

PRESS RELEASE

No. 16/ 11.03.2002

The National Institute of Statistics presents in the annex the main short-term indicators (provisional data) for 2001 and for January 2002.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EVOLUTION OF ROMANIA IN 2001 - provisional data -

Carrying out the objectives stipulated by the Treaty on the European Union, especially on the Economic and Monetary Union, needs permanent improvement of statistical tools used for measuring the evolution of economic phenomena. In this context, the new European System of Accounts (ESA 95) constitutes an important progress in comparison with the previous version of 1979. This progress relies on the methodology harmonisation, on precise and rigorous concepts, definitions, classifications and accounting rules that should be applied to obtain a coherent, reliable and comparable quantitative description of the European Union countries economies.

Romanian statistics is undergoing a wide process of changing the methodologies that are applied in view to be aligned with the Community Acquis requirements. According to the commitments taken through the Position Paper of Romania for the Chapter 12 – Statistics, the National Institute of Statistics has proceeded to apply the new European System of Accounts (ESA 95), its methodology being already applied by member states of the European Union, as well as by the candidate countries. Turning into account the experience of member states, NIS has passed to apply the new methodology by setting up a link year between the two versions of ESA. 1998 is this link year, when national accounts have been carried out according to the methodological principles of the two systems (ESA 79 and ESA 95). Since 1999, the national accounts have been built up only based on the ESA 95 methodological requirements. Table 1 presents data on the GDP value and evolution for the period 1998-2001 calculated based on the ESA 95 methodology. Data for 1998-1999 are final, those for 2000 are semi-final, while data for 2001 are provisional.

Gross domestic product estimated for 2001 was ROL 1154126.4 billion current prices, increasing – in real terms – by 5.3% as against previous year. This growth has been significantly determined by the higher volume of activity and consequently of gross value added in agriculture (+21.2%), industry (+7.9%) and construction (+5.2%).

Gross Domestic Product by categories of resources and uses

	Yearly achievements - ROL billion current prices -				Volume index ¹⁾ - % -		
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
Agriculture, sylviculture and pisciculture	53772.9	72805.2	88536.8	154311.0	103.3	81.8	121.2
Industry	98212.8	135343.8	201953.0	297245.8	98.5	106.2	107.9
Construction	19029.2	27376.7	39821.7	57977.0	97.7	106.3	105.2
Services ²⁾	166097.4	253356.0	387109.7	535448.5	99.4	103.8	101.7
Financial intermediation services indirectly measured ³⁾	-5564.7	-8406.6	-8579.4	-16983.3	107.9	74.8	146.3
Gross value added – total	331547.6	480475.1	708841.8	1027999.0	99.5	101.8	105.5
Net taxes on product ⁴⁾	42250.6	65255.1	91466.3	126127.4	93.7	101.5	103.1
Gross Domestic Product	373798.2	545730.2	800308.1	1154126.4	98.8	101.8	105.3
Total final consumption	337468.6	484361.4	687878.7	995017.9	97.5	101.1	105.7
Actual final consumption of population households ⁵⁾	310922.7	453307.9	632377.7	921805.1	98.9	100.1	106.4
Actual final consumption of general government ⁶⁾	26545.9	31053.5	55501.0	73212.8	80.9	115.9	98.1
Gross capital formation	66333.5	87740.6	157680.3	252650.3	-	-	-
of which:							
Gross fixed capital formation	67919.9	96630.4	151486.2	219289.3	95.2	104.6	106.6
Net export of goods and services	-30003.9	-26371.8	-45250.9	-93541.8	-	-	-
Export of goods and services	84559.3	152902.7	264186.6	386831.6	110.5	124.1	110.6
Import of goods and services	114563.2	179274.5	309437.5	480373.4	98.5	128.2	117.5

¹⁾ Volume indices have been calculated in the prices of previous year

²⁾ Comprise the activity of trade, transport, post and telecommunications, tourism, hotels and restaurants, general government and defence, education, health and social assistance and other services rendered to the economic units and to the population.

