

U.S. Market Headlines

- S&P 500 hits May '08 high; posts best Q1 since 1998
- Best Buy reports \$1.7B Q4 loss; 50 stores closing, lay offs
- Guggenheim Partners acquire LA Dodgers for record \$2.15B
- Facebook to make stock market debut in May

U.S. Economic Headlines

- Jan. home prices fall for 5th straight month, reach 2003 low
- Gas prices continue to rise, national average now \$3.93
- Durable goods orders rose 2.2% in February
- Student loan debt reached \$1 trillion "several months ago"

World Market Headlines

- CCB '11 net profits up 25%; slowdown worries linger
- Deutsche Bank reclaims spot as Europe's largest
- CaixaBank Spain's largest after buying Banca Civica for \$1.3B
- Brazil, world's 2nd-largest soy producer, cuts crop forecast

World Economic Headlines

- Spain in recession again, unveils \$36 billion in austerity cuts
- Eurozone ministers boost size of rescue funds to \$1.1 trillion
- Britain's economy shrank a revised 0.3% in Q4 2011
- Fueled by whiskey, Scottish food/drink exports hit all-time high

U.S. Stock Index Levels	Friday	Month Ago	Year Ago
	3/30/2012	3/2/2012	4/1/2011
DJIA	13,212.04	12,977.57	12,376.72
Nasdaq Composite	3,091.57	2,976.19	2,789.60
S&P 500	1,408.47	1,369.63	1,332.41
S&P MidCap 400	994.30	977.05	996.43
Russell 2000	830.30	802.42	846.77

World Stock Index Levels

DJ Global	255.09	254.24	265.36
DJ Global ex. U.S.	205.36	208.50	228.51
DJ Asia-Pacific	131.08	132.79	139.69
Stoxx Europe 50	2,458.62	2,503.47	2,623.84
DJ Americas	368.33	362.22	362.16

Commodity Cash Prices

Crude Oil, West Texas Int.	\$103.02	\$106.70	\$121.49
Natural Gas, Henry Hub	\$1.95	\$2.38	\$4.29
Gold, Engelhard Industrial	\$1,665.98	\$1,710.55	\$1,421.06
Copper, High-Grade	\$3.82	\$3.89	\$4.25
Corn, No. 2 Yellow	\$6.43	\$6.54	\$7.14

Dollar Exchange Rates	Friday	Month Ago	Year Ago
	3/30/2012	3/2/2012	4/1/2011
Euro Zone Euro	0.74	0.75	0.70
U.K. Pound Sterling	0.62	0.63	0.62
Japan Yen	82.82	81.80	84.10
China Yuan	6.29	6.29	6.54
Mexico Peso	12.80	12.75	11.83
Canada Dollar	0.99	0.98	0.96

Key Interest Rates

Federal Funds	0.13%*	0.09%	0.13%
6-Month CD	0.48%*	0.52%	0.36%
3-Month T-Bill	0.07%*	0.09%	0.09%
6-Month T-Bill	0.14%*	0.13%	0.17%
1-Year T-Note	0.18%*	0.18%	0.30%
5-Year T-Note	1.01%*	0.86%	2.23%
10-Year T-Note	2.18%*	1.97%	3.47%
Corporate Moody's Aaa	3.96%*	3.82%	5.15%
Corporate Moody's Baa	5.21%*	5.08%	6.05%
Conventional Mortgage	3.99%*	3.90%	4.86%

*As of 3/29/12

Interesting Insight

Time to Eat Humble Pita? Greece has not been kicked out of the eurozone. The euro has not collapsed, nor has the eurozone crumbled, nor has "contagion" touched off economic Armageddon. Maybe it's time for all the experts who predicted a Greek tragedy to eat humble pie – or pita, in this case. So says Stein Ringen, a Norwegian-born professor of sociology at Oxford, who believes Germany's Angela Merkel proved to have a better grasp on the situation. "The solution was that Greece would carry as much as possible of its own debt, that private bondholders would be made to write down as much as possible, with speculators punished, and that other governments and the ECB would contribute as little as possible," says Ringen. So far, so good, he adds. ft.com

A Closer Look

BATS a Wrap. The botched IPO last week by BATS Global Markets put the Kansas firm in some dubious company. Vonage sparked a class-action lawsuit after its 2006 IPO, Normandy America rescinded all trades a day after its 1995 IPO, and Kozmo.com withdrew its offering in 2000, citing "unfavorable market conditions." dealbook.nytimes.com

Looking Ahead

- April 2: ISM Manufacturing Index
- April 3: Federal Open Market Committee minutes
- April 6: Employment situation

Another Perspective

The Real Deal. If you think buying property in Manhattan, Los Angeles or San Francisco is pricy, you're far from finding the top of the real-estate market.

