



Saudi chartbook

MAY 2026

جدوى للاستثمار
Jadwa Investment



Saudi chartbook

Summary

Global economy: Since end-March equities have rallied, despite higher oil prices since mid-April and uncertain peace negotiations. The US federal reserve kept interest rates stable at its last meeting and markets see a greater chance of a hike than a cut.

Oil - Global: Oil prices eased in the first half of April, following the US-Iran ceasefire, but rose in the second half of the month as negotiations faltered and the Strait of Hormuz remained largely blocked. Global observed oil inventories, which started 2026 at high levels, are now rapidly falling.

Oil - Saudi Arabia: The conflict caused spot crude prices to rise significantly above futures prices in March and April. Higher prices supported Saudi oil revenue even as oil export volumes fell sharply. For May Saudi oil revenue will be supported by higher official selling prices.

Q1-26 Budget: The budget deficit widened to SAR126b in Q1-26, as spending grew by 20% year on year, partly in response to the conflict, while revenue edged down.

Saudi real economy: The GDP flash estimates put real GDP growth at 2.8% year-on-year in Q1 2026, slowing from 5% in Q4-2025, due to the hit to oil production in March and slower non-oil growth. The non-oil PMI improved in April from the low in March, as companies raised output in response to higher new business volumes and stronger activity.

Consumer spending: Total consumer spending rose in March, by 1.5% year-on-year and by 12.5% month-on-month. More recent high-frequency data show robust weekly POS spending in April, despite the US-Israel-Iran conflict.

SAMA foreign reserve assets: SAMA's FX reserves rose by USD 20.3b in March, reaching USD 496.6b.

Money supply, bank deposits and credit: The broad measure of money supply (M3) grew by 8.2% year-on-year in March, and by 0.6% month-on-month. Total deposits increased by 8.8% year-on-year, driven by continued strength in time and saving deposits and a rebound in demand deposits.

Inflation: Consumer prices rose by 1.8% year-on-year in March, and 0.3% month-on-month. Globally, food prices are expected to rise, driven by higher energy and fertilizers prices reflecting the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

Real Estate Q1 2026: Real estate prices declined by 1.6% year-on-year in Q1 2026, and by 0.2% quarter-on-quarter. The annual decline was mainly driven by a 3.6% decrease in residential real estate prices, while commercial real estate prices rose by 3.4%.

Stock market: After strong performance in March, the index rose during H1-April close to 11,600, but fell back to 11,200 by the end of April. The market was up 6.6% YTD and 4.5% since the conflict began.

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Released: 6 May 2026, 15:45 UTC+3

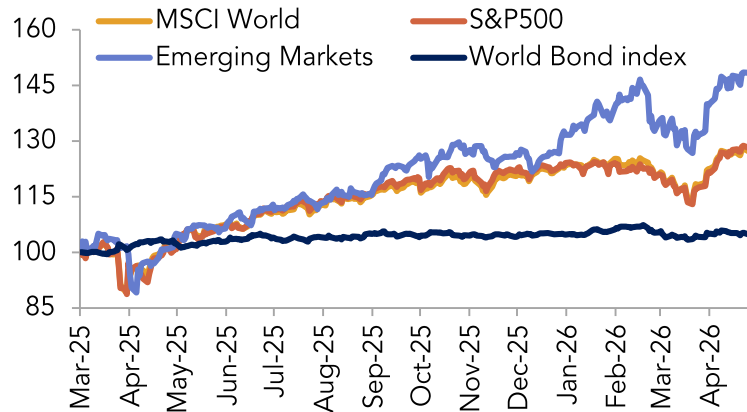


Global economy

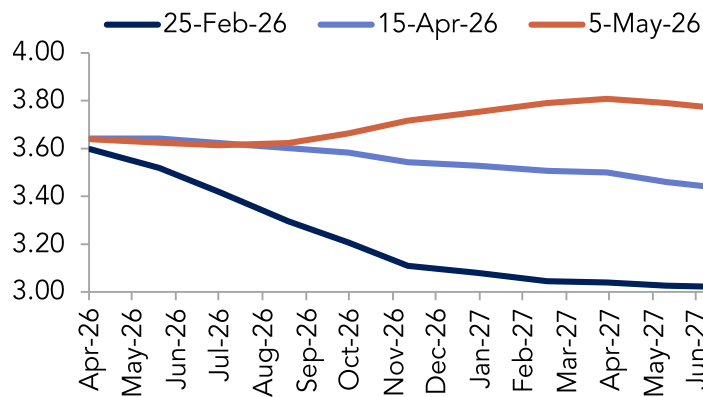
Since end-March equities have rallied, buoyed by the US-Iran ceasefire alongside other factors. The rally has proceeded despite higher oil prices since mid-April and uncertain peace negotiations. The US federal reserve kept interest rates stable at its last meeting and markets see a greater chance of a hike than a cut. US 10 year yields have also been rising.

Since end-March equities have rallied, buoyed by the US-Iran ceasefire alongside other factors. Bond performance has remained subdued.

Global equity markets have rallied
(indexed to 100=March 2025)



Market-implied US Fed Funds rate (%)



The US federal reserve kept interest rates stable at its last meeting and markets see a greater chance of a hike than a cut. Before the conflict markets expected two rate cuts.

US 10 year treasury yield (%)



The US 10 year treasury yield rose to 4.4% at the start of May, back to levels seen before the ceasefire and almost 50bps higher than just before the conflict started at end-February.

