

October 30, 2026

Investor Signposts: Week beginning November 2, 2026

Upcoming economic and financial market events

Australia

Monday November 2	◆ Building approvals (Sept)	<i>Previous reading was -6.1%</i>
Monday November 2	◆ ANZ-Indeed Job ads (Oct)	<i>Rose 2.2% in Sept</i>
Monday November 2	◆ Melbourne Institute Inflation (Oct)	<i>Sept was +0.3% mom</i>
Tuesday November 3	◆ RBA Interest rate decision	<i>~82% chance of 25bps rate hike</i>
Tuesday November 3	◆ RBA Statement on Monetary Policy	<i>Quarterly update on economic outlook</i>
Wednesday November 4	◆ Household Spending (Sept)	<i>Spending rose 6.8% yoy in August</i>
Thursday November 5	◆ RBA Deputy Governor Andrew Hauser speaks	<i>Lecture at ANU Canberra</i>
Thursday November 5	◆ Balance of Trade (Sept)	<i>\$495m trade surplus in August</i>

Overseas

Monday November 2	◆ US ISM manufacturing index (Oct)	<i>54.7 tipped</i>
Monday November 2	◆ US Construction spending (Sept)	<i>+0.5% forecast</i>
Tuesday November 3	◆ US JOLTS Job openings (Sept)	<i>7.2m job openings expected</i>
Tuesday November 3	◆ US factory orders (Sept)	<i>+1.0% mom predicted</i>
Tuesday November 3	◆ US durable goods orders (Sept)	<i>+1.8% mom in Aug</i>
Tuesday November 3	◆ US midterm elections	<i>Control of Congress will be decided</i>
Wednesday November 4	◆ US Balance of Trade (Sept)	<i>US\$105.6b trade deficit in August</i>
Wednesday November 4	◆ US ADP Employment Change (Oct)	<i>+75k anticipated</i>
Wednesday November 4	◆ US ISM Services index (Oct)	<i>55.0 reading tipped</i>
Thursday November 5	◆ US weekly initial jobless claims	<i>First time claims for unemployment benefits</i>
Friday November 6	◆ US nonfarm payrolls (Oct)	<i>55k jobs expected to be added</i>

RBA rate decision, major bank earnings and US midterms headline a big week

- Investors will be firmly focused on the RBA's meeting on Tuesday. Markets are pricing in a ~82% chance of a rate hike (as of Thursday 29 Oct) after September's inflation reading showed continued price pressures. The Statement on Monetary Policy will also be closely watched, as investors look for changes to the RBA's forecasts for inflation, growth and unemployment.
- The US midterm elections will also be a focal point, with control of Congress at stake. Both the Senate and House of Representatives are currently held by the Republican party. The result could shape government policy like spending and tax over the remainder of President Trump's term. A divided Congress could also make major policy changes more difficult to pass.
- US earnings season enters another busy week, with results due from Apple, Berkshire Hathaway, Palantir, Marriott International, Estee Lauder, Fox Corp (**Monday**); Advanced Micro Devices, Amgen, Pfizer, Electronic Arts, Block Inc, Yum Brands (**Tuesday**); Qualcomm, McDonald's, Uber, CVS Health, DoorDash, Expedia, Kraft Heinz Co, Snap Inc. (**Wednesday**); ConocoPhillips, Airbnb, Microchip Technologies, Atlassian, Kimberly-Clark, Mattel (**Thursday**); Moderna, Humana and Vistra Corp (**Friday**).
- Earnings from two of the 'big four' banks will be closely watched, with Westpac reporting its full-year results on Monday, followed by NAB on Thursday. Macquarie Group will also be releasing its half-year result on Friday. Investors will be watching how the slowdown in the housing market is flowing through to lending growth, margins and earnings. Most of the banks report outside the traditional August reporting period due to their different financial-year calendars. Elsewhere, other dual-listed ASX companies like Block, Amcor, and News Corp are also due to release quarterly updates.
- AGM season also rolls on, with meetings for Chorus (**Wednesday**); Alkane Resources, Whitehaven Coal, Breville Group (**Thursday**); News Corp, Coles Group, Nine Entertainment and Qantas (**Friday**). **James Tao, Equity Market Commentator**

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