

Market Commentary

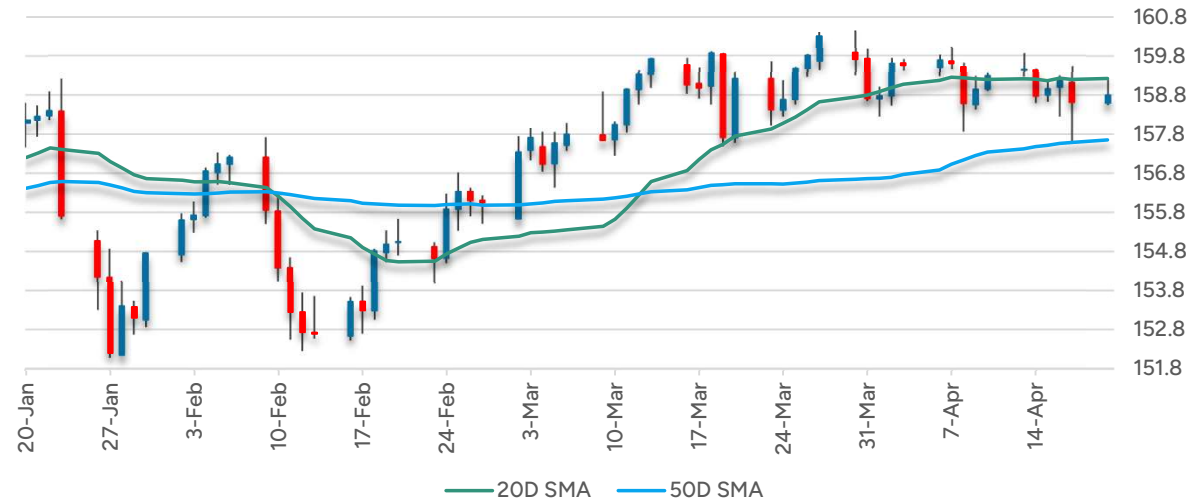
KFH Treasury

Report produced on
21-Apr-2026



Forex Market

JAPANESE YEN



CLOSE
158.79

1M %chg
-0.27%

3M %chg
0.34%

USD/JPY in stasis, JPY crosses on buoyant side, Asia quiet

21 Apr 2026 07:39:26 AM

- * Asia seeing quiet trading o lack of fresh news, flows
- * USD/JPY in stasis, another inside day, range so far 158.78-159.00 EBS
- * Spot around 100-HMA at 158.92, upside capped for now ahead of 159.05 100-HMA
- * Hourly Ichimoku cloud 158.56-71 and looks to be supportive
- * Smattering of nearby option expiries, large only between 159.55-65 \$745 mln
- * Both BOJ and Fed seen on hold at meetings this month
- * Fresh jaw-boning from FinMin Katayama taken in stride
- * EUR/JPY buoyant after rally to 187.27 yesterday, Asia 187.29-33 EBS

EURO



CLOSE
1.1787

1M %chg
1.88%

3M %chg
0.90%

EUR/USD easing back a bit, EUR crosses mixed, quiet reigns

21 Apr 2026 07:09:35 AM

- * EUR/USD easing back to 1.1770 after small gain to 1.1791 EBS early Asia
- * Still holding well above 1.1603-1.1746 daily Ichimoku cloud
- * Also holding above its 200 and 100-DMAs at 1.1675 and 1.1707, respectively
- * Heading towards 1.1776-86 hourly Ichimoku cloud base, 200-HMA 1.1777 below
- * Massive option expiries in area, between 1.1725-75 E6.4 bln, supportive
- * Also E3.4 bln between 1.1800-10 just above, likely to help cap
- * EUR/JPY buoyant after rally to 187.27 yesterday, Asia 187.29-33 EBS
- * Above 187.09-14 hourly Ichimoku cloud, in area of 187.28 100-HMA

