# Leading Indicators



Key economic and financial metrics, updated weekly

28th October 2025

## A softer landing takes shape...

#### 3.8%

UK inflation held steady at 3.8% in September, coming in below the Bank of England's 4% forecast, and signalling that price pressures may have peaked following earlier rises in food prices and employer National Insurance costs. The softer-than-expected reading sparked a clear shift in market sentiment, with markets now pricing in more than a 70% probability of a December rate cut, reversing earlier expectations that policy rates would remain unchanged through year-end.

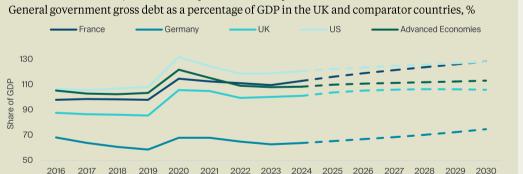
#### BoE rate cut expectations build as inflation holds at 3.8%



#### 101.2%

According to the IMF's latest projections, the UK's fiscal position is broadly in line with other advanced economies. UK public debt, at just over 100% (101.2%) of GDP, sits below the US and France and close to the advanced-economy average. While borrowing has risen sharply since the pandemic, the UK is not a fiscal outlier, offering some reassurance ahead of the November Budget. However, with limited fiscal headroom, the government is likely to remain cautious on new spending or tax measures.

#### UK debt elevated, but broadly in line with peers

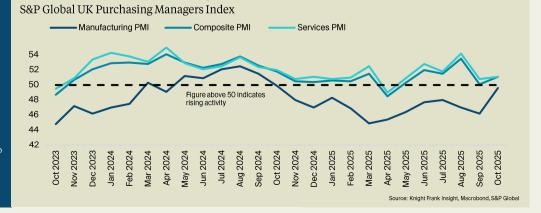


Source: Knight Frank Insight IMF World Economic Outlook

#### 51.1

The UK Composite PMI increased to 51.1 in October from 50.1 in September, indicating a modest expansion in private-sector output at the start of the fourth quarter. The services PMI rose to 51.1 from 50.8, marking a sixth consecutive month above the 50 threshold, while the manufacturing PMI moved up to 49.6 from 46.2, remaining in contraction but showing a slower rate of decline.

#### **UK PMIs indicate modest expansion in October**





## **Equities**

#### **Equity markets** Price return index, Jan 2020 = 100, US\$ - FTSE 250 - S&P 500 - STOXX 600 - Hang Seng 225 200 175 150 125 100 75 50 Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

Index Last		Percentage change since				
Original value	and base	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20	YTD %
DAX 30	10,596	0.6	1.7	3.0	60.1	33.5
FTSE 250	29,999	0.7	2.8	4.1	3.5	15.9
Hang Seng	3,392	0.7	1.9	-0.4	-6.2	31.3
IBEX 35	18,616	1.5	2.3	5.3	73.7	54.3
MIB	49,926	1.4	2.5	1.3	89.6	40.7
S&P 500	6,875	2.0	3.2	4.1	112.8	16.9
STOXX 600	671	0.6	1.6	4.5	43.8	27.1
TOPIX	21	0.3	-0.5	0.9	36.0	21.1

# Equity regional sectors Price return index percentage change since Jan 2020 US Europe Emerging Markets 250 150 100 50 Tech Financials Industrials Real Estate

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

	Percentag	ge change since	e Jan 2020		
	US	Europe	World		
Tech	222.4%	89.1%	148.6%		
Financials	70.4%	108.2%	16.8%		
Industrials	96.2%	91.4%	30.8%		
Real Estate	2.2%	-54.2%	-59.0%		

#### **REITs** by region

EPRA/NAREIT total return index, Jan 2020 = 100, US\$



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

Original value and base	e	1 day		age char 1 month		
US	3,019	0.8	1.6	3.6	26.3	6.38
Europe	2,458	-0.5	2.5	5.4	-13.8	26.21
World	3,695	0.6	1.7	3.5	15.0	11.32
Asia Pacific	3,541	0.3	2.0	3.0	-9.8	11.21

