

ECONOMIC PREVIEW



REGIONS

Week of October 14, 2013

Indicator/Action Economics Survey:

Fed Funds Rate

(after the FOMC meeting on October 29-30)

Range: 0.00 to 0.25 percent

Median: 0.125 percent (mid-point of target range)

Last Actual:

0.00% to 0.25%

Regions' View:

As this week's preview goes to press, there may or may not be movement on an agreement would raise the debt ceiling, but only temporarily, and that may or may not end the partial shutdown of the federal government. Against the backdrop of this impressive display of steely resolve and some badly needed clarity on policy surely it is only a matter of days, if not mere hours, before the economy takes off like a rocket.

Or not.

Hard as it is to fathom for some of those inside the Beltway, the latest act in the ongoing fiscal follies is doing a number on consumer and business confidence, interjecting unwanted volatility into the financial markets, and taking a toll on economic activity. The attitude of some in DC reminds of us of *The League*, when Taco names his food truck "Taco's Truck" and then can't for the life of him figure out why patrons keep coming up asking for Mexican food when, as the upper case comma should make clear, all he sells is American fare.

Okay, that may be a bit of a reach, but desperate times call for desperate measures, and the prospect of yet another week without economic data is taking its toll on us. That having been said, here is a look at what you won't be seeing in the week ahead.

September Consumer Price Index Wednesday, 10/16 Aug = +0.1%
Range: -0.2 to 0.3 percent
Median: 0.2 percent

Up by 0.2 percent, yielding a year-over-year increase of 1.2 percent.

September CPI – Core Wednesday, 10/16 Aug = +0.1%
Range: 0.1 to 0.2 percent
Median: 0.2 percent

Up by 0.2 percent, which translates into a 1.8 percent year-over-year increase.

September Housing Starts Thursday, 10/17 Aug = 891,000
Range: 850,000 to 950,000 units
Median: 910,000 units SAAR

Up to an annualized rate of 935,000 units, with total building permits at an annualized rate of 930,000 units.

September Industrial Production Thursday, 10/17 Aug = +0.4%
Range: 0.2 to 0.7 percent
Median: 0.4 percent

Up by 0.4 percent.

September Capacity Utilization Rate Thursday, 10/17 Aug = 77.8%
Range: 77.9 to 80.3 percent
Median: 78.1 percent

Up to 78.0 percent.

September Leading Economic Index Friday, 10/18 Aug = +0.7%
Range: 0.4 to 0.8 percent
Median: 0.7 percent

Up by 0.7 percent.

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