

Interest Rates			FX			Commodities		
Australia		Δ bp	AUD/USD	0.6985	-0.2%	WTI Crude Oil	81.58	-\$2.55
90-day Bill	4.55	0	AUD/JPY	114.41	-0.1%	Brent Crude Oil	87.54	-\$3.97
3-year Bond	4.63	2	AUD/EUR	0.6143	0.1%	Mogas95*	115.36	-\$1.80
10-year Bond	5.01	0	AUD/GBP	0.5256	0.3%	CRB Index	383.49	-12.18
			AUD/NZD	1.2105	0.4%	Gold	4060.94	-\$35.45
			AUD/CNY	4.7265	0.0%	Silver	58.03	-\$1.70
US			EUR/USD	1.1373	-0.3%	Iron Ore (61% Fe)**	98.00	\$0.05
2-year	4.31	2	USD/JPY	163.79	0.2%	Iron Ore (26-27 Average)	98.66	-\$0.03
10-year	4.63	0	USD/CNY	6.7637	-0.1%	Copper	13732.50	\$87.50
			RBA Policy			Equities		
			O/N Cash Rate Target		4.35	ASX200	8868	19
Other 10-year			Interbank O/N Cash Rate		4.35	Dow Jones	52210	263
Japan	2.78	2	Probability of a 25bps Hike in Aug		27.9%	S&P500	7413	1
Germany	3.13	-4	RBA Bond Holdings (30 Jun)		A\$229.9b	Stoxx600	645	0
UK	5.00	-4				CSI300	4702	53

*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 closed the day almost unchanged after giving up all its early gains. The fall was driven by a sell-off in semiconductor shares, although most sectors posted increases. Reports that giant chipmaker Nvidia is helping to finance data centre development raised concerns that it is financing its own chip sales, adding to anxiety over the sustainability of huge investments in AI data centres.

The mixed session in the US followed a similarly mixed day in Europe, which saw the Stoxx 600 close flat, and a positive session across most of the Asia-Pacific region. The Australian market had its best day since June, with the ASX 200 rising 1.4% yesterday. Gains were led by the Big Four banks and miners, while energy was the only sector to decline. The Australian market has opened a little lower this morning.

US Treasury yields drifted higher at the short end of the yield curve. Financial markets are currently pricing in a 38% chance of a Fed rate hike at Wednesday's FOMC meeting, with an increase fully priced in by September. Shorter-dated Australian bond yields opened higher this morning following the rise in US yields overnight.

The Australian dollar slipped against the stronger greenback, while the Japanese yen picked up a little against the US dollar but remained around 40-year lows.

Oil prices slumped after US President Trump said the US was pausing its airstrikes to allow ceasefire negotiations to proceed and that there was a good chance of a deal. Iran and Oman are also reportedly in talks aimed at reopening the Strait of Hormuz to shipping. However, risks to oil supplies remain substantial, with Saudi Arabia reportedly intercepting several drones launched at petroleum facilities, and fighting between Saudi Arabia and Houthi rebels continuing to escalate.

In other commodity news, gold slipped against the stronger US dollar, iron ore futures steadied following recent falls, and easing Middle East tensions helped push copper prices higher.

US durable goods orders rose 0.3% in June, following a revised 4.0% decline in May, with non-defence capital goods orders excluding aircraft – an indicator of business investment – rising 0.9% after a 1.9% increase in May. Orders for computers and electronic products climbed 3.2% in June following a 1.2% rise in May, suggesting the boom in AI investment continues.

The ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence Index for the week ending 26 July – released this morning – fell by 5.8% to 71.2 points, its lowest level since mid-June, while inflation expectations rose by 0.1 percentage points to 5.9%, their highest level over the same period. The deterioration in sentiment reflected growing concern that the recent escalation in the US-Iran war could place renewed upward pressure on fuel prices and inflation.

Economic Data Review

- AU:** ANZ-Roy Morgan Weekly Consumer Confidence Index (w/e 26 Jul) – Actual 71.2, Previous 75.6.
- US:** Durable Goods Orders (MoM, Jun) – Actual 0.3%, Expected 1.5%, Previous -4.0% (revised).

Economic Data Preview

- AU:** Speech by RBA Governor Michele Bullock (11:05am WST) – Monetary Policy in an Era of Shocks.
- US:** Conference Board Consumer Confidence Index (Jul) – Expected 92.4, Previous 91.2.