

The week that was

- The imposition of US tariffs on steel and aluminium and the subsequent repercussions – dominated markets last week. Canada and the European Union responded to the US move by introducing their own tariffs on US products. In turn, President Trump threatened to raise tariff levels even further.
- Equity markets were the major victim of the policy uncertainty with the US S&P500 falling by 2.3% while the Australian equity market fell by 2.0%.
- Bond yields were volatile last week but were little changed overall. US 10-year yields traded through a 20bps range across the week but closed just 1bp higher than a week ago. Australian 10-year bond yields rose 2bps over the week while TCorp's 10year yield was essentially unchanged.
- In Australia the focus was on consumer and business confidence. Australian consumer sentiment rose in March following the Reserve Bank of Australia's decision to cut interest rates at its February Board meeting, but sentiment remains in pessimistic territory overall.
- Meanwhile Australian businesses suggest that investment will be stagnant while employment will expand at a modest pace. Encouragingly, firms' pricing intentions remain consistent with inflation remaining near 2.5%.

Economic calendar

Monday	US: Retail sales, Feb
17/3	CH: Retail sales, Feb
Tuesday	AU: RBA Chief Economist speech
18/3	EU: German ZEW survey, Mar
Wednesday	JP: Bank of Japan policy meeting
19/03	
Thursday	US: Federal Reserve policy meeting
20/03	AU: Employment, Feb
	UK: Bank of England policy meeting
Friday	
21/03	

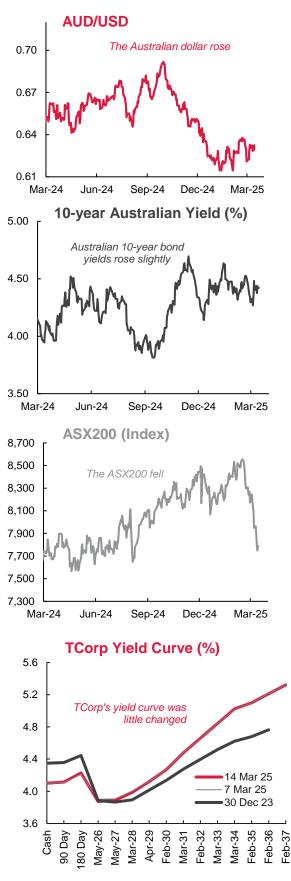
The week ahead

- Central banks are in focus this week with most attention on the US Federal Reserve (Fed). While the Fed is not expected to cut rates this week, investors will be interested to see what Fed policymakers say about the impact of President Trump's policies. Central banks in Japan, Sweden and the UK will also review rates this week.
- Although the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) doesn't have a policy meeting this week, the RBA's Chief Economist has a speech scheduled. In addition, the February labour force survey will be released this which will provide updates on employment and the unemployment rate.

Weekly economic report

17 March 2025

Financial markets charts



Financial markets data: Week ending 14 March 2025

INTEREST RATES	CLOSE (%)	1 WEEK (BPS)		YTD (BPS)	
RBA Cash Rate	4.10	0	-	-25	•
90-day BBSW	4.12	0		-30	•
3-year Australian Bond Yield	3.77	-1	•	-6	•
10-year Australian Bond Yield	4.42	2		6	
20-year Australian Bond Yield	4.93	4		12	
10-year Australian Break-Even Inflation	2.19	-6	•	-14	•
10-year Australian Real Yield	2.23	8		20	
•	4.25	0		0	
Fed Funds Rate (lower bound)	4.25	2	_	-22	_
2-year US Treasury Yield					
10-year US Treasury Yield	4.31	1		-26	•
30-year US Treasury Yield	4.62	2	_	-16	
10-year German Bund Yield	2.88	4		51	
NSW TCorp Bonds 4.00% 20 May 2026	Close (%) 3.87	1 Week (bps) -3	•	YTD (bps) -13	•
3.00% 20 May 2027	3.89	-2	V	-11	•
3.00% 20 March 2028	3.99	-2	Ť.	-8	Ť.
	4.12	0	¥.	-5	
3.00% 20 April 2029	4.12	-1	¥.	-5 -4	
3.00% 20 February 2030					
2.00% 20 March 2031	4.48	0		-2	
1.50% 20 February 2032	4.66	0		-1	
2.00% 8 March 2033	4.84	0		1	
1.75% 20 March 2034	5.02	1		2	A
4.75% 20 February 2035	5.10	0		3	
4.25% 20 February 2036	5.21	-1	•	2	
4.75% 20 February 2037	5.32	0	•	5	
	0.07	44		0	
2.75% 20 November 2025 CIB	2.67	11		9	
2.50% 20 November 2035 CIB	2.86	9		20	
10-year NSW TCorp Bond Yield	5.09	1		4	
10-year TCV (Victoria) Spread	0.03	0	•	-4	•
10-year QTC (Queensland) Spread	0.04	-2	×.	2	
	Close	1 Week		YTD	
Equities			-	-4.5%	-
S&P/ASX200 (Australia)	7,790	-2.0%			
S&P500 (US)	5,639	-2.3%		-4.1%	
FTSE 100 (UK)	8,632	-0.5%	•	5.6%	A
DJ Stoxx600 (Europe)	547	-1.2%		7.7%	
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	37,053	0.4%		-7.1%	•
Shanghai Composite (China)	3,420	1.4%		2.0%	
Currencies	Close	1 Week		YTD	
AUD/USD	0.632	0.3%		1.8%	
EUR/USD	1.088	0.4%		4.5%	
USD/JPY	148.64	0.4%		-5.2%	•
GBP/USD	1.29	0.1%		3.1%	
US\$ Index	103.72	-0.1%	•	-4.4%	V
Commodities	Close	1 Week		YTD	
Brent Oil (US\$/bbl)	70.58	0.3%		-5.4%	▼
Iron Ore (US\$/t)	103.75	2.4%		0.1%	
Coking Coal (US\$/t)	147.84	3.0%		6.0%	
Gold (US\$/oz)	2,984.16	2.6%		13.7%	

Brian Redican

Chief Economist brian.redican@tcorp.nsw.gov.au Emily Perry Senior Economist <u>emily.perry@tcorp.nsw.gov.au</u>



Level 7, Deutsche Bank Place 126 Phillip Street Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

T +61 2 9325 9325W www.tcorp.nsw.gov.au

ABN 99 235 825

Disclaimer

The opinions, forecasts and data contained in this report is based on the research of TCorp as at the date of publication and is subject to change without notice. TCorp is not responsible for the accuracy, adequacy, completeness of any information in the report provided by third parties. This report is provided for general information purposes only and should not be relied upon for investment or trading purposes. This report is not intended to forecast or predict future events.

Unauthorised copying and distribution of this material is prohibited.

© New South Wales Treasury Corporation 2025. All rights reserved.

About TCorp

TCorp provides best-in-class investment management, financial management, solutions and advice to the New South Wales (NSW) public sector. With A\$117 billion of assets under management, TCorp is a top 10 Australian investment manager and is the central borrowing authority of the state of NSW, with a balance sheet of A\$192 billion. It is rated Aaa (Stable) by Moody's, AAA (Stable) by Fitch, and AA+ (Negative) by S&P.