

The week that was

- US consumer and producer price inflation in February was stronger than expected. Bond yields rose because investors believe this data will reduce the likelihood that the US Federal Reserve (Fed) will start to cut interest rates in June. US 10-year yields ended the week 23bps higher.
- Bond yields in other advanced economies also rose last week, with Australian 10-year yields 16bps higher. While the S&P500 ended the week little changed, the ASX200 fell 2.3%, weighed down by mining and financial stocks.
- Initial results from Japan's annual Shunto wage negotiations saw larger-than-expected wage rises.
 Investors have interpreted this as increasing the likelihood that the Bank of Japan will adjust its monetary policy settings at its meeting this week, including ending its negative interest rate policy.
- Iron ore prices fell almost 9% last week, to be 22% lower since the start of this year, reflecting concerns about weaker steel demand from China.
- Oil prices rose 4% last week and are up 11% since the start of 2024, as stronger oil demand has increased expectations of a supply deficit this year.

Economic calendar

Monday	CH: Monthly activity indicators, Feb
18/03	EC: CPI, Feb (final)
Tuesday	AU: RBA policy decision
19/03	JP: Bank of Japan policy decision
	US: Building permits, Feb; Housing
	starts, Feb
	CA: CPI, Feb
Wednesday	UK: CPI, Feb
20/03	
Thursday	US: Federal Reserve policy decision
21/03	UK: Bank of England policy decision
	AU: Labour force data, Feb
	Global: PMIs, March (prelim)
Friday	US: Existing home sales, Feb
22/03	JP: National CPI, February

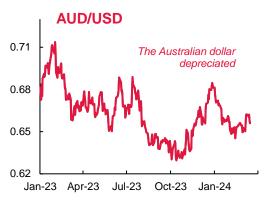
The week ahead

- Central bank policy decisions will be in focus.
 Japan's policy decision is seen as 'live', and the Fed will release updated economic forecasts. Locally, the Reserve Bank of Australia is expected to keep rates on hold and is unlikely to discuss rate cuts or meaningfully change its forward guidance.
- Australian labour market data for February will be closely watched as the labour market has been gradually weakening.
- Inflation data in several countries and global PMI indexes will provide updated reads on price pressures and economic activity.

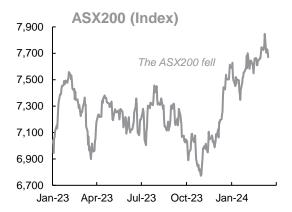
Weekly economic report

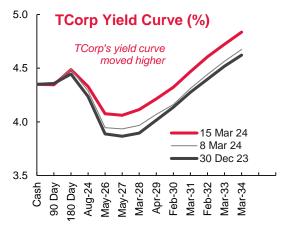
18 March 2024

Financial markets charts









Weekly economic report Unclassified / 1

Financial markets data: Week ending 15 March 2024

INTEREST RATES	CLOSE (%)	1 WEEK (BPS)		YTD (BPS)	
RBA Cash Rate	4.35	0	_	0	_
90-day BBSW	4.34	-1	•	-1	V
3-year Australian Bond Yield	3.74	13	A	13	A
10-year Australian Bond Yield	4.13	16		18	
20-year Australian Bond Yield	4.43	16		19	A
10-year Australian Break-Even Inflation	2.53	7		-4	▼
10-year Australian Real Yield	1.60	8	A	22	
Fed Funds Rate (lower bound)	5.25	0	_	0	_
2-year US Treasury Yield	4.73	25	A	48	A
10-year US Treasury Yield	4.31	23	A	43	
30-year US Treasury Yield	4.43	18	A	40	A
10-year German Bund Yield	2.44	18	A	42	
NSW TCorp Bonds	Close (%)	1 Week (bps)		YTD (bps)	
5.00% 20 August 2024	4.33	4	•	9	•
1.25% 20 March 2025	4.25	9	A	22	A
4.00% 20 May 2026	4.08	13	<u> </u>	19	<u> </u>
3.00% 20 May 2027	4.06	13	A	20	A
3.00% 20 March 2028	4.11	15	<u> </u>	22	<u> </u>
3.00% 20 April 2029	4.21	14	<u> </u>	20	A
3.00% 20 February 2030	4.32	16	<u> </u>	19	<u> </u>
2.00% 20 March 2031	4.47	16	A	19	
1.50% 20 February 2032	4.61	16	A	21	A
2.00% 8 March 2033	4.72	16	A	20	A
1.75% 20 March 2034	4.84	16	A	21	
2.75% 20 November 2025 CIB	1.43	12	A	37	A
2.50% 20 November 2035 CIB	2.27	9	A	20	
10-year NSW TCorp Bond Yield	4.78	16	A	22	A
10-year TCV (Victoria) Spread	0.09	-2	-	-2	-
10-year QTC (Queensland) Spread	-0.05	1	× ×	4	X
Equities	Close	1 Week	_	YTD	
S&P/ASX200 (Australia)	7,670	-2.3%		1.0%	<u> </u>
S&P500 (US)	5,117	-0.1%	V	7.3%	<u> </u>
FTSE 100 (UK)	7,727	0.9%	A	-0.1%	
DJ Stoxx600 (Europe)	505	0.3%	<u> </u>	5.4%	<u> </u>
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	38,708	-2.5%	V	15.7%	<u> </u>
Shanghai Composite (China)	3,055	0.3%	A	2.7%	A
Currencies	Close	1 Week		YTD	_
AUD/USD	0.656	-1.0%		-3.7%	
EUR/USD	1.089	-0.5%	V	-1.4%	V
USD/JPY	149.04	1.3%		5.7%	À
GBP/USD	1.27	-0.9%	.	0.0%	A
US\$ Index	103.43	0.7%	A	2.1%	
Commodities	Close	1 Week		YTD	,
Brent Oil (US\$/bbl)	85.34	4.0%	<u> </u>	10.8%	<u> </u>
Iron Ore (US\$/t)	106.75	-8.7%	V	-21.7%	V
Coking Coal (US\$/t)	208.02	-16.0%	V	-24.5%	V
Gold (US\$/oz)	2,155.90	-1.1%	V	4.5%	A

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Weekly economic report Unclassified / 2



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