Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 02 February 2018 07:29 am

US payrolls in focus

There was a mixed tone to financial market sentiment yesterday. This was reflected in the main equity indices. The Euro Stoxx 50 closed down 0.9% on the day, prompted by some disappointing corporate updates. However, at the close in the US, the S&P 500 was broadly unchanged.

On the currency front, the modest dollar support seen following Wednesday evening's US Fed meeting proved to be short lived. The currency resumed its downward trend yesterday, falling against a basket of other majors.

Data-wise, disappointing US productivity figures (-0.1% in Q4 vs f'cast +1%), a metric closely followed by the Fed may have been unhelpful to the dollar yesterday. Elsewhere, light data/events schedules in the Eurozone and UK meant that there was little to provide direction for the euro or sterling.

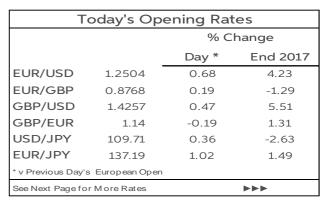
In level terms, the softer tone to the dollar saw the EUR/USD pair move back up to the \$1.25 mark. Cable (GBP/USD) also moved higher from below \$1.42, to open this morning at \$1.426. Meantime, the EUR/GBP pair spent the day confined to the 87-88p range.

In the day ahead, the focus for markets will be firmly on the key US release of the month, the January employment report. Non-farm payrolls are expected to have recorded a strong 180k rise in the month. At the same time, the unemployment rate looks set to have remained at just 4.1%, while earnings growth is seen edging up slightly. Overall though, barring nay major surprises, dollar reaction to the data could be limited.

Dara Turnbull, Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates							
			Short Term	Long Term			
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr		
USD	1.375	1.58	1.79	2.29	2.38	2.64	
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.19	-0.12	0.48	
GBP	0.50	0.50	0.52	0.81	0.96	1.36	

Equity Indices						
		% Changes				
	Latest Close	on Day End 2017 to Date				
Dow Jones	26186.71	+0.14	+5.94			
S&P 500	2821.98	-0.06	+5.55			
FTSE 100	7490.39	-0.57	-2.57			
DJ Stoxx 50	3577.35	-0.88	+2.09			
ISEQ	6946.32	-0.22	-1.31			
Nikkei	23274.53	-0.90	+2.24			









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



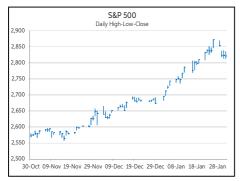
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8769
EUR/USD	1.2504
EUR/JPY	137.19
EUR/SEK	9.8213
EUR/DKK	7.4427
EUR/NOK	9.5673
EUR/CHF	1.1588
EUR/AUD	1.5611
EUR/HKD	9.7766
EUR/CAD	1.5354

Sterling					
GBP/EUR	1.1399				
GBP/USD	1.4257				
GBP/CAD	1.7506				
GBP/NZD	1.9337				
GBP/JPY	156.43				
GBP/SEK	11.1997				
GBP/DKK	8.4859				
GBP/NOK	10.9093				
GBP/CHF	1.321				
GBP/AUD	1.7796				

Dollar					
USD/JPY	109.72				
USD/CAD	1.2278				
USD/CHF	0.9266				
USD/CNY	6.276				
USD/BRL	3.1668				
USD/RUB	56.0206				
USD/INR	63.9225				
AUD/USD	0.8009				
NZD/USD	0.737				













	Debt	Markets				
		Change bps				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17		
10 Year Yield %						
US	2.78	+7	+33	+37		
Germany	0.71	+2	+28	+29		
UK	1.52	+3	+29	+34		
Ireland	1.14	+1	N/A	N/A		
Belgium	0.85	+1	+21	+23		
France	0.96	+0	+18	+19		
Italy	1.95	-7	-6	-5		
Spain	1.41	+0	-12	-13		
Portugal	1.93	-2	+3	+3		
Greece	3.65	-2	-14	-39		
5 Year Swap %						
US	2.63	+3	+32	+39		
Eurozone	0.47	-1	+16	+15		
UK	1.34	+1	+29	+31		
2 Year Swap %						
US	2.31	-4	+18	+23		
Eurozone	-0.14	-3	-1	+0		
UK	0.95	-1	+16	+15		
10 Year Governmen	nt Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps			
Ireland	43	-0	N/A	N/A		
Belgium	14	-O	-7	-5		
France	26	-2	-10	-10		
Italy	124	-9	-33	-33		
Spain	71	-2	-39	-42		
Portugal	122	-4	-25	-25		
Greece	295	-4	-41	-68		

Commodities						
_	% Change					
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 17					
Brent Oil	69.65	+0.87	+2.32	+4.16		
West Texas Oil	65.92	+1.70	+6.36	+9.03		
CRB - All Commodity	198.35	+0.49	+1.53	+2.31		
CRB - Food	346.23	+0.16	+1.41	+3.03		
Gold \$	1349.6	+0.30	+2.01	+3.60		

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