Central Bank of Kenya

Weekly Bulletin

August 21, 2026

RECENT MONETARY AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Exchange Rates

The Kenya Shilling remained stable against major international and regional currencies during the week ending August 20, 2026. It exchanged at KSh 129.49 per U.S. dollar on August 20, compared to KSh 129.40 per U.S. dollar on August 13 **(Table 1)**.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

The foreign exchange reserves remained adequate at USD 15,155 million (6.3 months of import cover) as of August 20. This meets CBK's statutory requirement to endeavour to maintain at least 4 months of import cover **(Table 2)**.

Money Market

The money market remained liquid during the week ending August 20, 2026, and open market operations remained active. Commercial banks' excess reserves averaged KSh 45.9 billion above the 3.25 percent Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) requirement. The Kenya Shilling Overnight Interbank Average Rate (KESONIA) remained unchanged at 8.75 percent on August 20, the same level recorded on August 13. During the week, the average number of interbank transactions declined to 23 from 25 in the previous week, while the average value traded declined to KSh 17.6 billion from KSh 18.8 billion in the previous week **(Table 3)**.

Government Securities Market

The Treasury bill auction of August 20, received bids totalling KSh 71.7 billion against an advertised amount of KSh 28.0 billion, representing a performance of 255.9 percent. Interest rate on the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day Treasury bills declined **(Table 4)**.

Equity Market

At the Nairobi Securities Exchange, the NASI, NSE 25 and NSE 20 share price indices increased by 2.72 percent, 2.90 percent and 2.24 percent, respectively, during the week ending August 20, 2026. Market capitalization, total shares traded and equity turnover also increased by 2.72 percent, 229.90 percent and 253.81 percent, respectively **(Table 6)**.

Bond Market

Bond turnover in the domestic secondary market increased by 128.90 percent during the week ending August 20, 2026 **(Table 6)**. In the international market, yields on Kenya's Eurobonds increased by 11.05 basis points on average. Yields for Côte d'Ivoire increased while those for Angola decreased **(Chart 2)**.

Global Trends

Inflation concerns remained during the week with UK headline inflation rising to 2.9 percent in July from 2.6 percent in June, marking the first increase since March. In China, economic activity moderated in July, with industrial output growth slowing to 4.5 percent from 5.3 percent in June, while retail sales growth eased to 0.6 percent from 1.0 percent, pointing to weaker domestic demand. The U.S. Dollar Index weakened by 1.0 percent during the week, amid concerns over the U.S. fiscal outlook and uncertainty surrounding Treasury bond buybacks.

Commodity prices increased during the week, with Murban crude oil rising to USD 84.76 per barrel on August 20, from USD 79.29 per barrel on August 13, driven by heightened tensions between the U.S. and Iran, and concerns over disruptions to oil supplies. Spot gold prices rose to USD 4,517.87 per ounce, from USD 4,350.16 in the previous week, supported by the weaker U.S. dollar and safe-haven demand.

Table 1: Kenya Shilling Exchange Rates

	USD	Sterling Pound	Euro	100 Japanese Yen	Uganda Shilling*	Tanzania Shilling*	Rwandese Franc*	Burundi Franc*
7-Aug-26	129.39	174.25	149.26	81.78	28.79	20.51	11.35	23.11
10-Aug-26	129.40	174.64	149.56	82.06	28.78	20.45	11.35	23.09
11-Aug-26	129.38	174.96	149.40	81.40	28.78	20.48	11.35	23.10
12-Aug-26	129.28	174.58	149.10	81.10	28.81	20.41	11.39	23.12
13-Aug-26	129.40	174.64	149.56	82.06	28.78	20.45	11.35	23.09
August 7-13	**129.37**	**174.61**	**149.38**	**81.68**	**28.79**	**20.46**	**11.36**	**23.10**
14-Aug-26	129.23	174.45	149.15	81.12	28.70	20.46	11.36	23.13
17-Aug-26	129.34	175.11	149.60	81.34	28.68	20.48	11.36	23.11
18-Aug-26	129.48	175.56	150.09	81.31	28.72	20.38	11.34	23.09
19-Aug-26	129.54	175.44	150.05	81.20	28.77	20.45	11.34	23.08
20-Aug-26	129.49	176.41	151.07	81.82	28.72	20.42	11.35	23.09
August 14-20	**129.42**	**175.39**	**149.99**	**81.36**	**28.72**	**20.44**	**11.35**	**23.10**

