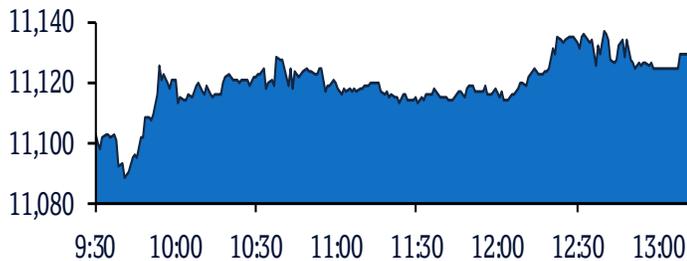


QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index rose 0.4% to close at 11,129.7. Gains were led by the Industrials and Real Estate indices, gaining 1.3% and 0.4%, respectively. Top gainers were Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding and Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co., rising 4.1% and 3.9%, respectively. Among the top losers, Medicare Group fell 2.1%, while Qatar Navigation was down 1.1%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell 0.1% to close at 11,373.2. Losses were led by the Media and Entertainment and Software & Services indices, falling 1.7% and 1.0%, respectively. Saudi Research & Media Group declined 1.9%, while Al Moammar Information System was down 1.7%.

Dubai: The DFM Index fell 0.3% to close at 2,880.9. The Banks index declined 0.7%, while the Real Estate & Construction index fell 0.2%. Aan Digital Services Holding Co. declined 2.4%, while Union Properties was down 2.0%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index fell marginally to close at 7,761.8. The Industrial index declined 1.1%, while the Real Estate index fell 0.3%. Oman & Emirates Investment Holding declined 10.0%, while ESG Emirates Stallions was down 7.1%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index gained 0.3% to close at 6,840.8. The Technology index rose 5.2%, while the Insurance index gained 2.0%. IFA Hotels & Resorts Co. rose 7.1%, while Dar Al Thuraya Real Estate Co. was up 6.8%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index fell marginally to close at 3,962.4. The Financial index declined 0.1%, while the other indices ended flat or in green. Phoenix Power Company declined 2.1%, while National Aluminum Products Co. was down 1.9%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.3% to close at 1,673.6. The Financials index rose 0.4%, while the Materials index gained 0.3%. Ahli United Bank rose 0.9%, while Aluminum Bahrain was up 0.3%.

Market Indicators	14 Sept 21	13 Sept 21	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	680.9	482.3	41.2
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	642,194.1	639,609.2	0.4
Volume (mn)	308.9	230.5	34.0
Number of Transactions	13,967	11,628	20.1
Companies Traded	47	45	4.4
Market Breadth	26:13	24:14	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	22,031.95	0.4	0.3	9.8	16.9
All Share Index	3,531.71	0.3	0.2	10.4	17.8
Banks	4,741.27	0.1	(0.4)	11.6	15.6
Industrials	3,695.87	1.3	1.8	19.3	19.8
Transportation	3,405.57	(0.0)	(0.1)	3.3	19.1
Real Estate	1,810.87	0.4	0.8	(6.1)	16.7
Insurance	2,596.71	(0.5)	(0.8)	8.4	17.2
Telecoms	1,041.33	(0.0)	(0.3)	3.0	#N/A N/A
Consumer	8,221.11	0.0	(0.0)	1.0	22.9
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,675.83	0.7	0.7	9.5	17.7

GCC Top Gainers###	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Emaar Economic City	Saudi Arabia	12.98	4.5	12,419.2	40.9
Mesaieed Petro. Holding	Qatar	2.09	4.1	32,946.4	2.2
National Industrialization	Saudi Arabia	21.02	3.0	13,262.8	53.7
Sahara Int. Petrochemical	Saudi Arabia	34.90	2.6	5,864.3	101.5
Saudi Kayan Petrochem.	Saudi Arabia	18.78	2.1	9,059.3	31.3

GCC Top Losers###	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Bupa Arabia for Coop. Ins	Saudi Arabia	158.00	(1.5)	126.3	29.3
Saudi Arabian Fertilizer	Saudi Arabia	134.00	(1.5)	268.2	66.3
Riyadh Bank	Saudi Arabia	27.00	(1.3)	2,675.0	33.7
Dubai Islamic Bank	Dubai	4.97	(1.2)	8,780.1	7.8
Saudi British Bank	Saudi Arabia	33.25	(1.2)	633.4	34.5

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	2.09	4.1	32,946.4	2.2
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co	1.78	3.9	53,557.7	84.1
Mannai Corporation	4.01	3.8	0.3	33.7
National Leasing	1.06	2.0	15,997.2	(14.6)
Qatari Investors Group	2.55	1.8	3,828.9	41.0

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co	1.78	3.9	53,557.7	84.1
Investment Holding Group	1.40	0.0	49,742.6	133.6
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.09	4.1	32,946.4	2.2
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.96	(0.8)	29,605.7	47.5
Ezdan Holding Group	1.59	(0.1)	20,604.9	(10.5)

