

# Tbilisi Residential Market MONTHLY WATCH

July 2021

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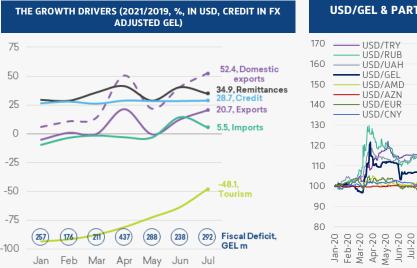


## **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

- Moderating though still strong rebound
- \* Transaction activity remains sizeable in July, following a significant improvement in the previous month
- ✤ July 2021 shows the highest number of sold apartments, compared to the same month of previous two years
- Sales are up significantly in Didube, while Saburtalo and Chughureti still fall behind their 2019 level
- \* Tbilisi's rental yield stood at 7.4% in July, remaining unchanged compared to previous month
- Average price of residential properties in Tbilisi posted an increase in July YoY; Moreover, rental rates showed an improvement as well
- \* Tbilisi Airbnb market is gradually recuperating; Market revenue is up significantly

### MODERATING THOUGH STILL STRONG REBOUND





#### USD/GEL & PARTNER CURRENCY FX RATES VS USD

According to preliminary estimates, GDP increased by 9.9% YoY in July 2021 (3.9% compared to Jul-19), following a 18.7% and 25.8% YoY expansion in June and May, respectively. As a result, average growth for the first seven months amounted to 12.2% YoY, or approx. 6% when compared to the same period of 2019.

Following a declining annual growth rate in the previous two months, export growth gained momentum and increased by 42.4% YoY in July 2021 (20.7% compared to Jul-19). In the same period, the import growth rate from a year earlier has further slowed down, though remained still solid at 17.7% (5.5% compared to Jul-19). In July 2021, the trade balance worsened by 2.8% YoY or by USD 12.5m. A significant recovery is observed in tourism inflows, increasing by 1,602.0% YoY (-48.1% YoY compared to Jul-19). Strong dynamics continued in remittances and July figure went up by 10.4% YoY (+34.9% compared to Jul-19).

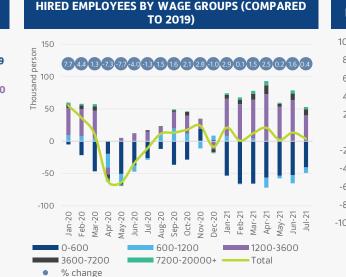
Since the appreciation in the previous months, the USD/GEL exchange rate has stabilized at approx. 3.1 in August 2021. Unlike other regional currencies, TRY gained value against the greenback and appreciated by 1.3%\* MoM in the same month, while, the EUR has weakened by 0.6% MoM against the USD. The AMD has also lost its value against the greenback by 1.5% MoM, followed by the RUB and the UAH, both depreciating by 0.4% MoM. Meanwhile, the CNY and the AZN have maintained their value against the USD compared to the previous month.

Inflation pressures continued to rise in August with 12.8% YoY and 0.7% MoM increase in consumer prices. The largest contributors were food, transportation and utilities, explaining most of the YoY inflation. At the same time, other category prices were also higher as inflation is quite widespread.

According to MoF, number of hired employees increased by 1.8% YoY in July and by 0.4% when compared to 2019.

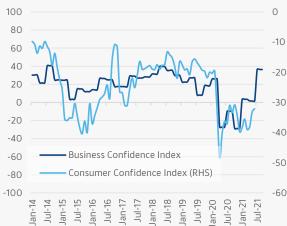
#### INFLATION AND GEL POLICY RATE (%)

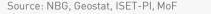




#### **BUSINESS AND CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICES**

Sep-Oct-Vov-





\*Changes of exchange rates are based on USD/other currency like USD/GEL, not GEL/USD

## TRANSACTION ACTIVITY REMAINS SIZEABLE IN JULY, FOLLOWING A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH

#### NUMBER OF SOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES BY YEARS



Following the recuperated activity in June, about 3,300 residential properties were sold in Tbilisi in July, which is a bit lower compared to previous month (3,600), but it still remains above its 2019 level by 2% (+25% YoY).

