

The Weekly Bottom Line

June 30, 2023

Highlights

United States

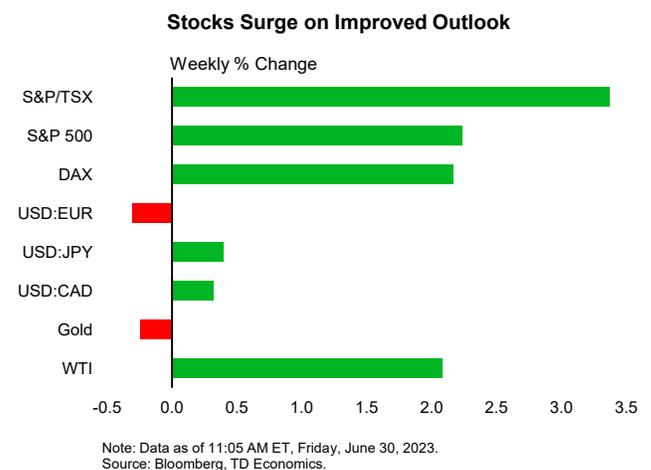
- A week's worth of solid data did little to contradict Fed Chair Powell's comments suggesting more monetary tightening is on the way.
- However, May's personal consumption expenditure (PCE) report did provide a bit of reassurance for the Fed that demand is slowing down as real expenditure growth has been flat in three of the past four months.
- The problem remains that inflation is showing little sign of relenting and Fed officials are going to stay focused on tightening policy to cool the price pressure.

Canada

- With less than two weeks to go until the next Bank of Canada (BoC) rate decision, economic data this week prompted financial markets to cement expectations for another rate hike this summer.
- Headline inflation did cool to the lowest pace in two years in May. But, progress on the BoC's core measures is much slower. This raises concerns that inflation will remain stuck above the Bank's 2% target.
- On the growth side, industry-level GDP signaled that the population driven boost to GDP growth during the winter continued into the spring. Growth appears to be running ahead of the BoC's expectations yet again.

This Week in the Markets				
	Current*	Week Ago	52-Week High	52-Week Low
Stock Market Indexes				
S&P 500	4445	4348	4445	3577
S&P/TSX Comp.	20073	19418	20767	18206
DAX	16175	15830	16358	11976
FTSE 100	7548	7462	8014	6826
Nikkei	33189	32782	33706	25717
Fixed Income Yields				
U.S. 10-yr Treasury	3.84	3.73	4.24	2.57
Canada 10-yr Bond	3.31	3.36	3.68	2.61
Germany 10-yr Bund	2.41	2.35	2.75	0.78
UK 10-yr Gilt	4.42	4.32	4.51	1.81
Japan 10-yr Bond	0.40	0.37	0.53	0.17
Foreign Exchange Cross Rates				
C\$ (USD per CAD)	0.76	0.76	0.78	0.72
Euro (USD per EUR)	1.09	1.09	1.11	0.96
Pound (USD per GBP)	1.27	1.27	1.28	1.07
Yen (JPY per USD)	144.3	143.7	150.2	127.9
Commodity Spot Prices**				
Crude Oil (\$US/bbl)	70.8	68.9	108.4	66.7
Natural Gas (\$US/MMBtu)	2.50	2.22	9.84	1.77
Copper (\$US/met. tonne)	8177.0	8409.2	9330.8	7160.0
Gold (\$US/troy oz.)	1915.9	1921.2	2050.3	1622.4

*As of 10:35 AM on Friday. **Oil-WTI, Cushing, Nat. Gas-Henry Hub, LA (Thursday close price). Copper-LME Grade A. Gold-London Gold Bullion. Source: Bloomberg.



Global Official Policy Rate Targets	
Central Banks	Current Target
Federal Reserve (Fed Funds Rate)	5.00 - 5.25%
Bank of Canada (Overnight Rate)	4.75%
European Central Bank (Refi Rate)	4.00%
Bank of England (Repo Rate)	5.00%
Bank of Japan (Overnight Rate)	-0.10%

Source: Bloomberg.

