

Market Smarts

Monthly Market Brief

August 2026

01 | At a Glance

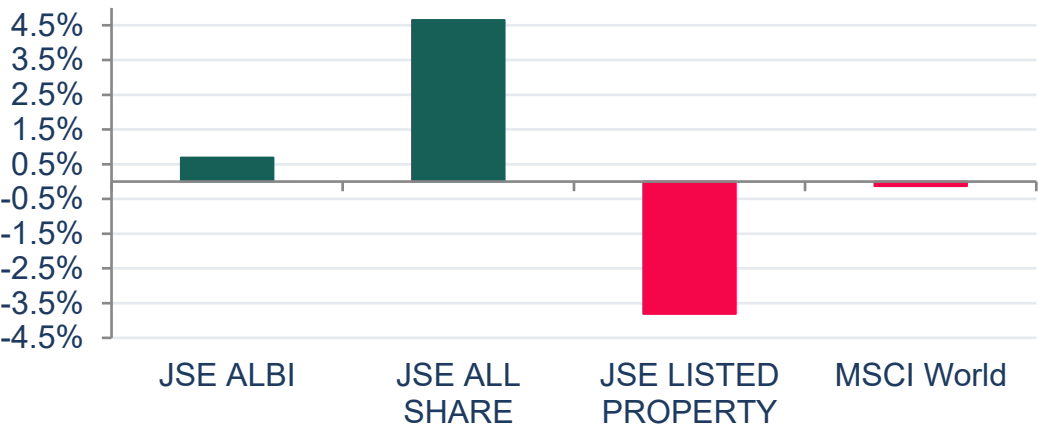
Key numbers and market moves for the month

Key numbers (South Africa)

	August 2025	August 2026
CPI (y/y)	3.5%	4.3%*
USD/ZAR	17.67	16.12
Repo rate	7.00%	7.00%
JSE All Share	101,836	116,257
Brent Crude Oil (USD)	67.48	90.49
Gold (USD)	3,429	4,563

* July CPI, released in August

Market moves (AUG'26, ZAR)



Monthly highlights

- Global equities advanced: MSCI World +2.6% and EM +3.2% in USD; rand strength left MSCI World roughly flat (-0.1%) in ZAR.
- Commodities rallied: gold gained ~12.2% to \$4,563/oz, while Brent rose ~2.9% to \$90.49/bbl.
- SA equities surged: ALSI +4.7%, led by Resources +26.4%; ALBI +0.7%, property -3.8%, while the rand strengthened ~2.7% to 16.12/USD.

02 | South Africa

Key developments

Activity | Absa PMI

- [Aug 2026, released 1 Sep] Headline PMI fell to 45.8 from 46.8, its fourth consecutive decline and lowest reading of 2026.
- [Aug 2026] Business activity dropped to 40.2 and new orders to 40.3, pointing to weak domestic demand.
- [Aug 2026] Purchasing prices held at 67.2; rand strength offset some higher oil, diesel and freight costs.

Inflation

- [Jul 2026, released 19 Aug] Headline CPI eased to 4.3% y/y from 5.0% in June; +0.2% m/m.
- [Jul 2026] Goods inflation slowed to 3.4% y/y and services inflation to 5.0% y/y.
- [Jul 2026, released 27 Aug] Final manufactured-goods PPI eased to 5.7% y/y from 7.5%; -1.0% m/m.

Rates | SARB

- [Aug 2026] Repo rate remained at 7.00%; there was no MPC meeting during the month.
- [Aug 2026] Softer July CPI reduced near-term inflation pressure after June's spike.
- [Latest SARB outlook] The July forecast projected 2026 inflation at 4.0% and GDP growth at 1.4%.

Currency | ZAR

- [Aug 2026 market month] USD/ZAR moved from 16.56 to 16.12; the rand strengthened ~2.7% m/m.
- [Aug 2026] A weaker US dollar and easing domestic inflation supported the rand.

Equities | JSE

- [Aug 2026] ALSI +4.65%; ALBI +0.69%; listed property -3.81%.
- [Aug 2026] Resources surged +26.42%, while Industrials fell -5.81% and Financials -1.36%.
- [Aug 2026] AngloGold led at +43.86%; British American Tobacco was weakest at -11.06%.

