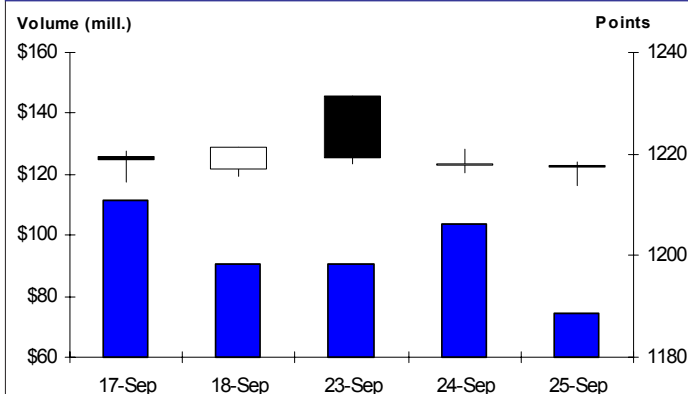


#### WEEKLY CLOSING IN MAJOR MARKET INDICES

	18-Sep	25-Sep	%wow	%ytd
KL Composite	1221.2	1217.39	-0.3	38.9
Dow Jones	9820.2	9665.19	-1.6	10.1
Nikkei 225	10370.54	10265.98	-1.0	15.9
DAX Index	5703.83	5581.41	-2.1	16.0
UK FTSE100	5172.89	5082.2	-1.8	14.6
AUS ORD 30	4693.7	4714.8	0.4	28.8
STI Index	2647.91	2662.82	0.6	51.2
Hang Seng	21623.45	21024.4	-2.8	46.1
SSE Index	2962.667	2838.842	-4.2	55.9

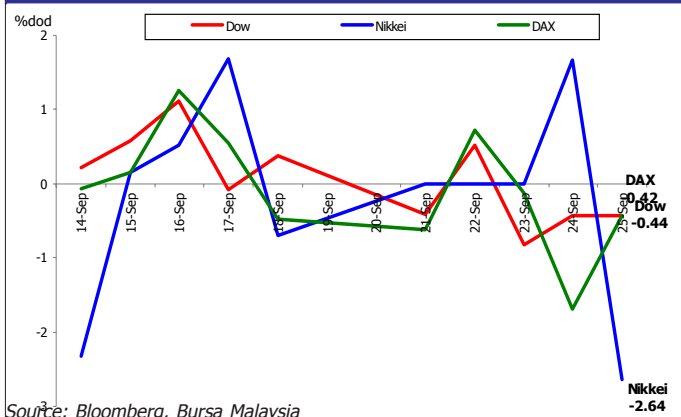
Source: Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia

