KEY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MAJOR CURRENCIES
A FOREX.com educational guide

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U.S. Dollar Factsheet

The U.S. dollar is the official currency for the United States. 87% of all currency transactions involve the U.S. dollar. Not only is it the world’s primary reserve currency, but the currencies of more than 25 countries are pegged to the U.S. dollar.*

* Bank of International Settlements 2013 Triennial FX Report

TRADING MECHANICS

Quote Convention: USD
Symbol: $ or US $
Currency Nicknames: Greenback, Buck
Fun Fact: The USD is used as the official currency not only in the US, but also in the British Virgin Islands, Caribbean Netherlands, East Timor, Ecuador, El Salvador, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Palau, Panama, and Turks and Caicos.

MOST ACTIVELY TRADED CURRENCY PAIRS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>2004</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>28%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<td>24%</td>
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<td>USD/JPY</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<td>USD/CHF</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>USD/CAD</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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</tbody>
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* Bank of International Settlements Triennial FX Report 2013

CENTRAL BANK – FEDERAL RESERVE (FED)

Mandate: Price Stability and Maximum Employment
Created: 1913

GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS

2014 GDP Estimate*: USD 17.46 Trillion
Population: 319 Million*
Interest Rate**: 0% – 0.25%
Inflation***: 0.2%
Trade Balance†: $41.9B Deficit


MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASES

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- Consumer and Producer Price Indexes
- Consumer Confidence (Conference Board, UM/Reuters, & IBD/TIPP)
- Fed Interest Rate Decisions, Projections, and Press Conferences
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- Non-Farm Payrolls
- Retail Sales
- Service and Manufacturing ISM PMIs
- Trade Balances
- Treasury International Capital Flow Reports (TIC)

IMPORTANT CORRELATION

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is perhaps the most recognized trading-related name in the world, and the USD/JPY has been following it closely over the last few years.*

*Past Performance is not indicative of Future Results
Source: FOREX.com

Forex trading involves significant risk of loss and is not suitable for all investors. Increasing leverage increases risk.
The Australian Dollar is the official currency for Australia. The AUD/USD is the fifth most actively traded currency pair by turnover, according to the Bank of International Settlement’s 2013 Triennial FX Report.

**TRADING MECHANICS**

**Quote Convention:** AUD  
**Symbol:** $ or A$  
**Means:** 1 AUD = 0.70 USD OR 1 USD = 1.42 AUD*  
**Value of a Pip for a 100k lot:** USD 10  
**Currency Nicknames:** Aussie, Wallaby  
**Fun Fact:** Australia was the first country in the world to have a complete system of bank notes made from plastic instead of conventional paper or fiber.  
*As of September 2015

**MOST ACTIVE TRADING HOURS**

7:00PM ET / 23:00 GMT, Tokyo Open  
7:30PM ET / 23:30 GMT, AUD Economic Releases  
8:30AM ET / 12:30 GMT, U.S. Economic Releases

**KEY CURRENCY CROSSES**

- AUD/JPY  
- AUD/NZD  
- AUD/CAD

**CENTRAL BANK – RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA (RBA)**

**Mandate:** Low and Stable Inflation (1 to 3% Target)  
**Created:** 1959  

**GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS**

- **2014 GDP Estimate*: USD 1.1 Trillion**  
- **Population*:** 22.7 Million  
- **Interest Rate**: 2.00%  
- **Inflation****: 1.5%  
- **Trade Balance***: A$44 Million Deficit  
* CIA World Factbook (Sep 2015), ** Reserve Bank of Australia Sep 2015, *** Australian Bureau of Statistics Sep 2015

**MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASES**

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- Consumer and Producer Price Indexes  
- Employment Change  
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)  
- RBA Rate Decision  
- Retail Sales  
- Trade Balance

**IMPORTANT CORRELATION**

Many sources may cite the correlation of Gold with the AUD/USD, but Silver is actually more closely correlated.*

Source: FOREX.com

*Past Performance is not indicative of Future Results
Euro Factsheet

The Euro is the official currency of 19 states in the European Union, known collectively as the Eurozone. It is second only to the USD in terms of trading popularity with 33% of all trades involving it on one side, which is a decline from 39% in 2010.*

