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Forecast Calendar

August 19, 2011

United States

Economic Indicators—Schedule and Forecasts
August 22 – September 2, 2011

Sinai/Ellis/Edelstein

f= DE forecast c=consensus a=advance s=second t=third r=revised

22

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$56.0 Billion

23

ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales (7:45) (8/20)

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55) (8/20)

New Home Sales (10:00)
(Units, Thousands, SAAR)

Mar	305	Jun	312
Apr	317	**Jul (f)**	**313**
May	315	**Jul (c)**	**312**

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$35.0 Billion (f)

2-Year Note (13:00)
$35.0 Billion

52-Week Bill (13:00)
$25.0 Billion

24

Durable Goods (8:30)

	Orders	Ex-Def.	Ships.
May	2.0%	1.6%	0.5%
Jun	-1.9%	-1.6%	0.5%
Jul (f)	**2.5%**	**2.5%**	**0.6%**
Jul (c)	**2.1%**		

5-Year Note (13:00)
$35.0 Billion

25

Initial Claims (8:30)

8/6	399	**8/20 (f)**	**405**
8/13	408	**8/20 (c)**	**405**

7-Year Note (13:00)
$29.0 Billion

26

Gross Domestic Product (8:30)

(Second)	Real	Sales	Chain Prices
11:Q1	0.4%	0.0%	2.5%
11:Q2 (a)	1.3%	1.1%	2.3%
11:Q2 (f)	**1.1%**	**0.9%**	**2.3%**
11:Q2 (c)	**1.1%**		**2.3%**

U of M Cons Sentiment Index
(9:55) (Final)

May	74.3	Aug (p)	54.9
Jun	71.5	**Aug (f)**	**54.9**
Jul	63.7	**Aug (c)**	**56.0**

U of M Inflation Expectations
(9:55) (Final)

	1-Year	5-Year
Jul	3.4%	2.9%
Aug (p)	3.4%	2.9%
Aug (f)	**3.4%**	**2.9%**

Bernanke Speech (10:00)
(Kansas City Fed's Annual Economic Conference – Jackson Hole, Wyoming)

29

Personal Income & Consumption (8:30)

	Income	Cons.	Core Prices
May	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Jun	0.1%	-0.2%	0.1%
Jul (f)	**0.3%**	**0.5%**	**0.2%**

Pending Home Sales (10:00)

Feb	0.7%	May	8.2%
Mar	3.5%	Jun	2.4%
Apr	-11.3%	**Jul (f)**	**2.0%**

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$56.0 Billion (f)

30

ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales (7:45) (8/27)

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55) (8/27)

S&P/Case-Shiller Index (9:00)
(20 City Index) (Y/Y)

Jan	-3.2%	Apr	-4.2%
Feb	-3.5%	May	-4.5%
Mar	-4.0%	**Jun (f)**	**-4.6%**

Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey (10:00)

Mar	63.8	Jun	57.6
Apr	66.0	Jul	59.5
May	61.7	**Aug (f)**	**55.1**

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$35.0 Billion (f)

Kocherlakota Speech (12:15)
(Economic Outlook and a Reconsideration of Leverage Incentives – Bismarck, N.D.)

FOMC Minutes (14:00)
(Aug. 9 meeting)

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ADP Employment Estimate (8:15) (Aug)

Chicago Purchasing Managers' Survey (9:45)

	Total	Prices Paid
Jun	61.1	70.5
Jul	58.8	71.7
Aug (f)	**50.5**	**61.3**

Manufacturers' (10:00)

	Orders	Ships.	Invs.
May	0.6%	0.0%	0.8%
Jun	-0.8%	0.2%	0.2%
Jul (f)	**1.0%**	**1.0%**	**0.3%**

Lockhart Speech (12:30)
(Lafayette, LA)

1

Initial Claims (8:30)

8/6	399	**8/20 (f)**	**405**
8/13	408	**8/27 (f)**	**410**

Productivity and Costs (8:30)

