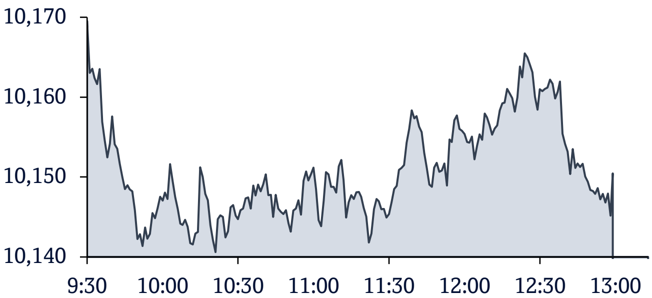
QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index declined 0.2% to close at 10,150.5. Losses were led by the Telecoms and Insurance indices, falling 0.9% and 0.6%, respectively. Top losers were Inma Holding and Doha Insurance Group, falling 2.1% and 1.8%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Widam Food Company gained 6.9%, while Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co was up 1.7%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell 0.5% to close at 12,064.7. Losses were led by the Media and Entertainment and Consumer Services indices, falling 1.8% and 1.5%, respectively. Leejam Sports Co. declined 10.0%, while Naseej International Trading Co. was down 4.0%.

Dubai: The DFM Index fell 0.6% to close at 4,284.0. The Utilities index declined 1.6%, while the Financials index fell 1.5%. Mashreqbank declined 7.2%, while Watania International Holding was down 6.0%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index gained marginally to close at 9,396.5. The Industrial index rose 3.7%, while the Real Estate index gained 3.3%. Q Holdings rose 12.5%, while Alpha Dhabi Holdings was up 9.4%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index fell 0.1% to close at 7,186.7. The Consumer Staples index declined 4.6%, while the Utilities index fell 1.2%. Dar AL Thuraya Real Estate Co. declined 7.1%, while Mezzan Holding Co. was down 4.9%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index gained 0.3% to close at 4,664.1. Gains were led by the Financial and Industrial indices, rising 0.4% and 0.2%, respectively. Al Sharqiya Investment Holding Co. rose 4.0%, while Al Maha Ceramics Company was up 3.3%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.3% to close at 1,978.6. GFH Financial Group rose 1.8%, while Aluminum Bahrain was up 0.9%.

Market Indicators	30 Jul 24	29 Jul 24	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	282.2	355.5	(20.6)
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	587,028.7	588,485.2	(0.2)
Volume (mn)	106.3	151.3	(29.7)
Number of Transactions	11,900	14,470	(17.8)
Companies Traded	50	49	2.0
Market Breadth	15:28	28:19	–

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	22,963.16	(0.2)	0.7	(1.2)	11.4
All Share Index	3,581.18	(0.2)	0.7	(1.3)	12.2
Banks	4,311.64	(0.1)	1.1	(5.9)	9.2
Industrials	4,189.48	(0.3)	0.1	1.8	16.7
Transportation	5,551.50	(0.2)	0.3	29.5	26.6
Real Estate	1,534.67	(0.4)	0.5	2.2	12.5
Insurance	2,272.32	(0.6)	0.2	(13.7)	167.0
Telecoms	1,633.67	(0.9)	(0.3)	(4.2)	9.0
Consumer Goods and Services	7,627.96	0.1	0.9	0.7	235.6
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,719.79	(0.3)	0.5	(0.9)	14.3

GCC Top Gainers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Q Holdings	Abu Dhabi	3.33	12.5	84,735.8	6.4
Multiply Group	Abu Dhabi	2.38	7.2	41,501.4	(25.2)
Kingdom Holding Co.	Saudi Arabia	10.34	5.5	7,458.5	44.6
Gulf Bank	Kuwait	297.0	5.3	34,021.4	11.0
Aldar Properties	Abu Dhabi	7.50	3.6	22,516.7	40.2

GCC Top Losers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
ADES Holdings	Saudi Arabia	20.24	(3.7)	3,993.1	(15.7)
Savola Group	Saudi Arabia	45.50	(3.2)	360.2	21.5
Emirates Telecommunication	Abu Dhabi	16.70	(3.1)	4,962.4	(15.0)
Americana Restaurants Int.	Abu Dhabi	3.04	(2.9)	5,431.3	(2.2)
Bupa Arabia for Coop. Ins.	Saudi Arabia	231.60	(2.9)	234.7	8.5

Source: Bloomberg (# in Local Currency) (## GCC Top gainers/ losers derived from the S&P GCC Composite Large Mid Cap Index)

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Widam Food Company	3.221	6.9	4,956.0	36.5
Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co	2.655	1.7	147.2	(11.5)
Qatar National Cement Company	3.700	1.3	632.0	(6.3)
Gulf International Services	3.442	1.0	4,209.0	24.8
Lesha Bank	1.296	0.9	4,138.0	(2.0)

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Baladna	1.421	(1.8)	15,980.2	16.1
United Development Company	1.113	0.3	10,770.1	4.5
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co.	1.304	(0.5)	9,654.0	(6.9)
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	1.843	0.2	7,185.9	27.0
National Leasing	0.712	(1.8)	5,425.1	(2.3)