³⁾ Are measured by the balance between interests cashed and those paid by credit institutions, being the result of their financial brokerage.

⁴⁾ Represent the difference between taxes on product cashed (VAT, excise duties, other taxes) and subsidies on product paid from state budget.

⁵⁾ Comprises: population households expenditure for purchasing goods and services in order to satisfy their members needs, expenditure for individual consumption of general government (education, health, social security and social actions, culture, sport, recreation activities, domestic waste collection) and expenditure for individual consumption of non-profit institutions in the households service (religious organisations, trade unions, political parties, foundations, unions, cultural and sportive associations).

⁶⁾ Contains the expenditure for collective consumption of general government (general public services, national defence and territory security, keeping order and public security, legislative and regulation actions, research and development, etc.).

Total final consumption has registered a growth of 5.7% in 2001 as compared to 2000; the same trend has been also registered for actual final consumption of population households (6.4%). Actual final consumption of general government has fallen by 1.9%, as a result of the measures taken by the government in 2001 concerning the reduction of material and staff expenditure of general government.

Gross fixed capital formation has registered a growth by 6.6 percentage points. Investment rate determined by the ratio between gross fixed capital formation and gross value added per economy has been kept relatively constant as against 2000, being around 21.3%.

In 2001, the balance of the export and import of the goods and services has accounted for ROL 93541.8 billion, being influenced by higher volume of imports and goods and services (+17.5%), as compared to exports of goods and services (+10.6%).

Evolution of main macroeconomic indicators in 2001 - Provisional data -

	2001 in % as against 2000	Weight of private sector in total economic activity - %	
		2000	2001
• Gross Domestic Product	105.3	65.5	67.1
• Industrial output	108.2	55.7	...
• Agricultural output of goods and services	121.7	94.1	95.5
- vegetal	135.2	92.7	94.9
- animal	99.7	98.1	98.3
- agricultural services	109.6	44.0	41.2
• Volume of investments	105.1	58.3	63.8
• Construction works	104.1	89.3	88.4
• Foreign trade			
- export of goods	109.8	65.7 ¹⁾	66.7 ¹⁾
- CIF import of goods	119.1	70.1 ¹⁾	69.6 ¹⁾
• Retail (except motor vehicles and motorcycles)	100.4 ²⁾	97.7	98.7
• Sale of motor vehicles ³⁾ and fuels for motor vehicles	102.4 ²⁾	77.1	67.1
• Market services rendered to population	86.2 ²⁾	85.7	85.4
• Consumer prices index – yearly average	134.5	X	x
- food goods (including beverages)	135.7	X	x
- non-food goods	133.1	X	x
- services	135.4	X	x

¹⁾ Weight of private economic units as intermediates in foreign trade and of private producers directly carrying out foreign trade activity.

²⁾ Volume indices of turnover for enterprises with this main activity.

³⁾ Wholesale and retail.

Note: The weight of private sector in total activity in 2000 is calculated based on final data, while for 2001 based on provisional data.

Industrial output achieved in 2001, as compared to 2000 has increased by 8.2% in absolute volume and by 8.5% under comparable conditions from the viewpoint of the working days number, due to the growths registered in manufacturing (+9.6%, respectively +10.0%) and in mining and quarrying (+4.9%, respectively +5.2%). The industry producing electric and thermal energy, gas and water has registered a fall of 1.3%, respectively 1.0%. By main industrial groups, the production has increased both in absolute volume and under comparable conditions from the viewpoint of the working days number in all sectors excepting durable goods industry, which registered a slight fall (-1.0%, respectively -0.5%).

In 2001, the value of industrial products deliveries has accounted for ROL 500085 billion current prices (ROL 42601 billion in December), of which ROL 438616 billion have come from manufacturing (ROL 34401 billion in December).

The deliveries for export have amounted to ROL 115110 billion (ROL 8742 billion in December), representing 23.0% of industrial products deliveries for 2001, being supported by manufacturing enterprises (ROL 114770 billion).