(Revised)	Prod.	Comp.	ULC
11:Q1	-0.6%	4.2%	4.8%
11:Q2 (p)	-0.3%	1.9%	2.2%
11:Q2 (f)	**-0.5%**	**1.9%**	**2.4%**

Construction Expenditure (10:00)

Feb	-1.0%	May	0.3%
Mar	-0.2%	Jun	0.2%
Apr	0.7%	**Jul (f)**	**0.3%**

ISM Manufacturing Survey (10:00)

	Total	Prices
Jun	55.3	68.0
Jul	50.9	59.0
Aug (f)	**48.0**	**57.5**

Light Vehicle Sales
(Units, Millions, SAAR)

	Total	Domestic	Import
Jun	11.5	9.0	2.5
Jul	12.2	9.6	2.6
Aug (f)	**12.0**	**9.4**	**2.6**

Monthly Chain Store Sales (Aug)

2

Employment Report (8:30)

	Payrolls (Thous.)	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
Jun	46	34.3	0.0%
Jul	117	34.3	0.4%
Aug (f)	**77**	**34.3**	**0.2%**

Unemployment Rate (8:30)

Mar	8.8%	Jun	9.2%
Apr	9.0%	Jul	9.1%
May	9.1%	**Aug (f)**	**9.1%**

Recent History-Latest Results

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Empire State Manufacturing Survey
(8:30)

	Total	Prices
Jun	-7.8	56.1
Jul	-3.8	43.3
Aug	-7.7	28.3

Monthly TIC flows (9:00) (Jun)

NAHB Housing Market Index (10:00)

Mar	17	Jun	13
Apr	16	Jul	15
May	16	Aug	15

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$56.0 Billion

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ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales (7:45) (8/13)

Import Prices (Non-Fuel, Y/Y)
(8:30)

Feb	3.8%	May	4.6%
Mar	4.4%	Jun	5.0%
Apr	4.6%	Jul	5.5%

Housing Starts (8:30)
(Units, Millions, SAAR)

	Starts	Permits
May	0.553	0.609
Jun	0.613	0.617
Jul	0.604	0.597

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55) (8/13)

Industrial Production & Capacity Utilization (9:15)

	Prod.	Util.
May	0.2%	76.7%
Jun	0.4%	76.9%
Jul	0.9%	77.5%

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$35.0 Billion

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Producer Price Index (8:30)

	Total	Ex-F&E
May	0.2%	0.2%
Jun	-0.4%	0.3%
Jul	0.2%	0.4%

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Consumer Price Index (8:30)

	Total	Ex-F&E
May	0.2%	0.3%
Jun	-0.2%	0.3%
Jul	0.5%	0.2%

Initial Claims (8:30)

7/23	401	8/6	399
7/30	402	8/13	408

Leading Indicators (10:00)

Feb	0.9%	May	0.7%
Mar	0.7%	Jun	0.3%
Apr	-0.3%	Jul	0.5%

Philadelphia Fed Survey (10:00)

	Total	Prices
Jun	-7.7	26.8
Jul	3.2	25.1
Aug	-30.7	12.8

Existing Home Sales (10:00)
(Units, Millions, SAAR)

Feb	4.920	May	4.810
Mar	5.090	Jun	4.840
Apr	5.000	Jul	4.670

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5-Year TIPS (13:00)
$12.0 Billion

Indicator Highlights

The "Second" Report on Gross Domestic Product (Fri., Aug. 26, 8:30 a.m.) will give a more accurate reading on the overall economy in Q2, and on the impact of higher oil prices and the Japan tsunami. The Reuters/University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index (Fri., Aug. 26, 9:55 a.m.) will provide an updated look at consumer attitudes in August. Consumer sentiment retreated sharply at the outset of the month, on concerns over the economic outlook and policy makers' wrangling over the debt ceiling. Inflation expectations in the survey are also important, particularly for Fed-watching.

