

Morning Market Summary

Index	Close	Chg	% Chg
DJIA	24,946.51	7285.00	0.29
S&P500	2,752.01	4.68	0.17
Nasdaq	7,481.99	0.25	0.00
FTSE100	7,164.14	2.38	0.34
DAX	12,389.58	44.02	0.36
CAC40	5,282.75	15.49	0.29
Nikkei225	21,676.51	-127.44	-0.58
Hang Seng	31,501.97	-39.13	-0.12
Shanghai	3,269.88	-21.23	-0.65
All Ords	6,054.90	27.30	0.45
ASX200	5,949.40	28.60	0.48
BSPC Average	985.89	0.00	0.00

Commodities	Close	Chg	% Chg
Gold (USD/oz)	1,313.50	1.20	0.09
Silver (USD/oz)	16.31	0.03	0.20
Platinum (USD/t oz)	949.81	-0.29	-0.03
Palladium (USD/t oz)	996.22	1.43	0.14
Copper (USD/MT)	310.8	0.05	0.02
Oil (USD/bbl)	65.12	-0.20	-0.30
Cocoa (USD/MT)	2,552.00	-14.00	-0.55
Coffee (USD/lb)	118.05	-0.70	-0.59

PGK v	Buy	Sell	Mid
USD	0.315	0.300	0.308
AUD	0.400	0.385	0.392
EUR	0.254	0.239	0.247
JPY	32.840	31.340	32.090
NZD	0.428	0.413	0.421

Global Markets¹

U.S

U.S. stocks closed slightly higher on Friday, as a round of positive economic data overshadowed ongoing political uncertainty, though major indexes posted sharp declines for the week.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average **DJIA, +0.29%** rose 58 points, or 0.2%, to 24,932. The S&P 500 **SPX, +0.17%** added 4 points, or 0.1%, to 2,751, ending higher for its first day this week. The four-day losing streak the benchmark index just ended was its longest such streak since December. The Nasdaq Composite Index **COMP, +0.00%** rose less than 1 point to 7,482. For the week, the Dow fell 1.6%, the S&P 500 fell 1.3% and the Nasdaq lost 1%.

Friday's gain followed a pair of economic reports; industrial production rose 1.1% in February, its fastest pace in four months, while the University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index jumped to a 14-year high in March.

Europe

European stock markets ended a choppy day in positive territory on Friday, tracking U.S. markets higher as a spate of positive data gave traders a reason to shake off concerns over another impending prominent departure from the White House.

The Stoxx Europe 600 index **DAX, +0.36%** ended up 0.2% at 377.71, trimming its weekly decline to 0.1%.

Germany's DAX 30 index **DAX, +0.36%** rose 0.4% to 12,389.58.

Trading in Frankfurt opened about 40 minutes late on Friday after a connectivity issue that prevented equal access for market participants to the trading system.

France's CAC 40 index **PX1, +0.29%** climbed 0.3% to 5,282.75, while the U.K.'s FTSE 100 **UKX, +0.34%** closed up 0.3% at 7,164.14.

European markets had been all over the map on Friday, but decisively moved higher after upbeat data from the U.S. There, industrial production rose the most in four months in February, while the University of Michigan's consumer-sentiment index jumped to a 14-year high in March. U.S. stocks also traded higher.

Asia

Asia-Pacific stocks were largely lower Friday, with markets getting little direction from European and U.S. activity overnight, after what has been a choppy trading week.

The Nikkei Stock Average **NIK, -0.58%** ended down 0.6% as the yen rose 0.4% against other major global currencies.

But a late rebound allowed both Taiwan's benchmark **Y9999, +0.08%** and Korea's Kospi **SEU, +0.06%** to end up 0.1%. Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng Index **HSI, -0.12%** slipped 0.1% but had closed above its key 50-day moving average for three straight days, a short-term trend indicator.

Australia's benchmark **XJO, +0.13%** closed up 0.5% after three straight days of declines as big miners BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto rose.

New Zealand's NZX 50 **NZ50GR, +0.12%** finished up 0.1%, logging its third record closing high of the week.

¹ MarketWatch

The declines came against a backdrop of more political rumblings globally: U.S. sanctions against Russia, reshuffles in the White House and Special Counsel Robert Mueller's decision to subpoena the Trump Organization.

Port Moresby²

There was no trade on the local market Friday. All stocks closed unchanged.

Equities news; Kina Asset Management Limited (KAML) released its 2017 full year results on Friday 16, March 2018. The Group made an investment gain of 16.8% to K6.2m. This was underpinned by strong performances of share prices of CSL Limited, Transurban Group and Oil Search Limited which rose 40.7%, 20.4%, and 19.5% respectively over the period. Dividend and interest income also contributed to the performance of the Fund totalling K3.5 million.

The key contributors to dividend income were Bank South Pacific, Credit Corp and global funds, Vanguard and Blackrock International stocks.

Commodities³

Gold

Gold settled at its lowest level in just over two weeks on Friday, losing roughly 0.9% for the week. Dollar-denominated prices for the metal traded inversely with the dollar ahead of Wednesday's Federal Reserve decision on monetary policy.

April gold fell \$5.50, or 0.4%, to settle at \$1,312.30 an ounce, logging its lowest finish since March 1 for a second session in a row, according to FactSet data.

Oil

Oil prices rose Friday to notch a second straight weekly climb, as expectations for growing global crude demand helped to outweigh pressure from concerns over strong U.S. production.

April West Texas Intermediate crude added \$1.15, or 1.9%, to settle at \$62.34 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It settled at its highest since March 6 and climbed about 0.5% for the week.

Data from Baker Hughes however, showed a weekly rise in the number of active U.S. oil drilling rigs, erasing the decline seen a week earlier.

² POMSoX, Company, BSP Capital

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