**Units of currency per Kenya Shilling*
Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 2: Foreign Exchange Reserves (USD Million)

	23-Jul-26	30-Jul-26	6-Aug-26	13-Aug-26	20-Aug-26
1. CBK Foreign Exchange Reserves (USD Million)	13,854	15,400	15,248	15,245	15,155
2. CBK Foreign Exchange Reserves (Months of Import Cover)*	5.9	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3

**Based on 36 months average of imports of goods and non –factor services*
Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 3: Interbank Deals, Volumes and Interest Rates

Date	Number of Deals	Value (KSh M)	KESONIA (%)*
7-Aug-26	42	31,587	8.75
10-Aug-26	16	12,449	8.75
11-Aug-26	21	16,300	8.75
12-Aug-26	11	9,200	8.75
13-Aug-26	33	24,520	8.75
Aug 7-13	**25**	**18,811**	**8.75**
14-Aug-26	29	19,825	8.75
17-Aug-26	43	26,362	8.75
18-Aug-26	15	5,900	8.75
19-Aug-26	15	17,400	8.75
20-Aug-26	14	18,740	8.75
Aug 14-20	**23**	**17,645**	**8.75**

** The overnight interbank rate has been officially named Kenya Shilling Overnight Interbank Average (KESONIA) from September 1, 2025*
Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 4: Performance of Treasury Bill Auctions

91-Day Treasury Bills						
Date of Auction	**30-Apr-26**	**28-May-26**	**25-Jun-26**	**30-Jul-26**	**13-Aug-26**	**20-Aug-26**
Amount Offered (KSh M)	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Bids Received (KSh M)	8,024.94	14,093.44	23,013.48	14,403.22	18,236.31	37,674.42
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	8,005.39	14,081.70	14,187.31	14,330.17	16,364.21	32,439.12
Maturities (KSh M)	6,388.25	12,429.60	2,522.70	8,086.30	7,402.80	12,164.50
Average Interest Rate (%)	**8.040**	**8.388**	**8.828**	**8.788**	**8.773**	**8.770**
182-Day Treasury Bills						
Date of Auction	**30-Apr-26**	**28-May-26**	**25-Jun-26**	**30-Jul-26**	**13-Aug-26**	**20-Aug-26**
Amount Offered (KSh M)	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Bids Received (KSh M)	3,258.48	1,049.48	2,268.16	8,171.64	8,993.35	18,571.64
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	3,258.48	1,049.48	833.16	8,171.64	7,092.67	9,748.21
Maturities (KSh M)	1,604.85	508.45	721.50	2,303.15	7,079.00	11,675.00
Average Interest Rate (%)	**8.212**	**8.250**	**8.844**	**8.955**	**8.950**	**8.948**
364-Day Treasury Bills						
Date of Auction	**30-Apr-26**	**28-May-26**	**25-Jun-26**	**30-Jul-26**	**13-Aug-26**	**20-Aug-26**
Amount Offered (KSh M)	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Bids Received (KSh M)	7,192.07	1,494.84	2,776.87	4,792.57	13,560.93	15,405.95
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	7,179.77	1,490.29	2,405.42	4,784.06	13,560.93	15,405.95
Maturities (KSh M)	16,387.15	17,213.60	12,917.85	13,090.65	11,777.70	8,034.65
Average Interest Rate (%)	**8.513**	**8.627**	**8.993**	**9.017**	**9.037**	**9.036**

