

MASHREQ GLOBAL DIGEST

Qatar

June 22 – June 28



This edition of Market Digest highlights Qatar's key macroeconomic indicators, recent financial and tech developments, and major deals and events, offering valuable insights into current economic trends.

Macroeconomic News

Qatar to Grow by 6.5% in 2026–2027

Qatar's economy is poised for robust growth, with the World Bank projecting a surge from 2.4% in 2025 to an average of 6.5% in 2026–2027, driven primarily by a 40% increase in liquefied natural gas (LNG) output from the North Field expansion. While hydrocarbon growth remains modest in the near term, non-oil sectors such as education, tourism, and services are gaining momentum through infrastructure investments and global partnerships. The World Bank emphasizes the importance of continued economic diversification, innovation, and youth job creation to sustain this growth amid global uncertainties.

Reference: [Arabian Business](#)



Qatar's Industrial Sector Reaches QR 270B Milestone

By the end of 2024, Qatar had 1,004 operating factories backed by QR 270 billion in investments, signaling strong momentum in its industrial sector. Under its 2024–2030 Manufacturing Strategy, the country aims to increase industrial investments to QR 326 billion, raise non-hydrocarbon exports to QR 49 billion, and grow the manufacturing sector's value-added to over QR 70.5 billion. The strategy also targets a 50% diversification in manufacturing and a shift toward smart, knowledge-based industries to support sustainable, long-term economic growth.

Reference: [Qatar News Agency](#)



Qatar's Construction Sector to Exceed \$106B by 2030

Qatar's construction sector is set to grow from \$68.7 billion in 2025 to over \$106 billion by 2030, driven by LNG, infrastructure, and sports tourism investments. After a post-World Cup slowdown, new government projects aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030 are boosting confidence. Rising raw material costs challenge the sector, but major events like the 2027 FIBA World Cup and 2030 Asian Games are fueling infrastructure growth. It is worth noting that Doha now ranks as the second most expensive city for construction in the Middle East, with average costs reaching \$2,631 per square meter.

Reference: [The Peninsula Qatar](#)



Qatar's Real Estate Market Shows Resilience in Q1 2025

According to ValuStrat, Qatar's real estate market remained stable in Q1 2025, driven by strong residential performance and steady investor interest. Residential transaction volumes rose 13.2% quarter-on-quarter and 67.1% year-on-year, with The Pearl Qatar and Al Qassar leading the surge. Mortgage activity increased 37% compared to last year, while residential capital values held firm. The ValuStrat Price Index for residential properties stood at 96.5 points, with average prices at QR10,420 per sqm for apartments and QR5,500 for villas. Gross rental yields averaged 5.9%, indicating continued confidence in the sector.

Reference: [Zawya](#)



Qatar's Healthcare Spending to Reach \$11.5B by 2029

Qatar's healthcare spending is expected to grow 14% annually, reaching \$11.5 billion by 2029. This growth will make Qatar the third-largest healthcare market in the Gulf region. Government investment and public-private partnerships are driving this expansion, while digital health initiatives like AI-powered cancer screening improve care. Despite a small population limiting market size, Qatar is positioning itself as a regional healthcare leader by balancing technology and skilled workforce development.

Reference: [Zawya](#)



Financial/Tech News

QFMA Oversees QR583M Acquisitions

In 2024, Qatar Financial Market Authority (QFMA) handled five acquisition and merger applications and completed transactions worth QR583 million across Industrials, Transportation, and Financial Services. It updated its Offering & Listing Rulebook, oversaw 55 government debt listings totaling QR51 billion, and the Disciplinary Committee adjudicated 13 violations valued at QR5.69 million. These efforts aimed to enhance transparency, investor protection, and confidence, fostering growth in Qatar's capital markets and attracting local and foreign investment.

Reference: [Zawya](#)

Qatar's Banking Credit Facilities Jump 3% in Q1 2025

Qatar's banking sector recorded a 3% rise in credit facilities during the first quarter of 2025 — the highest quarterly increase in nine quarters. This growth was mainly driven by a 7.9% surge in public sector lending and strong demand from contractors, trade, and real estate. Qatari banks also posted the highest revenue growth in the GCC at 2.1%, outpacing peers in Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Regionally, total GCC lending reached a record \$2.25 trillion, with Qatar contributing a \$14.4 billion increase, highlighting the resilience and momentum of the financial sector.

