

# Financial News & Events

23 March, 2020



## Currencies

The dollar eased on Friday as six major central banks announced a coordinated action to enhance liquidity in the currency, but bounced off its lows in afternoon trading as stocks weakened. The greenback has staged a ferocious rally this week as investors scrambled to obtain the currency, gaining 4.32% in its biggest weekly rise since the 2008 financial crisis. Currencies from the Australian dollar to the British pound tumbled to multi-year lows after coordinated rate cuts by central banks and billions of dollars of fund injections failed to calm panicky markets. On Friday six major central banks announced coordinated action to enhance liquidity in the greenback by increasing the frequency of their currency swap operations to occur daily. The U.S. dollar rose to 1.03, the highest since January 2017, against a basket of currencies through a week when investors have liquidated everything from stocks to bonds to gold and commodities. It was last 102.65, down 0.32% on the day. For many countries with borrowings in dollars, the massive depreciation in their domestic currencies, and strength in the dollar, has been increasingly threatening at a time when most emerging market and developed-world economies are either headed to or are already in recession, analysts at Action Economics said on Friday in a report. Some funding indicators, however, showed continuing strains in the market.



## Stocks

Wall Street wrapped up its worst week since October 2008, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500 sliding more than 4% on Friday as tough restrictions imposed by New York and California to try to limit the spread of the coronavirus fueled worries about damage to the U.S. economy. In early trade, the market briefly attempted to build on Thursday's gains as global policymakers turned on the taps to prop up financial markets reeling from weeks of heavy selling that ended Wall Street's record 11-year bull run. Coronavirus fears have wiped off almost 32%, or roughly \$9 trillion, from the value of the benchmark S&P index since its record closing high on Feb. 19. The DJI Average fell 913.21 points, or 4.55%, to 19,173.98, the S&P 500 lost 104.47 points, or 4.34%, to 2,304.92 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 271.06 points, or 3.79%, to 6,879.52. Friday's drop left the Dow down 3% from when President Trump took office in January 2017. All three major indexes registered their biggest weekly declines since October 2008, although the Cboe Volatility index - Wall Street's fear gauge - ended the day down at 66.04, in what some investors saw as a sign that selling may subside. The S&P 500 posted no new 52-week highs and 94 new lows, the Nasdaq Composite recorded 5 new highs and 257 new lows. Volume on U.S. exchanges was 18.56 billion shares, compared to the 15.5 billion average for the full session over the last 20 trading days.



## Metals

Gold prices rose 1% on Friday as safe-haven buying offset a rush for cash amid fears over the economic hit from the coronavirus, but bullion was headed for a second weekly drop as investors sold the metal to meet margin calls in other assets. Spot gold gained 1% to \$1,484.88 per ounce after a 1% fall in the previous session and was en route to post a near 3% decline for the week. U.S. gold futures climbed 0.6% to \$1,487.90. Asian shares sought a reprieve following gains on Wall Street, while the dollar crossed a three-year high as the epidemic drove a dash for cash. The U.S. Federal Reserve opened the taps for central banks in nine new countries to access dollars in hopes of preventing the outbreak from causing a global economic rout. The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits surged by the most since 2012 last week. Among other precious metals, palladium rose 0.5% to \$1,660.82 per ounce. Platinum jumped 4.6% to \$613.54 but was set to post its biggest ever weekly fall. Platinum and palladium will remain turbulent in coming months after huge losses sparked by the spread of the coronavirus, before starting a tentative recovery with support from palladium's supply gap and platinum's correlation with gold, analysts said. Silver gained 3.5% to \$12.54, but was on track to post its second steepest weekly decline of about 15% since September 2011.