Growth | GDP & Demand

- [Latest GDP available at Aug month-end] Q1 2026 real GDP growth was estimated at +0.5% q/q.
- [Jul 2026 trade, released 31 Aug] SA recorded a R20.1bn surplus (exports R194.0bn; imports R173.8bn).
- [Jun 2026 retail, released 19 Aug] Real retail sales rose +1.6% y/y but fell -0.6% m/m.

03 | Global

Key developments and portfolio implications

United States | PMIs

- [Aug 2026, released Sep] ISM Manufacturing PMI eased to 54.6 from 55.6 in July; expansion continued.
- [Aug 2026, released Sep] ISM Services PMI rose to 55.4 from 54.1; Business Activity jumped to 61.7.
- Services demand strengthened, although employment remained in contraction and price pressures stayed elevated.

US Inflation

- [Jul 2026, released 12 Aug] Headline CPI eased to 3.4% y/y from 3.5%; +0.1% m/m.
- [Jul 2026] Core CPI eased to 2.5% y/y from 2.6%; +0.2% m/m.
- Inflation moderated further but remained above the Fed's 2% objective.

US Dollar

- [Aug 2026] Fed Nominal Broad Dollar Index averaged 118.85, down from 120.60 in July (~-1.4%).
- Dollar weakness supported EM assets, commodities and non-US currencies.

US Interest Rates

- [Aug 2026] No FOMC meeting; the target range remained at 3.50%–3.75%.
- [19 Aug minutes] Most participants supported maintaining the range, with inflation still elevated.

US Stock Markets

- [Aug 2026] S&P 500 +2.62%; Nasdaq Composite +3.93%; Dow Jones +1.34% (USD).
- Growth and technology regained leadership, with the Nasdaq outperforming the broader market.
- US equities resumed gains despite still-restrictive policy and elevated inflation.

Europe

- [Aug 2026 flash] Euro area inflation rose to 3.3% y/y from 2.9% in July.
- [Aug 2026 PMI] Composite PMI was 52.0, signalling continued modest expansion.
- [Aug 2026] ECB rates remained unchanged: deposit 2.25%, refi 2.40%, marginal lending 2.65%.

UK

- [Jul 2026, released 19 Aug] UK CPI rose to 2.9% y/y from 2.6%; CPIH rose to 3.1% from 2.8%.
- [Aug 2026] Bank Rate remained at 3.75%; there was no MPC meeting during the month.
- [Aug 2026 flash PMI] Composite PMI edged up to 52.5 from 52.2, signalling continued expansion.

China | PMIs

- [Aug 2026, released 1 Sep] Official manufacturing PMI rose to 49.8 from 49.2, but remained below 50.
- [Aug 2026] New orders rebounded to 50.6 and production rose to 50.4.
- [Aug 2026] Non-manufacturing activity remained at 49.0, pointing to soft services and construction demand.

China | Trade & Activity

- [Jul 2026, released Aug] Industrial production rose +4.5% y/y; retail sales increased only +0.6% y/y.
- [Jul 2026] Total trade grew +19.2% y/y; exports +17.8%, imports +21.2%.
- External trade remained strong, while domestic consumption stayed soft.

04 | Asset Class Returns

Calendar year index returns (periodic table view)

