

SE Business

HD THE MARKET Global unrest hits index

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THE sharemarket has fallen, with weakness in most sectors, as investors remain cautious due to conflict in Iraq and Ukraine.

Uninspiring local jobs data and **Chinese** consumer confidence figures also contributed to the weaker performance.

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The major banks weighed on the market for a second straight day, but falls were also posted by miners, gas and oil producers and healthcare companies.

"The focus is still on the conflict that we're seeing in Iraq and the concerns in Ukraine and that's keeping markets a little edgy and volatile at this point," CommSec market analyst Steven Daghlian said.

Among the banks, Westpac lost 32¢ to \$33.83, National Australia Bank shed 28¢ to \$32.80, Commonwealth Bank dropped 56¢ to \$81.02 and ANZ was 20¢ weaker at \$33.42.

The big miners posted small falls, with Rio Tinto dropping 46ϕ to \$59.07 and BHP shedding 25ϕ to \$36.21, while Fortescue Metals was steady at \$4.36.

Goldminer Newcrest dropped 26¢ to \$10.55 as the price of the precious metal weakened.

Elsewhere, property developer Lend Lease dropped 50ϕ , or 3.7 per cent, to \$13.12, despite saying the sale of its interest in an upmarket UK shopping mall will boost its 2014 net profit by 45 per cent.

Treasury Wine Estates was a standout, adding 24ϕ , or 5 per cent, to \$5.07, after outlining major changes to its **operations** and structure that will cost \$260 **million**.

The benchmark S&P/ASX200 index was down 30.8 points, or 0.57 per cent, at 5402.

The broader All Ordinaries index was down 28.3 points, or 0.52 per cent, at 5386.8.

The September share price index futures contract was 35 points lower at 5353, with 29,024 contracts traded.

National turnover was 2.15 billion securities worth \$5.86 billion. AAP

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