#### KLCI DAILY PERFORMANCE



Source: Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia

#### MAJOR STOCK INDICES (DAILY % CHANGE)

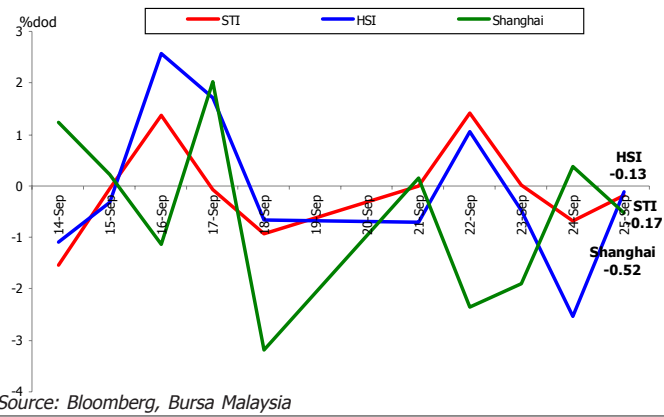


Source: Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia

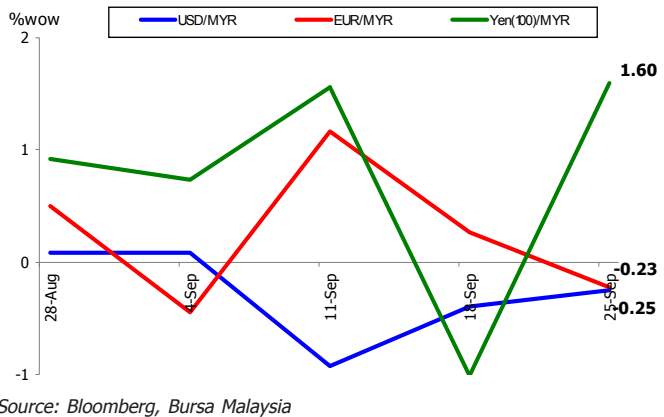
#### STOCK MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. stocks fell the most since July last week as disappointing housing and durable goods reports raised concern that the market's record six-month rally has outpaced the prospects for an economic recovery.** Home Depot Inc. and General Electric Co. dropped as sales of new homes rose less than forecast and demand for goods made to last several years unexpectedly fell. Bank of America Corp. and American Express Co. lost more than 4.8% after the Federal Reserve said it will cut the size of two programs meant to bolster credit markets. Commodity producers declined as crude oil and metals prices retreated.
- U.K. stocks declined last week following a string of negative earnings news and coupled with report showed sales of existing U.S. homes unexpectedly fell and the Federal Reserve said it will cut the size of two programs meant to bolster credit markets.** 3i Group Plc, Europe's biggest publicly traded private equity firm, retreated 2.9% after the pace of new investments sank 75%. British Airways Plc slid 3.9% as Citigroup Inc. downgraded the shares. London Stock Exchange Group Plc lost 2.7% as trading volume dropped.
- German stocks fell after report showed sales of existing U.S. homes declined and German business confidence rose less than economists estimated,** fueling concern the pace of the global economic recovery is slowing. Salzgitter AG and ThyssenKrupp AG, the country's biggest steelmakers, dropped at least 1.8% as metal prices retreated. Siemens AG, which made almost 20% of its revenue in the U.S. last year, slid 2.3%.
- Japanese stocks sank, sending the Nikkei index to its biggest slide in three months, after Nomura Holdings Inc. said it will sell new shares and as the Group of 20 nations discuss tighter capital requirements for banks.** Nomura, Japan's largest brokerage, tumbled 16% after announcing the issuance of stock that will dilute existing share value by about 30%. Mizuho Financial Group Inc. slumped 4.4% amid concern bad loans are increasing at banks. Japan Airlines Corp. dived 7.6% after its turnaround plan failed to satisfy the government. K.K. daVinci Holdings tumbled 10% on speculation the company can't repay a loan.

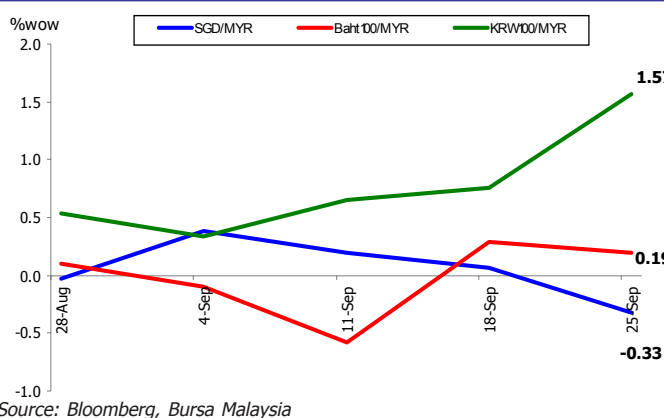
## REGIONAL STOCK INDICES (DAILY % CHANGE)



