



BAIPHIL MARKET WATCH

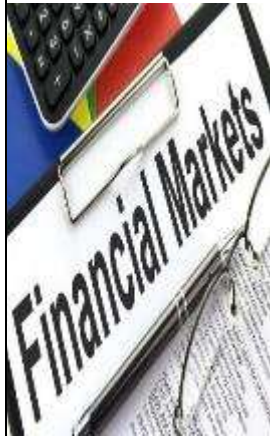
17 Apr
2020

*~ PROMOTING COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE FOR
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND SUSTAINABILITY ~*

Legend

- Improvement / Up
- Deterioration / Down
- No Movement

FINANCIAL MARKETS AT A GLANCE



Currency Exchange ¹	Current	Previous
USD/PHP	50.8000	50.6200
USD/JPY	107.6700	107.4100
USD/CNY	7.0798	7.0640
EUR/USD	1.0876	1.0888
GBP/USD	1.2519	1.2496

PHP BVAL Reference Rates ²	Current	Previous
30-Day	3.1480	3.1280
91-Day	3.2580	3.2620
180-Day	3.4120	3.4290
1-Year	3.6250	3.6460
3-Year	3.7780	3.8630
5-Year	3.8680	3.9780
10-Year	4.1220	4.2010

Domestic Stock Index ³	Current	Previous
PSEi	5,525.60	5,946.05
Trade Value (Php B)	9.291	9.104

Stock Index ⁴	Current	Previous
NIKKEI 225	19,290.20	19,550.09
FTSE 100	5,628.43	5,579.65
DOW JONES	23,537.68	23,504.35
S&P 500	2,799.55	2,783.36
NASDAQ	8,532.362	8,393.18

Various ^{5/6}	Current	Previous
Brent Crude (USD/bbl)	28.54	28.39
3-M US Treasury Yield	0.11%	0.11%
5-Y US Treasury Yield	0.34%	0.34%
10-Y US Treasury Yield	0.61%	0.64%



PHILIPPINES



- ✓ **Shares wipe out recent gains on profit taking.** PHILIPPINE STOCKS wiped out their gains on Thursday as profit takers entered the market and fear of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic prevailed. The bellwether Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) erased 420.45 points or 7.07% to close at 5,525.60 yesterday. The broader all shares index also dropped 181.60 points or 5.11% to 3,370.13. <https://www.bworldonline.com/shares-wipe-out-recent-gains-on-profit-taking/>
- ✓ **Peso weakens on BSP rate cut.** THE PESO weakened against the greenback on Thursday following an off-cycle rate cut from the central bank and amid a decline on Wall Street. The local unit ended trading at P50.80 per dollar on Thursday, down 18 centavos from its P50.62 finish on Wednesday, according to data from the Bankers Association of the Philippines. <https://www.bworldonline.com/peso-weakens-on-bsp-rate-cut/>
- ✓ **BSP cuts policy rate to record low.** THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas (BSP) fired off another 50-basis-point (bp) cut in policy rates in an off-cycle meeting to bring borrowing costs to record lows in a bid to boost lending to support the economy in the middle of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) crisis. "BSP cut key policy rate by 50 bps," BSP Governor Benjamin E. Diokno told reporters in a Viber message on Thursday. The reduction will take effect today (April 17). <https://www.bworldonline.com/bsp-cuts-policy-rate-to-record-low/>
- ✓ **Filipinos shift to e-payments, online banking amid lockdown.** BANKS and payment firms have seen a surge in online transactions amid the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) in Luzon. During the lockdown, lenders said they observed a rise in account openings as well as fund transfers as limited businesses maintained physical working hours, including banks. <https://www.bworldonline.com/filipinos-shift-to-e-payments-online-banking-amid-lockdown/>
- ✓ **Banks warn public vs online scammers.** As more people switch to online banking channels during the COVID-19 pandemic-induced lockdown of key cities, cyberspace has become a fertile ground for scammers who are becoming more and more sophisticated in stealing credentials and hard-earned money. In the Philippines, the banking community has flagged the proliferation of cybercriminals during this current state of national public health emergency. <https://business.inquirer.net/294925/banks-warn-public-vs-online-scammers>
- ✓ **London think tank: PH economy to shrink 4 percent in 2020.** London-based Capital Economics on Thursday (April 16) said the Philippine government's projections of flat growth or, in the worst case, contraction of as much as 1 percent in 2020 was "too optimistic" amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown in Luzon and other parts of the country. "The outlook for growth has worsened considerably in recent

weeks, as strict quarantine measures have been extended across most of the country,” said Alex Holmes, Capital Economics Asia economist, in a note to clients.

