



## Summary

**Real Economy:** Domestic cement sales rose by 7.7 percent year-on-year in November, continuing the upward trend observed in recent months. Meanwhile, latest available data show non-oil exports increasing by almost 13 percent year-on-year in October, despite a 4 percent decline month-on-month.

**Consumer Spending:** Total consumer spending rose by 4.7 percent year-on-year in November, but registered a monthly decline of 4 percent. The yearly increase was driven by an 8 percent rise in POS transactions, while cash withdrawals fell by 6 percent year-on-year. Looking at POS transactions by sector, most sectors experienced growth year-on-year.

**SAMA Foreign Reserve Assets:** SAMA's FX reserves rebounded in November, rising by nearly \$15 billion to reach \$450.3 billion. The monthly gain was primarily driven by a \$17.5 billion increase in bank deposits, while foreign securities declined by \$2.3 billion.

**Money Supply, Bank Deposits and Credit:** The broad measure of money supply (M3) rose by 10.3 percent year-on-year and by 0.3 percent month-on-month in November. Total deposits increased by 10.5 percent year-on-year, with gains in both demand deposits and time and saving deposits. Meanwhile, new residential mortgages continued to rise in November, up 47 percent year-on-year, and 22 percent month-on-month.

**Inflation:** Consumer prices rose by 2 percent year-on-year in November, and by 0.3 percent month-on-month. Within the CPI basket, 'Food and beverages' prices rose by 0.3 percent year-on-year, and 'Housing and utilities' continued trending upwards, up by 9 percent year-on-year.

**Labor Market Q3 2024:** The latest labor market release from GaStat showed that the unemployment rate for citizens rose to 7.8 percent in Q3 2024, up from 7.1 percent in Q2. Unemployment rates for both males and females increased in Q3, reaching 4.7 percent and 13.6 percent, respectively, compared with 4 percent and 12.8 percent in Q2. Meanwhile, the participation rate edged up to 51.5 percent, with higher participation rates for both male and female citizens.

**Oil-Global:** Oil prices were generally stable in December, maintaining the same average as in November. The OPEC+ decision to delay production increases until April and to reduce the size of planned increases in 2025 helped support prices although the market continues to assume supply growth will outweigh demand growth in 2025.

**Oil-Saudi Arabia:** Saudi oil production averaged 8.9 mbpd in November, in line with the OPEC+ agreement. The recently revised agreement sees the OPEC+ group of eight countries increasing production by 1.2 mbpd in 2025 rather than more than 2 mbpd previously. As part of this, Saudi production is slated to increase to 9.5 mbpd by end 2025.

**Stock Market:** The TASI ended December above 12,000, up 3.4 percent month end to month end. The index edged up marginally, by 1 percent, from the end of 2023, peaking in March at 12,800. Since March lower oil prices were a key drag on the market.

For comments and queries please contact:

Toby Iles  
Chief Economist  
tiles@jadwa.com

Nouf N. Alsharif  
Managing Director, Research  
nalsharif@jadwa.com

Head office:

Phone +966 11 279-1111  
Fax +966 11 293-7988  
P.O. Box 60677, Riyadh 11555  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
www.jadwa.com

Jadwa Investment is licensed by the Capital Market Authority to conduct Securities Businesses, license number 6034-37.

View Jadwa Investment's research archive and sign up to receive future publications:  
<http://www.jadwa.com>

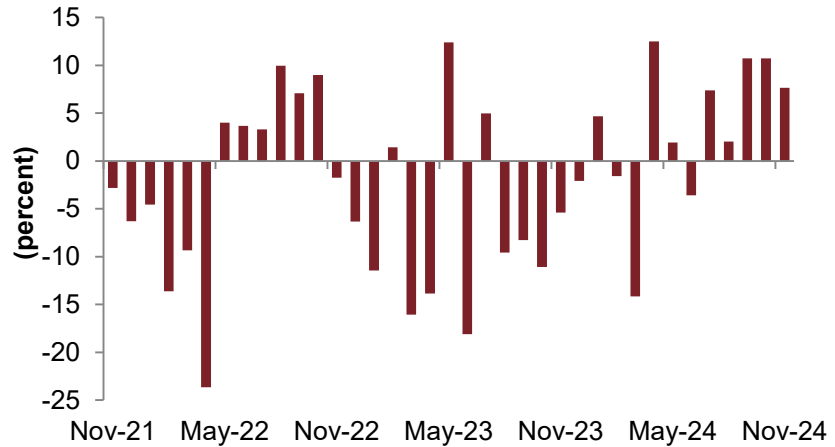


## Real Economy

Domestic cement sales rose by 7.7 percent year-on-year in November, continuing the upward trend observed in recent months. Meanwhile, latest available data show non-oil exports increasing by almost 13 percent year-on-year in October, despite a 4 percent decline month-on-month, with exports of plastics and petrochemicals slowing during the month.

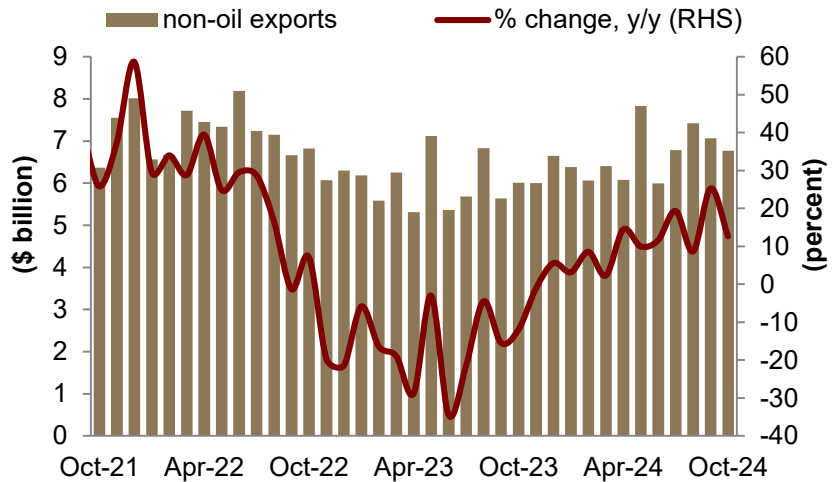
*Domestic cement sales rose by 7.7 percent year-on-year in November, continuing the upward trend observed in recent months.*

