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Monday, March 30, 2020

Speculators Slash EUR Shorts

Data in this report cover up to Tuesday Mar 24 & were released Friday March 27.

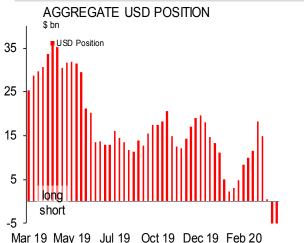
- Speculative pressure on the USD increased slightly on the week through last Tuesday, according to the latest CFTC data. The incremental pressure on the USD was modest—aggregate USD shorts rose USD572mn in the latest week to USD8.4bn. But the main axis through which investors expressed their USD-bearish sentiment was the EUR, which saw a sharp jump in net longs.
- Net EUR longs jumped USD3.8bn in the week through March 24th to reach USD8.3bn (or around 62k contracts)—the largest bull bet on the EUR since mid-2018 in effect. Most of this change reflects gross EUR short-covering, however, with turmoil in the financial markets driving a huge squeeze on carry trades that have been funded in the EUR.
- Speculative accounts are bearish on the commodity currencies—which fits with the broader, risk-averse climate, clearly, but positioning was a little more nuanced last week. Net CAD shorts rose sharply, reaching just over USD2bn but here too, positioning was largely a one-sided affair, with gross CAD longs liquidating aggressively amid falling equity and commodity prices. Gross CAD shorts were little changed on the week. Meanwhile, investors' exposure to the AUD, NZD and MXN were little changed on the week.
- Elsewhere, net positioning in the GBP remained bullish, but was trimmed back (USD604mn) in the week. This was a pattern repeated in the CHF and (more so) in the JPY (net longs cut USD1.1bn). It seems, however, that volatility has overwhelmed positioning to a significant extent with price movement far exceeding relatively modest changes in positioning in the currencies. It may take some time for positioning to resize appropriately to trends and the broader market tone.

	Sen	timent	\$m	ns
24-Mar	Bias	Trend	Position	w/w chg.
CAD	bearish	increasing	-2,022	-1,345
AUD	bearish	neutral	-1,502	222
NZD	bearish	decreasing	-933	272
MXN	neutral	neutral	442	-295
EUR	bullish	increasing	8,265	3,798
GBP	bullish	decreasing	800	-604
CHF	bullish	decreasing	623	-336
JPY	bullish	decreasing	2,682	-1,141
Gold	bullish	increasing	47,071	3,985
Total USD pos'n (excl. gold)			-8,355	-572

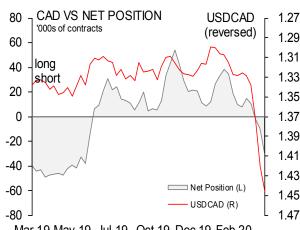
CAD — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

	(\$MM)	Positio	Position - Contracts of 100,000 CAD					
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.		
24-Mar	-2,022	21,323	50,568	-29,245	-19,622	124,226		
17-Mar	-678	43,114	52,737	-9,623	-7,633	183,137		
10-Mar	-145	48,055	50,045	-1,990	-12,569	175,226		
3-Mar	791	55,191	44,612	10,579	-4,045	160,511		



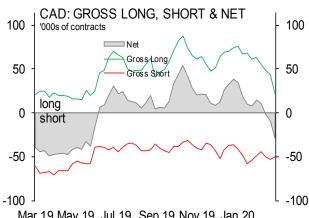


Mar 19 May 19 Jul 19 Oct 19 Dec 19 Feb 20 Source: Scotlabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC



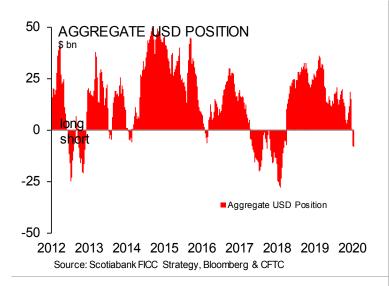
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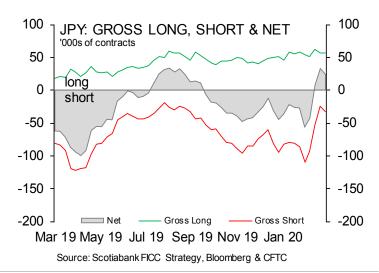
Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

