

Economic Calendar

Date	Country	Event	Period	Survey*	Prior
10 Aug	EZ	Sentix Investor Confidence	Aug	-1.0	-3.1
	JP	BoP Current Account Balance	Jun	¥1514.0b	¥3968.3b
	JP	Eco Watchers Survey Current/Outlook SA	Jul	44.5/46.1	44.0/45.7
11 Aug	US	Existing Home Sales	Jul	4.05m	4.09m
12 Aug	US	CPI/Core YoY	Jul	3.4%/2.5%	3.5%/2.6%
	US	Real Avg Weekly Earnings YoY	Jul	--	0.3%
	JP	Machine Tool Orders YoY	Jul P	--	52.7%
13 Aug	US	Federal Budget Balance	Jul	--	-\$291.1b
	US	Initial Jobless Claims		203k	199k
	US	PPI Final Demand/Ex Food and Energy YoY	Jul	4.8%/4.2%	5.5%/4.7%
	EZ	Industrial Production WDA YoY	Jun	--	-1.2%
	JP	PPI YoY	Jul	7.4%	7.1%
14 Aug	US	U. of Mich. Sentiment/Expectations	Aug P	54.1/55.0	55.2/55.4
	US	U. of Mich. 1/5-10Yr Inflation	Aug P	4.2%/--	4.2%/3.3%
	US	Retail Sales Adv./Ex Auto and Gas MoM	Jul	0.2%/0.3%	0.2%/0.4%
	EZ	Trade Balance SA	Jun	--	-5.0b
	EZ	GDP SA YoY/QoQ	2Q S	1.0%/0.4%	1.0%/0.4%

Week-in-brief: Risks of Exhaustion

夫鈍兵挫锐，屈力殒货 - 孙子兵法

In a long war, your weapons are dulled, your ardor damped, your strength exhausted - Sun Tzu

- **Recovery in risk sentiments show signs of exhaustion** with hopes of a deal to re-open Hormuz facing significant impediments amid troubling details within the Iran-Oman agreement and a flare-up of conflicts in Yemen led by the Houthis. The prohibition of US and Israeli ships and demand for compensation should not be surprising given that Iran would seek to rebuild their damaged economy and military.

- The trouble is that such details would imply a **significant rebuke from the US** even though most American-owned ships are foreign flagged due to convenience.

- Reflecting the hostilities, Iran has also showed a continued willingness to attack ships which they deem hostile as evidenced by their latest attack. For now, much of the initial relief from restrain in escalation could have been hinging on reports that the **US weapons stockpile is facing the risks of exhaustion** though this has been refuted by US President Trump.

- The flip side of this though would be the perception of US' ability to defend its allies as well as the ships that they were escorting. Regardless of the actual stockpiles levels, **perceptions matter** as skirmishes in the Middle East may be emboldened and confidence of shipping industry strained.

- With Houthis attacking the Yemeni government troops, the **risk of a wider conflict in the Middle East is far from being alleviated**. Furthermore, temptations to dispel perceptions of exhausted stockpiles also implies **latent risk of military escalation**.

- Meanwhile, **US ISM services displaying stagflation woes** also appears to be **increasingly exhausting the Fed's policy space**. As such, the current slippage in UST yields this week may be at risk of exhaustion, barring a sharp disappointment in the NFP print tonight.

- In Asia, even as EM-Asia FX saw gains, relief from lower oil prices and UST yields appear to be increasingly exhausted and confined to twin deficit economies such as the IDR and PHP. In the Philippines, a dismal Q2 GDP print at 2.3% YoY was driven by deteriorating consumption and further drag from government investment, dampening the odds of further BSP rate hike and softened PHP gains.

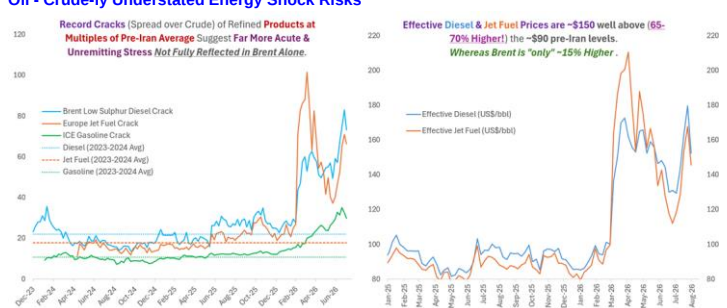
- In Malaysia, lower UST yields did little for the MYR which faced **domestic setbacks for PM Anwar's coalition** losing their state election in Negeri Sembilan which was one of their strongholds.

