

# THE CITIZEN

The monthly Newsletter from **Citizens Pensions**



*Building Wealth. Navigating Tomorrow.*

## GLOBAL MACROECONOMIC UPDATE

### United States

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, US headline inflation rose for the second consecutive month to 3.00% in September (from 2.90% in August 2025).
- The modest increase was primarily driven by higher energy prices - 2.80% vs 0.20% in August (its highest level since May 2024). This was due to a spike in fuel oil and gasoline prices, following inventory drawdowns and lower refinery throughput (partly linked to intermittent maintenance)
- Despite lingering inflationary pressures, the Federal Reserve lowered the Federal Funds Rate to 3.25%-4.00% from 4.00%-4.25%, citing downside risks to the labor market.

### United Kingdom

- According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), headline inflation in the UK remained unchanged at 3.80% for September, marking the third consecutive month of no change.
- This was driven by an uptick in transport prices (+3.80% vs 2.40% in August), restaurant and hotels (3.90% vs 3.80%), and clothing and footwear (+0.50% vs 0.20%), which were offset in moderation by prices of food (4.50% vs 5.10%) and steady service inflation (4.70%).

### Eurozone

- The European Central Bank (ECB) maintained its deposit rate at 2.00% for the third consecutive meeting, as inflation remains close to the bank's target, and growth showed signs of recovery.
- Headline inflation rose slightly to 2.20% YoY in September from 2.00% in August, while the economy expanded by 1.30% YoY, a slower pace compared to 1.50% in Q2:2025, but stronger quarterly (0.20% QoQ vs 0.10%).
- The improvement was supported by stronger performance in Spain, France, and the Netherlands, despite stagnation in Germany and Italy.

### Oil Prices

- Crude oil prices trended lower in October, with Brent crude falling by 2.91% MoM to close at USD65.07 per barrel, extending the cautious tone that dominated the global commodities market for most of the year.
- Brent crude oscillated within a narrow range of USD60–66 per barrel, reflecting a market weighed down by persistent oversupply and softening demand indicators.
- The weakness in prices was largely driven by rising OPEC+ production and high inventory levels, which collectively dampened investor sentiment toward energy commodities.

## Domestic Update

### Inflation

- Nigeria's headline inflation eased for the sixth consecutive month to 18.02% in September (August 20.12%), driven by sustained moderation in food and core inflation.
- Food inflation slowed to 16.87% (from 21.87% in August), reflecting improved agricultural yields during the harvest season, which helped moderate the prices of some key staples.
- Similarly, core inflation dropped to 19.53% (from 20.33% in August) owing to slower increases in components such as health and transport.
- Support from the Naira's appreciation during the month to an average of NGN1,492,65/USD (vs NGN1,532,48/USD in August) also contributed to the moderation in the core components, easing import-related cost pressures.

### Oil Production

- According to the Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC), Nigeria's crude oil production declined for the second consecutive month, falling by 3.07% MoM to 1.37 million barrels per day (mbpd) in September from 1.43 mbpd in August. Every year, output was down by 4.98% YoY, translating also to a 7.64% QoQ drop.
- The decline mirrored the impact of a three-day industrial strike by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) over disputes with the Dangote Refinery, which disrupted operations at multiple production and export terminals, alongside scheduled turnaround maintenance at two major facilities.

### Exchange Rate

- The Naira appreciated against the Dollar by 3.77% MoM and 3.13% MoM at the Nigeria Foreign Exchange Market (NFEM) and the parallel market, respectively.
- The appreciation was supported by increased capital inflows, with the gross reserve up by 2.01% MoM to USD43.20bn by October-end.

