# Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Monday 27 July 2026
07:39 am

## Busy week of central bank meetings/data ahead

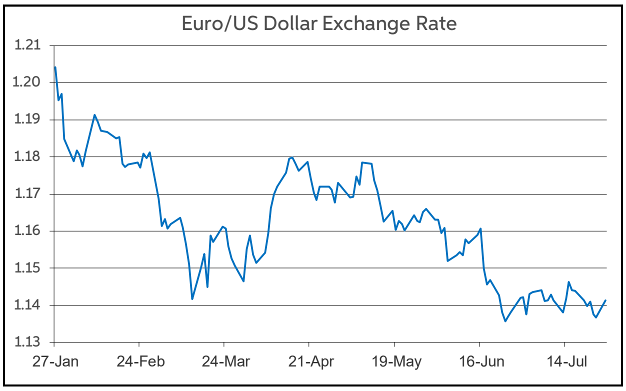
Throughout last week, developments in the Middle East conflict continued to be the main focus on markets. Oil prices moved higher, as the recent re-escalation in the war showed no signs of abating. This was reflected by Brent crude breaking up above the key $100 per barrel threshold. However, over the weekend both the US and Iran have refrained from further military strikes, and signalled that they may be willing to re-enter peace talks. As a result, Brent crude starts the week back at $90 per barrel, having ended last week north of $96 per barrel.

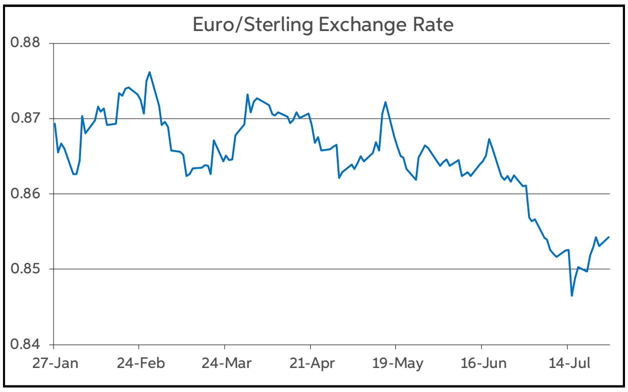
Elsewhere, the ECB left policy on hold last week, as expected. The decision as unanimous but President Lagarde let it be known that the Governing Council did discuss a potential rate hike. Overall, the ECB offered little forward guidance on the outlook for rates. The market reaction to the meeting was somewhat muted as a result.

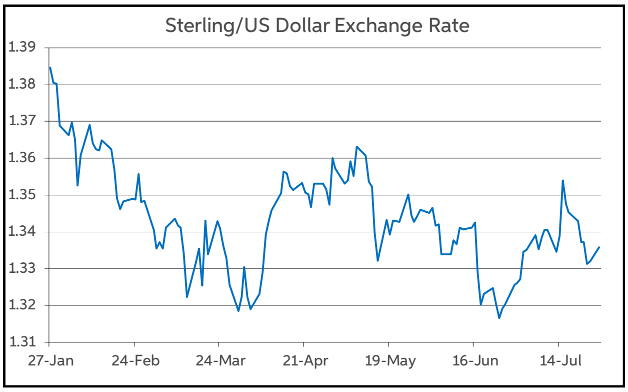
On the currency front, the dollar was in the driving seat for most of the week, amid the cautious mood on markets stemming from the war in the Middle East. At the same time, sterling was under some modest downward pressure, while the euro continued to weaken. As trading gets underway this morning, this sees EUR/USD open in the lower half of $1.14-1.15. GBP/USD is back at the midpoint of $1.33-1.34. EUR/GBP is operating at the halfway mark of 85-86p. USD/JPY is at the heart of the ¥163-164 band.

