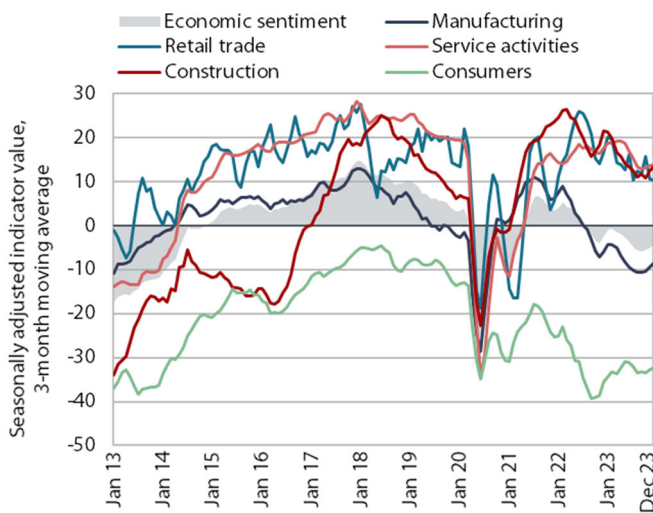


CHARTS OF THE WEEK

18–22 December 2023

In December, the value of the economic sentiment indicator continued to rise month-on-month. Confidence was higher in retail trade, and slightly also construction, manufacturing and among consumers, while it remained unchanged in services. Compared to December 2022, the value of the economic confidence indicator was still lower. Slovenian industrial producer prices continued to fall in November and were only slightly above the level of a year ago. In October, the subdued growth in the number of persons in employment continued. The year-on-year increase was driven by the employment of foreign workers, while the number of employed Slovenian citizens fell year-on-year. The average gross wage increased by 2.2% year-on-year in real terms in October. In the private sector (+2.3%) growth was highest in administrative and support service activities, which (along with construction and accommodation and food service activities) are among the activities facing the greatest labour shortages. Growth in the public sector (+1.9%) was lower than in previous months due to the higher base of last year related to the implementation of the wage increase agreement. Total turnover in real estate activities fell in the third quarter. The number of dwellings sold was the lowest since the second quarter of 2020, when the number of transactions was severely affected by business restrictions due to the outbreak of the epidemic. Growth in dwelling prices moderated further.

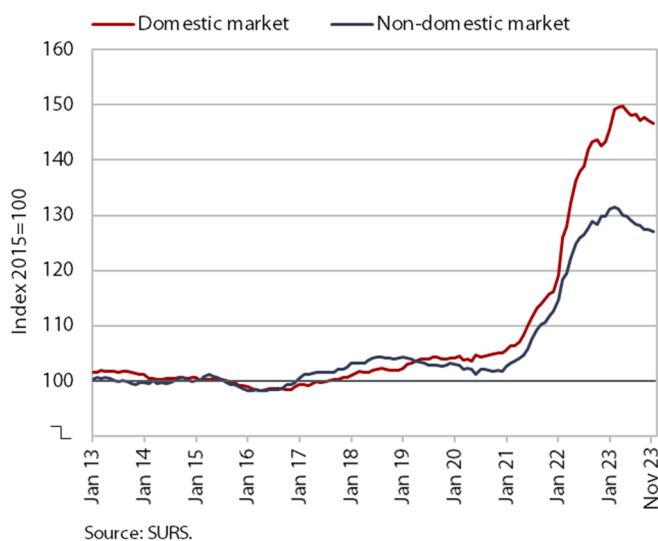
Economic sentiment, December 2023



Source: SURS; calculations by IMAD.

