

## The U.S. Federal Reserve is torn between economic growth and inflation

### HIGHLIGHTS

- While U.S. Federal Reserve leaders have once again cut their outlook for economic growth, inflation risks prodded them to intimate that rate cuts are over.
- The U.S. leading indicator went up for a second straight month in April.
- Canada: the total inflation rate goes from 1.4% to 1.7%.
- Sales by Canadian retailers only went up 0.1% in March.

### A LOOK AHEAD

- The second estimate of U.S. national accounts should introduce an upward revision to real GDP growth.
- Canada: economic growth should be barely above zero in the first quarter.

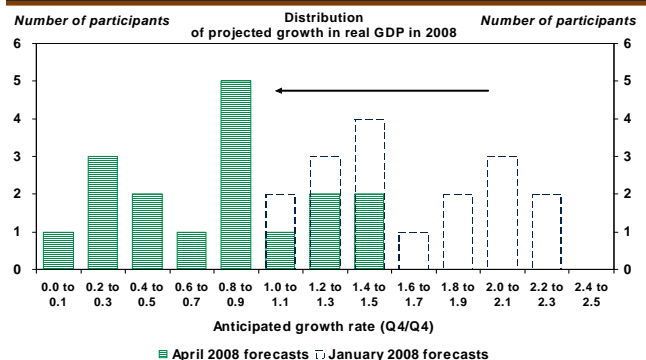
### FINANCIAL MARKETS

- Oil crosses US\$135/barrel.
- The U.S. stock market is correcting.
- The loonie continues to climb despite the risks of a U.S. slowdown.

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Graph of the week – U.S. Federal Reserve have once again cut the outlook for economic growth



Sources: Federal Reserve Board and Desjardins, Economic Studies

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**NOTE TO READERS:** The letters **k**, **M** and **B** are used in texts and tables to refer to thousands, millions and billions respectively.

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# KEY STATISTICS OF THE WEEK

## UNITED STATES

- Growth by the total producer price index was smaller than forecast in April. It only went up 0.2%, while the consensus was anticipating faster growth. This is also a relief following the 1.1% gain recorded in March. Unfortunately, for its part, the index that excludes food and energy went up more quickly than expected, by 0.4%.
- The leading indicator seems to be slowly turning around. It went up by 0.1% in April, as in March. Thanks to solid contributions from the stock market, building permits and interest rates, the leading indicator is starting to signal that the economic situation could improve in three to six months. We can only hope the trend will last.
- The minutes of the latest U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) meeting clearly intimate that monetary easing could be at an end. While there are still sharp fears about the U.S. economy's evolution (Fed leaders once again slashed their growth outlook), inflation risks are also very high. In fact, the members of the monetary policy committee judge that, even if the key rate cuts have been partially offset by tighter credit conditions, the current monetary policy balances the risks surrounding economic growth and rising prices.
- Sales of existing homes fell from 4,940,000 units in March to 4,890,000 in April and are down 17.5% since April 2007. The inventory of houses available for sale has gone up again, i.e., 10.5% in April, its sharpest increase in a year. The imbalance between supply and demand on the resale side is actually getting worse, meaning more price drops.

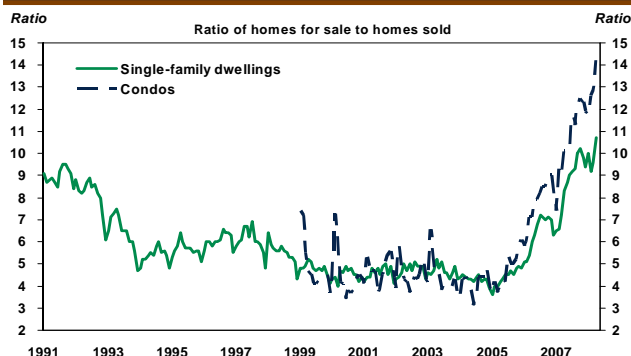
**Francis Généreux**  
Senior Economist

## CANADA

- Wholesalers' sales rose 0.6% in March. Expressed in constant 2002 dollars, wholesalers' sales and inventories actually decreased, i.e., -0.1% and -0.5% respectively.
- The total consumer price index (CPI) rose 0.8% in April. The main contributors were fuel (6.0%), natural gas (6.2%), air transportation (4.8%) and electricity (1.6%). However, the increase was tempered by a drop in the price of women's and men's clothing (-3.8% and -1.6%, respectively). The Bank of Canada's core CPI (CPIX), picked up just 0.3% during the month. The annual inflation rate therefore rose from 1.4% to 1.7%, while the CPIX increased from 1.3% to 1.5% year-over-year.
- Canadian retail sales inched up 0.1% in March. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales remained virtually unchanged from February. In constant 2002 dollars, Canadian retail sales advanced 0.5%.
- Operating revenues for Canadian corporations rose 1.2% between Q4 2007 and Q1 2008. However, operating profits fell 1.1% during the period. Operating profits for non-financial industries advanced 0.5%. Operating profits for financial industries fell 5.0%.
- The leading indicator rose 0.1% in April. Astoundingly, the rebound by the S&P/TSX stock market index noted in the last few weeks was enough to turn this component around and put it back on an upward trend.

**Benoit P. Durocher**  
Senior Economist

Inventory of existing homes rising sharply



Sources: National Association of Realtors and Desjardins, Economic Studies

Retail sales continue to rise in Q1 2008



Sources: Statistics Canada and Desjardins, Economic studies

# FINANCIAL MARKETS

## A mix of weak growth and inflation fears pushed the stock markets to correct

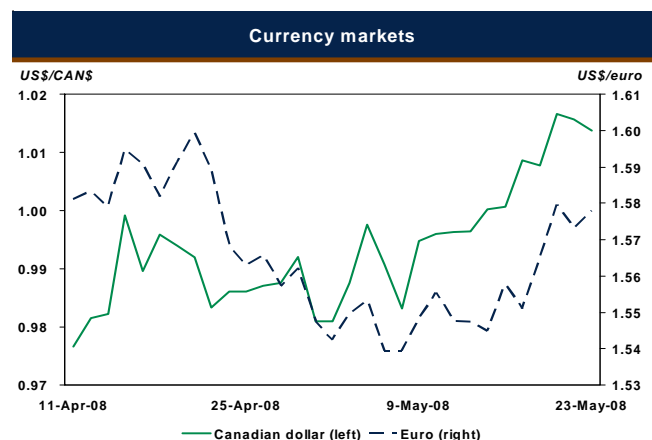
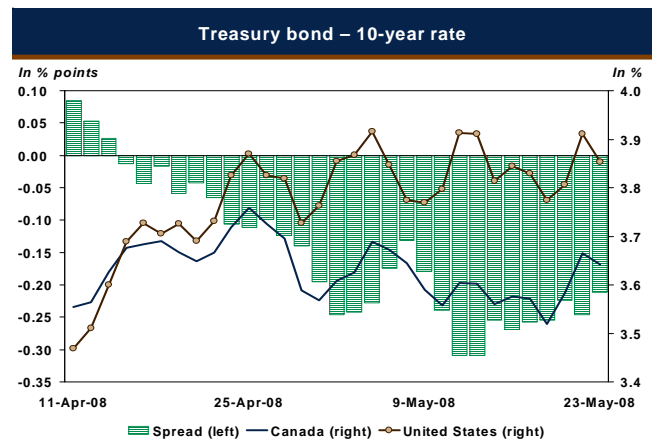
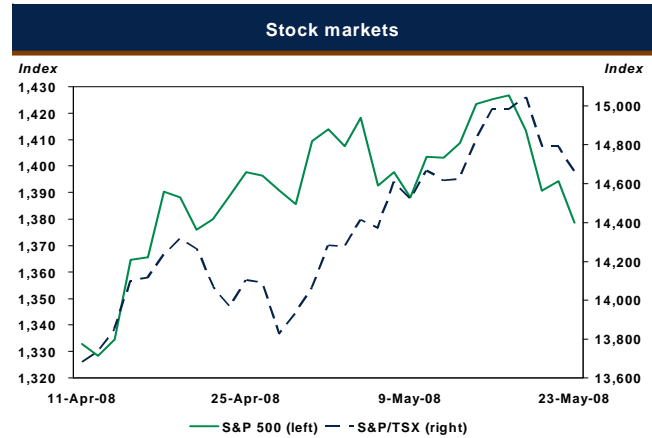
Last week was another very volatile week for the financial markets. Oil prices shattered another record, going over US\$135/barrel during trading on Thursday before retreating slightly. This spectacular rise put an end to the up trend for the main U.S. stock exchanges. The New York Stock Exchange correction deepened on Wednesday when the minutes of the FOMC meeting were released, as the U.S. Federal Reserve indicate that the U.S. economy will contract in the first half of 2008. Despite the U.S. stock market correction, rising oil prices helped the Toronto index cross the 15,000 point mark on Thursday. But a blend of stronger-than-forecast inflation and the risks of a recession in the United States quickly took the index back under 14,800 points.

The week's events rippled into the bond market. Rates for two-year Treasuries fluctuated sharply, going from 2.45% at close last Friday to less than 2.30% on Wednesday. But inflation fears seem to have quickly won out, pushing rates up to almost 2.60%. Rates were down slightly to 2.45% at the time of writing. Ten-year rates jumped by almost 15 basis points to over 3.95% following the increase by oil prices, then retreated towards 3.85%.

The greenback had a hard week against the major currencies. The euro's recent softness came to an end on Monday with an upward correction from US\$1.55 to over US\$1.58 on Thursday. In the United Kingdom, better-than-expected retail sales forecast, the hawkish tone of the Bank of England minutes, and U.S. data helped the pound come back over US\$1.98. The stock market correction and fears surrounding the risks pushed the greenback down against the yen to less than 103 yens/US\$. Despite the risks associated with the U.S. economy's slowdown, the loonie capitalized on record oil prices to cross the US\$1.015 mark.

