

Economies at a Glance

November 2025

Forecast 2025:

GDP: 1.9%

Core PCE Inflation: 2.8%

Forecast 2026:

GDP: 1.9%

Core PCE Inflation: 2.9%

UNITED STATES

Growth has exceeded trend for four consecutive years, supported initially by fiscal largesse and a resilient labour market. In December 2024, Bloomberg's median consensus expected growth of 1.2% for 2025. That projection rose to 2.3% by February before slipping to below 1.4% in May after the Liberation Day tariff announcement unsettled markets. Once the administration softened its tariff stance, expectations steadied, with consensus growth for 2025 ending in November at 1.9%. Core PCE inflation has remained above the United States (US) Federal Reserve's (Fed) 2% target for four years, reflecting labour-market tightness and lingering supply-chain frictions. Consensus forecasts for 2025 began at 2.5% in December 2024, peaked at 3.2% in May under a harsher tariff outlook, and eased to 2.8% by November 2025. Facing a cooling labour market, but with inflation still uncomfortably high, the Fed delivered two 25-basis-point cuts in 2025. Markets expect a further three cuts, although the timing is uncertain given delayed data releases related to the US government shutdown.

EUROZONE

Economic activity remained subdued through 2023 and 2024, weighed down by industrial softness, higher interest rates and the tail-end of post-pandemic adjustments. Conditions, however, improved this year as household consumption strengthened on the back of wages outpacing cooling inflation and savings buffers providing support. In December 2024, Bloomberg's median consensus projected 2025 growth at 1%, but tariff uncertainty and export weakness saw the forecast edge down to 0.8% by May. By November, expectations had firmed to 1.4%, reflecting unexpectedly resilient domestic demand and fiscal support. After four years marked by energy shocks, supply disruptions and uneven post-pandemic rebounds, Eurozone inflation finally eased meaningfully in 2025. With price pressures moderating, the European Central Bank delivered four rate cuts in 2025. Markets expect steady rates, with policymakers cautious about committing to further easing absent clear evidence of undershooting inflation or faltering growth.

Forecast 2025:

GDP: 1.4%

Inflation: 3.4%

Forecast 2026:

GDP: 1.1%

Inflation: 2.4%

Forecast 2025:

GDP: 1.3%

HICP Inflation: 2.1%

Forecast 2026:

GDP: 1.0%

HICP Inflation: 1.8%

UNITED KINGDOM

Growth is expected to stage a gentle revival, having reached 1.1% in 2024 after a meagre 0.3% the year before. The improvement reflects a slow thaw in investment conditions as successive Bank of England interest rate cuts ease financial pressures and coax fixed investment back to life. Bloomberg's median consensus began 2025 at 1.4%, dipped below 1% by May amid tariff concerns, and then recovered to 1.4% by November. The political backdrop, briefly steadied by Labour's July 2024 victory, has since become more unsettled. Fiscal strains, resulting in a budget announcement of bracket creep and a council tax surcharge on properties above £2 million, alongside policy disputes, have eroded confidence. Labour's support in the Politico Poll of Polls narrowed from 27% at the start of the year to 18% by November, while Prime Minister Keir Starmer's approval rating fell from 36% in August 2024 to 17% by late 2025. Inflation, which dropped from peaks of 9.1% in 2022 and 7.4% in 2023 to 2.5% in 2024, is expected to edge back up to about 3.4% in 2025 on domestic policy changes.

JAPAN

Japan's economy delivered a patchy performance in 2025.

Bloomberg's median consensus expects real growth of around 1.3%. This is roughly where estimates stood a year earlier and is a clear improvement on the 0.2% contraction in 2024, despite a global backdrop clouded by US tariffs and persistent domestic headwinds. The political landscape was equally unsettled. Former prime minister Shigeru Ishiba's minority government resigned in September after the ruling LDP coalition lost its upper house majority in the July elections, paving the way for Sanae Takaichi's appointment, stoking renewed policy uncertainty. A weaker yen, the expiry of government subsidies and stubborn food prices kept inflation above the Bank of Japan's 2% target throughout the year. This economic mix prompted only one interest rate increase in 2025, with policymakers waiting for the confirmation of broad-based demand pressures.

Forecast 2025:

GDP: 1.2%

Inflation: 3.1%

Forecast 2026:

GDP: 0.8%

Inflation: 1.8%



EMERGING MARKETS

Emerging markets (EM) delivered solid growth in 2025, expanding at more than twice the pace in advanced economies. Bloomberg's median consensus shows the Emerging Europe, Middle East and Africa region as the laggard, with anticipated growth marked down from 2.5% at the start of the year to 2.2%, reflecting energy-transition costs, conflict spillovers from Ukraine and ongoing trade disruptions. Latin America's outlook improved modestly, with growth expectations nudged up from 2.5% to 2.7% as firmer commodity prices provided support. In Asia Pacific, the Bloomberg consensus forecast was revised back up to 3.9% for 2025, returning to where it began the year, after two tariff-related downgrades, aided by resilient intra-Asian trade that has partially offset global fragmentation. Growth expectations for Sub-Saharan Africa also strengthened in the second half as mining activity picked up, though fiscal pressures continued to act as a constraint. Inflation expectations for EM as a whole drifted lower through the year, with Bloomberg's median forecast easing from 3.5% to 3%, helped by resilient supply chains and softer food and oil prices.

