Local Markets

The SARB will announce its decision on interest rates towards the end of this week. The jury is still out on whether the MPC will raise the repo rate by another 25 basis poits or hold steady.

The local stock market ended the week lower, albeit slightly less than other equity markets with significant exposure to large-cap technology and AI-related stocks. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index ended the week down by 0.7%.

The Resources Index (-3.0%) once again led the market lower as heightened tensions in the Middle East weighed on precious metals prices, with gold dipping below the $4 000 level.

The non-resources sector of the market managed to hold up, with the Financials Index ending the week flat and the Industrials Index gaining 0.5%.

The SA Listed Property Index and the Preference Share Index both gained 0.4%.

Mid-caps (+0.6%) were the outright winner over the week, while Large caps (Top 40 Index) declined by 0.7% and Small Caps declined by 0.8%.

The SA bond market ended the week in the red (ALBI -1.5%) on the back of a weaker rand as well as expectations of higher inflation and interest rates, while inflation-linked bonds lost 0.7%.

Global Markets

United States: US stocks ended the week lower, with the Nasdaq and S&P 500 posting the biggest declines as large-cap technology and AI-related stocks sold off, while energy stocks gained on higher oil prices driven by US-Iran tensions.

Bank earnings were stronger than expected, with major banks outperforming estimates, but positive results were overshadowed by weakness in semiconductor and AI infrastructure stocks despite solid earnings from key chip companies.

Inflation cooled more than expected, as both CPI and PPI declined, reducing expectations of a near-term Federal Reserve rate hike and lowering the market-implied probability of a July hike from about 40% to 14%.

The US economy remained resilient overall, with steady retail sales, stronger labour market data, and improved consumer sentiment, although the housing sector weakened due to falling pending home sales, lower builder confidence, and higher mortgage rates.

US Treasury bonds gained as lower inflation pushed yields down, while investment-grade corporate bonds also rose and high-yield bonds proved resilient despite geopolitical risks and oil price volatility.

Europe: European markets were largely flat, with the STOXX Europe 600 edging up 0.1% despite volatility caused by weak global tech stocks, Middle East tensions, and rising oil prices. The UK's FTSE 100 outperformed, while Germany's DAX and Italy's FTSE MIB declined.

Eurozone inflation eased to 2.8% in June, its lowest level since the Iran war began, but remained above the European Central Bank's 2% target. Meanwhile, industrial production unexpectedly fell 0.2% in May.

Germany showed mixed economic signals, with wholesale prices rising 4.9% year over year, driven by higher energy and commodity costs, while industrial production remained relatively stronger than in some other eurozone countries.

Ireland's economy weakened, as exports dropped sharply, narrowing the trade surplus, construction activity contracted, and property prices continued to rise steadily.

The UK economy showed modest improvement, growing 0.1% in May despite weaker industrial production. Politically, Andy Burnham became leader of the Labour Party and is expected to become prime minister on July 20.

Asia: Japanese equities declined sharply, with the Nikkei 225 falling 6.4% and TOPIX down 2.9%, driven by a global sell-off in technology and AI-related stocks, geopolitical tensions, and rising oil prices.

The yen weakened against the US dollar as higher oil prices raised concerns about Japan's import costs, while 10-year government bond yields declined as investors gained confidence that the Bank of Japan's independence would be preserved.

Business investment in Japan weakened significantly, with core machinery orders dropping 12.4% in May, reflecting broad-based weakness despite continued optimism among manufacturers supported by semiconductor demand.

Chinese markets diverged, with mainland stocks falling sharply on AI and semiconductor weakness, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index gained 1.6% due to support from large internet, healthcare, auto, and property stocks.

Economic growth in China slowed in the second quarter, with GDP rising 4.3% year over year, as stronger exports contrasted with weak domestic demand, declining investment, and subdued credit growth, highlighting continued reliance on external demand.

Currencies

Description	Classification*	Currency	Exchange Rate	Week	Month	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
ZAR/USD	USD/ZAR	ZAR	16.5	1.3%	0.8%	0.8%	-0.2%
ZAR/Pound	GBP/ZAR	ZAR	22.2	1.7%	2.0%	2.2%	-0.4%
ZAR/Euro	EUR/ZAR	ZAR	18.9	1.5%	0.2%	0.9%	-2.8%
USD/Euro	USD/EUR	EUR	0.9	-0.2%	0.5%	-0.1%	2.7%
USD/Yen	USD/YEN	YEN	162.4	0.4%	1.1%	-0.1%	3.6%

