Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Thursday 02 July 2020 07:21 am

US Payrolls under the market spotlight

Sterling started the second half, of what has already been an eventual year for the currency, on the front foot yesterday. It held onto its upward momentum from the previous day. Indeed, the main sterling pairs are now back at the levels they were at prior to Monday's sell-off.

Meanwhile, the dollar found itself under some mild downward pressure. In terms of relevant newsflow, the Fed meeting minutes for June showed that the central bank is moving towards enhancing its forward guidance on monetary policy.

The firmer tone to sterling is reflected in EUR/GBP opening this morning down near to the 90p threshold. At the same time, the combination of a strengthening sterling and a softening dollar sees GBP/USD changing hands up close to the \$1.25 mark. Meanwhile, EUR/USD has edged back up above the midpoint of the \$1.12-1.13 trading band.

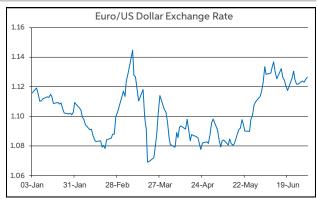
Elsewhere on markets, investor sentiment started the third quarter in a generally cautious mood. Most of the main equity indices were trading sideways for much of the day. At the close last night on Wall Street, the S&P 500 managed to register a 0.5% gain.

Ahead today, with the US on its Independence Day market holiday tomorrow, we get a raft of June labour market data that normally gets released on a Friday. This includes the non-farm payroll number. In May, payrolls surprised strongly to the upside of expectations (+2.5m vs. f'cast for -8m). The market consensus is for a 3m gain last month. From an FX perspective, unless there is another significant surprise to the jobs number, its impact on the dollar may be relatively limited.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.1266	0.45	0.50	
EUR/GBP	0.9015	-0.66	6.64	
GBP/USD	1.2498	1.12	-5.74	
GBP/EUR	1.109	0.67	-6.22	
USD/JPY	107.47	-0.16	-1.05	
EUR/JPY	121.09	0.28	-0.61	
* 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	0.17	0.30	0.25	0.25	0.35
EUR	0.00	-0.51	-0.42	-0.35	-0.36	-0.32
GBP	0.10	0.08	0.15	0.23	0.20	0.26









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Equity Options Gary Luff

Opening Levels

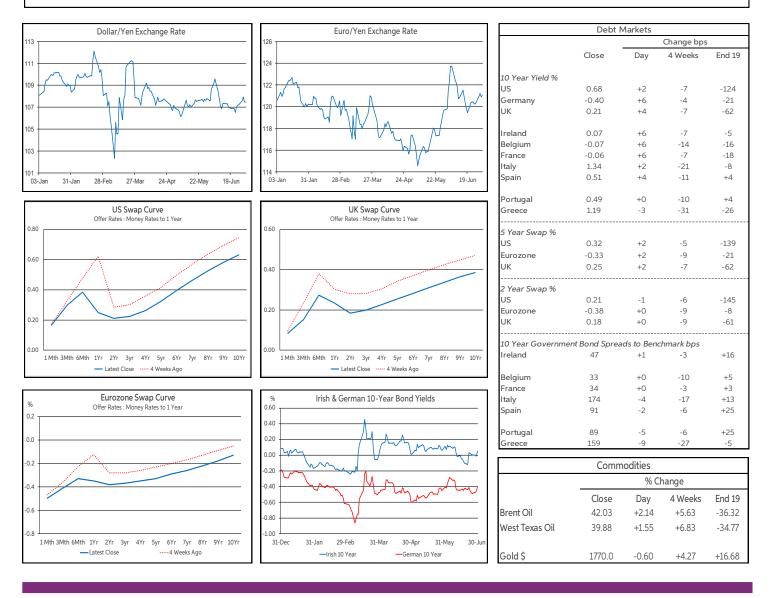
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Euro				
EUR/GBP	0.9015			
EUR/USD	1.1266			
EUR/JPY	121.09			
EUR/SEK	10.4648			
EUR/DKK	7.4514			
EUR/NOK	10.6805			
EUR/CHF	1.0655			
EUR/AUD	1.6261			
EUR/HKD	8.7305			
EUR/CAD	1.5323			

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.109	
GBP/USD	1.2498	
GBP/CAD	1.699	
GBP/NZD	1.9217	
GBP/JPY	134.32	
GBP/SEK	11.6023	
GBP/DKK	8.264	
GBP/NOK	11.8412	
GBP/CHF	1.1818	
GBP/AUD	1.8036	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	107.47			
USD/CAD	1.3599			
USD/CHF	0.9456			
USD/CNY	7.0649			
USD/BRL	5.3172			
USD/RUB	70.6002			
USD/INR	75.48			
AUD/USD	0.6929			
NZD/USD	0.6502			



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