

Macroeconomics

Global Macroeconomics

In July, the United States' announcement of framework agreements with major economies including the EU, Japan, and South Korea helped ease concerns over President Donald Trump's tariff policies. Concurrently, the Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) price index rose 2.6% year-over-year, up 0.2% from the previous month, while preliminary estimates showed Q2 GDP growth at 3%. These indicators reinforced the Federal Reserve's decision to maintain interest rates during the late July FOMC meeting, aiming to curb inflation amid robust economic expansion.

However, investors are increasingly anticipating a shift toward monetary easing starting from the September FOMC meeting, following significant downward revisions to employment data. July adjustments showed only 33,000 new jobs created in May and June, compared to the previously reported 291,000. This sharp revision signals a potential reversal in labor market conditions, raising concerns about rising unemployment and prompting expectations that the Fed may need to respond sooner than planned.

Vietnam Macroeconomics

Macroeconomic Outlook remains Promising despite Challenges ahead

Vietnam's macroeconomic outlook for 2025 remains optimistic, supported by robust public investment and accommodative monetary policy. Public investment is expected to be a key growth driver, with a notable increase projected to accelerate infrastructure development and generate a strong multiplier effect across the economy. Additionally, Vietnam's tariff is now in line with other ASEAN countries, though uncertainties around transshipment and possibly new tariffs on electronics remain; Vietnam may continue to be in a relatively good position. While uncertainties in global trade persist, Vietnam's sound fiscal and monetary frameworks provide a solid foundation for sustaining growth momentum throughout the year.

Trade and Manufacturing Drove Growth Amid Tariff Headwinds

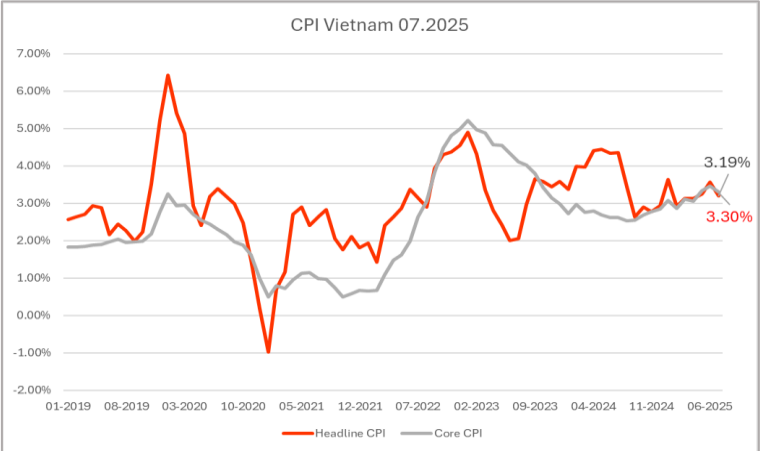
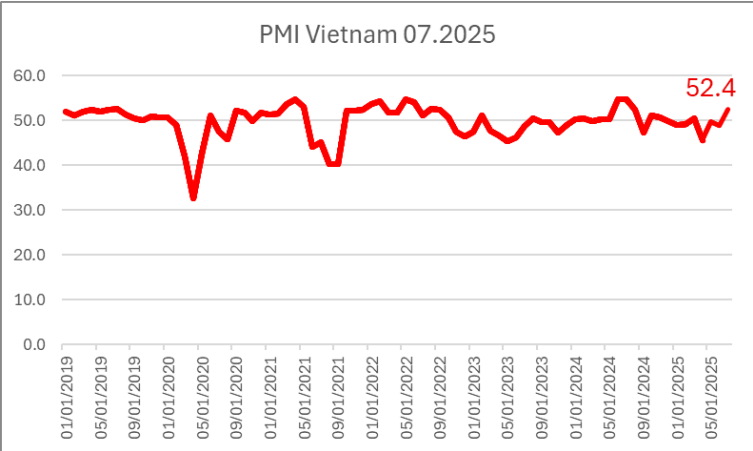
Vietnam's economy continued to show resilience in July, fueled by robust trade activity and manufacturing sector. Exports surged 16.0% year-on-year (YoY), driven by front-loaded shipments to the US ahead of the 20% reciprocal tariffs that took effect in August. Imports also rose sharply by 17.8% YoY, supported by strong demand for electronics and machinery. A trade surplus of USD 2.3 billion was recorded in July, bringing the cumulative surplus for the first seven months of 2025 (7M25) to USD 10.2 billion, down from USD 14.6 billion in 7M24. The manufacturing sector showed robust growth, with industrial production growing 10.5% YoY and the PMI rebounding to 52.4, indicating expansion despite continued weakness in new export orders.

