

January 2022

FX Market Structure Monthly

CHANGES IN SPREAD AND VOLATILITY FOR MAJOR MARKET PAIRS

FX spreads were mixed in January, of the 23 G-10 pairs that Virtu Analytics track, about half recorded wider spreads during Tokyo and London desk hours. After the 16:00 London WMR fixing window, the number of pairs recording wider spreads dropped to eight reflecting the change in funding dynamics after year-end. Volatility, in contrast, increased throughout the day for almost all pairs.

Spreads widened for 12 of the 23 pairs during the four hours prior to the WMR Fixing trading window, compared to 21 pairs recording higher spreads in December. Compared to three and six months ago, spreads have widened for 22 and 21 pairs respectively. In January, volatility increased for 20 pairs, including all seven majors. While volatility increased broadly in January, volatility is not up uniformly over the past three or six months.

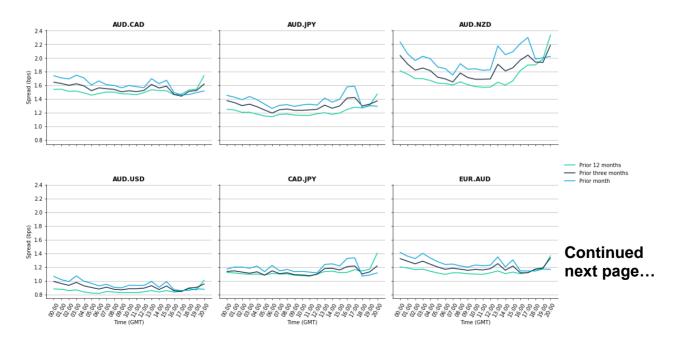
READING THE RESULTS

In the intraday charts, the green line presents the average spread or volatility for the past 12 months, the black line is the past three months and the blue line is for the past month. On the daily charts, the green area represents the 95th percentile confidence interval for the spread and volatility, giving a sense of the stability of the calculated median value.

SPREADS

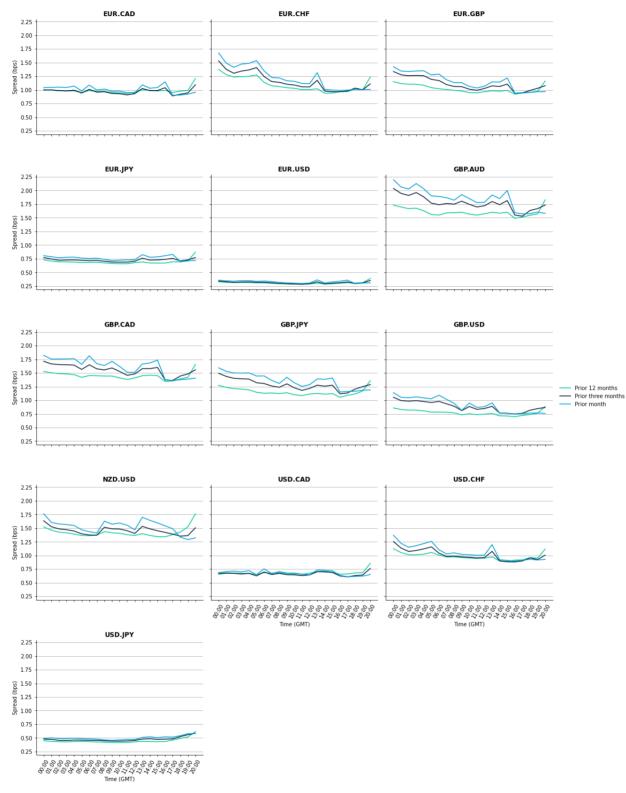
- Average hourly spreads increased throughout the trading day for USD.CAD, EUR.CAD and the four Scandinavian pairs, but narrowed for EUR.USD, GBP.USD. NZD.USD, EUR.GBP, GBP.AUD and GBP.JPY.
- All four Scandinavian pairs trade at wider levels globally than three or six months ago.

G-10 Currency Pairs: Average Hourly Spread, 00:00-20:00 GMT Comparison over the past month, three months and year



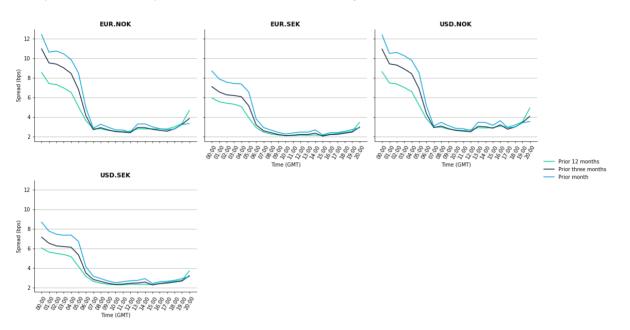
All chart sources: Virtu Financial, 2022. Spread and volatility calculations are derived from sources that Virtu believes to be reliable, but Virtu does not make any claims to its accuracy. USD.NOK, USD.SEK, EUR.NOK and EUR.SEK are shown in the separate exhibits





