

Daily Asia Wrap -8th May 2020



Range Asian Hours (from Globex open)

	GOLD	SILVER	PLATINUM	PALLADIUM
OPEN	1718.00/9.00	15.35/37	768/72	1853/73
HIGH	1719.80/0.80	15.52/54	773/77	1910/30
LOW	1711.50/2.50	15.22/24	762/66	1853/73
LAST	1716.30/7.30	15.47/49	762/66	1887/07

MARKETS/MACRO

US equities were higher, with the Nasdaq crossing into positive territory for 2020. The Dow added 211.25 points, or 0.89%, to 23,875.89, the S&P 500 rose 32.77 points, or 1.15%, to 2,881.19, while the Nasdag gained 125.27 points, or 1.41%, to 8,979.66. Energy (+2.47%) and financials (+2.22%) led a near broad advance in the markets. European equities were higher, the EuroSTOXX advanced 3.64 points, or 1.09%, to 337.98, the German DAX put on 153.07 points, or 1.44%, to 10,759.27, and the London FTSE 100 strengthened 82.22 points, or 1.40%, to 5,935.98. In currency majors, the US dollar index eased 0.33% to 9.84, the EUR traded up to 1.0835, while USD/JPY was as high as 106.64. US treasury yields were lower, the 2 year yield lost 4.0 bps to 0.137% while the 10 year yield fell 5.7 bps to 0.638%. Oil prices were lower, Brent gave up 1.2% to \$29.43 while WTI sold off 3.1% to \$23.39. Base metals were broadly higher, with copper (+1.5%) leading the gains. In US economic data, initial jobless claims were 3.2 million in the 7 days ending May 2, around 33 million new claims have been processed over the last 7 weeks. Continuing claims surged to 22.6 million in the week ending April 25 from 18 million the following week. Productivity declined at an annual rate 2.5% in the first quarter of 2020, while unit labour costs rose 4.8%. Consumer credit fell \$12 billion in March, following a \$19.9 rise in February. In Asia today, as I write the Nikkei is at +2.27%, the Shanghai composite is at +0.83%, the Hang Seng is at +1.14%, and the ASX S&P 200 is at +0.72%. Tonight we have nonfarm

payrolls, unemployment rate, average hourly earnings, and wholesale inventories out of the US.

PRECIOUS

The precious enjoyed a strong trading session as the US dollar weakened and bond yields continued to fall. Gold opened at \$1687 in Asia which would end up the lowest as the lowest print of the day, with buying interest in China picked up slightly and the SGE premium tightened toward -\$30. The market remained rangebound through the London AM session. The metal found a bid in NY as the greenback came under broad pressure, surging through \$1700 to a high of \$1721. The yellow metal closed the session just off the highs at \$1719. Silver was also well bought in NY, jumping almost 50c to a high of \$15.43. In the PGMs, platinum gave back most of the NY gains while palladium closed around the highs. The Philadelphia gold and silver index rose 3.75% to 122.30. Gold has been quiet in Asia today ahead of tonight's NFP report, the metal drifted toward \$1710 earlier before finding some support. The yellow metal is at \$1717 as I write. Silver too saw interest around \$15.20 and is now back toward opening levels, the grey metal is currently sitting at \$15.47. Have a good day ahead.

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