

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	7422	18	0.2
NZX 50	12958	-13	-0.1
DJIA Futures	35622	9	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	4577	-10	-0.2
NASDAQ Futures	15682	-83	-0.5

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens Friday trade with a batch of material economic data releases due late morning, and additional high-profile domestic stocks providing updates, ahead of influential economic indicators out of the euro zone and US tonight.

US equities sentiment bounced overnight.

Locally today, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) releases September financial aggregates, including **private sector credit**, at **11.30am AEDT**.

At the same time, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes September quarter **producer prices** and September **retail sales**.

Regionally today, **Japan** is scheduled to report September industrial production 10.50am.

China is expected to release official October PMI readings over the weekend.

Also over the weekend, Japan's general election could rob the ruling (Liberal Democratic) party of its majority.

In mixed overnight commodities trade, Brent **crude** continued lower, modestly, but WTI turned slightly higher.

US **gold** futures settled with a slight gain.

Iron ore (China port CFR, 62% fines) fell for a second consecutive session, dropping below \$US113/t.

Last night's LME final price updates were unavailable from IRESS at time of publication.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** and nickel each reportedly rose by ~1%, however. **Aluminium** was reported to have swung ~1.5% higher.

Comex copper rose by 5c/lb, to \$US4.44/lb.

The **\$A** rose to ~US75.45c after trading at US75.20c early yesterday evening.

Meanwhile, **G20** finance and health ministers are preparing to meet later tonight in Rome, ahead of a G20 leaders' meeting tomorrow.

The **UN's** climate change summit in Glasgow, Scotland commences Sunday.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	35730	240	0.7
S&P 500	4596	45	1.0

Today's Stock Watch

Macquarie Group (MQG)

Trading halt called this morning ahead of a \$A1.5B institutional placement, and planned SPP.

Also this morning, reporting \$A2.032B interim NPAT, essentially flat for the six months, but 107% higher than for 1HFY21. \$7.804B net operating income.

\$8.4B capital surplus. \$55.76 NTA from \$48.94.

\$2.72, 40%-franked interim dividend, from \$1.35, 40%-franked a year ago.

ResMed Inc (RMD)

21% higher, \$US261.9M September quarter operations income. 14% higher, \$US203.6M net income.

20% higher, \$US904M revenue. US4.2c quarterly dividend.

RMD reported in the US overnight and hosted a webcast briefing at 7am AEDT (today).

Janus Henderson Group (JHG)

\$US419.3B AUM at 30 September, down 2% for the three months. \$US248.3M operating income. US38c distribution.

GUD Holdings (GUD)

AGM today.

Proposing to outlay \$US52.8M, plus up to \$US18.6M in earn outs, for specialist lighting company Vision X Group.

Vision X boasts product development and manufacturing facilities in South Korea and China and customers across all continents. Additional details and apologetics lodged post-trade yesterday. Completion is anticipated 30 November.

National Australia Bank (NAB)

James Spencely will not proceed with his appointment as a NAB non-executive director, announced Wednesday last week. The decision was based on NAB investor feedback and Mr Spencely's overall commitments.

Sezzle Inc (SZL)

78.9% higher year-on-year, \$US28.5M September quarter income. The active merchants tally rose 10.2% for the three months, to 44.400. Active customers rose 10.7%, to 3.2M.

Energy

Origin Energy (ORG)

APLNG September quarter attributable production tallied 65.1PJ, 1% more than for the three months and also year-on-year. Sales fell 1% for the three months, to 63.1PJ, but were 10% higher than for the September quarter 2020. Sales revenue rose 25% and 69% respectively, to \$633.7M.

Electricity sale rose 3% year-on-year, flat for residential but 6% higher for business demand. Gas energy market volumes fell 7% overall, retail demand flat, but business dropping 14%.



NASDAQ	15448	212	1.4
FTSE 100	7249	-4	-0.1
DAX 30	15696	-9	-0.1
Shanghai Comp	3518	-44	-1.2

Overseas Markets Commentary

Trade diverged across major European, UK and US equities markets overnight, choppy trade featuring during European and UK sessions, but key US indices opening higher and maintaining decisive gains through to settlement.

Investors on both sides of the Atlantic were again faced with numerous high-profile earnings reports, mixed, material data releases and plenty of central bank policy commentary.

Yesterday, the **Bank of Japan** (BoJ) retained status quo policy and rates during a policy meeting, but afterwards issued a new set of forecasts.

A quarterly outlook report released by the BoJ included a 3.4% March 2021 – March 2022 (Japan's 2021 fiscal year) GDP growth forecast, from 3.8% predicted in July.

2021 fiscal year core inflation would likely come in flat, the bank predicted, against the 0.6% rise previously envisaged.

The central bank raised its fiscal 2022 GDP forecast, from 2.7% to 2.9%.

Overnight, the **European Central Bank** (ECB) policy meeting also delivered status quo rates and, unlike the Bank of Canada the previous day, a continuation of normal levels (€20B/month) of asset purchases until at least March 2022, and ongoing moderation of bond buying under the €1,850B Covid-19 – related emergency program (PEPP).

At the subsequent press conference ECB president Christine Lagarde confirmed the bank's policy makers examined inflation levels, outlooks and current policy.

Once again, inflation was determined to ease next year, but to take longer than initially expected to return to target levels, due to the recent jump in energy prices and ongoing supply and logistics issues. The push from Germany's 2020 VAT increase was expected to have little influence from January 2022.

The ECB's anticipated mean inflation rates for 2021, 2022 and 2023 stand at 2.2%, 1.7% and 1.5%.

Also overnight, Ms Lagarde maintained euro zone Covid-19 economic recovery retained some strength while having moderated.

In Covid-19 developments, Russia announced a planned lockdown for Moscow from Saturday.

In overnight **data** releases, **Germany's** initial September CPI estimate pointed to 0.5% inflation for the month following no change for August and forecasts for 0.4% growth.

Against September 2020, the CPI was up 4.5%.

National October employment in the meantime was calculated 0.1% lower, at 5.4%.

In the **UK**, September domestic vehicle production was reported 41.5% lower than for September 2020, following expectations of a 17% drop.

A final October consumer confidence reading for the **euro zone** confirmed a deterioration for the month to -4.8 from -4.0 in

Pre-Open Announcements

Marley Spoon (* MMM)

'Volatile consumer behaviour' has prompted MMM to revise forecast full year net revenue growth to 26% - 28% from 30% - 35%.

September quarter net revenue rose 14% year-on-year, to €79.2M.

€33M cash balance from €17M at 30 September 2020.

MMM hosted a teleconference yesterday evening (AEDT).

Kelly Partners Group (KPG)

Proposed Canberra accounting firm acquisition and five-year plan (previously disclosed) lodged post-trade yesterday.

Global Data Centre Group (GDC)

GDC investee company ETIX Everywhere plans to outlay €4.6M for a data centre in Nantes, France.

AnteoTech Ltd (ADO)

Comprehensive September quarter activities report lodged post-trade yesterday.

\$18.35M cash on hand; nil debt.

Next Science (NXS)

September quarter activities report lodged post-trade yesterday.

Revenue grew 29% for the three months, to \$US2.2M.

\$US9.8M cash in the bank.

Houston We Have (HWH)

September quarter cash receipts tallied \$348,000.

\$3.528M cash at bank.

Step One Clothing (* STP)

Bamboo male underwear marketer, retailer and distributor scheduled to list on the ASX 11am AEDT **Monday**, following an \$81.3M IPO at \$1.53 per share.

185.34M quoted shares.

Founder Greg Taylor holds 66.36%.

Judo Capital Holdings (* JDO)

SME financial services provider expecting to list on the ASX 12.30pm AEDT **Monday**, following an ~\$657M IPO at mostly \$2.10 per share.

Trading will commence on a conditional and deferred settlement basis.

Normal (T+2) trade is expected to commence Wednesday.

1.105B quoted shares.

Resources

Rio Tinto (* RIO)

Offering to repurchase up to \$US1.2B worth of notes.

Details lodged pre-trade.

Minbos Resources (* MNB)

Positive government feedback in hand for Angola plans.

Details lodged pre-trade.



September.

Economic sentiment rose to 118.6 however, from 117.8.

In the **US**, the first estimate (of three) for **September quarter GDP** delivered 2.0% growth for the three months, against expectations for 2.7% and following a 6.7% June quarter increase.

