

## FX Weekly

# Interim Dollar Support Ahead of PMIs, Jackson Hole

### The Week Ahead

- **Dollar - Interim Support.** Support at 106.30; Resistance at 109.30
- **USD/SGD - Sell Rallies.** Support at 1.3670; Resistance at 1.4000
- **USD/MYR - Buoyant.** Support at 4.4360; Resistance at 4.50
- **AUD/SGD - Mildly Bearish.** Support at 0.9530; Resistance at 0.9780
- **SGD/MYR - Mildly Bearish.** Support at 3.20; Resistance at 3.25

### Dollar Still Supported Near-term

In line with our assessment in the last weekly that bets for Fed dovish tilt triggered by US Jul CPI downside surprise were likely overdone (see [here](#)), the dollar has retraced higher by around +2% this week, bringing DXY to Aug highs. On data, latest retail sales, jobless claims suggest some resilience in US consumption and labor, but Empire Mfg and housing starts data are already marking signs of softening in production activity and corners of the property market. With monetary stimulus withdrawal underway, US growth moderation could yet become more discernible in the coming months. On prices, supported-on-dips oil prices could translate to a slow grind lower in CPI readings over time, but Fed officials will likely continue to stick to the rhetoric that it's too soon to declare victory on inflation. In particular, the recent bout of equity recovery has led to some easing in financial conditions, running counter to Fed plans for modest demand destruction. On net, interim US growth resilience versus Europe and China, broadly hawkish Fed speaks, incremental haven demand etc., could still lend support to the dollar near-term, especially with key PMIs and Jackson Hole due next week. But likelihood of DXY breaching Jul high of 109.30 could be somewhat low at this point, given that UST yields remain some distance away from recent peaks.

### Divergent Policy Paths—PBoC, BI, BoK

For China, focus remains on the LPR on Mon and there are wide expectations for Chinese banks to fully transmit the 10bps cut to the MLF and 7-day reverse repo to the 1Y and 5Y loan prime rates. The 1Y loan prime rates are used to price corporate loans while the 5Ys will affect mortgage rates. The unexpected slowdown in the economy was rather broad-based and PBoC could remain in easing mode as long as the economy is under pressure from zero-Covid strategy, weak property sector and more recently, power crunch in Sichuan and Chongqing that is halting factory operations. For BI, decision is due Tues but Governor Warjiyo said yesterday that there is no need to rush into raising rates, with subsidies and price caps keeping inflation somewhat manageable. For BoK, decision is due Thurs and we cannot rule out +50bps given recent KRW softening and elevated Jul CPI (6.3% vs. 6.0% prior), but BoK comments on larger hikes not becoming new norm suggest that a more measured +25bps hike is likely.

### Key Data/Events Due Next Week

Key data we watch next week include US Chicago Fed Nat. Activity index (Jul) and China's LPRs on Mon. Tue brings prelim. Svc and Mfg PMI from JN, AU, Europe, US, etc., SG CPI and BI policy decision. Wed has Fed Kashkari speaking along with US durable goods order and pending home sales. Jackson hole forum dominates towards the end of next week (25-27 Aug). Thu has US and GE 2Q GDP, Kansas Fed Mfg activity (Aug), ECB's account of Jul meeting. Fri has PCE Core, SG IP and MY CPI.












