

17th September, 2009

Monthly Economic Survey

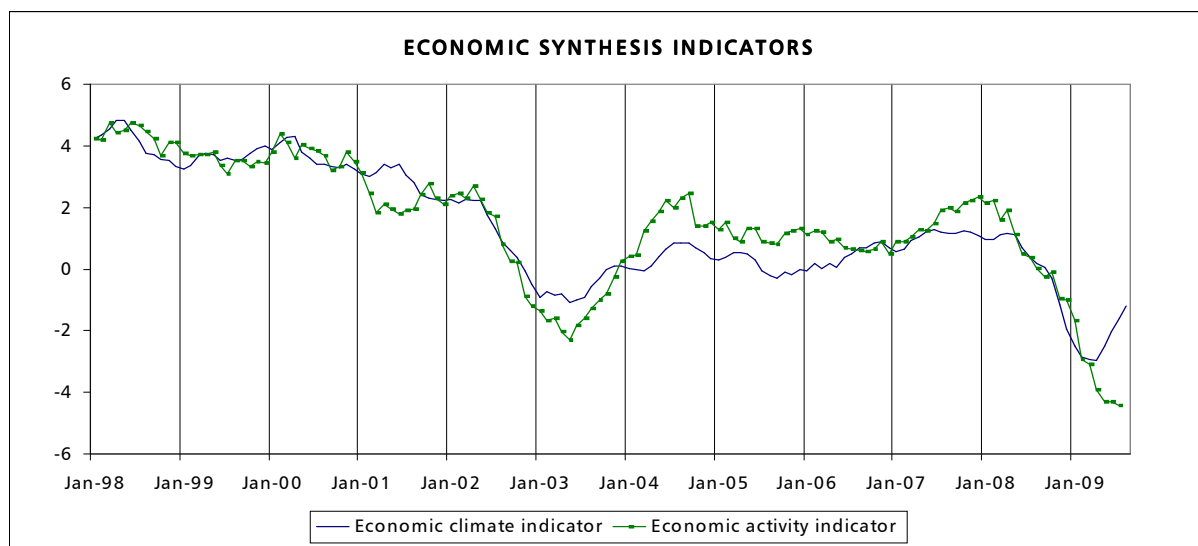
August 2009

Private consumption and investment indicators diminished less intensely in July. Nominal imports and exports continued to present strong year-on-year reductions.

In August, the economic sentiment and the consumer confidence indicators continued to recover in the Euro Area (EA) and in the European Union (EU27).

In Portugal, the economic climate indicator, available until August, increased significantly in the last four months, after registering in April the lowest value of the series. The economic activity indicator remained fairly stable between May and July, although maintaining the negative trend started in the beginning of 2008. The private consumption indicator has been decreasing less intensely since April, reflecting in July a less negative contribution of the durable consumption, while the non-durable consumption component slightly decelerated. In July, the GFCF indicator diminished less intensely, interrupting the downward movement of the previous month, due to the less negative behaviour of the transport material component. Notice that the positive path observed in the last months in the private consumption and GFCF indicators was preceded by the minimum values of the respective series, observed in March. Concerning the international trade of goods, imports and exports continued to register strong negative year-on-year nominal change rates in July, respectively -24.9% and -22.4% (-26.9% and -24.9% in June).

In August, the year-on-year monthly change rate of the Consumer Price Index was -1.3%, 0.2 p.p. more than in July. The core inflation index increased 0.2% (0.3 p.p. less than in the previous month). The prices of goods and of services continued to present different behaviours, with the first recording a year-on-year change rate of -3.3% in August (0.4 p.p. more than in the previous month), while the latter increased 1.9% (0.2 p.p. less). The differential between the EA Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) and the Portuguese HICP was 1.0 p.p in August (0.7 p.p. in July).



**Report based on information available up to September 16, 2009.
Next report will be released on October 20, 2009.**

NOTES

With exception of situations duly identified, the values presented in tables and graphs and others that also serve for the analysis are, in the case of quantitative series, year-on-year rates of change (y.r.) under three-month moving average (3-mma) or, in the case of qualitative series, 3-mma of seasonally adjusted values (s.a.) or of effective values (e.v). Annual information correspond to 12-mma, with the exception of variables presented as y.r. on stocks, where the annual value corresponds to the variation of the balance at the end of the year. Annualised variation (a.v.). Weight (w.).

Balances: differences between the percentage of respondents giving positive and negative replies.

