

South African Focus

South African equities softened yesterday, with the JSE All Share index down 0.51% to 114,052.91 points and the Top 40 falling 0.62% to 106,285.37 points. Sentiment was pressured by a sharper acceleration in April inflation, which increased expectations that the South African Reserve Bank could raise interest rates at next week's policy meeting. Corporate news remained active, with Investec outlining plans to expand its private client franchise in South Africa and the UK, targeting stronger profit growth by 2030. Afrimat also reported a solid annual performance, with revenue up 20.3% to R10 billion and HEPS rising 32.5%, although management warned that higher diesel costs linked to the Iran war could pressure operations.

South African Indicators

Selected Indicators	Close	1 Day %	1 Month	1 Year	2026
All Share	114052.91	-0.51%	-3.68%	22.12%	-1.54%
Top 40	106285.37	-0.62%	-3.89%	23.76%	-1.57%
Financial 15	25370.22	0.49%	-0.99%	22.65%	2.00%
Industrial 25	128296.42	-0.93%	-2.27%	-3.95%	-7.39%
Resource 10	123356.33	-1.28%	-8.48%	72.41%	-0.24%
Alsi	106768.00	-0.19%	-3.79%	23.61%	-1.36%
Mid Cap	108908.23	-0.13%	-4.22%	16.31%	-4.04%
Small Cap	107682.22	0.31%	-0.68%	20.63%	-0.25%
Banks	15898.85	0.74%	-0.95%	26.83%	3.09%

SENS Announcements

Nampak (NPK) +0.21%

Nampak expects a mixed first-half performance for the period ended 31 March 2026, with normalised HEPS from continuing operations forecast between 3 900.0 cents and 4 300.0 cents, representing growth of 2% to 13% from 1H25. However, reported HEPS from continuing operations is expected to fall 37% to 45%, mainly reflecting lower contributions from Diversified, partly offset by a R92 million post-tax reduction in finance costs. EPS from continuing operations is expected to range between a 4% decline and 9% growth, supported by a R239 million impairment reversal linked to Beverage Angola. Total operations will show a sharper decline, with HEPS down 45% to 52% and EPS down 84% to 86%, largely due to prior-year disposal gains not recurring.

Investec Group (INL) +4.31% (INP) +5.69%

Investec delivered a resilient FY2026 performance, supported by its diversified business model, balance sheet strength and continued client activity despite an uncertain macroeconomic backdrop. Revenue rose 4.2% to £2.28 billion, while adjusted operating profit increased 3.4% to £951.0 million. Adjusted EPS grew 4.8% to 82.9 pence, with basic EPS up 5.9% and HEPS broadly stable at 73.1 pence. Return on equity eased to 13.6%, while return on tangible equity declined to 15.7%, but management said the group remains on track to achieve returns at the upper end of its FY2030 target range. Total dividends increased 5.5% to 38.5 pence, while net core loans, customer deposits and funds under management all grew strongly, reinforcing underlying franchise momentum across core operating divisions.

Sanlam (SLM) -1.09%

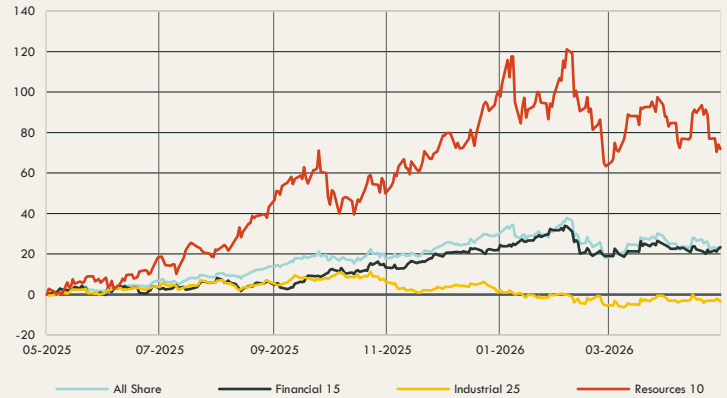
Sanlam delivered strong first-quarter operational momentum, supported by resilient client activity, new business growth and exceptional net client cash flows despite a volatile macroeconomic backdrop. New business volumes rose 29%, net client cash flows reached R38.6 billion and operating profit increased 8% on a comparable basis. The group maintained strong capital levels, although discretionary capital declined to R3.2 billion after additional investments in its Indian insurance operations. Life insurance and health earnings increased strongly, while investment management and credit businesses also delivered growth. However, general insurance earnings were pressured by elevated catastrophe and large-loss claims across Southern Africa and Pan-Africa. Sanlam continued executing strategic initiatives, including the Ninety One transaction, increased Shriram ownership and preparations for South African banking services.

