

Gold

Technical

Gold markets should continue to be very noisy, as we had initially rally during Friday but then Saul sellers get back into the marketplace. I think the \$1300 level underneath continues to be support, and I think that we will eventually find that an area that attracts enough attention to have buyers return. However, if we were to break down below the \$1300 level, I think that the market will probably go looking towards the \$1275 level. We have been in an uptrend for some time, although it's been very noisy. I recognize that there has been a bit of a "risk off" trade as of late, and that of course has been hurting the gold markets. With the rising US dollar, that typically will work against the value of gold, but it doesn't have to. I think that the market then goes looking towards the \$1350 level, and then eventually the \$1400 level above. Once we clear that level, then gold is more of a "buy-and-hold"

| | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Pivot: | 1,309 | | |
| Support | 1,305 | 1,302 | 1,300 |
| Resistance | 1,314 | 1,318 | 1,321 |

Source: FX EMPIRE

Highlights

- Gold prices ended Friday at their lowest level in just over two weeks
- Friday's trading action indicates that the impact of political turmoil is fleeting
- The U.S. Dollar Index was up less than 0.1% at 90.22, swinging to a week-to-date rise of just over 0.1%
- U.S economic data Friday showed February housing starts were down 7%
- industrial production for the same month jumped 1.1%. Consumer sentiment in March hit 14-year high

Gold - Technical Indicators

| | |
|---------|---------|
| RSI 14 | 63.56 |
| SMA 20 | 1,253.2 |
| SMA 50 | 1,246.1 |
| SMA 100 | 1,276.3 |
| SMA 200 | 1,284.8 |

Source: FX EMPIRE

Gold Daily Graph



Source: Meta Trader

Fundamentals

- Gold prices inched lower early today as the dollar remained supported, with investors expecting the U.S Federal Reserve to raise interest rates at this week's policy meeting.
- Spot gold fell 0.2 percent to \$1,310.31 per ounce. The price touched \$1,309.31, the lowest since March 1, in the previous session. U.S gold futures for April delivery fell 0.1 percent to \$1,310.4 per ounce.
- The dollar index against a basket of currencies was up 0.1 percent at 90.295. Asian share markets got off to a hesitant start on Monday for a week in which the Fed is likely to deliver a hike in U.S interest rates and perhaps signal that as many as three more lie in store for the rest of the year.
- The two-day Federal Open Market Committee meeting begins on Tuesday at which the U.S. central bank is expected to raise interest rates for the first time this year.
- U.S industrial production jumped 1.1 percent in February, the largest increase in four months, due to a weather-related rebound in construction and a rise in output from the nation's oil and gas fields and mines.
- Forty-five U.S. trade associations representing some of the largest companies in the country are urging President Donald Trump not to impose tariffs on China, warning it would be "particularly harmful" to the U.S. economy and consumers.
- French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Friday pledged to overcome differences in order to formulate a roadmap for a reform of the euro zone which they will seek to get approved by their European peers in June.
- Three European Central Bank policymakers struck an optimistic tone on the outlook for euro zone inflation on Sunday despite stubbornly slow price growth so far this year.

US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Data

| Date | Large Speculators | | | Commercial | | | Small Speculators | | | Open Interest |
|------------|-------------------|-------|---------|------------|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|---------|---------------|
| | Long | Short | Bullish | Long | Short | Bullish | Long | Short | Bullish | |
| 12/01/2017 | 337251 | 72353 | 82% | 120854 | 284003 | 30% | 49448 | 31277 | 61% | 384,974 |
| 12/08/2017 | 340748 | 74460 | 82% | 115571 | 287002 | 29% | 51148 | 36,819 | 61% | 450555 |
| 12/15/2017 | 291266 | 84634 | 77% | 116493 | 311865 | 27% | 53520 | 32958 | 62% | 499110 |
| 12/12/2017 | 274589 | 77454 | 77% | 118610 | 304141 | 28% | 49810 | 33791 | 60% | 493086 |
| 12/29/2017 | 295688 | 67069 | 82% | 127081 | 327075 | 28% | 51562 | 30399 | 63% | 510579 |

Source: CFTC

Crude Oil

Technical

The WTI Crude Oil market initially went sideways during trading on Friday, but then rallied to break above the \$61.50 level. We reached towards the \$62.25 level, an area that is minor resistance. I think that if we pull back, it will more than likely attract buyers unless we break down below the uptrend line, and more importantly: the \$60 handle. If we were to break down below there, the uptrend is over, and I would become massively short of this pair. Otherwise, if we break above the \$63 level, the market should then go to the \$64 level, which being broken to the upside would be very bullish as well. Brent markets went sideways initially during the trading session on Friday as well, using the \$65 level as support. This very important psychological level has brought in buyers, and as I record this we have gained over one dollar, as we are testing the \$66 handle above.

| | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Pivot: | 62.10 | | |
| Support | 61.55 | 60.90 | 60.30 |
| Resistance | 62.75 | 63.30 | 63.60 |

Source: FX EMPIRE

Highlights

- Oil prices slipped today giving back some of a steep climb from Friday
- April West Texas Intermediate crude on the New York Mercantile Exchange eased 30 cents, or 0.5%, to \$62.04 a barrel
- Underpinning prices are tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran, which are seen potentially disrupting global supplies
- Britain, France and Germany have proposed fresh European Union sanctions on Iran
- Baker Hughes reported Friday that the number of active U.S rigs drilling rose by four to 800

Crude - Technical Indicators

| | |
|---------|-------|
| RSI 14 | 57.06 |
| SMA 20 | 44.65 |
| SMA 50 | 46.23 |
| SMA 100 | 47.56 |
| SMA 200 | 53.27 |

Source: FX EMPIRE

Crude Oil Daily Graph



Source: Meta Trader

Fundamentals

- Oil prices fell today in Asian session as rising drilling activity in the United States pointed to further increases in output, raising concerns about a return of oversupply.
- U.S West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were at \$62.02 a barrel, down 32 cents, or 0.5 percent, from their previous close. Brent crude futures were at \$65.87 per barrel, down 34 cents, or 0.5 percent.
- Today's price falls in part reversed increases last Friday, which came on the back of concerns over rising tension in the Middle East. Despite all the bearish U.S shale supply headlines, oil prices remain firm as the odds that the U.S. will pull out of the Iran nuclear agreement continue to run very high.
- On a simple supply versus demand basis, however, global oil markets are facing the risk of returning into oversupply after being in a slight deficit for much of last year.
- U.S drillers added four oil rigs in the week to March 16, bringing the total count to 800, the weekly Baker Hughes drilling report said on Friday. The U.S rig count, an early indicator of future output, is much higher than a year ago when 631 rigs were active as energy companies have continued to boost spending since mid-2016 when crude prices began recovering from a two-year crash.
- Thanks to the high drilling activity, U.S crude oil production has risen by more than a fifth since mid-2016, to 10.38 million barrels per day (bpd), pushing it past top exporter Saudi Arabia.
- Only Russia produces more, at around 11 million bpd, although U.S. output is expected to overtake Russia's later this year as well. Soaring U.S. output, as well as rising output in Canada and Brazil, is undermining efforts by the Middle East dominated Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to curb supplies and bolster prices.

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|------------|-------------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------|---------|---------------|
| | Long | Short | Bullish | Long | Short | Bullish | Long | Short | Bullish | |
| 12/01/2017 | 458,206 | 105,441 | 81% | 560,983 | 925,531 | 38% | 82,700 | 70,917 | 54% | 1,598,935 |
| 12/08/2017 | 462,028 | 106,739 | 81% | 557,217 | 927,085 | 38% | 85,279 | 70,700 | 55% | 1,615,844 |
| 12/15/2017 | 454,829 | 123,816 | 79% | 571,328 | 916,651 | 38% | 87,594 | 73,282 | 54% | 1,619,796 |
| 12/12/2017 | 463,186 | 135,835 | 77% | 560,029 | 897,400 | 38% | 87,590 | 77,633 | 53% | 1,623,027 |
| 12/29/2017 | 473,506 | 133,457 | 78% | 558,910 | 898,363 | 38% | 79,121 | 79,717 | 50% | 1,613,293 |

Source: CFTC

Silver

Technical

Silver markets initially tried to rally during the trading session on Friday but found the \$16.50 level to be too resistive to continue going higher. Since then, we have fallen quite drastically, and part of this may be due to better than anticipated numbers coming out of the United States, driving the value of the US dollar higher. That of course works against the value of silver in the short term, and since then we have dropped towards the \$6.20 level. We've rallied since then, but it now looks as if the sellers are coming back. I think that the \$16 level underneath is massive support, and most certainly the \$15.50 level is. Silver is a bit different than the other instruments that we trade here at FX Empire, because we choose much less leverage and Silver markets, because they tend to be so volatile. That isn't to say that there are great opportunities though, quite frankly there are.

| | | | |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Pivot: | 16.22 | | |
| Support | 16.15 | 16.07 | 16.00 |
| Resistance | 16.34 | 16.44 | 16.50 |

