

The Market Place

- Global equities fell 0.5%
- US inflation figures came in hotter than expected for the second month in a row, further lowering market's rate cut expectations
- Brent crude rose 4% to \$85.34 per barrel, after the latest International Energy Agency report predicted the oil market staying in deficit through 2024
- Gold fell 1.1% to \$2,155.90 per ounce

US

US equities fell 0.1%

Month-on-month headline CPI (Consumer Price Index) grew 0.44% in February, taking the year-on-year measure up to 3.2% (vs. 3.1% expected). The core measure grew 0.36%, taking the year-on-year measure to 3.8% (vs 3.7% expected)

The NFIB's small business optimism index fell to a 9-month low in February of 89.4 (vs. 90.5 expected)

Month-on-month headline PPI (Producer Price Index) increased 0.6% (vs 0.3% expected), pushing the year-on-year measure up to 1.6% (vs 1.2% expected)

Headline retail sales increased 0.6% in February (vs 0.8% expected) with the previous month revised down to show a larger 1.1% decline

Europe

European equities rose 0.3%

Euro Area industrial production fell 3.2% in January (vs a 1.8% decline expected)

UK

UK equities rose 0.9%

UK GDP rose by 0.2% in January, up from a 0.1% contraction in December

Wage growth slowed to an 18-month low of 5.6% (vs 5.7% expected)

The unemployment rate ticked up to 3.9% (v. 3.8% expected)

Asia / ROW

Global emerging market equities fell 0.1%

Japanese equities fell 2.1%, while Chinese equities rose 3.2%

The People's Bank of China left their 1-year medium-term lending facility rate at 2.5% as expected

Industrial production jumped 7.0% in the first two months of 2024 (vs 5.2% expected), as fixed asset investment grew 4.2% (vs 3.2% expected)

Retail sales in China increased 5.5% year-on-year (vs 5.6% expected)

Doubts regarding a shift from negative interest rates arose as Bank of Japan Governor Ueda cited "weakness in some household spending data", despite also stating 'my view is that the gradual recovery continues'



Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 18 Mar 2024	Month to date	YTD 2024	12 Months
Developed Market Equities					
United States	USD	-0.1%	0.5%	7.5%	33.0%
United Kingdom	GBP	0.9%	1.6%	1.0%	9.7%
Continental Europe	EUR	0.3%	2.4%	6.9%	20.8%
Japan	JPY	-2.1%	-0.2%	12.9%	39.7%
Asia Pacific (ex Japan)	USD	-0.7%	1.7%	1.2%	8.8%
Australia	AUD	-2.2%	0.3%	2.3%	12.9%
Global	USD	-0.5%	0.9%	6.4%	29.5%
Emerging markets equities					
Emerging Europe	USD	-1.9%	-2.5%	3.5%	36.0%
Emerging Asia	USD	-0.2%	2.0%	2.3%	10.1%
Emerging Latin America	USD	1.0%	-0.2%	-5.1%	28.0%
BRICs	USD	0.6%	0.4%	-0.1%	5.7%
China	USD	3.2%	1.9%	-1.2%	-11.5%
MENA countries	USD	0.7%	-0.9%	3.4%	15.5%
South Africa	USD	-1.6%	2.7%	-8.6%	1.6%
India	USD	-2.3%	0.2%	2.0%	31.3%
Global emerging markets	USD	-0.1%	1.5%	1.4%	12.2%
Bonds					
US Treasuries	USD	-1.2%	-0.2%	-1.7%	-0.7%
US Treasuries (inflation protected)	USD	-1.2%	-0.3%	-1.2%	-0.2%
US Corporate (investment grade)	USD	-1.0%	0.2%	-1.0%	5.2%
US High Yield	USD	-0.3%	0.5%	0.8%	13.0%
UK Gilts	GBP	-0.9%	0.4%	-3.1%	-2.7%
UK Corporate (investment grade)	GBP	-0.3%	0.9%	-0.8%	5.7%
Euro Government Bonds	EUR	-1.0%	0.3%	-1.3%	2.3%
Euro Corporate (investment grade)	EUR	-0.4%	0.4%	-0.3%	5.8%
Euro High Yield	EUR	0.2%	0.7%	1.9%	11.9%
Japanese Government	JPY	-0.4%	-0.6%	-1.0%	-2.6%
Australian Government	AUD	-0.8%	0.1%	-0.2%	0.3%
Global Government Bonds	USD	-1.5%	0.1%	-3.0%	-1.4%
Global Bonds	USD	-1.3%	0.3%	-2.3%	1.8%
Global Convertible Bonds	USD	-1.1%	0.5%	-1.3%	8.3%
Emerging Market Bonds	USD	-0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	10.6%

Performance

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Property					
US Property Securities	USD	-2.9%	-0.7%	-3.0%	8.2%
Australian Property Securities	AUD	0.8%	4.3%	10.4%	19.8%
Asia Property Securities	USD	0.2%	0.8%	-5.1%	-5.2%
Global Property Securities	USD	-2.0%	0.3%	-3.4%	7.6%
Currencies					
Euro	USD	-0.5%	0.8%	-1.6%	3.1%
UK Pound Sterling	USD	-0.9%	0.9%	-0.3%	5.6%
Japanese Yen	USD	-1.3%	0.6%	-5.5%	-10.7%
Australian Dollar	USD	-1.0%	1.0%	-4.1%	-0.7%
South African Rand	USD	-0.2%	2.3%	-2.8%	-1.8%
Swiss Franc	USD	-0.8%	0.0%	-5.1%	5.3%
Chinese Yuan (Data as at 09 Feb 2024)	USD	-0.1%	-0.1%	-1.3%	-4.0%
Commodities & Alternatives					
Commodities	USD	2.1%	3.1%	4.5%	9.6%
Agricultural Commodities	USD	1.4%	2.1%	3.4%	7.3%
Oil	USD	4.0%	2.1%	10.8%	15.8%
Gold	USD	-1.1%	5.4%	4.5%	12.0%

Global Matters Weekly

18 March 2024

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