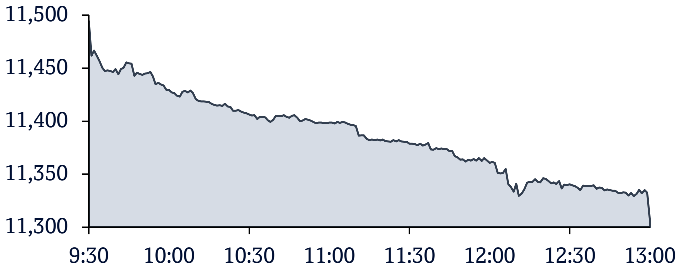
QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index declined 1.6% to close at 11,306.8. Losses were led by the Transportation and Banks & Financial Services indices, falling 1.9% and 1.8%, respectively. Top losers were Qatar Islamic Bank and Doha Bank, falling 2.9% and 2.8%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Qatari German Co for Med. Devices gained 1.5%, while QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co. was up 1.4%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell marginally to close at 10,878.1. Losses were led by the Media and Entertainment and Health Care Equipment & Svc indices, falling 1.8% and 1.3%, respectively. Alistithmar AREIC Diversified REIT Fund declined 4.5%, while Retal Urban Development Co. was down 3.9%.

Dubai The DFM index fell 0.5% to close at 6,122.1. The Utilities index declined 0.7%, while the Consumer Discretionary index was down 0.6%. Sukoon Takaful declined 9.7% while Ithmaar Holding was down 3.6%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index fell 0.1% to close at 10,204.5. The Consumer Discretionary index declined 1.0%, while the Telecommunication index fell 0.6%. Hayah Insurance Company declined 4.3%, while Abu Dhabi National Hotels Co. was down 2.9%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index fell 0.2% to close at 8,666.7. The Insurance and Telecommunications indices declined 0.3% each. Kuwait Hotels declined 6.3%, while Manazel Holding was down 4.9%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index gained 0.4% to close at 4,938.9. Gains were led by the Financial and Services indices, rising 0.4% and 0.2%, respectively. Al Anwar Ceramic Tiles Co. rose 2.2%, while Muscat Finance was up 1.9%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.3% to close at 1,932.8. Kuwait Finance House rose 4.1%, while GFH Financial Group was up 1.4%.

Market Indicators	20 Aug 25	19 Aug 25	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	367.2	399.9	(8.2)
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	674,242.7	683,511.4	(1.4)
Volume (mn)	135.8	151.6	(10.4)
Number of Transactions	23,870	20,104	18.7
Companies Traded	52	53	(1.9)
Market Breadth	13:37	16:32	–

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	27,022.68	(1.6)	(2.7)	12.1	12.7
All Share Index	4,240.27	(1.4)	(2.5)	12.3	12.2
Banks	5,452.35	(1.8)	(2.6)	15.1	11.1
Industrials	4,485.96	(0.8)	(2.0)	5.6	16.1
Transportation	5,807.75	(1.9)	(2.9)	12.5	12.9
Real Estate	1,657.92	(1.4)	(2.1)	2.6	16.2
Insurance	2,417.48	0.1	(1.6)	2.9	10.0
Telecoms	2,233.22	(0.8)	(4.1)	24.2	12.5
Consumer Goods and Services	8,452.46	(0.5)	(2.0)	10.2	20.5
Al Rayan Islamic Index	5,379.77	(1.3)	(2.3)	10.5	14.5

GCC Top Gainers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Gulf Bank	Kuwait	355.00	3.5	17,856.5	14.3
Presight	Abu Dhabi	3.62	2.5	11,242.3	74.9
Power & Water Utility	Saudi Arabia	40.80	2.4	667.5	(25.5)
Multiply Group	Abu Dhabi	3.02	2.4	48,644.0	45.9
Arab National Bank	Saudi Arabia	22.25	2.4	2,326.5	5.6

GCC Top Losers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar Islamic Bank	Qatar	24.67	(2.9)	1,163.3	15.5
The Commercial Bank	Qatar	4.81	(2.7)	2,131.2	10.5
Saudi Basic Ind. Corp.	Saudi Arabia	57.50	(2.6)	3,297.7	(14.2)
Astra Industrial Group	Saudi Arabia	145.70	(2.2)	48.2	(19.1)
Abu Dhabi Ports	Abu Dhabi	4.17	(2.1)	1,404.6	(18.1)

Source: Bloomberg (# in Local Currency) (## GCC Top gainers/ losers derived from the S&P GCC Composite Large Mid Cap Index)

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	1.730	1.5	6,552.6	26.3
QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co.	2.190	1.4	160.6	6.1
Mannai Corporation	5.497	0.7	1,896.0	51.1
Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co.	1.073	0.6	425.6	(6.6)
Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co	2.560	0.5	338.5	2.0

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar Islamic Bank	24.67	(2.9)	1,163.3	15.5
Doha Bank	2.510	(2.8)	4,219.9	26.1
The Commercial Bank	4.806	(2.7)	2,131.2	10.5
Qatar Navigation	11.42	(2.2)	452.9	3.9
Qatar Electricity & Water Co.	15.67	(2.1)	290.1	(0.2)

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Baladna	1.650	(0.2)	25,880.0	31.9
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	0.644	(0.9)	12,718.2	10.3
Ezdan Holding Group	1.180	(1.7)	12,174.9	11.7
Estithmar Holding	4.148	(1.2)	6,745.7	144.8
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	1.730	1.5	6,552.6	26.3

