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Forecast Calendar

August 17, 2012

United States

Economic Indicators—Schedule and Forecasts

Sinai/Ellis/Husby

August 20 – 31, 2012

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

20

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$60.0 Billion

21

ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales (7:45) (8/18)

Lockhart Speech (8:45) (U.S. Outlook and Implications for Latin America, Atlanta)

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55) (8/18)

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$40.0 Billion

1-Year Bill (11:30)
$25.0 Billion

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

Mar	4.47	Jun	4.37
Apr	4.62	**Jul (f)**	**4.50**
May	4.62	**Jul (c)**	**4.52**

FOMC Minutes (14:00)
(July 31-August 1 Meeting)

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Initial Claims (8:30)

8/4	364	**8/18 (f)**	**365**
8/11	366	**8/18 (c)**	**365**

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

Mar	352	Jun	350
Apr	358	**Jul (f)**	**363**
May	382	**Jul (c)**	**365**

5-Year TIPS (13:00)
$14.0 Billion

24

Durable Goods (8:30)

	Orders	Ex-Def.	Ships.
Jun	1.3%	-1.0%	-0.1%
Jul (f)	**3.0%**	**3.0%**	**0.5%**
Jul (c)	**3.0%**		

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Evans Speech (6:00)
(MNI Seminar, Hong Kong)

3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$60.0 Billion (f)

Pianalto Speech (12:15)
(Newark (OH) Area Business Luncheon: Outlook and Fed Overview)

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ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales (7:45) (8/25)

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55) (8/25)

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

Jan	-3.9%	Apr	-1.8%
Feb	-3.6%	May	-0.7%
Mar	-2.5%	**Jun (f)**	**-0.1%**

Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey (10:00)

Mar	69.5	Jun	62.7
Apr	68.7	Jul	65.9
May	64.4	**Aug (f)**	**63.0**

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$40.0 Billion (f)

2-Year Notes (13:00)
$35.0 Billion (f)

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Gross Domestic Product (8:30)

(Second)	Real	Final Sales	Chain Prices
12:Q1	2.0%	2.4%	2.0%
12:Q2 (a)	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%
12:Q2 (f)	**1.8%**	**1.9%**	**1.6%**

Pending Home Sales (10:00)

Feb	0.4%	May	5.5%
Mar	3.8%	Jun	-1.4%
Apr	-5.5%	**Jul (f)**	**2.0%**

5-Year Notes (13:00)
$35.0 Billion (f)

FOMC Beige Book (14:00)

30

Personal Income & Consumption (8:30)

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

Initial Claims (8:30)

8/4	364	**8/18 (f)**	**365**
8/11	366	**8/25 (f)**	**360**

Monthly Chain Store Sales (Aug)

7-Year Notes (13:00)
$29.0 Billion (f)

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Chicago Purchasing Managers' Survey (9:45)

	Total	Prices Paid
Jun	52.9	54.0
Jul	53.7	54.7
Aug (f)	**51.9**	**59.0**

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

Apr	76.4	Jul	72.3
May	79.3	Aug (p)	73.6
Jun	73.2	**Aug (f)**	**73.6**

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

	1-Year	5-Year
Jul	3.0%	2.7%
Aug (p)	3.6%	3.0%
Aug (f)	**3.6%**	**3.0%**

Manufacturers' (10:00)

	Orders	Ships.	Invs.
May	0.5%	0.3%	-0.1%
Jun	-0.5%	-1.1%	0.1%
Jul (f)	**1.8%**	**0.6%**	**0.1%**

Bernanke Speech (10:00)
(Jackson Hole Conference: The Changing Policy Landscape)

Recent History-Latest Results

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3-and 6-Month Bills (11:30)
$60.0 Billion

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ICSC/Goldman Sachs Chain Sales (7:45) (8/11)

Producer Price Index (8:30)

	Total	Ex-F&E
May	-1.0%	0.2%
Jun	0.1%	0.2%
Jul	0.3%	0.4%

Advance Retail Sales (8:30)

	Total	Ex-Auto
May	-0.1%	unch
Jun	-0.5%	-0.4%
Jul	0.8%	0.9%

Redbook Chain Sales (8:55) (8/11)

Business Inventories, Sales (10:00)

	Inven.	Sales	I/S
Apr	0.3%	-0.1%	1.26
May	0.3%	-0.3%	1.27
Jun	0.1%	-1.1%	1.29

4-Week Bill (11:30)
$40.0 Billion

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Consumer Price Index (8:30)

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

Empire State Manufacturing Survey (8:30)

