



LEBANON THIS WEEK

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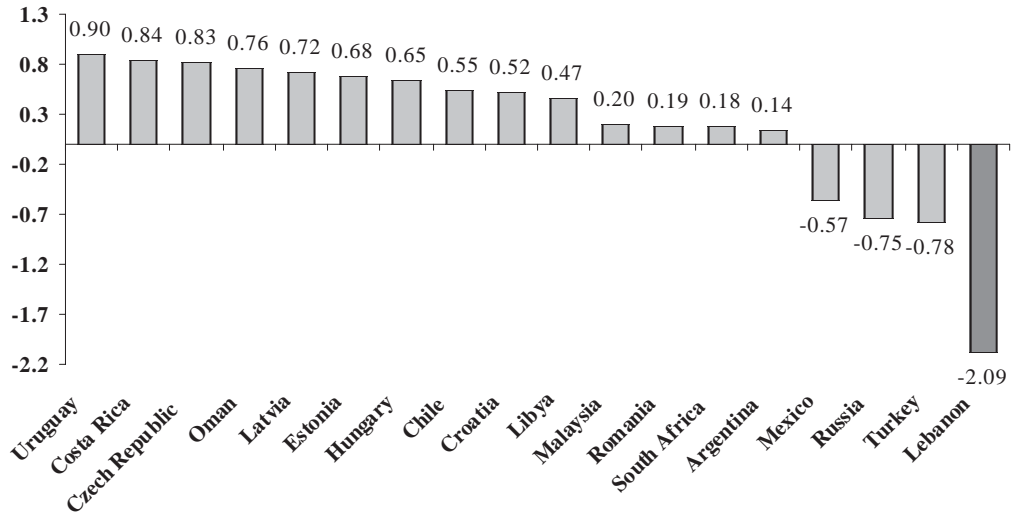
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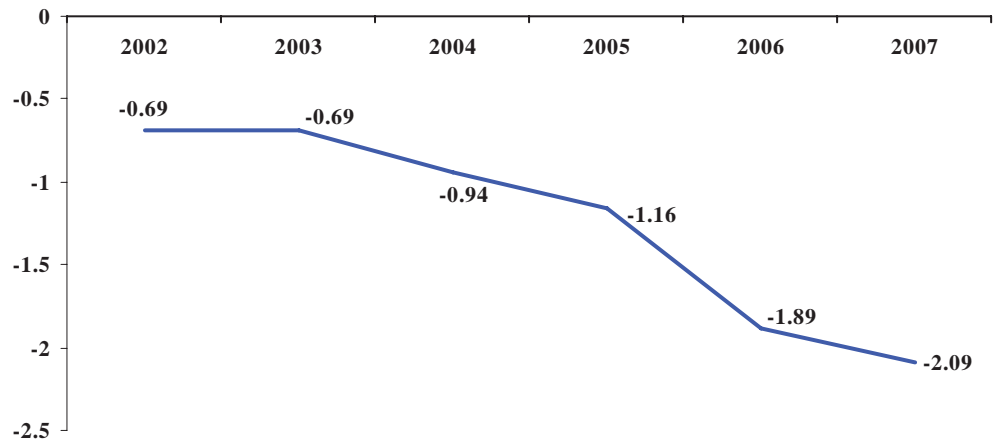
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Charts of the Week

Political Stability and Absence of Violence of Upper Middle-Income Countries in 2007



Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism Indicator for Lebanon



Source: World Bank Governance Indicators, 2008

Quote to Note

“Government priorities of reform action will be on debt and financial management, competition and productivity, privatization, social protection and the broader issues of social development.”

Finance Minister Mohamad Shatah, on what the new Cabinet should focus on in terms of structural reforms

Number of the Week

78.7%: Percentage of members of Parliament who gave a vote of confidence to the new Cabinet of national unity.