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
Baladna	1.650	(0.2)	42,475.0	31.9
QNB Group	19.30	(1.5)	32,912.5	11.6
Qatar Islamic Bank	24.67	(2.9)	29,019.6	15.5
Estithmar Holding	4.148	(1.2)	27,885.1	144.8
Gulf International Services	3.298	(1.5)	18,511.1	(0.9)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded ($ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. ($ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	11,306.78	(1.6)	(2.9)	0.4	7.0	101.26	184,877.3	12.7	1.4	4.4
Dubai	6,122.11	(0.5)	0.4	(0.6)	18.7	122.25	285,903.8	10.5	1.7	4.9
Abu Dhabi	10,204.45	(0.1)	(0.5)	(1.6)	8.3	265.65	785,472.0	21.4	2.7	2.2
Saudi Arabia	10,878.07	(0.0)	0.4	(0.4)	(9.6)	1,122.20	2,383,878.4	16.6	2.0	4.4
Kuwait	8,666.66	(0.2)	(0.4)	0.6	17.7	293.47	169,245.7	16.3	1.8	3.1
Oman	4,938.93	0.4	0.2	3.3	7.9	62.85	29,382.6	8.7	1.0	5.8
Bahrain	1,932.79	0.3	(0.7)	(1.2)	(2.7)	0.4	18,411.3	13.1	1.4	10.0

*Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (** TTM; * Value traded ($ mn) do not include special trades if any)*

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index declined 1.6% to close at 11,306.8. The Transportation and Banks & Financial Services indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from foreign shareholders despite buying support from Qatari, GCC and Arab shareholders.
- Qatar Islamic Bank and Doha Bank were the top losers, falling 2.9% and 2.8%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Qatari German Co for Med. Devices gained 1.5%, while QLM Life & Medical Insurance Co. was up 1.4%.
- Volume of shares traded on Wednesday fell by 10.4% to 135.8mn from 151.6mn on Tuesday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 182mn, volume for the day was 25.4% lower. Baladna and Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev. were the most active stocks, contributing 19.1% and 9.4% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy%*	Sell%*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	39.35%	30.55%	33,032,799.56
Qatari Institutions	20.54%	26.60%	(22,237,322.28)
Qatari	**59.89%**	**56.96%**	**10,795,477.29**
GCC Individuals	1.43%	0.51%	3,365,764.89
GCC Institutions	3.98%	1.82%	7,949,222.57
GCC	**5.41%**	**2.33%**	**11,314,987.46**
Arab Individuals	13.89%	10.45%	12,634,805.36
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	-
Arab	**13.89%**	**10.45%**	**12,634,805.36**
Foreigners Individuals	3.36%	2.24%	4,121,990.87
Foreigners Institutions	17.44%	28.03%	(38,867,260.98)
Foreigners	**20.80%**	**30.27%**	**(34,745,270.11)**

*Source: Qatar Stock Exchange (*as a% of traded value)*

Global Economic Data

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
08-20	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	CPI MoM	Jul	0.10%	0.00%	NA
08-20	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	CPI YoY	Jul	3.80%	3.70%	NA
08-20	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	CPI Core YoY	Jul	3.80%	3.70%	NA
08-20	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	Retail Price Index	Jul	406.2	405.1	NA
08-20	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	RPI MoM	Jul	0.40%	0.10%	NA
08-20	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	RPI YoY	Jul	4.80%	4.50%	NA
08-20	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	PPI MoM	Jul	-0.10%	0.10%	NA
08-20	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	PPI YoY	Jul	-1.50%	-1.40%	NA
08-20	Japan	Ministry of Finance Japan	Exports YoY	Jul	-2.60%	-2.10%	NA
08-20	Japan	Ministry of Finance Japan	Imports YoY	Jul	-7.50%	-10.00%	NA
08-20	Japan	Economic and Social Research I	Core Machine Orders YoY	Jun	7.60%	4.70%	NA

Qatar

- **Qatar to sell 3.856bn Riyals of 4.05% 2030 Islamic Sukuk Aug. 24 -** Qatar plans to sell 3.856bn riyals ($1.06bn) of Islamic Sukuk due Aug. 24, 2030, in an auction on Aug. 24. (Bloomberg)
- **Al Faleh Educational Holding – Foreign Ownership Limits -** In line with the provisions of the Foreign Investment Law of the State of Qatar, and as part of the Company's strategy to attract additional investment, enhance market liquidity, and broaden the shareholder base, the Board of Directors has resolved to recommend to the Extraordinary General Assembly an amendment to Article (21) of the Company's Articles of Association. The proposed amendment seeks to raise the maximum permitted foreign ownership from 49% to 100% of the Company's share capital. Accordingly, the Board of Directors will convene the Extraordinary General Assembly to obtain shareholders' approval, following which the Company will proceed to complete the necessary approvals from the relevant regulatory authorities and the Council of Ministers. (QSE)
- **Inma Holding: The AGM Endorses items on its agenda** - Inma Holding announces the results of the AGM. The meeting was held on 20/08/2025 and the following resolution was approved. Mr. Abdulrahman Mohammed A A Fakhroo has been elected as an independent member to complete the remaining term of the Board of Directors until 2027. (QSE)
- **Qatar's economic growth forecast at 4.8% in 2026 -** Qatar's economy is showing signs of renewed strength heading into the second half of 2025, with Cushman & Wakefield highlighting resilience in non-energy sectors and steady progress in reforms underpinning real estate and tourism. The report released this week by the research platform points to an upgraded GDP forecast of 2.7% this year, up 0.3 percentage points from earlier estimates, with growth expected to accelerate to 4.8% in 2026. The adjustment reflects stronger-than-expected first-quarter (Q1) performance. when the economy expanded 3.7% year-on-year (YOY), driven largely by wholesale trade and retail accommodation. and food services. However, high-frequency indicators suggest momentum was carried into the second quarter (Q2). The June Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 52, a three-month high, lifting the Q2 average to 51.2 from 51.1 in Q1. "The PMI signals continued expansion in private sector activity, despite some cooling in new orders." Cushman & Wakefield stated. Employment growth has been particularly notable, with the latest Labor Force Survey showing a 2.8% annual increase in Q1 headcount, marking one of the strongest hiring periods on record. Oxford Economics, meanwhile, has revised its fiscal projections, still expecting Qatar to post a budget surplus this year but scaling it back to QR15bn (1.8% of GDP) from QR23bn previously. Second-quarter budget data revealed a second consecutive deficit. totaling QR1.3bn in H1, as spending rose 5.7% YOY due to higher wages and project outlays, offsetting stable revenues buoyed hydrocarbons. By On prices, Oxford Economics cut its 2025 inflation forecast by 0.6 percentage points to 0.4%, citing subdued consumer demand and weaker price pressures across most of the CPI basket. Market experts at the entity affirmed that, "Inflation in Qatar is among the lowest in the region. which supports purchasing power and business confidence. This gives policymakers breathing room to align with global monetary trends without stifling growth." Energy prospects are equally robust, with Qatar's LNG expansion on track to lift capacity to 142mn tonnes per year by 2030. First output from the North Field East project is slated for mid-2026, reinforcing Qatar's long-term role as a global gas supplier. On the other hand, tourism and infrastructure remain central to the non-energy sector. Tourist arrivals rose 3% YOY in H1 to 2.6mn, according to Qatar Tourism, with hotel occupancy steady at 71%. Investment momentum also continues, including GCC-backed projects abroad such as the $1bn Alam El Roum development in Egypt, part of a wider $7.5bn regional plan. Meanwhile, real estate regulation advanced this year as Aqarat activated provisions of Law No. 6 of 2014 in April, while in July, the Ministry of Justice issued executive regulations for Law No. 5 of 2024 on property registration. Market experts see these steps as critical for aligning the sector with Qatar National Vision 2030. Analysts note that Qatar's combination of fiscal discipline, structural reforms, and targeted investment is keeping growth on a stable path while the balance

