

Daily Market Brief

March 4th 2024



FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

EUR/USD

The EUR/USD pair trades in positive territory below the mid-1.0800s during the early European session on Monday. The decline of the USD after the downbeat US ISM Manufacturing PMI and the University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index provide some support to the pair. On Thursday, the ECB will announce its interest rate decision, with no change in rate expected.

GBP/USD

The GBP/USD pair builds on Friday's goodish rebound from the 1.2600 round figure, or a one-and-half-week trough and gains some positive traction for the second successive day on Monday. GBP/USD attracts buyers for the second straight day amid subdued US Dollar price action. BoE Chief Economist Huw Pill's hawkish remarks underpin the GBP and remain supportive. Bets that the Fed will keep rates higher for longer to limit the USD losses and cap the pair.

USD/JPY

The USD/JPY stages a recovery after diving to a two-week low of 149.21, climbing above the 150.00 figure on Friday amidst dovish comments by the Bank of Japan (BoJ) Governor Kazuo Ueda during the Asian session. Technical analysis suggests potential for further gains, with eyes on surpassing February highs.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.0847	1.0848	1.0838	0.09	-0.04	-1.74
GBP-USD	1.2666	1.2667	1.2650	0.09	-0.15	-0.51
USD-JPY	150.37	150.39	149.84	0.17	0.22	-6.20
USD-CHF	0.8831	0.8845	0.8825	-0.03	-0.35	-4.72
Commodities	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
Gold	2083.69	2086.26	2079.54	0.04	2.58	1.00
Silver	23.10	23.19	23.02	-0.11	2.57	-2.93
Crude Oil	79.89	80.37	79.78	-0.10	2.98	10.94
Bitcoin	63717.21	64279.05	62409.63	1.37	5.23	49.90
Etherium	3473.84	3529.98	3437.42	-0.14	4.53	52.21
Period	1 M	3 M	12 M			
EURIBOR	3.82	3.94	3.74			
SOFR	5.32	5.33	5.06			
Notes/Bonds	2 Y	10 Y	30 Y			
US	4.56	4.21	4.35			
BTP - BUND	0.59	1.47	1.89			
GILTS	4.29	4.11	4.55			

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Nasdaq Composite rose to an all-time high Friday, surpassing its 2021 record, as investors bet that megacap technology stocks were the best way to play slowing inflation and a coming artificial intelligence boom. The ADP Employment Survey & January job openings data will be released on Wednesday. Manufacturing & nonfarm payrolls data for February will also be released on Friday.

EUROPE

European markets closed higher on Friday to start the new trading month after a winning February, as investors assessed fresh inflation data out of the euro zone. February's flash euro zone inflation reading showed the headline consumer price index fell to 2.6% from January's 2.8%. The ECB will be monitoring Friday's reading closely as it charts its course of future interest rate cuts.

ASIA

In Asia Pacific, Japan's Nikkei 225 closed at a fresh record high on Friday, just short of the 40,000 level, while Chinese markets rose on the back of fresh manufacturing data from the mainland. Official data showed China's February manufacturing PMI at 49.1, in line with a Reuters Poll forecast.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	39087.38	0.23	1.12	3.71	39077.00	-0.17
S&P	5137.08	0.80	3.60	7.70	5140.75	-0.10
Nasdaq	16274.94	1.14	4.13	8.42	18351.75	0.07
DJ EuroStoxx50	4894.86	0.35	5.16	8.26	4911.00	0.20
FTSE 100	7682.50	0.69	0.88	-0.66	7654.50	-0.20
CAC 40	7934.17	0.09	4.50	5.18	7946.50	N/A
DAX	17735.07	0.32	4.83	5.87	17776.00	0.07
IBEX 35	10064.70	0.63	0.02	-0.37	10068.70	N/A
FTSE MIB	32934.29	1.08	7.22	8.51	32969.00	N/A
Nikkei	40109.23	0.50	10.93	19.86	40150.00	0.38
Hang Seng	16589.44	-0.42	6.35	-3.10	16502.00	-0.29
DFM General	4356.61	0.02	3.05	7.33	N/A	N/A
MSCI Tadawoul	12555.20	-0.60	4.95	4.91	N/A	N/A

