

18th February, 2010

Monthly Economic Survey January 2010

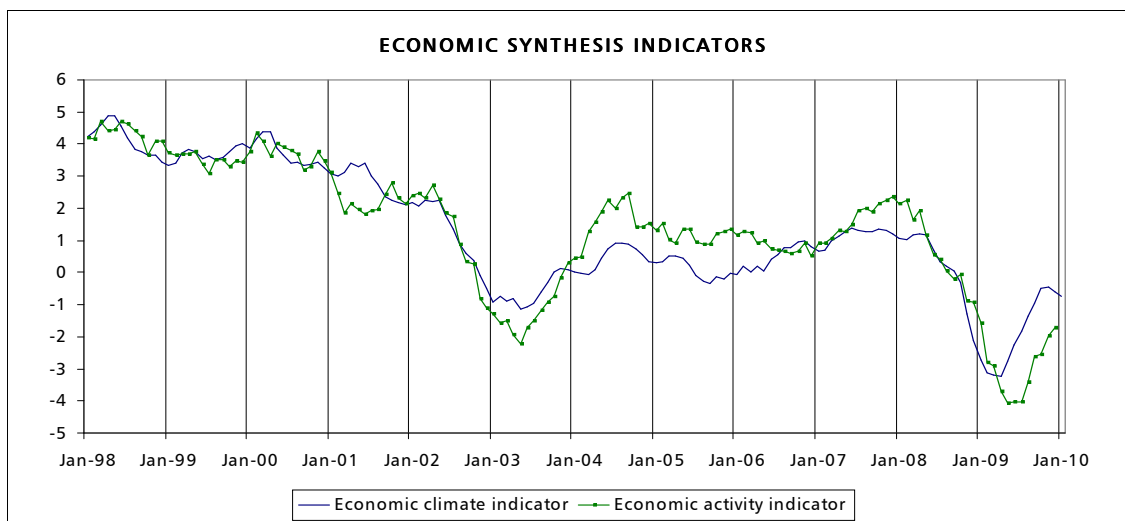
GDP year-on-year change rate less negative in the 4th quarter of 2009. The private consumption indicator recovered and the investment indicator diminished more intensely in December.

Accordingly with the flash estimates compiled by the EUROSTAT, the Euro Area (EA) and the European Union (EU27) GDP registered year-on-year change rates of -2.1% and -2.3% in the 4th quarter of 2009 (-4.0% and -4.3% in the 3rd quarter, respectively). In January, the economic sentiment and the consumer confidence indicators maintained the upward movement observed in the last months in the EA and in the EU27. In the same month, the raw materials and the consumer prices accelerated in the EA.

In Portugal, accordingly with the flash estimate, the GDP recorded a year-on-year change rate of -0.8% in the 4th quarter, less negative than the observed in the 3rd quarter (-2.5%), reflecting the positive contribution of the net external demand and the less negative contribution of the domestic demand. The economic activity indicator maintained in the 4th quarter the positive path started in the previous quarter. The private consumption indicator increased in the 4th quarter of 2009, due to the less negative contribution of the durable consumption and to the acceleration of the non-durable consumption. On the contrary, in the same quarter, the GFCF indicator slightly intensified its negative change rate. Concerning the international trade of goods, in the 4th quarter of 2009 imports and exports recorded less negative year-on-year nominal change rates than in the previous quarters (from -17.9% to -7.1% in the first case and from -17.1% to -3.6% in the second, from the 3rd to the 4th quarter, respectively). Meanwhile, the economic climate indicator recovered in the last three quarters, although less intensely in the 4th quarter, inverting the previous movement, decreasing again in January.

In the 4th quarter of 2009, the unemployment rate was 10.1%, 2.3 p.p. more than in the same quarter of 2008, attaining a new maximum for the series started in 1998. Employment shifted from a -3.4% year-on-year change rate in the 3rd quarter of 2009 (the lowest rate of the series started in 1999) to -3.0% in the 4th.

In January, the year-on-year change rate of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 0.1%, 0.2 p.p. higher than in the previous month, attaining the first positive change rate since February 2009. In January, the CPI evolution reflected the less negative year-on-year change rate of the prices of goods, while the prices of services decelerated. The differential between the EA Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) and the Portuguese HICP diminished 0.1 p.p. in January relatively to the previous month, to 0.9 p.p..



Report based on information available up to February 17, 2010.

Next report will be released on March 17, 2010.