- Looking ahead, the **RBA is likely to stand pat at their meeting next week** as deteriorating housing market triggers worries of a broader economic spillovers. That said, the phased expiry of the fuel excise tax cut will imply that the rate hikes will remain on the RBA's table.

- Crucially, upcoming US CPI which faces upside risks from fuel prices will add further discomfort to EM-Asia FX tormented by the confluence of UST yields and protracted Middle East conflict.

- All in, exhaustion risks permeate geo-political conflicts, central bank policy space, Asia's fiscal space and even AI rallies checked by fund raising realities.

Oil - Crude-Iry Understated Energy Shock Risks



- To be sure, a **tempestuous US-Iran negotiation** process to find a resolution to the Middle East crisis itself poses in and of itself **poses a significant latent energy shock risk. Especially as the "Hormuz" continues to be a key bargaining chip** involved in highly volatile/unstable truce talks.

- Consequently, the **unmitigated uncertainty associated with any "Hormuz re-opening"**, means **significantly higher shipping/insurance premiums factoring into delivered oil..**

- But, **even without considering shipping risks, crude (Brent) paints too optimistic a picture of realized relief from effective energy price risks.**

- Point being, **cracks** (premium for refined products over crude) are **far stickier than crude** despite prospects of re-opening the Hormuz.

- Notably, effective **diesel and jet fuel costs remain remarkably elevated** (~\$145/bbl), **consistent with \$120-125 Brent crude** (controlled for \$20-25 pre-Iran cracks).

- Upshot: **"Energy shock" relief is overstated by paper crude**, whereas the **grimmer realities of delivery lags, refining capacity constraints** (or compromised) are **better captured in cracks.**

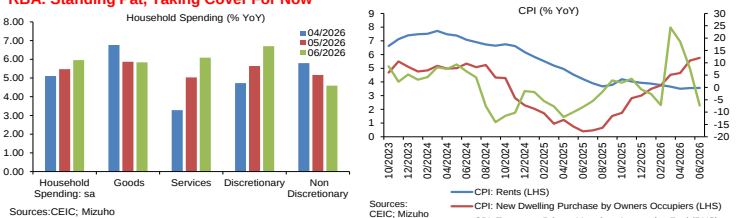
- In turn, this could mean **greater near-term front-end yield volatility** based on evolving policy response expectations, while a **steeper curve takes shape** on stickier effective energy costs.

*Survey results from Bloomberg, as of 07 Aug 2026. The lists are not exhaustive and only meant to highlight key data/events

Asia

Date	Country	Event	Period	Survey*	Prior
9-15 Aug	CH	New Yuan Loans CNY YTD		10620.0b	10720.0b
	CH	Aggregate Financing CNY YTD		21945.0b	20840.0b
10 Aug	ID	Consumer Confidence Index	Jul	--	117.8
11 Aug	AU	RBA Cash Rate Target		4.35%	4.35%
	MY	Industrial Production YoY	Jun	7.4%	8.4%
12-14 Aug	IN	Exports/Imports YoY	Jul	--	15.5%/31.0%
12 Aug	IN	CPI YoY	Jul	4.4%	4.4%
	KR	Unemployment rate SA	Jul	2.7%	2.7%
13 Aug	TH	Consumer Confidence Economic	Jul	--	44.1
14 Aug	IN	Wholesale Prices YoY	Jul	9.9%	9.9%
	MY	GDP YoY/SA QoQ	2Q F	5.8%--	5.8%/0.0%
	CH	BoP Current Account Balance	2Q P	--	\$184.3b

RBA: Standing Pat, Taking Cover For Now



- The **RBA opting for a hold at their upcoming meeting is widely expected** as the recent headline CPI print for June which came in lower than expected provides cover.

