WEEKLY BRIEF

Week of 17th November – 21st November 2025

PREPARED BY:

Wealthbridge Economic Advisory

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Key Highlights During the Week

International News

- **United States:** AI concerns weigh on market sentiment, investors remain wary; Delayed jobs report paints a mixed picture; Bonds supported by falling Treasury yields
- **UK & Eurozone:** Eurozone business activity expands steadily; Eurozone consumer confidence steady at eight-month high; UK inflation slows further; BoE's Pill says wage growth still too high
- **China**: China Stocks Tumble Amid AI Valuations Jitters; Beijing Mulls New Property Support; China FDI Continues to Contract; China's Rare Earth Exports to US Jump in October
- **Japan:** Government approves new stimulus; Inflation Persists Above Target as Weak Yen Drives Up Import Costs
- **South Africa:** Lower inflation outlook enables policymakers to reduce rates
- **Ghana:** Ghana Urges ECOWAS to Remove Trade Barriers and Speed Up Regional Integration
- **Egypt:** CBE Holds Interest Rates Amid Inflation Pressures; Egypt Secures €294.5m Partnership with Germany

Local News

- Nigeria's Inflation Rate Falls to 16.05% in October 2025
- FG, states, LGs share N2.094 trillion for October 2025
- Nigeria Eyes N1.49trn Electricity Export Revenue
- UK–Nigeria Trade Mission Opens US$32m Market for Women Entrepreneurs
- S&P upgrades Nigeria's Outlook to Stable

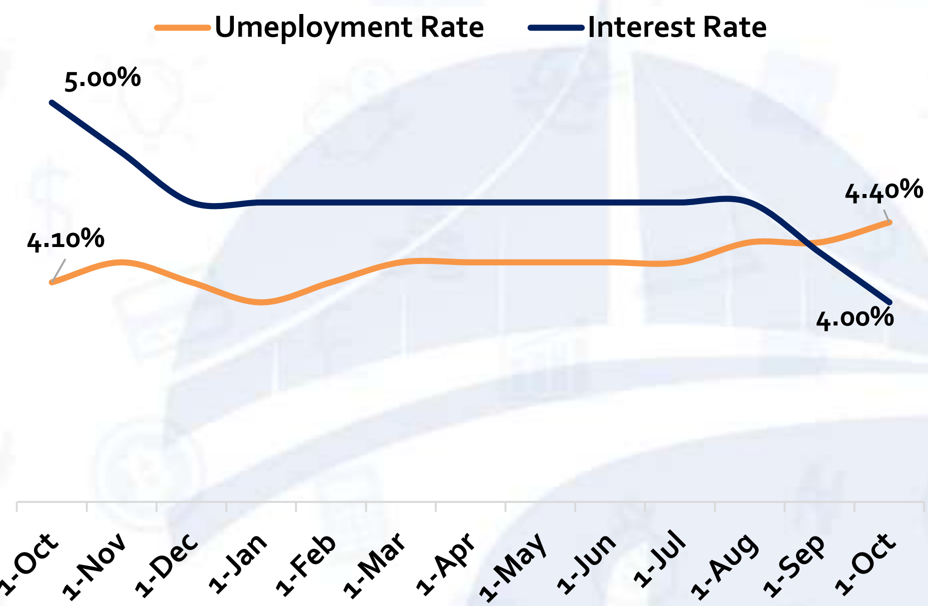
Key Macroeconomic Indices

NAFEM (₦/$)	Monetary Policy Rate	Brent Crude oil price ($/Barrel)	Inflation Rate	GDP Growth Rate
₦1,457.38/$1 (21/11/25)	**27.00%** (Sep 2025)	**$62.51** (21/11/25)	**16.05%** (Nov 2025)	**4.23%** (Q2 2025)

The United States

AI concerns weigh on market sentiment; Delayed jobs report paints a mixed picture

