

The Daily Roll

Market Recap Friday, March 23, 2012



Today's Commentary

Despite a four year low for US jobless claims, North American equity markets were seeing red yesterday after European and Chinese manufacturing contracted. Both the Canadian and US Energy and Materials sectors were hit the hardest by the news. The S&P 500 fell 0.72%, its largest decline in the last two weeks, to close at 1,392.78. The S&P/TSX and Dow faired only slightly better as both indices declined 0.60% by the end of trading. Demand for commodities also cooled off yesterday as WTI crude, natural gas, gold, and copper all fell 1.79%, 3.86%, 0.27%, and 2.13%. Treasuries advanced for the third straight day as the US 10-year yield fell another 2 basis points yesterday to close at 2.28%, while the Canadian 10-year bond rate fell 4 basis points to 2.20%. The Canadian dollar closed the gap with the USD as the two reached parity yesterday. Canada's CPI for February was released this morning. Year-over-year CPI came in at 2.6%, beating the expected 2.7%, while the month-over-month number for February stayed at 0.4%.

New information has come out relating to the current bad-debt situation in China. Many of the defaulting borrowers that Chinese banks are dealing with are local and regional governments. In a report this morning, the country's banks were said to have misclassified as much as 20% of these outstanding government loans and underestimated the high level of risk involved. These loans account for approximately \$286 billion. Local governments are prohibited from borrowing directly from banks in China and bypass that law by setting up special financing companies. There are more than 6,000 of these financing companies in China and regulators are now starting to express concerns that if these loans are not repaid it could result in the country's third banking bailout in less than two decades.

US stock-index futures and European equity markets have extended the week's losses this morning. Investors are waiting for the release of US new-home sales at 10:00 am. The decline in US futures S&P 500 is indicating that the S&P 500 is on course to extend its largest weekly drop in four months. As Europe and China continue to show signs of a 2012 economic slowdown, investors are taking a risk-off approach in the United States, the world's largest economy.

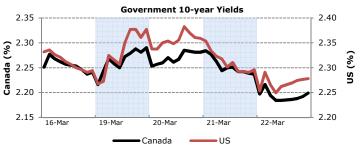
The Daily Roll is written by MFE Candidates Calum MacBeth and Chris Watson in partnership with the Rotman Finance Association. Please email dailyroll@economics.utoronto.ca to subscribe/unsubscribe.

Today's Major Economic Releases

United States	<u>Period</u>	Survey	<u>Actual</u>	Prior
New Home Sales	31-Jan	325K	321K	307K

Canada	<u>Period</u>	Survey	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Prior</u>
BOC CPI Core (YoY)	29-Feb	2.2%	2.3%	2.1%
Consumer Price Index	29-Feb	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%

Interest Rates

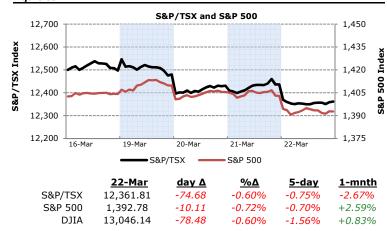


Master of Financial Economics Program

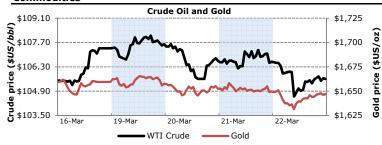
The Master of Financial Economics Program at the University of Toronto is a collaborative program of the Department of Economics and the Rotman School of Management. The program's key objective is to provide a broad understanding of Financial Theory and the Economics framework upon which that theory is based. Students follow a three-term, 16-month program, with 12 one-term courses and a four-month summer internship. For more information on the program and its students please see the website below.

http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/index.php/index/mfe/

Equities



Commodities



	<u>22-Mar</u>	<u>day ∆</u>	<u>%Δ</u>	<u>5-day</u>	<u>1-mnth</u>	
Oil (\$US/BbI)	\$105.35	-1.92	-1.79%	+0.23%	-0.88%	
Nat Gas (\$US/Bcf)	\$2.27	-0.091	-3.86%	-0.44%	-14.15%	
Gold (\$US/oz)	\$1,646	-4.53	-0.27%	-0.76%	-6.44%	
Copper (\$US/lb)	\$3.77	-0.082	-2.13%	-3.20%	-1.80%	

Foreign Exchange



(USDCAD implies \$1-USD to CAD)		Historical levels			
Spot	22-Mar	day ∆	-5 days	<u>-1 mnth</u>	-1 year
USDCAD	\$0.999	+0.007	0.992	1.000	0.975
EURUSD	\$1.320	-0.002	1.308	1.325	1.418
USDJPY	¥82.54	-0.870	83.570	80.29	80.97
AUDUSD	\$1.039	-0.007	1.053	1.064	1.021

Rotman Finance Association



The purpose of the Rotman Finance Association is to bridge the gap between classroom financial theory and finance-based careers by offering students industry speaker sessions, alumni networking seminars and competitions. For more information please see the website below.

http://www.rotman.utoronto.ca/finance association



FINANCIAL

ECONOMICS

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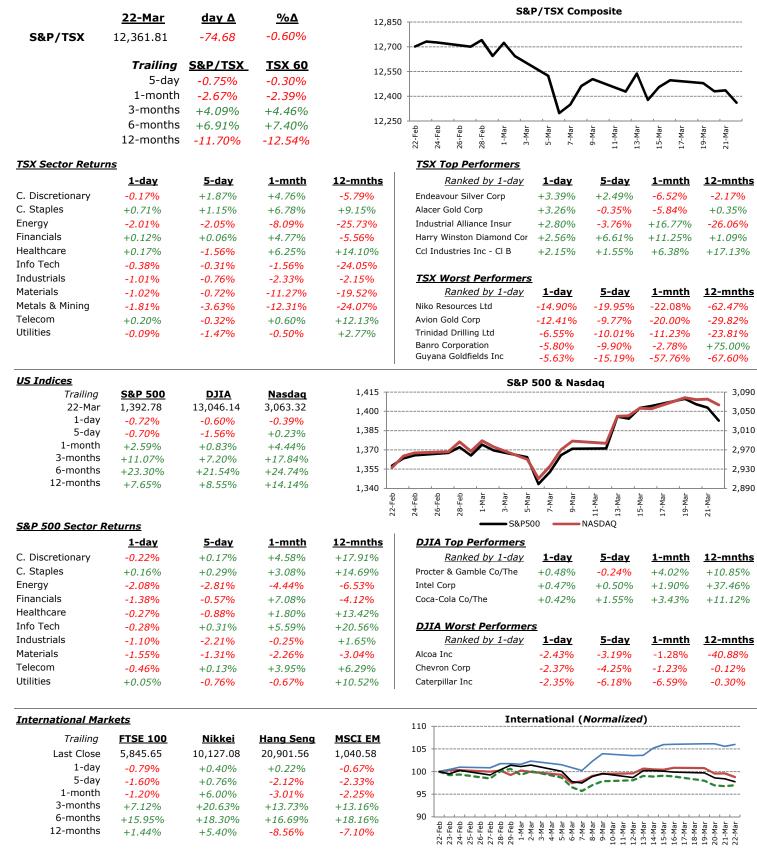


