

The Japan Rubber Futures Weekly Report:

22 April - 26 April 2024

Japan: Japan Manufacturing PMI higher at 49.9, Services PMI higher at 54.6 in Apr, CPI lower at 1.8% y/y in Mar

Rubber Futures Report:

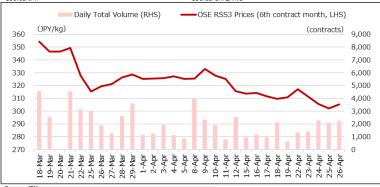
Global rubber futures closed the week lower across all major rubber exchanges. OSE rubber fell 1.2%, SHFE and INE rubber fell 3.4% and 3.7%, respectively, and SICOM rubber dropped 2.6%. Open interest in both the SHFE and INE markets has fallen significantly, with decreases of 35,719 lots (357,000 tons) and 25,613 lots (256,000 tons), respectively, since reaching their highs at the end of March 2024, when speculative funds drove rubber prices to recent peaks. Long liquidation from funds and speculators remains prevalent, driven by concerns about market uncertainty and weaker demand from China, which have dampened prices and open interest. Weak physical demand, coupled with the end of the wintering season, may prompt producers to return to their normal production capacity, potentially adding further pressure on prices. In other news, US President Biden has signed a USD 95 billion war aid bill into law, alongside a ban on TikTok in the US if its owner, Byte Dance, does not divest within nine months. The USD 95 billion allocation is intended to provide military assistance to Ukraine, Israel, and Asia Pacific allies, including Taiwan. In Japan, Manufacturing PMI recorded 49.9 (+1.7) in April, while CPI in March was lower at 1.8%. Despite an earlier stern warning from the BOJ, the USD/JPY surged to a new high at 158.44 before closing at 158.33. The US Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) index, closely monitored by the Fed, rose to 2.7%, potentially delaying further Fed easing policies. A Goldman Sachs analyst suggested that China's stock may rally by 40%, led by reform activities.

OSE RSS3	Last (JPY)	Net
May 24	309.5	-13.5
Jun24	306.0	-8.2
Jul 24	305.3	-6.8
Aug 24	308.0	-4.2
Sep 24	307.0	-3.8
Oct 24	305.4	-2.5
Total Vol.	9,374	+3,604
Total OI	7,856	-462

SHFE/INE	Last (CNY)	Net
SCR/RSS Sep 24	14,075	-500
SCR/RSS Jan 25	15,165	-500
Total Vol.	2,498,523	+187,769
Total OI	286,942	-5,776
INE TSR Jun 24	11,355	-435
INE TSR July 24	11,480	-415
Total Vol.	452,018	+14,521
Total OI	99,456	-6,708

SICOM TSR20	Last (US¢)	Net
May 24	159.8	-2.0
Jun 24	159.2	-3.8
July 24	159.9	-4.2
Aug 24	160.8	-4.2
Sep 24	161.7	-4.3
Oct 24	162.2	-4.4
Total Vol.	80,937	+1,942
Total OI	72,264	-5,769

TFEX JRF	Last (THB)	Net
Aug 24	308.4	-2.2
Sep 24	307.4	-0.6
SHFE BR	Last (CNY)	Net
May 24	12,965	-245
Jun 24	12,915	-280
Jul 24	13,140	-260
Total Vol.	150,611	+43,344
Total OI	24,899	+1,111



