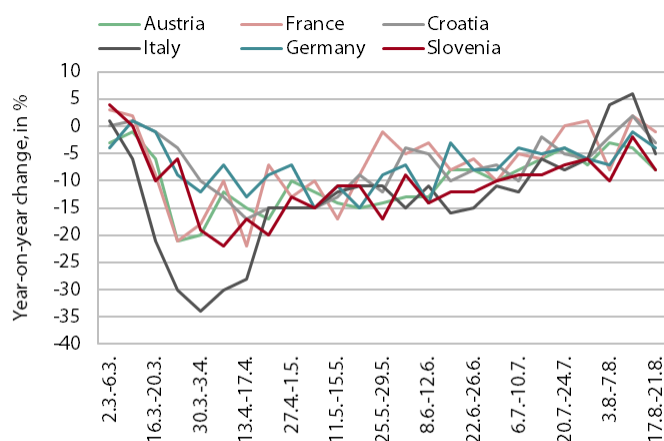


CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS

24 – 28 August 2020

In August, economic sentiment improved for the fourth consecutive month. Freight traffic on motorways and electricity consumption in the economy indicate that after several weeks of decrease, the year-on-year decline in economic activity increased slightly again in the third week of August. With the lifting of containment measures, turnover in trade and market services (excluding trade) strengthened in June for the second consecutive month, after a pronounced deterioration in the period of the epidemic. In June, total turnover in trade already reached last year's level, while turnover in services was still around 15% lower year on year.

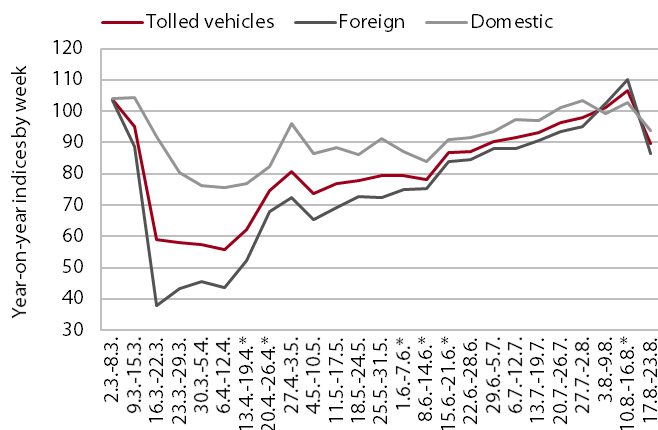
Electricity consumption, August 2020



Source: ENTSO-E and Bruegel.org. Notes: Only consumption on working days (between 8.00 and 18.00) is considered. The percentages are adjusted for temperature differences.

The third week of August recorded a somewhat larger year-on-year decline in weekly electricity consumption again. After in mid-August weekly electricity consumption had come very close to last year's level (-2%), the decline increased again in the third week of the month (-8%). Among Slovenia's most important trading partners, Austria saw the same year-on-year decline, while the declines in other countries were smaller, between 1% (France) and 5% (Italy).

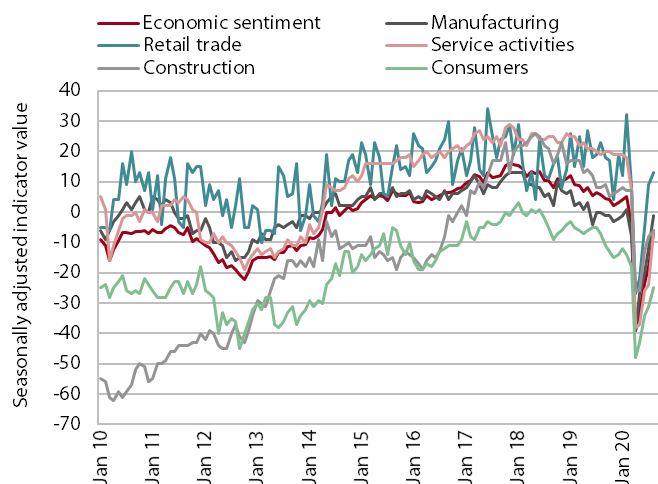
Traffic of electronically tolled vehicles¹ on Slovenian motorways, August 2020



Source: Internal reports provided by DARS. Note: Owing to a different number of working days, we adjusted the dataset by excluding some days of the week from the calculation.

In the fourth week of August, freight traffic on Slovenian motorways dropped below the pre-epidemic level again. After a significant decline with the declaration of the epidemic, freight traffic had started to increase more markedly in the middle of June and was already 6% higher year on year in the middle of August (adjusted for holidays). In the second half of August, it fell again and was 10% below the comparable level in 2019.² The distance travelled by domestic hauliers was 6% lower and the distance travelled by foreign hauliers almost 14% lower year on year.

