

## Flash PMI data the main highlight today

The firmer turn to risk appetite from Tuesday went into reverse yesterday as investor sentiment soured. The Euro Stoxx 50 fell by 1.4%, while on Wall Street, the S&P 500 finished down 1.2%. On bond markets, benchmark sovereign yields declined by 3-9bps. Meanwhile, oil prices rose by circa 5%, moving up above \$120 bbl, as concerns over crude stockpiles in the US and disruptions to the CPC pipeline in Russia added to apprehensions around supply.

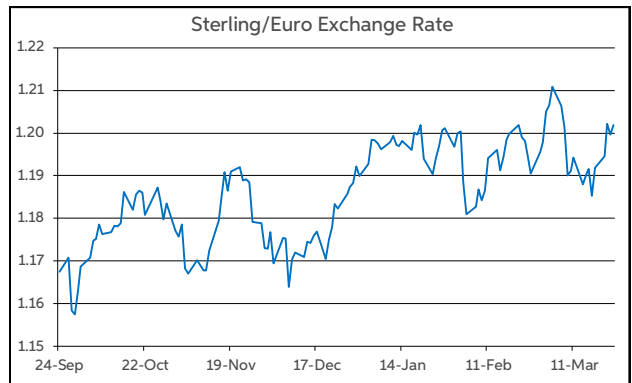
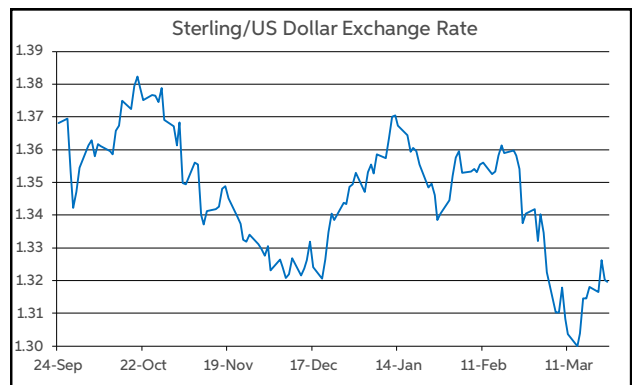
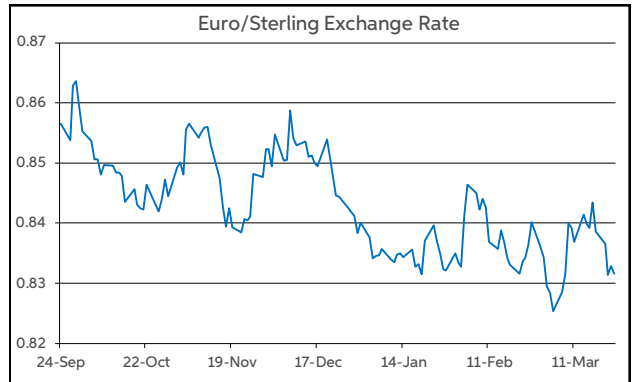
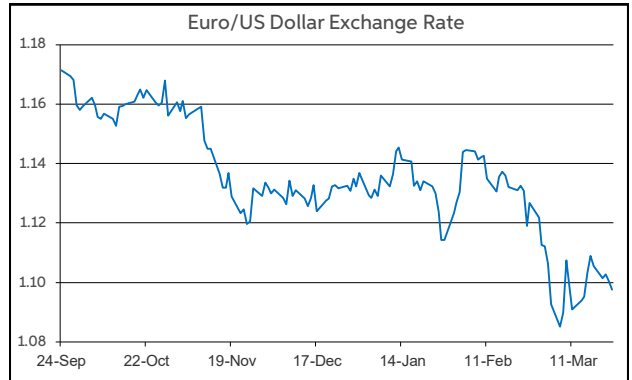
Currency-wise, safe havens such as the dollar regained the upper hand amid the risk averse tone to investor sentiment. The greenback rose by circa 0.6% against sterling, and gained around 0.5% versus the euro.

Elsewhere, in terms of data releases, EC flash consumer confidence registered the second largest monthly drop on record, declining to -18.7 from -8.8 (and vs. -12.9 f'cast). The index is now at its lowest level since May 2020 as higher inflation and concerns regarding the war in Ukraine weighed heavily on confidence.

As trading gets underway this morning, the firmer tone to the dollar is evidenced by EUR/USD opening back below the \$1.10 threshold. Cable (GBP/USD) is changing hands back at the \$1.32 handle. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP remains in the bottom half of the 83-84p range.

Ahead today, the main releases of note will be the flash PMI readings in the US, Eurozone and the UK for March. The data are expected to edge lower across the board, but remain above 50. Elsewhere, an extraordinary NATO summit and a two-day meeting of the European Council get underway. Markets will be paying close attention to discussions around further sanctions on Russia.

**Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB**



Today's Opening FX Rates			
		% Change	
		Day *	End 2021
EUR/USD	1.0977	-0.53	-3.44
EUR/GBP	0.8316	0.12	-1.00
GBP/USD	1.3198	-0.65	-2.45
GBP/EUR	1.2019	-0.12	1.01
USD/JPY	121.68	0.54	5.74
EUR/JPY	133.61	0.02	2.09

\* v Previous Day's European Open  
See Next Page for More Rates

Opening Interest Rates						
	Base Rate	Money Market		Swap Rates		
		1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.375	0.45	0.95	1.84	2.37	2.46
EUR	0.00	-0.56	-0.50	-0.15	0.41	0.85
GBP	0.75	0.73	1.00	1.81	2.19	2.13

All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

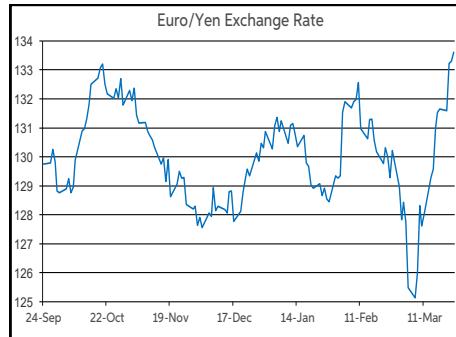
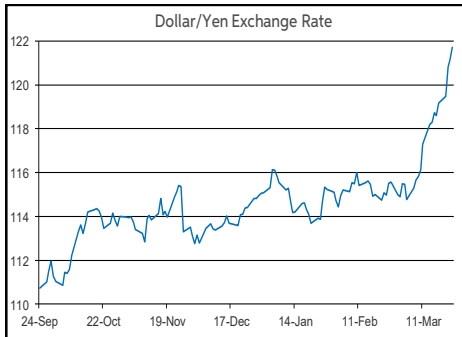
FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan	FX Options	Mark Tuite	Reuters Phone	AIBG.I 00353-1-7724018	Morning Comment	John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie
		Equity Options	Gary Luff				

# Opening Levels

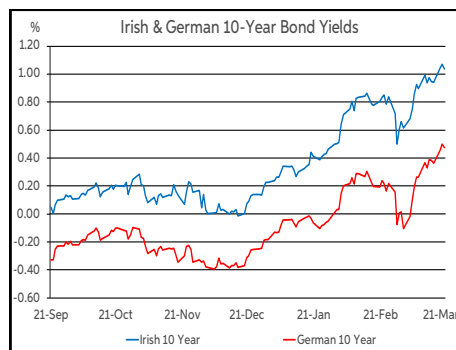
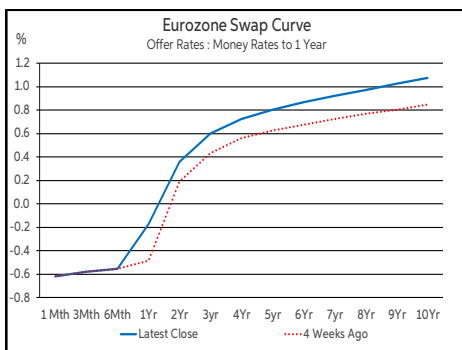
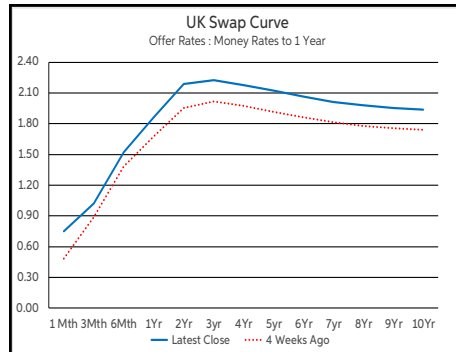
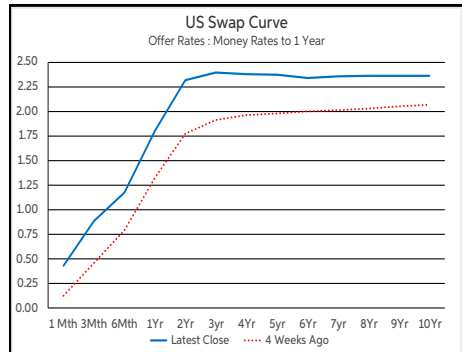
Thursday 24 March 2022  
07:29 am



Euro		Sterling		Dollar	
EUR/GBP	0.8316	GBP/EUR	1.2019	USD/JPY	121.68
EUR/USD	1.0977	GBP/USD	1.3198	USD/CAD	1.2567
EUR/JPY	133.61	GBP/CAD	1.6591	USD/CHF	0.9335
EUR/SEK	10.3743	GBP/NZD	1.8989	USD/CNY	6.3679
EUR/DKK	7.439	GBP/JPY	160.59	USD/BRL	4.8253
EUR/NOK	9.5285	GBP/SEK	12.4693	USD/RUB	89.5
EUR/CHF	1.0249	GBP/DKK	8.9413	USD/INR	76.275
EUR/AUD	1.4682	GBP/NOK	11.4521	AUD/USD	0.7475
EUR/HKD	8.5906	GBP/CHF	1.2322	NZD/USD	0.6948
EUR/CAD	1.3799	GBP/AUD	1.7652		



Debt Markets				
	Close	Change bps		
		Day	4 Weeks	End 21
<b>10 Year Yield %</b>				
US	2.29	-9	+29	+78
Germany	0.48	-3	+25	+66
UK	1.63	-8	+15	+66
<b>5 Year Swap %</b>				
US	2.38	-6	+43	+104
Eurozone	0.80	-4	+18	+79
UK	2.12	-8	+22	+85
<b>2 Year Swap %</b>				
US	2.32	-6	+57	+138
Eurozone	0.36	-2	+17	+66
UK	2.19	-8	+24	+99
<b>10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps</b>				
Ireland	59	+2	-5	+17
Belgium	49	+1	-3	+14
France	45	-0	-5	+8
Italy	151	-1	-19	+15
Spain	90	-2	-14	+13
Portugal	79	-1	-14	+13
Greece	226	+2	-14	+77



Commodities				
	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 21
Brent Oil	121.6	+5.30	+25.57	+56.34
West Texas Oil	114.89	+3.48	+24.69	+52.52
Gold \$	1943.4	+1.14	+1.88	+6.29

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