

Events that moved the market

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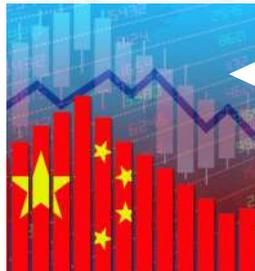


14 Jan 2021

Biden proposes \$1.9trn stimulus

Newly elected US President Biden introduces details of his stimulus programmes. The first programme entails additional expenditures of US\$1.9 trillion that would be entirely debt-financed.

Source: Wall Street Journal



18 Jan 2021

China grows 2.3% in 2020

China's full-year growth comes in at 2.3% year-on-year in real terms excluding price fluctuations. It is the lowest in the 44 years since the Cultural Revolution and lower than the 6% achieved in 2019.

Source: Nikkei Asia



22 Jan 2021

Japan deflation at 1%

Japanese core prices are down 1.0% versus a year earlier, the worst performance since 2009, despite the hugely aggressive monetary policy of the Bank of Japan.

Source: Trading Economics



15 Feb 2021

Asian stocks hit new record

South Korean and Japanese shares lead Asia higher, with the Nikkei 225 hitting 30,000 for the first time since 1990.

Source: Bloomberg

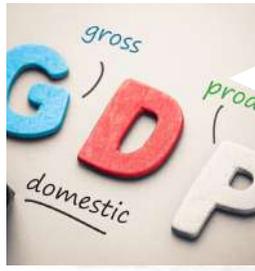


15 Feb 2021

Copper and platinum at highs

Platinum rises to its highest level in more than six years and copper to its highest since 2012.

Source: Bloomberg

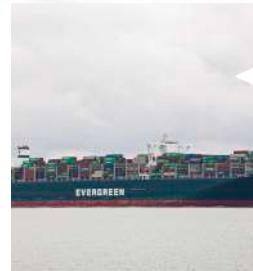


9 Mar 2021

SA GDP shrinks 7%

Data shows that SA GDP shrank 7% in 2020, compared with a 0.2% expansion in 2019. This is the biggest decline since 1920.

Source: Statistics SA



29 Mar 2021

Ever Given free again

After nearly a week of blocking the Suez Canal, which normally carries about 12% of global trade and one million barrels of oil a day, the giant container ship Ever Given is finally freed.

Source: BBC

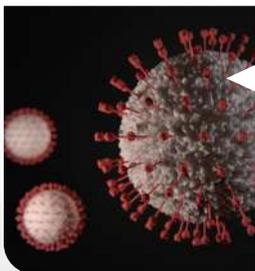


31 Mar 2021

SA trade surplus grows

South Africa's trade surplus widened to R28.96 billion (\$1.96 billion) in February from a revised surplus of R12.42 billion in January. Exports increased by 16.5% on a month-on-month basis.

Source: Reuters



13 Apr 2021

Capitec clients hit by Covid

Capitec reports net credit impairments that rose 75% to R7.36 billion for the year to end February. It also saw a 25% falloff in total loans advanced and disbursements. Net income has dropped 9%.

Source: Moneyweb



13 Apr 2021

Bitcoin hits all-time high

Bitcoin jumps to an all-time high as the mood in cryptocurrencies turn bullish before Coinbase Global goes public.

Source: Bloomberg



21 Apr 2021

Palladium at new peak

The price of palladium, used to curb emissions, surpasses the previous record set in February 2020. Prices have climbed more than 17% this year, building on five straight annual gains.

Source: Bloomberg



14 May 2021

TFG flags 85% profit drop

Hurt by Covid-19-led lockdowns across its markets, TFG flags an up to 85% decline in full-year profit.

Source: Reuters

Continued ...

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17 May 2021

SA launches phase 2 vaccinations

South Africa launches phase two of its vaccine rollout with the aim of inoculating five million citizens aged over 60 by the end of June.

Source: Reuters



18 May 2021

Heineken eyes Distell

After years of speculation of a possible deal between the world's second largest beer group Heineken and South Africa's Distell, the two groups announce they've entered into discussions.

Source: Moneyweb

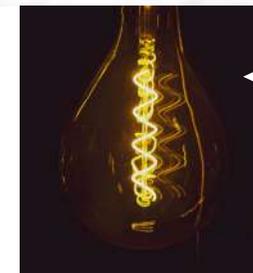


25 May 2021

Eskom sheds debt

Minister Gorhan announces that Eskom has reduced its debt by almost a fifth after repaying matured loans and benefiting from a strong exchange rate.

Source: Bloomberg



10 Jun 2021

SA allows 100MW of own power

In a surprise move, President Ramaphosa announces that the government will increase the generation threshold for companies to produce their own electricity without a licence to 100MW.

