

Market Performance

Kuwait's All Share Index closed 5.8% higher at 6,113.6 points in April 2021. Total traded volume increased 59.5% MoM to 7.5bn; the number of deals increased 24.9% MoM to 262,087 and total value traded improved 19.4% MoM to KWD1,082.7mn. Growth in the market was attributed to optimism surrounding progress in COVID-19 vaccine development and higher oil prices.

As per the third estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the real GDP of the US grew at an annualized rate of 6.4% QoQ in Q1 2021, driven by the increase in personal consumption expenditures (PCE), non-residential fixed investments, federal government spending, residential fixed investments, and state and local government spending. Growth was partly offset by the decrease in private inventory investments and exports. As per the latest projection by the IMF, the real GDP of the US is expected to grow by 6.4% in 2021 and 3.5% in 2022, supported by the USD1.9tn financial stimulus. Personal income increased by 21.1% MoM in March 2021, compared with the revised 7.0% MoM decline in February 2021, beating the consensus estimate of 20.3% jump. The increase in personal income was primarily attributed to the rise in government social benefits to US citizens. As a result, PCE rose 4.2% MoM in March 2021, after falling 1.0% MoM (revised) in February 2021, slightly above the market expectation of 4.1% rise. Inflation in the US rose 0.6% MoM in March 2021, compared with the 0.4% rise in February 2021, above the consensus estimate of 0.5% rise. Total exports decreased 2.6% MoM to USD187.3bn in February 2021, while total imports dropped USD1.7bn MoM to USD258.3bn.

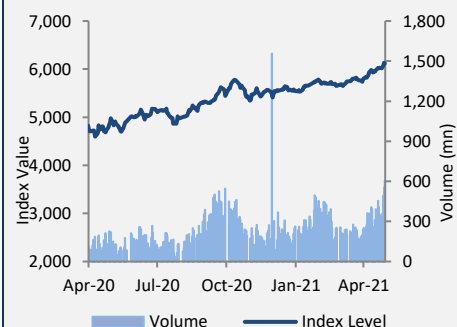
As per the preliminary flash estimates released by Eurostat, the seasonally adjusted GDP growth of the Euro area slowed by 0.4% QoQ in Q1 2021, following a 0.7% decline in Q4 2020. Annual inflation in the Euro area rose to 1.6% YoY in April 2021, from 1.3% in March 2021. According to the IMF's latest estimates, the Euro area's GDP is projected to rebound by 4.5% in 2021, 0.2% less than that forecast in October 2020 due to the new COVID-19 waves and lockdowns. Moreover, the 2022 GDP is forecast to grow by 3.9%, 0.7% above the October 2020 forecast. As per the latest data released by the Office for National Statistics, the annual inflation rate in the UK stood at 1.0% YoY in March 2021, up from the 0.7% rise in February 2021. As per the IMF, the UK's GDP would grow by 5.3% in 2021, up from a previous forecast of 4.5% stated in January 2021.

In Asia, as per the latest data released by the National Bureau of Statistics, China's Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.4% YoY in March 2021, compared with the 0.2% YoY drop in February 2021. The IMF projected China's economy to expand 8.4% in 2021, up from an earlier forecast of 8.1%. As per the Statistics Bureau of Japan, the country's CPI fell 0.2% YoY in March 2021, following the 0.4% YoY decline in February 2021.

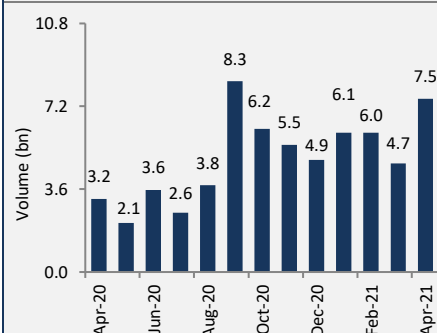
| Kuwait Market Summary | April, 2021 | March, 2021 | Change (%) |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Open | 5,777.13 | 5,661.67 | 2.0 |
| High | 6,143.17 | 5,845.86 | 5.1 |
| Low | 5,777.13 | 5,652.31 | 2.2 |
| Close | 6,113.60 | 5,775.92 | 5.8 |
| Volume traded (mn) | 7,531.22 | 4,722.83 | 59.5 |
| Value Traded (KWD mn) | 1,082.72 | 907.12 | 19.4 |
| No. of deals | 262,087 | 209,876 | 24.9 |
| No. of advances | 115 | 73 | 59.7 |
| No. of declines | 37 | 80 | (54.3) |
| No. of unchanged | 14 | 15 | (6.7) |

