



Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is strategically located in the Middle East. Bound by Syria to the north, Iraq to the northeast, Saudi Arabia to the east and south, the Red Sea to the south, and Israel and the Palestinian National Authority to the west. Jordan's strategic location allows for access to over one billion consumers as it acts as a gateway to neighboring and global markets through its modern transportation system and strong communication networks.



Despite regional turmoil, Jordan continues to be a point of attraction for foreign investors who view the country as an oasis of peace in a volatile region and continuously tries to maintain stability, moderation, and security. The Kingdom boasts a high level of security and stability and is able to overcome challenges and boost its strategic and economic partnerships.

Blessed with a temperate climate Jordan is made for comfort. Those who love the great outdoors will enjoy our clear skies and low humidity. We are also working to protect sea, land and air environments to retain our country's beauty. Jordan is party to more than ten international agreements on the environment.

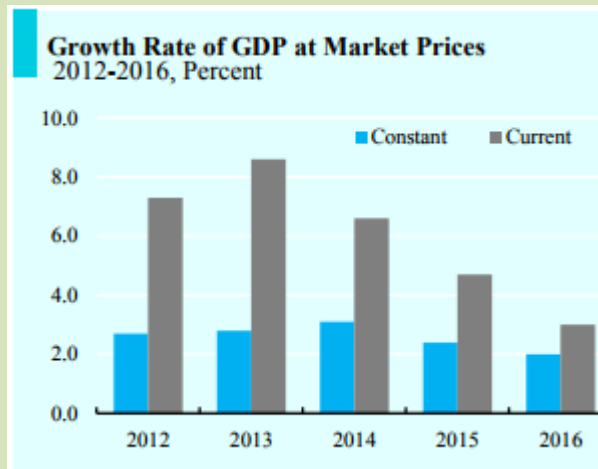
The Economy

Jordan ranked 46th globally in a climate of economic freedom and ranked 5th in the region according to the Heritage Foundation report for 2016 where the kingdom scored 68.3 degrees in the economic freedom (World average 60.7). The most prominent successes were in the free trade and freedom of criticism.

The Gross Domestic Product

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP), at constant market prices, registered a growth of 2.0 percent in 2016 compared to a growth of 2.4 percent in 2015. In addition, the GDP at fixed prices growth reached 2.0% during the second quarter of 2017 compared to the same

quarter of 2016. At the level of production sectors, most sectors have shown positive growth during the second quarter of 2017 compared with the second quarter of 2016.

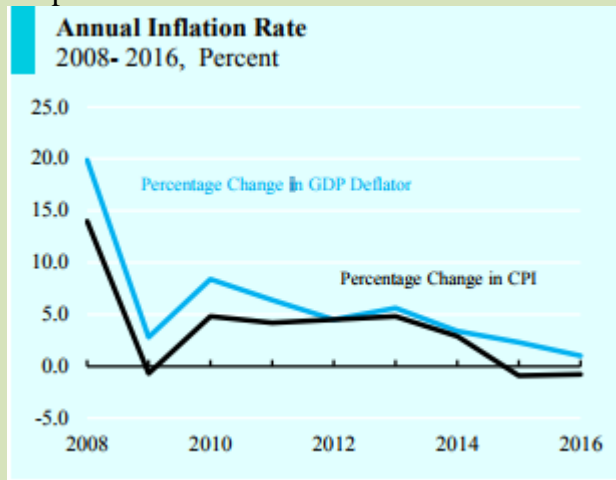


Monetary Policy

The monetary policy of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) in 2016 remained resilient and flexible to domestic, regional, and global economic developments, in order to maintain the pillars of monetary and financial stability, including maintaining price stability, safeguarding the exchange rate of the Jordanian Dinar, and ensuring the safety and soundness of the banking system.

Inflation Rate

Inflation rate, measured by the percentage change in GDP deflator, which reflect the prices of all goods and services domestically produced, displayed a deceleration to stand at 1.0 percent, compared to 2.3 percent in 2015.



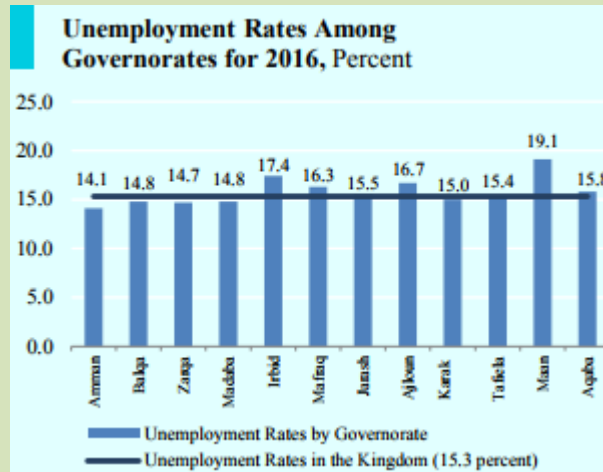
Population

Jordan's population reached 10,011 m (including refugees) on 13/11/2017. Jordan offers all the essential elements needed for a global firm to establish a regional hub for its operations in Jordan as the country's strength lies in its human capital being one of the most highly qualified and competitive workforce in the region.

