

135th
EDITION

CRYPTONAIRE WEEKLY

CRYPTO INVESTMENT JOURNAL

**BITCOIN TRANSACTION FEES FALL
BY 89% IN UNDER A MONTH**

**CME BITCOIN OPTIONS MARKET
GREW 10X IN THE PAST MONTH**

**A \$6.6 MILLION SEED ROUND STARTUP
LAUNCHES "EASY" CRYPTO
PURCHASING SERVICES**

**\$125 B CORPORATE GIANT WILL
USE BLOCKCHAIN TECH TO COMBAT
GLOBAL WARMING**

**THE NEW YORK TIMES TESTS
BLOCKCHAIN TO FIGHT FAKE NEWS**

**ATROMG8:
THE FUTURE AT
YOUR FINGERTIPS**



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Editor's Letter



The crypto markets are currently moving in sync with the US equity markets. On June 11, the Dow plunged and that dragged the crypto markets lower. Again, on June 15, the Dow futures were pointing to a sharp fall that led the crypto markets lower. However, the US markets recovered and ended the day in the green. Promptly, the crypto markets also followed suit and recovered from their intraday lows.

JPMorgan Chase & Co. analysts painted a positive picture for the crypto universe as they said that cryptocurrencies had passed their first stress test during the current crisis. The analysts noted that Bitcoin is not acting as a safe haven but has been moving in tandem with the stock market. They warned that cryptocurrencies were likely to work more as “a vehicle for speculation than as a medium of exchange or store of value.”

OUR BLOG ARTICLES FOR THIS SPECIAL ISSUE IS HOW TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL AT CRYPTO TRADING & BEST CRYPTOCURRENCY TRADING PLATFORMS IN 2020

Though Bitcoin reached the \$10,018.67 level on June 10, the bull could not sustain the price above \$9,900 for four hours, hence, the trade suggested by us in the previous analysis did not trigger.

The failure to sustain above \$10,000 levels resulted in profit booking by the short-term traders. As a result, the BTC to USD pair plunged to the 50-day SMA on June 11.

This dip was purchased by the bulls but they could not push the price above the 20-day EMA, which led to another sharp fall on June 15 to \$8,895.01. However, the bears could not capitalize on this down move as lower levels saw aggressive buying by the bulls.

By close (UTC time), Bitcoin recovered and re-entered the triangle, which is a huge positive. Currently, the bulls are trying to push the price above the 20-day EMA. If successful, another attempt to break out of the \$10,000-\$10,500 resistance zone will be on the cards.

If the bulls can sustain the price above the \$10,000 levels for four hours, traders can consider long positions with a close stop-loss. The first target is \$10,500 and if that is crossed, then a rally to \$12,000 is possible.

This bullish view will be invalidated if the pair again turns down from \$10,000. In such a case, a few more days of volatile trading is likely.

Lastly please check out the advancement's happening in the crypto currency world.

Enjoy the issue!

Karnav Shah

Karnav Shah

Chief Editor



CRYPTONAIRE WEEKLY

After mentoring thousands of crypto traders around the globe, we have culminated all of the consistent and ongoing requirements of crypto-traders into one place.

Our Cryptonaire Weekly magazine includes expert technical analysis, providing trading opportunities to our subscribers as well as fundamental analysis so our readers can keep up to speed with the current developments in the crypto markets.

Not only do we provide the information necessary to trade active cryptocurrencies on the exchanges, but we also take a look at ICOs to help you find those golden projects with real value!

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WEEKLY CRYPTOCURRENCY MARKET ANALYSIS

Hello, crypto traders welcome to this week's 135th edition of Cryptonaire Weekly. The overall Cryptocurrency Market Cap stands at \$270 Billion. We have seen a \$6 Billion decrease in the Market Cap since last week. Bitcoin price is currently around \$9550 from \$9705 last week and has decreased by 1.6% and Ether price is now at \$234 from \$245 last week and has decreased by 4.49%. The current market cap for bitcoin is \$176 Billion, and for Altcoins, the current market cap is \$94 Billion.

The crypto markets are currently moving in sync with the US equity markets. On June 11, the Dow plunged and that dragged the crypto markets lower. Again, on June 15, the Dow futures were pointing to a sharp fall that led the crypto markets lower. However, the US markets recovered and ended the day in the green. Promptly, the crypto markets also followed suit and recovered from their intraday lows.

JPMorgan Chase & Co. analysts painted a positive picture for the crypto universe as they said that cryptocurrencies had passed their first stress test during the current crisis. The analysts noted that Bitcoin is not acting as a safe haven but has been moving in tandem with the stock market. They warned that cryptocurrencies were likely to work more as "a vehicle for speculation than as a medium of exchange or store of value."

A survey by Fidelity was more bullish on the investments by institutional investors. About 36% of the institutions already owned crypto assets and that number was likely to go up to 91% in the next five years. This shows that the institutional players are hedging their traditional portfolios by investing in cryptocurrencies.





















Another indication of increased institutional appetite was the huge premium they are ready to pay to own Ether through the Grayscale Ethereum Trust. Usually, institutional investors take a long-term view, hence, these developments indicate that cryptocurrencies are likely to rally in the future.

Percentage of Total Market Capitalization (Dominance)

Bitcoin	65.25%
Ethereum	9.64%
Tether	3.16%
XRP	3.16%
Bitcoin Cash	1.63%
Bitcoin SV	1.21%
Litecoin	1.06%
Binance Coin	0.95%
EOS	0.88%
Cardano	0.76%
Others	12.03%

TOP 10 COINS

Top 10 Coins by Total Market Capitalisation











Rank	Name	Market Cap	Price	Volume (24h)	Circulating Supply	Change (24h)	Price Graph (7d)
1	 Bitcoin	\$174,849,093,226	\$9,499.51	\$24,115,059,784	18,406,118 BTC	4.51%	
2	 Ethereum	\$25,888,236,363	\$232.45	\$8,652,288,891	111,369,629 ETH	3.71%	
3	 Tether	\$9,223,025,356	\$1.00	\$28,604,002,534	9,187,991,663 USDT *	0.22%	
4	 XRP	\$8,474,043,596	\$0.191470	\$1,226,504,362	44,257,803,618 XRP *	3.38%	
5	 Bitcoin Cash	\$4,373,605,544	\$237.23	\$1,543,318,712	18,436,238 BCH	3.72%	
6	 Bitcoin SV	\$3,260,813,073	\$176.88	\$1,040,967,301	18,434,783 BSV	3.37%	
7	 Litecoin	\$2,843,119,656	\$43.77	\$1,928,773,833	64,962,151 LTC	2.84%	
8	 Binance Coin	\$2,553,410,079	\$16.42	\$185,020,592	155,536,713 BNB *	3.67%	
9	 EOS	\$2,375,907,683	\$2.55	\$1,642,032,415	933,529,059 EOS *	2.74%	
10	 Cardano	\$2,041,620,163	\$0.078745	\$286,254,415	25,927,070,538 ADA	10.31%	





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Top 10 Coins by Percentage Gain (Past 7 Days)

Rank	Name	Symbol	Volume (24h)	Price	% 7d
1	 Acash Coin	ACA	\$218,399	\$0.202002	> 9000%
2	 MorCrypto Coin	MOR	\$166,366	\$0.007512	1,449.88%
3	 Bitball Treasure	BTRS	\$119,436	\$284.58	660.11%
4	 SyncFab	MFG	\$80,911	\$0.014764	442.97%
5	 APIX	APIX	\$44,798,885	\$0.577013	329.67%
6	 Ormeus Ecosystem	ECO	\$369,258	\$0.001931	241.33%
7	 Buzzshow	GLDY	\$804,006	\$0.049802	202.21%
8	 AtromG8	AG8	\$90,453	\$0.048743	151.52%
9	 Vid	VI	\$148,445	\$0.024760	149.48%
10	 Davinci Coin	DAC	\$10,665,913	\$0.005652	124.95%

Top 10 Coins added to Exchanges with the Highest Market Capitalisation (Past 30 Days)

Name	Symbol	Added	Market Cap	Price	Circulating Supply	Volume (24h)	% 24h
 Massnet	MASS	29 days ago	\$32,576,066	\$0.433714	75,109,630 *	\$4,931,640	2.18%
 GHOST	GHOST	21 days ago	\$22,797,985	\$1.68	13,573,415 *	\$920,158	0.28%
 King DAG	KDAG	21 days ago	\$5,844,501	\$0.121757	48,001,470 *	\$3,101,007	4.25%
 BackPacker Coin	BPC	19 days ago	\$4,586,002	\$1.03	4,472,125 *	\$13,001	3.71%
 Jarvis Network	JRT	26 days ago	\$1,892,757	\$0.065254	29,005,880 *	\$917,801	15.41%
 LUKSO	LYXe	22 days ago	\$802,700	\$0.276793	2,900,000 *	\$340,671	9.06%
 ZIMBOCASH	ZASH	27 days ago	\$311,121	\$0.002817	110,455,723 *	\$77,956	-1.53%
 Bitgesell	BGL	8 days ago	\$141,296	\$0.064853	2,178,710 *	\$18,517	18.99%
 Vidulum	VDL	21 days ago	\$68,010.74	\$0.009497	7,161,625 *	\$6,779	-2.85%
 Pyrk	PYRK	29 days ago	\$51,765.46	\$0.014448	3,582,850 *	\$22,765	6.00%

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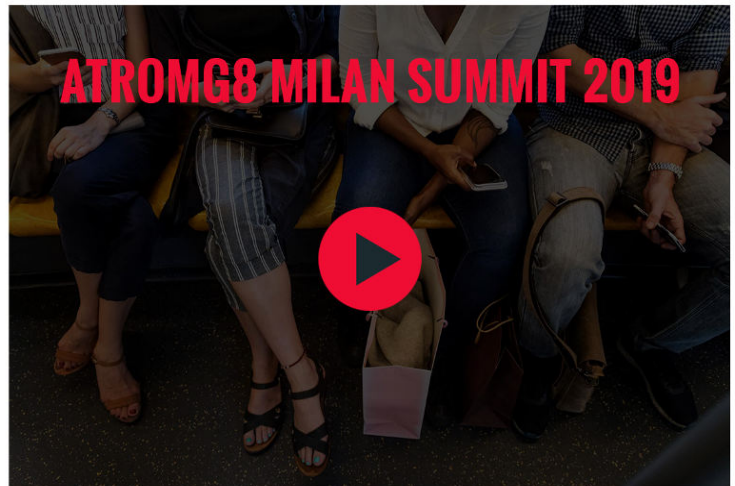
AtromG8 represents much more than just cryptocurrency and blockchain, we are here to build a collaborative ecosystem. Our unique multi-DLT and blockchain-powered innovative MixNet 5.0 superstructure is the next step of human communication, interaction and the way we exchange value between each other all under the umbrella of privacy and security for a better, fairer and cleaner world. AtromG8 aims to leverage emerging technologies to overcome the inadequacies of the existing social structures. With highly innovative MixNet Superstructure Technology, AtromG8 is continuously contributing to the development of communication and value exchange systems. An unconventional approach to meet the contemporary requirement of a digital platform for a real-time ecosystem that is safe for all the users. At ATROMG8, the team focuses on providing a connecting channel that facilitates effective communication among various individuals without jeopardizing their privacy and metadata, along with providing details of who gets insight into their data or how it should be used safely in the digital era. With an aim to touch millions of lives across the globe.



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CRYPTO TRADE OPPORTUNITIES

BITCOIN - BTC/USD



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This bullish view will be invalidated if the pair again turns down from \$10,000. In such a case, a few more days of volatile trading is likely.

ETHEREUM - ETH/USD



Ether turned down sharply on June 11 and broke below the 20-day EMA. Though the bulls bought this dip, the rebound fizzled out at \$239.54. This suggests a lack of demand at higher levels.

On June 15, the bears resumed their selling and the biggest altcoin plunged below the support line of the channel. However, the bulls defended the 50-day SMA aggressively. As a result, the price recovered and the ETH to USD pair re-entered the channel.

If the bulls can push the price back above \$240, a retest of the recent highs at \$253.60 is likely. Above this level, the uptrend is likely to resume. The first target is a move to the resistance line of the channel at \$290.

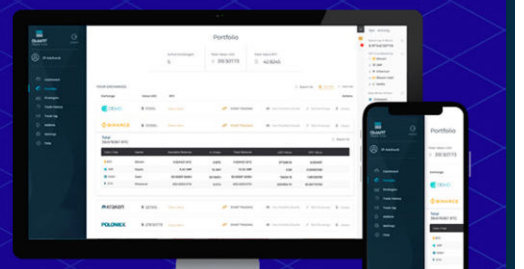
Therefore, aggressive traders can buy on a close (UTC time) above \$240 with a stop-loss of \$225. If the bulls struggle to scale the price above \$253.60, the stops can be trailed higher to breakeven. This bullish view will be invalidated if the price turns down from the current levels and breaks below \$217.79. If that happens, the slide can extend to \$196 and then to \$176.

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RIPPLE - XRP/USD



The bulls repeatedly failed to propel XRP above the overhead resistance of \$0.20524 in the past few days. This resulted in profit booking by the short-term traders that dragged the price lower on June 11.

The bears again attempted to sink the price on June 15 but buyers stepped in at \$0.18221 and staged a recovery. On the upside, the bears might defend the 20-day EMA and above it \$0.20524. A breakout and close (UTC time) above \$0.20524 will be the first sign of strength. Above this level, a rally to \$0.23571 is likely. If the momentum can carry the ETH to USD pair above this resistance, a new uptrend is possible.

Conversely, if the pair turns down from the current levels, it can drop to \$0.17426. This level is likely to act as a strong support as it has not been broken since April 2. But if the bears sink the price below \$0.17426, a new downtrend is likely.

The altcoin has been a huge underperformer for the past many months. Therefore, traders should wait for a trending move to start before buying it.



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BITCOIN CASH - BCH/USD



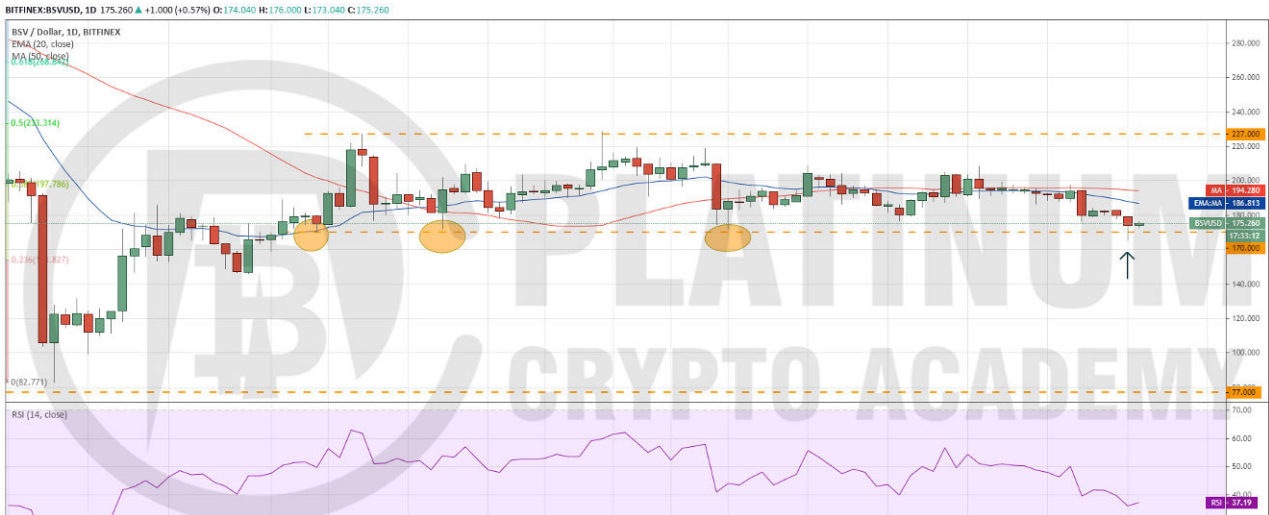
Bitcoin Cash is currently stuck in a tight range of \$220-\$260. The failure to breakout of this range attracted selling on June 11 that dragged the price down to the \$224.22 on June 15.

Currently, bulls are attempting to keep the price inside the range. A break above the moving averages can result in a move to \$260 and if this resistance is scaled, a retest of \$280 will be on the cards. A breakout of this level will be a huge positive and can be purchased.

Conversely, if the BCH to USD pair turns down from the current levels or from the moving averages, the bears will once again attempt to sink the price below \$220. If successful, a drop to \$200 is possible. A break below \$200 can result in a new downtrend.



BITCOIN SV - BSV/USD



Bitcoin SV dipped below the support of the large \$170-\$227 range on June 15. This is a huge negative as it suggests that the bulls are not aggressively defending the \$170 support.

Though the BSV to USD pair recovered and closed inside the range on June 15, the bulls are struggling to carry the price higher. This suggests a lack of demand at higher levels.