Kuwait Index Performance

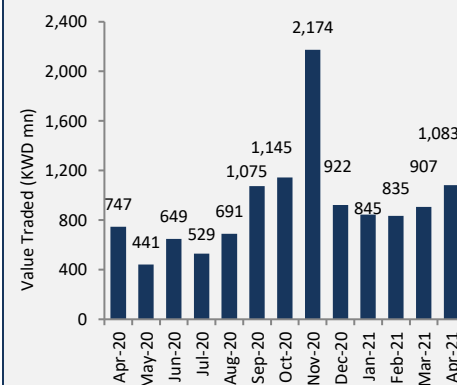
Benchmark Index and Volume Traded



Monthly Volume Traded (bn)



Monthly Value Traded (KWD mn)



Top Gainers and Losers

The market breadth was positive; 115 stocks firmed-up and 37 declined, while 14 remained unchanged.

| Top Five Gainers | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|---------|
| | Close (KWd) | MTD (%) | YTD (%) | Market Capitalization (KWD mn) | Volume (mn) | EPS (KWd) | BVPS (KWd) | P/E (x) | P/B (x) |
| Educational Holding Group | 693.00 | 103.82 | 111.28 | 103.95 | 4.13 | 0.02 | 4.13 | 16.27 | 2.86 |
| The National Real Estate Company | 182.00 | 101.55 | 141.38 | 273.92 | 274.54 | 3.10 | 5.50 | NM | 1.00 |
| Taameer Real Estate Investment Co. | 33.90 | 82.26 | 69.50 | 8.12 | 152.03 | (0.00) | 15.77 | NA | 0.53 |
| Real Estate Trade Centers Co. | 54.00 | 74.19 | 95.65 | 6.95 | 12.46 | 4.05 | 5.94 | NM | 0.32 |
| Bayan Investment Co. | 60.90 | 74.00 | 46.04 | 22.07 | 339.56 | (0.00) | 10.29 | NA | 0.63 |

| Top Five Losers | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|---------|
| | Close (KWd) | MTD (%) | YTD (%) | Market Capitalization (KWD mn) | Volume (mn) | EPS (KWd) | BVPS (KWd) | P/E (x) | P/B (x) |
| Alrai Media Group Company | 25.50 | (27.97) | (46.88) | 2.64 | 3.37 | 9.86 | NM | 0.25 | 9.86 |
| Jazeera Airways Co. | 613.00 | (14.86) | (16.03) | 122.60 | 7.99 | 16.70 | NA | 10.24 | 16.70 |
| Yiaco Medical Co. | 532.00 | (12.79) | (36.67) | 9.11 | 0.03 | 8.32 | NM | 4.43 | 8.32 |
| Humansoft Holding Co. | 3290.00 | (11.08) | (13.40) | 400.24 | 5.50 | 0.97 | 7.73 | 3.50 | 0.97 |
| Jiyad Holding Company | 41.30 | (10.80) | (6.77) | 14.46 | 15.65 | 8.92 | 11.24 | 0.37 | 8.92 |

| Top Five by Volume | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|---------|
| | Close (KWd) | MTD (%) | YTD (%) | Market Capitalization (KWD mn) | Volume (mn) | EPS (KWd) | BVPS (KWd) | P/E (x) | P/B (x) |
| First Investment Company | 67.50 | 15.38 | 56.98 | 30.10 | 348.35 | 9.86 | NA | 0.80 | 9.86 |
| Ahli United Bank (B.S.C) | 213.00 | (5.33) | (6.17) | 2055.85 | 339.56 | 10.29 | NA | 0.63 | 10.29 |
| Aayan Leasing & Investment Co. | 123.00 | 6.03 | 33.84 | 98.61 | 305.50 | 8.09 | NA | 0.91 | 8.09 |
| Kuwait Finance House | 768.00 | 6.37 | 13.44 | 5844.29 | 295.93 | 8.41 | 16.87 | 1.75 | 8.41 |
| Gulf Bank | 220.00 | 1.85 | 0.46 | 662.45 | 274.54 | 5.50 | NM | 1.00 | 5.50 |

