Inflation Picture Book: A Story of Slowing Prices

Joe Lavorgna

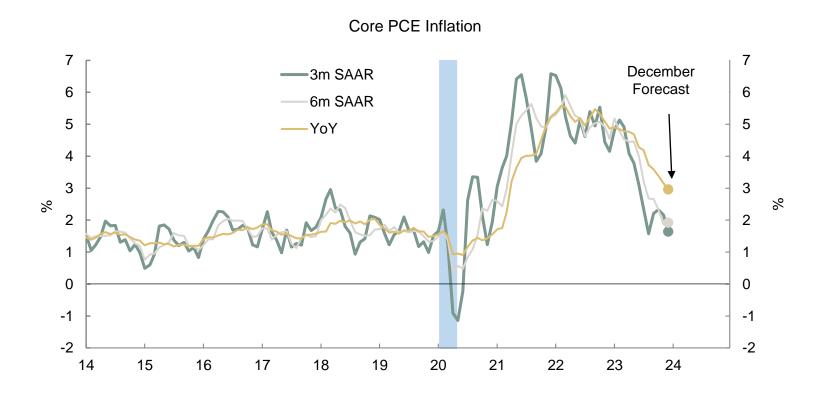
Chief US Economist SMBC Nikko

(212)-893-1528 Joseph.Lavorgna@smbcnikko-si.com January 22, 2024



Inflation Moving Closer to Target

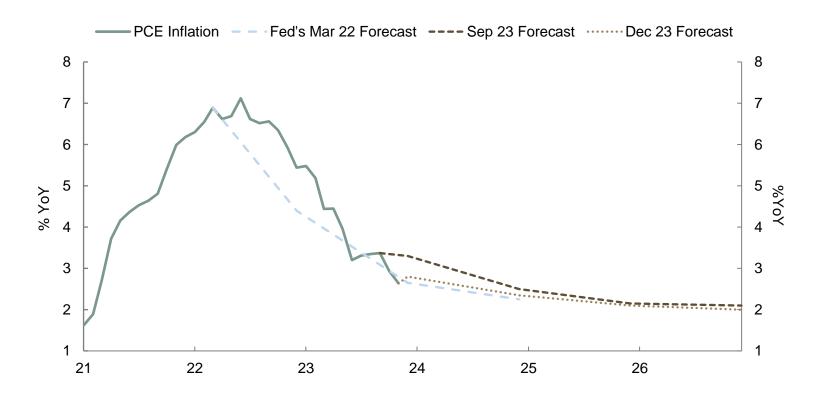
Shorter term growth metrics are already running at 2% or less.





On the Mark

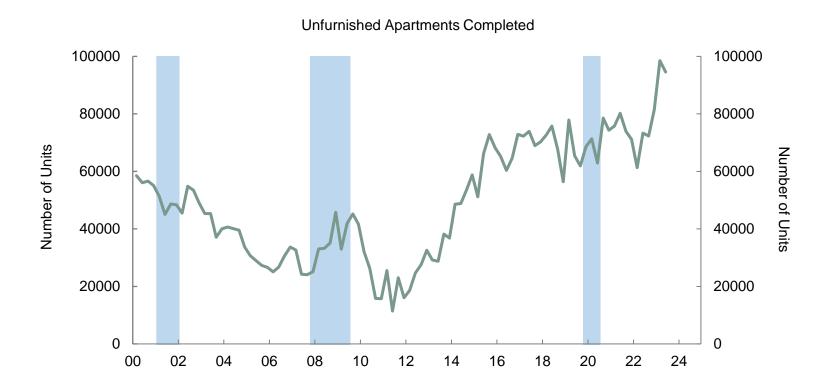
While the funds rate is much higher, the Fed's March 2022 projection looks prescient.