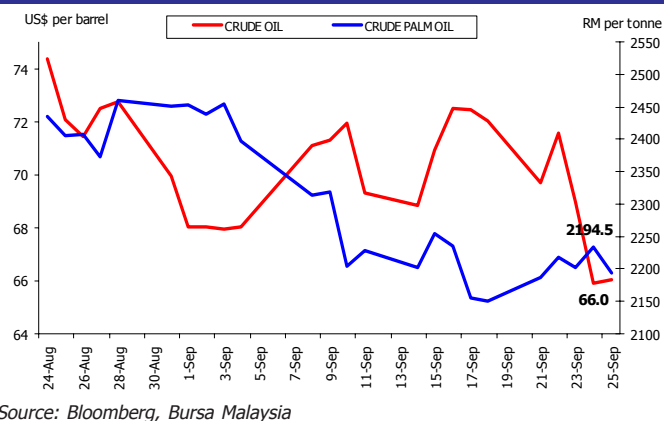
## RINGGIT vs MAJOR CURRENCIES (WEEKLY % CHANGE)



## RINGGIT vs REGIONAL CURRENCIES (WEEKLY % CHANGE)



## CRUDE OIL vs CRUDE PALM OIL



- China stocks fell, with the Shanghai Composite Index completing its biggest weekly loss in six weeks, as commodity prices slumped and investors speculated rising stock supply will divert funds from existing equities.** Jiangxi Copper Co. dropped 3.7% and Zijin Mining Group Co. lost 2.8%. Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd. slid 1% after the China Securities Journal said about US\$289 billion of stock will become tradable on the country's exchanges next month.
- Malaysia's stock market lost 0.3% last week after four straight weekly advances, mirroring other global benchmarks, amid thin trading following the Raya holidays.** Tanjong Plc., MMC Corp. Bhd. and Tenaga Nasional Bhd. were the top three losers last week as mixed global economic data sparked profit-taking activities. Plantation stocks were also under selling pressure last week after independent surveyor, Intertek, reported that Malaysia's palm oil exports fell 3.7% in the first 25 days of September, compared with the same period the previous month. IJM Plantations Bhd. 2.1% while Boustead Holdings Bhd. declined 1.1%. Malaysia Airlines Bhd. however bucked the trend with a 1.7% gain after its new managing director announced that he plans to give an update on his business plans on Oct. 2. Banks continued to be investors' favorite, with RHB Capital gained the most among FBM-KLCI members following a series of rating upgrades.

## ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

- US leading economic indicators rose for the fifth straight month in August,** capping the longest stretch of gains since 2004 and signaling a recovery is under way. The Conference Board's gauge of the economic outlook for the next three to six months rose 0.6% after a 0.9% increase in July. The index of coincident indicators, a gauge of current economic activity, was unchanged in August after increasing 0.1% the prior month.
- US mortgage applications jumped in the week ended September 18** to the highest level since May as lower borrowing costs spurred refinancing and purchases. The Mortgage Bankers Association's Index of applications to purchase a home or refinance a loan rose 13% to 668.5 from 596.8 in the prior week. The average rate on a 30-year fixed loan dropped under 5% for the first time since May, decreasing to 4.97% from 5.08% the prior week. The rate reached 4.61% at the end of March, the lowest level since 1990.
- US initial jobless claims dropped in the week ended September 19** to the lowest in two months, another sign firings are slowing as the economy pulls out of the recession. Applications fell by 21,000 to 530,000 from a 551,000 the week before. The four-week moving average of initial applications, a less volatile measure, fell to 553,500, the

lowest since January, from 564,500. The total number of people collecting insurance fell in the prior week to 6.14 million.

