

# GLOBAL ECONOMICS | DAILY POINTS

September 4, 2019 @ 8:00 EST

ON DECK FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4											
Country	Date	Time	<u>Indicator</u>	Period	BNS	Consensus	Latest				
US	09/04	07:00	MBA Mortgage Applications (w/w)	Aug 30			-3.1				
CA	09/04	08:30	Merchandise Trade Balance (C\$ bn)	Jul	-0.1	-0.4	0.1				
CA	09/04	08:30	Productivity (q/q a.r.)	2Q		0.1	0.3				
US	09/04	08:30	Trade Balance (US\$ bn)	Jul	-52.3	-53.4	-55.2				
US	09/04	09:00	Total Vehicle Sales (mn a.r.)	Aug	17.0	16.8	16.8				
CA	09/04	10:00	BoC Interest Rate Announcement (%)	Sep 4	1.75	1.75	1.75				

### **KEY POINTS:**

- Risk-on driven by reduced or pushed out geopolitical risks
- No-deal Brexit risk has either diminished or been pushed out
- HK stocks rally as the extradition treaty is withdrawn
- But US-China trade tensions remain as acute as before
- The Bank of Canada needs to avoid tightening financial conditions...
- ....perhaps by altering 'appropriate' reference to the policy stance
- Heavy Fed-speak today
- US, Canada update trade figures
- US vehicle sales on tap

### INTERNATIONAL

With the Bank of Canada slated to weigh in with its fresh decision and guidance, global risk-on sentiment is being driven by perceptions that at least some of the geopolitical risks overhanging markets may have either subsided or been pushed out. There is still zero traction on US-China trade tensions that represent the granddaddy of the risks overhanging markets. For now, however, markets are focused upon lessened no-deal Brexit risks after the vote in the British Parliament last evening while the formal bill to extend the UK's requested deadline to January 31<sup>st</sup> is slated for a vote this evening and potentially triggering a formal election call. Add in Hong Kong's somewhat more accommodating stance toward protestors upon withdrawal of the extradition treaty.

- The USD is broadly depreciating against most crosses. Underperformers include other safe havens like the yen and Swiss franc, but also CAD as traders are guarded ahead of the BoC statement.
- Sovereign curves are cheapening up almost everywhere except for Italy
  where spreads over bunds continue to tighten. Canada's curve is about 2bps
  cheaper across maturities. The US Treasury curve is 2–3bps cheaper in a
  mild bear steepener. Gilts are underperforming all other markets with 10s up
  10bps on reduced safe haven seeking due to lessened or pushed out no-deal
  Brexit risks.
- US equity futures are up by ¾% to 1% across the exchanges with the TSX up by just over ½%. European cash markets are rallying by as little as ¼% in London as the pound appreciates, to 1% in Germany and France. Hong Kong ripped higher by 4% overnight.

#### CONTACTS

Derek Holt, VP & Head of Capital Markets Economics 416.863.7707 Scotiabank Economics derek.holt@scotiabank.com



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 Oil prices are up by about 70 cents or so in terms of WTI and Brent. US government reported oil inventories will be released tomorrow instead of today given the holiday-shortened week.

#### **CANADA**

The BoC is a statement-only affair today (10amET) followed by the economic progress report that follows non-MPR statements and that will be delivered tomorrow by Deputy Governor Schembri. Neither consensus nor markets expect the BoC to cut, but most probably wouldn't fault it for easing and at a minimum it needs to alter language so as to avoid tightening financial conditions. If it doesn't alter "appropriate" reference to the current policy rate either by striking it down or watering it down such as by adding qualifiers like "at this time" or something like "for now, as we reassess conditions", then the BoC risks tightening financial conditions through CAD and the rates complex. It would be a very brave central bank to tighten financial conditions in this environment. See the Canadian section of the Global Week Ahead for a fuller discussion. Canadian trade figures will be released just before (8:30amET). Also keep an eye on Q2 productivity readings given accelerating wage growth; at some point, productivity is the ultimate anchor point for inflation-adjusted wage gains and trend productivity growth has been tepid.

In addition to the arguments given in the BoC preview provided in the week ahead, one key matter is worth exploring a little further. What's different about the BoC easing today versus in 2015? Back then, they eased in a way that arguably overheated interest sensitive sectors like housing without doing much to counter weaker resource prices that could have flowed through to more stable second-round effects. They eased ahead of when Ottawa began doling out a large increase in child benefit cheques in mid-2016 and thus monetary policy and fiscal policy temporarily over-stimulated consumption. The transitory effects of the terms of trade shock in 2014H2 into 2015 might have run its course without being complicated by a transitory policy-induced overshoot by housing and consumption.

This time, the trade hit could be longer lasting and more damaging, B20 limits rate pass-through to mortgages, and borrowers are already flocking to fixed rate mortgages from variable rate mortgages such that cutting the administered policy rate wouldn't be as responsible for overheating housing on its own. For the BoC not to ease if the Fed delivers anything close to what is priced over time would tighten Canadian financial conditions at a time of legitimate worries overhanging the global economy and when Canada already has competitiveness problems.

### **UNITED STATES**

A couple of macro reports and further monetary policy guidance are on tap for today.

A narrower all-in trade deficit is likely to be reported for the month of July (8:30amET). We already know that the advance merchandise balance narrowed so today incorporates revisions and tacks on the usually fairly stable services balance. Ergo, there should be little new in the report.