Forecast 2025:
GDP: 4.9%
Inflation: 0.0%
Forecast 2026:
GDP: 4.5%
Inflation: 0.5%

CHINA

China's economy weathered 2025's global headwinds with greater stability than anticipated. Bloomberg's median growth consensus rose from 4.2% in April to 4.9% by November 2025, supported by policies aligned with the 14th Five-Year Plan's push into advanced manufacturing, renewable energy and strategic technologies. Trade relations with the US shifted towards cautious de-escalation, with framework agreements centred on reciprocity and investment commitments, though tensions over Taiwan and tighter rare-earth controls still cloud the outlook. Price pressures remained subdued, held down by weak domestic demand, persistent overcapacity and a fragile property sector. The muted inflation backdrop also reflects limited pass-through from fiscal measures aimed at easing local government strains. Bloomberg's median inflation forecast, previously 0.9% a year ago, was steadily revised lower to 0% as disinflationary forces deepened.

Forecast 2025:
GDP: 4.1%
Inflation: 3.0%
Forecast 2026:
GDP: 4.1%
Inflation: 2.8%

SOUTH AFRICA

Forecast 2025:
GDP: 1.0%
Inflation: 3.3%
Forecast 2026:
GDP: 1.4%
Inflation: 3.6%



Indices summary for November 2025

Indices	One Month	Three Month	One Year	Three Years	Four Years	Five Years	Six Years	Seven Years	Ten Years
S.A. equity indices									
FTSE/JSE All-Share Index (ALSI)	1.70%	10.21%	35.79%	18.16%	16.34%	18.68%	16.48%	15.98%	11.70%
FTSE/JSE Shareholder Weighted Index (SWIX)	1.70%	10.21%	35.79%	17.51%	15.94%	16.80%	14.25%	13.41%	9.77%
FTSE/JSE Capped SWIX All Share Index	2.30%	10.95%	35.95%	17.48%	16.25%	18.48%	14.85%	13.58%	9.67%
FTSE/JSE All Share Top 40 Index	1.40%	10.83%	39.99%	18.46%	16.74%	18.80%	17.21%	16.69%	11.94%
FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index	4.83%	10.78%	22.90%	15.48%	13.86%	17.23%	10.92%	11.37%	9.25%
FTSE/JSE Small Cap Index	4.72%	10.98%	22.57%	20.79%	19.87%	26.39%	20.47%	16.43%	10.98%
FTSE/JSE Resources Index	9.57%	30.88%	102.19%	18.45%	18.47%	22.06%	21.44%	23.29%	21.09%
FTSE/JSE Financials Index	2.61%	9.26%	18.38%	18.92%	19.67%	21.58%	12.10%	10.36%	7.97%
FTSE/JSE Industrials Index	-4.83%	-1.82%	18.92%	16.87%	12.23%	14.06%	14.33%	13.54%	8.39%
FTSE/JSE Research Affiliates Fundamental Indices 40 Index (RAFI)	3.69%	15.23%	43.83%	17.15%	17.96%	22.05%	17.28%	16.52%	13.86%
FTSE/JSE Research Affiliates Fundamental Indices All Share Index	3.61%	14.00%	38.10%	16.85%	17.32%	21.60%	16.71%	16.02%	13.43%
FTSE/JSE SA Listed Property Index (SAPY)	7.71%	15.04%	30.97%	23.28%	19.05%	23.72%	8.55%	7.73%	4.43%
FTSE/JSE All Property Index (ALPI)	7.82%	15.43%	31.29%	23.75%	18.60%	23.62%	8.34%	7.10%	3.06%
S.A. interest-bearing indices									
FTSE/JSE All Bond Index (ALBI)	3.45%	9.62%	20.54%	16.09%	13.59%	12.48%	11.73%	11.33%	10.42%
FTSE/JSE All Bond Index 1-3 years (ALBI)	0.82%	2.22%	9.51%	9.54%	8.47%	7.57%	8.28%	8.24%	8.38%
FTSE/JSE Inflation-Linked Government Index	3.80%	8.55%	13.31%	10.01%	9.05%	9.83%	8.61%	7.65%	5.92%
Short-term Fixed Interest Composite Index (SteFI)	0.57%	1.75%	7.62%	8.01%	7.24%	6.54%	6.40%	6.53%	6.78%
Commodities									
NewGold Exchange-Traded Fund	3.01%	18.02%	49.49%	33.77%	25.33%	21.06%	22.04%	22.73%	16.36%
Gold price (in rands)	3.38%	18.32%	49.98%	33.82%	25.50%	21.38%	22.31%	23.09%	16.72%
Platinum Exchange-Traded Fund	3.92%	20.29%	69.25%	17.72%	17.03%	13.56%	13.52%	14.22%	8.82%
Platinum price (in rands)	6.01%	20.22%	67.68%	17.83%	16.42%	13.38%	13.34%	14.07%	8.77%
Currency movements									
Rand/euro movements	-1.08%	-4.37%	4.00%	4.06%	2.19%	1.47%	3.49%	3.37%	2.66%
Rand/dollar movements	-1.50%	-3.37%	-5.28%	0.31%	1.74%	2.18%	2.61%	3.04%	1.72%
S.A. inflation index									
Consumer Price Index (CPI)				3.59%	4.11%	4.96%	4.97%	4.68%	4.53%
									4.80%
Global indices									
MSCI World Index (All Countries)	-1.84%	1.40%	12.02%	19.66%	11.56%	14.10%	15.28%	15.98%	12.94%
MSCI Developed Markets Index	-1.22%	2.02%	10.82%	19.48%	12.71%	15.36%	16.12%	16.80%	13.80%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	-4.31%	5.32%	22.86%	15.94%	7.43%	6.95%	9.84%	10.44%	9.57%
Global Property Research (GPR) 250 REIT Index	0.33%	-4.31%	-5.76%	7.98%	4.61%	10.97%	8.33%	11.69%	8.75%
MSCI Africa Index	1.54%	9.80%	39.65%	15.33%	12.33%	11.97%	9.62%	8.75%	5.69%
FTSE World Government Bond Index	-1.34%	-2.75%	-0.15%	3.33%	-1.06%	-1.20%	1.21%	2.95%	2.32%
Three-month US dollar LIBOR rate	-1.23%	-2.44%	-1.30%	5.11%	5.66%	5.35%	5.38%	5.57%	3.90%
ICE LIBOR 1 Month USD ZAR converted	-1.23%	-2.44%	-1.28%	5.19%	5.82%	5.39%	5.54%	5.91%	4.06%
FTSE EPRA/NAREIT Developed Index	0.79%	-2.49%	-3.20%	6.67%	0.52%	5.57%	3.45%	4.90%	5.13%

