

## Today's economic highlights...

### Oil climbs to 13-month highs on output cuts, demand recovery hopes

- SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Oil prices edged up to their highest in 13 months on Tuesday as supply cuts by major producers and optimism over fuel demand recovery support energy markets.
- **Brent crude** futures for April gained 48 cents, or 0.8%, to \$61.04 a barrel by 0443 GMT. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude (WTI) for March was at \$58.42 a barrel, up 45 cents, or 0.8%.
- Both Brent and WTI are at their highest since January 2020. Front-month prices for both contracts are up for the seventh session on Tuesday, the longest win streak since January 2019. [Read more...](#)

### WHO Wuhan Mission Briefing; Vaccinations Advance: Virus Update

- (Bloomberg News) - Scientists on a World Health Organization-sponsored mission to shed light on the explosive spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in Wuhan will brief journalists on their findings later on Tuesday.
- China **push back** a target to inoculate 50 million people by almost two months amid worries over supply and hesitancy among the population around vaccines.
- Coronavirus infections continued to slow across the globe and [a study found](#) that children and staff at French daycare centers that stayed open during the first national lockdown had low rates of infection. [Read more...](#)

### New bid to place digital lenders on CBK leash

- (Business Daily) - The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) will license all mobile loan providers if Parliament passes a proposed law seeking to weed out predatory lending.
- Digital lenders without operating licenses will be barred from business in a bid to push out rogue players amid concerns of unethical practices such as over pricing of loans, illegal mining of customer private data and shaming of borrowers who default on repayment.
- The Central Bank of Kenya (Amendment) Bill of 2020, if passed, will also compel the CBK to publish the names of all digital lenders every four months to review those that are compliant. [Read more...](#)