



Wednesday, 30 September 2026

Eurozone economic sentiment weakens

Eurozone economic confidence weakened unexpectedly in Sept. due to the fall in consumer sentiment, monthly survey data from the European Commission showed Tuesday [29/09]. The economic sentiment index dropped to 97.9 in Sept. from 98.4 in Aug. The score was forecast to rise to 99.0. Industrial and services confidence strengthened, while retailers' sentiment dropped slightly. (www.rttnews.com 29/09/26)

Europe must deploy AI 'intensively', Lagarde says

European firms must embrace AI "deeply" and "intensively" if the continent is to accelerate its digital transformation, Christine Lagarde has said. In a speech to the European Parliament's economic and monetary affairs committee in Brussels on Sept. 28, the ECB president said AI would need to spread "beyond a small group of technology leaders". (www.centralbanking.com 29/09/26)

US consumer confidence plunges to lowest level since 2014

US consumer confidence fell in Sept. to the lowest level since 2014 as pessimism grew about the economy and the labor market. The Conference Board's gauge of confidence decreased 6.7 points to 81.9 after a downward revision to the prior month, data released Tuesday [29/09] showed. The median estimate in a Bloomberg survey of economists was 89. (www.bloomberg.com 29/09/26)

US job openings fall to lowest since March, layoffs subdued

US job openings fell in August to a five-month low, suggesting employers grew more cautious about expanding their workforces toward the end of the summer, while layoffs remained subdued. Available positions fell to 7.1m from 7.3m in July, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data out Tuesday [29/09]. (www.bloomberg.com 29/09/26)

Fed's Williams sees no urgency for next rate hike

Federal Reserve policymakers probably only need to deliver one more rate hike this year to get inflation back on track to the US central bank's 2% goal, New York Fed President John Williams said on Tuesday [29/09], in what amounted to a pushback against mounting expectations for earlier policy tightening. (www.reuters.com 30/09/26)

China's external debt rises in Q2 amid active cross-border trade

China's external debt rose Q2 of 2026 amid active cross-border trade, while the latest available debt-risk indicators were within internationally recognized safety thresholds. Outstanding external debt stood at \$2.4982tr at the end of June, up \$86.1b, or 4%, from the end of March, data from the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) showed on Tuesday [29/09]. (www.xinhuanet.com 29/09/26)

China private sector growth improves

China's manufacturing and services sectors expanded at faster rates in Sept. as robust new orders underpinned employment, survey results from S&P Global showed today. The RatingDog China general manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index rose to 52.1 in Sept. from 51.5 in Aug. The score was above forecast of 51.7 and remained above the 50.0 no-change mark for the tenth straight month. (www.rttnews.com 30/09/26)

UK's strong first half boosted by upwardly revised GDP estimate

Britain's economy grew even faster than thought during Q2, according to revised figures that showed a resilient performance before the recent jump in energy prices and borrowing costs. GDP rose 0.5% in the 3 months through June, better than the 0.4% growth in the first estimate, the Office for National Statistics said today. (www.bloomberg.com 30/09/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3211	(1.3265)	1.3212	(1.3266)
+USD/EUR	1.1329	(1.1375)	1.1330	(1.1376)
*GHS/USD	11.6842	(11.6542)	11.6958	(11.6658)
*GHS/GBP	15.4359	(15.4593)	15.4526	(15.4759)
*GHS/EUR	13.2372	(13.2572)	13.2503	(13.2704)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 30/09/26 (Rates for 29/09/26 in brackets)

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Japan's two-year bond sale draws stronger demand on high yields

Japan's two-year government bond auction today saw stronger demand than the 12-month average as elevated yields underpinned buying. The bid-to-cover ratio was 3.89 compared with 2.97 at the previous sale, and a 12-month average of 3.75. In another sign of strong demand. (www.bloomberg.com 30/09/26)

France's public debt rises to 119% of GDP in Q2

France's public debt rose by €59.6bn (\$67.7bn) in Q2 of 2026 from the previous quarter, reaching €3.59tr (\$4.08tr), or 119% of gross domestic product (GDP), the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (Insee) said on Tuesday [29/09]. (www.xinhuanet.com 29/09/26)

Turkey economic confidence rises to 39-month high

Turkey's economic confidence strengthened further in September to the highest level in more than three years, survey results from the Turkish Statistical Institute in Ankara showed on Tuesday [29/09]. The economic sentiment index rose to 101.3 in Sept. from 100.6 in Aug. (www.rttnews.com 29/09/26)

Canada economy slows in Q3 after spring surge

The Canadian economy is tracking for weaker growth in Q3 after roaring back to life between April and June. Statistics Canada's estimate for real GDP points to a 0.2% expansion in August, according to industry-based data, as increases in mining and quarrying were partially offset by decreases in oil and gas extraction. (www.bloomberg.com 29/09/26)

Singapore 2026 GDP growth projected to moderate to 4.8%

Singapore's economic growth is projected to moderate to 4.8% in 2026 and around 3.1% in 2027 from 5% in 2025, the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO) said today. Growth momentum is expected to remain supported by robust demand for artificial intelligence (AI)-related products. (www.xinhuanet.com 30/09/26)

Oil gains after Trump denies he is willing to ease Iran sanctions

Oil prices rose today after US President Trump denied he would be willing to ease sanctions on Iran as Qatar pushed for peace talks, following a fall in the previous session on a recovery in crude supply from the Middle East. The Brent futures Nov. contract, which expires today, was up 84 cents, or 0.82%, to \$103.43 a barrel by 0650 GMT. (www.reuters.com 30/09/26)

South Africa's foreign direct investment inflows pick up in Q2

South Africa recorded foreign direct investment inflows of R49.8bn (\$3.03bn) in Q2 of 2026, up from R20.3bn in Q1, the central bank said, adding that the higher inflows were due to a local telecommunications company receiving debt funding from a non-resident parent company. (www.reuters.com 29/09/26)

Kenyan inflation accelerates to 32-month high in September

Kenyan inflation accelerated to the highest level in more than two and a half years in Sept. driven by higher energy and food prices. Annual consumer prices rose 6.8% in the month, the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics said. (www.bloomberg.com 30/09/26)

Ghana's fiscal deficit to widen to 3.9% a year through 2029 – S&P

Ratings agency, S&P Global, is forecasting that Ghana's fiscal deficit will widen to 3.9%, a year through 2029. Ghana's budget for 2026 aims to raise capital spending by 150%. But S&P said the government spending has been heavily curtailed since the end of 2024, particularly for capital projects. (www.myjoyonline.com 29/09/26)

Banks accounted for 86% total enquiries for credit in 2025

Banks accounted for 86.28% of the total enquiries for credit in 2025, making them the major users of the credit referencing system, a position the sector has maintained over the years. According to the 2025 Credit Reporting by the Bank of Ghana, the increasing number of mobile money loans and payroll lending explains the continuous increase in enquiries. (www.myjoyonline.com 30/09/26)

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