

Weekly Market Update

Global debt hits a record \$337.7 trillion. The Institute of International Finance reported that total global debt rose by approximately \$21 trillion in first half 2025, driven by loose financial conditions, a weaker US dollar, and accommodative monetary policies, pushing the debt-to-GDP ratio above 324%.

US

Equities rallied: US indexes hit fresh records early in the week as AI-related wins (Nvidia / OpenAI tie-ups) and a dovish Fed outlook supported risk appetite.

The Fed's Lorie Logan proposed swapping the central bank's benchmark funds rate for a more widely used measure, possibly the tri-party GC rate.

Donald Trump said he'll impose a 100% tariff on branded or patented drugs on the 1 October unless a company is building plants in the US. He also announced new levies targeting heavy trucks, kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities.

US macro revisions and labour metrics remained under scrutiny (benchmark payroll revisions and softer labour signals featured in research commentary).

UK

Bank Rate remained unchanged at 4% (MPC majority) with dissenters preferring a cut; the BoE continued to emphasise data dependence and gradualism.

Gilt markets and talk of further quantitative policy moves (planned reduction in asset holdings) stayed in investor focus as the BoE signalled continued balance-sheet adjustments.

Sterling moves driven by cross-channel macro data and UK-specific inflation/ money-policy commentary.

Rachel Reeves has backed Sir Keir Starmer's claim that Reform UK's policy to scrap indefinite leave to remain for migrants is "racist".

Europe

European new-car registrations rose 4.7% in August from a year earlier. Germany and Spain gained more than 5%, while demand in Britain and Italy dwindled.

The ECB kept key rates steady earlier in September, but markets watched consumer sentiment and CPI data for hints on the next policy moves.

Eurozone data releases (inflation expectations / retail indicators) dominated local market flows and fixed-income positioning during the week.

Russia has been testing NATO's allies over the last few weeks, after Estonia claimed that Russia had violated its airspace, which Russia denied. NATO promised a "robust" response to Russian incursions into its airspace and said it would use all options to defend itself and deter threats.

Global

PBOC / central bank officials pledged stepped-up, data-driven support to shore up growth and liquidity, signalling readiness to deploy policy tools.

Chinese Premier Li Qiang met with top execs from American companies including Citadel Securities and Pfizer, and said the US and China can become "friends and partners."

Tokyo's core CPI unexpectedly held steady at 2.5% in September, supporting the BOJ's cautious approach to raising rates, though there were notable dissents.

Donald Trump was more optimistic about Ukraine's prospects, saying it could reclaim all territory lost in its war with Russia with help from the EU. He also said NATO should shoot down Russian aircraft violating the alliance's airspace.

Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 26 Sep 25	Month to date	YTD 2025	12 Months
Developed Market Equities					
United States	USD	-0.3%	2.9%	13.7%	16.7%
United Kingdom	GBP	0.8%	1.0%	16.7%	15.9%
Continental Europe	EUR	-0.1%	1.2%	12.0%	7.4%
Japan	JPY	1.2%	3.6%	16.0%	20.1%
Asia Pacific (ex Japan)	USD	-1.5%	4.0%	23.0%	14.6%
Australia	AUD	0.2%	-1.5%	10.7%	10.7%
Global	USD	-0.4%	2.4%	16.5%	16.5%
Emerging markets equities					
Emerging Europe	USD	-0.1%	1.0%	42.7%	30.6%
Emerging Asia	USD	-1.5%	5.7%	24.3%	15.9%
Emerging Latin America	USD	0.1%	5.5%	41.7%	17.5%
BRICs	USD	-1.8%	4.4%	22.5%	13.9%
China	USD	-0.9%	6.5%	37.4%	37.0%
MENA countries	USD	1.8%	2.3%	4.2%	3.6%
South Africa	USD	1.1%	9.9%	52.7%	31.7%
India	USD	-3.3%	0.4%	1.7%	-10.2%
Global emerging markets	USD	-1.1%	5.5%	25.6%	16.3%
Bonds					
US Treasuries	USD	-0.2%	0.7%	5.2%	1.7%
US Treasuries (inflation protected)	USD	-0.3%	0.4%	6.6%	3.7%
US Corporate (investment grade)	USD	-0.4%	1.2%	6.7%	3.7%
US High Yield	USD	-0.2%	0.7%	6.9%	7.3%
UK Gilts	GBP	-0.1%	0.3%	1.5%	-1.6%
UK Corporate (investment grade)	GBP	0.1%	0.7%	3.9%	3.6%
Euro Government Bonds	EUR	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
Euro Corporate (investment grade)	EUR	0.0%	0.3%	2.6%	3.7%
Euro High Yield	EUR	0.0%	0.5%	4.6%	6.5%
Global Government Bonds	USD	-0.6%	0.0%	6.6%	0.8%
Global Bonds	USD	-0.5%	0.3%	7.8%	2.6%
Global Convertible Bonds	USD	-0.7%	3.5%	19.9%	21.9%
Emerging Market Bonds	USD	0.4%	1.5%	9.5%	7.1%

