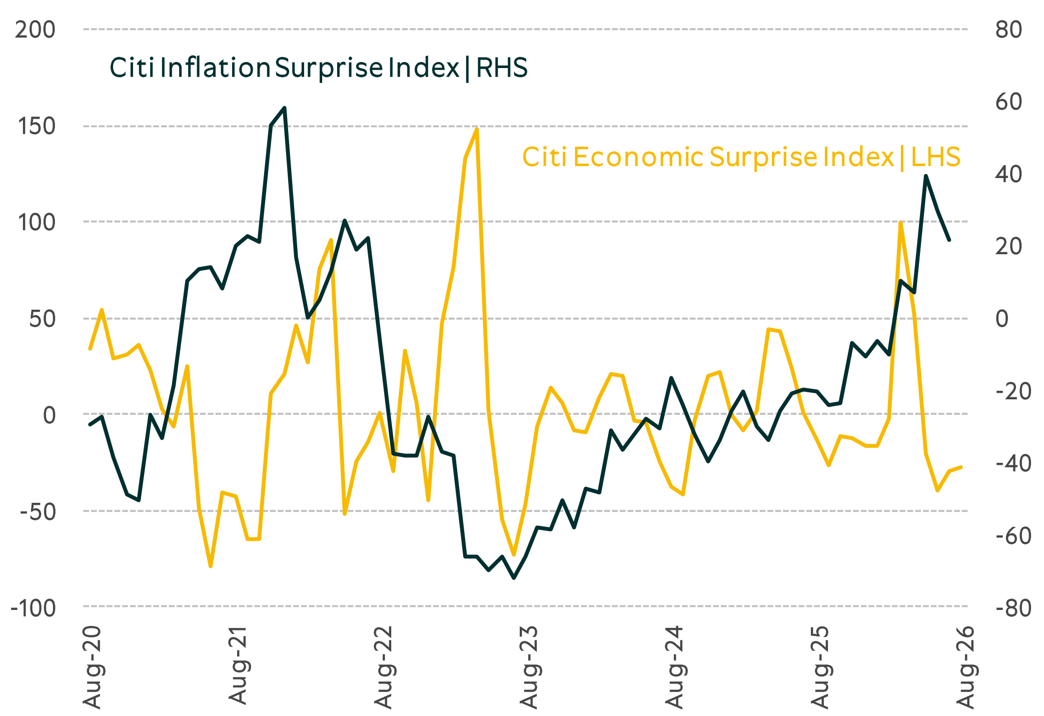


CN Business Cycle | Based on Major CN Economic Variables

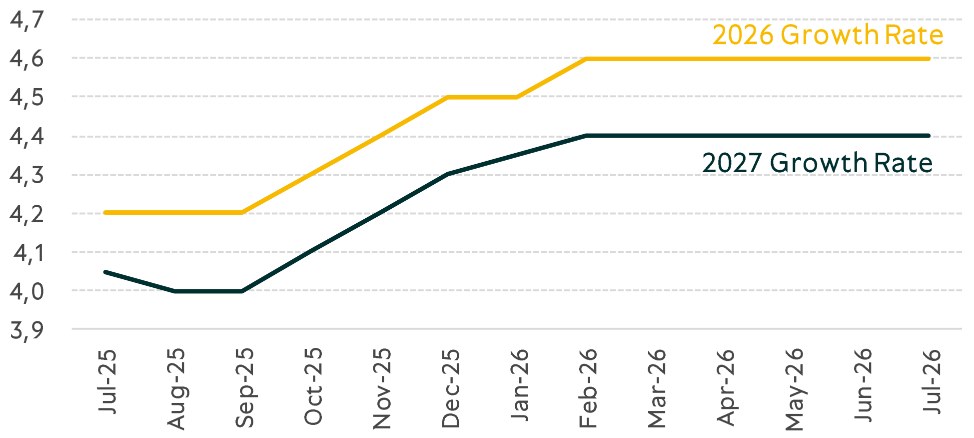


Chinese Macro Expectations | Sub 5% growth expectations for 2026 & 2027. Inflation is expected to remain significantly low.

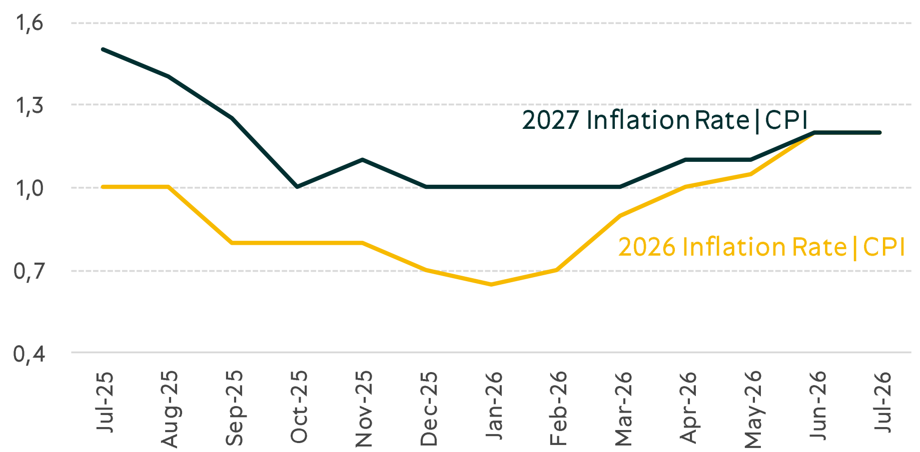
Economic & Inflation Surprises



Growth Rate Expectations (Consensus)



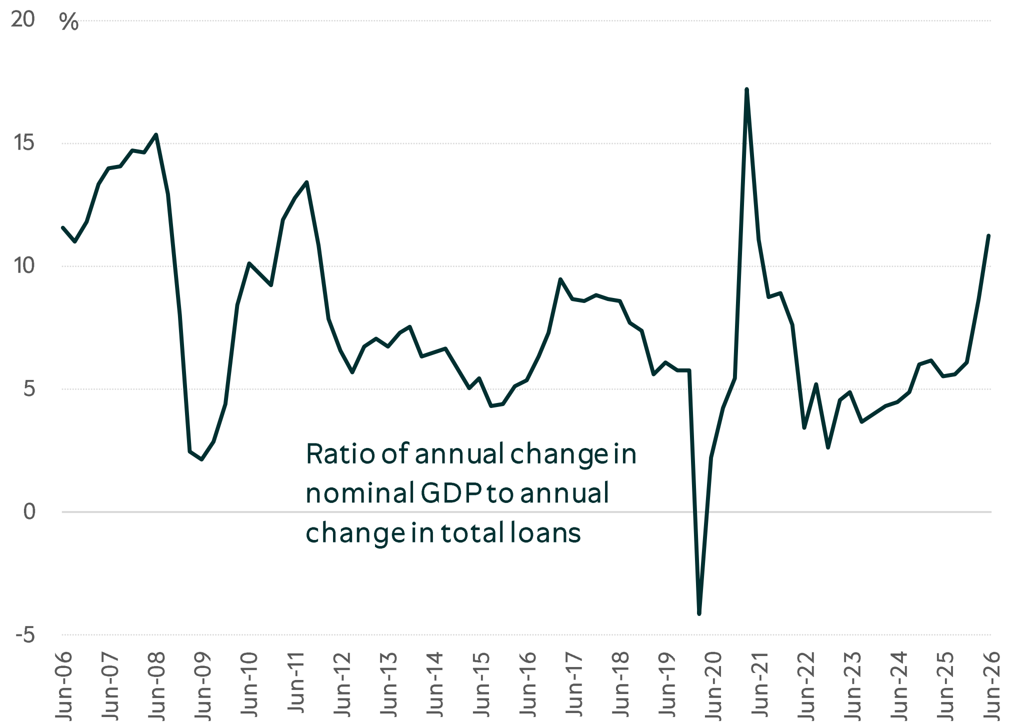
Inflation Rate Expectations (Consensus)



