South African Focus

South African equities declined on Thursday, with the JSE All Share falling 1.23% to 108,335.05 and the Top 40 losing 1.26% to 100,332.24. The South African Reserve Bank unexpectedly held the repo rate at 7%, with four Monetary Policy Committee members favouring no change and two supporting a 25-basis-point increase. Although inflation reached a two-year high, analysts viewed the policy tone as less hawkish than anticipated. Reform momentum also weakened, as Business Leadership South Africa's completion index slipped 0.6 points to 71.1 in the second quarter, although it remained 26% above the March 2024 baseline. African Rainbow Minerals approved a phased R15.2 billion Bokoni upgrade and the resumption of nickel mining at Nkomati, adding company-specific support within a risk-averse session.

South African Indicators

Selected Indicators	Close	1 Day %	1 Month	1 Year	2026
All Share	108335.05	-1.23%	-2.96%	8.14%	-6.47%
Top 40	100332.24	-1.26%	-2.96%	8.52%	-7.08%
Financial 15	25417.09	-1.56%	-5.18%	19.95%	2.19%
Industrial 25	125991.07	-1.19%	-1.56%	-10.11%	-9.06%
Resource 10	105694.17	-1.21%	-2.39%	24.02%	-14.52%
Alsi	100721.00	-1.28%	-2.97%	8.46%	-6.95%
Mid Cap	102900.07	-0.56%	-3.44%	1.16%	-9.33%
Small Cap	105832.65	-0.97%	-3.36%	11.72%	-1.96%
Banks	16133.06	-1.89%	-5.22%	26.41%	4.61%

SENS Announcements

Anglo American plc (AGL) +5.58%

Anglo American reported second-quarter copper production of 173,200 tonnes, unchanged year on year and 2% above the first quarter, while premium iron ore output declined 3% to 15.4 million tonnes. Strong by-product credits, favourable currency movements and cost control supported a reduction in 2026 copper unit-cost guidance to approximately 145 cents per pound from 172 cents, including lower estimates for Chile and Peru. Full-year copper production guidance remains 700,000–760,000 tonnes, with iron ore guidance maintained at 55–59 million tonnes. Portfolio restructuring also progressed through the proposed $3.875 billion steelmaking-coal disposal, the De Beers sale process and regulatory review of the nickel sale. The Teck merger remains scheduled for completion between September 2026 and March 2027, pending final Chinese anti-trust approval.

Kumba Iron Ore (KIO) +0.44%

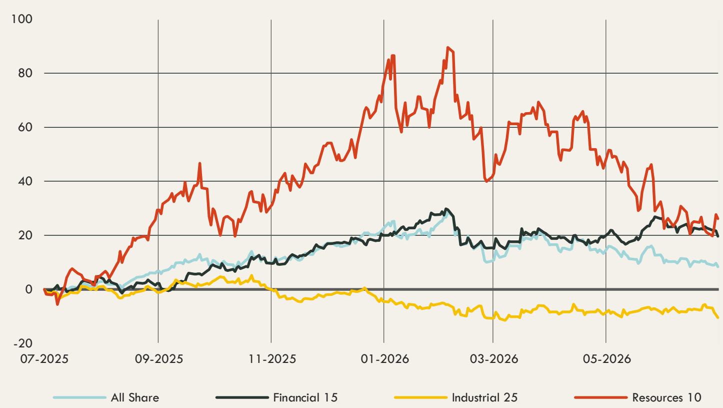
Kumba reported first-half production of 17.7 million tonnes, down 3% year on year, as weaker output from Kolomela outweighed improved performance at Sishen. Sales declined 1% to 18.6 million tonnes following Transnet's 10-day logistics shutdown, while finished stocks fell to 7.0 million tonnes from 7.5 million tonnes at December 2025. The average realised export price was US$90 per wet metric tonne, 8% above the benchmark, supported by product quality and a recovering lump premium. Full-year production and sales guidance was maintained at 31–33 million tonnes and 35–37 million tonnes, respectively, with C1 unit-cost guidance unchanged at US$45 per wet metric tonne. Kumba also signed a 20-year solar offtake agreement expected to reduce Sishen electricity costs by about 30%.

Mr Price (MRP) -0.91%

Mr Price reported first-quarter retail sales of R13.1 billion, up 45.3%, including newly acquired European retailer NKD from 31 March 2026. Excluding NKD, African sales increased 3.2% to R9.3 billion, outperforming the Retailers' Liaison Committee's 0.8% growth, while gross margin expanded by 40 basis points. Comparable-store sales were flat, with apparel, homeware and telecoms sales rising 3.4%, 0.7% and 11.2%, respectively. NKD contributed R3.8 billion and outperformed Germany's broader apparel and value segments. Cash represented 91.1% of group sales, and both regions ended the quarter with clean inventories. Management nevertheless expects challenging trading conditions as geopolitical uncertainty, higher inflation and interest rates constrain discretionary spending, while disciplined stock management and cost control remain central to protecting margins and operating leverage.

All prices reflect the last trading day's performance.

Local Indices - Normalised % Performances



Equities Trading Close to 52-Week Highs and Lows

Company	Code	From High	From Low	Code	Company
Hammerson plc	HMN	-1.97%	0.00%	CLS	Clicks Group Ltd
Momentum Group Limited	MTM	-3.06%	0.00%	WHL	Woolworths Holdings Ltd
Compagnie Fin Richemont	CFR	-3.12%	0.00%	TFG	The Foschini Group Limited
OUTsurance Group Limited	OUT	-3.18%	0.74%	TBS	Tiger Brands Ltd
Omnia Holdings Ltd	OMN	-3.21%	0.74%	DCP	Dis-Chem Pharmacies Ltd

Expected Corporate Releases

Company	Code	Release	Date
Primary Health Properties	PHP	Interim	24 Jul
Valterra Platinum	VAL	Interim	28 Jul
Shaftesbury Capital	SHC	Interim	29 Jul

Best & Worst 1 Day % Price Performances

Company	Code	Best	Worst	Code	Company
Sasol Limited	SOL	10.60%	-8.84%	ITE	Italtile Ltd
Anglo American plc	AGL	5.58%	-8.04%	ARI	African Rainbow Min Ltd
Thungela Resources Ltd	TGA	4.51%	-5.23%	NPH	Northam Platinum Hldgs Ltd

Best & Worst 1 Year % Price Performances

Company	Code	Best	Worst	Code	Company
Grindrod Ltd	GND	129.37%	-61.08%	SAP	Sappi Ltd
Sasol Limited	SOL	123.91%	-59.83%	TFG	The Foschini Group Limited
MTN Group Ltd	MTN	58.95%	-55.91%	SPP	The Spar Group Ltd

Dividend Watch

Company	Code	Dividend	Dividend	Code	Company
Labat Africa	LAB	1 ZARc	---	---	---
Araxi	AXX	7.5 ZARc	---	---	---
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Last Date to Trade	*28 Jul*

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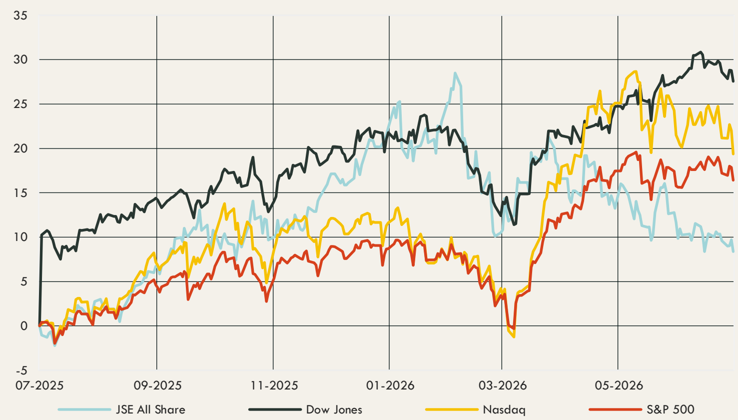
US Market Focus

