



TheECONOMY

Anatomy of a Recession

U.S. GDP growth bounced back in the third quarter snapping that two-quarter contraction that caused a technical recession. The consumer remains robust and continues to spend despite inflation; in addition, government spending grew in the third quarter. However, rapidly rising rates have cooled the U.S. housing market substantially and private investment has cratered the last two quarters as home ownership continues to become more difficult.

All of this had led the media, investors, politicians, and workers alike to ask, "Is the U.S. in a recession?" The business cycle dating committee at the National Bureau of Economic Research is responsible for calling U.S. recessions and typically does so after the fact by examining a holistic view of economic data. At the large banks, most believe that the U.S. economy has between a 40% - 80% chance of dipping into a recession in the next twelve months, signaling there is no consensus even among the largest market participants. So, let's take a look at some of the key economic indicators going into the end of the year.

Unemployment remains strong but saw a mild increase to 3.7% in October which could continue to trend upward as announcements of layoffs have cast a shadow over the tech sector and investment banks. Wall Street's annual layoffs appear to have returned and large staff departures at tech companies like Meta and Twitter may weigh on upcoming employment figures. Inflation is still hot but moderated more than expected in October with CPI increasing 7.7% year-over-year and 0.4% quarter-over-quarter. While prices are still high, the news of layoffs coupled with softening inflation may provide cover for the Fed to slow rate increases at the December meeting. The market is now pricing in a 50 bps hike in December, compared to the 75 bps rate increase in November. Home prices saw their growth nearly halved in the third quarter with median prices increasing 8.6% versus 14.2% in the second quarter. Finally, U.S. industrial activity continues to expand as shown by the ISM manufacturing PMI which is barely in expansion territory at 50.2. Overall, the outlook for the U.S. economy is uncertain, and we expect the Fed to continue raising rates until we see a material decline in inflation. However, the pace of these increases is expected to slow, and the economy is likely to enter a recession from a place of relative strength should one come to pass.

Treasury Yields

MATURITY	11/7/22	10/7/22	CHANGE
3 Month	4.044%	3.584%	0.460%
6 Month	4.562%	4.074%	0.489%
1-Year	4.738%	4.219%	0.520%
2-Year	4.722%	4.308%	0.414%
3-Year	4.646%	4.343%	0.303%
5-Year	4.388%	4.142%	0.245%
10-Year	4.214%	3.881%	0.332%
30-Year	4.319%	3.842%	0.477%

Source: Bloomberg

Agency Yields

MATURITY	11/7/22	10/7/22	CHANGE
3 Month	4.465%	3.996%	0.468%
6 Month	4.599%	4.134%	0.465%
1-Year	4.855%	4.387%	0.469%
2-Year	4.838%	4.432%	0.406%
3-Year	4.737%	4.388%	0.349%
5-Year	4.608%	4.289%	0.319%

Source: Bloomberg

Commercial Paper Yields (A-1/P-1)

MATURITY	11/7/22	10/7/22	CHANGE
1 Month	3.900%	3.160%	0.740%
3 Month	4.570%	3.880%	0.690%
6 Month	5.100%	4.480%	0.620%
9 Month	5.370%	4.660%	0.710%

Source: Bloomberg

Current Economic Releases

DATA	PERIOD	VALUE
GDP QoQ	Q3 '22	2.60%
US Unemployment	Oct '22	3.70%
ISM Manufacturing	Oct '22	50.2
PPI YoY	Sep '22	11.50%
CPI YoY	Oct '22	7.70%
Fed Funds Target	Nov 10, 2022	3.75% - 4.00%

Source: Bloomberg