

Global Economic Development

- US personal spending fell 0.5% from a month earlier in December 2018.
- US economy advanced an annualized 2.6% on quarter in the fourth quarter of 2018.
- US unemployment benefits increased by 8 thousand to 225 thousand in the week ending February 23 from the previous week's revised level of 217 thousand.
- EU unemployment rate was steady at 7.8% in January of 2019.
- EU annual inflation rate is expected to pick up to 1.5% in February 2019 from a nine-month low of 1.4% in the previous month and in line with market consensus.
- ECB held its benchmark refinancing rate at 0% on January 24th and reiterated it expects key interest rates to remain at record low levels at least through the summer of 2019.
- Japan's inflation inched lower to 0.2% year-on-year in January 2019 from 0.3% in the previous month.
- The Japanese economy advanced 0.3% quarter-on-quarter in the December quarter 2018.
- Germany's unemployment inched lower to 3.2% in January 2019 from 3.3% in the previous month.
- Germany's annual inflation rate is expected to pick up to 1.6% in February 2019 from an 11-month low of 1.4%.
- China's consumer price inflation slowed to 1.7% year-on-year in January 2019 from 1.9%.
- China's trade surplus widened sharply to USD 39.16 billion in January 2019 from USD 18.42 billion.
- UK unemployment rate is at 4% in the fourth quarter of 2018, its lowest level since the 1970s.
- France's quarterly economic growth was confirmed at 0.3 % in the last three months of 2018.
- Russia's unemployment rate edged up to 4.9% in January 2019 from 4.8 percent in December.
- The Canadian economy advanced 0.1% QoQ in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Local & Regional Economic Development

- Palestine Industrial Production Index (IPI) decreased by 3.94% for 2018.
- Palestine CPI during January 2019 slightly increased by 0.01%.
- Palestine Exports & imports increased by 5% & 0.2% respectively mom in December.
- Palestine unemployment in 2018 shows 52% in Gaza Strip compared with 44% in 2017, while in the West Bank it was 18% and 19%, respectively.

Palestine Key Economic Indicators					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Population ('000)	4,421	4,550	4,682	4,867	4,950
Real GDP Change	2.2	-0.2	3.4	4.1	3.2
Real Per Capita GDP Change	-0.8	-3.1	0.4	1.2	0.1
Inflation Rate	1.72	1.73	1.43	-0.22	0.21
Unemployment rate	23.4	26.9	25.9	26.9	27.40

- Palestine Producer Price Index (PPI) slightly decreased by 0.03% mom in January 2019.
- MENA region sovereign borrowing is set to increase by 20% this year, estimates S&P.
- Egypt and Lebanon have discussed the possibility of providing the latter with LNG, to fix the electricity sector.
- Saudi Aramco agreed to deliver more than 500k barrels of crude oil every month to Egyptian refineries for a 6-month period till June.
- Iraq's southern ports crude oil exports stood at 3.565mn barrels per day (bpd) as of 25 February.
- Bahrain's cabinet approved hikes in fees imposed on foreign labour licenses under a job nationalisation programme.
- Fitch affirmed Bahrain's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating at "BB-" with a stable outlook.
- Lebanon's Beirut international airport saw a 7.37% yoy increase in passenger traffic last year.
- Oman's visa ban at end of January 2018 has resulted in employing about 64,386 Omanis in the private sector and 4,125 more in government agencies.
- Qatar Investment Authority plans to buy a stake of at least 5% in Deutsche Bank from either the open market or Chinese conglomerate HNA.
- Saudi Arabia's Tadawul expects to receive passive fund inflows of USD 15-20bn this year as it is included in multiple emerging market benchmarks.
- Saudi Arabia plans to finalise by Q2 this year regulations allowing for cross-listing.
- Saudi Unemployment edged down to 12.8% in Q3 2018, from 12.9% in the two previous quarters.
- Saudi Arabia value of oil exports increased by 12.7% yoy to SAR 69.97bn in December; non-oil exports picked up by 11.8% to SAR 21.05bn.
- Dubai welcomed around 15.92 million tourists last year, up 0.8% yoy.
- Bank lending in the UAE increased by 5% yoy to AED 1.662trn in January 2019.



