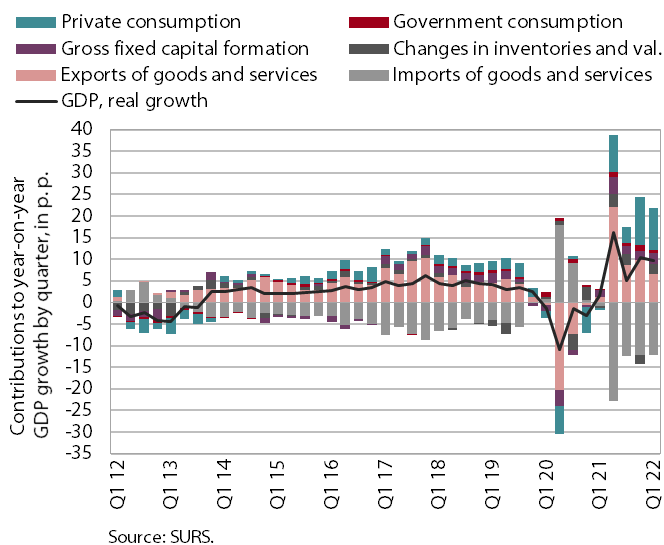


CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS 16–20 May 2022

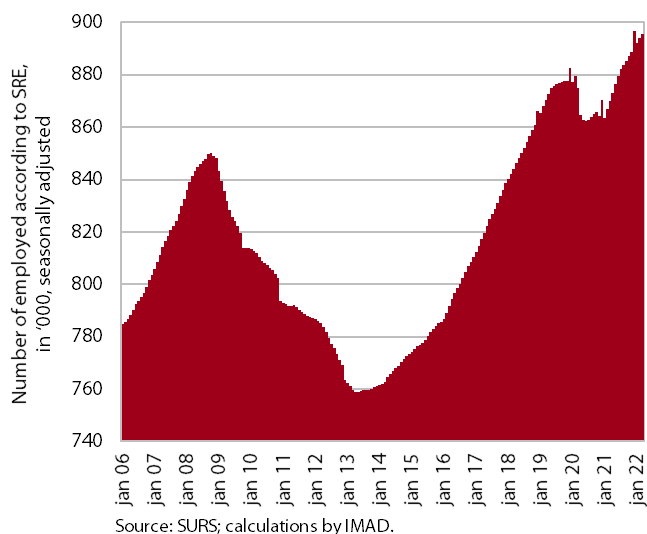
In the first quarter of this year, real GDP growth moderated from the last quarter of 2021, while year-on-year growth remained high, mainly due to last year's low base. Year-on-year increase in the number of persons in employment slowed in March, but remained high in the accommodation and food service activities and in construction, which are characterised by a high proportion of foreign workers. Year-on-year growth of Slovenian industrial producer prices continued to strengthen in April. Prices are rising in all industrial groups, most strongly in the domestic market. After adjusting the data for working days, industrial electricity consumption and small business electricity consumption in April reached the level of the same pre-pandemic period, as did household consumption, although this was lower year-on-year. According to data on fiscal verification of invoices, turnover in the first half of May was more than a tenth higher year-on-year in nominal terms due to higher turnover in trade and certain tourism-related services.

Gross domestic product, Q1 2022



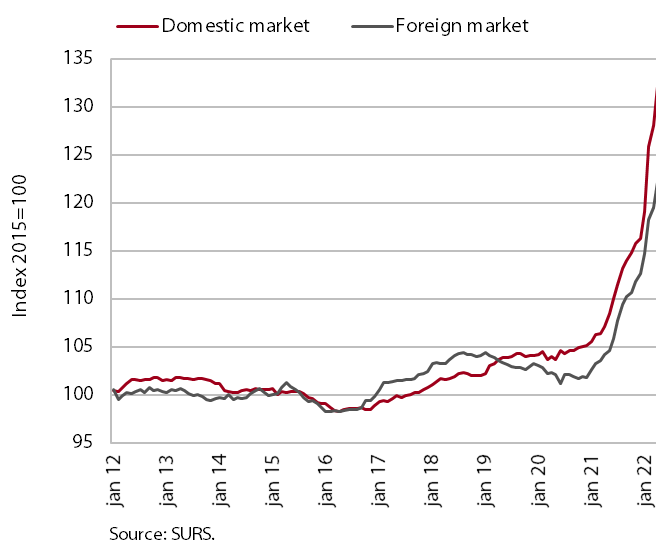
In the first quarter of this year, real gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 0.8% compared to the last quarter of 2021, which is less than in previous quarters, while year-on-year growth (9.8%) remained high, mainly due to last year's low base. Growth in economic activity slowed, especially in the export sector, which has been struggling with supply chain disruptions and rising costs for some time, and the situation was exacerbated by the war in Ukraine. The gradual easing of containment measures and the situation on the labour market with record employment had a positive effect on the further growth of household spending. The purchasing power of households is increasingly affected by rising prices, especially of energy and food. In the first quarter, investment growth was also high year-on-year, with non-residential construction, residential construction and civil engineering in particular recording high growth this year. However, cost pressures and problems due to material shortages are increasing in the construction sector. Government consumption was also higher than in the same period last year, with growth mainly due to employment growth and an increase in spending on goods and services in the health sector.

