

PRESS RELEASE

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

I. Synthesis of main economic indicators evolution in August 2007 and during 1.I - 31.VIII. 2007

- %

	August 2007 as against:		1.I-31.VIII.2007 as against 1.I- 31.VIII.2006
	July 2007	August 2006	
Industrial production – total (unadjusted series)	97.0	104.5	106.0
- of which:			
Mining and quarrying	110.0	107.7	100.9
Manufacturing	96.0	104.6	107.1
Electric and thermal energy, gas and water	92.1	97.7	98.9
Labour productivity in industry	97.6	109.0	110.6
Turnover - industry – total	93.5	103.7	112.8
Construction works (unadjusted series)	110.2	139.3	133.3
Turnover – retail ¹⁾ (unadjusted series)	115.9	133.7	115.2
Turnover – trade with motor vehicles ²⁾ (unadjusted series)	99.9	107.8	132.1
Turnover – market services rendered to the population (unadjusted series)	100.4	122.3	103.9

In August 2007, as against the previous month, main short term economic indicators registered growths, except those in industrial activity and trade with motor vehicles ²⁾ which decreased. In comparison with the same month of the previous year, main short term economic indicators registered significant growths; as a result of this evolution, during 1.I.-31.VIII.2007, all the indicators registered important growths as against the same period of 2006.

II. Sectorial evolutions

Industrial production decreased by 3.0% per total, in August 2007, as against the previous month, due to the decreases registered in manufacturing (-4.0%) and in electric and thermal energy, gas and water (-7.9%). In mining and quarrying, a growth of 10.0% was registered

¹⁾ Except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles.

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

Manufacturing registered decreases in most of the branches, the highest ones being registered for road transport means (-47.0%), leather and footwear (-23.7%), electric machinery and appliances (-23.7%), chemical substances and products (-21.2%), clothing (-13.1%), textiles (-9.3%).

Regarded from the viewpoint of evolution by broad industrial groups, the production decrease per total was mainly determined by lower production by 20.2% in capital goods industry and by 5.4% in intermediate goods industry.

Industrial production in August 2007 was higher than in August 2006 by 4.5%, leading to a growth rate of industrial production by 6.0% during 1.I-31.VIII.2007 as against the same period of 2006. Higher growths were registered as against 1.I-31.VIII.2006 period in the branches: wood and wood products processing (+23.3%), tobacco products (+22.5%), construction materials and other nonmetallic products (+20.9%), transport means not included in road ones (+18.5%), road transport means (+16.4%), pulp, paper and paper products (+13.9%), food and beverages (+11.8%), medical, precision, optical and apparatus and instruments, watches and clocks (+9.6%), radio, TV and communications equipment (+8.9%) and chemical substances and products (+8.0%).

Main resources of primary energy, during 1.I-31.VIII.2007, amounted 27.2 million tons equivalent oil, decreasing by 2.8% as against 1.I-31.VIII.2006 period, as a result of lower production by 2.6% and lower import by 3.2%. During 1.I-31.VIII.2007, **electric energy production** amounted 39611.1 million kWh, decreasing by 3.3% as against the same period of 2006. **Final consumption of electric energy** was by 2.3% higher than in the same period of 2006 and public lighting increased by 4.7% while population consumption by 6.0%.

Construction works registered a growth by 39.3% in August 2007 as against August 2006. During 1.I-31.VIII.2007, value of construction works increased by 33.3% as against the same period of 2006, a higher production rate as against general average being registered, by construction type for nonresidential buildings (135.8%) and residential ones (134.8%) and by structure elements for new construction works (134.0%).

In August 2007, as compared to August 2006, **turnover obtained by enterprises having as main activity retail** (except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles) was higher by 33.7% (+59.5% for food goods, beverages and tobacco and +10.4% for nonfood goods).

During 1.I-31.VIII.2007, turnover volume was 15.2%, over the level registered during 1.I-31.VIII.2006, due to higher sales of food goods by 20.7% and of nonfood goods by 9.8%.

In comparison with August 2006, turnover obtained in August 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 7.8% due to the increase registered for retail of fuel for motor vehicles (+44.8%).

Turnover increased by 32.1% during 1.I-31.VIII.2007 as against the same period of 2006 (+20.8% for trade with motor vehicles and +58.4% for retail of fuel).

In August 2007, the activity of **market services rendered to the population** registered turnover by 22.3% higher than in August 2006. In comparison with the same period of 2006, during 1.I-31.VIII.2007 turnover volume increased by 3.9%. Higher growths were registered for the activities: hotels and restaurants (+34.8%) and laundry, cleaning and dyeing textiles and fur (+13.9 %).

III. Evolution of some social indicators in August 2007

	M.U.	Achieved	August 2007 in % as against:	
			July 2007	August 2006
Number of employees in economy ^{*)} (at end of month)	thou persons	4746.1	99.9	102.8
Number of registered unemployed (a end of month)	thou persons	350.4	102.1	78.5
Gross nominal average earnings	Lei	1395	99.5	124.3
Net nominal average earnings	Lei	1030	99.0	122.5
Consumer price index	%		100.86	104.96

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

In August 2007, **number of employees** was by 3.1 thou persons lower than in July 2007 and **gross nominal average earnings** were 1395 lei, decreasing by 0.5% as against the previous month.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of unemployed registered** at the end of August 2007 was 350.4 thou persons. In comparison with August 2006 number of registered unemployed was by 96.1 thou persons lower. Out of total registered unemployed, women registered represented 45.2 %.

In August 2007, **registered unemployment rate** was 3.9% in relation to total civil active population, decreasing as against August (5.0%). Female unemployment rate was by 0.3 percentage points lower than that registered for men (3.8% as against 4.1%).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Vaslui (9.4%), Mehedinți (8.4%), Teleorman (6.6%), Galați, Giurgiu and Gorj (5.7% each) and Caraș Severin (5.6%). The lowest unemployment rates were noticed in the counties: Timiș (1.5%), Ilfov (1.7 %), Bihor (1.9%), Constanța (2.0%), Bistrița - Năsăud (2.2%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.2 %).

Real earning index for August 2007, calculated as ratio between net nominal average earning index and consumer price index, was 98.2% as against the previous month, 116.7% as against the same month of 2006 and 106.3% as compared to October 1990.

The next press release will be issued on Thursday, November 8, 2007