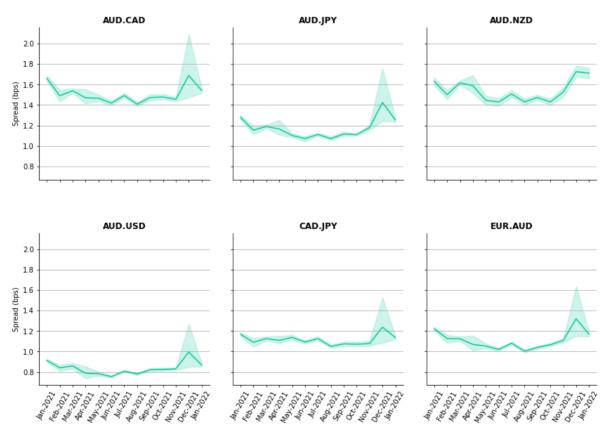
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Scandinavian G-10 Currencies: Average Hourly Spread, 00:00-20:00 GMT Comparison over the past month, three months and year

G-10 Currencies: Average Daily Spread, 12:00-16:00 GMT January 2021-January 2022

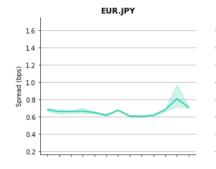


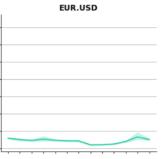
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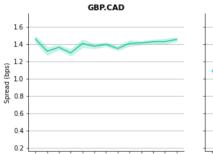


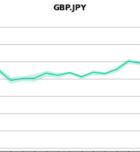


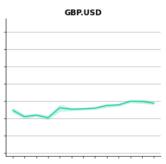


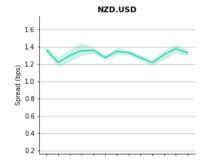








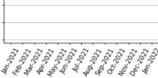


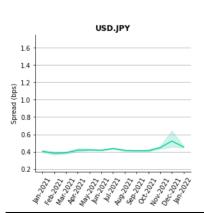








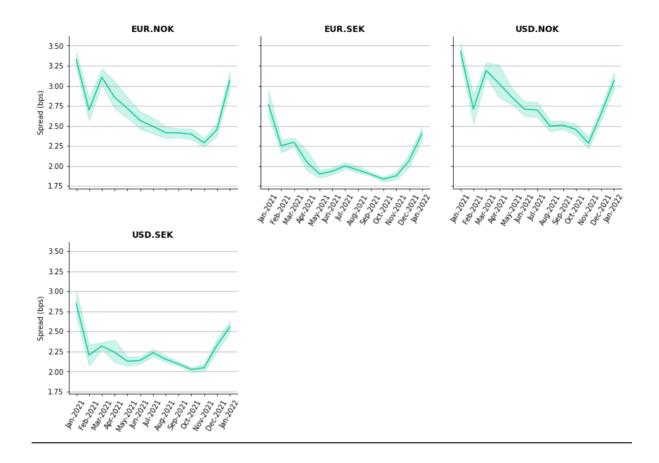




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Scandinavian G-10 Currencies: Average Daily Spread, 12:00-16:00 GMT January 2021-January 2022

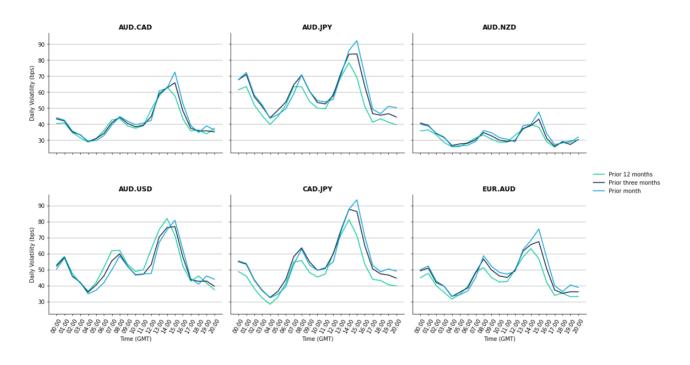




VOLATILITY

- Hourly volatility increased throughout the trading day for 20 of the 23 pairs. Only EUR.GBP and AUD.NZD recorded lower volatility during most of the Tokyo, London, and New York desk hours.
- Over the 12:00-16:00 GMT pre-WMR Fixing trading window, volatility increased for 20 of 23 pairs compared to last month. Relative to three or six months ago, volatility during the pre-WMR Fixing trading window is higher for 19 and 15 pairs, respectively.
- Among the Scandinavian pairs, volatility rose for all four pairs during both pre-WMR Fixing trading window with the largest increase recorded by USD.NOK. Intra-day volatility for all four pairs is higher now than three or six months ago.
- Compared to three or six months ago, FX volatility has decreased during late Tokyo hours, from 06:00–08:00 GMT and at the start of the pre-WMR Fixing trading window, from 12:00–14:00 GMT.

