

# GLOBAL ECONOMICS | DAILY POINTS

October 22, 2019 @ 7:50 EST

ON DECK FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22											
Country	Date	Time	<u>Indicator</u>	Period	BNS	Consensus	Latest				
CA	10/22	08:30	Retail Sales (m/m)	Aug	-0.2	0.4	0.4				
CA	10/22	08:30	Retail Sales ex. Autos (m/m)	Aug	0.1	0.0	-0.1				
US	10/22	10:00	Existing Home Sales (mn a.r.)	Sep	5.5	5.5	5.5				
US	10/22	10:00	Existing Home Sales (m/m)	Sep	0.2	-0.7	1.3				
US	10/22	10:00	Richmond Fed Manufacturing Index	Oct		-7.0	-9.0				
CA	10/22	10:30	BoC Senior Loan Officer Survey	3Q			-5.8				
CA	10/22	10:30	Business Outlook Future Sales	3Q			23.0				

#### **KEY POINTS:**

- Global markets yawn at Canada's election results...
- ...even with the advantage of nothing much else to focus upon
- CDN retail sales to provide the first post-election reality check
- BoC's Business Outlook Survey: over-rated and stale?
- US home resales and Richmond Fed on tap
- Brexit bill due for a pair of key votes tonight

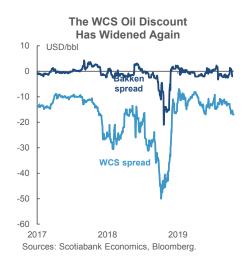
#### **INTERNATIONAL**

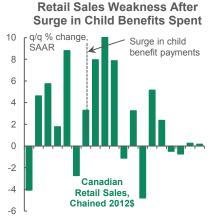
It's Canada Day in October! Except nobody in the markets really cares. In terms of ink and virtual ink being splashed in countless headlines from the local press to global outlets such as the FT and WSJ, the amount of attention that Canada is attracting is in some respects highly disproportionate to the significance of the market perhaps partly due to a lack of much else to focus upon elsewhere. Brexit 4.0 faces potentially significant procedural votes later this afternoon (see below), US-China talks are running in the background and the global macro calendar is all but empty. Canada therefore gets most of the attention almost by default. Even with this advantage, however, markets are shrugging their shoulders with no discernible movements in Canadian asset classes after election results have been digested but ahead of twin macro reports that could alter this picture. Canadian preachiness and righteousness have been tossed aside by dispassionate markets that just couldn't care less.

- CAD is very little changed so far as positioning ahead of macro data takes over. USDCAD is stuck around the 1.31 (or 76.3 cents US) range that it was floating around before election results became apparent. Most major currencies are little changed to the USD with mild exceptions including slight depreciation in the Swiss franc, pound sterling and A\$ while the rand, Mexican peso and won lead appreciating crosses. The euro and yen are largely flat.
- Canada's sovereign debt curve is also little changed and generally
  performing similarly to US Treasuries but slightly underperforming at the
  front-end. US Treasuries are rallying by about 2bps across the curve. Gilts
  are performing similarly. 10 year sovereign yields are down by between 2—
  6bps across EGBs with Italy leading decliners.

#### **CONTACTS**

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Q1-15 Q1-16 Q1-17 Q1-18 Q1-19 Sources: Scotiabank Economics, Statistics Canada.



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- Oil prices are very slightly firmer in terms of WTI and Brent. Pending today's figures, Canada Western Select's discount to
  WTI is running around the widest level of the year at about US\$17 below WTI and with the price proxy for the oilsands sitting
  at US\$36.70 (see chart). Depressed prices and an election outcome that raises risks explain much of the sentiment in Alberta.
- TSX futures are only very slightly higher (+0.2%) in keeping with US equity futures. European cash markets range from no change in Paris, Madrid and Milan to up ½% in London. Asian equities

The Withdrawal Agreement Bill will be put to a procedural Second Reading vote later this afternoon on this side of the pond (2pmET). If it passes then that would keep the Brexit bill alive for a second vote shortly thereafter on a fast-tracked schedule in order to hit the October 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. Rejection would make it nearly impossible to hit the end of the month deadline and probably force postponement.