between energy expansion and non-energy diversification makes the outlook particularly resilient. (Peninsula Qatar)

- **QFC records 64% growth in firm registration in first half of 2025 -** Qatar Financial Centre (QFC), a leading onshore financial and business center in the region, recorded a remarkable 64% increase in firm registrations in the first half (H1) of 2025 compared to the same period of 2024. This growth reflects increased investor confidence in the Qatari market and reaffirms QFC's position as a trusted platform for doing business in the region. With 828 new firms registered, QFC has almost surpassed its 2024 record, bringing the total number of registered firms to 3,300 by June 2025. Notably, QFC's regulated firms delivered strong performance, with Corporate & Investment Banks driving a 19% year-on-year increase in Assets Under Management (AUM). QFC's H1 performance was supported by strategic reforms to facilitate market entry, targeted business development and stakeholder engagement efforts. Measures such as simplifying the incorporation process, allowing applicants to instantly establish a legal entity and obtain a license for non-regulated activities, and reducing the application fee for licensing a business by 90% have significantly lowered entry barriers, encouraging more entrepreneurs to launch their businesses through the QFC platform. During the first half of the year, QFC hosted and participated in over 15 events. Notable hosted and co-hosted events include the 3rd Annual Qatar Financial Market Forum powered by Bloomberg Intelligence, the Qatar Family Office Showcase, the QFC & Morgan Stanley Economic Workshop, the Digital Assets Policy Roundtable held on the sidelines of the Qatar Economic Forum, and the Qatar Islamic Finance Forum. QFC also participated in major international events such as the Qatar Web Summit, and the World Economic Forum in Davos. These platforms were used to promote QFC's value proposition and highlight Qatar's competitive business environment to investors and relevant stakeholders. QFC's presence at the 2025 Web Summit was particularly impactful. Between February and June 2025, 566 firms registered with the QFC through the Web Summit, a sharp rise from the 358 firms recorded during the previous edition. QFC also expanded its network through strategic partnerships aimed at advancing its focus sectors, supporting economic development, facilitating cross-border investment, and enhancing its value proposition. Memoranda of Understanding were signed with Qatar National Bank (QNB), German Mittelstand GCC, Gulf Capital Market Association (GCMA), Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB), Rwanda Development Board (RDB), Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Financial Services Development Council (FSDC), and Ashmore Group. In addition, QFC signed a Head of Terms with Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited (HSIL) and a service agreement with The View Hospital. Further progress was made under the Innovation Dome, QFC's flagship initiative. During H1, 33 firms joined the Digital Assets Lab, which is spearheading collaborative projects in areas including Islamic finance, tokenized deposits, real estate tokenization, and blockchain-based rewards systems. In addition, the QFC Metaverse was launched, an immersive digital platform designed to facilitate business engagement, collaboration, and innovation. It serves as a central hub for networking, showcasing new technologies, and hosting workshops, training sessions, and expert-led discussions. Commenting on QFC's compounding growth, QFC Chief Executive Officer Yousuf Mohamed Al Jaida said, "We are pleased to see positive results from our ongoing efforts to enhance Qatar's business ecosystem and drive progress across sectors. Our focus remains on fostering an environment that attracts diverse businesses and supports sustainable growth. With this growth momentum, we continue to reinforce Qatar's position as a leading hub for innovation and investment in the region." (Qatar Tribune)

