19 May 2020

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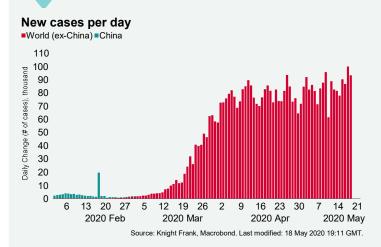
Summary

- **Equities**: Following sharp gains yesterday by global equity markets, downbeat data related to car registrations for the month of April in Europe as well as scepticism of a proposal by Germany and France for a further EU stimulus package has led to declines this morning. However, the FTSE 250 has bucked the trend, currently up +0.8%. This is despite an increase in unemployment benefit claimants of 856,500 over April, bringing the total claimant count to 2.1 million.
- **VIX**: The "investor fear gauge", the VIX volatility index remains highly volatile. Having decreased by -8.1% yesterday, today, the index has so far increased by 6.8%. Near term equity market volatility is expected to continue.
- Currency: Sterling and the euro are at \$1.22 and \$1.10, respectively, with the euro having seen appreciation against the dollar. Hedging benefits for US dollar denominated investors into the UK have also increased to circa 0.26% per annum on a five-year basis. The currency hedging benefit of US dollar denominated investors into the Eurozone is 1.08% per annum on a five-year basis.
- **Bonds:** The Italian 10-year government bond yield fell to a one month low of 1.65% this morning, while the German 10-year bund yield has increased slightly to -0.46%. As a result, the yield gap between German 10-year bonds and Italian 10-year bonds is currently 211bps, down from 245bps seen last week. Over in the US, yesterday, 10-year US treasury bond yields increased by +9bps to 0.73% on the back of vaccine hopes.
- Baltic Dry: The Baltic Dry index appreciated for its second consecutive session yesterday, increasing by +4.9% to \$427. This follows eighteen sessions of declines, from an index of \$757 on 20th April. As lockdowns continue to ease, demand for raw materials could see a cautious increase.
- Oil: The West Texas Intermediate (WTI) has declined slightly this morning, albeit, remaining above \$30 at \$31.49 a barrel. However, Brent Crude appreciated this morning, up 0.5% to \$34.99. Reuters are reporting that demand is starting to recover in major oil consuming countries, including India and China, with Chinese refiners making profits from turning crude into fuels.

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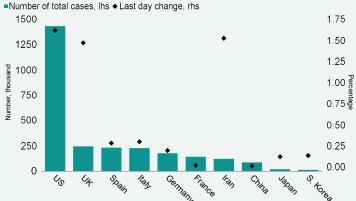


COVID-19



The number of total confirmed cases reached 4619k on the 18 May, an increase of 93k new cases over the day prior.

Cumulative number of cases



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 18 May 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).

Investor sentiment

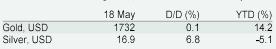


The CBOE VIX (colloquially known as the Investor fear gauge) is an indication of near term S&P 500 stock price volatility based on underlying options.

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last modified: 19 May 2020 03:15 GMT

Commodities





Brent crude and global commodity price index



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



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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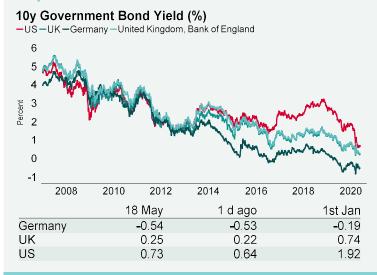
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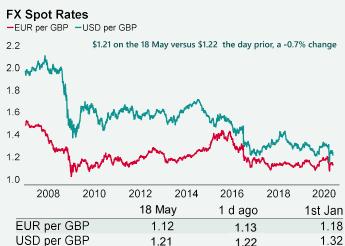
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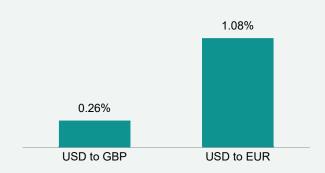


Bonds and currencies





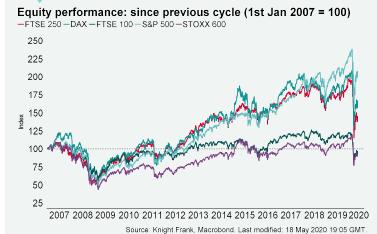
Currency hedging benefit p.a. based on a five year forward



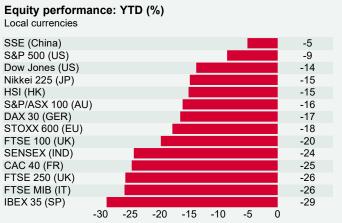
Source: Knight Frank, Investing.com

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

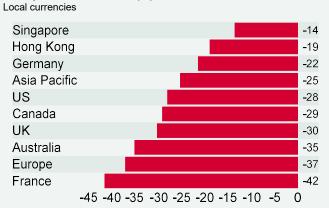
Equity and REIT



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



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond

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REIT performance: YTD (%)

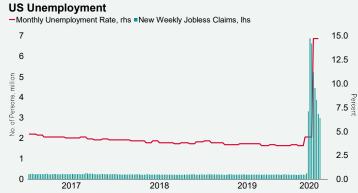
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US indicator

Fiscal policy



Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond. Last data for the week commencing the 4 May.

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

3.00 trillion US China 1.24 trillion 813 billion UK 501 billion Italy 468 billion 374 billion Spain 255 billion South Korea 150 billion Australia 131 billion Switzerland 84.4 billion Hona Kona 37.9 billion Netherlands 11.1 billion Sweden 8.14 billion Canada

Fiscal measures by selected governments (YTD total, \$)

Source: Knight Frank, Macrobond.