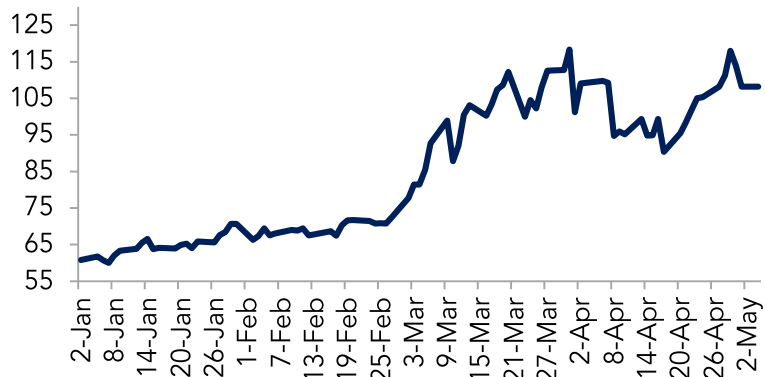


Oil - Global

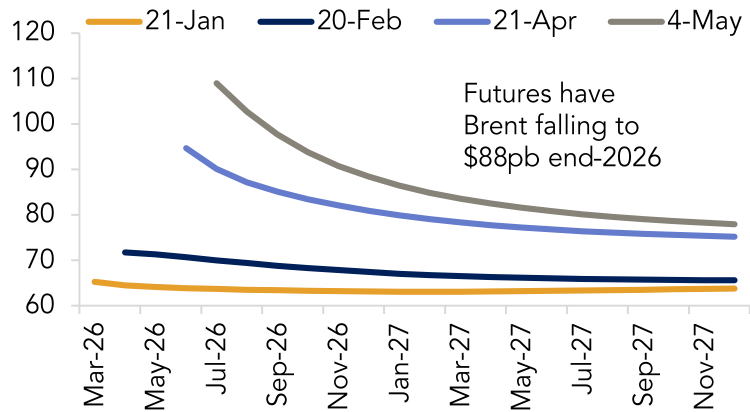
Oil prices eased in the first half of April, following the US-Iran ceasefire, but rose in the second half of the month as negotiations faltered and the Strait of Hormuz remained largely blocked. Brent crude averaged \$103pb. The futures curve also drifted up, pricing Brent above \$85pb for end-2026. Meanwhile global oil inventories which started 2026 at high levels are now rapidly falling.

Oil prices eased in the first half of April but rose in the second half of the month as negotiations faltered and the Strait of Hormuz remained largely blocked.

Brent crude oil price
(daily; \$pb)

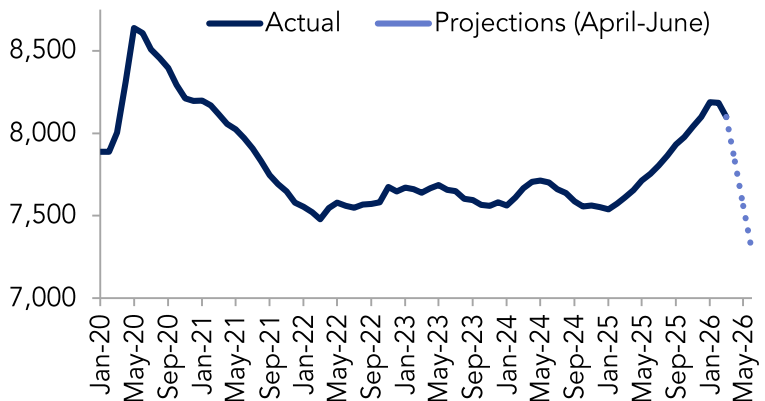


Brent futures curves
(\$pb)



The futures curve has also drifted up, now pricing Brent above \$85pb for end-2026.

Global observed oil inventories
(million barrels)



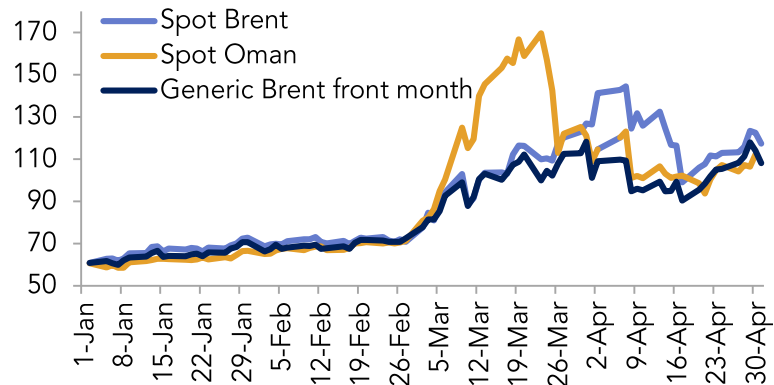
Global observed oil inventories, which started 2026 at high levels, are now rapidly falling.



Oil - Saudi Arabia

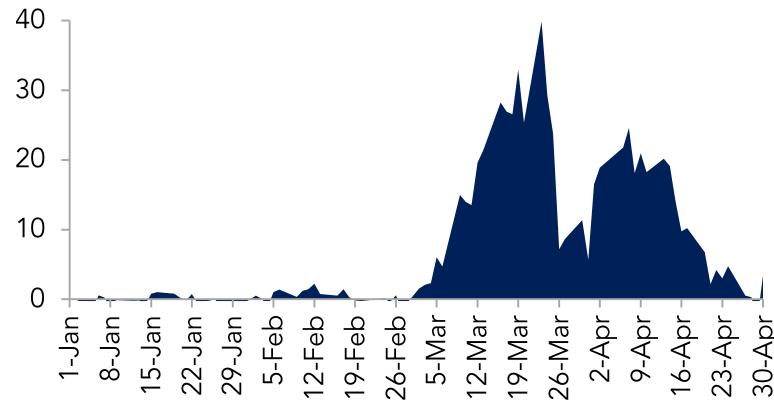
The conflict caused spot crude prices to rise significantly above futures prices in March and April. Spot Oman and Spot Brent prices came at a hefty premium over Brent "front month" crude, as buyers scrambled to purchase crude for quick delivery. These differentials supported oil revenue for Saudi Arabia even as oil export volumes fell sharply.

