

2025: Year in Review

Global economic and financial market highlights



Global Equities 2025:
20.6% Return

2025



Global markets surge higher on optimism surrounding the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

Chinese AI company DeepSeek releases a more cost effective AI model that sees US AI companies pullback sharply.

Heightened trade war concerns between the US & China results in deteriorating consumer sentiment.

Germany announces major defence and infrastructure spending package in response to US policy.

Equities extend rally as the US and China reach a trade agreement, and progress with the US and EU helps alleviate global recessionary concerns.

Bank of England cuts interest rates by 0.25 percentage points.

EU agrees to buy US\$750bn of US energy and invest US\$600bn in US economy, along with increased defence spending.

US and China trade negotiations ongoing as both regions seek to extend the tariff pause.

The US Federal Reserve (central bank) resumes interest rate cutting cycle and reduces rates by 0.25%.

US government failed to pass appropriations legislation, which led to a government shutdown at the end of September 2025.

UK Budget leaves few surprises, which boosts UK Gilt prices.

China's economy slows, weighed down by weak consumer demand and the property slump.

US data backlog from government shutdown creates mixed signals.