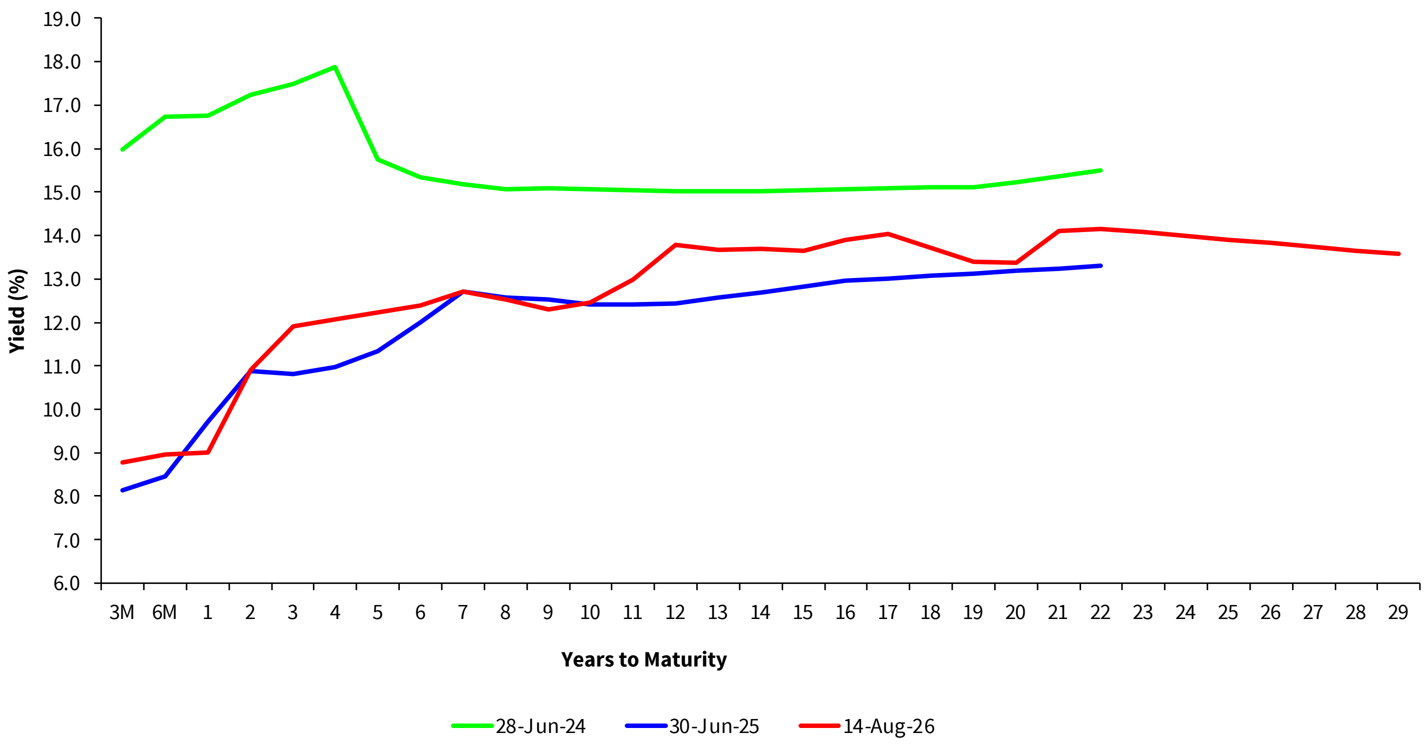
Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 5: Performance of Treasury Bond Auctions

Date of Auction	**13-Jul-26**	**22-Jul-26**		**12-Aug-26**		
	SWITCH	**RE-OPEN**		**RE-OPEN**		
Tenor	**FXD1/2012/020**	**FXD1/ 2019/020**	**FXD1/ 2022/025**	**IFB1/ 2019/016**	**IFB1/ 2021/018**	**IFB1/ 2021/021**
Amount offered (KSh M)	10,000.00	40,000.00		150,000.00		
Bids received (KSh M)	8,159.65	23,968.43	61,960.51	166,215.87	154,902.51	139,279.13
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	7,954.71	12,249.13	51,034.12	112,636.78	105,537.34	93,853.22
Maturities (KSh M)				118,137.00		
Average interest Rate (%)	12.81	13.92	14.44	12.20	12.69	13.05