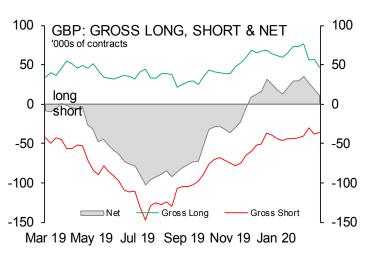


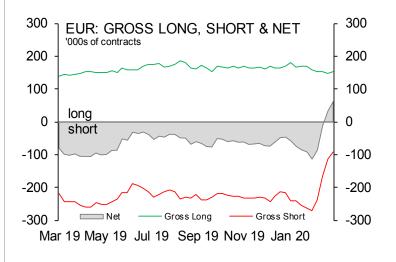
Mar 19 May 19 Jul 19 Sep 19 Nov 19 Jan 20 Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

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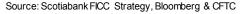


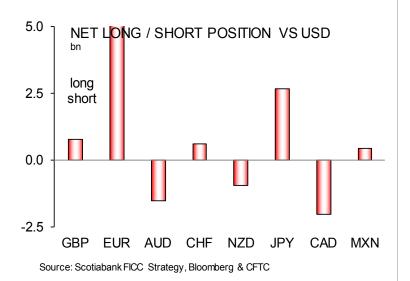


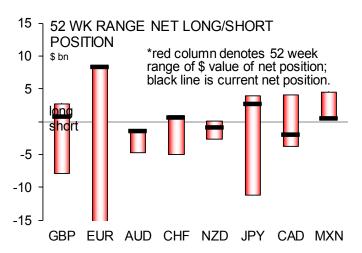




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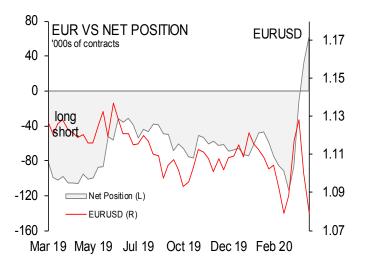




Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

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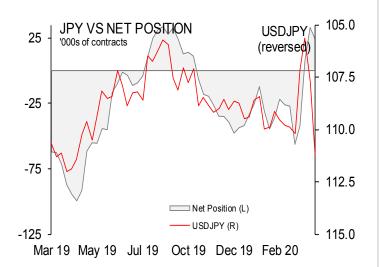
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Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

EUR — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

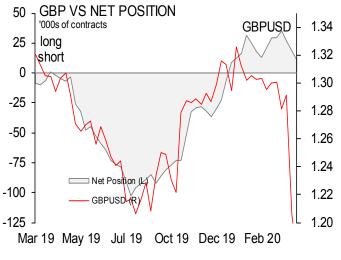
	(\$MM)	Positio				
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.
24-Mar	8,265	152,360	91,070	61,290	28,795	571,086
17-Mar	4,467	147,133	114,638	32,495	45,162	588,116
10-Mar	-1,786	153,820	166,487	-12,667	74,036	659,151
3-Mar	-12,109	151,904	238,607	-86,703	27,318	640,357



Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

JPY - NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

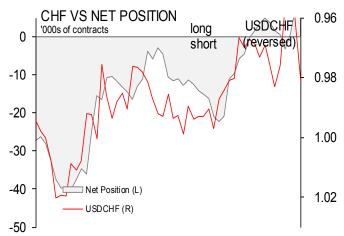
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	(\$MM)	Positio	Position - Contracts of 12.5MM JPY					
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.		
24-Mar	2,682	56,528	32,665	23,863	-9,072	125,594		
17-Mar	3,823	57,286	24,351	32,935	24,778	125,769		
10-Mar	965	61,732	53,575	8,157	50,481	159,128		
3-Mar	-4,938	50,598	92,922	-42,324	14,065	198,404		



Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

GBP — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

	(\$MM)	Positio				
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.
24-Mar	800	46,534	35,650	10,884	-7,756	179,552
17-Mar	1,404	56,575	37,935	18,640	-7,688	182,109
10-Mar	2,125	56,077	29,749	26,328	-8,834	214,185
3-Mar	2,815	76,063	40,901	35,162	5,564	214,672