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Medicare Group	8.22	(2.1)	439.6	(7.0)
Qatar Navigation	7.41	(1.1)	713.4	4.4
Salam International Inv. Ltd.	0.96	(0.8)	29,605.7	47.5
Qatar Insurance Company	2.47	(0.8)	970.4	4.4
Doha Insurance Group	1.90	(0.8)	98.7	36.5

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing	1.78	3.9	94,445.4	84.1
Investment Holding Group	1.40	0.0	70,083.3	133.6
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	2.09	4.1	68,447.4	2.2
Qatar Electricity & Water Co.	16.66	(0.2)	54,442.1	(6.7)
Ezdan Holding Group	1.59	(0.1)	33,004.2	(10.5)

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*	11,129.72	0.4	0.3	0.3	6.6	184.65	174,034.6	16.9	1.6	2.6
Dubai	2,880.90	(0.3)	(0.9)	(0.8)	15.6	44.95	107,176.9	21.3	1.0	2.7
Abu Dhabi	7,761.81	(0.0)	(1.3)	1.0	53.8	447.57	365,252.2	24.0	2.4	3.0
Saudi Arabia	11,373.18	(0.1)	(0.4)	0.5	30.9	1,776.26	2,613,904.6	27.6	2.4	2.3
Kuwait	6,840.75	0.3	0.5	0.8	23.3	129.84	129,899.0	30.1	1.7	1.8
Oman	3,962.44	(0.0)	0.1	(0.1)	8.3	4.10	18,558.2	11.8	0.8	3.9
Bahrain	1,673.55	0.3	0.2	1.7	12.3	5.95	26,785.5	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 rose 0.4% to close at 11,129.7. The Industrials and Real Estate indices led the gains. The index rose on the back of buying support from foreign shareholders despite selling pressure from Qatari, GCC and Arab shareholders.
- Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding and Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co. were the top gainers, rising 4.1% and 3.9%, respectively. Among the top losers, Medicare Group fell 2.1%, while Qatar Navigation was down 1.1%.
- Volume of shares traded on Tuesday rose by 34.0% to 308.9mn from 230.5mn on Monday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 180.5mn, volume for the day was 71.2% higher. Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co. and Investment Holding Group were the most active stocks, contributing 17.3% and 16.1% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	50.07%	45.59%	30,524,746.0
Qatari Institutions	17.74%	26.58%	(60,180,808.1)
Qatari	67.81%	72.17%	(29,656,062.1)
GCC Individuals	0.52%	0.70%	(1,178,104.3)
GCC Institutions	2.04%	1.93%	734,746.9
GCC	2.56%	2.63%	(443,357.4)
Arab Individuals	12.70%	12.77%	(463,872.4)
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	–
Arab	12.70%	12.77%	(463,872.4)
Foreigners Individuals	3.91%	3.40%	3,504,255.5
Foreigners Institutions	13.01%	9.04%	27,059,036.4
Foreigners	16.92%	12.43%	30,563,291.9

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

Global Economic Data

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
09-14	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	CPI MoM	Aug	0.30%	0.40%	0.50%
09-14	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	CPI Ex Food and Energy MoM	Aug	0.10%	0.30%	0.30%
09-14	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	CPI YoY	Aug	5.30%	5.30%	5.40%
09-14	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	CPI Ex Food and Energy YoY	Aug	4.00%	4.20%	4.30%
09-14	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	CPI Index NSA	Aug	273.567	273.835	273.003
09-14	US	Bureau of Labor Statistics	CPI Core Index SA	Aug	279.338	279.733	279.054
09-14	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	Jobless Claims Change	Aug	-58.6k	--	-48.9k
09-14	UK	UK Office for National Statistics	Average Weekly Earnings 3M/YoY	Jul	8.30%	8.20%	8.80%
09-14	Japan	Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry	Industrial Production MoM	Jul	-1.50%	--	-1.50%
09-14	Japan	Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry	Industrial Production YoY	Jul	11.60%	--	11.60%
09-14	Japan	Ministry of Economy Trade and	Capacity Utilization MoM	Jul	-3.40%	--	6.20%
09-14	India	Press Information Bureau of In	Wholesale Prices YoY	Aug	11.39%	10.78%	11.16%