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Chart 1: Government Securities Yield Curve



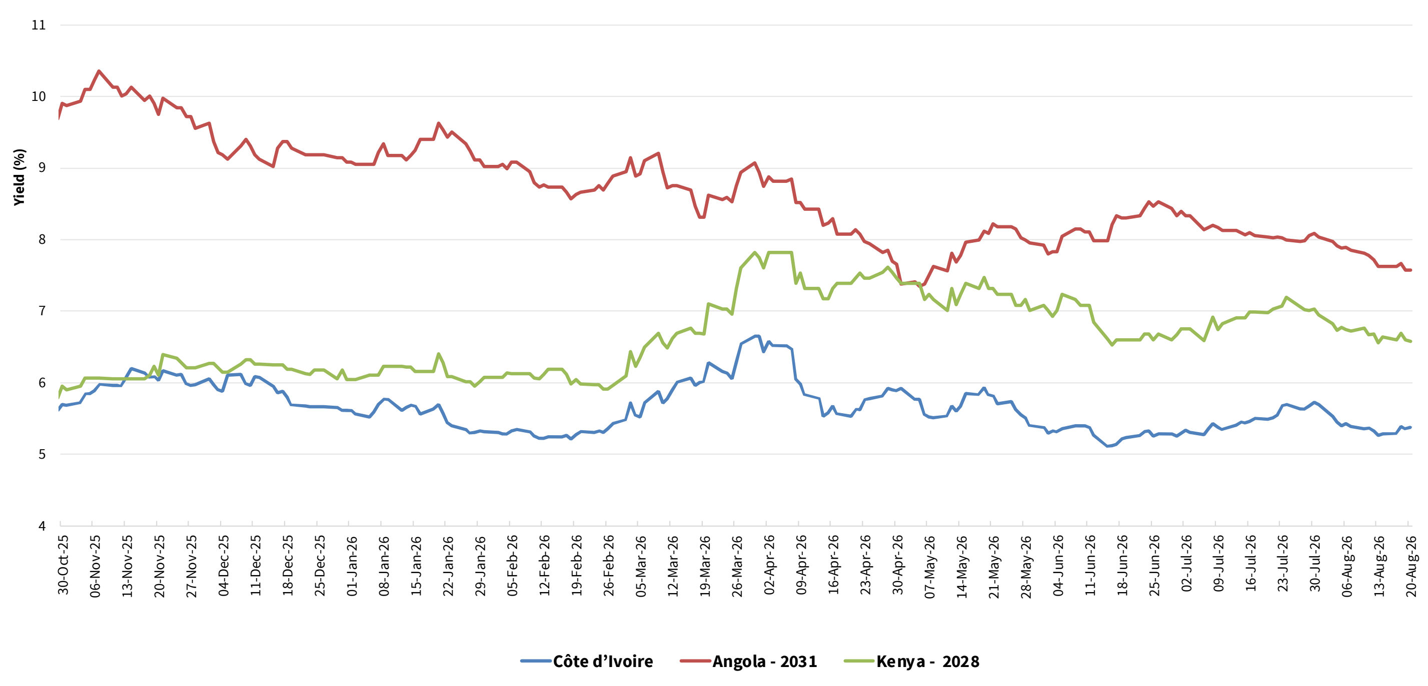
Source: Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE)

