1.0 GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

The IMF's July 2026 update edition of the World Economic Outlook (WEO) projects slowdown in global growth to 3.0 percent in 2026 and 3.4 percent in 2027, down from the average of 3.5 percent observed in 2024–25. Thus, growth remains broadly unchanged on a cumulative basis compared with the earlier forecasts in April, though it conceals substantial cross-country policy divergence. The biggest winners are expected to be energy exporters and economies integrated into the global technology value chain, whilst the losers could be the commodity importers that are not well positioned to benefit from AI-driven activity. Similarly, growth in sub-Saharan Africa is expected to remain broadly stable at 4.3 percent in 2026 before inching up to 4.4 percent in 2027.

The steady decline in global inflation is expected to halt briefly with headline inflation projected to rise from 4.1 percent in 2025 to 4.7 percent in 2026 occasioned mainly by higher energy and food prices, before easing to 3.9 percent in 2027. The 2026 and 2027 forecast is a 0.3 and 0.2 percentage point upward revision from the April 2026 WEO respectively. Inflation dynamics are expected to remain uneven across countries, reflecting differences in exchange rate pass-through, the persistence of services price inflation, labour market conditions, and the growing importance of country-specific factors.

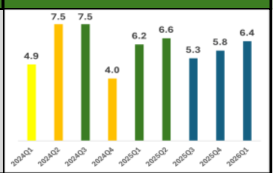
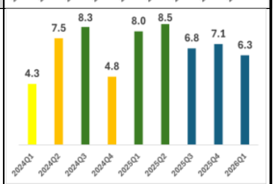
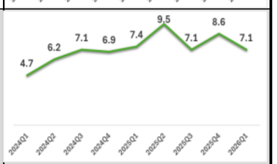
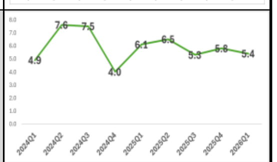
DOMESTIC HIGHLIGHTS

A. Real Sector Performance

On the domestic front, economic activity remained resilient in the first quarter of 2026, with overall GDP growth strengthening to 6.4 percent from 6.2 percent in the same period of 2025. Non-oil GDP growth remained robust at 6.3 percent, albeit below the 8.0 percent recorded a year earlier. This reflected contractions in Fishing, Accommodation & Food Service Activities and Health & Social Activities.

Growth was broad-based across the major sectors. **Services remained the main growth driver, expanding by 7.1 percent**, supported by Information & Communication, Trade, and Transport & Storage. **Industry accelerated to 6.9 percent from 4.1 percent**, underpinned by Manufacturing, Electricity, a rebound in Oil & Gas production, and sustained Gold activity. Agriculture moderated to 4.0 percent growth in the first quarter of 2026 from 6.6 percent a year earlier, largely due to a contraction in the Fisheries sub sector.

Overall, high-frequency indicators reinforce the positive growth picture. Both the Bank of Ghana's Composite Index of Economic Activity (CIEA) and the Ghana Statistical Service's Monthly Indicator of Economic Growth (MIEG) point to sustained economic momentum and a positive near-term outlook.

Indicator	2025Q1	2026Q1	2024/2025 Trend
	Percent (%)		
Overall GDP	6.2	6.4	
Non-Oil GDP	8.0	6.3	
Agriculture Sector	6.6	4.0	
Industry Sector	4.1	6.9	
Services Sector	7.4	7.1	
CIEA	4.6	10.8	
MIEG	6.1	5.4	

B. Fiscal Performance

Fiscal performance in the first half of 2026 remained strong and broadly aligned with Government's fiscal consolidation agenda, despite marginal revenue shortfalls. Thus, fiscal aggregates so far were broadly in tandem with target on account of prudent fiscal management.

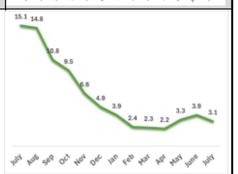
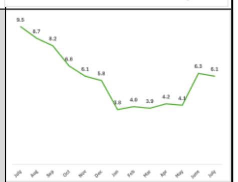
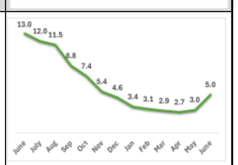
Total Revenue and Grants amounted to GH¢124.8 billion (7.8 percent of GDP), slightly below the target of 7.9 percent of GDP, mainly due to weaker-than-expected oil and gas receipts.

