

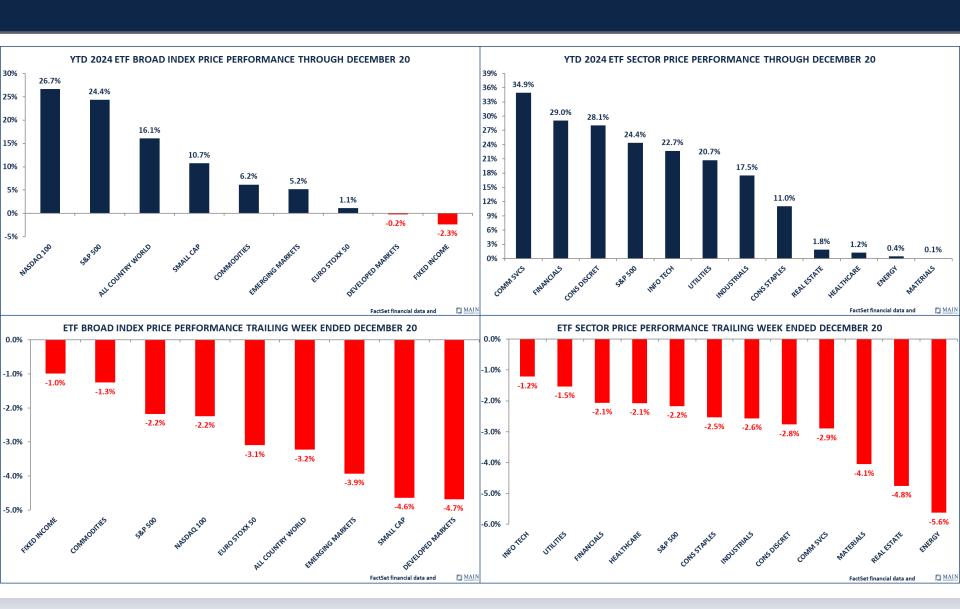
MAIN MANAGEMENT MARKET NOTE: **December 20, 2024**

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Performance





Recession Dashboard

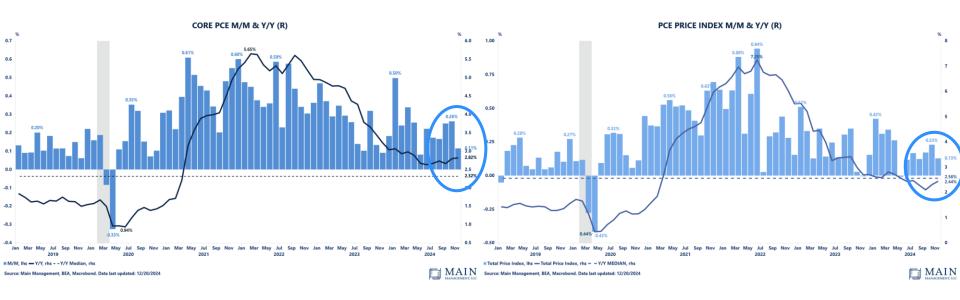
RECESSION START	INFLATION	CONSUMER	YIELD CURVE	HOUSING	SENTIMENT	AUTOS	EMPLOY- MENT	PMI	RETAIL SALES
NOV 1973	•	_	_	•	_	_	•	•	
JAN 1980	•	•	•	•	(2)	•	•	•	
JUL 1981	•	•	•	•	(2)	•	•	•	
JUL 1990	•	•	•	•	(2)	•	•	(2)	
MAR 2001	(2)	•	•	(+)	(2)	(2)	•	•	(+)
DEC 2007	•	•	•	•	(+)	•	•	•	•
DEC 2019	1	1	(2)	(+)	•	(2)	•	(2)	(
DEC 2024	(1	(+) *	(+)	1	•	•	1	1
LAST CHANGE	GREEN DEC '24	BLUE DEC '24	RED MAR '23	GREEN DEC '24	BLUE DEC '24	BLUE SEP '23	BLUE SEP '22	BLUE JUN '23	BLUE DEC '24
			Positive	. 😝 1	Neutral U	Negative			

Inflation: Headline CPI. Source: St. Louis Fed. Consumer: Conference Board Consumer Confidence. Source: The Conference Board. Yield Curve: 10 year – 3 month Treasury spread. Source: FactSet financial data and analytics. Housing: Housing Starts & Existing Home Sales. Source: St. Louis Fed. Sentiment:. Conference Board Consumer Confidence, UMich Consumer Sentiment, State Street Investor Confidence, VEO Confidence, VIX, AAII Autos: Auto Sales. Source: St. Louis Fed. Employment: Initial Weekly Unemployment Claims & Nonfarm Payrolls. Source: St. Louis Fed. * 10 year – 3 month Treasury spread inverted on 11/2/22.

