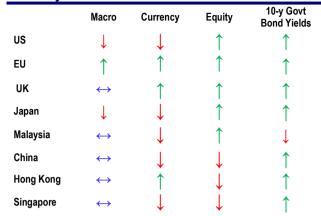


Global Markets Research

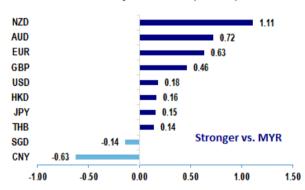
Weekly Market Highlights

Weekly Performance

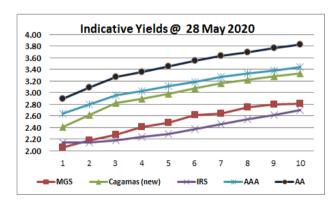


Weekly MYR Performance

MYR vs. Major Currencies (% WOW)



Indicative Yields



Please see important disclosure at the end of the report

Macroeconomics

- Focus turned to US-China tension this week in the lead up to the Chinese legislature's move to approve a controversial national security law on Hong Kong on Thursday. Hong Kong's previously semi-autonomous status under the post-colonial "One Country, Two Systems" has now turned murky, likely to prompt various countries to renegotiate issues such as bilateral trades. For now, the UK, US, Australia and Canada have issued a joint rebuke in reaction to China's move, all eyes are on Trump's press conference today. US stock markets gained steam this week leading major indexes to extend gain, powered by positive Covid-19 vaccines news and gradual reopening of the economy.
- April's hard data were unsurprisingly weak for most economies as this is the period where most governments issued full stay-at-home orders or nationwide lockdowns. May's soft economic data meanwhile point to recovery in manufacturing activity as well as broader sentiment in general as these governments eased social distancing rules and allowed businesses to operate again. Key events next week are ECB and RBA monetary policy decisions while Markit PMIs as well as US nonfarm payrolls and other job reports are in focus for another uncharted jobless rate.

Forex

- MYR: MYR traded slightly weaker by 0.18% WOW in a holiday shortened week to 4.3535 vs the USD as at yesterday's close. Poor dataflow globally and tension between the US and China continued haunting and keeping risk appetite at bay. This weaker MYR came despite a weaker USD over the week, suggesting overall subdued demand for EM currencies that could continue to undermine MYR outlook in a potentially risk off week ahead, more so with the Hong Kong episode adding on fuel to fire. We therefore maintin our bearish wekkly outlook for the MYR.
- USD: DXY fell 0.99% WOW (ending Thursday 28 May), as risk sentiments improved. The USD weakened the most against NZD (1.57%), CAD (1.38%), and EUR (1.16%). Only the JPY underperformed alongside the USD among G10 currencies. However, the USD strengthened against most emerging Asian currencies. Over the week, the USD was affected by poor jobless claims data (albeit improving) and 1Q revision. The following week will see attention on ISM and non-farm payrolls. Markets will also watch for US-China relations, although that may be manifested primarily on USD/CNH than on DXY broadly. We are neutral to bearish on the USD over the coming week, given current momentum. After hitting lowest levels after 28 March, markets eve the 98.27 low for DXY and may examine 98 psychological support. A return to 99, may conversely indicate some consolidation.

Fixed Income

- The week under review saw US Treasuries close weaker again on slight risk appetite. Overall yields ended 1-6bps higher as the curve steepened. The 2Y benchmark; reflective of interest rate predictions edged 1bps up to 0.17% whilst the much-watched 10Y (which traded within a tighter 0.66%-0.70% range); closed 2bps higher at 0.69%. The Treasury's auction of 2Y, 5Y and 7Y totalling \$127b saw uninspiring performances this week with BTC ratios ranging between 2.28-2.88x. The Fed is reputed to keep borrowing costs at fixed levels for various maturities of government debt papers. Meanwhile US-China tensions continue to slowly come to the forefront and may prolong the global economic slump accelerated by the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Expect cautious trading for the week ahead amid some volatility as President trump announces new policies on China as rising tensions between both countries may curb risk appetite. Key US nonfarm and job reports will also be scrutinized.
- Local govvies saw decent activity despite the holiday-shortened week due the long Raya holidays with overall benchmark MGS yields edging 0-2bps lower WOW save for the long-ends. The GII curve however ended much lower with yields declining between 0-10bps overall save for the skewed 3Y levels. Overall interest was mainly seen in off-the-run 20's, 22's, 24's and also the 7Y, 10Y bonds. The 5Y MGS 6/24 declined 2bps at 2.47% whilst the 10Y benchmark MGS 8/29 edged 1bps lower to close at 2.81%. Weekly volume spiked to RM10.3b and represented a lower daily volume of RM3.4b versus prior week's RM4.6b. GII bond trades fell to form ~ 26% of overall trades. Meanwhile some investors and bond traders are expecting further easing policies by BNM based on slowing economic growth and lower consumer prices. Expect range-bound trading in the coming week ahead of further news on the government's further update on the CMCO and also on possible opening-up of further economic sectors.



