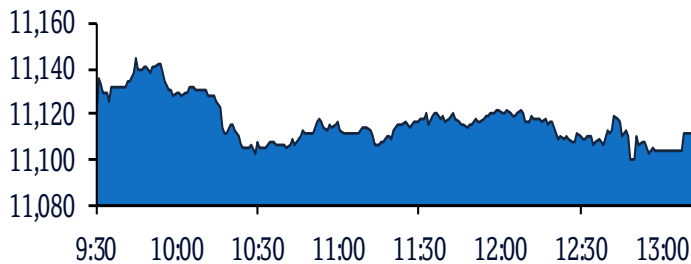


QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index declined 0.2% to close at 11,111.1. Losses were led by the Transportation and Real Estate indices, falling 0.7% and 0.4%, respectively. Top losers were Investment Holding Group and Ahli Bank, falling 2.5% and 2.1%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding gained 2.5%, while Baladna was up 2.2%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index gained 0.3% to close at 11,411.0. Gains were led by the Software & Services and Utilities indices, rising 1.6% and 1.4%, respectively. National Gas & Industrialization rose 5.1%, while Methanol Chemicals Co. was up 4.7%.

Dubai: The DFM Index gained 0.2% to close at 2,885.3. The Real Estate & Construction index rose 1.0%, while the Insurance index gained 0.2%. National Industries Group Holding rose 14.8%, while Aan Digital Services Holding Co. was up 2.5%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index gained 0.8% to close at 7,823.7. The Consumer Staples index rose 1.7% while Telecommunication indices rose 1.4%. Ras Al Khaima Poultry rose 14.5%, while Response Plus Holding was up 11.2%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index fell marginally to close at 6,838.7. The Insurance index declined 6.5%, while the Technology index fell 5.0%. Gulf Insurance Group declined 13.3%, while Equipment Holding Co. was down 6.5%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index fell marginally to close at 3,961.5. Losses were led by the Industrial and Services indices, falling 0.2% each. A'Saffa Foods declined 9.8%, while Phoenix Power Company was down 2.2%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index fell 0.1% to close at 1,672.6. The Materials index declined 0.3%, while the Financials index fell 0.2%. GFH Financial Group declined 1.9%, while Al-Salam Bank was down 1.2%.

Market Indicators	15 Sept 21	14 Sept 21	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	534.6	680.9	(21.5)
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	640,862.3	642,194.1	(0.2)
Volume (mn)	230.1	308.9	(25.5)
Number of Transactions	11,116	13,967	(20.4)
Companies Traded	46	47	(2.1)
Market Breadth	15:26	26:13	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	21,995.12	(0.2)	0.1	9.6	16.9
All Share Index	3,525.93	(0.2)	(0.0)	10.2	17.7
Banks	4,734.23	(0.1)	(0.5)	11.4	15.6
Industrials	3,691.07	(0.1)	1.7	19.1	19.8
Transportation	3,381.19	(0.7)	(0.9)	2.5	18.9
Real Estate	1,803.98	(0.4)	0.4	(6.5)	16.7
Insurance	2,591.75	(0.2)	(1.0)	8.2	17.1
Telecoms	1,041.31	(0.0)	(0.3)	3.0	N/A
Consumer	8,230.42	0.1	0.1	1.1	22.9
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,677.32	0.0	0.7	9.6	17.7

GCC Top Gainers###	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Saudi Arabian Fertilizer	Saudi Arabia	140.00	4.5	662.5	73.7
Mesaieed Petro. Holding	Qatar	2.14	2.5	32,571.1	4.7
Saudi Industrial Inv.	Saudi Arabia	36.60	2.2	1,914.1	33.6
Saudi Basic Ind. Corp.	Saudi Arabia	125.00	2.0	2,887.5	23.3
Sahara Int. Petrochemical	Saudi Arabia	35.45	1.6	4,701.8	104.7

GCC Top Losers###	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Jabal Omar Dev. Co.	Saudi Arabia	32.10	(2.0)	3,061.6	10.3
Bupa Arabia for Coop. Ins	Saudi Arabia	155.00	(1.9)	132.7	26.8
Co. for Cooperative Ins.	Saudi Arabia	94.00	(1.5)	122.4	17.9
Bank Al Bilad	Saudi Arabia	41.90	(1.2)	1,161.5	47.8
Ezdan Holding Group	Qatar	1.57	(1.1)	7,169.8	(11.5)

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%
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.14	2.5	32,571.1	4.7
Baladna	1.66	2.2	34,710.4	(7.2)
Qatar First Bank	1.83	1.8	6,885.3	6.3
Doha Insurance Group	1.92	1.3	32.0	38.2
Aamal Company	1.00	1.1	6,573.2	17.2