▲ Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 26 Sep 2025	Month to date	YTD 2025	12 Months
Property					
US Property Securities	USD	0.8%	0.3%	3.1%	-2.7%
Australian Property Securities	AUD	-2.5%	-3.1%	8.5%	0.4%
Asia Property Securities	USD	0.0%	0.0%	18.4%	4.0%
Global Property Securities	USD	-0.4%	0.1%	10.5%	1.5%
Currencies					
Euro	USD	-0.5%	-0.1%	13.0%	4.7%
UK Pound Sterling	USD	-0.6%	-0.8%	7.0%	-0.1%
Japanese Yen	USD	-1.1%	-1.8%	5.2%	-3.1%
Australian Dollar	USD	-0.7%	0.0%	5.9%	-4.9%
South African Rand	USD	-0.2%	1.6%	8.8%	-1.1%
Swiss Franc	USD	-0.5%	0.1%	13.7%	6.1%
Chinese Yuan	USD	-0.2%	0.0%	2.3%	-1.7%
Commodities & Alternatives					
Commodities	USD	2.5%	1.9%	5.8%	7.3%
Agricultural Commodities	USD	-0.3%	-2.6%	-4.3%	-5.2%
Oil	USD	5.2%	3.0%	-6.0%	-2.1%
Gold	USD	2.0%	9.0%	43.3%	40.9%



Global Matters Weekly

29 Sep 2025

For more information, please contact your adviser or alternatively contact:

Belvest Investment Services Limited
研富投資服務有限公司
9th Floor, Centre Mark II
305-313 Queen's Road Central
Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

Tel +852 2827 1199
Fax +852 2827 0270
belvest@bis.hk
www.bis.hk

Important notes

This communication is issued by Belvest Investment Services Limited and/or Belvest related companies (collectively, and individually Belvest) solely to its clients, qualified prospective clients or institutional and professional investors. Unless stated otherwise, any opinions or views expressed in this communication do not represent those of Belvest. Opinions or views of any Belvest company expressed in this communication may differ from those of other departments or companies within Belvest, including any opinions or views expressed in any research issued by Belvest. Belvest may deal as Distributor or Agent, or have interests, in any financial product referred to in this email. Belvest has policies designed to negate conflicts of interest. Unless otherwise stated, this e-mail is solely for information purposes.

This message may contain confidential information. Any use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this information outside the original recipients of this message is strictly prohibited. If you receive this message by mistake, please notify the sender by reply email immediately.

Unless specifically stated, neither the information nor any opinion contained herein constitutes as an advertisement, an invitation, a solicitation, a recommendation or advise to buy or sell any products, services, securities, futures, options, other financial instruments or provide any investment advice or service by Belvest.

No representation or warranty is given as to the accuracy, likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of any figures, forecasts, prospects or return (if any) contained in the message. Such figures, forecasts, prospects or returns are by their nature subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies. The assumptions and parameters used by Belvest are not the only ones that might reasonably have been selected and therefor Belvest does not guarantee the sequence, accuracy, completeness or timeliness of the information provided herein. None of Belvest, its group members or any of their employees or directors shall be held liable, in any way, for any claims, mistakes, errors or otherwise arising out of or in connection with the content of this e-mail.

This e-mail and any accompanying attachments are not encrypted and cannot be guaranteed to be secure, complete or error-free as electronic communications may be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, delayed or incomplete, and/or may contain viruses. Belvest therefore does not accept any liability for any interception, corruption, loss, destruction, incompleteness, viruses, errors, omissions or delays in relation to this electronic communication. If verification is required please request a hard-copy version. Electronic communication carried within the Belvest system may be monitored.