### **CANADA**

Readers are encouraged to read Rebekah Young's post-election piece (<a href="here">here</a>) that recaps the election results but in the context of what a Liberal minority may mean for fiscal policy and the broader economy. In essence, the impact upon most things that matter to markets is very small, ranging from projected deficits and debt as a share of the economy to influences upon economic growth.

This map of vote results compared to this map of the previous election results in 2015 offers perhaps the best visual depiction of how divided the country has become. No one single party can claim that they represent voters across the land as the map is carved up by four parties. The Liberals lost their majority and are in a minority governing position while capturing less of the popular vote (33.1%) than the Conservatives (34.4%) due to Canada's first-past-the-post system. Maybe keeping Ford in the closet and releasing the platform late on a Friday before the long weekend didn't help. Donald Trump has more support at 42% (and falling mind you) according to Real Clear Politics' job approval rating than any Canadian party leader, but obviously that's at least partly because there are only two choices in the US party duopoly! A bi-party coalition majority of the center-left will govern the country on most fiscal and economic policy matters as the Liberals' 157 seats get paired with the NDP's 24 to override any opposition from the Conservatives (121) and with the Bloc Québécois (32) dabbling with support or opposition here and there after having trounced the NDP (24) in Quebec.

With the election over, Canada's developments will focus upon the August retail sales print and the Bank of Canada's twin surveys including the Business Outlook Survey.

## 1. Bank of Canada's BOS survey

On the BOS survey (10:30amET), there is the risk that the survey of about 100 c-suite folks comes in stale given more recent developments compared to the survey reference period. The survey was conducted over about a 3½ week period to just past mid-September. Watch for inflation expectations (still a majority below 2%?), future sales, cap-ex intentions and hiring intentions. See the week ahead for a chart depicting the recent quarterly patterns across these components. There is no consensus for this. If markets are positioning ahead of the survey, then it's a random bet since no one who knows the survey hazards a firm guess. My guess is we see a softer future sales component driven by a deteriorating global economy and trade environment after the prior two surveys posted improvements.

#### 2. CDN retail sales

On retail sales (8:30amET), I'm a bit surprised I'm the only negative print as consensus is ignoring the one reasonably reliable gauge's influences in favour of casual optimism toward what are largely unobservable other components. Gas prices alone would shave at least ½% off of headline retail sales in weighted terms and headline seasonally adjusted CPI fell 0.1% m/m in August so prices overall won't help given that the headline figure is the change in the value of retail sales. Beyond that, we're flying blind. What we think we know about auto sales almost never lines up with how StatsCan measures them and I've been burned too many times trying to try again. Among the possible reasons are that industry tallies are self-reported by dealers whereas StatsCan uses harder data. Plus there are different methodologies in terms of what's counted (eg. Fleet sales) and different seasonal adjustments. Beyond gas and autos, there are no advance readings for core sales. With Q2 and July data, we're tracking no







growth in retail sales volumes for Q3 pending tomorrow's figures which continues the disappearance of the Canadian consumer that is not saving (1.7% of disp income) and with debt payments rising as a share of incomes. As the second chart shows, it has been quite a while since we last saw meaningful growth in retail sales volumes.

### **UNITED STATES**

US markets face a pair of releases with existing home sales (10amET) and the Richmond Fed's manufacturing index (10amET) that serves as additional input to an ISM-manufacturing estimate.