- NVIDIA posted record revenue and a stronger-than-expected Q4 outlook, but a sharp intraday reversal highlights persistent AI-sector volatility—suggesting caution around momentum trades and opportunities for selective profit-taking.
- The delayed September jobs report showed stronger-than-expected hiring at 119,000, signaling a pickup from summer weakness, while unemployment rose to a four-year high of 4.4%, painting a mixed labor-market picture ahead of the next report in December.
- Investors weighed December rate-cut prospects as Fed minutes signaled skepticism, but supportive comments from NY Fed President John Williams lifted sentiment. Futures data showed market-implied odds of a December cut rising to nearly 70%, up from 44% a week earlier.



Source: Trading Economics, WealthBridge Research

What to Expect

- Despite NY Fed President comments, other key policymakers are insisting borrowing costs should remain steady for now to ensure inflation declines in coming months

Stocks stuck on rollercoaster despite strong Nvidia earnings

- Despite some good news during the week from both corporate earnings reports and government economic data, U.S. equity markets finished the week lower.
- The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite had the largest losses, while the S&P MidCap 400 and Russell 2000 held up better but still lost ground. The large-cap S&P 500 Index finished about 4.4% lower than the record high it achieved in late October.

Drivers

- The sell-off appeared to be driven by worries about lofty stock valuations and concerns around whether AI will generate enough profits to justify the massive spending that companies have poured into supporting the developing technology.

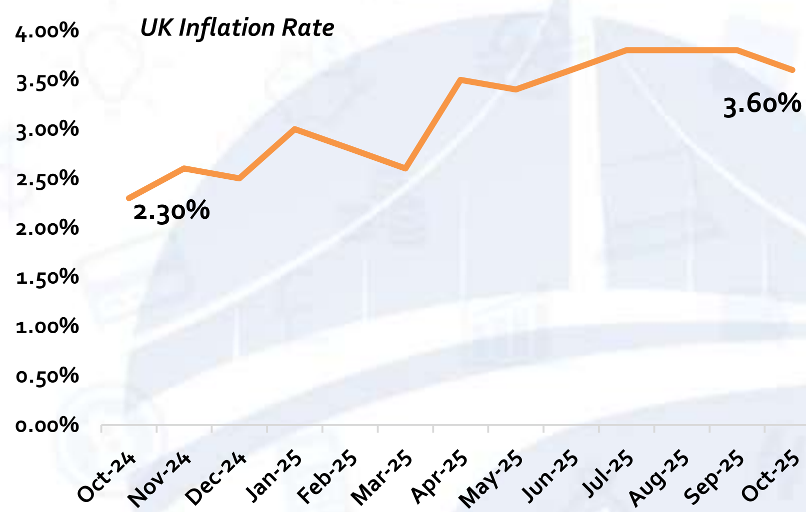
Indices' Performance

S&P 500	6,602.99	1.95% ▼
Nasdaq Composite	22,273.08	2.74 % ▼
Dow Jones Industrial average	46,245.41	1.91 % ▼

UK & Eurozone

Eurozone business activity expands steadily, consumer confidence steady at eight-month high; UK inflation slows further

- Eurozone PMIs signaled solid November growth, with the composite index at 52.4 and services at an 18-month high, while manufacturing softened. Germany's expansion slowed and France's private-sector activity improved sharply toward the 50 threshold.
- Consumer confidence in the eurozone held at -14.2 in November, according to an early estimate from the European Commission. The result came in below market expectations of -14.0.
- Annual consumer price inflation in the UK slowed to 3.6% in October from 3.8% in September as airfare, gas, and utility prices fell, boosting market expectations for another interest rate cut in December.
- Core inflation, which excludes volatile categories like food and energy, fell to 3.4% from 3.5%.



Source: Trading Economics, WealthBridge Research

What to Expect

- The Bank of England are likely to hold on policy rates in the short term with wages still growing significantly above the 2% inflation target.
- BOE's Governor Andrew Bailey has hinted that "further policy easing" is likely to come if disinflation becomes more "clearly established.