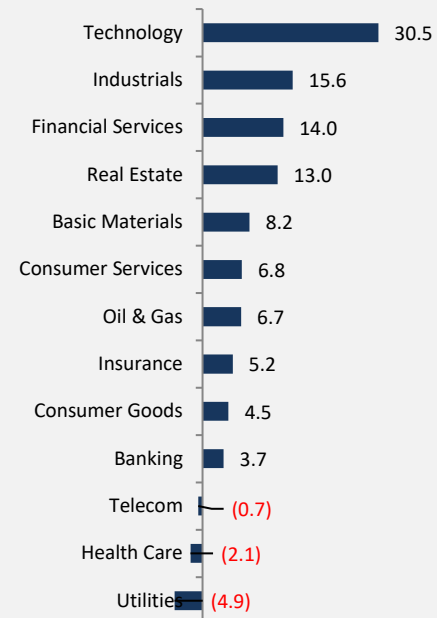
Source: Bloomberg; **NM** – Not Meaningful; **NA** – Not Available

Performance by Sector

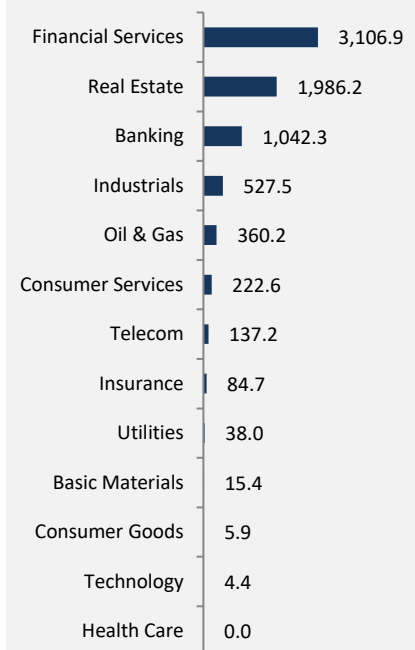
- Banks:** The sector closed 3.7% higher at 1,362.5 points during the month. Kuwait International Bank (up 8.5%) was the top gainer, followed by Boubyan Bank (up 8.3%), while Kuwait Finance House (down 5.9%) was the top decliner. The sector was leading position on the index in terms of turnover (KWD392.6mn). The volume traded and number of deals stood at 1.0bn shares and 43,771, respectively.
- Basic Materials:** The sector closed 8.2% higher at 1,178.0 points during the month. Boubyan Petrochemical Co. (up 9.2%) was the top gainer, followed by Qurain Petrochemical Industries Co. (up 8.9%). The number of shares traded, and total turnover stood at 15.4mn and KWD10.1mn, respectively, while total transactions stood at 2,990.
- Consumer Goods:** The sector gained 4.5% to end at 739.6 points during the month. Mezzan Holding Co (up 5.1%) increased the most. Total volume, turnover, and deals made stood at 5.9mn shares, KWD2.8mn, and 1,135, respectively.
- Consumer Services:** The sector closed 6.8% higher at 903.2 points during the month. Among stocks, Sultan Center Food Products Co. (up 60.0%) led the gainers, followed by IFA Hotels & Resorts Co. (up 30.0%), while Alrai Media Group Company (down 28.0%) was the top decliners. Total volume, turnover, and transactions stood at 222.6mn shares, KWD20.8mn, and 10,975, respectively.
- Financial Services:** The sector closed 14.0% higher at 1,122.7 points during the month. Bayan Investment Co. (up 74.0%) was the top gainer, followed by Gulf Investment House (up 71.6%), while Kuwait And Middle East Financial Investment Co. (down 6.8%) was the top loser. Total volume, turnover, and deals made stood at 4,106.9mn shares, KWD289.4mn and 87,452, respectively.
- Healthcare:** The sector ended 2.1% lower at 793.3 points. Yiacco Medical Co. (down 12.8%) was the top loser. There were 113 deals; Quantity and value traded stood at 29,911 and KWD14,967, respectively.
- Utilities:** The sector closed 4.9% lower at 671.1 points during the month. Shamal Az-Zour Al-Oula Power and Water Company K.S.C.P (down 4.9%) only listed stock ended in red. The sector recorded 2,508 transactions. Total volume and value traded stood at 38.0mn and KWD10.0mn, respectively.

Market Composition

Monthly Sector Index Returns (%)



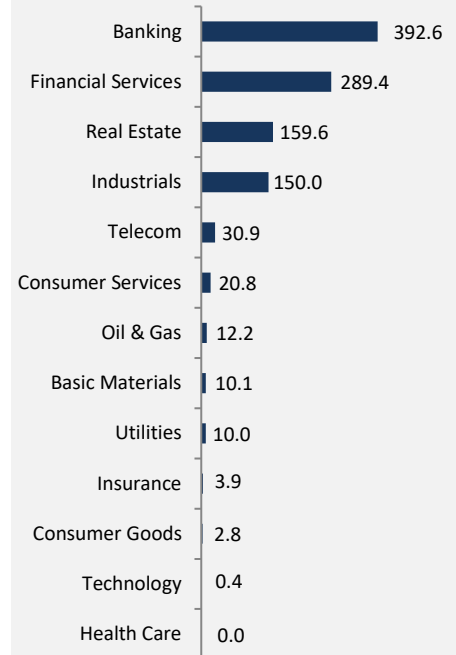
Monthly Volume Traded (million)