		Year 2007	Year 2008	Quarter 2 2008	Quarter 3 2008	Quarter 4 2008	Quarter 1 2009	Quarter 2 2009	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09
International background															
GDP of customer countries	s.a/y.r.	2.9	0.8	1.7	0.5	-1.5	-4.1	-4.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
GDP European Union	s.a/y.r.	2.9	0.9	1.8	0.7	-1.7	-4.8	-4.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
GDP Euro Area	s.a/y.r.	2.7	0.7	1.5	0.5	-1.7	-4.9	-4.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Industrial production index of customer countries	s.a/y.r./3-mma	2.7	-3.7	-1.4	-4.0	-11.0	-17.8	-17.2	-16.1	-17.8	-18.7	-18.4	-17.2	-	-
Economic Sentiment Indicator in EU	ind/s.a.-3mma	111.2	90.7	98.0	88.7	73.1	61.5	67.7	60.8	60.4	64.0	67.9	71.1	75.0	80.9
Economic Sentiment Indicator in EA	ind/s.a.-3mma	108.9	91.2	97.7	89.9	75.6	65.7	70.2	65.3	64.6	67.3	70.2	73.2	76.0	80.6
Order books in industry of customer countries	balance/s.a.-3mma	3.4	-17.2	-7.8	-18.8	-39.6	-53.4	-56.3	-50.3	-53.4	-56.4	-56.7	-56.3	-56.3	-55.2
Consumer confidence indicator in EU	balance/s.a.-3mma	-4.2	-17.4	-13.6	-19.3	-26.3	-31.4	-25.5	-30.6	-31.4	-30.5	-28.5	-25.5	-23.2	-21.2
Unemployment rate in EU	s.a/%	7.1	7.0	6.8	7.0	7.5	8.2	8.8	8.2	8.5	8.7	8.8	8.9	9.0	-
Harmonised index of consumer prices in EA	y.r.	2.1	3.3	3.6	3.8	2.3	1.0	0.2	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.1	-0.7	-0.2
Production price index of supplying countries	y.r./3-mma	3.3	5.6	7.3	7.8	1.1	-4.0	-6.6	-2.8	-4.0	-4.9	-5.9	-6.6	-7.4	-
Crude oil price (Brent)	Euros	52.6	64.9	77.8	75.8	41.5	34.1	43.0	33.9	35.7	38.0	42.0	49.0	45.7	50.8
Crude oil price (Brent)	y.r.	1.4	23.4	52.8	39.1	-32.0	-47.2	-44.7	-47.4	-46.6	-45.1	-46.8	-42.5	-45.6	-32.8
Economic activity															
GDP	y.r.	1.9	0.0	0.7	0.3	-2.0	-4.0	-3.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Economic climate indicator	balance/3-mma	1.1	0.0	0.7	0.1	-1.9	-2.9	-2.0	-2.9	-2.9	-3.0	-2.5	-2.0	-1.6	-1.2
Economic activity indicator	3-mma	1.7	0.2	0.5	-0.2	-1.0	-3.1	-4.3	-2.9	-3.1	-3.9	-4.3	-4.3	-4.4	-
Total turnover index	y.r./3-mma	4.0	1.0	3.2	3.8	-6.7	-15.6	-15.9	-13.8	-15.6	-15.7	-15.4	-15.9	-15.6	-
Manufacturing industry production index	s.a/y.r./3-mma	1.1	-4.0	-2.9	-3.6	-8.3	-16.1	-11.7	-16.2	-16.1	-14.6	-11.4	-11.7	-10.1	-
Production index in construction	s.a/y.r./3-mma	-3.8	-1.4	-1.2	-1.0	-2.4	-4.1	-3.4	-5.5	-4.1	-3.3	-2.0	-3.4	-4.2	-
Retail trade turnover index (real)	y.r./3-mma	0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.3	-1.7	-4.6	-1.2	-4.0	-4.6	-4.0	-3.4	-1.2	-1.7	-
Sales of passenger vehicles	y.r./3-mma	3.7	5.6	1.9	0.3	9.4	-42.4	-30.1	-17.1	-42.4	-39.6	-36.7	-30.1	-25.6	-20.3
Consumption															
Consumer confidence indicator	balance/3-mma	-29.2	-38.4	-37.5	-36.5	-42.7	-51.0	-43.5	-50.0	-51.0	-49.5	-46.2	-43.5	-39.3	-34.3
Quantitative indicator of private consumption	y.r./3-mma	2.2	1.7	0.7	2.4	1.2	-1.7	-0.5	-0.3	-1.7	-1.6	-1.1	-0.5	-0.4	-
Indicator of non-durable consumer goods	y.r./3-mma	1.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	1.7	1.1	1.8	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.8	1.7	-
Indicator of durable consumer goods	y.r./3-mma	5.4	0.4	-5.0	3.2	-2.0	-22.2	-17.5	-12.3	-22.2	-21.4	-19.4	-17.5	-15.6	-
Vol. ind. consumption of passenger vehicles	y.r./3-mma	5.6	-0.7	-13.8	4.7	4.3	-35.2	-30.5	-15.9	-35.2	-35.0	-33.0	-30.5	-26.7	-
Investment															
GFCF indicator		4.2	-3.4	-1.0	-3.6	-8.0	-17.9	-16.9	-14.6	-17.9	-16.9	-16.4	-16.9	-16.7	-
