



UBA **₦20.20** ▼ -0.40 (1.94%) STANBIC **₦156.50** ▼ -1.20 (0.76%) Stanbic IBTD **₦21.00** ▲ +0.80 (3.96%) ACCESSCORP **₦21.25** ▼ -0.15 (0.70%) FIDEI **₦17.00** ▼ -0.10 (0.59%)

WEALTHBRIDGE CAPITAL PARTNERS LIMITED

CURRENT YIELD 15.38% Change ▲ 4.21bps <small>Last Updated: 14:40:00</small>	EXCHANGE RATE NAFEM 1,343.64 ▲ 7.25% <small>Last at 24/05/2024 11:00 AM</small>	
TOTAL ASSETS (₦) 170.10 <small>in Billions</small> Change ▼ -2.45%	FUNDS UNDER MANAGEMENT ₦40.668 billion <small>as at 31/03/2024</small> Change ▼ -3.25%	PAT (₦) ₦6.30bn <small>77 for 2023/24 FY</small> Change ▲ 7.85%

WEEKLY BRIEF

Week of 1st – 5th June 2026



Wealthbridge Economic Advisory



Mikano

International News

- ❑ **United States:** U.S. Hiring Beats Forecasts; Markets Pull Back as Rate Cut Hopes Fade
- ❑ **UK & Eurozone:** Eurozone Economy Contracts in Q1; Markets Drift as Tariff Threats Weigh on Sentiment
- ❑ **China:** China PMI Points to Uneven Recovery; AI Commercialisation Drives Bright Spots
- ❑ **Japan:** BoJ Rate Hike Odds Rise on Hawkish Ueda Comments
- ❑ **South Africa:** South Africa Private Sector Activity Falls to Five-Month Low
- ❑ **Ghana:** Ghana Inflation Rises to Four-Month High in May

Local News

- ❑ Naira Holds Steady as External Reserves Cross \$50 Billion
- ❑ Euro Slips Below N1,585 Against a Firmer Naira
- ❑ CBN Raises N1.457 Trillion at June NTB Auction as Stop Rates Rise Across All Tenors
- ❑ Foreign Capital Inflows Jump 84% to \$10.37 Billion in Q1 2026
- ❑ Aradel and Eterna Drag Oil & Gas Index Down 4.9%; Market Loses N580 Billion in a Session
- ❑ Dangote Refinery Raises Crude Processing Capacity to 700,000 Barrels Per Day

Key Macroeconomic Indices

NAFEM (₦/\$)	Monetary Policy Rate	Brent Crude oil price (\$/Barrel)	Inflation Rate	GDP Growth Rate
₦1,365.00/\$1 (05/06/26)	26.50% (May 2026)	\$92.90 (05/06/26)	15.69% (April 2026)	3.89% (Q1 2026)

The United States

U.S. Hiring Beats Forecasts; Markets Pull Back as Rate Cut Hopes Fade

- ❑ The U.S. economy added 172,000 jobs in May, more than double the consensus estimate of around 80,000. April's figure was revised up to 179,000 from 115,000. Gains were led by leisure and hospitality, local government, and health care. The unemployment rate held at 4.3%.
- ❑ Job openings rose to 7.618 million in April, the highest level in nearly two years and well above the 6.79 million estimate. ADP private payrolls came in at 122,000 for May, also above expectations.
- ❑ Initial jobless claims for the week ended May 30 rose to 225,000, up 13,000 from the prior week and the highest since early February. Announced layoffs climbed 16% month on month to around 97,000, with AI cited as the leading reason for cuts for the third consecutive month.
- ❑ ISM Manufacturing PMI rose to 54.0 in May, a four-year high. ISM Services PMI climbed to 54.5, with the prices index reaching its highest level since August 2022. Activity is firm but employment remained in contraction in both surveys.



ISM Manufacturing PMI (Jun 2025 – May 2026)
Source: Trading Economics

What to Expect

- ❑ The strong payrolls print narrows the Fed's case for near-term rate cuts. With activity resilient and price pressures persisting, a higher-for-longer policy stance is increasingly the base case heading into the second half of 2026..

Drivers

- ❑ The stronger-than-expected payrolls report pushed Treasury yields higher, with the 10-year note rising from 4.44% to around 4.55% by Friday, weighing on rate-sensitive growth stocks and pulling the Nasdaq sharply lower.

Indices' Performance

S&P 500	7,383.74	2.59% ▼
Nasdaq Composite	25,709.43	4.68% ▼
Dow Jones Industrial average	50,866.78	0.32% ▼

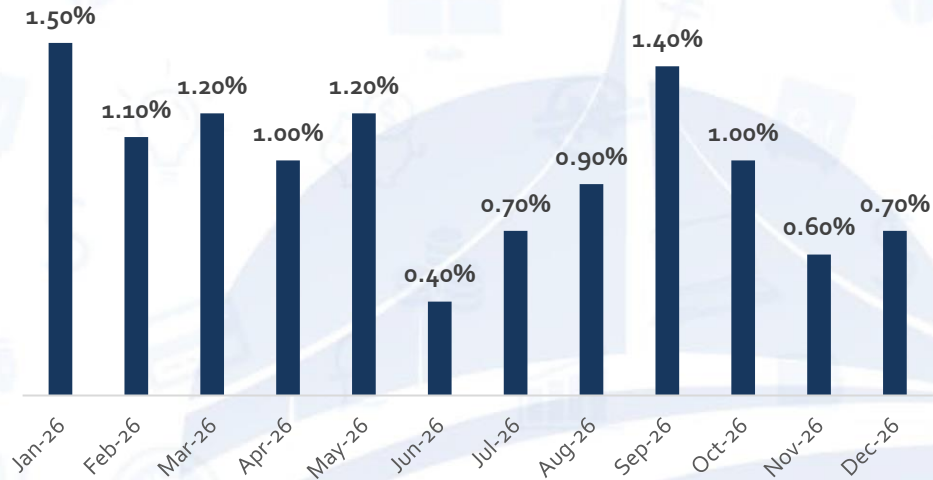
U.S. Markets End the Week Lower as AI Optimism Fades

- ❑ Major U.S. indices declined for the week. The Nasdaq Composite led losses, falling 4.68%, followed by the Russell 2000 and S&P 500. The S&P 500 posted its first weekly loss since March. The Dow held up best, slipping just 0.32%.
- ❑ Early gains tied to AI optimism faded as investors weighed elevated earnings expectations for AI-linked companies, a growing pipeline of AI-related equity issuance, and oil price volatility from Middle East developments.

UK & Eurozone

Eurozone Economy Contracts in Q1; Markets Drift as Tariff Threats Weigh on Sentiment

- Final data from Eurostat showed the euro area economy shrank 0.2% in Q1 2026, a downward revision from the initial estimate of 0.1% growth. Ireland recorded the sharpest decline, with its economy contracting 12.1% in the quarter.
- Eurozone retail sales fell 0.4% sequentially in April, led by nonfood products and slightly worse than the 0.3% drop expected. Germany and Spain saw declines of 0.2% and 1.5% respectively, while France bucked the trend with a 0.3% rise.
- Industrial production in France edged up 0.1% month on month in April, beating expectations of a 0.2% decline. Gains were led by coke and refined petroleum products and transport equipment. France's trade deficit also narrowed in April on rising exports.
- New car registrations in the UK rose 7.1% year on year in May, the strongest May figure since 2019. Battery electric vehicle registrations climbed 34.2% and plug-in hybrid sales surged 23.9%, while petrol and diesel registrations continued to fall.



United Kingdom Shop Price Inflation (June 2025 – May 2026)
Source: BRC - British Retail Consortium, WealthBridge Research

What to Expect

- The Q1 contraction and soft retail data point to a fragile growth backdrop in the eurozone. Renewed U.S. tariff threats add another layer of uncertainty. Near-term momentum will depend heavily on how trade negotiations develop and whether energy costs stabilise.

European Stocks Close the Week Lower Amid Tariff Uncertainty

- The pan-European STOXX Europe 600 declined 0.53% in local currency terms. Markets lacked direction as investors weighed U.S.-Iran negotiation prospects, a possible Israel-Lebanon ceasefire, and the Trump administration's announcement of new tariffs of 10% to 12.5% on multiple countries.
- Germany's DAX fell 1.38% and Italy's FTSE MIB slipped 0.29%. The UK's FTSE 100 declined 0.40%. France's CAC 40 was the outlier, rising 0.43% over the week.

Drivers

- Tariff announcements from Washington overshadowed any optimism from geopolitical de-escalation talks, leaving European markets broadly weak by week's end

Indices' Performance

FTSE 100	10,367.64	0.40% ▼
DAX index	24,758.26	1.38% ▼
CAC 40	8,218.53	0.43% ▲
FTSE MIB	49,891.64	0.29% ▼

Asia



China PMI Points to Uneven Recovery; AI Commercialisation Drives Bright Spots

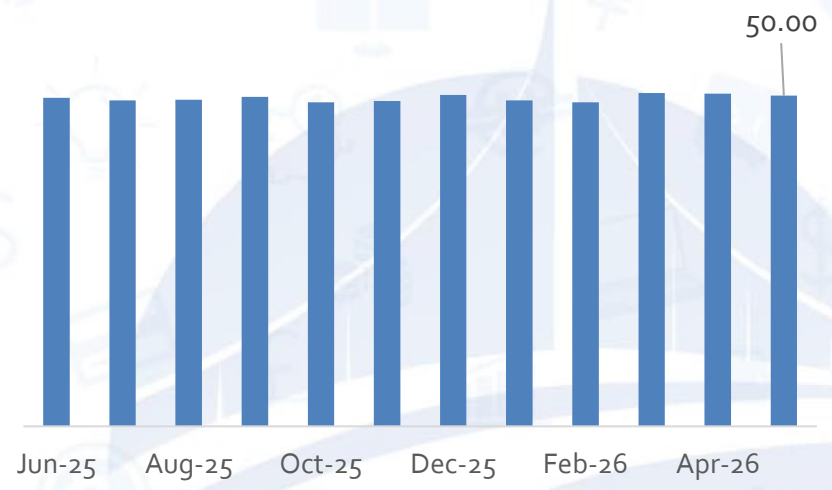
- China's official manufacturing PMI eased to 50.0 in May from 50.3 in April, signalling slower factory activity, while the private-sector RatingDog PMI remained in expansion at 51.8, highlighting stronger resilience among smaller firms. The divergence reflects the different composition of the surveys and suggests policymakers may favour targeted support measures over broad-based stimulus.
- Tencent Holdings is testing an embedded AI agent for WeChat and could begin seeking regulatory approval as early as this month, boosting its Hong Kong-listed shares and broader AI market sentiment. Meanwhile, AI startup DeepSeek is reportedly considering a fundraising round that could value the company at about \$52 billion, highlighting the growing shift from AI model development to commercial deployment in China.

What to expect

- China's recovery is expected to remain uneven. Industrial and technology sectors continue to show resilience, but weak consumer demand and property sector headwinds remain a drag. Policymakers are likely to maintain targeted support while markets watch for any escalation in trade tensions with the U.S.

BoJ Rate Hike Odds Rise on Hawkish Ueda Comments

- BoJ Governor Kazuo Ueda signalled that tackling inflation remains a priority despite geopolitical uncertainty, stating that further rate hikes may be considered if upside inflation risks outweigh growth concerns. Stronger-than-expected wage growth and a fourth consecutive month of real wage gains reinforced expectations of policy tightening, although household spending remained subdued.
- Economic signals were mixed, with Tokyo core CPI easing to 1.3% in May—below the BoJ's 2% target for a fourth straight month—while industrial production rose unexpectedly and unemployment fell to 2.5%. Meanwhile, the yen weakened to around JPY 160 per dollar, prompting official warnings, with authorities confirming JPY 11.735 trillion (USD 73.6 billion) in FX interventions between April 28 and May 27.



China PMI
Source: Trading Economics

Shanghai Composite	4,027.88	1.08% ▼
Hang Seng Index	24,960.78	1.65% ▼
Nikkei 225 index	66,588.19	4.72% ▲

Outlook

- The BoJ is likely to hold off on a June rate hike given softening inflation, but stronger jobs and production data keep a future hike firmly on the table if the economy stays resilient. Yen weakness and Middle East energy risks remain the key variables to watch.





South Africa Private Sector Activity Falls to Five-Month Low

- ❑ The S&P Global South Africa PMI fell to 49.6 in May from 51.6 in April, slipping below the 50.0 threshold for the first time in five months. Output and new orders both contracted, with new business falling for the third time in four months and at the fastest pace this year. Wholesale and retail saw the steepest declines, while services was the only sector to expand.
- ❑ Input cost inflation accelerated to its strongest level since July 2022, driven primarily by higher fuel prices. Firms passed these costs on to customers, pushing selling price inflation to a 46-month high across all sectors.
- ❑ Despite weaker demand, employment grew at the fastest pace since September 2022 as firms hired to fill vacancies. Business confidence rose to its highest level of 2026 so far, supported by strong project pipelines and expectations of more stable conditions ahead.

Ghana Inflation Rises to Four-Month High in May



- ❑ Ghana's annual inflation rate accelerated to 3.7% in May from 3.4% in April, its highest reading since January. Food and non-alcoholic beverage inflation drove the increase, rising to 3.3% from 2.2%, as higher oil and fertiliser costs linked to the Middle East conflict and the effects of climate change weighed on domestic agricultural activity.
- ❑ Non-food inflation edged slightly lower to 4.1% from 4.2%. Monthly CPI rose 1.1% in May, up from 1.0% in April, signalling that disinflation momentum continues to soften.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY AND MARKETS HIGHLIGHTS



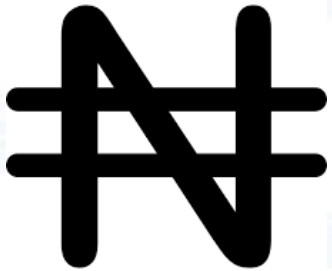
Snapshot of Key Macroeconomic Indicators

Indicators	Current	Previous	
Inflation rate	15.69% (April 2026)	15.38% (Mar 2026)	▲ 32 bps
MPR	26.50% (May 2026)	26.50% (Feb 2026)	▬
Asymmetric Corridor	+50/-450 (May 2026)	+50/-450 (Feb 2026)	▬
Cash Reserve Requirement (CRR)	45% (May 2026)	45% (Feb 2026)	▬
Quarterly GDP Growth Rate	3.89% (Q1 2026 y/y)	4.07% (Q4 2025 y/y)	▼ 442 bps
Yearly GDP Growth Rate	3.90% (FY 2025; y/y)	3.40% (FY 2024; y/y)	▲ 147 bps
GDP (Nominal)	₦110.79 Trn (Q1 2026)	₦122.81 Trn (Q4 2025)	▼ 9.79%
Brent Crude oil price	\$92.90 (05/06/26)	\$91.12 (29/05/26)	▲ 1.95%
Exchange rate (NAFEM W-O-W% , ₦/\$)	₦1,365.00/\$1 (05/06/26)	₦1,373.25/\$1 (29/05/26)	▼ 0.60%
Parallel Market FX Rate (IMTO) (₦/\$)	₦1,398/\$1 (05/06/25)	₦1,388/\$1 (29/05/25)	▲ 0.72%
P2P (₦/\$)	₦1,400/\$1 (05/06/26)	₦1,395/\$1 (29/05/26)	▲ 0.36%
External Reserve	\$50.038 billion (04/06/26)	\$49.342 billion (26/05/26)	▲ 1.41%



Key Fiscal and Monetary News

Naira Holds Steady as External Reserves Cross \$50 Billion



- ❑ The naira closed at N1,365/\$ in the official FX market on Friday, easing slightly from N1,359.75/\$ on Thursday. Despite the marginal end-of-week softness, the currency traded in a tighter range than the prior week, when it was as weak as N1,377/\$, pointing to improved market stability.
- ❑ Nigeria's external reserves crossed \$50 billion during the week, rising from \$49.80 billion at the start of the week to \$50.04 billion by June 4, a gain of approximately \$237 million in four trading days. Reserves had gained around \$1.22 billion across the full month of May.
- ❑ The CBN recently published the Fourth Edition of its Foreign Exchange Manual, introducing several regulatory updates including an increase in the allowable advance payment limit for imports from 15% to 30%, aimed at easing business access to FX and improving trade transaction efficiency.
- ❑ Higher reserve levels strengthen the CBN's capacity to support the FX market and meet external obligations, while ongoing reforms continue to improve transparency and deepen liquidity in the official market.