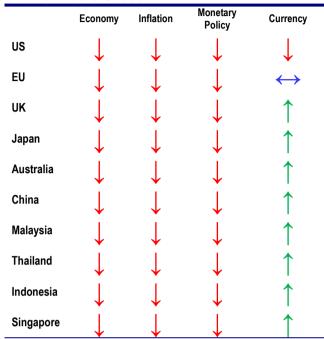
Contents

Macroeconomics	Page 3
Forex	Page 4
Trading Idea	Page 5
FX Technicals	Page 6
Fixed Income	Page 7
Economic Calendar	Page 9



Macroeconomics

6-month Macro Outlook



The Week in Review

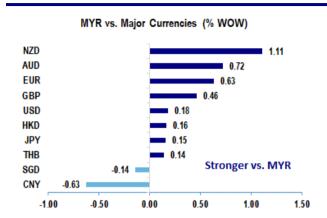
- · Focus turned to US-China tension this week in the lead up to the Chinese legislature's move to approve a controversial national security law on Hong Kong on Thursday. The ensuing backlash (prior to the approval) had led pro-democracy citizens back to the streets to protest against the harsher rule that would strip Hong Kong of its autonomy. Hong Kong's previously semi-autonomous status under the post-colonial "One Country, Two Systems" has now turned murky, likely to prompt various countries to renegotiate issues such as bilateral trades. For now, the UK, US, Australia and Canada have issued a joint rebuke in reaction to China's move, all eyes are on Trump's press conference today. US stock markets gained steam this week leading major indexes to extend gain, powered by positive Covid-19 vaccines news and gradual reopening of the economy. Compared to last Friday, the Dow has gained more than 900pts (+3.8%) after the Memorial weekend; the S&P 500 added 2.5% while NASDAQ was little changed (+0.5%). Crude oils continue to recover albeit more modestly this week while gold price fell for the second week. In Europe, the European Commission proposed a stimulus package of €750b to support the broader Eurozone economy.
- April's hard data were unsurprisingly weak for most economies as this is the period where most governments issued full stay-at-home orders or nationwide lockdowns. May's soft economic data meanwhile point to recovery in manufacturing activity as well as broader sentiment in general as these governments eased social distancing rules and allowed businesses to operate again. In the US, 1Q GDP growth was revised downwards from -4.8% to -5.0% QOQ in a second estimate. Initial jobless claims for last week came in at 2.1mil, bringing the 10-week total to more than 40mil, but the trend is noticeably easing. Orders of American made durable goods fell 17% but regional manufacturing indexes by Dallas Fed, Richmond Fed and Kansas City Fed rebounded from record lows, indicating a recovery in May. Chicago Fed National Activity Index indicated a recession and the Federal Reserve's fourth Feige Book for 2020 reported that economic activity declined in all Districts. Housing data were mixed-pending home sales declined 22% while new home sales registered a surprise but minimal gain. Mortgage applications picked up last week of which applications for home purchases (instead of refinancing) rose for the sixth straight weeks, a welcoming sign for the housing sector. The Conference Board Consumer Confidence was also up this month.
- Eurozone economic sentiment improved as economies reopened in the continent. Japan's nationwide lockdown started in mid-April, thus resulted in the jobless rate going up to 2.6%, the highest level since late 2017 while industrial production and retail sales both fell around 14% YOY in the same period. New Zealand's monthly trade surplus hit a record high thanks to falling imports. While its business and consumer confidence recovered in May. Singapore's 1Q GDP growth was revised upwards from -2.2% to -0.7% YOY. The government announced additional budget measures, ramping up spending to 20% of GDP.

