

July 14, 2024

Investor Signposts: Week beginning July 14, 2024

Upcoming economic and financial market events

Australia

Wednesday July 17	◆ RBA Head of Economic Research speaks	<i>John Simon at Macquarie University, Sydney</i>
Wednesday July 17	◆ Building activity (March quarter)	<i>Update on dwelling starts and value of building work</i>
Thursday July 18	◆ Labour force (June)	<i>Around 20,000 jobs could be added</i>

Overseas

July 15-18	◆ China Third Plenum policy meeting	<i>Gathering of Communist Party leaders every 5 years</i>
Monday July 15	◆ China 1-year medium-term lending facility rate	<i>No change in the 2.5% policy rate is expected</i>
Monday July 15	◆ China retail sales/investment/production (June)	<i>Retail sales could lift 3.4% year-on-year</i>
Monday July 15	◆ China economic (GDP) growth (June quarter)	<i>Annual growth rate tipped to fall from 5.3% to 5.1%</i>
Monday July 15	◆ US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell speaks	<i>Hosted by the Economic Club of Washington</i>
Monday July 15	◆ US Empire State manufacturing index (July)	<i>Tipped to fall from -6 to -7.2</i>
Tuesday July 16	◆ US retail sales (June)	<i>Spending could fall 0.2%</i>
Tuesday July 16	◆ US import/export prices (June)	<i>Import prices could be 0.2% lower</i>
Tuesday July 16	◆ US NAHB housing market index (July)	<i>At the lowest level since December 2023</i>
Tuesday July 16	◆ US business inventories (May)	<i>A 0.5% lift is expected</i>
Wednesday July 17	◆ US Federal Reserve Beige Book	<i>Economic conditions across US districts</i>
Wednesday July 17	◆ US industrial production (June)	<i>Output is tipped to lift 0.3%</i>
Wednesday July 17	◆ US housing starts & building permits (June)	<i>Housing starts are at the lowest level since July 2020</i>
Thursday July 18	◆ European Central Bank (ECB) policy decision	<i>No change in rates is expected after June cut</i>
Thursday July 18	◆ US Philadelphia Fed manufacturing index (July)	<i>Tipped to lift from 1.3 to 2.0</i>
Thursday July 18	◆ US Conference Board leading index (June)	<i>Expected to fall 0.3%</i>

Aussie jobs and Chinese economic growth data in focus as the European Central Bank (ECB) meets

- In **Australia**, the June labour force survey will be the primary focus of investors when released **on Thursday**. Commonwealth Bank (CBA) Group economists expect employment to lift by 20,000 in June but the unemployment rate to edge higher to 4.1% from May's 4.0% with the participation rate steady at 66.8%.
- A flurry of economic data is released in **China on Monday** as Communist Party leaders begin their much-anticipated Third Plenum policy meeting, held once every five years. Monthly activity data is also scheduled, including retail sales, industrial production, fixed asset investment, new home prices and the unemployment rate.
- The update on Chinese economic growth – as measured by gross domestic product (GDP) – will be the main focus. Economists estimate that the economy expanded by 0.9% in the June quarter with the annual growth rate easing to 5.1% from 5.3% in the prior quarter, as China's property slowdown weighs on consumer spending.
- Elsewhere, **US** policymakers will be keen to see whether stretched consumers continue to hold-back from spending amid higher borrowing costs when **US** June retail sales figures are released **on Tuesday**. Economists don't expect a follow-up 25 basis point cut in the European Central Bank's (ECB) deposit rate **on Thursday**.
- American Express, Bank of America, BHP, Netflix, Rio Tinto, United Airlines and UnitedHealth all issue results.

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