

AB Invest Monthly Newsletter

September Performance



Market News

In major September news, the Federal Reserve cut its benchmark rate by 25bps to 4%-4.25%, the first move since December, citing labor market weakness. Chair Jerome Powell said job creation has slowed below the level needed to keep unemployment stable, admitting the labor market is no longer "very solid". Policymakers now project two more cuts this year, one in 2026 and one in 2027. Powell framed the move as a "risk-management cut", balancing rising job risks against tariff-driven inflation, which remains above 2%.



| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | WORLD | MTD | YTD |
|---------|--------|-------|---------------|-------|--------|
| -19.46% | 21.77% | 2.63% | MSCI World | 3.09% | 16.15% |
| -20.80% | 7.93% | 2.84% | MSCI Frontier | 1.66% | 28.66% |
| -22.37% | 7.04% | 2.02% | MSCI Emerging | 6.96% | 25.16% |

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | USA | MTD | YTD |
|---------|---------|--------|--------------|-------|--------|
| -8.78% | 13.70% | 3.05% | DJI | 1.87% | 9.06% |
| -19.44% | 24.23% | 1.24% | S&P500 | 3.53% | 13.72% |
| -32.97% | 53.81% | -0.61% | Nasdaq100 | 5.40% | 17.46% |
| -20.41% | 24.51% | 1.18% | Russel 1000 | 3.35% | 13.50% |
| -21.56% | 15.09% | -3.01% | Russell 2000 | 2.96% | 9.25% |
| 25.84% | -42.55% | 13.14% | VIX | 5.99% | -6.17% |





MENA News

In regional news, the Central Bank of the UAE revised its growth outlook for 2025 to 4.9%, from an earlier forecast of 4.4%. The upgrade reflects expectations of higher oil output under OPEC+ as well as stronger performance in non-oil sectors such as construction, finance, and real estate. This places the UAE among the fastest-growing economies in the region and reinforces the government's long-term diversification strategy. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Finance released its latest economic outlook, projecting real GDP growth of 4.6% in 2026, an upgrade driven by rising non-oil activities, stronger household consumption, and increased private-sector investment. The ministry said non-oil growth is expected to reach 5%, supported by job creation and diversification efforts under Vision 2030. At the same time, the ministry revised its 2025 growth estimate down to 4.4%, citing weaker oil market conditions and lower-than-expected revenues.



| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | MENA Indices | MTD | YTD |
|---------|--------|--------|--------------|--------|--------|
| -7.63% | 5.63% | 1.79% | S&P Pan Arab | 2.60% | 5.95% |
| -7.15% | 4.13% | 0.66% | MSCI Arabia | 4.53% | 7.29% |
| -7.12% | 14.21% | 0.58% | Saudi Arabia | 7.54% | -4.43% |
| 4.39% | 21.69% | 27.07% | Dubai | -3.69% | 13.20% |
| 20.30% | -6.20% | -1.66% | Abu Dhabi | -0.79% | 6.32% |
| -8.13% | 1.40% | -2.40% | Qatar | -1.51% | 4.56% |
| 6.24% | -7.87% | 4.84% | Kuwait | 3.13% | 19.56% |
| 17.63% | -7.07% | 1.39% | Oman | 3.02% | 13.22% |
| 5.45% | 4.02% | 0.73% | Bahrain | 0.98% | -1.90% |
| 18.08% | -2.81% | 2.37% | Jordan | 1.98% | 21.88% |
| 22.17% | 70.53% | 19.47% | Egypt | 4.33% | 23.30% |
| 24.19% | 7.90% | 13.75% | Tunisia | 4.11% | 24.62% |
| -11.00% | 12.12% | 14.72% | Morocco | 0.00% | 36.91% |





Commodity News

In commodities, energy prices have continued their decline as fears over a global slowdown on the back of US tariffs, WTI and Brent oil both recorded losses while natural gas spiked due to the start of colder weather.

Metals on the other hand have continued to record all-time highs on the back of US interest rate cut bets and recession fears as the global economy started showing signs of weakness.

On a related note, the ratio of gold prices over oil prices has doubled since 2024. Historically, the ratio has only been this high during times of crisis, such as the 2008 financial crash or during COVID-19 which provides an ominous warning for the global economy.