Table 6: Performance of Key Market Indicators

INDICATOR	NASI 100=2008	NSE 25 Share Index	NSE 20 Share Index 100=1996	Total Deals (Equity)	Total Shares Traded (Million)	Equity Turnover (KSh Million)	Market Capitalization (KSh Billion)	Bonds Turnover (KSh Million)	EuroBond Yields (%)							
									10 Year 2028	6 Year 2031	12 Year 2032	13 Year 2034	11 Year 2036	12 Year 2038	12 Year 2039	30 Year 2048
7-Aug-26	235.08	6,540.78	4,111.14	11,882.00	13.72	335.47	3,945.10	6,763.20	6.722	7.319	7.519	7.885	8.573	8.865	8.875	8.809
10-Aug-26	236.25	6,548.54	4,107.02	12,950.00	13.50	472.73	3,964.80	6,533.90	6.763	7.362	7.578	7.954	8.635	8.899	8.919	8.821
11-Aug-26	236.31	6,555.06	4,113.20	12,696.00	16.59	514.75	3,965.78	9,273.91	6.670	7.382	7.609	8.000	8.672	8.952	8.963	8.886
12-Aug-26	237.02	6,590.44	4,125.43	11,510.00	14.41	458.76	3,977.61	16,421.75	6.685	7.388	7.572	7.974	8.664	8.939	8.954	8.902
13-Aug-26	237.91	6,628.61	4,126.16	10,605.00	35.50	1,487.56	3,992.58	9,653.10	6.553	7.266	7.509	7.914	8.583	8.874	8.888	8.879
Aug 7 -13	**237.91**	**6,628.61**	**4,126.16**	**59,643.00**	**93.72**	**3,269.27**	**3,992.58**	**48,645.86**	**6.553**	**7.266**	**7.509**	**7.914**	**8.583**	**8.874**	**8.888**	**8.879**
14-Aug-26	213.13	6,637.29	4,136.12	12,837.00	20.10	959.56	3,996.38	7,982.10	6.638	7.278	7.510	7.956	8.609	8.907	8.910	8.903
17-Aug-26	241.18	6,717.10	4,178.50	13,978.00	25.41	634.48	4,047.48	6,740.85	6.602	7.367	7.560	8.032	8.657	8.962	8.968	8.964
18-Aug-26	241.85	6,730.60	4,178.35	14,230.00	18.36	647.23	4,058.66	40,038.75	6.692	7.443	7.616	8.129	8.747	9.049	9.063	9.048
19-Aug-26	243.26	6,766.28	4,193.03	15,496.00	210.28	7,539.66	4,082.42	32,630.05	6.597	7.372	7.549	8.030	8.670	8.939	8.952	8.959
20-Aug-26	244.38	6,820.58	4,218.75	14,379.00	35.02	1,786.19	4,101.16	23,960.95	6.583	7.384	7.576	8.083	8.717	8.969	9.007	9.033
Aug 14 -20	**244.38**	**6,820.58**	**4,218.75**	**70,920.00**	**309.17**	**11,567.12**	**4,101.16**	**111,352.70**	**6.583**	**7.384**	**7.576**	**8.083**	**8.717**	**8.969**	**9.007**	**9.033**
Weekly Changes (%)	**2.72**	**2.90**	**2.24**	**18.91**	**229.90**	**253.81**	**2.72**	**128.90**	**0.030***	**0.118***	**0.067***	**0.169***	**0.134***	**0.095***	**0.118***	**0.154***

** Percentage points*
Source: Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) and Thomson Reuters

Chart 2: Yields on 10-Year Eurobonds for Select Countries



Source: London Stock Exchange

Table 7: Government Domestic Debt (KSh Billion)

