

EQUITY

Global	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
MSCI AC World Index	526.31	0.00	3.02	15.50
MSCI EM	1,021.36	0.24	3.76	5.75

US	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
S&P 500	3,006.73	0.03	2.74	19.94
Dow Jones Industrial Average	27,147.08	0.13	2.82	16.37
NASDAQ Composite	8,177.39	-0.11	2.69	23.24
Russell 2000	1,568.34	-0.63	4.92	16.30

Developed Ex US	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
Stoxx Europe 600	389.41	0.02	2.62	15.33
FTSE 100	7,314.05	-0.09	1.48	8.71
DAX	12,389.62	0.14	3.77	17.34
CAC 40	5,620.65	0.09	2.56	18.81
Nikkei 225	21,960.71	-0.18	6.07	9.72
Hang Seng	26,754.12	-0.13	4.00	3.51

Emerging Markets	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
Russia Stock Exchange	2,818.60	-0.08	2.87	18.96
Turkey - Borsa Istanbul 100	101,930.10	0.48	5.39	11.68
MSCI Asia ex Japan	629.93	0.26	3.44	5.59
Shanghai Composite	2,985.66	0.25	3.44	19.72
Taiwan Stock Exchange	10,929.45	0.51	2.93	12.36

MENA	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
S&P GCC Composite	137.96	-0.04	-2.74	1.65
KSA - Tadawul All Share	7,821.23	0.65	-2.48	-0.07
Dubai - DFM General	2,823.56	-0.92	2.35	11.61
Abu Dhabi - ADX General	5,156.07	-0.28	-0.18	4.90
Qatar Exchange	10,539.59	0.66	3.00	2.34
Boursa Kuwait All Share	5,502.28	-1.90	-7.39	8.32
Boursa Kuwait Premier Market	5,934.59	-2.23	-9.09	12.67
Boursa Kuwait Main Market	4,669.08	-1.01	-2.51	-1.47
Oman - MSM 30	4,015.99	0.36	0.28	-7.12
Bahrain Bourse All Share	1,489.37	-1.62	-2.85	11.37
Egypt - EGX 30	14,745.10	-0.05	-0.61	13.11

FIXED INCOME

Bond Indices	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
BB Barclays Gbl Agg TR Unhedged USD	508.71	0.23	-1.11	6.22
BB Barclays Gbl Agg TR Hedged USD	566.16	0.22	-1.03	8.13
BB Barclays US Agg	2,205.95	0.16	-1.21	7.79

BB Barclays US Corp HY	2,133.22	-0.04	0.65	11.72
BB EM Corp TR	285.44	0.08	0.31	10.24
BB Barclays EM GCC Sukuk TR	130.54	-0.03	-0.39	10.78
BB Barclays EM HY	1,345.15	0.36	1.39	7.66
BB EM Sovereign TR	394.23	0.44	-0.25	10.99

US Treasury Yields	Current	3 M ago	6 M ago	12 M ago
3 Year	1.705	1.731	2.241	2.882
5 Year	1.676	1.781	2.242	2.943
10 Year	1.796	2.028	2.439	3.055

Developed Ex US Yields	Current	3 M ago	6 M ago	12 M ago
British 10 Year Gilt	0.643	0.806	1.014	1.568
German 10 Year Bund	-0.510	-0.318	-0.015	0.480
Japan 10 Year Treasury	-0.182	-0.165	-0.069	0.117

COMMODITIES

Precious Metals	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
Gold Spot	1,494.00	-0.49	-1.74	16.49

Energy	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
WTI Crude	58.11	-2.07	5.46	27.97
Brent Crude	63.60	-1.47	5.25	18.22

CURRENCIES

Exchange Rates	Last Price	DOD%	MTD%	YTD%
EUR-USD	1.1030	-0.39	0.44	-3.81
GBP-USD	1.2472	-0.22	2.60	-2.21
USD-JPY	108.4500	0.30	2.04	-1.13
KWD-USD	3.2886	-0.05	-0.03	-0.23
USD-TRY	5.6768	-0.42	-2.67	7.32
USD-EGP	16.2940	-0.34	-1.57	-9.08

INTERBANK RATES

Rates (%)	1M	3M	6M	12M
London Interbank	2.057	2.164	2.085	2.065
Saudi Interbank	2.346	2.386	2.377	2.377
Emirates Interbank	2.243	2.404	2.402	2.495
Qatar Interbank	2.619	2.731	2.846	3.038
Kuwait Interbank	2.625	2.875	3.063	3.313

*Last Price as of last business day

MENA NEWS

Saudi and UAE cut key rates following Fed, Kuwait stands pat

The central banks of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates cut their key interest rates on Wednesday, following the U.S. Federal Reserve decision to slash rates for the second time this year. Kuwait's central bank, meanwhile, kept its benchmark rate unchanged at 3%. Its currency, the dinar, is pegged to an undisclosed weighted basket of international currencies, unlike other Gulf countries whose currencies are pegged to the U.S. dollar. The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) cut its repo rate, used to lend money to banks, to 250 basis points (bps) from 275 bps, and the reverse repo, the rate at which commercial banks deposit money with the central bank, by the same margin to 200 bps. Saudi central bank officials had said earlier this week that lower interest rates would help the country's banks because it would boost lending.

