

Australian Market Outlook - 6 July 2023

The Australian stock market is slightly higher on Tuesday, extending the gains in the previous two sessions, with the benchmark S&P/ASX 200 staying above the 7,200 level, following the broadly positive cues from Wall Street overnight, as traders remain cautious ahead of the Reserve Bank of Australia's monetary policy decision later in the day.

The benchmark S&P/ASX 200 Index is gaining 1.70 points or 0.02 percent to 7,247.80, after touching a high of 7,264.10 earlier. The broader All Ordinaries Index is up 3.60 points or 0.05 percent to 7,446.40. Australian stocks closed notably higher on Monday.

Among the major miners, Fortescue Metals and Mineral Resources are gaining almost 1 percent each, while Rio Tinto and BHP Group are edging up 0.3 to 0.4 percent each.

Oil stocks are mixed. Woodside Energy and Beach energy are edging up 0.2 percent each, while Santos and Origin Energy are edging down 0.3 percent each.

Among tech stocks, Afterpay owner Block, Xero and WiseTech Global are edging down 0.4 to 0.5 percent each, while Appen is losing almost 1 percent. Zip is gaining almost 3 percent. Among the big four banks, Commonwealth Bank, Westpac and ANZ Banking are edging down 0.1 percent each, while National Australia Bank is edging up 0.3 percent.

Top Gainers			
Company	Last Price (\$)	Change%	
BUBS Australia Ltd.	\$0.23	18.42%	
Booktopia Group Ltd.	\$0.18	16.67%	
McPherson's Ltd.	\$0.44	12.99%	
Developments	\$0.95	12.43%	
Seafarms Group Ltd.	\$0.01	11.11%	

Australia will on Thursday release May figures for imports, exports and trade balance, highlighting a light day for Asia-Pacific economic activity. In April, imports were up 2.0 percent on month and exports fell 5.0 percent for a trade surplus of A\$11.158 billion.

The central bank in Malaysia will wrap up its monetary policy meeting and then announce its decision on interest rates. The central bank is expected to keep its benchmark lending rate steady at 3.00 percent.

Taiwan will provide June numbers for consumer prices; in May, overall inflation was up 2.02 percent on year.

Retail sales in Australia increased by 0.7 percent month-over-month to AUD 35.52 billion in May 2023, unrevised from the flash figure, picking up from a flat reading in April.

This was the strongest increase in retail trade since January, amid some resilience in spending with consumers taking advantage of promotional activity and sales events.

Other retailing recorded the largest rise (2.2% vs 0.1% in April), followed by cafes, restaurants, and takeaway food (1.4% vs -0.2%), household goods retailing (0.6% vs -0.9%), and food retailing (0.3% vs -0.2%). By contrast, sales fell for clothing (-0.6% vs 2.0%), and department stores (-0.5% vs 1.6%).

Top Losers			
Company	Last Price (\$)	Change%	
PYC Therapeutics Ltd.	\$0.07	-13.75%	
Stavely Minerals Ltd.	\$0.10	-11.82%	
Cyclopharm Ltd.	\$2.00	-9.09%	
Audio Pixels Holdings Ltd.	\$11.01	-8.17%	
AVZ Minerals Ltd.	\$0.78	-7.14%	



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