

Global Markets Monitor

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024 LEAD EDITOR: BENJAMIN MOSK

- Australia's higher-than-expected inflation print raises likelihood of rate hike (link)
- Japanese yen and 10-year JGB yield breached key psychological levels (link)
- Additional T-Bill supply likely to buffer the impact of higher US deficit (link)
- French domestic banks may continue to be seen as riskier also after elections (link)
- Rand weakens for third consecutive day ahead of expected cabinet announcement (link)
- Stablecoins are gaining ground in financial markets (link)

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Japanese yen in the spotlight as it breaches the 160 level

Markets closely watched for potential FX interventions as the yen breached the 160 level versus the US dollar. This brings the currency to its weakest point since 1986. In April-May this year, the Ministry of Finance intervened after the 160 level was briefly breached, and over the past days, officials have made verbal warnings. Analysts doubt whether there is an immediate case for intervention this time. Some only expect action if moves become more volatile, and others consider that there might be an incentive to await Friday's US PCE inflation print, as it may ease pressure on the yen. The yen weakening also reflects overall dollar strength, with the US dollar index increasing by 0.3% today. The Nikkei index advanced by 1.3%, driven by industrials and a rebound in global tech-stocks. Global sovereign bond yields increased modestly, almost across the board; notably, the 10-year JGB yield crossed the 1% level in Japan (+3bps). More significant moves were seen in Australia, where sovereign yields increased by 18 bps at the 2-year point after the May CPI inflation print came in at 4% y/y versus 3.8% expected, and 3.6% prior. This overshoot prompted markets to reprice the expected monetary policy path; a rate hike is now back in the picture with a market-implied probability of 51%. Government bonds in China stood out as an exception, with 10-year yields slipping to 2.22%, the lowest level since 2002.

Key Global Financial Indicators

Last updated:	Leve		Ch				
6/26/24 8:14 AM	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
Equities				9	%		%
S&P 500		5469	0.4	0	3	26	14.66
Eurostoxx 50	many -	4917	-0.4	1	-2	15	9
Nikkei 225	may be a second	39667	1.3	3	2	22	19
MSCI EM	monde	43	-0.2	0	-1	8	6
Yields and Spreads							
US 10y Yield	and and	4.29	3.9	6	-18	57	41
Germany 10y Yield	my	2.44	3.2	4	-14	14	42
EMBIG Sovereign Spread	manne	396	-2	0	24	-48	12
FX / Commodities / Volatility				9	%		
EM FX vs. USD, (+) = appreciation	money	45.9	-0.2	-1	-3	-7	-5
Dollar index, (+) = \$ appreciation	2 mayor and	105.9	0.3	1	1	3	5
Brent Crude Oil (\$/barrel)	manne	85.4	0.5	0	4	15	11
VIX Index (%, change in pp)	warm Mari	13.0	0.2	1	1	-1	1

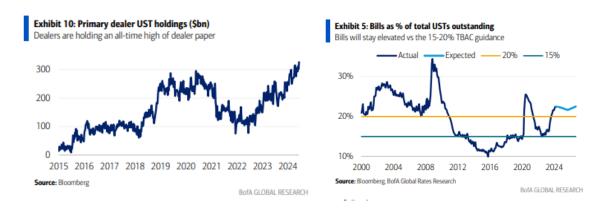
Colors denote tightening/easing financial conditions for observations greater than ±1.5 standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

Mature Markets

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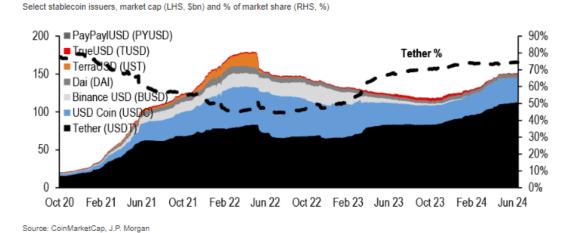
United States

Additional T-Bill supply likely to buffer the impact of a higher US deficit. Last week the congressional Budget office revised its deficit outlook higher, increasing the likelihood of additional Treasury supply. However, markets have shown growing signs of indigestion due to heavy net supply since 2023, such as periodic auction tails and higher dealer Treasury holdings constraining their balance sheets, all of which can put upward pressure on Treasury yields. However, market contacts anticipate that the extra supply will primarily be absorbed through T-Bills issuance rather than coupon issuance, at least until fiscal clarity is established post-elections. T-Bill issuance would be easily absorbed by Money Market Funds, which are expected to see ongoing inflows in the coming months. In this way the impact of rising deficits on Treasury yields could be somewhat mitigated.



