



Thursday, 04 September 2025

Global bond markets stabilize, for now, as fiscal storm looms

A sense of calm settled on the world's biggest bond markets on September 3 but concerns about the fiscal health of major economies from Japan to Britain and the United States kept long-dated borrowing costs pinned near multi-year highs. Worries about Japan's fiscal position were revived after Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's close aide said he intended to resign from his post. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

Central banks purchasing less gold, says WGC

The purchases of gold by central banks moderated in July, but the institutions remain net buyers of the precious metal, according to the World Gold Council (WGC). In its latest statistics, published on September 3, the WGC says central banks bought 10 tonnes net of gold in July, compared with 22 tonnes in June. (www.centralbanking.com 03/09/25)

Eurozone private sector growth at 1-year high

The euro area private sector expanded at the fastest pace in a year in August but the overall rate was sluggish as the service sector held back growth, S&P Global showed on Wednesday [03/09]. The HCOB composite output index rose to 51.0 in Aug; from 50.9 in July. The score was slightly below the initial estimate of 51.1. (www.rttnews.com 03/09/25)

ECB creates task force to simplify regulation

The European Central Bank has created a task force to develop proposals to simplify the European regulatory, supervisory and reporting framework. The High-Level Task Force on Simplification will be chaired by ECB vice-president Luis de Guindos. Its other members are the governors of the central banks of Estonia, Finland, France, Germany and Italy. (www.centralbanking.com 03/09/25)

Central bank independence is no obstacle to low rates, says ECB's Villeroy

Central bank independence does not stand in the way of low interest rates, French ECB policymaker Francois Villeroy de Galhau said on Wednesday [03/09], joining a growing chorus of central bankers defending the Federal Reserve against White House interference. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

US job openings drop to 10-month low, hiring remains tepid

US job openings fell to a 10-month low in July and there were more unemployed people than positions available for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, data consistent with easing labor market conditions and supporting expectations the Fed would cut interest rates this month. Despite cooling demand for workers, layoffs remained relatively low, Labor Department said. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

Fed officials, worried about jobs, muse on rate-cut prospects

Two Fed officials said on August 3, labor market worries continue to animate their belief that rate cuts still lie ahead for the central bank. "I've been clear that I think we should be cutting at the next meeting," Fed Governor Christopher Waller said in an interview with CNBC reiterating the view he has held for some time. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

China's home prices to fall less than expected, but market still weak: Reuters poll

China's new-home prices were expected to decline more slowly in 2025 than previously forecast, and slip a further 0.5% in 2026, a survey showed, as policy support tempers the downturn but shows few signs of ending the protracted property crisis. The August poll projected a 3.8% decrease in 2025, an improvement from the 4.8% decline in May. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3443	(1.3388)	1.3444	(1.3389)
+USD/EUR	1.1676	(1.1661)	1.1677	(1.1662)
*GHS/USD	11.8941	(11.7441)	11.9060	(11.7559)
*GHS/GBP	15.9892	(15.7230)	16.0064	(15.7399)
*GHS/EUR	13.8879	(13.6972)	13.9016	(13.7096)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 04/09/25 (Rates for 03/09/25 in brackets)

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UK service sector expands most in 16 months

The UK service sector's growth accelerated to a 16-month high in Aug., as output and new orders rose at marked rates, survey results from S&P Global shows. The Purchasing Managers' Index rose to 54.2 in Aug., from 51.8 in July. This was above the flash score of 53.6.

(www.rttnews.com 03/09/25)

Japan's 30-year bond sale brings respite to jittery debt markets

Japan's 30-year debt auction added to the sense of respite today for global bond markets that are contending with fallout from heightened government spending. Demand in the sale was broadly in line with the 12-month average, providing relief that triggered buying across all maturities of Japanese government sovereign bonds. (www.bloomberg.com 04/09/25)

Canada's budget will focus on austerity and investment, says PM Carney

Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney said on Wednesday [03/09] that the upcoming federal budget would focus on both austerity and investments, adding that current government spending was unsustainable. Canada has been dealing with economic uncertainty since the start of the year. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

Turkey inflation eases to 32.95%, lowest in 45 months

Turkey's consumer price inflation eased further in August to the lowest level in more than three-and-a-half years, the Turkish Statistical Institute said. CPI softened to 32.95% in Aug., from 33.52% in July. This was the lowest rate since Nov. 2021, when prices had risen 21.31%. (www.rttnews.com 03/09/25)

Pakistani exports down 12.5% in August

Pakistan's merchandise exports declined 12.49% year-on-year in Aug., falling to \$2.42bn, official data showed. The contraction marked the fourth decline in the past 5 months, with only July showing growth. On a month-on-month basis, exports dropped 9.98%, PBS data showed. (www.xinhuanet.com 03/09/25)

Oil prices extend losses as OPEC+ considers another output hike

Oil prices slid today, extending a decline of more than 2% in the previous session, as investors and traders look ahead to a weekend meeting of OPEC where producers are expected to consider another increase in output targets. Brent crude fell 46 cents, or 0.7%, to \$67.14 a barrel by 0416 GMT. (www.reuters.com 04/09/25)

Asia markets perk up as Fed comments, jobs data point to rate cuts

Asian stocks were mostly higher today as dovish comments from Fed officials and a smooth auction of Japanese super-long debt eased investor jitters in bond markets. Shares rose in Australia, India and Japan, but Chinese shares fell the most since April on reports of regulatory intervention to tame runaway speculation. (www.reuters.com 04/09/25)

S. African business confidence slips further in Q3 amid tariff pressure, survey shows

South African business confidence slipped a point further sequentially in Q3 of 2025, weighed down by hefty US tariffs on the country's exports. Business confidence fell to 39 points, three points below the long-term average level of 42. (www.reuters.com 03/09/25)

Namibia rolls out \$28m youth fund to boost entrepreneurship

Namibia has rolled out a N\$500m (about \$28m) National Youth Entrepreneurship Fund to tackle youth unemployment, offering collateral-free loans, flexible repayment terms and reduced lending rates capped at 4%, Finance Minister Ericah Shafudah said. (www.xinhuanet.com 03/0/25)

Ghana: August inflation drops to 11.5%, the lowest in 4 years; beats end-year target

Ghana's year-on-year inflation for Aug., 2025 declined marginally to 11.5%, down from 12.1% recorded in July 2025, according to data released by the Ghana Statistical Service. This marks the eighth consecutive decline in inflation this year and the lowest rate in 4 years, falling below the government's end-year target of 11.9% for 2025. (www.myjoyonline.com 03/0/25)

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