



**UNITED STATES**

**GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT**

Third quarter real gross domestic product (GDP) increased at an annual rate of 3.5% following a 4.2% growth in the second quarter. This was the advance estimate released by the Bureau of Economic.

The upward movement in real GDP for the third quarter reflected positive contributions from PCE, non-residential fixed investment, federal government spending, state and local government spending, and private inventory which were partly offset by negative contributions from exports and residential fixed investment. Imports increased.

Real GDP growth deceleration in the third quarter reflected a downturn in exports, and a decline in non-residential fixed investment. Imports went up in the third quarter subsequent to a decline in the second. These movements were partly tempered by an upturn in private inventory investment.

“Current dollar GDP went up 4.9% or \$247.1 billion for the third quarter to \$20.66 trillion relative to the second quarter which increased 7.6%, or \$370.9 billion,” as stated by the BEA.

In the third quarter, the gross domestic purchases price index went up 1.7% when compared to an uptick of 2.4% the previous quarter. In addition, the PCE price index rose 1.6% relative to an increase of 2.0%. With the exception of the food and energy prices, the PCE price index climbed 1.6% versus an increase of 2.1%.

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

Total nonfarm payroll employment climbed by 250,000 in October, with the rate of unemployment remaining at 3.7%, as stated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment rose in the various areas of health care, manufacturing, in construction, transportation and warehousing. In October, the number of unemployed persons went down slightly to 6.1 million. During the last twelve months, the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point and the number of unemployed by 449,000.

Long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) had basically no change at 1.4 million in October and accounted for 22.5% of the unemployed.

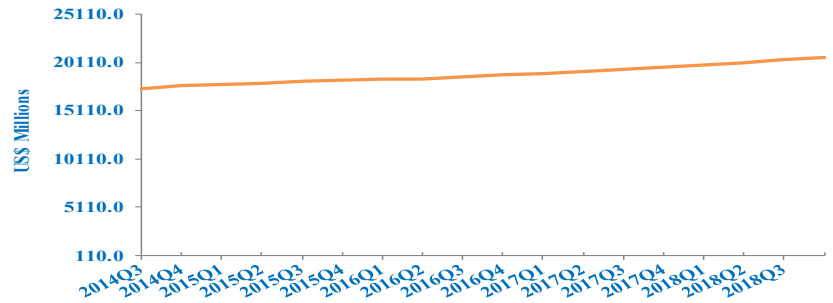
Labour force participation rate was 62.9%, a marginal increase while the employment-population ratio at 60.6% for October, a 0.4% change relative to that of September.

Involuntary part-time workers or the number of persons employed part time for economic reasons experienced remained at 4.6 million in October. These persons who would have wanted full time employment, worked part time due to a reduction of hours or the inability to find a full-time job.

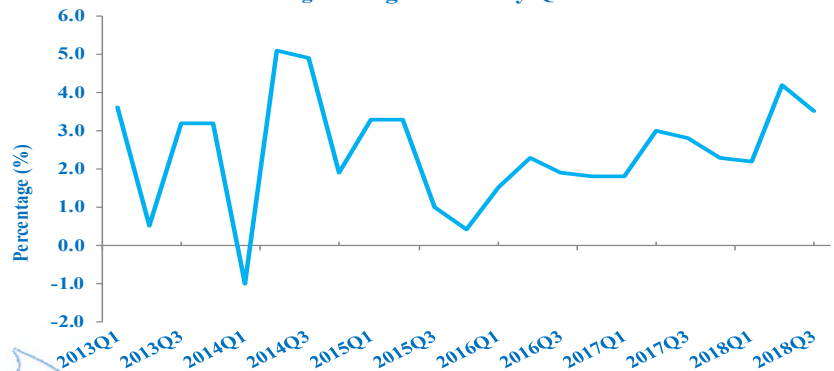
There were 1.5 million individuals marginally attached to the labour force, a small change compared to last year. These persons were not in the labour force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job in the last year. They would not have been counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks before the survey was conducted.

Of the marginally attached, 506,000 persons were classified as discouraged workers in October. These persons are not currently seeking for work as they believe no jobs are available for them. There are still 984,000 persons marginally attached to the labor force in September who had not sought employment for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities.