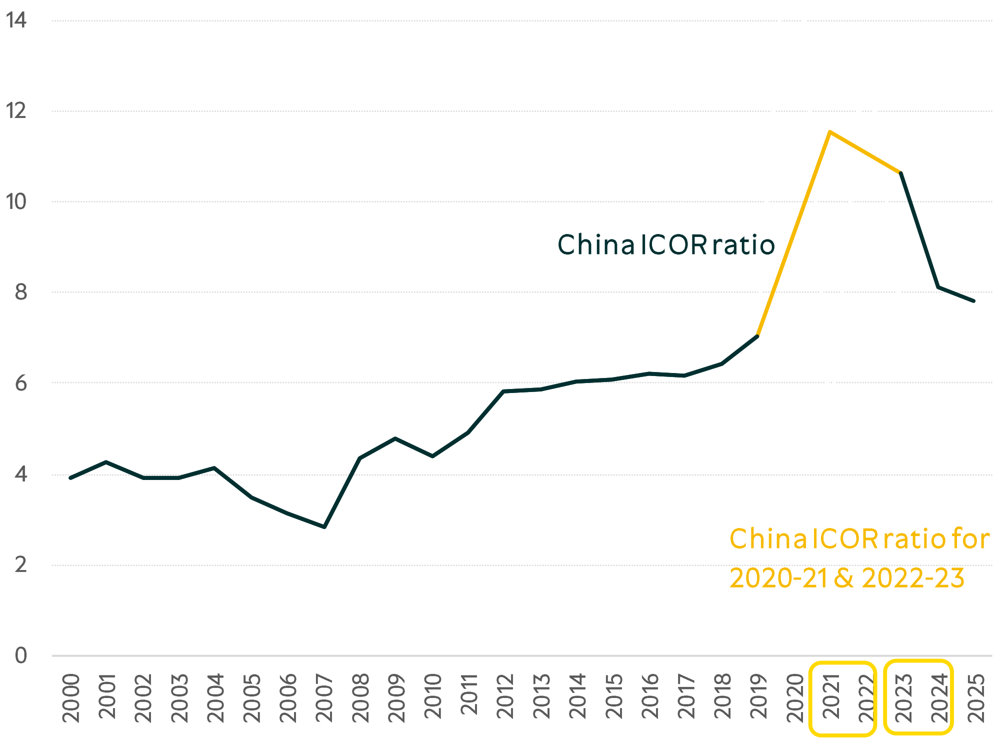
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

Chinese Investment Capacity | China still has scope for more efficient capital allocation, although progress has been made in redirecting investment toward high-productivity sectors.