<https://business.inquirer.net/294894/london-think-tank-ph-economy-to-shrink-4-percent-in-2020>

- ✓ **Philippine economy could lose up to P2.5 trillion due to COVID-19 —PIDS.** Philippine economic losses due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) could reach as much as P2.5 trillion if the deadly illness is not contained, a study by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) showed. Conducted by PIDS fellows, the study showed that the Philippine economy may lose between P276.3 billion at a best-case scenario, and P2.482 trillion at a worst-case scenario from the COVID-19.
<https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/money/economy/734315/philippine-economy-could-lose-up-to-p2-5-trillion-due-to-covid-19-pids/story/>
- ✓ **NEDA identifying supply chain issues to guide task force.** THE National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) is evaluating the performance of supply chains during the pandemic and is hoping its findings will guide decision-makers on potential improvements. In a briefing, Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) Spokesperson Karlo Alexei B. Nograles said the task force approved the recommendation of the NEDA “to pursue Supply Chain Regulatory Impact Assessments and to develop the Supply Chain Analysis (SCAN) Dashboard in cooperation with partner agencies and select private entities.”
<https://www.bworldonline.com/neda-identifying-supply-chain-issues-to-guide-task-force/>
- ✓ **Extending lockdown beyond April could be ‘difficult’ — Pernia.** EXTENDING the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) beyond April 30 would be “difficult,” according to Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto M. Pernia, who is backing a gradual lifting of the Luzon-wide lockdown which would allow malls and public transportation to resume partial operations. “I guess there will be some lockdown and probably it will be more localized, not like now which is the whole of Luzon, and some loosening up in some areas, that have low risk of COVID-19 contagion will be opened up, will be unquarantined,” Mr. Pernia told *BusinessWorld* Wednesday when asked for his recommendations after the ECQ ends on April 30.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/extending-lockdown-beyond-april-could-be-difficult-pernia/>
- ✓ **COVID-19 uncertainty: Gov’t in search of more funds to keep helping poor, keep economy breathing.** The government is on the lookout for more funds to sustain help to vulnerable sectors and keep the economy from total collapse as uncertainty lingers over the COVID-19 pandemic. Budget Secretary Wendel E. Avisado told the Inquirer on Thursday (April 16) that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) was in discussion with Congress for more funding.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294887/covid-19-uncertainty-govt-in-search-of-more-funds-to-keep-helping-poor-keep-economy-breathing>
- ✓ **Dominguez: No need to sell gov’t assets to raise more money vs coronavirus.** President Duterte’s chief economic manager on Thursday said there was no need to sell government assets to raise more money for COVID-19 response. In an interview on PTV-4 Thursday night, Finance Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez III was asked if the government must dispose of properties such as the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) and other prime properties along Roxas Boulevard, as earlier mentioned by the President.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294910/dominguez-no-need-to-sell-government-assets-to-raise-more-money-vs-covid-19>
- ✓ **SEC drafts rules to empower minority investors.** THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is drafting rules to allow minority investors of listed companies to call for meetings and add items to meeting agendas. The corporate regulator issued a draft memorandum circular on Wednesday seeking to grant additional powers to shareholders that represent five to 10% of a listed company’s outstanding capital stock.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/sec-drafts-rules-to-empower-minority-investors/>
- ✓ **SEC flags illegal “reseller” schemes.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has urged the investing public to be wary of individuals or groups hawking reseller business partnerships that may only be a front for unauthorized investment schemes. In separate advisories issued on April 14, the SEC flagged the solicitation and investment-taking activities of JOCALS688 Beauty and Wellness Products Trading Inc., TBCMMP Masa Mart Inc. and CashCowRobot.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294903/sec-flags-illegal-reseller-schemes>
- ✓ **GSIS opens online application for nationwide COVID-19 emergency loan program.** The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) on Thursday (April 16) opened online applications for its COVID-19 emergency loan program available nationwide. In a statement, the GSIS said it set aside over P30 billion for the emergency loan program for members and pensioners, who are taking financial hits from the impact of COVID-19.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294896/gsis-opens-online-application-for-nationwide-covid-19-emergency-loan-program>
- ✓ **Concepcion: Big business backs private sector-led mass testing.** Conglomerates and major business organizations have expressed support for a private sector-led initiative to conduct mass testing for the new coronavirus at the community level, according to businessman Joey Concepcion, the presidential adviser for entrepreneurship. Dubbed “Project ARK (antibody rapid test kits),” the data-driven initiative is anchored on the combined efforts of the government and businesses, and will launch a protocol to help identify persons with antibodies against the coronavirus, as well as possible convalescent plasma donors.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294917/concepcion-big-business-backs-private-sector-led-mass-testing>
- ✓ **Airlines, shippers warn of trade delays if seamen can’t travel.** THE International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) said governments should facilitate the movement of international transport personnel who have been affected by travel restrictions due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. “Each month, about 100,000 merchant seafarers need to be changed over from the ships on which they operate to ensure compliance with international maritime regulations protecting safety, health and welfare,” IATA and ICS said in a joint statement on April 14.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/airlines-shippers-warn-of-trade-delays-if-seamen-cant-travel/>
- ✓ **Shipping time bomb ticks as thousands of Filipino sailors get stuck.** The Philippines is one of the world’s biggest suppliers of sailors on international ships, and apart from the jobless seamen stuck at home, thousands more have been stranded on cargo and cruise ships amid global travel curbs. Industry groups have been lobbying to lift travel restrictions on seafarers to defuse a shipping sector time bomb.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/shipping-time-bomb-ticks-as-thousands-of-filipino-sailors-get-stuck/>
- ✓ **URC nets P10.1B.** Gokongwei-led Universal Robina Corp. (URC) grew its net profit last year by 7 percent to P10.1 billion, driven by the recovery of the local coffee and ready-to-drink tea businesses alongside the double-digit growth of the animal feeds and flour segments.