Source: FX EMPIRE

Highlights

- Silver prices were last down \$0.042 at \$16.23 an ounce
- The major economic data point of the week will be the Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee
- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell also holds his first press conference after the meeting on Wednesday
- U.S stock indexes are pointing toward lower openings when the New York day session begins today
- There is no major U.S economic data due for release today

Silver - Technical Indicators

| | |
|---------|-------|
| RSI 14 | 19.80 |
| SMA 20 | 17.27 |
| SMA 50 | 16.72 |
| SMA 100 | 16.85 |
| SMA 200 | 16.87 |

Source: FX EMPIRE

Silver Daily Graph



Source: Meta Trader

Fundamentals

- Silver prices extended losses into a fourth session today and hit a more than two-week low, with the dollar remaining supported as investors expect the U.S Federal Reserve to raise interest rates this week.
- "I think the overall economic recovery is good enough for the U.S central bank to consider a faster pace of normalization of monetary policies," said Mark To, head of research at Hong Kong's Wing Fung Financial Group.
- A two-day Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting begins on Tuesday, with the U.S. central bank expected to hike interest rates for the first time this year.
- It is somehow expected and is already priced in the market so I stick to my prediction that precious metals, with gold included, are going to have range-bound trading, unless something really surprising happens.
- With a 25 basis point rate hike seen as a done deal, one key focus is on whether Fed policy makers forecast four rate hikes this year instead of the three they had projected at December meeting.
- The dollar inched higher against a basket of major peers today as traders braced for the Fed meeting and as the increased threat of trade protectionism kept markets on edge. The dollar index was up 0.1 percent at 90.302. On Friday, it hit a two-week high near 90.38, following strong U.S. economic data.
- Silver was down 0.3 percent at \$16.26 per ounce and palladium inched 0.1 percent lower to \$993.90 per ounce. Platinum was 0.5 percent lower at \$938.49 per ounce after falling to its lowest since Jan. 3 at \$936.50.
- U.S. industrial production jumped 1.1 percent in February, the largest increase in four months, due to a weather-related rebound in construction and a rise in output from the nation's oil and gas fields and mines.

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|------------|-------------------|--------|---------|------------|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|---------|---------------|
| | Long | Short | Bullish | Long | Short | Bullish | Long | Short | Bullish | |
| 12/01/2017 | 42,097 | 29,999 | 58% | 56,157 | 75,843 | 43% | 23,121 | 15,533 | 60% | 132,501 |
| 12/08/2017 | 42,083 | 27,402 | 61% | 54,280 | 79,052 | 41% | 24,963 | 14,872 | 63% | 132,475 |
| 12/15/2017 | 41,285 | 23,950 | 63% | 53,875 | 79,404 | 40% | 23,378 | 15,184 | 61% | 131,294 |
| 12/12/2017 | 41,287 | 24,798 | 62% | 58,869 | 83,678 | 41% | 21,523 | 13,203 | 62% | 136,158 |
| 12/29/2017 | 41,334 | 26,466 | 62% | 60,600 | 84,551 | 42% | 21,666 | 13,583 | 61% | 139,468 |

Source: CFTC

Commodity News

Monday, March 19, 2018



Data Calendar

Economic Data

| Date | Time | Event | Importance | Actual | Forecast | Previous |
|------------|-------|--|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Mon Mar 19 | 02:30 | NZD Performance Services Index (FEB) | Medium | 55.0 | | 55.7 |
| Mon Mar 19 | 04:50 | JPY Trade Balance (FEB) | Medium | ¥3.4b | ¥89.1b | -¥944.1b |
| Mon Mar 19 | 04:50 | JPY Adjusted Merchandise Trade Balance (Yen) (FEB) | Low | -¥201.5b | -¥90.8b | ¥352.3b |
| Mon Mar 19 | 05:01 | GBP Rightmove House Prices (YoY) (MAR) | Medium | 2.1% | | 1.5% |
| Mon Mar 19 | 14:00 | CHF Domestic Sight Deposits CHF (MAR 16) | Low | 466.3b | | 464.3b |
| Mon Mar 19 | 15:00 | EUR Euro-Zone Trade Balance s.a. (JAN) | Low | 19.9b | 22.3b | 23.2b |
| Mon Mar 19 | 15:00 | EUR Euro-Zone Construction Output s.a. (MoM) (JAN) | Low | -2.2% | | 0.7% |
| Mon Mar 19 | 18:40 | USD Fed's Bostic Speaks on ÊCommunity Reinvestment Act | Low | | | |
| Mon Mar 19 | | G20 Finance Ministers, Central Bank Governors Meet (Day 1) | High | | | |

Source: Forex Factory, DailyFX

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