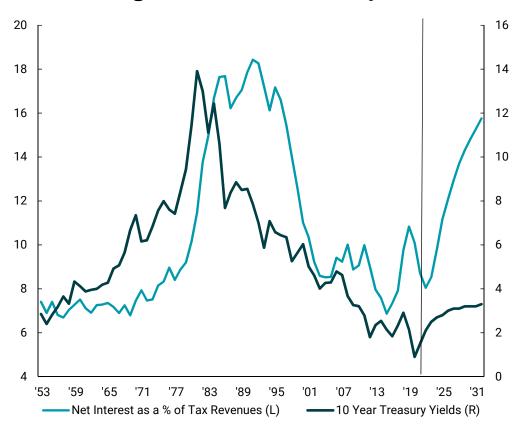
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Weekly market update

Chart of the week (Oct. 7, 2022)

Net Interest Cost, Percent of Tax Revenues & Average Annual 10-Year Treasury Yields





This week, it was reported the national debt surpassed the \$31 trillion mark. With continuing deficit spending, this number will grow, albeit at a much slower pace. The Fed responded to the onset of the pandemic with accommodative monetary policy, while Congress passed multiple rounds of fiscal stimulus, all to reduce the risk of an extended period of negative economic growth and elevated unemployment.

While their actions successfully avoided this risk, we now have higher debt levels and inflation causing the Fed to raise interest rates to slow the economy and cool inflation. This week's chart shows a forecast of budgeted tax revenues going to service current and expected debt levels as interest rates rise.

Though we are not back to levels seen in the early 1980s, the direction we are going indicates debt service will be a growing headwind to the budget process in Washington in the years to come. The level spent on debt service remained low in recent years, even as total debt increased rapidly, because interest rates were pegged near 0% on the short end and longer-term rates declined to very low levels. Looking forward, we now have a large amount of debt and rapidly increasing rates.

Roughly one-third of the Treasury's outstanding debt will mature in the next three years. With the rate increases we are seeing today, this will impact overall debt service reasonably quickly and continue to increase even if the Federal Reserve slows and eventually stops raising rates.

Some variables could impact this forecast. The amount of future debt and the level of interest rates will be key inputs. But, it seems relatively certain Congress will be dealing with interest expense as a bigger portion of tax revenues, which could limit budgetary flexibility in future fiscal years.

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Weekly market update



Commentary (Oct. 7, 2022)

Domestic Equities

- U.S. stocks held on to gains for the week after a sharp rally at the beginning of the week faded on Thursday and Friday.
- The jobs report out Friday showed some signs of a cooling labor market but not enough to change expectations for rate hikes for the rest of the year. Employers added fewer jobs than expected, but the unemployment rate fell to 3.5%, returning to a multi-decade low.
- Oil prices have been back on the rise, adding to inflation concerns. Brent crude gained over 10% this week as OPEC decided to cut output.
- Shares of chip makers fell sharply amid warning that demand for computers and smartphones is declining from Advanced Micro Devices' report out Thursday. Additionally, the U.S. announced new export restrictions on Friday aimed at preventing American technology from advancing China's military power.

International Equities

- Investors found more reasons for optimism this week amid renewed speculation that global central banks could moderate their aggressive policies to prevent a hard economic landing.
- Foreign developed markets rebounded with strong gains seen across Europe and Pacific Rim markets. Australian stock rallied as the country's central bank surprised the market by raising interest rates by a smallerthan-expected 0.25% as policymakers seek to find a balance between taming inflation and maintaining economic growth.
- Emerging markets snapped a four-week losing streak as most markets across Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America all move higher.
 Geopolitical tensions rose in Asia after North Korea fired two suspected short-range ballistic missiles toward waters off its east coast, adding to a barrage of tests in the last two weeks.

Bonds

- U.S. Treasury yields moved higher for the week following stronger-thanexpected employment data and hawkish comments from several Federal Reserve officials.
- Credit markets initially rebounded strongly to start the week, but returns faded mid-week as risk assets sold-off on more aggressive rate hike expectations. Despite pressure from higher rates, high yield bonds still managed to post positive returns for the week and outperformed investment grade corporates by more than 1%.
- In international markets, the Royal Bank of Australia (RBA) increased its
 primary policy "cash rate" by 0.25% to 2.6% but slowed the pace of its rate
 hikes. On Friday, the beleaguered European bank Credit Suisse tried to
 quell market fears concerning the bank's solvency by offering to buy back
 approximately \$3 billion of its bonds.

