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# BANK OF GHANA



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## QUARTERLY ECONOMIC BULLETIN

FIRST QUARTER 2025

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## Table of Contents

<b>Overview .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. Developments in the World Economy .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. Real Sector Developments.....</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1. <i>Indicators of Economic Activity</i> .....	6
2.2. <i>Labour Market Conditions</i> .....	10
<b>3. Price Developments.....</b>	<b>12</b>
3.1. <i>Global Inflation</i> .....	12
3.2. <i>Domestic Inflation</i> .....	14
3.3. <i>Inflation Outlook</i> .....	15
<b>4. Monetary Developments.....</b>	<b>16</b>
4.1. <i>Broad Money Supply</i> .....	16
4.2. <i>Sources of Change in M2+</i> .....	17
4.3. <i>Developments in Banks' Credit</i> .....	17
4.4. <i>Distribution of Outstanding Credit to the Private Sector</i> .....	18
4.5. <i>Sources and Uses of Banks' Flow of Funds</i> .....	20
4.6. <i>Payments System Developments</i> .....	24
4.7. <i>Money Market</i> .....	26
4.8. <i>The Stock Market</i> .....	27
<b>5. Balance of Payments .....</b>	<b>30</b>
5.1. <i>The Current and Capital Account</i> .....	31
5.2. <i>Financial Account</i> .....	37
5.3. <i>International Reserves</i> .....	37

### List of Tables

Table 1.1: Overview of World Economic Outlook Projections ( <b>% change</b> ) .....	4
Table 3.1: Headline Inflation and Components .....	10
Table 4.1: Monetary Indicators .....	17
Table 4.2: Sectoral Distribution of Banks' Outstanding Credit .....	18
Table 4.3: Sources and Uses of Banks' Flow of Funds .....	20
Table 4.4: Sector contribution to the Growth of GSE-CI .....	28
Table 4.5: Sectors' Contribution to the Growth of Market Capitalisation .....	29
Table 5.1: Balance of Payments (US\$' million) .....	30
Table 5.2: Current Account Balance (US\$' million) .....	31
Table 5.3: Merchandise Exports (US\$' million) .....	31
Table 5.4: The Top Ten Non-Traditional Exports: <b>Jan – Mar 2024/2025</b> .....	33
Table 5.5: Top Ten Non-Oil Imports: <b>Jan-Mar 2024/2025</b> .....	35
Table 5.6: Services, Income and Unilateral Transfers (net) .....	36
Table 5.7: Capital and Financial Account ( <b>US\$' million</b> ).....	37

### List of Charts

Chart 2.1: Retail Sales and Domestic VAT (GH¢' million) .....	7
Chart 2.2: Trends in Domestic Taxes (Direct) .....	7
Chart 2.3: SSNIT Contributions from Private Sector Workers (GH¢' million) .....	8
Chart 2.4: Cement Sales (Tonnes) .....	8
Chart 2.5: Vehicle Registration .....	9
Chart 2.6: Industrial Consumption of Electricity (gw) .....	9
Chart 2.7: Trends in Tourist Arrivals .....	10
Chart 2.8: Port Activity (Total Container Traffic) .....	10
Chart 2.9: Trends in Advertised Job Vacancies ( <b>2025Q1</b> ) .....	11
Chart 3.1: Inflation in Advanced Economies( <b>Y/Y, %</b> ) .....	12
Chart 3.2: Inflation in Emerging Market Economies( <b>Y/Y, %</b> ) .....	13
Chart 3.3: Inflation in Sub-Saharan Africa( <b>Y/Y, %</b> ) .....	14
Chart 3.4: Headline Inflation and Target Bands .....	15
Chart 3.5: Headline vs Core Inflation ( <b>%</b> ) .....	15
Chart 4.1: Inflation and Liquidity .....	16
Chart 4.2: Allocation of Annual Flow of Credit to the Private Sector .....	19
Chart 4.3: Growth Rate of Annual Flow of Credit to the Private Sector by Borrower .....	19
Chart 4.4: Sources of Banks' Annual Flow of Funds .....	21
Chart 4.5: Uses of Banks' Annual Flow of Funds .....	22
Chart 4.6: Trends in Monetary Policy Rate.....	22
Chart 4.7: Yield Curve ( <b>%</b> ).....	24
Chart 4.8: Spread between Nominal Savings and Lending Rates .....	24
Chart 4.9: Quarterly Trends in the Settlement of Interbank Transactions (Averages).....	25

Chart 4.10: Quarterly Trends in Cheques Cleared (Averages).....	25
Chart 4.11: Money Market Rates .....	26
Chart 4.12: Tender Results for <b>2025Q1</b> .....	27
Chart 4.13: <b>Y/Y Growth of the GSE-CI</b> .....	27
Chart 4.14: Market Activity – Volumes & Values of Trade .....	28
Chart 4.15: Change in Share Prices ( <b>2025Q1</b> ) .....	29
Chart 5.1: Developments in Merchandise Exports (US\$' million) .....	32
Chart 5.2: Developments in Oil Imports (US\$ 'Million) .....	34
Chart 5.3: Non-oil Imports by Broad Economic Classification (US\$ 'Million) .....	34
Chart 5.4: Destination of Merchandise Exports .....	35
Chart 5.5: Sources of Merchandise Imports.....	36
Chart 5.6: Gross International Reserves.....	38

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## OVERVIEW

This report presents a review of global and domestic economic developments during the first quarter of 2025. The domestic developments cover the real sector, price developments, monetary aggregates, banking sector credit, exchange rates, interest rates, the capital market, and balance of payments.

**Global Economy** Global economic activities slowed down in 2025Q1 due to tariff measures announced by the U.S. administration and imposed on countries across the globe, leading to heightened trade and economic uncertainties that caused a deterioration in consumer and business sentiments.

### **The Domestic Economy**

#### **Real Sector**

Domestic economic activity improved in 2025Q1 compared to 2024Q1. Consumer spending, manufacturing-related activities, the construction sub-sector, transport-related economic activities and the labour market conditions all posted positive outturns in the first quarter. However, activities within the productive sectors of the economy, measured by consumption of electricity by industries, remained largely unchanged. Tourist arrivals decreased in the review period.

#### **Inflation**

Headline inflation declined to 22.4 percent in March 2025, relative to 23.8 percent in December 2024. This was driven by a slowdown in food inflation, which fell to 26.5 percent in March 2025 from 27.8 percent in December 2024, albeit still elevated. Non-food inflation also softened to 18.7 percent in March 2024 from 20.3 percent in December 2024.

#### **Monetary Aggregates**

For 2025Q1, there was increased growth in broad money supply (M2+) relative to the corresponding period in 2024. Annual growth in broad money supply (M2+) increased to 31.71 percent at the end of 2025Q1 from 26.15 percent in 2024Q1. The stock of broad money supply stood at GH¢343,931.92 million at the end of the review period, compared with GH¢329,738.80 million and GH¢261,119.50 million recorded in 2024Q4 and 2024Q1, respectively. The observed increase in the growth in M2+ was attributed to an increase in the pace of growth in the Net Foreign Assets (NFA), supported by a moderate increase in the Net Domestic Assets (NDA) compared with same time in 2024.

#### **Banking Sector Credit**

Annual growth in banks' outstanding credit to the public and private sectors increased significantly to 22.53 percent in 2025Q1 from 4.81 percent in 2024Q1. This was, however, lower than the growth of 24.06 percent recorded in 2024Q4. At the end of 2025Q1, total outstanding credit stood at GH¢94,386.64 million, compared with GH¢77,031.28 million and GH¢95,540.33 million recorded in 2024Q1 and 2024Q4, respectively. In real terms, credit from the banks improved to 0.10 percent at end of 2025Q1 from *negative* 16.67 percent in the same period of 2024. The share of private sector credit in total outstanding

credit increased marginally to 93.62 percent at the end of the review period, from 92.29 percent recorded in 2024Q1.

### **Exchange Rates**

On the Interbank market, the Ghana Cedi depreciated against the U.S. Dollar, the Pound Sterling and the Euro by 5.3 percent, 8.4 percent and 9.5 percent respectively in the first quarter of 2025. On the Forex Bureau market, the Cedi depreciated against the U.S. Dollar, the Pound Sterling and the Euro by 0.5 percent, 3.1 percent and 2.9 percent respectively, in 2025Q1.

### **Interest Rates**

Interest rate developments for 2025Q1 generally reflected a downward trend across all spectrums of the yield curve. The BoG bill rate, rates on GoG securities deposit, rates on DMBs and the average lending rates decreased relative to the corresponding period in 2024. The Monetary Policy Rate at the end of 2025Q1 stood at 28.00 percent, reflecting a 100 basis points decrease compared with the MPR at the end of 2024Q1. The interbank weighted average interest rate decreased by 219 basis points on a year-on-year basis to settle at 26.28 percent in 2025Q1 from 28.48 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2024. When compared to 2024Q4, the IWAR increased by 74 basis points. On the Treasury bills market, interest rates decreased in 2025Q1 relative to 2024Q1. The yields on the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day T-bills decreased by 924 basis points, 1041 basis points and 965 basis points, respectively, compared to 2024Q1.

### **Capital Market**

The Ghana Stock Exchange Composite Index (GSE-CI) gained by 27.19 percent in 2025Q1, bringing the year-on-year growth to 79.91 percent. Total volume of trades on the GSE in 2025Q1 amounted to 61.34 million shares, with a value of GH¢473.16 million, which compares with a volume of 254.22 million shares with a value of GH¢365.98 million in the corresponding quarter in 2024. The performance of the GSE-CI reflects an increase in investor confidence as well as pick up in domestic economic activities. The sectors that contributed to the gains recorded were mainly the Distribution, Finance, IT, ET Fund and Agriculture sectors.

### **Balance of Payments**

The value of merchandise exports for the review period 2025Q1 was estimated at US\$6.93 billion, 62.4 percent higher than the US\$2.03 billion recorded during the same period in 2024. This was mainly driven by higher gold exports as well as improved cocoa receipts. Total non-oil imports in 2025Q1 decreased by 2.0 percent to US\$2.49 billion, driven mainly by consumption and intermediate goods. The trade balance recorded a higher surplus of US\$2.16 billion at the end of 2025Q1, up from US\$66.06 million during the same period in 2024Q4. This current account surplus came on the back of a larger trade surplus and improved remittance inflows during 2025Q1 compared with 2024Q1. Gross International Reserves (GIR) increased to US\$10.17 billion at

the end of 2025Q1 from a stock position of US\$8.98 billion at the end of 2024Q4, representing a build-up of US\$1.19 billion. This was sufficient to provide 4.5 months of import cover for goods and services compared to 4.0 months of import cover as at the end of 2024Q4.

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## 1. Developments in the World Economy

Since late January 2025, a series of tariff measures were announced by the U.S. administration that were initially imposed on countries such as Canada, Mexico and China, and later extended to more countries across the globe. These tariff measures, and countermeasures from trading partners, led to heightened uncertainty with both the trade policy uncertainty and economic policy uncertainty indices rising sharply and causing a deterioration in consumer and business sentiment in the U.S. and Euro Area, respectively. Also, incoming high frequency data pointed to a slowdown of growth in the near term. Emerging markets also faced a challenging external environment in the form of slower demand and potentially tighter financial conditions. Also, the inward-looking behaviours of advanced economies and countermeasures by China and other countries were likely to undermine supply chains and adversely impact exports from the sub-region. However, the U.S. and China reached a tentative agreement that revised their respective tariffs downwards for a 90-day period. Against this backdrop, the IMF projected a slowdown in global growth from 3.3 percent in 2024 to 2.8 percent in 2025 and a modest recovery to 3.0 percent in 2026. The growth downgrades were broad-based across advanced and emerging market economies.

In the outlook, risks to the global economy are tilted to the downside. The on-going tariffs and counter-tariffs have increased uncertainty and triggered a deterioration in business and consumer sentiments. These measures may add to trade costs if they persist, raising final goods prices and intermediate input prices for firms. Also, the on-going disinflation process has stalled and reversed in some countries. This may lower real incomes and further dim the prospects of global growth. In addition, financial conditions could tighten further as markets react negatively to diminished growth prospects and increased uncertainty.

**Table 1.1: Overview of World Economic Outlook Projections (% change)**

	Estimate	Projections	
	2023	2024	2025
<b>World Output</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Advanced Economies</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>
United States	2.5	2.1	1.7
Euro Area	0.5	0.9	1.7
Germany	-0.3	0.5	1.6
France	0.8	1.0	1.7
Italy	0.7	0.7	1.1
Spain	2.4	1.5	2.1
Japan	1.9	0.9	0.8
United Kingdom	0.5	0.6	1.6
Canada	1.1	1.4	2.3
Other Advanced Economies	1.7	2.1	2.5
<b>Emerging Market and Developing Economies</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>
China	5.2	4.6	4.1
India	6.7	6.5	6.5
Russia	3.0	2.6	1.1
Brazil	3.1	1.7	1.9
Mexico	3.4	2.7	1.5
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Nigeria	2.8	3.0	3.1
South Africa	0.6	1.0	1.3

Source: IMF, WEO

### United States

The U.S. economy contracted at an annualised rate of 0.2 percent in 2025Q1, driven by weaker consumer spending and a drag from trade. Shifting trade policies and rising uncertainties have had a profound impact on economic sentiments, with consumer and business confidence plummeting. Prices have been on the downward trend in 2025Q1 in the U.S. largely on the back of reduction in energy costs. The IMF estimates that growth in the U.S. economy will decline to 1.8 percent in 2025, from 2.8 percent in 2024, and will further slow to 1.7 percent by the end of 2026.

### United Kingdom

The British economy expanded 0.7 percent in 2025Q1. It is the strongest growth rate in 3 quarters. The significant increment recorded was largely driven by the services sector, mostly administrative and support services activities. In contrast, construction output remained unchanged. The annual inflation rate in the U.K. reduced from 3.0 percent to 2.6 percent within 2025Q1, reflecting reduction in energy expenses. The IMF projects the U.K. economy to grow at the rate of 1.1 percent this year, same for last year, before accelerating to 1.4 percent in 2026.

### Euro Area

The Euro Area economy grew by 0.6 percent in the first quarter of 2025, marking the strongest expansion since 2022Q3. This was driven by Ireland's exceptional 9.7 percent surge and a stronger performance from Germany. Among major economies, Spain and Germany outperformed with growths of 0.6 percent and 0.4 percent, respectively. Italy expanded by 0.3 percent, while France and the Netherlands posted modest gains of 0.1 percent both. The Euro Area inflation rate reduced from 2.5 percent at the beginning of the first quarter to 2.2 percent. This was predominantly due to the softening of energy prices. The IMF estimates the growth in the Euro Area to decline from 0.9 percent in 2024 to 0.8 percent in 2025 before accelerating to 1.2 percent in 2026, driven by policy uncertainty and tariff tensions.

### Japan

Japan recorded a flat growth in 2025Q1, which marks a sharp slowdown from the 0.6 percent growth in 2024Q4. The flat reading of growth was driven by a decline in government spending and a drag in net trade as exports slowed for the first time amid US tariff tensions. For the period under review, Japan's annual inflation rate edged lower from 4.0 percent to 3.6 percent in 2025Q1 due to government subsidies on energy costs. The IMF projections for growth indicates that, the Japanese economy grew at 0.1 percent in 2024 and is expected to expand to 0.6 percent for 2025 and 2026, respectively.

### China

The Chinese economy grew by a seasonally adjusted 1.2 percent in 2025Q1, slowing from a 1.6 percent increase in 2024Q4. This reflects the impact of recently imposed tariffs, offsetting the strong carryover from 2024. For the month under review, the U.S. raised tariffs on Chinese goods to 145 percent, prompting China to respond with its own tariffs and non-tariff countermeasures as well as restrictions on export of other raw materials. New export orders fell for the first time in 2025, though marginally, Trump's tariffs dampened demand. Inflation in China in the beginning of the year was 0.5 percent due to high energy and food costs, however, the country experienced deflationary pressures and ended the quarter with 0.1 percent growth, driven by fallen prices in both food and energy costs. The IMF estimates the Chinese economy grew at 5.0 percent in 2024 but is expected to slow to 4.0 percent in 2025 and 2026, respectively.

### Emerging Markets and Developing Economies

The EMDEs will be crucial to global economic developments amid on-going trade tensions. India's economy expanded by 1.6 percent in 2025Q1 from 1.4 percent in 2024Q4. This was due to a boost in domestic demand and government fiscal support. The Mexican economy also rebounded out of contractions of 0.6 percent in 2024Q4 to expand by 0.2 percent in 2025Q1 owing to a surge in output of primary activities. Also, the Brazilian economy expanded by 1.4 percent from the previous quarter. The growth was backed by expansion in gross fixed capital formation and private consumption. Energy and food costs went up for Brazil and Mexico, with both economies averaging 5.03 percent and 3.72 percent, respectively, in 2025Q1. However, India witnessed a moderation in energy and food costs, ending the quarter at 3.34 percent from that of 5.22 percent of the previous end-quarter. Also, financial conditions remained restrictive, compounded by policy uncertainties that have slowed the pace of monetary easing. Portfolio flows to EMDE's slowed by US\$0.2 billion in April, reflecting heightened global uncertainties. The IMF estimates that the EMDEs grew by 4.3 percent in 2024, but growth in 2025 is expected to decline to 3.7 percent before ticking up slightly to 3.9 percent by the end of 2026.

### Sub-Saharan African Countries

Sub-Saharan Africa continues to face significant challenges, including limited economic growth, constrained financing options, and mounting social pressures. South Africa's economy marginally grew by 0.1 percent, with manufacturing, mining and quarrying being the biggest drags. Inflation slowed for South Africa from 3.2 percent January 2025 to 2.7 percent March of the same year, reflecting reduction in energy costs. Nigeria also experienced reduction in inflation from 24.48 percent in January 2025 to 24.23 percent in March 2025 due to moderation in food costs. The IMF estimates that Sub-Saharan Africa economy grew by 4.0 percent in 2024 but expects that growth will decrease to 3.8 percent in 2025 before accelerating to 4.2 percent in 2026. This is necessitated by the downward revisions of its two biggest economies, South Africa and Nigeria.

## 2. Real Sector Developments

A review of selected real sector indicators revealed an improvement in domestic economic activity in the first quarter of 2025 compared with trends observed during the same period in 2024.

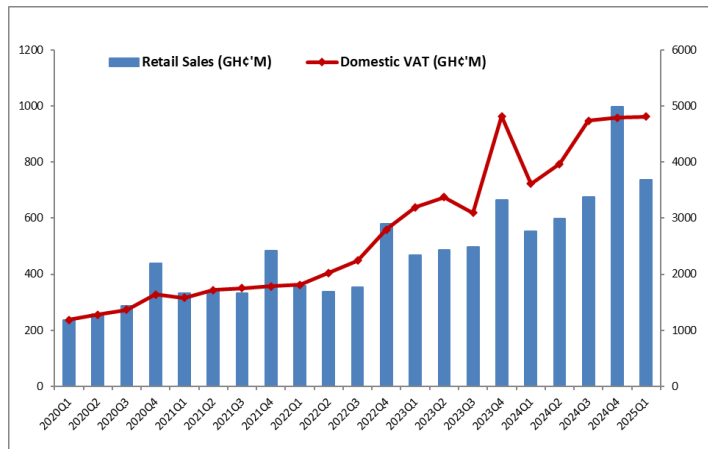
### 2.1. Indicators of Economic Activity

#### Consumer Spending

Consumer spending, proxied by domestic VAT collections and retail sales, improved in the first quarter of 2025 compared with figures recorded in the corresponding period of 2024. Domestic VAT collections grew by 33.2 percent (year-on-year) to GH¢4,815.10 million, relative to GH¢3,615.59 million collected during the corresponding quarter in 2024. Domestic VAT, however, remained largely unchanged compared with GH¢4,794.07 million collected for the fourth quarter of 2024.

Retail sales increased by 33.0 percent (year-on-year) to GH¢736.44 million during the first quarter of 2025 from GH¢553.70 million recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2024. The comparative improvement in retail sales could be attributed to increased household spending during the review period.

**Chart 2.1: Retail Sales and Domestic VAT (GH¢ Million)**

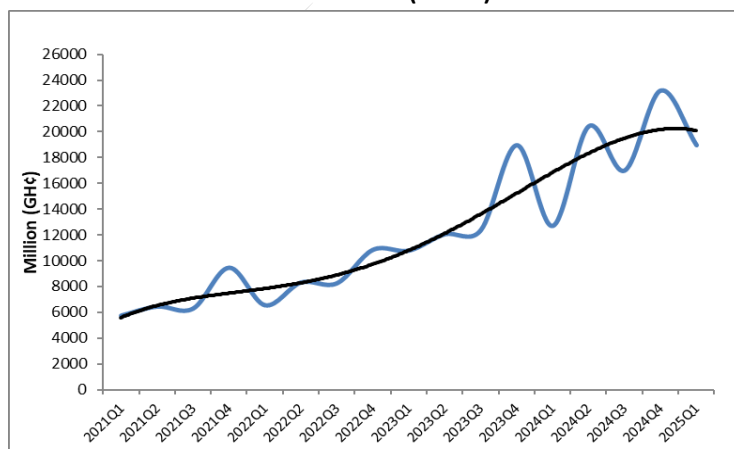


Source: GRA & Melcom Group Limited

**Manufacturing Activities**

Manufacturing-related activities, as proxied by trends in the collection of direct taxes (income, corporate and others) and private sector workers’ contributions to the SSNIT Pension Scheme (Tier-1), posted a positive outturn during the first quarter of 2025, compared with what was observed in the same period of 2024. Total direct taxes collected increased by 49.4 percent (year-on-year) to GH¢18,959.58 million in the first quarter of 2025, relative to GH¢12,693.33 million recorded for the first quarter of 2024. Total direct taxes collected for the quarter under review, however, declined by 18.3 percent from GH¢23,201.23 million collected in the fourth quarter of 2024. In terms of contribution of the various sub-tax categories, corporate tax accounted for 52.0 percent, followed by income tax (PAYE and self-employed) with 33.1 percent, while ‘other tax sources’ contributed 14.9 percent.

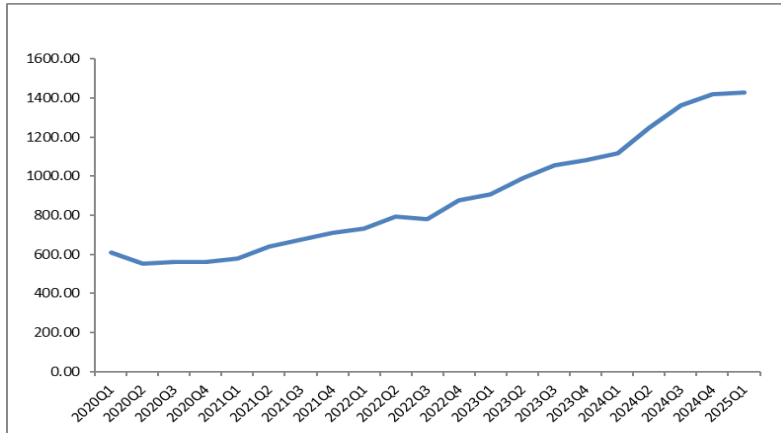
**Chart 2.2: Trends in Domestic Taxes (Direct)**



Source: GRA

Similarly, private sector workers’ contributions to the SSNIT Pension Scheme (Tier-1) improved by 28.0 percent (year-on-year) to GH¢1,429.57 million in the first quarter of 2025, from GH¢1,117.04 million collected during the corresponding quarter of 2024. The total contribution in the review period also increased marginally by 0.8 percent when compared with GH¢1,418.80 million for the fourth quarter of 2024. The improvement in private workers’ contributions to the Tier-1 pension scheme could be attributed to the registration of new employees as well as improved compliance by private sector employers.

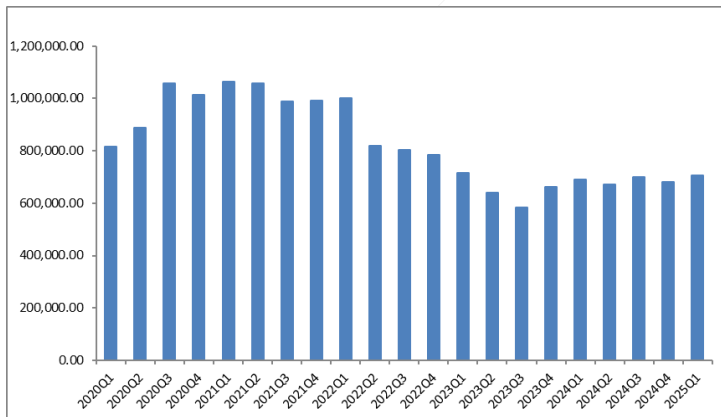
**Chart 2.3: SSNIT Contributions from Private Sector Workers (GH¢ Million)**



**Construction Sector Activities**

Economic activity in the construction sub-sector, as proxied by the volume of cement sales, improved by 2.4 percent (year-on-year) during the first quarter of 2025 to 706,709.11 tonnes, from 689,912.03 tonnes recorded in the first quarter of 2024. Total cement sales during the review period, however, declined by 3.8 percent when compared with 681,155.52 tonnes recorded during the fourth quarter of 2024. The year-on-year improvement in total cement sales was due to an uptick in construction activities during the review period.

**Chart 2.4: Cement Sales (Tonnes)**



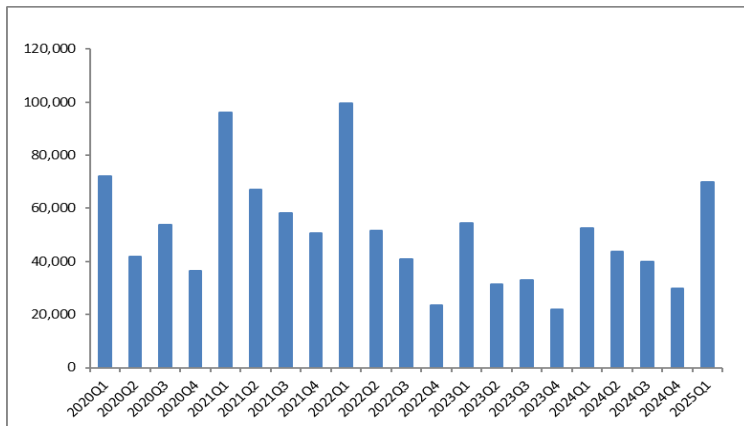
Source: Ghacem Limited & Diamond Cement Limited

**Vehicle Registration**

Transport-related economic activities, gauged by vehicle registration by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA), improved by 32.8 percent to 69,797 in the first quarter of 2025, compared to 52,576 vehicles registered during the corresponding quarter of 2024. The number of vehicles registered during the

review period also increased significantly by 133.6 percent, relative to 29,876 vehicles recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024. The year-on-year improvement recorded in vehicle registration was due to an increase in vehicle importation during the review period.

**Chart 2.5: Vehicle Registration**

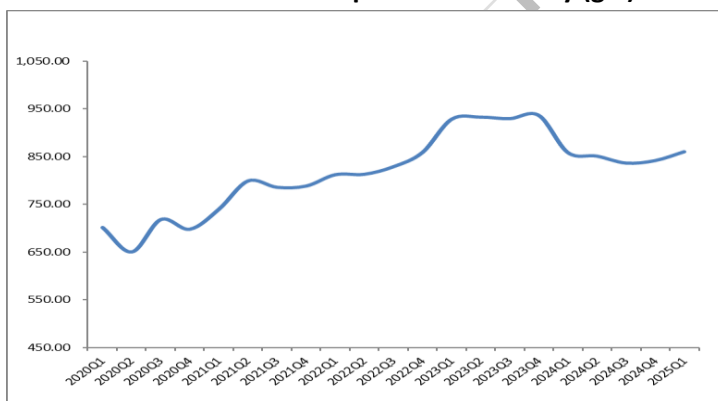


Source: Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority

**Industrial Consumption of Electricity**

The consumption of electricity by industries, which is a proxy for activities within the productive sectors of the economy, remained largely unchanged during the first quarter of 2025, compared with observations made in the corresponding period of 2024. Industries utilised 860.19 giga-watts of power in the first quarter of 2025, as against 858.62 giga-watts recorded for the same period in 2024. Industrial consumption of electricity for the quarter under review increased by 2.2 percent from 841.68 gigawatts utilised for the fourth quarter of 2024.

**Chart 2.6: Industrial Consumption of Electricity (gw)**



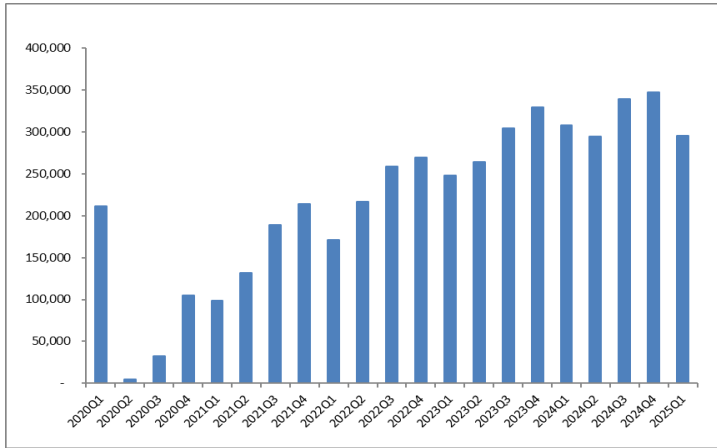
Source: Electricity Company of Ghana Limited

**International Tourist Arrivals**

Tourist arrivals through the country’s various ports of entry decreased in the first quarter of 2025 when compared with figures recorded a year ago. A total of 295,415 tourists entered the country during the review period, as against 308,024 visitors received in the first quarter of 2024, indicating a decline of 4.1 percent. Tourist arrivals during the period also went down by 14.9 percent when compared with 347,127 visitors

received in the fourth quarter of 2024. The year-on-year decline in tourist arrivals was mainly due to a moderation in tourism-related activities during the review period.

**Chart 2.7: Trends in Tourist Arrivals**

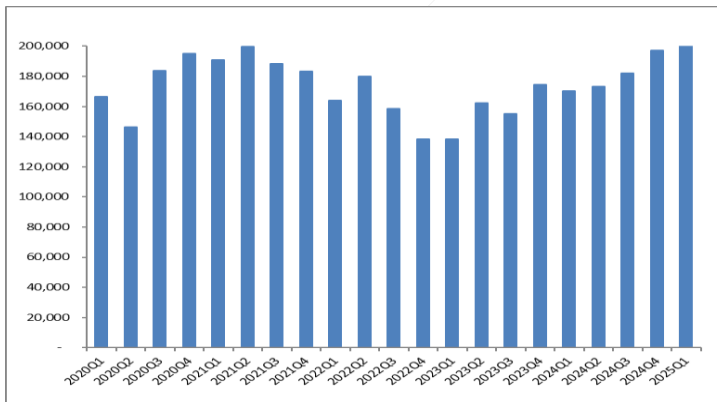


Source: Ghana Immigration Service

**Port Activity**

International trade at the country’s two main harbours (Tema and Takoradi), as measured by laden container traffic for inbound and outbound containers, recorded an improvement during the first quarter of 2025, compared with what was observed in the corresponding quarter of 2024. Total container traffic for inbound and outbound containers increased by 20.5 percent to 205,145 from 170,192 for the first quarter of 2024. Port activity also went up by 4.1 percent when compared to 197,137 laden containers recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024. The relative improvement in port activity, year-on-year, was due to an up-tick in international trade activities during the period.

**Chart 2.8: Port Activity (Total Container Traffic)**



Source: Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority

**2.2. Labour Market Conditions**

The number of jobs advertised in selected print and online media, which gauges labour demand in the economy, increased in the first quarter of 2025 compared to what was observed in the first quarter of 2024.

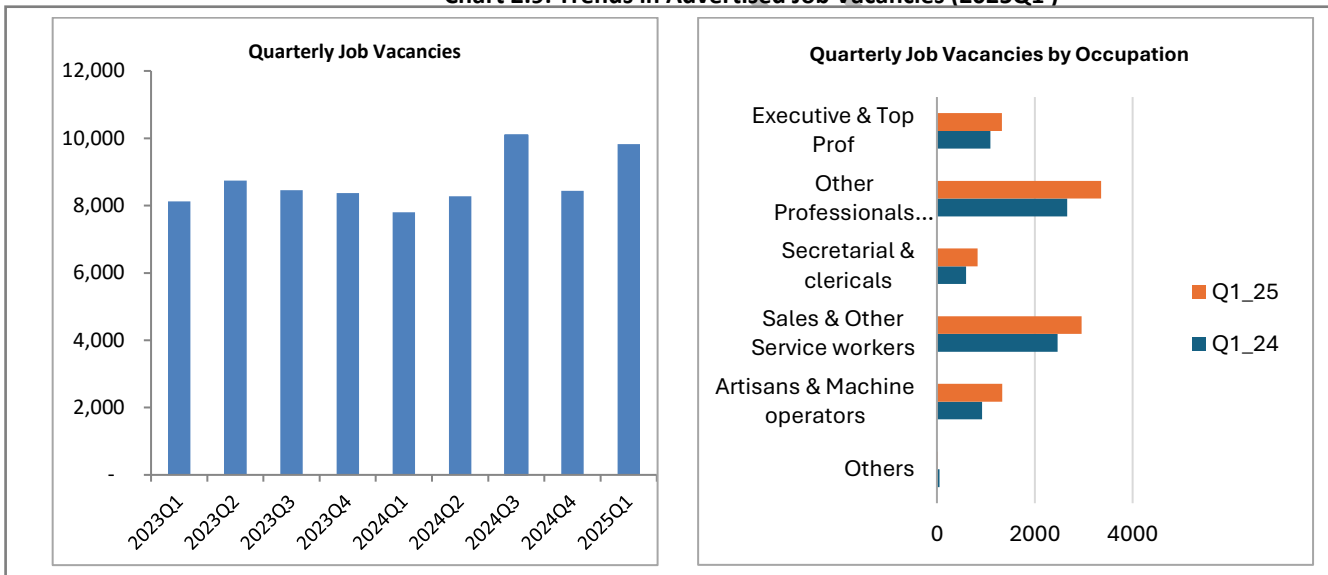
In total, 9,822 job adverts were recorded in the first quarter of 2025, as compared with 7,798 for the first quarter of 2024, representing an increase of 26.0 percent (year-on-year). Similarly, the number of job vacancies advertised in the review period also increased by 16.0 percent month-on-month from 8,441 recorded for the fourth quarter of 2024.

**Sector Distribution of Job Adverts and Requirements**

The services sector maintained its supremacy as the leading job-providing sector in the economy, accounting for 74.4 percent of total job adverts recorded during the first quarter of 2025. This compares with a share of 77.9 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2024. Industry followed with a share of 21.6 percent (up from 17.7% in the first quarter of 2024), while the agriculture sector reported 4.1 percent of the job adverts during the period, compared with 4.4 percent of total job adverts recorded for the corresponding quarter of 2024.

Further analysis revealed that the main requirements for skilled employees were tertiary education qualification(s) and a minimum of three years’ working experience. This category, classified as Other Professionals and Technicians, cumulatively accounted for 34.1 percent of total jobs advertised during the first quarter of 2025, which also recorded 34.1 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2024. This was followed by the categories classified as Sales & Other Service Workers (30.1% in Q1:2025 vs. 31.6% in Q1:2024), Executive & Top Professionals (13.5% vs. 14.1%), Artisans & Machine Operators (13.6% vs. 11.8%), Secretarial & Clerical Staff (8.5% vs. 7.7%) and Others (0.2% vs. 0.7%).

**Chart 2.9: Trends in Advertised Job Vacancies (2025Q1)**



Source: Bank of Ghana

### 3. Price Developments

#### 3.1. Global Inflation

The disinflation process continued in several advanced economies, supported by declining energy and services costs. However, recent U.S. tariff actions and corresponding retaliatory measures have raised long-term inflation expectations in many emerging market economies. Consequently, global inflation is projected to remain elevated in the near term, with some upside risks, primarily due to persistent trade protectionism and policy uncertainty.

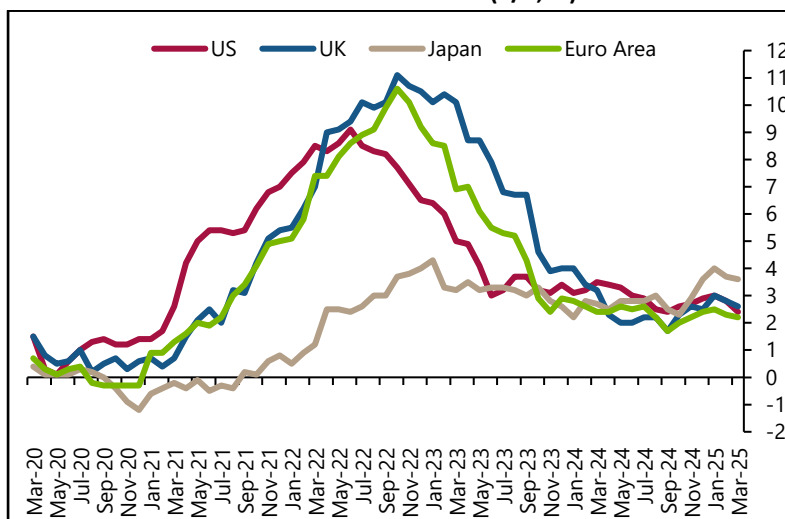
#### Advanced Economies

The average inflation rate in the United States for the first quarter of 2025 was 2.7 percent, unchanged from the figure for the fourth quarter of 2024. The annual inflation rate edged down to 2.4 percent in March 2025 from 2.9 percent in December 2024, with the deceleration primarily attributable to lower energy costs. Consistent with the headline, the core inflation rate declined to 2.8 percent, the lowest level since March 2021, in comparison with 3.2 percent in December 2024.

The inflation rate in the United Kingdom for the first quarter of 2025 averaged 2.8 percent, up from 2.5 percent in the last quarter of 2024. Headline inflation in the United Kingdom edged up to 2.6 percent in March 2025 relative to 2.5 percent in December 2024. The decline was driven mainly by lower prices in recreation and cultural services, transport, housing, and utilities. Core inflation edged up to 3.4 percent in March 2025 compared to 3.2 percent in December 2024.

Average inflation in the Euro Area in quarter one of 2025 was 2.3 percent, relative to 2.2 percent observed in the previous quarter. The annual inflation rate edged down to 2.2 percent in March 2025 compared to 2.4 percent in December 2024, due to slower price increases in the services and energy sector. However, core inflation, which excludes items such as energy, food, alcohol and tobacco, softened to 2.4 percent in March 2025 from 2.7 percent in December 2024.

Chart 3.1: Inflation in Advanced Economies (Y/Y, %)



Source: Trading Economics

Japan’s average inflation for 2025 quarter one increased to 3.8 percent from 2.9 percent in the previous quarter. Annual inflation was steady at 3.6 percent in March 2025, unchanged from the December 2024 reading. However, core inflation increased to 3.2 percent in March 2025 compared to 3.0 percent in December 2024.

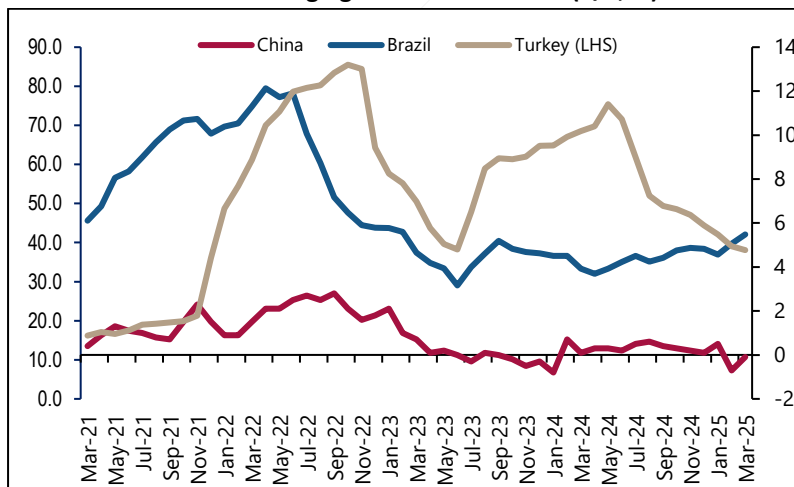
**Emerging Market Economies**

China registered a quarterly average inflation rate of *negative* 0.1 percent in quarter one of 2025, down from 0.2 percent in 2024Q4. The year-on-year inflation rate in March 2025 stood at negative 0.1 percent, compared to 0.1 percent in December 2024. The moderation in year-on-year inflation was primarily driven by declining food prices. Additionally, downward price pressures emerged from fading seasonal demand post-Spring Festival, and the ongoing trade tensions with the United States. Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel prices, increased to 0.5 percent in March 2025, relative to 0.4 percent in December 2024.

The average inflation rate in Brazil for the first quarter of 2025 was 5.0 percent, relative to 4.8 percent in the fourth quarter of 2024. The annual inflation rate increased to 5.5 percent in March 2025, compared to 4.8 percent in December 2024. This acceleration was primarily driven by rebounding housing and utilities costs, coupled with rising food and beverage prices.

Average inflation in Turkey decreased to 39.8 percent in quarter one of 2025 from 46.7 percent in quarter four of 2024. The annual inflation rate edged down to 38.1 percent in March 2025 against 44.4 percent in December 2024. The moderation was driven by slower price increases across key categories, particularly food and non-alcoholic beverages. Consistent with the headline, core inflation declined to 37.4 percent in March 2025 from 45.3 percent in December 2024, indicating broad-based moderation of price pressures.

**Chart 3.2: Inflation in Emerging Market Economies (Y/Y, %)**



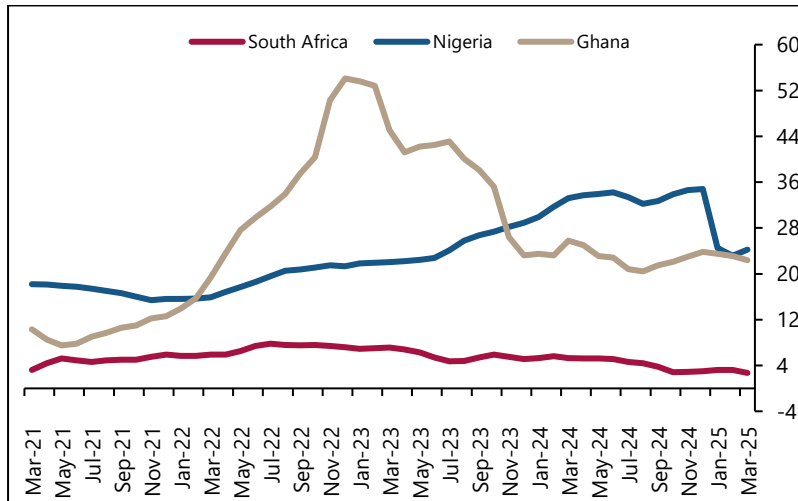
Source: Trading Economics

**Sub-Saharan Africa**

Average inflation in South Africa edged up by 3.0 percent in the first quarter of 2025, from 2.9 percent in the fourth quarter of 2024. Annual inflation declined to 2.7 percent in March 2025, relative to 3.0 percent in December 2024, marking the lowest level since June 2020, and falling below the lower bound of the SARB's 3–6 percent target range. The slowdown was primarily driven by a steep drop in the price of fuel. Core inflation, which excludes volatile items such as food, non-alcoholic beverages, fuel, and energy, softened to 3.1 percent in March 2025 from 3.6 percent in December 2024.

Average inflation in Nigeria dropped to 24.0 percent in quarter one of 2025 from 34.4 percent in the last quarter of 2024. Annual inflation rate eased to 24.2 percent in March 2025, from 34.8 percent in December 2024. The deceleration was attributable to favourable base effects, and methodological adjustments in price measurement. Similarly, core inflation, which excludes volatile products such as agricultural products and energy, decreased to 24.4 percent in March, from 29.3 percent in December 2024.

**Chart 3.3: Inflation in Sub-Saharan Africa (Y/Y, %)**



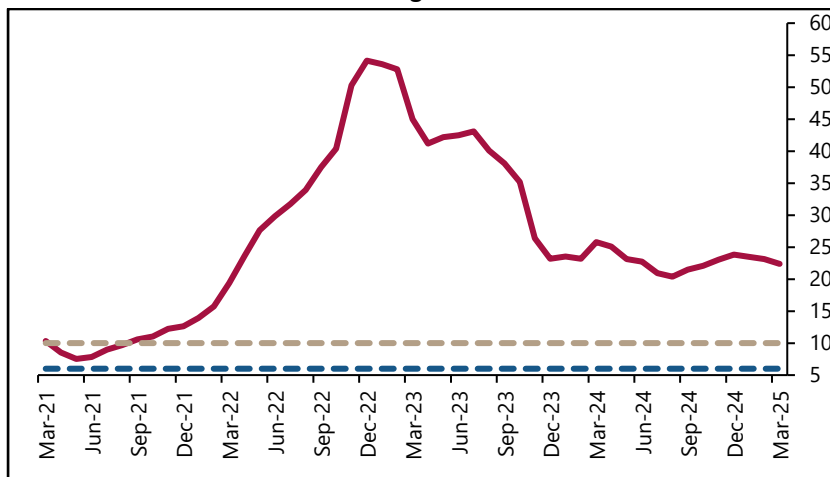
Source: Trading Economics

**3.2. Domestic Inflation**

**Headline Inflation**

Domestically, the moderation in headline inflation observed in January and February 2025 continued through March, marking three consecutive months of easing price pressures. Average inflation for quarter one of 2025 was 23.0 percent, unchanged from the previous quarter. Headline inflation declined to 22.4 percent in March 2025 relative to 23.8 percent in December 2024. The deceleration was largely driven by a slowdown in food inflation, which fell to 26.5 percent in March from 27.8 percent in December 2024, albeit still elevated. The decline in food inflation suggests that the impact of adverse climatic conditions on food prices in 2024Q4 may be dissipating. Non-food inflation on the other hand, softened to 18.7 percent in March from 20.3 percent in December 2024.

**Chart 3.4: Headline Inflation and Target Bands**

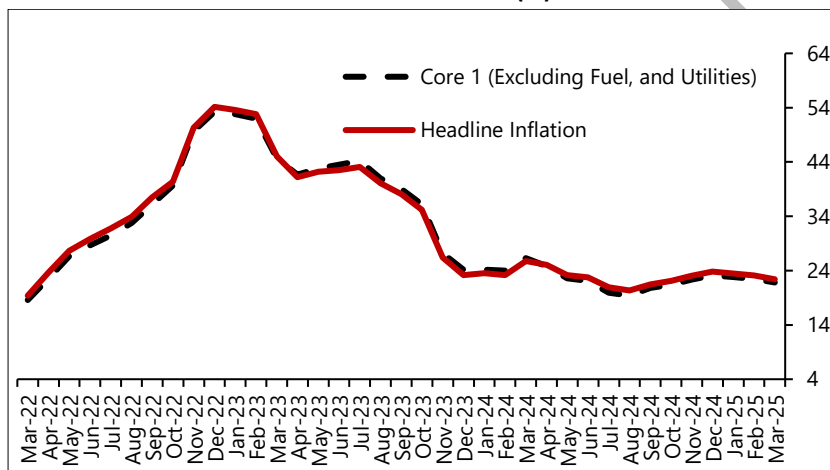


Source: Ghana Statistical Service

**Core Inflation**

In line with the developments in headline inflation, core inflation edged down, suggesting broad-based easing underlying inflationary pressures. The Bank’s core inflation measure, which excludes energy and utility, softened to 21.8 percent in March 2025, from 23.1 percent in December 2024.

**Chart 3.5: Ghana’s Headline vs. Core Inflation (%)**



Source: Ghana Statistical Service

**3.3. Inflation Outlook**

In the first quarter of 2025, headline inflation eased continuously from 23.5 percent in January to 23.1 percent in February and 22.4 percent in March 2025. The disinflation process faces potential headwinds from recent utility tariff adjustments, with electricity prices rising by 14.75 percent and water tariffs increasing by 4.02 percent, which may exert upward pressure on inflation in coming months. These pressures are expected to be largely offset by a stable exchange rate environment, moderation in ex-pump prices, prudent monetary policy measures and fiscal consolidation. Looking ahead, headline inflation is projected to converge toward the medium-term target band of 8±2 percent by 2026Q1, barring any unforeseen exogenous shocks.

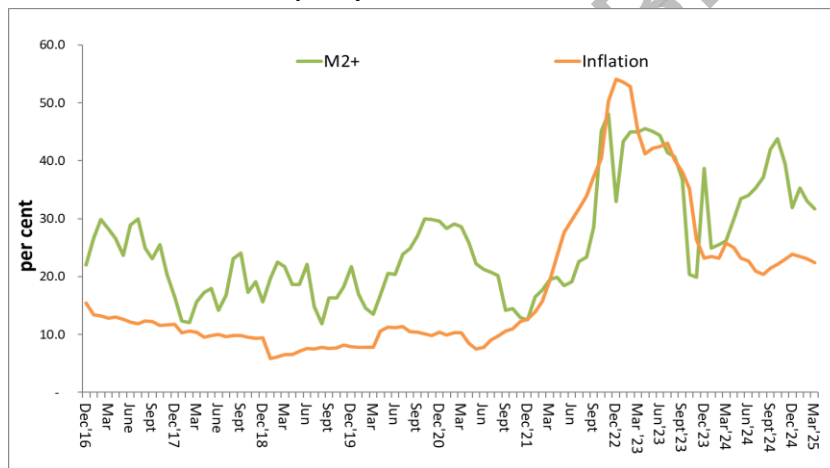
## 4. Monetary and Financial Market Developments

Developments in monetary aggregates for the first quarter of 2025 showed considerable increase in the annual growth in M2+ relative to the corresponding quarter of 2024, driven mainly by a significant acceleration in the pace of growth in the Net Foreign Assets (NFA) of depository institutions. However, Net Domestic Assets (NDA) of the depository institutions increased moderately compared to the corresponding quarter of 2024. The increase in the growth in M2+ reflected in increased growth in currency with the public, savings and time deposits as well as foreign currency deposits. Growth in demand deposits, however, decreased marginally over the same comparative period.

### 4.1. Broad Money Supply

Developments in monetary aggregates for the first quarter of 2025 showed increased growth in broad money supply (M2+) relative to the corresponding period in 2024. Annual growth in broad money supply (M2+) increased to 31.71 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 26.15 percent in the first quarter of 2024. The stock of broad money supply stood at GH¢343,931.92 million at the end of the review period, compared with GH¢329,738.80 million and GH¢261,119.50 million recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024 and the first quarter of 2024, respectively. The observed increase in the growth of M2+ reflected in increased growth in currency with the public, savings and time deposits and foreign currency deposits. However, growth in demand deposits decreased over the same comparative period.

Chart 4.1: Inflation and Liquidity



Source: Bank of Ghana

M2+ growth increased in the first quarter of 2025 on year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter basis. Inflation for the first quarter of 2025 inched down, returning to the pace of disinflation broadly observed from the beginning of the year to date.

## 4.2. Sources of Change in M2+

The observed increase in the growth in M2+ was attributed to an increase in the pace of growth in the Net Foreign Assets (NFA), supported by a moderate increase in the Net Domestic Assets (NDA), compared with same time in 2024 on the back of expansions in net claims on Government. Growth in NFA increased to 201.22 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared with a 383.89 percent decline in the first quarter of 2024. The considerable growth in the NFA recorded in the first quarter of 2025 was significantly lower than the increase of 302.64 percent recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024. Growth in NDA increased significantly to 6.27 percent in the first quarter of 2025, from 3.67 percent recorded at the end of the first quarter of 2024. This was also, marginally higher than the growth of 6.14 percent recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024.

In terms of components of NDA, growth in net claims on Government improved to *negative* 3.66 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from *negative* 17.95 percent in the first quarter of 2024. Growth in claims on public sector also improved to *negative* 6.01 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from *negative* 22.04 percent in the first quarter of 2024. Claims on private sector increased to 23.83 percent from *negative* 2.03 percent over the same comparative period. The Other Items (Net) increased by 6.00 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to a decrease of 505.16 percent in the first quarter of 2024.

**Table 4.1: Monetary Indicators (GH¢ million)**

	Levels					Quarter-on-Quarter									
	Mar-22	Mar-23	Mar-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	As at end-Mar-22		As at end-Mar-23		As at end-Mar-24		As at end-Dec-24		As at end-Mar-25	
						abs	per cent	abs	per cent	abs	per cent	abs	per cent	abs	per cent
<b>Reserve Money</b>	44,866.58	57,840.77	89,011.29	130,481.72	143,154.12	9,962.0	28.54	12,974.2	28.92	31,170.52	53.89	42,182.3	47.77	54,142.8	60.83
<b>Narrow Money (M1)</b>	68,918.69	94,959.69	123,720.17	168,267.50	171,642.62	9,770.6	16.52	26,041.0	37.79	28,760.48	30.29	46,483.1	38.17	47,922.5	38.73
<b>Broad Money (M2)</b>	106,050.89	148,131.00	190,181.12	247,761.96	255,756.31	12,824.9	13.76	42,080.1	39.68	42,050.12	28.39	62,336.2	33.62	65,575.2	34.48
<b>Broad Money (M2+)</b>	142,729.13	206,986.41	261,119.50	329,738.80	343,931.92	23,283.9	19.49	64,257.3	45.02	54,133.09	26.15	79,719.6	31.89	82,812.4	31.71
<b>Currency with the Public</b>	22,090.81	31,194.57	39,677.64	64,127.67	61,995.83	2,766.1	14.31	9,103.8	41.21	8,483.08	27.19	26,507.0	70.46	22,318.2	56.25
<b>Demand Deposits</b>	46,827.89	63,765.13	84,042.53	104,139.83	109,646.79	7,004.5	17.59	16,937.2	36.17	20,277.40	31.80	19,976.1	23.73	25,604.3	30.47
<b>Savings &amp; Time Deposits</b>	37,132.19	53,171.31	66,460.95	79,494.46	84,113.69	3,054.3	8.96	16,039.1	43.19	13,289.64	24.99	15,853.1	24.91	17,652.7	26.56
<b>Foreign Currency Deposits</b>	36,678.24	58,855.41	70,938.38	81,976.84	88,175.61	10,459.0	39.89	22,177.2	60.46	12,082.98	20.53	17,383.4	26.91	17,237.2	24.30
<b>Sources of M2+</b>															
<b>Net Foreign Assets (NFA)</b>	2,415.79	(12,006.65)	34,085.37	87,417.32	102,671.42	(12,681.1)	(84.00)	(14,422.4)	(597.01)	46,092.02	(383.89)	65,706.4	302.64	68,586.0	201.22
<b>BOG</b>	4,485.86	(23,944.90)	13,251.29	47,647.12	65,439.11	(7,254.7)	(61.79)	(28,430.8)	(633.79)	37,196.19	(155.34)	43,626.1	1,084.94	52,187.8	393.83
<b>DMBs</b>	(2,070.07)	11,938.25	20,834.09	39,770.20	37,232.31	(5,426.4)	(161.68)	14,008.3	(676.71)	8,895.84	74.52	22,080.4	124.82	16,398.2	78.71
<b>Net Domestic Assets</b>	140,313.35	218,993.06	227,034.13	242,321.48	241,260.50	35,965.0	34.47	78,679.7	56.07	8,041.07	3.67	14,013.2	6.14	14,226.4	6.27
<b>Claims on Government (net)</b>	87,787.70	144,230.49	118,345.15	113,291.69	114,016.14	15,150.1	20.86	56,442.8	64.29	(25,885.34)	(17.95)	(2,389.8)	(2.07)	(4,329.0)	(3.66)
<b>BOG</b>	39,496.69	87,171.91	50,086.77	56,031.54	56,703.17	6,994.1	21.52	47,675.2	120.71	(37,085.15)	(42.54)	1,675.5	3.08	6,616.4	13.21
<b>DMBs</b>	48,291.01	57,058.57	68,258.39	57,260.15	57,312.97	8,156.0	20.32	8,767.6	18.16	11,199.81	19.63	(4,065.2)	(6.63)	(10,945.4)	(16.04)
<b>Claims on Public Sector</b>	7,907.54	8,630.75	6,728.17	7,287.78	6,323.93	1,823.0	29.96	723.2	9.15	(1,902.58)	(22.04)	6,166.2	549.80	(404.2)	(6.01)
<b>BOG</b>	2,121.40	866.37	785.53	869.04	305.19	1,210.8	132.96	(1,255.0)	(59.16)	(80.84)	(9.33)	6,197.8	(116.31)	(480.3)	(61.15)
<b>DMBs</b>	5,786.14	7,764.38	5,942.64	6,418.74	6,018.74	612.3	11.83	1,978.2	34.19	(1,821.74)	(23.46)	(31.6)	(0.49)	76.1	1.28
<b>Claims on Private Sector</b>	53,876.62	73,519.54	72,028.75	90,184.93	89,191.34	10,986.0	25.61	19,642.9	36.46	(1,490.79)	(2.03)	18,553.4	25.90	17,162.6	23.83
<b>BOG</b>	671.80	7,791.24	940.11	1,063.34	823.44	(63.0)	(8.57)	7,119.4	1,059.76	(6,851.13)	(87.93)	(8.9)	(0.83)	(116.7)	(12.41)
<b>DMBs</b>	53,204.82	65,728.30	71,088.64	89,121.60	88,367.90	11,049.0	26.21	12,523.5	23.54	5,360.34	8.16	18,562.3	26.31	17,279.3	24.31
<b>Other Items (Net) (OIN) 12</b>	(9,258.52)	(7,387.72)	29,932.06	31,557.07	31,729.09	8,005.8	(46.37)	1,870.8	(20.21)	37,319.78	(505.16)	(8,316.7)	(20.86)	1,797.0	6.00
<b>o/w BOG OMO (Sterilisation)</b>	(6,289.4)	(27,440.8)	(22,605.9)	(18,142.9)	(35,561.2)	(1,298.4)	26.01	(21,151.4)	336.31	4,834.90	(17.62)	6,652.49	(26.83)	(12,955.3)	57.31

Source: Bank of Ghana

## 4.3. Developments in Banks' Credit

The annual growth in banks' outstanding credit to the public and private sectors in the first quarter of 2025 increased significantly relative to the corresponding period of 2024; the increase in nominal growth in total outstanding credit reflected in increased growth in credit to the private sector. The nominal annual growth in banks' outstanding credit increased to 22.53 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 4.81 percent in the first quarter of 2024. This was, however, lower than the growth of 24.06 percent recorded in the fourth

quarter of 2024. At the end of the first quarter of 2025, total outstanding credit stood at GH¢94,386.64 million, compared with GH¢77,031.28 million and GH¢95,540.33 million recorded in the first quarter of 2024 and fourth quarter of 2024, respectively.

In real terms, growth in total outstanding credit from the banks improved to 0.10 percent at end of the first quarter of 2025 from *negative* 16.67 percent in the same period of 2024, largely on account of increased growth in nominal credit, as well as the disinflation process. This was, however, lower than the 0.21 percent growth realised in the fourth quarter of 2024. The share of private sector credit in total outstanding credit increased marginally to 93.62 percent at the end of the review period, from 92.29 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2024.

**Table 4.2: Sectoral Distribution of Banks' Outstanding Credit**

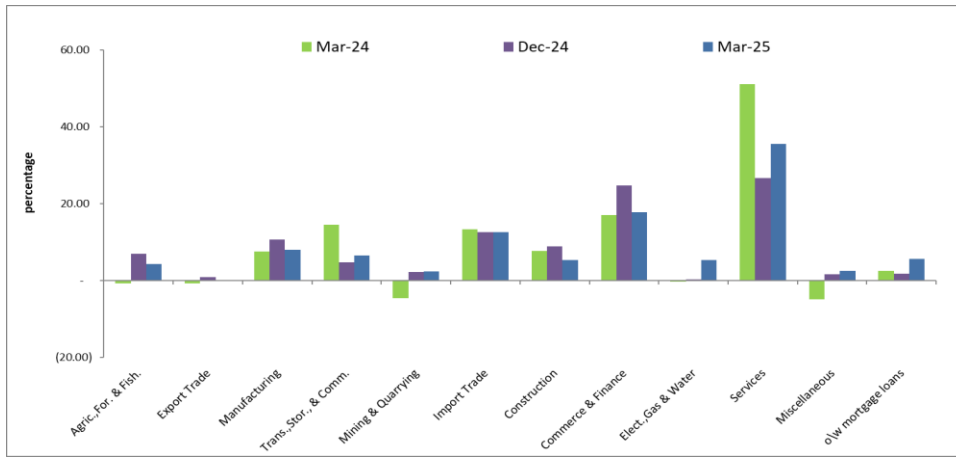
	Levels (GH¢ Millions)					Quarter-On-Quarter Variation							
	Mar-22	Mar-23	Mar-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	As at end-Mar. 2023		As at end-Mar. 2024		As at end-Dec. 2024		As at end-Mar. 2025	
						Abs	Percent	Abs	Percent	Abs	Percent	Abs	Percent
<b>a Public Sector</b>	5,786.14	7,764.38	5,942.64	6,418.74	6,018.74	1,978.23	34.19	(1,821.74)	(23.46)	(31.61)	(0.49)	76.10	1.28
<b>b Private Sector</b>	53,204.82	65,728.30	71,088.64	89,121.60	88,367.90	12,523.48	23.54	5,360.34	8.16	18,562.28	26.31	17,279.27	24.31
Agric., For. & Fish.	1,988.04	2,618.54	2,580.09	4,495.79	3,567.50	630.50	31.71	(38.45)	(1.47)	1,611.19	55.85	987.41	38.27
Export Trade	241.55	440.48	398.52	653.61	421.40	198.93	82.36	(41.96)	(9.53)	107.23	19.62	22.88	5.74
Manufacturing	5,622.05	7,965.96	8,369.57	9,970.79	10,094.82	2,343.91	41.69	403.61	5.07	1,918.94	23.83	1,725.25	20.61
Trans., Stor., & Comm.	3,473.42	3,727.15	4,507.63	4,633.18	4,427.90	253.73	7.30	780.48	20.94	846.94	22.37	(79.73)	(1.77)
Mining & Quarrying	1,056.44	2,436.64	2,191.81	2,625.40	2,745.23	1,380.20	130.65	(244.83)	(10.05)	496.65	23.33	553.43	25.25
Import Trade	1,772.93	4,552.87	5,266.86	8,396.67	7,816.92	2,779.94	156.80	713.99	15.68	3,581.35	74.37	2,550.06	48.42
Construction	5,747.29	6,413.31	6,828.89	7,692.85	7,833.74	666.02	11.59	415.57	6.48	848.36	12.39	1,004.85	14.71
Commerce & Finance	9,459.23	9,606.79	10,522.38	15,627.62	14,382.75	147.56	1.56	915.59	9.53	4,160.56	36.28	3,860.37	36.69
Elect., Gas & Water	2,439.27	2,415.77	2,396.93	2,624.66	2,536.07	(23.50)	(0.96)	(18.84)	(0.78)	254.39	10.73	139.14	5.80
Services	17,516.62	20,899.02	23,639.03	28,143.91	29,654.07	3,382.40	19.31	2,740.01	13.11	5,058.93	21.91	6,015.04	25.45
Miscellaneous	3,887.98	4,651.77	4,386.93	4,257.12	4,887.49	763.79	19.64	(264.84)	(5.69)	(322.26)	(7.04)	500.56	11.41
<b>c Grand Total</b>	58,990.96	73,492.68	77,031.28	95,540.33	94,386.64	14,501.72	24.58	3,538.60	4.81	18,530.67	24.06	17,355.36	22.53

Source: Bank of Ghana

### Distribution of Outstanding Credit to the Private Sector

The growth in outstanding credit to the private sector increased both in nominal and real terms at the end of the first quarter of 2025 compared to a year earlier. In nominal terms, growth in credit to the private sector increased to 24.31 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 8.16 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2024. This was, however, lower than the 26.31 percent recorded at the end of the fourth quarter of 2024. The outstanding credit to the private sector at the end of the first quarter of 2025 was GH¢88,367.90 million, compared with GH¢71,088.64 million and GH¢89,121.60 million recorded in the first quarter of 2024 and the fourth quarter of 2024, respectively. In real terms, the growth in private sector credit improved to 1.55 percent at the end of the first quarter of 2025, from a growth of *negative* 14.02 percent recorded for the same period in 2024.

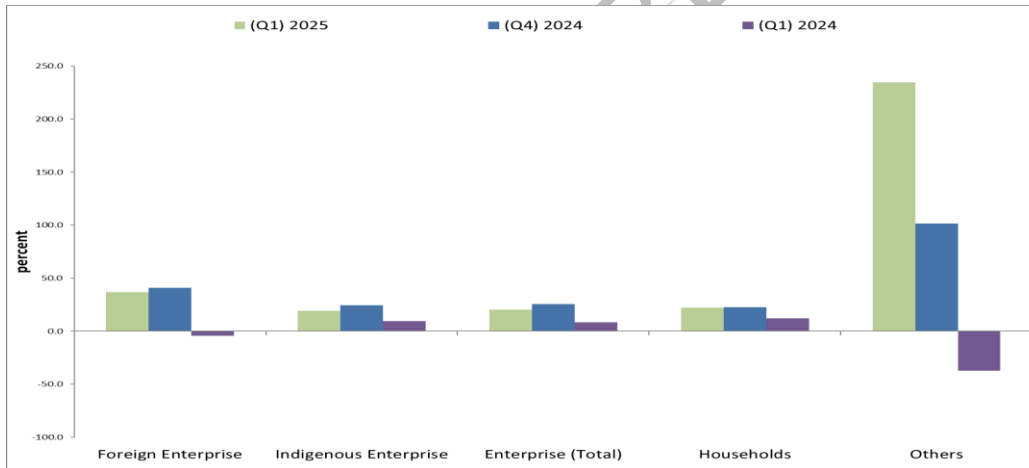
**Chart 4.2: Allocation of Annual Flow of Credit to the Private Sector**



Source: Bank of Ghana

The recorded growth in credit to the private sector during the first quarter of 2025 reflected in increased share of annual flow of credit to the following sectors, relative to the same period in 2024: agriculture, forestry and fisheries; commerce and finance; export trade, mining and quarrying; and electricity, gas and water. The top five (5) sectors with significant shares of annual private sector credit flows in the first quarter of 2025 were: services (35.52%); commerce and finance (17.69%), import trade (12.63%), manufacturing (7.96%), and transport, storage and communications (6.45%).

**Chart 4.3: Growth Rate of Annual Flow of Credit to the Private Sector by Borrower**



Source: Bank of Ghana

In terms of annual flow of credit to private sector by borrower, at the end of the first quarter of 2025, flows to foreign enterprises, indigenous enterprises, household subsectors and the “Others” category all increased relative to the corresponding period of 2024.

#### 4.4. Sources and Uses of Banks' Flow of Funds

The provisional figures for the first quarter of 2025 showed that the share of commercial banks' fund flows allocated to bank credit, foreign assets and other assets increased relative to that of the corresponding quarter in 2024, while the proportion of funds flows allocated to investment in Government securities and balances with Bank of Ghana decreased.

The proportion of fund flows to bank credit and foreign assets increased to 19.70 percent and 18.78 percent, respectively, in the first quarter of 2025 relative to 5.39 percent and 12.02 percent in the first quarter of 2024. The proportion of fund flows to other assets increased to 32.80 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 20.80 percent at the end of the first quarter in 2024.

The share of bank funds allocated to investments in Government securities decreased significantly to *negative* 8.15 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 20.24 percent in the corresponding period in 2024. This reflected a decrease in the share of fund flows to investments in short-term bills and medium- to long-term securities. The share of fund flows to investment in short-term Government instruments decreased to *negative* 3.36 percent in the first quarter of 2025, from 17.02 percent recorded in the first quarter of 2024. The proportion of fund flows to investment in medium- to long-term securities decreased to *negative* 4.79 percent from 3.22 percent over the same comparative period. Similarly, the proportion of fund flows to balances with Bank of Ghana decreased to 36.88 percent from 41.55 percent over the same comparative period. The significant decrease in the share of balances with Bank of Ghana was on account of the tight monetary policy, active liquidity sterilization and reallocation of funds toward higher-yielding assets, which induced banks to decrease their reserve balances with Bank of Ghana.

**Table 4.3: Sources and Uses of Banks' Funds**

						Percentage of Annual Flows (Quarter-on-Quarter)							
						As at end-Mar. 2023		As at end-Mar. 2024		As at end-Dec. 2024		As at end-Mar. 2025	
	Mar-22	Mar-23	Mar-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Abs	% of Change	Abs	% of Change	Abs	% of Change	Abs	% of Change
<b>Sources of Funds</b>													
Total Deposits	116,314.4	170,042.2	214,862.7	258,026.2	274,019.4	54,186.6	92.35	44,361.6	67.58	58,256.2	65.51	59,156.7	67.14
Domestic	79,636.2	112,297.3	143,924.3	176,049.4	185,843.7	32,009.5	54.55	32,278.6	49.17	40,872.8	45.96	41,919.5	47.58
Demand Deposits	42,504.0	57,377.8	77,463.3	96,554.9	101,730.1	15,970.4	27.22	18,989.0	28.93	25,019.7	28.14	24,266.7	27.54
Savings Deposits	19,739.7	28,544.8	35,037.7	48,366.2	49,634.8	8,700.3	14.83	6,597.8	10.05	15,866.9	17.84	14,597.0	16.57
Time Deposits	17,392.5	26,374.7	31,423.2	31,128.2	34,478.9	7,338.9	12.51	6,691.9	10.19	13.8	0.02	3,055.7	3.47
Foreign Currency	36,678.2	57,744.8	70,938.4	81,976.8	88,175.6	22,177.2	37.79	12,083.0	18.41	17,383.4	19.55	17,237.2	19.56
Credit From BOG	2,385.6	1,050.7	275.1	1,631.5	220.1	-1,334.6	-2.27	775.8	1.18	1,134.5	1.28	55.1	0.06
Balances Due to Non-Resident Banks	14,667.1	6,440.7	5,993.7	5,158.4	6,138.8	-7,667.0	-13.07	-1,006.4	-1.53	-1,022.6	-1.15	-145.2	-0.16
Capital	11,123.7	11,289.6	13,890.6	17,130.4	17,295.0	166.0	0.28	2,601.0	3.96	3,233.7	3.64	3,404.4	3.86
Reserves	16,064.0	11,046.9	16,932.2	22,766.5	25,792.3	4,566.0	7.78	5,434.1	8.28	6,614.1	7.44	8,860.1	10.06
Other Liabilities*	36,379.1	59,109.4	69,302.1	78,905.4	85,899.5	17,893.2	30.49	15,029.9	22.90	20,706.4	23.29	16,597.3	18.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,933.8</b>	<b>258,979.4</b>	<b>321,256.4</b>	<b>383,618.4</b>	<b>409,365.0</b>	<b>58,678.2</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>65,644.4</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>88,922.2</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>88,108.6</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Uses of Funds</b>													
Bank Credit	58,991.0	72,616.1	77,031.3	95,540.3	94,386.6	14,501.7	24.71	3,538.6	5.39	16,530.7	20.84	17,355.4	19.70
o/w Private Sector Credit	53,204.8	65,362.6	71,088.6	89,121.6	88,367.9	12,523.5	21.34	5,360.3	8.17	18,562.3	20.87	17,279.3	19.61
Investment in Government Securities	57,090.7	67,426.6	80,150.5	72,061.4	72,969.1	9,776.3	16.86	13,263.5	20.24	725.2	0.82	7,181.4	8.15
Short Term	6,866.4	13,899.4	24,847.3	22,418.9	21,890.4	6,807.9	11.60	11,173.0	17.02	5,397.6	6.07	2,956.9	3.36
Medium/Long Term	50,224.3	53,527.3	55,303.2	49,642.5	51,078.7	2,968.4	5.06	2,110.6	3.22	6,122.7	6.89	4,224.5	4.79
Foreign Assets	12,597.1	19,253.3	26,827.8	44,928.6	43,371.1	6,341.3	10.81	7,889.4	12.02	21,057.7	23.68	16,543.4	18.78
Balances with BOG	24,836.9	37,810.1	63,718.2	86,518.6	96,211.3	11,603.5	19.77	27,277.7	41.55	31,404.5	35.32	32,493.2	36.88
Other Assets**	43,418.2	61,873.3	73,528.8	84,569.4	102,426.8	16,455.4	28.04	13,655.2	20.80	18,654.5	20.98	28,898.0	32.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,933.8</b>	<b>258,979.4</b>	<b>321,256.4</b>	<b>383,618.4</b>	<b>409,365.0</b>	<b>58,678.2</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>65,644.4</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>88,922.2</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>88,108.6</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\*Includes margin deposits, cheques for clearing, interest in suspense, borrowings from other resident banks and other unclassified liabilities.

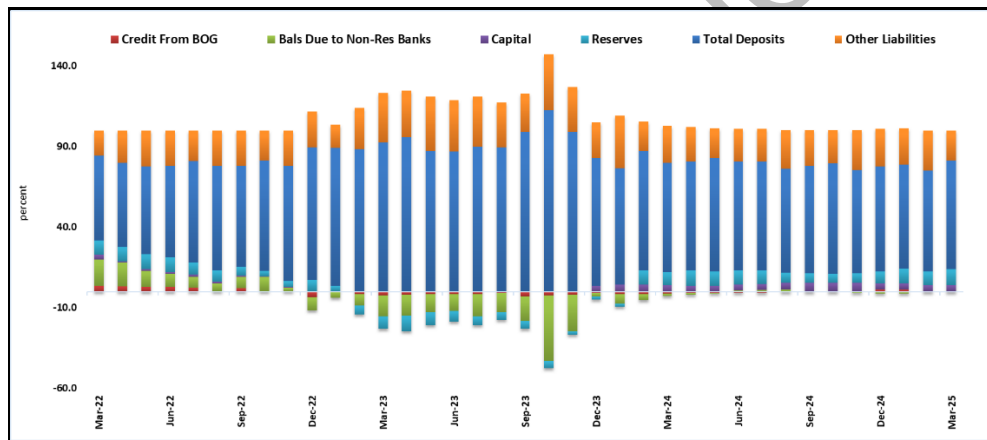
\*\*Includes real estate and equipment and other unclassified assets

Source: Bank of Ghana

The main source of fund flows for financing of banks assets was deposits. Its share in the sources of funds, however, decreased marginally to 67.14 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 67.58 percent in the first quarter of 2024. This was greater than the 65.51 percent recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024. The proportion of fund flows from domestic deposits decreased to 47.58 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 49.17 percent in first quarter of 2024. This reflected in decreases in the shares of demand and time deposits, while the share of savings deposits increased to moderate the decreases in domestic deposits. However, the share of fund flows from foreign currency deposits increased to 19.56 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 18.41 percent in the first quarter of 2024.

The share of fund flows from bank capital decreased marginally in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the first quarter of 2024, while fund flows from bank reserves increased over the same comparative period. Share of fund flows from bank capital decreased marginally to 3.86 percent from 3.96 percent, while share of fund flows from reserves increased to 10.06 percent from 8.28 percent. The share of fund flows attributed to credit from Bank of Ghana and balances due to non-resident banks increased to *negative* 0.06 percent and 0.16 percent, respectively, in the first quarter of 2025 from *negative* 1.18 percent and *negative* 1.53 percent in the first quarter of 2024. However, the share of funds flows attributed to other liabilities decreased to 18.84 in the first quarter of 2025, from 22.90 percent in the first quarter of 2024.

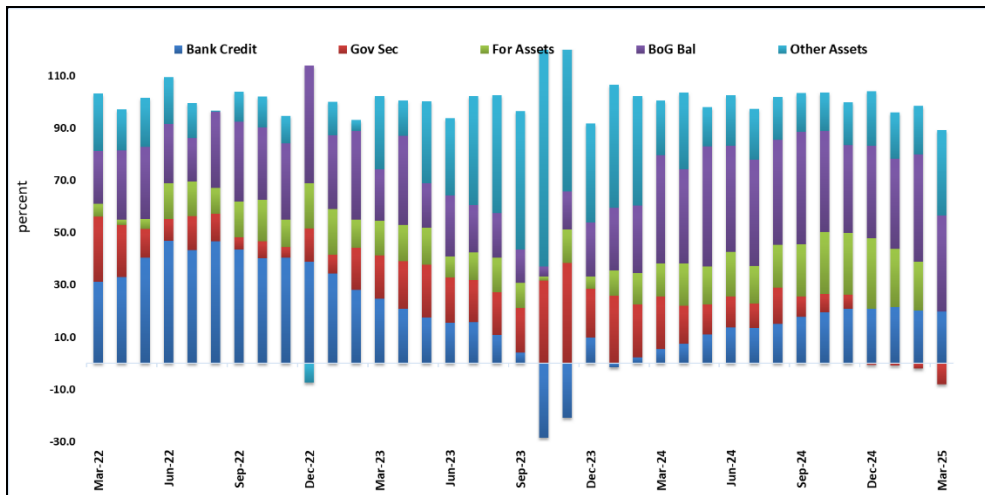
**Chart 4.4: Sources of Banks' Annual Flow of Funds**



Source: Bank of Ghana

Total deposits remained the dominant source of liquidity flow into the banking system in the first quarter of 2025. This was followed by other liabilities, which include margin deposits, cheques in transits, interest in suspense accounts, and borrowings from other resident banks.

**Chart 4.5: Uses of Banks' Annual Flow of Funds**



Source: Bank of Ghana

Balances with BoG received the largest share of the total flow of funds into the banking system in first quarter of 2025. This was followed by Other Assets and Bank Credit, respectively.

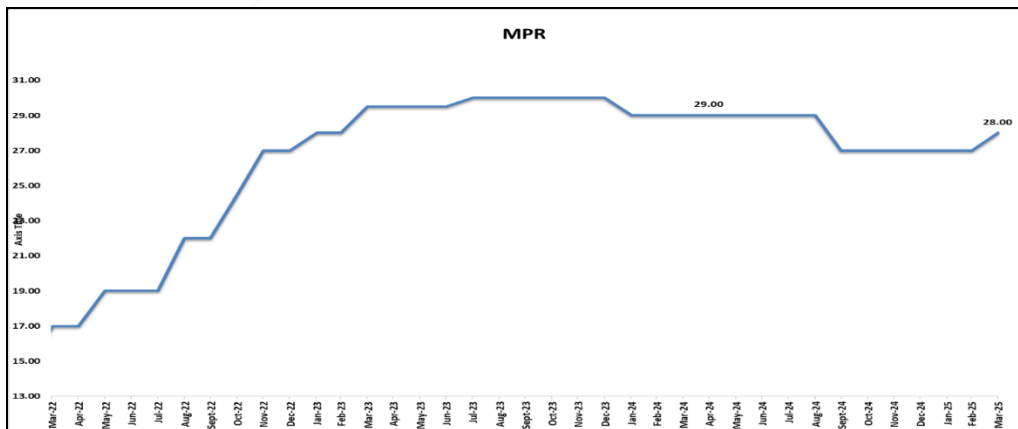
#### 4.5. Interest Rate Developments

Developments in interest rates on the money market for the first quarter of 2025 generally reflected a downward trend across the full spectrum of the yield curve. The BOG bill rates, rates on GOG securities and the average lending rates (DMBs) decreased relative to the corresponding period in 2024.

#### Monetary Policy Rate

The Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) at the end of the first quarter of 2025 stood at 28.00 percent, reflecting a 100 basis points decrease compared with the MPR at the end of the first quarter in 2024. In the September 2024 MPC meeting, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) announced a 200-basis point cut in the MPR from 29 percent to 27 percent. However, in March 2025 the MPC increased the rate by 100 basis points to 28.00 percent to reinforce the disinflation process.

**Chart 4.6: Trend in Monetary Policy Rate**



Source: Bank of Ghana

**BOG Bills**

The interest equivalent on the 56-day BOG bill decreased by 193 basis points to 27.00 percent in the first quarter in 2025 compared to 28.93 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2024. When compared to the fourth quarter of 2024, the 56-day rate remained unchanged at 27.00 percent. The interest equivalent on the 14-day BOG bills decreased by 158 basis points from 29.50 percent in the first quarter of 2024 to 27.92 percent in quarter one 2025.

**Government Securities**

On the Treasury bills market, interest rate developments in first quarter of 2025 showed downward trends relative to corresponding quarter of 2024. The yields on the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day T-bills decreased by 924 basis points, 1041 basis points and 965 basis points, respectively, compared to the first quarter in 2024. Compared to the fourth quarter 2024, the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day T-bills also decreased by 1057 basis points, 995 basis points and 1010 basis points, respectively.

In the fourth quarter, rates on the 2-year, 3-year, and 5-year notes remained unchanged at 21.50 percent, 29.85 percent, and 22.30 percent, respectively, compared to the first quarter in 2024. Similarly, yields for the 6-year, 7-year, 10-year, 15-year, and 20-year GOG bonds remained unchanged when compared to the corresponding quarter in 2024 due to non-issuance.

**Yields on the Domestic Debt Exchange Programme (DDEP) Bonds**

On the secondary market, yields on the Domestic Debt Exchange Programme (DDEP) bonds were 22.48 percent, 22.32 percent, 22.25 percent, and 24.00 percent for the 4-year, 5-year, 6-year, and 7-year bonds, respectively. The yields on the 8-year, 9-year, 10-year, and 11-year DDEP bonds were 22.00 percent, 23.39 percent, 22.89 percent, and 23.55 percent, respectively. The yields on the 12-year, 13-year, 14-year, and 15-year DDEP bonds stood at 22.94 percent, 23.92 percent, 25.11 percent, and 22.50 percent, respectively.

**Interbank Market**

The interbank weighted average interest rate (IWAR) decreased by 219 basis points to settle at 26.28 percent in the first quarter of 2025 from 28.48 percent in the corresponding quarter of 2024. When compared to the fourth quarter of 2024, the IWAR increased by 74 basis points.

**Time and Savings Deposit Rates**

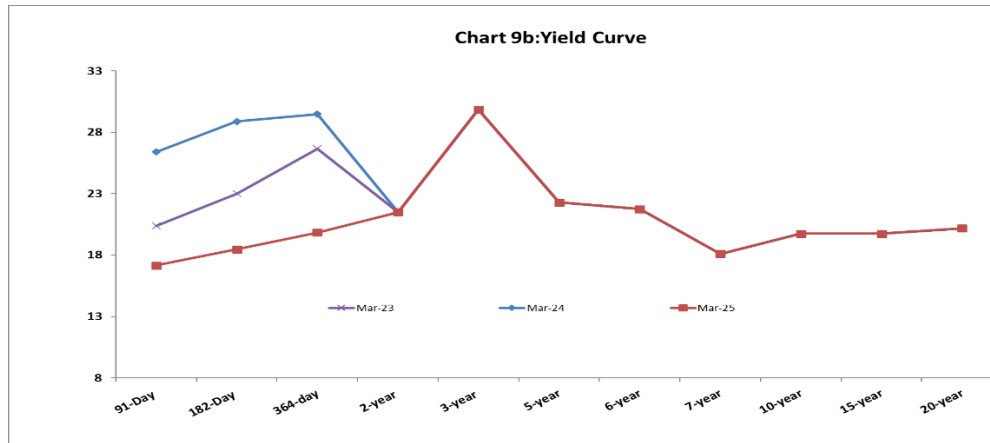
In the first quarter of 2025, average interest rate on the DMBs' 3-month time deposits remained unchanged at 10.50 percent from the corresponding quarter in 2024. Similarly, the rate on the savings deposits remained unchanged at 5.00 percent compared to the first quarter of 2024. When compared to fourth quarter of 2024, the rates on the 3-month time deposits and the savings deposits remained unchanged.

**Lending Rates**

The average lending rate trended downwards during the review quarter, decreasing by 319 basis points to 29.18 percent from 32.37 percent recorded at the end of first quarter of 2024. When compared with the fourth quarter of 2024, the average lending rate decreased by 107 basis points. The spread between the borrowing and lending rates contracted by 319.0 basis points compared to the first quarter of 2024. When compared to the fourth quarter in 2024, the spread between the borrowing and lending rates decreased by

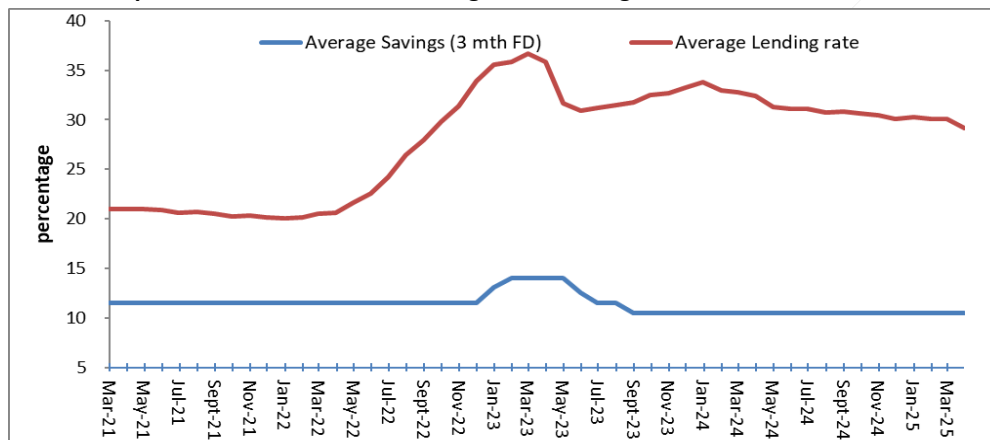
107 basis points. The yield curves and spreads between the lending and borrowing rates for the review period are indicated in the graphs below.

**Chart 4.7: Yield Curve (%)**



Source: Bank of Ghana

**Chart 4.8: Spread between Nominal Savings and Lending Rates**



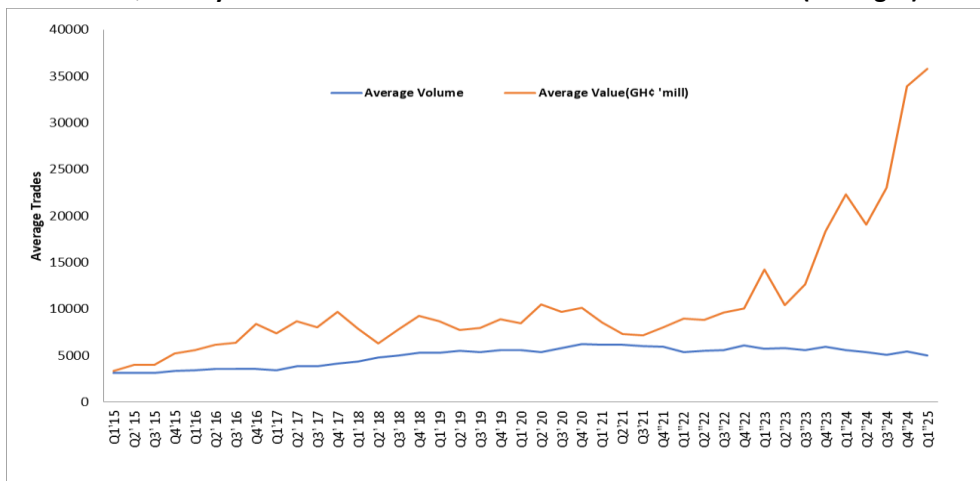
Source: Bank of Ghana

#### 4.6. Payment Systems Developments

##### Settlement of Interbank Transactions

The volume of transactions settled through the Ghana Interbank System (GIS) during the first quarter of 2025 amounted to 298,742, with a total value of GH¢2,148.52 million. This represented a decrease in volume of 12.62 percent and an increase in value of 57.74 percent when compared to the transactions in the first quarter of 2024. In comparison with the transactions settled during the fourth quarter of 2024, there was a decrease in the volume of transactions by 12.56 percent and an increase in the value of transactions by 54 percent. On average, a total of 4,979.03 transactions were settled daily through the GIS, with a value of GH¢35,808.73 million, during the reviewed quarter, compared to a total of 5,604.79 transactions, valued at GH¢22,329.46 million, during the first quarter of 2024. In the fourth quarter of 2024, an average of 5,423.35 transactions were settled daily, with a value of GH¢33,921.65 million.

