September 25, 2026

Investor Signposts: Week beginning September 28, 2026

Upcoming economic and financial market events

Australia

Tuesday September 29	◆	Household spending (August)	*Prior +1.1% m/m in July*
Tuesday September 29	◆	RBA interest rate decision	*25bp rate hike to 4.60% expected*
Wednesday September 30	◆	Consumer Price Index (August)	*+3.5% y/y in July*
Wednesday September 30	◆	Building Approvals (August)	*Approvals fell 3.6% m/m in July*
Wednesday September 30	◆	Private sector credit (August)	*Rose 8.4% y/y in July*
Thursday October 1	◆	International trade balance (August)	*July trade surplus of $1.92 billion*

Overseas

Tuesday September 29	◆	US JOLTs Job Openings (August)	*7.23m job openings forecast*
Tuesday September 29	◆	US Conf Board Consumer Confidence (Sept)	*Tipped to be 91*
Wednesday September 30	◆	China Manufacturing PMI (Sept)	*Expected to be 50.1*
Wednesday September 30	◆	US Core PCE Price Index (August)	*3.4% annual growth & 0.3% monthly expected*
Wednesday September 30	◆	US Final Quarterly GDP Growth Rate (Q2)	*3.5% annualised rate forecast*
Wednesday September 30	◆	ADP Non-Farm employment change (Sept)	*+58k forecast*
Wednesday September 30	◆	US Personal Income & Spending (August)	*Spending tipped at 0.8% & income at 0.4% m/m*
Thursday October 1	◆	US weekly initial jobless claims	*First time claims for unemployment benefits*
Thursday October 1	◆	US ISM Manufacturing PMI (Sept)	*55.0 anticipated*
Friday October 2	◆	US Non-Farm Payrolls (Sept)	*+104k forecast*

RBA set to take centre stage with a rate hike firmly on the cards

- The main event for local investors will be the RBA's interest rate decision on Tuesday, with the market pricing in an ~87% chance (as of Wednesday 23 Sept) of a 25-basis point hike to lift the cash rate to 4.60%.
- A day after the RBA rate decision, monthly Consumer Price Index data is released for August. While headline annual inflation cooled in July to 3.5% y/y, it continues to remain stubbornly above the RBA's target range of 2-3%. If the inflation numbers come in hotter than expected, it could stoke further expectations of rate hikes, with markets currently anticipating at least two rate rises between now and March 2027.
- Over in the US, the Core PCE Index will be one of the key releases to watch, along with the non-farm payrolls numbers which will be released on Friday. Both data points will likely provide fresh clues on the health of the US economy and the outlook for US Federal Reserve interest rates. The ISM manufacturing survey will also be closely watched for an update on US economic momentum.
- US earnings will be relatively light, with results scheduled from Carnival Corporation **(Tuesday);** Micron Technology, FactSet **(Wednesday);** Accenture, and Nike **(Thursday)**.
- A number of ASX companies will trade ex-dividend including Viva Leisure, **(Monday);** Arena REIT, Centuria Industrial REIT, Charter Hall Retail **(Tuesday);** Nick Scali, Sims **(Wednesday);** and NRW Holdings **(Friday)**.
- Companies paying dividends include Newmont, IRESS, Insurance Australia Group **(Monday);** Commonwealth Bank, Fortescue, Pro Medicus, Super Retail Group, TPG Telecom, Netwealth Group **(Tuesday);** Regal Partners, Viva Energy, Guzman y Gomez, Sandfire Resources, Ampol, Karoon Energy, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank, Mineral Resources **(Wednesday);** Adairs, Bega Cheese, SEEK, Breville, Downer EDI, Endeavour Group **(Thursday);** Origin Energy, QBE, CSL, Spark NZ, Evolution Mining, and a2 Milk Company **(Friday)**.

  James Tao, CommSec Equity Market Commentator