European markets ended lower amid bubble concerns

- In local currency terms, the pan-European STOXX Europe 600 Index ended 2.21% lower amid renewed worries about inflated AI stock valuations.
- Major stock indexes also fell. France's CAC 40 Index dropped 2.29%, Italy's FTSE MIB declined 3.03%, and Germany's DAX lost 3.29%. The UK's FTSE 100 Index weakened 1.64%.

Drivers

- Fears of a growing bubble around AI frenzy resurfaced
- Receding expectations for a U.S. interest rate cut also weighed on sentiment.

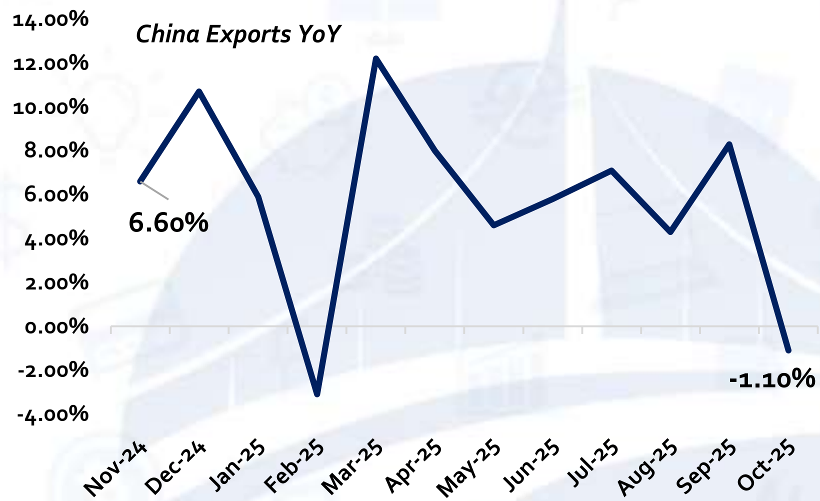
Indices' Performance

FTSE 100	9,532.75	1.64 % ▼
DAX index	23,091.87	3.29 % ▼
CAC 40	7,982.65	2.29 % ▼
FTSE MIB	42,661.67	3.03% ▼

Asia

China Stocks Tumble Amid AI Valuations Jitters; FDI Continues to Contract; Rare Earth Exports to US Jump in October

- As stock markets declined for the second week, China's government is reportedly considering fresh nationwide measures—including mortgage subsidies and tax rebates—to stabilize the ailing property sector, which continues to drive economic headwinds and deepen deflation.
- China's FDI fell 10.3% year-on-year to CNY 621.93B through October, marking a softest contraction since late 2023. Services dominated investment, while the UAE was the largest single source of foreign capital.
- China's rare earth magnet exports to the US surged 56.1% to 656 tons in October, a 2025 high. Overall rare earth exports fell monthly but remained higher than in 2024, despite planned licensing changes.



Shanghai Composite	3,834.89	3.90% ▼
Hang Seng Index	25,220.02	5.09% ▼
Nikkei 225 index	48,625.88	3.29% ▼

What to expect

- In the short term, we expect consumer prices to remain weak, which gives the People's Bank of China room to potentially cut interest rates or lower reserve requirements to inject more liquidity and stimulate borrowing.

Government approves new stimulus; Inflation Persists Above Target

- The new government approved a JPY 21.3 trillion stimulus package to boost growth and offset inflation, but the massive spending fueled fiscal health concerns, causing the yen to weaken significantly and the 10-year government bond yield to climb to near 17-year highs.
- Japan's core CPI rose to 3.0% in October, remaining well above the BoJ's 2% target, with the BoJ Governor noting the weakening yen's inflationary impact through higher import prices, even as Q3 GDP contracted less than expected (-1.8% annualized)..

