



## Economic Headlines

Wednesday, 09 January 2019

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 8 (Reuters) - The South African rand weakened on Tuesday, eating into strong gains since the start of the year as the dollar recovered following a recent slump.

At 1518 GMT, the rand traded at 13.93 versus the U.S. currency, 0.3 percent weaker than its previous close.

Similar falls were seen in other emerging market currencies like the Russian rouble and Turkish lira as the dollar index (DXY) was more than 0.2 percent stronger.

"Appetite for the rand and many other emerging markets has been impacted by a stabilizing dollar," said Hussein Sayed, chief market strategist at forex broker FXTM.

After a torrid 2018 the rand enjoyed a strong start to this year, helped by dovish comments by U.S. Federal Reserve policymakers which hurt the dollar.

Despite Tuesday's decline, it is still up more than 2 percent against the dollar in 2019.

On the bourse, the benchmark JSE Top-40 index ended 0.5 percent higher at 46,116 while the broader All-share index gained 0.6 percent to 52,165.

In fixed income, government bonds also fell, with the yield on the 2026 bond, R186, up 4 basis points to 8.810 percent.

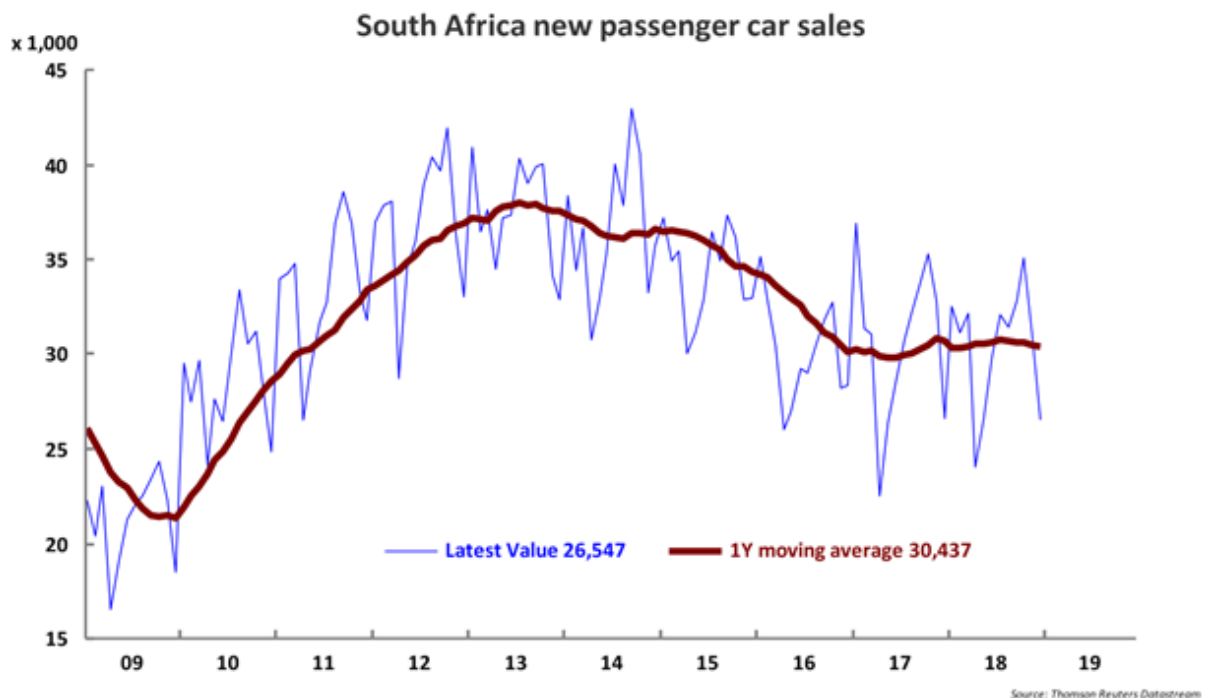
The government sold 2.85 billion rand (\$204 million) of bonds on Tuesday at lower yields than previously.

**Source:**

THOMSON REUTERS  
**EIKON**



## Chart of the Day



The latest data release from NAAMSA shows that new passenger car sales were down 0.2% in December 2018, compared to December 2017, that is yoy. The chart shows the actual number of passenger cars sold of 26,547. The rate hike by the SARB in November would have had an impact. Monthly sales are seasonal and volatile, but the one-year trend seems to be stabilising. Bear in mind the chart shows only passenger cars, not total vehicle sales. The latter is down 1.9% yoy. Notice that in 2012 to 2014, at times, more than 40,000 cars were sold per month.

## Market Overview

MARKET INDICATORS					
<b>Money Market</b>		<b>Last close</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Prev close</b>	<b>Current Spot</b>
3 months	↓	7.32	-0.009	7.33	7.29
6 months	↓	7.96	-0.004	7.96	7.95
9 months	↓	8.27	-0.002	8.27	8.26
12 months	↓	8.41	-0.001	8.41	8.40
<b>Bonds</b>		<b>Last close</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Prev close</b>	<b>Current Spot</b>
GC21 (BMK: R208)	↓	7.86	-0.035	7.90	7.83
GC24 (BMK: R186)	↓	9.46	-0.050	9.51	9.43
GC27 (BMK: R186)	↓	9.94	-0.050	9.99	9.91
GC30 (BMK: R2030)	↓	10.61	-0.055	10.66	10.58
GI22 (BMK: NCPI)	→	4.74	0.000	4.74	4.74
GI25 (BMK: NCPI)	→	5.26	0.000	5.26	5.26
GI29 (BMK: NCPI)	→	5.95	0.000	5.95	5.95
<b>Commodities</b>		<b>Last close</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prev close</b>	<b>Current Spot</b>
Gold	↓	1,285	-0.29%	1,289	1,283
Platinum	↓	815	-0.94%	822	819
Brent Crude	↑	58.7	2.42%	57.3	59.2
<b>Main Indices</b>		<b>Last close</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prev close</b>	<b>Current Spot</b>
NSX (Delayed)	↓	1,293	-0.21%	1,296	1,300
JSE All Share	↑	52,165	0.40%	51,959	52,610
SP500	↑	2,574	0.97%	2,550	2,574
FTSE 100	↑	6,862	0.74%	6,811	6,906
Hangseng	↑	25,875	0.15%	25,836	26,462
DAX	↑	10,804	0.52%	10,748	10,885
<b>JSE Sectors</b>		<b>Last close</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prev close</b>	<b>Current Spot</b>
Financials	↓	16,317	-0.11%	16,335	16,359
Resources	↑	40,529	0.66%	40,264	40,655
Industrials	↑	62,607	0.67%	62,190	63,548
<b>Forex</b>		<b>Last close</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prev close</b>	<b>Current Spot</b>
N\$/US dollar	↑	13.97	0.64%	13.88	13.95
N\$/Pound	↑	17.76	0.16%	17.73	17.80
N\$/Euro	↑	15.98	0.34%	15.92	15.99
US dollar/ Euro	↓	1.144	-0.30%	1.15	1.147
		<b>Namibia</b>		<b>RSA</b>	
<b>Economic data</b>		<b>Latest</b>	<b>Previous</b>	<b>Latest</b>	<b>Previous</b>
Inflation	↑	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.1
Prime Rate	→	10.50	10.50	10.25	10.00
Central Bank Rate	→	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.50

Source: Bloomberg

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