



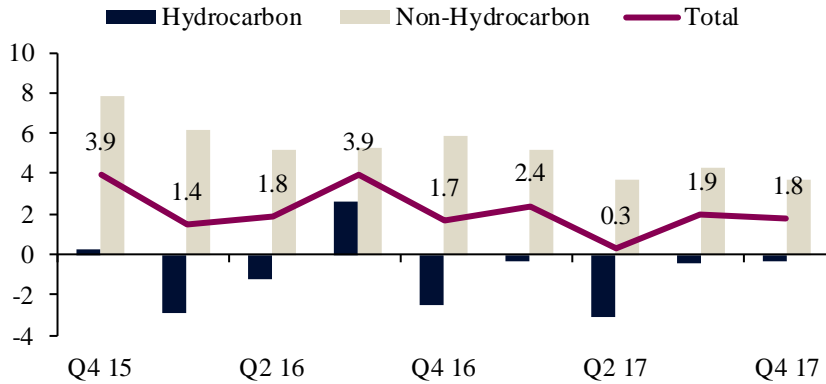
QNB Qatar Monthly Monitor April 2018

Highlights

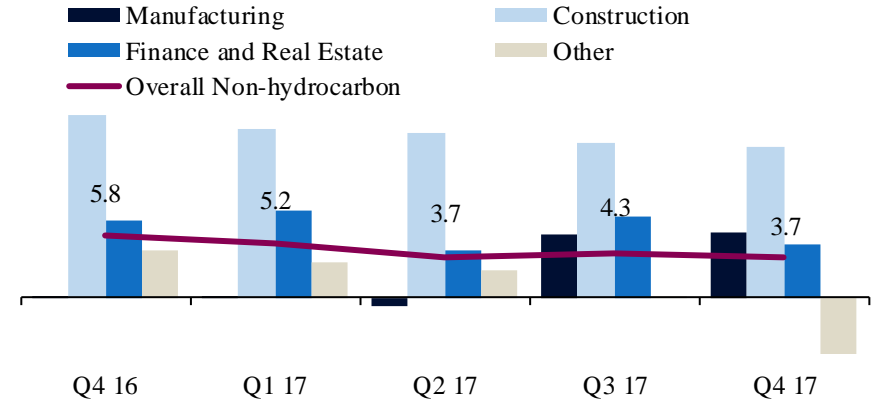
- **Q4 GDP data was released indicating that the non-hydrocarbon sector grew 4.2% in 2017, offset by a contraction in the hydrocarbon sector, leading to overall growth of 1.6%**
- **The property sector continued to recover – the real estate price index rose 1.8% in December and falling rents turned a corner**
- **Exports expanded 14% y/y in February on higher hydrocarbon prices while import growth remained steady at 0.6% y/y**

Economic Activity

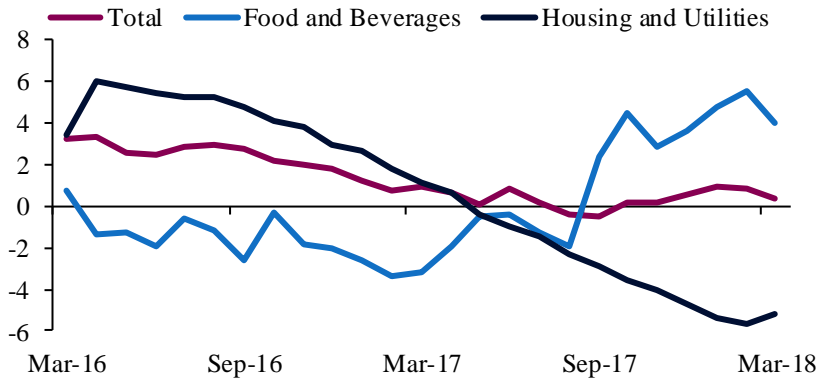
Real GDP growth slowed marginally in Q4 mainly due to temporary shutdowns for LNG maintenance
(% year on year)