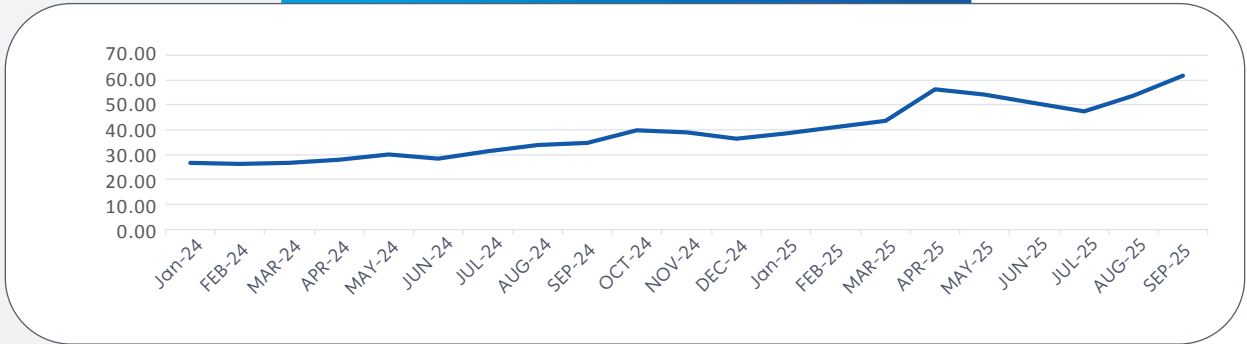
| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Energy | MTD | YTD |
|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| 10.45% | -10.32% | -3.12% | Brent | -1.61% | -10.21% |
| 6.71% | -10.73% | 0.10% | WTI | -2.56% | -13.04% |
| 19.97% | -43.82% | 44.51% | Nat Gas | 10.21% | -9.08% |

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Metals | MTD | YTD |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| -0.28% | 13.10% | 27.22% | Gold | 11.92% | 47.04% |
| 2.77% | -0.66% | 21.46% | Silver | 17.44% | 61.39% |
| -11.78% | 2.11% | 2.46% | Copper | 5.79% | 19.63% |

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Agri | MTD | YTD |
|--------|---------|---------|-------|--------|--------|
| 14.93% | -23.92% | -17.55% | Wheat | -4.91% | -9.69% |
| 6.54% | 14.91% | -9.67% | Sugar | -2.41% | -7.00% |
| 15.89% | -30.55% | -2.71% | Corn | 4.40% | -9.38% |