**Domestic Cement Sales**  
(year-on-year change)

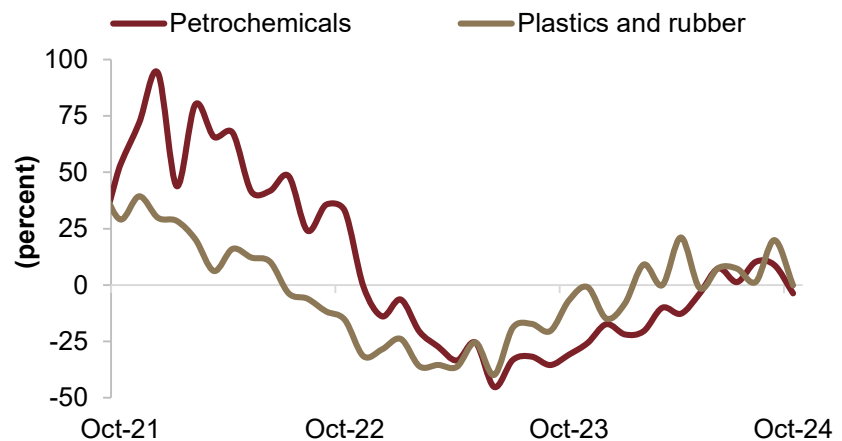


*Meanwhile, latest available data show non-oil exports increasing by almost 13 percent year-on-year in October, despite a 4 percent decline month-on-month...*

**Non-oil Exports**



**Non-oil Exports**  
(year-on-year change)



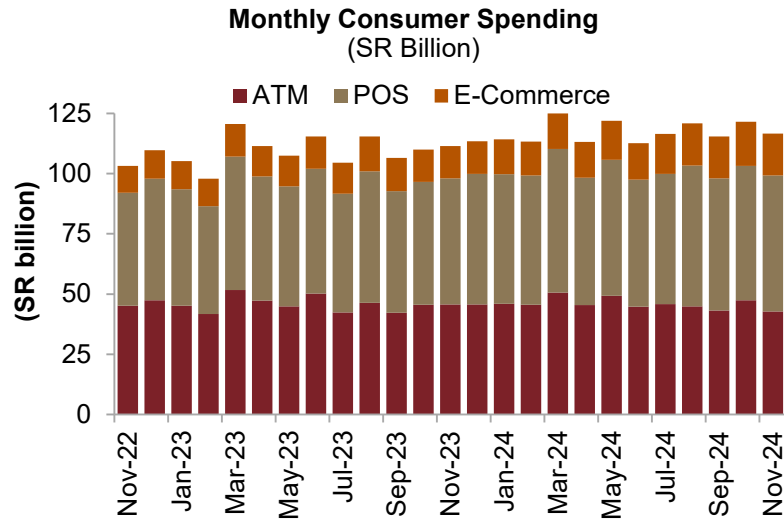
*..with exports of plastics and petrochemicals slowing during the month.*



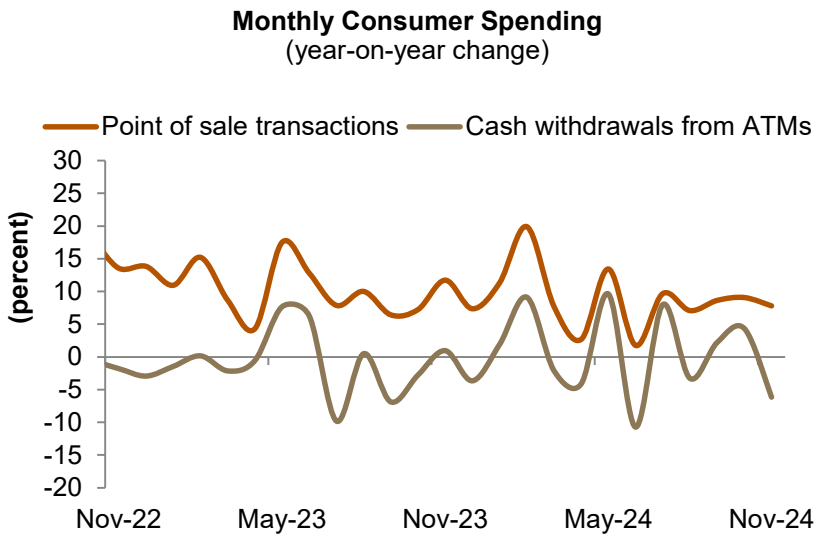
## Consumer Spending

Total consumer spending rose by 4.7 percent year-on-year in November, but registered a monthly decline of 4 percent. The yearly increase was driven by an 8 percent rise in POS transactions, while cash withdrawals fell by 6 percent year-on-year. Looking at POS transactions by sector, most sectors experienced growth year-on-year.