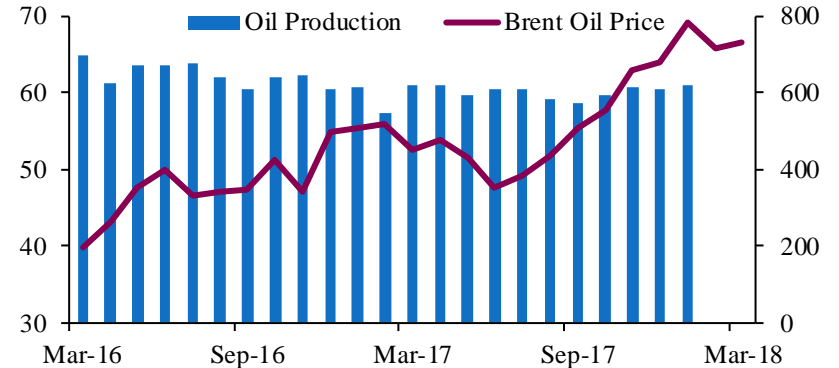
Non-hydrocarbon real GDP growth was 4.2% for the full year 2017
(% year on year)



Inflation slowed to 0.4% y/y in March; food inflation eased while housing inflation picked up
(% year on year)



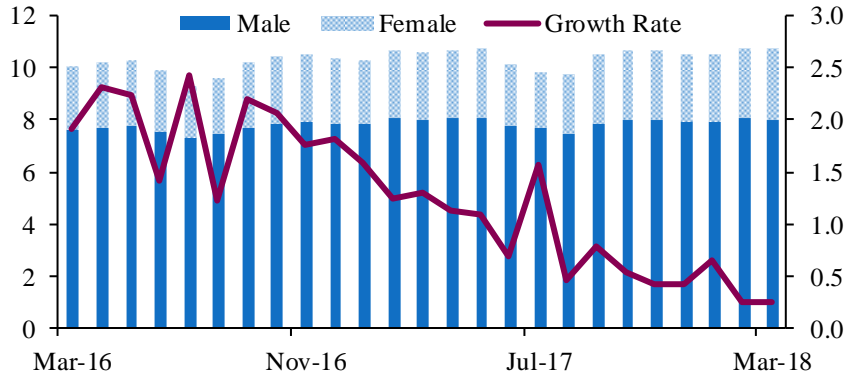
Brent crude prices were stable on average in March; Qatar's oil production rose to 621k b/d in December from 612k b/d prior
(average prices (USD/b), left axis; Oil production (k b/d), right axis)



Economic Activity

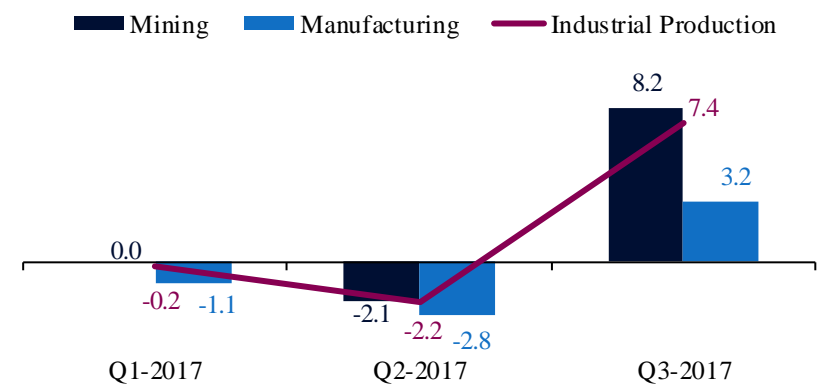
Qatar's population grew 1.0% y/y, reaching 2.69m in March; women made up close to 25% of the population

(m, male and female right axis; % year on year, left axis)



Industrial production surged to 7.4% y/y growth in Q3 on a rebound in the mining sector likely due to less maintenance on LNG trains

(% year on year)



