

## Today's economic highlights...

### Oil falls after increases in U.S. crude, fuel stockpiles

- TOKYO (Reuters) - Oil prices fell on Wednesday after industry data showed [crude oil](#) stockpiles rose more than expected and fuel inventories unexpectedly increased last week in the United States, the world's largest oil consumer.
- [Brent oil futures](#) fell 25 cents, or 0.3%, to \$86.15 a barrel after closing at the highest in seven years on Tuesday.
- West Texas Intermediate (WTI) futures declined 26 cents, or 0.3%, to \$84.39 a barrel after gaining 1.1% in the previous session. [Read more...](#)

### U.S. Consumer Confidence Improved in October as Covid-19 Delta Wave Eased

- (Hellenic Shipping News) - Consumer confidence in the U.S. increased in October following three months of declines as concerns over the spread of the Covid-19 Delta variant faded amid falling case counts.
- The consumer confidence index increased to 113.8 in October from a revised 109.8 in September, according to data from The Conference Board released Tuesday. The indicator came in above the 108.0 forecast from economists polled by The Wall Street Journal.
- The rise in confidence can be attributed to Americans' easing concerns over the Covid-19 Delta variant, said Lynn Franco, senior director of economic indicators at The Conference Board. [Read more...](#)

### State eyes record Sh150bn bond sale to clear debt, fund roads

- (Business Daily) - The government is set to float a record Sh150 billion infrastructure bond next month, whose proceeds will be used to offset debt to contractors and finance the completion of ongoing road projects.
- Infrastructure Principal Secretary Paul Mainga said the Treasury, the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK), and the Attorney-General had approved the sale of the bond.
- "The National Treasury and other government agencies have agreed as a matter of urgency that we float a Sh150 billion roads bonds to pay contactors and complete ongoing works," he told the National Assembly's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Tuesday. [Read more...](#)