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Daily Base Metals Report

US Inflation in Focus

Summary

- Markets remain cautious ahead of US CPI data, which could shape expectations for monetary policy.
- Base metals weakened slightly as markets continued to digest the tariff news.
- Gold hit a new record before retreating, while oil prices edged higher.

US stocks opened lower today as investors positioned cautiously ahead of tomorrow's key US CPI release, which is expected to provide further clarity on inflation trends and the potential trajectory of monetary policy. Market participants remain focused on how persistent price pressures could influence the Federal Reserve's next moves, particularly in the wake of recent trade policy developments. The US dollar weakened against most major currencies, except the Japanese yen and Swiss franc, as broader market sentiment turned cautious. The dollar index declined to 108.1, reflecting a pullback after recent gains. Meanwhile, the 10-year US Treasury yield rebounded above 4.5%

The base metals space saw a moderate risk-off sentiment today, reversing some recent gains. Markets continue to digest the announcement of upcoming tariffs on aluminium and steel, which are scheduled to take effect in early March. This timeline allows certain nations, such as Canada and Mexico - some of the largest exporters of those materials to the US - to possibly negotiate a deal or seek exemptions. This has lessened the urgency in terms of supply availability, prompting a modest correction in the market. Copper weakened to test the support level of \$9,300/t before settling slightly above it at \$9,358/t. Likewise, aluminium weakened back below the \$2,650/t level as it struggled to maintain recent highs. Lead and zinc edged lower, with the former breaking back below the psychological \$2,000/t, suggesting a lack of appetite for significantly higher prices. Nickel weakened slightly but rejected prices below the \$15,400/t level, returning to \$15,538/t.

Gold briefly touched a new all-time high of \$2,940/oz before retracing to trade at \$2,905/oz, as traders locked in profits following recent record-breaking gains. Silver, however, struggled to maintain momentum, hovering just below the \$32.0/oz mark at \$31.9/oz at the time of writing. Oil prices advanced steadily, with WTI rising to \$73.0/bbl and Brent crude climbing to \$76.7/bbl, supported by shifting risk sentiment ahead of tomorrow's inflation data.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2659	2668	2632	2644.0	2661	18833	678058	3.66	119.93
Copper	9437	9447	9315	9358.0	9453	18654	287841	-118.84	424.48
Lead	1998	1999	1973	1980.0	1998	5485	155501	-37.74	89.81
Nickel	15505	15585	15250	15538.0	15575	6369	227942	-225.06	704.80
Tin	31140	31265	30850	31164.0	31255	521	20351	-201.00	1413.59
Zinc	2850	2851	2805	2821.0	2854	9898	225905	-48.98	127.96
					Total:	59760	1595598		

Official Prices

	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2647	2640.5	2677	2687.5	2664.67	2658.5	2627.5	2621.428571
Copper	9245	9355	9697	9764	9330.01	9447.5	9124.285714	9244.928571
Lead	1950	1984	2090.46	2130.96	1964.77	2000	1945.285714	1979.642857
Nickel	15175	15400	16836.13	17591.13	15297.75	15522	15235.71429	15457.14286
Tin	30875	31075			31007	31145	30615.71429	30735.71429
Zinc	2763	2812	2862.71	2823.71	2797.4	2846.5	2758.928571	2808.214286

Monthly Avg

LME Stocks (tonnes)

	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change
Aluminium	563200	0	4500	-4500	558700	313775	244925	Comex, USc/lb	
Copper	245825	1325	3850	-2525	243300	30625	212675	MAR 25	444.4 2.08
Lead	221375	4375	825	3550	224925	42200	182725	MAY 25	448.3 2.06
Nickel	175710	1320	84	1236	176946	11520	165426	Shanghai, CNY/mt	
Tin	4110	0	50	-50	4060	350	3710	01-Feb	75970 1.02
Zinc	168700	1125	2875	-1750	166950	32475	134475	01-Mar	75910 0.80

Other Copper Markets

Global Markets

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals		Previous Day's Fix				
Last	% Change	Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM			
DAX	22038	0.58	GBP	1.2447	0.6387	Gold	2898.04	-0.3514	2895.55	2904.45
DJI	44594	0.28	JPY	152.4700	-0.3083	Silver	31.82	-0.7095		3226.5
S&P500	6069	0.03	EUR	1.0362	0.5336	Gold Comex	2926.4	-0.273		
SSE	3318	-0.12	CNY	7.3069	-0.0260	Platinum	988.27	-0.3177		
Hg Seng	21295	-1.06	AUD	0.6296	0.3027	Palladium	981.83	-0.4007		
Brent	77	1.33	CAD	1.4287	0.2030					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 11/02/2025 17:30

All price data is from 11.02.2025 as of 17:30

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