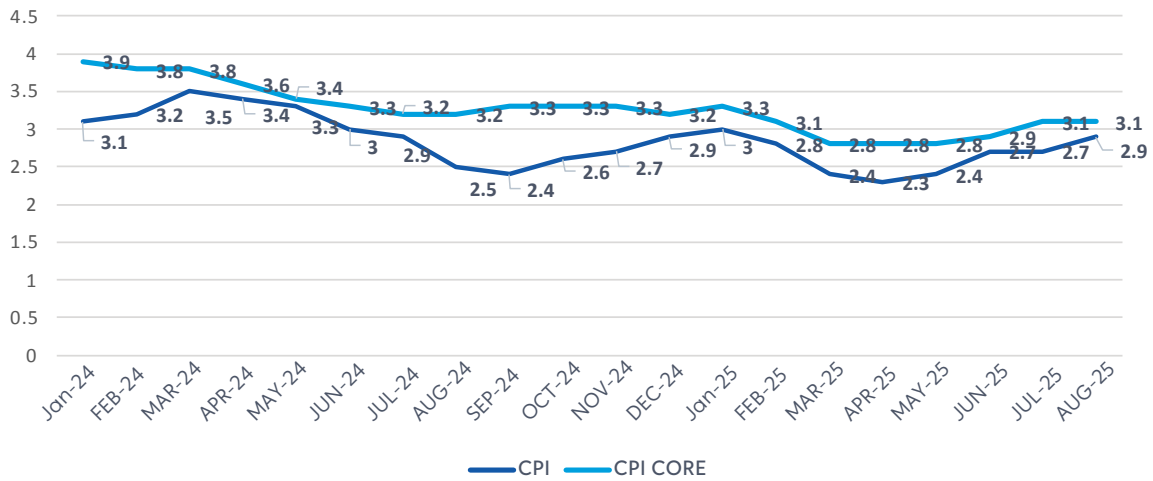
Gold Prices/Oil Prices



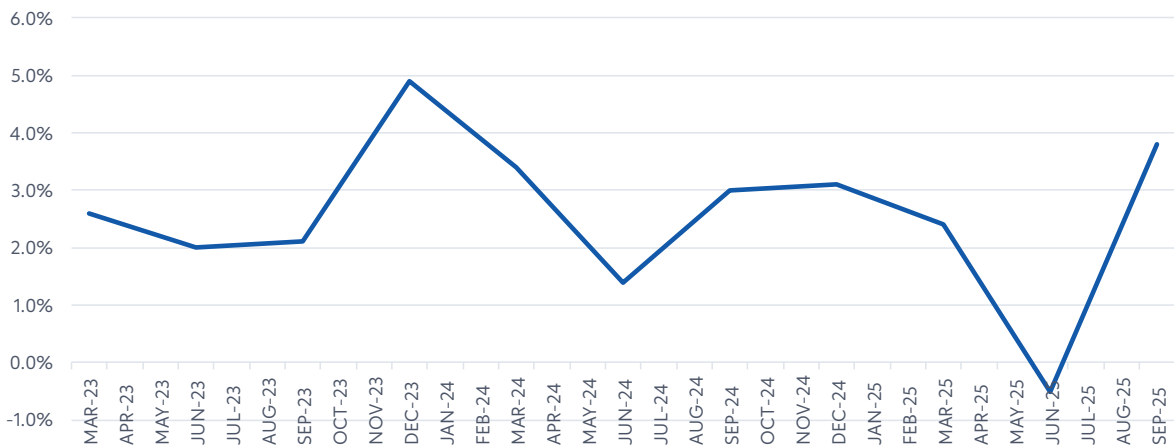
Select US and global economic Indicators

