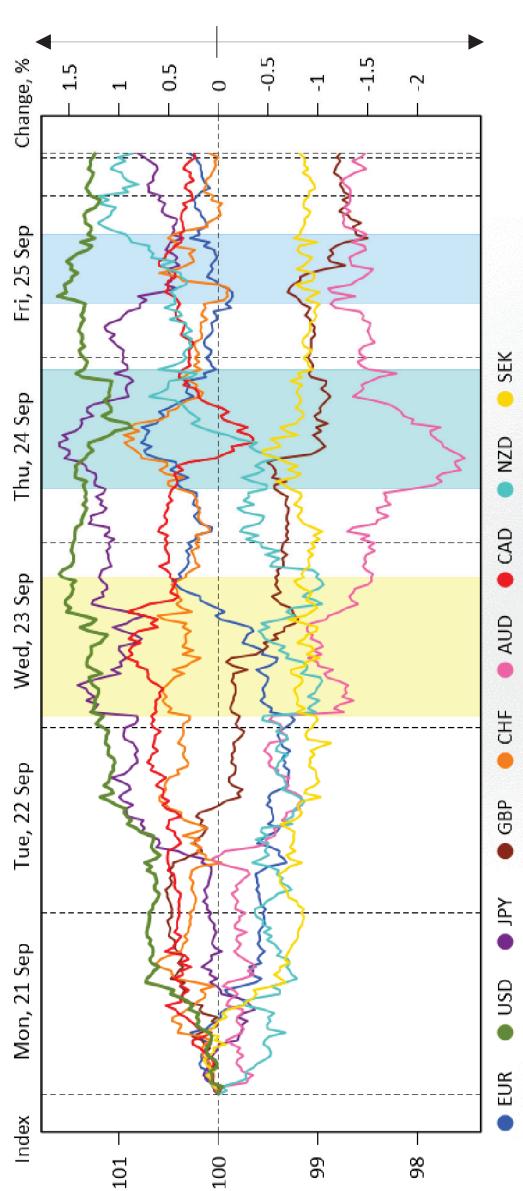




Relative Currency Strength

Currency Indexes



There was not a lot of influential economic releases which notably affected observed currencies during the week. Moreover, the most prosper in news reaction was the Greenback. Starting from Tuesday, USD index growth was accompanied by surprisingly optimistic housing market data, but on Thursday evening the Fed's Yellen dovish comments on US economic prospects positively impacted the domestic currency. The index initially rose by 0.35 points and reached the week's high of 101.6 in early European session on Friday. However, despite the greater-than-expected US quarterly GDP announced 20 hours later, the gauge slightly depreciated by the end of the trading week and finished the period on 101.24 mark.

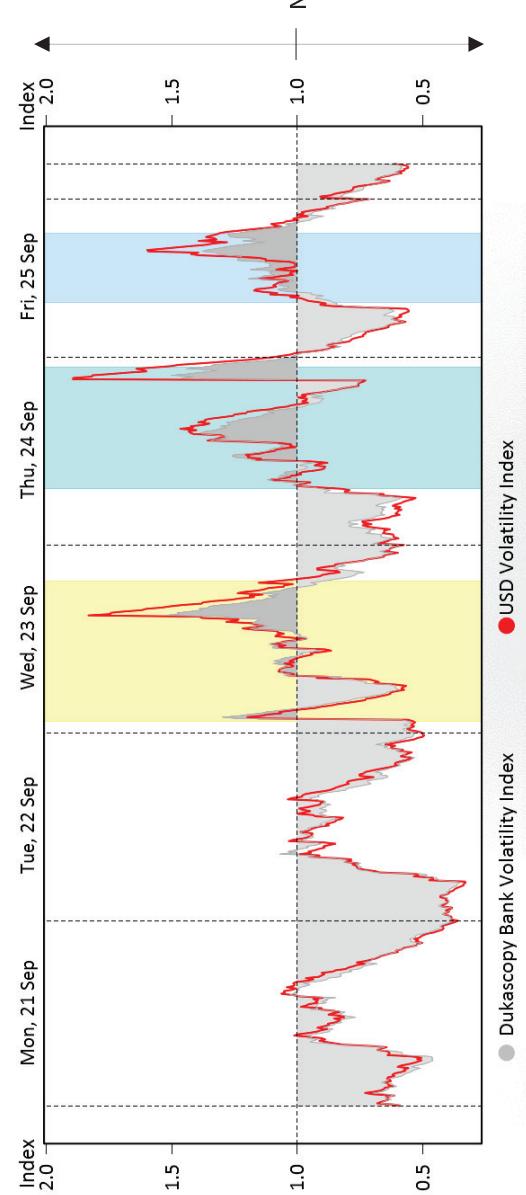
The week was very successful for the Greenback as its index steadily rose during the whole period and finished it in the best performer's role, gaining from 0.33% to 2.45% against its counterparts. The Aussie, in turn, negatively reacted to another disappointing economic release of Chinese manufacturing PMI and it was the most conspicuous reaction to the economic release this week. By Thursday morning its index slid to 97.5 level, however, the commodity market recovery gave the associated currencies positive impulse and the AUD measure finished the week 1.5 points below the baseline.





Volatility

Volatility



The beginning of the period was quite tranquil, and the dollar's index barely exceeded the historical level in first two trading days. The first somewhat notable spike of volatility took place on Wednesday, when the index jumped to 1.2 after the China's Caixin PMI came out. A few hours later, against the background of Mario Draghi's speech, the index surged to 1.83. On Thursday, the gauge reached above the baseline in the morning, when the German Gfk survey was released, and in the time of the US home sales and employment data reports jumped to 1.47. However, the highest level of was reached later, after Janet Yellen's speech. On Friday, the movements of the Greenback were mostly driven by the increase of the US GDP, and the index surged to 1.6.

After several tranquil weeks, the Greenback's volatility picked up, and the index spent 30% of the period above its two-week average. However, the increase was mostly fueled by the dollar's pairs with the European currencies. Thus, the portions of the elevated volatility of GBP/USD and EUR/USD were close to 50%, while the measures of USD/CHF and USD/SEK stood at around 40%. Some of the other components, in turn, were calmer compared with values of the previous period. As for the height of the volatility peaks, both the Greenback's and the market's gauges failed to reach the 2-point level, and the values of the components were notably lower than the previous readings.

Elevated Volatility (% of the observed period)

Market	USD	EURUSD	USDJPY	GBPUKD	USDCAD	AUDUSD	NZDUSD	USDSEK
27	30	46	26	49	42	23	19	16
								37

Volatility Index (for the observed period)

Market	USD	EURUSD	USDJPY	GBPUKD	USDCAD	AUDUSD	NZDUSD	USDSEK
Max	1.53	1.89	2.14	1.86	2.17	2.37	2.65	2.17
Min	0.35	0.33	0.25	0.32	0.19	0.23	0.3	0.36
Average	0.85	0.87	0.97	0.83	0.97	0.94	0.86	0.8