



Authors

Daria Efanova
Head of Research

Viktoria Kuszak
Research Associate

WED 19 MARCH 2025 00:10

DAILY BASE METALS REPORT

Markets on Standby Ahead of Fed Rate Decision

Summary

- Markets await the Fed meeting in hopes of assessing the impact of tariffs on future monetary policy.
- Base metals' performance was mixed due to uncertainty about future price trends.
- Gold breached the significant \$3,000/oz mark as global uncertainty continued to drive investors to seek safe havens.

Macro

US stocks weakened once again after recent day's gains, with the tech stocks leading the decline as markets await the Federal Reserve's decision tomorrow. Policymakers are expected to keep interest rates unchanged. More importantly, investors will pay attention to Powell's tone during the announcement tomorrow in hopes of assessing the impact of tariffs on future monetary policy. The dollar index remained low, struggling above the 103.50 mark. The US 10-year Treasury yield held at the 4.30% level. Meanwhile, German lawmakers approved a spending package that unlocks funds for debt financing in defence and infrastructure. This has bolstered the euro's performance, allowing it to maintain the 1.0900 support level against the dollar.

Base Metals

Base metals showed mixed performance. Copper remained elevated, approaching the \$9,900/t level, closing just above it at \$9,904.50/t. On the other hand, aluminium weakened back to the \$2,650/t support level. Nickel and zinc saw mean reversion strategies take place, dropping slightly to \$16,249/t and \$2,963.50/t. Lead continued to edge higher, closing in on the \$2,100/t resistance level.

Precious Metals and Oil

Oil erased previous day's gains, with WTI and Brent coming back to \$67/bbl and \$70/bbl, respectively. Gold rallied, firmly breaching the critical \$3,000/oz resistance on the back of escalating tensions in the Middle east. These moves reflect market's increasing uncertainty regarding geopolitics, tariff implementation, and the path of monetary policy, which may keep gold prices high in the near term.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2690	2699	2650	2654.5	2691	19606	708884	12.66	120.61
Copper	9880	9916	9820	9904.5	9865	16273	290561	-51.67	449.67
Lead	2084	2095	2079	2094.5	2085	7066	151941	-18.02	94.96
Nickel		16470	16160	16249.0	16410	7298	229772	-234.72	737.10
Tin	35260	35470	34815	35240.0	35200	436	22755	-55.00	1600.97
Zinc	2965	2972	2918	2963.0	2960	13327	225756	-30.18	134.13
				Total:		64006	1629669		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg	
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2681	2670	2686.96	2696.96	2703.97	2687	2691.166667	2675.625
Copper	9834	9888	9821.25	9871.25	9799.28	9861.5	9633.25	9656.375
Lead	2074.5	2093	2157.5	2167.5	2062.76	2082.5	2031.041667	2050.458333
Nickel	16060	16300	17439	18159	16200.05	16430	16108.33333	16333.33333
Tin	35310	35475			35157	35187	33152.08333	33233.75
Zinc	2897	2930	2958.5	2875.75	2932.4	2958	2877.125	2905.958333

LME Stocks (tonnes)								Other Copper Markets	
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change
Aluminium	497275	0	4025	-4025	493250	265750	227500	Comex, USc/lb	
Copper	230975	3000	6275	-3275	227700	104725	122975	MAR 25	493.35 1.31
Lead	211700	10025	1750	8275	219975	16200	203775	MAY 25	495.9 1.29
Nickel	200880	1698	1782	-84	200796	13626	187170	Shanghai, CNY/mt	
Tin	3625	140	25	115	3740	775	2965	01-Apr	80270 0.39
Zinc	158225	0	1350	-1350	156875	63300	93575	01-May	80350 0.30

Global Markets			Currencies			Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix	
Last	% Change		Last	% Change		Last	% Change		AM	PM
DAX	23381	0.98	GBP	1.3006	0.1078	Gold	3034.95	1.1448	2996.15	2996.50
DJI	41494	-0.83	JPY	149.2900	-0.0536	Silver	34.14	0.8083		3377
S&P500	5608	-1.18	EUR	1.0951	0.2655	Gold Comex	3043.7	1.251		
SSE	3430	0.11	CNY	7.2257	0.0069	Platinum	1003.24	-0.1702		
Hg Seng	24741	2.46	AUD	0.6362	-0.3446	Palladium	970.5	-0.0093		
Brent	71	-0.23	CAD	1.4309	-0.1468					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 18/03/2025 17:30

All price data is from 18.03.2025 as of 17:30

Risk warning

This is a marketing communication. The information in this report is provided solely for informational purposes and should not be regarded as a recommendation to buy, sell or otherwise deal in any particular investment. Please be aware that, where any views have been expressed in this report, the author of this report may have had many, varied views over the past 12 months, including contrary views.

A large number of views are being generated at all times and these may change quickly. Any valuations or underlying assumptions made are solely based upon the author's market knowledge and experience.

Please contact the author should you require a copy of any previous reports for comparative purposes. Furthermore, the information in this report has not been prepared in accordance with legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research. All information in this report is obtained from sources believed to be reliable and we make no representation as to its completeness or accuracy.

This report is not subject to any prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of investment research. Accordingly, the information may have been acted upon by us for our own purposes and has not been procured for the exclusive benefit of customers. Sucden Financial believes that the information contained within this report is already in the public domain. Private customers should not invest in these products unless they are satisfied that the products are suitable for them and they have sought professional advice. Please read our full risk warnings and disclaimers (www.sucdenfinancial.com/en/risk-warning-and-disclaimers).