	6-Mar-26	13-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	29-May-26	30-Jun-26	31-Jul-26	7-Aug-26	14-Aug-26
1. Treasury Bills (Excluding Repos)	1,166.12	1,183.96	1,192.39	1,106.91	1,118.15	1,143.64	1,148.48	1,154.85
(As % of total securities)	*16.89*	*17.10*	*17.06*	*15.70*	*15.66*	*15.66*	*15.72*	*15.79*
2. Treasury Bonds	5,738.93	5,738.93	5,798.22	5,944.45	6,021.15	6,157.18	6,157.18	6,157.18
(As % of total securities)	*83.11*	*82.90*	*82.94*	*84.30*	*84.34*	*84.34*	*84.28*	*84.21*
3. Total Securities (1+2)	6,905.05	6,922.89	6,990.61	7,051.36	7,139.31	7,300.82	7,305.66	7,312.03
4. Overdraft at Central Bank	63.78	88.92	53.16	89.49	90.99	70.32	66.61	61.50
5. Other Domestic debt*	108.34	108.34	105.95	98.22	96.90	91.96	91.96	92.02
of which IMF funds on-lent to Government	79.53	79.53	78.67	79.04	78.32	73.94	73.94	73.94
6. Gross Domestic Debt (3+4+5)	**7,077.17**	**7,120.15**	**7,149.72**	**7,239.08**	**7,327.20**	**7,463.10**	**7,464.23**	**7,465.54**

** Other domestic debt includes clearing items in transit, advances from commercial banks and Pre-1997 Government Overdraft.*
Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 8: Composition of Government Domestic Debt by Instrument (Percent)

	06-Mar-26	13-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	29-May-26	30-Jun-26	31-Jul-26	7-Aug-26	14-Aug-26
Treasury bills (Excluding Repos)	16.48	16.63	16.68	15.29	15.26	15.32	15.39	15.47
Treasury bonds	81.09	80.60	81.10	82.12	82.18	82.50	82.49	82.47
Overdraft at Central Bank	0.90	1.25	0.74	1.24	1.24	0.94	0.89	0.82
Other domestic debt	1.53	1.52	1.48	1.36	1.32	1.23	1.23	1.23
of which IMF fund on lent to government	1.12	1.12	1.10	1.09	1.07	0.99	0.99	0.99
Total	**100.00**	**100.00**	**100.00**	**100.00**	**100.00**	**100.00**	**100.00**	**100.00**

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 9: Government Securities by Sector (Percent)

	06-Mar-26	13-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	29-May-26	26-Jun-26	31-Jul-26	7-Aug-26	14-Aug-26
Financial Corporations	79.1	79.6	79.9	79.9	79.9	80.0	80.0	80.1
O/W Commercial Banks	35.4	36.6	36.7	35.8	35.7	35.4	35.5	34.9
Pension Funds	14.5	14.0	14.0	14.3	14.3	14.5	14.4	14.2
Insurance Companies	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.9	14.1	14.1	14.1	13.8
General Government	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.9
Households	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2
Non-Residents	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.4
Nonfinancial corporations	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Non-Profit Institutions	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

**Data has been re-classified to adopt a sectorization that is aligned with global best practices, including Government Finance Statistics Manual (GFSM) 2014, Public Sector Debt Statistics 2014 Manual, System of National Accounts (SNA) 2008, and Monetary and Financial Statistics (MFS) 2016. The new classification leverages on the Dhow Central Securities Depository (DhowCSD) system which has the capability to identify the ultimate holders of government securities. The new classification also captures information on any transfer of government securities that take place in the secondary market.*

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 10: Public Debt

	Nov-25*	Dec-25*	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	June-26*
Domestic debt (Ksh Bn)	6,784.15	6,837.51	6,892.02	7,064.68	7,149.72	7,185.77	7,239.08	7,327.20
Public & Publicly Guaranteed External debt (USD $ Bn)	42.13	42.34	42.68	44.79	43.74	43.89	43.67	43.90
Public & Publicly Guaranteed External debt (Ksh Bn)	5,469.19	5,461.97	5,506.99	5,779.07	5,683.22	5,670.63	5,657.30	5,684.69
Public Debt (Ksh Bn)	**12,253.34**	**12,299.48**	**12,399.01**	**12,843.75**	**12,832.94**	**12,856.40**	**12,896.38**	**13,011.89**

** Provisional*
Source: The National Treasury and Central Bank of Kenya