

QIC Finance Report

Weekly

29 June 2009

Equity markets struggled over the week, with investors focusing on the weakness in economic indicators, which suggests the global economy is still a long way from robust growth.

US equity markets declined for the second consecutive week amidst profit taking, with the S&P 500 losing 0.3% and the Dow Jones down -1.2%. Energy shares dipped amidst a pull-back in oil prices.

The Australian share market finished the week slightly positive, up 0.3%, after selling off earlier in the week on the back of the World Bank's economic downgrade. The ASX 200 accumulation index is positive 5% so far in 2009.

In the US this week it is a shortened but busy data week ahead of the July 4 celebrations and holiday on Friday. In the US we get house price and consumer confidence data on Tuesday, ISM manufacturing data on Wednesday and Payrolls data on Thursday.

Domestic interest rates are expected to remain on hold for the remainder of 2009.

US crude oil prices remained below \$70 a barrel with Nigerian supply concerns eased by news of a ceasefire with rebels.

The Australian dollar ended the week flat remaining at US\$0.81.

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The next QIC Finance Report will be available on Monday 6 July 2009

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