

Taking Stock

U.S. consumer prices fell in March; retail sales declined for a second consecutive month. The U.S. consumer price index (CPI) dropped 0.3 percent (m/m, sa) in March, reflecting a broad decline in consumer prices. The core CPI—which excludes food and energy prices—fell 0.1 percent, the first monthly decline since January 2010. Year-on-year, the headline CPI rose 2.4 percent, compared with a 2.7 percent increase in February. The core CPI edged down to 2 percent from 2.2 percent (Figure 1). Separately, U.S. retail sales fell 0.2 percent (m/m) in March, following a 0.3 percent decrease in February. Core retail sales—which excludes automobiles, gasoline, building materials and food services—rose 0.5 percent.

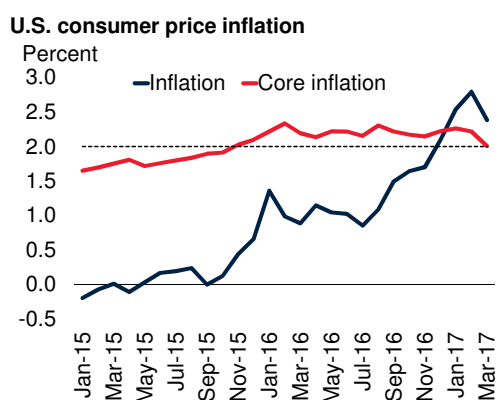
Euro Area industrial production fell in February. Euro Area industrial production fell 0.3 percent (m/m, sa) in February, in contrast to market expectations of a 0.2 percent increase. Industrial production growth for January was revised to 0.3 percent, down from an earlier estimate of a 0.9 percent expansion. The decline in industrial output was driven by falling production of energy and non-durable consumer goods.

Japan industrial production rebounded strongly in February; producer prices rose for a third consecutive month. The final reading of Japan's industrial production growth for February came in at 3.2 percent (m/m, sa), above both expectations and the preliminary estimate of 2.0 percent, following a contraction of 0.4 percent in January. The rebound reflected a pickup in the production of transport equipment and machinery. Meanwhile, Japan's producer price index rose 1.4 percent (y/y) in March—the highest since December 2014—bolstered by a rise in export prices.

China exports bounced back in March; producer price growth moderated. China's exports rose 16.4 percent (y/y) in dollar terms in March, reversing January's 1.3 percent decline. Imports rose 20.3 percent (y/y), after a 38.1 percent increase in January. The trade balance moved into a surplus of \$29.9bn, reversing the deficit of \$9.2bn recorded in January. China's producer price index (PPI) came in at 7.6 percent (y/y) in March, down from 7.8 percent in February. The March PPI reading—which eased for the first time in six months—reflected a slower rate of increase in global commodity prices.

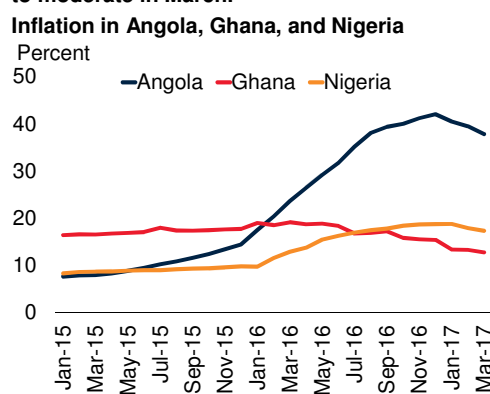
Inflation continued to moderate in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)'s commodity exporters in March. In Angola, consumer price inflation came in at 37.8 percent (y/y) in March, down from 39.4 percent in February. In Nigeria, the CPI fell from 17.8 percent (y/y) to 17.3 percent. These declines reflected the diminishing impact of past currency depreciations. Inflationary pressures remain elevated in Angola and Nigeria (Figure 2), partly on account of a still depreciating parallel market exchange rate. In Ghana, inflation slowed from 13.2 percent (y/y) in February to 12.8 percent in March, helped by a decrease in non-food prices and greater currency stability.

Figure 1 U.S. consumer price inflation edged down in March.



Source: Haver Analytics.

Figure 2 Inflation in large commodity exporters in SSA continued to moderate in March.



Source: Haver Analytics, World Bank.