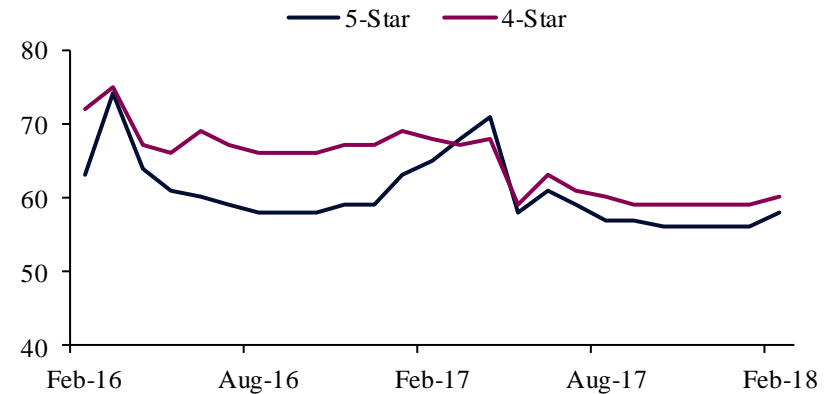
The real estate price index continued its recovery, rising 1.8% m/m in December

(Index, left axis; % year on year, right axis)



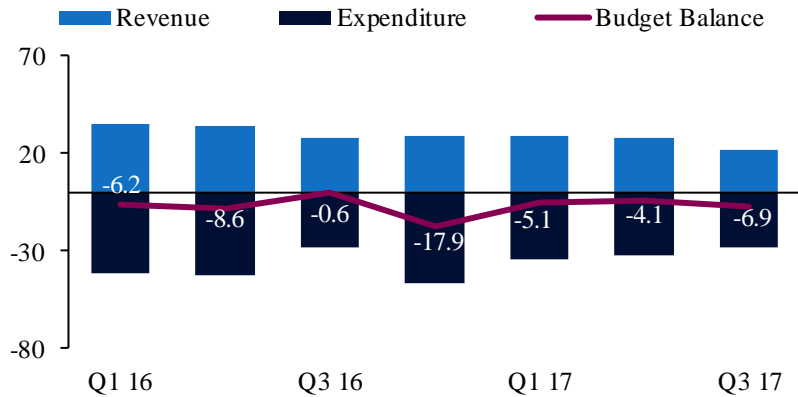
5-star and 4-star hotel occupancy rates rose to 58% and 60% in February from 56% and 59% in January respectively

(% occupancy rate)

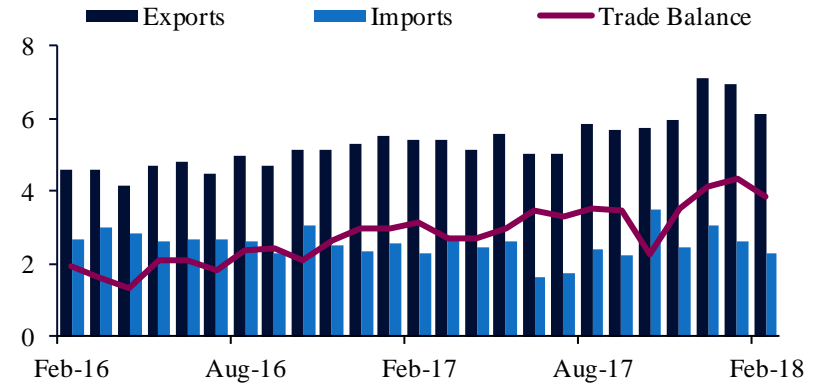


Fiscal and External Balances

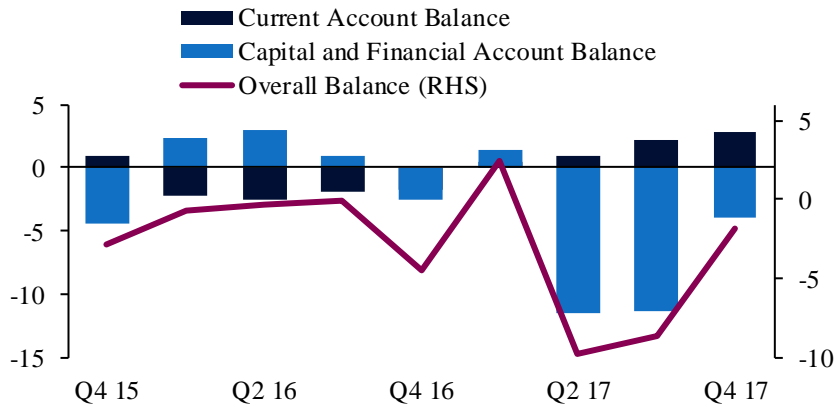
The fiscal account remained in deficit in Q3 but should recover subsequently as revenue rises in line with higher oil prices
(% of GDP)



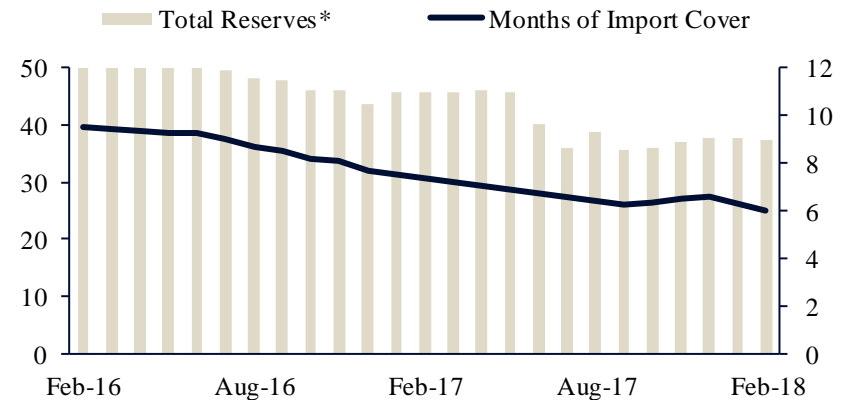
Exports grew 14.0% y/y in February as a result of higher oil prices while imports grew marginally at 0.6% y/y
(bn USD)



The current account surplus widened to 6.4% of GDP in Q4 in line with higher oil prices while the financial account deficit narrowed
(% of GDP; Balances, left axis; bn USD, change in Overall Balance, right axis)



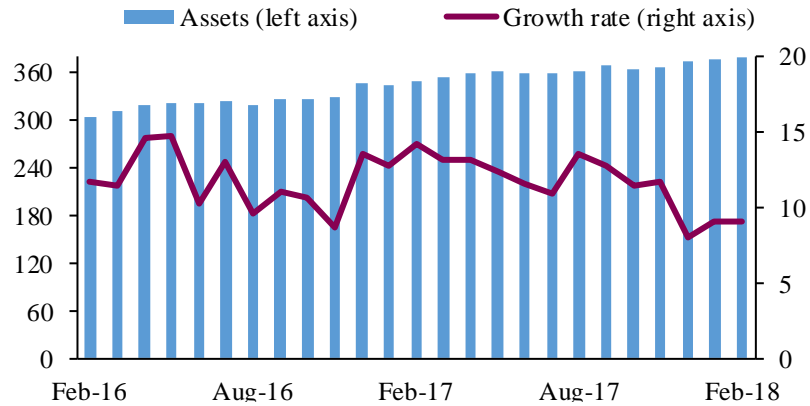
QCB foreign exchange reserves remained broadly stable at around USD38bn, equating to over 6 months of import cover
(bn USD; Reserves, left axis; Months of Import Cover, right axis)



