

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	3,753.04	0.4	18.4	23.2	21.0	3.6	2.9	1.74%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	1,155.12	1.8	12.8	15.8	15.2	1.9	1.7	2.48%
MSCI FM FRONTIER MARKETS	537.28	0.3	6.0	12.0	12.8	1.0	1.7	4.30%

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	541.92	0.0	2.1	10.2	14.1	1.6	1.7	4.32%
Muscat Stock Exchange MSX 30 Index	4,800.15	(0.3)	6.3		12.2	1.0	0.8	5.25%
Tadawul All Share Index	11,907.43	(1.1)	(0.5)	19.7	22.3	2.4	2.3	3.72%
Dubai Financial Market General Index	4,469.25	0.2	10.1	8.6	11.3	1.4	1.1	5.41%
FTSE ADX GENERAL INDEX	9,287.69	0.1	(3.0)	16.9	21.3	2.6	2.3	2.08%
Qatar Exchange Index	10,733.40	(0.0)	(0.9)	11.9	14.4	1.4	1.5	3.99%
Bahrain Bourse All Share Index	1,999.79	(0.1)	1.4	7.8	11.2	0.7	0.9	3.65%
Boursa Kuwait All Share Price Return Index	7,080.17	(0.3)	3.9	18.7	20.4	1.7	1.5	4.24%

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	611.06	1.6	15.5	17.5	17.1	1.9	1.7	2.43%
Nikkei 225	38,981.75	0.2	16.5	23.4	25.6	2.0	1.9	1.72%
S&P/ASX 200	8,283.23	(0.9)	9.1	21.3	19.3	2.4	2.2	3.53%
Hang Seng Index	20,804.11	3.6	22.0	11.1	11.0	1.2	1.1	3.84%
NSE Nifty 50 Index	24,854.05	0.4	14.4	24.3	24.8	4.0	3.5	1.22%

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	175.89	0.2	9.5	15.7	16.4	2.1	1.9	3.23%
MSCI Emerging Markets Europe Index	120.46	0.0	2.7	7.0	7.2	1.1	1.0	4.49%
FTSE 100 Index	8,358.25	(0.3)	8.1	14.8	14.4	1.9	1.7	3.78%
Deutsche Boerse AG German Stock Index DAX	19,657.37	0.4	17.3	16.4	15.6	1.8	1.6	2.80%
CAC 40	7,613.05	0.4	0.9	14.1	16.5	1.9	1.8	3.24%

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	5,803.82	0.4	22.3	26.7	23.4	5.0	4.1	1.32%
S&P 500 INDEX	5,864.67	0.4	23.0	26.8	23.2	5.2	4.2	1.27%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	43,275.91	0.1	14.8	23.5	20.6	5.4	4.6	1.73%
NASDAQ Composite Index	18,489.55	0.6	23.2	40.9	38.5	7.0	5.8	0.74%

Commodities	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book	
				% chg from 10 year high	% chg from 10 year Low		
S&P GSCI Index Spot	532.0	-0.9	-0.7	-35%	133%		
Gold Spot \$/Oz	2,721.5	1.1	31.9	0%	159%		
BRENT CRUDE FUTR Dec24	73.1	-1.9	-2.6	-17%	59%		
Generic 1st'OQA' Future	72.7	-2.0	-4.8	-42%	294%		
LME COPPER 3MO (\$)	9,625.5	1.2	12.5	-12%	122%		
SILVER SPOT \$/OZ	33.7	6.4	41.7	0%	181%		

SPOT Currencies Indices	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	T12M Price to Earnings		T12M Price to Book	
				% chg from 10 year high	% chg from 10 year Low		
DOLLAR INDEX SPOT	103.5	-0.32	2.13	-9%	22%		
Euro Spot	1.0867	0.33	-1.56	-15%	13%		
British Pound Spot	1.3052	0.32	2.52	-19%	22%		
Swiss Franc Spot	0.8648	0.14	-2.71	-16%	3%		
China Renminbi Spot	7.1023	0.29	-0.03	-3%	16%		
Japanese Yen Spot	149.5	0.45	-5.68	-8%	50%		
Australian Dollar Spot	0.6706	0.15	-1.56	-24%	17%		
USD-OMR X-RATE	0.3850	0.00	0.01	0%	0%		
AED-USD X-RATE	0.2723	0.00	0.01	0%	0%		
USD-EGP X-RATE	48.6283	0.01	-36.44	-3%	581%		
USD-TRY X-RATE	34.2321	-0.30	-13.74	0%	1457%		

GCC Government Bond Yields		
	Maturity date	YTM, %
Oman	01/08/2029	5.14
Abu Dhabi	16/04/2030	4.36
Qatar	16/04/2030	4.29
Saudi Arabia	22/10/2030	4.68
Kuwait	20/03/2027	4.15
Bahrain	14/05/2030	5.91