Labour market, March 2022



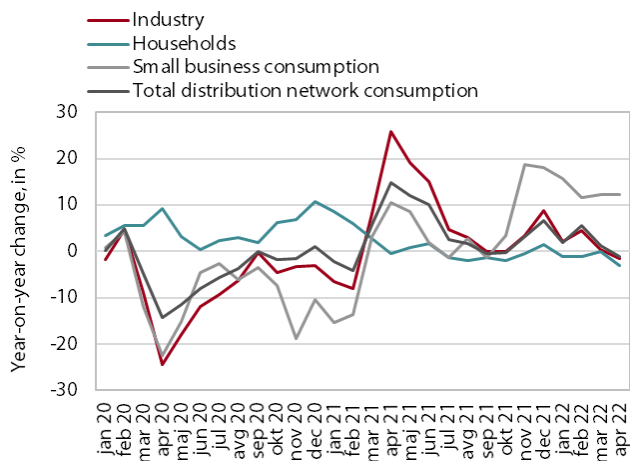
Year-on-year growth in the number of persons in employment was slightly lower in March than in the first two months of the year (2.9%). It was still very high in accommodation and food service activities and in construction. Amid economic recovery, growth in the number of persons in employment still depended largely on the employment of foreign workers, whose contribution to overall year-on-year growth was more than 50% in March. The share of foreigners among all persons in employment is also increasing, up 1.2 p.p. to 12.9% over the last year. This is largely due to the shortage of domestic labour, which (given the high vacancy rates) is greatest in construction, accommodation and food service activities and administrative and support service activities. The activities with the largest share of foreigners are construction (45%), transportation and storage (31%) and administrative and support service activities (25%).

Slovenian industrial producer prices, April 2022



Geopolitical tensions, tighter conditions in commodity markets and supply chain bottlenecks continue to drive growth in Slovenian industrial producer prices, which already reached 20.4% year-on-year in April. Price growth has increased in all industrial groups, especially in the domestic market, where it reached 23.4% year-on-year. Overall price growth continues to be driven mainly by prices of intermediate goods, which were 27.1% higher year-on-year. Energy prices continued to record the strongest year-on-year increase (more than 60%), but their contribution to overall growth was lower due to their lesser weight compared to intermediate goods. After rising by around 10% year-on-year in the first quarter of this year, prices for capital goods rose to 12.0% in April. Growth of less than 10% was thus only recorded by the consumer goods group, where prices for durable goods were 6.6% and for non-durable goods 8.7% higher year-on-year.

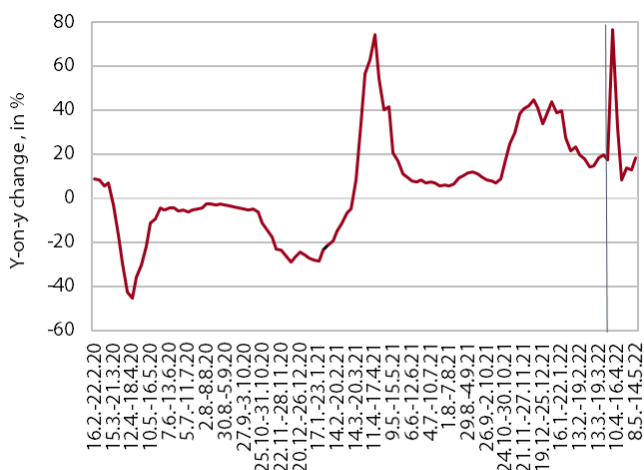
Electricity consumption by consumption group, April 2022



Source: SODO; calculations by IMAD.
Note: Excluding the effect of temperature differences.