China credit-efficiency ratio



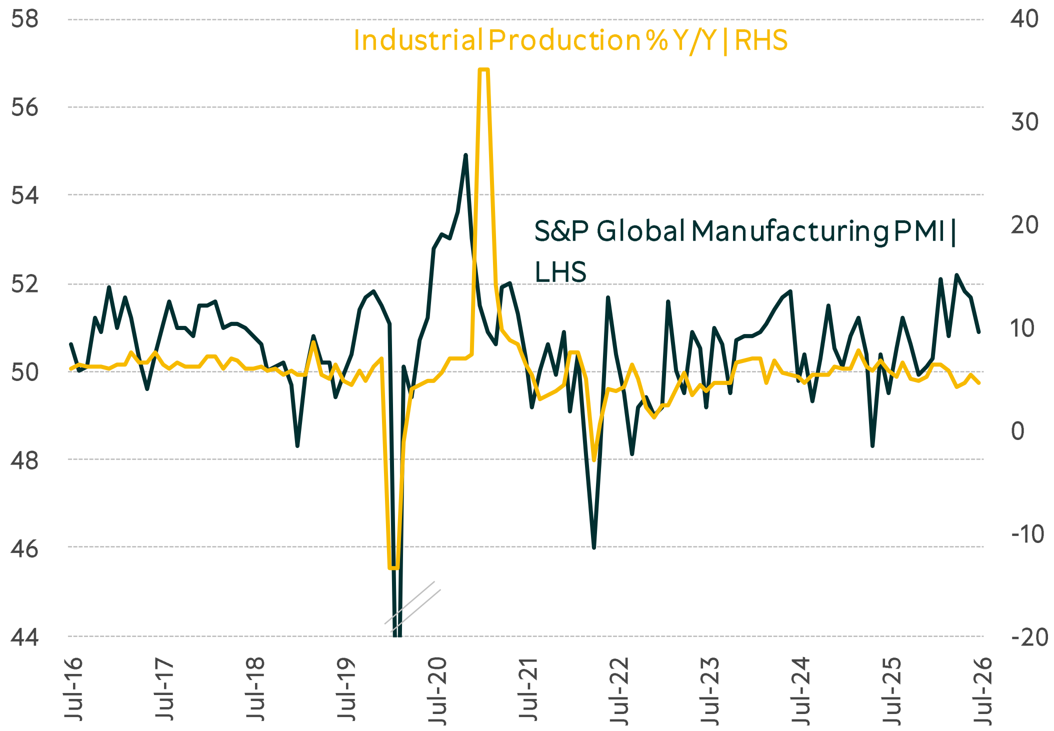
China Incremental Capital Output Ratio



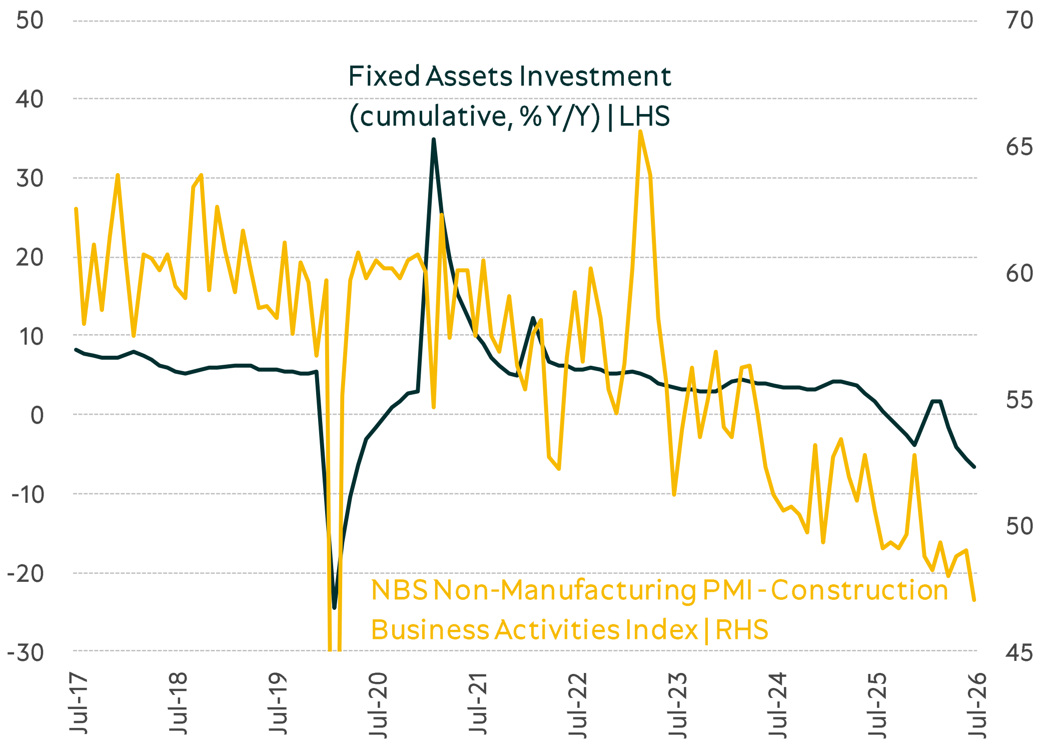
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

CN | The S&P Global Manufacturing PMI decreased to 50.9 in July; Contraction in fixed asset investment is continuing at an accelerated pace.

Industrial Production & Caixin Manufacturing

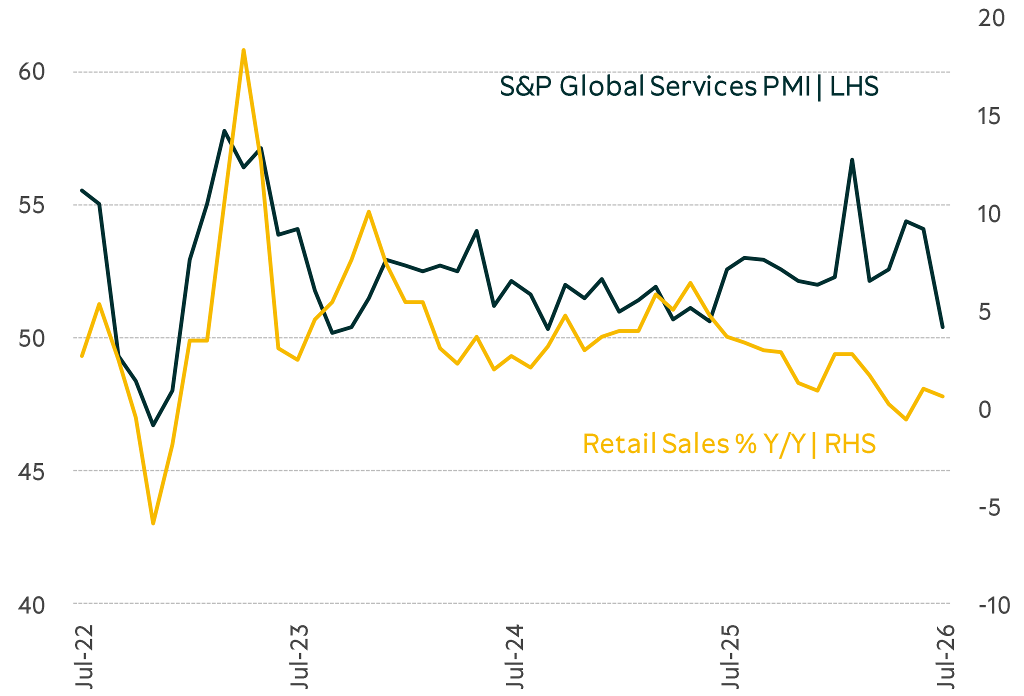


Fixed Assets Investment & NBS Construction Business Activity Index

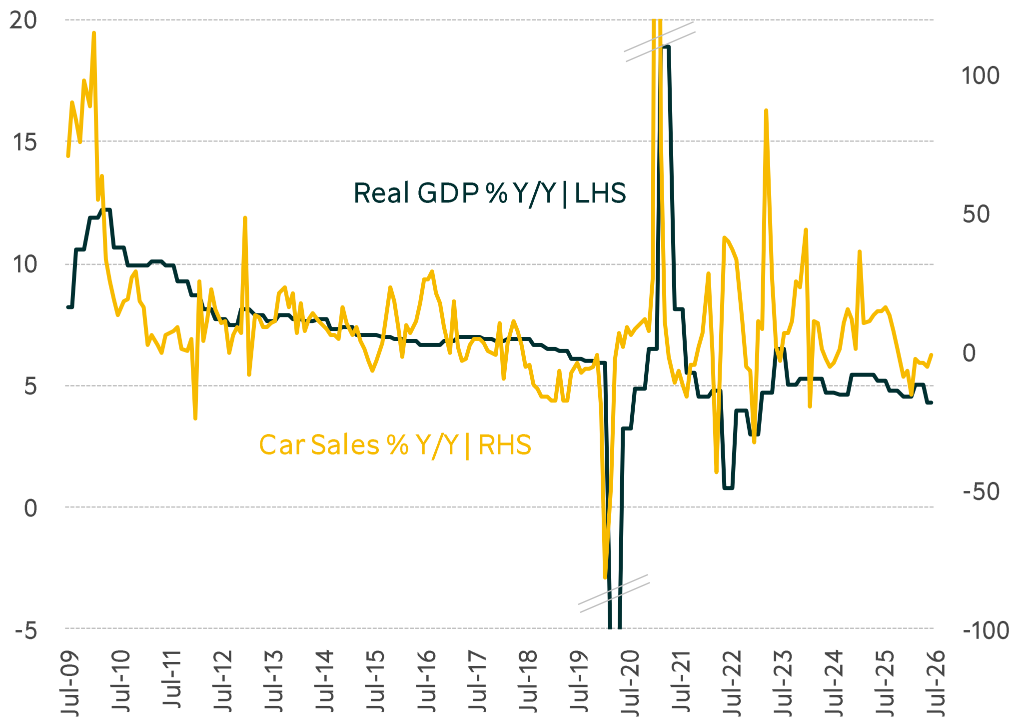


CN | July saw a significant decrease in the S&P Global Services PMI - A sign that domestic demand remains subdued.

