

## Global Markets Research

### Daily Market Highlights

#### Key Takeaways

- US stocks finished mixed overnight ahead of the release of more corporate earnings. **Crude oil futures jumped more than 2% to the highest levels in nearly six months on renewed concerns over a tight market as Washington announced its intentions to eliminate earlier waivers allowing eight economies to purchase Iranian oil without US sanctions.** Brent crude rocketed by 2.88% to \$74.04/barrel while WTI spiked by 2.66% to \$65.70/barrel. The Dow fell 0.18% (-48.49pts) while the S&P 500 rose 0.10% (+2.94pts) with the energy sector being the top gainer of the day, adding 2.05%. The NASDAQ gained 0.22% (+17.21pts). Treasuries fell overnight, pushing up yields - 10Y UST yield rose 3bps to 2.59%. Most European stock markets were still closed for Easter Monday. **In Asia, Chinese stocks slipped on worries that the central government might slow the pace of policy easing following China's Politburo meeting** - The Shanghai Composite Index lost 1.71%.
- Data remained scanty- **US existing home sales slipped 4.9% MOM in March** following an outsized gain in the previous month, marking its fourth declines within a five-month period. **The Chicago Fed National Activity Index (CFNAI) edged up to -0.15 in March pointing to a pickup in economic growth.** Malaysia foreign reserves rose to \$103.5b as at 15 April, sufficient to finance 7.7 months of retained imports and is 1 time short term external debt.
- **The Dollar index closed 0.09% lower at 97.282** led by USDCAD as crude oil prices surged thanks to the US' attempts to halt all Iranian oil exports. **We continue to maintain USD bullishness over the medium term** as this might just be a temporary knee-jerk reaction and a broader USD strength is still expected due to trade tensions and global growth concerns.
- **MYR closed 0.04% stronger at 4.1315** in quiet trading as markets are still trying to shake off the holiday grogginess. **MYR is now consolidating** between the 4.12-4.15 immediate range with a slight upside bias. Will look towards headlines for further catalysts in an otherwise still quiet market.
- **SGD closed weaker 0.07% at 1.3561 against USD** in quiet trading. **We maintain bearish SGD** as a stronger USD regionally amongst peers may affect overall SGD performance.

#### Overnight Economic Data

Malaysia	↑
US	→

#### What's Coming Up Next

##### Major Data

- US FHFA House Price Index, Richmond Fed Manufacturing Index, New Home Sales
- Eurozone Consumer Confidence
- Japan Nationwide Department Sales, Machine Tool Orders
- Singapore CPI

##### Major Events

- Nil

#### Daily Supports – Resistances (spot prices)\*

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2	Outlook
EURUSD	1.1170	1.1200	1.1253	1.1265	1.1300	↗
GBPUSD	1.2850	1.2930	1.2982	1.3100	1.3150	↗
USDJPY	111.40	111.70	111.84	112.30	112.70	→
AUDUSD	0.7070	0.7120	0.7128	0.7200	0.7230	→
EURGBP	0.8570	0.8600	0.8670	0.8675	0.8700	→
USDMYR	4.1250	4.1300	4.1350	4.1400	4.1450	→
EURMYR	4.6250	4.6400	4.6540	4.6610	4.6850	↗
JPYMYR	3.6620	3.6800	3.6985	3.7100	3.7200	→
GBPMYR	5.3400	5.3600	5.3700	5.3900	5.4000	↗
SGDMYR	3.0400	3.0450	3.0500	3.0600	3.0650	↘
AUDMYR	2.9300	2.9430	2.9485	2.9750	3.0000	→
NZDMYR	2.7300	2.7450	2.7615	2.7890	2.7980	→
USDSGD	1.3475	1.3510	1.3565	1.3575	1.3600	↗
EURSGD	1.5100	1.5160	1.5260	1.5311	1.5370	↗
GBPSGD	1.7410	1.7560	1.7615	1.7875	1.7975	↗
AUDSGD	0.9600	0.9650	0.9672	0.9750	0.9775	↗

\* at time of writing

↗ = above 0.1% gain; ↘ = above 0.1% loss; → = less than 0.1% gain / loss

	Last Price	DoD %	YTD %	Name	Last Price	DoD %	YTD %
KLCI	1,622.06	0.00	-4.05	CRB Index	187.92	0.42	10.67
Dow Jones Ind.	26,511.05	-0.18	13.65	WTI oil (\$/bbl)	65.70	2.66	44.68
S&P 500	2,907.97	0.10	16.00	Brent oil (\$/bbl)	74.04	2.88	37.62
FTSE 100	7,459.88	-0.15	10.88	Gold (S/oz)	1,274.99	-0.04	-0.61
Shanghai	3,215.04	-1.70	28.92	CPO (RM/tonne)	2,053.00	-0.02	5.15
Hang Seng*	29,963.26	-0.54	15.93	Copper (\$/tonne)	6,476.00	-1.22	8.57
STI	3,357.70	0.30	9.42	Rubber (sen/kg)	492.00	0.00	29.82

\*Last price for 18 April

Source: Bloomberg

**Economic Data**

	For	Actual	Last	Survey
MA Foreign Reserves	Apr-15	\$103.5b	\$103.0b	--
US Chicago Fed Nat Activity Index	Mar	-0.15	-0.31 (revised)	-0.10
US Existing Home Sales MOM	Mar	-4.9%	11.2% (revised)	-3.8%