Core PCE



Core PCE (left), the Fed's preferred inflation measure, came in at +0.11% M/M in November, below forecasts for a 0.2% reading. On a Y/Y basis, Core PCE accelerated to +2.82%, the highest since April 2024. The PCE Price Index (right) rose +0.13% M/M as the Y/Y figure ticked up to +2.44%. These lower-than-expected readings should help ease fears that inflation is proving to be more sticky than desired.





Income & Spending

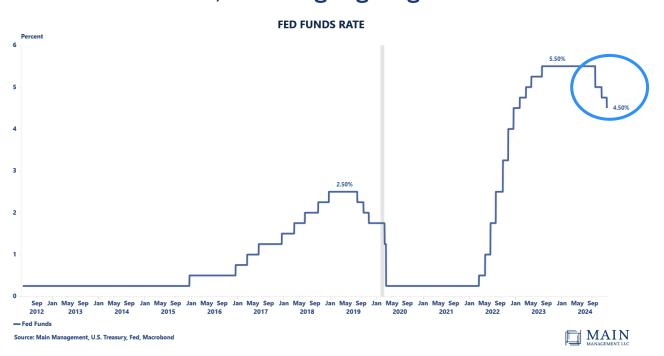
Incomes rose +0.28% M/M, slightly below forecasts, and the y/y figure slowed a bit to +5.32%. Still, incomes are outpacing inflation which is good for consumers and their purchasing power. This dynamic has been seen in the continued steady Consumer Spending figures (right). Spending was up +0.40% M/M in November, also slightly below forecasts for a 0.5% reading. The Y/Y figure inched down to 5.45% from 5.48% but that's still running above pre-pandemic levels.





FOMC Meeting

The Fed cut rates by 25bps this week, lowering the Fed Funds Rate to a range of 4.25% - 4.50%. The decision, while widely expected, marked a shift into what Chair Powell called a "new phase" where the Fed will proceed more cautiously. Cleveland Fed President Beth Hammack dissented, preferring no cut, the 2nd dissent this year. The Fed's cautious tone was underscored by its updated projections, which now pencil in only two rate cuts in 2025, down from four in September. The projections also showed a higher Core PCE forecast for 2025 of 2.5%, indicating lingering inflation risks.





Q3 2024 U.S. GDP

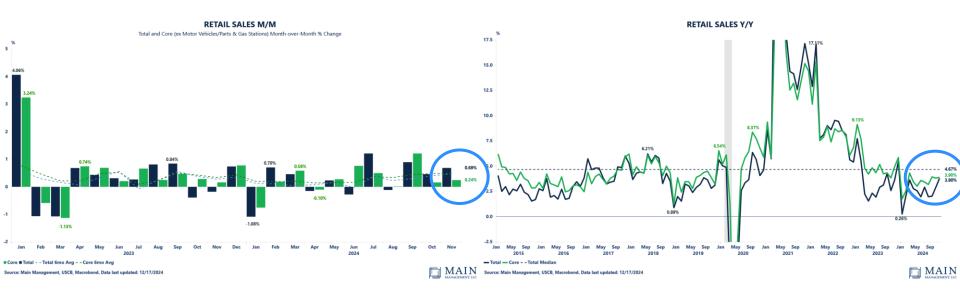
The final reading for Q3 2024 U.S. GDP (left) was revised up to 3.07% Q/Q annualized (left). For the components (right), Final Sales were revised up to 3.32% from 3.02%, their best since Q4 2023. Imports revised lower to 10.74% from 11.19%. Exports were revised up to 9.61% from 8.91%, the highest since Q3 2022. Investment was revised up to +0.79% from +0.35%. Consumer Spending was also revised up to 3.70% from 3.67%, its best reading since Q1 2023.





Retail Sales

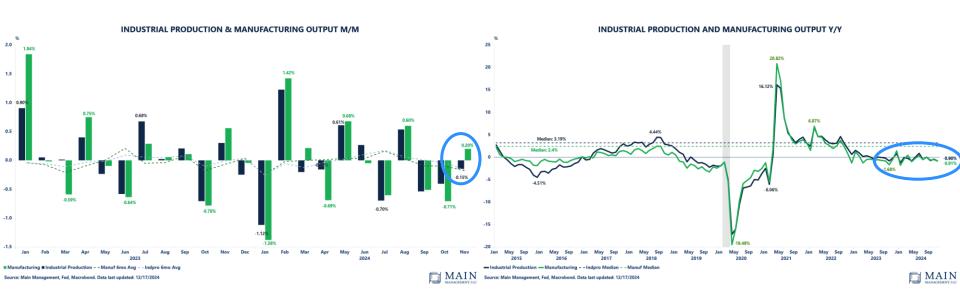
November Total Retail Sales rose +0.69% M/M (left) while Core Retail Sales were up a more muted +0.24%. The big difference was Autos, which are not in the Core basket and jumped +2.8% M/M. That Total +0.7% rise was above forecasts for a +0.5% reading while Core missed estimates of +0.4%. On a Y/Y basis (right), Total Retail Sales have been accelerating of late, rising to +3.80% which is the highest since December 2023. Core Retail Sales are up +3.90% from a year ago. It would be good to see both of these continue to accelerate.





