

Baker Market Update — Week in Review

September 18, 2026



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Is it Friday already? It sure is, and this one closes the books on a week we have not seen in over three years. On Wednesday the FOMC raised the target range for fed funds a quarter point to 3.75%–4.00%. It is the first increase since July 2023, and the vote was unanimous, 12–0. Every community financial institution's budgeting and planning assumption was that rates were headed lower in 2026. Instead, we get a 25 basis point hike with headline CPI at 3.4%, crude near triple digits, and a Chairman who doesn't want to tell you what comes next.

The quarter point hike was priced in and expected. The Summary of Economic Projections and the Dot Plot was a big question mark. The median fed funds projection jumped to 4.1% for both 2026 and 2027, from 3.8% and 3.6% in June, with 2028 at 3.9% and the longer run at 3.2%. The Committee marked GDP growth up to 2.3% and the unemployment rate down to 4.1%, and nudged 2026 PCE inflation to 3.7% with core at 3.4%.

The press conference was the shortest on record, and the Chairman spent most of his time explaining what he would not do. He framed the move as having “removed a dose of accommodation” rather than as the start of a campaign, and stated that “the plain fact is that inflation is too high and has been too high for too long.” On where policy stands today, he offered that he “would be hard-pressed to describe broad financial conditions as restrictive.” On what comes next: “I’m not in the forward guidance business.”

On Wednesday morning, August retail sales rose 1.2% month-over-month, well above the 0.7% expected and a solid rebound from July's revised 0.5% decline. Before we credit the consumer too generously, gasoline stations did some of the lifting as pump prices climbed, though excluding gas stations sales still rose 1.1%. The average gallon of regular is now near \$4.37.

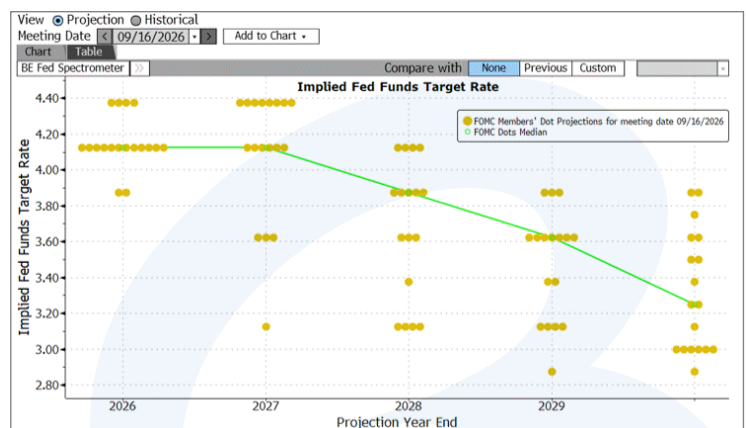
Yesterday, the number of people applying for unemployment benefits dropped sharply, another sign that layoffs remain rare and we continue to be in a “low hire, low fire” labor market. The Labor Department reported Thursday that jobless claims slid to 196,000, the fewest since mid-July and down from 206,000 the week before. Expectations were for 207,500. The four-week average of claims, which smooths out week-to-week volatility, dropped to 203,250.

Stocks are down in early morning trading, with the 10-year Treasury near 5% and crude oil remaining over \$100 per barrel.

Next week is a light week of economic data releases. On Thursday, we will get New Home Sales as well as the weekly jobless claims data. On Friday, we will receive the University of Michigan Consumer Survey.

Have a great weekend everyone!

