Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 26 May 2025 06:57 am

Trade risks back in focus

The market action last week saw a risk averse mood dominate. For much of the week, this stemmed from nervousness on the sustainability of US debt and the potential for debt levels to rise substantially over the coming years if the current tax/spending bill going through Congress gets enacted. Then on Friday, a threat from US President Trump, of a 50% tariff on EU imports (initially from June 1st but extended to July 9th) saw equity investors on the back foot heading into the weekend. The Euro Stoxx fell by 1.8% on Friday, finishing the week 1.9% lower. Meanwhile, by the closing bell on Wall Street, the S&P 500 was down 2.6% on the week.

In terms of macro data last week, attention was on the flash PMIs for May. The US survey results printed ahead of expectations with strong performance from both the manufacturing and services sectors. The results suggest that the US economy continues to perform well despite all the trade policy related uncertainty. In contrast, the Eurozone PMIs disappointed versus forecasts, with the headline number falling back into contractionary territory.

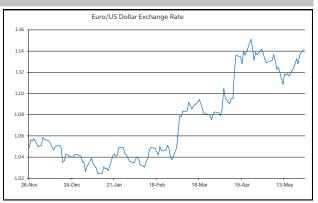
Currency-wise, the dollar found itself on the defensive. Initially this was amid the concerns over US debt. Then Friday's tariff newsflow put further downward pressure on the greenback. In level terms, the weaker dollar is evident in EUR/USD opening this morning back above \$1.14, having started last Monday just below \$1.12. Meantime, GBP/USD commences this week posting a fresh YTD high at \$1.359. Elsewhere, the EUR/GBP pair is straddling the 84p handle, similar to where it spent much of last week.

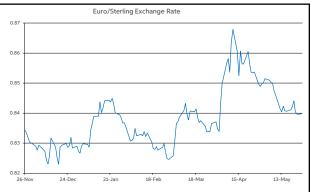
Ahead this week, given last Friday's '50% tariff threat', trade related news/developments will warrant close attention and therefore a potential source of market volatility. Data-wise, we get some important inflation updates. This includes US core-PCE (April) and the flash May readings of German, French, and Italian HICP inflation.

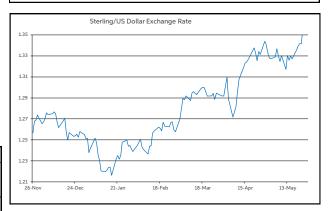
John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2024		
EUR/USD	1.1416	0.87	10.27		
EUR/GBP	0.8398	-0.17	1.51		
GBP/USD	1.3589	1.03	8.62		
GBP/EUR	1.19	0.17	-1.49		
USD/JPY	142.5	-0.66	-9.34		
EUR/JPY	162.69	0.21	-0.04		
* 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	4.38	4.32	4.32	4.08	4.05	3.97
EUR	2.40	2.09	2.04	2.00	1.96	2.23
GBP	4.25	4.20	4.18	3.98	4.11	4.13









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates &

	FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan	FX Options	Mark Tuite	Reuters Phone	AIBG.I 00353-1-7724018	Morning Comment	John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie
ı		Shane Gargan			Phone	00353-1-7724018		jonn.j.ianey@aib.ie

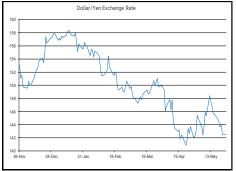
Opening Levels



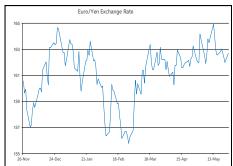
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8398
EUR/USD	1.1416
EUR/JPY	162.69
EUR/SEK	10.8208
EUR/DKK	7.459
EUR/NOK	11.4858
EUR/CHF	0.9362
EUR/AUD	1.7487
EUR/HKD	8.9474
EUR/CAD	1.5636

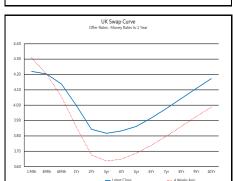
Sterling	9
GBP/EUR	1.19
GBP/USD	1.3589
GBP/CAD	1.861
GBP/NZD	2.2522
GBP/JPY	193.61
GBP/SEK	12.8809
GBP/DKK	8.8742
GBP/NOK	13.6725
GBP/CHF	1.1138
GBP/AUD	2.0811

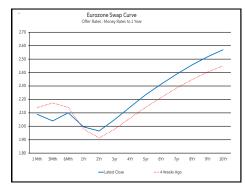
Dollar					
USD/JPY	142.5				
USD/CAD	1.3697				
USD/CHF	0.8197				
USD/CNY	7.1722				
USD/BRL	5.6463				
USD/RUB	79.75				
USD/INR	84.8825				
AUD/USD	0.6526				
NZD/USD	0.6028				

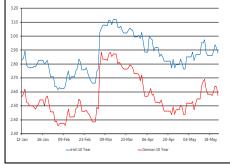


US Swap Curve









Irish & German 10-Year Bond Yield

	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.51	-4	+25	-7	
Germany	2.57	-6	+10	+21	
UK	4.68	-7	+20	+11	
Ireland	2.91	-5	+8	+26	
Belgium	3.12	-5	+5	+14	
France	3.27	-4	+8	+8	
Italy	3.61	-5	+3	+9	
Spain	3.20	-5	+7	+14	
Portugal	3.09	-5	+8	+24	
Greece	3.34	-8	-1	+9	
5 Year Swap %					
US	3.93	-5	+18	-36	
Eurozone	2.23	-4	+9	-1	
UK	4.08	-7	+17	-20	
2 Year Swap %					
US	4.01	-1	+25	-32	
Eurozone	1.96	-4	+5	-23	
UK	4.07	-2	+16	-42	
10 Year Governme	nt Bond Spread	ls to Benchr	nark bps		
Ireland	33	+2	-2	+5	
Belgium	54	+1	-5	-8	
France	70	+2	-2	-14	
Italy	104	+2	-7	-12	
Spain	63	+2	-3	-7	
Portugal	52	+2	-2	+3	
Greece	77	-2	-11	-12	

Commodities							
		% Change					
	Close Day 4 Weeks En						
Brent Oil	64.78	+0.53	-3.13	-13.21			
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27			
Gold \$	3357.0	+1.91	+1.17	+27.94			

This publication is for information purposes and is not an invitation to deal. The information is believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed. Any expressions of opinions are subject to change without notice. This publication is not to be reproduced in whole or in part without prior permission. In the Republic of Ireland it is distributed by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. and Allied Irish Bank (GB). In Northern Ireland it is distributed by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. and Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Allied Irish Bank (GB) and AlB (NI) are trade marks used under licence by AlB Group (UK) p.l.c. (a wholly owned subsidiary of Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.), incorporated in Northern Ireland. Registered Office 92 Ann Street, Belfast BT1 3HH. Registered Number NI018800. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. In the United States of America, Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c., New York Branch, is a branch licensed by the New York State Department of Financial Services. Deposits and other investment products are not FDIC insured, they are not guaranteed by any bank and they may lose value. Please note that telephone calls may be recorded in line with market practice.