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Inma Holding	4.241	(2.1)	635.5	2.3
Doha Insurance Group	2.431	(1.8)	98.5	1.7
Baladna	1.421	(1.8)	15,980.2	16.1
National Leasing	0.712	(1.8)	5,425.1	(2.3)
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.676	(1.5)	769.9	(1.0)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	15.33	(0.1)	48,184.2	(7.3)
Baladna	1.421	(1.8)	22,899.1	16.1
Widam Food Company	3.221	6.9	15,853.6	36.5
Gulf International Services	3.442	1.0	14,472.5	24.8
Qatar International Islamic Bank	10.31	(0.9)	14,107.3	(1.4)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded ($ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. ($ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	10,150.46	(0.2)	0.5	1.8	(6.3)	78.42	160,963.3	11.4	1.4	4.9
Dubai	4,284.01	(0.6)	1.1	6.3	5.5	183.02	195,441.0	8.3	1.3	5.5
Abu Dhabi	9,396.49	0.0	1.0	3.7	(1.9)	430.06	710,609.7	18.8	2.8	2.1
Saudi Arabia	12,064.65	(0.5)	0.3	3.3	0.8	1,430.05	2,701,396.6	20.9	2.4	3.5
Kuwait	7,186.71	(0.1)	0.4	3.6	5.4	178.88	153,391.4	18.3	1.7	3.2
Oman	4,664.11	0.3	0.2	(0.5)	3.3	4.23	23,830.2	11.6	0.9	5.4
Bahrain	1,978.56	0.3	0.2	(2.3)	0.4	2.23	20,419.5	7.6	0.6	8.4

*Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (** TTM; * Value traded ($ mn) do not include special trades if any)*

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index declined 0.2% to close at 10,150.5. The Telecoms and Insurance indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from GCC and Qatari shareholders despite buying support from Arab and Foreign shareholders.
- Inma Holding and Doha Insurance Group were the top losers, falling 2.1% and 1.8%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Widam Food Company gained 6.9%, while Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co was up 1.7%.
- Volume of shares traded on Tuesday fell by 29.7% to 106.3mn from 151.3mn on Monday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 132.3mn, volume for the day was 19.6% lower. Baladna and United Development Company were the most active stocks, contributing 15.0% and 10.1% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy%*	Sell%*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	38.10%	38.95%	(2,394,146.43)
Qatari Institutions	20.48%	23.63%	(8,888,963.99)
Qatari	**58.58%**	**62.58%**	**(11,283,110.42)**
GCC Individuals	0.76%	0.58%	508,830.42
GCC Institutions	3.32%	3.66%	(957,891.55)
GCC	**4.08%**	**4.24%**	**(449,061.13)**
Arab Individuals	11.21%	8.88%	6,578,039.19
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	-
Arab	**11.21%**	**8.88%**	**6,578,039.19**
Foreigners Individuals	2.72%	3.21%	(1,362,540.44)
Foreigners Institutions	23.40%	21.09%	6,516,672.80
Foreigners	**26.12%**	**24.30%**	**5,154,132.36**

*Source: Qatar Stock Exchange (*as a% of traded value)*

Global Economic Data and Earnings Calendar

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
07-30	US	Federal Housing Finance Agency	FHFA House Price Index MoM	May	0.00%	0.20%	0.30%
07-30	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	JOLTS Job Openings	Jun	8184k	8000k	8230k
07-30	EU	Eurostat	GDP SA QoQ	2Q	0.30%	0.20%	0.30%
07-30	EU	Eurostat	GDP SA YoY	2Q	0.60%	0.50%	0.50%
07-30	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	GDP SA QoQ	2Q	-0.10%	0.10%	0.20%
07-30	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	GDP NSA YoY	2Q	0.30%	0.30%	-0.80%
07-30	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	GDP WDA YoY	2Q	-0.10%	0.00%	-0.10%
07-30	Germany	German Federal Statistical Office	CPI YoY	Jul	2.30%	2.20%	2.20%

Earnings Calendar

Tickers	Company Name	Date of reporting 2Q2024 results	No. of days remaining	Status
ERES	Ezdan Holding Group	31-Jul-24	0	Due
QGRI	Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company	31-Jul-24	0	Due
AKHI	Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Company	31-Jul-24	0	Due
QIMD	Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Company	04-Aug-24	4	Due
QEWS	Qatar Electricity & Water Company	04-Aug-24	4	Due
QOIS	Qatar Oman Investment Company	05-Aug-24	5	Due
MERS	Al Meera Consumer Goods Company	05-Aug-24	5	Due
DBIS	Dlala Brokerage & Investment Holding Company	05-Aug-24	5	Due
IGRD	Estithmar Holding	06-Aug-24	6	Due
QGTS	Qatar Gas Transport Company Limited (Nakilat)	06-Aug-24	6	Due
QAMC	Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Company	06-Aug-24	6	Due
QIGD	Qatari Investors Group	06-Aug-24	6	Due
BEMA	Damaan Islamic Insurance Company	07-Aug-24	7	Due
ZHCD	Zad Holding Company	08-Aug-24	8	Due
QCFS	Qatar Cinema & Film Distribution Company	12-Aug-24	12	Due
SIIS	Salam International Investment Limited	12-Aug-24	12	Due
WDAM	Widam Food Company	12-Aug-24	12	Due
DOHI	Doha Insurance	12-Aug-24	12	Due
MCCS	Mannai Corporation	14-Aug-24	14	Due
QATI	Qatar Insurance	14-Aug-24	14	Due
QLMI	QLM Life & Medical Insurance Company	14-Aug-24	14	Due

Qatar

- **ORDS's bottom line rises 14.9% YoY and 5.0% QoQ in 2Q2024 -** Ooredoo 's (ORDS) net profit rose 14.9% YoY (+5.0% QoQ) to QR958.5mn in 2Q2024. The company's revenue came in at QR5,933.9mn in 2Q2024, which represents an increase of 2.8% YoY (+1.2% QoQ). EPS amounted to QR0.30 in 2Q2024 as compared to QR0.26 in 2Q2023. (QSE)

- **QISI posts 3.4% YoY increase but 16.0% QoQ decline in net profit in 2Q2024 -** Qatar Islamic Insurance Company 's (QISI) net profit rose 3.4% YoY (but declined 16.0% on QoQ basis) to QR36.1mn in 2Q2024. The company's total revenues came in at QR57.1mn in 2Q2024, which represents an increase of 10.9% YoY. However, on QoQ basis total revenues fell 13.0%. EPS amounted to QR0.24 in 2Q2024 as compared to QR0.23 in 2Q2023. (QSE)

- **Doha Insurance Group: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on August 12 -** Doha Insurance Group to disclose its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2024 on 12/08/2024. (QSE)