- **MWC25 Doha unveils expanded agenda featuring Smart City Expo and Digital Leaders Program -** MWC25 Doha, in partnership with the Ministry of Communications and Technology of Qatar, is adding Smart City Expo and the GSMA Digital Leaders Program to its inaugural agenda. Taking place on November 25-26 at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC), MWC Doha is set to be the region's essential platform where policymakers, industry leaders, and innovators convene to define the future of connectivity. With strong demand in mind, the exhibition has also expanded to three halls. Confirmed new exhibitors and sponsors include Cisco Mannai, Google, Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, KT, Mannai TechHub, Nokia, Qatar University, SP Rhodes & Schwarz, Turkcell and VEON. Recently announced speakers include Agility Robotics' CEO, Peggy Johnson; Cohere's President & COO, Martin Kon; Digital Cooperation Organization (DCO)'s Secretary-General, Deemah AlYahya; e&'s Group CEO, Hatem Dowidar; Ooredoo's Group CEO, Aziz Aluthman Fakhroo; Starlink Qatar's CEO, Cyril Anand; stc's General Manager of the AI & Analytics Center of Excellence, Dr Najwa Alghamdi; and VEON's Group CEO, Kaan Terzioglu. Organized by Fira de Barcelona, Smart City Expo is the world's biggest and most influential event focused on urban innovation and this November it will bring together global leaders to explore the future of connected cities at the heart of Doha. The organizers are bringing the GSMA Digital Leaders Program, a bespoke invite-only forum designed to connect regional tech industry players with the global ecosystem. With its roots in MWC Shanghai and MWC Barcelona, it is coming to Mena for the first time. These new features join an already powerful lineup that includes 4YFN, the official startup platform of MWC and a world-leading event for new ventures. The MWC 4YFN partnership brings opportunity for leading investors and tech creators to meet and collaborate in Qatar. The GSMA Ministerial Program, where regional and international policymakers will convene to define Mena's digital future. MWC25 Doha will center discussions around three core themes: AI Nexus, Intelligent Economies, and Connected Industries. (Gulf Times)

- **Qatar Tourism, CSGDB host capacity-building workshop ahead of upcoming cruise season -** In preparation for the 2025/2026 cruise season, set to begin November 2025, Qatar Tourism, in collaboration with the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau (CSGDB), hosted a strategic workshop aimed at enhancing the cruise passenger journey and highlighting key projects and initiatives designed to help advance Qatar's cruise tourism sector. The workshop reviewed the latest developments across the sector while addressing current challenges, exchanging insights, and enhancing the skills and knowledge of stakeholders from both public and private sectors. The two-day event brought together representatives from a wide range of government entities and private organizations. Sessions included presentations on global cruise tourism trends and destination best practices, alongside discussions to identify areas for development and innovative initiatives to further enrich the visitor experience. Commenting on the workshop, Omar Abdulrahman Al Jaber, chief of Tourism Development Sector at Qatar Tourism, said: "Cruise tourism is a vital pillar of Qatar's tourism strategy, playing an increasingly important role in supporting the national economy and strengthening the country's position as a leading global destination. "We extend our sincere appreciation to the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau for their valuable support and collaboration in this workshop, which underscores our commitment to investing in training and equipping the workforce with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver exceptional service, ensuring a world-class experience for visitors to Qatar." Youssef Jaber Al Jaber, director of Government Development Affairs at the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau, said: "We are working in partnership with Qatar Tourism to enhance the visitor journey within Qatar's cruise tourism sector, by analyzing and developing every stage of the passenger experience and improving touchpoints with government services. "This ensures a seamless and integrated journey that reflects the quality and efficiency of our services. We value Qatar Tourism's leading role in coordinating these efforts and their continuous commitment to strengthening the sector's readiness. This fruitful collaboration reflects the spirit of partnership and integration in government work." The workshop featured interactive activities to foster closer cooperation among stakeholders, including idea exchanges, priority-setting, and the development of practical action plans ahead of the new season. Participants were also awarded certificates in recognition of their valuable contributions. Qatar is preparing to welcome the 2025/2026 cruise season in November, following an exceptional season that saw over 360,000 visitors arrive on 87 cruise ships, marking a 19% year-on-year increase. This growth highlights the sector's strong trajectory and its expanding contribution to the national economy. (Qatar Tribune)

International

- **Fed dissenters appeared alone in favoring rate cut at July meeting, minutes show -** The two Federal Reserve policymakers who dissented against the U.S. central bank's decision to leave interest rates unchanged last month appear not to have been joined by other policymakers in voicing support for lowering rates at that meeting, a readout of the gathering released on Wednesday showed. "Almost all participants viewed it as appropriate to maintain the target range for the federal funds rate at 4.25% to 4.50% at this meeting," the minutes of the July 29-30 meeting said. Fed Vice Chair for Supervision Michelle Bowman and Governor Christopher Waller both voted against the decision to leave the benchmark interest rate unchanged, favoring instead a quarter-percentage-point reduction to guard against further weakening of the job market. It was the first time since 1993 that more than one Fed governor dissented against a rate decision. Not even 48 hours after the conclusion of last month's meeting, data from the Labor Department appeared to validate the concerns of Bowman and Waller when it showed far fewer jobs than expected were created in July, a rise in the unemployment rate and a drop in the labor force participation rate to the lowest level since late 2022. More unsettling, though, was an historic downward revision for estimates of employment in the previous two months. That revision erased more than a quarter of a million jobs thought to have been created in May and June and put a hefty dent in the prevailing narrative of a still-strong-job market. The event was so angering to President Donald Trump that he fired the head of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data since then, however, has provided some fodder for the camp more concerned that Trump's aggressive tariffs risk rekindling inflation to hold their ground against moving quickly to lower rates. The annual rate of underlying consumer inflation accelerated more than expected in July and was followed by an unexpectedly large jump in prices at the producer level. The minutes showed officials continued an active debate on the effects of tariffs on inflation and the degree of restrictiveness in their policy stance. Several policymakers commented that the current level of the federal funds rate may not be far above its neutral level, where economic activity is neither stimulated nor constrained. Fed policymakers assessed that the effects of higher tariffs had become more apparent in some goods prices but that the overall effect on the economy and inflation remained to be seen, the minutes showed. Looking ahead, participants noted they may face difficult tradeoffs ahead if elevated inflation proved more persistent while the job market outlook weakened. (Reuters)
- **UK inflation rises to highest since early 2024 at 3.8% -** British inflation hit its highest in 18 months in July when it increased to 3.8% from 3.6%, official data showed on Wednesday, once again leaving the country with the fastest rate of price increases among the world's largest rich economies. Inflation in Britain's services sector - which is watched closely by the Bank of England - accelerated to 5.0% from 4.7% a month earlier. The BoE expected headline inflation to rise to 3.8% in July but had forecasted a smaller 4.9% rise in services prices. Economists polled by Reuters mostly expected increases of 3.7% and 4.8% respectively. The BoE cut interest rates this month but only after a narrow 5-4 vote by policymakers and it suggested it would slow the already gradual pace of lowering borrowing costs due to inflation's persistence. Sterling rose slightly after the data was published and investors expected a longer wait before the next BoE rate cut. A quarter-point cut is not fully priced in until March 2026. Earlier this month, the next rate cut was viewed as highly likely before the end of 2025. "The economy is experiencing a bout of high inflation and weak growth that will likely remain until next spring," said Deloitte Chief Economist Ian Stewart. He said it was unclear whether the BoE would cut rates again in 2025. The BoE thinks British inflation will hit 4% in September, double its target, and stay above 2% until mid-2027. Inflation the United States held at 2.7% in July and in the euro zone it is expected to remain around the European Central Bank's 2% target over the coming years. Some of the differences reflect how energy and other utility prices are regulated in Britain. Big increases in utility bills in April have boosted year-on-year inflation comparisons. (Reuters)

