

Three Take-Aways

- 1) US NFP print came in higher than expected leading to UST yield curve bear flattening and dented risk sentiments.
- 2) Renewed attacks between US and Iran with Iranian oil tankers being hit, supported oil prices to climb higher to start the week.
- 3) EM-Asia FX continue to face impediment as higher inflation and energy prices wreck import bills and dent growth.

MACRO THEME: Blown Away?

- Last Friday, **US NFP print for August came in higher than expected** with the job gains at 162k. The boost in employment was also in part due to some seasonal effects such as back to school hiring.
- Upward revisions to the prior two months also added another 55k jobs with the **unemployment rate flat at 4.1%**.
- A sharp spike (7-8bp) in 2Y UST yields were subsequently moderated to close just 3bp higher last Friday. Risk sentiments are dulled as US equities dropped across all major indices.
- The moderation reflects the importance of the **US CPI print at the end of this week** which remains key to signal the potential discomfort faced by FOMC officials.

- For now, Fed funds futures are pricing in **61.7% of a rate hike at the FOMC meeting next week**.

- Unsurprisingly, **Beth Hammack**, President of Cleveland Fed who was one of the dissenters at the previous meeting said that what she is **hearing** (from data and anecdotes) is that it's **time to act on inflation**.

- After months of hiatus on commenting on rates, President **Trump posted on social media** that the **Fed should lower rates**.

- He also threatened to cut trade with countries that they have deficit if rates are not lowered. In the unlikely scenario, cutting off trade with countries having comparative advantage would worsen inflationary pressures given the inherent domestic supply limitations.

Blown Up

- Over the weekend, the US military **launched attacks against three Iranian crude oil tankers** with one sinking in the Gulf of Oman.

- US central command said that they will **impose a higher economic cost on all Iranian attacks**, "if you shoot at two of our ships, ... taking out three of yours".

- The damaged tankers will **impede Iran's ability to transport crude on a more durable basis** given that tanker replacements will be challenging. The **spillovers to global oil markets in terms of sticky prices** should also be well noted as these tankers were also facilitating global oil flows.

- Iran has also responded by **expanding a prohibited zone** which start from the US Navy's blockade line and include areas of the Persian Gulf which raises risks of a broader escalation in attacks especially amid congested traffic.

- While Trump calling the conflict "small potatoes" and JD Vance said that it is not a war belong to political headlines, it also **reflects the potential and willingness for the US administration to extend the current impasse in the Middle East**.

- As an aside, OPEC+ reaffirmed their production quotas even though their production hikes remain symbolic at this juncture.

US-Canada Woes

- In North America, there is little signs of US-Canada resuming talks with **Canada's retaliatory tariffs on US goods set to take place tomorrow on 8 September**.

- To be clear, with US tariffs on imports from Canada being imposed much earlier, the inflationary impulse had already been set in place.

- That said, Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem noted that these **tariffs are steep but applied to a relatively narrow selection**.

- In the US, states such as Michigan are reportedly suffering from the brunt of this trade dispute with wider spillovers into travel as cross border traffic continues its downtrend.

- While in Canada, their August jobs report saw a sharp 41.7k jobs contraction and the CAD slipped to underperform most G10 peers.

EUR's Restraint

- Across the Atlantic, aside from the tyranny of higher gas and petrol prices, **varying political risk premiums across Europe may also be constraining the EUR at the margin** even as we look towards a rate hike by the ECB later this week.

- While Germany's far-right party won in a state election for Saxony-Anhalt, their overall dynamics of sharp population and status of lowest GDP per capita imply that **results may not be representative on a nationwide basis**.

- That said, **political uncertainty in Germany** amid headlines of job cuts at major automakers is par for the course.

- In France, **budget proposals were heavily contested** with opposition towards tax increase even amid difficulties in repairing their budget deficits. Marine Le Pen is said to be leading polls in the lead-up to Presidential Elections next year.

- In Italy, **PM Meloni's leadership is said to be facing challenges** from Roberto Vannacci who is reportedly a right wing political star.

Yields (2Y: +2.9bp; 10Y: +1.4bp; 30Y: -0.3bp)

Equities (Nasdaq: -0.3%; S&P500: -0.4%; Dow: -0.5%)

FX (DXY: +0.3%)

- USDJPY trading around mid-155. EUR still hovering above 1.16.

- USDSGD remains likely to stay buoyed above mid-1.26. AUD also continue to outperform, sustaining ground above 72 cents as markets look towards RBA officials to affirm a potential rate hike in September.

- EM-Asia FX such as PHP, IDR, INR to start the week on the backfoot.

