



## Summary

- **Equities:** In Europe, stocks are currently trading higher. The DAX and CAC 40 are both +0.9% over the morning, the FTSE 250 +0.8% and the STOXX 600 +0.7%. In the US, futures for the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average are also seeing an uplift of +0.5% and +0.6% respectively. Index performance in Asia was mixed, with the Kospi and Hang Seng gaining +1.4% and +0.9% while the S&P / ASX 200 closed -0.6% lower. The CSI 300 and Topix were broadly flat over the day.
- VIX: The CBOE market volatility index and the Euro Stoxx 50 volatility price index are -1.9% and -3.9% down this morning, to 25.4 and 24.1. The European 'investor fear gauge' has recovered to circa the long term average of 23.9, while the US VIX remains elevated, indicating further expectations of near-term volatility.
- **Bonds:** Yesterday, the US 10-year treasury yield closed at 0.52%, a record low. Record lows were also recorded for US 3, 5 and 7 year treasury bonds. Elsewhere, the UK 10-year gilt yield, the German 10-year bund yield and the Italian 10-year yield are 0.09%, -0.54% and 1.01%.
- **Currency:** Both sterling and the euro remain steady at \$1.31 and \$1.18. Hedging benefits for US dollar denominated investors into the UK and the eurozone are 0.28% and 1.03% per annum on a five-year basis.
- **Baltic Dry:** The Baltic Dry index gained a further +5.6% yesterday, lifting the index to 1,463 and bringing the cumulative gains over the last four trading sessions to +16%.
- Oil: Brent Crude and the West Texas Intermediate (WTI) are up +1.8% and +2.0% over the morning to \$45.14 per barrel and \$42.37 per barrel, respectively.
- **Gold:** The price of gold appreciated by +2% yesterday, breaking \$2,000 for the first time and reaching a record high of \$2,012 per troy ounce. This price is +32% higher than it was in January.
- **Auto Industry:** New car registrations in the UK have grown for the first time since December 2019. Following the reopening of showrooms and car factories, 174,887 cars were registered in July, +11.3% on the same month in 2019.





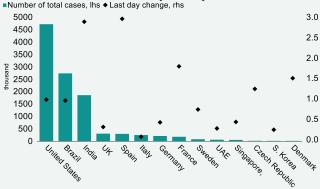
COVID-19

# 

The number of total confirmed cases reached 18.1 million on the 4 August, an increase of 224k new cases over the day prior.

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 04 August 2020 12:05 GMT.

## Cumulative number of cases by country



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 04 August 2020 00:00 GMT.

The chart presents the number of cumulative cases (left axis) and the percentage change of new cases against the day before (right axis).

## Volatility Index

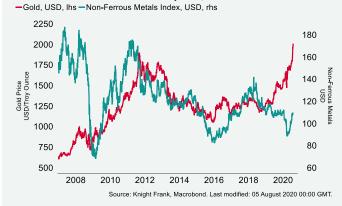


The CBOE VIX (colloquially known as the Investor fear gauge) is an indication of near term S&P 500 stock price volatility based on underlying options.

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 05 August 2020 03:15 GMT

### Commodities

## Gold and non-ferrous metals price, USD



4 Aug

2012

110

## **Brent Crude and West Texas Intermediate oil price**

-Brent Crude -West Texas Intermediate (WTI)



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 04 August 2020 23:10 GMT.

Brent crude monitors the level of demand for raw materials and is a measure of economic activity. Lately also influenced by Saudi-Russia price war.

## Baltic Dry Index (BDI)

→World, Baltic Exchange, Shipping, Dry Index (BDI), USD



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 04 August 2020 13:30 GMT.

Baltic Dry Index is a measure of what it costs to ship raw materials and is a leading indicator of global demand. A lower value means lower demand.

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Gold, USD

Non-Ferrous Metals, USD

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YTD (%)

32.6

-1.0

D/D (%)

1.9

-0.3

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5 August 2020



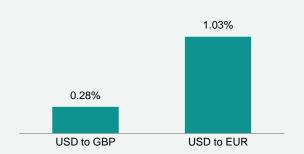
## Bonds and currencies

#### 10y Government Bond Yield (%) -US -UK -Germany -Italy 4.0 3.0 -1.0 2016 2020 2017 2018 2019 1 d ago 1st Jan 4 Aug Germany -0.56-0.54-0.191.07 Italy 1.01 1.40 UK 0.10 0.10 0.82 US 1.92 0.52 0.56

## **FX Spot Rates** -EUR per GBP -USD per GBP 1.50 \$1.30 on the 4 August versus \$1.31 the day prior, a -0.9% change 1.45 1.40 1.35 1.30 1.25 1.20 1.15 1.10 1.05 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

|             | 4 Aug | 1 d ago | 1st Jan |
|-------------|-------|---------|---------|
| EUR per GBP | 1.11  | 1.11    | 1.18    |
| USD per GBP | 1.30  | 1.31    | 1.32    |

## Currency hedging benefit p.a. based on a five year forward



Source: Knight Frank, Investing.com

Approximate additional return per annum that dollar denominated investors may obtain based on five year currency hedge.

