

CCY	Price	Change
AUD-USD	0.9149	-0.0006
EUR-GBP	0.9110	-0.0006
EUR-USD	1.3624	-0.0027
GBP-AUD	1.6349	-0.0009
GBP-CAD	1.5358	0.0007
GBP-EUR	1.0977	0.0011
GBP-NZD	2.1394	0.0057
GBP-USD	1.4957	-0.0017
NZD-USD	0.6991	-0.0030
USD-CAD	1.0268	0.0018
USD-JPY	90.37	-0.1600

USA and Japan

- Yen, Dollar Rise as China's CPI at 16-Month High; Kiwi Weakens: March 11 (Bloomberg) -- The yen and dollar rose versus their major counterparts after Chinese reports on inflation, factories and loans fueled concern the government will act to damp growth, boosting demand for the lowest-yielding currencies. New Zealand's dollar fell for a second day versus the greenback as the central bank signaled a slower exit from stimulus measures.
- Dollar Will Retain Reserve Role If Markets Stay Sound, S&P Says: March 11 (Bloomberg) -- The dollar will retain its status as the world's reserve currency as long as U.S. financial markets are sound and government spending is sustainable, Standard & Poor's said. The greenback is "the world's most accepted currency," even after the global recession that began in the U.S., John Chambers, chairman of the S&P sovereign ratings committee, wrote in a report released today. The dollar supports the nation's top AAA credit ranking, improves the government's access to external financing and helps lower borrowing costs, he wrote.

Figures out today:

USD	Trade Balance (JAN)	13:30	08:30	-\$41.0B	-\$40.2B
USD	Initial Jobless Claims (MAR 6)	13:30	08:30	450K	469K

UK

- Brown Tries to Turn Double-Dip U.K. Slump Threat to Advantage: March 11 (Bloomberg) -- Gordon Brown is trying to turn the threat of a double-dip U.K. recession into an advantage. The British prime minister, whose Labour Party is narrowing the gap in opinion polls with the opposition Conservatives, is arguing that the economic recovery is too "fragile" to justify cutting the U.K.'s record budget deficit right away. While jobless claims are at the highest since the party came to power in 1997, opinion polls show that Brown has made up so much ground that David Cameron's Conservatives will fail to gain a majority in the election, which must happen by June. "A weak economy might perversely be good for Labour," Jonathan Loynes, an economist at Capital Economics Ltd. in London, said in a telephone interview. "To a degree it would support the government's position that it shouldn't try to tackle the budget deficit too quickly, and at the same time undermines the Conservatives' position."
- Weak output puts pressure on sterling: FT.com - Sterling came under renewed pressure on Wednesday after disappointing production data added to lingering concerns about the UK's economic recovery. Figures showed that British manufacturing output recorded its sharpest monthly decline in five months in January. Analysts had been expecting output to rise. The data doused the optimism produced by recent surveys that had suggested the sector was improving. Investors had already faced an assault of negative UK data this week with figures showing deterioration in the housing market and the trade deficit widening in spite of recent weakness in the pound. Analysts said the prospect of a slowdown in the UK economy would weigh on sterling as it not only raised the risk of a further extension of the Bank of England's quantitative easing but could also raise fears that declining tax receipts would exacerbate fiscal problems.

Europe

Figures out today:

EUR	European Central Bank Publishes Monthly Report	10:00	05:00		
CHF	Swiss National Bank Interest Rate Decision	14:00	09:00	0.25%	0.25%

Commodities

- Crude Oil Falls on Stronger Dollar; U.S. Demand Concerns Linger: March 11 (Bloomberg) -- Crude oil fell for the second time in three days on a stronger dollar and concern that recent price gains outpaced demand growth in the U.S., the world's largest energy consumer. Crude oil for April delivery dropped as much as 59 cents, or 0.7 percent, to \$81.50 a barrel, in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It was at \$81.61 at 3:13 p.m. Singapore time. Yesterday, the contract rose 60 cents, or 0.7 percent, to \$82.09, the highest settlement since Jan. 11.
- SINGAPORE, March 11 (Reuters) - Gold regained some strength on Thursday after falling to its lowest in nearly two weeks the previous day, though poor technicals and failure to sustain recent gains may spur selling, traders said. Spot gold was at \$1,108.90 an ounce by 0305 GMT, up \$1.05 from New York's notional close on Wednesday, when it fell to as low as \$1,102.85 an ounce, its lowest level since Feb. 25, as safe-haven buying on Greek sovereign debt worries tapered off.

Compiled daily by Alastair Constance