\$m (unless otherwise mentioned)	June 2007	Jan-Jun. 07	2007	May 2008	Jun. 2008	Jan-Jun.08	% Change*
Exports	226	1,312	2,816	267	-	-	-
Imports	892	5,469	11,815	1,305	-	-	-
Trade Balance	(666)	(4,157)	(8,999)	(1,038)	-	-	-
Balance of Payments	(542)	(207)	2,036	(416)	640	83	(140.09%)
Checks Cleared in LBP	656	4,058	8,409	749	790	4,527	11.55%
Checks Cleared in FC	2,410	13,687	29,883	3,470	3,986	19,899	45.38%
Total Checks Cleared	3,066	17,745	38,292	4,219	4,776	24,426	37.65%
Budget Deficit/Surplus	(381)	(1,226)	(2,546)	(370)	39	(1,320)	7.66%
Primary Balance	(120)	398	731	(78)	264	429	7.78%
Airport Passengers	256,072	1,476,085	3,408,834	199,789	363,818	1,616,866	9.53%

\$bn (unless otherwise mentioned)	Dec. 2006	Jun. 2007	Dec. 2007	Apr.2008	May 2008	June 2008	% Change*
BdL FX Reserves	10.21	9.92	9.78	11.39	11.92	12.62	27.21%
<i>In months of Imports</i>	<i>11.30</i>	<i>11.12</i>	<i>9.19</i>	<i>8.69</i>	<i>9.13</i>	-	-
Public Debt	40.37	39.76	42.03	43.51	43.64	44.44	11.77%
Net Public Debt	37.42	37.44	39.03	39.96	40.19	40.36	7.79%
Bank Assets	74.27	77.11	82.25	85.63	86.20	88.45	14.70%
Bank Deposits to Private Sector	60.69	63.20	67.29	70.13	70.55	72.09	14.06%
Bank Loans to Private Sector	17.02	18.68	20.42	22.98	23.30	23.68	26.76%
Money Supply M2	15.57	16.30	16.47	17.85	18.44	19.30	18.40%
Money Supply M3	53.23	56.04	59.83	62.72	62.66	63.55	13.40%
LBP Lending Rate (%)	10.37	10.27	10.10	9.86	9.72	10.09	(18b.p.)
LBP Deposit Rate (%)	7.49	7.50	7.40	7.26	7.27	7.25	(25b.p.)
USD Lending Rate (%)	8.55	8.24	8.02	7.42	7.43	7.28	(96b.p.)
USD Deposit Rate (%)	4.76	4.91	4.69	3.67	3.61	3.55	(136b.p.)
%* Change in CPI**	7.04	3.20	5.92	12.20	12.99	12.43	(923b.p.)

* Year-on-Year; ** Consumer Price Index

Note: b.p. i.e. basis point

Sources: ABL, BdL

Capital Markets

Most Traded Stocks on BSE	Last Price (\$)	% Change*	Total Volume	Weight in Market Capitalization
Solidere "A"	33.51	(2.62%)	166,373	21.89%
Solidere "B"	33.53	(2.67%)	83,740	14.24%
Byblos Common	2.51	(3.46%)	22,300	3.56%
Byblos Priority	2.56	(1.54%)	52,051	3.45%
BLOM GDR	103.50	(0.19%)	14,366	5.00%
BLOM Listed	99.50	0.00%	1,330	13.98%
Audi GDR	89.70	(0.44%)	11,700	5.76%
Audi Listed	91.95	2.17%	1,970	19.77%
HOLCIM	20.04	0.20%	1,045	2.56%

Source: Beirut Stock Exchange (BSE); *Week-on-week

Sovereign Eurobonds	Coupon %	Mid Price \$	Mid Yield %
Oct.2009	10.250	104.00	6.51
Dec.2009	7.000	100.13	6.89
Mar.2010	7.125	100.25	6.95
May 2011	7.875	100.25	7.77
Sep.2012	7.750	99.00	8.04
June 2013	8.625	101.75	8.18
Apr.2015	10.000	107.00	8.60
Jan.2016	8.500	99.75	8.54
May 2016	11.625	116.50	8.65
Apr.2021	8.250	96.00	8.78

Source: Byblos Capital Markets

	This Week	Last Week	% Change	July 2008	July 2007	% Change
Total Shares Traded	389,843	1,379,290	(71.74%)	5,686,000	3,588,032	58.47%
Total Value Traded	\$12,545,566	\$28,222,016	(55.55%)	\$171,614,296	\$22,596,354	659.48%
Market Capitalization	\$15.31bn	\$15.42bn	(0.73%)	\$15.94bn	\$8.31bn	91.75%

