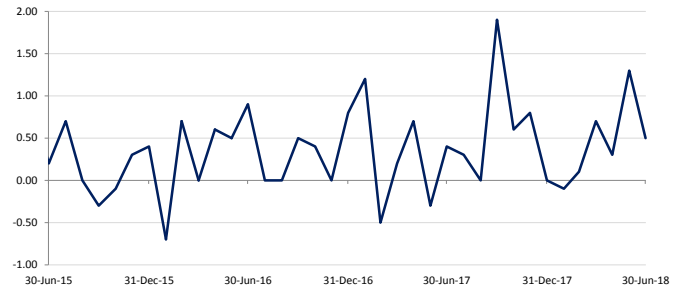


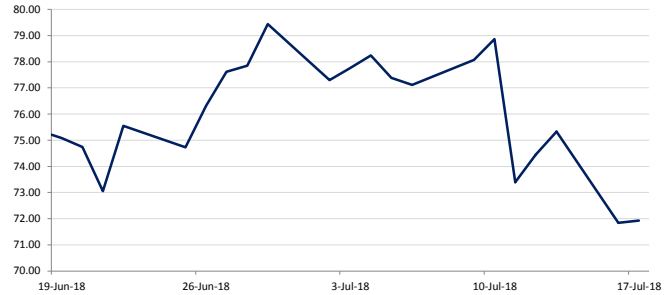
#### Highlights in the Foreign Exchange Market:

- The Dollar continued its downward momentum today in spite of yesterday's positive economic data from the US. On the other hand, the single currency and the Sterling pound have been appreciating due to positive development in the summit between the EU and China in Beijing. As for the equity market, US indices ended Monday's session mostly in negative territory with the exception of the Dow Jones. The weakness in the stock market is mostly attributed to a drop in oil prices. Oil prices fell more than 4% as Libyan ports reopened and markets eyed possible supply increases by Russia and other producers. In details, WTI is trading below the \$70 handle at \$68.05, while Brent is up by 0.43% at \$72.15 a barrel.
- US consumer spending rose for a fifth straight month in June, suggesting that incoming GDP figures may show acceleration in the world's largest economy during the second quarter. Headline retail sales climbed 0.5% month-on-month in June, on top of an upwardly revised 1.3% increase in May. The numbers were boosted by strong sales from automobile and parts dealers, health and personal care stores and online retailers.
- The International Monetary Fund warned yesterday that escalating and sustained trade conflicts following US tariff actions threaten to derail global economic recovery and medium-term growth prospects. Still, the IMF left its global economic growth forecasts unchanged at 3.9% for both 2018 and 2019. They did note however, that while April's projections were rounded down to reach the 3.9% forecast, July's numbers had to be rounded up to reach the same level.

US Retail Sales



Brent Oil 1-Month Performance



#### Chart Points and Other Technical Input

CCY	2nd Support	1st Support	Spot	1st Resistance	2nd Resistance
EUR	1.1615	1.1665	1.1717	1.1765	1.1815
GBP	1.3140	1.3190	1.3246	1.3295	1.3365
JPY	111.35	111.85	112.37	112.85	113.40
CHF	0.9865	0.9915	0.9965	1.0015	1.0065

#### Major Currencies

CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %	CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %
EUR/USD	1.1709	(2.35)	EUR/GBP	0.8849	(0.42)
GBP/USD	1.3233	(2.01)	GBP/JPY	148.59	(2.17)
USD/JPY	112.28	(0.26)	EUR/JPY	131.48	(2.60)
USD/CHF	0.9966	2.24	EUR/CHF	1.1671	(0.17)

#### Major Crosses

#### Brief Technical Commentary

EUR/USD: The pair moved up to the 1.1725 level during Monday's trading session and currently trading at 1.1717 EUR/USD Support is at (1.1585-1.1615) any break below targets 1.1500. Short term outlook is slightly bearish and any move up should be limited to 1.1855. However, medium term outlook remains bearish.

USD/JPY: The pair moved down to the 112.18 level during Monday's trading session and currently trading at 112.36 USD/JPY Resistance is at (113.40-113.70) any break above targets 114.70 Short term and medium term outlook remains bullish.

#### Local & Global Rates

CCY	1-Week	1-Month	3-Month	6-Month	1-Year
KWD	1.19	1.81	2.00	2.25	2.56
USD	1.96	2.08	2.33	2.52	2.79
EUR	-0.43	-0.40	-0.36	-0.32	-0.24
GBP	0.48	0.57	0.75	0.85	1.02
CHF	-0.80	-0.78	-0.72	-0.65	-0.51
AUD	2.00	2.10	2.21	2.35	2.30

#### Economic Events

Date	Country	Event	Actual	Forecast	Previous
15-Jul-18	CNY	GDP q/y	6.7%	6.7%	6.8%
16-Jul-18	USD	Core Retail Sales m/m	0.4%	0.4%	0.9%
16-Jul-18	USD	Retail Sales m/m	0.5%	0.4%	0.8%
16-Jul-18	NZD	CPI q/q	-	0.5%	0.5%
16-Jul-18	AUD	Monetary Policy Meeting Minutes	-	-	-
17-Jul-18	GBP	BOE Gov Carney Speaks	-	-	-
17-Jul-18	GBP	Average Earnings Index 3m/y	-	2.5%	2.5%
17-Jul-18	USD	Fed Chair Powell Testifies	-	-	-
18-Jul-18	GBP	CPI y/y	-	2.6%	2.4%
18-Jul-18	USD	Building Permits	-	1.33M	1.35M

#### Government Yields

Country	1-Year	2-Year	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
United States	2.35	2.60	2.76	2.87	2.97
Germany	-0.72	-0.65	-0.27	0.36	1.02
United Kingdom	0.71	0.72	1.03	1.28	1.73
Japan	-0.14	-0.14	-0.11	0.03	0.67

#### Commodities

Index	Last Price	% Change	Index	Last Price	Change
Kuwait Oil	69.90	(2.48)	Dow Jones	25,064.36	44.95
Brent	70.02	(0.03)	Nikkei 225	22,742.43	148.90
West Texas	68.17	(0.15)	S&P 500	2,798.43	(2.88)
Gold	1,240.93	0.07	KuwaitSE	5,238.95	34.52

#### Global Indices

All information has been sourced from Reuters

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