Major Data Releases

(Percent change y-o-y)						(Percent change y-o-y)					
Recent releases: Fri, 7 April - Thu, 13 April 2017						Upcoming releases: Fri, 14 April - Thu, 20 April 2017					
Country	Date	Indicator	Period	Actual	Forecast Previous	Country	Date	Indicator	Period	Previous	
Denmark	4/10/17	CPI	MAR	1.0 %	1.0 %	1.0 %	New Zealand	4/17/17	CPI	Q1	1.3 %
Hungary	4/11/17	CPI	MAR	2.7 %	2.9 %	2.9 %	China	4/17/17	GDP	Q1	6.8 %
UK	4/11/17	CPI	MAR	2.3 %	2.3 %	2.3 %	Malaysia	4/19/17	CPI	MAR	4.5 %
Poland	4/11/17	CPI	MAR	2.0 %	2.2 %	2.2 %	South Africa	4/19/17	CPI	MAR	6.3 %
China	4/11/17	CPI	MAR	0.9 %	1.0%	0.8 %	Austria	4/19/17	CPI	MAR	2.2 %
Germany	4/13/17	CPI	MAR	1.6 %	2.2 %	2.2 %	Eurozone	4/19/17	CPI	MAR	2.0 %

Activity and Inflation

(Percent change y-o-y, except quarterly data on industrial production, which are percent change q-o-q, annualized)

	2016						2016						2017					
	2015	2016	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Industrial Production, sa¹																		
World	1.9	2.0	1.8	2.2	2.7	5.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.6	2.2	1.9	2.0	3.3	3.6	3.0	3.5
Advanced Economies	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	1.6	4.0	-1.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2	1.9	2.5	1.2	2.6
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	3.6	3.9	3.3	4.1	3.7	6.4	3.7	3.2	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.5	3.8	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.5
Commodity-exporting EMDE	0.2	1.2	0.7	1.5	2.4	4.5	-0.4	-0.7	0.6	1.7	2.0	1.3	0.9	1.3	2.2	3.3	2.9	-
Other EMDE	5.1	4.9	4.2	5.2	4.1	7.2	5.4	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.2	4.9	4.5	4.7	5.6	5.2	5.6	5.2
East Asia and Pacific	5.8	5.9	5.0	6.9	5.4	6.0	6.3	5.6	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.3	5.5	5.6	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1
East Asia excl. China	3.5	4.8	5.4	5.5	3.6	2.9	3.3	2.9	6.0	7.0	6.9	6.1	2.2	2.6	4.3	6.1	3.7	4.6
Europe and Central Asia	1.5	2.0	1.2	1.8	-2.9	9.2	1.6	2.7	2.6	2.1	0.2	1.8	0.5	1.5	2.6	2.5	4.2	1.2
Latin America and Caribbean	-3.1	-2.9	-3.2	0.0	0.7	-0.9	-4.1	-4.7	-4.0	-2.4	-2.1	-2.8	-2.0	-2.7	-0.9	1.1	0.1	1.3
Middle East and North Africa	2.8	-	3.1	-3.4	8.4	-	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.9	3.7	3.1	4.3	6.5	-	-	-	-
South Asia	4.1	1.1	3.2	3.9	0.0	0.4	2.0	-0.3	1.5	1.0	-0.5	0.7	0.4	-0.5	5.6	0.6	3.6	-0.6
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.1	0.9	1.1	7.0	-6.2	-3.3	-1.2	2.5	4.1	4.2	1.5	0.1	-0.1	-1.1	0.6	-0.9	0.2	-3.0
Inflation, sa²																		
World	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.3	2.5	2.5
Advanced Economies	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.8
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	2.2	2.4	2.7	3.0	2.9	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.9	3.5	3.5
Commodity-exporting EMDE	3.7	3.5	4.0	3.9	3.4	3.3	4.0	3.9	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.8
Other EMDE	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.8	1.6	1.7	0.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.5	3.2
East Asia and Pacific	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.9	2.4	2.4	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	3.0	3.5
Europe and Central Asia	1.6	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.4	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	1.3	2.0	2.5
Latin America and Caribbean	2.7	2.4	2.7	3.5	3.0	3.1	2.5	3.6	3.4	3.3	2.9	3.2	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.4
Middle East and North Africa	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.3	1.9	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.5	1.9	2.0	1.8	2.2	2.6
South Asia	4.5	4.9	3.8	5.3	5.3	3.9	4.0	4.6	5.2	5.6	5.7	5.2	5.0	4.2	3.7	3.7	3.7	4.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.7	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.7	5.9	4.7	5.3	4.8	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.9	5.7	6.2	6.7	6.9	6.7

¹ Industrial production is total production (may exclude construction). When data are unavailable, "industrial production, manufacturing" and "industrial production, manufacturing, non-durable manufacturing, petroleum and coal products, crude petroleum products" are used as proxies

² Median inflation rate for each grouping.