- Profits of listed companies at Palestine Exchange grew 2% in 2018. The preliminary financial results disclosure period ended on the Palestine Exchange (PEX), 96% of listed companies were able to disclose within the set deadline, 87% were profitable in 2018.

The preliminary results of 2018 showed that net profit amounted to 300,167,003USD, a growth of 2.04% compared to 2017. Results also show that forty companies achieved profits of 308,908,293 USD a decline of 4% compared with the same period of 2017, while the net loss of the other six companies was reduced by 69% and reached 8,741,290 USD. Two suspended companies failed to disclose within the legal time frame.

To view a detailed table of 2018 disclosures, please visit:

<http://www.pex.ps/FileManagerWeb/Default.aspx?AID=1000&UID=345&WFID=29&DocAction=610&HashCode=475&PathCode=1&TRID=36079&TID=927>

Corporate News

- The Palestine Telecommunication Company (PEX: PALTEL) bought an extra stake of 25% in Jericho Gate Company from PADICO Holding, raising its ownership to 75%. The deal value was about 26 million Jordanian Dinars.
- The Vegetable Oil Industries company (PEX: VOIC) disclosed investments in two unlisted companies the national Beverage Company and Plastic Technology Co., Ltd.

Trading Summary

Details	Value	Month Change	YTD
Index close (points)	541.18	1.89%	2.23%
Trading value (US\$)	33,120,370	-1.98%	66,909,699
Trading volume	18,951,204	-2.50%	38,387,585
No. of transactions	2,687	0.22	5,368
Market Cap. (US\$)	3,814,796,528	2.30%	3,814,796,528

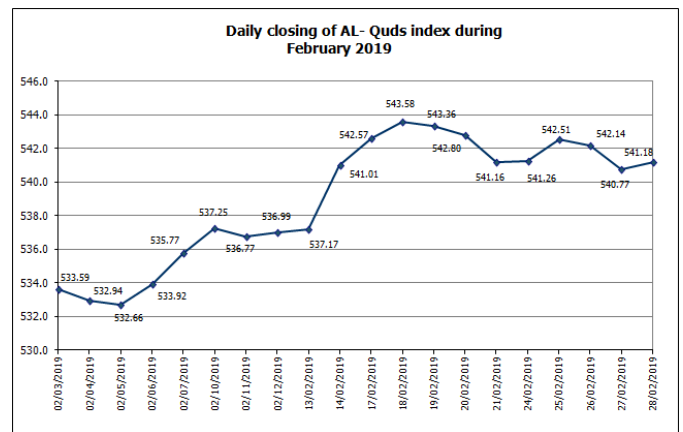
Key Indicators

No. of listed Companies	48
Subscribed Shares	1,896,726,915
Annual Turnover Ratio	9.91%
Price earnings ratio (P/E)	13.11
Daily average value turnover (US\$)	1,656,019
Daily average Volume turnover	947,560

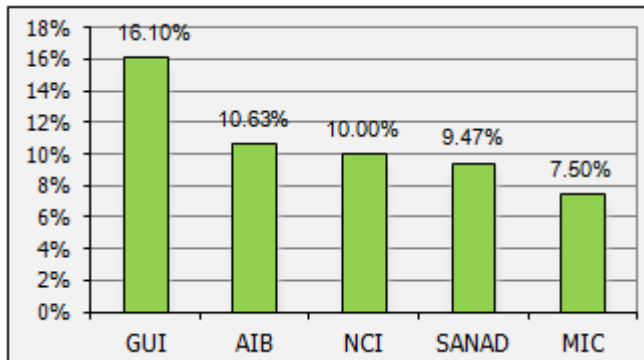
PEX Indices

Index (Base Value =100)	Points	Change
Al-Quds	541.18	1.89%
General	299.28	2.30%
Banking & Financial Serv.	152.24	4.29%
Industry	98.83	-0.13%
Insurance	95.72	4.26%
Investment	29.3	2.81%
Services	40.76	0.59%