Forex Market



POUND STERLING



CLOSE

1.3532

1M %chg

1.45%

3M %chg

0.80%

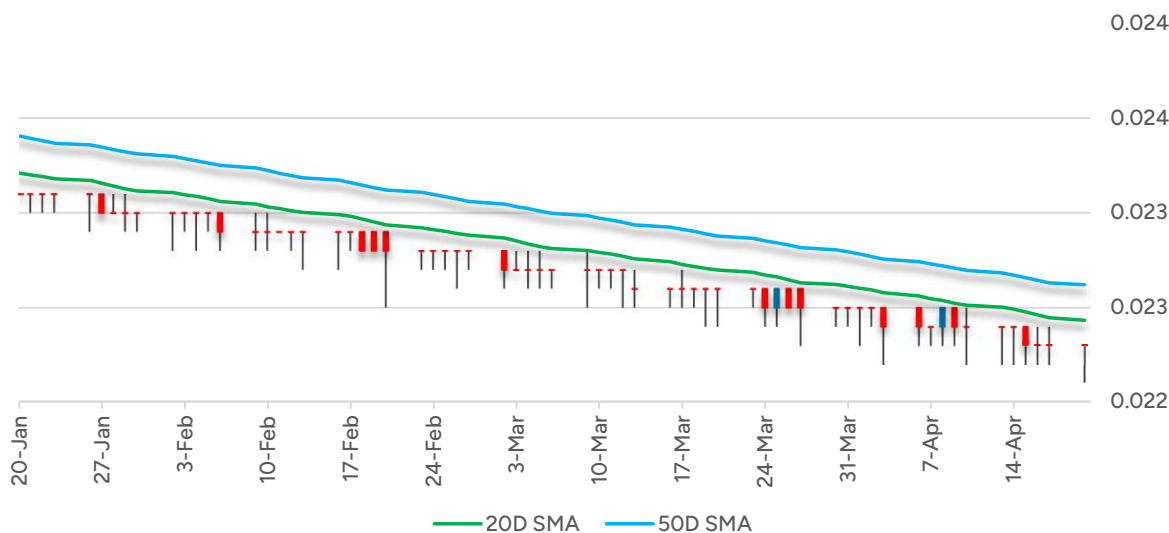
GBP/USD-Inches lower ahead of risk events

21 Apr 2026 07:04:45 AM

- * GBP/USD down 0.1% in cautious Asia with all eyes on possible U.S.-Iran talks
- * Vance to travel to Pakistan on Tuesday for Iran talks, Axios reports
- * Renewed U.S.-Iran tensions, looming ceasefire deadline keep investors wary
- * UK politics back in focus; PM Starmer seeks to deflect blame over Mandelson
- * UK data also key; Feb employment, earnings due Tue, Mar inflation due Wed
- * Senate confirmation hearing for Fed nominee Kevin Warsh awaited Tuesday
- * Asia range 1.3521-1.35345; support 1.3475, 1.3450, resistance 1.3550, 1.3600
- * Monday range 1.3475-1.35435