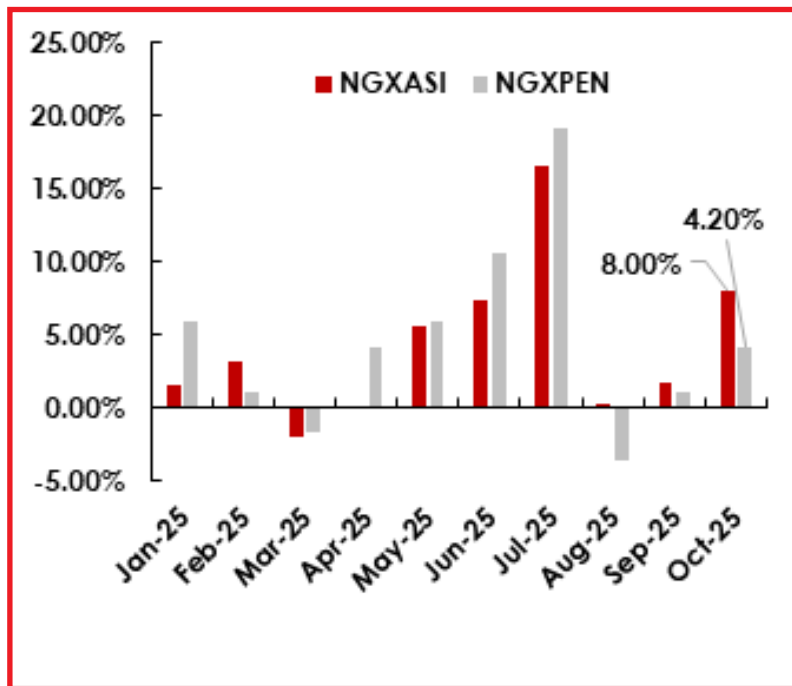
### Equities Market Update

- Market performance was mostly bullish, as the All-Share Index crossed the 150,000pts mark, gaining 8.00% (September: 1.72%), to close the month at 154,126.46pts. This brought the year-to-date (YTD) return to 49.74%.
- Investors' interest was more pronounced in the Oil and Gas sector, with the index advancing by 19.99% MoM, fueled by demand for ARADEL (+41.30%) and SEPLAT (+10.00%).
- The Industrial goods sector (+18.72%) also advanced, buoyed by positive sentiment toward DANGCEM (+26.64%), WAPCO (+15.91%), and BUACEMENT (+12.50%), especially following the

announcement of Dangote Cement Plc's expansion to the Ivory Coast

- Similarly, gains in NEM (+19.64%), and MANSARD (+7.71%) lifted the insurance index by 8.25%. In the same vein, investors sustained positive sentiment towards the Consumer Goods sector, driving the index higher by 4.85%. This was supported by price appreciation in PZ (+21.74%) and NASCON (+18.65%), which were notable gainers.
- On the flipside, the Banking index declined (-3.03%), reflecting muted trading activity and unimpressive earnings release from ACCESSCORP.

