Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 15 April 2024 07:22 am

Dollar juiced up

There was some notable moves on currency and futures markets last week. The dollar strengthened, the euro was softer, while there was a pairing back of rate cut expectations. The initial catalyst was US CPI inflation for March printing to the upside of expectations. This prompted the market to reassess its outlook for US rate cuts, pushing yields higher and boosting the dollar. US futures contracts moved from attaching a 50% probability to a June rate cut to just 25%. Year end rate cut expectations went from around 60bps to c.45bps. This updated rate view was reinforced by hawkish comments from a raft of Fed officials. Elsewhere, some hawkish BoE remarks saw a hardening in UK rate expectations. The market adjusted to pricing in c. 55bps of BoE rate cuts by year end.

Meanwhile, the ECB meeting for April hinted strongly at a June rate cut. However, this did not prompt much of a reaction in terms of Eurozone rate expectations. By Friday, the market was pricing in around 85bps of rate cuts for this year, which was broadly similar to where it was at the start of the week. The euro did experience some post-ECB downward momentum though. Meanwhile, the dollar got additional support heading into the weekend on safe haven demand related to geopolitical risks in the Middle East.

In level terms, EUR/USD fell to a new YTD low below \$1.07. The firmer dollar was also evident in GBP/USD below \$1.25 (also a new YTD low) and USD/JPY above ¥153. EUR/GBP edged lower, but remained within 85-86p. This week, given weekend events, the situation in the Middle East will be in focus for markets and could be a key driver of market sentiment. Data-wise, there is a busy UK diary, including CPI, retail sales (Mar) and a batch of labour market metrics (Feb). In the US, the highlights are retail sales and industrial production (Mar). Output data (Feb) also feature in the Eurozone. **John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB**

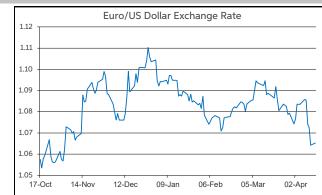
Today's Opening FX Rates			
	% Change		hange
		Day *	End 2023
EUR/USD	1.0653	-0.52	-3.47
EUR/GBP	0.8545	0.02	-1.42
GBP/USD	1.2466	-0.56	-2.07
GBP/EUR	1.17	-0.02	1.44
USD/JPY	153.82	0.39	9.05
EUR/JPY	163.91	-0.13	5.32
* v Previous Day's Eu	ıropean Open		
See Next Page for M	1ore Rates		

	Opening Interest Rates					
		Money	Market		Swap Rates	5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	5.38	5.43	5.59	5.46	5.13	4.63
EUR	4.50	3.84	3.92	3.60	3.21	2.76
GBP	5.25	5.18	5.16	4.95	4.85	4.30

All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot	Karl Cooke
	Shane Gargan

FX Options Mark Tuite









See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

Reuters AIBG.I Phone 00353-1-7724018

Morning Comment John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie

Opening Levels

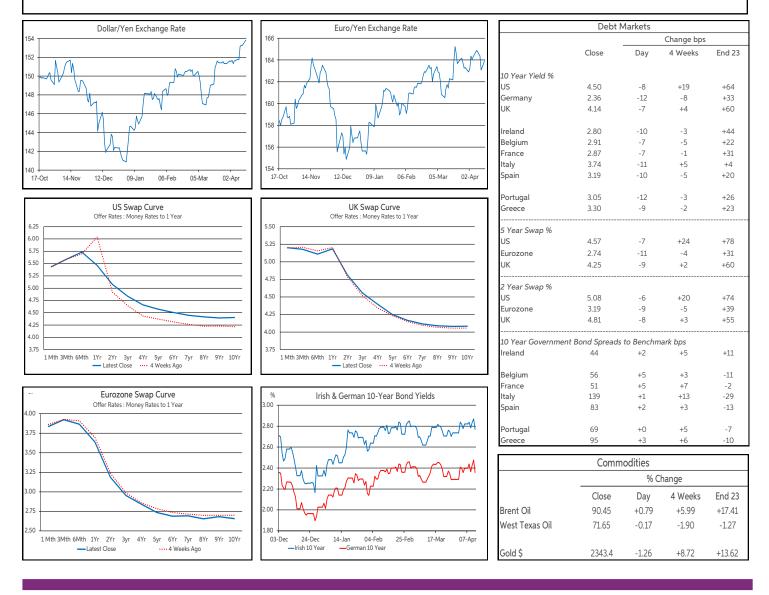
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Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8545
EUR/USD	1.0653
EUR/JPY	163.91
EUR/SEK	11.5709
EUR/DKK	7.4608
EUR/NOK	11.6036
EUR/CHF	0.9731
EUR/AUD	1.6421
EUR/HKD	8.3448
EUR/CAD	1.4653

Sterling	
GBP/EUR	1.17
GBP/USD	1.2466
GBP/CAD	1.7143
GBP/NZD	2.0962
GBP/JPY	191.75
GBP/SEK	13.5341
GBP/DKK	8.7287
GBP/NOK	13.5796
GBP/CHF	1.1386
GBP/AUD	1.9217

Dollar		
USD/JPY	153.82	
USD/CAD	1.3748	
USD/CHF	0.9131	
USD/CNY	7.2386	
USD/BRL	5.1165	
USD/RUB	93.53	
USD/INR	83.439	
AUD/USD	0.6485	
NZD/USD	0.5945	



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