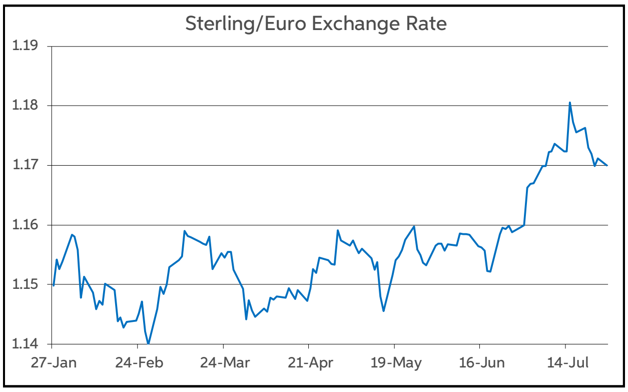
Looking at the week ahead, the monetary spotlight will be on the Fed, BoE and BoJ monetary policy decisions. However, all three are widely expected to leave policy on hold. Data-wise, a busy release schedule includes inflation and GDP figures for the US and Eurozone. A slew of sentiment indicators for both economies are also due. Meantime, investors will be keeping a close eye on developments in the Middle East throughout the week.

**Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB**




### Today's Opening FX Rates

| | | % Change | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Day * | End 2025 |
| EUR/USD | 1.1414 | 0.32 | -2.82 |
| EUR/GBP | 0.8543 | -0.05 | -1.97 |
| GBP/USD | 1.3357 | 0.36 | -0.86 |
| GBP/EUR | 1.1701 | 0.05 | 2.01 |
| USD/JPY | 163.55 | -0.16 | 4.40 |
| EUR/JPY | 186.68 | 0.14 | 1.46 |

* 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 | 3.63 | 3.73 | 3.81 | 4.11 | 4.41 | 4.36 |
| EUR | 2.25 | 2.20 | 2.49 | 2.90 | 3.01 | 3.04 |
| GBP | 3.75 | 3.74 | 3.80 | 4.16 | 4.50 | 4.56 |

**All rates quoted are indicative market rates**

**See Next Page For More Rates & Charts**


| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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# Opening Levels

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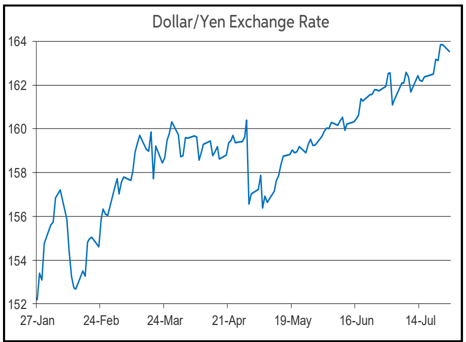
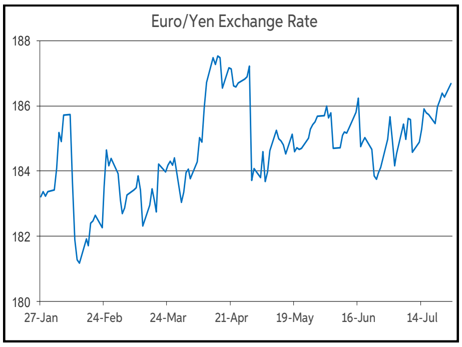
AIB

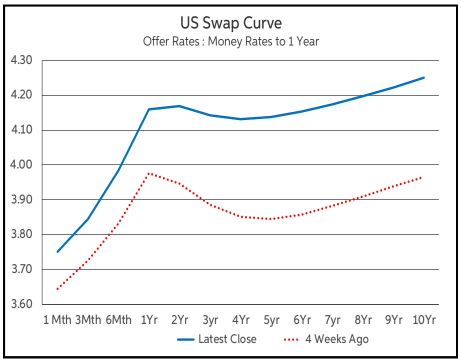
| Euro | |
|---|---|
| EUR/GBP | 0.8543 |
| EUR/USD | 1.1414 |
| EUR/JPY | 186.68 |
| EUR/SEK | 11.029 |
| EUR/DKK | 7.4756 |
| EUR/NOK | 10.9392 |
| EUR/CHF | 0.9294 |
| EUR/AUD | 1.6283 |
| EUR/HKD | 8.951 |
| EUR/CAD | 1.6087 |

