

Introduction

In May of 2012, after a weakening observed a month before, the growth pace of sold production of industry and retail sales improved in annual terms. The construction and assembly production and sales of services in transport increased in annual terms slightly slower than in April of this year. The dynamics of the prices of consumer goods and services in annual terms was lower than in the previous month; among others the increase in the prices of goods and services related to transport and food and non-alcoholic beverages slowed down. The average employment in the enterprise sector slightly exceeded the level recorded a year before, and the unemployment rate, despite the further seasonal drop, was higher than in May of the previous year. The growth in average monthly nominal gross wages and salaries in the enterprise sector was faster than in the previous month, and their purchasing power was slightly higher than the year before. The slowing down of the dynamics of the prices of consumer goods and services caused a slight improvement of growth pace of the purchasing power of retirement pays and pensions.

Sold production of industry in May of 2012 was by 4.6% higher than a year ago, and after eliminating the seasonal factors – by 3.1%. The growth concerned all sections of industry, except for mining and quarrying, where the drop observed since the beginning of the year maintained. In most main industrial groupings, production was higher than a year ago, except for capital goods of which sold production maintained at the level recorded a year before. Construction and assembly production in May of 2012 was higher by 6.2% in annual terms, and after seasonal adjustment – by 7.2%. The dynamics of production in the entities dealing mainly with the construction of buildings was higher than in the previous month, while the growth pace slower than the one observed so far was recorded in enterprises specialising in civil engineering.

According to the surveys carried out in June of 2012, manufacturing enterprises, similar as in the previous two months, express optimistic assessment of the general business tendency climate. They indicate, among others, the slight decrease of difficulties in the ability to settle current financial liabilities, a slight increase of the current and future production, and the expected order-books. The forecasts concerning financial liabilities are slightly less optimistic. Among construction enterprises an intensification of pessimistic opinions on the conditions of conducting business activity was observed. Entities report, among others, limiting the future order-books and production (against positive forecasts in this scope in May of this year). The current financial situation of these units and the forecasts relating to this issue are negative and worse than in the previous month. In comparison to May of 2012, the negative index of the general business tendency climate deepened also in retail trade, which is caused by, among others, a decline of the

unfavourable assessments concerning the current and future sales as well as the expectations concerning demand for goods. Similar as in manufacturing and construction, trade entities predict the possible increase of the employment reduction scale.

The average employment in the enterprise sector in May of 2012 was higher by 0.3% than in the corresponding month of the previous year. The registered unemployment rate dropped to 12.6%, which is still higher than the year before. According to the results of the survey on demand for labour for the 1st quarter of 2012, the number of newly created jobs was lower than in the first three months of the previous year but, at the same time, fewer jobs were liquidated.

Average monthly nominal gross wages and salaries in the enterprise sector increased in annual terms by 3.8%. With a weakening of the consumer prices growth rate (to 3.6%), the purchasing power of wages and salaries was higher than in May of the previous year (by 0.3%). Gross real retirement pays and pensions, both of individual farmers and in the employee insurance system, increased at a slightly higher scale than in the previous month.

On the agricultural market in May of 2012, the prices of most basic agricultural products of most livestock products (except for milk prices) still exceeded the level recorded a year ago. Among crop products, only the prices of rye were higher than in the corresponding period of the previous year. With the low profitability of pigs fattening maintaining for many months, the upward tendency of prices of piglets for further breeding stopped.

In the period of January-April of 2012, the growth maintained in the external trade turnover (in PLN) in annual terms. However, it was slower than in the corresponding period of the previous year, which was influenced mainly by a weakening of the dynamics of trade with developed countries (including EU countries). As a result of a higher growth of exports than that of imports, the total negative balance improved. In the 1st quarter of 2012, a 3.5% increase was recorded in exports in constant prices, while imports dropped by 0.5%. The unfavourable terms of trade index declined further and amounted to 96.9.

After the five months of 2012, the State budget closed with a deficit amounting to PLN 27.0 billion, which accounted for 77.2% of the amount assumed in the Budget Act for 2012. Revenue amounted to PLN 113.5 billion, and expenditure to PLN 140.5 billion (i.e. 38.6% and 42.7% of the plan, respectively).

SELECTED INDICATORS REGARDING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE COUNTRY