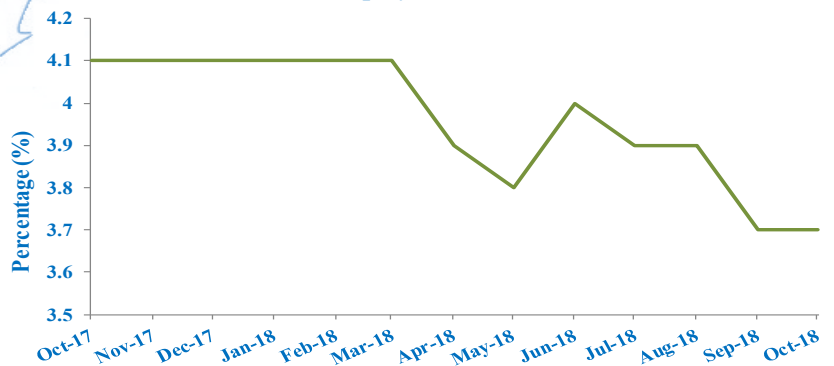
Total GDP



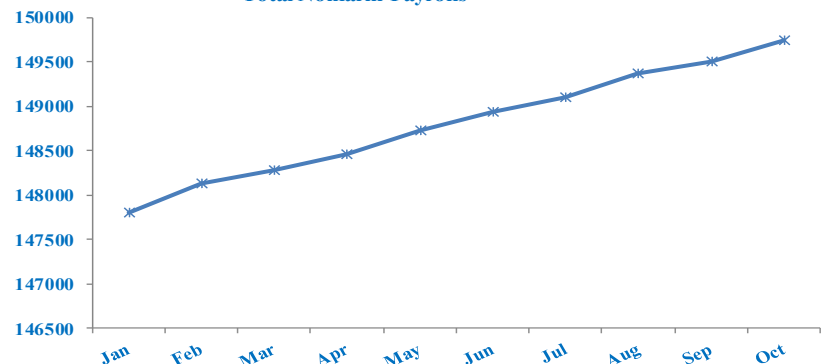
Percentage Change in GDP by Quarter



Unemployment Rate



Total Nonfarm Payrolls





## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

“The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3% in October on a seasonally adjusted basis, remaining the same for August,” the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated. The all items index increased 2.5% before seasonal adjustment over the last year.

The all items less food and energy index increased 0.2% in October, subsequent to 0.1% rise in September. The index for shelter and used cars and trucks, the indexes for medical care, motor vehicle insurance, household furnishings and operations, and tobacco also rose. The index for communication, new vehicles, and recreation all fell in October.

The all items index rose to 2.5% on a point to point basis, a greater than the 2.3% increase for the months ending September. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.1% for year ending October. The energy index decreased 8.9% and the food index advanced 1.2%, over the last year.

The gasoline index rose and was responsible for the one-third of the seasonally adjusted increase in the all items index; advances in the indexes for shelter, used cars and trucks, and electricity also impacted this.

The rise in the electricity and gasoline indexes resulted in a 2.4% rise in the energy index.

The food index declined 0.1% as the index for food away from home increased 0.1% in October while the food at home index fell went down 0.2%.

The index for non-alcoholic beverages was the only major grocery store food group to increase in October, rising 0.2%. The index for food away from home increased a little by 0.1% while the index for food away from home rose 2.5% over the last twelve months.

## PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

“The Producer Price Index for final demand prices went up by 0.6% in October, seasonally adjusted. Final demand prices climbed in September by 0.2% and went down in August by 0.1%. On an unadjusted basis, the final demand index increased 2.9% for the 12 months ended in October.”

“In October, the rise in the final demand index can be traced to a 0.7% increase in prices for final demand services. In contrast, the index for final demand goods decreased 0.6%.

“The index for final demand less foods, energy, and trade services inched up 0.2% in October subsequent to jumping to 0.4% in September. For the 12 months ended in October, index for final demand less foods, energy, and trade services increased 2.8%.”

The index for final demand services went up 0.7% in October, the greatest increase since January 2016's 0.8%. This was as a result of a 1.6% climb in the final demand index margins for trade services. Prices for final demand services less transportation, trade and warehousing rose 0.2%, and the index for final demand trade transportation and warehousing services went up 0.6%.