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co	1.78	0.0	37,657.0	84.1
Baladna	1.66	2.2	34,710.4	(7.2)
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.14	2.5	32,571.1	4.7
Investment Holding Group	1.36	(2.5)	20,902.2	127.7
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.96	(0.5)	13,122.3	46.7

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Investment Holding Group	1.36	(2.5)	20,902.2	127.7
Ahli Bank	3.75	(2.1)	0.5	8.8
Qatar Navigation	7.31	(1.3)	1,307.0	3.1
Ezdan Holding Group	1.57	(1.1)	7,169.8	(11.5)
National Leasing	1.05	(1.0)	7,528.0	(15.5)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.14	2.5	69,369.1	4.7
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing	1.78	0.0	67,979.0	84.1
Baladna	1.66	2.2	57,609.4	(7.2)
Masraf Al Rayan	4.47	(0.1)	30,231.9	(1.3)
Investment Holding Group	1.36	(2.5)	28,934.5	127.7

Source: Bloomberg (* in QR)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	11,111.12	(0.2)	0.1	0.2	6.5	145.74	173,737.8	16.9	1.6	2.6
Dubai	2,885.29	0.2	(0.8)	(0.6)	15.8	44.07	107,201.8	21.3	1.0	2.7
Abu Dhabi	7,823.68	0.8	(0.5)	1.8	55.1	569.45	365,011.8	24.2	2.4	2.9
Saudi Arabia	11,410.98	0.3	(0.1)	0.8	31.3	1,832.28	2,627,958.5	27.6	2.4	2.3
Kuwait	6,838.69	(0.0)	0.4	0.8	23.3	141.45	130,374.1	30.0	1.7	1.8
Oman	3,961.50	(0.0)	0.0	(0.1)	8.3	6.83	18,540.7	11.8	0.8	3.9
Bahrain	1,672.59	(0.1)	0.2	1.7	12.3	6.70	26,871.5	11.8	0.8	3.3

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 11,111.1. The Transportation and Real Estate indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from Qatar and GCC shareholders despite buying support from Arab and foreign shareholders.
- Investment Holding Group and Ahli Bank were the top losers, falling 2.5% and 2.1%, respectively. Among the top gainers, Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding gained 2.5%, while Baladna was up 2.2%.
- Volume of shares traded on Wednesday fell by 25.5% to 230.1mn from 308.9mn on Tuesday. However, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 183.3mn, volume for the day was 25.5% higher. Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co. and Baladna were the most active stocks, contributing 16.4% and 15.1% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	43.19%	49.15%	(31,856,356.8)
Qatari Institutions	23.62%	23.82%	(1,065,224.7)
Qatari	66.81%	72.96%	(32,921,581.5)
GCC Individuals	0.58%	0.74%	(841,447.8)
GCC Institutions	1.44%	1.65%	(1,135,586.8)
GCC	2.02%	2.39%	(1,977,034.6)
Arab Individuals	12.78%	10.95%	9,779,168.0
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	–
Arab	12.78%	10.95%	9,779,168.0
Foreigners Individuals	4.02%	3.82%	1,065,960.5
Foreigners Institutions	14.38%	9.89%	24,053,487.7
Foreigners	18.40%	13.70%	25,119,448.2

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

Global Economic Data

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
09-15	US	Mortgage Bankers Association	MBA Mortgage Applications	10-Sep	0.30%	–	-1.90%
09-15	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Import Price Index MoM	Aug	-0.30%	0.20%	0.40%
09-15	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Import Price Index YoY	Aug	9.00%	9.40%	10.30%
09-15	US	Federal Reserve	Industrial Production MoM	Aug	0.40%	0.50%	0.80%
09-15	US	Federal Reserve	Capacity Utilization	Aug	76.40%	76.40%	76.20%
09-15	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	CPI MoM	Aug	0.70%	0.50%	0.00%
09-15	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	CPI YoY	Aug	3.20%	2.90%	2.00%
09-15	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	CPI Core YoY	Aug	3.10%	2.90%	1.80%
09-15	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	Retail Price Index	Aug	307.4	307.1	305.5
09-15	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	RPI MoM	Aug	0.60%	0.50%	0.50%
09-15	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	RPI YoY	Aug	4.80%	4.70%	3.80%
09-15	EU	Eurostat	Industrial Production SA MoM	Jul	1.50%	0.60%	-0.10%
09-15	EU	Eurostat	Industrial Production WDA YoY	Jul	7.70%	6.00%	10.10%
09-15	France	INSEE National Statistics Office	CPI EU Harmonized MoM	Aug	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%
09-15	France	INSEE National Statistics Office	CPI EU Harmonized YoY	Aug	2.40%	2.40%	2.40%
09-15	France	INSEE National Statistics Office	CPI MoM	Aug	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%
09-15	France	INSEE National Statistics Office	CPI YoY	Aug	1.90%	1.90%	1.90%
09-15	Japan	Economic and Social Research I	Core Machine Orders MoM	Jul	0.90%	2.50%	-1.50%
09-15	Japan	Economic and Social Research I	Core Machine Orders YoY	Jul	11.10%	14.80%	18.60%
09-15	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Industrial Production YoY	Aug	5.30%	5.80%	6.40%
09-15	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Industrial Production YTD YoY	Aug	13.10%	13.50%	14.40%

