



17th April 2020
This week's highlights

<p>EUR/\$ A touch lower</p>	<p>Sterling A little firmer</p>	<p>Bond Yields Fall on week</p>	<p>US Jobless Claims up again</p>
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Euro Area

- The euro traded in a narrow range against the dollar but gave up some ground overall, dipping to under \$1.09
- German 10-year yields fell by circa 10bps to around -0.48%; stocks ended the week strongly, up 3% Friday
- The IMF sees the economy contracting by 7.5% in GDP terms this year, but rebounding by 4.7% in 2021

UK

- Sterling advanced against the euro, briefly trading sub 87p; lost early gains against the dollar to end at \$1.25
- GDP could fall by 6.5% this year according to the IMF, followed though by an increase of 4.0% next year
- Government reiterates its position that the Brexit transition period will not be extended beyond the end of 2020

US

- The number of new jobless claimants rose by circa 5m last week, brings the increase since mid-March to 22m
- Retail sales fell by almost 9% month-on-month in March, while industrial production was down almost 5.5%
- Benchmark 10-year yields fell by more than 10bps to about 0.60% (remain off ytd low of 0.54% in early March)

Ireland

- CSO says the indicative COVID-19-adjusted unemployment rate could have been as high as 16.5% in March
- The annual rate of CPI inflation dipped to 0.7% last month, the lowest reading since October of last year
- The IMF sees the economy contracting by 6.8% this year, but rebounding next year with GDP growth of 6.3%

Monday	EA Trade Balance; UK Rightmove House Prices; US Chicago Fed National Activity Index
Tuesday	EA ZEW Index; UK Labour Market Report; US Existing Home Sales
Wednesday	EA Consumer Confidence; UK CPI, PPI, House Prices
Thursday	Flash PMIs for EA,UK & US; UK Retail Sales, CBI Industry Survey; US Jobless Claims, New Home Sales
Friday	UK Consumer Confidence; US Capital Goods Orders, Consumer Confidence

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