The Week Ahead

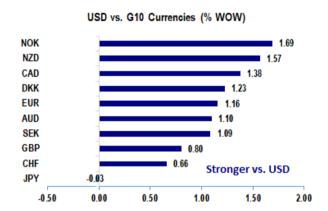
- PMI data will be closely watched in the week ahead, Markit PMI data for economies under our coverage will be released next week alongside the ISM manufacturing and non-manufacturing PMI for the US. They include PMIs for US, Eurozone, UK, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, Vietnam as well as Malaysia.
- Investors will then turn their attention to the official US job report, published on a Friday as usual. This shall offered more definite assessment of the pandemic's impact on the labour market. April losses came in at 20.5mil and unemployment rate skyrocked to 14.7%. Other key US data include construction spending, ADP private payrolls, factory orders, and international trade report.
- In Europe, the ECB Governing Council will meet and announce its monetary decision. The ECB staff macroeconomic projection is to be published alongside the announcement. Other than this, markets will also pay close attention to retail sales and unemployment rate data for April which fully reflect the impact of pandemic.
- Elsewhere, Hong Kong's and Singapore's retail sales are also on the calendar. In Australia, the RBA is expected to hold its cash rate steady before the release of the 1Q GDP figures, international trade and retail sales. Malaysia exports are expected to see hefy decline as the nation was locked under MCOin Apirl.



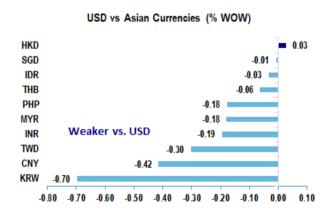
Forex



Source: Bloomberg



Source: Bloomberg



Source: Bloombera

Review and Outlook

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- EUR: EUR/USD rose 1.16% WOW, helped by improving sentiments. Pair reached highest levels seen since end-March, touching 1.11 in the process. We are neutral to bullish on EUR/USD for the coming week. Momentum still looks strong after 5 consecutive days of strengthening. Still, there may be some consolidation around 1.11. Markets may also punish the EUR during risk off moves. Focus next week is on ECB policy decision where markets expect little further measures.
- GBP: GBP/USD saw a 0.8% WOW gain despite some volatility throughout the week. Pair remains around 50-day MA but below 100- and 200-day MA. We are neutral on the GBP for the coming week. GBP may remain weighed down by continued Covid-19 cases in the UK as well as heightened policy uncertainty (regarding Covid-19 policies and Brexit).
- JPY: USD/JPY was in a narrow range throughout the week, overall 0.03% down WOW against the USD. Pair remained below 50-day MA. Fundamentals look to improve as the economy reopens, even as April data was terrible. We are neutral to bearish on JPY on the week ahead, mainly from current momentum. Risk-off moves may still threaten higher USD/JPY moves.
- AUD: AUD bull momentum was strong over the week. AUD strengthened 1.1% WOW against the USD, mirroring that of NZD. Risk on movements, alongside recovering Australia fundamentals, supported the Aussie. Next week's data focus is on GDP data as well as RBA policy rate announcements. We expect no huge surprises that can derail current levels. We are neutral to bullish on the AUD for the following week, expecting some consolidation. The risk of correction stems from event risks like rising US-China or China-Australia relations, or commodity markets.
- SGD: USD/SGD consolidated over the past week, despite some moves lower as the week ended. Focus was on Fortitude Budget which will support the economy and stabilised expectations. Data was resilient for manufacturing in April. We are neutral on SGD in the week ahead. However, concerns on US-China tensions and Covid-19 outbreak may derail the recent recovery. Attention will likely be on PMI and retail sales figures the following week.