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 2008	Year 2009	Quarter 4 2008	Quarter 1 2009	Quarter 2 2009	Quarter 3 2009	Quarter 4 2009	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	Jan-10
International background															
GDP of customer countries	s.a/y.r.	0.7	-3.7	-1.6	-4.2	-4.5	-3.8	-2.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
GDP European Union	s.a/y.r.	0.8	-4.1	-1.8	-4.9	-5.0	-4.3	-2.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
GDP Euro Area	s.a/y.r.	0.6	-4.0	-1.8	-5.0	-4.8	-4.0	-2.1	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	-3.6	-	-11.2	-18.3	-17.2	-13.7	-	-15.9	-14.8	-13.7	-11.8	-9.8	-	-
Economic Sentiment Indicator in EU	ind/s.a.-3mma	93.5	79.9	78.5	68.8	74.2	84.3	92.2	80.5	85.4	87.0	90.0	91.5	95.0	97.1
Economic Sentiment Indicator in EA	ind/s.a.-3mma	93.5	80.8	80.0	71.5	75.6	84.1	91.9	80.8	84.8	86.7	89.6	91.9	94.1	95.7
Order books in industry of customer countries	balance/s.a.-3mma	-17.2	-52.1	-39.6	-53.4	-56.3	-52.9	-46.0	-56.3	-55.1	-52.9	-49.7	-48.0	-46.0	-44.0
Consumer confidence indicator in EU	balance/s.a.-3mma	-17.5	-22.8	-26.4	-31.4	-25.6	-19.3	-14.9	-23.3	-21.3	-19.3	-17.4	-15.7	-14.9	-14.2
Unemployment rate in EU	s.a/%	7.0	8.9	7.5	8.2	8.8	9.2	9.5	9.1	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.5	9.6	-
Harmonised index of consumer prices in EA	y.r.	3.3	0.3	2.3	1.0	0.2	-0.4	0.4	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	0.9	1.0
Production price index of supplying countries	y.r./3-mma	5.6	-5.1	1.1	-4.1	-6.7	-7.3	-2.4	-7.5	-7.5	-7.3	-6.2	-4.6	-2.4	-
Crude oil price (Brent)	Euros	64.9	43.8	41.5	34.1	43.0	47.7	50.5	45.7	50.8	46.5	49.1	51.4	51.0	53.4
Crude oil price (Brent)	y.r.	23.4	-32.5	-32.0	-47.2	-44.7	-37.1	21.5	-45.6	-32.8	-31.3	-8.6	24.8	71.5	62.7
Economic activity															
GDP	y.r.	0.0	-2.7	-1.8	-3.9	-3.5	-2.5	-0.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Economic climate indicator	balance/3-mma	-0.1	-1.8	-2.1	-3.2	-2.3	-1.0	-0.6	-1.8	-1.4	-1.0	-0.5	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7
Economic activity indicator	3-mma	0.3	-2.8	-0.9	-2.9	-4.0	-2.6	-1.7	-4.0	-3.4	-2.6	-2.6	-2.0	-1.7	-
Total turnover index	y.r./3-mma	1.0	-12.5	-6.7	-15.6	-15.9	-12.0	-6.4	-15.4	-13.2	-12.0	-10.5	-8.8	-6.4	-
Manufacturing industry production index	s.a/y.r./3-mma	-4.0	-9.9	-8.3	-16.1	-11.8	-7.3	-3.8	-10.7	-9.0	-7.3	-5.8	-5.4	-3.8	-
Production index in construction	s.a/y.r./3-mma	-1.4	-5.1	-2.4	-4.1	-3.4	-5.0	-7.7	-4.3	-4.6	-5.0	-6.7	-7.4	-7.7	-
Retail trade turnover index (real)	y.r./3-mma	0.2	-1.7	-1.7	-4.6	-1.2	-1.2	-0.2	-1.5	-0.8	-1.2	-1.6	-1.6	-0.2	-
Sales of passenger vehicles	y.r./3-mma	5.6	-24.5	9.4	-42.4	-30.1	-16.6	-6.1	-25.6	-20.3	-16.6	-7.4	-2.3	-6.1	4.3
Consumption															
Consumer confidence indicator	balance/3-mma	-38.4	-38.5	-42.7	-51.0	-43.5	-29.5	-30.0	-39.3	-34.3	-29.5	-27.0	-27.4	-30.0	-32.3
Quantitative indicator of private consumption	y.r./3-mma	1.7	-0.3	1.2	-1.7	-0.5	-0.1	1.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.9	1.2	-
Indicator of non-durable consumer goods	y.r./3-mma	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.1	1.8	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.9	-
Indicator of durable consumer goods	y.r./3-mma	0.4	-13.5	-2.0	-22.2	-17.4	-10.7	-3.7	-15.3	-12.6	-10.7	-7.1	-4.1	-3.7	-
Vol. ind. consumption of passenger vehicles	y.r./3-mma	-0.7	-25.4	4.3	-35.2	-30.5	-22.3	-12.7	-26.9	-24.6	-22.3	-14.9	-8.8	-12.7	-
Investment															