If the pair breaks below the \$165.30-\$170 support zone, a new downtrend is likely. The next support on the downside is at \$146.20 and below that \$120. As the pair has been a huge underperformer for the past many weeks, the traders can remain on the sidelines.



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ADVANCEMENTS IN THE CRYPTOCURRENCY WORLD

Bank of Korea Officially Launches Advisory Group for Central Bank Digital Currency and Cryptocurrencies



The Bank of Korea (BOK) is ramping up efforts for the possible launch of a digital currency. The central bank has formed a legal advisory council that could help the bank roll out a central bank digital currency (CBDC) as well as offer guidance on “cryptocurrencies issued by central banks”.

BOK, which issues the South Korean won, made the announcement on Monday but has declined to confirm whether it plans to launch a central bank digital currency (CBDC).

The group will convene law professors, legal practitioners and BOK officials. The six-member panel will be tasked with providing legal insight on the use of a digital currency and will be in place “just in case” the bank ultimately decides to develop a CBDC.

Several countries, including Sweden, Switzerland, the US and Japan, have stepped up efforts to investigate CBDCs, as China continues testing its digital yuan with trials underway in Shenzhen, Chengdu, Suzhou and Xiongan since April. As the world’s second-largest economy, China itself could force a rapid sea change in digital payments, cross-border transactions and central banking protocols.

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A \$6.6 Million Seed Round Startup Launches “Easy” Crypto Purchasing Services



An official report released by Ziglu on June 15, 2020 confirms the launch of crypto marketplace and exchange, Ziglu after a \$6.6 million seed round funding from friends and other angel investors. According to CEO of Ziglu, Mark Hipperson, the exchange is aiming to bring to its customers the best, cheapest and fastest ways to purchase multiple cryptocurrencies from one place.

Over the past few years, cryptocurrency has taken a hold growing to a massive ~\$200 billion market capitalization in a decade. The growth of the market enticed more banks to take up the role of providing a gateway for crypto purchases and withdrawals. Hipperson however believes the market has changed a lot since the early days and hence has a strategy to do things different.

As the competition to offer avenues to purchase crypto heats up, Hipperson believes the current buyers of crypto are looking for a safe and easy way to get their crypto. Speaking on the launch of Ziglu, Hipperson said,

“This launch marks the beginning of an exciting journey for Ziglu to deliver transformational financial services for our customers. By offering immediate and safe access to best-price crypto, customers can spend, exchange and send their money, regardless of the currency, where, when and how they want.”

Ziglu will allow users to buy and sell multiple cryptocurrencies on the platform including BTC, ETH, LTC and BCH with about “15 cryptocurrencies expected to be added this year” according to demand, Hipperson said.

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More than \$2 million worth of Ethereum goes unclaimed



It looks like more than \$2 million worth of ETH will go unclaimed.

After waiting four days, Austria-based blockchain innovation company Bitfly will distribute the proceeds of an Ethereum transaction sent with a fee of more than \$2.4 million.

The transmission was one of a pair of transactions broadcast last week spending a total of more than \$5.2 million in fees, raising speculation of a major undetected bug in a seldom used smart contract, or financial blackmail carried out by hackers.

The frozen transaction was initially validated by Ethermine, a mining pool managed by Bitfly. The benign hold may have ruffled some feathers among contributors to the pool—Bitfly was careful to clarify that the executive action was a one-off, and will always distribute the full block reward as outlined in their payout policy going forward.

Discussions following the first high-fee transaction on July 10 worth nearly \$2.6 million focused on potential bugs in a transaction triggered automatically. A second, similarly disproportionate transaction sent the following day, however, forced observers to consider other possibilities. The July 10 transaction was mined by SparkPool, whose investigation is ongoing.

Following the second high-fee transaction, China-based blockchain analysis firm PeckShield published a report indicating the mysterious transactions could be the result of partially unsuccessful hackers thinking on their feet. The research claims an undisclosed cryptocurrency exchange had credentials compromised in a phishing attack.

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CME Bitcoin Options Market Grew 10x in the Past Month

CME Bitcoin Options Open Interest, 1 Month



Over a recent 30-day period, the total open interest for CME bitcoin options increased more than tenfold, from \$35 million on May 11 to \$373 million on June 10. Moreover, open interest made a new all-time high on six consecutive days from June 5-10.

Significant growth in CME futures points to rapidly growing interest by institutional investors in trading regulated bitcoin derivatives products. Despite this growth, however, CME Group “has no plans to introduce additional cryptocurrency products,” a spokesperson told CoinDesk. Thus for now, CME Group’s cryptocurrency products will only involve bitcoin.

CME, which launched its bitcoin options product only at the beginning of 2020, now represents over 20% of the global bitcoin options market measured by open interest, or the total number of outstanding derivative contracts. It’s now the second-largest bitcoin options market in the world behind Panama-based Deribit, according to Skew.

Growth in CME’s bitcoin options market is “a strong signal that regulated institutions are exposing their books to bitcoin,” said Matt Kaye, managing partner at Los Angeles-based Blockhead Capital. “CME has a higher cost of capital and is closed on weekends, so anyone trading there is likely making those sacrifices because they have to.”

Much of CME’s growth appears to have come at the expense of Deribit. Market shares claimed by competing bitcoin derivatives markets LedgerX, Bakkt and OKEx have remained largely unchanged since January.

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\$125 B Corporate Giant Will Use Blockchain Tech to Combat Global Warming



June 15, Unilever unveiled a \$1 billion initiative aimed at fighting climate change in which blockchain technology will play an integral role.

Traceability & transparency

Unilever is establishing a €1 billion (\$1.13 billion) fund that over the next ten years will be used to protect the environment:

“To accelerate action, Unilever’s brands will collectively invest €1 billion in a new dedicated Climate & Nature Fund. This will be used over the next ten years to take meaningful and decisive action, with projects likely to include landscape restoration, reforestation, carbon sequestration, wildlife protection and water preservation.”

The company hopes to achieve a ‘deforestation-free supply chain’ by 2023:

“To do this, we will increase traceability and transparency by using emerging digital technologies – such as satellite monitoring, geolocation tracking and blockchain – accelerating smallholder inclusion and changing our approach to derivatives sourcing.”

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Bitcoin transaction fees fall by 89% in under a month



Bitcoin's transactions fees have dipped to fresh lows—the cost of sending the cryptocurrency now averages \$0.711, data from Bitinfocharts shows.

Bitcoin transaction fees have plummeted since a spike last month following May 11's halving. The cost of sending Bitcoin reached a peak of \$6.65 on May 20—the highest average transaction fee since July 2018.

Some experts said transaction fees would rise after the May 11 halving—and they did—but they have been on a gradual slope downwards since.

Data shows transaction fees have dropped by almost 90%—89.3% to be precise—in just 25 days.

The last time fees were this low was at the end of April, when they fleetingly dipped to \$0.66. They then soared ahead of and soon after the halving as more people made transactions on the network.

Transaction fees normally increase due to heavy usage on the network. When the network is busy, those sending Bitcoin compete with others to have their transactions processed by miners, who are able to charge higher amounts to get payments sent through quickly.

When Bitcoin's network was at its busiest, in December 2017, transaction fees reached an all-time high of \$55.

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Estonia Revokes License of Over 500 Crypto Companies to Curb Money Laundering



European Union member Estonia is now cracking down on cryptocurrency firms to attack money laundering in the country.

Estonia has been in the spotlight for Europe's biggest money-laundering scandal, about €200 billion were laundered from Denmark's biggest financial institution Danske Bank's Estonian branch from 2007-2015. To put it in perspective, in 2017 Estonia's GDP was €29 billion.

The scandal raises serious questions over the capacity of not only banks but also the government in combating money laundering. Now, the country has set its eyes on crypto businesses that exchange and help hold virtual currencies like bitcoin, reported Bloomberg.

Interestingly, Estonia was among the first in the EU to license these firms in late 2017.

But now, the regulators have stripped more than 500, a third of the total permits this year. According to Madis Reimand, head of the Baltic country's Financial Intelligence Unit, the decision was made because the regulators are worried these firms are using their local credentials to help commit fraud elsewhere. Reimand told Bloomberg,

"This is a first step in tidying up the market, allowing us to take care of the most urgent issues by permitting operations only for companies that can be subjected to Estonian supervision and coercive measures."

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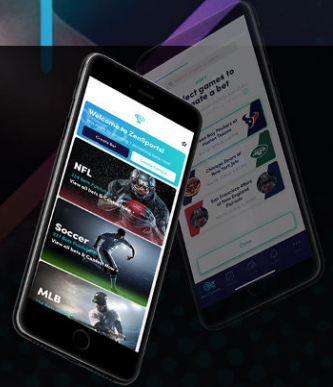
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In addition to betting with Bitcoin or fiat (USD), ZenSports also offers its own cryptocurrency utility token called SPORTS for betting and paying fees with. When you place bets with SPORTS, you'll pay discounted betting fees, get cash back for reaching certain betting volumes, and earn bonuses for performing other actions. You can also deposit and withdraw SPORTS from/to your ICONex wallet at anytime. See below for more information on our SPORTS Rewards Program. SPORTS is built on ICON's protocol.

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How it Works

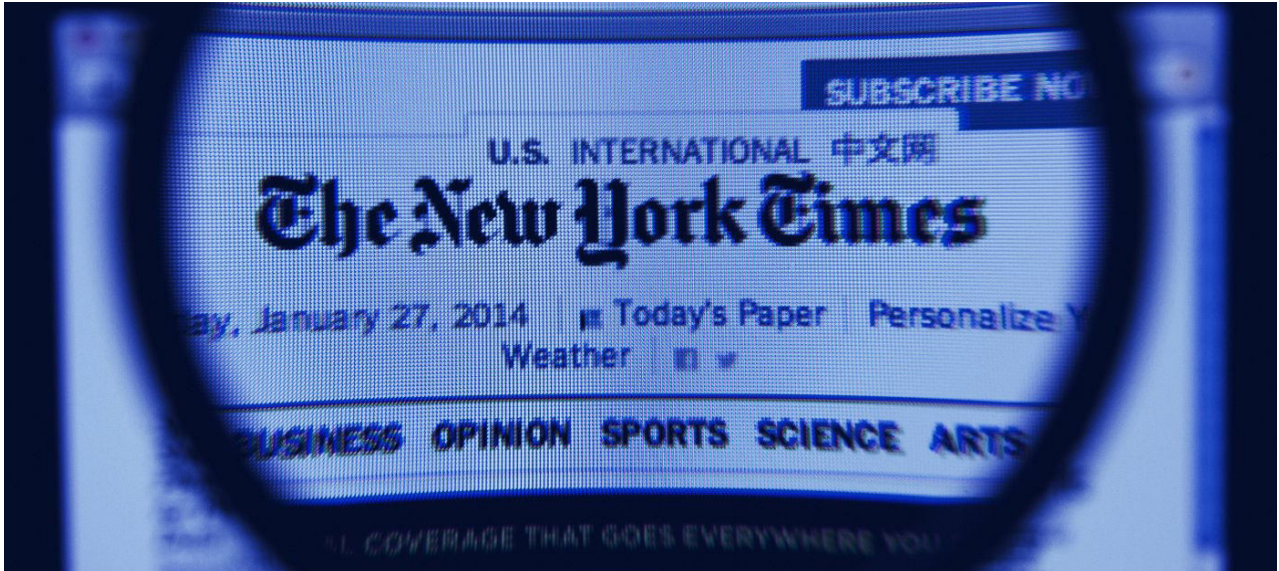
Check out the video below to see how we make sports betting easier and more fun compared to a traditional bookmaker.



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The New York Times tests blockchain to fight fake news



In an era where convincing deepfake photos and false information are liberally shared by world leaders, it can be difficult to know who or what to trust online.

So, the New York Times is looking into whether blockchain could help restore trust in online media. Its News Provenance Project, created in partnership with IBM, wants to help readers better understand and trust news photos based on contextual information saved to that holy grail of immutability: the blockchain.

To explore whether any of this is viable, it has created a prototype of a faux social network. With prototype in hand, the team tracked the status of a photo throughout its lifespan, from when it was taken and posted to how it had been edited, as well as any captions that had been written alongside the photo.

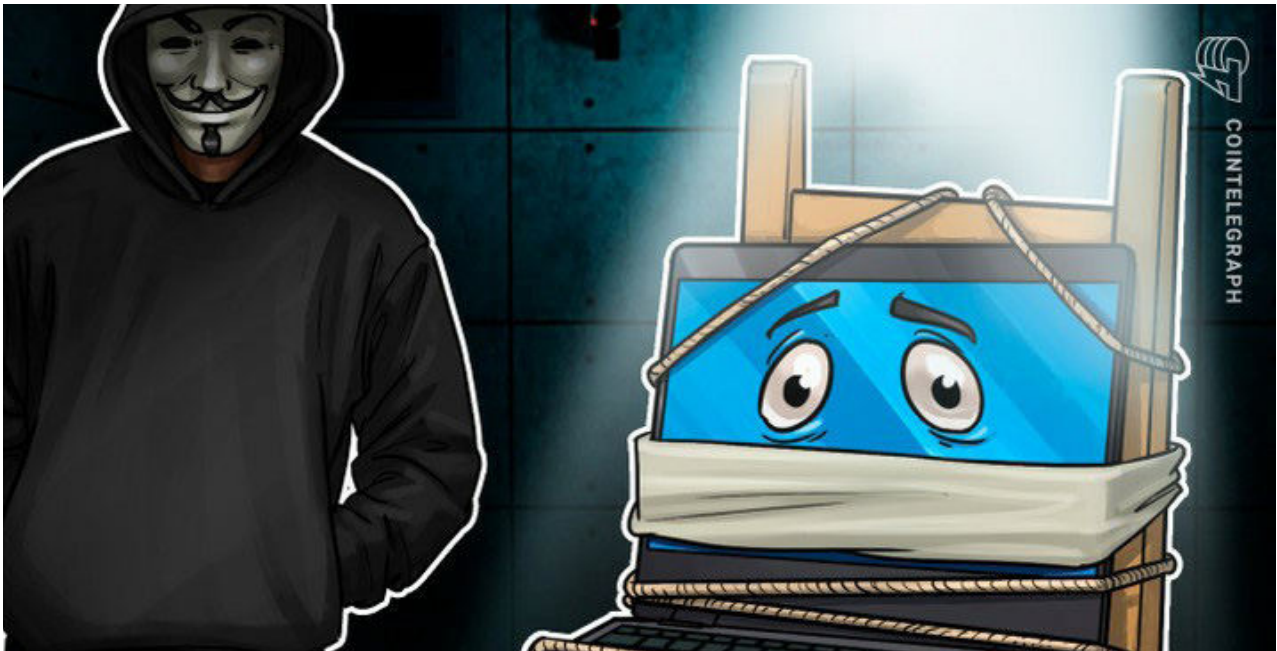
Thanks to the immutable nature of blockchain, any changes were logged and available for examination. Smart contracts also ensured that only certain people could access the photo's metadata.

Project manager Pooja Reddy debriefed the internet in a blog post on Friday. She concluded that the additional information did help readers better understand the origin of a news photo via the provided context, but that there are significant obstacles ahead to bringing something like this to life at a larger scale.

One challenge is the requirement of having member publications review and validate content posted by other media outlets, which could prove to be a complex undertaking. Another is the challenge of matching online photos to the originals on the blockchain, which could be aided by technologies such as computer vision or perceptual hashing.

[Read more...](#)

Israeli Software Firm Goes Behind Regulator's Back to Pay \$250,000 in BTC Ransom



An Israel-based company reportedly paid \$250,000 in Bitcoin for a ransom payment demanded by hackers that threatened to shut down its systems after a ransomware attack.

According to a source quoted by Calcalist on June 14, Sapiens International Corp. N.V. — a Nasdaq and Tel Aviv-listed software company — didn't report the decision to the securities' regulators of either the U.S. or Israel.

The ransomware attack happened at some point between March and April, when the COVID-19 outbreak exploded across the globe, forcing most of the company's employees to switch to remote work.

A suspected security breach during the early stage of the COVID-19 outbreak

Sapiens employs around 2,500 people globally, and 900 of them are in Israel. Although there are no further details on what ransomware gang is behind the attack, the hackers could have taken advantage of the security weaknesses discovered during migration to remote work.

The company has not officially referenced the attack, neither to confirm nor deny the ransom payment in Bitcoin (BTC) reported by the Israeli media.

Most of Sapiens' client base is located in the U.S. and Europe, while its secondary markets are in South Africa and Asia Pacific.

[Read more...](#)

India's Rumored Crypto Ban May Be Overblown, Say Industry Pros



Rumors that India might be considering a new ban on crypto may be premature, according to exchange founders and startup CEOs working in the sector.

Indian news site The Economic Times created a stir Friday by suggesting lawmakers in India, where the Supreme Court overturned a punitive banking ban from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) only four months ago, were planning on slapping a new ban on crypto companies.

The article, titled “With a law, India plans lasting ban on crypto,” cited one unnamed “senior government official” who told The Economic Times, “A note [presumably on crypto] has been moved (by the finance ministry) for inter-ministerial consultations.”