Stablecoins are gaining ground in financial markets. Despite challenges faced last year, such as crypto entity collapses and the regional banking crisis, the stablecoin market is rebounding. Currently valued at approximately \$160 billion, it has grown by about 30% since late 2023, approaching its peak of \$180 billion in early 2022. Tether (USDT) dominates the market, accounting for nearly 75% of the stablecoin market. While crypto rallies have contributed to stablecoin growth, global payment giants like Stripe, PayPal and Ripple are also embracing stablecoins. Stripe plans to accept stablecoins on its platform, PayPal has recently enabled cross-border stablecoin transfers and Ripple is launching its own stablecoin.

Figure 1: The size of the stablecoin market is ~\$160bn today, about a 30% increase from the local low in late 2023 and a little shy of the peak of \$180bn in early 2022

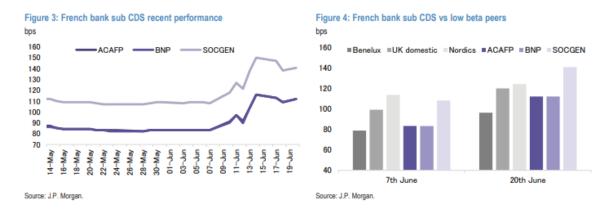


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Euro Area

European equities edged higher today mirroring similar performance in the US yesterday. The Stoxx 600 index increased by +0.5% led by gains in the technology, retail and industrial sectors. The European banking sector gained +0.4% today.

Current spread dislocation in French banks may not represent a buying opportunity, according to analysts at JP Morgan. JPM highlights that investors will perceive French domestic banking risk as higher under any outcome of the upcoming elections.



Today's data on consumer confidence continued to disappoint in Germany (GfK index at -21.8 in July, vs est. -19.5, from -21 in June), which ING sees as confirmation of the difficulty of the German consumer demand to gain momentum despite surging real wages. Analysts at Bloomberg revised downward the growth forecast for German economy, now projected to 0.3% in 2024 and 1.1% in 2025.

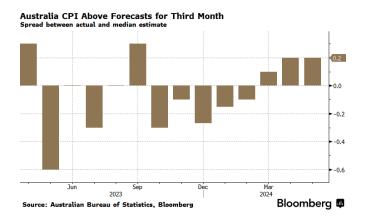
ECB governing council member Olli Rehn said today that expectations of two more rate cuts taking the policy rate to 3.25% by the end of this year are "reasonable expectations." The euro declined (-0.2%) against the dollar, trading at \$1.06/€. Analysts at Bloomberg highlight that relatively low euro-dollar volatility is masking negative euro sentiment linked to concerns around the French elections, which can be spotted by looking at one-month risk reversals. ING sees euro-dollar price action before the weekend being determined by investor's positioning on French election and Friday's US PCE, and expects weakening of the euro.



Australia

Higher-than-expected inflation raised the likelihood of a rate hike by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA). Headline CPI inflation accelerated to 4.0% y/y in May from 3.6% in April, higher than expected (consensus: +3.8%). The trimmed mean core measure, which smooths out volatile items, also increased

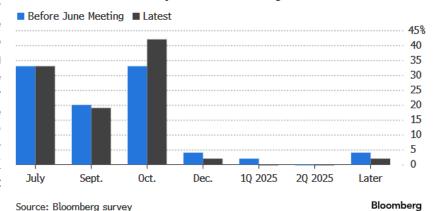
to 4.4% from 4.1%. Market repriced for another rate hike. The 1-year OIS rate rose to 1.85% (+16.3 bps). Government bond yields also increased (1-year: +11.9 bps; 10-year: +11.0 bps). However, an analyst at State Street Global Advisors commented that it would be a mistake for the RBA to hike interest rates as inflation data has seasonal issues. Australian dollar appreciated (+0.3%), outperforming other regional currencies which depreciated across the board amid a broad-based USD strengthening, in response to higher interest rates. Equities fell (-0.7%).



