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Friday, February 24, 2023

U.S. labor market resilient; inflation hotter in fourth quarter

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The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits unexpectedly fell last week, pointing to a persistently tight labor market, and further fueling fears that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates higher than anticipated. Those worries were amplified by other data on Thursday showing inflation was much stronger than initially thought in the fourth quarter, which raises the risk of higher readings when the government publishes January's personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price data on Friday. While the Fed is expected to deliver two additional rate hikes of 25 basis points in March and May, financial markets are betting on another increase in June. The U.S. central bank has raised its policy rate by 450 basis points since last March from near zero to a 4.50%-4.75% range.

Euro zone inflation marginally higher in Jan; core also lifted

Euro zone inflation was only a touch higher in January than earlier estimated, Eurostat said on Thursday, confirming that price growth is now well past its peak, even if underlying price pressures still show no signs of abating. Consumer price inflation in the 20 nations sharing the euro eased to 8.6% in January from 9.2% a month earlier, coming in just above the 8.5% estimated earlier this month, when figures from Germany, the bloc's biggest economy, were not yet included. The data are still likely to make for grim reading at the European Central Bank (ECB) as revisions show core inflation, or price growth excluding volatile food and fuel products, accelerating to 5.3% from 5.2%, confounding initial data for a steady pace. The ECB has raised rates by a combined 3 percentage points since July to tame inflation and policymakers are now getting concerned that what was initially an energy cost-driven surge, is now broadening out to impact all sectors.

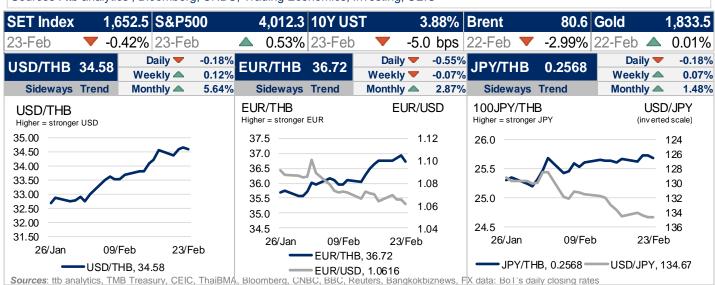
Japan CPI inflation hits 41-year high in Jan as BOJ changes loom

Japanese consumer inflation rose as expected in January, data showed on Friday, amid rising commodity costs and robust local demand, putting more pressure on the Bank of Japan to potentially tighten policy as it experiences a change in leadership. The national core consumer price index, which excludes volatile items such as fresh food, rose 4.2% in January, compared to 4% in the prior month and in line with market expectations. Including volatile items, nationwide CPI inflation rose 4.3% in January from 4% in the prior month. The index was also at a 41-year high. The reading marks the fourth consecutive month that Japanese inflation has trended at over 40-year highs, as the country struggles with more expensive commodity imports. Rising costs of fuel and utilities were the biggest driver of inflation in recent months, with the trend continuing in January.

Dollar to build on gains as rate-hike path unlikely to narrow until Fed meets next

The 10-year government bond yield (interpolated) on the previous trading day was 2.57, -1.87 bps. The benchmark government bond yield (LB31DA) was 2.60, -2.00 bps. LB31DA could be between 2.50-3.00. Meantime, the latest closed US 10-year bond yields was 3.88, -5.0 bps. USDTHB on the previous trading day closed around 34.58 Moving in a range of 34.635-34.74 this morning. USDTHB could be closed between 34.20-34.70 today. The dollar is likely to build on its recent gains in the weeks ahead as there aren't many catalysts for bears to latch onto that could sway expectations for the three more Federal Reserve rate hikes. The U.S. dollar index, which measures the greenback against a trade-weighted basket of six major currencies, rose by 0.03% to 104.55. Recent data pointing to signs of economic strength and sticky inflation "can keep the dollar supported in the near term and potentially into the 22 March FOMC meeting," ING said in a note. In the run-up to the March meeting, however, dollar bears will be hoping that both economic strength and inflation soften enough to cool the Fed's hawkish stance.