Vehicle sales will also be updated for August later in the day after companies report and will inform expectations for retail sales last month.

Fed-speak will be pretty heavy today with a number of voting officials on tap following a weak ISM-manufacturing report and ahead of nonfarm on Friday. We'll hear from New York Fed President Williams (9:25amET) ahead of Dallas President Kaplan (10amET), followed by the tag team of Governor Bowman and St. Louis President Bullard (12:30pmET). Minneapolis President Kashkari speaks at 1pmET followed by Chicago's Evans (3:15pmET). The Beige Book of regional conditions will be released at 2pmET.



Fixed Income	Government Yield Curves (%):												Central Banks		
	2-YEAR			5-YEAR			10-YEAR			30-YEAR			Current Rate		
	Last	1-day	<u>1-wk</u>	Last	1-day	<u>1-wk</u>	Last	1-day	<u>1-wk</u>	Last	1-day	<u>1-wk</u>			
U.S.	1.46	1.45	1.50	1.35	1.33	1.38	1.48	1.46	1.48	1.98	1.95	1.97	Canada - BoC	1.75	
CANADA	1.32	1.31	1.33	1.14	1.13	1.17	1.13	1.11	1.12	1.40	1.39	1.37			
GERMANY	-0.89	-0.91	-0.88	-0.88	-0.92	-0.89	-0.65	-0.71	-0.71	-0.12	-0.19		US - Fed	2.25	
JAPAN	-0.29	-0.29	-0.30	-0.35	-0.35	-0.34	-0.28	-0.28	-0.28	0.12	0.11	0.16			
U.K.	0.36	0.33	0.35	0.34	0.27	0.29	0.49	0.41	0.44	0.99	0.92	0.99	England - BoE	0.75	
	Spreads vs. U.S. (bps):														
CANADA	-14	-14	-18	-21	-20	-21	-36	-34	-36	-57	-56	-60	Euro zone - ECB	0.00	
GERMANY	-235	-236	-238	-222	-225	-227	-213	-216	-220	-210	-214	-220			
JAPAN	-176	-174	-181	-169	-168	-172	-176	-174	-176	-186	-184		Japan - BoJ	-0.10	
U.K.	-110	-112	-115 Le	-101	-106	-109	-99	-105	-104	-99	-104	-98	<b>.</b>		
Equities							ange:			Mexico - Banxico	8.00				
	<u>Last</u>				Change		1 Day	<u>1-\</u>		<u>1-mo</u>	<u>1-</u>		l		
S&P/TSX	16399				-42.8		-0.3	1.		0.8	1.		Australia - RBA	1.00	
Dow 30	26118				-285.3 -1.1		0.		-1.4	0.		l			
S&P 500	2906			-20.2		-0.7	1.		-0.9	0.		New Zealand - RBNZ	1.00		
Nasdaq	7874				-88.7				-1.6	-2		ļ	_		
DAX		12046				1.1	3.		1.5 -1.3 -1.5 -2.2			Next Meeting Date			
FTSE	7297		28.4		0.4	2.		-1.5			l				
Nikkei		20649		24.0		0.1	0.		-2.1	-9		Canada - BoC	Sep 04, 2019		
Hang Seng		26523					-1.5	-5		lua	0 40 0040				
CAC		5530		63.5			1.2 3.0 3.2 3.5 % change:				3.	.5	US - Fed	Sep 18, 2019	
Commodities WTI Crude		E4 04	Le	vei	0.90					nange: -1.5 -21.5			England BaE	Com 40, 2040	
Natural Gas	54.84				1.7 -0.2 0.3 7.4		-1.5 -21.5 11.5 -16.3		-	England - BoE	Sep 19, 2019				
Gold	2.36		0.01			-0.7			6.6	28		Euro zone - ECB	Com 40 2040		
Silver	1536.37 18.48		-10.74 0.13			0.7	- <del>0</del> 4.		14.1	20 27		Euro zone - ECB	Sep 12, 2019		
CRB Index	170.35			0.13 1.16		0.7			-1.7			lanan Bal	Sep 19, 2019		
Currencies		170.33	Lo	evel		0.7 0.4 -1.7 -11.3 % change:				-1	1.3	Japan - BoJ	Sep 19, 2019		
USDCAD		1.3318	Le	-0.0019		-0.1 0.1			0.9 1.0		0	Mexico - Banxico	Sep 26, 2019		
EURUSD		1.1015			0.0041		0.4	-0.6		-1.7	-4	-	Mexico - Ballxico	3ep 20, 2019	
USDJPY		106.22			0.2800		0.4	-0.6 0.1		0.3	- <del>4</del> -4	-	Australia - RBA	Oct 01, 2019	
AUDUSD		0.6792			0.2000		0.5	0.		0.5	- <del></del> -5		Australia - NDA	JUL 01, 2013	
GBPUSD		1.2198			0.0032		1.0	-0		0.5	-5 -5		New Zealand - RBNZ	Sep 24, 2019	
USDCHF		0.9846			-0.0025		-0.3	0.		1.1	-5 1.		New Zealallu - RDNZ	Jep 24, 2013	
ОЗРСИС		0.5040			-0.0023		-0.3	U.	.5	1.1	1.	.0	l		

Source: Bloomberg. All quotes reflect Bloomberg data as at the time of publishing. While this source is believed to be reliable, Scotiabank cannot guarantee its accuracy.



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