



MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

3 May 2012

ASX Group Monthly Activity Report – April 2012

The value of ASX-listed stocks, as measured by the All Ordinaries Index, rose 1.1% in April 2012. This performance was marginally below the rise in Hong Kong of 2.6% and stronger than declines on other major markets, including Japan down 5.6%, Germany down 2.7%, Singapore down 1.1%, the US down 0.7% and the UK down 0.5%.

Volatility measures for the Australian equity market fell in line with long-term averages during April:

- Current volatility (as measured by the average daily movement in the All Ordinaries Index) was 0.5% in April, marginally down on the previous month (0.6%).
- Expected future volatility (as measured by the S&P/ASX 200 VIX) fell in April to an average of 15.5 (compared to 16.7 in March).

AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE

Listings and capital raisings

- In April 2012 total capital raised including scrip-for-scrip totalled \$4.6 billion, down 51% on the \$9.4 billion in the previous corresponding period (pcp).

Listings and Capital Raisings	Apr 2012 Month	Apr 2011 Month	Apr 2012 Financial YTD	Apr 2011 Financial YTD
New listed entities admitted	9	11	84	131
Change on pcp	-18%		-36%	
Total listed entities (at end of month)	2,225	2,238		
Change on pcp	-1%			
Initial capital raised (\$million)	355	330	8,205	23,479
Secondary capital raised (\$million)	3,992	6,086	26,556	29,889
Total capital raised (\$million)	4,347	6,416	34,761	53,368
Change on pcp	-32%		-35%	
Other capital raised including scrip-for-scrip (\$million)	277	3,022	4,773	23,467
Total capital raised including scrip-for-scrip (\$million)	4,624	9,438	39,534	76,835

Trading – Cash markets (including equities, interest rates and warrants trades)

- In April 2012 the number of trades was flat on the pcp, while the total value of trading was 29% lower than the pcp.

Cash Markets	Apr 2012 Month	Apr 2011 Month	Apr 2012 Financial YTD	Apr 2011 Financial YTD
Total trading days	18	18	210	210
Cash market volume				
Total trades	11,143,765	11,168,512	137,071,849	117,843,737
Change on pcp	-		16%	
Average daily trades	619,098	620,473	652,723	561,161
Change on pcp	-		16%	
Cash market value (including value of crossed trades)				
Total value (\$billion)	73.924	103.818	994.853	1,111.024
Change on pcp	-29%		-10%	
Average daily value (\$billion)	4.107	5.768	4.737	5.291
Change on pcp	-29%		-10%	
Average value per trade (\$)	6,634	9,296	7,258	9,428
Change on pcp	-29%		-23%	
Cash market behaviour statistics				
Turnover crossed (%)	24%	28%	24%	28%
Off-market turnover crossed (%)	12%	15%	12%	15%
On-market turnover crossed (%)	12%	13%	12%	13%
Total value crossed (\$billion)	17.676	28.575	242.062	310.874
Non billable value (above cap) (\$billion)	0.940	3.442	19.994	33.302
Total billable value (\$billion)	72.984	100.376	974.859	1,077.722
Cash market includes equity, warrant and interest rate market transactions				

Trading – Financial derivatives markets

- In April 2012 total derivatives traded on ASX decreased 7% on the pcp. Index options volume was 8% higher than pcp while single stock options volume was 12% lower than the pcp.
- Total futures and options on futures volume on ASX 24 increased 10% on the pcp.

Derivatives Markets	Apr 2012 Month	Apr 2011 Month	Apr 2012 Financial YTD	Apr 2011 Financial YTD
Derivatives total trading days (Derivatives includes exchange-traded options, commodities, and index options and futures)	18	18	210	210
Derivatives volume				
Total contracts	11,350,586	1,855,208	134,588,031	18,271,782
Total contracts – converted to previous contract size	1,724,033	1,855,208	22,249,612	18,271,782
Change on pcp	-7%		22%	
Average daily contracts	630,588	103,067	640,895	87,008
Average daily contracts – converted to previous contract size	95,780	103,067	105,951	87,008
Change on pcp	-7%		22%	
Futures and options total trading days (Futures and options includes interest rate, ASX SPI 200 and energy contracts)	19	19	212	212
Futures volume	6,442,012	5,893,058	79,851,978	71,471,808
Change on pcp	9%		12%	
Average daily contracts	339,053	310,161	376,660	337,131
Change on pcp	9%		12%	
Options on futures volume				
Total contracts	294,504	249,724	2,242,677	3,575,950
Change on pcp	18%		-37%	
Average daily contracts	15,500	13,143	10,579	16,868
Change on pcp	18%		-37%	
Total futures and options on futures volume				
Total contracts	6,736,516	6,142,782	82,094,655	75,047,758
Change on pcp	10%		9%	
Average daily contracts	354,553	323,304	387,239	353,999
Change on pcp	10%		9%	
Contracts for difference market				
Total trades	3,843	5,778	64,512	80,903
Total contracts traded	4,309,578	14,125,394	108,868,487	146,731,677
Notional value traded (\$million)	113.0	218.4	2,092.1	3,010.8
Total open interest value (at end of month) (\$million)	67.4	77.6		

ASX CLEARING CORPORATION

Clearing

- Participant cash margin balances held on-balance sheet averaged \$2.3 billion in April 2012 (\$2.2 billion pcp).

ASX Clearing Corporation	Apr 2012 Month	Apr 2011 Month	Apr 2012 Financial YTD	Apr 2011 Financial YTD
Collateral Balances – At End of Month				
Cash margins held on-balance sheet:				
- ASX Clear (\$billion)	0.2	0.3		
- ASX Clear (Futures) (\$billion)	2.2	1.9		
Cash equivalents held on-balance sheet – ASX Clear (Futures) (\$billion)	0.0	0.0		
Collateral cash cover held off-balance sheet (equities and guarantees) – ASX Clear (\$billion)	4.3	4.4		
Total billable value cleared (\$billion)	62.225	74.063	818.038	859.988

ASX SETTLEMENT CORPORATION

- The value of securities held in CHESS was 5% lower than the pcp and the number of dominant settlement messages was 13% lower than the pcp.

ASX Settlement	Apr 2012 Month	Apr 2011 Month	Apr 2012 Financial YTD	Apr 2011 Financial YTD
Value of CHESS holdings – period end (\$billion)	1,198.1	1,262.4		
Dominant settlement messages (million)	1.1	1.3	13.4	13.9
Austraclear Settlement and Depository				
Austraclear securities holdings – period end (\$billion)	1,317.8	1,223.2		

A separate **ASX Compliance** activity report for April 2012 has also been released today.

For further information:

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