Japan

The Japanese yen and 10-year **JGB** yield breached key psychological levels. The Japanese yen depreciated to 160.3 yen per dollar (weakening by 0.4%). The size of the depreciation was broadly similar to that of other currencies in the region amid a broad-based USD strengthening. Markets closely watched for potential interventions; the last time that Japanese authorities stepped in the FX market was when

Most BOJ Watchers Expect Rate Hike by End of October



Japanese yen reached the level of 160 yen per dollar. Meanwhile, 10-year JGB yield rose to 1.023% (+2.9 bps), surpassing the 1% level for the first time since June 12. Traders continued to assess how the Bank of Japan (BOJ) will reduce the JGB purchases. The BOJ plans to hold meetings during July 9-10 to hear views from market participants on the future direction of its JGB purchases. The latest Bloomberg survey showed that one-third of respondents expected that the BOJ will raise the policy rate along with providing more details on its plan to reduce JGB purchases at the July policy meeting. Longer-term JGB yields also increased (30-year: +5.1 bps). Japanese equities increased (NIKKEI: +1.3%).

Emerging Markets back to top

EMEA equities were mostly trading higher this morning, while CEE currencies were weaker against the euro. Equities in Türkiye (-0.8%) were underperforming while those in Poland were trading higher (+0.6%).

The Turkish lira was trading a touch firmer (+0.1%) against the dollar at 32.91/\$ ahead of tomorrow's central bank policy meeting where expectations are for the policy rate to remain unchanged at 50%.

Elsewhere, Fitch Ratings revised its Turkish banking sector outlook to "improving" from neutral citing improvements in the country's macro and financial stability risks following the adoption of more conventional macroeconomic policies alongside improved investor confidence.

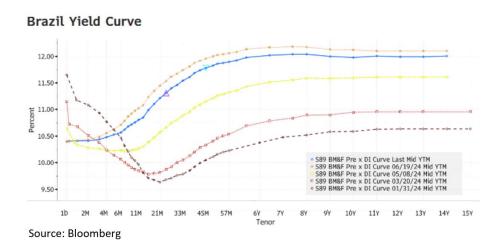
Separately, Bloomberg reports that Hungary's central bank announced yesterday that it will increase the countercyclical capital buffer rate (CCyB) to 1% (from 0.5%) effective from 1 July 2025 to bolster financial stability. On the issuance front, according to Bloomberg, Lithuania (A2/A/A) may price a 7-year euro denominated bond today, with indicative pricing of mid-swaps +100bps.

Asian equities advanced, gaining 0.5%, led by Indian (+0.7%), Chinese (CSI 300: +0.6%) and Taiwanese (+0.5%) stocks. **Asian currencies depreciated**, led by Thai baht (+0.5%) and Taiwan dollar (-0.4%), amid a broad-based USD strengthening. Long-end government bond yields increased, with 10-year yields rising in Singapore (+6.4 bps).

Latin American assets saw mainly negative performance. Stocks declined in Colombia (-1.4%), Chile (-1.2%) and Peru (-0.5%). Currencies depreciated in Brazil (-1.1%) and Mexico (-0.8%), while the Chilean peso strengthened 0.4% against the US dollar.

Brazil

Brazil's central bank raised neutral interest rate estimation to 4.75% from 4.5%, as the economy now requires higher real interest rates to keep growing without inflationary pressures. The central bank published the minutes from the last Copom meeting. The minutes were in line with Copom's unanimous decision to interrupt/pause the normalization cycle, and were interpreted as somewhat hawkish. It is unanimous among the directors that there is a firm commitment to drive inflation to the target, but there is no indication they debated any future rate hikes. Analysts assessed that the window of opportunity to resume the easing cycle will likely not open until mid-2025. Markets adjusted their 2024 rate expectations after the statement indicated that inflation might approach the target by the end of 2025.



China

The renminbi (RMB) depreciated as the People's Bank of China (PBC) continued setting the daily fixing weaker for six consecutive days, the first time since June 2023. RMB depreciated to 7.27 yuan per dollar (-0.1%). Long-end government yields declined, with 10-year yield slipping to 2.22%, the lowest level since 2002. Yields of longer-end CGBs also have traded near their historical lows for months. Analysts viewed that with subdued risk sentiment, lack of better investment alternatives, and expectations for additional monetary policy support, funds continued flowing into CGBs. Chinese equities gained (CSI 300: +0.6%). Beijing lowered the downpayment requirement for first-time homebuyers to 20% from 30%,

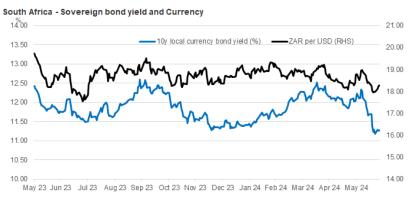
following other cities to provide more support to the housing market. The downpayment requirement in Beijing has been among the most restrictive in the country.