**Martin Lefebvre**  
Senior Economist

**Mathieu D'Anjou**  
Senior Economist



## A LOOK AHEAD



### UNITED STATES

#### Tuesday May 27 - 10:00

<b>May</b>	Index
Consensus	60.1
Desjardins	60.9
<b>April</b>	<b>62.3</b>

#### Tuesday May 27 - 10:00

<b>March</b>	y/y
Consensus	-14.0%
Desjardins	-13.4%
<b>February</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>

#### Tuesday May 27 - 10:00

<b>April</b>	In thousands
Consensus	527
Desjardins	515
<b>March</b>	<b>526</b>

#### Wednesday May 28 - 8:30

<b>April</b>	m/m
Consensus	-1.1%
Desjardins	-1.5%
<b>March</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>

#### Thursday May 29 - 8:30

<b>Q1 2008 (2nd est.)</b>	ann. rate
Consensus	0.9%
Desjardins	1.1%
<b>Q1 2008 (1st est.)</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

#### Friday May 30 - 8:30

<b>April</b>	m/m
Consensus	0.2%
Desjardins	0.0%
<b>March</b>	<b>0.4%</b>

**Conference Board consumer confidence index (May)** – Most of the other confidence indexes continued to deteriorate in May. The Conference Board's index should be no different. The main reason for the decline in confidence continues, of course, to be skyrocketing gas prices—gas is now over US\$3.80/gallon. Let's hope the arrival of the tax rebate cheques will help lift the mood of households in the next few weeks.

**S&P/Case-Shiller index of existing home prices (March)** – Home prices continue to decline in the United States. The decline is in fact needed to get back to some balance between an overly abundant supply of homes and demand that is being limited by tough times and tighter credit conditions. The S&P/Case-Shiller index has now fallen for 19 straight months, with its annual variation at -12.7% in February. There will no doubt be another decline in March, which could put the annual variation at -13.4%.

**New home sales (April)** – New home sales tumbled 8.5% in March, the biggest drop since November of 2007. There are no signs of any improvement in this market. However, there could be a lull in April. This is because the drop in starts on single-family dwellings was the smallest decline since June of 2007. We are expecting a decline of almost 2%, which would put new home sales at an annualized 515,000.

**New durable goods orders (April)** – The drop in new durable goods orders was surprisingly small in March. This is because the gain in civil aviation orders (+13.5%) was unexpected. April's figures could swing back somewhat. Boeing's orders are down sharply for that month, and the other sectors will not be able to compensate for this negative contribution, particularly since the automotive sector is still in serious trouble. We are expecting a 1.5% decline by new durable goods orders in April.

**Real GDP growth (Q1 – second estimate)** – The initial estimate for Q1 real GDP growth was 0.6%. This result was already stronger than our forecast at that time. Inventory growth is behind the gain. Estimated growth is now expected to be even stronger. Foreign trade, consumption and construction could make bigger contributions (or less negative contributions, in the case of construction) than what had previously been published. A downward change to inventories should slightly offset these positive effects. The second estimate of the national accounts should thus post real GDP growth of 1.1%, a good result for an economy that may already be in a recession.

**Personal consumption (April)** – The drop in retail sales in April should also have an impact on the results for consumption. The decline by motor vehicle sales will no doubt lead to a sharp drop in consumption of durable goods, while the increase in gas and food prices will undoubtedly rein in real consumption of non-durable goods. As with the previous month, consumption of services should go up somewhat. For its part, income should advance 0.2%. Since the spending deflator is expected to go up by a monthly 0.2%, real consumption should be negative, and real income growth should be zero. In terms of annual variation, the consumer spending deflator should be at 3.1% (compared with 3.2% in March), while the core deflator, which excludes food and energy, should be at 2.1%.



## CANADA

**Balance of payments – current account (Q1)** – Merchandise exports rose 5.4% in Q1, driven by an increase in commodities and energy prices. As import growth was smaller for that period (+2.1%), the merchandise trade balance in current dollars improved in the first quarter. This should translate into an increase in the current account balance.

**Average weekly wages (March)** – With the jobless rate still fairly low, historically, workers' weekly wages should continue to grow in March. Monthly growth of about 0.3% is expected, which will keep the annual change in remuneration over 3%.

**Real GDP by industry (March)** – The different economic indicators posted fairly mixed results in March. For example, retail sales were up 0.5% in real terms, but manufacturers' sales and construction starts fell. Our forecast model therefore signals that real GDP by industry should remain almost steady in March.

**Real GDP according to the national accounts (Q1)** – As mentioned previously, real GDP by industry should barely fluctuate in March. Previously published data also show that real GDP by industry fell 0.2% in February and advanced 0.6% in January. The outlook for the entire first quarter of 2008 is therefore not very promising. In fact, our estimates show that economic growth could be just above zero. At least, everything indicates that the outcome will be well below the 0.8% gain recorded in the final quarter of 2007. While foreign trade should be less of a drag on economic growth than it has been in the last few quarters, the contribution from domestic demand could be smaller.



## OVERSEAS

**United Kingdom: Home prices (May)** – The Nationwide index of home prices in the United Kingdom is now showing a decline in terms of its annual variation. This is the first negative figure since 1996. The trend should continue in May, with the monthly change in prices recording a seventh straight decline. The housing market correction is a source of fragility for household balance sheets and growth by household consumption.

**Japan: Consumer prices index (May – Tokyo)** – Japan's inflation has accelerated in the last few months. Both the National price index and Tokyo price index are showing annual variations that are much higher than they were at the beginning of the year. Even the core indexes that exclude energy are showing bigger results than before. The trend should continue, due once again to the sharp surge by food and energy prices that is not sparing Japanese society. The consensus expects the annual change in the total consumer price index (Tokyo) to be 0.8% in May, the fastest pace since 1998. With respect to Japan's economy, the week will bring us several indicators for April, including retail sales (Wednesday), the unemployment rate (Thursday), industrial production (Thursday) and housing starts (Friday).

**Thursday May 29 - 8:30**

<b>Q1 2008</b>	In \$B
Consensus	2.9
Desjardins	2.9
<b>Q4 2007</b>	<b>-0.5</b>

**Thursday May 29 - 8:30**

<b>March</b>	m/m
Consensus	n.a.
Desjardins	0.3%
<b>February</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

**Friday May 30 - 8:30**

<b>March</b>	m/m
Consensus	0.1%
Desjardins	0.0%
<b>February</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

**Friday May 30 - 8:30**

<b>Q1 2008</b>	q/q
Consensus	0.5%
Desjardins	0.3%
<b>Q4 2007</b>	<b>0.8%</b>

**Thursday May 29 - 2:00**

<b>May</b>	y/y
Consensus	-2.1%
<b>April</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>

**Thursday May 29 - 19:30**

<b>May</b>	y/y
Consensus	0.8%
<b>April</b>	<b>0.6%</b>


Friday May 30 - 5:00

May	y/y
Consensus	3.5%
April	3.3%

**Euro zone: Consumer prices index (May – estimate)** – Inflation eased a little in the euro zone in April, with annual growth by the consumer price index going from 3.6% to 3.3%. Inflation is still the focus of the European Central Bank's concerns. The Bank cannot be happy with figures that are still this high. Moreover, the rising trend could come back to the fore in May's results. The increase in energy prices, even when denominated in European currency, is having a big impact. The consensus is for the initial estimate for May's figures to show inflation of 3.5%. May's statistics on [German inflation](#) will be published in the next few days, and provide for a better assessment of this initial estimate of Euroland's figures. In addition, a number of statistics on the economic climate in the euro zone will be published over the week, including several consumer and business confidence indexes and April's unemployment rate.


# ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## Week of May 26 to 30, 2008

Day	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data
<b>UNITED STATES</b>						
<b>MONDAY 26</b>						
	---	Markets closed (Memorial Day)				
<b>TUESDAY 27</b>						
	9:00	S&P/Case-Shiller home price index (y/y)	March	-14.0%	-13.4%	-12.7%
	10:00	Consumer confidence – Conference Board	May	60.1	60.9	62.3
	10:00	New home sales (ann. rate)	April	527,000	515,000	526,000
	11:50	Speech of the San Francisco Fed President, J. Yellen				
<b>WEDNESDAY 28</b>						
	8:30	Durable goods orders (m/m)	April	-1.1%	-1.5%	-0.3%
	12:50	Speech of the Minneapolis Fed President, G. Stern				
	21:00	Speech of the Dallas Fed President, R. Fisher				
<b>THURSDAY 29</b>						
	8:30	Initial unemployment claims	May 19-23	370,000	374,000	365,000
	8:30	Real GDP – preliminary (ann. rate)	Q1	0.9%	1.1%	0.6%
	10:00	Help-wanted index – Conference Board	April	n.a.	18	19
	19:15	Speech of the U.S. Federal Reserve Vice Chairman, D. Kohn				
<b>FRIDAY 30</b>						
	8:30	Personal consumption expenditures (m/m)	April	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%
	8:30	Personal income (m/m)	April	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	8:30	Personal consumption expenditures deflator	April			
		Total (m/m)		n.a.	0.2%	0.3%
		Excluding food and energy (m/m)		0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
		Total (y/y)		3.1%	3.1%	3.2%
		Excluding food and energy (y/y)		2.1%	2.1%	2.1%
	10:00	Chicago PMI index	May	48.8	48.0	48.3
	10:00	Michigan's consumer sentiment index (final)	May	59.5	59.0	59.5


## CANADA

<b>MONDAY 26</b>						
	---					
<b>TUESDAY 27</b>						
	---					
<b>WEDNESDAY 28</b>						
	---					
<b>THURSDAY 29</b>						
	8:30	Average weekly earnings (m/m)	March	n.a.	0.3%	0.6%
	8:30	Number of salaried employees (m/m)	March	n.a.	0.1%	-0.1%
	8:30	Current account balance (ann. rate) (\$B)	Q1	2.9	2.9	-0.5
<b>FRIDAY 30</b>						
	8:30	Industrial product price index (m/m)	April	0.8%	0.8%	1.7%
	8:30	Raw materials price index (m/m)	April	0.6%	4.5%	6.6%
	8:30	Real GDP by industry (m/m)	March	0.1%	0.0%	-0.2%
	8:30	Industrial production (m/m)	March	n.a.	-0.4%	-0.6%
	8:30	Real GDP (ann. rate)	Q1	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%
	8:30	GDP chain-type price index (ann. rate)	Q1	n.a.	3.5%	4.5%