## Equities Monthly Performance. (Jan-Oct 2025)



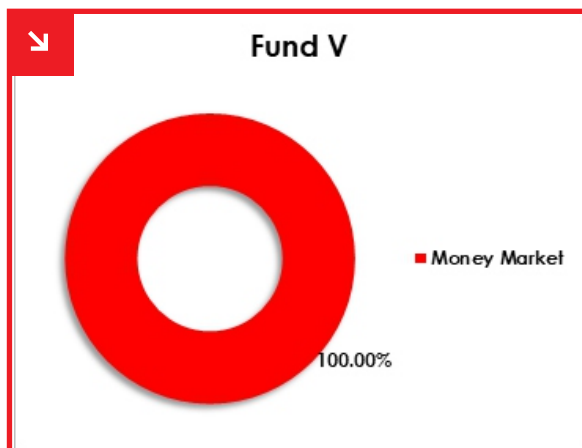
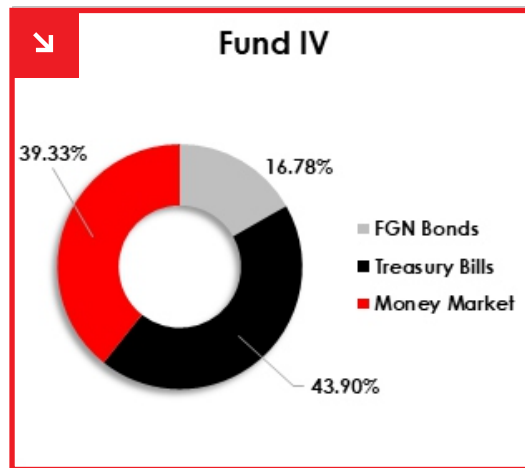
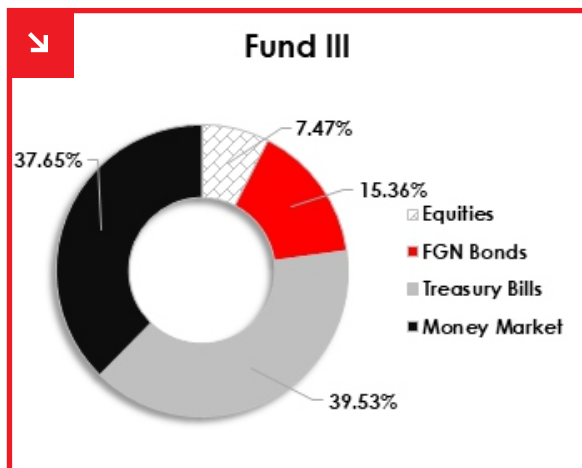
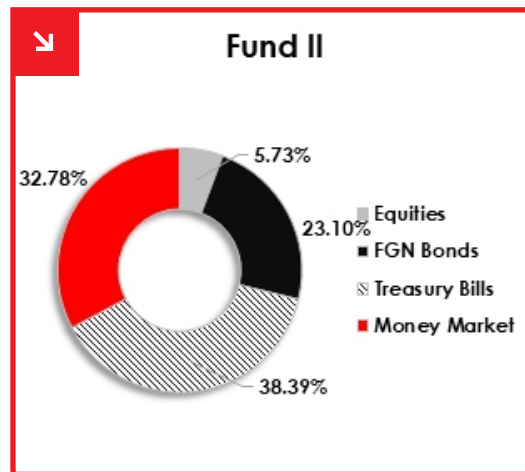
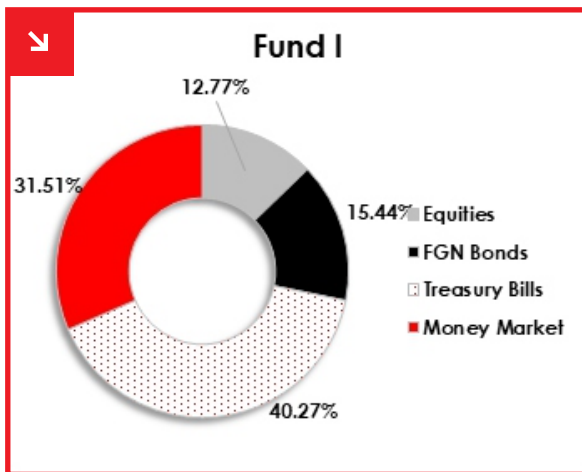
### Fixed Income Market Update

- Activities in the fixed income market were mostly quiet, but tilted bullish, supported by surplus liquidity, which settled at NGN247trn from NGN5.97trn at the beginning of the month.
- Consequently, average FGN bond and Treasury bills yields fell 19bps MoM and 41bps MoM to 15.93% and 16.09%, respectively.

### October 2025 Investment Returns and Asset Allocations

With both the equities and fixed income posting positive performance during the month, our funds delivered impressive gains, reflecting the effectiveness of our investment positioning and strategy.