**Chart 4.9: Quarterly Trends in the Settlement of Interbank Transactions (Averages)**

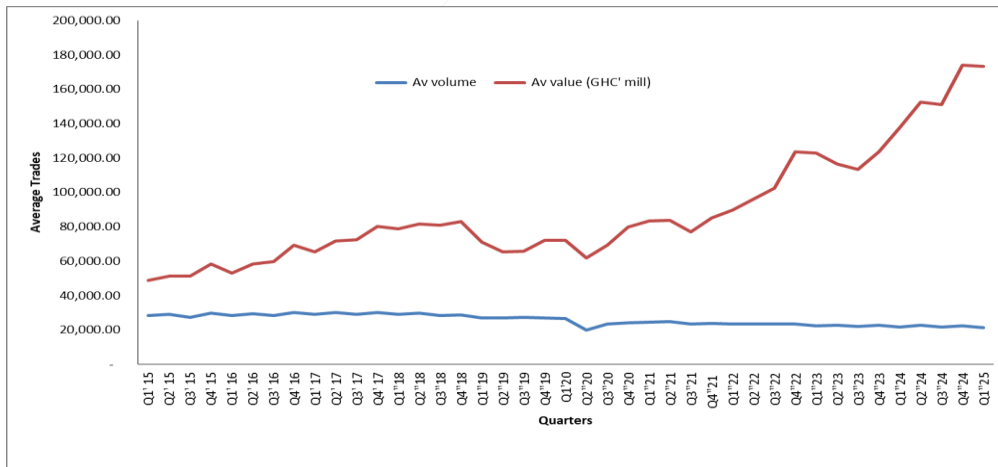


Source: Bank of Ghana

**Cheques Cleared**

The volume of cheques cleared during the first quarter of 2025 amounted to 1,280,789.00, with a value of GH¢103,913.88 million. This represented a decrease in volume of 3.13 percent and an increase in value of cheques cleared of 23.79 percent compared to the cheques cleared in the first quarter of 2024. When compared to the fourth quarter of 2024, the volume and value of transactions decreased by 10.80 percent and 6.68 percent, respectively. Daily, an average of 21,346.48 cheques, valued at GH¢1,731.90 million, were cleared during the reviewed period, compared to 21,674.97 cheques, valued at GH¢1,376.16 million, cleared during the first quarter of 2024. In the fourth quarter of 2024, an average of 22,434.55 cheques were cleared daily, with a value of GH¢1,739.84 million.

**Chart 4.10: Quarterly Trends in Cheques Cleared (Averages)**



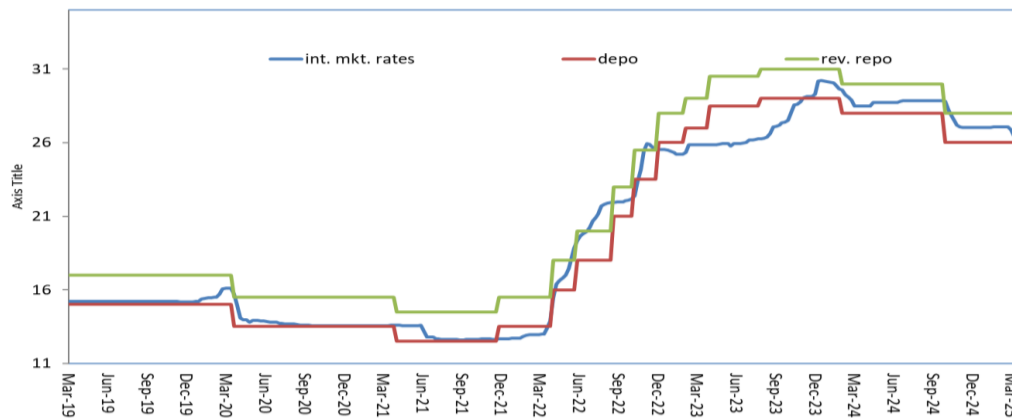
Source: Bank of Ghana

#### 4.7. Money Market

Depos amounted to GH¢522,270.0 million in the first quarter of 2025, compared to GH¢537,606.00 million recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024. In comparison to the first quarter of the previous year, depo trades increased by 44.37 percent, from GH¢361,765.00 million in the first quarter of 2024. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2024, depo transactions decreased by 2.85 percent. Reverse repo trades for the first quarter of 2025 amounted to GH¢2,400.00 million, compared to GH¢4,200.0 million in the previous quarter.

On the interbank market, the value of trades during the first quarter of 2025 ranged between GH¢1,750.0 million and GH¢11,595.0 million, at a weighted average rate ranging from 26.13 percent to 27.09 percent. In the previous quarter, the values of trades ranged between GH¢2,100.00 million and GH¢11,279.00 million, at a weighted average rate ranging between 27.01 percent to 28.26 percent. In the previous year, trades during the third quarter ranged between GH¢450.00 million and GH¢4,405.00 million, at a weighted average rate ranging between 28.47 percent to 30.1 percent. The movements in rates on the markets were as depicted below:

**Chart 4.11: Money Market Rates**

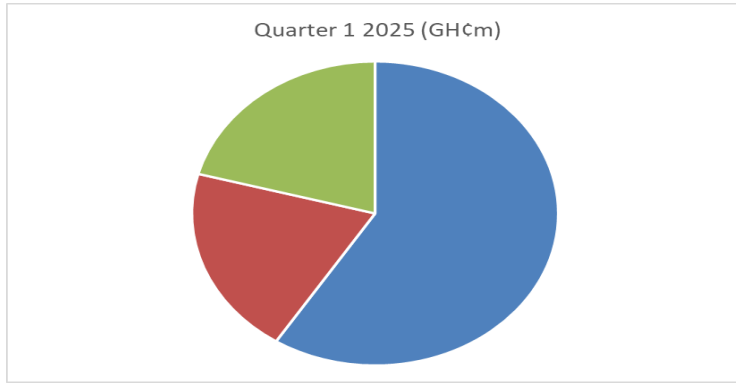


Source: Bank of Ghana

#### Tender Results

Total sales at the auction during the first quarter of 2025 amounted to GH¢143,659.18 million, with maturities totalling GH¢112,332.98 million. This resulted in a net sale of GH¢31,326.20 million; out of which GH¢13,315.94 million represents a net sale from the Government auctions, while the remaining GH¢18,010.26 million represents net sale from the Open Market Operations (OMO).

**Chart 4.12: Tender Results for 2025Q1**



Source: Bank of Ghana

**4.8. The Stock Market**

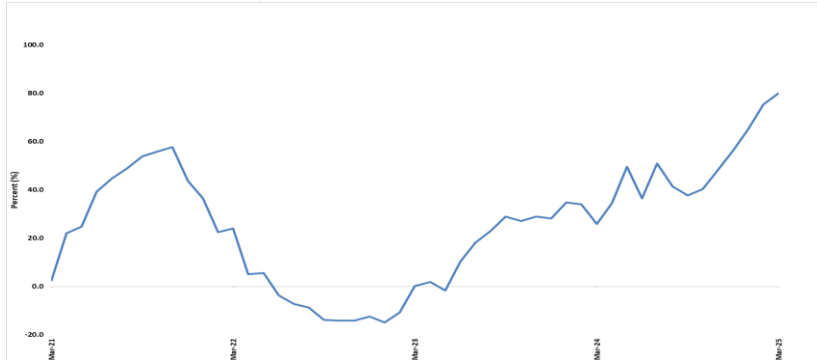
The GSE-CI gained 27.19 percent in the first quarter of 2025, bringing the year-on-year growth to 79.91 percent. Consequently, market capitalisation increased by 23.03 percent during the first quarter, recording a year-on-year growth of 76.31 percent. The sectors that contributed to gains recorded by the GSE-CI were mainly the Distribution, Finance, IT, ET Fund and Agriculture sectors.

The performance of the GSE-CI reflects an increase in investor confidence as well as a pick-up in domestic economic activities. In the ensuing quarter, investor decisions may largely be influenced by the conclusion of the activities on the primary market as well as economic and exchange rate developments.

**The GSE-CI**

The GSE-CI gained 27.19 percent (1,329.37 points) in 2025Q1 with a year-on-year gain of 79.91 percent (2,761.70 points) at the end of the first quarter. Similarly, the GSE-CI gained 10.41 percent (325.97 points) in value in Q1 of the previous year and on a year-on-year terms it recorded a gain of 25.89 percent (710.87 points). The GSE-CI gained in 2025Q1 due to return of investor confidence in the performance of the economy given some significant appreciation of the domestic currency as well as the decline in interest rates on money market instruments.

**Chart 4.13: Y/Y Growth of the GSE-CI**



Source: Ghana Stock Exchange

**Sectoral Performance**

The performance of the GSE-CI in 2025Q1 was mainly as a result of share price appreciation of stocks in the Distribution (61.04%; 2,944.81 points), Finance (28.50%; 678.51 points) and IT (27.60%; 26.94 points) sectors.

**Table 4.4: Sectors' Contribution to the Growth of GSE-CI**

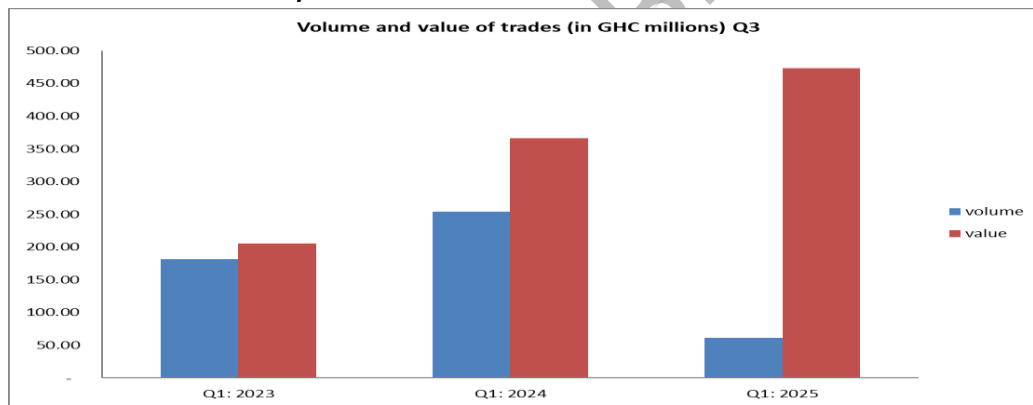
Month	SECTOR												GSE-CI
	F&B	MAN	FINANCE	DISTR	MINING	IT	AGRIC	OIL	ETFund	EDUC	AD. & PROD.		
Mar-24	2087.73	1128.08	2001.47	3863.79	165.34	61.69	4306.00	40.66	6857.71	90.92	100	3456.20	
Dec-24	2535.00	1795.32	2380.79	4824.56	229.44	97.60	5052.00	40.83	9016.32	90.92	100	4888.53	
Mar-25	2577.97	1798.80	3059.30	7769.36	229.50	124.54	5410.00	40.84	10575.07	90.92	100	6217.90	
<b>QTR CHG</b>													
ABS	42.98	3.48	678.51	2944.81	0.06	26.94	358.00	0.01	1558.75	0.00	0.00	1329.37	
(%)	1.70	0.19	28.50	61.04	0.03	27.60	7.09	0.03	17.29	0.00	0.00	27.19	
<b>Yoy</b>													
ABS	490.24	670.72	1057.83	3905.57	64.16	62.86	1104.00	0.18	3717.36	0.00	0.00	2761.70	
(%)	23.48	59.46	52.85	101.08	38.81	101.90	25.64	0.44	54.21	0.00	0.00	79.91	

Source: Ghana Stock Exchange

### Market Performance

The total volume of trades on the GSE in 2025Q1 amounted to 61.34 million shares with a value of GH¢473.16 million, which compares with a volume of 254.22 million shares with a value of GH¢365.98 million in the corresponding quarter in 2024. During the period, MTNGH and CAL recorded the highest volume of trades, while MTNGH and GLD recorded the highest value of trades.

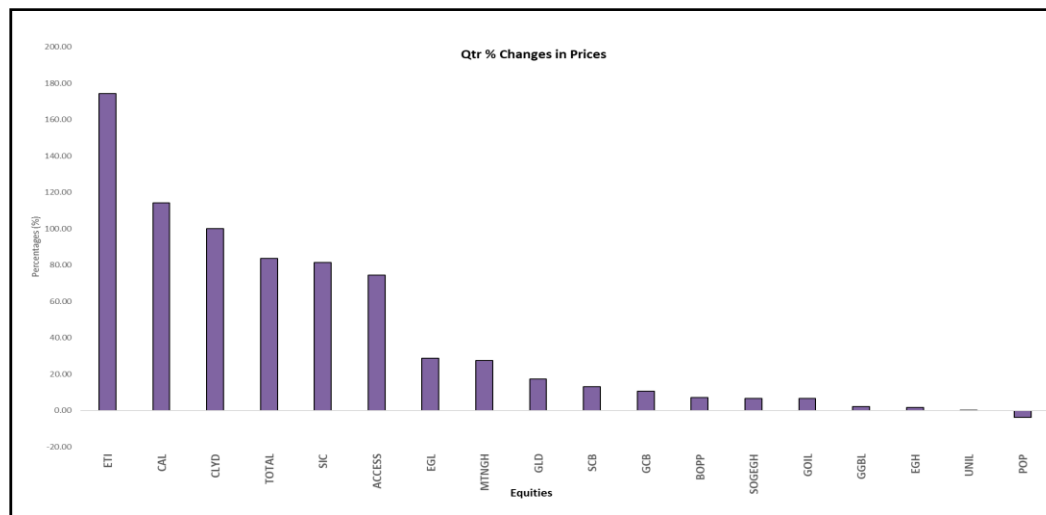
**Chart 4.14: Market Activity-Volumes & Values of Trade**



Source: Ghana Stock Exchange

In 2025Q1, seventeen (17) stocks gained value while one (1) lost value to moderate the gains recorded by the GSE-CI. The rest remained unchanged at the end of the review period. ETI, CAL and CLYD were the best performers and led the list of gainers with share price increases of 174.19 percent, 114.29 percent and 100.0 percent, respectively. However, POP lost 3.79 percent to top the losers.

Chart 4.15: Change in Share Prices (2025Q1)



Source: Ghana Stock Exchange

### Market Capitalisation

Total market capitalisation as at the end of 2025Q1 stood at GH¢136,998.73 million, representing an increase of 23.03 percent (GH¢25,642.64 million). Comparatively, market capitalisation decreased by 5.15 percent (GH¢3,808.00 million) in the same period in 2024. The main sectors that accounted for the increase in market capitalisation in 2025Q1 were the Distribution (61.04%; GH¢1,265.33 million), Finance (56.88%; GH¢14,933.79 million) and IT (27.60%; GH¢9,133.98 million). Market capitalisation increased mainly on account of share price appreciation.

Table 4.5: Sectors' Contribution to the Growth of Market Capitalisation

Month	SECTOR (GH¢ mill)											MKT. CAP.
	F&B	MAN	FINANCE	DISTR	MINING	IT	AGRIC	OIL	ETFund	EDUC	AD. & PROD.	
Mar-24	1793.13	810.13	14084.54	1660.20	19490.57	20914.17	749.24	17317.57	861.33	9.61	10.70	77701.17
Dec-24	2177.29	1289.30	26257.11	2073.02	27047.13	33091.45	879.05	17388.99	1132.45	9.61	10.70	111356.09
Mar-25	2214.20	1291.80	41190.89	3338.35	27054.32	42225.43	941.34	17393.87	1328.23	9.61	10.70	136998.73
<b>QTR CHG</b>												
ABS	36.91	2.50	14933.79	1265.33	7.19	9133.98	62.29	4.87	195.78	0.00	0.00	25642.64
(%)	1.70	0.19	56.88	61.04	0.03	27.60	7.09	0.03	17.29	0.00	0.00	23.03
<b>Yoy</b>												
ABS	421.07	481.67	27106.36	1678.15	7563.75	21311.26	192.10	76.30	466.90	0.00	0.00	59297.56
(%)	23.48	59.46	192.45	101.08	38.81	101.90	25.64	0.44	54.21	0.00	0.00	76.31

### The Bond Market

Total value of outstanding Government of Ghana Notes and Bonds listed on the GFIM as at the end of 2025Q1 stood at GH¢188,096.55 million, representing 52.66 percent of tradable fixed income securities on the GFIM. Comparatively, it was GH¢220,169.07 million in the corresponding period in 2024. The total value of corporate bonds stood at GH¢8,281.43 million at the end of 2025Q1, accounting for only 2.32 percent of tradable fixed income securities on the GFIM, compared with GH¢13,467.0131 million at the end of March 2024.

The cumulative volume of trades on the GFIM from the beginning of the year to the end of 2025Q1 stood at GH¢59,241.33 million, and the number of trades was 132,808. This compares to GH¢40,694.92 million and 106,225 in terms of volume and number of trades, respectively, in 2024. In terms of value, trades increased from GH¢32,601.09 million in 2024Q1 to GH¢48,188.71 million at the end of March 2025.

## 5. Balance of Payments

Ghana's external transactions with the rest of the world improved in the first quarter of 2025, largely from a stronger current account surplus, resulting in a net lending position in the financial account and a stronger accumulation of reserve assets.