**NOTE :** Desjardins, Economic Studies are involved every week in the Bloomberg survey for Canada and the United States. Approximately 15 economists are consulted for the Canadian survey and a hundred or so for the United States. The abbreviations m/m, q/q and y/y correspond to monthly, quarterly and yearly variation respectively. (SA): Seasonally adjusted, (NSA): Non seasonally adjusted. The times shown are Eastern Daylight Time (GMT - 4 hours).  Forecast of Desjardins, Economic Studies of the Desjardins Group.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS

## Week of May 26 to 30, 2008

Country	Hour	Indicator	Period	Consensus		Previous data	
				m/m (q/q)	y/y	m/m (q/q)	y/y
 <h3>OVERSEAS</h3>							
<b>MONDAY 26</b>							
---	---	---					
<b>TUESDAY 27</b>							
Germany	2:00	Real GDP	Q1	1.5%	2.6%	1.5%	2.6%
Germany	2:10	Consumer confidence	June	5.7		5.9	
France	2:45	Business confidence	May	105		106	
Italy	3:30	Business confidence	May	86.9		86.9	
<b>WEDNESDAY 28</b>							
Germany	---	Consumer price index	May	0.4%	2.8%	-0.2%	2.4%
France	2:45	Consumer confidence	May	-37		-37	
Euro zone	4:00	Current account (€B)	March	n.a.		4.3	
Norway	8:00	Bank of Norway meeting		5.50%		5.50%	
Japan	19:50	Retail sales	April	0.0%	0.6%	0.4%	1.0%
<b>THURSDAY 29</b>							
UK	2:00	Nationwide house prices	May	-0.5%	-2.1%	-1.1%	-1.0%
Germany	3:55	Unemployment rate	May	7.8%		7.9%	
Euro zone	4:00	Money supply – M3	April		10.3%		10.3%
Euro zone	5:00	Business climate	May	0.41		0.44	
Euro zone	5:00	Consumer confidence	May	-12		-12	
Euro zone	5:00	Economic confidence	May	96.8		97.1	
Euro zone	5:00	Industrial confidence	May	-2		-2	
Euro zone	5:00	Services confidence	May	7		7	
UK	19:01	Consumer confidence	May	-25		-24	
Japan	19:30	Unemployment rate	April	3.9%		3.8%	
Japan	19:30	Workers' household spending	April		-0.7%		-1.6%
Japan	19:30	Consumer price index – Tokyo	May		0.8%		0.6%
Japan	19:30	Consumer price index	April		0.9%		1.2%
Japan	19:50	Industrial production	April	-0.5%	1.6%	-3.4%	-0.7%
<b>FRIDAY 30</b>							
Japan	1:00	Housing starts	April		-11.8%		-15.6%
Germany	2:00	Retail sales	April	0.6%	-2.0%	-1.9%	-6.3%
France	2:45	Producer price index	April	0.6%	5.1%	0.5%	5.2%
Italy	4:00	Producer price index	April	0.7%	6.5%	0.8%	6.3%
Euro zone	5:00	Consumer price index (estimate)	May		3.5%		3.3%
Euro zone	5:00	Unemployment rate	April	7.1%		7.1%	
Italy	5:00	Consumer price index	May	0.4%	3.6%	0.6%	3.6%

**NOTE :** In contrast to the situation in Canada and the United States, disclosure of overseas economic figures is much more approximate. The day of publication is therefore shown for information purposes only. The abbreviations m/m, q/q and y/y correspond to monthly, quarterly and yearly variation respectively. (SA): Seasonally adjusted, (NSA): Non seasonally adjusted. The times shown are Eastern Daylight Time (GMT - 4 hours).

## United States: Quarterly economic indicators

	Ref. quart.	Level	Variation (%)			Annual variation (%)			
			Quart.	Ann.	1 year	2006	2005	2004	2003
Gross domestic product (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	11,693	0.1	0.6	2.4	2.2	2.9	3.1	3.6
Consumption (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	8,369	0.2	1.0	1.8	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.6
Government spending (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	2,054	0.5	2.0	2.9	2.0	1.8	0.7	1.4
Residential investment (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	399	-7.4	-26.6	-27.0	(17.0)	-4.6	6.6	10.0
Non-residential investment (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	1,399	-0.6	-2.5	5.5	1.3	5.9	9.6	7.4
Business inventory change (\$B 2000) (1)	2008 Q1	2	---	---	---	(18.3)	17.4	53.6	57.2
Exportations (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	1,484	1.3	5.5	8.7	8.1	8.4	6.9	9.7
Importations (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	1,980	0.6	2.5	0.7	1.9	5.9	5.9	11.3
Final domestic demand (\$B 2000)	2008 Q1	12,182	-0.1	-0.4	1.4	1.8	2.7	3.3	3.8
GDP deflator (2000 = 100)	2008 Q1	121	0.6	2.6	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.2	2.9
Labor productivity (1992 = 100)	2008 Q1	140	0.5	2.2	3.1	1.8	1.0	1.9	2.8
Unit labor cost (1992 = 100)	2008 Q1	129	0.5	2.2	0.2	3.1	2.9	2.1	0.8
Employment cost index (Dec. 2005 = 100)	2008 Q1	108	0.7	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.7
Current account balance (\$M) (1)	2007 Q4	-172,936	---	---	---	(172,936)	-187,938	-215,809	-183,452
Corporate profits before tax (\$B)	2007 Q4	1,569	-3.3	-12.4	2.4	2.7	13.2	11.5	24.0

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) For this indicator, the statistic shows the level at the end of the year of the column except for the reference quarter column (---).

## United States: Monthly economic indicators

	Ref. month	Level	Variation (%)				Annualized variation (%)		
			Ref. month	-1 month	-2 months	-3 months	3 months	6 months	1 year
Leading indicator (1996 = 100)	April*	102.0	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-2.3	-1.8
ISM manufacturing index (1)	April	48.6	---	48.6	48.3	50.7	50.7	50.4	52.8
ISM non-manufacturing index (1)	April	50.9	---	52.2	50.8	41.9	41.9	55.5	56.0
Cons. confid. C.B. (1985 = 100) (1)	April	62.3	---	65.9	76.4	87.3	87.3	95.2	106.3
Cons. confid. Mich. (1966 = 100) (1)	May	59.5	---	62.6	69.5	70.8	70.8	76.1	88.3
Pers. cons. expenditure (\$B 2000)	March	8,375.3	0.1	-0.0	0.1	-0.1	1.0	1.2	2.0
Disposable pers. income (\$B 2000)	March	8,735.3	-0.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.9	0.5	0.9
Consumer credit (\$B)	March	2,558.4	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.1	5.5	4.8	5.9
Retail sales (\$M)	April	378,148	-0.2	0.2	-0.5	0.6	-2.0	0.7	2.0
Excluding automobiles (\$M)	April	306,191	0.5	0.4	-0.2	0.6	2.5	4.8	4.5
Industrial production (2002 = 100)	April	111.2	-0.7	0.2	-0.7	0.1	-4.9	-1.2	0.2
Prod. capacity utilization rate (%) (1)	April	79.7	---	80.4	80.3	81.0	81.0	80.8	81.0
New machinery orders (\$M)	March	439,450	1.3	-0.4	-2.4	1.9	-5.7	6.7	4.1
New durable good orders (\$M)	March	215,404	-0.3	1.1	-4.7	4.1	-14.7	-0.2	-0.9
Business inventories (\$M)	March	1,465,083	0.1	0.5	1.0	0.6	6.6	5.6	5.2
Housing starts (k) (1)	April	1,032	---	954	1,107	1,064	1,064	1,275	1,487
Building permits (k) (1)	April	978	---	932	981	1,052	1,052	1,182	1,489
New home sales (k) (1)	March	526	---	575	607	610	610	693	830
Existing home sales (k) (1)	April*	4,890	---	4,940	5,030	4,890	4,890	5,060	5,930
Construction spending (\$B)	March	1,123.5	-1.1	0.4	-0.4	-1.7	-4.5	-7.5	-3.4
Commercial surplus (\$M) (1)	March	-58,209	---	-61,714	-58,959	-57,856	-57,856	-56,945	-63,035
Nonfarm employment (k) (2)	April	137,818	-20	-81	-83	-76	-0.5	-0.2	0.3
Unemployment rate (%) (1)	April	5.0	---	5.1	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.5
Consumer price (1982-1984 = 100)	April	213.7	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.4	2.3	4.5	3.9
Excluding food and energy	April	214.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	1.2	2.2	2.3
Pers. cons. expenditure deflator**	March	120.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	2.9	3.9	3.2
Excluding food and energy	March	116.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	2.0	2.2	2.1
Producer price (1982 = 100)	April*	176.1	0.2	1.1	0.3	1.1	6.6	10.0	6.4
Excluding food and energy	April*	165.9	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.5	5.0	4.2	3.0
Export prices (2000 = 100)	April	124.1	0.3	1.5	1.0	1.2	11.8	11.4	7.7
Import prices (2000 = 100)	April	135.6	1.8	2.9	0.2	1.5	21.3	20.4	15.4

\* New statistic in comparison with last week; \*\* 2000 = 100.

(1) For this indicator, the statistic shows the level of the month of the column except for the reference month column (---); (2) For this indicator, the statistic shows the average monthly variation since the reference month.

