

PRESS RELEASE

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Evolution of main short term economic indicators in May 2007 and during 1.I - 31.V. 2007

I. Synthesis of evolution of main economic indicators in May 2007 and during 1.I - 31.V. 2007

- %

	May 2007 as against:		
	April 2007	May 2006	1.I-31.V.2007 as against 1.I-31.V.2006
Industrial production – total (unadjusted series)	115.5	106.8	106.4
- of which			
Mining and quarrying	110.5	101.8	99.1
Manufacturing	116.8	107.8	108.0
Electric and thermal energy	102.5	98.7	95.5
Labour productivity in industry	116.1	111.4	111.2
Turnover - industry – total	110.4	108.8	116.2
Construction works (unadjusted series)	108.3	127.5	131.8
Turnover – retail ¹⁾ (unadjusted series)	100.3	109.8	107.6
Turnover – retail with motor vehicles ²⁾ (unadjusted series)	105.0	139.2	152.2
Turnover –market services for the population (unadjusted series)	132.4	94.3	101.3

In May 2007, as against the previous month, main short term economic indicators registered growths; as against the same month of the previous year, except turnover in market services for the population, the main short term economic indicators registered significant growths. As a result of this evolution, in the first five months of 2007, during 1.I-31.V.2007, as against the same month of 2006, all the indicators present important growths.

II. Sectorial evolutions

In May 2007, as against the previous month, **industrial production** registered a growth per total with 15.5%, due to the production increase in all the industrial sectors: +10.5% in mining and quarrying, +16.8% in manufacturing and +2.5% in electric and thermal energy, gas and water. In manufacturing, except medical, precision, optical instruments and apparatus,

¹⁾ Except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles.

watches and clocks, growths were registered in all the branches, the highest ones being for rubber and plastic products (+34.9%), clothing (+26.7%), road transport means (+25.7%), chemical substances and products (+24.9%), crude oil processing, coal coking and nuclear fuel treatment (+23.8%), machinery and equipment (+23.4%), radio, TV and communication equipment (+22.8%), wood and wood products processing (+21.0%), publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media (+20.2%), tobacco products (+19.8%), textiles (+19.4%).

Concerning the evolution by broad industrial groups, the growth per total was mainly determined by higher production with 18.7% in capital goods industry, 17.0% in current use goods industry, 16.6% in intermediate goods industry and 11.5% in durable goods industry.

In May 2007 industrial production is by 6.8% higher than in May 2006, reaching to a growth rate of 6.4% for industrial production during 1.I-31.V.2007 as against the same period of 2006.

During 1.I-31.V.2007, **main resources of primary energy** amounted to 16.8 million tons equivalent oil, decreasing by 6.0% as against 1.I-31.V.2006 period, as a result of production decrease by 3.9% and of import by 8.8%. During 1.I-31.V.2007, **electric energy production** was 25334.8 million kWh, decreasing by 5.5% as against the same period of 2006. **Final consumption of electric energy** was by 0.5% higher than in the same period of 2006, public lighting increased by 6.8% and population consumption by 3.6%.

In May 2007, **construction works** registered a growth by 27.5% as against May 2006. During 1.I-31.V.2007, construction works increased by 31.8% as compared to the same period of 2006, a production rate higher than general average being registered, by construction type, for residential buildings (134.8%) and non-residential ones (134.6%), and by structure elements for new construction works (132.6%).

In May 2007, as compared to May 2006, **turnover for enterprises having retail as main activity** (except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 9.8% higher (+6.9% for food goods, beverages and tobacco and +12.7% for non-food goods).

During 1.I-31.V.2007, turnover volume was by 7.6%, over the level during 1.I-31.V.2006, mainly due to the growth by 10.6% of non-food goods' sales.

In comparison with May 2006, in May 2007, turnover for 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 39.2% due to the growths registered both for trade with motor vehicles (+30.2%) and for retail of fuel for motor vehicles (+58.7%).

Turnover volume increased by 52.2% during 1.I-31.V.2007 as against the same period of 2006 (+45.9% for trade with motor vehicles and +65.5% for retail of fuel).

²⁾ *Comprise: wholesale and retail, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail of fuel for motor vehicles.*

In May 2007, the activity of **market services rendered to the population** registered a turnover by 5.7% lower than in May 2006. In comparison with the same period of 2006, during 1.I-31.V.2007 turnover volume increased by 1.3%. Higher growths were registered for the activities of hotels and restaurants (+29.8%), laundry, cleaning and dyeing textiles and fur (+21,5%).

III. Evolution of social indicators in May 2007

	M.U	Achieved	May 2007 In % as against:	
			April 2007	May 2006
Number of employees in economy ^{*)} (at end of month)	Thou persons	4733.8	100.4	102.8
Number of unemployed registered (at end of month)	Thou persons	369.8	92.4	76.8
Gross nominal average earning	lei	1361	98.1	122.7
Net nominal average earning	lei	1012	98.5	121.5
Consumer price index	%		100.64	103.81

**) In enterprises with 4 employees and over.*

In May 2007, **number of employees** was by 18.8 thousand persons higher than in April 2007 and **gross nominal average earning** was 1361 lei, decreasing by 1.9% as against the previous month.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of unemployed registered** at end of May 2007 was 369.8 thousand persons. As compared to May 2006, number of registered unemployed was by 111.4 thousand persons lower. Out of total registered unemployed, women represented 42.4 %.

In May 2007, **unemployment rate** was 4.1% in relation to total active civil population, decreasing by 5.4% as against May 2006. Female unemployment rate was by 0.8 percentage points lower than male one (3.7% as against 4.5%).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Mehedinți (9.0%), Vaslui (6.9%), Teleorman (6.6%), Buzău and Galați (6.2% each). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Timiș (1.6%), Ilfov (1.8 %), Bihor (2.2%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.2 %).

In May 2007, **real earning index**, calculated as ratio between net nominal average earning index and consumer price index was 97.9% as compared to the previous month, 117.0% as against the same month of 2006 and 105.8% as against October 1990.

The next press release will be issued on Tuesday, August 7, 2007.