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

Qatar

- Qatar's CPI edges up in August** – Qatar's Consumer Price Index (CPI) witnessed a marginal increase of 0.3% in August compared to previous month (July 2021), reaching at 99.03 points. When compared on annual basis, the consumer prices in Qatar (as per the general CPI index) in August have also increased by 2.95% compared to the CPI of the same month in 2020, latest data by the Planning and Statistics Authority (PSA) show. An MoM analysis of the CPI for August 2021 compared with CPI of July 2021, showed that there were five main groups, where respective indices during this month have increased, namely: "Transport" by 2.19%, "Food and Beverages" by 0.68%, "Restaurants and Hotels" by 0.46%, "Education" by 0.02%, and "Housing, Water, Electricity and other Fuel" by 0.01%. However, a decrease has been recorded in the following groups: "Clothing and Footwear" by 1.22%, "Recreation and Culture" by 0.96%, "Communication" by 0.25%, and "Miscellaneous Goods and Services" by 0.13%. Meanwhile, "Tobacco", "Furniture and Household Equipment", and "Health" had remained flat at the last month's price level. A comparison of the CPI of August 2021 with the CPI of August 2020 (Annual Change), showed an increase has been recorded in the general index (CPI), by 2.95%. This YoY price increase was primary due to the prices rise in nine groups namely: "Recreation and Culture" by 15.88%, followed by "Transport" by 13.27%, "Education" by 2.38%, "Furniture and Household Equipment" by 2.36%, "Food and Beverages" by 1.33%, "Restaurants and Hotels" by 1.18%, "Miscellaneous Goods and Services" by 0.99%, "Communication" by 0.65%, and "Health" by 0.17%. While a decrease has been shown in price levels in "Housing, Water, Electricity and other Fuel" by 4.76% and in "Clothing and Footwear" by 2.41%. No change was recorded on "Tobacco". The CPI of August 2021, excluding "Housing, Water, Electricity and other Fuel" group stood at 102.17 points showing an increase of 0.38% MoM, and an increase of 4.92% when compared to the CPI of August 2020. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Ooredoo introduces new device purchase option** – Ooredoo (ORDS) has announced a new trade-in option for customers purchasing new devices in collaboration with Starlink. Customers can now take their old device to select Ooredoo shops or Starlink outlets and receive credit to trade it in for a new device through the new trade-in service. The amount of credit will be determined by the specifics of the device being traded in. (Qatar Tribune)
- QIBK expands Direct Remit service to Philippines and Pakistan** – Qatar Islamic Bank (QIBK) has announced the expansion of its Direct Remit service to the Philippines and Pakistan, following the successful launch to India, enabling its customers to make seamless transfers within seconds. The Direct Remit which commenced offering money transfer services for customers to India, and has now evolved to include the Philippines and Pakistan, is an innovative service designed to facilitate QIBK customers' remittance experience allowing them to transfer money to bank accounts within 60 seconds. The Direct Remit service has been carefully integrated in the QIBK Mobile App to provide customers the convenience to transfer money instantly in a fast and safe manner. (Peninsula Qatar)
- CRA publishes its Spectrum Plan for FIFA Arab Cup 2021** – The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) published on its website the Spectrum Plan for FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021 (FAC 2021), which will be held in Qatar from November 30 to December 18. The CRA developed the plan with the aim of informing stakeholders about its vision regarding the use of radio spectrum during FAC 2021 and all its related procedures to ensure the optimal use of radio spectrum during the period of the event. The plan explains to the stakeholders the followed procedures for authorizing the use of radio spectrum and demonstrates the different radio applications and equipment that may be used during the FAC 2021. It also explains the mechanisms of managing and monitoring the radio spectrum that are followed by CRA to detect any radio frequency interference or unauthorized use of radio frequencies during FAC 2021 in all locations where accompanying events will be held. The CRA encourages all the stakeholders to contact CRA before the commence of FAC 2021 and submit all the required documents to ensure receiving CRA's approvals on time and avoid any delays. (Gulf-Times.com)
- Mekdam Holding Group appoints a Liquidity Provider** – The Board of Directors of Mekdam Holding Group decided in the meeting dated September 14, 2021, after reviewing the received offers from all liquidity service providers in Qatar Exchange, to appoint a Wasata Financial Securities to start the liquidity provision service on October 03, 2021. The Board of Directors also authorized the CEO to sign all the contracts and agreements in this regard and to coordinate with all concerned parties to put the liquidity provision in service. (QSE)
- Alpen Capital: Qatar records highest GCC increase in domestic food production during 2014-19** – Qatar recorded the highest increase in domestic food production in the GCC in the five year period between 2014 and 2019, according to Alpen Capital. The production of major food categories in Qatar increased at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 15.2% between 2014 and 2019 to reach 376,896 tons, Alpen Capital said in its report on 'GCC Food Industry'. In 2019, Qatar invested \$1.4bn in the food sector, a rise of 126% from \$0.6bn in 2016, Alpen Capital said. In terms of self-sufficiency, Qatar met 17.3% of its food requirements through domestic production in 2019, up from 12.6% in 2014. The country was able to meet 72.8% of its domestic demand for dairy products, while self-sufficiency was the lowest for cereals (as of 2019), Alpen Capital noted. In 2019, the GCC consumed 42.9mn tons of food products, with an annual consumption of 733.6 kg per person. Qatar's food consumption grew at a CAGR of 8.1% over the five-year period, the highest in the region, to reach over 2.2mn in 2019. Amongst the individual GCC nations, Oman recorded the highest per capita consumption at 930.8 kg, while Bahrain had the lowest at 622.0 kg in 2019. Qatar (780.1 kg) and Oman's per capita food consumption remained higher than the average consumption of 733.6 kg in the GCC. In 2019, Qatar accounted for 2.8% and 5.1% of the total regional food production and consumption, respectively, Alpen Capital noted. Qatar is largely dependent on food imports to meet the domestic demand due to extremely high temperatures, desert climate, acute lack of rain/water, and limited availability of fertile soil. However, the country has made significant efforts to ramp up production of food. Since 2017, the country has made significant strides in increasing local food production, with Qatari agricultural, fish, animal and dairy products experiencing a multi-fold increase. (Gulf-Times.com)
- QBA discusses ways to enhance Qatar, Spain partnership** – The Qatari Businessmen Association (QBA) held a meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain H E Jose Manuel Albares Bueno and his accompanying delegation, and in the presence of HE Belen Alfaro, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to the State of Qatar. The meeting aimed at discussing ways to enhance the strategic

