

**PRESS RELEASE**

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*regarding the main short term indicators in the first semester of 2006, during 1.I.-31.VII.2006  
and in July 2006*

**Gross Domestic Product** estimated for the first semester of 2006 was RON 136908.7 million in current prices (RON) increasing in real terms by 7.4% as against the same semester of 2005.

The increase was mostly determined by the size of activity volume and consequently, of the gross value added in industry (+6.5%), construction (+16.5%) and services <sup>1)</sup> (+7.2%), whose contribution to the gross domestic product was estimated to 83.4%.

It should underlined that agriculture, with a relatively low contribution to the gross domestic product formation (3.8% in GDP in the first semester of 2006), reduced its activity volume by 0.4%.

**Gross domestic product by category of resources**

	Achievements in the first semester of 2006 -million RON current prices -	In % as against the first semester of 2005
Agriculture, forestry and fishery	5181,8	99,6
Industry	36890,7	106,5
Construction	6996,9	116,5
Services <sup>1)</sup>	70226,8	107,2
Gross value added – total	119296,2	107,1
Net tax on product <sup>2)</sup>	17612,5	109,6
<b>Gross domestic product</b>	<b>136908,7</b>	<b>107,4</b>

<sup>1)</sup> Comprise the activity of trade, transport., post and telecommunications, tourism, hotels and restaurants, general government and defence, education, health and other services rendered to the economic units and to the population.

<sup>2)</sup> Represents the difference between taxes on product cashed ( VAT, excise duties, other taxes on product) and subsidies on product paid from public consolidated budget.

Final actual consumption registered a growth by 10.9% in the first semester of 2006, as compared to the same semester of 2005. The growth of final actual individual consumption of private households (by 11.8%) was especially determined, by higher volume of goods deliveries through retail trade (+21.5%).

Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) registered a growth of 11.9%, investment rate determined by its ratio to gross value added in the economy being 23.1%. Within GFCF, investments represent 90.5% of total value.

Current account deficit increased in the first semester of 2006 as against the same semester of 2005 as a result of more accentuated growth of imports of goods and services (+18.0%) as compared to exports of goods and services (+11.7%), having a negative impact on GDP dynamics.

#### Gross domestic product by category of uses

	Achievements in the first semester of 2006 – million RON current prices -	In % as against the first semester of 2005
Final actual consumption	124890,3	110,9
Final individual actual consumption of private households <sup>3)</sup>	112841,9	111,8
Final collective actual consumption of general government <sup>4)</sup>	12048,4	102,4
Gross capital formation	27161,6	-
of which:		
Gross fixed capital formation	27584,7	111,9
Net export of goods and services	-15143,2	-
Export of goods and services	53839,9	111,7
Import of goods and services	68983,1	118,0
<b>Gross domestic product</b>	<b>136908,7</b>	<b>107,4</b>

**Investments** achieved in the economy in the first semester of 2006 amounted to RON 15771.2 million increasing, in real terms, by 12.5% as against the first semester of 2005.

Investments in new construction works amounted to RON 7027.0 million, by 15.5% more, in comparison with the first semester of 2005 and investments in transport equipment and means (RON 7956.4 million) increased by 11.1%.

In the first semester of 2006, number of **finished dwellings** amounted to 11914, increasing by 1915 dwellings as against the same semester of 2005. 630 dwellings were carried out from budgetary subsidies. Number of dwellings finished from population funds was by 1839 higher than in

<sup>3)</sup> *Comprises: expenditure of private households for purchasing goods and services to meet the needs of their members, expenditure for individual consumption of general government (education, health, culture, sport, recreation activities etc) and expenditure for individual consumption of non-lucrative institutions in the service of households.*

<sup>4)</sup> *Comprises expenditure for collective consumption of general government (general public services, national defence, public order, R&D, etc).*

the first semester of 2005, this category still holdings the highest weight (89.9% of total finished dwellings).

On June 30, 2006, 94845 dwellings were under various execution stages of construction works; 40.1% of them were under an advanced finishing stage.