U.S. – Healthy Data Keep Pressure on Fed

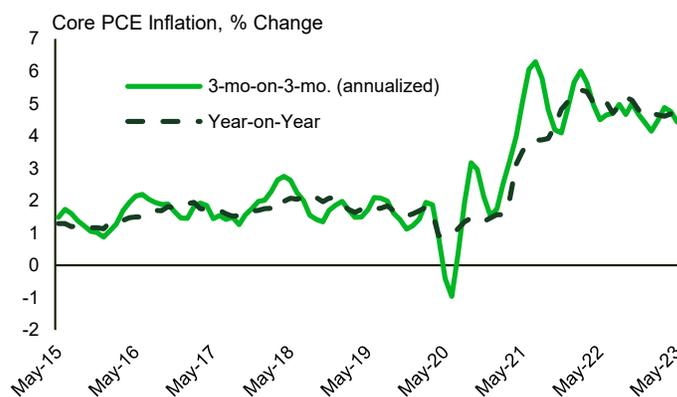
Fed Chair Jerome Powell noted this week that Fed officials, “believe there’s more restriction coming” from monetary policy in light of the persistently strong economic data. This week’s data stream did little to dissuade the sentiment. We got healthy prints from the housing market, consumer confidence, and manufacturing orders along with a personal consumption expenditure (PCE) report that showed little sign of core inflation abating. All told, the data underscored that the economy continues to chug along at a firm pace.

First up, activity in the housing market has ticked up. New home sales rose to their highest level since February 2022 in May. The market for new single-family homes troughed in July 2022 and has been trending upwards since, as inventories in the existing home market remain tight (see [commentary](#)). Sales in the existing market did move up in May as well, as a solid labor market helps drive demand.

Consumers’ moods have also been improving lately as the Conference Board consumer confidence index for June jumped up to its highest reading since January 2022. With both consumers’ assessment of the present situation and future expectations moved up on the month. Overall, consumers are not as confident as they were prior to the pandemic, likely as they contend with high inflation, but their higher spirits defy the recession warnings.

The good news didn’t just stop there. The industrial side of the economy saw manufacturers’ new orders of durable goods blow out expectations for a contraction, with a healthy advance. Taking a closer look at a key indicator of business investment, new orders excluding defense and air-

Chart 2. Core Inflation Remains Sticky Despite Softening Spending



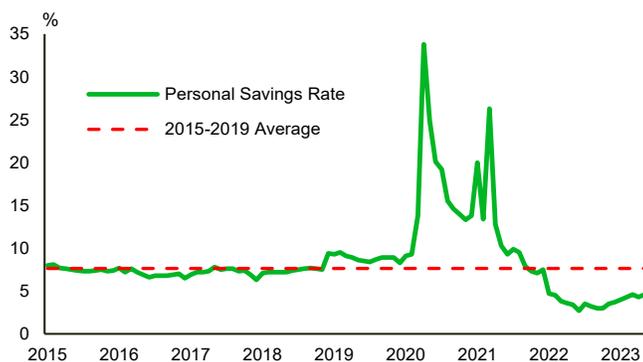
Source: BEA, TD Economics.

craft advanced a solid 0.7% in the month, and 0.3% month-on-month when stripping out the effects of inflation.

However, May’s consumer spending report suggests that demand has paused from its strong start to the year. Real expenditures were flat for the third time in fourth months, as an advance in services spending was offset by a drop in goods spending. Moreover, it looks like consumers are adjusting habits as they save a bit more of their disposable income. The personal savings rate ticked up to 4.6% in May, nearly two percentage points higher than its low registered in June 2022 (Chart 1). With the Supreme Court striking down the Biden administration’s student debt relief plan today, and a separate student loan payment [moratorium set to end](#), headwinds to the consumer spending outlook continue to build heading into the second half of 2023.