Pick n Pay Stores (PIK) -1.02%

Pick n Pay expects its FY26 losses to improve from the prior year, reversing earlier guidance that headline losses would increase by more than 20%. The revised outlook follows stronger-than-expected results from Boxer, better trading and margin management in the Pick n Pay segment during the final month of FY26, and the effect of a low FY25 earnings base. The group now expects a loss per share of between 94.36 cents and 105.46 cents, improving 5% to 15% from FY25, while headline loss per share is expected to improve 10% to 20% to between 49.23 cents and 55.39 cents. Pick n Pay segment trading losses remain significant, however, at an expected R2.0 billion to R2.1 billion.

All prices reflect the last trading day's performance.

Local Indices - Normalised % Performances



Equities Trading Close to 52-Week Highs and Lows

Company	Code	From High	From Low	Code	Company
Investec plc	INP	-0.31%	0.37%	SAP	Sappi Ltd
Anheuser-Busch InBev SA NV	ANH	-0.45%	0.45%	MNP	Mondi plc
Omnia Holdings Ltd	OMN	-0.50%	0.54%	CLS	Clicks Group Ltd
AECL Limited	AFE	-0.88%	0.61%	SPP	The Spar Group Ltd
Shoprite Holdings Ltd	SHP	-1.01%	0.63%	RCL	RCL Foods Limited

Expected Corporate Releases

Company	Code	Release	Date
Quantum Foods	QFH	Final	22 May
Compagnie Fin. Richemont	CFR	Final	22 May
ISA Holdings	ISA	Final	22 May

Best & Worst 1 Day % Price Performances

Company	Code	Best	Worst	Code	Company
Oceana Group Ltd	OCE	7.82%	-8.13%	SAP	Sappi Ltd
Investec plc	INP	5.69%	-3.91%	NPH	Northam Platinum Hldgs Ltd
Netcare Limited	NTC	5.30%	-3.15%	RCL	RCL Foods Limited

Best & Worst 1 Year % Price Performances

Company	Code	Best	Worst	Code	Company
Pan African Resource plc	PAN	174.64%	-59.40%	SAP	Sappi Ltd
Sasol Limited	SOL	169.21%	-54.60%	TFG	The Foschini Group Limited
Northam Platinum Hldgs Ltd	NPH	101.68%	-49.87%	SPP	The Spar Group Ltd

Dividend Watch

Company	Code	Dividend	Dividend	Code	Company
Boxer Retail	BOX	95.37 ZARc	116 USDc	ANG	AngloGold Ashanti plc
Octodec Investments	OCT	64.5 ZARc	1.7 EURc	GCT	Greencoat Renewables plc
Redefine Properties	RDF	21.83 ZARc	---	---	---
Zeder Investments	ZED	7 ZARc	---	---	---
Raubex Group	RBX	121 ZARc	---	---	---

Last date to trade

26 May



US Market Focus

Wall Street ended slightly higher on Thursday after a volatile session, as easing oil prices and signs of progress in US-Iran peace talks helped major indices recover from earlier losses. Investor sentiment remained sensitive to geopolitical headlines, particularly around Tehran's uranium stockpile and control of the Strait of Hormuz, while corporate earnings added stock-specific pressure. Walmart fell 7.3% after forecasting second-quarter profit below expectations and warning that elevated fuel costs could contribute to higher retail price inflation later in the year. Economic data remained broadly resilient, with jobless claims falling and manufacturing activity rising to a four-year high in May as firms rebuilt inventories to guard against potential shortages and cost pressures linked to the Iran war.