Spot crude prices and generic Brent front month futures (\$pb)



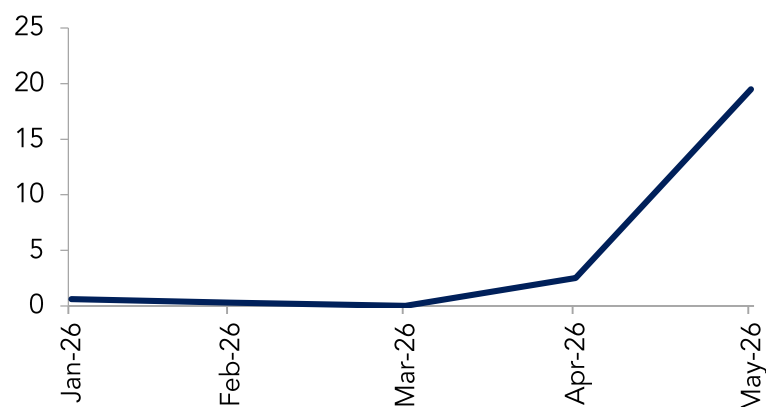
Spot crude prices rose significantly above futures prices in March and April. Spot Oman and Spot Brent prices for example came at a hefty premium over Brent "front month" crude.

Average spread of Oman and Brent spot prices over Brent front month (\$pb)



These differentials supported oil revenue in those months for Saudi Arabia, which sells oil at a certain spread above or below reference prices.

Arab Light Crude Saudi to Asia OSP Spread vs Average Oman/Dubai (\$pb)



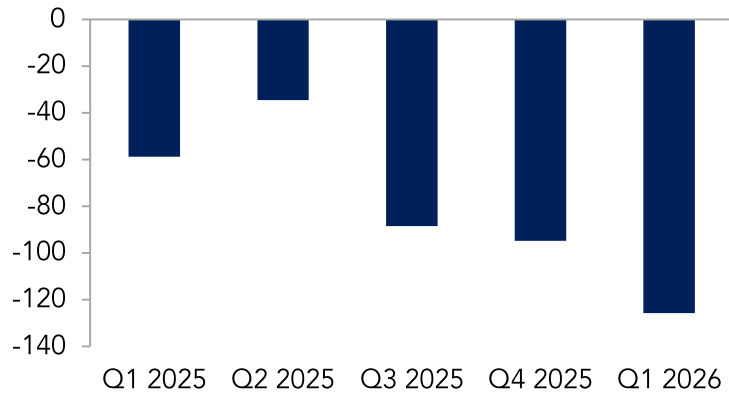
For May oil deliveries, Saudi Arabia hiked its Official Selling Prices (OSPs). For example, the Arab light crude to Asia OSP spiked to a \$19.5pb spread over the average Oman/Dubai reference price.



Q1-26 Budget Performance

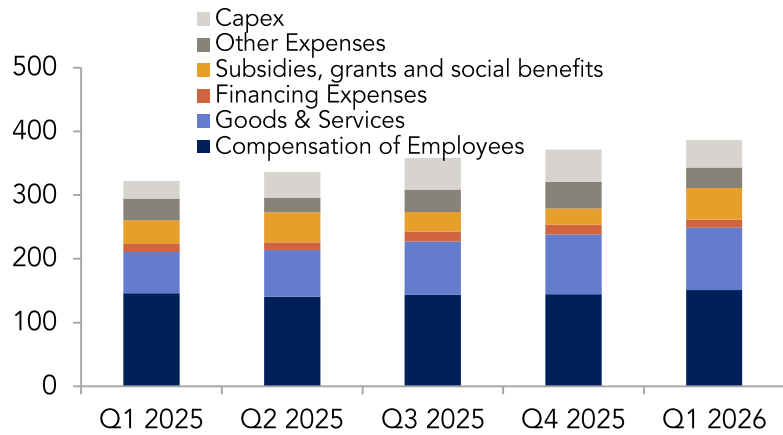
The budget deficit widened to SAR126b in Q1-26, as spending grew by 20% year-on-year while revenue edged down. The conflict will have pushed spending higher than usual for Q1, with higher spending on goods and services, capex and subsidies. Oil revenue was down 3% due to lower output and sales in March.

Budget deficit
(SAR b)



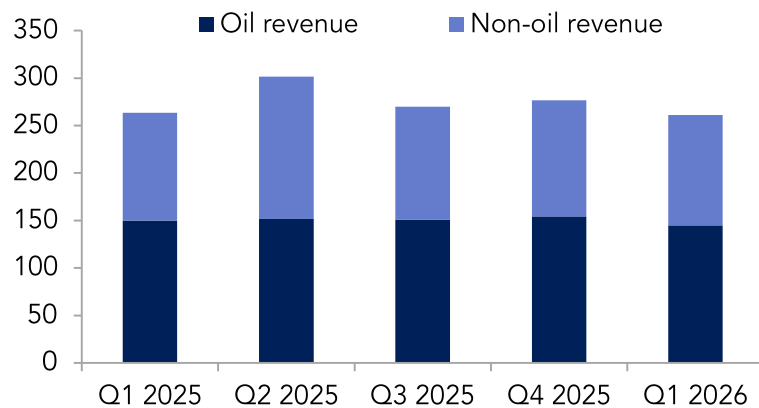
The budget deficit widened to SAR126b in Q1-26, as spending grew by 20% year on year while revenue edged down.

Budget spending breakdowns (SAR b)



The conflict will have pushed spending higher than usual for Q1, with higher spending on goods and services, capex and subsidies.

Budget revenue split by oil and non-oil (SAR b)



Total revenue edged down, due to lower oil revenue, by 3%, while non-oil revenue was 2% higher.

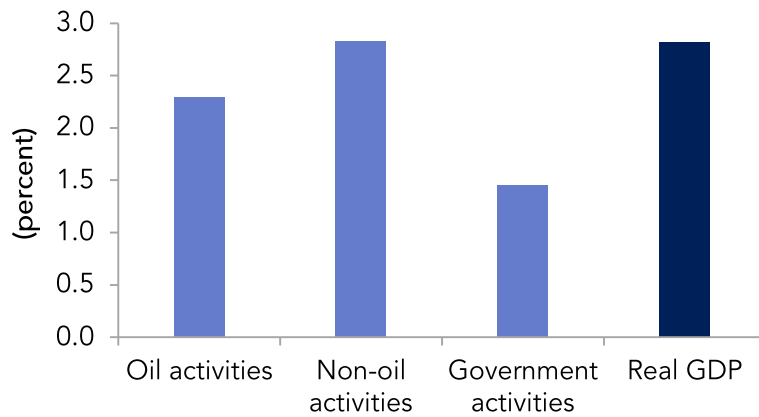


Saudi real economy

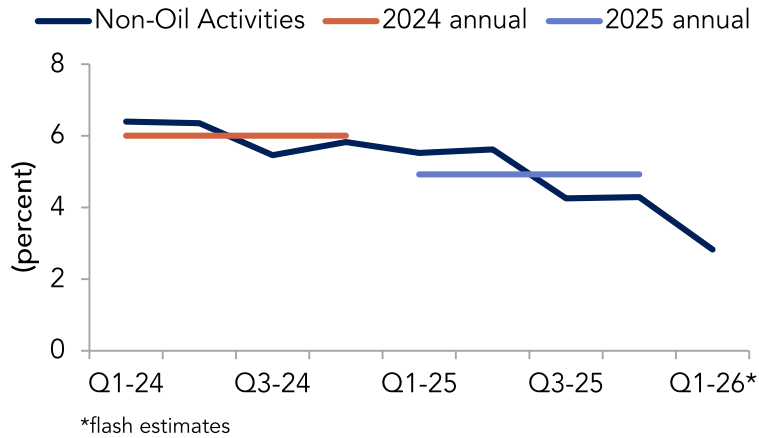
The GDP flash estimates put real GDP growth at 2.8% year-on-year in Q1 2026, slowing from 5% in Q4-2025, due to the hit to oil production in March and slower non-oil growth. The non-oil PMI improved in April from the low in March, as companies raised output in response to higher new business volumes and stronger activity. Firms also reported an uptick in client numbers and stronger demand during the month.

In Q1-26 oil GDP growth slowed sharply to 2.3% yoy from 10.8% in Q4-25, due to lower oil production in March. Non-oil growth also slowed, while government activities strengthened.

GDP flash estimates for Q1 2026
(year-on-year change)

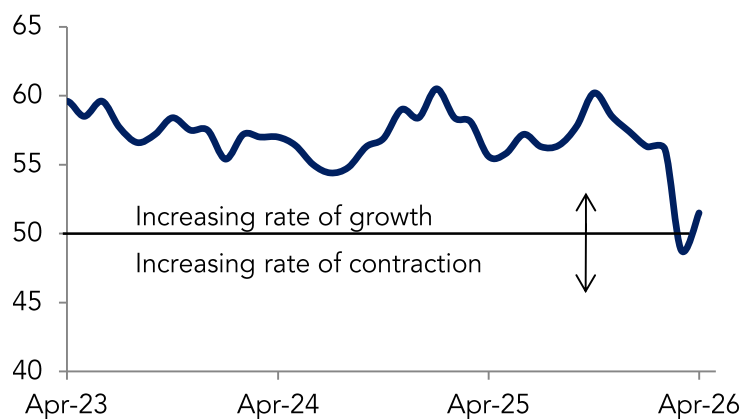


Non-oil GDP
(year-on-year change)



Non-oil activities GDP growth slowed to 2.8% yoy, down from 4.3% in H2-25.

Non-oil Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)



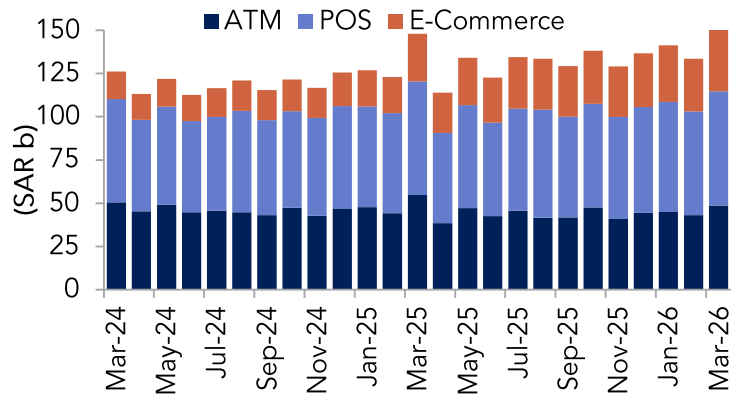
The non-oil PMI improved in April, as companies raised output in response to higher new business volumes and stronger activity. Firms also reported an uptick in client numbers and stronger demand.