* Bank of International Settlements 2013 Triennial FX Report

MEMBERS OF THE EUROZONE*

- Austria
- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- the Netherlands
- Portugal
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain

* As of December 2014

CENTRAL BANK – EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK (ECB)

Mandate: Maintain Price Stability
Created: 1998

GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS

2014 GDP Estimate*: Eurozone Only -- USD 13.40 Trillion
European Union – USD 18.46 Trillion
Population*: Eurozone Only -- 338 Million
European Union – 508 Million
Interest Rate**: 0.05%
Inflation***: 0.2%
Trade Balance***: EUR 26.3 Billion Surplus
*World Bank, **ECB (Sep 2015), ***Eurostat (Sep 2015)

MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASES

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)
- ECB Rate Decision
- German Price Indexes
- German GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- German IFO (Business Confidence)
- German Unemployment
- Manufacturing and Service Sector PMIs

IMPORTANT CORRELATION

Although the equity markets out of Germany (DAX) and France (CAC) are larger, the Spanish equity markets (IBEX) more closely match the movements of the EUR/USD.*

* As of September 2015

TRADING MECHANICS

Quote Convention: EUR
Symbol: €
Means: 1 EUR = USD 1.12 OR 1 USD = 0.89 EUR*
Value of a Pip for a 100k lot: USD 10
Currency Nicknames: Anti-Dollar, Fiber
Fun Fact: Euro banknotes increase in size in relation to their value. For instance, the €10 is larger than the €5, the €20 is larger than the €10, and so on up to the €500, which is the largest.

* As of September 2015

MOST ACTIVE TRADING HOURS

3:00AM ET / 7:00 GMT, London Open
4:00AM ET / 8:00 GMT, Economic Releases
8:30AM ET / 12:30 GMT, U.S. Economic Releases

KEY CURRENCY CROSSES

- EUR/GBP
- EUR/CHF
- EUR/JPY

EUR/JPY 10 Year Chart

Source: FOREX.com

Forex trading involves significant risk of loss and is not suitable for all investors. Increasing leverage increases risk.
British Pound Factsheet

The British Pound is the official currency of the United Kingdom. Next to the U.S. dollar and the Euro, it is probably the most widely held reserve currency. London is also the biggest hub for FX trading with over 40% of global turnover.*

* Bank of International Settlements 2013 Triennial FX Report

TRADING MECHANICS

Quote Convention: GBP
Symbol: £
Means: 1 GBP = USD 1.54 OR 1 USD = 0.65 GBP*
Value of a Pip for a 100k lot: USD 10
Currency Nicknames: Sterling, Pound or Quid
Fun Fact: The British currency is the world’s oldest still in use, and is actually older than England itself. It was originated in the Kingdom of Mercia in the 8th century, a country that existed in what is now the center of England.

* As of September 2015

CENTRAL BANK – BANK OF ENGLAND (BOE)

Mandate: Price Stability; Keep Inflation below 2%
Created: 1694

GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS

2014 GDP Estimate*: USD 2.43 Trillion
Population*: 63.7 Million
Interest Rate**: 0.5%
Inflation***: 0.1%
Trade Balance***: GBP 3.37 Billion Deficit

* CIA World Factbook, ** Bank of England Sep 2015, ***Office for National Statistics Sep 2015

MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASES
(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- BoE Rate Decision
- Claimant Count (Employment)
- Consumer Price Index
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- Industrial Production
- Retail Sales

IMPORTANT CORRELATION

The UK economy and the EZ economy are intrinsically linked by region as well as EU membership.*

*Past Performance is not Indicative of Future Results
Source: FOREX.com

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The Canadian Dollar is the official currency of Canada. The USD/CAD is the fifth most actively traded currency pair by turnover, according to the Bank of International Settlement's 2013 Triennial FX Report.

