

FX Viewpoint

Currencies
Global

Hawkish BoJ expectations and USD debasement

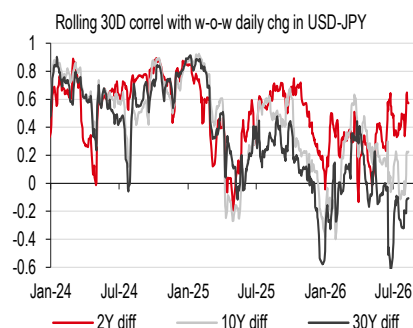
- ◆ Markets are pricing a faster BoJ hiking path than in recent years...
- ◆ ... putting the 18 September decision at the centre of the USD-JPY outlook
- ◆ Fed Chairman Warsh's Jackson Hole speech helped ease the USD debasement narrative, at least for now

Markets now expect the Bank of Japan (BoJ) to tighten policy faster than it has done in recent years. Overnight index swaps imply around 75bp of cumulative hikes by April 2027 and even assign meaningful odds of a hike at the 18 September meeting, which stands out as unusual. These moves suggest investors anticipate a change in how the BoJ responds to inflation and growth risks.

Recent catalysts for such hawkish expectations in the market stem from US Treasury Secretary Bessent's comments (the 'Readout' of his meeting with BoJ Governor Ueda published on 30 August, and "do the right thing"; Bloomberg, 31 August) as well as BoJ Board Member Takata's comments that outsized rate hikes (>0.25%) and back-to-back rate hikes are possibilities (Bloomberg, 2 September). The question now is whether there are only small changes that stabilise USD-JPY in its recent range (our base case), or if there are big changes that can trigger a downtrend in USD-JPY (our "risk" scenario).

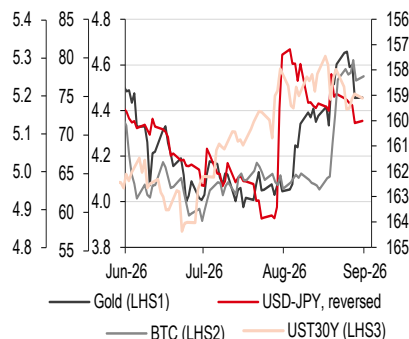
Looking beyond Japan, weaker US data, persistent inflation concerns, policy credibility questions, and political risks all weigh on the dollar, fueling the debasement conversation. However, Fed Chairman Warsh's Jackson Hole speech helped ease one key part of that story by restoring confidence in the Fed's commitment to fight inflation. This helped reduce the risk that weak policy credibility would become a lasting drag on the dollar and denting the debasement narrative, at least for now, in our view.

USD/JPY yield differences suggest there are fiscal concerns for both US and Japan in the market.



Source: Bloomberg, HSBC

Other drivers: term premium, yen intervention, gold (USD diversification), and Bitcoin (USD weakness fears).



Source: Bloomberg, HSBC

The market now anticipates three hikes in the next six meetings by the BoJ...

... including a highly unusual 30bp hike on 18 September

Externally, the USD is now being tested by cyclical, structural, and political factors

We believe investors may need clearer evidence of a policy shift

Overall, we believe investors may need clearer evidence of a policy shift – making the 18 September BoJ decision a critical test. We also remain cautious about broader structural concerns, especially around US fiscal sustainability, which could still return and weigh on the dollar yet again.

Disclosure appendix

Important disclosures

This document is for information purposes only and it should not be regarded as an offer to sell or as a solicitation of an offer to buy the securities or other investment products mentioned in it and/or to participate in any trading strategy. Information in this document is general and should not be construed as personal advice, given it has been prepared without taking account of the objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular investor. Accordingly, investors should, before acting on it, consider the appropriateness of the information, having regard to their objectives, financial situation and needs. If necessary, seek professional investment and tax advice.

Certain investment products mentioned in this document may not be eligible for sale in some states or countries, and they may not be suitable for all types of investors. Investors should consult with their HSBC representative regarding the suitability of the investment products mentioned in this document and take into account their specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs before making a commitment to purchase investment products.

The value of and the income produced by the investment products mentioned in this document may fluctuate, so that an investor may get back less than originally invested. Certain high-volatility investments can be subject to sudden and large falls in value that could equal or exceed the amount invested. Value and income from investment products may be adversely affected by exchange rates, interest rates, or other factors. Past performance of a particular investment product is not indicative of future results.

HSBC and its affiliates will from time to time sell to and buy from customers the securities/instruments (including derivatives) of companies covered in HSBC Research on a principal or agency basis.

Whether, or in what time frame, an update of this analysis will be published is not determined in advance.

HSBC may use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools approved for adoption within HSBC in the development of its research reports, utilizing these technologies to analyse large volumes of data, enhance efficiency and improve the overall user experience. This includes but is not limited to paraphrasing, developing suitable captions and supporting data visualisation. It is important to note that while AI tools assist in various aspects of report creation, all investment recommendations and opinions presented herein are formulated and approved exclusively by our research analysts. The final content of the report reflects the professional judgement and expertise of our research analysts, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and maintaining the integrity of our research process.