rce: SGX Source: TFEX, ICEX, MCX		
Important Data / Stock levels	Last	Net
Japan OSE Rubber Stocks (ton, 10 Apr)	9,133	-262
Shanghai SHFE Rubber Stocks (ton, 26 April)	217,081	+190
Shanghai INE Rubber Stocks (ton, 26 April)	143,237	+1,613
China Vehicle Total Sales (unit, 31 Mar 2024)	2,694,461	+1,110,943
China Passenger Car Sales (unit, 31 Mar 2024)	2,236,276	+903,461
China Commercial Car Sales (unit, 31 Mar 2024)	458,185	+207,482
US Unemployment Rate (%, Mar 24)	3.8	-0.1
US Non-Farm Payroll (Mar 24)	303,000	+33,000
Japan Unemployment Rate (%, Feb 24)	2.6	+0.2
Japan Manufacturing PMI (April 24)	49.9	+1.7
Japan Tankan Large Manufacturing (1Q 2024)	+11.0	-0.1
China Manufacturing PMI (Mar 2024)	50.8	+1.7
China GDP 1Q 2024 (%)	5.3	+0.1

Source: JPX		
FOREX	Last	Net
USD/JPY	158.33	+3.69
EUR/USD	1.0693	+0.0037
GBP/USD	1.2493	+0.0123
USD/CHF	0.9142	+0.0040
AUD/USD	0.6533	+0.0115
USD/CNY	7.2465	+0.0072
USD/INR	83.3844	-0.0881
USD/SGD	1.3628	+0.0012
USD/MYR	4.7680	-0.0152
USD/THB	37.009	+0.174
USD/IDR	16,210	-50
USD/VND	25,339	-91
Source: Bloomberg		

Stock Index	Last	Net
NK225 Japan	37,934.76	+866.41
TOPIX Japan	2,686.48	+60.16
Dow Jones US	38,239.66	+253.26
S&P 500 US	5,099.96	+132.73
Nasdaq US	15,927.90	+645.89
CSI 300 China	3,584.27	+42.61
Shanghai China	3,088.64	+23.38
HSI Hong Kong	16,615.15	+1,391.01
STI Singapore	3,280.10	+103.59
KLCI Malaysia	1,575.15	+27.59
SET Thailand	1,359.94	+27.86
IDX Indonesia	7,036.08	-51.24
VSE Vietnam	1,209.52	+34.67
Source: JPX, Bloomberg		· ·

JPX Derivatives	Last	Net
JPX NK225 Jun 24	37,900	+800
JPX TOPIX Jun 24	2,689.5	+63.5
JPX NK 400 Jun 24	24,375	+615
JPX TSE REIT Jun 24	1,799.0	+29.5
JPX NK 225 VI May 24	21.35	-2.15
JPX JGB 10 Year Jun 24	143.93	-0.74
JPX Gold 1 Kg Feb 25	11,735	-102
JPX Platinum Feb 25	4,636	-32
JPX Silver Feb 25	137.9	-3.1
JPX Palladium Feb 25	5,000	-100
JPX TSR20 July 24	247.0	-7.0
JPX Corn Mar 25	40,000	-10
JPX Dubai Crude Sept 24	81,460	+1,000
Source: JPX		

Technical Analysis on the OSE Sept-2024 Contract:

Sep-2024 contract dropped JPY 3.8 to close at 307.0 in moderately active trading. While trading volume increased by 3,604 lots, open interest decreased by 462 lots, driven by light liquidation. There was minimal buying interest, and long positions were initiated to square positions. Prices have breached the 50-day MA and are heading towards the 100-day MA, which is around the 287.0 level. Anticipated support levels are at 300.0 and 287.0, while resistance levels are at 318.0-320.0. The 14-day RSI stands at 41.2%. Prices are likely to range between 300 and 318 next week, with October futures becoming the new active month.



Technical Analysis on the SGX SICOM July-2024 Contract:

SICOM's active July-2024 contract closed lower by 4.2 cents at 159.9 in active trading. Prices had broken some support levels, and the trade and closing were below the 160.0 level, suggesting further weakness may prevail. Long liquidation has been observed, with open interest falling by 5,769 lots, indicating that long positions were closed out and market sentiment remains weak. The 14-day RSI has fallen to 41.7%, and prices are near the 100-day MA. Light support levels are expected at 159.0and 155.5, while resistance levels are at 164.5 and 169.



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