Market Daily Update

24 JULY 2026

Interest Rates

Australia		Δ bp
90-day Bill	4.50	0
3-year Bond	4.68	12
10-year Bond	5.06	9
US		
2-year	4.35	5
10-year	4.70	4
Other 10-year		
Japan	2.79	3
Germany	3.20	3
UK	5.10	7

FX

AUD/USD	0.6970	-0.3%
AUD/JPY	114.20	0.1%
AUD/EUR	0.6125	0.0%
AUD/GBP	0.5234	0.1%
AUD/NZD	1.2064	0.3%
AUD/CNY	4.7211	-0.4%
EUR/USD	1.1380	-0.3%
USD/JPY	163.85	0.5%
USD/CNY	6.7772	0.0%

RBA Policy

O/N Cash Rate Target	4.35
Interbank O/N Cash Rate	4.35
Probability of a 25bps Hike in Aug	43.4%
RBA Bond Holdings (30 Jun)	A$229.9b

Commodities

WTI Crude Oil	92.78	$4.64
Brent Crude Oil	101.12	$5.25
Mogas95*	125.13	$2.37
CRB Index	400.18	6.25
Gold	4045.89	-$82.86
Silver	57.63	-$2.10
Iron Ore (61% Fe)**	97.70	$0.10
Iron Ore (26-27 Average)	98.72	-$0.03
Copper	13594.50	-$213.50

Equities

ASX200	8792	-116
Dow Jones	51712	-507
S&P500	7408	-91
Stoxx600	639	-8
CSI300	4728	11

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

US and European equities slumped overnight as the Middle East situation deteriorated further and oil prices hit two-month highs, lifting inflation expectations and bond yields. However, tech was the main drag on US markets, as traders continue to question whether future earnings justify current valuations and heavy AI data centre spending. The S&P 500 recorded its worst day in a month, while a gauge of tech's biggest names fell 4.8%, its largest one-day decline since President Trump's April 2025 'reciprocal tariff' announcement.

The US has announced new tariffs of 10% to 12.5% on 60 trading partners, covering more than 99% of US trade. These will take effect on Saturday, replacing the expiring temporary 10% global tariff that was imposed after the reciprocal tariffs were struck down by US courts. The new tariffs have been imposed under the guise of combatting forced labour, with Australia facing a 12.5% tariff.

The falls in US and European equities followed a positive Asia-Pacific session. Australian equities gave up most of their early gains yesterday as a strong rise in June employment lifted expectations of another RBA rate hike. Regional markets, including the ASX 200, have opened lower this morning.

Australian Commonwealth bond yields rose yesterday amid rising expectations for an August RBA hike and opened higher again this morning. The AUD was little changed against most major currencies but fell against the greenback as the US dollar index reached its highest level in almost a month.

Australian employment rose by 76.3k in June, well above expectations for a 15.0k gain, while May was revised up to 44.0k. The result raises the risk of another RBA hike, although unemployment held at 4.4%, above the RBA's forecast of 4.2% for June in its May Statement on Monetary Policy. WA remains a standout, with a 4.2% unemployment rate, the strongest annual employment growth, highest participation rate and employment-to-population ratio of all states.

The Australian flash composite PMI for July rose 2.2pts to 52.6, suggesting a faster pace of business activity growth, led by the services sector. The improvement in orders and activity saw hiring pick up in both services and manufacturing. Cost pressures eased but remain high. Manufacturing selling price growth eased, however, selling prices in the services sector rose at a faster rate.

The European Central Bank left policy rates unchanged, as expected, overnight after raising rates in June, but is expected to resume tightening at its next meeting in September.

Economic Data Review

- **AU:** Employment (monthly change, Jun) – Actual 76.3k, Expected 15.0k, Previous 44.0k (revised).
- **AU:** Unemployment Rate (Jun) – Actual 4.4%, Expected 4.4%, Previous 4.4%.
- **AU:** S&P Global Composite PMI (Jul, flash) – Actual 52.6, Previous 50.4.
- **EZ:** ECB Decision (Deposit Rate) – Actual 2.25%, Expected 2.25%, Previous 2.25%.

Economic Data Preview

- **JP:** CPI (YoY, Jun) – Expected 1.7%, Previous 1.5%.
- **EZ:** S&P Global Composite PMI (Jul, flash) – Expected 50.2, Previous 50.0.
- **US:** S&P Global Composite PMI (Jul, flash) – Expected 51.8, Previous 51.9.