

Global Economics Intelligence

Critical trends and risks

Released August 2024 (data through July 2024)



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Global economic uncertainty remains elevated, as the high-interest rate environment begins to impact households and companies

		Versus previous period: 📃 Significant improvement 📃 Some improvement 🦳 Some deterioration 📕 Significant deterioration 📕 No significant change		
	Consumer and households	Overall consumer confidence has declined as high consumer prices continue to affect consumers.		
		 Deceleration in consumer spending continues across the board, with the exception of Brazil. 		
	Business and industry	 Manufacturing sector tips into contraction for the first time in 2024, while services continue to grow steadily. 		
		 Manufacturing growth appears to stall in China and the US for the first time in 2024; the sector remains in contraction in the eurozone. 		
		 Services sector still the brightest spot on the global economic map as the main economies continue growth in July. 		
		• Economic growth is accelerating, driven primarily by increases in industrial production and, to some extent, in capital markets.		
	Trade and external	 World trade volumes increased by 0.7% in June, driven by growth across all trade flows in advanced economies. 		
		 Global supply chain markets continue to normalize as pressure index reaches historical average value in July. 		
		 In June, trade in the United States saw an increase, whereas China and Brazil experienced a decline in exports. 		
		 In June, the Container Throughput Index remained steady at around 130 points; however, port trade activities showed a decline of 3.5% compared to May. European ports experienced reduced activity compared to May; similarly, Chinese ports also saw a decline in activity (although this decrease was not reflected in China's container throughput index). 		
		 Total port trade experienced a decline in June 2024 compared to the same period in 2023, primarily driven by decreases in activity within Asian economies. 		
	Prices	 Inflation continues to ease among developed economies—with deflation still present among producers in the eurozone. Consumer inflation in developing economies remained stable in July; only Russia saw an acceleration. 		
		 Most commodity prices continued to decline in August, but they all remain significantly higher than pre-pandemic levels. 		
		 Gold continues to reach record highs in August, touching \$2,439 per ounce. 		
	Employment	 In July, the unemployment rate in both the US and China continued to rise, while Brazil has shown a downward trend in its unemployment rate since April. 		
	Financial markets	 Equity markets experienced a troubled August, when most stock exchanges experienced losses. 		
		• The cost of capital was stable in August, given stabilization in inflation and a wait-and-see approach from markets regarding interest rate decisions.		
	Government and policy	 Interest rates continue largely unchanged in 2024, with increasing expectations around cuts and their magnitude. 		

Overall consumer confidence has declined as high consumer prices continue to affect consumers



OECD consumer confidence indicators for individual economies¹

Index, long-term average = 100^{1}



¹Data for China through May 2024 and Russia through May 2023.

Source: OECD; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Deceleration in consumer spending continues across the board, with the exception of Brazil

Retail sales growth¹





¹Data through July 2024.

Source: Banco Central do Brasil; Eurostat; National Bureau of Statistics of China; Rosstat; UK Office for National Statistics; US Census Bureau; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence McKinsey & Company 5 analysis

Manufacturing sector tips into contraction for the first time in 2024, while services continue to grow steadily



JPMorgan Global Purchasing Managers' Index (Services)

Diffusion index, seasonally adjusted (monthly)



Note: A reading of more than 50.0 indicates an increase from the previous month, and a reading of less than 50.0 indicates a decrease. Country-level data are the PMIs for individual countries as sourced from Markit Economics or the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) and are not a breakdown of the JPMorgan Global PMI.

Source: S&P Global; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Manufacturing growth appears to stall in China and the US for the first time in 2024; the sector remains in contraction in the eurozone





Note: A reading of more than 50.0 indicates an increase from the previous month, and a reading of less than 50.0 indicates a decrease. The country-level data are the PMIs for individual countries as sourced from Markit Economics and are not a breakdown of the JPMorgan Global PMI.

Services sector still the brightest spot on the global economic map as the main economies continue growth in July





Note: A reading of more than 50.0 indicates an increase from the previous month, and a reading of less than 50.0 indicates a decrease. The country-level data are the PMIs for individual countries as sourced from Markit Economics and are not a breakdown of the JPMorgan Global PMI.

Economic growth is accelerating, driven primarily by increases in industrial production and, to some extent, in capital markets



1. Composite leading indicators (CLIs) attempt to identify turning points in economic activity approximately six months in advance. The horizontal line at 100 shows the long-term trend in industrial production (the reference series). An increase to more than 100 indicates expansion; a decrease but still more than 100 indicates a downturn; a decrease to less than 100 indicates a slowdown; and an increase less than 100 indicates a recovery. | 2. The Four Big European Countries are: France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom. | 3. The Major Five Asia countries are: China, India, Indonesia, Japan, and Korea.