Cement sales	y.r./3-mma	-1.1	-7.9	-2.7	-6.3	-14.5	-14.0	-14.2	-18.3	-14.0	-9.6	-9.3	-14.2	-	-
Sales of steel for concrete	y.r./3-mma	6.5	-16.2	-6.7	-33.7	-18.0	-29.8	-22.8	-36.7	-29.8	-21.2	-21.2	-22.8	-	-
Credit for purchase of habitation	y.r./stocks	9.8	3.9	8.4	5.6	3.9	2.4	1.5	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.6	1.5	-	-
Licenses for construction of new habitations	y.r./3-mma	-8.6	-21.3	-17.0	-24.9	-33.3	-40.9	-33.5	-42.5	-40.9	-37.5	-33.1	-33.5	-30.5	-
Machinery and equipment indicator		6.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	0.3	-3.7	-3.4	-2.4	-3.7	-3.7	-3.1	-3.4	-3.4	-2.7
Sales of light commercial vehicles	y.r./3-mma	6.3	-19.1	-38.1	5.9	-10.4	-40.5	-36.6	-26.8	-40.5	-36.4	-37.6	-36.6	-37.2	-32.0
Sales of new heavy commercial vehicles	y.r./3-mma	6.2	-1.7	4.6	-3.2	-24.4	-38.3	-48.3	-28.7	-38.3	-48.4	-46.2	-48.3	-39.0	-42.7
External demand															
External demand indicator in value	s.a/y.r./3-mma	6.4	-0.1	3.4	1.3	-10.8	-24.0	-26.4	-21.1	-24.0	-24.8	-25.9	-26.4	-	-
External order books	balance/3-mma	-3.6	-23.1	-12.3	-16.7	-53.0	-66.0	-66.0	-65.3	-66.0	-68.0	-66.0	-66.0	-62.0	-56.3
Exports of merchandises in value	y.r./3-mma	8.9	1.0	4.5	5.3	-11.1	-26.4	-24.9	-24.6	-26.4	-26.4	-24.6	-24.9	-22.4	-
Imports of merchandises in value	y.r./3-mma	7.4	7.2	11.4	11.3	-6.4	-24.7	-26.9	-21.9	-24.7	-26.8	-26.5	-26.9	-24.9	-
Labour market															
Unemployment rate	%	8.0	7.6	7.3	7.7	7.8	8.9	9.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Employment	y.r.	0.2	0.5	1.4	-0.1	-0.2	-1.8	-2.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Unemployed registration along the month	s.a/y.r./3-mma	-6.7	11.2	7.2	11.0	27.2	35.7	26.5	34.3	35.7	36.7	32.4	26.5	21.2	-
Unemployment expectations	balance/3-mma	43.2	50.6	48.1	45.5	61.1	79.8	70.0	76.1	79.8	78.4	73.8	70.0	64.1	57.7
Vacancies along the month	s.a/y.r./3-mma	13.6	6.0	-3.4	11.2	14.0	-16.1	7.4	-5.9	-16.1	-14.9	-1.4	7.4	14.1	-
Employment indicator (short-term statistics)	y.r./3-mma	-1.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	-0.8	-3.1	-4.2	-2.3	-3.1	-3.7	-4.0	-4.2	-4.2	-
Average declared wages	s.a/y.r./3-mma	3.5	4.1	3.8	4.0	4.2	3.8	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.6	4.0	3.8	-
Wage negotiation	av/3-mmaq.w.	2.9	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.3	2.6	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.7	3.1	-	-
Prices and exchange rates															
Consumer price index	y.r.	2.5	2.6	2.9	3.0	1.5	0.0	-1.1	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-1.2	-1.6	-1.5	-1.3
Core inflation indicator	y.r.	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.4	0.6	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.2
Consumer price index - goods	y.r.	2.2	2.3	2.9	3.2	0.7	-1.1	-2.8	-0.8	-1.7	-2.0	-2.9	-3.6	-3.7	-3.3
Consumer price index - services	y.r.	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.8	3.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.9
Manufacturing industry production price index	y.r./3-mma	2.7	4.7	6.2	7.1	-0.1	-4.6	-7.0	-3.7	-4.6	-5.4	-6.3	-7.0	-8.0	-
Effective exchange rate index for Portugal	y.r.	0.8	1.2	1.8	1.4	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-
Exchange rate eur/USD	y.r.	9.1	6.9	15.9	9.3	-9.2	-13.1	-12.9	-13.3	-16.0	-16.3	-12.3	-9.9	-10.7	-4.7
Exchange rate USD/euro	USD	1.371	1.471	1.562	1.504	1.317	1.302	1.362	1.279	1.305	1.319	1.365	1.402	1.409	1.427
Exchange rate eur/JPY	y.r.	10.4	-6.6	0.3	-0.2	-22.9	-22.8	-18.9	-25.1	-18.5	-19.4	-18.8	-18.6	-21.0	-17.3