## Canada: Quarterly economic indicators

	Ref. quart.	Level	Variation (%)			Annual variation (%)			
			Quart.	Ann.	1 year	2006	2005	2004	2003
Gross domestic product (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	1,326,034	0.2	0.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.1
Consumption (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	808,418	1.8	7.4	5.1	4.7	4.2	3.8	3.4
Government spending (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	306,182	1.6	6.7	4.9	3.7	3.9	3.2	2.8
Residential investment (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	82,363	0.6	2.4	5.7	3.2	2.1	3.5	7.5
Non-residential investment (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	197,100	1.8	7.2	3.6	4.4	9.9	10.8	8.4
Business inventory change (\$M 2002) (1)	2007 Q4	18,704	---	---	---	18,704	112	12,475	21,610
Exportations (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	502,724	-2.2	-8.5	-1.2	0.9	0.7	2.2	4.8
Importations (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	602,388	2.6	10.9	8.4	5.7	5.0	7.5	8.3
Final domestic demand (\$M 2002)	2007 Q4	1,390,826	1.7	6.9	4.9	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.1
GDP deflator (2002 = 100)	2007 Q4	117.6	1.1	4.5	3.7	3.1	2.4	3.4	3.2
Labour productivity (1997 = 100)	2007 Q4	103.7	-0.8	-3.0	-0.1	0.5	1.0	2.4	0.0
Unit labour cost (1997 = 100)	2007 Q4	115.8	1.4	5.7	2.4	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.4
Current account balance (\$M) (1)	2007 Q4	-513	---	---	---	-513	4,622	12,200	6,345
Corporate profits before tax (\$M)	2007 Q4	214,016	0.5	2.2	5.9	5.8	5.0	11.9	17.1
Production capacity utilization rate (%) (1)	2007 Q4	81.8	---	---	---	81.8	82.5	85.7	84.7
Prod. outlook of manufac. business (1) (2)	2008 Q1	-14	---	---	---	0	-6	1	11

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) For this indicator, the statistic shows the level at the end of the year of the column except for the reference quarter column (---); (2) Diffusion index equal to the percentage of business that believe output will increase less the percentage of business that believe output will fall.

## Canada: Monthly economic indicators

	Ref. month	Level	Variation (%)				Annualized variation (%)		
			Ref. month	-1 month	-2 months	-3 months	3 months	6 months	1 year
Leading comp. index (1992 = 100)	April*	228.5	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	-0.5	1.5
Gross domestic product (\$M 1997)	Feb.	1,231,528	-0.2	0.6	-0.7	0.1	-1.1	0.1	1.5
Industrial production (\$M 1997)	Feb.	268,746	-0.6	1.0	-2.4	-0.4	-7.6	-5.7	-2.9
Manufacturing shipments (\$M)	March	48,994	-1.6	1.3	0.9	-3.6	2.3	-3.9	-7.7
Housing starts (k) (1)	April	213.9	---	243.0	243.8	216.0	216.0	226.0	220.4
Building permits (\$M)	March	5,595	-4.5	0.8	-3.5	-0.1	-25.8	-22.2	-8.7
New housing price (1997 = 100)	March	158.4	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.1	4.4	3.8	6.1
Retail sales (\$M)	March*	35,497	0.1	-0.8	1.4	0.5	2.9	7.0	4.6
Excluding automobiles (\$M)	March*	27,297	0.0	-0.4	0.9	-0.2	2.5	6.9	4.8
Wholesale trade sales (\$M)	March*	42,692	0.6	-2.1	1.8	-2.6	1.1	-2.8	-2.9
New motor vehicle sales (units)	March	148,796	-0.5	-3.1	8.9	5.0	21.8	12.1	7.3
Commercial surplus (\$M) (1)	March	5,535	---	4,791	2,863	2,209	2,209	2,716	4,297
Exports (\$M)	March	40,062	1.6	3.8	4.3	-4.4	46.1	13.6	-0.3
Imports (\$M)	March	34,528	-0.3	-1.4	2.6	-0.0	3.5	-1.9	-3.8
Labour force (k)	April	18,240	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	2.9	2.2	2.0
Employment (k) (2)	April	17,136	19.2	14.6	43.3	46.4	25.7	23.9	29.0
Unemployment rate (%) (1)	April	6.1	---	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.2
Average weekly earnings (\$)	Feb.	786.80	0.6	0.2	-0.4	0.8	1.5	4.2	3.1
Consumer price index (2002 = 100)	April*	113.5	0.8	0.4	0.4	-0.2	6.2	3.4	1.7
Excluding food and energy	April*	109.9	0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.4	3.3	0.5	1.1
Excluding the eight volatile items	April*	111.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1	4.1	1.6	1.5
Industrial prod. price (1997 = 100)	March	117.7	1.7	0.2	1.0	1.1	12.0	7.2	-0.3
Raw materials price (1997 = 100)	March	202.8	6.6	0.6	3.6	0.4	52.1	34.8	20.4
Money supply M1 (\$M)	April*	436,788	0.2	1.1	0.1	0.9	5.8	7.4	7.4

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) For this indicator, the statistic shows the level of the month of the column except for the reference month column (---); (2) For this indicator, the statistic shows the average monthly variation since the reference month.

## United States: Financial indicators

	Week of... (%)		Previous data (%)				Last 52 weeks (%)		
	May/19	May/12	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
Federal funds	2.00	2.00	2.25	3.00	4.50	5.25	5.25	4.10	2.00
Discount	2.25	2.25	2.50	3.50	5.00	6.25	6.25	4.67	2.25
Prime	5.00	5.00	5.25	6.00	7.50	8.25	8.25	7.10	5.00
Commercial paper – 30 days	2.23	2.43	2.84	3.06	4.70	5.24	5.48	4.28	2.23
– 90 days	2.70	2.70	2.94	3.02	4.89	5.23	5.52	4.33	2.62
Treasury bill – 4 weeks	1.95	1.83	0.91	2.31	3.62	4.76	4.96	3.10	0.31
– 90 days	1.86	1.83	1.39	2.17	3.16	4.79	4.96	3.21	0.55
– 180 days	1.93	1.87	1.66	2.09	3.33	4.92	5.04	3.37	1.18
Treasury bonds – 2 years	2.45	2.41	2.25	1.95	3.05	4.80	5.06	3.34	1.49
– 5 years	3.15	3.06	3.06	2.76	3.40	4.70	5.12	3.73	2.37
– 10 years	3.85	3.78	3.84	3.74	4.02	4.77	5.19	4.24	3.37
– 30 years	4.58	4.51	4.57	4.54	4.45	4.93	5.29	4.69	4.19
Gold price (US\$/ounce)	927.5	904.0	914.2	944.3	815.8	660.0	1,003.9	795.2	650.4
CRB – Future markets (1967 = 100)	432.56	426.68	413.17	397.05	351.93	314.30	432.56	354.11	303.93
Crude oil price (WTI*, US\$)	132.83	126.47	114.33	98.15	97.34	65.35	132.83	90.00	64.45

\* West Texas Intermediate.

Note: Financial indicators table for the current day at 11h.

## Canada: Financial indicators

	Week of... (%)		Previous data (%)				Last 52 weeks (%)		
	May/19	May/12	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
Overnight	3.00	3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	4.25	4.50	4.11	3.00
Discount	3.25	3.25	3.75	4.25	4.75	4.50	4.75	4.36	3.25
Prime	4.75	4.75	5.25	5.75	6.25	6.00	6.25	5.86	4.75
Bankers accept. – 30 days	3.14	3.16	3.55	3.94	4.66	4.36	5.05	4.31	3.14
– 90 days	3.15	3.16	3.53	3.93	4.77	4.38	7.82	4.42	3.15
Commercial paper – 30 days	3.20	3.15	3.35	3.90	4.66	4.33	5.40	4.38	3.15
Treasury bill – 30 days	2.42	2.23	2.70	3.21	3.92	4.07	4.35	3.53	1.70
– 91 days	2.68	2.63	2.54	3.25	3.91	4.16	4.56	3.61	1.72
– 182 days	2.70	2.64	2.65	3.28	3.93	4.23	4.68	3.77	2.20
– 365 days	2.80	2.64	2.83	3.20	3.91	4.32	4.76	3.83	2.38
Treasury bonds – 2 years	3.01	2.79	2.93	3.09	3.59	4.38	4.74	3.75	2.44
– 5 years	3.28	3.16	3.27	3.42	3.79	4.33	4.74	3.90	2.85
– 10 years	3.64	3.58	3.77	3.84	4.01	4.31	4.72	4.11	3.47
– 30 years	4.09	4.05	4.19	4.20	4.24	4.27	4.65	4.29	3.96
<b>Spread with the U.S. rate (% points)</b>									
Overnight – Federal funds	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.00	0.00	-1.00	1.25	0.00	-1.00
Treasury bill – 3 months	0.82	0.80	1.15	1.08	0.76	-0.63	1.35	0.40	-0.69
– 6 months	0.77	0.77	0.99	1.20	0.60	-0.69	1.25	0.40	-0.67
Treasury bonds – 5 years	0.13	0.10	0.21	0.67	0.39	-0.37	0.76	0.17	-0.47
– 10 years	-0.21	-0.21	-0.07	0.10	-0.01	-0.46	0.29	-0.13	-0.55
– 30 years	-0.49	-0.47	-0.38	-0.34	-0.21	-0.66	-0.15	-0.40	-0.72
<b>Spread with the Canada rate – Bond 10 years (% points)</b>									
Québec	0.81	0.81	0.82	0.73	0.60	0.35	0.95	0.59	0.28
Ontario	0.76	0.71	0.72	0.68	0.49	0.27	0.85	0.50	0.21
Alberta	0.73	0.68	0.71	0.60	0.43	0.21	0.78	0.45	0.16
British Columbia	0.72	0.68	0.68	0.59	0.45	0.21	0.79	0.46	0.19

Note: Financial indicators table for the current day at 11h.