Consumer spending

Total consumer spending increased in March, rising by 1.5% year-on-year and by 12.5% month-on-month. POS and e-commerce transactions rose by 0.7% and 28% year-on-year, respectively, while cash withdrawals declined by 11%. Among spending categories, 'jewelry', 'restaurants and coffee shops', and 'telecommunications' saw the highest increases in March. More recent high-frequency data show robust weekly POS spending in April, despite the US-Israel-Iran conflict.

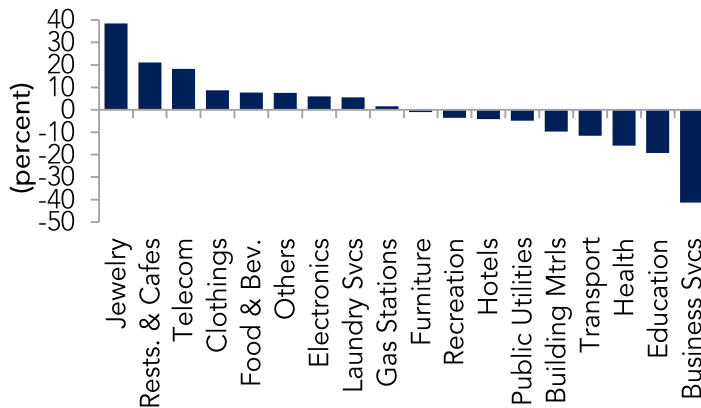
Monthly consumer spending (SAR b)



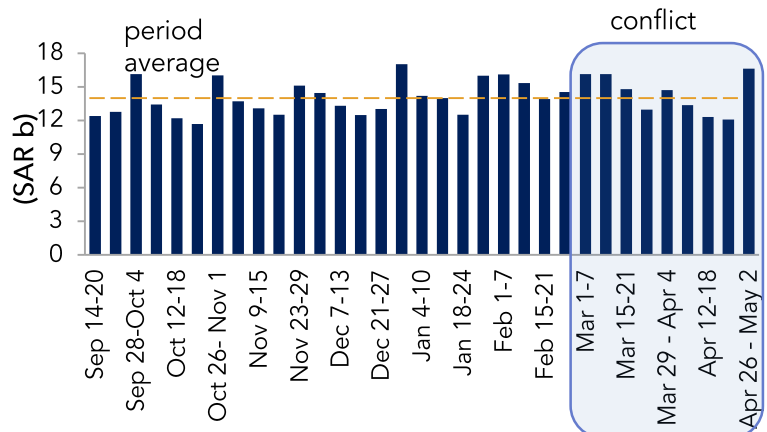
Total consumer spending increased in March, rising by 1.5% year-on-year and by 12.5% month-on-month.

Among spending categories, 'jewelry', 'restaurants & coffee shops', and 'telecommunications' saw the highest increases in March.

POS transactions by sector in March (year-on-year change)



Weekly POS transactions (SAR b)



More recent high-frequency data show robust weekly POS spending in April, despite the US-Israel-Iran conflict.

*E-commerce include only Mada cards transactions through online shopping sites, in-app purchases and e-wallets, it does not include transactions by Visa, MasterCard and other credit cards (Source: SAMA).

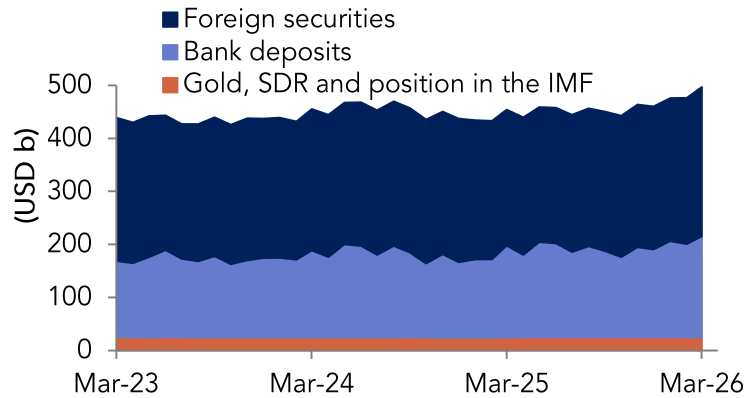


SAMA foreign reserve assets

SAMA's FX reserves rose by USD 20.3b in March, reaching USD 496.6b. The net increase reflected a USD 15.2b rise in bank deposits and a USD 5.5b increase in foreign securities.

SAMA's FX reserves rose by USD 20.3b in March...

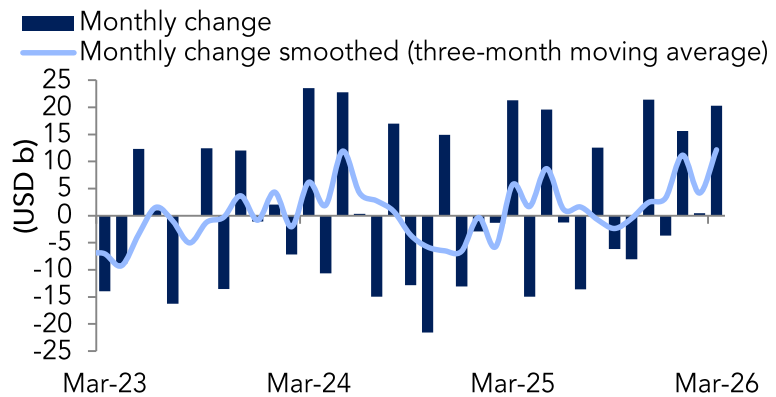
SAMA total foreign reserve assets



...reaching USD 496.6b.

