



## Market Update

Tuesday, 03 March 2026



## Global Markets

A selloff in stocks deepened, and the dollar strengthened on Tuesday as investors considered the implications of U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran on energy prices and the global economy.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan fell 2.9% to extend losses for a second day, Tokyo's Nikkei 225 tumbled 3.1%, and S&P 500 e-mini futures were down 0.9%. "Economic policy uncertainty was already elevated, and now with the Iran conflict, the geopolitical risk is expected to rise too," said Rupal Agarwal, Asia quant strategist at Bernstein in Singapore. "Last time both spiked was in 2022 during the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which didn't work well for Asian markets." The renewed bout of selling came after Wall Street stabilised following a volatile session on Monday, which saw the S&P 500 rally from an early selloff to close flat and the Nasdaq Composite climb 0.4% as investors bought the dip in markets.

U.S. President Donald Trump, saying on Monday, the campaign was ahead of expectations. With no end to hostilities in sight, an official from Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Monday that the Strait of Hormuz is closed to marine traffic and the country will fire on any ship trying to pass. The threat

had an immediate impact, pushing the cost of hiring a supertanker to ship oil from the Middle East to China to a record high of more than \$400,000 a day, LSEG data showed. After oil and gas prices surged on Monday, Brent crude futures tacked on another 2.3% to \$79.50 on Tuesday. In natural gas markets, benchmark European and Asian LNG prices leapt by around 40% on Monday. The spike in energy prices could ramp up costs for Asian companies and weigh on their profits and their stocks, which have rallied sharply so far this year. "We estimate a 20% rise in Brent could reduce regional earnings by 2% with wide intraregional variation, but this depends on the duration of the conflict," analysts from Goldman Sachs wrote in a research report. "Spikes in geopolitical risk tend to have a negative short-term effect but dissipate over time," they said. "The current rise in geopolitical risk coincides with regional vulnerability to a correction."

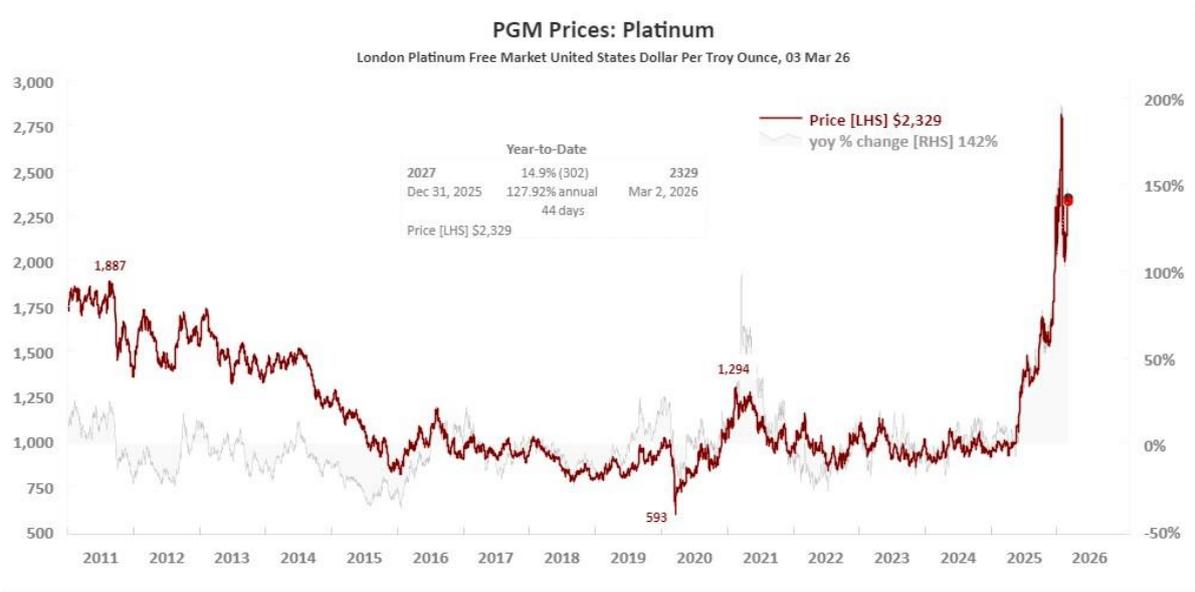
The surge in energy prices complicates the Federal Reserve's efforts to keep inflation under control, with policymakers already showing signs of division around the impact of artificial intelligence on the U.S. economy. The U.S. will take action to mitigate rising energy prices due to a spike in the price of oil caused by the Iran conflict, Secretary of State Rubio said on Monday.