## Overseas: Economic indicators

	Ref. month	Level	Monthly variation (%)				Annualized variation (%)		
			Ref. month	-1 month	-2 months	-3 months	3 months	6 months	1 year
<b>Euro zone</b>									
Industrial production (2000 = 100)	March	113.6	-0.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	2.7	2.0	2.0
Retail sales (2000 = 100)	March	108.9	-0.6	-0.1	0.7	0.1	-0.2	-1.9	-1.2
Unemployment rate (%) (1)	March	7.1	---	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.6
Commercial surplus (US\$M) (1)	March	-3,586	---	1,194	-15,764	-5,428	-5,428	5,410	10,973
Consumer price index (2005 = 100)	April	107.6	0.3	1.0	0.3	-0.4	6.8	4.5	3.3
Producer price index (2005 = 100)	March	124.4	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.1	9.4	8.2	5.8
Money supply M3 (€B)	March	8,886	1.0	0.2	1.1	1.3	9.6	12.4	11.0
<b>United Kingdom</b>									
Industrial production (2003 = 100)	March	99.2	-0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-1.2	0.2	0.3
Retail sales (2000 = 100)	April*	140.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.9	1.5	2.3	4.3	4.2
ILO unemployment rate (%) (1)	Feb.	5.2	---	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.5
Commercial surplus (US\$M) (1)	March	-7,987	---	-8,587	-10,023	-8,192	-8,192	-10,019	-8,430
Consumer price index (2005 = 100)	April	107.6	0.8	0.4	0.8	-0.7	8.2	4.4	3.0
Producer price index (2005 = 100)	April	120.2	1.4	1.1	0.5	1.1	12.9	11.2	7.5
Money supply M4 (£B)	April*	1,732	0.7	0.8	0.3	1.6	7.6	10.3	11.2
<b>Japan</b>									
Industrial production (1995 = 100)	March	106.5	-3.4	1.6	-0.5	0.6	-9.2	-2.6	0.5
Retail sales	March	12,202	15.3	-4.9	-16.9	19.1	-31.3	29.4	1.0
Unemployment rate (%) (1)	March	3.8	---	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0
Commercial surplus (US\$B) (1)	March	12.2	---	10.1	0.9	9.3	9.3	16.0	14.6
Consumer price index (2000 = 100)	March	101.0	0.5	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.2
Producer price index (1995 = 100)	Oct.	103.9	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.7	0.8	3.0	2.4
Money supply M2+CD (¥B)	April	739	0.6	0.3	-0.4	0.3	2.2	4.2	1.9

\* New statistic in comparison with last week.

(1) For this indicator, the statistic shows the level of the month of the column except for the reference month column (---).

## Overseas: Financial indicators

	Week of... (%)		Previous data (%)				Last 52 weeks (%)		
	May/19	May/12	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
<b>Intervention rate by the central banks</b>									
Euro zone – Overnight	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.75	3.00	2.99	2.75
– Refinancing	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.75	4.00	3.99	3.75
– Marginal lending	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.75	5.00	4.99	4.75
United Kingdom – Base	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.25	5.75	5.50	5.75	5.50	5.00
Japan – Overnight	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.50	0.51	0.51	0.70	0.51	0.25
– Discount	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
<b>Short-term interest rate – 3 months</b>									
Euro zone (euro euro)	4.86	4.86	4.79	4.38	4.70	4.08	4.95	4.57	4.10
United Kingdom (euro pound)	5.86	5.85	5.89	5.68	6.53	5.75	6.89	6.06	4.82
Japan (euro yen)	0.92	0.91	0.92	0.90	0.94	0.67	1.03	0.90	0.67
<b>Long-term interest rate – 10 years</b>									
Germany	4.26	4.18	4.14	4.00	4.05	4.31	4.68	4.21	3.73
Spread with the U.S.*	0.41	0.40	0.31	0.26	0.03	-0.46	0.46	-0.04	-0.58
United Kingdom	4.92	4.78	4.74	4.69	4.57	5.16	5.55	4.85	4.30
Spread with the U.S.*	1.07	1.00	0.90	0.94	0.55	0.39	1.07	0.61	0.23
Japan	1.74	1.70	1.39	1.46	1.43	1.65	1.94	1.60	1.28
Spread with the U.S.*	-2.11	-2.08	-2.45	-2.28	-2.59	-3.12	-2.07	-2.64	-3.27

\* Data are in % points.

Note: Financial indicators table for the current day at 11h.

## North American bond markets

	Yield (%)					Spread with the Federal Treasury bond (in % points)				
	May-22	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	May-22	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year
<b>Canada</b>										
Bond indices										
Overall universe	4.24	4.24	4.33	4.47	4.65	0.67	0.72	0.60	0.51	0.24
Overall short-term	3.84	3.80	3.93	4.22	4.56	0.49	0.54	0.40	0.37	0.12
Overall medium-term	4.34	4.36	4.49	4.52	4.65	0.79	0.87	0.75	0.55	0.27
Overall long-term	4.79	4.83	4.85	4.82	4.76	0.67	0.71	0.62	0.57	0.41
Federal										
Overall universe	3.58	3.51	3.73	3.97	4.41	---	---	---	---	---
Overall short-term	3.36	3.26	3.53	3.85	4.44	---	---	---	---	---
Overall medium-term	3.54	3.50	3.74	3.96	4.38	---	---	---	---	---
Overall long-term	4.12	4.12	4.23	4.25	4.35	---	---	---	---	---
Provincial										
Overall universe	4.34	4.34	4.43	4.53	4.64	0.76	0.83	0.70	0.56	0.23
Overall short-term	3.58	3.51	3.74	4.07	4.52	0.22	0.25	0.21	0.22	0.08
Overall medium-term	4.12	4.14	4.27	4.36	4.56	0.58	0.64	0.54	0.39	0.18
Overall long-term	4.77	4.84	4.84	4.81	4.73	0.65	0.71	0.60	0.56	0.38
Municipal										
Overall universe	4.27	4.27	4.34	4.46	4.65	0.70	0.76	0.60	0.49	0.24
All corporate universe										
Overall universe	5.12	5.19	5.11	5.17	5.02	1.54	1.68	1.38	1.21	0.61
Corporate AA	4.80	4.95	4.84	5.04	4.75	1.22	1.44	1.11	1.07	0.35
Corporate A	5.22	5.21	5.17	5.15	5.11	1.64	1.70	1.44	1.18	0.71
Corporate BBB	5.84	5.87	5.79	5.58	5.43	2.27	2.36	2.06	1.61	1.02
<b>United States*</b>										
Bond indices	4.73	4.59	4.61	4.88	5.48	1.40	1.49	1.60	1.23	0.52
Federal	3.32	3.11	3.02	3.65	4.96	---	---	---	---	---
Municipal	4.24	4.26	4.27	4.37	4.40	0.92	1.16	1.25	0.72	-0.56
All corporate universe										
Corporate AAA	5.01	4.79	4.57	4.78	5.47	1.69	1.69	1.55	1.13	0.51
Corporate AA	5.54	5.48	5.06	5.29	5.54	2.22	2.37	2.04	1.64	0.58
Corporate A	6.12	6.03	5.66	5.56	5.75	2.80	2.92	2.64	1.91	0.79
Corporate BBB	6.56	6.57	6.32	6.06	6.04	3.24	3.46	3.30	2.41	1.09

\* American indices are all of "overall universe" form.

Note: "Overall universe" indices combine bonds of short-, medium- and long-term maturities.

## J.P. Morgan bond indices

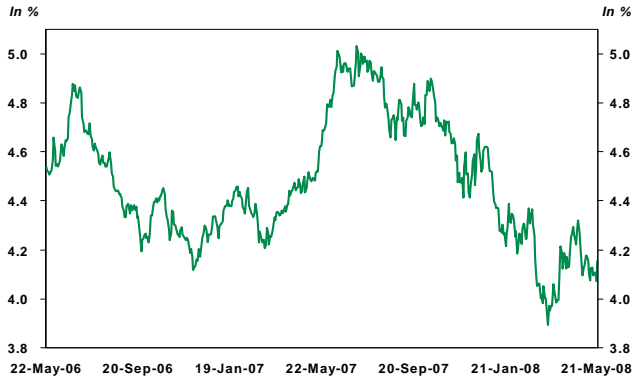
Spread against (in % points)

	Yield (%)	World	United States	Canada	Euro zone	Germany	France	United Kingdom	Japan	Australia
<b>May 22, 2008</b>										
World	3.75	---	(0.11)	(0.11)	(0.87)	(0.70)	(0.79)	(1.01)	2.08	(2.75)
United States	3.87	0.11	---	0.00	(0.76)	(0.59)	(0.67)	(0.90)	2.19	(2.64)
Canada	3.86	0.11	(0.00)	---	(0.76)	(0.60)	(0.68)	(0.90)	2.19	(2.65)
Euro zone	4.62	0.87	0.76	0.76	---	0.16	0.08	(0.14)	2.95	(1.89)
Germany	4.46	0.70	0.59	0.60	(0.16)	---	(0.08)	(0.31)	2.78	(2.05)
France	4.54	0.79	0.67	0.68	(0.08)	0.08	---	(0.23)	2.87	(1.97)
United Kingdom	4.76	1.01	0.90	0.90	0.14	0.31	0.23	---	3.09	(1.74)
Japan	1.67	(2.08)	(2.19)	(2.19)	(2.95)	(2.78)	(2.87)	(3.09)	---	(4.83)
Australia	6.51	2.75	2.64	2.65	1.89	2.05	1.97	1.74	4.83	---

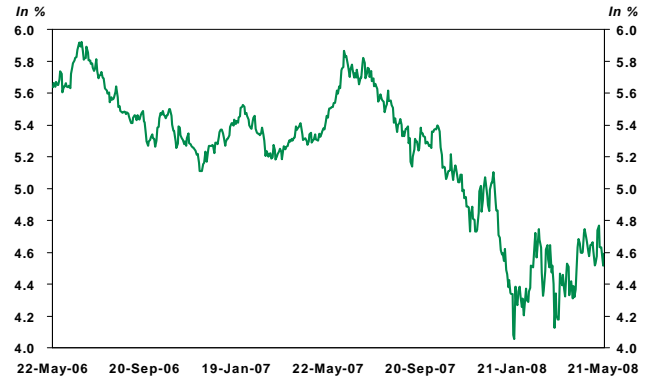
Note: These local currency indices combine federal bonds with maturities of one year and over.