This coloured US Federal Reserve policy expectations, ahead of a policy meeting next week, and temporarily pushed the \$US to four-week lows.

Weekly initial jobless claims, also reported overnight, came in at 281,000 following 291,000 for the previous week and forecasts for a new 285,000 worth of claims.

September pending home sales fell 2.3% for the month, following an 8.1% August rise and forecasts for a new 2.3% increase.

Pending sales were down 8.0% from September 2020.

The Kansas City Fed manufacturing index in the meantime was estimated to have jumped 15 points to 25, against expectations for a three-point decline to seven.

Tonight in the US, September personal income and spending, the October Chicago PMI, September quarter wage cost index, September PCE (personal consumption expenditure index) and final University of Michigan October consumer sentiment estimate are due.

Elsewhere, the **euro zone** releases an initial September quarter GDP growth reading and preliminary September CPI estimate.

Germany also reveals an initial September quarter GDP growth calculation.

Companies scheduled to report earnings or provide trading updates later today or tonight include: BNP Paribas, Chevron, China Petroleum and Chemical Corp, Colgate-Palmolive, Daimler, ENI, Exxon Mobil, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Mitsubishi Logistics, NEC, Novo Nordisk, Phillips 66 and Toyota Industries.

In overnight corporate news, **Apple** reported post-US trade, earnings rising in line with expectations, but supply shortages constraining sales and prompting a further warning.

For its part, also reporting post-US settlement, **Amazon** released headline figures and December guidance that disappointed all round.

Earlier, **Royal Dutch Shell** September quarter profit and revenue had also undershot expectations.

Results from **Nokia** and **Anheuser-Busch InBev** also adversely impacted broader European markets sentiment.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1802.6	oz	4.80	0.2
Silver (NY) (Dec)	24.118	oz	-0.07	-0.3
Gold (LON)	1795	oz		
Platinum	1017	oz	8	0.8
WTI Crude (NYMEX Dec)	82.81	bbbl	0.15	0.2
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Dec)	84.32	bbbl	-0.26	-0.3
Iron Ore (Qingdao) (CHN;62% <i>f</i>)	112.65	t	-7.21	-6.4
Iron Ore (Nymex)	121.94	t	-0.42	-0.3
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (27 Oct)	9552	t		
Nickel	19428	t		
Aluminium	2687	t		

Neometals Ltd (NMT)

September quarter activities report lodged post-trade yesterday.

\$A83.5M cash balance; \$38.7M worth of receivables and investments; nil debt.

Vulcan Energy Resources (VUL)

Resuming from a trading halt vigorously rebutting what the company describes as 'disinformation' contained in a report published online.

VUL also points out, 'The publisher of the Report discloses that it may realise significant gains from a decline in Vulcan's share price.'

VUL last traded at \$14.99, having traded at \$13.07 - \$15.45 during the five sessions immediately prior to calling the halt.

Sparc Technologies (SPN)

September quarter activities report lodged post-trade yesterday.

Wednesday, SPN announced a green hydrogen technology development (72:28) JV with the University of Adelaide.

SPN added 15.08% Wednesday and 19.42% yesterday, settling at \$1.23 after trading as high as \$1.315 intra-session.

Golden State Mining (GSM)

WA Pilbara Mallina Basin Yule project gold and lithium targets 15,000m air core drilling program expected to be completed mid-November. ~50% complete.

Final assays of Yule South RC drilling across multiple gold targets lodged post-trade yesterday, with no significant new results.

Talga Group (TLG)

Forum presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

TLG presented yesterday.

Energy

Global Energy Ventures (* GEV)

Northern Territory Tiwi green hydrogen export project investor briefing scheduled to commence **midday** AEDT.

Access details and address for submitting questions lodged post-trade yesterday.

Armour Energy (AJQ)

CFO Toni Hawkins has resigned, but will assist AJQ over an up to three-month transitional period.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Bioxyne Ltd	BXN	29 Oct
ECS Botanics Holdings	ECS	29 Oct
Pacific Nickel Mines	PNM	29 Oct
Prospect Resources	PSC	29 Oct
Sky Metals	SKY	29 Oct
Antisense Therapeutics	ANP	1 Nov



Lead	2398	t
Zinc	3339	t
Tin	35630	t

Commodities Commentary

Oil – sentiment diverged overnight, amid currency swings, mixed influential economic data releases, and varying supply and demand commentary.