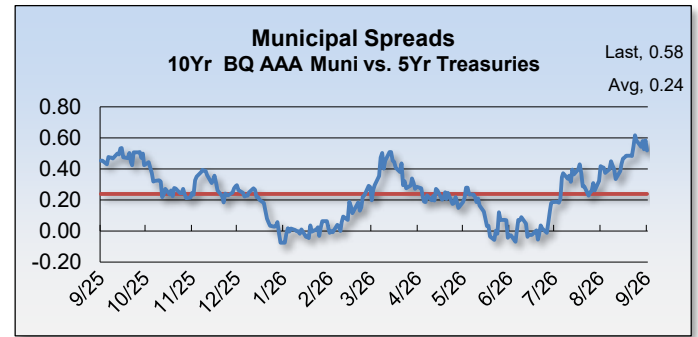
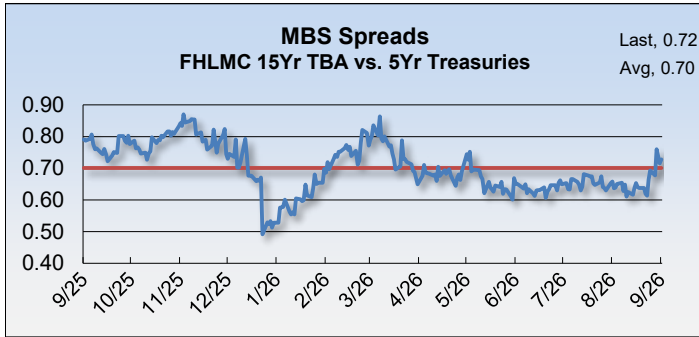
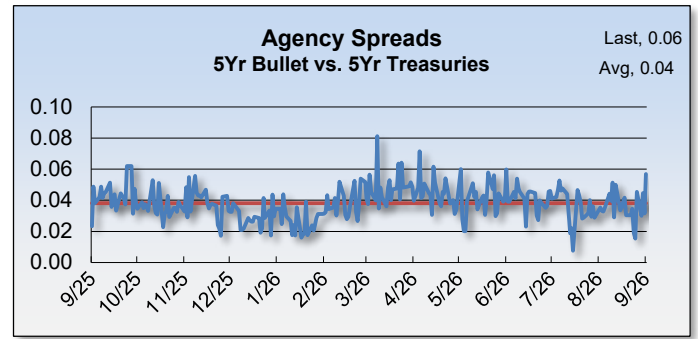
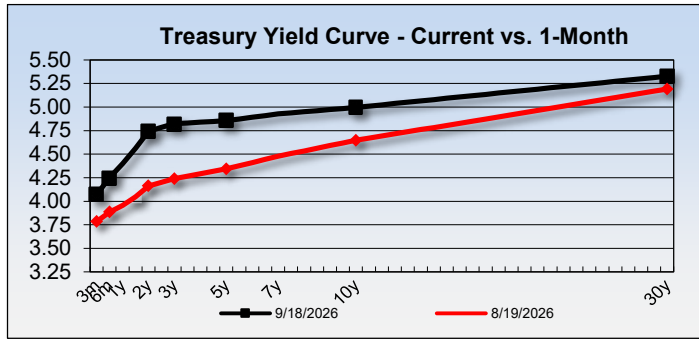
September 2026 FOMC Dot Plot



Source: Bloomberg

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Treasury Market -- Historical						Fixed Rate Market										
Maty	Current	1Wk Change	Historical			Maty /AL	N-Call Agency	US Swap	AAA BQ Muni		Tax Muni		Agency Calls - Euro			
			1 Mo	6 Mo	1 Yr				C-Corp ²	S-Corp ³			Mty	3Mo	6mo	1Yr
3mo	4.07	0.06	3.78	3.70	3.98	2yr	4.74	4.63	4.12	4.38	4.75	2Yr				
6mo	4.25	0.10	3.88	3.71	3.84	3yr	4.82	4.63	4.24	4.51	4.85	3Yr				
1yr	4.40	0.07	3.98	3.69	3.60	5yr	4.86	4.59	4.48	4.77	4.93	5Yr				
2yr	4.74	0.12	4.17	3.78	3.56	7yr	4.93	4.59	4.72	5.02	5.06	7Yr				
3yr	4.82	0.11	4.25	3.78	3.60	10yr	5.00	4.62	5.21	5.54	5.23	10Yr				
5yr	4.86	0.07	4.37	3.88	3.66	15yr	5.07	4.70	5.95	6.33	5.45		October TBA MBS			
7yr	4.93	0.06	4.52	4.06	3.85	20yr	5.14	4.74	6.37	6.78	5.88	Cpn	15Yr -Yld/AL		30Yr -Yld/AL	
10yr	5.00	0.03	4.71	4.27	4.11	25yr	5.21	4.71	6.59	7.02	5.95	3.50	6.14	4.2y	5.81	
30yr	5.33	(0.03)	5.28	4.88	4.73	30yr		4.66	6.82	7.26	6.01	4.00	5.61	5.5y		
* Interpolated												4.50	5.52	5.3y	5.88	9.8y
												5.00	5.52	5.2y	5.96	9.1y
												5.50			6.04	8.2y
												6.00			6.08	7.8y
Key Market Indices																
		1Wk	Historical													

