

## MARKET INDICATORS

As of February 14, 2018

Index/ Bond	Index Level/Yield	DoD Change	DoD % Change
PSEi	8,598.11	27.97	0.33%
Dow Jones	24,893.49	253.04	1.03%
NASDAQ	7,143.62	130.10	1.86%
S&P500	2,698.63	35.69	1.34%
MSCI Asia ex-Japan	720.00	10.78	1.52%
MSCI Emerging Market	1,185.33	20.84	1.79%
5Yr FXTN	4.97	2 bps	
10 Yr US Treasury	2.90	7 bps	
USD/PHP	52.06	-0.01	-0.03%

Source: Bloomberg



## News in the Philippines

### “Build, Build, Build” to Ease TRAIN Joblessness

- In a statement by the Budget Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno, developments in the government’s infrastructure projects are expected to buttress the decline in unemployment caused by firms letting people go due to higher levies that come with the new tax law, in the coming years. “Build, Build, Build” with a budget of more than P8 trillion for major projects until 2022, is expected to absorb employees laid off and contribute to the continuous downtrend in unemployment. Unemployment rate in October last year fell to 5% from April’s 5.7%, based on the Philippine Statistics Authority data. Moreover, underemployment dropped to 15.9% in October 2017 from April’s 16.1% reflecting improvement in job quality and economic growth. To push economic growth, the administration will increase spending on infrastructure under the “Build, Build, Build” program to P1.84 billion in 2022 from this year’s previously planned spending of P1.098 billion, to help achieve a gross domestic product (GDP) growth annual rate of 7-8% from this year to 2022. With this, the government aims to cut unemployment to 3-5% by the end of the current administration’s term.

### Local Bond Market

- The yield of the benchmark 5-year bond closed at 4.97, rising at 2 bps during yesterday’s session.
- The yields of bonds were mostly positive and stagnant throughout yesterday’s session with 5 yields rising, 1 yields falling and 5 yields stagnant.

### Philippine Stocks

- The local bourse tracked the recovery of the US markets closing higher on Wednesday on selectively buying of large-cap stocks. This was led by the property counter while other counters firmed up namely, financial, holding firm, services, and mining/oil. PSEi rose 0.33% or 27.97 points landing at 8,598.11 at market’s close.

### Philippine Peso

- The local peso inched against the US dollar on Wednesday as investors awaited the release of Japan and Eurozone economic growth data and US consumer price index (CPI). The peso closed the day at PHP 52.06.



## News around the World

### US Consumer Prices Exceed Expectations in January

- US consumer prices rose in January driven by apparel prices that soared to its highest in almost three decades. The consumer price index advanced 0.5% in January from December last year. The latest rating exceeds estimated increased in rate of 0.3%. Core gauge went up 0.3% from previous month, above the forecasted 0.2%. The recent report supported expectations for the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates faster.

### US Market

- US stocks rose after yesterday’s session driven by financials and technology sectors marking a fourth day of gains. The S&P 500 ended 2,698.63 rose 1.34% or 35.69 points. The Dow Jones climbed 253.04 points or 1.03% to end at 24,893.49. The NASDAQ rose 130.10 points or 1.86% to close at 7,143.62.

### Asian Stocks

- Asian markets closed mixed on Wednesday as investors grew wary in anticipation for the US inflation report. The MSCI Asia-Ex Japan Index went up 1.52% or 10.78 points to close at 720.00.

### Emerging Markets

- Emerging stocks rose for the third straight day ahead of the US inflation data release and emerging currencies grew stronger against the weaker US dollar. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index rose 1.79% or 20.84 points, closing at 1,185.33.