South Africa

The Rand weakened for a third consecutive day ahead of the expected cabinet announcement.

Almost a month after the elections, negotiations on the formation of a new cabinet are continuing, with an announcement on the make-up of the cabinet expected in the coming days. According to Bloomberg, the rand has "whip-sawed" on speculation that discussions between the ANC and the Democratic Alliance—the second largest party in the collation government—have stalled. In early morning trading, the rand weakened by as much as 0.6% against the dollar although retraced some of the losses to trade around 0.1% lower at 18.26/\$. Over the past five days, the rand has weakened by around 1.6% against the dollar as domestic political uncertainty weighs on the currency. Meanwhile, the yield on rand-denominated bonds maturing in 2035 rose around 3bps to 11.3%, according to Bloomberg data.



Source: Bloomberg and IMF calculations

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Global Financial Indicators

	Level						
6/26/24 8:15 AM	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
Equities					%		%
United States	~~~~~	5478	0.4	0	3	27	15
Europe	and the same	4917	-0.4	1	-2	15	9
Japan	and the same	39667	1.3	3	2	22	19
China	-hours	3480	0.6	-1	-4	-9	1
Asia Ex Japan	month	72	-0.2	0	0	9	8
Emerging Markets	war and a second	43	-0.2	0	-1	8	6
Interest Rates				basis	points		
US 10y Yield	who we	4.29	3.9	6	-18	57	41
Germany 10y Yield	my	2.44	3.2	4	-14	14	42
Japan 10y Yield		1.03	2.6	10	3	67	42
UK 10y Yield	monument	4.12	4.1	5	-14	-18	58
Credit Spreads				basis	points		
US Investment Grade	was more	129	-0.4	2	12	-27	-5
US High Yield	was Andrews	358	-3.1	-4	15	-112	-27
Exchange Rates					%		
USD/Majors	3 mondown	105.89	0.3	1	1	3	5
EUR/USD	manne	1.07	-0.3	-1	-2	-2	-3
USD/JPY	and the same	160.4	0.4	1	2	12	14
EM/USD	www	45.9	-0.2	-1	-3	-7	-5
Commodities					%		
Brent Crude Oil (\$/barrel)	money	85.4	0.5	0	4	19	12
Industrials Metals (index)	Amment	151	0.6	0	-8	7	6
Agriculture (index)	American	58	0.3	-2	-8	-17	-8
Implied Volatility					%		
VIX Index (%, change in pp)	many menter	13.0	0.2	0.7	1.1	-1.2	0.6
Global FX Volatility	word of the same	7.4	0.0	0.1	0.7	-0.8	-0.7
EA Sovereign Spreads		10-Ye	ar spread	vs. German	y (bps)		
Greece	more	122	-0.1	-2	21	-1	19
Italy	man	152	0.4	-2	22	-12	-15
Portugal	many from	74	-0.5	-2	10	4	10
Spain	many	87	1.2	-2	11	-10	-10

Colors denote tightening/easing financial conditions for observations greater than ±1.5 standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