Retail Sales & Caixin Services PMI

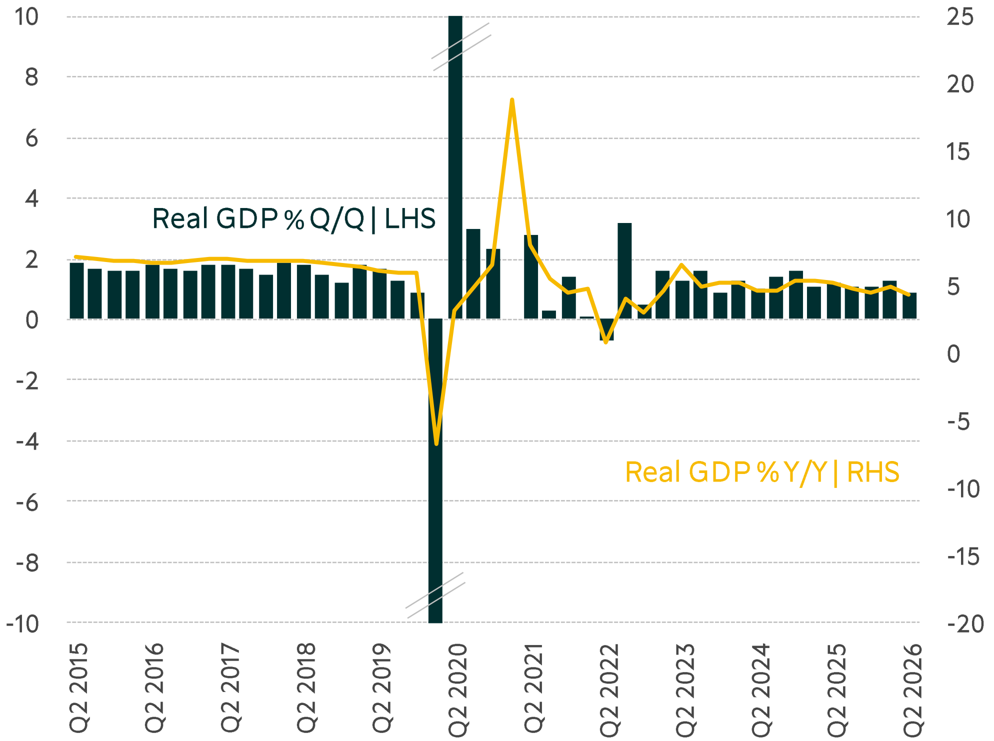


Real GDP & Car Sales

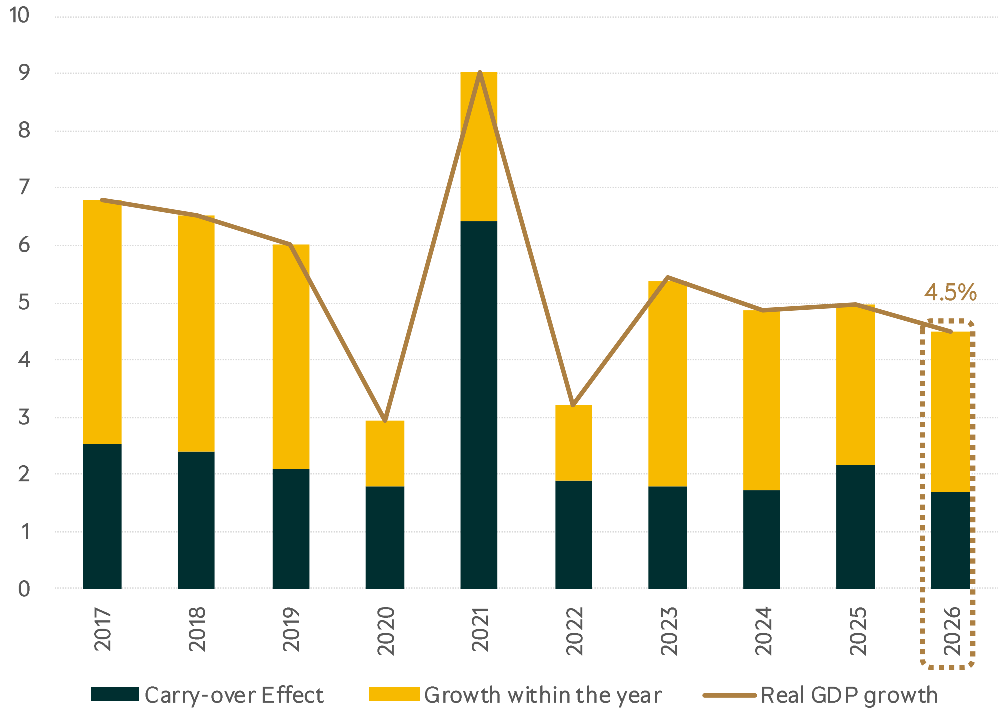


CN GDP Outlook | Economic growth decelerated to 4.3% in Q2 '26, with H1 '26 growth reaching 4.7%. The government's 2026 target range is 4.5%–5%.

