

# Financial Services Morning Report

*Digital News*



Indicator	Price Momentum			T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book		Dividend Yield %
	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	Last	5 Year Avg T12M P/E	TTM P/B	5 Year Avg T12M P/B	
MSCI World Index	3,472.26	1.1	9.6	21.7	20.6	3.3	2.9	1.81%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	1,084.65	0.3	5.9	15.1	15.0	1.8	1.7	2.69%
MSCI FM FRONTIER MARKETS	521.98	0.3	3.0	11.0	12.8	1.5	1.8	3.97%

GCC	Price Momentum			T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book		Dividend Yield %
	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	Last	5 Year Avg TTM P/E	TTM P/B	5 Year Avg TTM P/B	
MSCI GCC Countries ex Saudi Arabia Index	504.80	(0.5)	(4.9)	10.0	14.3	1.5	1.7	4.78%
Muscat Stock Exchange MSX 30 Index	4,775.30	0.4	5.8		11.8	0.9	0.8	5.55%
Tadawul All Share Index	12,103.20	(0.1)	1.1	19.7	22.2	2.4	2.3	3.43%
Dubai Financial Market General Index	4,093.25	(1.1)	0.8	8.1	12.1	1.3	1.0	5.87%
FTSE ADX GENERAL INDEX	9,021.46	(0.4)	(5.8)	16.9	21.0	2.7	2.2	2.17%
Qatar Exchange Index	9,628.36	(0.2)	(11.1)	10.8	14.6	1.3	1.5	4.95%
Bahrain Bourse All Share Index	2,010.22	(0.6)	2.0	7.7	11.3	0.7	0.9	8.34%
Boursa Kuwait All Share Price Return Index	7,175.51	(0.3)	5.3	16.2	20.1	1.5	1.5	3.29%

Asia	Price Momentum			T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book		Dividend Yield %
	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	Last	5 Year Avg TTM P/E	TTM P/B	5 Year Avg TTM P/B	
MSCI AC Asia Pacific Excluding Japan Index	561.58	0.5	6.2	17.3	16.8	1.7	1.7	2.63%
Nikkei 225	38,669.57	0.7	15.6	26.4	25.1	2.1	1.9	1.68%
S&P/ASX 200	7,872.80	1.5	3.7	19.5	19.0	2.3	2.2	3.73%
Hang Seng Index	19,300.50	1.2	13.2	10.7	11.2	1.1	1.1	3.86%
NSE Nifty 50 Index	22,200.55	(0.1)	2.2	21.9	24.7	3.6	3.4	1.26%

Europe	Price Momentum			T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book		Dividend Yield %
	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	Last	5 Year Avg TTM P/E	TTM P/B	5 Year Avg TTM P/B	
MSCI Europe Index	175.85	0.6	9.5	15.7	16.4	2.1	1.9	3.13%
MSCI Emerging Markets Europe Index	134.80	0.5	14.9	7.6	6.9	1.3	1.0	3.95%
FTSE 100 Index	8,445.80	0.2	9.2	15.0	14.4	2.0	1.7	3.75%
Deutsche Boerse AG German Stock Index DAX	18,869.36	0.8	12.6	16.8	15.7	1.7	1.6	2.91%
CAC 40	8,239.99	0.2	9.2	14.3	16.7	2.0	1.8	2.92%

America's	Price Momentum			T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book		Dividend Yield %
	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	Last	5 Year Avg TTM P/E	TTM P/B	5 Year Avg TTM P/B	
MSCI North America Index	5,255.19	1.2	10.8	25.2	22.8	4.6	3.9	1.40%
S&P 500 INDEX	5,308.15	1.2	11.3	25.4	22.6	4.9	4.1	1.35%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	39,908.00	0.9	5.9	23.5	20.1	5.2	4.5	1.82%
NASDAQ Composite Index	16,742.39	1.4	11.5	40.0	37.0	6.5	5.6	0.72%