Money and Banking

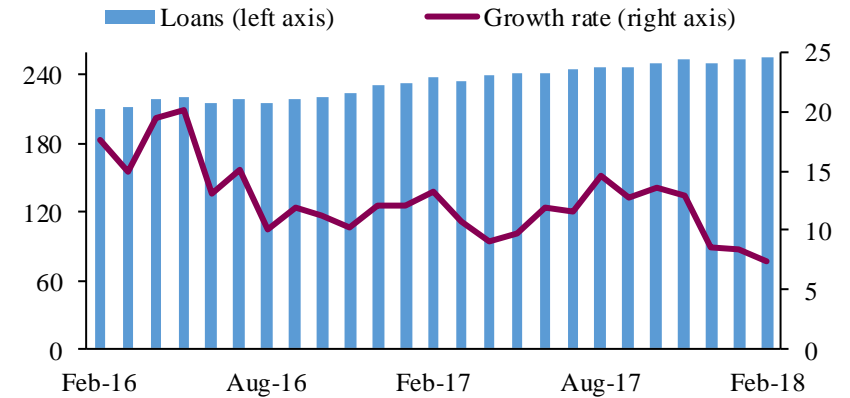
Bank assets expanded to USD378.9bn growing 9.1% y/y in February

(bn USD and % year on year)



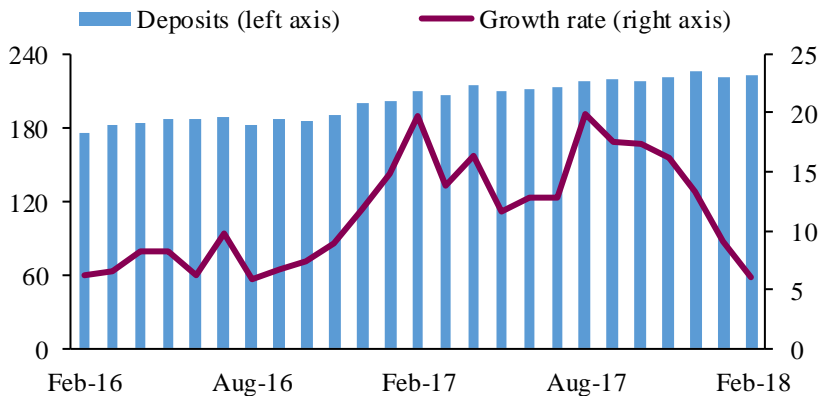
Credit growth was 7.4% in February, driven by lending to the public sector, which grew 12.6% y/y

(bn USD and % year on year)



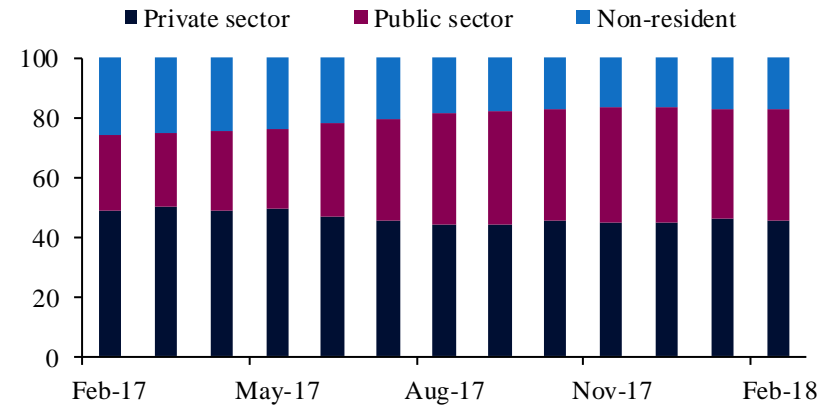
Bank deposit growth was 6.0% y/y in February

(bn USD and % year on year)



Deposits from the non-resident and private sector remained stable in February

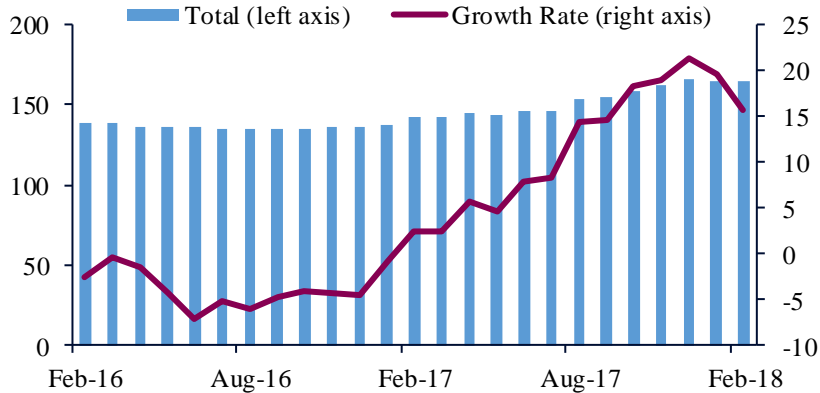
(% of total)