Source: Beirut Stock Exchange (BSE)



Occupancy at Beirut hotels at 40%, room yields up 18% in first half of 2008

The benchmark survey of the Middle East hotel sector by Ernst & Young indicated that occupancy rate at hotels in Beirut was 40% in the first half of 2008, up 4% from 36% in the same period last year. The occupancy rate in Beirut was the lowest among 22 markets in the region, as it was in the same period of 2007. Beirut posted the seventh highest growth in occupancy rates the region, but this was largely due to starting from a low base, and to the fact that occupancy rates are already very high in most regional markets, as well as to the fact that most of the covered period constitutes the low point in the tourism season in several other markets in the region. Occupancy rates at Beirut hotels were 43% in January, 32% in February, 34% in March, 44% in April and dropped to 29% in May 2008 due to the hostilities that took place in the capital and other areas of the country. But occupancy jumped to 61% in June 2008, up from 21% in June 2007, following the Doha Agreement and the reduction of political tensions in the country, which helped improve confidence and revive the tourism sector. Beirut hotels had an occupancy rate of 35% for all of 2007.

The survey said average rate per room at Beirut hotels was \$139 in the first half of 2008, ranking the capital's hotels as the 13th most expensive in the region ahead of Madina in Saudi Arabia, Amman in Jordan and all markets in Egypt. The average rate per room at Beirut hotels increased by 6.2% year-on-year and posted the lowest increase among all markets in the region. The average rate per room in Beirut came below the regional average of \$190.5, which jumped by 20.2% from \$158.5 in the first half of 2007.

Further, revenues per available room (RevPAR) were \$57 in Beirut in the first half of 2008, up from \$48 in the same period last year, ranking it in 19th place in the region, ahead of Alexandria, Sharm El-Sheikh and Hurghada in Egypt. Beirut's RevPAR was up 18.4% year-on-year, posting the 16th highest rise among the 22 regional markets compared to an average rise of 24.8% across the region. Beirut posted RevPARs of \$59 in January, \$40 in February, \$38 in March, \$59 in April, \$44 in May and \$103 in June 2008. The June RevPAR figure constitutes a jump of 307% from June 2007, the highest such increase by far in the region.

Lebanon is second biggest recipient of net Arab investment in 2007, largest recipient relative to GDP

Figures released by the Arab Investment & Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (AIECGC) show that net Arab investments in Lebanon totaled \$2.88bn in 2007, up 62.7% from \$1.77bn in 2006, and up 123% from \$1.29bn in 2005. Net investments reflect more accurately the movement of investment in a given economy and provide a more precise picture compared to just gross inflows. Lebanon was the second largest recipient of net ADI in nominal terms among 8 countries that released figures on inflows and outflows of Arab funds, up from third place in 2006. Further, net ADI in Lebanon accounted for 31% of aggregate net inter-Arab investments last year compared to 22% in 2006 and 4.1% in 2005. Lebanon posted the third highest growth rate in net ADI year-on-year in the region in 2007 after Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Net ADI in Lebanon totaled \$8.24bn during the 2001-07 period and averaged \$1.18bn annually.

In parallel, Net ADI in Lebanon was equivalent to 11.7% of GDP in 2007, up from 7.8% of GDP in 2006 and 6% of GDP in 2005. Lebanon ranked first in the region in terms of net ADI as a percentage of GDP in 2007, unchanged from 2006 and up from third place in 2005. Net ADI relative to GDP was 0.7% in 2001, 2.6% in 2002, 3.6% in 2003 and 4.6% in 2004.

The methodology used to estimate inter-Arab investments by the AIECGC relies on 'declared' and 'licensed' investment, rather than achieved ones. This could significantly affect the effective figures for Lebanon and other Arab recipients as, for instance, some of the biggest Arab investment projects in Lebanon were announced prior to the 2006 summer war with Israel and most of them have yet to materialize. Further, the rankings and market shares of countries tend to be distorted by the absence of figures from large sources or recipients of Arab investments such as Bahrain, Kuwait, the UAE, Morocco and Sudan.