Regional

- **US emerges as largest greenfield investor in Saudi Arabia in H1 2025 -** The United States emerged as the top source of greenfield foreign direct investment (FDI) in Saudi Arabia in the first half of 2025, accounting for 61 projects valued at $2.7bn. American investment made up nearly one-third of both project count and capital investment in the first six months, Emirates NBD said in a report. Egypt ranked second in capital investment with $1.81bn from 11 projects, driven by major real estate developments. China contributed $858.3mn through 11 projects, while France invested $771.7mn across six projects. The UAE strengthened its regional footprint with 25 ventures worth $205.3mn, the report said. Overall, greenfield projects in the Kingdom climbed 30.1% year-on-year (YoY) to 203 in the first half of 2025, while total investment inflows increased by 1.7% annually to $9.34bn. Riyadh was the top destination, attracting 100 projects with capital inflows of $2.3bn. Dammam secured 21 projects worth $1.28bn, followed by Jeddah with 13 projects valued at $1.22bn. The business services sector dominated the number of greenfield FDI projects with 55, representing 27% of total projects. The communications sector attracted the highest capital investment at $1.92bn from just 11 projects, accounting for 21% of total FDI inflows. This was primarily driven by Equinix's $1bn data center investment announced at LEAP 2025. Real estate ranked second in investment volume with $1.79bn (19% of total) from only nine projects. (Zawya)
- **Dubai set to welcome 10,000 millionaires; luxury home buys seen -** Dubai's transformation from a transient luxury stopover to a permanent global wealth capital is accelerating with the emirate set to welcome nearly 10,000mnaires in 2025, according to Betterhomes' data-led report, Dubai: No Longer a Pit Stop, But the Finish Line for Global Wealth. As of December 2024, Dubai counts 81,200 resident millionaires, contributing to the UAE's total of 130,500 dollar millionaires, a remarkable 98% jump in the last decade. With 142,000mnaires set to migrate globally in 2025, even if just 5% select Dubai, that's 7,100 new HNWIs and nearly $7.1bn in fresh investment. "Dubai has matured into the world's most compelling plug-and-play city for wealth. What's changed is intent; founders, operators and multi-generational families are anchoring here, not passing through, said Louis Harding, CEO at Betterhomes. Ticket sizes tell the story: On-the-ground allocations are rising, with HNWIs averaging AED11.4mn ($3.1mn) per residential acquisition, and UHNW families committing AED134mn+ ($36.5mn+) to legacy villas, waterfront compounds, and identity-rich branded residences. These are end-user purchases oriented towards permanence, professional services, and inter-generational planning and not flip culture. Market depth is broadening Dubai's luxury property market continues to set new benchmarks, with year-to-date villa and townhouse sales soaring to AED147.2bn ($40bn), a remarkable 41% jump compared to last year. Ultra-prime communities remain at the heart of this momentum: Palm Jumeirah has witnessed 85 transactions worth AED3.8bn ($1bn), while Emirates Hills saw 30 deals totaling AED1.9bn ($517mn). At the very top end of the spectrum, homes priced above AED35mn ($10mn) amassed AED9.4bn ($2.6bn) in sales over the past six months alone, spanning 146 transactions. How does Dubai convert flow into stock? Policy clarity and zero personal income tax reduce friction for wealth creators. Safety, modern infrastructure, elite healthcare and education, and a USD-pegged currency support families who plan to stay. The DIFC ecosystem, spanning private banking, trustees, and legal/accounting services, underpins the growth of family offices and capital-formation vehicles. Together, these features convert mobile inflows into permanent capital, says the report. From status buys to service stacks: Branded living has evolved from a badge to an operating system: concierge, wellness, club networks, and managed rental programs bundled into one address. In a supply-constrained waterfront and villa market, this service stack is the new gravity. "This cycle is driven by real users, not leverage," Harding added. "Global wealth is consolidating in branded ecosystems and legacy neighborhoods. With policy clarity and quality-of-life premiums compounding, Dubai's prime market is shifting from cyclical to structural." As the global migration Supercycle continues, Betterhomes expects sustained depth in prime and super-prime, a further build-out of family-office services, and developers doubling down on concierge-grade, club-linked offerings. With supply tight in key sub-markets, pricing power remains with high-quality stock. (Zawya)
- **CBUAE gold reserves rise 26% in January to May 2025 -** The Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates (CBUAE) increased its gold reserves by