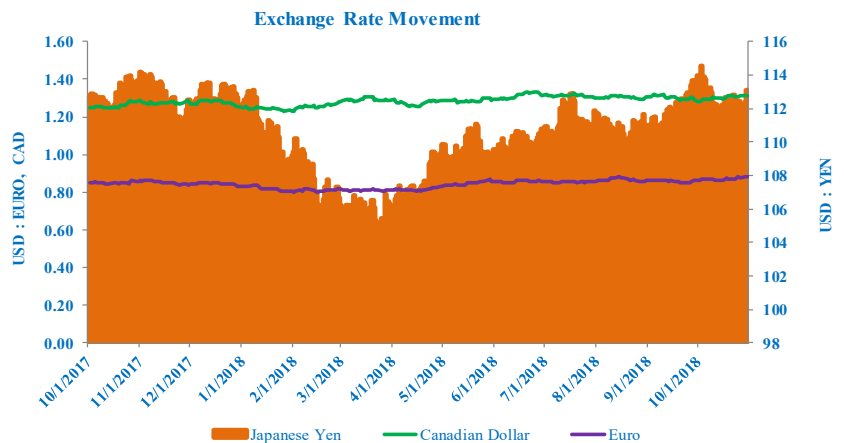
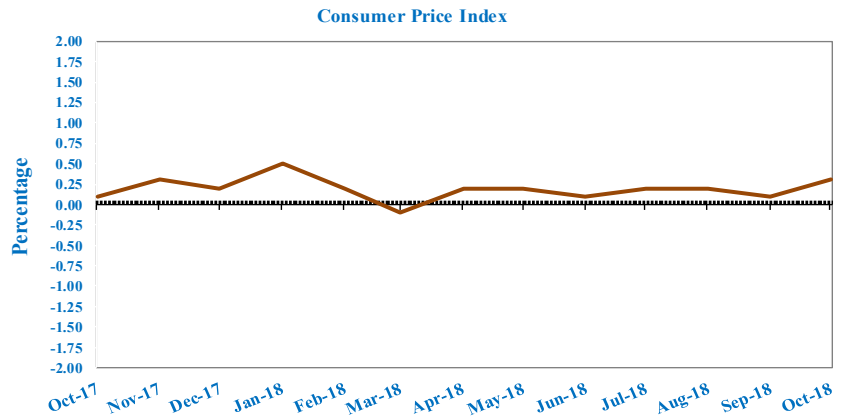
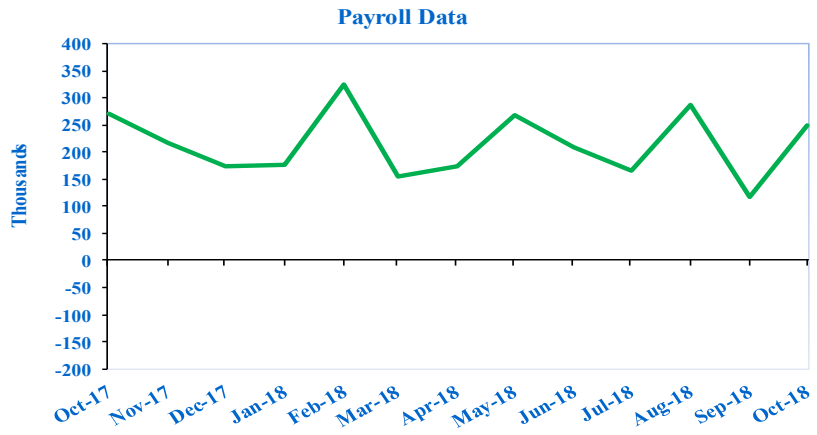
The index for final demand goods advanced to 0.6% in October, the largest increase since moving up in May by 0.9%. Almost 75% of this increase is due to the upward movement in prices for final demand energy by 2.7%.

The index for demand foods inched up by 1.0%. In addition, final demand goods less foods and energy remained the same.

## U.S. Dollar

According to FX Empire, “The EURUSD pair has been in a range bound price action for last two months. When looking at the candle chart in daily time frame, price action in September and November has formed an “M” pattern. As of now the pair has lost all gains made over the last two months and the price action for the month of October shows two distinctive phases of price action. The first phase saw EURO gain momentum while the second phase saw price take a steep bearish nose dive. One of the major factors that had influenced the price action across the month for the common currency was Italian budget crisis.”