- **Qatar Insurance: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on August 14 -** Qatar Insurance to disclose its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2024 on 14/08/2024. (QSE)

- **Meeza QSTP LLC (Public) to hold its investor relations conference call on July 31 to discuss the financial results -** Meeza QSTP LLC (Public) announces that the conference call with the Investors to discuss the financial results for the Semi-Annual 2024 will be held on 31/07/2024 at 01:00 pm, Doha Time. (QSE)

- **Qatar sells 500mn Riyals 7-day bills at yield 5.784% -** Qatar sold 500mn riyals ($137.15mn) of bills due Aug. 1 on July 25. The bills have a yield of 5.784% and settled July 25. (Bloomberg)

- **QCB launches 'Request to Pay' through Fawran service -** Qatar Central Bank (QCB) announced Tuesday the launch of "Request to Pay" option through "Fawran" service, in line with the Third Financial Sector Strategic Plan, and in continuation of its efforts to improve the instant payment system in the country. In a post on social media platform /X/, Qatar Central Bank called on customers to send a payment request from the payee to the payer. The payer will then receive the request from the payee, including the payee's name, the required amount to be transferred and the option to accept or reject the request. In case of acceptance, the required amount will be transferred instantly to the payee's account. (Gulf Times)

- **Consumer prices dip in June, edges up 0.98% over the year -** The National Planning Council has released the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for June 2024. The CPI for June 2024 reached 107.52 points, showing a decrease of 0.07% compared to May 2024. On a year-over-year (Y-o-Y) basis, the CPI increased by 0.98% compared to June 2023. Comparing the main components of the CPI for June 2024 with May 2024 (monthly change), five groups increased, five groups decreased, and two groups remained unchanged. The groups that decreased are as follows: “Food and Beverages” by 3.12%, “Clothing and Footwear” by 0.86%, “Transport” by 0.61%, “Housing, Water, Electricity, and other Fuel” by 0.47%, and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” by 0.18%. Increases were recorded in “Communication” by 9.29%, “Recreation and Culture” by 1.24%, “Restaurants and Hotels” by 0.13%, “Furniture and Household Equipment” by 0.07%, and “Education” by 0.04%. “Tobacco” and “Health” remained unchanged. Comparing the CPI of June 2024 with June 2023 (annual change), an increase of 0.98% was recorded. This Y-o-Y price increase is primarily due to rising prices in five groups: “Recreation and Culture” by 14.09%, “Education” by 3.42%, “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” by 2.83%, “Clothing and Footwear” by 0.98%, and “Food and Beverages” by 0.09%. Decreases were shown in “Communication” by 4.62%, “Housing, Water, Electricity, and other Fuel” by 3.10%, “Restaurants and Hotels” by 1.79%, “Health” by 1.77%, “Furniture and Household Equipment” by 1.71%, and “Transport” by 0.32%. No changes were recorded in “Tobacco.” Excluding the “Housing, Water, Electricity, and other Fuel” group, the CPI for June 2024 stands at 111.04 points, recording stability with a 0.02% change compared to May 2024. Compared to June 2023, this index increased by 1.95%. (Qatar Tribune)

- **Al Rayyan leads in building permits issued in June 2024 -** The Municipality of Al Rayyan issued the most building permits in the month of June with 145 permits, accounting for 27% of the total issued permits. The Municipalities of Doha and Al Da’ayen followed in second place with 114 permits each, representing 21% per municipality. Next was the Municipality of Al Wakrah with 73 permits (13%), followed by Al Khor with 36 permits (7%). The remaining municipalities were as follows: Umm Slal with 35 permits (6%), Al Sheehaniya with 17 permits (3%), and Al Shammal with 9 permits (2%). Regarding the types of permits issued, new building permits (residential and non-residential) constituted 40% (218 permits) of the total issued in June 2024. Additions permits made up 56% (302 permits), and fencing permits accounted for 4% (23 permits). Analyzing new residential building permits, villas topped the list, accounting for 83% (136 permits) of all new residential building permits. This was followed by apartment buildings with 14% (23 permits) and other residential buildings with 3% (5 permits). For non-residential building permits, service/infrastructure buildings led with 43% (23 permits), followed by industrial buildings such as workshops and factories with 28% (15 permits), and commercial and administrative buildings with 13% (7 permits). Comparing the number of permits issued in June 2024 with those from the previous month, there was a general decrease of 31%. This decrease was observed across all municipalities: Umm Slal (44%), Al Rayyan (42%), Al Wakrah (33%), Al Sheehaniya (32%), Al Da’ayen (31%), Doha (11%), and Al Shamal (10%). However, there was a clear increase in the Municipality of Al Khor (13%). Building Completion Certificates: In June 2024, the Municipality of Doha led in the issuance of building completion certificates with 146 certificates, accounting for 39% of the total. The Municipality of Al Rayyan followed with 87 certificates (23%), then Al Da’ayen with 49 certificates (13%), and Al Wakrah with 44 certificates (12%). The remaining municipalities issued the following: Umm Slal with 22 certificates (6%), Al Khor with 11 certificates (3%), Al Sheehaniya with 9 certificates (2%), and Al Shammal with 7 certificates (2%). Regarding the types of certificates issued, new building completion certificates (residential and non-residential) made up 87% (326 certificates) of the total issued in June 2024, while additions certificates constituted 13% (49 certificates). Analyzing new residential building completion certificates, villas topped the list, accounting for 94% (271 certificates) of all new residential building completion certificates. This was followed by apartment buildings with 6% (16 certificates) and other residential buildings with 0.4% (1 certificate). For non-residential building completion certificates, commercial and administrative buildings led with 55% (21 certificates), followed by industrial buildings such as workshops and factories with 26% (10 certificates), and various activities buildings, mosques, and service/infrastructure buildings each with 5% (2 certificates). Comparing the number of certificates issued in June 2024 with those from the previous month, there was a general decrease of 4%. This decrease was observed in most municipalities: Al Khor (50%), Al Wakrah (41%), Al Da’ayen (31%), and Umm Slal (27%), and Al Rayyan (11%). However, there was a significant increase in the Municipality of Al Shamal (600%), Doha (66%), and Al Sheehaniya (13%). (Qatar Tribune)