A Big Increase in Available Units

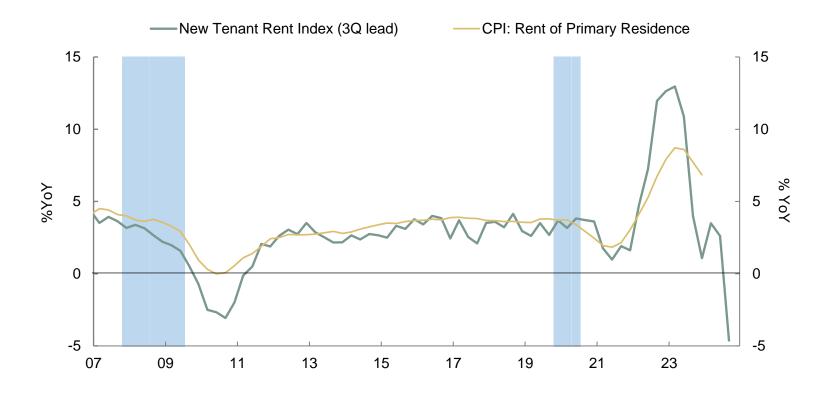
A record amount of rental supply is ready to hit the market.





Rental Prices on the Precipice

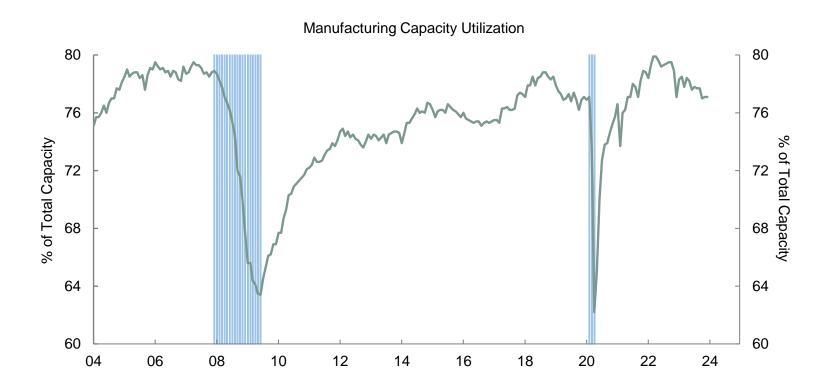
The biggest subcomponent of inflation is poised to collapse





Excess Factory Slack

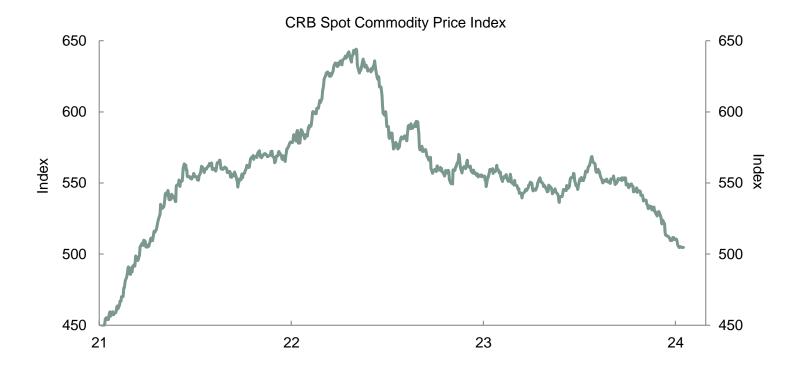
Capacity utilization continues to trend lower as manufacturing remains mired in recession.





Broad-based Weakness

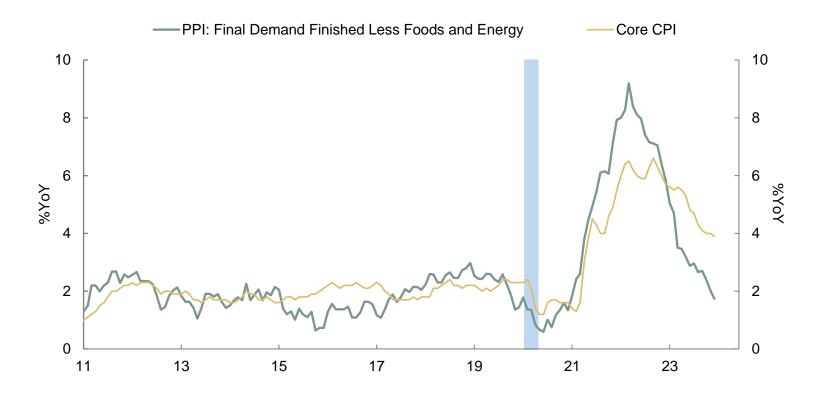
Commodity prices continue to soften, a consequence of softening demand.





