

The week that was

- Movements in financial markets were driven by comments from President Trump about China and the US Federal Reserve (Fed). There was heavy selling across US markets early in the week after President Trump criticised the Fed and its Chairman Jerome Powell. This raised investor concerns that Fed independence could be undermined.
- However, market sentiment improved as President Trump softened his tone towards the Fed and comments about China were more conciliatory. For example, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent noted that current tariffs between the US and China were 'not sustainable', underpinning hopes that a deal could be reached. The US S&P500 ended the week 4.6% higher and US 10-year bond yields fell 9 bps.
- Despite the improvement in financial market sentiment, Purchasing Managers' Indexes (PMIs) showed that trade tensions and elevated uncertainty are weighing on global economic activity. The PMIs suggest that growth is weak in the UK and Europe and has slowed noticeably in the US. Businesses in the US are reporting softer demand, especially consumer-facing businesses. Most businesses plan to pass on additional costs as a result of tariffs to consumers, which would dampen consumer spending further.
- PMI data shows that global trade tensions are also weighing on business sentiment in Australia, which complicates the outlook for Australia's economy. The ASX200 rose by 1.9% last week and Australian 10year bond yields fell 5bps.

Economic calendar

Monday	
28/04	
Tuesday 29/04	
Wednesday	AU: CPI, Q1
30/04	US: GDP, Q1; Employment Cost
	Index, Q1
	EC: GDP, Q1
Thursday	US: Core PCE deflator, Mar
01/05	JP: Bank of Japan policy decision
Friday	US: Non-farm payrolls, Apr; ISM
02/05	Manufacturing, Apr
	AU: Retail sales, Mar & Q1
	EC: CPI, Apr

The week ahead

- Australian consumer price inflation data is the focus locally this week. Trimmed-mean CPI is expected to be 0.6%, a touch below the Reserve Bank of Australia's most recent forecasts, which would likely cement a 25bps rate cut in May.
- US employment, wages growth, inflation and GDP data will be in focus, as will GDP and inflation data in Europe.

Weekly economic report

28 April 2025

Financial markets charts



Financial markets data: Week ending 25 April 2025

INTEREST RATES	CLOSE (%)	1 WEEK (BPS)		YTD (BPS)	
RBA Cash Rate	4.10	0	-	-25	▼
90-day BBSW	3.92	-9	•	-50	▼
3-year Australian Bond Yield	3.33	-2	•	-50	▼
10-year Australian Bond Yield	4.24	-5	•	-13	▼
20-year Australian Bond Yield	4.81	-2	•	-1	•
10-year Australian Break-Even Inflation	2.05	2		-28	•
10-year Australian Real Yield	2.19	-7	•	16	
Fed Funds Rate (lower bound)	4.25	0	_	0	_
2-year US Treasury Yield	3.75	-5	•	-49	•
10-year US Treasury Yield	4.24	-9	V	-33	V
30-year US Treasury Yield	4.70	-10	Ť.	-8	Ť
10-year German Bund Yield	2.47	0	Ť	10	
-			•		
NSW TCorp Bonds	Close (%)	1 Week (bps)	_	YTD (bps)	_
4.00% 20 May 2026	3.43	-1		-58	
3.00% 20 May 2027	3.44	0		-56	•
3.00% 20 March 2028	3.54	-3	•	-52	
3.00% 20 April 2029	3.72	-5		-46	•
3.00% 20 February 2030	3.92	-5	•	-39	
2.00% 20 March 2031	4.18	-5	•	-32	•
1.50% 20 February 2032	4.39	-5	•	-28	
2.00% 8 March 2033	4.60	-6	•	-23	•
1.75% 20 March 2034	4.82	-6	•	-18	•
4.75% 20 February 2035	4.88	-8	•	-19	•
4.25% 20 February 2036	5.04	-7	•	-15	▼
4.75% 20 February 2037	5.21	-7	•	-6	•
	/	_	_		
2.75% 20 November 2025 CIB	2.34	-5	—	-24	•
2.50% 20 November 2035 CIB	2.71	-8		5	
10-year NSW TCorp Bond Yield	4.90	-7	▼	-15	▼
10-year TCV (Victoria) Spread	0.09	0		1	
10-year QTC (Queensland) Spread	0.04	4		2	
Equities	Close	1 Week		YTD	
S&P/ASX200 (Australia)	7,968	1.9%		-2.3%	▼
S&P500 (US)	5,525	4.6%		-6.1%	Ť.
FTSE 100 (UK)	8,415	1.7%		3.0%	
DJ Stoxx600 (Europe)	520	2.8%		2.5%	- A
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	35,706	2.8%		-10.5%	•
Shanghai Composite (China)	3,295	0.6%		-1.7%	Ť
•		1 Week			
Currencies	Close			YTD	
AUD/USD	0.640	0.3%		3.3%	
EUR/USD	1.137	-0.2%	•	9.8%	
USD/JPY	143.67	1.0%		-8.6%	•
GBP/USD	1.33	0.1%		6.4%	
US\$ Index	99.47	0.2%		-8.3%	▼
Commodities	Close	1 Week		YTD	
Brent Oil (US\$/bbl)	66.87	-1.6%	•	-10.4%	▼
Iron Ore (US\$/t)	99.85	0.6%		-3.6%	•
Coking Coal (US\$/t)	122.95	3.7%		-11.8%	▼
Gold (US\$/oz)	3,319.72	-0.2%		26.5%	

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