The weight of export production in total deliveries in 2001 has been 72.6% for durable goods industry, 44.9% for the branches producing capital goods, 36.0% for intermediate goods industry, 12.4% for energy industry and 4.8% for current use goods industry.

On 31.XII.2001, the value of finished goods stocks in the industry has amounted to ROL 38639 billion in current prices, representing 41.3% of December resources.

Total turnover^{a)} of enterprises having industry as their main activity in 2001 has been by 5.0% higher than in 2000, in real terms, being registered growths in manufacturing (+6.4%) and in energy industry (+2.4%). The mining and quarrying has registered a turnover under the level of 2000 (-4.2%).

Some of branches with significant weights for export have registered growths, for instance, electric machinery and appliances (+10.5%), making clothing articles (+6.1%).

The main primary energy resources in 2001 have amounted to 56371.4 thousand tons conventional fuel (of which 38023.3 thousand tons conventional fuel of domestic production), by 9.9% more than in 2000, under the conditions of higher production by 5.0% and higher import by 21.6%.

In 2001, the production of electric energy has accounted for 53649.8 million Kwh, by 4.0% more than in 2000. Most of production is still obtained in thermal power stations (62.0% of total production), followed by hydro-power stations (27.8%). Final consumption of electric energy in 2001 has been 45358.7 million Kwh by 3.1% more than in 2000. The consumption has registered growths of 4.2% in the economy and 4.1% for public lighting; the population consumption has fallen by 1.9%.

In 2001, in **agriculture** the estimated value of agricultural production of goods and services has amounted to ROL 280724.6 billion current prices, by 21.7% higher than in 2000. Crop production (ROL 177309.1 billion current prices) has increased by 35.2% mainly due to favourable climatic conditions, average yield being higher than in 2000 for most of crops.

The rise of cereal production by 8393.4 thousand tons has been determined both by the size of the cultivated area (+639.7 thousand hectares) and by the yields higher than in 2000 (+1463 kg for maize, +883 kg for barley and two-row barley, +754 kg for wheat and rye). Higher production has been also registered for leguminous crops, oil plants, sugar beet, potatoes and vegetables, mainly due to higher average yields, when for these crops the cultivated area has been reduced (oil plants -128.8 thousand hectares, sugar beet -9.4 thousand hectares, potatoes -6.0 thousand hectares, leguminous for seeds - 5.7 thousand hectares, vegetables -5.4 thousand hectares).

The weight of private sector in the crop production in 2001 represents 98.8% for potatoes, 98.0% for field vegetables and solaria, 95.4% for sugar beet, 93.2% for fruit, 92.3% for cereals seeds, 87.0% for grapes, 81.2% for leguminous for seeds, 79.2% for oil plants.

The livestock existent at end of December 2001, according to the data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests, has fallen as against similar period of 2000 by 6.4% for pigs, 4.8% for sheep and goats and by 1.9% for cattle. Private sector has also registered falls for all species, namely: 6.1% for pigs, 4.4% for sheep and goats and 1.2% for cattle.

According to the data supplied by the General Direction of Customs in the activity of **foreign trade** in 2001, **exports FOB have amounted to USD 11385.0**, by 9.8% over the level of 2000.

Five sections of goods hold 69.8% of total exports namely: textile matters and articles thereof (26.2%), machinery and mechanical devices, electric machinery, appliances and equipment, sound and image records and reproduction apparatus (14.8%), metallurgical products (13.3%), footwear and similar (8.6%) and mineral products (6.9%).

In 2001, as compared to 2000, a higher growth (+16.2%) has been registered by exports towards developed countries and by those towards the European Union countries (+16.6%). The weight of these groups of countries in total exports was 74.4% for developed countries and **67.8% for the European Union countries**.

Exports towards developing countries (13.6% weight in total exports) have fallen by 5.2%, while exports towards transition countries by 6.7%.

In 2001, the main trading partners for exports (amounting to 73.4% of total exports) were: Italy (24.9% of total exports), Germany (15.6%), France (8.1%), United Kingdom (5.2%), Turkey (4.0%), Netherlands (3.4%), Hungary (3.3%), USA (3.1%), Austria (3.0%), Greece (2.8%).