partnership between the two countries, in various economic fields and exploring potential investment opportunities. (Peninsula Qatar)

- **FM: Spain an important partner for Qatar** – HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani praised ties between the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Spain, noting that the two countries enjoy strong cooperation in all fields, particularly in the investment and economic cooperation fields. In a joint press conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain, Jose Manuel Albares Bueno, HE Sheikh Mohammed said that the Kingdom of Spain was one of the State of Qatar's important partners in the investment and commerce fields. He confirmed that he agreed with the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs to enhance that partnership. HE the Foreign Minister praised the vision of the Spanish government regarding economic transformation in Spain, saying that the State of Qatar looks forward to being part of that transformation and a supporter of it. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **US firms, technology play 'key role' in Qatar's economic diversification, says Qatari envoy** – The State of Qatar's Commercial Attaché in the US, Fahad Al-Dosari, has underscored how American companies play a significant role in Qatar's diversification strategy and the welfare of the country's citizens and expatriate communities. "US companies and their technology have been critical to Qatar's efforts to drive sustainable economic diversification and improve the quality of life for its residents, and we are proud to offer strong advantages and incentives for companies looking to establish a presence in the Middle East," said Al-Dosari during a virtual discussion held yesterday. Titled 'Business Synergies and Opportunities Between Southern California Companies and Qatar', the virtual discussion was hosted by the US-Qatar Business Council (USQBC), the Commercial Attaché Office in the US for the State of Qatar, and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. The online event aims to highlight areas of interest and opportunities to further economic cooperation between Qatar and companies based in Southern California. The discussion comes as Qatar drives ambitious, economic diversification by investing in strategic sectors that include sports and entertainment, 'cleantech', smart cities, e-sports, and gaming. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Los Angeles chamber Exec lauds Qatar's 'business-friendly' environment** – Qatar is seen as a key destination for doing business for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large corporations in the US, according to Martin Breidsprecher, the chief operating officer of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. Speaking at a virtual discussion titled 'Business Synergies and Opportunities Between Southern California Companies and Qatar', Breidsprecher said: "There are many shared areas of interest among Southern Californian companies and those of Qatar." "For companies in the Los Angeles area looking to expand to new markets or gain a foothold in the wider region, Qatar offers a business-friendly environment for SMEs and large corporations alike," he stressed during the event, which was hosted by the US-Qatar Business Council (USQBC), the Commercial Attaché Office in the US for the State of Qatar, and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. Major American multinationals from Microsoft to Raytheon to Boeing have chosen Qatar as the "go-to place of business" in the Middle East for its location, economic benefits, and infrastructural support that helps businesses get up and running quickly in a new market, it was stressed during the event. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Qatar-Egypt Follow-up Committee holds 7th meeting in Doha** – The Qatar-Egypt Follow-up Committee held its seventh meeting in Doha on Tuesday. The meeting, emanating from Al-Ula Declaration, was co-chaired by Special Envoy of the Minister of

Foreign Affairs for Regional Affairs HE Ambassador Ali bin Fahad Al Hajri and Assistant Foreign Minister for Arab Affairs in Egypt Ambassador Yasser Othman. In a related context, the Qatar-Egypt Legal Committee held its sixth meeting in Doha on September 13 and 14 under the chairmanship of Director of the Legal Affairs Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs HE Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al Thani and Assistant Minister of Justice for Arbitration and International Disputes in Egypt Counsellor Mustafa Al Bahbini. The meetings resulted in an agreement on many issues presented on the agendas of the committees. The two countries also signed a number of bilateral agreements to enhance cooperation and coordination between the competent authorities. Qatar Post signed an agreement and protocol with Egypt's National Postal Authority (Egypt Post) in the field of postal cooperation while Qatar Civil Aviation Authority signed a memorandum of understanding with the Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority in the field of air transport. The step comes within the framework of strengthening the cooperation and coordination between the two countries. (Qatar Tribune)