Reference: [The Peninsula Qatar](#)

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Qatar’s Payment System Sees 54 Million Transactions in May



In May 2025, Qatar’s payment system recorded 54 million transactions worth QR15.28 billion. Most payments were through point of sale terminals (56%), followed by e-commerce (26%) and the instant payment service ‘Fawran’ (17%). Mobile payments made up 1%. ‘Fawran’ offers fast, 24/7 transfers via mobile apps, supporting Qatar’s push for digital payments. E-commerce is growing fast, expected to increase by 9.4% annually until 2028. Mobile wallets are also expanding, with over 1.3 million registered users in May.

Reference: [The Peninsula Qatar](#)

Qatar’s Sovereign Fund Launches \$200M Equity Fund to Boost Local Market

The Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) has launched a new \$200 million daily-traded fund focused on Qatari equities, managed by Canadian asset manager Fiera Capital. This marks QIA’s second such partnership within two years, following a similar fund with Ashmore Group. The fund is open to both local and international institutional investors, with QIA as the main liquidity provider. This initiative is part of QIA’s active asset management strategy aimed at boosting market liquidity, economic growth, and diversifying Qatar’s financial market.

Reference: [Asharq Business](#)

Deals/ Events

Qatar Withdraws Interest in Rosneft’s German Assets

Qatar’s sovereign wealth fund, the Qatar Investment Authority, has pulled back from buying the German operations of Russian oil company Rosneft. The German government has placed these assets under temporary control since 2022, but QIA did not get approval from the White House to proceed. Rosneft Germany owns stakes in three refineries, covering 12% of Germany’s refining capacity. The German Economy Minister said finding a secure future for these assets is challenging, and no Western buyers have emerged due to sanctions.



Reference: [Asharq Business](#)

Qatar-Saudi Trade Jumps 65% to QR4.9B in 2024

According to Qatar Chamber, trade volume between Qatar and Saudi Arabia increased by 65% in 2024 to QR 4.9 billion, reflecting stronger economic ties and growing investment opportunities, particularly in regions like Al-Ahsa. Business leaders from both countries emphasized enhancing cooperation between their private sectors, exploring joint ventures, and focusing on value-added sectors—including real estate—to support sustainable development aligned with their National Vision 2030 plans. Initiatives such as business visits and trade alliances aim to deepen collaboration and boost bilateral trade, highlighting the promising potential for real estate and other investments between the two nations.

Reference: [The Peninsula Qatar](#)

Qatar to Host 2026 AIIB Meeting

Qatar will host the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The event aims to promote global dialogue on sustainable infrastructure and connectivity. Qatar’s leadership sees this as a chance to showcase its commitment to diversification, sustainability, and regional cooperation, strengthening its role as a key financial hub.

Reference: [The Peninsula Qatar](#)

Markets

Market Dashboard

- This week, U.S. stock markets rallied, with the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite hitting record highs amid optimism about potential Federal Reserve interest rate cuts and easing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. Investors are now shifting focus to key upcoming economic data, including Thursday’s monthly U.S. jobs report and the approaching July 4 fiscal bill deadline. However, despite market optimism around a possible Fed rate cut, uncertainty remains high as investors await clearer signals on the Fed’s next moves amid concerns over inflation pressures from tariffs.
- Bitcoin traded around \$107,000 but slipped slightly amid uncertainty over the Federal Reserve’s interest rate plans and upcoming inflation data. While a recent ceasefire between Israel and Iran and growing institutional adoption have boosted crypto sentiment this week, investors remain cautious as key inflation figures are expected to show rising price pressures. Other major cryptocurrencies showed mixed performance, with Ether gaining the most.
- Gold fell 2.8% to a near one-month low after a US-China trade deal boosted investor confidence and reduced gold’s safe-haven appeal. The deal to speed rare earth shipments and a ceasefire in the Middle East helped global markets rally. Despite expectations of Fed rate cuts later this year, stable geopolitics and moderate inflation are shifting investors toward riskier assets, weighing on gold prices.
- Oil prices fell about 12% this week, marking their largest weekly drop since March 2023, mainly due to eased geopolitical tensions following the Israel-Iran ceasefire and renewed focus on supply-demand fundamentals. This decline was also influenced by OPEC+ plans to boost oil output by 411,000 barrels per day in August, signaling an end to recent production cuts and increasing supply expectations.
- The U.S. dollar posted its worst weekly performance since May, as expectations for more aggressive Fed rate cuts gained traction. It fell sharply against major currencies, including the euro, pound, franc, and yen.

Indicators	20-Jun-25	27-Jun-25	% Change
S&P 500	5,967.84	6,173.07	3.44%
Bitcoin	103,309.60	107,088.43	3.66%
Gold	3,368.23	3,274.25	-2.79%
Crude Oil	77.01	67.39	-12.49%
EUR/USD	1.1513	1.1719	1.79%

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