G-10 Currencies: Average Daily Volatility, 00:00-20:00 GMT Comparison over the past month, three months and year



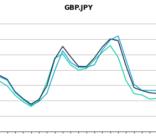
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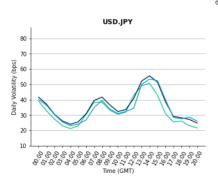


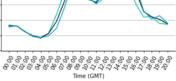
USD.CAD







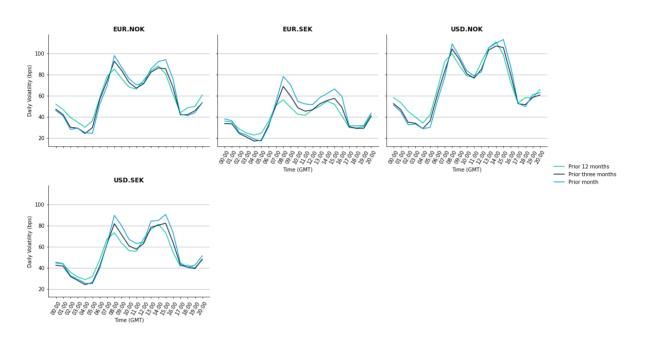




USD.CHF

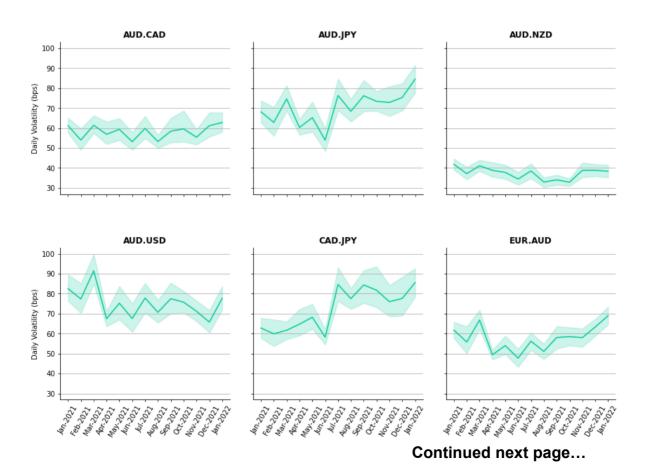
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Scandinavian G-10 Currencies: Average Daily Volatility, 00:00-20:00 GMT Past month, three months and year

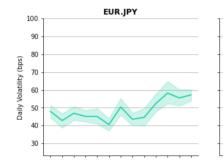
G-10 Currencies: Average Daily Volatility, 12:00-16:00 GMT January 2021-January 2022

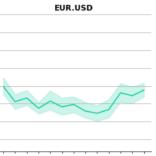


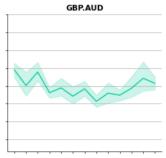
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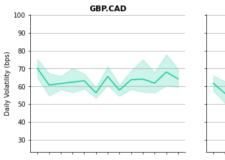


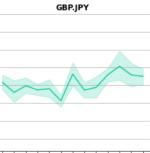




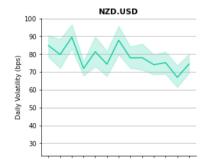


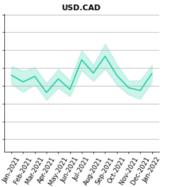






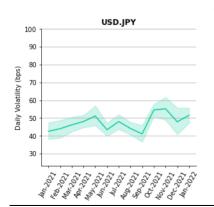








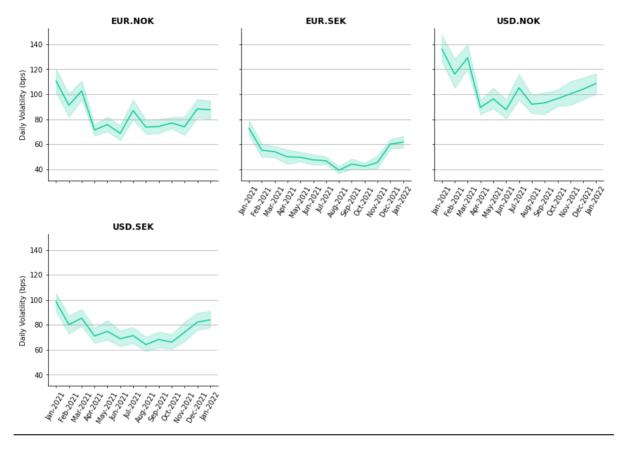




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Scandinavian G-10 Currencies: Average Daily Volatility, 12:00-16:00 GMT January 2021-January 2022



Have questions? To learn more, contact your regional Virtu Analytics representative. **AMERICAS** +1.866.265.4519 | **APAC** +852.3405.3755 | **EMEA** +44.20.7670.4000 analytics@virtu.com | www.virtu.com

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