

# Australia's Economic Tightrope: Inflation Surges, RBA Hikes Rates Amidst Global Uncertainty

Australian Finance · Answer Key · 10 Questions

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**1. What was the annual inflation rate in Australia for March 2026, as reported by the Australian Bureau of Statistics?**

- A) 4.6%**
- B) 3.7%
- C) 5.5%
- D) 3.3%

**2. According to the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) May 2026 Statement on Monetary Policy, what was the projected peak for headline inflation in the June quarter of 2026?**

- A) 4.8%**
- B) 3.3%
- C) 4.6%
- D) 3.7%

**3. What decision did the Reserve Bank of Australia's Monetary Policy Board make at their May 5, 2026 meeting regarding the cash rate target?**

- A) Increased it by 25 basis points to 4.35%**
- B) Left it unchanged at 4.10%
- C) Decreased it by 25 basis points to 4.10%
- D) Increased it by 50 basis points to 4.50%

**4. Australia's trade balance recorded a deficit of how much in March 2026?**

- A) USD 1.3 billion**
- B) USD 3.5 billion
- C) AUD 1.8 billion
- D) USD 500 million

**5. What was the unemployment rate in Australia as of April 2026, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics?**

- A) 4.5%**
- B) 4.3%
- C) 4.7%
- D) 4.2%

**6. What was the forecasted real GDP growth for Australia in 2026 by the IMF in their April 2026 World Economic Outlook?**

- A) 2.0%**
- B) 1.8%
- C) 2.2%
- D) 1.7%

**7. Which sector is projected to outpace public infrastructure investment in Australia in 2026, according to Oxford Economics?**

- A) AI-linked sectors, energy, mining, and technology**
- B) Renewable energy and advanced manufacturing
- C) Defence and cybersecurity
- D) Agricultural technology and space exploration

**8. The Australian 2026 Federal Budget signals a shift away from what, towards more focus on productive investment?**

- A) Tax concessions**
- B) Government subsidies
- C) Import tariffs
- D) Export limitations

**9. What is the main stock market index in Australia, and what was its approximate value on May 25, 2026?**

- A) ASX 200, 8646 points**
- B) ASX All Ordinaries, 8700 points
- C) S&P/ASX 500, 4500 points
- D) Dow Jones Australia, 10000 points

**10. As of the March 2026 Consumer Price Index data, what were the largest contributors to annual inflation in Australia?**

- A) Housing, Transport, and Food and non-alcoholic beverages**
- B) Healthcare, Education, and Recreation
- C) Clothing, Automotive, and Utilities
- D) Alcohol and tobacco, Furnishings, and Insurance