

# GLOBAL WEEKLY ECONOMIC NEWS IN THE ADVANCED ECONOMIES

(25 October 2021 – 29 October 2021)

| Countries  | Highlights  |
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| <p><b>US</b></p> <p><b>US growth slows to just 2% as Delta hits economy</b></p>                                  | <p>US economic growth slowed sharply in the third quarter of the year, as the fast-spreading Delta variant of coronavirus dampened consumer spending. The economy expanded at an annualised rate of just 2% in the three months to September - down from 6.7% in the previous quarter. It came as the US faced supply chain issues, rising inflation and new Covid restrictions in some places. But infection rates are falling and some experts think growth will pick up. On a non-annualised basis, the growth figure was 0.5%. During the third quarter, the Commerce Department said, a "resurgence of Covid-19 cases resulted in new restrictions and delays in the reopening of establishments in some parts of the country".</p> <p>(Source: BBC, 28 October 2021)</p>  |
| <p><b>UK</b></p> <p><b>UK wants to be the first major economy to force companies to reveal climate risks</b></p> | <p>The United Kingdom is pushing ahead with legislation that will force more than 1,300 of its largest companies to disclose climate risks. Announcing the move ahead of the COP26 climate talks that start in Glasgow, the UK government said it plans to be the first major economy to require corporations to report climate-related risks and opportunities. The proposed law will apply to many of the largest traded companies on the London Stock Exchange, banks and insurers, as well as private companies with more than 500 employees and £500 million (\$690 million) in sales.</p> <p>(Source: CNN, 29 October 2021)</p>   |
| <p><b>JAPAN</b></p> <p><b>Japan's September factory output hit by global auto supply shortage</b></p>            | <p>Japan's factory output shrank for the third straight month in September as the auto sector was hit by a persistent global supply shortage, raising the risk of an economic contraction in the third quarter and throwing the recovery into doubt. Output disruptions across Asia and slowing growth in China have clouded the outlook for the world's third-biggest economy, which has depended heavily on exports to boost growth as the COVID-19 pandemic hurt domestic demand. Factory production slumped 5.4% in September from the previous month, official data showed on Friday, hurt by falling output of cars as well as general-purpose machinery. That meant output shrank for the third consecutive month, after falling 3.6% in August and 1.5% in July. It was the largest month-on-month decline since a 6.5% drop in May, and weaker than a 3.2% loss forecast in a Reuters poll of economist</p> <p>(Source: Nikkei Asia, 29 October 2021)</p>  |
| <p><b>CHINA</b></p> <p><b>China industrial profit growth accelerates in Sept despite cost pressures</b></p>      | <p>Profits at China's industrial firms rose at a faster pace in September despite surging prices and supply bottlenecks, thanks mainly to stellar growth in mining and raw materials industries although some businesses struggled to shake off the high costs. Profits jumped 16.3% on-year to 738.74 billion yuan (\$115.72 billion) the statistics bureau said, quickening from the 10.1% gain reported in August. The industrial sector has been hit by the surging price of coal, supply shortages and power rationing triggered by coal shortages due to emission reduction targets. But Beijing has taken a raft of measures to curb elevated metals prices and ease the country's power crunch, including urging coal miners to boost output and manage electricity demand at industrial plants. Profits in the coal mining and washing industry grew 172.2% over the first nine months. The fuel processing industry saw earnings skyrocket 930% over the same period.</p> <p>(Source: Reuters, 27 October 2021)</p> |