However, inflation continues to be problematic. Core PCE inflation (Chart 2) is showing little sign of relenting, up 4.6% y/y, with the near-term trend cruising along at 4.4% (annualized). Inflation has been stuck well above the two percent target, which is likely to keep officials focused on tightening policy to cool it down. Markets are looking for the Fed to hike rates again this year by another 25 basis points – taking the policy rate to a 22-year high of 5.5%. The FOMC’s next decision is at the end of July, giving it some time to see a few more readings on economic momentum before making its decision. Next week’s June jobs data is likely to be a key piece of it’s calculus.

Chart 1: Personal Savings Rate Continues to Normalize



Source: BEA, TD Economics. Last Observation: May 2023.

Andrew Hencic, Senior Economist | 416-944-5307

Canada – Inflation Eases While Population Pops

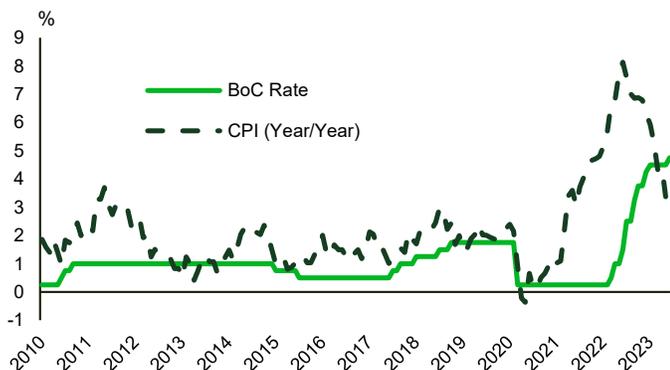
The countdown is on to the next Bank of Canada rate decision on July 12th, and there was plenty economic data this week for them to factor into their thinking. All told, the data suggest that monetary policy has yet to exert enough of a braking force on the economy and inflation. Financial markets have further cemented expectations for a BoC interest rate hike this summer, leading the Canada 2-year yield to establish a new cycle high.

Headline inflation cooled notably in May, but core price pressures are coming down at a glacial pace. The Consumer Price Index was up 3.4% year-on-year (y/y) in May, down from 4.4% y/y in April, more than a percent below the BoC's policy rate (Chart 1). Gasoline was the main contributor, with prices at the pump now far below year ago levels. Unfortunately, food inflation remained a problem, with prices up 8.3% y/y, having barely budged from their peak in January 2023.

The Bank of Canada's core inflation metrics (trimmed mean and median) decelerated, but to a lesser degree than the headline figure, averaging 3.9% y/y in May, versus 4.3% y/y in April. More concerning was our measure of 'supercore' inflation that reflects cyclically driven services inflation, which at 5.5% y/y is little changed from April's reading of 5.7% y/y. Travel was the main driver here as Canadians prepare for summer vacations.

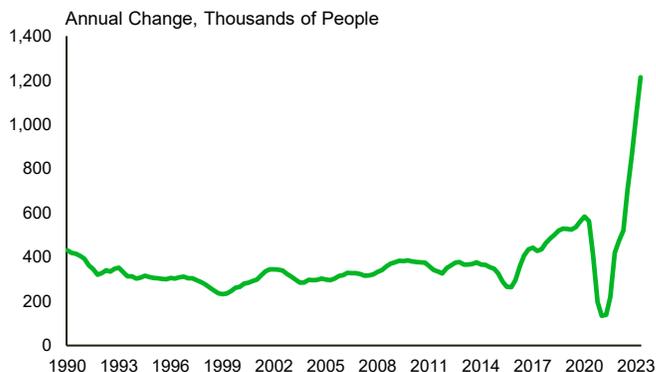
The surge in Canada's population over the past year has been a big swing factor in the economy. Canada welcomed 292k more people in the first three months of the year, bringing

Chart 1: CPI Continues to Fall Below BoC Rate



Source: StatCan, BoC, TD Economics. Last observation: May 2023 for CPI and June 2023 for BoC.

