

China

(Bloomberg) -- China's economy hit the government's growth goal last year after an 11th hour stimulus blitz and export boom turbocharged activity, although looming US tariffs threaten to take away a key driver of expansion.

Gross domestic product rose 5% in the world's second-largest economy, data released by the National Bureau of Statistics on Friday showed, slightly exceeding the median estimate of 4.9% in a Bloomberg survey. President Xi Jinping said on New Year's Eve the country was expected to meet the goal of around 5%.

"The biggest bright spot in the economy last year was exports, which was very strong especially if price factor was excluded," Jacqueline Rong, chief China economist at BNP Paribas SA. "That means the biggest problem this year will be US tariffs."

China has vowed further monetary easing and stronger public spending this year, as the economy braces for Donald Trump's return to the White House. The US president-elect has threatened tariffs of as high as 60% on Chinese goods that could decimate trade with the Asian country.

Cu

(Bloomberg) -- Copper headed for an eighth day of gains, its longest winning streak since 2017, as fresh economic data from China brightened the demand outlook in the top metals-consuming nation.

The industrial metal was poised for a second weekly advance after data released Friday showed China's gross domestic product in 2024 expanded 5%, meeting the government's target. A stimulus push turbocharged activity in the final quarter with growth of 5.4% — the fastest pace in six quarters and beating economists' median forecast.

The country's industrial production and retail sales also beat estimates and home prices declined at a slower rate in December, reflecting signs of stabilization in the property sector, a pillar of demand for industrial metals from copper to steel.

Copper, which finished last year up 2.4%, has gained about 6% so far in 2025, leading the six industrial metals on the London Metal Exchange higher amid signs of demand recovery in China. It's also seen a widening price gap with futures on New York's Comex, as traders react to President-elect Donald Trump's tariff threats.

Copper rose 0.4% to \$9,267 a ton in London as of 10:52 a.m. in Shanghai, to be up 1.9% this week. Other metals were flat to higher, with zinc rising 0.7% and aluminum gaining 0.2%.

Iron ore was little changed at \$102.70 a ton in Singapore. It was up 5.7% for the week, the most since October. Chinese iron ore and steel futures also rose, after data Friday showed the country's steel output held above 1 billion tons for a fifth year.

Copper Morning Technical (4-hour)



	Support	Resistance	Current Price	Bull	Bear
S1	9,224	R1	9,314	RSI above 50	Stochastic overbought
S2	9,149	R2	9,338		
S3	9,083.5	R3	9,408		

Synopsis - Intraday

Source Bloomberg

- Price is above the EMA support band (Black EMA's)
- The RSI above 50 (66)
- Stochastic is overbought
- Price is above the daily pivot point USD 9,224
- Technically bullish yesterday, we noted that we had seen an Elliott wave extension higher but remained in divergence on the 1-hour timeframe, meaning we maintained a note of caution on moves higher at these levels. A bearish rejection candle on the Asian open had been followed by price selling lower; if the 4-hour candle closed below USD 9,191, it would warn that sell side pressure was increasing. Likewise, a close below the low of the last dominant bull candle (USD 9,153) would further warn of weakening price action, leaving the USD 9,083.5 fractal support vulnerable. Below this level the near-term bullish wave cycle will have completed; however, corrective moves lower that held at or above USD 8,918 will indicate that there could be a larger, bullish Elliott wave cycle coming into play. We were a cautious bull.
- The downside move failed to close below the USD 9,191 level (price rejected the downside, with the candle closing at USD 9,237), resulting in the futures seeing another small move higher. We are above all key moving averages with the RSI above 50, intraday price and momentum are aligned to the buyside.
- A close on the 4-hour candle below USD 9,224 with the RSI at or below 61.5 will mean price and momentum are aligned to the sell side. Downside moves that hold at or above USD 9,149 will support a near-term bull argument, below this level the technical will have a neutral bias. However, corrective moves lower that hold at or above USD 8,933 will warn that there could be a larger, bullish Elliott wave cycle in play.
- Technically bullish, the MA on the RSI is implying that we are seeing light momentum support; Countering this, the RSI remains in divergence on the 1-hour timeframe, not a sell signal, it does warn that we could see a momentum slow-down. The trend support line that formed between the 03/01 – 13/01 is now acting as a resistance line, meaning we have started to form a rising wedge pattern. This formation shows the futures are climbing within an increasingly narrow channel, suggesting the bullish trend could potentially be about to exhaust. We continue to be resilient on this upside move; however, the 1-hour divergence alongside the rising wedge means we remain cautious on moves higher at these levels, as the technical is warning that we are looking vulnerable to a pullback.
- Note: although vulnerable to a technical pullback, the weekly close today should be bullish, meaning we will have closed above the weekly 200-period MA (USD 9,012) for the second week in succession, implying we are seeing higher timeframe support in the market.