In 2001, **imports CIF have accounted for USD 15551.6 million (USD 14354.4 million imports FOB)**, by 19.1% more than in 2000.

In the structure of imports by goods, five sections of goods held 68.3% in total imports: machinery and mechanical devices, electric machinery, appliances and equipment, sound and image records and reproduction apparatus (22.7%), textiles matters and articles thereof (16.1%), mineral products (14.4%), chemicals and similar (7.8%) and metallurgical products (7.3%).

In 2001, developed countries held 65.1% in total imports, by 20.7% more than 2000. **57.3% of total imports have come from the European Union** countries, being registered a growth of 20.7% as against 2000.

Imports from developing countries with 10.9% weight in total imports have increased by 27.3% while imports from transition countries by 13.3% (21.8% was the weight in total imports).

In the hierarchy of partner countries, the first place is still held by Italy (19.9% of total imports), followed by Germany (15.2%), Russian Federation (7.6%), France (6.3%), Hungary (3.9%), United Kingdom (3.5%), USA (3.2%), Austria (2.8%), Turkey (2.4%), Greece (2.1%).

Commercial deficit FOB/CIF in 2001 has amounted to **USD 4166.6 million**. The balance of trade balance in prices FOB/FOB in 2001 has registered a deficit (USD 2969.4 million). The main countries to which the trade balance has registered a surplus in 2001 have been the following; Yugoslavia (USD 120.4 million), Turkey (USD 74.1 million), Republic of Moldova (USD 72.8 million), Netherlands (USD 64.3 million), Bulgaria (USD 53.4 million), United Kingdom (USD 47.1 million).

The exchange rate of national currency in relation to the USD on the foreign exchange market, according to the data communicated by the National Bank of Romania has been **ROL 31597** at end of December 2001 (+21.9% as against December 2000). The yearly average exchange rate has been ROL 29060.9 (as compared to ROL 21692.7 in 2000).

^{a)} Total turnover (no VAT) comes both from main activity and from secondary activities of industrial enterprises.

Turnover volume index of enterprises having **retail trade** as their main activity and of enterprises having as their main activity, sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuels for motor vehicles has increased in 2001 as against 2000 by 1.0%.

Turnover volume of enterprises having retail trade as their main activity (excepting motor vehicles, motorcycles and fuels for motor vehicles) and repair of personal and household goods in 2001 has been by 0.4% higher under comparable conditions as compared to 2000. Sales of food goods have carried out a turnover of 5.4% under the level of 2000. In comparison with 2000, turnover volume from sales of non-food goods has been by 4.3% higher, a significant growth being registered for sales of furniture, lighting articles, electric appliances, smith's and dyeing articles (+12.8%).

Turnover value of enterprises having as main activity **sale^{b)}, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuels for motor vehicles** has been in 2001 under the level of 2000 by 2.4%. Turnover obtained from sale of fuels has been by 5.4% higher than in 2000, while turnover from sale of motor vehicles, motorcycles, spare parts and accessories, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles has fallen by 1.1%.

In 2001, economic units with integral private and majority private capital have contributed by 94.4% to total turnover volume of retail sector (excepting motor vehicles and motorcycles) and by over half (54.8%) to turnover of motor vehicles and fuels trade.

The activity of **market services provided to the population** has carried out in 2001 a turnover of 13.8% lower than in 2000. Turnover volume has fallen for most of services, the highest falls being registered for gambling and other recreation activities. (-38.5%), which represent almost 20% of total market services rendered to the population this period.

In 2001, the enterprises with integral private and majority private capital have contributed by 73.5% to total turnover volume of this sector.

Investment in the economy in 2001 has amounted to ROL 152412.3 billion, by 5.1% more than in 2000, in real terms.

In 2001, investment in new construction works has accounted for ROL 60965.3 billion (40.0% of total), by 4.3% more than in 2000. Investment in transport outfits and means has amounted to ROL 72894.2 billion (47.8% of total) and by 7.2% over the level of 2000.