#### **UK REITs by sector**

UK EPRA gross total return index, Jan 2020 = 100, GBP£

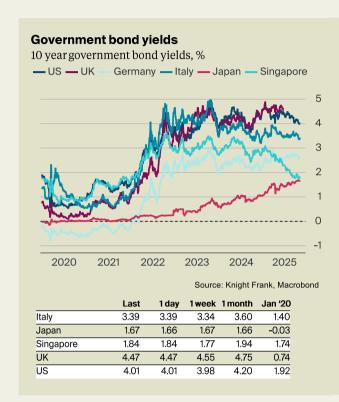


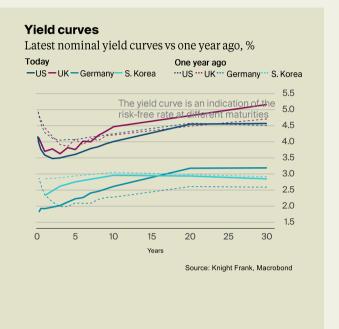
Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

Index, tota	l return I	Last	Pe	rcentage	change s	ince
Original valu	e and base	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20	YTD %
All REITs	834	-0.5	4.6	8.3	-18.5	12.3
Office	1,525	0.0	3.8	9.3	-48.6	4.3
Industrial	1,309	-1.2	7.5	11.0	5.5	14.1
Retail	66	0.5	3.5	7.0	-81.7	13.2
Healthcare	2,136	-0.7	1.9	7.0	-5.8	23.8
Residential	960	-0.2	2.0	-7.4	-37.1	-13.2
FTSE 250	20,639	0.7	3.4	4.5	21.1	12.5



## **Bonds & Rates**





#### Interest rate swaps 5 year swap rates, % — US — UK — Eurozone — Japan 6 Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul Jan Jul 2025 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond 1 month Jan '20 Last 1 day 1 week Eurozone 2.33 2.27 2.41 -0.13 2.33

1.24

3.87

3.54

1.24

3.91

3.50

1.24

4.11

3.68

0.03

0.88

1.70

1.25

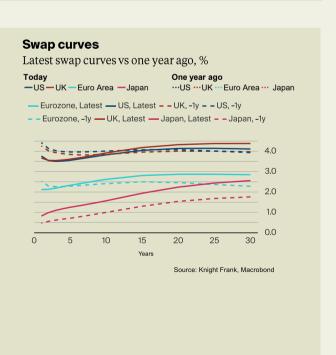
3.86

3.56

Japan

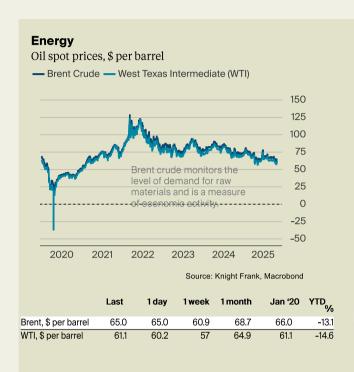
UK

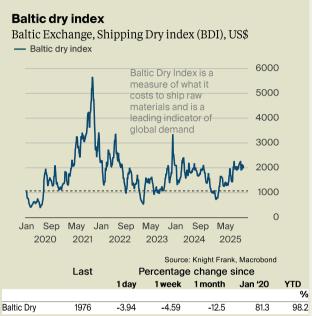
US





# **Commodities & Volatility**





#### **Volatility index** Near term stock price volatility indicator — CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) --- Long term average 90 The CBOE VIX ("investor 80 fear gauge") is an indication of near term S&P 500 stock 70 price volatility based on 60 underlying options 50 40 30 20 10 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025

	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20	YTD
CBOE VIX	15.8	15.8	17.9	15.3	13.8	-8.99
Euro Stoxx 50 VIX	16.3	16.3	16.9	16.7	14.0	-3.88
Nikkei VIX	27.3	28.7	30.1	26.0	14.8	25.42
KOSPI VIX	33.2	32.9	30.6	21.8	14.7	57.24