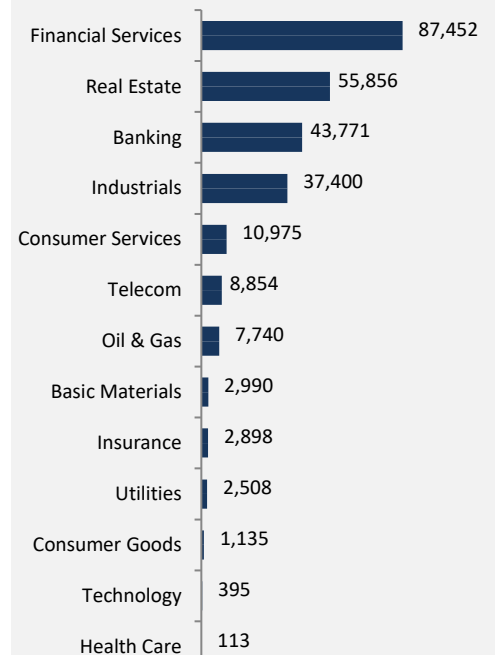
- Industrials:** The sector closed 15.6% higher at 1,964.6 points during the month. Educational Holding Group (up 103.8%) was the top gainer, followed by United Projects Co. (up 63.5%), while Humansoft Holding Co. (down **11.1%**) was the top loser. Total volume, turnover, and deals made stood at 527.5mn shares, KWD150.0mn and 37,400, respectively.
- Insurance:** The sector closed 5.2% higher at 1,263.8 points during the month. Wethaq Takaful Insurance Company (up 33.5%) was the top gainer, followed by First Takaful Insurance Company (up 12.5%), while Wethaq Takaful Insurance Company (down **8.6%**) was the top loser. Total volume, turnover, and deals made stood at 84.7mn shares, KWD3.9mn and 2,898, respectively.
- Oil & Gas:** The sector closed 6.7% higher at 1,307.1 points. Senergy Holding Company (K.S.C.P) (up 38.2%) was the top gainer, followed The Energy House Co (up 32.5%), while Burgan Co. For Well Drilling Trading & Maint (down **8.3%**) was the top loser. Total volume, turnover, and number of transactions stood at 360.2mn shares, KWD12.2mn, and 7,740, respectively.
- Real Estate:** The sector closed 13.0% higher at 1,149.4 points during the month. The National Real Estate Company (up 101.6%) was the top gainer, followed by Taameer Real Estate Investment Co. (up 82.3%), while Investors Holding Group Co. (down **10.0%**) was the top loser. Total volume, turnover, and deals made stood at 1,986.2mn shares, KWD159.6mn and 55,856, respectively.
- Technology:** The sector closed at 778.4 points, up 30.5% from the previous month. Automated Systems Company (up 30.5%) was the only gainer. The sector recorded 395 transactions during the month. Total volume and value traded stood at 4.4mn and KWD0.4mn, respectively.
- Telecom:** The sector closed **0.7%** lower at 1,106.5 points. Kuwait Telecommunications Co. (down **3.3%**) was the top decliner, followed by National Mobile Telecommunications Co. (down **0.9%**). Total turnover of KWD30.9mn was generated by 137.2mn shares traded through 8,854 transactions.

Market Composition

Monthly Value Traded (KWD mn)