**TRADING MECHANICS**

- **Quote Convention:** CAD
- **Symbol:** $ or C$
- **Means:** 1 CAD = USD 0.76 OR 1 USD = 1.32 CAD*
- **Value of a Pip for a 100k lot:** USD 7.57
- **Currency Nicknames:** Loonie
- **Fun Fact:** Back in 1987, the original design for the Canadian $1 coin was supposed to be a picture of a Native American and a Voyageur traveling in a canoe down a river, but the master die was lost (or stolen) in transit from the Ottawa Mint to the Winnipeg Mint and was never recovered. Fearing counterfeiting, the design was changed at the last second to the common loon, and the CAD has been called the Loonie ever since.
- *** As of September 2015

**MOST ACTIVE TRADING HOURS**

- 7:00AM ET / 11:00 GMT, CAD Economic Releases
- 8:30AM ET / 12:30 GMT, U.S. Economic Releases

**KEY CURRENCY CROSSES**

- GBP/CAD
- CAD/JPY
- EUR/CAD

**CENTRAL BANK – BANK OF CANADA (BOC)**

- **Mandate:** Price Stability; Keep Inflation below 2%
- **Created:** 1934
- **BoC Governor:** Stephen Poloz (2013 – Present) succeeded Mark Carney (2008 – 2013)

**GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS**

- **2014 GDP Estimate:** USD 1.579 Trillion
- **Population***: 34.8 Million
- **Interest Rate**: 0.50%
- **Inflation**: 1.3%
- **Trade Balance***: CAD 0.6 Billion Deficit

* CIA World Factbook Sep 2015, ** Bank of Canada Sep 2015, *** Statistics Canada Sep 2015

**MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASE**

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- BoC Rate Decision
- Consumer Price Index
- Employment Change
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- IVEY PMI (Purchasing Managers Index)
- Retail Sales

**IMPORTANT CORRELATION**

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) Crude Oil has been a reliable gauge for CAD strength over at least the last decade due to it being the US's largest provider of the important resource.*

*Past Performance is not indicative of Future Results
Source: FOREX.com

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Swiss Franc Factsheet

The Swiss Franc is the official currency of Switzerland. The USD/CHF is the sixth most actively traded currency pair by turnover, according to the Bank of International Settlement's 2013 Triennial FX Report.

TRADING MECHANICS
Quote Convention: CHF
Symbol: ₣
Means: 1 CHF = 1.03 USD OR 1 USD = 0.97 CHF*
Value of a Pip for a 100k lot: USD 10.31
Currency Nicknames: Swissie (Swissy)
Fun Fact: The abbreviation of CHF for the Swiss franc is derived from the Latin name for Switzerland which is Confoederatio Helvetica.
* As of December 2014

MOST ACTIVE TRADING HOURS
3:00AM ET / 7:00 GMT, London Open
1:45AM ET / 4:45 GMT, Swiss Economic Releases
8:30AM ET / 12:30 GMT, U.S. Economic Releases

KEY CURRENCY CROSSES
- EUR/CHF
- CHF/JPY
- GBP/CHF

USD/CHF 10 Year Chart

Source: FOREX.com

GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS
2014 GDP Estimate*: USD 444.7 Billion
Population*: 8.06 Million
Interest Rate**: -0.75%
Inflation***: -1.40%
Trade Balance***: CHF 3.74 Billion Surplus
* CIA World Factbook Sep 2015, ** Swiss National Bank Sep 2015, *** Swiss Federal Statistical Office Sep 2015

MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASES
(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)
- Consumer Price Index
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- KoF Leading Indicators
- Retail Sales
- SNB Interest Rate Decision
- UBS Consumption Index

IMPORTANT CORRELATION
EUR/USD is nearly the complete opposite of USD/CHF:

GBP/CHF

*Past Performance is not indicative of Future Results
Source: FOREX.com

IMPORTANT NOTE: Beginning in September 2011 the Swiss National Bank set a “floor” in the EUR/CHF at 1.20, essentially pledging to keep the currency pair above that level utilizing any means necessary. However, in January 2015, they unexpectedly abandoned the 1.20 floor resulting in some of the most excessive moves the currency markets have ever seen.

