



Market Map MMM Report
Wednesday August 19 2026

TODAY'S THEME

Iran peace hopes fade further — triggers a brutal semiconductor selloff on Wall Street.
Asia extends the chip rout overnight — Kospi sinks 5.5%, Samsung and SK Hynix both fall over 7%.
Trump pauses 50% Canada tariffs for 'three day period.
All eyes turn to tonight's FOMC Minutes for the next policy signal.

KEY NUMBERS

Instrument	Price/Level	Change	Reference Note
DJ30	53,290.3	-0.10%	Prev close 53,341.3 (-0.19% Tue)
S&P 500	7,685.60	-0.08%	Prev close 7,691.95 (-0.67% Tue)
NAS100	29,434.37	-0.11%	Prev close 29,467.96 (-1.70% Tue)
DXY	99.48	-0.06%	Prev close 99.53 (+0.08% Tue)
EURUSD	1.1581	+0.06%	Prev close 1.1574 (-0.04% Tue)
GBPUSD	1.3537	+0.05%	Prev close 1.3531 (-0.09% Tue)
USDJPY	159.40	-0.14%	Prev close 159.63 (+0.11% Tue)
XAUUSD (Gold)	4,355.35	+0.47%	Prev close 4,334.85 (-1.84% Tue)

Instrument	Price/Level	Change	Reference Note
XAGUSD (Silver)	63.03	-0.43%	Prev close 63.31 (-3.73% Tue)
BRENT	93.25	+0.22%	Prev close 93.05 (+0.09% Tue)
WTI	85.62	+0.38%	Prev close 85.29 (+0.33% Tue)
BTCUSD	64,267.30	-0.43%	Prev close 64,546.10 (+0.32% Tue)

MACRO / MICRO & GEOPOLITICAL HEADLINES

Oil climbs on waning Middle East peace prospects.

- › Fading Middle East peace hopes push oil higher, lifting 10- and 30-year Treasury yields.
- › The Philadelphia Semiconductor Index tumbled around 5% as rising borrowing costs hit growth-stock valuations hardest.

Source: Reuters

Asia-Pacific stocks slide as the chip selloff deepens

- › MSCI's Asia-Pacific equities benchmark fell around 2% overnight, with South Korean shares down 5.5% as Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix both dropped more than 7%, tracking Wall Street's semiconductor rout.

Source: Bloomberg

Trump declines to extend the expired US-Iran MOU

- › Asked whether Washington would seek an extension of the lapsed 60-day memorandum governing the Strait of Hormuz, Trump said simply "No." He has separately threatened to bomb Oman if it interferes with US plans for the strait, keeping Brent crude pinned near \$91-93 a barrel.

Source: TheStreet

Trump pauses 50% Canada tariffs for 'three day period

- › Trump pauses the new tariffs that were due at midnight US Eastern time. Says has a tentative deal.
- › The looming penalties were set to hit \$20 billion to \$28 billion worth of Canadian exports—including manufacturing equipment, electronics, furniture, and dairy.

Source: *investinglive*

KEY EVENTS TODAY

- 09:00 — GBP CPI y/y | Forecast 2.9% | Previous 2.6%
- 10:10 — EUR ECB President Lagarde Speech
- 13:15 — EUR ECB President Lagarde Speech
- 21:00 — USD FOMC Meeting Minutes

MARKET PULSE — WHAT'S DRIVING MARKETS

🛢️ **Oil:** Brent (93.25) and WTI (85.62) hold firm after Trump declined to extend the expired US-Iran MOU and threatened to bomb Oman; surging bond yields are now adding a fresh inflation dimension to the standoff.

🏆 **Gold & Silver:** Gold (4,355.35) steadies after another round of profit taking which sent the precious metal down 1.84% on Tuesday, while silver (63.03) extends its pullback after its own sharp 3.7% drop.

📈 **Equities:** Wall Street closed lower Tuesday (Nasdaq -1.3%, SOX -5%) as the 30-year Treasury yield surged higher, triggering a broad semiconductor selloff; Asia extended the rout overnight (Kospi -5.5%, Samsung/SK Hynix down over 7%).

💱 **FX:** The dollar softens slightly (DXY -0.06%) in a quiet session ahead of today's UK CPI and tonight's FOMC Minutes; both GBP and EUR stay firm into the data.

The Canadian Dollar regained little strength overnight up 0.2% versus the US dollar to 1.3875, following Donald Trump's late-night announcement extending the Canada tariff deadline.

KEY TAKEAWAY

- › The chip selloff is fundamentally a yields story, not an AI-demand story — watch the 30-year yield as the real driver of tech sentiment, with Nvidia's earnings next week the next major test.
- Target's Q2 earnings report today after market close, serves as a critical bellwether for overall retail sentiment.

- › Today's UK CPI (forecast 2.9% vs. 2.6% prior) would mark a notable acceleration — a beat could push back BoE rate-hold expectations and support GBP.
- › Tonight's FOMC Minutes (21:00) are the session's macro US catalyst — Traders will scrutinize the release with heightened intensity following the last meeting's 3 historic hawkish dissents; any signs of expanding internal division over oil-driven inflation risks will immediately reshape yield curves and equity momentum.

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