Investment in majority private sector has accounted for ROL 97252.9 billion, by 6.1% more than in 2000.

In 2001, the value of **construction works** has amounted to ROL 96676.1 billion, by 4.1% more than in 2000. 88.4% of them represented construction works carried out in majority private sector.

By types of works, the highest weight has reverted to new construction works and to capital repairs (79.4%). New construction works (ROL 60965.4 billion) represented 63.1% of to total new construction works, the highest weight being held by works for engineering construction (55.5%) and the lowest weight for non-residential buildings (19.3%).

Capital repairs works have accounted for ROL 15791.7 billion in 2001, representing 16.3% of total construction works.

In 2001, maintenance works and current repairs for existent construction and buildings have amounted to ROL 19919.0 billion, representing 20.6% of total construction works.

In 2001, 26811 dwellings were ready to be used, by 435 dwellings more than in 2000.

1464 dwellings have been built with budgetary subsidies, by 306 dwellings more than in 2000.

The number of dwellings finished from the population funds in 2001 was by 128 more than in 2000, this category still holding the highest weight (92.3% of total finished dwellings).

The dwellings finished from the population funds have built mainly built in own account (96.7% of total), those built by the enterprises specialised in contracting, construction and sale of dwellings to the population representing only 3.3% of total. Most of dwellings finished by the population in own account have been built in rural area (67.6%).

On December 31, 2001, 74199 dwellings were in various stages of execution, in account of economic units and of the population. Over 1/3 of them were in an advanced stage of finalising, respectively 856 (1.2% of total) being finished and not received dwellings and 27928 (37.6%) in the finishing stage.

The yearly inflation rate in 2001 (average rise of consumer prices in 2001 as compared to 2000) was **34.5%** as a result of consumer price rise by 35.7% for food goods, by 33.1% for non-food goods and by 35.4% for services.

Consumer prices indices – yearly average

- October 1990 = 100 -

	2000	2001	2001/2000
Total	113494.9	152614.1	134.5
Food goods ^{*)}	98906.8	134210.2	135.7
Non-food goods	110426.6	146943.8	133.1
Services	181315.3	245519.6	135.4

^{*)} Including beverages

By the end of 2001, inflation rate, representing the raise in consumer prices in December 2001 as against December 2000 was 30.3%.

The average monthly inflation rate in 2001 was 2.2%, as against 2.9% in 2000.

The average gross nominal salary earning per total economy in 2001, amounted to ROL 4282622 (+48.9% as against 2000), while the net one was ROL 3053598 (+40.5% as against 2000).

The ratio between the index of net nominal average salary earning, set up based on preliminary data and the

^{b)} Sales of motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts and accessories comprise both wholesales (including motor vehicles export and import activity), as well as retail sales according to CANE.

consumer prices index in 2001 was 104.5% as against 2000^{c)} and 60.8% as against October 1990.

The number of employees in economy by the end of December 2001 was 4470.3 thousand persons, with 37 thousands less as compared to November 2001.

According to the data supplied by the National Agency for Employment, the number of registered unemployed at the end of December 2001 was 826.9 thousand persons, increasing with 53.0 thousands as against previous month. As compared to the same month of 2000, the number of unemployed registered with the employment agencies is with 180.2 thousand persons lower. At the same date, women accounted for 46.1% of the total number of registered unemployed.

The weight of registered unemployed in the stable population aged 18 - 62 years^{d)} was 5.9% in December 2001.

The unemployment rate registered in December 2001 was 8.6% in relation with total active civilian population (8.0% in November 2001 and 10.5% in December 2000). For women, the unemployment rate in December 2001 was 8.2% (8.0% in November 2001 and 10.1% in December 2000).

The unemployment is still high in the following counties: Hunedoara (14.5%), Ialomița (13.6%), Neamț (13.6%), Vâlcea (13.1%), Vaslui (12.8%), Buzău (12.3%). The lowest unemployment rates were recorded in Bihor (3.0%), Satu Mare (3.1%) and Vrancea (5.5%) counties and in Bucharest Municipality (4.5%).