Additional disclosures

- 1 This report is dated as at 04 September 2026.
- 2 All market data included in this report are dated as at close 03 September 2026, unless a different date and/or a specific time of day is indicated in the report.
- 3 HSBC has procedures in place to identify and manage any potential conflicts of interest that arise in connection with its Research business. HSBC's analysts and its other staff who are involved in the preparation and dissemination of Research operate and have a management reporting line independent of HSBC's Investment Banking business. Information Barrier procedures are in place between the Investment Banking, Principal Trading, and Research businesses to ensure that any confidential and/or price sensitive information is handled in an appropriate manner.
- 4 You are not permitted to use, for reference, any data in this document for the purpose of (i) determining the interest payable, or other sums due, under loan agreements or under other financial contracts or instruments, (ii) determining the price at which a financial instrument may be bought or sold or traded or redeemed, or the value of a financial instrument, and/or (iii) measuring the performance of a financial instrument or of an investment fund.

Disclaimer

This document is prepared by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited ("HBAP"), 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong. HBAP is incorporated in Hong Kong and is part of the HSBC Group. This document is for general circulation and information purposes only. This document is not prepared with any particular customers or purposes in mind and does not take into account any investment objectives, financial situation or personal circumstances or needs of any particular customer. HBAP has prepared this document based on publicly available information at the time of preparation from sources it believes to be reliable but it has not independently verified such information. The contents of this document are subject to change without notice.

This document is not investment advice or recommendation nor is it intended to sell investments or services or solicit purchases or subscriptions for them. You SHOULD NOT use or rely on this document in making any investment decision or decision to buy or sell currency. HBAP is not responsible for such use or reliance by you. You SHOULD consult your professional advisor in your jurisdiction if you have any questions regarding the contents of this document.

You SHOULD NOT reproduce or further distribute the contents of this document to any person or entity, whether in whole or in part, for any purpose. This document may not be distributed to the US, or Australia or any other jurisdiction where its distribution is unlawful.

Jersey, Guernsey and Isle of Man

In Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man, this document is distributed to its customers for general reference only by HSBC Bank plc Jersey branch, HSBC Bank plc Guernsey branch and HSBC Bank plc in the Isle of Man.

Mainland China

In mainland China, this document is distributed by HSBC Bank (China) Company Limited ("HBCN") to its customers for general reference only. This document is not, and is not intended to be, for the purpose of providing securities and futures investment advisory services or financial information services, or promoting or selling any wealth management product. This document provides all content and information solely on an "as-is/as-available" basis. You SHOULD consult your own professional adviser if you have any questions regarding this document.

Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, this document is distributed by HBAP to its customers for general reference only. HBAP is not responsible for any loss, damage or other consequences of any kind that you may incur or suffer as a result of, arising from or relating to your use or reliance of this document. HBAP gives no guarantee, representation or warranty as to the accuracy, timeliness or completeness of this document.

India
In India, this document is distributed for general reference by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, India (HSBC India), having its India corporate office at 52/60, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort, Mumbai 400 001. HSBC India is not responsible for any loss, damage or other consequences of any kind that you may incur or suffer as a result of, arising from or relating to your use of or reliance on this document. HSBC India gives no guarantee, representation or warranty as to the accuracy, timeliness or completeness of this document and clients should contact their relationship manager in respect of any clarifications arising from or in connection with this document.

Important Information about the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, India ("HSBC India")

HSBC India is a branch of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. HSBC India does not distribute or refer investment products to those persons who are either the citizens or residents of United States of America (USA), Canada or any other jurisdiction where such distribution or referral would be contrary to law or regulation.

HSBC India is an AMFI-registered Mutual Fund Distributor and an AMFI-registered Specialized Investment Fund (SIF) Distributor. HSBC India distributes select mutual fund schemes and SIF strategies of empanelled Asset Management Companies, and acts as a referrer of other third-party investment products.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme-related documents carefully AMFI-registered Mutual Fund Distributor | Date of Initial Registration: 19th Feb-2002 | ARN-0022 | Validity of ARN: 18th Feb- 2027 AMFI-registered SIF Distributor | Date of initial registration: 27th Oct 2025 | ARN-0022 | Validity of ARN : 26th Oct 2028

HSBC India will receive commission from HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited, in its capacity as a AMFI registered mutual fund distributor of HSBC Mutual Fund. The Sponsor of HSBC Mutual Fund is HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited (HSCI), a member of the HSBC Group. Please note that HSBC India and the Sponsor being part of the HSBC Group, may give rise to real, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest. HSBC India has a policy in place to identify, prevent and manage such conflict of interest

For more information related to investments in the securities market, please visit the SEBI Investor Website: <https://investor.sebi.gov.in/> and the SEBI Saa'athi Mobile App.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited India . Incorporated in Hong Kong SAR with limited liability.

Malaysia

In Malaysia, this document has been prepared by HBAP is issued and distributed by HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad (127776-V) / HSBC Amanah Malaysia Berhad (807705-X) (the "Bank"). The Bank is not responsible for any loss, damage or other consequences of any kind that you may incur or suffer as a result of, arising from or relating to your use of or reliance on this document.

