

# World shares mostly higher ahead of China GDP data



## AGENCIES

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Shares were mostly higher in Europe and Asia on Monday ahead of China's release of economic growth figures and a policy update this week from Japan's central bank.

Germany's DAX edged 0.1% higher to 15,101.73 and the CAC40 in Paris was nearly unchanged at 7,022.46. Britain's FTSE was up 0.1% at 7,851.93. The future for the S&P 500 lost 0.5% while that for the Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 0.3%.

China was due to release a slew of economic data on Tuesday, including its GDP for the last quarter. Economists estimate that the world's second-largest economy slowed further in October-December with a sharp rise in COVID-19 outbreaks as the government reversed course

and loosened its rigorous pandemic controls.

On Wednesday, Japan's central bank is due to provide an update on monetary policy as expectations build that it might opt to let yields on long-term government bonds rise further even if it does not change its minus 0.1% benchmark interest rate. The Bank of Japan's decision last month to let the yield on 10-year bonds fluctuate in a wider range shook world markets. In Asian trading Monday, Tokyo's Nikkei 225 lost 1.1% to 25,822.32. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong gained less than 0.1% to 21,746.72 and the Kospi in Seoul added 0.6% to 2,399.86. The Shanghai Composite index added 1% to 3,227.59.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 climbed 0.8% to 7,388.20. Taiwan advanced 0.7% while Mumbai's Sensex lost 0.3%.