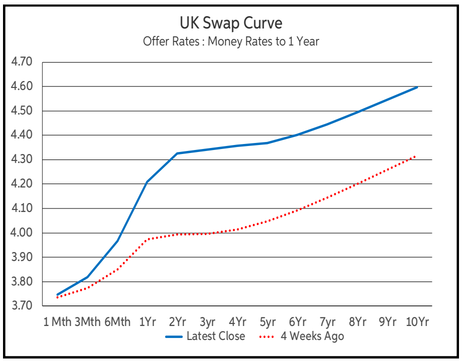
| Sterling | |
|---|---|
| GBP/EUR | 1.1701 |
| GBP/USD | 1.3357 |
| GBP/CAD | 1.8824 |
| GBP/NZD | 2.2994 |
| GBP/JPY | 218.45 |
| GBP/SEK | 12.9056 |
| GBP/DKK | 8.7471 |
| GBP/NOK | 12.7992 |
| GBP/CHF | 1.0874 |
| GBP/AUD | 1.9053 |

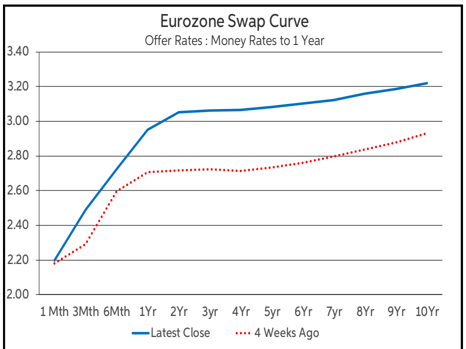
| Dollar | |
|---|---|
| USD/JPY | 163.55 |
| USD/CAD | 1.4093 |
| USD/CHF | 0.8142 |
| USD/CNY | 6.7676 |
| USD/BRL | 5.0873 |
| USD/RUB | 77.8 |
| USD/INR | 96.1575 |
| AUD/USD | 0.7009 |
| NZD/USD | 0.5806 |

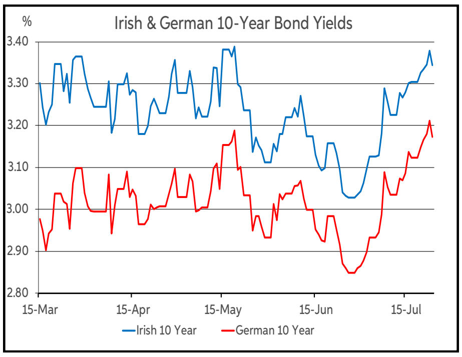



Debt Markets

| | Close | Change bps Day | 4 Weeks | End 25 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *10 Year Yield %* | | | | |
| US | 4.68 | -2 | +31 | +53 |
| Germany | 3.17 | -4 | +32 | +31 |
| UK | 5.03 | -7 | +30 | +56 |
| Ireland | 3.34 | -3 | +32 | +32 |
| Belgium | 3.73 | -5 | +31 | +38 |
| France | 3.97 | -5 | +34 | +41 |
| Italy | 4.01 | -6 | +43 | +50 |
| Spain | 3.64 | -5 | +30 | +35 |
| Portugal | 3.53 | -7 | +28 | +37 |
| Greece | 3.91 | -2 | +37 | +43 |
| *5 Year Swap %* | | | | |
| US | 4.41 | -2 | +30 | +68 |
| Eurozone | 3.05 | -6 | +32 | +49 |
| UK | 4.61 | -7 | +32 | +71 |
| *2 Year Swap %* | | | | |
| US | 4.43 | -1 | +23 | +85 |
| Eurozone | 3.02 | -7 | +30 | +76 |
| UK | 4.55 | -8 | +31 | +82 |
| *10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps* | | | | |
| Ireland | 17 | +0 | -1 | +1 |
| Belgium | 55 | -1 | -2 | +7 |
| France | 80 | -1 | +2 | +10 |
| Italy | 84 | -3 | +10 | +19 |
| Spain | 47 | -1 | -3 | +4 |
| Portugal | 36 | -3 | -5 | +6 |
| Greece | 73 | +1 | +5 | +12 |

Commodities

| | Close | % Change Day | 4 Weeks | End 25 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brent Oil | 96.78 | -3.88 | +34.44 | +59.05 |
| West Texas Oil | 91.74 | -1.44 | +30.50 | +60.22 |
| Gold $ | 4052.6 | +0.13 | -0.87 | -6.06 |



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