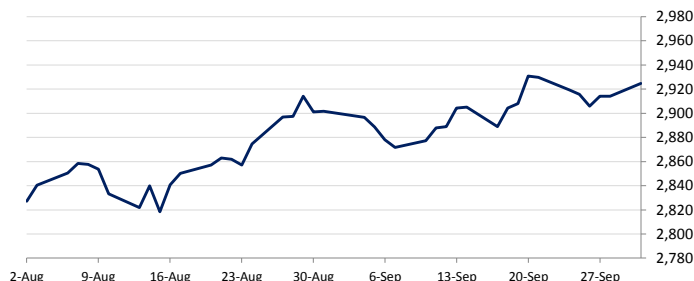


Highlights in the Foreign Exchange Market:

- US manufacturing activity experienced a slowdown in September as growth in new orders fell sharply. However, factories hired more workers, maintaining strength in the sector. The Institute for Supply Management reported factory activity dropped 1.5 points to 59.8, down from 61.3 in August which was the highest level since May 2004. The ISM described demand as "robust", while also expressing concern related to tariff activity. While the economy grew at a 4.2% annualized rate in the second quarter, import duties have the ability to disrupt the supply chains and slow the economy's momentum.
- On the other hand, the UK manufacturing sector saw a mild improvement in performance for the month of September. Manufacturing PMI rose to 53.8 in September following an upwardly revised figure of 53.0 in August, remaining above the 50.0 mark for 26 months. Expansion in output and new orders resulted in the gain, as businesses saw a recovery following August's contraction. Manufacturing production rose to a four month high as companies experienced growth in output due to inflows of new business. Overall business optimism rose as over 53% of companies expect production to increase over the next year.
- Oil prices have risen to a four year high. US sanctions on Iran coupled with supply losses from Venezuela and a slowdown in American drilling are all aspects that have contributed to the higher priced market. Brent crude jumped 3.3% to \$85.45 a barrel on Monday, recording its highest level since November 2014. The West Texas Intermediate gained 3.4% to \$75.77 a barrel, also breaking its four year record. US sanctions on Iran's oil exports will take effect on November 4, raising the likelihood of less supply mainly affecting Asian buyers who are usually reliant on Iranian imports. For the world's biggest petrol consumer, US crude oil prices are up 12% from the year before, currently priced above \$3 per gallon.
- US stock futures rose following Canada's decision to sign up to a revamped Nafta deal. The S&P 500 is edging close to a record high as futures were up 0.6%. Dow futures were also up 0.7%, with Nasdaq close behind. The dollar was slightly stronger, with the DXY index up 0.1% to 95.193.

S&P 500
2-Month Performance



Brent Crude
Year-to-date Performance



Chart Points and Other Technical Input

CCY	2nd Support	1st Support	Spot	1st Resistance	2nd Resistance
EUR	1.1475	1.1520	1.1573	1.1635	1.1685
GBP	1.2930	1.2985	1.3035	1.3075	1.3140
JPY	112.85	113.35	113.95	114.45	114.95
CHF	0.9735	0.9790	0.9838	0.9895	0.9945

Major Currencies

CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %	CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %
EUR/USD	1.1576	(3.78)	EUR/GBP	0.8879	(0.16)
GBP/USD	1.3041	(3.70)	GBP/JPY	148.57	(2.64)
USD/JPY	113.91	1.01	EUR/JPY	131.88	(2.81)
USD/CHF	0.9837	1.10	EUR/CHF	1.1389	(2.74)

Major Crosses

Brief Technical Commentary

EUR/USD: The pair moved down to the 1.1561 level during Monday's trading session and currently trading at 1.1573. EUR/USD Support is at (1.1475-1.1495) any break below targets 1.1297. The pair is currently bearish.

USD/JPY: The pair moved up to the 114.06 level during Monday's trading session and currently trading at 113.95. USD/JPY Support is at (112.55-112.85) any break below targets 110.85. Short term and medium term outlook remain neutral.

Local & Global Rates

CCY	1-Week	1-Month	3-Month	6-Month	1-Year
KWD	1.13	1.75	2.06	2.31	2.56
USD	2.21	2.27	2.40	2.61	2.93
EUR	-0.43	-0.40	-0.36	-0.31	-0.21
GBP	0.71	0.72	0.80	0.90	1.07
CHF	-0.80	-0.78	-0.73	-0.65	-0.52
AUD	1.92	1.95	2.33	2.29	2.20

Economic Events

Date	Country	Event	Actual	Forecast	Previous
30-Sep-18	USD	FOMC Member Williams Speech			
1-Oct-18	USD	ISM Manufacturing PMI	59.8	60.1	61.3
1-Oct-18	GBP	Manufacturing PMI	53.8	52.6	53
1-Oct-18	EUR	Unemployment Rate	8.1%	8.2%	8.2%
2-Oct-18	AUD	RBA Rate Statement			
2-Oct-18	AUD	RBA Interest Rate Decision	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%
2-Oct-18	USD	Fed's Powell Speech			
5-Oct-18	USD	Nonfarm Payrolls		188K	201K
5-Oct-18	USD	Average Hourly Earnings		3.0%	2.9%
5-Oct-18	CAD	Unemployment Rate		5.9%	6.0%

Government Yields

Country	1-Year	2-Year	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
United States	2.57	2.82	2.95	3.07	3.23
Germany	-0.64	-0.59	-0.16	0.47	1.09
United Kingdom	0.78	0.81	1.17	1.58	1.92
Japan	-0.13	-0.12	-0.07	0.12	0.91

Commodities

Index	Last Price	% Change	Index	Last Price	% Change
Kuwait Oil	83.10	0.48	Dow Jones	26,651.21	0.73
Brent	85.33	(0.02)	Nikkei 225	24,279.97	0.14
West Texas	75.32	(0.13)	S&P 500	2,924.59	0.36
Gold	1,191.84	0.35	KuwaitSE	5,121.62	(0.90)

Global Indices

All information has been sourced from Reuters.

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