Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Wednesday 30 September 2020 07:25 am

Euro regains some lost ground

There was a cautious mood on markets yesterday, as the main equity indices traded somewhat lower. Elsewhere, oil prices dipped, down over 3%. On currency markets, the euro regained some lost ground against the main pairs. Safe haven currencies, such as the dollar and yen gained some support overnight.

Brexit talks resumed yesterday, in the hope that sufficient progress can be made to allow both sides to enter the intense "tunnel" phase of negotiations before long. In the US, the Presidential debate took place last night, with both candidates clashing throughout a fractious encounter. However, the debate had little impact on the greenback.

Data-wise vesterday, the headline EC economic sentiment index beat expectations, although the index remains at a subdued level. In the US, consumer confidence jumped to 101.8 from 86.3, well above the consensus of 89.5. The jump was the biggest in 17 years, although, the index remains well below it pre-Covid level.

In level terms, the firmer euro tone saw EUR/USD move back above the \$1.17 handle. It is currently trading just below the midpoint of \$1.17-1.18. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP is changing hands above the 91p mark. Cable (GBP/USD) opens below the midpoint of the \$1.28-1.29 band.

Turning to the day ahead, and a slew of national data are due from Germany, France and Italy. Inflation in France and Italy is forecast to remain very weak, while German retail sales for August and employment data for September will also be closely monitored. However, currency market moves are likely to remain largely driven by political and Covid related developments. Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

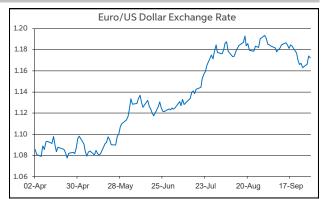
Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.1724	0.42	4.59	
EUR/GBP	0.9141	0.68	8.13	
GBP/USD	1.2824	-0.25	-3.28	
GBP/EUR	1.0936	-0.68	-7.52	
USD/JPY	105.45	-0.09	-2.91	
EUR/JPY	123.63	0.32	1.48	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

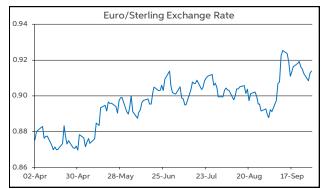
	Opening Interest Rates					
		Money	Market		Swap Rates	5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.15	0.22	0.20	0.23	0.34
EUR	0.00	-0.52	-0.49	-0.49	-0.49	-0.43
GBP	0.10	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.17

All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels

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0.9139
1.1723
123.62
10.5456
7.4461
11.096
1.0798
1.6503
9.0846
1.5724

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.0936	
GBP/USD	1.2824	
GBP/CAD	1.7209	
GBP/NZD	1.95	
GBP/JPY	135.2	
GBP/SEK	11.5326	
GBP/DKK	8.1438	
GBP/NOK	12.1349	
GBP/CHF	1.1803	
GBP/AUD	1.8052	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	105.43			
USD/CAD	1.3417			
USD/CHF	0.9211			
USD/CNY	6.8153			
USD/BRL	5.6319			
USD/RUB	79.2417			
USD/INR	73.8			
AUD/USD	0.7103			
NZD/USD	0.6574			



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