The article doesn't provide any information on what the note could be but says it was spurred on by the Supreme Court ruling, which allowed crypto exchanges to finally access banking services after nearly two years stuck in the wilderness.

The article said the government could lean on a previous government draft law, from July 2019, that proposed all forms of cryptocurrency be banned, with anyone caught holding them facing up a fine and up to 10 years imprisonment.

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BEST CRYPTOCURRENCY TRADING PLATFORMS IN 2020



Hi Crypto Network,

Cryptocurrency exchange and trading have experienced tremendous growth in 2020. Crypto trading platforms have been receiving more customers in the past few months. The increased trading volumes can significantly be attributed to digitalization that has come with the COVID 19 pandemic.

With people working from their homes, digital currencies are more convenient compared to fiat currency. In February 2020, Bitcoin hit an all-time high of \$10,429, breaking the \$10,000 resistance level. As of this month, its price has managed to stay above the 10000 marks, although analysts have predicted a flash crash.

To invest in cryptocurrencies, one has to be familiar with the basics of the crypto market. Unlike other markets, this specific one is very volatile and susceptible to many challenges. However, one should not shy away from trading cryptocurrencies. A good trading platform is among the several factors that one has to look for when trading cryptocurrencies.



WHAT IS CRYPTOCURRENCY?

It is close to impossible for one to invest in cryptocurrencies without knowing the minor details of these currencies. Unlike regular currencies, they are digital assets that use a peer-to-peer technology known as the blockchain, which records their transactions. The blockchain uses cryptography technology to encrypt the transaction and ownership of the digital currencies. This encryption makes it hard for anyone to tamper with the transactions, commonly referred to as in the crypto world.

There are more than 2000 cryptocurrencies, traded publicly, that one can choose from. These coins have monetary value to them that determine their rank in the market. The top cryptocurrencies as of this year are Bitcoin (BTC), Ethereum (ETH), XPR (XRP), Tether (USDT), Bitcoin Cash (BCH), and Litecoin (LTC) among others. Each coin has its blockchain network where it is mined and stored. The mining process is done by microprocessors in computers and can be quite expensive.

Cryptocurrencies are traded in platforms known as exchanges. These exchanges allow users to either invest or trade in cryptocurrencies. When it comes to trading crypto, exchanging them with fiat currency or other cryptocurrencies can do. The most traded pair is the crypto-fiat pair. Every pair has a specific rate at which it is sold, and this price changes depending on several factors controlling the market. The price action can be determined by factors such as mining cost, government regulations, and Bitcoin's trend. It is also worth noting that different crypto exchanging platforms offer different exchange rates.

WHY INVEST AND TRADE IN THE CRYPTOCURRENCY MARKET?

The advantage of the crypto world is that one can make money in various ways. From exchanging, buying, and selling of crypto to offering advice to investors and opening an exchange among others. All these investments are worth it because:

Security is guaranteed

Any investment is risky as it is any other investment, but the blockchain is immune to alteration when it comes to security. The cryptography encryption registers every transaction that a single coin is involved in the blockchain. This encryption involves advanced coding that is used in the block and digital wallet. An added security feature is that the transactions are time-stamped:

Also, these wallets can only be opened using keys that cannot be accessed by unauthorized people apart from the owner. The named features eliminate threats that are associated with fiat currency: theft, fraud, among others.

Easy accessibility

Cryptocurrencies are free from any form of centralization, which is associated with fiat currency. One does not have to go through brokers or financial institutions to access your money. The only thing you will need is to register with an exchange platform, get a digital wallet and transact. Mobile wallets are examples of software wallets that can access your digital currency anytime and anywhere.

There are different types of digital wallets, that is, hardware wallets and software wallets. The main difference between these two is that hardware wallets store the keys and crypto in hard drives while software in computer software.

Good returns

For a while, Skeptics have always termed cryptocurrency as a risky investment due to the volatile nature of its market. I would say that the volatility is the more reason to invest. For instance, one can buy bitcoin when its price is low and, in less than a week, sell it when its price has sky-scraped. It just needs the right timing and investment advice. One has to look for a good exchange platform that offers this advice.

PROS AND CONS OF CRYPTOCURRENCY TRADING PLATFORMS

Cryptocurrency trading platforms, also known as exchanges, allow one to exchange or invest in cryptocurrencies. One has to open an account with one of these platforms first before dealing with cryptocurrencies. These platforms offer many services that make cryptocurrency trading easy and beneficial.

A lot has been said about Cryptocurrency exchanges being a treat to the traditional financial institution. Apart from being digitalized, they are entirely decentralized. This quality does away with brokers and banks than in a way, have a say when it comes to their client's money. Below are some of the advantages and disadvantages of exchange platforms.

ADVANTAGES OF TRADING PLATFORMS

Monopoly over your money

The decentralization nature that comes with exchanges makes the owner have a monopoly over their digital assets. The blockchain allows peer-to-peer transactions between cryptocurrency owners in the network.

Trade beyond borders

Moving cryptocurrencies from one person to another is not constrained by jurisdiction at all. As long as trading platforms have an office in the area, transactions can happen anywhere. Using fiat currencies and traditional banks, one had to travel to the buildings and rely on someone to transact.

Low transaction fees

The trading fee used to move cryptocurrencies from one user to another is way cheaper than the charges inflicted using fiat currency: transferring funds, fees for writing checks, and credit card fees. Trading platforms being online will only charge on when a transaction is done.

Security

Cryptocurrency transaction is secured by advanced encryption known as cryptography. The technology records every transaction made through the trading platform. Also, the transactions have to be verified by several users in the network. Such security gives users a total monopoly such that the trading platforms cannot interfere with the transactions.

DISADVANTAGES OF TRADING PLATFORMS

Fake platforms

There can be fake platforms that can be formed to steal from people. The most popular form of fraud is the Ponzi scheme, also known as pyramid schemes. In these schemes, the platform lures investors to invest with promises of tremendous profit over a short period. They later flee with all the investor's money.

Users don't have exclusive privacy

The platform has most, if not all, the personal details of their users from one's email, IP address, and details about your transactions. Also, exchanges that offer online wallets may have access to your assets.

Cyber Crimes

With exchanges being online, they are not entirely immune to cybercrimes such as data breach. As much as the blockchain is immutable doesn't guarantee that trading platforms are too. There have been several cases of hacking where hackers steal user's data. Just last year, a significant trading platform was hacked and their customer's data taken, after which the hackers demanded 300BTC threatening to release the data.

Involvement in the Dark Market

Freedom from being regulated by authorities has made cryptocurrency trading to be used to carry out illegal activities on the dark web. Before cryptocurrencies were adopted in the mainstream, they were mostly used in the Dark market, and they still are. Bitcoin and other altcoins are used to facilitate drug trafficking, human trafficking, and terrorism. This challenge is significantly countering government attempts to curb these activities.

WHAT IS THE BEST CRYPTOCURRENCY TRADING PLATFORM?

Before venturing into cryptocurrency investment, one has to first look for a good exchange platform. There are several qualities that any exchange platform ought to have to be categorized among the best.

The first stage of the short listing is done to identify fake exchanges. With the increasing popularity of cryptocurrencies, more exchanges are coming up. Some of these platforms are not legit: they are out to scam investors. One needs to do a thorough background check on these exchanges before investing in them. There are several things to look out for on these platforms.

- Check the platform's website's URL. Fake platforms usually have noticeable spelling mistakes and errors on their URL.
- Reputation. It is easy to recognize a fake trading platform by looking at what other people are saying concerning it.
- Check whether it is a verified platform. Does it have 'real' people working for them?
- Look out for Pyramid schemes. Most fake platforms are known to pull off these schemes just to steal from investors.

After you have eliminated fake platforms, you can go ahead and look for the following qualities that a platform should have to be termed as the 'best.'

It should be trustworthy

Any investor will first look for a platform that they can trust with their valuables. As much as trading platforms are secure, it is not a guarantee that they can be trusted. A trustworthy platform allows investors to trade with them and doesn't interfere with their trade. Such platforms will have reasonable trading fees that don't bring loss to the investor.

You can also know their trustworthiness by how they interact with the community and whether they are free to share important information about the company's details, such as their policies, among others.

It should have reliable customer service

A platform that has a user-friendly interface is crucial for easing transactions for users, especially for beginners. You can gauge their reliability by responding to user queries and their speed in offering these services. Reviews by their customers will also say much about their services.

Diversified payment methods

A good exchange platform has several payment methods ranging from fiat currency, credit cards, debit cards, and other cryptocurrencies. Others might also have Automated Teller Machines (ATM) from which you can move your cryptocurrencies with ease.

It should be secure

Security should be at the top of your list of characteristics of an excellent online trading platform. Checking their website security standards will help in determining the quality of their security. Any good website should have an SSL certificate that certifies that they are authentic and provide excellent services. Besides, If the platform offers online wallets, then they should have the highest level of security.

Fair trading fees

Apart from the above qualities, a good exchange should not have high trading fees than other platforms. One can look at several platforms comparing the fees to settle on the best.

BEST CRYPTOCURRENCY TRADING PLATFORM

Looking at the above qualities, Coinbase exchange has qualified to be the best cryptocurrency trading platform. It is known to be the best bitcoin exchange platform in the world. It only deals in bitcoin but also other altcoins such as Ethereum (ETH), Bitcoin Cash (BTC), DASH, and Litecoin (LTC), among others. Coinbase isn't the only exchange which we can say good things about here is a link to our [top 5 exchanges](#).



Coinbase is also situated in more than 30 countries in the United States, UK, Singapore, Australia, Canada, and Europe, Germany exempted. It was until recently that it expanded to the Netherlands, France, and Spain. There have also been attempts to have an office in Hong Kong which has been countered by the hostile trading relations between the US and China. This popularity has helped in earning the trust of many.

Besides that, Coinbase has a wide range of payment methods: you can transact using a debit card, credit card, bank transfer, cryptocurrencies exchange, and SEPA transfer. By these methods, Coinbase, unlike most exchanges, has bridged the gap between a user's fiat currency bank and their crypto accounts.

When it comes to community involvement, Coinbase allows people to have excellent investments in their prime platform known as Coinbase pro. This platform provides institution investments by offering advanced tools and a margin trading for crypto-to-crypto and fiat-to-crypto trading. A Coinbase user can also use Coinbase pro by merely upgrading.

HOW TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL AT CRYPTO TRADING



Hi Crypto Network,

The cryptocurrency market is among the most active markets that still has great promise. In the last couple of years, cryptocurrencies have experienced massive, volatile price swings, which have caused some crypto traders to thrive, and others go through huge losses.

Many traders have shied away from engaging in the market due to the difficulty that comes with trading. However, in this guideline, we are going to show you how easy it is to trade in the space successfully. So how can you set yourself up today to become the best crypto trader you can be? First, let us begin by understanding what crypto trading is all about.

WHAT IS CRYPTO TRADING?

Cryptocurrency trading involves making decisions on whether to buy sell or stay flat. In detail, crypto trading involves speculating on price movements through a CFD trading account or buying and selling the underlying coins via an exchange.

TRADING VS. INVESTING

Some traders have found themselves asking what the difference between trading and investing in cryptocurrencies. Trading in cryptocurrencies is slightly different from investing in cryptocurrencies.

Investing in cryptocurrency generally entails creating a long term position in digital assets. This is mainly based on fundamentals and long term trends. On the other hand, investing trading in cryptocurrencies entails short term profit based on technicals and short term trends.

TYPES OF TRADING IN THE CRYPTO MARKET

Short Term vs. Long Term Crypto Trading

Short term and long term are both viable forms of crypto trading. Some traders choose to engage in both. The two, however, are quite different.

Long-term trading

Long-term traders buy and hold cryptocurrencies over a long period. This could be weeks, months, or even years. They hold the cryptocurrencies intending to sell at a profit or use it later.

They do so believing that the value of a cryptocurrency will grow in the long run. Many of the traders prefer long term trading because they do not have to experience the stress of actively trading. Long term trading is ideal for persons who have the patients to watch as the market unfolds. However, it is essential to conduct compressive research on the market and thoroughly understand the risks involved.

Short-term trading

Short-term trading is traders take advantage of short-term cryptocurrency price swings. Traders create and execute a trading strategy that sees them earn profits from price fluctuations. In short term trading, one can faster and huge returns depending on the decisions they make. However, the process involves a lot of stressful activities on the trader. The benefit of short term trading is that traders can manage what losses to suffer.

CURRENCY PAIR ATTRIBUTES TO CONSIDER WHEN TRADING CRYPTOS

In trading pairs, traders assume that the price of two assets is connected. This means that a change in the price of one while affects the price of the other. From time-to-time, this spread becomes large enough to present a trading opportunity. A trader can take hold of those opportunities by going short on the over-performing asset and going long the underperforming asset.

Generally, a trading pair can be crypto-to-crypto or crypto to fiat. While many are popular with the BTC/USDT or the BTC/ETH trading pairs, there are currently many others that are worth noting. These include BTC/LTC, ETH/LTC ETH/BTC, XRP/BTC, XRP/LTC, ETH/XRP, and many more.

COMMON TRADER PAIN POINTS

Trading in both crypto and traditional markets is not an easy task. There are many things to consider for there to be a successful trade. Some of the most problems faced by traders include

What trading tools to use

The cryptocurrency market grows with each new day. More innovations keep coming up that claims to be better. Tools help traders perform faster and efficient actions. Others are created to perform operations on behalf of traders for easy trading. With so many tools available, it is easy for a trader to find themselves caught between two tools. Choosing the right tool is paramount in ensuring a successful trader. Taking note that many of the tools available do not meet the required standard, traders have to exercise caution.

At times, you will need to gather reviews from friends and family who have used the tools or collect information from online reviews. For new traders, avoid running for innovations since they are not always what they promise to be. While many shy away from innovations that are a few that could be a game-changer.

Consistently Able To Execute A Trading Plan

Another pain while trading is the ability to consistently being able to execute a trading plan. The difference between a trader and a great trader is the ability to perform a trading plan faster and consistently. For the plan to work, the trader is obligated to follow each step. At times, this might be difficult because of external factors. Many traders have lost vast sums of money because of a poorly executed plan. Some, the lucky ones escaped unscathed.

Using multiple platforms and not having a central location for all your activity

Many traders use various platforms to ensure they get the most returns from their operations. This is a long, tedious process that entails regularly move from platform to the next. Lack of centralized location makes the work much more cumbersome. It also creates room for mistakes that could lead to huge losses.

There is one innovation that seeks to make eliminates these pains while allowing traders to do what they know best. UpBots is a complete trading market place that offers trading tools, strategies, and trading courses into one single interface.

UPBOTS TRADING TOOLS HAS A SOLUTION FOR ALL LEVEL OF TRADERS



UpBots is a blockchain-based web and mobile platform that is linked to various exchanges. The platform has unique features, including:

Trade all your assets in 1 place: cryptos, forex, commodities

The platform combines all your trading desires under one roof. Whether it is crypto, forex, or commodities, UpBot has it all.

Be on autopilot thanks to automatic algorithms and Copy trading.

UpBots allows traders to create an automatic trading bot by going autopilot. The platform reduces the hours always spent looking at screens and worry. The autopilot feature automatically trades on behalf of the trader on third party exchanges. The bots will trade based on user-defined elements 24/7. Unlike other automated trading bots, UpBots presents its users with a wide range of indicators, tools, and defined trading settings. This makes the work much more straightforward.

Access a complete marketplace with Courses, bots & Signals

The platform has a little something for everyone. For new beginners, UpBots offer a training market place to help them complete with experts. The training involves different guides, such as tips on how to select a crypto trading strategy. New traders can also get all the resources they need for the trade.

The platform also has bots to ease the trading process. Both beginners and experts can use bots. Notably, before using any bot, the platform will allow the trader to back-test and evaluate its performance. UpBots has signals to help its users avoid scam projects. The platform offers an advanced marketplace where traders interact with professional and verified signal providers.

UPBOTS FOUNDERS AND TEAM

UpBots' team includes Benjamin Duval, the Chief Executive Officer, Julien Quertain, the CFO, and Ramzi Habib, the CTO. Others who worked on the project include Sylvain Kuntz, Angelique Massolo, the COO, Arnaud Deblander, Sally Teo, Michael Mikado, and Jean-Baptiste Dejonghe and Johannes Schoster.

UpBots' advisers include Hojung Lee, Alexandre Derrien, Philippe De Ridder, and Theodore Galariotis.

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FOREX TRADING INSIDER

15th June 2020

EXPERT FOREX TRADING TECHNIQUES

Aussie, kiwi, and yuan fall on worries about second wave of coronavirus

Big Week Ahead For The Currency Markets

Dollar and Risk Currencies Down Amid Second Wave Fears

Lebanese central bank to inject dollars to stop pound's slide

Editor's Letter

Nirav Shah has been a professional trader since 2001. His keen interest in the financial markets was passed down from his father who worked for one of London's most prestigious stock brokers.

