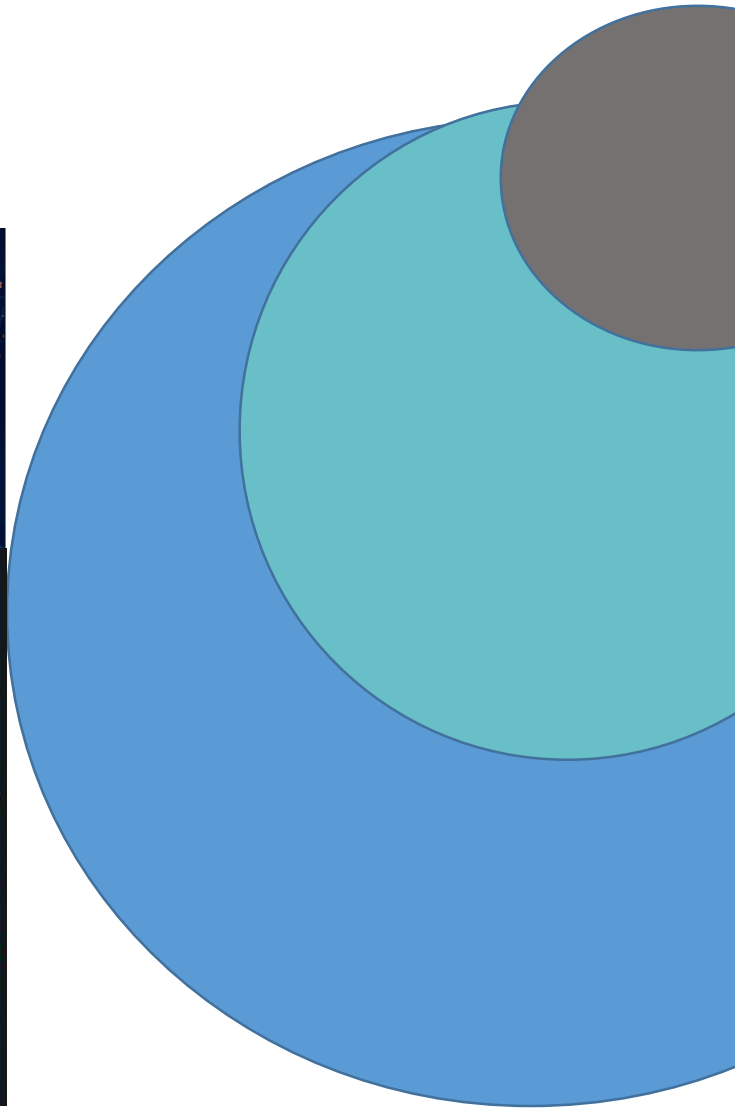


Financial Services Morning Report

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	3,689.85	(0.1)	(0.5)	21.6	21.2	3.5	3.0	1.79%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	1,131.38	(0.8)	5.2	15.4	15.1	1.9	1.7	2.69%
MSCI FM FRONTIER MARKETS	569.66	(0.2)	6.9	-	12.1	1.6	1.6	4.18%

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	584.41	0.3	2.6	10.8	13.9	1.6	1.7	4.17%
Muscat Stock Exchange MSX 30 Index	4,410.73	0.6	(3.6)		12.5	0.9	0.8	6.22%
Tadawul All Share Index	11,760.32	0.4	(2.3)	17.8	22.2	2.3	2.3	3.73%
Dubai Financial Market General Index	5,099.80	(0.6)	(1.1)	9.0	11.3	1.4	1.1	4.82%
FTSE ADX GENERAL INDEX	9,368.43	0.0	(0.5)	20.8	21.7	2.5	2.4	2.28%
Qatar Exchange Index	10,343.68	(0.4)	(2.2)	11.3	14.1	1.3	1.5	4.79%
Bahrain Bourse All Share Index	1,962.09	(0.1)	(1.2)	14.5	11.2	1.4	0.9	9.05%
Boursa Kuwait All Share Price Return Index	7,988.41	0.7	8.5	13.3	20.9	2.0	1.6	2.93%

