

MARKET INDICATORS

As of December 14, 2017

Index/ Bond	Index Level/Yield	DoD Change	DoD % Change
PSEi	8,461.06	101.45	1.21%
Dow Jones	24,508.66	-76.77	-0.31%
NASDAQ	6,856.53	-19.27	-0.28%
S&P500	2,652.01	-10.84	-0.41%
MSCI Asia ex-Japan	697.37	0.75	0.11%
MSCI Emerging Market	1,121.22	2.41	0.22%
5Yr FXTN	4.65	-5 bps	
10 Yr US Treasury	2.35	1 bps	
USD/PHP	50.48	0.03	0.06%

Source: Bloomberg



News in the Philippines

PH GDP Growing 6.7-6.9% in 2017

- According to chief economist, Sec. Ernesto M. Pernia of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the country's growth during the fourth quarter is faster than the posted average growth rate in the last 9 months. At this rate, it is seen that the country will grow past 7% with the government's "Build, Build, Build" program. Sec. Pernia shares that we are likely to hit the targeted 6.7-7.5%, with the full-year gross domestic product (GDP) settling between 6.7-6.9%. Increased government spending, sustained growth in exports, robust consumer spending, and recovery in the agricultural sector combined will boost the Q4 GDP.

Local Bond Market

- The yield of the benchmark 5-year bond closed at 4.65, falling at 5 bps during yesterday's session.
- The yields of bonds were mostly stagnant throughout yesterday's session with 1 yields rising, 2 yields falling and 8 yields remaining stagnant.

Philippine Stocks

- The local bourse jumped back to the 8,400-mark with the Congress' ratification of the first phase of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Bill (TRAIN) Wednesday evening. The expected passage of the local tax reform is vital to finance President Duterte's "Build, Build, Build" program. PSEI climbed 0.21% or 101.45 points landing at 8,461.06 at market's close.

Philippine Peso

- The local peso continued to trade sideways on Thursday due to positive developments in the local tax reform program. The peso closed the day at PHP 50.48.



News around the World

U.S. Initial Job Claims Fall to 225,000

- The latest U.S. Initial Job Claims weekly report show that claims for unemployment benefits declined by 11,000 to a seasonally adjusted 225,000 for the week ended December 9. According to the Labor Department, the latest week's reading is lower than the previous week's reading which was at 236,000. Further, it is lower still than the economist forecasted 239,000 claims for last week based on Reuter's poll. The moving average for the month (4-week) is 234,750.

US Market

- Major indices closed lower at Thursday's end as Republicans could have trouble reconciling key items on their tax proposal that could delay it approval on the House and Senate level. S&P 500 ended at 2,652.01 dipped 0.41% or 10.84 points. The Dow Jones fell 76.77 points or 0.31% to end at 24,508.66. The NASDAQ slipped 19.27 points or 0.28% to close at 6,856.53.

Asian Stocks

- Asian markets closed higher on Thursday after the U.S. Federal Reserve raised the interest rate benchmark but remained dovish on future rate hikes despite amidst low inflation. The MSCI Asia-Ex Japan Index rose 0.11% or 0.75 points to close at 697.37.

Emerging Markets

- Emerging equities neared two-week highs on Thursday as the U.S. Federal Reserve delivered a rate hike however, remained cautious on the inflation outlook. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index climbed 0.22% or 2.41 points, closing at 1,121.22.

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