

STOCK MARKET			OIL PRICES (\$)			GOLD PRICES	
(Rates are against Dh)	Buy	Sell					
Indian rupee	23.14	22.44	<b>Dubai DFM</b>	<b>BRENT</b>	<b>DME OMAN</b>	<b>WTI</b>	<b>London \$/oz</b>
Pakistani rupee	83.05	80.84	4,034.00	-16.64	↗	↗	1,908.57 -0.72
Sri Lankan rupee	90.49	87.71					<b>Mumbai ₹/10gm</b>
Philippine peso	15.69	15.29	<b>Abu Dhabi ADX</b>	93.63	93.86	90.24	58,535 -90.00
Bangladeshi taka	30.49	29.34	9,796.39	+41.29	+1.63	+0.04	<b>Dubai Dh/gm</b>
							230.50 -1.25

**“We expect ongoing geopolitical risks and the uncertain economic backdrop to lead Saudi Arabia to maintain these production cuts into Q1 2024.”**  
Analysts at ANZ Research

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# Oil surges to highest this year as analysts warn of stagflation

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Oil prices rebounded on Thursday after falling in the previous session amid expectations of a tighter supply for the rest of 2023 with demand set to stay robust through to next year.

Brent crude was up \$1.86, or 2.02 per cent, at \$93.74 by 1:06pm in New York (1606 GMT). The session high of \$93.80 was its highest since November 2022. US West Texas Intermediate crude (WTI) gained \$1.57, or 1.8 per cent, to \$89.09. It also hit a 10-month high of \$90.35, as commodity analysts said they could not rule out an intra-Q4 high above \$100 per barrel. WTI crude is up almost 3.0 per cent this week, up about 13 per cent this year.

Ole Hansen, head of commodity strategy at Saxo Bank, said while Opec can control supply, they have limited influence on demand. “With inflationary pressures from higher energy prices on the rise again, the timing of peak rates may suffer another delay while later rate cuts may end up being less than expected. All developments that carry the risk of stagflation, i.e. low growth and stubbornly high inflation.”

He said the short-term risk of a Brent move above \$95 cannot be ruled out. As Opec+ produc-



A worker at an oil well in Ecuador. Saudi Arabia and Russia have extended their oil output cuts to the end of 2023, and the move could result in a substantial market deficit, the IEA said. — AFP

tion cuts continue to tighten the market, the price outlook needs to reflect the fact that the group increasingly looked like it was focusing on price optimisation instead of a balanced and stable market. Therefore, the short-term risk of a Brent move above \$95 cannot be ruled out, Hansen said.

Saudi Arabia and Russia have extended their oil output cuts to the

end of 2023, and the move could result in a substantial market deficit for the rest of 2023, the International Energy Agency said on Wednesday.

“From September onwards, the loss of Opec+ production... will drive a significant supply shortfall through the fourth quarter,” the agency said in its monthly report.

“The oil market looks decidedly tight over the next two to three

quarters as supply constraints persist amid robust demand,” said analysts at ANZ Research. “We expect ongoing geopolitical risks and the uncertain economic backdrop to lead Saudi Arabia to maintain these production cuts into Q1 2024,” they added.

Opec in its monthly report said the market may experience a shortfall of 3.3 million bpd in the

fourth quarter, potentially driving the biggest deficit in more than a decade. The IEA meanwhile is only predicting a 230,000 b/d shortfall.

Hansen said cuts have been led by Saudi Arabia which including its June 1.0 million bpd has cut its production by around 2.0 million bpd since last September, and at current export levels the Kingdom would need around \$110 per barrel for its revenues to match what they generated before they started cutting production in June. “So far this year, according to the IEA, Opec+ production has fallen by 2.0 million bpd with overall losses being tempered by sharply higher Iranian flows. Rising prices have supported a production boost from non-Opec+ suppliers by 1.9 million bpd to a record 50.5 million bpd.”

Commodity analysts at Standard Chartered have noted that oil prices have been driven higher in Q3 by sharp falls in inventories caused by excess demand, and have predicted that dynamic will continue in Q4.

StanChart has forecast Brent prices in Q4 2023 to average \$93 per barrel, a prediction that has remained virtually unchanged for the past 15 months. That said, the analysts have cautioned that their forecast is a period average rather than a point forecast and hence have not ruled out an intra-Q4 high above \$100 per barrel.

## UAE supports GCC trade, industry, investment

The UAE appreciates the key role played by the GCC’s sub committees, especially those concerned with consolidating trade, industrial and investment cooperation to create new paths that support joint GCC action in all areas of common interest, a UAE minister has said.

Dr Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyouidi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade, led the UAE delegation participating in the 65th GCC Trade Cooperation Committee meeting, the 51st GCC Industrial Cooperation Committee meeting, and the sixth meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Standardisation.

Al Zeyouidi asserted that the UAE is keen on enhancing cooperation and driving further development of GCC economies, thus fostering shared economic prosperity, global competitiveness, and the well-being of their people.