Economic sentiment, August 2020



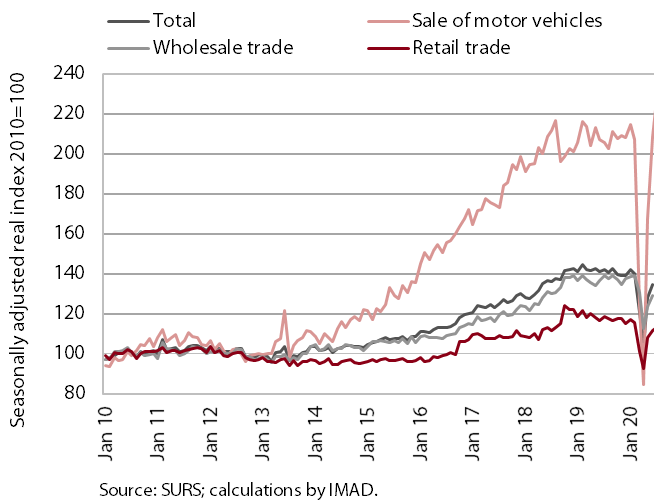
Source: SURS; calculations by IMAD.

In August, economic sentiment improved for the fourth consecutive month. The economic sentiment indicator was however still significantly lower than in the same period of last year (difference: - 12.3 pps), but the year-on-year difference was much smaller than in April (- 46.1 pps). The improvement was attributable to all confidence indicators. Since April, confidence has increased the most in retail trade and manufacturing. Relative to the previous month, confidence in service activities otherwise improved the most in August.

¹ The electronic tolling system applies to vehicles whose maximum permissible weight exceeds 3.5 tonnes (for the sake of simplicity, we refer to them as freight vehicles or trucks).

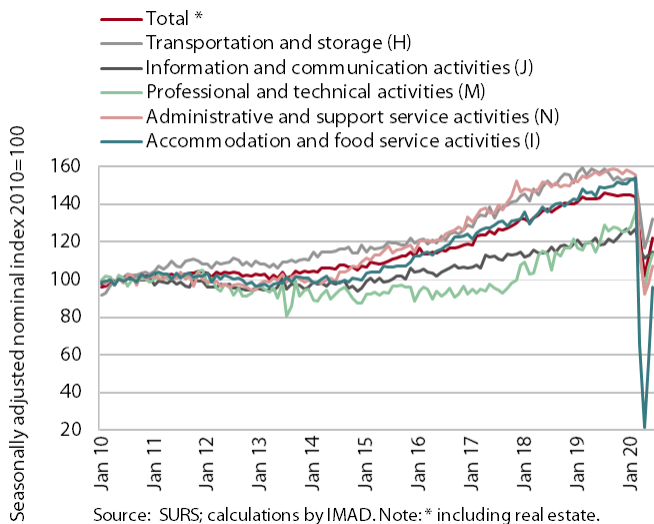
² The data for the Easter, Labour Day and Assumption Day weeks are partially adjusted due to the different number and distribution of working days and public holidays in Slovenia. In the first three weeks of June, we made a similar adjustment due to the impact of public holidays in neighbouring countries.

Trade, June 2020



Turnover in trade increased further in June and July. With further growth in all three largest sectors, total turnover in June was already similar to that in June last year (orig.). It increased the most in the *sale of motor vehicles*, where it had also dropped the most in March and April. According to preliminary data, in July motor vehicle sales already exceeded last year's level by a tenth. Turnover in *retail trade of non-food products* was also already a tenth higher year on year in June; purchases that had been postponed during the epidemic (purchases of furniture, household appliances, computer and telecommunications and sports equipment) were high in particular. According to preliminary data, growth also continued in July, albeit at a much more moderate pace.

Market services, June 2020



Despite further growth in all market services, total turnover was around 15% lower in June than before the outbreak of the epidemic. After plunging during the epidemic, monthly growth was highest in accommodation and food service activities. This was also partly due to the introduction of tourist vouchers, which contributed to an increase in overnight stays by domestic tourists; the number of overnight stays by foreign tourists remained low. Turnover growth in administrative and support service activities was mainly due to the strengthening of turnover in employment agencies. Monthly growth also continued in transportation, amid the still lower volume of public transport, and somewhat more slowly in professional and technical activities.