Wall Street closed lower on Thursday as renewed concern over artificial-intelligence spending and surging oil prices weighed on equities and lifted bond yields. The Nasdaq fell more than 2%, while the S&P 500 declined over 1% after Alphabet and Tesla's second-quarter results disappointed investors. Escalating Middle East hostilities intensified supply concerns, pushing US 10-year Treasury yields to their highest level since early 2025. Defence shares outperformed, with Lockheed Martin gaining 10.5% and RTX rising 7.3% after both companies raised 2026 sales and profit guidance. The VIX ended at 18.7 after reaching 20.3 intraday. Traders nevertheless assigned a roughly 64% probability to the Federal Reserve leaving rates unchanged next week, while the semiconductor index fell 0.5% ahead of Intel's earnings release.

US Indicators

Selected Indicators	Close	1 Day	1 Month	1 Year	2026
Dow Jones	51711.65	-0.97%	0.09%	14.89%	7.59%
Nasdaq	25137.69	-2.15%	-1.76%	19.59%	8.16%
S&P 500	7408.30	-1.21%	0.58%	16.50%	8.22%
Dollar Index	101.23	0.29%	0.08%	4.43%	3.31%

US Indices - Normalised % Performances



International Companies

Intel (INTC) -2.33%

Intel delivered second-quarter revenue of $16.13 billion, up 25.4% and ahead of the $14.42 billion consensus, while adjusted earnings of 42 cents per share doubled the 21-cent estimate. Adjusted gross margin reached 41.8%, exceeding expectations of 38.8%. Data centre and AI revenue was $6.26 billion, supported by stronger demand for CPUs used in agentic artificial-intelligence workloads, while foundry sales totalled $5.77 billion. Management guided third-quarter revenue to $15.8–$16.8 billion and adjusted earnings to 38 cents per share, both above consensus. Intel consequently raised 2026 capital expenditure guidance to $20 billion from $18 billion and committed to high-volume 14A production in 2028, signalling greater confidence in customer engagement, although higher investment requirements increase execution and funding considerations for investors over time.

Oracle (ORCL) -4.61%

Oracle Corporation secured a Pentagon enterprise software agreement worth nearly $7 billion, covering on-premises licences across the Department of Defense, US Coast Guard and intelligence community. The five-year contract includes an additional five-year option and consolidates fragmented procurement into a single arrangement. Pentagon officials expect the agreement to generate at least $441 million in taxpayer savings by reducing duplicative purchasing and standardising Oracle software access across agencies. The award strengthens Oracle's position as a strategic technology supplier to the US government and provides meaningful contracted revenue visibility. It follows the Pentagon's $9.69 billion enterprise software agreement with Microsoft in May, reflecting a broader shift towards centralised technology procurement intended to improve cost efficiency, interoperability and administrative control across defence organisations.

Europe and Asian Markets Focus

Europe

European markets declined on Thursday as weak corporate earnings, hawkish monetary-policy signals and elevated oil prices pressured sentiment. The STOXX 600 fell 1.3% to 638.5, marking its steepest one-day loss in more than two weeks and extending the index's range-bound performance. Although the European Central Bank left interest rates unchanged, investors interpreted President Christine Lagarde's remarks as leaving open the possibility of a September increase. Policymakers are also considering higher minimum reserve requirements as part of efforts to address the ECB's financial losses. Sector weakness was led by food and beverages, which dropped 4.1%, while Nestlé slid 8%, its largest decline since 1989, despite lifting organic sales guidance and announcing a partial disposal of its water and premium beverages business.

Asia

Asian equities declined on Friday as oil prices moved above $100 a barrel, intensifying concerns that the Gulf conflict could trigger an inflation shock and unsettle bond markets. Japan's Nikkei fell more than 2%, with weakness in Alphabet reinforcing investor unease over artificial-intelligence expenditure. Japan's core consumer inflation accelerated to 1.6% in June from 1.4% in May, matching expectations but remaining below the Bank of Japan's 2% target for a fifth month. Analysts nevertheless expect price pressures to strengthen as higher fuel and import costs feed through. Separately, HSBC agreed to sell its Singapore life and health insurance operations to Allianz for S$2.7 billion, expecting a US$1.8 billion pre-tax gain and up to a 15-basis-point uplift to its CET1 ratio.

Expected International Corporate Calendar

Company	Code	Est. EPS	Last EPS	Date
American Express	AXP	$4.41	$4.08	24 Jul
Verizon	VZ	$1.27	$1.22	24 Jul
AstraZeneca	AZN	$2.50	$2.18	27 Jul
Vodafone	VOD	---	---	27 Jul
Visa	V	$3.23	$2.98	28 Jul
Coca-Cola	KO	$0.92	$0.87	28 Jul
Microsoft	MSFT	$4.21	$3.65	29 Jul

European & Asian Indicators

Selected Indicators	Close	1 Day	1 Month	1 Year	2026
CAC 40	8299.09	-1.64%	-0.50%	5.72%	1.84%
DAX 30	24763.12	-1.56%	-0.52%	2.15%	1.11%
Eurostoxx 50	6212.10	-1.71%	-0.80%	16.16%	7.26%
FTSE	10639.17	-0.73%	2.02%	17.41%	7.13%
Hang Seng	25210.81	1.28%	8.03%	-1.28%	-1.64%
Nikkei 225	66422.60	0.46%	-4.82%	61.33%	31.95%
Shanghai	3876.78	0.25%	-5.59%	8.22%	-2.32%

Local Otto1890 Funds

Funds	Factsheets	Close	1 Year	3 Years
Otto1890 BCI Balanced Fund		242.00	9.21%	9.59%
Sasfin BCI Balanced A		167.00	---	---
Otto1890 BCI Stable A		169.00	11.16%	12.91%
Otto1890 BCI Equity A		468.00	6.37%	7.56%
Otto1890 BCI Flexible Income A		---	11.81%	11.90%
Otto1890 BCI Optimal Income A		107.00	7.27%	7.59%
Otto1890 BCI Core Income Fund		103.00	9.06%	9.33%

International Otto1890 Funds

Funds	Factsheets	Close	1 Year	3 Years
Otto1890 BCI Global Equity FF C		199.00	---	---
Otto1890 BCI Horizon Multi Mng Dvrs Gr D		165.00	12.73%	13.78%
Otto1890 BCI Horizon Multi Managed Acc D		159.00	13.94%	14.25%
Otto1890 BCI Horizon Multi Mng Prsrvtn D		148.00	13.77%	14.13%

Commodities & Currencies

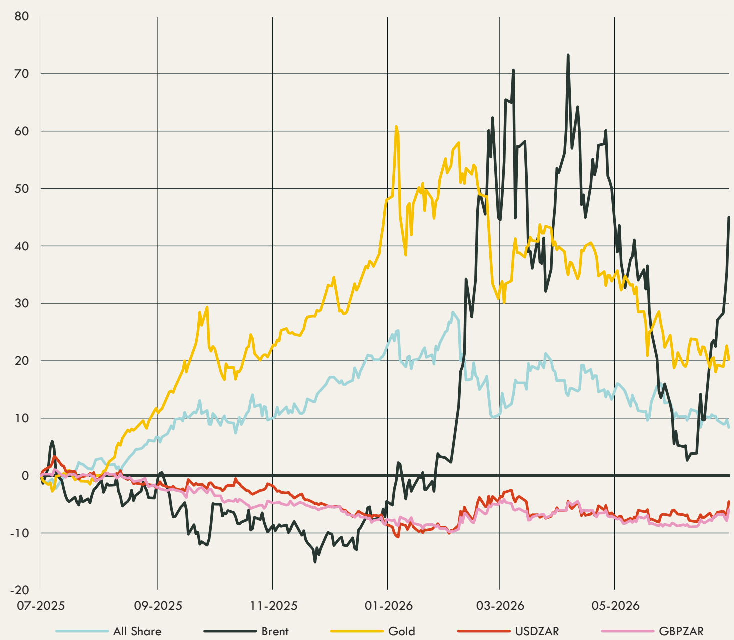
Commodities

Oil prices advanced towards a weekly gain on Friday as Houthi attacks on tankers in the Red Sea intensified concerns over disruption at Bab el-Mandeb, the second-most important oil transit route after the Strait of Hormuz. Supply risks increased after Kazakhstan reduced production following attacks that halted loadings at its main Black Sea export terminal, which handles about 2% of global daily crude supply. One industry source indicated output at the country's largest field had fallen by more than half, although the government did not quantify the reduction. Gold edged lower on Friday but remained positioned to end a two-week losing run, as Middle East tensions supported safe-haven demand despite expectations that US interest rates may remain elevated for longer.

Currencies

The rand weakened sharply on Thursday after the South African Reserve Bank unexpectedly kept its benchmark lending rate unchanged, surprising markets positioned for another increase. Currency pressure was compounded by a stronger dollar, which followed higher US Treasury yields and renewed inflation concerns. Oil moved above $100 a barrel for the first time since May after Houthi attacks on two Saudi tankers extended Middle East disruption to another major shipping route, while President Donald Trump threatened further military action against Iran and its allies. Additional US tariffs of 10% and 12.5% on goods from 60 trading partners reinforced concerns over price pressures. For investors, the combination of domestic policy surprise, dollar strength and higher oil prices increased near-term rand volatility.

Commodities & Currencies - Normalised % Performances



Commodities & Currencies

Selected Indicators	This Morning	Close	1 Day	1 Month	2026
Brent Crude	0.12%	100.53	7.07%	30.76%	65.05%
Gold	-0.53%	4049.37	-1.96%	-1.49%	-6.23%
Palladium	-1.51%	1259.30	-2.79%	1.85%	-22.93%
Platinum	-0.73%	1598.50	-2.84%	-3.40%	-22.16%
Silver	-0.69%	57.65	-3.47%	-6.35%	-19.47%
USDZAR	-0.01%	16.82	2.56%	1.68%	1.54%
GBPZAR	-0.02%	22.40	2.10%	2.53%	0.42%
EURZAR	0.03%	19.14	2.27%	1.64%	-1.70%
AUDZAR	0.10%	11.72	2.15%	2.43%	6.04%
EURUSD	0.05%	1.14	-0.30%	-0.02%	-3.14%

Today's Expected Economic Calendar

Time	Area	Expected Today	Expected	Previous
08:00	UK	Retail Sales m/m	-0.30%	1.20%
09:30	EU	German Flash Manufacturing PMI	50.4	50.3
10:00	EU	Flash Manufacturing PMI	51.5	51.4
10:30	UK	Flash Manufacturing PMI	52.0	52.5
15:45	US	Flash Manufacturing PMI	54.4	53.9

10-Year Bond Yields

Region	Yield	1 Day	1 Month	1 Year
United States	4.71%	5	21	33
United Kingdom	5.10%	7	35	47
Germany	3.20%	3	28	56
Japan	2.79%	6	14	123
South African 10Y	8.98%	18	54	-84

Last Session's Releases

Time	Area	Releases	Expected	Actual
14:15	EU	Main Refinancing Rate	2.40%	2.40%
14:30	SA	Building Permits YoY	-2.50%	-13.10%
14:30	US	Unemployment Claims	211k	187k
15:00	SA	Interest Rate Decision	7.25%	7.00%
15:00	SA	Prime Overdraft Rate	10.75%	10.50%

Interest Rates

Region	Changed	Current Rate	Previous Rate
United States	Dec '25	3.50% - 3.75%	3.75% - 4.00%
United Kingdom	Aug '24	4.00%	4.25%
European	Jun '26	2.40%	2.15%
SA Repo Rate	May '26	7.00%	6.75%
SA Prime Rate	May '26	10.50%	10.25%

Sources : Iress, Reuters, Moneyweb, CNBC, Bloomberg