He comes from a family of traders that have worked for institutions such as ICAP, Bank of America and Citibank.

In 2008 Nirav started developing his algorithm after an in-depth study alongside 3 other Institutional Traders and for 2 years he spent well over £500,000 in his research and development to create an algorithm that would actually study 18 indicators and combine them with an institutional orders flow. Nirav Shah is the creator of The Platinum Trading Methodology, a proprietary trading and analysis method.

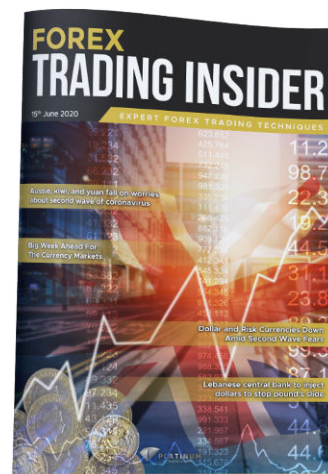
Nirav has been a commentator on CNBC about the financial markets, and has written many trading articles for some of the world's best-known financial publications.

Nirav's trading philosophy is one of low risk, high probability trading, a style that is very patient and disciplined but brings great rewards. He is now willing to share his vast experience with anybody who is open minded enough to learn how to trade professionally.

Nirav Shah

Nirav Shah

Chief Editor



Good Morning Platinum Traders,

As we come into summer trading conditions (the summer doldrums) the market caps as a consequence will be off fairly conservative levels for the time being. For the more experienced traders amongst you please continue to trade with this in mind whilst also being vigilant with opportunities off the daily update levels matching up to the buy and sell zones on the algorithm. This information will also put you on the right side of the market, both technical and fundamental wise with relevant support / resistance levels quoted on there to plot onto your charts. Once you have your directional bias, then bring your technicals into play, fibs, start buying on dips in bullish moves, whilst selling rallies into any strength on bearish plays. BPC trades should always be on your radars as well. Looking ahead to this week we have a plethora of tier one red flag news events with the Bank of Japan, Swiss national bank and the Bank of England taking centre stage with there respective monetary policy statements.

Eurozone Trade Balance: Monday, 10:00. The trade surplus narrowed in May to EUR 23.5 billion, down from EUR 25.8 billion a month earlier. The surplus is expected to narrow to EUR 20.3 billion.

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THIS WEEK IN THE FOREX MARKETS

Aussie, kiwi, and yuan fall on worries about second wave of coronavirus



Beijing reported its second consecutive day of record numbers of new infections on Monday. In the United States, more than 25,000 new cases were reported on Saturday alone.

Against a basket of currencies, the dollar surged overnight, steadying somewhat in early London trading, and was up 0.2% on the day at 0700 GMT.

The Australian dollar was down around 1% versus the dollar, while the New Zealand dollar was down 0.7%, both having hit their weakest levels in more than a week.

But despite the risk-off mood, the safe-haven Japanese yen did not strengthen significantly versus the dollar, and was at 107.28, while the Swiss franc was still relatively weak versus the euro, at 1.0723.

While many analysts attributed the dollar's strengthening to fears of a second wave of the virus, Commerzbank's Ulrich Leuchtmann said that there had long been stories of new infections. The fact that other safe-haven currencies did not strengthen suggests the dollar's rise is more a product of its recent weakening, added Leuchtmann, the bank's head of FX and commodity research.

"In my view it is all much more trivial. Following a pronounced period of USD weakness it is now time for a correction and profit-taking," he said.

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Big Week Ahead For The Currency Markets



Next week is important. Two G7 central banks meet and at least half a dozen emerging market central banks. There is a European Summit and perhaps a political effort to reinvigorate the UK-EU trade talks, which seem to be crashing on the shoals of stubbornness.

The ECB offers its most generous long-term targeted loan that is bound to see earlier loans rolled into this new one. Further evidence that the world's largest economy has taken a baby step toward recovery.

Let's unpack next week's events. But first, let's note that the events will take place as the recovery in risk assets appears to have come to an end with a flourish last week. That correction, which seemed overdue, appears to have more room to run. Also, the Covid virus continues to spread globally, and businesses, investors, and policymakers are sensitive to the so-called second-wave as countries and states re-open. Below are thumbnail sketches of the events and data that shape the macro picture.

EU Summit

The European Council (heads of state) hold a virtual meeting on June 18 to ostensibly discuss the EU's May 27 Recovery Fund proposal. Some have heralded the proposal as a key turning point in the evolution of Europe, and the possibility of a so-called Hamiltonian moment, a major set toward fiscal union, has been suggested. We have been less sanguine; recognizing the potential scaffolding for a greater union, but also that projecting emergency actions into the future is fraught with danger.

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AUD May Suffer vs USD Ahead of Chinese Industrial & Retail Sales Data



US equity markets ended the week on a happy note, with the Dow Jones, S&P 500 and Nasdaq indices closing 1.90, 1.31 and 1.01 percent higher, respectively. The sub-component in the industrial-tied Dow Jones index with the most gains was aerospace and defense. These cycle-sensitive classifications were given a tailwind from reports of increased airline travel and a better-than-expected consumer sentiment report in the US.

The optimistic dynamism in equities was also reflected in foreign exchange markets. The anti-risk Japanese Yen, US Dollar and Swiss Franc closed in the red while the cycle-sensitive Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Dollars were in green pastures. This came despite warnings from Fed Chairman Jerome Powell of significant vulnerabilities in the financial sector amid the coronavirus pandemic.

MONDAY'S ASIA-PACIFIC TRADING SESSION

Price action heading into Asia's Monday trading session suggests the week may start off on a sour note, leaving the growth-oriented AUD and its commodity-linked peers vulnerable. Conversely, the anti-risk Japanese Yen and US Dollar may reclaim some of their lost ground if market conditions put a premium on liquidity over returns.

Chinese industrial and retail sales data for May could amplify this risk-off dynamic and put additional pressure on AUD. Analysts anticipate industrial production on a year-on-year basis YTD to show a -3.0 percent contraction with retail sales over the same period at -13.5 percent. Weak signs of growth out of China – Australia's largest trading partner – may undercut AUD strength and accelerate AUD/USD's selloff.

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Dollar and Risk Currencies Down Amid Second Wave Fears



Investing.com – The dollar was down on Monday morning in Asia, with the AUD and NZD suffering losses amid mounting fears of a second wave of COVID-19 cases.

China saw a fresh cluster of cases linked to Beijing's Xinfadi market over the weekend, reporting 57 cases on June 13.

Neighbor Japan also reported 47 cases in Tokyo, with 27 of those cases traced back to nightclubs and bars that had recently reopened in the last phase of the city's re-opening.

The U.S. Dollar Index that tracks the greenback against a basket of other currencies slipped 0.22% to 97.118 by 11:21 AM ET (4:21 AM GMT).

U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell is largely expected to reiterate the gloomy picture of the U.S. economy in his semi-annual policy report to the Congress later this week.

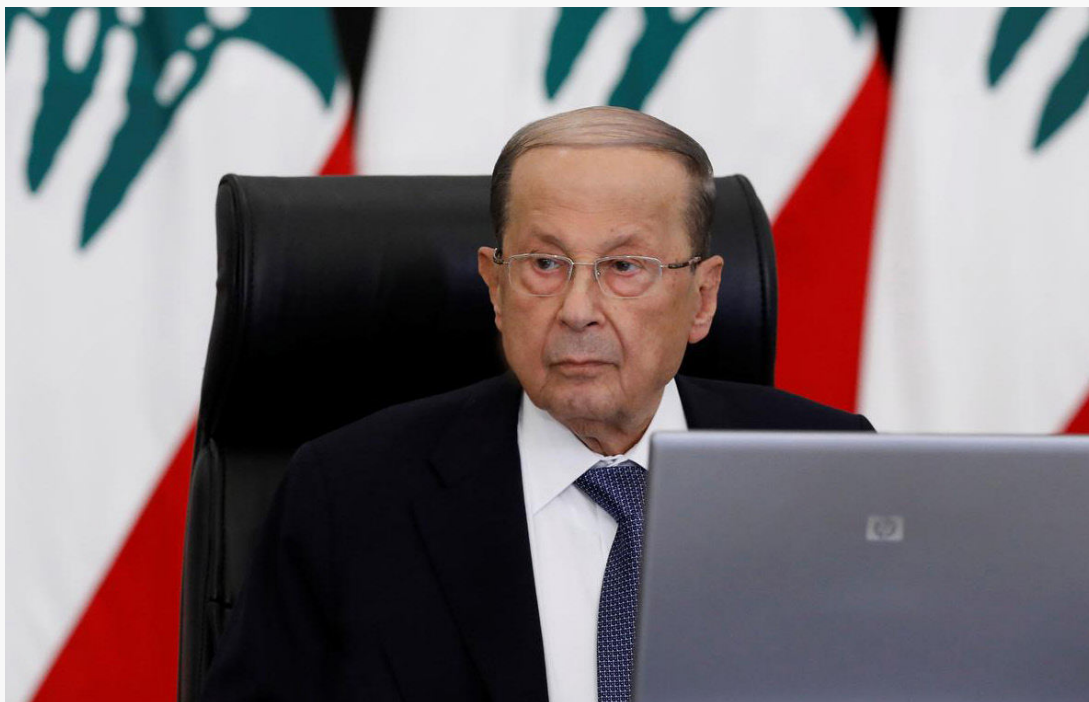
The USD/JPY pair was down 0.11% to 107.22 before a Bank of Japan policy meeting ending Tuesday.

The bank is not expected to announce any major changes.

The AUD/USD pair lost 0.48% to 0.6829 and the NZD/USD pair lost 0.36% to 0.6421. The two Antipodean risk currencies were the biggest casualties of the increased second-wave fears due to their close ties with the Chinese economy as well as global commodities.

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Lebanese central bank to inject dollars to stop pound's slide



BEIRUT (Reuters) - Lebanon's central bank will begin injecting dollars into the market on Monday, President Michel Aoun said on Friday, as it tries to stop a sharp fall in the local pound currency which has led to economic hardship and sparked unrest.

The Lebanese pound had slumped to about 5,000 to the dollar from around 4,100 a week earlier, igniting protests in several cities on Thursday against the deteriorating economic conditions.

One dealer who was buying dollars at 5,000 pounds before the announcement said the price had now fallen to 4,500, indicating the move may help the local currency to steady.

In total, the pound has lost some 70% of its value since October, when Lebanon plunged into a financial crisis that has seen businesses close, prices and unemployment soar, and the introduction of capital controls that have severed Lebanese from their hard currency savings.

Finance Minister Ghazi Wazni also said the pound was starting to gain ground after the announcement and would continue to do so, according to broadcaster LBCI.

Parliament speaker Nabih Berri said earlier that the government had agreed steps to reduce the dollar price to about 3,000-3,200 pounds.

The heavily indebted country has maintained an official dollar peg of 1,507.5, but dollars at this level have been rationed exclusively for imports of fuel, medicine, and wheat.

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STOCKS



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INDICES



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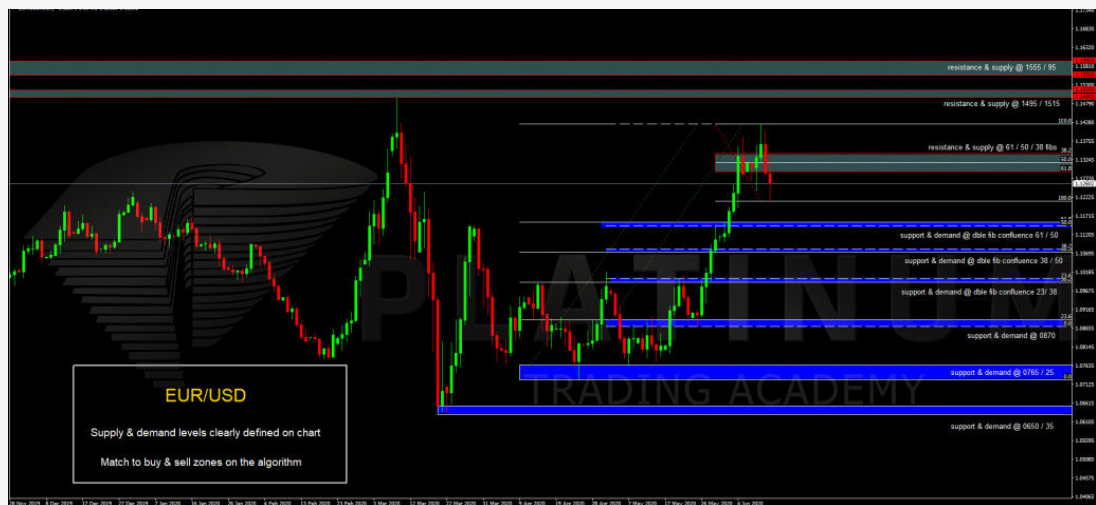
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KEY ANALYSIS OF MAJOR PAIRS

EUR/USD

German industrial production fell by 17.9% in April from the previous month, following an 8.9% drop in March. There was more bad news as the country's surplus fell to EUR 3.2 billion in April, down sharply from EUR 12.8 billion beforehand. Eurozone GDP for Q1 came in at -3.6%, revised upwards from 3.8 percent. Eurozone industrial production sank, with a 17.1% decline in April. In the U.S., consumer inflation posted a third consecutive decline, as the weak U.S. economy is not generating any inflation. Both the headline and core figures came in at -0.1%. The Fed made no change to the benchmark rate and indicated that it has no plans to alter rates from their ultra-low levels prior to 2022. Producer Price Inflation numbers were a mix. The headline read gained 0.4%, while the core figure fell by 0.1 percent. Unemployment claims continue to ease, falling to 1.54 million last week, down from 1.87 million beforehand.



EUR/USD Longer Term view

The Euro's Downtrend found a Bottom at 1.0640, enabling recovery back toward Key Resistance at the 1.1490 level.

GBP/USD

GBP/USD

In the UK, April GDP was in free-fall, with a huge drop of 20.4 percent. This followed a drop of 5.8% beforehand. The manufacturing sector is sputtering, as manufacturing production sank by 24.3 percent. This was worse than the estimate of -15.0 percent. In the U.S., consumer inflation posted a third consecutive decline, as the weak U.S. economy is not generating any inflation. Both the headline and core figures came in at -0.1%. The Fed made no change to the benchmark rate and indicated that it has no plans to alter rates from their ultra-low levels prior to 2022. Producer Price Inflation numbers were a mix. The headline read gained 0.4%, while the core figure fell by 0.1 percent. Unemployment claims continue to ease, falling to 1.54 million last week, down from 1.87 million beforehand.