Source: Bloomberg (s.a. = seasonally adjusted; n.s.a. = non-seasonally adjusted; w.d.a. = working day adjusted)

Qatar

- **More Qatari banks likely to launch Apple Pay soon** – Several banks in Qatar are currently in discussions and are likely to launch Apple Pay as part of their services soon, following the recent launch of the QNB Group and Dukhan Bank and amid growing demand for the popular mobile payment and digital wallet service among banking customers in the country, an industry expert has said. Speaking to The Peninsula in an interview yesterday, Head of Financial Services at KPMG in the Middle East & South Asia and Partner at KPMG in Qatar, Omar Mahmood said that Apple Pay, which has already been in more advanced and developed markets for quite a while, is expected to be launched by the other banks in Qatar soon. “We already see banks are looking at automation in all aspects of their business. And it’s not just Apple Pay. Several banks have also already introduced Garmin Pay and Fitbit Pay to their digital platforms. So what they’re looking to do is basically track the next generation of customers, through technology, and making it easier for them to facilitate non-cash transactions. QNB Group and Dukhan Bank have already got Apple Pay. But speaking to other banks, I think it should be imminent with them also getting it. “And it will be just the first wave in. What we expect to see going forward, is making it easier for the customer to facilitate their banking for automated digital channels. I think Apple Pay is one means, but going forward I think we’ll see a lot more banks in Qatar adopt wider digital channels,” Mahmood added. (Peninsula Qatar)
- **Cabinet approves terms of part-time work in government sector** – The Cabinet approved a draft decision on the terms and conditions of the part-time system in government agencies. The system aims, within the framework of the State's plans to maintain a strong, stable family that enjoys support and care and to improve job efficiency, to provide more flexible options for Qatari employees to take into account their circumstances and needs. In particular, it takes into account family conditions, as this system provides Qatari women with greater opportunities to achieve a balance between the needs and requirements of caring for family and children on the one hand and work requirements on the other. The part-time system is a work system whereby the number of working hours per week is reduced by half and by no less than half the number of working hours per day. Part-time work shall be at the request of the employee and with the approval of the government entity in accordance with the provisions of this decision. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Qatar aims to be global hub for ESG investors** – Qatar is strengthening efforts to advance the ESG (environment, social and governance) agenda as it aims to be the investment destination for the ESG investors worldwide, according to a top official of the Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE). “At QSE, we are committed to advancing the ESG agenda for the benefit of all. Our aim is to become the investment destination of choice for the ESG investor,” QSE Director (Marketing and Communications), Hussain Al Abdulla told a webinar ‘ESG Investments is Here to Stay’, organized by QSE in association with MSCI, BlackRock, QNB Group, Al Rayan Investment and the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA). (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Hammadi: QIA committed to ESG investing** – Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) is committed to integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria in its investment process both locally and internationally, a senior official of the country’s sovereign wealth fund has said. Speaking during a webinar on the topic ‘ESG investing is here to stay’, QIA CIO for Europe, Russia and Turkey Ahmed Ali Al Hammadi said, “Qatar Investment Authority is a signatory to ‘One Plant’ and we

are one of the founding members since the end of 2017. QIA is committed to creating long-term value for both the state and the future generation.” “This basically means that sustainable investing has to be part of what we do. Sustainable investing encompasses several things including ESG, high returns or any mandate that concerns development either locally or internationally,” he said. “ESG is quite within the mission and vision of QIA. It is not sufficient to say that we are going to allocate a certain amount for ESG, but ESG has to be part and parcel of our overall investments. Companies that score high on ESG are high-quality companies. We all are interested in high-quality companies and right now all high-quality companies are taking care of ESG mandate,” Hammadi said. Given both their influence and long-term investment horizons, sovereign wealth funds are uniquely positioned to promote long-term value creation and sustainable market outcomes. (Qatar Tribune)

