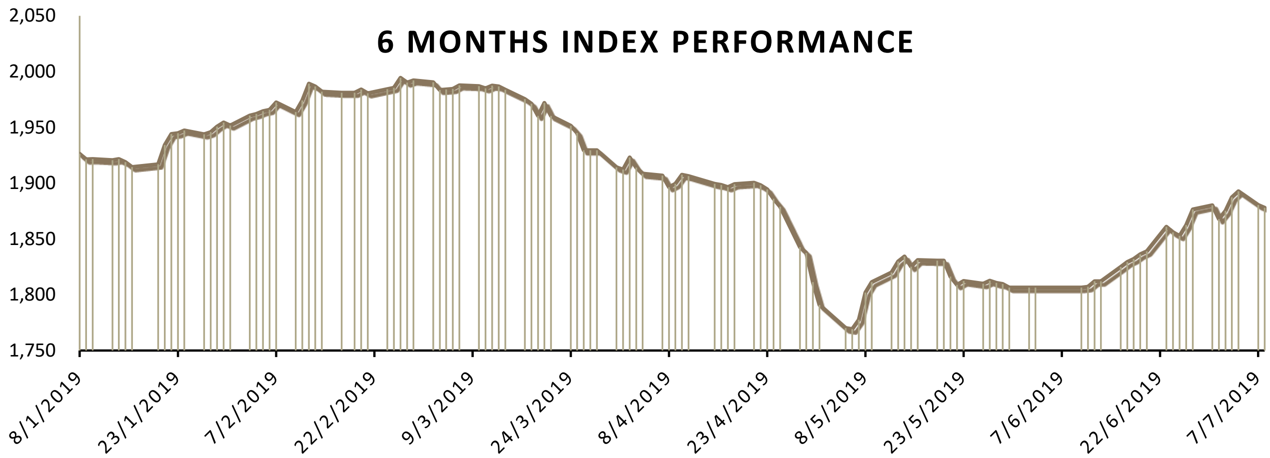
Amman Stock Exchange 10-Jul-19

	Close	% Change	Year-to-Date (YTD)	Daily Volume (shares)	Daily Turnover (JOD)
AMMAN SE GENERAL INDEX	**1,882.23**	**0.20%**	**-1.39%**	**4,638,404**	**4,249,942**



Best Performing Companies

	% Change
FIRST INSURANCE	6.25
OFFTEC HOLDING GROUP PLC	4.88
AL FARIS NATIONAL COMP FOR I	4.80
LAFARGE JORDAN CEMENT	4.35
BINDAR TRADING & INVESTMENT	4.00

Worst Performing Companies

	% Change
INJAZ FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PR	(3.03)
JORDANIAN PHARMACEUTICAL MAI	(3.13)
RUMM FINANCIAL BROKERAGE	(3.29)
FUTURE ARAB INVESTMENT CO	(3.33)
SAFWA ISLAMIC BANK	(5.41)

Top Traded Companies by Volume (Shares)

SPECIALIZED INVESTMENT COMPO	629,913
RUM TOURIST TRANSPORTATION C	441,018
AL-TAJAMOUAT FOR CATERING HS	368,051
SURA DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTM	359,246
EMMAR INVESTMENTS & REAL EST	316,000

Top Traded Companies by Value (JOD)

SPECIALIZED INVESTMENT COMPC	816,158
ARAB BANK PLC	529,406
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY CC	492,728
RUM TOURIST TRANSPORTATION (	314,241
AL FARIS NATIONAL COMP FOR I	167,049

* Source: Bloomberg

Macroeconomic & Corporate News

Budget deficit up to around JD484 m in first 5 months

The public budget deficit after grants went up to JD483.5 million by the end of May, compared with JD435.5 million for the same period of last year.According to the Finance Ministry's monthly bulletin, the budget deficit before grants had reached JD574 million, compared with JD513 million for the January-May period of 2018, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.The ministry, according to estimations of the General Budget Law, expected the budget deficit after grants to stand at around JD645.6 million by the end of this year. Meanwhile, domestic revenues increased by JD97 million by the end of May, reaching around JD3.03 billion, compared with JD2.93 billion last year.

Officials mull raising tobacco prices after WHO report

The government will be looking into raising the price of smoking-related products, particularly argileh, in an effort to "cut down on smoking rates", it said on Tuesday."Shisha, vapes and electronic cigarettes are becoming increasingly popular, possibly more so than cigarettes, which is putting the health and economics of citizens at risk," MP and head of the Lower House's Health Committee Eisa Khashashneh, said in a statement made available to The Jordan Times.

Jordan is the second most smoking-dependent country in the world after Indonesia, and first regionally, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Foreign direct investment falls in Q1

Net foreign investments dropped by $33 million during the first quarter (Q1) of 2019, registering the lowest decline in a year.The Central Bank of Jordan's (CBJ) primary data showed that direct foreign investments in the Kingdom fell to $251 million by the end of Q1, in comparison with a $284 million drop during the same period last year, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported on Tuesday. The drop is attributed to a decline in foreign investments in the energy sector, despite the improvements shown by other direct foreign investment indicators. With the drop, direct foreign investments now equal 2.5 per cent of the GDP. A steep fall in direct foreign investments was experienced during the first quarter of 2018, according to Petra. The investment volume this year is expected to stabilise around $1 billion, or 2.3 per cent of the GDP, the CBJ said.

* Source: Bloomberg, Jordan Times, Zawya