Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 29 April 2024 07:10 am

Yen behaving badly

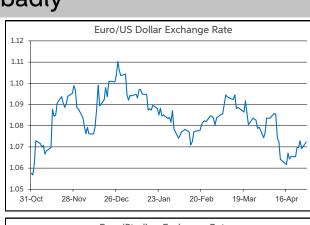
From a currency viewpoint, a further weakening in the Japanese yen, grabbed the headlines last week. The currency was on the slide throughout the week. This gained additional momentum heading into the weekend following the BoJ meeting, where policy was left unchanged. In overnight action, the yen has continued to weaken, reflected in USD/JPY reaching above ¥160 (highest since 1990). It has since traded back nearer to ¥157, with some market participants speculating that the weakness may have prompted official FX intervention by Japan to support its currency.

Elsewhere on the currency front, both the euro and sterling recovered some ground versus the dollar last week. Better than expected Eurozone and UK PMI survey data for April was a contributing factor in these moves. Meanwhile, despite, US core-PCE inflation for Q1 printing ahead of expectations, which saw Treasury yields register fresh YTD highs and a firming in US rate expectations, there was no sustained benefit to the dollar. This may in part be due to USD long positioning being at stretched levels. The EUR/USD pair regained the \$1.07 mark, while GBP/USD traded back up into \$1.25 territory. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP was unable to sustain its move above 86p, with the pair edging back down towards the midpoint of 85-86p, amid the firmer tone to sterling.

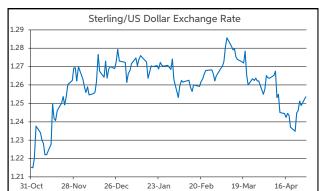
This week, the key macro event will be the US Fed meeting. No rate changes are expected. Indeed, amid higher than expected inflation and hawkish FOMC comments, futures contracts do not have a 25bps rate cut fully priced in now till November. Therefore, Chair Powell's press conference will be closely followed for guidance on the rate outlook. Data-wise, the calendar is packed. It includes US payrolls, ISM surveys and consumer confidence (all April). In the Eurozone Q1 GDP and HICP inflation (April) are due. John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates						
		% Change				
		Day *	End 2023			
EUR/USD	1.0723	0.03	-2.84			
EUR/GBP	0.8553	-0.26	-1.33			
GBP/USD	1.2536	0.30	-1.52			
GBP/EUR	1.1686	0.26	1.34			
USD/JPY	156.96	0.50	11.27			
EUR/JPY	168.31	0.51	8.15			
* v Previous Day's European Open						
See Next Page for N	lore Rates					

Opening Interest Rates						
Swap Rates			Market	Money		
5-Yr	2-Yr	1-Yr	3-Mth	1-Mth	Base Rate	
4.74	5.21	5.50	5.59	5.43	5.38	USD
2.96	3.36	3.69	3.87	3.85	4.50	EUR
4.48	4.98	5.01	5.17	5.19	5.25	GBP
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All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan

FX Options Mark Tuite

AIBG.I Reuters Phone

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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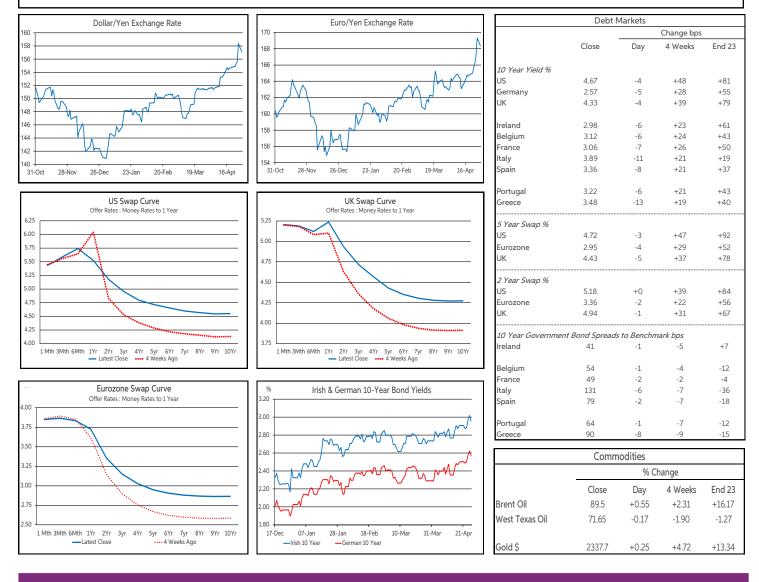
Morning Comment John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie

Opening Levels

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Euro		Sterling		Doll	Dollar	
EUR/GBP	0.8553	GBP/EUR	1.1686	USD/JPY	156.96	
EUR/USD	1.0723	GBP/USD	1.2536	USD/CAD	1.3644	
EUR/JPY	168.31	GBP/CAD	1.7104	USD/CHF	0.9112	
EUR/SEK	11.6904	GBP/NZD	2.0988	USD/CNY	7.245	
EUR/DKK	7.4578	GBP/JPY	196.77	USD/BRL	5.1163	
EUR/NOK	11.7964	GBP/SEK	13.6637	USD/RUB	92.4775	
EUR/CHF	0.9773	GBP/DKK	8.7148	USD/INR	83.435	
EUR/AUD	1.6328	GBP/NOK	13.783			
EUR/HKD	8.3897	GBP/CHF	1.1425	AUD/USD	0.6565	
EUR/CAD	1.4632	GBP/AUD	1.9089	NZD/USD	0.597	



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