- **Kahramaa opens QR70mn Ain Sinan Substation** – The Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation (Kahramaa) has announced the opening of the QR70.3mn Ain Sinan Substation. The opening, according to an official Kahramaa press statement Wednesday, comes as part of the corporation’s efforts to enhance the capacity and efficiency of the electricity network. The power station was constructed in accordance with the highest standards of security and safety and the works were completed on September 1. With a voltage of 132/11kV, the Ain Sinan station is fed from the Al-Kaaban main station and supplies power to surrounding residential areas. Also, it is equipped with two transformers of 40 megavolt-amperes in addition to overhead lines with a length of 13,623 kilometers, the statement notes. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Saudi ambassador offers Kingdom's business opportunities to Qatari investors** – Saudi ambassador Prince Mansour bin Khalid bin Abdullah Al-Farhan Al-Saud extended his invitation during a meeting with the Qatari Businessmen Association (QBA) in Doha. Saudi ambassador Prince Mansour bin Khalid bin Abdullah Al-Farhan Al-Saud has invited Qatari businessmen to visit Saudi Arabia and "explore" the investment opportunities there in light of the economic and “dynamic development” that the kingdom is witnessing via the Saudi Arabia Vision 2030. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **QBWA signs MoU with The Business Year** – The Business Year has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Qatari Businesswomen Association (QBWA) to place under the spotlight the role of women in the development of the Qatari economy. The Business Year’s latest research on the Qatari economy is in full swing, with the upcoming ‘The Business Year: Qatar 2022’ set to release as Qatar plays host to the FIFA World Cup. And on top of the analysis on how the 2022 FIFA World Cup has impacted the local economy, the publication will include a special feature on women in leadership positions in Qatar and their contribution to Qatar National Vision 2030. Through this coverage, The Business Year will invite inspiring women to share their words and come together to represent the country and its female leadership. At the signing ceremony, QBWA was represented by its vice chairwoman, Aisha Alfaridan, and Nataly Almanza, country manager of The Business Year. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **How Qatar 2022 will be the first carbon-neutral FIFA World Cup in history** – When Qatar was awarded the right to stage the first FIFA World Cup in the Middle East and Arab world, it not only committed to organizing an amazing tournament – but also a mega-event delivered in a sustainable manner. In January 2020, the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC), FIFA and

the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 LLC (Q22) published the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 Sustainability Strategy. It was the first such strategy to be planned and delivered jointly by FIFA, the host country and local organizers. Part of the strategy includes the delivery of the first carbon-neutral FIFA World Cup in the history of the event. To achieve this, all infrastructure projects – including the eight stadiums that will be used for Qatar 2022 – must meet stringent sustainability benchmarks. (Gulf-Times.com)

- **Ooredoo Qatar named best place to work in Qatar 2021** – Qatar's leading telecommunications operator has announced it has been certified as a Best Place to Work in Qatar for 2021. Best Places to Work is an international certification program, considered the 'Platinum Standard' in identifying and recognizing top workplaces around the world. The program provides employers the opportunity to learn more about the engagement and satisfaction of their employees, and honors those employers who deliver an outstanding work experience with the highest standards of working conditions. (Zawya)

International

- **US manufacturing output slows sharply in August** – Production at US factories slowed more than expected in August amid disruptions from Hurricane Ida and lingering shortages of raw materials and labor as the COVID-19 pandemic drags on. Manufacturing output increased 0.2% last month, the Federal Reserve said on Wednesday. Data for July was revised to show production surging 1.6% instead of 1.4% as previously reported. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast manufacturing production would gain 0.4%. The raw materials crunch has been worsened by the latest wave of infections driven by the Delta variant of the coronavirus, primarily in Southeast Asia, as well as by congestion at ports in China. General Motors Co said it would cut production at its plants in Indiana, Missouri and Tennessee this month because of an ongoing microchip shortage. Ford Motor Co is also reducing truck production. Some of the slowdown in manufacturing reflects the rotation in spending back to services from goods because of COVID-19 vaccinations. Manufacturing, which accounts for 11.9% of the US economy, remains underpinned by businesses desperate to replenish stocks after inventories were drawn down sharply in the first half of the year. (Reuters)
- **US import prices unexpectedly fall in August** – US import prices fell for the first time in 10 months in August, further evidence that inflation had probably peaked. Import prices dropped 0.3% last month after increasing 0.4% in July, the Labor Department said on Wednesday. The first decrease since October 2020 lowered the year-on-year increase to 9.0% from 10.3% in July. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast import prices, which exclude tariffs, climbing 0.3%. (Reuters)
- **Yellen, Harris urge childcare investments to boost overall US economy** – US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Vice President Kamala Harris on Wednesday called for urgent action to make affordable childcare available to more families, calling such investments critical to ensuring US growth and global competitiveness. Harris and Yellen lauded a new Treasury report that charts the failures of the current privately financed childcare system and shows the positive impact for women, families and the overall economy from the increased public spending envisioned in President Joe Biden's \$3.5bn legislation package. "This is a fight for our future," Harris said during her first visit to Treasury since taking office. She pointed to estimates that US GDP would expand by 5% if women participated in the workforce at the same rate as men. Democrats are negotiating over Biden's package that would fund free preschool for all 3- and 4-year olds; boost pay for childcare workers, 95% of whom are women; cut the costs of such care in half for most families; and make permanent a child and dependent care tax credit. Enacting the

proposals was "the single most important thing we can do to build a stronger economy over the next several decades," Yellen said, adding that childcare's "contribution to economic growth is as essential as infrastructure or energy." The US ranks 35th of 37 countries tracked by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in public dollars spent on early childhood education and care, relative to GDP. (Reuters)

