

ECOTEENS



CURRENT ECONOMIC STATE OF THE WORLD IN 2026

The global economy is still growing, but slowly — like a car running low on fuel. Countries are dealing with debt, weak investment, and uncertainty. Growth is expected to hit around 2.7% this year, well below what the world was used to before the pandemic hit in 2020.

Prices for everyday things like food, rent, and energy are still high, even though they're slowly coming down. This is called inflation, and it's been squeezing people's wallets — especially poorer families. It is a global problem which will affect everyone. The good news? It's easing. The bad news? Most people haven't really felt the relief yet.

The US has been putting up trade barriers — basically charging extra fees on goods from other countries. This shook up global supply chains, making things costlier and harder to move around. In response, many countries started making new trade deals with each other, cutting the US out of the picture.

To top it all off, a conflict in the Middle East is disrupting oil supplies through a critical shipping route. Oil prices have spiked, and economists are warning this could become one of the biggest economic shocks in recent memory — hitting everything from fuel to food to your phone's components.

THE GREAT DEPRESSION OF 1929: WHEN THE WORLD'S ECONOMY COLLAPSED

The Great Depression began on October 24, 1929 — a day called "Black Thursday" — when the US stock market crashed. Investors sold millions of shares, wiping out fortunes overnight. Banks failed, businesses shut down, and unemployment skyrocketed, sending shockwaves across the entire global economy.

Governments had no playbook for a crisis this massive. Most made things worse by cutting spending and raising taxes, shrinking their economies further instead of stimulating them.

By 1933, nearly 25% of American workers had lost their jobs. Families stood in long bread lines just to eat. Farmers couldn't sell crops, factories went silent, and international trade collapsed by over 65%, dragging even wealthy nations into years of poverty and despair.

President Roosevelt launched the "New Deal" — a wave of government programs putting people back to work building roads, dams, and schools, slowly nursing America back to economic health.



Fun Fact: During the Great Depression, some people were so broke they couldn't even afford postage stamps. Letters were cleverly addressed to the recipient so they'd pay the postage on delivery — a sneaky trick that became surprisingly common across America during those desperately tough, penny-pinching years!

WARREN BUFFETT: THE MAN WHO TURNED PATIENCE INTO BILLIONS

Warren Buffett, born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1930, showed a knack for money from childhood — selling chewing gum door-to-door at just six years old. By eleven, he bought his first stock. By his teens, he was already filing tax returns and running small businesses.

Buffett studied under the legendary economist Benjamin Graham, who taught him the art of "value investing" — buying undervalued companies and holding them long-term. This simple but powerful strategy became the foundation of his entire fortune and shaped how millions of investors think about money today.

He built his empire through Berkshire Hathaway, owning stakes in giants like Coca-Cola, Apple, and American Express. Buffett's secret? Patience. He famously said the stock market transfers money from the impatient to the patient — a lesson most investors learn the hard way, unfortunately.

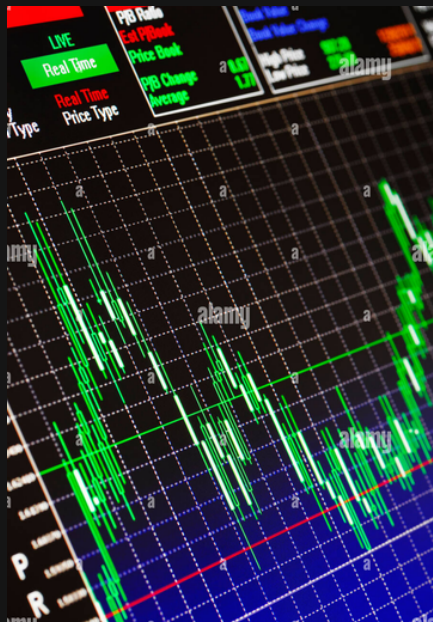
Despite being worth over \$100 billion, Buffett still lives in the same modest Omaha house he bought in 1958 for \$31,500. He's pledged to give away 99% of his wealth to charity, proving that the world's greatest investor measures true success far beyond just money.



STOCK MARKETS: WHERE FORTUNES ARE MADE AND LOST

A stock market is essentially a marketplace where people buy and sell tiny ownership pieces of companies, called "shares." When a company does well, its share price rises and investors make money. When it struggles, prices fall. Think of it like buying a slice of someone's business.

Companies enter the stock market through something called an "IPO" — Initial Public Offering — where they sell shares to the public for the first time to raise money. Everyday people, big banks, and investment funds all participate, making stock markets one of the world's most powerful economic engines.



BITCOIN: THE CURRENCY THAT EXISTS ONLY IN CYBERSPACE



Fun Fact: In 2010, a programmer named Laszlo Hanyecz made history by spending 10,000 Bitcoins on two pizzas — the first real-world Bitcoin purchase. Those same coins would be worth hundreds of millions of dollars today, making them the most expensive pizzas ever bought!

Bitcoin was created in 2009 by a mysterious person — or group — known only as "Satoshi Nakamoto," whose real identity remains unknown to this day. It was the world's first cryptocurrency, a purely digital currency with no physical coins, no central bank, and no government controlling it.

Unlike regular money, Bitcoin runs on a technology called "blockchain" — a transparent public record of every transaction ever made. No single bank or government controls it, meaning anyone, anywhere in the world can send or receive Bitcoin without needing permission from any financial institution.

Bitcoin's value is wildly unpredictable — it once jumped from under \$10,000 to nearly \$69,000 in just one year, then crashed dramatically. Despite the rollercoaster ride, it has inspired thousands of other cryptocurrencies and permanently changed how the world thinks about money, finance, and economic freedom.

Stock prices move based on emotions as much as facts. Good news — like strong profits or a popular new product — pushes prices up. Bad news — wars, recessions, or scandals — sends them crashing down. This constant push and pull between fear and greed drives every single trading day.

The two most famous stock markets are the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ, both based in the US. Together they're worth trillions of dollars. India's own BSE — Asia's oldest stock exchange — has been running since 1875, making Mumbai a globally significant financial powerhouse too.



CONTACT US:

BEHIND THE SCENES: WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

Economics isn't just numbers and textbooks — it's the world you live in every single day. From Bitcoin rewriting the rules of money, to stock markets swinging on pure emotion, to lessons buried in the Great Depression, every topic in this issue connects directly to your life and future.

Warren Buffett built billions simply by paying attention. Imagine what you could build by starting early.

This newsletter exists to give you that head start. Stay curious — the economy needs young, sharp minds like yours.