- **MME, Kahramaa sign MoU for government services' digital transformation** – The ministry of Municipality and Environment (MME) and Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation (Kahramaa) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation between the two parties towards systems integration and support for the digital transformation of government services. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Halal expo seen to foster growth in Qatar-Malaysia ties, says Malaysian trade official** – The current staging of the 'Malaysia International Halal Showcase' (Mihis 2021) 17th edition would play a role in fostering growth in Qatar-Malaysia trade and economic relations with the import and export of halal products between both countries, an official of Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (Matrade) has said. Chief Executive Officer Mohd Mustafa Abdul Aziz noted that Matrade "is working closely" and regularly communicates with a wide range of entities and corporations doing business in Qatar. (Gulf-Times.com)
- **Qatar Airways, Uganda Airlines to ink deal** – Qatar Airways and Uganda Airlines are set to work on a joint cooperation, which will pave way for the transformation of Entebbe International Airport into one of the busiest airports in Africa. According to the works and transport ministry, the move was communicated to the works and transport minister, Gen Edward Katumba Wamala by the Qatar envoy to Uganda, Jabor Ali Aldusari. On Tuesday Katumba and Aldusari held talks over the matter, among other things. "HE Jabor Ali Aldusari, the Qatar Ambassador to Uganda paid a courtesy call to Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala. The envoy expressed great interest in cooperation with Uganda Airlines, and the possibility of Entebbe Airport serving as hub to concentrated passenger traffic and flight operations," a statement issued by officials from the works and transport ministry noted. Recently, Uganda Airlines also announced that it would commence flights to Dubai on October 4, 2021, using the newly acquired Airbus (A330-800). (Bloomberg)

International

- **IIF: Global debt is fast approaching record \$300tn** – Global debt rose to a new record high of nearly \$300tn in the second quarter, but the debt-to-GDP ratio declined for the first time since the start of the pandemic as economic growth rebounded, the Institute of International Finance (IIF) said on Tuesday. Total debt levels, which include government, household, and corporate and bank debt, rose \$4.8tn to \$296tn at the end of June, after a slight decline in the first quarter, to stand \$36tn above pre-pandemic levels. "If the borrowing continues at this pace, we expect global debt to exceed \$300tn," said Emre Tiftik, IIF's director of sustainability research. The rise in debt levels was the sharpest

among emerging markets, with total debt rising \$3.5tn in the second quarter from the preceding three months to reach almost \$92tn. In a positive sign for the debt outlook, the IIF reported a decline in the global debt-to-GDP ratio for the first time since the outbreak of the coronavirus crisis. Debt as a share of gross domestic product fell to around 353% in the second quarter, from a record high of 362% in the first three months of this year. The IIF said that of the 61 countries it monitored, 51 recorded a decline in debt-to-GDP levels, mostly on the back of a strong rebound in economic activity. (Reuters)

- **US inflation coming off the boil as prices increase slowly in August** – Underlying US consumer prices increased at their slowest pace in six months in August as used motor vehicle prices tumbled, suggesting that inflation had probably peaked, though it could remain high for a while amid persistent supply constraints. The broad slowdown in price pressures reported by the Labor Department on Tuesday aligns with Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell's long-held belief that high inflation is transitory. Still, economists cautioned it was too early to celebrate and expected the US central bank to lay out plans in November to start scaling back its massive monthly bond-buying program. "Inflation remains troublingly strong, even if it is not exploding like it did earlier in the year," said James McCann, deputy chief economist at Aberdeen Standard Investments in Boston. "If we continue to see further step-downs in inflation over the next six months, that should ease the pressure on the Fed to quickly follow tapering with interest rate rises." The consumer price index excluding the volatile food and energy components edged up 0.1% last month. That was the smallest gain since February and followed a 0.3% rise in July. The so-called core CPI was held back by a 1.5% decline in prices for used cars and trucks, which ended five straight monthly increases. Robust rises in prices of used cars and trucks, as well as services in industries worst affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, were the key drivers behind a heating up of inflation at the start of the year. (Reuters)
- **US government aid helped reduce poverty in 2020, Census data shows** – Direct cash payments to households and generous unemployment benefits helped to keep millions of Americans out of poverty after the coronavirus pandemic severely disrupted the US economy and pushed people out of work, according to a government survey released on Tuesday. The stimulus payments the federal government sent out to most US households in the middle of the pandemic helped to lift 11.7 million people out of poverty last year, the US Census Bureau said. Support offered through jobless benefits, which were enhanced with federal funds, also helped as unemployment soared because of the crisis, the report showed. "I think this really shows the importance of the social safety net," said Liana Fox, chief of the Census Bureau's poverty statistics branch. The poverty rate dropped to 9.1% in 2020 from 11.8% in 2019, according to a measure that takes into account government support offered through programs such as food assistance and the stimulus checks. In contrast, the official US poverty rate, which does not include the stimulus checks or some other government programs, rose to 11.4% from 10.5% in 2019, the first increase after five years of declines. And real median household income, a measure that includes unemployment benefits but not the pandemic relief checks, decreased to about \$67,500 in 2020, down 2.9% from 2019. The report comes days after enhanced unemployment benefits expired across the country, a shift that threatens to slow economic growth after leaving millions of job seekers with smaller payouts or no benefits at all. Some businesses and lawmakers hoped reducing benefits would lead to an uptick in job applicants, but economists say obstacles securing childcare and fears of the virus may still be keeping some people out of work. President Joe Biden and other Democrats are pushing for more investments in

programs that could subsidize childcare costs, permanently expand tax credits for parents and provide other support to households. But some of those efforts could face resistance from Republicans who say the support is needed less as the economy rebounds. The Census report illustrated the economic effects of the pandemic, which disproportionately affected women, minorities and low-wage workers. The total number of people who worked at all in 2020 decreased by about 3mn from 2019. The number of people who worked full-time for the entire year dropped by 13.7mn, the largest annual decrease since the Census began tracking that figure in 1967. (Reuters)

