

A UK focused Turnaround Value Investment Partnership www.aozorastep.com david@aozorastep.com

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# TODAY'S TOPICS

- 1. Inflation, labour, supply chains and energy
- 2. Geopolitical tensions & social media
- 3. Turnarounds



# 1. INFLATION, LABOUR, SUPPLY CHAINS AND ENERGY



## INFLATION - US CPI IS NOW BROAD BASED

### +0.4% September 2021 CPI Print

#### Biggest drivers:

- -0.7% used cars (3.43% weight)
- +1.3% new vehicles (3.81% weight)
- -2.9% car and truck rental (0.19% weight)
- -0.6% lodging away (1.05% weight)
- Of which -0.6% hotels, motels (0.94% weight)
- +0.4% rent of shelter (32.21% weight)
- -0.5% transportation services (5.09% wgt)
- -1.1% apparel (2.69% weight)
- +1.3% energy (7.29% weight)
- +0.9% Food (13.9% weight)
- -0.1% Medical care services (7.06% wgt)

#### +0.9% October 2021 CPI Print

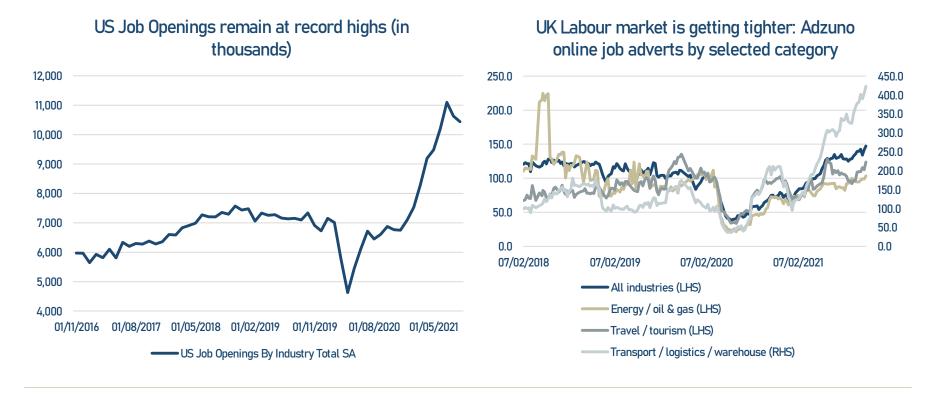
### Biggest drivers:

- +2.5% used cars (3.29% weight)
- +1.4% new vehicles (3.83% weight)
- +3.1% car and truck rental (0.17% weight)
- +1.4% lodging away (1.02% weight)
- Of which +1.5% hotels, motels (0.91% weight)
- +0.4% rent of shelter (32.23% weight)
- +0.4% transportation services (5.02% wgt)
- +0.0% apparel (2.73% weight)
- +4.8% energy (7.32% weight)
- +0.9% Food (14% weight)
- +0.5% Medical care services (7.02% wgt)



# INFLATION - LABOUR SHORTAGES

- Record 4.4mio US workers quit their job in September
- Survey indicates 4% left due to making money in crypto markets
- Working from home slowed work down, more time to think
- Record retirements





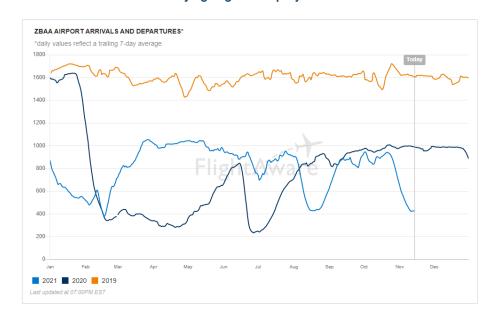
# INFLATION - SUPPLY CHAINS CONSTRAINTS

- Again new record of container ships anchored around LA/Long Beach Port
- Some comments from Volkswagen and other companies suggest easing of supply chains ahead
- New virus flare up in China, 57 new locally transmitted cases Nov 12

#### LA/Long Beach Port congestion (green dots)



#### Beijing flights drop by 50%

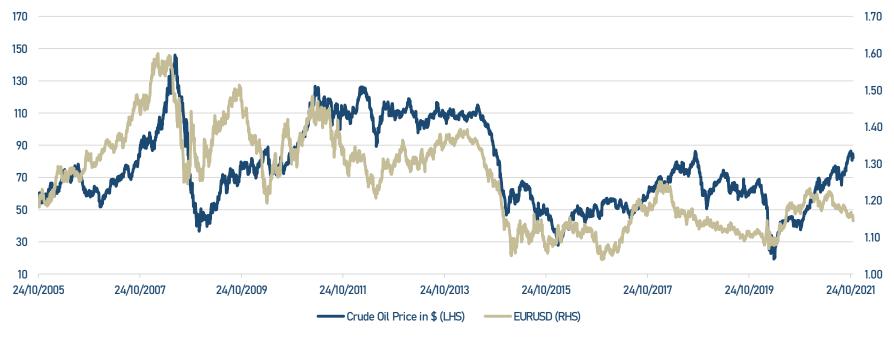




## INFLATION - ENERGY SHORTAGES

- Shifts towards renewables means energy shortages
- China's move towards nuclear power comes at a time when Western nations shift towards EVs, requiring nuclear power en masse  $\rightarrow$  40% of uranium comes from Kazakhstan
- Shale oil producers increase capex in Q4 and 2022, but does not mean more oil will come







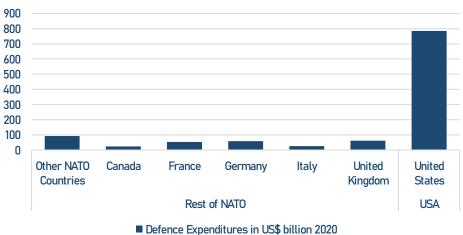
# 2. GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA



# GEOPOLITICS - CHINA, RUSSIA, PAKISTAN, IRAN

- China, Russia, Pakistan and Iran Alliance makes up 51% of world's nuclear warheads
- NATO military spending makes up 56% of world's military spending
- Migrant crisis Greek PM:
  - Refugees in Turkey are not fearing for their lives, hence not refugees
- Social media and online platforms have more aggressive algorithms that narrow your interests down





IISS Ranking	Country	Defence Spending 2020 (US\$bn)
1	USA	738.0
2	China	193.3
3	India	64.1
4	UK	61.5
5	Russia	60.6
6	France	55.0
7	Germany	51.3
8	Japan	49.7
9	Saudi Arabia	48.5
10	South Korea	40.4
- 11	Australia	31.3
12	Italy	29.3
13	Brazil	22.1
14	Canada	20.0
15	Israel	19.9



# 3. TURNAROUNDS



# LIST OF COMPANIES - POTENTIAL TURNAROUNDS

## **Shipping**

James Fisher and Sons – lost 50% of market cap after cutting guidance by over 20%

### **Conferencing software**

LoopUp Group – Volatile revenues, targeting partnership with MS Teams

#### Renewable fuels

Velocys – Signed two 10yr & 15yr SAF contracts with IAG and Southwest Airlines

## **Technology**

Twitter – Litigation charge a one off, valuation invites for M&A

### Newspaper print

Smiths News – Negative equity, but profitable