Trade and Finance

(Percent change y-o-y, except quarterly trade data, which are percent change q-o-q, annualized, and international reserves data, which are percent change over the previous period)

	2016						2016						2017					
	2015	2016	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Exports, Nominal, US\$, sa																		
World	-11.5	-3.0	-12.2	13.6	0.5	7.6	-3.9	-2.9	-3.1	-4.1	-6.7	2.8	-0.7	-3.3	4.9	4.1	10.5	7.7
Advanced Economies	-11.3	-0.8	-4.9	15.1	0.2	3.8	-3.7	-0.1	-0.5	-2.4	-5.3	5.5	1.5	-1.8	6.1	5.7	9.4	8.3
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	-12.0	-6.5	-23.2	10.8	0.9	15.1	-4.5	-7.4	-7.5	-7.0	-9.1	-1.7	-4.4	-5.6	3.0	1.7	12.8	6.9
Commodity-exporting EMDE	-24.2	-9.1	-27.1	14.8	5.6	29.2	-16.9	-14.3	-12.1	-13.2	-15.1	-1.9	-1.8	-5.6	7.8	8.3	27.2	-
Other EMDE	-3.7	-4.6	-20.4	9.3	-0.7	10.2	3.7	-3.2	-4.6	-3.1	-5.6	-1.0	-4.9	-5.0	1.8	-0.4	7.9	2.5
East Asia and Pacific	-3.5	-6.1	-24.3	10.1	-0.7	11.0	5.0	-4.9	-6.1	-5.4	-6.9	-1.7	-6.8	-5.8	1.7	-2.1	9.3	2.6
Europe and Central Asia	-20.7	-6.1	-19.2	18.3	-0.2	20.3	-13.2	-8.0	-10.6	-4.2	-8.8	0.5	-1.1	-3.6	6.5	7.7	22.1	12.7
Latin America and Caribbean	-11.9	-2.4	-5.8	6.0	7.6	15.1	-9.4	-5.4	-2.0	-8.0	-7.6	2.6	2.8	-4.5	10.2	11.1	14.7	12.5
Middle East and North Africa	-27.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Asia	-4.8	1.7	5.5	4.4	-18.0	33.1	-0.2	1.2	-0.3	5.1	-4.0	5.8	-3.2	10.7	3.4	0.2	2.4	1.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	-27.3	-13.2	-40.1	30.4	-10.3	39.6	-21.7	-12.8	-13.3	-14.6	-21.3	-13.0	-3.4	-10.4	2.2	7.0	-	-
Imports, Nominal, US\$, sa																		
World	-6.8	-5.3	-23.6	15.8	-16.3	21.0	-9.1	4.2	-4.2	-4.4	-10.9	-6.9	-5.7	-9.7	3.5	-1.7	11.5	5.6
Advanced Economies	-12.5	-3.4	-8.9	8.0	-2.3	1.7	-6.6	-4.0	-1.9	-4.6	-8.1	1.7	-1.9	-5.0	2.3	1.1	9.3	3.6
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	-3.3	-6.4	-30.8	20.7	-23.8	34.3	-10.5	9.1	-5.5	-4.3	-12.4	-11.6	-7.9	-12.2	4.3	-3.3	12.8	6.9
Commodity-exporting EMDE	-0.9	-7.2	-33.2	22.2	-30.1	39.3	-11.6	14.0	-6.8	-4.0	-12.8	-15.6	-9.9	-15.0	4.2	-5.3	12.1	-
Other EMDE	-11.5	-3.5	-21.0	15.4	2.9	18.6	-6.3	-7.7	-0.7	-5.7	-11.3	3.5	-0.2	-0.5	5.1	3.5	15.5	23.7