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Currency	Direction	Support/Resistance	Key Data and Events
Dollar Index		S: 106.30; R: 109.30	<p>Mon: Chicago Fed Nat Activity Index (Jul)            Tue: Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Jul), new home sales (Jul)            Wed: Fed Kashkari speaks; durable goods order (Jul P); pending home sales (Jul)            Thu: Weekly jobless claims; GDP (2Q); Kansas Fed Mfg Activity (Aug); Annual Jackson Hole Forum (25-27 Aug)            Fri: Personal income, personal spending (Jul), PCE Core Deflator (Jul), Powell discusses Economic Outlook; Univ. of Mich. Sentiment (Aug)</p>
EURUSD		S: 0.9950; R: 1.0280	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug); ECB Panetta speaks            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: GE GDP (2Q); FR business confidence (Aug); GE IFO business survey (Aug); ECB publishes Account of Jul Policy Meeting            Fri: GE GfK Consumer confidence (Sep); FR Consumer confidence (Aug)</p>
AUDUSD		S: 0.6790; R: 0.7060	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug)            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: - Nil -</p>
NZDUSD		S: 0.6060; R: 0.6310	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: - Nil -            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: Retail sales ex inflation (2Q)            Fri: ANZ consumer confidence (Aug)</p>
GBPUSD		S: 1.1760; R: 1.2270	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug)            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: - Nil -</p>
USDJPY		S: 133.00; R: 139.40	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug)            Wed: BoJ Outright Bond purchases            Thu: BoJ Board Nakamura Speech in Fukuoka            Fri: Tokyo CPI (Aug)</p>
USDCNH		S: 6.7675; R: 6.8570	<p>Mon: 1Y, 5Y LPRs            Tue: - Nil -            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: - Nil -            Sat: Industrial Profits (Jul)</p>
USDSGD		S: 1.3670; R: 1.4000	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: CPI (Jul)            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: Industrial Production (Jul)</p>
USDMYR		S: 4.4360; R: 4.5000	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: - Nil -            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: CPI (Jul)</p>
USDPHP		S: 55.35; R: 56.45	<p>Mon: BoP (Jul) due 19-23 Aug            Tue: - Nil -            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: - Nil -</p>
USDIDR		S: 14,670; R: 15,040	<p>Mon: - Nil -            Tue: BI Policy Decision            Wed: - Nil -            Thu: - Nil -            Fri: - Nil -</p>

Sources: Bloomberg, Maybank FX Research & Strategy

## Selected G7 FX Views

Currency	<i>Stories of the Week</i>
<b>DXY Index</b>	<p><b>Interim Support; Fade Rallies.</b> The DXY index continued to see net upward pressures. It has retraced higher by around +2% this week, bringing DXY to Aug highs.</p> <p>Aside from broadly hawkish FedSpeaks, geopolitical concerns likely provided incremental support for the dollar in the latter part of this week. We note reports of Xi, Putin's potential appearance at G20 in Nov (i.e., confrontation risks with Western leaders) as well as North Korea's rejection of South Korea's aid-for-denuclearization offer. While these are unlikely to be strong risk-off triggers, some profit-taking activity could also be in play ahead of key PMI releases and Jackson Hole next week. Softer-than-expected activity readings or hawkish undertones from Powell could potentially exacerbate global growth concerns; i.e., dollar supportive.</p> <p>On data, latest retail sales, jobless claims suggest some resilience in US consumption and labor, but Empire Mfg and housing starts data are already marking signs of softening in production activity and corners of the property market. With monetary stimulus withdrawal underway, US growth moderation could yet become more discernible in the coming months. On prices, supported-on-dips oil prices could translate to a slow grind lower in CPI readings over time, but Fed officials will likely continue to stick to the rhetoric that it's too soon to declare victory on inflation. In particular, the recent bout of equity recovery has led to some easing in financial conditions, running counter to Fed plans for modest demand destruction.</p> <p>On net, interim US growth resilience versus Europe and China, broadly hawkish FedSpeaks, incremental haven demand etc., could still lend support to the dollar near-term, but likelihood of DXY breaching Jul high of 109.30 could be somewhat low at this point, given that UST yields remain some distance away from recent peaks. Bias to sell DXY rallies.</p> <p>Back on the chart, the DXY index was last seen around 107.70. Resistance levels now seen around 108.20 before 109.30 (2022-high). Support levels remain at the 21-DMA (106.30) and 100-DMA (104.10).</p> <p><i>Next week brings Chicago Fed Nat Activity Index (Jul) on Mon; Tue has Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Jul), new home sales (Jul); Wed has Fed Kashkari speaks; durable goods order (Jul P); pending home sales (Jul); Thu has Weekly jobless claims; GDP (2Q); Kansas Fed Mfg Activity (Aug); Annual Jackson Hole Forum (25-27 Aug); Fri has Personal income, personal spending (Jul), PCE Core Deflator (Jul), Powell to speak on Economic Outlook; Univ. of Mich. Sentiment (Aug).</i></p>
<b>EUR/USD</b>	<p><b>Gains Likely Constrained.</b> Pair headed lower this week alongside bouts of broader dollar strength.</p> <p>Into next week, we are bracing for another set of PMI prints that could portend further weakness in European activity as energy shortages have forced more manufacturers to halt operations. Apart from low NG supply from Russia that has driven the Dutch natural gas futures to EUR241/mwh at last seen, supply disruptions tied to transport challenges at the Rhine add to sentiment drags. Water-level of the narrow and shallow point of the Rhine river, at Kaub is projected to creep up to 67cm by 22 Aug from current 36cm as Germany forecasts rainfall. Barges need 40cm of water depth to transit there economically. However, there are also expectations for water levels to fall again thereafter as the temperature rises again. As such, relief may be temporary and coal shipments may continue to face weather-related hurdles.</p> <p>On a brighter note, there are signs that earlier drags from Italian political troubles could be easing a tad. I.e., even if brothers of Italy (leading in polls) gains more prominence in Italian government after the snap elections on 25 Sep, there are signs that they will deviate from their Eurosceptic roots and avoid disrupting broader EU policy prongs. I.e., they might be a bit more of a team-player on the EU stage and stick along with supporting Ukraine against Russia, supporting reforms required to unlock European funding, discard previous talk of leaving the Euro etc. But on the other hand, any EUR recovery could still be somewhat constrained, given that that abovementioned energy crunches across the continent would likely dampen interim growth sentiments.</p> <p>EURUSD pair remains largely within the falling trend channel. Resistance remains at 1.0280 (marked by the 50-DMA) and support is seen around par, before 0.9950 (Jul low).</p>

