

## Last Week at a Glance

Global equity prices moved higher last week, as economic data releases and early Q3 corporate earnings results were broadly positive. Key fixed income benchmarks also enjoyed positive returns, as yields fell. Gold's rally continued, supported by lower fixed income yields and heightened geopolitical risk.

- US consumer spending in September exceeded forecasts, growing 1.7% in the prior 12-month period, according to government data released on Thursday. On the same day, data for weekly jobless claims were lower than expected. The strong data releases reinforce the view that US economic growth remains resilient.
- On Thursday, the ECB cut its policy rates by 25 bps for the third time this year, which reduced its deposit facility rate to 3.25%. The decision occurred as the ECB released new survey data highlighting that forecasters have revised down their 2025 eurozone estimates for inflation by 10 bps to 1.9% and for real GDP growth by 10 bps to 1.2%, relative to the prior survey.
- UK inflation data highlighted inflation rose by 1.7% in the prior 12-month period. The weaker-than-expected result increased expectations that the BoE would cut its policy rate by 25 bps in November and led the pound to sell off.
- On Friday, China's central bank launched two new facilities aimed at supporting market stability. The first allows approved participants to swap specified assets for liquidity to buy stocks, and the second allows financial institutions to borrow to fund share repurchases. Both facilities were part of stimulus measures announced in September and came as data highlighted Q3 GDP growth (4.6%) was below the government's target level (5.0%).

### MARKET PERFORMANCE

As of October 20, 2024 • Local Currency • Percent (%)

Equities	Last Week	This Month	This Year
Global	0.6	1.5	20.5
Developed Markets	0.7	1.7	20.8
United States	0.9	2.0	23.7
Euro Area	0.2	0.0	11.7
United Kingdom	1.3	1.6	11.5
Japan	-0.8	1.9	16.2
Emerging Markets	-0.2	0.0	18.3
<b>Fixed Income</b>			
US Aggregate	0.1	-1.4	3.0
US Treasuries	0.1	-1.5	2.3
US Corporate IG	0.1	-1.2	4.0
US Corporate HY	0.3	-0.1	7.9
<b>Real Assets</b>			
Global Equity REITs	2.5	-0.2	12.6
Global Natural Resources	-1.6	1.2	5.9
Gold Bullion	2.3	3.2	31.6
<b>Currencies</b>			
EUR/USD	-0.8	-2.7	-1.7
GBP/USD	-0.3	-2.8	2.3
USD/JPY	0.2	4.6	6.1