

Today's economic highlights...

Dollar drives higher as traders look to Fed clues from U.S. jobs data

- SINGAPORE (Reuters) - The dollar clung to recent gains on Wednesday as virus woes raised concerns in a market already on edge ahead of U.S. jobs data seen as crucial to the Federal Reserve's monetary policy outlook.
- Risk-sensitive commodity currencies had led overnight losses, with the Australian and New Zealand dollars each dropping about 0.7%. The euro fell 0.2% overnight while the safe-havens of Japanese yen and the Swiss franc held steady.
- Morning trading in Asia did not move majors much from those levels, with the euro last at \$1.1902 and the yen at 110.58 per dollar. The [Aussie](#) bought \$0.7517. [Read more...](#)

Delta Strain May Spark 'Catastrophic' Wave in Kenya in Weeks

- (Bloomberg) -- The highly contagious Covid-19 delta variant may spark a fourth wave of infections in Kenya over the next two months, according to the East African nation's Health Ministry.
- The rapidly transmissible strain, first identified in India, is dominant in western Kenya, where it was initially detected in the country. The government imposed restrictions on movement in the region to try and stem it from spreading nationwide.
- "If there's a fourth wave in July-August, it will most likely be due to delta," said Patrick Amoth, the acting director-general for Health at the ministry. Restrictions in western Kenya were imposed in a bid to "avoid a catastrophic fourth wave," Amoth said by phone. [Read more...](#)

Oil Up, OPEC+ Delays Talks Ahead of Production Policy Meeting

- Investing.com – Oil was up Wednesday morning in Asia after the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies (OPEC+) delayed talks ahead of its ministerial meeting to discuss production policy, taking place on Thursday.
- [Brent oil futures](#) rose 0.61% to \$74.73 by 10:39 PM ET (2:39 AM GMT) and [WTI futures](#) jumped 0.69% to \$73.48.
- Some OPEC+ members including Russia suggested increasing the oil supply while Saudi Arabia was concerned about the global spread of the COVID-19 delta variant despite the growing demand. The cartel delayed its preliminary talks to Friday to allow for more time to resolve differences. [Read more...](#)