ISM manufacturing data released Monday showed U.S. activity grew steadily in February, but a gauge of factory gate prices raced to a near 3-1/2-year high amid tariffs, highlighting upside pressure on inflation even before the attacks on Iran. Fed funds futures are pricing an implied 95.4% probability that the U.S. central bank will hold rates at the end of its next two-day meeting on March 18, according to the CME Group's FedWatch tool. The odds of a June hold, previously below 50%, edged up on Monday and are now slightly better than a coin toss. Some analysts, citing the limited moves on global markets, were sanguine about the wider impact of the conflict on the wider economy. "It's not going to be positive, obviously," Jahangir Aziz, JPMorgan's co-head of economic research, said at a media roundtable in Singapore on Tuesday. "Any rise in political uncertainty isn't good for economies," he said. "But right now...we don't really think that this is going to be a systemic shock to the global economy."

The U.S. dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six major peers, held close to a six-week high at 98.73 as the currency regained some of its allure as a safe haven. The yield on the U.S. 10-year Treasury bond was up 0.9 basis points at 4.059%. "Current market dynamics are only showing a mild risk-off tone, insufficient to sustain a firm bid in U.S. Treasury bonds or to nudge the Fed into quicker cuts," analysts from DBS wrote in a research note. "However, the conflict does raise the spectre of stagflation," they added. "While energy prices are nowhere close to the levels seen during the start of the Russia-Ukraine conflict in 2022, investors will probably be keeping a close eye on the extent and duration that energy supplies will be disrupted."

Gold was down 0.4% at \$5,307.08, Silver fell 6.5% to \$83.63 an ounce after climbing to a more than four-week high on Monday. Platinum lost 7.5% to \$2,131.30, and palladium was down 4.1% at \$1,694.75.

**Source: LSEG Thomson Reuters Refinitiv.**



## Domestic Markets

The South African rand held steady in early Tuesday trade, even as investors sought safe-haven assets amid escalating U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran and fears the conflict could broaden into a longer regional war and add to market uncertainty.

At 0553 GMT, the rand traded at 16.1475 against the U.S. dollar, little changed from Monday's close of 16.1175. "At this stage, the ZAR is sitting on the sidelines, as attention is on the EUR and JPY because they import a great deal of oil and gas," said Adam Phillips, treasury specialist at Umkhulu Treasury. The dollar firmed 0.2% against a basket of currencies, with gold - a major South African export - extending gains. Like other risk-sensitive currencies, the rand often takes cues from global drivers such as U.S. policies, in addition to domestic economic data.

South Africa's benchmark 2035 government bond was also flat in early deals, with the yield at 8.16%. Phillips said there are worries that the conflict could drive up inflation, and economists are now expecting fewer interest rate cuts over the next six months. "I would be surprised to see the ZAR break below 16.00, just because of its beta status, but for the moment, 16.22 is the resistance level," he noted.

Love conquers all difficulties, surmounts all obstacles, and effects what to any other power would be impossible.

