

EUR/USD starts today above \$1.09

There was a somewhat positive tone to risk appetite at the start of the week on financial markets. The Euro Stoxx 50 gained 0.8% yesterday, while on Wall Street, the S&P 500 moved 0.6% higher. On bond markets, 10-year German Bund yields fell by 7bps, with UK Gilt yields declining by 3bps. US Treasury yields were flat on the day.

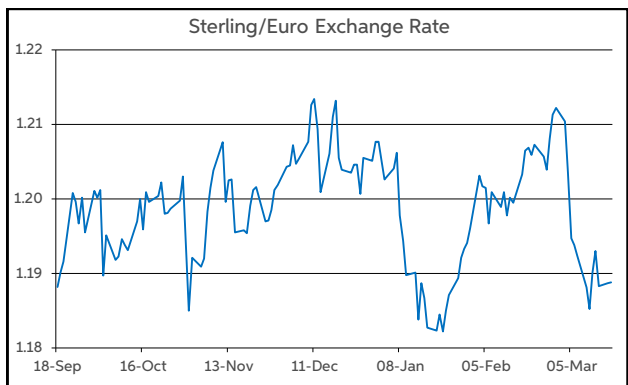
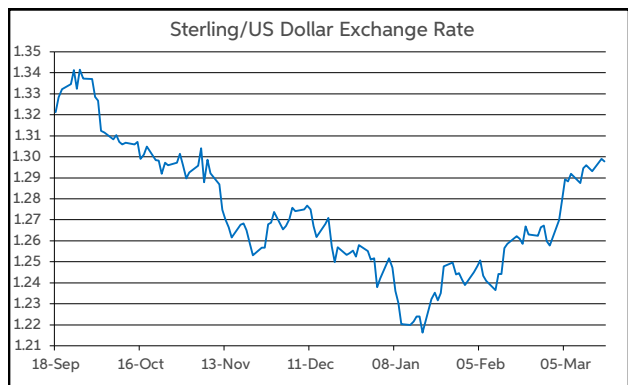
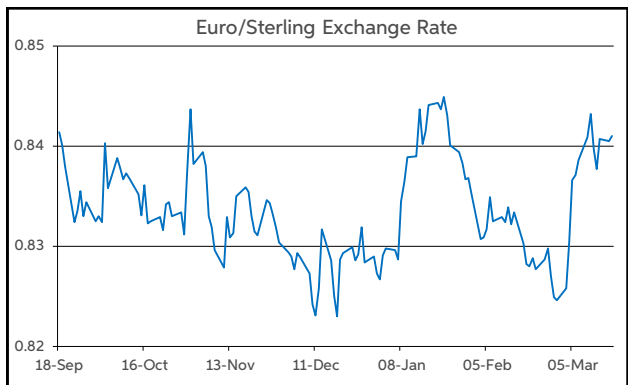
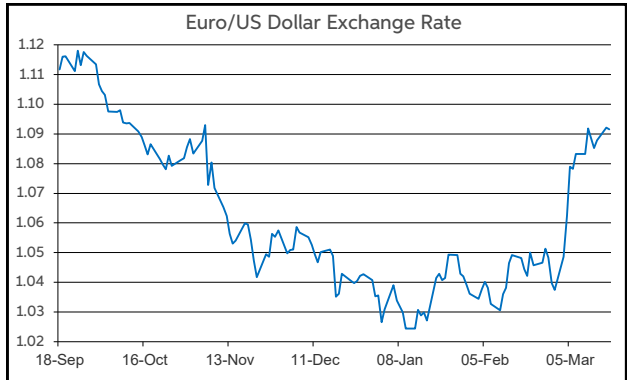
Data-wise, the main release of note - US retail sales - was mixed. The headline measure rebounded by a modest 0.2% in February (vs. 0.6% f'cast), having contracted by a revised 1.2% in January. However, the control group indicator rose by 1% in the month (vs. 0.3% f'cast). Elsewhere in the US, the NY Fed manufacturing index fell sharply to -20.0 in March (vs. -1.50 f'cast).

On the currency front, the dollar was under some downward pressure yesterday. The greenback inched 0.4% lower versus the euro and sterling. The fall coincided with the mixed retail sales report for February.

In level terms, the softer dollar sees EUR/USD open this morning up above the \$1.09 threshold. GBP/USD is operating up in the top half of the \$1.29-1.30 range. Elsewhere, EUR/GBP is changing hands just north of the 84p handle.

Turning to the day ahead, US industrial production figures for February are due. Aside from the data, the focus will be on the German Bundestag today, where the centrist parties are hoping to pass incoming Chancellor Merz's proposed fiscal package. Meanwhile, in terms of monetary policy, the BoJ is widely expected to leave rates on hold later tonight.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB



Today's Opening FX Rates			
		% Change	
		Day *	End 2024
EUR/USD	1.0916	0.36	5.44
EUR/GBP	0.841	0.04	1.66
GBP/USD	1.2977	0.34	3.72
GBP/EUR	1.1886	-0.04	-1.63
USD/JPY	149.76	0.53	-4.72
EUR/JPY	163.53	0.91	0.48

* v Previous Day's European Open

See Next Page for More Rates

Opening Interest Rates						
Base Rate	Money Market			Swap Rates		
	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr	
USD	4.38	4.31	4.30	4.07	4.17	4.10
EUR	2.65	2.38	2.48	2.34	2.32	2.51
GBP	4.50	4.44	4.37	4.17	4.28	4.23

All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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
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Opening Levels