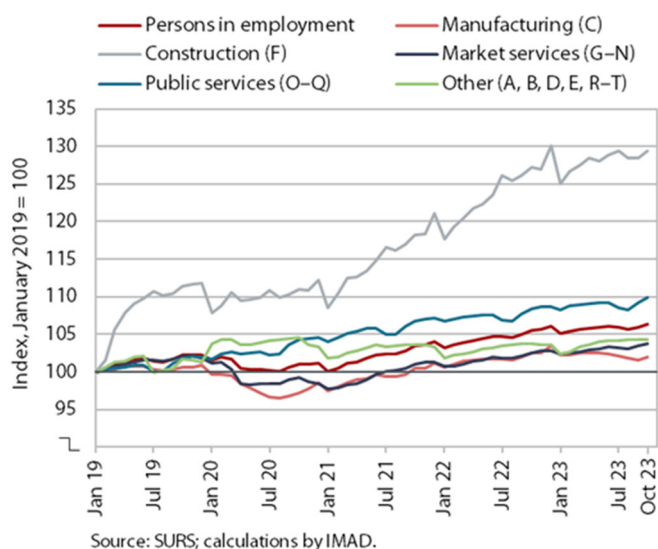
The economic sentiment indicator further increased month-on-month in December, while it was still down year-on-year. Compared to the previous month, confidence was higher in retail trade, and slightly also in construction, manufacturing and among consumers, while it remained unchanged in services. Compared to December 2022, confidence was lower in all activities, with the exception of consumers, where it remained unchanged (last year it had fallen significantly due to lower purchasing power as a result of rising prices). On average in 2023, it was slightly higher year-on-year only among consumers, where it was still the most below the long-term average in December. Confidence in manufacturing was also significantly below the long term average. Confidence in retail trade and services averaged slightly above the long-term average in 2023, while confidence in construction was already well above it.

Slovenian industrial producer prices, November 2023



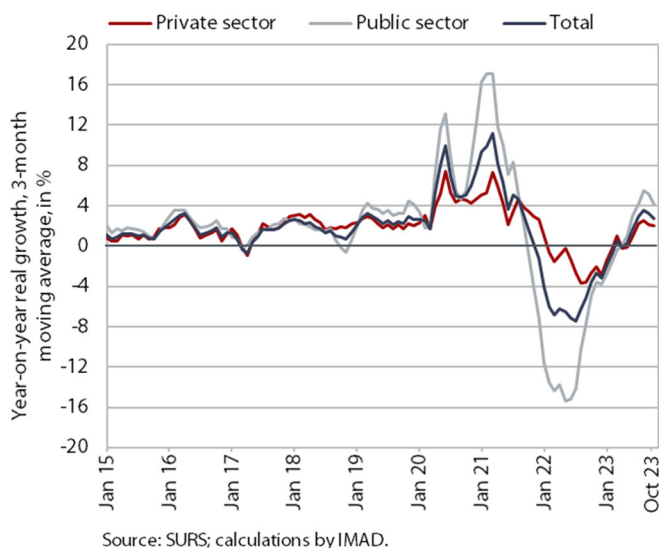
Slovenian industrial producer prices continued to fall in November and were only slightly above the level of a year ago. They fell by 0.4% month-on-month, with a similar fall in prices on the domestic and foreign markets. The year-on-year growth rate, which had been close to 20% at the beginning of the year, moderated further to 0.3%, the lowest since December 2020. The slowdown in year-on-year growth was still mainly due to developments in the intermediate goods group, where prices were 3.7% lower in November than a year earlier. In most other groups, with the exception of energy, the year-on-year price increase is gradually weakening. Although energy prices fell by 4.3% month-on-month, they were 7.1% higher year-on-year due to a lower base, and this is the highest increase of all product groups. However, the year-on-year price increase for capital and consumer goods continued to weaken gradually and was slightly below 4%.

Number of persons in employment, October 2023



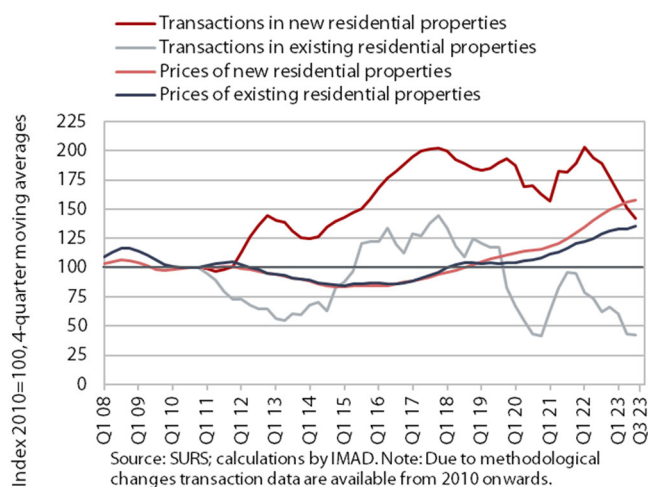
Year-on-year growth in the number of persons in employment (0.8%) continued to slow in October. This was mainly due to the decline in the number of persons in employment in manufacturing in October (according to seasonally adjusted data). The overall year-on-year increase in the number of persons in employment is due to a higher number of employed foreign nationals, while the number of employed Slovenian citizens was lower. The share of foreign citizens among all persons in employment was 14.7% in October, 0.9 p.p. higher than a year earlier. Activities with the largest share of foreigners are construction (48%), transportation and storage (33%) and administrative and support service activities (27%).

