



Key Economic Indicators	2022	2023	2024*	2024F
Headline Inflation (%)	54.1	23.2	23.2	15.0
Monetary Policy Rate (%)	27.0	30.0	29.0	
GDP Growth Rate (%)	3.7	2.0	2.0	2.8
FX Reserves (\$bn)	6.2	5.2	5.9	-
FX Reserves Cover (Months)	2.7	2.4	2.7	3.0

*Provisional figures

Treasury Bill Auction

The Treasury Bill Auction witnessed an under subscription of GH¢ 1,807 million, equivalent to 43.42% of the target. GH¢ 2.354 billion was approved against a target of GH¢ 4.161 billion and a maturing debt of GH¢ 2.632 billion. The weighted average interest rates for the 91-day, 182-day, and 364-day tenors were 25.75% (-25bps), 28.25% (-25bps), and 28.85% (-25bps) respectively.

BDCs purchase \$20m at GHS 13.11/\$1 from BoG

Bulk Oil Distribution Companies (BDCs) engaged in a significant transaction with the Bank of Ghana (BoG), acquiring \$20 million at a rate of GHS 13.11 per US dollar during a forex forward auction. This move aims to alleviate uncertainties in foreign exchange availability, especially in the downstream sector responsible for fuel pricing. The successful auction is expected to stabilize fuel prices at retail pumps. Furthermore, the BoG announced plans to provide \$120 million to BDCs through bi-weekly FX Forward Auctions, demonstrating its commitment to fostering a robust foreign exchange market and supporting the growth of the oil distribution industry, thus benefiting the broader economy.

Fuel prices are anticipated to remain stable during the initial pricing window in April.

COPEC forecasts stable fuel prices in Ghana for April's initial pricing window, with petrol expected at GH¢13.41 per litre, diesel at GH¢13.91 per litre, and LPG at GH¢14.20 per kilogram, barring significant global market shifts. While diesel and LPG prices are predicted to hold steady, there may be a slight increase in petrol prices during the second pricing window. COPEC attributes recent price changes to the cedi's depreciation against the US dollar and warns of potential further increases without currency stability efforts.

The dollar is strengthening as expectations for Federal Reserve rate cuts diminish, while verbal intervention supports the yen.

The US dollar remained near a 4-1/2-month high against major currencies as expectations for a Federal Reserve rate cut decreased, buoyed by unexpectedly positive US manufacturing data. Concerns over potential intervention by Japanese authorities limited dollar gains against the yen despite rising US Treasury yields. The dollar index edged slightly higher, while the euro and sterling slipped. The yen slightly firmed amid intervention warnings. Australian and New Zealand dollars remained subdued. Gold edged up from a record high, while bitcoin declined but remained within its recent trading range.

Ivory Coast to raise cocoa farmgate price by 50%

Ivory Coast's President Alassane Ouattara has decided to raise the official cocoa farmgate price to 1,500 CFA francs (\$2.47) per kg starting from April 2, up from the current 1,000 CFA. This decision follows discussions at a government meeting, where Ouattara initially considered a lower price range but ultimately opted for the higher rate in light of the global cocoa market's significant price surge. The move aims to better align the farmgate price with the prevailing market conditions, reflecting the recent spike in cocoa prices due to disease and adverse weather.

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Sources: Bank of Ghana, Ministry of Finance, Bloomberg, Reuters, dmarketforces.com, norvanreports.com, citibusinessnews.com, cnbc.com, Graphic.com.gh