Market Daily Update

25 FEBRUARY 2026

Interest Rates			FX			Commodities		
Australia		Δ bp	AUD/USD	0.7062	0.0%	WTI Crude Oil	65.99	-$0.26
90-day Bill	3.99	1	AUD/JPY	110.07	0.8%	Brent Crude Oil	70.77	-$0.72
3-year Bond	4.24	0	AUD/EUR	0.5996	0.2%	Mogas95*	80.79	-$0.23
10-year Bond	4.69	-1	AUD/GBP	0.5232	0.0%	CRB Index	309.80	-0.34
			AUD/NZD	1.1835	-0.1%	Gold	5143.23	-$85.46
			AUD/CNY	4.8600	-0.6%	Silver	87.15	-$0.47
US			EUR/USD	1.1778	-0.1%	Iron Ore (61% Fe)**	96.75	$0.85
2-year	3.45	0	USD/JPY	155.86	0.7%	Iron Ore (25-26 Average)	103.06	-$0.03
10-year	4.03	-1	USD/CNY	6.8823	-0.3%	Copper	13166.50	$298.00
			RBA Policy			**Equities**		
			O/N Cash Rate Target		3.85	ASX200	9103	83
Other 10-year			Interbank O/N Cash Rate		3.85	Dow Jones	49175	370
Japan	2.10	3	Probability of a 25bps Hike in Mar		13.3%	S&P500	6890	52
Germany	2.71	0	RBA Bond Holdings (30 Jan)		A$250.2b	Stoxx600	629	1
UK	4.31	-1				CSI300	4708	47

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

Wall Street bounced back overnight, which corresponded with somewhat better US economic data. There was also a realisation that the new flat US tariff rate, coming into effect overnight, is 10% for the time being, although the Trump administration is working on increasing it to 15%.

The S&P 500 rose by 0.7%, making up for most of the losses from the previous session. US Treasury yields picked up at the front end of the yield curve, while the US dollar appreciated.

The positive session on Wall Street followed mixed results in Europe and in the Asia-Pacific. Chinese investors came back from the Lunar New Year holidays in a positive mood, with the CSI 300 up 1.0% yesterday.

The Australian dollar appreciated against all major currencies except for the stronger greenback. Commonwealth bond yields are little changed ahead of the January CPI report this morning. The ASX 200 has opened higher, having closed flat yesterday, with gains and losses almost equally split across sectors.

In commodity markets, gold and oil prices fell amid hopes that US-Iran talks will help avert a military conflict between the countries. Iron ore futures rose by 0.9% after the Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations.

The Conference Board US consumer confidence picked up by 2.5% in February, from an upwardly revised level in January. Despite this rise, the level of confidence remains quite low, at 91.2. The difference between the assessment that jobs are ‘plentiful’ and ‘hard to get’ widened slightly but remained at one of the lowest levels since 2021. A separate report by Case-Shiller showed that US house prices rose by another 0.5% in December, reaching a new record high.

Chicago Fed President Austan Goolsbee said that, while the US Supreme Court ruling to make the emergency law tariffs illegal could lower inflation, it also adds to uncertainty. His Boston counterpart, Susan Collins, spoke in favour of keeping interest rates unchanged ‘for some time’, citing the recent improvement to labour market data and still-elevated inflation. Fed Governor Lisa Cook highlighted some challenges in incorporating AI-driven jobs into the US statistics.

The People’s Bank of China has announced that the five-year loan prime rate, which is a key reference for mortgage rates, would remain unchanged at a record low 3.50%, as expected. The one-year loan prime rate, the benchmark for short-term loans to businesses and households, was also left steady at 3.00%.

There was also a little bit of RBA talk yesterday. In his interview with the Guardian, RBA Governor Andrew Hauser said that the recent rise in inflationary pressures was not driven by one particular sector. Head of RBA Economic Analysis Michael Plumb summarised the key drivers of the inflation pick-up, ranging from temporary factors in housing and retail sectors, aggregate demand in general turning out to be higher than expected, to supply capacity being somewhat lower than previously thought. RBA Governor Michele Bullock is to speak at a Melbourne University event tonight.

Economic Data Review

- **US:** Case-Shiller House Price Index 20 Cities (MoM, Dec) – Actual 0.5%, Expected 0.3%, Previous 0.5%.
- **US:** Conference Board Consumer Confidence (Feb) – Actual 91.2, Expected 87.0, Expected 89.0 (revised).

Economic Data Preview

- **AU:** CPI (YoY, Jan) – Expected 3.7%, Previous 3.8%.
- **AU:** Construction Work Done (QoQ, Q4) – Expected 1.3%, Previous -0.7%.