Emerging Market Financial Indicators

Last updated:	Exchange Rates							Local Currency Bond Yields (GBI EM)							
6/26/2024	Leve	I		Change				Level Change (in basis points)			nts)				
8:15 AM	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Davs	12 M	YTD	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	
		vs. USD	(+) = EM appreciation					% p.a.							
China	Wanger -	7.27	-0.1	-0.1	0	0	-2	when	2.2	-0.6	-2	-6	-58	-34	
Indonesia	and the same	16405	-0.2	-0.2	-2	-8	-6	when he	7.1	1.9	-3	18	82	63	
India	Norman	84	-0.2	-0.1	-1	-2	0	harriage from the	7.3	4.6	5	-4	(7.7)	10	
Philippines	Jana Many Maray	59	-0.2	-0.2	-1	-5	-6	Phy many	5.4	0.0	-2	-16	-51	-20	
Thailand	man man	37	-0.5	-0.4	-1	-4	-7	- Municipality	2.8	2.0	-3	-6	1	6	
Malaysia	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	4.72	-0.2	-0.2	0	-1	-3	mythema	3.9	-0.1	-1	-4	4	13	
Argentina		909	-0.1	-0.4	-2	-72	-11	Many	43.8	6.8	46	870	-6607	-4259	
Brazil	Now were	5.49	-0.7	-1.0	-6	-13	-12	what have been	12.2	15.2	8	44	123	178	
Chile	was a super	941	0.5	-0.5	-4	-14	-7	war war war.	5.4	0.0	13	17	39	49	
Colombia	whomis	4099	-0.2	0.9	-5	2	-6	when	8.3	0.0	4	-6	70	65	
Mexico	human	18.27	-0.9	0.9	-9	-6	-7	May my May	9.4	0.0	-23	15	139	91	
Peru	mountains	3.8	-0.1	-0.1	-2	-4	-3	my May Mar	7.2	0.0	-4	6	20	48	
Uruguay	mount	39	0.0	0.2	-2	-4	-1	War.	9.5	1.7	14	30	-29	-7	
Hungary	Mary Mary	371	-0.5	-0.8	-5	-9	-6	who when	6.5	-5.0	-2	-39	-73	69	
Poland	whome	4.03	-0.5	-0.1	-3	1	-2	Jamy my	5.1	2.8	-8	-29	6	63	
Romania	many man	4.7	-0.3	-0.5	-2	-2	-3	why have	6.7	0.7	0	6	21	46	
Russia	Munday	87.6	0.6	-4.6	2	-4	2								
South Africa	minimum	18.2	0.3	-1.3	1	3	1	who will	9.2	1.0	4	-61	-52	4	
Türkiye		32.93	0.1	-1.2	-2	-21	-10	and the same	28.7	-10.0	13	86	1191	195	
US (DXY; 5y UST)	may were	106	0.3	0.6	1	3	5	washing the	4.31	3.7	7	-22	34	47	

		Bond Spreads on USD Debt (EMBIG)											
	Leve	Change (in %)					Level		Change (in basis points)				
	Last 12m	Latest	1 Day	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD	Last 12m	Latest	7 Days	30 Days	12 M	YTD
								basis poi	ints				
China	warmer .	3480	0.6	-1	-4	-9	1	many and	140	2	0	-45	-18
Indonesia	my	6906	0.3	3	-4	4	-5	When the first water	109	-1	15	-32	13
India	mound	78674	0.8	2	4	24	9	morrow	99	2	9	-32	-17
Philippines	My January May	6313	0.2	-1	-4	-3	-2	الهامطيقه وإياطها يهدو	91	-3	8	-22	11
Thailand	my	1319	0.0	1	-3	-11	-7		0	0	0	0	0
Malaysia	mannen	1591	0.4	-1	-2	15	9	WAS THE WAY AND	87	4	9	-6	2
Argentina		1570620	0.7	-2	3	263	69	more thanks and the same of th	1448	63	-3	-796	-465
Brazil	ament .	122331	-0.3	2	-2	3	-9	Jamarakhan	234	1	22	-20	19
Chile	~~~~~~	6412	-1.2	-2	-5	13	3	word war	125	-1	9	-6	0
Colombia		1368	-1.4	-1	-3	20	14	Jan Jangaran	314	-8	2	-57	43
Mexico	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	52604	0.2	-1	-5	-1	-8	Mary Mary	316	0	17	-60	-18
Peru	- Armana	29896	-0.5	0	-1	34	15	Mary Way	148	-5	-6	-16	4
Hungary	and the same	70942	0.4	2	3	42	17	where frames	159	-5	17	-52	10
Poland	morning	88408	0.5	2	1	32	13	white many	104	-4	11	-33	7
Romania	******************	18289	0.1	1	3	53	19	many hite your	197	-6	20	-32	-3
South Africa	munum	79648	0.1	-1	1	7	4	mondement	323	4	5	-97	15
Türkiye	Many marks	10584	-0.9	1	-1	85	42	monum	300	-1	24	-199	-14
EM total	many	43	0.4	0	-1	8	6	www	386	1	51	-2	41

Colors denote tightening/easing financial conditions for observations greater than ±1.5 standard deviations. Data source: Bloomberg.

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