



Wednesday, 24 December 2025

US consumer confidence index falls to 89.1 in December

The US Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) fell to 89.1 in Dec, down from Nov's revised 92.9, The Conference Board reported Tuesday [23/12]. The figure is also lower than market expectations of 91.9, showing that US consumers are more pessimistic about current business and labor conditions amid continued economic uncertainty as the year closes. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/12/25)

Fed should lower rates if the market does well, Trump says

Donald Trump said he expects his Fed chair to lower interest rates if the economy is doing well, the latest signal that the president is eager for a nominee committed to borrowing cost cuts as he nears an announcement of his choice to replace Jerome Powell. "I want my new Fed Chairman to lower Interest Rates if the Market is doing well, Trump said in a social media post Tuesday [23/12]. (www.bloomberg.com 24/12/25)

White House adviser Hassett says GDP 'fantastic,' job gains to jump

White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett said stronger-than-expected US economic growth reported on Tuesday [23/12] is a product of President Donald Trump's trade policies and of investment in artificial intelligence, and heralds faster job gains ahead. (www.reuters.com 23/12/25)

China's central SOEs report stable growth in Jan.-Nov.

China's state-owned enterprises (SOEs) directly administered by the central government reported steady growth in the first 11 months of 2025, with intensified efforts in innovation, data showed. The central SOEs reported combined added value of CN¥9.5tr (about \$1.35tr) during the 11-month period, up 1.4% year on year. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/12/25)

UK needs to find four top economists after crises force exits

The UK government is looking to fill roles in four of the country's most senior economic and statistical posts at the same time. It's posing a challenge. A series of crises has left two vacancies at the top of the UK statistics body and one at the Office for Budget Responsibility, the fiscal watchdog. (www.bloomberg.com 24/12/25)

German import prices continue to fall

Germany's import prices declined for the eighth straight month in Nov. Import prices logged an annual fall of 1.9% in Nov, a faster decline than the 1.4% drop observed in Oct. Prices have been falling since April. Energy prices had the biggest impact on import prices. Energy prices plummeted 15.7% from the last year. Month-on-month, import prices grew at a pace of 0.5% after a 0.2% gain seen in Oct. marking third monthly increase. (www.rttnews.com 24/12/25)

Japan and US agree to expedite \$550bn investment projects

Japan and the US are set to speed up an initiative for Japan to invest \$550bn into the US, agreed as part of a broader trade deal to lower tariffs imposed by President Trump. "Ministers are aligned on expediting preparations so that the first project under the Strategic Investment Initiative could be announced," Japanese Foreign Ministry said. (www.bloomberg.com 24/12/25)

Japan leading index rises less than estimated

Japan's leading index improved less than initially estimated in October to the highest level in sixteen months, the latest data from the Cabinet Office showed Wednesday. The leading index, which measures future economic activity, rose to 109.8 in October from 108.2 in September. The flash score was 110.0. Moreover, a similar score was last seen in June 2024. (www.rttnews.com 24/12/25)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3482	(1.3450)	1.3483	(1.3451)
+USD/EUR	1.1776	(1.1763)	1.1776	(1.1763)
*GHS/USD	11.3443	(11.4143)	11.3557	(11.4257)
*GHS/GBP	15.2944	(15.3522)	15.3109	(15.3687)
*GHS/EUR	13.3587	(13.4268)	13.3719	(13.4401)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 24/12/25 (Rates for 23/12/25 in brackets)

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Spain GDP growth slows as estimated

The Spanish economy experienced a slower growth in Q3, in line with earlier estimate, final data from the statistical office INE showed on Tuesday [23/12]. Gross domestic product advanced 0.6% on a sequential basis, slower than the 0.7% growth registered in Q2. The Q3 growth matched the estimate published on Oct 29. (www.rttnews.com 24/12/25)

Israel announces special bank tax after surge in profits

Israel's Finance Ministry announced on Tuesday [23/12] that a special tax will be imposed on the country's banks after they reported substantial profits this year. Israel's banking sector is dominated by 5 major banks, which together registered profits of 24.7bn shekels (\$7.73bn) in the first three quarters of the year, according to central bank. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/12/25)

Canada's GDP decreases 0.3% in October

Canada's real GDP decreased 0.3% in Oct. offsetting a 0.2% increase in Sept. Statistics Canada said Tuesday [23/12]. The decline was driven by contractions in goods-producing and services-producing industries. Overall, 11 of 20 industrial sectors contracted in Oct. said the national statistical agency. (www.xinhuanet.com 24/12/25)

Dutch Q3 GDP growth improves more than estimated

The Netherlands' economic growth accelerated more than initially estimated in the third quarter, the latest data from the Central Bureau of Statistics showed today. Gross domestic product rose 0.5% from Q2, when it grew 0.3%. In the flash estimate, the rate of expansion was 0.4%. (www.rttnews.com 24/12/25)

South Korean consumer confidence falls in December

South Korea's consumer confidence faded in Dec. after strengthening in the previous month, survey data from the Bank of Korea showed on Tuesday [23/12]. The consumer sentiment index dropped to 109.9 in Dec. from 112.4 in the previous month. (www.rttnews.com 24/12/25)

Oil rises for sixth session on US data, geopolitical tension

Oil prices rose for a sixth day on Wednesday supported by robust U.S. economic growth and the risk of supply disruptions from Venezuela and Russia. Brent crude futures climbed 17 cents, or 0.27%, to \$62.55 a barrel by 0714 GMT. (www.reuters.com 24/12/25)

Gold rises to fresh record high on safe haven buying

Gold prices surged to fresh record highs Tuesday [23/12] morning on safe-haven buying amid escalating US-Venezuela tensions and somewhat fading possibility of any quick end to the Russia-Ukraine war. A weak dollar contributed as well to the yellow metal's rise. Investors are also digesting the latest batch of US economic data. (www.rttnews.com 23/12/25)

South African rand climbs on precious metal market frenzy

The South African rand edged up against the dollar today, extending the week's gains as investors continued to pile into precious metals. At 0755 GMT, the rand was 0.1% stronger than Tuesday's closing level at 16.6625 to the dollar. (www.reuters.com 23/12/25)

IMF reaches staff-level agreement on Egypt's fifth, sixth loan programme reviews

The International Monetary Fund said on Tuesday it had reached a staff-level agreement with Egypt on the fifth and sixth reviews under its Extended Fund Facility arrangement, potentially unlocking a roughly \$2.5bn disbursement under the programme. (www.reuters.com 23/12/25)

Ghana ends 2025 in 4th place in Africa with highest debt to IMF

Ghana is ending 2025 in the 4th place in Africa with the highest debt to the IMF. The country's exposure to the IMF stood at 2.85 billion Special Drawing Rights as of 22nd Dec. 2025. This is equivalent to US\$4.13bn. Ghana recently received US\$365m from the IMF as the fifth tranche of an IMF bailout package signed in 2022. (www.myjoyonline.com 24/12/25)

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