



# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

16 Libertății Avenue, Sector 5, Bucharest, Tel/Fax: 318.18.69; e-mail: [birou presa@insse.ro](mailto:birou presa@insse.ro)

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Evolution of main short term economic indicators in March 2007 and during 1.I - 31.III. 2007

#### I. Synthesis of evolution of main economic indicators in March 2007 and during 1.I - 31.III. 2007

- %

	March 2007 as against:		
	February 2007	March 2006	1.I-31.III.2007 as against 1.I-31.III.2006
Industrial production – total (unadjusted series)	111,6	108,2	107,7
- of which:			
Mining and quarrying	111,2	99,9	98,6
Manufacturing	112,3	110,0	109,7
Electric and thermal energy	102,3	95,6	94,7
Labour productivity in industry	111,4	113,1	112,8
Turnover - industry – total	113,1	123,6	122,3
Construction works (unadjusted series)	138,3	132,7	130,6
Turnover– retail <sup>1)</sup> (unadjusted)	124,8	114,1	104,3
Turnover – trade with motor vehicles <sup>2)</sup> (unadjusted series)	96,7	149,3	156,2
Turnover – market services for the population (unadjusted series)	113,9	108,6	103,1

In March 2007, main short term economic indicators registered significant increases, both as against February 2007 and as compared to the same month of the previous year. As a result of main short term economic indicators' evolution in the first three months of 2007, for the first quarter of 2007 as against the same period of 2006, all indicators register important growths.

#### II. Sectorial evolutions

**Industrial production** registered in March 2007 as against the previous month, a growth of 11.5% per total, due to the production growth in all the industrial sectors: +11.2% in mining and quarrying, +12.3% in manufacturing and +2.3% in electric and thermal energy, gas and water. In manufacturing, important growths were registered in the branches: radio, TV and communications equipment (+47.6%), construction materials and other products of non-metallic minerals (+35.2%), wood and wood products processing (+33.0%), road transport means

<sup>1)</sup> Except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles.

<sup>2)</sup> Comprise: wholesale and retail, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail with fuel for motor vehicles.

(+30,0%), tobacco products (+23.4%), metallic construction and metal products (17.0%), furniture and other industrial activities n.e.c. (+14.4%), chemical substances and products (+14.0%).

As regards the evolution by big industrial groups, production increase per total was mainly determined by production growth with 18.5% in capital goods industry, with 18.0% in intermediate goods industry and with 14.9% in durable goods industry.

In March 2007, as against March 2006, industrial production is higher by 8.2%, leading to a growth rate of industrial production by 7.77% during 1.I-31.III.2007 as against the same period of 2006.

During 1.I-31.III.2007, **main resources of primary energy** amounted to 10.5 million tons equivalent oil, decreasing by 3.8% as compared to 1.I-31.III.2006, as a result of production fall by 6.7%. **Final consumption of electric energy** was by 0.7% higher than in the same period of 2006 and public lighting decreased by 2.5% and population consumption registered a growth of 5.6%.

In March 2007, **construction works** increased by 32.7% as against March 2006. During 1.I-31.III.2007, the value of construction works registered a growth of 30.6% as against the same period of 2006, being registered a production rate higher than general average, by construction type, for residential buildings (144.7%) and for non-residential ones (135.3%) and by structure elements, for maintenance and current repair works (134.6%) and for capital repair works (132.2%).

In March 2007, as compared to March 2006, **turnover obtained by enterprises having retail as main activity** (except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 14.1% (+13.9% higher for food goods, beverages and tobacco and +14.3% for non-food goods).

During 1.I-31.III.2007, turnover volume was by 4.3% over the level registered during 1.I-31.III.2006, mainly due to the growth of non-food goods' sales by 6.5%.

In comparison with March 2006 turnover obtained in March 2007 by enterprises having as main activity **wholesale and retail of motor vehicles and motorcycles, including their maintenance and repair, as well as retail of fuel for motor vehicles** increased by 49.3% due to the registered growths, both for trade with motor vehicles (+41.9%) and for retail of fuel for motor vehicles (+65.8%).

Turnover volume increased by 56.2% during 1.I-31.III.2007 as against the same period of 2006 (+50.6% for trade with motor vehicles and +68.5% for retail of fuel).

The activity of **market services rendered to the population** in March 2007 registered a turnover by 8.6% higher than in March 2006. In comparison with the same period of 2006, during 1.I-31.III.2007 turnover volume increased by 3.1%. Higher growths were registered in the activities: hotels and restaurants (+29.2%), laundry, cleaning and dyeing textiles and fur (+28.9%) and travel agencies and tour operators (+14.7%).

### III. Evolution of some social indicators in March 2007

	MU	Achieved	March 2007 in % as against:	
			February 2007	March 2006
Number of employees in economy <sup>*)</sup> (at end of month)	thou persons	4707,1	100,8	102,7
Number of registered unemployed (at end of month)	thou persons	433,0	94,3	79,3
Gross nominal average earning	RON	1364	107,9	123,9
Net nominal average earning	RON	1013	107,7	122,3
Consumer price index	%	-	100,07	103,66

<sup>\*)</sup> in enterprises having 4 employees and over.

In March 2007, **number of employees** was 35.8 thousand persons more than in February 2007 and **gross nominal average earning** was RON 1364, increasing by 7.9% as against the previous month.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of unemployed registered** at the end of March 2007 was 433.0 thousand persons. In comparison with 2006 number of registered unemployed was by 112.9 thousand persons lower. Out of total registered unemployed, women represented 41.0 %.

In March 2007, **unemployment rate** was 4.9% in relation to total civil active population, decreasing as against March 2006 (6.1%). Female unemployment rate was by 1.2 percentage points lower than male one (4.2% as against 5.4%).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Mehedinți (10.1%), Vaslui (8.8%), Teleorman (7.9%). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Timiș (1.8%), Ilfov (1.9%), Bihor (2.8%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.3%).

**Real earning index** for March 2007, calculated as ratio between net nominal average earning index and consumer price index was 107.6% as against the previous month, 118.0% as against the same month in 2006 and 107.1% as compared to October 1990.

*Additional information can be obtained from the Monthly Statistical Bulletin no. 3/2007, deadline May 8, 2007*

The next press release will be issued on Friday, June 8, 2007