Drivers

- Inflationary effects of a weakening yen, as it pushes up import prices, which are passed on domestically, driving up consumer inflation.

AFRICAN ECONOMY

South Africa Cuts Key Rate to 6.75% Amid Improved Inflation Outlook

- The South African Reserve Bank lowered its main lending rate by 25 basis points to 6.75%, following last week's announcement that the central bank was changing its inflation target.
- For 25 years, the inflation target was the 3% to 6% range. The new target, as agreed to by the government's minister of finance and the central bank governor, is 3%, plus or minus 1%.
- Governor Lesetja Kganyago said the decision reflects an improved inflation outlook and allows a less restrictive policy stance. The move follows positive economic developments, including a sovereign credit rating upgrade, reduced borrowing costs, and a stronger rand. The bank expects to achieve its target over 12–24 months, while remaining alert to shocks.

Ghana Urges ECOWAS to Remove Trade Barriers and Speed Up Regional Integration

- Ghana has called on ECOWAS states to move from discussions to concrete action to eliminate trade barriers and harmonise standards, thereby strengthening West Africa's competitiveness.
- At a regional programme in Accra, ministers stressed the need to address long-standing obstacles, improve data systems, and build stronger value chains across agriculture, fisheries, and industry.
- Officials said deeper cooperation and efficient implementation are key to boosting intra-regional trade, which remains low despite decades of integration efforts.

Outlook

- Persistent barriers, including inconsistent standards, non-tariff restrictions and weak corridor infrastructure, that have kept intra-ECOWAS trade at an average of just 6% between 2022 and 2024.
- Ghana might be looking to expand to other West African States following progress under the AfCFTA Guided Trade Initiative

CBE Holds Interest Rates Amid Inflation Pressures

- Egypt’s Central Bank kept key interest rates unchanged: overnight deposit at 21%, overnight lending at 22%, and main operation and discount rates at 21.5%.
- The decision reflects ongoing inflation risks despite global recovery. Q3 2025 GDP grew 5.2%, led by manufacturing, trade, and tourism, with unemployment rising slightly to 6.4%. October inflation was 12.5%, driven by higher non-food and services prices.
- The CBE plans a cautious approach, aiming to reach a 7% ±2% inflation target by Q4 2026, while monitoring economic risks.

Egypt Secures €294.5m Partnership with Germany

- Egypt and Germany finalised a €294.5m cooperation package to support renewable energy, solid waste management, and improvements to the investment climate.
- The agreements include soft financing, debt swaps, and technical grants, with a €50m tranche funding the ACWA Power wind farms (1,100 MW) and an €86 m project to connect the Ras Ghareb and Gabal El-Zeit wind farms to the national grid.
- Additional grants support SME credit tools (€15m), solid waste management (€20m), and energy-efficiency measures (€570,000), advancing Egypt’s sustainable development and energy transition.

Domestic Economy and Markets Highlights

Snapshot of Key Macroeconomic Indicators

Indicators	Current	Previous	
Inflation rate	16.05% (Nov 2025)	18.02% (Sep 2025)	▼ 197 bps
MPR	27.00% (Sep 2025)	27.50% (July 2025)	▼ 50 bps
Quarterly GDP Growth Rate	4.23% (Q2 2025 y/y)	3.13% (Q1 2025 y/y)	▲ 110bps
Yearly GDP Growth Rate	3.38% (FY 2024; y/y)	3.04% (FY 2023; y/y)	▲ 34 bps
GDP (Nominal)	₦100.73 Trn (Q2 2025)	₦94.051Trn (Q1 2025)	▲ 7.10%
Brent Crude oil price	$62.51 (21/11/25)	$64.26 (14/11/25)	▼ 2.72%
Exchange rate (NAFEM W-O-W% , ₦/$)	₦1,457.38/$1 (21/11/25)	₦1,442.59/$1 (14/11/25)	▲ 1.03%
Parallel Market FX Rate (IMTO) (₦/$)	₦1,474.00/$1 (21/11/25)	₦1,458.00/$1 (14/11/25)	▲ 1.10%
P2P (₦/$)	₦1,479/$1 (21/11/25)	₦1,467/$1 (14/11/25)	▲ 0.82%
External Reserve	$44.189 billion (21/11/25)	$43.640 billion (14/11/25)	▲ 1.26%

Key Fiscal News

FG, states, LGs share N2.094 trillion for October 2025

- The Federal Government, states and local governments shared a total of N2.094tn as October 2025 revenue, slightly lower than the N2.103tn distributed for September.