- **UK inflation posts record jump to hit 9-year peak in August** – Britain's inflation rate hit its highest in almost a decade last month after a record jump that was largely fueled by a rebound in restaurant prices which were artificially pushed down a year ago by government subsidies. Consumer prices in August rose by 3.2% YoY, the highest annual inflation rate since March 2012 and up from 2.0% in July, the Office for National Statistics said. Statisticians said the one-off effect of the government's "Eat Out to Help Out" scheme, which briefly offered diners a discount on meals to help a sector hit by the pandemic, would vanish from next month's data. But the Bank of England is still braced later this year for inflation to hit 4% due to higher energy prices and pandemic bottlenecks which it expects will fade over the course of 2022. August's 1.2 percentage point rise in the annual rate of inflation marked the sharpest increase since detailed records started in 1997. None of the 37 economists polled by Reuters had expected such a strong reading, with the median forecast instead pointing to consumer price inflation at 2.9%. "Much of this was driven by the heavy discounts offered under the Eat Out to Help Out Scheme last summer. That said, there are also signs that inflationary pressures are increasingly broad based across many sectors of the economy," said Hugh Gimber, global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Asset Management. (Reuters)
- **ECB sees a new inflation 'hump' as prices surge** – A spike in Eurozone inflation to above the European Central Bank's target is a temporary "hump", the ECB says - dusting off a metaphor used a decade ago by its then-president Jean-Claude Trichet. In 2011, the ECB hiked interest rates twice in four months, with Trichet yielding to German pressure despite believing that a commodity-fueled rise in prices would prove short-lived. That is now acknowledged even by the ECB itself as a policy mistake that exacerbated the euro zone's debt crisis. Having learned the hard way, current ECB policymakers say they will not tighten monetary policy until inflation is stably at the bank's 2% target, which they do not expect to happen for more than two years. "The inflation outlook remains characterized by a hump in 2021 followed by more moderate rates in 2022 and 2023," the ECB said last week, blaming recent price rises on more expensive raw materials and supply bottlenecks arising from the pandemic. Tuesday's August US inflation reading, the slowest in six months, may lend weight to the idea that recent price pressures are temporary. But the ECB will be on the lookout for any sign that the surge in inflation is morphing into something more durable, particularly if consumers and companies stung by higher prices adjust their expectations accordingly. (Reuters)
- **Japan firms see economy recovering to pre-COVID level in FY2022** – A majority of Japanese firms say the world's third-largest economy will recover to pre-pandemic levels in fiscal 2022, a Reuters poll showed, with many anticipating they will continue to face COVID pains until next year or later. The Corporate Survey results underscored a cautious view of Japan Inc on the economy, which stood in contrast with the government's optimistic estimate that gross domestic product (GDP) will return to pre-COVID levels later this year. Revised government data last week showed Japan's economy grew 1.9% in April-June, backed by solid capital spending, but economists say a resurgence in the pandemic will put a drag on the pace of recovery in the coming quarters. read more "There will be a repeat of the vicious circle of variants and resurgence," a

manager of a ceramic's maker wrote in the survey on condition of anonymity. "It will take time to contain the pandemic thoroughly." The manager added that the economy will return to pre-COVID levels in fiscal 2024. The Corporate Survey found a slim majority said the economy will return to pre-pandemic levels in fiscal 2022, followed by one third of respondents who anticipated a recovery to such levels in fiscal 2023. About 16% saw the economy's return to pre-pandemic levels to happen in 2024 or later. (Reuters)

- **Japan's hot exports growth cools as COVID-19 hits supply chains** – Japan's exports extended double-digit gains in August, led by strong shipments of chip manufacturing equipment, although the pace of growth weakened as COVID-19 hit key Asian supply chains and slowed factory production. The trade growth is unlikely to dispel worries about the outlook for Japan's economy, which has not yet recovered to pre-pandemic levels after taking an enormous hit from a collapse in global trade in the first quarter of 2020. Exports rose 26.2% in August compared with the same month a year earlier, the Ministry of Finance said on Thursday, marking the sixth straight month of double-digit growth as strong demand for chip-making equipment offset slowing US and European Union-bound shipments of cars. However, the growth was slower than the 34.0% expected by economists in a Reuters poll and the 37.0% advance in the previous month. Policymakers are under pressure to keep the fragile recovery intact, which has been thrown into doubt due to a resurgence of the pandemic in other parts of Asia, leading manufacturing hubs such as Vietnam and Malaysia to roll out lockdown measures. (Reuters)

