

Interest Rates			FX			Commodities		
Australia		Δ bp	AUD/USD	0.7174	0.6%	WTI Crude Oil	90.63	-\$0.09
90-day Bill	4.32	0	AUD/JPY	113.92	0.6%	Brent Crude Oil	94.50	-\$0.11
3-year Bond	4.61	4	AUD/EUR	0.6077	0.6%	Mogas95*	118.96	\$5.87
10-year Bond	4.95	5	AUD/GBP	0.5287	0.7%	CRB Index	372.00	0.62
			AUD/NZD	1.2136	0.5%	Gold	4824.84	-\$9.00
			AUD/CNY	4.8927	0.7%	Silver	79.82	\$0.27
US			EUR/USD	1.1805	0.1%	Iron Ore (61% Fe)**	105.15	\$1.85
2-year	3.75	1	USD/JPY	158.79	0.0%	Iron Ore (25-26 Average)	103.37	\$0.01
10-year	4.27	3	USD/CNY	6.8190	0.0%	Copper	13247.50	-\$37.00
			RBA Policy			Equities		
			O/N Cash Rate Target	4.10		ASX200	8981	-11
			Interbank O/N Cash Rate	4.10		Dow Jones	48464	-72
Other 10-year			Probability of a 25bps Hike in May	66.8%		S&P500	7023	56
Japan	2.43	1	RBA Bond Holdings (31 Mar)	A\$250.0b		Stoxx600	617	-3
Germany	3.04	2				CSI300	4685	-16
UK	4.81	3						

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

**Iron ore is the second SGX futures contract.

Wall Street remained positive overnight amid speculation that the US and Iran may extend their ceasefire, raising hopes that a peace deal is getting closer. The positive start to earnings season also helped boost the market.

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq closed the day at record highs as tech shares had another strong day, with the S&P 500 closing above 7,000 for the first time. The Dow Jones (which comprises just 30 blue chip shares) ended the day slightly lower, as gains in the tech sector were offset by losses elsewhere.

US Treasury yields rose amid an increase in risk appetite, reversing the declines of earlier in the week. Financial markets continue to price in less than a 50% chance of a Fed interest rate cut this year.

The increase in US equities followed a negative session in Europe, where the impact of the Middle East war on energy markets is likely to have a bigger impact on economic activity going forward. Shares were mainly higher in the Asia-Pacific region, although mainland China was an exception. The Aussie market closed marginally higher yesterday.

Australian bond yields have opened higher this morning, following the overnight moves in US Treasuries. The Australian dollar climbed against all the major currencies and closed overnight at a near four-year end of day high. The AUD also set a new 35-year end-of-day high against the Japanese yen.

Rising hopes for a peace deal helped keep oil prices relatively steady. Iron ore futures prices saw a strong rise ahead of China's data deluge today. Copper prices fell slightly after hitting their highest level since the start of the Middle East conflict in late February.

The Jobs and Skills Australia Internet Job Vacancy Index rose 1.2% in March to be up 4.7% YoY. Vacancies have risen in three of the past four months, adding to the evidence of the improvement in labour market conditions in the months leading into the conflict. Vacancies were up in all states and territories, including a 2.3% rise in Western Australia in the month, which pushed the annual growth rate to 6.3% YoY.

Western Australian Treasury Corporation yesterday priced a new A\$2 billion green benchmark bond, maturing 24 October 2039, with a 5.75% coupon and a yield of 5.745%. The transaction attracted strong demand from both domestic and offshore accounts, with the orderbook exceeding A\$7.8 billion.

Economic Data Review

- **AU:** Internet Job Vacancy Index (MoM, Mar) – Actual 1.2%, Previous -3.1%.

Economic Data Preview

- **AU:** Employment (Monthly Change, Mar) – Expected 20.0k, Previous 48.9k.
- **AU:** Unemployment Rate (Mar) – Expected 4.3%, Previous 4.3%.
- **CH:** GDP (YoY, Q1) – Expected 4.8%, Previous 4.5%.
- **CH:** Retail Sales (YoY, Mar) – Expected 2.4%.
- **CH:** Industrial Production (YoY) – Expected 5.3%.
- **CH:** Urban Fixed Asset Investment (YTD YoY, Mar) – Expected 1.9%, Previous 1.8%.