US Indicators

Selected Indicators	Close	1 Day	1 Month	1 Year	2026
Dow Jones	50285.66	0.55%	2.31%	20.13%	4.62%
Nasdaq	26293.10	0.09%	8.38%	39.32%	13.13%
S&P 500	7445.72	0.17%	5.40%	27.39%	8.77%
Dollar Index	99.21	0.14%	1.01%	-0.28%	1.25%
US VIX	16.76	-3.90%	-14.05%	-19.69%	12.11%

International Companies

Walmart (WMT) -7.27%

Walmart shares fell after the retailer maintained conservative full-year guidance despite solid first-quarter growth, as investors weighed resilient demand against rising consumer cost pressures. Net sales increased 7.1% to US\$175.7 billion, while operating income rose 5% to US\$7.49 billion, supported by demand for low-priced groceries and essentials as shoppers sought value. However, higher fuel costs linked to the Iran war reduced operating income by about US\$175 million and could add pressure to food prices and household budgets. Walmart expects annual net sales growth of 3.5% to 4.5% and EPS of US\$2.75 to US\$2.85. Second-quarter guidance also disappointed, with adjusted EPS forecast below expectations, although e-commerce sales remained strong, rising 26%.

Zoom Communications (ZM) -2.69%

Zoom raised its full-year revenue and profit forecasts, supported by continued demand for artificial intelligence features as the company works to strengthen enterprise and consumer engagement. The video communications platform has been integrating AI agents and companion tools across its meeting and collaboration services to improve functionality and support customer retention. For fiscal 2027, Zoom now expects revenue of US\$5.08 billion to US\$5.09 billion, slightly above its previous range, while adjusted EPS guidance was lifted to US\$5.96 to US\$6.00 from US\$5.77 to US\$5.81. The company also authorised an additional US\$1 billion share buyback. First-quarter revenue of US\$1.24 billion beat expectations, although second-quarter revenue and EPS guidance came in slightly below consensus forecasts.

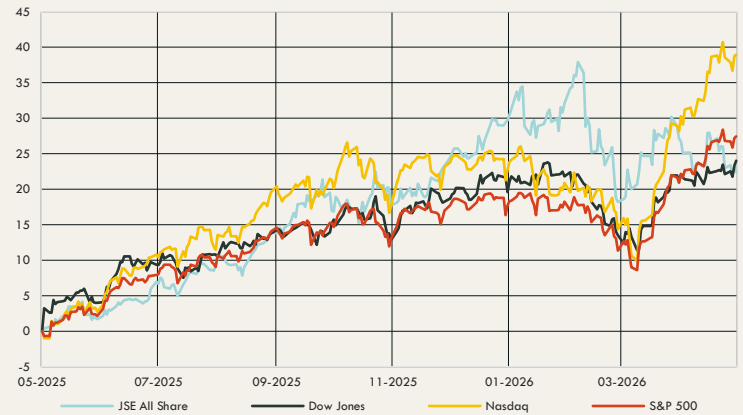
Expected International Corporate Calendar

Company	Code	Est. EPS	Last EPS	Date
BJ's Wholesale Club	BJ	\$1.05	\$1.14	22 May
Sibanye Stillwater	SBSW	---	---	22 May
Woodside Energy Group	WDS	---	---	25 May
PDD Holdings	PDD	\$2.03	\$1.37	26 May
AutoZone	AZO	\$36.09	\$35.36	26 May
Salesforce	CRM	\$2.30	\$1.94	27 May
Snowflake	SNOW	(\$0.59)	(\$0.91)	27 May