Chart 2: The Population Surge Continues



Source: StatCan, TD Economics. Last observation: June 2023.

the 12-month total to above 1.2 million (Chart 2). With more people living and working in the country, consumer spending surged by nearly 6% quarter-on-quarter annualized (q/q) in the first quarter. Firms have struggled to keep up with rising demand, so they have been hiring more workers, boosting wages, and raising prices.

We received some insight this week into how much of this momentum has carried over into the second with the release of industry GDP. While the print for April was unchanged, the flash estimate for May showed a big increase. This sets up second quarter GDP to come in above the BoC's forecast. At the same time, the BoC released its Business Outlook Survey and its companion Canadian Survey of Consumer Expectations. While both have signaled caution going forward, there is growing belief that the worst is over "as uncertainty about the path of future interest rates and concerns of a recession fade".

The Bank of Canada has less than two weeks before its next interest rate decision. Although there has been a notable improvement in overall Canadian inflation, underlying core measures reveal a big challenge going forward. The economy has continued to grow at a very healthy clip, supported by a surging population. This has kept up pressure on wages and domestic prices. The BoC will have a few more data points next week, including the key June employment data, to help it decide what to do next. But thus far, the data have been leaning towards another hike in July.

James Orlando, CFA, Director | 416-413-3180

Recent Key Economic Indicators: Jun 26 - 30, 2023					
Release Date	Economic Indicator/Event	Data for Period	Units	Current	Prior
United States					
Jun 27	Durable Goods Orders	May	M/M % Chg.	1.7	1.2
Jun 27	Cap Goods Orders Nondef Ex Air	May	M/M % Chg.	0.7	0.6
Jun 27	S&P CoreLogic CS 20-City NSA	Apr	Y/Y % Chg.	-1.7	-1.1
Jun 27	S&P CoreLogic CS US HPI NSA	Apr	Y/Y % Chg.	-0.2	0.7
Jun 27	New Home Sales	May	Thsd	763.0	680.0
Jun 27	Conf. Board Consumer Confidence	Jun	Index	109.7	102.5
Jun 28	Advance Goods Trade Balance	May	Blns	-91.1	-97.1
Jun 29	Gross Domestic Product Annualized	1Q	Q/Q % Chg.	2.0	1.3
Jun 29	Personal Consumption	1Q	Q/Q % Chg.	4.2	3.8
Jun 29	Core PCE	1Q	Q/Q % Chg.	4.9	5.0
Jun 29	Initial Jobless Claims	Jun 24	Thsd	239.0	265.0
Jun 29	Pending Home Sales	May	M/M % Chg.	-2.7	-0.4
Jun 30	Personal Income	May	M/M % Chg.	0.4	0.3
Jun 30	Real Personal Spending	May	M/M % Chg.	0.0	0.2
Jun 30	PCE Deflator	May	Y/Y % Chg.	3.8	4.3
Canada					
Jun 27	Consumer Price Index	May	Y/Y % Chg.	3.4	4.4
Jun 27	Consumer Price Index NSA	May	M/M % Chg.	0.4	0.7
Jun 29	CFIB Business Barometer	Jun	Index	54.1	56.2
Jun 29	Payroll Employment Change - SEPH	Apr	Thsd	-140.3	-9.9
Jun 30	Gross Domestic Product	Apr	M/M % Chg.	0.0	0.1
Jun 30	BoC Overall Business Outlook Survey	2Q	Q/Q % Chg.	-2.2	-1.1
Jun 30	BoC Business Outlook Future Sales	2Q	Q/Q % Chg.	-6.0	-18.0
International					
Jun 28	JN Retail Sales	May	Y/Y % Chg.	5.7	5.1
Jun 29	JN Jobless Rate	May	%	2.6	2.6
Jun 29	JN Tokyo Consumer Price Index	Jun	Y/Y % Chg.	3.1	3.2
Jun 29	CH Manufacturing PMI	Jun	Index	49.0	48.8
Jun 30	UK Gross Domestic Product	1Q	Y/Y % Chg.	0.2	0.2
Jun 30	EZ Consumer Price Index Estimate	Jun	Y/Y % Chg.	5.5	6.1
Jun 30	EZ Unemployment Rate	May	%	6.5	6.5

*Eastern Standard Time. Source: Bloomberg, TD Economics.