Aluminium Morning Technical (4-hour)



	Support	Resistance	Current Price	Bull	Bear
S1	2,626	R1	2,651	RSI above 50	Stochastic overbought
S2	2,588	R2	2,678		
S3	2,570	R3	2,711		

Source Bloomberg

Synopsis - Intraday

- Price is above the EMA support band (Black EMA's)
- RSI is above 50 (65)
- Stochastic is overbought
- Price is above the daily pivot point USD 2,626
- Technically bullish yesterday, the MA on the RSI was flat implying momentum is neutral, whilst we had a negative divergence with the RSI on the 1-hour timeframe. Not a sell signal it warned warning that we could see a momentum slowdown, which would need to be monitored. Our Elliott wave analysis suggested that we had a potential upside target at USD 2,630 for this phase of the cycle. Bullish, we had a note of caution on moves higher due to the divergence in play.
- The futures achieved (and traded above) our upside target at USD 2,630. Having traded to a high of USD 2,650 on the Asian open we have since seen a light pullback; however, we remain above all key moving averages supported by the RSI above 50, intraday price and momentum are aligned to the buyside.
- A close on the 4-hour candle below USD 2,626 with the RSI at or below 60 will mean price and momentum are aligned to the sell side. Downside moves that hold at or above USD 2,544 will support a bull argument, below this level the technical will have a neutral bias.
- Technically bullish, the MA on the RSI is implying that momentum remains supported. The upside move to USD 2,650 has created a lower timeframe Elliott wave extension, meaning downside moves should be considered as countertrend at this point. For this reason, Fibonacci support levels have been revised lower to highlight the expanding trend, key support is now at USD 2,544. Like copper, bullish price action on the weekly chart would suggest that we could be about to see a seconded successive close above the weekly 200-period MA (USD 2,513), implying higher timeframe support in the market. We now have negative divergences on the 1-and-4-hour charts, although not sell signal, they do warn that buyside momentum could slow in the near-term. A close below the low of the last dominant bull candle (USD 2,631.5) will indicate sell side pressure is increasing, suggesting intraday market sellers are starting to take control.

Zinc Morning Technical (4-hour)



	Support	Resistance	Current Price	Bull	Bear
S1	2,870	R1	2,905	RSI above 50	Stochastic overbought
S2	2,842	R2	2,931		
S3	2,807	R3	2,953		

Source Bloomberg

Synopsis - Intraday

- Price is below the EMA resistance band (Black EMA's)
- RSI is above 50 (54)
- Stochastic is overbought
- Price is above the daily pivot point USD 2,868
- Technically bearish yesterday with a neutral bias, the upside move above the USD 2,871 meant the probability of the futures trading to a new low had started to decrease. A 5-wave pattern lower, followed by a move higher on a divergence had resulted in key resistance being broken, meaning we remained cautious on downside moves at these levels, as resistance levels looked vulnerable.
- The futures have traded above the USD 2,906 fractal resistance, meaning the intraday technical is now bullish. We are above the EMA support band with the RSI above 50, intraday price and momentum are aligned to the buyside.
- A close on the 4-hour candle below USD 2,868 with the RSI at or below 45.5 will mean price and momentum are aligned to the sell side. Downside moves that hold at or above USD 2,842 will support a bull argument, below this level the technical will have a neutral bias.
- Technically bullish, the MA on the RSI is implying momentum is supported, the 5-wave pattern lower has been followed by a fractal break, suggesting the corrective phase that started on the 24/10/24 looks to have completed. We are now cautious on downside moves, as the move higher is potentially in the early stages of a new bullish intraday Elliott wave cycle, meaning resistance levels are vulnerable.