**Table 5.1: Balance of Payments (US\$' million)**

	2023	2024	2025	2025/'24	
	Q1	Q1	Q1	Change	%
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>504.75</b>	<b>66.05</b>	<b>2,124.20</b>	<b>2,058.15</b>	<b>3,115.87</b>
Trade in Goods & Services	95.10	-173.97	1,965.37	2,139.33	-1,229.74
Goods	1,151.61	551.94	3,171.55	2,619.61	474.62
Exports	4,218.97	4,268.60	6,930.55	2,661.94	62.36
Cocoa Beans & products	1,008.06	495.45	1,501.46	1,006.01	203.05
Non-Monetary Gold	1,583.15	2,026.18	3,722.70	1,696.52	83.73
Crude oil	852.52	1,020.37	780.19	-240.19	-23.54
Others Exports (Including Non-Traditional)	775.24	726.59	926.20	199.60	27.47
Imports	3,067.36	3,716.66	3,759.00	42.33	1.14
Non-oil imports	2,018.21	2,539.50	2,489.72	-49.78	-1.96
Oil & Gas imports	1,049.15	1,177.16	1,269.28	92.11	7.82
Services	-1,056.51	-725.91	-1,206.18	-480.28	66.16
Credit	2,152.25	2,190.96	2,404.99	214.03	9.77
Debit	3,208.77	2,916.87	3,611.17	694.30	23.80
Primary income	-569.89	-1,138.97	-1,233.49	-94.51	8.30
Credit	164.90	122.66	179.90	57.23	46.66
Debit	734.78	1,261.64	1,413.38	151.75	12.03
Secondary income (Transfers)	979.54	1,378.99	1,392.32	13.33	0.97
Credit	1,242.19	1,787.26	1,865.89	78.63	4.40
Debit	262.65	408.27	473.56	65.30	15.99
Capital account	40.09	41.68	31.10	-10.58	-25.39
Gross acquisitions/ disposals of nonproduced nonfinancial assets	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Capital transfers	40.09	41.68	31.10	-10.58	-25.39
Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (balance from current and capital account)	544.85	107.74	2,155.30	2,047.57	1,900.52
Financial account					
Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (balance from financial account)	684.34	357.73	2,106.45	1,748.72	488.84
Direct investment	-285.54	-387.10	-389.19	-2.08	0.54
Net acquisition of Assets	-18.46	-4.74	15.36	20.11	-424.03
Net incurrence of Liabilities	267.08	382.36	404.55	22.19	5.80
Portfolio investment	-823.31	268.02	-136.50	-404.52	-150.93
Net acquisition of Assets	-1,096.89	274.24	-115.04	-389.28	-141.95
Net incurrence of Liabilities	-273.58	6.22	21.46	15.24	245.13
Financial Derivative	-153.18	-126.80	79.23	206.03	-162.48
Net acquisition of Assets	182.61	38.45	177.42	138.97	361.40
Net incurrence of Liabilities	335.79	165.25	98.19	-67.06	-40.58
Other investment	2,078.47	212.46	1,431.11	1,218.65	573.59
Net acquisition of Assets	451.13	238.62	1,906.65	1,668.03	699.03
Net incurrence of Liabilities	-1,627.34	26.16	475.54	449.38	1,717.83
Reserve assets	-132.10	391.15	1,121.80	730.65	186.80
Monetary gold	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Special Drawing Rights	-21.65	55.90	91.14	35.24	63.05
Reserve position in the IMF					
Other reserve assets	-110.45	335.25	1,030.66	695.41	207.43
Net errors and omissions	-139.49	-249.99	48.85	298.84	-119.54

Source: Bank of Ghana

### 5.1. The Current and Capital Account

The current account recorded a higher surplus of US\$2.16 billion in the first three months of 2025, from US\$66.06 million during the same period in 2024. The strong current account surplus came on the back of a larger trade surplus and improved remittance inflows during the period under review compared with the same period last year.

The capital account received net transfers totalling US\$31.1 million during the review period, compared to US\$41.7 million received in the same period in 2024.

**Table 5.2: Current Account Balance (US\$' million)**

	Q1'2023	Q1'2024	Q1'2025	% Change
				Q1'2024/25
<b>Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (bala</b>	<b>544.85</b>	<b>107.74</b>	<b>2,155.30</b>	<b>1,900.5</b>
Capital account	40.09	41.68	31.10	-25.4
<b>Current Account Balance</b>	<b>504.75</b>	<b>66.05</b>	<b>2,124.20</b>	<b>3,115.9</b>
Trade Balance	1,151.61	551.94	3,171.55	474.6
Services Balance	-1,056.51	-725.91	-1,206.18	66.2
Investment income Balance	-569.89	-1,138.97	-1,233.49	8.3
Net Unilateral Transfers	979.54	1,378.99	1,392.32	1.0

Source: Bank of Ghana

### Merchandise Trade

The trade account recorded a significant surplus of US\$3.17 billion in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the surplus of US\$551.94 million recorded for the same period in 2024. The improvement in the trade surplus arose from a strong growth in exports relative to imports.

**Table 5.3: Merchandise Exports (US\$' million)**

	Q1 '2023	Q1'2024	Q1 '2025	Q1'2024/25	
				Abs.	% change
<b>Exports</b>					
Gold	1,704.50	2,026.18	3,722.70	1,696.52	83.7
Cocoa Beans	774.38	339.76	1,082.03	742.27	218.5
Cocoa Products	233.69	155.69	419.43	263.74	169.4
Timber	36.09	31.86	30.83	-1.02	-3.2
Crude oil	852.52	1,020.37	780.19	-240.19	-23.5
Others	739.14	694.74	895.36	200.62	28.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,340.32</b>	<b>4,268.60</b>	<b>6,930.55</b>	<b>2,661.94</b>	<b>62.4</b>

Source: Bank of Ghana

## Exports

The value of merchandise exports for the review period was estimated at US\$6.93 billion, 62.4 percent higher than the US\$2.03 billion recorded during the same period last year. This was mainly driven by higher gold exports as well as improved cocoa receipts.

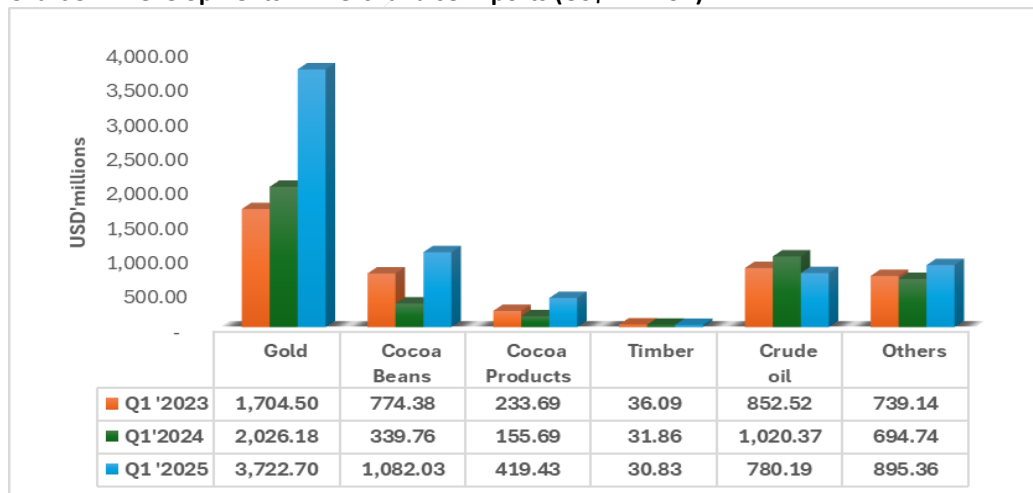
Gold exports increased by 83.7 percent to US\$3.72 billion during the period under review, from US\$2.03 billion in the corresponding period in 2024. The increase in gold earnings was driven by both higher volumes and prices. The volume of gold exports increased by 29.5 percent to 1,350,709 fine ounces, while the average realised price increased by 41.9 percent to settle at US\$2,756.11 per fine ounce.

Crude oil exports amounted to US\$780.19 million during the review period, 23.5 percent lower than the US\$1.02 billion recorded in the same period of 2024. The decrease in earnings was on the back of lower volumes of exports and a fall in prices. The average price decreased by 8.4 percent to settle at US\$75.44 per barrel, while the volume exported declined by 16.6 percent to 10,341,224 barrels.

Earnings from cocoa beans and products exports were higher during the period under review, increasing from US\$495.45 million in 2024Q1 to US\$1.50 billion in 2025Q1. The value of cocoa beans exports amounted to US\$1.08 billion in 2025, from US\$339.76 million in 2024. The growth in cocoa beans exports was due to a 68.2 percent increase in the volume exported to 213,687 tonnes, while the average price shot up by 89.3 percent to settle at US\$5,063.62 per tonne. Earnings from the export of cocoa products also increased to US\$419.43 million, on account of a 40.0 percent rise in the volume exported to 63,061 metric tonnes. The average realised price also grew by 92.4 percent to US\$6,651.17 per tonne.

The value of timber products exports moderated by 3.2 percent to US\$30.83 million, a decline from the US\$31.86 million recorded during the same period last year. The value of “other” exports, comprising non-traditional exports and other minerals (bauxite, diamond, aluminium and manganese) was estimated at US\$895.36 million, 28.9 percent higher than the outturn in the first quarter of 2024.

**Chart 5.1: Developments in Merchandise Exports (US\$' million)**



Source: Bank of Ghana

### Top Ten Non-Traditional Exports

The value of the top ten non-traditional exports amounted to US\$369.78 million during the period under review, compared to US\$288.84 million recorded for the same period in 2024, representing a year-on-year increase of 28.0 percent. Cashew nuts continued to account for the largest proportion of the top ten NTEs with a share of 13.4 percent in 2025Q1, lower than the 16.2 percent recorded in 2024Q1.

**Table 5.4: The Top Ten Non-Traditional Exports: Jan – Mar 2024/2025**

Jan - Mar 2024			Jan - Mar 2025		
Description	US\$'M	% Distr.	Description	US\$'M	% Distr.
Cashew nuts	89.23	16.20	Cashew nuts	93.22	13.36
Shea (karite) oil and fractions	38.03	6.90	Tuna, skipjack and atlantic bonito, prepared or not minced	48.96	7.02
Non-refractory ceramic bricks, tiles and similar products	30.20	5.48	Aluminium	43.96	6.30
Prepared or preserved tuna	29.53	5.36	Shea (karite) oil and fractions	40.98	5.87
Technically specified natural rubber (TSNR)	22.10	4.01	Non-refractory ceramic bricks, tiles, pipes and similar products	33.23	4.76
Aluminium	17.33	3.15	Technically specified natural rubber (TSNR)	32.87	4.71
Soya beans	16.23	2.95	Palm oil and its fractions	27.39	3.93
Bananas (including plantains), fresh or dried	15.70	2.85	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel; plated with zinc	19.14	2.74
Sacks and bags (Articles for the conveyance or packing of goods)	15.27	2.77	Iron/Steel	17.02	2.44
Sanitary towels, tampons, diapers and napkin liners for babies and similar sanitary art	15.23	2.76	Bananas (including plantains), fresh or dried	13.01	1.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>288.84</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>369.78</b>	<b>53.0</b>

Source: Bank of Ghana

### Imports

Imports of goods for the first quarter of 2025 was marginally higher relative to same period in 2024. The total import bill for the first quarter of 2025 increased by 1.1 percent to US\$3.76 billion, compared to the US\$3.72 billion recorded in the previous year, and this was supported by petroleum imports.

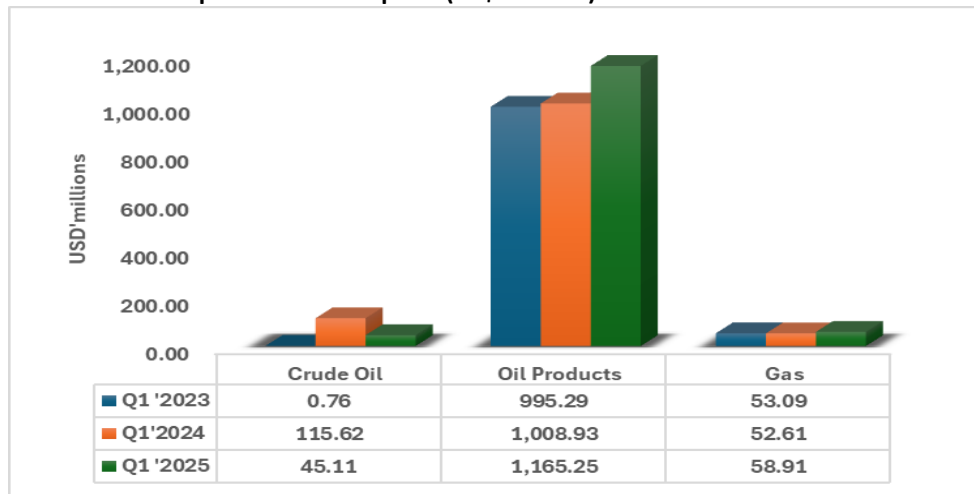
### Oil and Gas Imports

During the period under review, oil imports (made up of crude, gas, and refined products) increased by 7.8 percent to US\$1.27 billion from US\$1.18 billion in 2024. The value of crude oil imports contracted by 61.0 percent to US\$45.11 million from US\$115.62 million during the same period in 2024. The decline in the value of crude oil imports stemmed from a decline in the volume of imports to 619,932 barrels from 905,539 barrels, coupled with a softening in the average price to US\$72.77 per barrel from US\$127.68 per barrel during the review period.

For the period under review, the Volta River Authority (VRA) imported 7,058,410 MMBTu (Million British Thermal Unit) of gas worth US\$58.91 million from the West African Gas Company (WAGP) at an average price of US\$8.3 per MMBTu. For the same period last year, 5,779,112 MMBTu of gas worth US\$52.61 million was imported at an average price of US\$9.1 per MMBTu.

The value of finished oil products imported in the first quarter of 2025 amounted to US\$1.17 billion, compared to US\$1.01 billion in the same period in 2024.

**Chart 5.2: Developments in Oil Imports (US\$ 'Million)**



Source: Bank of Ghana

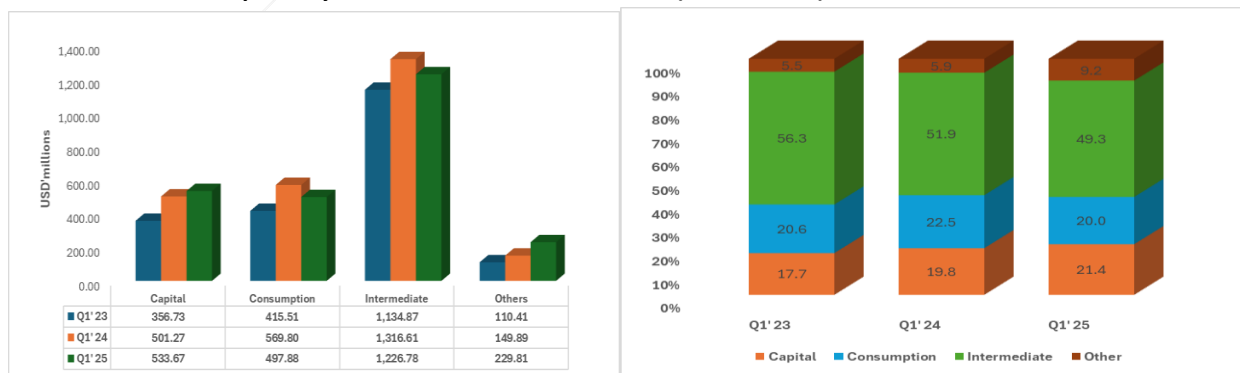
**Merchandise Non-Oil Imports**

Total non-oil imports in the first quarter of 2025 decreased by 2.0 percent to US\$2.49 billion, driven mainly by consumption and intermediate goods. The value of capital goods imported during the period was US\$533.67 million, up by 6.5 percent from the US\$501.27 million recorded for the same period in 2024. This was on account of an increase in the imports of capital goods (except transport). The import of consumption goods, however, declined by 12.6 percent to US\$497.88 million from US\$569.80 million during the same period a year ago. Almost all the items that are classified as consumption goods recorded decreases except for “non-industrial transport.”

The value of intermediate goods imports also declined by 6.8 percent to US\$1.23 billion, largely on account of an increase in demand for all sub-categories except “primary industrial supplies” and “processed food and beverages, mainly for industry.”

The value of “other goods” imports was estimated at US\$229.81 million during the period under review, a 53.3 percent increase from the US\$149.89 million imported during the same period last year.

**Chart 5.3: Non-Oil Imports by Broad Economic Classification (US\$' Million)**



Source: Bank of Ghana

During the period, 15,152,613 kWh of electricity valued at US\$1.58 million was imported by VRA compared to 18,457,000 kWh worth US\$1.93 million imported during the same period in 2024.

### Top Ten Non-Oil Imports

The total value of the top ten non-oil merchandise imports for the first quarter of 2025 amounted to US\$800.60 million, compared to US\$694.09 million a year ago. Key items included, among others, motor vehicles for the transport of goods and persons, self-propelled bulldozers and cement clinkers.