Number of Deals

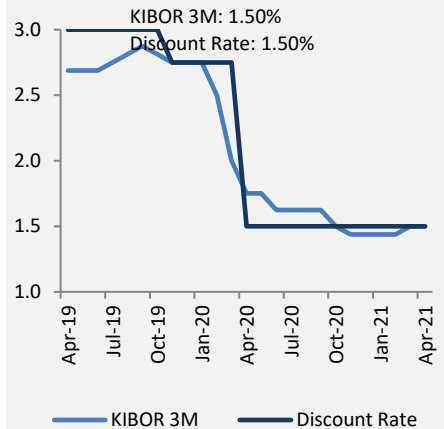


Kuwait – Economy and Industry News

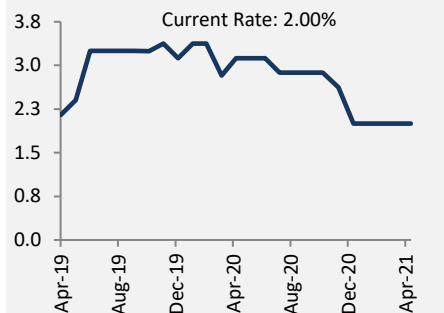
- Kuwait's All Share Index closed 5.8% higher at 6,113.6 points in April 2021. Total traded volume increased 59.5% MoM to 7.5bn; the number of deals increased 24.9% MoM to 262,087 and total value traded improved 19.4% MoM to KWD1,082.7mn. Growth in the market was attributed to optimism surrounding progress in COVID-19 vaccine development and higher oil prices.
- As per the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Kuwait's real GDP is expected to grow 0.7% YoY during 2021 (up from the October estimate of 0.6%) owing to the strong vaccination rollout and recovery in oil prices. Nonetheless, it estimates the economy to grow 3.2% YoY in 2022.
- Kuwait's crude oil exports to Japan in March declined **37.9%** YoY to 5.61 million barrels, down for the 12th straight month. Moreover, trade surplus with Japan fell **45.7%** from a year earlier to JPY25.5bn (USD235mn) in March 2021.
- As per the latest data released by the Central Statistical Bureau (CSB), Kuwait's annual inflation increased 3.2% YoY in March 2021. Prices of food and beverages increased the most at 10.8% YoY. On the other hand, prices in the education sector decreased **15.5%** YoY.
- According to the latest data from the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK), the official reserves increased 14.9% YoY to KWD14.3bn during February 2021 compared to KWD12.4bn in February 2020.
- Kuwait's monetary gold position remained unchanged at KWD31.7mn in February 2021.
- The IMF reserve position increased sharply 32.3% YoY to KWD219.2mn in February 2021 from KWD165.7mn in February 2020, while special drawing rights inched up 0.1% YoY to KWD564.5mn.
- CBK's total assets increased 14.1% YoY from KWD11.9bn in February 2020 to KWD13.6bn in February 2021.
- Household credit increased 6.9% YoY by the end of February 2021, mainly driven by housing loans.
- Consumer spending rose by 59% YoY in March 2021, aided by the recent strength in household lending.
- Kuwaiti employment declined to 2.1% in 2020 from 2.4% in 2019. Employment rose in the public sector (2.7%), but dropped in the private sector (**-1.2%**).

Monetary Indicators

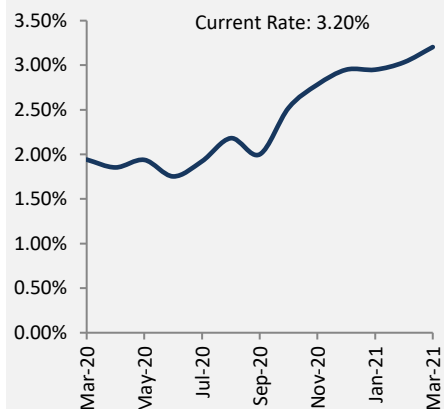
Interest Rate (%)



Deposit Rate (%)



Inflation Rate



Source: Bloomberg

GCC Markets Performance

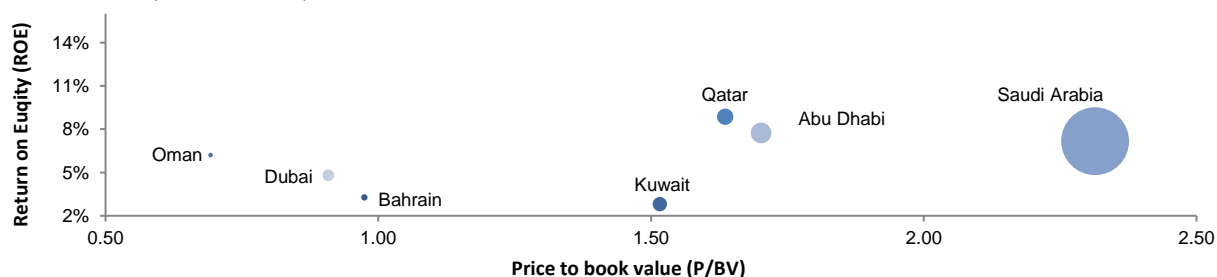
| Index | Close | Change MTD (%) | Change YTD (%) | P/E | Dividend Yield (%) |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|-------|--------------------|
| Bahrain (BAX) | 1,484.85 | 1.84 | (0.33) | 30.94 | 2.36 |
| Kuwait (KSE) | 6,113.60 | 5.85 | 10.23 | 50.04 | 2.29 |
| Oman (MSM) | 3,761.01 | 1.41 | 2.79 | 11.32 | 4.81 |
| Qatar (DSM) | 10,911.40 | 4.90 | 4.56 | 19.35 | 2.84 |
| Saudi Arabia (TASI) | 10,418.98 | 5.16 | 19.90 | 31.15 | 2.35 |
| UAE (ADX) | 6,046.81 | 2.27 | 19.85 | 22.71 | 4.29 |
| UAE (DFM) | 2,605.38 | 2.16 | 4.55 | 20.03 | 3.24 |