September Performance

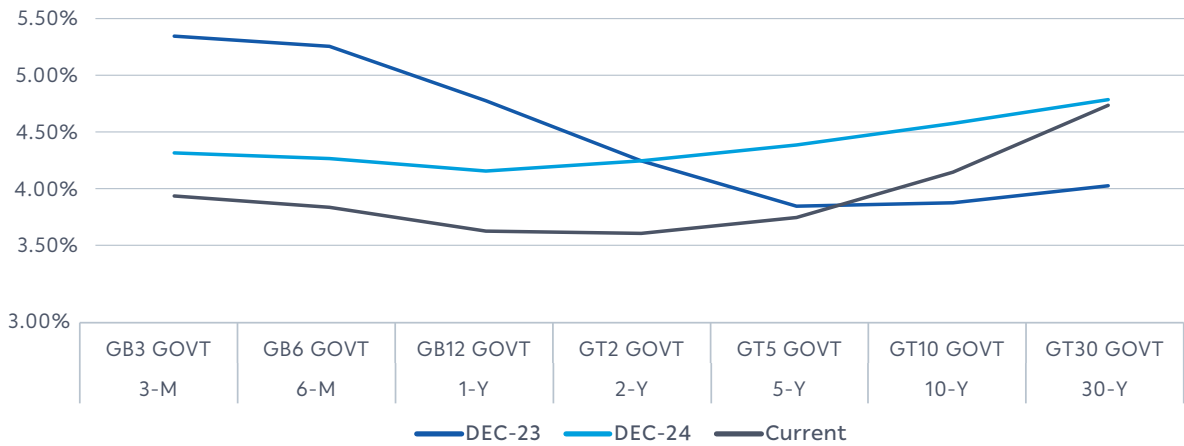
CPI Index



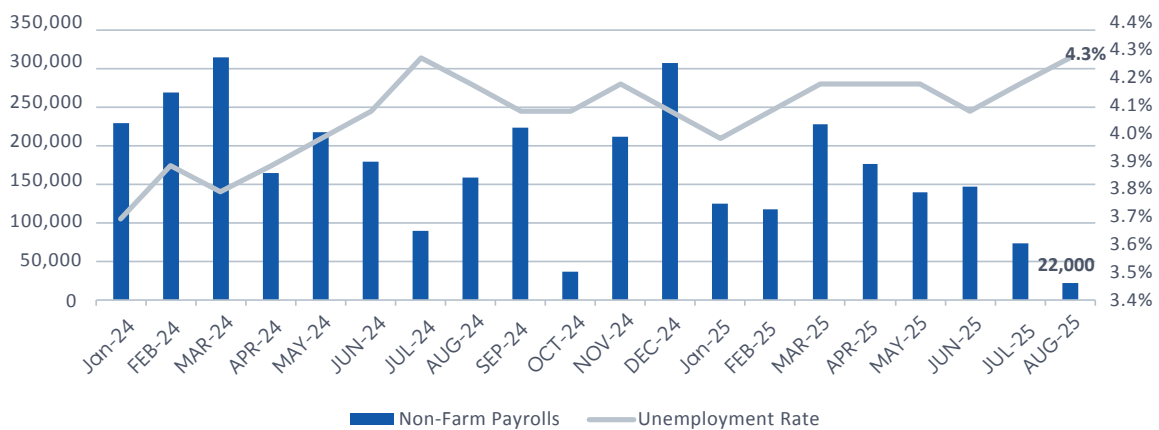
US GDP QoQ



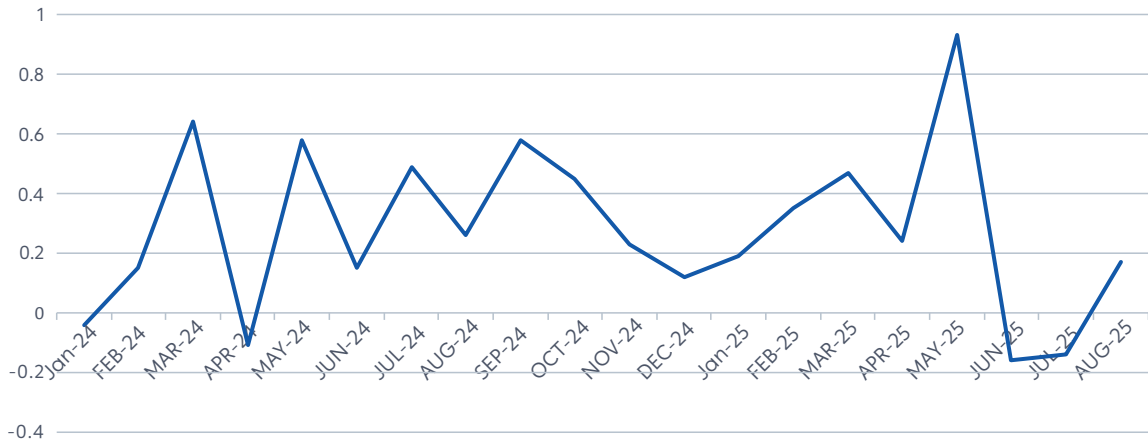
US T Yield Curve Movement %



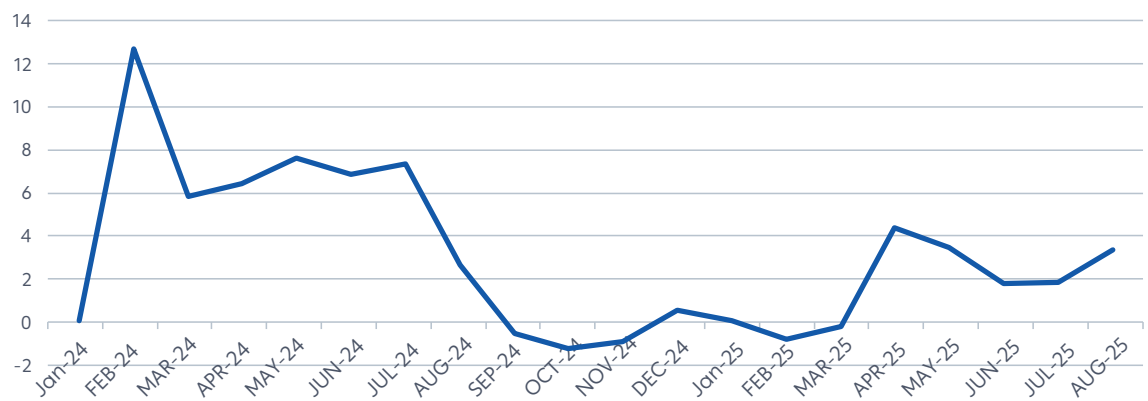
US Labour Market



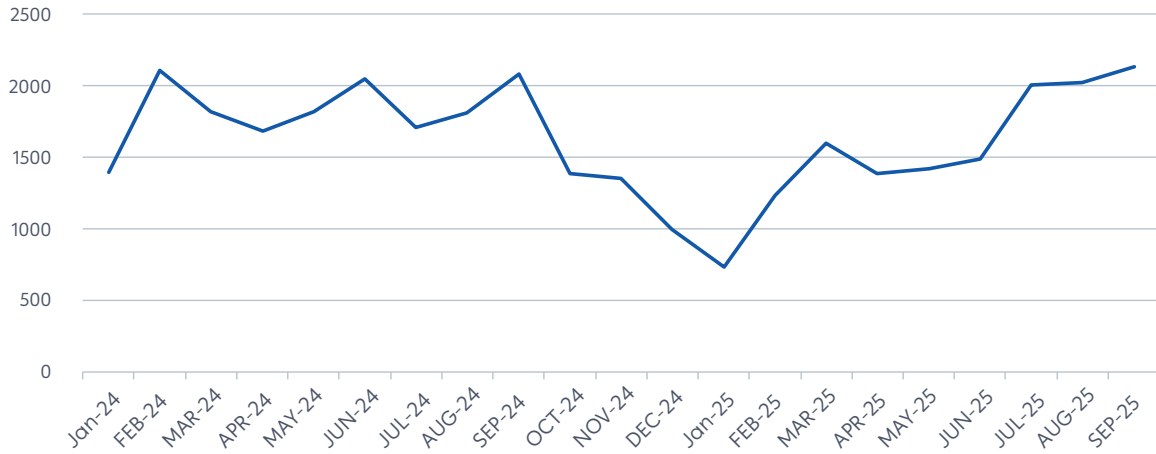
China Retail Sales



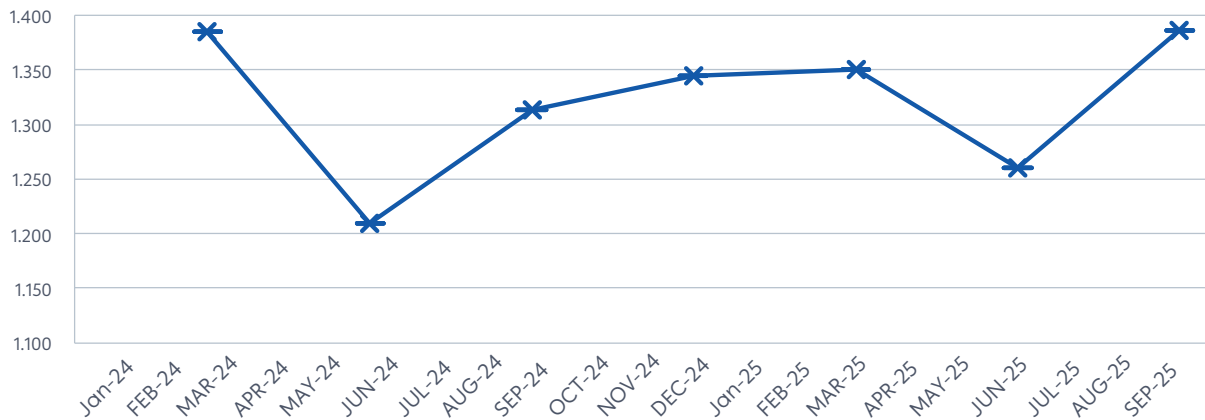
China Industrial Profits



Baltic Dry Index



S&P 500 Div Yield/US IG Bond Yield



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Al Arabi Investment Group "AB Invest" is a fully owned subsidiary of Arab Bank, offering an array of investment banking products and services since 1996. The total value of our clients' assets exceeded 1 billion \$ as of the end of 2024.

Our Services

Brokerage

- Amman Stock Exchange (Online trading available)
- Arab Capital Markets
- International Capital Markets (Online trading available)

Asset Management

MENA Focused

- Discretionary
 - Funds (Conventional & Sharia Compliant)
 - Portfolios
- Non-Discretionary
 - Fixed Income (Bonds & Sukuk)

Corporate Finance

- Issuance Manager
- Financial Advisor



Why AB Invest?

We are client centered with a proven track record and expanding reach. We prioritize clients' security, time, and goals while providing reliable, and suitable services and products.

- One-Stop-Shop for our clients' investment needs
- Fast and Easy Onboarding (online available), Execution, Reporting (Online available), and Remittance (Online available)
- Continuous growth in Products, Services, Geographic, and Client reach
- Strict adherence to regulations and the highest ethical standards
- Reliable and Trustworthy service
- Strong Integration with Arab Bank products and Services through the Bank's Wealth Management function



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AB Invest, member of the Arab Bank Group

 P.O. Box 143156

 Amman 11814, Jordan

 962 (6) 5522239

 962 (6) 5519064