

Economics

Avery Shenfeld (416) 594-7356 avery.shenfeld@cibc.ca

Benjamin Tal (416) 956-3698 benjamin.tal@cibc.ca

Peter Buchanan (416) 594-7354 peter.buchanan@cibc.ca

Warren Lovely (416) 594-8041 warren.lovely@cibc.ca

Emanuella Enenajor (416) 956-6527 emanuella.enenajor@cibc.ca

Andrew Grantham (416) 956-3219 andrew.grantham@cibc.ca

"The answer is to look for positions where the downside if you're wrong is limited relative to the upside if you're right."

http://research. cibcwm.com/res/Eco/ EcoResearch.html

THE WEEK AHEAD

May 28-June 1, 2012

How to Trade When You Can't Know

by Avery Shenfeld

We've met some very frustrated portfolio managers in recent weeks. Equity PMs who focus on company fundamentals, bond traders who dissect economic reports, currency specialists that can quote current account balances to the decimal place, are finding their skills devalued as political developments reign supreme. And not ones that anyone can really predict, barring perfect polling in Greece, insider data on Spanish banks, personal insights into Merkel's real bottom line agenda, and what Donald Rumsfeld called "unknown unknowns."

How to trade, then, when you can't really know?

The answer is to look for positions where the downside if you're wrong is limited relative to the upside if you're right. Take the short-end of the Canadian yield curve for example. The range of reasonable outcomes for the Bank of Canada runs from no hikes over the next 12 months if events force Carney to change his mind, to say 75 bps of tightening if he carries through on his intention to deliver a "modest" dose of rate hikes.

As of today, a 1-year OIS contract trades at only 0.995%, leaving no downside for a short position if Carney doesn't ease, and plenty of upside if the central bank tightens. Even as skeptics on the need for rate hikes, we'd take that bet, or the equivalent short position in 2-year bonds.

In foreign exchange, short euro positions, while already well in the black, look to be worth retaining. In a disastrous, chaotic outcome for Europe, there would be massive euro downside as money fled the region. Parity can't be ruled out, for example. But

remember that when Europe looked safer, after the initial pre-LTRO enthusiasm, dollareuro sat at only 1.35. A return to that level would, of course, put short euro positions in the red, but the overall loss still pales to the potential gain.

To a much lesser extent, shorting the Canadian dollar against the greenback also shares that feature. When oil was still firm, and the market was pricing in nearly 75 bps of Bank of Canada rate hikes by Q1 2013, the C\$ was only 2-3 cents stronger than parity, and it might tack on a couple of cents beyond that on an actual delivery of a hike. But if China fails to engineer a turn, Europe's recession deepens, and the bank of Canada stays on hold, the C\$ could easily slip more sharply. While it will outperform the euro and the A\$, it could still weaken substantially against the US\$ if things get ugly.

In equities, it's not as easy to find such asymmetric trades. We're going to need more panic selling to be confident in making big long position bets. Yes, cyclical resource stocks have pulled back aggressively, but it's not clear that their room to rebound on good news really dwarfs the downside risk. CIBC's commodities strategist, for example, sees a sell-off in crude oil taking WTI down to the mid-\$80s, hardly good news for related equities.

Safe-haven stocks, in contrast, don't have a lot of upside if things go well, given the multiples they have been bid to, and safe-haven government bonds are at risk of a big sell-off if a crisis is averted. Sometimes, when you can't know what's going to happen next, staying close to benchmarks is the only answer.