Source: OECD; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

World trade volumes increased by 0.7% in June, driven by growth across all trade flows in advanced economies



CPB World Trade Monitor details June 2024

Advanced economies



Global supply chain markets continue to normalize as pressure index reaches historical average value in July

Supply-chain pressure index





In June, trade in the United States saw an increase, whereas China and Brazil experienced a decline in exports



Versus previous period:	Significant increase Incre Severe decline No s	ase Decline ignificant change
	% change from previous month ¹	12-mo. % change Jun. 2024–Jul. 2023 vs Jun. 2023–Jul. 2022
Exports		
US	1.6	1.6
Eurozone ⁴	-2.6	-2.1
China	-2.5	-1.5
Brazil	-4.4	1.2
India ³	-16.0	-2.0
Russia ²	19.7	-22.6
Imports		
US	0.7	0.7
Eurozone ⁴	-0.1	-14.7
China	-5.9	-1.6
Brazil	1.7	-5.4
India ³	-5.6	-3.5
Russia ²	-9.8	5.4
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SOURCE: Haver Analytics; national statistics websites; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23

10 11 12 13 14 15

3. Latest data for India is April 2024; 4. Latest data for EZ is May 2024.

Data for June 2024 vs May 2024; 2. Latest data for Russia is March 2024.

0

1.

07 08

09

Note: Exports and imports are not seasonally adjusted.

In June, the Container Throughput Index remained steady at around 130 points; however, port trade activities showed a decline of 3.5% compared to May



1. The current flash estimate for the Container Throughput Index is based on data from 64 ports, which account for about 85 percent of the handling represented in the index.

2. On January 2020, the RWI/ISL Container Throughput Index changed its base year to 2015.

3. Total trade includes total export and import volume (in metric tons) of all ships entering the port at this date. This is the sum of export/import_container, export/import_dry_bulk, export/import_general_cargo, export/import_roro and export/import_tanker which are ship categories.

Notes: The RWI/ISL Container Throughput Index provides timely information on short-term trends in international trade. The database covers 92 international ports, which handle about 60% of global container transhipment. The monthly data do not include figures for Dubai. Data is seasonally and working-day adjusted. The left Y-axis shows total trade port in million metrics tones, while the right Y-axis is for the index figures.

In June, European ports experienced reduced activity compared to May; similarly, Chinese ports also saw a decline in activity, although this decrease was not reflected in China's container throughput index



1. China's Throughput Index summarizes throughput for the ports of Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Ningbo, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Tianjin, and Xiamen.

2. On January 2020, the RWI/ISL Container Throughput Index changed its base year to 2015.

3. The North Range index summarizes throughput for the ports of Antwerp, Bremen/Bremerhaven, Hamburg, Le Havre, Rotterdam, and Zeebrugge.

4. Total trade includes total export and import volumes (in metric tons) of all ships entering the port at this date. This is the sum of export/import_container, export/import_dry_bulk, export/import_general_cargo, export/import_roro and export/import_tanker which are ship categories.

Notes: The RWI/ISL Container Throughput Index provides timely information on short-term trends in international trade.

Total port trade experienced a decline in June 2024 compared to the same period in 2023, primarily driven by decreases in activity within Asian economies



1. Total trade includes total export and import volume (in metric tons) of all ships entering the port at this date. This is the sum of export/import_container, export/import_dry_bulk, export/import_general_cargo, export/import_roro and export/import_tanker which are ship categories.

In July, the unemployment rate in both the US and China continued to rise, while Brazil has shown a downward trend in its unemployment rate since April





1. Data for India and China are annual and shown as a smoothed trend line.

2. China unemployment only shows urban rate.

Inflation continues to ease among developed economies—with deflation still present among producers in the eurozone

Consumer price indexes: Developed economies % year over year (monthly) 15 10 5 0 -5 Jan 2008 2010 2007 2009 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Producer price indexes: Developed economies

% year over year (monthly)



Source: Eurostat; national statistics websites; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Consumer inflation in developing economies remained stable in July; only Russia saw an acceleration

Consumer price indexes: Emerging economies % year over year (monthly) 20 15 10 5 0 -5 Jan 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024



Producer price indexes: Emerging economies

Brazil

India

China

Russia

Most commodity prices continued to decline in August, but they all remain significantly higher than pre-pandemic levels

Commodities indexes¹

Moving five-week average, indexed to Jan 2007



1. Updated through August 18, 2024; commodity data are taken from the GS Commodities Index, with components weighted by production. Precious metals: gold, 83%; silver, 17%. Energy: crude oil, 70%; oil products, 25%; natural gas, 4%. Agriculture: corn, 28%; wheat, 25%; soybeans, 15%; sugar, 14%; other, 19%. Livestock: cattle, 66%; hogs, 34%. Industrial metals: copper, 46%; aluminum, 31%; other, 23%.