## Evolution of major bond indices

**Canada – Bond index  
Overall univers**



**United States – Bond index**



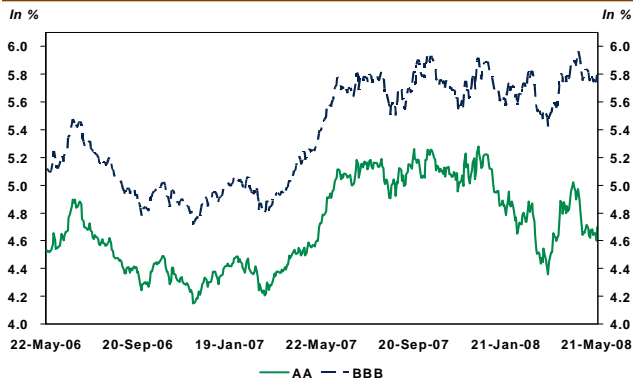
**Canada – Treasury bonds  
Overall univers**



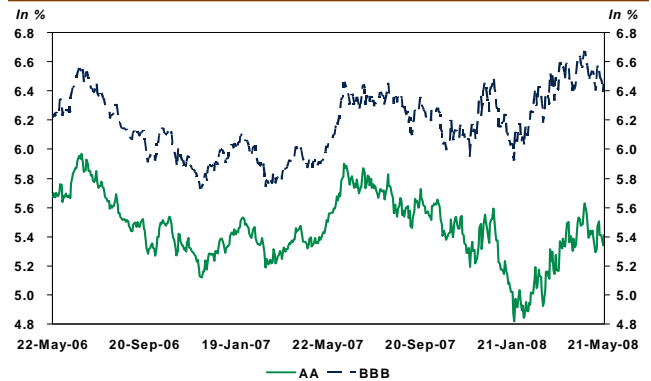
**United States – Treasury bonds**



**Canada – Corporate AA and BBB**



**United States – Corporate AA and BBB**

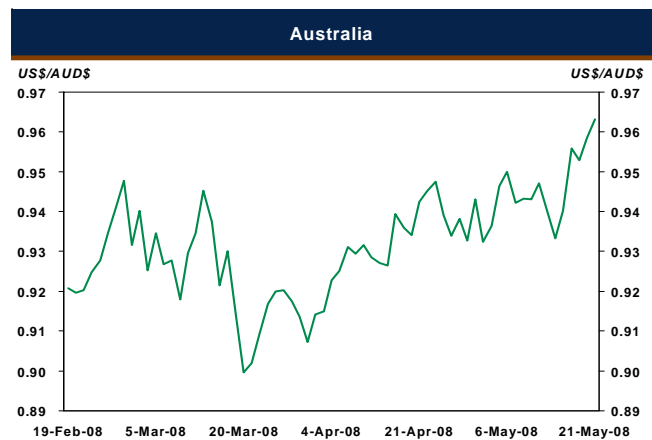
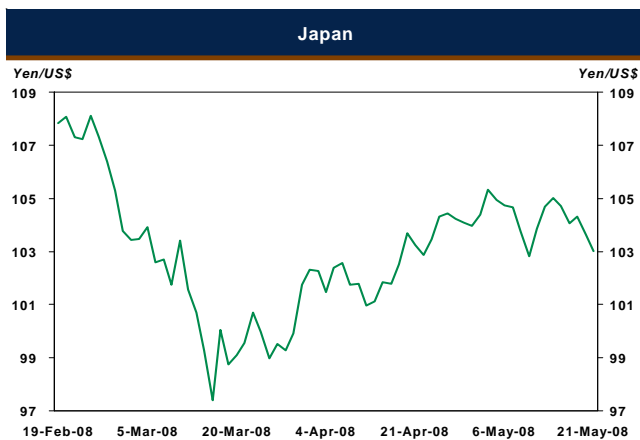
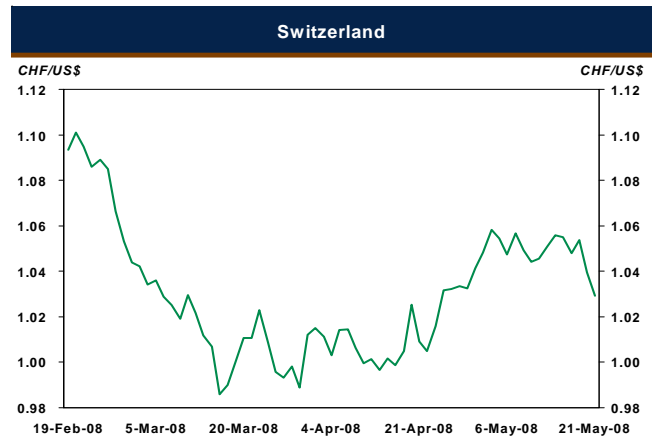
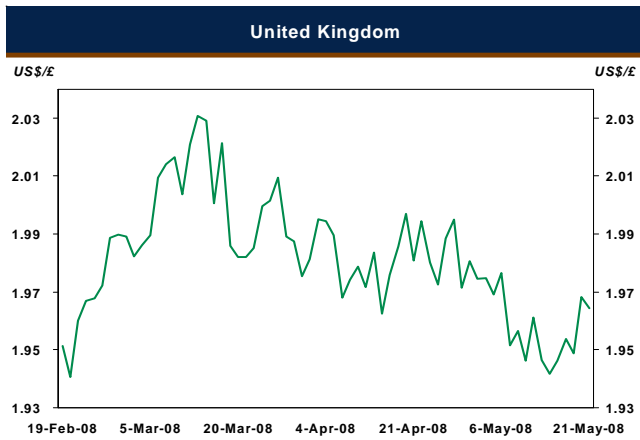
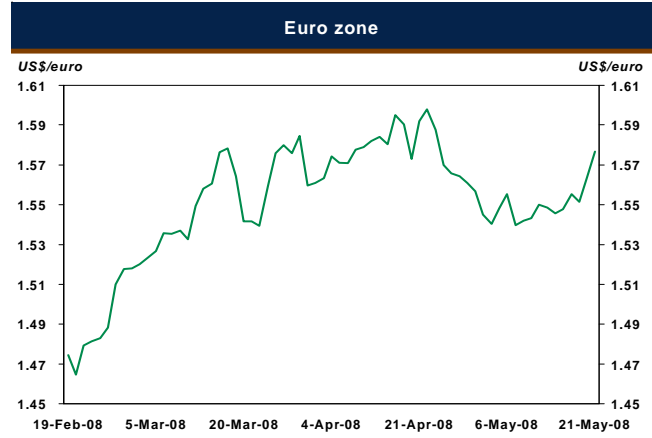
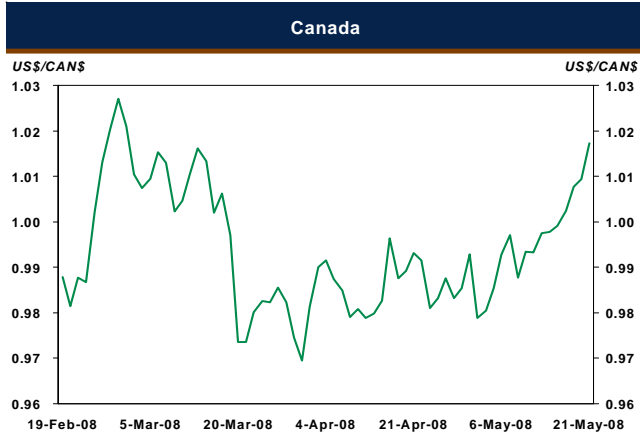