*Next week brings Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug) from the Euro-area bloc. ECB Panetta speaks on Tue. Thu has GE GDP (2Q); FR business confidence (Aug); GE IFO business survey (Aug); ECB publishes Account of Jul Policy Meeting. Fri has GE GfK Consumer confidence (Sep); FR Consumer confidence (Aug).*

**GBP/USD** **Falling Trend Channel Intact.** GBP continues to be weighed by dollar bounce, record-low UK consumer confidence (that are below levels seen during major recessions) according to the measures of GfK, with outlook for personal finances falling the most. Consumers are increasingly concerned about rising inflation and the risk of recession.

Despite 2Q (P) GDP coming in slightly higher than expected at 2.9%/y. In sequential terms, it was a slight sequential contraction (-0.1%/q/q) versus the modest gain (+0.8%/q/q) in the prior quarter. Monthly indicators suggest a broader slowdown in various activity categories, including in services, manufacturing and construction. Risks of UK entering recession by year-end remains significant. Meanwhile, all eyes remain trained on the two candidates vying for Tory leadership (UK premiership); Truss currently leading Sunak by wide margin. Truss' recent calls for review of BoE mandate could be additional risk for GBP.

Back on the GBPUSD chart, support remains at 1.1890, 1.1760. Resistance at 1.2270 before the next at 1.2370 (100-DMA). Potentially more room for cable to decline further within the falling trend channel.

*Next week brings Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug) on Tue.*

**USDJPY** **Pressured Higher by Dollar, UST Yields.** Pair saw significant upside pressures this week, emanating from broader dollar strength and buoyant UST yields. Aside from broadly hawkish Fed speaks, geopolitical concerns likely provided incremental support for the dollar towards the latter part of the week. We note reports of Xi, Putin's potential appearance at G20 in Nov as well as North Korea's rejection of South Korea's aid-for-denuclearization offer. Interim haven appeal of JPY (vs. USD) could be diminished alongside recently-wide trade deficits.

But on a forward-looking note though, more two-way swings in UST yields after recent run-up, signs of easing in energy import burden given recent oil decline etc., can help relieve upward pressures on the pair. Japan Jul inflation came in at 2.6%/y, on par with expectations and slightly higher than 2.4% prior. The ex-fresh food and energy reading also inched higher to 1.2% from 1.0% prior. Continued signs of rising CPI domestically can potentially revive bets for a more hawkish tilt from BoJ over time.

On technicals, momentum on daily chart has turned slight bullish; RSI is also creeping higher. Wider two-way moves may be seen in the interim, with bias to lean against strength in pair. Support at 134.50 (38.2% fibo retracement from May low to Jul high), 133.00 (50.0% fibo), 131.45 (61.8% fibo). Resistance nearby at 136.40 (23.6% fibo) is being tested as we write; next some way off at 139.40 (Jul high).