Commodities	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	% chg from 10 year high	% chg from 10 year Low
S&P GSCI Index Spot	578.9	0.6	8.1	-30%	154%
Gold Spot \$/Oz	2,390.6	0.2	15.9	0%	127%
BRENT CRUDE FUTR Jul24	83.2	0.5	8.8	-9%	85%
Generic 1st'OQA' Future	83.5	0.4	9.3	-34%	352%
LME COPPER 3MO (\$)	10,219.0	1.0	19.4	-4%	136%
SILVER SPOT \$/OZ	29.6	-0.2	24.4	0%	147%

SPOT Currencies Indices	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	% chg from 10 year high	% chg from 10 year Low
DOLLAR INDEX SPOT	104.2	-0.17	2.80	-9%	31%
Euro Spot	1.0889	0.05	-1.36	-21%	13%
British Pound Spot	1.2694	0.07	-0.29	-26%	19%
Swiss Franc Spot	0.9000	0.24	-6.51	-13%	7%
China Renminbi Spot	7.2150	0.06	-1.59	-2%	18%
Japanese Yen Spot	153.9	0.61	-8.38	-3%	54%
Australian Dollar Spot	0.6697	0.04	-1.69	-29%	17%
USD-OMR X-RATE	0.3850	0.02	-0.05	0%	0%
AED-USD X-RATE	0.2723	0.00	0.01	0%	0%
USD-EGP X-RATE	46.8577	0.06	-34.07	-6%	559%
USD-TRY X-RATE	32.2206	-0.01	-8.36	-1%	1451%

GCC Government Bond Yields		
	Maturity date	YTM, %
Oman	01/08/2029	5.56
Abu Dhabi	16/04/2030	4.82
Qatar	16/04/2030	4.73
Saudi Arabia	22/10/2030	5.05
Kuwait	20/03/2027	4.93
Bahrain	14/05/2030	6.49

Bond Indices	Close	D/D	YTD
	Index	%	%
S&P MENA Sukuk TR Index	138.02	0.3%	0.1%
S&P MENA Bond TR Index	136.82	0.6%	-1.3%
S&P MENA Bond & Sukuk TR Index	136.80	0.5%	-0.9%

3m Interbank Rates		
	Current Rate %	As on 31 Dec 2021
GLOBAL		
US	5.33	0.09
UK	-	-
EURO	3.82	(0.57)
GCC		
Oman	5.71	2.13
Saudi Arabia	6.22	0.91
Kuwait	4.25	1.50
UAE	5.31	0.36
Qatar	6.00	1.13
Bahrain	6.33	1.52

Source: FSC

## Oman Economic and Corporate News

### **PDO boosts in-country value with \$2.5 billion investment in 2023**

Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) celebrated a significant milestone in its commitment to In-Country Value (ICV) during its bi-annual ICV Day, which has gone the extra mile to contribute to Oman's economic development. The event marked the 12th anniversary of the programme and highlighted PDO's impressive achievement of \$2.5 billion of retained value in 2023, which is equivalent to 40 per cent of its total supply chain spend. Notably, \$900 million was allocated for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), while national industries were allocated \$422 million, benefiting 30 manufacturers in Oman. PDO realised 11 opportunities in manufacturing, construction, and renewable energy. The event, organised under the auspices of Eng. Salim Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, took place at the JW Marriott Hotel, with the presence of several officials from both the public and private sectors.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

### **Ooredoo to land world's largest subsea cable system in Barka, Salalah**

Ooredoo Oman, an Ooredoo Group company, has signed an agreement for the landing of the 2Africa Cable System in Barka and Salalah. This agreement marks the most extensive subsea cable system landing in the Oman to date. The 2Africa Cable System, spanning 45,000km, will be the largest subsea cable system in the world. Upon completion, it will impact over 3bn people in 33 countries on three continents, Africa, Asia, and Europe, Ooredoo Group said in a press statement. The 2Africa consortium consists of Bayobab, center3, China Mobile International, Meta, Orange, Telecom Egypt, Vodafone Group, and WIOCC, while Alcatel Submarine Networks is handling the manufacturing and installation of the cable.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

