

Daily Focus

Market Overview

USA

U.S. stocks saw a volatile trading day as Wall Street continued focus on the reopening of economies and waited for another round of stimulus policies. The Dow rose 0.05%, S&P 500 fell 0.34% and Nasdaq fell 0.69%.

China

The Chinese market continued another day of directionless trading. The Shanghai Composite Index fell 4 points or 0.1% yesterday to close at 2,919 points. Total daily turnover was RMB 6,50.6 billion.

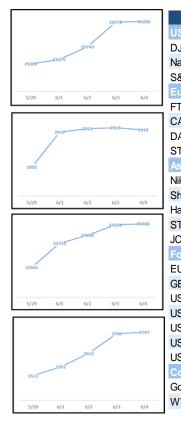
Hong Kong

The market continued to focus on the reopening of economies. The Hang Seng Index lost momentum after it opened higher and eventually closed with 40 points or 0.2% gain at 24,366 points. The total daily turnover of the market was HK\$125.411 billion.

Singapore

The Straits Times Index rose 6.81 points or 0.25% yesterday to close at 2,707.20 points, with turnover reaching S\$2.19 billion.

Major Market Indexes







The number of Americans filing for initial jobless claims last week was 1.877 million, a 250,000 decrease from last week and recorded the ninth consecutive week of decline. However, this was was higher than market expectation of 1.8 million claims. Continuing jobless claims increased by 650,000 to 21.487 million, higher than market expectations.



The European Central Bank (ECB) announced that it will keep the three major interest rates unchanged and maintain the current low interest rates until the inflation outlook approaches the target level set by the central bank, in line with market expectations. In addition, the central bank also announced that it will add an additional 600 billion euros to the Pandemic Emergency Purchase Programme (PEPP), bringing the total value of quantitative easing policies as a result of the pandemic to 1.35 trillion euros.



Brazil's industrial production in April fell by 27.2% year-on-year, the sixth consecutive month of decline and also worst data since April 1990. Still, it was better than the market expectation of 33.1% decline. During the period, the output of motor vehicles, trailers and car bodies dropped by 92.1% year-on-year, the worst in history. Metallurgical and mechanical equipment fell by 33.7% and 41.3% year-on-year; beverages fell by 50.7% year-on-year. However, coke, petroleum products and biofuels fell only 9.4% year-on-year.



Australia's retail sales in April fell by 17.7% month-on-month to A\$24,714 million, worse than the market expectation of a 16.2% decline and marked the end of two consecutive months of gains. During the period, food retail sales fell 17.4% month-on-month; coffee shops/restaurants/takeaway food service retail sales plummeted 35.4% month-on-month; retail sales of clothing, footwear and personal accessories expanded significantly to 53.6% month-on-month; store sales decreased by 14.9% month-on-month.

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