

Asia week ahead: Tokyo inflation takes centre stage

Tokyo inflation data may be the data point to watch in the coming week, as it could meaningfully influence the timing of the Bank of Japan's next move. We also have Korean GDP data, Taiwan export orders and Singapore industrial production to look at. China will be relatively quiet following the recent data dump



Japan: Tokyo CPI is the one to watch for BoJ timing clues

Flash PMIs and Tokyo CPI will be released in the coming week. Of these, the Tokyo consumer inflation release is the key data point to watch. We expect headline inflation to stay at 2.2% year-on-year but with a sharp rise in the monthly comparison. This release will be very important to gauge the Bank of Japan's rate hike timing. The manufacturing PMI is expected to improve further as temporary production disruption is ebbing, but the service PMI is likely to edge down while staying well above the neutral level.

South Korea: Consumer and business surveys

South Korea will release consumer and business surveys and third-quarter GDP data for this year. We expect GDP to rebound modestly (0.4% quarter-on-quarter seasonally adjusted) from the previous quarter's contraction of -0.2%. Construction and consumption should weigh on overall growth, but the contraction should be smaller than in the previous quarter. Exports are likely to remain the main driver of growth. We think survey data will soften on the back of heightened uncertainty around the US economy.

Singapore: Inflation falling but core rates to remain sticky

Headline inflation in September should fall further in Singapore as lower gasoline prices weigh on the index. We expect the CPI index to rise by just 0.2% month-on-month, resulting in the first sub-2.0% inflation reading since March 2021. The core inflation rate is likely to be stickier. Tight labour markets and robust wage growth should keep service prices high and leave the core inflation rate roughly unchanged at 2.7% YoY.

Industrial production should follow the recent soft NODX numbers, and we expect the annual rate of growth to decline to 3.0% YoY, down from 6.7% in August following a 1% decline from the previous month.

Taiwan: Export orders and industrial production data

Taiwan publishes its export orders data on Monday afternoon. We expect export orders growth to remain stable from last month's 9.1% YoY, forecasting a modest uptick to 10.9% YoY. Industrial production data is also set for release on Wednesday, where a very favourable base effect has led to YoY growth in the low to mid-teens since April. We look for growth to moderate slightly in September to 12.6% YoY from 13.4% YoY.

China: Quiet after data dump week

The week ahead is quiet for China in terms of data releases after the data dump this week. The loan prime rate will be announced on Monday but there should be no surprises, with a 20bp cut expected to match the cut to the 7-day reverse repo rate made in September.

The MLF decision is expected on Friday, and there should be no further change this month after a 30bp cut last month. Data aside, it is worth monitoring if there are potential further government ministry briefings or a potential announcement of the timing for the National People's Congress meeting in the week ahead, as stimulus rollout remains a major theme for markets.

Key events in Asia next week

Country	Time (GMT+8)	Data/event	ING	Prev.
Monday 21 October				
China	0915	Oct Loan Prime Rate 1Y	3.15	3.35
	0915	Oct Loan Prime Rate 5Y	3.65	3.85
Australia	0900	RBA Hauser Speech	-	-
Taiwan	1600	Sep Export Orders (YoY%)	-	9.1
Tuesday 22 October				
Indonesia	1100	Sep M2 Money Supply (YoY%)	-	7.3
Wednesday 23 October				
South Korea	0500	Oct Consumer Sentiment Index	98	100
Singapore	1300	Sep CPI (MoM%/YoY%)	0.2/1.9	0.7/2.2
	1300	Sep Core CPI (YoY%)	2.7	2.7
Taiwan	1600	Sep Industrial Output (YoY%)	-	13.42
Thursday 24 October				
Japan	0830	Oct Jibun Manufacturing PMI Flash	50	49.7
	0830	Oct Jibun Services PMI Flash	52.5	53.1
	0830	Oct Jibun Composite PMI Flash	52	52.5
Australia	0600	Oct Manufacturing PMI Flash	-	46.7
	0600	Oct Services PMI Flash	-	50.5
	0600	Oct Composite PMI Flash	-	49.6
South Korea	0500	Oct Composite Business Sentiment Index	92	92.6
	0700	Q3 GDP (QoQ%/YoY%)	0.4/1.9	-0.2/2.3
Philippines	1100	Sep Budget Balance (PHP bn)	-	-54.2
Taiwan	0900	Sep Unemployment Rate	-	3.36
	0920	Sep M2 Money Supply (YoY%)	-	5.8
Friday 25 October				
Japan	0730	Oct Tokyo Core CPI (YoY%)	2	2.0
	0730	Oct Tokyo CPI (YoY%)	2.2	2.2
	1300	Aug Leading Indicator Final	-	106.7
Singapore	1300	Sep Industrial Production (MoM%/YoY%)	1.0/3.0	6.7/21
China	0900	1Y Medium Term Lending Facility Rate	2	2
Sunday 27 October				
Japan	-	General Election	-	-

Source: Refinitiv, ING

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