- **UK's Sunak says wave of foreign takeovers shows confidence in economy** – British Finance Minister Rishi Sunak said he wanted to make it more attractive for companies to list in Britain, at a time when private equity firms have sought to take some well-known names private. Sunak, speaking at a tech conference in London, said interest in British businesses from overseas investors, including private equity companies, reflected well on their view of the wider economy, but regulators did need to check whether some takeovers were in Britain's longer-term interest. Britain has historically taken a relaxed view of foreign takeovers but the purchase of chip design company ARM in 2016 by Japan's SoftBank raised concerns, and regulators are currently questioning its sale to US company Nvidia Corp. Asked if he would prefer to see ARM listed as an independent company in Britain, Sunak said he could not comment specifically due to the ongoing regulatory process. "Whether it is ARM or anyone else, I want to make (Britain) an incredibly attractive place for companies to raise capital," Sunak told reporters. Britain has already taken steps to allow structures such as special purpose acquisition companies and dual-class listings, which had caused some firms to prefer to list in the US. Sunak also said he was seeking to make it simpler for companies to produce prospectuses for initial public offerings. (Reuters)
- **UK pay-rolled employment rises by record 241,000 in August** – British employers added record 241,000 staff to their pay-rolls last month, taking the total number of pay-rolled employees above their level in February 2020, just before Britain first went into COVID-19 lockdown, government figures showed. Separate official data showed the unemployment rate was 4.6% in the three months to July, in line with economists' expectations in a Reuters poll. (Reuters)
- **Japan's machinery orders rebound in sign of capex recovery** – Japan's core machinery orders rose in July after a dip the previous month, a sign corporate spending is perking up despite the wider hit to the economy from the pandemic. However, the weaker-than-expected rebound may add to concerns about the strength of Japan's recovery, which has largely relied on manufacturers and other export-oriented businesses as curbs dampen domestic consumption. Core machinery orders, a highly volatile data series regarded as a leading indicator of capital spending in the next six to nine months, rose 0.9% in July from the previous month, weaker than the 3.1% gain seen by economists in a Reuters poll. It followed a 1.5% dip in the prior month. "The manufacturing sector is strengthening with the tailwind of recovery in the global economy, while non-manufacturing is weakening with downside pressures from the worsening COVID-19 outbreak - the contrast is becoming clearer," said Masato Koike, an economist at Dai-ichi Life Research Institute. The Japanese economy is at risk of slipping back into contraction in the current quarter as the COVID-19 pandemic hits private consumption and manufacturing. (Reuters)
- **China's factory output, retail sales growth slow significantly** – China's industrial output rose 5.3% in August from a year earlier, the weakest pace since July 2020, while growth of retail sales also slowed significantly and missed expectations, official

data showed on Wednesday. The growth of factory output was slower than a 5.8% YoY increase tipped by a Reuters poll of analysts and compared with a 6.4% increase in July. COVID-19 controls, prolonged semiconductor shortages and curbs on high-polluting industries have disrupted activity in the world's second-biggest economy. China's vehicle sales slid in July for a third consecutive month, partly driven by the global auto chip shortages. In a bid to provide some relief for the sector, China's market regulator on Friday fined three auto chip sales companies for driving up prices. Some steel producers in China's Jiangsu, Fujian and Yunnan provinces were told by the government to cut production as the country aims to curb industrial pollution. Growth in retail sales took a big hit from rising local COVID-19 cases. Sales only rose 2.5% in August from a year ago, much lower than the forecast 7.0% rise and marking the slowest clip since August last year. It compared with an 8.5% uptick in July. The Chinese economy made a remarkably strong revival from last year's coronavirus-led slump, but momentum has slowed over the past few months as businesses grapple with sporadic COVID-19 outbreaks, supply bottlenecks and high raw materials. (Reuters)

- **China's industrial output rose 5.3% YoY in August, retail sales up 2.5%** – China's industrial output grew 5.3% in August from the same period a year ago, narrowing from a 6.4% increase in July, while retail sales growth slowed significantly, official data showed on Wednesday. The growth of industrial production missed expectations for a 5.8% YoY increase in a Reuters poll of analysts. Retail sales rose 2.5% from a year earlier, the slowest pace since August 2020. Analysts in the poll had expected them to grow 7.0% in August after rising 8.5% in July. Fixed asset investment increased 8.9% in the first eight months from a year earlier, just missing expectations for a 9.0% rise and compared with a 10.3% jump in January-July. The Chinese economy made a remarkably strong revival from a coronavirus-led slump, but momentum has slowed over the past few months as businesses grapple with sporadic COVID-19 outbreaks, supply bottlenecks and high raw materials costs. (Reuters)

