Scotiabank Global FX Strategy

CAD WEEKLY Friday, January 21, 2022

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Calendar highlights for the coming week:

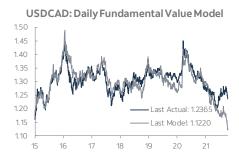
<u>Canada</u>

Bank of Canada policy decision—Wednesday

<u>US</u>

Jan Markit PMIs—Monday Jan Consumer Confidence—Tuesday Dec Wholesale Inventories—Wednesday FOMC Policy Decision—Wednesday Dec Durable Goods—Thursday Q4 GDP—Thursday Jan KC Fed Manuf. Index—Thursday Q4 Employment Cost Index—Friday Dec Personal Inc./Spending—Friday Jan U. Michigan Sentiment (f)—Friday

CAD Weekly Outlook January 21, 2022



Source: Bloomberg, Scotiabank FICC Strategy. * 24-mth WTI, industrial metals price index, CA-US 2-yr and 10-yr spread.



 4-wk rolling avg weekly change in CCD fundamental value variables (oil, 2 and 10-year US-CA spread, industrial metal prices index).



CAD Weekly Outlook

CAD Set to Gain on Hawkish BoC

The CAD is just about holding on for a fifth consecutive weekly gain against the USD and continues to outperform most of its G10 peers so far this year as markets position for next week's twin policy decisions from the BoC and the Fed. It has been a rough week for equity markets, with high tech stocks and "pandemic darlings" under intense pressure as investors re-position ahead of the FOMC. No interest rate moves are expected from the US but policy makers are liable to provide more insight into the scope of potential policy moves this year and perhaps provide more insight into plans to reduce the Fed's balance sheet. With the tapering process winding up by March, we expect the Fed to hold off until then before hiking. The latest forecast update from our Scotia Economics' colleagues calls for a total of 175bps of tightening in the US this year.

Our Bank of Canada rate call was also upgraded this week; we now expect 175bps of tightening overall in Canada as well this year, taking the Overnight Target Rate to 2.00% by year end. We look for the first tightening to come next week and for rate increases to lead the Fed overall this year, sustaining a modest yield spread for short-term Canadian rates over US yields. This will be CAD-supportive and we continue to target USDCAD reaching 1.20 later this year. Note our FV estimate has dropped sharply this week (indicating equilibrium near 1.22 now).

Market pricing reflects a high degree of conviction that the BoC will pull the rate trigger Wednesday but it is not an absolute certainty (OIS reflect a roughly 70% probability of a hike). Omicron concerns could conceivably keep policy makers sidelined but a hold next week should be accompanied by a hawkish policy statement which clearly lays the groundwork for a hike in March (perhaps 50bps); in the event of a "hawkish hold" we think USDCAD risks edging higher to 1.2600+ (but holding below 1.2650). A "dovish hike"— that is to say a tightening accompanied by a policy statement which suggests patience on the timing of additional rate increases tightening—is perhaps the biggest risk for the CAD next week, given what is priced in and how far rate expectations have shifted. Under this scenario, USDCAD gains could extend through the mid-1.26s. A "hawkish hike" scenario (+25bps and language highlighting upside inflationary risks and drifting inflation expectations which bolsters expectations for a series of quick, and perhaps aggressive, rate increases) should see USDCAD extend losses towards 1.24 (or below). We expect policy action and the statement to reflect this sort of scenario. The FOMC policy statement, which follows a few hours after the BoC, may affect some of the potential trends in the CAD, of course.

Charts reflect a very disciplined range trade in USDCAD over the past week or little more; spot has found solid support at 1.2450/55 while gains have been capped consistently around 1.2570. USDCAD's strong reversal from the mid-1.29s alongside the breakdown below the Head & Shoulders neckline (now firm resistance at 1.2640) figure as key pointers on the longer run charts which tilt risks towards a push below 1.2450 and a test of 1.2280/90 (measured move target of the H&S pattern and the Oct low). We continue favour looking to fade modest USD gains.

CAD Correlations

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Day	Country	Release	Period	Consensus	Last
Mon	MX	Bi-Weekly CPI	15-Jan	0.41%	0.01%
	US	Chicago Fed Nat Activity Index	Dec		0.37
	US	Markit US Manufacturing PMI	Jan P		57.7
	US	Markit US Services PMI	Jan P		57.6
	US	Markit US Composite PMI	Jan P		57
Tue	MX	Economic Activity IGAE YoY	Nov		-0.67%
	US	FHFA House Price Index MoM	Nov		1.10%
	US	S&P CoreLogic CS 20-City YoY NSA	Nov		18.41%
	US	FOMC Begins Two-Day Meeting			
	US	Conf. Board Consumer Confidence	Jan	112	115.8
	US	Richmond Fed Manufact. Index	Jan		16
	MX	International Reserves Weekly	21-Jan		\$202100n
Wed	US	MBA Mortgage Applications	21-Jan		2.3%
	MX	Retail Sales YoY	Nov		5.3%
	US	Wholesale Inventories MoM	Dec P		1.4%
	CA	Bank of Canada Rate Decision	26-Jan	0.25%	0.25%
	US	New Home Sales	Dec	770k	744k
	US	FOMC Rate Decision (Upper Bound)	26-Jan	0.25%	0.25%
	US	Fed Chair Powell Press Conference			
Thur	CA	CFIB Business Barometer	Jan		62.6
	MX	Trade Balance	Dec		-111.7m
	US	Initial Jobless Claims	22-Jan		286k
	US	Continuing Claims	15-Jan		1635k
	US	Durable Goods Orders	Dec P	-0.3%	2.6%
	US	Durables Ex Transportation	Dec P	0.5%	0.9%
	US	GDP Annualized QoQ	4Q A	5.8%	2.3%
	US	Personal Consumption	4Q A	2.6%	2.0%
	US	Core PCE QoQ	4Q A		4.6%
	US	Pending Home Sales MoM	Dec		-2.2%
	US	Kansas City Fed Manf. Activity	Jan		24
Fri	US	Employment Cost Index	4Q	1.0%	1.3%
	US	Personal Income	Dec	0.6%	0.4%
	US	Personal Spending	Dec	-0.7%	0.6%
	US	U. of Mich. Sentiment	Jan F	68.8	68.8



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