



# Global Markets Monitor

Monetary and Capital Markets Department  
Global Markets Analysis Division

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

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- **Foreign official buyers favoring longer maturity bonds in Treasury auctions ([link](#))**
- **US T-bill supply expected to increase significantly to fund rising deficit ([link](#))**
- **News of budget compromise helps Italian assets ([link](#))**
- **Swedish PM ousted in confidence vote ([link](#))**
- **Argentina president says revised IMF deal will restore market confidence ([link](#))**

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## Markets shrug off trade concerns to continue upward trend

**Risk sentiment has improved so far today with equities and sovereign bond yields both modestly higher.** Following yesterday's brief disruption on renewed trade worries and US political concerns, markets are showing a better mood today. Sovereign bond yields are higher across the board, with the notable exception of Italy where news of a budget compromise has led to a sharp decline in spreads. Energy shares are leading equity markets higher (Eurostoxx 600 Energy, +1.9%) thanks to the ongoing rise in oil prices on expectations of continued favorable supply dynamics. Emerging market currencies are generally stronger this morning.

### Key Global Financial Indicators

Last updated: 9/25/18 8:01 AM	Level		Change from Market Close				
	Last 12m	Index	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
<b>Equities</b>			%				%
S&P 500		2920	0.0	1	2	17	9
Eurostoxx 50		3420	0.3	2	0	-3	-2
Nikkei 225		23940	0.3	4	6	18	5
MSCI EM		43	-1.1	3	-1	-4	-9
<b>Interest Rates</b>			bps				
US 10y Yield		3.10	1.3	5	29	88	70
Germany 10y Yield		0.54	2.5	6	19	14	11
Japan 10y Yield		0.13	0.0	2	3	11	9
<b>FX / Commodities / Volatility</b>			%				
Dollar index, (+) = \$ appreciation		94.1	-0.1	-1	-1	2	2
Brent Crude Oil (\$/barrel)		81.8	0.6	4	8	39	22
VIX Index (% change in pp)		11.9	-0.3	-1	0	2	1

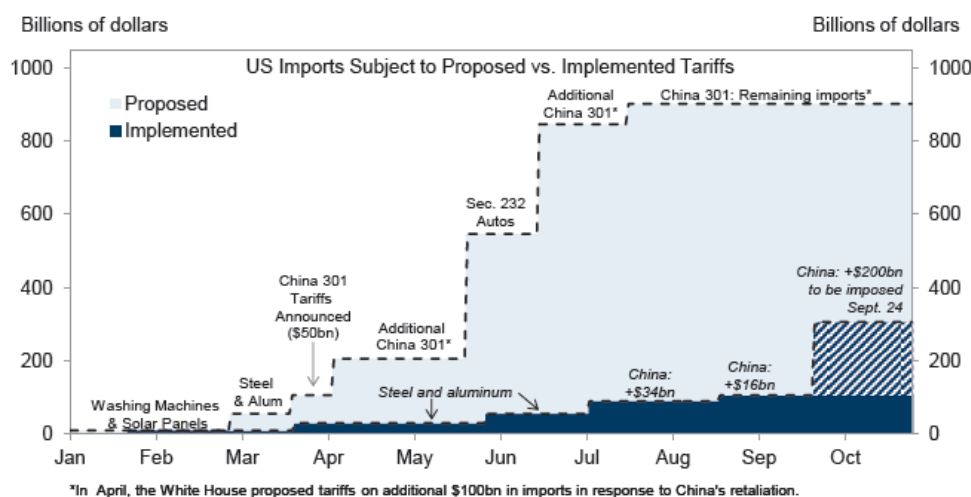
Colors denote **tightening/easing** financial conditions for observations greater than  $\pm 1.5$  standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

## United States

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**US markets lost ground as the cancellation of trade talks by China and headlines about the Deputy Attorney General's possible resignation weighed on investor sentiment.** Tech stocks were the only bright spot as the Nasdaq posted a fractional gain after underperforming for several days. Treasury yields moved slightly higher despite the negative sentiment as the focus shifted to the upcoming FOMC meeting. A weak two-year Treasury auction also suppressed demand for Treasuries. However, most market participants stayed on the sidelines ahead of a potentially eventful week. President Trump's addresses before the UN General Assembly this morning and the Security Council tomorrow have the potential to move markets, while the US data calendar features key releases such as the PCE deflator, durable goods and the latest GDP estimate. Further signs of escalation in the tariff situation are expected to be negative for markets.

