

GLOBAL WEEKLY ECONOMIC NEWS IN THE ADVANCED ECONOMIES

(2 November 2020 – 6 November 2020)

Countries	Highlights
<p>US</p> <p>US job growth slows; millions experiencing long bouts of unemployment</p>	<p>The US economy created the fewest jobs in five months in October and more Americans are working part time, underscoring the challenges the next president faces to keep the recovery from the pandemic on track as fiscal stimulus dries up and new COVID-19 cases explode across the country. The Labor Department's closely watched employment report also showed 3.6 million people out of work for more than six months. Nonfarm payrolls increased by 638,000 jobs last month after rising by 672,000 in September. That was the smallest gain since the jobs recovery started in May and left employment 10.1 million below its peak in February. Employment was held back by the departure of 147,000 temporary workers hired for the 2020 Census.</p> <p><i>(Source: Reuters, 6 November 2020)</i></p>
<p>UK</p> <p>UK airports could close without government support - industry body</p>	<p>British airports urged the Prime Minister to provide bespoke support for the sector, warning that without it some could shut, ruining government hopes for UK trade as the country seeks new economic ties beyond the European Union. A new lockdown in England started on Thursday, banning international leisure travel and wiping out the remaining meagre income airports had from the small number of passengers still flying despite quarantine rules. UK Airport industry group AOA said that the latest lockdown would lead to more job losses and could floor some operators. "Britain's global connectivity is on the line if government is not willing to support the industry," AOA said in a letter to Prime Minister Boris Johnson. The situation was "unsustainable" and a package of support was needed, the letter said.</p> <p><i>(Source: Reuters, 6 November 2020)</i></p>
<p>JAPAN</p> <p>Japan's Suga says stable currency moves 'extremely important'</p>	<p>Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga vowed to work closely with overseas authorities to keep currency moves stable, signalling his readiness to respond to any yen spike that threatens to derail the country's fragile economic recovery. Suga's remarks followed those by Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda, who said the central bank will work closely with financial authorities to help keep currency moves stable. The dollar fell to 103.59 yen in Asia on Friday, close to an eight-month low, as a contentious US presidential election diminished hopes for large stimulus to support the economy any time soon. A yen spike has historically been a trigger for monetary easing by the BOJ and jawboning from authorities keen to prevent yen rises from hurting Japan's export-reliant economy.</p> <p><i>(Source: Reuters, 6 November 2020)</i></p>
<p>CHINA</p> <p>China considers 5% annual GDP growth target for next five years: sources</p>	<p>China's policymakers are close to setting an average annual economic growth target of around 5% for the next five years, at the lower end of ranges previously considered as global risks cloud the outlook. No decisions have yet been made as the government is still drafting detailed economic and social development goals under the five-year plan. President Xi Jinping and others laid out a blueprint for China's five-year plan and key objectives for the next 15 years. They include a goal to turn China into a "high income" nation by 2025 and advance to a "moderately developed" nation by 2035, which implies income of more than USD20,000 per person. The World Bank defines "high income" countries as those with per capita gross national income of above USD12,535. China's per capita income reached USD10,410 in 2019.</p> <p><i>(Source: Reuters, 5 November 2020)</i></p>