Local Otto1890 Funds

Funds	Factsheets	Close	1 Year	3 Years
Sasfin BCI Prudential A		248.00	14.58%	10.11%
Sasfin BCI Balanced A		169.00	15.76%	10.84%
Sasfin BCI Stable A		170.00	16.30%	13.70%
Sasfin BCI Equity A		477.00	11.82%	8.00%
Sasfin BCI Flexible Income A		109.00	13.09%	12.46%
Sasfin BCI Optimal Income A		107.00	7.55%	7.63%
Sasfin BCI High Yield A		103.00	9.11%	9.37%

US Indices - Normalised % Performances



Europe and Asian Markets Focus

Europe

European equities ended little changed on Thursday, with the STOXX 600 holding near a two-week high at 620.56 points as investors paused after the previous session's gains and awaited progress on US-Iran peace negotiations. Sentiment remained cautious as fresh survey data signalled mounting pressure on the region's economy, with France's private sector contracting at its fastest pace in more than five years and Germany's private sector shrinking for a second consecutive month. European shares have recovered from conflict-driven lows, but remain below pre-war levels, constrained by the region's reliance on oil imports and limited exposure to the AI-led global rally. However, eurozone consumer confidence improved to -19.0 in May, beating expectations for a decline.

Asia

Asia-Pacific markets traded higher on Friday as investors assessed diplomatic efforts towards a potential US-Iran peace deal, while attention also turned to Japan's inflation outlook. Japan's core CPI slowed to 1.4% year-on-year in April, its weakest pace since March 2022 and below expectations, as fuel and education subsidies helped offset broader price pressures. However, investors remain alert to the inflationary impact of higher energy costs after the Iran war disrupted flows through the Strait of Hormuz, a key channel for global oil and gas trade. The data will be closely watched by the Bank of Japan ahead of its June policy meeting, where policymakers are expected to raise rates, despite risks to the fuel-import-dependent economy.

European & Asian Indicators

Selected Indicators	Close	1 Day	1 Month	1 Year	2026
CAC 40	8086.00	-0.39%	-1.82%	2.70%	-0.78%
DAX 30	24606.77	-0.53%	1.38%	2.01%	0.48%
Eurostoxx 50	5972.80	-0.01%	0.57%	10.14%	3.13%
FTSE	10443.47	0.11%	-0.52%	18.86%	5.16%
Hang Seng	25386.52	-1.03%	-4.16%	6.54%	-0.95%
Nikkei 225	61684.14	3.14%	3.93%	65.38%	22.54%
Shanghai	4077.28	-2.04%	-0.19%	20.36%	2.73%

International Otto1890 Funds

Funds	Factsheets	Close	1 Year	3 Years
Sasfin BCI Global Equity FF C		199.00	---	---
Sasfin BCI Horizon Multi Mng Dvrs Gr D		170.00	20.44%	14.61%
Sasfin BCI Horizon Multi Managed Acc D		162.00	20.28%	14.77%
Sasfin BCI Horizon Multi Mng Prsrvtm D		148.00	18.38%	14.56%



Commodities & Currencies

Commodities

Gold edged lower on Friday and was on track for a second consecutive weekly decline, pressured by a stronger dollar and expectations that higher oil prices could keep inflation risks elevated and encourage further US Federal Reserve rate hikes. Oil prices rose as investors questioned the likelihood of a near-term breakthrough in US-Iran peace talks, with disagreements persisting over Tehran's uranium stockpile and control of the Strait of Hormuz. Although officials suggested that gaps had narrowed, markets remained cautious, particularly after ADNOC warned that full oil flows through the Strait may not return before 2027. OPEC+ producers are also expected to consider a modest July output increase, although war-related supply disruptions remain a key constraint.