Expenditure remained firmly contained. Total spending (commitment) for the first six months of the year was well contained at GH¢127.2 billion (8.0 percent of GDP), coming in about 2.0 percent below the programmed target. This underscores effective expenditure controls, prudent fiscal management and favourable macroeconomic conditions.

Consequently, the fiscal balances outperformed programme targets. The overall fiscal balance (commitment) recorded a deficit of 0.4 percent of GDP, outperforming the programmed deficit target of 2.0 percent of GDP, while the primary balance (commitment) registered a surplus of 0.9 percent of GDP compared to a target deficit of 0.2 percent of GDP. This places Government firmly on course to achieve the full-year primary surplus target of 1.5 percent of GDP.

Indicator	2026 Jan - Jun Target	2026 Jan - Jun Outturn
	Million GH¢	
Total Rev & Grant	**126,144.6**	**124,775.2**
Non-Oil Tax Rev	100,052.8	99,918.8
Oil & Gas Receipts	9,064.1	6,291.0
Other Rev	4,210.4	7,685.6
Non-Tax Revenue	14,895.9	12,273.5
Grants	1,068.6	1,049.1
Total Expenditure (Commitment)	**158,555.7**	**127,234.9**
Compensation	45,380.0	42,896.0
Goods & Services	6,581.2	6,347.1
Grants to Other Govt. units	31,102.4	26,211.0
Capex	36,556.4	22,176.0
Interest Payment	28,439.2	21,501.4
Overall Balance (Commitment)	**(32,411.1)**	**(6,822.7)**
Primary Balance (Commitment)	**(3,972.0)**	**14,678.7**

C. Price Developments

Indicator	Jul-25	Jul-26	2025/26 Trend
	Y-o-Y Percent (%) Change		
Headline	12.1	4.6	
Food	15.1	3.1	
Non-Food	9.5	6.1	
Local	12.9	5.9	
Imported	10.0	2.0	
Core(1)-less Energy & Utilities*	13.0	5.0	
Core(2)-less Energy, Utilities & Volatile Food*	11.6	6.4	

**Core inflation is as of June*

Headline inflation declined consistently over the course of last year and the first three months of 2026 before inching up moderately between April and June. Despite this recent development, July recorded inflation of 4.6 percent, a decline from the prior month and 7.5 percentage points lower than a year ago. Thus, inflation continues to remain far below the lower band of the Central Bank's medium-term target of 8.0±2 percent.

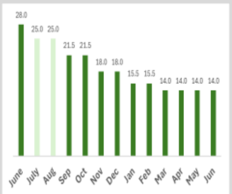
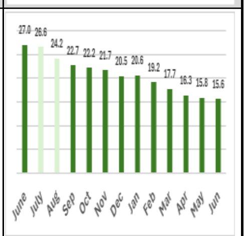
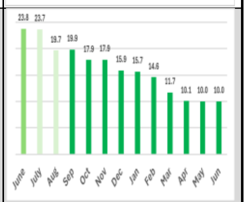
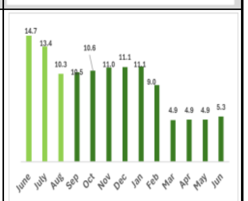
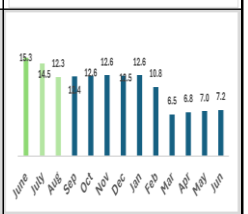
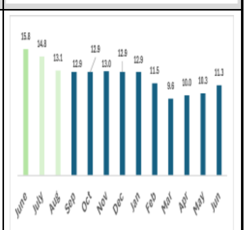
Drivers of headline inflation have been broadly driven by both food inflation and non-food inflation, though food inflation poses the most risk with a higher cumulative month on month inflation thus far. Similarly, local inflation drove headline inflation upwards whilst imported inflation remained well contained.

In tandem with the above, core inflation has also continued to decline, signalling subdued underlying price pressures, while inflation expectations remained broadly well anchored. Despite the Middle East geopolitical tensions and associated oil price hikes, the domestic impact has remained contained. Targeted fiscal policy measures and a relatively stable exchange rate have cushioned the pass-through to domestic prices, resulting in only a moderate increase in fuel prices at the pump.

D. Money Market Rates

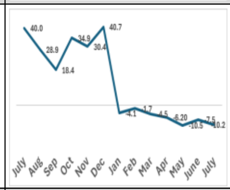
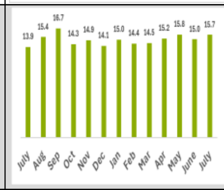
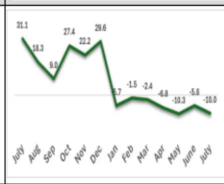
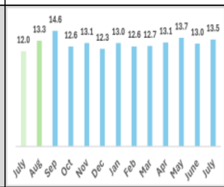
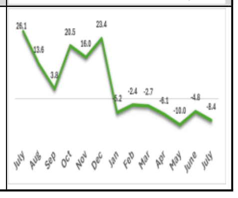
Based on patterns observed in inflation pressures, the changes in money market rates reflected the growing room for monetary easing created by the sustained disinflation. Monetary policy rate declined by 50.0 percent from 14.0 percent, Average lending rate declined from 27.0 to 15.6, Reference rate decline by 13.8 percent to 10.0 percent as well as a decline in treasury bill rates on a year-on-year basis.

These together reflect the ease in inflationary pressures and the need to support credit and economic activity while preserving the gains made on price stability.

Indicator	Jun-25	Jun-26	2025/26 Trend
	Percent (%)		
Monetary Policy Rate	28.0	14.0	
Average Lending Rate	27.0	15.6	
Reference Rate	23.8	10.0	
91-day T-bill	14.7	5.3	
182-day T-bill	15.3	7.2	
364-day T-bill	15.8	11.3	

E. Exchange Rate Performance

The cedi came under pressure in May 2026, driven by increased demand from the energy sector, corporate dividend repatriation, external debt service payments, and a stronger US dollar. The cedi has since recovered, limiting depreciation as of end-July to 10.2 percent against the US dollar, 10.0 percent against the pound sterling and 8.4 percent against the euro. Despite contrasting with the appreciation recorded a year earlier, the performance represents a significant improvement over 2024, when the cedi depreciated by 20.3 percent, 21.5 percent, and 19.1 percent against the three major trading currencies, respectively.

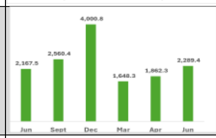
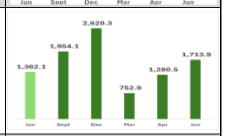
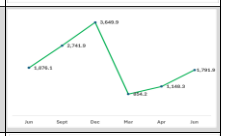
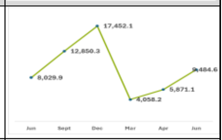
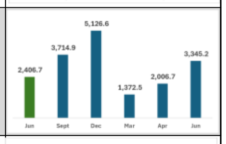
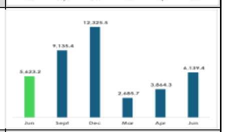
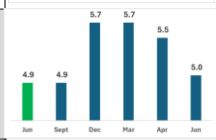
Indicator	Jul-25	Jul-26	2025/26 Trend
	End-Period		
	YTD Percent (%) Change		
USD/GHC	10.5	11.7	
Year-to-date app(+)/depr(-)	40.0	-10.2	
GBP/GHC	13.9	15.7	
Year-to-date app(+)/depr(-)	31.1	-10.0	
EUR/GHC	12.0	13.5	
Year-to-date app(+)/depr(-)	26.1	-8.4	

F. External Sector Performance and Commodity Prices

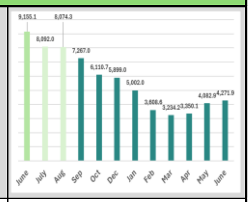
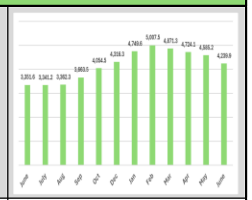
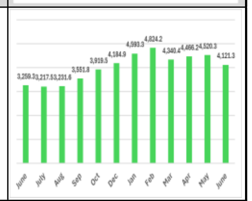
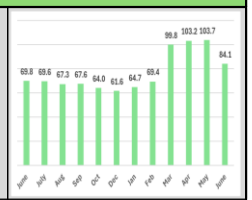
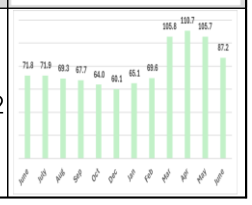
The external sector maintained a strong performance in the first half of the year, boosted by favourable export receipts, particularly gold earnings to offset the sharp rise in the import bill markedly driven by oil & energy related costs occasioned by the Middle East tensions. As a result, the trade surplus improved to US$8.8 billion in the review period, compared to US$5.8 billion during the corresponding year.

On the back of favourable trade developments, a bolstered current account outturn and improved net capital inflows culminated in a strengthened balance of payments position.