Technical Analysis:

Currency	Current	44 day DCI	4-day RSI Support - Resistance		Moving Averages 30 Days 100 Days 200 Days		Call	
Currency	price	14-day KSI					200 Days	Call
EURUSD	1.1103	66.1620	1.0726	1.1079	1.0888	1.0959	1.1012	Positive
GBPUSD	1.2343	52.2660	1.2110	1.2461	1.2330	1.2583	1.2669	Positive
USDJPY	107.1200	45.8150	106.2200	108.1800	107.2400	108.3600	108.3500	Neutral
USDCNY	7.1477	62.0250	7.0533	7.1618	7.0979	7.0246	7.0438	Positive
USDSGD	1.4131	44.7410	1.4105	1.4263	1.4190	1.4035	1.3851	Positive
AUDUSD	0.6654	64.0020	0.6366	0.6679	0.6486	0.6482	0.6658	Positive
NZDUSD	0.6212	61.2880	0.5942	0.6238	0.6073	0.6197	0.6316	Positive
USDMYR	4.3503	51.9810	4.3048	4.3781	4.3476	4.2459	4.2089	Neutral
EURMYR	4.8303	66.6530	4.6388	4.8187	4.7310	4.6578	4.6381	Positive
GBPMYR	5.3695	53.1630	5.2697	5.4267	5.3733	5.3585	5.3192	Positive
JPYMYR	4.0609	53.6450	4.0218	4.0851	4.0525	3.9191	3.8906	Neutral
CHFMYR	4.5190	58.7840	4.4288	4.5177	4.4822	4.3850	4.3041	Neutral
SGDMYR	3.0785	59.8780	3.0403	3.0850	3.0631	3.0330	3.0391	Negative
AUDMYR	2.8949	66.2370	2.7538	2.8992	2.8062	2.7599	2.8024	Positive
NZDMYR	2.7023	63.7620	2.5754	2.7048	2.6343	2.6417	2.6598	Positive

Trader's Comment:

Despite attempts from various nations to persuade China otherwise, Beijing has on Thursday approved the Hong Kong Security Legislation, and indicated firmly that foreign meddling is not welcomed. Trump has previously threatened to stop recognising Hong Kong's autonomy and to revoke its special trading status or even impose sanctions on Chinese officials. More details are expected to be revealed during Trump's news conference on relations with China tonight. With this, the US-China tension is set to worsen. Politics aside, China premier Li has in his speech yesterday expressed commitment in seeking GDP growth this year although there is no specific target.

Prior to Beijing's decision on Hong Kong, USDCNH has already rallied ahead to the same all-time-high of 7.1965 previously seen in September 2019, and 7.2000 remains to be tested. DXY slumped from last week due to improved risk sentiments as various economies look to ease lockdown measures while US GDP and employment data continue to disappoint. EUR and the Kroners were the best performers in G10 as markets welcomed EU's proposal of a EUR 750 bil recovery fund. Commodity currencies CAD, AUD and NZD did almost equally as well. Bank of Korea cut rates by 25bps as widely expected. Yuan's weakness kept a lid on the strength of other Asian currencies. UST yields remained range bound while stocks rallied and crude held firmly above 31. Next week, we have RBA, BOC and ECB meetings scheduled. Expecting no surprises.

Locally, decent 2-way interest kept USDMYR within a tight 4.3450-4.3630 range in this short trading week. MSG yields are little changed but curve steepened a little, whereas in GII there were some demand in the 7-10yrs and is -3 to -4bp from last Friday. With a lack of local drivers, expect MYR to remain range bound within 4.3300-4.3800 but will keep an eye on US-China headlines.