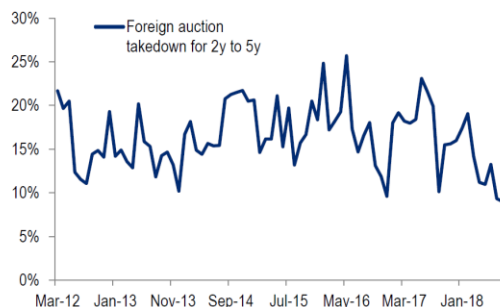
### Trade Threats Are Becoming Reality



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

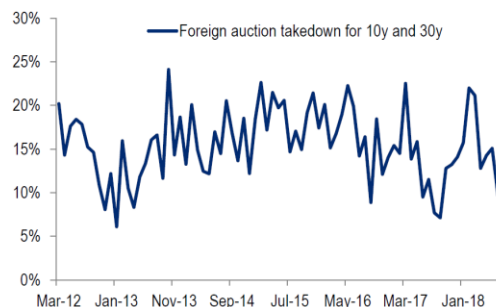
**Foreign official purchases of bonds in Treasury auctions has shifted from shorter to longer maturities, with the 10-year and 30-year Treasuries being more favored.** Foreign buying in the longer maturities remains strong while it has weakened significantly for shorter maturities. Some think that emerging market reserve managers who tend to buy in the two to five-year maturities have been forced to sell their existing Treasury holdings to defend their currencies against dollar strength. Others contend that the shift in favor of longer maturity bonds is standard procedure for reserve managers during hiking cycles when the yield curve is expected to flatten. The most recent TIC data showed that reserve managers from India and China were sellers but overall reserve manager buying volume went up. In addition, private foreign investors have continued buying US Treasuries.

Figure 8. Foreign takedown has been poor at front-end auctions (2y, 3y, and 5y)...



Source: Citi Research, Treasury

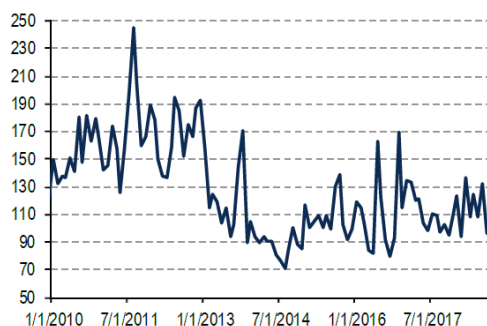
Figure 9. ...although demand was strong in the 10y and 30y refunding auctions in August



Source: Citi Research, Treasury

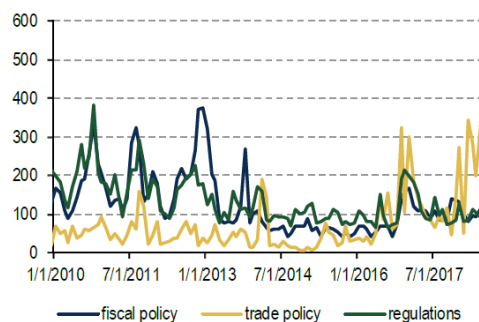
**Worries about trade issues have increased in the business sector, which could have a negative impact on new capital spending.** The latest Fed beige book economic survey identified trade worries as a significant area of concern. The Fed noted that some companies have postponed plans for capital expansion due to trade uncertainties. The level of scrutiny is in contrast with overall US policy uncertainty, which remains very low by historical standards. Some investors expect further escalation of belligerent trade rhetoric and have used the recent selloff in Treasuries as a buying opportunity. Others are more optimistic, predicting that trade tensions will dissipate and that both sides will move to iron out their differences in some politically acceptable fashion.