Week Ahead Calendar And Forecast

	CANADA	CIBC		Consensus	Prior	UNITED STATES		CIBC	Consensus	Prior
Monday May 28					_	MEMORIAL DAY (Markets Closed)				
Tuesday May 29						AUCTION: 4-WEEK BILLS \$30B (prev) AUCTION: 3-M BILLS \$30B, 6-M BILLS \$27B	<u>a</u>			
					3 0, 0,	9:00 AM S&P CASE SHILLER INDEX S&P CASE SHILLER Y./Y	(Mar) (Mar)	££	-2.7%	134.2
						10:00 AM CONF. BOARD CONSUMER CONFIDENCE	(May)	(H)	69.5	69.2
Wednesday May 30	AUCTION: 30-YR RRB \$700MM					AUCTION: 52-WEEK BILLS \$25B AUCTION: 4-WEEK BILLS \$30B (prev)				
	8:30 ANV INDUSTRIAL PROD. PRICES M/M (Apr) RAW MATERIALS M/M (Apr)	(M) (M) (M)	0	0.1%	0.2%	7:00 AM MBA-APPLICATIONS	May-25	(T)		3.8%
					· <u>u</u>	10:00 AM PENDING HOME SALES M/M	(Apr)	(M)	-0.1%	4.1%
					07 07 07	Speaker: 4:30 PM Eric Rosengren (Boston) Speaker: 1:30 PM William C. Dudley (New York, Vice Chairman) Speaker: 1:20 PM Richard W. Fisher (Dallas)	k, Vice Ch	airman)		
Thursday May 31	8:30 AM CURRENT ACCOUNT (Q1)	(H) -\$11.1B		-\$10.8B	-\$10.3B	8:15 AM ADP EMPLOYMENT CHANGE	(May)	(M)	135K	119K
					** 0 = 0 0	8:30 AM CONTINUNG CLAIMS INITIAL CLAIMS GDP (annualized) GDP DEFLATOR (annualized)	May-19 May-26 (Q1 P) (Q1 P)	(F) (F) (F) (F) (F) (F)	370K 1.9% 1.5%	3260K 370K 2.2% 1.5%
					<u> </u>	9:45 AM CHICAGO PMI	(May)	(M)	57.0	56.2
						ICSC CHAIN STORE SALES Y/Y	(May)	(T)		%9.0
Friday June 1	B:30 AM GDP (annualized) (O1) GDP M/M (Jun)	(H) 1.7% (H) 0.4%		0.3%	1.8% 1.0.2% 1.0.2% 1.0.2%	Speaker: 8:00 AM Sandra Planalto (Cleveland) 8:30 AM NON-FARM PAYROLLS NON-FARM PAYROLLS AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS ALL EMPLOYEE! AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS ALL EMPLOYEES PARUFACTURING PAYROLLS PCE DEFLATOR Y/Y (core)	(May) (May) (May) (May) (May) (Apr)	(H) 140K (H) 8.1% (H) 0.2% (H) 34.5 (H) (H) (H) (H)	150K 8.1% 0.2% 34.5 15K 1.9%	115K 8.1% 0.0% 34.5 16K 2.1% 2.0%
					<u> </u>	PERSONAL INCOME M/M PERSONAL SPENDING M/M 8:58 AM MARKIT US PMI FINAL	(Apr) (Apr) (May)	(M) 0.3% (M) 0.3%	0.3% 0.3%	0.4%
					. 0 =	10:00 AM CONSTRUCTION SPENDING M/M ISM - MANUFACTURING	(Apr) (May)	(M) (H) 53.8	0.4%	0.1%
					- , <u>-</u>	5:00 PM NEW VEHICLE SALES	(May)	(M)	14.4M	14.4M
	H, M, L = High, Medium or Low Significance	n or Low Significan	ce	SAAR = Seas	sonally Ad	SAAR = Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Consens	ns Source	Consensus Source: Bloomberg		

Week Ahead's Market Call

by Avery Shenfeld

In the US, markets will still be closely eyeing European news, but developments closer to home should have some sway. Payrolls can always surprise, but our call in this case isn't too far from consensus expectations. After one series showed monthly house price gains, markets will be checking for confirmation in the more widely watched Case-Shiller measure. April spending should show modest momentum in nominal terms, but will be stronger in real terms since the CPI showed a monthly drop in goods prices that month.

In Canada, we're a tick above consensus for March GDP, but more cautious on Q1 growth. The March gain might be more critical, as it gives a nice handoff for Q2 and, alongside March-April jobs gains, suggests a brighter quarter ahead. Not that markets are looking much at Canadian developments these days.

Week Ahead's Key Canadian Number: Real GDP—Q1

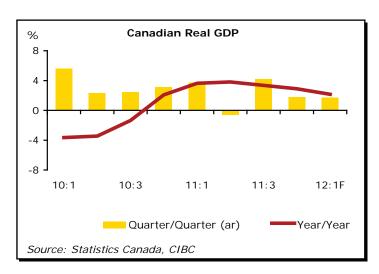
(Friday, 8:30 a.m.)