*Next week brings Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug) on Tue. Wed has BoJ Outright Bond purchases Thu: BoJ Board Nakamura Speech in Fukuoka. Fri has Tokyo CPI (Aug).*

**AUD/USD** **Bearish Skew.** AUDUSD slid for most of the week and was last seen around 0.6910. Aside from broader dollar strength, we also note lingering effects from weaker-than-expected labour report/wage growth released earlier this week. Concerns on global growth slowdown and signs of softening demand conditions at home could continue to weigh on pro-cyclical AUD in the near-term.

On the daily chart, bullish momentum has waned and stochastics are falling from overbought conditions. Support at 0.6830 could be tested, before next at 0.6790. Risks are now tilted to the downside for AUDUSD. Resistance around 0.6980 (21-dma) before the next at 0.7060 (100-dma).

*Next week brings Prelim. Mfg, Services, Composite PMI (Aug) on Tue.*






**NZD/USD** **Mild Bearish.** RBNZ hiked by +50bps to 3.00% as expected on 17 Aug, maintaining pace for a fourth straight meeting, and in effect leading the global pack in policy normalization. It assesses that the OCR could hit 3.69% by end-2022 before peaking around 4.1% in 2Q next year (higher than prior forecast). NZD initially saw some support from adjustments in expectations for peak RBNZ rate but this was more than offset by broader dollar strength.

On the daily chart, momentum has turned mild bearish while RSI is dipping lower. Support at 0.6160

(76.4% fibo retracement from Jul low to Aug high), 0.6060 (Jul low). Resistance at 0.6310 (38.2% fibo), 0.6400 (100-DMA).

*Next week brings Retail sales ex inflation (2Q) on Thu. Fri has ANZ consumer confidence (Aug).*

