



17th July 2020  
This week's highlights

<b>Euro</b> Gains ground	<b>Sterling</b> Softer	<b>UK GDP</b> Up a little in May	<b>Retail Sales</b> Increase in US
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**Euro Area**

- The euro gained ground against the dollar for a second consecutive week, strengthening to around \$1.14
- Stocks advanced with the Euro Stoxx 50 adding 2%, while German 10-year yields were unchanged (-0.46%)
- ECB left policy on hold on Thursday, noting "incoming information...signals a resumption (in) economic activity"

**UK**

- The pound lost ground to both the euro and the dollar, slipping to over 91p and to around \$1.25 respectively
- GDP expanded marginally in May, increasing by 1.8% from April, as the economy partially re-opened
- The annual rates of headline and core (or underlying) CPI inflation both ticked up in June, to 0.6% and 1.4%

**US**

- The value of retail sales rose for 2nd month in a row in June, increasing by 7.5% following April gain of 18.2%
- Annual CPI inflation picked up to 0.6% in June from 0.1% in May, while the core rate remained steady at 1.2%
- Benchmark 10-year bond yields marginally lower on the week at 0.62% but continue to trade in tight ranges

**Ireland**

- Annual residential property price inflation nationally eased again in May but still in positive territory at 0.3%
- The value of goods exports fell by 5% year-on-year in May, while goods imports were down 20% y-o-y
- Number in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment now down to 345,600, from a peak of almost 600k

Monday	IRL National Accounts, 2019 and Q1 2020; EA Current Account; UK Rightmove House Prices
Tuesday	IRL Business Impact of COVID-19 Survey Wave 4; US Chicago Fed National Activity Index
Wednesday	IRL Wholesale Prices; US Existing Home Sales
Thursday	EA Consumer Confidence; US Jobless Claims
Friday	Flash PMIs in EA, UK & US; UK Retail Sales, Consumer Confidence; US New Homes Sales

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