

19 May 2025

S&P500 notches 5% weekly gain as US-China trade tensions ease; ASX to slip

- **Global markets.** The S&P 500 rose Friday for a fifth session and posted a sharp weekly gain, as investors looked past the release of disappointing consumer sentiment data and persistent inflation worry.

The broad market index climbed 0.70% to end at 5,958.38, while the Nasdaq Composite gained 0.52% to close at 19,211.10. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 331.99 points, or 0.78%, settling at 42,654.74. Friday's advance put the 30-stock benchmark into positive territory for 2025.

For the week, the S&P 500 surged 5.3%, and the Dow gained 3.4%. The Nasdaq Composite jumped 7.2% this week. Technology stocks also had a strong week. Shares of Nvidia gained about 16%, while Meta Platforms advanced 8%. Shares of Apple climbed 6%, while Microsoft popped 3%.

The major averages rose even after the University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index came in at its second-lowest level on record. Consumers also see prices rising 7.3% over the next year, up from 6.5% last month.

Stocks have made a strong comeback since U.S. and Chinese officials earlier this week agreed on a 90-day truce in their tariff measures, which eased investors' fears of escalating global trade tensions and rising risk to the economy.

Wall Street is also hoping that there will be more clarity on the trade front in the weeks ahead.

President Donald Trump said Friday that his administration will send letters to many countries detailing new tariff rates, possibly over the next two to three weeks. Those letters would take the place of trade negotiations with countries where the U.S. doesn't have time to meet.

- **In economic news.** Industrial production is expected to have decelerated in April to 5.7 per cent versus 7.7 per cent in March, while retail sales data is expected to show a small decline.
- **In other markets.** In commodities, gold tumbled, nearing \$US3200 an ounce, as Russia and Ukraine held their first direct talks in more than three years, and iron ore fell back below \$US100 a tonne.
- **Futures.** ASX futures are pointing down 7 points or 0.1 per cent to 8360.

World Indices	Close	Prior	% Δ
<u>Local Markets</u>			
All Ordinaries	8,579.9	8,529.8	0.6%
ASX 200	8,343.7	8,297.5	0.6%
ASX Emerging Companies	2,310.6	2,276.1	1.5%

<u>US Markets</u>			
Dow Jones	42,654.8	42,322.8	0.8%
S&P500	5,958.4	5,916.9	0.7%
Nasdaq	21,427.9	21,335.8	0.4%
Russell 2000	2,113.3	2,094.7	0.9%

<u>Asian & European Markets</u>			
Shanghai Composite	3,367.5	3,380.8	-0.4%
Nikkei	37,753.5	37,755.3	0.0%
Hang Seng	23,345.1	23,453.2	-0.5%
FTSE 100	8,684.6	8,633.8	0.6%
DAX 30	23,767.4	23,696.7	0.3%
CAC 40	7,886.7	7,853.5	0.4%

S&P500 Sectors	Close	Prior	% Δ
Information Technology	4,578.5	4,573.0	0.1%
Communication Services	347.5	345.2	0.7%
Consumer Discretionary	1,742.5	1,727.9	0.8%

Economic Releases	Time	F'cast	Prior
CNY - Industrial Production YoY	12:00	5.50%	7.70%
CNY - Retail Sales YoY	12:00	5.50%	5.90%

Key BW Names	Close	Prior	% Δ
Lotus Resources	0.180	0.185	-2.7%
Elementos	0.084	0.084	0.0%
Frontier Energy	0.220	0.215	2.3%

Commodities	Close	Prior	% Δ
Oil - West Texas Crude	61.89	61.20	1.1%
Gold	3,245	3,255	-0.3%
Gold (Aus)	5,059	5,076	-0.3%
Silver	32.48	32.68	-0.6%
Uranium (Spot)	76.00	76.00	0.0%
Global X Uranium ETF	27.71	28.01	-1.1%
Sprott Uranium Miners ETF	36.59	37.74	-3.0%
Sprott Physical Uranium Trust	15.60	16.07	-2.9%
Tin (Futures)	32,726	32,729	0.0%
Copper	4.60	4.70	-2.1%

Other Markets	Close	Prior	% Δ
SPI200 Futures	8,360.0	8,411.0	-0.6%
DXY Index	101.0	101.0	0.0%
AUD/USD	0.6409	0.6405	0.1%
2-Year Treasury Yield (%)	3.99	3.95	4 bp
10-Year Treasury Yield (%)	4.45	4.43	1 bp
US 2-10-Year Spread	0.45	0.48	-2 bp
VIX Index	17.25	17.82	-3.2%