Iran announced international talks aimed at lifting sanctions would resume by the end of November.

Covid-19 concerns in China, Russia and western Europe influenced some demand views.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig report is due tonight.

Gold – Bank of Japan and European Central Bank policy meeting outcomes and subsequent press conferences delivered little to ultimately no influence overnight gold prices, these pushed and pulled mostly by a swinging \$US, mixed US economic data and improved equities sentiment.

An initial US September quarter GDP estimate undershot expectations, weekly new unemployment claims fell by more than anticipated, and a preliminary September CPI reading for Germany. Meanwhile, a World Gold Council report estimated a 7% drop in international gold demand during the September quarter, mostly due to ETF activity. Gold-for-jewellery demand was calculated 33% higher year-on-year. Central banks purchased 69t, against 10t recorded for the September quarter 2020.

Base metals – further emissions controls announced in China yesterday, in particular for Tangshan, impacted overnight LME sentiment, pushing *aluminium* higher on supply fears.

A swinging \$US, in later trade pushed to four-week lows, also toyed with overall trade.

China's official October PMI readings, anticipated over the weekend, could produce some caution tonight.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7536	0.0028	0.37
EUR – USD	1.1683	0.0077	0.66

Australian Data Today

ABS	Producer prices	Sep Q
ABS	Retail sales (final)	Sep
RBA	Financial aggregates (incl private sector credit)	Sep

US Data Tonight

Personal income and spending	Sep
Employment cost index	Sep Q
Chicago PMI	Oct
Uni of Michigan consumer sentiment (final)	Oct
PCE price index	Sep

Blackstone Minerals	BSX	1 Nov
Blue Star Helium	BNL	1 Nov
Frontier Resources	FNT	1 Nov
Gateway Mining	GML	1 Nov
Global Lithium Resources	GL1	1 Nov
Hexima Ltd	HXL	1 Nov
Patrys Ltd	PAB	1 Nov
Red Dirt Metals	RDT	1 Nov
Resources & Energy Group	REZ	1 Nov
Santana Minerals	SMI	1 Nov

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
4DS Memory	4DS	12 Oct
BIR Financial	BIR	28 Oct
European Lithium	EUR	28 Oct
Viagold Rare Earth Resources Holdings	VIA	15 Oct

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
ASG	Today	7	100	0.84
KKC	Today	1	0	4.61
MOT	Today	0.89	0	6.43
MXT	Today	0.68	0	4.11
PGG	Today	0.68	0	4.74
HUO	Mon	12.5	100	0.00
NBI	Mon	0.8	0	5.19
BIS	Tue	9	100	2.50
BKW	Tue	40	100	0.87
ACF	Wed	1.15	100	1.60

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	CAR	AGM
	CBO	AGM
	GUD	AGM
	GWA	AGM
	LOT	AGM
	MQG	Interim
	OGC	Sep Q
	ORG	Sep Q
	PWH	AGM (midday)
	RMD	Sep Q (NB: o/night Thurs; w/c 7.30am)
	SZL	Sep Q
	SKC	AGM
	TGP	AGM

**Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight**

Japan	Industrial production (prelim)	Sep
Japan	Consumer confidence (4pm AEDT)	Oct
South Korea	Industrial production	Sep
South Korea	Retail sales	Sep
UK	BoE consumer credit	Sep
Germany	GDP (initial)	Sep Q
Euro zone	GDP (initial)	Sep Q
Euro zone	CPI (prelim)	Oct

Need More Information?

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Mon	IGO	Sep Q (w/cast briefing 11am)
	WPR	AGM
	WBC	Full year
Wed	CWP	AGM
	CLH	AGM
	DMP	AGM
	EMD	AGM
	NZO	AGM
	WOR	AGM
Thu	CCP	AGM
	DHG	AGM
	DOW	AGM
	ING	AGM
	MCR	AGM (4.30pm)
	MYR	AGM
	NHF	AGM
Fri (5 Nov)	GLV	AGM
	IDX	AGM
	PDL	Full year
	QAN	AGM
	SPK	AGM