- **Brazil's banks to incorporate climate change risks into stress tests** – Brazil's central bank announced on Wednesday new rules making it mandatory for banks to incorporate climate change-related risks, such as droughts, floods and forest fires in their stress tests, starting in July 2022. Central bank director Otavio Damaso said the new regulation aims to avoid potential financial instability stemming from climate-related risks. However, for now the central bank will not require additional capital to cover for potential climate-change related risks, leaving that decision to banks. The move puts Brazil's central bank among the growing ranks of financial regulators demanding climate-related action from banks. A few countries, including France and the Netherlands, have already launched stress tests incorporating climate-change related risks, and many others are in the pipeline, according to the Financial Stability Institute. read more Brazil's central bank is not prohibiting lenders from extending any loans, but the climate-change related risk analysis could make credit lines more expensive for certain companies and sectors if banks find it necessary to allocate more capital to assume the risks they have identified. In April 2022, the regulator plans to launch its own stress tests for climate-change related risks, incorporating all banks under the same risk criteria. The regulator also made it mandatory for banks to disclose climate-related information as part of financial reporting by July 2022, in accordance with the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), set up by the G20's Financial Stability Board guidelines. (Reuters)

Regional

- **Saudi's August inflation rate edges higher on transport, food costs** – Saudi Arabia's consumer price index rose 0.3% YoY in August driven mainly by higher prices in the transport sector as well as food and beverages, according to government figures released on Wednesday. Prices were up 0.4% MoM from July 2021, the Saudi General Authority for Statistics said. Saudi Arabia saw a massive rise in its inflation rate between June 2020 and June 2021 because of VAT being tripled to 15%. That effect, however, faded in July 2021 when the effect of the VAT increases no longer weighed in the annual price comparison. In August, transport prices rose 6.5% due mainly to a 44% rise in prices of

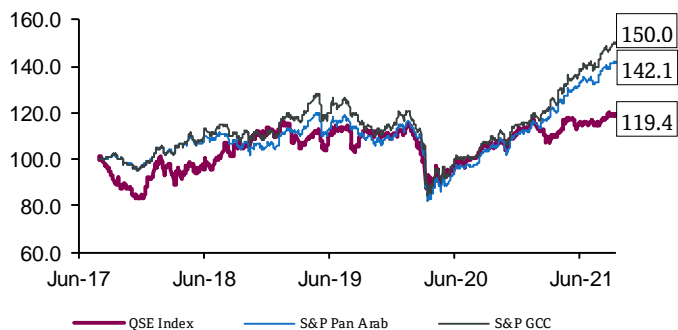
fuel and lubricants. The Kingdom, the world's biggest oil exporter, in July set a cap on gas prices at the pump in a move to cool living costs. (Zawya)

- **Saudi Arabia lays out private sector opportunities in healthcare market** – Saudi Arabia is aiming to grow the private sector's contribution to the healthcare market from 25 to 35% by 2030, via a mix of privatization, public-private partnerships (PPP) and other incentives for investors, according to the kingdom's Minister of Health. COVID-19 has invigorated Saudi Arabia's healthcare sector, offering new investment opportunities to companies in the sector, including the supply of medicines, vaccines, medical devices and medical services to patients, Tawfig Al Rabiah, Minister of Health, said in the opening remarks of an Invest Saudi report. According to Rabiah, the Ministry of Health has developed strategic objectives in line with Vision 2030 to ensure that investors in the sector are supported by the appropriate regulatory frameworks for sustainable growth, digitization, and increased efficiency. (Zawya)
- **StanChart to add bankers in sustainable finance, capital markets in Saudi Arabia** – Standard Chartered is looking to add bankers to focus on sustainable finance, project finance and capital markets in Saudi Arabia, a market it sees will become a "front-runner" for its regional business in coming years, a senior executive said. Standard Chartered this year began offering banking services through its branch in Saudi Arabia with a team of 25 people after it was granted a banking license in 2019. The license helped the bank to expand beyond the capital markets business it has conducted in the country since 2011. "This has just been a start and we will continue to add as business grows. We have the capacity to quite easily double what we have currently," Sunil Kaushal, the bank's regional CEO for Africa and Middle East, said, referring to staff numbers. (Zawya)
- **SoftBank makes first direct investment in Saudi company** – SoftBank has made its first direct investment in Saudi Arabia, co-leading with a government-owned fund a \$125mn financing round in communications company Unifonic, the start-up said. The investment will be used by the Riyadh-headquartered firm to expand its products to more customers, it said in a statement. SoftBank co-led the investment through its Vision Fund 2 alongside state fund Sanabil Investments. Unifonic, which provides online and mobile communications services, says it has quadrupled in size in less than three years and is now processing over 10bn transactions on its platform each year. (Reuters)
- **Saudi inflation rates up 0.3% in August** – Saudi Arabia's consumer price index rose 0.3% in August from a year earlier and was 0.1% higher MoM, government data showed on Wednesday. That was steady from a rise of 0.4% in July, Saudi Arabia's General Authority for Statistics said. That compared with a rise of 6.2% in June, the last month affected by the tripling of value added tax (VAT) in July last year. The August data showed the CPI rise was mainly due to higher prices in the transport sector, which rose 6.5%, and a 1.9% rise in food and beverage prices. (Reuters)
- **ACWA Power IPO Order Book Covered Throughout Price Range: Terms** – ACWA Power International has gathered enough investor demand to cover its IPO, which is set to be the biggest offering in Riyadh since Saudi Aramco's listing, throughout the price range, according to terms seen by Bloomberg. The company is set to raise up to SR4.55bn. Shares are marketed at SR51 to SR56 apiece. (Bloomberg)
- **SoftBank's first Saudi deal follows UAE, Turkey investments** – SoftBank Group Corp. has made its first investment in a company based in Saudi Arabia, leading a \$125mn financing for customer communication platform Unifonic. Sanabil, wholly owned by the kingdom's Public Investment Fund, co-led the

