



24th April 2020
This week's highlights

EUR/\$ Lower	Sterling Down vs \$	PMIs Very weak	US Jobless Claims up again
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Euro Area

- Euro lost ground towards end of the week, falling to \$1.08, as EU leaders failed to agree on a recovery fund
- German 10-year yields little changed in and around -0.45%, but equivalent Italian yields up 10bps to 1.90%
- The Composite PMI falls again in April to a record low of 13.5, signalling a sharp contraction in GDP

UK

- The Composite PMI declines in April to a fresh low of just 12.9, pointing to a very large drop in GDP
- The volume of retail sales fell by 5.1% in March (from February) with probably larger declines still to come
- Sterling largely unchanged on week against the euro at 87p; sheds 2 cents against the dollar to about \$1.23

US

- Number of new jobless claimants rose by another 4.5m last week, brings increase since mid-March to 26.5m
- The Composite PMI falls to 27.4 in April, with both the manufacturing and services indices declining again
- Benchmark 10-year yields bounce around a bit but broadly unchanged from last Friday's close at about 0.60%

Ireland

- Dept. of Finance sees economy contracting by 10.5% this year, rebounding in 2021 with GDP growth of 6.0%
- The unemployment rate is expected to average 13.9% in 2020, declining next year to just under 10%
- 10-year bond yields increase for a second week in a row, up around 5bps or so to about 0.22%

Monday	IRL Economic Pulse
Tuesday	UK Nationwide House Prices, CBI Retail Sales Survey; US Consumer Confidence, House Prices
Wednesday	EA Economic Sentiment Indicator, M3; US GDP (Q4), Fed Meeting
Thursday	IRL Retail Sales; EA GDP (Q1), CPI, Unemployment Rate, ECB Meeting; US Consumer Spending, PCE Inflation
Friday	IRL Business Impact of COVID-19 Survey; Manufacturing PMIs in IRL, EA, UK & US; US ISM Manufacturing Index

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