*Return denoted in former quoted currency

Commodities

Description	Classification	Currency	Commodity Price	Week	Month	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Gold	Gold Spot	USD	4017.4	-2.5%	-5.6%	0.2%	-7.0%
Brent Crude Oil	ICE Brent Futures	USD	88.1	15.9%	10.7%	20.8%	44.8%
Platinum	Platinum Spot	USD	1596.6	-2.3%	-8.2%	2.8%	-22.5%
Copper	LME 3 month Copper	USD	622.0	-0.2%	-4.2%	0.4%	9.5%
Silver	Silver Spot	USD	56.0	-6.3%	-20.8%	-5.8%	-20.6%

Global Equity Indexes (Total Return Indices)

Description	Index	Currency	Index Value	Week	Month	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Global	MSCI World	USD	4807.7	-1.2%	0.1%	-0.3%	9.3%
United States	S&P 500	USD	7457.7	-1.5%	0.6%	-0.5%	9.4%
Europe	Euro Stoxx 50	EUR	6230.9	-0.6%	-1.0%	-1.5%	9.5%
United Kingdom	FTSE 100	GBP	10600.4	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	8.7%
Germany	DAX	EUR	24831.0	-0.9%	-0.4%	-0.7%	1.4%
Japan	Nikkei 225	JPY	64141.1	-6.4%	-8.2%	-8.5%	28.5%
Emerging Markets	MSCI Emerging Markets	USD	1620.7	-4.1%	-8.8%	-5.8%	16.7%

South African Equity Indexes (Total Return Indices)

Description	Index	Currency	Index Value	Week	Month	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
All Share	JSE All Share	ZAR	109569.90	-0.7%	-5.4%	-0.6%	-3.5%
Top 40	JSE Top 40	ZAR	101222.50	-0.7%	-6.3%	-0.6%	-4.5%
Shareholder Weighted	JSE Capped All Share	ZAR	54843.07	-0.7%	-5.4%	-0.6%	-3.4%
Mid Caps	JSE Mid Cap	ZAR	108709.90	0.6%	-1.8%	0.6%	-5.3%
Small Caps	JSE Small Cap	ZAR	105133.30	-0.8%	0.0%	-0.3%	3.5%
Resources	JSE Resources	ZAR	56625.22	-3.0%	-16.6%	-2.8%	-14.6%
Industrials	JSE Industrials	ZAR	140664.40	0.5%	1.0%	0.7%	-3.3%
Financials	JSE Financials	ZAR	66112.33	0.0%	-1.8%	-0.3%	7.5%
SA Listed Property	JSE SA Listed Property	ZAR	504.78	0.4%	2.6%	1.6%	6.3%
Preference Shares	JSE Pref Shares	ZAR	5700.46	0.4%	0.6%	-0.4%	1.3%

South African Fixed Interest

Description	Index	Currency	Index Value	Week	Month	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
All Bond	ALBI Total Return	ZAR	1412.48	-1.5%	-1.1%	-1.1%	3.1%
Inflation Linked Bonds	Inflation Linked Total Return	ZAR	455.39	-0.7%	-0.5%	-0.5%	4.8%
Cash	STEFI Composite	ZAR	662.98	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%	3.7%

Week Ahead - Upcoming Economic Events

Asia

Date Time	Event	Period	Surv(M)	Prior
7-22-2026 1:50	Imports YoY	Jun	21.10%	12.50%
7-24-2026 1:30	Natl CPI YoY	Jun	1.70%	1.50%

Eurozone

Date Time	Event	Period	Surv(M)	Prior
--	--	--	--	--

South Africa

Date Time	Event	Period	Surv(M)	Prior
7-22-2026 10:00	CPI YoY	Jun	4.70%	4.50%
7-22-2026 10:00	CPI Core YoY	Jun	3.90%	3.80%
7-23-2026 15:00	SARB Announce Interest Rate	23-Jul	7.25%	7.00%

United Kingdom

Date Time	Event	Period	Surv(M)	Prior
7-22-2026 8:00	CPI YoY	Jun	2.70%	2.80%
7-22-2026 8:00	CPI Core YoY	Jun	2.50%	2.60%
7-22-2026 8:00	Retail Price Index	Jun	416.6	415.3
7-22-2026 8:00	RPI YoY	Jun	3.00%	3.10%
7-22-2026 8:00	PPI Output NSA YoY	Jun	3.50%	4.00%
7-22-2026 10:30	House Price Index YoY	May	--	3.80%

United States

Date Time	Event	Period	Surv(M)	Prior
7-21-2026 14:15	ADP Weekly Employment Change	4-Jul	--	19.750k