Periodic Table - Calendar Year Index Returns

As of Date: 31/08/2026 Currency: BASE

Best	Foreign Equity 14,3	Local Equity 42,4	Local Property 29,0	Foreign Equity 22,2	US Dollar 7,9	Local Property 36,9	Foreign Equity 16,3	Foreign Equity 26,6	Local Bond 7,7	Foreign Equity 24,0	Local Bond 15,4
	Local Cash 4,5	Local Property 30,6	Foreign Equity 17,5	Local Property 10,1	SA Inflation 7,5	Local Equity 29,2	Foreign Bonds 10,1	Local Equity 12,0	Local Cash 7,2	Local Equity 21,0	Local Property 10,2
	SA Inflation 4,2	Local Bond 24,2	Local Bond 17,2	Local Bond 9,7	Local Cash 5,2	Foreign Equity 18,5	Local Bond 8,7	Local Bond 10,3	SA Inflation 5,1	Local Property 17,2	Foreign Equity 7,9
	Local Bond 3,5	Foreign Equity 22,3	Local Equity 13,4	Local Equity 9,3	Local Bond 4,3	Local Bond 8,4	Local Equity 7,0	Local Cash 7,3	US Dollar 4,4	Local Bond 10,2	Local Cash 7,4
	Local Property 2,9	Foreign Bonds 7,5	Local Cash 8,5	Local Cash 8,1	Local Equity 3,6	US Dollar 6,7	Local Cash 5,4	Foreign Bonds 5,9	Foreign Cash 2,4	Local Cash 7,5	SA Inflation 6,6
	Local Equity 2,8	Local Cash 7,5	US Dollar 7,1	SA Inflation 5,5	Foreign Cash 1,7	SA Inflation 5,4	SA Inflation 3,2	SA Inflation 3,6	Foreign Bonds -0,8	Foreign Bonds 7,5	US Dollar 3,6
	Foreign Cash 2,5	Foreign Cash 4,4	Foreign Cash 5,4	Foreign Cash 5,2	Local Property 0,5	Local Cash 3,8	Foreign Cash 0,7	Foreign Cash 2,4	Local Equity -8,5	SA Inflation 4,6	Local Equity 2,6
	US Dollar 1,1	SA Inflation 3,5	SA Inflation 2,9	Foreign Bonds 5,2	Foreign Bonds -18,3	Foreign Cash 0,2	US Dollar -6,7	Local Property 1,9	Foreign Equity -9,4	Foreign Cash 1,3	Foreign Bonds 1,6
Worst	Foreign Bonds -0,5	US Dollar -9,4	Foreign Bonds -2,9	US Dollar -2,1	Foreign Equity -18,4	Foreign Bonds -7,0	Local Property -34,5	US Dollar 0,2	Local Property -25,3	US Dollar -9,9	Foreign Cash 0,8
	YTD	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016

Local Bond
SA Inflation
Foreign Bonds

Local Equity
Foreign Equity
US Dollar

Local Property
Local Cash
Foreign Cash

Source: Morningstar Direct

05 | Number Snapshot

Returns, yields and rates — selected indicators

ASSET CLASS RETURNS

	1Y	3Y	5Y	7Y
Global Property	0.64%	4.71%	3.81%	4.35%
SA Flex Inc	7.54%	9.26%	8.04%	8.05%
SA Bond	16.55%	16.74%	11.66%	11.00%
SA Equity	18.42%	20.04%	15.94%	15.39%
SA Property	18.54%	24.61%	15.58%	8.20%
Global Equity	11.54%	14.21%	13.33%	15.06%

YIELD CORNER

	Sept-25	Sept-26
Retail Bond 5Y	9.00%	8.75%
RSA 5Y Bond	7.92%	8.19%
RSA 10Y Bond	8.81%	9.18%
US 10Y Bond	4.15%	4.80%

MONEY MARKET RATES

	32Day MM	12MoFixed*	60MoFixed*
	Sept-26	Sept-26	Sept-26
Nedbank	7.50%	7.25%	8.00%
Capitec		7.25%	8.00%
FNB	6.80%	7.15%	7.85%
Discovery	7.20%	7.40%	8.00%

Nominal rates on amounts between R 250 000 - R 1 000 000

SECTORAL RETURNS

	1Y
Resources	54.44%
Financials	24.58%
Industrials	-9.05%

AMITY CIS SOLUTIONS

	1Y	3Y	5Y	7Y
Amity FR Diversified Income A	8.72%	10.46%		
Amity FR Global Diversified FoF A	10.51%	9.06%	6.74%	9.04%
Amity FR Equity A	15.60%			

AMITY OUTCOMES-BASED MODEL PORTFOLIOS

	1Y	3Y	5Y	7Y
Stable Income	9.45%	10.53%	9.02%	8.23%
Balanced Income	14.20%	13.40%	9.88%	10.35%
Balanced Hedged	12.62%	12.86%	10.79%	11.86%
Steady Growth	12.10%	12.20%	9.68%	9.81%
Guarded Growth	14.55%	13.60%	10.70%	11.60%
Optimal Growth	13.96%	13.65%	11.04%	12.47%
Hedged Growth	10.21%	12.56%	11.98%	12.95%
TFSA High Growth	14.54%	14.20%	11.93%	12.42%
Global Balanced ^	12.23%	9.77%	1.96%	5.71%
Global Growth^	18.70%	13.84%	4.64%	8.93%
Global Growth Feeder	18.46%	19.17%	11.22%	13.13%

