

## Today's economic highlights...

### Dollar on tenterhooks as payrolls test looms

- SINGAPORE (Reuters) - The U.S. dollar wobbled above major support levels on Thursday, as traders awaited a batch of U.S. economic data that could set the tone at central bank meetings later this month.
- Investors have bet on the dollar falling as the world recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, but they have lately grown nervous over whether a surprisingly strong U.S. economic rebound poses a threat to a key assumption that interest rates will stay low for a long time.
- The mood has kept speculators from adding much to short positions in recent weeks and has put the brakes on what a month ago seemed like a relentless downtrend. [Read more...](#)

### Oil rises for a third day on expectations for fuel demand pickup

- TOKYO (Reuters) - Oil prices rose for a third day on Thursday on expectations for a surge in fuel demand, particularly in the United States and Europe and China, later this year at the same time major producers are maintaining supply discipline.
- [Brent crude](#) futures were up 49 cents, or 0.7%, at \$71.84 a barrel by 0233 GMT, the highest since September 2019. The international benchmark gained 1.6% on Wednesday.
- U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose 44 cents, or 0.6%, to \$69.27 a barrel. Prices earlier rose to as much as \$69.32, the most since October 2018, after gaining 1.5% in the previous session. [Read more...](#)

### Kenya's food basket sets sight on horticulture, cash crops

- Business Daily - A total of 43,300 Hass avocado seedlings and 30,900 macadamia seedlings have been disbursed to farmers across Trans Nzoia county through the Agriculture subsidy programme.
- Agriculture executive Mary Nzomo said the seedlings will help the county boost its crop diversification initiative and stop over-dependence on maize farming as the only source of income.
- "For many years our county has been branded the food basket of Kenya and our farmers have remained poor. As a county, we want our farmers to go to cash crops that will put money in their pockets," Ms. Nzomo said. [Read more...](#)