GDP Growth Rate

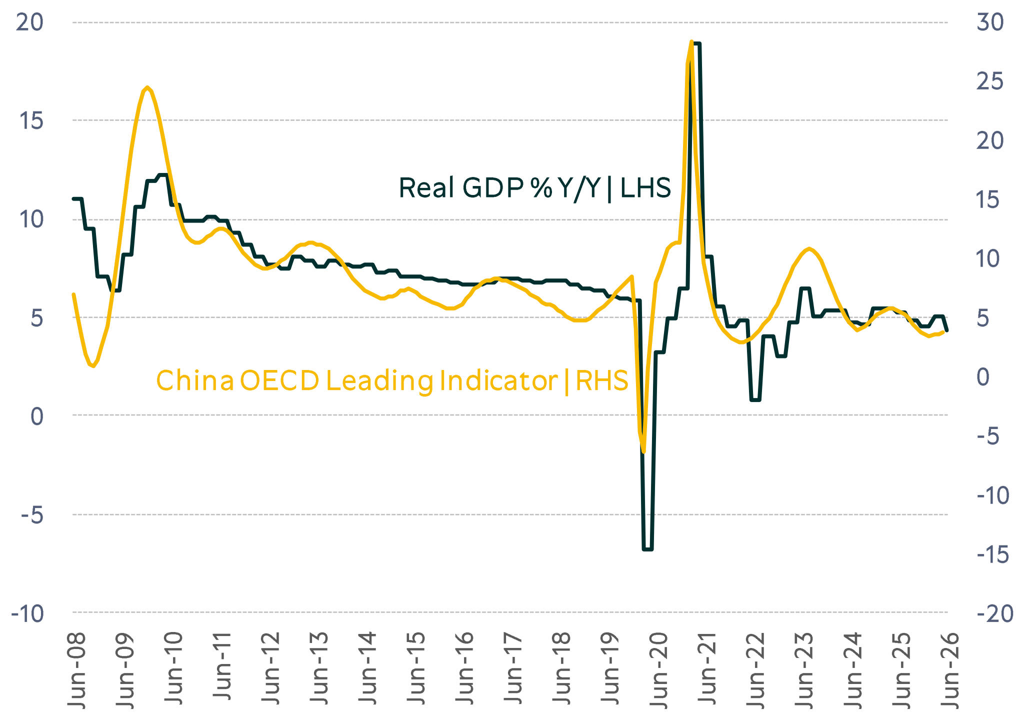


Carry Over Effect

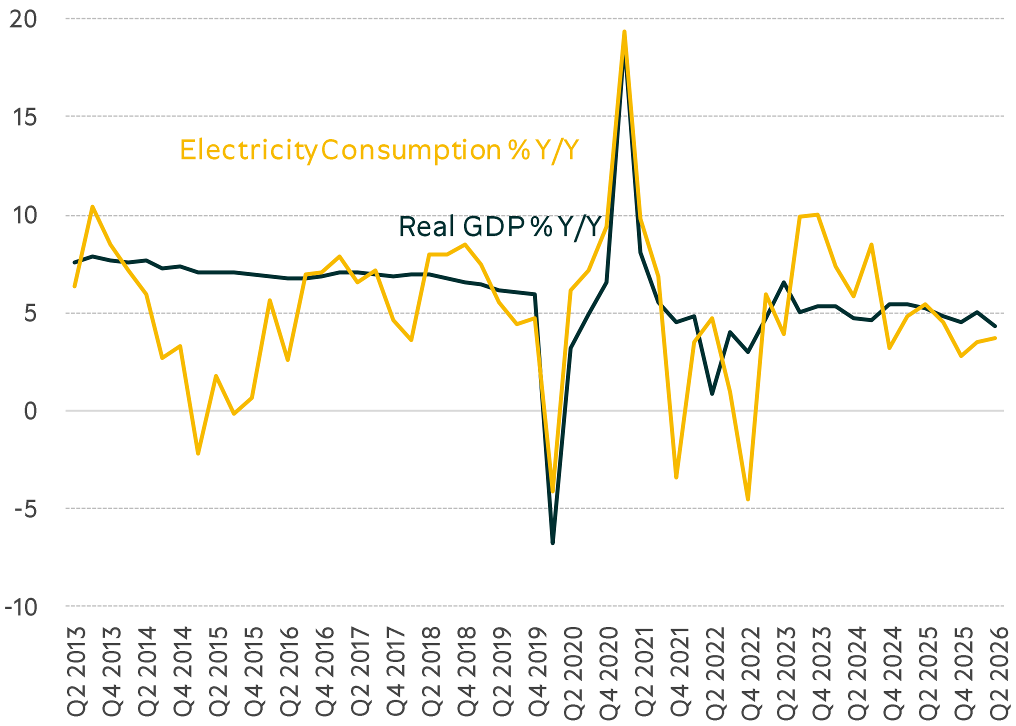


CN GDP | Trends in electricity consumption and the OECD Leading Indicator suggest that growth is likely to remain about (or slightly above) the current level.

Real GDP & China OECD Leading Indicator

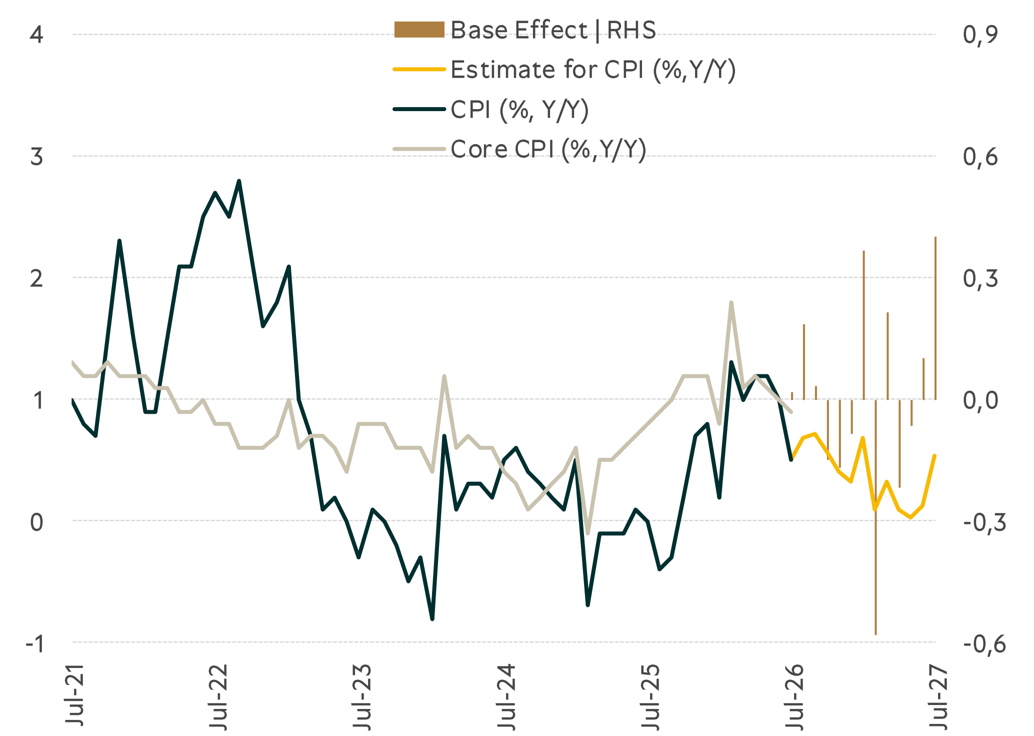


Real GDP & Electricity Consumption

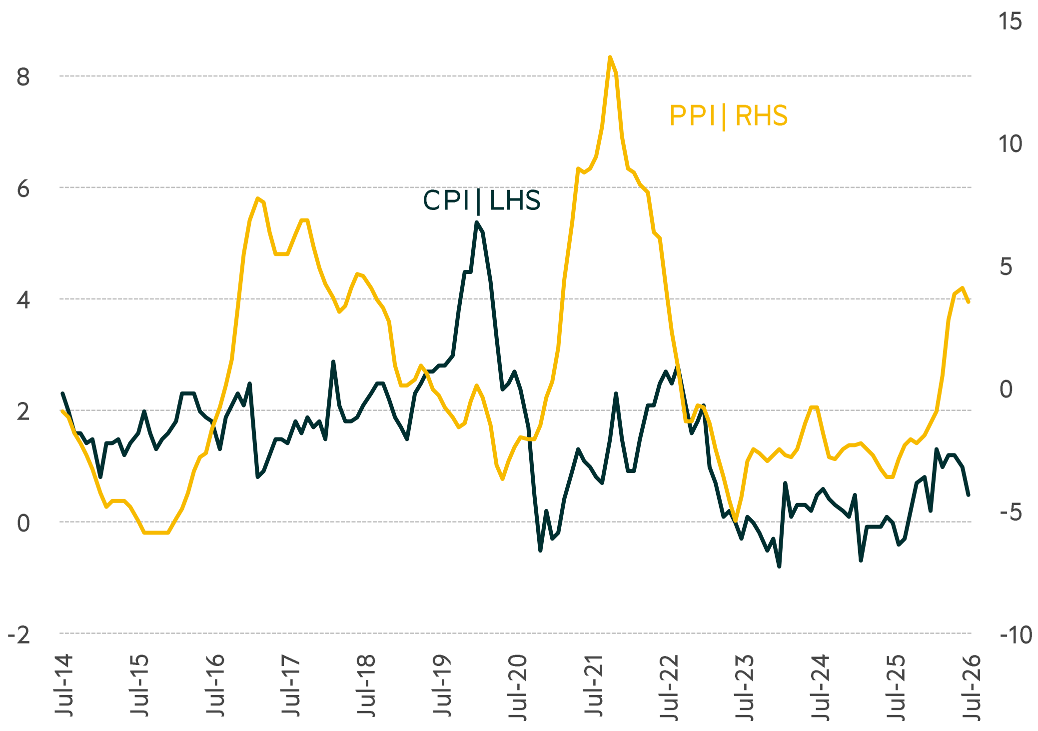


CN Inflation Outlook | Inflation moderated to 0.5% in July (from 1%) and is expected to remain subdued in the coming period.