Technical Charts USDMYR



Source: Bloomberg

GBPMYR



Source: Bloomberg

AUDMYR



Source: Bloomberg

EURMYR



Source: Bloomberg

JPYMYR



Source: Bloomberg

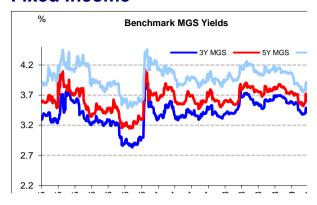
SGDMYR

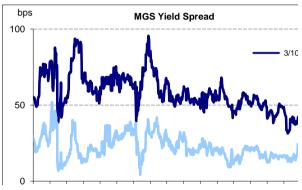


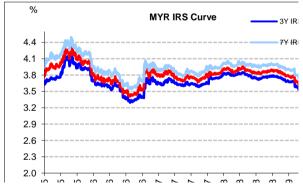
Source: Bloomberg

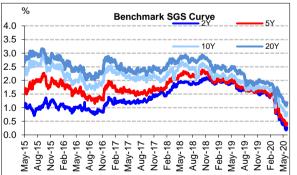


Fixed Income









Review & Outlook

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- Corporate bonds/Sukuk, including Govt-guaranteed bonds saw upbeat interest post raya holidays with trades seen mainly across the GG-part of the curve followed by AAA and AA space as yields declined on strong bids. Total weekly market volume eased 17% to ~RM2.76b due to the holiday-shortened week but represented a daily volume of RM920m versus prior week's RM780m. Topping the weekly volume were govt-guaranteed bonds i.e. DANA 10/23 (GG) which rallied 20bps at 2.57% followed by the 11/26 tranche declined 6bps at 2.92%. Ths was followed by PRASARANA 9/22 which closed 26bps lower at 2.45%. Investor interest was seen mainly in DANAINFRA, PRASA, LPPSA, DANUM, PLUS, SEB, YTL Power and some unrated property-related bonds ie. ECO World. The prominent new issuance for the week was CAGAMAS Bhd's (AAA) 1-2Y papers totalling RM100m with coupons ranging between 2.65-2.75% and also RHB Bank Bhd's (AAA) 10NC5 bonds amounting to RM500m at a coupon of 3.35%.
- For the week under review, SGS (govvies) saw overall benchmarks reverse to record losses as yields rose between 6-12bps as the curve bear-steepened extending out to 20Y tenures. The 2Y gave up last week's 6bps gain at 0.26% levels whilst the 5Y and 10Y moved within a wider range of 9-13bps; as yields closed 8-12bps higher at 0.43% and 0.82% respectively. Meanwhile the nation's auction reopening of the 15Y bond saw tepid bidding metrics on a BTC ratio of a mere 1.46x compared to 1.83x last September; averaging 1.18%. This was possibly due to the larger-than-usual offering of SGD2.0b and about the time whereby rates are off their recent lows. A fourth fiscal stimulus package of SGD33b was announced to resuscitate the economy affected by COVID-19 pandemic. This takes the total package to almost SGD100b or 20% of GDP.



Rating Action						
Issuer	PDS Description	Rating/Outlook	Action			
MEX II Sdn Bhd	RM1.3 billion Sukuk Murabahah and RM150.0 million Junior bonds	A-IS and BBB/Negative	Outlook revised from Stable to Negative			
Ranhill Powertron II Sdn Bhd	RM140.0 million outstanding Islamic Medium-Term Notes (IMTN)	AA-IS/Stable	Affirmed			
	RM350.0 million outstanding guaranteed IMTN	AAA-IS (FG)/Stable	Affirmed			
Tanjung Bin Power Sdn Bhd	RM4.5 bil Sukuk Ijarah Programme	AA2/Stable	Reaffirmed			