Of the seven GCC indices, all ended in positive territory, during the month of April. Kuwait's KSE index (up 5.9%) was the top gainers, followed by Saudi Arabia's Tasi (up 5.2%).

- Bahrain's BAX closed 1.8% higher at 1,484.9 points. Among sectors, Industrial (up 13.1%) and Services (up 2.7%) were the top gainer. Among stocks, Aluminium Bahrain (up 13.4%) increased the most, followed by INOVEST (up 7.1%), while Solidarity Bahrain (down 10.0%) was the top loser.
- Kuwait's All Share Index closed 5.9% higher at 6,113.6 points. Among sectors, Technology (up 30.5%) led the gainers. On the contrary, Utilities (down 4.9%) decreased the most. Among stocks Educational Holding Group (up 103.8%) was the top gainer, followed by The National Real Estate Company (up 101.6%), while Alrai Media Group Company (down 28.0%) was the top loser.
- Oman's MSM was up 1.4% to close at 3,761.0 points. Among sectors, Industry (up 13.9%) was the top gainer. Among stocks, Jazeera Steel Prod. (up 62.4%) was increased the most, followed by Al Omaniya Financial Services (up 37.1%), while Raysut Cement (down 8.7%) was the top loser.
- Qatar's DSM increased 4.9% to close at 10,911.4 points. Among sectors, Industrials (up 9.8%) increased the most, followed by Insurance (up 1.3%). Among stocks, Investment Holding Group (up 39.6%) was the top gainer, followed by Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing (up 32.4%), while Widam Food Company (down 17.5%) decreased the most.
- Saudi Arabia's TASI rose 5.2% to close at 10,419.0 points. Among sectors, Health Care Equipment (up 15.2%) was the top gainer, followed by Media and Entertainment (up 13.9%), while Software & Services (down 12.2%) declined the most. Among stocks, Northern Cement (up 35.6%) led the gainers, followed by The National Agricultural Development Company (up 29.4%). Saudi Industrial Export Co (down 18.1%) declined the most.
- The ADX ended 2.3% higher at 6,046.8 points. Among sectors, Investment & Financial Services (up 38.8%) lifted the index, followed by Services (up 5.6%). Among stocks, International Holdings Co. PJSC (up 43.7%) was the top gainer, followed by RAK Co. for White Cement & Construction (up 25.0%), while Abu Dhabi National Co. for Building Materials (down 19.4%) declined the most. The DFM ended 2.2% higher at 2,605.4 points. Among sectors, Real Estate & Const. (up 9.2%) was the top gainer, followed by Services (up 5.9%). Among stocks, National General Insurance Company P.J.S.C (up 30.2%) led the gainer, followed by Dubai Refreshment Company P.J.S.C. (up 26.7%), while Emirates Refreshments Company (down 62.4%) decreased the most.

Valuation

Size of the bubble represents Market Capitalization



Source: Bloomberg

GCC Markets – Economy and Industry News

Saudi Arabia

- According to the General Authority of Statistics (GASTAT), Saudi Arabia's annual consumer price inflation rose to 4.9% YoY in March 2021. The increase in inflation was mainly attributed to a 10.5% increase in prices of transportation, followed by a 10.2% rise in prices of food and beverages.
- Saudi Arabia's non-oil exports fell **10.8%** YoY to SAR 204.4bn in 2020, as per the latest data released by GASTAT. Saudi Arabia's consumer spending increased to SAR260.8bn (up 2.08% YoY) during the first quarter of 2021.
- As per the Saudi Central Bank (SAMA), Saudi Arabia's consumer spending increased by SAR5.3bn YoY (2.08%), during Q1 2021.
- Saudi Arabia's trade balance surplus increased to SAR25.4bn in February 2021 from SAR20.8bn in February 2020, as per the recent data by GASTAT.