25.899% during the first five months of the year to AED28.933bn at the end of May, up from AED22.981bn at the end of December 2024. According to the Central Bank's statistical bulletin issued today, the CBUAE's gold holdings rose by 0.49% month-on-month in May, to AED 28.791bn at the end of April. Statistics showed that demand deposits also grew, exceeding AED1.166tn by the end of May, compared to AED1.109tn at the end of December 2024. Of this total, AED892.577bn were in local currency and AED274.329bn in foreign currencies. Savings deposits rose to AED359.57bn at the end of May, up from AED317.48bn at the end of December 2024. This included AED305.508bn in local currency and AED54.062bn in foreign currencies. Time deposits exceeded AED1bn for the first time by the end of May, including AED614.854bn in local currency and AED398.348bn in foreign currencies. (Zawya)

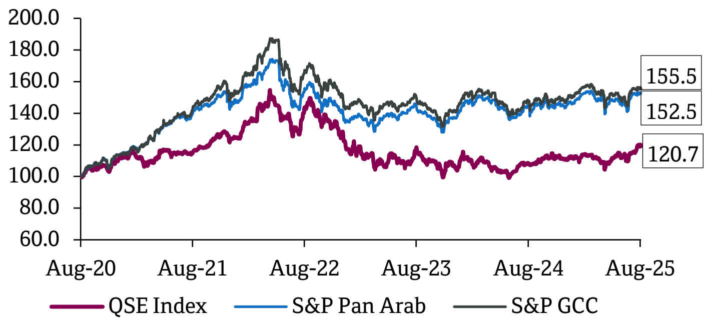
- **UAE green champion shifts hydrogen billions to data boom -** Abu Dhabi's main renewables company has diverted billions of dollars to AI projects instead of green hydrogen, due to a lack of buyers for the fuel once seen as key to the energy transition. Global demand for clean hydrogen products has fallen short of expectations while power needs from data centers have been surging, prompting Masdar to adjust course, Chief Executive Officer Mohamed Jameel al-Ramahi said in an interview. "In my original plan, I was supposed to generate 6 gigawatts of renewables to produce around 350,000 tonnes of green ammonia," said al-Ramahi, referring to a compound that includes green hydrogen. But power from the $6bn solar project in the desert has been reallocated to feed data centers, he said. Masdar's decision reflects the dilemma faced by developers that made a big push for green hydrogen when excitement around the fuel was at its peak. But weak demand resulting from high costs has forced companies to pull out of projects around the world, casting doubt over the future of the industry. "Today, green hydrogen is under pressure and the market is shrinking. A lot of people who went into this venture are out. We are not," al-Ramahi said. "But we also need to respect global dynamics. Today, if I want to produce green ammonia, who's going to be the offtaker?" Masdar is offsetting its sluggish green hydrogen plans against an expected boom in power consumption from energy-hungry data centers. The United Arab Emirates is embracing the latest technology by planning massive projects following US President Donald Trump's trip to the Middle East earlier this year. One of the world's biggest such projects — a 5-gigawatt Stargate venture — is coming up in the UAE. Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Co PJSC, better known as Du, is planning a 2bn-dirham ($545mn) facility of its own with Microsoft Corp. According to Citi Research, powering the surge in the world's data centers is expected to require over three times more energy by the end of this decade than it did in 2023. Masdar is gearing up to meet this requirement, al-Ramahi said. "My basic business mandate isn't hydrogen or aluminum or whatever. It is green electron capacity," he added. The push for green energy will contribute to Abu Dhabi's aim to produce 60% of the emirate's electricity from renewables and nuclear by 2035. Masdar, which has a target to reach 100 gigawatts of global renewable energy capacity by 2030, has already hit 51 gigawatts, al-Ramahi said. The UAE had also previously said it wanted to develop 1mn tons per year of green hydrogen by 2031 and Masdar's decision puts that further out of its reach. Masdar Green Hydrogen, an offshoot of Masdar, was set a target of developing 1mn tons per year of production capacity by 2030, but this has been eroded over time. The company is actively developing projects and some have been approved by its investment committee, Masdar said, without disclosing the identity of the projects. Companies elsewhere have also struggled with green hydrogen. BP Plc decided to exit a $36bn facility in Western Australia last month, while a developer has struggled to sell production from an under-construction facility at Neom in Saudi Arabia. One of the few green hydrogen projects in the Middle East to enter the construction stage is being built by another Emirati state-controlled company, Fertiglobe Plc, in Egypt. In this instance, securing an offtake agreement through a mechanism backed by the German government was crucial. Green hydrogen will only take off when its price matches so-called gray hydrogen — made from fossil fuels in a process that releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, al-Ramahi said. "We are working to try to produce green molecules at a competitive price," he said. "That's the only solution." (Gulf Times)
- **Oman-South Korea discuss energy and green hydrogen cooperation -** H E Mohsin bin Hamad al Hadhrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, met in Seoul with His Excellency Lee Ho–hyun, Second Assistant Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, and Kang Kyung-sung, CEO of the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA), to strengthen cooperation in the energy sector and advance the third round of green hydrogen projects. The meetings reflect Oman's commitment to positioning itself as a leading regional hub for green hydrogen production, supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy and enhancing the Sultanate's competitiveness in global energy markets. These efforts are aligned with Oman Vision 2040 and the country's goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2050. The discussions were also attended by H E Zakaria bin Hamad al Saadi, Ambassador of Oman to South Korea, and Eng. Abdulaziz bin Saeed al Shaikhani, General Manager of Hydrogen Oman Company (Hydrom). (Zawya)
- **Kuwaiti aims to borrow $10-20bn to narrow fiscal deficit in 2025-26 -** The Kuwaiti government plans to borrow 3-6bn Kuwait dinars ($10-20bn) in fiscal year (FY) 2025/26 through conventional and Islamic instruments as the fiscal deficit widens, CI Capital said in a report. The Gulf nation's fiscal deficit is expected to widen to KWD 3.8bn in FY 2025/26 from KWD 1.2bn in FY 2024/25, primarily on weaker oil revenues. "We expect the shortfall to be fully financed by local and external borrowing, as the March 2025 debt law approval allows up to KWD 30bn in debt instruments over 50 years," economists Hekmat El Matbouly and Sara Saada of the Egypt-based investment bank added. Local banks have raised KWD 850mn through offerings so far this year, a trend expected to continue. Deficit financing via borrowing helps preserve the general reserve fund (GRF) and maintain sovereign buffer capacity, the report added. The real GDP is forecast to grow 0.2% in 2025, reversing a two-year contraction, amid a 2.1% increase in non-oil GDP. Although FY 2025-2026 capex is slated to fall by 1.6% year-on-year (YoY) to a fresh low of KWD 1.8bn, CI Capital expects planned debt issuances to provide fresh liquidity for project activity. Meanwhile, oil GDP is expected to rebound to 2.6% in 2026, compared to -1.8% in 2025 as crude production recovers. Kuwait Petroleum Corporation is planning to raise output to 4mn barrels per day (bpd) by 20235 from 3.2mn bpd, signaling a long-term upside for the oil sector. However, consumer spending continued to decline by 5.3% YoY to KWD 11.3bn in the first quarter of 2025 due to higher borrowing costs and limited government wage spending. "We expect recovery as job creation picks up with project activity," the report said. Steady inflation at 2.4% in the first six months of 2025, compared to 3.1% the same period last year, is expected to support real income and aid the recovery of consumer activity, CI Capital stated. (Zawya)
- **Oman allows Round 3 hydrogen investors to sell surplus power -** Investors in the third round of Oman's green hydrogen auction will be permitted to sell surplus renewable electricity into the market, a significant incentive unveiled by Hydrom, the master planner of the Sultanate's hydrogen strategy. The measure is part of a new package designed to boost the commercial viability of Round 3 projects, centered on a 300 km² land block near the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD). Hydrom Managing Director Abdulaziz al Shidhani said the change will improve project economics and bankability. "We believe that once the targets set for the production of hydrogen are met, then investors have the flexibility to sell surplus power to the market and improve the project economics," he stated. Unlike Rounds 1 and 2, which restricted developers to using renewables exclusively for hydrogen production, Round 3 developers will be able to monetize excess green electricity, creating an additional revenue stream. The move also dovetails with the Authority for Public Services Regulation's push to liberalize Oman's power market, including options for bilateral trading between generators and consumers. Hydrom Managing Director Abdulaziz al Shidhani The updated framework spans the development phase, the first 15 years of operations, and surplus power sales. "We believe that these incentives...will incentivize people to be more focused on their development activities and leverage the opportunity to get their projects operational by the end of 2032," added al Shidhani. Other concessions include a 50% reduction in fees during development, a cut in royalty rates from 3% to 1%, and an additional five-year tax holiday for projects starting operations by 2032. Land allocation and production requirements have also been made more flexible, with

