

The Daily Roll

Market Recap Tuesday, March 27, 2012



Today's Commentary

The floodgates opened in the markets on Monday, as equity markets regained the territory they lost last week and more. The majority of the gains were made at open on news of a Chinese economic stimulus, and Ben Bernanke's claim that the Fed should focus more attention on reducing unemployment. Many investors interpreted Bernanke's statement as a strong possibility of a third round of quantitative easing. The S&P 500 gained 1.39% amid these factors, pushing it to its highest level since May 2008. The S&P/TSX index rose 0.88%, backed further by rising commodity prices. The US dollar declined sharply against most world currencies as investors sought higher yielding assets. The Canadian dollar is currently trading well above parity, although it declined slightly in this morning's trading. The Consumer Confidence numbers for March will be released at 10:00 this morning, and is expected to remain near February's one-year high of 70.8. Stock futures declined slightly before this release.

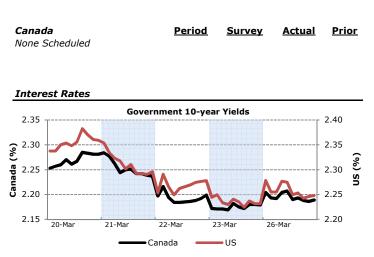
Commodities were generally up yesterday in anticipation of economic stimulus. Oil traded at a three day high following Bernanke's speech, with WTI crude closing at \$107.03 per barrel. Gold gained 1.70% on the day, once again moving in opposite with the US dollar. One major exception was Natural Gas which tumbled 2.15%, trading near 14-year lows.

Angel Gurria, the OECD's secretary general, called for the Eurozone to boost its total bailout funds to at least 1-trillion euros this morning in Brussels. Gurria claims that the current 500-billion euro financial buffer is not enough to restore growth or market confidence to the ailing 17-nation currency region. Gurria is not the only person that believes the Eurozone should have "the mother of all firewalls," both the IMF and the EU's European Commission believe that the current 500-billion euro is nowhere near enough to support the combined 2.5-trillion euro debt load of Italy and Spain. On Monday, Angela Merkel expressed support in increasing Europe's bailout measures to 700-trillion euros.

China's decline in exports over recent months is starting to catch up to industrial companies. The country's industrial companies saw a 5.2% decrease in net income from January to February, the first month-to-month loss since 2009. Comparatively, Chinese industrial companies enjoyed a 34.3% increase over the same period in 2011.

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

Today's Major Economic Releases						
United States	<u>Period</u>	<u>Survey</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Prior		
Consumer Confidence	29-Feb	70		70.8		



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/



Commodities **Crude Oil and Gold** \$1,725 \$109.10 Iqq (\$US/oz \$1,700 \$107.70 (\$US/ \$106.30 \$1,675 9,108.30 9,108.30 price \$1,650 þ Gold 2 \$1,625 \$103.50 20-Mai 21-Mai 22-Mai 23-Ma 26-Ma WTI Crude Gold

	<u>26-Mar</u>	<u>day Δ</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>5-day</u>	<u>1-mnth</u>
Oil (\$US/BbI)	\$107.03	0.16	+0.15%	-0.98%	-2.50%
Nat Gas (\$US/Bcf)	\$2.23	-0.049	-2.15%	-5.32%	-12.71%
Gold (\$US/oz)	\$1,690	28.17	+1.70%	+1.53%	-4.65%
Copper (\$US/lb)	\$3.89	0.076	+2.00%	-0.52%	+0.58%

Foreign Exchange



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Spot	<u>26-Mar</u>	<u>day Δ</u>	<u>-5 days</u>	<u>-1 mnth</u>	<u>-1 year</u>	
USDCAD	\$0.991	-0.007	0.987	0.999	0.978	
EURUSD	\$1.336	+0.009	1.324	1.345	1.409	
USDJPY	¥82.82	+0.470	83.350	81.20	81.69	
AUDUSD	\$1.053	+0.007	1.061	1.069	1.024	

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/financeassociation

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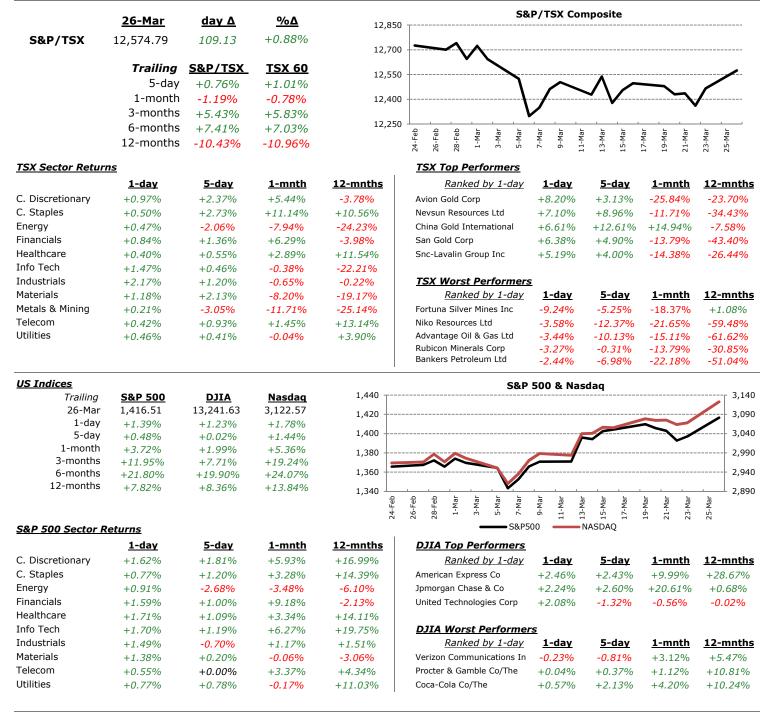
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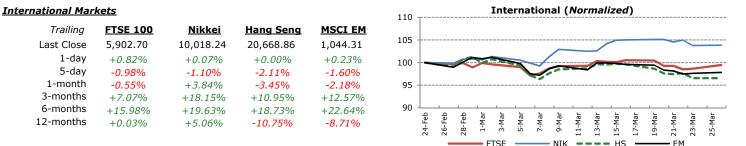