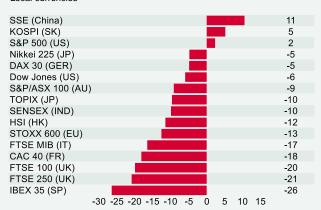
## Equity and REIT





The chart presents the performance of selected equity indexes since the months prior the global financial crisis (2007).

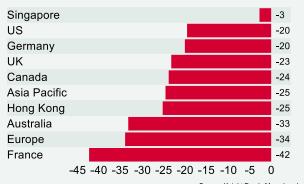
## Equity performance: YTD (%) Local currencies



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

## REIT performance: YTD (%)

Local currencies



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

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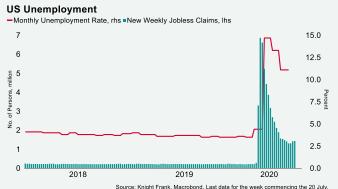
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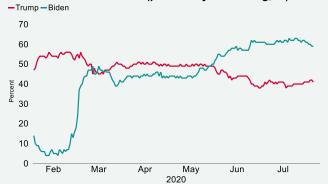
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## **US** indicators



The chart presents the number of Americans that each week file for unemployment benefits (left axis) and the overall monthly unemployment rate (right axis)

## 2020 Presidential Winner (probability of winning, %)



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 05 August 2020 08:36 GMT. 5 Aug 1 week ago 1 month ago Trump 41% 40% 40% Biden 59% 62% 60%

## Fiscal policy

UK

ΕU

## Fiscal measures details

£330bn+: Government backed loans and guarantees equivalent to 15% of UK GDP. SMEs given access to cash grants. Support for furloughed employees of 80% salary ≤£2,500 per month. Furlough scheme extended until October 2020 with employers sharing the cost from August. Taxable grant for self-employed <£50k trading profit, worth 80% of monthly profits up to £2.5k, paid as a lump sum.

\$3.0tn: 2<sup>nd</sup> package passed 23<sup>rd</sup> April, worth \$483 billon, USA increasing US stimulus to \$3 trillion (15% GDP).

> €1.35tn: This includes €240bn to the European Stability Mechanism, and €200bn in EIB guarantees. On 4th June, the ECB extended the pandemic purchase programme (PEPP) until June 2021, purchasing an additional €600bn in bonds, taking total stimulus to €1.35tn.

€750bn: a new recovery package for EU member states announced in July including €390bn in grants and €360 in interest free loans.

## Germany

€880bn: The emergency aid measure approved on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. In June an additional €130bn fiscal

stimulus programme including VAT rate cut to 16% from 19% and one off 'children's bonus' payment.

€400bn: The stimulus announced on the 7th April €25bn: Emergency package to support businesses and

charges and two months state payments to laid off

# nce

€45bn: The aid package for SMEs and other hard-hit sectors announced by the French government on 17<sup>th</sup> of March. Includes deferred corporate tax, social security

workers. €300bn: government backed loans.

## ain

€200bn: the aid package includes government loan guarantees to ensure liquidity for SMEs (the government said it would provide businesses with "all the liquidity they need"), other government commitments and private money.

\$2.2tn: Further stimulus announced in late May added \$1.1 trillion to the country's stimulus package, bringing total stimulus to \$2.18 trillion or 40% of GDP.

families

HK\$10k for every adult citizen (c.£7bn).

Source: Knight Frank, various sources

## Central Banks Policy Rates

|                      | <b>Current Rate</b> | Rate at 1/1/2020 | YTD Change |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------|
| Advanced Economies   |                     |                  |            |
| Australia            | 0.25%               | 0.75%            | -50 bps    |
| Canada               | 0.25%               | 1.75%            | -150 bps   |
| Euro Area            | 0.00%               | 0.00%            | 0 bps      |
| France               | 0.00%               | 0.00%            | 0 bps      |
| Germany              | 0.00%               | 0.00%            | 0 bps      |
| Italy                | 0.00%               | 0.00%            | 0 bps      |
| Sweden               | 0.00%               | -0.25%           | 25 bps     |
| Japan                | -0.10%              | -0.10%           | 0 bps      |
| United Kingdom       | 0.10%               | 0.75%            | -65 bps    |
| United States        | 0.25%               | 1.75%            | -150 bps   |
| Developing Economies |                     |                  |            |
| Brazil               | 2.25%               | 4.50%            | -225 bps   |
| China                | 4.35%               | 4.35%            | 0 bps      |
| India                | 4.00%               | 5.15%            | -115 bps   |
| Mexico               | 5.00%               | 7.25%            | -225 bps   |
| Russia               | 4.25%               | 6.25%            | -200 bps   |
| Saudi Arabia         | 1.00%               | 2.25%            | -125 bps   |
| South Korea          | 0.50%               | 1.25%            | -75 bps    |
| Turkey               | 8.25%               | 12.00%           | -375 bps   |