options for both large and mid-sized developers, as well as phased development. Al Shidhani stressed that the enhancements reflect Hydrom's commitment to regulatory clarity and enabling infrastructure: "Since the beginning, Hydrom has been focused on an approach based on regulatory clarity and agility, supported by a policy framework that addresses not only hydrogen production, but also the readiness of the wider ecosystem and common-use infrastructure." (Zawya)

- **Exports drive Oman's economic growth -** Omani products are gaining a stronger foothold in international markets, with recent figures showing steady growth in exports and rising global demand. North Al Batinah, with its strategic location and world-class logistics facilities, is emerging as a driving force in this momentum. At a recent forum organized by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), North Al Batinah branch, business leaders, government officials, and logistics experts gathered to discuss how ports and maritime shipping can unlock greater opportunities for national exports. The event underscored Sohar Port and Freezone's role as a gateway to global markets and a pillar of Oman's trade competitiveness. Eng. Saeed al Abri, Chairman of OCCI North Al Batinah, highlighted the significance of the sector, noting: "Maritime shipping is the backbone of global trade. By investing in logistics efficiency and international partnerships, Oman can ensure its products reach more markets and compete on a larger scale." He further pointed to the Oman-U.S. Free Trade Agreement as a golden opportunity, offering customs exemptions and facilitating stronger entry for Omani goods into one of the world's most lucrative markets. According to the latest data, Oman's non-oil exports reached RO 1.618bn in the first quarter of 2025, an increase of 8.6% compared to the same period in 2024. By the end of last year, exports stood at RO 23bn, marking a 10% growth from 2023. This positive trend continued into 2025, with exports valued at RO 10.683bn by mid-year. Business leaders, government officials, and logistics experts gathered to discuss how ports and maritime shipping can unlock greater opportunities for national exports. North Al Batinah itself reported remarkable progress, with exports climbing to RO 676mn, a 37% increase while container traffic through Sohar Port grew by 15% in 2024. The forum in North Al Batinah was notable not only for its high-level discussions but also for the strong turnout of entrepreneurs, business owners, and representatives of various companies and institutions. Their presence reflected a growing awareness within the community about the importance of exports and logistics in strengthening the national economy. For many entrepreneurs, the gathering offered a valuable opportunity to learn how Omani products can expand into global markets and how small and medium enterprises can benefit from improved shipping and trade facilities. Participants from larger companies emphasized that meetings of this kind are essential for building stronger partnerships between the public and private sectors. They noted that by working together, businesses and institutions can play a vital role in boosting Oman's competitiveness and ensuring that the benefits of trade extend across different segments of society. The involvement of logistics and shipping firms further highlighted how closely connected infrastructure and trade are. Their contributions underscored the readiness of the sector to support exporters and create an environment that allows Omani goods to move more efficiently to international markets. Overall, the diverse participation at the forum demonstrated how collective engagement and rising awareness can accelerate efforts to achieve sustainable economic growth in the Sultanate. The forum concluded with a call for greater integration between government entities, logistics providers, and exporters, to strengthen Oman's global presence and cement its role as a competitive player in international trade. (Zawya)