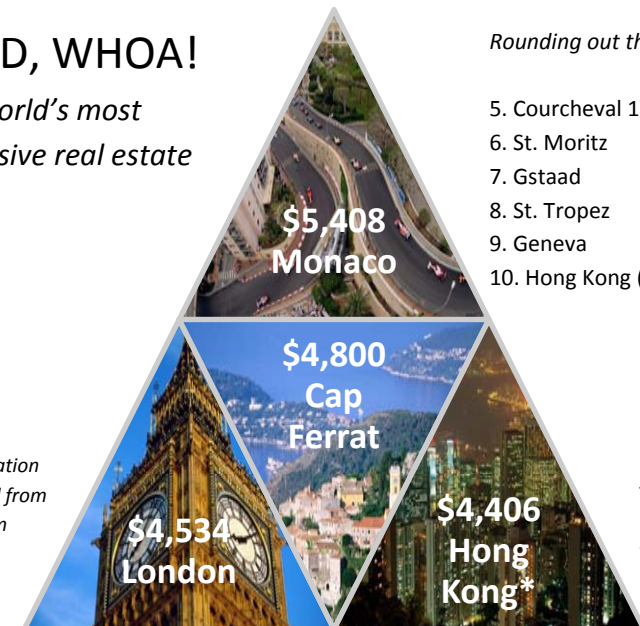
Tiny Monaco is the most expensive, coming in at more than \$5,400 per square foot, according to Citi Private Bank and real-estate firm Knight Frank. That means \$1 million in Monaco will get you a 200-square-foot closet, which probably won't include a view of the Mediterranean Sea.

New York ranks No. 17 at more than \$2,161 a square foot. The only other U.S. locations in the top 50 are Aspen (\$974) at No. 39, followed by Telluride (\$760) and Miami (\$580).

wsj.com

LAND, WHOA!

The world's most expensive real estate



Rounding out the top 10:

5. Courcheval 1850 **\$4,081**
6. St. Moritz **\$3,951**
7. Gstaad **\$3,701**
8. St. Tropez **\$3,600**
9. Geneva **\$2,959**
10. Hong Kong (apartments) **\$2,625**

Prices are per square foot.
* Price for homes in Hong Kong.

Information derived from wsj.com

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The Dow Jones Industrial Average is a price-weighted average of 30 actively traded blue chip stocks, primarily industrials.

The Nasdaq Composite Index is market-value weighted index of all common stocks listed on the Nasdaq exchange.

The Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 Index consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factors. The S&P 500 is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. stocks and is meant to reflect the risk and return characteristics of the large-cap universe.

The Standard & Poor's (S&P) MidCap 400 Index tracks a diverse basket of medium-sized U.S. firms.

The Russell 2000 Index is a market-value weighted index. It measures the performance of the smallest 2,000 companies in the Russell 3000 Index, which is comprised of the 3,000 largest U.S. companies in terms of market capitalization. Russell Investment Group is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell indexes. Russell® is a trademark of Russell Investment Group.

The Dow Jones (DJ) Global Index represents approximately 95% of the float-adjusted market capitalization of countries open to foreign investment. The Dow Jones (DJ) Global ex. U.S. Index represents approximately 95% of the float-adjusted market capitalization of countries—excluding the United States—open to foreign investment.

The Dow Jones (DJ) Asia-Pacific Index provides broad coverage of markets in the Asia/Pacific region open to foreign investment. The index covers approximately 95% of the market capitalization of the represented countries.

The Stoxx Europe 50 Index represents the 50 largest stocks among the 600 largest stocks traded on the major exchanges of 18 European countries. The index is weighted by free-float market capitalization.

The Dow Jones (DJ) Americas Index provides broad coverage of markets in the Americas region open to foreign investment. The index represents Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, and the United States. The index covers approximately 95% of the market capitalization of the represented countries.

Commodity Cash Prices reflect buying and selling of a variety of actual or "physical" commodities in the marketplace—separate from the futures price on an exchange, which reflects what the commodity might be worth in future months. The price of oil is per barrel. The price of natural gas is per MMBtu. The price of gold is per troy ounce. The price of copper is the Comex spot price per pound. The price of corn is per bushel of USDA-quality crop and is based on country elevator bids to producers.

U.S. Dollar Exchange Rates against various currencies are based on foreign-exchange quotations. Rates are middle rates of interbank bid and asked quotes.

Key Interest Rates are yields in percent per annum. The daily effective federal funds rate is a weighted average of rates on brokered trades and is annualized using a 360-day year or bank interest. The 6-month CD rate is annualized using a 360-day year or bank interest and is an average of dealer bid rates on nationally traded certificates of deposit. Treasury bill and note rates are yields on actively traded, non-inflation-indexed issues adjusted to constant maturities. Corporate Moody's Aaa and Baa rates are average rates of bonds, and the Aaa rate is only for industrial bonds. The Conventional Mortgage rate is based on contract interest rates on commitments for fixed-rate first mortgages.

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