<https://business.inquirer.net/294901/urc-nets-p10-1b>

- ✓ **Rent relief for airport tenants extended to April 30.** TRANSPORTATION Secretary Arthur P. Tugade has instructed airport authorities to extend the rental holiday for airport concessionaires until April 30. Transportation Assistant Secretary Goddess Hope O. Libiran made the announcement last Wednesday.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/rent-relief-for-airport-tenants-extended-to-april-30/>
- ✓ **Sweeper flights, lodging for OFWs and health workers top DOT's COVID-19 response.** The Department of Tourism has so far helped mount over 20 so-called sweeper flights to help thousands of foreign tourists return to their home countries after the coronavirus pandemic virtually shut down international commercial air travel. In a statement, the office of Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said that domestic tourists were also able to return to their home provinces on some local chartered flights arranged by the department.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294904/sweeper-flights-lodging-for-ofws-and-health-workers-top-dots-covid-19-response>
- ✓ **Food pass validity extended after ECQ prolonged.** ALL food passes in use by accredited truckers of agricultural goods have been revalidated following the extension of Luzon's enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), the Department of Agriculture (DA) said. The food passes, which allow cargoes to bypass checkpoints, were given extended validity by DA Memorandum Circular No. 11. The passes apply to cargoes of rice, vegetables, fruits, meat and processed products, farm inputs, raw materials, and equipment.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/food-pass-validity-extended-after-ecq-prolonged/>
- ✓ **Households to pay deferred power bills in installments starting mid-May.** POWER consumers enjoying deferred payments on their lockdown bills have been given the option to pay off their arrears in installments between May and September. The Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), in an advisory issued late Wednesday, ordered the power industry to give customers a grace period on bills incurred during the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), which was extended to April 30, without interest, penalties, fees, and other charges.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/households-to-pay-deferred-power-bills-in-installments-starting-mid-may/>
- ✓ **Indigenous peoples urged to plant more on ancestral land.** THE Department of Agriculture (DA) is seeking the use of indigenous peoples' (IP) ancestral land for food production to shore up food security during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. Agriculture Secretary William D. Dar urged the indigenous peoples (IPs) to convert part or most of their idle land to farm vegetables and high-value crops.
<https://www.bworldonline.com/indigenous-peoples-urged-to-plant-more-on-ancestral-land/>




