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## Today's Stock Market Updates Live

### Description

An hour ago, the FTSE 100 opened higher in London, up by 0.2%. Most European markets were closed for the May Day public holiday. The Stoxx 600 index closed lower on Tuesday, marking its first monthly decline since October.

Microsoft announced the opening of its first regional data center in Thailand, along with plans to build new cloud and AI infrastructure in the country. Japanese trading house Mitsui & Co reported a 6.4% decline in profit for the 2023 financial year but saw its shares climb after announcing a \$1.26 billion buyback.

South Korea's exports posted a sharp increase in April, beating expectations, while imports also saw growth. In the US, utilities were the only S&P 500 sector to see gains in April, with NextEra Energy leading the way.

Bank of America revised its forecast for the Federal Reserve's interest rate policy, now predicting rate cuts to begin in December and a higher terminal rate. Starbucks, Pinterest, and Super Micro Computer were among the companies making big moves in after-hours trading.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **FTSE 100** // (noun): An index of the top 100 companies listed on the London Stock Exchange.
2. **Stoxx 600** // (noun): A stock index representing 600 European companies.
3. **Infrastructure** // (noun): The basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.
4. **Decline** // (noun/verb): A decrease or reduction to become smaller fewer or less.
5. **Buyback** // (noun): The repurchase of outstanding shares by a company to reduce the number of shares on the market leading to an increase in the value per share.
6. **Forecast** // (noun/verb): A prediction or estimate of future events especially weather conditions.

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What term is used to describe a rapid increase in the price of securities or other assets?  
Option: A. Inflation  
Option: B. Rally  
Option: C. Confidence  
Option: D. Decline
2. What term refers to the Federal Reserve's reduction of its balance sheet and absorbing cash from the financial system?  
Option: A. Quantitative Tightening (QT)  
Option: B. Labor Market  
Option: C. Buyback  
Option: D. Infrastructure
3. What term describes the movement of funds from one financial asset or entity to another?  
Option: A. Hawkish  
Option: B. Outflow  
Option: C. Inflow  
Option: D. Forecast
4. What term denotes a positive outlook or belief that things will generally turn out well?



- Option: A. Stability
- Option: B. Optimism
- Option: C. Quantitative Easing (QE)
- Option: D. Hawkish

5. What index represents the 100 companies listed on the London Stock Exchange with the highest market capitalization?

- Option: A. FTSE 100
- Option: B. Stoxx 600
- Option: C. Treasury Securities
- Option: D. Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS)

6. What term refers to the ease with which an asset can be bought or sold in the market without affecting its price?

- Option: A. Unpredictable
- Option: B. Liquidity
- Option: C. Cautiously
- Option: D. Disruptions

7. Which financial instrument represents the debts of the U.S. government and is considered one of the safest investments?

- Option: A. Inflows
- Option: B. Treasury Securities
- Option: C. Decline
- Option: D. Outperformed

8. What economic term describes the increase in prices of goods and services over time?

- Option: A. Inflation
- Option: B. Labor Market
- Option: C. Buyback
- Option: D. Forecast

9. Which sector includes all those who are voluntarily seeking employment and job opportunities?

- Option: A. Quantitative Tightening (QT)
- Option: B. Labor Market
- Option: C. Buyback
- Option: D. Infrastructure

10. What term describes a continuous period of a particular kind of success or luck?



- Option: A. Stability
- Option: B. FTSE 100
- Option: C. Streak
- Option: D. Forecast

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. Investors who have high \_\_\_\_\_ in the market are more likely to invest in risky assets.
12. Economists use various models to \_\_\_\_\_ economic trends in the upcoming years.
13. A share \_\_\_\_\_ is a corporate action where a company buys back its own shares from the market.
14. Building new roads and bridges is an example of investing in \_\_\_\_\_ development.
15. Despite the market challenges the company \_\_\_\_\_ in its expansion plans.
16. A central bank is considered \_\_\_\_\_ if it signals an intent to raise interest rates.
17. Investors are now \_\_\_\_\_ watching for signs of economic slowdown.
18. Technological \_\_\_\_\_ have reshaped many industries in recent years.
19. The central bank provides liquidity \_\_\_\_\_ to stabilize financial markets during crises.
20. The tech sector \_\_\_\_\_ all other sectors in terms of stock performance last year.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. Foreign investments and capital are examples of _____ into a country.
22. During the financial crisis there was a significant _____ of funds from the banking sector.
23. The index includes stocks from 17 European countries providing a broad market view.
24. Central banks implement _____ to stimulate the economy by buying financial assets.
25. These financial products played a significant role in the 2008 financial crisis due to their default risks.



26. Economists analyze data to make a about the future direction of the economy.
27. Economists aim to achieve price to support sustainable economic growth.
28. Market reactions to political events can be highly leading to volatility.
29. Investors assess various factors before making investment in the market.
30. A market can be triggered by positive economic news or strong corporate earnings.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. B. Rally 2. A. Quantitative Tightening (QT) 3. B. Outflow 4. B. Optimism 5. A. FTSE 100 6. B. Liquidity 7. B. Treasury Securities 8. A. Inflation 9. B. Labor Market 10. C. Streak

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Confidence 12. Forecast 13. Buyback 14. Infrastructure 15. Persisted 16. Hawkish 17. Cautiously 18. Disruptions 19. Facilities 20. Outperformed

**Matching sentence:** 1. Inflows 2. Outflow 3. Stoxx 600 4. Quantitative Easing (QE) 5. Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS) 6. Forecast 7. Stability 8. Unpredictable 9. Decisions 10. Rally

## CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

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