Bond Indices	Close	D/D	YTD
S&P MENA Sukuk TR Index	143.83	0.0%	4.3%
S&P MENA Bond TR Index	142.52	0.0%	2.8%
S&P MENA Bond & Sukuk TR Index	142.51	0.0%	3.2%

3m Interbank Rates		
	Current Rate %	As on 31 Dec 2021
GLOBAL		
US	4.63	0.09
UK	-	-
EURO	3.20	(0.57)
GCC		
Oman	5.25	2.13
Saudi Arabia	5.63	0.91
Kuwait	3.94	1.50
UAE	4.55	0.36
Qatar	5.20	1.13
Bahrain	6.02	1.52

Oman Economic and Corporate News

Oman's bank lending rises 3.3% to top OMR31bn

The total credit granted by Omani banking sector companies rose by 3.3 percent to reach OMR31.4 billion by the end of August 2024. Data issued by the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) showed that credit granted to the private sector recorded a growth of 2.8 percent by the end of August 2024, reaching OMR26.3 billion. Data on its distribution across various sectors indicate that non-financial companies accounted for the largest share, amounting to 44.9 percent by the end of August 2024, followed by the household sector at 45.2 percent, while the remaining percentage was distributed between the financial companies sector at 6.4 percent and other sectors at 3.5 percent. Total deposits in the banking sector recorded a growth of 11.6 percent to reach OMR31.1 billion by the end of August 2024. Within this total, private sector deposits in the banking system witnessed an increase of 11.7 percent to reach OMR 20.8 billion by the end of August 2024.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

S&P expects Omani banks' credit losses to stabilize

S&P Global Ratings, the world's leading credit rating agency, announced on Friday that it expects Omani banks' credit losses to stabilise amid reducing economic imbalances and a more supportive operating environment in the sultanate. 'Structural reforms have improved the financial position of the Omani government and its related entities, laying the foundation for stronger economic resilience. Simultaneously, the recovery in key economic sectors over the past three years has enabled banks to demonstrate stronger asset quality indicators, with Stage 2 loans decreasing to 16.4% in 2023 from 20.2% at year-end 2020,' S&P said in a commentary on Friday. The rating agency noted that Omani banks' non-performing loan (NPL) ratios have also stabilised at approximately 4.5% as of June 30, 2024, and it does not expect any material NPL buildup in the next 12-24 months. In the absence of any unforeseen shocks, S&P forecasts that Oman's real GDP will expand by an average of about 2% per year over 2024-2027 and anticipates a progressive rebuilding of leverage in the economy.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

OFM and Omran sign land-lease agreements to develop new projects

In a step that reflects the Sultanate of Oman's vision of enhancing food security and developing the economic sector, Oman Flour Mills Company OFM, and Omran Group, signed usufruct agreements to utilize lands at Sultan Qaboos Port and in the Mina District area, in total space of 60,000 square meters, above 35,000 Sqm of land out of this total space are at Sultan Qaboos Port and, 25 thousand Sqm, at the Mina District area. These agreements include developing new projects to strengthen the storage and distribution capabilities, which will contribute to meeting the local market's demands and, enhancing the sustainability of the food sector in the Sultanate of Oman. The implementation of these agreements will contribute to raising the storage capacity of the silos after their expansion to reach 200 thousand metric tons, as well as increasing the storage capacity of the horizontal warehouses to 76.6 thousand metric tons. The new projects also include the use of the latest technologies in storage systems, to enhance operational efficiency and reduce losses.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

S&P upgrades Bank Muscat ratings to BBB-

S&P Global Ratings on Friday upgraded its long- and short-term issuer credit ratings on Bank Muscat to 'BBB-' and 'A-3' from 'BB+' and 'B' due to lower economic risks. The outlook on Bank Muscat's ratings is stable, S&P said in its rating action commentary. It noted that Bank Muscat's credit profile and creditworthiness benefit from a more supportive operating environment. 'Bank Muscat remains the largest bank in Oman holding nearly 33% of the market share as of mid-year 2024. We expect the bank to continue to display good asset quality indicators, with non-performing loans (NPLs) hovering at about 3.6%-3.8% in the next 12-24 months, S&P said. According to S&P estimates, Bank Muscat's Stage 2 loans have also decreased to 15.8% of total loans as of June 30, 2024, compared with 20.2% at year-end 2020. 'We also expect Bank Muscat to maintain strong capitalisation, with a risk-adjusted capital ratio remaining at about 10.9% in the next 12-24 months, factoring in moderate credit growth and earnings growth,' the agency added.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

Middle east Economic and Corporate News

UAE's biggest bank FAB posts Q3 profit at \$1.2bln; beats estimate

The UAE's biggest lender First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) posted a Q3 2024 net profit of 4.46 billion dirhams (\$1.2billion), 5% higher than in the year-ago period on higher revenue growth that offset a jump in impairment charges. The net profit easily beat analysts' mean estimate of AED 4.06 billion, according to LSEG data. Operating income was AED 8.20 billion, up 18% versus the prior-year period. Impairment charges for Q3 were 50% higher year-on-year (YoY) at AED 909 million while operating expenses also rose 9% YoY to AED 1.98 billion. Net interest margin (NIM), a key measure of a bank's profitability, was 1.89% for the quarter, 7 basis points (bps) lower on the sequential quarter and 8bps lower YoY as the "pricing was offset by the impact of higher cash reserve requirements, increased central bank placements, and the 50bps benchmark rate cut over the period".