REST
OF THE
WORLD



- ✓ **Asian markets fall as pandemic impact weighs.** Asian stocks were mostly lower Thursday after unexpectedly weak U.S. retail and other data added to gloom about the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Benchmarks in Tokyo, Hong Kong and Shanghai declined. The announcements shook investors who economists have warned are too optimistic about a quick rebound from what is shaping up to be the deepest global slump since the Great Depression of the 1930s.
<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/asian-markets-fall-as-pandemic-impact-weighs-2020-04-15>
- ✓ **Stocks climb as pandemic winners pull away on Wall Street.** Even in this new stay-at-home, increasingly jobless economy, some businesses are making out as clear winners, and gains for Amazon, health care companies and stocks in other pockets of the market helped prop up Wall Street Thursday. The S&P 500 rose 0.6% after flipping between small gains and losses following a government report that 5.2 million Americans filed for unemployment benefits last week.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294932/stocks-climb-as-pandemic-winners-pull-away-on-wall-street>
- ✓ **IMF revises growth rate for Singapore and Asean's top economies downwards to -1.3% due to coronavirus disruption.** The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Wednesday (April 15) revised down the growth rate in 2020 of the Asean-5 countries – Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand – to minus 1.3 percent. "Large Asean countries have introduced public health measures including lockdowns, and there are negative economic impacts from reduced tourism, disrupted trade and manufacturing, and the spillovers from financial markets," Mr Changyong Rhee, the director of the Asia and Pacific Department at the IMF, said in a virtual press conference.
<https://business.inquirer.net/294883/imf-revises-growth-rate-for-singapore-and-aseans-top-economies-downwards-to-1-3-due-to-coronavirus-disruption>
- ✓ **G20 agrees to debt relief for poorest countries amid pandemic.** With the global economy plunged into the worst recession in a century, the Group of 20 nations on Wednesday announced a one-year debt standstill for the world's poorest nations as they struggle to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. The G20, which brings together the world's largest economies, also reiterated the pledge to deploy "all available policy tools" to deal with the health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19.
<https://www.afp.com/en/news/3954/g20-agrees-debt-relief-poorest-countries-amid-pandemic-doc-1qm37010>
- ✓ **Exclusive: Italy sees 2020 budget deficit near 10% of GDP – source.** Italy's budget deficit will be near 10% of gross domestic product this year, a senior government official told Reuters, as Rome increases borrowing to try to soften the impact of the new coronavirus and the economy plunges into a deep recession. The government began the year with a target of a 2.2% deficit this year after the 1.6% reported in 2019, which was the lowest in 12 years. But those plans have been upended by the virus outbreak.
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-italy-budget-exclu/exclusive-italy-sees-2020-budget-deficit-near-10-of-gdp-source-idUSKBN21Y2U9>