Hotel Performance in first half of 2008

	Occupancy Rate (%)	RevPar (US\$)	RevPar % change
Dubai - Apartments	92	173	13.9
Dubai - Beach	89	393	12.9
Dubai - Overall	87	250	14.8
Hurghada	87	41	21.7
Dubai - City	86	206	16.4
Abu Dhabi	85	264	31.1
Sharm El Sheikh	85	43	26.6
Riyadh	83	167	26.8
Cairo - Pyramids	83	73	27.4
Cairo - Overall	80	87	28.2
Doha	80	236	25.0
Cairo - City	79	90	28.4
Manama	76	192	23.4
Alexandria	74	56	25.2
Muscat	70	237	40.0
Amman	70	92	31.1
Al Ain	69	119	50.3
Jeddah	68	104	21.8
Kuwait	65	175	13.2
Madina	60	74	31.3
Makkah	56	107	18.4
Beirut	40	57	18.4

Source: Ernst & Young, Byblos Research

Net Inter-Arab Investments in 2007

	\$bn	Rank	% of GDP
Saudi Arabia	4.43	1	1.2
Lebanon	2.88	2	11.7
Egypt	1.44	3	1.1
Jordan	0.45	4	2.8
Libya	0.24	5	0.5
Tunisia	0.02	6	0.4
Yemen	(0.04)	7	
Syria	(0.17)	8	
Total	9.29		1.3

Source: AIECGC, Byblos Research

Lebanon's travel and tourism economy to generate \$4.43bn this year, ranks 35th among 176 countries in terms of its contribution to GDP in 2008

The World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) estimated that the travel & tourism industry would contribute directly \$1.36bn to the Lebanese economy in 2008, equivalent to 5.7% of GDP, and direct industry employment will reach 80,000, representing 5.9% of total employment in Lebanon this year. It added that, since travel & tourism (T&T) touches all sectors of the economy, its real direct and indirect impact is even greater, and forecast it will generate \$4.43bn, or 18.7%, of overall economic activity in Lebanon in 2008, including 252,000 jobs, or one in every 5.4 jobs, representing 18.4% of total employment in 2008. It added that the T&T industry's direct contribution to Lebanon's economic activity will rise to \$2.3bn, or 5.2% of GDP in 2018, while the broader T&T economy will contribute \$7.5bn, or 17.1% of GDP by 2018.

The WTTC projected the T&T economy in Lebanon to grow by 2.3% per year in real terms between 2009 and 2018 compared to 3.9% in the Middle East and 4% globally over the same period of time, while the T&T direct industry will grow by 2.2% per year in real terms during the 2009-2018 period compared to 5.6% growth for the Middle East and 3.3% globally. Lebanon's T&T economy ranked 35th among 176 countries in terms of its contribution to GDP in 2008, while it ranked in 162nd place worldwide in terms of its annualized growth rate over the 2009-2018 period.

Further, the T&T direct industry jobs are forecast to reach 85,000 or 5.3% of total jobs in Lebanon by 2018, while employment in Lebanon's T&T economy should total 268,000 jobs overall, or one in every 5.9 jobs, equivalent to 16.8% of total employment by 2018. In comparison, the WTTC forecast direct industry employment in the Middle East to grow by 5.6% over the 2009-18 period and to account for 3.1% of total employment, while it forecast the T&T economy employment to grow by 2.8% and to account for 9.2% of total employment in the region. Lebanon ranked 32nd worldwide in terms of the share of its T&T economy employment out of total employment, while it came in 143rd place in the real growth rate of T&T employment over the coming 10 years.