Tuesday 18 March 2025
06:52 am



Euro

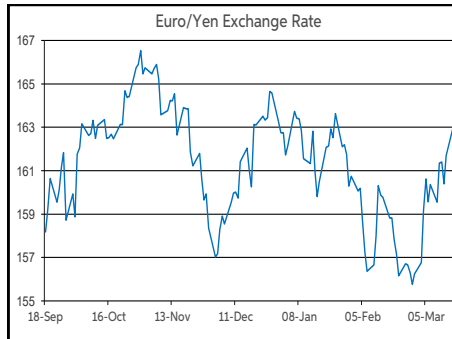
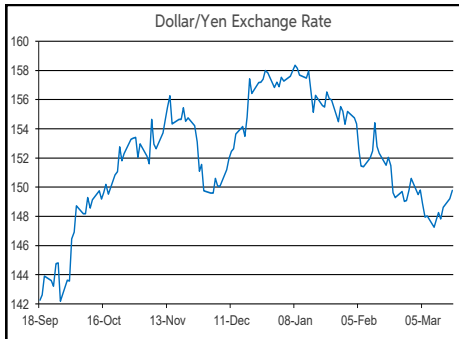
EUR/GBP	0.841
EUR/USD	1.0916
EUR/JPY	163.53
EUR/SEK	11.0275
EUR/DKK	7.4603
EUR/NOK	11.5141
EUR/CHF	0.9619
EUR/AUD	1.7117
EUR/HKD	8.4814
EUR/CAD	1.5603

Sterling

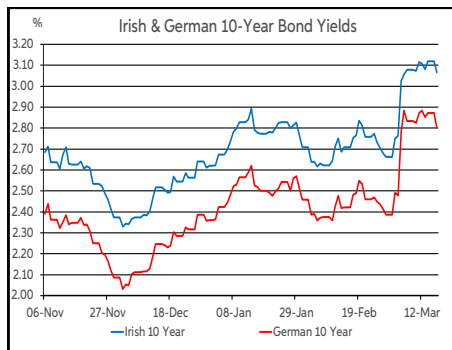
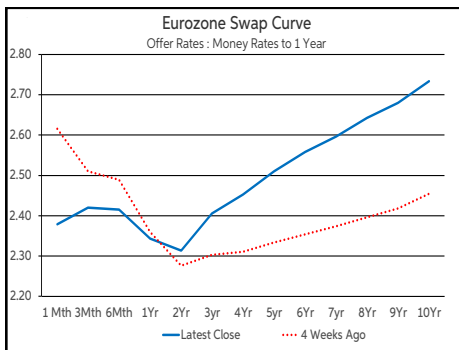
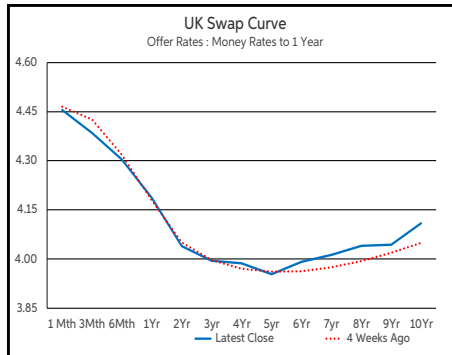
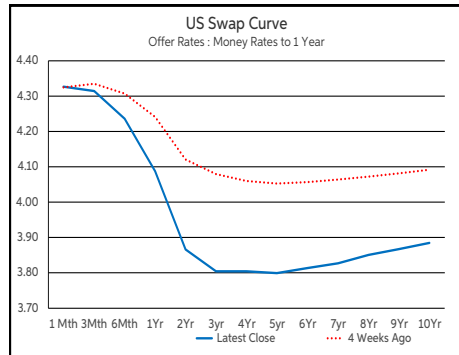
GBP/EUR	1.1886
GBP/USD	1.2977
GBP/CAD	1.8546
GBP/NZD	2.2289
GBP/JPY	194.34
GBP/SEK	13.1108
GBP/DKK	8.8694
GBP/NOK	13.688
GBP/CHF	1.1433
GBP/AUD	2.0348

Dollar

USD/JPY	149.76
USD/CAD	1.4293
USD/CHF	0.8811
USD/CNY	7.2318
USD/BRL	5.6848
USD/RUB	82.1
USD/INR	86.6625
AUD/USD	0.6375
NZD/USD	0.582



Debt Markets				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24
10 Year Yield %				
US	4.31	-0	-17	-27
Germany	2.80	-7	+32	+44
UK	4.64	-3	+11	+7
Ireland	3.10	-6	+32	+45
Belgium	3.34	-8	+30	+36
France	3.49	-8	+32	+29
Italy	3.86	-9	+31	+34
Spain	3.43	-7	+29	+37
Portugal	3.30	-8	+32	+45
Greece	3.64	-10	+28	+40
5 Year Swap %				
US	4.06	+1	-24	-23
Eurozone	2.50	-1	+18	+26
UK	4.23	-0	+3	-5
2 Year Swap %				
US	4.14	+4	-21	-19
Eurozone	2.30	-0	+4	+11
UK	4.28	+1	+0	-21
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps				
Ireland	29	+1	+0	+1
Belgium	54	-1	-2	-8
France	68	-1	+0	-15
Italy	106	-1	-1	-10
Spain	63	+0	-3	-7
Portugal	50	-1	-0	+1
Greece	84	-3	-4	-4



Commodities				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24
Brent Oil	71.07	+0.69	-5.52	-4.78
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27
Gold \$	3001.5	+0.57	+3.58	+14.39

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