

GLOBAL & REGIONAL DAILY

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Global markets

Risk-off sentiment prevailed ahead of today's US September CPI report, as reflected in the poor performance of Asian equity markets following Wall Street's further losses overnight in reaction to the FOMC minutes from the September policy meeting which underscored the committee's resolution in restoring price stability. Meanwhile, a BoE spokesperson repeated Governor Bailey's comments that APF purchases will come to an end on Friday and that the said decision "has been made absolutely clear in contact with the banks at senior levels". As a result, volatility in UK assets continued, with the 30-yr gilt yield rising briefly above 5% yesterday, before giving back nearly all its gains following £4.4bn bonds purchases by the BoE, the biggest daily intervention so far under its emergency programme. In FX markets, the JPY extended recent losses with the USD/JPY marking fresh post-2008 highs, after Governor Kuroda reiterated that the BoJ will continue monetary policy easing until it achieves its price stability target.

Greece

According to ELSTAT, the issuances of motor vehicle licenses – both new and used from abroad road motor cars – stood at 15,629 in September 2022 from 15,291 in September 2021, posting an annual increase of 2.2% from 3.6% in September 2021. During the 9-month period of January-September 2022, the respective licenses were 163,160 compared to 155,564 in January-September 2021, recording an annual increase of 4.9% from 23.1% in January-September 2021. It is worth noting that the annual increase of the issuances of motor vehicle licenses in January-September 2022 came from the category of passenger cars (8.8% YoY), with the bulk of them being used cars. The respective licenses for buses and lorries decreased by 15.6% YoY and 15.5% YoY respectively. Since the reopening of the economy and the steep recovery of tourism, many drivers in the major avenues and streets of Athens face traffic jams, with the fleet of cars being quite old. The extension of Athens Metro lines, like the one to Piraeus, is expected to soften this problem.

CESEE

Mixed signals about the current dynamics of economic activity in Turkey from trends in short-term sector indicators in August. The increase on an annual basis in the retail trade volume accelerated to 9.0%, from 2.3% in July, despite the further strengthening of inflationary pressures (80.3% YoY vs 79.6% YoY). The recent print was backed by a strong rise of prices in the sub-sectors of food-beverages-tobacco (+11.5% YoY) and electrical and electronic equipment, furniture etc. (+7.8% YoY). On the contrary, the increase in industrial production decelerated further in August, to 1.0% YoY, a 26-month low, from 2.5% YoY in July. The widening of production came solely from the rise in manufacturing (+2.2% YoY), which outweighed the declines in energy (-3.5%) and mining-quarries (-12.4%). As a result, the YtD average industrial production expansion stood at 7.8%.

Contributing Authors:

Paraskevi Petropoulou
Senior Economist
ppetropoulou@eurobank.gr

Dr. Stylianos Gogos
Research Economist
sgogos@eurobank.gr

Michail Vassileiadis
Research Economist
mvasileiadis@eurobank.gr

Research Team



Dr. Tasos Anastasatos | Group Chief Economist
tanastasatos@eurobank.gr | + 30 214 40 59 706



Dr. Stylianos Gogos
Research Economist
sgogos@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 63 456



Maria Kasola
Research Economist
mkasola@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 63 453



Paraskevi Petropoulou
Senior Economist
ppetropoulou@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 63 455



Dr. Theodoros Rapanos
Economic Analyst
trapanos@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 59 711



Dr. Theodoros Stamatou
Senior Economist
tstamatou@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 59 708



Michail Vassileiadis
Research Economist
mvassileiadis@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 59 709

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