In Q IV 2001, the average number of pensioners was 6404 thousand persons, increasing by 0.5 % as against Q III 2001. During Q IV 2001 137 thousand persons entered and 103 thousand persons left the pensioners category, most of leaves (55.1%) being due to natural causes (deaths).

The social insurance pensioners accounted for 99.4% of total number of pensioners; within this category, as compared to Q III 2001 the number of state social insurance pensioners rose with 48 thousand persons, while the number of agricultural pensioners diminished with 21 thousand persons.

The ratio between the employees and the pensioners number was 1.47 pensioners per employee.

The average monthly pension of state social insurance pensioners amounted to ROL 1403040 in Q IV 2001, increasing by 4.3% as compared to Q III 2001.

The ratio between the average state social insurance pension, for age limit with full stage of contribution, with full seniority (net of taxes and CASS) and the net average salary earning in Q IV 2001 was 50.4%.

The evolution of the main **vital statistics** elements during 2001 could be characterized as the most unfavourable of the latest 5 years, due to the significant decrease in the number of live births, as well as to the increase in the number of deaths.

The number of live births in 2001 was 220 thousands, decreasing with 14.1 thousands as compared to the year 2000. The number of live births has continuously diminished since 1990. The live births rate was 9.8 live births per 1000 inhabitants (10.5‰ in 2000).

The number of deaths was 259.6 thousands, increasing as compared to previous year with 3.8 thousands (beginning with 1997 a continuous decrease in the number of deaths was recorded). The mortality rate was 11.6 deaths per 1000 inhabitants (11.4‰ in 2000).

The higher number of deaths as compared to the number of live births determined in 2001 a negative natural increase of – 39.2 thousand persons (-21.3 thousands in 2000).

The number of marriages decreased with 5.9%; the marriages rate was 5.8 marriages per 1000 inhabitants, as against 6.1‰ in the year 2000.

The number of divorces increased with 0.4 thousands; the divorces rate was 1.39 divorces per 1000 inhabitants (1.37‰ in 2000).

The number of deaths under 1 year of age was 4060, decreasing with 310 as compared to previous year; the infant mortality rate accounting for 18.4 deaths under 1 year of age per 1000 live births (18.6‰ in 2000) is still kept at a high level as compared to other European countries.

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The industrial output achieved in **January 2002** was by 4.6% higher than previous month in terms of absolute volume and by 2.4% lower under comparable conditions of the working days number. By sectors, the output increased in terms of absolute volume by 5.1% in manufacturing, by 3.7% in mining and quarrying and by 1.8% in energetic industry. Under comparable conditions from the standpoint of working days number, the output was higher in energetic industry (+1.8%) and lower in mining and quarrying and in manufacturing (-0.4%, respectively -3.1%). As compared to the average of 2001, industrial output decreased both in terms of absolute volume and under comparable conditions of working days number (-6.3%, respectively -6.0%).

^{c)} If the computation is based on the net nominal average salary earning, determined on the basis of final data for 2000, this ratio is 106.1%. The final data for 2001 resulting from the "Labour cost" survey will be available in September 2002.

^{d)} This indicator is used when drawing up the necessary documentation for declaring deprived areas (in accordance with Government Decision no. 525/1999 approving the methodological norms for applying the Urgency Government Ordinance no. 24/1998 on deprived areas regime, amended by Urgency Government Ordinance no. 75/2000).

