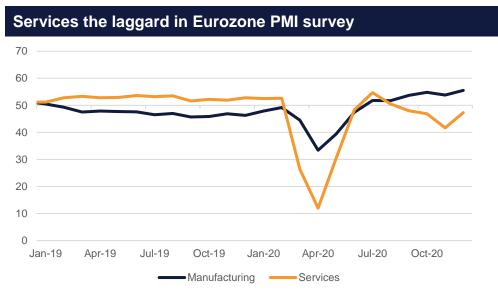


# **Daily**17 December 2020

# **Daily Outlook**

- There was little substantive change in policy from the FOMC meeting yesterday, but the use of the word 'substantial', in terms of the form of the recovery needed before asset purchases would be eased, led observers to speculate that the USD 120/month asset purchase programme would extend for longer than previously anticipated. Chair Jerome Powell warned that the next several months would be challenging for the economy, but that the outlook for the second half of 2021 was markedly brighter. Policymakers indicated that the Fed funds rate would stay at its current near-zero levels through into 2023.
- The PMI surveys for the UK showed mixed fortunes between the services and the manufacturing sectors, illustrating the differing impacts of the pandemic crisis on the two parts of the economy. The services survey missed expectations of 50.7, and came in at a contractionary (just) 49.9 for the month. Meanwhile, manufacturing exceeded projections of 56.0 to hit 57.3. However, much of these extra gains were driven by the stockpiling that has been taking place ahead of the end of the UK's Brexit transition period. Job shedding slowed, but the composite employment indicator was still far below the neutral 50 level at 46.5.
- These mixed fortunes were similarly highlighted by the composite Eurozone PMI surveys, with manufacturing at 55.5 and services at 47.3. It is worth noting that the two of these results both exceeded consensus forecasts, and were stronger than the previous month. However, the final reading could see a downward revision given the later respondents will likely have seen the coming restrictions that have now been reimposed in Germany, Netherlands and France in particular.
- The governor of the Turkish central bank, Naci Agbal, has reaffirmed the body's commitment to curbing inflation and raising reserves. In a presentation he highlighted that 'Upside risks to inflation require the monetary policy stance to be tight and decisive in 2021', and that 'Monetary policy decisions will be taken by giving priority to price stability.'

This is our last Daily Outlook publication for 2020; we will resume in January 2021 and wish all our readers well over the festive season.



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research

# **Today's Economic Data and Events**

	Time	Cons.		Time	Cons.
Bank of England bank rate	16:00	0.1%	US initial jobless claims	17:30	813k

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



#### **Fixed Income**

- The outcome of the December FOMC hardly rocked US Treasury markets although it confirmed that the Federal Reserve will be in the market for treasuries for longer than previously expected. The Fed will maintain its USD 120bn/month of asset purchase until the economy reached "substantial further progress" on employment and inflation but there was no indication what levels would need to be reached to change the current QE policy, either up or down.
- After an initial sell-off, USTs rallied toward the close of trading and the curve was barely changed with the 2yr at 0.115% and the 10yr closing at 0.9163%. The Fed also revised its economic forecasts to reflect the faster than expected recovery in the US economy: the Fed now expect the economy to shrink by 2.4% in 2020 (from 3.7% previously) and to grow by 4.2% next year.
- Today markets will be looking to the Bank of England for their latest policy decision
  despite the uncertainty on whether the UK will secure a Brexit deal and what shape the
  British economy will be in next year.

#### FX

- After an initial spike in line with yields following the FOMC announcement the dollar sold
  off sharply and ended the day lower. Gains are extending on the DXY index in early trade
  this morning with the index holding at 90.13.
- The Euro was the major winner on the day following better than expected PMI readings for November. The single currency closed up 0.4% at 1.22 and is tentatively pushing higher in early trade today. Sterling also managed to extend gains, moving above 1.35, a gain of 0.36%.
- Elsewhere the sell-off in the dollar remains widespread with both the AUD and NZD gaining while the CAD slipped.

# **Equities**

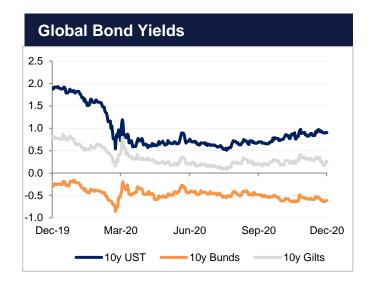
- Risk-on tone in equity markets continued yesterday as optimism around US fiscal stimulus, Covid-19 vaccines and a Brexit trade deal continued to boost equities. The FTSE 100 closed 0.9% higher, with the optimism extending into Europe with the CAC (0.3%) and the DAX (1.5%) also gaining.
- In the US, the NASDAQ closed up 0.5% and the S&P 500 0.2%, but the Dow Jones ended the day -0.2% lower.