The Equities Roll









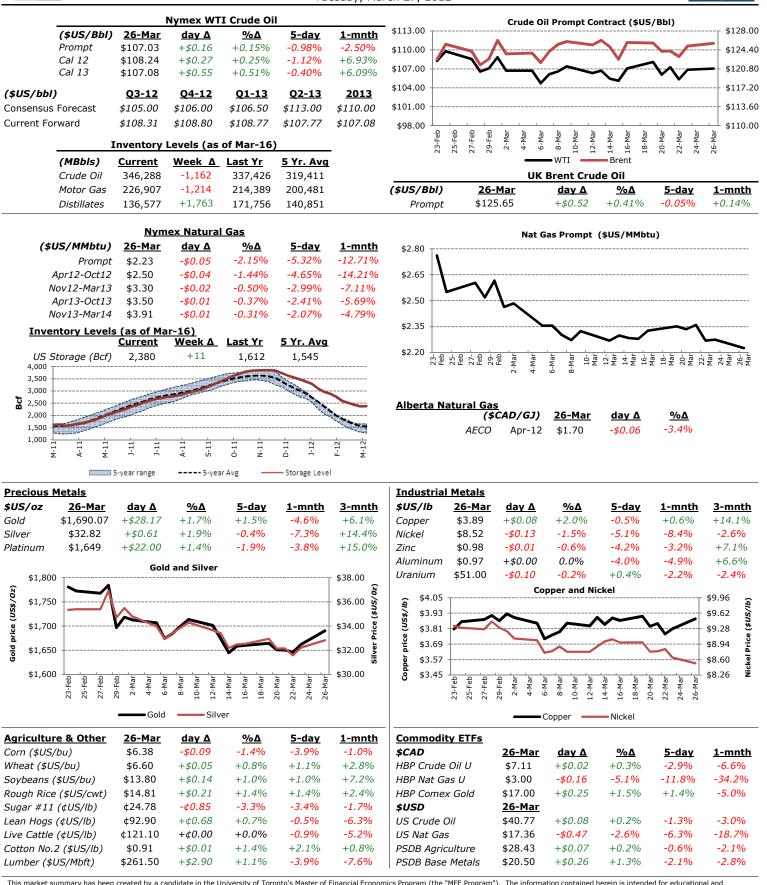
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The Commodities Roll



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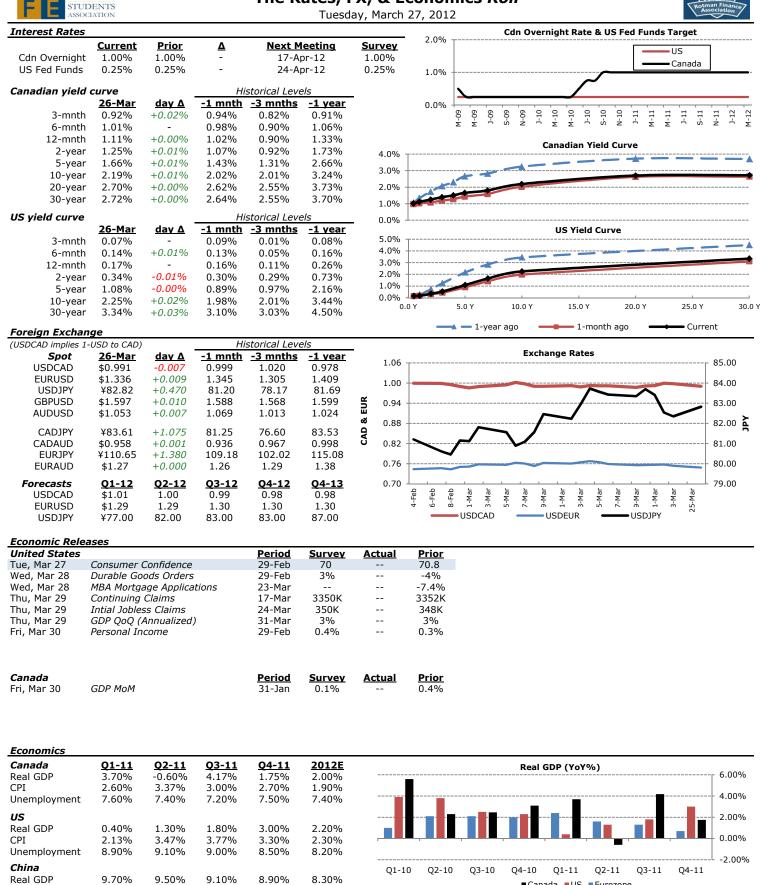


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The Rates, FX, & Economics Roll





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