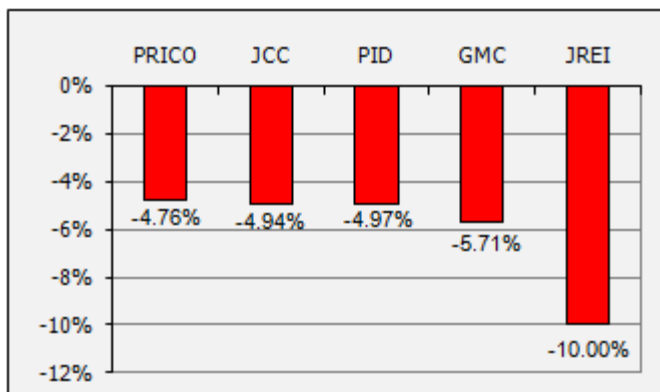
Al Quds Index



Top Gainers



Top Decliners



Arab Markets Indices

Country	Value	M. Change	Y-To-D
EGYPT	14,803.97	4.79%	13.56%
SAUDI	8,492.70	-0.79%	8.51%
BAHRAIN	1,412.66	1.53%	5.64%
ABU DHABI	5,137.81	1.84%	4.53%
AMMAN	1,992.12	2.08%	4.36%
DUBAI	2,635.78	2.66%	4.19%
PALESTINE	541.18	1.89%	2.23%
SUDAN	13,444.09	0.06%	0.95%
KUWAIT	5,263.41	-3.07%	-0.07%
DAMASCUS	6,182.16	2.26%	-0.13%
QATAR	10,111.62	-5.68%	-1.82%
CASABLANCA	11,136.57	-1.89%	-2.00%
TUNIS	7,113.57	-2.04%	-2.17%
BEIRUT	942.59	-0.42%	-3.50%
MUSCAT	4,144.47	-0.53%	-4.15%
IRAQ	465.13	-5.51%	-8.82%

Al Quds Index Companies

Company	Ticker	Currency	M. Cap. USD' Million	Price EOM	Monthly Change %	YTD Change%	P/E
Ahliea Insurance Group	AIG	US\$	18.40	0.46	4.55	17.95	9.59
Arab Palestinian Investment	APIC	US\$	198.44	2.42	0.83	2.98	12.37
Bank Of Palestine	BOP	US\$	460.00	2.3	4.55	-0.86	8.50
Birzeit Pharmaceuticals	BPC	US\$	98.43	5.18	-0.38	0.78	12.35
Palestine Islamic Bank	ISBK	US\$	147.26	1.99	1.53	7.57	9.73
Jerusalem Pharmaceutical	JPH	US\$	54.90	3.05	0.00	-5.86	9.01
Wataniya Palestine Mobile Telecommunications	OOREDOO	US\$	240.26	0.82	3.8	0.00	2,391.27
Palestine Development & Investment	PADICO	US\$	342.50	1.37	3.01	7.03	22.00
Palestine Telecommunications	PALTEL	JOD	820.57	4.42	0.00	2.31	8.67
Palestine Electric	PEC	US\$	85.20	1.42	-0.7	4.41	9.70
Palestine Investment Bank	PIBC	US\$	82.50	1.10	4.76	-9.09	19.00
Palestine Real Estate Investment	PRICO	JOD	35.97	0.40	-4.76	-6.98	---
Quds Bank	QUDS	US\$	157.11	1.88	4.44	0.00	13.55
The National Bank	TNB	US\$	131.25	1.75	1.74	2.94	6.82
Union Construction and Investment	UCI	US\$	21.44	0.67	3.08	11.67	11.13

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