TURKISH LIRA



CLOSE

0.0223

1M %chg

-1.33%

3M %chg

-3.46%

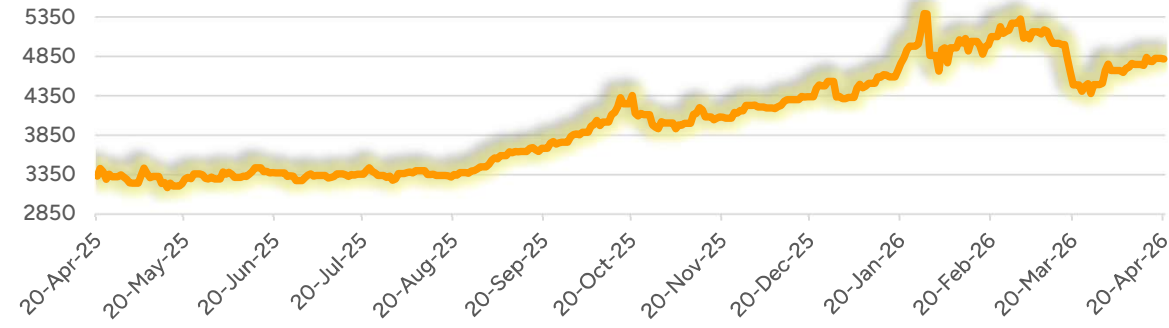
Turkey - Factors to Watch

21 Apr 2026 08:24:38 AM

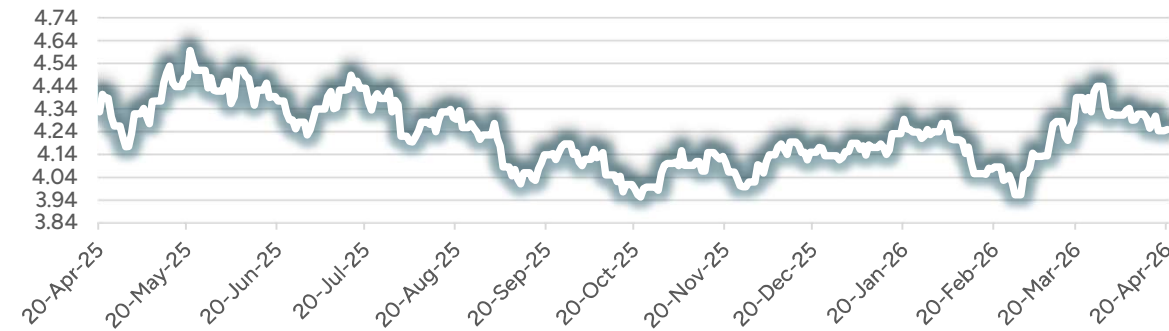
ISTANBUL, April 21 (Reuters) - The lira was quoted at 44.8800-44.8950 against the U.S. dollar, compared with a close of 44.8500 on Monday. The BIST 100 index closed 0.71% lower at 14,484.91 points on Monday.

Gold, US Treasury & Dollar Index

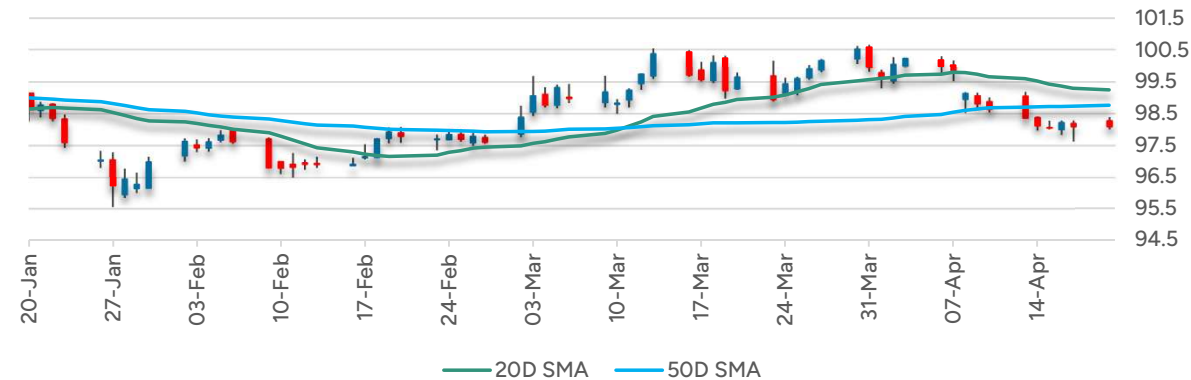
GOLD



10Y US-TREASURY



DOLLAR INDEX



US 10YT YIELD

4.26

1M %chg

-3.05%

3M %chg

0.12%

PRECIOUS-Gold eases as investors await clarity on US-Iran talks, dollar edges up

21 Apr 2026 08:44:24 AM

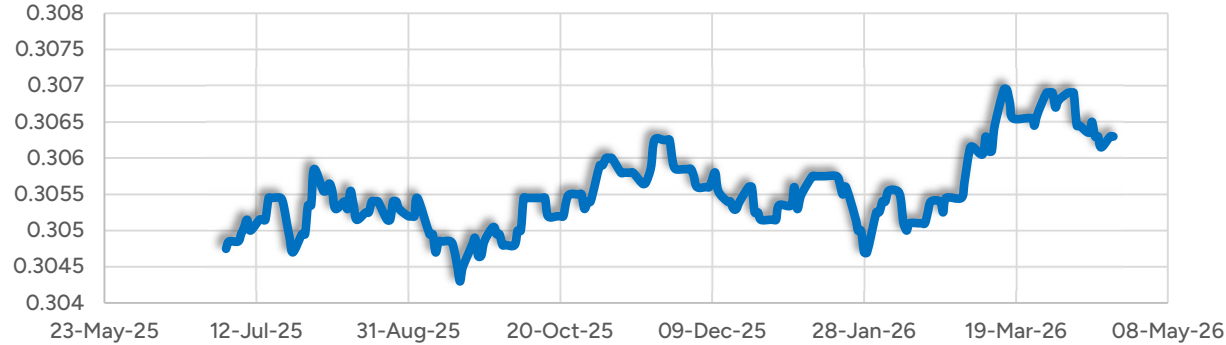
April 21 (Reuters) - Gold prices eased on Tuesday as investors waited to see whether the U.S. and Iran would consider attending peace talks after renewed tensions over the weekend, while a marginally firmer dollar added to the pressure. Spot gold was down 0.5% at \$4,795.51 per ounce, extending its fall from Monday when it hit its lowest level since April 13. U.S. gold futures for June delivery fell 0.3% to \$4,814. The U.S. dollar edged up on Tuesday, making greenback-denominated commodities more expensive for holders of other currencies. Higher crude prices can stoke inflation by raising transportation and production costs. While gold is considered an inflation hedge, high interest rates make yield-bearing assets more attractive, weighing on its appeal. Gold prices have fallen about 8% since the U.S. and Israel launched strikes on Iran in late February. Among other metals, spot silver fell 1.2% to \$78.93 per ounce, platinum lost 0.7% to \$2,074.06, while palladium was up 0.2% at \$1,553.97.

