

Economic Monitor Jordan

1.9% Economic growth (GDP) in 2018 compared to 2.1% in 2017

3.6% Growth in the Social and Services sector

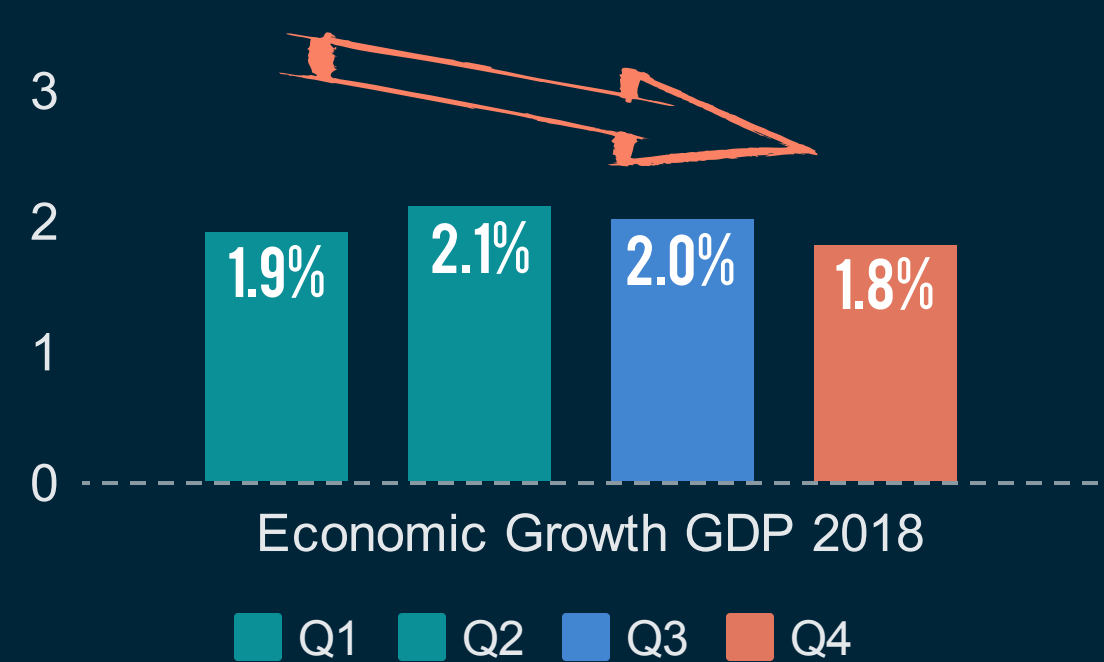
3.6% Growth in the Transport, Communication & Storage Sector

3.2% Growth in the Agriculture sector

3.1% Growth in the Finance & Insurance Sector

2.4% Growth in the Real Estate Sector

BUT,
-3.1% Contraction in the Mining sector



Macroeconomic Issues

Unemployment deteriorated in 2018

18.6% Unemployment rate in 2018, climbing from 18.3% in 2017.

Males:
16.5% compared with 14.7% in 2017

Females:
26.8% compared with 31.2% in 2017



The unemployment rate reached its peak of 18.7% during the 4th quarter of 2018.

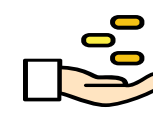
Monetary Development

Stable Monetary Environment

+0.5% MoM increase in foreign currency reserves in February 2019, to reach \$11,414 million.



+0.5% Increase in credit extended to the private sector in January 2019, to reach JD24,751 million.



+1.1% Inflation Rate during the first two months of 2019 compared to 2018.



Fiscal Policy

By the end of Jan 2019

GROSS public debt stabilised at

94.0% OF GDP

remaining the same from the end of 2018.

NET public debt decreased to

89.1% OF GDP

compared to 89.4% of GDP at the end of 2018.