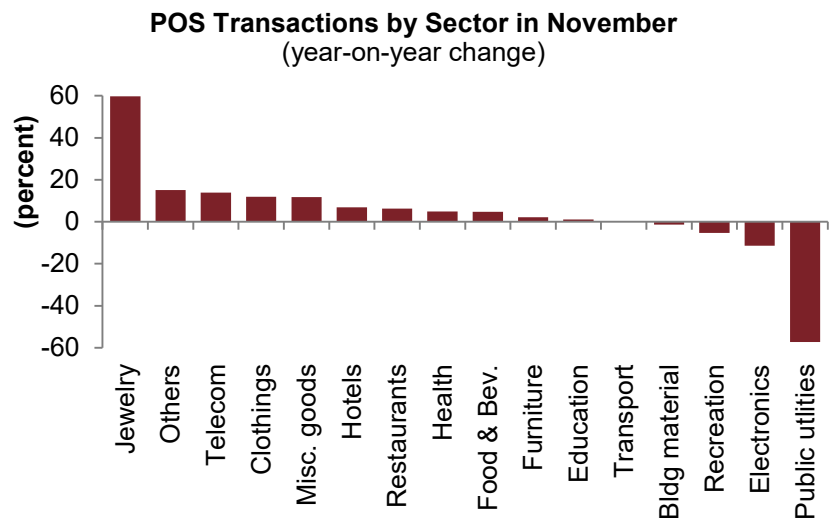
*Total consumer spending rose by 4.7 percent year-on-year in November, despite a monthly decline of 4 percent.*



*The yearly increase was driven by an 8 percent rise in POS transactions, while cash withdrawals fell by 6 percent year-on-year.*



*Looking at POS transactions by sector, most sectors experienced growth year-on-year.*



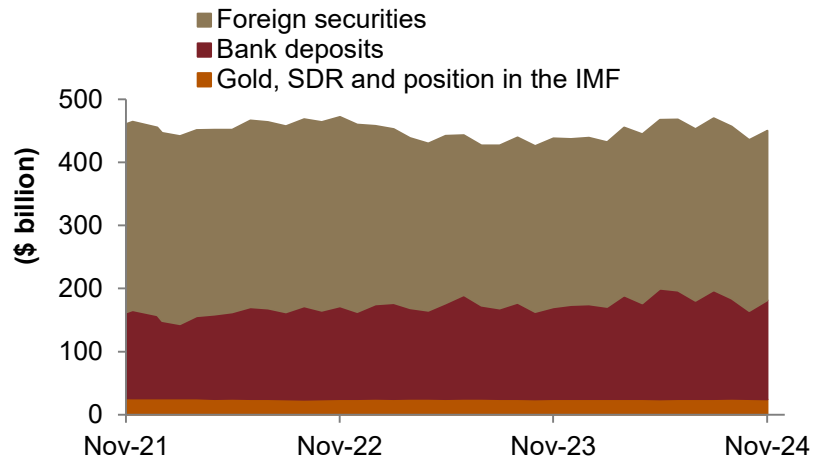


## SAMA Foreign Reserve Assets

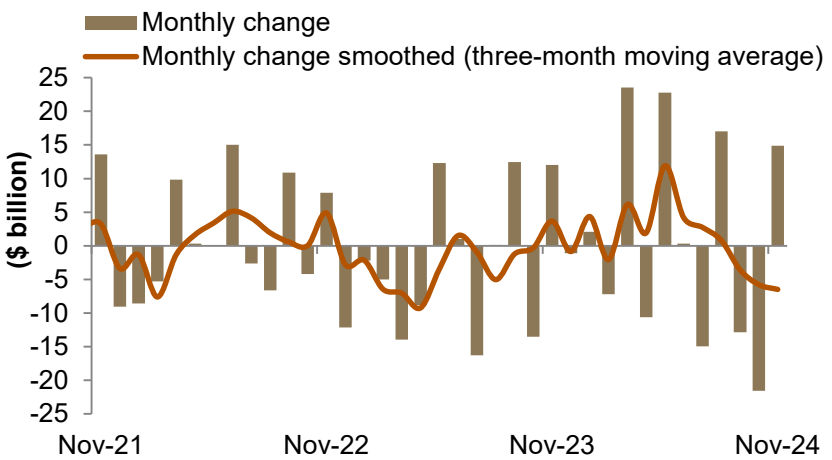
SAMA's FX reserves rebounded in November, rising by nearly \$15 billion to reach \$450.3 billion. The monthly gain was primarily driven by a \$17.5 billion increase in bank deposits, while foreign securities declined by \$2.3 billion.

*SAMA's FX reserves rebounded in November, rising by nearly \$15 billion...*

**SAMA Total Foreign Reserve Assets**

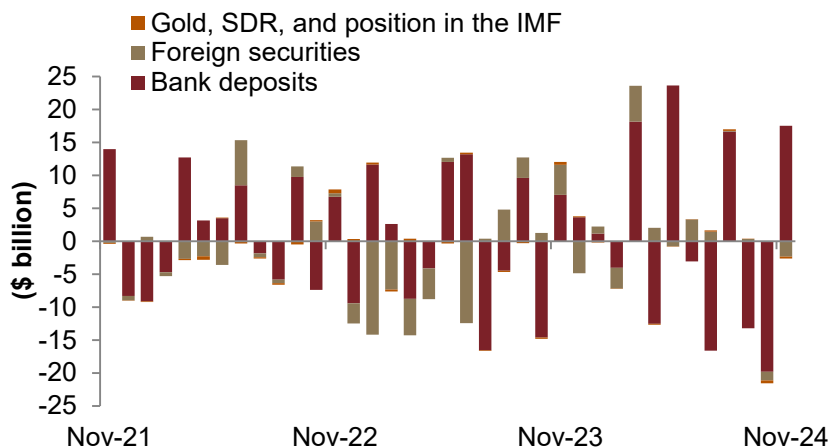


**SAMA Foreign Reserve Assets**  
(monthly and three-month average change)



*...to reach \$450.3 billion.*

**SAMA Foreign Reserve Assets**  
(month-on-month change)



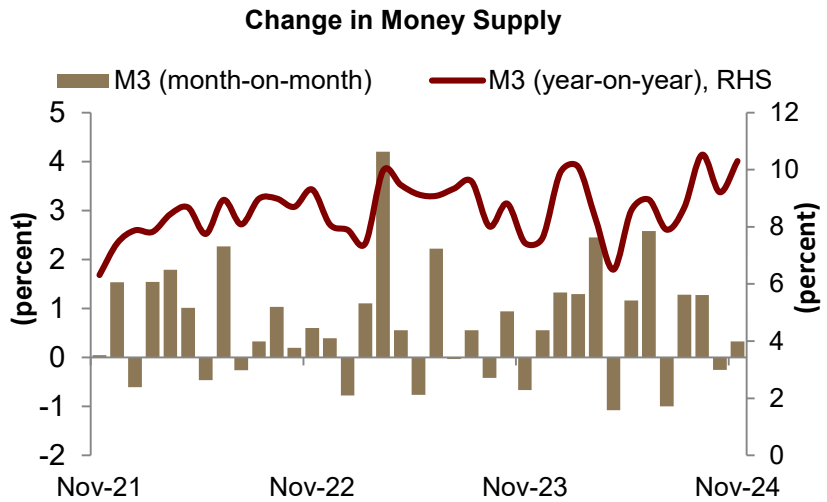
*The monthly gain was primarily driven by a \$17.5 billion increase in bank deposits, while foreign securities declined by \$2.3 billion.*



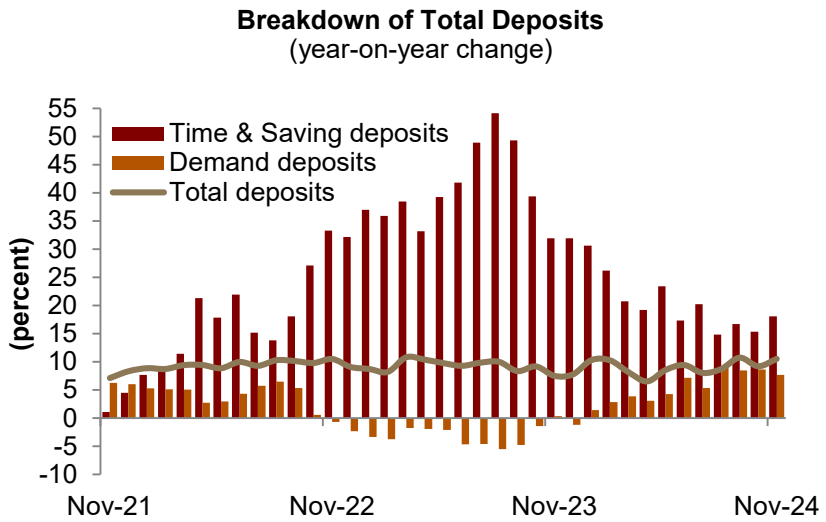
## Money Supply, Bank Deposits and Credit

The broad measure of money supply (M3) rose by 10.3 percent year-on-year and by 0.3 percent month-on-month in November. Total deposits increased by 10.5 percent year-on-year, with gains in both demand deposits and time and saving deposits. Meanwhile, new residential mortgages continued to rise in November, up 47 percent year-on-year, and 22 percent month-on-month.

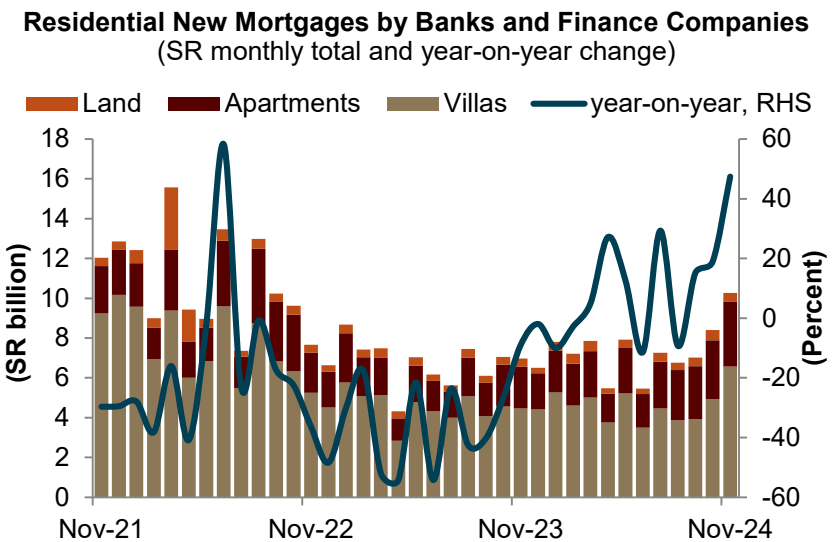
*M3 rose in November by 10.3 percent year-on-year, and by 0.3 percent month-on-month.*



*Total deposits increased by 10.5 percent year-on-year, with gains seen in both demand deposits and time & saving deposits.*



*Meanwhile, new residential mortgages rose further in November, up by 47 percent year-on-year, and by 22 percent month-on-month.*

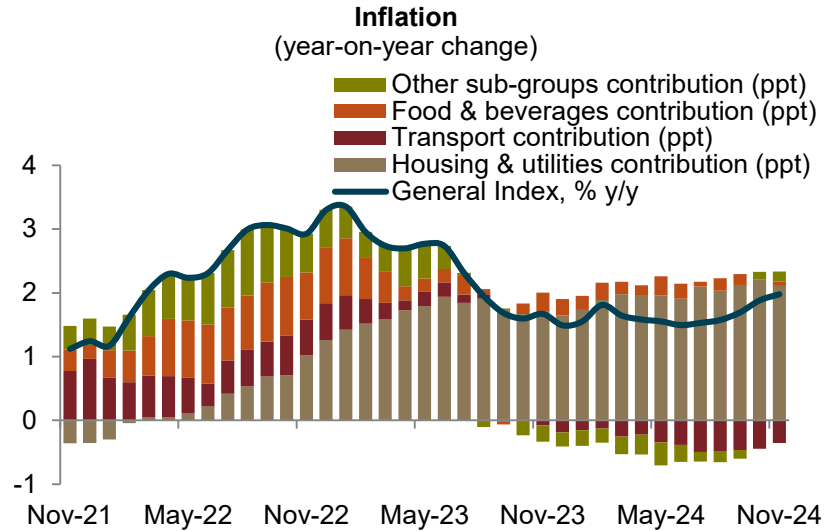




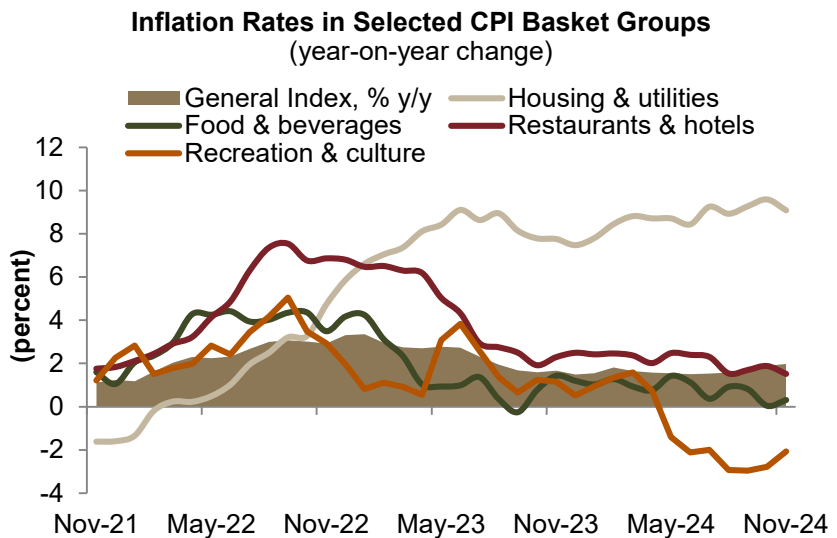
## Inflation

Consumer prices rose by 2 percent year-on-year in November, and by 0.3 percent month-on-month. Within the CPI basket, 'Food and beverages' prices rose by 0.3 percent year-on-year, and 'Housing and utilities' continued trending upwards, up by 9 percent year-on-year. Meanwhile, price in 'restaurants and hotels' sub-group items exhibited varied trends in recent months.

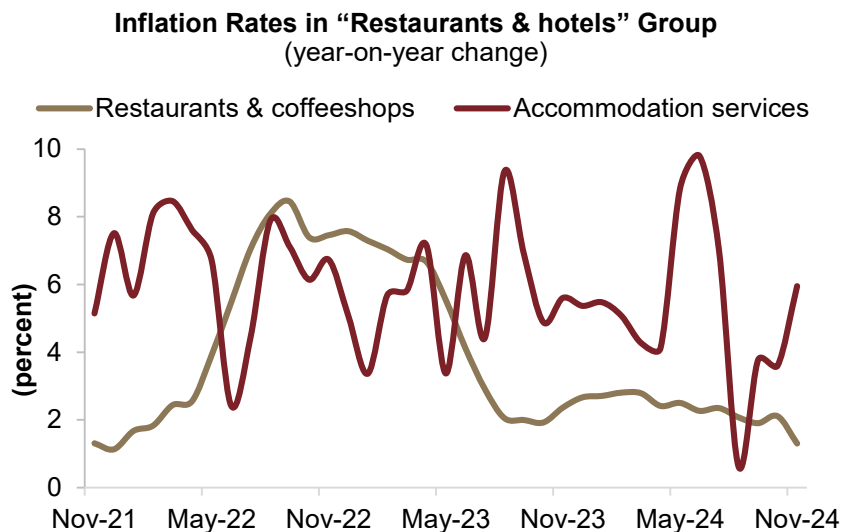
Consumer prices rose by 2 percent year-on-year in November, and by 0.3 percent month-on-month.



Within the CPI basket, 'Food and beverages' prices rose by 0.3 percent year-on-year, and 'Housing and utilities' continued trending upwards, up by 9 percent year-on-year.



Meanwhile, price in 'restaurants & hotels' sub-group items exhibited varied trends in recent months. While prices in 'restaurants & coffee shops' are cooling, likely due to stable food prices, 'Accommodation services' prices are facing upward pressure due to increased demand from tourism.





## Labor Market Q3 2024

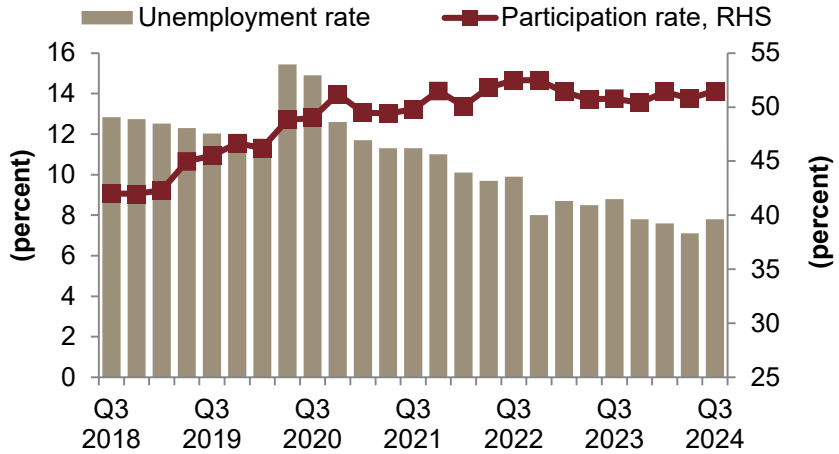
The latest labor market release from GaStat showed that the unemployment rate for citizens rose to 7.8 percent in Q3 2024, up from 7.1 percent in Q2. Unemployment rates for both males and females increased in Q3, reaching 4.7 percent and 13.6 percent, respectively, compared with 4 percent and 12.8 percent in Q2. Meanwhile, the participation rate edged up to 51.5 percent, with higher participation rates for both male and female citizens.

The latest labor market release from GaStat showed that the unemployment rate for citizens rose to 7.8 percent in Q3 2024, up from 7.1 percent in Q2.

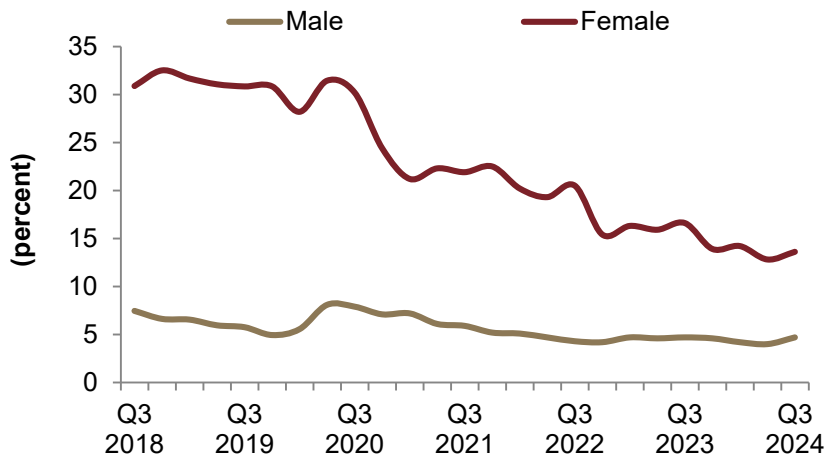
Unemployment rates for both males and females increased in Q3, reaching 4.7 percent and 13.6 percent, respectively, compared with 4 percent and 12.8 percent in Q2.

Meanwhile, the participation rate edged up to 51.5 percent, with higher participation rates for both male and female citizens. The end of the academic year in Q3 likely contributed to the rise in participation rates with fresh graduates entering the labor force.

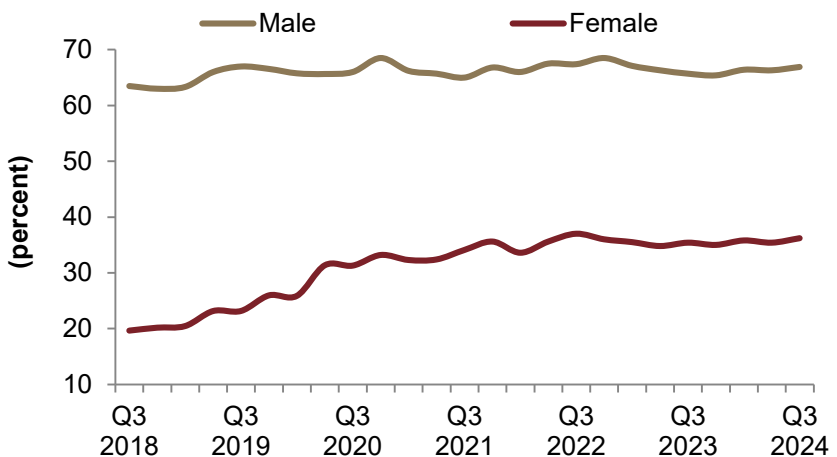
**Unemployment and Participation Rates**  
(percent)



**Unemployment Rate by Gender**  
(percent)



**Labor Force Participation Rate by Gender**  
(percent)

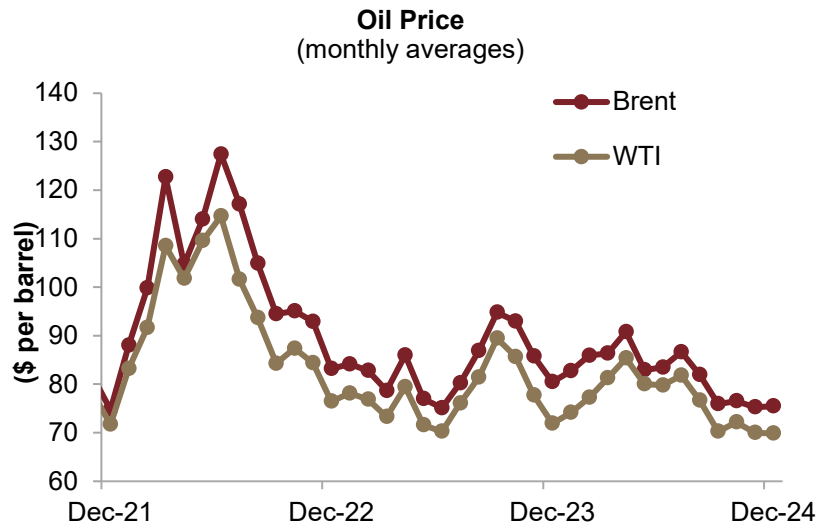




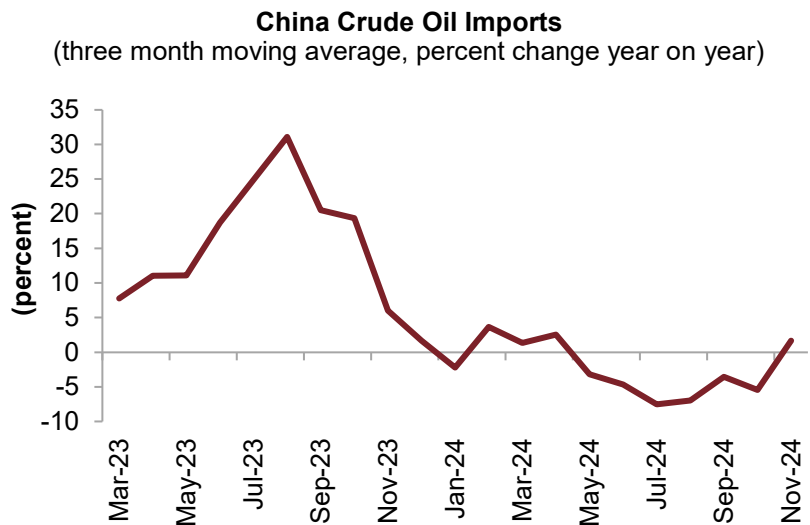
## Oil - Global

Oil prices were generally stable in December, maintaining the same average as in November. The OPEC+ decision to delay production increases until April and to reduce the size of planned increases in 2025 helped support prices although the market continues to assume supply growth will outweigh demand growth in 2025.

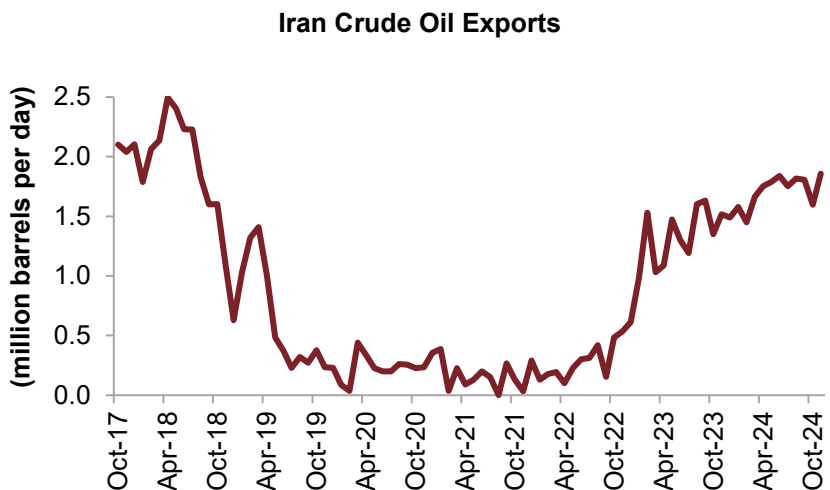
*Oil prices were generally stable in December, maintaining the same average as in November. Brent crude starts 2025 at around \$75 pb.*



*In November the three-month moving average of China's crude imports registered growth for the first time since April 2024.*



*Iran's crude exports recovered to 1.8 mbpd in November after dipping in October. The market is waiting to see if the next Trump presidency attempts to tighten sanctions on Iranian oil exports as it did in 2018- 2021.*





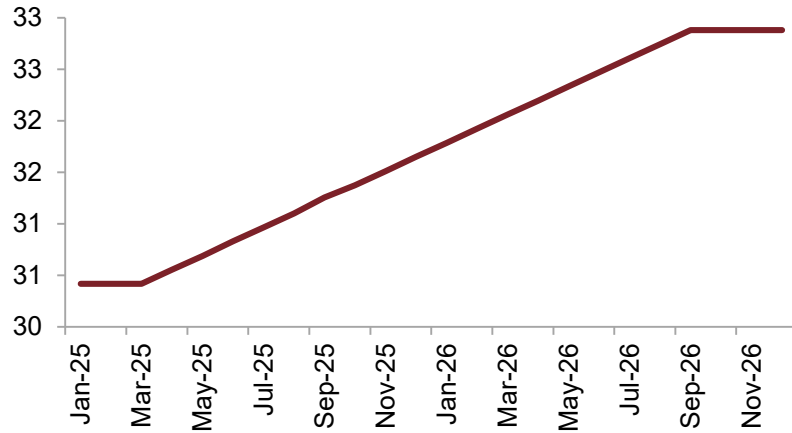


## Oil - Saudi Arabia

Saudi oil production averaged 8.9 mbpd in November, in line with the OPEC+ agreement. The recently revised agreement sees the OPEC+ group of eight countries increasing production by 1.2 mbpd in 2025 rather than more than 2 mbpd previously.

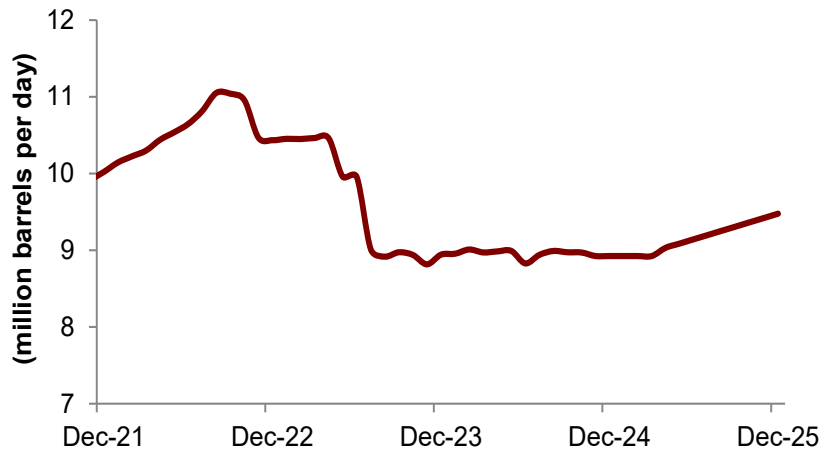
*OPEC+ now plans to add 1.2 mbpd in 2025 across a group of eight countries rather than more than 2 mbpd previously. The same countries would add another 1.2 mbpd in 2026. The average monthly addition would be 0.137 mbpd.*