Average gross wage per employee, October 2023



The average wage growth in October (2.2%) was slightly higher in real terms than in the previous month (1.8%). It stood at 2.3% in the private sector. It was highest in administrative and support service activities, which (along with construction and accommodation and food service activities) are among the activities facing the greatest labour shortages. In the public sector, it was 1.9% year-on-year in real terms, lower than in previous months. Growth was lower mainly due to the agreement on wage increases (the first of which took place in October 2022). Nominal year-on-year growth in the average gross wage in October was slightly lower than in previous months at 9.2%. Growth in the private sector was 9.4% and in the public sector 8.9%. In the first ten months, the average year-on-year gross wage growth was 1.8% in real terms (1.4% in the private sector and 2.5% in the public sector). Year-on-year nominal growth in the same period was 10% (9.6% in the private sector and 10.8% in the public sector).

Real estate, Q3 2023



In the third quarter, the growth of dwelling prices weakened further amid the further decline in the total number of transactions. Prices rose by 0.7% compared to the second quarter¹ and by 5.7% compared to the third quarter of 2022.² Quarter-on-quarter growth was driven by relatively strong price growth in newly built dwellings (11.5%), with the number of sales rising to 4% of total transactions in the third quarter. However, for the first time since the last quarter of 2019, prices of existing dwellings fell in current terms (by 0.2%); the number of sales also continued to decline. A total of 2,397 dwellings were sold. This is a drop of more than one-fifth compared to the third quarter of last year and the lowest level since the second quarter of 2020, when the number of transactions was severely affected by business restrictions due to the outbreak of the epidemic.

¹ This was significantly less than in the first half of the year (1.7% on average over the two quarters) and the quarterly average in 2022 (2.8%).

² After average growth of 11.5% in 2021 and 14.8% in 2022.