Inflation Rate Forecast | Statistical Model

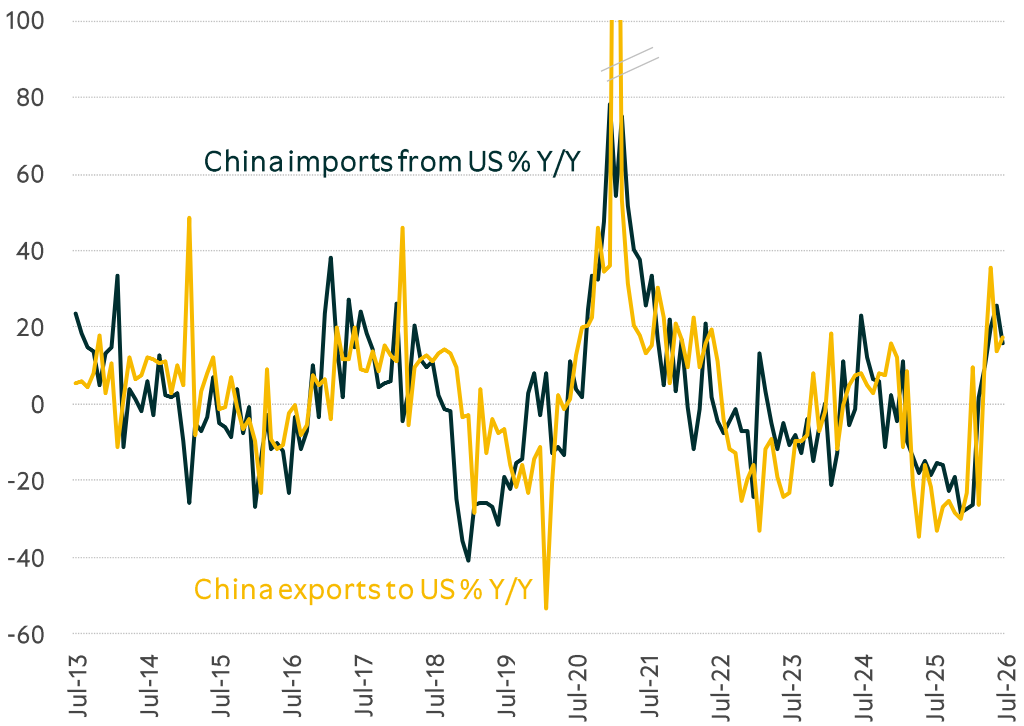


CPI & PPI

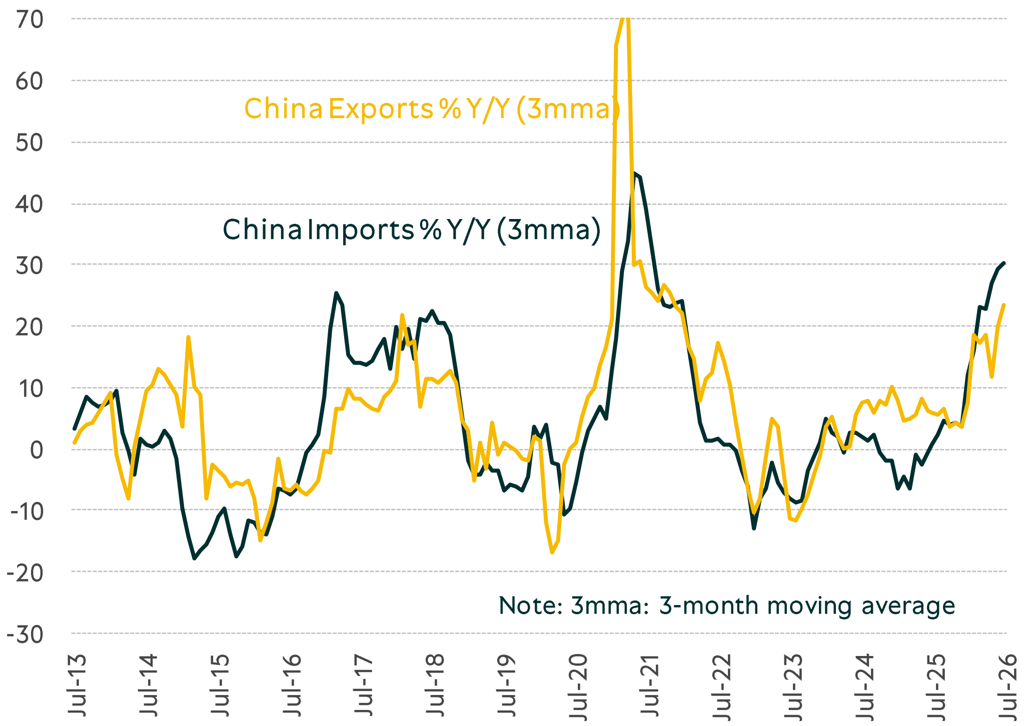


CN Trade | Exports, driven by high-tech products, constitute the main component of growth.

