

### The week that was

- Slightly weaker-than-expected US inflation in April triggered a fall in global bond yields. The encouraging data was a relief to investors following a series of upside inflation surprises since the start of this year. However, bond yields partly retraced their earlier falls after US Federal Reserve (Fed) policymakers reiterated that it may take a while for the Fed to gain sufficient confidence in the inflation outlook to start cutting interest rates. US 10-year bond yields ended the week 8bps lower, while the S&P500 rose 1.5%.
- The fall in US bond yields drove Australian yields lower, with 10-year yields down 11bps last week.
   Local data showing a slowing in wages growth in the March quarter and a gradual softening in the labour market also contributed. Lower bond yields also helped the ASX200 gain 0.8% last week.
- In China, economic activity outside of the manufacturing sector remained soft in April. The property sector is a drag on activity and consumer sentiment, though authorities have announced new measures aimed at stabilising the housing market.
- The Australian dollar appreciated by 1.3% against the US dollar to around US\$0.67, its highest level since the start of this year.

#### **Economic calendar**

Monday 20/05	
Tuesday 21/05	AU: RBA Board minutes, May; Consumer sentiment, May
Wednesday 22/05	CA: CPI, Apr NZ: RBNZ policy meeting UK: CPI, Apr
Thursday 23/05	US: FOMC meeting minutes, May; Existing home sales, Apr Global: PMIs, May (preliminary)
Friday 24/05	JP: National CPI, Apr US: New home sales, Apr

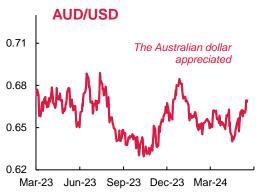
## The week ahead

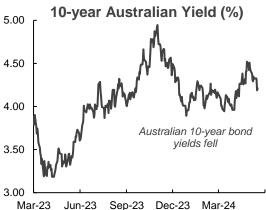
- The focus locally will be the release of the minutes from the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) May meeting. While the RBA Governor Michele Bullock has conveyed that the Board maintains a neutral stance, a more hawkish tone in the minutes could still elicit a market reaction.
- Offshore, the minutes from the Fed's May meeting will provide more details on the Fed's thinking, and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand has its policy meeting this week.
- The key economic data this week are updated reads on inflation in several countries and global Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs).

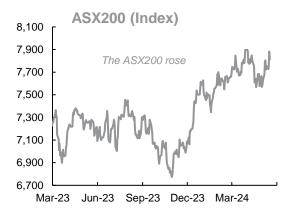
# Weekly economic report

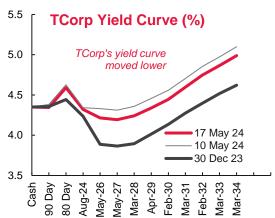
20 May 2024

# Financial markets charts









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# Financial markets data: Week ending 17 May 2024

INTEREST RATES	CLOSE (%)	1 WEEK (BPS)		YTD (BPS)	
RBA Cash Rate	4.35	0	_	0	_
90-day BBSW	4.35	-4	•	-1	▼
3-year Australian Bond Yield	3.85	-12	<b>V</b>	24	<b>A</b>
10-year Australian Bond Yield	4.21	-11	<b>V</b>	26	
20-year Australian Bond Yield	4.49	-11	▼	25	<b>A</b>
10-year Australian Break-Even Inflation	2.48	-2	▼	-9	▼
10-year Australian Real Yield	1.73	-9	<b>V</b>	35	
Fed Funds Rate (lower bound)	5.25	0	_	0	-
2-year US Treasury Yield	4.82	-4	▼	57	_
10-year US Treasury Yield	4.42	-8	▼	54	
30-year US Treasury Yield	4.56	-8	<b>V</b>	53	<b>A</b>
10-year German Bund Yield	2.52	0	<b>V</b>	49	
NSW TCorp Bonds 5.00% 20 August 2024	Close (%) 4.32	1 Week (bps) -2	_	YTD (bps) 9	
1.25% 20 March 2025	4.33	-2 -8	<b>V</b>	29	
			▼		
4.00% 20 May 2026	4.22	-11	<b>V</b>	33	<u> </u>
3.00% 20 May 2027	4.19	-12	<b>T</b>	33	<b>A</b>
3.00% 20 March 2028	4.24	-12		35	•
3.00% 20 April 2029	4.34	-12	<b>T</b>	32	<b>A</b>
3.00% 20 February 2030	4.45	-11	<b>T</b>	31	<u> </u>
2.00% 20 March 2031	4.60	-11	<b>V</b>	32	<b>A</b>
1.50% 20 February 2032	4.75	-11		35	<u> </u>
2.00% 8 March 2033	4.86	-11	<b>V</b>	35	
1.75% 20 March 2034	4.99	-11	•	37	
2.75% 20 November 2025 CIB	1.74	15	<b>A</b>	67	<b>A</b>
2.50% 20 November 2035 CIB	2.36	-8	▼	29	
10-year NSW TCorp Bond Yield	4.95	-11	<b>V</b>	40	<b>A</b>
10-year TCV (Victoria) Spread	0.04	-2	Ť	-7	-
10-year QTC (Queensland) Spread	-0.01	-1	<b>*</b>	7	
		1 Week	•	YTD	
Equities	Close				
S&P/ASX200 (Australia)	7,814	0.8%	<u> </u>	2.9%	<u> </u>
S&P500 (US)	5,303	1.5%	<u> </u>	11.2%	<b>A</b>
FTSE 100 (UK)	8,420	-0.2%	<b>V</b>	8.9%	•
DJ Stoxx600 (Europe)	523	0.4%	<b>A</b>	9.2%	<b>A</b>
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	38,787	1.5%		15.9%	•
Shanghai Composite (China)	3,154	0.0%	▼	6.0%	<b>A</b>
Currencies	Close	1 Week		YTD	
AUD/USD	0.669	1.3%	<b>A</b>	-1.7%	_
EUR/USD	1.087	0.9%	<b>A</b>	-1.5%	▼
USD/JPY	155.65	-0.1%	<b>V</b>	10.4%	<b>A</b>
GBP/USD	1.27	1.4%	<b>A</b>	-0.2%	▼
US\$ Index	104.45	-0.8%	<b>V</b>	3.1%	
Commodities	Close	1 Week		YTD	
Brent Oil (US\$/bbl)	83.98	1.4%	<u> </u>	9.0%	<u> </u>
Iron Ore (US\$/t)	117.21	0.5%	<b>A</b>	-14.1%	<b>V</b>
Coking Coal (US\$/t)	207.50	0.7%	<b>A</b>	-24.7%	<b>V</b>
Gold (US\$/oz)	2,415.22	2.3%		17.1%	<b>A</b>

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