Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 16 April 2024 07:27 am

Dollar dominance continues

Investor sentiment continued to hold a cautious tone yesterday, amid choppy trading conditions. Escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, further strong US data, and ongoing market chatter that the Fed will be forced to cut interest rates later and by less than initial thought this year were front and centre. Overall, the Euro Stoxx 50 rose by 0.6%, while the S&P 500 declined by 1.2%. Meantime, Brent crude oil remained in and around \$90 per barrel.

Data-wise, Eurozone industrial production printed in-line with the consensus, rising by 0.8% in February. Across the Atlantic, US retail sales came in well above expectations, rising by 0.7% in March compared to 0.3% forecast. Furthermore, February's reading was revised higher, and the control group measure - a key core sales metric - increased by 1.1%. The data suggest the US economy maintained very solid momentum in the first quarter of 2024.

The risk averse backdrop and strong US data helped to underpin the dollar yesterday. The greenback rose by 0.3-0.4% versus the euro, sterling and yen. In level terms, the stronger dollar is evidenced by EUR/USD opening this morning down at the \$1.06 threshold, a new YTD low. GBP/USD is back in the bottom half of the \$1.24-1.25 band. Meanwhile, USD/JPY is up above the ¥154 handle. EUR/GBP remains near the midpoint of the 85-86p range.

Already this morning, UK labour market data for February show the unemployment rate rose to 4.2%, above the 4.0% forecast. Average earnings were stronger than expected, printing at +5.6% y/y, versus the +5.5% y/y consensus. Sterling has edged slightly lower in initial aftermath of the release. Later today US industrial production figures for March are due. Remarks from a number of ECB, Fed and BoE officials will also be in focus.

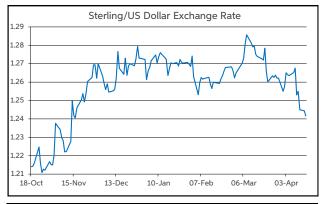
Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2023	
EUR/USD	1.0606	-0.42	-3.90	
EUR/GBP	0.854	-0.08	-1.48	
GBP/USD	1.2416	-0.35	-2.46	
GBP/EUR	1.1704	0.08	1.50	
USD/JPY	154.4	0.41	9.46	
EUR/JPY	163.78	-0.01	5.24	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market		Swap Rates		
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	5.38	5.43	5.59	5.45	5.15	4.68
EUR	4.50	3.84	3.92	3.61	3.24	2.81
GBP	5.25	5.18	5.16	4.97	4.87	4.35









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



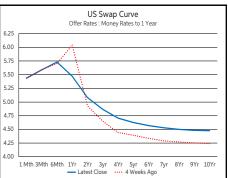
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.854
EUR/USD	1.0606
EUR/JPY	163.78
EUR/SEK	11.5861
EUR/DKK	7.4605
EUR/NOK	11.6304
EUR/CHF	0.9686
EUR/AUD	1.6534
EUR/HKD	8.3027
EUR/CAD	1.4642

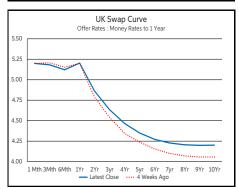
Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1704		
GBP/USD	1.2416		
GBP/CAD	1.7141		
GBP/NZD	2.1096		
GBP/JPY	191.7		
GBP/SEK	13.5644		
GBP/DKK	8.7325		
GBP/NOK	13.609		
GBP/CHF	1.134		
GBP/AUD	1.9357		

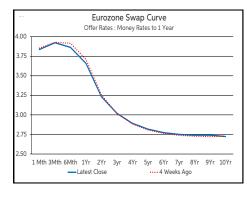
Dollar				
USD/JPY	154.4			
USD/CAD	1.3803			
USD/CHF	0.9132			
USD/CNY	7.2385			
USD/BRL	5.1846			
USD/RUB	93.915			
USD/INR	83.485			
AUD/USD	0.6414			
NZD/USD	0.5884			

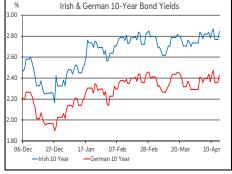












	Debt	Markets				
			Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23		
10 Year Yield %						
US	4.63	+13	+29	+77		
Germany	2.43	+8	-2	+41		
UK	4.24	+10	+15	+70		
Ireland	2.88	+8	+4	+52		
Belgium	3.00	+9	+2	+31		
France	2.96	+9	+7	+40		
Italy	3.85	+11	+17	+15		
Spain	3.28	+9	+4	+29		
Portugal	3.13	+8	+4	+34		
Greece	3.38	+8	+6	+31		
5 Year Swap %						
US	4.63	+6	+27	+83		
Eurozone	2.82	+7	+2	+39		
UK	4.35	+8	+11	+70		
2 Year Swap %						
US	5.08	+0	+19	+75		
Eurozone	3.23	+2	-1	+44		
UK	4.86	+4	+8	+60		
 10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spread	ls to Benchn	nark bps			
Ireland	45	+0	+6	+11		
Belgium	57	+1	+5	-10		
France	53	+2	+9	-O		
Italy	141	+3	+19	-26		
Spain	85	+2	+6	-12		
Portugal	69	+0	+6	-7		
Greece	95	+0	+8	-10		

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23	
Brent Oil	90.1	-0.39	+3.69	+16.95	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	2382.5	+1.67	+10.30	+15.51	

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