

Newsflash: Six weeks of Lockdown

Friday 8 May

Country Equity	Index	Daily	Currency	Price	Daily
S.A. Equities (ZAR)	FTSE/JSE ALSI	+0.4%	Gold (USD)	1,718*	+0.2%*
U.S. Equities (USD)	S&P 500	+1.2%	Platinum (USD)	771*	+0.6%*
U.K. Equities (GBP)	FTSE 100	+1.4%	Oil (USD)	29.86*	+1.4%*
German Equities (EUR)	DAX	+1.4%	USD/ZAR	18.55*	+0.3%*
Japanese Equities (JPY)	NIKKEI 225	+2.1%*	GBP/ZAR	22.98*	+0.2%*
Chinese Equities (CNY)	SHANGHAI SE	+0.9%*	EUR/ZAR	20.12*	+0.2%*

Source: Bloomberg, *time of writing 06h50, 2020-05-08

South Africa has the 44th most confirmed cases of Covid-19 and 49th most deaths from the virus. U.S. deaths have reached over 75 thousand. The state of New York ranks as the 4th highest number of fatalities following the U.K., Italy and Spain.

South Africa has been under Lockdown for 42 days. The call for easing the restrictions to allow the economy to restart is coming from all directions, including from Minister of Finance Tito Mboweni: *"I didn't like the continuous ban on tobacco and alcohol."* Australia has announced a three-stage plan to open the country starting with restaurants, cafes and retail shops re-opening and domestic travel resuming amongst other things. In New Zealand, Super Rugby looks to return behind closed doors with a final decision on the 11th of May.

The top trade negotiators for China and the U.S. pledged to work together on a bilateral trade deal and cooperate on the economy and health issues. This news raised world equity markets.

The U.S. unemployment rate was at a 50-year low a few months ago may surge to 16%, making it the highest since the Great Depression. *"This might be the worst macroeconomic data report in U.S. history,"* said James Sweeney, chief economist at Credit Suisse Group AG.

We published a piece of research on active vs passive investing during a crisis, see it here on CityWire: <https://citywire.co.za/news/active-vs-passive-fund-management-which-works-during-a-crisis>

Sources: BBC.com, Bloomberg.com, News24.co.za, MoneyWeb.co.za

Coronavirus Numbers Update

Global Confirmed	Global Deaths	Total Test Results in US
3,846,949	269,584	8,105,513

Source: Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University

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PROVINCE	Positive	Tests	Deaths	Recoveries
Eastern Cape	929		18	388
Free State	134		6	102
Gauteng	1 804		15	1 036
KwaZulu Natal	1 204		40	420
Limpopo	41		3	27
Mpumalanga	59		0	22
Northern Cape	27		0	16
North West	40		0	20
Western Cape	3 994		79	1 122
Unallocated	0			
TOTAL	8 232	292 153	161	3 153

SOURCE: NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES