

Introduction

In the 1st half of 2011, a relatively high rate of economic growth was maintained. However, in the 2nd quarter, a weakening of the dynamics of sold production of industry was recorded, whereas the growth rate in construction and assembly production strengthened. The growth in the sales of transport services was still high. The dynamics of retail sales improved. The growth in producer prices in industry in the 2nd quarter slowed down, and in June a remission of inflation phenomena was recorded in the area of prices of consumer goods and services. In subsequent months of 2011, the favourable upward tendencies maintained in average employment in the enterprise sector, together with a decreasing inflow to unemployment. However, the unemployment rate still slightly exceeded the one recorded a year before. In the conditions of a high dynamics of prices of consumer goods and services, the average monthly real wages and salaries in the enterprise sector reached the level only slightly higher than in the 1st half of the previous year. The purchasing power of retirement pays and pensions, in annual terms, increased only in the employee system.

Sold production of industry in the 1st half of 2011 was by 7.4% higher than a year before, against a growth of 10.6% in the period of January-June of the previous year. A growth was recorded in all industry sections, and among the main industry groupings – in production of intermediate, capital and non-durable consumption goods. Labour efficiency in industry was by 4.7% higher than a year before, with a growth in employment of 2.6%. In June of 2011, in annual terms, the growth rate in sold production of industry slowed down to 2.0% (after eliminating the influence of seasonal factors – to 4.5%), which was influenced by the lowering of the dynamics in many divisions, including in production for exports. Construction and assembly production in the 1st half of 2011 was by 20.8% higher than a year before, when it recorded a considerable drop.

In July of 2011, entities operating in manufacturing, as well as entities conducting construction and assembly activities express positive assessments of business tendencies. However, the confidence of construction companies is slightly lower than a month before. The forecasts concerning the financial situation of companies operating in industry and construction are positive, but the current forecasts in this scope remained negative. Enterprises plan to expand their order-books and production. Manufacturing entities project that the growth in prices of finished products will be similar to the one recorded so far, whereas construction entities indicate the possibility of a slight drop in the prices for work performed. In retail trade, the general business tendency climate is assessed as unfavourable – the pessimistic forecasts related, among others, to the demand for goods and to sales worsened.

In the 1st half of 2011, average employment in the enterprise sector was higher than a year before by 3.8% (against a drop of 0.5% in the period of January-June of the previous year). Increased employment was observed in most sections, including the highest one in professional, scientific and technical activities, and in accommodation and food service activities. The unemployment rate in June of 2011 once again declined in monthly terms (to 11.8%), though it was still slightly higher than a year before (by 0.1 percentage point).

Average monthly nominal gross wages and salaries in the enterprise sector in the 1st half of 2011 grew faster than a year before. However, under the influence of a considerable inflation pressure, the purchasing power of wages and salaries only slightly exceeded the level recorded a year before (by 0.6%). In the 1st half of 2011, the dynamics of average gross retirement pays and pensions in both systems, in nominal terms, grew slightly slower than in the period of January-June of the previous year. The growth in average real gross retirement pays and pensions in the employee system was also weaker, whereas in the individual farmers system a drop was recorded.

The accelerated growth rate observed since autumn of the previous year in the prices of consumer goods and services intensified in the period of April-May of 2011. In June of 2011, a slowdown in the dynamic of prices of consumer goods and services was recorded, as a result of which in the 1st half of this year they were by 4.2% higher than a year before. Producer prices in industry considerably exceeded the level recorded a year before (a growth of 7.3%), while in the last three months their growth rate was declining gradually – to 5.6% in June of 2011. The prices of construction and assembly production maintained at the level slightly higher than in the 1st half of the previous year (0.6%).

