

Business & Personal Financial Planning

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SUMMIT FINANCIAL RESOURCES, INC.

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National Wealth Advisors Inc. President. Michael A. Caputo. MSFS. AEP® offers securities and investment advisory services through Summit Equities, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC, and financial planning services through Summit Equities. Inc.'s affiliate Summit Financial Resources, Inc. 4 Campus Drive, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Tel.973-285-3600 Fax.973-285-3666.

By Robert W. Lamberti, CFA VP & Co-Chief Investment Officer

Monthly Summary

The placid behavior of the capital markets in August was truly remarkable. Not only was this the case relative to the gut wrenching volatility earlier in the year, but also from a much longer historical perspective. The S&P 500 index traded within its tightest 30 day range since December 1965, and the yield on the 10 year U.S. Treasury note moved in its narrowest range in over a decade. Volatility levels such as these have only been seen a handful of times over the past half century.

Interesting undercurrents were at play despite calm waters. All three major U.S. stock market indexes (Nasdaq, Dow, and S&P 500) closed at record highs on August 11, the first time since the end of 1999. And oil, which fell into a bear market to start the month, rallied back into a bull market by month end.

Central banks were active as well. The Bank of England cut interest rates in anticipation of BREXIT related weakness, the Bank of Japan telegraphed bold action would be coming in September, more is expected near term out of the European Central Bank, and U.S. Federal Reserve members openly discussed the prospect of interest rate hikes in coming weeks or months, with perhaps two by year end.

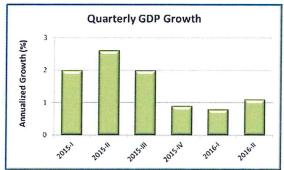
Records acknowledged and jawboning aside, U.S. stock and bond markets finished nearly even with their starting values, and developed international equity markets followed suit.

Economic Data

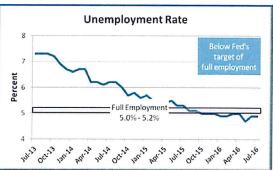
General	<u>Prior</u>	Current	
GDP growth	0.8% (Q1)	1.1% (Q2)	
Trade balance	-\$41.0B (May)	-\$44.5B (Jun)	

<u>Employment</u>	<u>Prior</u>	Current
Initial jobless claims	262,000 (8/13)	261,000 (8/20)
Continuing claims	2.2MM (8/6)	2.1MM (8/13)
Change in nonfarm payrolls	292,000 (Jun)	255,000 (Jul)
Unemployment rate	4.9% (Jun)	4.9% (Jul)
Average weekly hours	34.4 (Jun)	34.4 (Jul)

Consumer	<u>Prior</u>	Current	
Consumer confidence index (Conf. Board)	97.4 (Jun)	96.7 (Jul)	
Retail sales growth (YoY)	3.5% (Jun)	0.7% (Jul)	
Change in consumer credit	\$17.9B (May)	\$12.3B (Jun)	



Data Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



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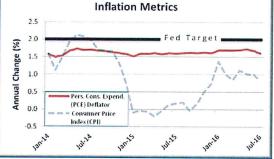


Manufacturing & Service	<u>Prior</u>	Current
ISM manufacturing index	53.2 (Jun)	52.6 (Jul)
ISM non-manufacturing index	56.5 (Jun)	55.5 (Jul)
Durable goods orders growth	-4.2% (Jun)	4.4% (Jul)
Industrial production growth	0.4% (Jun)	0.7% (Jul)
Capacity utilization	75.4% (Jun)	75.9% (Jul)

Real Estate	Prior	Current	
New home sales	582,000 (Jun)	654,000 (Jul)	
Existing home sales	5.6MM (Jun)	5.4MM (Jul)	
S&P CoreLogic CS home price index (YoY)	5.3% (May)	5.1% (Jun)	

<u>Inflation</u>	Prior	Current	
Consumer price index/Core (YoY growth)	1.0%/2.3% (Jun)	0.8%/2.2% (Jul)	
Producer price index/Core (YoY growth)	0.3%/1.3% (Jun)	-0.2%/0.7% (Jul)	4





Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Data Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics/U.S. Federal Res.

Market Returns

	August 2016	YTD 2016
Fixed Income		
Barclays Aggregate Bond	-0.1%	5.9%
Barclays Municipal Bond	0.1%	4.5%
Barclays Gbl Agg. ex. U.S.	-0.8%	12.0%
<u>Alternatives</u>		
Bloomberg Commodity	-1.8%	5.6%
DJ US Real Estate	-3.3%	12.6%

	August 2016	YTD 2016
Domestic Equities		
Wilshire 5000	0.2%	8.3%
S&P 500	0.1%	7.8%
Russell 2000	1.8%	10.2%
International Equities		
MSCI EAFE (Developed)	0.1%	0.5%
MSCI EM (Emerging)	2.5%	14.5%

Data Source: Morningstar

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