Euro Slips Below N1,585 Against a Firmer Naira



- ❑ The naira strengthened against the euro during the week, with the EUR/NGN pair averaging in the high N1,500s in the first week of June. The CBN's indicative rate closed at N1,582/€1 on Thursday.
- ❑ The naira's resilience reflects Nigeria's macro stabilisation efforts, including tighter monetary policy, improved FX reserves, and a stronger CBN oversight framework. Analysts expect the CBN to begin gradually easing policy later in the year as inflation expectations stabilise and the case for supporting domestic credit growth builds.
- ❑ On the other side of the pair, the euro remains under pressure. Eurozone headline HICP rose 3.2% year on year in May and core HICP climbed 2.5%, keeping the ECB on a hawkish path. A rate decision at the June 11 meeting remains uncertain, though markets expect tightening discussions to dominate.
- ❑ The euro is also weighed down by elevated energy prices driven by Middle East instability. Energy inflation in the Eurozone rose 10.9% recently, adding to cost-push pressures and reinforcing the ECB's need to hold a restrictive stance for longer than previously anticipated.



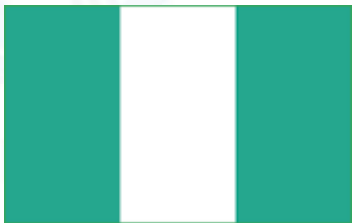
Key Fiscal and Monetary News

CBN Raises N1.457 Trillion at June NTB Auction as Stop Rates Rise Across All Tenors



- ❑ The CBN raised N1.457 trillion at its June 3 NTB auction, well above the N1.0 trillion on offer, as total subscriptions reached N2.16 trillion, a 2.16x oversubscription. The 364-day bill alone attracted N1.95 trillion in bids against an N800 billion offer.
- ❑ Stop rates rose across all three tenors. The 91-day cleared at 16.05% (up 10bps), the 182-day at 16.19% (up 5bps), and the 364-day at 16.35% (up 20.1bps), marking the second consecutive auction cycle of rising stop rates.
- ❑ The auction comes against a backdrop of N10.90 trillion in projected June liquidity inflows, of which N7.77 trillion will come from maturing OMO bills. The N1.457 trillion absorbed at the NTB auction represents only a partial offset. The CBN will need further OMO auctions to prevent excess system liquidity from building.
- ❑ The structural spread between NTBs and OMO instruments persists. At the May 29 OMO auction, stop rates ranged from 20.37% to 21.80%, well above the 16.35% NTB stop rate, a pattern that has defined Nigeria's fixed income market throughout 2026.

Foreign Capital Inflows Jump 84% to \$10.37 Billion in Q1 2026



- ❑ Nigeria attracted \$10.37 billion in capital importation in Q1 2026, up 83.8% year on year from \$5.64 billion and up 61% quarter on quarter from \$6.44 billion in Q4 2025.
- ❑ Portfolio investment drove virtually all of the inflows, accounting for \$9.86 billion or 95.1% of the total. Money market instruments attracted \$6.50 billion and bonds drew \$3.23 billion, jointly representing over 98% of portfolio inflows.
- ❑ FDI remained weak at \$135.08 million, just 1.3% of total inflows, and fell 62% quarter on quarter despite a marginal 7% annual improvement. The composition of inflows continues to reflect foreign investor preference for short-term financial assets over productive long-term investment.
- ❑ The UK was the largest source of inflows at \$5.08 billion (49%), followed by the US at \$3.18 billion (30.7%). Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria processed the largest share at \$4.41 billion, followed by Stanbic IBTC at \$2.78 billion.



Market News

Aradel and Eterna Drag Oil & Gas Index Down 4.9%; Market Loses N580 Billion in a Session



- ❑ The NGX All-Share Index fell 0.37% on Thursday June 5 to close at 242,227.31 points, as aggressive profit-taking in oil and gas counters erased N580.65 billion from market capitalisation. The market has now recorded four consecutive sessions of losses since the T+1 settlement regime commenced on June 1, shedding over N5.14 trillion in market cap from N160.50 trillion to N155.36 trillion.
- ❑ Aradel Holdings fell 9.51% to close at N1,749.90 per share, while Eterna shed 9.85%, driving the Oil & Gas Index down 4.90% for the session. Both stocks recorded near-maximum daily losses. Despite the selloff, Aradel remains well above its January opening price of N670 per share, underscoring the scale of its year-to-date run.
- ❑ The oil and gas sector had been the NGX's strongest performer entering June, with a year-to-date return exceeding 123% before the correction. The current decline appears to be profit-taking following an extended rally rather than a deterioration in fundamentals.