CENTRAL BANK – SWISS NATIONAL BANK (SNB)
Mandate: Maintain Price Stability; Inflation Target of Less than 2%
Created: 1907
Chairman: Thomas Jordan (2012 – Present) succeeded Philipp Hildebrand (2010-2012)

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Japanese Yen Factsheet

The Japanese Yen is the official currency for Japan. Next to the EUR/USD, the USD/JPY is the second most heavily traded currency pair in the forex market.*

* Bank of International Settlements 2013 Triennial FX Report

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TRADING MECHANICS

Quote Convention: JPY
Symbol: ¥
Means: 1 JPY = USD 0.0083 OR 1 USD = 120 JPY*
Value of a Pip for a 100k lot: USD 8.29
Currency Nicknames: Yen
Fun Fact: The 1 Yen coin is made of 100% aluminum and can float on water, completely nullifying the wishes of those whom toss it in a well.
* As of September 2015

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MOST ACTIVE TRADING HOURS

7:00PM ET / 23:00 GMT, Tokyo Open
7:30PM ET / 23:30 GMT, JPY Economic Releases
8:30AM ET / 12:30 GMT, U.S. Economic Releases

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KEY CURRENCY CROSSES

- EUR/JPY
- NZD/JPY
- GBP/JPY
- CAD/JPY
- AUD/JPY
- CHF/JPY

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CENTRAL BANK – BANK OF JAPAN (BOJ)

Mandate: Maintain Price and Financial System Stability
Created: 1882

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GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS

2014 GDP Estimate*: USD 4.807 Trillion
Population*: 127.1 Million
Interest Rate**: 0% - 0.10%
Inflation***: 0.20%
Trade Balance†: JPY 268 Billion Deficit
* CIA World Factbook Sep 2015 ** BoJ Sep 2015, *** Japan Statistics Bureau July 2015, † Japan Ministry of Finance Sep 2015

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MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASE

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- BoJ Interest Rate Decision
- Consumer Price Index (National and Tokyo)
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- Household Spending
- Retail Sales
- Tankan Report

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IMPORTANT CORRELATION

The Japanese Stock Market (NIKKEI) typically moves hand-in-hand with the USD/JPY.*

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USD/JPY Monthly Chart

Source: FOREX.com

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*Past Performance is not indicative of Future Results
Source: FOREX.com

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New Zealand Dollar Factsheet

The New Zealand dollar is the official currency for New Zealand. It has the highest interest rate of the eight major currencies but actually has lower turnover than the Chinese Yuan and Mexican Peso, according to the Bank of International Settlement’s 2013 Triennial FX survey.

TRADING MECHANICS
Quote Convention: NZD
Symbol: $ OR NZ$
Means: 1 NZD = USD 0.63 OR 1 USD = 1.59 NZD*
Value of a Pip for a 100k lot: USD 10
Currency Nickname: Kiwi
Fun Fact: New Zealand is the only country in the world with the right to put The Hobbit-related images on its currency.
* As of September 2015

MOST ACTIVE TRADING HOURS
7:00PM ET / 23:00 GMT, Tokyo Open
7:30PM ET / 23:30 GMT, NZD Economic Releases
8:30AM ET / 12:30 GMT, U.S. Economic Releases

KEY CURRENCY CROSSES
- EUR/NZD
- NZD/JPY
- AUD/NZD

CENTRAL BANK – RESERVE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND (RBNZ)
Mandate: Maintain Stability and Efficiency of Financial System
Created: 1934

GENERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS
2014 GDP Estimate*: USD 158.7 Billion
Population*: 4.4 Million
Interest Rate**: 2.75%
Inflation***: 0.4%
Trade Balance†: NZD 649 Million Deficit
*CIA World Factbook Sep 2015, **RBNZ Sep 2015, ***Statistics New Zealand Q3 2015, †Statistics New Zealand Sep 2015

MARKET-MOVING ECONOMIC RELEASE
(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)
- Consumer Price Index
- Employment Change
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- RBNZ Rate Decision
- Retail Sales
- Trade Balance

IMPORTANT CORRELATION
The Aussie and the Kiwi share a region, culture, and origin along with an economic similarity, hence the reason their currencies are so closely correlated.*

![NZD/USD Monthly Chart](Source: FOREX.com)

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