MarketDesk U.S. Inflation Indicators

Forecasting U.S. Inflation Trends

Current Takeaway

Broad inflation pressures quickly fading; Fed still focused on Services CPI (notoriously the most difficult to forecast)

Overview of Indicators

MarketDesk maintains indicators for inflation based on headline consumer price index (CPI) data and five main CPI categories: Food, Shelter, Energy, Commodities (ex Food & Energy), and Services. These indicators use 21 macroeconomic inputs that have been shown to have a high statistical correlation with future inflation trends, including wages, employment, money supply, commodity prices, energy prices, home values, movements in the value of the U.S. dollar, regional Federal surveys, and freight indices.

Figure 51 - MarketDesk U.S. CPI Leading Indicator

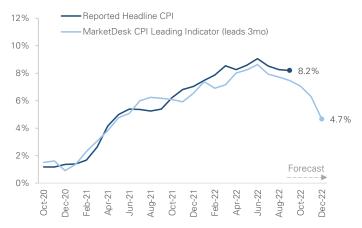
Composite Indicator & Historical U.S. Headline CPI since 2000



Source: www.QuantPack.com, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

Figure 53 – Recent History of MarketDesk U.S. CPI Leading Indicator

Last Two Years of Composite Indicator & Historical U.S. Headline CPI



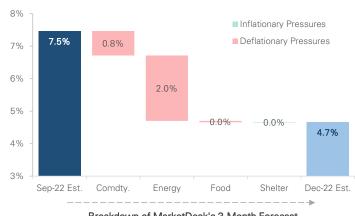
Source: www.QuantPack.com, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

How to Use

The U.S. Inflation Indicator is designed to forecast the direction and approximate magnitude of changes in inflation over the next three to six months. It is important to note that inflation is difficult to model accurately due to one-time, idiosyncratic factors. As a result, the indicator is not intended to provide exact predictions of future inflation rates. Instead, investors should focus on the two main model outputs: the direction of headline CPI and the movement of each underlying category in order to understand the current drivers of inflation. By analyzing these outputs, investors can gain insight into the likely trajectory of inflation.

Figure 52 – Breakdown of MarketDesk's CPI Forecast by Category

Next Three Month Change in the Indicator's Forecast by Category

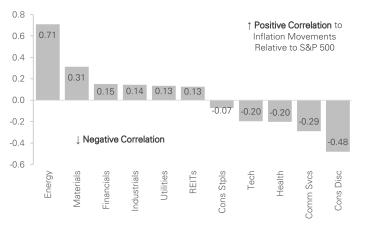


Breakdown of MarketDesk's 3-Month Forecast

Source: www.QuantPack.com. Note: Our Services CPI Indicator (see next page) is not included in the calculation of our Headline CPI Forecast due to lower accuracy.

Figure 54 – U.S. Sector Correlation to Inflation Movements

Calculations Based on Relative Y/Y Returns vs S&P 500 over the Last 20 Years



Source: www.QuantPack.com

Inflation

MarketDesk U.S. Inflation Indicators (Cont.)

31%

Shelter

(i.e. Housing)

Forecasting U.S. Inflation Trends

Figure 55 – Key Components of U.S. Headline CPI
CPI Category Weights

Energy

8%

Services
(Less Shelter)

Source: www.QuantPack.com, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

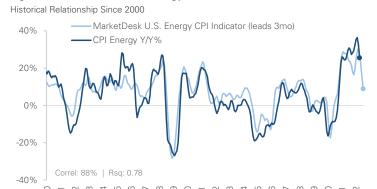
20%

Commodities

(Less Food

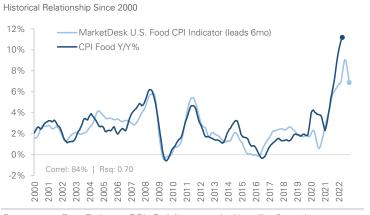
& Energy)

Figure 57 - MarketDesk U.S. Energy CPI Indicator



Source: www.QuantPack.com, DOL. Both lines smoothed by rolling 3-month average.

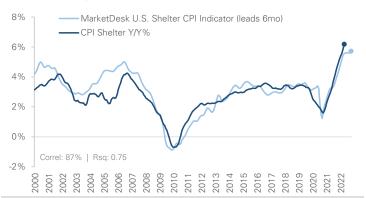
Figure 59 - MarketDesk U.S. Food CPI Indicator



 $Source: www. Quant Pack. com, \ DOL. \ Both \ lines \ smoothed \ by \ rolling \ 3-month \ average.$

Figure 56 - MarketDesk U.S. Shelter CPI Indicator

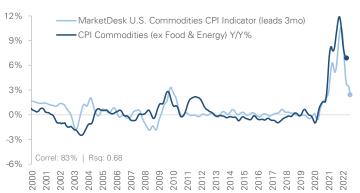
Historical Relationship Since 2000



Source: www.QuantPack.com, DOL. Both lines smoothed by rolling 3-month average.

Figure 58 - MarketDesk U.S. Commodities CPI Indicator

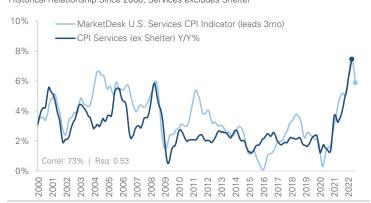
Historical Relationship Since 2000; Commodities excludes Food & Energy



Source: www.QuantPack.com, DOL. Both lines smoothed by rolling 3-month average.

Figure 60 - MarketDesk U.S. Services CPI Indicator

Historical Relationship Since 2000; Services excludes Shelter



 $Source: www. Quant Pack. com, \ DOL. \ Both \ lines \ smoothed \ by \ rolling \ 3-month \ average.$



Weekly Quant Pack

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Website

www.QuantPack.com

Contact Us

Support@QuantPack.com

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