Trade US – China



Imports & Exports



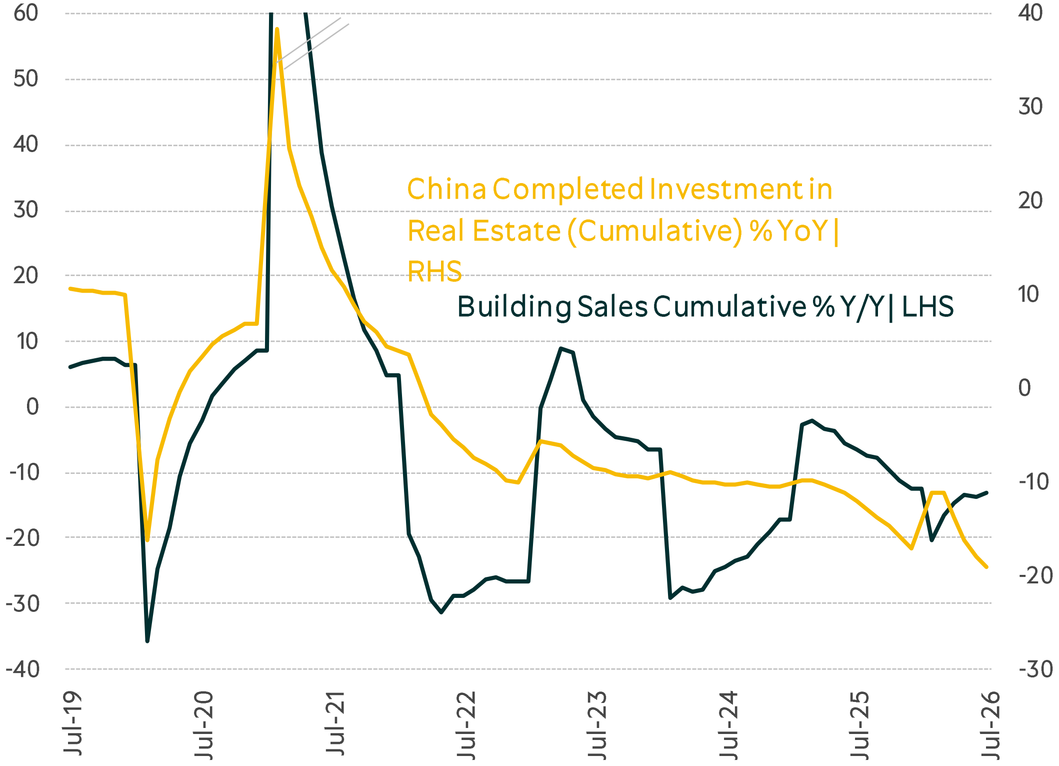
Note: 3mma: 3-month moving average

Piraeus

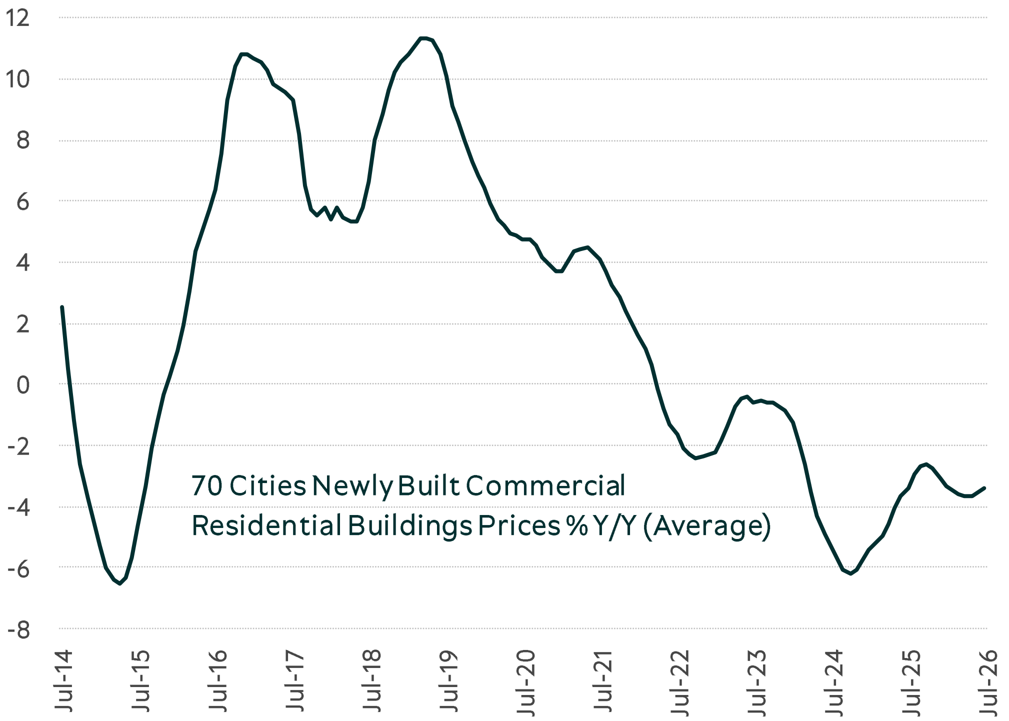
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

CN Real Estate | Challenges in the real estate market persist. Prices continue to decline.

