

26 March 2024

Dow closes more than 150 points lower as stocks take a break, ASX to slip

- **Global markets.** Stocks slipped Monday to start a shortened trading week as the rally that brought Wall Street to record levels took a breather.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 162.26 points, or 0.41%, closing at 39,313.64. The S&P 500 dipped 0.31% to finish at 5,218.19, while the Nasdaq Composite was down 0.27% and settled at 16,384.47.

Shares of Intel slid 1.7% after the Financial Times reported that new China guidelines would block the company's chips in government servers and computers. United Airlines fell 3.4% after the Federal Aviation Administration said it would be heightening its scrutiny of the carrier after a series of safety incidents.

These advances were fueled by the Federal Reserve's latest remarks that maintained central bankers' rate-cutting timeline for this year, as well as investors' ongoing enthusiasm for tech stocks amid the AI-powered rally. Overall investor sentiment remains above its historical average, according to the latest weekly American Association of Individual Investors' sentiment survey, reflecting persistent market optimism.

Stovall expects investors to have a muted response to the PCE data, especially after they've already reacted to the latest consumer price index and producer price index readings.

- **In stock news.** Local: Westpac consumer sentiment March at 10.30am
Overseas data: US February durable goods orders, January FHFA house prices and S&P CoreLogic CS house prices, March Richmond Fed index and consumer confidence index
- **In other markets.** Cocoa extended its surge — surpassing \$US9000 a tonne for the first time ever — as a supply crunch grips the market and chocolate makers grapple for beans, Bloomberg report. Futures are up about 50 per cent this month alone and have more than doubled already this year.
- **Futures.** ASX futures down 29 points or 0.4% to 7836 near 7am AEDT

World Indices	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Local Markets

All Ordinaries	8,071.5	8,026.3	0.6%
ASX 200	7,811.9	7,770.6	0.5%
ASX Emerging Companies	2,109.8	2,120.4	-0.5%

US Markets

Dow Jones	39,313.7	39,475.9	-0.4%
S&P500	5,218.2	5,234.2	-0.3%
Nasdaq	18,277.1	18,339.4	-0.3%
Russell 2000	2,074.2	20,782.0	-90.0%

Asian & European Markets

Shanghai Composite	3,026.3	3,048.0	-0.7%
Nikkei	40,414.1	40,888.4	-1.2%
Hang Seng	16,473.7	16,499.5	-0.2%
FTSE 100	7,917.6	7,930.9	-0.2%
DAX 30	18,261.3	18,205.3	0.3%
CAC 40	8,151.6	8,153.0	0.0%

S&P500 Sectors	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Information Technology	3,849.9	3,870.0	-0.5%
Communication Services	285.5	286.5	-0.3%
Consumer Discretionary	1,471.7	1,475.1	-0.2%

Economic Releases	Time	F'cast	Prior
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AU - Westpac Consumer Confidence Index	10:30		
AU - RBA Connolly Speech	13:20		
USA - Durable Goods Orders MoM	23:30	1.10%	-6.10%

Key BW Names	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Lotus Resources	0.420	0.415	1.2%
Elementos	0.145	0.145	0.0%
Frontier Energy	0.355	0.355	0.0%

Commodities	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Oil - West Texas Crude	81.91	80.62	1.6%
Gold	2,171	2,165	0.3%
Gold (Aus)	3,320	3,323	-0.1%
Silver	24.68	24.67	0.0%
Uranium (Spot)	88.00	88.00	0.0%
Tin (Futures)	27,727	27,727	0.0%
Copper	4.02	4.01	0.4%

Other Markets	Close	Prior	% Δ
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SPI200 Futures	7,836.0	7,829.0	0.1%
DXY Index	104.4	104.4	0.0%
AUD/USD	0.6540	0.6512	0.4%
2-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.630	4.591	4 bp
10-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.249	4.202	5 bp
US 2-10-Year Spread	-0.197	-0.197	0 bp
VIX Index	13.20	13.05	1.1%