

Weekly News Update



May 28 - June 1, 2018

FINANCING AND DEBT

• On Wednesday, 30th May, domestic government T-Bonds were offered due on 12 May, 2023. Offered securities with the total nominal value of 16 million EUR were sold in a competitive multi-price auction. The total demand reached 39.3 million EUR and exceeded the amount offered 2.46 times. The weighted average yield rate was 0.487%. The T-Bonds due on 12 May, 2023 with the total nominal value of 4 million EUR were sold in a non-competitive fixed rate auction. Total demand reached 8.85 million EUR. (RĪGA, May 30, Treasury)

BANKING SECTOR

▶ Latvian monetary financial institutions (mostly banks) earned EUR 127.4 million in aggregate profit in January-April 2018, down 6.1 % against the same period last year, the Bank of Latvia reported. In April 2018, the monetary financial institutions generated EUR 37.3 million in aggregate profit. The total amount of deposits at Latvian banks decreased by 1.1 % or EUR 195.157 million during May this year to EUR 17.6 billion at the end of the month, the Financial and Capital Market Commission said. (RĪGA, June 1, Bank of Latvia/ FCMC)

MACROECONOMICS

- In April this year, construction costs in Latvia rose 3.8 % year-on-year. Builders' wages climbed 6.2 % year-on-year, construction materials rose in price 3.6 % and operation costs of machinery and equipment grew 2.5 % against April 2017. (RĪGA, May 29, CSB)
- In April 2018, Latvia's calendar-adjusted retail sales rose 3.1 % at constant prices against the same month last year. Food retailers saw their sales climb 2.1 % and non-food retailers' sales (excluding automotive fuel sales) increased 3.7 % year-on-year. Fuel retailers increased sales 3.5 %. (RIGA, May 30, CSB)
- In the 1st quarter of 2018, the Latvian gross domestic product (GDP) increased 4.2 % compared to the same period in 2017, according to the seasonally and calendar non-adjusted data at constant prices. Compared to the 4th quarter of 2017, GDP growth in the 1st quarter of 2018 was 1.6 %. (RĪGA, May 31, <u>CSB</u>)

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Republic of Latvia
Bloomberg: TREL

A- stable (Fitch)/ A- positive (S&P) / A3 stable (Moody's)/ A- stable (R&I)

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