## Market Connection

## **Headlines**

# OVERSEAS MARKETS

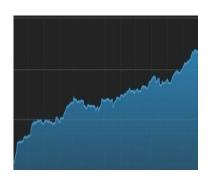
Strong industrial data supported US stocks on Friday though Wall Street ended lower for the week. Industrial production in February climbed over 1%, its largest increase in four months. On the S&P, the energy sector led the gains after oil prices rose by 1.7%. The real estate and utilities sectors were also higher ahead of this week's Fed meeting where a rate hike is expected. In individual stock news, Walmart climbed following the University of Michigan's reading of the consumer sentiment index which rose more than expected. Adobe rose after topping profit estimates for a seventh consecutive quarter.

The S&P rose 0.17%, the Dow gained 0.29%, and the Nasdaq ended unchanged. For the week, the major indexes were 1.04%, 1.57%, and 1.27% lower.

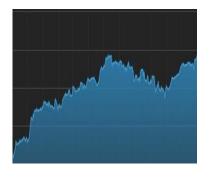
European shares advanced on Friday but ended the week slightly lower. Electronic trading business NEX Group finished top of the STOXX, up 30%, after confirming it had held preliminary talks about being purchased by US derivatives exchange CME Group. Elsewhere on the market, telecoms group Altice and oil storage and distribution company Rubis were both higher following its trading updates.

The STOXX 600 rose 0.22%, the Dax added 0.36%, and the FTSE 100 gained 0.34%. For the week, the STOXX and FTSE were 0.14% and 0.84% lower, while the Dax gained 0.35%.

#### **DOW JONES ONE-YEAR CHART**



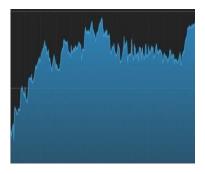
#### **STOXX 600 ONE-YEAR CHART**



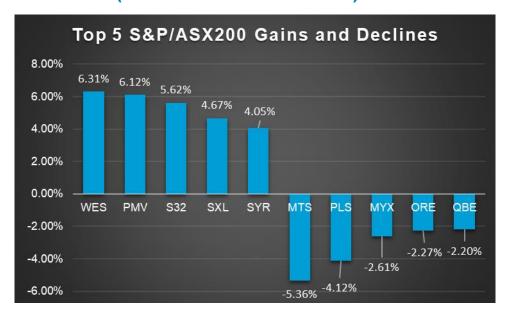
# AUSTRALIAN MARKET

Australian stocks rose 0.5% on Friday but lost 0.2% over the week. Before Friday's market open, Wesfarmers announced it would be spinning-off Coles pushing the conglomerate 6.3% higher. On the other side of the story, Metcash fell 5.4% after its executive was tipped to head Coles. Also on the rise was Premier Investments which posted a jump in profits and announced a bigger dividend; its subsidiaries Smiggle and Peter Alexander helped offset a weaker performance in Just Jeans. Miners were some of the other gainers with S32 rising almost 6% as it received an upgrade at Credit Suisse. On the downside were the banks as the royal commission into the financial sector entered its fourth day.

#### **ASX 200 ONE-YEAR CHART**



## **TOP ASX 200 MOVERS (PREVIOUS TRADING DAY)**



## **MARKET DATA**

Indices	Close	Change	FX	Close	Change	Commodities	Price (\$US)	Change	AU Bonds	Rates
ASX 200	5949	0.48%	\$A/\$US	0.7716	-1.08%	Gold	\$1,313.00	-0.22%	1 Year	1.85
SPI Futures	5974	0.45%	\$A/\$NZ	1.069	-0.28%	Silver	\$16.30	-0.43%	2 Year	1.96
Dow	24947	0.29%	\$A/€	0.6279	-0.92%	Platinum	\$943.00	-1.18%	3 Year	2.07
FTSE 100	7164	0.34%	\$A/£	0.5536	-1.08%	Brent Crude	\$66.21	1.67%	4 Year	2.18
Nikkei 225	21677	-0.58%	\$A/¥	81.74	-1.43%	Natural Gas	\$2.69	0.26%	5 Year	2.29
Hang Seng	31502	-0.12%	€/\$US	1.228	-0.17%	Copper	\$3.10	0.10%	10 Year	2.69
VIX	16	-4.76%	\$US/£	0.7171	-0.03%	Iron Ore	\$72.66	0.00%	15 Year	2.89

## **WEEKLY ECONOMIC CALENDAR**

MON	19/03	TUES	20/03	WED	21/03	THURS	22/03	FRI	23/03
•	Trade Balance (FEB)	₩	RBA March Meeting Minutes	*	Westpac Leading Index (MoM) (FEB)	윘	RBNZ Official Cash Rate (MAR 22)	•	National Consumer Price Index (YoY) (FEB)
0	Euro-Zone Trade Balance s.a. (JAN)		Consumer Price Index (YoY) (FEB)		USD FOMC Rate Decision	XK.	Unemployme nt Rate (FEB)		Durable Goods Orders (FEB P)

### **TODAY'S CORPORATE ACTIONS**

SECURITY	ACTIONS
ACK	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
AIA	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
AQJDA	CHANGE OF DESC: AUSASIAMIN FPO NEW: AUSASIAMIN DEF SET
AQJDA	QUOTED: Reconstructed
AQZ	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
CNU	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
СОН	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
IANG	CHANGE OF IR: [IANG] IAN FIN NZ COYR3QU 5.77% NEW: 5.955%
NAC	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
ONT	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
PEPHA	NEW LISTING: [PEPHA] S 49
PEPHB	NEW LISTING: [PEPHB] L 49
PEPHC	NEW LISTING: [PEPHC] 3 CL A2 49
PEPHD	NEW LISTING: [PEPHD] 3 CL B 49
PLHOA	NEW LISTING: [PLHOA] PLYM MINER OPT SEP18
REH	QUOTED: Ex Dividend
VLS	QUOTED: Ex Dividend

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