Industrial production indices

- percentage -

	Absolute volume			Adjusted ^{*)}		
	January 2002 as against:			January 2002 as against:		
	Dec. 2001	Jan. 2001	Yearly average 2001	Dec. 2001	Jan. 2001	Yearly average 2001
Industry - total	104.6	105.1	93.7	97.6	105.1	94.0
Mining and quarrying	103.7	99.2	98.6	99.6	99.2	98.1
Manufacturing	105.1	106.3	90.6	96.9	106.3	91.2
Electric and thermal energy, gas and water	101.8	101.9	120.2	101.8	101.9	117.8
Industry - total, by main industrial groups						
- intermediate goods	103.8	95.6	80.2	97.4	95.6	80.3
- capital goods	107.1	111.8	93.3	96.9	111.8	94.3
- durable goods	109.5	96.1	94.2	99.1	96.1	95.2
- current use goods	106.2	114.3	96.2	96.6	114.3	97.2
- energy	101.1	101.5	109.7	99.7	101.5	108.0

^{*)} Indices adjusted with the working days number from the compared periods

As compared to January 2001, the industrial production achieved in January 2002 increased by 5.1% due to the growth recorded in manufacturing (+6.3%) and in electric and thermal energy, gas and water production (+1.9%). For mining and quarrying a fall of 0.8% was recorded. By main industrial groups, the production increased by 14.3% for current use goods, by 11.8% for capital goods and by 1.5% for energy and fell by 4.4% for intermediate goods and by 3.9% for durable goods.

The value of industrial goods deliveries in January 2002 amounted to ROL billion 47456 current prices, of which ROL billion 34833 came from manufacturing. The deliveries intended for export amounted to ROL billion 10574, accounting for 22.3% of industrial goods deliveries of January, being supported by the enterprises from manufacturing (ROL billion 10544).

The weight of production intended for export in total deliveries per each industrial group, in January 2002, was 78.9% for durable goods, 44.9% for capital goods, 42.9% for intermediate goods, 13.3% for energy and 4.1 % for current use goods.

The value of finished goods stocks from industry amounted to ROL billion 37580 current prices on January 31, 2002, accounting for 36.3% of the resources available in January, as compared to 41.3% in December 2001.

In agriculture, according to the preliminary data supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests, on February 27, 2002, the ploughings for spring sowing were achieved on 4460.3 thousand hectares, accounting for 76.2% of the area planned for this period. On the same date, for the autumn straw cereals the fertilisation with nitrogen was done on 891 thousand hectares (32.8% of program) and the one with phosphorus on 321.3 thousand hectares (15.0% of program).

The livestock existing on January 31, 2002 decreased as against the same date of 2001 by 6.7% for pigs, by 4.2% for sheep and goats and by 2.9% for cattle. The livestock also decreased in the private sector, for all species, as follows: by 6.3% for pigs, by 3.7% for sheep and goats and by 2.2% for cattle.

In January 2002 the FOB exports amounted to USD million 911.7, increasing by 11.5% as against December 2001, by 0.8% as against January 2001 and decreasing by 3.9% as against the monthly average of 2001.

Five sections of goods hold over 73.2% of total exports, namely: textiles and articles thereof (27.0%), mechanical machinery and devices, electric machinery, apparatus and equipment, sound and video players and recorders (15.3%), metallurgical products (11.6%), mineral products (10.0%) and footwear and similar articles (9.3%).

In January 2002, as compared to January 2001, the exports towards developed countries recorded a growth by 2.9% and among them those towards countries from the European Union increased by 2.6%. The weight of these country groups in total exports was 77.8% for developed countries and **72.3% for the European Union Member States.**

Exports towards developing countries (with a weight of 12.2 % in total exports) increased by 7.5%, while those towards transition countries fell by 17.6%.

In January 2002, the main trade partners for exports (amounting to 78.3% of total exports) were: Italy (26.8% of total exports), Germany (16.6%), France (9.5%), United Kingdom (4.7%), Turkey (4.2%), Greece (4.0%), Netherlands (3.5%), Austria (3.3%), USA (3.2%) and Hungary (2.5%).

CIF imports achieved in January 2002 amounted to USD million 1168.4 (USD million 1078.5 FOB imports), increasing by 0.4% as against January 2001, but decreasing by 17.0% as against December 2001 and by 9.8% as against the monthly average of 2001.

