ROMANIA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

Press office

Bucharest, 16 Libertății Avenue, sector 5

Phone 312.48.75; 336.33.70; Phone/Fax: 410.15.69; Fax 312.48.73

e-mail: romstat@insse.ro; ciu@insse.ro; biroupresa@insse.ro

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On the main market condition indicators in June and during the interval Jan. 1 – June 30, 2003.

The industrial production increased in June 2003, compared to June 2002, by 6.7% absolute volume, and by 2.9% under comparable conditions from the point of view of the number of working days. Compared to the previous month, the industrial production was by 3.4% and 4.4%, respectively, higher.

Between Jan. 1 – June 30, 2003, compared to the similar period in 2002, the industrial production increased by 2.8% absolute volume and under comparable conditions. During this interval, an increase by 3.6% was registered both in the manufacturing industry and in the energetic industry.

The <u>value of industrial finished products stocks</u> on June 30, 2003 was 53 687 billion lei current prices, representing 37.1% of the June resources.

The main primary energy resources amounted to 19 344.7 thousand tons oil equivalent¹ during the interval Jan. 1 – June 30, 2003, of which 12 162.4 thousand tons oil equivalent¹ from domestic production.

The electric power production in the first semester of this year amounted to 28 884.3 million kWh, an increase by 6.6% compared to the same period last year. The electric power produced in hydropower stations represented 29.4% of the entire production, an increase by 8.5% compared to the interval Jan. 1 – June 30, 2002.

As for **the agriculture**, according to data from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Water, and the Environment, the main strawy cereals (barley and two-row autumn barley, two-row spring barley, wheat, and rye) had been harvested on an area of 1508.4 thousand hectares on July 28, 2003, with a total production of 2 613.4 thousand tons.

The livestock at the end of June 2003, compared to the same time last year, was higher by 11.7% for pigs, by 1.5% for cattle, and by 1.1% for sheep and goats.

For the interval Jan. 1 - May 31, 2003, the turnover of enterprises mainly involved in **retail trade** activities (except the trade in motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 2.3% higher than during the similar period of 2002, with an increase both in the sale of food products (+1.2%) and of non-food products (+3.3%).

For the interval Jan. 1 – May 31, 2003, the turnover of enterprises mainly involved in **motor vehicles and motorcycles wholesale and retail trade activities and maintenance and repair works, as well as in motor vehicles fuel retail trade activities** was by 12.4% higher compared to the similar period in 2002, due to an increase of the turnover from motor vehicles and motorcycles trade, maintenance, and repair activities (+17.9%), as well as the turnover from motor vehicles fuel retail trade activities (+8.0%).

The **market services rendered to the population** in the first five months of 2003 produced a turnover higher by 3.3% compared to the same period last year, due to an increase in the activities performed by travel and tourist assistance agencies (+14.8%), in the textiles and fur coats washing, cleaning, and dyeing services (+8.7%), and in gambling and recreation activities (+5.7%).

According to the data supplied by ANOFM (the National Employment Agency), **the number of unemployed registered** at the end of June 2003 was 663.6 thousand persons. Compared to June 2002, the number of unemployed registered with employment agencies is by 266.1 thousand persons lower. Of the total number of registered unemployed, women represented 42.8%.

The unemployment rate in June 2003 was 7.1% per total civil active population (7.4% in May 2003, and 9.9% in June 2002). In the same month, the women unemployment rate was 6.3% (6.5% in May 2003, and 9.0% in June 2002).

High unemployment rates are registered in the following counties: Vaslui (13.0%), Galați (11.9%), Hunedoara (11.0%), and Braşov (10.2%). The lowest unemployment rates have been registered in the Bihor (2.5%), Satu Mare (2.9%), and Timiş (3.5%) counties, and in the Bucharest Municipality (2.8%).

¹ Conventional fuel of 10.000 kcal/kg calorific power.