UAE

- According to the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority, UAE's consumer price index fell **2.0%** YoY in February 2021, after declining **1.9%** YoY in January 2021.
- As per the Central Bank, the United Arab Emirates' economy contracted **6.1%** in 2020 as the coronavirus outbreak hit several key sectors.
- As per the latest data by the Central Bank of the UAE (CBUAE), the UAE's banks registered 22.1% growth in their total investments to AED500.1bn in February 2021 from AED409.6 billion in February 2020.
- The UAE's holdings of the US Treasury bonds increased by 50% MoM to USD50.6bn in February 2021 from about USD33.8bn in January.

Qatar

- Qatar's foreign merchandise trade balance was in surplus by QAR13.2bn during March 2021 as total exports amounted to QAR22.1bn (an increase of 38.2% YoY) and total imports amounted to QAR8.9bn (an increase of 6.7% YoY).

Bahrain

- According to the Information & eGovernment Authority, Bahrain's inflation rate fell **2.0%** YoY in March 2021, after declining **3.0%** YoY in February 2021. Prices in the recreation and culture sector decreased the most at **7.6%** YoY.
- The total value of trade between the GCC and Bahrain in Q1 2021 was recorded at USD1.76bn, up 6% YoY, as per the latest data released by the Information & eGovernment Authority.

Oman

- According to the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI), Oman's inflation rate fell **0.4%** YoY in March 2021, following a **1.4%** decline in February.

GCC Corporate Developments

Saudi Arabia

- **ACWA Power**, a leading developer and operator of power generation and desalinated water plants, has signed the financial package to develop the USD1.0bn Sirdarya Combined Cycle Gas-Turbine power plant in Uzbekistan.
- Canadian Brookfield Asset Management and US-based asset manager, BlackRock, have reportedly withdrawn interest from purchasing equity in **Saudi Aramco's** pipeline business.
- As per a report issued by Riyadh Chamber, Saudi Arabia's **National Renewable Energy Program** is aiming at SAR60.0bn (USD15.9bn) worth of project investments.
- **Advanced Global Investment Company**, a subsidiary of **Advanced Petrochemical Company**, has signed engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) deals worth USD1.68bn to construct propylene plants.
- **Batic Investments and Logistics Company** has purchased 40% stake of its subsidiary **AlShifa Technology Company**, as per the bourse filing.

UAE

- **Dubai Investments** has bought 32.3 million shares in **National General Insurance Company** (NGI), representing 21.53% share capital from **Emirates NBD**. The deal was valued at AED3.27 per share.
- S&P Global raised the credit rating of **Abu Dhabi National Insurance Company** to 'A' from 'A-', with stable outlook.
- A subsidiary of **International Holdings Company** has acquired 40% stake in the UAE-based Response Plus Medical Services, a unit of VPS Healthcare Group of Companies in Abu Dhabi.
- **Agility Public Warehousing's** Board of Directors approved to sign an agreement with Denmark-based DSV Panalpina to sell its global integrated logistics operation for an equity value of USD4.1bn (KWD1.2bn).

Bahrain

- **Mohammed Hassan Al Mahroos** has signed a partnership agreement with US-based Toro in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain to provide Al Mahroos with advanced irrigation systems and upgraded technologies.