GBP/USD Longer Term view

Sterling still displays a developing multi-year Falling Wedge pattern, enabling a major advance to eventually occur, upon completion



TOP TRADING EVENTS

TOP TRADING EVENTS

This Week: Jun 14 - Jun 20						
Date	9:38am	Currency	Impact	Forecast	Previous	
Sun Jun 14						
Mon Jun 15						
Tue Jun 16	Tentative	JPY	🔴	Monetary Policy Statement		
	6:00am	GBP	🔴	Claimant Count Change	856.5K	
	12:30pm	USD	🔴	Core Retail Sales m/m	5.5%	-17.2%
		USD	🔴	Retail Sales m/m	7.4%	-16.4%
Wed Jun 17	2:00pm	USD	🔴	Fed Chair Powell Testifies		
	12:30pm	CAD	🔴	CPI m/m	0.8%	-0.7%
	4:00pm	USD	🔴	Fed Chair Powell Testifies		
Thu Jun 18	10:45pm	NZD	🔴	GDP q/q	-1.0%	0.5%
	1:30am	AUD	🔴	Employment Change	-75.0K	-594.3K
		AUD	🔴	Unemployment Rate	7.0%	6.2%
	7:30am	CHF	🔴	SNB Monetary Policy Assessment		
		CHF	🔴	SNB Press Conference		
	11:00am	GBP	🔴	Asset Purchase Facility	745B	645B
		GBP	🔴	MPC Asset Purchase Facility Votes	0-9-0	2-0-7
		GBP	🔴	MPC Official Bank Rate Votes	0-0-9	0-0-9
Fri Jun 19		GBP	🔴	Monetary Policy Summary		
		GBP	🔴	Official Bank Rate	0.10%	0.10%
Fri Jun 19	12:30pm	CAD	🔴	Core Retail Sales m/m	-7.3%	-0.4%
Sat Jun 20						

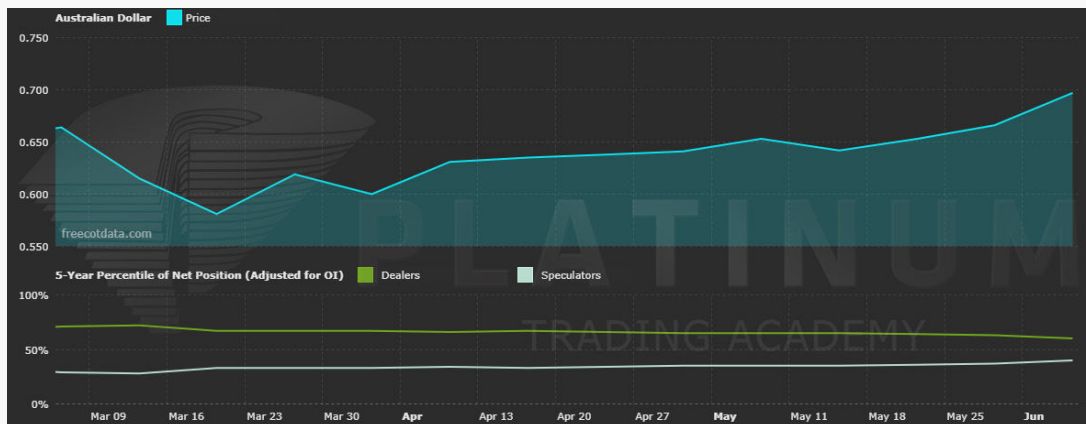
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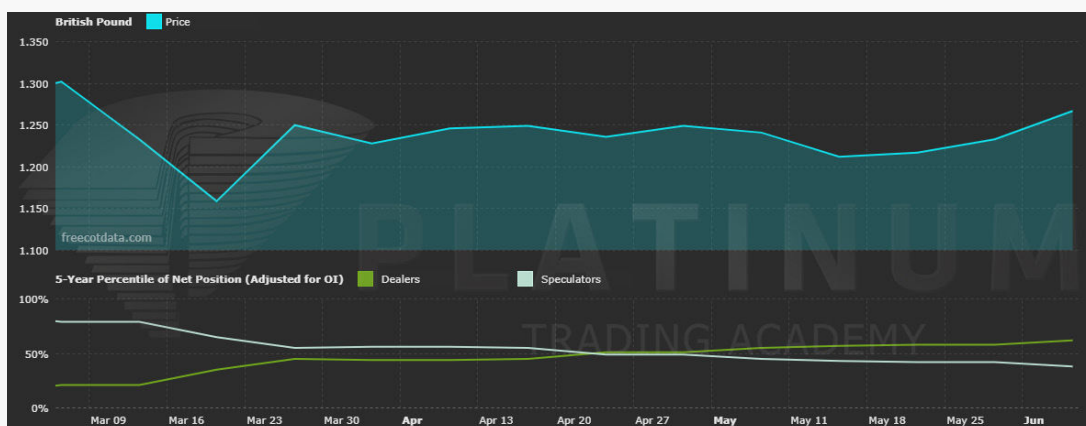
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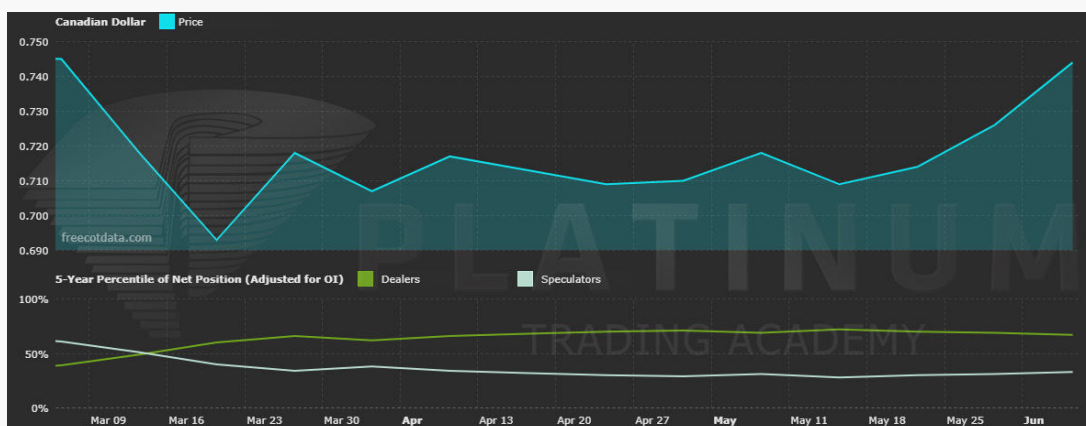
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR COT REPORT



BRITISH POUND COT REPORT



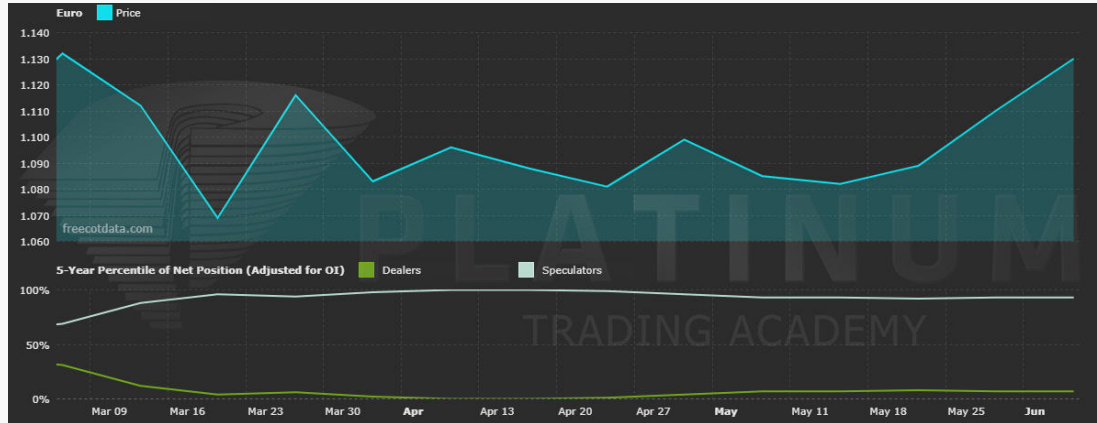
CANADIAN DOLLAR COT REPORT



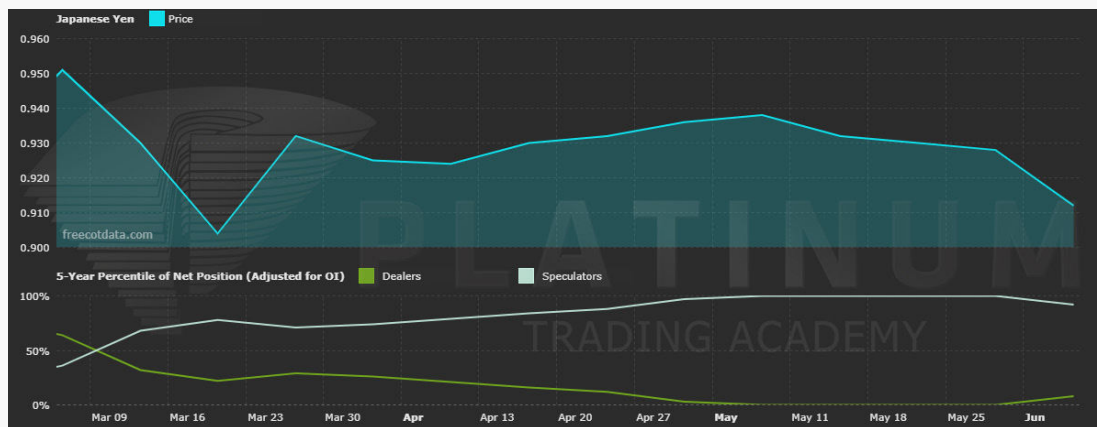
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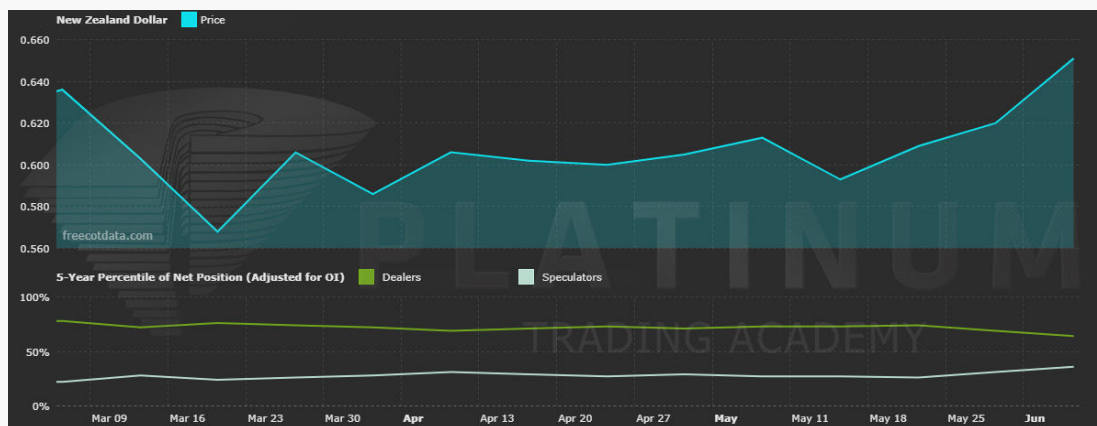
EURO COT REPORT



JAPANESE YEN COT REPORT



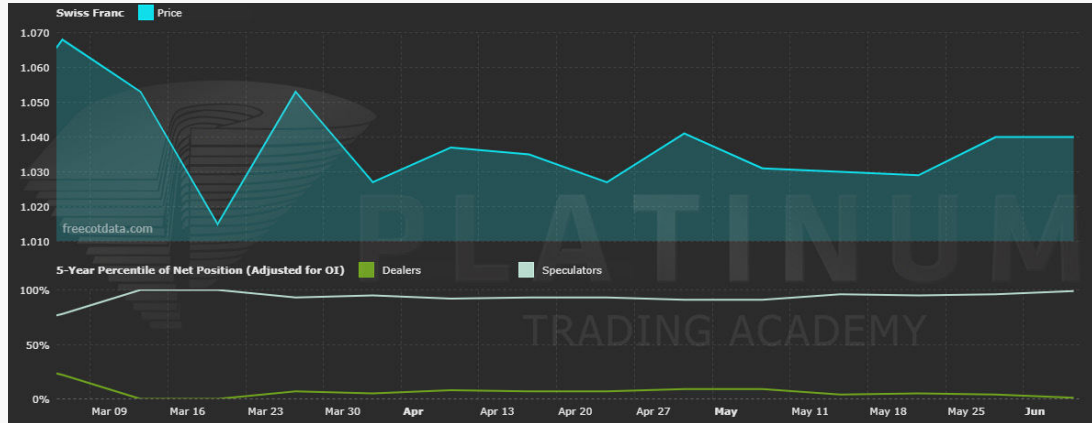
NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR COT REPORT



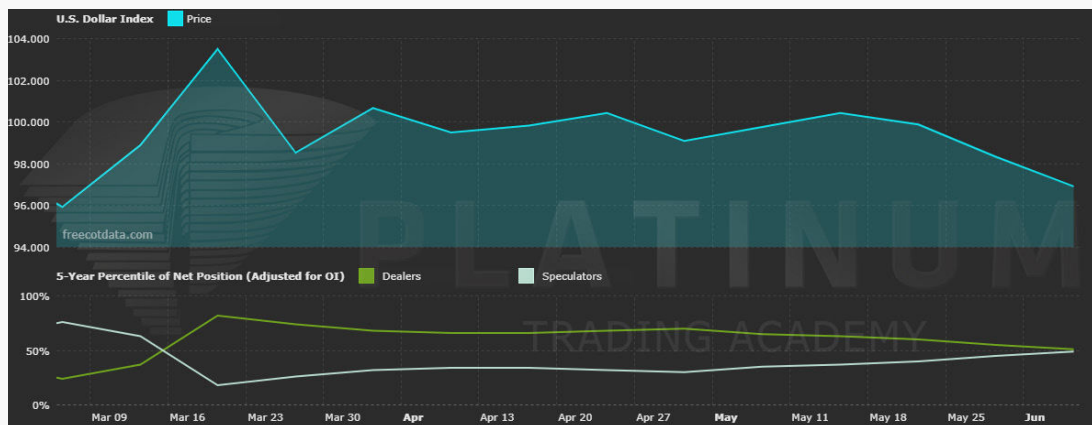
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FOREX TRADING ARTICLE

TOP 10 TRADING IDEAS FOR 2020



Hello Traders,

In this article, we'll examine the top trading ideas in 2020. Any casual internet search will come up with dozens of trading ideas. We have whittled down a list 10 finalists (in no particular order), which in our opinion represents the best trading ideas of 2020. The list includes forex ideas, as well as trades based on commodities and equities.

The global economy has taken a beating in 2020, as the Covid-19 pandemic has paralyzed economies across the world and caused massive upheaval. Key economic sectors, such as manufacturing, services and housing have all reported sharp declines in the first quarter of the year. Consumer spending, a key engine of economic growth, has fallen off sharply, as nervous consumers are holding tight to their purse strings, unsure of what tomorrow will bring. Millions of workers are on unpaid leave or have lost their jobs, and business and consumer confidence have evaporated.

There may be plenty of gloom and uncertainty in the air and on the airwaves, but for traders, the "Corona era" can be viewed as a unique opportunity to trade and profit. Global stock markets took a huge hit in March, when the pandemic spread to Europe and the United States, but have since recovered much of these losses. The currency (FX) markets have been marked by high volatility, which is a positive trading environment as it provides trading opportunities.

In response to the severe economic conditions caused by Covid-19, central banks have co-ordinated their monetary policy and slashed interest rates close to zero. This means that fixed-income securities such as U.S. Treasury Bills have decreased in value and are less attractive, while at the same time there has been an increase in demand for equities (stocks) and commodities such as gold.

Types of Trading

Before discussing trading ideas, let's review the different types of trading. In order for a trade idea to transform into a reality, we need to choose a method (or combination of methods).

The most popular financial instruments to trade on the financial markets include equities, commodities and the currency (FX) markets. Before looking at particular assets which represent excellent trading opportunities, let's take a look at the different types of trading and suggested trading strategies.

There is no "best method" to trade – one or more of these methods may be most suitable for your specific trading idea, depending on your temperament and tolerance for risk. These methods are suitable for any types of trades – these include forex trading ideas, or trades involving commodities or equities.

Scalping

A scalper will make dozens or even hundreds of trades each day, with the goal of "scalping" a profit from small price changes. This type of trading demands strict discipline because the trader must adhere to a strict exit strategy.

Momentum Trading

These traders look for stocks that are showing significant movement in one direction, with high volume. The momentum trader will try and "ride" the momentum in order to make a profit.

Technical Trading

Technical trading involves identifying trading opportunities in price trends and patterns which appear as graphs on charts. These traders examine indicators on the graphs, such as support and resistance levels or moving averages, looking for buy or sell signals.

Fundamental Trading

Fundamental traders will trade a company stock based on events which are specific to a particular company, such as earning reports or acquisitions. Currencies can be viewed as a nation's "national stock", hence, fundamentals in the FX markets would include economic and political events affecting that country, which could affect the exchange rate.

Swing Trading

Swing traders will hold a trading position for longer than a single trading session, for up to several months. The goal is to hold onto an asset in anticipation of a price move which will yield a profit.

Tips and Strategies

The leap in technology in recent years has meant that traders can trade from the comfort of their home and trade the markets on their computer or Smartphone. The internet provides a trader with unlimited access to broker services as well as information about trading on the financial markets. What has not changed over time, however, is the requirement for a trader to show discipline with his trading idea and stick with a strategy during the ups-and-downs of trading (yes, rest assured that there will be some downs along the way). Here are some tried-and-true suggestions which should be implemented in every trade:

1. Define Your Goals and Trading Style

Trading ideas should be treated like any journey. The traveler needs to know what is the final destination and how he plans to get there. As we have discussed above, there are various methods for trading financial instruments. Once you have clear goals in mind, you can choose a trading method (or methods) which will best meet your goals.

What is your risk tolerance? Are you comfortable going to sleep with an open position in the market? A good rule of thumb for risk tolerance is to avoid any moves that will keep you up at night. A trader who is comfortable with open positions might prefer fundamental trading, while someone who prefers to close her positions at the end of the trading session may find scalping a more suitable method.

2. Choose a Suitable Broker and Trading Platform

Type in “trading broker” on Google and dozens of sites will pop up on your screen. In order to ensure that your funds are secure, an online broker should be registered with the regulatory bodies of that country – in the U.K., the relevant regulators are the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA).

Most brokers will offer a trading platform that you can use on your smartphone, but not all platforms are created equal. A good platform will have user-friendly technical and charting tools and a news feed. As well, a broker should be able to execute trades at the price you requested (or extremely close to it) and provide competent customer service. Bottom line? Make sure you have “a good broker with an excellent trading platform”.

Choosing the right broker can be a daunting task, but the Platinum Trading Academy can help you whittle down the vast number of brokers. We’ve reviewed dozens of brokers and trading platforms and come up with what we feel are the [12 best FX brokers](#).

3. Entry and Exit Strategy

It is essential to have an entry and exit strategy before you make a trade. Are you looking to jump “in and out” or are you in for the “long haul”? Stick to your guns – don’t fall into the trap of throwing your trading strategy out the window because of unexpected moves in the market.

