Market Alert

CURRENCIES	Spot	6mths		
NZD/USD	0.5591	0.0023		
NZD/AUD	0.9046	0.0022		
NZD/JPY	86.610	-1.38		
NZD/EUR	0.5437	-0.0032		
NZD/GBP	0.4509	0.0019		
NZD/CNH	4.1284	-0.0189		
AUD/USD	0.6179	0.0009		
AUD/EUR	0.6009	-0.0051		
EUR/USD	1.0281	0.0102		
USD/CNH	7.3281	-0.0635		
GBP/USD	1.2398	-0.0003		
EUR/GBP	0.8290	0.0083		
INT RATES	NZ	Australia		
OCR/Cash	4.25%	4.35%		
90 day bills	4.29%	4.28%		
2 year swap	3.32%	3.74%		
10 year Govt	4.57%	4.49%		

The Trump Corner

Yesterday the market grappled with the implications of Trump's tariff plans, sending the NZD/USD lower, however the NZD bounced off 0.5516 which was its lowest level since the end of 2022. As for the AUD/USD, it had a slightly larger fall as the AUD fell to 0.6088, which was its lowest level in almost 5-years.

Trump once again made headlines overnight. Mexico has managed to delay its tariffs by a month, while Trump has spoken to Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, although they are yet to work out a resolution. Trump is set to talk to Trudeau again and China in the coming hours. It appears that Trump is on a war path as he floated the idea of tariffs on goods from the EU which sent the EUR/USD towards parity, marking the lowest level since 2022. This news also imposes a headache to the already struggling European automakers, which sent their stock prices lower. Overnight we had the EU's preliminary CPI report for January. It showed both headline and core inflation were slightly higher than expectations, although ECB member, Gediminas Šimkus, still sees a 25bps rate cut in March.

However, markets have recovered slightly, with the NZD/USD lifting through the 0.5600 level briefly, while the AUD/USD is back at 0.6180.

So, what do tariffs mean for the Fed? There were a few Fed speakers overnight, with the general message being that tariffs bring a greater degree of uncertainty and with limited experience with large scale tariffs, it is appropriate to err on the side of caution. Therefore, we are likely to see the Fed take a slower approach to its easing cycle as it not only waits for the 100bp of Fed cuts so far to wash through the system, but also for Trump's tariff game plan to play out. In a switch, Trump yesterday said that the Fed made the right call last week to pause cuts, a pivot from his previous demand that the central bank ease "immediately".

The benchmark US10-year treasury yield was surprisingly stable overnight, hovering around the 4.50% level.

Tuesday 04 February 2025

All about Australia

Australian retail sales fell by -0.1% over the December 2024 month, but this was far better than expectations of a 0.7% drop, with Cyber Monday falling in December helping to boost sales early in the month. Over Q4, retail sales rose by 1.0%, beating forecasts of a 0.8% rise for the largest gain since early 2022. The Melbourne Institute Inflation Gauge reported a rise in the January month of 0.1% and a rise in the January year of 2.3%. These were both lower than the prior figures of 0.6% and 2.6%, respectively. Australian commodity prices rose by 0.1% in SDR ("Special Drawing Right") terms over the January month, but saw a drop of 11.9% over the January year. This was led by lower prices in iron ore and coking coal. In AUD terms the index fell by 8.2%.

The ANZ-Indeed job advertisements report revealed a 0.2% increase in job advertising in January, a moderation from December 2024's figure of 0.3%. Australian building approvals rose by 0.7% over the December 2024 month, lower than expectations of a 1.0% increase, but far greater than the prior revised figure of -3.4% for November. Annual building approvals rose by 5.6% over the December 2024 year, well below the previous figure of 7.1%.

Markets are currently implying a 90% chance of a rate cut by the RBA later this month.











	Spot FECs (mid)						Spot Mid	
FX	Mid	1mth	3mths	6mths	12mths		NZD/	AUD/
NZTWI	67.00					CAD	0.8140	0.9002
NZD/USD	0.5591	0.0002	0.0009	0.0023	0.0051	CHF	0.5104	0.5645
NZD/AUD	0.9046	0.0002	0.0009	0.0022	0.0044	CNY	4.1153	4.5472
NZD/JPY	86.610	-0.25	-0.76	-1.38	-2.57	DKK	4.0555	4.4843
NZD/EUR	0.5437	-0.0005	-0.0016	-0.0032	-0.0067	FJD	1.2824	1.4175
NZD/GBP	0.4509	0.0002	0.0008	0.0019	0.0039	HKD	4.3562	4.8160
						KRW	816.51	902.85
AUTWI	58.90					MYR	2.4987	2.7625
AUD/USD	0.6179	0.0001	0.0003	0.0009	0.0022	NOK	6.3753	7.0482
AUD/NZD	1.1052	-0.0003	-0.0012	-0.0031	-0.0084	SEK	6.2264	6.8835
AUD/JPY	95.72	-0.30	-0.94	-1.77	-3.35	SGD	0.7614	0.8418
AUD/EUR	0.6009	-0.0007	-0.0024	-0.0051	-0.0107	TWD	18.45	20.40
AUD/GBP	0.4984	0.0001	0.0004	0.0008	0.0016	ZAR	10.52	11.63
USD Index	109.03					EQUITI		
EUR/USD	1.0281	0.0013	0.0046	0.0102	0.0219			Index
USD/JPY	154.92	-0.50	-1.60	-3.10	-5.96	NZX50		12,810
GBP/USD	1.2398	-0.0001	-0.0003	-0.0003	0.0002	ASX200		8,379
EUR/GBP	0.8290	0.0011	0.0040	0.0083	0.0174	Dow Jones		44,511
USD/CNY	7.2507	-0.0145	-0.0493	-0.1056	-0.2320	S&P 50	0	6,007
						FTSE10	0	8,584
INTEREST		New Zealand			Australia DAX 30)	21,428
RATES			Mid		Mid	Nikkei		38,520
30 day bank bills		4.30% 4.29%		COMM	ODITIES			
90 day bank bills			4.29%		4.28%			USD
1 year swap			3.45%	3.88%		Brent Crude		75.76
2 year swap		3.36%			3.75%		Gold	
3 year swap		3.41%			3.73%	Silver		31.55
5 year swap		3.60%			4.03%		Iron Ore	
10 year swap		4.03%			4.36%		CRB Index	
3 year Govt bond			3.71%		3.78%			
5 year Govt bond			3.99%		3.97%			NZD
10 year Govt bond			4.57%		4.49%	NZ Car		63.90

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