Nickel Morning Technical (4-hour)



Support		Resistance		Current Price	Bull	Bear
S1	15,892	R1	16,130	15,960	RSI above 50	Stochastic overbought
S2	15,569	R2	16,270			
S3	15,442	R3	16,378			

Synopsis - Intraday

Source Bloomberg

- Price is above the EMA support band (Black EMA's)
- RSI is above 50 (61)
- Stochastic is overbought
- Price is above the daily pivot point USD 15,892
- Technically bullish yesterday, the futures had confirmed that that we have entered a countertrend corrective wave 4. The MA on the RSI implied that we have very light momentum weakness; countering this, we were above the 200-period MA (USD 15,696); if we held above the average, it would support a bull argument. Elliott wave analysis suggests that downside moves should be countertrend; however, above USD 15,965 the futures will be in divergence with the RSI, warning we could see a momentum slowdown on an upside breakout.
- The futures held support with price trading above the USD 15,965 resistance, meaning we are on a bullish Elliott wave 5; however, the new high has created a negative divergence with the RSI. We are above all key moving averages with the RSI above 50, intraday price and momentum are conflicting, as the RSI was below its average on the previous candles close.
- A close on the 4-hour candle above USD 15,892 with the RSI at or above 63.5 will mean price and momentum are aligned to the buyside. Likewise, a close below this level with the RSI at or below 59 will mean it is aligned to the sell side. Downside moves below USD 15,735 will mean the intraday technical is bearish; however, corrective moves lower that hold at or above 15,270 will imply that there is a larger, bullish wave cycle in play.
- Technically bullish, the MA on the RSI is flat whilst price is in divergence with the RSI, warning we are looking vulnerable to a momentum slowdown, meaning we now have a note of caution on upside moves at these levels. However, our Elliott wave analysis is suggesting that we have the potential to trade as high as USD 16,378 within this phase of the cycle. The caveat, if we do achieve this level, then we will be looking at a bullish wave extension, as the lower timeframe oscillator cross is marginal. A cautious bull due to the divergence; if we close on the 4-hour candle below the low of the last dominant bull candle (USD 15,840), then the probability of the USD 15,735 fractal support being tested and broken will start to increase. Conversely, failure to close above this level will indicate there remains an underlying support in the market.

Lead Morning Technical (4-hour)



Support	Resistance	Current Price	Bull	Bull
S1	1,964	R1	1,987	RSI above 50 Stochastic overbought
S2	1,961	R2	2,009	
S3	1,957	R3	2,039	

Synopsis - Intraday

Source Bloomberg

- Price is above the EMA resistance band (Black EMA's)
- RSI is above 50 (57)
- Stochastic is overbought
- Price is above the daily point USD 1,961
- Technically bearish with a neutral bias yesterday. Based on our Elliott wave analysis we maintained a note of caution on downside moves at this point.
- The futures are moving higher with the technical now in bullish territory. Price is above the EMA resistance band with the RSI above 50, intraday price and momentum are aligned to the buyside.
- A close on the 4-hour candle below USD 1,961 with the RSI at or below 49 will mean price and momentum are aligned to sell side. Downside moves that hold at or above USD 1,948 will support a bull argument, below this level the technical will have a neutral bias.
- Technically bullish. Despite the deep pullback earlier in the week, we backed our Elliott wave analysis as the bearish wave cycle looked to have completed, we noted that if we sold to new lows, it would indicate a bearish wave extension; however, we could not see it. This has proved to be correct, based on our analysis that the bear cycle has completed, we are now cautious on downside moves.

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