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	588.57	(0.8)	3.4	16.2	17.0	1.9	1.7	2.65%
Nikkei 225	37,677.06	(0.2)	(5.6)	19.3	25.5	1.9	1.9	1.85%
S&P/ASX 200	7,931.23	0.2	(2.8)	19.9	19.3	2.2	2.2	3.76%
Hang Seng Index	23,689.72	(2.2)	18.1	12.0	11.0	1.3	1.1	3.67%
NSE Nifty 50 Index	23,350.40	0.7	(1.2)	21.7	23.9	3.4	3.3	1.38%

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	184.19	(0.6)	8.4	15.5	16.2	2.2	2.0	3.09%
MSCI Emerging Markets Europe Index	137.80	(2.7)	16.4	10.5	7.2	1.3	1.0	3.59%
FTSE 100 Index	8,646.79	(0.6)	5.8	13.1	14.1	1.9	1.8	3.64%
Deutsche Boerse AG German Stock Index DAX	22,891.68	(0.5)	15.0	16.8	15.5	1.9	1.7	2.48%
CAC 40	8,042.95	(0.6)	9.0	16.2	16.1	2.0	1.8	3.06%

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	5,617.11	0.1	(3.6)	24.3	23.9	4.7	4.2	1.39%
S&P 500 INDEX	5,667.56	0.1	(3.6)	24.3	23.8	4.9	4.4	1.35%
Dow Jones Industrial Average	41,985.35	0.1	(1.3)	22.1	21.3	5.4	4.7	1.69%
NASDAQ Composite Index	17,784.05	0.5	(7.9)	33.5	39.1	6.4	6.0	0.74%

Commodities	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	% chg from 10 year high		% chg from 10 year Low	
S&P GSCI Index Spot	558.2	-0.3	1.6	-32%	145%		
Gold Spot \$/Oz	3,022.2	-0.7	15.2	-1%	188%		
BRENT CRUDE FUTR May25	72.2	0.2	-2.3	-15%	56%		
Generic 1st'OQA' Future	73.9	0.2	-2.9	-41%	300%		
LME COPPER 3MO (\$)	9,855.5	-0.8	12.4	-9%	128%		
SILVER SPOT \$/OZ	33.0	-1.7	14.3	-5%	176%		

SPOT Currencies Indices	Last price	% Chg, 1 Day	% chg, YTD	% chg from 10 year high		% chg from 10 year Low	
DOLLAR INDEX SPOT	104.1	0.23	-4.05	-9%	17%		
Euro Spot	1.0818	-0.30	4.48	-14%	13%		
British Pound Spot	1.2919	-0.37	3.22	-19%	21%		
Swiss Franc Spot	0.8828	-0.10	2.79	-14%	5%		
China Renminbi Spot	7.2518	-0.03	0.66	-1%	17%		
Japanese Yen Spot	149.3	-0.36	5.28	-8%	49%		
Australian Dollar Spot	0.6273	-0.48	1.37	-23%	9%		
USD-OMR X-RATE	0.3849	-0.01	0.03	0%	0%		
AED-USD X-RATE	0.2723	0.00	0.00	0%	0%		
USD-EGP X-RATE	50.5704	-0.02	0.54	-1%	567%		
USD-TRY X-RATE	37.7298	0.19	-6.30	0%	1384%		

GCC Government Bond Yields		
	Maturity date	YTM, %
Oman	01/08/2029	5.20
Abu Dhabi	16/04/2030	4.32
Qatar	16/04/2030	4.42
Saudi Arabia	22/10/2030	4.79
Kuwait	20/03/2027	4.58
Bahrain	14/05/2030	6.29

Bond Indices	Close	D/D	YTD
S&P MENA Sukuk TR Index	146.07	0.0%	2.2%
S&P MENA Bond TR Index	143.50	-0.1%	3.0%
S&P MENA Bond & Sukuk TR Index	143.84	0.0%	2.8%

3m Interbank Rates		
	Current Rate %	As on 31 Dec 2021
GLOBAL		
US	4.30	0.09
UK	-	-
EURO	2.39	(0.57)
GCC		
Oman	4.67	2.13
Saudi Arabia	5.47	0.91
Kuwait	3.94	1.50
UAE	4.19	0.36
Qatar	4.65	1.13
Bahrain	5.62	1.52