UPCOMING KEY ECONOMIC INDICATOR RELEASES

| INDICATOR | Ctry / Regn | Time | For | Prior | Consensus |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----|---------|-----------|
| Claimant Count Unem Chng | GB | 21/Apr 09:00 | Mar | 24.7k | |
| HMRC Payrolls Change | GB | 21/Apr 09:00 | Mar | 20k | |
| ILO Unemployment Rate | GB | 21/Apr 09:00 | Feb | 5.20% | 5.20% |
| Retail Sales MM | US | 21/Apr 15:30 | Mar | 0.60% | 1.40% |
| Exports YY | JP | 22/Apr 02:50 | Mar | 4.00% | 11.00% |
| Imports YY | JP | 22/Apr 02:50 | Mar | 10.30% | 7.10% |
| Trade Balance Total Yen | JP | 22/Apr 02:50 | Mar | 44.3Bn¥ | 1106.3Bn¥ |
| CPI YY | GB | 22/Apr 09:00 | Mar | 3.00% | 3.30% |
| Consumer Confid. Flash | EU | 22/Apr 17:00 | Apr | | |
| S&P Global Comp Op Flash SA | JP | 23/Apr 03:30 | Apr | 53 | |
| S&P Global Mfg PMI Flash SA | JP | 23/Apr 03:30 | Apr | 51.6 | |

Daily Market Report

KWD - CBK FIX



MARKET SUMMARY

| INSTRUMENT | OPEN | HIGH | LOW | CLOSE | %CHG 1D |
|------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| EUR | 1.1758 | 1.179 | 1.1726 | 1.1787 | 0.21% |
| GBP | 1.3509 | 1.3544 | 1.3471 | 1.3532 | 0.13% |
| JPY | 158.59 | 159.2 | 158.54 | 158.79 | 0.11% |
| TRY | 0.0223 | 0.0223 | 0.0221 | 0.0223 | 0.00% |
| Dollar Idx | 98.277 | 98.395 | 98.006 | 98.097 | 0.00% |
| Brent | 96.12 | 97.5 | 92.75 | 95.48 | 5.64% |
| WTC | 89.97 | 91.78 | 88.77 | 91.06 | 5.99% |
| Gold | 4788.93 | 4827.41 | 4735.3867 | 4819.6421 | -0.18% |
| KWSE Index | 8933.04 | 8936.59 | 8869.06 | 8869.06 | -0.62% |

KIBOR RATES

| Tenor | Value | Tenor | Value |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| ON | 2.38 | 3M | 3.56 |
| SW | 3.25 | 6M | 3.75 |
| 1M | 3.44 | 1Y | 3.94 |

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

KWD (CBK FIX) CLOSE

0.30635

3M% CHG

0.26%

| POLICY RATES INDICATOR | As of | Value | Prior | Change |
|------------------------|------------|-------|-------|--------|
| ON Repo Rate | 11/Dec/'25 | 3.13 | 3.38 | -0.25 |
| 1W Repo Rate | 11/Dec/'25 | 3.38 | 3.63 | -0.25 |
| 1M Repo Rate | 11/Dec/'25 | 3.63 | 3.88 | -0.25 |
| KWD ON Rate | 11/Dec/'25 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| Discount Rate | 11/Dec/'25 | 3.50 | 3.75 | -0.25 |

