Marlborough | 40 1985 – 2025

**Multi-Asset** Investment Solutions

# Weekly Market Review

**Author**
Nick Warmisham
Investment Analyst

Date: 10/08/2026

## **Market recap** – US stocks hit fresh record highs, though the FTSE lags stronger Europe

Global stock markets advanced strongly over the week, several US indices closing at record highs, helped by strong earnings, artificial intelligence (AI) enthusiasm and Strait of Hormuz deal hopes (all returns quoted in sterling terms unless stated otherwise). In the US, the S&P 500 rose 3.4% and the technology-heavy Nasdaq 100 gained 4.9%, as a weak jobs report (more below) eased fears of higher US interest rates. European markets also advanced, the MSCI Europe (excluding the UK) index up 2.4%, led by Germany's DAX, while the FTSE 100 lagged, adding just 0.5% as UK investors stayed cautious. In Japan, the TOPIX gained 2.4%, supported by a weaker yen. Chinese mainland stocks outperformed, but the wider MSCI Asia Pacific (excluding Japan) and MSCI Emerging Markets indices slipped.

## **Geopolitics** – Hopes grow for a Strait of Hormuz deal

Hopes grew during the week for a deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the key route for Middle Eastern oil, driving oil prices sharply lower. Optimism faded after reports that any agreement could restrict passage for US and Israeli vessels, and further attacks on shipping underlined how fragile the situation remains.

## **Central banks** – Weak US jobs data slashes the odds of a September Fed rate rise

There were no scheduled central bank meetings, but policy expectations shifted meaningfully. In the US, the weak jobs report led investors to pare back the odds of a Federal Reserve interest rate rise in September, with the probability implied by futures markets falling to around 42% from roughly 55% before the report. US government bond yields fell in response. The Bank of Japan was still seen as open to a September rise.

## **News** – US employers unexpectedly cut jobs, easing pressure on the Fed

US employers unexpectedly cut 23,000 jobs in July, against expectations for a gain of around 80,000 and the weakest reading since February, with the previous two months revised sharply lower. The unemployment rate nonetheless edged down to 4.1%.

## **Economic data –** Resilient US activity contrasts with weaker data in Japan and China

US business activity proved resilient. The ISM manufacturing survey, a gauge of factory activity, rose to 55.6 in July, with the services measure steady at 54.1. In the eurozone, the services purchasing managers' index (PMI) rose to a five-month high of 51.7, and in the UK the services PMI returned to growth at 52.1. In Japan, household spending fell 3.3% year on year, much weaker than expected. In China, a private manufacturing survey slowed but stayed in expansion.

## Commodities

**Brent crude oil fell around 5% over the week to just above $83 a barrel**, as hopes of a deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz weighed on prices, though easing supply disruption remained far from certain.

**Gold rose around 7% to above $4,350 an ounce**, its highest in two months, as falling bond yields and reduced expectations of a near-term Federal Reserve rate rise boosted the appeal of an asset that pays no income.

## **Week ahead –** What to watch

US: consumer price index (CPI) inflation figures, the key release for the Federal Reserve's September decision; producer price index (PPI) figures.

UK: second-quarter economic growth (gross domestic product, or GDP) figures.

Source Marlborough Multi-Asset, Morningstar


### Risk Warnings

These are the views of the investment team at the time of writing and should not be construed as investment advice. The opinions expressed are correct at time of writing and may be subject to change. Capital is at risk. The value and income from investments can go down as well as up and are not guaranteed. An investor may get back significantly less than they invest. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future performance and should not be the sole factor considered when selecting funds.

This document is a general communication being provided for informational purposes only. It is educational in nature and not designed to be taken as advice or a recommendation for any specific investment product, strategy, plan feature or other purpose in any jurisdiction, nor is it a commitment from Marlborough or any of its subsidiaries to participate in any of the transactions mentioned herein. Any examples used are generic, hypothetical and for illustration purposes only. This material does not contain sufficient information to support an investment decision and it should not be relied upon by you in evaluating the merits of investing in any securities or products. In addition, users should make an independent assessment of the legal, regulatory, tax, credit, and accounting implications and determine together with their own professional advisers if appropriate if any investment mentioned herein is believed to be suitable. Investors should ensure that they obtain all available relevant information before making any investment. Any forecasts, figures, opinions or investment techniques and strategies set out are for information purposes only, based on certain assumptions and current market conditions and are subject to change without prior notice. All information presented herein is considered to be accurate at the time of production, but no warranty of accuracy is given and no liability in respect of any error or omission is accepted.

### Regulatory Information

Issued in the UK by Marlborough Investment Management Limited, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (reference number 115231). Registered office: Marlborough House, 59 Chorley New Road, Bolton, BL1 4QP. Registered in England No. 01947598.

Issued in Europe by Marlborough Investment Management Limited (authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) on behalf of Marlborough ICAV (authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland). Marlborough ICAV is managed by TMF Fund Management (Ireland) Limited (authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland). Marlborough ICAV is registered under the laws of Ireland with registered number C186352 as an Irish Collective Asset Management Vehicle which is constituted as an open ended umbrella UCITS fund with segregated liability between sub funds. Directors: Raymond O'Neill (Irish), Dom Clarke (British), Brian Farrell (Irish) and Danny Knight (British). Registered office: Registered Office: Marlborough ICAV 88 Harcourt Street Dublin 2, Ireland. The fund is registered and approved under section 65 of CISCA. South African investors must read this document with the latest Minimum Disclosure Document & General Investor Report.



**Marlborough House, 59 Chorley New Road, Bolton, BL1 4QP**
**Intermediary Support.** 0808 145 2502
**Email.** salessupport@marlboroughgroup.com
**Website.** marlboroughgroup.com


Marlborough