



THE WEEK’S BIG THEMES

ECONOMY

- **UNITED STATES** – Consumer inflation came in below expectations in July, with headline CPI easing to 3,4% YoY, from 3,5% in June, while core CPI declined to 2,5%, from 2,6%. **Wholesale inflation also eased**, with headline PPI slowing to 4,7% YoY, from 5,5% in June, and core PPI declining to 4,2%, from 4,7%. Nevertheless, several Fed officials reiterated that inflation risk remain and stressed the need to bring inflation back to the 2% target. **Retail sales posted their steepest decline** since May 2025, falling 0,6% MoM in July, after Amazon pulled forward its Prime Day event to June from July, while the **University of Michigan’s consumer sentiment index declined** after a two month streak of gains.
- **EURO AREA** – The eurozone investor morale returned to positive territory in August, posting its fourth consecutive monthly increase. **Q2 economic growth confirmed at 0,4%**, in line with flash estimates at 1% YoY, accelerating from flat growth in Q1. Spain led among major economies with 0.7% growth, while France returned to expansion at 0.2% and Germany and Italy grew 0.2% each. Employment growth has eased to just 0,5% YoY, masking a widening divide across the region, with employment now contracting in Germany and France.
- **UNITED KINGDOM** – Bank of England Chief Economist argued that **the resilience of recent GDP data strengthens the case for maintaining a restrictive policy stance**, with borrowing costs needing to remain sufficiently high to bring inflation sustainably back to target.
- **JAPAN** - **Producer inflation remained elevated**, rising 7,2% YoY in July, from 7,3% in June, pointing to a minor cooling in cost pressures. **Reuters Tankan manufacturing index rose in August**, as strong semiconductor demand lifted business confidence across the industrial sector
- **CHINA** – **Consumer and producer inflation softened in July**, with the CPI rising 0,5% YoY, from 1% in June, while the PPI eased to 3,5% YoY, from 4,1% the previous month. **The Central Government eased home-purchase restrictions for non-residents**, extending a broader policy push across major Chinese cities to stabilise the country’s protracted property-market downturn

GEOPOLITICAL TENSION

- **Geopolitical impasse continued in the Middle East.** Beyond a pause in strikes, shipping disruption persisted, with some maritime incidents in the Gulf of Hormuz and Red Sea, ahead of the 60-day MoU expiration on August, 17. ADNOC confirmed that vessels were attacked while transiting the waterway. Washington menaced of more sanctions on Iran. **The war in Ukraine remained an attritional duel of drone and missile strikes**, with Ukraine hitting targets inside Russia.

EARNINGS SEASON

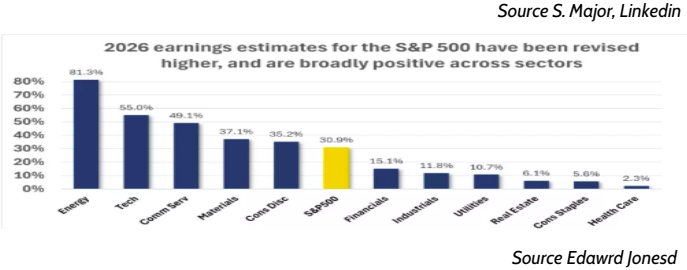
- **US Q2 earnings are on track for 50% growth**, the highest in five years, largely powered by the AI complex. **European companies are seeing their strongest momentum in EPS** since the post-Covid recovery.

CHARTS OF THE WEEK



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (CPI Aug 12, PPI Aug 13, Employment Situation Aug 7) and U.S. Census Bureau (Advance Retail Sales Aug 14), all July 2025 data. Consensus via Dow Jones and Trading Economics. September FOMC odds via CME FedWatch.

Source ZeroHedge.com



Source Edawrd Jonesd

ECONOMIC EVENTS TO WATCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
• GDP growth, Capacity utilization, Industrial production (JP) • Retail sales, Industrial prod. (CN) • Inflation (CA) • NY Empire State Manuf. (US)	• Unemployment rate, average earnings (UK) • ZEW (DE) • Housing data, Industrial pro. (US)	• Inflation, PPI (UK) • Current account, Inflation (EA) • MBA mortgage rate, EIA stocks, FOMC Minutes (US)	• Balance of trade (JP) • Labor costs (EA) • Jobless claims, Philadelphia indices, Fed Balance sheet (US)	• Inflation , PMIs (JP) • Retail sales, PMIs (UK) • PMIs, ECB consumer inflation expectations, wage growth (EA) • PMIs (US)