Unemployment

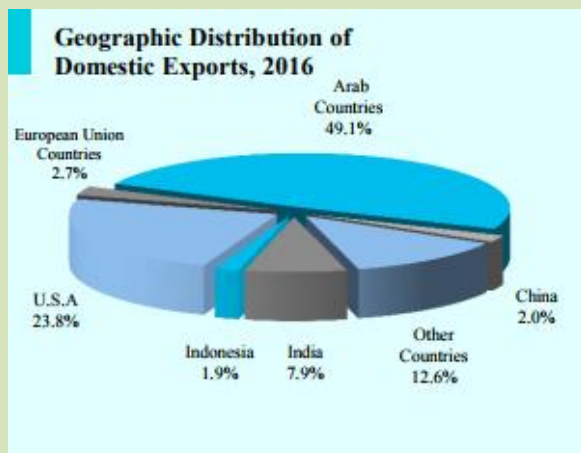
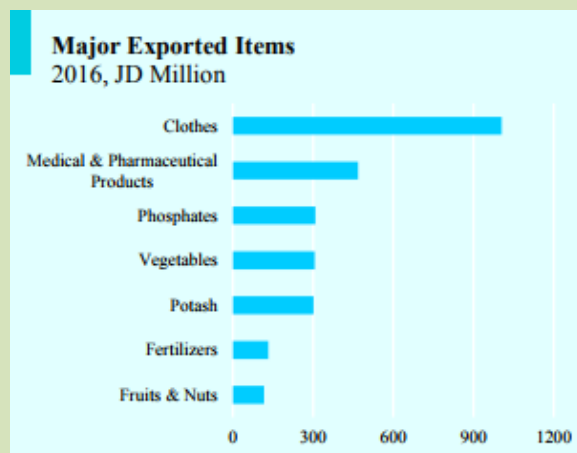
The number of unemployed Jordanians in 2016 increased by 44 thousand to stand at 253.6 thousand (71.3 percent for males and 28.7 for females). Accordingly, the unemployment

rate (the ratio of unemployed persons to the labor force) increased to 15.3 percent, compared to 13.0 percent in 2015.



External Trade

The volume of external trade (domestic exports plus imports) registered a decline by 6.9 percent in 2016, compared to a 9.8 percent decline in 2015. Total exports (domestic exports plus re-exports) decreased by 4.1 percent in 2016 to reach JD 5,331.4 million. This decrease was mainly due to a decline of 8.9 percent in domestic exports, to reach JD 4,369.3 million, and an increase of 26.0 percent in re-exports to reach JD 962.1 million.



Zarqa Governorate:

Zarqa city is the capital of industry and the second city after the capital Amman in terms of economy size with a population of about (1.3) million. Zarqa contains more than half of the invested capital in the national industries.

Moreover; Zarqa Governorate has an important competitive advantage especially in industrial investment as follow:

- Close to the capital Amman compared to other provinces and strategically location near the new Amman City project.
- Close to the power and fuel producing centers.
- Zarqa Governorate has five development zones and industrial areas which are designated to benefit from simplified rules of origin decision with the European

Union

- Zarqa Governorate has Free Zone, Qualified Industrial Zone in Al-Dhulail, and Wadi El-Eishe industrial area, which contain several factories.
- Strategic location alongside the international highway connecting Jordan to Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Gulf area.
- The availability of skilled workforce, where Zarqa governorate has the largest population after the capital Amman.
- The diversity of industries in Zarqa Governorate has contributed to a great opportunity for networking between existing industries.



Zarqa Free Zone



Qualified Industrial Zone in Al-Dhulail



Wadi El-Eishe Industrial Area

Zarqa Chamber of Industry

Zarqa Chamber of Industry is one of the effective chambers in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The chamber represents and services almost six thousand industrial establishments

in Zarqa and Mafrqa governorate region. The role of the Chamber has been extended to introduce members to economic players inside and outside Jordan as well as facilitating their transaction and increasing the volume of industrial exports to different markets.

The value of total exports from Zarqa chamber of industry reached US\$ 889.3 million During the last year 2016. Meanwhile, the exports from Zarqa chamber of industry exports value reached US\$ 733.4 Million during the 10 months of 2017.

Sources: Jordan Investment Commission

Department of Statistics

Central Bank Of Jordan