- The N2.094tn distributed comprised N1.376tn statutory revenue, N670.303bn from Value Added Tax, and N47.870bn from the Electronic Money Transfer Levy.

- Statutory revenue performed slightly better in October. Gross statutory inflow rose to N2.164tn, higher than the N2.128tn recorded in September by N36.832bn. VAT, however, declined sharply.

- From the N2.094tn distributable pool, the Federal Government received N758.405bn, states received N689.120bn, and local government councils got N505.803bn.

Key Economic News

Nigeria's Inflation Rate Falls to 16.05% in October 2025

- Headline Inflation in Nigeria fell to 16.05% in October 2025 from 18.02% year-on-year (YoY) in September and from 33.88% in the same period last year.
- Food inflation rose by 13.12% in October compared to 16.87% (YoY) the previous month. Core inflation dipped for a fourth consecutive month to 18.69% as volatility in energy prices remained stable.
- The moderation in consumer price growth in Nigeria aligns with the sustained stability in FX market conditions, base effect, and increased food output from the harvest season.

S&P upgrades Nigeria's Outlook to Stable

- S&P Global Ratings reaffirmed its long- and short-term foreign and local-currency ratings at "B–/B, " but revised its outlook on Nigeria to positive from stable on November 14, 2025.
- S&P cite improved expectations due to reforms and measures taken, including fiscal consolidation, removal of fuel subsidies, liberalisation of the FX market, stronger revenue mobilisation, and the commissioning of the Dangote Refinery. The rating agency, however, raises concerns over the high poverty rate and low GDP per capita in Nigeria.

Key Economic News

Nigeria Eyes N1.49trn Electricity Export Revenue

- Nigeria's Minister of Power, Chief Adebayo Adelabu, announced that Nigeria successfully conducted a four-hour grid synchronization test with 15 West African countries on November 8, 2025.
- The Federal Government now projects that nearly $1bn (about N1.49tn) in annual revenue from electricity exports to 15 West African Countries under the Economic Community of West African States sub-region from June 2026.

UK–Nigeria Trade Mission Opens US$32m Market for Women Entrepreneurs

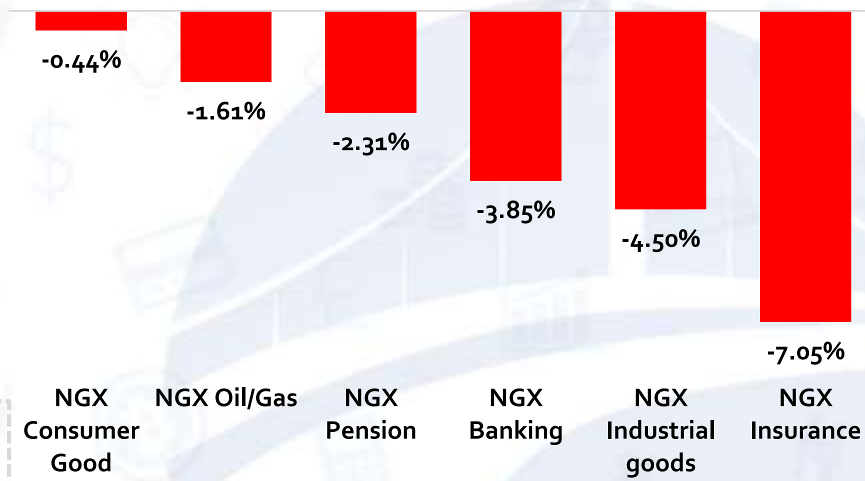
- A UK-funded trade mission in Abuja linked 30 Nigerian women-led businesses with 12 UK importers, targeting a US$32 m untapped export market.
- Focusing on the agrifood and beauty sectors, the initiative under SheTrades Commonwealth+ strengthens market access and boosts international sales opportunities for Nigerian women entrepreneurs.
- The programme also provides training, capacity building, and export support, reinforcing NEPC's push to expand Nigeria's non-oil exports through women-led businesses.

