

Today's economic highlights...

Asian shares perk up but Evergrande jitters keep investors on edge

- HONG KONG (Reuters) - Asian shares made cautious gains on Thursday, supported by some positive news from cash-strapped developer China Evergrande Group, while the dollar held near a one-month top after the U.S. Federal Reserve took a hawkish tilt overnight.
- However, nerves were still frayed about Evergrande's future and the country's property sector as a whole, with a major test looming on Thursday when \$83.5 million in dollar-bond interest payments by the company were due.
- "It's a long way to go yet in terms of this being resolved," said Kerry Craig, global market strategist at JP Morgan Asset Management. [Read more...](#)

U.S. business optimism in China rebounds to pre-trade war levels -survey

- SHANGHAI, Sept 23 (Reuters) - U.S. companies' optimism about business conditions in China has recovered to hit three-year highs even though the firms have reservations about Beijing's COVID-19 policy, an annual survey showed on Thursday.
- Beijing's wide-ranging crackdown on companies has also unnerved U.S. firms, an American industry lobby executive said.
- The American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, which conducted the survey with consultancy PwC China, attributed the renewed optimism to rising revenues as well as ebbing concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic in China, which has largely gotten control over its spread with a zero-tolerance policy. [Read more...](#)

Oil climbs on tight supply, renewed risk appetite

- MELBOURNE (Reuters) - Oil prices rose on Thursday, extending strong gains overnight with fuel demand growing and crude stocks declining as production remains hampered in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico after two hurricanes.
- The market was also supported by a broader switch back into risk assets as concerns eased over a potential default by huge property developer China Evergrande and the possible fallout on the world's second-largest economy.
- U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures rose 13 cents, or 0.2%, to \$72.36 a barrel at 0143 GMT, while [Brent crude](#) futures rose 17 cents, or 0.2%, to \$76.36 a barrel. [Read more...](#)