

Interest Rates			FX			Commodities		
Australia		Δ bp	AUD/USD	0.6995	-0.2%	WTI Crude Oil	79.49	-\$0.51
90-day Bill	4.47	1	AUD/JPY	113.60	0.0%	Brent Crude Oil	84.79	-\$0.48
3-year Bond	4.49	2	AUD/EUR	0.6113	0.1%	Mogas95*	112.96	\$5.75
10-year Bond	4.91	2	AUD/GBP	0.5192	0.3%	CRB Index	375.97	-3.36
			AUD/NZD	1.1971	-0.1%	Gold	3981.50	-\$77.28
			AUD/CNY	4.7376	-0.1%	Silver	55.42	-\$2.31
US			EUR/USD	1.1442	-0.3%	Iron Ore (61% Fe)**	100.25	\$0.30
2-year	4.14	0	USD/JPY	162.41	0.2%	Iron Ore (26-27 Average)	98.92	\$0.11
10-year	4.55	0	USD/CNY	6.7728	0.1%	Copper	13598.50	\$17.00
			RBA Policy			Equities		
			O/N Cash Rate Target		4.35	ASX200	8785	-64
			Interbank O/N Cash Rate		4.35	Dow Jones	52553	-106
Other 10-year			Probability of a 25bps Hike in Aug		15.5%	S&P500	7534	-39
Japan	2.71	1	RBA Bond Holdings (30 Jun)		A\$229.9b	Stoxx600	644	1
Germany	3.13	1				CSI300	4698	-88
UK	4.97	3						

*Mogas95 is the Singapore benchmark petrol price closely linked to Australian domestic fuel prices.

**Iron ore is the second SGX futures contract.

The S&P 500 retreated overnight, dragged down by information technology and communication services amid fresh concerns about overvaluation, though most sectors closed in the black. Investors are also awaiting US President Donald Trump's speech later this morning, although there is speculation that the speech may not concern international affairs.

Oil prices declined slightly, despite news reports that Iran had again instructed the Yemeni Houthi military group to be prepared to block shipping through another crucial passage on the other side of the Arabian Peninsula, Bab al-Mandab. Brent futures remain just below US\$85 a barrel, somewhat higher than before the recent re-escalation of the Middle East conflict, but well below the highs reached in the early stages of the war.

The Australian dollar retreated against the stronger greenback and was steady against the Japanese yen. Commonwealth bond yields picked up slightly across the yield curve. The ASX 200 closed flat yesterday, as steep declines in materials and energy were fully offset by gains in most other sectors, before opening in the red this morning.

Data-wise, US retail sales rose by 0.2% in June, in line with market expectations but slightly less than in the previous month, with growth contained by lower petrol prices ahead of the latest flare-up in US-Iran tensions.

The retail sales control group, a good indicator of personal consumption in national accounts that excludes petrol stations, food services, car dealers and building material stores, rose by a solid 0.5% in June, still somewhat below the 0.8% recorded in the previous month.

US initial jobless claims declined to a two-month low of 208k last week, while continued claims fell back towards 1.8 million in the week ending 4 July.

Across the Atlantic, UK GDP rose by 0.1% in May, against expectations of no change, retracing the previous month's decline. The slight increase came as solid growth in services more than offset declines in industrial output and construction.

At home, Melbourne Institute consumer inflation expectations declined to 4.7% in July, the lowest level since January but still somewhat above the long-term average of 4.4%. The survey was most likely conducted before the recent escalation in the Middle East.

Economic Data Review

- **AU:** Melbourne Institute Consumer Inflation Expectations (Jul) – Actual 4.7%, Previous 5.5%.
- **UK:** GDP (MoM, May) – Actual 0.1%, Expected 0.0%, Previous -0.1%.
- **US:** Retail Sales (MoM, Jun) – Actual 0.2%, Expected 0.2%, Previous 1.0% (revised).
- **US:** Initial Jobless Claims (w/e 11 Jul) – Actual 208k, Expected 217k, Previous 216k (revised).

Economic Data Preview

- **US:** Public Appearance by US President Donald Trump.
- **US:** Industrial Production (MoM, Jun) – Expected 0.2%, Previous 0.1%.
- **US:** University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment (Jul, prel.) – Expected 51.0, Previous 49.5.