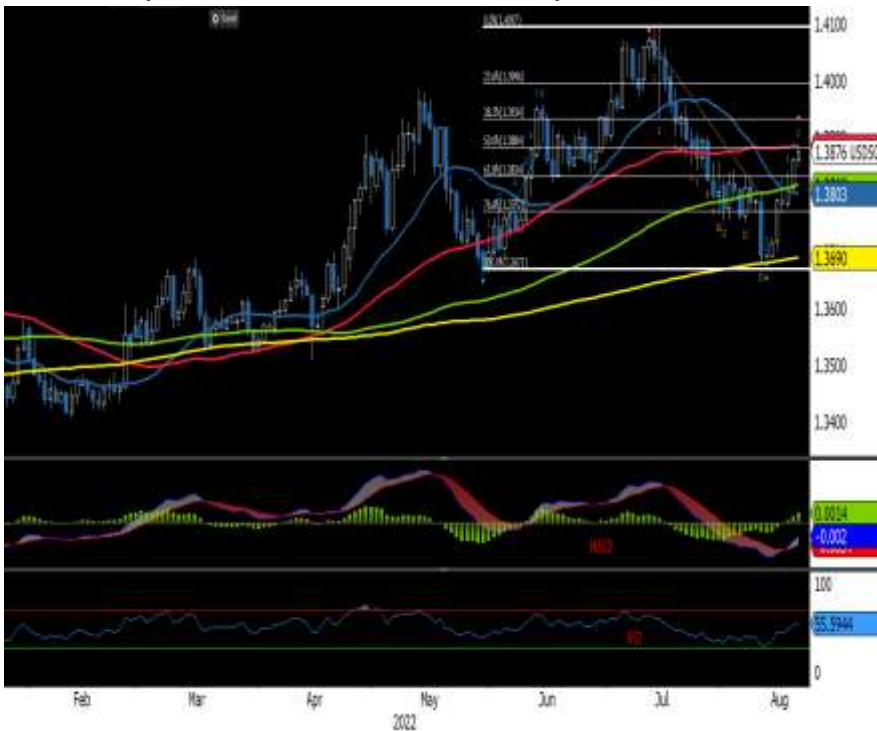
## Technical View: MYR Crosses

MYR Crosses	Direction	Support/Resistance	Stories of the Week
SGD/MYR		S: 3.2000; R: 3.2500	<b>Mild Bearish.</b> SGDMYR was last at 3.2250 levels. Cross has been retracing lower from highs near 3.25, in line with our caution for downside risks. Momentum on daily chart has turned mild bearish, while RSI is dipping lower from overbought conditions. Support at 3.2265 (23.6% fibo retracement from Jul low to Aug high) is being tested, next at 3.1980 (50.0% fibo), 3.1860 (61.8% fibo). Key resistance at 3.25 levels, before next some way off at 3.30.
AUD/MYR		S: 3.0510; R: 3.1240	<b>Mild Bearish.</b> AUDMYR was last seen near 3.09 levels. Momentum on daily chart has turned mild bearish while RSI is on the dip. Support at 3.0730 (50.0% fibo retracement from Sep low to Aug high), 3.0510 (61.8% fibo). Resistance at 3.0960 (76.4% fibo), 3.1240 (23.6% fibo), 3.1690 (Aug high).
EUR/MYR		S: 4.4380; R: 4.5810	<b>Bullish Momentum Moderated.</b> EURMYR headed lower on net over the past week. Last seen at 4.5155 levels. Bullish momentum on daily chart has largely moderated while RSI is showing tentative signs of dipping lower. Support at 4.5055 (23.6% fibo retracement from Jun high to Jul low), 4.4380 (Jul low). Resistance at 4.5470 (38.2% fibo), 4.5810 (50.0% fibo), 4.6150 (61.8% fibo).
GBP/MYR		S: 5.2410; R: 5.4140	<b>Cautious of Further Pullback.</b> GBPMYR swung lower over the last week, in line with our caution in the last weekly. Cross was last seen at 5.3230 levels. Momentum and RSI on daily chart has turned mild bearish. Support at 5.2945 (76.4% fibo retracement from Jul low to Aug high), 5.2410 (Jul low). Resistance at 5.3540 (50.0% fibo), 5.4140 (23.6% fibo).
JPY/MYR		S: 3.2420; R: 3.3620	<b>Mild Bearish.</b> JPYMYR headed lower alongside significant JPY softening this week. Cross was last at 3.2810 levels. Daily momentum has turned mild bearish while RSI is dipping lower. Resistance at 3.3020 (50.0% fibo retracement from Jul low to Aug high); 3.3290 (38.2% fibo), 3.3620 (23.6% fibo). Support nearby at 3.2750 (61.8% fibo), before 3.2420 (76.4% fibo), 3.1880 (Jul low).



## Technical Chart Picks:

USDSGD Daily Chart - Momentum Turned Modestly Bullish



USDSGD found support around 1.3660 (May low) late last week, and has been on a sharp upswing since.

Momentum has turned modestly bullish, while RSI has bounced higher from oversold conditions.

Pair is testing resistance at 1.3880 (50.0% fibo retracement from May low to Jul high) as we write, and preference is to lean against strength gradually. Besides 1.3880, next resistance at 1.40 (23.6% fibo). Support at 1.3770 (76.4% fibo), 1.3670 (May low).

USDMYR Daily Chart - Buoyant But Overbought; Gains Could Slow



Pair was last seen just below 4.48 levels, continuing to push higher against a backdrop of broader dollar recovery.

Momentum on daily chart is not showing a clear bias while RSI has reached overbought conditions. Gains could slow.

Support at 4.4360 (50-DMA), 4.3770 (100-DMA). Resistance at 4.50 (2017 high).

Note: blue line - 21SMA; red line - 50 SMA; green line - 100 SMA; yellow line - 200 SMA

**SGDMYR Daily Chart: Dipping from Overbought Conditions**



Note: blue line - 21SMA; red line - 50 SMA; green line - 100 SMA; yellow line - 200 SMA

SGDMYR was last at 3.2265 levels, having dipped steadily lower over the course of the past week.

Cross has been retracing lower from highs near 3.25, in line with our caution for downside risks.

Momentum on daily chart has turned mild bearish, while RSI is dipping lower from overbought conditions. Support at 3.2265 (23.6% fibo retracement from Jul low to Aug high) is being tested as we write; next at 3.1980 (50.0% fibo), 3.1860 (61.8% fibo). Key resistance at 3.25 levels, before next some way off at 3.30.



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