DATA/EVENTS

Overnight	Actual	Exp.	Prior
(US) Trade Balance (Jul)	-\$88.6b	-\$90.2b	-\$73.3b
(US) Change in Nonfarm Payrolls (Aug)	127k	55k	-23k
(US) Unemployment Rate (Aug)	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%
(EZ) Retail Sales YoY (Jul)	0.6%	1.1%	0.7%
(JP) Household Spending YoY (Jul)	-3.6%	-1.6%	-3.3%
(KR) BoP Current Account Balance (Jul)	\$42078.0m	--	\$49730.4m
(PH) CPI YoY (Aug)	6.1%	6.1%	6.2%

Today	Actual	Exp.	Prior
(TH) CPI YoY (Aug)		2.43%	1.95%
(SG) Retail Sales YoY (Jul)		3.1%	4.0%
(JP) Leading Index		118.00	116.50
(EZ) GDP SA YoY (2Q T)		1.0%	1.0%

FX OUTLOOK

FX	Close (NY)	Open*	Daily %Δ	Forecast
USDJPY	156.26	156.19	+0.29%	155.00 - 160.50
EURUSD	1.1614	1.1614	▼0.10%	1.1530 - 1.1680
GBPUSD	1.3519	1.3518	▼0.04%	1.3450 - 1.3600
AUDUSD	0.7203	0.7207	+0.03%	0.7100 - 0.7200
DXY	99.2	--	+0.27%	98.0 - 100.0
USDCNY	6.7112	--	▼0.11%	6.7000 - 6.7700
USDCNH	6.7080	6.7074	▼0.14%	6.7000 - 6.7700
USDHKD	7.8405	7.8406	+0.01%	7.8200 - 7.8500
USDSGD	1.2666	1.2671	▼0.06%	1.2650 - 1.2810
USDKRW	1346	1346	+0.00%	1340 - 1383
USDTWD	31.64	--	▼0.42%	31.40 - 31.90
USDINR	94.50	--	+0.00%	94.00 - 95.60
USDIDR	17637	--	▼0.13%	17500 - 17850
USDMYR	4.045	4.046	+0.06%	4.010 - 4.070
USDPHP	62.60	--	+0.13%	62.00 - 63.00
USDTHB	32.94	32.92	▼0.18%	32.7 - 33.2
USDVND	26080	26072	▼0.07%	25900 - 26300

*Open is as at 8am HKT/SGT.

MARKET MOVES

Bond Yields	2Y Close	10Y Close	2Y Δ (bps)	10Y Δ (bps)
UST (US)	4.367	4.783	2.9	1.4
JGB (JP)	1.831	2.908	-0.7	-4.0
Bunds (GE)	2.946	3.338	-0.6	-0.4
Gilts (UK)	4.529	5.133	1.2	-0.1
AGB (AU)	4.768	5.174	-0.9	-0.3
SGS (SG)	1.693	2.368	-0.1	-1.1
CGB (CN)	1.239	1.678	0.4	0.0
KGB (KR)	3.712	4.363	-0.3	-0.6
SDL (IN)	6.328	6.961	7.4	-0.4

G3 Equities	Close	Net Chg	Daily %Δ
S&P500 (US)	7718.6	-29.11	▼0.38%
Nasdaq (US)	26506.99	-77.07	▼0.29%
DJIA (US)	53414.25	-271.86	▼0.51%
N225 (JP)	65020.94	806.46	+1.26%
STOXX50 (EU)	6392.93	10.34	+0.16%