SAMA foreign reserve assets

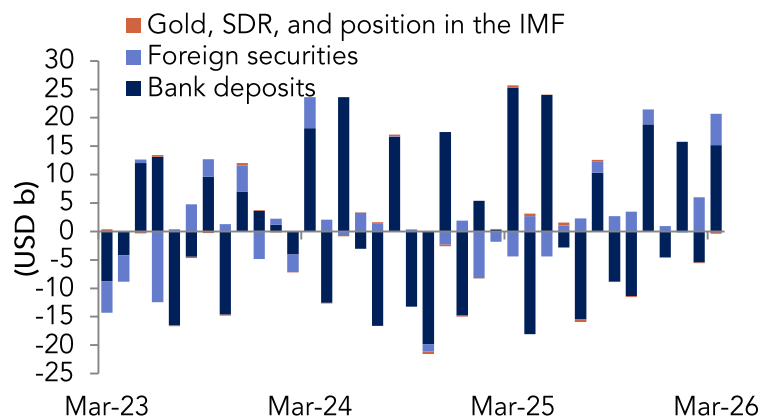
(monthly and three-month average change)



The net increase reflected a USD 15.2b rise in bank deposits and a USD 5.5b increase in foreign securities.

SAMA foreign reserve assets

(month-on-month change)

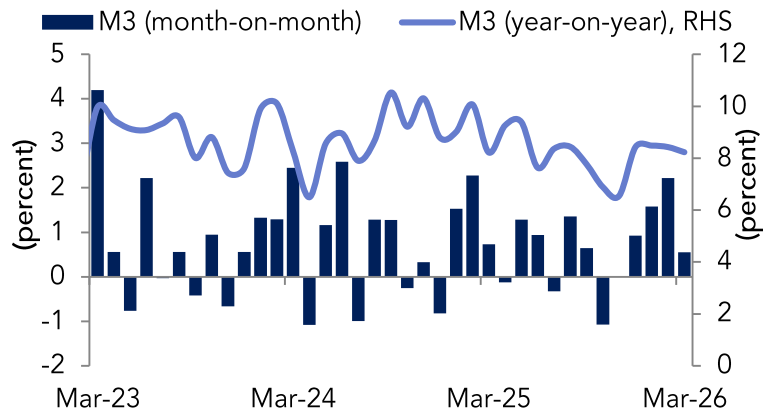




Money supply, bank deposits and credit

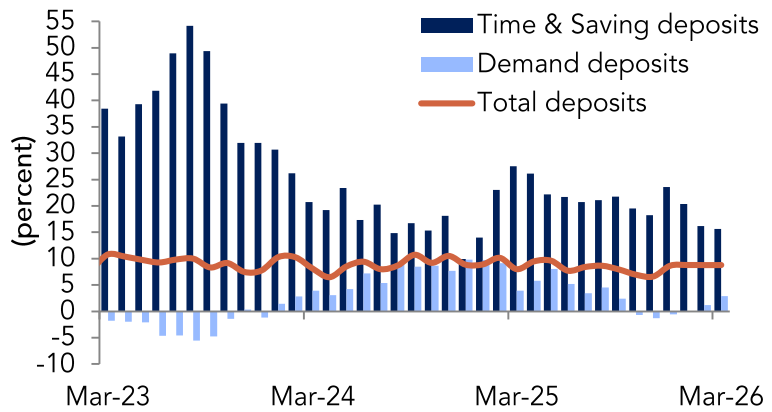
The broad measure of money supply (M3) grew by 8.2% year-on-year in March, and by 0.6% month-on-month. Total deposits increased by 8.8% year-on-year, supported by continued strength in time and saving deposits, up by 16%, alongside a rebound in demand deposits, which rose by 2.9%. Meanwhile, bank credit to the private sector moderated to 7.5% year-on-year, while rising by 0.6% month-on-month.

Change in money supply



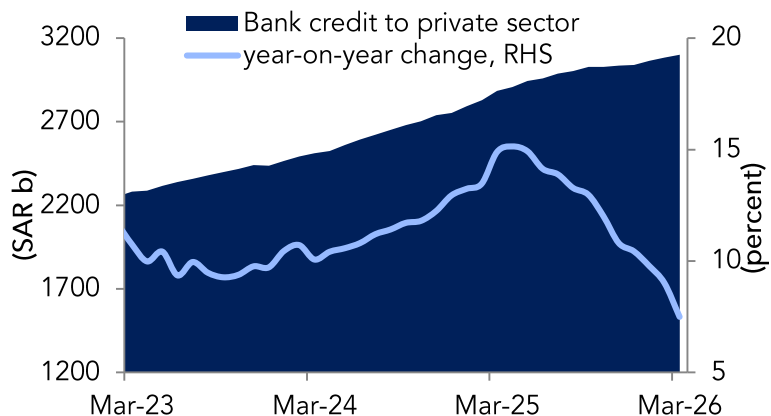
M3 grew by 8.2% year-on-year in March, and by 0.6% month-on-month.