Al Zeyouidi said: “The structural reforms to the economic policies of GCC countries over the past years have contributed to diversifying their economies and raising the contribution of non-oil sectors, especially the industrial sector, to their respective GDPs. It has also increased the volume of their foreign trade and strengthened their position as permanent FDI hubs for investment in various sectors.” — WAM



The number of new tenancy contracts has shrunk in the first eight months of this year as tenants are increasingly renewing their existing contracts. — FILE PHOTO

# Tenants renewing contracts despite increasing rents

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Dubai tenant Salim Ahmed received an increase notification from his landlord that took his annual rent out of his budget. However, the expat has decided to not move homes.

“My landlord has increased the rent by around Dh5,000. Initially, I thought of moving to a different apartment in the area, but when I calculated the cost of shifting to a new place, I realised it wouldn’t make much of a difference,” he said.

Ahmed is among an increasing number of tenants who are choosing to stay put in the face of rent increases.

The number of new tenancy contracts has shrunk in the first eight months of this year as tenants are increasingly renewing their existing contracts.

According to CBRE Middle East, a total of 376,211 rental transactions were registered in the year to date to August 2023, marking an 8.7 per cent increase

compared to the year prior, and a 48 per cent increase from the comparable 2019 period. This growth has been supported by a 28 per cent growth in renewed registrations, while new rental contracts registered have dropped by approximately 12 per cent.

“This significant decline in new rental registrations arises from the elevated costs that can be incurred when relocating or taking on new leases, which, as a result, has created substantial bifurcations between new and renewed rental rates,” said Taimur Khan, head of research at CBRE Middle East.

Noor, another tenant, said relocation costs are almost equal to the rent increase. “Plus, there is wear and tear on household items when relocating to a new flat. And I am very sensitive about my items because I collected them very carefully,” said Noor, who has been living in Dubai for the past 20 years.

According to H1 Dubai Property Market Report released by Bayut, rents for affordable apart-

ments in the emirate’s popular districts have increased by up to 17 per cent. The cost of renting luxury apartments has significantly appreciated by up to 32 per cent. Similarly, reasonably-priced villas in popular neighbourhoods have experienced upticks of up to 50 per cent in rents, whereas the cost of renting luxury villa properties has increased by up to 70 per cent.

Importantly, there has been a slight moderation in the rate of rental growth in the last few months.

CBRE Middle East said average rents in Dubai rose by 21.7 per cent in the year to August 2023, down marginally from 22 per cent in July 2023. Over this period, average apartment rents increased by 21.5 per cent, and average villa rents rose by 22.6 per cent.

“Although demand remains steadfast, we are seeing that the rate of rental growth continues to moderate, making this the seventh consecutive month in which this has occurred,” said Khan.



# GLAZE Granite & Marble unveils third showroom on Sheikh Zayed Road

The new showroom marks a significant milestone in GLAZE’s illustrious 25-year legacy

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GLAZE Granite & Marble, the UAE’s largest marble importer, has announced the opening of its third showroom, strategically situated on Sheikh Zayed Road in Dubai. This newest addition, following the success of existing stone galleries in Sharjah and Abu Dhabi, marks a significant milestone in GLAZE’s illustrious 25-year legacy.

This new Dubai showroom

showcases GLAZE’s commitment to providing an extensive range of surface solutions, catering to the diverse needs of kitchen countertops, flooring, bathrooms, and exterior and interior wall cladding.

Notably, the Dubai showroom highlights top brands in sintered stone, porcelain, and engineered quartz solutions for countertops, flooring, and wall cladding. The showroom proudly features industry leaders like Neolith, XTONE by Porcelanosa, and KoZo Porcelain, all available in large format slabs to facilitate seamless design and align with current market trends.

GLAZE Granite & Marble also introduces a luxurious selection of engineered quartz countertops, featuring renowned brands — Caesarstone, Coante, and KoZo Quartz. This addition elevates the



showroom into a super luxury destination for countertop and flooring solutions.

The showroom is an exquisite display of GLAZE’s core products, and natural stones, including marble, granite, quartzites, and onyx. These premium natural stones are meticulously handpicked from the finest quarries in Italy, Spain, Greece, Portugal, and Brazil.

The showroom’s standout attraction is the semi-precious stone collection, featuring — MaerCharme, a renowned European luxury brand.

With over 500 designs of natural stones and top brands of engineered stones (Neolith, Xtone, Caesarstone, Coante) on display, GLAZE asserts its dominance in the region’s surface solutions market. The showroom becomes the definitive one-stop destination for all types of flooring, wall cladding, and countertop solutions.

What sets this showroom apart is its artistic presentation of sintered stones, porcelain tiles, and natural stones in various applications, enabling visitors to witness firsthand how these materials can enhance the aesthetic appeal of any space.

For more information on GLAZE’s comprehensive product range and the showroom’s location, please visit [www.glaze.ae](http://www.glaze.ae).