Chart 15: US economic policy uncertainty index



Source: Baker, Bloom and Davis indices of US economic policy uncertainty

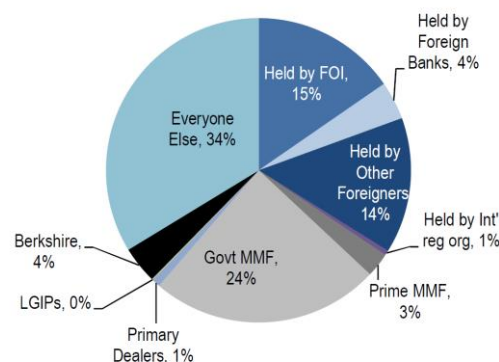
Chart 16: US economic policy uncertainty index



Source: Baker, Bloom and Davis indices of US economic policy uncertainty

**US T-bill supply has begun to increase again as the growing deficit boosts the government's short-term funding needs.** Analysts predict that supply will increase even more in the months ahead as expected inflows from higher tax revenues have fallen below forecasts but outlays continue to increase. So far, demand has kept pace with supply with government money market funds the largest buyers. Foreign official investors constitute the second largest group of buyers.

Exhibit 2: Breakdown of Treasury bills holders, July 2018

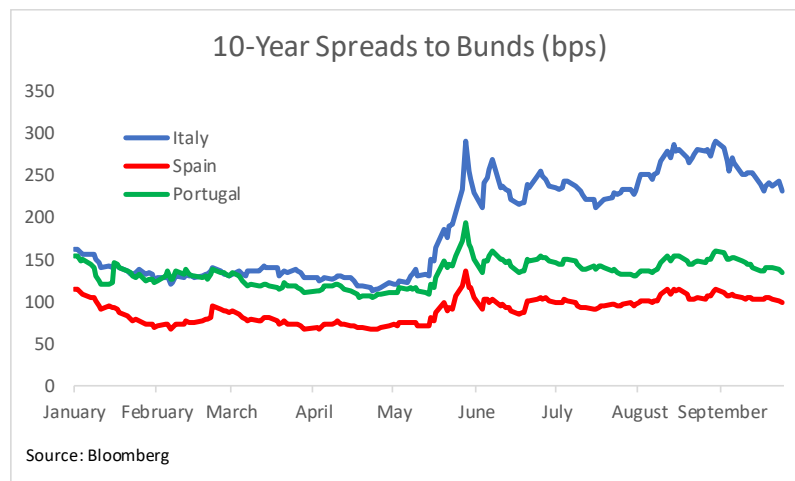


Source: Treasury International Capital, Crane Data, J.P. Morgan

## Europe

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**Sovereign yields continued to climb higher with most 10-year benchmarks up 2-3 bps.** Italy was the exception, falling 8 bps after reports of a compromise on the budget within the coalition government. The agreed upon deficit is said to be 1.9% of GDP, below the 2% threshold that FM Tria was said to insist on not breaching. **Equities were a fraction higher with energy and IT stocks leading the gains.** The Euro Stoxx 600 was up 0.3% while banks gained 0.6% as Italian banks, including UniCredit (+2.4%) and Banco BPM (+1.7%), advanced on the political news.



**ECB President Draghi helped lift yields higher yesterday as he gave hawkish comments to the European Parliament.** Draghi described the pickup in underlying inflation as “relatively vigorous” and that domestic price pressures are “strengthening and broadening”. Commenting on the situation in Italy, he said that the rise in BTP yields was spilling over to SMEs financing costs. The bank’s next policy meeting is set for October 25. The bank is due to end QE in December while rates are expected to be kept unchanged through the summer of 2019.

**Swedish PM Stefan Lofven has been voted out in a confidence vote in parliament.** Lofven had previously refused to step down and had been urging parties to form a broad government following the country’s elections two weeks ago. He was taken down by the center-right opposition and nationalists who joined forces to end the current government’s reign. The current parliamentary arithmetic makes forming a government unusually difficult after nationalists gained a number of seats in the elections. In addition to coalition talks, parliament will need to consider how to pass a budget that garners a majority. The krona, which has strengthened since the election, was flat this morning while yields moved in line with other regions.