4. Education, education, education!

The old adage of ‘knowledge is power’ rings true in the trading arena. The more you know and learn about trading and the financial markets, the better equipped you are to make trades which can yield profits. Consider taking a course in trading, such as online trading courses from Platinum Trading Academy, which has helped thousands of individuals [learn how to trade](#) on the financial markets.

Top 10 Trading Ideas

The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in shortages of medical supplies and personal protective equipment, with countries and businesses frantically combing the globe to obtain these supplies. As well, many firms are actively working on a vaccine for Covid-19.

1. Johnson & Johnson

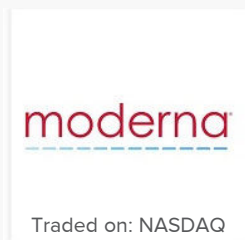


The U.S. pharmaceutical giant started is pouring huge sums into discovering a vaccine for Covid-19. In conjunction with the U.S. government, more than \$1 billion has been committed to fund vaccine research, development, and clinical testing. Johnson & Johnson has an established record developing vaccines, such as the vaccine for the Ebola virus.

The company expects to begin a phase-one clinical study in September 2020 and is aiming to have a vaccine for emergency use ready in early 2021. Ultimately, it is aiming to provide a ‘global supply of more than one billion doses of a vaccine’.

This blue-chip, quality stock started the year 2020 at \$145.97. The stock dropped to a year-to-date low of 111.14 in late March, but has since recovered all of these losses – currently, the stock is trading at \$147.30. Johnson & Johnson has significant upside if it discovers a vaccine. It is an excellent choice for a trader who is prepared to hold onto the stock as research into a vaccine continues.

2. Moderna



This biotech company has seen its share price soar due to its front-runner status in the race to find a vaccine for the Covid-19 virus. The company has not generated much revenue, but that hasn’t deterred investors, who have snapped up the stock. Moderna has jumped 190% since the beginning of the year and is currently trading around \$58.

Moderna conducted a Phase 1 clinical trial in March, followed by a Phase 2 in May. However, the company is at least a year away from having any of its products hit the market. Still, investors like the fact that the Trump administration chose Moderna as one of just five companies most likely to produce a successful vaccine for Covid-19. Moderna faces stiff competition in the race to reach a vaccine and this stock is not for the risk-averse. At the same time, if Moderna does produce a vaccine, the windfall for shareholders will be huge indeed.

3. Quidel



Quidel is a diagnostics company that specializes in rapid testing for a variety of diseases, including the Covid-19 virus. According to MarketSmith.com, Quidel stock ranks as number 20 out of the 150 fastest-growing stocks. Sales growth has been strong and the earnings per share have climbed at an annual rate of 98 percent.

The stock was trading at \$74 at the start of the year and has almost doubled in value, as it currently trades at \$156. In May, the stock climbed as high as \$208. Given the huge demand for corona testing in the U.S. and worldwide, Quidel shares have significant room to climb.

4. Gold

Gold is a traditional safe-haven asset, as investors tend to seek the safety and stability of the yellow metal in times of crisis. The global economic meltdown has sent gold prices sharply higher, with the metal climbing an impressive 16% since January 1. The stock market rally has not hampered demand for gold, which climbed as high as \$1765 in May, its highest level since 2012.

A correction in gold prices is a possibility once economic conditions improve. At the same time, a rebound in economic activity is likely to cause inflation, which could raise the price of gold, since investors often purchase gold as a hedge against inflation. Whatever one's view on which direction gold will take in the coming weeks and months, gold will continue to fluctuate, making it an attractive asset to trade.

5. Platinum

For traders who are looking for a commodity that shows volatility but has less of downside risk than gold, platinum fits the bill. Platinum is not considered a safe-haven, so it has not acted in the same way as gold, which has shown sharp gains in 2020. The metal started the year at \$980 and fell sharply in March, dropping to a low of \$586. Platinum has since recovered much of these losses and is currently trading at \$827.

6. Australian Dollar

Looking for a forex trade idea?

The Australian dollar is considered a risk currency, and its tendency to fluctuate makes it a popular trading opportunity. The Australian dollar is one of the five most frequently traded currencies in the FX market. The primary reason for the huge demand is the fact that the Australian economy is particularly dependent on the export of commodities, and the unpredictability of the commodity cycle often translates into significant volatility for the Australian dollar.

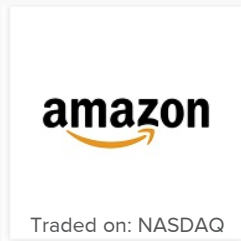
7. Nasdaq Index Fund

The Nasdaq 100 is the third most followed equity index in the U.S., after the Dow Jones and S&P indices. The Nasdaq provides traders with diversified exposure to over 3000

companies in the non-financial sector. Some of the biggest companies in the world trade on the index, including Apple, Facebook and Amazon. Trading an index fund is less volatile than trading individual stocks, but traders should keep in mind that the index is only as stable as the underlying index. Thus, trading in an index fund entails considerable risk.

The Nasdaq started the year at 9092 points and like the rest of the equity markets, had a miserable March, falling to a low of 6860 points. Since then, however, the index has fully recovered and is currently at 9924 points. With the U.S. economy showing signs of recovery, I expect the Nasdaq to continue to move higher.

8. Amazon



The corona outbreak has led to most retail stocks taking a tumble, with the exception of the companies in the health care sector. However, a notable exception has been Amazon, a multinational giant. The company has taken over 38% of the e-commerce industry in the U.S., and this sector is likely to grow even further, as consumers spend less time outside trading at \$2524.

9. Innovative Industrial Properties



Innovative Industrial Properties owns facilities for the cultivation of medical-use cannabis and leases them to licensed growers in the United States. The company does not produce marijuana or any related products. At the start of 2020, shares were trading at \$73. Share prices fell in March to a low of \$51, but have rebounded nicely. Currently, the share price stands at \$95. With more U.S. states expected to legalize cannabis, demand will increase and the relatively low share price makes the stock an attractive trading opportunity.

10. Dexcom



Dexcom is another company in the healthcare sector that is an attractive buy. The company manufactures and distributes continuous glucose monitoring systems for diabetes patients. Share prices have shown excellent growth this year and did not collapse in March, like most retail stocks. The company started the year at \$219 and touched a low of \$198 in March. Currently, shares are trading at \$368.

Summary

This article presents the top-10 trading ideas for 2020. Investors have a dizzying amount of choices to choose from. The trick is to settle on an asset that you feel comfortable with. A forex trade idea such as AUD/USD promises plenty of volatility, while a commodity trading idea such as gold acts as a safe-haven in times of crisis. Once you determine which trade idea you prefer, choose a trading method, remain disciplined and the sky is the limit!

FOREX TRADING ARTICLE

WHAT ARE STOCK INDICES AND THE CORONAVIRUS IMPACT



Hello Traders,

In today's blog, we take a look at the stock market index and how to trade indices. Hopefully, this will give you an insight into how you can trade indices at a professional level and will help you learn to trade indices yourself. We'll dive into what a stock market index is, and how you can take advantage of a stock index to turn a profit. By the end of this blog, you should know how to trade indices, and make the most of a stock market index.

What is a Stock Index?

A Stock index is a statistical measure which represents the value of a group of stocks. There are different methods in which this value is calculated which is discussed in a section below. Stock indexes are often used by investors as a gauge of how a market or section of the market is performing in the respective economy of the country listing the index. Indices can be measured regionally, nationally and globally.

Examples of Some of the National Major Indices are as per below:

USA:

Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA)
S&P 500
NASDAQ 100

Japan:

Nikkei 225)

Europe:

UK – FTSE 100
Germany – DAX 30
France - CAC 40
Spain – IBEX 35
Italy - FTSE MIB

Methods of the price calculation for indexes/Measurement

- **Broad-Based Index**– A Broad-based index measures the performance of a group of stocks or a whole market. S&P 500 is an example of one of the largest broad-based indexes with 500 stocks included and the Dow Jones one of the least with 30 stocks. Price calculation can vary however the goal is to have a figure to utilise as a benchmark for viewing average price movement of a group of stocks over a time period.
- **Price Weighted Index**– An Index using this method tracks changes in a particular stock's price per share which in return allocates a greater weight for companies which have higher stock prices. In simple terms by adding each individual stock in the relative index and dividing by the total number of companies included will produce a value, therefore companies with higher stock prices have a more significant effect. The Dow Jones is an example of a price-weighted index.
- **Market Value Weighted Index/Capitalisation Weighted Index**–This index tracks the proportion of a stock in relation to its market cap also known as market value. The market cap is calculated by multiplying the price per share with the shares outstanding per company, the market cap per company is then divided by the sum of all the market caps involved in the index leaving a percentage weighting of each company. Companies with a larger market cap will have a greater influence. NASDAQ and S&P 500 are examples of this calculation.
- **Performance-Based Index**–An index of this type includes dividend payments, capital gains and any other cash pay-outs to stockholders, the sum of these additional figures is added to the net share price prior to calculation of an index return. DAX 30 is an example of this type of index.
- **Composite Index**–This type of index is a large group of equities/securities or can be an average of multiple indexes. The New York Stock Exchange is an example of this as it follows all stocks listed on this exchange. NASDAQ Composite is also an example of this tracking over 3300 stocks.

What moves the price of an index?

- **Company Announcements** – Changes to company structure and personnel changes in positions of employment
- **Financial Results**–Profits and losses declared, however, this should also be considered alongside company debt, re-investment and the market growth
- **Economic news**–Interest rate announcements, Non-farms payroll, GDP, Consumer Price Index & Purchasing Managers Index
- **Country relations**– Health of relationships between countries can have a significant impact on imports and exports along with any charges included
- **Commodities**– Some indexes contain more commodities than others, therefore, the impact varies
- **Index Changes**– Companies can be swapped or added which can cause price fluctuation

Investing in Indexes

As discussed in sections prior, indexes are a measure of the market and therefore cannot be invested in directly however there are options available which are detailed below:

- **Index Funds** – This type of fund aims to mimic a basket of stocks in a particular index. There are usually lower charges and fees incurred in comparison to mutual funds which can incur higher charges from fund managers/companies for managing the portfolio. Index funds provide a more cost-effective solution as opposed to investing in each individual stock listed within an index.
- **Exchange-traded funds (ETFs)** – The goal is similar to index funds in that it tracks and mimics a certain index however ETF's can be traded like a stock, buying or selling as appropriate

Advantages and Disadvantages of Indexes/Index Funds

- **Advantages**– Indexes can be a key indicator for the overall health of the market and trends which are occurring, this, in turn, can provide investors with a quick method of making more informed decisions and comparing an investor's portfolio to the rest of the market. The lower fees involved with index funds as mentioned earlier also make investing in them a more attractive prospect.
- **Disadvantages**– It is argued that the methods in which the numerical values are calculated either by using a price-weighted system or market capitalisation, allows for too much bias in respect to larger companies given a much more significant weighting. Indexes also swap companies, an example of this is during the 2008 crash where AIG stock plummeted but was swiftly changed with Kraft Foods resulting in the Dow upholding a higher value. In relation to the 2008 crash, Index funds followed the market trend resulting in significant losses, however, if there were a fund manager as in this case with mutual funds, some of the risks could have been hedged or changed positions to cash.

BOOK A LIVE TRADING SESSION AND LEARN HOW TO TRADE THE WORLD'S FIVE TOP INDICES!

What are The Dow Jones, S&P 500 & FTSE 100?

Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA)

The Dow Jones was established by Charles Dow in the year 1896, at this point in time the number of stocks included was 12. To calculate the average the sum of the closing price of each company was divided by the total number of stocks included in the index. The Dow Jones is the second oldest index to the Dow Jones Transportation Average which was created in 1884.

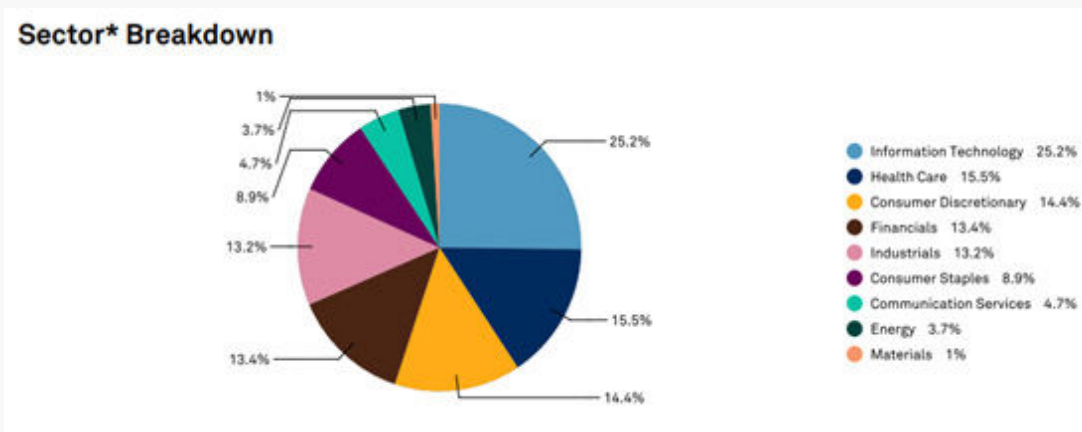
The Dow Jones now tracks the 30 largest publicly owned companies trading on the New York Stock Exchange. The Companies included are as per below:

Companies in the Dow Jones Industrial Average

Company	Price	Change	% Change	Volume	YTD change
MMM 3M	160.09	-2.24	-1.36%	2,143,772	-9.26%
AXP American Express	134.46	+1.22	+0.92%	1,340,201	+8.01%
AAPL Apple	326.12	-1.08	-0.33%	18,110,717	+11.06%
BA Boeing	345.02	-0.30	-0.11%	2,713,353	+5.91%
CAT Caterpillar	140.47	+0.88	+0.63%	2,229,654	-4.88%
CVX Chevron	111.91	-0.13	-0.12%	3,632,692	-7.14%
CSCO Cisco	47.59	-2.34	-4.69%	35,393,532	-0.77%
KO Coca-Cola	59.80	-0.39	-0.66%	3,844,967	+8.04%
DIS Disney	141.75	-0.10	-0.07%	5,020,083	-1.99%
DOW Dow Chemical	48.30	-1.08	-2.19%	1,826,333	-11.75%
XOM Exxon Mobil	60.79	-0.48	-0.78%	7,923,819	-12.88%
GS Goldman Sachs	238.62	-0.03	-0.01%	824,951	+3.78%
HD Home Depot	242.91	+1.32	+0.55%	1,446,025	+11.23%
IBM IBM	154.76	-0.55	-0.35%	2,135,028	+15.46%
INTC Intel	67.59	+0.13	+0.19%	7,124,758	+12.93%
JNJ Johnson & Johnson	150.46	-0.63	-0.42%	2,947,088	+3.15%
JPM JPMorgan Chase	138.08	+0.08	+0.06%	4,663,539	-0.95%
MCD McDonald's	218.11	+0.65	+0.30%	1,766,803	+10.37%
MRK Merck	82.35	-0.90	-1.08%	13,711,098	-9.46%
MSFT Microsoft	184.40	-0.31	-0.17%	26,805,489	+16.93%
NKE Nike	103.60	+0.60	+0.58%	3,437,857	+2.26%
PFE Pfizer	37.15	-0.59	-1.56%	12,209,131	-5.18%
PG Procter & Gamble	125.19	+1.74	+1.41%	3,024,005	+0.23%
TRV Travelers Companies Inc	136.95	+1.24	+0.91%	507,632	0.00%
UTX United Technologies	153.80	-0.64	-0.42%	1,966,410	+2.70%
UNH UnitedHealth	303.98	+0.50	+0.16%	2,507,415	+3.40%
VZ Verizon	58.60	+0.37	+0.64%	10,531,880	-4.56%
V Visa	208.11	-0.97	-0.47%	3,995,975	+10.70%
WMT Wal-Mart	117.44	+1.59	+1.37%	3,354,893	-1.18%
WBA Walgreen	53.58	-0.89	-1.63%	1,870,195	-9.12%

In 1896 the calculation for the average was simple however as more companies were included, dividing by the total number of companies involved didn't give an accurate representation for the growth of companies in comparison to their price per share. Looking at the table above for an example a \$5 increase in share price for Coca-Cola would carry the same weight as a \$5 increase for Apple if the sum of all companies were divided by 30. Another example could be Coca-Cola Increasing by \$5 and Apple Decreasing by \$5 which would negate each other if dividing by 30. Simply dividing by 30 doesn't take into account the percentage weighting of companies in the index, the Dow Divisor was introduced to maintain the true value of the Dow and keep continuity especially when considering stock splits and inclusions of different companies.