^Returns in USD

AMITY MODEL PORTFOLIOS: OTHER SOLUTIONS

	1Y	3Y	5Y	7Y
Optimal Hedge Portfolio (PPS)	14.08%	13.96%	12.01%	
Optimal Blend Portfolio (PPS)	14.39%	14.33%	11.45%	12.77%

06 | Range of Investment Solutions

Investment Horizon	Equity Exposure	Model Portfolios			CIS
		Accumulation	Decumulation	Offshore	Premier Choice Managers
1–3 Yrs	0%	Stable Income Portfolio	Stable Income Portfolio	—	Amity BCI Diversified Income Fund
3–5 Yrs	Max 40%	Steady Growth Portfolio	—	—	—
5–7 Yrs	Max 50%	Guarded Growth Portfolio	Balanced Income Portfolio Balanced Hedged Portfolio	—	—
7+ Yrs	Max 65%	Optimal Growth Portfolio Hedged Growth Portfolio	—	—	—
7+ Yrs	Max 100%	High Growth Portfolio	—	Global Growth Feeder (ZAR) Global Growth Portfolio (USD)	Amity BCI Equity Fund Amity BCI Global Diversified FoF

Reg 28 compliant portfolios: Stable Income, Steady Growth, Guarded Growth, Optimal Growth

07 | Four Pillars – Stable Income

Performance over relevant time periods



Deliver Outcomes

R100 invested in the Stable Income model
1-year ago will now be worth:

R 109.45

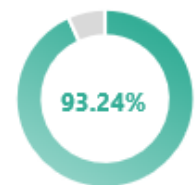
Stefi Composite	R 106.99
ASISA MA Income	R 109.50



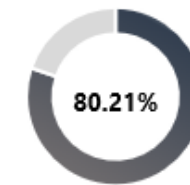
Achieve Consistency

Percentage of times the strategy achieved
or exceeded money-market returns
over rolling 1-year periods since inception?

Stable Income



ASISA MA Income



Manage Risk

How often did the strategy deliver a negative
return over 1-year and what was the worst
1-year return since inception?

	% Negative 1- Year Return*	Worst 1-Year Return
Stable Income	0.00%	3.80%
Asisa MA Income	0.00%	4.31%



Capital Preservation

The strategy delivered a 1-year return of:

9.45%

CPI	4.26%
ASISA MA Income	9.50%



07 | Four Pillars – Steady Growth

Performance over relevant time periods



Deliver Outcomes

R100 invested in the Steady Growth model
3-years ago will now be worth:

R 141.24

CPI+3%

R 123.36

ASISA MA Low Equity

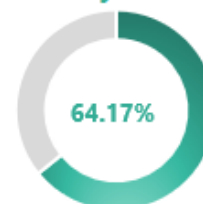
R 139.74



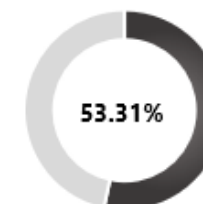
Achieve Consistency

Percentage of times the strategy achieved
or exceeded returns of CPI + 3% over
rolling 3-year periods since inception?

Steady Growth



ASISA MA Low Equity



Manage Risk

How often did the strategy deliver a negative
return over 1-year and what was the worst
1-year return since inception?

	% Negative 1- Year Return*	Worst 1-Year Return
Steady Growth	0.72%	-3.46%
Asisa MA Low Equity	1.06%	-3.10%



Capital Preservation

Over the last 3 years the strategy delivered an
annualized return of:

12.20%

CPI

4.13%

ASISA MA Low Equity

11.80%



07 | Four Pillars – Guarded Growth

Performance over relevant time periods



Deliver Outcomes

R100 invested in the Guarded Growth model
5-years ago will now be worth:

R 166.22

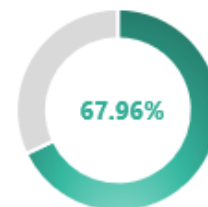
CPI+4% R 155.06
ASISA MA Med Equity R 163.64



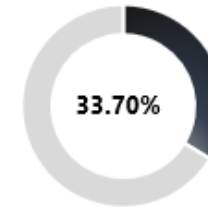
Achieve Consistency

Percentage of times the strategy achieved
or exceeded returns of CPI + 4% over
rolling 5-year periods since inception?