## Currency market

Country – Currency*	Week of...		Previous data				Last 52 weeks		
	May/19	May/12	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
<b>North America</b>									
Canada – dollar	0.9850	1.0008	1.0086	1.0134	0.9880	1.0863	1.0863	1.0167	0.9161
Canada – US\$/CAN\$	1.0152	0.9992	0.9915	0.9868	1.0122	0.9206	1.0916	0.9836	0.9206
Mexico – peso	10.3855	10.4848	10.5210	10.7842	10.9793	10.7604	11.2456	10.8126	10.3686
<b>South America</b>									
Argentina – peso	3.1305	3.1615	3.1838	3.1500	3.1388	3.0710	3.1838	3.1407	3.0705
Bolivia – boliviano	7.2900	7.2900	7.3800	7.5400	7.5800	7.9950	7.9950	7.6560	7.2900
Brazil – real	1.6573	1.6579	1.6580	1.7076	1.7729	1.9404	2.1025	1.8073	1.6455
Chile – peso	471.85	467.05	454.35	466.65	513.65	520.85	530.00	492.88	432.15
Columbia – peso	1,780.9	1,792.8	1,775.2	1,893.5	2,081.0	1,958.1	2,195.6	1,954.3	1,752.7
Guadeloupe – FRF**	4.1740	4.2381	4.1053	4.4279	4.4177	4.8725	4.9304	4.5436	4.1053
Peru – nuevo sol	2.8065	2.7636	2.8150	2.8975	3.0035	3.1625	3.1775	2.9946	2.6928
Venezuela – bolivar	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473	2.1473
<b>Africa and Middle-East</b>									
Algeria – dinar	63.2250	63.4700	64.9503	66.0005	66.5350	70.4000	70.6450	67.4294	63.1200
Egypt – pound	5.3550	5.3675	5.3800	5.4950	5.5258	5.6925	5.7035	5.5517	5.3500
FAC zone – FAC***	87.653	89.000	86.210	92.985	92.771	102.321	103.537	95.416	86.210
Israel – shekel	3.3270	3.4240	3.4500	3.5740	3.8585	3.9680	4.3310	3.8789	3.3210
Lebanon – pound	1,514.0	1,512.0	1,509.5	1,514.0	1,514.5	1,514.5	1,516.0	1,513.5	1,507.5
Morocco – dirham	7.3032	7.3980	7.2023	7.6756	7.6649	8.3147	8.3887	7.8406	7.2023
Saudi Arabia – riyal	3.7506	3.7506	3.7510	3.7504	3.7348	3.7506	3.7543	3.7468	3.7053
South Africa – rand	7.6598	7.6045	7.6433	7.7780	6.7888	7.0429	8.2123	7.2176	6.4710
Tunisia – dinar	1.1648	1.1808	1.1477	1.2115	1.2107	1.3015	1.3110	1.2336	1.1456
Turkey – lira	1.2459	1.2391	1.3071	1.2088	1.1965	1.3230	1.3972	1.2451	1.1475
United Arab Emirates – dirham	3.6734	3.6732	3.6735	3.6727	3.6723	3.6716	3.6748	3.6724	3.6559
<b>Asia</b>									
China – yuan renminbi	6.9445	6.9957	6.9900	7.1432	7.4130	7.6563	7.6660	7.3571	6.9445
Hong Kong – dollar	7.8010	7.7996	7.7934	7.7961	7.7802	7.8227	7.8299	7.7955	7.7507
India – rupee	42.9165	42.7055	39.9395	40.0155	39.4805	40.2455	42.9165	40.0368	39.0755
Indonesia – rupiah	9,317	9,303	9,183	9,172	9,403	8,763	9,480	9,210	8,715
Japan – yen	104.125	104.705	102.875	107.220	108.545	121.545	123.815	111.963	97.385
Malaysia – ringgit	3.2105	3.2610	3.1410	3.2195	3.3850	3.3862	3.5170	3.3360	3.1345
Pakistan – rupee	69.2900	68.5200	64.0000	62.0100	61.0100	60.7500	69.6000	61.8734	60.3700
Singapore – dollar	1.3602	1.3767	1.3508	1.4062	1.4508	1.5328	1.5422	1.4548	1.3508
South Korea – won	#####	#####	997.15	948.55	933.60	930.35	#####	944.62	900.70
Taiwan – dollar	30.4260	30.8920	30.2820	31.3840	32.4450	33.4940	33.4940	32.1720	30.0010
Thailand – baht	31.9550	32.4300	31.4450	31.2050	31.4500	32.6050	33.0550	31.3934	29.5000
<b>Europe</b>									
Denmark – krona	4.7447	4.8326	4.6644	5.0335	5.0207	5.5406	5.5986	5.1605	4.6644
Euro zone – US\$/€	1.5715	1.5478	1.5979	1.4814	1.4849	1.3463	1.5979	1.4477	1.3304
Hungary – forint	155.66	161.63	157.28	178.63	172.96	184.51	194.46	175.67	154.68
Iceland – krona	73.125	77.675	74.055	66.835	62.475	62.285	79.475	65.439	58.695
North Ireland – pound	0.5009	0.5100	0.4923	0.5311	0.5305	0.5855	0.5920	0.5454	0.4923
Norway – kroner	5.0126	5.0990	4.9583	5.3133	5.4046	6.0486	6.1048	5.4959	4.9583
Poland – zloty	2.1699	2.1985	2.1327	2.4118	2.4838	2.8131	2.8842	2.5336	2.1327
Russia – ruble	23.6181	23.8702	23.3314	24.4599	24.3140	25.8722	26.0452	24.7489	23.3314
Sweden – krona	5.9230	6.0409	5.8368	6.2803	6.2767	6.8328	7.0809	6.4536	5.8368
Switzerland – swiss franc	1.0323	1.0551	1.0051	1.0862	1.1011	1.2301	1.2453	1.1328	0.9860
United Kingdom – US\$/£	1.9814	1.9463	1.9945	1.9669	2.0610	1.9746	2.1082	2.0052	1.9406
<b>South Pacific</b>									
Australia – US\$/AUD\$	0.9566	0.9402	0.9452	0.9248	0.8724	0.8192	0.9631	0.8826	0.7950
New Zealand – US\$/NZ\$	0.7832	0.7627	0.7976	0.8099	0.7527	0.7265	0.8175	0.7656	0.6875

\* In comparison with the U.S. dollar, unless otherwise indicated; \*\* French Franc; \*\*\* Financial African Community: 100 CFA = 1 FRF and 0.655957 FRF = 1 euro.  
Note: Currency table base on previous day closure.

## Evolution of major currencies



## World stock markets indices

Country – World stocks	Week of...		Previous data				Last 52 weeks		
	May/19	May/12	-1 month	-3 months	-6 months	-1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
<b>World</b>									
World – FT/S&P	445.46	448.66	436.66	420.27	446.87	458.55	486.96	447.15	398.79
World – MSCI	1,534.1	1,545.6	1,503.3	1,448.9	1,547.2	1,607.1	1,682.4	1,550.2	1,378.6
<b>Asia</b>									
Pacific Basin – MSCI	2,632.2	2,634.2	2,529.3	2,453.8	2,634.1	2,703.0	2,895.1	2,630.6	2,259.5
China – SHANG	3,485.6	3,637.3	3,147.8	4,370.3	4,984.2	4,110.4	6,092.1	4,582.7	3,094.7
Hong Kong – HANG SENG	25,043	25,514	24,939	23,305	26,005	20,844	31,638	24,775	20,294
Indonesia – JAKARTA	2,504.0	2,449.8	2,289.1	2,741.2	2,569.5	2,078.8	2,830.3	2,432.4	1,908.6
Japan – NIKKEI 225	13,978	14,252	13,548	13,500	14,889	17,680	18,262	15,446	11,788
Malaysia – KUALA LUMPUR	1,277.6	1,294.2	1,279.3	1,369.5	1,344.2	1,367.5	1,516.2	1,344.3	1,173.2
Singapore – STI	3,160.9	3,207.4	3,187.2	3,048.6	3,265.9	3,464.6	3,831.2	3,330.7	2,792.8
South Korea – KOSPI	1,835.4	1,885.7	1,787.5	1,686.5	1,799.0	1,642.9	2,064.9	1,821.0	1,574.4
Taiwan – WI	9,008.0	9,157.2	9,037.3	8,108.7	8,499.4	8,188.6	9,809.9	8,700.9	7,408.4
Thailand – THAI SET 50	632.95	617.77	613.28	597.73	589.77	518.82	681.82	594.02	508.37
<b>Western Europe</b>									
Europe – STOXX 50	3,793.0	3,854.9	3,736.1	3,737.1	4,208.9	4,469.9	4,557.6	4,149.1	3,431.8
Europe 15 of UE – MSCI	2,031.2	2,022.5	2,004.7	1,885.7	2,082.4	2,100.3	2,235.4	2,041.2	1,772.9
Euro zone – MSCI	1,549.3	1,548.2	1,542.8	1,436.0	1,605.7	1,559.3	1,691.2	1,548.7	1,347.0
Austria – ATX	4,422.5	4,410.7	3,992.6	3,938.5	4,178.8	4,825.3	4,981.9	4,387.8	3,524.6
Belgium – BEL 20	3,745.4	3,799.0	3,859.1	3,662.4	3,923.2	4,730.2	4,756.8	4,132.1	3,460.0
Denmark – KAX	424.44	430.95	400.37	410.12	434.66	476.31	504.82	448.80	372.01
Finland – HEX GENERAL	9,840	9,743	9,362	10,698	11,388	11,137	12,657	11,048	9,190
France – CAC 40	5,028.7	5,057.5	4,872.6	4,824.6	5,416.1	6,089.7	6,168.2	5,421.0	4,431.0
Germany – DAX 30	7,070.3	7,081.1	6,728.3	6,806.3	7,562.1	7,659.4	8,105.7	7,440.5	6,182.3
Ireland – OVERALL	6,145.9	6,424.2	6,118.4	6,400.5	6,342.6	9,836.3	9,963.4	7,516.5	5,721.7
Italy – MIB 30	34,313	35,004	34,049	33,884	37,859	43,440	43,710	38,082	30,854
Netherlands – AEX	485.6	489.9	466.1	451.6	484.9	540.6	561.9	501.9	415.9
Norway – OBX	422.79	409.65	375.46	344.05	376.72	392.02	422.79	376.70	305.03
Portugal – PSI-20	10,907	11,020	11,129	10,999	12,381	12,799	13,702	12,214	9,815
Spain – IBEX 35	13,852	14,186	13,593	13,018	15,317	15,071	15,946	14,428	12,255
Sweden – AFGX	317.663	318.454	303.313	302.172	329.075	402.805	417.528	350.257	284.205
Switzerland – SMI	7,578.0	7,683.4	7,328.9	7,454.8	8,227.1	9,361.1	9,531.5	8,361.4	6,774.3
United Kingdom – FTSE 100	6,181.6	6,251.8	6,034.7	5,888.5	6,155.3	6,606.6	6,732.4	6,252.3	5,414.4
<b>North America</b>									
North America – MSCI	1,496.7	1,522.5	1,468.1	1,434.9	1,496.5	1,590.5	1,646.5	1,522.9	1,353.5
Canada – S&P/TSX	14,792	14,828	14,266	13,586	13,381	14,112	15,047	13,769	12,131
– S&P/TSX 60	882.98	884.73	848.18	797.52	780.09	805.37	900.14	802.07	710.46
– S&P/TSX VENTURE	2,680.3	2,576.1	2,557.5	2,657.2	2,791.8	3,274.7	3,330.4	2,816.7	2,390.5
United States – S&P 500	1,394.4	1,423.6	1,375.9	1,353.1	1,416.8	1,524.1	1,565.2	1,444.8	1,273.4
– DJIA	12,626	12,993	12,720	12,381	12,799	13,540	14,165	13,115	11,740
– NASDAQ	2,464.6	2,533.7	2,376.9	2,303.4	2,562.2	2,588.0	2,859.1	2,535.0	2,169.3
– RUSSELL 2000	733.01	743.38	703.71	695.43	740.30	839.92	855.77	764.99	643.97
– WHILSHIRE 5000	14,127	14,404	13,863	13,663	14,288	15,373	15,807	14,576	12,823
Mexico – BOLSA	31,246	31,543	32,040	29,529	28,520	30,802	32,836	30,290	25,285
<b>Central and South America</b>									
Amérique latine – MSCI	5,128.3	5,020.1	4,790.5	4,501.2	4,177.1	3,621.8	5,195.4	4,172.5	3,143.7
Argentine – Merval	2,248.6	2,122.1	2,147.0	2,088.2	2,210.5	2,193.5	2,351.4	2,151.1	1,833.7
Brésil – BOVESPA	72,294	71,492	65,412	64,608	60,653	52,208	73,516	59,976	48,015
<b>Other countries</b>									
Emerging countries – MSCI	1,221.9	1,221.4	1,189.7	1,150.3	1,185.4	1,017.4	1,338.5	1,150.3	956.9
Australia – S&P/ASX 100	4,710.9	4,768.8	4,496.3	4,490.4	5,116.3	5,105.7	5,513.3	4,905.2	4,106.0
New Zealand – NZSE 50	2,615.1	2,631.7	2,611.2	2,646.9	3,025.7	3,285.2	3,317.2	2,958.8	2,486.7
Russia – RSI	74,160	74,040	66,623	68,861	67,286	61,428	76,075	66,626	57,168
South Africa – FTSE/JSE 40	31,315	30,666	29,639	27,604	26,347	25,642	31,315	26,921	22,778

