

Daily Market Brief

December 18th 2023



FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

EURUSD

The EUR/USD pair posts modest gains during the Asian trading hours on Monday. The major pair remains capped under 1.1000, the key barrier, and currently trades near 1.0900 amid the rebound of the US (DXY) and weaker Eurozone data. Investors will take more cues from the German IFO survey for fresh impetus on Monday.

GBPUSD

The GBP/USD pair holds positive ground during the early European session on Monday. The uptick in the pair is bolstered by the hawkish stance of the Bank of England (BoE) to remain restrictive for an extended period to bring inflation down to its target.

USDJPY

The Japanese Yen remains on the defensive against the (USD) for the second successive day on Monday and retreats further from its highest level since late July touched last week. The global risk sentiment remains well supported by the prospects for interest-rate cuts in 2024 and the optimistic outlook from China's Central Finance Office. This, in turn, is seen as a key factor undermining the JPY's relative safe-haven status and assists the pair to stick to its modest intraday gains, just below mid-142.00s heading into the European session.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.0918	1.0920	1.0892	0.21	1.42	1.99
GBP-USD	1.2690	1.2700	1.2666	0.07	1.08	5.02
USD-JPY	142.22	142.46	142.06	0.05	2.77	-7.80
USD-CHF	0.8690	0.8712	0.8670	-0.17	1.08	6.39
Commodities	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
Gold	2023.51	2024.86	2016.01	0.19	2.10	10.94
Silver	23.92	23.99	23.72	0.29	4.84	-0.13
Crude Oil	72.24	72.29	71.63	1.13	1.29	-5.93
Bitcoin	41201.00	41906.95	40778.25	-1.63	-4.17	149.11
Etherium	2179.39	2239.82	2161.47	-2.59	-3.63	81.71
Period	1 M	3 M	12 M			
EURIBOR	3.85	3.92	3.64			
SOFR	5.36	5.36	4.86			
Notes/Bonds	2 Y	10 Y	30 Y			
US	4.42	3.91	4.02			
BTP - BUND	0.61	1.71	2.09			
GILTS	4.29	3.69	4.16			

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The S&P 500 ended a choppy session little changed on Friday but registered a seventh straight week of gains in its longest winning streak since 2017 after this week's dovish pivot by the Federal Reserve. Costco climbs after posting upbeat Q1 results.

EUROPE

European shares inched up on the final day of a week marked by major central bank policy decisions, in which the U.S. Federal Reserve set the tone for market expectations about interest rate cuts being on the horizon. Barclays sees first ECB rate cut in April.

ASIA

Asian stocks fell the most in about two weeks after Fed officials pushed back against bets of aggressive interest rate cuts next year. The MSCI Asia Pacific Index lost as much as 1.1%, the biggest drop since Dec. 5, led by a near 1% drop in Hong Kong.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	37305.16	0.15	6.75	12.54	37724.00	0.16
S&P	4719.19	-0.01	4.55	22.91	4779.00	0.26
Nasdaq	14813.92	0.35	4.87	41.54	16841.25	0.10
DJ EuroStoxx50	4549.44	0.23	4.81	19.92	4578.00	-0.30
FTSE 100	7576.36	-0.95	0.96	1.67	7596.00	-0.11
CAC 40	7596.91	0.28	5.02	17.35	7608.00	N/A
DAX	16751.44	0.00	5.23	20.31	16919.00	-0.24
IBEX 35	10095.60	-0.75	3.42	22.68	10095.50	N/A
FTSE MIB	30373.89	0.05	2.97	28.12	30434.00	N/A
Nikkei	32758.98	-0.64	-2.46	25.54	32700.00	-0.58
Hang Seng	16792.19	-1.06	-4.81	-16.01	16623.00	-1.19
DFM General	4001.10	-0.14	0.02	19.77	N/A	N/A
MSCI Tadawoul	11600.72	0.50	4.68	10.71	N/A	N/A
Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	75.05	75.10	74.10	-3.41	7.21	23.23
Solidere B	74.80	75.10	74.00	-5.67	10.24	23.94

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)

DOCU

One-time pandemic darling DocuSign Inc. may be looking to sign a deal of its own. The e-signature company is working with advisers as it considers a sale, the Wall Street Journal reported Friday afternoon. A deal for DocuSign DOCU, +11.39%, valued at upwards of \$11 billion, could result in one of the largest recent leveraged buyouts, the report said, noting that private-equity firms and technology companies were among the potential suitors. DocuSign shares were up more than 11% in afternoon trading Friday following the report. A DocuSign spokesperson said the company doesn't comment on rumors or speculation. The company was a pandemic-era poster child as businesses looked for ways to get signatures on contracts, mortgages and other documents in a virtual world. But DocuSign has struggled to match its earlier growth rates as offices have resumed in-person activity, and management acknowledged a tough macroeconomic environment when DocuSign last posted earnings. DocuSign shares traded above \$310 at their highest point in September 2021, but they closed Thursday near \$56. The stock was changing hands just south of \$64 Friday amid the intraday rally.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
Heico Corporation	HEI US	\$25.2 B	18-Dec-23	After-mkt	0.70	0.70
Quipt Home Med	QIPT US	\$186.4 M	18-Dec-23	After-mkt	0.02	0.05
Accenture plc	ACN US	\$227.9 B	19-Dec-23	Pre-mkt	3.14	3.08
FedEX Corporatio	FDX US	\$70.2 B	19-Dec-23	After-mkt	4.14	3.18
Steelcase Inc.	SCS US	\$1.4 B	19-Dec-23	After-mkt	0.18	0.20

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(18-12-23) DE- IFO - Expectations, Current Assessment, Business Climatge DEC
(18-12-23) DE- German Buba Monthly Report
(18-12-23) EA- ECB's Lane speech
(18-12-23) GB- BoE's Broadbent speech
(19-12-23) EA- Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices NOV
(19-12-23) US- Housing Starts MoM NOV
(19-12-23) US- Building Permits MoM NOV

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