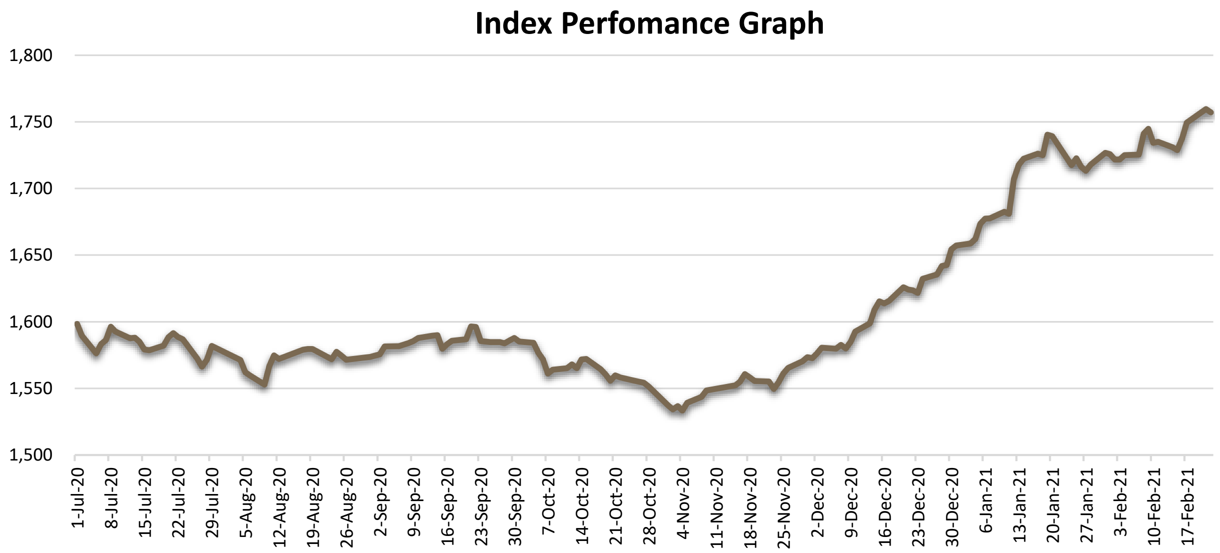
Amman Stock Exchange 22-Feb-21

		Close	% Change	Year-to-Date (YTD)	Daily Volume (shares)	Daily Turnover (JOD)
AMMAN GENERAL INDEX		**1,757.11**	**-0.14%**	**6.03%**	**6,854,795**	**9,790,583**



Best Performing Companies

	% Change
ARAB ALUM IND	5.00%
JOR PHOSPHATE MN	4.96%
IRBID ELECTRICITY	4.91%
AMAD REALST. INVST	4.17%
DAR ALDAWA DV/IV	4.17%

Worst Performing Companies

	% Change
AL-AMAL INV.	-4.62%
JOR DUTY FRE SHP	-4.97%
INTERNATIONAL INV.	-5.00%
NAT CHLORINE	-5.00%
AMWAJ	-7.14%

Top Traded Companies by Volume (Shares)

RUM GROUP	1,808,035
JOR PETROLM REF	716,332
TAJCATERINGHOUSING	449,307
JOR PHOSPHATE MN	426,524
JOR ELECTREIC PWR	377,900

Top Traded Companies by Value (JOD)

JOR PHOSPHATE MN	2,613,976
JOR PETROLM REF	1,942,098
RUM GROUP	1,033,918
UNION LAND DEV	541,885
JOR ELECTREIC PWR	466,546

Macroeconomic & Corporate News

2021 budget sees increase in capital expenditures by 24 per cent — Al-Ississ

The government on Sunday said that the estimates of expenditures and revenues in the 2021 state budget law and budgets of independent public institutions have been set according to “detailed studies and discussions”. Replying to MPs’ remarks on the budgets, Finance Minister Mohamad Al-Ississ said that the government is currently preparing a plan for comprehensive health insurance through making the necessary constitutional amendments, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. Al-Ississ added that implementing the demands of lawmakers during the deliberations of the budgets would exceed the capability of the budget, noting that salaries of employees at public companies are controlled as stipulated in relevant laws and regulations, while public shareholding companies are governed by laws related to the private sectors.

The minister said that deputies’ remarks will receive the government’s attention, pledging to provide the Lower House with a report on the government’s procedures in response to parliamentary recommendations. Jordan has been suffering difficult economic and financial conditions even before the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to the regional instability that resulted in lowering growth rates and higher unemployment rates, with salaries, pensions and debt services accounting for the biggest share of the budget, he said. Al-Ississ also pointed out that the decline in capital expenditures has negatively affected infrastructure projects. He said that indirect taxes, such as sales tax, constituted the biggest share of revenues, adding that the direct income tax could not meet the Treasury needs, which, consequently, contributed to a larger deficit and increased public debt.

Gov’t pursues a balance between public health and economy — PM

Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Bisher Al Khasawneh on Sunday said that the government will continue to pursue a balance between preserving public health and protecting the economy, stressing that the priority is always health, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. Addressing the Lower House after the conclusion of deliberations over the 2021 state budget law and budgets of independent public institutions, Khasawneh said that both the government and the Chamber had come at a "difficult and challenging time", adding that the pandemic is still present and deepening, and “we are at a critical stage in the fight against it". The premier stressed that the government is committed to implementing Royal directives to develop legislation governing the political life in the Kingdom.

* Source: Jordan Times, Zawya