

Business | Tue Jan 19, 2016 2:01am GMT

Related: ASIAN MARKETS, GLOBAL MARKET DATA, REGULATORY NEWS, JAPAN

# Nikkei flat as investors await fresh data on China's economy



Jan 19 Japanese stocks were flat in midmorning trade as nervous investors awaited a raft of fresh data on China's economy, due to be released before the end of the morning session.

The Nikkei share average was flat at 16,960.22 in midmorning trade, just ahead of the scheduled release of China's GDP figures and fresh data on its industrial output and retail sales.

"The market's recent nervousness was factoring in a lot of uncertainty over China's GDP," said Gavin Parry, managing director at Parry International Trading.

"So a weak number should be somewhat factored in while a strong figure could end up being a catalyst for better market sentiment."

Nintendo Co Ltd shares jumped 5.9 percent after Bank of America Merrill Lynch raised the video game company's rating to 'buy' from 'neutral.'

The pharmaceutical sector gained 0.5 percent as risk-averse investors bought into defensive shares sensitive to domestic demand.

China's fresh economic data promises to be the focus for the day, but market players said investors remain concerned over the recent rout on Wall Street.

"Japanese equity continues to look like the best of a bad bunch right now but the real elephant in the room is the end of the 6 year bull market in the U.S. and the stiling amount of debt on the books of governments the world over," said Martin King, co-managing director at Tyton Capital Advisors.

"Those close to retirement should probably be aiming their cash at their mattress right now."

The broader Topix edged down 0.1 percent to 1,385.95 and the JPX-Nikkei Index 400 declined 0.2 percent to 12,479.38.

(Reporting by Joshua Hunt; editing by Simon Cameron-Moore)



## More From Reuters

- London's fintech stars consider... | 9 Mar
- Oil rout over, OPEC aims for \$50 ... | 8 Mar
- Ex-Scottish nationalist d... | 4 Mar
- Analysis: 'Game changer' - Ho... | 8 Mar
- Experts perplexed over why Sh... | 10 Mar
- Captured Ukrainian pilot defies ... | 10 Mar
- Norway's \$830 billion wealth fund t... | 9 Mar
- ECB couldn't 'tolerate' Lo... | 10 Mar
- Russia scolds Britain for saying th... | 12 Mar
- Britons' concern over EU hits highest | 4 Mar

From The Web Sponsored Links by Taboola



## Editor's choice

Our top photos from the last 24 hours.

ADVERTISEMENT

## TRENDING ON REUTERS

- Argentina coast guard sinks Chinese trawler fishing illegally
- As China's consumers tighten belts, retailers cut jobs, offer discounts
- Man in Manila gets \$30 million cash from cyber heist; Bangladesh central bank governor quits | VIDEO
- Trump wins Florida, Kasich takes Ohio as Rubio bows out | VIDEO
- Japan PM begins G7 prep with warning from Stiglitz to not raise taxes

## RECOMMENDED VIDEO



Hundreds of migrants march on Greek border chanting 'Merkel'



Snowmobiler kills one dog, injures others in Iditarod race

ADVERTISEMENT

Thomson Reuters is the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals.



<p><b>THOMSON REUTERS EIKON</b></p> <p>Our flagship financial information platform incorporating Reuters Insider</p>	<p><b>THOMSON REUTERS ELEKTRON</b></p> <p>An ultra-low latency infrastructure for electronic trading and data distribution</p>	<p><b>THOMSON REUTERS ACCELUS</b></p> <p>A connected approach to governance, risk and compliance</p>	<p><b>WestlawNext™</b></p> <p>Our next generation legal research platform</p>	<p><b>ONESOURCE</b></p> <p>Our global tax workstation</p>	<p>Thomsonreuters.com</p> <p>About Thomson Reuters</p> <p>Investor Relations</p> <p>Careers</p> <p>Contact Us</p>
--	--	--	---	---	---