Personal Income & Consumption (Mon., Aug. 29, 8:30 a.m.) will provide a first-month reading of Q3 consumer spending, currently the largest source (over 70%) of real GDP. How goes the consumer, so goes the economy. A new growth trend for consumption has emerged: much lower than historically, hard to pin down exactly, but significantly weaker, at perhaps about 2½%, or 3% at the most. Modest income growth is expected, as well as a higher savings rate. The S&P/Case-Shiller Index (Tue., Aug. 30, 9:00 a.m.) is a key gauge of house prices for both year-on-year changes and on a running basis. Home prices in this index have double dipped. The ISM Manufacturing Survey (Thu, Sep. 1, 10:00 a.m.) is the definitive manufacturing activity diffusion index. A strong upturn in manufacturing continues to be a key element of economic recovery – the question is whether recent softness was dominated by special factors or indicates the beginning of a real slowdown. Nonfarm Payroll Jobs and the Unemployment Rate (Fri., Sep. 2, 8:30 a.m.) are key data for a host of upcoming economic indicators, the prospect, and particularly the Fed. The Fed remains focused on the unemployment rate, which began to rise again in April.

Indicator	Forecast	Consensus	Analysis
New Home Sales (Units, SAAR)	313,000	312,000	Stagnant mortgage applications and buyer traffic.
Durable Goods			
Orders	+2.5%	+2.1%	Commercial aircraft orders jump.
Ex-Defense	+2.5%		
Shipments	+0.6%		
Gross Domestic Product (Second)			
Real	+1.1%	+1.1%	International trade data pulls growth downward.
Final Sales	+0.9%		
Chain Prices	+2.3%	+2.3%	
U. of M. Consumer Sentiment Index (Final)	54.9	56.0	Early-August plunge sticks.
U. of M. Inflation Expectations (Final)			
1-Yr Ahead (Median)	3.4%		Continuing steady – not uncomfortable for the Fed.
5-Yr Ahead (Median)	2.9%		
Personal Income & Consumption			
Income	+0.3%		Reasonable start to the third quarter, but registered before the stock market drop.
Consumption	+0.5%		
Core Prices	+0.2%		
Pending Home Sales	+2.0%		Demand advances slightly.
S&P/Case-Shiller Index	-4.6%		Little sign of price recovery amid supply overhand and weak demand.
Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey	55.1		Drift downward in August reaches low point for current year.
Chicago Purchasing Managers' Survey			
Total	50.5		Borderline expansion.
Prices Paid	61.3		Prices edge downward.
Manufacturers'			
Orders	+1.0%		Some softening in nondurables.
Shipments	+1.0%		
Inventories	+0.3%		
Productivity & Costs (Revised)			
Productivity	-0.5%		Modest worsening from preliminary estimate.
Compensation	+1.9%		
Unit Labor Costs	+2.4%		
Construction Expenditure	+0.3%		Still feeble growth.
ISM Manufacturing Survey			
Total	48.0		Activity contracts.
Prices	57.5		Prices edge lower.
Light-Vehicle Sales (Units, SAAR)			
Total	12.0		Weaken towards month end.
Domestic	9.4		
Import	2.6		
	Million		
Employment Report			
Payrolls	77,000		Shakiness still evident.
Weekly Hours	34.3		
Hourly Earnings	+0.2		
Unemployment Rate	9.1		Modest employment growth.

Assessment

Economic growth – in the U.S. and globally – weakening into mid-year, in part due to higher inflation, especially energy costs, and mainly in the U.S. a weak consumer. Some second half improvement likely. The industrial side of the U.S. and global economies also softer, and trade vulnerable on weakness overseas. "Off-shore" risks remain from effects of the European sovereign debt crisis and China's attempt to disinflate. Eurozone debt crisis looms larger as threat. Slow growth and high unemployment appear entrenched in the U.S. Odds on some sort of "Double-Dip" higher. Fed divided internally on additional supportive measures, with large range of further stimulus possibilities under discussion.

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