

Currency Markets

(Spot : 08 Aug 2019)

International Market

Currency	Mid Yesterday 5pm	Bid	Offer	Mid
EUR/USD	1.1185	1.1204	1.1208	1.1206
USD/JPY	106.0700	106.4700	106.5000	106.4850
GBP/USD	1.2143	1.2165	1.2169	1.2167
USD/CHF	0.9738	0.9747	0.9751	0.9749
USD/CAD	1.3210	1.3202	1.3203	1.3203
AUD/USD	0.6775	0.6783	0.6784	0.6784
NZD/USD	0.6775	0.6783	0.6784	0.6784

Market concern around the US-China trade dispute was reignited. Trump tweeted that the decision by the People's Bank of China to devalue the currency was "currency manipulation" and suggested that the Federal Reserve intervene. US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin added that they would engage with the International Monetary Fund on China's currency manipulation, which was viewed as unfair competition. The Chinese yuan was under pressure and fell to an estimated 11-year low. The safe-haven yen reached an estimated 7-month high. The US treasury yield curve reached its lowest level since October 2016. US non-manufacturing PMI was released lower at 53.7 compared to the forecasted 55.5. The UK composite PMI was released higher at 50.7 compared to the forecasted 49.8. The Euro Zone Markit composite PMI for July was released in line with the forecasted 51.5. Today employment figures from the US are anticipated. Gold reached a high of USD1463.87 (ask) an ounce.



Local Market

Currency	Mid Yesterday 5pm	Bid	Offer	Mid
USD/ZAR	14.9114	14.8306	14.8406	14.8356
EUR/ZAR	16.6788	16.6194	16.6294	16.6244
GBP/ZAR	18.1061	18.0419	18.0599	18.0509
JPY/ZAR	0.1405	0.1394	0.1396	0.1395
AUS/ZAR	10.0893	10.0555	10.0702	10.0629
CAD/ZAR	11.2793	11.2299	11.2421	11.2360
MUR/ZAR	0.4142	0.4125	0.4163	0.4144

The rand was under pressure on the back of escalating trade tensions and reached a high of 14.9723 (ask) and a low of 14.7374 (ask). South Africa's high government spending was raised as a concern with the debt to GDP ratio anticipated to exceed 60% in the years ahead. This could place the country under scrutiny by the IMF to implement austerity measures. The IHS PMI, which measures the health of the private sector, was released (below the neutral mark of 50) at 48.4 for July from 49.7 in June. The secondment of Freeman Nomvalo as the Chief Restructuring Officer at Eskom was receiving criticism. Nomvalo who is currently the CEO of the SA Institute of Chartered Accountants was seconded to address the unacceptably high debt levels at Eskom. In other news, the Department of Environmental Affairs in the Western Cape announced that the dam levels (in the Western Cape) were at its highest levels since 2015, with its average level at 61.2%.



Financial Markets

Commodity	Previous Close	Bid	Ask	Last	Change
Brent Crude	59.81	60.44	60.45	60.44	0.63
Light Crude	54.69	55.31	55.32	55.31	0.62
Gold	1 463.60	1 462.29	1 463.79	1 462.29	-1.31
Platinum	853.00	855.65	857.15	855.65	2.65
Silver	16.39	16.41	16.42	16.41	0.02

Index	Previous Close	Last	Change
ALSI	49 018.00	-	-
S&P 500	2 932.05	2 844.74	-87.3
JSE All Share	56 273.92	-	-
Dow Jones	26 485.01	25 717.74	-767.3

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