- **US existing home sales fell in August** for the first time since March, signaling the housing recovery will be slow to gain speed. Purchases dropped 2.7% in August to a 5.1 million annual rate, the second-highest level in the last 23 months. Purchases of existing home were up 3.4% compared with a year earlier.
- **The US Federal Reserve left the key interest rates unchanged on September 22** amid a modest increase in economic activity. In a statement, the central bank said US economic activity has picked up following a severe downturn, but remains weak. As a result, the Federal Reserve says it plans to keep interest rates unchanged for an extended period. The Fed has kept interest rates at just above zero percent since late 2008, coinciding with the deepest and longest recession since World War II.
- **US consumer confidence rose in September** to the highest level since January 2008 as the pace of job losses slowed and the economy started to pull out of the worst recession since Great Depression. The Reuters/University of Michigan final index of consumer sentiment increased to 73.5 in September from 65.7 in August.
- **US new home sales climbed in August** to the highest level in almost a year as builders cut prices at a record pace to compete with the foreclosures that are flooding the market for previously owned houses. Sales increased 0.7% to a 429,000 annual pace from 426,000 pace in July. Sales reached a 329,000 pace in January, the lowest level since records began in 1963.
- **Eurozone manufacturing and service industries expanded for a second month in September**, suggesting the euro-region economy is gaining strength. A composite index of both industries rose to 50.8 from 50.4 in August. A reading above 50 indicates expansion.
- **Eurozone industrial orders rose for a second month in July**, led by durable consumer goods, as the economy's recovery from the worst slump in 60 years shows signs of gaining strength. Orders to industrial companies in the 16-member euro region rose 2.6% m-o-m from June, when they increased 4.0%. From a year earlier, July orders dropped 24.3% after falling 25.7% in June.
- **Japan's exports fell for an 11<sup>th</sup> month in August** as the economic recovery struggled to gain traction. Shipments abroad dropped 36% from a year compared with a 36.5% decline in July. From a month earlier, exports fell 0.7%, the second straight decrease.

- **Japan's corporate service prices fell at a record pace in August** as companies trimmed spending, adding to evidence deflation may hamper a recovery from the nation's worst postwar recession. The prices businesses pay for services such as transportation and rents dropped 3.5% from a year earlier. The decline, the eleventh in a row, was the biggest since January 1985. Corporate service prices fell 0.4% in August from July.

## UPCOMING RELEASE (28 SEPT. - 2 OCT. 2009)

### US

- September Consumer Confidence by Conference Board on September 29, 2009.
- Weekly Mortgage Applications by Mortgage Bankers Association on September 30, 2009.
- 2Q2009 GDP Annualized by Bureau of Economic Analysis on September 30, 2009.
- August Personal Income by Department of Commerce on October 1, 2009.
- August Personal Spending by Bureau of Economic Analysis on October 1, 2009.
- Weekly Initial Jobless Claims by Department of Labor on October 1, 2009.
- September ISM Manufacturing by Institute for Supply Management on October 1, 2009.
- August Construction Spending by US Census Bureau on October 1, 2009.
- August Pending Home Sales by National Association of Realtors on October 1, 2009.
- September Unemployment Rate by Bureau of Labor Statistics on October 2, 2009.

### Eurozone

- September Retail PMI Euro-zone Actual Sales by NTC Research on September 29, 2009.
- September Business Climate Indicator by European Commission on September 29, 2009.
- September Consumer Price Index Estimate by Eurostat on September 30, 2009.
- September Composite PMI Output by NTC Research on October 1, 2009.
- August Unemployment Rate by Eurostat on October 1, 2009.
- August Producer Price Index (PPI) by Eurostat on October 2, 2009.

### Japan

- August Consumer Price Index (CPI) by Ministry of Internal Affairs on September 28, 2009.
- September Small Business Confidence by Shoko Chukin Bank on September 29, 2009.
- August Industrial Production Index (IPI) by Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on September 29, 2009.
- August Housing Starts by Ministry of Land Infrastructure & Transport on September 30, 2009.

- August Construction Orders by Ministry of Land Infrastructure & Transport on September 30, 2009.
- 3Q2009 Tankan Survey on Business Condition by Bank of Japan on September 30, 2009.
- August Retail Trade by Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on September 30, 2009.
- August Workers Households Spending by Ministry of Internal Affairs on October 1, 2009.
- September Monetary Base Average Outstanding by Bank of Japan on October 1, 2009.

### **China**

- August Leading Index by National Bureau of Statistics on September 29, 2009.
- September PMI Manufacturing by China Federation of Logistics on September 30, 2009.

### **Malaysia**

- 2Q2009 Unemployment Rate by Ministry of Human Resource on September 30, 2009.
- August Money Supply (M3) by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) on September 30, 2009.