Fixed Income		Government Yield Curves (%):									Central Banks				
		2-YEAR		5-YEAR			10-YEAR		30-YEAR		R .	Current Rate			
	Last	<u>1-day</u>	<u>1-wk</u>	Last	<u>1-day</u>	<u>1-wk</u>	Last	<u>1-day</u>	<u>1-wk</u>	Last	<u>1-day</u>	<u>1-wk</u>			
U.S.	1.60	1.62	1.62	1.59	1.61	1.60	1.77	1.80	1.77	2.27	2.29		Canada - BoC	1.75	
CANADA	1.65	1.65	1.66	1.56	1.57	1.58	1.55	1.56	1.56	1.65	1.67	1.67			
GERMANY	-0.66	-0.66	-0.69	-0.62	-0.61	-0.66	-0.37	-0.34	-0.42	0.16	0.20		US - Fed	2.00	
JAPAN	-0.23	-0.23	-0.28	-0.26	-0.26	-0.30	-0.13	-0.13	-0.17	0.43	0.43	0.40			
U.K.	0.54	0.55	0.53	0.52	0.54	0.48	0.73	0.75	0.69	1.24	1.25	1.16	England - BoE	0.75	
	Spreads vs. U.S. (bps):														
CANADA	5	3	4	-3	-4	-2	-23	-24	-21	-61	-63		Euro zone - ECB	0.00	
GERMANY	-226	-229	-231	-221	-222	-225	-215	-215	-219	-210	-209	-212			
JAPAN	-183	-186	-190	-185	-187	-189	-190	-193	-194	-183	-186	-184	Japan - BoJ	-0.10	
U.K.	-106	-107	-109	-107	-107	-111	-105	-105	-108	-103	-104	-108			
Equities			Le	vel					% ch	ange:			Mexico - Banxico 7.75		
		Last			wk_	<u>1-mo 1-yr</u>		<u>yr</u>							
S&P/TSX		16418			41.3		0.3	3 0.0		-2.8	6.	.5	Australia - RBA	0.75	
Dow 30		26828			57.4		0.2	0	.2	-0.4	6.	.0			
S&P 500		3007			20.5		0.7	1.	.4	0.5	9.	.1	New Zealand - RBNZ	1.00	
Nasdaq		8163		73.4		0.9	1.	.4	0.6	9.	.3				
DAX		12762		13.9		0.1	0.1 1.0		2.4	10	0.7 Next N		eeting Date		
FTSE		7191			27.6		0.4	-0	.3	-2.1	2.	.1			
Nikkei		22549			56.2		0.2	3	.4	2.1	-0	.3	Canada - BoC	Oct 30, 2019	
Hang Seng		26786			60.5		0.2	1.	.1	1.3	2.	.4			
CAC		5647			-0.9		-0.0	-1	.0	-0.8	11	.8	US - Fed	Oct 30, 2019	
Commodities	Level							% change:					1		
WTI Crude		53.59		0.28		0.5 1.5		-7.7 -22.5			England - BoE	Nov 07, 2019			
Natural Gas		2.24			0.00		0.1	-4	.2	-11.6	-28	3.6			
Gold		1487.42			2.82		0.2	0	.4	-1.9	21		Euro zone - ECB	Oct 24, 2019	
Silver		17.73			0.29		1.7	0		-0.9	21	.3			
CRB Index		175.28			0.54		0.3	0	.3	-1.2	-11	1.1	Japan - BoJ	Oct 31, 2019	
Currencies	Level								% ch	ange:			1		
USDCAD		1.3100		0.0011		0.1	-0		-1.2	-0		Mexico - Banxico	Nov 14, 2019		
EURUSD		1.1140			-0.0010		-0.1		.0	1.3	-2				
USDJPY		108.60			-0.0200		-0.0	-0		1.0	-3		Australia - RBA	Nov 04, 2019	
AUDUSD		0.6856			-0.0012		-0.2		.5	1.2	-3				
GBPUSD		1.2946			-0.0014		-0.1	1.	.2	4.2	-0		New Zealand - RBNZ	Nov 12, 2019	
USDCHF		0.9887			0.0028		0.3	-1	.0	-0.1	-0	.7			

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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