Total deposit growth (year-on-year change)



Total deposits increased by 8.8% year-on-year, supported by a rebound in demand deposits, which increased by 2.9%, and a continued strength in time and saving deposits, up by 16%.

Bank credit to the private sector



Bank credit to the private sector moderated to 7.5% year-on-year, while increasing by 0.6% month-on-month.

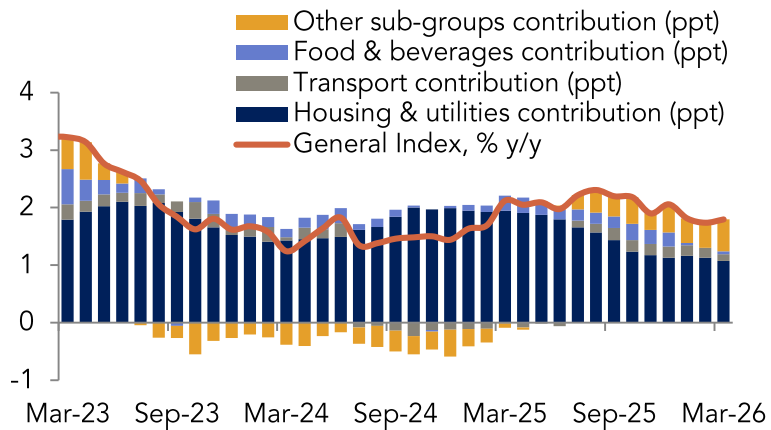


Inflation

Consumer prices rose by 1.8% year-on-year in March, and by 0.3% month-on-month. Inflation in 'Housing and utilities' eased to 3.9%, while prices in 'Food and beverages' inched up by 0.3%, with higher prices seen in some sub-group items such as 'meat' and 'fruits and nuts'. Globally, food prices are expected to rise, driven by higher energy and fertilizers prices reflecting the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

Inflation

(year-on-year change)

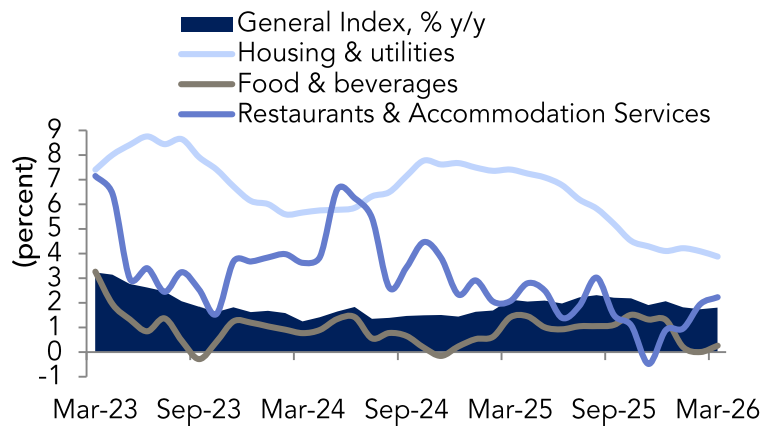


Consumer prices rose in March by 1.8% year-on-year and 0.3% month-on-month.

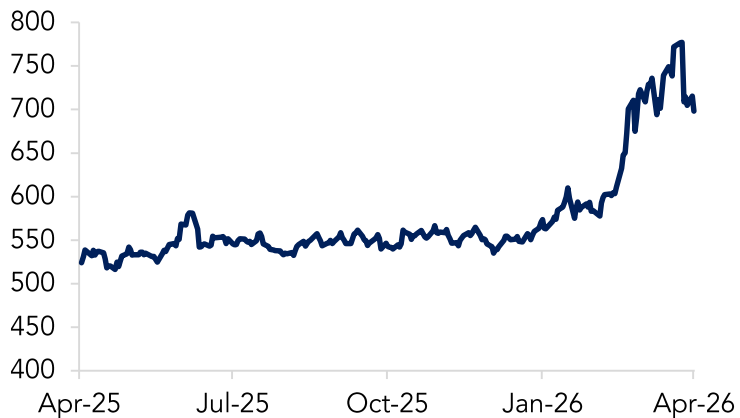
Inflation in 'Housing & utilities' eased to 3.9%, while prices in 'Food & beverages' inched up by 0.3%.

Inflation rates in selected CPI basket groups

(year-on-year change)



The S&P GSCI Agriculture Index



Globally, food prices are expected to rise, driven by higher energy and fertilizers prices reflecting the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. In March and April, the S&P Agriculture Index saw a significant increase.

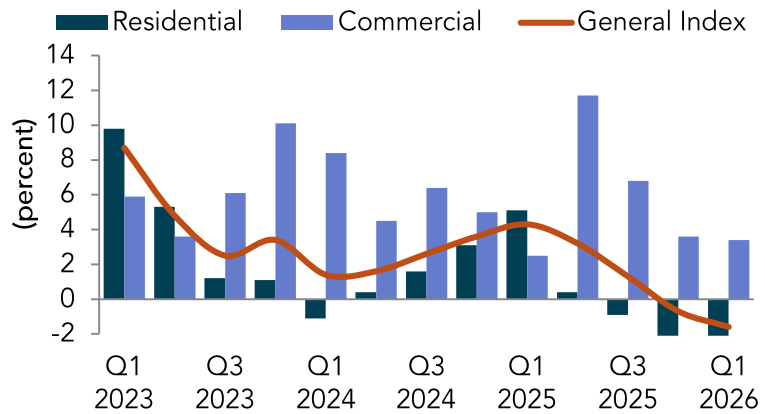


Real Estate Q1 2026

Real estate prices declined by 1.6% year-on-year in Q1 2026, and by 0.2% quarter-on-quarter. The annual decline was mainly driven by a 3.6% decrease in residential real estate prices, while commercial real estate prices rose by 3.4%. By region, prices in the Eastern Region saw the largest annual increase in Q1.