- **Abu Dhabi, Qatar wealth funds back Adani Energy's share sale: report -** Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) have invested in Adani Energy Solutions’ share sale in India of up to $1 billion, two sources said, its first such deal since a scathing report from short-seller Hindenburg Research last year. The deal marks Adani Group’s first fundraising from equity markets after a $2.5 billion share sale was scrapped in February last year following U.S.-based Hindenburg Research’s accusations of improper use of offshore tax havens and stock manipulation. Adani has always denied wrongdoing. The list of more than 50 investors also included GQG Partners, Nomura and India’s Bandhan Mutual Fund, said the sources, who had direct knowledge of the deal but declined to be named as investor names are not public. Adani Energy, led by billionaire Gautam Adani, and the investors named above did not respond to Reuters queries. The investment will further help Adani which has managed to win investors’ backing after Hindenburg’s report last year sparked a sell-off of more than $100 billion in the group’s stock. The shares have recovered significantly since then. Adani Energy, the group’s power transmission and distribution company, raised funds through a Qualified Institutional Placement, a tool used by listed Indian companies to raise funds from large institutions. An Adani

Energy statement said the floor price for the issue has been set at 1,027.11 Indian rupees ($12.27), at a discount to Tuesday's close of 1,124.9 rupees, without sharing any investor names. The share sale was for $700 million, with a so-called greenshoe option for a further $300 million, the sources said. The share sale opened on Tuesday. Adani Energy's shares rose about 7% on Tuesday. The stock, however, is roughly 60% lower than its levels prior to the Hindenburg Research accusations against the group. (Bloomberg, Reuters and Dealstreetasia)

- **Maritime Transport recorded 4,767 transactions in Q2 of 2024 -** The Maritime Transport Affairs recorded 4,767 transactions during the second quarter of 2024, according to a post by the Ministry of Transport (MoT) on X. These covered maritime vessels' main services, including issuance and accreditation of certificates of competency for safe manning, naval architect and marine officer. Also, services were provided for maritime vessels' ownership transfer, renewal and registration. Data monitoring and renewal services were extended for foreign vessels engaged in operations in Qatar waters. The MoT provides various services to small and large vessels to develop the maritime transport sector. They are also designed to facilitate operations and procedures and keep pace with technological advancements by automating all ship services. The various services are provided through integration with MoT's national documentation and archiving system to ensure business procedures are facilitated and completed through the mobile app or portal. The ministry recently launched a new package of digital services related to maritime transportation. The new digital services cover small craft transactions. This comes in the context of MoT's digital transformation and service automation plans that aim for performance excellence, faster transactions, and simpler procedures. The new services, which are available for the public on a test run at MoT's official website, allow beneficiaries to register a small craft, renew craft registration, modify craft specifications, issue replacements, delete small crafts, and issue craft owners sequence certificates, in addition to the mortgage, release of mortgage and ownership modification services. (Gulf Times)

International

- **Euro zone economy grows but outlook far from rosy -** The euro zone's economy grew slightly more than expected in the three months to June, data showed on Tuesday, but a mixed underlying picture and a string of pessimistic surveys cloud the outlook for the rest of the year. The figures portray a bloc struggling to regain ground in global trade but continuing to enjoy a domestic rebound fueled by higher real incomes and public spending. Output in the 20 countries that share the euro increased by 0.3% in the second quarter of the year, Eurostat data showed, keeping up the pace from the previous quarter and just ahead of economists' expectations. Among large economies, France and Spain did better than expected, Italy held its ground, while German output unexpectedly contracted, strengthening fears about a lengthy crisis in a country that was for a decade Europe's powerhouse. Consumer confidence also remained negative in July, adding to a number of weak surveys in recent days. "The euro zone economy is quite like the water quality of the Seine: some days it may look okay but overall it's poor enough to continuously worry about it," ING economist Bert Colijn said, referring to the river in Paris where some Olympic events have been disrupted due to pollution levels. The 0.3% quarterly increase in French GDP was a case in point. While growth was a touch better than expected, this was partly due to the delivery of a single cruise ship boosting exports and offsetting flat consumer spending. Still, it brought welcome relief to a country mired in political uncertainty and facing investor doubts about its growing debt. "French growth could surprise on the upside this year and rise to around 1.2%," Hadrien Camatte, an economist at Natixis, said. "This is also good news for public finances, which would benefit from this growth pickup." The Italian economy expanded 0.2% as inventories more than compensated for a drop in net exports, while Spain notched up a much stronger-than-expected 0.8%, in part attributed to public investments. Germany lagged, with output falling by 0.1% due to lower investments in equipment and buildings in Europe's largest economy. Economists worry that rather than a short-lived dip, the data reflects Germany's fundamental lack of competitiveness, partly due to the disruption of its business model based on cheap energy from Russia and vibrant trade with China. "Companies are suffering from the long-standing erosion of German competitiveness, and consumers are laboring under the recent inflation-induced slump in purchasing power," Joerg Kraemer, an economist at Commerzbank, said in a note. Inflation also unexpectedly rose in Germany in July, to 2.6% from last month's 2.5%, with a key measure of underlying price growth stuck at 2.9% for the second month in a row. "One cause for concern is the unchanged high core inflation," Deutsche Bank economist Sebastian Becker said. "It is clear that the favorable, inflation-dampening effects on industrial goods excluding energy are still being more or less completely offset by the high upward pressure on service prices." Elsewhere, inflation slowed more than expected in Spain to 2.9% from 3.6% in June. Euro zone-wide data is due on Wednesday. For now, lackluster German growth data seemed to trump any worry about inflation. Traders were largely sticking to their bets for two more interest rate cuts by the European Central Bank by the end of the year - in September and December. (Reuters)

