

Weekly economic review

Sébastien Mc Mahon, CFA

03/29/19



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A look at this week's markets

At the close on Thursday



	<i>Week-to-date</i>		<i>Year-to-date</i>	
	Local currency	<i>In CAD</i>	Local currency	<i>In CAD</i>
Canadian Bonds (total return)				
FTSE TMX Universe	0.24%		4.30%	
FTSE TMX Long Corps	0.38%		7.64%	
	0.30%		4.41%	
Equities (total return)				
S&P/TSX	0.54%		13.67%	
S&P 500	0.55%	0.62%	12.88%	11.24%
MSCI EAFE	-0.13%	-0.58%	9.88%	7.77%
MSCI Emerging	-0.89%	-1.23%	8.69%	6.99%
Other	Current price	Return WTD*	Return YTD*	
Oil (WTI)	59.30 \$	0.44%	30.59%	
USD/CAD	0.7442 \$	-0.07%	1.48%	
Gold	1 290.42 \$	-1.77%	0.62%	

An update on iA's managed solutions:

Gross returns, as of March 27, 2019



	Year 2018	December 2018	YTD 2019		Year 2018	December 2018	YTD 2019
Diversified security	-1.33%	-0.74%	5.16%	Global Asset Allocation Security	NA	-0.90%	4.75%
Diversified	-3.72%	-2.56%	7.20%	Global Asset Allocation	NA	-2.51%	6.38%
Diversified opportunity	-5.66%	-3.83%	8.50%	Global Asset Allocation Opportunity	NA	-3.39%	7.41%
Diversified income	-5.47%	-3.75%	8.27%				
Selection conservative	-0.84%	-1.05%	5.97%				
Selection moderate	-1.88%	-2.05%	6.64%				
Selection balanced	-2.95%	-3.11%	7.51%				
Selection growth	-3.91%	-4.15%	8.31%				
Selection aggressive	-5.15%	-4.85%	8.93%				

What caught our eye this week

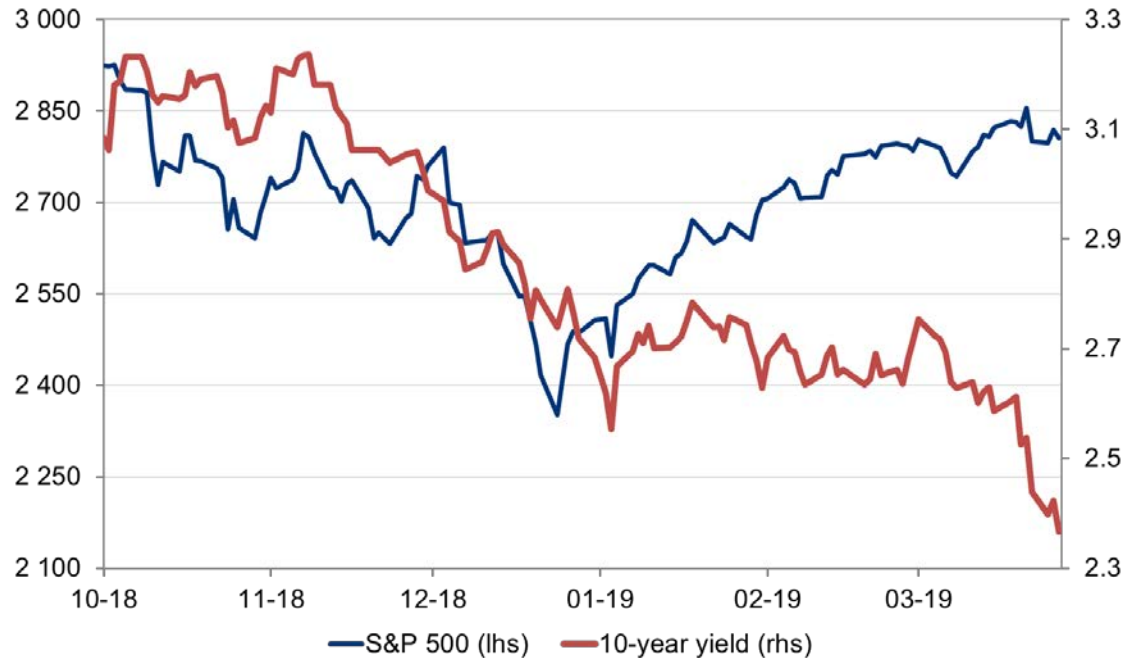
- **Markets:**
 - A look back at an eventful quarter
- **U.S.:**
 - Consumer confidence pulling back
- **Brexit:**
 - March 29... the day of reckoning?

Markets:

A look back at a busy first quarter

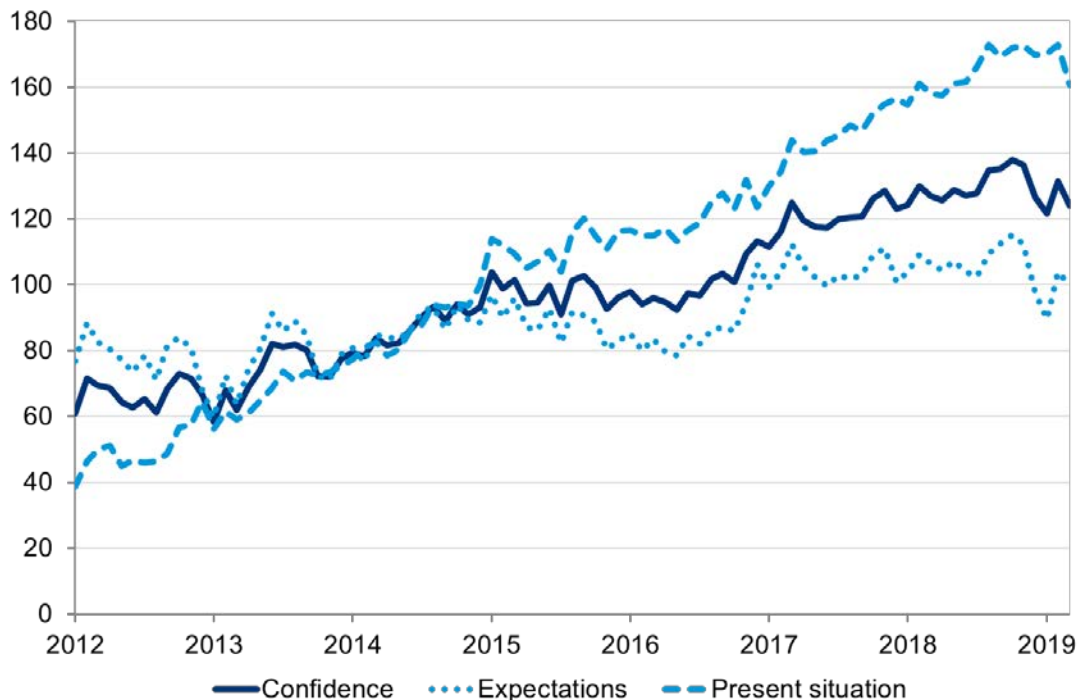
Financial markets: Significant divergence between the path of interest rates and the stock market

Interest rate on 10-year US Treasury bonds (%) and S&P 500



U.S.: Consumer confidence falls again

Conference Board survey



How to stop machines outsmarting humanity

The long read | Journal

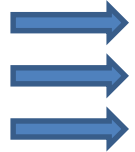
Jackfruit - the new star of vegan cuisine

Zoe Williams

Thursday
28 March 2019
£2.20
£1.60 for subscribers

The Guardian

Parliament finally has its say: No. No. No. No. No. No. No. No



- May tells Tory MPs she will quit if they back her Brexit deal
- Commons rejects all eight alternatives in indicative votes
- DUP signals it will still not back the PM's withdrawal agreement

Heather Stewart
Rosanna Munn
Peter Walker

Theresa May last night played the final desperate card she had left to tame Brexit rebels in her warring party, by promising to sacrifice her premiership, if they back her twice-rejected Brexit deal.

The prime minister, whose authority has been shattered by the double defeat of her deal and a stream of resignations, made the high-stakes offer to Tory backbenchers at a packed meeting in Westminster.

"I have heard very clearly the mood of the parliamentary party. I know there is a desire for a new approach - and new leadership - in the next phase of the Brexit negotiations - and I won't stand in the way of that," she told the backbench 1922 Committee.

"I am prepared to leave this job earlier than I intended in order to do what is right for our country and our party," she said. May's frantic pledge came on another dramatic day in Westminster, as

- Boris Johnson and Iain Duncan Smith led a stream of resignations to support the deal.
- MPs rejected every one of the eight alternatives to May's deal debated in a day-long process of "indicative votes".
- Labour's divisions on Brexit were exposed, as three shadow ministers



defied the whip to resist backing a second referendum.

- The DUP threw May's chances of getting her deal through parliament into doubt by saying they would not support it.

The second referendum option got the biggest vote at 268.

The prime minister had hoped to remain in to Downing Street after exit day, and build a legacy that extended beyond the humiliations of the Brexit talks, to domestic policy.

But if the withdrawal agreement is passed, she could now be gone before the summer - after less than two years in the top job.

Ministers now hope to make a third attempt to ram May's deal through the House of Commons on Friday. Though their prospects of success were thrown into doubt last night after the DUP and its 10 MPs would not back it.

May had been under intense pressure to set out a timetable for her departure, as the leave-supporting wing of her party continued to resist supporting her deal - which was defeated by a majority of 149 earlier this month.

Outside the 1922 Committee meeting, the Tory MP Simon Hart, who leads the Brexit Delivery Group, said: "She made it very clear: I want the next prime minister to be one of the colleagues in there tonight, not down

▲ Prime Minister Theresa May in a car leaving the Houses of Parliament last night

"I am prepared to leave this job earlier than I intended in order to do what is right for our country"

Theresa May
Prime minister

the corridor at the PLP (parliamentary Labour party) meeting."

The response from MPs to her announcement was "respectful recognition for her hard work and service, not celebration", he said.

Several of the most determined Brexit holdouts, including Jacob Rees-Mogg, Iain Duncan Smith and Boris Johnson, were invited to the prime minister's country retreat of Chequers on Sunday.

They denied that any pact about her departure had been made, but just minutes after May's emotional promise, Johnson told colleagues at the European Research Group (ERG) that he would now

What we'll be watching next week

- **Canada:**

- Net Change in Employment (consensus: -10.0K in March)
- Unemployment Rate (consensus: 5.8% in March)

- **U.S.:**

- Retail Sales (consensus: +0.3% MoM in February)
- ISM Manufacturing Index (consensus: stable at 54.1 in March)
- Durable Goods Orders (consensus: -1.2% MoM in February)
- Change in Non-Farm Payroll (consensus: 175K in March)
- Unemployment Rate (consensus: 3.8% in March)

To contact us

economics@ia.ca

www.ia.ca/economy

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