## Other Mature Markets

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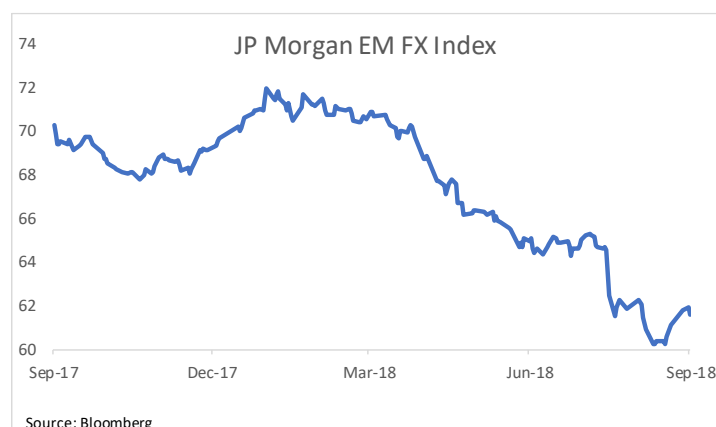
### Japan

**Equities rose today as investor concerns over the US-China trade dispute receded.** The Topix index closed 1% higher, while the Nikkei rose 0.3%, led by consumer staples and utilities. **The yen was little changed, trading near a two-month low against the dollar amid monetary policy divergence.** According to the minutes of its July meeting when the Bank of Japan adjusted monetary policy for the first time in two years, board members recognized that despite the absence of price pressures, market

participants increasingly thought that the BoJ would dial back on its monetary stimulus. The newly introduced forward guidance was seen to counter such views. Some members highlighted that the side effects of easy monetary policy should be monitored and where necessary, adjustments to the policy framework should be conducted. Meanwhile, an economic adviser to Prime Minister Abe stated that if the BoJ expanded its corporate bond purchases beyond ¥3.2trn, this could be problematic as this meant helping selected firms or rescuing those in trouble.

## Currency Markets

**There was very little movement among major currencies this morning.** A 0.1% move higher in sterling was the biggest one, as the euro and yen moved sideways against the dollar. Emerging market currencies were also broadly flat.



## Emerging Markets

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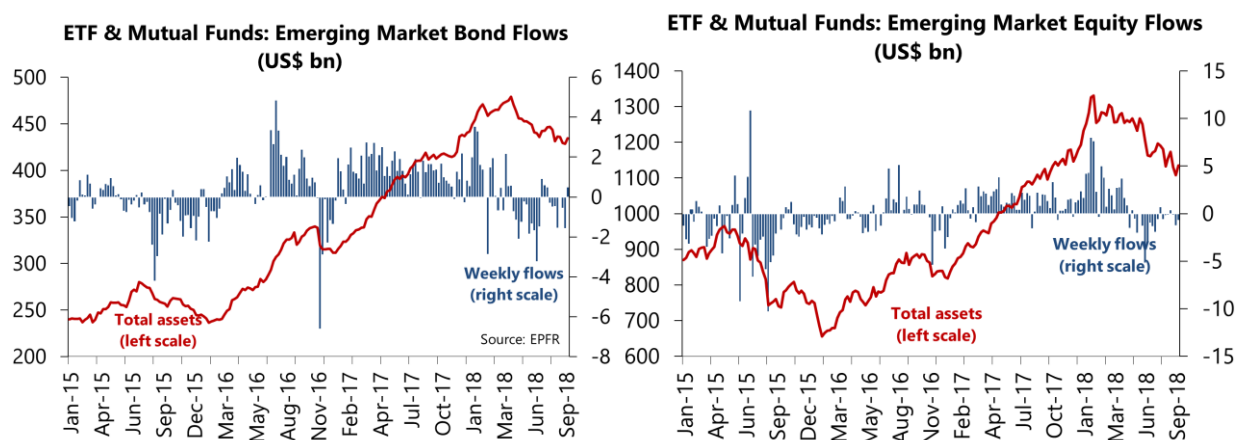
### Key Emerging Market Financial Indicators

