Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 12 May 2025 07:27 am

Busy US and UK data diaries this week

Investor sentiment held a cautious tone last week. In terms of newsflow, there were further signs of an easing in tensions between the US and its key trading partners. This included the announcement of a UK/US trade agreement, as well as more conciliatory tones from the White House in relation to its tariffs/negotiations on Chinese goods. However, with a large degree of uncertainty remaining in relation to US trade policy, investors still retained a somewhat guarded approach to proceedings. At the close on Wall Street on Friday, the S&P 500 was down marginally (-0.5%) on the week.

The "uncertainty" theme was also evident in the policy deliberations/ decisions from some of the main central banks. Both the Fed and BoE referenced the difficulty in assessing the outlook amid the unpredictable path of US trade policy. While, the BoE cut rates, it continued to emphasise a gradual approach to any further easing. Meantime, the Fed gave no indication that rate cuts in the US were imminent.

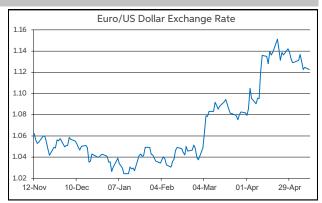
On the currency front, the dollar got some support from the more positive US trade policy news. At the same time, the euro was holding a softer tone. In level terms EUR/USD starts this week in the lower half of \$1.12-1.13, GBP/USD is trading in and around the \$1.33 handle, while USD/JPY is hovering up near ¥146 territory. Elsewhere, EUR/GBP commences this week, around 1% lower from where it was last Monday, operating just below the midpoint of 84-85p.

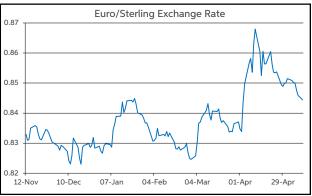
For the week ahead, attention turns back to the data calendar, with a busy schedule of releases, especially in the US and UK. This includes US retail sales, industrial production and CPI (all April) as well as UK labour market metrics and GDP for Q1. A quieter Eurozone diary features industrial production (March). Meanwhile, trade policy related news/developments remain a potential source of direction for markets.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

| Today's Opening FX Rates | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|----------|--|--|
| | | % Change | | | |
| | | Day * | End 2024 | | |
| EUR/USD | 1.1226 | -0.01 | 8.43 | | |
| EUR/GBP | 0.8444 | -0.42 | 2.07 | | |
| GBP/USD | 1.3289 | 0.42 | 6.22 | | |
| GBP/EUR | 1.1835 | 0.43 | -2.03 | | |
| USD/JPY | 146.02 | 0.36 | -7.10 | | |
| EUR/JPY | 163.96 | 0.37 | 0.74 | | |
| * 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 | 4.31 | 4.01 | 4.01 | 3.98 | |
| EUR | 2.40 | 2.11 | 2.12 | 2.01 | 1.99 | 2.24 | |
| GBP | 4.25 | 4.20 | 4.19 | 3.90 | 3.97 | 3.98 | |









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates &

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Opening Levels



| | Euro | |
|---------|------|---------|
| EUR/GBP | | 0.8444 |
| EUR/USD | | 1.1226 |
| EUR/JPY | | 163.96 |
| EUR/SEK | | 10.9088 |
| EUR/DKK | | 7.4603 |
| EUR/NOK | | 11.6257 |
| EUR/CHF | | 0.9361 |
| EUR/AUD | | 1.744 |
| EUR/HKD | | 8.7463 |
| EUR/CAD | | 1.5622 |
| | | |

| Sterling | | | | |
|----------|---------|--|--|--|
| GBP/EUR | 1.1835 | | | |
| GBP/USD | 1.3289 | | | |
| GBP/CAD | 1.8492 | | | |
| GBP/NZD | 2.2402 | | | |
| GBP/JPY | 194.05 | | | |
| GBP/SEK | 12.9162 | | | |
| GBP/DKK | 8.8297 | | | |
| GBP/NOK | 13.7628 | | | |
| GBP/CHF | 1.1079 | | | |
| GBP/AUD | 2.0636 | | | |
| | | | | |

| Dollar | | | | | |
|---------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| USD/JPY | 146.02 | | | | |
| USD/CAD | 1.3918 | | | | |
| USD/CHF | 0.8338 | | | | |
| USD/CNY | 7.221 | | | | |
| USD/BRL | 5.6493 | | | | |
| USD/RUB | 82.2 | | | | |
| USD/INR | 84.648 | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| AUD/USD | 0.6435 | | | | |
| NZD/USD | 0.5927 | | | | |
| | | | | | |



US Swap Curve

4.30

4.10

4.00

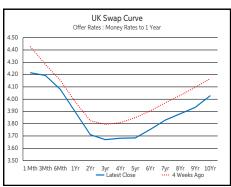
3.90

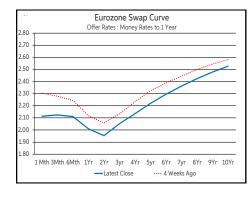
3.70

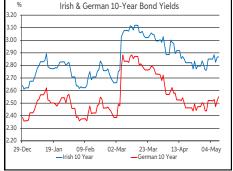
3.60

3.40









| | Debt | Markets | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--------|--|
| | | | Change bps | | |
| | Close | Day | 4 Weeks | End 24 | |
| 10 Year Yield % | | | | | |
| US | 4.38 | +0 | -12 | -20 | |
| Germany | 2.55 | +3 | +2 | +19 | |
| UK | 4.57 | +2 | -18 | -1 | |
| Ireland | 2.91 | +2 | -4 | +26 | |
| Belgium | 3.13 | +3 | -5 | +15 | |
| France | 3.27 | +3 | -8 | +7 | |
| Italy | 3.63 | +4 | -18 | +10 | |
| Spain | 3.21 | +4 | -9 | +14 | |
| Portugal | 3.08 | +4 | -10 | +23 | |
| Greece | 3.39 | +4 | -13 | +14 | |
| 5 Year Swap % | | | | | |
| US | 3.90 | +0 | -11 | -39 | |
| Eurozone | 2.20 | -1 | -12 | -4 | |
| UK | 3.94 | -3 | -16 | -34 | |
| 2 Year Swap % | | | | | |
| US | 3.95 | +5 | -2 | -39 | |
| Eurozone | 1.95 | -1 | -11 | -24 | |
| UK | 3.94 | -3 | -12 | -55 | |
| 10 Year Governme | nt Bond Spread | s to Benchr | nark bps | | |
| Ireland | 36 | -1 | -6 | +7 | |
| Belgium | 58 | -0 | -7 | -4 | |
| France | 71 | +0 | -10 | -12 | |
| Italy | 107 | +0 | -21 | -8 | |
| Spain | 66 | +1 | -11 | -4 | |
| Portugal | 53 | +1 | -12 | +4 | |
| Greece | 83 | +1 | -16 | -5 | |

| Commodities | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------|-------|--------|--|--|
| | | % Change | | | | |
| | Close Day 4 Weeks End 2 | | | | | |
| Brent Oil | 63.91 | +1.70 | -1.31 | -14.38 | | |
| West Texas Oil | 71.65 | -0.17 | -1.90 | -1.27 | | |
| Gold \$ | 3324.2 | +0.57 | +2.72 | +26.69 | | |

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