Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 20 August 2025 07:11 am

Euro marginally softer

It was another quiet day in terms of macro newsflow yesterday. The Eurozone and UK data diaries offered no releases of any note. In the US, the main data highlight was housing starts for July. The headline number provided an upside surprise relative to expectations. However, given the lower tier nature of the data, it was not surprising that it did not generate any market reaction. From an investor sentiment perspective, there was a mixed tone to proceedings. The Euro Stoxx 50 finished 0.9% higher on the day. The mood on Wall Street was more cautious. At the closing bell last night, the S&P 500 was down 0.6%.

On the currency front, as expected, the main pairs were confined to narrow ranges yesterday amid the dearth of market moving data releases. This muted action has generally persisted in overnight trading on Asia-Pacific markets.

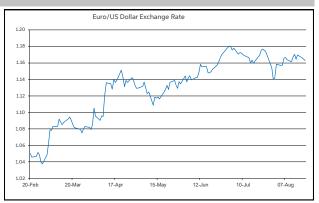
As a result, most of the majors start this morning's European session showing only minimal changes over the past 24 hours. In level terms, the euro is marginally softer compared to yesterday's open. EUR/USD has edged down below the midpoint of \$1.16-1.17, while EUR/GBP is operating nearer to the 86p threshold. Meantime, GBP/USD is just below the \$1.35 handle. Elsewhere, the yen has made some gains on the exchanges.

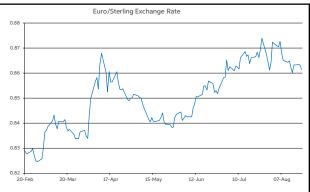
Today's macro diary is more eventful. Indeed, already this morning we have had the 7am release of UK CPI inflation data for July. Headline and core inflation printed slightly higher than forecast. Both registered a reading of 3.8% (versus forecasts for 3.7%). This evening (after European close) we get the Fed meeting minutes for July. However, these minutes are somewhat 'dated' at this stage given the weak payroll data that were published since the meeting. Instead, the market's focus from a US monetary policy viewpoint will be on Fed Chair Powell's Jackson Hole speech on Friday.

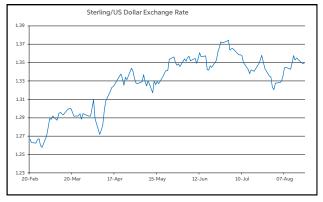
John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

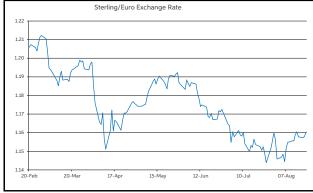
Today's Opening FX Rates						
		% Change				
		Day *	End 2024			
EUR/USD	1.1626	-0.29	12.30			
EUR/GBP	0.8614	-0.21	4.12			
GBP/USD	1.3491	-0.09	7.83			
GBP/EUR	1.1601	0.21	-3.96			
USD/JPY	147.31	-0.30	-6.28			
EUR/JPY	171.28	-0.59	5.24			
* v Previous Day's European Open						
See Next Page for More Rates						

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market				5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	4.38	4.33	4.19	3.82	3.80	3.76
EUR	2.00	1.92	2.03	2.08	2.10	2.36
GBP	4.00	3.96	3.96	3.84	3.99	4.08









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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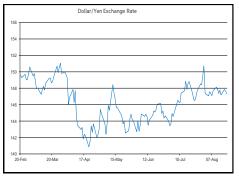
Opening Levels



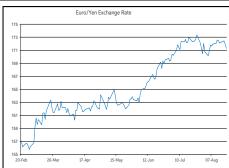
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8614
EUR/USD	1.1626
EUR/JPY	171.28
EUR/SEK	11.1775
EUR/DKK	7.4645
EUR/NOK	11.9632
EUR/CHF	0.9403
EUR/AUD	1.8049
EUR/HKD	9.0756
EUR/CAD	1.6128

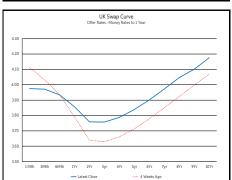
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1601			
GBP/USD	1.3491			
GBP/CAD	1.8711			
GBP/NZD	2.3139			
GBP/JPY	198.72			
GBP/SEK	12.9699			
GBP/DKK	8.6628			
GBP/NOK	13.8819			
GBP/CHF	1.0914			
GBP/AUD	2.0936			

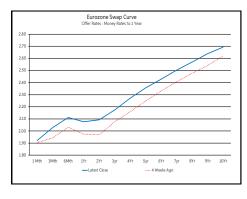
Dollar				
USD/JPY	147.31			
USD/CAD	1.3871			
USD/CHF	0.8087			
USD/CNY	7.1836			
USD/BRL	5.499			
USD/RUB	80.35			
USD/INR	87.083			
AUD/USD	0.6441			
NZD/USD	0.5826			

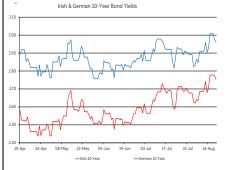


US Swap Curve









	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.30	-4	-3	-28	
Germany	2.75	-2	+17	+39	
UK	4.75	+0	+17	+17	
Ireland	3.00	-2	+14	+35	
Belgium	3.28	-1	+15	+30	
France	3.44	-1	+18	+25	
Italy	3.58	-1	+12	+6	
Spain	3.33	-O	+12	+26	
Portugal	3.16	-1	+12	+31	
Greece	3.44	-1	+13	+19	
5 Year Swap %					
US	3.71	-2	-6	-58	
Eurozone	2.35	-0	+11	+12	
UK	4.08	+2	+13	-20	
 2 Year Swap %					
US	3.76	-2	-8	-58	
Eurozone	2.09	-1	+12	-10	
UK	3.99	+3	+12	-50	
10 Year Governme	nt Bond Spread	ds to Benchi	mark bps		
Ireland	25	+1	-2	-4	
Belgium	53	+1	-2	-9	
France	69	+1	+1	-14	
Italy	83	+2	-4	-33	
Spain	57	+2	-4	-13	
Portugal	40	+1	-5	-8	
Greece	68	+1	-4	-20	

Commodities								
		% Change						
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 24						
Brent Oil	65.79	-1.22	-4.08	-11.86				
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27				
Gold \$	3315.2	-0.45	-3.38	+26.35				

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