GFCF indicator		-3.5	-13.8	-8.0	-17.7	-16.1	-10.0	-11.5	-14.7	-12.2	-10.0	-10.5	-10.0	-11.5	-
Cement sales	y.r./3-mma	-7.9	-	-14.5	-13.5	-12.0	-10.4	-	-12.2	-9.2	-10.4	-13.2	-12.5	-	-
Sales of steel for concrete	y.r./3-mma	-16.2	-	-18.0	-29.8	-27.0	27.1	-	-29.1	-3.8	27.1	34.2	6.0	-	-
Credit for purchase of habitation	y.r./stocks	3.9	-	3.9	2.4	1.5	3.1	-	1.3	1.2	3.1	3.1	3.2	-	-
Licenses for construction of new habitations	y.r./3-mma	-21.3	-28.9	-33.3	-39.5	-31.4	-23.9	-15.0	-27.7	-24.9	-23.9	-24.0	-21.0	-15.0	-
Machinery and equipment indicator		3.3	-1.8	0.3	-3.7	-3.4	-0.8	0.9	-3.4	-2.7	-0.8	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.2
Sales of light commercial vehicles	y.r./3-mma	-19.1	-29.8	-10.4	-40.5	-36.6	-25.2	-16.9	-37.2	-32.0	-25.2	-18.9	-15.0	-16.9	-8.4
Sales of new heavy commercial vehicles	y.r./3-mma	-1.7	-40.7	-24.4	-38.3	-48.3	-26.2	-50.4	-39.0	-42.7	-26.2	-35.3	-39.2	-50.4	-48.5
External demand															
External demand indicator in value	s.a/y.r./3-mma	1.6	-	-9.9	-25.1	-28.3	-23.6	-	-27.8	-26.2	-23.6	-21.2	-17.8	-	-
External order books	balance/3-mma	-23.1	-53.3	-53.0	-66.0	-66.0	-47.7	-33.3	-62.0	-56.3	-47.7	-36.3	-33.0	-33.3	-32.3
Exports of merchandises in value	y.r./3-mma	1.0	-18.2	-11.1	-25.8	-23.8	-17.1	-3.6	-21.3	-19.1	-17.1	-13.5	-9.3	-3.6	-
Imports of merchandises in value	y.r./3-mma	7.2	-18.3	-6.4	-22.2	-24.9	-17.9	-7.1	-21.8	-19.7	-17.9	-15.6	-10.0	-7.1	-
Labour market															
Unemployment rate	%	7.6	9.5	7.8	8.9	9.1	9.8	10.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Employment	y.r.	0.5	-2.8	-0.2	-1.8	-2.9	-3.4	-3.0	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	11.1	18.5	27.0	35.2	26.2	16.2	0.4	21.3	18.8	16.2	8.9	4.1	0.4	-0.3
Unemployment expectations	balance/3-mma	50.6	64.1	61.1	79.8	70.0	52.5	54.3	64.1	57.7	52.5	50.3	51.4	54.3	56.1
Vacancies along the month	s.a/y.r./3-mma	5.8	-3.3	12.8	-15.2	7.7	3.9	-8.7	13.4	8.2	3.9	-1.5	-3.4	-8.7	-3.2
Employment indicator (short-term statistics)	y.r./3-mma	0.0	-4.2	-0.8	-3.4	-4.5	-4.5	-4.3	-4.5	-4.5	-4.5	-4.6	-4.5	-4.3	-
Average declared wages	s.a/y.r./3-mma	4.0	3.4	4.2	3.6	4.0	3.3	2.9	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.3	2.9	-
Wage negotiation	av/3-mmaq.w.	3.1	2.9	3.3	2.6	3.9	2.5	2.5	3.8	3.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.5	-
Prices and exchange rates															
Consumer price index	y.r.	2.6	-0.8	1.5	0.0	-1.1	-1.5	-0.7	-1.5	-1.3	-1.6	-1.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.1
Core inflation indicator	y.r.	2.4	0.4	2.2	1.4	0.6	0.2	-0.3	0.5	0.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.6
Consumer price index - goods	y.r.	2.3	-2.3	0.7	-1.1	-2.8	-3.5	-1.9	-3.7	-3.3	-3.5	-3.1	-1.7	-0.9	-0.4
Consumer price index - services	y.r.	3.0	1.7	3.0	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.2	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0
Manufacturing industry production price index	y.r./3-mma	4.7	-5.6	-0.1	-4.6	-7.0	-7.9	-2.9	-8.0	-8.1	-7.9	-6.9	-5.3	-2.9	-0.5
Effective exchange rate index for Portugal	y.r.	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	1.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	2.0	1.9	0.4	-
Exchange rate eur/USD	y.r.	6.9	-5.0	-9.2	-13.1	-12.9	-4.7	12.3	-10.7	-4.7	1.3	11.2	17.1	8.7	7.8
Exchange rate USD/Euro	USD	1.471	1.393	1.317	1.302	1.362	1.431	1.478	1.409	1.427	1.456	1.482	1.491	1.461	1.427
Exchange rate eur/JPY	y.r.	-6.6	-13.6	-22.9	-22.8	-18.9	-17.1	5.1	-21.0	-17.3	-13.1	0.3	7.9	7.1	8.9