Table: Selected macroeconomic indicators for Slovenia

Selected macroeconomic indicators for Slovenia	Date of release		Unit	Reference period					
	Latest	Next		2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3
GDP, real	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ³	0.5	-0.1	0.6	0.2	1.0	-0.2
	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	4.4	0.9	-0.2	1.0	1.6	1.1
Private consumption, real	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ³	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.7	-0.7	-0.2
	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	7.4	-1.6	0.0	3.2	0.3	-0.8
Government consumption, real	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ³	-3.0	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.3
	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	-0.6	-2.1	-1.6	-0.8	3.4	2.8
Gross investment, real	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ³	-9.0	-6.9	2.3	-4.2	-6.8	2.9
	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	3.1	2.2	1.9	-16.9	-15.0	-6.1
Exports of goods and services, real	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ³	2.6	5.5	-5.8	0.4	-1.0	-2.4
	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	10.2	12.7	-1.3	2.5	-1.3	-9.2
Imports of goods and services, real	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ³	1.1	3.0	-4.0	-2.0	-2.3	-3.5
	16.11.2023	14.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	11.1	11.4	-1.1	-2.1	-6.2	-12.1
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
Trade balance¹	14.12.2023	12.01.2024	EUR m	84.9	-194.0	122.0	25.0	:	:
Current account¹	14.12.2023	12.01.2024	EUR m	215.7	87.5	304.1	258.9	:	:
Exports of goods, real²	05.12.2023	04.01.2024	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-4.0	-1.3	5.9	0.0	:	:
	05.12.2023	04.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	-7.8	-13.9	-9.2	12.3	:	:
Imports of goods, real²	05.12.2023	04.01.2024	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-13.0	31.1	3.0	-11.3	:	:
	05.12.2023	04.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	-14.8	4.0	12.9	3.4	:	:
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
Inflation (CPI)	30.11.2023	29.12.2023	% (M/M-1)	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	-1.0	:
	30.11.2023	29.12.2023	% (M/M-12)	6.1	6.2	7.5	6.9	4.9	:
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
Gross earnings per employee – real	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-1)	-0.4	0.8	-2.4	1.5	:	:
	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	3.7	4.2	1.8	2.2	:	:
- private sector	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-1)	-0.7	2.1	-2.7	1.6	:	:
	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	2.8	2.9	0.8	2.3	:	:
- public sector	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-1)	0.3	-1.6	-2.0	1.2	:	:
	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	5.2	6.7	3.8	1.9	:	:
- of which government sector	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-1)	0.9	-3.1	-1.3	0.8	:	:
	22.12.2023	22.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	5.1	6.9	5.3	1.2	:	:
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
Employed persons	18.12.2023	16.01.2024	% (M/M-1) ⁴	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
	18.12.2023	16.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	:	:
Registered unemployed persons	05.12.2023	05.01.2024	% (M/M-1) ⁴	-0.2	-0.5	-0.7	-0.6	-0.8	:
	05.12.2023	05.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	-13.0	-12.1	-11.6	-10.9	-10.2	:
Registered unemployment rate	18.12.2023	16.01.2024	%	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.8	:	:
				2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3
Employment, LFS	27.11.2023	26.02.2024	% (Q/Q-1) ⁵	-0.5	0.2	-0.4	-0.2	1.2	-1.0
	27.11.2023	26.02.2024	% (Q/Q-4)	0.8	-0.3	0.1	-0.8	0.9	-0.4
ILO unemployment rate, LFS	27.11.2023	26.02.2024	%	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.9
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
Industrial producer prices, domestic market	21.12.2023	19.01.2024	% (M/M-1)	0.2	-0.7	0.3	-0.3	-0.4	:
	21.12.2023	19.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	6.8	3.9	3.1	2.5	2.9	:
Production volume in manufacturing, real	11.12.2023	10.01.2024	% (M/M-1) ³	-8.7	-1.2	4.5	0.3	:	:
	11.12.2023	10.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	-6.2	-12.6	-5.2	-0.1	:	:
Construction, real value of construction output	15.12.2023	15.01.2024	% (M/M-1) ³	-5.8	1.3	5.2	-6.1	:	:
	15.12.2023	15.01.2024	% (M/M-12)	17.9	19.2	28.5	7.2	:	:
Turnover in trade, real	28.11.2023	28.12.2023	% (M/M-1) ³	-0.4	-1.4	2.2	:	:	:
	28.11.2023	28.12.2023	% (M/M-12)	-7.3	-11.9	-9.7	:	:	:
Real turnover in market services	29.11.2023	29.12.2023	% (M/M-1) ³	0.6	0.9	0.8	:	:	:
	29.11.2023	29.12.2023	% (M/M-12)	0.7	-0.5	-1.0	:	:	:
				2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General government deficit/surplus (ESA 2010)	30.09.2023	31.03.2024	% BDP	-0.1	0.7	0.7	-7.6	-4.6	-3.0
Consolidated gross general government debt (ESA 2010)	30.09.2023	31.03.2024	% BDP	74.2	70.3	65.4	79.6	74.4	72.3
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
Economic sentiment indicator⁵, seasonally adjusted	22.12.2023	25.01.2024	% ³	-6.4	-5.9	-5.2	-5.4	-4.7	-3.4
				2023 m 7	2023 m 8	2023 m 9	2023 m 10	2023 m 11	2023 m 12
EURIBOR, 3-month	Beginning of the month *		%	3.672	3.780	3.880	3.968	3.972	:
Long-term government bond yields	Beginning of the month		%	3.34	3.47	3.53	3.73	3.52	:
Exchange rate, USD to EUR	Beginning of the month		US\$	1.106	1.091	1.068	1.056	1.081	:

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/peis>

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 Slovenia).

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