- ✓ **Belgium says transparency explains high virus toll.** Belgium now has the highest death rate from COVID-19 in the European Union but officials insist it is because they have been totally transparent with the data. With more than 11.5 million inhabitants, Belgium has more than 4,800 deaths and an average of around 419 per one million inhabitants, now ahead of Spain at 409 per one million, the second highest in the EU.
<https://www.afp.com/en/news/3954/belgium-says-transparency-explains-high-virus-toll-doc-1qn0ot2>
- ✓ **Trump announces gradual US reopening against dire economic backdrop.** President Donald Trump on Thursday announced the gradual reopening of a US economy battered by the brutal side effects of an unprecedented effort to stop the spread of the coronavirus. "Based on the latest data, our team of experts now agrees that we can begin the next front in our war," Trump told a news conference. "We're opening up our country." His announcement came hours after new data showed job losses from the pandemic fallout in the world's number one economy had reached 22 million in the past month.
<https://www.afp.com/en/news/3954/trump-announces-gradual-us-reopening-against-dire-economic-backdrop-doc-1qn59q1>
- ✓ **New York forms team to develop 'Trump-proof' economic reopening plan.** New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has tapped high-powered consultants to develop a science-based plan for the safe economic reopening of the region that can thwart pressure from President Donald Trump to move more rapidly, state government sources told Reuters. Cuomo, along with many other U.S. governors, shut all non-essential businesses to limit the spread of the sometimes deadly COVID-19 virus, and has warned that he is are prepared to keep them shut – perhaps for several months more – unless he can assure public safety.
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-governors-excl/new-york-forms-team-to-develop-trump-proof-economic-reopening-plan-idUSKCN21Y01V>
- ✓ **Pile of bodies linked to coronavirus found at US nursing home.** US police found 17 bodies piled up in a nursing home morgue in New Jersey, media reported Thursday, highlighting how the coronavirus outbreak is overwhelming long-term care facilities. Officers in the small locality of Andover, around 52 miles (80 kilometers) west of New York City, discovered the bodies following an anonymous tip-off, according to The New York Times.
<https://www.afp.com/en/news/3954/pile-bodies-linked-coronavirus-found-us-nursing-home-doc-1qn4v92>
- ✓ **Brent oil jumps nearly 3% after Trump lays out plan for easing coronavirus restrictions.** Oil prices rose on Friday with Brent gaining nearly 3% after President Donald Trump laid out guidelines on reviving a U.S. economy ravaged by the coronavirus pandemic that has punched a huge hole in global demand for crude and refined products.
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-global-oil/brent-oil-jumps-nearly-3-after-trump-lays-out-plan-for-easing-coronavirus-restrictions-idUSKBN21Z05D>
- ✓ **IEA predicts 'worst year in the history' of oil sector.** The coronavirus outbreak will slash global oil demand in 2020 to erase a decade of growth and set up "the worst year in the history" of the sector, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Wednesday. Demand is projected to plummet by a record 9.3 million barrels per day (mbd) for the year as a whole, with 29 mbd in the month of April, and 26 mbd in May -- "staggering numbers", according to the agency's executive director Fatih Birol.
<https://www.afp.com/en/news/3954/iea-predicts-worst-year-history-oil-sector-doc-1ql9bm1>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IT Security in Banking Operations ➤ Signature Verification & Detection of Fake IDs and Documents – 16 May 2020 ➤ Counterfeit Detection – 23 May 2020 ➤ Legal Liabilities of Directors and Senior Management – 02 June 2020 ➤ Application Security Testing – 16 & 17 June 2020 ➤ Accounting for Non-Accountants – 19 & 20 June 2020 ➤ Anti-Money Laundering Council Procedural Issuance (API) A, B, and C, No. 1 Series of 2019 – Rules of Procedure in Administrative Cases (RPAC) ➤ Basic Corporate Governance for Board of Directors and Senior Management ➤ Accounting for Non-Accountants ➤ Treasury 101 ➤ Privacy Impact Assessment ➤ Ethical Dilemmas in Digital Transformation ➤ Problem Solving and Decision-Making Skills ➤ Basic Real Estate Valuation ➤ Fundamentals of Organizational Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ➤ Enterprise Risk Management ➤ Amendments to AML/CFT (BSP Cir. No. 1022) and the AML Risk Rating System ➤ BSP Expectations from Banks on BSP Mem. No. M-2018-002 & M-2016-004 on Sound Risk Management Practices ➤ Regulatory Expectations on Cybersecurity Audit ➤ Overview of Key Regulations on Digital Financial Inclusion ➤ Related Party Transactions ➤ Regulatory Guidelines on the Management of Interest Rate Risk in the Banking Book and Amendment of the Guidelines on Market Risk Management (BSP Circular No. 1044) ➤ Advanced Excel Training for Bankers ➤ Auditing the Consumer Lending Business
<p>For details, please contact BAIPHIL via telephone (853-4457/519-2433) or email (training@baiphil.org).</p>	



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OTHER REFERENCES / EXTERNAL LINKS

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