Real Estate Development Investment & Building Sales



Newly Residential Buildings Prices

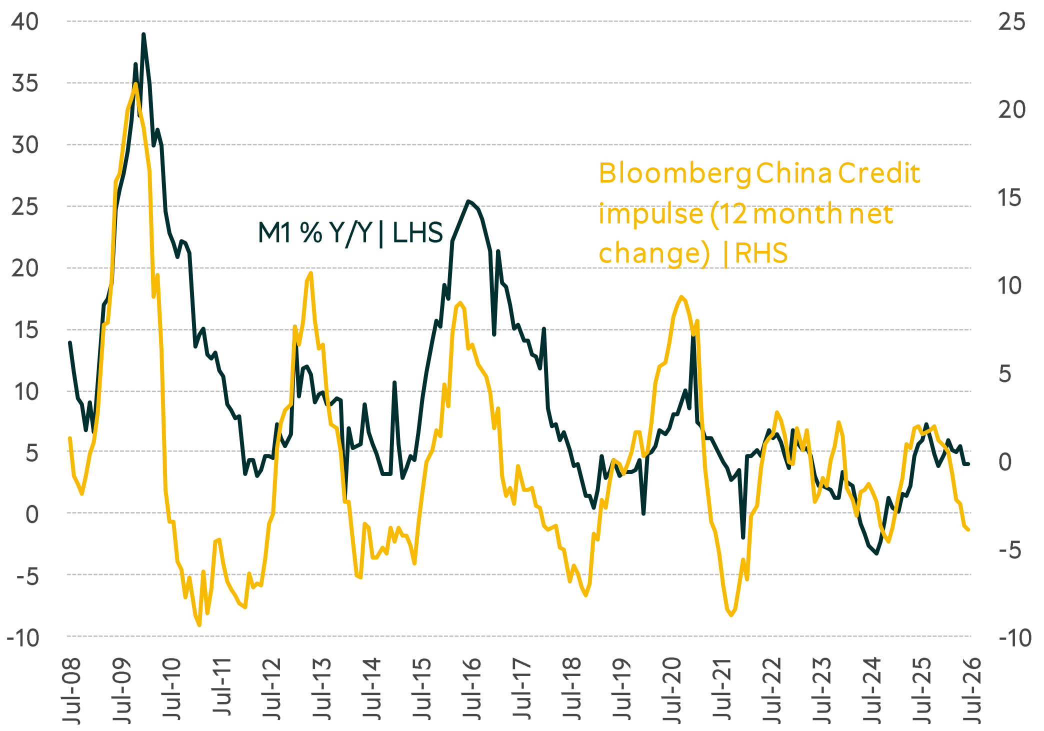


Piraeus

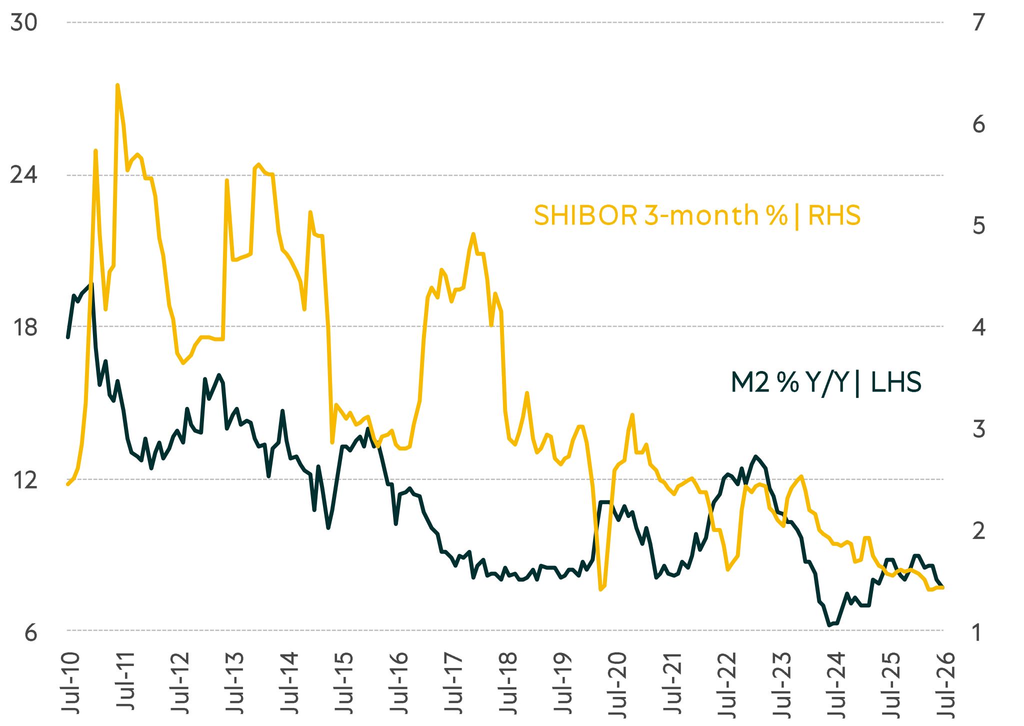
Source: Economic Research & Investment Strategy

CN Money Supply | The boost to economic activity provided by the expansion of monetary aggregates (M1 and M2) has become more subdued.

Money Supply

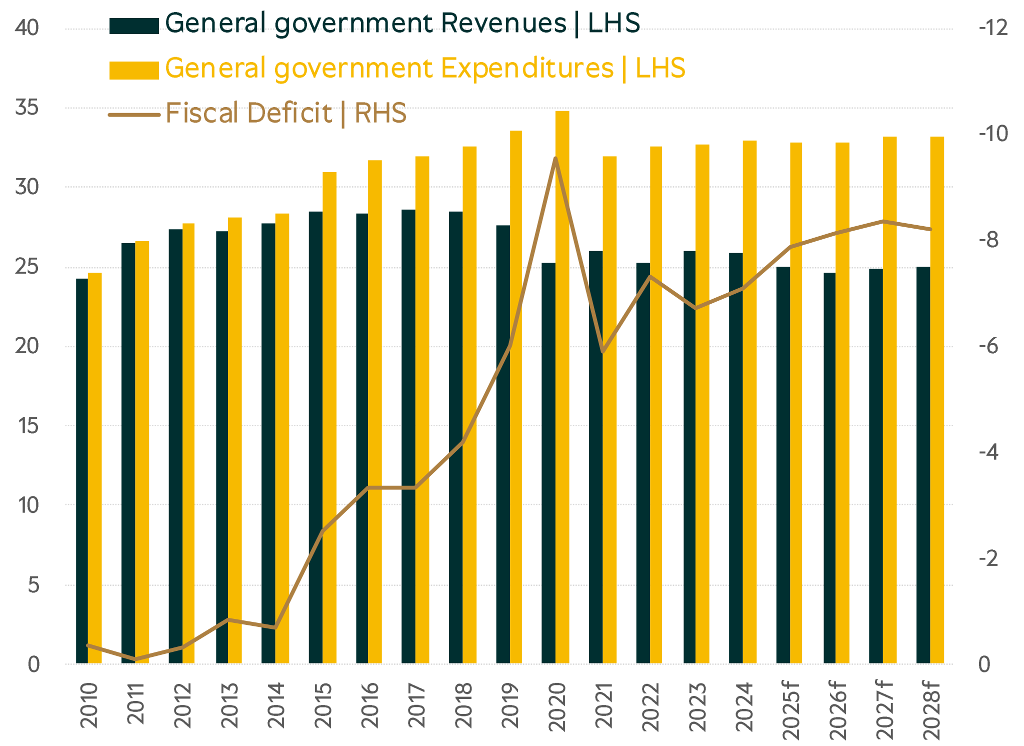


Money Supply & Interbank Rate

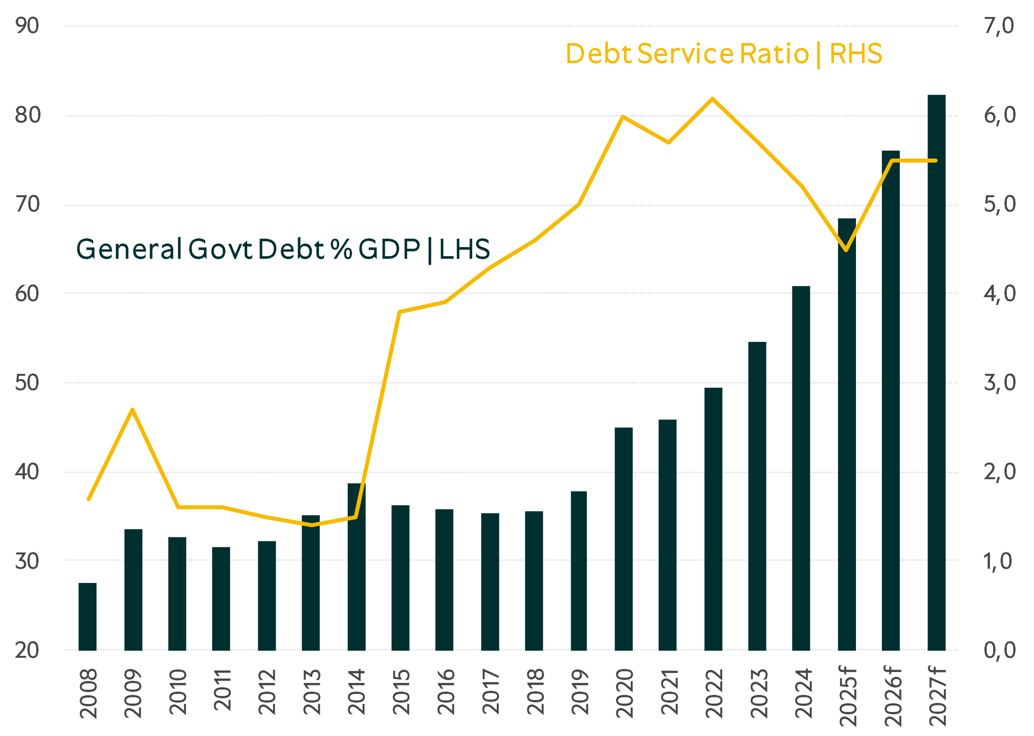


CN Fiscal | Expansionary Fiscal policy is expected to continue.

Government Balance



General Government Debt & Debt Service Ratio



Debt Service Ratio = (Interest + Current-year repayment of principal) / Current-account receipts

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