

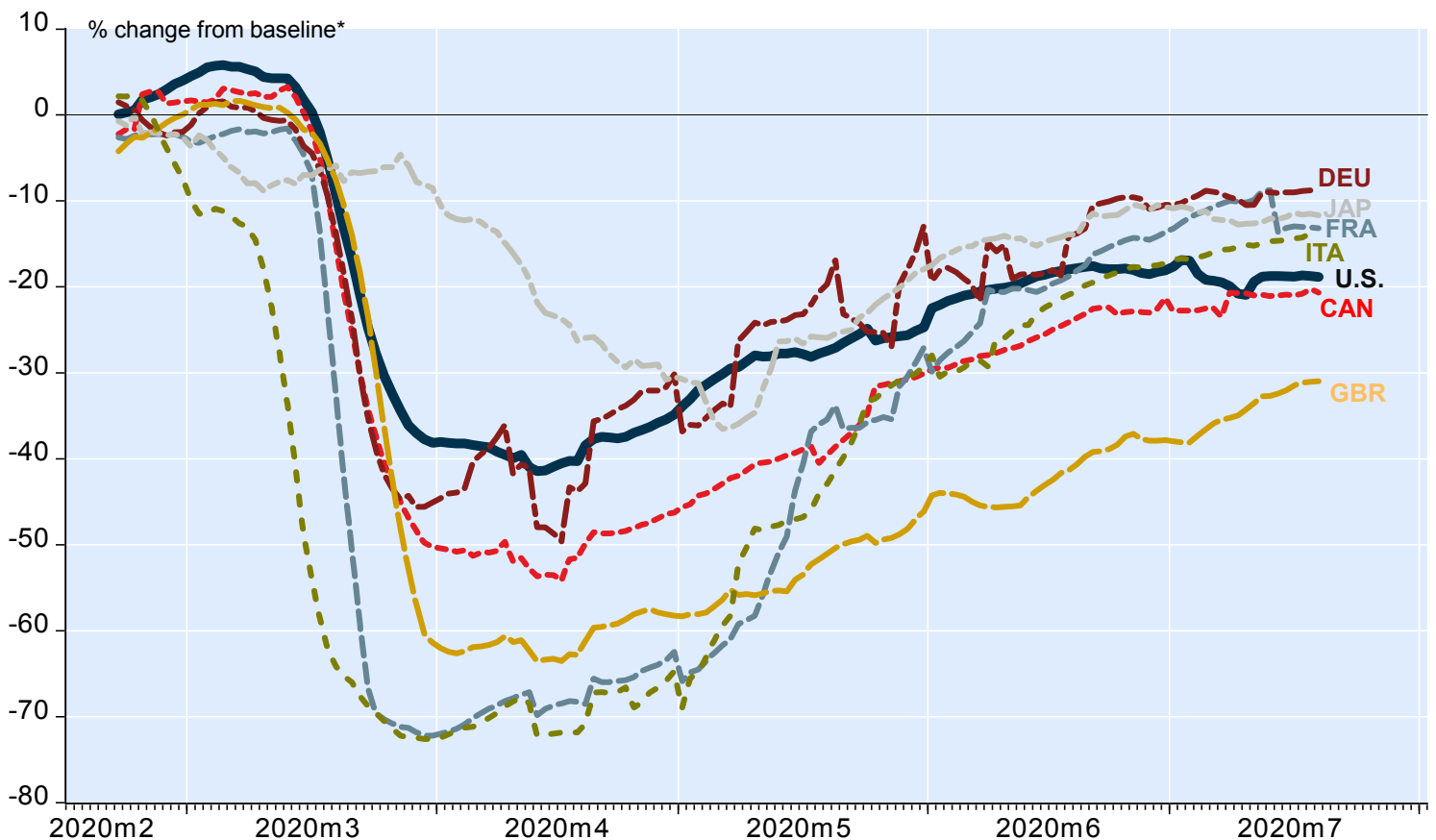
U.S. Watch

By Matthieu Arseneau

The speed of the economic recovery in the United States surprised many observers in the past two months, with several indicators handily beating consensus expectations. However, recently-published data is now showing an unwelcome trend in July. This morning, a report from the Department of Labour showed initial jobless claims rising for the first time since March, a sign that the healing of labour market has temporarily stopped amid a rise in coronavirus cases in some states. This news corroborated the findings of other high-frequency indicators such as the New-York Fed Weekly economic index, which posted its first deterioration since April. Adding to the bad news, our in-house mobility index based on google data is showing an undesirable stagnation in movements since mid-June. That said, the stagnation doesn't seem to be limited to the United States. To the contrary, today's Hot chart shows mobility is plateauing in several other places, with no less than 5 countries among G-7 in such a situation since the beginning of the month.

U.S.: Is the economic recovery losing steam?

Google mobility data for retail & recreation, grocery & pharmacy, transit and workplaces, 7-day mov. average



*The baseline is the median value of the corresponding day of the week during the 5 week period from January 3 to February 6



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