Saudi oilfield attacks 'had zero impact on economy'

Saudi Finance Minister Mohammed Al-Jadaan said that the weekend attacks on the Kingdom's oil infrastructure would have "zero" impact on the country's economy as concerns about global oil supplies eased. "In terms of revenues there is zero impact," Saudi Finance Minister Mohammed Al-Jadaan told Reuters in an interview on the sidelines of an investor conference in Riyadh. "Aramco continued to supply the markets without interruption and therefore revenues should continue as they are." In a separate interview with Bloomberg, Al-Jadaan said that after a boost to state spending, the government was "seeing momentum" in the non-oil economy and that he expected the sector to hit the 2.9 percent expansion forecast by the International Monetary Fund.

Dubai's PPP drive to result in multi-billion dirham projects

Dubai's strategic drive to promote Public Private Partnership (PPP) is poised to translate into projects and initiatives worth tens of billions of dirhams within the next few years, a top official from Dubai's Department of Finance (DOF) said on Wednesday. Abdulrahman Saleh Al Saleh, director general of DOF, said that the increased awareness about the benefits that can be achieved in infrastructure development projects through the PPP model is prompting the private sector to engage in projects and initiatives requiring tens of billions of dirhams with the government within the next few years. In March, 2019, the DOF allocated Dh1 billion for PPP projects in order to attract private sector investments, raise government service quality and reduce burden on the budget.

Abu Dhabi's CPI slips 0.8% in 8 months

The consumer price index (CPI) in the emirate of Abu Dhabi slashed by 0.8% year-on-year during the first eight months of 2019, data by the Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi (SCAD) showed. The CPI reached 111.1% for the January-August period of 2019, compared to 111.9% for the corresponding period of 2018, the SCAD added in a recent report. In August 2019, the CPI in the UAE's capital fell by 1.2% to 110.8% from 112.1% in August 2018, according to the report. Month-on-month, the CPI edged up by 0.4% last August from 110.4% in July 2019, the SCAD said.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Powell Stresses Solid U.S. Outlook After Fed Cuts Rates Again

Federal Reserve policy makers lowered their main interest rate for a second time this year and Chairman Jerome Powell said that "moderate" policy moves should be sufficient to sustain the U.S. expansion. "We took this step to help keep the U.S. economy strong in the face of some notable developments and to provide insurance against ongoing risks," Powell told reporters Wednesday after the Fed cut its benchmark rate by a quarter percentage point to a range of 1.75% to 2%. "Weakness in global growth and trade policy have weighed on the economy." Treasury yields rose, the dollar rallied and U.S. stocks reversed earlier losses after Powell made clear that policy makers did not expect to need deep rate cuts.

Someone's Stacking Bets a Hard Brexit Will Make BOE Slash Rates

Should a traumatic no-deal Brexit force the Bank of England to slash interest rates in the months ahead, at least one investor will be laughing. Money-market traders have quietly accumulated more than 1 million derivative contracts that will pay off if the U.K. central bank cuts rates by 50 basis points by September next year. These are call options that grant the right to take a long position in short-sterling futures -- and after record volumes changed hands this week, the size of the holding is now more than seven times this year's average daily turnover of such contracts. The position was last boosted on Monday, when 323,000 calls were bought as U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson reiterated he won't request an extension to the Oct. 31 Brexit deadline. The purchase was part of a so-called butterfly strategy, which involves buying options with two different target prices and selling those with a strike in the middle.

Australia's 'Smoking Gun' Unemployment Sets Up Another Rate Cut

Australia's jobless rate unexpectedly climbed in August as the labor force swelled to a fresh record, signaling additional labor-market slack that sets the scene for further easing by the central bank. Unemployment climbed to 5.3%, the highest level in a year, and above the 5.2% forecast by economists, data from the statistics bureau showed in Sydney Thursday. The 34,700 increase in jobs for the month was swamped by the seemingly inexorable rise in the participation rate to 66.2%. "Today's labor force data is the smoking gun that will force the RBA's hand," said Gareth Aird, senior economist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, who brought forward his rate-cut call by a month to October. "From a monetary policy perspective, the level of labor market slack trumps the rate of employment growth."

U.S. ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Yesterday

Housing Starts

Housing starts and permits had been struggling to climb but climb they did in August, jumping far beyond Econoday's consensus range to a 1.364 million annual rate for starts and 1.419 million for permits. Readings are now slightly better than they were at their expansion peak early last year.

EIA Petroleum Status Report

Crude oil inventories rose 1.1 million barrels in the September 13 week to 417.1 million, 5.8 percent above their level last year at this time. Product inventories also moderately increased, with gasoline up 0.8 million barrels to 229.7 million, 1.9 percent lower than last year at this time, while distillates rose 0.4 million barrels to 136.7 million 2.5 percent below their level a year ago.

FOMC Meeting Announcement

As fully telegraphed and as fully expected but masking deep division, the Federal Reserve cut its policy rate by an incremental 25 basis points to a range of 1.75 percent to 2.00 percent with an implied midpoint of 1.875 percent. The vote was seven to three and was lopsided. James Bullard of St. Louis dissented wanting a 50 basis point cut with Esther George of Kansas City and Eric Rosengren of Boston both dissenting once again for no cut. There were expectations that quarterly FOMC forecasts, also released today, would pencil in one more rate cut this year but the median shows no change.

Fed Chair Press Conference

"A mid-cycle adjustment" is not necessarily what the Federal Reserve is engaged in right now, based on a circumspect Jerome Powell who, when asked, would not repeat the central point of the prior meeting in July. Instead, the Fed's chair said future policy will be based on how the economy evolves, and if it does turn down the Fed would, he said, consider a more extensive path of rate cuts.

Today

Jobless Claims	08:30 AM EST / 03:30 PM KWT
Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook Survey	08:30 AM EST / 03:30 PM KWT
Existing Home Sales	10:00 AM EST / 05:00 PM KWT

*Source: www.bloomberg.com and www.zawya.com