## **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 04 April 2024 07:27 am

## EUR/USD up above \$1.08

European equity markets recouped some of their recent losses yesterday, with the Euro Stoxx 50 gaining 0.5%. The mood was more cautious on Wall Street, with the S&P 500 rising by a meagre 0.1%. Meantime, on bond markets, yields were little changed across the board. Of the limited action to note, 2-year German Bund yields moved circa 4bps higher.

Data-wise, flash Eurozone HICP inflation printed below the consensus in March. The headline rate eased to 2.4% (vs. 2.6% f'cast), while core inflation declined to 2.9% (vs. 3.0% f'cast). It meant the core rate was below 3% for the first time since February 2022. However, services inflation remained elevated, at 4%. Despite the downside surprise, remarks from ECB officials continued to suggest that a rate cut was more likely in June, and not next week.

In the US, Fed official Bostic struck a hawkish chord, stating that the Fed may only cut rates once this year, and that inflation may not hit 2% until 2026. Overnight, Chair Powell hit a more balanced note, indicating that the economy remains strong but that it will likely be appropriate to cut rates this year. In any case, having initially held the upper hand, the dollar has been under some modest downward pressure over the past 24 hours.

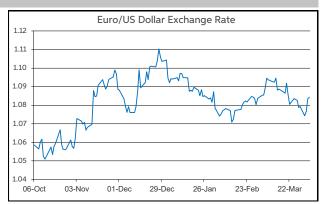
In level terms, the softer tone to the dollar sees EUR/USD open this morning up near the midpoint of \$1.08-1.09. GBP/USD is at the halfway mark of \$1.26-1.27. EUR/GBP remains between 85-86p.

Turning to the day ahead, the main data release will be the final reading of the Composite PMIs for March in the Eurozone and UK. Elsewhere, the latest ECB monetary policy meeting account is due. Remarks from Fed officials will also garner attention.

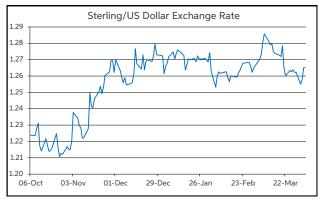
Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2023	
EUR/USD	1.0844	0.65	-1.74	
EUR/GBP	0.8568	0.05	-1.15	
GBP/USD	1.2652	0.59	-0.60	
GBP/EUR	1.1663	-0.05	1.17	
USD/JPY	151.63	0.03	7.49	
EUR/JPY	164.47	0.70	5.68	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Pates				

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market		Swap Rates		;
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	5.38	5.44	5.57	5.31	4.87	4.40
EUR	4.50	3.86	3.88	3.58	3.15	2.72
GBP	5.25	5.18	5.16	4.87	4.65	4.12









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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## **Opening Levels**



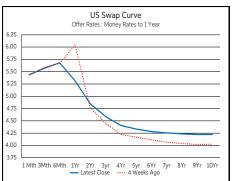
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8568
EUR/USD	1.0844
EUR/JPY	164.47
EUR/SEK	11.5176
EUR/DKK	7.4583
EUR/NOK	11.5772
EUR/CHF	0.9791
EUR/AUD	1.6458
EUR/HKD	8.4903
EUR/CAD	1.4651

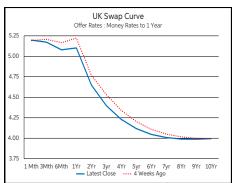
Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1663		
GBP/USD	1.2652		
GBP/CAD	1.7094		
GBP/NZD	2.0959		
GBP/JPY	191.84		
GBP/SEK	13.4356		
GBP/DKK	8.7012		
GBP/NOK	13.512		
GBP/CHF	1.1427		
GBP/AUD	1.9202		

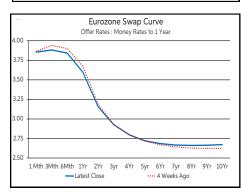
Dollar				
USD/JPY	151.63			
USD/CAD	1.351			
USD/CHF	0.9029			
USD/CNY	7.233			
USD/BRL	5.0404			
USD/RUB	92.405			
USD/INR	83.439			
AUD/USD	0.6588			
NZD/USD	0.6035			













	Debt	Markets		
		Change bps		
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23
10 Year Yield %				
US	4.35	-0	+24	+49
Germany	2.40	-1	+7	+37
UK	4.06	-3	+7	+52
Ireland	2.84	-2	+12	+46
Belgium	2.98	-2	+11	+30
France	2.92	-1	+13	+36
Italy	3.83	+3	+17	+13
Spain	3.27	+0	+11	+28
Portugal	3.10	-0	+11	+32
Greece	3.43	+2	+13	+35
5 Year Swap %				
US	4.33	-2	+21	+54
Eurozone	2.72	+0	+2	+29
UK	4.12	-3	-8	+47
2 Year Swap %				
US	4.85	-1	+13	+51
Eurozone	3.15	+2	-2	+36
UK	4.65	-2	-11	+38
 10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spread	s to Benchn	 nark bps	
Ireland	44	-1	+6	+9
Belgium	58	-0	+4	-7
France	52	+0	+6	-1
Italy	144	+4	+11	-24
Spain	87	+2	+4	-10
Portugal	71	+1	+4	-5
Greece	103	+3	+6	-2

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23	
Brent Oil	89.35	+0.48	+7.70	+15.98	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	2299.2	+0.84	+7.02	+11.47	

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