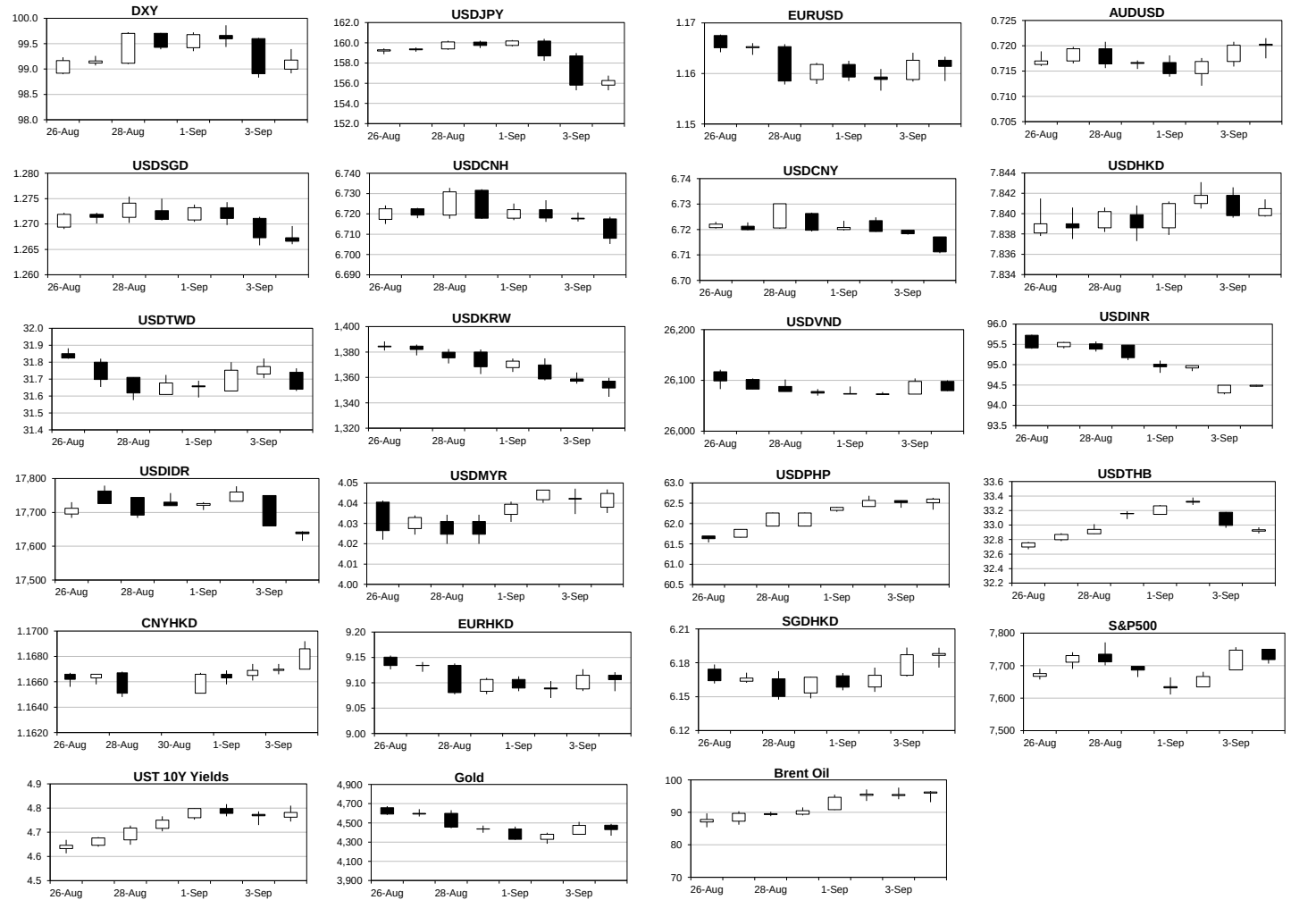
Commodity	Close	Net Chg	Daily %Δ
COPPER (LME)	14,490.24	98.81	+0.69%
IRON ORE (CN)	99.65	3.65	+0.30%
GOLD	4,429.98	-42.94	▼0.96%
SILVER	66.21	0.06	+2.13%
OIL (BRENT)	96.28	0.76	+0.80%
OIL (WTI)	91.48	0.18	+0.20%
NATURAL GAS	2.98	-0.77	▼1.15%

Cross FX	Close (NY)	Open*	Daily %Δ
EUR/JPY	181.46	181.4	+0.18%
GBP/JPY	211.274	211.132	+0.25%
JPY/SGD (100yen)	0.8108	0.8112	▼0.32%
JPY/HKD (100yen)	5.0176	5.02	▼0.28%
CNH/JPY	23.285	23.277	+0.60%
CNH/HKD	1.1686	1.1685	+0.14%
EUR/GBP	0.85901	0.85917	▼0.06%
AUD/NZD	1.2244	1.225	+0.01%
EUR/CNH	7.7905	7.7901	▼0.25%
GBP/CNH	9.067	9.067	▼0.21%
CNY/HKD	1.1686	1.1685	+0.14%
EUR/HKD	9.1063	9.1063	▼0.09%
SGD/HKD	6.1882	6.1881	+0.02%

*Open is as at 8am HKT/SGT.

Asia Equities	Close	Net Chg	Daily %Δ
ASX (AU)	5836.04	2.20	+0.04%
STI (SG)	5801.96	54.25	+0.94%
SHCOMP (CN)	3930.116	-11.97	▼0.30%
SZCOMP (CN)	2492.956	-19.91	▼0.79%
HSI (HK)	25650.87	437.56	+1.74%
SENSEX (IN)	76515.43	362.57	+0.48%
JSE (ID)	6636.475	-31.42	▼0.47%
KLSE (MY)	1708.1	-7.03	▼0.41%
PSE (PH)	6090.6	21.18	+0.35%
SET (TH)	1595.58	18.66	+1.18%
VNINDEX (VN)	1853.08	0.01	+1.39%

CHARTS



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