## **Daily Treasury Outlook**

13 April 2020



#### **Highlights**

Global: Before the long Easter weekend, the S&P500 closed at +1.45% on Thursday, aided by investor hopes that US and European Covid-19 infections may be reaching a turning point soon and drug experiments were promising. That said, US' Covid-19 fatalities crossed 20,500, basically overtaking Italy, even as US president Trump said he would announce on Tuesday a council of "very, very great doctors and business people" to advise him on when to reopen the US economy. The 3-month LIBOR fell to 1.21888% last Thursday after the Fed announced another \$2.3 trillion of measures. Meanwhile, ECB's de Guindos warned that Europe may see a more severe recession than the rest of the world, but the first signs of growth may be visible from 3Q20. This came after EU finance ministers agreed on a EUR540b stimulus package, which includes deploying the European Stability Mechanism to offer credit lines of up to EUR240b, subject to approval as soon as this week, whilst Italy extended its nationwide lockdown until 3 May. OPEC+ also finally agreed to cut output by 9.7m barrels per day, but failed to lift crude oil prices. Over in Asia, Fitch cut Malaysia's sovereign credit rate outlook from stable to negative, citing that the economy is "heavily affected" by Covid-19 and may shrink 1% this year. Malaysia had announced the extension of its Movement Control Order for another two weeks till 28 April.

Market watch: Asian markets are likely to start the week on a positive tone after the long Easter weekend, but the momentum is unlikely to be unbridled at this juncture given a very light economic data calendar comprising of just Malaysia's February industrial production and India's CPI. For the week ahead, watch for BI's policy decision (likely to cut 25bps to 4.25%) as well as the IMF's likely downward revision of its global growth forecasts on Tuesday, Bank of Canada's policy decision (likely static at 0.25%) on Wednesday, Fed's Beige Book on Thursday and China's CPI and new loans data on Friday. Fed speakers include Bullard tomorrow and Evans and Bostic on Wednesday.

**US:** Fed's Mester opined that "we're likely not done" in terms emergency aid and "if we think it's needed, we're going to do it", while Kashkari warned that the US could face up to 18 months of rolling shutdowns amid waves of flareups and controls for Covid-19.

**UK:** PM Johnson has been discharged from hospital.

**Gold:** The precious metal came within a whisker of closing above the \$1700/oz level last Thursday, eventually ending at \$1696.65/oz. It is a remarkable turnaround for gold, which endured a selloff below \$1500/oz briefly in April during the period of the dollar crunch. Based on modelimplied values, we see gold prices trading within range of fair value, based on current inputs of the dollar strength and interest rates.

| Key Market Movements |        |          |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--------|----------|--|--|--|
| Equity               | Value  | % chg    |  |  |  |
| S&P 500              | 2789.8 | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| DJIA                 | 23719  | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| Nikkei 225           | 19499  | 0.8%     |  |  |  |
| SH Comp              | 2796.6 | -1.0%    |  |  |  |
| STI                  | 2571.3 | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| Hang Seng            | 24300  | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| KLCI                 | 1357.5 | -0.9%    |  |  |  |
| Currencies           | Value  | % chg    |  |  |  |
| DXY                  | 99.482 | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| USDJPY               | 108.47 | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| EURUSD               | 1.0937 | 0.1%     |  |  |  |
| GBPUSD               | 1.2455 | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| USDIDR               | 15880  | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| USDSGD               | 1.4129 | -0.3%    |  |  |  |
| SGDMYR               | 3.0502 | 0.1%     |  |  |  |
| Rates                | Value  | chg (bp) |  |  |  |
| 3M UST               | 0.19   | 0.00     |  |  |  |
| 10Y UST              | 0.72   | 0.00     |  |  |  |
| 1Y SGS               | 0.79   | 0.00     |  |  |  |
| 10Y SGS              | 1.09   | 0.00     |  |  |  |
| 3M LIBOR             | 1.22   | -9.25    |  |  |  |
| 3M SIBOR             | 0.99   | 0.02     |  |  |  |
| 3M SOR               | 0.82   | -27.24   |  |  |  |
| Commodities          | Value  | % chg    |  |  |  |
| Brent                | 31.48  | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| WTI                  | 22.76  | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| Gold                 | 1697   | 0.8%     |  |  |  |
| Silver               | 15.57  | 0.9%     |  |  |  |
| Palladium            | 2178   | 0.6%     |  |  |  |
| Copper               | 5020   | 0.0%     |  |  |  |
| BCOM                 | 63.48  | 0.0%     |  |  |  |

Source: Bloomberg

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#### **Major Markets**

**US:** US equity markets rose on Thursday, capping off one of their strongest weekly gains ever as risk sentiment improved on the back of an apparent improvement in the US coronavirus outbreak. The S&P500 rose 1.45%, and jumped 12.1% for the entire week, which is its biggest one-week gain since 1974. Looking ahead, markets are likely to continue taking cues from the US coronavirus outlook as well as earnings releases which start this week.