Last updated: 9/25/18 8:04 AM	Level		Change				YTD
	Last 12m	index	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	
<b>Prices/Returns of Major EM Benchmarks</b>			<b>%</b>				<b>%</b>
MSCI EM Equities		42.74	-1.1	3	-1	-4	-9
MSCI Frontier Equities		28.77	0.2	4	0	-7	-13
Hard Currency Sovereign Debt		825.97	0.1	1	0	-3	-4
Local Currency Sovereign Debt		16.39	-0.1	2	-1	-16	-14
<b>Major EM FX vs. USD</b>			<b>%, (+) = EM currency appreciation</b>				
China Renminbi		6.87	0.1	0	-1	-4	-5
Indonesian Rupiah		14914	0.1	0	-2	-11	-9
Indian Rupee		72.72	0.3	0	-4	-10	-12
Argentine Peso		37.29	0.0	7	-17	-53	-50
Brazil Real		4.09	0.0	2	0	-23	-19
Mexican Peso		18.98	-0.1	-1	-1	-6	4
Russian Ruble		65.66	0.4	3	3	-12	-12
South African Rand		14.37	0.0	4	-1	-7	-14
Turkish Lira		6.14	0.2	4	0	-42	-38
Dollar vs. Mature FX (DXY index)		94.05	-0.1	-1	-1	2	2

Colors denote **tightening**/easing financial conditions for observations greater than  $\pm 1.5$  standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

**Emerging markets came back under pressure on Monday, against a backdrop of continuing trade tensions between China and the US.** EM assets reversed the gains of last week, which was arguably one of the best for EMs performance-wise so far this year. In FX markets, the Turkish lira (+0.6%) is bucking the trend this morning and has appreciated about 3.0% since Friday. In Latin America, the Brazil real (-1.0%) led losses to the dollar yesterday, followed by the Chilean (-1.0%) and Argentine pesos (-0.2%). Additionally, equity prices were in the red, with losses led by Argentina (-3.3%), followed by Brazil (-1.8%), and Chile (-1.4%). In Asia, equity indices were also mainly in the red. Hong Kong led losses (-1.6%), followed by India (-1.5%), then Indonesia (-1.3%).

**Last week saw significant inflows into emerging market ETFs even as traditional mutual funds continued to see outflows.** While exchanged-traded bond funds had inflows of \$1,079 mn and equity funds \$586 mn, traditional mutual funds saw \$584 mn of outflows from bonds and \$1,285 mn from equities. JPMorgan notes that ETF bond inflows are now at their highest level since January, while actively managed fund redemptions have continued.



## Argentina

**Speaking with Bloomberg TV at the UN General Assembly in New York, president Macri stated that a revised deal with the IMF will help restore confidence in Argentina.** Macri added that the deal would be announced in a few days. Meanwhile, local press speculated that there could be an increase to the current \$50 bn package (of about \$3-5 bn), though no formal announcement has been released to confirm this. Macri asserted that there was "zero chance" of Argentina defaulting again, and pointed out that the situation has stabilized, with the help of the IMF deal. He also commented that Argentina will not introduce FX controls, as it has done in the past. Macri explained that the situation in Argentina was made worse by its most severe drought to date. However, he noted that shipments of soybean products and grains should increase in the near term, as neither floods nor droughts are expected. The Argentine peso depreciated marginally on Monday (-0.2%).

