

Daily Update



Economic Commentary

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May 24, 2012

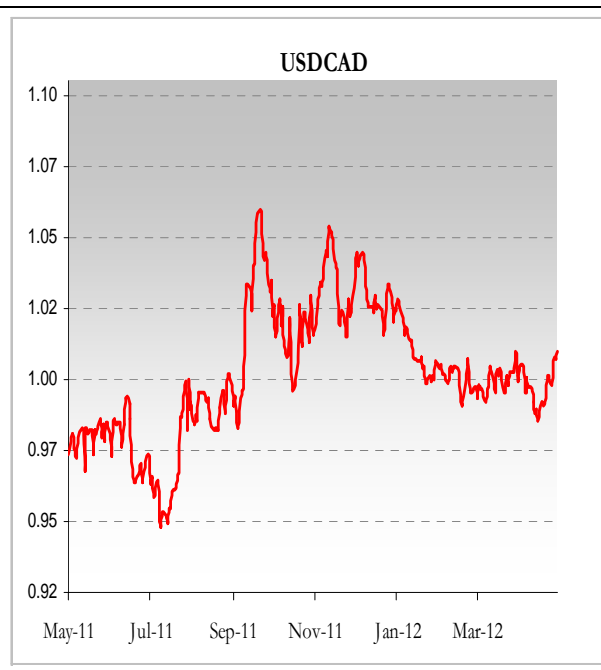
- Two very different messages emerged from yesterday's meeting of the EU leaders. German Chancellor Angela Merkel reiterated that Union leaders strongly want Greece to remain in the Union and maintained her commitment to previously adopted austerity measures. However, the finance ministers of the 17 member nations are working simultaneously to develop an exit strategy for Greece. None of this news is very clear or reassuring for investors who pushed the Euro to its lowest level against the greenback since July 2010.
- GDP figures for Germany and the U.K. were released this morning. As expected, Germany's GDP gained 1.7% annually in the first quarter of 2012. The U.K.'s GDP was slightly below the level forecasted, down -0.1% for the same period.
- The U.S. Durable Goods Orders figures for April will be published today. Markets expect growth of 0.5% compared to a -3.9% drop in March. Initial Jobless Claims will also be released today. Markets are forecasting them to be around 368k, essentially unchanged since last week. *Xavier Villemaire*

- Range of the day: 1.0200-1.0285

Range of the next 5 days: 1.0050- 1.0275

Currency	Time	Economic Data	Expectations	Previous
USD	8.30	DUURABLE GOOD ORDERS	0.50%	-3.9%
USD	8.30	INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS	368K	370K
JPY	19.30	CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	0.40%	0.50%

Forex	Open	Close	Year	
	24-May-12	23-May-12	Change	to date
USDCAD	1.0252	1.0252	0.00%	0.38%
EURCAD	1.2878	1.2902	-0.18%	-2.79%
GBPCAD	1.6074	1.6088	-0.09%	1.26%
CHFCAD	1.0723	1.0741	-0.17%	-1.50%
CADJPY	77.4170	77.5130	-0.12%	3.10%
AUDCAD	1.0031	0.9992	0.39%	-3.94%
EURUSD	1.2560	1.2582	-0.17%	-3.09%
GBPUSD	1.5677	1.5692	-0.10%	0.86%
CHFUSD	1.0459	1.0476	-0.16%	-1.88%
USDJPY	79.3800	79.4700	-0.11%	3.11%
CADCNY	6.1886	6.1782	0.17%	3.11%
USDCNY	6.3452	6.3347	0.17%	0.79%
Other markets	23-May-12	22-May-12	Change	2012
S&P/TSX	11 564.80	11 451.78	0.99%	-3.26%
S&P 500	1 318.86	1 316.63	0.17%	4.87%
DOW JONES	12 496.15	12 502.81	-0.05%	2.28%
NASDAQ	2 850.12	2 839.08	0.39%	9.40%
FTSE 100	5 266.41	5 403.28	-2.53%	-4.13%
DJ EURO STOXX 50	2 134.05	2 192.85	-2.68%	-6.93%
CRUDE OIL	89.90	91.66	-1.92%	-8.35%
GOLD	1 561.45	1 568.50	-0.45%	0.23%
NATURAL GAS	2.74	2.71	1.11%	-8.50%



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