Travel & Tourism contribution in Lebanon (\$bn)			
	2008	2018f	Growth* (%)
Personel Travel & Tourism	4.0	7.9	3.9
Business Travel	0.25	0.55	5.0
Government Expenditures	0.35	0.55	1.4
Capital Investment	0.68	1.25	3.1
Visitors Exports	3.77	6.48	2.4
T&T Direct Industry GDP	1.36	2.3	2.2
T&T Economy GDP	4.43	7.5	2.3
Travel & Tourism Demand	9.1	16.8	3.2
T&T Industry Employment**	80.3	85.1	0.6
T&T Economy Employment**	252.4	268.2	0.6

*real annualized growth over 2009-2018

**in thousands of jobs

Source: World Tourism & Travel Council

Stock market activity increases by 141% to \$861m in first 7 months of 2008

Figures released by the Beirut Stock Exchange indicate that total volume reached 36.2 million shares up to the end of July 2008, an increase of 41% year-on-year, while aggregate turnover amounted to \$861 m, up 141.4% from a turnover of \$356.7m in the same period last year. Market capitalization rose by 91.7% to \$15.9bn, of which 58.9% was in banking stocks and 37.6% in Solidere stocks. The market liquidity ratio was 5.4% compared to 4.3% for the same period of 2007.

Solidere accounted for 67.2% of aggregate trading volume, followed by banking stocks with 32.3%, industrial stocks 0.42%, and trading and investment funds' stocks with 0.05%. In terms of value of shares traded, Solidere accounted for 83.3% of aggregate value in the first half of 2008, followed by banking stocks with 16.9%, industrials with 0.3%, investment funds with 0.2%, and trading with 0.003%. The average daily traded volume for the period was 257,131 shares for an average daily value of \$6.1m. The figures reflect an increase of 47.2% in volume and 144.8% in value year-on-year.

Balance of payments posts surplus of \$83m in first half of 2008

Central Bank figures show that Lebanon's balance of payments posted a cumulative surplus of \$83m in the first half of 2008 compared to a deficit of \$207m in the same period last year. The cumulative surplus resulted from an increase of \$2.62bn in the Central Bank's net foreign assets combined with a decrease of \$2.54bn in those of banks and financial institutions. The balance of payments posted a surplus of \$640m in June following a deficit of \$416m in May and compared to a deficit of \$542m in June 2007. The June 2008 surplus was caused by an increase of \$661m in the Central Bank's net foreign assets and a decline of \$22m in those of banks and financial institutions.



Net public debt at \$40.3bn at end of June 2008

Figures issued by the Central Bank show that Lebanon's gross public debt reached \$44.4bn at the end of June, constituting an increase of 5.7% from the end of 2007 and a rise of 11.8% from \$39.7bn at end-June 2007. Domestic debt increased by 10.5% in the first half of the year and rose by 17.7% year-on-year to \$23bn, while external debt rose by 1% from end-2007 and by 6% annually to \$21.4bn. External debt accounted for 48.2% of the public debt.

Commercial banks accounted for about 57.9% of domestic debt at the end of June 2008 compared to 53.7% at the end of 2007 and 53.7% at end-June 2007. The Central Bank held 26.1% of domestic debt at end-June 2008, down from 28.9% at the end of last year, and down from 28% at the end of June 2007. Public agencies, financial institutions and individual investors accounted for 16% of the local debt compared to 17.4% at end-2007 and 18.3% a year earlier. Multilateral institutions accounted for 7.3%, foreign governments for 4.8% and Paris II loans for 2.8% of external debt, while Eurobond holders, foreign private sector loans and special T-bills in foreign currencies accounted for the other 85.1%. Net public debt, which excludes the public sector's deposits at the Central Bank and at commercial banks from overall debt figures, increased annually by 7.7% to \$40.3bn.

Coincident Indicator rises by 7.5% year-on-year in April

The Central Bank's Coincident Indicator, an index of economic activity in Lebanon, reached 200 points in April 2008 compared to 198.4 points in March and 186 points in April 2007. The Coincident Indicator, an average of 8 weighted economic indicators, rose by 0.8% month-on-month and by 7.5% on an annual basis. The indicator averaged 185 points in the 12 months ending April 2008 compared to 183.9 points in the 12 months ending March 2008 and to 170.8 points for the 12 months ending April 2007. As a result, the average coincident indicator rose by 7.6% year-on-year. Further, the coincident indicator posted its highest value ever in April 2008, surpassing the 198.4-mark of the previous month. Economic activity picked up in the fourth quarter of last year, peaking during the holiday season, but it continued to improve in 2008 with the indicator increasing for four consecutive months this year. But the growth rate of the indicator slowed in April, reflecting deteriorating political conditions. The indicator averaged 180 points in 2007 compared to 171.6 points in 2006 and 172.6 points in 2005.

