

Highlights in the Foreign Exchange Market:

- The FOMC minutes of their last meeting on March 20-21 were released on Monday. It showed that all of the Fed's policy makers felt that the U.S. economy would firm further and inflation would rise in the coming months. The minutes have also showed that policy makers were wary about the impact of the Trump administration's trade and fiscal policies. Finally, Fed officials implied that "the appropriate path for the Federal Reserve Funds Rate would be steeper than they had expected" supporting market's expectations of 3 to 4 hikes this year.
- Despite the m/m drop in US consumer prices, the consumer price index posted a yearly gain of 2.4%, well above the Fed's target of 2%. This was the largest value in a year as weak inflation readings from the past year are dropped from the calculation. Meanwhile, core inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, also posted a strong gain of 2.1%. The recent gains were largely attributed to a distortion caused by cell phone data pricing from last year that was not repeated this year. This data further supports Fed members' views that inflation has been weighed down transitory factors.
- In the UK, manufacturing output fell 0.2% in February, the first decline in almost a year, and less than the expected rise of 0.2%. This shows evidence that the UK economy has lost a little pace with analysts now forecasting a slowdown in growth during the first quarter of 2018. Trade data was also published alongside the manufacturing figures. It found that trade deficit had widened by £400m to £6.4bn in the three months to February.

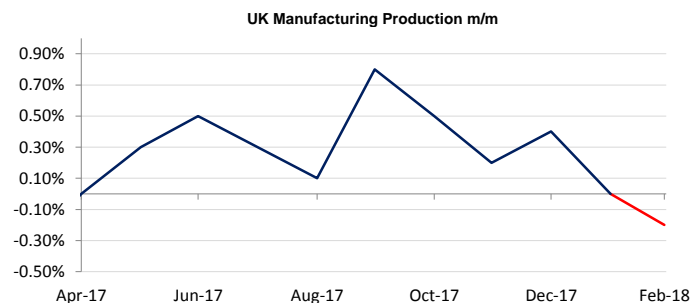
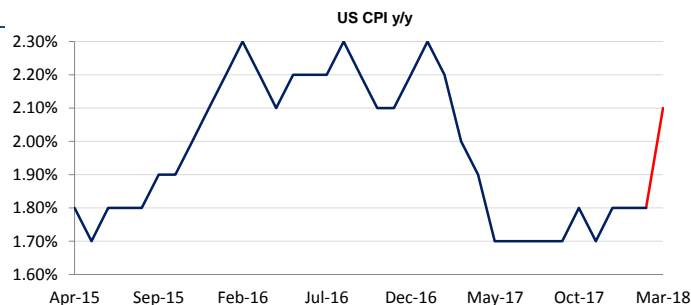


Chart Points and Other Technical Input

CCY	2nd Support	1st Support	Spot	1st Resistance	2nd Resistance
EUR	1.2265	1.2315	1.2360	1.2415	1.2465
GBP	1.4070	1.4130	1.4177	1.4235	1.4295
JPY	105.95	106.55	106.95	107.65	108.15
CHF	0.9495	0.9550	0.9598	0.9650	0.9705

Major Currencies

CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %	CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %
EUR/USD	1.2365	2.99	EUR/GBP	0.8721	(1.90)
GBP/USD	1.4176	4.93	GBP/JPY	151.37	(0.32)
USD/JPY	106.78	(5.09)	EUR/JPY	132.06	(2.26)
USD/CHF	0.9575	(1.50)	EUR/CHF	1.1841	1.45

Major Crosses

Brief Technical Commentary

EUR/USD: The pair moved up to the 1.2395 level during Wednesday's trading session and currently trading at 1.2360. EUR Resistance is at (1.2465-1.2485) any break above targets 1.2550 and Support is at (1.2235-1.2265) any break below targets 1.2125. The pair is currently Neutral.

USD/JPY: The pair moved down to the 106.62 level during Wednesday's trading session and currently trading at 106.95 USD/JPY Resistance is at (107.85-108.15) any break above targets 108.95 and Support is at (105.95-106.25) any break below targets 105.20. The pair is currently Neutral.

Local & Global Rates

CCY	1-Week	1-Month	3-Month	6-Month	1-Year
KWD	1.25	1.81	2.06	2.25	2.50
USD	1.74	1.90	2.34	2.47	2.71
EUR	-0.42	-0.40	-0.37	-0.32	-0.24
GBP	0.49	0.51	0.77	0.88	1.04
CHF	-0.80	-0.79	-0.74	-0.65	-0.52
AUD	1.73	1.92	2.11	2.20	2.30

Economic Events

Date	Country	Event	Actual	Forecast	Previous
10-Apr-18	USD	PPI m/m	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
10-Apr-18	USD	Core PPI m/m	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
11-Apr-18	CNY	CPI y/y	2.1%	2.6%	2.9%
11-Apr-18	CNY	PPI y/y	3.1%	3.4%	3.7%
11-Apr-18	GBP	Manufacturing Production m/m	-0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
11-Apr-18	EUR	ECB President Draghi Speaks	-	-	-
11-Apr-18	USD	Core CPI m/m	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
11-Apr-18	USD	FOMC Meeting Minutes	-	-	-
12-Apr-18	EUR	ECB MP Meeting Accounts	-	-	-
12-Apr-18	GBP	BOE Gov Carney Speaks	-	-	-

Government Yields

Country	1-Year	2-Year	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
United States	2.07	2.31	2.61	2.78	2.99
Germany	-0.69	-0.58	-0.09	0.50	1.15
United Kingdom	0.80	0.88	1.15	1.39	1.76
Japan	-0.16	-0.16	-0.12	0.02	0.70

Commodities

Index	Last Price	% Change	Index	Last Price	Change
Kuwait Oil	68.44	1.41	Dow Jones	24,189.45	(218.55)
Brent	72.90	(0.03)	Nikkei 225	21,627.94	(58.95)
West Texas	66.76	(0.15)	S&P 500	2,642.19	(14.68)
Gold	1,349.92	(0.22)	KuwaitSE	4,831.86	15.11

All information has been sourced from Reuters

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