[Source: Zawya](#)

Saudi tech firm Ejada taps banks for IPO – Bloomberg

Saudi tech company Ejada Systems Ltd. has tapped banks as it weighs a public offering at a valuation of as much as \$1.5 billion, according to a Bloomberg report. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Al Rajhi Capital have been hired to arrange the potential offering, which could come in the next few months, Bloomberg said citing people familiar with the matter said. Tassnief, a credit rating agency by the Capital Market Authority, recently upgraded the long-term entity rating of Ejada 'A' (Single A) to A+ (Single A Plus) while short-term rating has been maintained at T-2. The outlook on the rating is "Stable". The long-term rating of 'A+' denotes robust creditworthiness and very low credit risk, Tassnief said. Ejada recorded revenue growth of 44% and 65% during 2023 and 1H2024, respectively, according to Tassnief. Al Rajhi Bank is the largest shareholder in Ejada, holding 86% shareholding while 10% is held by Al Jazira Bank and 4% by Walaa Alghad Fund.

[Source: Zawya](#)

International Economic and Corporate News

Global stock markets rise on China hopes

Most Asian and European stock markets rose Friday after Chinese economic growth data beat forecasts and officials flagged fresh measures to boost the world's second biggest economy. Paris and Frankfurt advanced in midday deals following the European Central Bank's decision Thursday to further cut eurozone interest rates as inflation returns to normal levels. London dropped, however, weighed down by the pound gaining in reaction to official data showing UK retail sales rose more than expected in September. Hong Kong and Shanghai burst higher on hopes the Chinese government could reignite the struggling economy, with tech giants and beaten-down developers among the best performers. China's economy expanded by a slightly better-than-forecast annual rate of 4.6 percent in the third quarter, official data revealed Friday. However, it still marked the slowest pace of growth since the start of 2023. Separate data showed that Chinese retail sales and industrial output rose more than expected in September.

[Source: Zawya](#)

Boeing workers to vote on new wage deal that could end strike

Striking machinists at Boeing (NYSE:BA) will vote Wednesday on a new contract proposal that includes a 35% pay hike over four years that could end a costly five-week-old strike, the company and union said Saturday. Around 33,000 of Boeing's unionized West Coast workers, most in Washington state, have been on strike since Sept. 13. The work stoppage has halted production of the planemaker's best-selling 737 MAX and its 767 and 777 widebodies, putting added pressure on the company's already fragile finances. The latest offer includes a \$7,000 ratification bonus, reinstated incentive plan and enhanced contributions to workers' 401(k) retirement plans including a one-time \$5,000 contribution plus up to 12% in employer contributions, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local 751 said.

[Source: Investing](#)

Oil and Metal News

Kuwait to invite bids for oil field development

OPEC producer Kuwait is planning to issue tenders for the development of an oilfield nearly 15 years after it was discovered, a newspaper said on Thursday. The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) intends to issue tenders shortly for Mutraba field and will invite four global firms to bid, the Arabic language daily Alqabas said, quoting informed sources. The field in Northwest Kuwait is expected to produce more than 30,000 barrels per day after the development project is completed, the report said without naming those firms. The Kuwait Oil Company, which is in charge of Kuwait's upstream oil operations, has completed 3-D seismic surveys of the field, it added. (Writing by Nadim Kawach; Editing by Anoop Menon)

[Source: Zawya](#)

The impact of tight spreads on Gold trading: A market analysis

Gold's status as a safe haven is deeply rooted in its history and intrinsic properties. Throughout the centuries, civilizations have valued gold for its scarcity, durability, and universal acceptance. During economic downturns, geopolitical tensions, or periods of high inflation, traders consistently turn to gold as a hedge against uncertainty. Unlike fiat currencies, which can be printed at will by central banks, gold's supply is limited, making it a tangible asset that retains value even when other markets falter. Furthermore, the correlation between gold and the US dollar is crucial to understanding gold's market dynamics, especially during the US election period. Typically, a weaker buck translates to a stronger bullion. This is due to several factors: The majority of gold transactions are denominated in US dollars. When the dollar weakens, it means that buyers holding other currencies can purchase more gold with their existing funds, making gold more affordable and increasing demand.

[Source: Investing](#)

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