



Key Economic Indicators	2022	2023	2024*	2024F
Headline Inflation (%)	54.1	23.2	25.0	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 oversubscription of GH¢ 1,244 million, equivalent to 33.81% of the target. GH¢ 4.921 billion was approved against a target of GH¢ 3.677 billion and a maturing debt of GH¢ 3.457 billion. The weighted average interest rates for the 91-day, 182-day, and 364-day tenors were 25.20% (-25bps), 27.00% (-40bps), and 28.00% (-0.01bps) respectively.

GSE launches Commercial Paper Market to provide short-term financing for businesses

The local bourse has launched the much anticipated Commercial Paper Market aimed at providing short-term financing to businesses. The Commercial Paper Market seeks to augment the depth and liquidity of Ghana's securities landscape, ultimately propelling the nation's economic development. The new market offers an avenue for private pension funds, keen to explore investment diversification, and companies seeking alternative sources of short-term finance beyond conventional banking channels. By bridging the gap between investors and companies in need of such financing, the Commercial Paper Market endeavors to usher in a new era of financial flexibility and risk reduction.

IMF African Deputy Director confident in Board approval of \$360m disbursement after review in June

Catherine Pattillo, IMF African Deputy Director, expresses confidence in Ghana's economic recovery and suggests that the IMF program review could unlock \$360 million in financial support by June 2024. Ghana's progress in debt restructuring is commended, enhancing fiscal resilience to secure further installments from a \$3 billion loan from the Fund. Pattillo emphasizes the importance of reaching agreements with creditors for IMF evaluation. Projections indicate cautious optimism for Ghana's economic growth, with resilience demonstrated despite challenges like inflation and currency volatility. Concerns include geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and election-related spending's impact on economic recovery, highlighting the need for prudent fiscal management.

China to start \$138 billion bond sale on Friday to boost economy.

China will start selling the first batch of its 1 trillion yuan (\$138 billion) of ultra-long special sovereign bonds on Friday, as officials ramp up efforts to support the world's No. 2 economy. The central government will begin by issuing 30-year bonds, according to a notice by the Ministry of Finance. That ended months of speculation over when the bonds – only the fourth of their kind in 26 years – would be rolled out, after the ruling Communist Party announced its plan for them in March. Bonds with 20-year and 50-year tenors will be offered from May 24 and June 14, respectively. Auctions of the securities will continue until a final batch consisting of 30-year notes goes on sale in November. The ministry didn't disclose the amount of bonds to be sold. The bond sales are expected to bolster this year's growth by 1 percentage point, according to Xing Zhaopeng at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group.

Oil prices on course for the first weekly gain in weeks

Crude oil prices rose early Friday, marking their first weekly gain in several weeks. Factors contributing to this uptick include China's report of a 5.45% increase in crude oil imports and failed ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas, leading to increased geopolitical tensions. Additionally, the latest U.S. jobs report showing a rise in unemployment benefit claims fueled hopes of rate cuts, supporting oil prices. OPEC+ signaled no intention to change production policy at the next meeting, emphasizing the importance of OPEC decisions for global supply dynamics. Analysts predict a market deficit in the second quarter of 2024, but this could shift if OPEC+ members maintain or adjust their voluntary cuts.

***Licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Bank of Ghana.

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