- The desire to stand pat centers around a **potential slowdown in the housing market** amid reports of falling prices across the country ranging from Sydney, Melbourne to Brisbane and Adelaide.

- That said, the RBA will likely maintain a hawkish tone with underlying price pressures far from being alleviated. **Energy prices are set for an uptick in the July print** following the phased expiry of the excise duty cuts.

- **Rent inflation remains rather sticky with limited signs of dis-inflation** in recent months and recent property price declines on the back of negative gearing changes and higher interest rates may have little effect of the demand and supply dynamics in the rental markets where vacancy rates remain low.

- It is also worth a technical reminder that **buying of existing property is not captured inside the CPI basket** as they are treated as transfers of existing assets.

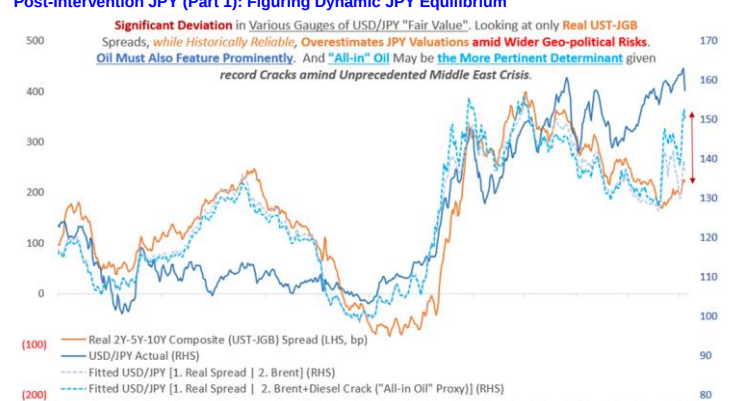
- Consequently, the RBA is likely to **watch for adverse spillovers from the negative wealth effects** from lower property prices. For now, household expenditure remains robust in June with solid spending in the recreation and culture category alongside strong electric vehicle sales.

- On balance, this decision will continue to be a somewhat hawkish hold especially with the labour market retaining a semblance of resiliency. Nonetheless, RBA Governor Bullock as well as the statement itself may have additional dovish notes with an increase frequency of the housing market risks being mentioned.

- Looking further, a **rate hike cannot be entirely ruled out unless evidence of marked housing market deterioration reveals itself and its negative multipliers take hold.**

- All in, the rate hold is unlikely to serve as a catalyst for AUD rallies, with the more likely outcome being a consolidation of recent gains.

Post-Intervention JPY (Part 1): Figuring Dynamic JPY Equilibrium



"You know my methods. Apply them!" - Sherlock Holmes, The Hound of Baskervilles

- Coordinated JPY intervention by US and Japan amid **assertions of "very undervalued" JPY warn of "live" intervention risks** on fresh episodes of JPY weakness.

- **Admittedly**, US and Japan may **not** pursue further JPY strength to extent (130-135) that real rate spreads might suggest. Nor even ~140 from incorporating Brent crude impact.

- Especially **given exceptional geo-political stress** that arguably induces greater JPY risk/stress "premium". But **appropriately risk-augmented models comprising real spreads and "all-in oil" shocks are consistent with 150-155 USD/JPY.**

- Which means that JPY bears **ought to curb the temptation to lean aggressively into carry-accentuated JPY shorts**. For now, USD/JPY approaching too close to 160 may likely invoke further (coordinated) intervention. But **more importantly JPY intervention may dynamically evolve with key**

Please click here to see full report: Mizuho Chart Speak (4 Aug) Post-Intervention JPY (Part 1): Figuring Dynamic JPY Equilibrium

Forex Rate

	Close*	Chg^	% Chg^	Week Forecast	
USD/JPY	158.44	-1.140	-0.71%	157.00	~ 160.00
EUR/USD	1.152	0.0005	0.04%	1.140	~ 1.160
USD/SGD	1.2819	0.000	-0.01%	1.2750	~ 1.2920
USD/THB	33.077	-0.311	-0.93%	32.90	~ 33.50
USD/MYR	4.0895	0.0058	0.14%	4.050	~ 4.120
USD/IDR	17890	-110	-0.61%	17,850	~ 18,120
JPY/SGD	0.809	0.006	0.68%	0.798	~ 0.810
AUD/USD	0.7036	0.000	-0.03%	0.699	~ 0.710
USD/INR	95.27	-0.140	-0.15%	94.7	~ 96.2
USD/PHP	60.91	-0.336	-0.55%	60.6	~ 61.7

^Weekly change.