In July 2006, increase in **consumer prices** as against the previous month was 0.11%, for non-food goods 1.15% and for tariffs of services 0.55%; for food goods a decrease of 1.24% was registered.

During 1.I.-31.VII.2006, **industrial production** registered a positive evolution in comparison with the same period of 2005, gross index being 107.1% per total industry and 107.6% at level of manufacturing. In July 2006, it was 109.7% per total industry, as against the same month of the previous year.

Total turnover <sup>5)</sup> of enterprises having industry as main activity registered during 1.I.-31.VII.2006, in real terms, an increase of 5.6% as against 1.I.-31.VII.2005 period; in July 2006, as compared to July 2005, total turnover increased by 5,3%.

**Labour productivity** in industry registered an increase of 11.0% during 1.I.-31.VII.2006, as compared to 1.I.-31.VII.2005 period.

**Main resources of primary energy**, during 1.I.-31.VII.2006, amounted to 24522.2 thou tons equivalent oil <sup>6)</sup>, of which 14417.3 thou tons equivalent oil from domestic production.

Value of **construction works** increased, during 1.I.-31.VII.2006 by 16.5% as against the same period of 2005 and by 15.7% in July 2006 as compared to July 2005.

In July 2006, 5194 permits for residential buildings were released.

During 1.I.-31.VII.2006, turnover volume of enterprises having as main activity **retail trade** (except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 25.8% over the level of registered during 1.I.-31.VII.2005, higher increases being obtained for sales of food goods, beverages and tobacco (+30.4%).

In July 2006, in comparison with July 2005, turnover obtained from retail trade was 28.4% higher (+27.5% for food goods, beverages and tobacco and +29.2% for non-food goods).

Turnover volume of enterprises having as main activity **wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuel for motor vehicles** registered during 1.I.-31.VII.2006 was by 19.0% higher than during 1.I.-31.VII.2005.

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<sup>5)</sup> Total turnover comes from secondary activities of industrial type enterprises.

<sup>6)</sup> Convencional fuel with calorific power of 10 000 kcal/kg.

In comparison with July 2005, turnover obtained from this activity in July 2006 was by 24.4% higher due to the higher turnover obtained both from trade and maintenance of motor vehicles (+27.4%) and from retail sale of fuel for motor vehicles (+21.1%).

The activity of **market services rendered to the population** during 1.I.-31.VII.2006 pointed out a turnover by 6.9% higher than during 1.I.-31.VII.2005. In comparison with July 2005, a growth of 17.9% was registered in July 2006.

**Number of employees** was 4617.4 thousands in July 2006, by 5.2 persons more than in June 2006.

**Gross nominal average earning** per economy was RON 1122 in July 2006 and the net one was RON 842, increasing by 0.9% as against the previous month, respectively by 0.8%.

**Average number of pensioners** was 5812 thou persons in the second quarter of 2006, decreasing by 16 thousand persons as against the first quarter of 2006.

Social insurance pensioners represented 99.6% of total pensioners; in this category, in comparison with the first quarter of 2006, number of state social insurance pensioners increased by 8 thou persons and number of farmers pensioners decreased by 25 thousands.

Monthly average pension of state social insurance pensioners was RON 303 in the second quarter of 2006, increasing by 0.3 % as against the first quarter of 2006.

Ratio between average pension of state social insurance for age limit, with full contribution stage (without tax) and net average earning was 49.9% in the second quarter of 2006.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of registered unemployed** was 446.8 thousands at the end of July 2006. In comparison with July 2005, number of unemployed registered at the agencies for employment was by 42.5 thousands lower. Out of total registered unemployed, women represented 41.6 %.

**Unemployment rate** registered in July 2006 was 5.1% in relation with total civil active population (5.6% in July 2005). Female unemployment rate was by 1.1 percentage points lower than male unemployment rate (4.5% as against 5.6%).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Harghita (9.3%), Mehedinți (9.2%), Vaslui (9.0%), Gorj (8.6%), Ialomița (8.2%). The lowest unemployment rates were noticed in the counties: Timiș (2.0%), Ilfov (2.3%), Bihor (2.5%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.6%).