Source: Haver Analytics; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Gold continues to reach record highs in August, touching \$2,439 per ounce

Gold spot price¹



Five-week moving average, USD/troy ounce (weekly)

Gold spot price over past 4 months



Five-week moving average, USD/troy ounce (weekly)

¹Updated through August 18, 2024.

Source: Haver Analytics; World Gold Council; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

The sideways price trend continues among energy commodities



\$ per million Btu, five-day moving average



Crude Brent, Henry Hub (Nymex). WTI (West Texas Intermediate) prices as of August 18, 2024.
 New York Harbor No. 2. heating-oil prices as of August 18, 2024.

Heating-oil price³

US cents/gallon, five-day moving average



Henry Hub, LA; prices as of August 18, 2024. ICE Dutch TTF Gas Base Load Futures.
 Australia coal prices; coal prices as of June 2024.

Metal prices edged down slightly, due to slower demand in global commodity markets

Copper¹

\$/pound, five-week moving average



Aluminum³

\$/Mt, five-week moving average



Steel²

10.000

0

Jan

2008

Jan

2010

Jan

2012



Jan

2016

Jan

2014

Jan

2018

Jan

2020

Jan

2022

1. Copper, high grade: COMEX Spot Price, updated through August 18, 2024.

2. Steel, 2.75-millimeter hot-rolled coil (\$/gross metric ton); data estimated since May 2012 using 0.5-millimeter cold-rolled sheet prices; data from July 2023.

3. Aluminum, LME spot (\$/metric ton), updated through August 18, 2024.

4. UK: LME nickel, closing cash price (\$/metric ton), updated through August 18, 2024.

Source: Haver Analytics; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Jan

2024

Central banks continue to anchor inflation expectations well at around 2.0–2.3%

% (daily), five-day moving average 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.1% 2.0 1.5 1.0 Ten-year 0.5 - Five-year 0 -0.5 -1.0-1.5 -2.0Jan Jan 2019 2023 2024 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2020 2021 2022

Implied inflationary expectations from five- and ten-year TIPS yields¹ (spread between T-bill and TIPS of same maturity)

¹Updated through August 16, 2024.

Source: Haver Analytics; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Food prices remained broadly unchanged in July, still presenting a 19% increase compared to pre-pandemic levels

FAO Food Price Index by month, in real terms Overall index, 2014–16 = 100 160 140 120 +19% 100 80 Jan 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Component indexes¹

Index level, 2014–16 = 100



¹The values of the five indexes are compiled and then weighted by the average export shares of each group in 2002–04. The final figure represents the current value of the FAO Food Price Index.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

The end prices that consumers pay for commodities dropped significantly in 2024 but still remain relatively high compared to pre-pandemic levels

OECD Food Consumer Price Index by month Index level, 2015 = 100160 140 120 +14% 100 80 Jan 2016 2018 2019 2020 2022 2023 2015 2017 2021 2024

FAO Food Price Index by month, in real terms

Overall index, 2014–16 = 100



Equity markets experienced a troubled August, when most stock exchanges experienced losses

Equity markets¹



Five-week moving average, daily, index (Jan 2007 = 1)

Change from prior month

%

US	S&P 500	2.3	-2.0	
UK	FTSE 100	-0.1	0.3	
Germany	DAX	0.5	-2.3	
France	CAC 40	-2.1	-2.9	
Japan	Nikkei 225	3.2	-9.2	
China	SSE Composite index	-2.3	-2.6	
India	BSE Sensex-30	4.7	-0.5	
Brazil	Bovespa	4.8	3.2	
Russia	RTS	-3.7	-7.9	
		July ²	August ³	
25;	Versus previous period:	Significant increaseSevere decline	Increase No significant change	Decline e

1. Brazil: Bovespa; China: SSE Composite Index; France: CAC 40; Germany: DAX; India: BSE Sensex-30; Japan: Nikkei 225; Russia: RTSI Index; UK: FTSE 100; US: S&P 500.

2. Growth rate calculated as average value of each index in July over average value in June.

3. Growth rate calculated as average value of each index in August (August 18) over average value in July.

Source: Haver Analytics; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Volatility showed a slight trend up in August; however, it remains within controlled levels historically



1. Based on United States Oil Fund (USO) option prices.

Source: CBOE; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

2. Based on SPDR Gold Shares (GLD) options.

3. Updated through July 16, 2024.

CBOE Crude Oil Volatility Index (OVX)^{1, 3}



The cost of capital was stable in August, given stabilization in inflation and a wait-and-see approach from markets regarding interest rate decisions



1. Five-year government bond yields used for China.

2. Updated through August 18, 2024.

Source: Haver Analytics; McKinsey's Global Economics Intelligence analysis

Interest rates continue largely unchanged in 2024, with increasing expectations around cuts and their magnitude

Central-bank interest rates

% (monthly)



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