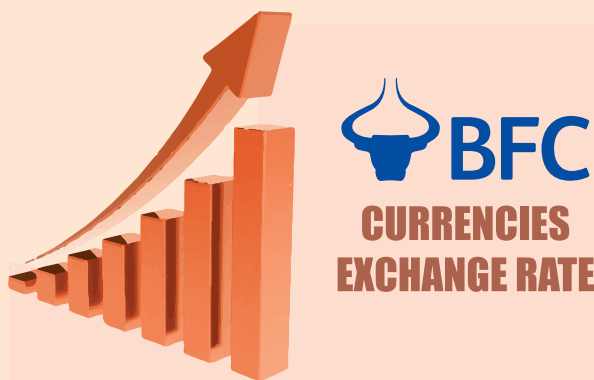


FED IN A TRICKY SPOT OVER MUDDLED US JOBS REPORT

US economy added 173,000 jobs in August, according to latest report



COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
SOUTH AFRICAN RAND	38.61	33.67
US DOLLARS	2.6667	2.6424
CANADIAN DOLLAR	3.5753	3.4083
PERUVIAN NUEVO SOL	7.6923	7.6923
INDIAN RUPEE	176.9912	168.9189
BANGLADESH TAKA	214.1328	202.0202
CHINESE YUAN	17.2117	16.2866
HONG KONG DOLLAR	21.51	20.0441
INDONESIAN RUPIAH	39510.0751	33545.79
JAPANESE YEN	322.5806	300.3003
KOREAN WON	3589.762	2713.1888
SRI LANKAN RUPEE	364.397	315.0341
MALAYSIAN RINGGIT	11.6279	10.7527
NEPALESE RUPEE	314.9606	258.0645
PHILIPPINE PESO	129.199	121.3592
PAKISTAN RUPEE	279.6319	261.3607
SINGAPORE DOLLAR	3.8023	3.6684
THAI BAHT	95.9693	92.6784
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	3.9002	3.7037
NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR	4.2974	4.1186
EURO	2.4195	2.3272
SWISS FRANC	2.6462	2.5132
CZECH KORUNE	90.0901	45.2489
BRITISH POUND	1.7712	1.7082
TURKISH LIRA	7.9891	7.3153
SAUDI RIYAL	10	9.9285
UAE DIRHAMS	9.7561	9.7163
QATAR RIYAL	9.6899	9.6228
KUWAITI DINAR	0.8065	0.7968
OMANI RIYAL	1.0301	1.0199
EGYPTIAN POUND	20.7469	19.5313
JORDANIAN DINAR	1.8847	1.8615
LEBANESE POUND	4222.438	3811.9925
MOROCCAN DIRHAMS	26.2467	23.753
SYRIAN POUND	952.381	574.7126
YEMENI RIYAL	911.577	541.4185

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

GULF INTERBANK RATES

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.5805	0.3919	0.3127
KUWAIT	0.2855	34.4227	0.2967	0.2368
OMAN	0.3849	0.3703	0.4001	0.3192
QATAR	3.6420	3.5040	3.7855	3.0207
UAE	3.6730	3.5338	3.8177	3.0464
SAUDI	3.7500	3.6079	3.8977	3.1102

Washington

The latest U.S. jobs report was not definitively good or bad enough to help the Federal Reserve decide whether to raise interest rates later this month, leaving the decision hanging on volatility in financial markets over the next couple of weeks.

The economy added 173,000 jobs in August, quite a bit fewer than expected. But employment growth in June and July were revised higher, wage gains last month were better than expected, and the unemployment rate fell to a seven-year low of 5.1 per cent.

With global stock and currency markets reeling over

Unemployment rate fell to a seven-year low of 5.1 per cent, wage gains were better than expected

the last two weeks, the report is probably the best and last direct reading on the economy as Fed officials weigh whether to hike rates at a much-anticipated meeting on Sept. 16-17.

But the report disappointed



US Federal Reserve

Wall St. falls

Washington

U.S. stocks were down in afternoon trading on Friday as a mixed August jobs report did little to quell investor uncertainty over whether the Federal Reserve will increase rates by mid-September.

The S&P 500 was down 33.74 points, or 1.73 per cent, at 1,917.39 and the Nasdaq composite was down 61.11 points, or 1.29pc, at 4,672.39.

Apple's was the biggest drag on the S&P and the Nasdaq with a 1.5pc fall.

With global stock and currency markets reeling over the last two weeks, the report is probably the best and last direct reading on the economy as Fed officials weigh whether to hike rates at a much-anticipated meeting on Sept. 16-17

those looking for clarity. "With this jobs report ... the Fed finds itself in a real uncertainty jam when it comes to a September interest rate hike," Mohamed El-Erian, chief economic adviser at Allianz, in Newport Beach, California, said in an email.

"In the run-up to its policy meeting, the Fed will pay even

greater attention to global market developments."

Since fears of a Chinese economic slowdown set off a global stock selloff last month, financial markets have become the primary signal for U.S. central bankers looking to tighten monetary policy for the first time since 2006.

US oil rig count falls by 13

Washington

Crude futures pared losses after Baker Hughes reported U.S. energy firms cut 13 oil rigs for the first time in seven weeks, as a renewed slump in prices this summer forced drillers to make a second round of cut-backs.

The decline brings the total to the week ending Sept. 4 down to 662, the lowest since

mid-July. The number of rigs in U.S. oilfields stood at 1,584 at this time last year.

The decline comes the same week new government data showed the U.S. oil industry pumped less crude than initially estimated this year, evidence that drillers were scaling back production amid collapsing prices.

Brent crude for October

was down 76 cents a barrel at \$49.92, near an intra day low of \$49.68. U.S. crude was down 52 cents at \$46.23 a barrel.

Oil prices had fallen alongside stocks on Wall Street yesterday as the oil market awaited a weekly reading on the U.S. oil rig count, after jobs data from the world's No. 1 economy failed to provide much direction.



Picture for representational purpose only

Atlas Group seeks more time to repay debt

Dubai

Indira Ramachandran, wife of the beleaguered founder-chairman of Atlas Jewellery Group, has sought time to repay loans owed to several banks, requesting them to desist from taking further legal action.

At a meeting, the wife of M.M. Ramachandran, assured bankers that her husband would settle the debt, believed to be around Dh550 million.

Accompanied by management consultants hired by the Atlas group to resolve the issue, Indira attended the steering committee meeting convened by more than 15 banks involved in the financial impasse.