Emanuella Enenajor (416) 956-6527

			Prior
Q1 Real GDP (q/q % ch, saar)	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%
Mar GDP (m/m % ch, sa)	0.4%	0.3%	-0.2%

2012 likely got off to a stumbling start, with growth in the first quarter set to track an anemic 1.7%. Exports sped up, but that owed to a healthy December handoff, as in-quarter monthly growth proved feeble. Imports should have risen by a slightly softer margin than exports, with some purchases going into accelerated inventory re-stocking. Near-flat retail sales volumes suggest that consumer spending was shabby, while tame machinery and equipment purchases from abroad point to a meager contribution to growth from business investment.

The government probably didn't lend much of a helping hand, as falling public admin positions in the Labour Force Survey suggest spending restraint was well under way. But homebuilding could have made a splash in an otherwise listless pool of economic data, as the period's housing starts and rising construction employment point to healthy momentum in that sector.



Despite the drab reading for the quarter as a whole, March GDP could have risen by 0.4%. Bustling factories and re-opened mines likely drove the action, with robust construction, foreshadowed by rising builder ranks and housing starts, also supportive. While coker problems at an oil sands site may have dented energy output, those woes were likely outshone by warm temperatures that boosted fortunes for retailers and other sectors such as arts/entertainment/ recreation, accommodation/food services and info/cultural.

Forecast Implications—In Q1, the economy didn't do quite as well as the Bank of Canada's anticipated 2.5% forecast. But a healthy handoff of 0.4% in March and big job gains in March-April, could set Q2 up to top a 3% pace.

Market Impact—We are below consensus on the quarter, but above consensus on March GDP—limiting market reaction if we're right.

Other Canadian Releases:

Current Account Balance—Q1

(Thursday, 8:30 a.m.)

With Canada's widest measure of trade set to register an \$11.1bn deficit (2.5% of GDP) it's clear that the loonie was propped up solely by continued capital inflows in the first quarter. The deterioration in Canada's Q1 current account balance was driven almost entirely by a weaker goods trade balance. Vehicle exports slowed measurably,

with resource-related production outages denting shipments abroad. An appreciating loonie likely held back C\$-denominated foreign income receipts, while increasing numbers of outbound trips during the quarter may have contributed to a wider travel/services deficit.

Week Ahead's Key US Number: Employment Situation—May

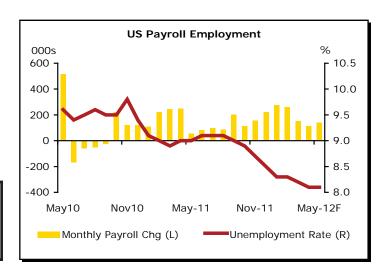
(Friday, 8:30 a.m.)

Andrew Grantham (416) 956-3219

	CIBC	Mkt	Prior
Employment (change)	140K	150K	115K
Unemployment rate	8.1%	8.1%	8.1%

Spring has certainly not sprung the US labour market back to full bloom. Quite the opposite in fact, with April's increase in payrolls once again disappointing expectations—the 115K advance paling in comparison to the 200K+readings over the winter. While an improvement in initial claims compared with April suggests a pick-up in net hiring during May, the increase in payrolls will likely remain much more modest than we saw earlier in the year. It should though, be enough to keep the unemployment rate at 8.1% unless there is a significant change in labour force participation.

Manufacturers should have added to their payrolls again in May, although judging from recent business surveys maybe not at the same pace as in prior months. Retail sector employment should continue to rebound following a couple of weak months in February/March, while construction payrolls could pick up modestly in-line with



improved builder confidence. Against these, leisure and hospitality could see further weakness as the mild winter weather shifted staffing intakes earlier in the year.

Forecast Implications—A slight improvement in May's payrolls will do little to alter the impression that hiring in the US economy has slowed noticeably since the winter. Job gains of this magnitude are consistent with the more moderate GDP growth of Q1, rather than the strong advance of Q411.

Market Impact—Our call for US payrolls is a touch below the current consensus, and so could prove a modest negative for stocks, positive for fixed income.

Other US Releases:

Personal Income and Outlays—April

(Friday, 8:30 a.m.)

While April's retail sales disappointed, much of this was due to weakness in building materials, which maps onto GDP through investment rather than consumer spending. Therefore, spending should still have posted a decent 0.3% advance. Wage growth continues to be supplemented by higher rental income, and should see income growth matching the 0.3% rise in spending.

ISM Manufacturing—May

(Friday, 10:00 a.m.)

After posting a surprise increase to 54.8 in the prior month, we expect that the ISM will give back most of that gain in May, slipping to 53.8. While the trend in regional surveys has certainly not been one-way traffic, most have pointed to weaker growth in the sector. Moreover, the new flash manufacturing PMI by Markit lost slightly over two points during the month.