Industrial Production

Industrial Production declined -0.15% M/M in November (left), solidly below forecasts for a +0.2% rise and the 4th decline in the last 5 months. Manufacturing Output, which accounts for the majority of Industrial Production, was up +0.20% M/M but was outweighed by declines in Mining and Utilities. The year-over-year figures (right) have been trending lower. Industrial Production slowed to -0.90% and Manufacturing Output is down -0.91%.



Negative // 9



Summary

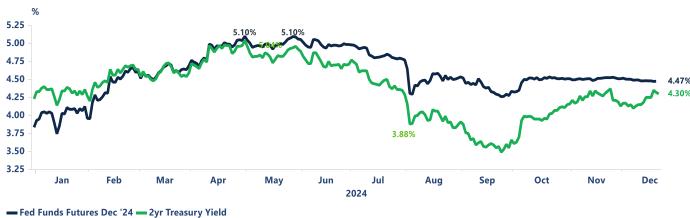
- Core PCE, the Fed's preferred inflation measure, came in below expectations at +0.11% M/M and +2.82% Y/Y. This reading should help ease fears around sticky inflation a bit.
- The FOMC cut rates by 25bps this week as expected. However, their 2025 forecast now shows only 2 cuts, down from 4 earlier this year.
- The final reading for Q3 2024 U.S. GDP was revised up to +3.07% from the 2nd reading of 2.8%. Consumer Spending continues to be solid.
- Total Retail Sales beat forecasts in November, driven by Autos, while Core Sales came in below expectations. Both categories accelerated on a Y/Y basis.
- Industrial Production came in below expectations, slowing to -0.90% Y/Y.
- Upcoming key data to watch:
 - Durable Goods (Tuesday)
 - New Home Sales (Tuesday)

Appendix



Yields & Futures

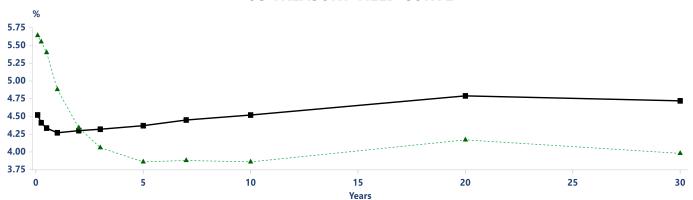
FED FUNDS FUTURES & 2-YEAR TREASURY YIELD



Source: Main Management, CME Group, U.S. Treasury, Macrobond. Data last updated: 12/20/2024



US TREASURY YIELD CURVE



■ Now -▲- 12 months ago

Source: Main Management, U.S. Treasury, Macrobond. Data last updated: 12/20/2024





Inflation Watch

MAJOR COMMODITY INDICES Y/Y



S&P GSCI Softs Index: 53.0%

RJ-CRB TR: 14.8% S&P GSCI Non-Energy TR: 7.4% S&P GSCI TR: 4.9% S&P GSCI Energy TR: 2.8%



Commodity	1 Month	3 Months	YTD ↓	1 Year
Bitcoin	7.7%	58.1%	131.6%	128.7%
Coffee	15.3	23.0	71.9	54.5
Natural Gas	20.6	56.9	42.6	43.2
Gold	-0.7	1.4	25.7	28.0
Silver	-6.6	-4.1	22.0	22.1
US Dollar (DXY)	2.0	7.8	6.9	5.7
S&P GSCI	0.2	2.0	6.4	5.4
Lumber	-7.0	9.8	4.0	4.0
Copper	-1.6	-5.4	3.8	4.9
BBG Commodity Index	-1.2	-0.6	-2.1	-2.6
Crude Oil	0.3	-0.3	-3.5	-4.6
Corn	2.7	6.7	-6.5	-7.6
Gasoline	-4.7	-4.4	-8.6	-10.9
Cotton	1.9	-2.5	-16.2	-14.1
Soybeans	-4.6	-5.0	-25.6	-27.4

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