Wholesale Price Disinflation

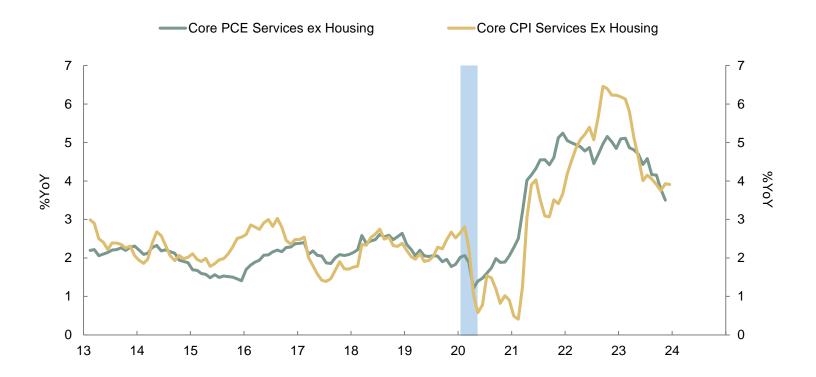
The producer price index (PPI) points to a sharply lower rate of core consumer inflation.





The Powell Metric

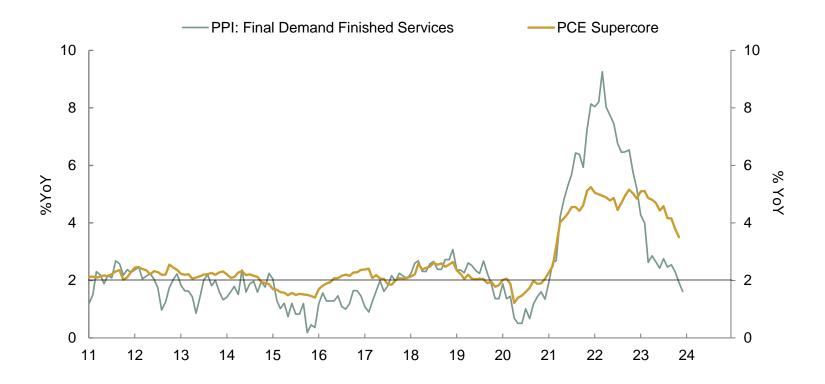
While elevated, measures of "super" core inflation continue to trend lower.





Rolling Over

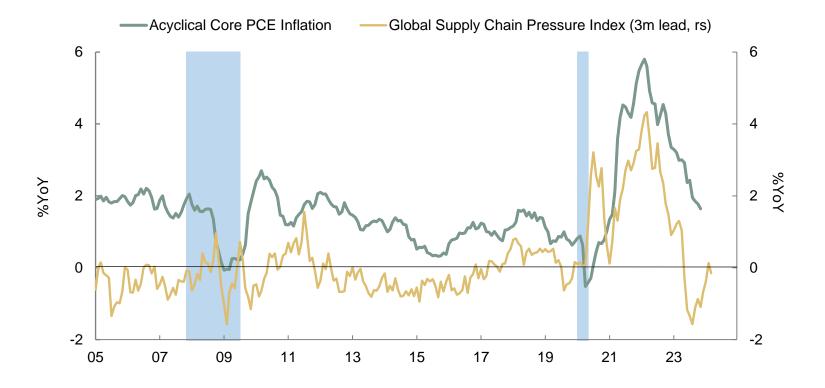
Importantly, the PPI tells us Powell's preferred inflation metric is going lower





Fixing Bottlenecks and Supply Constraints

Acyclical prices are slowing while supply chain pressures have dissipated.





Importing Deflation

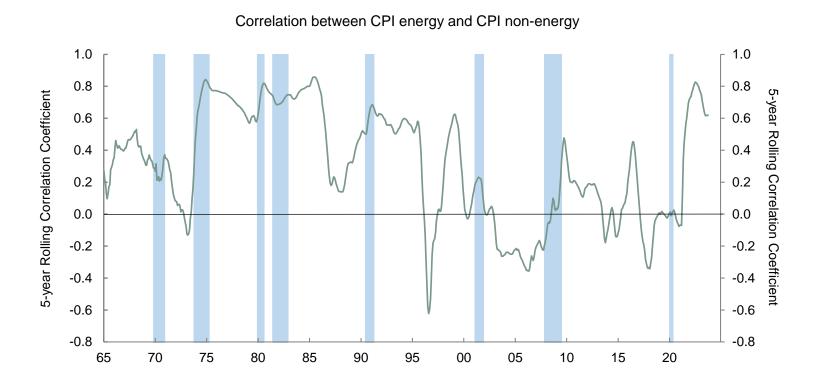
The US continues to import deflation from China, which will lead to falling US goods prices.





