Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Wednesday 17 April 2024 07:41 am

EUR/USD in the lower half of \$1.06-1.07

Investor sentiment remained subdued yesterday. In a similar pattern to the day prior, heightened geopolitical tensions, further strong US data and hawkish Fed rhetoric provided a difficult backdrop for risk appetite. The Euro Stoxx 50 declined by 1.4%, following some disappointing Q1 earnings data. Meantime on Wall Street, the S&P 500 fell by 0.2%. Elsewhere, Brent crude edged slightly lower, but stayed in and around \$90 per barrel.

Data-wise, US industrial production were in-line with expectations, rising by 0.4% in March. February's reading was revised higher also, and manufacturing output increased by 0.5%, more than the 0.3% forecast. On the monetary policy front, Fed Chair Powell struck a hawkish tone yesterday. He stated that it was "likely to take longer than expected" to lower rates, given the lack of further progress on inflation. In contrast, ECB President Lagarde indicated the ECB will cut rates soon, barring any major surprises.

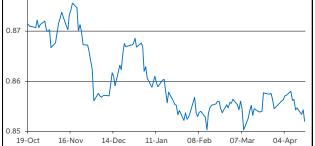
Having initially handed back some of its recent gains yesterday, the dollar retook the ascendancy following the hawkish Fed comments. In level terms, EUR/USD opens this morning in the bottom half of \$1.06-1.07 (having reached a new YTD low of \$1.0601 yesterday). GBP/USD is in the top half of the \$1.24-1.25 trading band. Meanwhile, USD/JPY is at the midpoint of the ¥154-155 corridor. EUR/GBP remains in the 85-86p range.

Already this morning, UK CPI data for March have been released. Both the headline and core rates moved lower, but printed above the consensus at 3.2% (vs. 3.1% f'cast) and 4.2% (vs. 4.1% f'cast). UK futures contracts have hardened slightly and sterling has firmed somewhat in the initial aftermath of the release. Later today the final reading of Eurozone HICP inflation fro March is due. Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% C	% Change		
		Day *	End 2023		
EUR/USD	1.0623	0.10	-3.74		
EUR/GBP	0.852	-0.19	-1.71		
GBP/USD	1.2463	0.24	-2.09		
GBP/EUR	1.1728	0.19	1.74		
USD/JPY	154.53	0.18	9.55		
EUR/JPY	164.19	0.27	5.50		
* v Previous Day's Eu	Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates					

		Openin	g 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	5.49	5.21	4.74
EUR	4.50	3.85	3.89	3.68	3.32	2.91
GBP	5.25	5.19	5.20	5.09	5.01	4.44

Euro/US Dollar Exchange Rate 1 12 1.11 1.10 1.09 1 08 1.07 1.06 1.05 07-Mai 19-Oct 16-Nov 14-Dec 11-Jan 08-Feb 04-Api Euro/Sterling Exchange Rate 0.88







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan

FX Options Mark Tuite

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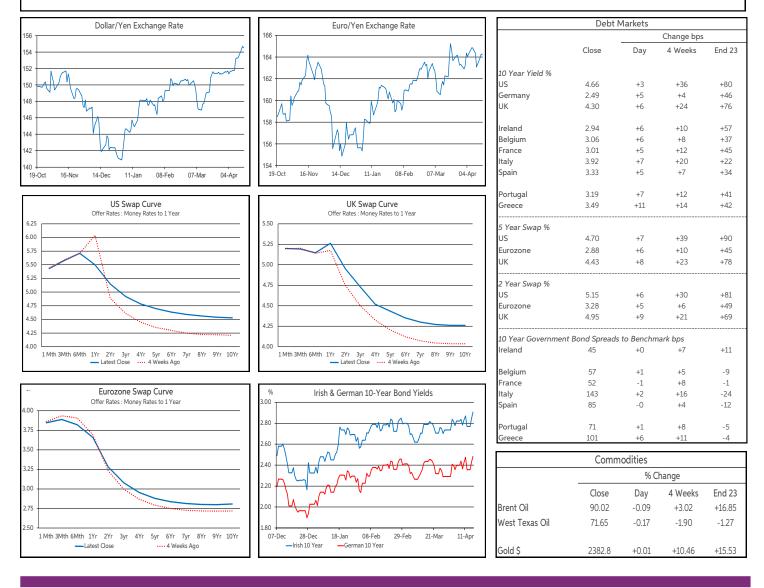
Opening Levels

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Euro		Sterli	Sterling	
EUR/GBP	0.852	GBP/EUR	1.1728	
EUR/USD	1.0623	GBP/USD	1.2463	
EUR/JPY	164.19	GBP/CAD	1.7228	
EUR/SEK	11.6272	GBP/NZD	2.1104	
EUR/DKK	7.4609	GBP/JPY	192.59	
EUR/NOK	11.6608	GBP/SEK	13.6396	
EUR/CHF	0.9688	GBP/DKK	8.752	
EUR/AUD	1.6543	GBP/NOK	13.675	
EUR/HKD	8.3179	GBP/CHF	1.137	
EUR/CAD	1.4682	GBP/AUD	1.9415	

Dollar	
USD/JPY	154.53
USD/CAD	1.3821
USD/CHF	0.9121
USD/CNY	7.2395
USD/BRL	5.2864
USD/RUB	94.395
USD/INR	83.653
AUD/USD	0.6419
NZD/USD	0.5904



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