Dangote Refinery Raises Crude Processing Capacity to 700,000 Barrels Per Day



- ❑ Dangote Petroleum Refinery has surpassed its original nameplate capacity of 650,000 bpd, following a successful performance test by its Process Licensors that confirmed throughput of 700,000 bpd. The result validates the facility's ability to operate above its initial design specifications.
- ❑ The refinery's Vice President for Oil and Gas, Devakumar Edwin, stated that the expansion is part of a broader strategy to scale total processing capacity to 1.4 million bpd within the next 30 months, which would position the Lekki complex among the world's largest refining facilities.
- ❑ The facility has grown into a significant global supplier since commencing fuel production in 2024. Refined products have been exported to African markets, European countries including the UK, France, Spain, Italy, and the Netherlands, as well as gasoline to the United States and jet fuel to Saudi Arabia. In April, S&P Global Commodities named Dangote Refinery the world's largest exporter of jet fuel.
- ❑ The expanded capacity is expected to strengthen Nigeria's energy security, eliminate reliance on imported refined petroleum products, and position Nigeria as a major regional and international refining and export hub.



Equities Market

The Nigerian Equities Market Ended The Week Bearish

- Market Capitalisation: **₦156.09 trn** (▼ 2.75% W-o-W)
- All Share Index: **243,379.63** (▼ 2.80% W-o-W)
- Year-to-Date: **56.40%** (▼ 7 bps W-o-W)
- Total Turnover (Trades): **3.97 bn** (▲ 65.55% W-o-W)
- Value of Trades: **₦175.78bn** (▲ 57.68% W-o-W)

Fixed Income Market

FGN Bond Market

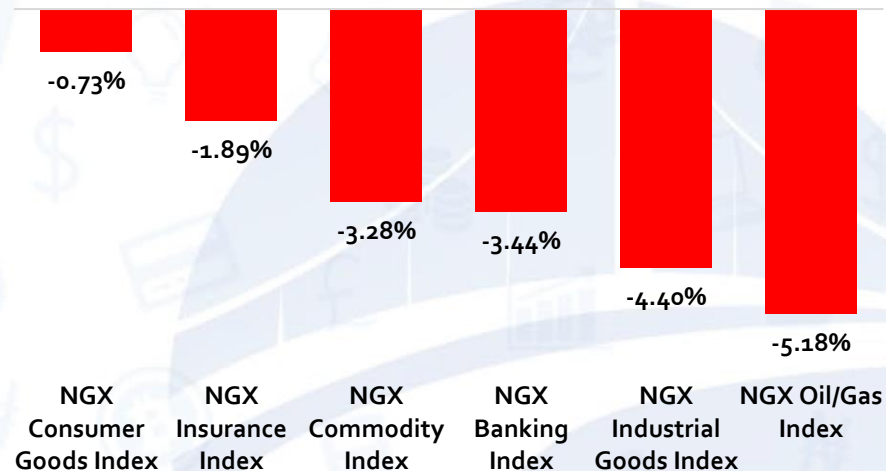
The Nigerian secondary bond market remained under modest pressure during the week, as cautious investor sentiment weighed on appetite for local fixed income instruments. Selling was broadly spread across maturities, nudging average benchmark yields marginally higher. Despite the near-term softness, the broader demand picture remains constructive. The bond market attracted \$3.23 billion in foreign portfolio inflows in Q1 2026, supported by average yields of 15.78%, up from 14.99% in the prior quarter, keeping Nigerian bonds attractive on a risk-adjusted basis relative to peers.

Money Markets

System liquidity remained well-supported during the week, underpinned by the N10.90 trillion in projected June inflows flagged by the FMDA, of which N7.77 trillion is expected from maturing OMO bills. The N1.457 trillion absorbed at the June 3 NTB auction provided only a partial offset, leaving the banking system firmly liquid. NTB stop rates rose across all tenors, with the 364-day bill clearing at 16.35%, up 20.1bps, while OMO rates remained structurally higher at 20.37% to 21.80%, sustaining the spread that has defined the market throughout 2026.

Foreign portfolio demand for fixed income instruments stayed strong. Nigeria attracted \$10.37 billion in total capital inflows in Q1 2026, with the money market segment alone drawing \$6.50 billion and bonds attracting \$3.23 billion. Average bond yields rose to 15.78% in Q1 from 14.99% in the prior quarter, keeping Nigerian fixed income highly attractive on a risk-adjusted basis despite broader sovereign risk considerations.

Sectoral Performances



Top Gainers & Decliners

