



5th March 2021
This week's highlights

Euro Loses ground	Sterling Weaker v \$	US Bond Yields Climb again	US Payrolls Up 379k in Feb
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Euro Area

- The euro lost ground to the dollar for a 2nd week running, shedding around 1.5 cents to just over \$1.19
- ECB warns against an 'unwarranted' rise in bond yields; German 10-year yields around 5bps lower at -0.30%
- Headline inflation held at 0.9% in Feb according to 'flash' reading, core rate dips to 1.1% from 1.4% in Jan

UK

- The pound weakened by around a cent against the dollar to \$1.38; but firmer versus euro at circa 86p
- Chancellor extends job furlough scheme to end-Sep, announces new stimulus measure to boost investment
- House prices rebounded in February according to Nationwide, rising 0.7% to take annual increase up to 6.9%

US

- Benchmark government 10-year bond yields climb again, rising by almost 20bps on the week to 1.59%
- ISM indices of manufacturing and services activity remained in expansionary territory in Feb at 60.8 and 55.3
- Employment rose by 379k last month according to the 'payrolls' report, unemployment rate dipped to 6.2%

Ireland

- GDP in Q4 2020 was down 5.1% on the previous quarter, partly because of tighter public health measures
- The COVID-19 adjusted unemployment rate dipped slightly in February to 24.8% (from 25.1% in January)
- Exchequer recorded a deficit of €0.7bn in Jan-Feb, compared to a surplus of €1.0bn in Jan-Feb 2020

Monday	IRL New Vehicle Licenses, Services Index
Tuesday	IRL Industrial Production; EA GDP & Employment (Q4, final readings); UK BRC Retail Sales
Wednesday	US CPI
Thursday	IRL CPI; ECB Meeting; UK RICS Housing Survey; US Jobless Claims, Job Openings
Friday	IRL Residential Property Prices, Planning Permissions; EA Industrial Production; UK GDP (Jan); US Consumer Confidence

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