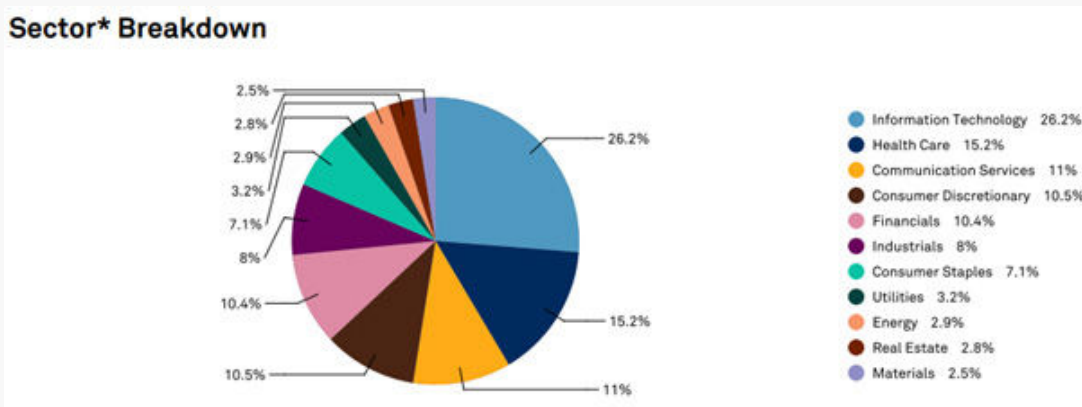
Breakdown by Sector DJIA:



S&P 500

The Standard & Poor’s 500 is an index following 500 of the largest U.S publicly traded companies, it uses the market capitalisation to produce its value. This index is viewed as a key indicator of the health of the US stock market due to the fact it tracks between 70-80% of the total market capitalisation for the US stock market. The S&P 500 dates back to 1923 and at that time included 223 companies covering 26 industries.

The below chart details which sectors make up the S&P 500



FTSE 100

The FTSE 100 tracks the 100 largest publicly traded companies traded on the London Stock Exchange. Like the S&P 500 market capitalisation is used again tracking around 80% of the total market capitalisation for stocks on the LSE. The FTSE was created in 1984 and is widely followed as an indicator for market health for stocks listed on the LSE.

Breakdown of the sector as per below:

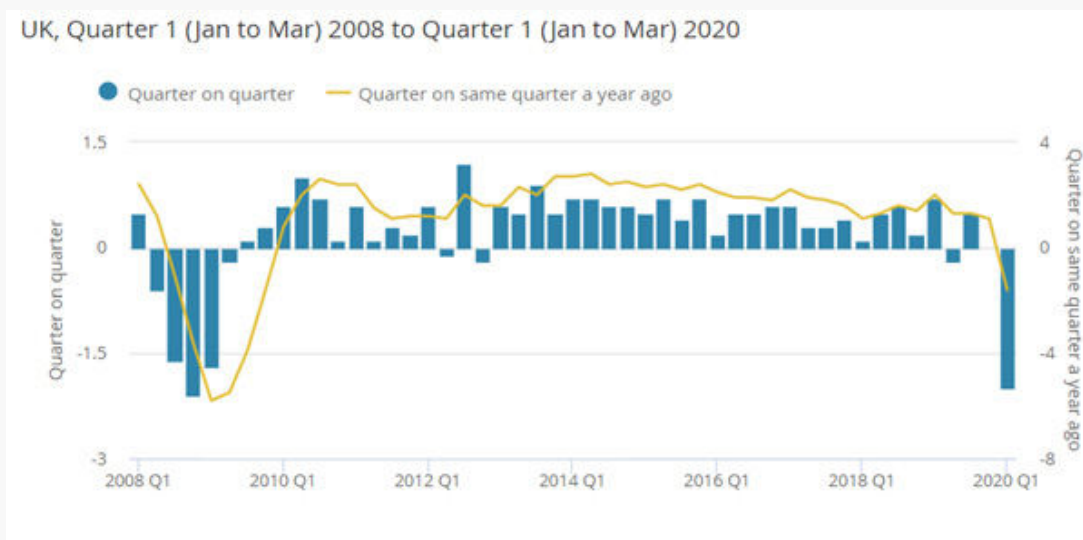
ICB Code	ICB Supersector	FTSE 100		
		No. of Const	Net MCap (GBPm)	Wgt %
0500	Oil & Gas	3	165,117	11.12
1300	Chemicals	2	9,838	0.66
1700	Basic Resources	9	119,516	8.05
2300	Construction & Materials	1	19,113	1.29
2700	Industrial Goods & Services	16	130,152	8.77
3300	Automobiles & Parts	-	-	-
3500	Food & Beverage	3	73,836	4.97
3700	Personal & Household Goods	9	199,995	13.47
4500	Health Care	4	207,433	13.98
5300	Retail	7	54,289	3.66
5500	Media	7	62,085	4.18
5700	Travel & Leisure	7	45,960	3.10
6500	Telecommunications	2	40,205	2.71
7500	Utilities	6	64,119	4.32
8300	Banks	5	139,396	9.39
8500	Insurance	7	66,966	4.51
8600	Real Estate	3	17,507	1.18
8700	Financial Services	8	59,520	4.01
9500	Technology	2	9,215	0.62
Totals		101	1,484,251	100.00

How has COVID-19 impacted the US & UK Economies?

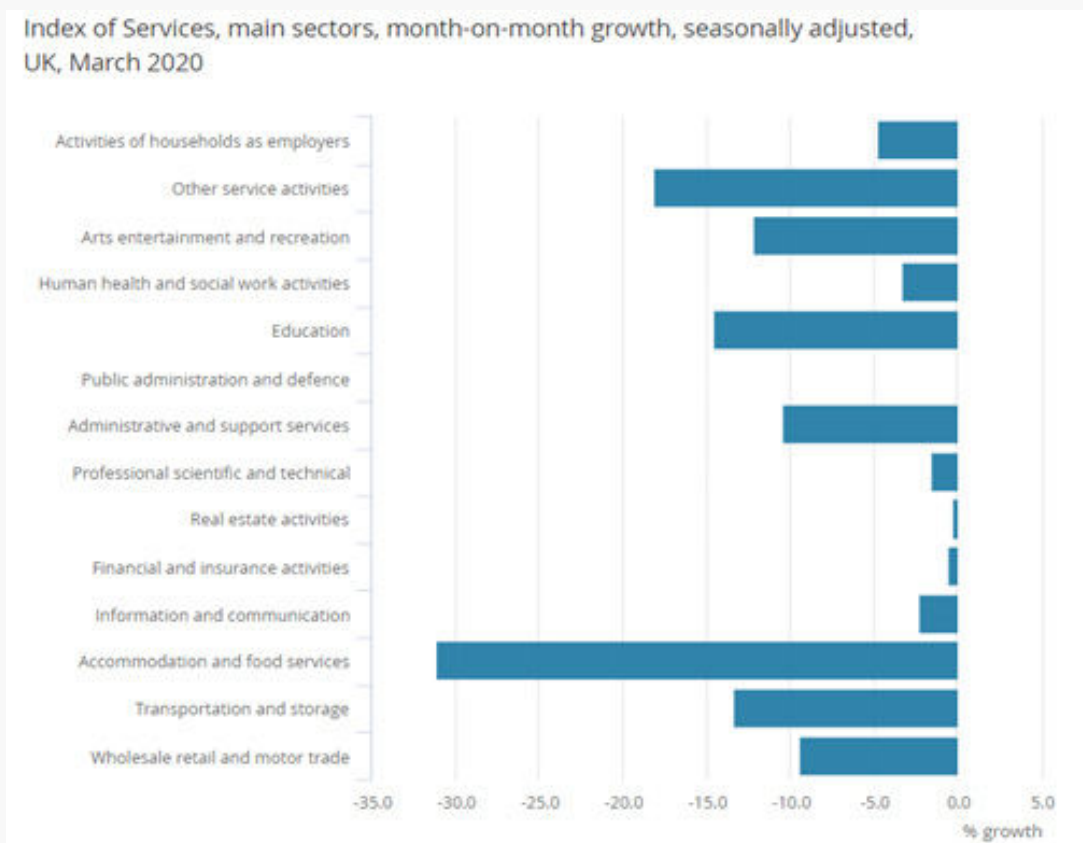
The UK economy has been impacted significantly during the **COVID Outbreak**. Almost all aspects of the economy had to be shut down or drastically reduced to suit new social distancing measures in place which were announced on 23rd March 2020.

In relation to Q1(January>March), 2020 GDP was estimated to have shrunk by 2% which is the biggest fall since Q4(October>December) 2008. The 2% reduction in GDP also accounts for a monthly 5.8% fall in monthly GDP which was the most since records have been maintained in 1997.

See below for a graph illustrating the fall in GDP:



See below for a chart depicting a fall in services during March 2020:

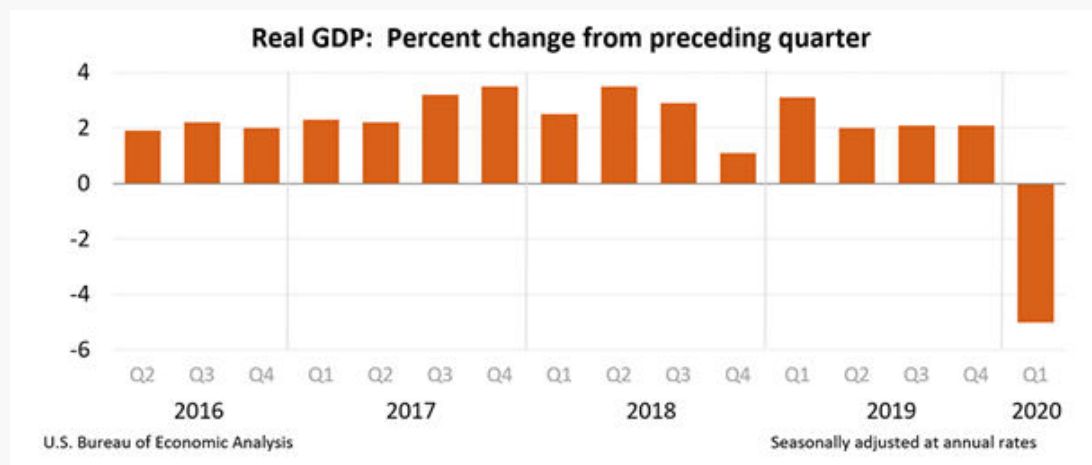


During the COVID period schemes have been to help support workers. Over 8.4 million workers are under the furlough scheme with subsidies claims rising to £15 Billion. Self-employed worker claims have also risen to over 2.3 million totalling around £6.8 Billion.

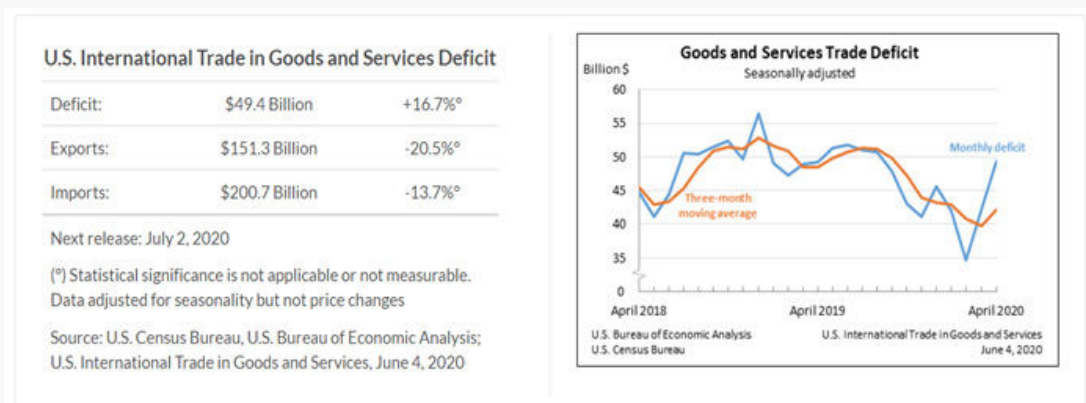
How has the US economy been affected by COVID?

The US economy has also been significantly impacted by the virus and the below will touch on key aspects of the economy.

Real GDP reduced by a 5% annual rate. The below illustrates the drastic impact of closing the economy down to reduce the transmitting the virus. The decline was the largest quarterly decline since the 8.4% drop in quarter four of 2008.

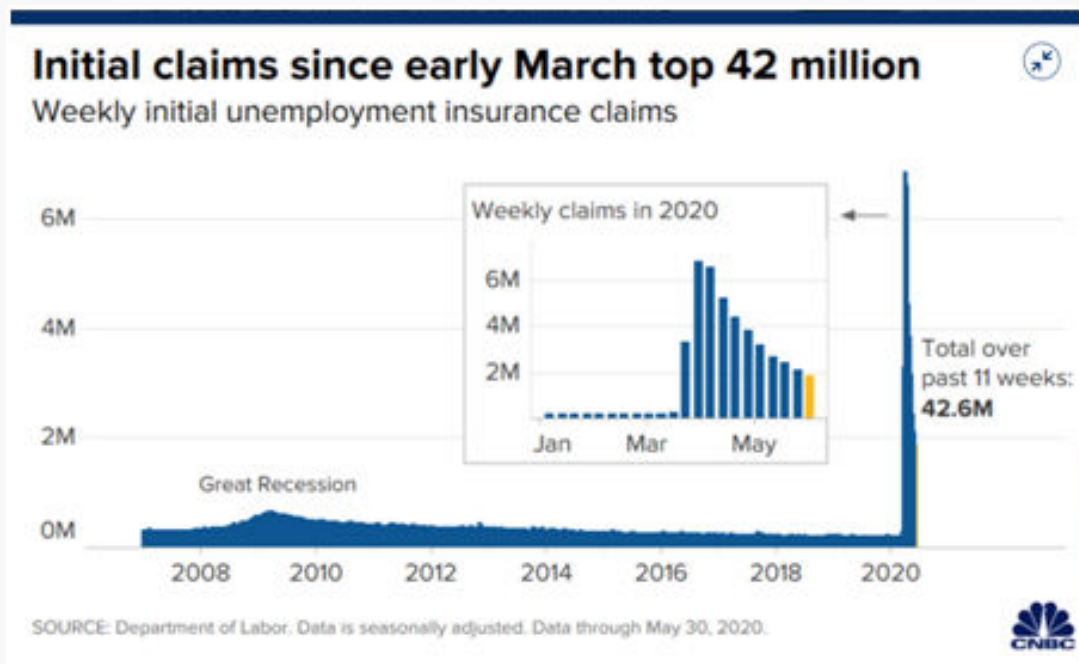


The graph below portrays the impact on goods and services:



Unemployment has also been a huge issue growing weekly, in the US. Since 2009 the jobs created total to around 22.4 Million, In 5 weeks all of the jobs created since 2009 were wiped out.

See below for the current outlook and increasing claims amounting to 42.6 million.

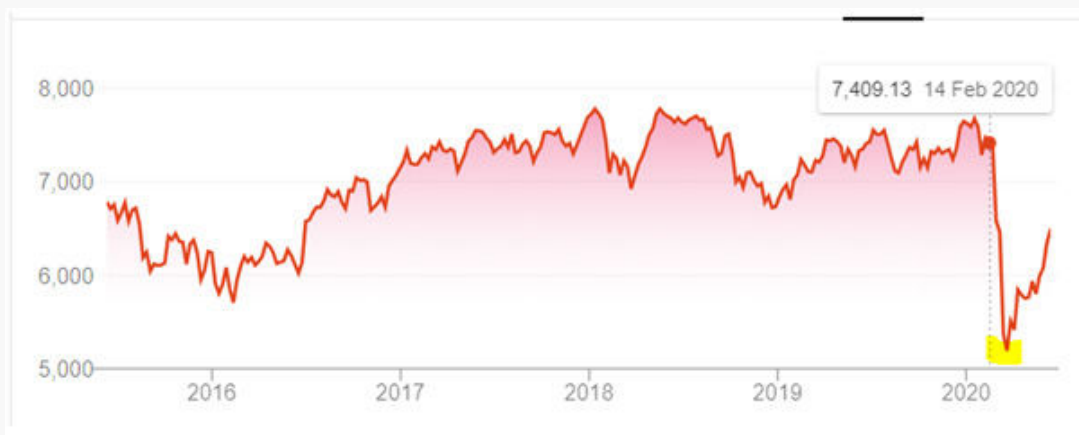


BOOK A LIVE TRADING SESSION AND LEARN HOW TO TRADE INDICES LIKE A PROFESSIONAL!

How has the FTSE100, Dow Jones & S&P 500 been affected by coronavirus?

FTSE 100

The FTSE 100 had a huge drop in value as seen on the chart below. On the 21st of February, the level was 7409.13 and this fell to 5190.78 on the 20th March which is the trough highlighted in yellow on the chart below.



As the pandemic has continued this has had a larger impact on some companies and has proved to be a benefit for others. 4 companies have recently exited the FTSE 100 and dropped into the FTSE 250 of which are EasyJet, Carnival(Cruise Company), Centrica(British Gas Owner) and Meggitt(Aerospace Engineering Company).