round. Proceeds will be used to fund growth in the Middle East and expansion into Asia and Africa, Unifonic co-founder and Chief Executive Officer Ahmed Hamdan said in an interview. The company will also look at acquisitions in those regions to help it expand faster, he said. The Unifonic deal is funded through SoftBank's Vision Fund 2, and follows on from July's \$415mn fundraising by Dubai-based cloud kitchen startup Kitopi, which was SoftBank's first in a business based in the UAE and took that company's valuation past \$1bn. Last month, it also co-led a financing round for Turkish e-commerce company Trendyol. (Bloomberg)

- **Saudi Arabia raises SR6.7bn in September local Sukuk issuance** – Saudi Arabia raises SR6.7bn in September local Sukuk issuance, which is divided into three tranches, the National Debt Management Center says. First tranche of SR3.17bn will mature in 2029. The Second tranche will be of SR2.86bn which matures in 2033 and the third tranche of SR650mn will mature in 2036. (Bloomberg)
- **Saudi conglomerate's \$7.5bn default settled after decade** – BNP Paribas SA and Citigroup Inc. are among global banks that are finally set to see some of their loans be at least partially repaid after getting caught up in one of Saudi Arabia's biggest corporate defaults. In the first major test for the kingdom's new bankruptcy law, Ahmad Hamad Algosaiibi & Brothers Co., which has been locked in legal battles and negotiations with creditors over \$7.5bn of debt since 2009, had its proposal to restructure the obligations ratified by a Saudi court, Simon Charlton, Algosaiibi's chief restructuring officer said. The order from the commercial court in Dammam, in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, will allow various asset freezes to be lifted and let the company go ahead with a plan to repay creditors about 26% of their claim values through a mixture of cash, shares and Saudi real estate. (Bloomberg)
- **UAE, Israel non-oil trade hits \$700mn since Abraham Accords** – Non-oil trade between the UAE and Israel hit \$700mn in the one year after the two countries normalized relations following the signing of the Abraham Accords in 2020, said UAE Minister of Economy Abdullah bin Touq. In addition, the two countries signed 60 major agreements at the government and private sector levels, covering industries such as science and technology, artificial intelligence, tourism, logistics, transportation, healthcare and energy, among others, to strengthen ties, Bin Touq said during virtual dialogue session with by the Washington-based think tank American Atlantic Council. (Zawya)
- **UAE's ADFD to finance \$7.83mn modernization of local Mauritania fishing port** – Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Mauritania to finance a major refurbishment and modernization project valued at around AED24mn for the Tanit Fishing Port. This is an artisanal fishing port that through this renovation and development of an ice factory will better enable local fishermen to benefit from the country's fisheries economy, increase export capacity and contribute to the nation's food security strategy. (Zawya)
- **UAE to invest \$690mn in UK's Cityfibre as ruler visits** – The UAE will invest \$690mn in UK-based CityFibre to roll out high-speed broadband, the UK government said on Wednesday, as the Gulf state's de facto ruler visited London. The investment in the digital infrastructure group is part of a larger raising of capital by CityFibre, a statement from the office of UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson said. During the visit of Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Abu Dhabi wealth fund Mubadala Investment Company will expand a Sovereign Investment Partnership agreed earlier this year. (Bloomberg)
- **Dubai's DP World to invest \$415mn in new berth at London Gateway hub** – Dubai-based port operator DP World said it will invest \$415mn in a new fourth berth at its London Gateway logistics hub to increase supply chain resilience and create more capacity. The sum builds on the 2bn GBP investment DP World has made in Britain over the last decade, the logistics provider said in a statement on Wednesday. Work on the new berth will begin next month, DP World said. In the first six months of 2021 London Gateway saw record throughput of 888,000 TEU, a more than 23% increase on the previous best performance for the first half of a year. The new fourth berth will raise capacity by a third and completion will coincide with the delivery of a new wave of 24,000 TEU vessels in 2023/2024, which will all be operated between Asia and Europe, it added. (Zawya)
- **Blackstone in talks to acquire Dubai-based VFS Global for \$1bn** – US-based alternative investment management company Blackstone is in advanced talks to acquire Dubai-headquartered VFS Global, the world's largest visa outsourcing company, for \$1-1.2bn, India's Economic Times website reported citing people with knowledge of the matter. Founded in India, VFS Global is a spinoff of Swiss travel group Kuoni. It is 90% owned by Swedish private equity firm EQT and 10% by the Kuoni Foundation, Hugentobler Foundation and founder CEO Zubin Karkaria. The due diligence process for the acquisition is complete and the legal documentation is expected in the coming weeks, the report said. (Zawya)
- **Kuwait's Burgan Bank gets approval for up to \$500mn senior bonds** – Kuwait's Burgan Bank has received preliminary approval from the central bank to issue up to \$500mn in senior unsecured bonds, the lender said in a stock exchange filing. The bonds will be issued under Burgan's Euro Medium Term Note Program. They will either have a tenor of five years with a fixed coupon rate or a six-year tenor with an option to redeem the bonds after five years. The six-year option would have a fixed coupon rate for five years then a floating rate for its final year, should the bank not "call" the bonds. Closing the bond sale will allow Burgan "to reinforce its long-term liquidity and regulatory liquidity ratios," it said in the filing. Sales of senior bonds are relatively rare from the Gulf's banks, but Burgan's debt-raising plans follow the country's biggest lender, National Bank of Kuwait, securing \$1bn last week via six-year senior bonds non-callable for five years. (Reuters)