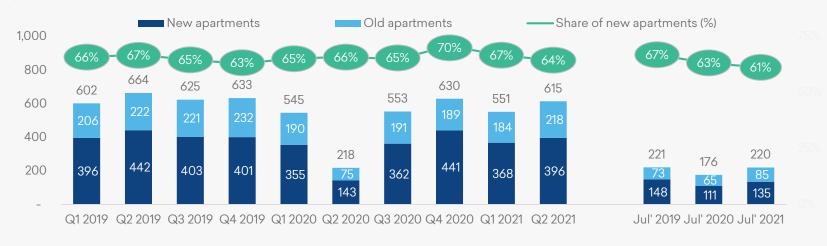
## JULY 2021 SHOWS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF SOLD APARTMENTS, COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH OF PREVIOUS TWO YEARS

NUMBER OF SOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES





## TOTAL AREA OF SOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES (000' SQM)

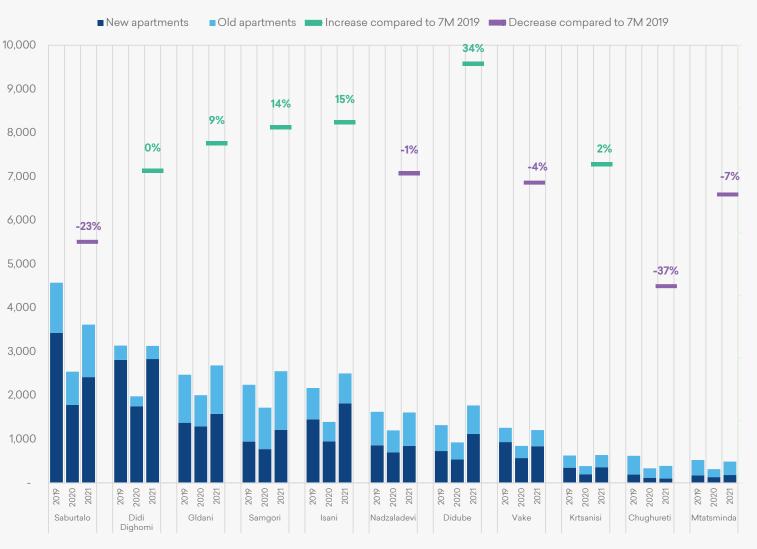


About 2000 new apartments were sold in July 2021, amounting up to 135 thousand SQM area, falling behind the 2019 level by 5% (+22% YoY). Furthermore, the share of new properties decreased slightly, accounting for 61% of total transactions.

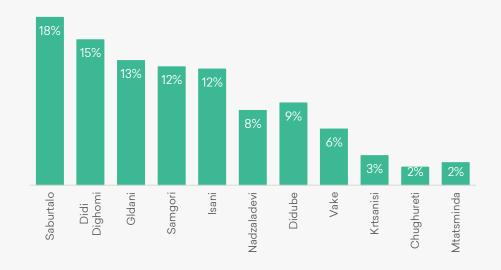
Accounting for 39% of total transactions and amounting over 85 thousand SQM area, about 1,300 old apartments were sold in July 2021, surpassing the 2019 level by 17% (+30% YoY).

Source: NAPR, TBC Capital; Note I: New apartment means an apartment with construction permits issued since 2010; Note II: May-19 figure revised

#### NUMBER OF SOLD APARTMENTS (UNITS): Seven Months (7M) 2019-2021



#### TOTAL TRANSACTION DISTRIBUTION BY DISTRICTS (%): 7M 2021



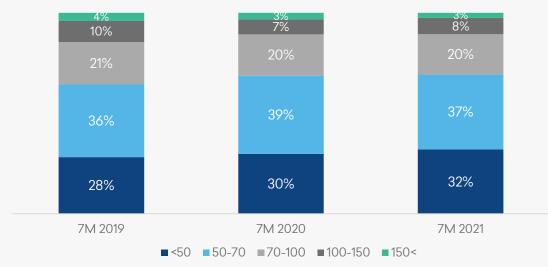
Considering the first seven months of 2021, the number of transactions exceeds the 2019 level in some parts of Tbilisi. Isani (+15%) joined the double-digit growth club, standing along with Didube (+34%) and Samgori (+14%).

Didi Dighomi is on the 2019 level. Nadzaladevi and Mtatsminda down by only 1% and 7%, respectively. Accounting for the largest share of Tbilisi's total transactions, Saburtalo still remains far below its pre-pandemic level, at -23%.

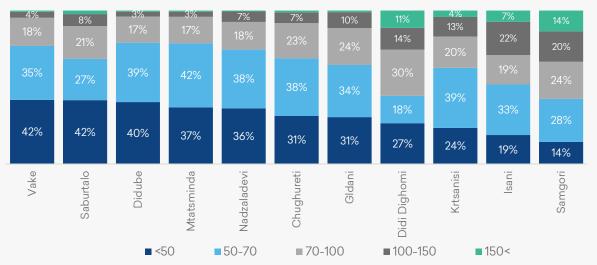
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## THE MIX OF TRANSACTIONS REMAINS MOSTLY UNCHANGED; IN THE MAJORITY OF DISTRICTS SMALLER APARTMENTS HAVE A HIGHER SHARE



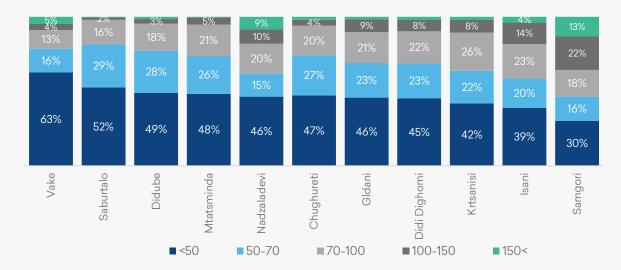


#### NEW APARTMENTS - 7M 2021 (AREA, SQM)

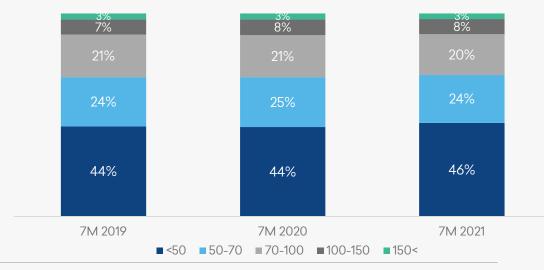


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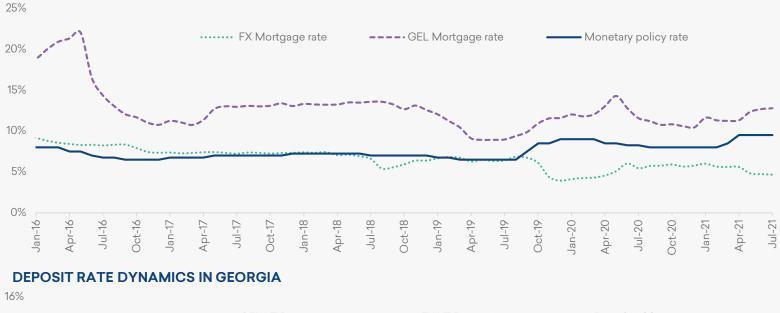
#### OLD APARTMENTS - 7M 2021 (AREA, SQM)

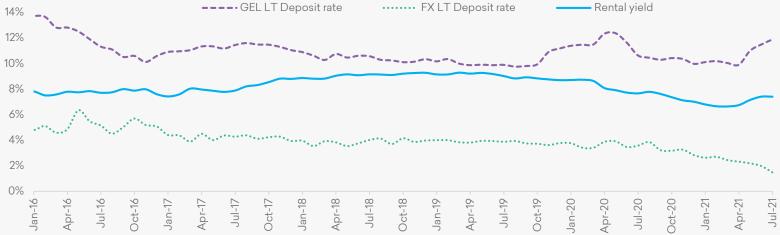


#### **OLD APARTMENTS (AREA, SQM)**



Source: NAPR, TBC Capital



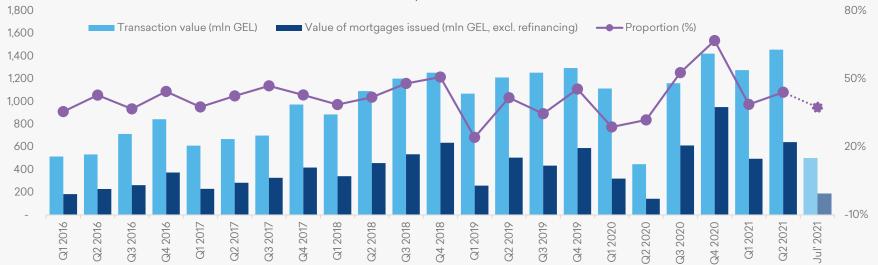


Tbilisi rental yield amounted 7.4% in July, remaining unchanged compared to June.. The yield is below its long-term average by only 1%, but it remains competitive to USD deposits, due to the high difference in yields.

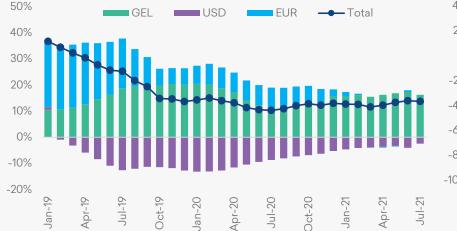
Long term deposit rate in GEL has been on a resilient rising streak since April, reaching about 12% in July.

### A SLIGHT INCREASE OBSERVED IN THE PROPORTION OF MORTGAGES ISSUED TO TOTAL TRANSACTION VALUE

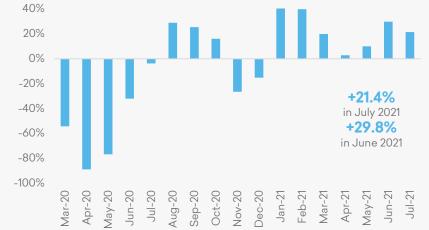
#### VALUE OF ISSUED MORTGAGES TO TRANSACTION VALUE\*, TBILISI



## YOY GROWTH OF MORTGAGE PORTFOLIO AND CONTRIBUTION TO GROWTH BY CURRENCIES



#### NEW MORTGAGE ISSUANCE\*\* % Change compared to 2019

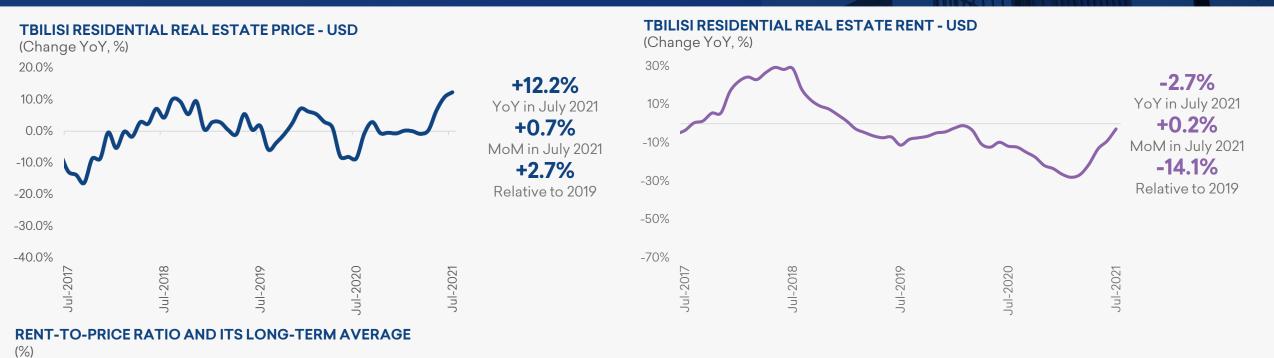


The proportion of mortgages issued in Tbilisi to total transactions stood on 37% in July 2021.

In the same period, new mortgage issuance exceeds its 2019 level by 21.4%, a slight decrease in change from June (29.8%).

Source: NAPR, NBG, TBC Capital; \*Note: The chart depicts a proportion of all mortgage loans issued, net of refinancing (TBC Capital estimates), in the period to the proportion of real estate market turnover in Tbilisi. \*\*Mortgages issued by TBC Bank, excl. FX effect

## AVERAGE PRICE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN TBILISI POSTED AN INCREASE IN JULY YOY; MOREOVER, RENTAL RATES SHOWED AN IMPROVEMENT AS WELL





In July, average price of residential properties went up by 12.2% YoY and stayed above its 2019 level by 2.7%.

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Rental rates are still recuperating from the Covid effect. There is a miniscule improvement in MoM terms (+0.2%). Rent is down by 14.1% compared to its pre-pandemic figure.

Source: NBG, NAPR, TBC Capital

## AVERAGE SALES-WEIGHTED USD PRICE OF THE REGISTRY TRANSACTIONS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY FOR BOTH NEW AND OLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN JULY 2021, COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH OF THE TWO PREVIOUS YEARS

2,191

Q2 2021

2,079

Q1 2021

2,045

Q4 2020

2,144

Jul' 2021

1,835

Jul' 2020

1.827

Jul' 2019

#### **AVERAGE SALES WEIGHTED PRICE PER SQM (USD)**



1,918

Q3 2020

1,890

Q1 2020

1,875

Q4 2019

1,839

Q3 2019

1,755

2019

22

1,891

Q2 2020

Monthly Average Sales-weighted USD prices for new and old apartments went up considerably in July 2021, especially YoY.

In July 2021, average sales-weighted price of new apartments surpassed its 2019 level by 1.5%.

In the same period, old apartment sales weighted average price reached 685 USD, the highest monthly figure for the last three years (+7.5% vs 2019).

Source: NAPR, TBC Capital

1.838

1,658

2019

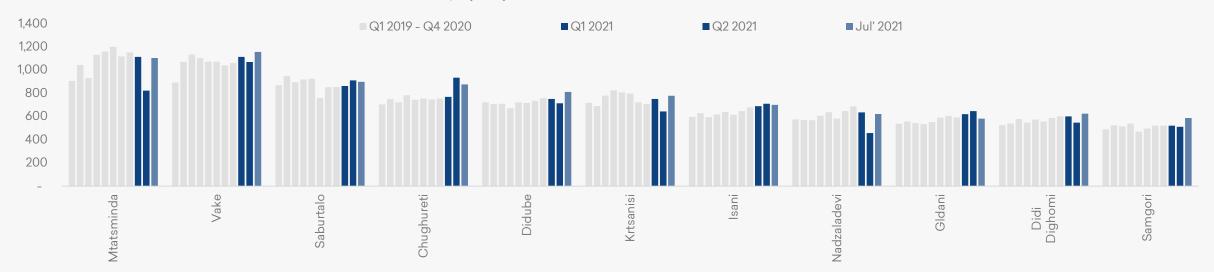
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1,800

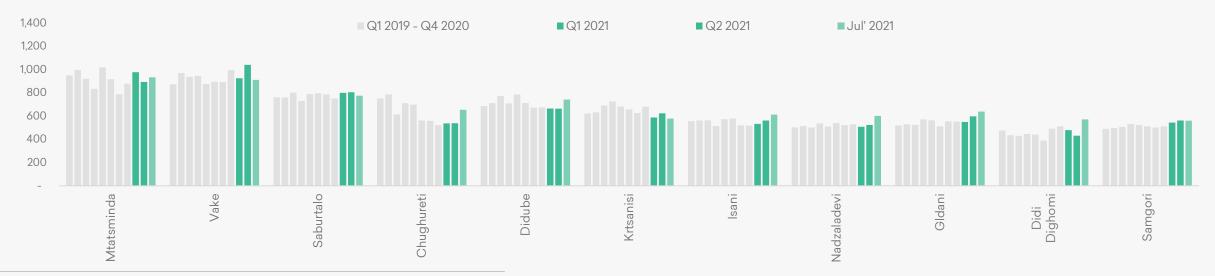
1.400

1,000

## AVERAGE SALES-WEIGHTED USD PRICE PER SQM BY DISTRICTS



#### OLD APARTMENTS - AVERAGE SALES WEIGHTED PRICE PER SQM (USD)



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Source: NAPR, TBC Capital

### RENTAL RATES REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED MOM IN JULY (USD)



In July 2021, Tbilisi's average rental rate (USD) stayed almost the same as previous month, with only 0.2% difference MoM. The rent is down by 14% relative to 2019 (-3% YoY).