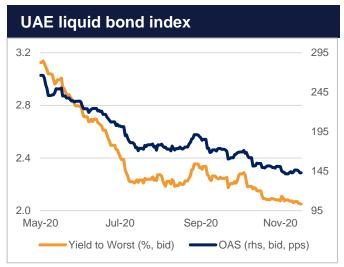
# **Commodities**

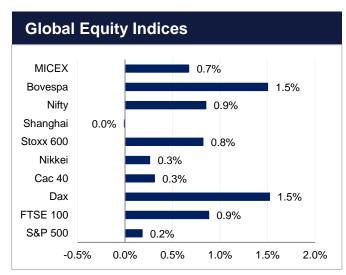
- Brent futures closed above USD 51/b overnight, a gain of 0.6% and their highest level since March. WTI settled at USD 47.82/b a gain of 0.4% but is up to more than USD 48/b this morning.
- Data from the EIA was relatively constructive with total US crude inventories drawing by 3m bbl last week although performance across the rest of the barrel was more mixed.
   Production in the US fell, by 100k b/d last week, to 11m b/d while product supplied (a proxy for demand) was up by 800k b/d w/w.

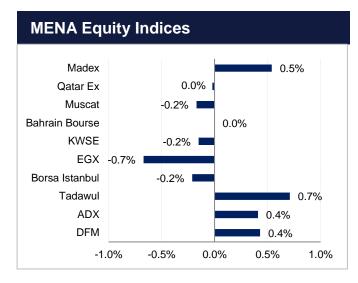


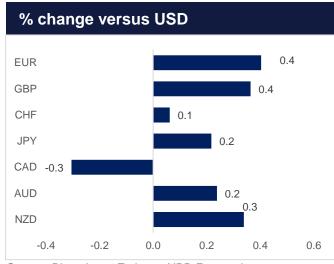
# **Markets in Charts**













Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Currencies									
	Close	%1D chg	1 yr fwd		Close	%1D chg		Close	%1D chg
EURUSD	1.2200	+0.40	1.2307	USDTRY	7.8000	-0.44	EURAED	4.4807	+0.39
GBPUSD	1.3509	+0.36	1.3538	USDEGP	15.6940	-0.16	GBPAED	4.9618	+0.32
USDJPY	103.47	-0.19	102.93	USDSAR	3.7516		JPYAED	0.0355	+0.22
USDCAD	1.2743	+0.33	1.2735	USDQAR	3.6800	+1.06	CADAED	2.8831	-0.31
AUDUSD	0.7577	+0.24	0.7594	USDKWD	0.3041	-0.10	AUDAED	2.7831	+0.26
USDCHF	0.8854	-0.03	0.8753	USDBHD	0.3770	-0.01	CHFAED	4.1497	+0.06
EURGBP	0.9031	+0.04	0.9090	USDOMR	0.3850		TRYAED	0.4700	+0.25
USDAED	3.6729	-0.00	3.6757	USDINR	73.5875	-0.07	INRAED	0.0552	+10.87

Rates							
Interbank	1 mo	3mo	6 mo	1 yr	Swaps	Close	1D chg (bps)
EIBOR	0.2226	0.4590	0.5693	0.8500	USD 2 yr	0.204	+0
USD LIBOR	0.1525	0.2288	0.2518	0.3313	USD 5 yr	0.434	+0
GBP LIBOR	0.0259	0.0426	0.0384	0.1056	USD 10 yr	0.920	+1
JPY LIBOR	-0.0847	-0.0988	-0.0538	0.0555	EUR 2 yr	-0.528	+2
CHF LIBOR	-0.8280	-0.7924	-0.7428	-0.6216	EUR 5 yr	-0.467	+2
					EUR 10 yr	-0.264	+3

Commodities & Fixed Income									
Commodities	Close	%1D chg	Bonds/Sukuk	YTM	1D chg (bps)	CDS	Close	1D chg (bps)	
Gold	1864.80	+0.60	ADGB 2.50 25	0.86	-2	Abu Dhabi	37		
Silver	25.33	+3.40	DUGB 3.89 25	1.99	-1	Bahrain	255		
Oil (WTI)	47.82	+0.42	QATAR 3.4 25	0.98	+1	Dubai	110		
Aluminium	2021.25	+0.44	US Tsy 2 yr	0.12	+0	Oman	366		
Copper	7813.50	+0.68	US Tsy 10 yr	0.92	+1	Qatar	38		
						Saudi Arabia	65	-1	

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



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