Sources: ttb analytics, Bloomberg, CNBC, Trading Economics, Investing, CEIC



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6.7115

7.8203

7.8593

Currency Market

1M Range %Chg (1D) %Chg (1W) Currency 1M History %Chg (1M) Last Min Max 104.09 100.99 Dollar Index 0.0% 0.4% 2.1% 104.41 **EUR/USD** 1.0656 0.0% -0.5% -2.1% 1.0637 1.1007 USD/JPY 134.66 0.2% 0.7% 3.4% 128.49 134.66 USD/CHF 0.9263 0.1% 0.4% 0.9292 0.5% 0.9076 GBP/USD 0.9% -1.7% 1.2426 1.2118 0.6% 1.1943 USD/CAD 1.3538 0.3% 1.2% 1.3% 1.3292 1.3538 AUD/USD 0.6838 -0.7% -1.0% -3.5% 0.6838 0.7138 NZD/USD 0.6230 -0.1% -1.0% -3.9% 0.6520 0.6221 **ASEAN Dollar** 105.75 0.3% 1.2% 3.0% 101.48 105.81 0.2% USD/THB 34.65 1.2% 5.6% 32.69 34.65 USD/SGD 1.3390 0.1% 0.4% 1.6% 1.3047 1.3398 USD/MYR 4.4370 0.1% 3.9% 4.2282 4.4370 0.8% USD/IDR 15,202 0.2% 0.3% 1.9% 14,881 15,202 **USD/PHP** 55.15 0.1% -0.3% 0.8% 55.34 53.88 USD/CNY 0.0% 6.8844

0.6%

0.0%

FX Swap Market and BoT's Reserves

USTH FX Sp	1M History	Last	%0	Chg(1D)
				,
1-month	>	0.15	0.15	
3-month	~~~	0.70	-0.05	
6-month	~~~	1.50	-0.20	
Reserves (\$mn)	3M History	Last	\$mn	Chg(1W)
Total		222,624	-2026	
Golds		14.639	-6	
SDR		5,469	-13	
IMF Reserves		1,256	-5	
Foreign Ccy		201,260	-2003	
Net Fwd Position		26,320	30	

6.8844

7.8444

0.0%

Foreign Fund Flows (THR mn)

1.6%

0.2%

-7,835 -4,643
7 7
-4,643
597
-5,165
-3,740
-20,785
Total
18 🖐 -70,429
1 🌵 -23,269
1 🖐 -23,269
)

USD/HKD

Money Market														
ТНВ	4M ⊔iα	Loct	1M R	ange	THBFIX	1M Hist	Last	1M R	ange	USD	1M Hist	Last	1M F	Range
BIBOR	BIBOR 1M Hist Las	Lası	Min	Max	ІПВГІХ	IINI LIIST	Last	Min	Max	LIBOR	IIVI MISL	Lasi	Min	Max
ON		1.50	1.25	1.50	ON	~~~~	1.14	0.43	1.32	ON	_v **	0.08	0.07	0.08
1W		1.53	1.27	1.53	_	سمه	1.09	0.22	1.21	1W		0.00	0.00	
1M		1.57	1.37	1.57	1M	~~	1.10	0.69	1.16	1M		0.35	0.11	0.35
2M		1.68	1.44	1.68						2M		0.00	0.00	0.00
ЗМ		1.75	1.50	1.75	3M	~~~	1.30	1.07	1.38	3M		0.75	0.27	0.75
6M	•	1.90	1.68	1.90	6M	4	1.59	1.43	1.62	6M	مسسم	1.04	0.45	1.04
12M		2.06	1.90	2.06	12M	~~~	1.93	1.77	2.05	12M	_~	1.49	0.79	1.49
							Las	t Updated:	22/02/2023			Las	t Updated:	09/03/2022

Note: D=d=day; M=mth=month; Y=year; %chg = percentage change; chg = change; USTH FX Sp = USD/THB FX Swap point; \$mn=million US dollar; THB.mn= Thai baht million; Hist=history; THB implied = Thai baht rate that are calculated by FX forward rate; ASEAN Index = value average ASEAN FX Jan2008=100