China: China's March credit expansion beat market expectation. The stronger than expected credit expansion showed that China's counter cyclical measures are taking effect. It was mainly driven by three factors including balance sheet expansion, stronger credit bond issuance and higher bill financing.

Broad money supply M2 accelerated to 10.1% yoy in March from 8.8% in February. The rebound of both M1 and M2 was the result of easing monetary policy and proactive fiscal policy. According to PBoC, as of March, China's money multiplier rose to a high of 6.55. Meanwhile, fiscal deposit fell by CNY735.3bn, 42.5 billion more than that in March 2019.

China's household sector re-leveraged again in March after de-leverage in February. New Yuan loan to household sector increased by CNY989.2 billion including CNY514.40 billion short term loan, highest in record. Total deposits in household sector rose to CNY87.8 trillion, up by 13% yoy. This implied that the rapid accumulation of household saving may provide buffer to the volatility in job market.

China's inflation softened with CPI fell by 1.2% mom, the largest month-onmonth decline since June 2003 as a result of falling food prices and fuel costs in March. The discussion about the deflation risk may return to the spotlight in the second half as CPI may collapse after high base effect kicks in.

Macau: In February, housing transaction volume dropped by 48.4% yoy to 161 deals, the lowest since record. During the same month, approved new residential mortgage loans declined to the lowest since January 2012 at MOP1.44 billion while the average housing price fell 7.2% YTD to MOP97,897/square meter. This could be attributed to the stalling of economic activities in February amid Covid-19 outbreak. As the economy has resumed normalcy gradually from March, housing transaction volume will likely rebound from the record low. That said, we expect housing market to remain sluggish in the near term due to souring demand on faltering growth outlook, housing control measures, job uncertainty and stock market rout. Meanwhile, small business owners may liquidate their residential property at whatever price while some homeowners may be more willing to cut selling price in anticipation of weak demand. Taken all together, we expect average housing price to drop by 15% yoy this year.

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**Singapore:** The STI added 1.26% to close at 2571.32 last Thursday and may attempt to trade with a firmer tone today. Although the UST bond market rallied last Thursday following the Fed's \$2.3 trillion package to help SMEs and state and local governments, SGS bonds may not see the same support today.

Indonesia: Following tighter restrictions adopted in Jakarta over the long weekend to combat the spread of the coronavirus, neighbouring provinces have followed suit. West Java Governor Ridwan Kamil said that large-scale social restrictions will be put in place from Wednesday for at least two weeks, and testings will be ramped up as well. Overall, cases continue to rise with the total national tally at 4241 as of Sunday.

Malaysia: Malaysia's PM Muhyiddin Yassin extended the country's MCO (Movement Control Order) for a further two weeks, to 28 April, in a bid to continue controlling the spread of the virus. Some sectors will be allowed to gradually resume operations, however, including automotive, machinery, aerospace as well as selected construction works. Separately, the ratings agency Fitch has lowered Malaysia's sovereign outlook from stable to negative while retaining the long-term foreign-currency issuer rating at Adue to impact from the virus.

Oil: OPEC+ done deal: -9.7mbpd in May and June, -7.7mbpd in 2H 2020 and -5.8mbpd in Jan-Apr 2021. It is a big number but falls short of expectations. Firstly, going into the meeting the expectations were for 10-15mbpd reduction, so at 10mbpd this is on the lower end. Secondly, G20 meeting on Saturday saw OPEC+ fail to garner the additional -5mbpd that OPEC+ was lobbying from producers outside the cartel. Thirdly, it remains a question mark on how the US plans to chip in the 250kbpd of cuts for Mexico, with no clear baseline. Overall, despite the big production cut from OPEC+, the curbs are still on the low side of expectations. Oil prices have retraced since Thursday and appear to have priced in most of the confirmed deal since last week. We do not expect any big reaction to oil prices expected related to the cuts for now.

