

Treasury Republic of Latvia

Weekly News Update

December 4 - 8, 2017

FINANCING AND DEBT

Domestic government T-Bonds were offered due on 27 January, 2022. Offered securities with the total nominal value of 24 million EUR were sold in a competitive multi-price auction. The total demand reached 155.87 million EUR and exceeded the amount offered 6.49 times. The weighted average yield rate was 0.197%. The T-Bonds due on 27 January, 2022 with the total nominal value of 6 million EUR were sold in a non-competitive fixed rate auction. Total demand reached 56.065 million EUR. (RĪGA, Dec 6, Treasury)

MACROECONOMICS

- In October 2017, Latvian producer prices climbed 3.5 % against the same month last year, which is steeper than average in the European Unioin (EU). In all EU member states, producer prices climbed 2.6 % from October 2016 and in the eurozone producer prices rose 2.5 %. (RĪGA, Dec 4, Eurostat)
- During the first ten months of this year, Latvia's calendar-adjusted industrial output grew 9.3 % against the same period last year at constant prices. Output increased by 8.1 % in manufacturing, 18.3 % in in electricity and gas supply and 12.7 % in mining and quarrying. (RĪGA, Dec 4, <u>CSB</u>)
- In October 2017, Latvian retail sales increased by 4.5 % against the same month last year, which is significantly faster than in the EU on average. Across the EU, retail sales picked up 0.9 % in October and a 0.4 % rise in retail sales was recorded in the eurozone. (RIGA, Dec 5, Eurostat)
- The overall tax-to-GDP ratio, meaning the sum of taxes and net social contributions as a percentage of GDP, in Latvia was the 5th lowest among EU member states. According to Eurostat, tax-to-GDP ratio in Latvia was 31.6 %. In the EU, tax-to-GDP ratio was 40 % compared to 39.7 % last year. (RIGA, Dec 7, Eurostat)
- During the 3rd quarter of this year Latvia showed one of the fastest GDP growths against the same period last year in the EU. According to seasonally adjusted data, in July-September 2017, Latvia's GDP expanded by 6.2 % year-on-year. Compared to the 2nd quarter of 2017, Latvia's GDP grew by 1.5 % in the 3rd quarter of 2017. (RIGA, Dec 7, Eurostat)
- In November 2017 as compared to November 2016, the average level of consumer prices rose 2.7 %, while compared to October, consumer prices increased 0.1 %. Year on year, prices of goods grew by 2.7 % and prices of services by 2.9 %. Compared to October, prices of goods grew 0.3 %, while prices of services fell 0.3 % in November. (RIGA, Dec 8, <u>CSB</u>)

Republic of LatviaA- stable (Fitch)/ A- positive (S&P) / A3 stable (Moody's)/ BBB+ positive (R&I)Bloomberg: TRELTwitter - https://twitter.com/valstskase www.kase.gov.lv

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