



Latest News

- The Aussie market continues to track higher with the ASX 200 lifting for a third successive session on Thursday. The benchmark index rose another 115 points or 2.3% to 5113 with gains over the past three sessions now totalling ~12.5%. Having said that, local shares are still ~29% off the record highs from five weeks ago.
- Markets here and abroad have been buoyed by the prospect of a US\$2 trillion relief package to counter the slowdown in the US economy due to the coronavirus pandemic. The bill has now passed the Senate and requires a vote by the House of Representatives.
- Today's improvements have been across the board with healthcare, technology and energy among the best performers. The standout for the IT sector has been buy-now pay-later provider, Afterpay (APT) which surged another 29% today. The stock has more than doubled in the past three sessions. But APT has still more than halved from its highs earlier this year.
- Healthcare names have also seen strong gains. CSL Ltd (CSL) was the main contributor to broader advances with the biotech giant jumping 6.2%. Private Hospital operator, Ramsay Healthcare (RHC) surged 15% after announcing it is in talks with state and federal governments to assist with the COVID-19 response plan.
- Financials and materials underperformed as Commonwealth Bank (CBA) ended weaker by 1% and BHP Group (BHP) fell 2%. Gold miner, Northern Star (NST) tumbled 15% after withdrawing its FY20 production and cost guidance after March quarter output is looking to be 10-15% below the company's previous expectations.
- Elsewhere, retail stocks were in the headlines with plenty of announcements relating to store closures in response to COVID-19. Both JB Hi-Fi (JBH) and Super Retail Group (SuperCheap Auto & Macpac) (SUL) will be closing NZ stores for 4 weeks in response to government restrictions. JBH rose q0% and SUL climbed 7.8%. Premier Investments (PMV) which owns Jay Jays, Smiggle, Just Jeans and Peter Alexander will also temporarily close stores worldwide, which will impact 9,000 staff. PMV edged 1.5% higher. Lovisa (LOV) surged 29% higher even as it looks close its Aus/NZ stores for 4 weeks.
- Seven West Media (SWM) was 11.6% higher as the ACCC decided not to oppose its sale of Pacific Magazines (including New Idea, Men's/Women's Health & That's Life) for \$40 million to Bauer Media.
- The Aussie dollar has fallen back to 59.3 US cents after breaching 60 US cents yesterday. Today, 3.4b units traded worth \$10.3b with 887 stocks higher, 286 weaker and 266 unchanged. Tonight, weekly US jobless claims data is released.

Latest Prices	4.30pm	AEDT	
	Level	Previous	% chg
All Ords	5,135.2	5,006.2	2.6
ASX 200	5,113.3	4,998.1	2.3
Shanghai	2,782.6	2,781.6	0.0
Japan Nikkei	18,897.7	19,546.6	-3.3

US Dow Jones	21,200.6	20,704.9	2.4
US Nasdaq	7,384.3	7,417.9	-0.5
UK FTSE	5,688.2	5,446.0	4.4
Dow Futures	21,014.0	21,035.0	-0.1

	Last	Previous	% chg
Consumer Discretionary	1,844.5	1,766.7	4.4
Consumer Staples	12,021.6	11,970.1	0.4
Energy	5,968.8	5,713.3	4.5
Financials	4,178.7	4,163.2	0.4
Financial-x-A-REIT	4,660.7	4,643.4	0.4
Health Care	41,428.5	38,885.7	6.5
Industrials	5,066.8	4,892.5	3.6
Information Tech	1,016.8	946.4	7.4
Materials	11,054.8	11,037.1	0.2
ASX200 A-REIT	1,050.2	1,011.3	3.8
Telecommunications	1,056.7	1,036.4	2.0
Utilities	6,944.7	6,719.3	3.4

	Last	Day Move	% chg
BHP	\$30.67	-\$0.63	-2.0
RIO	\$88.13	\$4.31	5.1
CBA	\$61.80	-\$0.60	-1.0
ANZ	\$16.70	\$0.13	0.8
NAB	\$16.14	\$0.35	2.2
WBC	\$16.02	\$0.17	1.1
TLS	\$3.16	\$0.00	0.0
WOW	\$36.73	\$0.31	0.9
WES	\$34.77	\$1.36	4.1
WPL	\$18.00	\$0.67	3.9
CSL	\$301.99	\$17.63	6.2
COH	\$182.17	\$14.17	8.4
NCM	\$25.98	\$0.10	0.4

	Current	Aust 4pm	% chg
AUD/USD	0.5924	0.5959	-0.60
AUD/EUR	0.5426	0.5477	-0.93
AUD/JPY	65.554	66.269	-1.08

11am Official Cash	0.25	0.50	-50.00
Aust 90 day futures	0.44	0.46	-4.35
Oil Nymex (\$US/b) US Close	33.54	33.43	0.0
Gold futures(\$US/oz) US Close	1623.70	1633.40	-0.1

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