#### **Bond Market Updates**

Market Commentary: The SGD swap curve mostly fell last Thursday, with 5-6bps decline in the shorter to the belly parts of the curve and 4-5bps decline in the longer tenors. This follows movements in the USD curve, which saw 10Y yields compressing 5bps to 0.72%. The Bloomberg Barclays Asia USD IG Bond Index traded 2bps tighter to 271bps while the Bloomberg Barclays Asia USD IG Bond Index compressed 33bps to 1084bps. As a result, the IG-HY index tightened by 31bps to 812bps. Moderate flows were seen with trades in UOBSP 3.58% PERP, CATHAY 3.375% '22s and MAPLSP 4.5% PERP last Thursday. Meanwhile, the market was quiet last Friday to observe Good Friday with most indices remaining broadly unchanged.

New Issues: There were no new deals or mandates.

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Foreign Exchange



**Equity and Commodity** 

| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |               |            |            |               |              | q,                 |                             |            |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                                       | Day Close     | % Change   |            | Day Close     | % Change     | Index              | Value                       | Net change |
| DXY                                   | 99.482        | -0.04%     | USD-SGD    | 1.4129        | -0.30%       | DJIA               | 23,719.37                   |            |
| USD-JPY                               | 108.470       | -0.02%     | EUR-SGD    | 1.5458        | -0.20%       | S&P                | 2,789.82                    |            |
| EUR-USD                               | 1.0937        | 0.06%      | JPY-SGD    | 1.3045        | -0.10%       | Nasdaq             | 8,153.58                    |            |
| AUD-USD                               | 0.6349        | 0.14%      | GBP-SGD    | 1.7602        | -0.31%       | Nikkei 225         | 19,498.50                   | 152.73     |
| GBP-USD                               | 1.2455        | -0.02%     | AUD-SGD    | 0.8978        | -0.08%       | STI                | 2,571.32                    |            |
| USD-MYR                               | 4.3097        | -0.61%     | NZD-SGD    | 0.8601        | -0.27%       | KLCI               | 1,357.50                    | -12.26     |
| USD-CNY                               | 7.0360        | -0.10%     | CHF-SGD    | 1.4634        | -0.22%       | JCI                | 4,649.08                    |            |
| USD-IDR                               | 15880         |            | SGD-MYR    | 3.0502        | 0.14%        | Baltic Dry         | 635.00                      |            |
| USD-VND                               | 23436         | -0.39%     | SGD-CNY    | 4.9777        | 0.16%        | VIX                | 41.67                       |            |
| Interbank Offer Ra                    | tes (%)       |            |            |               |              | Government Bo      | ond Yields (%)              |            |
| Tenor                                 | EURIBOR       | Change     | Tenor      | USD Libor     | Change       | Tenor              | SGS (chg)                   | UST (chg)  |
| 1M                                    | -0.3870       | 0.30%      | O/N        | 0.0678        | -0.41%       | <b>2</b> Y         | 0.63 ()                     | 0.23 ()    |
| 2M                                    | -0.3360       | -0.41%     | 1M         | 0.8140        | -1.49%       | 5Y                 | 0.76 ()                     | 0.40 ()    |
| 3M                                    | -0.2200       | -1.49%     | 2M         | 1.0648        | 0.63%        | 10Y                | 1.09 ()                     | 0.72 ()    |
| 6M                                    | -0.1790       | 0.63%      | 3M         | 1.2189        | -9.25%       | 15Y                | 1.34 ()                     |            |
| 9M                                    | -0.1940       | -9.25%     | 6M         | 1.2259        | -0.24%       | 20Y                | 1.49 ()                     |            |
| 12M                                   | -0.0870       | -0.24%     | 12M        | 1.0509        | -0.22%       | 30Y                | 1.50 ()                     | 1.34 ()    |
| Fed Rate Hike Prob                    | ability       |            |            |               |              | Financial Sprea    | d (bps)                     |            |
| Meeting #                             | of Hikes/Cuts | % Hike/Cut | Implied Ra | ate Change    | Implied Rate |                    | Value                       | Change     |
| 29/04/2020                            | 0.109         | 10.9       | 0.0        | 027           | 0.082        | <b>EURIBOR-OIS</b> | 24.00                       |            |
| 10/06/2020                            | 0.084         | -2.5       | 0.0        | 021           | 0.076        | TED                | 35.36                       |            |
| 29/07/2020                            | 0.089         | 0.5        | 0.0        | 022           | 0.077        |                    |                             |            |
| 16/09/2020                            | 0.016         | -7.3       | 0.0        | 004           | 0.059        | Secured Overn      | Secured Overnight Fin. Rate |            |
| 05/11/2020                            | 0.029         | 1.3        | 0.0        | 0.007         |              | SOFR               | 0.01                        |            |
| 16/12/2020                            | 0.036         | 0.8        | 0.0        | 009           | 0.064        |                    |                             |            |
| Commodities Future                    | S             |            |            |               |              |                    |                             |            |
| Energy                                |               | Futures    | % chg      | Soft Commo    | odities      | Futures            | % chg                       |            |
| WTI (per barrel)                      |               | 22.76      |            | Corn (per bu  | ushel)       | 3.3175             |                             |            |
| Brent (per barrel)                    |               | 31.48      | 0.0%       | Soybean (pe   | er bushel)   | 8.635              |                             |            |
| Heating Oil (per gallo                | n)            | 0.9726     |            | Wheat (per    | bushel)      | 5.5650             |                             |            |
| Gasoline (per gallon)                 |               | 0.6773     |            | Crude Palm    | Oil (MYR/MT) | 2,389.0            | 0.3%                        |            |
| Natural Gas (per MM                   | IBtu)         | 1.7330     |            | Rubber (JPY   | /KG)         | 142.0              | 0.0%                        |            |
| Base Metals                           |               | Futures    | % chg      | Precious Me   | etals        | Futures            | % chg                       |            |
| Copper (per mt)                       |               | 5,020      |            | Gold (per oz  | :)           | 1,696.7            | 0.8%                        |            |
| Nickel (per mt)                       |               | 11,672     |            | Silver (per o | •            | 15.565             | 0.9%                        |            |
| Source: Bloomberg, F                  | Reuters       |            |            |               |              |                    |                             |            |

