Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 27 May 2021 07:27 am

EUR/USD opens below \$1.22

Investor sentiment remained relatively subdued yesterday. This was in part due to a lack of top tier data releases from any of the key advanced economies. Equity markets on both sides of the Atlantic finished broadly flat for the day.

On bond markets, Eurozone bond yields moved 4-5bps lower across the board. In contrast US Treasury yields edged higher. Currency-wise, the dollar was holding a somewhat firmer tone.

Some of the move higher in the dollar coincided with comments from Fed official Quarles, who noted that it is "important for the FOMC to begin discussing our plans to adjust the pace of asset purchases at upcoming meetings." The recent Fed minutes stated that some members were in favour of discussing plans to taper also, which caused a similar bout of dollar strength, although the move at that time proved to be short lived.

In level terms, the slightly firmer tone to the dollar is reflected by EUR/USD changing hands below the \$1.22 handle, having fallen back from the midpoint of the \$1.22-1.23 range. GBP/USD is operating down at the \$1.41 mark. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP continues to trade near to the halfway mark of the 86-87p band.

Ahead today, initial jobless claims in the US are expected to remain on a downward trend, having moved lower for the past 6 weeks. Meanwhile, durable goods production is forecast to have increased by 0.7% in April.

However, barring any major surprises, the data may not impact on currency markets. As a result, relatively narrow range trading may continue to remain a feature amongst the main FX pairs.

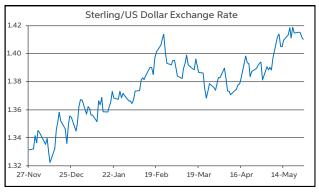
Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

| Today's Opening FX Rates | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|--|--|--|
| | | % Change | | | | |
| | _ | Day * | End 2020 | | | |
| EUR/USD | 1.2186 | -0.58 | -0.22 | | | |
| EUR/GBP | 0.864 | -0.13 | -3.32 | | | |
| GBP/USD | 1.4102 | -0.46 | 3.14 | | | |
| GBP/EUR | 1.1568 | 0.13 | 3.44 | | | |
| USD/JPY | 109.13 | 0.34 | 5.71 | | | |
| EUR/JPY | 133 | -0.25 | 5.42 | | | |
| * v Previous Day's European Open | | | | | | |
| See Next Page for More Rates | | | | | | |

| Opening Interest Rates | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Money Market Swap Rates | | | | | 5 |
| | Base Rate | 1-Mth | 3-Mth | 1-Yr | 2-Yr | 5-Yr |
| USD | 0.125 | 0.09 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.23 | 0.87 |
| EUR | 0.00 | -0.56 | -0.54 | -0.50 | -0.47 | -0.27 |
| GBP | 0.10 | 0.05 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.29 | 0.65 |









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 | | | | |

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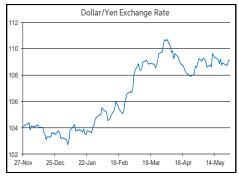
Opening Levels



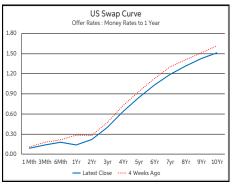
| Euro | |
|---------|---------|
| EUR/GBP | 0.864 |
| EUR/USD | 1.2186 |
| EUR/JPY | 133 |
| EUR/SEK | 10.1401 |
| EUR/DKK | 7.4354 |
| EUR/NOK | 10.2081 |
| EUR/CHF | 1.0938 |
| EUR/AUD | 1.5739 |
| EUR/HKD | 9.4576 |
| EUR/CAD | 1.478 |

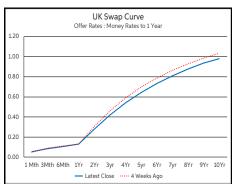
| Sterling | | | | |
|----------|---------|--|--|--|
| GBP/EUR | 1.1568 | | | |
| GBP/USD | 1.4102 | | | |
| GBP/CAD | 1.71 | | | |
| GBP/NZD | 1.9347 | | | |
| GBP/JPY | 153.9 | | | |
| GBP/SEK | 11.7278 | | | |
| GBP/DKK | 8.6028 | | | |
| GBP/NOK | 11.8142 | | | |
| GBP/CHF | 1.2656 | | | |
| GBP/AUD | 1.8212 | | | |

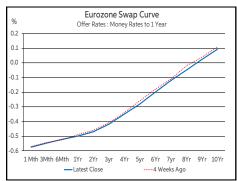
| Dollar | | | | | |
|---------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| USD/JPY | 109.13 | | | | |
| USD/CAD | 1.2125 | | | | |
| USD/CHF | 0.8974 | | | | |
| USD/CNY | 6.3818 | | | | |
| USD/BRL | 5.3108 | | | | |
| USD/RUB | 73.558 | | | | |
| USD/INR | 72.635 | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| AUD/USD | 0.7742 | | | | |
| NZD/USD | 0.7286 | | | | |
| | | | | | |

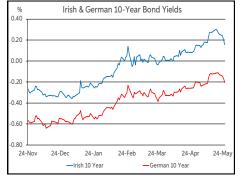












| Debt Markets | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|------------|--------|--|
| | | Change bps | | | |
| | Close | Day | 4 Weeks | End 20 | |
| 10 Year Yield % | | | | | |
| US | 1.58 | +2 | -3 | +66 | |
| Germany | -0.20 | -4 | +3 | +37 | |
| UK | 0.75 | -4 | -5 | +56 | |
| Ireland | 0.19 | -5 | +5 | +50 | |
| Belgium | 0.13 | -5 | +4 | +52 | |
| France | 0.16 | -4 | +13 | +50 | |
| Italy | 0.92 | -4 | +9 | +40 | |
| Spain | 0.45 | -5 | +2 | +40 | |
| Portugal | 0.46 | -4 | +1 | +40 | |
| Greece | 0.86 | -4 | -9 | +24 | |
| 5 Year Swap % | | | | | |
| US | 0.85 | +1 | -9 | +42 | |
| Eurozone | -0.28 | -2 | -1 | +18 | |
| UK | 0.64 | -2 | -5 | +45 | |
| 2 Year Swap % | | | | | |
| US | 0.22 | +2 | -6 | +3 | |
| Eurozone | -0.47 | -O | -O | +6 | |
| UK | 0.28 | -1 | -2 | +25 | |
| 10 Year Governm | ent Bond Spre | ads to Ben | chmark bps | | |
| Ireland | 39 | -1 | +2 | +12 | |
| Belgium | 33 | -1 | +2 | +14 | |
| France | 36 | -1 | +10 | +12 | |
| Italy | 113 | -0 | +6 | +3 | |
| Spain | 66 | -1 | -1 | +3 | |
| Portugal | 66 | -1 | -2 | +2 | |
| Greece | 107 | -0 | -12 | -14 | |

| Commodities | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------------------------|-------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| | | % Change | | | | | | |
| | Close | Close Day 4 Weeks End 20 | | | | | | |
| Brent Oil | 68.87 | +0.32 | +2.38 | +32.95 | | | | |
| West Texas Oil | 66.41 | +0.21 | +4.07 | +37.35 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Gold \$ | 1896.4 | -0.15 | +6.46 | -0.00 | | | | |

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