### **Oman reports lowest average inflation growth among GCC countries**

The Sultanate of Oman's consumer prices have seen deflationary pressures recently with year-on-year index decline twice within the last five months, according to a new report. "Among the six GCC countries, Oman reported the lowest average y-o-y growth in inflation during March-2024 at 0.2 percent as compared to -3.1 percent growth in March-2023," Kamco Invest said in its GCC Inflation Update May-2024 report. "The index reached its lowest level for the last twelve months during February-2024," the report further said. "Oman's marginal inflation growth was mainly supported growth in key CPI indices such as the Food and non-alcoholic index which recorded 3.3 percent year-on-year (y-o-y) uptick during the month as well as the tobacco index which witnessed 2.4 percent y-o-y growth during the similar period."

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

### **MoL promotes freelancing among jobseekers**

As part of its efforts to empower jobseekers, the Ministry of Labour (MoL) is championing the advantages of freelancing through an online poster campaign. Emphasising the transformative potential of freelancing, the ministry is highlighting how individuals can harness their skills, passions and interests to generate substantial income. In a statement, MoL said, 'Freelancing presents a viable alternative to traditional employment models, offering unparalleled flexibility and autonomy. By engaging in freelancing, individuals can break free from the constraints of conventional employment structures and pave their own path to success.' The ministry advocates a holistic approach blending training initiatives and practical freelancing opportunities. This strategy aims to equip jobseekers with the requisite skills and knowledge needed to thrive in today's competitive market landscape.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

## Middle east Economic and Corporate News

### Dubai's home prices, rents surged more than 20% in March due to heavy demand

Dubai's residential properties posted a double-digit growth in both sales prices and rents on the back of strong demand, according to the latest data. In the year to March 2024, average prices surged by 20.7%, with villa rates surging by 22.1% and flats posting a 20.4% growth, CBRE Middle East reported on Wednesday. The cost of apartments in Dubai stood at AED 1,486 per square foot as of March 2024, while villas cost around AED 1,776 per square foot. Overall, the headline average sales rates are still marginally below the 2014 highs by 0.1%, although several premium neighbourhoods have surpassed their 2014 figures. Rents across Dubai went up by an average of 21.2% in March 2024, surpassing the 20.4% increase registered a month earlier. Apartments led the increase, registering an average growth of 22.1%, while villas posted a 14.5% increase in rates. From January to March, total transaction volumes in Dubai reached 35,310, the highest total ever recorded in the first quarter of the year, marking an increase of 20.5% from the year prior.

[Source: Zawya](#)

### Abu Dhabi's Mubadala, Fortress Management complete acquisition of alternative investor Fortress

Abu Dhabi sovereign investor Mubadala Capital and New York-based Fortress Investment Group (Fortress) have completed the buyout of the majority (90.01%) stake in Fortress that was previously held by SoftBank Group. With the close of the deal, a consortium led by Mubadala now owns 68% of Fortress equity, while Fortress management owns 32%. Last year, Mubadala and Fortress Investment entered into definitive agreements to acquire most of the equity of Fortress. SoftBank had been the owners of Fortress since 2017, while Mubadala previously held a 9.99% stake through its Private Equity Funds II and III. Under the new joint ownership, Fortress expects to further establish itself as a leader in the alternative investment space. Fortress currently manages more than \$48 billion in assets on behalf of around 2,000 institutional investors and private clients.