Note:

1. Source: Momentum Multi-Manager, IRESS, www.msci.com, www.yieldbook.com, www.ft.com.
2. Returns for periods exceeding one year are annualised.
3. The return for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is to the end of the previous month. Due to the reweighting of the CPI from January 2009, this number reflects a compound of month-on-month CPI returns.
The historical numbers used are the official month-on-month numbers based on a composite of the previous inflation series (calculations before January 2009) and the revised inflation series (calculations after January 2009).
4. The MSCI World Index (All countries) returns are adjusted to correspond with global investment prices received.
5. FTSE/JSE disclaimer: www.jse.co.za.
6. The information reproduced in this document has been compiled by or arrived at by investments from sources believed to be reliable.
7. Reasonable steps have been taken to ensure the validity and accuracy of the information in this document. However, Momentum Multi-Manager does not accept any responsibility for any claim, damages, loss or expenses, howsoever arising out of or in connection with the information in this document, whether by a client, investor or intermediary.
8. The content used in this document is sourced from various media publications, the internet and Momentum Investments. For more information, please visit us at www.momentum.co.za/business.
9. Momentum Investments is part of Momentum Metropolitan Life Limited, an authorized financial services and registered credit provider, and rated B-BBEE Level 1.

The macro research desk



The information used to prepare this document includes information from third-party sources and is for information purposes only. Although reasonable steps have been taken to ensure the validity and accuracy of the information contained herein, Momentum Metropolitan Life Limited does not guarantee the accuracy, content, completeness, legality or reliability of the information contained herein and no warranties and/or representations of any kind, expressed or implied, are given to the nature, standard, accuracy or otherwise of the information provided.

Neither Momentum Metropolitan Life Limited, its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, representatives or agents (the Momentum Parties) have any liability to any persons or entities receiving the information made available herein for any claim, damages, loss or expense, including, without limitation, any direct, indirect, special, incidental, punitive or consequential cost, loss or damages, whether in contract or in delict, arising out of or in connection with information made available herein and you agree to indemnify the Momentum Parties accordingly. For further information, please visit us at momentum.co.za. Momentum Multi-Manager is part of Momentum Metropolitan Life Limited, an authorised financial services and registered credit provider, and rated B-BBEE level 1.