

15 May 2025

S&P500 futures little changed after posting third winning day; ASX to fall

- **Global markets.** U.S. stock futures were little changed in overnight trading after the S&P 500 strung together a third consecutive advance in reaction to the Trump administration and China hammering out a temporary suspension of their tit-for-tat tariff dispute.

Confidence in the immediate outlook for stocks has strengthened in the wake of last weekend's talks between Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Chinese officials that appeared to stave off a short-term decline in economic activity and a ratcheting up in inflation. The enthusiasm mostly continued Wednesday, with the S&P 500 advancing 0.1% and the Nasdaq Composite rising 0.7%. The 30-stock Dow slipped 0.2%.

Sentiment was bolstered Tuesday by the latest reading on consumer inflation showing prices rising at a slower pace than Wall Street economists had expected. Inflation increased by 0.2% in April excluding food and energy, below the consensus estimate of 0.3%.

Traders will look for further signs of a steady economy on Thursday, when the producer price index, retail sales and industrial production numbers for April are released before the stock market opens. Weekly jobless claims are also slated for release.

- **In economic news.** At 11.30am, April's labour force data will be released. In a note, National Australia Bank said it expected the unemployment rate to remain at 4.1 per cent on a 25,000 employment gain in April.

Overseas the focus will be on US April retail sales, PPI and weekly initial jobless claims data. Federal Reserve chairman Jerome Powell is set to speak for the central bank's five-yearly review of monetary policy strategy.

- **In other markets.** In commodities, iron ore pushed beyond \$US101 a tonne, climbing 2.2 per cent to a six-week high after being heavily sold this year on concerns the US trader war with China could hit demand for the steelmaking ingredient.
- **Futures.** ASX futures are pointing down 36 points or 0.4 per cent to 8271.

World Indices	Close	Prior	% Δ
<u>Local Markets</u>			
All Ordinaries	8,520.2	8,510.7	0.1%
ASX 200	8,279.6	8,269.0	0.1%
ASX Emerging Companies	2,296.1	2,285.9	0.4%

<u>US Markets</u>			
Dow Jones	42,051.1	42,140.4	-0.2%
S&P500	5,892.6	5,886.5	0.1%
Nasdaq	21,319.2	21,197.7	0.6%
Russell 2000	2,083.8	2,102.3	-0.9%

<u>Asian & European Markets</u>			
Shanghai Composite	3,404.0	3,374.9	0.9%
Nikkei	38,128.1	38,183.0	-0.1%
Hang Seng	23,640.7	23,108.3	2.3%
FTSE 100	8,585.0	8,602.9	-0.2%
DAX 30	23,527.0	23,638.6	-0.5%
CAC 40	7,836.8	7,873.8	-0.5%

S&P500 Sectors	Close	Prior	% Δ
Information Technology	4,574.3	4,530.7	1.0%
Communication Services	346.7	341.3	1.6%
Consumer Discretionary	1,739.8	1,733.3	0.4%

Economic Releases	Time	F'cast	Prior
AUD - Consumer Inflation Expectations	11:00		4.20%
AUD - Employment Change	11:30		
USD - Producer Price Index YoY	22:30	3.10%	3.3%

Key BW Names	Close	Prior	% Δ
Lotus Resources	0.185	0.185	0.0%
Elementos	0.086	0.085	1.2%
Frontier Energy	0.230	0.240	-4.2%

Commodities	Close	Prior	% Δ
Oil - West Texas Crude	62.00	63.59	-2.5%
Gold	3,187	3,260	-2.2%
Gold (Aus)	4,955	5,031	-1.5%
Silver	32.21	32.94	-2.2%
Uranium (Spot)	76.00	76.00	0.0%
Global X Uranium ETF	28.05	27.84	0.8%
Sprott Uranium Miners ETF	38.34	38.42	-0.2%
Sprott Physical Uranium Trust	16.07	16.25	-1.1%
Tin (Futures)	32,686	32,564	0.4%
Copper	4.63	4.71	-1.7%

Other Markets	Close	Prior	% Δ
SPI200 Futures	8,271.0	8,310.0	-0.5%
DX-Y Index	100.9	101.8	-0.8%
AUD/USD	0.6428	0.6471	-0.7%
2-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.06	4.00	6 bp
10-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.54	4.47	7 bp
US 2-10-Year Spread	0.48	0.47	1 bp
VIX Index	18.61	18.23	2.1%