- **German economy unexpectedly shrinks, inflation ticks higher -** The German economy unexpectedly contracted in the second quarter after skirting a recession at the beginning of the year and July's inflation rose, showing the continuing struggles of the euro zone's biggest economy. Germany's gross domestic product contracted by 0.1% in the second quarter compared with the previous three-month period, preliminary data from the statistics office showed on Tuesday. Analysts polled by Reuters had forecast a 0.1% quarter-on-quarter increase in adjusted terms, following 0.2% economic growth in the first quarter. Germany was the worst performing major economy last year, with gross domestic product contracting by 0.3%, and it came close to recession at the start of 2024 - buffeted by a combination of cyclical and structural headwinds. In the second quarter, Germany was a laggard among its peers again, and the divergence in terms of growth has widened: While the German economy contracted, France and Spain did better than expected and Italy held its ground. The euro zone's economy grew 0.3% in the three months to June, data showed on Tuesday. "While German data is stagflationary, the eurozone as a whole provides a picture of a relatively solid but potentially fading recovery with sticky inflation," said Carsten Brzeski, global head of macro at ING. Also countering expectations, German inflation rose in July to 2.6%, preliminary data from the federal statistics office showed on Tuesday. Analysts polled by Reuters had forecast no change to the inflation rate, after consumer prices rose by 2.5% on the year in June, based on data harmonized to compare with other European Union countries. Euro zone inflation figures due on Wednesday will shed light on the case for a rate cut by the European Central Bank in September, with the market expecting one more cut by year-end. In Germany, inflation looks stuck above 2%, analysts say. (Reuters)

Regional

- **EY: Mena witnesses 321 M&A deals of $49.2bn in first half of 2024 -** The Middle East and North Africa (Mena) region witnessed a slight increase in merger and acquisition (M&A) activity with a total of 321 deals amounting to $49.2bn in the first half (H1) of 2024, according to Ernst and Young (EY). When compared to H1-2023, deal volume this year grew by 1%, while deal value saw a rise of 12%, EY said in a report. The UAE and Saudi Arabia were the preferred destinations for investors with 152 deals reaching a total disclosed value of $9.8bn, it said, adding they were also among the top Mena bidder countries in terms of deal volume and value, indicating their active participation in the region's M&A landscape. Sovereign wealth funds (SWFs), such as Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Mubadala from the UAE and the Public Investment Fund (PIF) from Saudi Arabia, continued to lead the deal activity in the region to support their countries' economic strategies. "Deal making got off to a promising start in 2024 despite oil price fluctuations. We saw a surge in cross-border M&A value as companies made investments to further build synergies, expand market presence, and gain strategic advantages on a global scale," said Brad Watson, EY Mena Strategy and Transactions Leader. The Mena countries continued to strengthen regional relationships with Asian and European countries, alongside existing ties with the US, enabling them to gain access to larger and growing markets, according to him. During H1-2024, cross-border M&As played a significant role, contributing to 52% of the overall volume and

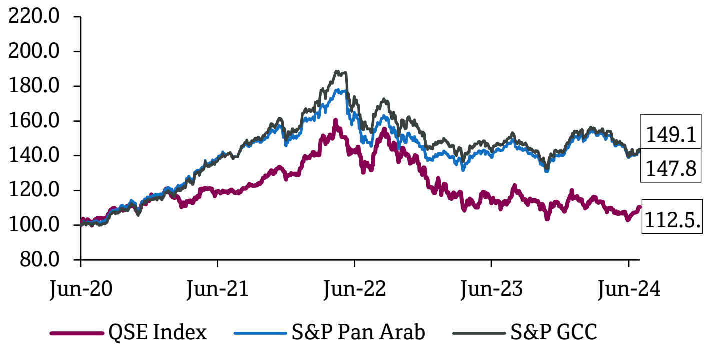
87% of the value, marking a 15% year-on-year growth in value. Meanwhile, domestic M&A activity accounted for 48% of the total number of deals. The US remained the preferred target destination for Mena outbound investors with 19 deals amounting to $16.6bb. As many as 10 of the Mena region's highest-valued M&As in H1- 2024 were concentrated in the GCC. The first half of 2024 saw 155 domestic deals with a combined disclosed value of $6.4bn, marking a 13% increase in M&A activity. The GCC players were involved in 85% of the deals, reflecting a high level of intraregional M&A activity. There were 94 deals within and between the UAE and Saudi Arabia, accounting for 61% of the overall domestic M&A deal volume. The real estate (including hospitality and leisure) sector became the main contributor to deal value with 15 deals amounting to $1.3bn, driven by increasing tourism, upcoming mega projects and a growing middle-class income. The consumer products and technology sectors witnessed 47 deals in the domestic market, representing 30% of the total volume. The first six months of 2024 recorded 70 inbound deals with a total disclosed value of $6.4bn. Europe led in terms of deal volume with 80%, and North America made the highest contribution to deal value at 98. During H1-2024, outbound activity was the largest contributor to total deal value with 96 deals that amounted to $36.3bn, marking a 19% increase in value compared to H1-2023. Insurance and real estate accounted for 57% of the deal value in this space, mainly resulting from two deals involving Mena-based SWFs. The US and China contributed 75% of the total outbound deal value. "M&A, in the recent past, has been the beneficiary of significant tail winds such as low cost of capital. It is heartening to see regional M&A activity remain robust despite the higher cost of capital. The resilience of the regional M&A markets is underpinned by stable oil price and continued infrastructure spending by local governments," according to Anil Menon, EY Mena Head of M&A and Equity Capital Markets Leader. (Gulf Times)