[Source: Zawya](#)

## International Economic and Corporate News

### US Stocks: Wall Street boasts record closes as inflation data fuels rate-cut bets

Wall Street's three major indexes notched record closes on Wednesday with the benchmark S&P 500 and the Nasdaq both advancing more than 1%, after a smaller-than-expected rise in consumer inflation bolstered investors' hopes for interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve. All three indexes hit intraday record highs with technology stocks leading the charge. The blue-chip Dow drew closer to the 40,000 milestone. Tepid U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for April fueled optimism that inflation was easing after three months of higher-than-expected numbers. This led traders to raise bets that the Fed will cut its policy rate in September and December.

[Source: Zawya](#)

### Japan GDP shrinks more than expected in Q1 as consumption slows

The Japanese economy shrank more than expected in the first quarter of 2024, hit chiefly by a slowdown in consumer spending amid sticky inflation and sluggish wages, while capital spending also slowed. Gross domestic product shrank 0.5% quarter-on-quarter in the three months to March 31, government data showed on Thursday. The reading was more than expectations for a decline of 0.3%, and fell sharply from the 0.1% increase seen in the December quarter. GDP shrank 2% year-on-year in Q1, missing expectations for a contraction of 1.5% and declining from the 0.4% growth seen in the prior quarter. The weaker GDP figures were driven chiefly by a 0.7% drop in private consumption through the quarter, which was much bigger than expectations for a decrease of 0.2%. Consumption makes up more than 50% of Japan's economic growth. Capital expenditure, which had somewhat helped offset weaker consumption over the past two quarters, shrank 0.8% in Q1, reversing a 1.8% rise seen in the prior quarter.

[Source: Investing](#)

## Oil and Metal News

### Gold prices edge higher as US dollar, yields soften

Gold prices edged higher on Thursday, supported by a softer dollar and lower Treasury yields after data signalled cooling U.S. inflation, bolstering bets for an interest rate cut by the Federal Reserve. **FUNDAMENTALS** \* Spot gold was up 0.3% at \$2,393.21 per ounce, as of 0043 GMT. Bullion prices rose 1% on Wednesday. \* U.S. gold futures edged 0.1% higher to \$2,397.60. \* The dollar fell 0.2% against a basket of other major currencies, making gold more attractive for other currency holders. Benchmark 10-year Treasury yields hit their lowest in a more than one month. \* U.S. CPI rose 0.3% last month after advancing 0.4% in March and February, suggesting that inflation resumed its downward trend at the start of the second quarter in a boost to financial market expectations for a September interest rate cut. \* Federal Reserve policymakers waiting to see renewed progress on inflation before reducing borrowing costs got some encouraging data on Wednesday with a government report showing inflation eased a bit in April. \* Lower interest rates reduce the opportunity cost of holding non-yielding gold.

[Source: Zawya](#)

### Oil prices rise as softer CPI dents dollar, US inventories shrink

Oil prices rose in Asian trade on Thursday, extending gains from the prior session as a softer-than-expected U.S. consumer inflation reading brought down the dollar and ramped up hopes of interest rate cuts. A bigger-than-expected draw in U.S. inventories also fueled bets on tighter global supplies in the coming months, while markets waited to see whether an accident in Galveston, Texas, had any bearing on oil supplies. Brent oil futures expiring in July rose 0.5% to \$83.17 a barrel, while West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose 0.5% to \$78.57 a barrel by 20:32 ET (00:32 GMT). Both contracts were trading higher for the week, as optimism over more fiscal stimulus in China also drove up prices. Beijing said it will begin a massive, 1 trillion yuan (\$138 billion) bond issuance as soon as this week. Any potential supply disruptions from dire wildfires in Canada, which neared the country's major oil sands regions, also factored into stronger prices. Soft US CPI data dents dollar, boosts oil Oil markets were swept up in the broader cheer over soft readings on U.S. consumer price index inflation, which dented the dollar and saw traders increase bets on a September interest rate cut. The prospect of lower rates tied into hopes that global economic activity will not cool as sharply as expected in 2024, which in turn bodes well for oil demand.

[Source: Investing](#)

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