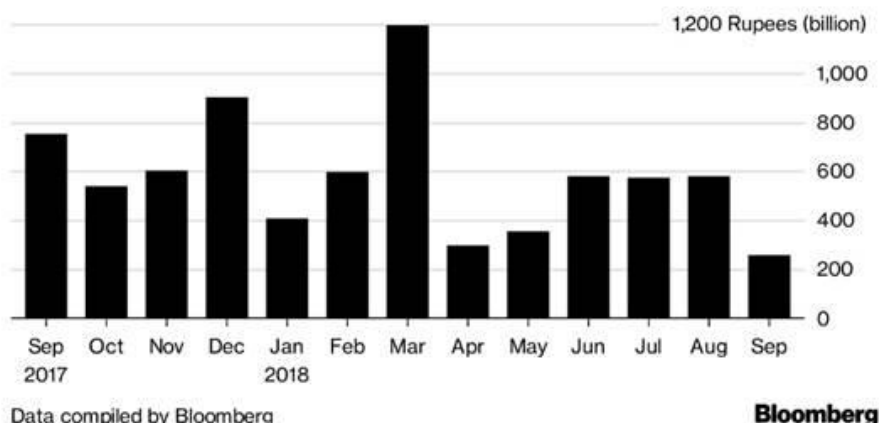
## India

**Credit market pressures further mounted, with three firms halting \$800mn of debt sales in September, as demand fell after a rare money market default by Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Ltd.** Concerns over IL&FS—a conglomerate that has missed payments on more than five of its obligations since August—prompted investors to seek higher yields for debt, leading to rising borrowing costs. According to Bloomberg's estimates, liquidity in the financial system is currently at a deficit of around INR 1.5trn, from a surplus of \$580bn early this month. Bond yields rose 1bps, while the rupee was stable.

Equities rose 1%, reversing some of the recent losses that have made India the second worst performing market this month.

### Shock Waves From IL&FS

Rupee bond issuance has slid 46% this month from last year



### Brazil

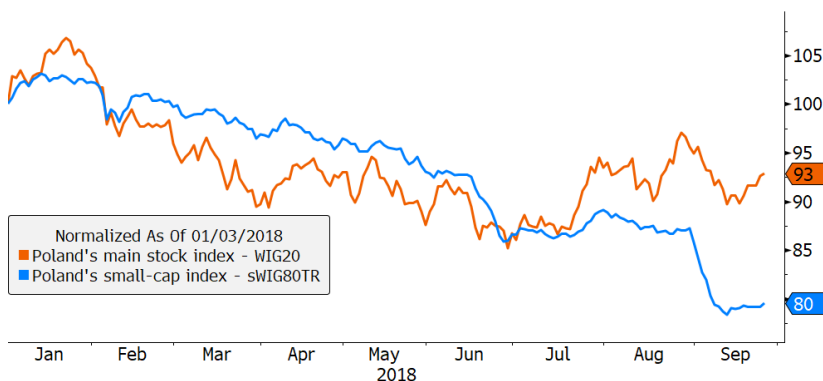
The new Ibope poll results released Monday evening show left-wing candidate **Fernando Haddad closing the gap on right-wing candidate Bolsonaro**. Voting intentions for Haddad have increased from 19% to 22%, while voting intentions for Bolsonaro remained unchanged at 28%. The poll results also showed Haddad more likely to beat Bolsonaro in a runoff scenario, as Bolsonaro's rejection rate grew from 42% to 46%. The real depreciated by 1% on Monday. The first round vote for the presidential elections is scheduled on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Poland

**Polish stocks (+0.1%) advanced for a second day (+1.0% yesterday) following the inclusion of some of the country's main companies in the FTSE Russell Index of developed-nation equities.** The stocks now added to the FTSE benchmark include Bank Pekao (+1.2%), Eurocash (+0.7%), and AmRest Holdings (0.4%), which manages Starbucks and Pizza Hut throughout much of continental Europe. Analysts have noted that the inclusion of these stocks in the well-known index will boost investment opportunities thanks to a much larger investor base.

On the other hand, Poland's smaller stocks have continued to fall since end-2017. According to analysts, the 21%-drop since the summer has come on the back of reduced liquidity for small-cap stocks and increasing redemptions by retail mutual funds. The valuation of small-cap companies in Poland were also negatively affected by the default of GetBack SA, Poland's largest debt collector in May, which triggered further outflows from retail mutual funds.

