London Market Monitor – 30 June 2025

Data sources: Bloomberg; Barclays; EIOPA; PRA; ONS; Milliman FRM

#### **Market Price Monitor**

#### **Local Equity Markets**

- Global equity markets had a mixed performance in June, as geopolitical volatility increased following the war between Isreal and Iran. The looming tariff deadline of 9 July also weighed on some local markets as countries continued their negotiations with the US administration.
- The Euro Stoxx 50 ended the month down 1.1%.
- The FTSE 100 was flat at month-end.

#### **Global Equity Markets**

- The S&P 500 ended the month up 5.1%, and the Topix gained 2.0%.
- The MSCI Emerging Markets index returned 6.1%.

#### **Bond/FX Markets**

- The British government bond index was up 1.5%, and the British corporate bond index gained 2.3% in June.
- The British Pound had a mixed performance in May, gaining 1.9% against the US Dollar, and 2.0% against the Japanese Yen.
  Meanwhile the Pound weakened by 1.7% against the Euro.









Total Returns as of June 30, 2025												
	FTSE 100	FTSE All Share	Euro Stoxx 50	US (S&P)	Japan (Topix)	Em/Mkts (MSCI)	£ Govt	£ Corp	Global Corp	EUR in GBP	USD in GBP	JPY in GBP
1 Month	0.0%	0.5%	-1.1%	5.1%	2.0%	6.1%	1.5%	1.9%	2.3%	1.7%	-1.9%	-2.0%
3 Month	3.2%	4.4%	3.2%	10.9%	7.5%	12.2%	2.0%	3.1%	4.4%	2.4%	-5.9%	-2.2%
1 Year	11.3%	11.2%	11.8%	15.2%	4.1%	16.0%	1.3%	5.6%	9.6%	1.2%	-7.8%	2.9%
YTD	9.5%	9.1%	11.0%	6.2%	3.8%	15.6%	2.5%	3.5%	7.4%	3.8%	-8.7%	-0.4%

# **Milliman**



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#### **Insurance Monitor**

#### Solvency II Risk Free Rates

- GBP risk-free rates declined at all terms in June, with the moves more pronounced at the short end.
- The 1 and 5-year GBP risk-free rates fell by 21 and 20 basis points, respectively.
- EUR risk-free rates rose at all terms in June, with the increases more pronounced at the long end.
- Both the 20 and 30-year EUR rates increased by 16 basis points.
- The EUR CRA was unchanged and remains floored at 10 basis points

The **Solvency II risk-free discount rates** are calculated independently based on applying the Smith-Wilson Extrapolation to swap rates sourced from Bloomberg and applying the Credit Risk Adjustment as defined in the Technical Specs. For the official published curves please refer to <u>EIOPA</u> and <u>PRA</u> websites.

#### **Solvency II Fundamental Spreads**

• There were no material changes since the start of the year.

EIOPA fundamental spreads show the credit spread corresponding to the risk of default or downgrading of an asset. This is shown here across financial and non-financial assets, credit quality steps 0-3 and durations of 1-30 years. The data is provided by EIOPA. Fundamental spread = maximum (probability of default + cost of downgrade; 35% of long-term average spread). For fundamental spreads on other tenors please refer to the EIOPA website.



GBP Financial Fundamental Spreads



Change in GBP Discount Rates (bps)									
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30				
Since Q1 2025	-39	-35	-17	1	8				
Since Q4 2024	-66	-38	-4	23	33				
Since Q3 2024	-49	5	41	69	77				
Since Q2 2024	-110	-31	17	54	65				



**GBP Non-Financial Fundamental Spreads** 



Change in EUR Discount Rates (bps)									
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30	CRA			
Since Q1 2025	-25	-14	-5	8	9	0			
Since Q4 2024	-33	4	27	50	48	0			
Since Q3 2024	-67	7	27	42	37	0			
Since Q2 2024	-153	-60	-20	10	14	0			



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#### **UK Inflation Monitor**

- UK's CPI fell by 10 basis points to 3.4% in May.
- UK's RPI measure decreased by 20 basis points to 4.3% in May.
- According to the ONS: "The largest downward contribution came from transport; the largest, partially offsetting, upward contributions came from food, and furniture and household goods."
- Average earnings fell by 30 basis points to 5.3% in April, after the previous months figure was revised higher by 10 basis points.





Max, Min and 50% Range: Since BoE

Independence

Current,

4.3%

Average,

3.4%

Current,

3.4%

CPI

Average,

2.4%

RPI

Current,

5.3%

Average,

3.4%

**Average Earnings** 

Historical year-on-year inflation rate is assessed by the % change on:

20.0%

10.0%

0.0%

-10.0%

-30.0%

Mar-15

- Consumer Price Index (CPI) measuring the monthly price of a basket of consumer goods and services
- Retail Price Index (RPI) similar to CPI, but the main difference due the addition of mortgage payments, council tax and other housing costs
- Average Earnings measuring the average total weekly employee remuneration over the previous 3 months.

Projection year-on-year inflation rate is the forward rate calculated from market data:

- Derivatives Market View - constructed from zero coupon inflation par swap rates against the RPI index at various tenors

- Bond Market View – constructed from the difference between the nominal rates implied by the conventional gilts and the real rates implied by the index-linked (RPI) gilts.



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#### Volatility and Hedging Cost Monitor

- Realised volatilities on major indices declined and remained well below historical averages.
- The FTSE 100 ended the month with a realised volatility of 5.6%. The same measure stood at 13.3% and 10.4% on the Euro Stoxx 50 and the S&P 500, respectively.
- Volatility risk premiums on major indices declined. The FTSE 100 had a volatility risk premium of 0.1% at month-end. The volatility risk premium on both the Euro Stoxx 50 and S&P 500 was 1.9%.
- The spread between implied volatility of 2year and 30-day at-the-money options was in positive territory for major indices at monthend.







Max, Min and 50% Range: Last 25 Years 100% 100% 80% 80% 60% 60% Average, Average, Average, 40% 15.9% 40% 15.2% 19.2% 20% Current, Current<sup>20%</sup> Current 13.3% 10.4%0% 5.6% 0% **FTSE 100** Euro Stoxx 50 US (S&P)



Actual realised equity volatility is measured by the weighted standard deviation of 1 month daily index change. The Exponentially Weighted Moving Average (EWMA) methodology places more importance to the recent returns in the calculation of the volatility.

Volatility Risk Premium is estimated as the difference between 30-day implied volatility and projected realised volatility. This reflects the additional cost of hedging from purchasing a basket of options, in comparison to managing a dynamic delta hedge with futures (ignoring rolling transaction costs).

Volatility Term Premium is calculated as the difference between the implied volatility of an at-the-money 2-year maturity option and the implied volatility of an at-the-money 30-day option. This gives an indication of market demand for protection over the longer term, relative to demand for protection in the shorter-term. Bloomberg as the source of the data interpolates between listed options to provide implied volatility data for these fixed terms.



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#### Chicago

71 South Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606 +1 855 645 5462

#### London

Eastcheap Court 11 Philpot Lane London EC3M 8AA UK +44 0 20 7847 1557

#### Sydney

Level 5, 60-62 Clarence St Sydney, NSW 2000 Australia +610 2 8090 9100

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