The Equities Roll

Friday, March 23, 2012



ΕM



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FTSE

NIK

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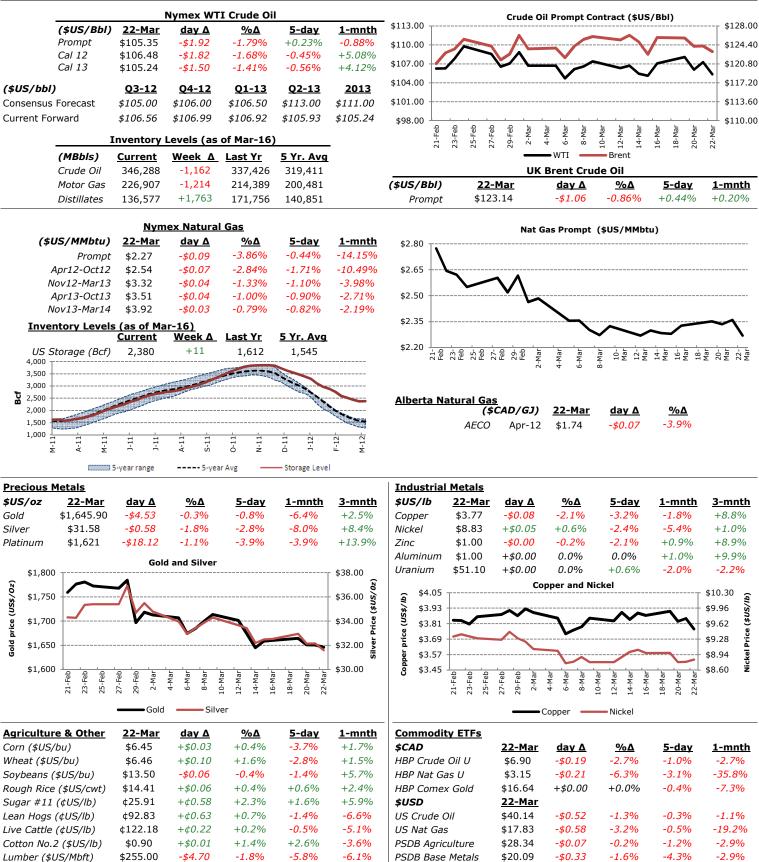
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The Commodities Roll

Friday, March 23, 2012





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US

CPI

China

Real GDP

Real GDP

Unemployment

0.40%

2.13%

8.90%

9.70%

1.30%

3.47%

9.10%

9.50%

1.80%

3.77%

9.00%

9.10%

3.00%

3.30%

8.50%

8.90%

2.20%

2.30%

8.20%

8.30%

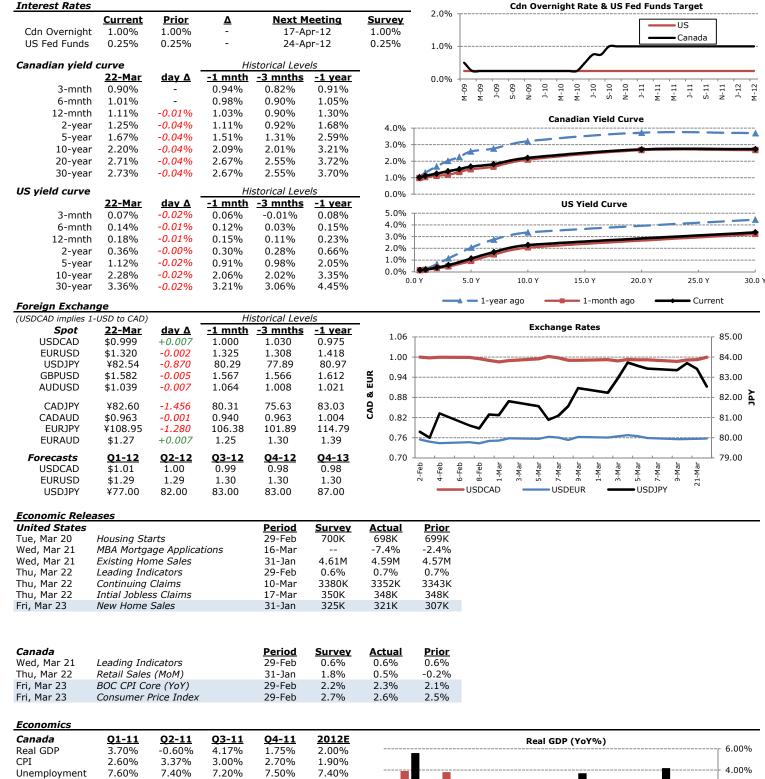
The Rates, FX, & Economics Roll

Friday, March 23, 2012



2.00%

0.00%



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01-10

02-10

03-10

04-10

01-11

■Canada ■US ■Eurozone

02-11

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