Singapore

This document:

- has not been reviewed by any regulatory authority in Singapore or any other jurisdiction.
- is issued by HSBC Bank (Singapore) Limited (the "**Bank**") in the conduct of its business in Singapore and is for general information.
- is only meant for the person who received it and should not be copied or shared with others, either fully or partially, for any reason.
- must not be sent to the United States, Canada or Australia or to any other jurisdiction where sharing it is illegal. If someone uses or copies this document or video without permission, they could face legal action.
- gives a broad overview of the current economic environment and is not meant to be investment research or advice or a recommendation to buy or sell investments. Some parts might talk about future events, but these are just predictions and not promises nor guarantees of future performance or events. Actual results might turn out differently due to various reasons. The Bank is not responsible for updating these pre-dictions or explaining why actual results could differ from those predictions.
- does not create any contracts and isn't meant as a solicitation, nor a recommendation for the purchase or sale of any financial instrument in any jurisdiction where it is not legal. Investments can increase or decrease in value, and you might not get back the amount you initially in-vested. Investments come with market risks, so it is important to read all investment related documents carefully. The opinions shared are from the HSBC Global Investment Committee at the time of creating this document or video and reflect its global perspective, which might differ from local views of the Bank. These opinions can change anytime and might not match HSBC Asset Management's current portfolios' composition. HSBC Asset Management manages individual portfolios based on each client's objectives, risk preferences, time horizon, and market conditions.
- has not been created following legal requirements for independent investment research and is not subject to any prohibition on dealing ahead of its dissemination.
- is not meant to offer accounting, legal or tax advice. Before making any investment decision, consider consulting a financial adviser. If you decide not to seek advice, carefully assess if the investment product is suitable for you. It is recommended to obtain appropriate professional advice when needed.

Investing overseas can lead to changes in the value of your investments due to currency exchange rates, which may cause them to rise or fall. Emerging markets are riskier and more unpredictable compared to established markets. These economies often depend heavily on international trade and can be adversely impacted by trade barriers, currency controls, adjustments in currency values, the economic conditions of their trading partners and other protective measures imposed by those partners. We are not responsible for the accuracy and/or completeness of any third-party information obtained from sources we believe to be reliable but have not independently verified.

Taiwan

In Taiwan, this document is distributed by HSBC Bank (Taiwan) Limited, [54F, No. 7, Sec. 5, Xinyi Road, Xinyi District, Taipei City] to its customers for general reference only. HSBC Bank (Taiwan) Limited is not responsible for any loss, damage or other consequences of any kind that you may incur or suffer as a result of, arising from or relating to your use or reliance of this document. Clients of HSBC Bank (Taiwan) Limited should contact their relationship manager in respect of any matters arising from or in connection with this document.

United Arab Emirates

In the UAE, this document is distributed by HSBC Bank Middle East Limited ("HBME") U.A.E Branch, P.O.Box 66, Dubai, U.A.E, which is regulated by the Central Bank of the U.A.E and lead regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority. HBME is not responsible for any loss, damage or other consequences of any kind that you may incur or suffer as a result of, arising from or relating to your use of or reliance on this document.

Miscellaneous

Notwithstanding this document is not investment advice, please be aware of the following for the sake of completeness. Past performance is not an indication of future performance. The value of any investment or income may go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount invested. When an investment is denominated in a currency other than the local currency of an investor, changes in the exchange rates may have an adverse effect on the value, price or income of that investment. Where there is no recognised market for an investment, it may be difficult for an investor to sell the investment or to obtain reliable information about its value or the extent of the risk associated with it.

This document contains forward-looking statements which are, by their nature, subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Such statements are projections, do not represent any one investment and are used for illustration purpose only. Customers are reminded that there can be no assurance that economic conditions described herein will remain in the future. Actual results may differ materially from the forecasts/estimates. No assurance is given that those expectations reflected in those forward-looking statements will prove to have been correct or come to fruition, and you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such statements. No obligation is undertaken to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained in this document or any other related document whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, its affiliates and associates and their respective officers and/or employees, may have interests in any products referred to in this document by acting in various roles including as distributor, holder of principal positions, adviser or lender. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, its affiliates and associates, and their respective officers and employees, may receive fees, brokerage or commissions for acting in those capacities. In addition, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, its affiliates and associates, and their respective officers and/or employees, may buy or sell products as principal or agent and may effect transactions which are not consistent with the information set out in this document.

Should you wish to use AI technology (computational, statistical, machine-learning or other artificial intelligence techniques to infer or learn from data to find patterns, take actions, make decisions, or generate output) to help you analyse, summarise or evaluate this publication and/or any other research materials provided to you by HSBC, you shall seek HSBC consent in advance of any such use and not upload this publication and/or any other research materials produced by HSBC to an AI system or otherwise use AI technology in connection with the research services HSBC provides to you without our consent.

© Copyright 2026, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, on any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited.