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Tactical Global Macro

Brent Donnelly 1 (212) 525-8469 brent.x.donnelly@us.hsbc.com



## **Current Views**

**↑USDCHF @ 0.8955** 

Stop at entry point Take profit 0.9065

**↓AUDUSD @ 0.7745** 

Stop at entry point Take profit 0.7611

↑EURCHF @ 1.0950

Stop 1.0868 Take profit 1.1094 Wednesday, June 16, 2021

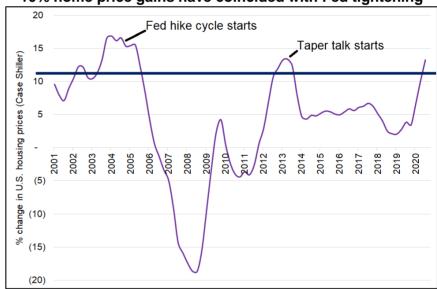
# Fed Talks

I am on the more hawkish end of the spectrum for today's FOMC. I believe the Fed have a nice little window here to thread the needle because yields are low, inflation is ramping, financial conditions have never been looser and the baseline forecasts for summer 2021 inflation were way too low. We all knew there was going to be an inflationary surge around now, but nobody thought it would be this big.

Two things I think could happen today:

- 1. Median dot shows a hike in 2023. 10-8 is my guess. A 2023 hike is probably just barely consensus (maybe 60/40).
- 2. Some kind of language that suggests the Fed is ready to talk about tapering MBS purchases sooner rather than later. With yields and spreads here, the Fed can slowly back away from a policy that makes absolutely zero sense at this juncture in the midst of a noisy house price boom (see chart). If I'm right about this, it's a good call and a big surprise.





The 10% threshold is pretty random, and not a real part of my Fed thesis

The <u>NY Fed Consumer Survey</u> shows the public braced for huge inflation gains and the Fed has a perfect window here to downshift monetary accommodation from Ludicrous Mode to Ridiculous Mode<sup>1</sup>.

I feel like I'm in the minority here, but I think the Fed announcement that they are selling ETFs is a logical precursor to the end of MBS buying. The Fed claims that the selling of ETFs in the market is not a monetary policy action, but we all know every single thing they say and do is a monetary policy action. Just as tapering is a form of 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative tightening (less gas, not more brakes), selling ETFs sends a signal that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tesla's high performance version of the Model S is a continuation of the company's tribute to "Spaceballs" — the 1980s Star Wars spoof co-written, produced and directed by Mel Brooks. In "Spaceballs," spacecraft accelerate from light- to ridiculous- then ludicrous-speed and finally into "plaid." Earlier versions of Tesla vehicles featured Ludicrous mode, which Tesla first announced in July of 2015.

#### G10 Spot FX | Trading Commentary



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the Fed is dusting off the "Mission Accomplished" banner as they prepare to celebrate another recession vanquished.

Consensus is mixed. A median 2023 hike dot is mildly hawkish but maybe 60/40 expected, while any language on tapering MBS sooner rather than later is unambiguously hawkish and almost totally unexpected.

Best currencies to sell on hawkish: AUD, CHF Best currencies to buy on dovish: EUR, CAD

I am short AUDUSD and long USDCHF from OK levels last week and will hold these positions into the Fed meeting. I moved both my stop losses to the original entry points so if I'm wrong, it won't be devastating. Details in sidebar, as always.

I would describe this view as medium conviction. My confidence is more around the asymmetry than the outright probability of a hawkish outcome. It sets up like a 75% chance of a boring non-event with a 20% chance of a somewhat-to-very hawkish outcome. That leaves a 5% chance of a megadove outcome. With the USD going nowhere these days and the market still riding decent USD shorts, I don't think there will be much appetite to slam the USD. In contrast, if there is something meaningfully hawkish, the market will have little choice but to buy back more dollar shorts.

At the tail end of a Fed easing cycle, it is hard to remember what a hawkish Fed meeting looks like. Maybe today will be a reminder.

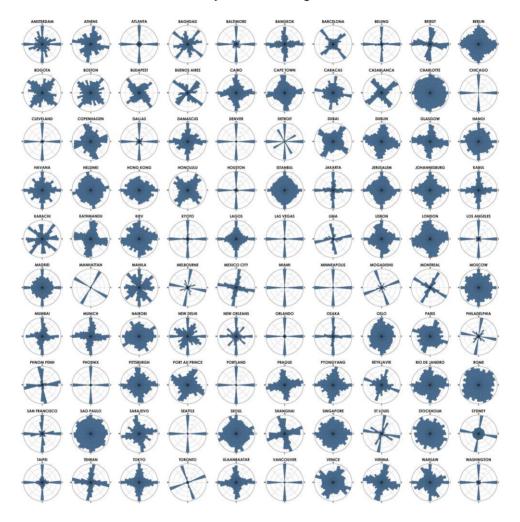
Good Luck <sup>↑</sup> Be Nimble



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### I am irrationally excited by the polar histograms in this paper.

"Urban spatial order: street network orientation, configuration, and entropy" by Geoff Boeing



It looks complicated, but it's not. Each line is shows how many streets run in each degree on the compass in a given city. Like a histogram. A near-perfect grid looks like the third circle: Atlanta (almost all streets running East/West or North/South). In contrast, Athens (second circle) has streets running in many directions. The cities are shown in alphabetical order.

Detroit is a particularly cool example: the city is mostly one big grid, but downtown is a separate grid that is tilted 45 degrees relative to the rest of the city.

If you look at a particular polar histogram, then Google the city's map, it's super cool. Read the paper, too, it's fairly easy to understand.





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