

CCY		Price	Change
AUD-USD	▲	0.8824	0.0026
EUR-GBP	▼	0.8974	-0.0011
EUR-USD	▲	1.4357	0.0019
GBP-AUD	▲	1.8135	0.0003
GBP-CAD	▲	1.6766	0.0035
GBP-EUR	▲	1.1141	0.0009
GBP-NZD	▲	2.2663	0.0019
GBP-USD	▲	1.6001	0.0046
NZD-USD	▲	0.7061	0.0017
USD-CAD	▼	1.0478	-0.0009
USD-JPY	▼	91.31	-0.3100

USA

- **Dollar Falls Versus Yen on Exit Prospects, Exporter Selling:** Dec. 24 (Bloomberg) -- The dollar fell against the yen, extending a decline from its strongest level in eight weeks, on speculation the Federal Reserve won't seek an early exit from stimulus measures. The greenback slipped from the highest level since September against the euro as an unexpected drop in new home sales and a report forecast to show a slide in business activity underscored the fragility of the U.S. economic recovery. The yen strengthened against 15 of its 16 major counterparts on prospects Japanese exporters are bringing home earnings. The dollar was at 91.22 yen as of 6:56 a.m. in London from 91.64 yen yesterday in New York. The greenback traded at intraday highs of 91.87 yen in the past two days, the strongest since Oct. 27. The dollar slipped to \$1.4358 per euro from \$1.4337 yesterday in New York. It rose to \$1.4218 on Dec. 22, the strongest level since Sept. 4. The euro declined to 130.96 yen from 131.38 yen in New York. The dollar had rallied more than 5 percent versus the euro this month and traded within a quarter-cent of its 200-day moving average of \$1.4198 before yesterday's decline. The dollar is down 2.7 percent for 2009 versus the European currency.
- **Central Banks Avoiding Dollar to Kill 2010 Rally, Barclays Says:** Dec. 24 (Bloomberg) -- The U.S. dollar's gains may end in the middle of 2010 as central banks shy away from adding greenbacks to their reserves and the Federal Reserve raises rates at a slower pace than investors expect, Barclays Plc said. Long-term demand for dollars is set to weaken after the currency's share of global reserves added in the third quarter slid to less than 30 percent, a decline "unprecedented in a period of U.S. dollar weakness," Barclays said in a note to clients. The dollar stemmed 11 months of declines versus the 16 most-traded currencies in December, gaining against all but two, after investors increased bets the Fed will remove monetary stimulus next year as the economy recovers.

Figures out today:

Country	Event	GMT	EDT	Expected	Previous
USD	Durable Goods Orders (NOV)	13:30	08:30	0.5%	-0.6%
USD	Durables Ex Transportation (NOV)	13:30	08:30	1.0%	-1.3%
USD	Initial Jobless Claims (DEC 19)	13:30	08:30	470K	480K
USD	Continuing Claims (DEC 12)	13:30	08:30	5180K	5186K

Canada

- **Dec. 23 (Bloomberg) --** Canada's dollar climbed to the strongest level in almost three weeks amid speculation an accelerating economic recovery will prompt the central bank to raise interest rates sooner than it expected. The currency strengthened for a fourth straight day versus its U.S. counterpart after Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said in an interview that China may be poised to buy Canadian dollars as it seeks to shield its reserves against the U.S. dollar's decline. Commodities including crude oil, Canada's biggest export, advanced. One Canadian dollar buys 95.33 U.S. cents. The loonie briefly pared gains after a Statistics Canada report showed the nation's gross domestic product grew 0.2 percent in October, less than the 0.3 percent forecast in a Bloomberg News survey of economists, and a U.S. report showed purchases of new American homes unexpectedly fell last month.

Commodities

- **SINGAPORE (Reuters) -** Oil rose above \$77 on Thursday, after surging more than 3 percent the previous day, lifted by a deeper-than-forecast drop in crude and fuel stocks in the world's top energy consumer and as the dollar paused. The dollar's recent rally stalled on news of a surprise drop in U.S. home sales that damped optimism about the economy, holding the currency below a three-month high against the euro and two-month high on the yen. U.S. crude for February delivery rose 73 cents at \$77.40 a barrel by 2:04 a.m. EST, the highest since December 4.
- **TOKYO, Dec 24 (Reuters) -** Gold prices inched up to \$1,100 per ounce on Thursday as a recent drop to seven-week lows spurred some bargain hunting in a holiday-thinned market. Traders said the market was in a downtrend in the near-term, but that buying from Asian investors in the dip could lift prices above \$1,100 before London opens for a half-day later.

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