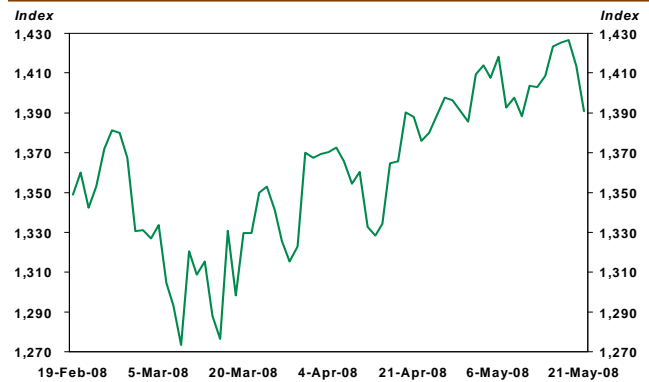
Note: Currency table base on previous day closure

## Evolution of major stock market indices

Canada – S&P/TSX



United States – S&P 500



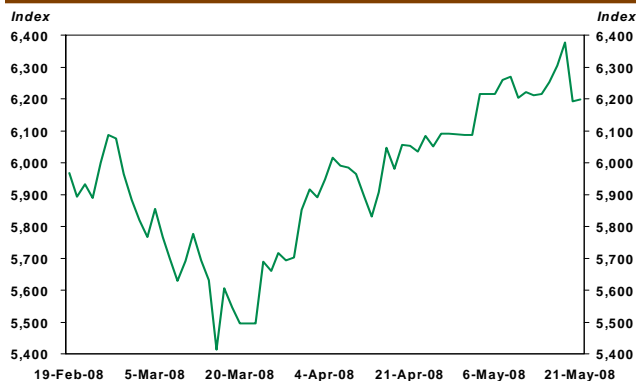
Germany – DAX 30



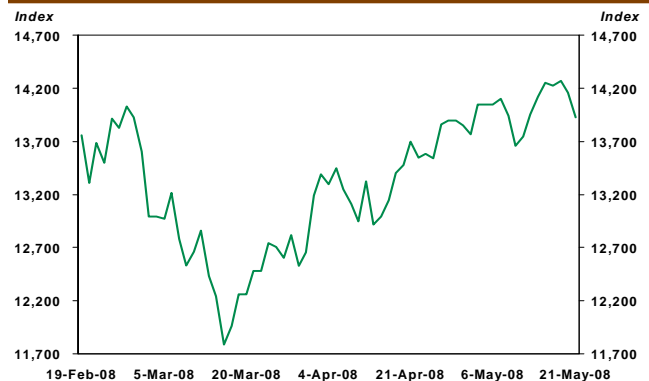
France – CAC 40



United Kingdom – FTSE 100



Japan – NIKKEI 225



## Stock markets (sector indices)

	Week of...		Change since (%)				Last 52 weeks		
	May/19	May/12	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	Higher	Average	Lower
<b>Canada: S&amp;P/TSX</b>									
Composite index	14,792.36	14,828.06	3.69	8.88	10.55	4.82	15,047.34	13,764.62	12,131.48
Materials	3,554.08	3,541.70	-2.33	2.78	24.18	33.48	3,718.12	3,072.70	2,514.95
Industrials	1,367.30	1,382.67	6.10	7.26	14.78	-0.11	1,489.20	1,300.01	1,077.46
Consumer staples	1,498.86	1,522.31	3.77	2.14	-3.02	-14.56	1,823.65	1,611.87	1,396.58
Cons. discretionary	1,080.44	1,109.86	-0.90	-6.09	-14.98	-22.25	1,438.65	1,264.85	1,053.45
Energy	4,130.09	3,993.34	9.41	26.60	28.82	17.99	4,229.06	3,349.55	2,895.85
Health care	374.92	384.35	1.37	3.92	-0.97	-27.45	518.98	414.07	351.98
Information techno.	427.48	464.34	4.53	12.17	7.70	52.57	467.34	357.14	274.92
Telecom. services	905.79	970.30	-3.31	1.33	-7.39	-13.73	1,120.07	986.69	841.78
Utilities	1,963.35	1,958.27	6.07	2.01	1.02	2.03	2,053.74	1,903.97	1,752.96
Financials	1,756.85	1,785.00	2.77	0.20	-3.93	-14.57	2,057.95	1,856.12	1,533.44
<b>United States: S&amp;P 500</b>									
Composite index	1,394.35	1,423.57	1.34	3.05	-1.58	-8.51	1,565.15	1,444.97	1,273.37
Materials	275.58	282.23	1.07	7.48	14.67	11.24	285.91	254.60	223.34
Industrials	341.30	351.41	0.74	2.78	-0.29	-2.08	381.16	350.70	314.45
Consumer staples	291.69	293.58	0.78	2.08	-0.76	3.40	306.61	287.43	271.80
Cons. discretionary	253.80	265.73	2.16	0.42	-2.12	-19.32	318.54	274.58	232.67
Energy	653.80	640.87	2.86	15.76	18.40	26.15	668.81	564.17	500.83
Health care	368.26	366.50	1.93	-4.11	-8.74	-13.26	426.06	398.47	354.90
Information techno.	381.60	395.02	3.04	9.73	-3.32	-0.81	441.36	386.41	337.81
Telecom. services	150.58	154.54	5.60	8.04	-5.31	-14.75	181.06	162.14	132.86
Utilities	210.35	205.14	3.30	5.80	-0.82	-2.56	223.91	204.32	189.22
Financials	335.87	356.04	-2.84	-7.45	-12.08	-33.92	508.86	414.94	313.62
<b>Euro zone: FTSEurofirst 300</b>									
Composite index	1,508.59	1,531.27	2.30	2.09	-8.44	-14.90	1,806.86	1,636.86	1,355.28
Ressources	2,082.85	2,005.63	9.93	16.57	7.86	2.70	2,222.93	1,939.20	1,641.98
Basic industries	2,921.99	2,922.93	7.24	13.95	12.56	9.71	2,979.03	2,697.53	2,273.64
General industries	1,755.58	1,746.75	6.21	0.99	-7.79	-17.52	2,224.57	1,905.94	1,532.47
Cyclical cons. goods	1,659.29	1,702.49	1.33	1.36	-10.27	-10.95	2,062.10	1,815.08	1,546.91
Cyclical services	1,348.22	1,366.93	1.80	-5.22	-14.79	-25.68	1,830.82	1,547.80	1,236.28
Non-cyclical goods*	976.41	1,006.95	-0.05	-3.31	-13.53	-21.66	1,264.31	1,114.34	926.79
Non-cyclical services	777.20	770.52	5.32	-12.77	-20.24	-17.87	1,089.35	942.25	724.15
Information techno.	842.57	865.42	1.05	-7.87	-20.23	-7.57	1,083.98	942.15	796.08
Utilities	2,655.96	2,600.86	5.40	1.92	-9.10	0.95	3,001.33	2,678.52	2,380.91
Financials	1,334.12	1,401.42	-2.90	3.23	-9.52	-27.60	1,851.81	1,550.75	1,187.35
<b>United Kingdom: FTSE – All share</b>									
Composite index	3,143.75	3,181.09	2.27	4.34	0.01	-8.46	3,478.99	3,207.54	2,777.55
Ressources	9,724.26	9,300.28	12.51	19.95	15.30	22.08	9,880.03	8,301.44	7,272.28
Basic industries	8,885.17	9,069.11	5.40	14.83	34.53	50.26	9,323.39	6,970.94	5,201.37
General industries	2,656.53	2,724.33	0.74	0.70	-1.84	-17.49	3,274.30	2,860.58	2,456.92
Cyclical cons. goods	5,291.69	5,222.99	2.44	2.12	-6.12	-18.29	6,476.45	5,729.75	4,699.07
Cyclical services	2,633.37	2,642.70	5.98	0.16	-13.66	1.83	3,231.31	2,795.41	2,392.51
Non-cyclical goods*	8,549.96	8,848.83	-2.14	0.89	-4.36	-7.57	9,422.34	8,860.76	8,119.94
Non-cyclical services	3,164.56	3,269.12	0.40	-2.92	-13.38	-28.98	4,456.56	3,712.90	2,945.42
Information techno.	409.30	414.07	6.31	3.58	-1.39	-16.26	509.98	439.15	352.67
Utilities	6,836.94	6,635.28	2.62	1.70	-2.99	-5.38	7,390.66	6,856.69	6,248.67
Financials	5,321.52	5,572.89	-4.84	-3.78	-9.16	-28.43	7,457.18	6,278.07	5,007.16

\* Consumer goods.