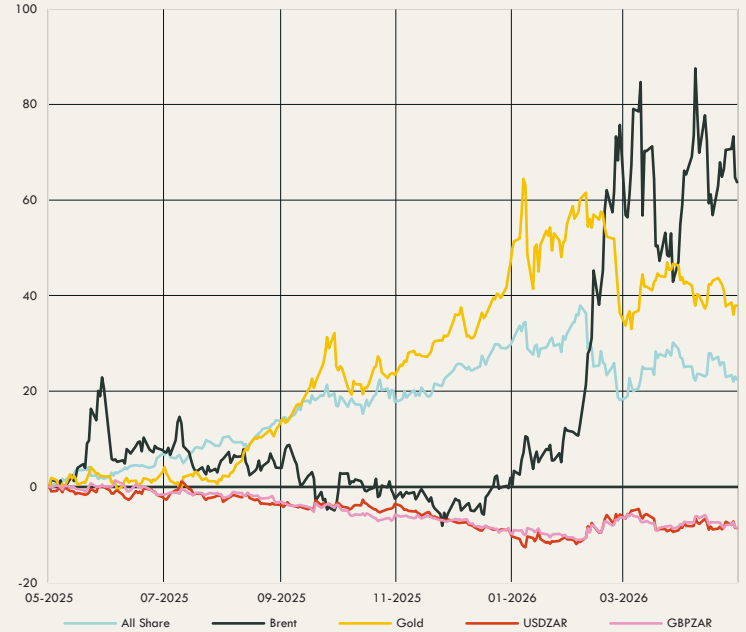
Currencies

The rand edged lower in early trade on Thursday as investors assessed US-Iran peace talks and domestic inflation data showing a sharp April increase as war-related price pressures filtered through the economy. Currency markets remained cautious after conflicting signals from Washington and Tehran over a possible peace deal, with disagreement persisting around Iran's uranium stockpile and control of the Strait of Hormuz. The dollar held near a six-week high on Friday, supported by safe-haven demand, resilient US jobless claims and manufacturing activity rising to a four-year high in May. The dollar index traded at 99.24, close to the previous session's 99.515 peak, as investors awaited clearer geopolitical direction.

Commodities & Currencies

Selected Indicators	This Morning	Close	1 Day	1 Month	2026
Brent Crude	-0.76%	104.87	-0.60%	5.66%	72.17%
Gold	-0.23%	4543.01	-0.02%	-3.76%	5.20%
Palladium	-0.66%	1389.07	1.04%	-10.37%	-14.99%
Platinum	-0.44%	1970.55	0.83%	-3.43%	-4.04%
Silver	-0.04%	76.67	1.07%	-0.01%	7.10%
USDZAR	0.03%	16.45	-0.11%	-0.27%	-0.68%
GBPZAR	0.01%	22.10	-0.13%	-0.80%	-0.92%
EURZAR	0.00%	19.11	-0.16%	-1.31%	-1.83%
AUDZAR	-0.09%	11.76	-0.15%	-0.31%	6.42%
EURUSD	-0.04%	1.16	-0.06%	-1.06%	-1.09%

Commodities & Currencies - Normalised % Performances



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Today's Expected Economic Calendar

Time	Area	Expected Today	Expected	Previous
08:00	UK	Retail Sales m/m	-0.60%	0.70%
10:00	EU	German ifo Business Climate	84.2	84.4
16:00	US	Revised UoM Consumer Sentiment	48.2	48.2
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10-Year Bond Yields

Region	Yield	1 Day	1 Month	1 Year
United States	4.56%	-1	26	3
United Kingdom	4.97%	0	6	22
Germany	3.10%	0	9	46
Japan	2.76%	2	38	121
South African 10Y	8.77%	5	21	-173

Last Session's Releases

Time	Area	Expected Today	Expected	Actual
09:30	EU	German Flash Manufacturing PMI	51.0	49.9
10:00	EU	Flash Manufacturing PMI	51.7	51.4
10:30	UK	Flash Manufacturing PMI	52.9	53.7
14:30	US	Unemployment Claims	210k	209k
15:45	US	Flash Manufacturing PMI	53.8	55.3

Interest Rates

Region	Changed	Current Rate	Previous Rate
United States	Dec '25	3.50% - 3.75%	3.75% - 4.00%
United Kingdom	Aug '24	4.00%	4.25%
European	Jun '25	2.15%	2.40%
SA Repo Rate	Nov '25	6.75%	7.00%
SA Prime Rate	Nov '25	10.25%	10.50%

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