

October US inflation

CPI slowed more than expected

Both US CPI and core CPI decreased more than expected for October 2023

- CPI shrank from 3.7% in September to 3.2%, 0.1% lower than market expectations for October. Meanwhile, core CPI hit its two-year low, down from 4.1% in September to 4.0%.
- Energy prices contracted 4.5% YoY, and food, shelter, and vehicle costs slowed their YoY increase rates. In particular, shelter costs (accounting for 70% of core CPI) picked up 6.7% YoY in the month versus a 7.2% YoY increase in September.

All eyes are now on the Federal Reserve to see if the US central bank is done with its rate hikes

— The October CPI reading was what the Fed expected when both CPI and core CPI declined, even better than market expectations. Before the announcement, there was a 30% chance of another interest rate increase. However, the CME FedWatch Tool implies hardly any other rate hikes and a possible initial rate cut in May 2024.

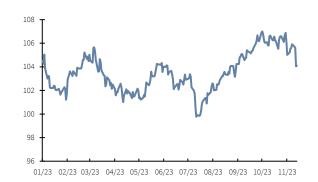
The US dollar index (DXY) and US 10Y bond yields fell sharply

- Inflation slowdown sent the DXY and 10-year bond yields plummeting, which we assess would positively impact the market since it mitigates the risks from the USD/VND exchange rate and inflationary pressures. Besides, China fell back into deflation in October, and hog prices plunging more than 30.1% YoY also helped to curb inflation.
- For the USD/VND exchange rate, the ask rate at Vietcombank (VCB) was 24,450 this morning, down 1.2% versus early November. Accordingly, the interbank exchange rate was quoted at 24,272, down 1.2%.

Fig 1. US - CPI & core CPI (% YoY)

Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 2. US - DXY



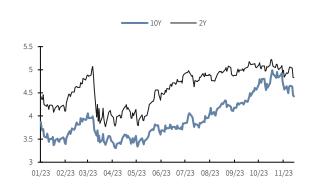
Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Table 1. US - Fed funds rate

MEETING DATE	425-450	450-475	475-500	500-525	525-550	550-575
13/12/2023	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	94,5%	5,5%
31/01/2024	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	3,9%	90,8%	5,3%
20/03/2024	0,0%	0,0%	1,2%	30,0%	65,2%	3,7%
01/05/2024	0,0%	0,5%	14,6%	46,4%	36,4%	2,0%
12/06/2024	0,4%	9,7%	35,3%	39,9%	14,0%	0,7%
31/07/2024	6,5%	26,4%	38,3%	23,0%	5,3%	0,2%
18/09/2024	19,4%	34,1%	28,4%	11,5%	2,0%	0,1%
07/11/2024	26,9%	31,2%	19,8%	6,7%	1,0%	0,0%
18/12/2024	29,9%	23,3%	10,7%	2,8%	0,3%	0,0%

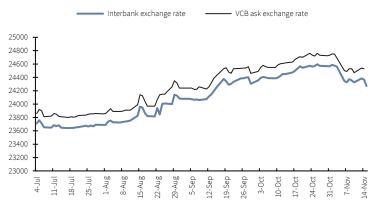
Source: CME, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 3. US - 10Y and 2Y bond yields (%)



Source: Bloomberg, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 4. USD/VND exchange rate



Source: Fiinpro, KB Securities Vietnam

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Investment Ratings for Stocks

(hacad	on expectations	for absolute	orico onine	over the seve	(months)
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Buy:	Hold:	Sell:
+15% or more	+15% to -15%	-15% or more

Investment Ratings for Sectors

(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)

Positive:	Neutral:	Negative:
Outperform the market	Perform in line with the market	Undernerform the market

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