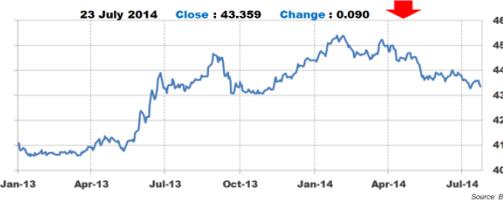




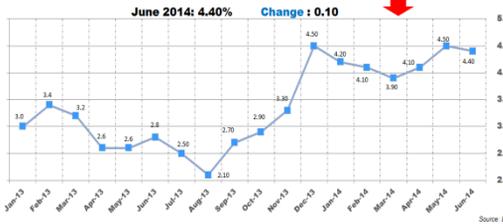
PSE Composite Index



Peso-US Dollar Rate



Inflation Rate



KEY INTEREST RATES

Overnight Lending, RP	5.50%
Overnight Borrowing, RRP	3.50%
91 Day T Bill Rates	0.87%
Interbank Call Loan Rate	2.00%

GLOBAL WATCHLIST



European Market Closes Higher

European shares closed higher on Wednesday amid corporate earnings news and ongoing turmoil in Gaza and Ukraine.

[▶ FULL STORY HERE](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

BSP sees inflation easing as oil prices remain stable despite Gaza, Ukraine crises

MANILA - The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said pressure on inflation has begun easing despite the geopolitical tensions that can affect oil prices in the world market. BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo said the Russia-Ukraine and Gaza crises so far do not seem to pose a threat to oil prices. "If you look at the current situation, the OPEC and non-OPEC producers are pumping out oil in a big way so oil prices had been broadly stable," he told reporters. (InterAksyon.com)



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Truck ban continues to hit firms

MANILA, Philippines—Local companies continued to reel from a double whammy of double-digit losses in revenues and equally crippling surges in import- and export-related expenses, given the continued truck congestion and container pile-up at the Port of Manila. Alfredo Yao, president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, warned that this situation may become permanent and be further exacerbated by "opportunistic" traders and businesses wanting to take advantage of the dilemma. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Peso nears 9-month peak

THE PESO rallied to an eight-and-a-half-month peak against the dollar Wednesday, as the odds that the Monetary Board's next move is a rate hike are overwhelming, traders said. The peso settled at P43.235 per dollar, gaining 17.5 centavos from its P43.41-per-dollar finish Tuesday. Yesterday's close was the peso's strongest since its P43.20-to-the-dollar finish on November 8 last year. (Business World)



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INDUSTRY NEWS

Suzuki launches Ertiga: Suzuki Philippines enters the 7-seater arena with Swift-based MPV

MANILA, Philippines - Barely a month after introducing the Swift 1.2 hatchback, Suzuki Philippines has unveiled yet another addition to their growing automobile line-up: the Ertiga. Dubbed as a "Lifestyle Utility Vehicle" or LUV for short, the Ertiga takes a completely different approach to the very competitive but lucrative compact 7-seater MPV or multi-purpose utility vehicle market. (Philippine Star)



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INTERNATIONAL

BMW M3 Bares New Teeth to Would-Be Kings of Sports-Car Jungle

Sleek, lithe and predatory, the M3 sedan and coupe have always been the lions in Bayerische Motoren Werke AG (BMW)'s stable. The coupe was first released in the mid-1980s, proving that a BMW 3 Series could be incredibly fast and roar-worthy. The M3 easily claimed its place as king of the sports-car jungle. (Bloomberg.com)



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