- Mideast carriers record 13.8% jump in cargo in June - The Middle Eastern carriers witnessed more than 13% growth in cargo in June to International Air Transport Association (IATA) data revealed, yesterday. The regional performance data for June of Middle Eastern carriers saw 13.8% year-on-year demand growth for air cargo in June. The Middle East–Europe market performed particularly well with 30.2% annual growth, ahead of Middle East-Asia which grew by 15.1% year-on-year. The June capacity increased 6.9% year-on-year. The International Air Transport Association data for June 2024 noted that global air cargo markets were showing continuing strong annual growth in demand. This contributed to an exceptional first half-year performance for air cargo, with volumes exceeding 2023, 2022, and even the record-breaking 2021 levels. The total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers, rose by 14.1% compared to June 2023 levels (15.6% for international operations). This is the seventh consecutive month of double-digit year-on-year growth. Meanwhile the capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers increased by 8.8% compared to June 2023 (10.8% for international operations). In June, Qatar's air cargo witnessed upward trajectory as air cargo and mail reported a growth of 10.1%, taking the total to 214,823 tonnes during June this year as compared to 195,029 tonnes in the same month in last year, Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) noted. The data showed in June this year an increase of 11.3% was registered in aircraft movements as compared to the same month last year. It noted that 23,257 flight movements were recorded in the month while June 2023 witnessed 20,891 aircraft activities. Meanwhile the number of air passengers also surged by 16.4% in June 2024 as compared to the same month in the previous year. The month saw 4.351mn travellers passing through the award-winning Hamad International Airport as compared to the 3.738mn passengers in June 2023.Hamad International Airport (DOH) has demonstrated exceptional growth in the first half of 2024, witnessing a significant increase of 25% in passenger traffic. Additionally, its aircraft movement has grown by 19%, total number of bags handled has grown by 19% and cargo operations has increased by 12%, in comparison to the first half of 2023. HIA expanded its network this year by welcoming new airlines partners, including Japan Airlines, Garuda Indonesia, China Southern Airlines, and Akasa Air. This is in addition to Iberia, Xiamen Airlines and Vistara joining the airport's network late last year. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Fitch: GCC debt capital market to reach $1tn mark by next year - GCC debt capital market (DCM) issuances are moving towards the $1tn outstanding mark, growing through 2024 and 2025, Fitch said in a new report. The DCM in the GCC region has grown 7% year-on-year (YoY) to $940bn outstanding at the end of the first quarter of 2024, with the largest shares in Saudi Arabia (43%) and the UAE (30%). Fitch, which rates over 70% of GCC US dollar sukuk, said 40% of DCM outstanding were sukuk by the end of the first quarter, with the rest in bonds. Government issuances will be driven by expected lower oil prices and interest rates as well as initiatives to develop the DCMs and further diversify funding channels, Fitch said. "Most GCC countries have come a long way in developing their DCMs, with the bloc now accounting for almost a third of total emerging-market dollar issuance, excluding China," said Bashar Al Natoor, Global Head of Islamic Finance at Fitch Ratings. Saudi Arabia is aiming to deepen its DCM, with issuance driven by budget deficits, he said, adding the UAE is projected to continue issuances despite surpluses. On the other hand, DCMs in Qatar and Oman are contracting, given that they are expected to repay debt further in 2024. The debt law absence limits Kuwait's funding options, Al Natoor said. Bahrain is dependent on DCM access and GCC funding amid wide deficits, he added. (Gulf Times)
- Saudi Arabia allows 100% foreign ownership in most business sectors - Saudi Vice Minister of Commerce and CEO of the National Competitiveness Center (NCC) Dr. Eman Al-Mutairi noted that the Kingdom allows 100% foreign ownership in most business sectors, a significant factor in attracting international investment. This was highlighted during the Saudi-Korean Business Forum on Tuesday, where Commerce Minister Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi emphasized that Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 has led to substantial economic diversification, fostering sustainable and inclusive growth, and encouraging innovation across various business sectors. The forum, attended by Saudi Ambassador to Korea Sami Al-Sadhan and approximately 400 representatives from both public and private sectors, underscored the strategic trade relations between Saudi Arabia and Korea. Al-Qasabi highlighted the collaborative efforts to boost economic prosperity, noting that trade volume between the two nations reached $35bn from 2019 to 2023. Additionally, 174 commercial records were issued to Korean companies up to last April. Korean Minister of Trade Dr. Inkyo Cheong emphasized the expanding Saudi-Korean economic and trade partnership across vital sectors such as automotive and shipbuilding, as well as emerging areas like AI, data centers, and smart cities. He also noted the growth in trade services and stressed that the Korea-GCC Free Trade Agreement would elevate economic cooperation to a new level. Dr. Al-Mutairi outlined significant reforms aimed at boosting the Kingdom's competitiveness. She highlighted the positive transformations in the Saudi economy and business environment. Notably, 820 economic reforms have been implemented by 60 government agencies since 2016 in nine key areas, with 1,200 laws and regulations issued and updated to strengthen the legal framework. Dr. Al-Mutairi also emphasized the digitization of government services, which has reached 97%, and the activation of virtual commercial court sessions at a 99% rate, significantly improving litigation efficiency. She also mentioned that the establishment of the Saudi Business Center has streamlined business licensing requirements by 55%. The forum, organized by the NCC, the Federation of Saudi Chambers of Commerce, and the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, aimed to expand economic partnership opportunities between the two nations. It included two dialogue sessions: "Innovation and Technology," featuring representatives from the Ministry of Investment, Monshaat, SDAIA, and Korean companies Naver and Rebellions, which discussed the role of government initiatives in promoting innovation and technology adoption; and "Advanced Manufacturing and Infrastructure," attended by representatives from various ministries and institutes, which tackled key developing sectors in advanced manufacturing and the challenges and opportunities posed by digital transformation in infrastructure development. Nine agreements were signed by companies from both sides, marking a successful conclusion to the forum. The event, held on the second day of the Saudi delegation's visit to Korea from July 29 to 31, was preceded by meetings between Dr. Al-Qasabi and Korea's Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Dr. Dukgeun Ahn, and Minister of Trade Dr. Inkyo Cheong, where discussions focused on strengthening trade relations and cooperation in global trade issues, particularly in removing trade barriers and increasing exports. (Zawya)