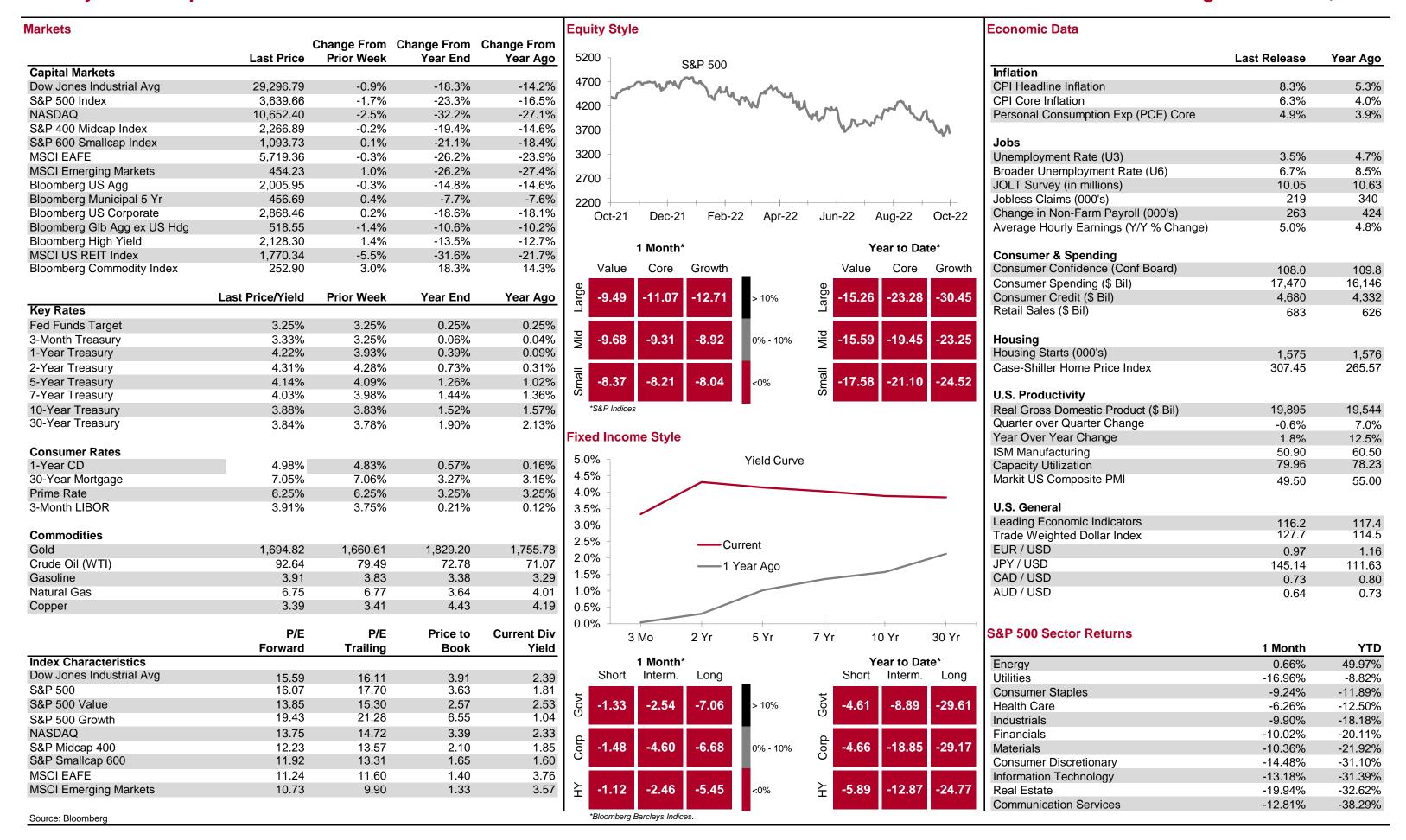
Economics

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) September Employment Situation report indicated total non-farm payrolls increased by 263k in September. The leisure and hospitality, and healthcare sectors increased the most in the month. The total employed persons rose to 153m, an increase of 514k over the pre-pandemic level, and the unemployment rate declined to 3.5%.
- The BLS Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey indicated job openings declined to 10.1 million in August, 1.1 million fewer than July. Hires and separations were both little changed at 6.3m and 6.0m, respectively.
- The Producer Price Index and FOMC minutes will be released on Wednesday, the Consumer Price Index will be released on Thursday, and retail sales will be released on Friday.



Weekly Market Update

For Week Ending October 07, 2022



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