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Fixed Income Market

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Fived Income	1M History	VTM (0/ \	Pro Cha (4D) Pro Cha (4)	A/\	Bps Chg (1M)		1M Range		
Fixed Income	TWI HISTORY	YTM (%)	Bps Chg (1D) Bps Chg (1)	vv)			Min	Max	
UST10y	•	3.8800	-5.00	7.00		45.00		3.37	3.95	
Gilt 10y	~	3.5722	-4.35	7.80		10.80		3.10	3.63	
Bund 10y	~~~	2.5200	-2.00	5.00		31.00		2.02	2.54	
JGB 10y	,~	0.5310	0.00	0.60		2.30		0.42	0.53	
TGB 1y		1.7303	-0.02	0.61		29.70		1.35	1.73	
TGB 2y		1.8918	0.00	1.99		21.18		1.65	1.89	
TGB 5y	-	2.1604	-0.78	1.69		18.86		1.95	2.17	
TGB 7y	-	2.3810	-0.86	2.14		19.07		2.17	2.39	
TGB 10y	~~~	2.5685	-1.87	0.72		10.29		2.45	2.60	
AAA Spread		72.06	-1.84	-1.80		-1.17		72.06	75.12	
AA Spread	~~~.	94.44	-0.02	2.13		-1.11		89.95	96.11	
A Spread	~	123.78	0.01	-0.08		-1.98		123.65	129.24	
BBB Spread	^	225.63	0.03	-0.06		0.04		225.52	247.69	

Note: UST = US Treasury; Gilt = UK Government Bond; JGB = Japanese Government bond; Bund = German Government Bond; TGB = Thai government Bond; tenors of the bonds are put after their name; bps=basis point; Corporate spreads are Thai and reported in basis points over government bond for the tenors 3-5 years.

Commodity Market

Commodity	1M History	Last	% Cha (1D)	% Cha (1W)	% Cha (1M)	1M Range	
Commodity	TWI HISTORY	Lasi	%Chg (1D)	%Chg (1W)	% Chg (1M)	Min	Max
Brent Crude	•	80.60	-3.0%	-5.6%	-8.0%	79.94	88.19
London Gold	~	1833.5	0.0%	-0.1%	-3.7%	1,824.5	1,954.9

Note: Unit of Brent crude oil price is \$/barrel; unit of gold price is \$/ounce

Equity Market

Equity Index	1M History	Last %Chg (1D) %Chg (1W)		%Chg (1M)	1M Range		
Equity illuex	TWI HISTOTY	Lasi	/₀ Cilg (1D)	/6 City (1 W)	/o City (TWI)	Min	Max
S&P500 (US)	<u></u>	4,012.3	0.5%	-1.9%	0.7%	2,467.4	4,179.8
STOXX (EU)		459.1	0.8%	-0.5%	2.9%	435.7	461.5
FTSE All-Share(UK)		4,315.8	-0.2%	-1.4%	1.2%	4,234.9	4,377.4
DAX (DE)	~~~~	15,399.9	0.0%	-0.7%	2.1%	14,792.8	15,533.6
CAC All-Tradable(F	R)~~~	5,483.6	0.3%	-0.7%	3.7%	5,155.3	5,521.7
TOPIX (JP)	~~~	1,975.3	-1.1%	-0.6%	3.8%	1,875.8	2,001.1
Shanghai (CH)	~~~~	3,445.9	-0.1%	1.2%	3.5%	3,266.8	3,465.9
Hang Seng (HK)		20,351.4	-0.4%	-3.0%	-5.1%	20,351.4	22,688.9
ASX 200 (AU)		7,285.4	-0.4%	-1.7%	-0.6%	7,151.3	7,558.1
SET (TH)	~~~	1,652.5	-0.4%	-0.4%	-1.9%	1,647.4	1,691.4
SET50 (TH)	~~~	986.3	-0.5%	-0.9%	-2.1%	986.1	1,017.0
Straits Times (SG)	~~~	3,264.9	-1.1%	-1.4%	-0.1%	3,262.9	3,394.2
FTSE Malay (MY)	~~~	1,457.7	-0.4%	-1.8%	-1.9%	1,457.7	1,499.5
JSX Index (ID)	~~~	6,839.5	0.4%	-0.8%	3.0%	6,584.5	6,941.9
PSE Index (PH)	~~~~	6,685.9	-0.2%	-1.9%	-5.1%	6,685.9	7,081.4
Vn Index (VN)	~~~	1,053.7	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.1%	1,038.6	1,117.1

Sources: ttb analytics, CEIC

Note: A = actual, P = previous; C = consensus