Equities Market

The Nigerian Equities Market Ended The Week Bearish

- Market Capitalisation: **₦91.415 trn (▼ 2.23%** W-o-W)
- All Share Index: **143,722.62 (▼ 2.24%** W-o-W)
- Year-to-Date **39.64% (▼ 319 bps** W-o-W)
- Total Turnover (Trades): **2.668 bn (▼ 63.58%** W-o-W)
- Value of Trades: **₦106.264bn (▼ 32.07%** W-o-W)

Sectoral Performances



Fixed Income Market

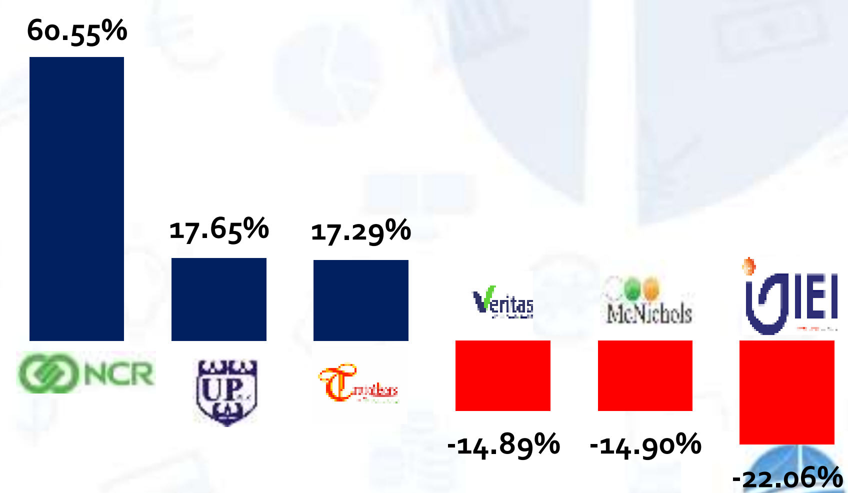
Bond Market

The Nigerian secondary bond market saw strong bullish momentum last week, driven by deepening disinflation (October CPI: 16.05% from 18.02%) and surging investor demand. The average domestic bond yield fell by 9 bps to 15.48%, signaling growing confidence in sovereign debt. This suggests a potential buying opportunity to lock in high yields before further decline, especially in the liquid belly of the curve (2029-2032 maturities).Similarly, Eurobond yields dropped 14 bps to 7.76%, indicating reduced perceived offshore risk and renewed appetite, supported by expectations of fiscal stability and upcoming bond maturity payments.

NTB and Money Markets

Nigeria's money market saw significant liquidity swings from N5.5T down to N1.31T, dominated by inflows from OMO maturities and FAAC disbursements, while active CBN interventions moderated the overall system liquidity by week's end. 1M, 3M, and 6M NIBOR rates climbed (up to 27.10%), signaling lender caution. At Wednesday's NTB auction, the DMO offered N700 billion across the standard maturities and received a total subscription of N1.3 trillion, translating to a bid-to-offer ratio of 1.85x. Final allotments were slightly reduced to N1.1 trillion, while stop rates held steady at 15.30% for the 91-day, 15.50% for the182-day, and 16.04% for the 364-day bills.

Top Gainers & Decliners



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