

12 March 2025

Dow drops more than 450pts over Trump tariff uncertainty; ASX to drop

- Global markets.** The S&P 500 slid in a head-spinning session for traders as they grappled with new tariffs proposed by President Donald Trump that were in flux throughout most of Tuesday. The trade policy uncertainty has brought the benchmark to the brink of a correction, which is defined as a decline of 10% from its high.

The S&P 500 ended the session 0.76% lower, falling to 5,572.07. At its low of Tuesday's session, the index was 10% below its record close. The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 478.23 points, or 1.14%, to close at 41,433.48. The Nasdaq Composite slipped 0.18%, closing at 17,436.10.

The S&P 500 was in the green at one point during the trading session before Trump declared on Truth Social that Canadian steel and aluminum duties would double to 50% from 25%, effective Wednesday. The president made the move in response to Ontario Premier Doug Ford's surcharge on electricity exported to the U.S.

Later in the day, Ford said he was temporarily suspending the 25% surcharge after talking with Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick.

Finally, top Trump trade advisor Peter Navarro said on CNBC on Tuesday afternoon that Trump would not hike the tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum to 50%. The 25% duty that was originally planned, however, would still take effect.

This is the latest in a series of disorderly trade policy moves that have rattled corporate and consumer confidence and weighed on markets over the past three weeks.

Investors are eagerly anticipating the release of February's consumer price index due Wednesday.

- In economic news.** Overseas: USA CPI MoM
- In other markets.** The VIX soared as high as 29.57 before easing back 27.01 late. The yield on the 10-year US Treasury edged lower – this encouraged some investors back to bitcoin, which retook \$US82,000 after a heavy sell-off on Tuesday.
- Futures.** ASX futures are pointing down 75 points or 1 per cent to 7809.

World Indices	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Local Markets			
All Ordinaries	8,103.4	8,191.7	-1.1%
ASX 200	7,890.1	7,962.3	-0.9%
ASX Emerging Companies	2,155.0	2,228.5	-3.3%

US Markets			
Dow Jones	41,433.5	41,911.7	-1.1%
S&P500	5,572.1	5,614.6	-0.8%
Nasdaq	19,377.0	19,430.9	-0.3%
Russell 2000	2,023.6	2,019.1	0.2%

Asian & European Markets			
Shanghai Composite	3,379.8	3,366.2	0.4%
Nikkei	36,792.9	37,028.1	-0.6%
Hang Seng	23,782.1	23,783.5	0.0%
FTSE 100	8,496.0	8,600.2	-1.2%
DAX 30	22,328.8	22,621.0	-1.3%
CAC 40	7,941.9	8,047.6	-1.3%

S&P500 Sectors	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Information Technology	4,061.2	4,076.8	-0.4%
Communication Services	327.6	329.9	-0.7%
Consumer Discretionary	1,569.8	1,573.9	-0.3%

Economic Releases	Time	F'cast	Prior
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USD - CPI MoM	23:00	0.30%	0.50%
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Key BW Names	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Lotus Resources	0.170	0.170	0.0%
Elementos	0.056	0.056	0.0%
Frontier Energy	0.105	0.105	0.0%

Commodities	Close	Prior	% Δ
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Oil - West Texas Crude	66.53	65.79	1.1%
Gold	2,923	2,892	1.1%
Gold (Aus)	4,629	4,600	0.6%
Silver	32.94	32.08	2.7%
Uranium (Spot)	76.00	76.00	0.0%
Global X Uranium ETF	23.66	23.11	2.4%
Sprott Uranium Miners ETF	33.31	32.41	2.8%
Sprott Physical Uranium Trust	14.12	13.63	3.6%
Tin (Futures)	31,312	31,312	0.0%
Copper	4.79	4.64	3.4%

Other Markets	Close	Prior	% Δ
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SPI200 Futures	7,809.0	7,895.0	-1.1%
DXY Index	103.9	103.9	0.0%
AUD/USD	0.6295	0.6276	0.3%
2-Year Treasury Yield (%)	3.95	3.89	6 bp
10-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.28	4.22	6 bp
US 2-10-Year Spread	0.34	0.33	0 bp
VIX Index	26.91	27.85	-3.4%