

# Newsflash: Western Cape peak approaching

Tuesday 23 June

Country Equity	Index	Year to Date	Currency	Price	Year to Date
S.A. Equities (ZAR)	FTSE/JSE ALSI	-5.0%	Gold (USD)	1,752*	+16.3%
U.S. Equities (USD)	S&P 500	-3.5%	Platinum (USD)	835*	-13.9%
U.K. Equities (GBP)	FTSE 100	-17.2%	Oil (USD)	43.02*	-34.7%
German Equities (EUR)	DAX	-9.7%	USD/ZAR	17.34*	-19.0%*
Japanese Equities (JPY)	NIKKEI 225	-5.2%	GBP/ZAR	21.63*	-14.3%*
Chinese Equities (CNY)	SHANGHAI SE	-2.8%	EUR/ZAR	19.53*	-19.2%*

Source: Morningstar Direct, Bloomberg, \*time of writing 06h50, 2020-06-23

Western Cape Premier Alan Winde reported yesterday *“Some epidemiological models, including the National Covid-19 Epi Model (NCEM) which is relied on by the national government for forecasting, have estimated that the province will experience its peak soon.”* The exact date is not known, and hospitals are under increasing pressure. With the further relaxing of lockdown restrictions this weekend, he urged *“People who fall into vulnerable groups must take additional precautions to protect themselves - staying at home as much as possible.”*

Global confirmed cases of the virus have now surpassed 9 million, and global fatalities are approaching half a million. Brazil became the second country after the U.S. to record over a million infections. Its reported number of deaths has topped 51,000 and has not reached its peak. South Africa and Egypt account for the majority of infections and deaths in Africa.

Global equity markets have seen some volatility around the US-China trade agreements. Former top White House trade negotiator Cleve Willems believes the phase one deal signed in January will hold, primarily because *“from an election standpoint, this deal remains a winner for the (U.S. President Donald Trump) because he was able to get China to make certain commitments that others have failed to do and the U.S. really didn't ... give up much in exchange.”*

Tech companies share prices continue to drive equity markets. The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite closed a record high with Apple shares increasing 2% and also reaching a record high following announcements at its annual WorldWide Developers Conference. At the same time, the gold price reached its highest level since 2012 as investors looked to hedge risk.

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

## Coronavirus Numbers Update

Global Confirmed	Global Deaths	Total Test Results in US
<b>9,098,643</b>	<b>472,170</b>	<b>27,553,581</b>

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

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## South Africa

Total Confirmed <b>97,302</b>	Total Recovered <b>51,608</b>
Active Cases <b>43,764</b>	Total Deaths <b>1,930</b>

Source: Department of Health

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