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Boursa Kuwait Performance and Trading Behavior Following Its Privatization

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Abstract

Boursa Kuwait has undertaken significant structural and regulatory reforms to boost market liquidity, attract foreign investors, and improve overall market efficiency. The Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE), established in 1983, was responsible for regulating and organizing public trading activities in the country. Over the years, KSE introduced various investment instruments, including equities, debt securities, and mutual funds, and modernized its operations through the implementation of an electronic trading system, which later expanded to online trading. In 2010, regulatory oversight shifted to the Capital Markets Authority (CMA), marking an important step in strengthening governance. Today, Boursa Kuwait lists 143 companies, with 109 on the Main Market and 34 on the Premier Market. The study investigates the impact of the privatization on the two market categories according to Boursa Kuwait classifications which are the premium market and the main market.

Keywords: Market Performance, Boursa Kuwait, Stock Market Reforms. Market Liquidity, Investor Behavior.