1970s Style Pass-Thru

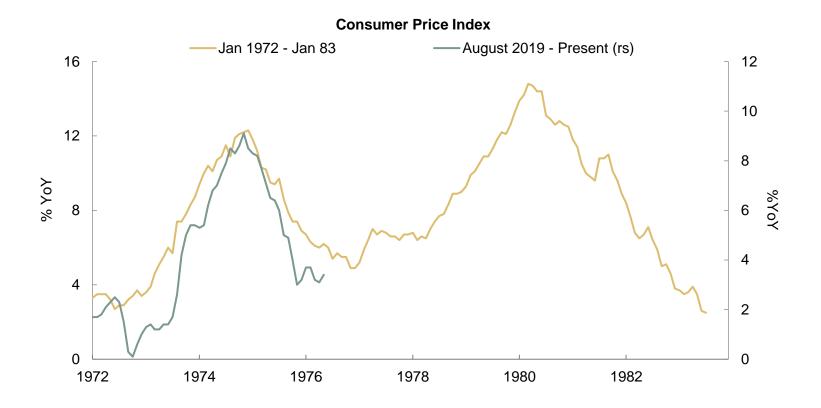
Soaring energy costs fed through the rest of the economy, pushing core inflation higher.





Uncanny Parallel?

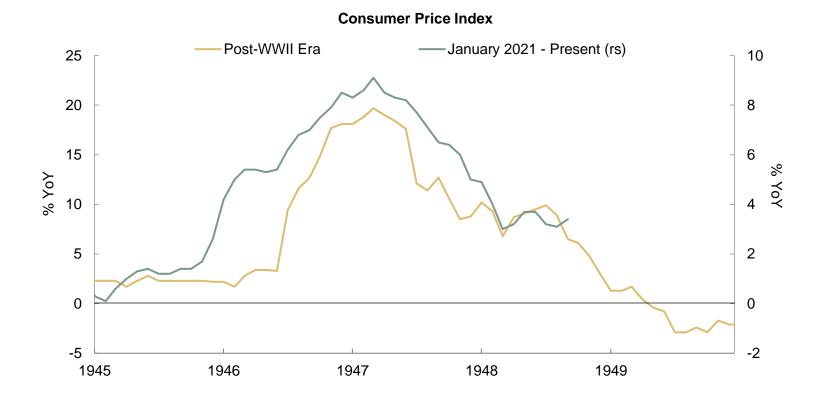
On the surface, the current trend in inflation resembles that of the early 1970s





A Better Example

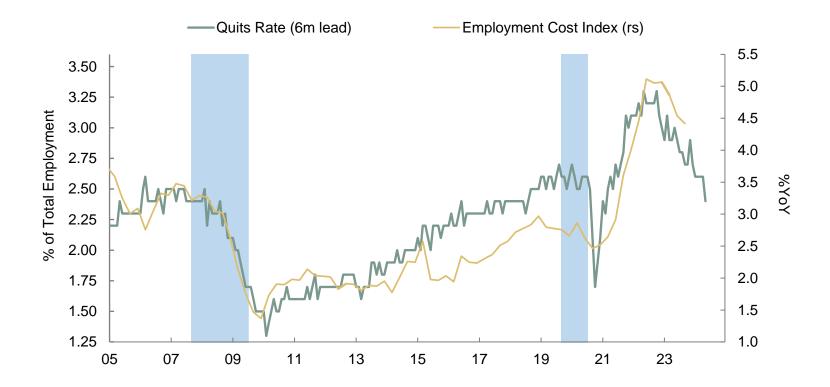
But the period before and after the Second World War may be more apropos.





Wage Inflation in Reverse

With the quits rate back to 2018 levels, wage growth has room to fall a lot more.





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