## Central Bank Assets Purchasing Programme

|                             | Lastest (\$) | MoM (%) | YoY (%) |        |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Advanced Economies          |              |         |         | Italy  |
| Australia                   | 196 bn       | 1.6%    | 64.9%   |        |
| Canada                      | 387 bn       | 14.3%   | 335.9%  |        |
| Euro Area                   | 7.49 tn      | 6.3%    | 43.7%   |        |
| France                      | 1.78 tn      | 15.4%   | 40.7%   |        |
| Germany                     | 2.67 tn      | 8.5%    | 38.2%   | France |
| Italy                       | 1.39 tn      | 9.3%    | 23.0%   |        |
| Sweden                      | 142 bn       | 8.2%    | 49.5%   |        |
| Japan                       | 6.3 tn       | 4.7%    | 20.3%   |        |
| United Kingdom              | 780 bn       | -0.2%   | -1.9%   |        |
| United States               | 6.95 tn      | -1.3%   | 83.5%   |        |
| <b>Developing Economies</b> |              |         |         | Spain  |
| Brazil                      | 529 bn       | 2.6%    | -4.1%   | - •    |
| China                       | 5.14 tn      | -0.2%   | -2.7%   |        |
| India                       | 357 bn       | 1.2%    | 32.2%   |        |
| Mexico                      | 210 bn       | -3.5%   | 10.3%   |        |
| Russia                      | 631 bn       | -1.8%   | 1.2%    | Japan  |
| Saudi Arabia                | 481 bn       | 2.9%    | -7.8%   |        |
| South Korea                 | 445 bn       | 2.9%    | 7.7%    |        |
| Turkey                      | 105 bn       | 0.5%    | 4.8%    | Hong K |

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Source: Knight Frank, various sources



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#### Confirmed Cases Confirmed Deaths Lockdown Index Internal Movement Public Events Public Transport Workplace Schools International Travel Europe 248,229 35,166 France 191,295 30.294 Poland 47.469 1.732 Portugal 51.569 1.738 Germany 211 281 9 156 Russia 856.264 14,207 305.623 46.210 United Kingdom Spain 297,054 28,472 Norway 9.268 256 Belgium 70.221 9.850 Bulgaria 11.955 388 209 Greece 4.737 13.996 616 Denmark 35,527 1,706 Switzerland Ukraine 73.158 1.738 Finland 7,466 329 Czech Republic 17,008 386 55,415 6,140 Netherlands 81,012 Sweden Americas 327,850 11,017 Colombia Canada 117,017 8,947 201,906 Argentina United States 4,713,562 155,403 20,206 Venezuela 443,813 48,012 Brazil 2,750,318 433,100 19,811 Africa Middle East 22,597 382 South Africa 516,862 8,539 111,322 177 United Arab Emirates 61,163 351 Turkey 233.851 5.747 Israel 74.903 546 312,035 17,405 Iraq 131,886 4,934 Jordan 1,218 22 Tunisia 1.565 51 Morocco 26.196 401 Egypt 94.640 4 888 Asia Pacific Hong Kong 3,589 Singapore 53.051 1.016 Japan 39.858 Indonesia 113,134 5.302 Taiwan South Korea 14.423 301 China 88.099 4.672 Philippines 106.330 2.104 1.855.745 38.938 India Vietnam 652 18,318 221 Australia 22 1.217 New Zealand Thailand 3,321 58 9,001 Malaysia Lockdown Index key & Scale Internal movement **Public events** Public transport Workplace International travel Value Schools No Restrictions: 0 - 25 No measure No Measure No measure No measure No measure No measure Recommended Restrictions: 26 - 50 Recommended Recommended Recommended Recommended Screening Enforced Restrictions: 51 - 75 Some level of Quarantine arrivals from Highest Restrictions / Ban: 76 - 100 Required closure of schooling required to high risk regions some sectors Ban on high risk regions Required closure for all All schools required to Total border closure but essential work close For most countries, public transport has the most relaxed restrictions. Taiwan, Tunisia, Norway, Poland, Netherlands, Ukraine, and New Zealand are the

In line with some of the fewest reported cases and the smallest reported deaths attributed to COVID-19, Taiwan has the lowest 'lockdown index' score at 19, indicating the restrictions in place are generally recommendations and are not enforced. Countries including Iraq, Kenya and Peru have some of the highest 'lockdown index' scores.

However, France and Egypt are the exceptions, where international travel is freely permitted with no measures implemented.

Source: Knight Frank. Macrobond. Oxford University. Last Updated: 04/08/2020

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only countries with no measures implemented on public events. Meanwhile, across the world, there is some measure of restriction on international travel.