Equity Insights

Peter Buchanan

Improved Bank Results Help Lift TSX Earnings

The TSX earnings season entered the home stretch this week with results from three of the banks, with the remainder due in coming days. While the good news may not continue given headwinds, like slower consumer credit demand, Bloomberg figures point to earnings growth of 15.6% on the year in the quarter for the sector, taking analysts' median estimate for as-yet unreported institutions. That's nearly 10%-pts stronger than the group's performance in the previous quarter. Earnings for the Composite as a whole are now expected to be up by 7.8% on the year, on the back of solid gains in both the financial and industrial sectors, also topping earlier expectations.

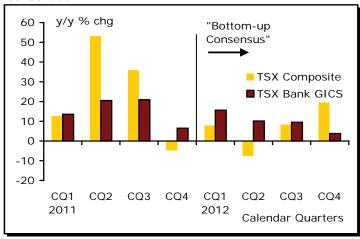
Equity Market Correlations Point to Broader Eurozone Risks

China and the Eurozone's problems continue clearly to draw investors' closest attention. While a more extensive analysis would be needed the fully gauge the broader consequences of developments in both areas, a glance at historical equity correlations is nonetheless informative. The TSX Composite has shown a somewhat lower correlation with the Eurostoxx 50, comprised of leading Eurozone-headquartered companies, than benchmarks in the US and UK, surpassing the Nikkei. What is striking, though, is the relatively high correlation with Europe of even the laggards on the list. A Greek exit or broader Eurozone shake-up could thus deliver a pronounced jolt to markets elsewhere, though there might be variation between countries. Compared to high European-foreign market correlations, stocks in China still appear to march very much to a domestic beat. That's another reason for thinking the largest risk to global investors emanates from softer growth there rather than equity volatility.

China's Commodity Imports Slow as Growth Cools

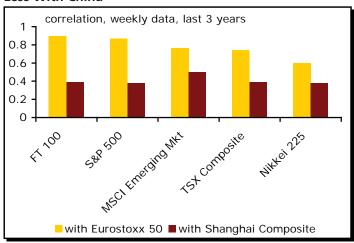
Data through April show a measurable downshift in China's imports of some Canadian-produced commodities, as the economy there cools. With the declines of the last two months, copper and petroleum imports are down by nearly 25% and about 5-6% from their recent monthly highs. China's demand weight is such that even a modest downshift can cool commodity markets and Thursday's soft flash PMI and a rumoured weak May new loan figure are reasons for remaining circumspect about resources in general for now.

TSX Composite and Bank Earnings, Historical and Consensus

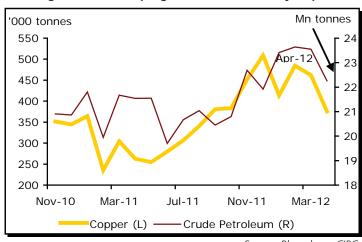


Source: Bloomberg a/o May 25

Key Benchmarks Strongly Correlated with Eurozone, Less With China



Slowing Growth Crimping China's Commodity Imports



Source: Bloomberg, CIBC

Currency Currents

Andrew Grantham and Emanuella Enenajor

Fundamental Reasons for CADAUD Outperformance

Both the CAD and AUD have taken a beating in the past month, on falling commodity prices and diminished prospects for global growth. We see downside to AUDCAD in the quarters ahead, owing to further unwinding of bullish AUD positioning on slowing Chinese growth, and to relative underperformance of Australia's economy. Australia's falling house prices and shrinking homebuilding sector has weighed on growth, while once booming hiring has devolved into a part-time recovery. Contrast that with Canada's robust full-time hiring boom. While both commodity-exporting economies share the pain of falling resource prices, Australia's domestic woes should add to downside for AUDCAD in the months ahead.

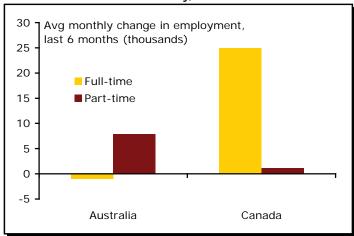
Young Pretender Confirms Relative US Strength

A new participant entered the growing pool of US business surveys this week, as Markit launched their US manufacturing PMI. It means for the first time it is possible to directly compare survey results for China, the Eurozone, and other major economies with those of the US. Doing so highlights the relative strength of US manufacturing at present, despite the two-point decline in headline index reported for May. Not only is the level of the US PMI high relative to others, it does not show the same declines compared with 2011 averages. With growth in US manufacturing holding up better than other areas of the globe, this supports a bullish near-term US\$ stance.

