Capital Markets Strategy

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Chart of the Day



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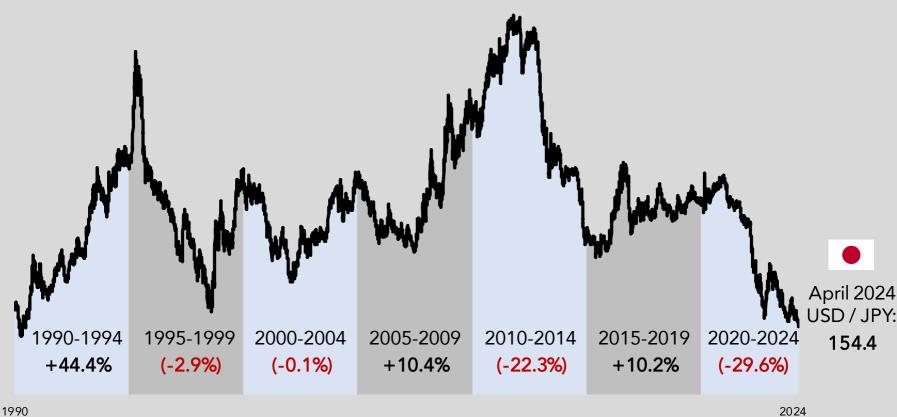
The gap between 10 year US and German borrowing rates reached 218 bps on Friday, its widest gap in nearly 5 years (since Dec 2019). US economic strength and divergent Fed-ECB policy easing expectations (ECB sooner, Fed later) have been key drivers of the wider rate differentials. USD continued to strengthen, rallying +1.7% on the week, and trading to its highest levels vis-a-vis Euro and Sterling since November.

5.0% Apr 2024: +218 bps Dec 2019: 218 bps -2.0% 2014 2016 2018 2020 2022 2024

Japanese Yen, above 154, declined to its weakest level vs. the US Dollar in 34 years. Geopolitical-induced safe-haven flows have also contributed to USD strength. As an energy-deficit country that is importing oil in US dollars with a weakening currency, Japan faces increased pressure to intervene and support the Yen as Middle East risk escalates.

10 year UST vs. 10 year German bunds

JPY performance vs. USD



1990

Source: (1-2) Bloomberg. Currency graph is JPY vs. USD. Data as of April 15, 2024.

Global Corporate & Investment Banking **Capital Markets Strategy Team**



Tom Joyce Managing Director

Tom_Joyce@mufgsecurities.com (212) 405-7472



Hailey Orr Managing Director

Hailey.Orr@mufgsecurities.com (212) 405-7429



Stephanie Kendal Vice President

Stephanie.Kendal@mufgsecurities.com (212) 405-7443



Angela Sun Analyst

Angela.Sun@mufgsecurities.com (212) 405 - 6952

"Macro stability isn't everything, but without it, you have nothing."