

22 June 2026

**Global Markets Research**
**Daily Market Highlights**

## 22 June: Ongoing US-Iran talk in Switzerland

**Wall Street closed for Juneteenth; oil jumped last Friday on delayed peace talk**  
**Strong UK retail sales supported GBP; Gilt yields jumped on political uncertainty**  
**Malaysia's strong exports sent trade surplus to record high; CPI inched up to 2%**

- US, China and Hong Kong markets were closed for holidays on Friday, but elsewhere, European equity markets fell, while Asian exchanges closed mixed after the US-Iran accord hits early snag after the talk in Switzerland failed to proceed as planned. Stoxx Eur 600 dipped 0.2% d/d with tech and consumer stocks lagging, while FTSE 100 shed 0.4% d/d. In Asia, Nikkei 225 and KLCI 30 rose 0-0.3% d/d, but Kospi and Straits Times inched down 0.1-0.4% d/d.
- In the commodity space, Brent rebounded 0.9% d/d to \$80.57/barrel with the delayed planned US-Iran talk raising concerns over the durability of a peace deal and has trended up to \$81.58/barrel this morning with President Trump threatening fresh strikes even as US-Iran peace talks finally gets underway in Switzerland.
- In the bond space, UK gilts fell after Andy Burnham's victory in a special election renewed political uncertainty, sending 10Y yield up 9bps to 4.84%. 10Y bond yields for other European sovereign bonds rose at a narrower pace of 2-7bps.
- In the forex space, the DXY steadied at 100.85, with GBP (0.2% d/d to 1.3232) outperforming most if its G10 peers supported by a sharp rebound in UK's retail sales data. EUR and JPY appreciated 0.1% d/d each to 1.1471 and 161.30, the latter amid verbal intervention by Japanese officials, while AUD closed just below its flatline at 0.7012.
- MYR weakened to its 7-month low and underperformed its regional peers at 4.1363 (-0.5% d/d), while CNH and SGD were 0.1% d/d softer each at 6.7838 and 1.2912 against the greenback.

**Key Market Metrics**

	Level	d/d (%)
<b>Equities</b>		
Dow Jones	51,564.70	0.14
S&P 500	7,500.58	1.08
NASDAQ	26,517.93	1.91
Stoxx Eur 600	635.61	-0.24
FTSE 100	10,363.27	-0.35
Nikkei 225	71,250.06	0.28
CSI 300	4,941.60	0.21
Hang Seng	23,924.81	-1.59
Straits Times	5,192.70	-0.39
KLCI 30	1,712.03	0.04
<b>FX</b>		
Dollar Index	100.85	0.00
EUR/USD	1.1471	0.11
GBP/USD	1.3232	0.20
USD/JPY	161.30	-0.05
AUD/USD	0.7012	-0.01
USD/CNH	6.7838	0.08
USD/MYR	4.1363	0.47
USD/SGD	1.2912	0.09
USD/KHR	4,024.00	-0.07
USD/THB	32.83	0.24
<b>Commodities</b>		
WTI (\$/bbl)	76.60	-0.25
Brent (\$/bbl)	80.57	0.90
Gold (\$/oz)	4,224.10	-3.09
Copper (\$/MT)	13,595.00	-0.70
Aluminum(\$/MT)	3,396.50	0.30
CPO (RM/MT)	4,594.00	1.86

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research  
 \*Dated 18<sup>th</sup> June for Dow Jones, S&P 500, Nasdaq, CSI 300, Hang Seng, WTI, Gold

**Sharp rebound in UK's retail sales**

- UK retail sales rebounded strongly by 1.2% m/m in May, while the prior month's data was also revised upward to -1.0% m/m in a positive sign for the economy. Sales was better than expected and its strongest since January as consumer confidence stabilised (GfK: -23 in June), and as warm weather

and promotions increased sales volumes at department stores as well as outdoor furniture and fans.