Oman Economic and Corporate News

Oman launches bids for new oil and gas blocks

With an aim to meet Oman's energy needs, the Ministry of Energy and Minerals has announced to offer major concession areas for oil and gas exploration that have immense potential. This comes as part of the ministry's efforts to increase production and conserve reserves to ensure the continuity of energy supplies to both local and global markets. "In the last quarter of 2024 and in the current year, the ministry offered certain areas under a new concession system, different from the previous one, through Scotchbank and AQP, to encourage and attract investors in these areas," said Dr. Salah bin Hafiz Al-Dhahab, Director General of Investment at the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. >A3 In a statement to the Oman News Agency, he said that these include Block 18 in the Sea of Oman, Block 36, Block 43, and Block 66 onshore. He further added that a number of companies operating in the exploration, drilling, and development of the energy sector have expressed keen interest in competing for these blocks. He added that the application period for these areas will be until June, after which negotiations will begin with the selected companies.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

27 human trafficking cases reported in Oman in 2024

Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) recorded 27 human trafficking cases in 2024, all involving expatriates, and reiterated its commitment to supporting victims with social and psychological assistance. At a media briefing on Wednesday, the ministry stated that victims are entitled to aid while residing in Oman, with some allowed to work in supervised environments. Efforts are also underway to update laws and regulations related to human trafficking. MoSD also announced a new programme aimed at supporting the elderly in Muscat, Dhofar and North Batinah. The first phase of the programme will focus on enhancing home care services through three specialised teams, each equipped with two mobile units staffed by a physiotherapist, social worker, occupational specialist and nurse. "It will also ensure that all necessary medical equipment is provided free of charge," said Hamoud bin Murdad al Shabibi, the ministry's spokesperson.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

Omani ports' contribution to trade tops OMR16.5bn

Seaports of the Sultanate of Oman has led the trading activity accounting for nearly OMR16.5 billion, or 77 percent of the total trade volume in 2024, according to Mohanna bin Musa bin Baqer, Director General of Ports at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology. Muhanna bin Moosa bin Baqer, Director General of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, said that the Omani ports play a vital role in exchange of trade between Oman and other countries and are considered one of the sectors supportive economic diversification. The Omani ports have coped with the qualitative shift in the regional and international trade by being at the centre of the world shipping lines. Handling goods He said that the Omani ports last year witnessed a remarkable increase in terms of handling goods worth over OMR137 million tonnes, an increase of 15% compared to 119 million tonnes in 2023.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

Ramadan brings traditional markets to life

Traditional markets across the sultanate are witnessing a surge in visitors. Souqs in Seeb, Muttrah and Nizwa are bustling with activity, offering a diverse range of goods essential for the holy month. Muttrah Souq, one of Oman's most iconic markets, is seeing a sharp rise in footfall. A cherished landmark, the souq holds a special place in the hearts of Omanis, with families making it a tradition to visit during Ramadan. "We're experiencing a significant boom this month," said Khalid al Sharaqi, a shop owner. "The market caters to every Omani family – women shop for abayas, accessories, silver jewellery and shoes, while men look for kummas, mussars and Arabic perfumes. Children's toys are also in high demand."

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

Middle east Economic and Corporate News

DEWA's general assembly approves dividend payment of \$844mln to shareholders for H2 of 2024

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) reported that its shareholders have, in the general assembly held today, approved the payment of total dividend of AED3.1 billion for H2 of 2024, with a record date of 31st March 2025. The meeting, chaired by Matar Humaid Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board of Directors of DEWA, was attended by Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD&CEO of DEWA and Members of the Board of Directors of DEWA as well as 92.2% of the shareholders. During the meeting, a Board of Directors was elected for the next three years. Matar Humaid Al Tayer, Chairman of DEWA, said, "Dubai continues to consolidate its position as a global leader in economic growth, sustainability and innovation. At DEWA, we take great pride in being a key pillar of this success, ensuring that the energy and water infrastructure keeps pace with the rapid growth Dubai is witnessing."