MARKET'S REACTION

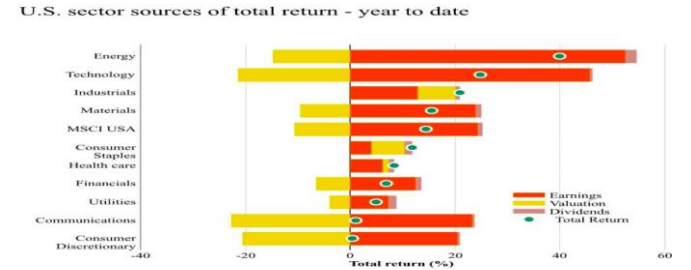
- EQUITY**
- **Global equities advanced as geopolitic developments remained supportive.** Quiet week for markets, with the MSCI World index posting a modest gain of 0,4%, reaching a new record high, while the MSCI Emerging Markets index rose 1,6%.
 - **Major U.S. equity indices also advanced during the week.** The S&P 500 posted modest gains of 0,4% while the technology-heavy Nasdaq and the small caps index rose 1,1%. Intel raised \$20bn through a common stock offering to secure additional funding for its expansion into AI manufacturing. Nvidia disclosed a nearly \$21bn stake in Space X and announced strategic partnerships with six financial institutions to establish independent compute financing platforms aimed at rising over \$500bn of third-party capital to support the buildout of an independant AI infrastructure.
 - **European equities were mixed,** despite resilient regional economic data and generally solid corporate earnings. The Stoxx 600 ended the week down 0,4%. Among major markets, Germany's Dax gained 0,5%, while France's Cac 40 declined 0,9%, and the UK's Footsie fell 1,4%. Unusually high temperatures curtailed French nuclear output for a time, lowering available generation capacity, underscoring how weather-driven disruptions can amplify volatility in regional energy prices.
 - **Asian equity markets were again mixed.** Strong technology earnings helped Japanese stocks to advance over the week, with the Nikkei up 4,7%. Chinese equities diverged, with mainland index flat over the week, while Hong Kong markets fell 2,1%, driven by weakness from internet platforms.

- FIXED INCOME**
- **Rising real yield and renewed pressures on energy prices pushed government bond yields higher.** Nevertheless, the softer US inflation reports along with a softer employment market helped reduce expectations for near-term monetary policy tightening. By Friday, markets were pricing a probability of 32% for a hike in September. The US 10-year yield ended the week at 3,68% (+3bps) while the 2-year yield ended 2 bps lower at 4,17%. Weakness was more pronounced in Europe, with the German 10-year yield rising to 3,20% (+7bps), with UK Gilt yields also trading higher. The Japanese 10-year yiled rose to a three decade high, closing at 2,87% (+8bps), as oil prices exacerbaded inflation concerns. At the opposite, the Chinese 10-year yield reached its lowest level since July 2025 to around 1,68%.
 - **Corporate bonds delivered mixed returns.** Higher government bond yields weighed on the investment grade spectrum, which underperformed high yields bonds, benefiting from its superior coupon. EUR denominated credits slightly outperformed their US peers. Emerging hard currency bonds outperformed their US peers, while local currency debt suffered from a slightly higher US Dollar.

- COMMODITIES**
- **Oil prices rose on geopolitical risk.** WTI and Brent gained 5,4% and 5,9%, respectively.
 - **Precious metals also advanced, supported by softer US inflation and reduced expectations of a September Fed hike.** Gold gained 0,9% while silver rose 2,6%.

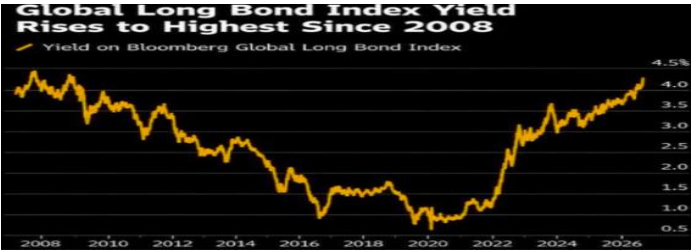
- CURRENCIES & CRYPTO**
- **The US Dollar was firm,** up 0,1%. The euro and sterling were supported by better economic data. The yen declined despite growing expectations of another BoJ's intervention.
 - **Cryptocurrency markets posted negative returns,** with Bitcoin down 2,9%, Ethereum down 1,7%, and Ripple down 2,3%.