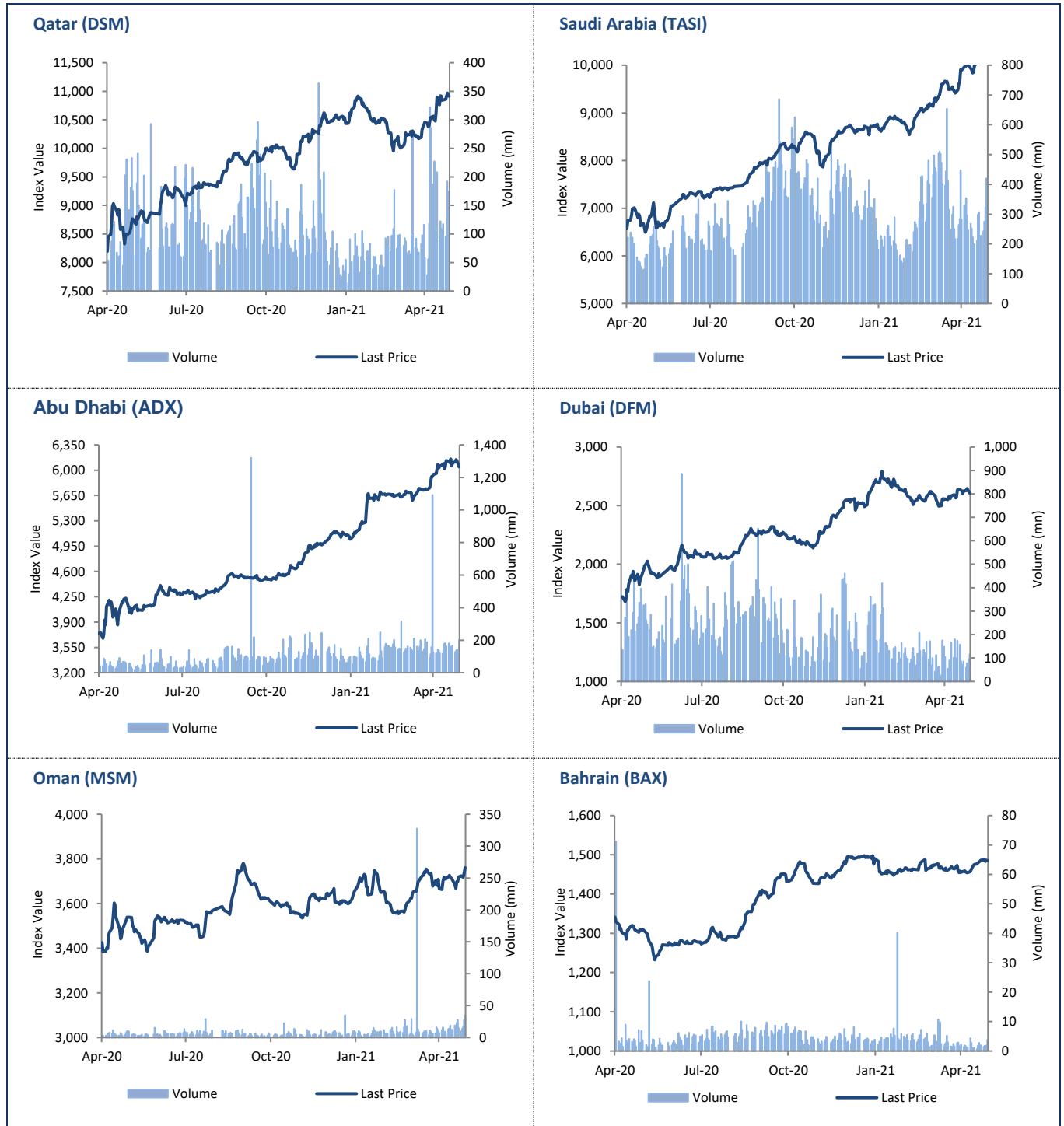
Kuwait

- **Kuwait Real Estate Company** has completed a transaction of selling 13.9 million shares of **La'ala Al Kuwait Real Estate Company** at 0.7915 fils per share, with a total consideration of KWD11.0mn.

Qatar

- **Alkhaleej Takaful Insurance Company's** Board of Directors approved the increase of Wakala fees to 26% from 21%.

GCC Benchmark Indices– Market Movements



Disclaimer

This material was produced by Ahli Capital Investment Company K.S.C.C ('Ahli Capital'), a firm regulated by the Capital Markets Authority (Kuwait). This document is not to be used or considered as an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities. Ahli Capital may, from time to time to the extent permitted by law, participate or invest in other financing transactions with the issuers of the securities ('securities'), perform services for or solicit business from such issuer, and/or have a position or effect transactions in the securities or options thereof. Ahli Capital may, to the extent permitted by applicable Kuwaiti law or other applicable laws or regulations, effect transactions in the securities before this material is published to recipients. Information and opinions contained herein have been compiled or arrived by Ahli Capital from sources believed to be reliable, but Ahli Capital has not independently verified the contents of this document. Accordingly, no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to and no reliance should be placed on the fairness, accuracy, completeness or correctness of the information and opinions contained in this document. Ahli Capital accepts no liability for any loss arising from the use of this document or its contents or otherwise arising in connection therewith. This document is not to be relied upon or used in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment. Ahli Capital shall have no responsibility or liability whatsoever in respect of any inaccuracy in or omission from this or any other document prepared by Ahli Capital for, or sent by Ahli Capital to any person and any such person shall be responsible for conducting his own investigation and analysis of the information contained or referred to in this document and of evaluating the merits and risks involved in the securities forming the subject matter of this or other such document. Opinions and estimates constitute our judgment and are subject to change without prior notice. Past performance is not indicative of future results. This document does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for or purchase any securities, and neither this document nor anything contained herein shall form the basis of any contract or commitment whatsoever. It is being furnished to you solely for your information and may not be reproduced or redistributed to any other person. Neither this report nor any copy hereof may be distributed in any jurisdiction outside Kuwait where its distribution may be restricted by law. Persons who receive this report should make themselves aware of and adhere to any such restrictions. By accepting this report you agree to be bound by the foregoing limitations.