Selected macroeconomic indicators for Slovenia	Date of release		Unit	Reference period					
	Latest	Next		2018 Q4	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1
GDP, real	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ³	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.4	-4.5
	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	3.8	3.3	2.5	2.4	1.7	-2.3
Private consumption, real	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ³	1.7	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.1	-7.6
	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	2.8	2.5	3.8	3.2	1.2	-6.4
Government consumption, real	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ³	1.4	1.0	-1.8	2.8	-3.9	8.9
	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	4.0	3.9	1.1	3.4	-2.0	5.8
Gross investment, real	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ³	0.8	-0.5	-2.8	6.7	-3.3	-2.9
	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	6.4	0.4	-1.5	5.5	0.1	-3.3
Exports of goods and services, real	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ³	2.8	1.3	0.9	-0.6	-0.8	-1.9
	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	5.4	5.6	6.0	5.3	0.9	-1.6
Imports of goods and services, real	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ³	3.8	1.4	0.4	0.7	-3.1	-1.1
	29.05.2020	31.08.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	5.4	4.7	5.9	7.4	-0.8	-2.5
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
Trade balance ¹	13.08.2020	14.09.2020	EUR m	169.7	148.0	107.4	287.9	:	:
Current account ¹	13.08.2020	14.09.2020	EUR m	226.0	187.3	95.8	302.5	:	:
Exports of goods, real ²	07.08.2020	09.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-7.8	-24.3	15.7	8.1	:	:
	07.08.2020	09.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	3.3	-27.0	-18.5	-2.3	:	:
Imports of goods, real ²	07.08.2020	09.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-8.6	-25.1	15.2	12.9	:	:
	07.08.2020	09.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	1.1	-36.1	-17.1	-1.0	:	:
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
Inflation (CPI)	31.07.2020	31.08.2020	% (M/M-1)	-0.8	-0.9	0.9	1.3	-0.1	:
	31.07.2020	31.08.2020	% (M/M-12)	0.5	-1.2	-1.2	-0.3	0.3	:
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
Gross earnings per employee – nominal	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-1)	-2.3	10.2	-2.3	-4.2	:	:
	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	0.3	11.9	9.5	5.5	:	:
- private sector	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-1)	-5.3	8.6	-2.5	-3.3	:	:
	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	-1.4	8.4	6.5	4.2	:	:
- public sector	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-1)	3.1	10.9	-2.2	-4.6	:	:
	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	3.5	16.3	12.8	7.1	:	:
- of which government sector	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-1)	1.9	13.9	-1.9	-5.1	:	:
	17.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	4.9	19.0	16.0	9.3	:	:
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
Employed persons	18.08.2020	16.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-0.4	-1.3	-0.3	-0.1	:	:
	18.08.2020	16.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	0.6	-1.0	-1.5	-1.6	:	:
Registered unemployed persons	05.08.2020	03.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ⁴	5.9	16.3	2.2	0.2	-0.8	:
	05.08.2020	03.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	1.7	19.9	25.6	26.3	24.4	:
Registered unemployment rate	18.08.2020	16.09.2020	%	8.0	9.1	9.3	9.2	:	:
				2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2
Employment, LFS	28.08.2020	27.11.2020	% (Q/Q-1) ⁵	0.1	0.3	-1.2	0.4	0.7	-2.2
	28.08.2020	27.11.2020	% (Q/Q-4)	1.5	0.7	-0.8	-0.4	0.4	-2.3
ILO unemployment rate, LFS	28.08.2020	27.11.2020	%	4.8	4.2	4.8	4.0	4.6	5.2
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
Industrial producer prices, domestic market	21.08.2020	21.09.2020	% (M/M-1)	-0.8	0.3	-0.3	0.9	-0.3	:
	21.08.2020	21.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	0.4	0.3	-0.2	0.7	0.3	:
Production volume in manufacturing, real	10.08.2020	10.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ³	-11.9	-17.8	10.8	4.7	:	:
	10.08.2020	10.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	-4.9	-28.3	-19.3	-5.0	:	:
Construction, real value of construction output	14.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ³	-10.6	-7.6	-2.6	-7.1	:	:
	14.08.2020	15.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	-2.1	-6.9	-13.3	-15.3	:	:
Turnover in trade, real	27.08.2020	28.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ³	-14.0	-14.0	23.3	5.0	:	:
	27.08.2020	28.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	-13.5	-27.4	-12.8	0.1	:	:
Nominal turnover in market services	27.08.2020	25.09.2020	% (M/M-1) ³	-13.8	-18.1	10.4	9.1	:	:
	27.08.2020	25.09.2020	% (M/M-12)	-12.8	-29.4	-23.4	-12.7	:	:
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
General government deficit/surplus (ESA 2010)	31.03.2020	30.09.2020	% BDP	-5.5	-2.8	-1.9	0.0	0.7	0.5
Consolidated gross general government debt (ESA)	31.03.2020	30.09.2020	% BDP	80.3	82.6	78.7	74.1	70.4	66.1
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
Economic sentiment indicator ² , seasonally adjusted	25.08.2020	24.09.2020	% ³	-3.7	-39.2	-32.6	-23.6	-17.9	-6.6
				2020 m 3	2020 m 4	2020 m 5	2020 m 6	2020 m 7	2020 m 8
EURIBOR, 3-month	Beginning of the month *		%	-0.417	-0.254	-0.272	-0.376	-0.444	:
Long-term government bond yields	Beginning of the month		%	0.32	0.75	0.75	0.43	0.17	:
Exchange rate, USD to EUR	Beginning of the month		US\$	1.1063	1.0862	1.0902	1.1255	1.1463	:

Source: SURS, BS, ECB, EUROSTAT, EURIBOR.org, calculations by IMAD.

Notes: ¹ Balance of payments statistics of the BoS. ² External trade statistics SURS. ³ Seasonally adjusted – SURS. ⁴ Seasonally adjusted – IMAD. ⁵ Difference between positive and negative answers, in %.

* calculations by IMAD.

For comparisons with the EU and EMU see: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/euro-indicators/peeis>