FX: Dollar Holds

- The dollar softened modestly this week, with the DXY holding just below 100 as US-Iran tensions de-escalated for most of the week while mixed economic data kept UST yields elevated.
- SEK led G10 peers after a firmer than expected core inflation print raised prospects of a tightening by Riksbank. AUD eked out marginal gain after a stronger than expected household spending data, even as RBA is widely expected to hold next week.
- NOK underperformed on softer oil prices while JPY gave back a modest part of last Friday's gains from the joint intervention with the US.
- EUR put in a middle of the pack performance, with the ECB economic bulletin flagging limited fiscal space, which reinforced the case for only one more rate hike this year.

EM-Asia FX: External Lift, Domestic Split

- Most EM-Asia currencies drew support from softer oil and a weaker dollar, though renewed flare-ups late in the week pared some of these gains.
- KRW extended its winning streak as a higher-than-expected core CPI print keeps BoK on track for a further rate hike.
- Energy importers including THB, PHP, IDR and INR benefited from softer oil prices this week.
- THB was further supported by a recovery in gold prices while PHP gave back some of the gains following a disappointing Q2 GDP print.
- MYR was pressured after the ruling coalition had its third consecutive in state election defeat in Negeri Sembilan, potentially pointing to lesser room for fiscal consolidation in the near term.
- All in, EM-Asia FX took its direction from oil prices and USD this week, with domestic factors driving the difference in performance.

Bond Yield (%)

7-Aug	2-yr	Chg (bp)^	10-yr	Chg (bp)^	Curve
USD	4.241	-5.0	4.670	-6.5	Flattening
GER	2.755	-5.8	3.146	-5.9	Flattening
JPY	1.591	12.1	2.770	0.3	Flattening
SGD	1.648	-0.9	2.275	-4.2	Flattening
AUD	4.552	4.3	5.008	0.1	Flattening
GBP	4.295	-10.0	4.942	-10.6	Flattening

Stock Market

	Close	% Chg
S&P 500 (US)	7,709.96	2.94
Nikkei (JP)	65,606.71	1.93
EuroStoxx (EU)	6,524.89	2.62
FTSE STI (SG)	5,691.63	1.12
JKSE (ID)	6,399.37	2.62
PSEI (PH)	6,290.35	0.86
KLCI (MY)	1,735.81	0.63
SET (TH)	1,613.27	-0.64
SENSEX (IN)	78,535.66	0.56
ASX (AU)	9,263.63	3.20

USTs: Examining Relief

- This week, UST yields sank across the curve as oil prices slipped on prospects of a Iran-Oman deal to re-open Hormuz.
- That said, this relief from oil prices ought to be re-examined given the underlying details such as compensation seeking and banning US ships.
- Furthermore, unrest in Yemen could potent further conflict with Saudi and widening the war across the Middle East with activity in the Bab El-mandeb a key focus.
- The NFP print will dictate UST yields before US CPI calls the shot which would likely backdrop yields in the week ahead.
- All in, 2Y UST yields are projected to trade in the 4.20-4.40% range while 10Y UST yields trade in the 4.6-4.8% range with upside bias.

FX Brief:

1) JPY: Marginal slippage after last week's outperformance from intervention. While testing 159 may occur on a resurgence in Brent crude prices, the path towards 160 is lined with intervention fears.

2) EUR: Limited relief from lower oil prices as elevated UST yields weighed on the EUR. Recovery back above 1.16 looks increasingly laboured.

3) AUD: Stayed robust above 70 cents as household spending remain resilient. RBA meeting likely to signal more risks on more inflation and growth fronts which implies consolidation for the AUD in the 70-71 cents range.

4) CNH: Marginal gains amid strong exports data. Modest appreciation likely to persist given that the PBoC likely lean against strength.

