



30th April 2021  
This week's highlights

<b>EUR/\$</b> Little changed	<b>Bond Yields</b> Up on the week	<b>Euro Area GDP</b> Falls in Q1	<b>US Economy</b> Expands in Q1
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**Euro Area**

- The euro was unchanged on the week at \$1.21, while German 10-year yields rose by 5bps to -0.21%
- The economy contracted for a second consecutive quarter in Q1 with GDP falling by 0.6% from Q4 2020.
- Annual headline inflation picked up further in April to 1.6%, though the core rate eased again to 0.8%

**UK**

- Sterling was broadly flat on the week against the dollar and the euro at \$1.39 and 87p respectively
- Lloyds Business Barometer showed confidence rose this month to its highest level since September 2018
- House prices rose by 2.1% in April and were up 7.1% on April 2020, according to Nationwide's measure

**US**

- The Fed left policy on hold at this week's meeting, noting the economic recovery is "far from complete"
- GDP rose for a 3rd quarter in a row in Q1 2021, by 1.6%, but still circa 1% below its pre-pandemic level
- The S&P 500 set a new all-time high on Thursday; 10-year bond yields up 8bps on the week to 1.63%

**Ireland**

- The Economic Pulse rose again in April (to 85.4) and is now fast approaching its pre-pandemic level
- Retail sales slipped by 1.9% in March (after a big increase in February) but were still up 8.5% on Mar '20
- 9,091 new mortgages were drawn down in the first quarter of this year, an increase of 4.5% on Q1 2020

<b>Monday</b>	Manufacturing PMIs EA & US; US ISM Manufacturing Index
<b>Tuesday</b>	Manufacturing PMIs IRL & UK; UK Mortgage Approvals; US Factory Orders
<b>Wednesday</b>	Services PMIs EA & US; EA PPI; US ISM Services Index, ADP Employment Report
<b>Thursday</b>	Services PMIs IRL & UK; IRL Unemployment, New Dwelling Completions; EA Retail Sales; BOE Meeting
<b>Friday</b>	IRL Industrial Production, Services Index; UK Construction PMI; US Payrolls Report, Consumer Credit

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