

Asia week ahead: Data centres on growth and production

GDP and production readings will be the highlights next week



Source: Shutterstock

GDP may be impacted by shutdowns and reopening

A couple of themes present themselves in the coming week, namely GDP and production. In terms of GDP, the first relevant data point is the contribution to third quarter GDP from net trade in Australia, which comes out a day ahead of the Australian 3Q GDP figure. India also releases 3Q GDP data on the 30th and like Australia, its GDP report will be heavily affected by Covid and the timing of lockdowns and reopening. Base effects drop out sharply from India's 3Q21 annual comparison, which will bring the year-on-year growth rate down, but this is partially offset by a strong bounce back from the Delta wave which ravaged India's economy in 2Q21. What this does is pitch two huge and offsetting swing factors against each other, and the scope for forecasting errors is huge. Not only that, but interpreting what any forecasting "miss" actually means for India will be problematic. Australia's GDP release faces almost exactly the opposite issues. 3Q21 marked a period of widespread lockdown in Australia, and there will undoubtedly be a significant hit to economic activity – just how large is a matter of guesswork though, and with a strong bounce

likely in 4Q21, markets may be inclined to ignore any forecasting data surprises here.

Production matters

As well as GDP, two of North Asia's big exporters, Japan and South Korea will release production data for October. Base effects from the big output contractions in 2020 have fully worked through the data, so what we are seeing now is more representative of the trend growth rate of production in both countries. The short story is that production growth isn't very impressive in either economy. Both Japan and Korea registered small declines in annual output growth in September. However, this is volatile data and it would probably be fairer to describe growth as approximately flat at present.

We also get production numbers out from China with official manufacturing PMI for November expected to edge up from October and move from contraction to expansion on a monthly basis. The increase likely came about after electricity outages were solved by November compared to several days of sudden outage in October. Despite the projected improvement, manufacturing activity should be at a subdued level as export orders slow towards the close of the year and as construction activity faces delays given the sudden cold weather. Meanwhile, the non-manufacturing PMI should fall from October, having enjoyed a temporary boost due to the extended holiday. We expect a slight dip for services although the PMI should remain in expansion due to increased financial activity in November.

The rest of the field

Meanwhile, South Korea reports November inflation data at the end of next week. The report comes a week after the Bank of Korea rate setting meeting so the relevance will be more in terms of vindication of the BoK's rate hike. Inflation could also provide clues about the extent to which the BoK will have to tighten in 2022. Indonesia also reports inflation next week although price pressures remain subdued due to relatively soft domestic activity. Soft inflation in Indonesia has allowed Bank Indonesia to retain its pro-growth stance in the near term to help support the economic recovery.

India also releases some fiscal deficit figures for October on 30 November. Progress on deficit reduction and meeting budget targets will be important for India if it is to avoid ratings downgrades next year. India is currently right at the cusp of investment grade, and Fitch has the country on negative outlook. So these numbers will become increasingly important over the coming months.

Asia Economic Calendar

Country	Time	Data/event	ING	Survey	Prev.
Monday 29 November					
Japan	2330	Oct Unemployment Rate	2.7		2.8
	2350	Oct Industrial O/P Prelim (MoM%/YoY%)	-1/0.3		-5.4/-2.3
South Korea	2300	Oct Industrial Output (YoY%)	2.3		-1.8
	2300	Oct Industrial Output Growth	-0.4		-0.8
Tuesday 30 November					
Japan	0500	Oct Housing Starts (YoY%)	3.6		4.3
Australia	0030	Q3 Current Account Balance SA	21.5		20.5
India	1200	Q2 GDP Quarterly (YoY%)	9.2		20.1
China	0100	Official manufacturing PMI	50.0		49.2
China	0100	Official non-manufacturing PMI	51.5		52.4
Wednesday 1 December					
Japan	2350	Nov Monetary Base (YoY%)	10.4		9.66
Australia	0030	Q3 GDP (QoQ%/YoY%)	-2.5/3.2		0.7/9.6
India	-	Nov Fiscal Deficit - INR Crore	52795		58842.0
Indonesia	0400	Nov Inflation (YoY%)	1.7		1.7
	0400	Nov Inflation (MoM%/YoY%)	0.1/1.7		0.1/1.3
South Korea	0000	Nov Export Growth Prelim	28		24.1
	0000	Nov Import Growth Prelim	42		37.7
	0000	Nov Trade Balance Prelim	1.8		1.78
	2300	Nov CPI (MoM%/YoY%)	0.2/3.5		0.1/3.2
	2300	Q3 GDP Final (QoQ%/YoY%)	0.3/4.0		0.3/4
Taiwan	0030	Markit PMI	55.1		55.2
China	0145	CAIXIN manufacturing PMI	50.5		50.6
Thursday 2 December					
Australia	0030	Oct Trade Balance (A\$bn)	13089		12243
Friday 3 December					
Singapore	0500	Oct Retail Sales (MoM%/YoY%)	-/-		6.0/6.6

Source: Refinitiv, ING, *GMT

Authors

Robert Carnell

Regional Head of Research, Asia-Pacific

robert.carnell@asia.ing.com

Nicholas Mapa

Senior Economist, Philippines

nicholas.antonio.mapa@asia.ing.com

Disclaimer

This publication has been prepared by the Economic and Financial Analysis Division of ING Bank N.V. ("ING") solely for information purposes without regard to any particular user's investment objectives, financial situation, or means. *ING forms part of ING Group (being for this purpose ING Group N.V. and its subsidiary and affiliated companies).* The information in the publication is not an investment recommendation and it is not investment, legal or tax advice or an offer or solicitation to purchase or sell any financial instrument. Reasonable care has been taken to ensure that this publication is not untrue or misleading when published, but ING does not represent that it is accurate or complete. ING does not accept any liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any use of this publication. Unless otherwise stated, any views, forecasts, or estimates are solely those of the author(s).

as of the date of the publication and are subject to change without notice.

The distribution of this publication may be restricted by law or regulation in different jurisdictions and persons into whose possession this publication comes should inform themselves about, and observe, such restrictions.

Copyright and database rights protection exists in this report and it may not be reproduced, distributed or published by any person for any purpose without the prior express consent of ING. All rights are reserved. ING Bank N.V. is authorised by the Dutch Central Bank and supervised by the European Central Bank (ECB), the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) and the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM). ING Bank N.V. is incorporated in the Netherlands (Trade Register no. 33031431 Amsterdam). In the United Kingdom this information is approved and/or communicated by ING Bank N.V., London Branch. ING Bank N.V., London Branch is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and is subject to regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority. ING Bank N.V., London branch is registered in England (Registration number BR000341) at 8-10 Moorgate, London EC2 6DA. For US Investors: Any person wishing to discuss this report or effect transactions in any security discussed herein should contact ING Financial Markets LLC, which is a member of the NYSE, FINRA and SIPC and part of ING, and which has accepted responsibility for the distribution of this report in the United States under applicable requirements.

Additional information is available on request. For more information about ING Group, please visit <http://www.ing.com>.