

## Banks stocks recuperate as Treasury Secretary Yellen signals additional support for smaller banks and Wall Street rose.

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The U.S. and European stock markets continued their ride upward following the shot-gun wedding of UBS and Credit Swiss, which provided much-needed relief; additionally, Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen signaled that the US government would back the deposits of smaller banks beyond the \$250,000 in a move to protect banks that may be suffering with a crisis of confidence and deposit outflows stemming from the recent bank failures.

The result was that most banking stocks rose today, building on Monday's reversal.

The First Republic Bank (FRC) saw its stock rose 29.47%, closing at \$15.77; the three Puerto Rico Bank holding companies closed up as follows:

- Popular, Inc rose 3.96%, closing at \$54.30.
- Firtsbank rose 4.37%, closing at \$11.93.
- Oriental rose 3.06%, closing at \$26.58.

In Europe and Asia, there is turmoil over the complete loss of \$17bn of Credit Suisse bonds that investors had bet on the risky bank debt. The issue arises under the terms of the takeover of Credit Swiss by UBS; all Credit Swiss bonds were written down to zero while shareholders received \$3.25bn, upending the usual order of payments.

### Key Economic Data:

- **U.S. Job Openings: Total Nonfarm: fell to** 10.82 million, down from 11.23 million last month, decreasing -3.65%.
- **U.S. Existing Home Sales: rose to** 4.58M, up from 4.00M last month, increasing 14.50%.
- **Canada Consumer Price Index YoY:** fell to 5.25%, compared to 5.92% last month.
- **Canada Consumer Price Index MoM:** fell to 0.13%, compared to 0.26% last month.
- **Canada Core Consumer Price Index MoM** is at 0.34%, compared to 0.14% last month.
- **ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for Germany: fell to** 13.00, down from 28.10 last month, decreasing -53.74%.

### Puerto Rico COVID-19 Update March 21:

- Daily Cases: 58
- Positivity Rate: 11.73%
- Hospitalizations: 93
- Deaths: 1
- Source P R. Department of Health.

## Eurozone Summary for March 21:

- Stoxx 600 closed at 446.68, up 6.08 points or 1.38%.
- FTSE 100 closed at 7,536.22, up 132.37 points or 1.39%.
- Dax Index closed at 15,194.77, up 368.39 points or 1.75%.

## Wall Street Summary for March 21:

- Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 32,560.60, up 316.02 points or 0.98%.
- S&P 500 closed at 4,002.87, up 51.30 points or 1.30%.
- Nasdaq Composite closed at 11,860.11, up 184.57 points or 1.58%.
- Birling Capital Puerto Rico Stock index closed at 2,316.65, up 43.47 points or 1.91%.
- U.S. Treasury 10-year note closed at 3.59%.
- U.S. Treasury 2-year note closed at 4.17%.



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## US Existing Home Sales, Canada Consumer Price Index, ZEW Indicator Economic Sentiment for Germany & US Job Openings Total Nonfarm



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