

ECONOMIC UPDATE 03/02/2012

Key:



- Currency positive



- Currency negative

US

Challenger Job cuts, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	38.9%y/y	30.6%y/y	

RBC Consumer Outlook Index, February

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	45.1	45.8	

Non-farm Productivity/Unit Labour Costs, Q4

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
0.8%q/q	0.7%q/q	2.3%q/q	1.9%q/q
0.8%q/q	1.2%q/q	-2.5%q/q	-2.1%q/q

- * Productivity eases as unit labour costs rise as firms begin to increase hiring
- * In previous months firms have slashed labour costs to increase profits and expand productivity in order to drive output
- * But it seems that firms have exhausted productivity gains as demand picks up and are beginning to hire more workers – which has also pushed up Q4 unit labour costs.

Initial Jobless Claims, Jan-28

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
371K	367K	377K	379K

ISM New York, January



Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	60.1	51.1	



Bloomberg Consumer Comfort, Jan-29

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
-45.0	-44.8	-46.4	

Slightly positive US data: Strong sentiment data and initial jobless claims in line with expectations but some good news for payrolls as Q4 productivity and labour costs data suggests further hiring in the months ahead.

FED WATCH: (Bloomberg/CNBC):

- * BERNANKE – Sees no signs of higher inflation or weaker USD
 - Sees some signs of improvement in economy
 - But US economy vulnerable to shocks (Esp. from EMU crisis)
 - Repeats FOMC statement of low rates until late 2014
 - Urged lawmakers to do more to get Fiscal deficit in order
 - But take care not to unnecessarily impede the current recovery
 - Improvements in the housing market key to growth
 - Fed won't tolerate higher inflation to spur jobs

EUROZONE

PPI, December

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
-0.1% m/m 4.3% y/y	-0.2% m/m 4.3% y/y	0.2% m/m 5.3% y/y	5.4% y/y

GERMANY

FRANCE

UK

BOE WATCH: (Bloomberg):

- * POSEN – There is a case for another £75bn QE stimulus
 - Legislation may be needed to help boost SME lending

JAPAN

SWITZERLAND

AUSTRALIA

PMI Services, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	51.9	49.0	

* Highest reading since August

NEW ZEALAND

NORWAY

Unemployment Rate, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
2.8%	2.8%	2.4%	

SWEDEN

CANADA

BRAZIL

MEXICO

CHILE

COLOMBIA

PERU

CHINA

Non-Manuf. PMI, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	52.9	56.0	

- * A slowdown in the non-manuf. PMI index – but still growing
- * Also data affected by Chinese New Year – which should be a drag on most retail/macro data
- * But not to read too much in the month-to-month data as the series is non-seasonally adjusted (see chart)

HSBC Non-Manuf. PMI, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	52.5	52.5	

SINGAPORE

HONG KONG

INDIA

PMI Services, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	58.0	54.2	

KOREA

TAIWAN

PHILIPPINES

MALAYSIA

RUSSIA

PMI Services, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
	56.5	53.8	

TURKEY

CPI, January

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
0.47% m/m 10.56% y/y	0.56% m/m 10.61% y/y	0.58% m/m 10.45% y/y	

SOUTH AFRICA

POLAND

CZECH REPUBLIC

Repo Rate Announcement, February

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
0.75%	0.75%	0.75%	

Retail Sales, December

Forecast	Actual	Prior	Revised
0.5% y/y	1.6% y/y	0.5% y/y	

HUNGARY

ISRAEL