* Interpolated

Key Market Indices					
Index	Current	1Wk Change	Historical		
			1 Mo	6 Mo	1 Yr
Fed Funds	4.00	0.25	3.75	3.75	4.25
Primary Discount	4.00	0.25	3.75	3.75	4.50
2ndary Discount	4.50	0.25	4.25	4.25	5.00
Prime Rate	7.00	0.25	6.75	6.75	7.25
Sec. O.N. Finance	3.85	0.23	3.66	3.65	--
1 Month LIBOR	4.96	(0.01)	5.31	5.44	5.43
3 Month LIBOR	4.85	(0.08)	5.28	5.56	5.66
6 Month LIBOR	4.68	(0.08)	5.14	5.65	5.90
1 Year LIBOR	6.04	0.12	5.73	5.48	3.62
6 Month CD	4.39	0.16	3.99	3.76	3.97
1 Year CMT	4.40	0.12	4.00	3.63	3.60
REPO O/N	3.71	--	3.70	3.70	4.44
REPO 1Wk	3.90	0.20	3.67	3.67	4.16
CoF Federal	3.567	--	3.534	3.455	3.685
11th D. CoF (Jul)	2.805	--	2.766	2.736	2.965

FHLB Fixed Advance Rates				Fed Fund Futures	
Maturity	Chicago	Boston	Topeka	Maturity	Rate
3mo	4.21	--	4.26	Sep-26	3.748
6mo	4.38	--	4.40	Oct-26	3.900
1yr	4.61	--	4.67	Nov-26	4.030
2yr	4.82	--	4.93	Dec-26	4.165
3yr	4.89	--	5.00	Jan-27	4.230
4yr	4.94	--	5.05	Feb-27	4.315
5yr	4.94	--	5.04	Mar-27	4.395
7yr	5.08	--	5.18	Apr-27	4.485
10yr	5.20	--	5.29	May-27	4.560
5yr Am	4.95	--	5.04	Jun-27	4.615
10yr Am	5.13	--	5.20	Jul-27	4.640



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Weekly Economic Calendar						
This Week & Next						
Date	Release	Per.	Est.	Actual	Prior	Revised
9/15	ADP Weekly Employment Change	8/29	--	16.250k	12.000k	12.250k
9/15	Empire Manufacturing	Sep	15.0	7.6	20.6	--
9/15	6W High Yield Rate	9/15	--	3.9%	3.7%	--
9/15	6W Bid/Cover Ratio	9/15	--	3.2	2.9	--
9/15	6W Direct Accepted %	9/15	--	3.1%	3.8%	--
9/15	6W Indirect Accepted %	9/15	--	68.8%	63.0%	--
9/15	20Y High Yield Rate	9/15	--	5.4%	5.2%	--
9/15	20Y Bid/Cover Ratio	9/15	--	2.6	2.5	--
9/15	20Y Direct Accepted %	9/15	--	30.7%	24.6%	--
9/15	20Y Indirect Accepted %	9/15	--	52.5%	62.9%	--
9/16	MBA Mortgage Applications	9/11	--	-4.1%	-2.7%	--
9/16	New York Fed Services Business Activity	Sep	-2.2	-8.7	0.5	--
9/16	Retail Sales Ex Auto and Gas	Aug	0.4%	1.2%	-0.2%	-0.3%
9/16	Retail Sales Control Group	Aug	0.5%	1.4%	-0.4%	--
9/16	Import Price Index YoY	Aug	6.6%	7.0%	5.9%	6.1%
9/16	Export Price Index YoY	Aug	8.9%	8.6%	8.2%	8.1%
9/16	Business Inventories	Jul	0.8%	0.8%	0.0%	0.1%
9/16	4M High Yield Rate	9/16	--	4.0%	3.9%	--
9/16	4M Bid/Cover Ratio	9/16	--	2.7	2.7	--
9/16	4M Indirect Accepted %	9/16	--	52.4%	43.7%	--
9/16	4M Direct Accepted %	9/16	--	5.3%	8.2%	--
9/16	FOMC Rate Decision (Upper Bound)	9/16	4.00%	4.00%	3.75%	--
9/16	FOMC Rate Decision (Lower Bound)	9/16	3.75%	3.75%	3.50%	--
9/16	Fed Interest on Reserve Balances Rate	9/17	3.90%	3.90%	3.65%	--
9/16	Fed Reverse Repo Rate	9/17	3.75%	3.75%	3.50%	--
9/16	FOMC Median Rate Forecast: Current Yr	9/16	4.13%	4.13%	3.75%	--
9/16	FOMC Median Rate Forecast: Next Yr	9/16	3.88%	4.13%	3.63%	--
9/16	FOMC Median Rate Forecast: +2 Yrs	9/16	3.63%	3.88%	3.38%	--
9/16	FOMC Median Rate Forecast: +3 Yrs	9/16	3.38%	3.63%	--	--
9/16	FOMC Median Rate Forecast: Long-Run	9/16	3.13%	3.25%	3.06%	--
9/16	Total Net TIC Flows	Jul	--	\$83.7b	\$133.5b	\$135.5b
9/16	Net Long-term TIC Flows	Jul	--	-\$27.9b	\$172.7b	\$174.4b
9/17	Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook	Sep	32.1	37.8	47.4	--
9/17	Initial Jobless Claims	9/12	207k	196k	206k	--
9/17	Initial Claims 4-Wk Moving Avg	9/12	--	203.25k	206.00k	--
9/17	Continuing Claims	9/5	1779k	1730k	1774k	1769k
9/17	Housing Starts	Aug	1320k	1275k	1239k	1309k
9/17	Building Permits	Aug P	1408k	1394k	1433k	--
9/17	Pending Home Sales NSA YoY	Aug	-3.9%	-4.9%	-2.5%	-2.9%
9/17	8W Indirect Accepted %	9/17	--	62.4%	66.3%	--
9/17	8W Direct Accepted %	9/17	--	4.8%	6.0%	--
9/17	8W Bid/Cover Ratio	9/17	--	2.94	2.82	--
9/17	8W High Yield Rate	9/17	--	3.9%	3.8%	--
9/17	10Y Tips Bid/Cover Ratio	9/17	--	2.2	2.3	--
9/18	Capacity Utilization	Aug	76.4%	76.3%	76.3%	--
9/18	Leading Index	Aug	--	-0.1%	0.2%	--
9/21	Chicago Fed Nat Activity Index	Aug	-0.1	--	-0.1	--