	Total	Prices
Jun	2.3	19.6
Jul	7.4	7.4
Aug	-5.8	16.5

Monthly TIC flows (9:00) (Jun)

Industrial Production & Capacity Utilization (9:15)

	Prod.	Util.
May	-0.2%	78.7%
Jun	0.4%	78.9%
Jul	0.6%	79.3%

NAHB Housing Market Index (10:00)

Mar	28	Jun	29
Apr	24	Jul	35
May	28	Aug	37

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

	Starts	Permits
May	711	784
Jun	754	760
Jul	746	812

Initial Claims (8:30)

7/21	357	8/4	364
7/28	368	8/11	366

Philadelphia Fed Survey (10:00)

	Total	Prices
May	-16.6	-2.8
Jul	-12.9	3.7
Aug	-7.1	11.2

Monthly Money (16:30)
(SA, $ Billions)

	M1	M2
May	2246.1	9897.2
Jun	2256.1	9944.4
Jul	2318.9	10020.9

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U of M Cons Sentiment Index (9:55) (Prelim.)

Mar	76.2	Jun	73.2
Apr	76.4	Jul	72.3
May	79.3	Aug	73.6

U of M Inflation Expectations (9:55) (Prelim.)

	1-Year	5-Year
Jun	3.1%	2.8%
Jul	3.0%	2.7%
Aug	3.6%	3.0%

Leading Indicators (10:00)

Feb	0.7%	May	0.4%
Mar	0.2%	Jun	-0.4%
Apr	-0.1%	Jul	0.4%

Indicator Highlights

United States

Existing Home Sales (Wed., Aug. 22, 10:00 a.m.) track completed transactions in the major part of the housing market, while New Home Sales (Thu., Aug. 23, 10:00) give a very prompt reading on buying decisions in the sector which generates new construction.

The S&P/Case-Shiller Index (Tue., Aug. 28, 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 but when will the corner be turned? The Second release of Gross Domestic Product (Wed., July 29, 8:30 a.m.) will give more updated reading on the overall economy in Q2 and the degree of strength for the economic expansion. Consumer spending a key aggregate, exports important because of Eurozone downturn. Personal Income & Consumption (Thurs., Aug. 30, 8:30 a.m.) will provide the first look into 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: weaker than historically. Real disposable income to be watched, especially now that jobs are uncertain.

Indicator	Forecast	Consensus	Analysis
Existing Home Sales (Units, SAAR)	4.50 million	4.52 million	Rather small upward movement.
New Home Sales (Units, SAAR)	363,000	365,000	Modest Increase in sales.
Durable Goods			
Orders	+3.0%	+3.0%	A surge in commercial aircraft orders
Ex-Defense	+3.0%		
Shipments	+0.5%		
S&P/Case-Shiller Index (Y/Y)	-0.1%		Market improvement continues.
Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey	63.0		Choppy movements with a small decline.
Gross Domestic Product (Advance)			
Real	+1.8%		A much better international trade performance than earlier thought.
Final Sales	+1.9%		
Chain Prices	+1.6%		
Pending Home Sales	+2.0%		Choppy movements, generally tending upward.
Personal Income & Consumption			
Income	+0.2%		Wage and salary income growth slows markedly from last month.
Consumption	+0.3%		
Core Prices	+0.2%		
Chicago Purchasing Managers' Survey			
Total	51.9		Overall movement down slightly, likely to rebound.
Prices Paid	59.0		
U. of M. Consumer Sentiment Index (Final)	73.6		Three months in the low-70's range, with some likely movement upward in a month or so.
U. of M. Inflation Expectations (Final)			
1-Yr Ahead (Median)	3.6%		Running rather high now, but likely to move down.
5-Yr Ahead (Median)	3.0%		Fairly stable.
Manufacturers'			
Orders	+1.8%		Boosted by strong durables gain, and price-driven rise in non-durables.
Shipments	+0.6%		
Inventories	+0.1%		

Assessment

Economy momentum diminished further in Q2, coming in at 1½%. Pick-up in residential construction has reflected pent-up demands. But consumption "pillar of strength" for economy looks suspect. "Off-shore" risks to U.S. from European recession and ongoing weaker growth in Asia showing up in exports and trade and some in PM data. The look ahead, six months and more out, is better. Europe recession for Q4, Q1 and Q2, now looks longer, maybe deeper—the biggest issue for global economy. Fed continues alert on unemployment being too high, and the likelihood of another balance sheet easing baked-in-cake, but timing, format, extent murky. Too many unknowns still for markets.

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