Most tourist spending in Lebanon originates from Saudi Arabia and the UAE

According to Global Refund, the cash refund operator for international shoppers, tourists from Saudi Arabia spent the most in Lebanon over the year-to-July 2008, equivalent to 15% of total tourist spending, followed by tourists from UAE (14%), Kuwait (11%), Jordan (8%) and Egypt (6%). Beirut attracted 80% of total spending over the covered period, followed by the Metn area with 14% and the Keserwan region with 3%. Fashion & clothing accounted for 66% of total spending, followed by watches with 13%, perfume & cosmetics with 5%, home & garden with 4% and department stores with 4%.

Byblos Bank invites shareholders to an Extraordinary General Assembly

The Board of Directors of Byblos Bank sal invited shareholders to an Extraordinary General Assembly to be held on August 29, 2008. The agenda of the meeting includes the verification of the \$200m capital increase of the bank through the issuance of 2 million Series 2008 Preferred Shares and other issues. The preferred shares are non-cumulative, redeemable and subject to a call option by the Bank starting in 2013 and for each subsequent year. The issue price of the Series 2008 Preferred Shares is \$100 per share at a par value of LBP1,200 per share. Proceeds will be used for general funding purposes, including strengthening the Bank's capital structure, external growth, and development of investment banking activities, among others. Holders of the Series 2003 Preferred Shares have the priority to subscribe on a pro rata basis to the 2008 issue. Holders of the Series 2008 Preferred Shares will receive \$8 annually per share in dividends. The amount raised constitutes the largest issuance of preferred shares by a Lebanese bank so far in 2008.

BLC Bank's profits at \$13.4m in first half 2008

BLC Bank sal, one of Lebanon's listed banks, declared net profits of \$13.4m in the first half of 2008 compared to \$2.6m in the same period last year. Net interest income after provision and write-offs reached \$21.5m, while commission fees totaled \$2.7m and net exchange gains amounted to \$0.6m in the first half of the year. Total assets reached \$1.77bn, up 2.5% from end-2007. Loans & advances to customers reached \$212.1m, slightly up from \$191m at end-2007. The bank held \$51m in assets acquired in satisfaction of loans as at end-June 2008. BLC's equity totaled \$145.6m, up from \$128.4m at end-2007. Last August, Fransabank sal acquired 96.2% o BLC for \$153m from the Qatari Supreme Council fro Economic Affairs. In 2005, the Qatari investor acquired 96.2% of BLC for \$236.4m from the Central Bank of Lebanon.

Fransabank distributes \$13.93m in dividends

Fransabank sal declared net profits of \$60.8m in 2007 compared to \$54.5m in the previous year. Total assets reached \$7.22bn, up by 38.3% from end-2006. Loans & advances to customers reached \$1.43bn, up from \$0.86bn at end-2006. Moreover, customers' deposits reached \$6.17bn up by 43% from the end of 2006. Fransabank's equity totaled \$517.7m, up from \$416.5m at end-2006. The general assembly of Fransabank decided to distribute dividends for 2007 totaling \$13.93m, equivalent to \$0.6633 per share. This is equivalent to 30.27% of the distributable income. In December 2007, Fransabank sal acquired Credit Agricole's 34% share in Fransabank (France). It then sold 40% of its acquired share in Fransabank (France) to Financiere Oceor, part of Groupe Caisse d'Epargne (France).

Commercial banks' assets reach \$88.5bn at end of June 2008

The Association of Banks in Lebanon released the consolidated balance sheet of commercial banks showing that total assets reached \$88.5bn at the end of June 2008, up 7.5% from end-December 2007 and up by 14.7% from the end of June 2007. Private sector deposits totaled \$72.1bn, an increase of 7.1% from the end of last year and by 14.1% from June 2007. Deposits in Lebanese pounds rose by 20% year-on-year while deposits in foreign currencies increased by 12.2% annually. Non-resident foreign currency deposits rose annually by 16.2% to \$9.9bn at end-June 2008 and the dollarization rate of deposits reached 74.6%. Further, the average deposit rate in Lebanese pounds reached 7.25% compared to 7.50% a year earlier, while the same rate in US dollars was 3.55%, down from 4.91% in June 2007.