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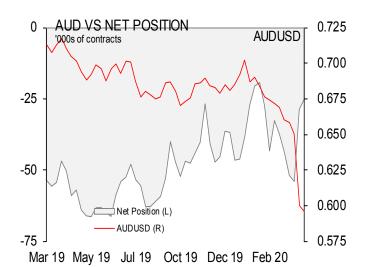
Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

CHF — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

	(\$MM)	Positio				
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.
24-Mar	623	10,294	5,403	4,891	-2,483	30,767
17-Mar	959	13,963	6,589	7,374	6,779	35,254
10-Mar	79	13,460	12,865	595	3,837	50,474
3-Mar	-424	14,727	17,969	-3,242	-3,858	54,436

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Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

AUD — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

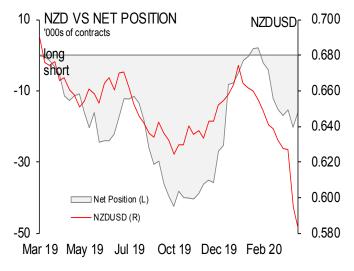
	(\$MM)	Positio				
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.
24-Mar	-1,502	31,024	56,231	-25,207	3,526	135,097
17-Mar	-1,724	39,246	67,979	-28,733	25,280	149,878
10-Mar	-3,514	49,757	103,770	-54,013	-2,060	211,243
3-Mar	-3,421	64,846	116,799	-51,953	-8,101	223,084



Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

MXN — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

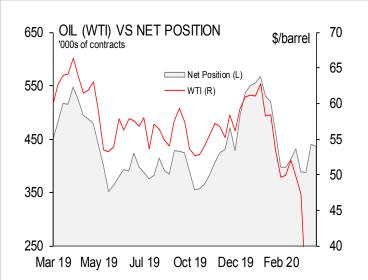
	(\$MM)	Positio	Position - Contracts of 500,000 MXN					
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.		
24-Mar	442	40,783	18,804	21,979	-11,866	110,323		
17-Mar	737	55,563	21,718	33,845	-78,702	121,964		
10-Mar	2,701	129,376	16,829	112,547	-18,634	224,550		
3-Mar	3,372	147,358	16,177	131,181	-19,420	233,892		



Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

NZD — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

	(\$MM)	Positio				
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.
24-Mar	-933	6,993	23,009	-16,016	4,259	37,622
17-Mar	-1,206	9,976	30,251	-20,275	-4,899	44,688
10-Mar	-964	20,681	36,057	-15,376	1,581	71,034
3-Mar	-1,064	20,530	37,487	-16,957	-1,646	62,847



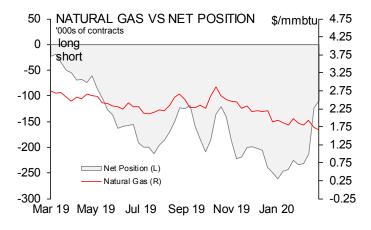
Source: Scotiabank FICC Strategy, Bloomberg & CFTC

NYMEX Crude — NON-COMMERCIAL POSITIONING

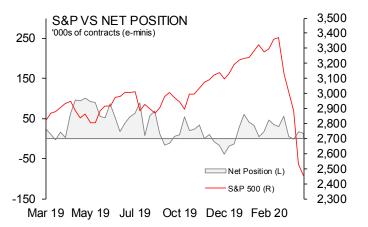
	(\$MM)	Positio				
Date	Net	Long	Short	Net	Net w/w	Open Int.
24-Mar	10,469	578,366	142,353	436,013	-4,224	2,141,284
17-Mar	11,864	572,819	132,582	440,237	52,840	2,154,450
10-Mar	13,311	587,567	200,170	387,397	-972	2,220,972
3-Mar	18,323	563,904	175,535	388,369	-43,097	2,196,089

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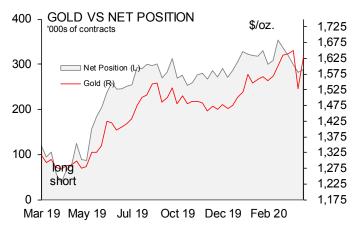
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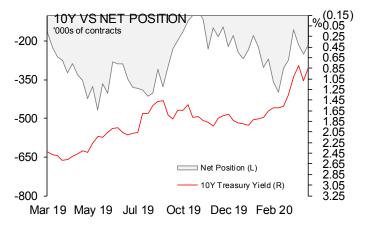
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