Eurozone Now Sharing in the Pain

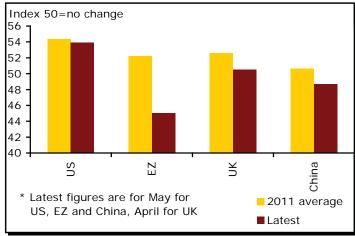
Peripheral countries may be facing the greatest fiscal pain, but figures released this week show that the economies of Germany and France are not escaping unscathed. The detail of German GDP confirmed that other countries did its heavy lifting in Q1, with domestic demand contracting for the first time in more than two years. Meanwhile, flash manufacturing PMI data showed weakening trends for France and Germany, bringing them back in-line with the Eurozone average after a lengthy period of relative outperformance. Finally, the current conditions component of the German IFO suffered its sharpest one-month fall since the 2008/9 recession. As a Eurozone recession persists and broadens, expect further euro downside.

Australia's Part-time Recovery, Canada's Full-time Boom



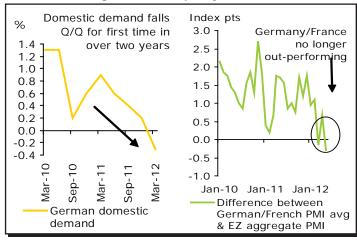
Source: Australian bureau of Statistics, Statistics Canada

US Manufacturing a Source of Relative Strength



Source: Statistics: Markit, CIPS, HSBC, CIBC

German Domestic Economy Suffering (L), as Core Converges With Periphery (R)



Source: FSO, Markit, CIBC

CANADIAN RELEASE AND EVENT DATES May/June 2012



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
VICTORIA DAY (HOLIDAY) (Markets Closed)	22	23 RETAIL TRADE 8:30 AM (Current\$) M Y JAN 0.2 4.8 FEB -0.2 4.0 MAR 0.4 4.1 LEADING INDICATOR 8:30 AM	QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATISTICS 8:30 AM	25
28	29	INDUSTRIAL PRICES 8:30 AM M (NSA) Y FEB 0.3 1.7 MAR 0.2 0.9 APR	31 BALANCE OF INT'L PAYMENTS 8:30 AM CURR. ACCT. BAL. \$BN(QR) \$BN(AR) 11:Q3 -12.3 -49.3 11:Q4 -10.3 -41.3 12:Q1 PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS & HOURS 8:30 AM	NATIONAL ACCOUNTS
4	S	6	7 IVEY PURCHASING MANAGERS' INDEX 10:00 AM	HOUSING STARTS 8
Bank of Canada Governor Carney speaks at Montreal Conference at 1:45 PM ET	12	13	14 CAPACITY UTILIZATION 8:30 AM LEVEL (%) TOTAL MANUF. 11:Q3 80.0 79.0 11:Q4 80.5 80.4 12:q1 NEW HOUSING PRICE INDEX 8:30 AM	SURVEY OF 15 MANUFACTURING 8:30 AM SHIPMENTS M Y FEB -0.2 5.5 MAR 1.9 5.9 APR WAGE SETTLEMENTS 10:00 AM (%) PVT. PUB. TOT. FEB 2.6 1.7 1.8 MAR 3.1 1.3 1.6 APR
18 INT'L TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES C\$BN, NET 8:30 AM BONDS MONEY STOCKS TOT MARKET FEB 13.7 -1.6 0.4 12.5 MAR -0.9 -1.5 0.3 -2.1 APR	WHOLESALE TRADE 8:30 AM	20	RETAIL TRADE 21 8:30 AM (Current\$) M Y FEB -0.2 4.0 MAR 0.4 4.1 APR LEADING INDICATOR 8:30 AM Bank of Canada Gov. Carney speaks at Halifax Conference at 12:55 PM ET	22 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 8:30 AM M (NSA) Y MAR 0.4 1.9 APR 0.4 2.0 MAY

at 12:55 PM ET

All data seasonally adjusted except where noted "NSA". M: per cent change from previous month. Q: per cent change from previous quarter at annual rates. Y: per cent change from year earlier. AR: Annual Rate. YTD: Year to date. Release dates are provided by sources outside CIBC World Markets Inc. Dates are subject to change. Sources for historical data: Statistics Canada, CMHC, Human Resources Development Canada and the Bank of Canada.

