Market Daily Update

25 SEPTEMBER 2026

Interest Rates			FX			Commodities		
Australia		**Δ bp**	AUD/USD	0.7007	-0.4%	WTI Crude Oil	93.86	$2.19
90-day Bill	4.76	1	AUD/JPY	111.22	-0.1%	Brent Crude Oil	105.94	$3.51
3-year Bond	5.03	-5	AUD/EUR	0.6162	-0.3%	Mogas95*	136.15	$0.16
10-year Bond	5.40	1	AUD/GBP	0.5304	-0.2%	CRB Index	423.32	3.58
			AUD/NZD	1.2380	-0.1%	Gold	4269.52	-$22.89
			AUD/CNY	4.7084	-0.3%	Silver	63.59	-$0.63
US			EUR/USD	1.1372	-0.1%	Iron Ore (61% Fe)**	95.65	-$0.25
2-year	4.90	1	USD/JPY	158.72	0.3%	Iron Ore (26-27 Average)	97.33	-$0.04
10-year	5.19	8	USD/CNY	6.7129	0.0%	Copper	14621.00	$3.00
			RBA Policy			**Equities**		
			O/N Cash Rate Target		4.35	ASX200	8657	4
Other 10-year			Interbank O/N Cash Rate		4.35	Dow Jones	51350	-162
Japan	3.11	6	Probability of a 25bps Hike in Sep		90.0%	S&P500	7704	-2
Germany	3.60	4	RBA Bond Holdings (31 Aug)		A$227.4b	Stoxx600	636	-3
UK	5.38	3				CSI300	4439	-78

*Mogas95 is the Singapore benchmark petrol price closely linked to Australian domestic fuel prices.
**Iron ore is the second SGX futures contract.

US equities were mostly lower overnight, although the S&P 500 finished broadly flat after recovering most of its early losses as investors responded to reports that the US and Chinese presidents had agreed to extend their trade truce. Bond yields continued to rise as oil prices surged, with hawkish comments from Federal Reserve officials adding to the pressure. Oil prices climbed amid reports the Houthis had again targeted Saudi oil facilities, although reports that the US and Iran continue to explore a path to reopen the Strait of Hormuz via Qatari intermediaries tempered the increase.

Wall Street's mixed performance followed another weak European session, where rising energy costs and bond yields weighed on sentiment. Equities also declined across most of the Asia-Pacific region, with Japan and South Korea the exceptions.

Locally, the ASX 200 recovered some ground after opening sharply lower yesterday but still closed down 0.7%. Losses in the financial and mining sectors were partly offset by gains elsewhere. Commonwealth bond yields fell after news that Australia's unemployment rate unexpectedly rose in August, although longer-term yields opened slightly higher this morning, reversing yesterday's decline. The Australian dollar weakened against all major currencies except the softer Japanese yen and slipped to a seven-week low against the US dollar.

Elsewhere in commodities, a stronger US dollar and higher bond yields continued to weigh on gold prices. Iron ore futures drifted lower amid demand concerns, while China's port stockpiles rose for the first time in seven weeks.

Australian employment rose by a seasonally adjusted 39.5k in August (mkt exp 20.0k), following a 15.9k decline in July, with the increase driven by part-time employment. The unemployment rate unexpectedly rose to 4.6% from 4.5%, its highest since October 2021, as labour force growth outpaced the rise in employment. This lifted the participation rate by 0.2 percentage points to 67.1%, just below its record high and the highest since April 2025. The labour market appears to be easing gradually, although unemployment remains at the lower end of the 4.5–5.0% range that the RBA Governor said this week would be needed to reduce upward pressure on inflation.

US jobless claims data suggested the labour market remained resilient, with initial claims edging down to a subdued 197k last week. Continuing claims were little changed at 1.719m in the previous week.

Norway's central bank, Norges Bank, raised its policy rate by 25bps to 4.50%, its second interest rate hike this year, and said it was prepared to raise rates further to contain inflation. Sweden's Riksbank kept its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 1.75% but also signalled that a future hike had become more likely. The Swiss National Bank kept its policy rate unchanged at 0%.

Economic Data Review

- **AU:** Employment (Monthly Change, Aug) – Actual 39.5k, Expected 20.0k, Previous -15.9k (revised).
- **AU:** Unemployment Rate (Aug) – Actual 4.6%, Expected 4.5%, Previous 4.5%.
- **JP:** S&P Global Composite PMI (Sep, Flash) – Actual 52.5, Previous 53.5.
- **US:** Initial Jobless Claims (w/e 19 Sep) – Actual 197k, Expected 200k, Previous 198k(revised).

Economic Data Preview

- **US:** Durable Goods Orders (MoM, Aug) – Expected -0.3%, Previous 1.1%.