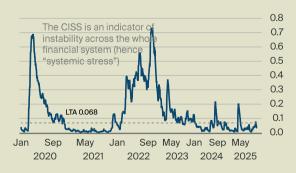
Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

#### Systemic stress

Measures FX, money, sovereign and bond yield volatility

New ECB Composite Indicator of Systemic Stress (CISS)

--- Long term average



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

	Last	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
Systemic stress composite	0.094	0.117	0.073	0.023
Equity markets stress sub index	0.078	0.095	0.064	0.009
Bond markets stress sub index	0.032	0.033	0.014	0.02
FX markets stress sub index	0.024	0.039	0.021	0.004



# **Currencies & Monetary Policy**



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
EUR per GBP	1.146	1.144	1.151	1.146	1.177
KOR per GBP	1,910	1,914	1,906	1,889	1,525
USD per GBP	1.333	1.330	1.342	1.340	1.321
USD per EUR	1.163	1.163	1.166	1.169	1.123



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

2025

2024

	Last	1 day	1 week	1 month	Jan '20
USD to EUR	1.43	1.40	1.43	1.46	2.32
USD to GBP	-0.40	-0.43	-0.50	-0.55	1.12

2023

2022

#### Inflation and monetary policy

#### Inflation rate (%)

	Sep	Aug	Jul	June
Australia <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.0
Canada	2.4	1.9	1.7	1.9
China	-0.5	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1
Euro Area	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0
France	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.0
Germany	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.0
India	1.5	2.1	1.6	2.1
Italy	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
Japan	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.3
Saudi Arabia	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.0
South Korea	2.1	1.7	2.1	2.2
Spain	n/a	2.7	2.7	2.3
Sweden	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.7
UK	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6
US	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.7

<sup>1.</sup> Australia Inflation rate is only available on a quarterly basis.

#### Interest rates (%)

2020

2021

Last	Jan '24
3.60	4.35
2.50	5.00
4.35	4.35
2.15	4.50
2.15	4.50
2.15	4.50
5.50	6.50
2.15	4.50
0.50	-0.10
4.75	6.00
2.50	3.50
2.15	4.50
1.75	4.00
4.00	5.25
4.25	5.50

#### **Asset purchasing**

Latest (\$)	1m change (%
0.26 tn	1.0
170 bn	-4.1
6.61 tn	1.8
7.2 tn	1.9
1.78 tn	1.7
2.66 tn	-0.6
488 bn	5.8
1.29 tn	2.1
4.62 tn	-2.2
528 bn	3.8
406 bn	1.2
487 bn	0.2
99.6 bn	0.8
1.16 tn	-0.7
6.59 tn	-0.3

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond





#### (Y)OUR SPACE

Welcome to the fourth edition of (Y)OUR SPACE—Knight Frank's global research campaign that explores the forces reshaping work, workplace, and the real estate strategies evolving in response. In a world defined by disruption, this is the occupier voice: clear, direct, and rooted in the realities of corporate life.

View report



#### Healthcare Development Opportunities - 2025

Knight Frank's annual assessment of supply trends and development prospects in the UK Care Home industry.

View report

#### Recent research



The Tech for Good Series 2025

Designing for Innovation: Making Healthcare Real Estate Tech-Ready.



UK Real Estate Navigator: Q2 2025

Explore the current trends in UK commercial real estate with the latest edition of our UK Real Estate Navigator, available now We like questions, if you've got one about our research, or would like some property advice, we would like to hear from you



William Matthews Partner Head of Commercial Insight +44 20 3909 6842 william.matthews@knightfrank.com



Victoria Ormond, CFA
Partner
Head of Capital Markets Insight
+44 20 7861 5009
victoria.ormond@knightfrank.com



Nik Potter Associate Capital Markets Insight +44 20 7861 5146 nik.potter@knightfrank.com



Khadija Hussain Analyst Capital Markets Insight +44 20 8176 9671 khadija.hussain@knightfrank.com