Loans to the private sector amounted to \$23.7bn, up by 15.9% from December 2007 and by 26.7% year-on-year. The dollarization rate in private sector lending reached 87.3% compared to 86% a year earlier. The average lending rate in Lebanese pounds was 10.09% in June 2008 compared to 10.27% a year earlier, while the same average in US dollars was 7.28% compared to 8.24% in June 2007.

Claims on the public sector stood at \$23bn, up 10.7% year-on-year and up 7.1% compared to December 2007, and accounted for 49.3% of the banking sector's total loans. The ratio of private sector loans to deposits in foreign currencies stood at 38.4%, well below the Central Bank's limit of 70%, and up from 33.5% a year earlier. In parallel, the same ratio in Lebanese pounds was 16.5% compared to 17.1% a year earlier. The ratio of total private sector loans to deposits stood at 32.8%, up from 29.6% a year earlier. The banks' aggregate capital base stood at \$6.6bn, up 11% from \$5.9bn in June 2007.

AFC gets license to operate in Syria

The Syrian Commission for Financial Markets and Securities gave its preliminary approval for local brokerage firm the Arab Finance Corporation sal (AFC) to set up an affiliate in Syria to provide financial consultancy services and manage initial public offerings. AFC will own 49% of the new company, Syrian investor Nabil Sukkar will hold an equal stake of 49% while Sami Al Akhras, AFC's general manager, will own the remaining 2%. The new firm, named Arab Finance Corp.- Syria, is a limited liability company with a capital of 70m Syrian pounds, or \$1.34m. AFC-Syria still has to get the final approval of the Syrian Ministry of Economy and of the SCFMC before receiving the final license. AFC is engaged in brokerage and financial consultancy services and other investment banking activities.

Ratio Highlights

	2006	2007	Change*	Q1-2008
Nominal GDP ⁽¹⁾ (\$bn)	22.7	24.6		24.7
External Debt / GDP	89.9	86.4	(350)	87.1
Local Debt / GDP	88.1	84.6	(350)	87.4
Total Debt / GDP	178.4	171.0	(740)	174.8
Trade Balance / GDP	(31.3)	(36.6)	(530)	(10.6)
Exports / Imports	24.3	23.8	(50)	25.0
Budget Revenues / GDP	19.4	23.6	420	6.7
Budget Expenditures / GDP	30.8	33.9	310	8.9
Budget Balance / GDP	(11.5)	(10.3)	120	(2.2)
Primary Balance / GDP	0.4	2.9	250	1.1
BdL FX Reserves / M2	65.6	59.6	(600)	63.1
M3 / GDP	234.4	243.2	880	249.3
Bank Assets / GDP	327.2	334.4	720	344.7
Bank Deposits / GDP	267.4	273.5	610	279.7
Private Sector Loans / GDP	67.4	72.2	480	90.9
Dollarization of Deposits	76.2	77.3	110	76.7
Dollarization of Loans	84.0	84.3	30	87.2

* Change in basis points 06/07

(1) Based on Ministry of Finance Estimations and assuming 0.5% growth over the first quarter of 2008

Source: Byblos Research Calculations

Note: M2 includes money in circulation and deposits in LBP, M3 includes M2 plus Deposits in FC and bonds

Risk Outlook

Lebanon	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	Change*	Risk Level
Political Risk Rating	58.0	55.5	54.0	▼	High
Financial Risk Rating	31.5	31.5	31.5	↔	Moderate
Economic Risk Rating	29.0	28.5	28.5	▼	High
Composite Risk Rating	59.2	57.7	57.0	▼	High

