WESTERN AUSTRALIAN TREASURY CORPORATION

Economic Analysis

Daily Report 30 April 2024

Interest	t Rates (%)		FX			Commodities US\$		
Australia		$\Delta {f bp}$	AUD/USD	0.6564	0.3%	WTI Crude Oil	82.65	-\$0.54
90-day Bill	4.41	0	A UD/JPY	102.54	-1.0%	Brent Crude Oil	88.40	-\$0.37
3-year Bond	4.07	-2	AUD/EUR	0.6125	0.2%	Mogas95*	105.81	\$0.25
10-year Bond	4.45	-3	AUD/GBP	0.5226	-0.1%	CRB Index	295.30	-1.54
			AUD/NZD	1.0981	-0.2%	Gold	2333.23	\$0.03
			A UD/CNY	4.7491	0.2%	Silver	27.06	-\$0.14
US			EUR/USD	1.0717	0.1%	Iron Ore (62% Fe)**	117.20	\$0.30
2-year	4.98	-2	USD/JPY	156.22	-1.2%	Iron Ore (23-24 Average)	118.98	-\$0.01
10-year	4.61	-5	USD/CNY	7.2290	-0.2%	Copper	10135.50	\$170.00
			RBA Policy			Equities		
			O/N Cash Rate Target 4.35		ASX200	7637	17	
Other 10-year			Interbank O/N Cash Rate		4.32	Dow Jones	38386	146
Japan	0.89	0	Probability of a 25bps Hike in May		5.2%	S&P500	5116	16
Germany	2.53	-4	RBA Bond Holdings (29 Mar)		A\$335.5b	Stoxx600	508	0
UK	4.29	-3				CSI300	3624	40

*Mogas95 is the Singapore benchmark petrol price closely linked to Australian domestic fuel prices.

**Iron ore is the second SGX futures contract.

The positive sentiment on Wall Street continued last night, supported by better-than-expected corporate earnings reports. The Dow Jones rose by 0.4%, while the S&P 500 and Nasdaq both gained 0.3%. Increases were recorded for all sectors except for communication services and financials.

US Treasury yields declined further, but remained close to their 2024 highs. Investors are awaiting the FOMC monetary policy decision due on Thursday morning (AWST). No changes are expected, but any guidance regarding future decisions will be closely watched for. The first fed funds rate cut is now fully priced in for as late as December.

The most significant move in the foreign exchange market was the strong appreciation of the Japanese yen, which largely came back to levels from just before the Bank of Japan's monetary policy decision last Friday. Due to the rapid pace of the JPY's appreciation yesterday, there was some market speculation that the Japanese Ministry of Finance had decided on a foreign exchange intervention, but the Ministry's officials declined to comment.

In commodity markets, oil prices declined by around 0.5% on press reports that Israel and Hamas are about to embark on another round of ceasefire negotiations in Egypt. Iron ore futures rose by 0.3%.

The Australian dollar appreciated against the US dollar and euro, but is down versus the stronger Japanese yen and British pound. Commonwealth bond yields followed their US equivalents lower. The ASX 200 closed 0.8% higher yesterday, with gains in all sectors but energy, before opening flat this morning.

There were no significant releases from the US last night. In the euro area, the partial consumer price inflation reports for April showed slight increases in Germany, Spain and Belgium. The figures for the entire currency union will be released today, along with the flash GDP report for Q1.

In Australia, ANZ Roy Morgan consumer confidence rose by 1.0% last week following a sharp 3.8% drop in the week ending 20 April. Overall, consumer confidence is down by 2.1% for the month. Consumer inflation expectations rose back to 5.3% last week.

ECONOMIC DATA REVIEW

• **AU:** ANZ Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence (w/e 27 Apr) – Actual 1.0%, Previous -3.8%.

ECONOMIC DATA PREVIEW

- AU: Retail Trade (MoM, Mar) Expected 0.2%, Previous 0.3%.
- AU: Private Sector Credit (MoM, Mar) Expected 0.4%, Previous 0.5%.
- CH: NBS Composite PMI (Apr) Previous 52.7.
- CH: Caixin Manufacturing PMI (Apr) Expected 51.0, Previous 51.1.
- EZ: GDP (QoQ, Q1, flash) Expected 0.2%, Previous 0.1%.
- EZ: HICP (YoY, Apr, flash) Expected 2.4%, Previous 2.4%.
- US: Case-Shiller House Price Index 20 Cities (YoY, Mar) Expected 6.7%, Previous 6.6%.
- US: Conference Board Consumer Confidence (Apr) Expected 104.0, Previous 104.7.

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