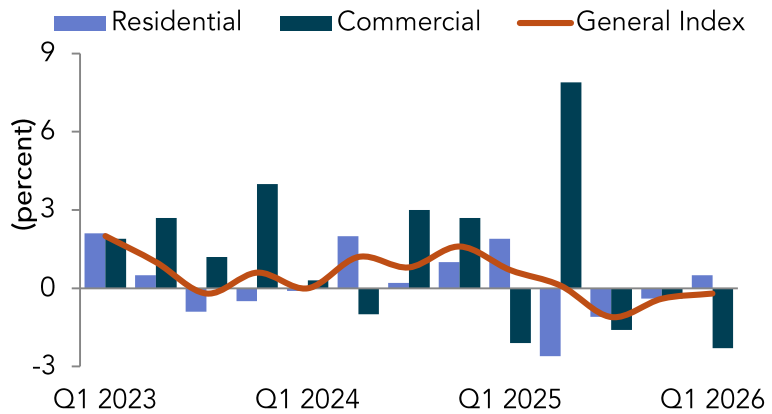
Real estate prices declined by 1.6% year-on-year in Q1 2026...

Real estate price index by type (year-on-year change)



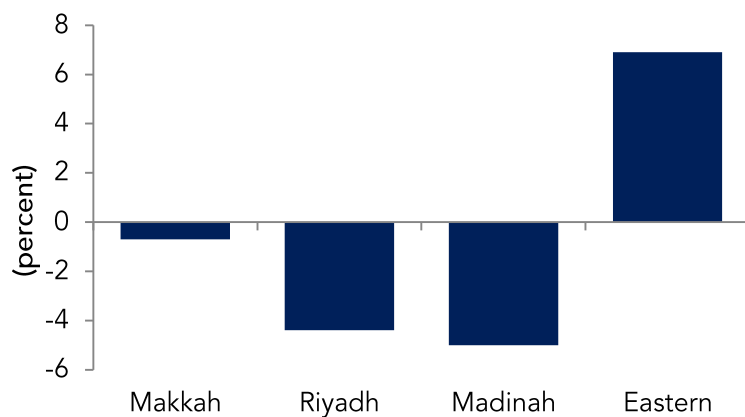
...and by 0.2% quarter-on-quarter.

Real estate price index by type (quarter-on-quarter change)



By region, prices in the Eastern Region saw the largest annual increase in Q1.

Real estate prices by region (year-on-year change)





Stock market

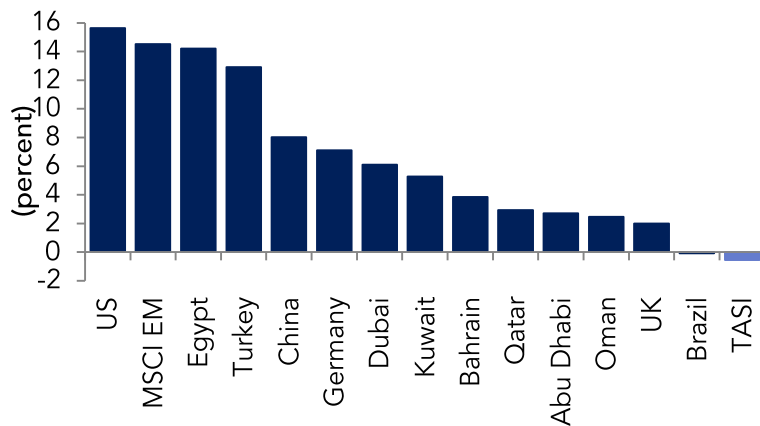
After strong performance in March, the Saudi stock market edged down during April. The index rose during H1-April close to 11,600, but fell back to 11,200 by the end of April (and fell further at the start of May). By the end of April the market was up 6.6% YTD and 4.5% since the conflict began at end-February.

The index rose during H1-April close to 11,600, but fell back to 11,200 by end month (and fell further at the start of May).

TASI performance

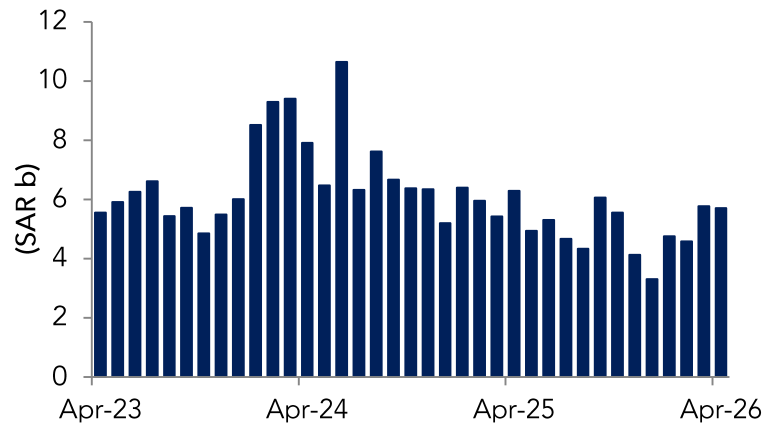


Comparative stock market performance (April)



After outperforming in March, TASI lagged in April as other regional markets played catch up.

Average daily traded turnover (April)



Average daily traded turnover remained similar to March levels at SAR5.7b. This was higher than during November-February.



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