697 million

Fiscal measures details

USA

EU

Italy

France

Spain

£330bn+: Government backed loans and guarantees equivalent to 15% of UK GDP. SMEs will be granted access to cash grants of more than £25k to tackle the crisis. Support for furloughed employees of 80% salary ≤£2,500 UK per month. Furlough has been extended until October 2020, with employers to start 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 in June

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

€500bn: The EU member states passed this stimulus package, which includes €240bn to the European Stability Mechanism, as well as €200bn in guarantees from the European Investment Bank.

€750bn: The emergency aid measure approved by the Germany German Cabinet on Monday 23rd of March.

> €400bn: The stimulus announced on the 7 April to help businesses hurt by a national lockdown. €25bn: Emergency package to support businesses and

> > €45bn: The aid package for SMEs and other hard-hit sectors announced by the French government on 17th of March. Includes deferred corporate tax, social security charges and two months state payments to laid off workers.

€300bn: government backed loans.

families.

€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.

\$10bn: The aid package issued in early March for SMEs Japan and self-employed workers. Additional economic stimulus measures are expected.

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

Monetary policy

Central Banks Policy Rates

	Current Rate	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	3.00%	4.50%	-150 bps
China	4.35%	4.35%	0 bps
India	4.40%	5.15%	-75 bps
Mexico	5.50%	7.25%	-175 bps
Russia	5.50%	6.25%	-75 bps
Saudi Arabia	1.00%	2.25%	-125 bps
South Korea	0.75%	1.25%	-50 bps
Turkey	8.75%	12.00%	-325 bps

Central Bank Assets Purchasing Programme

	Lastest (\$)	MoM (%)	YoY (%)
Advanced Economies			
Australia	172 bn	1.7%	44.9%
Canada	278 bn	103.7%	223.1%
Euro Area	5.91 tn	3.5%	12.6%
France	1.39 tn	11.7%	11.6%
Germany	2.13 tn	3.2%	6.8%
Italy	1.22 tn	3.0%	11.2%
Sweden	122 bn	8.8%	25.3%
Japan	5.82 tn	3.5%	13.2%
United Kingdom	795 bn	0.2%	2.5%
United States	6.93 tn	10.3%	79.1%
Developing Economies			
Brazil	480 bn	-0.6%	-14.3%
China	5.09 tn	-1.2%	- 1.7%
India	351 bn	8.6%	33.2%
Mexico	206 bn	3.2%	4.5%
Russia	684 bn	- 0.6%	12.9%
Saudi Arabia	485 bn	-3.8%	- 3.8%
South Korea	417 bn	0.7%	-5.4%
Turkey	100 bn	1.0%	11.3%

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Source: Knight Frank, various sources

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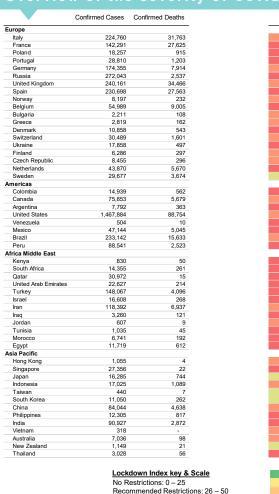
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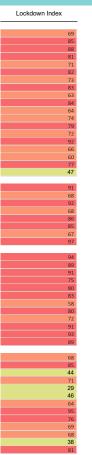
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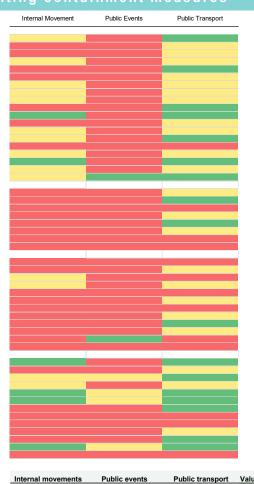
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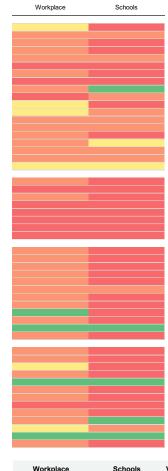
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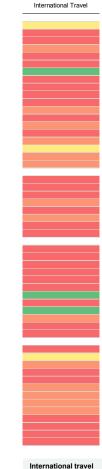




Internal movements	Public events	Public transport	Value
No measure	No Measure	No measure	0
Recommended	Recommended	Recommended	1
Restriction	Required	Required	2



Workplace	Schools	Value
No measure	No measure	0
Recommended	Recommended	1
Required closure of some sectors	Some level of schooling required to close	2
Required closure for all but essential work	All schools required to close	3



International travel	Value
No measure	0
Screening	1
Quarantine arrivals from	
high risk regions	2
Ban on high risk regions	3
Total border closure	4

For most countries, public transport has the most relaxed restrictions. Morocco and Sweden are the only countries where there are no measures implemented on public events. Meanwhile, across the world, there is some measure of restriction on international travel. However, the UK, Jordan and Iran are the exceptions, where international travel is freely permitted with no measures implemented.

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'lockdown index' scores.

Victoria Ormond

Enforced Restrictions: 51 - 75 Highest Restrictions / Ban: 76 - 100

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 29,

indicating the restrictions in place are generally recommendations and are not

enforced. Countries including Kenya, Russia and Peru have some of the highest

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