The market situation in agriculture, in the period of January-June of 2011 was influenced by the upward price tendency in most basic agricultural products, in annual terms. Given that the growth in cereal prices was faster than the growth in the procurement prices of pigs for slaughter, the profitability of this production direction was worsening. The livestock of pigs decreased, and the prices of piglets for further breeding dropped considerably. According to the preliminary estimate, this year's crops of basic agricultural products and bush fruit will be lower than those gathered a year before. A slight increase in production of field vegetables is projected, together with a considerable growth in the crops of tree fruit, compared to the low ones a year before.

In the period of January-May of 2011, a year-on-year growth was recorded in the commodity turnover with all groups of countries, including the highest one with the Central and Eastern European countries. The negative balance of total turnover deepened, but an improvement was observed in the balance of turnover with EU countries. Compared to the period of January-April of the previous year, the exports in constant prices grew by 9.8% whereas imports – by 8.9%.

In the 1st half of 2011, the State budget expenditures reached the level of PLN 154.9 billion, whereas the revenues – PLN 134.5 billion. As a result, a deficit of PLN 20.4 billion was recorded, which accounted for 50.7% of the amount assumed in the Budget Act for 2011.

SELECTED INDICATORS REGARDING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE COUNTRY

Specification a - 2010, b - 2011	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Registered unemployed persons (in thous.) a	2052,5	2101,5	2076,7	1973,8	1907,9	1843,9	1812,8	1800,2	1812,6	1818,6	1858,3	1954,7
..... b	2105,0	2150,2	2133,9	2043,5	1962,6	1883,3						
Unemployment rate (in %) a	12,9	13,2	13,0	12,4	12,1	11,7	11,5	11,4	11,5	11,5	11,7	12,3
..... b	13,0	13,2	13,1	12,6	12,2	11,8						
Paid employment in the enterprise sector in thous. persons a	5301	5293	5294	5308	5320	5336	5350	5352	5364	5375	5381	5379
..... b	5501	5513	5509	5514	5514	5527						
Sold production of industry ¹ :												
previous month=100 a	94,6	103,1	119,1	90,8	101,6	106,8	94,1	98,2	113,1	98,4	98,6	95,8
..... b	93,7	103,3	115,2	90,7	102,7	101,1						
corresponding month of previous year=100 a	108,5	109,2	112,5	109,7	113,5	114,3	110,5	113,6	111,8	108,0	110,0	111,4
..... b	110,3	110,5	106,8	106,7	107,8	102,0						
Construction and assembly production ¹ :												
previous month=100 a	31,1	104,2	136,2	117,8	117,5	124,5	97,0	106,7	111,0	103,8	89,2	138,7
..... b	30,7	111,5	142,4	109,7	125,9	117,6						
corresponding month of previous year=100 a	84,7	75,3	89,1	93,7	102,3	109,6	100,8	108,4	113,4	109,4	114,2	112,3
..... b	111,0	118,7	124,2	115,6	123,9	117,0						
Dwellings completed (from the beginning of year) a	12791	22655	34047	44852	53838	63779	75441	85990	97674	109414	121632	135835
..... b	10292	18341	27513	36640	45825	55403						
Price indices of consumer goods and services:												
previous month=100 a	100,6	100,2	100,3	100,4	100,3	100,3	99,8	99,6	100,6	100,5	100,1	100,4
..... b	101,2	100,2	100,9	100,5	100,6	99,6						
corresponding month of previous year=100 a	103,5	102,9	102,6	102,4	102,2	102,3	102,0	102,0	102,5	102,8	102,7	103,1
..... b	103,6	103,6	104,3	104,5	105,0	104,2						
December of previous year=100 a	100,6	100,9	101,2	101,6	101,9	102,2	102,0	101,5	102,1	102,6	102,8	103,1
..... b	101,2	101,4	102,3	102,9	103,5	103,1						
Price indices of sold production of industry:												
previous month=100 a	100,4	99,9	99,8	101,4	102,0	101,0	100,1	99,8	100,1	100,0	100,4	101,2
..... b	100,4	101,2	101,6	100,7	99,7	100,3						
corresponding month of previous year=100 a	100,2	97,6	97,4	99,6	101,9	102,1	103,8	104,0	104,3	103,9	104,7	106,2
..... b	106,2	107,5	109,5	108,8	106,3	105,6						
Price indices of construction and assembly production:												
previous month=100 a	99,8	99,9	100,0	100,1	100,1	100,1	99,9	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,1
..... b	100,1	100,1	100,2	100,2	100,2	100,3						
corresponding month of previous year=100 a	99,3	99,4	99,5	99,7	100,0	100,1	100,2	100,2	100,2	100,1	100,0	100,0
..... b	100,3	100,4	100,6	100,6	100,7	100,8						