Guarded Growth



ASISA MA Med Equity



Manage Risk

How often did the strategy deliver a negative
return over 1-year and what was the worst
1-year return since inception?

	% Negative 1- Year Return*	Worst 1-Year Return
Guarded Growth	4.32%	-8.34%
ASISA MA Med Equity	6.71%	-12.91%



Capital Preservation

Over the last 5 years the strategy delivered an
annualized return of:

10.70%

CPI 4.97%
ASISA MA Med Equity 10.35%



07 | Four Pillars – Optimal Growth

Performance over relevant time periods



Deliver Outcomes

R100 invested in the Optimal Growth model
7-years ago will now be worth:

R 227.71

CPI+5%

R 193.79

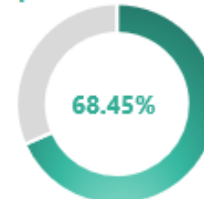
ASISA MA High Equity R 205.98



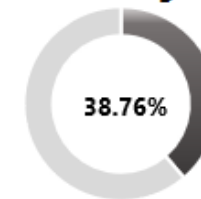
Achieve Consistency

Percentage of times the strategy achieved
or exceeded returns of CPI + 5% over
rolling 7-year periods since inception?

Optimal Growth



ASISA MA High Equity



Manage Risk

How often did the strategy deliver a negative
return over 1-year and what was the worst
1-year return since inception?

	% Negative 1- Year Return*	Worst 1-Year Return
Optimal Growth	6.12%	-13.41%
ASISA MA High Equity	9.54%	-14.75%



Capital Preservation

Over the last 7 years the strategy delivered an
annualized return of:

12.47%

CPI

4.68%



ASISA MA High Equity 10.87%



07 | Four Pillars – Balanced Income

Performance over relevant time periods



Deliver Outcomes

R100 invested in the Balanced Income model

5-years ago will now be worth:

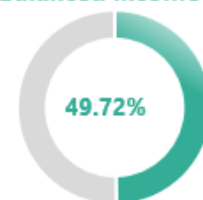
R 160.18
CPI+4% R 155.06
ASISA MA Med Equity R 163.64



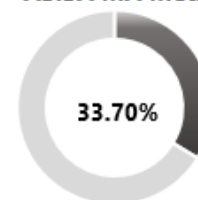
Achieve Consistency

Percentage of times the strategy achieved or exceeded returns of CPI+4% over rolling 5-year periods since inception?

Balanced Income



ASISA MA Med Equity



Manage Risk

How often did the strategy deliver a negative return over 1-year and what was the worst 1-year return since inception?

	% Negative 1-Year Return*	Worst 1-Year Return
Balanced Income	7.58%	-10.42%
Asisa MA Med Equity	6.71%	-12.91%



Capital Preservation

Over the last 5 years the strategy delivered an annualized return of:

9.88%

CPI 4.97%
ASISA MA Med Equity 10.35%



07 | Four Pillars – Balanced Hedged

Performance over relevant time periods



Deliver Outcomes

R100 invested in the Balanced Hedged Portfolio
5-years ago will now be worth:

R 166.89

CPI+4% R 155.06
ASISA MA Med Equity R 163.64



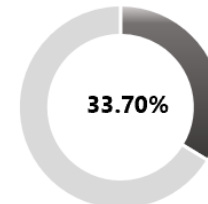
Achieve Consistency

Percentage of times the strategy achieved
or exceeded returns of CPI+4% over rolling
5-year periods since inception?

Balanced Hedged



ASISA MA Med Equity



Manage Risk

How often did the strategy deliver a negative
return over 1-year and what was the worst
1-year return since inception?

	% Negative 1- Year Return*	Worst 1-Year Return
Balanced Hedged	0.00%	0.30%
Asisa MA Med Equity	6.71%	-12.91%



Capital Preservation

Over the last 5 years the strategy delivered
an annualized return of:

10.79%

CPI 4.97%
ASISA MA Med Equity 10.35%



08 | Amity & Team



Marius van der Merwe

Chief Executive Officer



Ian Hutton

Chief Operating Officer



Jessica Fannin

Investment Research
Manager



Wiehan Dul

Investment Analyst



Ingrid Breed

Advisor Experience
Manager

Dedicated professionals driving your investment outcomes

**Reduce
Uncertainty
With
Outcomes-
based
Investing**

