

Today's economic highlights...

Dollar set for another week of losses even as Fed tapering looms

- HONG KONG (Reuters) - The dollar was heading for a second week of declines on Friday as sentiment stayed tilted towards riskier assets, while an intervention by the Australian central bank put a halt to the [Aussie](#) dollar's recent surge.
- The [dollar index](#) was last at 93.733, little changed in Asian hours but off 0.24% on the week, as it continues its fall from a 12-month high of 94.565 hit in earlier this month.
- It had managed to stem losses on Thursday, bouncing on better U.S. jobs and housing data, but the rally petered out on Friday morning in Asia, where risk sentiment was boosted news that beleaguered developer China Evergrande Group has supplied funds to pay interest on a U.S. dollar bond, averting a default. [Read more...](#)

Oil Down Over Tight U.S. Supply Even as Coal, Gas Prices Ease

- Investing.com – Oil was down Friday morning in Asia as U.S. supplies continue to tighten. The black liquid was set for a flat finish to the week, with easing coal and gas prices curbing the fuel-switching that had increased demand for oil products.
- [Brent oil futures](#) fell 0.53% to \$84.16 by 12:38 AM ET (4:38 AM GMT) and [WTI futures](#) were down 0.44% to \$82.14.
- The market hit multi-year highs earlier in the week as concerns about coal and gas shortages in China, India and Europe led to power providers switching to diesel and fuel oil. [Read more...](#)

Evergrande pays overdue interest on offshore bond, averting default: State media

- CNA - BEIJING: China's troubled property giant Evergrande has made a key offshore interest payment a day ahead of a weekend deadline, state media said Friday (Oct 22), averting default and buying the embattled company a reprieve as it struggles under a mountain of debt.
- The crisis at one of the nation's biggest property developers has hammered investor sentiment, rattled the key real estate market and fuelled fears of a spillover into the wider economy.
- Evergrande is reported to have missed at least US\$150 million in offshore bond payments and while it had a 30-day grace period on some of them, there had been a general expectation it would not be able to meet its obligations. [Read more...](#)