

Morning Market Summary

Index	Close	Chg	% Chg
DJIA	25,803.19	288.46	0.89
S&P500	2,786.24	18.68	0.67
Nasdaq	7,261.06	49.28	0.68
FTSE100	7,778.64	15.70	0.20
DAX	13,245.03	42.13	0.32
CAC40	5,517.06	28.51	0.52
Nikkei225	23,653.82	-56.61	-0.24
Hang Seng	31,412.54	292.15	0.94
Shanghai	3,428.94	3.60	0.10
All Ords	6,176.80	0.60	0.01
ASX200	6,082.20	12.10	0.20
BSPC Average	1,090.90	-20.75	-1.87

Commodities	Close	Chg	% Chg
Gold (USD/oz)	1,336.90	2.00	0.15
Silver (USD/oz)	17.25	0.10	0.61
Platinum (USD/t oz)	994.85	0.53	0.05
Palladium (USD/t oz)	1,123.73	-1.62	-0.14
Copper (USD/MT)	322.65	0.80	0.25
Oil (USD/bbl)	69.15	-0.05	-0.07
Cocoa (USD/MT)	1,928.00	-13.00	-0.67
Coffee (USD/lb)	122.8	-1.15	-0.93

PGK v	Buy	Sell	Mid
USD	0.32	0.3	0.31
AUD	0.3922	0.3774	0.3848
EUR	0.2582	0.2435	0.25085
JPY	34.66	33.19	33.925
NZD	0.4298	0.4152	0.4225

Global Markets¹

U.S.

U.S. stock indexes on Friday closed out what has been a stellar start to a calendar year for equity trading.

Dow Jones Industrial Average **DJIA, +0.89%** and the 4.2% rise for the S&P 500 index **SPX, +0.67%** so far in 2018, represent the best start to a year since 2003, according to WSJ Market Data Group. The Nasdaq Composite Index's **COMP, +0.68%** 5.2% advance so far this month, marks the best start to a year since 2004.

All three benchmarks finished at all time highs on Friday, along with the Dow Jones Transportation Average **DJT, +0.79%** and the small-cap focused Russell 2000 index **RUT, +0.33%**.

Europe

European stocks edged higher Friday, with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV and industrial names advancing, but gains were held in check by a surging euro on the back of a breakthrough in German government-coalition talks.

The Stoxx Europe 600 index **SXXP, +0.31%** rose 0.3% to close at 398.49, swinging into positive for the week and ending with a 0.3% weekly gain. Germany's DAX 30 index **DAX, +0.32%** closed up 0.3% at 13,245.03, and France's CAC 40 **PX1, +0.52%** picked up 0.5% to 5,517.06. The U.K.'s FTSE 100 index **UKX, +0.20%** edged up 0.2% at 7,778.64, scoring another record closing high.

Trading got under way with news that German Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative CDU party has reached an initial deal with Martin Schulz's center-left SPD for formal coalition negotiations. Germany in September held elections in which incumbent Merkel won, but she had since been unable to secure a coalition to rule.

Asia

Most Asia-Pacific stock markets chalked up modest gains Friday, following fresh records on major U.S. indexes, stemming two days of declines in the region.

The Nikkei Average **NIK, -0.24%** fell 0.2% as the Japanese currency rallied for a third straight day after the Bank of Japan cut the size of ongoing purchases of government bonds for one bucket of longer-term debt. Taiwan's Taiex **Y9999, +0.68%** rose 0.7%. Korea's Kospi **SEU, +0.34%** turned up 0.3%, aided as Samsung Electronics shares pared their loss to 0.1%. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index **HSI, +0.94%** advanced 0.9%, marking a record-extending 14th straight gain as it marches closer to 2007's record highs.

Meanwhile, Chinese stocks were little changed Friday during the session as trade data showed a much smaller-than-expected increase in imports last month. The Shanghai Composite Index **SHCOMP, +0.10%** ended up by 0.1%, a record 11th consecutive gain.

Port Moresby²

There was no trade on the local bourse Friday. All stocks remain steady at the close.

¹ MarketWatch

² POMSx, Company, BSP Capital

On the Dual listed front, Oil Search added 14 cents, or 1.76% to closed at A\$8.11 a share followed suit by Newcrest advanced 1.35% to finish the day at A\$23.26 per share.

Commodities³

Gold

Gold futures rose on Friday as weakness in the dollar helped prices finish the week about 1% higher.

February gold **GCG8, +0.19%** rose \$12.40, or 0.9%, to settle at \$1,334.90 an ounce, marking the highest finish since Sept. 11, according to FactSet data. The weekly rise was also gold's fifth in a row.

Oil

Oil prices settled higher Friday for a fifth straight session, as declines in U.S. crude supplies continued to boost prices to their highest in more than three years.

February West Texas Intermediate crude rose 50 cents, or 0.8%, to settle at \$64.30 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. That was the highest finish since Dec. 5, 2014 according to FactSet data. It rose about 4.7% for the week.

News that the Trump administration extended sanctions relief for Iran, as expected, and data showing the first weekly rise in active U.S. oil-drilling rigs failed to squash bullish sentiment.

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