

## MARKET INDICATORS

As of March 29, 2017

Index/ Bond	Index Level/Yield	DoD Change	DoD % Change
PSEi	7,324.00	-7.46	-0.10%
Dow Jones	20,659.32	-42.18	-0.20%
NASDAQ	5,897.55	22.41	0.36%
S&P500	2,361.13	2.56	0.11%
MSCI Asia ex-Japan	587.12	1.00	0.17%
MSCI Emerging Market	971.86	1.54	0.16%
5Yr FXTN	4.35	8 bps	
10 Yr US Treasury	2.38	-4 bps	
USD/PHP	50.15	0.01	0.02%

Source: Bloomberg



## News in the Philippines

### PH Rating Affirmed, GDP Forecast hiked

- The Philippines saw positive economic news released yesterday as Fitch Ratings, Inc. confirmed the country's credit standing and S&P Global Ratings increased the year-end GDP forecast. Fitch cited strong gross domestic product growth as a reason to affirm the country's long-term issuer default ratings at "BBB-," (the lowest investment grade status) with a positive outlook. S&P Global on the other hand, raised its growth forecast for the country to 6.6% for the year from an originally forecasted 6.4% in January. They cited a strong robust economy that will hinge on increased government spending and an upbeat business process outsourcing (BPO) sector.

### Local Bond Market

- The yield of the benchmark 5-year bond closed at 4.35 gaining 8 bps.
- The yields of bonds were mostly negative throughout Wednesday's session with 7 yields falling, 1 yield rising, and 3 yields remaining stagnant.

### Philippine Stocks

- Local stocks were flat on Wednesday, failing to follow the rebound of all major US markets. The PSEI fell 0.10% or 7.46 points to end the day at 7,324.

### Philippine Peso

- The local peso traded flat against the US dollar during yesterday's session as key market players stayed on the sidelines. Strong economic views coming out of the US yesterday strengthened the dollar and diverted investor attention. The peso closed the day at PHP 50.15.



## News around the World

### Japanese Retail Sales Growth Slows

- Japan's retail sales rose less than economists forecasted for the month of February, signaling that consumer spending is struggling to gain traction. Sales rose 0.2% MoM, below the predicted 0.3%. The country's growth had been supported mostly by exports with small gains in regards to wages which can considerably limit private consumption. As a result, consumer sentiment is negative as salaries aren't rising enough and prices continue to inch upwards. Looking forward, Japan doesn't see consumer sentiment improving short-term as recent wage talks have not amounted to any substantial progress.

### US Market

- U.S. stocks mostly continued their rally after the Trump administration's healthcare bill failed to pass and pushed upwards on the heels of very sound economic data that was released on Tuesday. The S&P 500 ended at 2,361.13 rising 0.11% or 2.56 points. The Dow Jones gained 42.18 points or 0.20% to end at 20,659.32. The NASDAQ added 22.41 points or 0.38% and ended at 5,897.55.

### Asian Stocks

- Asian equity indices followed the world trend and gained some ground as the negative sentiment seen by investors throughout previous days had decreased. The MSCI Asia-Ex Japan Index gained 0.17% or 1.00 point to close at 587.12.

### Emerging Markets

- Emerging markets ended the day higher than yesterday as the index got back on track after recent US political news. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index gained 0.16% or 1.54 points, closing at 971.86.