Fund Returns					
Fund	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sept-25	Oct-25	% Change
Fund I	10068	10134	10177	10430	242%
Fund II	10363	10456	10580	10758	168%
Fund III	10074	10151	10271	10458	182%
Fund IV	10071	10211	10351	10478	123%
Fund V	10047	10176	10347	10522	169%
Fund VI ACTIVE				10050	-
Fund VI RETIREE					



**Understanding RSA Unit Prices and What They Mean for Your Pension Growth**

- Our unit prices, at their current level, present a unique advantage of a higher number of unit holdings at the point of entering, positioning our contributors to benefit significantly as the fund appreciates over time.
- Ultimately, long-term value is driven by competitive return on investment, based on investment expertise, strategic asset allocation, and robust strategies to identify, assess, and mitigate risks.
- By choosing us, you are not just investing in a new fund; you're investing in a future anchored on professionalism, transparency, and proven financial stewardship.

## UNIT PRICE OF THE RSA FUND

- The Unit Price of a pension fund represents the value of one unit in a Retirement Savings Account (RSA) fund at a given time.
- It is calculated by dividing the total net asset value of the fund by the total number of units outstanding.
- It reflects how much each contributor's investment is worth, based on the total market value of the fund's assets (after deducting expenses) divided by the number of units held by all contributors.
- The Unit Price changes daily, depending on the performance of the underlying investments, which vary by fund type according to their risk and return profiles.

RSA Fund Type	Description	Risk Profile	Return Expectation
<b>RSA Fund I</b>	Mainly for young and aggressive contributors (opt-in only). Higher exposure to equities and alternative assets.	High risk	High potential return
<b>RSA Fund II</b>	Default fund for active contributors below 50 years. Balanced mix of equities and fixed income.	Moderate-high risk	Moderate-high return
<b>RSA Fund III</b>	For contributors aged 50 and above, with higher fixed-income allocation.	Moderate-low risk	Moderate return
<b>RSA Fund IV (Retiree Fund)</b>	For retirees drawing benefits, focuses on capital preservation and income stability.	Low risk	Stable, low return
<b>RSA Fund V (Personal Pension Plan)</b>	For self-employed, informal and formal sector contributors. Conservative investment approach.	Low risk	Low, stable return
<b>RSA Fund VI (Non-Interest Fund)</b>	Complies with ethical and non-interest finance principles (Islamic finance). Returns depend on profit-sharing, not interest.	Varies (depends on asset mix)	Moderate return (interest-free)

### Summary:

- **The Unit Price** of a pension fund measures the daily performance of each RSA Fund, capturing both the **risk exposure** and **investment returns** of that fund's portfolio.
- **Higher-risk funds** (like RSA Fund I) tend to have more volatile but potentially higher Unit Price growth, while lower-risk funds (like RSA Fund IV or V) maintain steadier, smaller increases in Unit Price over time.

## Product Spotlight

# Pension-backed Mortgage:

Turning Your Pension Savings Into  
A Home Of Your Own



**At Citizens Pensions**, we believe owning a home is more than a dream; it's stability, dignity, and the foundation for your future. Yet, for many hardworking Nigerians, making the equity contribution required for a mortgage can feel out of reach.

That's why we're excited to tell you about the Pension-Backed Mortgage (PBM), a product that allows you to unlock up to 25% of your Retirement Savings Account (RSA) balance to make an equity contribution towards your home.

Eligible RSA holders can now use part of their pension savings to fund a residential mortgage. This makes homeownership possible while preserving your long-term retirement security.

## Who Can Apply?

### To access this benefit, you must:

- Have made at least 60 months (5 years) of cumulative contributions (employer and employee).
- Maintain an active RSA under the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) or Personal Pension Plan (PPP).
- Have a verified Offer Letter from the property owner confirmed by the mortgage lender.
- Be more than 3 years away from retirement.

Married couples who both have RSAs can also apply jointly, provided they each meet the requirements.

## Why Choose Citizens Pensions?

At Citizens Pensions, we don't just manage your retirement savings, we help you build wealth and live with confidence. Our expert guidance, transparent processes, and customer-first service ensure your pension works for you today and tomorrow. Your dream home is no longer a wish, it's within reach. Take the first step toward home ownership.

Talk to us today to learn how to use your RSA balance to unlock your future.