East Asia and Pacific	-13.1	-3.8	-23.9	16.7	6.5	21.3	-5.2	-8.5	0.4	-6.8	-10.9	5.6	-0.2	-0.8	5.9	5.2	17.1	33.5
Europe and Central Asia	-20.8	-1.3	1.5	12.4	-2.9	6.9	-3.7	-3.6	-0.7	0.3	-9.6	8.9	1.5	0.8	5.9	6.4	21.0	7.6
Latin America and Caribbean	-9.8	-7.4	-15.6	4.8	4.1	4.1	-14.7	-9.7	-6.2	-8.8	-15.5	1.6	-3.3	-8.5	1.5	3.9	11.2	5.0
Middle East and North Africa	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Asia	-13.2	-5.4	-27.6	6.1	10.9	51.4	-18.4	-17.9	-8.5	-5.9	-13.8	-9.1	1.1	7.9	10.2	2.2	14.8	23.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	-7.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
International Reserves, US\$¹																		
World	-5.9	-1.1	0.7	0.8	0.4	-3.3	1.0	0.7	-0.7	0.8	0.3	-0.1	0.2	-1.1	-1.7	-0.6	0.7	0.2
Advanced Economies	0.6	4.4	3.7	1.7	1.4	-2.5	1.5	1.0	-0.6	1.4	0.5	0.1	0.9	-0.7	-1.5	-0.2	1.5	0.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	-9.9	-4.8	-1.2	0.2	-0.2	-3.9	0.8	0.5	-0.8	0.5	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-1.4	-1.8	-0.9	0.1	0.2
Commodity-exporting EMDE	-11.1	-	-1.0	-0.7	-0.2	-	0.6	0.3	-0.9	0.0	0.4	-0.5	-0.1	-1.7	-1.1	-	-	-
Other EMDE	-9.1	-5.7	-1.2	0.7	-0.3	-4.5	0.9	0.7	-0.8	0.7	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-1.2	-2.1	-1.2	0.0	0.3
East Asia and Pacific	-11.3	-7.3	-1.8	0.3	-0.7	-4.9	0.7	0.5	-1.0	0.9	0.0	-0.3	-0.4	-1.3	-2.4	-1.2	-0.1	0.4
Europe and Central Asia	-6.3	4.4	4.1	2.7	1.2	-3.9	1.6	1.5	-0.2	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	-0.8	-1.7	-1.4	2.1	0.6
Latin America and Caribbean	-5.3	1.1	0.1	0.7	1.6	-0.9	0.7	0.8	-0.2	0.1	1.6	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.6	0.1	0.5	0.4
Middle East and North Africa	-17.1	-	-3.6	-2.6	-2.0	-	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8	-1.3	-0.7	-0.8	-0.5	-2.6	-	-	-	-
South Asia	11.6	3.5	1.0	2.0	3.3	-2.8	2.3	1.9	-0.8	0.8	1.4	0.6	1.4	-1.0	-0.9	-0.9	-0.1	0.5
Sub-Saharan Africa	-12.0	-	-2.0	-1.9	-	-	0.9	0.4	-1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Total reserves excluding gold are used as proxies when total reserves data are unavailable.



