Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 19 May 2025 06:38 am

Flash PMIs are the main highlight this week

There was a positive mood on markets throughout last week, as investors digested news that the US and China agreed to reduce tariffs for an initial 90-day period. The US will lower tariffs on most Chinese imports to 30%, while China will cut the levy it applies to US goods to 10%. At the same time, a busy data schedule also provided a mostly supportive backdrop for risk appetite.

The "risk-on" tone to investor sentiment was reflected by the Euro Stoxx 50 rising by 2.2% last week. Meantime on Wall Street, the S&P 500 gained 5.3%. Elsewhere, market rate expectations firmed markedly in the initial aftermath of the positive outcome from US-China trade talks. This is evidenced by futures contracts currently pricing in around 50bps of policy easing between now and year-end in the US, UK, and Eurozone, compared to expectations previously for up to 75bps of cuts. The hardening in futures contributed to sovereign yields moving 5-10bps higher in the UK and Germany, as well as US Treasury yields rising by 5-15bps. A credit rating downgrade on Friday also impacted the latter.

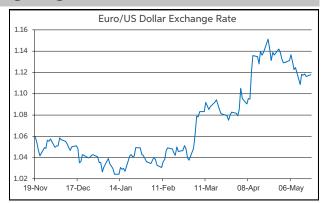
On the currency front, the dollar was in the ascendancy amid the initial reaction to the US-China agreement. However, as the week progressed, the greenback handed back most of its gains and range trading took hold. As market's in Europe open this morning, EUR/USD is operating just below the \$1.12 mark. EUR/GBP remains just above the 84p handle. Meanwhile, GBP/USD is in and around the \$1.33 threshold, USD/JPY is in the lower half of the ¥145-146 band.

Turning to the week ahead, the main highlight will be the May reading of the flash PMIs for the main advanced economies. A slew of other survey data are also due in the Eurozone, along with the latest ECB monetary policy meeting account. Meantime, in the UK, a busy data calendar includes updates on inflation, retail sales and consumer confidence.

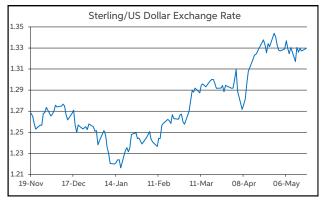
Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.118	-0.21	7.99	
EUR/GBP	0.8406	-0.04	1.61	
GBP/USD	1.3297	-0.14	6.28	
GBP/EUR	1.1887	0.04	-1.58	
USD/JPY	145.24	-0.05	-7.60	
EUR/JPY	162.4	-0.23	-0.22	
* 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	4.38	4.32	4.32	4.06	4.06	4.04
EUR	2.40	2.13	2.14	2.04	2.03	2.26
GBP	4.25	4.20	4.20	3.95	4.04	4.08









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates &

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Opening Levels



	Euro
EUR/GBP	0.8406
EUR/USD	1.118
EUR/JPY	162.4
EUR/SEK	10.9264
EUR/DKK	7.4612
EUR/NOK	11.6213
EUR/CHF	0.9349
EUR/AUD	1.7464
EUR/HKD	8.7429
EUR/CAD	1.5617

Sterling				
1.1887				
1.3297				
1.8571				
2.2599				
193.1				
12.9911				
8.8731				
13.8212				
1.1121				
2.0767				

Dollar				
USD/JPY	145.24			
USD/CAD	1.3971			
USD/CHF	0.8362			
USD/CNY	7.201			
USD/BRL	5.6817			
USD/RUB	80.35			
USD/INR	85.492			
AUD/USD	0.6398			
NZD/USD	0.5879			



US Swap Curve Offer Rates : Money Rates to 1 Year

4.40

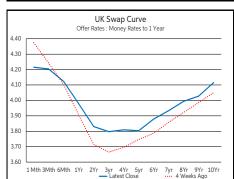
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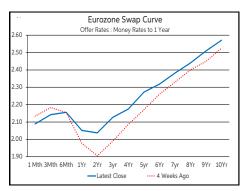
4.10

3.90

3.60







1 Mth 3Mth 6Mth 1Yr 2Yr 3yr 4Yr 5yr 6Yr 7yr 8Yr 9Yr 10Yr
— Latest Close ···· 4 Weeks Ago



	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.46	-7	+13	-12	
Germany	2.63	-7	+16	+26	
UK	4.66	-6	+9	+9	
Ireland	2.91	-8	+8	+26	
Belgium	3.16	-7	+8	+18	
France	3.30	-9	+5	+10	
Italy	3.64	-9	-1	+12	
Spain	3.24	-8	+6	+17	
Portugal	3.12	-7	+7	+27	
Greece	3.44	-3	+5	+19	
5 Year Swap %					
US	3.98	-8	+18	-31	
Eurozone	2.25	-10	+8	+1	
UK	4.06	-7	+7	-22	
2 Year Swap %					
US	4.04	-4	+23	-30	
Eurozone	2.01	-7	+11	-18	
UK	4.05	-4	+9	-44	
10 Year Governme	nt Bond Spread	s to Benchr	nark bps		
Ireland	29	-1	-8	+0	
Belgium	54	-1	-8	-8	
France	67	-2	-11	-16	
Italy	101	-2	-17	-15	
Spain	61	-1	-10	-9	
Portugal	50	-1	-9	+1	
Greece	82	+4	-12	-7	

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
Brent Oil	64.53	-2.36	-5.05	-13.55	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	3239.8	+1.93	-2.64	+23.48	

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