Money and Banking

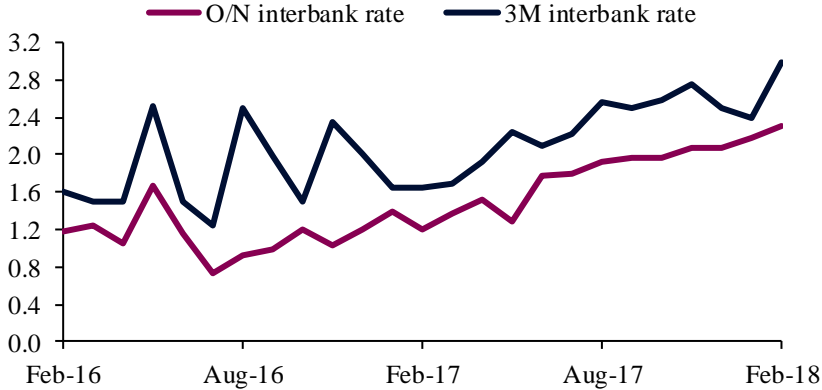
Broad money supply (M2) grew by 15.7% in February compared to 19.6% in January

(bn USD and % year on year)



Interbank rates continue to rise in line with increases in the US short-term rates

(%)



Latest Publications

QNB Economics Weekly Commentary

- [Qatar GDP forecasts revised up for 2018](#)
- [US Fed hikes and revises up economic projections](#)
- [China to prioritise financial stability over growth in 2018](#)
- [US tariffs threaten global trade turmoil](#)
- [Indonesia growth to pick up in 2018](#)
- [Higher US rates are not a major threat to EM capital inflows](#)
- [Oil prices to average USD60-65/b in 2018 on balanced market](#)
- [Rising inflation expectations spook markets](#)
- [IMF revises up global growth forecasts](#)
- [Sub-Sahara Africa growth recovery set to continue in 2018](#)
- [Strong demand is the main driver of the recent rise in oil prices](#)
- [Our new SEA tracker suggests growth dipped in Q4 2017](#)

QNB Economics Insight Report



[Turkey 2017](#)



[Qatar December 2017](#)



[Indonesia 2017](#)



[Singapore 2017](#)



[Kuwait 2017](#)



[Qatar 2017](#)

This report is produced by the QNB Economics Team. For questions, or to receive the report by email each month, please contact:

QNB Economics

Tel: (+974) 4453 4643

economics@qnb.com

DISCLAIMER: This publication has been prepared by Qatar National Bank (“QNB”). QNB is regulated by the Qatar Central Bank. This publication expresses the views and opinions of QNB Economics at a given time only. It is not an offer, promotion or recommendation to buy or sell securities or other investments, nor is it intended to constitute legal, tax, accounting, or financial advice. We therefore strongly advise potential investors to seek independent professional advice before making any investment decision. Although the information in this report has been obtained from sources that are believed to be reliable, we have not independently verified all such information and it may not be accurate or complete. While this publication has been prepared with the utmost degree of care by our analysts, no warranties are provided as to the accuracy and completeness of the information it may contain, and any liability in that respect is declined. QNB reserves the right to amend the views and opinions expressed in this publication at any time. They may also express viewpoints or make investment decisions that differ significantly from, or even contradict, the views and opinions included in this report.

COPYRIGHT: This report is distributed on a complimentary basis to valued business partners of QNB. It may not be reproduced in whole or in part without permission