As at end-June 2026, the Gross International Reserves had increased compared to a year ago but moderated marginally to US$12.9 billion, equivalent to 5.0 months of import cover, down from the end-2025 stock position of US$13.8 billion (5.7 months of import cover). This development reflects the uptick in the energy import bill induced by the Middle East tensions. Despite this development, available reserves provide adequate buffers for the domestic economy to absorb shocks in the near-term.

Indicator	Jun-25		Jun-26		2025/26 Trend
	Million USD (Cummulative)				
Total Exports	**13,793.1**	**100.0%**	**18,294.5**	**100.0%**	
o/w Gold	8,387.4	*60.8%*	12,499.3	*68.3%*	
o/w Cocoa	2,167.5	*15.7%*	2,289.4	*12.5%*	
o/w Oil	1,362.1	*9.9%*	1,713.9	*9.4%*	
o/w Others	1,876.1	*13.6%*	1,791.9	*9.8%*	
Total Imports	**8,029.9**	**100.0%**	**9,484.6**	**100.0%**	
o/w Oil	2,406.7	*30.0%*	3,345.2	*35.3%*	
o/w Non-Oil	5,623.2	*70.0%*	6,139.4	*64.7%*	
Trade Balance	**5,763.2**	**N/A**	**8,809.9**	**N/A**	
Gross International Reserves (GIR)-including encumbered assets	**11,336.2**	**N/A**	**12,943.8**	**N/A**	
GIR (Months of Import Cover)	4.9	N/A	5.0	N/A	
Gold Holdings (Tonnes)	**33.0**	**N/A**	**24.4**	**N/A**	

G. Commodity Prices

Indicator	Jun-25	Jun-26	2025/26 Trend
Cocoa (USD per tonne)			
International Price	9,155.1	4,271.9	
Ghana Realised Price	4,636.3	3,748.2	
Gold (USD per fine ounce)			
International Price	3,351.6	4,239.9	
Ghana Realised Price	3,259.3	4,121.3	
Oil (USD per barrel)			
International Price	69.8	84.1	
Ghana Realised Price	71.8	87.2	

Sector Focus Statistics: This Flash Data Report Vol. 5 presents **ten key** Education sector statistics:

i. Education remains one of Ghana's highest-funded sectors, with total education sector allocation reaching **GH¢43.2 billion in 2026** (GETFund Infrastructure inclusive), representing **16.2 percent** of total government expenditure.

ii. Expenditure allocation to Education increased from 1.5 percent of GDP in 2018 to **2.2 percent in 2025** and is expected to average **2.4 percent of GDP over the medium-term**. Despite remaining below UNESCO's 4.0–6.0 percent of GDP benchmark it is well within the **15–20 percent public expenditure guideline**.

iii. **Gross and Net Enrolment Rates** at primary and secondary levels continue to improve, although regional disparities remain in teacher availability, learning outcomes, and examination performance, particularly in the Northern, Northeast, and Savannah Regions.

iv. As reported in the 2025 State of the Nation Address (SONA), the Free SHS programme has benefited over **3.4 million students** since its introduction in 2017, reflecting expanded access to secondary education.

v. In the 2026 budget, Parliament approved **GH¢9.8 billion for GETFund**, financing GH¢4.2 billion for Free Secondary Education programme, GH¢1.2 billion for tertiary education, GH¢230 million for basic school infrastructure completion and GH¢300 million for continuing and new scholarships.

vi. According to the World Bank, public secondary schools are projected to face a **shortfall of more than 850,000** effective student places by 2040, largely due to sustained enrolment growth following the introduction of Free Secondary Education programme.

vii. In the 2026 fiscal year, Government allocated **GH¢1.1 billion** for second cycle education infrastructure expansion aimed at eliminating the double-track system and improving access.

viii. The 2026 Budget provides approximately **GH¢3.0 billion** for the procurement of textbooks and learning materials for millions of learners, alongside the purchase of over 2 million mono-desks and chairs for public schools.

ix. The government has allocated **GH¢25 million in 2026** for Free Tertiary Education for Persons with Disabilities.

x. The World Bank approved **US$300 million** in 2026 under the STARR-J Project to support secondary education transformation, benefiting approximately 2.2 million students across nearly 1,000 public schools through infrastructure and skills development.

The **average price** for a litre of fuel in the month of **July 2026 was GH¢14.12**, a **19.47 percent** year-to-date **increase**.

Daily Minimum wage for 2026 is **GH¢21.77**, representing a **9.0 percent increase** from the **GH¢19.97** in 2025.