### Poland: Selected Indicators



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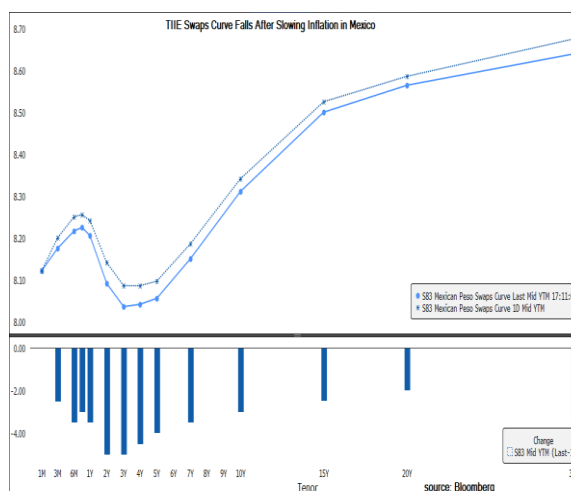
## Mexico

**The increase in consumer prices was lower than forecasted in Mexico, causing market participants to speculate about the policy rate going forward.** Annual inflation was reported at 4.88% in mid-September, less than the 4.99% percent median forecast of analysts observed by Bloomberg. The slowdown in inflation was reportedly driven by a decline in the prices of fruits and vegetables. As a result, the TIEE swaps curve fell across tenors. Banxico estimates inflation ending the year at 3.94% and has communicated that it plans to keep the policy rate on hold until then. Analysts surveyed by Bloomberg view that the central bank will schedule its first rate cut in 2019Q2. Asset prices were mainly unchanged in Mexico on Monday.

### Mexico Consumer Prices Slowly Climb

Inflation in Mexico rises less than forecast in Mid-September

■ Mexico CPI Yearly Percent Change Biweekly









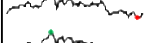
























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## Global Financial Indicators

Last updated: 9/25/18 8:02 AM	Level		Change				YTD
	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	
<b>Equities</b>			%				%
United States		2920	0.0	1	2	17	9
Europe		3420	0.3	2	0	-3	-2
Japan		23940	0.3	4	6	18	5
China		2781	-0.6	5	2	-17	-16
Asia Ex Japan		70	-1.2	3	-1	-2	-8
Emerging Markets		43	-1.1	3	-1	-4	-9
<b>Interest Rates</b>			basis points				
US 10y Yield		3.10	1.3	5	29	88	70
Germany 10y Yield		0.54	2.5	6	19	14	11
Japan 10y Yield		0.13	0.0	2	3	11	9
UK 10y Yield		1.63	1.7	6	35	30	44
<b>Credit Spreads</b>			basis points				
US Investment Grade		99	0.5	-2	-3	-5	7
US High Yield		328	-0.5	-5	-18	-50	-47
Europe IG		69	-0.3	10	4	11	25
Europe HY		271	-0.2	-9	-15	10	38
EMBIG Sovereign Spread		342	-3.0	-13	-20	48	57
<b>Exchange Rates</b>			%				
Dollar Index (DXY)		94.06	-0.1	-1	-1	2	2
USDEUR		1.18	0.3	1	1	-1	-2
USDJPY		112.8	0.0	0	-2	-1	0
EM FX vs. USD		61.7	0.1	1	-1	-12	-11
<b>Commodities</b>			%				
Brent Crude Oil (\$/barrel)		82	0.6	4	8	39	22
Industrials Metals (index)		120	-0.4	4	0	-4	-13
Agriculture (index)		42	0.1	3	-2	-14	-12
<b>Implied Volatility</b>			%				
VIX Index (% change in pp)		11.9	-0.3	-0.9	-0.1	1.7	0.8
10y Treasury Volatility Index		3.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	-0.7	0.1
Global FX Volatility		8.7	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.2	1.3
<b>EA Sovereign Spreads</b>			10-Year spread vs. Germany (bps)				
Greece		405	-6.4	-3	-15	-151	-7
Italy		286	-8.6	7	-29	76	85
Portugal		189	-0.9	4	7	-56	-5
Spain		152	-0.3	2	13	-10	-5

Colors denote **tightening**/**easing** financial conditions for observations greater than  $\pm 1.5$  standard deviations.

Data source: Bloomberg.

