Daily Market Brief

August 28th 2026

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS *(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)*

EUR/USD
EUR/USD edges higher after registering minor gains in the previous day, trading around 1.1650 during the Asian hours on Friday. The pair gains ground, bolstered by the European Central Bank's (ECB) hawkish monetary policy outlook. ECB Executive Board member Isabel Schnabel recently emphasized that borrowing costs must continue to rise, citing ongoing conflict in the Middle East and a surprisingly resilient Eurozone economy as major upside risks to inflation. Reflecting this hawkish sentiment, market expectations have shifted significantly, with the ECB Watch tool now pricing in nearly 96% odds of a deposit rate hike to 2.50% at the upcoming September policy meeting.

GBP/USD
GBP/USD inches higher after two days of losses, trading around 1.3600 during the Asian hours on Friday. However, the British Pound (GBP) may encounter headwinds as recent declines in Brent crude oil prices ease immediate inflation concerns. This shift has led money markets to push back expectations for the Bank of England's (BoE) next interest rate hike from late 2026 into early 2027. According to LSEG pricing data, financial markets reflect just 24 basis points of policy tightening by December and 36 basis points by February 2027. Ahead of the BoE's September meeting, less than 4 basis points are priced in, translating to roughly a 15% probability of a rate increase.

USD/JPY
The USD/JPY pair declines to around 159.30 during the early Asian session on Friday. The Japanese Yen (JPY) strengthens against the US Dollar (USD) as Japan's Tokyo Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation data strengthens the case for a September Bank of Japan (BoJ) rate hike. All eyes will be on a speech by Federal Reserve (Fed) Chair Kevin Warsh at the Jackson Hole symposium later on Friday. Data released by the Statistics Bureau of Japan on Friday showed that the headline Tokyo CPI rose 1.9% YoY in August, compared to 1.8% in July. Meanwhile, the core CPI inflation climbed to 1.8% YoY in August from 1.7% in July (revised from 1.9%). This figure came in above the market consensus of 1.7%.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.1643	1.1655	1.1643	-0.09	-0.31	-0.88
GBP-USD	1.3588	1.3599	1.3587	-0.04	-0.41	0.84
USD-JPY	159.54	159.56	159.30	0.09	-0.37	-1.77
USD-CHF	0.8052	0.8052	0.8037	0.12	-0.50	-1.56
Commodities	**Last**	**High**	**Low**	**% Daily**	**% Weekly**	**% YTD**
Gold	4575.59	4611.53	4574.02	-0.51	-0.60	5.93
Silver	68.74	69.68	68.45	-0.73	-0.37	-4.08
Crude Oil	83.14	83.78	82.85	-0.47	-4.50	45.99
Bitcoin	79789.29	81440.99	79559.28	-0.39	3.08	-8.97
Etherium	2493.97	2534.81	2478.54	-0.57	1.79	-16.24

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	3.69	3.77	3.87	4.02
ESTR (€)	2.67	2.41	2.51	2.67
SONIA (£)	3.75	3.80	3.92	4.15
SARON (₣)	-0.06	-0.05	-0.04	0.02
TONAR (¥)	0.96	0.91	0.82	0.69

	Rates
U.S. Federal Fund Target Rate	3.75
ECB Main Refinancing Operation Announcement Rate	2.4
ECB Deposit Facility Announcement Rate	2.25
ECB Marginal Lending Facility Announcement Rate	2.65
BOE Official Bank Rate	3.75

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS *(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
The Nasdaq Composite was higher on Thursday as the latest earnings reports from Nvidia and other well-known technology companies boosted sentiment. The tech-heavy index rose 1.57% to 26,541.35, while the S&P 500 advanced 0.72% end at 7,730.99. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 105.56 points, or 0.2%, and closed at 53,569.44. It was the best day since Aug. 4 for the tech sector, the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq Composite.