Upcoming Economic Releases and Events: Jul 3 - 7, 2023						
Release Date	Time*	Economic Indicator/Event	Data for Period	Units	Consensus Forecast	Last Period
United States						
Jul 3	9:45	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	Jun	Index	-	46.3
Jul 3	10:00	ISM Manufacturing	Jun	Index	47.2	46.9
Jul 3		Wards Total Vehicle Sales	Jun	Mlns	15.3	15.1
Jul 5	10:00	Factory Orders	May	M/M % Chg.	0.6	0.4
Jul 5	10:00	Factory Orders Ex Trans	May	M/M % Chg.	-	-0.2
Jul 5	10:00	Durable Goods Orders	May	M/M % Chg.	-	1.7
Jul 5	10:00	Cap Goods Orders Nondef Ex Air	May	M/M % Chg.	-	0.7
Jul 5	14:00	<i>FOMC Meeting Minutes</i>	Jun 14		-	-
Jul 5	16:00	<i>Fed's Williams Speaks at Central Bank Research Association Mtg</i>				
Jul 6	8:15	ADP Employment Change	Jun	Thsd	250.0	278.0
Jul 6	8:30	Trade Balance	May	Blns	-68.2	-74.6
Jul 6	8:30	Initial Jobless Claims	Jul 1	Thsd	248.0	239.0
Jul 6	8:45	<i>Fed's Logan Speaks on Policy Challenges for Central Banks</i>				
Jul 6	9:45	S&P Global US Services PMI	Jun	Index	-	54.1
Jul 6	9:45	S&P Global US Composite PMI	Jun	Index	-	53.0
Jul 6	10:00	ISM Services Index	Jun	Index	51.3	50.3
Jul 6	10:00	ISM Services Prices Paid	Jun	Index	-	56.2
Jul 6	10:00	ISM Services Employment	Jun	Index	-	49.2
Jul 6	10:00	ISM Services New Orders	Jun	Index	-	52.9
Jul 7	8:30	Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	Jun	Thsd	200.0	339.0
Jul 7	8:30	Unemployment Rate	Jun	%	3.7	3.7
Jul 7	8:30	Average Hourly Earnings	Jun	M/M % Chg.	0.3	0.3
Canada						
Jul 4	9:30	S&P Global Canada Manufacturing PMI	Jun	Index	-	49.0
Jul 6	8:30	Int'l Merchandise Trade	May	Blns	-	1.9
Jul 7	8:30	Net Change in Employment	Jun	Thsd	-	-17.3
Jul 7	8:30	Unemployment Rate	Jun	%	-	5.2
International						
Jul 6	5:00	EZ Retail Sales	May	Y/Y % Chg.	-2.6	-2.6

*Eastern Standard Time. Source: Bloomberg, TD Economics.

Disclaimer

This report is provided by TD Economics. It is for informational and educational purposes only as of the date of writing, and may not be appropriate for other purposes. The views and opinions expressed may change at any time based on market or other conditions and may not come to pass. This material is not intended to be relied upon as investment advice or recommendations, does not constitute a solicitation to buy or sell securities and should not be considered specific legal, investment or tax advice. The report does not provide material information about the business and affairs of TD Bank Group and the members of TD Economics are not spokespersons for TD Bank Group with respect to its business and affairs. The information contained in this report has been drawn from sources believed to be reliable, but is not guaranteed to be accurate or complete. This report contains economic analysis and views, including about future economic and financial markets performance. These are based on certain assumptions and other factors, and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. The actual outcome may be materially different. The Toronto-Dominion Bank and its affiliates and related entities that comprise the TD Bank Group are not liable for any errors or omissions in the information, analysis or views contained in this report, or for any loss or damage suffered.