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	74.90	76.00	74.00	-3.60	-0.60	-15.94
Solidere B	74.00	74.00	74.00	-1.00	-2.89	-17.73

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/Forexlive)

Dell stock skyrockets 30% to hit all-time high

Dell Technologies stock hit an all-time high on Friday, surging roughly 30% after its Thursday earnings beat. Shares changed hands at about \$123 before trading closed for the week, and investors celebrated the company's AI-fueled business developments and ramp-up in demand. The stock has climbed 64% year-to-date. For the quarter ending February 2, the company posted \$23.32 billion in revenue, which was a decline of 11% but still above the expected \$22.15 billion. It reported adjusted earnings per share of \$2.20, beating consensus forecasts for \$1.72. "Our strong AI-optimized server momentum continues, with orders increasing nearly 40% sequentially and backlog nearly doubling," Jeff Clarke, chief operating officer and vice chairman, said in a statement. The company also announced a 20% increase in its annual cash dividend to \$1.78 a share. Executives nodded to artificial intelligence as a key driver for the last quarter, and they expect the technology to fuel a strong year ahead. "We've just started to touch the AI opportunities ahead of us, and we believe Dell is uniquely positioned with our broad portfolio to help customers build GenAI solutions that meet performance, cost and security requirements," Clarke said. Dell's post-earnings stock surge follows Nvidia's huge gain last week after earnings. The chip maker saw its shares jump 16% the day after it published its blowout quarterly results, driving short sellers to suffer roughly \$3 billion in paper losses betting the stock would go lower that day, according to data from S3 partners.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
Sea LTD ADR	SE US	\$ 28.93B	04-Mar-24	Pre-mkt	-0.08	0.72
Aerovironment In	AVAV US	\$ 3.62B	04-Mar-24	Aft-mkt	0.33	0.33
Gitlab Inc	GTLB US	\$ 11.41B	04-Mar-24	Aft-mkt	0.08	-0.03
Avadel Pharmace	AVDL US	\$ 1.242B	05-Mar-24	Pre-mkt	-0.28	-0.44
Nio Inc ADR	NIO US	\$ 11.98B	05-Mar-24	Pre-mkt	-10.63	-7.32

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(04-03-24) JP - Capital Spending YoY
(05-03-24) JP - Tokyo CPI Ex Fresh Food YoY
(05-03-24) FR - Industrial Production MoM
(05-03-24) IT - GDP WDA QoQ
(05-03-24) UK - S&P Global UK Services PMI
(05-03-24) US - Factory Orders
(05-03-24) US - Durable Goods Orders

CONTACT

Banque BEMO sal
Asset Management Unit

Ashrafieh, Elias Sarkis Ave., BEMO Bldg, 4th Floor
P.O.Box 16-6353 Beirut, Lebanon
Tel: +961 1 325405/6/7/9

Disclaimer: This report is published for information purposes only. The information herein has been compiled from, or based upon sources we believe to be reliable, but we do not guarantee or accept responsibility for its completeness and accuracy. This document should not be construed as a solicitation to take part in any investment, or as constituting any representation or warranty on our part. The investment risks described herein are not purported to be exhaustive, any person considering an investment should seek independent advice on the suitability or otherwise of the particular investment. Investment, Capital Market and Treasury products are subject to Investment risk, including possible loss of principal amount invested. Past performance is not indicative of future results: prices can go up or down. Investors investing in investments and/or treasury products denominated in foreign (non-local) currency should be aware of the risk of exchange rate fluctuations that may cause loss of principal when foreign currency is converted to the investor's home currency. Client understands that it is his/her responsibility to seek legal and/or tax advice regarding the legal and tax consequences of his/her investment transactions. The consequences of any action taken on the basis of information contained herein are solely the responsibility of the recipient.