## Energies

U.S. crude tumbled 10.7% on Friday and posted its biggest weekly decline since the 1991 Gulf War as the coronavirus epidemic dried up global demand and as officials in Washington said an envoy would head to Saudi Arabia to deal with fallout of a Saudi-Russia oil price war. The week featured four days of massive selling as the growing pandemic kept people from driving and booking flights. Oil prices rose sharply on Thursday after days of selling, but the rally did not last. U.S. crude prices notched a weekly loss of 29%, the steepest since the outset of the U.S./Iraq Gulf War in 1991. Brent crude dropped by 20%. Both benchmarks have dropped for four straight weeks. On Friday, Brent crude futures fell \$1.49, or 5.2%, to settle at \$26.98 a barrel. U.S. crude futures for April fell \$2.69, or 10.7%, to settle at \$22.53 a barrel. The front-month contract expires on Friday. The more active U.S. crude contract for May settled down \$3.28, or 12.7%, at \$22.63. U.S. crude has lost half its value in the past two weeks, and Brent has dropped about 40%, as the pandemic has cut demand at the same time as a collapse of coordinated output cuts by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allied producers including Russia. U.S. officials scrambled to respond on Friday, saying they would send a U.S. Energy Department official to Saudi Arabia for several months to work on stabilizing energy markets.



**Disclaimer:** Century Financial Consultancy LLC ("CFC") is Limited Liability Company incorporated under the Laws of UAE and is duly licensed and regulated by the Emirates Securities and Commodities Authority of UAE (SCA). This document is a marketing material and is for informational purposes only and must not be construed to be an advice to invest or otherwise in any investment or financial product. CFC does not guarantee as to adequacy, accuracy, completeness or reliability of any information or data contained herein and under no circumstances whatsoever none of such information or data be construed as an advice or trading strategy or recommendation to deal (Buy/Sell) in any investment or financial product. CFC is not responsible or liable for any result, gain or loss, based on this information, in whole or in part. Please carefully read full disclosure mentioned last page.

**CENTURY**  
FINANCIAL

[www.century.ae](http://www.century.ae)

# Financial News & Events

23 March, 2020

## Economic Events

DATE	TIME	COUNTRY	RELEASE	MONTH	ACTUAL	FORECAST	LAST
23-Mar	11:00	GER	Import Price Index MoM	FEB	-	-	-0.4%
23-Mar	11:00	GER	Import Price Index YoY	FEB	-	-	-0.9%
23-Mar	16:30	CAD	Wholesale Sales MoM	JAN	-	-0.2%	0.9%
23-Mar	17:30	US	Chicago Fed National Activity	FEB	-	-	-0.25
23-Mar	19:00	EUR	Consumer Confidence	MAR	-	-14.2	-6.6
23-Mar	19:30	US	3-Month Bill Auction	-	-	-	0.290%
23-Mar	19:30	US	6-Month Bill Auction	-	-	-	0.300%
24-Mar	02:00	AUD	Manufacturing PMI	-	-	-	50.2
24-Mar	02:00	AUD	Services PMI	-	-	-	49.0
24-Mar	04:30	JPN	Manufacturing PMI	MAR	-	-	47.8
24-Mar	04:30	JPN	Services PMI	-	-	-	46.8
24-Mar	09:00	JPN	BoJ Core CPI YoY	-	-	-	0.3%
24-Mar	09:00	JPN	Leading Index	-	-	90.3	91.6



**Disclaimer:** Century Financial Consultancy LLC ("CFC") is Limited Liability Company incorporated under the Laws of UAE and is duly licensed and regulated by the Emirates Securities and Commodities Authority of UAE (SCA). This document is a marketing material and is for informational purposes only and must not be construed to be an advice to invest or otherwise in any investment or financial product. CFC does not guarantee as to adequacy, accuracy, completeness or reliability of any information or data contained herein and under no circumstances whatsoever none of such information or data be construed as an advice or trading strategy or recommendation to deal (Buy/Sell) in any investment or financial product. CFC is not responsible or liable for any result, gain or loss, based on this information, in whole or in part. Please carefully read full disclosure mentioned last page.

**CENTURY**  
FINANCIAL

[www.century.ae](http://www.century.ae)

# Financial News & Events

Disclaimer:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ACCESS FOR THE PUBLICATION BEFORE THE USE THEREOF.

