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Macro Roundup Artcile

Headline: The Q4 Pothole: Student Loans, Shutdown, and Strikes

Article Link: https://www.gspublishing.com/content/research/en/reports/2023/09/12/c4a88156-6 948-4847-b703-84a8293159c0.html

Author(s)	Ronnie Walker and Alec Phillips
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Tweet: .@GoldmanSachs argues that the US economy is facing three headwinds in Q4: a resumption of student loan payments, a UAW strike, and a potential government shutdown, slowing quarterly annualized growth from 3.1% in Q3 to 1.3% in Q4.

Summary: First, we expect the resumption of student loan payments to subtract 0.5pp from quarterly annualized GDP growth. Second, the federal government looks more likely than not to temporarily shut down. A government-wide shutdown would reduce quarterly annualized growth by around 0.2pp for each week it lasted. Third, we estimate that reduced auto production from a potential UAW strike would reduce quarterly annualized growth by 0.05-0.10pp for each week it lasted, if all three companies currently undergoing contract negotiations are impacted. We expect quarterly annualized GDP growth to slow from +3.1% in Q3 to +1.3% in Q4 (vs. consensus of +2.9% and +0.6%). We expect the slowdown to be shallow and short-lived, with GDP growth rebounding to +1.9% in Q1 (vs. consensus of +0.1%) as these temporary drags abate and income growth reaccelerates on the back of continued solid job growth and rising real wages. Related: Soft Landing Summer and Autoworkers Have Good Reason to Demand a Big Raise and The Economic Impact of the Student Loan Restart

Primary Topic: Business Cycle

Topics: Business Cycle, GDP, Op-Ed/Blog Post

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