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### Lebanese Forex Market

	15/05/2026	08/05/2026	% Change	YTD
<b>Euro / LP</b>	104,142	105,467	-1.26%	-0.93%
<b>Euro / Dollar</b>	1.1636	1.1784	-1.26%	-0.93%
<b>NEER Index</b>	120.88	120.50	0.31%	-46.38%

\*prices are as of the time of writing this report

The Nominal Effective Exchange Rate (NEER) of the Lebanese pound rose by 0.31% this week, reaching 120.88 points on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, against a basket of 21 influential currencies – including the Euro and British pound.

### International Forex Market

	15/05/2026	08/05/2026	% Change	Status
<b>Dollars index = DXY</b>	99.12	97.90	1.25%	Strengthened
<b>EUR/USD</b>	1.1636	1.1784	-1.26%	Weakened
<b>GBP/USD</b>	1.3357	1.3632	-2.02%	Weakened
<b>USD/CHF</b>	0.7854	0.7763	1.17%	Weakened
<b>USD/CNY</b>	6.8024	6.8005	0.03%	Weakened
<b>USD/JPY</b>	158.44	156.65	1.14%	Weakened
<b>AUD/USD</b>	0.716	0.7244	-1.16%	Weakened
<b>USD/CAD</b>	1.3749	1.3676	0.53%	Weakened

\*prices are as of the time of writing this report

In international currency markets this week, the **US Dollar Index** – a measure of the US currency’s strengthened against a basket of six rivals – rose by 1.25% to 99.12 points. The currency gained support from accelerating inflation data, largely

driven by rising energy prices and supply disruptions caused by the Iran conflict. Stronger than expected consumer and producer inflation figures reinforced expectations that the Federal Reserve would maintain elevated interest rates and potentially implement another rate hike later this year. At the same time, resilient consumer spending and labor market conditions further supported the dollar, while geopolitical tensions boosted safe-haven demand for the currency.

The **Euro** weakened by 1.26% against the dollar during the week, with EUR/USD falling to 1.1636 from 1.1784. The decline came as investors increasingly priced in additional European Central Bank rate hikes amid rising inflationary pressures caused by elevated oil prices and ongoing Middle East tensions. However, weaker Eurozone economic growth and cautious market sentiment limited support for the common currency. Investors also continued monitoring developments surrounding the US-China summit and the stalled US-Iran negotiations, both of which contributed to uncertainty in financial markets.

The **British Pound** recorded the sharpest decline among the major currencies, weakening by 2.02% against the dollar as GBP/USD fell to 1.3357 from 1.3632. Sterling came under heavy pressure due to rising political uncertainty in the United Kingdom following several resignations and increasing speculation surrounding a potential leadership challenge against Prime Minister Keir Starmer after the Labour Party's weak local election performance. Although stronger-than-expected UK GDP data provided some support, political instability and broader global uncertainty linked to the Middle East conflict continued to weigh heavily on investor sentiment toward the pound.

The **Japanese Yen** weakened by 1.14% against the US dollar over the week, with USD/JPY rising to 158.44 from 156.65. The yen remained under pressure due to broad dollar strength following stronger-than-expected US inflation data, which reinforced expectations that the Federal Reserve could maintain higher interest rates for longer or potentially raise rates later this year. In addition, elevated oil prices linked to the ongoing Iran conflict continued to weigh on the Japanese currency given Japan's heavy dependence on energy imports. Although markets

remained alert to possible intervention by Japanese authorities, investor sentiment stayed cautious throughout the week.

The **Offshore Yuan** weakened marginally by 0.03% during the week, with USD/CNY edging up to 6.8024 from 6.8005. Despite remaining near its strongest level since February 2023 earlier in the week, the yuan faced slight pressure as investors grew cautious over Taiwan-related tensions during the Trump-Xi summit. Nevertheless, optimism surrounding trade discussions between the United States and China, alongside strong Chinese trade and inflation data, helped limit losses and supported relatively stable performance in the currency market.

### Commodities

	15/05/2026	08/05/2026	% Change
<b>Gold</b>	4,565.04	4,714.41	-3.17%
<b>Silver</b>	78.28	80.34	-2.56%
<b>Brent Crude Oil</b>	107.68	101.29	6.31%
<b>WTI Crude Oil</b>	103.49	95.42	8.46%

\*prices are as of the time of writing this report

In commodity markets, **Gold** prices fell by 3.17% week on week to \$4,565.04 per ounce, as stronger US inflation data reduced expectations for Federal Reserve rate cuts. Although geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz initially supported safe-haven demand, higher inflation, rising energy prices, and a stronger dollar later weighed on bullion prices. Additional pressure came from India raising import tariffs on gold and silver, while markets also focused on diplomatic discussions between President Trump and President Xi Jinping regarding Iran and trade relations.

**Silver** prices declined by 2.56% week on week to \$78.28 per ounce, despite experiencing notable volatility throughout the week. Earlier in the period, silver reached a two-month high supported by stronger industrial demand expectations from sectors such as electronics and solar panels. However, sentiment later weakened as rising US inflation increased expectations that the Federal Reserve may maintain elevated interest rates or potentially hike rates later this year, pressuring precious metals overall. Investors also closely monitored developments

surrounding the US-Iran conflict, the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, and Trump-Xi discussions regarding trade and geopolitical tensions.

**Brent Crude** oil prices increased by 6.31% week on week to \$107.68 per barrel, while **WTI Crude** oil rose by 8.46% to \$103.49 per barrel, as the prolonged US-Iran conflict and the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz continued to disrupt global energy supplies. Diplomatic efforts to end the conflict repeatedly stalled, intensifying concerns over tightening supply conditions. Additional support came from falling global inventories, reduced Saudi oil production, and ongoing security risks in the Middle East, including ship attacks and disrupted export flows. Meanwhile, the IEA warned that oil markets could remain undersupplied through October even if the conflict is resolved in the coming month.

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