

December 13, 2024

## Investor Signposts: Week beginning December 15, 2024

Upcoming economic and financial market events

### Australia

December 16-20	◆ Federal mid-year budget update (MYEFO)	<i>Expected sometime during the week</i>
Monday December 16	◆ Purchasing managers' indexes (PMIs, December)	<i>Services activity expansion is moderating</i>
Tuesday December 17	◆ Westpac consumer confidence index (December)	<i>Sentiment is the highest since April 2022</i>
Thursday December 19	◆ National accounts: Finance & Wealth (Sep. quarter)	<i>Household wealth is at a record high</i>
Friday December 20	◆ Private sector credit (November)	<i>Tipped to lift 0.6%</i>

### Overseas

Monday December 16	◆ China retail sales/production/investment (Nov.)	<i>Retail sales could lift 5% on a year ago</i>
Monday December 16	◆ US Empire State manufacturing index (December)	<i>Tipped to fall from 31.2 to 5.8</i>
Monday December 16	◆ US S&P Global PMIs (December)	<i>Services activity is expanding</i>
Tuesday December 17	◆ US retail sales (November)	<i>Sales are expected to increase 0.5%</i>
Tuesday December 17	◆ US industrial production (November)	<i>Production could lift 0.2%</i>
Tuesday December 17	◆ US NAHB housing market index (December)	<i>A steady outcome of 46 is expected</i>
Wednesday December 18	◆ US Federal Reserve (FOMC) interest rate decision	<i>A 25-basis point rate cut is expected</i>
Wednesday December 18	◆ US housing starts & building permits (November)	<i>Starts may lift 2.6% with permits up 1%</i>
Thursday December 19	◆ US economic (GDP) growth (September quarter)	<i>Annualised GDP growth of 2.8% is expected</i>
Thursday December 19	◆ US Philadelphia Fed manufacturing index (Dec.)	<i>Expected to increase from -5.5 to +2.2</i>
Thursday December 19	◆ US Conference Board leading index (November)	<i>A 0.1% decline is expected</i>
Thursday December 19	◆ US existing home sales (November)	<i>Sales could increase 3.4%</i>
Thursday December 19	◆ US Kansas City Fed manufacturing index (Dec.)	<i>Tipped to lift from -4 to +4</i>
Friday December 20	◆ US personal income & spending (November)	<i>Expected to increase 0.4%-0.5%</i>
Friday December 20	◆ US core PCE price index (November)	<i>Core PCE is expected to lift 0.2%</i>
Friday December 20	◆ US Uni. of Michigan consumer sentiment index (Dec.)	<i>Sentiment is at a 7-month high</i>
Friday December 20	◆ China 1-year & 5-year loan prime rates	<i>No change in the LPRs is expected</i>

*Please note that forecasts are from Bloomberg and Refinitiv unless otherwise stated.*

### Aussie business and consumer surveys. US inflation and interest rates in focus. China economic activity.

- In **Australia**, purchasing managers and consumer confidence surveys are scheduled on **Monday and Tuesday**. Australia's services sector continued to expand in November with S&P Global economists noting that business confidence rose to the highest level since May 2022. Similarly, Westpac economists reported that consumer sentiment rose to the highest level since April 2022 last month.
- The Federal government also unveils the 2024-25 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) this week.
- In **China on Monday**, the monthly update on retail spending, industrial production and fixed asset investment are due for the month of November. China has recently said it would take more action to reinvigorate its economy.
- In the **US on Wednesday**, the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee (FOMC) is expected to cut the federal funds rate by another 25 basis points to a range of 4.25% to 4.50%. **On Friday**, the Federal Reserve's preferred measure of inflation – the core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index – is expected to rise by 0.2% in November with the annual growth rate increasing from October's 2.8% to 2.9% last month.
- In **Australian company news**, ANZ, Elders, Incitec Pivot, NAB and Orica all host Annual General Meetings (AGMs).

**Ryan Felsman, Chief CommSec Economist**

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER FOR RETAIL CLIENTS

This content is prepared, approved and distributed in Australia by Commonwealth Securities Limited ABN 60 067 254 399 AFSL 238814 (CommSec) a wholly owned but non-guaranteed subsidiary of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 AFSL 234945 (the Bank) and a Market Participant of ASX Limited and Cboe Australia Pty Limited. All information contained herein is provided on a factual or general advice basis and is not intended to be construed as an offer, solicitation or investment recommendation in any way. It has been prepared without taking into account your individual objectives, financial situation or needs. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. CommSec, the Bank, our employees and agents may receive a commission and / or fees from transactions and / or deal on their own account in any securities referred to in this communication and may make investment decisions that are inconsistent with the recommendations or views expressed within this communication. Any comments, suggestions or views presented herein may differ from those expressed elsewhere by CommSec and / or the Bank. The content may not be used, distributed or reproduced without prior consent and any unauthorised use of the content may breach copyright provisions. CommSec does not give any representation or warranty as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of any content including any third-party sourced data, nor does it accept liability for any errors or omissions. CommSec is not liable for any losses or damages arising out of the use of information contained in this communication. This communication is not intended to be distributed outside of Australia.