(Note that rates are for reference only) <u>Economic Calendar</u>

| Date Time         |    | Event                                  |        | Survey | Actual | Prior    | Revised |
|-------------------|----|--|--------|--------|--------|----------|---------|
| 04/10/2020 04/20  | CH | Foreign Direct Investment YoY CNY      | Mar    |        |        | -25.60%  |         |
| 04/13/2020 04/24  | PH | BoP Overall                            | Feb    |        |        | -\$1355m |         |
| 04/13/2020 04/24  | PH | Bank Lending YoY                       | Feb    |        |        | 11.20%   |         |
| 04/13/2020 04/24  | PH | Bank Lending Net of RRPs YoY           | Feb    |        |        | 11.60%   |         |
| 04/13/2020 04/24  | PH | Money Supply M3 SRF YoY                | Feb    |        |        | 11.90%   |         |
| 04/13/2020 07:50  | JN | Money Stock M2 YoY                     | Mar    | 2.90%  | 3.30%  | 3.00%    |         |
| 04/13/2020 07:50  | JN | Money Stock M3 YoY                     | Mar    | 2.50%  | 2.70%  | 2.50%    | 2.40%   |
| 04/13/2020 09:10  | JN | BOJ Outright Bond Purchase 1~3 Years   |        |        |        |          |         |
| 04/13/2020 09:10  | JN | BOJ Outright Bond Purchase 3~5 Years   |        |        |        |          |         |
| 04/13/2020 12:00  | MA | Industrial Production YoY              | Feb    | 0.90%  |        | 0.60%    |         |
| 04/13/2020 12:00  | MA | Manufacturing Sales Value YoY          | Feb    |        |        | 2.60%    |         |
| 04/13/2020 19:35  | IN | RBI MPC Minutes                        |        |        |        |          |         |
| 04/13/2020 20:00  | IN | CPI YoY                                | Mar    | 5.90%  |        | 6.58%    |         |
| 04/13/2020 20:00  | CA | Bloomberg Nanos Confidence             | Apr-10 |        |        | 42.7     |         |
| 04/13/2020 22:00  | CA | Bloomberg April Canada Economic Survey |        |        |        |          |         |
| Source: Bloomberg |    |  |        |        |        |          |         |

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