“Another factor that affected the price action of common currency to great extent was the rout in equity markets. The first three days of the October saw EURO continue in last month's bearish momentum but the last two days saw EURO bulls get into some action as Italian budget fears receded while strong German factory data influenced positive investor sentiment and US NFP data was a disappointment which helped EURO maintain positive price action as trading session closed for the week.”





## FEDERAL RESERVE MINUTES

On November 8, 2018 all the members of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System voted to maintain the interest rate paid on required and excess reserve balances at 2.20%, effective November 9, 2018. The FOMC voted for the Open Market Desk at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to permit and direct unless given other instructions, to execute transactions in the System Open Market Account in accordance with the following domestic policy directive:

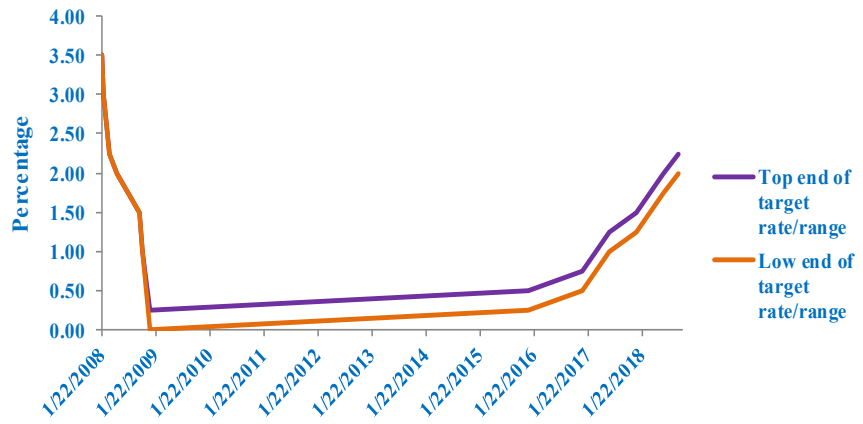
“Effective November 9, 2018, the Federal Open Market Committee directs the Desk to undertake open market operations as necessary to maintain the federal funds rate in a target range of 2 to 2-1/4%, including overnight reverse repurchase operations (and reverse repurchase operations with maturities of more than one day when necessary to accommodate weekend, holiday, or similar trading conventions) at an offering rate of 2.00%, in amounts limited only by the value of Treasury securities held outright in the System Open Market Account that are available for such operations and by a per-counterparty limit of \$30 billion per day.”

“The Committee directs the Desk to continue rolling over at auction the amount of principal payments from the Federal Reserve’s holdings of Treasury securities maturing during each calendar month that exceeds \$30 billion, and to reinvest in agency mortgage-backed securities the amount of principal payments from the Federal Reserve’s holdings of agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities received during each calendar month that exceeds \$20 billion. Small deviations from these amounts for operational reasons are acceptable.”

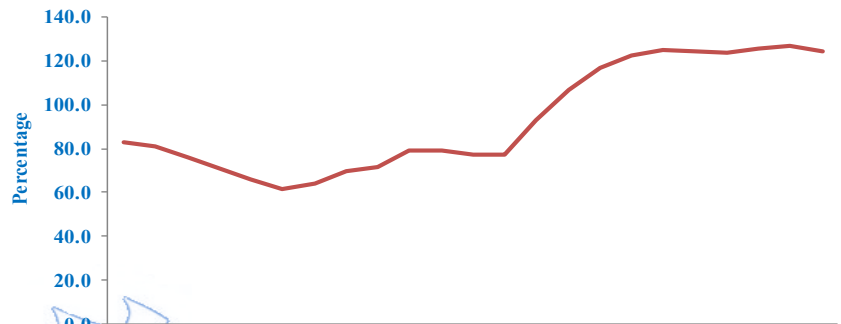
“The Committee also directs the Desk to engage in dollar roll and coupon swap transactions as necessary to facilitate settlement of the Federal Reserve’s agency mortgage-backed securities transactions.”

“In a related action, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System voted unanimously to approve the establishment of the primary credit rate at the existing level of 2.75%.”

