



Friday, 09 October 2026

WTO raises 2026 global merchandise trade growth forecast to 3.9%

The World Trade Organization (WTO) said on Thursday that global merchandise trade is expected to grow by 3.9% in 2026, up from its March forecast of 1.9%, driven by supply chain adaptation and strong investment in artificial intelligence (AI). While raising the forecast for merchandise trade growth, the WTO's latest Global Trade Outlook and Statistics report lowered the outlook for commercial services trade in 2026. (www.xinhuanet.com 08/10/26)

Europe's bond market turbulence puts ECB repo funding into focus

Turbulence across Europe's bonds is sparking debate over the tools policymakers use to keep markets functioning in the event of a broader financial crisis. Some analysts are homing in on the European Central Bank's repo program, where banks receive cash in exchange for collateral. (www.bloomberg.com 09/10/26)

European majors' strong earnings growth expected to have continued in Q3

Major European companies are expected to report substantially higher third-quarter earnings, the latest LSEG I/B/E/S data showed on Thursday, although the year-on-year growth should slightly temper from the previous quarter. Companies on Europe's benchmark STOXX 600 index opens new tab are expected to report quarterly earnings growth of 21% on aggregate. (www.reuters.com 09/10/26)

US jobless claims unexpectedly dip from upwardly revised level

The Labor Department released a report on Thursday showing first-time claims for U.S. unemployment benefits unexpectedly dipped from an upwardly revised level in the week ended Oct. 3rd. The report said initial jobless claims edged down to 197,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level of 199,000. (www.rtfnews.com 08/10/26)

UK job placements increase; pay growth slows: report on jobs

UK permanent job placements increased for the second straight month in September, while permanent pay growth slowed for the first time in four months, a report compiled by S&P Global showed Thursday. There was a back-to-back increase in permanent placements in September with the rate of growth hitting the strongest in four years, the KPMG/REC Report on Jobs said. (www.rtfnews.com 08/10/26)

UK to launch a monthly US-style inflation gauge early next year

Britain plans to publish American-style monthly inflation figures for the first time, providing economists and investors a better grasp of recent movements in prices. Currently the Office for National Statistics releases an annual inflation rate the headline gauge tracked by the Bank of England and a month-on-month price change that is not seasonally adjusted. (www.bloomberg.com 09/10/26)

Japan Eco watchers current index strengthens

A measure of the public assessment of the current situation of the Japanese economy improved in Sept. the Cabinet Office revealed Thursday [08/10]. The current conditions index of the Economy Watchers Survey advanced to 47.0 in Sept. from 46.4 in Aug. This was the highest reading since Feb. when it stood at 48.9. (www.rtfnews.com 08/10/26)

Japan bankruptcies hit 13-year high in April-Sept. period

The number of corporate bankruptcies in Japan hit a 13-year high for the April-September period, a credit research company said Thursday. In the six-month period, Tokyo Shoko Research counted 5,373 business failures involving liabilities of at least ¥10m (about \$63,000), up 3.9% from a year earlier. (www.xinhuanet.com 09/10/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3207	(1.3209)	1.3208	(1.3210)
+USD/EUR	1.1191	(1.1189)	1.1191	(1.1190)
*GHS/USD	11.7741	(11.8241)	11.7859	(11.8359)
*GHS/GBP	15.5501	(15.6184)	15.5668	(15.6352)
*GHS/EUR	13.1758	(13.2315)	13.1889	(13.2435)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 09/10/26 (Rates for 08/09/26 in brackets)

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Japan's Takaichi says growth push will help support trust in Yen

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said strengthening the economy's global competitiveness would ultimately bolster confidence in the yen, defending her fiscal policies against concerns that planned tax cuts could undermine efforts to support the currency. (www.bloomberg.com 09/10/26)

Malaysia industrial production rises

Malaysia's industrial production increased in August, driven by manufacturing and electricity output, the Department of Statistics said. Industrial output grew 5.0% year-on-year in August, faster than the 4.7% increase in July. Manufacturing output expanded by 7.4% after rising 6.4% in July. (www.rttnews.com 08/10/26)

Venezuela's non-oil tax revenue up 22% in 9 months this year: acting president

Tax revenue from Venezuela's non-oil sector increased by 22.6% in the first 9 months of this year, Acting President Delcy Rodriguez said Thursday [08/10]. Tax revenue from the non-oil sector reached more than \$7.9bn between Jan. and Sept, Rodriguez said added. (www.xinhuanet.com 09/10/26)

Philippines to adopt global bond pricing to woo investors

The Philippines will adopt international pricing conventions for peso-denominated bonds effective next year, a shift it says should attract more participants and help lower its borrowing costs. Starting Jan. 4, the Southeast Asian nation will change the way it collects taxes on interest income on local-currency government. (www.bloomberg.com 09/10/26)

Norway inflation rises to 3.4%

Norway's consumer price inflation increased in Sept but core inflation remained stable, Statistics Norway said today. Consumer price inflation rose to 3.4% in Sept. from 3.3% in April. A similar higher rate was last seen in April. At the same time, core inflation, which excludes tax changes and energy products, remained unchanged at 3.0% in Sept. %. (www.rttnews.com 08/10/26)

Oil falls as Trump comments on Iran talks ease supply concerns

Oil prices fell today as Middle East supply concerns eased after US President Trump said the country will not attack Iran before US elections next month, amid talks to end their war that has disrupted global energy markets. Brent crude futures fell 92 cents to \$103.36 a barrel by 0632 GMT. (www.reuters.com 09/10/26)

Gold advances as strong auction demand lowers treasury yields

Gold advanced after an auction of 30-year US debt drew solid demand and helped pull long-dated yields from their highest levels in more than two decades. Bullion rose as much as 1.8% to trade above \$4,200 an ounce. (www.bloomberg.com 09/10/26)

World Bank sees Nigeria growth averaging 4.4% through 2028

Nigeria's economy is expected to grow by an average of 4.4% a year through 2028, with inflation declining if the government sustains reforms and improves service delivery, the World Bank said. Nigeria's economy grew 4.2% in the first half of 2026, up from 3.9% in 2025. (www.reuters.com 08/10/26)

Kenya expects budget deficit to rise to 5.9% of GDP in 2027/28

Kenya's budget deficit is expected to rise to 5.9% of GDP in the 2027/28 fiscal year from 5.5% in 2026/27, finance ministry said today. Net domestic financing was seen at Ksh929.1bn (\$7.17bn) in the 2027/28 fiscal year starting in July. (www.reuters.com 09/10/26)

Microfinance reform will end regulatory arbitrage and strengthen depositor protection — BoG

Savings and loans companies in Ghana have until Dec 31, 2026, to raise their minimum capital to GH¢50mn if they want to transition into microfinance banks under the Bank of Ghana's revised regulatory framework. New institutions seeking to enter the microfinance banking market will be required to provide minimum capital of GH¢100mn. (www.norvanreports.com 09/10/26)

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