Regional Average	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	Change*	Risk Level
Political Risk Rating	66.1	65.5	65.5	▼	Moderate
Financial Risk Rating	41.5	40.9	41.3	▼	Very Low
Economic Risk Rating	40.1	40.3	40.1	↔	Very Low
Composite Risk Rating	73.8	73.3	73.4	▼	Low

*year-on-year

Source: The PRS Group, Byblos Research

Note: Political & Composite Risk Ratings range from 0 to 100 (where 100 indicates the lowest risk)

Financial & Economic Risk ratings range from 0 to 50 (where 50 indicates the lowest risk)

Ratings & Outlook

Sovereign Ratings	Foreign Currency			Local Currency		
	LT	ST	Outlook	LT	ST	Outlook
Moody's	B3	NP	Stable			
Fitch	B-	B	Stable	B-		
S&P	B-	C	Stable	B-	C	Stable
Capital Intelligence	B-	B	Stable	B-	B	Stable

Source: Rating agencies

Banking Ratings	Banks' Financial Strength	Banking Sector Risk	Outlook
Moody's	D-		Stable
EIU		B	Stable

Source: Rating agencies



Economic Research & Analysis Department
Byblos Bank Group
P.O. Box 11-5605
Beirut – Lebanon
Tel: (961) 1 338 100
Fax: (961) 1 217 774
E-mail: research@byblosbank.com.lb
www.byblosbank.com.lb

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BYBLOS BANK GROUP

LEBANON

Byblos Bank S.A.L
Achrafieh Beirut,
Elias Sarkis Avenue- Byblos Bank Tower
P.O.Box: 11-5605
Riad El Solh Beirut 1107 2811
Phone: (+961) 1 335200
Fax: (+961) 1 339436

BELGIUM

Byblos Bank Europe S.A
Bussels Head Office
10, Rue Montoyer
B-1000 Brussels - Belgium
Phone: (+32) 2 551 00 20
Fax: (+32) 2 513 05 26
E-mail: byblos.europe@byblosbankeur.com

SYRIA

Byblos Bank Syria S.A
Abu Roummaneh Head Office
Al Chaalan - Amine Loutfi Hafez Str.
P.O.Box: 5424
Phone: (+ 963) 11 9292 - 3348240 / 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
Fax: (+ 963) 11 3348207
E-mail: byblosbanksyria@byblosbank.com

ENGLAND

London Branch
Berkeley Square House - Suite 5
Berkeley Sq.
GB - London W1J 6BS (U.K.)
Phone: (+44) 207 493 35 37
Fax: (+44) 207 493 12 33
E-mail: byblos.europe@byblosbankeur.com

SUDAN

Byblos Bank Africa Ltd.
Khartoum - Sudan
El Amarat -Street 21
P.O.Box: 8121 - El Amarat - Khartoum - Sudan
Phone: (+249) 183 566 444
Fax: (+249) 183 566 454
E-mail: byblosbankafrica@byblosbank.com

FRANCE

Paris Branch
15 Rue Lord Byron
F- 75008 Paris (France)
Phone: (+33) 1 45 63 10 01
Fax: (+33) 1 45 61 15 77
E-mail: byblos.europe@byblosbankeur.com

IRAQ

Erbil Branch, Kurdistan, Iraq
Street 60,
Near Sports Stadium
P.O.Box: 34 - 0383 Erbil, Iraq
Phone: (+ 964) 66 2233457 / 9
Fax: (+ 964) 66 2233458
E-mail: iraqbranch@byblosbank.com.lb

CYPRUS

Limassol Branch
1, Arch. Kyprianou / St. Andrew Street
P.O.Box 50218
3602 Limassol , Cyprus
Phone: (+357) 25 341433 / 4 / 5
Fax: (+357) 25 367139
E-mail: bybloscopyrus@byblosbank.com

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Byblos Bank Abu Dhabi Representative Office
Intersection of Muroor and Electra Streets
P.O.Box: 73893 - Abu Dhabi
Phone: (+ 971) 2 6336400
Fax: (+971) 2 6338400
E-mail: byblosbankuae@byblosbank.com

ARMENIA

Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC
18/3 Amiryan Street
Yerevan, 375002, Republic of Armenia
Phone: (+374) 10 530 362
Fax: (+374) 10 535 296