#### AIRBNB: OCCUPANCY RATE (%) AND CHANGE IN AVERAGE DAILY RATE (USD, %)

#### **TBILISI AIRBNB MARKET: BOOKING RATE (%)**





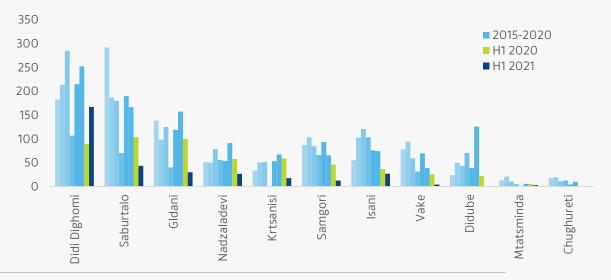
TBILISI AIRBNB MARKET REVENUE (USD): % CHANGE RELATIVE TO 2019

- The booking rate has been recovering gradually. In July 2021, the market featured a total of 7,371 active listings, 47% of which were booked for at least a single day.
- Market revenue has also been improving. Tbilisi Airbnb generated up to 1.8 mln USD revenue in July (-50% vs. 2019)



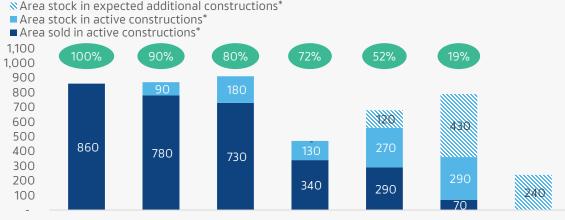
#### PERMITS ISSUED FOR RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION IN TBILISI (AREA, UNITS)





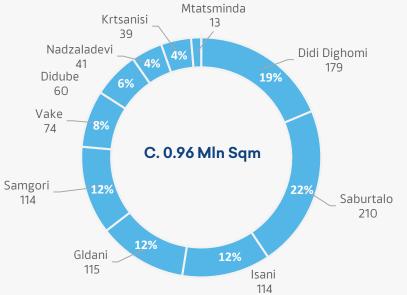
Source: Tbilisi City Hall, TBC Capital; \*If at least a single sale from the project is registered in NAPR, the project is deemed active

RESIDENTIAL AREA (000' SQM) OF 2015-21 PERMITS: SOLD & STOCK



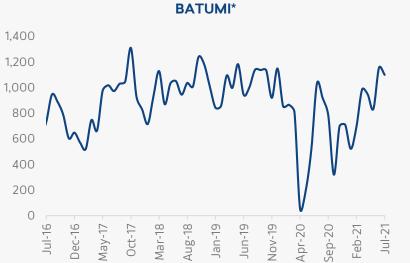
2015 permits 2016 permits 2017 permits 2018 permits 2019 permits 2020 permits 2021 H1 permits

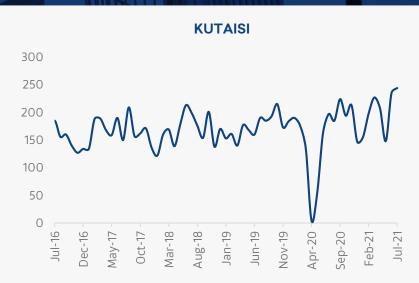
#### **RESIDENTIAL AREA IN STOCK BY DISTRICTS (000' SQM)**

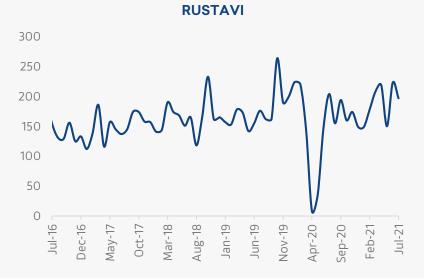


### ANNEX II/II: NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SALES TRANSACTIONS











BORJOMI



GORI

Source: NAPR, TBC Capital; \*Adjusted for transactions reflected with a time-lag in the registry database

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