By use of the publication and continuing to access the publication, you accept these terms and conditions and undertake to be bound by the acceptance. CFC reserves the right to amend, remove, or add to the publication and Disclaimer at any time without any prior notice to you. Such modifications shall be effective immediately. Accordingly, please continue to review this Disclaimer whenever accessing, or using the publication. Your access of, and use of the publication, after modifications to the Disclaimer will constitute your acceptance of the terms and conditions of use of the publication, as modified. If, at any time, you do not wish to accept the content of this Disclaimer, you may not access, or use the publication. Any terms and conditions proposed by you which are in addition to or which conflict with this Disclaimer are expressly rejected by CFC and shall be of no force or effect.

No information as given herein by CFC in this publication should be construed as an offer, recommendation or solicitation to purchase or dispose of any securities/financial instruments/products or to enter in any transaction or adopt any hedging, trading or investment strategy. Neither this publication nor anything contained herein shall form the basis of any contract or commitment whatsoever. Distribution of this publication does not oblige CFC to enter into any transaction.

The content of this publication should not be considered legal, regulatory, credit, tax or accounting advice. Anyone proposing to rely on or use the information contained in the publication should independently verify and check the accuracy, completeness, reliability and suitability of the information and should obtain independent and specific advice from appropriate professionals or experts regarding information contained in this publication. CFC cannot be held responsible for the impact of any transactional costs or any taxes as may be applicable on transactions.

Information contained herein is based on various sources, including but not limited to public information, annual reports and statistical data that CFC considers reliable. However, CFC makes no representation or warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of any report or statistical data made in or in connection with this publication and accepts no responsibility whatsoever for any loss or damage caused by any act or omission taken as a result of the information contained in this publication. The report does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situations and specific needs of recipients. The recipient of this publication must make its own independent decisions regarding whether this communication and any securities or financial instruments mentioned herein, is appropriate in the light of its existing portfolio holdings and/or investment needs.

This document is a marketing material and has been prepared by individual(s), marketing and/or research personnel of CFC. It has not been prepared in accordance with legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research and as such is purely a marketing communication. In this publication, any opinions, news, research, analysis, prices, or other information constitute is a general market commentary, and do not constitute the opinion or advice of CFC or any form of personal or investment advice. CFC neither endorses nor guarantees offerings of third party, nor is CFC responsible for the content, veracity or opinions of third-party speakers, presenters, participants or providers. CFC will not accept liability for any loss or damage, including without limitation to, any loss of profit, which may arise directly or indirectly from use of or reliance on such information.

Charts, graphs and related data or information provided in this publication are intended to serve for illustrative purposes only. The information contained in this publication is prepared as of a particular date and time and will not reflect subsequent changes in the market or changes in any other factors relevant to their determination. All statements as to future matters are not guaranteed to be accurate. CFC expressly disclaims any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect new information, events or circumstances after the date of this publication or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Staff members/employees of CFC may provide/present oral or written market commentary or analysis to you that reflect opinions that are contrary to the opinions expressed in this research and may contain insights and reports that are inconsistent with the views expressed in this publication. Neither CFC nor any of its affiliates, group companies, directors, employees, agents or representatives assume any liability nor shall they be made liable for any damages whether direct, indirect, special or consequential including loss of revenue or profits that may arise from or in connection with the use of the information provided in this publication.

Information or data provided by means in this publication may have many inherent limitations, like module errors or lack accuracy in its historical data. Data included in the publication may rely on models that do not reflect or take into account all potentially significant factors such as market risk, liquidity risk, credit risk etc.

The use of our information, products and services should be on your own due diligence and you agree that CFC is not liable for any failure to achieve desired return on investment that is in any manner related to availing of services or products of CFC and use of our information, products and services. You acknowledge and agree that past investment performance is not indicative of the future performance results of any investment and that the information contained herein is not to be used as an indication for the future performance of any investment activity.

This publication is being furnished to you solely for your information and neither it nor any part of it may be used, forwarded, disclosed, distributed or delivered to anyone else. You may not copy, reproduce, display, modify or create derivative works from any data or information contained in this publication.

**Services offered by CFC include products that are traded on margin and can result in losses that exceed deposits. Before deciding to trade on margin products, you should consider your investment objectives, risk tolerance and your level of experience on these products. Trading with leverage carries significant risk of losses and as such margin products are not suitable for every investor and you should ensure that you understand the risks involved and should seek independent advice from professionals or experts if necessary.**