Date	Time	Country	Event	Period	Prior
01/06	08:30	Malaysia	Markit Malaysia PMI Mfg	May	31.3
04/06	12:00		Exports YoY	Apr	-4.7%
	12:00		Trade Balance MYR	Apr	12.34b
05/06	15:00		Foreign Reserves	May-29	
11/06	12:00		Industrial Production YoY	Apr	-4.9%
01/06	21:45	US	Markit US Manufacturing PMI	May F	
	22:00		Construction Spending MoM	Apr	0.90%
	22:00		ISM Manufacturing	May	41.5
03/06	19:00		MBA Mortgage Applications	May-29	
	20:15		ADP Employment Change	May	-20236k
	21:45		Markit US Services PMI	May F	
	22:00		Factory Orders	Apr	-10.3%
	22:00		ISM Non-Manufacturing Index	May	41.8
	22:00		Durable Goods Orders	Apr F	
04/06	20:30		Trade Balance	Apr	-\$44.4b
	20:30		Initial Jobless Claims	May-30	
05/06	20:30		Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	May	-20537k
	20:30		Unemployment Rate	May	14.70%
	20:30		Average Hourly Earnings YoY	May	7.9%
00/00	20:30		Labor Force Participation Rate	May	60.2%
09/06	18:00		NFIB Small Business Optimism	May	90.9
10/06	19:00		MBA Mortgage Applications	Jun-05	
	20:30		CPI YoY	May	0.3%
11/06	02:00		FOMC Rate Decision (Upper Bound)	Jun-10	0.25%
	20:30		PPI Final Demand YoY	May	-1.2%
	20:30		Initial Jobless Claims	Jun-06	
12/06	20:30		Import Price Index YoY	May	-6.8%
	22:00	_	U. of Mich. Sentiment	Jun P	
02/06	16:00	Eurozone	Markit Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	May F	
03/06	17:00		PPI YoY	Apr	-2.8%
	17:00		Unemployment Rate	Apr	7.4%
04/06	16:00		Markit Eurozone Services PMI	May F	
	16:00		Markit Eurozone Composite PMI	May F	
	17:00		Retail Sales MoM	Apr	-11.2%
00/00	19:45		ECB Deposit Facility Rate	Jun-04	-0.5%
08/06	16:30		Sentix Investor Confidence	Jun	-41.8
09/06	17:00		GDP SA QoQ	1Q F	-3.80%
12/06	17:00	1117	Industrial Production SA MoM	Apr	-11.30%
01/06	16:30	UK	Markit UK PMI Manufacturing SA	May F	
03/06	16:30		Markit/CIPS UK Services PMI	May F	
11/06	07:01		RICS House Price Balance	May	-21%
12/06	14:00		Monthly GDP (MoM)	Apr	-5.8%
	14:00		Industrial Production MoM	Apr	-4.2%
	14:00		Visible Trade Balance GBP/Mn	Apr	-£12508
01/06	08:30	Japan	Jibun Bank Japan PMI Mfg	May F	
03/06	08:30		Jibun Bank Japan PMI Services	May F	
05/06	07:30		Household Spending YoY	Apr	-6.0%
	13:00		Leading Index CI	Apr P	
08/06	07:50		GDP SA QoQ	1Q F	-0.90%
	00:00		Eco Watchers Survey Current SA	May	7.9
	00:00		Eco Watchers Survey Outlook SA	May	16.6
09/06	07:30		Labor Cash Earnings YoY	Apr	0.1%
10/06	07:50		PPI YoY	May	-2.3%
	07:50		Core Machine Orders MoM	Apr	-0.4%
11/06	07:50		BSI Large Manufacturing QoQ	2Q	-17.2
1-20/06	NA		Machine Tool Orders YoY	May F	
12/06	12:30		Industrial Production YoY	Apr F	
01/06	09:45	China	Caixin China PMI Mfg	May	49.4
03/06	09:45		Caixin China PMI Services	May	44.4
07/06	00:00		Exports YoY	May	3.5%
	00:00		Imports YoY	May	-14.2%
10/5-	00:00		Trade Balance	May	\$45.34b
10/06	09:30		PPI YoY	May	-3.1%
	09:30		CPI YoY	May	3.3%
01/06	16:30	Hong Kong	Retail Sales Value YoY	Apr	-42.0%
03/06	08:30		Markit Hong Kong PMI	May	36.9
03/06	08:30	Singapore	Markit Singapore PMI	May	28.1
	21:00		Purchasing Managers Index	May	44.7



	21:00		Electronics Sector Index	May	42.8
05/06	13:00		Retail Sales SA MoM	Apr	-1.3%
	13:00		Retail Sales YoY	Apr	-13.3%
	13:00		Retail Sales Ex Auto YoY	Apr	-9.7%
01/06	06:30	Australia	AiG Perf of Mfg Index	May	35.8
02/06	12:30		RBA Cash Rate Target	Jun-02	0.25%
03/06	09:30		GDP SA QoQ	1Q	0.5%
04/06	09:30		Exports MoM	Apr	15%
	09:30		Retail Sales MoM	Apr	8.5%
05/06	06:30		AiG Perf of Services Index	May	27.1
09/06	09:30		NAB Business Confidence	May	-46
10/06	08:30		Westpac Consumer Conf Index	Jun	88.1
	09:30		Home Loans Value MoM	Apr	0.2%
11/06	06:45	New Zealand	Card Spending Retail MoM	May	-46.8%
12/06	06:30		BusinessNZ Manufacturing PMI	May	26.1
01/06	08:30	Vietnam	Markit Vietnam PMI Mfg	May	32.7

Source: Bloomberg



Hong Leong Bank Berhad

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