The budget surplus (including grants) amounted to

JD86M

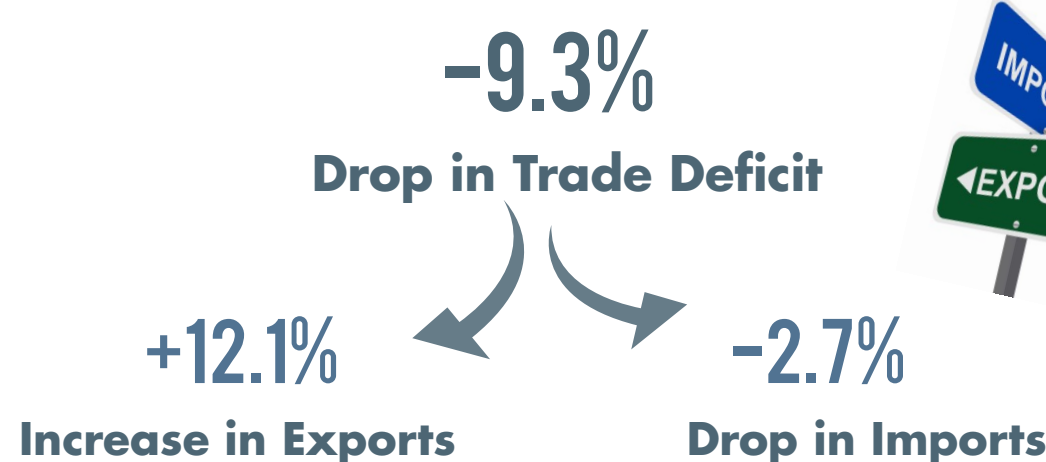
compared to a deficit of JD42 million in January of last year.

Trade Performance Jan 18 / Jan 19

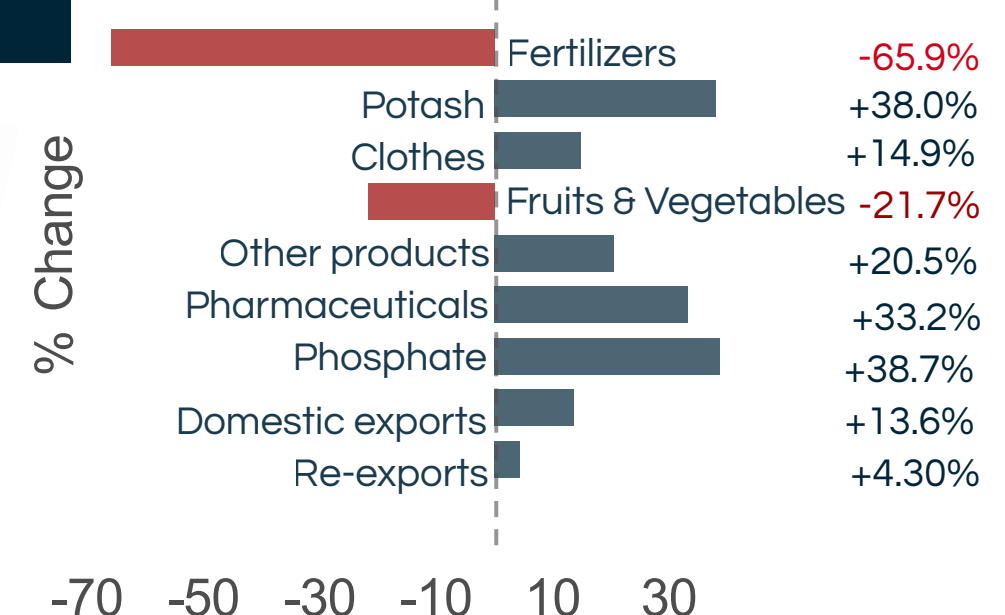


Trade Development

The trade sector performed positively in Jan 19



Exports By Product



Investment Climate

Foreign Direct Investment

-52.7%

Decrease in the value of foreign direct investments (FDI) inflows into Jordan in 2018 compared to 2017. On a quarterly level, the value of FDI amounted to JD141 million during the 4th quarter of 2018, declining by -46.7% from the same period of 2017.



Investment commission issues/renews 321 investor cards



هيئة الإستثمار
Investment Commission

In mid March, the Investment Commission announced that it had issued/renewed 321 investor cards since the beginning of 2019 for Arab and foreign investors and their families. In specific, the Commission said that it had issued and renewed 64 investor cards for Category A, and 122 investor cards for Category B Syrian investors, while the commission also issued 135 for individuals. Meanwhile, no details of sectors or amounts were announced.

Other Investment Developments

The Greater Amman Municipality has launched the unified inspection system during March after delays. The unified inspection system aims at lowering the burdens on economic establishments.

The Justice Ministry launched 20 new e-services in March and announced plans to launch another 20 new e-services by 2020, aiming at expediting court procedures, and thus providing a more encouraging business environment.

According to a survey carried out by INTAJ on the ICT sector, companies described the business environment in Jordan as 'not good' and said that demand is falling.

The Arab Mines Phosphate Companies signed an MoU with Mitsubishi to establish a yellow phosphorus factory in Jordan.

Jordan dropped four spots while maintaining its second place regionally in the World Justice Project's annual rule of law index for 2018-2019.



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