[Source: Zawya](#)

Saudi Arabia's Sport Clubs Co to list 30% on Tadawul bourse

Riyadh-based Sport Clubs Company has received approval from the Capital Market Authority (CMA) to float 30% of its share capital on the main Saudi stock exchange. The approval to sell 34.3 million shares is valid for six months and will be deemed cancelled if the offering and listing of the company's shares are not completed within this period. Sports Clubs, set up in 1994, operates 56 branches across 18 cities in the kingdom. Its portfolio includes 41 men's clubs under the Body Masters brand, which was launched decades ago, and 15 women's clubs under the Body Motions brand, which was launched four years ago. Riyadh's main exchange has already seen four IPOs completed this year: Almoosa, Nice One, Derayah Financial, and Arabian Company for Agricultural and Industrial Investment (Entaj).

[Source: Zawya](#)

International Economic and Corporate News

U.S. dollar stands tall, euro falters as markets 'recalibrate'

The dollar climbed on Friday against major peers, including the euro, which was set for its first weekly drop this month, as a busy week for central banks wrapped up and caution remained about the impact of a global trade war. The U.S. dollar index, measured against a basket of six counterparts, was 0.19% higher at 103.99, after strengthening 0.36% on Thursday - its best single-day performance for three weeks - after the Federal Reserve indicated it was in no rush to cut interest rates. The euro, which has by far the heaviest weighting in the dollar index, slipped 0.15% to \$1.0836 after dropping 0.45% on Thursday. It is set to end the week 0.4% lower after a strong two-week run following Germany's massive spending plans. Germany's Bundesrat, the upper house of parliament, passed a reform of the country's borrowing rules and a 500-billion-euro fund to revamp its infrastructure and revive Europe's largest economy. The proposals passed the lower house of parliament.

[Source: Zawya](#)

Australia budget to dole out energy bill relief as general election looms

Australia's government said on Sunday that a federal budget this week would include an A\$1.8 billion extension to a scheme to reduce energy bills, ahead of what is expected to be a closely-fought general election due by May. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's centre-left Labor government has already handed out A\$3.5 billion in energy bill relief in a bid to tackle inflation, as it grapples with rising living costs in the nation of around 27 million. On Sunday, ahead of handing down on Tuesday its final budget before the election, Albanese said Australian households and around one million small businesses would get another A\$150 "in rebates automatically applied to their electricity bills in quarterly instalments". "Treasury estimates this will directly reduce headline inflation by around half of a percentage point in 2025," Albanese said in a statement, which costed the measure at A\$1.8 billion. The government's main political opposition, the conservative Liberal-National coalition, said it would not oppose the scheme's extension, after the country's energy regulator last week warned that power prices >

[Source: Investing](#)

Oil and Metal News

Gold set for third week of gains on global uncertainties, rate cut hopes

Gold was headed for a third straight week of gains on Friday after three consecutive record highs this week, bolstered by the Federal Reserve's rate cut cues for the year and safe-haven demand amid geopolitical and economic uncertainties. Spot gold eased 0.3% to \$3,034.09 an ounce as of 0235 GMT. Bullion reached an all-time high of \$3,057.21 per ounce on Thursday and has climbed about 2% so far this week. U.S. gold futures held steady at \$3,042.60. "I don't think we even need to see a trigger per se for gold to hit another record high. All the fundamentals are there for it to keep trending higher," Capital.com's financial market analyst Kyle Rodda said. "I can't see an imminent correction for gold. But a pull back to the \$3,000s for a bit of a recharge before extending the uptrend is quite likely."

[Source: Zawya](#)

Oil prices rise for second consecutive week on expected tighter supply

Oil prices settled higher on Friday and recorded a second consecutive weekly gain as fresh U.S. sanctions on Iran and the latest output plan from the OPEC+ producer group raised expectations of tighter supply. Brent crude futures rose 16 cents, or 0.2%, to settle at \$72.16 a barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose 21 cents, or 0.3%, to \$68.28. On a weekly basis, Brent rose 2.1% and WTI about 1.6%, their biggest gains since the first week of the year. On Thursday, the U.S. Treasury announced new Iran-related sanctions, which for the first time targeted an independent Chinese refiner among other entities and vessels involved in supplying Iranian crude oil to China. That probably sent a message to the market that Chinese companies, the largest buyers of Iranian oil, are not immune to sanctions pressure from the U.S., said Scott Shelton, energy analyst at TP ICAP (LON:NXGN).

[Source: Investing](#)

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