5) INR: Underperformed despite lower oil prices as RBI appears keen to keep rates on protracted hold.

6) SGD: Offsetting EUR and CNH dynamics saw a muted SGD performance even as there were gyrations inline with UST yields.

7) IDR: Outperformed on softer oil prices and stronger-than-expected 2Q GDP print. USDIDR could potentially exceed 18000-level coming week if oil prices rise on renewed escalation between US-Iran.

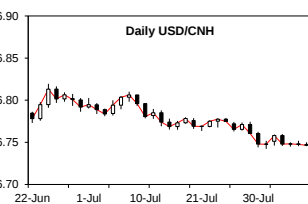
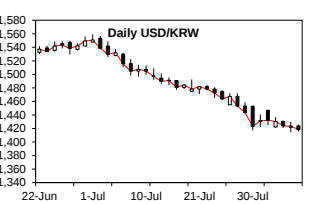
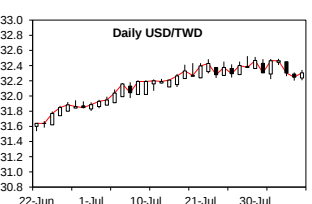
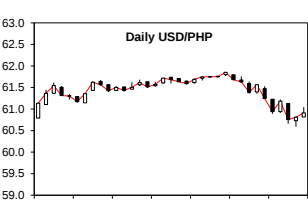
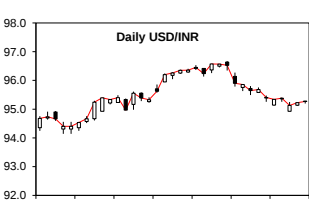
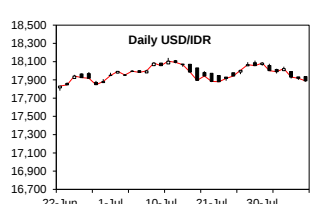
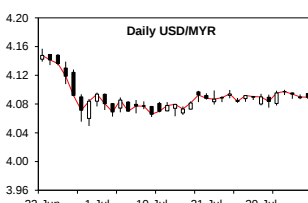
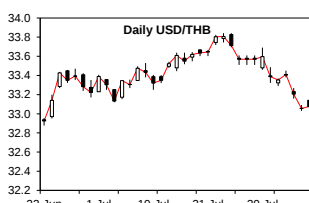
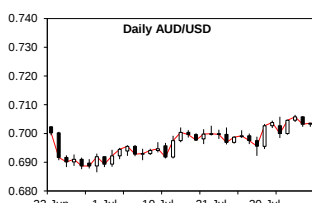
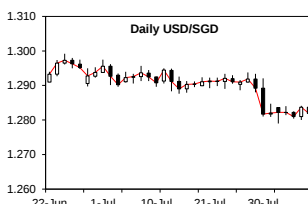
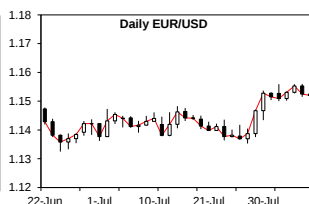
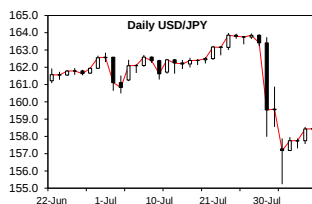
8) THB: Recovery in gold prices aided sharp gains this week to setup for shallow adventures below 33 in the week ahead if gold prices hold up.

9) MYR: Depreciated slightly after the ruling coalition lost its third consecutive state election in Negeri Sembilan, signalling limited room for near-term fiscal consolidation even as the Unity Government remains intact. Likely to remain buoyant above 4.08-level in the coming week as UST yields remain elevated.

10) PHP: Appreciated on lower oil prices but gave back some of the gains after a disappointing Q2 GDP print. USDPHP likely to test 61-level coming week if oil prices continue to trend up on renewed US-Iran tensions.

11) KRW: Reported selling of USD by exports headed this week's strong outperformance. Wobbly risk sentiments imply that some of these gains may be faded next week.

12) TWD: Inflows into equities provide backstop for the TWD to lean against buoyant UST yields and oil prices.



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