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## Emerging Market Financial Indicators

Last updated: 9/25/2018 8:05 AM	Exchange Rates							Local Currency Bond Yields (GBI EM)						
	Level		Change (in %)					Level		Change (in basis points)				
	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
	vs. USD		(+)= EM appreciation					% p.a.						
China		6.87	0.1	-0.2	-1	-4	-5		3.7	0.0	3	8	-8	-31
Indonesia		14914	0.1	-0.3	-2	-11	-9		8.3	3.4	-25	32	159	171
India		73	0.4	0.0	-4	-10	-12		8.2	1.9	-2	18	120	77
Philippines		54	0.0	-0.5	-2	-7	-8		6.3	7.7	4	42	150	150
Thailand		32	0.0	0.4	0	2	0		2.9	-1.2	-1	8	69	58
Malaysia		4.13	0.0	0.1	-1	2	-2		4.1	0.3	-2	3	21	18
Argentina		37	0.0	6.6	-17	-53	-50		23.6	16.1	-126	102	892	753
Brazil		4.12	-0.8	1.0	-1	-23	-20		10.1	4.0	-27	-6	165	113
Chile		672	0.0	1.8	-2	-6	-8		4.8	2.3	1	5	41	0
Colombia		3003	0.0	0.4	-2	-3	-1		6.6	-0.7	0	13	29	34
Mexico		18.99	-0.1	-1.0	-1	-6	3		8.0	-2.9	-1	18	115	36
Peru		3.3	0.0	0.1	0	-1	-2		5.7	4.5	7	15	41	44
Uruguay		33	-0.1	1.0	-3	-12	-12		10.5	-25.6	-54	4		195
Hungary		275	0.1	0.9	1	-5	-6		2.6	-1.9	-2	20	124	138
Poland		3.64	0.3	0.9	0	-1	-4		2.6	2.1	0	5	-12	-8
Romania		4.0	0.2	0.7	0	-2	-2		4.3	0.0	1	1	146	47
Russia		65.7	0.4	2.6	3	-12	-12		8.3	-4.4	-25	-4	82	103
South Africa		14.4	0.0	3.6	-2	-7	-14		9.7	0.0	-15	22	52	37
Turkey		6.14	0.1	3.9	0	-42	-38		20.9	-31.4	-36	-390	999	891
US (DXY; 5y UST)		94	-0.2	-0.6	-1	2	2		2.98	1.2	4	27	114	77

	Equity Markets							Bond Spreads on USD Debt (EMBIG)						
	Level		Change (in %)					Level		Change (in basis points)				
	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
								basis points						
China		2781	-0.6	5	2	-17	-16		183	-1	1	-3	35	31
Indonesia		5874	-0.1	1	-2	0	-8		186	-1	-8	-9	17	20
India		36652	1.0	-2	-4	16	8		166	2	-1	9	40	56
Philippines		7332	-1.4	1	-6	-11	-14		92	-2	-4	-20	-1	-3
Malaysia		1794	-0.3	0	-1	1	0		126	-2	-1	-13	-3	16
Argentina		33164	-3.4	6	32	32	10		614	1	-41	-85	229	264
Brazil		77984	-1.8	2	2	5	2		289	-1	-38	-37	40	55
Chile		5386	0.0	0	2	2	-3		130	-1	0	-13	0	11
Colombia		1492	0.6	0	-3	1	-1		169	-2	-6	-13	-22	-5
Mexico		49417	0.1	0	0	-2	0		259	-2	-6	-24	17	14
Peru		19575	-0.2	4	0	8	-2		132	0	-5	-22	-14	-5
Hungary		35876	0.3	-1	-1	-6	-9		108	-2	-1	-25	8	20
Poland		59416	0.9	3	-1	-7	-7		40	-2	-6	-29	-13	-7
Romania		8340	-0.4	1	1	6	8		169	0	-9	-17	43	55
Russia		2433	0.1	1	7	18	15		226	-2	-4	-20	46	48
South Africa		56718	-0.8	1	-4	2	-5		316	-4	-11	3	43	62
Turkey		99959	0.4	5	11	-2	-13		442	-9	-28	-75	144	153
Ukraine		539	-0.1	0	3	85	71		548	0	-3	-15	57	93
EM total		25	-0.5	2	-1	-1	-4		342	-3	-13	-20	48	57

Colors denote **tightening**/**easing** financial conditions for observations greater than  $\pm 1.5$  standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.