**Visit: [www.citizenspensions.com](http://www.citizenspensions.com) to get started**



The Healthy Living Desk

# 5 Reasons To Live Healthy

**Planning for retirement is more than just securing your finances;** it's about preparing for a life of comfort, dignity, and fulfillment after years of hard work. What happens when the pension you worked so hard for finally comes in, and you don't have the health to enjoy it? That's why we believe that the real value of a pension is best experienced when you are physically and mentally well.

Here are five compelling reasons to prioritize your health now so you can fully enjoy your pension later:

## 1. To Live Longer and Stronger

Living healthy, through balanced eating, regular exercise, and stress management directly impacts your lifespan. It's not just about adding years to your life; it's about adding life to your years. When you're healthy, retirement is no longer a period of decline, but a vibrant phase where you can travel, explore hobbies, and experience life in new, meaningful ways. Your pension becomes the passport, and your health is the vehicle.

## 2. To Avoid Draining Your Pension on Medical Bills

Retirement savings are meant for enjoyment, not endless medical appointments or hospital stays. Chronic diseases like hypertension, diabetes, and heart conditions are often preventable with healthy habits. By making health-conscious choices today, you protect your pension from being swallowed by tomorrow's medical expenses.

### 3. **To Stay Independent and Mobile**

Independence is one of the most valued aspects of old age. Staying active now builds the physical strength and mental alertness that will allow you to move freely, think clearly, and live with dignity in retirement. Instead of relying on others for basic needs, imagine being able to walk unaided, cook your meals, and live life on your terms, that's the true essence of financial and personal freedom.

### 4. **To Truly Enjoy Retirement**

What's the point of a well-funded pension if you're unable to enjoy life's simple pleasures? Whether it's dancing at a family celebration, playing with your grandchildren, or joining a community event, good health enhances every experience. It allows you to be present, to connect, and to find joy in everyday moments.

### 5. **To Fulfil Your Retirement Dreams**

Many people dream of starting a small business, going on pilgrimage, volunteering, or pursuing creative passions in retirement. All these goals require energy, vitality, and focus; things that only good health can sustain. You've worked hard to earn your pension; now your health will determine how far that reward can take you.

**At Citizens Pensions**, we're not just committed to securing your finances, we care about your entire future. While you build wealth for tomorrow, also build the strength to enjoy it. Live healthy today, so you can retire into the life you truly deserve: one of freedom, impact, and joy.

At the end of the day, a secure retirement isn't just financial, it's physical, emotional, and full of purpose.

# The Citizens Puzzle Challenge

Think you've mastered your pension lingo?

Put your knowledge to the test; find all hidden terms in the grid and prove you're a true **Citizens pro!**



C	O	N	T	R	I	B	U	T	I	O	N
Y	R	A	I	C	I	F	E	N	E	B	X
T	N	E	M	T	S	E	V	N	I	Q	Z
L	A	W	A	R	D	H	T	I	W	U	P
N	A	I	D	O	T	S	U	C	M	Q	R
O	I	L	F	O	T	R	O	P	A	B	C
E	C	N	A	I	L	P	M	O	C	D	E
Y	T	I	U	N	N	A	F	G	H	I	J
Y	R	A	T	U	C	A	K	L	M	N	O
N	O	I	S	N	E	P	P	Q	R	S	T
D	N	U	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
A	S	R	Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	Q

**Words:** CONTRIBUTION, INVESTMENT, WITHDRAWAL, BENEFICIARY, CUSTODIAN, PORTFOLIO, COMPLIANCE, ANNUITY, ACTUARY, PENSION, FUND, RSA.



# Big Players Make Big Moves. Choose **Citizens Pensions.**

- ✔ Open an Account
- ✔ Switch to Citizens Pensions

 [www.citizenspensions.com](http://www.citizenspensions.com)

 [hello@citizenspensions.com](mailto:hello@citizenspensions.com)

 02016306030

     @CitizensPensions



Scan to Open  
Your Account