MBS Prepayments ⁴						
3-Month CPR						
Type	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0
FN 10y	15.7	12.9	15.4	20.8	24.8	26.9
FH/FN 15y	10.2	9.4	13.2	12.0	11.6	17.9
G2 15y	12.8	12.2	10.9	14.5	20.4	26.0
FH/FN 20y	9.2	10.0	10.3	14.0	19.5	26.4
FH/FN 30y	7.6	5.7	5.9	9.3	9.1	10.8
G2 30y	1.1	1.4	7.3	7.3	10.2	2.5
CPR Projections						
Type	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0
FN 10y	10.5	11.2	12.9	14.9	16.3	17.1
FH/FN 15y	8.7	10.4	14.9	16.1		21.9
G2 15y	8.2	9.4	11.2	11.8	13.0	14.5
FH/FN 20y	7.4	8.4	9.8	11.7	16.0	17.1
FH/FN 30y	6.2	6.7	7.2	8.1	10.2	10.8
G2 30y	6.8	7.6	8.5	9.2	10.5	12.2

Other Markets					
Index	Current	1Wk Chng	Historical		
			1 Mo	6 Mo	1 Yr
Currencies					
Japanese Yen	157.16	3.55	159.61	159.86	148.00
Euro	1.15	(0.01)	1.16	1.15	1.18
Dollar Index	100.42	1.30	99.66	100.09	97.35
Major Stock Indices					
Dow Jones	51,555	(1,019)	53,343	46,225	46,142
S&P 500	7,628.0	(29.0)	7,691.8	6,624.7	6,632.0
NASDAQ	26,431.8	99	26,289.7	22,152.4	22,470.7
Commodities					
Gold	4,363.9	(10.9)	4,366.0	4,896.2	3,648.7
Crude Oil	102.18	2.13	84.94	96.32	63.57
Natural Gas	2.94	0.11	2.78	3.07	2.94
Wheat	713.0	6.0	664.5	604.3	524.3
Corn	526.3	16.0	463.3	463.3	423.8

Notes

- 1 Call Agy = Maturity at left w/ a 1-Year Call at Par
- 2 Muni TEY (21% Fed, 0.75% CoF)
- 3 S-Corp TEY Muni (29.6%, no TEFERA)
- 4 MBS Prepayments are provided by Bloomberg

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