**William Godwin**

## Market Overview

| MARKET INDICATORS                     |   | 03 March 2026     |               |                   |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Money Market TB's</b>              |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| 3 months                              | ↓ | 7.39              | -0.018        | 7.41              | 7.39                |
| 6 months                              | ↓ | 7.43              | -0.023        | 7.46              | 7.43                |
| 9 months                              | ↓ | 7.44              | -0.023        | 7.46              | 7.44                |
| 12 months                             | ↓ | 7.39              | -0.039        | 7.43              | 7.39                |
| <b>Nominal Bonds</b>                  |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| GC26 (Coupon 8.50%, BMK: R186)        | ↓ | 6.62              | -0.051        | 6.67              | 6.62                |
| GC27 (Coupon 8.00%, BMK: R186)        | ↑ | 7.41              | 0.002         | 7.41              | 7.41                |
| GC28 (Coupon 8.00%, BMK: R186)        | ↑ | 8.28              | 0.130         | 8.15              | 8.28                |
| GC30 (Coupon 8.00%, BMK: R2030)       | ↑ | 8.54              | 0.130         | 8.41              | 8.54                |
| GC32 (Coupon 9.00%, BMK: R213)        | ↑ | 8.89              | 0.140         | 8.75              | 8.89                |
| GC35 (Coupon 9.50%, BMK: R209)        | ↑ | 9.73              | 0.130         | 9.60              | 9.73                |
| GC37 (Coupon 9.50%, BMK: R2037)       | ↑ | 10.26             | 0.145         | 10.12             | 10.26               |
| GC40 (Coupon 9.80%, BMK: R214)        | ↑ | 10.39             | 0.140         | 10.25             | 10.39               |
| GC43 (Coupon 10.00%, BMK: R2044)      | ↑ | 10.57             | 0.135         | 10.44             | 10.57               |
| GC45 (Coupon 9.85%, BMK: R2044)       | ↑ | 10.66             | 0.135         | 10.52             | 10.66               |
| GC48 (Coupon 9.85%, BMK: R2044)       | ↑ | 10.63             | 0.150         | 10.48             | 10.63               |
| GC50 (Coupon 10.25%, BMK: R2048)      | ↑ | 10.63             | 0.150         | 10.48             | 10.63               |
| <b>Inflation-Linked Bonds</b>         |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| GI27 (Coupon 4.00%, BMK: NCPI)        | → | 4.58              | 0.000         | 4.58              | 4.58                |
| GI29 (Coupon 4.50%, BMK: NCPI)        | → | 5.04              | 0.000         | 5.04              | 5.04                |
| GI31 (Coupon 4.50%, BMK: NCPI)        | → | 5.30              | 0.000         | 5.30              | 5.30                |
| GI33 (Coupon 4.50%, BMK: NCPI)        | → | 5.50              | 0.000         | 5.50              | 5.50                |
| GI36 (Coupon 4.80%, BMK: NCPI)        | → | 5.93              | 0.000         | 5.93              | 5.93                |
| GI41 (Coupon 4.80%, BMK: NCPI)        | → | 6.22              | 0.000         | 6.22              | 6.22                |
| <b>Commodities</b>                    |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| Gold                                  | ↑ | 5,322             | 0.82%         | 5,279             | 5,248               |
| Platinum                              | ↓ | 2307              | -2.62%        | 2369              | 2151                |
| Brent Crude                           | ↑ | 77.7              | 7.26%         | 72.48             | 81.83               |
| <b>Main Indices</b>                   |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| NSX Local Index                       | ↓ | 1433              | -1.98%        | 1462              | 1433                |
| JSE All Share                         | ↓ | 122,871           | -3.24%        | 126,991           | 122,871             |
| S&P 500                               | ↑ | 6,882             | 0.04%         | 6,879             | 6,882               |
| FTSE 100                              | ↓ | 10,557            | -2.07%        | 10,780            | 10,557              |
| Hangseng                              | ↓ | 25,768            | -1.12%        | 26,060            | 25,768              |
| DAX                                   | ↓ | 23,936            | -2.85%        | 24,638            | 23,936              |
| <b>JSE Sectors</b>                    |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| Financials                            | ↓ | 26,977            | -1.88%        | 27,493            | 26,277              |
| Resources                             | ↓ | 157,281           | -0.90%        | 158,710           | 149,066             |
| Industrials                           | ↓ | 131,355           | -1.11%        | 132,836           | 128,347             |
| <b>Forex</b>                          |   | <b>Last Close</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Prev Close</b> | <b>Current Spot</b> |
| N\$/US Dollar                         | ↑ | 16.10             | 1.00%         | 15.94             | 16.30               |
| N\$/Pound                             | ↑ | 21.59             | 0.47%         | 21.49             | 21.66               |
| N\$/Euro                              | → | 18.82             | 0.00%         | 18.82             | 18.93               |
| US Dollar/ Euro                       | ↓ | 1.169             | -0.93%        | 1.18              | 1.16                |
| <b>Interest Rates &amp; Inflation</b> |   | <b>Namibia</b>    |               | <b>RSA</b>        |                     |
|                                       |   | <b>Feb-26</b>     | <b>Jan-26</b> | <b>Feb-26</b>     | <b>Jan-26</b>       |
| Central Bank Rate                     | → | 6.50              | 6.50          | 6.75              | 6.75                |
| Prime Rate                            | → | 10.00             | 10.00         | 10.25             | 10.25               |
|                                       |   | <b>Jan-26</b>     | <b>Dec-25</b> | <b>Jan-26</b>     | <b>Dec-25</b>       |
| Inflation                             | ↓ | 2.9               | 3.2           | 3.5               | 3.6                 |

#### Notes to the table:

- The money market rates are TB rates
- “BMK” = Benchmark
- “NCPI” = Namibian inflation rate
- “Difference” = change in basis points
- Current spot = value at the time of writing
- NSX is the Overall Index, including dual listed

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**Source: Thomson Reuters Refinitiv**

*Important note: This is not a solicitation to trade and CAM will not necessarily trade at the yields and/or prices quoted above. The information is sourced from the data vendor as indicated. The levels of and changes in the yields need to be interpreted with caution due to the illiquid nature of the domestic bond market.*



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