Source: Moneyweb



22 Jun 2021

Naspers trading profit up 45%

Naspers' annual results show that company revenue grew by 32% to \$29.6 billion. Trading profit increased 45% to \$5.6 billion.

Source: Naspers/Moneyweb



28 Jun 2021

SA re-enters lockdown level 4

SA re-enters lockdown level 4 with amended restrictions, effectively closing down alcohol-related industries, hospitality and tourism.

Source: eNCA



12 Jul 2021

SADF deployed among looting

The South African National Defence Force commences with 'pre-deployment processes' to send forces into violence-stricken KwaZulu-Natal.

Source: Moneyweb



28 Jul 2021

Record slide for China shares

Investors shun Chinese-listed companies amid a crackdown by regulators in Beijing. In three trading days, the Nasdaq Golden Dragon China Index plunged more than 19%, its biggest drop on record.

Source: Bloomberg



12 Aug 2021

SA gets new finance minister

President Ramaphosa appoints Enoch Godongwana, chairman of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, after Tito Mboweni resigned.

Source: The Africa Report



25 Aug 2021

SA GDP bigger than thought

Statistics SA reports that the SA economy is 11% bigger than previously thought. Re-basing the South African GDP is a regular exercise that should be done every five years.

Source: Statistics SA



7 Sept 2021

Shoprite pays record dividend

Shoprite, South Africa's biggest employer, achieves record sales of R168 billion in the financial year to end June. It declares a record dividend of 544% per share.

Source: Business Day & Moneyweb



9 Sept 2021

SA current account hits record

The balance on the current account, the broadest measure of trade in goods and services, widened to an annualised surplus of 5.6% of GDP, the largest quarterly current account surplus on record.

Source: Bloomberg

Continued ...

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20 Sept 2021

Evergrande at precipice

Emerging markets sink with a 3.3% dive in Hong Kong leading declines as real estate giant China Evergrande hits 11-year lows, starting down a fast approaching debt repayment deadline.

Source: Reuters



20 Sept 2021

Retailer confidence at 7-year high

Improved sales volumes seen by food and beverages and hardware retailers in Q3 2021 lead the increase in retailer confidence to a seven-year-high of 56. The long-term average is 39 points.

Source: BER Survey



27 Sept 2021

Oil at 3-year high

Brent crude oil nears a 3-year high close to the \$80/barrel level as supply struggles to keep up with the rising demand for oil.

Source: Bloomberg



28 Sept 2021

SA fiscus out of red

South Africa records its first quarterly primary budget surplus since 2018 - for Q2 2021. The government's primary balance swings to a surplus of R9.8 billion, or 0.6% of GDP.

Source: Bloomberg



4 Oct 2021

Facebook takes a hit

A Facebook outage leads to the share price plummeting 4.9%, adding to a drop of about 15% since mid-September when WSJ revealed that Facebook knew about the harmful effects of its products.

Source: Bloomberg



10 Nov 2021

US inflation at 6.2%

The US consumer price index soars 6.2% from a year ago - the biggest 12-month jump since 1990.

Source: AP News



15 Nov 2021

Heineken to buy Distell

Heineken NV offers to buy South African wine and spirits maker Distell Group Holdings NV for 2.2 billion euros.

Source: Bloomberg



15 Nov 2021

JSE tops 70 000

The JSE closes at a new record high of 70 091 points. Retail giant Shoprite Group ends the day as the top performing stock, after surging almost 7% to a 52-week high.

Source: Moneyweb



18 Nov 2021

SA repo rate 3.75%

The South African Reserve Bank announces that the repo rate will increase by 25 basis points to 3.75%, on the back of rising inflation. This means that the prime lending rate increases to 7.25%.

Source: SA Reserve Bank

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21 Nov 2021

UK inflation at 10-yr high

British inflation surges to a 10-year high as household energy bills soar. Consumer prices rose by 4.2% in annual terms in October, leaping from a 3.1% increase in September.

Source: Reuters



25 Nov 2021

Omicron variant shuts out SA

South African scientists identify a new Covid-19 variant – later named 'omicron'. The UK bans all flights from South Africa, followed shortly after by US bans.

Source: BBC



Source: BBC



30 Nov 2021

SA unemployment at 35%

Unemployment in South Africa continues to accelerate, reaching 34.9%, up from 34.4% in the previous quarter.

Source: Statistics SA



10 Dec 2021

US inflation at 6.8%

The US consumer price index rises 6.8% on a year-over-year basis and the fastest since June 1982.

Source: CNBC



15 Dec 2021

SA inflation at 5.5%

South Africa's inflation rate jumps to the highest level in almost five years, reaching 5.5%.

Source: Statistics SA

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