EUROPE
European stock markets closed mostly lower on Thursday, August 27, 2026, pressured by heavy losses in banking and industrial shares. Major banks dropped after news hinted at possible future interest rate hikes by the European Central Bank. Traders stayed cautious while waiting for a major speech from the U.S. Federal Reserve.

Asia
Asia-Pacific markets opened mixed Friday. Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 added 0.19%, while the Topix rose 0.39%. South Korea's Kospi was down 1.16%, and the small-cap Kosdaq opened flat. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.25%. Federal Reserve Chair Kevin Warsh is due to deliver a closely watched keynote address Friday at Jackson Hole, as investors look for any signals on the economy, monetary policy and the direction of interest rates.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	53569.44	0.20	1.56	11.46	53664.00	0.07
S&P	7730.99	0.72	4.07	12.94	7733.25	-0.12
Nasdaq	26541.35	1.57	6.69	14.20	29607.75	-0.30
DJ EuroStoxx50	6424.73	-0.71	2.15	10.94	6451.00	0.33
FTSE 100	10792.54	-0.79	-0.72	8.67	10832.00	0.18
CAC 40	8319.87	-1.68	-1.64	2.09	8357.50	-1.70
DAX	26367.24	0.31	3.55	7.66	26469.00	0.36
IBEX 35	19881.60	-0.93	0.78	14.87	19899.80	-1.09
FTSE MIB	52265.12	-1.17	1.10	16.29	52347.00	-1.20
Nikkei	66131.98	0.52	6.59	32.05	66290.00	0.53
Hang Seng	25565.74	0.34	1.35	0.08	25644.00	0.20
DFM General	5882.63	0.27	1.50	-2.72		
MSCI Tadawoul	11237.93	-0.20	6.12	7.12		

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	72.60	73.00	70.50	3.27	-0.34	-13.57
Solidere B	72.00	72.50	71.25	0.00	0.00	-12.94
EuroBonds	27.25 / 28.25					

MUST READ *(Source: Bloomberg/Forexlive)*

Anthropic Wins Court Challenge to US Supply-Chain Risk Label

A US federal judge has ruled in favor of Anthropic, ordering the Trump administration to lift the Department of Defense's designation of the AI company as a supply-chain risk. US District Judge Rita F. Lin found that the government had not provided adequate justification for the ban and concluded that the decision appeared to be motivated by retaliation against Anthropic for criticizing government policies. The dispute began after negotiations between Anthropic and the Pentagon over military use of its Claude AI technology broke down. Anthropic sought safeguards preventing its AI from being used for mass surveillance of Americans or autonomous weapons, while the government argued that national security required unrestricted use. The Pentagon subsequently labeled Anthropic a supply-chain risk, preventing federal agencies from using its technology. Anthropic welcomed the ruling, saying it remains committed to working with the government on AI and national security. However, the decision does not require the government to use Anthropic's products or prevent it from switching to other AI providers, provided those actions comply with the law. The ruling represents a significant legal victory for Anthropic, which said the ban could have cost billions in revenue. A separate legal challenge in Washington, DC, remains unresolved.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
DELL TECHNOLOG	DELL	$ 305.15 B	1-Sep-26	Aft-mkt	4.92	2.32
PALO ALTO NETW	PANW	$ 312.02 B	1-Sep-26	Aft-mkt	0.98	0.95
MONGODB INC	MDB	$ 35.44 B	1-Sep-26	Aft-mkt	1.61	1.00
BROADCOM INC	AVGO	$ 1767.63 B	2-Sep-26	Aft-mkt	3.23	1.69
HEWLETT PACKAF	HPE	$ 72.05 B	2-Sep-26	Aft-mkt	0.93	0.44

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(28-08-26) JN - Tokyo CPI Ex-Fresh Food YoY
(28-08-26) JN - Jobless Rate
(28-08-26) JN - Job-To-Applicant Ratio
(28-08-26) CA - Quarterly GDP Annualized / DGP MoM
(28-08-26) US - MNI Chicago PMI
(28-08-26) US - U. of Mich. Sentiment
(31-08-26) JN - Industrial Production MoM

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