Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



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Dollar volatility, but sterling also in focus this week

While yesterday's currency action was relatively muted, the dollar has continued to have an eventful/volatile time on the exchanges over recent weeks. In July, the currency started the month on the slide, continuing its weakening trend that took hold during the second quarter. This was reflected in EUR/USD and GBP/USD posting fresh year-to-date highs on July 1st of \$1.1829 and \$1.3788, respectively.

For the rest of July though, the greenback was very much on an upward trajectory. A firming in US rate expectations amid better-than -anticipated US macro data, progress on trade deals and a less dovish tone from the Fed's July FOMC underpinned the dollar's recovery. EUR/USD ended last month back down near \$1.14, while GBP/USD was trading in and around the \$1.32 mark.

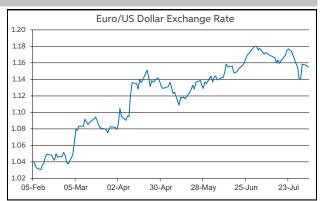
The dollar's recent 'volatile' nature was once again in evidence at the start of August. Last Friday's disappointing payrolls report for July, especially the downward revisions to previous months, weighed heavily on the currency. The very weak jobs numbers saw a notable and immediate softening in US rate expectations. The market moved to price-in 50-60bps of easing by year end (compared to 35bps pre-Payrolls), including attaching around an 90% probability to a 25bps rate reduction at the next Fed meeting in mid-September. Against this backdrop, the EUR/USD pair traded back above the \$1.15 threshold, with GBP/USD rising nearer to the \$1.33 handle.

Overall, the last few weeks has highlighted the dollar's more volatile nature. A key aspect to this, is its sensitivity to US macro releases (labour market and inflation) that will decide, if and when, the Fed will resume its easing cycle. This week's calendar though is sparse in terms of US data. Today's non-manufacturing ISM (July) is the only US release of note over the coming days. Indeed, the focus may shift to some extent to sterling with Thursday's BoE meeting, where the central back is expected to cut interest rates by 25bps.

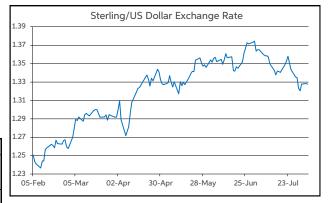
John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.1548	-0.22	11.54	
EUR/GBP	0.8694	-0.26	5.09	
GBP/USD	1.3278	0.01	6.13	
GBP/EUR	1.1496	0.26	-4.84	
USD/JPY	147.1	-0.39	-6.41	
EUR/JPY	169.91	-0.60	4.40	
* 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	4.34	4.23	3.81	3.76	3.69
EUR	2.00	1.89	1.99	2.02	2.05	2.31
GBP	4.25	3.99	3.98	3.73	3.85	3.91









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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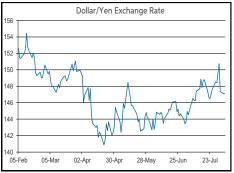
Opening Levels



Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8694
EUR/USD	1.1548
EUR/JPY	169.91
EUR/SEK	11.1801
EUR/DKK	7.4622
EUR/NOK	11.8748
EUR/CHF	0.935
EUR/AUD	1.7867
EUR/HKD	9.0635
EUR/CAD	1.592

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1496			
GBP/USD	1.3278			
GBP/CAD	1.8301			
GBP/NZD	2.2516			
GBP/JPY	195.35			
GBP/SEK	12.8524			
GBP/DKK	8.578			
GBP/NOK	13.642			
GBP/CHF	1.075			
GBP/AUD	2.0542			

Dollar				
USD/JPY	147.1			
USD/CAD	1.3784			
USD/CHF	0.8096			
USD/CNY	7.1837			
USD/BRL	5.4969			
USD/RUB	79.85			
USD/INR	87.786			
AUD/USD	0.6461			
NZD/USD	0.5893			



US Swap Curve Offer Rates : Money Rates to 1 Yea

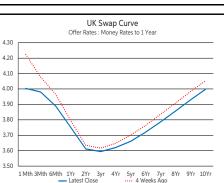
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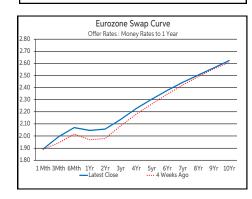
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3.80 3.70 3.60 3.50 3.40

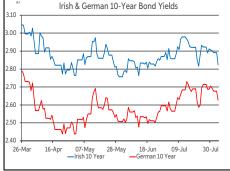
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1 Mth 3Mth 6Mth 1Yr 2Yr 3yr 4Yr 5yr 6Yr 7yr 8Yr 9Yr 10Yr
— Latest Close 4 Weeks Ago



Debt Markets					
			Change bps		
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.20	-2	-20	-38	
Germany	2.63	-5	+2	+26	
UK	4.51	-2	-8	-7	
Ireland	2.87	-5	-4	+22	
Belgium	3.15	-6	-5	+16	
France	3.28	-7	-4	+9	
Italy	3.46	-8	-6	-6	
Spain	3.20	-6	-6	+14	
Portugal	3.05	-6	-4	+20	
Greece	3.34	-2	-2	+9	
5 Year Swap %					
US	3.63	-3	-19	-66	
Eurozone	2.29	-3	+3	+5	
UK	3.90	-1	-3	-38	
2 Year Swap %					
US	3.69	-2	-20	-64	
Eurozone	2.04	-2	+6	-15	
UK	3.84	+1	-2	-65	
10 Year Governme	nt Bond Spread	s to Benchr	nark bps		
Ireland	24	-0	-6	-5	
Belgium	52	-2	-7	-10	
France	66	-2	-6	-18	
Italy	83	-3	-8	-32	
Spain	57	-1	-8	-13	
Portugal	42	-2	-6	-6	
Greece	71	+3	-5	-18	

Commodities					
		% Change			
Close Day 4 Weeks					
Brent Oil	68.76	-1.31	-1.18	-7.88	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	3372.8	+0.31	+1.13	+28.55	

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