

Mizuho Daily Currency Watch 2 July, 2024

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Currency	Main focus of the week (S-T view)
EUR	France still the focus. Downside is path of least resistance
USD	USD in demand as labour market remains solid
JPY	Back in the intervention zone
GBP	Lack of negatives sees scope for mild GBP appreciation

Overnight comment - Focus on possible Trump policies pushes DXY index higher

Asian stocks were mainly higher led by Japan, while UST yields edged lower off yesterday's highs. In the wake of Biden's weak debate performance last week and yesterday's Supreme Court ruling, Trump's potential policy actions, which likely mean higher deficits and higher inflation, are receiving more focus and pushing longer-dated UST yields higher. In contrast, pessimism on the outlook for China has pushed yields on Chinese government debt to record lows, helping USD/CNH to a new high for the year above 7.30.

Banks and insurers are pushing the Topix towards a record close, with the Topix up a further 1.15% today. The Dec-89 high sits at 2886.50, a fraction above today's close at 2856.60. The prospect of higher policy rates are lifting the financial sector. JGB yields pushed higher, especially in the 10~20yr sector, despite solid results at the 10yr auction. The yen remains in focus, with USD/JPY pushing up to a fresh multi-year high around 161.70.

The ECB's Lane spoke in a TV interview early this morning noting that today's CPI data will not answer the ECB's questions on services inflation, echoing Lagarde's comments from yesterday that the ECB needs time to assess inflation uncertainties and that strong labour markets meant there was no rush to ease. Simkus said that he felt that above 3.0% policy rates were restrictive, while Wunsch said using the TPI would not solve fiscal problems, while Kazaks said there was no reason to use the TPI right now. A July move from the ECB is highly unlikely and we continue to expect the next 25bp cut from the ECB in September. **EUR/USD sits around 1.0735 as Europe opens.** UK shop price index declined further in June to sit at just 0.2%YoY. **GBP/USD edged lower through Asian trade to sit around 1.2640 as Europe opens.**

Today's Major Events and Data Releases

Events over coming 24 hours	Survey/Prev
EZ – CPI, flash (%YoY, Jun)	2.5/2.6
EZ – Core CPI, flash (%YoY, Jun)	2.8/2.9
EZ – Unemployment (%, May)	6.4/6.4
US – JOLTS job openings (k, May)	7864/8059
US – Vehicle sales (mn saar, Jun)	15.8/15.9

Source: Bloomberg

Europe. The national CPI releases have all been close to consensus, suggesting few surprise in the eurozone release later today. The consensus forecast is for further mild easing of inflationary pressure on a YoY basis, with headline sliding to 2.5% and core at 2.8%. The eurozone unemployment rate for May is also due. Eurozone unemployment sits at the cycle low at 6.4%. German unemployment has been edging higher for over 2 years but has been offset by declines elsewhere. The eurozone PMI for June noted that employment continued to expand, albeit at a moderate pace, suggesting that a stable unemployment rate seems likely. A solid labour market is the ECB's baseline assumption. For the ECB – Guindos (Eurozone inflation), Schnabel (geopolitics and inflation) and Elderson (Biodiversity) all chair sessions at the ECB's Sintra central banking conference, while Powell, Lagarde and Brazil central bank chief Neto all speak on the policy panel.

US. In the US, JOLTS job openings are due. These have attracted less attention in recent quarters due to a falling response rate. The openings to unemployment ratio is just about back to pre-Covid levels, although recall that the labour market was pretty tight just before the pandemic struck. Vehicle sales are also due. As noted above Powell speaks at the ECBs Sintra forum.

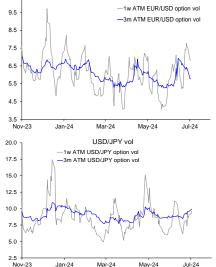
Market data

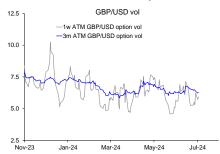
10.5

(Source: Bloomberg)



EUR/USD vol





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