- **Regional**

- **IEA: Global oil demand to rebound next month** – Global oil demand has dropped for three straight months as Covid cases have risen in Asia but it is expected to bounce back next month, the International Energy Agency said Tuesday. Demand fell from July after rebounding the previous month, with major crude consumer China leading the decline, the IEA said in a monthly report. "Global oil demand remains under pressure from the virulent Covid-19 Delta variant in key consuming regions, especially in parts of Asia," the report said. Demand fell by 310,000 bpd on average over the three months to September. But it is expected to recover in October with an increase of 1.6mn bpd and continue to rise until the end of the year, said the IEA, advises developed countries on energy policy. (Gulf-times.com)
- **IEA: OPEC output rose 210k bpd in August led by Saudi Arabia, Iraq** – OPEC's crude production rose by 210k bpd in August to 26.89mn bpd, led by Saudi Arabia and Iraq, the International Energy Agency said in its monthly oil-market report. Saudi Arabia's output climbed 100k bpd MoM to 9.56mn bpd, just below its August quota of 9.6mn bpd. Iraq increased production by 100k bpd to 4.07mn bpd, 10k bpd above its quota. The UAE increased supply by 50k bpd to 2.77m bpd, while Kuwait's output edged 20k bpd higher to 2.44mn bpd. Iran, which is exempt from cuts, held output steady at 2.5mn bpd. Nigeria posted the biggest drop, with supply falling 80k bpd to 1.24mn bpd, mainly due to operational issues at the Forcados terminal. Angola's output edged up to 1.13m bpd, but remains 200k bpd below its quota. Libya, also exempt from OPEC+ cuts, curbed output by 40k bpd to 1.14mn bpd. Production inched up in Algeria, Congo and Gabon. Total OPEC+ supply fell by 150k bpd to 41.58mn bpd, as

losses from Kazakhstan, Mexico and Nigeria offset gains from Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Russia. (Bloomberg)

- **Saudi Arabia's online grocery delivery market to cross SR650bn by 2025** – Saudi Arabia's online grocery delivery market will be valued at SR650bn by the end of 2025, registering a CAGR of 23.4% between 2019 and 2025. The market will witness growth owing to rise in investment in marketplace companies and innovative strategies adopted by service providers, according to a report by Ken Research titled 'KSA Online Grocery Delivery Market Outlook to 2025- Driven by Regional Changing Shopping Habits of Consumers and Expansion of Local and International Players in the Kingdom'. The online grocery delivery penetration, basis users, is expected to reach 20% by the end of 2025. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Arabia's ACWA Power announces price range for its \$1bn IPO** – Saudi Arabian utility developer ACWA Power has set the price range for its initial public offering (IPO) at SR51-SR56 per share and will commence the book-building process from September 15. The final price per share will be determined after the completion of the book-building process on September 27, Riyadh Capital, a financial advisor and book-runner for the IPO said in a statement to the Saudi stock exchange, Tadawul, on Tuesday. Earlier this month the company, which is half-owned by the kingdom's sovereign wealth fund Public Investment Fund, had announced plans to float on the Riyadh bourse following an IPO. (Zawya)
- **Saudi insurance sector net income plummets in 2Q, as premiums go up** – Net income of Saudi Arabia's insurance sector fell by 59.2 % in the second quarter, compared to the same period last year. This was attributed to a steep drop in operating income from SR709mn to SR74mn. New figures from the Saudi Central Bank (SAMA) showed premiums reaching SR9.4bn or an increase of 8.1 % during the same period. Protection and saving insurance led the rise in gross written premium (GWP), recording a 34% rise to SR436mn. GWP is used to measure an insurance's company's revenue health. Premiums of health insurance rose by 6.6 % to SR5.1bn, and the motor insurance sector fell by 9.9% to SR1.7bn YoY. (Zawya)
- **GCAA: UAE is preparing to be world's leading destination for travelers over the next six months** – The UAE is preparing to be the world's leading destination for travelers over the next six months during the Expo 2020 Dubai, while the local hotel sector has regained its pre-pandemic reservation rates. The General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) revealed the total number of passengers travelling to the UAE grew in August 2021 to over 2.5mn, compared to 814,000 in the same period of 2020, surging by 207%. In its statement to the Emirates News Agency (WAM), the GCAA highlighted increased figures in national air traffic statistics for August, which recorded 45,953 flights. The preventive measures to contain the coronavirus pandemic are one of the significant factors that helped boost the country's stature as a safe travel destination, despite the pandemic continuing globally. (Zawya)
- **UAE wants quick trade talks, some deals signed in 6-12 months** – The UAE will pursue an aggressive timetable to negotiate broad economic agreements with eight countries it wants to deepen trade ties with, hoping it can wrap up some of those talks within a year, its trade minister said on Tuesday. The Gulf state, already a hub for global trade, this month announced plans to strengthen trade and economic ties with India, the UK, Turkey and South Korea, among others. "We really do hope that ... at least the first ones are going to be concluded within six months to one year. So we are talking about a very aggressive, quick work and quick negotiations," Minister of State for Foreign Trade Thani Al Zeyoudi said. (Zawya)

