Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 04 February 2025 06:53 am

Tariffs, BoE decision, US payrolls in focus this week

The weekend announcement of tariffs by the Trump Administration on Mexico, Canada and China kept markets busy yesterday. Trading conditions were volatile as investors reacted to the ebb and flow of tariff newsflow. As the day progressed though there were some encouraging developments in US discussions with both Mexico and Canada.

From a currency viewpoint, the dollar started the day on the front foot. EUR/USD fell to a low of \$1.021 and GBP/USD was down at \$1.225. However, the dollar saw a reversal of fortunes amid positive news of delays to tariffs in relation to Mexico and Canada. This is reflected in EUR/USD opening this morning back at \$1.03 and GBP/USD trading at the \$1.24 threshold.

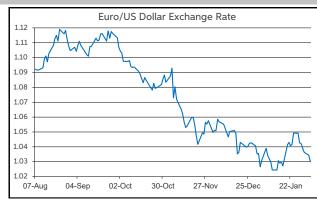
Looking ahead, tariff/trade related developments are likely to keep investor's minds occupied this week. Overnight, there has been news of retaliatory tariffs from China. In terms of scheduled macro events/releases, it's the turn of the Bank of England to hold its first policy announcement of 2025 (Thursday). The meeting poses some event risk for sterling. After keeping rates unchanged in December, the market is attaching around a 90% probability to a 25bps rate cut from Threadneedle Street. This would see the Bank rate reduced to 4.50%. The BoE will also be providing more detail on its economic outlook with the publication of its latest Monetary Policy Report and accompanying press conference.

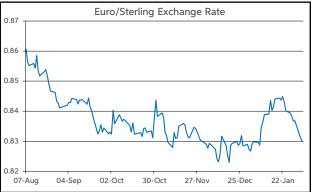
The main data highlight over the coming days will be US centric, with Friday's raft of labour market metrics due. This includes the January payrolls number. The consensus forecast is for a 170,000 increase, which would match the Q4 2024 average. The unemployment rate is expected to hold steady at 4.1%.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

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Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.0301	0.61	-0.50	
EUR/GBP	0.8299	-0.44	0.31	
GBP/USD	1.2404	1.07	-0.86	
GBP/EUR	1.2039	0.45	-0.31	
USD/JPY	155.18	-0.25	-1.27	
EUR/JPY	159.87	0.35	-1.77	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market		Swap Rates		6
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	4.38	4.31	4.30	4.20	4.40	4.37
EUR	2.90	2.66	2.59	2.32	2.19	2.27
GBP	4.75	4.47	4.44	4.21	4.29	4.15









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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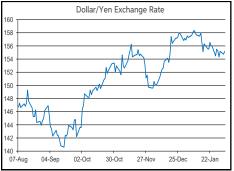
Opening Levels



0.8299
1.0301
159.87
11.4565
7.46
11.7398
0.9397
1.6622
8.024
1.4905

Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.2039		
GBP/USD	1.2404		
GBP/CAD	1.7943		
GBP/NZD	2.214		
GBP/JPY	192.49		
GBP/SEK	13.7952		
GBP/DKK	8.9803		
GBP/NOK	14.1387		
GBP/CHF	1.1318		
GBP/AUD	2.0012		

Dollar				
USD/JPY	155.18			
USD/CAD	1.4469			
USD/CHF	0.9119			
USD/CNY	7.2507			
USD/BRL	5.8066			
USD/RUB	99.25			
USD/INR	87.103			
AUD/USD	0.6196			
NZD/USD	0.5597			



US Swap Curve

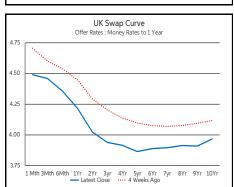
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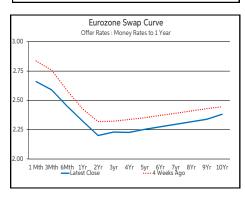
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4.20

4.00







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	4.54	-2	-7	-3	
Germany	2.39	-7	-6	+2	
UK	4.49	-5	-12	-8	
Ireland	2.64	-9	-9	-1	
Belgium	2.98	-10	-6	-0	
France	3.11	-9	-15	-8	
Italy	3.51	-5	-7	-1	
Spain	3.06	-5	-5	-1	
Portugal	2.90	-6	-1	+5	
Greece	3.29	-7	+3	+4	
5 Year Swap %					
US	4.32	+3	-2	+3	
Eurozone	2.38	+8	+3	+14	
UK	4.14	-4	-17	-14	
2 Year Swap %					
US	4.34	+4	-2	+1	
Eurozone	2.34	+8	+2	+15	
UK	4.28	-3	-23	-21	
10 Year Governmer	nt Bond Spread	s to Benchr	nark bps		
Ireland	26	-2	-3	-3	
Belgium	59	-2	+0	-3	
France	72	-2	-9	-11	
Italy	112	+3	-1	-4	
Spain	67	+2	+1	-3	
Portugal	51	+1	+5	+3	
Greece	90	+0	+9	+1	

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close Day 4 Weeks Er				
Brent Oil	75.96	-1.04	-0.45	+1.77	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	2813.5	+0.45	+6.76	+7.23	

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