Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Monday 10 August 2020 07:31 am

Better than expected data aid the dollar

The moves on currency markets last week were relatively limited, with the main pairs generally confined to narrow trading ranges. Although, the dollar did move higher at the end of the week. The greenback was supported by better than expected data. On Friday, non-farm payrolls came in at 1.7m (f'cast +1.5m), while the unemployment rate edged down to 10.2% (f'cast 10.5%).

Meanwhile, sterling experienced some support following the conclusion of the BoE meeting which saw the central bank revise up its macro projections by more than had been anticipated. However, the currency failed to hold onto most of these gains.

In level terms, the firmer dollar tone is reflected in EUR/USD opening this morning back below the \$1.18 level. At the same time, cable (GBP/USD) is operating back down at the midpoint of \$1.30-1.31. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP is changing hands within the 90-91p range, having at times tested below the lower end of this band.

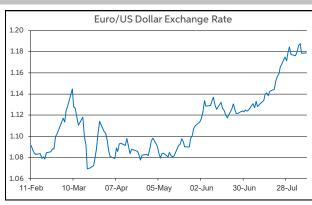
This week, there is a raft of UK data due for Q2, including the first estimate of GDP and the labour market bulletin. Of particular interest will be the June GDP figure as lockdown restrictions were eased considerably in the month. However, sterling impact may be relatively limited in the absence of a major surprise.

In the US, updates on how the economy has been progressing through July will be provided by the retail sales and industrial output reports. Despite the re-imposition of Covid restrictions, data have continued to print ahead of expectations. If this continues, it could provide some support to the dollar. Meanwhile, there is little out to be of influence to the euro, with Q2 employment figures and industrial output for July the highlights.

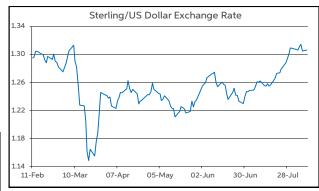
Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.1784	-0.41	5.12	
EUR/GBP	0.9024	0.02	6.74	
GBP/USD	1.3055	-0.45	-1.54	
GBP/EUR	1.1076	-0.02	-6.32	
USD/JPY	105.78	0.22	-2.61	
EUR/JPY	124.65	-0.22	2.31	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

	Opening Interest Rates					
		Money	Market		Swap Rates	5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.16	0.25	0.21	0.23	0.31
EUR	0.00	-0.51	-0.48	-0.42	-0.42	-0.38
GBP	0.10	0.06	0.07	0.12	0.12	0.19









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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Opening Levels

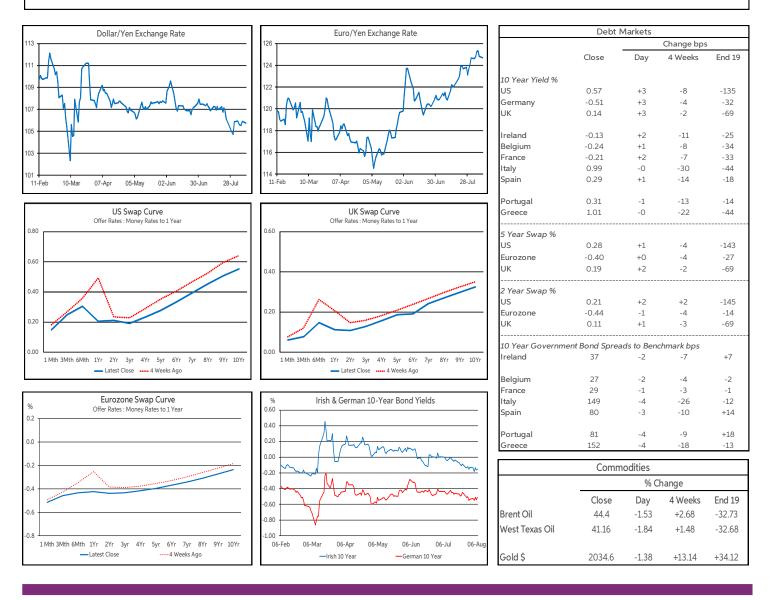
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Euro	D
EUR/GBP	0.9024
EUR/USD	1.1784
EUR/JPY	124.65
EUR/SEK	10.3081
EUR/DKK	7.4487
EUR/NOK	10.6411
EUR/CHF	1.0765
EUR/AUD	1.6456
EUR/HKD	9.1322
EUR/CAD	1.5765

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1076	
GBP/USD	1.3055	
GBP/CAD	1.7466	
GBP/NZD	1.9774	
GBP/JPY	138.1	
GBP/SEK	11.4167	
GBP/DKK	8.2518	
GBP/NOK	11.7892	
GBP/CHF	1.1927	
GBP/AUD	1.8227	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	105.78			
USD/CAD	1.3377			
USD/CHF	0.9134			
USD/CNY	6.9659			
USD/BRL	5.4384			
USD/RUB	73.5256			
USD/INR	74.88			
AUD/USD	0.716			
NZD/USD	0.6599			



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