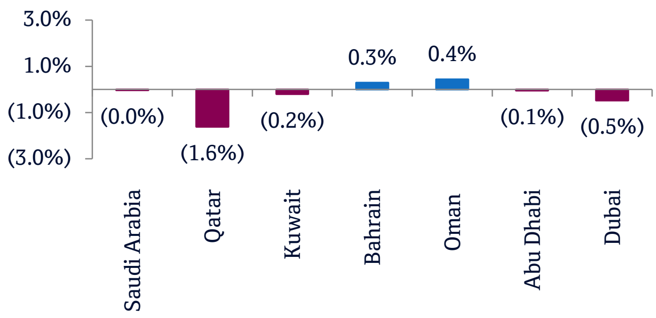
- **Bank lending in Oman jumps 8.4%, deposits grow 7.6% in H1 -** Total outstanding credit extended by Oman's banking sector, including both conventional and Islamic banks, grew by 8.4% year-on-year to reach RO34.1bn as of June 2025, according to statistics released by the Central Bank of Oman (CBO). Within this total, bank credit to the private sector increased by 6.6% to RO28bn. non-financial corporations accounted for the largest share of private sector credit at 45.9% as of the end of June 2025, followed closely by the household sector at 44.2%. Financial corporations received 6.2%, while other sectors made up the remaining 3.7%. Conventional banks' total outstanding credit grew by 7.2% year-on-year in June 2025, as per the CBO's latest monthly statistical bulletin. Credit to the private sector by conventional banks rose by 4.8% to RO21.5bn, while their overall investments in securities increased by 1.3% to RO5.7bn. Investment in government development bonds rose by 5.1% year-on-year to RO2bn in June, while investments in foreign securities declined by 6% to RO2.1bn. On the other hand, total deposits in Oman's banking sector grew by 7.6% to reach RO33bn as of June 2025, compared with the same period a year earlier. Private sector deposits increased by 6% to RO21.9bn. The household sector contributed the most to private sector deposits at 49.4%, followed by non-financial corporations at 31%, financial corporations at 17.4%, and other sectors at 2.2%. Deposits held with conventional banks grew by 4.7% year-on-year to RO25.8bn as of June 2025. Private sector deposits, which represented 66.4% of total deposits with conventional banks, increased by 4% to RO17.1bn. Government deposits with conventional banks rose by 9.9% to RO5.9bn, while deposits of public enterprises fell by 7.3% to RO1.7bn. Islamic banking assets reach RO9.2bn The total assets of Islamic banks and windows in Oman increased by 17.4% year-on-year, reaching RO9.2bn by the end of June 2025. Islamic assets now constitute approximately 19.9% of the total banking system's assets. Islamic banking entities provided financing amounting to RO7.2bn at the end of June 2025, reflecting a growth of 13.1% compared with the previous year. Total deposits held with Islamic banks and windows rose by 19.6% to RO7.2bn. Interest rates ease: Interest rates in Oman recorded a slight decline during the first half of this year. According to CBO data, the weighted average interest rate on Omani rial deposits with conventional banks fell from 2.651% at the end of June 2024 to 2.560% by June 2025, while the weighted average lending rate decreased from 5.581% to 5.487% over the same period. Meanwhile, the overnight Omani rial domestic inter-bank lending rate dropped to 4.189% in June 2025, down from 5.402% a year earlier. 'This [decline in interest rates] is an outcome of the decrease in the average repo rate for liquidity injection by the CBO to 5.0% from 6.0% a year ago, in line with US Federal Reserve policy rates,' the CBO stated in its bulletin. (Zawya)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close ($)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	3,348.43	1.0	0.4	27.6
Silver/Ounce	37.90	1.4	(0.3)	31.1
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	66.84	1.6	1.5	(10.5)
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	63.21	1.4	0.7	(11.9)
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	2.80	(2.4)	(5.7)	(17.6)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	68.70	2.5	3.8	(15.7)
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	80.50	1.3	2.7	(32.6)
Euro	1.17	0.0	(0.4)	12.5
Yen	147.33	(0.2)	0.1	(6.3)
GBP	1.35	(0.3)	(0.7)	7.5
CHF	1.24	0.5	0.3	12.8
AUD	0.64	(0.3)	(1.1)	4.0
USD Index	98.22	(0.0)	0.4	(9.5)
RUB	110.69	0.0	0.0	58.9
BRL	0.19	(0.2)	0.7	14.4

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	4,148.83	(0.1)	(0.6)	11.9
DJ Industrial	44,938.31	0.0	(0.0)	5.6
S&P 500	6,395.78	(0.2)	(0.8)	8.7
NASDAQ 100	21,172.86	(0.7)	(2.1)	9.6
STOXX 600	559.09	0.3	0.6	24.1
DAX	24,276.97	(0.6)	(0.7)	36.8
FTSE 100	9,288.14	0.9	0.9	22.2
CAC 40	7,973.03	(0.0)	0.2	21.7
Nikkei	42,888.55	(1.2)	(1.1)	14.8
MSCI EM	1,259.88	(0.9)	(1.0)	17.1
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,766.21	1.1	2.0	14.3
HANG SENG	25,165.94	0.0	(0.2)	24.7
BSE SENSEX	81,857.84	0.3	2.3	3.0
Bovespa	134,666.46	0.3	(2.4)	26.5
RTS	1,089.6	(1.7)	(1.7)	(4.7)

Source: Bloomberg ($ adjusted returns if any)*

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