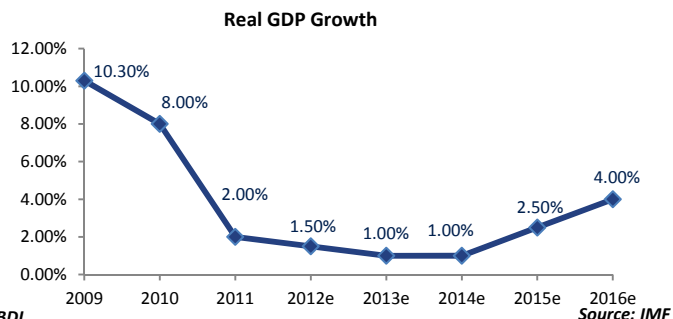
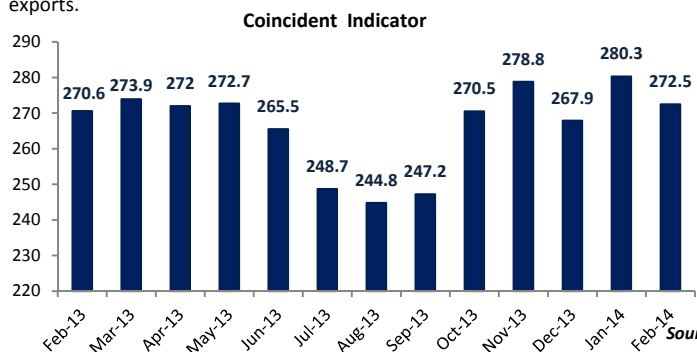


LEBANON ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS: February 2014

Coincident Indicator (INDIC) up 0.7% YOY in February 2014:

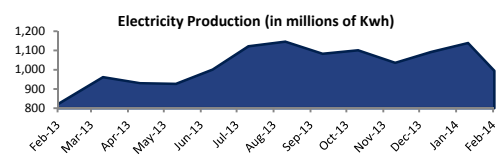
In February 2014, the coincident indicator witnessed an increase of 0.7% YOY from 270.6 in February 2013 to 272.5 in February 2014. The indicator decreased -2.8% MOM from 280.3 in January 2014. Coincident indicator was created in 1994 by the BDL as a monthly estimate of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It includes eight economic indicators that seek to reflect the current state of the economy in Lebanon. The economic variables that compose the coincident indicator are: electricity production, cement deliveries, cleared checks, money supply M3, passengers flows, imports of petroleum derivatives, imports and exports.



According to the IMF, the Lebanese economy is expected to have a growth rate of 1.5% in 2012. The estimated growth rate for 2013 and 2014 is 1.0%, and is forecasted to reach 2.5% for 2015 and 4.0% for 2016.

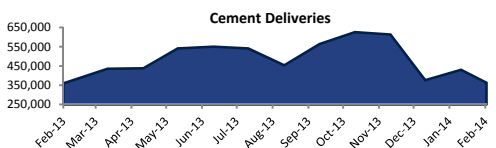
Electricity Production:

Electricity production increased 21.2% YOY but decreased -12.7% MOM to 994 millions of Kwh.



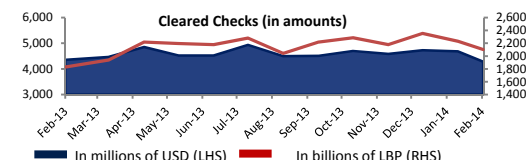
Cement Deliveries:

Cement deliveries, an indicator of construction activity, increased 1.2% YOY to 363,176 tons but decreased -15.5% MOM. Construction permits, an indicator of future supply in the real estate sector, increased by 5.9% YOY and 11.2% MOM.



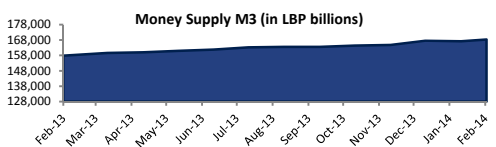
Cleared Checks:

The total value of cleared checks in both LBP and USD increased 3.7% YOY to USD 5,779 million. The cleared checks in LBP increased 14.9% YOY to LBP 2,102 billion but decreased -5.8% MOM. Those in USD decreased -1.6% YOY to USD 4,284 million and -8.5% MOM.



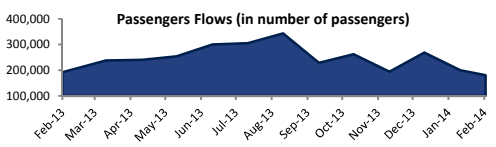
Money Supply M3:

M3 increased by 6.6% YOY and 0.7% MOM at LBP 168,339 billion (USD 111.7 billion), of which 58.8% is denominated in foreign currencies.



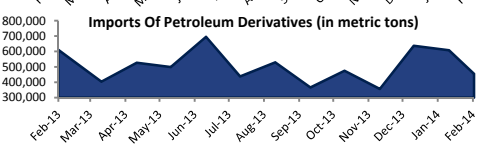
Passengers Flows:

The number of passengers arriving to Lebanon decreased by -6.1% YOY and -9.8% MOM to 180,375.



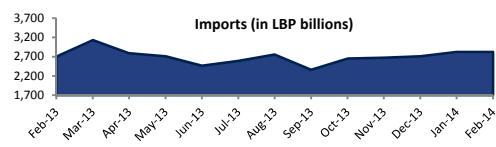
Imports Of Petroleum Derivatives:

Imports of petroleum derivatives decreased -25.5% YOY and -25.1% MOM to 455,038 metric tons of petroleum derivatives.



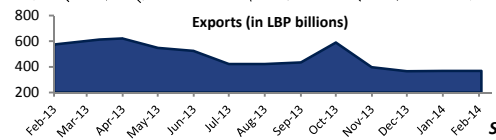
Imports:

Imports increased 4.6% YOY to LBP 2,824 billion and was stable MOM. In the first two months of 2014, China was the main source of imports, followed by USA and Italy.



Exports:

Exports totaled LBP 368 billion reflecting a decrease of -35.9% YOY and was stable MOM. In the first two months of 2014, South Africa was the main export destination followed by Saudi Arabia and UAE.



Source: BDL

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