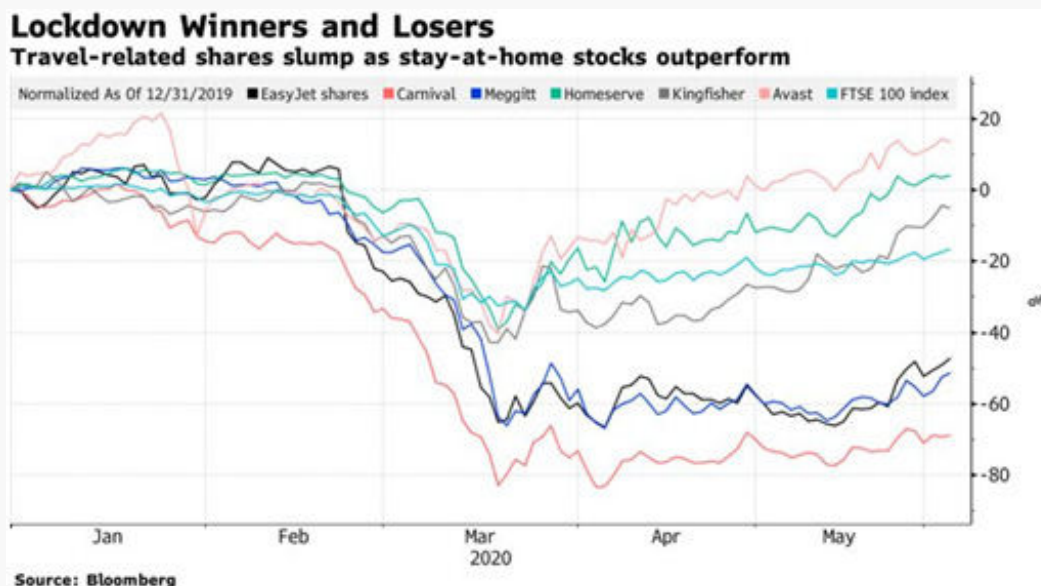
What are the key reasons for removal?

- **Easyjet** – Lack of air traffic due to travel restrictions
- **Carnival** - Shares dropped 60% as travellers were stranded and quarantined on a ship for multiple weeks
- **Centrica** – This company has been on the verge of exiting for a while due to cheaper utility providers taking prices cutting profits gained.
- **Meggitt** – This company was already under review as two Boeing 737 planes were grounded after two incidents and with the airline industry at a standstill, less componentry and parts are required

Companies Promoted to FTSE 100:

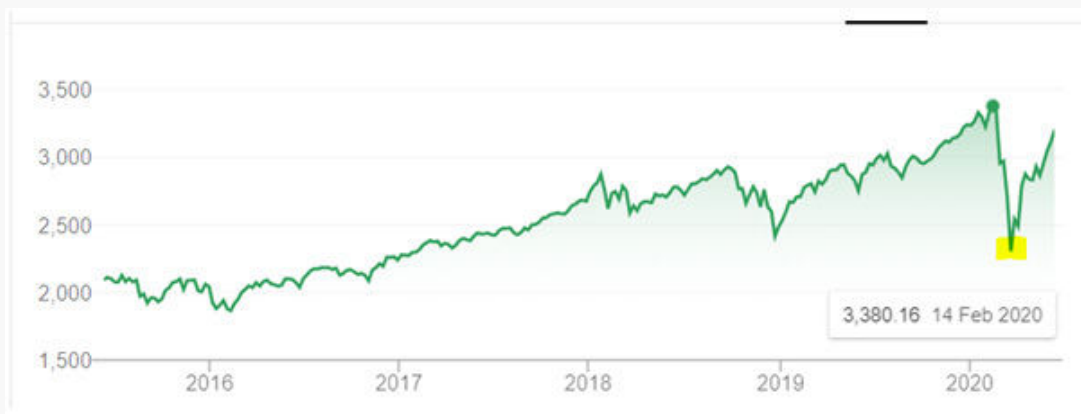
- **Avast (Software Security Group)** – This company had been performing prior to COVID and was on course to join. Initially at the beginning shares did suffer a sell-off however as the lockdown length continued and the need for people to work from home continued, this meant people began investing in more security and anti-virus software.
- **GVC (Sports betting & Casinos)** – Shares in betting firms such as Ladbrokes. In the beginning, shares plummeted as sports were postponed worldwide meaning there was far less to bet on. However, as more people were at home this led to new customers using online casinos along with slot and poker games which then provided an uplift.
- **Kingfisher** – This firm made strong gains as DIY stores were allowed to remain open such as B&Q. Again, with people stuck at home, this led to investment in their own properties.
- **Homeserve (Home Repairs and Installation)** – This company was performing before COVID and although there was an initial sell-off, more customers began signing up as the lockdown continued.

The chart below illustrates the points mentioned above:

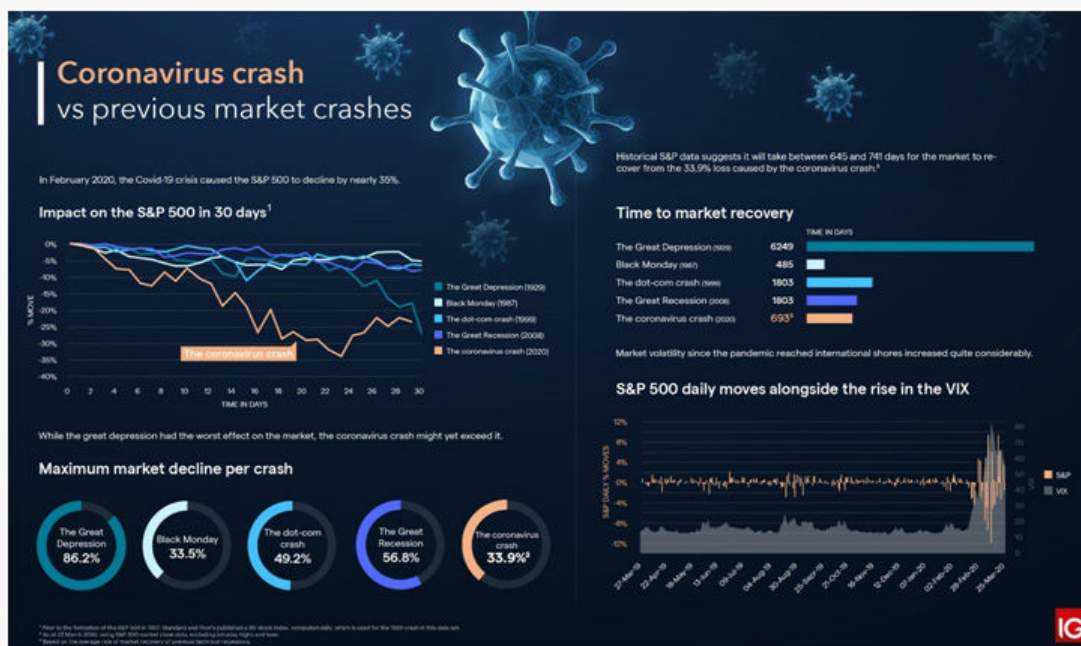


S&P 500

The S&P 500 was also significantly impacted by a coronavirus, on the 14th of February the value was 3380.16 which reduced to 2304.92 on the 20th March highlighted on the trough below.



The chart below details the effects of the coronavirus crash had on the S&P 500 in relation to other significant market crashes. In February S&P 500 crashed by close to 35%, the drastic effect is shown below on the 30-day chart impact.



S&P 500 Winners and Losers:

Some of the worst losing stocks in the S&P 500 are as follows:

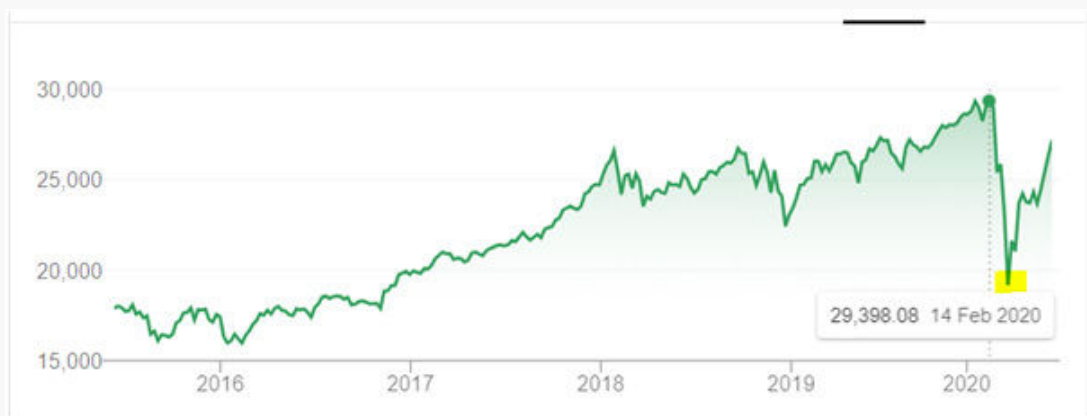
- Apache Corp(Oil & Gas) – In April this stock was down 83.7% due to the issues at the time around oil prices along with supply and demand
- Other Energy stocks have also had a huge fall in April such as Marathon Oil down 75.9%, Noble Energy 73.4%
- Cruise operators such as Norwegian cruise line down by 81.2% and Royal Caribbean by 75.9%

Examples of stocks which gained during this period within the S&P 500 are as below:

- Health-related stocks such as Gilead Sciences searching for a COVID vaccine and Clorox who make disinfectant wipes increased by 15% and 13% these figures being recorded in April
- NortonLifeLock – gained by 27% in April as the company deals in cybersecurity
- Netflix – Up by 16% in the first quarter

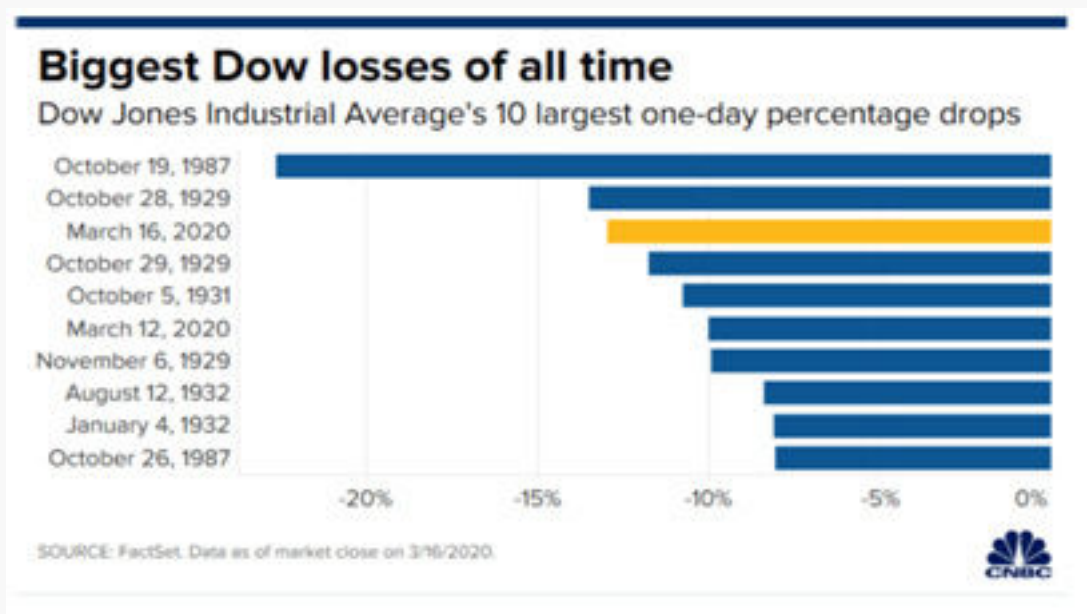
Dow Jones

As have the other indices mentioned the Dow Jones reduced dramatically. On the 14th February, the value was 29398.08 dropping to 19173.98 on 20th March highlighted yellow on the chart below.



In March The Dow dropped by 3000 points suffering the worst drop since the Black Monday market crash in 1987 and this was after the Federal Reserve had begun its stimulus campaign.

See below for a comparison of the Dow Losses throughout history:



Stocks which reduced in value during COVID listed on The Dow:

As of the 11th of March, some of the largest moves included Boeing, American Express, Walt Disney, Goldman Sachs, Chevron Corp and Exxon Mobile. All these reductions were due to a drop in investor confidence, isolation/social distancing and further unemployment claims leading to a drop in consumer spending and borrowing from banks.

Company	Ticker	Price Change - March 11, 2020	Price Change Since Feb. 19
Boeing Co.	BA, +11.46%	-18.2%	-44.1%
Dow Inc.	DOW, +2.95%	-10.9%	-41.1%
United Technologies Corp.	UTX, +2.07%	-9.9%	-28.7%
Cisco Systems Inc.	CSCO, +2.07%	-7.6%	-20.0%
American Express Co.	AXP, +2.99%	-7.7%	-30.3%
Procter & Gamble Co.	PG, +1.95%	-7.5%	-11.1%
Pfizer Inc.	PFE, -0.05%	-7.0%	-11.2%
Walt Disney Co.	DIS, +0.91%	-5.3%	-25.3%
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ, +0.38%	-7.1%	-11.6%
Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc.	WBA, +2.60%	-6.3%	-11.5%
McDonald's Corp.	MCD, +2.02%	-5.9%	-12.7%
Visa Inc. Class A	V, +3.08%	-5.3%	-18.9%
Travelers Companies Inc.	TRV, +5.39%	-5.8%	-16.3%
Goldman Sachs Group Inc.	GS, +1.44%	-6.8%	-27.6%
International Business Machines Corp.	IBM, +2.45%	-5.5%	-21.8%
Home Depot Inc.	HD, +2.39%	-5.7%	-12.6%
Nike Inc. Class B	NKE, +1.41%	-4.9%	-18.0%
Walmart Inc.	WMT, -0.45%	-4.5%	-2.8%
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT, +2.34%	-4.5%	-18.0%
Caterpillar Inc.	CAT, +4.77%	-5.4%	-26.4%
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	JPM, +4.50%	-4.7%	-30.2%
Intel Corp.	INTC, +2.17%	-4.3%	-23.0%
Coca-Cola Co.	KO, +2.46%	-2.7%	-12.6%
Merck & Co. Inc.	MRK, +0.87%	-3.4%	-3.4%
Apple Inc.	AAPL, +2.84%	-3.5%	-14.9%
Exxon Mobil Corp.	XOM, +8.10%	-3.3%	-30.4%
Verizon Communications Inc.	VZ, +0.90%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Chevron Corp.	CVX, +6.70%	-2.3%	-23.0%
3M Co.	MMM, +2.99%	-3.9%	-7.6%
UnitedHealth Group Inc.	UNH, +4.62%	-0.8%	-9.0%

Current Outlook and Future Implications

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been huge implications worldwide and for stocks. Oil prices turned negative for the first time in history, large firms have filed for bankruptcy such as JCPenney, Gold's Gym, True Religion Apparel & CMX Cinemas. Multiple airlines require a bailout from the government such as Lufthansa (€9bn). Unemployment and claims as such have reached new heights and the Stimulus packages are having to continually increase as the pandemic continues.

Currently, stocks are on the rise meaning so are the indexes and this can be seen above. This is due to new investor confidence in economies re-opening, huge stimulus packages such as the ECB \$680bn increasing the total to 1.35 trillion euros. There is confidence in pharmaceutical companies creating a vaccine however this is all a very positive outlook. Looking from another angle a lot of the confidence involved isn't proven and there are fractions which are beginning to occur, for example, China aiming to implement new security laws over Hong Kong, the US already had made claims regarding China and withholding information over COVID, however, this has now increased tensions as the US are opposing the new laws and has threatened to blacklist Chinese companies. In retaliation, China halted U.S farm imports. The UK has also got involved by opposing China and offering 3 million people from Hong Kong refuge in the UK and also opposing using Huawei Technologies for the new 5G system. China could now potentially pull plans for building new nuclear power plants and the HS2 rail network. There could be trade war on the horizon which would have huge implications on the worldwide economy and stocks in turn. Another facts which must be considered are the riots and protests over George Floyd's death, coronavirus has no vaccine currently and masses are congregating within close proximity without wearing effective PPE, this could be increasing the spread of COVID.

Economies are recessing and governments are attempting to battle this by injecting more money, however, people are in a recessive mindset and many people out of work completely. The threat of a huge recession is very true and could mean stocks make a sharp turn back to the downside.

BOOK A LIVE TRADING SESSION AND LEARN HOW TO TRADE THE WORLD'S FIVE TOP INDICES!

If you want to trade indices, it's important you understand all the information above, especially considering the current market conditions due to the COVID outbreak, and the effect that it's had on those that already trade indices.

I hope you have found this blog insightful, and will feel more confident when trading a stock index. If you'd like to learn to trade indices further, or trade indices for a living, please click the button above and kickstart your journey.

Thank you for reading our blog on how to trade indices, and how to trade a stock index, check out our other blogs by clicking the 'Forex Blog' button in the menu above.

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