



Authors

Daria Efanova
Head of Research

Viktoria Kuszak
Research Associate

TUE 25 MARCH 2025 00:10

DAILY BASE METALS REPORT

Markets Rebound, But Trade Uncertainty Lingers

Summary

- Global services data lifted sentiment despite persistent trade risks
- Copper rallied, but metals showed mixed performance overall
- Gold softened as yields and dollar gained amid tariff tensions

Macro

US stocks opened higher today, rebounding from recent oversold conditions as investors recalibrated their expectations ahead of a data-heavy week. However, markets remain on edge as tariff uncertainty lingers—April 2nd, the date Trump previously suggested for implementing additional trade measures, is fast approaching with no clear guidance. This lack of clarity continues to fuel speculation across asset classes. The US 10-year Treasury yield jumped to 4.32%, reflecting market concerns over persistent inflation risks and potential trade-related price pressures. The dollar also gained ground, climbing to 104.3 on the index, supported by stronger-than-expected economic data and risk-adjusted flows.

Preliminary March PMI prints offered a mixed macroeconomic picture. US services activity expanded more than expected, with the S&P Global Services PMI rising to 54.3 from 51.0 in February, signalling robust private sector momentum. The UK mirrored this trend, with its services PMI accelerating to 53.2 from 51.0, pointing to growing domestic resilience despite fiscal tightening. In contrast, Eurozone services activity softened to 50.4 from 50.6, suggesting continued stagnation in the bloc's service sector. Markets are now looking ahead to the US PCE inflation data due later this week, which could influence rate cut expectations heading into Q2.

Base Metals

Base metals had a mixed session today, with copper leading the gains as broader risk appetite improved. LME copper edged closer to the key \$10,000/t mark but failed to hold it, trading below \$9,960/t at the time of writing. Zinc extended its recent strength, rising to \$2,953.50/t, while lead rebounded to \$2,044.50/t after last week's losses. In contrast, nickel slipped to \$16,015/t, under pressure from recent weakness. Tin recorded the sharpest decline, falling to \$34,305/t as the market continued to unwind recent gains. Aluminium was broadly steady, down slightly to \$2,615/t, hovering near the bottom of its recent trading range.

Precious and Oil

Higher yields and a stronger dollar weighed on gold, pulling the metal back to \$3,011/oz after last week's record-breaking highs. Silver also edged lower, trading just above \$33.00/oz. Meanwhile, oil prices rose after Trump

threatened to impose a 25% tariff on any nation importing oil or gas from Venezuela—a move that could disrupt supply chains and elevate geopolitical risk premiums. WTI climbed to \$69.2/bbl, while Brent crude advanced to \$73.0/bbl.

								Spreads	Conversion	
	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	C-3M	USc/lb	
Aluminium	2623	2645	2605	2615.5	2625	16183	690360	7.39	118.62	
Copper	9875	10045	9871	9956.0	9852	15441	293840	-39.55	451.01	
Lead	2029	2065	2024	2036.5	2027	6179	143086	-16.25	92.60	
Nickel		16240	16005	16013.0	16210	3869	227197	-233.07	727.12	
Tin	34100	34785	34100	34354.0	34400	334	22889	-55.00	1554.70	
Zinc	2932	2976	2932	2946.0	2928	8011	224736	-13.78	133.36	
Total:						50017	1602108			
Official Prices								Monthly Avg		
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M		
Aluminium	2640.5	2628.5	2652.5	2666.5	2635.98	2622.5	2684.9375	2670		
Copper	9978	10028	9811	9826	9813.48	9855.5	9701.96875	9730.65625		
Lead	2022	2037.5	2077.81	2092.81	1994.65	2016.5	2033.5	2053.25		
Nickel	15895	16105	17178.78	17893.78	15833.28	16057	16091.875	16314.6875		
Tin	34625	34700			34414	34489	33595.9375	33675.9375		
Zinc	2947	2962	2926.26	2843.51	2909.45	2928	2887.09375	2914.5		
LME Stocks (tonnes)								Other Copper Markets		
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	483925	0	3675	-3675	480250	284725	195525	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	224600	850	3675	-2825	221775	111275	110500	MAR 25	508.75 0.05	
Lead	232250	250	800	-550	231700	14250	217450	MAY 25	511.35 0.03	
Nickel	200676	948	936	12	200688	11610	189078	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	3760	0	205	-205	3555	625	2930	01-Apr	81020 -0.12	
Zinc	154400	0	750	-750	153650	96800	56850	01-May	80960 -0.21	
Global Markets								Previous Day's Fix		
		Currencies			Precious Metals					
Last	% Change		Last	% Change		Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	22853	-0.17	GBP	1.2907	-0.0929	Gold	3009.08	-0.4325	3031.3	3013.70
DJI	42426	1.05	JPY	150.5000	-0.7841	Silver	32.95	-0.2443		3318
S&P500	5756	1.56	EUR	1.0796	-0.2034	Gold Comex	3014.9	-0.215		
SSE	3370	0.15	CNY	7.2597	-0.1088	Platinum	973.4	-0.6623		
Hg Seng	23906	0.91	AUD	0.6273	0.0000	Palladium	954.5	-0.5553		
Brent	73	0.87	CAD	1.4324	0.1745					
Source:	Bloomberg									
Updated:	24/03/2025 17:30									

All price data is from 24.03.2025 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).