In April, industrial electricity consumption and small business electricity consumption (adjusted for working days) reached the level of the same period in 2019. With one fewer working day, industrial electricity consumption in April was 1.7% lower year-on-year, while small business electricity consumption¹ was 12.2% higher. This was mainly due to low consumption during lockdown in early April last year when, among other things, non-essential shops and services were ordered shut. As a result, household consumption in April was 3.1% lower than a year ago. Compared to April 2019, industrial consumption was 6.5% lower and small business consumption was 3.7% lower due to two fewer working days and the less favourable timing of this year's May Day holidays from the perspective of the functioning of the economy. After adjusting the data for working days, both consumptions reached the level of the same period in 2019. Household consumption was higher in April than in the same period of 2019 (5.2%), but the gap was smaller than in the previous month (8.5%), reflecting a better epidemiological situation and the fact that fewer people were probably working from home than in March.

Turnover based on fiscal verification of invoices, in nominal terms, 1–14 May 2022



Source: FURS; calculations by IMAD. Up to the end of March 2022, 4-week moving averages are shown.

According to data on the fiscal verification of invoices, total turnover between 1 and 14 May 2022 was 13% higher year-on-year in nominal terms and 19% higher than in the same period of 2019. Year-on-year growth was similar to that in the previous two weeks. Growth was higher in trade (mainly due to higher growth in retail trade and a smaller year-on-year decline in the sale of motor vehicles), while it was lower (though still very high) in certain tourism-related services, where restrictions on business activity were gradually lifted last May.

¹ In this consumption group, consumption is most frequently measured in shops and service activities. This group also includes warehouses, agricultural activity, etc. and large manufacturing plants that do not consume significant amounts of electricity at some measurement points.