In the import structure by commodities, five sections of goods held 68.7% in total imports: mechanical machinery and devices, electric machinery, apparatus and equipment, sound and video players and recorders (21.5%), mineral

products (17.3%), textiles and articles thereof (16.8%), chemistry and related industries goods (6.9%) and metallurgical products (6.2%).

In January 2002, developed countries held 66.0% in total imports, increasing by 4.4% as against January 2001. **59.0% of total imports came from the European Union Member States**, these recording an increase of 5.6% as compared to January 2001.

Imports from developing countries, with a weight of 11.1% in total imports, rose by 30.6%, while those from transition countries fell by 11.1% (the weight in total imports being 22.4%).

In the hierarchy of partner countries, the top place is still held by Italy (with 21.9% of total imports), followed by Germany (15.2%), Russian Federation (8.9%), France (6.4%), United Kingdom (3.8%), USA (3.2%), Austria (3.2%), Hungary (3.0%), Ukraine (2.7%) and Turkey (2.5%).

The FOB/CIF trade deficit in January 2002 amounted to **USD million 256.7**. The trade balance expressed in FOB/FOB prices for January 2002 also recorded a deficit (USD million 166.8). The main countries against which the trade balance recorded a surplus in January 2002 are: Yugoslavia (USD million 18.6), Greece (USD million 16.2), France (USD million 12.0) and the Netherlands (USD million 11.2).

The exchange rate of national currency in relation with the USD on the exchange market, according to the data supplied by the National Bank of Romania, was **ROL 32184** by the end of January 2002 (+1.9% as against December 2001). **The exchange rate of national currency against the EURO was ROL 27773** (-0.4% as against December 2001).

The **inflation rate** determined based on the raise in consumer prices was 2.3% in January 2002 as against previous month and 28.6% as against January 2001.

The monthly average inflation rate in January 2002 was 2.3% as against 3.7% in January 2001.

- percentage -

	Raise of prices in January 2002, as against:		Monthly average raise of prices during 1.1-31.1	
	December 2001	January 2001	2001	2002
Total	2.3	28.6	3.7	2.3
Food goods ^{*)}	2.5	25.4	3.8	2.5
Non-food goods	2.4	31.6	2.2	2.4
Services	1.7	29.5	7.0	1.7

^{*)} Including beverages

The gross nominal average salary earning per economy in January 2002 was ROL 5144789, while the net one was ROL 3671588. As compared to December 2001, the gross average nominal salary earning decreased by 2.9%, while the net average nominal salary earning increased by 0.3%.

The ratio between the index of net average nominal salary earning and the consumer prices index, in January 2002, was 98.0% as against previous month, 104.3% as against January 2001 and 63.7% as compared to October 1990.

According to the data supplied by the National Agency for Employment, the number of unemployed registered by the end of January 2002 was 1193.7 thousand persons, increasing by 366.8 thousands as against previous month. As compared to the same period of 2001, the number of unemployed registered with the agencies for employment is with 160.8 thousand persons higher.

At the same date, women accounted for 44.4% of the total number of registered unemployed.

The weight of registered unemployed in the stable population aged 18 - 62 years^{e)} was 8.6% in January 2002.

The unemployment rate registered in January 2002 was 12.4% in relation with total active civilian population (8.6% in December 2001 and 10.7% in January 2001). For women, the unemployment rate in January 2002 was 11.4% (8.2% in December 2001 and 10.1% in January 2001).

Unemployment is still high in the following counties: Ialomița (24.7%), Neamț (19.8%), Tulcea (18.5%), Mehedinți (17.9%), Buzău (17.7%), Botoșani (17.0%), Caraș-Severin and Vaslui (16.7% each), Hunedoara (16.5%), Călărași (16.4%). The lowest unemployment rates were recorded in Satu Mare (5.7%) and Bihor (5.9%) counties and in Bucharest Municipality (4.4%).

^{e)} This indicator is used when drawing up the necessary documentation for declaring the deprived areas (according to Government Decision no. 525/1999 approving the methodological norms for applying the Urgency Government Ordinance no. 24/1998 on the deprived areas regime, approved and amended by Law no. 20/1999).