Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 24 April 2019 07:08 am

EUR/USD down near \$1.12

The moves on currency markets over the past 24 hours have been confined to relatively tight ranges. Of the action to register, the dollar has been generally holding the upper hand with both the euro and sterling edging lower against the dollar. The gains for the dollar came amid a strong session for US equities, with the S&P 500 closing at a new record high on Wall Street last night.

Data-wise, the euro was not helped by a weaker than forecast print from the flash reading of the EC measure of Eurozone consumer sentiment for April. Elsewhere on the data front, in the US, new home sales for March came in ahead of expectations. Meanwhile, there was nothing of note yesterday from the UK macro diary and there were no new developments in relation to Brexit.

The slightly firmer dollar tone is reflected in this morning's opening levels. EUR/USD starts the day pinned down near to the \$1.12 level, while cable (GBP/USD) opens in the lower half of \$1.29-1.30. Meantime, EUR/GBP is changing hands just around the midpoint of the 86-87p trading band.

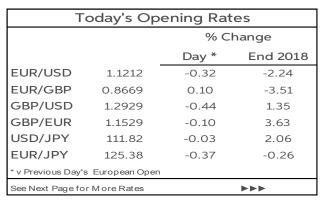
Looking ahead to today's macro agenda, there is a generally quiet day in store. Indeed, both the US and UK calendars are very short on highlights, meaning there is no data to be of influence to the respective currencies.

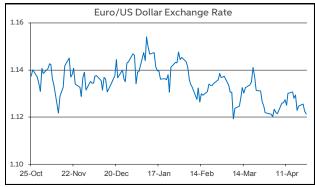
In the Eurozone, the focus will be on the German Ifo for April. The consensus is for a slight improvement in the index. This would follow the trend from the recent PMI data, offering some encouragement in what has been a disappointing start to the year for the Eurozone's largest economy. However, unless the release springs a major surprise, euro impact could be limited.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.375	2.48	2.58	2.74	2.45	2.36
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.31	-0.11	-0.19	0.06
GBP	0.75	0.73	0.82	1.09	1.07	1.25

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2018 to Date	
Dow Jones	26656.39	+0.55	+14.27	
S&P 500	2933.68	+0.88	+17.03	
FTSE 100	7523.07	+0.85	+11.82	
DJ Stoxx 50	3503.85	+0.13	+16.74	
ISEQ	6493.81	-0.71	+18.50	
Nikkei	22191.44	-0.31	+10.88	









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8669
EUR/USD	1.1212
EUR/JPY	125.38
EUR/SEK	10.506
EUR/DKK	7.4666
EUR/NOK	9.6115
EUR/CHF	1.1437
EUR/AUD	1.5943
EUR/HKD	8.7912
EUR/CAD	1.508

Sterlin	g
GBP/EUR	1.1529
GBP/USD	1.2929
GBP/CAD	1.7393
GBP/NZD	1.9529
GBP/JPY	144.57
GBP/SEK	12.1145
GBP/DKK	8.6086
GBP/NOK	11.0829
GBP/CHF	1.3187
GBP/AUD	1.8381
GBP/CHF	1.3187

Dollar				
USD/JPY	111.82			
USD/CAD	1.3451			
USD/CHF	1.0199			
USD/CNY	6.7212			
USD/BRL	3.9196			
USD/RUB	63.7618			
USD/INR	69.879			
AUD/USD	0.7032			
NZD/USD	0.6619			

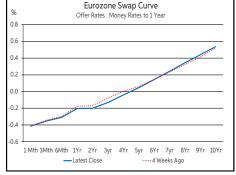












	Debt Markets					
			Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 18		
10 Year Yield %						
US	2.57	-2	+14	-12		
Germany	0.04	+2	+6	-20		
UK	1.22	+3	+22	-5		
Ireland	0.55	+4	-2	N/A		
Belgium	0.49	+3	+4	-27		
France	0.38	+2	+3	-32		
Italy	2.67	+7	+22	-5		
Spain	1.11	+5	+3	-31		
Portugal	1.19	+4	-10	-52		
Greece	3.29	+2	-45	-100		
US Eurozone UK	2.36 0.05 1.24	-4 -1 +1	+13 -1 +17	-20 -19 -8		
2 Year Swap %						
US	2.41	-4	+6	-23		
Eurozone	-0.20	-2	-3	-6		
UK	1.07	+1	+10	-10		
10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps			
Ireland	51	+2	-8	N/A		
Belgium	45	+2	-2	-7		
France	35	+1	-2	-12		
Italy	263	+6	+16	+15		
Spain	107	+3	-3	-11		
Portugal	115	+3	-16	-32		
Greece	326	+0	-51	-81		

Commodities				
_	% Change			
_	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 18
Brent Oil	74.51	+0.63	+9.62	+38.49
West Texas Oil	66.24	+0.88	+10.64	+46.71
CRB - All Commodity	187.58	-0.18	+1.27	+10.47
CRB - Food	342.37	-2.39	-0.93	+5.59
Gold \$	1272.7	-0.20	-3.27	-0.80

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