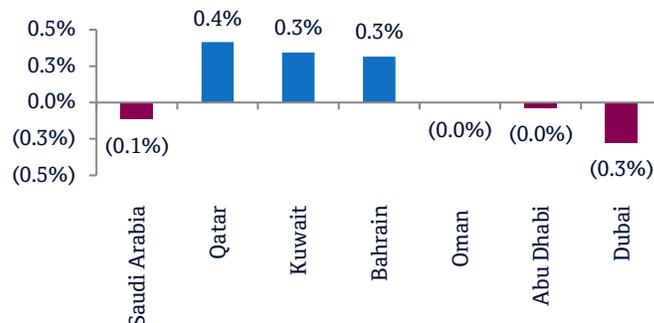
- **UAE's Aldar and ADQ seek to buy control of Egypt's SODIC**
 – The UAE's Aldar Properties and ADQ have submitted a request to Egypt's Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA) to acquire up to 90% of Egyptian property developer SODIC, they said on Tuesday. The mandatory tender offer of 20 Egyptian pounds per share would value SODIC at \$453mn, said the companies, which are seeking a minimum of 51% of SODIC. Aldar accounts for 70% of the consortium while ADQ, a state-backed holding company, makes up the remainder. If approved by the FRA, shareholders would have 10 to 30 days to respond, after which Aldar and ADQ would have to complete the purchase within five days, the two companies said in a statement to the media. (Reuters)
- **Dubai's Gulf Islamic Investments to acquire stake in Saudi healthcare firm** – Dubai-based Gulf Islamic Investments (GII) will acquire a stake in a healthcare company in Saudi Arabia for \$600mn as part of its expansion strategy in the kingdom. The financial services firm is looking to invest \$1bn into the Gulf state and invest in other high-growth sectors, such as logistics and cloud kitchens. The company did not disclose more details about the plan, which will be implemented over the next year to 18 months. "We go where the money is and where the deals are... We have a lot of faith in Saudi," the company's co-founder Mohammed Alhassan told Bloomberg. GII is a Shariah-compliant global financial management firm based in the UAE. Its assets under management are estimated to be worth around \$2bn. (Zawya)
- **Dubai Aerospace Enterprise to retire \$488mn of senior notes**
 – Dubai Aerospace Enterprise delivers a notice of early redemption to the holders of its \$500mn of 5.25% senior notes due 2021. The notes are scheduled to be redeemed on October 15. The outstanding principal amount of the notes as of the date of redemption notice was about \$488mn. Wells Fargo Bank is the trustee and paying agent for the notes. (Bloomberg)
- **Kuwait sells KWD290mn 91-day bills; bid-cover 9.83** – Kuwait sold KWD290mn of bills due December 14. Investors offered to buy 9.83 times the amount of securities sold. The bills have a yield of 1.125% and settled September 14. (Bloomberg)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,804.51	0.6	0.9	(4.9)
Silver/Ounce	23.86	0.5	0.5	(9.6)
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	73.60	0.1	0.9	42.1
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	70.46	0.0	1.1	45.2
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	5.35	3.5	5.9	123.8
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	125.25	1.4	2.2	66.4
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	144.00	3.0	1.9	107.2
Euro	1.18	(0.1)	(0.1)	(3.4)
Yen	109.69	(0.3)	(0.2)	6.2
GBP	1.38	(0.2)	(0.2)	1.0
CHF	1.09	0.2	(0.2)	(3.8)
AUD	0.73	(0.7)	(0.5)	(4.9)
USD Index	92.62	(0.1)	0.0	3.0
RUB	72.92	0.4	(0.4)	(2.0)
BRL	0.19	(0.4)	0.2	(0.8)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	3,116.08	(0.3)	(0.2)	15.8
DJ Industrial	34,577.57	(0.8)	(0.1)	13.0
S&P 500	4,443.05	(0.6)	(0.3)	18.3
NASDAQ 100	15,037.76	(0.4)	(0.5)	16.7
STOXX 600	467.65	0.1	0.3	13.3
DAX	15,722.99	0.3	0.8	10.3
FTSE 100	7,034.06	(0.4)	0.0	10.5
CAC 40	6,652.97	(0.2)	(0.1)	15.9
Nikkei	30,670.10	1.1	1.2	5.3
MSCI EM	1,296.15	(0.4)	(1.0)	0.4
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,662.60	(1.2)	(1.0)	6.9
HANG SENG	25,502.23	(1.2)	(2.7)	(6.6)
BSE SENSEX	58,247.09	0.1	(0.2)	21.0
Bovespa	116,180.60	(0.6)	1.3	(3.6)
RTS	1,754.60	0.2	1.7	26.5

Source: Bloomberg (*\$ adjusted returns)

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