**OPEC+ Group of Eight Oil Production Schedule**  
(mbpd)



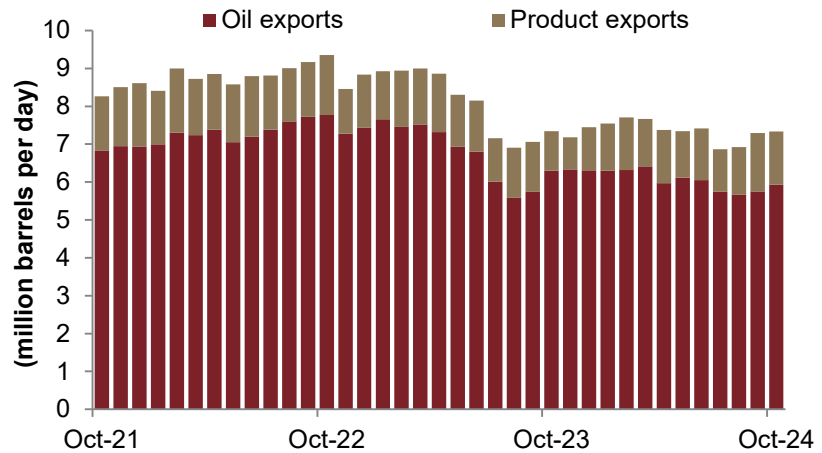
*According to the new schedule, Saudi production will reach 9.5 mbpd by end-2025 rather than 10 mbpd.*

**Saudi Crude Oil Production**  
(monthly average)



*Exports of crude and refined products totaled 7.3 mbpd in October, the same as in September. Crude and refined products exports averaged 7.5 mbpd in January-October 2024.*

**Saudi Crude Oil and Refined Product Exports**  
(monthly average)





## Stock Market

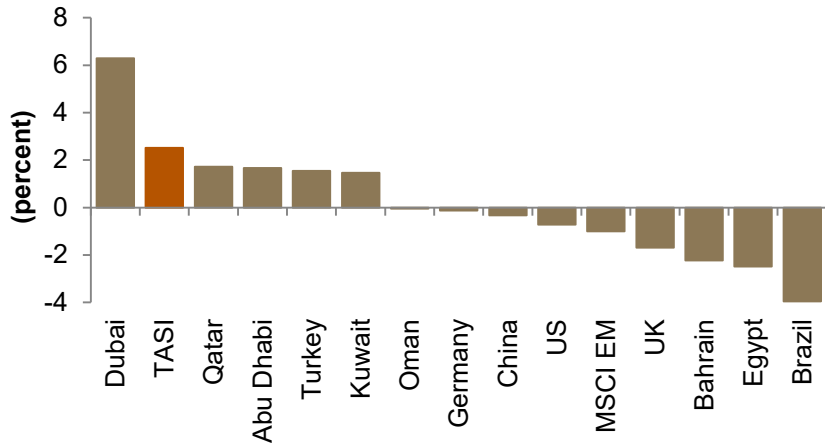
The TASI ended December above 12,000, up 3.4 percent month end to month end. The index edged up marginally, by 1 percent, from the end of 2023, peaking in March at 12,800. Since March lower oil prices were a key drag on the market.

*The TASI ended December above 12,000, up 3.4 percent month end to month end. The index edged up marginally, by 1 percent, from the end of 2023.*

**TASI Performance**

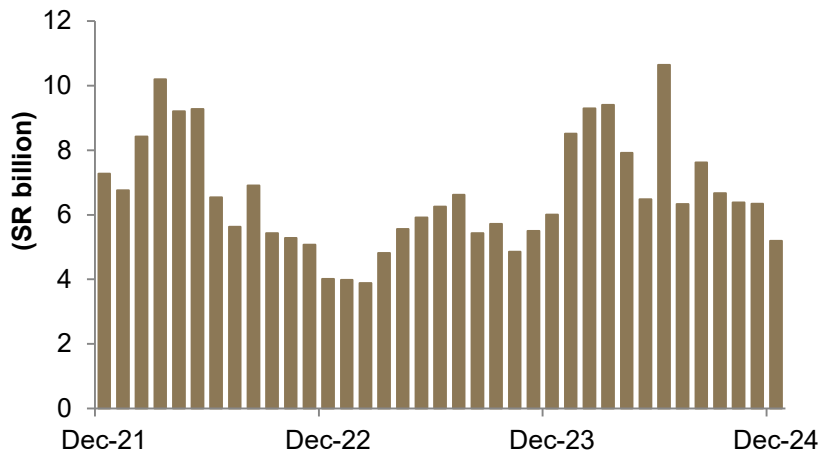


**Comparative Stock Market Performance (December)**



*TASI lagged the performance of Dubai, but was ahead of other GCC markets in December, again outperforming the MSCI EM index.*

**Average Daily Traded Turnover (December)**



*Average daily traded turnover in December dropped significantly and was the lowest monthly reading of 2024.*



## Disclaimer of Liability

Unless otherwise stated, all information contained in this document (the "Publication") shall not be reproduced, in whole or in part, without the specific written permission of Jadwa Investment.

The data contained in this research is sourced from Reuters, Bloomberg, The World Bank, Tadawul and national statistical sources unless otherwise stated.

Jadwa Investment makes its best effort to ensure that the content in the Publication is accurate and up to date at all times. Jadwa Investment makes no warranty, representation or undertaking whether expressed or implied, nor does it assume any legal liability, whether direct or indirect, or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information that contain in the Publication. It is not the intention of the publication to be used or deemed as recommendation, option or advice for any action(s) that may take place in future.