Rebased Performance

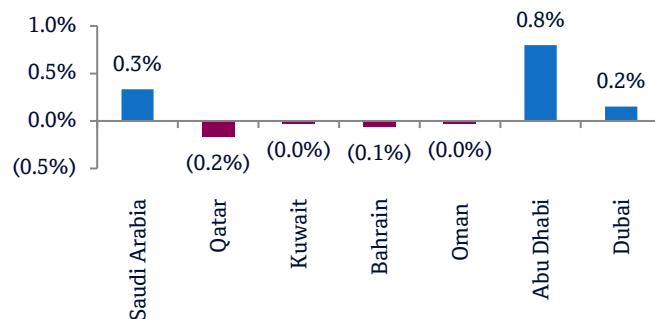


Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,794.06	(0.6)	0.4	(5.5)
Silver/Ounce	23.84	(0.1)	0.4	(9.7)
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	75.46	2.5	3.5	45.7
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	72.61	3.1	4.1	49.6
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	5.60	4.7	10.9	134.3
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	130.38	4.1	6.4	73.3
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	147.25	2.3	4.2	111.9
Euro	1.18	0.1	0.0	(3.3)
Yen	109.38	(0.3)	(0.5)	5.9
GBP	1.38	0.2	0.0	1.2
CHF	1.09	0.0	(0.2)	(3.8)
AUD	0.73	0.2	(0.3)	(4.7)
USD Index	92.55	(0.1)	(0.0)	2.9
RUB	72.28	(0.9)	(1.3)	(2.9)
BRL	0.19	0.3	0.4	(0.6)

Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	3,127.71	0.4	0.2	16.3
DJ Industrial	34,814.39	0.7	0.6	13.7
S&P 500	4,480.70	0.8	0.5	19.3
NASDAQ 100	15,161.53	0.8	0.3	17.6
STOXX 600	463.91	(1.0)	(0.6)	12.3
DAX	15,616.00	(0.8)	(0.1)	9.3
FTSE 100	7,016.49	(0.4)	(0.4)	10.0
CAC 40	6,583.62	(1.2)	(1.3)	14.5
Nikkei	30,511.71	(0.3)	0.9	4.9
MSCI EM	1,288.68	(0.6)	(1.5)	(0.2)
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,656.22	(0.1)	(1.1)	6.8
HANG SENG	25,033.21	(1.9)	(4.5)	(8.4)
BSE SENSEX	58,723.20	1.0	0.8	22.2
Bovespa	115,062.50	(1.1)	0.1	(4.7)
RTS	1,766.67	0.7	2.4	27.3

Source: Bloomberg (*\$ adjusted returns)

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