- **Saudi: Investment Minister highlights $13.3bn in opportunities for Tabuk region -** Minister of Investment Khalid Al-Falih announced that the volume of ready investment opportunities in the Tabuk region, displayed on the "Invest in Saudi Arabia" platform, is worth more than SR50bn. This statement was made during a meeting organized by the Tabuk Chamber of Commerce with investors and businessmen in the region on Monday. Al-Falih emphasized that the ministry is working in cooperation with the Tabuk Chamber to identify new investment opportunities, particularly in promising sectors such as renewable energy, agriculture, tourism, and entrepreneurship. He highlighted the importance of supporting the private sector in Tabuk to enhance investment in the region. Al-Falih also pointed out the crucial role of Tabuk Airport in facilitating economic movement and stressed the need for its expansion to keep pace with the region's growing economic activities, according to the Saudi Press Agency (SPA). The Tabuk Chamber of Commerce identified several challenges and obstacles facing investors in the region. These include high production and land transportation costs, the lack of a railway, and the long distance involved, as well as an insufficient number of flights to and from Tabuk Airport. Chairman of the Tabuk Chamber of Commerce Imad Al-Fakhri proposed several initiatives to develop investment in Tabuk. These include organizing an international investment forum, forming a partnership between the Chamber and the Ministry of Investment to market investment opportunities and attract investors to tourism projects, establishing industrial complexes and storage facilities, increasing the number of flights, and providing comprehensive information and data on the economy and investment opportunities in the region. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Arabia makes significant strides in global labor market indicators -** Saudi Arabia has achieved significant progress in global indicators related to flexible working arrangements, ease of finding skilled employees, and equal pay for equal work, according to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) 2024 reports. The Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD) has played a pivotal role in enhancing the Kingdom's global standing. Since 2021, Saudi Arabia has climbed seven places in the flexible work arrangements index, now ranking 14th globally. The Ministry has transformed the traditional labor market by introducing new work patterns, including flexible work, freelance work, and telework programs, thereby creating more job opportunities for Saudis. In terms of the ease of finding skilled employees, Saudi Arabia has made notable advancements, moving up three places since 2021 to rank 4th globally in 2024. The Ministry has implemented several initiatives to support the training and qualification of national workers. This includes the "Skill Verification Program," conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which verifies the qualifications and skills of expatriate workers from 128 countries. The Ministry has also supported job seekers through the parallel training initiative, which aims to empower women and increase their labor market participation. This initiative offers training programs focused on fundamental and technical skills, career guidance, and employer-provided tasks to ensure graduates' success. Additionally, the Ministry has launched the Wa'ad National Training Campaign to provide 1,155,000 training opportunities by the end of 2025. This initiative, part of the Ministry's strategy to support and train national cadres in partnership with the private sector, targets several goals. These include training 12% of Saudis annually, establishing 12 sectoral councils for skills in collaboration with the private sector, and creating national professional standards for over 300 professions. The Skills Accelerator Initiative, targeting 162,000 private sector employees, aims to develop high-level skills and enhance productivity. In the Global Gender Gap Report, Saudi Arabia has advanced two places in the equal pay for equal work ranking since 2023, now placing 13th globally in 2024. The participation of women in the labor market has risen, reaching 34.1% in the first quarter of 2024, with an economic participation rate of 35.8% for Saudi women over the age of 15. Efforts to promote women's empowerment have increased the percentage of women in senior and middle management positions to 43.8% in the first quarter of 2024. The Ministry aims to further raise women's participation to 40% in the near future. These efforts have significantly strengthened Saudi Arabia's global position and showcased its ability to influence the labor market. The Kingdom has achieved a record number of Saudis working in the private sector, increasing from 1.7mn in 2019 to over 2.3mn in 2024. Furthermore, the unemployment rate has declined to 7.6% in the first quarter of 2024. (Zawya)
- **Saudi-South Korean trade hits $147.73bn in 5 years -** The trade exchange between Saudi Arabia and South Korea has totaled SAR 554bn ($147.73bn) over the past five years. In 2023, the trade value between the two countries was SAR 129.80bn ($34.61bn), according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce. Saudi exports to South Korea reached SAR 4.50bn ($1.20bn) last year, ranking seventh among the Asian country's top trade partners. Earlier in July, Saudi Arabia participated in the GCC-US Trade and Investment Dialogue and the SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington. (Zawya)
- **Consumer sentiment in Saudi Arabia shows positive trends -** The latest Ipsos Primary Consumer Sentiment Index (PCSI) for Saudi Arabia, released in May 2024, indicates an overall positive consumer outlook, reflecting strong confidence in the country's economic future. The PCSI for May 2024 stands at 72.7, slightly up from 71.9 in April. This positive shift demonstrates growing consumer confidence in Saudi Arabia's economic direction. A significant 95% of respondents believe that the country is heading in the right direction. This is one of the highest confidence levels globally, surpassing major economies like China (91%) and India (78%). When asked to rate the current state of the local economy, 73% of respondents rated it as strong, and 24% as neither strong nor weak. Looking ahead, 87% expect the economy to be stronger in six months, showing overwhelming optimism about future economic conditions. Currently, 47% of respondents rate their personal financial situation as strong, 8% as neither strong nor weak, and 45% as weak. Looking forward, 77% expect their personal financial situation to improve over the next six months, indicating high personal financial optimism. Confidence in job security remains robust, with 78% of respondents feeling more secure about their jobs compared to six months ago. Confidence in the ability to make major purchases, like homes or cars, has increased, with 77% feeling more comfortable compared to six months ago. Similarly, 75% are more confident in their ability to invest in the future, including saving for retirement and children's education. The top five concerns for consumers are inflation (44%), unemployment and jobs (30%), taxes (28%), climate change (26%), and COVID-19 (21%). Saudi Arabia's consumer confidence is significantly higher than the global average PCSI of 50.2. The Kingdom's financial and economic expectations also rank higher than many other countries, indicating a particularly strong consumer sentiment in the region. (Zawya)
- **UAE-Chile CEPA deal aims to reduce customs duties by 99.5% -** The United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Chile have signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) today in Abu Dhabi, paving the way for deeper economic collaboration between the two countries. The signing coincided with an official visit to the UAE of Gabriel Boric, President of Chile, during which he was received by President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to discuss strengthening cooperation on a range of fronts. The agreement was signed by Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade, and Alberto van Klaveren, Chile's Minister of Foreign Affairs, at a ceremony in Abu Dhabi. The deal, which is the latest in the UAE's foreign trade program, will create a range of new opportunities by eliminating or reducing customs duties covering 99.5% of the value of the UAE's imports from Chile, opening market access to services exports, removing unnecessary barriers to trade, and facilitating investment and joint-ventures. As a result of these measures, the UAE-Chile CEPA is projected to increase non-oil bilateral to $750mn by 2030, more than doubling the $306mn shared in 2023. The deal is also set to boost the value of UAE exports by $247mn by 2030, according to official UAE estimates. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade, heralded the deal as another important milestone for the UAE. He said, "The UAE-Chile CEPA is a significant step forward for our foreign trade ambitions and consolidates our growing relationship with South America. This deal unites two nations who are both committed to developing open, market-based economies that leverage trade, talent and technology to deliver long-term prosperity." He added, "Chile offers a range of exciting opportunities for our private sector, particularly in key sectors such as manufacturing, mining, financial services, renewable energy, tourism and agriculture, and I look forward to our business communities establishing

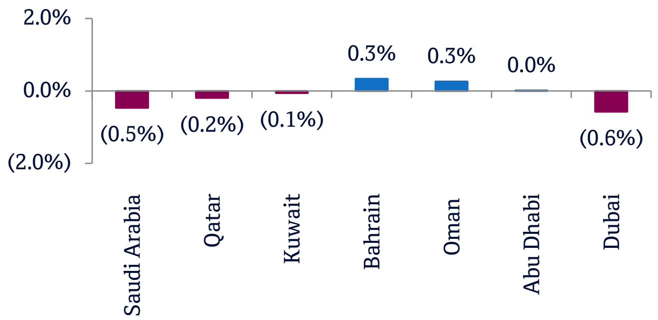
further synergies once the deal is implemented. Importantly, this CEPA also secures a partner that shares our belief in the importance of sustainable growth, from trade technology to eco-tourism, and who we can work with to shape the economy of tomorrow." For his part, Alberto van Klaveren, Chile's Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated, "This Agreement is very relevant for Chile. It is Chile's first Trade Agreement with a country in the Middle East and the Gulf in particular. We are confident that the broad liberalization of access to both markets established in the CEPA will substantially impact bilateral trade. Furthermore, this agreement facilitates the negotiation of a future Investment Agreement, important for both parties. As a whole, the CEPA raises our relations with the United Arab Emirates to a new level and will allow us to project ourselves more solidly throughout the region." Chile is the fourth-largest economy in South America with a GDP in excess of $300bn. It is also the world's largest copper producer, the second largest lithium producer and boasts rich agriculture, fishery and forestry resources. The UAE is already an active investor in the country, with key investments in fruit production and export, real estate, and transport. The UAE-Chile CEPA is the second deal the UAE has signed with a South American nation this year, following the signing of a CEPA with Colombia in April. The CEPA program was launched in September 2021 as a critical pillar of the UAE's growth and diversification efforts. Foreign trade remains the cornerstone of the UAE's economic agenda. In 2023, the UAE's non-oil trade in goods reached an all-time high of $701bn, a 12.6% increase on 2022 – and 34.7% more than 2021. (Zawya)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close ($)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	2,410.78	1.1	1.0	16.9
Silver/Ounce	28.39	1.9	1.6	19.3
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	78.63	(1.4)	(3.1)	2.1
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	74.73	(1.4)	(3.1)	4.3
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	1.87	0.0	1.7	(27.4)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	74.80	(0.9)	(1.6)	6.9
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	75.80	(0.7)	(0.4)	(24.6)
Euro	1.08	(0.1)	(0.4)	(2.0)
Yen	152.77	(0.8)	(0.6)	8.3
GBP	1.28	(0.2)	(0.2)	0.8
CHF	1.13	0.4	0.1	(4.7)
AUD	0.65	(0.2)	(0.2)	(4.0)
USD Index	104.55	(0.0)	0.2	3.2
RUB	110.69	0.0	0.0	58.9
BRL	0.19	0.8	0.8	(10.0)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	3,514.37	(0.3)	(0.3)	10.9
DJ Industrial	40,743.33	0.5	0.4	8.1
S&P 500	5,436.44	(0.5)	(0.4)	14.0
NASDAQ 100	17,147.42	(1.3)	(1.2)	14.2
STOXX 600	514.08	0.4	(0.2)	4.9
DAX	18,411.18	0.4	(0.5)	7.4
FTSE 100	8,274.41	(0.4)	(0.4)	7.6
CAC 40	7,474.94	0.3	(1.0)	(3.1)
Nikkei	38,525.95	0.6	2.6	5.8
MSCI EM	1,071.60	(0.5)	(0.1)	4.7
SHANGHAI SE Composite	2,879.30	(0.2)	(0.2)	(5.1)
HANG SENG	17,002.91	(1.4)	(0.2)	(0.3)
BSE SENSEX	81,455.40	0.2	0.2	12.1
Bovespa	126,139.21	(0.7)	(0.9)	(19.2)
RTS	1,151.93	0.0	0.0	6.3

Source: Bloomberg ($ adjusted returns if any)*

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