Table: Selected macroeconomic indicators for Slovenia

Selected macroeconomic indicators for Slovenia	Date of release		Unit	Reference period					
	Latest	Next		2020 Q4	2021 Q1	2021 Q2	2021 Q3	2021 Q4	2022 Q1
GDP, real	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ³	-0.2	1.6	1.9	1.3	5.3	0.8
	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	-3.1	1.5	16.1	5.0	10.4	9.8
Private consumption, real	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ³	-11.0	4.2	4.2	10.9	2.1	1.6
	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	-11.2	-1.1	17.9	7.2	22.9	20.0
Government consumption, real	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ³	-1.4	2.8	1.1	0.7	2.1	-1.0
	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	3.5	1.2	4.4	3.2	7.0	2.9
Gross investment, real	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ³	23.4	-6.3	13.9	-4.7	-0.1	12.4
	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	12.0	5.6	36.3	24.5	0.8	22.6
Exports of goods and services, real	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ³	5.2	3.9	1.0	1.2	5.3	-0.8
	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	-0.7	1.6	30.5	11.6	12.1	7.7
Imports of goods and services, real	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ³	7.6	4.7	4.6	1.3	5.1	3.0
	18.05.2022	18.08.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	-0.8	1.2	36.1	19.1	16.8	15.7
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
Trade balance¹	13.05.2022	14.06.2022	EUR m	23.0	-227.1	-14.0	-254.3	-220.9	:
Current account¹	13.05.2022	14.06.2022	EUR m	135.1	-159.4	120.0	-212.7	-95.8	:
Exports of goods, real²	05.05.2022	09.06.2022	% (M/M-1) ⁴	3.4	-0.5	-0.4	0.0	3.3	:
	05.05.2022	09.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	13.8	17.3	7.4	3.6	7.2	:
Imports of goods, real²	05.05.2022	09.06.2022	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-2.9	7.2	-2.1	4.6	-1.2	:
	05.05.2022	09.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	-3.3	19.8	19.7	18.6	12.5	:
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
Inflation (CPI)	29.04.2022	31.05.2022	% (M/M-1)	0.7	0.0	0.4	1.4	-1.1	2.6
	29.04.2022	31.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	4.6	4.9	5.8	6.9	5.4	6.9
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
Gross earnings per employee – nominal	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-1)	10.5	-1.0	-6.8	0.2	:	:
	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	2.8	2.1	-2.7	-1.0	:	:
- private sector	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-1)	13.4	-2.2	-7.6	1.6	:	:
	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	7.1	7.8	3.4	4.2	:	:
- public sector	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-1)	5.4	1.5	-5.2	-2.4	:	:
	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	-4.2	-6.3	-10.8	-8.4	:	:
- of which government sector	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-1)	0.5	4.8	-3.2	-3.0	:	:
	22.04.2022	23.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	-8.5	-8.2	-13.3	-10.8	:	:
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
Employed persons	17.05.2022	16.06.2022	% (M/M-1) ⁴	0.2	0.9	-0.5	0.2	0.2	:
	17.05.2022	16.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.2	2.9	:
Registered unemployed persons	05.05.2022	03.06.2022	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-2.7	-3.0	-2.7	-2.3	-2.0	-2.1
	05.05.2022	03.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	-22.3	-24.4	-25.9	-26.4	-26.7	-26.7
Registered unemployment rate	17.05.2022	16.06.2022	%	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.6	6.2	:
				2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4
Employment, LFS	28.02.2022	31.05.2022	% (Q/Q-1) ⁵	0.4	1.2	-4.9	4.8	1.1	-1.0
	28.02.2022	31.05.2022	% (Q/Q-4)	-0.3	0.4	-5.5	1.1	1.9	-0.3
ILO unemployment rate, LFS	28.02.2022	31.05.2022	%	5.1	5.1	5.6	4.3	4.5	4.5
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
Industrial producer prices, domestic market	20.05.2022	21.06.2022	% (M/M-1)	0.8	0.4	2.5	5.7	1.7	3.2
	20.05.2022	21.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	10.1	10.6	12.8	18.4	20.3	23.4
Production volume in manufacturing, real	10.05.2022	10.06.2022	% (M/M-1) ³	3.7	1.1	-1.1	-2.2	2.2	:
	10.05.2022	10.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	9.4	15.7	10.7	2.4	4.7	:
Construction, real value of construction output	13.05.2022	15.06.2022	% (M/M-1) ³	3.6	-4.9	32.3	8.5	-7.8	:
	13.05.2022	15.06.2022	% (M/M-12)	-13.7	-9.7	15.1	32.5	12.3	:
Turnover in trade, real	28.04.2022	27.05.2022	% (M/M-1) ³	6.0	-0.4	-0.8	3.4	:	:
	28.04.2022	27.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	23.6	24.5	22.1	12.7	:	:
Real turnover in market services	29.04.2022	31.05.2022	% (M/M-1) ³	1.5	-1.5	-0.5	3.5	:	:
	29.04.2022	31.05.2022	% (M/M-12)	17.9	21.0	25.9	17.0	:	:
				2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
General government deficit/surplus (ESA 2010)	31.03.2022	30.09.2022	% BDP	-1.9	-0.1	0.7	0.4	-7.8	-5.2
Consolidated gross general government debt (ESA 2010)	31.03.2022	30.09.2022	% BDP	78.5	74.2	70.3	65.6	79.8	74.7
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
Economic sentiment indicator⁵, seasonally adjusted	22.04.2022	25.05.2022	% ³	3.0	5.0	5.5	6.7	1.6	4.3
				2021 m 11	2021 m 12	2022 m 1	2022 m 2	2022 m 3	2022 m 4
EURIBOR, 3-month	Beginning of the month *		%	-0.5674	-0.5820	-0.5601	-0.5323	-0.4967	-0.4479
Long-term government bond yields	Beginning of the month		%	0.2300	0.2600	0.4400	0.8400	1.1700	1.7500
Exchange rate, USD to EUR	Beginning of the month		US\$	1.1414	1.1304	1.1314	1.1342	1.1019	1.0819

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

Notes: ¹Balance of payments statistics of the BoS; ²External trade statistics SURS; ³Seasonally adjusted – SURS; ⁴Seasonally adjusted – IMAD; ⁵Difference 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/peels>

The table format accessible to screen reader users can be found on the IMAD website among the appendices to the current graphs of the week (Selected macroeconomic indicators for euro area)

More information: phone: +386 1 478 10 04, e-mail: polona.osrajnik@gov.si