

# Daily Economic Update

Economic Research Department  
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**Japan: Composite PMI below 50 for the first time in 2023.** The au Jibun Bank Japan Composite PMI fell below the neutral mark of 50.0 for the first time since December 2022, standing at 49.6 in November (50.5 in October). This was due to easing (but still growing) services activity as well as weakening manufacturing activity. The services PMI remained above the 50 no-change mark for the fifteenth successive month in November, but fell for the fifth time in six months to 50.8 (51.6 in October), the lowest reading since November 2022. Meanwhile, the manufacturing PMI remained in contraction territory, dropping from 48.7 in October to 48.3 November.

**UK: Retail sales growth ticks up slightly in November but underwhelms again.** Retail sales data for November published by the British Retail Consortium (BRC) showed consumer spending rising by 2.7% y/y, slightly better than October's reading (2.5%) but well below the 12-month average (4.1%) and the rate of inflation. The BRC described the retail spending growth picture as "limping along" ahead of the traditionally busiest, festive period of the year and a reflection of the cost-of-living pressures households are having to grapple with.

**Saudi Arabia: PMI ticks down to a still-strong 57.5 in November, price pressures increase moderately.** The PMI inched down to 57.5 in November (58.4 in October), which is still higher than the average recorded in Q3. The output and new order indices rose slightly with the latter hitting a five-month high. The employment index decreased from a nine-month high but remained in expansion territory. Price pressures increased in November with the output price index climbing marginally above 50 for the first time in three months while overall input costs continued to increase relatively fast, in fact at the highest rate in nearly a year and a half.

**Bahrain: Credit growth picks up in October but remains modest.** Bank lending growth rebounded to a four-month high of 2.0% y/y in October from 0.4% in September. However, the rise was mostly driven by a base effect, with borrowing inching up only 0.1% m/m, which was better than the steep fall recorded one year earlier. October's rise in the year-on-year rate was driven by stronger growth in personal lending (around half of all lending) at 3.1% y/y versus 2.4% in September, while business lending growth remained in contraction at -2.9% y/y, steeper than September's -1.3%, with ongoing weakness in the construction and real estate segment. Credit growth has been on a decelerating trend for most of this year, amid higher interest rates and slowing growth in the non-oil economy versus last year. Meanwhile, deposit growth accelerated to 4.1% y/y from 2.0% in September, again, benefitting from a year-ago base effect.

## Daily market indicators

Stock markets	Index	Change (%)	
		Daily	YTD
<b>Regional</b>			
Abu Dhabi (ADI)	9,539	0.00	-6.58
Bahrain (ASI)	1,950	0.45	2.88
Dubai (DFMGI)	3,988	0.00	19.53
Egypt (EGX 30)	25,265	2.82	73.07
GCC (S&P GCC 40)	673	-0.14	-2.63
Kuwait (All Share)	6,637	0.06	-8.99
KSA (TASI)	11,191	-0.25	6.11
Oman (MSM 30)	4,668	0.21	-4.20
Qatar (QE Index)	9,960	-0.76	-6.75

<b>International</b>			
CSI 300	3,460	-0.65	-10.63
DAX	16,405	0.04	17.82
DJIA	36,204	-0.11	9.22
Eurostoxx 50	4,415	-0.08	16.38
FTSE 100	7,513	-0.22	0.82
Nikkei 225	33,231	-0.60	27.35
S&P 500	4,570	-0.54	19.02

3m interbank rates	%	Change (bps)	
		Daily	YTD
Bahrain	6.66	1.32	51.83
Kuwait	4.31	0.00	31.25
Qatar	6.00	0.00	71.67
UAE	5.44	0.00	113.13
Saudi	6.34	-0.34	113.13
LIBOR	5.62	-1.23	85.73
SOFR	5.38	0.59	78.78

Bond yields	%	Change (bps)	
		Daily	YTD
<b>Regional</b>			
Abu Dhabi 2027	4.70	-1.20	46.5
Oman 2027	5.54	0.00	-44.7
Qatar 2026	4.88	1.00	39.8
Kuwait 2027	4.75	-0.30	48.1
Saudi 2028	4.91	-1.50	23.8

<b>International 10YR</b>			
US Treasury	4.29	6.20	45.5
German Bund	2.35	-1.30	-21.2
UK Gilt	4.20	5.60	52.8
Japanese Gvt Bond	0.69	-1.40	27.2

Exchange rates	Rate	Change (%)	
		Daily	YTD
KWD per USD	0.31	0.06	1.03
KWD per EUR	0.33	-0.30	2.28
USD per EUR	1.08	-0.41	1.25
JPY per USD	147.20	0.27	12.27
USD per GBP	1.26	-0.54	4.42
EGP per USD	30.90	0.16	24.90

Commodities	\$/unit	Change (%)	
		Daily	YTD
Brent crude	78.03	-1.08	-9.17
KEC	80.85	-7.41	-1.45
WTI	73.04	-1.39	-9.00
Gold	2024.1	-2.26	11.23

Quoted prices/rates collected after close of last trading day (or are most recent available)

Source: Refinitiv / Haver