# **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 04 August 2020 07:24 am

### All quiet on FX markets

There was a muted start to the week on currency markets yesterday. The main pairs were largely confined to narrow trading ranges. As a result, the dollar held onto the ground it had regained on Friday, having come under heavy pressure last week.

In level terms, this is reflected in EUR/USD opening this morning back below the \$1.18 threshold, having tested \$1.19 early on Friday. At the same time, cable (GBP/USD) has moved back under the \$1.31 level. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP continues to range trade and is changing hands at the 90p handle.

More generally, over the past 24 hours investors have been in an upbeat mood. Positive corporate earnings reports more than offset concerns over new Covid infections. European equities made some good gains, with the Euro Stoxx 50 rising by 2.3%. In the US, the S&P 500 increased by a more modest 0.7%.

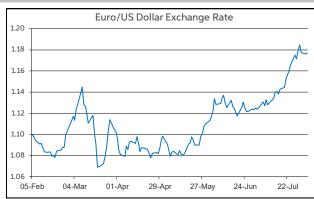
Data-wise, the US manufacturing ISM for July was the only release of any note yesterday. It rose to 54.2 from 52.6, which was slightly above expectations (53.6). The index was boosted by a significant increase in both new orders and output. However, it was concerning that the employment subcomponent remained well below the key 50 threshold.

Turning to the day ahead, there is once again a very sparse look to the macro release schedule. Indeed, there are no data prints due of any note. As a result, barring any moves in the main pairs linked to shifts in investor sentiment, we could be in for a muted session on FX markets. Investors will continue to keep a close eye on US-China tensions, incoming Covid-19 newsflow and the efforts to pass a fresh stimulus package in the US Senate.

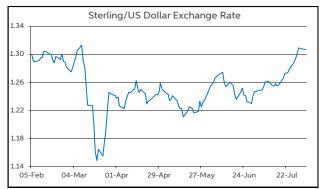
#### Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.1769	-0.04	4.99	
EUR/GBP	0.9002	0.09	6.48	
GBP/USD	1.3075	-0.12	-1.39	
GBP/EUR	1.1106	-0.09	-6.09	
USD/JPY	106.06	0.23	-2.35	
EUR/JPY	124.84	0.19	2.47	
* 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	0.125	0.16	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.27
EUR	0.00	-0.51	-0.46	-0.43	-0.42	-0.39
GBP	0.10	0.06	0.08	0.12	0.11	0.16









#### All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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## **Opening Levels**

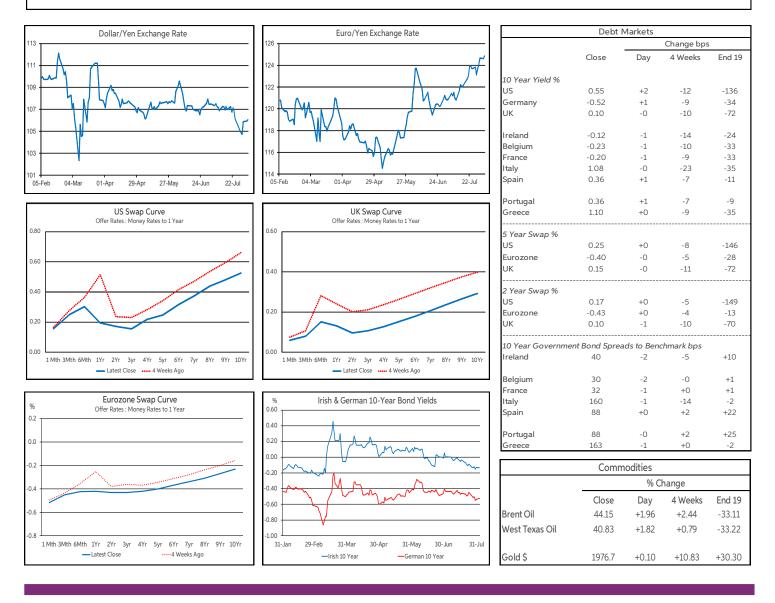
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Eur	0
EUR/GBP	0.9002
EUR/USD	1.1769
EUR/JPY	124.84
EUR/SEK	10.2868
EUR/DKK	7.4451
EUR/NOK	10.7347
EUR/CHF	1.08
EUR/AUD	1.6509
EUR/HKD	9.1208
EUR/CAD	1.5744

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1106	
GBP/USD	1.3075	
GBP/CAD	1.7491	
GBP/NZD	1.9758	
GBP/JPY	138.67	
GBP/SEK	11.4212	
GBP/DKK	8.2691	
GBP/NOK	11.9187	
GBP/CHF	1.1993	
GBP/AUD	1.8338	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	106.06			
USD/CAD	1.3378			
USD/CHF	0.9173			
USD/CNY	6.9804			
USD/BRL	5.3202			
USD/RUB	73.0238			
USD/INR	75.075			
AUD/USD	0.7129			
NZD/USD	0.6614			



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