

## Weekly Round Up



25th March 2022

This week's highlights

### Oil Prices

Rebound

### Bond Yields

Higher again

### March PMIs

Hold up well

### UK Retail Sales

Dip in Feb

#### Euro Area

- Oil prices rebounded this week with Brent crude increasing by around \$10 to almost \$119 per barrel
- German government 10-year bond yields rose for a 3rd consecutive week, up about 20bps to 0.57%
- The Composite PMI dipped to 54.5 in March from 55.5 in February, indicating moderately slower growth

#### UK

- In a relatively quiet week in currency markets, the pound was flat versus the dollar (\$1.32) & euro (83.5p)
- The volume of retail sales eased back in February (-0.3%) following a strong gain (of almost 2%) in Jan
- OBR raises inflation forecast for 2022 to 7.4% (from 4% in Oct), lowers growth projection to 3.8% (6.0%)

#### US

- Fed's Powell says inflation is 'much too high' and monetary policy needs to be adjusted 'expeditiously'
- Benchmark government 10-year bond yields jumped more than 30bps on the week to just shy of 2.50%
- The Composite PMI rose to 58.5 in March with both manufacturing and services activity picking up

#### Ireland

- Government 10-year bond yields rose by the best part of 20bps to 1.13%, highest since early 2018
- Data published last week showed residential property prices nationally rose by 14.8% y-o-y in January
- Residential property prices in Dublin increased by 13.3% y-o-y in Feb, with ex-Dublin prices up 16%

Monday

IRL Economic Pulse, Retail Sales; US Trade Balance

Tuesday

UK Mortgage Approvals; US Consumer Confidence, House Prices

Wednesday

EA Economic Sentiment Indicator; US ADP Employment, GDP (Q4, final estimate)

Thursday

EA Unemployment; UK Lloyds Business Barometer; US PCE Inflation, Consumer Spending, Jobless Claims

Friday

Manufacturing PMIs, IRL, EA, UK & US; EA CPI; US Employment (Payrolls) Report, ISM Manufacturing Index

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