¹ Indices were calculated in constant prices of 2005.

(cont.)

Specification a - 2010, b - 2011	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	
Average monthly nominal gross wage and salary in the enterprise sector (in zł)	a	3231,13	3288,29	3493,42	3398,67	3346,61	3403,65	3433,32	3407,26	3403,68	3440,22	3525,67	3847,91
	b	3391,59	3422,14	3633,54	3597,84	3483,99	3600,47						
previous month=100	a	88,5	101,8	106,2	97,3	98,5	101,7	100,9	99,2	99,9	101,1	102,5	109,1
	b	88,1	100,9	106,2	99,0	96,8	103,3						
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	100,5	102,9	104,8	103,2	104,8	103,5	102,1	104,2	103,7	103,9	103,6	105,4
	b	105,0	104,1	104,0	105,9	104,1	105,8						
Average monthly real gross wage and salary in the enterprise sector monthly average of 2000=100	a	114,4	116,2	123,1	119,3	117,2	118,8	120,1	119,6	118,8	119,6	122,5	133,2
	b	116,0	116,8	123,0	121,0	116,4	120,7						
Profitability rate of gross turnover ¹ - from the beginning of year (in %)	a	.	.	5,0	.	.	5,3	.	.	5,5	.	.	5,3
	b			5,3	.	.	.						
Profitability rate of net turnover ² – from the beginning of year (in %)	a	.	.	4,0	.	.	4,4	.	.	4,6	.	.	4,4
	b			4,3	.	.	.						
State budget balance - from the beginning of year (in mln zł)	a	-4779,2	-16835,6	-22707,6	-26957,0	-32046,2	-36568,7	-34870,3	-36975,9	-39535,5	-41890,2	-42613,1	-44591,1
	b	-2762,0	-14409,2	-17499,7	-21585,5	-23728,3	-20369,7						
Average exchange rates in zł – National Bank of Poland:													
100 US dollars	a	285,18	293,85	286,72	287,99	321,37	335,71	319,50	308,94	303,18	284,82	289,13	301,97
	b	291,48	287,87	286,88	274,67	274,19	275,86						
100 EUR	a	407,20	401,55	389,19	387,04	405,21	410,25	408,18	398,72	395,58	395,62	395,31	399,59
	b	389,69	392,86	401,74	397,06	393,95	396,95						
Foreign trade ³ in mln zł													
exports	a	33217,6	35920,2	39696,7	37753,4	39388,7	43366,3	39963,8	37287,5	43214,4	42709,7	40173,6	36460,2
	b	39776,1	42094,3	47435,3	43375,8	45518,1	.						
imports	a	36134,4	39652,2	44642,7	41050,9	43812,0	46139,4	44725,1	42726,4	47223,3	46889,5	47121,9	42878,4
	b	43581,7	46455,4	51653,1	48968,3	48759,4	.						
balance	a	-2916,8	-3732,0	-4946,0	-3297,5	-4423,3	-2773,1	-4761,3	-5438,9	-4008,9	-4179,8	-6948,3	-6418,2
	b	-3805,6	-4361,1	-4217,8	-5592,5	-3241,3	.						

¹ Relation of gross financial result to revenues from total activity.² Relation of net financial result to revenues from total activity.³ Preliminary data.