Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 02 December 2020 07:20 am

EUR/USD above \$1.20 level

The start of December saw a generally optimistic mood on markets yesterday. Sentiment was aided by better than expected macro data out of China as well as positive reports on the timing of the rollout of a Covid-19 vaccine. This 'risk on' mood was evident in all the main equity indices registering gains on the day. At the close on Wall Street last night, the S&P 500 was up 1.1%.

On the currency front, the euro has started the month with some momentum. At the same time, the dollar has been somewhat softer. In a notable move, the EUR/USD pair has moved above the \$1.20 mark, trading as high as \$1.208, its highest level since H1'2018. There was no specific catalyst for this in terms of Eurozone news. The data calendar was largely uneventful. The final reading of the manufacturing PMI (Nov) saw a slight upward revision, while Eurozone inflation (Nov) printed weaker than expected at -0.3%. For the dollar, the manufacturing ISM (Nov) came in modestly below forecasts, but remained at a solid level. Meanwhile, Fed Chair Powell's semi-annual testimony to Congress did not provide any surprises.

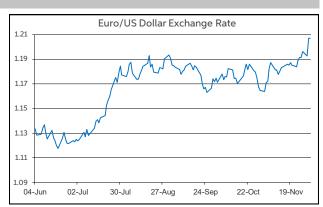
For sterling, reports yesterday that the EU-UK trade talks may be entering the "tunnel" stage of negotiations gave a temporary boost to the currency. The move was not sustained, though, with the euro rising above the 90p level in early trading today ahead of a briefing from Michel Barnier this morning. He is expected to report that a deal still hangs in the balance.

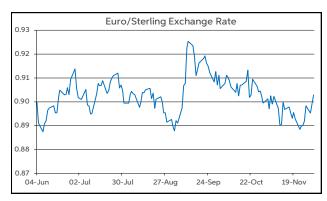
Today's macro calendar is very sparse. Therefore, barring any major Brexit developments, the focus from an FX perspective may centre on EUR/USD and whether it can hold its ground above the \$1.20 threshold.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

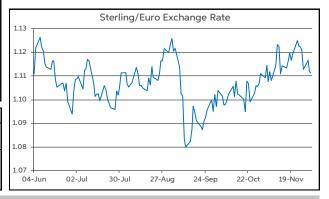
Today's Opening FX Rates						
		% Change				
		Day * End 2019				
EUR/USD	1.2059	0.87	7.57			
EUR/GBP	0.9023	0.89	6.73			
GBP/USD	1.3362	-0.03	0.78			
GBP/EUR	1.1077	-0.89	-6.31			
USD/JPY	104.57	0.19	-3.72			
EUR/JPY	126.12	1.07	3.52			
* v Previous Day's European Open						

Opening Interest Rates						
	Money Market Swap Rates					5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.15	0.23	0.21	0.26	0.47
EUR	0.00	-0.55	-0.53	-0.51	-0.50	-0.43
GBP	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.10	0.28









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page for More Rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan	FX Options	Mark Tuite	Reuters Phone	AIBG.I 00353-1-7724018	Morning Comment	John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie
		Equity Options	Gary Luff				

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Opening Levels



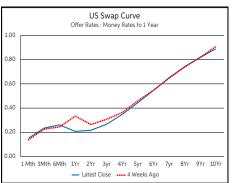
Eur	0
EUR/GBP	0.9022
EUR/USD	1.206
EUR/JPY	126.12
EUR/SEK	10.2641
EUR/DKK	7.4441
EUR/NOK	10.6444
EUR/CHF	1.0855
EUR/AUD	1.6354
EUR/HKD	9.3472
EUR/CAD	1.5605

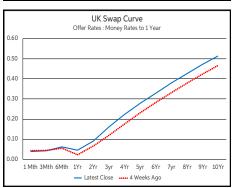
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1078			
GBP/USD	1.3362			
GBP/CAD	1.7291			
GBP/NZD	1.891			
GBP/JPY	139.74			
GBP/SEK	11.3742			
GBP/DKK	8.2478			
GBP/NOK	11.7963			
GBP/CHF	1.2026			
GBP/AUD	1.8116			

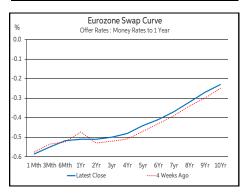
Dollar				
USD/JPY	104.57			
USD/CAD	1.2939			
USD/CHF	0.8999			
USD/CNY	6.5663			
USD/BRL	5.2061			
USD/RUB	75.65			
USD/INR	73.709			
AUD/USD	0.7373			
NZD/USD	0.7064			

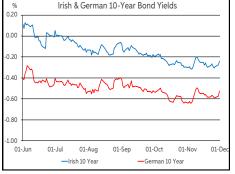












	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 19	
10 Year Yield %					
US	0.93	+9	+3	-99	
Germany	-0.52	+5	+10	-34	
UK	0.35	+5	+8	-47	
Ireland	-0.22	+4	+3	-34	
Belgium	-0.33	+4	+6	-42	
France	-0.28	+4	+6	-41	
Italy	0.64	+6	-6	-79	
Spain	0.12	+4	+1	-35	
Portugal	0.08	+5	-1	-37	
Greece	0.66	+2	-25	-80	
5 Year Swap %					
US	0.44	+4	+1	-127	
Eurozone	-0.44	+2	+4	-32	
UK	0.28	+2	+5	-60	
2 Year Swap %					
US	0.21	+1	-1	-145	
Eurozone	-0.51	+1	+3	-21	
UK	0.09	+1	+3	-71	
10 Year Governn	nent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps		
Ireland	31	-1	-7	+0	
Belgium	20	-O	-4	-9	
France	24	-1	-4	-7	
Italy	117	+1	-15	-45	
Spain	65	-1	-9	-1	
Portugal	61	+0	-10	-3	
Greece	118	-3	-35	-46	

Commodities						
	% Change					
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 19					
Brent Oil	47.42	-0.36	+19.42	-28.15		
West Texas Oil	44.54	-1.46	+18.96	-27.15		
Gold \$	1814.9	+2.13	-4.90	+19.63		

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