Specification a - 2011, b - 2012		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Registered unemployed persons (in thous.)	a	2105	2150	2134	2044	1963	1883	1863	1855	1862	1868	1915	1983
	b	2122	2168	2142	2073	2014							
Unemployment rate (in %)	a	13,1	13,4	13,3	12,8	12,4	11,9	11,8	11,8	11,8	11,8	12,1	12,5
	b	13,2	13,5	13,3	12,9	12,6							
Paid employment in the enterprise sector													
in thous. persons	a	5501	5513	5509	5514	5514	5527	5528	5520	5515	5512	5515	5503
	b	5551	5543	5539	5531	5530							
Average monthly nominal gross wage and salary in the enterprise sector													
(in zł)	a	3391,59	3422,14	3633,54	3597,84	3483,99	3600,47	3611,56	3591,23	3581,94	3617,16	3682,19	4015,37
	b	3666,41	3568,32	3770,66	3719,81	3617,98							
previous month=100	a	88,1	100,9	106,2	99,0	96,8	103,3	100,3	99,4	99,7	101,0	101,8	109,0
	b	91,3	97,3	105,7	98,7	97,3							
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	105,0	104,1	104,0	105,9	104,1	105,8	105,2	105,4	105,2	105,1	104,4	104,4
	b	108,1	104,3	103,8	103,4	103,8							
Average monthly real gross wage and salary in the enterprise sector													
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	101,5	100,7	99,9	101,5	99,3	101,6	101,3	101,2	101,3	100,9	99,8	99,9
	b	103,9	100,1	100,0	99,5	100,3							
Average monthly real gross retirement pay and pension:													
from non-agricultural social security system													
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	102,2	102,3	100,1	100,0	99,3	100,1	100,4	100,1	100,6	100,2	99,6	99,8
	b	100,4	100,0	101,4	101,2	101,8							
of farmers													
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	100,5	100,4	98,1	98,2	97,4	98,3	98,7	98,4	98,8	98,5	97,9	97,9
	b	98,8	98,5	103,4	103,4	103,6							
Price indices of consumer goods and services:													
previous month=100	a	101,2	100,2	100,9	100,5	100,6	99,6	99,7	100,0	100,1	100,7	100,7	100,4
	b	100,7	100,4	100,5	100,6	100,2							
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	103,6	103,6	104,3	104,5	105,0	104,2	104,1	104,3	103,9	104,3	104,8	104,6
	b	104,1	104,3	103,9	104,0	103,6							
December of previous year=100	a	101,2	101,4	102,3	102,9	103,5	103,1	102,8	102,7	102,8	103,5	104,2	104,6
	b	100,7	101,1	101,7	102,2	102,4							
Price indices of sold production of industry:													
previous month=100	a	100,4	101,2	101,6	100,7	99,7	100,3	100,4	100,6	101,7	100,1	100,9	100,4
	b	100,1	99,5	100,1	100,7	100,2							
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	106,2	107,5	109,5	108,8	106,3	105,6	105,9	106,8	108,4	108,5	109,1	108,2
	b	107,9	106,0	104,4	104,4	105,0							
Price indices of construction and assembly production:													
previous month=100	a	100,1	100,1	100,2	100,2	100,2	100,3	100,2	100,3	100,1	100,1	100,0	100,0
	b	99,9	99,9	100,0	100,0	99,9							
corresponding month of previous year=100	a	100,3	100,4	100,6	100,6	100,7	100,8	101,1	101,4	101,6	101,6	101,7	101,8
	b	101,5	101,4	101,3	101,1	100,9							

SELECTED INDICATORS REGARDING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE COUNTRY

(cont.)

Specification a - 2011, b - 2012	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Sold production of industry (constant prices ¹):												
previous month=100	a 93,7	103,3	115,2	90,7	102,7	101,0	94,0	104,1	112,6	97,6	100,5	95,1
corresponding month of previous year=100	b 95,0	99,2	110,7	92,4	104,5							
a 110,3	110,3	110,5	106,8	106,7	107,8	102,0	101,8	107,9	107,4	106,4	108,5	107,7
b 109,1	109,1	104,8	100,8	102,8	104,6							
Construction and assembly production (constant prices ¹):												
previous month=100	a 30,7	111,5	142,4	109,7	125,9	117,6	96,6	101,5	118,3	95,7	92,5	140,6
corresponding month of previous year=100	b 35,5	94,5	131,6	114,6	123,7							
a 111,0	111,0	118,7	124,2	115,6	123,9	117,0	116,5	110,8	118,1	108,9	113,0	114,6
b 132,2	132,2	112,0	103,5	108,1	106,2							
Dwellings completed (from the beginning of year)	a 10289	18329	27500	36973	45726	54568	65064	75965	86839	101027	114443	130954
b 12470	12470	23786	36293	46452	56525							
Retail sales of commodities (constant prices ²):												
previous month=100	a 70,8	101,8	117,4	101,7	98,3	101,9	101,3	101,5	101,3	102,8	93,5	120,3
corresponding month of previous year=100	b 74,9	101,0	115,0	97,0	100,8							
a 102,3	102,3	108,6	105,1	113,6	108,5	106,4	104,2	106,9	107,7	106,8	107,4	104,2
b 109,9	109,9	108,9	106,9	101,8	104,3							
State budget balance - from the beginning of year (in mln zł)	a -2762,0	-14409,2	-17499,7	-21585,5	-23728,3	-20222,2	-21083,6	-20680,7	-21888,5	-22470,4	-21573,4	-25124,4
b -5301,8	-5301,8	-16515,6	-22968,6	-24819,9	-27029,4							
Average exchange rates in zł - National Bank of Poland:												
100 USD	a 291,48	287,87	286,88	274,67	274,19	275,86	279,11	287,70	314,29	317,69	326,09	339,59
b 338,84	338,84	316,08	313,20	317,27	334,72							
100 EUR	a 389,69	392,86	401,74	397,06	393,95	396,95	399,07	412,32	433,32	435,62	442,39	447,66
b 437,75	437,75	418,40	413,70	417,56	428,84							
100 CHF	a 305,03	303,12	311,88	305,92	314,00	327,99	338,24	368,94	361,93	354,41	359,34	364,68
b 361,35	361,35	346,60	343,00	347,36	357,00							
Foreign trade ³ in mln zł:												
exports	a 40050,7	42330,0	48032,9	44175,7	46165,3	45026,0	42235,9	45843,8	52444,0	52107,4	51200,4	45157,2
b 48036,7	48036,7	47390,5	50472,0	45743,2	.							
imports	a 44034,4	46955,9	52620,5	49965,3	51583,5	51347,1	48416,7	51160,4	55317,6	55978,6	56208,1	50839,7
b 52788,4	52788,4	52306,4	54341,6	48209,4	.							
balance	a -3983,7	-4625,9	-4587,6	-5789,6	-5418,2	-6321,1	-6180,8	-5316,6	-2873,6	-3871,2	-5007,7	-5682,5
b -4751,7	-4751,7	-4915,9	-3869,6	-2466,2	.							

¹ The average current prices from 2005.

² The current prices from the period preceding the surveyed period.

³ Preliminary data.