SOFR RATES

| Tenor | Value | Tenor | Value |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1M | 3.66 | 6M | 3.68 |
| 3M | 3.67 | 1Y | 3.69 |

OTHER C-BANK RATES

| INDICATOR | As of | Value | Prior | Change |
|----------------------|------------|-------|-------|--------|
| FED Target Rate | 10/Dec/'25 | 3.75 | 4.00 | -0.25 |
| ECB Refinancing Rate | 19/Mar/'26 | 2.15 | 2.15 | 0.00 |
| BOE Bank Rate | 19/Jun/'25 | 4.25 | 4.25 | 0.00 |
| BOJ Prime Rate | 10/Apr/'26 | 3.00 | 2.80 | 0.20 |
| TRY ON Lending Rate | 22/Jan/'26 | 40.00 | 41.00 | -1.00 |

KEY INTERNATIONAL STORIES

US homebuilders brace for another challenging year as war, tariffs hurt margins

April 20 (Reuters) - U.S. homebuilders will likely point to another challenging year as tariffs and the Iran war further squeeze margins, while rising inflation continues to sideline buyers, analysts said. The sector has struggled with declining sales for several quarters, as years of underproduction, due to labor shortages and restrictive land zoning, have pushed home prices higher. The challenges have been exacerbated by new tariffs and the Middle East conflict, analysts said. Residential construction input prices remain elevated after soaring during the post-pandemic inflation spike.

German industry faces stagnation in 2026, BDI says

BERLIN, April 20 (Reuters) - German industry is expected to stagnate at best in 2026, the BDI industry association said on Monday, warning that higher energy costs, supply chain risks and domestic structural weaknesses were piling pressure on Europe's largest economy. Germany's manufacturing sector could even contract for a fifth straight year if shipping disruptions persist, the association said. Industrial output remains well below earlier levels and capacity utilisation is only a little above 78%, Leibinger added. He said Germany's weakness was primarily structural, citing high labour.

Russia to cut key rate by 50 bps to 14.5% on April 24 amid growth concerns

MOSCOW, April 20 (Reuters) - The Russian central bank is likely to cut its key rate by 50 basis points to 14.5% at a meeting on April 24 amid concerns about faltering economic growth, a Reuters poll of 24 analysts showed on Monday. Twenty-three out of 24 analysts polled were in favour of the 50 bps cut while one analyst predicted a full percentage point cut to 14%. Many critics blame the central bank for an excessive tightening policy to deal with inflation and economic overheating for growth rates plummeting from 4.9% in 2024 to just about 1% in 2025.

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Japan households' inflation expectations steady, BOJ April hike bets fade

TOKYO, April 20 (Reuters) - Most Japanese households expect prices to continue rising in the coming years, a quarterly survey showed on Monday, keeping pressure on the central bank to proceed with further interest rate hikes. The BOJ's March survey showed the ratio of households who expect prices to rise a year from now stood at 83.7%, compared with 86.0% three months ago. The survey also showed 82.6% of households expect prices to rise five years from now, compared with 83.0% in the previous survey, the Bank of Japan said. On average, households expect prices to rise 10.3% five years from now.

Thailand plans law to borrow \$15.6 billion and raise debt ceiling, deputy PM says

BANGKOK, April 20 (Reuters) - Thailand's government plans an emergency decree to borrow 500 billion baht (\$15.6 billion) to address economic issues, a deputy prime minister said on Monday. The move is justified by tight cash balances and rising external and environmental risks, Pakorn Nilrapunt told reporters, adding that actual borrowing may be less than the full 500 billion baht. Thailand issued a similar borrowing decree in 2021 for COVID-19 relief and economic recovery, when the debt to GDP ratio cap was raised to 70% from 60%. Public debt currently stands at about 66% of GDP.

Oil falls on expectations US-Iran talks likely to proceed, opening supply

SINGAPORE, April 21 (Reuters) - Oil prices fell on Tuesday, reversing gains in the previous session, on expectations peace talks between the U.S. and Iran will take place this week and allow more supply to flow from the key Middle East producing region. Brent crude futures declined 54 cents, or 0.6%, at \$94.94 a barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for May fell \$1.11, or 1.2%, to \$88.50. The May contract expires on Tuesday and the more-active June contract was down 76 cents, or 0.9%, at \$86.66. Both benchmarks surged on Monday, with Brent up 5.6% and WTI up 6.9%, after Iran again shut the Strait of Hormuz.