### Malaysia's exports growth massively beat expectations for the 2nd straight month; CPI picked up only modestly in May; soothing inflationary fear

- Exports growth quickened more than expected for a 2nd consecutive month, to 45.3% y/y in May (Apr: 37.3% upwardly revised). This marked its fastest growth pace since Aug-22, spurred by a sharp increase in manufacturing (+51.7% y/y) and mining (+36.5% y/y) exports, which entirely offset the renewed contraction in agriculture exports (-22.9% y/y). Meanwhile, imports moderated less than expected to increase 14.1% y/y in May (Apr: 20.0% y/y), underpinned by a 58.4% y/y jump in re-exports and 14.4% y/y increase in intermediate goods imports, adding to signs Malaysia is benefitting from the Middle East unrest although the declines in capital and consumption goods imports are suggestive signs of softer domestic demand.
- In a separate release, CPI inched up a 3rd straight month to 2.0% y/y in May (Apr: 1.9% y/y), slightly below market expectation but within ours. Core CPI and non-food CPI remained steady at 2.0% and 2.3% y/y respectively in May, while services CPI eased off from 2.5% to 2.4% y/y, all reaffirming the case of limited cost pass-through and very well-contained price pressure in the system. Refer to Research Alert "Further upside surprises in exports amid contained inflation" dated 19<sup>th</sup> June for more details.

### House View and Forecasts

FX	This Week	2Q-26	3Q-26	4Q-26	1Q-27
DXY	99-103	100.63	99.80	97.96	96.48
EUR/USD	1.13-1.16	1.14	1.15	1.17	1.19
GBP/USD	1.30-1.34	1.31	1.32	1.34	1.35
USD/CHF	0.78-0.82	0.79	0.78	0.76	0.75
USD/JPY	158-163	159	155	152	152
AUD/USD	0.68-0.72	0.68	0.69	0.70	0.71
NZD/USD	0.56-0.60	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.59
USD/CNY	6.74-6.80	6.93	6.88	6.84	6.77
USD/MYR	4.08-4.15	3.98	3.96	3.93	3.90
USD/SGD	1.27-1.31	1.29	1.28	1.27	1.25
USD/THB	32.42-33.44	31.60	31.80	31.80	31.40
FX	Last close	2Q-26	3Q-26	4Q-26	1Q-27
EUR/MYR	4.7406	4.55	4.55	4.60	4.66
GBP/MYR	5.4746	5.23	5.23	5.26	5.28
AUD/MYR	2.9020	2.72	2.72	2.75	2.77
CNY/MYR	0.6112	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58
SGD/MYR	3.2041	3.09	3.10	3.11	3.12

Rates, %	Current	2Q26	3Q26	4Q26	1Q27
Fed	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75
ECB	2.25	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.50
BOE	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
SNB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BOJ	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25
RBA	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35
RBNZ	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25
BNM	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75

Source: HLBB Global Markets Research

## Up Next

Dat	Events	
22-Jun	CH 1-Year Loan Prime Rate	3.00%
	CH 5-Year Loan Prime Rate	3.50%
	EC Consumer Confidence (Jun P)	-19
23-Jun	AU S&P Global Australia PMI Mfg (Jun P)	50.7
	AU S&P Global Australia PMI Services (Jun P)	48.7
	JN S&P Global Japan PMI Mfg (Jun P)	54.5
	JN S&P Global Japan PMI Services (Jun P)	50
	SI CPI Core YoY (May)	1.40%
	MA Foreign Reserves	\$130.6b
	EC S&P Global Eurozone Manufacturing PMI (Jun P)	51.6
	EC S&P Global Eurozone Services PMI (Jun P)	47.7
	HK CPI Composite YoY (May)	1.70%
	UK S&P Global UK Services PMI (Jun P)	49.3
	UK S&P Global UK Manufacturing PMI (Jun P)	53.9
	US Philadelphia Fed Non-Manufacturing Activity (Jun)	-23.6
	US S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI (Jun P)	55.1
	US S&P Global US Services PMI (Jun P)	50.7
	US Richmond Fed Manufact. Index (Jun)	13
US Richmond Fed Business Conditions (Jun)	0	

Source: Bloomberg

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