Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 22 December 2025 07:50 am

Limited macro calendar this week

There was a jam-packed macro calendar throughout last week. Most notably, a raft of key central bank meetings took place. The ECB kept policy on hold, the BoE cut rates by 25bps in a close vote, and the BoJ hiked rates by 25bps to 0.75%, their highest level in over 30 years. All three decisions were in-line with market expectations.

Meanwhile, on the data front, the US labour market report for November was mixed. The unemployment rate rose to 4.6% but payrolls growth (+64k) was stronger than anticipated. Elsewhere, US CPI inflation dropped sharply to 2.6% in November but the survey appears to have been impacted by the Government shutdown. UK CPI inflation also fell markedly in November to 3.2%, while headline inflation in the Eurozone was revised lower, to 2.1% from 2.2%.

Against this backdrop, UK interest rate futures contracts firmed somewhat. Futures contracts indicate that the market is not fully pricing in another UK rate cut until June, and a total of just 35bps of policy easing is expected next year. In contrast, US futures contracts softened marginally last week. Markets now see around a 90% chance of a rate cut in April. Around 60bps of rate cuts are expected next year. In the Eurozone, the market is of the view that interest rates will stay at their current level during 2026.

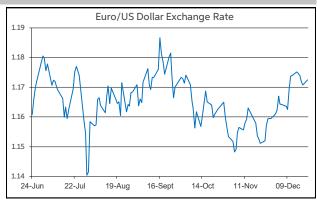
Currency-wise, the main FX pairs operated in relatively narrow ranges throughout the week. Of the moves to note, the yen was on the defensive. As trading gets underway this morning, EUR/GBP is near the midpoint of 87-88p. EUR/USD is in the lower half of the \$1.17-1.18 corridor. USD/JPY is close to the halfway mark of the ¥157-158 band.

Already this morning, the second reading if UK GDP has confirmed that the economy expanded by a 0.1% q/q in Q3. The remainder of today's calendar is quite sparse. However, later in the week, US GDP for Q3 and industrial production for November will be released.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

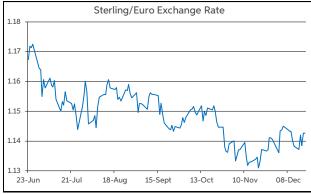
Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2024		
EUR/USD	1.1727	0.07	13.27		
EUR/GBP	0.8738	-0.25	5.62		
GBP/USD	1.3415	0.31	7.23		
GBP/EUR	1.1437	0.25	-5.32		
USD/JPY	157.39	0.90	0.13		
EUR/JPY	184.61	0.98	13.43		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page for More Rates					

Opening Interest Rates						
	Money Market Swap Rates					
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	3.63	3.74	3.68	3.43	3.63	3.72
EUR	2.00	1.91	2.00	2.18	2.31	2.62
GBP	3.75	3.72	3.72	3.56	3.77	3.94









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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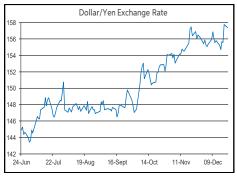
Opening Levels



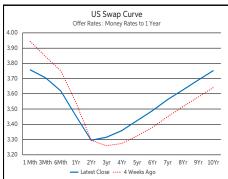
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8738
EUR/USD	1.1728
EUR/JPY	184.57
EUR/SEK	10.8494
EUR/DKK	7.4706
EUR/NOK	11.8527
EUR/CHF	0.9317
EUR/AUD	1.766
EUR/HKD	9.1234
EUR/CAD	1.6165

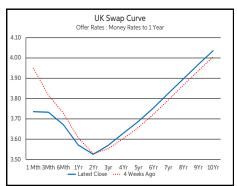
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1438			
GBP/USD	1.3417			
GBP/CAD	1.849			
GBP/NZD	2.3196			
GBP/JPY	211.13			
GBP/SEK	12.4062			
GBP/DKK	8.5425			
GBP/NOK	13.5541			
GBP/CHF	1.0656			
GBP/AUD	2.0202			

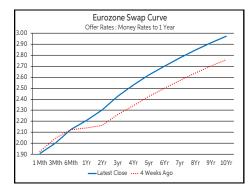
Dollar					
USD/JPY	157.36				
USD/CAD	1.3783				
USD/CHF	0.7945				
USD/CNY	7.0374				
USD/BRL	5.5425				
USD/RUB	79.65				
USD/INR	89.575				
AUD/USD	0.6638				
NZD/USD	0.578				













Debt Markets					
			Change bps	5	
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.15	+4	+9	-43	
Germany	2.89	+4	+19	+53	
UK	4.53	+5	-2	-4	
Ireland	3.09	+5	+15	+44	
Belgium	3.39	+6	+13	+41	
France	3.61	+6	+14	+42	
Italy	3.55	+5	+8	+3	
Spain	3.33	+5	+12	+26	
Portugal	3.19	+5	+14	+34	
Greece	3.48	+2	+15	+23	
5 Year Swap %					
US	3.65	+4	+9	-64	
Eurozone	2.60	+3	+19	+36	
UK	3.94	+3	+3	-34	
2 Year Swap %					
US	3.56	+2	+2	-77	
Eurozone	2.29	+1	+13	+10	
UK	3.77	+1	-1	-72	
10 Year Governm	ent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps		
Ireland	20	+0	-4	-9	
Belgium	50	+1	-7	-12	
France	72	+1	-6	-11	
Italy	65	+0	-11	-50	
Spain	43	+1	-8	-27	
Portugal	30	+0	-6	-19	
Greece	59	-2	-4	-29	

Commodities								
		% Change						
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 24						
Brent Oil	60.47	+1.09	-3.34	-18.98				
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27				
Gold \$	4338.0	+0.14	+6.71	+65.33				

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