## Federal Interest Rates



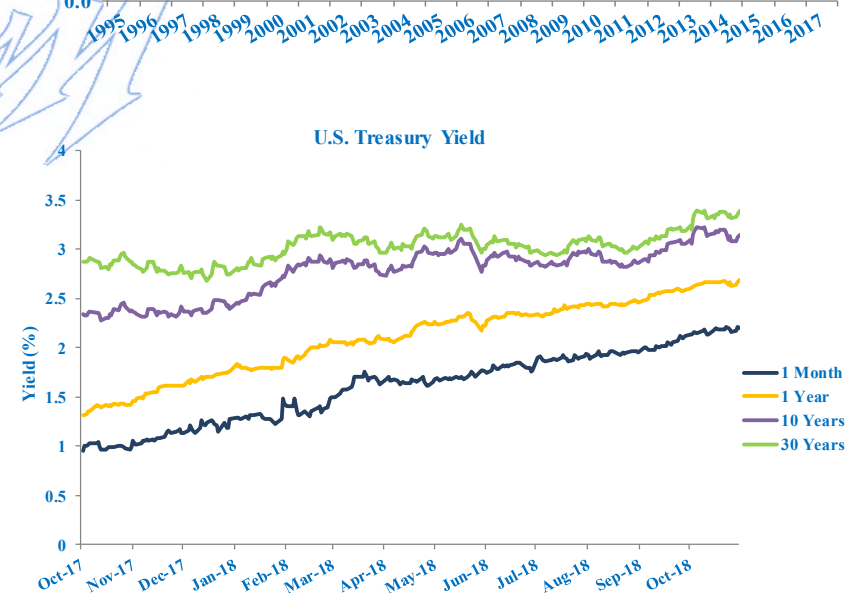
## Debt to GDP (Percentage)



## U.S. TREASURY YIELD CURVE

According to Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, “In October, there has been an upward shift almost moving parallel by the yield curve. The three-month (constant maturity) Treasury bill rate went up to 2.31% (for the week ending October 19) up 14 basis points from September’s 2.17%, which was also above August’s 2.08%. The 10-year rate (also constant maturity) increased was right behind by 13 basis points to 3.18%, up from September’s 2.83% and 35 basis point above August’s 2.83%. These changes moved the slope upwards to 87 basis points, down 1 basis points from September’s 88 basis points but still up 76 basis points above that of August.”

“Despite a slightly flatter yield curve, projected growth were up, and maybe influenced by the strong growth depicted in GDP in previous quarters. Using past values of the spread and GDP growth suggests that real GDP will grow at approximately 2.0% rate over the upcoming year, an increase from the 1.6% that was projected in August and September. The forecasts shows conservative growth despite the fact that the time horizons do not match exactly.”



## GOVERNMENT DEBT/DEFICIT

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the federal budget deficit was \$779 billion for the fiscal year 2018 ended September 30, the Congressional Budget Office estimates, \$113 billion more than the shortfall recorded last year.

“The 2018 deficit increased to 3.8% of gross domestic product (GDP), up from 3.5% in 2017 and 3.2% in 2016. There was a reduction in outlays by a shift in the timing of some payments which occurred in the fiscal year 2017 because October 1, 2017 fell on a weekend. If it were not for this shift the total deficit in 2018 would have amounted to \$823 billion or 4.1% of GDP.”

According to CBO, “In 2018, the government’s revenues amounted to \$3.3 trillion—\$14 billion (or less than 1%) more than in 2017. As a percentage of GDP, revenues fell from 17.2% in 2017 to 16.4% in 2018, dropping below the average (17.4%) for the past 50 years. Net spending by the government was \$4.1 trillion in 2018—\$127 billion (or 3.2%) more than in 2017. Outlays amounted to 20.3% of GDP in 2018, compared with 20.7% in 2017, and were equal to the 50-year average. If not for the shift in the timing of certain payments, outlays in 2018 would have equaled 20.5% of GDP.”

Fiscal Year Totals -Billions of Dollars			
	FY 2017	FY 2018	Estimated Change
Receipts	3,315	3,329	14
Outlays	3,981	4,108	127
Deficit (-)			
Amount	-666	-779	-113
Percentage of GDP	-3.50	-3.80	-0.30

