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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks wavered around record highs yesterday; meanwhile, European shares tumbled on the back of signs of ECB beginning the discussion around tapering of bond purchases. US consumer confidence fell to a 6-month low in August, as a heightened number of COVID-19 cases and continued price pressures dampened the economy's outlook. Home prices in the US jumped to a 30-year high, fuelled by strong demand and a limited supply of homes. The dollar rallied in the second half of the day, erasing losses, and 10yr US Treasury yield gained ground to 1.3020%. Elsewhere, Euro area inflation shot up to 3% in August – a decade high.

Sentiment on the LME was mixed yesterday. Aluminium was the big mover, finding support above the resistance level of \$2,600/t and closing at \$2,718/t. Copper prices were also stronger, as an appetite for prices caused a test of resistance at \$9,550/t to close at \$9,520/t. Nickel opened much higher than the previous day's close but weakened throughout the day to close at \$19,547/t. Zinc fluctuated, closing marginally lower on the day at \$3,003.50/t. Lead softened; the market closed at \$2,256/t; the cash to 3-month spread widened out to \$130.00/t, after reaching highs of \$218.50/t in the last couple of weeks.

Oil futures finished the month on the back foot, as investors weighed on the prospects of the OPEC+ meeting. WTI and Brent softened into \$68.90/bl and \$73.05/bl. Precious metals were mixed, with gold and silver edging down to \$1,807.64/oz and \$23.87/oz, respectively.

For more in-depth analysis of base and precious metals, please see our [Quarterly Metals report](#).

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2686	2727	2681	2718	#N/A N/A	24490	654819	21.00	123.08
Copper	9499	9547	9426	9520	#N/A N/A	18331	270910	8.25	432.37
Lead	2291	2295	2247	2256	#N/A N/A	5563	119520	130.00	102.79
Nickel	19550	19810	19455	19547	#N/A N/A	14730	215291	25.00	888.60
Tin	33695	34640	33695	33907	#N/A N/A	404	12771	495.00	1531.80
Zinc	3004	3019	2985	3003.5	#N/A N/A	7168	246843	-9.50	136.08
					Total:	70686	1520154		

Official Prices					Monthly Avg			
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2714	2696	2672.75	2591	#N/A N/A	#N/A N/A	2610.642857	2601.833333
Copper	9462.5	9457.5	9461.25	9366.25	#N/A N/A	#N/A N/A	9357.190476	9371.666667
Lead	2435	2278	2237	2203	#N/A N/A	#N/A N/A	2428.52381	2319.952381
Nickel	19513	19488	19448	19473	#N/A N/A	#N/A N/A	19160.42857	19159.61905
Tin	34781	34127			#N/A N/A	#N/A N/A	35252.61905	34351.66667
Zinc	2997.5	3007	2976.5	2906.5	#N/A N/A	#N/A N/A	2988.904762	2995.52381

LME Stocks (tonnes)							Other Copper Markets			
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	1338125	2225	5675	-3450	1334675	484775	849900	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	254250	0	1250	-1250	253000	98950	154050	SEP 21	436.1 0.98	
Lead	55450	600	3050	-2450	53000	11750	41250	DEC 21	437.55 1.00	
Nickel	195252	0	786	-786	194466	65850	128616	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	1585	20	50	-30	1555	675	880	21-Sep	69900 1.32	
Zinc	238275	0	1200	-1200	237075	48300	188775	21-Oct	69880 -0.03	

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix		
Last	% Change		Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	15835	-0.33	GBP	1.3751	-0.0654	Gold	1809.96	-0.021	1795.5
DJI	35435	0.10	JPY	110.0300	-0.1000	Silver	23.92	-0.493	2361
S&P500	4530	0.02	EUR	1.1806	0.0763	Gold Comex	1810.9	-0.072	
SSE	3544	0.45	CNY	6.4607	0.0929	Platinum	1013.87	0.3742	
Hg Seng	25879	1.33	AUD	0.7309	0.1782	Palladium	2485.68	-0.4186	
Brent	73	-0.57	RUB	73.2209	0.4011				

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 31/08/2021 17:14

All price data is from 31.08.2021 as of 17:30

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