U.S. RELEASE AND EVENT DATES May/June 2012



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
21	22 EXISTING HOME SALES 10:00 AM 2-Yr NOTE AUCTION	NEW HOME SALES 10:00 AM 5-Yr NOTE AUCTION	DURABLE GOODS ORDERS 8:30 AM M Y FEB 2.0 14.3 MAR -3.7 1.8 APR 0.2 6.9 7-Yr NOTE AUCTION	25 MICHIGAN SENTIMENT (F) 9:55 AM
	BOT (9:00) REDBOOK (8:55)		INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS (8:30)	
MEMORIAL DAY (HOLIDAY) (Markets Closed)	S&P/CASE-SHILLER HOUSE PRICE INDEX 9:00 AM CONSUMER CONFIDENCE 10:00 AM	30	31 ADP SURVEY 8:15 AM GDP 8:30 AM (AR) REAL IMPLICIT GDP DEFLATOR 11:Q4(F) 3.0 0.8 12:Q1(A) 2.2 1.5 12:Q1(P) CORPORATE PROFITS 8:30 AM CHICAGO PMI 9:45 AM	## EMPLOY.SITUATION 1 8:30 AM
		BOT (9:00) REDBOOK (8:55)	INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS (8:30)	MAR 14.315 9.9 APR 14.371 9.4 MAY
FACTORY ORDERS 10:00 AM M(SA) Y(NSA) FEB 1.1 8.8 MAR -1.5 3.3 APR	5 ISM NON-MFG SURVEY 10:00 AM	NON-FARM 6 PRODUCTIVITY 8:30 AM Q/Q (AR) Y/Y 11:Q4 (R) 1.2 0.4 12:Q1 (P) -0.5 0.5 12:Q1 (R) Beige Book	7 CONSUMER CREDIT 3:00PM 3,10-Yr NOTE ANNOUNCEMENT 30-Yr BOND ANNOUNCEMENT	8 GOODS & SERV. BALANCE (BOP) \$B 8:30 AM GDS SERV TOT FEB -61.1 15.7 -45.4 MAR -67.6 15.8 -51.8 APR
11	TREASURY BUDGET 2:00 PM 3-Yr NOTE AUCTION BOT (9:00) REDBOOK (8:55)	RETAIL 13 SALES 8:30 AM M Y MAR 0.7 6.6 APR 0.1 6.4 MAY PRODUCER PRICE INDEX 8:30 AM M (SA) Y (NSA) MAR 0.0 2.8 APR -0.2 1.9 MAY BUSINESS INVENTORIES 10:00 AM 10-Yr NOTE AUCTION	CPI 14 8:30 AM M(SA) Y (NSA) MAR 0.3 2.7 APR 0.0 2.3 MAY CURR ACCT BAL. 8:30 AM M Y MONEY SUPPLY M-2 4:30 PM M Y MAR 0.3 9.8 APR 0.4 9.8 MAY 30-Yr BOND AUCTION INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS (8:30)	NET CAPITAL INFLOWS TICS 9:00 AM CAPACITY UTIL/IND. PROD. 9:15 AM LEV M Y MAR 78.4 -0.6 3.5 APR 79.2 1.1 5.2 MAY MICHIGAN SENTIMENT (P) 9:55 AM 3,10-Yr NOTE SETTLEMENT 30-Yr BOND SETTLEMENT
18	19	20	21	22
	HOUSING STARTS 8: 30 AM MIL (AR) M FEB 0.718 -3.0 MAR 0.699 -2.6 APR 0.717 2.6 FOMC Meeting Begins BOT (9:00) REDBOOK (8:55)	FOMC Rate Decision	EXISTING HOME SALES 10:00 AM PHILADELPHIA FED INDEX 10:00 AM LEADING INDICATOR 10:00 AM 2,5,7-Yr NOTE ANNOUNCEMENT INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS (8:30)	

All data seasonally adjusted except where noted "NSA". M: per cent change from previous month. Q: per cent change from previous quarter at annual rates. Y: per cent change from year earlier. AR: Annual Rate. YTD: Year to date. Release dates are provided by sources outside CIBC World Markets inc. Dates are subject to change. Sources for historical data: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Federal Reserve Board.

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