Source: Bloomberg

**➤ Macroeconomics**

- US existing home sales fell again in March:** Existing home sales slipped 4.9% MOM in March (Feb: +11.2% revised) as sales of both single family units and condos fell. The downturn came following an outsized gain in the previous month, hence did not come as a surprise. Nonetheless, existing home sales have now fallen for four months within a five-month period and together with the still-weak homebuilding data raise questions on whether the housing market is gearing towards a solid recovery.
- US Chicago Fed National Index suggests economic growth rose in March:** The Chicago Fed National Activity Index (CFNAI) edged up to -0.15 in March (Feb: -0.31 revised) pointing to a pickup in economic growth. Three of the four broad categories increased in March namely the production related indicators, sales, orders and inventories indicators and employment related indicators.
- Malaysia foreign reserves went up in mid-April:** Malaysia foreign reserves rose to \$103.5b as at 15 April (previous: \$103.0b) according to BNM. The position is sufficient to finance 7.7 months of retained imports and is 1 time short term external debt.

**Economic Calendar**

Date	Country	Events	Reporting Period	Survey	Prior	Revised
23/04	US	FHFA House Price Index MOM	Feb	0.5%	0.6%	--
		Richmond Fed Manufact. Index	Apr	10.0	10.0	--
		New Home Sales MOM	Mar	-2.7%	4.9%	--
24/04		MBA Mortgage Applications	Apr-19	--	-3.5%	--
23/04	Eurozone	Consumer Confidence	Apr A	-7.0	-7.2	--
23/04	Japan	Nationwide Dept Sales YOY	Mar	--	0.4%	--
		Machine Tool Orders YOY	Mar F	--	-28.5%	--
24/04		All Industry Activity Index MOM	Feb	-0.3%	-0.2%	--
		Leading Index CI	Feb F	--	97.4	--
		Coincident Index	Feb F	--	98.8	--
23/04	Singapore	CPI YOY	Mar	0.7%	0.5%	--
24/04	Australia	CPI YOY	1Q	1.5%	1.8%	--

Source: Bloomberg

	Last Price	DoD %	High	Low	YTD %
EURUSD	1.1257	0.11	1.1262	1.1236	-1.81
GBPUSD	1.2982	-0.08	1.3002	1.2976	1.78
USDJPY	111.94	0.02	111.99	111.85	2.06
AUDUSD	0.7134	-0.25	0.7160	0.7128	1.25
EURGBP	0.8672	0.23	0.8676	0.8646	-3.52
USDMYR	4.1315	-0.04	4.1420	4.1295	-0.05
EURMYR	4.6475	0.00	4.6547	4.6434	-1.69
JPYMYR	3.6949	0.08	3.6993	3.6897	-1.67
GBPMYR	5.3722	0.00	5.3816	5.3649	1.99
SGDMYR	3.0481	-0.04	3.0545	3.0472	0.40
AUDMYR	2.9513	-0.18	2.9574	2.9507	0.97
NZDMYR	2.7623	-0.10	2.7661	2.7603	-0.59
CHFMYR	4.0750	-0.07	4.0812	4.0703	-2.95
CNYMYR	0.6161	-0.06	0.6177	0.6160	1.79
HKDMYR	0.5272	0.09	0.5279	0.5265	-0.19
USDSGD	1.3561	0.07	1.3570	1.3548	-0.50
EURSGD	1.5266	0.20	1.5276	1.5229	-2.30
GBPSGD	1.7605	-0.01	1.7636	1.7595	1.27
AUDSGD	0.9674	-0.22	0.9697	0.9671	0.76

Source: Bloomberg

## Forex

### MYR

- **MYR closed 0.04% stronger at 4.1315** in quiet trading as markets are still trying to shake off the holiday grogginess.
- **MYR is now consolidating** between the 4.12-4.15 immediate range with a slight upside bias. Will look towards headlines for further catalysts in an otherwise still quiet market.

### USD

- **The Dollar index closed 0.09% lower at 97.282** led by USDCAD as crude oil prices surged thanks to the US' attempts to halt all Iranian oil exports.
- **We continue to maintain USD bullishness over the medium term** as this might just be a temporary knee-jerk reaction and a broader USD strength is still expected due to trade tensions and global growth concerns.

### EUR

- **EUR closed 0.11% higher at 1.1257 against USD** in a very quiet start to the week.
- **We continue to maintain EUR bullishness** towards our 1.1350 target. However, this might be a challenge to achieve in a view of a data light week.

### GBP

- **GBP closed 0.08% lower at 1.2982** against the USD and mixed against the broader lower USD.
- **We continue to maintain bullish GBPUSD** over the medium term on Brexit developments but short term direction may be influenced by headlines from external events.

### JPY

- **JPY closed flat at 111.974** in the same quiet start.
- **JPY is going nowhere fast** amidst a mixed equity market versus higher UST yields, vague risk sentiments are keeping the pair within tight ranges.

### AUD

- **AUD closed 0.25% lower against the USD at 0.7134** in quiet trading.
- **We continue to remain neutral on AUD** as price action suggests further consolidation in between 0.71-0.72.

### SGD

- **SGD closed weaker 0.07% at 1.3561 against USD** in quiet trading.
- **We maintain bearish SGD** as a stronger USD regionally amongst peers may affect overall SGD performance.

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