**Table 5.5: Top Ten Non-Oil Imports, Jan-Mar 2024/2025**

Jan - Mar 2024			Jan - Mar 2025		
Description	US\$M (fob)	% Distr.	Description	US\$M (fob)	% Distr.
<b>Capital</b>	<b>207.21</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>Capital</b>	<b>263.38</b>	<b>10.6</b>
Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	135.26	5.3	Self-propelled bulldozers, excavators nes	136.61	5.5
Self-propelled bulldozers, excavators nes	71.95	2.84	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	126.77	5.10
<b>Consumption</b>	<b>144.58</b>	<b>5.70</b>	<b>Consumption</b>	<b>98.74</b>	<b>3.97</b>
Weed killers (herbicides) and Insecticides	88.46	3.5	Weed killers (herbicides) and Insecticides	58.93	2.4
Sugar	56.12	2.2	Internal combustion piston engine of a cylinder capa	39.82	1.6
<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>196.54</b>	<b>7.75</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>224.53</b>	<b>9.02</b>
Polyethylene	47.29	1.86	Iron and steel bars and rods	52.98	2.13
Cement clinkers	41.45	1.63	Cement clinkers	49.35	1.98
Oil-cake and other solid residues, of soya-bean	37.82	1.49	Polyethylene	48.26	1.94
Medicaments	35.42	1.4	Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than	40.05	1.6
Articles of Iron or Steel	34.55	1.4	Wadding, gauze, bandages and similar articles	33.89	1.4
<b>Other</b>	<b>145.76</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>213.95</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Motor vehicles for the transport of persons	145.76	5.7	Motor vehicles for the transport of persons	213.95	8.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>694.09</b>	<b>27.35</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>800.60</b>	<b>32.18</b>

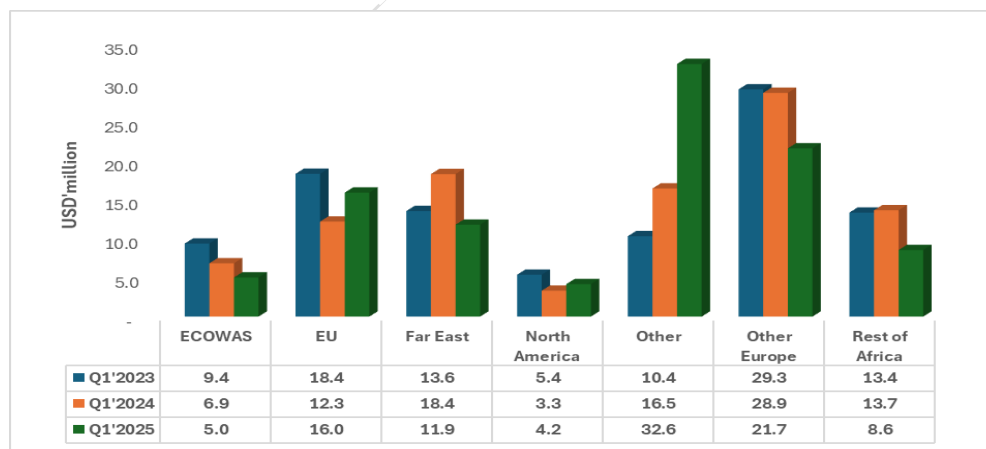
Source: Bank of Ghana

### Direction of Trade

#### Destination of Exports

During the review period, "Other Economies" received the largest share of Ghana's total exports (32.6%). The other recipients were Other Europe (21.7%), the European Union (16.0%), Far East (11.9%), the Rest of Africa (8.6%), ECOWAS (5.0%), and North America (4.2%).

**Chart 5.4: Destination of Merchandise Exports**

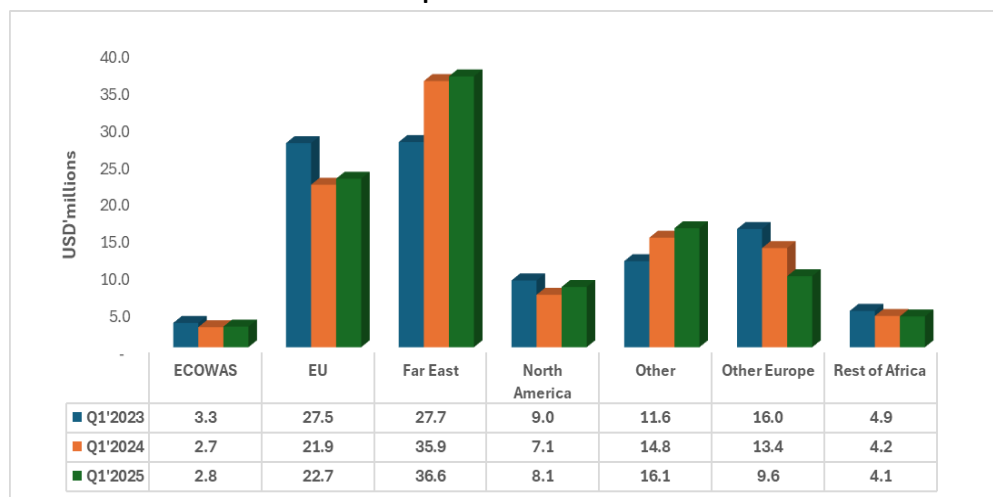


Source: Bank of Ghana

### Sources of Merchandise Imports

In terms of geographical distribution, the Far East emerged as the leading source of imports, accounting for 36.6 percent of the total imports. The European Union followed with a share of 22.7 percent, then came Other Economies (16.1%), Other Europe (9.6%), North America (8.1%), Rest of Africa (4.1%), and ECOWAS (2.8%).

Chart 5.5: Sources of Merchandise Imports



Source: Bank of Ghana

### Services, Income and Transfers Account

During the period under review, the Services account recorded a higher net payment of US\$1.21 billion compared to the US\$1.01 billion recorded in 2024Q1. The income account recorded a higher net outflow of US\$1.23 billion in 2025Q1 from the US\$756.52 million recorded in 2024Q1. Current transfers, which are mostly private remittances, on the other hand, increased by US\$102 million from US\$1.29 billion in 2024Q1 to US\$1.39 billion in 2025Q1.

Table 5.6: Services, Income and Current Transfers (net) in US\$ millions

	Q1'2023	Q1'2024	Q1'2025	Q1'2024/25	
				prov.	Abs. % change
	<i>Amounts in millions of U.S. dollars</i>				
<b>Services (net)</b>	<b>-1,115.97</b>	<b>-1,005.40</b>	<b>-1,206.18</b>	<b>-200.79</b>	<b>20.0</b>
Freight and Insurance	-194.13	-222.88	-112.07	110.81	-49.7
Other Services	-921.84	-782.52	-1,094.12	-311.60	39.8
<b>Income (net)</b>	<b>-507.52</b>	<b>-756.52</b>	<b>-1,233.49</b>	<b>-476.96</b>	<b>63.0</b>
<b>Current Transfers (net)</b>	<b>979.54</b>	<b>1,290.00</b>	<b>1,392.32</b>	<b>102.32</b>	<b>7.9</b>
Official	8.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Private	970.88	1,290.00	1,392.32	102.32	7.9
<b>Services, Income and Current Transfers (net)</b>	<b>-643.95</b>	<b>-471.92</b>	<b>-1,047.35</b>	<b>-575.43</b>	<b>121.9</b>

Source: Bank of Ghana

## 5.2. Financial Account

During the review period, Ghana's financial account recorded a net acquisition of financial assets amounting to US\$2.11 billion, significantly higher than the US\$357.7 million recorded in 2024. Out of this, other investment assets of US\$1.43 billion were acquired on a net basis, driven largely by increased currency and deposits abroad. There were, however, net incurrence of direct investment liabilities (net FDI inflows) and portfolio liabilities (net portfolio inflows) of US\$389.2 million and US\$136.5 million, respectively. The reserve assets of the Bank of Ghana improved significantly to US\$1.12 billion from US\$391.15 million.

**Table 5.7: Capital and Financial Account (US\$' million)**

	Q1'2023	Q1'2024	Q1'2025	Q4 '2023/24	
			(prov.)	Absolute	% change
<b>Financial Account</b>	684.3	357.7	2,106.4	1,748.7	488.8
<b>Net Assets</b>	-613.7	937.7	3,106.2	2,168.5	231.3
<b>Direct Investment Assets (Net)</b>	-18.5	-4.7	15.4	20.1	-424.0
<b>Portfolio Investment Assets (Net)</b>	-1,096.9	274.2	-115.0	-389.3	-141.9
<i>ow; Government Oil Investments (Assets)</i>	11.5	-63.9	-64.0	-0.1	0.1
<i>Additions</i>	55.2	26.5	32.9	6.4	24.3
<i>Withdrawals</i>	43.7	90.4	96.9	6.5	7.2
<b>Other Investment Assets (Net)</b>	633.7	277.1	2,084.1	1,807.0	652.2
<i>Deposit Taking Corps. Assets (Net)</i>	401.7	5.7	-250.9	-256.6	-4,512.9
<i>Other Sectors Assets (Net)</i>	232.0	271.4	2,335.0	2,063.6	760.4
<b>Reserve Assets (Net)</b>	-132.1	391.1	1,121.8	730.7	186.8
<b>Net Liabilities</b>	-1,298.0	580.0	999.7	419.8	72.4
<b>Direct Investment Liabilities (Net)</b>	267.1	382.4	404.6	22.2	5.8
<b>Portfolio Investment Liabilities (Net)</b>	-273.6	6.2	21.5	15.2	245.1
<b>Other Investment Liabilities (Net)</b>	-1,291.5	191.4	573.7	382.3	199.7
<i>General Government Loan Liabilities</i>	170.2	1,035.9	-100.1	-1,136.1	-109.7
<i>Disbursements</i>	271.2	1,080.3	131.3	-949.0	-87.9
<i>Amortisation</i>	101.0	44.3	231.4	187.0	421.7
<i>Deposit Taking Corps. Liabilities (Net)</i>	-926.9	-375.4	584.6	960.0	-255.7
<i>Other Sectors Liabilities (Net)</i>	-534.8	-469.1	89.3	558.4	-119.0

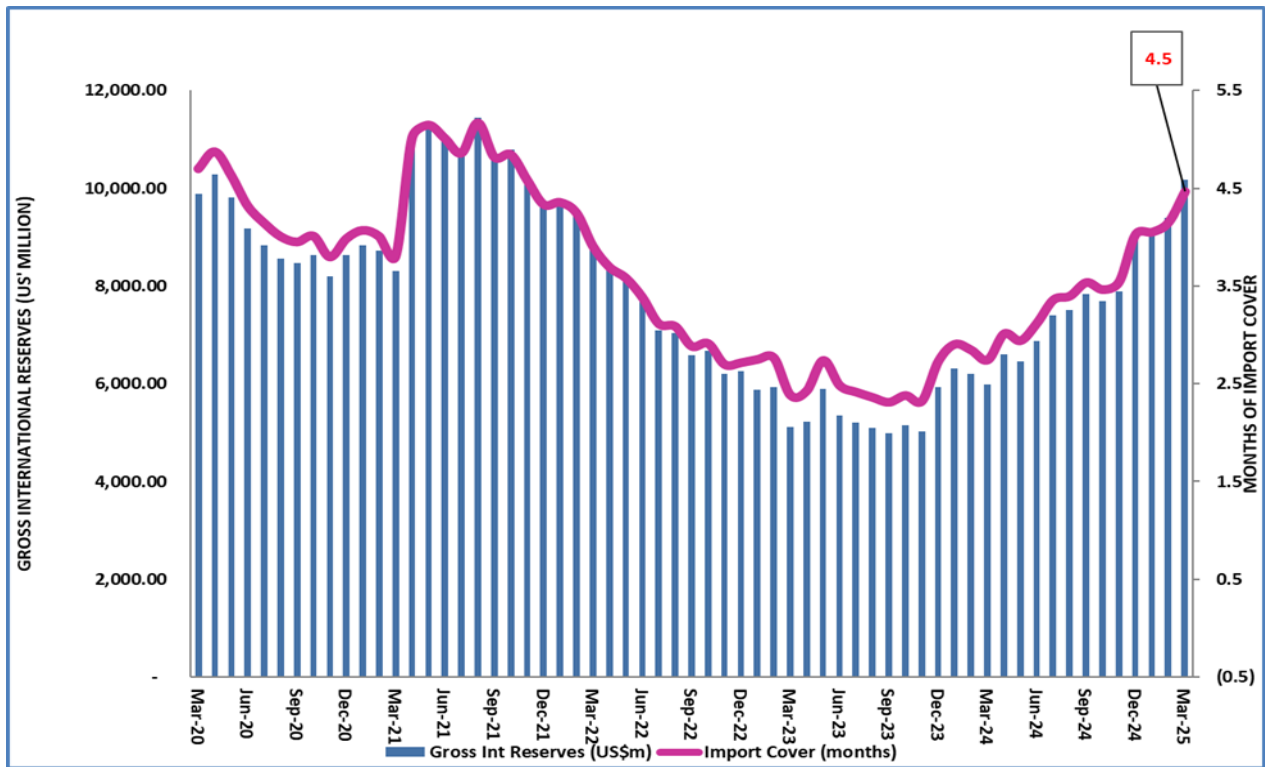
Source: Bank of Ghana

## 5.3. International Reserves

Gross international reserves (GIR) increased to US\$10.17 billion at the end of March 2025 from a stock position of US\$8.98 billion at the end of December 2024, representing a build-up of US\$1.19 billion. This was sufficient to provide 4.5 months of imports cover for goods and services, compared to 4.0 months of imports cover as of December 2024.

Similarly, the net international reserves (NIR) recorded a build-up of US\$887.98 million to US\$7.26 billion at the end of March 2025, from US\$6.38 billion at end-December 2024.

Chart 5.6: Gross International Reserves (US\$' million)



Source: Bank of Ghana

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## Appendix

	Annual Changes in CPI (%)			Monthly Changes in CPI (%)			Core Inflation (%)			
	Combined	Food	Non-food	Combined	Food	Non-food	Core 1	Core 2	Core 3	Core 4
	<b>100</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>93.8</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>50.7</b>
Dec-20	10.4	14.1	7.7	0.9	1.5	0.4	11.2	8.5	11.4	8.3
Dec-21	12.6	12.8	12.5	1.2	1.2	1.2	11.9	11.9	11.5	10.7
Dec-22	54.1	59.7	49.9	3.8	4.1	3.6	53.2	53.5	54.4	47.2
Dec-23	23.2	28.7	18.7	1.2	1.3	1.0	24.2	22.3	25.5	20.7
<b>2024</b>										
Jan	23.5	27.1	20.5	2.0	1.6	2.4	24.2	22.4	25.4	21.8
Feb	23.2	27.0	20.0	1.6	2.0	1.3	24.0	22.2	25.0	21.8
<b>Mar</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>23.8</b>
Apr	25.0	26.8	23.5	1.8	2.1	1.5	24.8	22.9	25.9	22.9
May	23.1	22.6	23.6	3.2	2.7	3.6	22.6	21.5	23.2	21.9
Jun	22.8	24.0	21.6	2.9	5.1	0.9	22.1	19.5	23.2	19.1
Jul	20.9	21.5	20.5	2.1	1.7	2.4	19.9	16.7	20.8	17.3
Aug	20.4	19.1	21.5	-0.7	-2.2	0.7	19.4	16.9	20.0	18.9
Sep	21.5	22.1	20.9	2.8	4.2	1.6	20.8	17.6	21.5	18.4
Oct	22.1	22.8	21.5	0.9	0.3	1.4	21.4	19.5	22.2	19.1
Nov	23.0	25.9	20.7	2.6	3.8	1.6	22.4	18.7	23.2	17.6
Dec	23.8	27.8	20.3	1.8	2.8	0.7	23.1	18.5	24.0	17.1
<b>2025</b>										
Jan	23.5	28.3	19.2	1.7	2.0	1.4	22.8	18.0	23.7	16.3
Feb	23.1	28.1	18.8	1.3	1.8	0.9	22.4	17.5	23.3	15.8
<b>Mar</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>16.0</b>

Source: Ghana Statistical Service

Bank of Ghana

CPI Components (%)													
	Weights (%)	2021	2022	2023	2024					2025			
		Dec	Dec	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jun	Sept	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
<b>Overall</b>	100.0	12.6	54.1	23.2	23.5	23.2	<b>25.8</b>	22.8	21.5	23.8	23.5	23.1	<b>22.4</b>
<b>Food and Beverages</b>	42.7	12.8	59.7	28.7	27.1	27.0	<b>29.6</b>	24.0	22.1	27.8	28.6	28.1	<b>26.5</b>
<b>Non-food</b>	57.4	12.5	49.9	18.7	20.5	20.0	<b>22.6</b>	21.6	20.9	20.3	19.2	18.8	<b>18.7</b>
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.9	9.6	38.5	38.2	38.5	38.5	<b>41.0</b>	32.3	27.6	28.4	27.2	25.6	<b>23.8</b>
Clothing and footwear	8.0	8.6	41.9	22.3	22.8	22.5	<b>24.5</b>	18.2	19.0	20.0	19.8	19.2	<b>19.3</b>
Housing and Utilities	10.2	20.7	82.3	19.5	22.6	22.9	<b>24.9</b>	26.0	26.4	26.3	24.6	24.3	<b>25.1</b>
Furnishings, Household Equipment	3.2	9.6	71.5	26.9	27.6	25.4	<b>23.0</b>	17.0	14.5	16.7	15.3	15.4	<b>15.3</b>
Health	0.7	6.0	34.4	23.0	26.6	28.1	<b>32.0</b>	22.6	22.3	21.4	18.4	16.6	<b>16.8</b>
Transport	10.5	17.6	71.4	4.4	5.6	3.5	<b>7.9</b>	19.0	16.3	16.8	16.9	17.9	<b>16.8</b>
Information and Communication	3.6	9.0	21.5	14.2	13.6	13.5	<b>15.2</b>	10.4	14.2	12.0	11.6	10.8	<b>10.8</b>
Recreation & Culture	3.5	11.4	42.4	24.9	25.9	25.6	<b>29.4</b>	20.5	18.7	17.4	17.4	16.5	<b>20.7</b>
Education	6.6	1.0	11.3	13.9	19.8	19.7	<b>23.7</b>	20.9	23.7	19.1	13.9	12.3	<b>11.3</b>
Restaurants and accommodation services	4.3	8.9	9.2	28.0	29.2	31.9	<b>32.7</b>	30.7	27.9	16.5	16.5	14.2	<b>13.3</b>
Insurance and Financial services	0.4	6.3	10.8	8.1	8.6	8.9	<b>9.3</b>	6.2	13.3	16.5	15.4	16.1	<b>16.6</b>
Personal care, social protection & Miscellaneous services	2.5	10.6	60.9	31.1	32.0	30.3	<b>33.5</b>	19.5	17.3	19.3	17.9	17.1	<b>17.4</b>

Source: Ghana Statistical Service