CHARTS OF THE WEEK

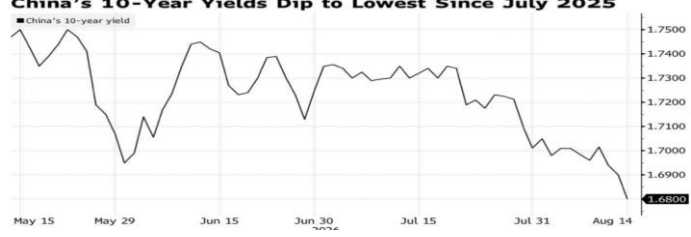


Source: LSEG Datastream, MSCI and BlackRock Investment Institute: Aug 17, 2026

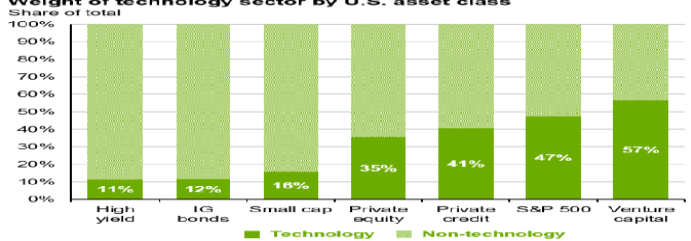
Source: W. Li, BlackRock



Source: Bloomberg



Source: C. Barraud, LinkedIn



Source: JP Morgan



WEEKLY MARKET INSIGHTS

07 August 2026 – 14 August 2026

WEEKLY MARKETS REVIEW (As of 14 August 2026)

EQUITY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
MSCI World (USD)	+0.4%	+4.4%	+13.8%
MSCI Emerging (USD)	+1.6%	+4.1%	+22.2%
S&P 500 (USD)	+0.4%	+4.0%	+13.7%
NASDAQ 100 (USD)	+1.1%	+6.3%	+19.0%
RUSSELL 2000 (USD)	+1.1%	+4.7%	+23.6%
STOXX 600 (EUR)	-0.4%	+1.3%	+11.0%
DAX (EUR)	+0.5%	+3.2%	+8.0%
CAC 40 (EUR)	-0.9%	+1.5%	+6.0%
FTSE 100 (GBP)	-1.4%	-1.1%	+8.2%
NIKKEI (JPY)	+4.7%	+6.8%	+36.5%
CSI 300 (CNY)	+0.0%	+0.0%	-2.2%
BOVESPA (BRL)	-3.2%	-6.2%	+3.6%
HANG SENG (HKD)	-2.1%	-3.0%	-2.0%

FIXED INCOME MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
Global Aggregate USD (Hedged)	-0.2%	+0.4%	+0.2%
Global Aggregate EUR (Hedged)	-0.2%	+0.3%	-0.8%
US Investment Grade	-0.4%	+0.3%	-1.1%
US High Yield	+0.1%	+0.8%	+2.3%
EU Investment Grade	-0.2%	+0.2%	+0.5%
EU High Yield	+0.1%	+0.6%	+1.8%
EM Local Ccy. Gov (Unhedged)	-0.3%	+1.4%	+2.5%
EM Hard Ccy. Aggregate (Unhedged)	+0.0%	+1.2%	+1.6%

CRYPTO CURRENCY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
Bitcoin	-2.9%	+0.3%	-28.0%
Ethereum	-1.7%	+1.1%	-36.6%
Ripple	-2.3%	-5.9%	-45.8%

COMMODITY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
Gold	+0.9%	+8.2%	+1.3%
WTI Crude	+5.4%	-2.7%	+43.5%
Brent Crude	+5.9%	-1.8%	+45.5%
Silver	+2.6%	+12.8%	-7.3%
Natural Gas	+2.7%	-0.5%	-25.9%
Copper	+0.4%	+2.5%	+17.2%

CURRENCY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
US Dollar Index (DXY)	+0.1%	-0.1%	+1.4%
EURUSD	+0.1%	+0.1%	-1.8%
GBPUSD	+0.3%	+0.2%	+0.2%
AUDUSD	+0.4%	+0.5%	+5.5%
USDCHF	+0.2%	+1.0%	+2.8%
USDJPY	+0.6%	-0.5%	+1.9%

Source: Yahoo Finance

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