Financial Markets

	2016												2017			MRV ¹			
	2015	2016	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Jan	Feb	Mar
Interest rates and LIBOR (percent)																			
U.S. Fed Funds Effective	0.13	0.40	0.37	0.37	0.39	0.45	0.37	0.36	0.38	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.55	0.66	0.66	0.79	0.91
ECB repo	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
US\$ LIBOR 3-months	0.32	0.74	0.62	0.64	0.79	0.92	0.63	0.65	0.65	0.70	0.81	0.85	0.88	0.91	0.98	1.03	1.04	1.13	1.16
EURIBOR 3-months	-0.02	-0.26	-0.19	-0.26	-0.30	-0.31	-0.25	-0.26	-0.27	-0.29	-0.30	-0.30	-0.31	-0.31	-0.32	-0.33	-0.33	-0.33	-0.33
US 10-yr Treasury yield	2.12	1.84	1.92	1.75	1.56	2.12	1.79	1.80	1.64	1.48	1.56	1.63	1.74	2.12	2.50	2.44	2.42	2.47	2.25
German Bund, 10 yr	0.54	0.14	0.32	0.12	-0.07	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.01	-0.09	-0.07	-0.05	0.03	0.22	0.30	0.34	0.32	0.39	0.20
Spreads (basis points)																			
JP Morgan Emerging Markets	415	410	478	419	372	369	421	418	418	387	367	361	357	380	370	354	338	329	335
Asia	224	221	264	227	197	197	224	223	233	210	190	191	192	201	198	185	173	166	177
Europe	348	302	339	305	282	283	308	305	303	290	282	273	274	294	282	272	258	253	256
Latin America & Caribbean	540	537	645	551	477	475	559	552	541	496	473	463	453	491	481	463	442	431	432
Middle East	456	517	555	538	508	467	539	530	545	540	492	493	487	475	438	416	396	377	356
Africa	415	518	626	548	461	436	546	552	546	494	448	440	441	444	422	401	387	380	410
Stock Indices (end of period)																			
Global (MSCI)	399	424	395	399	418	424	403	403	399	414	417	418	413	413	424	433	445	449	445
Advanced Economies (\$ Index)	1663	1761	1638	1653	1726	1761	1671	1675	1653	1713	1720	1726	1697	1712	1761	1792	1839	1854	1833
United States (S&P 500)	2044	2258	2051	2099	2168	2258	2065	2097	2099	2170	2171	2168	2139	2199	2258	2279	2364	2363	2329
Europe (S&P Euro 350)	1474	1475	1352	1339	1388	1475	1379	1399	1339	1376	1390	1388	1377	1388	1475	1463	1501	1547	1540
Japan (Nikkei 225)	18817	19302	16555	15576	16450	19302	16407	17235	15576	16556	16887	16450	17050	18604	19302	19035	19342	18909	18427
Emerging Market and Developing Economies (MSCI)	794	861	821	834	903	861	840	807	834	879	894	903	908	863	861	909	936	958	963
EM Asia	404	419	404	407	448	419	405	400	407	431	442	448	444	426	419	443	459	474	476
EM Europe	244	295	272	265	273	295	288	268	265	264	269	273	274	273	295	302	296	301	297
EM Europe & Middle East	211	248	230	225	233	248	243	225	225	227	232	233	232	230	248	253	249	252	249
EM Latin America & Caribbean	1830	2341	2121	2269	2381	2341	2292	2038	2269	2359	2402	2381	2608	2330	2341	2516	2600	2611	2606
Exchange Rates (LCU / USD)																			
Advanced Economies																			
Euro Area	0.90	0.90	0.91	0.89	0.90	0.93	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.91	0.93	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94
Japan	121.00	108.80	115.23	107.96	102.36	109.63	109.57	108.97	105.34	104.09	101.31	101.69	103.72	108.90	116.28	115.03	112.96	112.91	109.12
Emerging and Developing Economies																			
Brazil	3.33	3.49	3.91	3.51	3.25	3.28	3.56	3.54	3.42	3.28	3.21	3.25	3.18	3.33	3.35	3.20	3.10	3.13	3.14
China	6.29	6.65	6.54	6.53	6.67	6.84	6.48	6.53	6.59	6.68	6.65	6.67	6.74	6.85	6.92	6.89	6.87	6.90	6.89
Egypt	7.70	10.12	8.04	8.87	8.87	14.71	8.87	8.86	8.87	8.87	8.87	8.88	9.25	16.34	18.56	18.68	17.01	17.76	18.10
India	64.14	67.19	67.50	66.91	66.94	67.39	66.49	66.93	67.29	67.18	66.91	66.74	66.73	67.60	67.86	68.06	67.01	65.83	64.41
Russia	61.34	67.06	74.84	65.84	64.61	62.95	66.54	65.96	65.01	64.43	64.93	64.48	62.57	64.25	62.03	59.76	58.42	57.83	56.29
South Africa	12.77	14.71	15.83	15.01	14.07	13.92	14.62	15.36	15.05	14.40	13.79	14.01	13.92	13.96	13.88	13.60	13.17	12.95	13.45
Memo: U.S. nominal effective rate (index)	114.7	119.7	120.3	117.5	118.4	122.5	116.5	117.8	118.2	118.9	117.8	118.6	119.7	122.9	124.8	123.0	122.5	121.8	121.8

¹ MRV = Most Recent Value.

Commodity Prices

	2016												2017			MRV ¹			
	2015	2016	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Jan	Feb	Mar
Energy ²	65	55	43	56	57	64	51	57	59	57	58	58	64	59	68	69	69	65	65
Non-energy ²	82	80	76	81	82	83	80	81	83	82	82	81	81	83	84	85	87	85	85
Agriculture ²	89	89	85	91	91	90	88	91	94	92	91	90	90	90	89	91	91	89	89
Metals and minerals ²	68	64	59	62	64	71	63	61	61	64	65	64	65	73	75	76	79	79	72
Memo items:																			
Crude oil, average (\$/bbl)	51	43	33	45	45	49	41	46	48	44	45	45	49	45	53	54	54	51	54
Gold (\$/toz)	1161	1249	1181	1260	1334	1221	1242	1261	1276	1337	1340	1327	1267	1238	1157	1192	1234	1231	1231
Baltic Dry Index	711	676	363	613	736	994	608	623	608	707	675	826	870	1080	1031	913	760	1142	1282

Source: World Bank, World Bank Commodities Price Data (The Pink Sheet), Bloomberg

¹ MRV = Most Recent Value.

² Indexes, 2010 = 100.