Retail Sales Supported by Tourism and Consumption. Inflation Remains Under Control

Retail sales rose 9.2% YoY in July, supported by strong growth in tourism. International arrivals increased 35.7% YoY, boosting spending in accommodation, food, and beverage services. Although retail sales declined 1.1% month-on-month (MoM), the overall trend remains positive. This momentum in services and consumption continues to be a key pillar of Vietnam's economic recovery. Meanwhile, headline inflation moderated to 3.19% YoY in July, with a modest 0.11% increase MoM. This was driven by lower contributions from food and foodstuffs, housing, and construction materials, while transportation prices declined due to a 1.5% drop in domestic petrol prices.

FDI Disbursement Hits Record High in 7M; Ongoing Robust Public Investment

Disbursed FDI rose 10.1% YoY in July. In 7M25, disbursed FDI reached USD 13.6 billion (+8.4% YoY), marking the highest level for the first seven months of the year in the past decade. The strong FDI performance was mainly driven by capital contributions and share purchases by foreign investors. Public investment also demonstrated robust momentum, increasing 30.1% YoY in July—a sharp turnaround from the 1.3% decline in July 2024. In 7M25, public investment surged 25.4% YoY, reaching 40.7% of the government's full-year plan. This strong performance reflects the government's proactive fiscal stance aimed at buffering the economy against external headwinds, particularly the impact of new US tariffs.



Source: S&P Global, FiinproX, GSO, Bloomberg.

All data as of 31/07/2025 unless otherwise stated

Stock Market

Market Overview

Equity market overview.

Promising prospects alongside notable risks in the future

Vietnam’s equity market posted a robust performance in July, with the VN-Index closing at 1,502.5 points, marking a 9.2% gain month-on-month and 18.6% year-to-date (YTD). The rally was fueled by favorable trade developments, notably reduced US tariffs, alongside strong Q2 GDP growth of 8% and optimism surrounding a potential FTSE upgrade. Market liquidity surged, with average daily trading value (ADTV) on all three bourses reaching USD 1.5 billion, up 68.5% MoM and 2.1% YoY for the first seven months. Foreign investors returned strongly, recording net inflows of USD 326 million across all three bourses in July – the highest monthly figure since December 2022 – though YTD flows remained negative at USD 1.2 billion. Valuation remained moderate, with the VN-Index trailing P/E at 14.6x, suggesting room for further upside.

The official launch of the Korea Exchange (KRX) trading system in May 2025, marked a milestone in modernizing the country’s market infrastructure, which may enhance transparency and strengthen investor confidence. Furthermore, a potential upgrade to FTSE Emerging Markets status could attract increased foreign capital inflows. Moreover, regulatory reforms – including the adoption of a non-pre-funding model and enhanced English-language disclosures – are addressing key barriers to foreign participation. Despite structural progress, Vietnam’s market outlook is tempered by external risks – particularly evolving U.S. trade policies. These developments are critical to Vietnam’s export performance and its ability to sustain foreign direct investment.

Sector performance.

Sector performance in July was broadly positive, with Financial Services (+34.7%), Industrials (+14.0%), and Real Estate (+12.5%) outperforming the VN-Index. Financial Services led the rally, driven by booming brokerage and margin lending activity, while Industrials benefited from strong earnings in infrastructure-related names. Real Estate was supported by active handovers and strong presales at key projects. On the downside, Insurance (-1.9%) was the only sector to decline, impacted by weak premium growth and ongoing restructuring. Technology (+1.4%) and Consumer Services (+2.1%) also underperformed, reflecting cautious IT spending and uneven growth across service providers.

Bond market overview

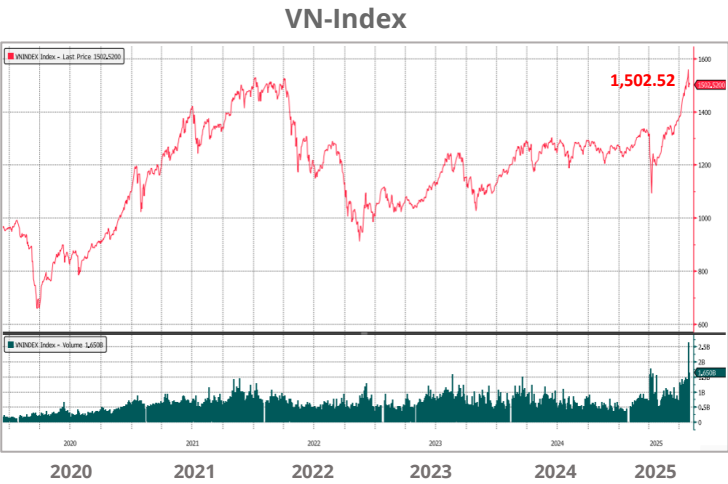
Diverging Trends in Government and Corporate Bonds

In July 2025, the total value of government bond auction offerings reached VND 52 trillion, with a winning bid ratio of approximately 50%, fulfilling 22% of the Q3 issuance plan. Notably, the 10-year tenor recorded the highest bid success rate. Average winning yields across most tenors increased compared to the previous month. By the end of July 2025, the State Treasury had successfully mobilized over VND 227 trillion through GB issuance, equivalent to 45% of the 2025 annual target.

Meanwhile, the value of corporate bond (CB) issuance in July 2025 amounted to VND 29.9 trillion, marking a sharp decline of around 65% compared to June. The cumulative CB issuance for the first seven months of 2025 reached VND 298.5 trillion, with the majority originating from the banking and real estate sectors. In July, enterprises repurchased VND 16 trillion worth of bonds before maturity, down 52% year-on-year.

Source: FiinproX, Bloomberg.

Industries	%1 M	%3 M	%YTD	P/E	P/B	ROE %	ROA %	EPS Growth (YoY,%)	Net Profit Growth (YoY,%)
Financials	16.43%	42.26%	64.41%	18.44	10.15%	1.87	3.14%	54.04%	-42.27%
Basic Materials	6.49%	18.87%	17.28%	18.22	9.39%	1.63	4.75%	13.53%	36.79%
Oil & Gas	6.44%	22.22%	1.25%	31.24	4.35%	1.25	2.09%	-62.66%	146.71%
Utilities	3.70%	11.80%	9.66%	14.29	12.39%	1.72	6.55%	26.63%	55.74%
Banks	11.02%	21.25%	18.73%	9.85	16.86%	1.57	1.48%	3.83%	7.66%
Consumer Goods	0.35%	10.27%	-2.89%	15.62	14.23%	2.30	6.46%	18.47%	72.75%
Industrials	0.26%	6.22%	2.07%	14.94	12.35%	2.17	5.34%	11.74%	39.29%
Health Care	1.84%	10.17%	8.58%	15.74	9.19%	1.59	5.54%	0.22%	2.42%
Consumer Services	3.61%	25.20%	23.84%	21.20	20.77%	4.26	5.42%	171.62%	-1.56%
Technology	1.65%	11.66%	-18.88%	19.92	22.51%	4.09	11.15%	15.73%	-8.01%
Telecommunications	0.61%	10.01%	-13.56%	30.63	22.54%	5.72	12.03%	33.58%	338.15%
Real Estate	13.58%	43.23%	75.50%	17.85	10.48%	1.89	3.36%	86.22%	-54.58%



Introduction

In April, **PRUlink Sustainable Development Equity fund** has been launched in response to the investment trend in enterprises that commit to ESG of SDG – UN. Hence, up to now there are 7 **PRUlink Funds** established from premium of unit-linked product policies provided by Prudential Vietnam, with an aim to maximize total income in the medium-to-long term for policyholders who are signed policies with Prudential Vietnam and does not apply to other individuals. These funds are designed for customers with low to high risk tolerance levels corresponding to investment strategy into assets with stable income (such as deposits...) to high capital growth (such as stocks...) or both high capital growth and meet the **ESG** trend in the world.

PRUlink Funds Performance

Year	Prulink Vietnam S.D.E	PRUlink Vietnam Equity	PRUlink Growth	PRUlink Balance	PRUlink Stable	PRUlink Bond	PRUlink Preserver	VNIndex	Gold	USD	Deposit rate of 12 months
2020		16.4%	16.0%	14.7%	12.5%	9.0%	5.6%	14.9%	31.9%	-0.6%	7.1%
2021		40.0%	28.5%	20.8%	13.3%	3.0%	4.2%	35.7%	9.7%	-1.6%	6.2%
2022		-23.8%	-17.6%	-13.3%	-8.9%	-2.0%	4.8%	-32.8%	8.1%	3.4%	5.7%
2023		13.5%	15.5%	16.8%	18.1%	20.2%	6.7%	12.2%	10.8%	2.9%	6.7%
2024	6.3%	17.9%	13.7%	10.5%	7.4%	2.8%	4.2%	12.1%	15.3%	5.9%	5.9%
7M2025	5.5%	4.1%	3.5%	3.1%	2.7%	2.1%	2.6%	18.6%	44.2%	2.8%	3.3%

NAV data as of 31 July 2025

Commentary

As of 31 July 2025, **PRUlink** funds achieved returns as follows:

- **PRUlink** ESG Fund increased 5.5% from year to date (YTD).
- **PRUlink** Equity Fund increased 4.1% YTD.
- **PRUlink** Growth Fund increased 3.5% YTD.
- **PRUlink** Balance Fund increased 3.1% YTD.
- **PRUlink** Stable Fund increased 2.7% YTD.
- **PRUlink** Bond Fund increased 2.1% YTD.
- **PRUlink** Preserver Fund increased 2.6% YTD.

**PRUlink** funds customers are always recommended to focus on investment goals with a long-term vision rather than focusing on short-term fluctuations because the unit-linked investment product (ILP) is designed with specific investment goals and maximum maximize profits in the medium and long term.

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