

**Markets**

<b>SFE 200 Futures</b> (9.30am AEDT)	7298	-41	-0.6
<b>NZX 50</b>	12844	-49	-0.4
<b>DJIA Futures</b>	35952	-155	-0.4
<b>S&amp;P 500 Futures</b>	4662	-6	-0.1
<b>NASDAQ Futures</b>	15608	27	0.2

**Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market commences today's trade with two influential domestic economic data releases due late morning following overnight falls across most major international equities markets and ahead of parliamentary confirmation testimony from the US Federal Reserve chair tonight.

**Locally** today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes November **trade balance** at **11.30am** AEDT.

At the same time, the ABS releases November **retail sales**.

**Regionally** today, no major economic indicators are anticipated during ASX trade.

In overnight commodities trade, both Brent and WTI **crude** extended Friday's declines.

US **gold** futures continued to gain, but slightly so.

**Iron ore** (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) fell \$US1.73/t to \$US124.48/t.

*Mysteel* reported Australian 62% iron ore fines (China port CFR) \$US2.70/t lower, at \$US125.05/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** reportedly turned slightly lower. **Nickel** was reported to have continued higher, and **aluminium** to have swung so, each by more than 0.5%. *Last night's LME final price updates were unavailable from IRESS at time of publication.*

The **\$A** fell below US71.75c after being pushed towards US72.00c early yesterday evening.

**Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
<b>Dow Jones</b>	36069	-163	-0.5
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	4670	-7	-0.1
<b>NASDAQ</b>	14943	7	0.1
<b>FTSE 100</b>	7445	-40	-0.5
<b>DAX 30</b>	15768	-179	-1.1
<b>Shanghai Comp</b>	3594	14	0.4

**Overseas Markets Commentary**

Swings featured across most major European, UK and US equities markets overnight, key US indices noticeably trending higher during second-half trade.

The NASDAQ notably entered technical correction territory after dropping greater than 10 per cent since November, but rallied

**Today's Stock Watch**
**Ramsay Health Care (RHC)**

Agreement secured with the National Health Service (NHS) England regarding volume-based services assistance in response to Covid-19 patient numbers.

RHC will also continue to provide private patient care.

The new agreement covers the period 10 January – 31 March 2022.

**Inghams Ltd (ING)**

Covid-19 omicron variant spread has disrupted production, adversely affected distribution capability and hence is impacting sales.

Implementing volume and mix operational changes.

Planning to lodge 1H FY22 results 18 February, together with an operation update.

**PolyNovo Ltd (PNV)**

1H22 sales estimated 45% higher than for 1H 21, at \$A16.28M. Including Barda revenue, sales are estimated at \$A12.60M, up 43%.

December quarter sales for 105% to \$A8.06M.

**Avita Medical (AVH)**

December quarter revenue grew 35% year-on-year to \$6.9M (unaudited). \$55.5M cash and equivalents at 31 December.

\$49.3M short- and long-term marketable securities. Nil debt.

**Platinum Asset Management (PTM)**

\$22.006B FUM at 31 December, from \$22.050B at the end of November.

**Vmoto Ltd (VMT)**

Anticipating \$7.5M - \$7.8M FY21 NPAT, against \$3.7M for FY20. Additional details lodged pre-trade.

**Resources**
**Western Gold Resources (WGR)**

Gold Duke project Eagle deposit RC drilling has delivered additional high-grade, near-surface intersections along strike and at depth. The eastern lode has been extended a further 100m along strike to an overall 1km strike length.

Assays lodged pre-trade.

Additional Comedy King assays also lodged.

**Energy**
**ReNu Energy (RNE)**

Swinburne University of Technology is modelling renewable energy options to minimise electricity and overall costs of the proposed Countrywide Renewable Hydrogen (CRH) MHH green hydrogen project. RNE is proposing to acquire CRH and will seek shareholder approval 1 February.



sufficiently to close with a gain.

US 10-year bond yields reached ~two-year peaks and a regional US Federal Reserve president was reported to have ventured interest rates could rise in March.

In geopolitical developments, Russia lauded its influence on victory over Kazakhstan protestors and the US and Russia convened talks in Geneva, largely focusing on the Ukraine.

China in the meantime offered to boost 'law enforcement and security' co-operation with Kazakhstan.

Among Covid-19 reports, the US recorded a new hospitalisation peak and more nations in Europe eased isolation conditions in order to ensure sufficient staff for key industries and services.

Overnight **data** releases included a Sentix January investor confidence reading for the **euro zone**, which rose to 14.9 from 13.5, defying expectations for a 1.5-point decline.

The expectations component index fell to 13.5 from 13.8, however.

Euro zone November unemployment was reported at 7.2% in the meantime, 0.1% lower than for October.

In the **US**, November wholesale inventories rose by 1.4% for the month, following a 2.5% October increase.

A December consumer inflation expectations reading of 6% represented no change from November and followed forecasts for 6.1%.

**Tonight** in the **US**, Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell offers testimony to a parliamentary committee as part of the confirmation process for his nominated second term.

US December business optimism and January economic optimism indices are also due.

Elsewhere, **European Central Bank** (ECB) president Christine Lagarde is scheduled to speak publicly.

In overnight corporate news, **Take Two** revealed plans to acquire mobile gaming firm **Zynga** for \$US12.7B.

### Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
<b>Gold (NY)</b> (Feb)	<b>1798.8</b>	oz	1.4	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Silver (NY)</b> (Mar)	<b>22.462</b>	oz	0.05	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Gold (LON)</b> (7 Jan)	<b>1793</b>	oz		
<b>Platinum</b>	<b>938</b>	oz	-21	<b>-2.2</b>
<b>WTI Crude</b> (NYMEX Feb)	<b>78.23</b>	bbbl	-0.67	<b>-0.9</b>
<b>Brent Crude</b> (ICE EUR Mar)	<b>80.87</b>	bbbl	-0.88	<b>-1.1</b>
<b>Iron Ore</b> (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	<b>124.48</b>	t	-1.73	<b>-1.4</b>
<b>Copper (LME 3mth Evening)</b> (7 Jan)	<b>9646</b>	t		
<b>Nickel</b>	<b>20731</b>	t		
<b>Aluminium</b>	<b>2913</b>	t		
<b>Lead</b>	<b>2277</b>	t		
<b>Zinc</b>	<b>3532</b>	t		
<b>Tin</b>	<b>39824</b>	t		

### Commodities Commentary

**Oil** – prices swung higher early but were pushed lower on \$US strength, ongoing speculation of lower demand on the continuing Covid-19 omicron variant spread and reports of increased

## Pre-Open Announcements

### Westpac Banking Corporation (\* WBC)

Planning to delist the group's American depositary shares from the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), in favour of listing simplification.

NYSE trade is expected to be suspended prior to the NYSE open 31 January.

### Imugene Ltd (IMU)

~25.18M shares are due for release from voluntary escrow 17 January (Monday next week).

### Careteq Ltd (CTQ)

Health and aged care technology specialist completed its ASX listing yesterday following a \$6M IPO at 20c per share.

Opened at 16.5c, the company's day one high, and fell to 14c before settling at 16c.

~2.19M shares changed hands across 103 transactions.

~113.63M quoted shares.

### Resources

### Tungsten Mining (\* TGN)

MoU secured with MCC International Incorporation Ltd for potential collaborative development of TGN's Mt Mulgine tungsten project, WA Murchison region.

### Argosy Minerals (AGY)

Argentina Rincon lithium project update, highlighting the commencement of plant and equipment delivery operations, lodged pre-trade.

AGY added ~13% yesterday, settling at 39c.

### Tamboran Resources (TBN)

110,926 shares are due to be released from restricted access 17 January (Monday next week).

### Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
White Cliff Minerals	WCN	11 Jan
Xantippe Resources	XTC	11 Jan
Zenith Minerals	ZNC	11 Jan
Castle Minerals	CDT	12 Jan
Compumedics Ltd	CMP	12 Jan
Critical Resources	CRR	12 Jan
Emerald Resources	EMR	12 Jan
First Au	FAU	12 Jan
Pacgold Ltd	PGO	12 Jan
PVW Resources	PVW	12 Jan
Structural Monitoring Systems	SMN	12 Jan
Rent.com.au Ltd	RNT	13 Jan



production out of Libya.

**Gold** – Comex prices settled higher again overnight, exceeding \$US1800/oz intra-session, despite a stronger \$US (ICE \$US index - 0.3%) and continuing higher US 10-year bond yields (~1.782%).

Meanwhile, the World Gold Council estimated 6.4t of gold were removed from ETFs during December and 173t liquidated during 2021.

Parliamentary testimony by US Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell tonight during his confirmation hearing is keenly anticipated tonight.

**Base metals** – overnight trade appeared influenced, at least in part, by a strong \$US and some caution reflected from weak equities trade sentiment.

**Nickel** prices were supported by falling LME-registered warehouse inventories, delivering a \$US125/t cash premium against three-month contracts. The demand has been mostly attributed to electric vehicle battery demand.

**Aluminium** also benefited from inventories, estimated 30% lower than ~four months ago, at 911,500t.

China's December producer prices and CPI are keenly anticipated tomorrow, in addition to trade figures Friday.

#### Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
<b>AUD – USD</b>	0.7174	-0.0018	<b>-0.25</b>
<b>EUR – USD</b>	1.1326	-0.0008	<b>-0.07</b>

#### Australian Data Today

ABS	Retail sales	Nov
ABS	Trade balance	Nov

#### US Data Tonight

NFIB business optimism	Dec
IBD/TIPP economic optimism	Jan

#### Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

<b>Japan</b>	Leading economic index (prelim; 4pm AEDT)	Nov
<b>UK</b>	BRC retail sales monitor (~11am AEDT)	Dec

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#### Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Geopacific Resources	GPR	15 Dec
IRIS Metals	IR1	10 Jan

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