

# Middle East Financial Storm: SWF Shifts, Market Volatility, and Economic Fore

Middle East Finance · Answer Key · 13 Questions

---

**1. According to Fitch Ratings' February 2026 Middle East Credit Brief, what is the projected median economic growth for GCC member states, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, and Jordan in 2026, and how does this compare to 2025?**

**A) 4%, up from 3.4% in 2025**

B) 3.5%, up from 3.0% in 2025

C) 4.5%, up from 4.0% in 2025

D) 3.8%, up from 3.2% in 2025

**2. In the first nine months of 2025, what was the net profit before tax reported by Dubai Financial Market (DFM), and what was the percentage increase compared to the same period in 2024?**

**A) AED 930.8 million, a 212% increase**

B) AED 750.2 million, a 180% increase

C) AED 1.1 billion, a 150% increase

D) AED 500.5 million, a 100% increase

**3. As per the World Bank's April 2025 MENA Economic Update, what is the forecast for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region's economic growth in 2025, and what is the primary driver for oil exporters?**

**A) 2.6%, linked to the planned rollback of oil production cuts**

B) 3.0%, driven by increased non-oil sector activity

C) 2.8%, due to a surge in tourism revenue

D) 3.2%, attributed to foreign direct investment inflows

**4. In the first quarter of 2025, what was the growth rate of the UAE's non-oil GDP, and what was its total value?**

**A) 5.3%, reaching AED 352 billion**

B) 6.1%, reaching AED 1 trillion

C) 4.9%, reaching AED 300 billion

D) 5.5%, reaching AED 375 billion

**5. According to the UAE's Minister of Economy and Tourism, Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, what was the contribution of non-oil activities to the UAE's real GDP in the first half of 2025?**

**A) 77.5%**

B) 70.2%

C) 80.1%

D) 75.9%

**6. Fitch Ratings' February 2026 Middle East Credit Brief indicates that oil prices are expected to stay above fiscal break-even levels for all GCC sovereigns, except for which three countries?**

**A) Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and Oman**

B) Kuwait, Qatar, and UAE

C) Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Qatar

D) Bahrain, Kuwait, and Oman

**7. In Q2 FY 2024/2025, what percentage of total investments in Egypt did private sector investments account for, and what was the year-on-year increase?**

**A) 53.3%, a 35.4% increase**

B) 45.1%, a 28.9% increase

C) 60.5%, a 40.2% increase

D) 50.2%, a 30.1% increase

**8. As of July 15, 2025, what was the total value of joint investments by Middle East-based sovereign wealth funds and private equity firms for the year, and how does this track against the full year 2024?**

**A) \$39.36 billion, on track to exceed 2024's \$45.12 billion**

B) \$35.10 billion, slightly below 2024's figures

C) \$42.50 billion, projected to be slightly lower than 2024

D) \$30.20 billion, significantly lower than 2024

**9. What is the projected real GDP growth for Egypt in FY2024/25 and FY2025/26, according to the IMF's World Economic Outlook 2025?**

**A) 4.3% and 4.5% respectively**

B) 3.5% and 4.0% respectively

C) 4.0% and 4.2% respectively

D) 4.2% and 4.4% respectively

**10. What was the total trading value on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX) in the first half of 2025, and what was the year-on-year percentage increase?**

**A) AED 179.5 billion, a 33.5% increase**

B) AED 150.2 billion, a 25.1% increase

C) AED 195.8 billion, a 38.2% increase

D) AED 160.1 billion, a 30.0% increase

**11. According to S&P Global Ratings, what is the primary concern regarding the impact of the ongoing Middle East conflict on the volume of sukuk issuance in 2026?**

- A) The duration of hostilities and their impact on the GCC region's real economy**
- B) A general decline in global investor confidence
- C) Increased regulatory scrutiny on Islamic finance
- D) The rise of alternative investment instruments

**12. In 2025, what was the net profit before tax for Dubai Financial Market (DFM), and what was the percentage growth compared to 2024?**

- A) AED 1.06 billion, a 158% growth**
- B) AED 800 million, a 100% growth
- C) AED 1.2 billion, a 200% growth
- D) AED 930.8 million, a 212% growth

**13. Fitch Ratings' 2026 outlook for Middle East and North Africa (MENA) sovereigns is 'neutral'. What key factors are balanced against political and geopolitical risks?**

- A) Fairly stable oil prices and solid economic growth**
- B) Increased domestic consumption and reduced inflation
- C) Strong performance in emerging markets and technological advancements
- D) Growth in tourism and infrastructure development